



SALA STAMPA DELLA SANTA SEDE  
**BOLLETTINO**

HOLY SEE PRESS OFFICE BUREAU DE PRESSE DU SAINT-SIÈGE PRESSEAMT DES HEILIGEN STUHLS  
OFICINA DE PRENSA DE LA SANTA SEDE SALA DE IMPRENSA DA SANTA SÉ  
BIURO PRASOWE STOLICY APOSTOLSKIEJ دار الصحافة التابعة للكرسي الرسولي

N. 230727b

Thursday 27.07.2023

**Apostolic Journey of His Holiness Francis in Portugal on the occasion of the 37th World Youth Day (2 to 6 August 2023) - Statistics**

**Statistics of the Catholic Church in Portugal as of 31 December 2021 (from the Central Office for Church Statistics)**

Table 1 – Population and ecclesiastical structure

Table 2 – People engaged in activities of the apostolate

Table 3 – Indicators of pastoral workload

Table 4 – Priestly vocations

Table 5 – Educational centres owned / managed by ecclesiastics or religious

Table 6 – Charitable and social centres owned / managed by ecclesiastics or religious

The following are some statistical data relating to the situation of the Catholic Church in Portugal as of 31 December 2021:

**Table 1 – Population and ecclesiastical structure**

Area (km <sup>2</sup> )	91,982
Population (in thousands)	10,298
Density (inhabitants/km <sup>2</sup> )	112

Catholics (in thousands)	9,050
Catholics per 100 inhabitants	87.88
Ecclesiastical circumscriptions	21
Parishes	4,574
Other pastoral centres	1,835
Catholics per pastoral centre	1,412

**Table 2 – People engaged in activities of the apostolate**

Bishops ( <i>Situation on 15.06.2023</i> )	47
Diocesan priests	2,389
Religious priests	878
Total priests	3,267
Permanent deacons	420
Men religious (other than priests)	215
Professed women religious	3,861
Members of secular Institutes	479
Lay missionaries	147
Catechists	49,468

**Table 3 – Indicators of pastoral workload**

Catholics per priest	2,770
Catholics per pastoral worker	156
Priests per pastoral centre	0.51
Priests per 100 people engaged in activities of the apostolate	5.72

**Table 4 – Priestly vocations**

Minor seminarians	94
Major seminarians	468
Major seminarians per 100,000 inhabitants	4.54
Major seminarians per 100,000 Catholics	5.17
Major seminarians per 100 priests	14.33

**Table 5 – Educational centres owned / managed by ecclesiastics or religious**

**Schools:**

Pre-school and primary	583
------------------------	-----

Lower middle and secondary	54
Higher and university	21

**Students in:**

Pre-school and primary schools	65,153
Lower middle and secondary schools	19,327
Higher and university institutes	15,031

**Table 6 – Charitable and social centres owned / managed by ecclesiastics or religious**

Hospitals	59
Clinics	56
Leper colonies	-
Homes for the elderly and disabled	896
Orphanages and nurseries	799
Family consultation centres	130
Special centres of social education or rehabilitation	27
Other institutions	1,021

---