

CHRISTIANS OF IRAQ

IRAQ

18 Governorates
capital: Baghdad*

surface: 438,317 km²

languages: Arabic (official), Kurdish (official), Turkem (a Turkish dialect), Syriac, Neo-Aramaic, Armenian

Flag: It reads the phrase *Allahu Akbar (God is the greatest)*, added in green Arabic script, according to Iraqi Constitution Islam is official religion

President of State must not be necessarily Muslim, although all of them have been Arab Muslims

population (2020) **41,5 million**
pre-crisis population (2013) **34 million**

Ethno-religious landscape

Arabs 75-80 %

religions in Iraq

- Shia Arabs 58-63%
- Sunni Arabs 17%
- Sunni Kurds 15-20%
- Kurds 15-20 %
- Others 5%

Others 5%
Turkmen
Yezidi
Shabak
Kakai
Bedouin
Romani
Assyrian
Circassian
Persian
Sabeen-Mandeanm

Christian denominations

Christians total 175,000

*reflect current borders

1910	6.4%
1970	4.0%
2000	4.0%
2015	0.9%
2020	0.4%
2050	0.1% (forecast)

Decline of Christians population

Catholic Church	57.1%	100,000
Orthodox Church	34.3%	60,000
Protestant Church	5.7%	10,000
Independent	40.0%	70,000
Unaffiliated	2.9%	5,000
Doubly-affiliated	-40.0%	-70,000
Evangelical movement	9.1%	16,000
Renewalist movement	22.9%	40,000

Victims of violence

Christian Martyrs 2003-2014

1,107 Christians killed + 15 priests killed

53 died in the Our Lady of Salvation church in Baghdad in 2010.

2014-2017

at least 29,973 civilian killed + at least 55,150 civilian injured

these figures should be considered an absolute minimum

Attacks on Christians in 11/2016 -10/2018

169 Christians attacked (8 killed, 17 arrested) | 6,010 Christian-owned houses and shops attacked | 13 churches attacked

UNAMI/OHCHR 11/2018, based on information from Iraqi authorities

202 mass graves sites | Largest numbers discovered in governorates: Ninewa 95, Kirkuk 37, Salah al-Din 36, Anbar 24

6,000 -12,000 victims buried

The overall number of victims cannot be determined until all remains are officially exhumed.

Destruction in the Nineveh Plains (without Mosul)

Church properties 05/2017

- Teleskuf: 21 churches, 1,287 destroyed
- Baqofa: 3 churches, 108 destroyed
- Batnaya: 43 churches, 108 destroyed
- Telekef: 40 churches, 880 destroyed
- Bashiqua: 12 churches, 580 destroyed
- MOSUL
- Bartella: 96 churches, 1,813 destroyed
- Karamles: 67 churches, 754 destroyed
- Qaraqosh (Bakhdeda): 68 churches, 7,336 destroyed

34 totally destroyed
132 burnt
197 partially damaged
total 369 including

- 46 churches, chapels, shrines
- 18 convents and monasteries
- 10 cemeteries
- 9 parish offices

Christian private houses 11/2018

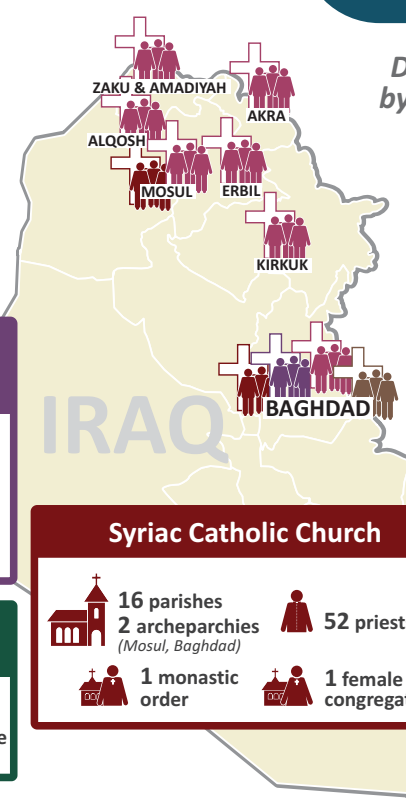
- 1,040 totally destroyed
- 3,292 burnt
- 9,708 partially damaged
- total 14,035

Catholic Church

Catholic Church total

- 118 parishes
- 1 patriarchate
- 1 patriarchal exarchate
- 7 archeparchies
- 2 archdioceses
- 3 dioceses
- 134 priests
- 6 male congregations
- 4 monastic orders
- 15 religious men
- 12 female congregations
- 139 religious women

Distribution of Catholics by Church Rites (dioceses)



Latin Church

- 3 parishes
- 1 archdiocese (Baghdad)
- 11 priests
- 2 monastic orders
- 6 male congregations
- 9 female congregations

Chaldean Church

- 96 parishes
- 1 patriarchate (Babylon)
- 4 archeparchies (Mosul, Basra, Kirkuk, Erbil)
- 1 archdiocese (Baghdad)
- 3 dioceses (Alqosh, Akra, Amadiyah & Zaku)
- 71 priests
- 1 monastic order
- 2 female congregations

Armenian Catholic Church

- 2 parishes
- 1 archeparchy (Baghdad)
- 1 administrator

Greek-Melkite Catholic Church

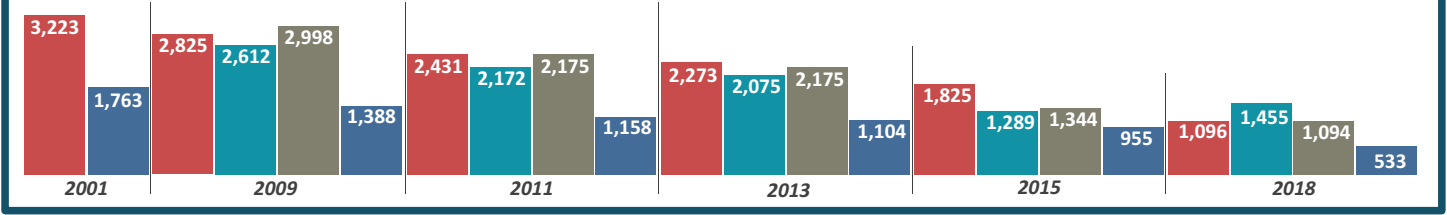
- 1 parish
- 1 patriarchal exarchate (Iraq as one)

Syriac Catholic Church

- 16 parishes
- 2 archeparchies (Mosul, Baghdad)
- 52 priests
- 1 monastic order
- 1 female congregation

- 1 diocese (Basrah)

*6 Sacraments received



*6 Catholic education network

Centres for diocesan clergy
Philosophy and theology:
2 seminaries and 5 residences

Centres for religious clergy
Philosophy and theology:
1 seminary and 1 residence

Category	2002	2018
Kindergartens	43	36
Primary or elementary schools	16	40
Secondary junior & senior schools	750	700
Higher institutes & universities	260	483
University for ecclesiastic studies	320	21

*7 Catholic institutions for health, care and assistance

42 institutions

- 7 hospitals
- 6 dispensaries
- 1 leprosarium
- 7 care homes for the invalid, chronically ill and handicapped
- 4 orphanages
- 8 nurseries
- 1 matrimonial advice centre
- 1 special centre for social education and re-education
- 7 other institutions

SOURCES:

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