**Catholicism in Numbers initial datasheets**

**Methodology note**

Many pastoral statistics presented here use *Catholic Directory* as a source. See the introductory notes for the Catholic population and Mass attendance datasheets on some challenges of making these estimates. Methodologies for compiling pastoral statistics may vary between geographical areas and across time. Further, tracking change over time is challenging as the exact categories recorded (for example regarding priests) can change. Notes on the datasheets indicate these changes where observed. In addition, some obvious anomalies were corrected and data from proximate years were used where figures were unavailable and this enabled a reasonable estimate to be included. Therefore, the accuracy of any one statistic often cannot be assured. Instead, they simply indicate broad contours of change over time.

Where using sources that record figures by diocese rather than nation, such as *Catholic Directory*, estimates for the Republic of Ireland and Northern Ireland were developed by apportioning the figures for the dioceses that are partly within Northern Ireland: Archdiocese of Armagh 75%, Clogher 60%, Derry 95%, and Kilmore 5% (cf. Brierley, 2008, p. 8.7). Similarly, 89% of figures (for example numbers of priests) in the Archdiocese of Cardiff are apportioned to Wales and the remainder to England, accounting for Herefordshire’s inclusion within the Archdiocese. Figures for England include HM Forces and Catholic immigrant communities where the source included these. Figures are rounded. Not all categories are recorded for each decade or each nation.

**Bibliography**

*Catholic Directory*, annual volumes:

*Catholic Directory for England and Wales*

*Catholic Directory for Scotland*

*Irish Catholic Directory*

The *Directory* had various publishers over time. The publishers of the most recent volumes consulted here are Universe Media Group Limited (England and Wales), Veritas (Ireland) and Burns Publications Limited (Scotland).

Central Statistics Office, Ireland (Creative Commons Attribution: <https://www.cso.ie/en/aboutus/whoweare/copyrightpolicy/>):

*Annual Report of the Registrar-General of Marriages, Births and Deaths in Ireland* (accessed via CSO, not produced by CSO)

*Report on Vital Statistics*, annual editions

Census 2011 Profile 7, *Statistical Tables*, Table 1 Population classified by religious denomination for relevant censuses from 1881 to 2011

*Marriages 2010*

*Marriages 2019*

*Marriages 2022*

*Table ED126 Pupils attending Mainstream Primary Schools*

*Table ED128 Second-Level Schools*

United Kingdom Public Sector (Crown Copyright):

Department of Education, Northern Ireland

*Number of Educational Establishments in Northern Ireland by Management Type*

*Pupils by School Type and Management Type*

National Records of Scotland

*Census Day population estimates 1911-2011*

*Mid-year population estimates: Scotland, all ages by sex: 1855 to 2019*

*Scotland's Census 2001, Table CT\_0240\_2001 - Religion by sex by age - 2001 Data Zones*

*Scotland's Census 2011, Table KS209SCb - Religion*

Northern Ireland Census reports

*The Northern Ireland Census 1981 Summary Report* (HMSO)

*The Northern Ireland Census 1991 General Report* (NISRA)

*The Northern Ireland Census 1991 Religion Report* (HMSO)

Northern Ireland Statistics and Research Agency

*2001 Census Results, Theme Tables, 1. Demography: People, Family and Households*

*Background to the ‘Religion Brought up in’ Questions in the Census, and Their Analysis in 2001 and 2011*

*Census 2011 Key Statistics for Northern Ireland, Table KS211NI: Religion*

*Marriages by Method of Celebration 1887 to 2021*

Office for National Statistics

*England and Wales population mid-year estimate*

Scottish Government

*School Contact Details* spreadsheet, accessed at [www.gov.scot](http://www.gov.scot/)

Open Government Licence v3.0: [www.nationalarchives.gov.uk/doc/open-government-licence/version/3/](http://www.nationalarchives.gov.uk/doc/open-government-licence/version/3/)

Other publications:

Brierley, P. (ed.) (1999) *UK Christian Handbook Religious Trends No. 2 2000-2001*. London: Christian Research; *HarperCollinsReligious.*

Brierley, P. (ed.) (2008) *UK Christian Handbook Religious Trends No. 7 2007/2008*. Swindon: Christian Research.

Brierley, P. (ed.) (2020) *UK Church Statistics No 4: 2021 Edition*. Tonbridge, Kent: ADBC Publishers.

The Catholic Education Council for England and Wales (1960-61) *Catholic Education A Handbook.* London.

Catholic Education Service (2019) *Catholic Education Service Digest of 2019 Census Data for Schools and Colleges in England.*

Catholic Education Service (2019) *Catholic Education Service Digest of 2019 Census Data for Schools and Colleges in Wales.*

Catholic Education Service (2022) *Catholic Education Service Digest of 2022 Census Data for Schools and Colleges in England*

Catholic Education Service (2022) *Catholic Education Service Digest of 2022 Census Data for Schools and Colleges in Wales*

Currie, R., Gilbert, A. and Horsley, L. (1977) *Churches and Churchgoers: Patterns of Church Growth in the British Isles since 1700*. Oxford: Clarendon Press.

Darragh, J. (1978) 'The Catholic Population of Scotland, 1878-1977', *The Innes Review* 29(2).

Department for Catholic Education and Formation (n.d.) *Vocations Statistics 2019* accessed at [www.ukvocation.org/statistics](http://www.ukvocation.org/statistics).

European Values Study (2021) EVS Trend File 1981-2017. *GESIS Data Archive, Cologne. ZA7503 Data file Version 2.0.0,* https://doi.org/10.4232/1.13736*.*

Field, C. D. (2017) *Secularization in the Long 1960s Numerating Religion in Britain*. Oxford: Oxford University Press.

Inglis, T. (2007) 'Catholic Identity in Contemporary Ireland: Belief and Belonging to Tradition', *Journey of Contemporary Religion* 22(2).

Spencer, A. E. C. W. (ed.) (2007) *Digest of Statistics of the Catholic Community of England & Wales, 1958-2005. Volume I: Population and Vital Statistics, Pastoral Services, Evangelisation and Education*. Taunton: Russell-Spencer Ltd.

The datasheets also use data from the Catholic Bishops Conference of England and Wales (CBCEW).