



The Catholic Church in Germany

# **FACTS & FIGURES** **2013/14**

Working Papers 269







*“72 hours campaign”:  
Nationwide social campaign  
of the Association of German  
Catholic Youth (BDKJ) in 2013*

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*Data correct as of: July 2014*





### Preface

by Cardinal Reinhard Marx,  
President of the German Bishops' Conference

**W**e are publishing the issue of the Working Papers entitled “Facts and Figures” for the fourth time (in English for the second time). In it we demonstrate the diversity of the Church. The figures make it clear, for instance, that the Church also lives from voluntary commitment to a considerable degree: More than half a million members are committed in the Catholic Women’s Community in Germany (kfd); almost 440,000 altar boys and girls help in the liturgy; there are roughly 18,000 church choirs and music ensembles in Germany. These few figures by themselves already bear witness to the considerable commitment of the people in the Church. You will find more still on the pages below.

This ‘Working Paper’ also contains information on the statistical figures from 2013, which are always available in the following year: baptisms and burials, first communion and confirmation, the admission of new Church members and the departure of existing ones. The figures are not sober statistical material, but show where the Church is active, demonstrating the areas in which She is helping to care

for people. The Church is certainly in demand: as an employer, in kindergartens and schools, and particularly in Caritas. You will find up-to-date figures on all areas proving that the Church is not marginalised within society, but that She can be found in the midst of the world.

The figures, graphs, tables and illustrations make it clear that there are people, parishes and associations inspired by faith who seek to help shape the Church and society. Commitment to one’s neighbours is made clear here, as is worldwide solidarity when you read for instance the pages on donations collected by the Church’s aid agencies.

The Working Paper “Facts and Figures” is to provide information and suggestions to address the diversity of the Church. Many topics are approached in an easy to understand manner. You will also find detailed statistical material on the Catholic Church in Germany going back over several decades on the website of the German Bishops’ Conference [www.dbk.de](http://www.dbk.de) (in German).

The figures on what the Church is doing, and what She has to offer, must however never be permitted to distract us from the inner essence of the Church’s mission. Pope Francis described this appropriately in his Apostolic Exhortation ‘*Evangelii gaudium*’, when he wrote: “If something should rightly disturb us and trouble our consciences, it is the fact that so many of our brothers and sisters are living without the strength, light and consolation born of friendship with Jesus Christ, without a community of faith to support them, without meaning and a goal in life.” That is what it’s about! That is what we stand for together!

A handwritten signature in black ink, reading "Reinhard Marx".

Cardinal Reinhard Marx,  
President of the German Bishops' Conference

## 2. Religion in Germany



Alois Glück, President of the Central Committee of German Catholics (*Zentralkomitee der deutschen Katholiken – ZdK*):

“As Christians we are particularly called to be advocates of the dignity of the human person. If we are determined advocates of human dignity, if we are seen and experienced this way, then we do not need many more debates on the role of Christianity in modern societies.”

**According to the last census carried out in May 2011, 80.2 million people are living in Germany.** 74 million of those (92.3 percent) are of German, and roughly 6.2 million (7.7 percent) are of foreign nationality. Among the latter there are about 2.6 million Christians.<sup>1</sup>

As per church statistics 24.2 million<sup>2</sup> belong to the Catholic Church and 23.4 million people<sup>3</sup> belong to the Evangelical Church in Germany (Evangelische Kirche in Deutschland, EKD). In addition, about 333,000 people are members of Protestant Free Churches, roughly 1.4 million people are members of Orthodox Churches and more than 500,000 belong to other Christian Churches and communities.<sup>3</sup>

Hence more than one third of Germans are either non-denominational or belong to another religion. These include, for instance, members of the two other monotheistic religions, the Muslims (estimated at 4 million<sup>4</sup>) and the members of the Jewish communities (roughly 101,000<sup>5</sup>).

### The Catholics

There are 1.2 billion Catholics worldwide. At 24.2 million, they represent about 30 percent of the German population with 53 percent being women and 47 percent being men. After the reunification the share made up by non-denominationals markedly increased. There are major regional differences here which are caused, firstly, by Protestants being domi-

<sup>1</sup> Federal Office of Statistics: Census 2011.

<sup>2</sup> Annual survey 2013: According to information from the parishes and bishoprics.

<sup>3</sup> Evangelical Church in Germany: survey 2012.

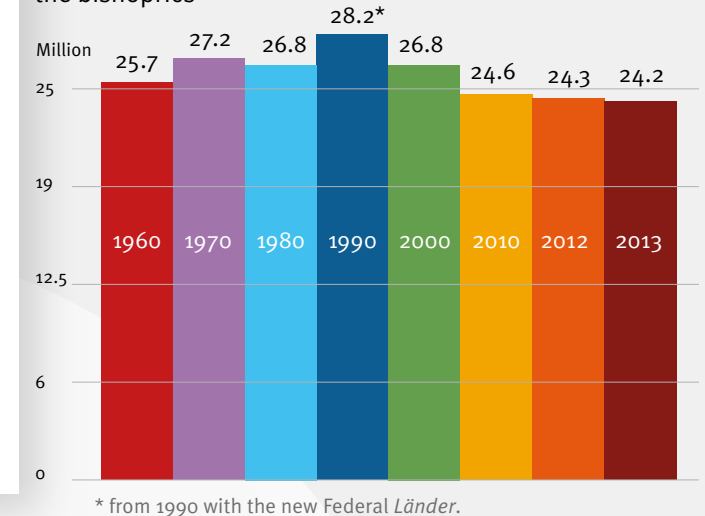
<sup>4</sup> Federal Office for Migration and Refugees: survey 2009.

<sup>5</sup> Central Welfare Agency of the Jews in Germany: survey 2013.

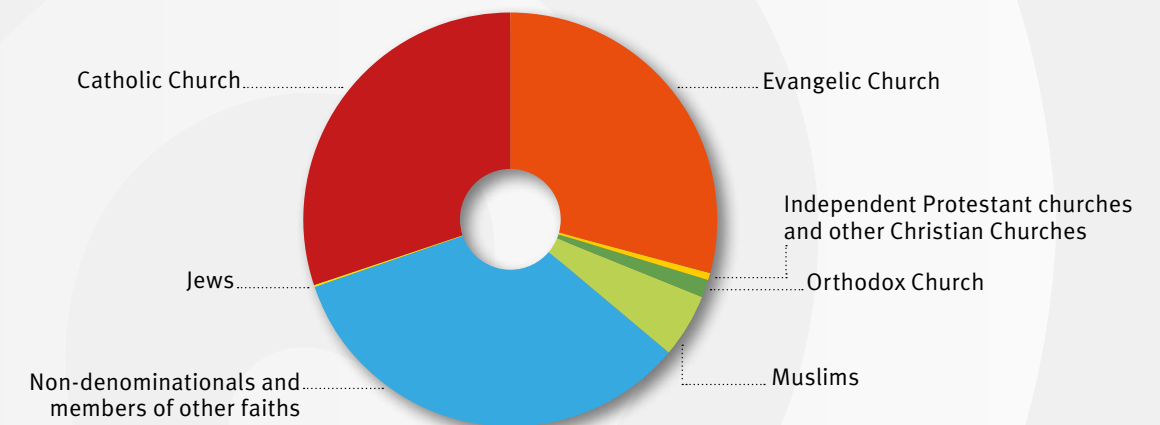
nant in the Northern areas, as well as by the political system in Eastern Germany prior to 1990. Between three and nine percent of the population in the Eastern Federal Länder are Catholic, depending on the region, and in the Northern Federal Länder between six percent (Schleswig-Holstein) and 18 percent (Lower Saxony). The share of Catholics is much larger in the Southern Federal Länder: 54 percent in Bavaria, 62 percent in the Saarland.

### Catholics in Germany 1960 – 2013

absolute numbers, in millions, information from the bishoprics



### Religions and denominations in Germany



### 3. Views from the inside: The structure of the Catholic Church



Father Dr Hans Langendörfer SJ,  
General Secretary of the  
German Bishops' Conference:

“The Catholic Church faces the problems of our time. It offers orientation and support to those in need – here in Germany and in the world. Doing so it bears witness to the Christian faith which it wants to live and to propose to the people as a personal view of the world.”

The Catholic Church is headed by the Pope, since 13 March 2013 Pope Francis. He has his seat in the Vatican in Rome and is at the same time Bishop of Rome. As leaders of their dioceses, bishops are dispersed across the entire world. The Catholic Church is hence a “global player”, or indeed a **Universal Church**.

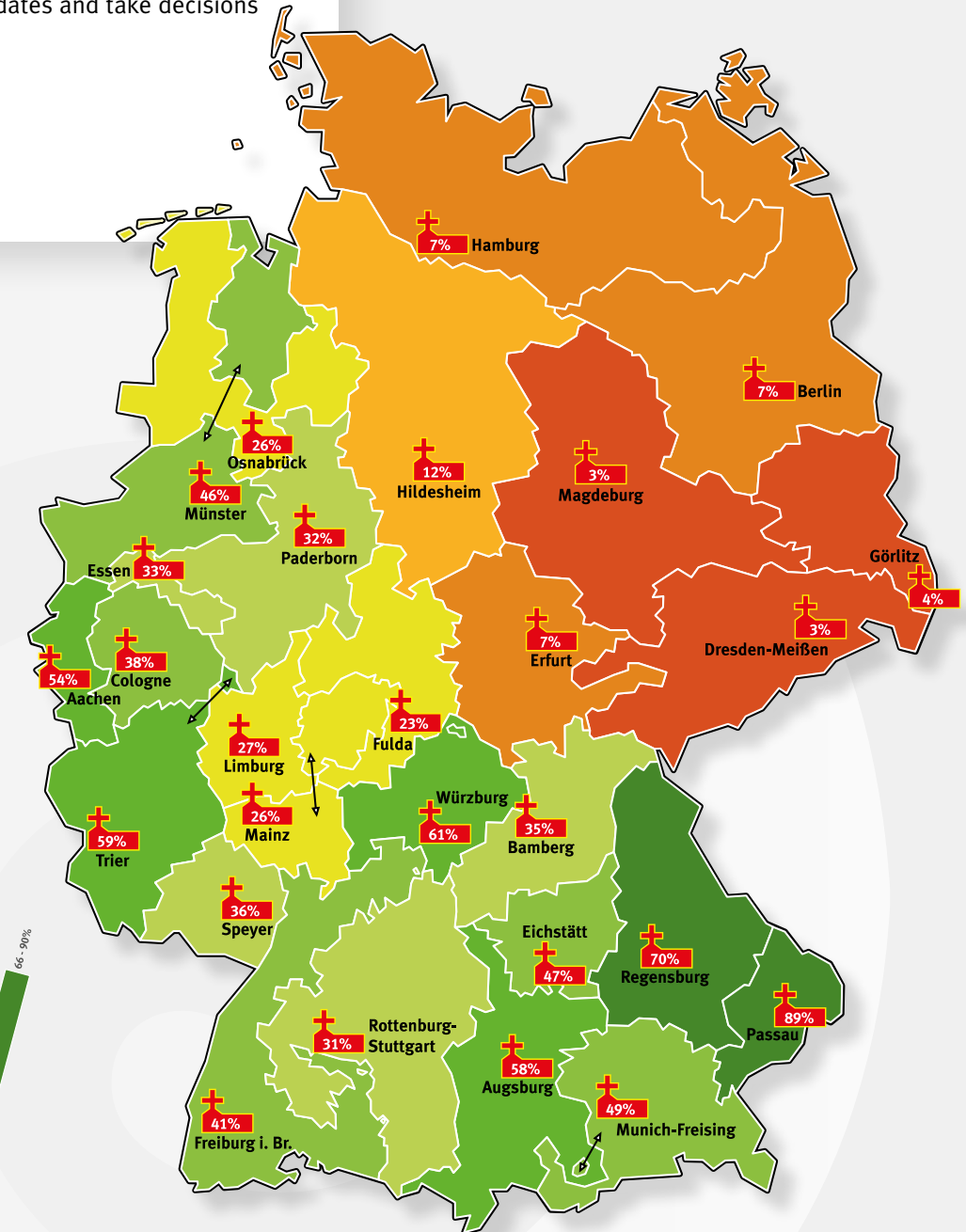
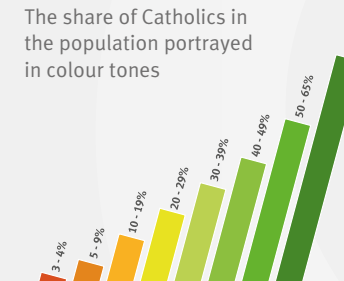
The Catholic Church in Germany is made up of 27 **dioceses**. The dioceses of a region together form an **ecclesiastical province**. They are headed by a diocese that is referred to as an **Archdiocese** (also **Archbishopric**); its bishop is an Archbishop. The other dioceses are referred to as “suffragan bishoprics”. They are legally subordinate to the Archdiocese in certain fields. Germany has seven Archdioceses (Archbishoprics), which preside over the seven ecclesiastical provinces (Bamberg, Berlin, Freiburg, Hamburg, Cologne, Munich and Freising, Paderborn).

The smallest unit within the Church's forms of organisation is the **parish**, in which Catholics live together. The **parish priest** leads the parish. He works together with full-time and honorary staff. The parishes of an area are combined in a **deanery**. This is led by the **Dean**.

The **German Bishops' Conference** is an association of the Roman-Catholic bishops of all dioceses in Germany. It currently has 66 members (as per: July 2014) from the 27 German dioceses. The German Bishops' Conference was established to promote joint pastoral tasks, to advise one another, to promote the necessary coordination of the Church's work and to jointly adopt decisions and maintain contact with other Bishops' Conferences. The highest body of the German Bishops' Conference is the Plenary Assembly of all bishops, at which the bishops regularly

meet in spring and autumn for several days. In large numbers of working meetings, the bishops deliberate, coordinate tasks and dates and take decisions for the Church in Germany.

The share of Catholics as a percentage of the population by (arch)bishoprics 2013

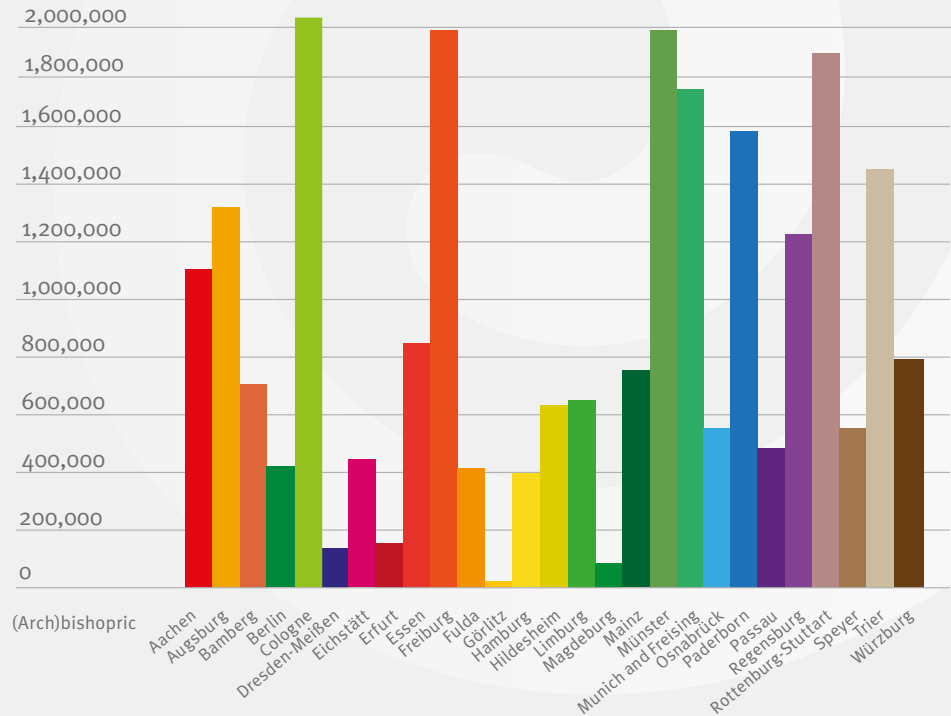


To support its activities and to carry out its tasks, the German Bishops' Conference maintains the Secretariat of the German Bishops' Conference in Bonn, as well as the Liaison Office of the German Bishops' Conference (or Catholic Office) in Berlin, which maintains contact with the political institutions. Since March 2014, the President of the German Bishops' Conference is the Archbishop of Munich and Freising, Cardinal Reinhard Marx.

*The relationship between the Church and the State in Germany*

- ... is based on constitutional and statutory provisions, as well as on State Church Treaties (e.g. concordats)
- ... freedom of religion enjoys special constitutional protection
- ... the German legal system guarantees to the religious communities autonomy to look after their own affairs (e.g. ecclesiastic labour law)
- ... there is no State Church, but there are many instances of cooperation between the State and the religions (e.g. religious education, military chaplaincy).

Catholics by (arch)bishoprics in 2013



## 4. Benchmarks: Life in the bishopric

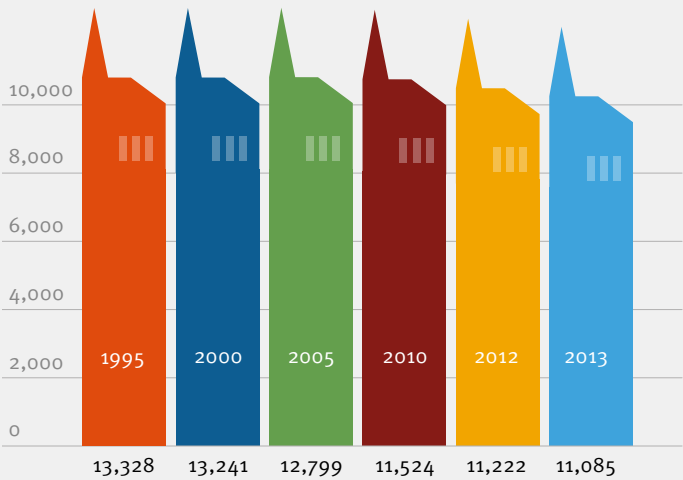
Patrick Konieczny,  
Trainee in the  
Archdiocese of  
Hamburg, media  
department:



“During my training, every day  
I learn something new for my  
life and my relationship to God  
is deepened.”

**Church life in Germany is diverse.** It takes place in parishes and associations, in Caritas, religious education and universities, at kindergartens, in schools, hospitals and academies. Correspondingly, Christians pursue careers in many fields for their Church. Whether as doctors, journalists, kindergarten teachers, school teachers, lawyers, managers or janitors, with a total of roughly 1.2 million workers, the Catholic and Evangelical Churches in Germany are the second-largest employer after the public service. The Catholic Church employs roughly 650,000 people on a full-time basis, more than 500,000 of them work for Caritas. According to estimates, in excess of 600,000 people do volunteer work for the Catholic Church.

Parishes and other pastoral care units  
1995 – 2013





4.1. Priests and pastoral services

The pastoral structure of the 27 German bishoprics has been changing for more than ten years: Parishes are being combined and thus the pastoral areas enlarged. This means that a priest is responsible for many more faithful than was previously the case. Falling numbers of priests are hence being counter-balanced, whilst at the same time lay people are also being given greater responsibility. The rights and duties of the parish members in helping to proclaim the faith are being stressed here, and other institutions of church life, such as spiritual communities, religious orders, associations and church schools, are being more closely involved in the everyday life of the parishes.

After the structural reform, there are a total of 11,085 parishes and other pastoral care units in Germany in 2013, as well as special pastoral care, which for in-

stance takes place in hospitals. The number has fallen by 16.7 percent in comparison to 1990 – at which time there were 13,313 parishes. There are 14.490 priests, including 2,154 religious priests<sup>1</sup> (as per: 2013). Moreover, there are 3,210 permanent deacons, 4,470 parish and 3.140 pastoral expert workers. The number of lay people in the pastoral service is increasing continuously: For instance, the number of pastoral expert workers has doubled since about 1990. This means that more men and women in Germany are working in the pastoral service than ever before. At the same time, however, the number of candidates for the priesthood is falling. 112 new entries were recorded at the end of 2013 for the German (arch)dioceses. This was 16 fewer men in comparison to 2012. The number of new priests rose from 79 in 2012 to 98 in 2013. The total number of seminarians fell from 726 (2012) to 662 (2013). Similar developments can be observed in training for the priesthood at the communities be-

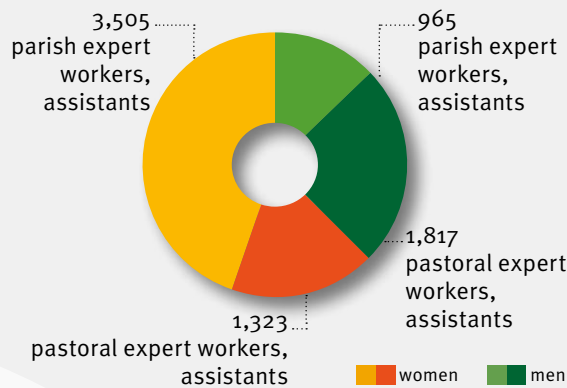
<sup>1</sup> In the service of a bishopric.

longing to the German Conference of Major Superiors of Religious Orders (DOK).

Foreign priests

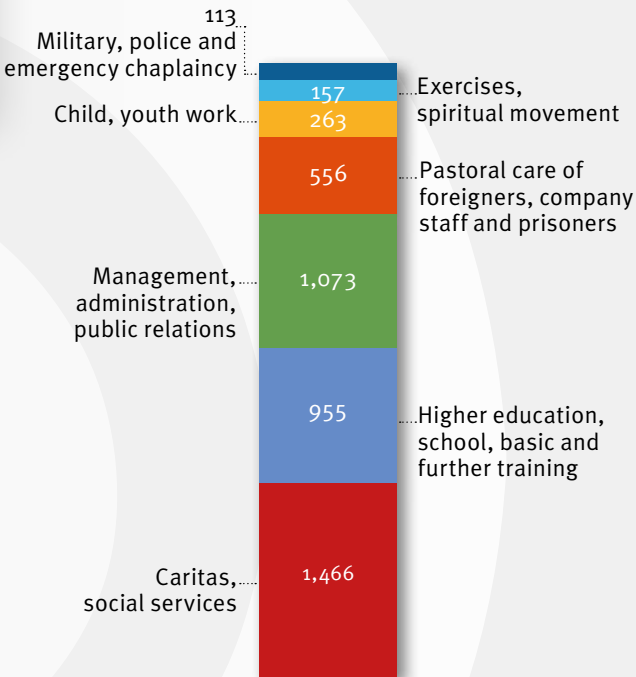
According to the latest numbers from 2013, 1,809 priests from abroad are working in Germany, including 958 secular priests and 851 religious priests. The main countries from which the foreign priests come are India and Poland. Since the Catholic Church understands itself as a “Universal Church” – in other words as an international Church – mutual contact and exchange between Catholics (be they lay people or priests) from different nations is to be a matter of course, and is also promoted by the Pope (“World Youth Day”). Just as foreign priests come to Germany, German priests also go abroad (to German-language parishes abroad or to foreign parishes, cf. Chapter 6).

Women and men in the pastoral service 2013

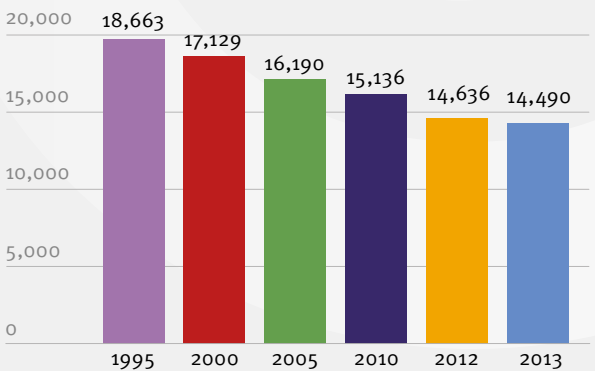


Selected fields of pastoral work 2013

Portrayal of those working in these fields on a full-time basis

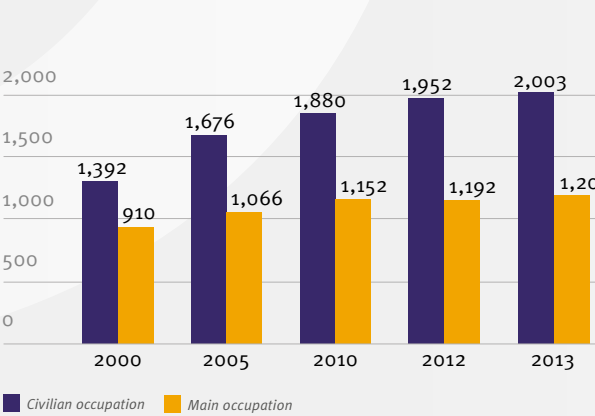


Secular priests and religious priests in the bishoprics\*

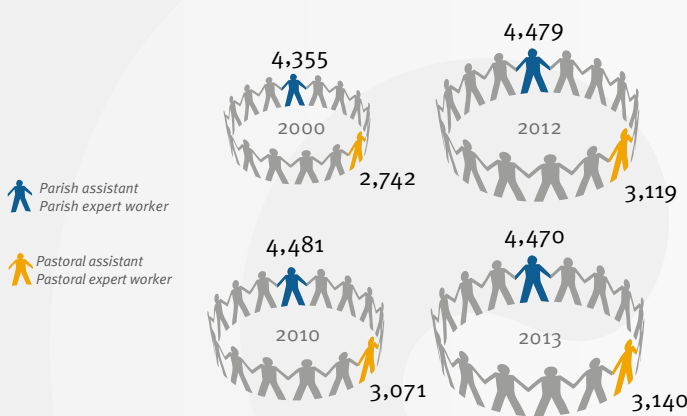


\*not including those living outside the bishoprics.

Permanent deacons  
Developments 2000 to 2013, absolute



Lay people in the pastoral service in Germany  
Developments 2000 – 2013, absolute



4.2. Baptism, first communion, confirmation

Baptism

Through baptism, people become “children of God” and members of the community of faith of Christians – the Church. The sacrament originates from the baptism of Jesus by John in the river Jordan. 164,664 people were admitted into the Catholic Church through baptism in 2013, including 2,808 adults (from the age of 14), most of whom (almost 95 per cent) came from the old Federal *Länder*. The significance of adult catechumenate is increasing, but baptism is nonetheless administered in the first year of life in most cases.

If both parents belong to a Christian Church, they seek the baptism of their child in most cases. The same applies if at least one parent is Catholic: For every four children born with at least one Catholic parent per year, almost three Catholic baptisms take place. This number has been stable for almost three decades.

First communion and confirmation

According to the statistics, almost all Catholic-baptised children go to first communion. This ceremony has a special meaning for most children, with its preparatory time, the actual celebration and guests. At first communion, which in most cases takes place at

an age of roughly nine, children experience the inviting community with God, that is they are taken into the table fellowship with God and the parish. As a rule, children go to first communion in third grade. The ceremony traditionally takes place on the first Sunday after Easter, “White Sunday”. There were 191,169 first communicants in 2013.

Between four and six years later, these children have the opportunity to renew their baptismal promise and to strengthen their faith and their connection with the Catholic Church in the sacrament of confirmation. 167,255 young people were confirmed in 2013. According to a statistical survey, therefore, seven out of ten children who took first communion are confirmed.

4.3. Marriage

Many couples are still opting to give their love a public, binding character through marriage. It is important for Christians to know that they are accompanied by God on their path together. Catholic marriage is one of the seven sacraments. The number of Catholic marriages has nonetheless been falling considerably since 1990: It fell from more than 110,000 at the end of the 1980s to 43,728 in 2013. The long-term development shows that, whilst the downward trend in comparison to past decades has not accelerated in recent years, remaining relatively constant (2010: 48,524; 2011: 46,021; 2012: 47,161), there is nonetheless no change of direction so far.

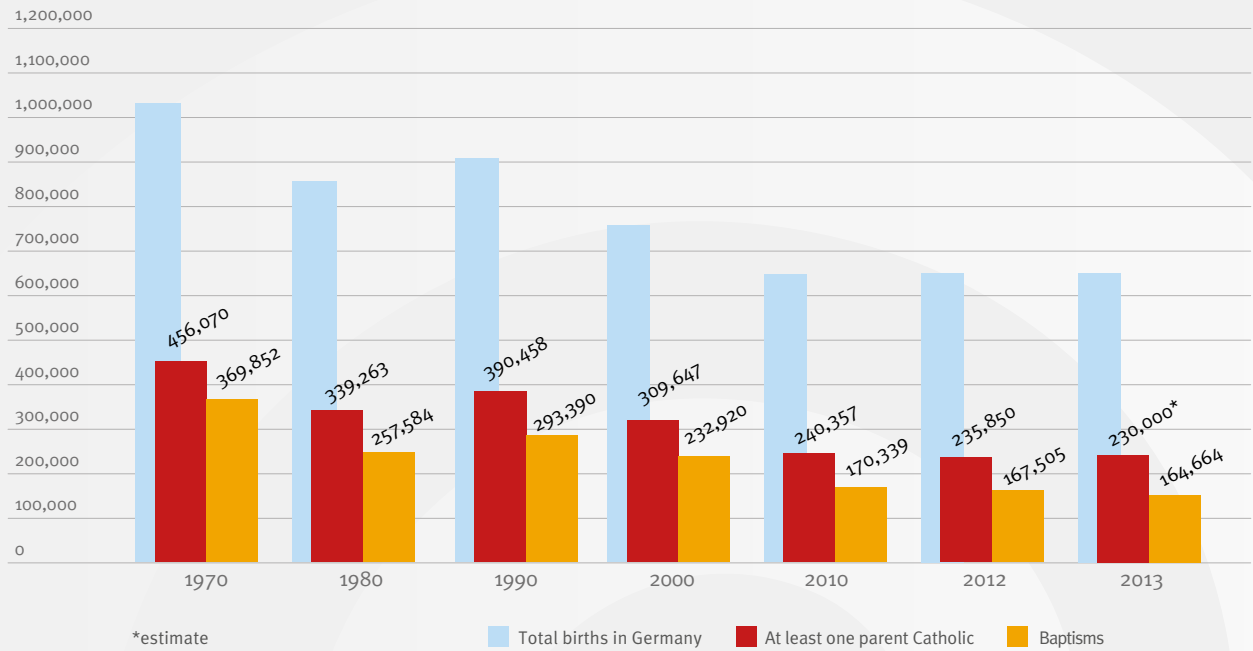


Julia and Eva Weber, First communicants 2014:

Julia: “It’s great to go to the Lord’s table!”

Eva: “It’s great to go to First Communion because Jesus then will open a door for me.”

Catholic baptisms in Germany 1970 – 2013 and births of children who have at least one Catholic parent



Catholic marriages in Germany 2010 – 2013







Father Samuel Patton MSFS  
Priest from India working in the Maria Königin parish in Creußen, living in Germany since September 2007:

“Every day in my life and in my service to my fellow human beings I try to give what God has given me: His love and His grace.”

#### 4.4. Burials

In addition to earth burials as the traditional form of burial, cremation is becoming increasingly common; anonymous burials and scattering ashes into the seas or in the forest are no longer a rarity. Christian faith makes a major contribution towards a culture of bereavement and dealing with death by keeping alive the question concerning the deceased and their fate. There were 252,344 Catholic burials in 2013. This accounts for almost 30 percent of deaths in Germany.

The significance of the Church, the parishes and officials sharing in the forming of the burial culture and of the process of bereavement has hence declined over time. Mourning speakers and undertakers have taken their place in some cases. We find at the same time that in many parishes, priests as well as women and men in the service of the Church, make exemplary efforts for the burial of the dead and pastoral care of relatives.

#### 4.5. Taking up, renewal and renunciation of membership

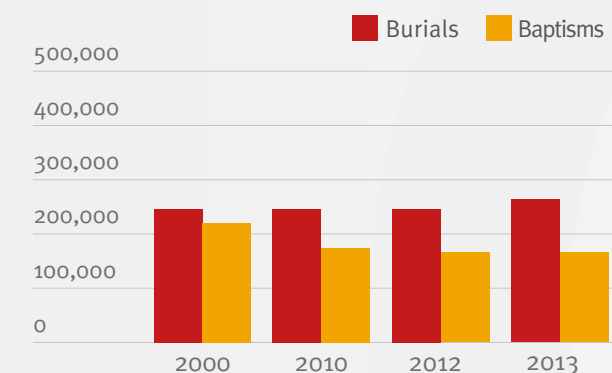
In 2013, 3,062 people took up membership of the Catholic Church. Since the beginning of the 1990s until 2005, the number of people returning to membership of the Catholic Church increased. Whilst it was somewhat higher than 4,700 in 1991, more than 11,000 Catholics renewed their membership of the Catholic Church in 2005. The number was 6,980 in 2013.

This however contrasts with a much larger number of people who left the Catholic Church: This number has been over 100,000 per year since 1990; these were 178,805 Catholics in 2013.

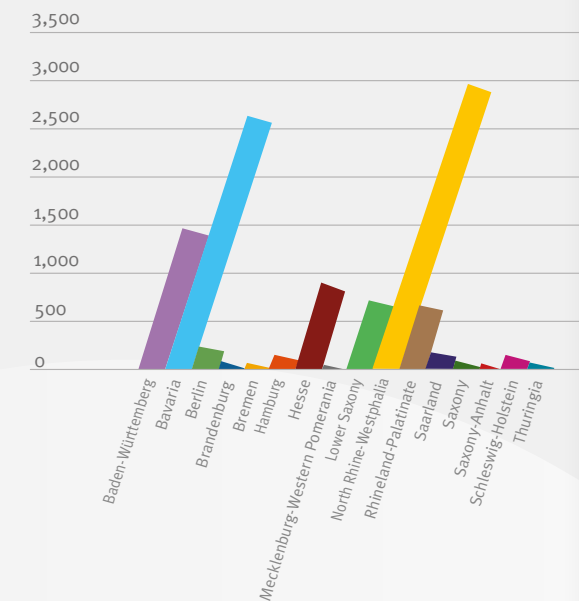
#### 4.6. Attendance at religious services

Religious services on Sundays and the celebration of Holy Mass are central elements of the Christian faith attended by an average of 10.8 percent of the Catholics. In both counts taking place annually in all

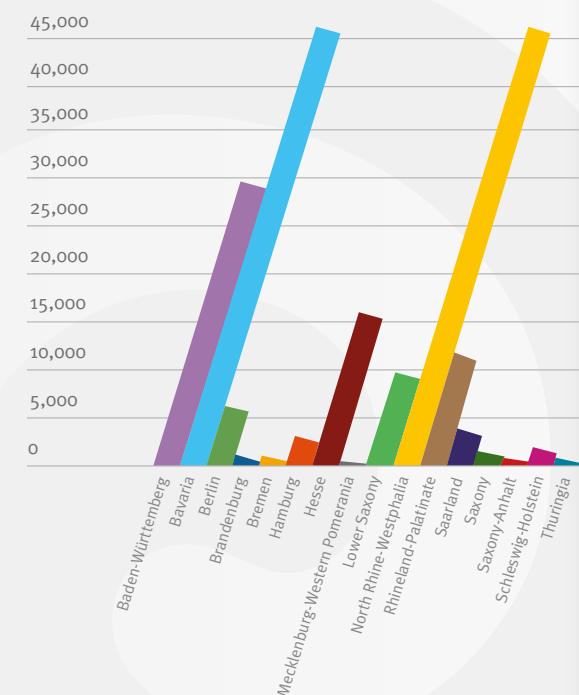
**Catholic burials in Germany 2000 – 2013**  
Absolute numbers, comparison with baptisms



#### Taking up and renewal of Church membership in 2013 by Federal Länder



#### Renunciations of membership 2013 by Federal Länder



parishes and pastoral care units, about 2.6 million attendees were counted for 2013. The count is carried out on each second Sunday in Lent and on the second Sunday in November, that is as far as possible on “normal” Sundays of the Church year.

Despite the constant decline, more than 2.5 million church-goers is still a large number of people coming to Church every Sunday. This is a number which deserves respect when compared with the numbers of people attending other events such as sport or museum visits.

#### 4.7. National parishes

**Almost 6.2 million foreigners, as well as another roughly 9.1 million people who have a German passport and have experienced migration personally, currently live in the Federal Republic of Germany.** Among those who do not have a German passport (“foreigners”), and among the Germans with a migration background, there are many who belong to the Roman-Catholic Church or to a Church that is united with Rome. This means that several million Catholics in Germany grow up with a native language other than German.

The bishops in the dioceses are also responsible for taking care of these faithful, for enabling them to experience the Salvation of the Gospel in service and pastoral care when they are far from home. They have established “national parishes” for this. There are more than 400 national parishes today in over 30 language groups, and almost 500 priests and religious work here who have been seconded by their respective home bishops’ conferences or Superiors to work as pastors. The largest groups among them are Polish, Croatian, Italian, Spanish and Portuguese-speaking Catholics. The national parishes are

a community and living space for the migrants in which they find a home particularly also with their language and faith tradition, can practice their own cultural and religious life, and hence find their identity.

#### 4.8. Special pastoral care

##### Whether at airports, on motorways or on cruises:

The Catholic Church offers special pastoral care for people on the move. Furthermore, there are pastoral services which are tailored to specific groups of individuals, such as in hospitals, in prison, or as pastoral care for sailors, Germans living abroad or athletes.

##### → Emergency chaplaincy

Emergency chaplaincy is an ecumenical stand-by service provided by the Churches for people in acute psychosocial crisis. It is designed especially for people who have lost a person close to them by sudden death, i.e. accident, cardiac infarction or suicide. In an acute situation of crisis, male and female chaplains try to give those people the necessary support and strength which enables them to cope with their situation or their loss on their own or with further help. The presence of these chaplains at the emergency scenes provides relief and support to those affected as well as to the members of the emergency services.

##### → Airport chaplaincy

Airport chaplaincy in Germany started in 1970 in Frankfurt/Main. Pastoral care for passengers and staff today is offered at eleven airports, including Munich, Stuttgart, Hamburg, Dresden and Berlin.

Father Sascha Ellinghaus, head of Catholic pastoral care for circus and carnival people on behalf of the German Bishops' Conference:

“Pastoral care for circus and carnival people: When circus and carnival workers are constantly on their way from one place to another, the Church will come to them.”



##### → Telephone counselling services

Divorce, mobbing, addiction, illness or loneliness: Roughly 8,500 voluntary workers – more than 80 percent of whom are women – are available to advice-seekers in 108 telephone counselling units. There were roughly 2.3 million calls in 2013. The institutions running telephone counselling services are the Evangelic and the Catholic Churches.

##### → Military chaplaincy

The jurisdiction of the Catholic military bishop (military ordinariate) includes all active Catholic soldiers and their relatives. The jurisdiction of the Catholic military bishop is not tied to any place. It applies worldwide, wherever German soldiers serve. Germany has at present 85 Catholic military parishes; three fixed units have been established abroad. Furthermore, Catholic priests provide military chaplaincy in the context of the international deployments of the Federal Armed Forces.

##### → Pastoral work for circus and carnival people

Circus and carnival people are constantly on their way. Their life centers on fairgrounds and circus rings. The priests providing pastoral care for circus and carnival people visit them at various places to keep contact to them, to celebrate mass during the fairs, and to administer the sacraments under the chapiteau. They baptize children, they bless new rides and circus tents and they hold funeral services for the deceased. **kath-schaustellerseelsorge.de**

##### → Internet pastoral work

The broad diversity of the Church's activities in the “real” world is also reflected in Her presence on the web. The Catholic Agency for Missionary Pastoral Care offers a central portal for pastoral care on the Internet: **internetseelsorge.de**. Information regarding (renewed) membership of the Catholic Church can be found at **katholisch-werden.de**.

##### → Pastoral care for people with disabilities

Pastoral care for people with disabilities is a fundamental task of service-based pastoral care work: “In the Christian view of man, each person is of value in absolute terms, and is wanted by the Creator”\*. Pastoral care for people with disabilities operates in the 27 dioceses to bring about equal participation and involvement for all people, in both Church life and in the life of society as a whole. Its attention is not only focused on those concerned, but also on giving support to their families in everyday issues.

\* From Cardinal Karl Lehmann's introduction to the declaration of the German bishops “UnBehindert Leben und Glauben teilen” (2003).

Deacon Josef Rothkopf, diocesan president of the deaf in the diocese of Aachen and president of the Association of the Catholic Deaf of Germany:



“One important consequence of the document ‘Evangelii gaudium’ written by Pope Francis is that the disabled are not simply to be regarded as the objects of pastoral care but rather should be the subjects of the pastoral care for people with disabilities because they contribute to the building up of the Church of Jesus Christ.”

4.9. Church statistics of the (arch)bishoprics in Germany

Annual survey 2013 – benchmarks

	Catholics	Persons attending religious services <sup>1,2</sup>	in percent <sup>2</sup>	Baptisms	First communion	Confirmation	Marriages	Burials	New members <sup>3,4</sup>	Renewals	Renunciations
Aachen	1,089,833	90,763	8.3 %	6,754	8,326	5,608	1,668	12,217	82	328	6,547
Augsburg	1,335,486	184,969	13.9 %	10,280	11,902	12,198	2,946	14,364	121	358	9,510
Bamberg *	703,639	81,450	11.6 %	4,470	4,922	4,819	1,272	7,224	87	132	4,757
Berlin *	407,060	42,462	10.4 %	2,102	2,081	1,256	457	2,039	101	155	6,625
Cologne *	2,056,173	190,818	9.3 %	14,082	16,023	10,517	3,472	20,902	278	793	17,012
Dresden-Meißen	141,788	25,056	17.7 %	956	943	774	313	1,140	43	29	1,195
Eichstätt	409,938	64,398	15.7 %	3,029	3,380	3,596	809	4,181	32	87	2,559
Erfurt	151,863	28,251	18.6 %	1,183	1,170	1,052	396	1,371	17	22	775
Essen	830,623	71,906	8.7 %	4,851	5,475	3,394	1,136	9,840	116	264	5,405
Freiburg *	1,938,510	179,777	9.3 %	12,744	15,274	13,446	4,049	20,385	158	498	15,125
Fulda	400,977	56,332	14.0 %	2,485	3,039	2,795	667	4,250	61	92	2,929
Görlitz	28,592	5,751	20.1 %	202	163	122	78	240	7	5	161
Hamburg *	399,771	37,101	9.3 %	2,244	2,277	1,306	600	2,112	112	206	5,812
Hildesheim	613,508	52,370	8.5 %	3,489	4,120	2,874	858	5,860	143	250	6,306
Limburg	644,074	67,198	10.4 %	4,033	4,924	4,294	1,057	6,825	111	285	7,980
Magdeburg	86,121	12,863	14.9 %	401	352	295	140	870	16	16	669
Mainz	749,583	71,585	9.5 %	4,691	5,267	4,654	1,279	7,958	108	289	7,535
Münster	1,937,391	188,613	9.7 %	13,905	17,252	15,757	3,550	20,571	273	418	10,112
Munich and Freising *	1,752,367	187,931	10.7 %	13,808	15,404	15,114	3,439	17,156	253	840	16,033
Osnabrück	566,077	68,411	12.1 %	4,264	5,267	4,776	969	5,210	68	121	3,026
Paderborn *	1,581,343	170,949	10.8 %	10,202	12,757	9,597	2,612	17,736	216	327	8,356
Passau	480,885	60,668	12.6 %	3,994	4,199	4,815	1,030	5,426	49	112	2,028
Regensburg	1,212,898	201,133	16.6 %	9,480	10,141	11,139	2,528	13,451	119	246	5,458
Rottenburg-Stuttgart	1,872,849	184,123	9.8 %	12,717	15,679	16,416	3,245	17,863	273	473	14,617
Speyer	557,708	49,617	8.9 %	3,661	3,922	2,686	994	6,483	68	162	4,456
Trier	1,435,448	130,625	9.1 %	9,134	10,862	8,165	2,446	17,772	94	330	8,566
Würzburg	786,249	98,191	12.5 %	5,398	6,023	5,735	1,676	8,897	46	135	5,163
military chaplaincy	-	-	-	105	25	55	42	1	10	7	88
Total	24,170,754	2,603,306	10.8 %	164,664	191,169	167,255	43,728	252,344	3,062	6,980	178,805

\* Archdiocese.

<sup>1</sup> According to information from the parishes and bishoprics.

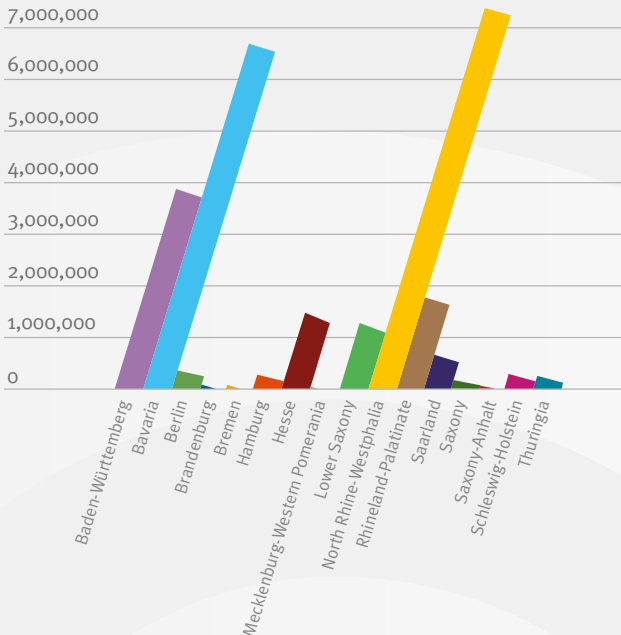
<sup>2</sup> Slight deviations are caused by rounding.

<sup>3</sup> Average numbers.

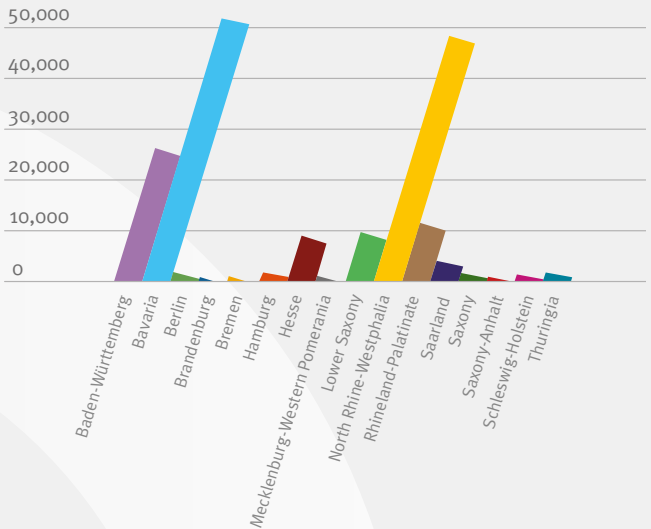
Dispersion by Federal Länder<sup>1</sup>

24,170,754 Catholics

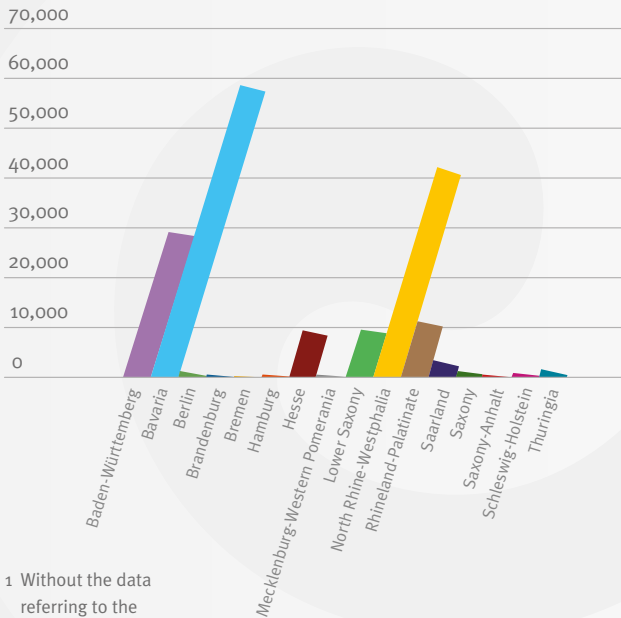
(according to information from the parishes and bishoprics)



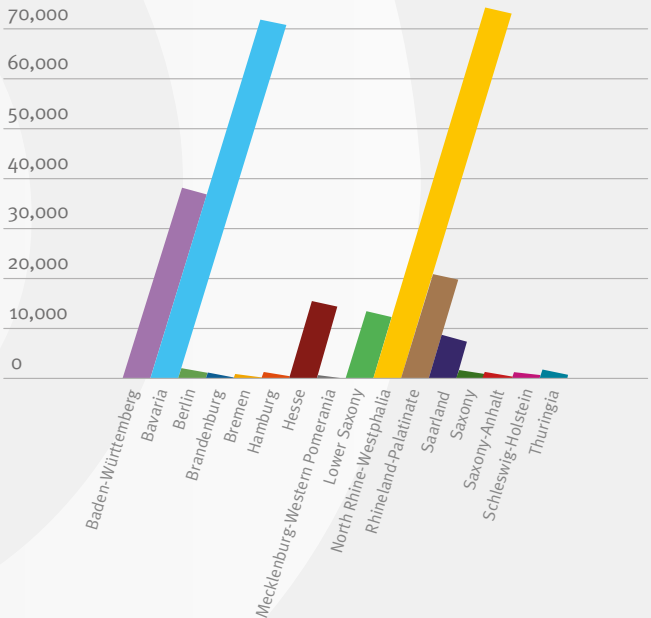
164,664 baptisms



167,255 confirmations



252,344 burials



<sup>1</sup> Without the data referring to the military chaplaincy.



5. Orders and spiritual communities



Father Manfred Kollig SSSC, head of the department for pastoral care at the general vicariate of the diocese of Münster:

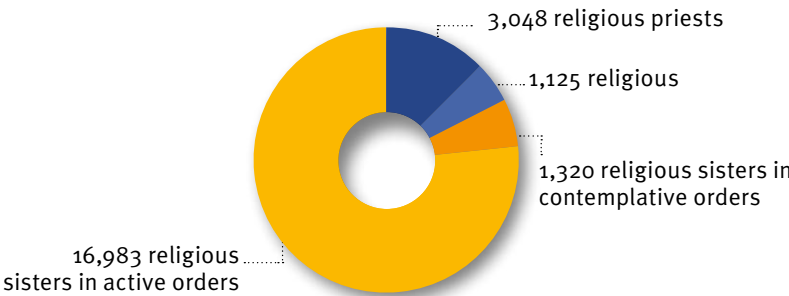
“To shape my relationship with other people with heart and mind in a way that is inspired by my relationship with Christ, to use the power entrusted to me, and to share the material and spiritual gifts I have been endowed with: this is what I have been trying to do for forty years in the international Congregation of the Sacred Hearts of Jesus and Mary (Arnstein Fathers).”

**Living in an order is being a committed Christian in a community; it is consistently “following Christ”.** It frequently stems from a long spiritual tradition and seeks ever new links to the present. For instance, religious can be found working in large numbers in very different areas, such as in teaching, in hospitals run by orders, in old people’s homes, in addiction assistance facilities and in kindergartens, but also working as missionaries all over the world or as hermits.

Among the male orders and congregations in Germany there are 104 independent provinces, abbeys and priories from 61 different orders, with almost 4,532 religious in 454 monastic institutions.

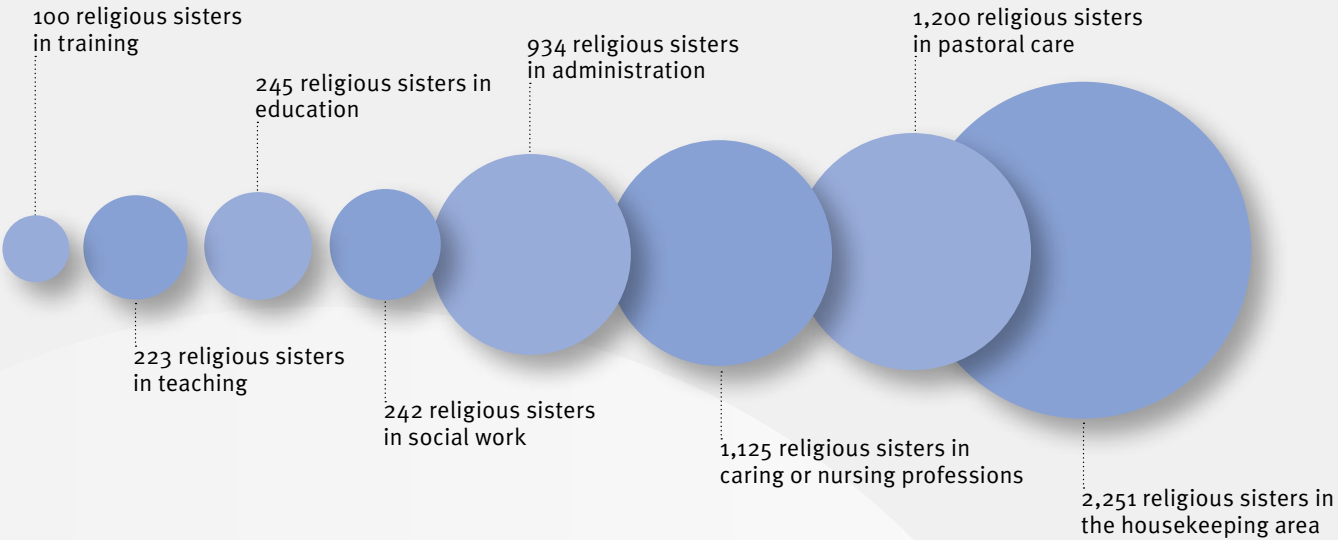
The number of communities and members is much larger in the women’s orders: There are 332 generalates, provincialates, abbeys and independent individual cloisters with 18,303 religious sisters who live in 1,510 monastic institutions. The largest groups are formed by the Benedictine, Franciscan and Vincentian communities. In addition there are more than 80 spiritual communities with roughly 100,000 members.

22,476 members in religious institutions<sup>1</sup>, 2013

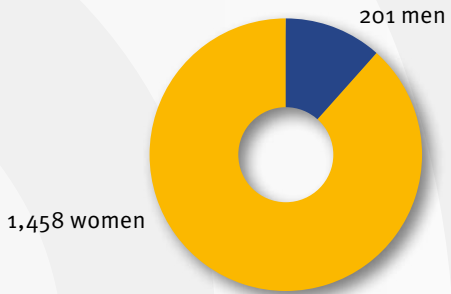
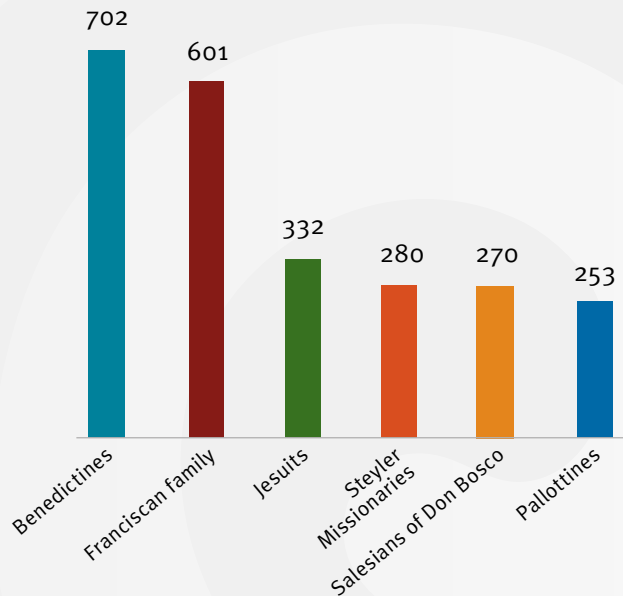


<sup>1</sup> Member communities of the German Conference of Major Superiors of Religious Orders (DOK) in Germany. Permanent deacons, clerics/scholastics and religious from other provinces in Germany are not included.

Selected areas of work of religious sisters, 2013



Number of members of the major male congregations, 2013      1,659 members in secular institutes<sup>2</sup>, 2013



<sup>2</sup> Working group of the secular institutes in Germany. The members of secular institutes live their vocation of poverty, celibacy and obedience in the midst of the world. This means that they do not enter a cloister, but live alone, in a living community of the institute or in their own families. They earn a living through work and do not distinguish themselves from the people around them through their clothing.

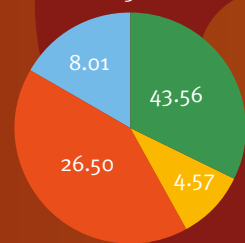
## 6. The Church worldwide: Pastoral care abroad and universal church commitment

Reinhold Sahner,  
Priest for the German-  
speaking Catholics  
in the United Arab  
Emirates:

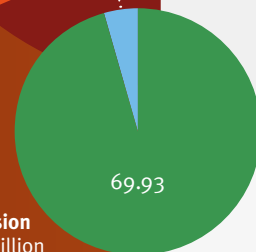


“Along the trade routes of today’s economic nomads, we are like caravansaries which enable the people to feel at home practising their faith.”

**Caritas international**  
total of 82.63 million



**Children’s Mission**  
total of 72.12 million



### 6.1. Parishes abroad

The task of the Catholic Office for German-language ministry abroad (*Katholisches Auslandssekretariat*) of the German Bishops’ Conference is to offer pastoral care to German-speaking Catholics who live abroad for the most varied reasons, sometimes only for a matter of weeks, sometimes permanently. For many of them, the possibility of being able to live their own faith abroad in their native tongue plays an important role. The Office for German-language ministry abroad has been in existence since 1921. Originally only established for emigrants, it now caters to various other groups of people, such as tourists or the so-called expatriates, that is people who are frequently sent abroad with their families by their companies.

The Catholic Office for German-language ministry abroad is represented in nearly 120 places in 57 countries worldwide, including parishes in Seoul, London and New York. Roughly 100 full-time or part-

time secular and religious priests serve as contacts in the parishes, plus 16 pastoral and parish specialist workers, three deacons and three lay people. In addition, pastoral care is offered on cruises and for tourists.

### 6.2. Aid agencies

Germans donated a total of Euro 4.7 billion in 2013. This meant a record volume of private donations. According to the results of the survey “BalanceSheet on Giving 2013” which is conducted every year by the Society for Consumer Research (GfK) on behalf of the German Donation Society, this rise was mainly due to the flood in Germany and the typhoon Haiyan in the Philippines.

After the Second World War, Germany experienced to what degree this aid from other nations was necessary and took note that it was given despite historical guilt. Against this background the bishops

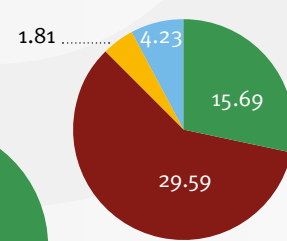
and faithful in Germany in the fifties developed the wish to offer cooperation in a spirit of partnership to the poor countries of the southern hemisphere in order to alleviate people’s existential hardships and reduce or eliminate social injustices. Church development work was therefore added to the traditional support for pastoral work in the mission countries in Asia, Africa, Latin America and Oceania.

In order to raise donations and to use these funds in line with the respective task and with the intentions of the donors, the German Bishops’ Conference, partially supported by the Central Committee of German Catholics, established aid agencies with a variety of structures. These include the Episcopal Adveniat campaign, the Bonifatiuswerk of German Catholics, Caritas international, Misereor, and Renovabis. Missio in Aachen and in Munich, as well as the Children’s Mission “Epiphany Singers (*Sternsinger*)” are parts of the International Catholic network of Pontifical Mission Societies. Independent audits confirm every year that the Catholic aid agencies have low administration costs.

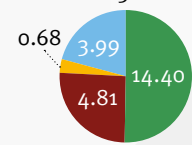
**Income (in million Euro)<sup>4</sup> of the church aid agencies in Germany 2013**



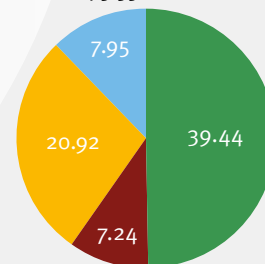
**Adveniat<sup>1</sup>**  
total of 51.31 million



**Bonifatiuswerk<sup>2</sup>**  
total of 23.88 million

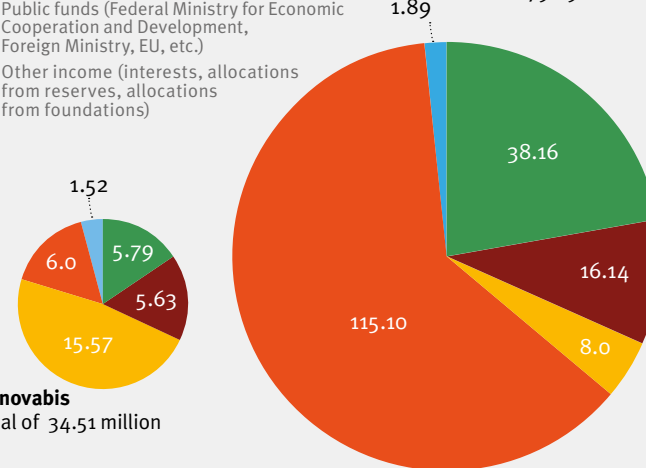


**Missio<sup>3</sup>**  
total of 75.55 million

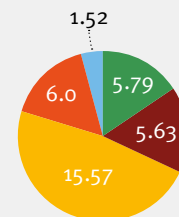


- Donations (including subscriptions and inheritances)
- Collections (including special collections)
- Church funds (funds provided by the Association of German Dioceses and individual dioceses)
- Public funds (Federal Ministry for Economic Cooperation and Development, Foreign Ministry, EU, etc.)
- Other income (interests, allocations from reserves, allocations from foundations)

**Misereor**  
total of 179.29 million



**Renovabis**  
total of 34.51 million



The Catholic aid agencies promoted projects in Africa, Asia, Latin America and Eastern Europe to a tune of roughly 425 million Euros in 2013. Not only do the 27 bishoprics forward considerable amounts of money to the aid agencies from collections and donations, but they also support Universal Church work by providing 41.39 million Euro through direct aid. Moreover, some bishoprics support the project work of the aid agencies by providing subsidies from their own budgets. Many parishes also maintain direct contacts with partner parishes worldwide and support the work on the ground by making regular donations. The religious orders also provided roughly 88 million Euro in 2013, as well as sending additional “manpower” in the shape of almost 1,900 religious.

The worldwide commitment of the Catholic aid agencies and religious orders

The numbers for the aid agencies are taken from the 2013 annual report published by the “Universal Church” Conference, and for the religious orders from the 2013 financial report published by the working group of mission procures.

Adveniat – promotes the pastoral work of the Catholic Church in Latin America and the Caribbean for the benefit of poor and disadvantaged people. **adveniat.de**

Bonifatiuswerk of German Catholics – is tasked by the German Bishops’ Conference with the promotion of Diaspora pastoral care. **bonifatiuswerk.de**

Caritas international – is the Catholic aid agency for emergency and disaster relief and a part of Caritas Germany. **caritas-international.de**

Children’s Mission “The Epiphany Singers” is committed as the children’s aid agency of the Catholic Church worldwide for children in need. **sternsinger.org**

Misereor – is the aid agency for development cooperation in Africa, Asia, Latin America and Oceania. **misereor.de**

Missio – is tasked with supporting the local churches in Africa, Asia and Oceania and the church workers in their environment. **missio.de**

Renovabis – was established by German Catholics in order to help people in formerly Communist countries of Central, Eastern and South Eastern Europe. **renovabis.de**

Even the Catholic religious orders are operating all over the world. In 2014, nearly 1,900 religious sisters and religious brothers are working internationally and they bear witness to their faith by practising charity. **orden.de**

International projects <sup>1</sup>	Project funding EUR
Caritas international	25,850
Children’s Mission “The Epiphany Singers”	153,795
Misereor	26,290,342
Missio	2,706,340
Religious orders	3,929,089

<sup>1</sup> transnational project funding

Central and Latin America, as well as the Caribbean	Project funding EUR
Adveniat	39,169,409
Caritas international	10,136,407
Children’s Mission “The Epiphany Singers”	24,339,834
Misereor	47,904,203
Religious orders	18,951,077

Europe	Project funding EUR
Bonifatiuswerk <sup>1</sup>	8,042,729
Caritas international	8,500,648
Children’s Mission “The Epiphany Singers”	3,170,989
Missio	7,767,343
Renovabis	31,091,612
Religious orders (Eastern Europe)	2,438,525

<sup>1</sup> Projects in Northern Europe, Estonia and Latvia. Including project funds provided by the Diaspora Kommissariat of the German Bishops.

Africa	Project funding EUR
Caritas international	14,963,075
Children’s Mission “The Epiphany Singers”	17,099,624
Misereor	51,404,479
Missio	27,983,846
Religious orders	30,271,611

Asia and Oceania	Project funding EUR
Caritas international	27,598,919
Children’s Mission “The Epiphany Singers”	12,493,176
Misereor	48,265,308
Missio	18,054,021
Religious orders	20,593,139

“Show to the world outside what you believe inside – In the world of today and being at the side of the people, this is our mission, our path and our aim.”

Monsignor Georg Austen  
Secretary general of the  
Bonifatiuswerk of German  
Catholics:







Monsignor Dr Florian Schuller, Director of the Catholic Academy of Bavaria:

“All reasonable people agree that education is first among the goods we possess’. This was already recognized by the church father Gregory of Nazianzus who died around 390. Whether general adult education or academy courses for and with multipliers – education belongs to the “core activities” of the Church. Without education, faith becomes an ideology.”

## 7.1. Kindergarten and school

### Kindergarten

The Catholic Church runs roughly 9,130 day-care facilities for children in which approx. 94,600 staff members take care of more than 623,000 children. The facilities are deliberately also open to non-Catholic children. 27 percent have a migration background, including many Muslims. In addition to the Churches, independent institutions of child day-care centres are the charity associations, as well as associations and parents’ initiatives.

### School

Catholic schools are very popular among parents, given that they stand for education and a Christian life orientation equally. The 905 Catholic schools include various forms of school, from primary schools through to grammar schools, vocational schools and boarding schools, and are attended by a total of roughly 370,000 pupils. They are run by more than 300 different school institutions, including dioceses and religious communities, which operate schools, in some cases already with a tradition spanning several centuries. Independent Catholic schools are primarily funded from three sources in differing proportions, depending on the Federal *Land*. The largest share is accounted for by state funding. Added to this are own funds of the organisations and donations (and depending on the Federal *Land* also school fees) from the parents.

Religious instruction in schools is entrenched in the Constitution in Germany (Art. 7 Para. 3 of the Basic Law [*Grundgesetz*]). The content of the program of study is a matter for the Churches to determine; religious teachers need to have a *missio canonica*, that

is they must be officially mandated with performing proclamation and teaching tasks.

“Catholic schools understand themselves as educational spaces for learning and living in which children and young people have experiences which shape their values. The meaning of faith for life is not only to be discussed and reflected upon in teaching, but should be evident in everyday school life, for instance in the way we address one another in the school community or in the structure of school life.” (The German Bishops, *Qualitätskriterien für Katholische Schulen* 2009)



Verena Jessing, Association of Catholic religion teachers (VKRO) at grammar schools in the diocese of Osnabrück:

“To enable pupils to understand the answer options of the Christian faith, they must ask the questions themselves.”

### Catholic day-care facilities, 2013



Martina Vollmer, Director of the Saint Elisabeth Catholic day-care facility for children in Poppenhausen:



“The enjoyment and voluntariness of doing, the love of being active, this is my motivation to accompany the work with children and to initiate a learning process. The children give their joy back to me and I am very grateful for this.”

## 7.2. Youth

The German Association of Catholic Youth (BDKJ) is the umbrella organisation of 16 Catholic youth associations and organisations with 660,000 members aged between 7 and 28. Its most important task lies in the representation of the interests of its members in the political arena, in Church and in society. In a 72-hours campaign in June 2013 for instance, 175,000 young people at 4,000 places tried to make the world a little better.

Many children and young people are also involved in religious services. Thus, the number of girls and boys who contribute towards the liturgy as altar boys and girls has been at a constantly high level for years.



Bianca Mohr, Director of the Office for Youth Ministry of the German Bishops' Conference (afj):

“Catholic youth work lives from the many continuous local offers. And from the highlights: the 72-hours campaign in 2013 and the pilgrimage of altar servers to Rome in 2014.”

**BDKJ**  
Umbrella  
organisation

436,228  
altar boys  
and girls

660,000  
children +  
young people  
aged between  
7 and 28

16 youth  
associations  
and  
organisations



Theresa Müller,  
altar girl:

“I like being together with the altar servers and being able to take such an active part in the religious services.”

## 7.3. Sexualised violence and prevention

The Catholic Church in Germany was shaken in 2010 by the discovery of cases of sexual abuse of minors committed by priests and religious. Many of the terrible incidents took place decades ago. The German Bishops' Conference took immediate and comprehensive action to investigate the incidents and to initiate preventive measures. Pope Emeritus Benedict XVI commented on the topic of abuse several times, including in 2008: “Here I would like to pause to acknowledge the shame which we have all felt as a result of the sexual abuse of minors by some clergy and religious ... . Indeed, I am deeply sorry for the pain and suffering ... . These misdeeds, which constitute so grave a betrayal of trust, deserve unequivocal condemnation.” Pope Francis set up a Pontifical Commission for the Protection of Minors in the Vatican in 2014. He said to abuse victims: “Before God and his people I express my sorrow for the sins and grave crimes of clerical sexual abuse committed against you. And I humbly ask forgiveness. I beg your forgiveness, too, for the sins of omission on the part of Church leaders who did not respond adequately to reports of abuse made by family members, as well as by abuse victims themselves. This led to even greater suffering on the part of those who were abused and it endangered other minors who were at risk. ... There is no place in the Church's ministry for those who commit these abuses, and I commit myself not to tolerate harm done to a minor by any individual, whether a cleric or not.”

As long ago as in 2002, the German Bishops' Conference issued Guidelines on Dealing with Sexual Abuse of Minors by Clergy, and these were considerably tightened up in 2010 and added to in 2013. Today there are internal and external contacts and

Bishop Dr Stephan Ackermann, Commissioner of the German Bishops' Conference for questions relating to the sexual abuse of minors in the church domain:



“Action against sexualised violence leads us in the Church to pay greater attention to dealing responsibly with power that has been entrusted to us as a whole. We must not tire of such attentiveness.”

interdisciplinary working parties and commissions in each of the 27 German bishoprics. Important information is contained in the comprehensive dossier entitled “Sexual abuse” on the homepage at [www.dbk.de](http://www.dbk.de) (in German).

It was possible to enact a “Framework on Prevention” in 2010. Since then, prevention commissioners have been operating in all the German bishoprics. The German Bishops' Conference and the German Conference of Major Superiors of Religious Orders gave an assurance in the spring of 2011 that they would campaign to have the pain that had been suffered recognised in material terms: Recommendations on the amount of material payments have so far been issued regarding roughly 1,400 applications received by the responsible church body. Half a million Euros have been placed in a prevention fund.

Church workers and volunteers are trained in dealing with children and young people or with adult charges. The successful telephone hotline for victims of sexual abuse and their families was the first of its kind worldwide: More than 8,000 calls have been put through. The scientific study carried out by Prof Dr Norbert Leygraf and entitled “Sexual attacks by Catholic clergy in Germany: An analysis of forensic reports 2000-2010” was presented in December 2012. A new research project was launched in 2014. Its activities will be continued by the German Bishops’ Conference. What the bishops said at their spring full assembly held in Freiburg in February 2010 is still valid: “We want to see an honest investigation, free of mistaken consideration, even if incidents are reported to us which happened long ago. This is what the victims deserve.”

N.B.: The contact data of the commissioners from the dioceses and orders can be found in the German-language dossier on the topic of sexual abuse at [www.dbk.de](http://www.dbk.de).

#### Assuming responsibility

Prevention commissioners and commissioners for questions relating to sexual abuse (July 2014)

#### Prevention commissioners:

- 30 commissioners in 27 (arch)bishoprics

#### Commissioners for questions relating to sexual abuse:

- 50 commissioners of the 27 (arch)bishoprics and the military ordinariate
- 215\* commissioners of religious orders of pontifical right

\* partly in personal union

Mary Hallay-Witte, Spokeswoman of the prevention commissioners of German bishoprics and commissioner in the archbishopric of Hamburg:



“Prevention of sexualised violence in the church domain aims to create a secure space in which children and juveniles, as well as adult charges, can learn and live. All managerial and specialist staff, as well as those engaged on a voluntary basis, in dioceses, religious orders, church institutions and associations, take care of this on a joint basis.”

#### 7.4. Women and the Church

Many women support the life of the Church. In the spring of 2013, the German bishops undertook in a declaration given during their plenary assembly “to promote women even more in taking up their responsibility, which is to be borne by all Christians for the life of the Church.” The diversity of responsible commitment taken up by women in the Church has increased considerably in recent years: female theology professors, heads of main departments in Episcopal administrations, heads of Caritas and of finance, ordinaries, church judges, school head teachers, as well as spiritual leaders in Catholic associations and parish councillors enrich the life of the Church.

The share of women in senior positions within the Catholic Church in Germany has improved in recent years. A survey that was carried out in 2012 in the vicariates general and ordinariates reveals that, in the upper managerial level of the bishoprics (posts with considerable decision-making powers directly “below” the bishop and his deputy), 12.7 percent of the 200 posts in existence are occupied by women, this figure reaching 19.2 percent at the medium managerial level. This is a marked increase vis-à-vis an exemplary survey from 2005. At that time, the share of women at these two managerial levels was five and 13 percent, respectively. Particularly in 2011/2012, a major increase was observed in the occupation of vacant managerial posts with women.

In their spring 2013 declaration, the German bishops however also praise women’s considerable voluntary commitment. They stated that it was women “who helped to support the life of the Church in proclamation and Catechesis, as well as in service, and by being active in the liturgy.” What is more, it is

worth noting the large share of young women among those studying theology. It is in the interest of the Church for suitably-qualified women to also wish to undertake an academic career in theology. Women should work both in teacher training, as pastoral expert workers and as parish expert workers, as well as in training priests. These women especially take on an important function as role models in the Church by helping to further develop the relationship between priests and the laity in the interest of mutual recognition of the different vocations, charisms and services in the Church.

There are no new surveys relating to this chapter.

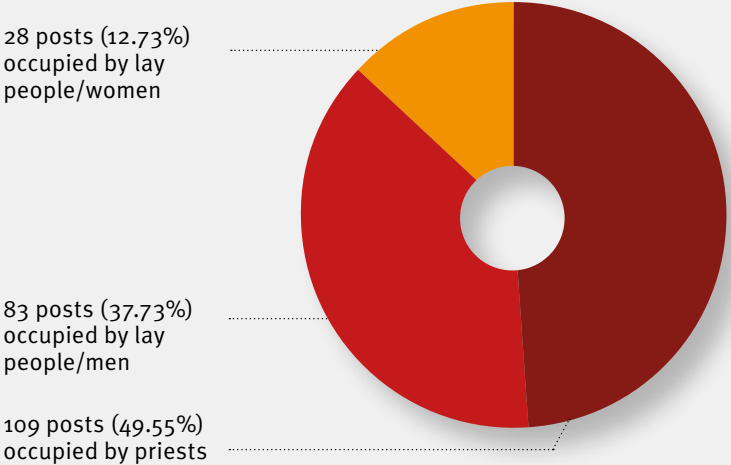
Elisabeth Neuhaus, Head of the department for pastoral care of the bishopric of Dresden-Meißen:



“Women have long helped to bear the load in local Church life. It is good to see that some women are now also contributing their diverse skills at managerial level: This makes the perspective of Church service more universal.”

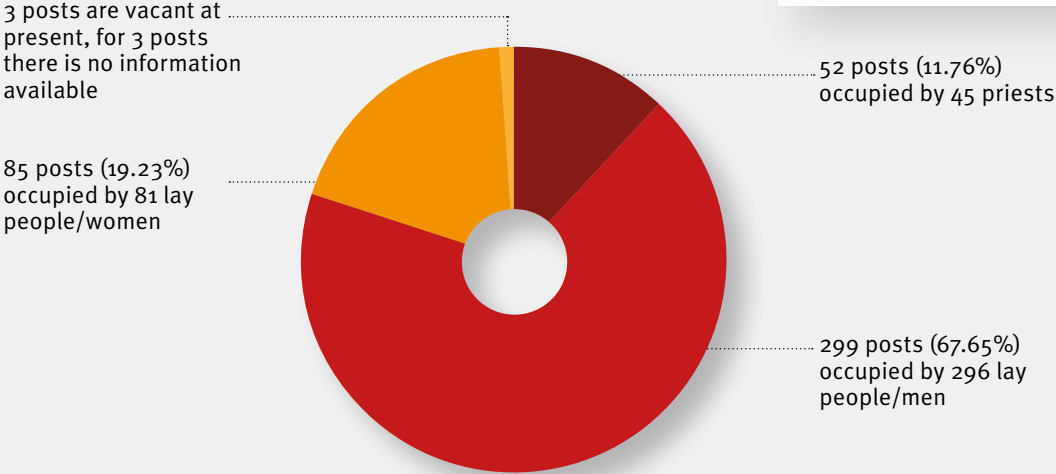


Central administration of the bishoprics, upper managerial level\*



\* Upper managerial level: Posts with considerable decision-making powers directly “below” the bishop and his deputy, which can be occupied by lay people.

Central administration of the bishoprics, medium managerial level\*



\* The discrepancy between the number of posts and the number of persons is due to the fact that one person can occupy several part-time posts.



Prof Dr Georg Braungart,  
Director of the episcopal  
scholarship foundation  
Cusanuswerk, Bonn:

“Catholic intellectualism – this means: We meet each other on the basis of an identity beyond political parties, nations or social groups. We trust each other without reservation because we know each other already. As we share this intellectual and spiritual identity, we can have discussions, we can argue, we can fantasize – and even celebrate.”

7.5. Institutions of higher education and adult education

There are Catholic Theological Schools at eleven state universities, plus 34 Catholic Theological Institutes, one Catholic University (Eichstätt-Ingolstadt), three diocesan Theological Faculties, as well as four higher education institutions linked to an order. There are also five Catholic specialist colleges, as well as two colleges for Catholic Church music.

A total of 22,821 students were enrolled at the theological institutions of higher education in the winter semester 2012/2013. There are 378 professors. The theological training centres are integrated into the general higher education system. This is in line with the shared responsibility of the State and the Church for academic theology that is enshrined in the law on the relationship between the State and the Church.

Scholarship programmes

➔ Catholic Academic Service for Foreign Students (KAAD)

The KAAD founded in 1958 is the scholarship agency of the German Catholic Church for postgraduates and researchers from countries in Asia, Africa, Latin America, the Middle East, as well as Eastern and South Eastern Europe.

Through scholarships, educational events, as well as personal and spiritual care, KAAD promotes the personal development of its scholarship students with a view to their acting as multipliers in their home countries. At present 450 students receive support by KAAD.



Professorships in teaching and research in Catholic theology at institutions of higher education and their students, winter semester 2012/2013

Federal Länder	Professorships	Students
Baden-Württemberg	47	3,365
Bavaria	105	4,064
Berlin	3	94
Hamburg*	2	0
Hesse	41	1,421
Lower Saxony	17	895
North Rhine-Westphalia	101	9,685
Rhineland-Palatinate	38	2,608
Saarland	4	273
Saxony	3	89
Saxony-Anhalt	2	62
Schleswig-Holstein	1	53
Thuringia	14	212
Total	378	22,821

\* Federal Armed Forces University.

### → Episcopal scholarship foundation Cusanuswerk

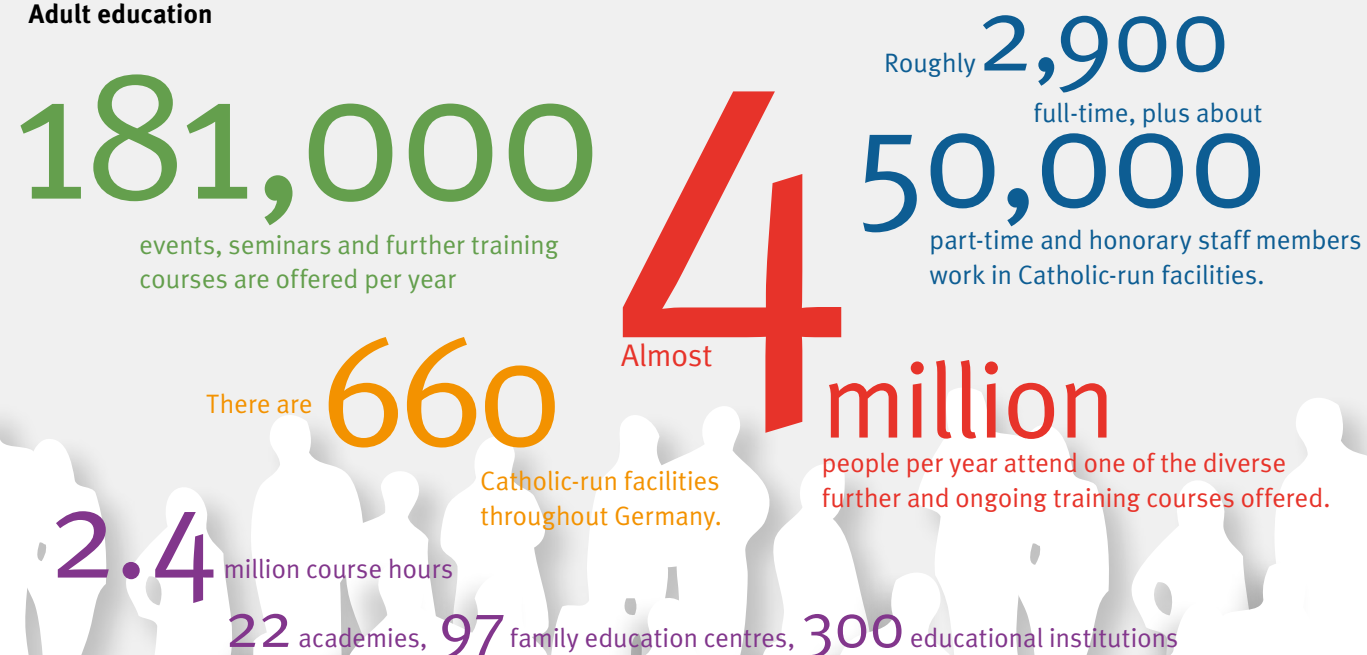
The Episcopal scholarship foundation Cusanuswerk founded in 1956 is the scholarship body of the Catholic Church in Germany for Catholic students and doctoral candidates in all branches of academic study

The most essential element of this sponsorship is a comprehensive interdisciplinary education programme, that in the discussion about science and faith, society and the Church aims to strengthen the willingness to assume responsibility and to enhance the scholarship students' dialogue skills. At present, 1,360 students receive scholarships from the Cusanuswerk or are supported in their doctoral studies.

### → Adult education

The Catholic Church provides adult education in order to enable Catholics to continue enjoying personality development and general education after finishing school or vocational training. It is the second-largest funding institution nationwide in the field of adult education. Almost 4 million people per year attend one of the diverse further and ongoing training courses offered. A total of 181,000 events, seminars and further training courses are offered per year, comprising 2.4 million course hours at the time being. There are approx. 660 Catholic-run facilities nationally. These facilities employ roughly 2,900 full-time plus about 50,000 part-time and honorary staff.

#### Adult education



### 7.6. Art, culture and the media

The Catholic Church is one of the largest organisers of cultural events in Germany, along with the State and the municipalities. It is only the honorary work of millions of Christians that makes it possible to offer church-run cultural events free of charge. Above all in rural areas, the cultural work of the Church parishes provides an attractive possibility to take an active part in cultural life.

#### → Music

Music is the largest segment of Catholic culture. More than 400,000 lay musicians have come together in 18,000 Catholic choirs and musical ensembles. The Catholic choirs on the one hand are also attractive as a leisure activity for those who are less active in the Church, but at the same time they also contribute towards the liturgy on a regular basis. The fact that this church culture concept is a complete success is shown by today's record level of more than 5,000 Catholic children's and youth choirs with more than 100,000 members. Of these, in turn 16,500 young singers are active under the umbrella of the German Pueri Cantores federation of choirs. The largest organisation of Catholic choirs is the General Association of St. Cecilia (ACV).

#### → Literature and libraries

There are currently about 3,500 public Catholic libraries in Germany, largely run by the individual parish associations. They offer more than 17 million books and media for more than 1.1 million borrowers per year and they organize about 61,000 events per year. The books offered focus on spirituality and sophisticated popular fiction. A total in excess of 30 million items are lent per year. About 35,000 honor-

Helena Müller and Theresa Stach,  
members of the Limburg Cathedral  
Girls' Choir:



“Since our primary school days we have been singing with the Limburg Cathedral Girls' Choir. We do not only like singing together, but we also like the excursions and concert tours. Moreover, we have found many friends in the last years and so singing together gives us great delight.”

Thomas Hagenhoff,  
Managing Director Bern-  
ward Mediengesellschaft,  
Hildesheim:



“I have a dream: One day we, i.e. hundreds of media professionals will unleash the power of peer cooperation and an intelligent division of labour with our gross register tons of financial and creative resources. What a dawn!”

ary library workers form the backbone of the Catholic libraries. Supradiocesan basic and further training is provided by the two major specialised library associations St. Michael's Society (*St. Michaelsbund*) for Bavaria and the Association of St. Borromeo (*Borromäusverein*) for the other Federal *Länder*.

#### → Architecture and monument conservation

There are approx. 24,500 Catholic houses of God throughout Germany, of which roughly 23,000 are listed. Together with the other listed properties, such as presbyteries, residential homes, convent buildings, etc., the Catholic Church in Germany owns roughly 60,000 listed buildings, plus 821 listed cemeteries.

258 Catholic Church buildings in Germany are no longer being used for liturgical purposes and only 31 of them have been demolished. It is anticipated for the coming years that roughly 3 percent of the Church buildings will no longer be used to celebrate the liturgy, but since 1995 more than 50 new Catholic churches have been built in Germany and many of these buildings have received international prizes.

#### → Fine art

The 43 museums of the Catholic Church, and the more than 100 museums with its conceptual or financial participation, have one million visitors per year and thus continue to be in high demand. 18 bishoprics have separate art commissions established by the bishop which advise the parishes and the Episcopal Construction Office in aesthetic matters. Fine artists are combined in six Catholic artists' communities across the nation. Ten dioceses have their own artist's chaplain, and arts societies with roughly 3,000 members exist in seven dioceses. The

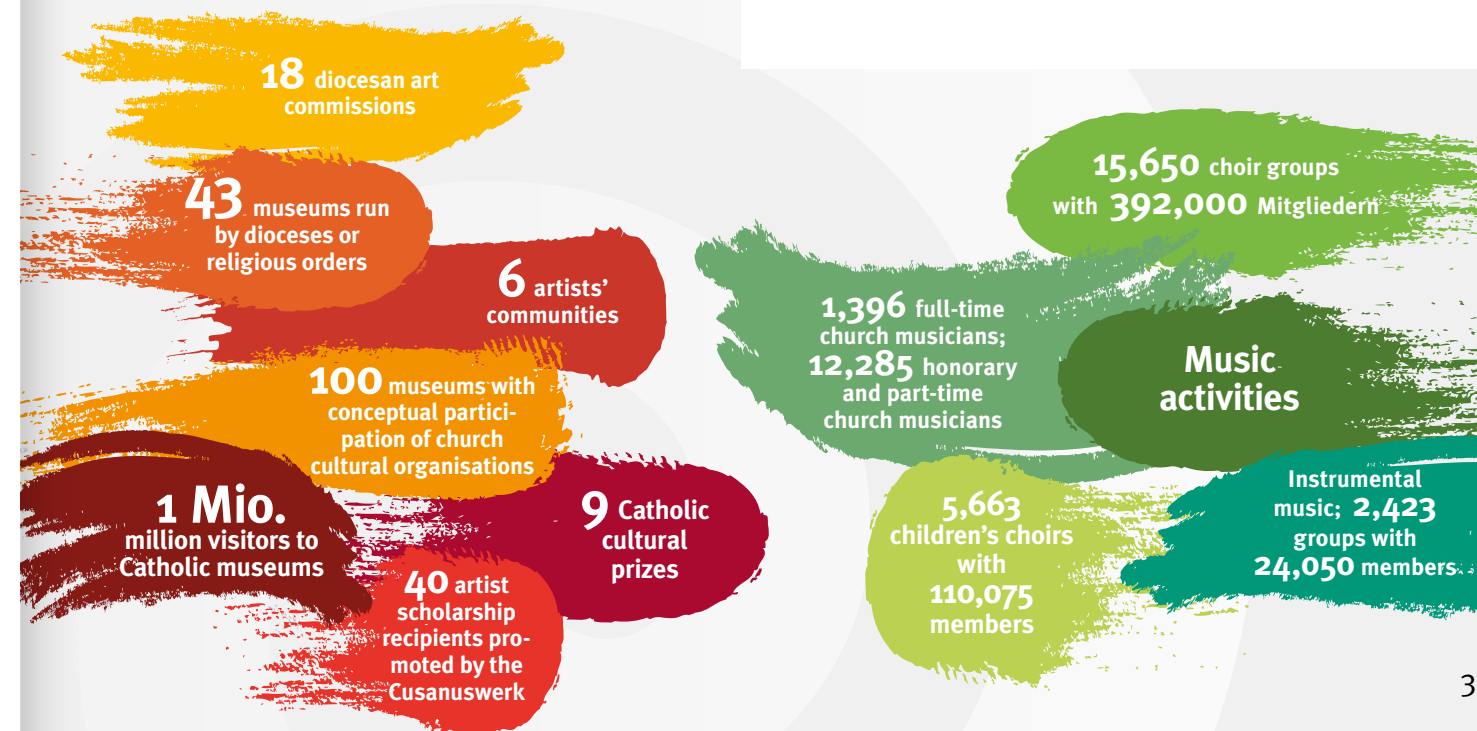
dialogue between the Church and art is also served by the “Ash Wednesday of artists”, which takes place annually in 27 German cities and towns.

#### → Cinema films and audio-visual media

A central concern of Catholic film work is to lend support to films which are of artistic value and whose content is worthy of discussion. Statements regarding all recent feature films are published in the Catholic “*Filmdienst*” magazine by the Catholic film commission. More than 76,000 films are recorded in a

database including a cast and crew list, rating and age recommendation and are available on the Internet at [www.filmdienst.de](http://www.filmdienst.de). At international film festivals, ecumenical juries select the best productions from a Christian point of view. The “Church and cinema” campaign supports cooperations between church institutions and public cinemas. So the nationwide project “AUGENBLICKE- Kurzfilme im Kino” has taken the short film to the cinemas since 1992 and presents it for debate there. The AV media agencies for audiovisual media in the 27 German bishoprics hold far in excess of 10,000 titles. These agencies lend out films and other AV media for youth and adult education, school, catechesis and special pastoral tasks. They also organise mediapedagogical, communication pedagogical or journalistic basic and further training events.

## Art and music activities in 2013 excerpts





### → Cultural awards

The Catholic Church regularly awards cultural prizes in all sectors of art. Works are acknowledged in which high artistic quality goes hand in hand with existential symbolism and moral sensitivity. The most prominent prize of the Catholic Church is the Art and Culture Prize of German Catholics. Further church awards for culture are the Catholic Child and Youth Book Prize, as well as the Catholic media prize. They are awarded once every year.

### → Media

There is an extensive range of periodical Catholic publications. In addition to the broad range of order and mission press, a total of 115 different titles are published in every possible genre: from bishopric newspapers and magazines, via women's periodi-

cals to associations' periodicals. With a circulation of roughly 538,000 copies, the bishopric press reaches active Catholics above all. However, the circulation of the church publications has been falling for years as the number of church-goers drops. Nevertheless, 64 out of 100 Catholics read the parish newsletters which have a total circulation of 6,750,000 with an average number of 20 pages.

The Catholic News Agency (KNA) disseminates an average of 90 texts per day. It supplies roughly 70 per cent of German daily newspapers and their Internet editorial teams. Its customers include the news and church editorial teams of all public television and radio stations, as well as the editorial teams of all Catholic newspapers and magazines in Germany. The recipients also include the Federal Government, the *Land* Governments, as well as the political parties and organisations. The KNA provides texts, pho-

tographs, graphs, audio contributions and news videos for further dissemination in print, on the Internet, on the radio and on television.

### → Catholic Medienhaus

The *Medienhaus* in Bonn, established by the German Bishops' Conference in 2011, offers the possibility for the supradiocesan media enterprises (KNA, APG, *katholisch.de*, *Katholisches Filmwerk*, etc.) to bundle their content and technical strengths, and hence to meet the challenges posed by the media change. At the same time, the Medienhaus is a close cooperation partner for the bishoprics' media activities.

### → Catholic journalist training

The Institution for the Promotion of Trainee Journalists (*Institut zur Förderung publizistischen Nachwuchses – ifp*), headquartered in Munich, is a journalism school run by the Catholic Church. It was established in 1968 on behalf of the German Bishops' Conference. It concentrates on hands-on training for journalists. The ifp emphasises the teaching of fair, responsible journalism, and its courses of study underline journalists' particular ethical responsibility in their everyday editorial work. Today, the more than 3,000 graduates who have undergone one of the ifp's training courses work largely as permanent staff or freelance journalists in all sectors of the media (press, radio, television, the Internet), as well as staff of press agencies, ministries and associations.



Claude K. Dubois,  
Author and illustrator of the book awarded the 2014  
Catholic Child and Youth Book Prize:

“I would like to express my admiration not only for the decision taken in 2014 but also for the continued trust you have shown for over 25 years in the power of the word conveyed through books, for the trust in this means of communication, and for the will to convey values which help children in growing up.”

From Claude K. Dubois' speech of thanks on the occasion of the 25th awarding of the Catholic Child and Youth Book Prize in 2014



Anne Reidt, Head of the  
news magazine  
“ZDF heute journal”  
and ifp graduate:

“The media are changing, and so do the church media. This is why we have to find new approaches to get young colleagues interested in journalism.”

8. To see the need and take action: Caritas

Barbara Deifel-Vogelmann, Head of communication and brand policy department at Caritas association in the diocese of Rottenburg-Stuttgart:



“They lack money, decent accommodation, healthy food; but above all they lack equal opportunities in education and development – i.e. future prospects. As long as a society accepts that more than two million children and adolescents are poor or threatened by poverty, Caritas work of the Church always has to be political work as well.”

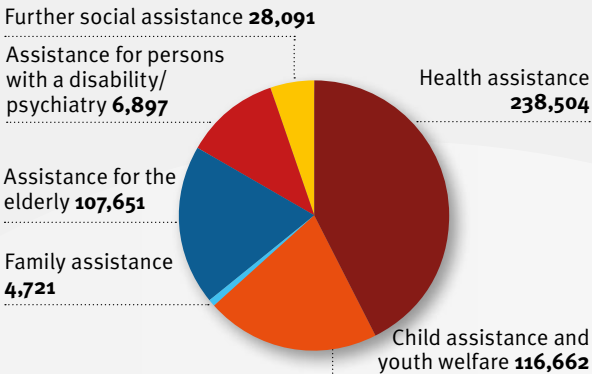
Caritas conveys the Gospel message of the Kingdom of God into society. The name Caritas refers to the arm of the Catholic Church which supports all people in need of assistance on the basis of Christian brotherly love all over the world. It aims at protecting the people, strengthening social participation and promoting solidarity. In Germany, this task is realized by self-help groups, in honorary work, on private and organisational levels, in parishes, religious orders, spiritual communities and especially in the Caritas associations. Caritas Germany was established already in 1897 and it understands itself as an “advocate for the poor”.

In Germany, the work of Caritas is performed in 27 diocesan Caritas associations, 636 local and regional Caritas associations, in 18 specialist charitable associations such as in the Malteser relief service aid agency and in 262 religious communities and associations. Roughly 559,000 full-time employees work in the 24,646 Caritas facilities for health, youth, family, old-age and assistance for persons with a disability, as well as in the facilities offering assistance for those in social need, and in basic and further training. Moreover, another 500,000 people do honorary work in the services and facilities of Caritas. They guide, care for and advise more than 13 million people per year.

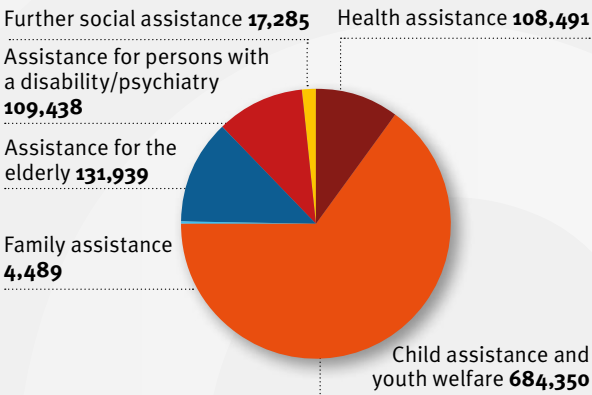
There are no new surveys relating to this chapter.

Caritas’ Catholic social services\*

Full-time staff working in specialist fields (total of 559,526)

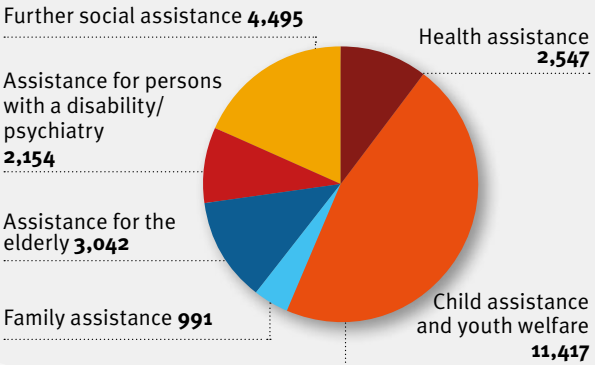


Specialist fields: beds/places (total of 1,055,992)

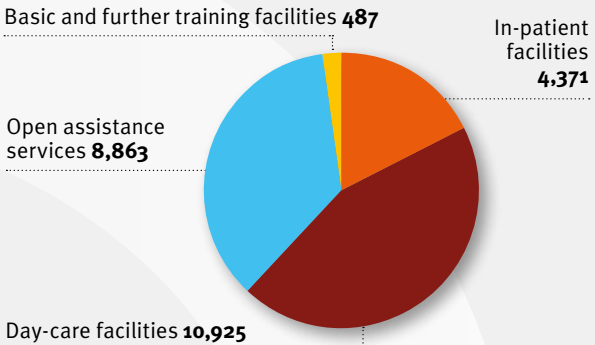


\* Caritas: survey 2010.

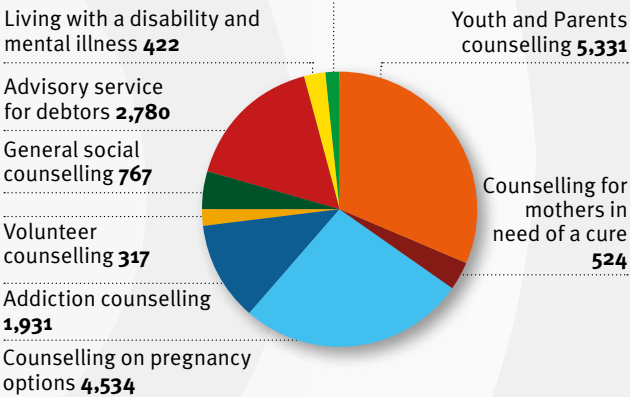
Specialist fields: facilities (total of 24,646)



Specialist fields: types of facility (total of 24,646)



Online counselling



\* Online counselling for young people between school and working life.



## 9. Associations and organisations



Maria Theresia Opladen,  
National chairwoman  
of the Catholic Women's  
Community in Germany  
(kfd):

“Women give our Church a future. The recognition, appreciation and promotion of women's charisms are indispensable for the credibility of the Church. This becomes increasingly obvious in the life of the parishes and the structures of bishoprics and dioceses.”

According to its guiding principle “kfd – believe and live passionately” and to its statutes, the Catholic Women's Community in Germany (kfd) tries to represent the interests of women in Church, state, economy and society. For this reason it gets involved in the work of many institutions and bodies on the national and international level.

**In the Working Group of Catholic Organisations in Germany** – Arbeitsgemeinschaft der katholischen Organisationen Deutschlands (AGKOD), roughly 120 Catholic associations, spiritual communities and movements, secular institutes as well as campaigns, specialist associations, occupational associations and initiatives are united which operate at supradiocesan level. The organisations combined in the Working Group represent roughly 6 million members.

### → Associations

The Catholic associations are major institutions of the Church's educational work. They contribute towards shaping society and are involved in the Church, in politics and in the economy. The members of their associations are committed to ensuring a sustainable future, worldwide justice, peace and the conservation of the Creation. They work in actions, projects and campaigns with alliances, civil initiatives and social players. Additionally, they represent the interests of the people in the country in the media, in various political bodies, in parties and in administrations. The largest association is the Catholic Women's Community in Germany (kfd) with more than half a million members in 5,300 parish groups. Further major associations are for instance the Kolping Society, the German Youth Power Sports Association (DJK), the Catholic German Women's League (KDFF), the Catholic Movement of Christian Workers (KAB), the German Association of Catholic Youth (BDKJ) and Caritas. The members of the AGKOD however also include smaller associations, such as the Pax Christi movement or the Federation of Catholic Entrepreneurs (BKU).

### → Central Committee of German Catholics

The Delegates' Assembly of the AGKOD Working Group elects 97 representatives to the Plenary As-



*Deutsches Jugendchorfestival der Pueri Cantores 2013 in Speyer.*

sembly of the Central Committee of German Catholics (ZdK). Together with the 84 representatives of the diocesan councils and 45 individuals, they constitute the Plenary Assembly of the ZdK. It represents the Catholic women and men who are actively involved in the shaping of society and the Church in Germany in laity councils, in associations, movements, initiatives and organisations. In the more than 150 years of the ZdK's history, its members have helped to shape social and church life in Germany and set the course in the political arena, industry and the social system, in the media, art, culture and research.

With roughly 400,000 members in more than 16,000 choirs, the General Association of St. Cecilia for Germany (ACV) is the second-largest choir association in Germany. It promotes Church music by organising specialist conferences and research, by commissioning compositions and through its publications, as well as by motivating its members by awarding prizes and medals. Established in 1868, it raises an awareness for the significance and the status of music in religious service and in parish work. The German Pueri Cantores federation of choirs is a working party of the ACV.



Monsignor Prof Dr Wolfgang  
Bretschneider, President of  
the General Association of  
St. Cecilia for Germany:

“The fire of fascination and of amazement, the fire of enthusiasm and of awakening – this is what church music is about. Or, as Ludwig van Beethoven once said: ‘People shall not cry tears of emotion, music ought to strike fire from their souls.’”



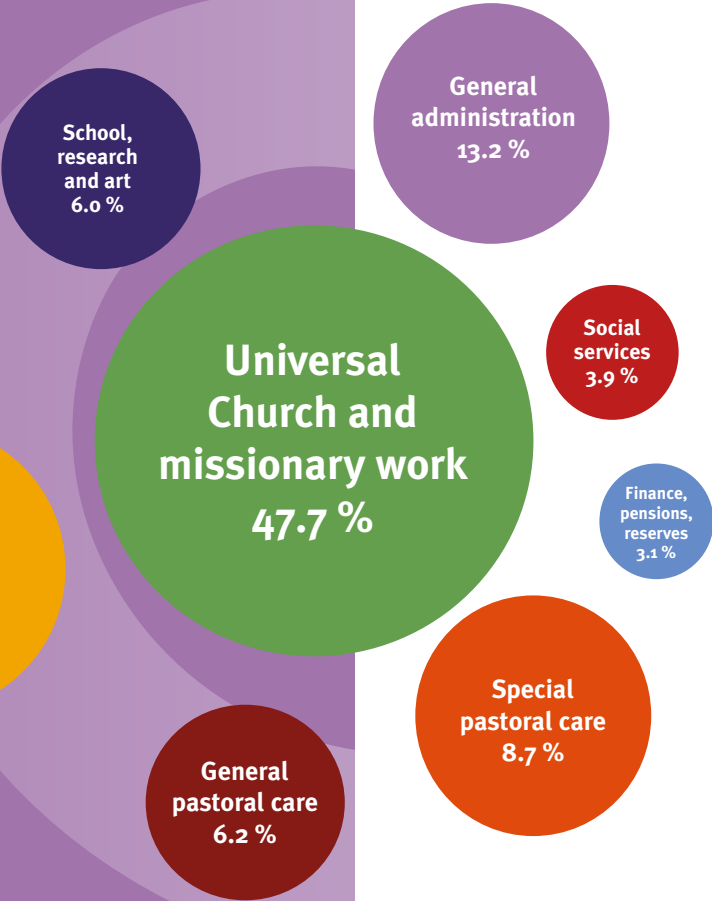
**The Catholic Church has various sources of income.** These include donations, fees for providing specific services (e.g. child day-care centres), state subsidies, income from rent and leases and the church tax. The church tax is the most important source of income – it covers by far the largest part of the budget. The Church however naturally also has reserves. It is for instance obliged to ensure the old-age pensions of priests and other staff. Furthermore, it must ensure the maintenance of its buildings (some of which are listed) and be prepared for a drop in income.

**Budget expenditure of the Association of German dioceses in the budget year 2013**

Total volume Euro 132,590,905

The body within a bishopric that is responsible for the church tax (e.g. the church tax council) decides for which interests the church tax is spent. One item always refers to supradiocesan tasks. The money is passed on to the Association of German dioceses (VDD) and distributed from there.

N.B.: The budget expenditure of the VDD does not correspond to the total budget of the Catholic bishoprics in Germany.



**The church tax...**

- ... dates in historical terms from the expropriation of the Church's assets at the beginning of the 19<sup>th</sup> Century (secularisation)
- ... is the most important source for funding ecclesial tasks today
- ... is calculated from the wage and income tax (depending on the Federal *Land* 8 or 9 percent); people not paying wage and income tax are hence also not church taxpayers, so that ultimately only roughly 30 percent of Catholics pay the church tax
- ... is collected via the state tax office; the State in return retaining three percent of the tax revenue
- ... goes to the dioceses, the diocesan church tax councils are responsible for the use.

**Use of the church tax**

The bishoprics have various task areas which they need to fund. The most cost intensive in all dioceses is the parish work, followed by the social services and kindergartens. Further areas are: school, education and culture, pastoral work in hospitals and old people's homes, administration, supradiocesan tasks such as development aid and fees to the State for the collection of the church tax.

**Catholic church tax 2000 to 2013**  
Developments in the entire national territory (net revenue)



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