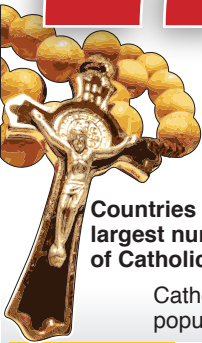
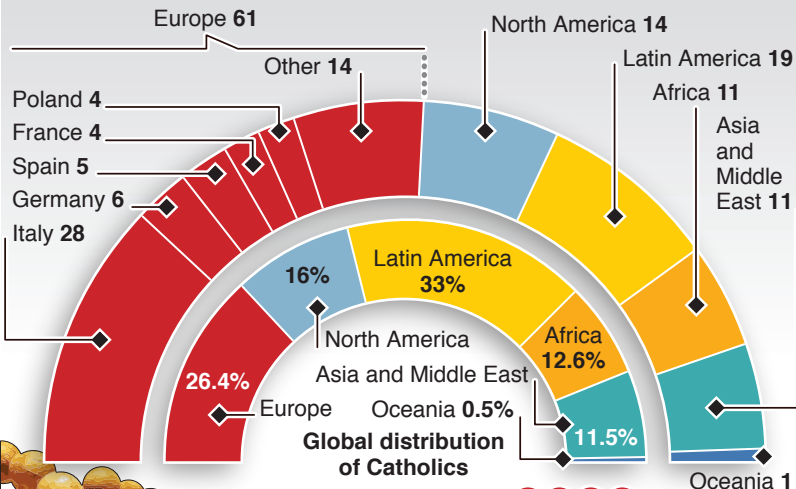


# Worldwide reach of the Catholic Church

The world's 1.2 billion Catholics represent half the global Christian population. The highest percentage live in Brazil, but most cardinals – and crucially those eligible to elect the next pope – come from Europe

**Cardinal-electors – those aged under 80 – by region. Total 117**



**Countries with largest number of Catholics**



	Catholic population	% of world's Catholics		Catholic population	% of world's Catholics
1. BRAZIL	133.7m	12.5%	6. COLOMBIA	38.1m	3.5%
2. MEXICO	96.3m	8.8%	7. FRANCE	37.9m	3.5%
3. PHILIPPINES	75.4m	6.9%	8. POLAND	35.3m	3.2%
4. U.S.	74.5m	6.8%	9. SPAIN	34.7m	3.2%
5. ITALY	50.3m	4.6%	10. D.R. CONGO	31.2m	2.8%

Catholic population of top 10 countries: **607m**. % of world's Catholics: **56%**