



Belgium's Muslims

Islam is the largest minority religion in Roman Catholic Belgium

Population: Number of Muslims estimated at **650,000** – about **six percent** of Belgium's total population

Main origin: Morocco, Turkey, Algeria and Tunisia

Distribution: Some **20 percent** live in Brussels. Other large communities based in Antwerp and Charleroi

Labour market: Unemployment rate for foreign-born more than twice that of indigenous Belgians

Educational achievement (%)

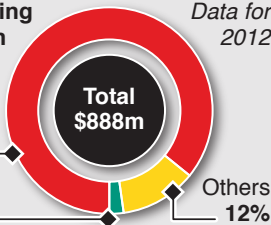
	High	Medium	Low
Muslim	12	23	65
Non-Muslim	23	30	47

State funding for religion

Roman Catholic Church
86%

Islam
2%

Data for 2012



Discrimination: Many children of immigrants from North Africa feel marginalised now that factories where they would have found work two decades ago have closed. Others made to feel more ostracised by extreme right ***Vlaams Belang*** party, which promotes intolerance of Muslims in northern Flanders region