

## Appendix D: Summary of results

### Government restrictions on religion

To assess the level of restrictions on religion by governments around the world, Pew Research Center selected the following 20 questions for the Government Restrictions Index (GRI). Center staff then combed through 19 published sources of information, including reports by the U.S. State Department, the United Nations, and various nongovernmental organizations, to answer the questions on a country-by-country basis. (For more details, refer to the [Methodology](#).)

This summary shows the questions, followed by various possible answers, and the number and percentage of countries that fell into each category, according to the multiple sources analyzed by the Center. For example, on Question No. 5 – “Is public preaching by religious groups limited by any level of government?” – the study found that for the latest year, ending on Dec. 31, 2021, 121 countries and territories (61%) had no reported limits on preaching; 35 countries (18%) had limits on preaching for some religious groups; and 42 countries (21%) had limits on preaching for all religious groups.

Additionally, the summary shows whether particular religious restrictions occurred during the previous year, ending Dec. 31, 2020, or in the study’s baseline year, ending in mid-2007. A total of 197 countries and territories are shown for the baseline year; South Sudan was coded for the first time in 2011, bringing the total to 198 countries and territories starting that year. To see how each country scored on each question, refer to [Appendix F: Results by country](#) online.

When comparing these results with Pew Research Center’s previous reports, readers should keep in mind that reports published before 2011 showed the number of countries in which particular religious restrictions occurred at any time during two overlapping periods: July 1, 2006–June 30, 2008, and July 1, 2007–June 30, 2009. Because this report presents data on an annual basis, the number of incidents for a single year may be smaller than when two years were taken into account.

Some differences from year to year might not be as significant as they appear due to minor changes in coding procedures and changes in the amount of information available between years. For example, sources for the most recent period studied sometimes had less information on incidents in a country than sources previously had reported. Such additional information may reflect either an actual decrease in restrictions in a country, streamlined reporting for that country, or both. (For more details, refer to the [Methodology](#).)

Percentages may not add to 100 due to rounding.

**GRI.Q.1**

*Does the constitution, or law that functions in the place of a constitution (basic law), specifically provide for “freedom of religion” or include language used in Article 18 of the United Nations Universal Declaration of Human Rights?<sup>1</sup>*

	baseline year, ending JUN 2007		previous year, ending DEC 2020		latest year, ending DEC 2021	
	NUMBER OF COUNTRIES	% OF COUNTRIES	NUMBER OF COUNTRIES	% OF COUNTRIES	NUMBER OF COUNTRIES	% OF COUNTRIES
Yes	143	73%	145	73%	147	74%
The constitution or basic law does not specifically provide for freedom of religion but does protect some religious practices	47	24	48	24	46	23
No	7	4	5	3	5	3
	<b>197</b>	<b>100</b>	<b>198</b>	<b>100</b>	<b>198</b>	<b>100</b>

**GRI.Q.2**

*Does the constitution or basic law include stipulations that appear to qualify or substantially contradict the concept of “religious freedom”?*

	baseline year, ending JUN 2007		previous year, ending DEC 2020		latest year, ending DEC 2021	
	NUMBER OF COUNTRIES	% OF COUNTRIES	NUMBER OF COUNTRIES	% OF COUNTRIES	NUMBER OF COUNTRIES	% OF COUNTRIES
No	42	21%	24	12%	21	11%
Yes, there is a qualification	38	19	41	21	46	23
Yes, there is a substantial contradiction and only some religious practices are protected	110	56	127	64	126	64
Religious freedom is not provided in the first place	7	4	6	3	5	3
	<b>197</b>	<b>100</b>	<b>198</b>	<b>100</b>	<b>198</b>	<b>100</b>

**Note:** This report corrects the way constitutions were coded for 10 countries: Cameroon, Costa Rica, the Dominican Republic, Fiji, Iran, Jamaica, Kenya, Mexico, Mozambique and Uruguay. The corrections were applied to all applicable previous years to ensure consistency, and the updates resulted in changes to distribution of the GRI.Q.1 and GRI.Q.2 variables in various years. Users of the data should note this update when comparing these results with those printed in previous reports.

<sup>1</sup> Article 18 states: “Everyone has the right to freedom of thought, conscience and religion; this right includes freedom to change his religion or belief, and freedom, either alone or in community with others and in public or private, to manifest his religion or belief in teaching, practice, worship and observance.”

GLOBALLY, GOVERNMENT RESTRICTIONS ON RELIGION REACHED PEAK LEVELS IN 2021, WHILE SOCIAL HOSTILITIES WENT DOWN

### GRI.Q.3

*Taken together, how do the constitution/basic law and other national laws and policies affect religious freedom?*

	<i>baseline year, ending JUN 2007</i>		<i>previous year, ending DEC 2020</i>		<i>latest year, ending DEC 2021</i>	
	<b>NUMBER OF COUNTRIES</b>	<b>% OF COUNTRIES</b>	<b>NUMBER OF COUNTRIES</b>	<b>% OF COUNTRIES</b>	<b>NUMBER OF COUNTRIES</b>	<b>% OF COUNTRIES</b>
National laws and policies provide for religious freedom, and the national government respects religious freedom in practice	63	32%	70	35%	72	36%
National laws and policies provide for religious freedom, and the national government generally respects religious freedom in practice; but there are some instances (e.g., in certain localities) where religious freedom is not respected in practice	94	48	88	44	83	42
There are limited national legal protections for religious freedom, but the national government does not generally respect religious freedom in practice	38	19	33	17	37	19
National laws and policies do not provide for religious freedom and the national government does not respect religious freedom in practice	2	1	7	4	6	3
	<b>197</b>	<b>100</b>	<b>198</b>	<b>100</b>	<b>198</b>	<b>100</b>

**GRI.Q.4***Does any level of government interfere with worship or other religious practices?*

	<i>baseline year, ending JUN 2007</i>		<i>previous year, ending DEC 2020</i>		<i>latest year, ending DEC 2021</i>	
	<b>NUMBER OF COUNTRIES</b>	<b>% OF COUNTRIES</b>	<b>NUMBER OF COUNTRIES</b>	<b>% OF COUNTRIES</b>	<b>NUMBER OF COUNTRIES</b>	<b>% OF COUNTRIES</b>
No	85	43%	34	17%	35	18%
Yes, in a few cases	44	22	46	23	46	23
Yes, in many cases	32	16	67	34	57	29
Government prohibits worship or religious practices of one or more religious groups as a general policy	36	18	51	26	60	30
	<b>197</b>	<b>100</b>	<b>198</b>	<b>100</b>	<b>198</b>	<b>100</b>

**GRI.Q.5***Is public preaching by religious groups limited by any level of government?*

	<i>baseline year, ending JUN 2007</i>		<i>previous year, ending DEC 2020</i>		<i>latest year, ending DEC 2021</i>	
	<b>NUMBER OF COUNTRIES</b>	<b>% OF COUNTRIES</b>	<b>NUMBER OF COUNTRIES</b>	<b>% OF COUNTRIES</b>	<b>NUMBER OF COUNTRIES</b>	<b>% OF COUNTRIES</b>
No	141	72%	116	59%	121	61%
Yes, for some religious groups	32	16	40	20	35	18
Yes, for all religious groups	24	12	42	21	42	21
	<b>197</b>	<b>100</b>	<b>198</b>	<b>100</b>	<b>198</b>	<b>100</b>

**GRI.Q.6***Is proselytizing limited by any level of government?*

	<i>baseline year, ending JUN 2007</i>		<i>previous year, ending DEC 2020</i>		<i>latest year, ending DEC 2021</i>	
	<b>NUMBER OF COUNTRIES</b>	<b>% OF COUNTRIES</b>	<b>NUMBER OF COUNTRIES</b>	<b>% OF COUNTRIES</b>	<b>NUMBER OF COUNTRIES</b>	<b>% OF COUNTRIES</b>
No	132	67%	123	62%	123	62%
Yes, for some religious groups	39	20	36	18	37	19
Yes, for all religious groups	26	13	39	20	38	19
	<b>197</b>	<b>100</b>	<b>198</b>	<b>100</b>	<b>198</b>	<b>100</b>

GLOBALLY, GOVERNMENT RESTRICTIONS ON RELIGION REACHED PEAK LEVELS IN 2021, WHILE SOCIAL HOSTILITIES WENT DOWN

### GRI.Q.7

*Is converting from one religion to another limited by any level of government?*

	<i>baseline year, ending JUN 2007</i>		<i>previous year, ending DEC 2020</i>		<i>latest year, ending DEC 2021</i>	
	NUMBER OF COUNTRIES	% OF COUNTRIES	NUMBER OF COUNTRIES	% OF COUNTRIES	NUMBER OF COUNTRIES	% OF COUNTRIES
No	166	84%	156	79%	157	79%
Yes	31	16	42	21	41	21
	<b>197</b>	<b>100</b>	<b>198</b>	<b>100</b>	<b>198</b>	<b>100</b>

### GRI.Q.8

*Is religious literature or broadcasting limited by any level of government?*

	<i>baseline year, ending JUN 2007</i>		<i>previous year, ending DEC 2020</i>		<i>latest year, ending DEC 2021</i>	
	NUMBER OF COUNTRIES	% OF COUNTRIES	NUMBER OF COUNTRIES	% OF COUNTRIES	NUMBER OF COUNTRIES	% OF COUNTRIES
No	130	66%	116	59%	115	58%
Yes	67	34	82	41	83	42
	<b>197</b>	<b>100</b>	<b>198</b>	<b>100</b>	<b>198</b>	<b>100</b>

### GRI.Q.9

*Are foreign missionaries allowed to operate?*

	<i>baseline year, ending JUN 2007</i>		<i>previous year, ending DEC 2020</i>		<i>latest year, ending DEC 2021</i>	
	NUMBER OF COUNTRIES	% OF COUNTRIES	NUMBER OF COUNTRIES	% OF COUNTRIES	NUMBER OF COUNTRIES	% OF COUNTRIES
Yes	117	59%	116	59%	117	59%
Yes, but with restrictions	72	37	74	37	74	37
No	8	4	8	4	7	4
	<b>197</b>	<b>100</b>	<b>198</b>	<b>100</b>	<b>198</b>	<b>100</b>

**GRI.Q.10**

*Is the wearing of religious symbols, such as head coverings for women and facial hair for men, regulated by law or by any level of government?*

	<i>baseline year, ending JUN 2007</i>		<i>previous year, ending DEC 2020</i>		<i>latest year, ending DEC 2021</i>	
	<b>NUMBER OF COUNTRIES</b>	<b>% OF COUNTRIES</b>	<b>NUMBER OF COUNTRIES</b>	<b>% OF COUNTRIES</b>	<b>NUMBER OF COUNTRIES</b>	<b>% OF COUNTRIES</b>
No	176	89%	137	69%	137	69%
Yes	21	11	61	31	61	31
	<b>197</b>	<b>100</b>	<b>198</b>	<b>100</b>	<b>198</b>	<b>100</b>

**GRI.Q.11**

*Was there harassment or intimidation of religious groups by any level of government?*

	<i>baseline year, ending JUN 2007</i>		<i>previous year, ending DEC 2020</i>		<i>latest year, ending DEC 2021</i>	
	<b>NUMBER OF COUNTRIES</b>	<b>% OF COUNTRIES</b>	<b>NUMBER OF COUNTRIES</b>	<b>% OF COUNTRIES</b>	<b>NUMBER OF COUNTRIES</b>	<b>% OF COUNTRIES</b>
No	79	40%	20	10%	15	8%
Yes, there was limited intimidation	82	42	63	32	58	29
Yes, there was widespread intimidation	36	18	115	58	125	63
	<b>197</b>	<b>100</b>	<b>198</b>	<b>100</b>	<b>198</b>	<b>100</b>

**GRI.Q.12**

*Did the national government display hostility involving physical violence toward minority or nonapproved religious groups?*

	<i>baseline year, ending JUN 2007</i>		<i>previous year, ending DEC 2020</i>		<i>latest year, ending DEC 2021</i>	
	<b>NUMBER OF COUNTRIES</b>	<b>% OF COUNTRIES</b>	<b>NUMBER OF COUNTRIES</b>	<b>% OF COUNTRIES</b>	<b>NUMBER OF COUNTRIES</b>	<b>% OF COUNTRIES</b>
No	152	77%	134	68%	141	71%
Yes	45	23	64	32	57	29
	<b>197</b>	<b>100</b>	<b>198</b>	<b>100</b>	<b>198</b>	<b>100</b>

GLOBALLY, GOVERNMENT RESTRICTIONS ON RELIGION REACHED PEAK LEVELS IN 2021, WHILE SOCIAL HOSTILITIES WENT DOWN

### GRI.Q.13

*Were there instances when the national government did not intervene in cases of discrimination or abuses against religious groups?*

	<i>baseline year, ending JUN 2007</i>		<i>previous year, ending DEC 2020</i>		<i>latest year, ending DEC 2021</i>	
	<b>NUMBER OF COUNTRIES</b>	<b>% OF COUNTRIES</b>	<b>NUMBER OF COUNTRIES</b>	<b>% OF COUNTRIES</b>	<b>NUMBER OF COUNTRIES</b>	<b>% OF COUNTRIES</b>
No	157	80%	153	77%	140	71%
Yes	40	20	45	23	58	29
	<b>197</b>	<b>100</b>	<b>198</b>	<b>100</b>	<b>198</b>	<b>100</b>

### GRI.Q.14

*Does the national government have an established organization to regulate or manage religious affairs?*

	<i>baseline year, ending JUN 2007</i>		<i>previous year, ending DEC 2020</i>		<i>latest year, ending DEC 2021</i>	
	<b>NUMBER OF COUNTRIES</b>	<b>% OF COUNTRIES</b>	<b>NUMBER OF COUNTRIES</b>	<b>% OF COUNTRIES</b>	<b>NUMBER OF COUNTRIES</b>	<b>% OF COUNTRIES</b>
No	106	54%	75	38%	77	39%
No, but the government consults a nongovernmental advisory board	12	6	11	6	12	6
Yes, but the organization is non-coercive toward religious groups	54	27	58	29	50	25
Yes, and the organization is coercive toward religious groups	25	13	54	27	59	30
	<b>197</b>	<b>100</b>	<b>198</b>	<b>100</b>	<b>198</b>	<b>100</b>

### GRI.Q.15

*Did the national government denounce one or more religious groups by characterizing them as dangerous “cults” or “sects”?*

	<i>baseline year, ending JUN 2007</i>		<i>previous year, ending DEC 2020</i>		<i>latest year, ending DEC 2021</i>	
	<b>NUMBER OF COUNTRIES</b>	<b>% OF COUNTRIES</b>	<b>NUMBER OF COUNTRIES</b>	<b>% OF COUNTRIES</b>	<b>NUMBER OF COUNTRIES</b>	<b>% OF COUNTRIES</b>
No	180	91%	173	87%	172	87%
Yes	17	9	25	13	26	13
	<b>197</b>	<b>100</b>	<b>198</b>	<b>100</b>	<b>198</b>	<b>100</b>

**GRI.Q.16**

*Does any level of government formally ban any religious group?*

	<i>baseline year, ending JUN 2007</i>		<i>previous year, ending DEC 2020</i>		<i>latest year, ending DEC 2021</i>	
	<b>NUMBER OF COUNTRIES</b>	<b>% OF COUNTRIES</b>	<b>NUMBER OF COUNTRIES</b>	<b>% OF COUNTRIES</b>	<b>NUMBER OF COUNTRIES</b>	<b>% OF COUNTRIES</b>
No	162	82%	157	79%	156	79%
Yes	35	18	41	21	42	21
Security reasons stated as rationale	11	6	9	5	9	5
Non-security reasons stated as rationale	18	9	17	9	18	9
Both security and non-security reasons stated as rationale	6	3	15	8	15	8
	<b>197</b>	<b>100</b>	<b>198</b>	<b>100</b>	<b>198</b>	<b>100</b>

**GRI.Q.17**

*Were there instances when the national government attempted to eliminate an entire religious group's presence in the country?*

	<i>baseline year, ending JUN 2007</i>		<i>previous year, ending DEC 2020</i>		<i>latest year, ending DEC 2021</i>	
	<b>NUMBER OF COUNTRIES</b>	<b>% OF COUNTRIES</b>	<b>NUMBER OF COUNTRIES</b>	<b>% OF COUNTRIES</b>	<b>NUMBER OF COUNTRIES</b>	<b>% OF COUNTRIES</b>
No	181	92%	182	92%	183	92%
Yes	16	8	16	8	15	8
	<b>197</b>	<b>100</b>	<b>198</b>	<b>100</b>	<b>198</b>	<b>100</b>



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### GRI.Q.18

*Does any level of government ask religious groups to register for any reason, including to be eligible for benefits such as tax exemption?*

	<i>baseline year, ending JUN 2007</i>		<i>previous year, ending DEC 2020</i>		<i>latest year, ending DEC 2021</i>	
	<b>NUMBER OF COUNTRIES</b>	<b>% OF COUNTRIES</b>	<b>NUMBER OF COUNTRIES</b>	<b>% OF COUNTRIES</b>	<b>NUMBER OF COUNTRIES</b>	<b>% OF COUNTRIES</b>
No	38	19%	9	5%	8	4%
Yes, but in a nondiscriminatory way	71	36	67	34	67	34
Yes, and the process adversely affects the ability of some religious groups to operate	34	17	24	12	23	12
Yes, and the process clearly discriminates against some religious groups	54	27	98	49	100	51
	<b>197</b>	<b>100</b>	<b>198</b>	<b>100</b>	<b>198</b>	<b>100</b>

### GRI.Q.19

*Did any level of government use force toward religious groups that resulted in individuals being killed, physically abused, imprisoned, detained or displaced from their homes, or having their personal or religious properties damaged or destroyed?*

	<i>baseline year, ending JUN 2007</i>		<i>previous year, ending DEC 2020</i>		<i>latest year, ending DEC 2021</i>	
	<b>NUMBER OF COUNTRIES</b>	<b>% OF COUNTRIES</b>	<b>NUMBER OF COUNTRIES</b>	<b>% OF COUNTRIES</b>	<b>NUMBER OF COUNTRIES</b>	<b>% OF COUNTRIES</b>
No	136	69%	98	49%	98	49%
Yes	61	31	100	51	100	51
1-9 case(s) of government force	18	9	42	21	46	23
10-200 cases of government force	35	18	43	22	41	21
201-1,000 cases of government force	4	2	6	3	4	2
1,001-9,999 cases of government force	2	1	7	4	7	4
10,000+ cases of government force	2	1	2	1	2	1
	<b>197</b>	<b>100</b>	<b>198</b>	<b>100</b>	<b>198</b>	<b>100</b>

**GRI.Q.19b**

*Did any level of government use force toward religious groups that resulted in individuals being killed, physically abused, imprisoned, detained or displaced from their homes, or having their personal or religious properties damaged or destroyed?*

	<i>baseline year, ending JUN 2007</i>		<i>previous year, ending DEC 2020</i>		<i>latest year, ending DEC 2021</i>	
	<b>NUMBER OF COUNTRIES</b>	<b>% OF COUNTRIES</b>	<b>NUMBER OF COUNTRIES</b>	<b>% OF COUNTRIES</b>	<b>NUMBER OF COUNTRIES</b>	<b>% OF COUNTRIES</b>
No	136	69%	98	49%	98	49%
Yes*	61	31	100	51	100	51
Property damage	7	4	56	28	65	33
Detentions/abductions	47	24	76	38	73	37
Displacement from homes	20	10	30	15	29	15
Physical assaults	25	13	37	19	42	21
Deaths	15	8	16	8	22	11
	<b>197</b>	<b>100</b>	<b>198</b>	<b>100</b>	<b>198</b>	<b>100</b>

\* This line represents the number or percentage of countries in which at least one of the following types of government force occurred  
Note: Nested categories add to more than total because countries can have multiple types of cases of government force.

**GRI.Q.20**

*Do some religious groups receive government support or favors, such as funding, official recognition or special access?*

	<i>baseline year, ending JUN 2007</i>		<i>previous year, ending DEC 2020</i>		<i>latest year, ending DEC 2021</i>	
	<b>NUMBER OF COUNTRIES</b>	<b>% OF COUNTRIES</b>	<b>NUMBER OF COUNTRIES</b>	<b>% OF COUNTRIES</b>	<b>NUMBER OF COUNTRIES</b>	<b>% OF COUNTRIES</b>
No	17	9%	1	1%	1	1%
Yes, the government provides support to religious groups, but it does so on a more-or-less fair and equal basis	37	19	46	23	48	24
Yes, the government gives preferential support or favors to some religious group(s) and clearly discriminates against others	143	73	151	76	149	75
	<b>197</b>	<b>100</b>	<b>198</b>	<b>100</b>	<b>198</b>	<b>100</b>

Note: This is a summary table that puts the restrictions identified in Questions 20.1, 20.2, 20.3.a-c, 20.4 and 20.5 into a single measure indicating the level to which a government supports religious groups in the country. Government support of a religion or religions is considered restrictive only when preferential treatment of one or more religious groups puts other religious groups at a disadvantage.

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### GRI.Q.20.1

*Does the country's constitution or basic law recognize a favored religion or religions?*

	<i>baseline year, ending JUN 2007</i>		<i>previous year, ending DEC 2020</i>		<i>latest year, ending DEC 2021</i>	
	<b>NUMBER OF COUNTRIES</b>	<b>% OF COUNTRIES</b>	<b>NUMBER OF COUNTRIES</b>	<b>% OF COUNTRIES</b>	<b>NUMBER OF COUNTRIES</b>	<b>% OF COUNTRIES</b>
No	141	72%	108	55%	109	55%
Yes	56	28	90	45	89	45
	<b>197</b>	<b>100</b>	<b>198</b>	<b>100</b>	<b>198</b>	<b>100</b>

Note: This question is a component of GRI.Q.20. For GRI.Q.20.1, the differences between the coding periods may not be as significant as they appear due to minor changes in coding procedures.

### GRI.Q.20.2

*Do all religious groups receive the same level of government access and privileges?*

	<i>baseline year, ending JUN 2007</i>		<i>previous year, ending DEC 2020</i>		<i>latest year, ending DEC 2021</i>	
	<b>NUMBER OF COUNTRIES</b>	<b>% OF COUNTRIES</b>	<b>NUMBER OF COUNTRIES</b>	<b>% OF COUNTRIES</b>	<b>NUMBER OF COUNTRIES</b>	<b>% OF COUNTRIES</b>
All religious groups are generally treated the same	39	20%	25	13%	21	11%
Some religious groups have minimal privileges unavailable to other religious groups, limited to things such as inheriting buildings or properties	7	4	27	14	26	13
Some religious groups have general privileges or government access unavailable to other religious groups	62	31	50	25	53	27
One religious group has privileges or government access unavailable to other religious groups, but it is not recognized as the country's official religion	48	24	50	25	50	25
One religious group has privileges or government access unavailable to other religious groups, and it is recognized by the national government as the official religion	41	21	46	23	48	24
	<b>197</b>	<b>100</b>	<b>198</b>	<b>100</b>	<b>198</b>	<b>100</b>

Note: This question is a component of GRI.Q.20.

**GRI.Q.20.3**

*Does any level of government provide funds or other resources to religious groups?*

	<i>baseline year, ending JUN 2007</i>		<i>previous year, ending DEC 2020</i>		<i>latest year, ending DEC 2021</i>	
	<b>NUMBER OF COUNTRIES</b>	<b>% OF COUNTRIES</b>	<b>NUMBER OF COUNTRIES</b>	<b>% OF COUNTRIES</b>	<b>NUMBER OF COUNTRIES</b>	<b>% OF COUNTRIES</b>
No	45	23%	12	6%	11	6%
Yes, but with no obvious favoritism to a particular group or groups	23	12	47	24	48	24
Yes, and with obvious favoritism to a particular group or groups	129	65	139	70	139	70
	<b>197</b>	<b>100</b>	<b>198</b>	<b>100</b>	<b>198</b>	<b>100</b>

Note: This question is a component of GRI.Q.20. This is a summary table that puts the restrictions identified in Questions 20.3.a-c into a single measure indicating the level to which a government supports religious groups in the country. Government support of a religion or religions is considered restrictive only when preferential treatment of one or more religious groups puts other religious groups at a disadvantage.

**GRI.Q.20.3.a**

*Does any level of government provide funds or other resources for religious education programs and/or religious schools?*

	<i>baseline year, ending JUN 2007</i>		<i>previous year, ending DEC 2020</i>		<i>latest year, ending DEC 2021</i>	
	<b>NUMBER OF COUNTRIES</b>	<b>% OF COUNTRIES</b>	<b>NUMBER OF COUNTRIES</b>	<b>% OF COUNTRIES</b>	<b>NUMBER OF COUNTRIES</b>	<b>% OF COUNTRIES</b>
No	71	36%	69	35%	71	36%
Yes, but with no obvious favoritism to a particular group or groups	24	12	40	20	43	22
Yes, and with obvious favoritism to a particular group or groups	102	52	89	45	84	42
	<b>197</b>	<b>100</b>	<b>198</b>	<b>100</b>	<b>198</b>	<b>100</b>

Note: This question is a component of GRI.Q.20.3.

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### GRI.Q.20.3.b

*Does any level of government provide funds or other resources for religious property (e.g., buildings, upkeep, repair or land)?*

	<i>baseline year, ending JUN 2007</i>		<i>previous year, ending DEC 2020</i>		<i>latest year, ending DEC 2021</i>	
	<b>NUMBER OF COUNTRIES</b>	<b>% OF COUNTRIES</b>	<b>NUMBER OF COUNTRIES</b>	<b>% OF COUNTRIES</b>	<b>NUMBER OF COUNTRIES</b>	<b>% OF COUNTRIES</b>
No	128	65%	93	47%	91	46%
Yes, but with no obvious favoritism to a particular group or groups	10	5	25	13	27	14
Yes, and with obvious favoritism to a particular group or groups	59	30	80	40	80	40
	<b>197</b>	<b>100</b>	<b>198</b>	<b>100</b>	<b>198</b>	<b>100</b>

Note: This question is a component of GRI.Q.20.3.

### GRI.Q.20.3.c

*Does any level of government provide funds or other resources for religious activities other than education or property?*

	<i>baseline year, ending JUN 2007</i>		<i>previous year, ending DEC 2020</i>		<i>latest year, ending DEC 2021</i>	
	<b>NUMBER OF COUNTRIES</b>	<b>% OF COUNTRIES</b>	<b>NUMBER OF COUNTRIES</b>	<b>% OF COUNTRIES</b>	<b>NUMBER OF COUNTRIES</b>	<b>% OF COUNTRIES</b>
No	106	54%	28	14%	25	13%
Yes, but with no obvious favoritism to a particular group or groups	7	4	64	32	66	33
Yes, and with obvious favoritism to a particular group or groups	84	43	106	54	107	54
	<b>197</b>	<b>100</b>	<b>198</b>	<b>100</b>	<b>198</b>	<b>100</b>

Note: This question is a component of GRI.Q.20.3.

**GRI.Q.20.4***Is religious education required in public schools?*

	<i>baseline year, ending JUN 2007</i>		<i>previous year, ending DEC 2020</i>		<i>latest year, ending DEC 2021</i>	
	<b>NUMBER OF COUNTRIES</b>	<b>% OF COUNTRIES</b>	<b>NUMBER OF COUNTRIES</b>	<b>% OF COUNTRIES</b>	<b>NUMBER OF COUNTRIES</b>	<b>% OF COUNTRIES</b>
No	134	68%	114	58%	117	59%
Yes, by at least some local governments	6	3	11	6	10	5
Yes, by the national government	57	29	73	37	71	36
	<b>197</b>	<b>100</b>	<b>198</b>	<b>100</b>	<b>198</b>	<b>100</b>

Note: This question is a component of GRI.Q.20.

**GRI.Q.20.5***Does the national government defer in some way to religious authorities, texts or doctrines on legal issues?*

	<i>baseline year, ending JUN 2007</i>		<i>previous year, ending DEC 2020</i>		<i>latest year, ending DEC 2021</i>	
	<b>NUMBER OF COUNTRIES</b>	<b>% OF COUNTRIES</b>	<b>NUMBER OF COUNTRIES</b>	<b>% OF COUNTRIES</b>	<b>NUMBER OF COUNTRIES</b>	<b>% OF COUNTRIES</b>
No	150	76%	132	67%	133	67%
Yes	47	24	66	33	65	33
	<b>197</b>	<b>100</b>	<b>198</b>	<b>100</b>	<b>198</b>	<b>100</b>

Note: This question is a component of GRI.Q.20.

Note: Figures throughout may not add to 100% or to subtotals indicated due to rounding.

## Social hostilities involving religion

To assess the level of social hostilities involving religion around the world, Pew Research Center used the following 13 questions for the Social Hostilities Index (SHI). Center staff then combed through 19 published sources of information, including reports by the U.S. State Department, the United Nations, and various nongovernmental organizations, to answer the questions on a country-by-country basis. (For more details, refer to the [Methodology](#).)

This summary shows the questions, followed by various possible answers, and the number and percentage of countries that fell into each category, according to the multiple sources analyzed by the Center. For example, on Question No. 12 – “Were there incidents of hostility over proselytizing?” – the study found that for the latest year, ending on Dec. 31, 2021, 174 countries and territories (88% of all studied) had no reported incidents of hostility over proselytizing; 13 countries (7%) had incidents that fell short of physical violence; and 11 countries (6%) had incidents involving violence.

Additionally, the summary shows whether particular religious hostilities occurred during the previous year, ending Dec. 31, 2020, or in the study’s baseline year, ending in mid-2007. A total of 197 countries and territories are shown for the baseline year; South Sudan was coded for the first time in 2011, bringing the total to 198 countries and territories starting that year. To see how each country scored on each question, refer to [Appendix F: Results by country](#) online.

When comparing these results with Pew Research Center’s previous reports, readers should keep in mind that previous reports showed the number of countries in which particular religious hostilities occurred at any time during two overlapping periods: July 1, 2006-June 30, 2008, and July 1, 2007-June 30, 2009. Because this report presents data on an annual basis, the number of incidents for a single year may be smaller than when two years were taken into account.

Some differences from year to year might not be as significant as they appear due to minor changes in coding procedures and changes in the amount of information available between years. For example, sources for the most recent period studied sometimes had more information on incidents in a country than sources previously had reported. Such additional information may reflect either an actual increase in hostilities in a country, improved reporting for that country, or both. (For more details, refer to the [Methodology](#).)

Percentages may not add to 100 due to rounding.

**SHI.Q.1.a**

*Were there crimes, malicious acts or violence motivated by religious hatred or bias?*

	<i>baseline year, ending JUN 2007</i>		<i>previous year, ending DEC 2020</i>		<i>latest year, ending DEC 2021</i>	
	<b>NUMBER OF COUNTRIES</b>	<b>% OF COUNTRIES</b>	<b>NUMBER OF COUNTRIES</b>	<b>% OF COUNTRIES</b>	<b>NUMBER OF COUNTRIES</b>	<b>% OF COUNTRIES</b>
No	67	34%	34	17%	34	17%
Yes*	130	66	164	83	164	83
Harassment/intimidation	127	64	164	83	164	83
Property damage	40	20	81	41	80	40
Detentions/abductions	12	6	19	10	20	10
Displacement from homes	19	10	16	8	14	7
Physical assaults	55	28	58	29	67	34
Deaths	25	13	35	18	34	17
	<b>197</b>	<b>100</b>	<b>198</b>	<b>100</b>	<b>198</b>	<b>100</b>

\* This line represents the number or percentage of countries in which at least one of the following hostilities occurred. Each country's score for each type of religious hatred or bias is available in SHI.Q.1a-f in Appendix F: Results by country (online). Note: This is a summary table that captures the types of religious hatred or bias. Nested categories add to more than total because countries can have multiple types of hostilities.

**SHI.Q.1.b**

*How many different types of crimes, malicious acts or violence motivated by religious hatred or bias occurred? The six different types considered include: harassment/intimidation, property damage, detentions/abductions, displacement from homes, physical assaults and killings.*

	<i>baseline year, ending JUN 2007</i>		<i>previous year, ending DEC 2020</i>		<i>latest year, ending DEC 2021</i>	
	<b>NUMBER OF COUNTRIES</b>	<b>% OF COUNTRIES</b>	<b>NUMBER OF COUNTRIES</b>	<b>% OF COUNTRIES</b>	<b>NUMBER OF COUNTRIES</b>	<b>% OF COUNTRIES</b>
No	67	34%	34	17%	34	17%
Yes: One type	56	28	59	30	63	32
Yes: Two types	30	15	47	24	37	19
Yes: Three types	25	13	30	15	35	18
Yes: Four types	11	6	13	7	14	7
Yes: Five types	5	3	12	6	9	5
Yes: Six types	3	2	3	2	6	3
	<b>197</b>	<b>100</b>	<b>198</b>	<b>100</b>	<b>198</b>	<b>100</b>

Note: This is a summary table that captures the severity of religious hatred or bias. Each country's score based on how many of the six types of religious hatred or bias were documented is available in SHI.Q.1 in Appendix F: Results by country (online).



GLOBALLY, GOVERNMENT RESTRICTIONS ON RELIGION REACHED PEAK LEVELS IN 2021, WHILE SOCIAL HOSTILITIES WENT DOWN

### SHI.Q.2

*Was there mob violence related to religion?*

	<i>baseline year, ending JUN 2007</i>		<i>previous year, ending DEC 2020</i>		<i>latest year, ending DEC 2021</i>	
	<b>NUMBER OF COUNTRIES</b>	<b>% OF COUNTRIES</b>	<b>NUMBER OF COUNTRIES</b>	<b>% OF COUNTRIES</b>	<b>NUMBER OF COUNTRIES</b>	<b>% OF COUNTRIES</b>
No	174	88%	170	86%	170	86%
Yes, but there were no deaths reported	14	7	15	8	19	10
Yes, and there were deaths reported	9	5	13	7	9	5
	<b>197</b>	<b>100</b>	<b>198</b>	<b>100</b>	<b>198</b>	<b>100</b>

### SHI.Q.3

*Were there acts of sectarian or communal violence between religious groups?*

	<i>baseline year, ending JUN 2007</i>		<i>previous year, ending DEC 2020</i>		<i>latest year, ending DEC 2021</i>	
	<b>NUMBER OF COUNTRIES</b>	<b>% OF COUNTRIES</b>	<b>NUMBER OF COUNTRIES</b>	<b>% OF COUNTRIES</b>	<b>NUMBER OF COUNTRIES</b>	<b>% OF COUNTRIES</b>
No	181	92%	185	93%	183	92%
Yes	16	8	13	7	15	8
	<b>197</b>	<b>100</b>	<b>198</b>	<b>100</b>	<b>198</b>	<b>100</b>

Note: Sectarian or communal violence involves two or more religious groups facing off in repeated clashes.

**SHI.Q.4**

*Were religion-related terrorist groups active in the country?*

	<i>baseline year, ending JUN 2007</i>		<i>previous year, ending DEC 2020</i>		<i>latest year, ending DEC 2021</i>	
	<b>NUMBER OF COUNTRIES</b>	<b>% OF COUNTRIES</b>	<b>NUMBER OF COUNTRIES</b>	<b>% OF COUNTRIES</b>	<b>NUMBER OF COUNTRIES</b>	<b>% OF COUNTRIES</b>
No	137	70%	146	74%	150	76%
Yes	60	30	52	26	48	24
Yes, but their activity was limited to recruitment and fundraising	43	22	3	2	19	10
Yes, with violence that resulted in some casualties (1-9 injuries or deaths)	7	4	21	11	5	3
Yes, with violence that resulted in multiple casualties (10-50 injuries or deaths)	2	1	6	3	5	3
Yes, with violence that resulted in many casualties (more than 50 injuries or deaths)	8	4	22	11	19	10
	<b>197</b>	<b>100</b>	<b>198</b>	<b>100</b>	<b>198</b>	<b>100</b>

Note: Religion-related terrorism is defined as politically motivated violence against noncombatants by subnational groups or clandestine agents with a religious justification or intent. For SHI.Q.4, the differences between the coding periods may not be as significant as they appear due to minor changes in coding procedures. Refer to the Methodology for more information.

**SHI.Q.5***Was there a religion-related war or armed conflict in the country?*

	<i>baseline year, ending JUN 2007</i>		<i>previous year, ending DEC 2020</i>		<i>latest year, ending DEC 2021</i>	
	<b>NUMBER OF COUNTRIES</b>	<b>% OF COUNTRIES</b>	<b>NUMBER OF COUNTRIES</b>	<b>% OF COUNTRIES</b>	<b>NUMBER OF COUNTRIES</b>	<b>% OF COUNTRIES</b>
No	176	89%	183	92%	182	92%
Yes	21	11	15	8	16	8
Yes, with fewer than 10,000 casualties or people displaced	9	5	5	3	3	2
Yes, with tens of thousands of casualties or people displaced	6	3	5	3	4	2
Yes, with hundreds of thousands of casualties or people displaced	3	2	5	3	8	4
Yes, with millions of casualties or people displaced	3	2	0	0	1	1
	<b>197</b>	<b>100</b>	<b>198</b>	<b>100</b>	<b>198</b>	<b>100</b>

Note: Religion-related war is defined as armed conflict (involving sustained casualties over time or more than 1,000 battle deaths) in which religious rhetoric is commonly employed to justify the use of force, or in which one or more of the combatants primarily identifies itself or the opposing side by religion.

**SHI.Q.6***Did violence result from tensions between religious groups?*

	<i>baseline year, ending JUN 2007</i>		<i>previous year, ending DEC 2020</i>		<i>latest year, ending DEC 2021</i>	
	<b>NUMBER OF COUNTRIES</b>	<b>% OF COUNTRIES</b>	<b>NUMBER OF COUNTRIES</b>	<b>% OF COUNTRIES</b>	<b>NUMBER OF COUNTRIES</b>	<b>% OF COUNTRIES</b>
No	50	25%	97	49%	104	53%
There were public tensions between religious groups, but they fell short of hostilities involving physical violence	56	28	52	26	45	23
Yes, with physical violence in a few cases	69	35	22	11	23	12
Yes, with physical violence in numerous cases	22	11	27	14	26	13
	<b>197</b>	<b>100</b>	<b>198</b>	<b>100</b>	<b>198</b>	<b>100</b>

Note: The data for each year also takes into account information from the two previous years.

**SHI.Q.7**

*Did organized groups use force or coercion in an attempt to dominate public life with their perspective on religion, including preventing some religious groups from operating in the country?*

	<i>baseline year, ending JUN 2007</i>		<i>previous year, ending DEC 2020</i>		<i>latest year, ending DEC 2021</i>	
	<b>NUMBER OF COUNTRIES</b>	<b>% OF COUNTRIES</b>	<b>NUMBER OF COUNTRIES</b>	<b>% OF COUNTRIES</b>	<b>NUMBER OF COUNTRIES</b>	<b>% OF COUNTRIES</b>
No	113	57%	108	55%	117	59%
Yes	84	43	90	45	81	41
At the local level	22	11	21	11	13	7
At the regional level	31	16	10	5	8	4
At the national level	31	16	59	30	60	30
	<b>197</b>	<b>100</b>	<b>198</b>	<b>100</b>	<b>198</b>	<b>100</b>

Note: The data for each year also takes into account information from the two previous years.

**SHI.Q.8**

*Did religious groups themselves attempt to prevent other religious groups from being able to operate?*

	<i>baseline year, ending JUN 2007</i>		<i>previous year, ending DEC 2020</i>		<i>latest year, ending DEC 2021</i>	
	<b>NUMBER OF COUNTRIES</b>	<b>% OF COUNTRIES</b>	<b>NUMBER OF COUNTRIES</b>	<b>% OF COUNTRIES</b>	<b>NUMBER OF COUNTRIES</b>	<b>% OF COUNTRIES</b>
No	130	66%	143	72%	138	70%
Yes	67	34	55	28	60	30
	<b>197</b>	<b>100</b>	<b>198</b>	<b>100</b>	<b>198</b>	<b>100</b>

Note: The data for each year also takes into account information from the two previous years.

**SHI.Q.9**

*Did individuals or groups use violence or the threat of violence, including so-called honor killings, to try to enforce religious norms?*

	<i>baseline year, ending JUN 2007</i>		<i>previous year, ending DEC 2020</i>		<i>latest year, ending DEC 2021</i>	
	<b>NUMBER OF COUNTRIES</b>	<b>% OF COUNTRIES</b>	<b>NUMBER OF COUNTRIES</b>	<b>% OF COUNTRIES</b>	<b>NUMBER OF COUNTRIES</b>	<b>% OF COUNTRIES</b>
No	162	82%	127	64%	136	69%
Yes	35	18	71	36	62	31
	<b>197</b>	<b>100</b>	<b>198</b>	<b>100</b>	<b>198</b>	<b>100</b>

Note: The data for each year also takes into account information from the two previous years.

GLOBALLY, GOVERNMENT RESTRICTIONS ON RELIGION REACHED PEAK LEVELS IN 2021, WHILE SOCIAL HOSTILITIES WENT DOWN

### SHI.Q.10

*Were individuals assaulted or displaced from their homes in retaliation for religious activities, including preaching and other forms of religious expression, considered offensive or threatening to the majority faith?*

	<i>baseline year, ending JUN 2007</i>		<i>previous year, ending DEC 2020</i>		<i>latest year, ending DEC 2021</i>	
	<b>NUMBER OF COUNTRIES</b>	<b>% OF COUNTRIES</b>	<b>NUMBER OF COUNTRIES</b>	<b>% OF COUNTRIES</b>	<b>NUMBER OF COUNTRIES</b>	<b>% OF COUNTRIES</b>
No	149	76%	147	74%	129	65%
Yes	48	24	51	26	69	35
	<b>197</b>	<b>100</b>	<b>198</b>	<b>100</b>	<b>198</b>	<b>100</b>

Note: The data for each year also takes into account information from the two previous years.

### SHI.Q.11

*Were women harassed for violating religious dress codes?*

	<i>baseline year, ending JUN 2007</i>		<i>previous year, ending DEC 2020</i>		<i>latest year, ending DEC 2021</i>	
	<b>NUMBER OF COUNTRIES</b>	<b>% OF COUNTRIES</b>	<b>NUMBER OF COUNTRIES</b>	<b>% OF COUNTRIES</b>	<b>NUMBER OF COUNTRIES</b>	<b>% OF COUNTRIES</b>
No	183	93%	138	70%	139	70%
Yes	14	7	60	30	59	30
	<b>197</b>	<b>100</b>	<b>198</b>	<b>100</b>	<b>198</b>	<b>100</b>

Note: The data for each year also takes into account information from the two previous years.

### SHI.Q.12

*Were there incidents of hostility over proselytizing?*

	<i>baseline year, ending JUN 2007</i>		<i>previous year, ending DEC 2020</i>		<i>latest year, ending DEC 2021</i>	
	<b>NUMBER OF COUNTRIES</b>	<b>% OF COUNTRIES</b>	<b>NUMBER OF COUNTRIES</b>	<b>% OF COUNTRIES</b>	<b>NUMBER OF COUNTRIES</b>	<b>% OF COUNTRIES</b>
No	148	75%	173	87%	174	88%
Yes, but they fell short of physical violence	30	15	14	7	13	7
Yes, and they included physical violence	19	10	11	6	11	6
	<b>197</b>	<b>100</b>	<b>198</b>	<b>100</b>	<b>198</b>	<b>100</b>

Note: The data for each year also takes into account information from the two previous years.

**SHI.Q.13**

*Were there incidents of hostility over conversions from one religion to another?*

	<i>baseline year, ending JUN 2007</i>		<i>previous year, ending DEC 2020</i>		<i>latest year, ending DEC 2021</i>	
	<b>NUMBER OF COUNTRIES</b>	<b>% OF COUNTRIES</b>	<b>NUMBER OF COUNTRIES</b>	<b>% OF COUNTRIES</b>	<b>NUMBER OF COUNTRIES</b>	<b>% OF COUNTRIES</b>
No	153	78%	142	72%	138	70%
Yes, but they fell short of physical violence	23	12	31	16	37	19
Yes, and they included physical violence	21	11	25	13	23	12
	<b>197</b>	<b>100</b>	<b>198</b>	<b>100</b>	<b>198</b>	<b>100</b>

Note: The data for each year also takes into account information from the two previous years.

Note: Figures throughout may not add to 100% or to subtotals indicated due to rounding. Myanmar is also called Burma. Eswatini was formerly known as Swaziland.