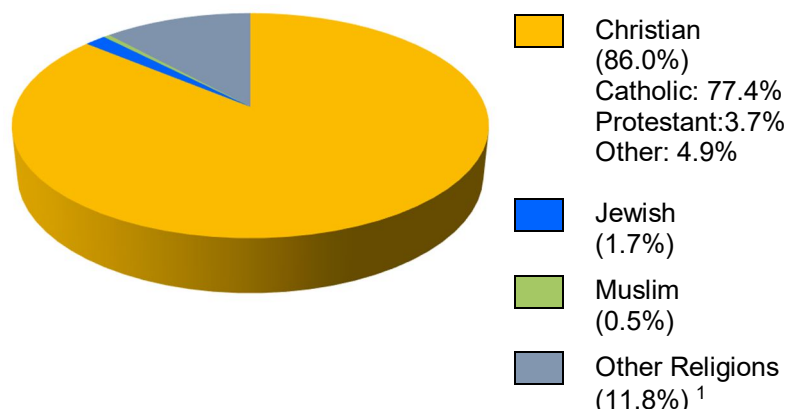
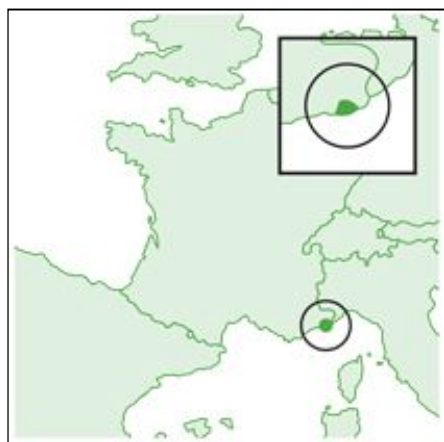


MONACO



Area: 2 km ²	Population^{2 3}: 30,535	Political system: Monarchy ⁴	Major Language(s): French, English, Italian, Monegasque
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Legal framework on Freedom of Religion and actual application

The Constitution of the Principality⁵ establishes that Roman Catholicism is the religion of the State.⁶ It states that that all Monegasques – citizens of Monaco – are equal in the eyes of the law and that there are no individual privileges among them.⁷

Article 23 guarantees to all individuals, including non-citizens, “religious freedom, its public exercise, as well as the freedom to express one’s own opinions on all subjects”, subject to the right to prosecute crimes “committed during the exercise of this freedom.” No one may be compelled “to participate in the activities and ceremonies of a religion or to observe its days of rest”. There have been no reports of significant institutional changes or notable incidents relating to religious freedom since 2014.

Religious minorities

Although Roman Catholicism is the state religion, the government recognizes all Abrahamic-based religions: Christianity, Judaism, and Islam. There are two Protestant churches, one Greek Orthodox Church, and one synagogue. There are no mosques.⁸ Religious leaders of various denominations participate in cultural events and joint religious services to promote dialogue between religious communities.⁹

Incidents

There were no incidents recorded during the period under review.

Incidents / Prospects for Freedom of Religion

There have been no incidents reported on any religious minority or other problems or negative developments with regard to religious freedom in this country.

¹ http://www.thearda.com/internationalData/countries/Country_152_1.asp

² <https://www.cia.gov/library/publications/the-world-factbook/geos/mn.html>

³ (July 2015 est.) (Immigrants make up more than 60% of the total population, according to 2013 UN data)

⁴ Political System: The Principality of Monaco is a constitutional monarchy with Prince Albert II as the Head of State.

⁵ <http://www.monaco-consulate.com/wp-content/uploads/2009/06/Constitution.pdf>

⁶ Constitution of the Principality, Article 9

⁷ Id., Article 17

⁸ www.state.gov/documents/organization/171711.pdf

⁹ <http://www.state.gov/j/drl/rls/irf/religiousfreedom/index.htm#wrapper>