

PUBLIC OPINION POLLS AND CENSUS DATA ON RELIGIOUS AFFILIATION IN NICARAGUA, 1950-2012

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SOURCE	TYPE	DATE	CATHOLIC	PROTESTANT	OTHER	*NONE / NA
CENSUS	NATIONAL	1950	95.8%	4.1%	0.1%	
CENSUS	NATIONAL	1963	96.0%	3.8%	0.2%	
ESTIMATE BY PROLADES	NATIONAL	1970	93.0%	5.5%	1.5%	
ESTIMATE BY PROLADES	NATIONAL	1980	84.7%	9.3%	6.0%	
ESTIMATE BY PROLADES	NATIONAL	1985	81.9%	10.1%	8.0%	
ESTIMATE BY PROLADES	NATIONAL	1991	79.7%	11.3%	9.0%	
CENSUS	NATIONAL	1995	72.9%	16.6%	2.0%	8.5%
M&R CONSULTORES	NATIONAL	2001	74.4%	15.1%	10.5%	
M&R CONSULTORES	NATIONAL	2003	70.5%	16.5%	13.0%	
CENSUS	NATIONAL	2005	58.5%	23.2%	2.6%	15.7%
CID-GALLUP	NATIONAL	MARCH 2006	58.5%	21.6%	4.1%	15.7%
M&R CONSULTORES	NATIONAL	2009	54.4%	27.7%	4.0%	13.9%
CID-GALLUP	NATIONAL	SEPT 2012	55.7%	30.4%	2.3%	11.6%

*This category may include "other religions," "no religion" and "no answer."

NOTE: Obviously, there is a problem with the consistency of these polls, but also the methodology of each one needs to be defined, the sample size and geographical distribution, the definitions used for each category, the possibility of sampling errors, etc.

SOURCES:

1. Instituto Nacional de Estadística y Censo (INEC): Resumen Censal, Tabla 1.14 - Población de 5 Años y Más, Distribución Porcentual, Según Religión. Censo de 1950, 1963, 1995 y 2005.
<http://www.inec.gob.ni/censos2005/censo2005.htm>
2. Estimates by PROLADES for 1970, 1980, 1985 and 1991 based on in-country research by PROLADES, CEPAD and Noel González.
3. CID-Gallup polls for December 1996 and April 1997: published documents.
4. News Report on 2005 and 1995 Census:
<http://www.protestantedigital.com/new/leernoticialnt.php?4379>
5. CID-Gallup Poll, March 2005:
<http://www.noticiacristiana.com/news/newDetails.php?idnew=6812&country=0>
6. The 2009 national poll by M&R Consultores was conducted between 18 March and 9 April; this article also has information about similar polls conducted in 1991, 2001 and 2003:
<http://www.periodistadigital.com/religion/object.php?o=1133536>
7. CID-Gallup Public Opinion Poll #72, September 2012: published report.

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