

The Federal Republic of Ethiopia



National Regional State; The Southern Nations, Nationalities and People's Regional State; and The Tigray National Regional State.

CAPITAL: Addis Ababa

RELIGIONS: Muslim 45-50%, Ethiopian Orthodox Christian 35-40%, Traditional Religion 12%, other 3-8%, about 18,000 Falasha Jews still live in Gondar and Tigre.

ETHNIC GROUPS: Afar 4%, Amhara and Tigre 32%, Gurage 2%, Oromo 40%, Shankella 6%, Sidamo 9%, Somali 6%, other 1%

LANGUAGES: Amharic, Tigrinya, Oromigna, Guaragigna, Somali, Arabic, English (major foreign language taught in schools)

LIFE EXPECTANCY: 49 years (1995), total population: 44.68 years, male: 43.88 years, female: 45.51 years (2001 est.) total population: 41.24 years, male: 40.39 years, female: 42.11 years (2003 est.)

INFANT MORTALITY RATE: total: 103.22 deaths/1,000 live births, female: 92.65 deaths/1,000 live births (2003 est.), male: 113.48 deaths/1,000 live births

HIV/AIDS: adult prevalence rate: 6.4% (2001 est.) people living with HIV/AIDS: 2.1 million (2001 est.) deaths: 160,000 (2001 est.)

ADULT LITERACY RATE: total: 35.5%, male: 45.5%, female: 25.3% (1995 est.) total: 42.7%, male: 50.3%, female: 35.1% (2003 est.)

The Catholic Church in Ethiopia

ARCHDIOCESES / DIOCESES	PARISHES	POPULATION			PRIESTS		CATHOLICS PER PRIEST	RELIGIOUS	
		TOTAL	NUMBER OF CATHOLICS	CATHOLICS AS %	DIOCESAN	RELIGIOUS		MALE	FEMALE
ADDIS ABABA ARCHDIOCESE	33	21,265,000	51,196	0.24%	27	142	302	248	219
ADIGRAT DIOCESE	33	3,500,000	17,427	0.50%	74	11	205	38	47
EMDEBER [1]	14	-	18,476	-	16	6	839	-	-
AWASA [2]	17	5,320,000	140,135	2.63%	7	39	3,046	53	70
GAMBELLA [3]	4	420,000	3,500	0.83%	3	5	437	8	7
HARAR [2]	19	5,700,000	23,175	0.41%	6	20	891	26	63
JIMMA-BONGA [3]	14	3,000,000	10,378	0.35%	-	8	1,297	11	11
MEKI [2]	10	5,583,551	20,517	0.37%	11	13	854	23	54
NEKEMTE [2]	70	6,000,000	31,252	0.52%	23	12	892	12	38
SODDO-HOSANNA [2]	28	6,700,000	167,374	2.50%	23	33	2,988	46	54

ARCHDIOCESES / DIOCESES	ERECTED / ELEVATED	PRESENT ARCHBISHOPS AND BISHOPS	TOTAL AREA
ADDIS ABABA ARCHDIOCESE	31 October 1951	Berhaneyesus Demerew Souraphiel C.M.	116,106 sq.mi. (300,600 sq.kms.)
ADIGRAT DIOCESE	20 February 1961	Tesfaselassie Medhin	30,900 sq.mi. (80,000 sq.kms.)
EMDEBER [1]	25 November 2003	Musie Ghebreghiorghis O.F.M. Cap.	3,544 sq.mi. (9,176 sq.kms.)
AWASA [2]	15 March 1979	Lorenzo Ceresoli M.C.C.I. [4]	28,968 sq.mi. (75,000 sq.kms.)
GAMBELLA [3]	16 November 2000	Angelo Moreschi S.D.B. Prefect	19,312 sq.mi. (50,000 sq.kms.)
HARAR [2]	4 May 1846	Woldetsensaé Ghebreghiorghis O.F.M. Cap. [4]	100,425 sq.mi. (260,000 sq.kms.)
JIMMA-BONGA [3]	10 June 1994	Theo van Ruyven C.M., Prefect	19,776 sq.mi. (51,200 sq.kms.)
MEKI [2]	21 December 1991	Abraham Desta [4]	156,600 sq.kms. (60,486 sq.mi.)
NEKEMTE [2]	25 March 1937	Leonardus Dobbelaar C.M. [4]	38,158 sq.mi. (98,792 sq.kms.)
SODDO-HOSANNA [2]	15 October 1982	Domenico Crescentino Marinuzzi O.F.M. Cap. [4]	21,243 sq.mi. (55,000 sq.kms.)

Foot Note: 1 = Apostolic Exarchate; 2 = Vicariate Apostolic; 3 = Prefecture Apostolic; 4 = Vicar Apostolic.

SOURCES: Background notes are taken from the SuttonLink fact sheet series. A fuller version is on the White Fathers UK Web Site at www.thewhitefathers.org.uk/et_fct.html; Church details from the Catholic-Hierarchy.org web site at <http://www.catholic-hierarchy.org>; and the Ethiopia page on the AMECEA web site at <http://www.amecea.org/countries/ethiopia.htm>

OFFICIAL NAME: Federal Democratic Republic of Ethiopia (Ityop'iya Federalawi Demokrasiyawi Ripeblik)

FORMER NAME: Abyssinia, Italian East Africa, Ethiopia (one of the oldest independent counties [mentioned in writings of Herodotus 5th. C. B.C. and Old Testament]; never under colonial rule except for Italian occupation 1936-41; Italians defeated by British and Ethiopian forces and Emperor returned to the throne; Eritrea province begins fight for independence in 1962; ruled by ancient Ethiopian monarchy until Emperor

Haile Selassie deposed in 1974; Eritrea gains independence in 1993; Government of the Federal Democratic Republic of Ethiopia installed in August 1995; border war between Ethiopian-Eritrea in 1998-2000.)

SUBDIVISIONS: Addis Ababa Administrative Region; Afar National Regional State; Amhara National Regional State; Benishangul-Gumuz Regional State; Dire Dawa Administrative Region; Gambella People's National Regional State; Harari People's National Regional State; Oromiya National Regional State; Somali