



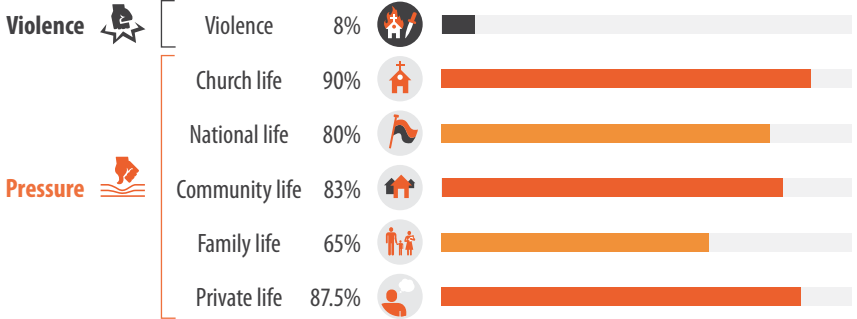
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# Turkmenistan

**Source of persecution** Dictatorial paranoia  
**Population** 5,851,000  
**Christians** 69,800  
**Main religion** Islam  
**Government** Presidential republic  
**Leader** President Gurbanguly Berdimuhamedow

## Profile of persecution

Based on World Watch List 2019 data



### Always being watched

Turkmenistan is extremely repressive for religious minorities. The police, secret services and local authorities monitor religious activities, raid non-registered churches and infiltrate church services. The Islamic culture makes life for converts to Christianity particularly difficult, and the government restricts Christian materials. Given increased nationalism and the views of the dictatorial president, the pressure on Christians in this former Soviet republic will likely remain high.

### Prayer points

- Turkmenistan is considered one of the most restrictive countries in the world. Pray for increased freedoms in the country.
- Pray for believers who are former Muslims. They are fiercely pressured to return to Islam. Pray for protection and endurance.
- Pray for those who are monitoring Christians to encounter the gospel in miraculous and Kingdom-building ways.