



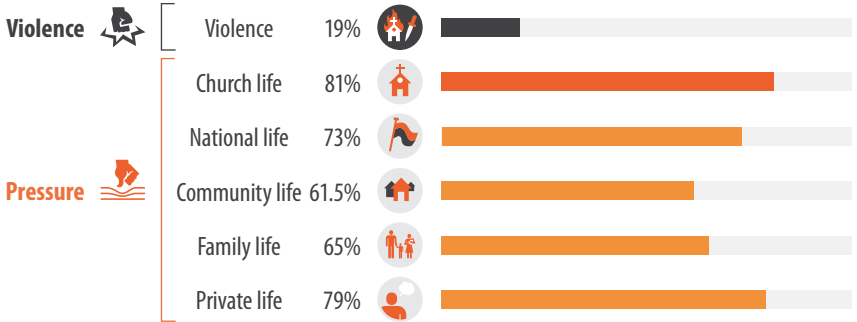
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# Kazakhstan

**Source of persecution** Dictatorial paranoia  
**Population** 18,404,000  
**Christians** 4,576,000  
**Main religion** Islam  
**Government** Presidential republic  
**Leader** President Nursultan Nazarbayev

## Profile of persecution

Based on World Watch List 2019 data



### Surveillance, raids and detentions for Christians

In Kazakhstan, indigenous Christians from Muslim backgrounds bear the brunt of the persecution at the hands of authorities, families, friends and communities. The government is constantly working to maintain and increase its control over society, using surveillance, raids and detentions. Christians face nearly constant surveillance, and the threat of militant Islam is used as an excuse to restrict freedoms, resulting in worsening conditions for the Christian minority.

### Prayer points

- Pray for Kazakh believers and for church leaders, especially those pastors who lead secret churches and believers who converted from Islam. Pray for their security amid increasing restrictions and government control.
- Pray for Christians who are beaten and imprisoned for leaving Islam and turning to Christ.
- Pray for government authorities who seek to suppress or eradicate Christianity.