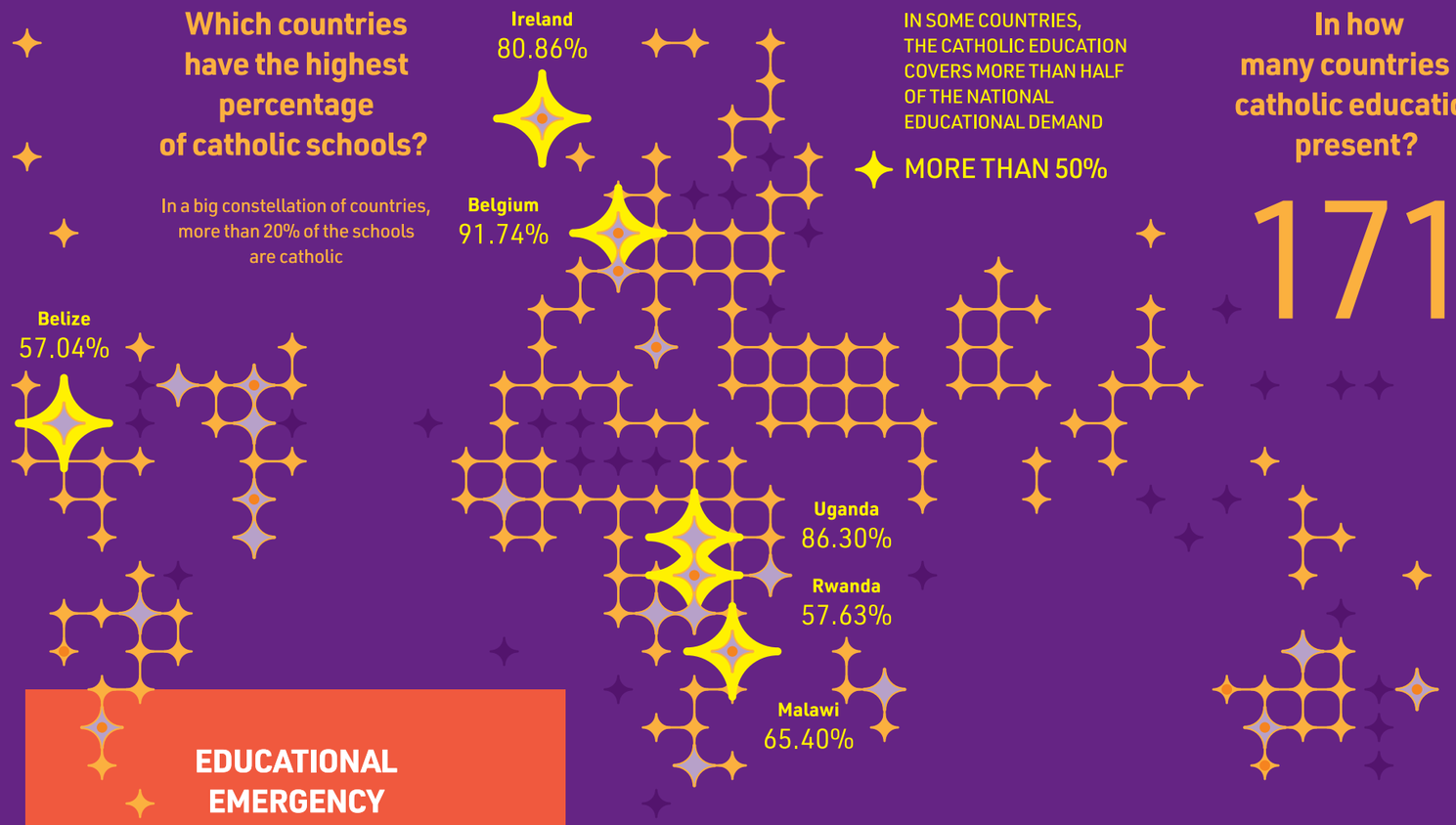
Which countries have the highest percentage of catholic schools?

In a big constellation of countries, more than 20% of the schools are catholic



IN SOME COUNTRIES, THE CATHOLIC EDUCATION COVERS MORE THAN HALF OF THE NATIONAL EDUCATIONAL DEMAND

✦ MORE THAN 50%

In how many countries is catholic education present?

171

EDUCATIONAL EMERGENCY

Globally, 63.9 million children have never been in a classroom; more than 165.6 million fail to complete secondary education

No access to the education PRIMARY OR ELEMENTARY SCHOOLS

Total **63.9** million

Africa	44,160,732
North America	1,160,941
Central/South America	2,216,604
Asia	15,331,570
Europe	984,798
Oceania	114,626

Educational dropout in numbers SECONDARY SCHOOLS

Total **165.6** million

Africa	59,845,849
North America	3,530,594
Central/South America	5,385,359
Asia	92,549,269
Europe	3,615,081
Oceania	676,058

COUNTRIES WHERE MORE THAN 20% OF STUDENTS ARE ENROLLED IN A CATHOLIC PRIMARY SCHOOL

✦ OVER 20%

Belgium
Belize
Burundi
Chile
Dominica
Grenada
Haiti
Ireland
Kenya
Lesotho
Malawi
Malta
Mauritius
New Caledonia
Papua New Guinea
French Polynesia
Principality of Monaco
Democratic Rep. of Congo
Rwanda
Saint Lucia
Sierra Leone
Suriname
Trinidad and Tobago
Uganda

COUNTRIES WHERE MORE THAN 20% OF STUDENTS ARE ENROLLED IN A CATHOLIC **SECONDARY SCHOOL**

● OVER 20%

Australia
Belgium
Chile
Dominica
Grenada
Ireland
Malawi
Malta
New Caledonia
Peru
French Polynesia
Principality of Monaco
Rwanda
East Timor

Data Source:
- **Holy See, Central Office of Statistics of the Catholic Church** *(data 2024)*
- **Unesco**

Data processing and indicators:
- **Antonello Maruotti**
- **Federico Guzzo**

Graphic design:
- **Attus Studio**

How many catholic educational institutions are there?

Total **232,209**

KINDERGARTEN	72,972
PRIMARY SCHOOLS	101,531
SECONDARY SCHOOLS	53,035
UPPER SECONDARY SCHOOLS	3,326
UNIVERSITIES	1,345

DICASTERIUM
DE CULTURA ET EDUCATIONE

CATHOLIC EDUCATION WORLDWIDE

THE NUMBERS OF A CONSTELLATION

2026/2027 EDITION

GRAVISSIMUM EDUCATIONIS FOUNDATION
Culture for Education

VOICE
VIEWS ON INCLUSION CATHOLIC EDUCATION AND PUBLIC DISCOURSE

How many students frequent the catholic educational institutions?

Total **72,575,199**

KINDERGARTEN	6,866,607
PRIMARY SCHOOLS	35,068,056
SECONDARY SCHOOLS	22,566,339
UPPER SECONDARY SCHOOLS	2,567,134
UNIVERSITIES	5,507,063

EDUCATIONAL DENSITY

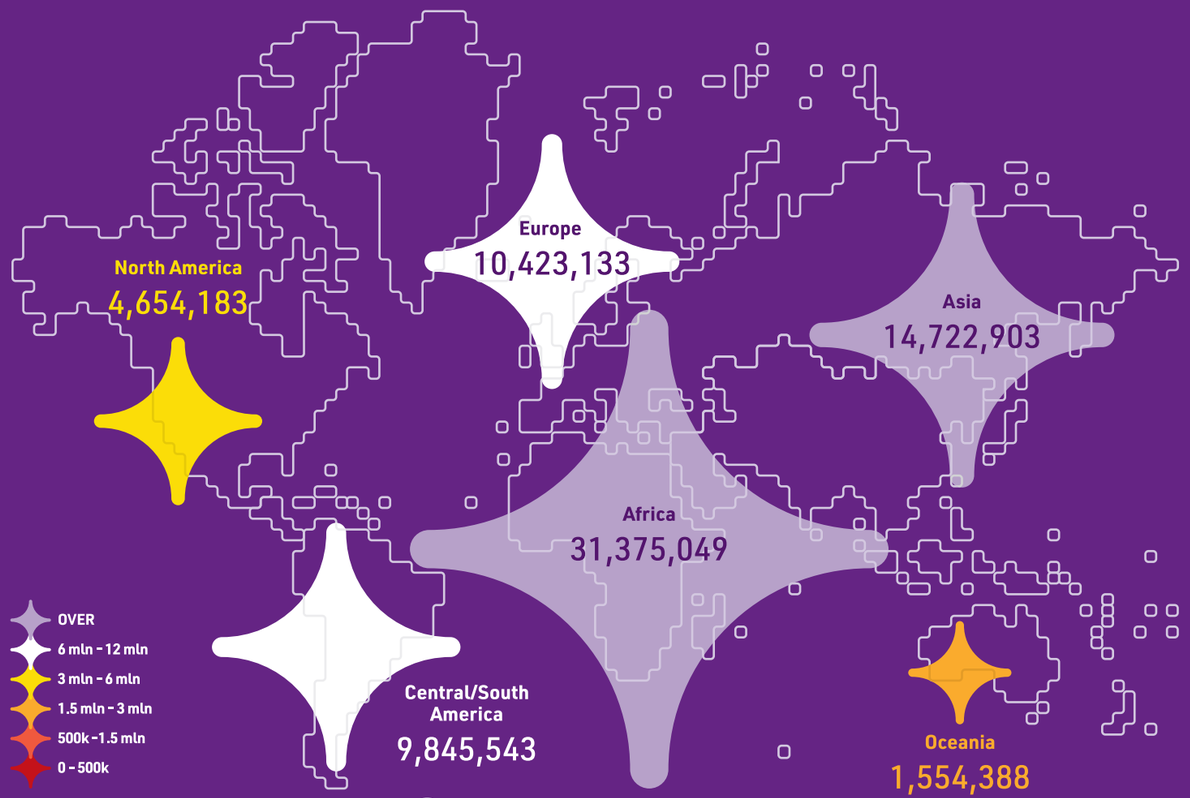
What is the number of Catholic Primary Schools per one million school-age children?

Africa	194
North America	192
Central/South America	562
Asia	43
Europe	434
Oceania	1,009
Global average	136

STUDENTS 72,575,199

Catholic Schools and Universities are attended by over 72 million students, of diverse cultures and faiths.

Through its educational network, across all continents, the Church supports younger, who are engaged in building their own life projects in the service of the common good.

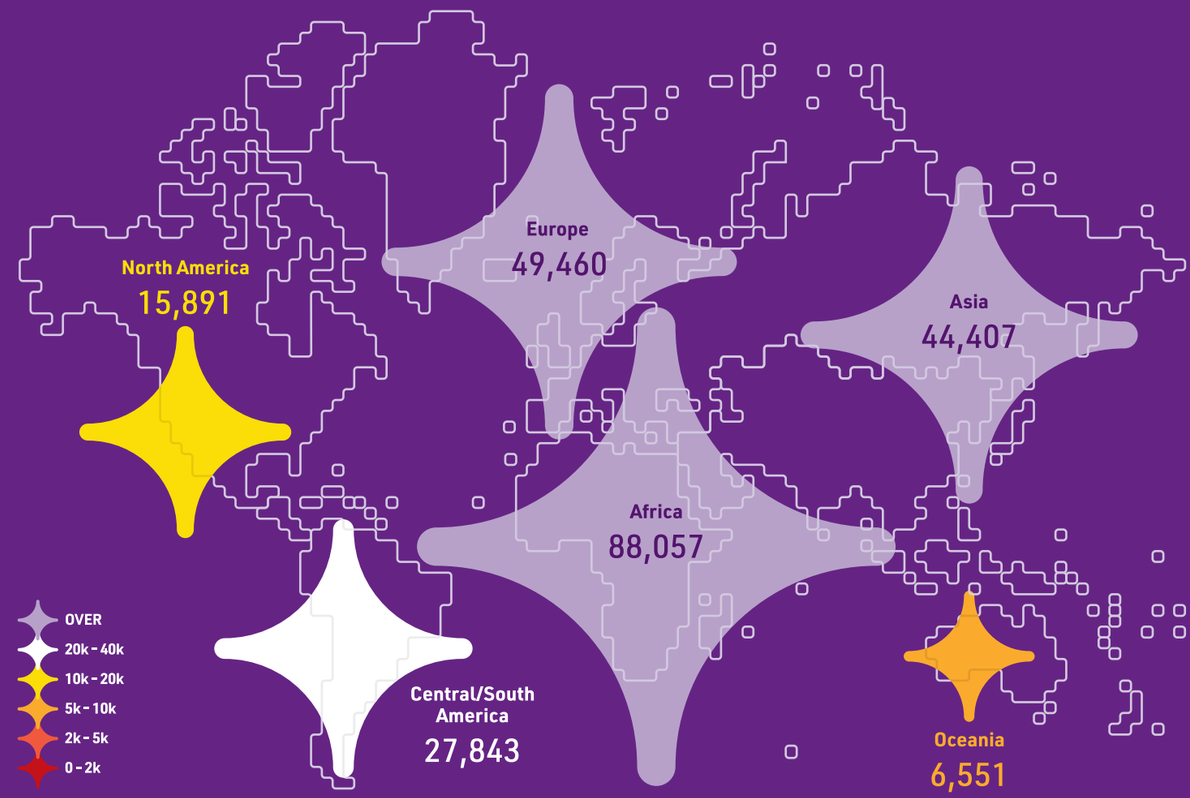


	KINDERGARTEN	PRIMARY SCHOOLS	SECONDARY SCHOOLS	UPPER SECONDARY SCHOOLS	UNIVERSITIES	TOTAL
Africa	2,797,027	20,727,465	7,252,194	196,225	402,138	31,375,049
North America	177,953	1,788,054	1,025,725	437,604	1,224,847	4,654,183
Central/South America	778,712	3,066,653	3,197,637	274,504	2,528,037	9,845,543
Asia	1,466,073	5,508,333	5,918,902	1,271,300	558,295	14,722,903
Europe	1,549,582	3,107,807	4,630,706	378,776	756,262	10,423,133
Oceania	97,260	869,744	541,175	8,725	37,484	1,554,388

SCHOOLS 232,209

Globally, the Catholic educational network is the largest educational network and includes over 232 thousand educational institutions.

Everywhere, Catholic Schools and Universities are places that are open to transcendence; they contribute to the common good and promote inclusion, justice, development, and peace.



	KINDERGARTEN	PRIMARY SCHOOLS	SECONDARY SCHOOLS	UPPER SECONDARY SCHOOLS	UNIVERSITIES	TOTAL
Africa	22,125	44,404	20,553	715	260	88,057
North America	4,801	7,705	2,813	267	305	15,891
Central/South America	8,385	11,445	7,197	452	364	27,843
Asia	13,997	16,918	11,928	1,370	194	44,407
Europe	22,153	16,887	9,706	502	212	49,460
Oceania	1,511	4,172	838	20	10	6,551