

## Census 2011: Maerdy, Rhondda among least religious areas in Wales



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But census figures show 52% of people in the area say they have no religion.

The Welsh ward with the smallest proportion of Christians was Deiniol in Bangor, Gwynedd, at 36.1%.

That was followed by Cathays in Cardiff at 36.6% and Riverside, also in Cardiff at 36.8%.

In December, the first batch of census statistics showed that nearly one-third of people in Wales have no religion.

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A total of 58% (1.8m) gave Christianity as their belief, a 14% drop since 2001, a larger fall than any English region.

The latest figures released on Wednesday give ward-by-ward breakdowns of Wales' 881 electoral

divisions.

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### 'Focus might have gone'

"The general church population has been decreasing for years and years and years and now there's no church the focus might have gone out of the village for worship."

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A month-long protest was held at All Saints in Maerdy in 2011

"I think sometimes when surveys have been phrased differently a lot of people reject the church, but they do not necessarily reject some sort of belief."

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Borras Park in Wrexham was the ward in Wales with the highest proportion of people describing themselves as Christian (76.1%) - followed by Cefni on Anglesey (75.7%).

BBC Wales