

Burundi



Politics

Burundi, officially the Republic of Burundi, is one of the few countries in Africa whose borders were not determined by colonial rulers. Politics of Burundi takes place in a framework of a transitional presidential representative democratic republic, whereby the President of Burundi is both head of state and head of government, and of a multi-party system. Executive power is exercised by the government²³.

The current president is Évariste Ndayishimiye, who won elections held in May 2020, winning 68 percent of the national vote.

Official languages

The official languages of Burundi is Burundi Kirundi.

Population

With a total population of 11,890,784 by 2020²⁴, the population of Burundi is equivalent to 0.15% of the total world population. In 2019, approximately 13 percent of Burundi's total population lived in urban areas and cities.

²³ Source: Wikipedia

²⁴ Source: <http://data.un.org/en/iso/bi.html>

Figure XXIII: Burundi: total population²⁵

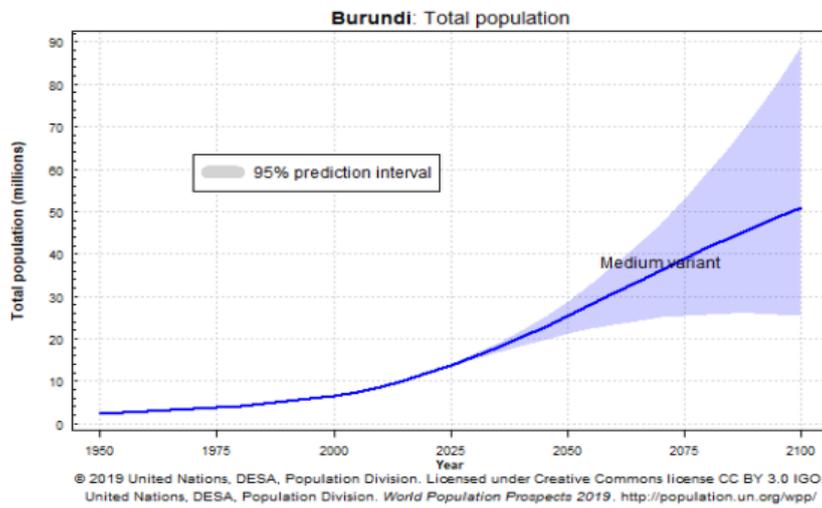
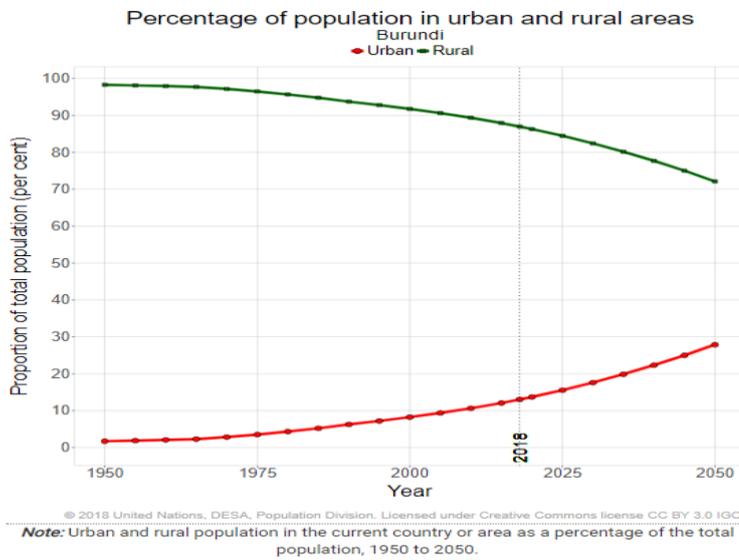


Figure XXIV: Percentage of Population in Urban and Rural Areas in Burundi

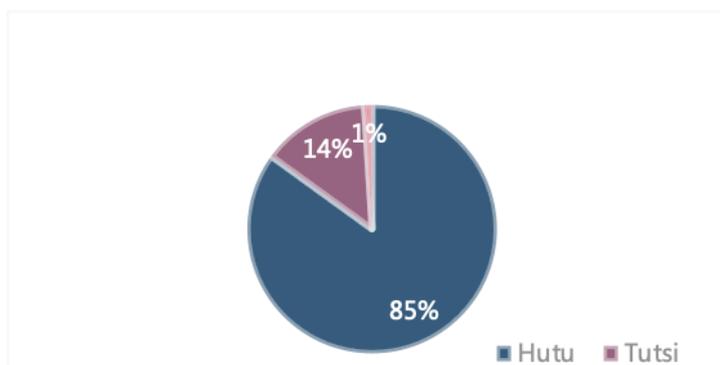


²⁵ Source : <https://population.un.org/wpp/Graphs/DemographicProfiles/Line/910>

Ethnic group

As in Burundi, the ethnic groups are the Hutu (Bantu) 85%, Tutsi (Hamitic) 14%, Twa (Pygmy) 1%. Hutu and Tutsi are the main ethnic groups, with the Hutu constituting the overwhelming majority and the Tutsi a significant minority. The ethnic background is not always clear. Originally, the difference was between farmers planting crops in fixed areas and nomads taking care of cows. The Twa always remained hunters and gatherers.

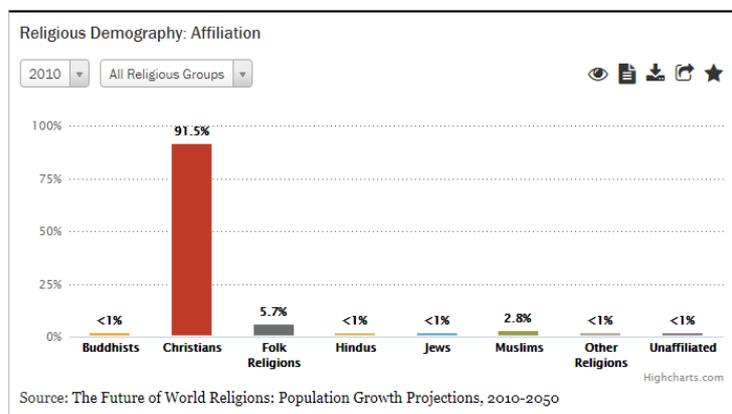
Figure XXV: Population Distribution by Ethnic Group in Burundi

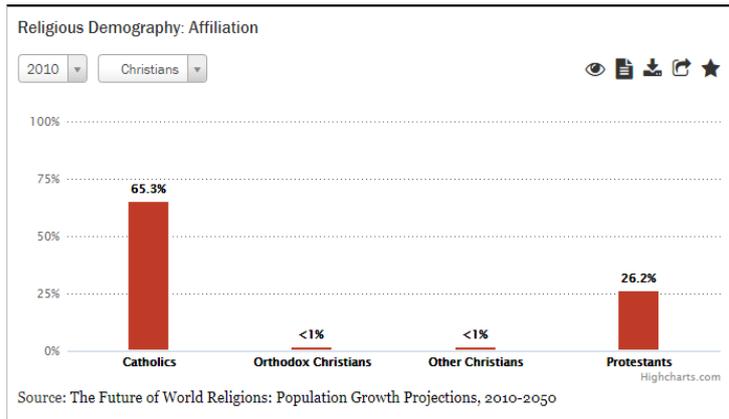


Religions

The religious makeup of Burundi is composed of a vast majority of Christians with about 65% of Catholics and 26% of Protestants and there are estimated 6% of folk religions and 3% of Muslims. The Burundian traditional belief had one God, Imana and a sort of high priest, Kiranga. They also believed in the spirit of ancestors. Names such as Imana are still in use today to designate figures of the Christian religion, thus integrating traditional terms into modern day Christianity.

Figure XXVI: Population Distribution by Religion in Burundi





Health

Burundi has a long history combating infectious diseases such as HIV/AIDS and malaria. According to WHO, by 2018, the estimated cases of AIDS/HIV reached to approximately 0.082million (accounting for 0.7% of total population) and the cases of Malaria are estimated 3.20 million (accounting for 28.6% of total population).

Economy

The economy of Burundi is heavily dependent on agriculture, which accounts for 38.5% of GDP (3285 million USD) in 2020. Besides, industry contributed 17.4 percent to the Burundi's GDP, 44.1% came from services and other activity²⁶.

Education

Education is compulsory in Burundi for the six years between the ages of seven and 13. Theoretically, primary education is free at point of use. By 2019, the literacy rate was 68%²⁷.

²⁶ Source: <http://data.un.org/en/iso/bi.html>

²⁷ Source: <https://data.worldbank.org/indicator/SE.ADT.LITR.ZS?locations=UG>