



**10-year Averages**  
**Tier 3**  
**100,000-300,000 Catholics**  
**61 Dioceses**

(ARCH)DIOCESE	Diocese Abbrev.	Parishioners Each Active Priest Serves 2014-2023	Seminarian Average 2014-2023	Seminarians Needed 2023**	% of Total Seminarians 2014-2023 vs. Need**	Priestly Ordination Avg 2014-2023	Priestly Ordinations Needed 2023*	On Avg % Ordained vs Need 2014-2023
Tucson, Arizona	TUC	3,253	12	34	35%	2	3	57%
Rochester, New York	RONY	2,930	10	34	28%	2	3	63%
Portland, Maine	PORM	4,223	9	34	24%	1	3	27%
Lafayette, Louisiana	LALO	2,134	35	45	77%	4	4	100%
Worcester, Massachusetts	WOR	2,315	22	45	47%	4	4	85%
Venice, Florida	VEN	1,664	16	45	34%	2	4	45%
St. Petersburg, Florida	TSP	2,091	22	45	48%	3	4	68%
Fall River, Massachusetts	FRMA	3,208	11	34	31%	3	3	70%
Green Bay, Wisconsin	GBWI	2,757	20	34	58%	2	3	67%
Palm Beach, Florida	PBFL	2,257	10	45	21%	2	4	38%
Wilmington, Delaware	WIL	3,038	9	34	24%	1	3	17%
Raleigh, North Carolina	RDU	2,104	22	34	65%	2	3	67%
Richmond, Virginia	RIC	1,613	27	45	59%	3	4	53%
Omaha, Nebraska	OMA	1,809	25	34	72%	2	3	67%
Stockton, California	STKN	3,277	7	34	19%	1	3	33%
Norwich, Connecticut	NOCT	3,385	8	22	33%	2	2	60%
Oklahoma City, Oklahoma	OKC	1,935	20	34	57%	2	3	63%
Charleston, South Carolina	CHSC	1,724	17	34	50%	2	3	37%
Boise, Idaho	BOI	3,535	10	22	43%	1	2	40%
Corpus Christi, Texas	CCTX	3,991	11	22	47%	2	2	65%

\* See formulas for calculations in the appendix.

(ARCH)DIOCESE	Diocese Abbrev.	Parishioners Each Active Priest Serves 2014-2023	Seminarian Average 2014-2023	Seminarians Needed 2023**	% of Total Seminarians 2014-2023 vs. Need**	Priestly Ordination Avg 2014-2023	Priestly Ordinations Needed 2023*	On Avg % Ordained vs Need 2014-2023
Indianapolis, Indiana	IND	1,925	25	34	72%	2	3	67%
Santa Rosa, California	SRO	3,388	7	22	31%	1	2	35%
Allentown, Pennsylvania	ALPA	2,205	16	34	46%	2	3	57%
Manchester, New Hampshire	MANH	2,066	12	34	35%	2	3	47%
Baton Rouge, Louisiana	BTR	3,174	15	22	65%	2	2	80%
Harrisburg, Pennsylvania	HAPA	2,014	25	34	74%	4	3	110%
Colorado Springs, Colorado	CSCO	3,564	13	22	54%	2	2	65%
Erie, Pennsylvania	ERIE	1,763	12	34	34%	2	3	60%
Syracuse, New York	SYR	1,959	11	34	31%	2	3	47%
Dubuque, Iowa	DUB	2,105	20	34	58%	3	3	83%
Yakima, Washington	YAK	3,335	11	22	46%	2	2	55%
Grand Rapids, Michigan	GRMI	2,385	24	22	104%	3	2	105%
Kansas City, Kansas	KCKS	1,794	28	34	81%	3	3	87%
Gary, Indiana	GARY	2,862	11	22	47%	2	2	60%
Lansing, Michigan	LAN	1,918	26	34	76%	3	3	80%
Little Rock, Arkansas	LIT	1,482	31	34	90%	5	3	143%
Louisville, Kentucky	LOU	1,874	15	34	44%	2	3	67%
Spokane, Washington	SPOK	2,541	6	22	25%	2	2	80%
St. Augustine, Florida	SAFL	1,589	25	34	74%	2	3	67%

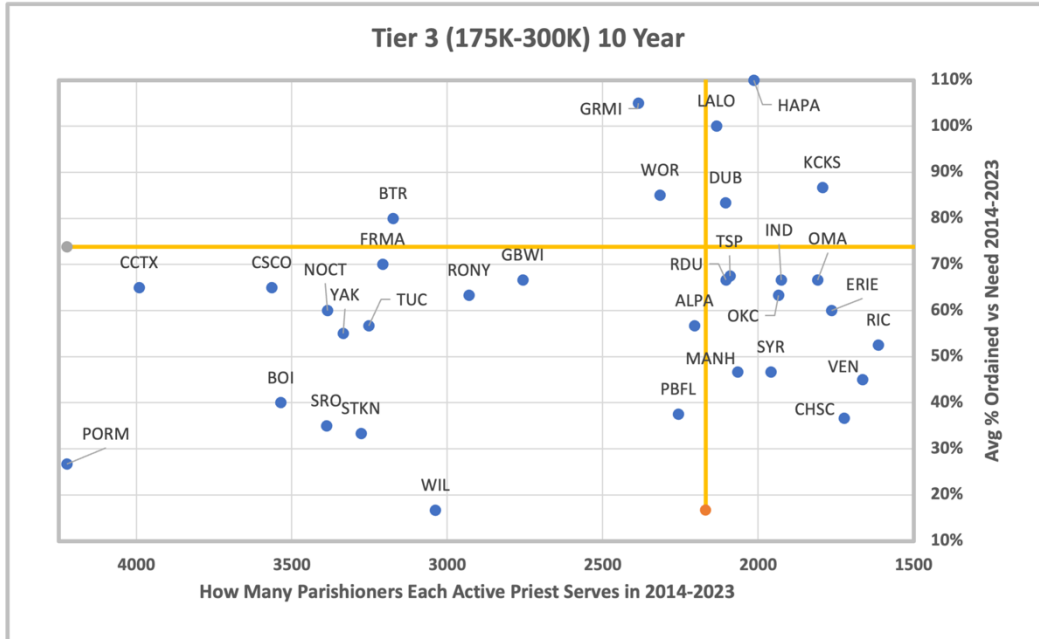
\* See formulas for calculations in the appendix.

(ARCH)DIOCESE	Diocese Abbrev.	Parishioners Each Active Priest Serves 2014-2023	Seminarian Average 2014-2023	Seminarians Needed 2023**	% of Total Seminarians 2014-2023 vs. Need**	Priestly Ordination Avg 2014-2023	Priestly Ordinations Needed 2023*	On Avg % Ordained vs Need 2014-2023
Springfield, Massachusetts	SPMA	1,770	8	34	21%	2	3	50%
Madison, Wisconsin	MAD	2,154	23	34	66%	4	3	103%
Honolulu, Hawaii	HON	1,718	11	34	32%	1	3	33%
Fort Wayne-South Bend, Indiana	SBN	1,440	26	34	76%	4	3	123%
Lubbock, Texas	LUB	2,590	6	22	25%	1	2	25%
Peoria, Illinois	PEO	1,004	19	34	56%	3	3	83%
Youngstown, Ohio	YOU	1,945	16	22	68%	2	2	95%
Birmingham, Alabama	BHM	1,313	11	34	31%	1	3	20%
La Crosse, Wisconsin	LCWI	1,299	22	34	63%	3	3	90%
Tyler, Texas	TYTX	1,592	15	22	65%	2	2	100%
San Angelo, Texas	SJT	1,902	10	22	44%	2	2	80%
St. Cloud, Minnesota	STC	1,765	15	22	65%	2	2	70%
Winona-Rochester, Minnesota	WIN	2,027	18	22	78%	1	2	40%
Springfield, Illinois	SPIL	1,312	20	22	88%	4	2	160%
Greensburg, Pennsylvania	GRPA	1,831	7	22	30%	1	2	45%
Kansas City- St. Joseph, Missouri	KCMO	1,423	24	22	106%	3	2	150%
Nashville, Tennessee	NASH	1,125	25	22	111%	4	2	170%
Wichita, Kansas	WIC	1,112	44	22	195%	6	2	255%
Mobile, Alabama	MOB	1,125	18	22	77%	2	2	60%
Gallup, New Mexico	GAL	1,814	3	22	12%	1	2	35%
Des Moines, Iowa	DSM	1,506	19	22	82%	2	2	90%
Sioux Falls, South Dakota	SFSD	1,318	20	22	89%	3	2	115%

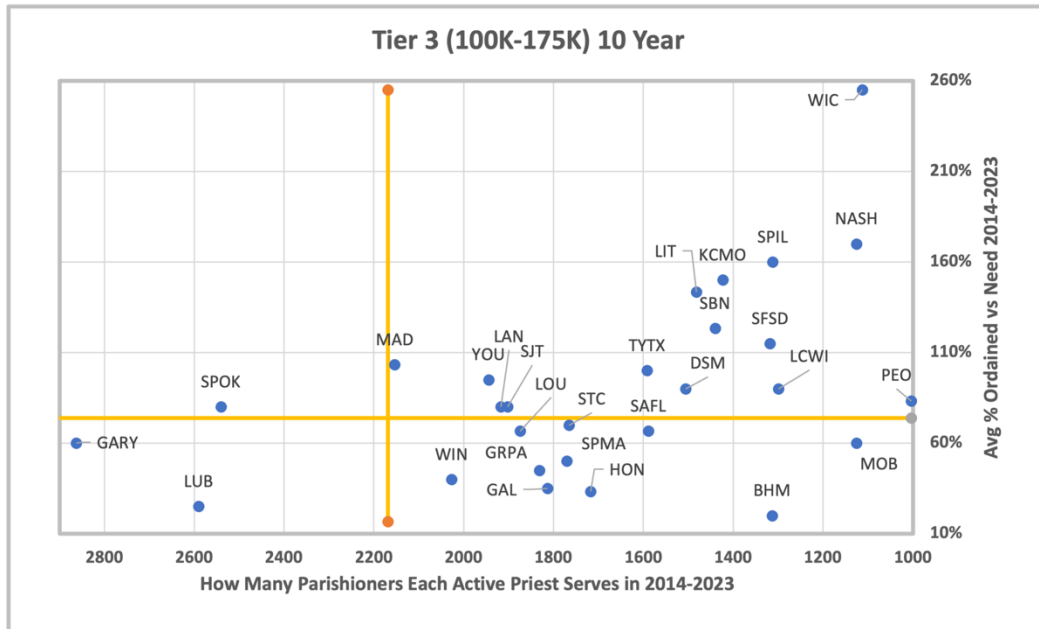
\* See formulas for calculations in the appendix.



**Tier 3**  
**10-Year Quadrant Analysis**  
**175,000-300,000**



**Tier 3**  
**100,000-175,000**





### Tier 3– Quadrant Analysis

These Quadrant Charts are graphs of “How Many Parishioners Each Active Priest Serves” compared to “Average Ordination Rate vs. Need”. Each dot on these charts represents the data for a diocese. The vertical and horizontal orange lines provide the overall averages for all the dioceses in their group. Let’s define what each quadrant represents:

#### Upper Right Quadrant-

**Current Situation:** The dioceses in this quadrant generally have good numbers of active priests and smaller numbers of parishioners that each priest serves. Ordinations are relatively high compared to the other dioceses in the demographic group. Since each priest serves smaller numbers, access to priests is greater, and relationship potential, which has been shown to be necessary for the development of vocations, is more possible.

**Future Situation:** The dioceses in this quadrant, even though it may not be ordaining as many as it would like, is in the best situation of all the quadrants heading forward. Since ordination rates are higher, and the replacement of existing priests is ongoing, as we approach the high retirement rates of baby boomer priests, this group will most likely handle this situation the best of the four quadrants.

#### Upper Left Quadrant-

**Current Situation:** The dioceses in this quadrant generally have smaller numbers of active priests and large numbers of parishioners that each priest serves. This reason can be different in the tiers. Some dioceses are Catholic population dense in a smaller geographic area; others may simply have a small number of priests serving very large numbers of parishioners. Either way, the result is that access to priests is reduced. We generally see very few dioceses in the quadrant, which means it is almost impossible to develop a strong, nurturing vocational environment. This doesn’t mean that individual parishes are not able to do this successfully, but dioceses that average high parishioner numbers have found it almost impossible to generate more than 60% of the ordinations needed in this quadrant.

**Future Situation:** Since there are very few dioceses in this quadrant with a high number of parishioners that each priest serves and a high ordination rate, it’s hard to see a model that shows us what success looks like.

#### Bottom Right Quadrant-

**Current Situation:** The dioceses in this quadrant generally have good numbers of active priests and smaller numbers of parishioners that each priest serves. Ordinations are

relatively low compared to the other dioceses in the demographic group. Since each priest serves smaller numbers, access to priests is greater, and relationship potential, which has been shown to be necessary for the development of vocations, is more possible.

**Future Situation:** If the addressable steps are taken, it will take time to see positive change in these dioceses because of the number of years needed for priestly formation. But this group has all the tools and inputs necessary for revival at hand

#### Bottom Left Quadrant-

**Current Situation:** Dioceses in this quadrant are struggling in many cases with a lack of existing priests and each existing priest is serving large numbers of parishioners. Ordination rates are very low, compared to the other dioceses in their demographic group. With all the demands of handling these large parishes, priests are finding it very challenging to create a vocational environment to develop sustaining numbers of vocations to the priesthood. Therefore, very few ordinations are fostered in these dioceses.

**Future Situation:** The question is what changes can be made to make it possible to create a more vocational environment. The first step is awareness. Changes of some priorities from administrative to vocational are possible. Defining roles where religious priests, lay people, and retired religious can fill gaps to alleviate the situation outlined can help create a vocational environment.



### 10-Year Averages of Marriages

(ARCH)DIOCESE	Total Catholic Marriages 2014	Total Catholic Marriages 2015	Total Catholic Marriages 2016	Total Catholic Marriages 2017	Total Catholic Marriages 2018	Total Catholic Marriages 2019	Total Catholic Marriages 2020	Total Catholic Marriages 2021	Total Catholic Marriages 2022	Total Catholic Marriages 2023	Percent Change Over 10 Years
Tucson, Arizona	674	627	609	638	665	715	346	409	429	518	-0.6%
Rochester, New York	765	646	646	648	588	486	346	317	373	378	-42.3%
Portland, Maine	462	436	432	411	357	341	183	219	219	245	-68.1%
Lafayette, Louisiana	899	958	910	965	890	865	630	720	635	698	-20.8%
Worcester, Massachusetts	432	372	377	288	406	335	242	253	270	229	-43.1%
Venice, Florida	499	468	467	495	479	500	409	444	559	583	3.4%
St. Petersburg, Florida	821	845	845	921	880	846	764	573	634	754	56.3%
Fall River, Massachusetts	793	767	753	662	661	637	399	510	561	455	-35.4%
Green Bay, Wisconsin	913	995	911	842	785	830	565	557	573	483	-31.1%
Palm Beach, Florida	400	726	659	598	702	661	392	443	499	591	14.6%
Wilmington, Delaware	573	536	534	465	465	460	280	368	369	398	-31.8%
Raleigh, North Carolina	883	841	933	893	913	850	690	661	899	865	-10.4%
Richmond, Virginia	561	587	813	822	579	683	478	532	727	634	9.3%
Omaha, Nebraska	1,063	1,088	1,094	1,052	983	905	732	984	809	778	-31.0%
Stockton, California	771	844	762	750	847	795	503	480	681	671	-13.5%
Norwich, Connecticut	338	334	310	349	323	967	186	273	220	245	-27.6%
Oklahoma City, Oklahoma	518	629	568	549	615	603	618	534	534	434	-56.5%
Charleston, South Carolina	622	664	714	737	681	724	548	590	670	707	-0.6%
Boise, Idaho	478	414	460	436	509	413	312	361	384	368	-37.1%
Corpus Christi, Texas	501	550	540	537	450	467	304	316	311	235	-8.6%

\* See formulas for calculations in the appendix.

<b>(ARCH)DIOCESE</b>	<b>Total Catholic Marriages 2014</b>	<b>Total Catholic Marriages 2015</b>	<b>Total Catholic Marriages 2016</b>	<b>Total Catholic Marriages 2017</b>	<b>Total Catholic Marriages 2018</b>	<b>Total Catholic Marriages 2019</b>	<b>Total Catholic Marriages 2020</b>	<b>Total Catholic Marriages 2021</b>	<b>Total Catholic Marriages 2022</b>	<b>Total Catholic Marriages 2023</b>	<b>Percent Change Over 10 Years</b>
Indianapolis, Indiana	975	976	895	945	914	928	709	729	748	755	-16.0%
Santa Rosa, California	757	478	475	453	481	479	282	235	413	337	-61.2%
Allentown, Pennsylvania	505	480	456	442	443	549	393	302	377	394	-0.1%
Manchester, New Hampshire	427	489	484	430	407	369	299	333	340	320	-0.8%
Baton Rouge, Louisiana	620	662	659	655	624	537	484	507	533	534	-15.4%
Harrisburg, Pennsylvania	613	638	540	704	628	503	459	361	407	311	-37.8%
Colorado Springs, Colorado	200	222	207	194	229	165	131	182	206	194	-15.9%
Erie, Pennsylvania	515	431	405	373	391	340	230	215	216	226	-58.1%
Syracuse, New York	866	769	773	748	724	580	405	364	450	410	-38.4%
Dubuque, Iowa	737	767	707	686	785	634	548	551	508	504	-26.9%
Yakima, Washington	389	403	383	277	412	392	171	319	317	315	-67.6%
Grand Rapids, Michigan	597	607	605	958	593	576	448	468	483	428	-21.7%
Kansas City, Kansas	891	789	868	807	790	737	622	568	656	633	-25.8%
Gary, Indiana	368	346	373	351	378	305	307	232	263	299	-11.4%
Lansing, Michigan	702	672	690	633	610	571	451	515	479	466	-23.4%
Little Rock, Arkansas	527	564	541	541	529	508	404	457	475	407	-32.0%
Louisville, Kentucky	589	555	580	564	493	324	388	347	369	384	-25.7%
Spokane, Washington	287	218	246	253	257	236	182	180	195	203	-51.6%
St. Augustine, Florida	436	411	488	489	494	461	362	368	452	424	-1.9%
Springfield, Massachusetts	420	424	384	384	369	311	210	232	232	236	-25.3%

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Madison, Wisconsin	570	467	468	499	462	474	383	346	332	328	8.3%
Honolulu, Hawaii	449	400	483	480	392	420	294	220	225	271	-33.3%
Fort Wayne-South Bend, Indiana	757	751	724	714	618	604	561	585	608	532	-21.4%
Lubbock, Texas	219	219	193	215	175	175	175	175	45	51	-77.0%
Peoria, Illinois	687	623	750	621	597	333	353	400	398	466	-25.7%
Youngstown, Ohio	612	544	558	491	491	445	294	356	344	330	-29.0%
Birmingham, Alabama	370	387	420	420	768	357	381	410	414	443	-9.2%
La Crosse, Wisconsin	622	622	518	499	499	440	334	369	332	328	-29.3%
Tyler, Texas	270	362	324	482	350	309	215	310	295	314	15.6%
San Angelo, Texas	423	394	397	373	357	346	253	269	250	300	-55.5%
St. Cloud, Minnesota	550	488	525	467	440	457	440	340	337	340	-30.0%
Winona-Rochester, Minnesota	353	369	383	369	346	314	249	208	221	218	-27.2%
Springfield, Illinois	572	545	528	560	475	405	385	332	316	265	-44.0%
Greensburg, Pennsylvania	487	450	478	424	557	402	293	335	303	309	-17.1%
Kansas City- St. Joseph, Missouri	639	603	624	681	698	561	467	490	498	497	-13.3%
Nashville, Tennessee	420	395	444	450	416	400	337	377	454	462	-19.6%
Wichita, Kansas	680	634	607	597	578	504	479	420	462	462	-30.3%
Mobile, Alabama	261	297	282	298	285	289	279	214	280	311	-21.9%
Gallup, New Mexico	107	109	123	113	123	87	87	53	63	75	-59.0%
Des Moines, Iowa	445	420	414	400	403	390	315	316	323	286	-37.8%
Sioux Falls, South Dakota	475	408	381	381	477	443	337	434	393	393	-8.7%

\* See formulas for calculations in the appendix.



## Appendix

### Formulas Used for This Report

**Base Need Ordination Rate**—To determine how many ordinations are needed by dioceses, Vocation Ministry used the average of two factors:

1. Population Factor equals one ordination per 120,000 Catholics in a diocese
2. Replacement Rate of Priests (see below).

**Replacement Rate of Priests**—The replacement rate of priests is the number of ordinations needed annually simply to replace the current number of priests in a diocese. The rate used in this report is 2.7 percent. This rate was arrived at by determining the average years of ministry for priests in the US.

Subtracting the average ordination age of priests (34) from the average retirement age (71), the average length of ministry is 37 years. Considering a priest's length of ministry to be a unit, divide that unit by the number of years. Thus, the annual rate of replacement necessary to retain the current number of priests over a given time period ( $1/37 = 0.027$  or 2.7%).

Thus, if a diocese has 83 priests, each year they will need to ordain an average of 2.241 ( $83 * 0.027$ ) new priests yearly just to replace the current number as they retire.

Depending on a diocese's particular need, a higher replacement rate may be necessary. This calculation does not include other factors of attrition which may cause a decrease in priests, such as a higher than the average normal rate of retirement.

**Base Need Seminarian Rate**—To determine the number of seminarians needed, the Base Need Ordination Rate was multiplied by the average length of seminary formation (seven years), then increased by the average discern-out rate of 40 percent.

**Priestly Availability Index** —  $((\text{Total Active Priests})/(\text{Total Catholics in Diocese}/\text{Total Parishes in Diocese}))*1000$

**Total Catholic Marriages**—To determine the number of total Catholic marriages, the number of marriages between two Catholics is added to the number of interfaith marriages (one spouse is Catholic, and one is of a different faith).