



Religion in Bradford

At a glance:

- The proportion of people who identify themselves as Christian has fallen since the 2001 Census, but is still the largest religious group in Bradford District. Proportions fell from 60% in 2001 to 46% in 2011
- Nearly one quarter of Bradford's population identified themselves as Muslim – the second largest group and an increase of eight percentage points since 2001. Bradford District has the fourth highest proportion of Muslims in England
- Just over one fifth of the District's population (21%) stated that they had no religion – an increase from 13% in 2001, but lower than regional and national figures
- The question about religion was voluntary and 6% of the District's population chose not to give an answer

Introduction

The latest available data about religion is taken from the 2011 Census and will be updated when the next Census takes place in 2021. The question about religion is voluntary.

Main findings

When compared to the 2001 Census, the results of the 2011 Census show an increase in the proportion of people who identified themselves as Muslim and a decrease in the proportion of people who identified themselves as Christian. There has also been an increase in the proportion of people who state that they have no religion. Other religious groups showed smaller changes in their proportions.

	Bradford 2001		Bradford 2011		West Yorkshire	Yorkshire & Humber	England
	Number	%	Number	%	%	%	%
No religion	62,226	13.3	108,027	20.7	25.1	25.9	24.7
Christian	281,236	60.1	239,843	45.9	54.6	59.5	59.4
Buddhist	537	0.1	1,000	0.2	0.3	0.3	0.5
Hindu	4,457	1.0	4,882	0.9	0.7	0.5	1.5
Jewish	356	0.1	299	0.1	0.3	0.2	0.5
Muslim	75,188	16.1	129,041	24.7	11.3	6.2	5.0
Sikh	4,748	1.0	5,125	1.0	0.8	0.4	0.8
Any other religion	996	0.2	1,686	0.3	0.3	0.3	0.4
Religion not stated	37,921	8.1	32,549	6.2	6.6	6.8	7.2

Source: ONS Census 2011 table KS209EW

Lower proportions of Bradford's population identified themselves as Christian, Buddhist or Jewish than regionally or nationally.

Lower proportions of the District's population did not state their religion or had no religion than regionally or nationally.

A higher proportion of the District's population identified themselves as Muslims than regionally or nationally. Excluding the inner and outer London boroughs, Bradford has the second highest proportion of Muslims after Blackburn and Darwen (27%).

The 2011 Census also includes a number of tables which include more than one variable. For religion it is also possible to look at a number of other variables, examples include – country of birth, age, sex and ethnicity.

Religion by country of birth

83% of the District's population was born in the UK and 10% was born in Southern Asia and 3% was born in other European countries.

90% of Christians living in the District were born in the UK, 6% were born in other European countries and 2% were born in Africa.

60% of Muslims living in the District were born in the UK, 34% were born in Southern Asia, 2% were born in the Middle East and 2% were born in Africa

48% of Hindus living in the District were born in Southern Africa, 38% were born in the UK and 13% were born in Africa.

Data sources and further information

Source: ONS 2001 and 2011 Census

Link: www.nomisweb.co.uk/census/2001

www.nomisweb.co.uk/census/2011

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www.bradford.gov.uk

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