Who Are American Muslims?

ZAIN ABDULLAH
Author and professor of religion and Islamic studies
“I write stories about the Black experience and the human condition, and storytelling is what makes us most human.”

NUR ZEINOMAR
Cancer epidemiologist who studies breast cancer
“Scientists are like artists because we have to take so much rejection. It’s creative; we have to think outside the box.”

MOHAMED BAHI
Founder and director of Muslims Giving Back, a volunteer effort in Sunset Park, Brooklyn
“We are part of the community. We are part of this country and [its] citizens.”

AIZZAH FATIMA
Writer, playwright, and actress
“The writers, after I got cast, came to me, ‘You know we’d like to hear about your life, and where you come from, and what that’s like for you, so we can tell a better, nuanced story.’ I feel like that was a true collaboration.”

Muslims are America’s most ethnically diverse faith community.

American Muslim women surpass American Muslim men in education.

73% of Muslim women have a post-high school education

57% of Muslim men have a post-high school education

DEMOGRAPHICS

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American Muslims believe that **jobs and the economy** are the most important issues facing our country today. This is followed by **civil rights** and **education**.

American Muslims contribute to the American economy. In the state of Michigan alone, where American Muslims make up just 2.75% of the population, each year they contribute:

- **$5.5 BILLION** to the economy in consumer spending (20% more than the average American household)
- More than **100,000 JOBS**
- **$177 MILLION** in chartable giving (18% more than the average American household)

**AMERICAN FAITH GROUPS SHARE STRONG RELIGIOUS AND AMERICAN IDENTITIES**

Being American is very important to people who have strong religious identities. American Muslims, Jews, Catholics, and Protestants similarly identify strongly with their religious identities and with their American identities. All of these groups report similar levels of agreement that “being American is very important to the way I think of myself.”

- Muslims with strong religious identities are more likely to have strong American identities.
- American Muslims who attend a mosque more frequently are more civically engaged.
- Most American Muslims, Protestants, Catholics, and Jews believe that religion should not be a source of the law.

American Muslims are the faith group that is most likely to reject military attacks on civilians.

Roughly **2 in 5** American Muslim families report their children were bullied in the previous year because of their faith.

That’s more than any other faith group studied. One quarter of the bullies in these incidents were teachers or administrators.

Across faiths, people—American Muslims, Catholics, Protestants, Jews, and others—report facing similar social challenges.

These challenges include:

- **RACISM**: Across faiths, Black Americans are equally likely to experience racism from within their own faith communities.
- **DOMESTIC VIOLENCE**: Across faith communities, 13–17% of people know someone from their faith community who was the victim of domestic violence (with the exception of a lower percentage, 7%, in the Jewish community).