



ENCYCLOPEDIA OF WOMEN AND ISLAMIC CULTURES

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EWIC Staff Report: Frequently Asked Questions: Population

Do most of the world's Muslims live in South Asia?¹

Yes, the majority of the world's Muslim population lives in South Asia. The South Asian countries of Pakistan, India, Bangladesh, Afghanistan and Sri Lanka all have significant Muslim populations making this region home to the largest concentration of Muslims in the world. Pakistan is 96.4% Muslim, India 14.4%, Bangladesh 89.8%, Afghanistan 99.8%, and Sri Lanka 8.5%.

Which three countries in the world have the largest Muslim populations?²

Indonesia has the world's largest Muslim population, 209 million.

India has the world's second largest, 177 million.

Pakistan has third largest, 167 million.

Which Middle East/ North African countries are Muslim-majority?³

Algeria, Egypt, Iraq, Jordan, Kuwait, Libya, Morocco, Palestinian territories, Saudi Arabia, Tunisia, Western Sahara and Yemen are home to populations that are 95% Muslim or greater. The countries of the Middle East/North Africa region are home to around 20% of the global Muslim population.

Which Sub-Saharan African countries have Muslim-majority populations?⁴

Mauritania, Niger, and Somalia have populations that are 99% Muslim. Djibouti, Senegal, Gambia, Mali, have Muslim populations of 90% or greater. Overall Sub-Saharan Africa represents about 4% of the global Muslim population.

What is the projected global number of Muslims for 2050?⁵

The projected global number of Muslims for 2050 is 2.8 billion.

How many Muslims live in the United States?⁶

According to Pew Research Center there is an estimate of 3.3 million Muslims in the United States. Muslims in the United States account for 1% of the population.

¹ <http://www.pewforum.org/2011/01/27/table-muslim-population-by-country/>

² http://www.pewforum.org/2015/04/02/muslims/pf_15-04-02_projectionstables74/

³ <http://www.pewforum.org/2011/01/27/future-of-the-global-muslim-population-regional-sub-saharan-africa/>

⁴ <http://www.pewforum.org/files/2011/01/FutureGlobalMuslimPopulation-WebPDF-Feb10.pdf>

⁵ http://www.pewforum.org/2015/04/02/muslims/pf_15-04-02_projectionstables70/

⁶ <http://www.pewresearch.org/fact-tank/2016/01/06/a-new-estimate-of-the-u-s-muslim-population/>