

### Muslim Students in American Universities

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#### EWIC Staff: Datasheet

- ❖ There are 8 million Muslims in North America; 7 million in the U.S. and 1 million in Canada. The annual growth rate for Muslims is 6%.<sup>1</sup>
- ❖ Sixty-seven percent of adult American Muslims are under the age of 40. American Muslims are young compared to the average American; 67% of adult Americans are over the age of 40.<sup>1</sup>
- ❖ American Muslims are generally better educated than the average American. Sixty-seven percent of American Muslims have a bachelor's degree or higher; whereas 44% of Americans have a bachelor's degree or higher.<sup>1</sup>
- ❖ Fourteen percent of American Muslims have a graduate degree. Twenty-three percent have some college education.<sup>2</sup>
- ❖ Muslim immigration to the States after WWII was mostly in pursuit of college degrees and higher education.<sup>3</sup>
- ❖ MSA National, the Muslim Student Association of U.S. and Canada, was established in 1963 and continues to serve Muslim Students in their efforts to develop and maintain local MSA chapters at universities across the continent.<sup>4</sup>
- ❖ In recent years, many universities have created prayer rooms and installed foot-baths to accommodate Muslim students.<sup>5</sup>
- ❖ Some universities have put Eid-ul-Fitr on their calendar as a holiday while others acknowledge Muslim holidays by allowing students to make up missed assignments for Eid.<sup>6</sup>

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<sup>1</sup> <http://www.allied-media.com/AM/>

<sup>2</sup> <http://iraq.usembassy.gov/resources/information/current/american/statistical.html>

<sup>3</sup> <http://www.cfr.org/united-states/muslims-united-states/p25927>

<sup>4</sup> <http://msanational.org/old/about-us/>

<sup>5</sup> [http://www.nytimes.com/2007/08/07/world/americas/07iht-muslims.4.7022566.html?\\_r=0](http://www.nytimes.com/2007/08/07/world/americas/07iht-muslims.4.7022566.html?_r=0)

<sup>6</sup> <http://www.universitybusiness.com/article/accommodations-muslim-students-universities>