

UK Mosque Statistics / Masjid Statistics

as at 16 Sep 2017

Derived from data listed in the Mosques.MuslimsInBritain.org/Maps.php Directory.

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Where appropriate, corresponding figures for the previous statistical summary are provided alongside for comparison.

1 Directory Quality

This section is intended to provide a view of the quality and accuracy of the data that has been collected to provide the MuslimsInBritain.org directory of masjids, and to provide the statistical analysis in subsequent sections below.

1.1 Marker Position Accuracy

This table shows the appropriate level of confidence that the actual premises have been located and are distinct in e.g. Google Streetview or on a Satnav display.

Landmark (PoI) Accuracy	Number of masjids marked	2015 data
Within 2 metres	1766	1559
Within 5 metres	40	22
Within 10 metres	55	47
Within 20 metres	35	32
Within 30 metres	26	17
Within 50 metres	13	3
By postcode only	40	63
Total active masjid and prayer room landmarks	1975	1743

Locations pinpointed within 2 metres mean that, where Google Streetview is available, this will provide a direct illustration of the masjid, and Satnavs should provide precise navigation.

1.2 Photographs

Whenever the opportunity arises, photographs are collected, of the outside, entrance-way including obstacles or step-free accesses, main musallah, wudhu facilities and other features that allow users to identify the circumstances of the masjid. MuslimsInBritain.org does not use photographs harvested from other websites without permission; photos demonstrate first-hand knowledge of the premises. The aim is to provide a minimum of 3 pictures for each masjid - the outside, making it readily identifiable, the musallah (main prayer room) and the wudhu (washing) room, so that users can judge the size and state of upkeep for themselves.

Photo Status	Total	2015 Total
Completed and current	354	211
Outside only, or old	252	243
So far no pictures	1369	1289
Total active masjids and prayer rooms	1975	1743

1.2 Descriptive Data Confidence

The aim is to provide a reliability guide to the data in the directory. This is work in progress and directory entries are steadily improving to the top two categories.

Data Confidence	Number of masjids marked	2015 data
A: Recent and reviewed first hand knowledge.	900	836
B: Well established with plenty of corroboration.	735	603
C: Established, but single source of information.	294	233
D: Several sources of information, none recent or reliable.	39	46
E: Information from a single old or unreliable source.	7	23
F: Treat with caution - may not exist.	0	2
Total active masjids and prayer rooms	1975	1743

1.4 Political Boundary Data Completeness

The Borough, Ward and Constituency of each masjid is recorded for a mixture of reasons:

- It is a searchable field, allowing you to find a set of masjids in a given area.
- It is a grouping field, allowing the results to be grouped geographically.
- Wards are used as administrative boundaries for a lot of local authority, education and policing purposes.

Having this information to hand permits Muslims to more easily find their relevant points of contact in these administrative entities, and reciprocally, administrative bodies can more readily find the Muslim entities in the areas for which they are responsible. In terms of the general ethos of this website, we actively encourage dialogue and political engagement and this is one way of assisting that aim. The MuslimsInBritain.org directory permits users to identify all the masjids in a given borough or constituency; or to identify all the geographical entities within which any masjid falls.

Political Boundary Status	Total	2015 Total
Recorded	1975	1743

2 Masjid Institutions, Issues and Demographics

2.1 Masjids and Other Premises used for Salaah

Note that there are slight discrepancies between this data and the other summaries, because this uses a hybrid data set, e.g. if a Hired Hall is hired by a Bareilvi-oriented group, it will be included in the totals under "Masjid Theme" in table 2.4, even though it is not a masjid, but will be a "Hired Hall" in this table. No attempt has been made to gather full figures for "Still under construction" and "Planned or proposed" categories, as data is not easily obtained, and many propositions may be tenuous or short-lived. These categories are more of an aid to retain data on the cases that have remained half-built for a long time due to shortage of funds, or places that have attracted public interest often through misconception.

Type of Premises used for Salaah/Worship	Total	2015 Totals	Explanation
Actual masjids	1825	1640	Places established as masjids, "mosques".
Hired halls	131	81	Halls hired for Friday jumu'ah salaah. This is substantially under-reported as arrangements are very localised and often short-term.

General use prayer rooms	55	42	Public and communal rooms set aside for salaah and personal contemplative activities.
Chaplaincies	46	29	Institutional places with facilities for salaah
Temporary premises	8	1	Masjids in use while projects nearby are completed.
Still under construction	11	5	Significant masjid projects started, not yet open.
Planned or proposed	3	4	Significant masjid projects proposed but unstarted
Defunct premises, no longer used as masjid	432	344	Includes former hired halls, places once proposed as masjids and also madrassahs that were formerly used as masjids.
Total landmarks	2511	2159	

2.2 Charity Commission and Scottish Charity Commission Links

This work is in progress - many masjids are registered charities whose Reg Number MiB.org has not yet recorded. The Charity Commission estimates that approximately 600 masjids are registered charities.

	2017 data		2015 data	
Listed Masjids with Charity Commission Report: Register of Charities (England & Wales)	492	out of 1869 i.e. 26.3% are registered charities	463	out of 1760 i.e. 26% are registered charities
Listed Masjids with Charity Commission Report: Scottish Register of Charities	20	out of 93 i.e. 21.5% are registered charities	18	out of 79 i.e. 22% are registered charities

2.3 Masjids and Other Premises by Nation, UK and Eire

Region	Number of Masjids 2017 data	Number of Masjids 2015 data
1 England	1836	1716
2 Wales	46	39
3 Scotland	87	73
4 Northern Ireland	4	4
5 Offshore Islands	2	2
6 Republic of Ireland	31	31

2.4 Faction, Firqa, Affiliation

Excluded from this table:

- (i) masjids for which data confidence (Table 1.3 above) rates E or F, as obviously having low confidence in the base data makes for even lower confidence in the masjid's firqa;
- (ii) masjids planned or proposed (Table 1.5 above);
- (iii) chaplaincies and similar communal facilities with no formal imam or whose management is not within the Muslim community;
- (iv) Eire data is omitted in all the statistics except where stated.

Included in this table:

- (i) "Actual Masjids", "Still Under Construction", "Hired Halls", "Temporary" (from table 1.5 above)
- (ii) masjids with 'Unknown' themes have been divided pro rata;
- (iii) organisers of ad hoc prayer arrangements such as halls hired for Jumu'ah that follow an exclusive theme.

Very few UK masjids have a congregation that is not doctrinally diverse, and there is a certain taboo associated with naming a particular masjid as being of a particular factional denomination. The idea of such denominations is often considered offensive: within it is an implication of the *firqa an-najaat*, the successful faction, in reference to a *hadith* which described all but that one (described as 'the people of my *Sunnah* and my Community' – the *ahl as-Sunnah wa'al Jama'ah*) as being destined for hellfire. However taboo it may be, firstly it is overwhelmingly obvious to any but a very casually observant Muslim that any particular masjid is very clearly an adherent of a particular body of thought such as, for South Asian dominated communities, the Deobandis or the Bareilvis. Secondly the fact of such allegiances not being freely discussed, challenged and opened to a plural community, is a major inhibitor of Muslim community leadership development.

MuslimsInBritain.org is keen to call it out and encourage a more tolerant and plural environment within UK masjids. We believe opening up diverse and mutually respectful debate is the necessary first step before it becomes possible to isolate extremists and exclude them from the same hinterland that is occupied by the large numbers of congregants that themselves don't adhere to their masjid's dominant *firqa*.

Some of the 'thematic' terms are peculiar to MuslimsInBritain.org and stem from our analysis nuanced by the objective above. So "Idiosyncratic or Modernist" does not mean liberal or tolerant, it means determinedly adopting a position that adherents of most conventional Islamic practice would not recognise. "Exclusive unaffiliated Sunni" covers masjids that recognise that factionalism is a problem, but tackle it by denying any opportunity to address anything that is either for or against individual *firqas*. "Inclusive unaffiliated Sunni" is the opposite, and for Sunnis at least, a stylisation that MuslimsInBritain.org would be keen to promote.

Shi'a by contrast, do not have the same taboos over factions. Most observant Shi'a "Twelvers", *ithna-ashura*, tend to affiliate with individual imams of individual masjids.

Masjid 'Theme'	2017 Total	2017 % of Total	2015 Total	2015 % of Total	Annual % Change	
Deobandi	797	41.2%	725	42.5%	+36	5%
Bareilvi	459	23.7%	426	25.0%	+17	4%
Other Sufi	79	4.1%	63	3.7%	+8	13%
Salafi	182	9.4%	147	8.6%	+18	12%
Arabic or African Mainstream Sunni	60	3.1%	58	3.4%	+1	2%
Maudoodi-inspired, 'Islamic Movement'	51	2.6%	52	3.0%	-1	-1%
Ikhwaan	9	0.5%	8	0.5%	+1	6%
Ibadi	1	0.1%	<i>not distinguished in 2015 stats</i>			
Idiosyncratic or Modernist	4	0.2%	6	0.4%		
Exclusive unaffiliated Sunni	4	0.2%	<i>not distinguished in 2015 stats</i>			
Inclusive unaffiliated Sunni	6	0.3%	<i>not distinguished in 2015 stats</i>			
Shi'a, Twelvers and others	59	3.1%	72	4.2%	-1	-1%
Shi'a, Ismaili	45	2.3%	<i>most not recorded in 2015 stats</i>			
Shi'a, Bohra	9	0.5%	<i>not distinguished in 2015 stats</i>			
Non-denom prayer rooms etc	144	7.4%	127	7.4%		
Non-Muslim, Qadiani faith	25	1.3%	23	1.3%	+1	4%
Total active masjids and prayer rooms	1934	100%	1707	100%	+114	7%

2.5 Women's participation by Faction

From the data below, nearly three quarters of UK masjids have facilities for women, contrary to many suppositions. However many smaller masjids have very limited facilities for women. For some doctrines this is not an issue, e.g. women adhering to narrower versions of Deobandi practice may have no more desire to attend a masjid than to grow a beard. However the facilities available may for example only be available for Jumu'ah, or alternatively may be given over to men at Jumu'ah. They may or may not include women's toilets or ablutions, space may be inadequate or out of communication with the main musallah, or may be inaccessible to those with limited mobility.

Women in the Masjid, by Theme	% with women's facilities	Number of masjids in survey	% with women's facilities 2015 data	Number of masjids in survey 2015
Arabic or African Sunni mainstream	92%	49	92%	48
Bareilvi	84%	292	83%	288
Deobandi	49%	533	50%	507
Ikhwaan	75%	8	83%	6
Maudoodi-inspired, 'Islamic Movement'	95%	40	90%	40

Non-denom prayer rooms etc	99%	144	98%	62
Other Sufi	60%	43	59%	41
Salafi	96%	112	95%	102
Shi'a Ithna Ashura, Bohra, Ismaili etc.	100%	99	100%	44
Unknown theme	63%	146	59%	105
Overall figure	72%	1466	70%	1243

2.6 Women's participation by Management Ethnicity

Note that this is a count of masjids with some women's facilities, broken down by management committees' ethnicities, **not** a table of masjids with women's participation *in* management committees. The latter is extremely rare.

It is noteworthy that whereas women's presence in the masjid is normal in most Arab and Middle-Eastern countries and elsewhere except for the subcontinent of India, Pakistan and Bangladesh, where it is exceptional. This is reflected in the state of masjids in the UK as can be seen in the figures below. Note as in the preceding table, women's facilities may actually be minimal and not assured.

Management Ethnicity	% with womens facilities	In numbers	Number of masjids where Management Ethnicity is known	<i>In numbers, November 2015</i>
Afghan	25%	1 out of 4	5	1 / 3
Gujerati	35%	33 out of 92	121	32 / 89
Bangladeshi	43%	102 out of 236	285	96 / 226
Gujerati - Bharuchi	50%	1 out of 2	2	1 / 2
Arab - Maghrebi	66%	2 out of 3	4	2 / 4
Pakistani	79%	279 out of 353	485	268 / 337
Arab - Yemeni	83%	5 out of 6	7	5 / 6
Sahel - Somali, Eritrean etc.	88%	23 out of 26	37	23 / 25
Turkish	100%	14 out of 14	25	13 / 13
Arab - Egyptian	100%	5 out of 5	6	5 / 5
Sri Lankan	100%	5 out of 5	6	3 / 3
Iranian	100%	4 out of 4	5	3 / 3
Nigerian	100%	3 out of 3	3	2 / 2
West African	100%	3 out of 3	3	2 / 2
Arab - Qatari	100%	2 out of 2	3	2 / 2
Arab - Saudi	100%	2 out of 2	2	2 / 2
Arab - Saudi and others	100%	2 out of 2	2	2 / 2

Guyanese	100%	2 out of 2	3	2 / 2
Kurdish	100%	2 out of 2	4	
Mixed: Pakistani, Bangladeshi and Arab	100%	2 out of 2	2	2 / 2
Zanzibari	100%	1 out of 1	1	1 / 1
Afro-Caribbean	100%	1 out of 1	1	1 / 1
Albanian, Kosovar, others	100%	1 out of 1	1	1 / 1
Arab - Emirati	100%	1 out of 1	1	1 / 1
Arab - Iraqi	100%	1 out of 1	1	1 / 1
Arab - Lebanese	100%	1 out of 1	1	1 / 1
Arab - Syrian and others	100%	1 out of 1	1	1 / 1
Arab - Tunisian	100%	1 out of 1	1	1 / 1
Arab - Tunisian, Maghrebi	100%	1 out of 1	1	1 / 1
Arab - Yemeni, Gujerati	100%	1 out of 1	1	1 / 1
Arab - Yemeni, Syrian imam	100%	1 out of 1	1	1 / 1
Disputed	100%	1 out of 1	1	
European converts*	100%	1 out of 1	1	1 / 1
Ghanaian	100%	1 out of 1	1	1 / 1
Gujerati and Mauritian	100%	1 out of 1	1	1 / 1
Khoja Pakistanis and Indians	100%	1 out of 1	1	1 / 1
Kurdish and Iraqi	100%	1 out of 1	1	1 / 1
Mauritian	100%	1 out of 1	1	1 / 1
Mixed: 2 Gujerati, 1 Bangladeshi, 1 Pakistani, 1 African and 1 Arab	100%	1 out of 1	1	1 / 1
Mixed: Arab - Egyptian, Sudanese, others	100%	1 out of 1	1	1 / 1
Mixed: Arab - Maghrebi and Pakistani	100%	1 out of 1	1	1 / 1
Mixed: Bangladeshi, Pakistani, Arab - Maghrebi	100%	1 out of 1	1	1 / 1
Mixed: Bangladeshi, Pakistani, Somali	100%	1 out of 1	1	1 / 1
Mixed: Bangladeshi, Pakistani, Somali, Arab and others	100%	1 out of 1	1	1 / 1
Mixed: Bangladeshi, Pakistani, Sudanese and "Middle-Eastern"	100%	1 out of 1	1	1 / 1
Mixed: Bangladeshi, Somalian, Iranian, Algerian, Pakistanians, Indians and Arabs	100%	1 out of 1	1	1 / 1

Mixed: Maghrebi Arab, Asian, re/converts*	100%	1 out of 1	1	
Mixed: Nigerian, Malaysian, Bangladeshi, English revert*	100%	1 out of 1	1	1 / 1
Mixed: Pakistani (2), Afghan (2), Iraqi, Palestinian, South African, Kurdish (F), Moroccan (F)	100%	1 out of 1	1	1 / 1
Mixed: Pakistani (3), Libyan, English, Indian, Bangladeshi, Sri Lankan	100%	1 out of 1	1	1 / 1
Mixed: Pakistani and others including reverts*	100%	1 out of 1	1	1 / 1
Mixed: Pakistani mainly, other Asian and a Syrian.	100%	1 out of 1	1	1 / 1
Mixed: Pakistani, Bangladeshi, Somali	100%	1 out of 1	1	1 / 1
Mixed: Pakistani, Egyptian Arab imam and others	100%	1 out of 1	1	1 / 1
Mixed: Pakistani, Gujerati (imam), Bangladeshi, Somali	100%	1 out of 1	1	1 / 1
Mixed: Various including converts/reverts*	100%	1 out of 1	1	1 / 1
Mixed: Yemeni, Bangladeshi, Pakistani, Indian and other nationalities.	100%	1 out of 1	1	1 / 1
Nigerian, Somali	100%	1 out of 1	1	1 / 1
Somali and Arab - Maghrebi	100%	1 out of 1	1	1 / 1
Somali, Arab	100%	1 out of 1	1	1 / 1
Somali, Pakistani, Arab	100%	1 out of 1	1	1 / 1
Tamil	100%	1 out of 1	1	1 / 1
unspecified Asian/Arab	100%	1 out of 1	1	1 / 1

2.7 Umbrella Groups

a. Muslim Council of Britain	Number	out of UK Total	Fraction of Faction
Deobandi	80	797	10%
Maudoodi-inspired, 'Islamic Movement'	37	51	73%
Sufi - Bareilvi	25	459	5%
Other Sufi	2	79	3%
Salafi	12	182	7%
Ikhwaan	5	9	56%
Arabic or African Mainstream	11	60	18%
firqa not recorded	10	59	17%

Students	6		
Shi'a, Twelvers, Bohra or Ismaili	13	59	22%
multifaith	3		
defunct organisation	22		
Total	204	1765	12%
<i>Source: http://www.mcb.org.uk/about-mcb/affiliates/, MCB Affiliates accessed in September 2017, mapped onto MuslimsInBritain database.</i>			

b. British Muslim Forum	Number	out of UK Total	Fraction of Faction
Sufi – Bareilvi	214	459	47%
Other Sufi	6	79	8%
Deobandi	2	797	0%
firqa not recorded	7		
defunct organisation	13		
Total	242	1765	14%

*Source: BMF affiliates list published on now defunct website, accessed 12th May 2008 and mapped onto MuslimsInBritain database. A pirated version of this list is available at <http://www.urdustreet.com/english/mem.htm>. **BMF no longer publishes a list of affiliates, so the validity of this analysis after 2008 is questionable.***

c. Affiliated to both MCB and BMF	
10 Bareilvi, 2 not known and 1 defunct address	13

d. UK Islamic Mission	
Maudoodi-inspired, 'Islamic Movement'	39
defunct organisation	6
Deobandi	1
Total	46

Source: <http://www.ukim.org/branches>

e. Mosques & Imams National Advisory Board	Number	out of UK Total	Fraction of Faction
Masjids self-certified as conforming to one or more of MINAB's 5 standards			
Sufi – Bareilvi	53	459	12%
Maudoodi-inspired, 'Islamic Movement'	16	51	31%
Deobandi	10	797	1%
Arabic or African Mainstream	4	59	7%
Salafi	3	60	5%
firqa not recorded	1	59	2%
Ikhwaan	1	9	11%

defunct organisation	4		
Shi'a, Twelvers, Bohra or Ismaili	4	271	
Total	96	1765	5%

Source: <http://www.minab.org.uk/news/self-regulation-standards/135-minab-self-certification> . List of 113 includes 6 duplicate entries, 8 ambiguous or untraceable entries and 4 entries that are not masjids or madrassas. **Since May 2011 MINAB has removed its list of affiliates from the web, so the validity of this analysis is conjectural.** MINAB claims to represent "600 of the UK's 1500 mosques", but apart from the 103 that MINAB had listed, this figure is merely an aggregate of the total numbers of affiliates to its four principle stakeholders, the MCB, BMF, MAB and Al Khoei Foundation. The BMF has no constitutionally based affiliation membership and the MCB has under 200 masjids affiliated, and MINAB itself is at best the collective identity of a small number of spokespersons for these umbrella groups. Aside from goodwill and good intentions, it has minimal relationship with any masjid committee.

f. Jamiat Tabligh ul Islam	
Sufi - Bareilvi	21

g. Bradford Council of Mosques	Members	Bradford area Totals	
Sufi - Bareilvi*	29	45	64%
Arabic or African Mainstream	1	6	17%
Deobandi	20	28	71%
Salafi	4	7	57%
Shi'a, Twelvers, Bohra or Ismaili	4	4	100%
Maudoodi-inspired, 'Islamic Movement'	3	3	100%
Other Sufi	3	6	50%
defunct organisation	7	21	33%
firqa not recorded	1	6	17%
Total	72	126	

*Includes 19 Jamiat Tabligh ul Islam masjids under a single management.

h. Sufi Muslim Council	
no affiliates	0

i. Tower Hamlets Council of Mosques	Members	Tower Hamlets Totals	
Deobandi	28	31	90%
Sufi - Bareilvi	1	1	100%
Other Sufi	5	6	83%
Maudoodi-inspired, 'Islamic Movement'	2	2	100%
Salafi	1	3	33%
firqa not recorded	8	15	53%
defunct organisation	1		
Total	45	58	78%

2.8 Masjid Management by Geography

The following table describes numbers of masjids by their respective management committees' ethnicities, known for 1106 masjids. While it may help by emphasising the wide ethnic diversity of Muslims in Britain, it is important to note that in many cases the management committees are far from representative of their congregations. This is not in itself a problem, because the masjid thereby provides an entity around which a minor ethnic community can build while being supported in numbers by larger numbers of others of a more locally dominant ethnicity. However the stable goal should be to have diverse and representative managements, ultimately with ethnic distinctions fading away.

Some aspects of labelling of ethnicities appears quaint, if not jarring by current conventions, e.g. representing a single very notable masjid as being geographically associated with the Americas seems especially inappropriate since the management itself is very much latter generation with tenuous connections to its ethnic roots, and that same masjid is dominated by converts to Islam, converting in the UK. However that very case serves to highlight the opposite and prevailing situation, putting in perspective the overwhelming domination of South Asian influence in UK masjids' management, 86%. Adding to that the fact that most masjid managements are age-biased towards the elder generation, and that many masjids were founded as much to preserve mother-country culture as to provide a religious service, and the ethnic make-up takes on a much more challenging significance. Along with factionalism, one of the biggest alienating factors for Muslim youth and converts in the UK is the way in which masjids fail to meet their needs or interests, and through ethnic parochialism, how their adherents fail to be able to tackle the influence of extremism.

Region	Management	Masjids
Americas	Guyanese	3
	Afro-Caribbean	1
Americas	Regional Total	4 or 0.4%
Arabia and Levant	Arab – Emirati	1
	Arab – Iraqi	1
	Arab – Lebanese	1
	Arab - Syrian and others	1
	Arab - Yemeni, Gujerati	1
	Arab - Yemeni, Syrian imam	1
	Arab – Saudi	2
	Arab - Saudi and others	2
	Arab – Qatari	3
	Arab – Yemeni	7
Arabia and Levant	Regional Total	20 or 1.8%
East Africa & Sahel	East African	1
	Somali and Arab - Maghrebi	1
	Somali and Swahili	1
	Somali, Arab	1
	Somali, Pakistani, Arab	1
	Zanzibari	1
	Sahel - Somali, Eritrean etc.	39
East Africa &	Regional Total	45 or 4.1%

Sahel		
Europe & Asia Minor	Albanian, Kosovar, others	1
	Converts*	1
	Kurdish and Iraqi	1
	Kurdish and Pakistani	1
	European converts*	2
	Kosovan	2
	Kurdish	4
	Iranian	5
	Turkish	25
Europe & Asia Minor	Regional Total	42 or 3.8%
Indian subcontinent	Gujerati and Mauritian	1
	Indian	1
	Khoja Pakistanis and Indians	1
	Mauritian	1
	Sri Lankan, Pakistani, Gujerati	1
	Tamil	1
	Tamil, South Indian	1
	Gujerati - Bharuchi	2
	Gujerati - Surti	2
	Mixed: Bangladeshi, Gujerati and Pakistani	2
	Gujerati - Kokni	4
	Afghan	6
	Sri Lankan	7
	Gujerati mainly	16
	Bangladeshi mainly	20
	Pakistani mainly	22
	Gujerati	107
	Bangladeshi	285
	Pakistani	468
Indian subcontinent	Regional Total	948 or 85.7%
North Africa	Arab - Algerian	1
	Arab - Tunisian	1
	Arab - Tunisian, Maghrebi	1
	Mixed: Arab - Egyptian, Sudanese, others	1
	Arab - Maghrebi	4
	Arab - Egyptian	6
North Africa	Regional Total	14 or 1.3%
Various	Disputed	1
	Mixed: 2 Gujerati, 1 Bangladeshi, 1 Pakistani, 1 African and 1 Arab	1
	Mixed: Arab - Maghrebi and Pakistani	1
	Mixed: Arab - Yemeni, Somali, Pakistani	1
	Mixed: Bangladeshi, Pakistani, Arab - Maghrebi	1
	Mixed: Bangladeshi, Pakistani, Somali	1

	Mixed: Bangladeshi, Pakistani, Somali, Arab and others	1
	Mixed: Bangladeshi, Pakistani, Sudanese and "Middle-Eastern"	1
	Mixed: Bangladeshi, Somalian, Iranian, Algerian, Pakistanians, Indians and Arabs	1
	Mixed: Maghrebi Arab, Asian, re/converts*	1
	Mixed: Nigerian, Malaysian, Bangladeshi, English revert*	1
	Mixed: Pakistani (2), Afghan (2), Iraqi, Palestinian, South African, Kurdish (F), Moroccan (F)	1
	Mixed: Pakistani (3), Libyan, English, Indian, Bangladeshi, Sri Lankan	1
	Mixed: Pakistani and others including reverts*	1
	Mixed: Pakistani mainly, other Asian and a Syrian.	1
	Mixed: Pakistani, Bangladeshi, Somali	1
	Mixed: Pakistani, Egyptian Arab imam and others	1
	Mixed: Pakistani, Gujerati (imam), Bangladeshi, Somali	1
	Mixed: Sierra Leone, Bangladeshi, and others	1
	Mixed: Somali, Maghrebi, Pakistani, Bangladeshi, converts*	1
	Mixed: Sri Lanka, Gambia, Jordan, Nigeria, Egypt	1
	Mixed: Various including converts/reverts*	1
	Mixed: Yemeni, Bangladeshi, Pakistani, Indian and other nationalities.	1
	Mixed: Pakistani, Bangladeshi and Arab	2
Various	Regional Total	25 or 2.3%
West Africa	Ghanaian	1
	Nigerian, Somali	1
	Nigerian	3
	West African	3
West Africa	Regional Total	8 or 0.7%

3 Masjids by Capacity

3.1 Britain's Biggest Mosques

Mosque Name	Town	Size	theme
Al-Jamia Suffa-Tul-Islam Grand Mosque, Horton Park Avenue	Bradford	8000	Sufi - Bareilvi
Central Jamia Mosque Ghamkol Sharif, 150 Golden Hillock Road	Birmingham	6000	Sufi - Bareilvi
Birmingham Central Mosque, 180 Belgrave Middleway and 148-154 Berners Street	Birmingham	6000	Deobandi
Islamic Cultural Centre, 146 Park Road	London	5400	Arabic Sunni mainstream
Jamiyat Tabligh-ul-Islam, circa 177 Barkerend Road	Bradford	5200	Sufi - Bareilvi - Qadria Naushahia
East London Mosque & London Muslim Centre, 46-92 Whitechapel Road	London	5000	Maudoodi
Leeds Islamic Centre, 46-48 Spencer Place	Leeds	4700	Deobandi
Jamia al-Akbaria, 241 Selbourne Road	Luton	4700	Sufi - Bareilvi
Masjid-e-Jamia Al Madina, 133a Waterloo Road	Middlesbrough	4500	Sufi - Bareilvi
Jamia Masjid Ghousia, 2-10 Westbourne Road	Luton	4500	Sufi - Bareilvi

Markazi Masjid, South Street (south end)	Dewsbury	4000	Deobandi
Madni Jamia Masjid, 101 Thornbury Road	Bradford	4000	Sufi - Bareilvi
Jamia Masjid Ghosia, 439-451 Lea Bridge Road	London	4000	Sufi - Bareilvi
Islamic Da'wah Academy, Berners Street	Leicester	4000	Deobandi
Husseini Islamic Centre, 50 Wood Lane	London	4000	Shia - Twelvers
Jamiyat Tabligh-ul-Islam Mosque, 9 Darfield Street	Bradford	3800	Sufi - Bareilvi - Qadria Naushahia
Wolverhampton Mosque Trust, 197 Waterloo Road	Wolverhampton	3600	Deobandi
Makki Masjid, Wimberley Street	Blackburn	3500	Deobandi
Green Lane Masjid & Community Centre, 20 Green Lane	Birmingham	3500	Salafi
Al-Madina Mosque, 2 Victoria Road	London	3400	Sufi - Bareilvi
Markazi Jamia Masjid Bilal, Conway Road and Harehills Lane	Leeds	3200	Sufi - Bareilvi
Jamia Mosque, 51 Asfordby Street	Leicester	3200	Deobandi
Jamia Masjid, 59 Brick Lane	London	3200	Sufi - Fultoli
Greenwich Islamic Centre, 131 Plumstead Road	London	3200	Salafi
Masjid Ilyas, Riverine Centre Abbey Mills, Canning Road	London	3000	Deobandi
Manchester Central Mosque and Islamic Cultural Centre, 20 Upper Park Road	Manchester	3000	Sufi - Bareilvi
Jamia Masjid Bilal, Bulwer Street	Rochdale	3000	Sufi - Bareilvi
Hounslow Jamia Masjid & Islamic Centre, 367 Wellington Road South	London	3000	Sufi - Bareilvi
Faizan-e-Madina, 169-175 Gladstone Street	Peterborough	3000	Sufi - Bareilvi - Qadri Dawat-e-Islami
Croydon Masjid and Islamic Centre, 525 London Road	London	3000	Deobandi
Central Mosque Lanarkshire, 1-3 and 5 Clydesdale Street	Motherwell	3000	Deobandi
Baitul Futuh (Ahmadiyya world headquarters), 181 London Road	London	3000	Qadiani
<p><i>Baitul Futuh is promoted by the Ahmadiyya movement as "the largest mosque in Western Europe" based on a claim of a capacity of 10,500 worshippers. The Ahmadiyya have their own reasons for making this claim. But they admit that dedicated prayer space (on which all the above masjids' capacities is based) is 4,000. (http://www.baitulfutuh.org/construction/index.shtml) In fact the prayer space is comparable only to the larger masjids of circa 3,000 capacity, hence my adjusted figure of 3,000. By comparison, most larger masjids have substantial areas that are routinely used for salaah on Friday Jumu'ah, not to mention Eid and Tarawih salaahs. E.g. Regents Park Masjid (Islamic Cultural Centre) has a substantial concourse, large basement rooms and a big plaza, all of which are filled for Jumu'ah, more than doubling the 5,400 capacity dedicated prayer space.</i></p>			

3.2 Masjid size distribution

This table demonstrates that the overwhelming majority of UK masjids are small establishments. While 50 or 100 or 200 people sounds like a large gathering seated on chairs in formal rows, the arrangements of a masjid are primarily an open unobstructed space. Congregational worship, jama'ats of salaah, take place intentionally intimately close together, literally shoulder to shoulder in rows a metre apart. So a modest terraced-house-based masjid conversion can contain a hundred people, with another hundred in a makeshift lean-to extension in the back. This density may only occur on Friday lunchtimes, and may be far from what was supposed by planners and fire officers.

However it also means that very many masjids have little to distinguish them from their neighbourhoods.

Also noteworthy is the change between years – almost all the growth in numbers is at the lower end of the scale and most masjid growth is organic, through building extensions, knock-down and rebuild on the same site, or intermediate moves from smaller to slightly larger premises. “Mega-mosque” projects may make headlines, but are not the reality of Muslim neighbourhoods in the UK.

Capacity of Masjid	Number of masjids	Stereotype	2015 data
Less than 50 people	51	Typically houses and house conversions	35
50 to 100 people	276		200
101 to 200 people	300		236
201 to 300 people	279	Commercial conversions and some purpose-built	224
301 to 400 people	143		129
401 to 500 people	137		116
501 to 750 people	145		139
751 to 1000 people	99	Industrial conversions and some purpose-built	106
1001 to 2000 people	130		121
2001 to 4000 people	51		49
Greater than 4000 people	10		10
Capacity not yet recorded	117		216