

# England and Wales have data - Religion

## Main Lesson Answers

1. The population of England and Wales in 2011 was 56,075,912. Of this population 33,243,175 people defined their religion as Christian (59.3%). 71.7% of people defined their religion as Christian in 2001.

a) What factors do you think may have caused this decrease in the percentage of Christians in England and Wales?

Loss of faith in the Christian religion  
 Less people willing to admit their religion  
 More mixed religion relationships  
 Migration

b) Calculate the percentage of people in England and Wales that were non-religious in 2001 and 2011. What do you notice?

In 2001 14.8% were non-religious and 71.7% were Christian.  
 In 2011 25.1% were non-religious and 59.3% were Christian.

If we add these percentages together for Christian and non-religious:

$14.8\% + 71.7\% = 86.5\%$   
 $25.1\% + 59.3\% = 84.4\%$

If we look at the other major religions there is not such a dramatic change. It looks as though people are changing from Christian to non-religious as the proportion of the population is fairly close. This suggests that the Christian religion is in decline.

Spreadsheet for 2011: [www.ons.gov.uk/rel/census/2011-census/key-statistics-for-local-authorities-in-england-and-wales/rft-table-gs210ew.xls](http://www.ons.gov.uk/rel/census/2011-census/key-statistics-for-local-authorities-in-england-and-wales/rft-table-gs210ew.xls)

Spreadsheet for 2001: [www.ons.gov.uk/ons/rel/census/census-2001-key-statistics/local-authorities-in-england-and-wales/local-authorities-ks07--religion.xls](http://www.ons.gov.uk/ons/rel/census/census-2001-key-statistics/local-authorities-in-england-and-wales/local-authorities-ks07--religion.xls)

c) Look at the other five most popular religions and compare the percentages of people for those faiths from the 2001 and 2011 Census for England and Wales. Comment on your findings.

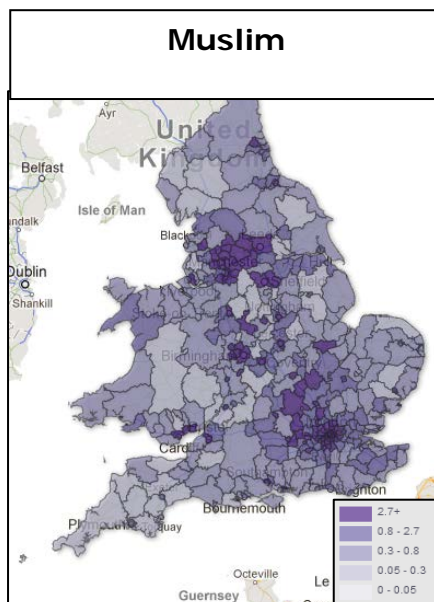
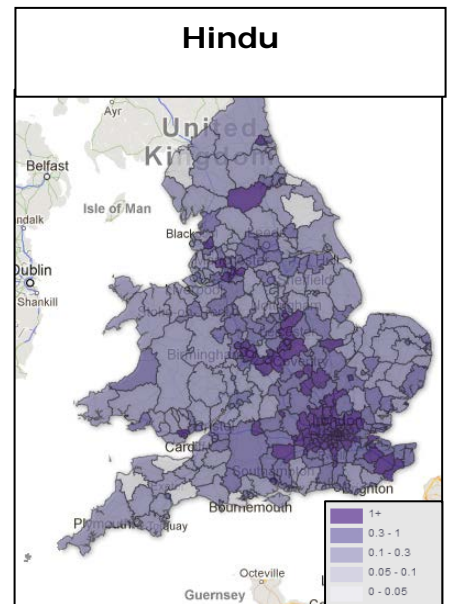
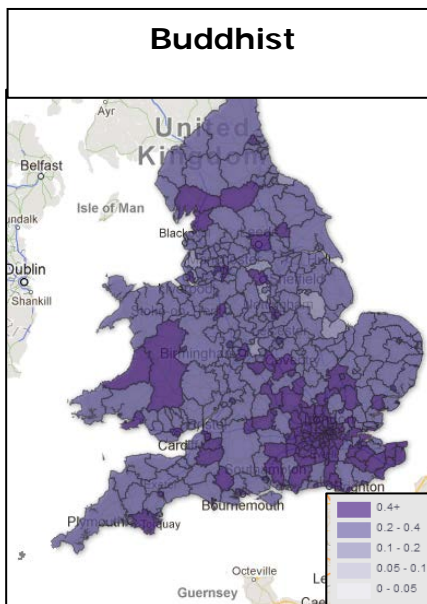
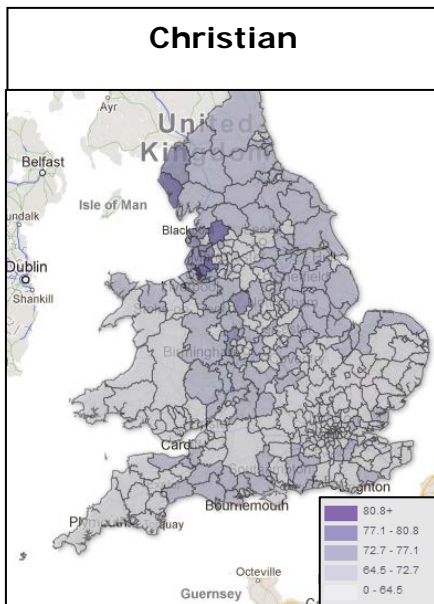
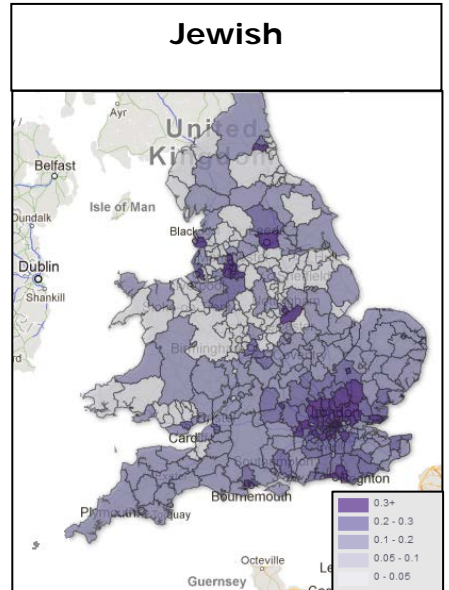
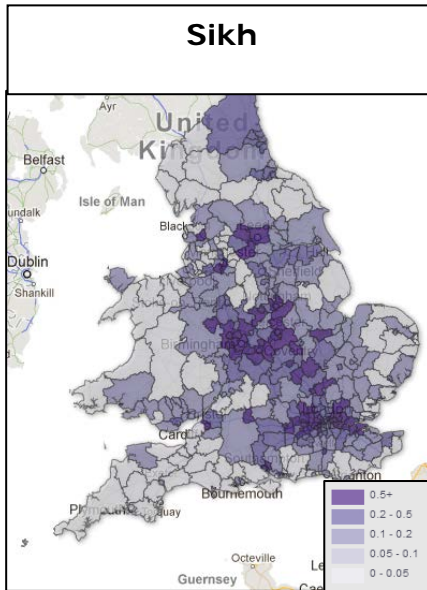
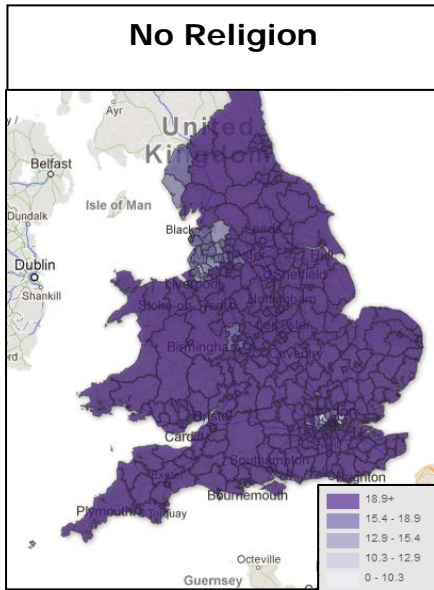
Census Year	Christian	Buddhist	Hindu	Jewish	Muslim	Sikh	Other religions	No religion	Religion not stated
2001	71.7%	0.3%	1.1%	0.5%	3.0%	0.6%	0.3%	14.8%	7.7%
2011	59.3%	0.4%	1.5%	0.5%	4.8%	0.8%	0.4%	25.1%	7.2%

Each religion has increased in the percentage of people claiming to follow that religion, with the exception of Judaism which has remained the same. This could be due to migration factors.

d) Each of the maps on the following page shows the percentage of people in each area, for each religion. Write the correct religion in the box above each of the maps: Christian, Buddhist, Hindu, Muslim, Jewish, Sikh, No Religion.

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[www.ons.gov.uk/ons/interactive/census-map-2-1---religion/index.html](http://www.ons.gov.uk/ons/interactive/census-map-2-1---religion/index.html) (Do not search an area, just change the religion in the select a religion box.)

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2. In Brighton and Hove 1% of people put Jedi Knight as their religion.

a) Why do you think that Jedi Knight has been accepted as a valid option for religion on the census forms?

The percentage of people writing Jedi Knight as a religion on the census forms was higher than some official religions. Many non-religious people select Jedi Knight as their religion.

b) Other areas where large numbers of people chose Jedi Knight as their religion were Bournemouth, Bristol, Portsmouth and Southampton. Why do you think that this may be?

These are University Cities. Many students have campaigned for their fellow students to put Jedi Knight as their religion.

3. Out of Brighton and Hove, Nottingham, Reading and York, Reading was the Local Authority in 2011 with the highest percentage of Buddhists at 1.2%. Why might this be?

Only 75% of the population were born in the UK. A large percentage of the population classified their ethnicity as Asian, which suggests that this could be the main area of migration. Asia is where Buddhism originates. Reading has the highest percentage of Asian people compared to the other areas:

Area	Brighton & Hove	Nottingham	Reading	York
<b>Asian Population (%)</b>	4.1	13.1	13.6	3.4

From the interactive maps, the ethnicity spreadsheet should have been used to find this out:

[www.ons.gov.uk/ons/interactive/census-map-2-1---ethnicity/index.html](http://www.ons.gov.uk/ons/interactive/census-map-2-1---ethnicity/index.html)

4. Which of the following English areas had the highest percentage of non-religious people in 2011?

Birmingham     
  Blackpool     
  Isles of Scilly     
  Torbay

Area	Non-religion (%)
Birmingham	19.3
Blackpool	24.5
Isles of Scilly	33.7
Torbay	27.5

[www.ons.gov.uk/ons/interactive/census-map-2-1---religion/index.html](http://www.ons.gov.uk/ons/interactive/census-map-2-1---religion/index.html)

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5. Which of the following Welsh areas had the largest percentage change in its Christian community between 2001 and 2011?

Rank the areas in order – 1 being the largest change and 4 being the least change.

2 Cardiff                      3 Gwynedd                      4 Powys                      1 Swansea

Area	Christian (%) 2001 Census	Christian (%) 2011 Census	Difference (%)	Rank
Cardiff	66.9	51.4	-15.5	2
Gwynedd	74.5	59.5	-15.0	3
Powys	74.8	61.8	-13.0	4
Swansea	71.0	55.0	-16.0	1

[www.ons.gov.uk/ons/interactive/census-map-2-1---religion/index.html](http://www.ons.gov.uk/ons/interactive/census-map-2-1---religion/index.html)

6. Which of the 2 following areas had the same percentage increase of Muslims between 2001 and 2011?

- Blackburn with Darwen    
  Bristol    
  Leicester    
  Peterborough  
 Sunderland

Area	Muslim (%) 2001 Census	Muslim (%) 2011 Census	Difference (%)
Blackburn with Darwen	19.4	27.0	+7.6
Bristol	2.0	5.1	+3.1
Leicester	11.0	18.6	+7.6
Peterborough	5.7	9.4	+3.7
Sunderland	0.7	1.3	+0.6

[www.ons.gov.uk/ons/interactive/census-map-2-1---religion/index.html](http://www.ons.gov.uk/ons/interactive/census-map-2-1---religion/index.html)

7. Study the Jewish religion statistics for the following areas: Barnet, Caerphilly, Newcastle-upon-Tyne, Harrogate, Hackney and Westminster. Which area(s):

- a) had the largest percentage of Jewish people in 2011? **Barnet**
- b) had the lowest percentage of Jewish people 2011? **Caerphilly**
- c) had the change in the Jewish population between 2001 and 2011?  
**Hackney – largest increase, Westminster – largest decrease**

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- d) had no change in the Jewish population between 2001 and 2011?  
**Caerphilly**

Area	2001	2011	Difference
Barnet	14.8	15.2	+0.4
Caerphilly	0.0	0.0	0.0
Hackney	5.3	6.3	+1.0
Harrogate	0.2	0.2	0.0
Newcastle	0.3	0.2	-0.1
Westminster	4.3	3.3	-1.0

[www.ons.gov.uk/ons/interactive/census-map-2-1---religion/index.html](http://www.ons.gov.uk/ons/interactive/census-map-2-1---religion/index.html)