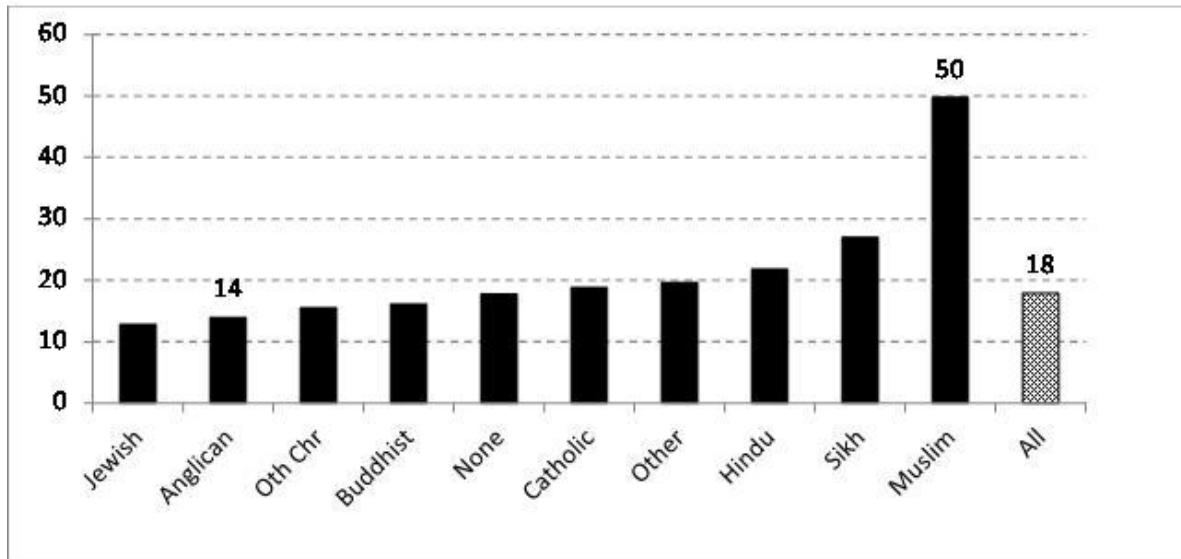




Briefing

Half of British Muslims face poverty and deprivation



Poverty defined as equivalized household income less than 60% of the national median

What does this mean?

- In the ‘Median Income’ measure, the poverty threshold is a household income of 60% or less of the average (median) British household. The median real terms household income is £453 per week (DWP, 2015). There are about 750,000 Muslim households, so in 50% of these the weekly income is less than £270.
- Another measure is the Index of Multiple Deprivation (IMD), based on a basket of measures, such as the quality of housing. Of the Muslim population in England, 46% (1.22 million) live in the 10% most deprived Local Authority Districts.
- Poverty, deprivation, and disadvantage are social realities for many Muslims, though there are small pockets of affluence – 1.7% (46,000) of Muslims live in the least deprived Local Authority Districts in England. The priority from the British Muslim perspective must be economic regeneration and policies for labour market entry. Given the British Muslim population with young families, there is also an underlying problem of child poverty, with its impact on education and health.

Acknowledgement for median income bar chart above: Professor Anthony Heath, Centre for Social Investigation, Nuffield College, University of Oxford; The IMD cited here is the 2010 index (IMD 2010 Scores for Non-LSOA Geographies); Median Income data

https://www.gov.uk/government/uploads/system/uploads/attachment_data/file/437246/households-below-average-income-1994-95-to-2013-14.pdf; Other references at www.mcb.org.uk/muslimstatistics.