

R&W - What place does religion have in the world?

census	Counting and recording information about a population.	heritage	Cultural traditions, beliefs, customs and practices passed down through generations.
colonialisation	The practice of establishing control over foreign territories.	immigration	The process of moving to a new country to settle there permanently.
community	A group of people who live in the same area or share common interests, beliefs or activities.	protected characteristic	Specific traits or attributes that are legally safeguarded against discrimination.
data	Information, facts or statistics collected for analysis or reference.	religious	Connected to or believing in a religion.
discrimination	To treat someone differently based on their race, gender, religion or other characteristic.	secular	Relating to things that have no religious or spiritual basis.
diversity	The presence of a variety of different people and cultures in a group or place.	worldview	The way a person sees and explains the world.

Freedom of religion or beliefs

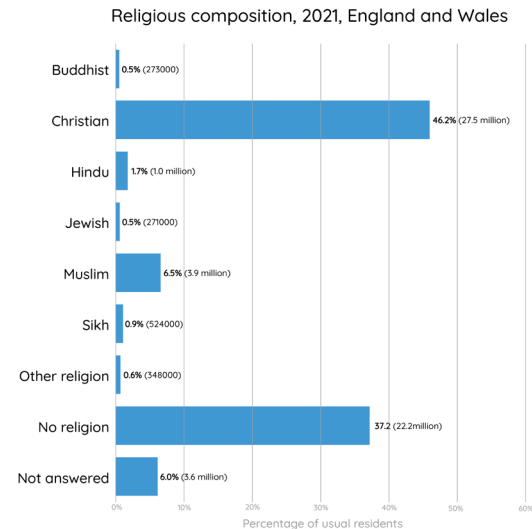
Freedom of religion or belief is a human right that allows individuals and communities to follow and express their beliefs without discrimination or being forced to hide or change what they believe. There are laws in many countries, including the UK, to protect this right.



Using census data

Census data can tell us a lot about the religious make-up of England and Wales but it also has limits. Not everyone answers the religion question and it has a limited number of options, meaning not all religions or non-religious worldviews are clearly shown in the data.

What is your religion?



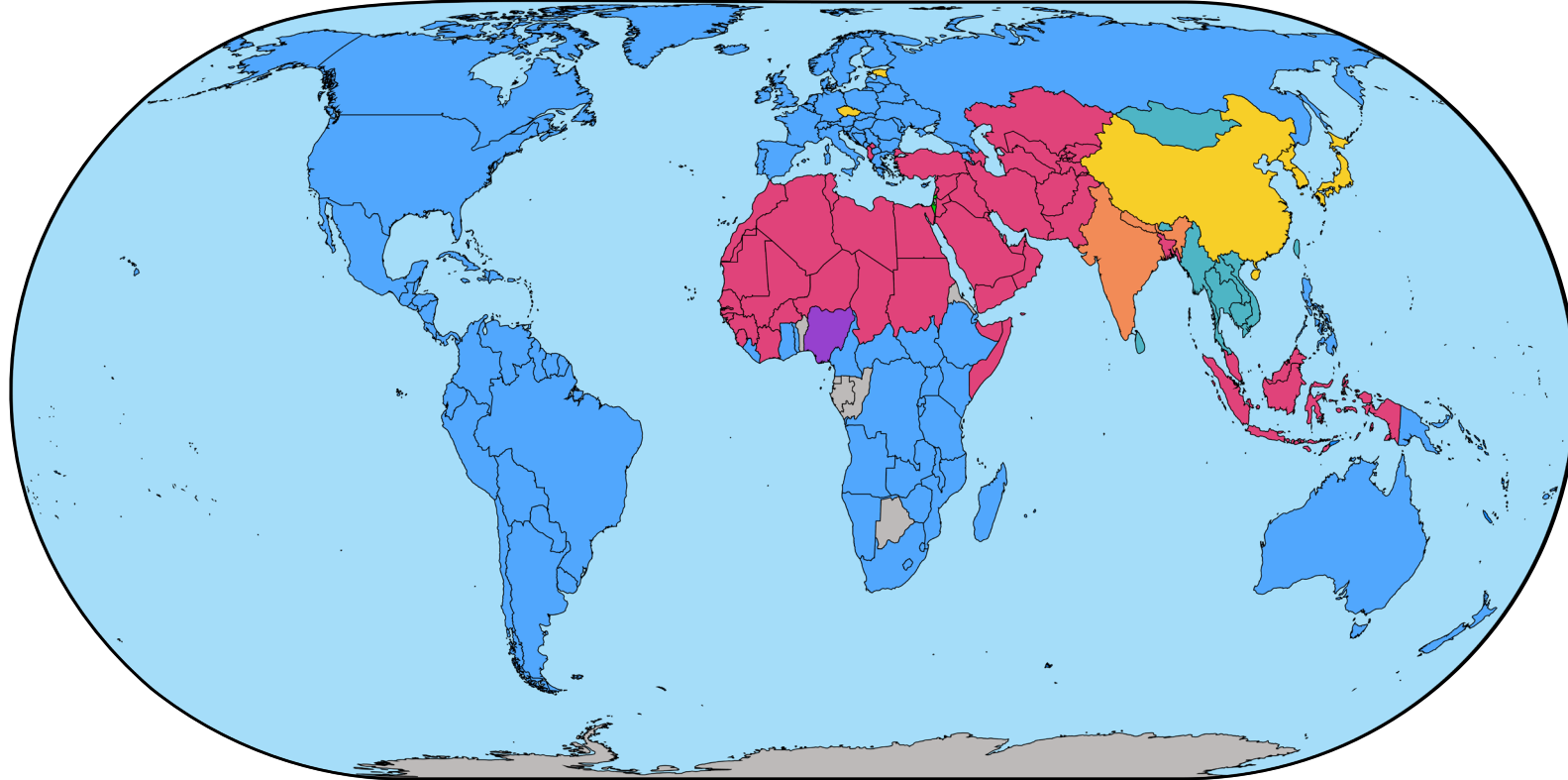
Places of worship

Places of worship can be purpose-built or use existing buildings. Sometimes a place of worship changes to be used differently, by a different religious group or for secular use. People can have strong feelings about these changes due to their beliefs or ideas about conservation and heritage.

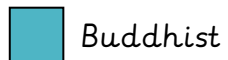


Religious spread

Religious beliefs and teachings spread from where they were first developed across the world. The main reasons for this are colonisation, exile, immigration, trade, travel and communication.



Key



Buddhist



Christian



Hindu



Jewish



Muslim



Muslim and
Christian
nearly equal



Unaffiliated