

Ethnicity and Religion – Bradford in Context

Ethnicity

For the first time the 2001 Census included a number of 'mixed' categories. This allowed people to identify their ethnic origin as a combination of groups.

1.3% of the population of Bradford District identified themselves as from a 'mixed' ethnic origin. This is very similar to the national picture.

With the exception of Nottingham, Wolverhampton and Birmingham all the local authorities reporting the highest proportion of their populations as from 'mixed' ethnic origins are in Inner and Greater London.

Bradford has the largest proportion of the population (15%) identifying themselves as of Pakistani origin in England and Wales. Pendle, Slough, Birmingham, Luton and Blackburn closely follow this figure.

0.7% of the population of Bradford District identified themselves as Caribbean. This is similar to Preston, Peterborough and St Albans. 0.2% of the people in Bradford indicated that they were of Black African origin – like Ipswich, Norwich and Derby.

Religion

Bradford has the fourth largest proportion of people (16%) identifying themselves as Muslim after Tower Hamlets, Newham and Blackburn.

This is closely followed by Pendle 9th, Oldham 16th Kirklees 19th and Calderdale 42nd.

60% of the population of Bradford District identified themselves as Christian. This is very similar to the proportions reported in Luton, Birmingham, and Lambeth.

Across the Bradford District 13% of people indicated that they did not have a religion. This is similar to the rates identified in Pendle, Chesterfield and Hillingdon. Interestingly, with the exception of Pendle, these local authorities have very different characteristics from Bradford. However, nationally the proportion of people identifying themselves as not having a religion differs much less between the areas than other categories in this question.

1% of the people in Bradford indicated that they were Hindu. This is similar to the rates shown in Solihull, Peterborough and Reading. 1% of the population identified them as Sikh. This is closest to the levels reported in Leeds, Harrow and Barking and Dagenham.

Overall the religious – and to a lesser extent ethnic group - profile of Bradford is most similar to that in Luton. When Bradford is compared to other cities it is

often old industrial Pennine towns – perhaps we should be looking further south?