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## Demographic and socio-economic characteristics of Muslim women in Australia

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### Abstract

Description and rationale: Australia, accompanied by the United States and Canada as countries with long tradition of immigration, is best-known as a culturally diverse country in the world. This fundamental characteristic has brought together Muslim populations like other various religious and ethnic backgrounds people from all corners of the world in Australia. It also allowed that despite some considerable swings over time mainly caused by adapting different immigration policies, Muslim populations experienced an increasing general trend over time so that it reached from 22311 in 1971 to 277967 in 2001. It is also worthy to add that Muslim population was the largest non-Christian religious group until 1991 and the second highest one in the census 2001 in Australia.

Method and data: Secondary data analysis based on the Australian Census of Population gained from the Australian Bureau of Statistics (ABS) are used to examine the demographic and socio-economic characteristics of Muslim women aged 15-54 years old in 2001. In a comparative approach, they will also be examined with their Non-Muslim counterparts in terms of these characteristics.

Expected Findings: The characteristics that are going to be discussed include population issues, education levels, English language proficiency, family formation, individual income, partner's income, duration of residence in Australia, the country of origin as well as the main initial results on employment status, occupation status, industries of employment, hours worked, and place worked.

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