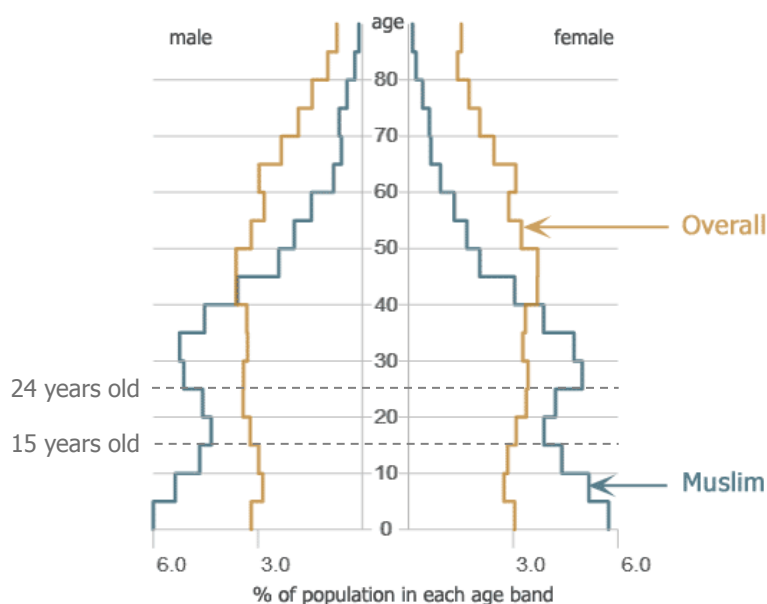


Britain's Muslim population is relatively young

Of the 2.7 million Muslims in Britain, 33% are under 15 years old and almost 50% are under 24 years old.



What does this mean?

The age profile of Muslims in Britain is highly skewed towards the younger age bands. 33% are under 15 years old (compared to 19% in the overall population) and almost 50% are under 24 years old (30% overall population).

- With public sector cuts in youth services, there will be a reduced safety net in terms of counselling, provision of recreational services and careers advice. Does Muslim civil society have enough youth workers to handle the increased demand?
- By 2021, there will be 300,000 young Muslims becoming teenagers (currently in the 5 to 9 age band). Will there be enough youth centres and services to cater for them?
- Are there enough young people represented in mosque management committees or do mosques have active youth committees for young men and women?
- Since English is the main language for the majority of young Muslims, are there sufficient events and activities in the English language in mosques and community centres to cater for their needs?

These are challenges that need to be recognised by public sector bodies, and particularly for Muslim civil society, issues of capacity building and professionalisation of services.