

Counting Religion in Britain

A Quarterly Bibliographic Round-Up of New Statistical Sources

New Series, Number 5 – July-September 2026

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OPINION POLLS

Fieldwork date: 19 June–3 July 2026

Ipsos: trustworthiness of clergy/priests and other groups [multinational poll, 31 countries]

<https://www.ipsos.com/en-uk/ipsos-global-trustworthiness-index-2026> and

<https://www.ipsos.com/en-uk/ipsos-who-do-brits-trust-doctors-and-scientists-lead-pack-first-time-polling-reveals-ai-chatbots>

Publication date: 7 July 2026

Sara Khan and Matthew Godwin, *Britain Under Strain: The Broken Social Contract, Democratic Distrust, and the Mainstreaming of Extremism*, UK Extremism and Democratic Resilience Centre, 146 pp. [based on polling by More in Common of a nationally representative sample and by Yonder of both a British Muslim sample and a nationally representative sample, covering attitudes to cohesion and extremism, including anti-Semitism and Islamophobia], report and polling tables available at:

<https://www.ukedrc.org.uk/publications>

Fieldwork date: 19–20 July 2026

YouGov/Ahmadiyya Muslim Association: attitudes to Islam and Muslims

https://d3nkl3psvxxpe9.cloudfront.net/documents/AMA_Islam_260720_w.pdf

Publication date: 20–21 July 2026

YouGov: favourability towards the Pope and other leaders [Britain and five other countries]

https://d3nkl3psvxxpe9.cloudfront.net/documents/Topline_Eurotrack_Jul26_w.pdf

Fieldwork date: 25–27 July 2026

YouGov: perceived importance of teaching Religious Studies and other subjects at secondary school

https://d3nkl3psvxxpe9.cloudfront.net/documents/P_Main_Political_Tracker_Survey_Rotation16_sr_2.pdf

Fieldwork date: 30 July 2026

YouGov: religion as a positive or negative influence on the world

<https://yougov.com/en-gb/trackers/the-influence-of-religion-on-the-world-according-to-brits>

Fieldwork date: 6 August 2026

YouGov: beliefs about god(s)

<https://yougov.com/en-gb/trackers/brits-beliefs-about-gods>

Fieldwork date: 15–17 August 2026

YouGov: attitudes to possible changes in the Sunday trading laws in England and Wales

https://dujb8u30p7aul.cloudfront.net/documents/P_Main_Political_Tracker_Survey_Rotation_16_sr_5.pdf

Publication date: 4 September 2026

JL Partners/*The Sun*: religious correlates of attitudes to alcohol and its taxation

<https://www.jlpartners.co.uk/polling-results>

Publication date: 20 September 2026

Robert Darke, Alex Newton, and Luke Tryl, *Caught Between Sides: Britons' Shifting Attitudes to the Israel-Palestine Conflict and its Consequences at Home*, More in Common, 36 pp.

<https://www.moreincommon.org.uk/research/caught-between-sides/>

FAITH ORGANIZATION STUDIES

Publication date: 2 July 2026

Oscar Davies, *Faith in the NHS: Better Health, Greater Trust, Lower Costs*, Equi, 64 pp.

<https://equi.org.uk/wp-content/uploads/2026/07/14-Equi-Report-Faith-in-the-NHS.pdf>

Publication date: 14 July 2026

Centre for Media Monitoring, *No Mere Spectator: Anti-Muslim Hostility in Britain's Oldest Political Magazine*, 139 pp. [analysis of 3,733 articles in *The Spectator*, 2018–25]

<https://cfmm.org.uk/wp-content/uploads/2026/07/No-Mere-Spectator.pdf>

Publication date: 19 July 2026

Madeleine Pennington and Rhiannon McAleer, *Motherhood, Inside Out: The Story in Numbers*, Theos/Bible Society, 60 pp. [based on polling by Ipsos of a non-probability sample of women aged 18–75, including analysis of spiritual and religious change]

https://www.theosthinktank.co.uk/cmsfiles/Motherhood-Inside-Out_The-Story-In-Numbers.pdf

Publication date: 29 July 2026

The Large Communities' Task Force Against Antisemitism, *J7 Annual Report on Antisemitism, 2026*, 50 pp. [UK and the six other largest diaspora Jewish communities]

https://34d0dc30-7136-4c4b-bee4-d93d1c3c11bd.usrfiles.com/ugd/34d0dc_df70ed62a9ee42a99636df79620a9da4.pdf

Publication date: 31 July 2026

Ken Eames and Jacob Griffiths, *The Church of England Cathedral Statistics, 2025*, 46 pp.

<https://www.churchofengland.org/sites/default/files/2026-07/cathedralstatistics2025.pdf>

Publication date: 1 August 2026

Catholics in Fundraising CIO/Astarita, Aldrich and Ward (AAW Group), *The Catholic Generosity Report*, 102 pp.

<https://www.aawpartnership.com/cif-fundraising-benchmarks-survey-2026-1>

Publication date: 6 August 2026

Community Security Trust, *Antisemitic Incidents, January–June 2026*, 40 pp.

<https://cst.org.uk/public/data/file/5/9/Incidents%20Report%20Jan-Jun%202026.pdf>

Publication date: 19 August 2026

Tell MAMA, ‘Record Levels Reached on London-Based Reports of Anti-Muslim Hate’

<https://tellmamauk.org/record-levels-reached-on-london-based-reports-anti-muslim-hate-reports/>

Publication date: 4 September 2026

Save the Parish, *Parish Ministry: Addressing the Crisis in Stipendiary Clergy Numbers in the Church of England*, 11 pp.

<https://www.savetheparish.com/2026/09/04/church-leaders-and-save-the-parish-join-forces-as-report-warns-the-vicar-is-becoming-an-endangered-species/>

Publication date: 8 September 2026

Mark Cowling, *Heart of the Neighbourhood: How the Church is Providing Essential Services in Every Part of the Country*, Gather Movement, 24 pp.

<https://gathermovement.org/wp-content/uploads/2026/09/Heart-of-the-Neighbourhood-Pages-SML.pdf>

Publication date: 10 September 2026

Evangelical Alliance, *Understanding UK Evangelicals: Who Are They?* 28 pp. [based on Whitestone Insight polling]

<https://www.eauk.org/resources/our-resources/research/understanding-uk-evangelicals>

Report in *Church Times* (18 September 2026, p. 3) includes sceptical comment by David Voas:

<https://www.churchtimes.co.uk/articles/2026/18-september/news/uk/evangelical-alliance-takes-heart-from-latest-survey>

Another sceptical reading from Sue Pascoe in *Church Times*, 25 September 2026, p. 15 at:

<https://www.churchtimes.co.uk/articles/2026/25-september/comment/letters-to-the-editor/letters-to-the-editor>

ACADEMIC STUDIES

Publication date: 26 March 2026

John Wintrip, *A History of Parish Registers in England and Wales: From the Restoration to Civil Registration*, Cambridge: Lutterworth Press, xiii + 233 pp., ISBN 9780718898489, paperback, £24.99

<https://boydellandbrewer.com/book/a-history-of-parish-registers-in-england-and-wales-9780718898489/?v=7885444af42e>

Online publication date: 22 July 2026

Lucy Peacock, Mathew Guest, and Kristin Aune, ‘Religious Education and “Interfaith Readiness”: How Does a Religion and Worldviews Approach Prepare Students for the Religious Diversity of University Life?’, *British Journal of Religious Education*, 14 pp.

<https://www.tandfonline.com/doi/full/10.1080/01416200.2026.2706090>

Online publication date: 1 September 2026

Elizabeth Poole, Eva Haifa Giraud, Ed de Quincey, and John Richardson, *Contesting Hate: Digital Counter-Narratives Against Islamophobia*, Manchester: Manchester University Press, 2026, 256 pp., ISBN 9781526181527, hardback, £25.00

<https://manchesteruniversitypress.co.uk/9781526181527/>

open access version at:

<https://www.manchesterhive.com/display/9781526181534/9781526181534.xml>

Online publication date: 14 September 2026

Clive Field, 'Secularisation in Local and Longitudinal Perspective: Churchgoing in Bolton Since c.1800', *Transactions of the Historic Society of Lancashire and Cheshire*, Vol. 175, 2026, pp. 127–50

<https://www.liverpooluniversitypress.co.uk/doi/10.3828/transactions.175.10>