# Muslims for American Progress

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**Summary**

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**Description**

## An Accurate Public Understanding of Americans who are Muslims has Never Been More ImportanT.

As Thomas Jefferson teaches, an educated citizenry is a vital requisite for our survival as a free people.

### The majority of Americans do not know a Muslim.

Today, issues surrounding American Muslims are central in our political discourse, policy debates and popular culture. Yet most Americans say they don't know a Muslim and, according to media content analysis, more than 80% of media coverage of Islam and Muslims in the United States is negative. This opens the door for a narrow media image to distort public perceptions of this diverse community.

### Educating the Public is a Civic Duty.

If "an educated citizenry" is vital to the health of our democracy, then providing accurate information on Muslim Americans is a civic duty. Muslims for American Progress (MAP), a project of the Institute for Social Policy and Understanding (ISPU), aims to do just that.

## The Muslims for American Progress Project

The Muslims for American Progress (MAP) Project educates the public by providing a much-needed, evidence-based portrait of a deeply misunderstood community. The MAP project quantifies the contributions of American Muslims in the state of Michigan and New York City in eight areas:

- Civics and Democracy
- Economic Development
- Medicine
- STEM
- Philanthropy and Nonprofits
- Arts and Entertainment
- Sports
- Education

To quantify these areas of contribution The MAP project "counts and profiles": Our researchers quantify American Muslim contributions with hard facts, while profiling individuals of distinction to showcase the community's diversity while giving it a human face.
Please read more about our methodology here.