

**Religion-wise Percentage of Indian
Women wear Head Coverings Outside
of the Home 2020**

- Compiled

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Head coverings are relatively common among Indian women.

In India, head coverings are worn by most women, including roughly six-in-ten Hindus.

In recent weeks, protests in India over Muslim headscarves in schools have gained international attention. The controversy began when a high school in the Southern state of Karnataka banned hijabs in classrooms, and demonstrations have since spread to other states.

Table 1 (below) shows about six-in-ten women in India (61%) say they keep the practice of covering their heads outside of their homes, according to a Pew Research Center survey conducted in 2019-2020. That includes a majority of Hindu women (59%), and roughly equal shares of Muslim (89%) and Sikh women (86%) – although the exact type of head covering can vary significantly among and within religious groups.

Table 2 (below) shows in South India women covering their heads outside of their homes: Hindu women (22%), shares of Muslim (83%) and Christian women (20%).

Table 1: Religion-wise Percentage of Indian Women wear Head Coverings Outside of the Home - 2020

S. No.	Religion	Percentage of Women
1	Hindus	59
2	Muslims	89
3	Christians	21
4	Sikhs	86
5	Buddhists	30
6	General Population	61

Source: Pew Research Centre

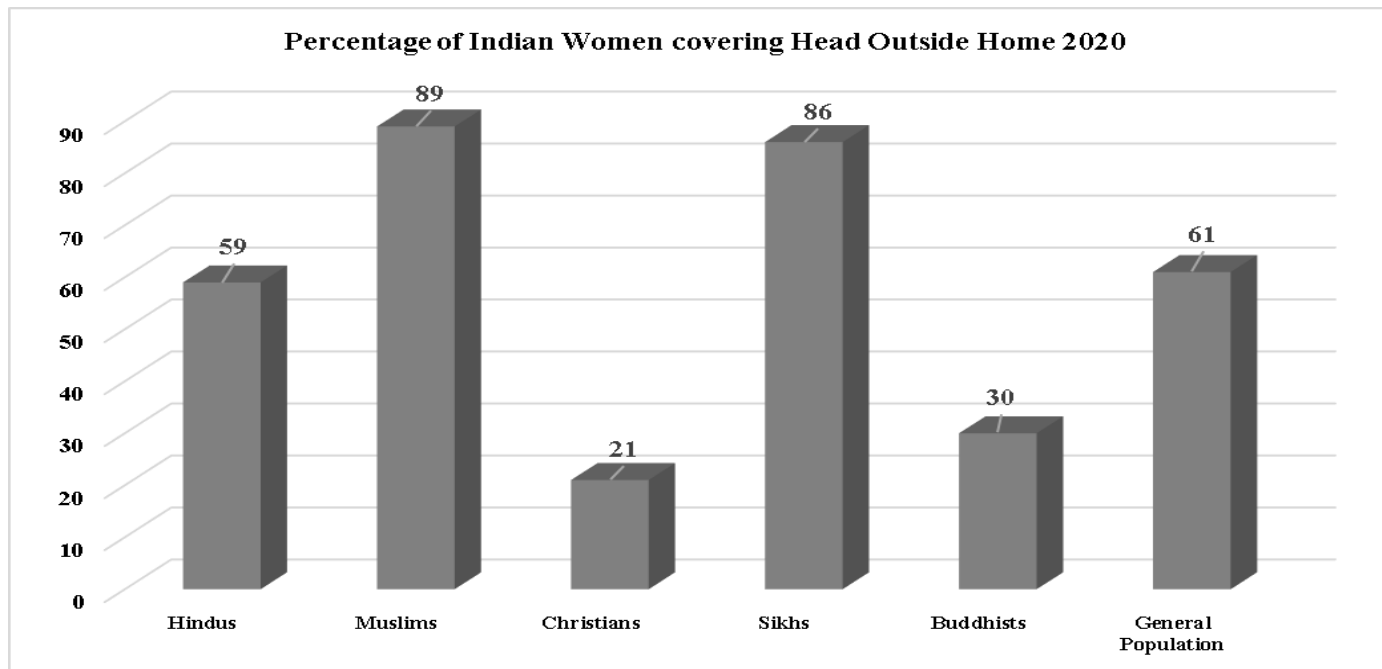


Table 2: Religion-wise Percentage of South Indian Women wear Head Coverings Outside of the Home – 2020

S. No.	Religion	Percentage
1	Hindus	22
2	Muslims	83
3	Christians	20
4	General Population	26

Source: Pew Research Centre

