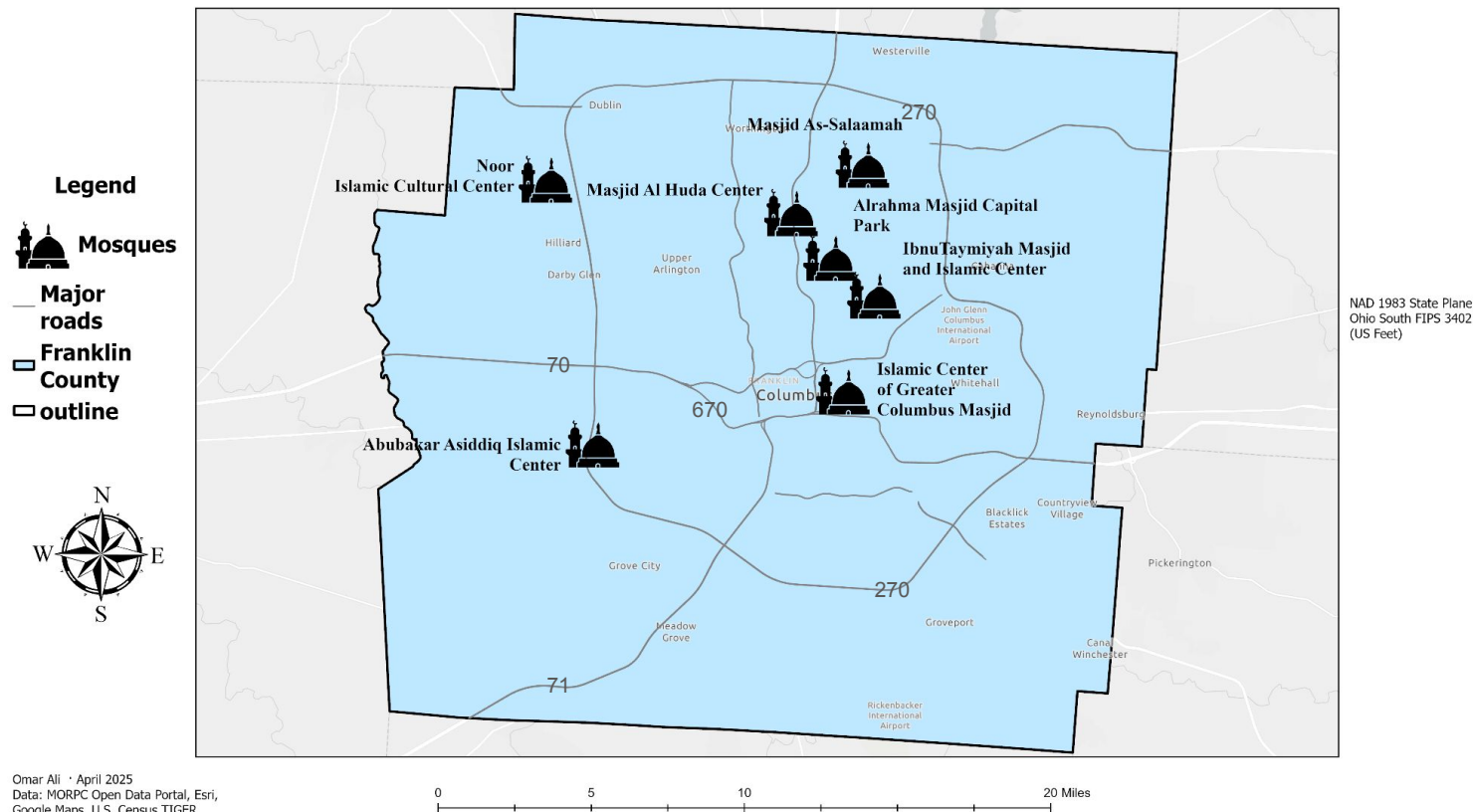


Investigating Mosque Accessibility in Franklin County, Ohio

Created by Omar Ali - April, 2025



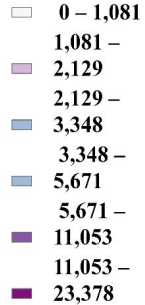
Mosque Locations in Franklin County, Ohio



Dataset Name	Description	Sources
Mosque Locations	XY points of mosques across Franklin County	Google Maps – Islamic Finder
Franklin County Boundary	County shapefile used to clip data to study area	Mid-Ohio Open Data Portal (MORPC)
Major Roads	Primary road network across Franklin County	Mid-Ohio Open Data Portal (MORPC)
Population Density	ACS population data by census block group	US Census Bureau TIGER/Line + ACS
COTA Bus Stops	Point data for active bus stop locations	COTA Open Data Portal – Stops
COTA Routes (Fixed Line)	Polyline data showing COTA fixed-route bus paths	COTA Open Data Portal – Routes
COGO Bike Share Stations	Point data for COGO bike share station locations	City of Columbus Open Data – COGO
Projection Info	NAD 1983 StatePlane Ohio South FIPS 3402 (US Feet)	ArcGIS Pro Default Projection

Population Density and Mosque Distribution in Franklin County, Ohio

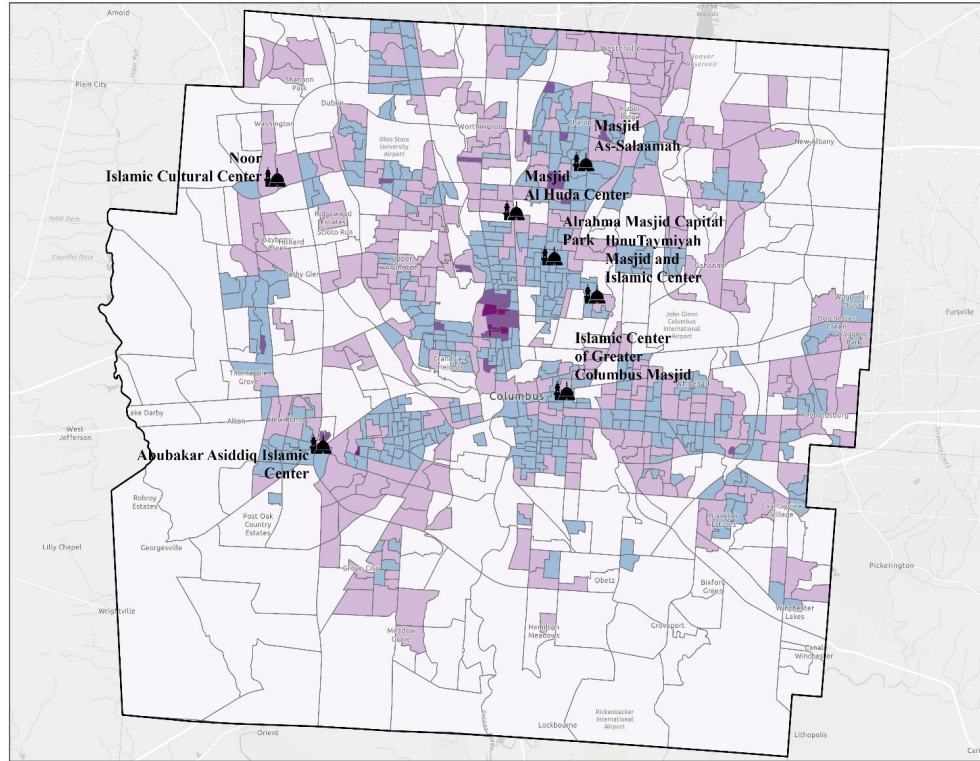
Population Density (people per km²)



Mosque Locations



Mosques



Methods Used

- Clip Tool – to extract Franklin County from national census data
- Create XY Data – to map mosque locations using latitude/longitude coordinates

Omar Ali April, 2025

Sources:

- U.S. Census Bureau 2020 Population Data via ArcGIS Living Atlas
- Mosque Locations from Google Maps and IslamicFinder
- Franklin County boundary from Mid-Ohio Open Data Portal

NAD 1983
State Plane
Ohio South
FIPS 3402 (US
Feet)

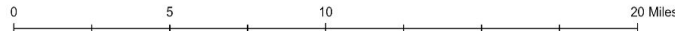
[illegible]

- **Buffer Tool** – to create 0.25 mile buffers around bus stops and bike stations
- **Merge Tool** – to combine bike and bus buffers into one transit buffer layer
- **Select by Location** – to identify mosques within the transit-accessible buffer

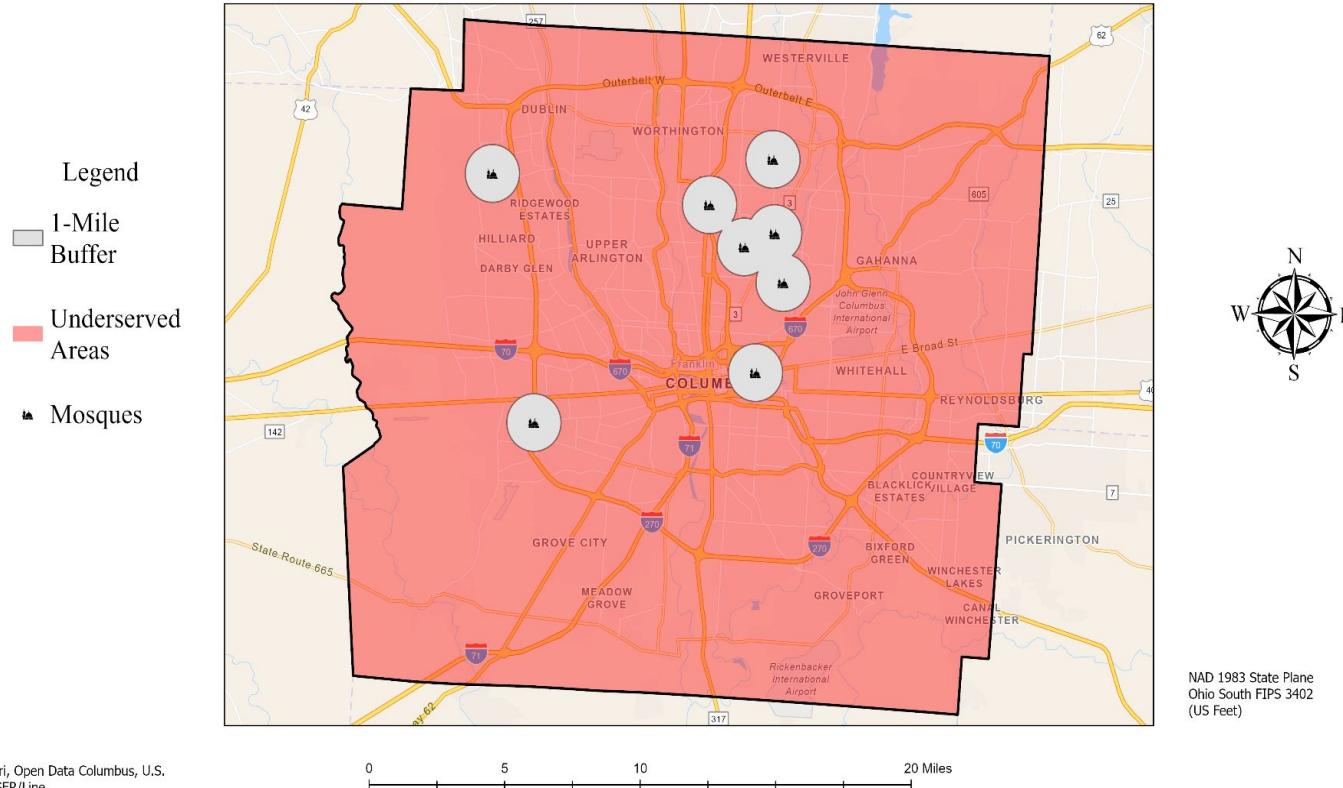
NAD 1983
State
Plane Ohio
South
FIPS 3402
(US Feet)

Sources:

- U.S. Census Bureau, 2020 TIGER/Line Shapefiles (County boundary)
- City of Columbus Open Data Portal: COTA Bus Stops & Routes
- COGO Bike Share Stations via City of Columbus Maps & Apps



Mosque Accessibility Gaps in Franklin County, OH (1-Mile Buffers)



Methods Used

- **Buffer Tool** – Created 1-mile buffers around mosque locations
- **Erase Tool** – Removed buffered areas from the county to highlight underserved regions

Conclusion

This project explored the spatial distribution and transit accessibility of mosques in Franklin County, OH, using GIS tools. By overlaying mosque locations with population density and public transit infrastructure, we were able to identify underserved areas—places where residents are not within walking distance of a mosque or accessible public transit routes. The analysis revealed gaps, especially in western and southern neighborhoods. These findings can assist local planners and community leaders in making informed decisions about future mosque placements or improving transit coverage to support equitable religious access.



Credits & Sources

Excel table

Name	Adress	Latitude	Longitude
Masjid As-Salaamah	5259 Cleveland Ave ,Columbus, OH 43231	40.0735	-82.9542
IbnuTaymiyah Masjid and Islamic Center	2334 Mock Rd, Columbus, OH 43219	40.0116	-82.9467
Omar Ibn El-Khattab Masjid	580 Riverview Dr, Columbus, OH 43202	40.0186	-83.0159
Islamic Center of Greater Columbus Masjid	1428 E Broad St , Columbus ,OH 43205	39.9663	-82.9656
Alrahma Masjid Capital Park	2205 Albert Ave Columbus, OH 43224	40.0294	-82.9739
Masjid Al Huda Center	1156 E Cooke Rd, Columbus, OH 43224	40.0505	-82.9981
Abubakar Asiddiq Islamic Center	591 Industrial Mile Rd, Columbus ,OH 43228	39.9405	-83.1194
Noor Islamic Cultural Center	5001 Wilcox Rd, Dublin, OH 43016	40.0655	-83.1494
Masjid Abu Hurairah	3296 Westerville Rd, Columbus, OH 43224	40.0362	-82.9527
Columbus Amer Muslim Society	4615 Northtowne Blvd, Columbus, OH 43229	40.0685	-82.947

Data Sources (Direct Links)

- www.islamicfinder.org
- www.data-morpc.opendata.arcgis.com
- www.transitfeeds.com/p/cota/1308
- www.data.columbus.gov
- www.census.gov/geographies/mapping-files/time-series/geo/tiger-line-file.html
- www.pro.arcgis.com/en/pro-app/help/mapping/properties/coordinate-systems.htm

Images Used

- *Columbus Mosque Photo:*
<https://www.masjidomarohio.org> (or relevant source if found via Google Images)
- *COTA Bus Image:*
<https://www.cota.com>
- *Franklin County Outline:*
<https://www.morpc.org>