



Which Population Segments Are Most Likely to Have a Biblical Worldview?

<u>Population segment</u>	<u>Percentage with a Biblical Worldview</u>	<u>Population segment</u>	<u>Percentage with a Biblical Worldview</u>
All adults	10%	Protestant	19%
Age: 18 to 29	<u>4%</u>	Catholic	<u>2</u>
30 to 49	<u>7</u>	Born again Christians	31%
50 to 64	<u>15</u>	Not born again	<u>1</u>
65 or older	17	Heterosexual	11%
Men	<u>9%</u>	Lesbian, gay, bi-sexual, transgender	<u>*</u>
Women	11		
White	12%	Northeast	<u>6%</u>
Hispanic	<u>7</u>	South	11
Black	<u>9</u>	Midwest	13
Asian	<u>6</u>	West	9

* Indicates less than one-half of one percent

Source: American Culture & Faith Institute, a division of United in Purpose; conducted February 2017; N=1,000 adults, age 18+; www.culturefaith.com

Understanding a Worldview

While it may sound complex or even impractical, understanding the concept of a worldview is not complicated. A worldview is the mental framework that helps people to make sense of their world. It serves as a filter to help us understand and respond to reality.

Because a worldview determines what is considered to be good or bad, valuable or worthless, righteous or evil, right or wrong, and so forth, a person's worldview is an indispensable mechanism for each of us to cope with life. Similarly, it is critical to understand if we are

seeking to comprehend who we are and where we are going as a nation.

Surprisingly few studies have been conducted to measure the proportion of people who have a biblical worldview, or other widely recognized worldviews, such as secular humanism, postmodernism, existentialism, pantheism, or nihilism. The ACFI study is designed to serve as a benchmark for annual updates on the proportion of Americans who have a biblical worldview.

Benchmark Data

The ACFI survey evaluated people's worldview using 20 questions about core spiritual beliefs and 20 questions assessing behavior. The 40 data points were then evaluated in relation to biblical content and the number of biblically consistent answers was tallied for each respondent. Those who answered 80% or more of the questions in accordance with biblical principles were included in the category of "Integrated Disciples" - that is, people who are designated as having a biblical worldview based on integrating their beliefs and behavior into a lifestyle that reflects foundational biblical principles.

The survey of the general public revealed that 10% of American adults currently have a biblical worldview. That pales in comparison to the 46% of adults who claim to have such a worldview. How big, numerically, is that difference? With the adult population presently at

an estimated 244 million, the 10% of the general public with a biblical worldview represents about 24 million who are Integrated Disciples, compared to roughly 112 million who would classify themselves as such - a gap of 88 million people!

Barna shared the 40 questions used in the assessment, noting that the survey was measuring basic biblical principles, not complex theological theories. "Our research collected information about attitudes and behaviors related to practical matters like lying, cheating, stealing, pornography, the nature of God, and the consequences of unresolved sin. It's what some might describe as 'Christianity 101' substance. That's what makes the discrepancy between the percentage of people who consider themselves to be Christian - more than seven out of every ten - and those who have a biblical worldview - just one out of every ten - so alarming." (27 Feb 2017)