

Appendix 3:

Classification of Protestant Denominations

The following section documents the composition of the three major Protestant traditions (evangelical Protestant churches, mainline Protestant churches and historically black Protestant churches) as they have been defined in this survey.

Protestants were grouped into religious traditions based on their specific denomination. For instance, all members of the Southern Baptist Convention have been classified as members of evangelical Protestant churches; those who belong to the American Baptist Churches in the USA are classified as members of mainline Protestant churches; and those who belong to the National Baptist Convention are classified as members of historically black Protestant churches. Protestant respondents who gave a vague response to denominational questions (e.g., “I am just a Baptist” or “I know I am Methodist but don’t know which specific Methodist denomination I belong to”) were placed into one of the three Protestant traditions based on their race and/or their response to a question on whether they would describe themselves as a “born-again or evangelical Christian.” This means that some groups may appear within more than one tradition. For example, Independent Baptists appear in both the evangelical Protestant tradition and the historically black Protestant tradition, and a respondent’s placement into one or the other depended on the race of the respondent. These cases are noted in the detailed summary at the end of this appendix, with a description in italics of the criteria used to classify them.

The table below estimates the size of the largest Protestant denominations and identifies the Protestant tradition to which each belongs. Note that many denominational families include denominations that are associated with more than one Protestant tradition. For example, Baptists are found within all three Protestant traditions, Pentecostals belong to either the evangelical or historically black Protestant tradition and Lutherans belong to either the evangelical or mainline tradition.

This appendix concludes with a detailed summary of the composition of each of the Protestant traditions.

Large Denominations and Protestant Religious Traditions

	Total Population	All Protestants	Evangelical Protestant Churches	Mainline Protestant Churches	Hist. Black Protestant Churches
	%	%	%	%	%
Baptist	17.2	33.5	41	10	64
Southern Baptist Convention	6.7	13.1	26	0	0
Independent Baptist in the Evangelical Trad.	2.5	4.9	10	0	0
National Baptist Convention	1.8	3.5	0	0	26
American Baptist Churches in the USA	1.2	2.4	0	7	0
Independent Baptist in the Hist. Black Trad.	0.5	0.9	0	0	7
Methodist	6.2	12.1	1	30	9
United Methodist Church	5.1	9.9	0	28	0
African Methodist Episcopal	0.4	0.7	0	0	6
Lutheran	4.6	9.0	7	16	0
Evangelical Lutheran Church in America	2.0	3.8	0	11	0
Lutheran Church, Missouri Synod	1.4	2.7	5	0	0
Nondenominational	4.5	8.9	13	5	3
Nondenominational evangelical churches	1.2	2.3	4	0	0
Nondenominational charismatic churches	0.5	1.0	2	0	0
Nondenominational fundamentalist churches	0.3	0.5	1	0	0
Pentecostal	4.4	8.5	13	0	14
Assemblies of God	1.4	2.8	5	0	0
Church of God in Christ	0.6	1.1	0	0	8
Church of God Cleveland, Tennessee	0.4	0.7	1	0	0
Presbyterian	2.7	5.2	3	10	0
Presbyterian Church USA	1.1	2.2	0	6	0
Presbyterian Church in America	0.4	0.8	2	0	0
Restorationist	2.1	4.0	6	2	0
Church of Christ	1.5	3.0	6	0	0
Disciples of Christ	0.3	0.6	0	2	0
Anglican/Episcopal	1.5	3.0	<0.5	8	0
Episcopal Church in the USA	1.0	2.0	0	6	0
Anglican Church	0.3	0.5	0	2	0
Holiness	1.2	2.2	4	0	2
Church of the Nazarene	0.3	0.5	1	0	0
Free Methodist Church	0.3	0.5	1	0	0
Congregationalist	0.8	1.5	<0.5	4	0
United Church of Christ	0.5	1.0	0	3	0
Adventist	0.5	0.9	2	0	0
Seventh-Day Adventist	0.4	0.8	2	0	0
Reformed	0.3	0.5	1	1	0
Anabaptist	<0.3	0.4	1	<0.5	0
Pietist	<0.3	<0.3	<0.5	0	0
Friends	<0.3	<0.3	0	1	0
Other Evangelical/Fundamentalist	0.3	0.5	1	0	0
Other/Protestant nonspecific	4.9	9.5	7	14	8
	51.3%	100	100	100	100

Detailed Summary of Protestant Denominations by Tradition and Family

The denominations listed below represent answers given by survey respondents. Some denominations were offered as explicit response options during the interviews, while others were volunteered by respondents. Respondents who gave vague denominational affiliations were assigned to a religious tradition based on their race and/or their response to a question on whether they would describe themselves as a “born-again or evangelical Christian,” as noted in italics.

Evangelical Protestant Churches

Baptist in the Evangelical Tradition

Southern Baptist Convention
 Independent Baptist (*if non-black*)
 Baptist General Conference; Swedish Baptist
 Baptist Missionary Association (*if non-black*)
 Conservative Baptist Assoc. of America
 Free Will Baptist
 General Association of Regular Baptists
 American Baptist Association
 Baptist Bible Fellowship
 Primitive Baptist (*if non-black*)
 Reformed Baptist (Calvinist)
 Fundamentalist Baptist (*if non-black*)
 Seventh-Day Baptist
 Baptist General Convention of Texas
 North American Baptist
 Slavic Evangelical Baptist Church
 Full Gospel Baptist Association (*if non-black*)
 “Evangelical” Baptist (*if non-black*)
 United Baptist Church
 Evangelical Free Baptist
 Baptist, not further specified (*if non-black and born again*)
 Baptist, ambiguous affiliation (*if non-black and born again*)

Methodist in the Evangelical Tradition

Primitive Methodist

Congregational Methodist
 “Traditional” Methodist
 “Evangelical” Methodist
 Independent Methodist
 “Missionary” Methodist (*if non-black*)
 Methodist, not further specified (*if non-black and born again*)
 Methodist, ambiguous affiliation (*if non-black and born again*)

Nondenominational in the Evangelical Trad.

Nondenominational evangelical
 Nondenominational fundamentalist
 Nondenominational charismatic
 Nondenominational Protestant
 Nondenominational Christian
 Association of Bridge Churches
 Interdenominational (*if born again*)
 Community Church (*if born again*)
 Federated or union church (*if born again*)
 Nondenominational, not further specified (*if non-black and born again*)
 Nondenominational, ambiguous affiliation (*if non-black and born again*)

Lutheran in the Evangelical Tradition

Lutheran Church, Missouri Synod
 Lutheran Church, Wisconsin Synod
 Lutheran Brethren
 Church of the Lutheran Confession
 Free Lutheran
 Apostolic Lutheran Church in America

Lutheran Congregations in Mission for Christ

Lutheran, not further specified (*if born again*)

Lutheran, ambiguous affiliation (*if born again*)

Presbyterian in the Evangelical Tradition

Presbyterian Church in America

Associate Reformed Presbyterian

Cumberland Presbyterian Church

Orthodox Presbyterian

Evangelical Presbyterian

Reformed Presbyterian

Congregational Presbyterian

Bible Presbyterian Church

World Presbyterian Board

Conservative Presbyterian Church

Independent Presbyterian

Community Presbyterian Church in America

Presbyterian, not further specified (*if born again*)

Presbyterian, ambiguous affiliation (*if born again*)

Pentecostal in the Evangelical Tradition

Assemblies of God

Church of God Cleveland Tennessee

Four Square Gospel

Pentecostal Church of God

Pentecostal Holiness Church

Assembly of Christian Churches

Church of God of Prophecy

Vineyard Fellowship

Open Bible Standard Churches

Full Gospel (*if non-black*)

Calvary Chapel

Apostolic Pentecostal (*if non-black*)

Church of God not further specified

Nondenominational, Independent Pentecostal (*if non-black*)

Missionary Church

Elim Fellowship

International Pentecostal Church of Christ

“Evangelical” Pentecostal

Church of God of Kentucky

Church of God of the Midwest

Church of God of the Apostolic Faith

Pentecostal, not further specified (*if non-black*)

Pentecostal, ambiguous affiliation (*if non-black*)

Anglican/Episcopal in the Evangelical Trad.

Anglican Orthodox Church

Reformed Episcopal Church

“Conservative” Anglican

Anglican/Episcopal, not further specified (*if born again*)

Anglican/Episcopal, ambiguous affiliation (*if born again*)

Restorationist in the Evangelical Tradition

Church of Christ

Christian Churches and Churches of Christ

Restorationist, not further specified (*if born again*)

Restorationist, ambiguous affiliation (*if born again*)

Congregational in the Evangelical Trad.

Conservative Congregational Christian

National Association of Congregational Christian Churches

Evangelical Congregational

Independent Congregational Church

Congregationalist, not further specified (*if born again*)

Congregationalist, ambiguous affiliation (*if born again*)

Holiness in the Evangelical Tradition

Church of the Nazarene

Wesleyan Church

Free Methodist Church

Christian and Missionary Alliance

Church of God (Anderson, Indiana)

Salvation Army

Wesleyan Methodist Church

Church of God of Findlay, Ohio

Pilgrim Holiness Church
 World Gospel Mission, Holiness
 Missionary
 Free Holiness
 Church of God of Michigan
 Holiness, not further specified (*if non-black*)
 Holiness, ambiguous affiliation (*if non-black*)

Reformed in the Evangelical Tradition

Christian Reformed Church
 Sovereign Grace
 United Reformed Churches of North
 America
 Evangelical Reformed
 Evangelical Association of Reformed and
 Congregational Churches
 Reformed, not further specified (*if born
 again*)
 Reformed, ambiguous affiliation (*if born
 again*)

Adventist in the Evangelical Tradition

Seventh-Day Adventist
 Advent Christian
 Sacred Name Churches
 Worldwide Church of God
 Church of God in Abrahamic Faith
 Church of God of the 7th Day

Church of God General Conference
 Philadelphia Church of God

Anabaptist in the Evangelical Tradition

Brethren in Christ
 Brethren Evangelical, not further specified
 (*if born again*)
 Mennonite Brethren
 Mennonite, not further specified
 Amish
 United Brethren in Christ
 Apostolic Christian Church

Pietist in the Evangelical Tradition

Evangelical Covenant Church
 Evangelical Free Church
 "Pietist"
 Evangelical Free Mission Church
 Church of God Winebrenner Fellowship

Other Evangelical/Fundamentalist

"Evangelical"
 "Born again," "Bible-believers," etc.
 Evangelical Bible Church
 Bible, Gospel, Missionary churches
 "Fundamentalist" not further specified
 "Charismatic," "Spirit filled"

Protestant nonspecific in the Evang. Trad.

Protestant nonspecific (*if non-black and
 born again*)

Mainline Protestant Churches

Baptist in the Mainline Tradition

American Baptist Churches in USA
 Cooperative Baptist Fellowship; Baptist
 Alliance
 "Liberal/Progressive" Baptist
 Baptist, not further specified (*if non-black
 and not born again*)
 Baptist, ambiguous affiliation (*if non-black
 and not born again*)

Methodist in the Mainline Tradition

United Methodist Church

Evangelical United Brethren
 Methodist, not further specified (*if non-
 black and not born again*)
 Methodist, ambiguous affiliation (*if non-
 black and not born again*)

Nondenominational in the Mainline Trad.

Interdenominational (*if not born again*)
 Community church (*if not born again*)
 Federated or union church (*if not born
 again*)
 "Emergent church"

“Liberal” Nondenominational
 Nondenominational, not further specified
(if non-black and not born again)
 Nondenominational, ambiguous affiliation
(if non-black and not born again)

Lutheran in the Mainline Tradition

Evangelical Lutheran Church in America
 (ELCA)
 American Lutheran Church
 Latvian Evangelical Lutheran Church in
 America
 Lutheran, not further specified *(if not born
 again)*
 Lutheran, ambiguous affiliation *(if not born
 again)*

Presbyterian in the Mainline Tradition

Presbyterian Church USA
 Scotch Presbyterian
 United Presbyterian
 “Liberal” Presbyterian
 Presbyterian Church of Canada
 Other Presbyterian denomination *(if not
 born again)*
 Presbyterian, not further specified *(if not
 born again)*
 Presbyterian, ambiguous affiliation *(if not
 born again)*

Anglican/Episcopal in the Mainline Trad.

Episcopal Church in the USA
 Anglican Church (Church of England)
 Church of Ireland
 Anglican/Episcopal, not further specified
(if not born again)
 Anglican/Episcopal, ambiguous affiliation
(if not born again)

Restorationist in the Mainline Tradition

Disciples of Christ
 Restorationist, not further specified *(if not
 born again)*
 Restorationist, ambiguous affiliation *(if not
 born again)*
 Congregationalist in the Mainline Tradition
 United Church of Christ
 Congregationalist, not further specified *(if
 not born again)*
 Congregationalist, ambiguous affiliation *(if
 not born again)*

Reformed in the Mainline Tradition

Reformed Church in America
 Free Hungarian Reformed Church
 Congregational Union of Scotland
 Reformed, not further specified *(if not born
 again)*
 Reformed, ambiguous affiliation *(if not
 born again)*

Anabaptist in the Mainline Tradition

Church of the Brethren
 Moravian Church
 Brethren, not further specified *(if not born
 again)*

Friends in the Mainline Tradition

Society of Friends
 Friends/Quaker, not further specified

**Other/Protestant nonspecific in
 the Mainline Tradition**

Protestant nonspecific *(if non-black and
 not born again; also **includes**
 “ecumenical”)*
 Metropolitan Community Church

Historically Black Protestant Churches

Baptist in the Historically Black Prot. Trad.

National Baptist Convention
 Progressive Baptist Convention
 Independent Baptist *(if black)*

“Black” Baptist
 Christian Baptist Church of God
 “Evangelical” Baptist *(if black)*
 Missionary Baptist *(if black)*

Full Gospel Baptist (*if black*)
 Fundamentalist Baptist (*if black*)
 Primitive Baptist (*if black*)
 National/Progressive Baptist Convention
 International Baptist
 Baptist Bible Church
 Baptist, not further specified (*if black*)
 Baptist, ambiguous affiliation (*if black*)

Methodist in the Hist. Black Prot. Tradition

African Methodist Episcopal
 African Methodist Episcopal Zion
 Christian Methodist Episcopal Church
 Black Methodist
 Reformed Methodist
 Missionary Methodist (*if black*)
 Methodist, not further specified (*if black*)
 Methodist, ambiguous affiliation (*if black*)

Pentecostal in the Hist. Black Prot. Trad.

Church of God in Christ
 Apostolic Pentecostal (*if black*)
 World Gospel Mission
 Church of God in Christ Holiness
 New Testament Church of God

Nondenominational, Independent
 Pentecostal (*if black*)
 United Pentecostal Church International
 Full Gospel (*if black*)
 United House of Prayer for All People
 Pentecostal, not further specified (*if black*)
 Pentecostal, ambiguous affiliation (*if black*)

Holiness in the Historically Black Prot. Trad.

Independent Holiness
 Apostolic Holiness Church
 Holiness Baptist
 Holiness, not further specified (*if black*)
 Holiness, ambiguous affiliation (*if black*)

Nondenominational in the Hist. Black Prot. Tradition

Nondenominational, not further specified (*if black*)
 Nondenominational, ambiguous affiliation (*if black*)

Protestant nonspecific in the Hist. Black Prot. Tradition

Protestant nonspecific (*if black*)