digital atlas *of* American Religion

Data Documentation

Last Updated April 16, 2013

The Polis Center

We brings things into perspective.™

TABLE OF CONTENTS

Predominant Religion Families

Data Sources

The Polis Center at IUPUI
1200 Waterway Blvd
Indianapolis, IN 46202

Florida State University, Department of Religion
John Corrigan
Lucius Moody Bristol Distinguished Professor of Religion
Professor of History
641 University Way / P.O. Box 3061520
The Florida State University
Tallahassee, FL 32306-1520
Website: www.religion.fsu.edu/

The Association of Religion Data Archives
Department of Sociology
The Pennsylvania State University
211 Oswald Tower
University Park, PA 16802-6207

Overview

The Polis Center collected the religion adherence, membership, and congregation counts from The ARDA and used the religion classification scheme developed by the Department of Religion at Florida State to calculate counts and percents by state and county for each religion family and year (see below for more detailed discussion of these two data sources). For each state and county, Polis ranked the religion families in order based on the number of adherents. The Digital Atlas of American Religion (DAAR) displays only the top nine families based on these rankings; the counts or percents for the remaining families are grouped into a category called "other." Predominant denominational family also is available for rankings based on membership and the number of congregations.

This gives DAAR users the ability to determine in a particular year and county, state, or region which denominational family claimed the most, and second most and so on through ninth most, adherents, members, or congregations.

Religion Censuses

Data Sources/Researchers

The Association of Religion Data Archives
Department of Sociology
The Pennsylvania State University
211 Oswald Tower
University Park, PA 16802-6207

Religious Congregations and Membership Survey (RCMS): 2000
An Enumeration by Region, State and County Based on Data Reported for 149 Religious Bodies
Dale E. Jones, Sherri Doty, Clifford Grammich, James E. Horsch, Richard Houseal, Mac Lynn, John P. Marcum, Kenneth M. Sanchagrin and Richard H. Taylor.
Glenmary Research Center
Nashville , TN

The Polis Center at IUPUI
1200 Waterway Blvd
Indianapolis, IN 46202

Florida State University, Department of Religion
John Corrigan
Lucius Moody Bristol Distinguished Professor of Religion
Professor of History
641 University Way / P.O. Box 3061520
The Florida State University
Tallahassee, FL 32306-1520

Overview

The religion census data in DAAR provides statistics about most religions and denominations of their members, adherents, and congregations across the United States by region, state, and county for the years 1890 to 2010.

Data Processing and Calculations

The Polis Center downloaded tabular religion data on adherence, membership, and congregation counts by denomination from the Association of Religion Data Archives (ARDA), www.TheARDA.com for all years but 2000. The Polis Center at IUPUI collected the year 2000 data from Religious Congregations and Membership Survey (RCMS) and supplemented it data with estimates for some denominations that were under-represented in the original data, including Historically African American denominations. See section below on "Calculating 2000 Adherents Estimates."

The religion team at Florida State University (FSU) developed a religion classification hierarchy that assigns each denomination to a family and each family to a religion. The Polis Center applied this classification scheme to the religion data and tabulated for each religion, family, and denomination the number of adherents, members, and congregations in each county, state, and region. It also used the population counts from the US Census data (described below) to calculate the adherents and members as a percent of the total population. Polis performed these calculations on all years available.

Examples of variables available in DAAR by region, state, and county:
- Denominational Families:
    - Baptists – Number of Members (2010)
    - Baptists – Members as a percent of the Total Population (2010)
    - Baptist Members as a percent of all Members of all Families (2010)
    - Baptists – Number of Adherents (2010)
    - Baptists – Adherents as a percent of the Total Population (2010)
    - Baptists Adherents as a percent of all Adherents of all Families (2010)
    - Baptists – Number of Congregations (2010)
    - Baptists Congregations as a percent of all Congregations (2010)
- Denominations:
    - Southern Baptist Convention – Number of Members (2010)
    - Southern Baptist Convention – Members as a percent of the Total Population (2010)
    - Southern Baptist Convention Members as a percent of all Members of all Families (2010)
    - Southern Baptist Convention – Number of Adherents (2010)
    - Southern Baptist Convention – Adherents as a percent of the Total Population (2010)
    - Southern Baptist Convention Adherents as a percent of all Adherents of all Families (2010)
    - Southern Baptist Convention – Number of Congregations (2010)
    - Southern Baptist Convention Congregations as a percent of all Congregations (2010)

ARDA Data Sources

Statistics of Churches in the United States: 1890

The Statistics of Churches in the United States was part of the 11th Census, conducted in 1890 (the U.S. Census collected data on religion through the 1936 census, though the 1890 Census was the first to count the number of members). The Census collected data on church seating capacity, property value, number of members, number of edifices ("buildings owned and used for worship"), and number of organizations (churches, mission stations when separate from congregation, chapels when they are separate from churches, and societies or meetings among groups that designate such organizations). The data are organized by counties (counties are the cases). Measures for religions in Indian Territories are also included. (ARDA)

United States Census of Religious Bodies: 1906, 1916, 1926, 1936

The United States Census of Religious Bodies is, as the name suggests, a census of religious organizations, not a census of individuals (the U.S. Census collected data on religious organizations through the 1936 census). This census provides measures of the number of members in various denominations, by geographic unit. There are four complete surveys on the subject of religious membership undertaken by the U.S. Bureau of the Census (1906-1936). (ARDA).

Church and Church Membership in the United States: 1952, 1971, 1980, 1990

These data sets contain statistics by county for Judeo-Christian church bodies, providing information on their number of churches and members. The denominations included represent an estimated 91 percent (for 1980) of U.S. membership totals officially submitted to the Yearbook of American and Canadian Churches. Please note that this data set may not be sold in any form, including as an addition to proprietary software, without the permission of the copyright holder. Churches and Church Membership in the United States, 1980 is published by the Glenmary Research Center, P.O. Box 507, Mars Hill, NC 28754, (828) 689-5355.

Religious Congregations and Membership Study: 2000, 2010

These studies, designed and completed by the Association of Statisticians of American Religious Bodies (ASARB), represents statistics for religious bodies on the number of congregations within each county of the United States. Where available, also included are actual membership (as defined by the religious body) and total adherents figures. Participants included Christian denominations, associations, or communions (including Latter-day Saints and Unitarian/Universalist groups); two specially defined groups of independent Christian churches; Jewish and Islamic totals; and counts of temples for six Eastern religions.

It is important to understand the methodology producing these data and its limitations. While these data contain membership data for many religious groups in the United States, including most of the larger groups, they do not include every group. (ARDA)

Definitions of Members, Adherents, Congregations.

Members

1) A member is a person belonging to a congregation and\or denomination. Rules concerning membership vary by religious tradition. For example, there may be confessions, behaviors, rituals, or other requirements for becoming a full member. 2) Sometimes people use the word "member" to mean that they simply attend a congregation, whether or not they are full members of the congregation or denomination. In this sense, "member" is similar to "adherent." 3) Note that in the data "members" are defined as "All individuals in a religious group with full membership status", according to the Religious Congregations and Membership Study, 2000. (ARDA)

Adherents

1) A person who identifies with some religious tradition. It is a broader term than "member" because the latter refers to an official status that varies according to congregation or denomination. 2) Note that in the data, adherent has a more specific meaning: "All members, including full members, their children and the estimated number of other participants who are not considered members; for example, the 'baptized,' 'those not confirmed,' 'those not eligible for communion,' 'those regularly attending services,' and the like," according to the Religious Congregations and Membership Study, 2010. (ARDA)

The difference between members and adherents.

Religious groups vary in their standards for declaring people "members." Some churches count infants as church members. Others reserve membership for those who have given a testimony of faith, completed designated training, and/or attained a specific age. To get a standardized rate across denominations, adherents are used. Using adherents instead of members adjusts for groups that do not give full membership status to children. (ARDA)

Congregations

Any local gathering of believers for worship. This can be thought of as a more inclusive term for "church," since many religious traditions use different names for their place of worship. Usually this refers to a building or physical structure, but it could also refer to a more fluid group of people without a specific building (e.g. a 'congregation' that meets in member's homes). (ARDA)

Limitations

Not all years include data on adherents, members and congregations.

Data on adherents, members, and congregations were not collected by the original source providers for all years. For example, member data is available for all years except 2010. Adherent data was first reported in 1971 and is available for all subsequent years. Congregation data is available for 1890, 1952 and all subsequent years. Please see the data availability matrix at http://religionatlas.org/documents/Data_Availability_Matrix.pdf for a complete breakdown.

Not all denominations report for all years.

There are a total of 312 religious denominations reported in the Digital Atlas of American Religion, but data are available for many denominations for only a few years for many different reasons. Many denominations may have been created or become extinct during the time frame covered in DAAR including mergers or splits of denominations. For instance, if a denomination becomes divided and a forms new splinter denomination, there would only be data for the splinter group from that moment forward.

Notable examples of missing denomination data.

Catholics: Most Roman Catholic congregations did not report member data for 1971, 1980, and 1990 though they did report total congregations and adherents. Below are Catholic membership U.S. totals for 1971, 1980, and 1990:

1. 1971 Inclusive Membership Total for the Roman Catholic Church: 47,872,089 (Source: Constant H. Jacquet, ed., Yearbook of American Churches, [New York: Council Press, 1971.]).
2. 1980 Inclusive Membership Total for the Roman Catholic Church: 49,602,035 (Source: Constant H. Jacquet, ed., Yearbook of American Churches and Canadian Churches, 1980 [Nashville: Abingdon, 1980.]).
3. 1990 Inclusive Membership Total for the Roman Catholic Church - 57,019,948 (Source: Constant H. Jacquet and Alice M. Jones, eds., Yearbook of American Churches & Canadian Churches, 1991 [Nashville: Abingdon, 1980.]).

Latter Day Saints (Mormonism) did not report congregation data for 1952 and 1971.

Calculation of Unaffiliated/Uncounted Population

The data item Unaffiliated/Uncounted Population was calculated by subtracting total adherents from total population for each county, state, and region.

Calculation of "Other" Category

DAAR shows the top nine religion families when viewing maps, pie charts and treemaps. While this will generally include the vast majority of adherents, members and congregations, we also calculate the total number of adherents, members, and congregations that are not included in the nine most predominant families. These are displayed as the category of "Other". Which families are included in "Other" will vary depending on the context of the data being viewed.

Calculation of 2000 Adherents Estimates

The RCMS 2000 dataset was supplemented with data from other sources for adherents only. Numbers reported for congregations and members are only for those groups included in RCMS 2000.

In some cases (particularly among Eastern Religions and Black Protestants), estimated national adherent totals were projected onto known places of worship. This probably has resulted in overcounts in counties where we knew there were places of worship and undercounts elsewhere.

The following documents the various methods The Polis Center at IUPUI used to calculate the estimates.

<u>Use of ARIS Data</u>

The American Religious Identification Survey (ARIS) 2001 was a major national survey of adults age 18 and over regarding their self-reported religion. A similar survey was done in 1990. Because it is survey data rather than institutionally reported data, it is of a somewhat different nature from the RCMS 2000 data.

Where ARIS 2001 data was used (Buddhist, Christian Science, Hindu, Sikh and Tao), an annual change factor was calculated based on compounded growth/decline between 1990 and 2001 in order to arrive at 2000 numbers. (Because of the rapid growth of Eastern Religions in the United States, the one year's difference was significant.) Because ARIS 2001 data was based on a survey of only persons age 18 and over, an adjustment factor was calculated for each county by dividing the population by the number of individuals age 18 and over to calculate total adherents.

<u>African-American Estimates</u>

Most Black Protestant denominations did not participate in RCMS in 2000.

Of the six groups that make up the Black Protestant category, three were deemed fairly reliable because they were based on data reported to RCMS in the past. These include African Methodist Episcopal Zion, Christian Methodist Episcopal and the Fire Baptized Holiness Church (Wesleyan). On the other hand, the Black Baptist estimates (generated by RCMS), African Methodist Episcopal and Church of God in Christ were considered to be weaker numbers, especially on the county level. As such, in the event that projected Black Protestants exceeded the number of African-Americans in a county, these three were adjusted proportionally downward.

(Determining the "Black population" for 2000: Because of the change in Census race categories—which now include a "Multi-race" category—an adjustment was necessary. For our purposes, the count of "Blacks" includes all "Black only" responses and half of "multi-raced" individuals who claimed Black as one racial component.)

<u>1990 to 2000 projections</u>

A number of religious groups participated in 1990 but not in 2000. Where available, we used a 10-year change factor, based on National Council of Churches (NCC) data for "Inclusive Membership" from 1990 and 2000, applied to the 1990 RCMS data. Where this is not available, we used NCC data for the nearest period and project a ten-year change factor (allowing for compounding of growth/decline). Where this is not available, we used the 1990 data.

Before 2000, RCMS data for Virginia's independent cities were included in the county data. Where we have used 1990 adherent data, numbers have been divided based on the proportional population in and outside the cities, except in the case of historic African-American denominations, where

adherents were allocated based on the distribution of African-Americans in 1990. 1990-2000 Changes in Alaska census areas did not impact denominations for which we projected adherents from 1990 data. The loss of Yellowstone National Park, MT was insignificant. It had only six adherents reported in 1990 (of 52 residents).

Projections from Congregations

Where denominations have reported congregations to RCMS, we attempted to identify the best national total in order to develop a working adherent figure for the average congregation, which was then applied to all congregations.

Most in this category reported congregation locations in 2000. 1990-2000 changes in Alaska census areas did not impact the three denominations (Christian Science, Independent Fundamental Churches of America and Open Bible Standard Churches, Inc.) for which we projected adherents from 1990 congregation locations. Again here, 1990 adherents have been divided based on the proportional population in and outside the independent cities in 1990.

To follow are notes on specific groups:

076	Buddhism	ARIS 2001 - Adjust by county ARIS factor
084	Calvary Chapel	Mega-church attendance from Hartford list, Don Miller's median figure (138 attendance) for all others. Miller expressed doubts about the value of using his survey data since it's now dated; however, we followed up on the leads he gave and couldn't find anything better. He also noted that Calvary adherents are particularly loyal and more likely to be regular attenders than other groups, so average attendance-to-adherence projection are not appropriate. 1.4 to 1.5 was typical for those denominations that reported attendees to RCMS; therefore a low factor of 1.2 seems more appropriate to applied to attendees to estimate adherents.
111	Christian Science	ARIS 2001 - Adjust by county ARIS factor
186	Coptic Orth Ch	Convert full members from NCC to adherents using RCMS formula
252	Hindu	ARIS 2001 - Adjust by county ARIS factor
259	IFCA	Convert full members from NCC to adherents using RCMS formula
268	Jain	Mid-range of estimates from http://www.pluralism.org/resources/statistics/tradition.php#Jainism; matches 1998 figure from *Jainism: The World of Conquerors* by Natubhai Shah (Sussex Academic Press, 1998)
329	Open Bible Std	NCC full members adjusted to adherents
360	Prim Bapt Chrch*	25.63 members/cong, assuming these represent white Primitive Baptist-Old Line (Robert Gardner, Senior Researcher/Georgia Baptist History, Jack Tarver Library, Mercer University)
370	Ref Baptist Chs*	40 members/cong except 20 in Georgia (R. Gardner)
400	Rus Orth Moscow	Convert full members from NCC to adherents using RCMS formula
401	Rus Orth Abroad	National office declined to give estimate; used Andrew Walsh's figure of 30,000 adherents
411	Serb Orth: Grac	Declined to estimate adherents; converted full members from NCC to adherents using RCMS formula
416	Sikh	ARIS 2001 – Adjust by county ARIS factor

418 Southw Bapt Fel*   150 members/cong average. (R Gardner) (Robert Gardner, Senior
                          Researcher/Georgia Baptist History)
                          Jack Tarver Library, Mercer University

425 Tao   ARIS 2001 – Adjust by county ARIS factor

490 Zoroastrian   Email from Federation of Zoroastrian Associations of North America:
                          "Zoroastrian population of USA would be about 14,000 to 15, 000"

Custom Estimates

Christian Methodist Episcopal

A change factor was calculated for the period from 1980 to 2000 using data reported to the National Council of Churches, which was then applied to 1980 data as reported to RCMS.

Adjustments for Virginia's independent cities were made as described above. No adjustment was made for changes in Alaska census districts because there were only two congregations in two counties. All 1980 counties FIPS with CME presence were found to have corresponding 2000 counties.

Church of God in Christ

The figure of 8,000,000 members was used as a starting point based on the following:

> Under Bishop Mason's spiritual and apostolic direction our church has grown from ten congregations in 1907, to the second largest Pentecostal group in America. The membership of the Church of God in Christ grew from three million in 1973 to an estimated eight million in 1997. (http://www.cogic.org/history.htm)

Membership was converted to adherents using the standard RCMS formula. Church locations were identified by locating the counties for the 1700+ congregations on COGIC's list of congregations with websites (http://www.cogic.org/links.htm). This was combined with 1950 congregation locations as reported to RCMS. Where both reported congregations for the same county, the higher number was used. Data was adjusted for independent Virginia cities. Also see the note above regarding adjusting Black Protestant counts.

Jehovah's Witnesses and African Methodist Episcopal

Data regarding the location of many congregations were obtained from Edwin Gaustad and Philip Barlow's atlas project. 2000 memberships numbers (from National Council of Churches) were allocated to known counties in proportion to the number of congregations present. Membership figures were converted to adherents using RCMS's standard formula.

Additional Resources
- A paper by Roger Finke and Christopher P. Scheitle that explains the "adjusted" adherence rates included in the 2000 ARDA data can be found at
  http://www.thearda.com/mapsReports/Accounting%20for%20the%20Uncounted.pdf
- Further documentation is available from ARDA at http://www.thearda.com/Archive/ChCounty.asp

Religion Characteristics

Data Source/Researchers

Florida State University, Department of Religion
Jonathan Olson
Research Assistant
Religion Department, Florida State University
Website: www.religion.fsu.edu/

John Corrigan
Lucius Moody Bristol Distinguished Professor of Religion
Professor of History
641 University Way / P.O. Box 3061520
The Florida State University
Tallahassee, FL 32306-1520

Overview

The research team created five new coding schemes that depict religion characteristics or beliefs of denominations.

1. Central Authority - The degree to which each denomination is characterized by the consolidation of authority in a broad hierarchy.
2. Giving - The degree to which each denomination tithed.
3. High Education Support - The degree to which a denomination is formally invested in higher education, including colleges, and universities but not including seminaries and Bible colleges.
4. Bible Colleges - The degree to which a denomination is formally invested in Bible colleges.
5. Publishing - This typology includes several components. In addition to providing the number of periodicals associated with American denominations, the typology also includes denominational membership per periodical.

Data Processing and Calculations

For each characteristic, the Florida State research team collected data about each denomination and assigned codes to represent a scale for that characteristic. For example, for the "giving" characteristic, the researchers collected the amount of giving per capita for each denomination, and calculated that as a percent of the average family income. Finally, the researchers assigned codes ranging from one to six to each denomination based on its final percent (e.g., 1 = 0% - .50%; 2 = .51% - 1.00%; etc.). However, these codes were assigned to each denomination with no respect to geography

The Polis Center developed an algorithm to link the denomination-level codes with states and counties using the religion census data to allow us to map the data in DAAR. The algorithm takes into account the number of adherents, members, or congregations of each denomination within a given geography and spreads the denominational codes accordingly. For example, the "Giving" characteristic (or typology) assigns a score of 1 to 6 to each denomination to indicate the level of giving by members or adherents of the denomination. By applying the geography, users can visualize on the map "where are the states (or counties) with the greatest level of giving (across all denominations)?" Users will then be able to layer that with "where are the areas with highest (or lowest) incomes?" to see if there is a correlation between earned income and level of giving.

Data Categories and Variables
The descriptions below provide details about how the data were coded for each denominational family before the algorithm to spatialize the data (described above) was applied.

A. Central Authority

Overview

The data, in the form of a numerical ranking (from 1-5), indicates the type of authority structures used by American denominations from 1890-2010.

Purpose

Data was compiled in order to determine the authority structures of American religious denominations throughout the twentieth century, paying close attention to both frequent changes and longstanding trends.

Method of Collection

The data was gathered from denominational guidebooks such as J. Gordon Melton's Nelson's Guide to Denominations and Frank S. Mead's, Samuel S. Hill's, and Craig D. Atwood's Handbook of Denominations in the United States. Additional data was compiled from official denominational websites

Data Available from Source Provider

Data is available for most (but not all) denominations during their respective years of operation.

Assumptions

It is assumed that denominational authority structures do not experience radical changes over a short period of time. Instead, any shifts in church polity tend only to be visible over an extended over an extended period of time, if such shifts ever occur in the first place. Furthermore, it is assumed that denominational names offer some hint as to the group's structure of authority. For example, a denomination with the word "Episcopal" in its name will, in all likelihood, have a more centralized authority as opposed to a denomination with the word "Congregationalist" in its name, which would have an authority structure that is more diffuse.

Known Limitations

There is a certain level of subjectivity associated with assigning denominations an authority ranking. While some are clear (e.g. Roman Catholic Church), others are more ambiguous. The Assemblies of God is a prime example of the latter. Its polity pulls from both Presbyterian and Congregationalist models and therefore could be labeled either a 3 or 4.

Additional Information

The numbering system for the authority typology was based loosely on established church polities. For example, the #4 tended to correspond with denominations who utilized a congregational model for their polity, while the #3 tended to represent those groups whose polity closely resembled either the connection model (Methodism), the synod model (Lutheranism), or the presbytery model

(Presbyterianism). Denominations given a #2 tended to have an episcopal polity, while groups given a #1 often tended to have a more hierarchical and less localized episcopal polity such as Roman Catholicism and some Orthodox communities. The #5 tended to correspond with denominations with no recognizable polity structure. Lastly, the label "n/a" was used as a way of marking the years in which a denominational name did not exist.

Definitions of Authority Levels:

Degree	Examples	Definition
Strong Centralized Authority (No or very little congregational autonomy)	Roman Catholic Church, Church of Jesus Christ of Latter-Day Saints	In both denominations authority is centralized in a strong hierarchical structure to which local congregations acquiesce on all matters of belief, practice, church governance, property rights, etc.
Strong/Moderate Centralized Authority (Limited congregational autonomy)	Episcopal Church, Salvation Army	In both denominations authority is centralized in a hierarchical structure to which local congregations acquiesce on most matters relating to belief, practice, church governance, property rights, etc. However, authority tends to be a little more diffused in localized bodies such as synods or dioceses.
Moderate Centralized Authority (Some congregational autonomy)	Presbyterian Church, U.S.A., Lutheran Church - Missouri Synod	In both denominations authority is diffused in regional bodies known as synods or presbyteries. Local congregations tend to comply with these governing bodies on most matters of belief, practice, church governance, property rights, etc.
Moderate/Weak Centralized Authority (Considerable congregational autonomy)	Congregational Methodist Church, American Baptist Association	In both denominations authority is almost entirely diffused in local congregational bodies. Centralized leadership is typically comprised of elected officials who serve a limited term. Denominational business is normally conducted during an annual or biannual conference or council in which most denominational members can vote.
Weak Centralized Authority (Almost complete congregational autonomy)	Hutterian Brethren, Theosophical Society in America	In both denominations authority is so diffused among local congregations and members in such a way as to make unclear the existence of any formal centralized authority.

B. Giving

Overview

The data, in the form of a numerical ranking (from 1-6), indicates American denominational commitment to giving from 1906-2010.

Purpose

Data was compiled in order to determine the per capita contributions (including congregational expenses and foreign and domestic benevolences) for American religious denominations throughout the twentieth century, paying close attention to both frequent changes and longstanding trends.

Method of Collection

The data was gathered from the Yearbook series, which (depending on the year) includes such titles as the Federal Council Yearbook, Handbook of Churches, Yearbook of American Churches, and Yearbook of American and Canadian Churches. Additional data was compiled from the U. S. Census Bureau and the U. S. Bureau of Labor Statistics.

Data Available from Source Provider

Data is available for some (but not all) denominations during their respective years of operation.

Assumptions

It is assumed that denominations with a higher percentage of per capita contributions in relation to average family income have a greater commitment to giving.

Known Limitations

None

Additional Information

This typology includes several components. In addition to providing the amount of per capita contributions for various American religious denominations, it includes denominational per capita contributions as a percentage of average family income. This latter data offers a more accurate representation of a denomination's commitment to giving. For example, if members of a denomination each contributed $100.00 in the year 1916 and the same amount in the year 2000, it would signal a decline in that particular denomination's commitment to giving, considering the average family income was much less in 1916 than it was in 2000.

Definitions of Giving Levels:

Per Capita Contributions as Percentage of Average Family Income	Examples
Low Giving: 0% - 0.05%	African Methodist Episcopal Zion Church (2000), Apostolic Faith Mission Church of God (2000)
Low/Moderate Giving: 0.51% - 1.00%	American Baptist Churches in the U.S.A. (2000) , Cumberland Presbyterian Church (2000)
Moderate Giving: 1.01% - 2.00%	Primitive Methodist Church, U.S.A. (2000) , Reformed Church in America (2000)
Moderate/High Giving: 2.01% - 3.00%	Orthodox Presbyterian Church (2000) , North American Baptist Conference (2000)
High Giving: 3.01% - 4.00%	Evangelical Covenant Church (2000) , Bible Fellowship Church (1990)

Very High Giving: 4.01% and Above	Alleghany Wesleyan Methodist Connection (2000), Evangelical Mennonite Church (2000)

C. Higher Education Support and Bible Colleges Support

Overview

The data, in the form of a numerical ranking (from 1-6), indicates American denominational commitment to higher education and/or bible colleges from 1916-2010.

Purpose

Data was compiled in order to determine the amount of seminaries, bible colleges, and four-year universities affiliated with American religious denominations throughout the twentieth century, paying close attention to both frequent changes and longstanding trends.

Method of Collection

The data was gathered from the Yearbook series, which (depending on the year) includes such titles as the Federal Council Yearbook, Handbook of Churches, Yearbook of American Churches, and Yearbook of American and Canadian Churches. Additional data was collected from several editions of the denominational guidebook by Frank S. Mead, Samuel S. Hill, and Craig D. Atwood entitled Handbook of Denominations in the United States.

Data Available from Source Provider

Data is available for some (but not all) denominations during their respective years of operation

Assumptions

It is assumed that denominations with a lower membership-to-school ratio have a greater commitment to higher education.

Known Limitations

Any changes from the year 1990 to 2000 may not represent an actual change in a denomination's educational support but may simply be a reflection of the change in data sources. Prior to the year 2000, the Yearbook series provided data on four-year colleges and universities affiliated with American religious denominations. The 2000 and 2010 editions did not. Mead's, Hill's, and Atwood's Handbook was able to fill in the gaps. However, it is possible they listed schools the Yearbook previously did not and vice versa, thus creating a possible discrepancy in the reporting.

Additional Information

These typologies include several components. In addition to providing the number of institutions of higher education associated with American denominations, it includes denominational membership per institution. This latter data offers a more accurate representation of religious education. For example, if two denominations each support 3 four-year colleges but one has 10,000 total members

and the other has 1,000,000, we can conclude that the former denomination has a greater commitment to higher education.

Definitions of Education Support Levels:

Degree of Bible College or Higher Education Support	Examples
Very Strong: fewer than 10,000 members per institution.	Reformed Episcopal Church (2000), Church of the Lutheran Brethren of America (2000)
Strong: 10,000 - 49,999 members per institution.	Churches of God, General Conference (2000), Mennonite Church (2000)
Strong/ Moderate: 50,000 - 99,999 members per institution.	Grace Gospel Fellowship (2000) , Evangelical Covenant Church (2000)
Moderate: 100,000 - 499,999 members per institution.	Church of the Nazarene (2000) , United Church of Christ (2000)
Moderate/Weak 500,000 - 999,999 members per institution.	Evangelical Lutheran Church in America (2000) , Christian Methodist Episcopal Church (1990)
Weak: 1,000,000 and Above members per institution.	Greek Orthodox Archdiocese of North America (2000), Pentecostal Assemblies of the World, Incorporated (2000)

D. Publishing

Overview

The data, in the form of a numerical ranking (from 1-6), indicates American denominational commitment to publishing from 1890-2010.

Purpose
Data was compiled in order to determine the amount of periodicals published by American religious denominations throughout the twentieth century, paying close attention to both frequent changes and longstanding trends. Method of Collection

Data Available from Source Provider

Data is available for some (but not all) denominations during their respective years of operation.

Assumptions

It is assumed that denominations with a lower membership-to-periodical ratio have a greater commitment to publishing.

Known Limitations

There are some years where certain denominations such as the Southern Baptist Convention and the Episcopal Church have a rather high number of periodicals in comparison to the other years. This discrepancy is due to an inconsistency in the data. There are some years where the data only includes national periodicals, while in other years it includes both national and regional periodicals.

Additional Information

This typology includes several components. In addition to providing the number of periodicals associated with American denominations, it includes denominational membership per periodical. This latter data offers a more accurate representation of denominational publishing. For example, if two denominations each support 3 periodicals but one has 10,000 total members and the other has 1,000,000, we can conclude that the former denomination has a greater commitment to publishing.

Definitions of Publishing Investment Levels:

Denominational Publishing investment	Examples
Very High: fewer than 10,000 members per periodical published.	International Pentecostal Church of Christ (2000), Fellowship of Evangelical Bible Churches (2000)
High: 10,000 - 49,999 members per periodical published.	General Conference of Mennonite Brethren Churches (2000) , Seventh-Day Adventist Church (2000)
Moderate/High 50,000 - 99,999 members per periodical published.	Church of God (Anderson, Indiana) (2000) , Serbian Orthodox Church (2000)
Moderate: 100,000 - 499,999 members per periodical published.	Salvation Army (2000) , United Methodist Church (2000)
Moderate/Low 500,000 - 999,999 members per periodical published.	Church of God in Christ (2000) , Progressive National Baptist Convention, Incorporated (1990)
Low: More than 1,000,000 members per periodical published.	Orthodox Church in America (2000), Lutheran Church - Missouri Synod (2000)

Geographies

Data Sources

Minnesota Population Center
National Historical Geographic Information System: Version 2.0. (2012)
University of Minnesota
Minneapolis, MN
http://www.nhgis.org

Atlas of Historical County Boundaries
The Newberry Library
Dr. William M. Scholl Center for American History and Culture.
http://publications.newberry.org/ahcbp/index.html

U.S. Census Bureau via Wikipedia
http://en.wikipedia.org/wiki/File:USA_Counties.svg

Overview

Historical geographic data were obtained from multiple sources in order to map the historical tabular religion data. All data within DAAR are mapped to counties, states, and regions making it important to use accurate representations of the counties at the time that the tabular religion data were collected.

Statewide county maps in DAAR for data years 1926, 1936, 1952, 1971, 1980, 1990, 2000, and 2010 utilize boundary data from the National Historical Geographic Information System (NHGIS). Nationwide county maps in DAAR for data years 1926, 1936, 1952, 1971, 1980, 1990, 2000, and 2010 utilize boundary data from the U.S. Census Bureau. Data years 1890, 1906, and 1916 were derived from data from the Atlas of Historical County Boundaries, Newberry Library for both statewide and nationwide county-level maps.

County boundaries can change from time to time, but have been generally stable since the early 1920s. One notable exception is Virginia where counties have gone through several changes as some cities have become their own counties and some city-counties have been absorbed by the surrounding county.

Data Processing

Every effort has been made to link tabular religion data to geographic data through a combination of identifier and name matching. This link was performed on using the NHGIS layer as the basis and applying the NHGIS identification numbers to ARDA data and the geographic layers from Newberry and Census.

The County geographies were manipulated in other ways to optimize display in DAAR. Counties were generalized from the original NHGIS and Newberry layers to allow for faster drawing of layers and to show appropriate detail in small-scale maps. State and region boundaries were derived from NHGIS and Newberry geographic county layers.

US Censuses

Data Sources

Minnesota Population Center
National Historical Geographic Information System: Version 2.0. (2012)
University of Minnesota
Minneapolis, MN
http://www.nhgis.org

US Census Bureau via American FactFinder
2010 Census and American Community Survey
4600 Silver Hill Road
Washington, DC 20233
http://factfinder2.census.gov/faces/nav/jsf/pages/index.xhtml

1890 – 2000: All census data included in the Digital Atlas of American Religion, except 2010, was downloaded from the National Historical Geographic Information System at nhgis.org.

2010 data on education, income, and nativity were downloaded from American FactFinder and were derived from U.S. Census Bureau American Community Survey 2006-2010 5-year averages since that is the only dataset for which all U.S. counties contain data. 2010 data on race/ethnicity, urban/rural, and total population were chosen from 2010 Decennial Census data.

Available Data

A document showing the years and geographies each variable is available in DAAR is accessible at: http://religionatlas.org/documents/Data_Availability_Matrix.pdf.

Data Processing and Calculations

We collected raw data from NHGIS, calculated new variables for inclusion in DAAR taking into account data definition changes and data inconsistences between data years, and linked the results with the appropriate county and state boundary files for geographic mapping. When possible, we provided for each variable a count and percent (e.g., race variables include the total number of people in a given race and the percent of the total population that are of that race) for all states and counties/parishes in the U.S.

Data Categories and Variables

E. Race/Ethnicity

Overview

The way that Census records race and ethnicity data has changed greatly over the years. Originally, every person was categorized as "white" or "colored". Later these categories developed into "white", "colored", and "other". By 1910, finer distinctions were made with the introductions of categories such as Indian, Japanese, and Chinese. 1970 brought about the introduction of the concept of ethnicity where all persons would report a race and then separately would also report Ethnicity as Hispanic or non-Hispanic. All race data in DAAR is reported without regard to Hispanic ethnicity. Hispanic ethnicity is treated in DAAR as a separate variable.

Variables Included in DAAR
(see Data Availability Matrix for the data years each variable is available)

1. African American Population
2. American Indian/Native Alaskan Population
3. Asian Population
4. Caucasian Population
5. Hawaiian/Pacific Islander Population

   This race group was first reported in the 2000 Census.

6. Hispanic Population

   Hispanic Ethnicity was first reported in the 1970 Census. Ethnicity in DAAR census data is separate from race, therefore adding Hispanics to all race groups will lead to a total greater than total population. Please view race and ethnicity as different concepts within the census data available in the Digital Atlas of American Religion.

7. Non-Hispanic Population

   Hispanic Ethnicity was first reported in the 1970 Census.

8. Multiple Race Population

   This race group was first reported in the 2000 Census

9. Minority Population

   The definition of minorities within census data changes from year to year depending on what race and ethnicity questions were asked on a particular questionnaire. As more minority groups become identifiable, large increases in minority populations may be noticed. For example, Southwestern states show a very strong increase in minority population beginning in 1970, the first year that Hispanics were identified in the census. For the specified years, minority population calculations include the following:

   1. 1900, 1910, 1920, 1930, 1940, 1950: African Americans and other race.
   2. 1960: Asians, African Americans, and other race
   3. 1970, 1980: Asians, African Americans, other race, and Hispanics.
   4. 1990, 2000, 2010: All races except White non-Hispanics

10. Population of Some Other Race

    The definition of "other race" within census data changes from year to year depending on what race and ethnicity questions were asked on a particular questionnaire. "Other race" is defined as:

    1900:   All others besides White and African American.
    1910:   American Indian, Chinese, Japanese and all others besides White and African American.
    1920:   American Indian, Japanese, and all others besides White and African American.
    1930:   All others besides White and African American
    1940:   Other races: American Indian, Chinese, Japanese, Filipino, Hindu, Korean, and all others besides White and African American.

1950:   Other races: American Indian, Japanese, Chinese, Filipino, and all others besides White and African American.

1960:   Other races: American Indian, Japanese, Chinese, Filipino and all others besides White, African American, and Asian.

1970:   Other races: American Indian, and all others besides White, African American, and Asian,

1980:   Other races: All besides White, African American, Asian, and American Indian.

1990:   Other races: All besides White, African American, Asian, and American Indian.

2000:   Other races: All besides White, African American, Asian, American Indian, Hawaiian/Pacific Islander, and Multi-racial.

2010:   Other races: All besides White, African American, Asian, American Indian, Hawaiian/Pacific Islander, and Multi-racial.

F. Income

Overview

Questions on income were first asked by the Census Bureau in 1930 but were not well established and consistent until 1970. No income-related indicators in the Digital Atlas of American Religion are adjusted for inflation. The U.S. Bureau of Labor Statistics provides an inflation calculator at http://www.bls.gov/data/inflation_calculator.htm.

Variables Included in DAAR
(see Data Availability Matrix for the data years each variable is available)

1. Median Family Income

    Median income of all families living in a given area. Median income is the amount which divides the income distribution into two equal groups, half having incomes above the median, half having incomes below the median. The medians for families are based on families. (U.S. Census Bureau)

2. Median Household Income

    Median income of all households living in a given area. Median income is the amount which divides the income distribution into two equal groups, half having incomes above the median, half having incomes below the median. The medians for households are based on all households. (U.S. Census Bureau)

3. Per Capita Income

    Per capita income is the average income computed for every man, woman, and child in a particular group. The Census Bureau derived per capita income by dividing the total income of a particular group by the total population in that group (excluding patients or inmates in institutional quarters). (U.S. Census Bureau)

4. Families Living in Poverty

    The Census Bureau uses a set of money income thresholds that vary by family size and composition to detect who is poor. If a family's total income is less than that family's threshold, then that family, and every individual in it, is considered poor. The poverty thresholds do not vary geographically, but they are updated annually for inflation with the Consumer Price Index (CPI-U).

The official poverty definition counts money income before taxes and excludes capital gains and noncash benefits (such as public housing, Medicaid, and food stamps). (U.S. Census Bureau)

5. Population Living in Poverty

The Census Bureau uses a set of money income thresholds that vary by family size and composition to detect who is poor. If a family's total income is less than that family's threshold, then that family, and every individual in it, is considered poor. The poverty thresholds do not vary geographically, but they are updated annually for inflation with the Consumer Price Index (CPI-U). The official poverty definition counts money income before taxes and excludes capital gains and noncash benefits (such as public housing, Medicaid, and food stamps). (U.S. Census Bureau)

6. Population for whom Poverty Status has been Determined

The Census Bureau determines the poverty status for all persons who do not live in group quarters, and are individuals under age 15 who are not related to the householder. When calculating a percent of population in poverty, it is important to use population for whom poverty status has been determined as the denominator.

G. *Nativity (Birth Place of Origin)*

Overview

The question of nativity (whether a person is a citizen at birth or not) has been included in the census questionnaire since 1820. Counts of foreign-born population for years 1900, 1910, 1920, and 1950 represent only white foreign born populations. During the first half of the 20th Century, non-white immigration was suppressed by various legislation including the Chinese Exclusion Act of 1882 and the Immigration Act (Johnson-Reed Act) of 1924. Nativity data from 1960 was excluded from the Digital Atlas of American Religion due to comparability issues. Due to sampling error, 1970 native-born and foreign-born population by county do not add up to total populations. In this case percent of total was calculated as a percent of the sum of native-born and foreign-born populations.

Variables Included in DAAR
(see Data Availability Matrix for the data years each variable is available)

1. Foreign-born Population

Foreign-born people are people who are not citizens at birth because they are not (1) Born in the United States; (2) Born in Puerto Rico or a U.S., outlying area; or (3) Born abroad of American parents. (U.S. Census Bureau)

2. Native-born Population

Native born people are U.S. citizens at birth. All people with the following citizenship status are native born: (1) Born in the United States; (2) Born in Puerto Rico or a U.S., outlying area; or (3) Born abroad of American parents. All other people are foreign born. (U.S. Census Bureau)

H. *Education Attainment*

<u>Overview</u>

Questions on educational attainment were first asked in 1940 but were not consistently asked until 1970. All years of education data reported in the Digital Atlas of American Religion are based on the population 25 years and older. Other years of census report educational attainment for the population 18 and older but were not included here because of compatibility issues. Therefore, education variables are available in DAAR only for the years 1940 and 1970-2010.

<u>Variables Included in DAAR</u> (see Data Availability <u>Matrix</u> for the data years each variable is available)

Note that these indicators are not mutually inclusive meaning that, for example, population with at least a Bachelor degree also includes population with at least a high school diploma.

1. Population Age 25 and Over
2. Population with at least a Bachelor Degree
3. Population with at least a High School Diploma
4. Population with less than 7th Grade Education
5. Population with less than 9th Grade Education
6. Population with less than High School Diploma

I. *Urban/Rural*

<u>Overview</u>

The concept of urban and rural population has been in the Census since 1840 with population increasingly becoming more urban than rural throughout the decades. 1960 data were excluded due to comparability issues.

<u>Variables Included in DAAR</u>
(see Data Availability <u>Matrix</u> for the data years each variable is available)

1. Rural Population

All territory, population, and housing units located outside of urbanized areas and urban clusters. Because "urban" and "rural" are defined at the census block level, larger areas such as counties and states will have some urban population and some rural population. (U.S. Census Bureau)

2. Urban Population

All territory, population, and housing units in urbanized areas and urban clusters. Because "urban" and "rural" are defined at the census block level, larger areas such as counties and states will have some urban population and some rural population. (U.S. Census Bureau)

J. *Total Population*

<u>Overview</u>

Overall counts are included for total population and total families. The concept of families versus households first appeared in the 1970 census.

Variables Included in DAAR
(see Data Availability Matrix for the data years each variable is available)

1. Total Families

    A family consists of two or more people (one of whom is the householder) related by birth, marriage, or adoption residing in the same housing unit. (U.S. Census Bureau)

2. Total Population

    The total number of people living in a given area.