



GENERAL BOARD OF
**Higher Education
& Ministry**[®]

Student Religious Affiliation Academic Year 2010-2011

United Methodist-Related Higher Education Institutions

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The United Methodist Church

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Table of Contents

Introduction.....	3
Methodology.....	3
Measures.....	4
Data Analysis.....	4
Findings.....	4
Conclusions.....	6
References.....	7
Appendix A: Form Definitions.....	8
Religious Affiliation Definitions.....	8
Protestant Denominations.....	8
Appendix B: Institutions Reporting.....	11
Appendix C: Methodist Religious Affiliation Rank-Order Percent Methodist Students.....	13

Introduction

For the past three years the General Board of Higher Education and Research has requested aggregate religious affiliation data from United Methodist-related postsecondary institutions. Edits have been made during the past years to the tables that were used to request the data from the institutions. Simplifying the request allowed for the religious affiliation of students to be classified more accurately. Though there have been changes made, the trend of students who identified as Protestant affiliation with United Methodist denomination has remained consistent. For instance, students who identified a religious affiliation most often claimed Protestant affiliation and more than 20 percent of the Protestant students claimed Methodist denomination.

Methodology

The primary questions addressed in this report are (1) How many of the enrolled students at the United Methodist-related institutions claim a United Methodist (UM) religious affiliation? (2) How does the percentage of United Methodist students compare to reported percentages of other religious affiliations?

The General Board of Higher Education and Ministry requested aggregate student religious affiliation data for fall enrollment 2010 from all 98 United Methodist-related postsecondary Educational institutions.

The request was sent via e-mail to the institutional researcher and president or CEO, with an attached e-mail message and two Excel spreadsheets. The two spreadsheets contained tables that requested the number of students by religious affiliation and number of students by Protestant denominations. Protestant traditions were not collected this year; many institutions were unable to complete the Protestant tradition table. Therefore, it was discontinued. Definitions for each table were also provided (see Appendix A).

Data collection began August 1, 2011, and concluded September 15, 2011. A total of 85 of the 98 institutions provided the requested data. Three of the 98 institutions reported that they do not collect religious affiliation data of any sort, including through the Cooperative Institutional Research Program's (CIRP) freshman survey (see Appendix B); one institution responded with CIRP data.¹ Once the review process was completed, only 75 institutions

¹ CIRP data reflects a sample of the total freshman student population; because the institution that provided religious affiliation data was from this survey the data could not to be used.

sent complete information, meaning all tables submitted were completed with matching totals. Notifications were sent to the 10 institutions that sent incorrect data, asking the contact to verify the correction of the data. After this process, two did not reply (see Appendix B for a list of schools response status). The overall response rate of 84.6 percent is the highest between 2008 and 2010 reports. The 2009 report yielded 74 percent response rate for enrollment data and the 2008 report response rate was 55 percent². Both years yield a difference of more than 10 percent from this year's report.

Measures

A variety of sources were used to develop the list of religious affiliations and Protestant denominations.³ Religious affiliation was condensed into eight groups: Protestant, Catholic, Orthodox (Christian), Judaism, Islam, other, unaffiliated, and missing. Based on Protestant affiliation the tables were broken down by denominational family; Adventist, Anabaptist, Anglican/Episcopal, Baptist, Congregationalist, Friends, Holiness, Lutheran, Methodist, Nondenominational, Pentecostal, Pietist, Presbyterian, Reformed, Restorationist, and other.

Data Analysis

Data analysis for 2010 is based on 83 institutions (84.6 percent of 98 UM-Related Institutions). All of these institutions provided correct data for the analysis of religious affiliation. In data analysis, Excel was used to calculate percentages and totals. The percentages were then entered into SPSS to accurately rank the schools by percents of students who identified as Methodist denomination (Appendix C) and portray a minimum and maximum range from the collection of institutions.

Findings

In 2010, 83 institutions reported a total enrollment of 174,001 students. The wide range of results reported from different institutions illustrates that religiously diverse students are

² Sarah Combs and Michelle Fugate (2011), "Student Religious Affiliation United Methodist-Related Higher Education Institutions: Year 2009-2010," (www.gbhem.org/research).

³ Sources used include: The *Oxford Concise Dictionary of World Religions*; the appendix from Pew Forum's *Us Religious Landscapes survey*; The Association of Religion Data Archives

drawn to United Methodist Schools. As seen on page 5 in figure 1, religious affiliation was missing for 30.3 percent (52,719) of the students. The most prevalent affiliation was Protestant (30.8 percent, 53,610) followed by no affiliation (18.1 percent, 31,492) and then Catholic (12.0 percent, 20,917).

Figure 1: Religious Affiliation at 82 United Methodist-Related Institutions, 2010

Affiliation	N Students	% Students	Institutional Range		Average
			Minimum	Maximum	
Protestant	53,610	30.81%	1.8%	82.4%	39.9%
Catholic	20,917	12.02%	0.7%	33.5%	11.0%
Orthodox	1,384	0.80%	0.0%	19.6%	1.0%
Judaism/ Jewish	3,912	2.25%	0.0%	9.6%	0.9%
Islam/Muslim	1,025	0.59%	0.0%	2.0%	0.4%
Other Affiliation	8,942	5.14%	0.0%	55.9%	5.0%
Unaffiliated/ None	31,492	18.10%	0.0%	83.8%	11.5%
Don't Know/ Missing	52,719	30.30%	0.0%	89.7%	30.3%
Total	174,001	100.00%			

N= 83

Figure 2 breaks down the percentage of Protestant-affiliated students by their self reported denominations. The most frequent Protestant denomination was Baptist (27.8 percent, 14,955) and the second most common denomination was Methodist (23.9 percent, 12,834). The remaining denominations each accounted for less than 10 percent of Protestant students.

Figure 2: Protestant Denominations at 82 United Methodist-related institutions, 2010

Figure 2			Institutional Range		Average
Denomination	N Students	% Students	Minimum	Maximum	
Adventist	241	0.4%	0.0%	13.7%	0.5%
Anabaptist	176	0.3%	0.0%	9.1%	0.4%
Anglican/ Episcopal	2,581	4.8%	0.0%	25.9%	4.0%
Baptist	14,955	27.8%	3.7%	73.0%	30.1%
Congregationalist	3,063	5.7%	0.0%	38.0%	4.8%
Friends	235	0.4%	0.0%	9.1%	0.3%
Holiness	438	0.8%	0.0%	4.1%	0.8%
Lutheran	3,677	6.8%	0.0%	48.4%	7.9%
Methodist	12,834	23.9%	0.0%	52.1%	24.2%
Non-Denominational	4,669	8.7%	0.0%	48.0%	7.8%
Pentecostal	1,524	2.8%	0.0%	10.6%	2.9%
Pietist	11	0.0%	0.0%	0.5%	0.0%
Presbyterian	3,403	6.3%	0.0%	25.4%	6.0%
Reformed	157	0.3%	0.0%	4.2%	0.3%
Restorationist	1,287	2.4%	0.0%	38.5%	2.5%
Other Protestant	4,459	8.3%	0.0%	52.4%	7.5%
Total	53,710	100.0%			

N=83

Conclusions

The majority of students claimed Protestant affiliation 30.8 percent, while 30.3 percent of respondents reported don't know or missing. More Protestant students claimed Baptist denomination than Methodist denomination by 3.9 percent (27.8 percent and 23.9 percent, respectively). This year's data response rate from the United Methodist Schools, Colleges, and Universities (SCUs) was the highest in the three years that this data has been collected. The response rate of 84.6 percent was significantly higher than 2009 response rate of 74 percent and 2004-2008 response rates of 55 percent. This constant increase can be attributed in part to modifications made each year to simplify the process for administrators. As this is the third year this data has been requested, the higher response rates could also stem from administrators expecting that the data would be requested.

References

The Association of Religion Data Archives. Available at www.thearda.com.

Bowker, John, ed. (2000). Oxford Concise Dictionary of World Religions (Oxford University Press).

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Fugate, Michelle and Sarah Combs (2011). "Student Religious Affiliation United Methodist Related Higher Education Institutions: Years 2004-2008." Available at www.gbhem.org/research.

Pew Forum on Religion and Public Life. "U.S. Religious Landscape Survey," Appendix 3. Retrieved May 2010. Available at religions.pewforum.org/pdf/report2religiouslandscape-study-appendix3.pdf

Appendix A: Form Definitions

RELIGIOUS AFFILIATION DEFINITIONS

Affiliation	Definition
Protestant	One of three traditions of Christianity - arose out of the Reformation. Include Evangelical, mainline, and historically black Protestant churches.
Catholic	One of three traditions of Christianity. Churches in communion with the Church of Rome/Pope. Include Catholic, Roman Catholic, Eastern Catholic, and Uniate churches
Orthodox	One of three traditions of Christianity. Descendents of Church of the Apostles and the seven ecumenical councils. Includes Eastern Orthodox, Russian, Serbian, Romanian, Bulgarian, Georgian, Greek, Czechoslovakian, Polish, Sypres, Albanian, Finland, Crete, Japanese, Chinese, Korean, African.
Jewish/Judaism	Includes Orthodox, Reform, Conservative, Progressive, Reconstructionist, and liberal Judaism
Islam/Muslim	Includes Sunni and Shi'a
Other Affiliation	Another faith or world religion not captured above. Includes Buddhist, Hindu, Jehovah's Witness, Latter Day Saint/Mormon, and Unitarian Universalist
Unaffiliated/None	Responses of none, no religious affiliation, atheist, and agnostic.
Don't Know/Missing	No religious affiliation given

PROTESTANT DENOMINATIONS

Family	Denominations	Family	Denominations
Lutheran	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • 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 • Evangelical Lutheran Church in America (ELCA) • American Lutheran Church • Latvian Evangelical Lutheran Church in America 	Methodist	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • African Methodist Episcopal • African Methodist Episcopal Zion • Black Methodist • Christian Methodist Episcopal Church • Congregational Methodist • "Evangelical" Methodist • Evangelical United Brethren • Independent Methodist • Missionary Methodist • Primitive Methodist • Reformed Methodist • "Traditional" Methodist • United Methodist Church
Anabaptists	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Brethren in Christ • Brethren Evangelical (if not born again) • Mennonite Brethren • Mennonite • Amish • United Brethren in Christ • Apostolic Christian Church • Church of the Brethren • Moravian Church • Brethren (if not born again) 	Nondenominational	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Association of Bridge Churches • Community Church • "Emergent church" • Federate or union church • Interdenominational • "Liberal" Nondenominational • Nondenominational charismatic • Nondenominational Christian • Nondenominational evangelical • Nondenominational fundamentalist • Nondenominational Protestant

Family	Denominations	Family	Denominations
Baptist	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Alliance • American Baptist Association • American Baptist Churches in USA • Baptist Bible Church • Baptist Bible Fellowship • Baptist General Conference Swedish Baptist • Baptist General Convention of Texas • Baptist Missionary Association • "Black" Baptist • Christian Baptist Church of God • Conservative Baptist Assoc. of America • Cooperative Baptist Fellowship Baptist • "Evangelical" Baptist • Evangelical Free Baptist • Free Will Baptist • Full Gospel Baptist • Fundamentalist Baptist • General Association of Regular Baptists • Independent Baptist • International Baptist • "Liberal/Progressive" Baptist • Missionary Baptist • National Baptist Convention • National/Progressive Baptist Convention • North American Baptist • Primitive Baptist • Progressive Baptist Convention • Reformed Baptist (Calvinist) • Seventh-Day Baptist • Slavic Evangelical Baptist Church • Southern Baptist Convention • United Baptist Church 	Pentecostal	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Apostolic Pentecostal • Assemblies of God • Assembly of Christian Churches • Calvary Chapel • Church of God Cleveland Tennessee • Church of God in Christ • Church of God in Christ Holiness • Church of God not further specified • Church of God of Kentucky • Church of God of Prophecy • Church of God of the Apostolic Faith • Church of God of the Midwest • Elim Fellowship • "Evangelical" Pentecostal • Four Square Gospel • Full Gospel • International Pentecostal Church of Christ • Missionary Church • New Testament Church of God • Nondenominational, Independent • Open Bible Standard Churches • Pentecostal • Pentecostal Church of God • Pentecostal Holiness Church • United House of Prayer for All People • United Pentecostal Church International • Vineyard Fellowship • World Gospel Mission
Restorationist	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Christian Churches and Churches of Christ • Church of Christ • Disciples of Christ 	Pietist	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Church of God Winebrenner Fellowship • Evangelical Covenant Church • Evangelical Free Church • Evangelical Free Mission Church • "Pietist"
Anglican	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Anglican Church (Church of England) • Anglican Orthodox Church • Church of Ireland • "Conservative" Anglican • Episcopal Church in the USA • Reformed Episcopal Church 	Congregationalist	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Christian Churches • Conservative Congregational Christian • Evangelical Congregational • Independent Congregational Church • National Association of Congregational • United Church of Christ

Family	Denominations	Family	Denominations
Holiness	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Apostolic Holiness Church • Christian and Missionary Alliance • Church of God (Anderson, Indiana) • Church of God in Findlay, Ohio • Church of God of Michigan • Church of the Nazarene • Free Holiness • Free Methodist Church • Holiness Baptist • Independent Holiness • Missionary • Pilgrim Holiness Church • Salvation Army • Wesleyan Church • Wesleyan Methodist Church • World Gospel Mission, Holiness 	Presbyterian	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Associate Reformed Presbyterian • Bible Presbyterian Church • Community Presbyterian Church in America • Congregational Presbyterian • Conservative Presbyterian Church • Cumberland Presbyterian Church • Evangelical Presbyterian • Independent Presbyterian • "Liberal" Presbyterian • Orthodox Presbyterian • Presbyterian Church in America • Presbyterian Church of Canada • Presbyterian Church USA • Reformed Presbyterian • Scotch Presbyterian • United Presbyterian • World Presbyterian Board
Friends	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Friends/Quaker • Society of Friends 	Reformed	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Christian Reformed Church • Congregational Union of Scotland • Evangelical Association of Reformed and Congregational Churches • Evangelical Reformed • Free Hungarian Reformed Church • Reformed Church in America • Sovereign Grace • United Reformed Churches of North America
Adventists	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • 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 	Other Protestant	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Bible, Gospel, Missionary churches • "Born again," "Bible-believers," etc. • "Charismatic," "Spirit filled" • "Evangelical" • Evangelical Bible Church • "Fundamentalist" not further specified • Metropolitan Community Church

Appendix B: Institutions Reporting

Complete=All tables submitted
 NR=No response to data request
 None=Does not collect data

*=Protestant totals were inconsistent across tables; only tables with consistent Protestant totals were used in this report
 **=did not respond to data correction verification

Adrian College	NR	Louisburg College	Complete
Alaska Pacific University	Complete	Lycoming College	Complete
Albion College*	Complete	MacMurray College	Complete
Albright College	Complete	Martin Methodist College	Complete
Allegheny College	Complete	McKendree University	Complete
American University	Complete	McMurry University	Complete
Andrew College	Complete	Methodist University	Complete
Baker University	Complete	Millsaps College	Complete
Baldwin-Wallace College	Complete	Morningside College	NR
Bennett College for Women	Complete	Mount Union College	Complete
Bethune-Cookman University	Complete	Nebraska Methodist College	Complete
Birmingham-Southern College	Complete	Nebraska Wesleyan University	Complete
Boston University*	Complete	North Carolina Wesleyan College	Complete
Brevard College*	Complete	North Central College	Complete
Centenary College	NR	Ohio Northern University	Complete
Centenary College of Louisiana	Complete	Ohio Wesleyan University	Complete
Central Methodist University	Complete	Oklahoma City University	Complete
Clafin University	Complete	Otterbein College	Complete
Clark Atlanta University**	Complete	Paine College	Complete
Columbia College	Complete	Pfeiffer University	Complete
Cornell College	Complete	Philander Smith College	Complete
Dakota Wesleyan University	Complete	Randolph College	Complete
DePauw University	Complete	Randolph-Macon College	Complete
Dickinson College	Complete	Reinhardt University	Complete
Dillard University	Complete	Rocky Mountain College	Complete
Drew University*	Complete	Rust College	Complete
Duke University	None	Shenandoah University	Complete
Emory & Henry College*	Complete	Simpson College	Complete
Emory University	Complete	Southern Methodist University	Complete
Ferrum College	Complete	Southwestern College	Complete
Florida Southern College*	Complete	Southwestern University	Complete
Green Mountain College*	Complete	Spartanburg Methodist College	Complete
Greensboro College*	Complete	Syracuse University	Complete
Hamline University	Complete	Tennessee Wesleyan College	Complete
Hendrix College	Complete	Texas Wesleyan University	Complete
High Point University	Complete	Union College	Complete
Hiwassee College*	Complete	University of Denver	Complete
Huntingdon College	Complete	University of Evansville	Complete
Huston-Tillotson University	Complete	University of Indianapolis	Complete
Illinois Wesleyan University ⁴	CIRP	University of Puget Sound	Complete
Iowa Wesleyan College*	Complete	University of the Pacific	NR
Kansas Wesleyan University	None	Virginia Wesleyan College	Complete
Kendall College	Complete	Wesley College	NR
Kentucky Wesleyan College	Complete	Wesleyan College	Complete
LaGrange College	Complete	West Virginia Wesleyan College	Complete

⁴ CIRP data reflects a sample of the total freshman student population; because the institution that provided religious affiliation data was from this survey the data was unable to be used.

Lambuth University	Complete	Wiley College	Complete
Lebanon Valley College	None	Willamette University	Complete
Lindsey Wilson College	Complete	Wofford College	Complete
Lon Morris College	Complete	Young Harris College*	Complete

Appendix C: Methodist Religious Affiliation Rank-Order Percent Methodist Students

Rank	Institution	Students	Methodist	Protestant	Rank	Institution	Students	Methodist	Protestant
83	Alaska Pacific University	520	0.00%	2.12%	22	McMurry College	1414	32.56%	45.83%
20	Albion College	1602	32.68%	22.35%	71	Meharry Medical College	781	12.42%	19.59%
69	Albright College	2334	13.26%	16.80%	15	Methodist College	2217	34.56%	14.75%
37	Allegheny College	2153	25.22%	25.96%	17	Millsaps College	965	34.31%	28.39%
59	American University	6616	15.98%	15.04%	29	Mount Union College	2209	30.59%	39.66%
21	Andrew College	273	32.61%	16.85%	8	Nebraska Wesleyan University	1633	38.85%	44.76%
14	Baker University	548	34.57%	73.91%	79	North Carolina Wesleyan College	1617	8.92%	23.56%
61	Baldwin-Wallace College	3670	14.80%	31.12%	52	North Central College	2606	18.82%	32.43%
72	Bennett College	780	11.78%	44.62%	2	Ohio Northern University	2610	49.42%	23.18%
78	Bethune-Cookman University	3545	9.63%	49.82%	31	Ohio Wesleyan University	1865	29.47%	15.28%
12	Birmingham-Southern College	1305	34.86%	70.11%	27	Oklahoma City University	2314	31.59%	47.19%
51	Boston University	16683	19.66%	1.77%	13	Pfeiffer University	784	34.79%	52.42%
24	Brevard College	638	32.00%	43.10%	82	Philander Smith College	696	5.58%	64.37%
28	Centenary College of Louisiana	789	31.42%	57.29%	67	University of Puget Sound	2857	13.64%	4.62%
19	Central Methodist University	1176	33.23%	57.57%	75	Randolph College	545	11.45%	30.46%
73	Claflin University	1831	11.70%	55.54%	47	Randolph-Macon College	1223	21.33%	42.93%
65	Columbia College	1369	14.13%	74.95%	25	Reinhardt College	1219	31.66%	39.13%
10	Cornell College	972	36.17%	14.51%	58	Rocky Mountain College	998	16.47%	17.03%
49	Dakota Wesleyan University	780	20.89%	57.69%	77	Rust College	960	10.59%	51.15%
46	DePauw University	2390	22.07%	37.15%	53	Shenandoah University	1882	18.27%	63.71%
62	Dickinson College	2414	14.77%	20.75%	26	Simpson College	2015	31.62%	50.07%
80	Dillard University	1187	7.64%	60.66%	32	Southern Methodist University	6192	28.50%	39.50%
50	Drew University	1787	19.70%	3.69%	41	Southwestern College	1791	24.34%	29.82%
43	Emory and Henry College	871	23.29%	71.99%	11	Southwestern University	1348	35.64%	35.39%
30	University of Evansville	2435	30.13%	32.03%	54	Spartanburg Methodist College	790	17.51%	82.41%
48	Emory University	13381	21.08%	21.81%	70	Syracuse University	14201	12.56%	10.18%

64	Ferrum College	1483	14.29%	64.67%	34	Tennessee Wesleyan College	1103	26.98%	48.05%
60	Hamline University	1990	15.11%	30.60%	76	Union College	843	11.11%	14.95%
7	Hendrix College	1454	39.76%	28.89%	45	Virginia Wesleyan College	1279	23.65%	54.89%
33	High Point University	3898	27.80%	44.95%	36	Wesleyan College	634	25.31%	42.74%
23	Huntingdon College	1107	32.48%	70.37%	5	Wiley College	1351	41.64%	79.64%
81	Huston-Tillotson College	1091	6.01%	47.30%	74	Willamette University	1852	11.69%	30.02%
38	University of Indianapolis	4075	25.13%	28.12%	40	Wofford College	1520	24.40%	68.75%
42	Kentucky Wesleyan College	802	24.00%	56.11%	18	Young Harris College	820	33.64%	52.20%
35	La Grange College	994	26.06%	64.08%	55	Hiwassee College	277	17.45%	76.53%
68	Lindsey Wilson College	2554	13.42%	60.69%	39	Greensboro College	1608	25.05%	30.29%
66	Lon Morris College	1070	13.75%	62.52%	16	Iowa Wesleyan College	771	34.38%	37.35%
63	Louisburg College	651	14.42%	33.03%	56	Paine College	925	16.98%	40.11%
9	Lycoming College	1321	38.73%	23.85%	6	Florida Southern College	1984	40.21%	34.22%
57	MacMurray College	452	16.67%	38.50%	1	West Virginia Wesleyan College	1362	52.06%	32.01%
4	Martin Methodist College	1069	45.93%	12.63%	44	Texas Wesleyan University	1604	23.66%	37.16%
3	McKendree College	2276	45.94%	40.07%					