



# 21st Century Evangelicals

A snapshot of the beliefs and habits of evangelical Christians in the UK

## *Do we value education?*

[More information about the education survey](#)

- The survey was carried out in November 2012.
- Just over 3,000 members of the *21st Century Evangelicals* research panel were invited to take part.
- 928 of them responded (a response of 30.5% overall, although this rose to 67.5% for those who had taken part in our previous survey on evangelism)
- We also used an open web link allowing 449 new respondents to join the panel directly, giving us a **total sample of 1,377** – the highest figure in any of our quarterly surveys so far.
- All except two defined themselves as committed Christians, and 93% self-defined as evangelicals (2% did not want to use the label, and 5% were unsure about it).
- As this is an opportunity sample we need to be very cautious in extrapolating from it – we cannot claim that it is statistically representative of the evangelical Christian community across the UK (which in any case has never been well defined or enumerated). However, we believe it gives a good picture of a wide range of evangelicals, especially those who identify with evangelicalism as represented by the Evangelical Alliance (38% said they were members) and are engaged in church life, and for this survey involved in the world of education.
- There were slightly more men (50.8%) than women (49.2%).
- There was a wide age range with a bias towards those aged over 50.

Decade born:	1920s	1930s	1940s	1950s	1960s	1970s	1980s	1990s
Percentage:	1%	4%	17%	26%	22%	15%	10%	5%

- There was a tendency for the older age groups to be biased towards men and the younger ones towards women. Older women who form a significant majority in many churches are very under-represented in our panel.
- A wide spread of denominations were represented, with Anglicans (31%), Charismatics (20%) and Baptists (17%) being the largest categories.
- There was a concentration of respondents in London and the southern half of England, with relatively few respondents in Wales, Northern Ireland and north-east England.
- Our sample were on average highly educated: 69% were graduates, among whom 41% had postgraduate qualifications, while only 5% had either no qualifications or only GCSEs (or equivalent). 10% had studied at Oxbridge.
- 72% were parents – although among these 43% had offspring who were adults, and only 21% currently had a child in school; 6% were full-time students and a further 7% were studying part-time for a qualification.
- 4.2% were primary school teachers, 5.5% secondary school teachers, 4.7% taught in further or higher education institutions, and a further 4.2% were employed in some other role in education.