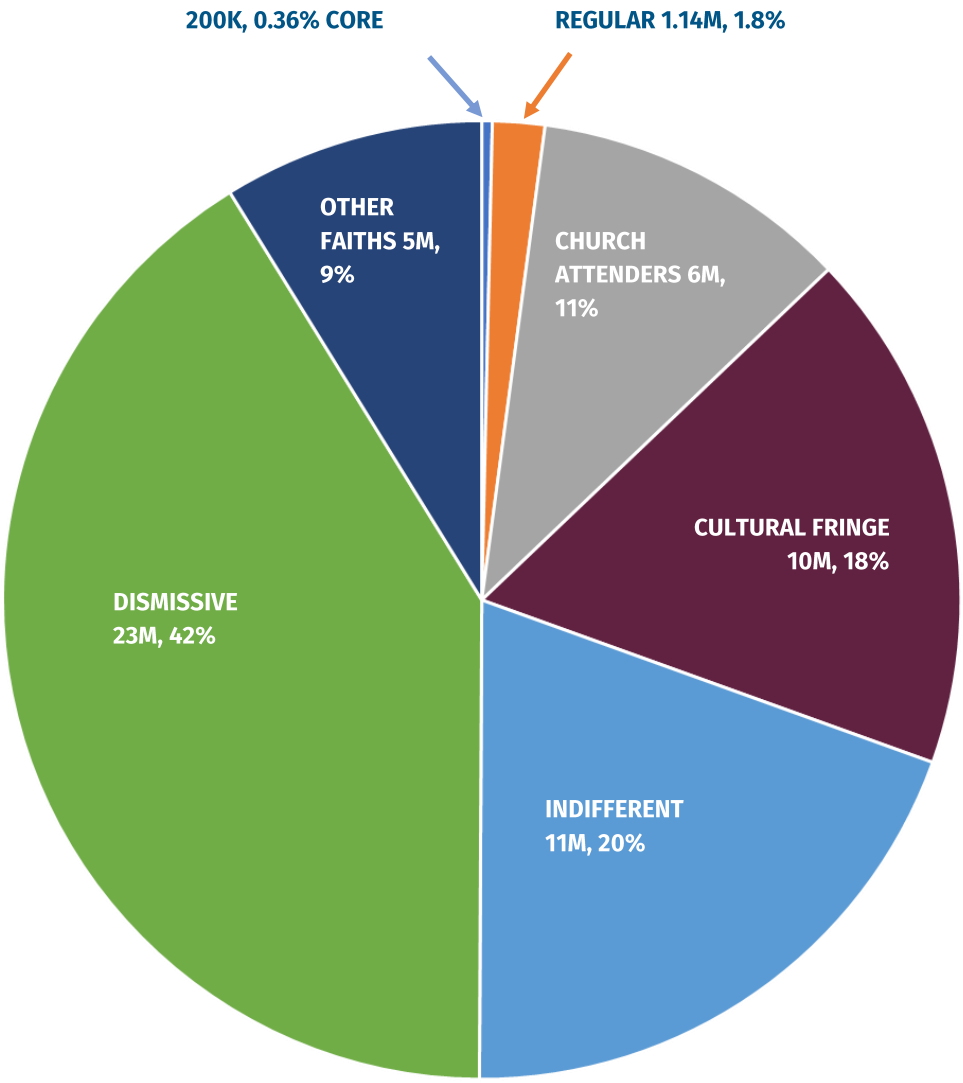
Making Mission Possible

LEADING EVANGELISM

LEARNING HUB

MISSION MAP OF ENGLAND



Based on research conducted by the Church of England Evangelism and Discipleship Team in 2019.

Breakdown of Categories

Out of six million regular church attenders (11% of population)...

CORE ANGLICAN

- 200,000 (0.36% of the population).
- More likely to be female.
- Older than average population.
- Likely to attend weekly or biweekly.
- Has leadership role in church.
- Prayer and Bible is important.
- Society should be rooted in Christian values.
- Wants to make a difference.

REGULAR ANGLICAN WORSHIPPER

- 1,000,000 (1.8% of the population).
- More likely to be female.
- Older than average population.
- Likely to have been part of Christian family.
- Likely to attend church less frequently than core.
- Faith is important to them.
- Part of 6m regular worshippers (11% pop).
- 19% believe in God and have no doubts (BSA).

> 'Evangelism has never depended on a sunny analysis of the culture it is seeking to Christianise; if that were the case, the West would never have been evangelised in the first place... There is no good reason why the evangelist should be intimidated by prophets of doom who argue that the prospects for evangelism are bleak in the extreme.'
>
> William Abraham, quoted by Hannah Steel, Living His Story

Within the rest of the population...

CULTURAL FRINGE

- 10,000,000 (18% of the population).
- Grew up with some church experience at home/school.
- Tend to believe in God or God force.
- Faith not figure in day-to-day life, but may self identify as Christian/Anglican.
- Likely to attend Christmas service, Cathedral service or life events.
- Views church role to help society and provide moral basis.
- Group declining the quickest 'neither religious or non religious' .
- 6.6m regard themselves as Anglicans, down from 18.4m in 1983 (BSA)

INDIFFERENT TO CHRISTIAN CHURCH

- 11,000,000 (20% of the population).
- Not religious and don't go to church.
- Church is old fashioned and not for me.
- Faith does not figure in day-to-day life, but may self identify as Christian.
- Not hostile to Christians or faith but it doesn't register for them.
- 88% of population are positive or neutral about Christians (BSA).
- Church has a role to serve the poor and vulnerable, and still has impact.

DIMISSIVE OF CHRISTIAN CHURCH

- 23,000,000 (42% of the population).
- Rise of the 'nones' (20.5m ONS).
- Very wary of religious control.
- Tolerance and acceptance is key.
- This group is growing the fastest.
- 14.3m don't believe in God (4.9m in 1998) BSA.
- 9.9m are agnostic.
- Prefer to be called non-religious than atheist.
- Top three values are family, friendship and freedom (University of Kent).

OTHER FAITHS (STATISTICS FROM ONS 2011)

- 5 million (9% of the population).
- Muslims 2.7m.
- Hindus 817,000.
- Sikhs 423,000.
- Jewish 263,000.
- Buddhist 248,000.
- Other religion 240,000.