

## Voice of the People 2005

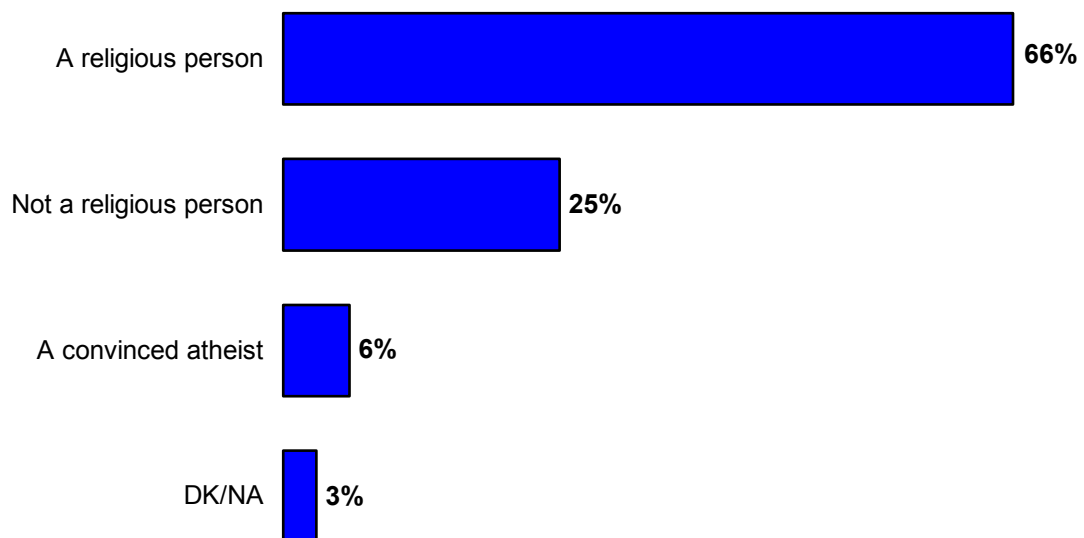
### RELIGIOSITY AROUND THE WORLD

Not to be published before 16th November 2005, International Day for Tolerance

Religiosity persists in the aftermath of the change of century, according to a new Voice of the People survey of more than 50,000 interviews in over 65 countries, released by Gallup International for International Day for Tolerance, November 16<sup>th</sup>. Two-thirds (66%) of all world citizens interviewed declared themselves to be religious persons while only 6% claim to be convinced atheists. Religious beliefs have been found to remain powerful across all regions and sociodemographic strata.

Irrespective of whether you attend a place of worship would you say you are...?

#### GLOBAL RESULTS

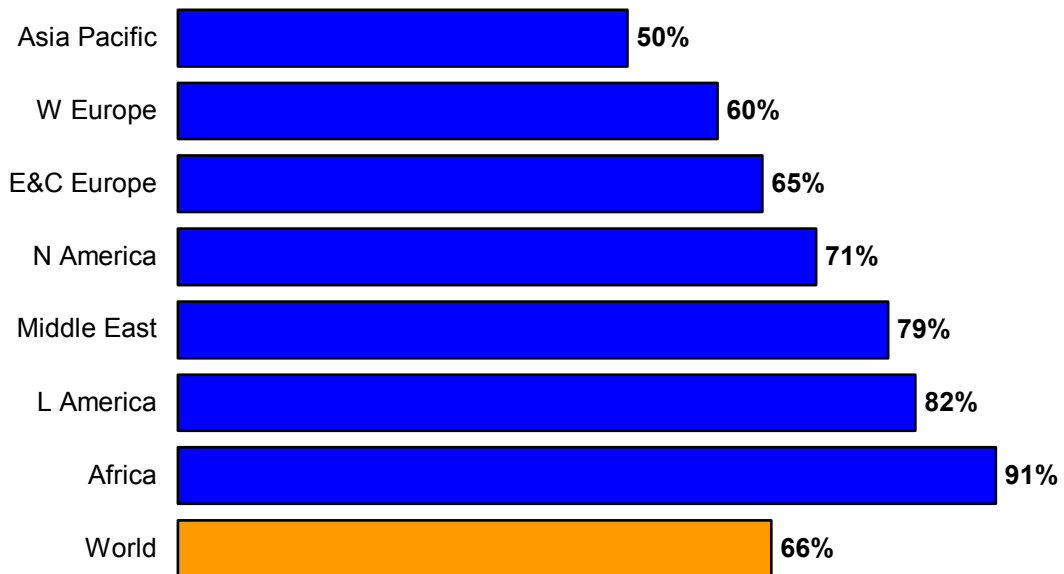


Source: Gallup International Association – Voice of the People 2005

- As part of the unique **Voice of the People** survey, **Gallup International** measured religiosity across the globe. Two thirds (66%) of the world citizens who participated in the survey, declared to be religious, irrespective of whether they attend a place of worship. A quarter (25%), on the contrary, mentioned they were not religious. Only 6% claimed to be convinced atheists.
- Large majorities of religious people can be found in almost all regions. Africa is the continent where religiosity is more powerful, with 9 out of 10 Africans declaring themselves

to be religious (91%). 8 out of 10 Latin Americans (82%) and Middle East citizens (79%), 7 out of 10 North Americans (71%) and Eastern and Central Europeans (65%) and in Western Europe (60%) are religious. Religiosity figures are at their lowest in Asia Pacific, though even here, half of the population (50%) still mentions being religious.

**% of the population that considers themselves to be a religious person**  
**BY REGIONS**

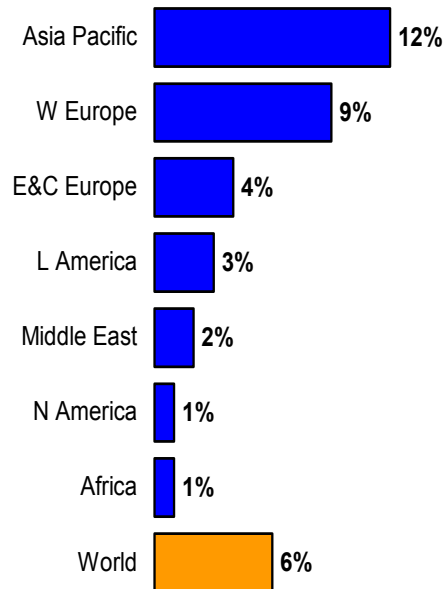


Source: Gallup International Association – Voice of the People 2005

Note: Middle East includes only Israel and Turkey

- Although levels of religiosity show some variations across regions as mentioned above, it is worth pointing out that ‘convinced atheists’ remain a complete minority across the globe with low level support that goes from 1% in regions as diverse as Africa and North America, to a maximum of 12% in Asia Pacific.

**% of the population who also consider themselves to be convinced atheists  
BY REGIONS**



Source: Gallup International Association – Voice of the People 2005

Note: Middle East includes only Israel and Turkey

- Religiosity encounters its maximum strength in the African countries of Nigeria and Ghana (94% and 96% respectively). It's worth noticing that the Philippines, located in the least religious region of the world – Asia, is the country in the region with the highest level of religiosity (90%) and is amongst the most religious countries in the world. Interestingly, it is among their neighbours in Thailand where the highest percentage of non-religious people can be traced (65%) and among Hong Kong citizens where the highest figure of convinced atheists can be found by far (54%; the next country with 23%).
- Greece is the country in Western Europe with the most religious people (86%); Norway, the one with the least (36%). While in this region, in most countries the majority of the population is religious, in Norway, Netherlands and UK opinions are somewhat more evenly divided between those that label themselves as religious and those that don't.
- In all countries of Eastern and Central Europe, at least 6 out of 10 citizens are religious. The exception is the Czech Republic, with half of the population declaring not to be religious (51%) and a fifth (20%), saying they are a convinced atheist. It is in Kosovo (86%), Macedonia, Poland and Rumania (85% for all three), where the highest religiosity figures can be found.

- In the Middle East, in Turkey 83% of the population is religious and only 1% a convinced atheist. The case of Israel is more surprising; with 52% declaring themselves not to be religious, 11% convinced atheists and only a third (33%) saying they are religious people. But perhaps this indicates that the term “religious” also has political connotations in Israel.
- In most Latin American countries, around 8 out of 10 citizens are religious. The exceptions are Guatemala (64%) and Uruguay (54%).
- Asia Pacific is a continent of diversity when it comes to religion. Religious beliefs are strong in several countries such as Philippines (90% as mentioned above) and India (87%), while in Thailand and Japan, the highest figures for the self-declared non-religious can be found (65% and 59% respectively). Hong Kong is the only country in the world with a percentage of convinced atheists above 50% (54%).
- Religiosity is strong in all African countries; moreover, in most countries around 9 out of 10 consider themselves religious. Ethiopia shows the lowest figures (66% religious people, 23% non-religious).
- 7 out of 10 North Americans consider themselves religious (73%) against a quarter non-religious (25%) and only 1% atheists. In Canada, religiosity diminishes comparatively to 58% who are religious, compared with 33% non-religious and 6% convinced atheists.

### **Religiosity - an analysis by socio-demographics**

- **Across all socio-demographic strata, the majority consider themselves religious people - especially among women; as age increases; and in the least educated and poorest socio-economic levels.**
- Women (71%) are comparatively more religious than men (61%): there are more non-religious persons and convinced atheist amongst men (28% and 7% respectively) than women (22% and 5% respectively).
- Religiosity grows with age: there is a significant difference amongst those above 50 years old – approx. 70% of them see themselves as religious, compared with only 63% of the under 30s.

<b>Table 1: Age</b>	<b>Total</b>	<b>Under 30</b>	<b>30 – 50</b>	<b>51 – 65</b>	<b>65 +</b>
A religious person	66%	63%	65%	70%	72%
Not a religious person	25%	26%	26%	22%	22%
A convinced atheist	6%	8%	6%	6%	4%
DK/NA	3%	3%	3%	2%	2%

Source: Gallup International Association – Voice of the People 2005

- Religion appears to be influenced by education and income too: People with no education or only a basic one (76%) are more religious than people with secondary school (62%) or high level education (64%). Religiousness is stronger amongst lower income households (70%) when compared to respondents with medium and high income (63% and 62%, respectively).

<b>Table 2: Education</b>	<b>Total</b>	<b>No education / only basic education</b>	<b>Secondary school</b>	<b>High level education</b>
A religious person	66%	76%	62%	64%
Not a religious person	25%	18%	27%	27%
A convinced atheist	6%	3%	7%	7%
DK/NA	3%	3%	3%	2%

Source: Gallup International Association – Voice of the People 2005

<b>Table 3: Household Income</b>	<b>Total</b>	<b>Low / Med Low</b>	<b>Med / Med High</b>	<b>High</b>
A religious person	66%	70%	63%	62%
Not a religious person	25%	22%	28%	28%
A convinced atheist	6%	5%	6%	8%
DK/NA	3%	3%	3%	2%

Source: Gallup International Association – Voice of the People 2005

## The Voice of the People Survey

Gallup International's unique survey Voice of the People interviews more than 50,000 people in 65+ countries around the world, representing the views and attitudes of more than 1.3 billion global citizens. Fieldwork was conducted between May and July 2005.

## Gallup International

Registered in Zurich as a verein (Association), Gallup International was established in 1947 by George H Gallup and his European colleagues. It currently has member agencies in 65 countries across the world, conducting market and opinion research in more than 100 countries.

### Contact:

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For further information on any individual country results, please see contact information below:

Country	Contact	E-mail	Company	Mode	Sample Type	Size	Fieldwork Dates
Argentina	Ricardo Hermelo Constanza Cilley	<a href="mailto:ricardo.hermelo@tns-gallup.com.ar">ricardo.hermelo@tns-gallup.com.ar</a> <a href="mailto:constanza.cilley@tns-gallup.com.ar">constanza.cilley@tns-gallup.com.ar</a>	TNS Gallup Argentina	Face-to-face	National	1000	4 <sup>th</sup> week of May
Austria	Ingrid Lusk	<a href="mailto:i.lusk@gallup.at">i.lusk@gallup.at</a>	Gallup Austria	Face-to-face	National	668	May 31 – June 16
Bolivia	Luis Alberto Quiroga	<a href="mailto:Proyectos@encuestas-estudios.com">Proyectos@encuestas-estudios.com</a>	Encuestas & Estudios	Face-to-face	Urban	519	June 10 – June 25
Bosnia and Herzegovina	Aida Hadziavdic- Begovic	<a href="mailto:Aida.hadziavdic@mib.ba">Aida.hadziavdic@mib.ba</a>	Mareco Index Bosnia	Telephone	National	500	June 6 – June 10
Bulgaria	Antón Valkovski	<a href="mailto:A.valkovski@bbss-gallup.com">A.valkovski@bbss-gallup.com</a>	TNS BBSS	Face-to-face	National	1024	July 5 – July 12
Cameroon	Simplice Ngampou	<a href="mailto:Sngampou@rms-africa.com">Sngampou@rms-africa.com</a>	RMS Cameroon	Face-to-face	Main cities	500	June 4 – June 6
Canada	Anne-Marie Marois	<a href="mailto:Ammarois@legermarketing.com">Ammarois@legermarketing.com</a>	Leger Marketing	Telephone	National	1001	June 6 – June 15
Colombia	Carlos Lemoine	<a href="mailto:Clemoire@cnccol.com">Clemoire@cnccol.com</a>	Centro Nacional de Consultoria	Face-to-face and telephone	Urban	500	July 8 – July 13
Costa Rica*	Hugo Mendieta	<a href="mailto:Hmendieta@apinvestigacion.com">Hmendieta@apinvestigacion.com</a>	API Sigma Dos	Telephone	Urban	500	May 23 – June 2
Croatia	Dragan Bagic, Mirna Cvitan	<a href="mailto:Drgan.bagic@puls.hr">Drgan.bagic@puls.hr</a> , <a href="mailto:mirna.cvitan@puls.hr">mirna.cvitan@puls.hr</a>	Puls	Telephone	National	600	June 1 – June 20
Czech Republic	Jan Trojacek	<a href="mailto:Trojacek@mareco.cz">Trojacek@mareco.cz</a>	Mareco	Face-to-face	National	500	June 14 – June 27
Denmark	Claus Bo Hansen	<a href="mailto:Claus.Bo.Hansen@tns-gallup.dk">Claus.Bo.Hansen@tns-gallup.dk</a>	TNS Gallup Denmark	Telephone	National	500	June 8 – June 16
Dominican Republic*	Leonard Kemp	<a href="mailto:Sigmados@verizon.net.do">Sigmados@verizon.net.do</a>	Sigma Dos Republica Dominicana	Face-to-face	Urban	806	July 12 – July 16
Ecuador	Carlos A. Cordova, Tatiana Salan	<a href="mailto:Carlos.cordova@cedatos.com">Carlos.cordova@cedatos.com</a> , <a href="mailto:tatiana.salan@cedatos.com">tatiana.salan@cedatos.com</a>	Cedatos	Face-to-face	Main cities	500	June 27 – July 1
Egypt	Laila Guindy	<a href="mailto:rrpr@link.net">rrpr@link.net</a>	RADA Research	Face-to-face	Urban	500	July 7-15
Ethiopia*	Margit Cleveland	<a href="mailto:Mclelland@rms-africa.com">Mclelland@rms-africa.com</a>	Research & Marketing Services	Face-to-face	Capital City	510	June 15 – June 21

**VOICE OF THE PEOPLE 2005**  
**Religiosity**

Country	Contact	E-mail	Company	Mode	Sample Type	Size	Fieldwork Dates
Finland	Mika Kiiski	Mika.kiiski@tns-gallup.fi	TNS Gallup Finland	Telephone and Telepanel	National	1289	June 17 – June 22
France	Guillaume Rainsard	guillaume.rainsard@tns-sofres.com	TNS France	Face-to-face	National	1003	June 21 – June 22
Germany	Johannes Huxoll	Johannes.huxoll@tns-ernid.com	TNS Emnid	Telephone	National	500	June 21 – June 29
Georgia	Merab Pachuia	mpachulia@gorbi.com	GORBI	Telephone	Main city	500	Aug-20-30
Ghana*	Steve Ayo Amale	Aamale@rms-africa.com	Research & Marketing Services Ltd.	Face-to-face	Urban	1005	June 10 – June 18
Greece	Ero Papadopoulou	ero.papadopoulou@tnsicap.gr	TNS ICAP	Telephone	National	500	June 2 – June 15
Guatemala*	Jorge Fernández	Multivexsa@intelnett.com	Multivex Sigma Dos Guatemala	Face-to-face	Urban	500	June 18 – June 20
Hong Kong	Ellen Tops	Ellen.tops@tns-global.com	TNS Hong Kong	Telephone	National	500	June 10 – June 19
Iceland	Ásdís G. Ragnarsdóttir	Asdisg@gallup.is	IMG Gallup	Telephone	National	1200	June 29 – June 29
India	Sharmistha Das	Sharmistha.das@tns-global.com	TNS India	Face-to-face	Main cities	1063	June 1 – June 9
Indonesia	Pipit Andriany	Pipit.Andriany@tns-global.com	TNS Indonesia	Face-to-face	Main city	500	July 21 – July 27
Republic of Ireland	Patricia Kelly	Patricia.Kelly@imsl.ie	Millward Brown IMS	Telephone	National	500	May 18 – June 2
Israel	Tamar Fuchs	Tamar.fuchs@tns-teleseker.com	TNS Teleseker	Telephone	National	501	June 29 – June 30
Italy	Paolo Colombo	paolo.colombo@doha.it	Doha Italy	Telephone	National	502	July 28 – August 1
Japan	Kiyoshi Nishimura	Nisimura@nrc.co.jp	Nippon Research Center	Self-administered questionnaires	National	1212	June 2 – June 13
Kenya	Maggie Ileri	maggie@steadman-group.com	Steadman Research Services	Face-to-face	National	2219	July 1 – July 9
Korea	Hwanhee Lee	Hhlee@gallup.co.kr	Gallup Korea	Face-to-face	National	1515	May 20 – June 3
Kosovo*	Assen Blagoev	A.Blagoev@gallup-bbss.com	BBSS Index Kosovo	Face-to-face	Albanian plus sub-population	1023	May 26 – June 1
Lithuania*	Dainius Derkintis	Mindaugas.Degutis@tns-global.com Dainius.Derkintis@tns-global.com	TNS Gallup	Face-to-face	National	511	June 21 – June 30
Luxembourg	Marc Thiltgen	Marc.thiltgen@ilres.com	Ilres	Telephone	National	582	June 24 – July 3
Macedonia	Elida Medarovska	E.medarovska@brima-gallup.com.mk	Brima	Face-to-face	National	1008	June 17 – June 24
Malaysia	Hafeez Amin	Hafeez.amin@tns-global.com	TNS Malaysia	Face-to-face and telephone	Urban	1250	May 30 – June 26
Mexico	Ramón Chaidez	Ramon.chaidez@tns-gallup.com.mx	TNS Gallup Mexico	Face-to-face	Urban	700	June 24 – June 29
Moldova	Igor Munteanu Ion Jigau	cbs_axa@yahoo.com	CBS Axa	Face-to-face	National	509	June 24 – June 28
Netherlands	Hanneke Sjerps and Wiene Klasema	Hanneke.sjerps@tns-nipo.com Wiene.Klasema@tns-nipo.com	TNS NIPO	Face-to-face	National	549	June 9 – June 21
Nigeria	Pradiptra Mitra	Pkmitra@rms-africa.com	Research & Marketing Services	Face-to-face	Main cities	500	June 11 – June 20
Norway	Ole Fredrik Ugland	Olefredrik.ugland@tns-gallup.no	TNS Gallup Norway	Web-survey	National	510	June 1 – June 16
Nicaragua*	Hugo Mendieta	Hmendieta@apinvestigacion.com	API Sigma Dos	Face-to-face	Urban	500	May 23 – June 2
Pakistan	Ijaz Shafi Gillani	isb@gallup.com.pk	Gallup Pakistan	Face-to-face	Urban	843	June 1 – June 20
Panama*	Humberto Gonzalez Max del Cid	psicomer@pty.com psmcorreo@cwpanama.net	PSM Sigma Dos Panama	Telephone	Main city	500	June 6 – June 14
Paraguay*	Marlene Heinrich	Cam@pla.net.py	CAM Research	Face-to-face	Main city	500	June 1 – June 25
Perú	Gustavo Yrala	Gyrala@datum.com.pe	Datum Internacional	Face-to-face	National	1112	June 11 – June 20

Country	Contact	E-mail	Company	Mode	Sample Type	Size	Fieldwork Dates
Philippines	Angel Almojuela	Angel.almojuela@asiaresearch.com.ph	Asia Research Organization	Telephone	National	1000	May 30 – June 19
Poland	Marek Fudala	Marek.fudala@mareco.pl	Mareco Polska	Face-to-face	National	908	June 14 – June 24
Portugal	Ana Firmino	Ana.firmino@tns-global.com	TNS Euroteste	Telephone	National	520	June 22 – June 28
Romania	Andrei Musetescu	Andrei.musetescu@tns-global.com	Csop	Face-to-face	National	1058	May 27 – June 5
Russia	Victor Pratushevich	Pratushevich.V@rmh.ru	ROMIR	Face-to-face	National	1006	May 18 – May 24
Senegal*	Erckman Togna	Etogna@rms-africa.com.	RMS-Senegal	Face-to-face	Urban	508	June 20 – June 23
Serbia	Sladjana Brakus	sladja@mediumindex.co.yu	TNS Medium Gallup	Face-to-face	National	1004	May 26 – June 1
Singapore	Petra Curbach	Petra.Curbach@tns-global.com	TNS Singapore	Telephone	National	502	July 4 – July 17
Spain	Rosa Doncel	rosad@sigmados.com	Sigma Dos International	Face-to-face	National	500	July 25 – August 2
South Africa	Mari Harris	marih@markinor.co.za	Markinor	Face-to-face	Urban	2000	June 9 – July 4
Switzerland	Barbara Spillmann	Barbara.spillmann@isopublic.ch	ISOPUBLIC	Telephone	National	500	June 1 – June 4
Taiwan	Kevin Meyer	Kevinmeyer@ort.com.tw	Opinion Research Taiwan	Telephone	National	500	June 16 – June 20
Thailand	Kulchat Wuttigate	kulchat.wuttigate@tns-global.com	TNS Thailand	Telephone	Urban	1000	July 19 – July 31
Togo*	Steve Ayo Amale	Aamale@rms-africa.com	Research & Marketing Services	Face-to-face	Main cities	488	June 28 – June 29
UK	Emma Phillips	Emma.phillips@tns-global.com	TNS UK	Telephone	National	1031	June 3 – June 5
Turkey	Bengi Özboyacı	Bengi.ozboyaci@tns-global.com	TNS Piar	Face-to-face	National	2036	June 9 – July 1
Ukraine	Alla Vlasyuk	Alla.vlasyuk@tns-global.com.ua.	TNS Ukraine	Face-to-face	National	1200	June 1 – June 7
Uruguay	José Luis Soto	marketing@adinet.com.uy	Sigma Dos Uruguay	Telephone	Main city	537	May 30 – June 24
USA	Jane Cutler	Jane.cutler@tns-global.com	TNS Intersearch	Telephone	National	504	June 29 – July 3
Venezuela	Romel Romero	Romel@sigmados-international.com	Sigma Dos Venezuela	Face-to-face	Main city	500	June 9 – June 24
Vietnam	Nguyet Pham	nguyet.pham@tns-global.com	TNS Vietnam	Face-to-face	Urban	1290	June 15-25

\*These are not Members of Gallup International Association but reliable companies that we have worked with in these countries.