

Global Diagram 62. Where should foreign missionaries work? Six organizing principles of missionary deployment by peoples in Worlds A, B, and C after the Decade of Evangelism, AD 1990–AD 2000.

A simple but powerful form of logic concerning the biblical mandate of mission is drawn out in the table and graph below. The question under consideration is 'How should the global foreign missionary force be deployed?' The answer to that question is explored by examining the proportions of missionaries to be sent to World A, B, and C peoples if various categories of people are the primary entry target. This analysis follows a logical progression moving from left to right in the table and graph below. Six very different organizing principles advocated by agencies emerge.

Principle 1. Foreign missionaries should operate through existing churches and the 2 billion Christians who thus become their immediate or primary target whether in World A, B, or C peoples. This is termed the partnership principle.

Principle 2. The world's 4.4 billion who have already heard the gospel (evangelized persons) should be the primary entry point and target in World A, B, and C peoples. Foreign missionaries then utilize this huge pool as a launching pad.

Principle 3. Every person on the globe is equally deserving

of the attention of the global missionary force. World A, B, and C peoples should thus receive foreign missionaries in exact proportion to their populations.

Principle 4. Thinking in more strategic terms, some agencies target those who belong to non-Christian religions or no religion at all—the 4.1 billion non-Christians of World A, B, and C peoples.

Principle 5. Narrowing the focus even more, a small number of agencies consider those who have never heard the gospel (the 1.6 billion World A individuals) as the immediate, direct targets of foreign missionaries. Such individuals are present in all World A, B, and C countries but on this principle should receive the proportional share shown in Principle 5 below.

Principle 6. Finally, many agencies see no need to employ any new overall principle. They support the actual deployment of foreign missionaries as it is today, largely based on invitations from the field. This has produced actual deployment that is startlingly different to the previous five scenarios.

Without considering all the reasons why the situation is as it is one can make the following observations.

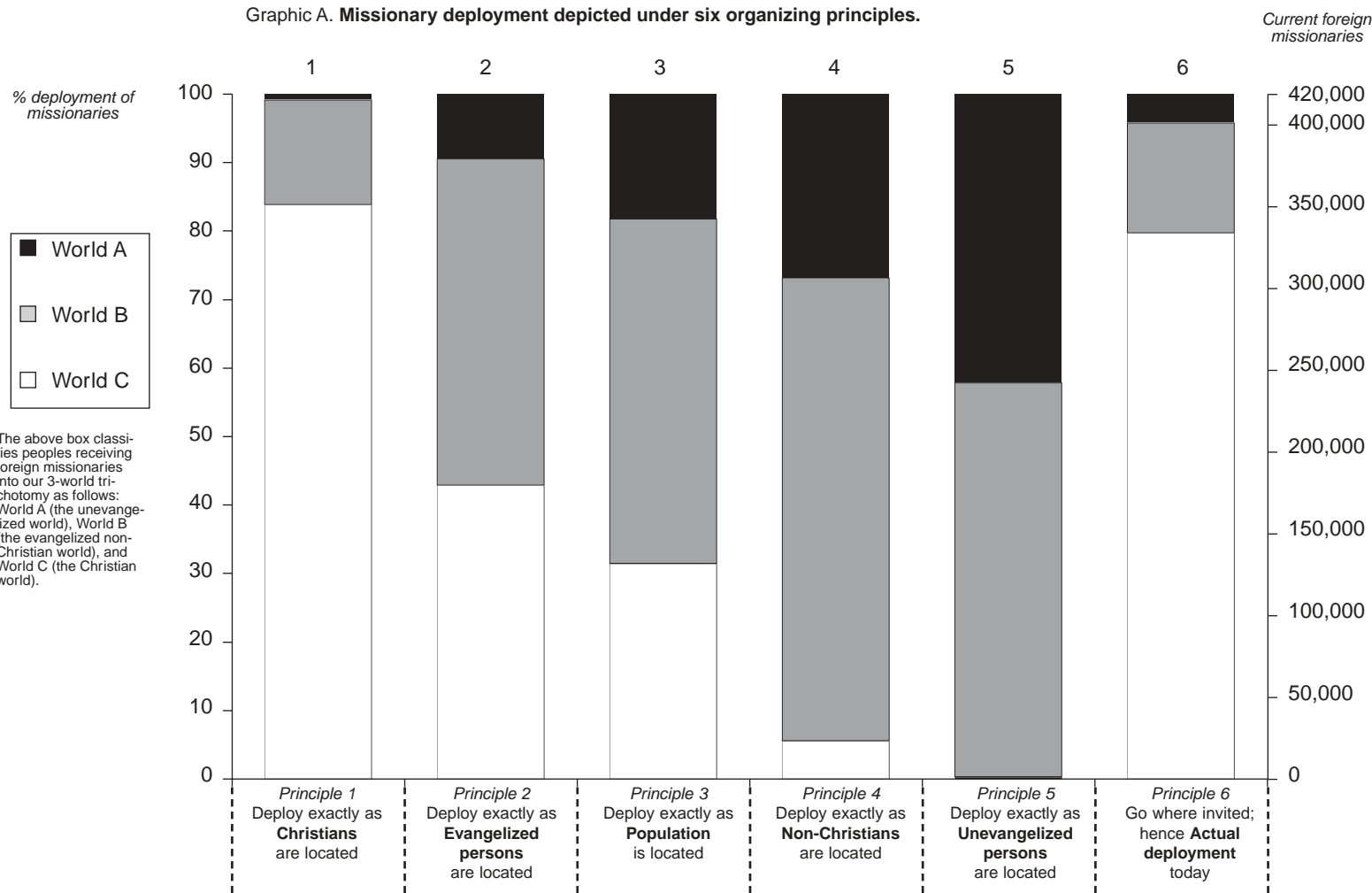
a. Less missionaries are actually sent to World A peoples (4%) than on any of the five previous principles except the one where Christians are the immediate target (1%).

b. World B peoples actually receive less missionaries (16%) than on any of the five previous principles except the one where Christians are the immediate target (15%).

c. World C peoples actually receive more missionaries (80%) than on any of the five previous principles except the one where Christians are the immediate target (84%).

It appears then that foreign missionaries are not at present deployed in any kind of strategic pattern but have ended up mainly where invited in predominantly Christian countries and peoples. World evangelization, however, requires strategic planning in order for all peoples to be reached with the gospel. Agencies and churches should ponder the profound inequities in the graph below and work to change them.

Graphic A. Missionary deployment depicted under six organizing principles.



Locations	Principle 1	Principle 2	Principle 3	Principle 4	Principle 5	Principle 6
<i>Basis</i>	<i>Christians</i>	<i>Evangelized</i>	<i>Population</i>	<i>Non-Christians</i>	<i>Unevangelized</i>	<i>No agreed basis</i>
<i>Persons in:</i>						
World A peoples	17,873,000	420,117,000	1,106,766,000	1,088,893,000	686,649,000	—
World B peoples	305,905,000	2,109,390,000	3,048,682,000	2,742,777,000	939,292,000	—
World C peoples	1,675,773,000	1,896,038,000	1,899,601,000	223,828,000	3,563,000	—
GLOBAL TOTAL	1,999,551,000	4,425,545,000	6,055,049,000	4,055,498,000	1,629,504,000	—
<i>Percentages in:</i>						
World A peoples	1%	9%	18%	27%	42%	4%
World B peoples	15%	48%	50%	68%	58%	16%
World C peoples	84%	43%	31%	6%	0%	80%
GLOBAL TOTAL	100%	100%	100%	100%	100%	100%
<i>Missionaries (using above %) in:</i>	<i>Mission force</i>	<i>Mission force</i>	<i>Mission force</i>	<i>Mission force</i>	<i>Mission force</i>	<i>Actual Mission force</i>
World A peoples	4,000	40,000	77,000	113,000	177,000	18,000
World B peoples	64,000	200,000	211,000	284,000	242,000	68,000
World C peoples	352,000	180,000	132,000	23,000	1,000	335,000
GLOBAL TOTAL	420,000	420,000	420,000	420,000	420,000	420,000