

*FACT**
SURVEY
RESULTS

**FAith Communities Today*

A 2000 Survey of
Assemblies of God Churches

Sponsored by the General Secretary's Office
General Council of the Assemblies of God



TABLE OF CONTENTS

	<u>Page Number</u>
I. Congregational Identity and Worship	3
II. History, Location, and Building	5
III. Congregational Programs	6
IV. Leadership and Organizational Dynamics	8
V. Participants	10
VI. Finances	12
VII. Notes	13

I. Congregational Identity and Worship

1. How well does each of the following statements describe your congregation? (✓ one on each line)

	<i>Very Well</i>	<i>Quite Well</i>	<i>Some- What</i>	<i>Slightly</i>	<i>Not At All</i>
A. Our congregation feels like a close-knit family	30.1	47.0	20.7	2.1	.0
B. Our congregation is spiritually vital and alive	26.0	47.8	22.9	3.1	.2
C. Our congregation is working for social justice	6.8	19.3	37.1	25.4	11.4
D. Our congregation helps members deepen their relationships with God	26.8	51.0	18.0	3.6	.5
E. Our congregation is trying to increase its racial/ethnic diversity	19.9	33.8	24.8	12.6	8.9
F. Our congregation clearly expresses its A/G heritage	33.3	36.2	22.7	5.8	2.0
G. Our congregation is a moral beacon in the community	31.9	44.1	18.1	5.2	.7
H. Our congregation welcomes innovation and change	26.1	36.6	27.6	8.2	1.5
I. Our congregation deals openly with disagreements and conflicts	11.8	39.6	32.1	11.4	5.1
J. Our congregation has a strong racial/ethnic or national heritage that it is trying to preserve	7.5	13.9	20.2	16.6	41.8
K. Members are excited about future of our congregation	40.6	40.1	15.4	3.4	.5
L. New people are easily incorporated into the life of our congregation	18.0	49.2	26.0	6.5	.3
M. Our congregation has a clear sense of mission and purpose	29.3	43.6	22.0	4.3	.8
N. Our congregation's worship services are spiritually uplifting and inspirational	47.3	41.4	9.5	1.6	.2
O. Our congregation's programs and activities are well organized	14.6	46.6	33.9	4.4	.5
P. Our congregation's programs and activities strengthen personal relationships among participants	18.4	54.3	24.7	2.3	.3
Q. Our congregation encourages public expression of speaking in tongues	40.6	36.3	15.5	4.9	2.6

2. Worship Services.

A. 1.6 Please check here if your congregation holds worship services *less than once a week*, and answer for a **typical** weekend on which you do hold services.

	<i>Friday</i>	<i>Saturday</i>	<i>Sunday AM</i>	<i>Sunday PM</i>
B. How many worship services does your congregation have on each of the following days/times on a typical weekend?	a <u>avg 1.0</u>	b <u>avg 1.0</u>	c <u>avg 1.1</u>	d <u>avg 1.0</u>
C. What is the total attendance for all services held on this day/time on a typical weekend?	a <u>avg 62.6</u>	b <u>avg 54.1</u>	c <u>avg 164.2</u>	d <u>avg 80.6</u>
D. If you typically hold more than one service on the weekend, are these services: (✓ one) 50.1 Very similar in style (other than the language used) 34.9 One or more is <i>somewhat different</i> in style from the rest 14.9 One or more is <i>very different</i> in style from the rest				
E. Please check all the languages in which your congregation conducts worship services on a typical weekend: a. 93.9 English d. 12.0 Spanish b. 1.0 Korean e. 0.0 Portuguese c. 4.5 Other _____ (deaf, etc)				

I. Congregation Identity and Worship, continued

3. How often does the sermon in your worship **focus** on: (✓ one on each line)

	<u>Always</u>	<u>Often</u>	<u>Sometimes</u>	<u>Seldom</u>	<u>Never</u>
A. God's love and care.....	42.8	50.7	6.4	.2	0.0
B. Practical advice for daily living.....	33.3	54.2	12.1	.3	0.0
C. Personal spiritual growth.....	42.2	53.9	3.8	.2	0.0
D. Social justice or social action.....	3.1	14.9	49.7	28.5	3.8
E. End-times and/or the Second Coming.....	9.5	34.9	44.5	10.9	.2
F. Personal commitment and/or conversion.....	57.8	38.6	3.4	.2	0.0

4. How often does the sermon include **a lot of**: (✓ one on each line)

	<u>Always</u>	<u>Often</u>	<u>Sometimes</u>	<u>Seldom</u>	<u>Never</u>
A. Personal stories or first-hand experiences.....	14.6	49.1	31.9	4.4	0.0
B. Literary or scholarly references.....	5.4	27.3	45.8	20.9	.7
C. Illustrations from contemporary media (e.g., magazines, newspapers, television, movies, etc).....	6.4	33.2	43.2	15.9	1.3
D. Detailed explanations of scripture or doctrine.....	36.7	48.0	14.0	1.1	.2

5. How often are the following included as part of your worship service(s)? (✓ one on each line)

	<u>Always</u>	<u>Often</u>	<u>Sometimes</u>	<u>Seldom</u>	<u>Never</u>
A. Reading/recitation of creeds or statements of faith.....	3.3	7.5	21.3	39.3	28.5
B. A time for lay persons to testify about their faith.....	10.5	40.8	38.2	9.7	.8
C. A time during worship for people to greet each other.....	50.8	27.7	16.1	5.2	.2
D. The use of visual projection equipment.....	47.9	18.2	15.2	12.2	6.6
E. Drama.....	1.0	9.7	37.6	36.0	15.8
F. Kneeling by the congregation.....	19.0	30.0	23.9	19.8	7.2

6. How often are the following used in your worship services(s)? (✓ one on each line)

	<u>Always</u>	<u>Often</u>	<u>Sometimes</u>	<u>Seldom</u>	<u>Never</u>
A. Organ and/or piano.....	72.5	6.6	4.6	5.9	10.4
B. Electronic keyboard or synthesizer.....	47.7	8.5	10.4	9.5	23.9
C. Electric guitar/bass.....	58.8	13.1	7.3	7.5	13.4
D. Non-electronic string or wind instruments (e.g., harp, violin, guitar, flute, brass, etc.).....	33.4	16.6	13.9	12.7	23.4
E. Drums or other percussion instruments.....	55.4	12.4	7.1	7.1	18.0
F. Recorded music (tapes, CD's, etc).....	21.4	33.5	22.9	14.5	7.7

7. In comparison to the style of your congregation's primary worship service 5 years ago, would you say the style of your current primary worship service: (✓ one)

15.6 Is basically the same	19.9 Changed a little	23.0 Changed somewhat
35.6 Changed a great deal	6.0 Our congregation did not exist in 1995	

8. How important are the following sources of authority in the worship and teaching of your congregation? (✓ one on each line)

	<u>Absolutely Foundational</u>	<u>Very Important</u>	<u>Somewhat Important</u>	<u>Little Or No Importance</u>
A. Sacred Scripture.....	94.6	5.2	.2	0.0
B. Historic creeds, doctrines & tradition.....	8.8	37.7	39.1	14.4
C. The presence of the Holy Spirit.....	89.6	10.3	.2	0.0
D. Human reason and understanding.....	4.9	28.9	49.4	16.7
E. Personal experience.....	13.1	46.6	35.6	4.7

I. Congregation Identity and Worship, continued

8F. Please check the box of the **one** source of authority that is **most important** in your congregation's worship and teaching—as difficult a choice as this may be. (✓ one)

- | | |
|------|--|
| 76.4 | Sacred Scripture |
| .2 | Historic creeds, doctrines & tradition |
| 22.9 | The presence of the Holy Spirit |
| .3 | Human reason and understanding |
| .2 | Personal experience |

II. History, Location and Building

1. In approximately what **year** was this congregation officially founded? median 1957
2. In what ZIP code area is this congregation's primary worship building located? _____
3. In approximately what **year** did this congregation begin worshiping at its current location? median 1979
4. How would you describe the place where your congregation's primary worship building is located? (✓ one)
 - A. Rural or open country 13.8
Town or village of less than 10,000 34.9
In or around a city of 10,000 - 49,999 23.6
In or around a city of 50,000-249,999 14.8
In or around a city of 250,000+ 12.9
 - B. If "**In or around a city**", is your congregation located: (✓ one)

In a central or downtown area of the city 20.2
In another area of the city 36.8
In an older suburb around the city 22.8
In a newer suburb around the city 20.2
 - C. If "**In or around a city**", is your congregation located: (✓ one)

Residential area 41.2
Mixed residential and commercial area 54.6
Commercial or industrial area 4.2
5. What is the total seating capacity of your sanctuary? 281

II. History, Location, and Building, continued

6. How would you describe the **size** of the following relative to the current needs of your congregation?
(✓ one on each line)

	<i>Much more than we need</i>	<i>Slightly more than we need</i>	<i>Just about right</i>	<i>Slightly less than we need</i>	<i>Much less than we need</i>
A. Worship space.....	17.6	26.3	31.0	11.6	13.4
B. Educational space	9.0	10.8	27.4	24.5	28.3
C. Fellowship space	6.7	8.8	32.2	23.3	29.0
D. Space for parking	11.3	14.1	37.7	17.8	19.0

7. How would you describe the overall physical condition of your congregation's building(s)? (✓ one)

27.2 Excellent 47.6 Good 19.4 Needs improvement 5.7 In serious need of improvements and repairs

8. Do any other congregations use your building space for worship? 10.9 Yes 89.1 No

III. Congregational Programs

1. Does your congregation have a Sunday school that meets regularly? 88.8 Yes 11.2 No

IF YES: A. What is the typical, total, weekly attendance of **adults (18 and over)**? → → → → 61
 B. What is the typical, total, weekly attendance of **children and teens (17 and under)**? → → 46

2. During the past 12 months, did your congregation have any of the following programs or activities in addition to your regular Sunday school?

	<i>Circle all "Yeses" that apply</i>			
On-going during a particular season?	----- Yes -----			
On-going throughout the year?	<i>One-time Short-term Occasional</i>	<i>On-going During A Season</i>	<i>On-going Through Year</i>	
No	-----			
A. Bible study (other than Sunday School)..... a	9.9	b 12.9	c 13.4	d 63.5
B. Theological or doctrinal study	a 29.9	b 23.6	c 18.7	d 20.0
C. Prayer or meditation groups	a 5.8	b 9.9	c 10.5	d 73.3
D. Spiritual retreats.....	a 43.0	b 30.4	c 11.6	d 5.5
E. Community service	a 25.5	b 37.2	c 16.8	d 14.5
F. Parenting or marriage enrichment.....	a 49.3	b 23.4	c 11.3	d 6.3
G. Choir(s).....	a 44.3	b 11.8	c 10.2	d 25.8
H. Other performing arts (e.g., music, drama)	a 27.1	b 29.9	c 15.7	d 22.0
I. Groups that discuss books or contemporary issues... a	68.2	b 9.5	c 5.8	d 6.5
J. Self-help or personal growth groups.....	a 52.2	b 16.5	c 8.4	d 13.1
K. Exercise, fitness or weight loss groups or classes	a 68.7	b 9.7	c 5.8	d 6.5
L. Sports teams	a 59.3	b 9.0	c 16.6	d 6.0
M. Youth/teen activities and programs	a 10.8	b 12.6	c 6.9	d 66.4
N. Young adult/singles activities and programs	a 42.3	b 15.8	c 6.5	d 27.5

III. Congregational Programs, continued

3. How much does your congregation, in its worship and education, emphasize the following **home or personal practices**? (✓ one on each line)

	<u>A Great Deal</u>	<u>Quite A Bit</u>	<u>Some</u>	<u>Little</u>	<u>Not At All</u>
A. Personal prayer, scripture study or devotions	72.3	23.3	4.1	.2	.2
B. Family devotions other than at meals	33.0	33.0	29.1	4.4	.5
C. Fasting	14.0	31.3	43.6	10.2	1.0
D. Observing dietary restrictions	1.5	5.1	18.7	29.0	45.7
E. Abstinence from alcohol	44.8	22.7	21.9	7.8	2.8
F. Keeping the Sabbath holy	29.8	22.4	24.2	15.2	8.4
G. Displaying religious objects, symbols, or pictures in the home	5.4	7.7	16.3	26.3	44.3
H. Abstaining from premarital sex	54.8	30.9	11.8	1.8	.7

4. In addition to the outreach activities of your denomination, **did your congregation** do any of the following to reach out to new or inactive participants, or to make your congregation better known in your community *during the past 12 months*? If **No**, is the item: **A)** Something that probably would be supported by most members if you tried it; or **B)** Something that probably would **not** be supported by most members? (✓ one on each line)

	<u>Yes, Done in last 12 Months</u>	<u>----- No, but members ----- A) Would Support</u>	<u>B) Would Not Support</u>
A. Newspaper advertisements or articles	75.1	20.5	4.3
B. Radio or television advertisements or coverage	38.1	48.1	13.8
C. Direct mail promotions to area residents	29.1	62.7	8.2
D. A growth or evangelistic campaign/program	54.7	41.9	3.4
E. Efforts to identify and contact people who have recently moved into your congregation's area	35.1	61.9	3.1
F. Stressing in your congregation's preaching and teaching the importance of witnessing to others about one's faith	94.2	5.6	.2
G. Special worship services intended to attract the unchurched/nonmembers, e.g., "Bring a friend" services, revivals, etc.	74.5	24.0	1.5
H. Special programs (e.g., parenting classes, young single nights, art festivals, street ministries) especially intended to attract unchurched persons/nonmembers in your community	51.1	42.8	6.1
I. Phone calls or personal visits by your pastoral staff	91.4	8.3	.3
J. Phone calls or personal visits by laity	84.1	14.4	1.5

III. Congregational Programs, continued

5. In the past 12 months, did your congregation provide or cooperate in providing any of the following services for your own congregation's members or for people in the community? "Cooperation" includes financial contributions, volunteer time by congregational members, space in your building, material donations, etc.

		----- Yes (Circle all that apply)-----	
		<i>Provided Directly by Our Congregation</i>	<i>Cooperated With Another Congregation, Agency, Or Organization</i>
		<u>No</u>	
A.	Food pantry or soup kitchena	19.5	
		b 52.7	c 32.0
B.	Cash assistance to families or individualsa	5.8	
		b 84.7	c 17.0
C.	Thrift store or thrift store donations.....a	45.2	
		b 32.0	c 18.6
D.	Elderly, emergency or affordable housinga	70.6	
		b 11.3	c 10.3
E.	Counseling services or "hot line"a	57.5	
		b 30.5	c 6.9
F.	Substance abuse programs.....a	65.9	
		b 11.1	c 16.6
G.	Day care, pre-school, before/after-school programsa	78.7	
		b 12.6	c 2.1
H.	Tutoring or literacy programs for children & teens.....a	82.2	
		b 8.6	c 3.2
I.	Voter registration or voter education.....a	74.5	
		b 14.7	c 4.7
J.	Organized social issue advocacy or community organizinga	75.3	
		b 9.7	c 8.4
K.	Employment counseling, placement or training.....a	82.4	
		b 5.5	c 5.3
L.	Health programs/clinics/health education.....a	79.6	
		b 6.5	c 6.5
M.	Hospitals or nursing homesa	42.0	
		b 45.6	c 8.2
N.	Senior citizen programs (other than housing).....a	59.6	
		b 29.4	c 5.7
O.	Program for migrants or immigrants.....a	84.7	
		b 4.8	c 3.1
P.	Prison or jail ministry.....a	48.8	
		b 37.3	c 11.3

6. In a typical month, about how many people *do you estimate* are served through the services your congregation **directly** provides? Estimated number of people served 391

IV. Leadership and Organizational Dynamics

1. Which of the following best describes the situation in your congregation? (✓ one)

- 20.1 We do *not* have any problem getting people to accept volunteer leadership roles.
 56.9 Recruiting volunteer leaders is a continual challenge, but we eventually find enough willing people.
 22.9 We cannot find enough people who are willing to serve.

IV. Leadership and Organizational Dynamics, continued

6. During the last 12 months, has your congregation been involved in any of the following types of inter-congregational, ecumenical or interfaith activities?

*Circle all "yesses" that apply
With other congregations or persons:*

	<u>No</u>	<u>From the A/G</u>	<u>From other Christian Denominations</u>	<u>From Other Faith Traditions</u>
A. Joint worship services	a 27.9	b 38.3	c 51.1	d 4.8
B. Joint celebrations or programs other than worship ...	a 36.5	b 25.8	c 43.6	d 4.0
C. Joint social outreach or service projects	a 46.7	b 15.7	c 35.1	d 5.2
D. Councils of churches or ministerial associations	a 34.6	b 29.2	c 40.4	d 5.8

7. During the last **five years** has your congregation experienced any disagreements or conflicts in the following areas?
(✓ one on each line)

-----**Yes, and it was:**-----

	<u>No</u>	<u>Very Serious</u>	<u>Moderately Serious</u>	<u>Not Very Serious</u>
A. Theology	83.0	3.2	5.3	8.5
B. Money/Finances/Budget	70.2	7.6	7.9	14.2
C. How worship is conducted	60.0	5.9	10.9	23.2
D. Program/mission priorities or emphases	80.3	2.8	5.2	11.7
E. Who should make a decision	68.9	8.3	9.3	13.5
F. Pastor's leadership style.....	64.7	10.3	9.8	15.1
G. Pastor's personal behavior	83.5	6.8	3.3	6.3
H. Member/participant's personal behavior.....	51.8	12.5	16.7	19.1
I. Other: _____	78.2	13.3	5.3	3.2

8. When your congregation purchases worship, educational, stewardship, evangelism, etc, materials or supplies, does it purchase them: (✓ one)

- | | |
|---|-------------------------------------|
| 18.3 Exclusively from within the A/G | 8.0 Primarily from outside the A/G |
| 48.1 Primarily from within the A/G | .7 Exclusively from outside the A/G |
| 24.9 From a pretty even balance between A/G and non-A/G sources | |

9. Which **one** of the following three statements best describes your congregation? (✓ one)

- 26.2 Our congregation has definite expectations for members that are strictly enforced.
- 68.8 Our congregation has fairly clear expectations for members, but the enforcement of these expectations is not very strict.
- 5.0 Our congregation has only vague expectations for members that are seldom, if ever, enforced.

V. Participants:

[We know you may have to estimate or guess at the answers to several of the questions in this section and the next section. That is O.K.]

1. Approximately how many persons would you say are associated **in any way** with the religious life of this congregation—counting all adults and children, regular and irregular participants, members and also participating nonmembers?

→ → Number 289

2. Approximately how many persons — both adults and children — would you say **regularly participate** in the religious life of your congregation — *whether or not* they are officially members of your congregation?

- A. Number of **regularly participating** adults (18 and over) → → → → → → → avg 134
- B. Number of **regularly participating** children and teens (17 and under) → → avg 73

V. Participants, continued

3. Since 1995, has the above number of **regularly participating adults**: (✓ one)

40.2 Increased 10% or more	7.4 Decreased 5% to 9%
12.9 Increased 5% to 9%	12.1 Decreased 10% or more
23.5 Stayed about the same (+/- 4%)	4.0 Our congregation did not exist in 1995

4. Of your total number of **regularly participating adults**, what percent would you estimate are: (✓ one each line)

	None	Hardly Any 1-10%	Few 11-20%	Some 21-40%	Many 41-60%	Most 61-80%	All Or Nearly All 81-100%
A. Female.....	.2	1.3	.8	7.6	68.9	19.5	1.7
B. Not high school graduate.....	4.6	43.7	25.1	13.8	5.2	4.2	3.4
C. College graduates.....	4.5	29.6	25.6	23.9	13.0	2.4	1.0
D. Age 35 or younger	1.0	7.8	18.5	38.7	22.5	9.0	2.3
E. Over 60 years old	1.5	27.2	29.2	22.0	14.2	5.0	1.0
F. Married.....	.2	2.2	2.5	14.6	35.3	36.0	9.2
G. Life long A/G adherents.....	3.2	23.2	24.0	25.2	12.1	9.4	2.9
H. New to our congregation in the last five years	1.2	10.1	21.3	29.4	18.0	11.4	8.7
I. Live in the immediate area around our church building	3.6	18.7	20.7	21.5	14.5	14.2	6.8
J. Commute more than 15 minutes to get to our worship services ..	4.0	17.8	26.2	27.3	14.1	9.1	1.5
K. Currently holding volunteer leadership roles in our congregation, e.g., serving on committees, teaching "Sunday school", etc.7	8.9	28.6	33.6	18.1	7.7	2.5
L. In households with incomes below \$20,000.....	1.8	28.9	29.2	20.7	8.9	7.4	3.0
M. In households with children under age 18 present.....	1.0	10.9	18.7	34.7	25.2	8.1	1.3

5. Of your total number of **regularly participating adults**, what percent (please report whole percents, no decimals) would you estimate are:

a. American Indian/Alaska Native	1.3%	e. Native Hawaiian or Other Pacific Islander	.8%
b. Asian	1.9%	f. White	75.5%
c. Black or African American	6.1%	g. Other	1.2%
d. Hispanic or Latino	13.2%	TOTAL	100.0%

h. Within these racial/ethnic groups, are there any significant national sub-groups (e.g., German , Korean, Irish, Mexican, Caribbean, etc)? 21.3 Yes 78.7 No **IF YES**, please list them (Japanese, etc.)

6. Of your total number of adult participants, how many would you estimate are involved in: (✓ one on each line)

	<i>Almost All</i>	<i>Most</i>	<i>Some</i>	<i>Few</i>	<i>None</i>
A. Recruiting new members.....	2.5	18.1	44.1	33.3	2.0
B. Activities outside of worship that strengthen their faith.....	2.3	26.0	51.2	18.9	1.5
C. Expressing their faith through helping others	5.1	37.6	50.6	6.4	.3

7. How many of the high school age children of your adult participants would you estimate are involved in the religious life and activities of your congregation? (✓ one)

14.5 Almost all 46.8 Most 23.0 Some 9.7 Few 6.2 Hardly any

VI. Finances

1. How would you describe your congregation's financial health currently and 5 years ago (1995)? (✓ one each line)
- A. Currently:** 23.8 Excellent 35.9 Good 32.9 Tight, but manageable 5.7 In some difficulty 1.7 In serious difficulty
B. In 1995: 10.6 Excellent 33.2 Good 31.8 Tight, but manageable 11.5 In some difficulty 7.9 In serious difficulty
 5.1 Our congregation did not exist in 1995
2. Approximately how much income (in whole dollars) did your congregation receive last year from all sources (e.g., tithes, pledges, membership dues, plate offerings, bequests, endowment income, etc)? Avg. \$234,464.21
3. Approximately what percentage of your church's total income last year was from endowments or investments?
 Of those who reported such income, 4 or 87.5 None
4. Approximately how much money did your congregation spend in the following areas last year?
- | | |
|---|----------------------|
| A. All staff salaries and benefits | \$42,017,698 |
| B. Congregation operations (including building and grounds, utilities, mortgage, insurance, maintenance, equipment, etc.) | 28,632,755 |
| C. Capital improvements | 22,022,740 |
| D. Program support and materials | 12,043,797 |
| E. A/G mission work (dues/assessments/gifts/contributions) | 13,469,232 |
| F. Local mission work (other than through A/G) | 1,997,279 |
| G. National and international mission work and programs (other than through the A/G) | 1,890,744 |
| H. Subsidies to school, day care or before/after school program | 746,553 |
| I. Money put into reserve/endowments/investments | 3,950,811 |
| J. Other | 5,994,551 |
| | \$132,766,160 |
5. During the past 12 months, what methods did your congregation use to encourage financial giving among members? (✓ one on each line)
- | | | |
|--|----------|---------|
| A. Sermons on stewardship | 87.3 Yes | 12.7 No |
| B. Appeals or testimonies from lay participants during worship services | 66.3 Yes | 33.7 No |
| C. Special fund raisers (fairs, bake sales, etc.) | 61.6 Yes | 38.4 No |
| D. Appeals based on specific, concrete and special needs | 87.0 Yes | 13.0 No |
| E. Distribution of promotional material (such as a stewardship campaign) | 19.3 Yes | 80.7 No |
| F. Canvassing members by phone or in person (e.g., member visitation) | 6.4 Yes | 93.6 No |
| G. Pledge or commitment cards | 49.1 Yes | 50.9 No |
| H. Member dues | 4.9 Yes | 95.1 No |
| I. Teaching that a ten percent tithe belongs to God, is due God and should be given to God | 96.2 Yes | 3.8 No |
| J. Teaching that a <i>proportion</i> of one's income, not tithing per se, is sufficient | 6.6 Yes | 93.4 No |

VII. Notes

Background

The Cooperative Congregational Studies Project is a joint effort with 44 faith groups and denominations to assess religious life in the U. S. on the congregational level. The Hartford Institute for Religion Research, Hartford Seminary, coordinates the project, which is partially funded by the Lilly Endowment.

Methodology

Part of the project is the FACT (FAith Communities Today) survey. The Assemblies of God survey of U. S. churches was conducted in February 2000. The total population of U. S. congregations (e.g. located in the 50 states and District of Columbia) with valid mailing addresses numbered 11,492.

Churches were sorted by Sunday AM worship attendance, then state, then city. Starting with the third address, every 12th address was selected for a total of 958 churches in the primary sample.

The shadow sample was drawn in the same manner, except it began with the fourth address. Again, every 12th address was selected for a total of 958.

In February all churches in the primary sample were mailed a survey. In March nonresponders were sent a reminder postcard. The following month, in April, shadow sample replacement surveys were mailed.

Unless specified otherwise, the numbers listed in these results are valid percentages. That is, they are the percent of respondents to that particular item, not the percent of total (619) respondents.

The sum of percentages may not total 100.0 due to rounding.

Other data listed includes "avg," the average, or an arithmetic mean; and "median," or the midpoint at which half of the responses are above and half are below.

Response rate: We received 619 usable surveys from a sample size of 958 churches, a response rate of 65 percent. We are 95% confident that these estimates are within +/- 3% of the correct values.

Size of churches reporting

As is typical with our surveys, larger churches are slightly over-represented and smaller churches are slightly under-represented. The following chart compares the size of churches that responded, to the size of churches selected in the primary sample.

<u>Sunday AM Attendance</u>	<u>-----Responding churches-----</u>		<u>-----Sample churches-----</u>	
	<u>Frequency</u>	<u>Valid %</u>	<u>Frequency</u>	<u>Valid %</u>
Under 50	152	26.3	348	37.1
50-99	176	30.4	280	29.9
100+	251	43.4	310	33.0
Total Valid Cases	579		938	
Missing	40		20	
Total Cases	619		958	

[Return to Assemblies of God Today FACT index](#)