

Megachurch Attendee Survey

Combined responses from 24,901 participants in 12 churches surveyed between Feb and June, 2008
Survey conducted by Leadership Network and Hartford Institute for Religion Research

1 How long have you been going to church services (worship) or activities at this church?

- 19.1 % Less than one year
- 18.7 % 1 - 2 years
- 23.0 % 3 - 5 years
- 15.9 % 6 - 10 years
- 16.6 % More than 10 years
- 4.5 % I am visiting from another church
- 2.2 % I am visiting and do not regularly go anywhere

2 How often do you go to church (worship) services at this congregation?

- 4.1 % This is my first time
- 2.3 % Hardly ever or on special occasions
- 2.2 % Less than once a month
- 3.0 % Once a month
- 18.8 % Two or three times a month
- 69.6 % Usually every week (or more)

3 How has your participation in this church's activities changed in the last two years?

- 38.4 % Increased
- 37.2 % Remained the same
- 7.3 % Decreased
- 17.1 % I haven't been here 2 years

4 How often do you typically volunteer in any capacity at this church?

- 45.3 % Never
- 26.3 % Occasionally (a few times a year)
- 12.8 % Regularly (once or twice a month)
- 15.5 % Often (three times a month or more)

How influential were the following in bringing you to this congregation "initially" (when you first began attending) and then in keeping you here "now"? If you are a first time visitor, please answer only for "now".

5 My friends and family are here

	<i>Initially</i>		<i>Now</i>
37.4 %	1 (not at all)	26.8 %	1 (not at all)
9.6 %	2	10.7 %	2
10.1 %	3	15.9 %	3
10.7 %	4	15.3 %	4
32.2 %	5 (a lot)	31.3 %	5 (a lot)

6 Reputation of the church

	Initially		Now
20.2 %	1 (not at all)	14.2 %	1 (not at all)
8.0 %	2	6.0 %	2
16.4 %	3	13.8 %	3
19.1 %	4	18.6 %	4
36.3 %	5 (a lot)	47.4 %	5 (a lot)

7 Senior pastor

	Initially		Now
23.3 %	1 (not at all)	6.1 %	1 (not at all)
7.0 %	2	2.6 %	2
12.2 %	3	8.5 %	3
13.6 %	4	17.6 %	4
44.0 %	5 (a lot)	65.2 %	5 (a lot)

8 Adult programs/ministries

	Initially		Now
42.0 %	1 (not at all)	23.2 %	1 (not at all)
11.7 %	2	9.1 %	2
17.0 %	3	19.8 %	3
12.0 %	4	20.7 %	4
17.3 %	5 (a lot)	27.1 %	5 (a lot)

9 Children & youth programs/ministries

	Initially		Now
52.3 %	1 (not at all)	41.7 %	1 (not at all)
7.7 %	2	7.1 %	2
11.0 %	3	12.0 %	3
10.3 %	4	13.7 %	4
18.6 %	5 (a lot)	25.4 %	5 (a lot)

10 Music and/or arts

	Initially		Now
28.5 %	1 (not at all)	14.6 %	1 (not at all)
9.5 %	2	6.7 %	2
17.0 %	3	16.8 %	3
16.7 %	4	22.5 %	4
28.2 %	5 (a lot)	39.5 %	5 (a lot)

11 Worship style

	Initially		Now
15.8 %	1 (not at all)	5.1 %	1 (not at all)
8.1 %	2	3.8 %	2
15.2 %	3	11.2 %	3
19.2 %	4	22.7 %	4
41.7 %	5 (a lot)	57.1 %	5 (a lot)

12 Social or community outreach

	Initially		Now
32.8 %	1 (not at all)	14.2 %	1 (not at all)
12.9 %	2	6.9 %	2
19.0 %	3	18.4 %	3
14.6 %	4	24.8 %	4
20.7 %	5 (a lot)	35.8 %	5 (a lot)

13 *Self-help or support groups*

	Initially		Now
50.5 %	1 (not at all)	34.9 %	1 (not at all)
11.5 %	2	10.5 %	2
14.7 %	3	17.8 %	3
9.1 %	4	15.2 %	4
14.2 %	5 (a lot)	21.7 %	5 (a lot)

14 *Denominational ties*

	Initially		Now
45.7 %	1 (not at all)	38.8 %	1 (not at all)
9.0 %	2	8.7 %	2
14.4 %	3	15.8 %	3
11.5 %	4	14.2 %	4
19.4 %	5 (a lot)	22.4 %	5 (a lot)

15 **Gender?**

39.5 % Male
60.5 % Female

16 *Zip/Postal Code where you live? (data excluded due to number of responses)*

17 *What is your age today? Average respondent is 40 years old*

18 *In the past week, how often did you practice personal devotions (times of Bible reading and prayer)?*

30.2 % Seldom: 1 time or less a week
39.6 % Often: 2-5 times a week
30.2 % Nearly daily: 6-7 times a week or more

19 *If you consider yourself a committed follower of Jesus Christ, how long have you been such a follower?*

4.2 % Less than a year
5.8 % 1 - 2 years
11.0 % 3 -6 years
77.0 % more than 6 years
2.0 % Not a committed follower of Christ

20 *What was the first step that moved you from spectator to active participant at this church?*

29.7 % This question doesn't apply to me
6.0 % I can't remember
9.4 % I responded to a *general* announcement (such as appeal from pulpit, email, bulletin announcement, etc.)
4.4 % I responded to a *personal* invitation from someone I didn't know (sign-up booth, phone call, etc.)
18.2 % I responded to a *personal* invitation from someone I did know (a friend, acquaintance, or someone on staff)
21.4 % I responded to an inward sense of call or spiritual prompting
10.9 % I took initiative to look for opportunities

21 How did you first find out about this church?

- 81.6 % Friend, co-worker or family member
- 6.7 % Media (newspaper, TV, radio, mailer, Internet, etc.)
- 11.7 % Saw church facility and came on own

22 Did you look at the church's website before your first visit to the church?

- 16.0 % Yes
- 84.0 % No

23 Do you consider this church your home church?

- 76.2 % Yes (this church only)
- 12.4 % Yes (but I also attend other churches)
- 11.4 % No

24 Marital status?

- 30.8 % Single, never married
- 41.2 % Married - first marriage
- 11.4 % Remarried
- 13.0 % Separated or divorced
- 2.2 % Widowed
- 1.3 % Other

25 Which statement best describes the people who currently live in your household?

- 16.3 % I live alone
- 20.8 % A couple without children
- 8.7 % One adult with child/children
- 38.1 % Two or more adults with child/children
- 16.1 % Some adults living in the same household

26 How do you describe yourself?

- 69.8 % White/Caucasian/Anglo
- 21.1 % Black/African/African American
- 3.4 % Hispanic/Latino
- 3.9 % Asian/Pacific Islander
- 0.5 % Native American
- 1.3 % Other

27 What level of education have you finished?

- 3.9 % Some high school
- 12.8 % High school diploma
- 31.7 % Some college, trade, or vocational school
- 32.8 % College degree
- 18.7 % Post graduate work or degree

28 What is your estimated total household (family or single living alone) income range before taxes for 2007?

- 16.7 % Under \$25,000
- 21.8 % \$25,000 - \$49,999
- 20.2 % \$50,000 - \$74,999
- 15.0 % \$75,000 - \$99,999
- 14.7 % \$100,000 - \$149,999
- 11.6 % \$150,000 or more

29 About how much do you give financially to this church?

- 12.1 % I do not contribute financially here
- 19.9 % I give a small amount whenever I am here
- 15.0 % I give less than 5% of net income regularly
- 20.3 % I give about 5% to 9% of net income regularly
- 32.8 % I give about 10% or more of net income regularly

30 How does your answer compare to the last church you regularly attended?

- 39.9 % My current giving is *more* than at my previous church
- 31.3 % My current giving is about the same
- 9.0 % My current giving is less than at my previous church
- 19.9 % Question does not apply to me

31 What's the comparison between what you give financially to this church, and what you contribute to other causes/charities?

- 67.7 % More goes to this church
- 15.0 % More goes to *other* causes/charities
- 17.3 % Equal amounts (roughly) go to both

32 Are you regularly involved in the following group activities at this church? (Fill in all that apply)

- 25.5 % Sunday school or church school
- 28.1 % Prayer, spiritual discussion, or Bible study groups
- 13.0 % Fellowships, clubs or other social groups
- 6.7 % Support or recovery groups
- 9.5 % Community service or social justice groups
- 18.9 % Other small group activities

33 Before you started coming to this church, were you participating at another church?

- 4.0 % No, I've come here for most of my life
- 18.4 % No, before coming here I had not been attending any church regularly for several years
- 5.5 % No, before coming here I had never regularly attended
- 44.0 % Yes, immediately prior to coming here I was participating in another church in this area
- 27.9 % Yes, prior to coming here I was participating in a distant church but I just moved into this area.

34 Over the last year, how much have you grown in your faith?

- 5.0 % No real growth
- 32.4 % Some growth
- 42.4 % Much growth, mainly through this congregation
- 8.3 % Much growth, mainly through other groups or congregations
- 11.8 % Much growth, mainly through my own private activities

35 During the past year, roughly how many people did you invite to your church? (Include people you invited even if they did not accept the invitation)

- 12.8 % 0
- 29.2 % 1-2
- 31.3 % 3-5
- 14.8 % 6-10
- 12.0 % More than 10

36 How satisfied are you with your own spiritual growth?

- 24.3 % Very satisfied
- 43.7 % Somewhat satisfied
- 18.1 % Mixed feelings / Not sure
- 10.4 % Somewhat dissatisfied
- 3.5 % Very dissatisfied

37 To what extent do you agree or disagree with each statement as it describes your congregation?

My spiritual needs are being met in this church

- 44.5 % 5 (strongly agree)
- 30.7 % 4
- 18.4 % 3
- 4.8 % 2
- 1.7 % 1 (strongly disagree)

I have very few close friends at this church

- 24.8 % 5 (strongly agree)
- 16.9 % 4
- 19.7 % 3
- 15.3 % 2
- 23.3 % 1 (strongly disagree)

Church leaders encourage me to discover and use my gifts and skills for ministry and service

- 35.5 % 5 (strongly agree)
- 24.9 % 4
- 22.3 % 3
- 10.4 % 2
- 6.9 % 1 (strongly disagree)

Worshipping at a large church hinders my spiritual growth

- 3.4 % 5 (strongly agree)
- 5.8 % 4
- 13.6 % 3
- 16.3 % 2
- 60.9 % 1 (strongly disagree)

This church makes a strong effort to help me get involved in the activities and life of the church body

- 42.4 % 5 (strongly agree)
- 25.8 % 4
- 20.1 % 3
- 8.1 % 2
- 3.6 % 1 (strongly disagree)

This church has not made a strong effort to train, develop or coach me in how to be a better leader in the church

- 4.7 % 5 (strongly agree)
- 7.3 % 4
- 19.2 % 3
- 19.8 % 2
- 48.9 % 1 (strongly disagree)

This church has encouraged me to serve the wider community, nation and world

46.0 % 5 (strongly agree)

27.3 % 4

18.3 % 3

5.6 % 2

2.7 % 1 (strongly disagree)

I have a strong sense of belonging to this church

40.1 % 5 (strongly agree)

24.8 % 4

21.6 % 3

9.4 % 2

4.2 % 1 (strongly disagree)

A recent time when I FELT closest to God was directly connected to a ministry or activity of this church

38.7 % 5 (strongly agree)

24.1 % 4

19.4 % 3

9.9 % 2

7.9 % 1 (strongly disagree)

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