

SECRETARY'S REPORT

North American Division
Year-end Meeting
October 26 – 31, 2023

Kyoshin Ahn

TOGETHER
IN MISSION





Secretariat Team

- Secretariat Office
- Human Relations
- eAdventist Membership Services
- Volunteer Ministries
- Human Resource Services
- Archives, Statistics, and Research
- Professional Services

TOGETHER
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Gratitude
turns what we have
into enough



Thank
you! ☺

Debt of Gratitude to Staff

- Jorge A. Ramirez
- Carolyn R. Forrest
- Bonita J. Shields
- Melissa Gottlieb
- Sharri Davenport
- Ana Guerrero
- Michael W. Campbell
- Valerie Robbins
- Deloris Bailey
- Ernest Hernandez
- Jackie Smith
- Gladys S. Guerrero
- Casey Vaughn
- Danielle Toddy
- Sarah Kelly
- Chandler Riley
- Jeannie Wright
- Rohann Wellington
- Shane Hochstetler
- Anika Anderson
- Georgia Damsteegt
- Karen Miranda
- Luis Sanchez
- Sheldon Kenney
- Dachele Cuke
- Kate Wolfer
- Brian Ford
- Rob Garvin

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2023 Membership



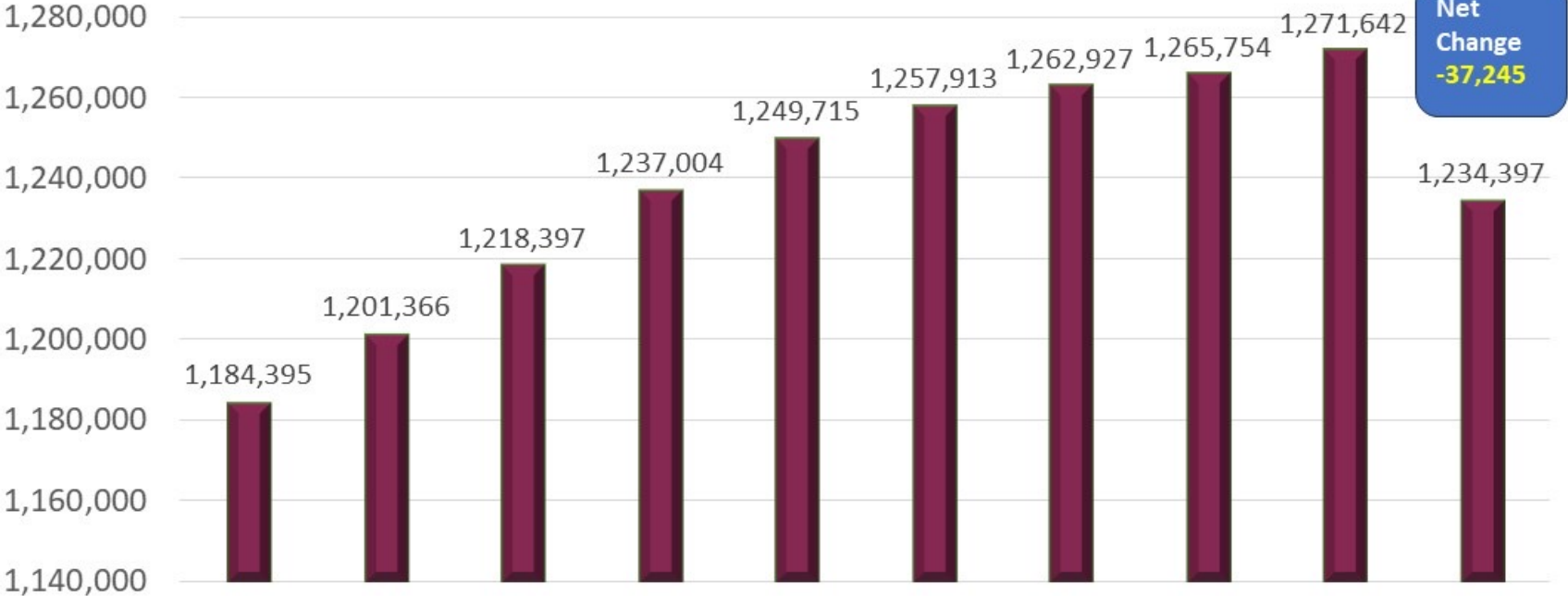
Membership as of
2nd Quarter 2023

1,243,206

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North American Division Membership Comparison 2013-2022



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Membership Audits

2021

A. Conference 6,778 out

Total

6,778

2022

B. Conference 6,282 out

C. Conference 19,835 out

D. Conference 10,894 out

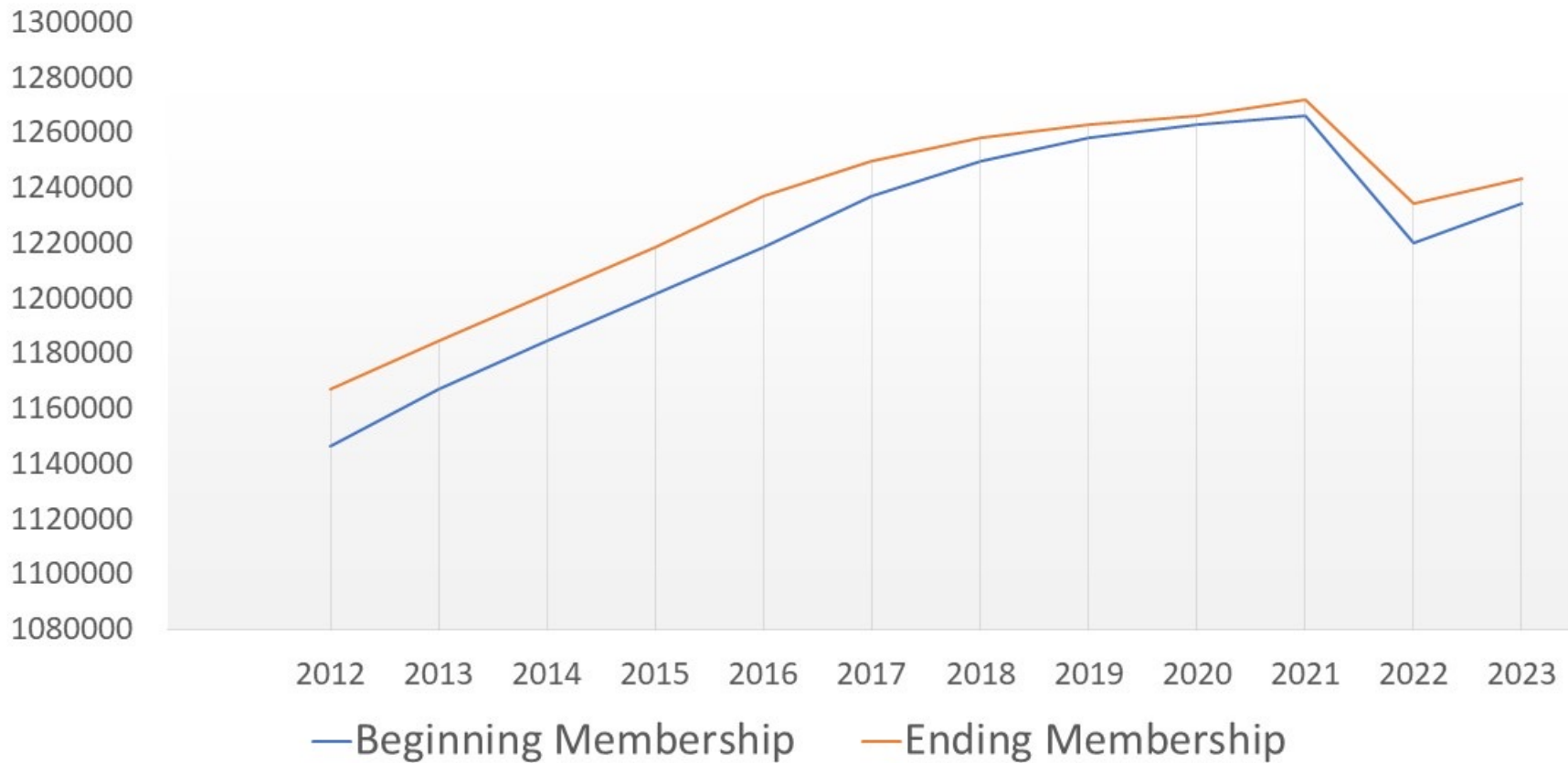
E. Conference 15,182 out

52,193

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North American Division Beginning and Ending Membership Comparison through 2nd Quarter 2023



NAD Baptisms 2013—Through 2nd Quarter 2023

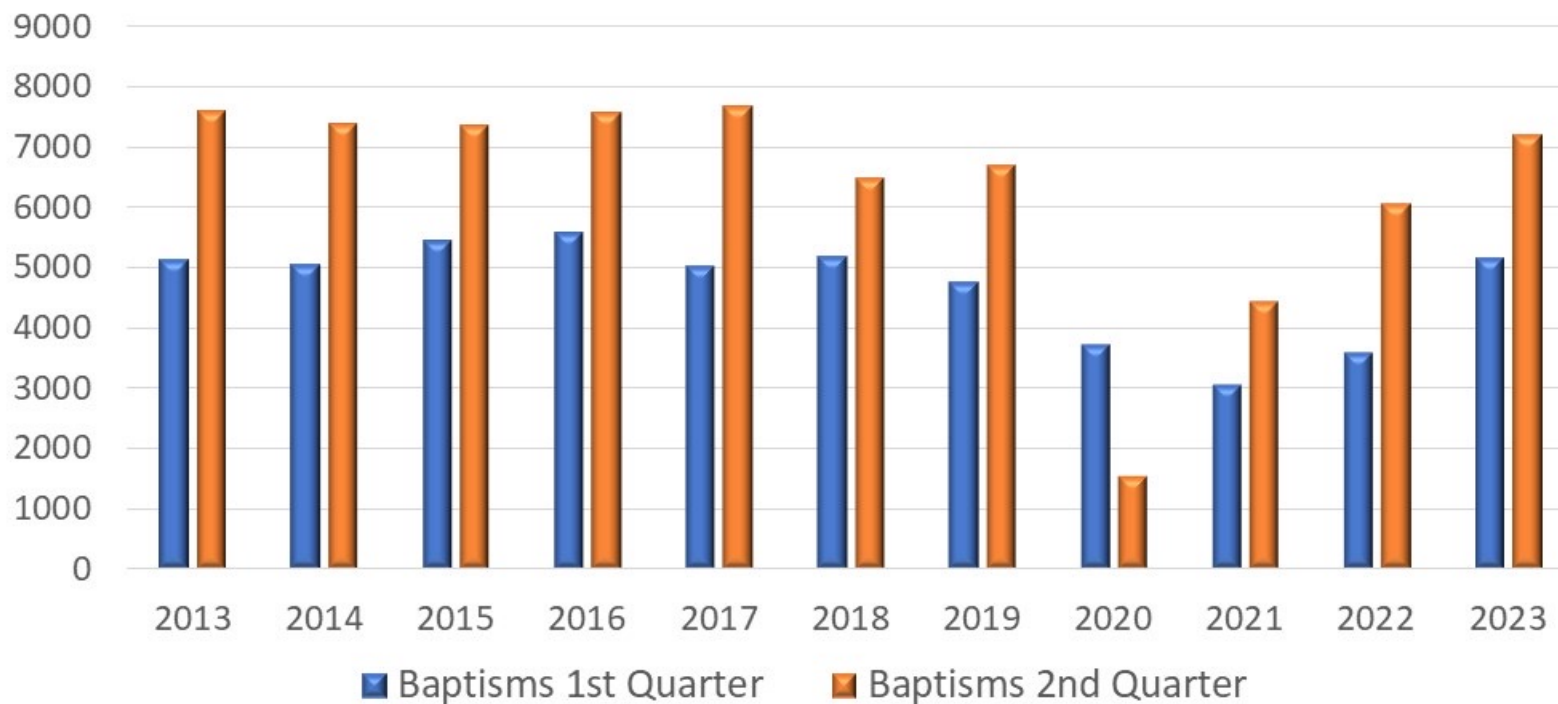


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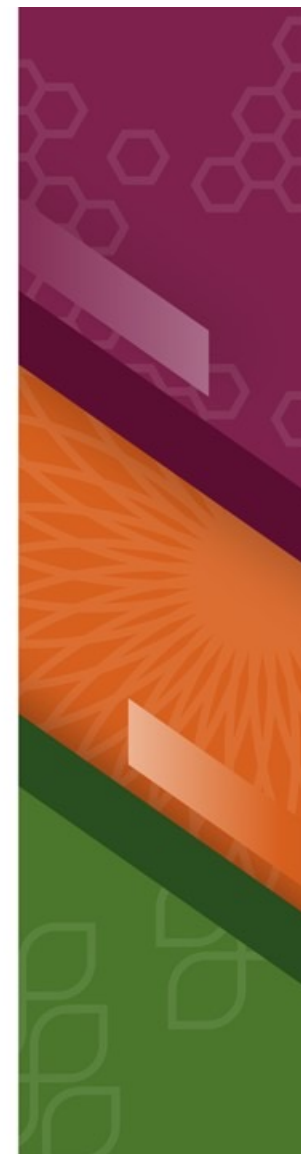


Baptisms

1st and 2nd Quarter 2013-2023



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NAD Profession of Faith 1st and 2nd Quarter 2013-2023



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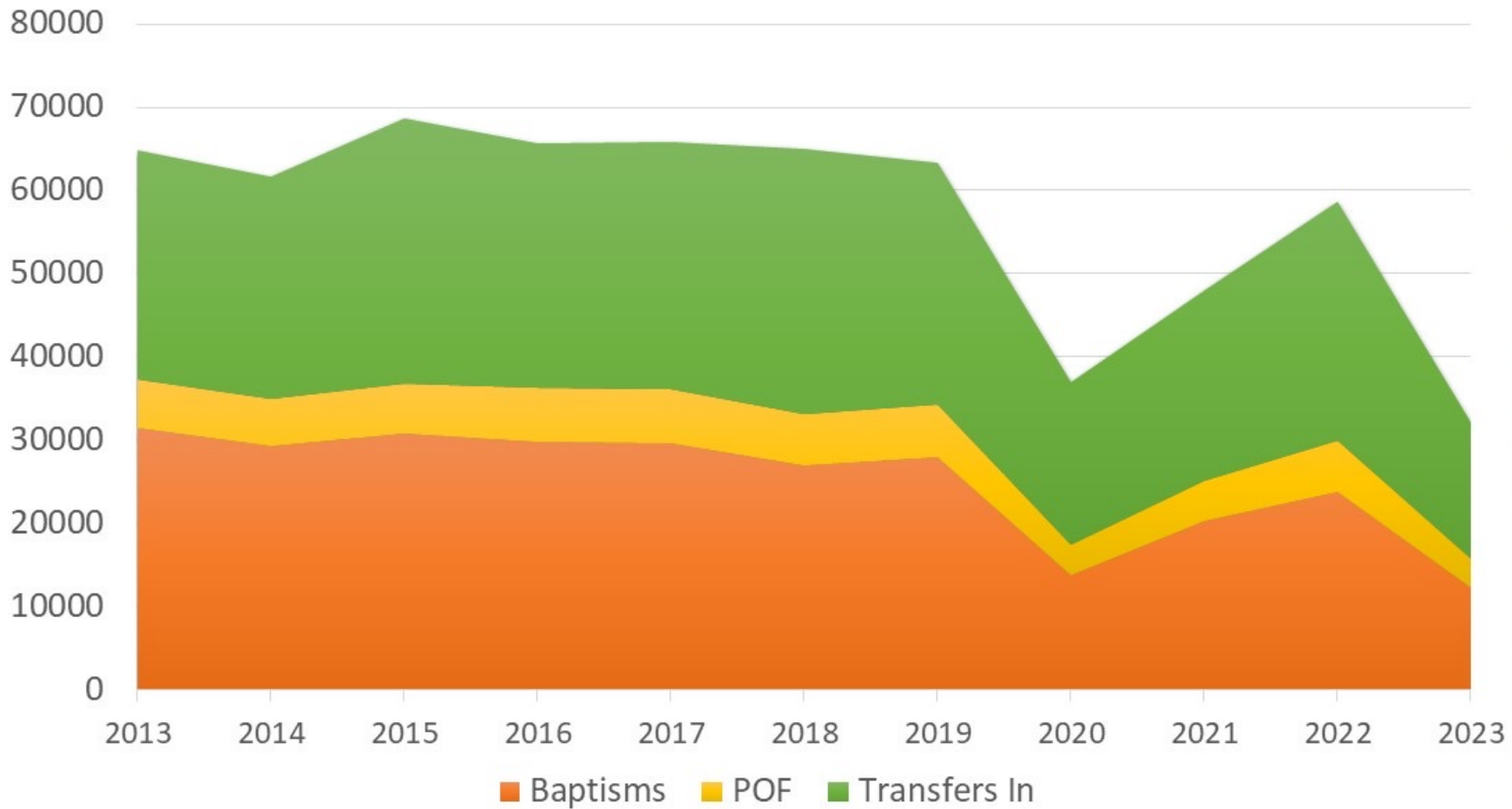
NAD Profession of Faith 2013 through 2nd Quarter 2023



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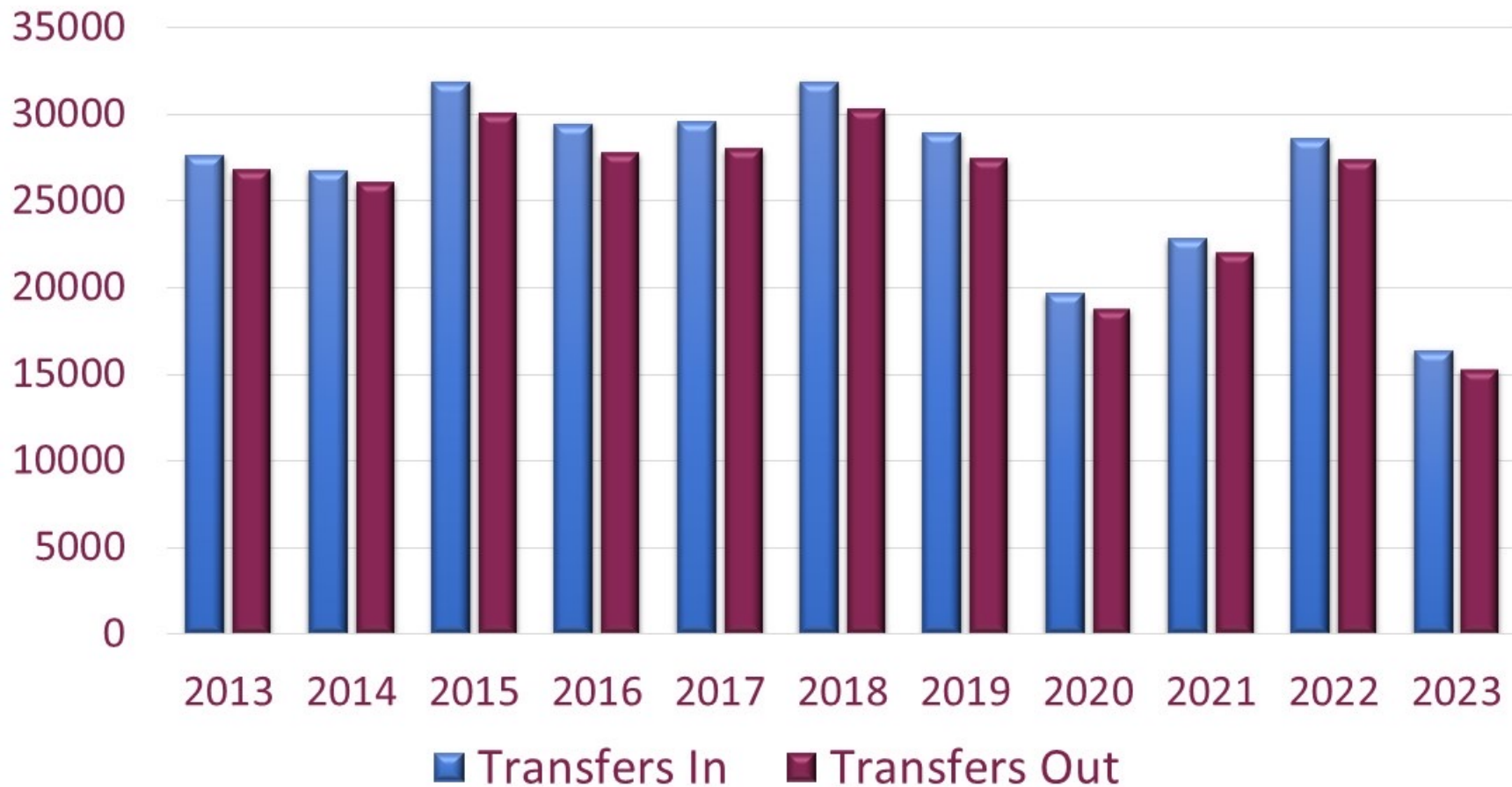
NAD Baptisms/Profession of Faith/Transfers In Totals 2013 through 2nd Quarter 2023



Transfers In and Out



NAD Transfers In and Out 2013 through 2nd Quarter 2023



Congregations 2023 Mid-Year

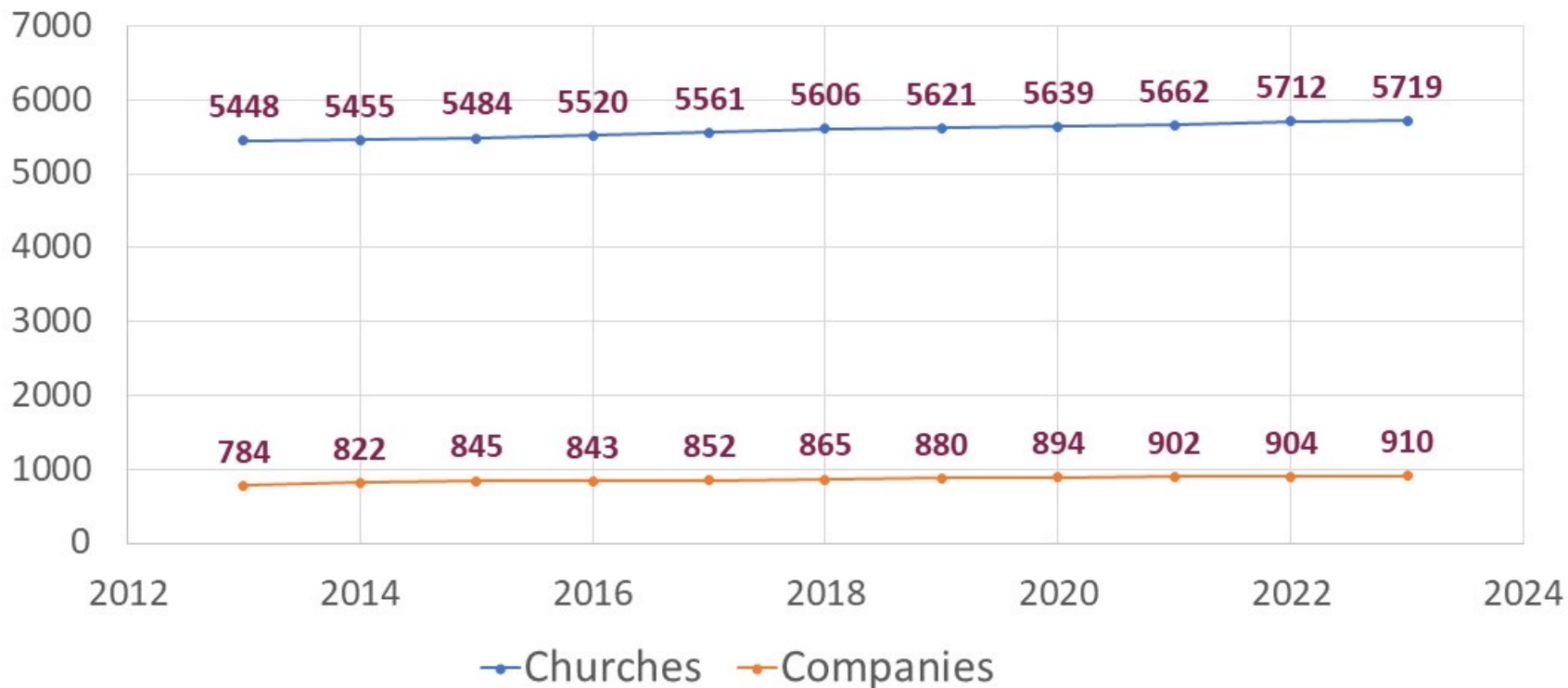
- 5,719 Churches
- 910 Companies



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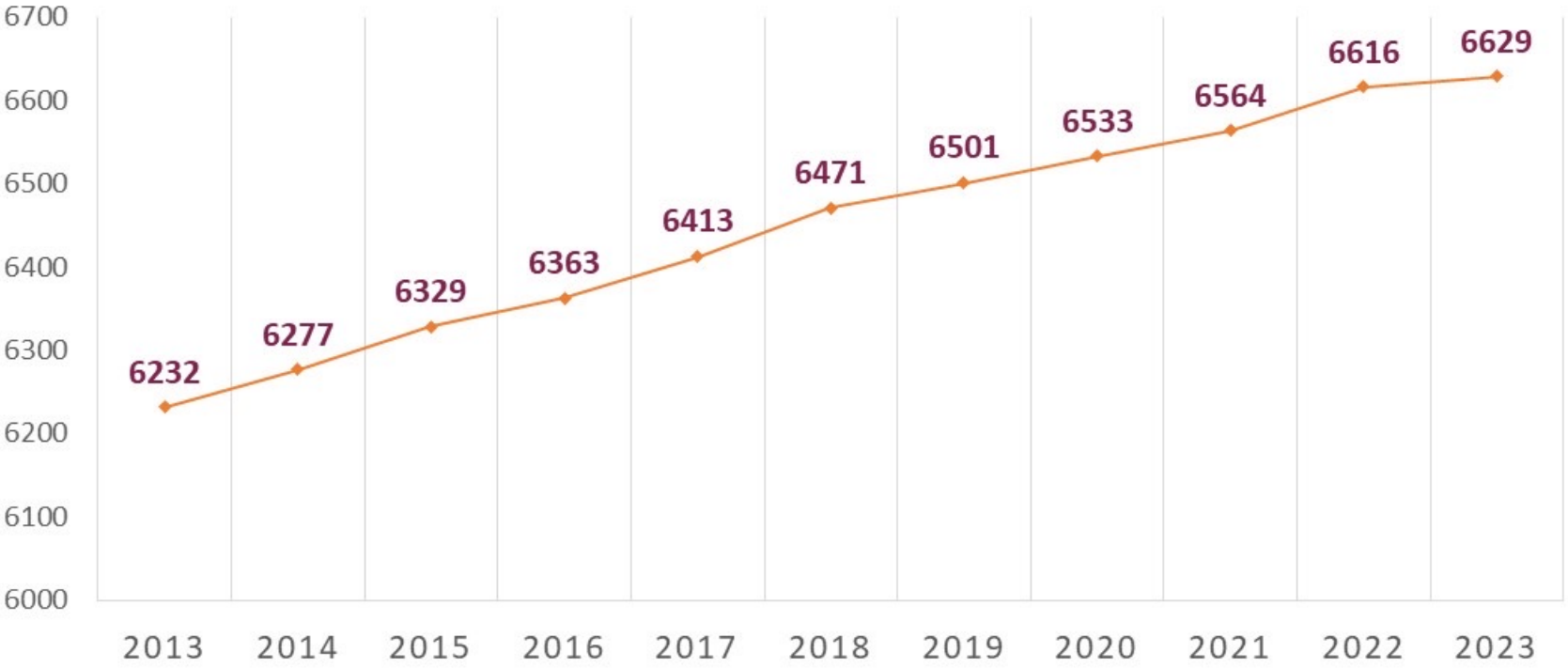
NAD Churches and Companies—2013-2023 2nd Quarter



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North American Division Total Churches and Companies



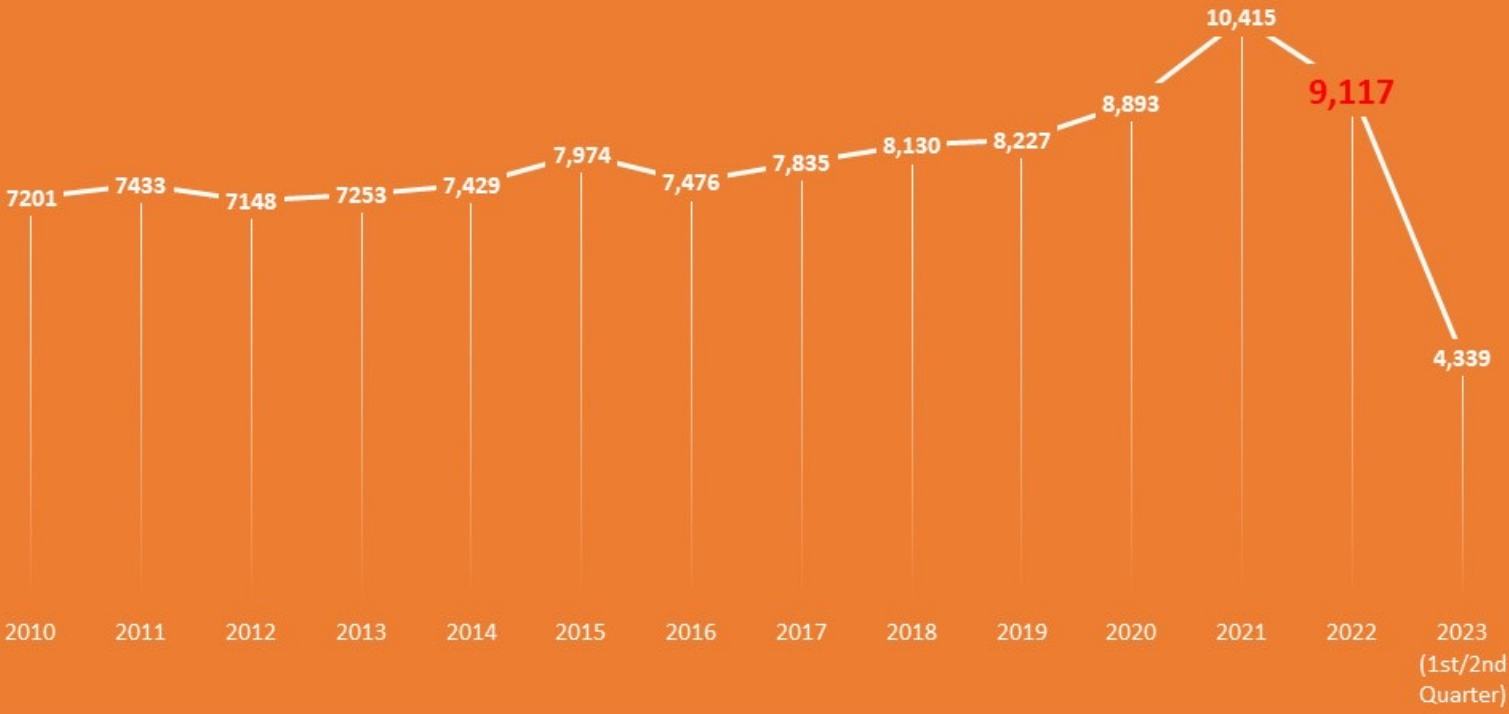
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Attrition and Losses



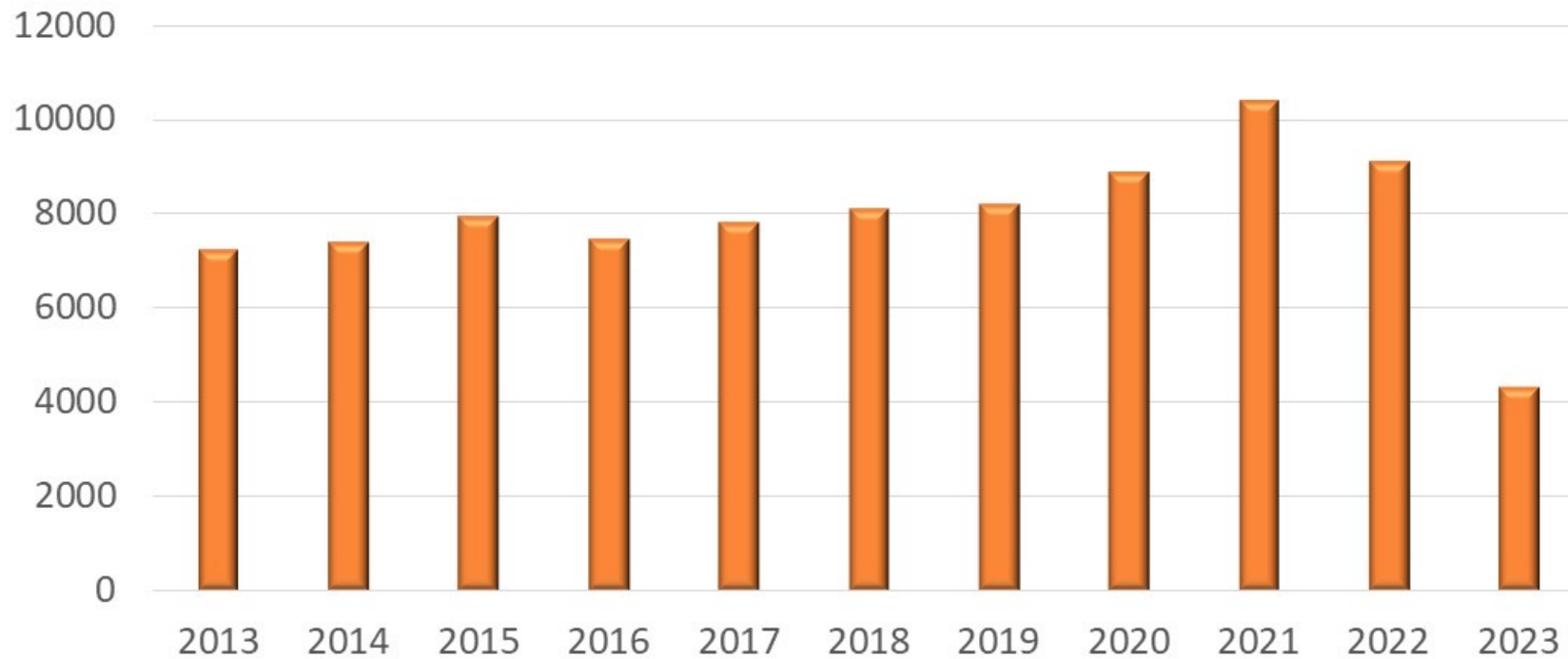
NORTH AMERICAN DIVISION DEATHS



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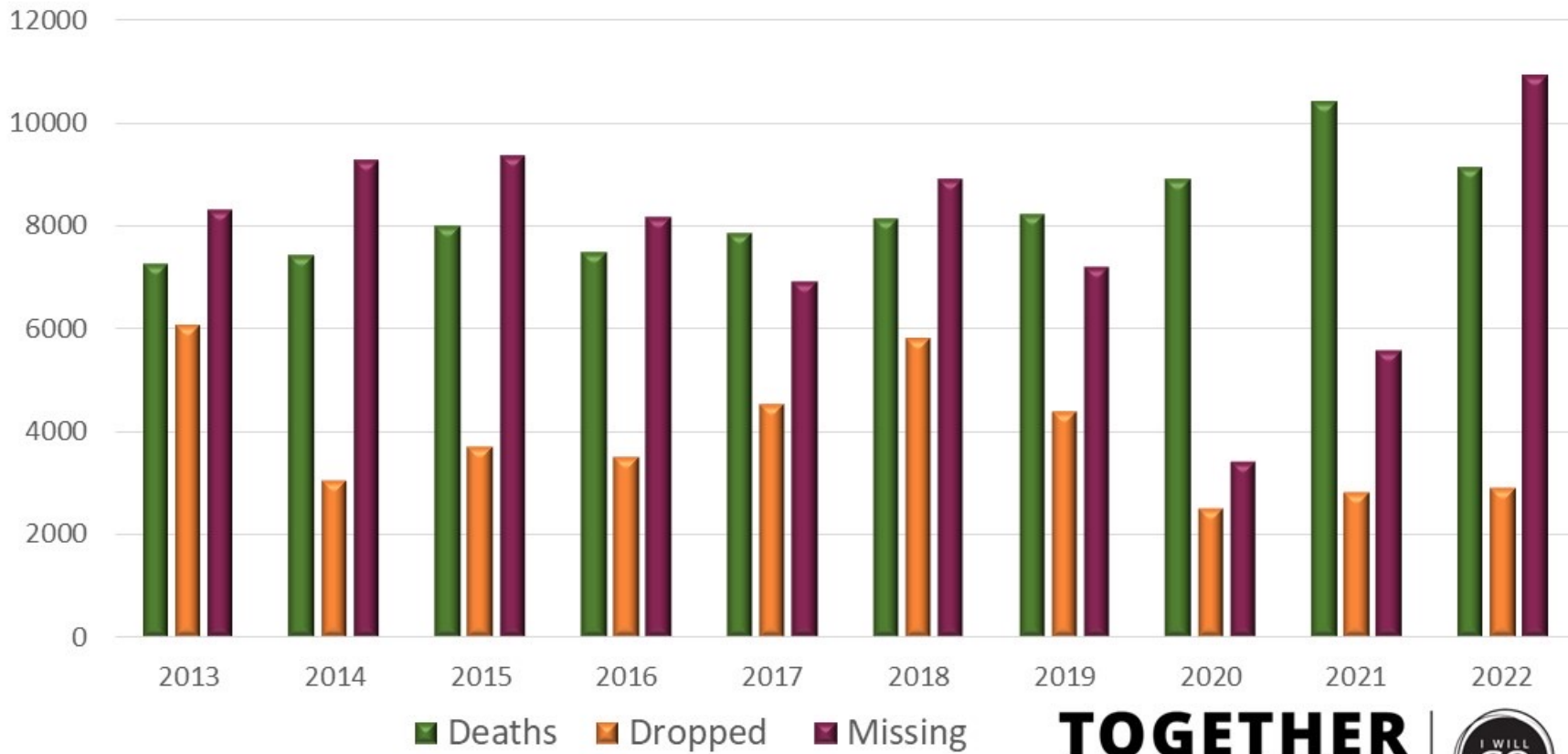
North American Division Deaths 2013-2nd Quarter 2023



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North American Division Deaths/Dropped/Missing 2013-2022



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Retention and Nurturing

Bonita J. Shields

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Accession Rate

Additions by baptism and profession of faith for every 100 members at the beginning of the year.

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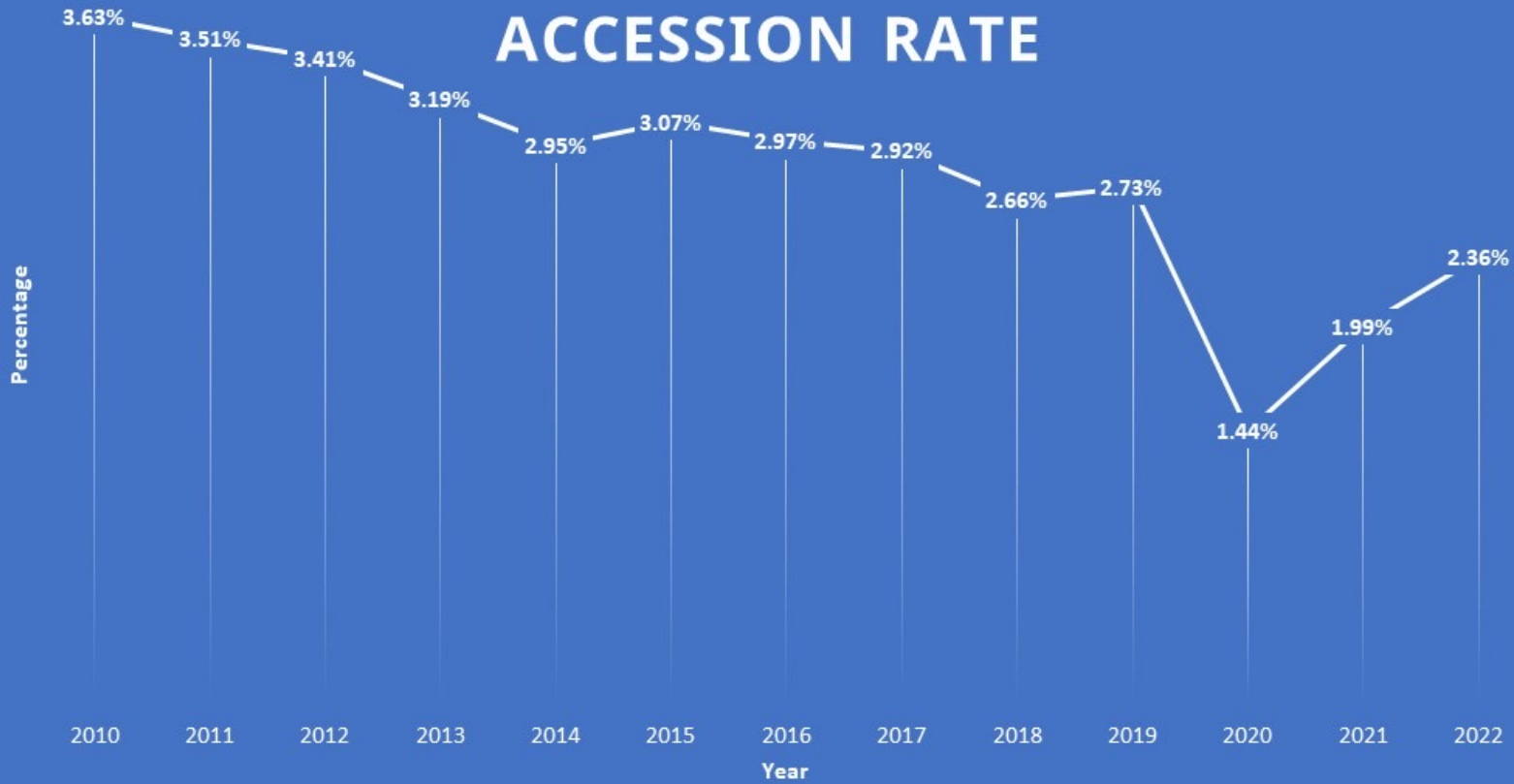
Accession Rate for North American Division

*Additions by baptism
and profession of
faith for every 100
members at
beginning of year*

Year	Rate
2012	3.14%
2013	3.19%
2014	2.95%
2015	3.07%
2016	2.97%
2017	2.78%
2018	2.49%
2019	2.73%
2020	1.44%
2021	1.98%
2022	2.36%



NORTH AMERICAN DIVISION ACCESSION RATE



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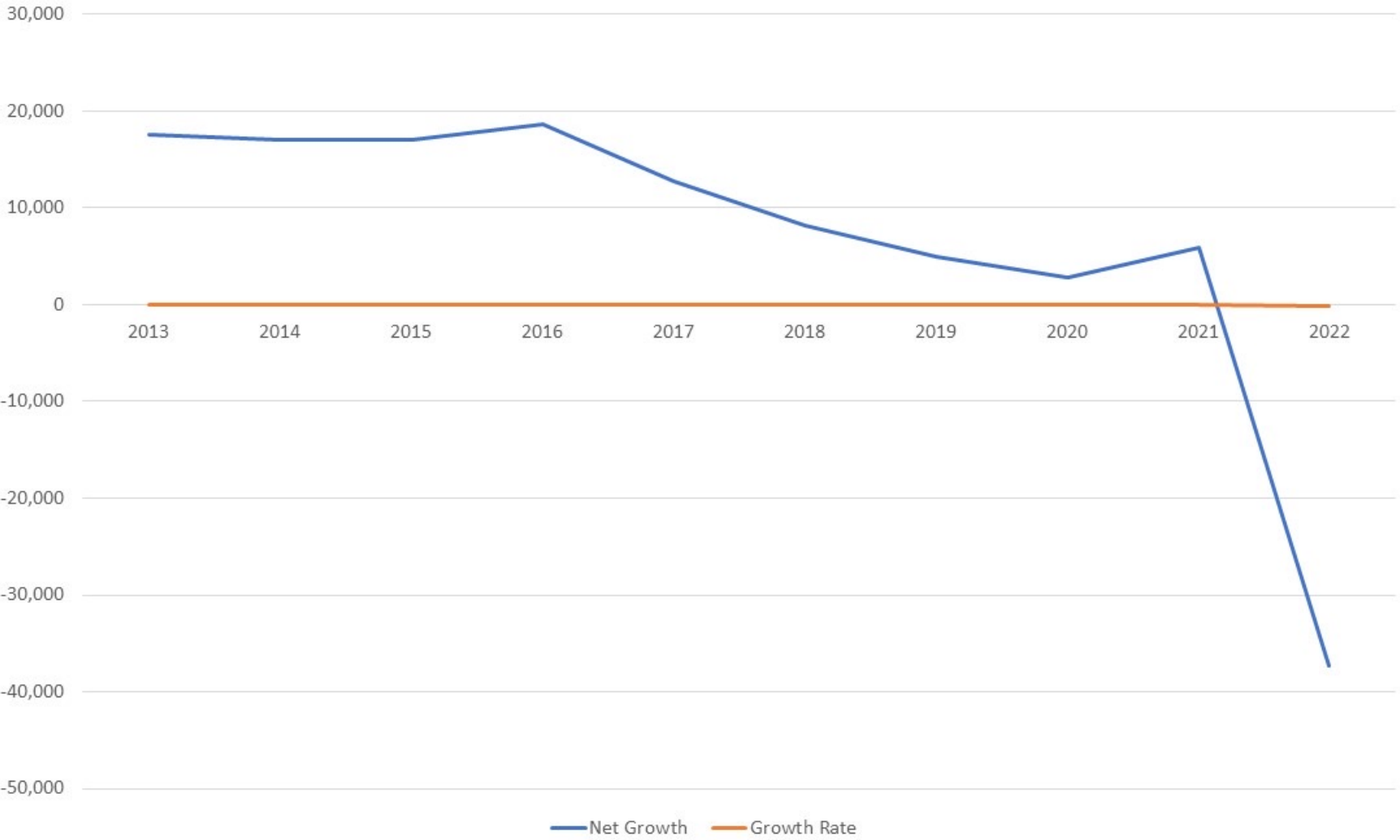
Rate of Net Growth

The changes in membership between the beginning of the year and the end of the year, shown as percentages

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NAD Net Growth and Growth Rate



Accession Rate of Growth

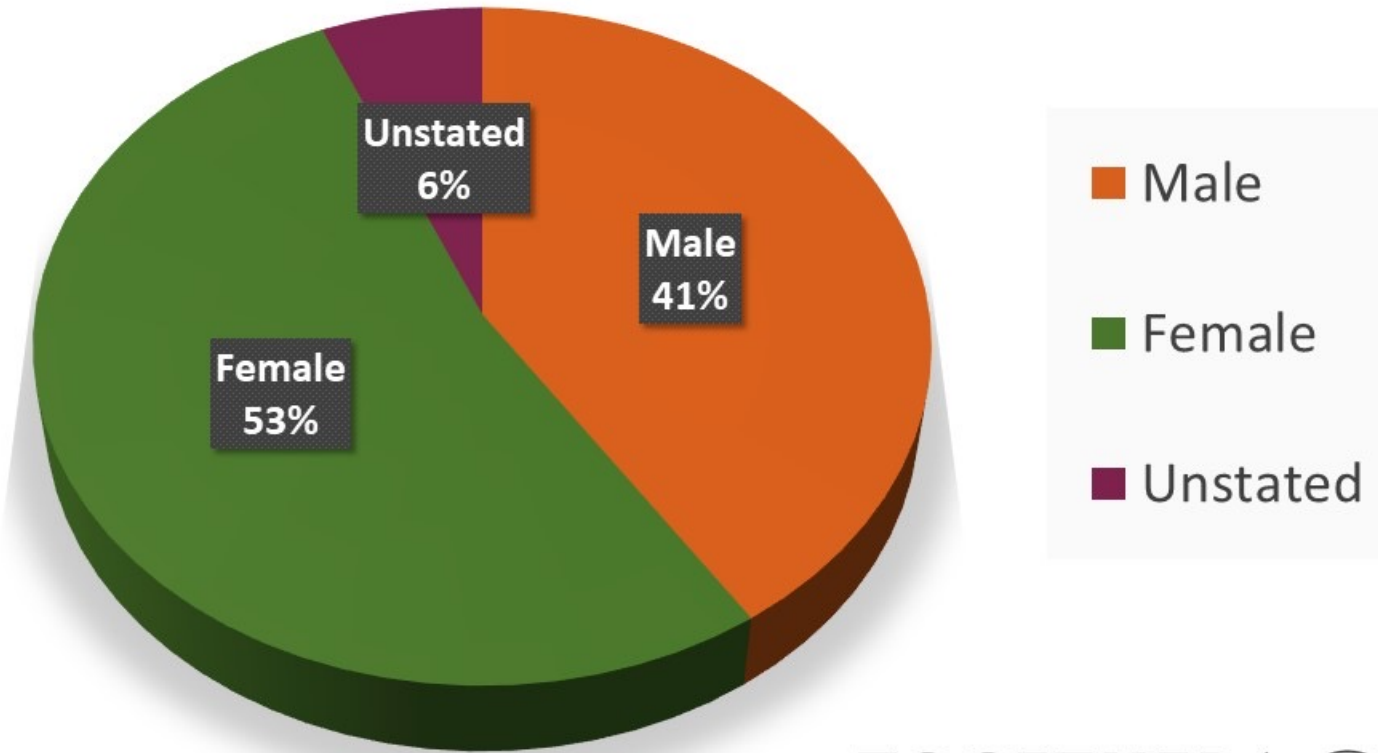
Year	Net Growth	Growth Rate
2013	17,541	1.5
2014	16,971	1.43
2015	17,031	1.42
2016	18,607	1.53
2017	12,711	1.03
2018	8,198	0.66
2019	5,014	0.4
2020	2,827	0.22
2021	5,888	0.46
2022	-37,245	-0.03

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2022 Gender—North American Division

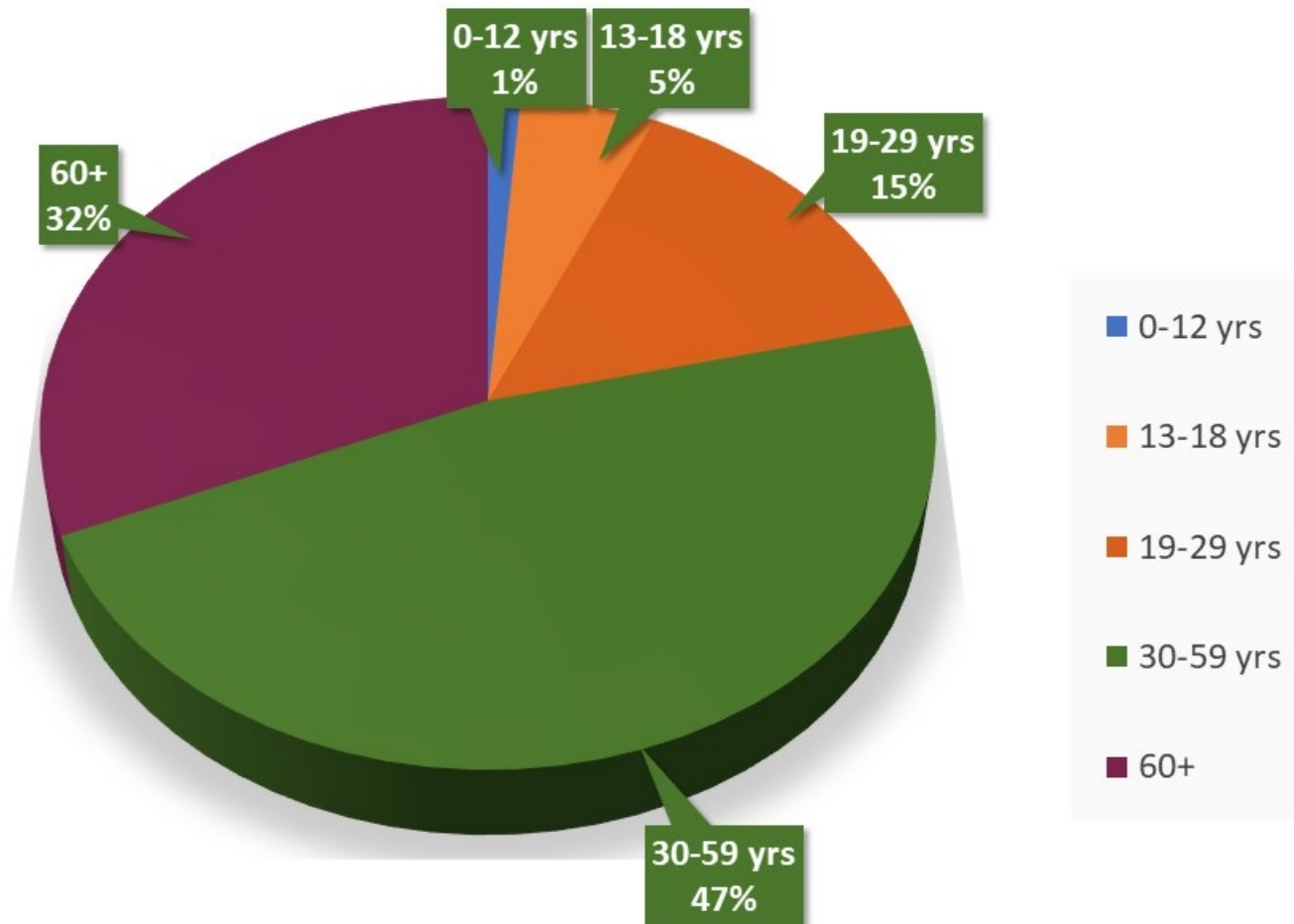
(Data from 2021 NAD Gender Report)



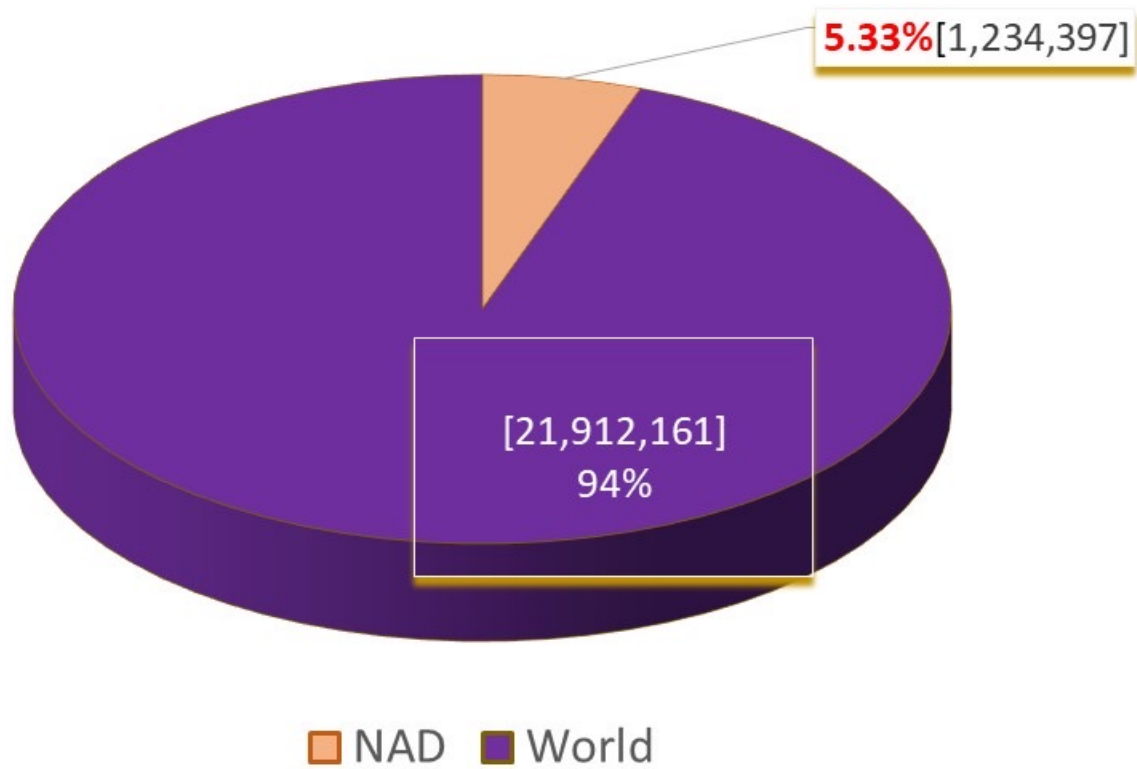
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North American Division Members by Age



North American Division vs. World Membership 2022



Congregational Changes in North America

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■ Twenty Years of
■ Congregational Change:
■ The 2020 Faith Communities
■ Today Overview



Petr Činčala, Ph.D. - Director,
Institute of Church Ministry, Andrews University
René Drumm, Ph.D. - Senior Researcher,
Institute of Church Ministry, Andrews University

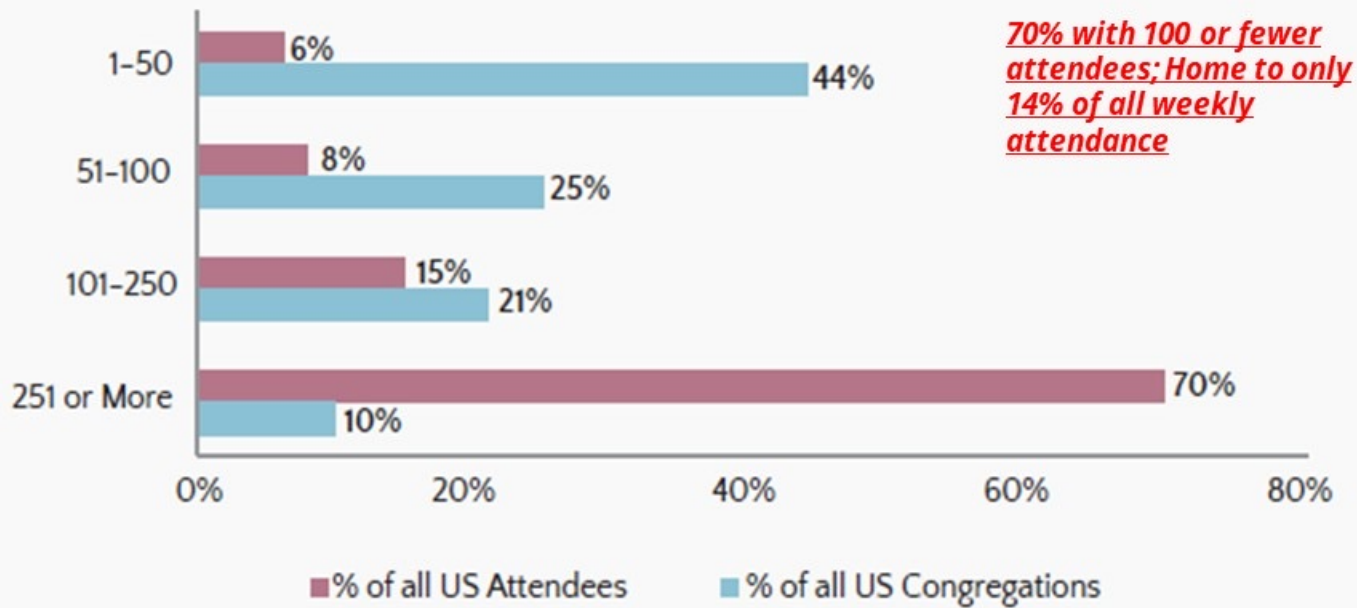


eAdventist
technology for churches

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Plenty of Small Congregations but Fewer People in Them



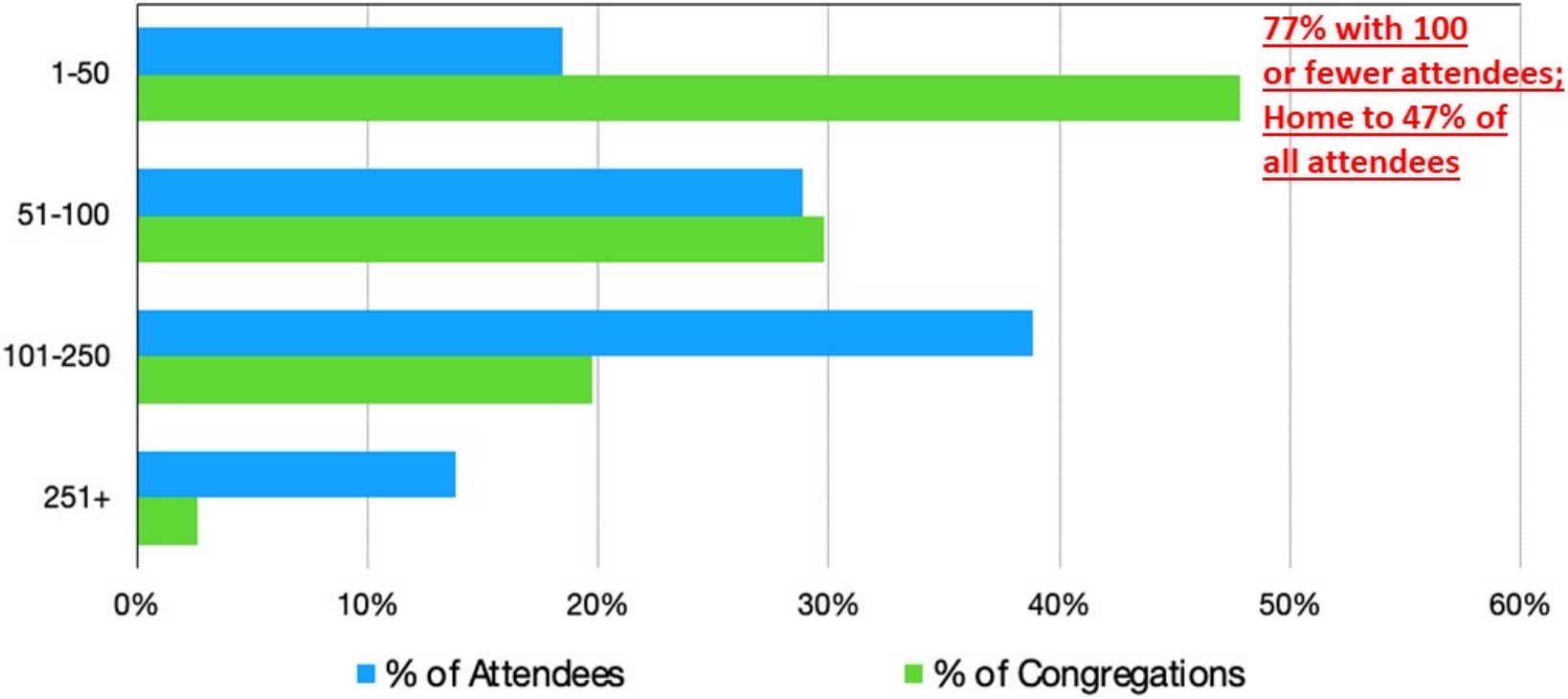
Source: 2020 Faith Communities Today survey, Hartford Institute for Religion Research

Figure 2

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2023 NAD Congregational Attendance

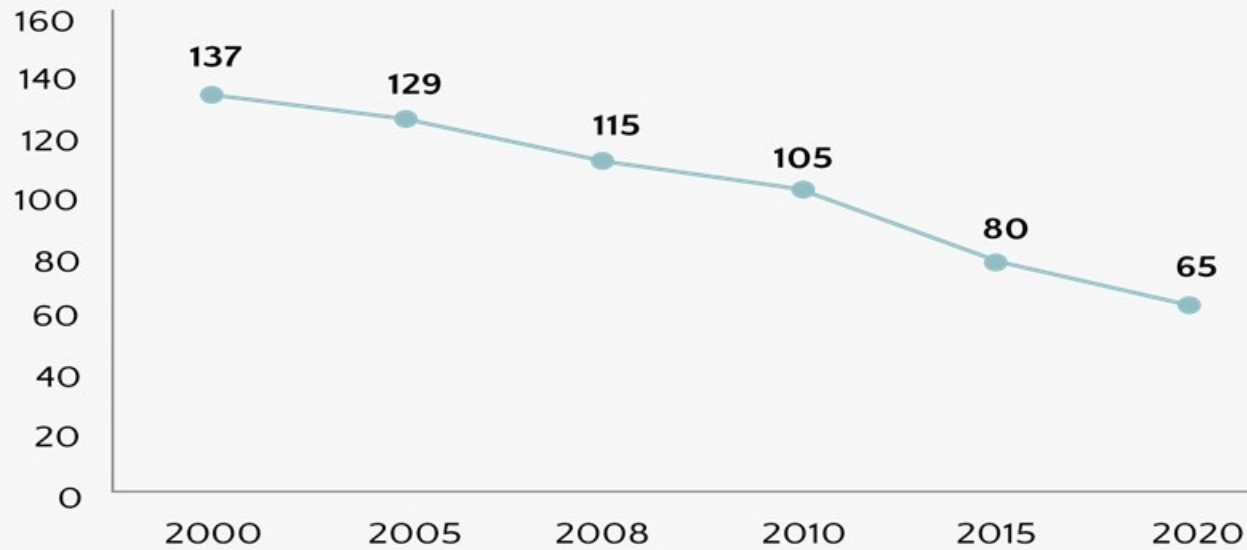


2023 eAdventist data

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Declining Median Worship Attendance Among U.S. Congregations



Source: 2020 Faith Communities Today survey, Hartford Institute for Religion Research

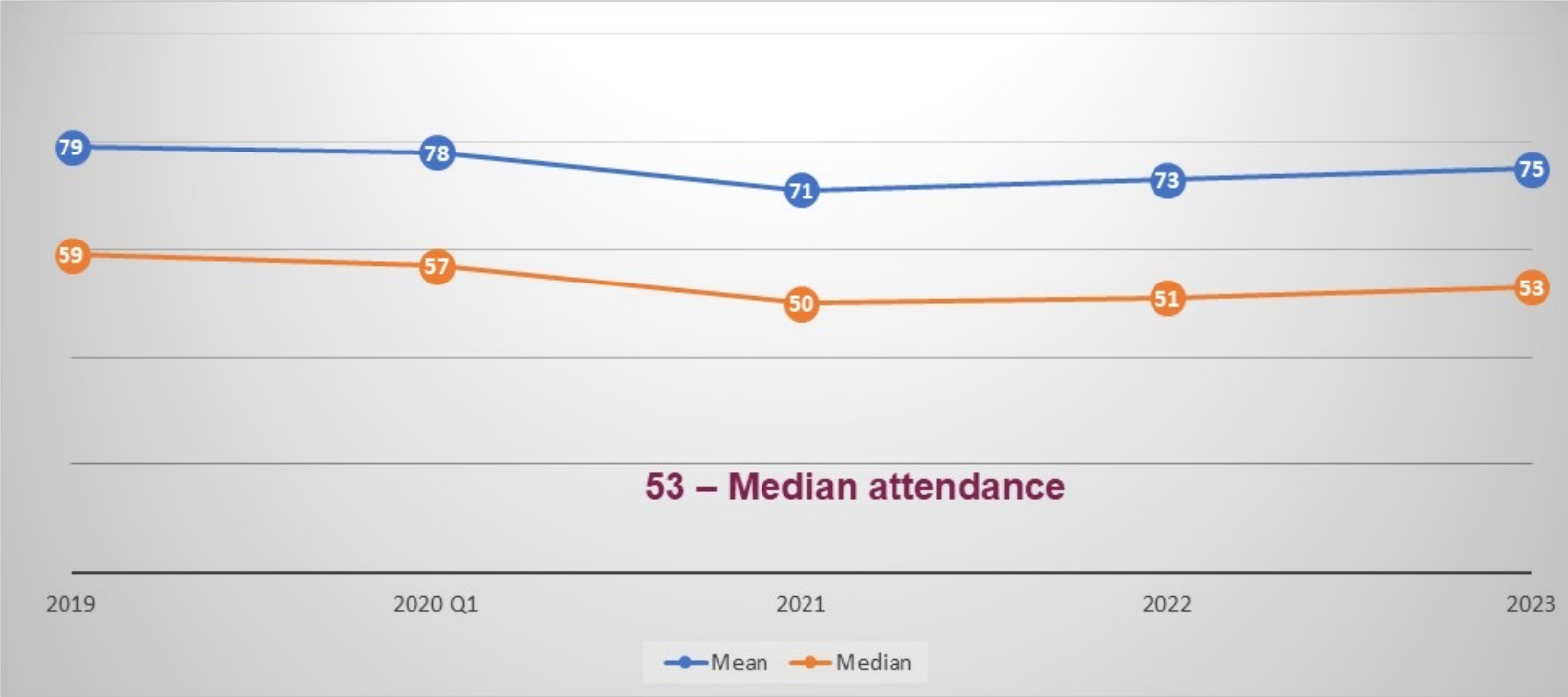
Figure 6

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NAD Median Attendance

(from eAdventist)



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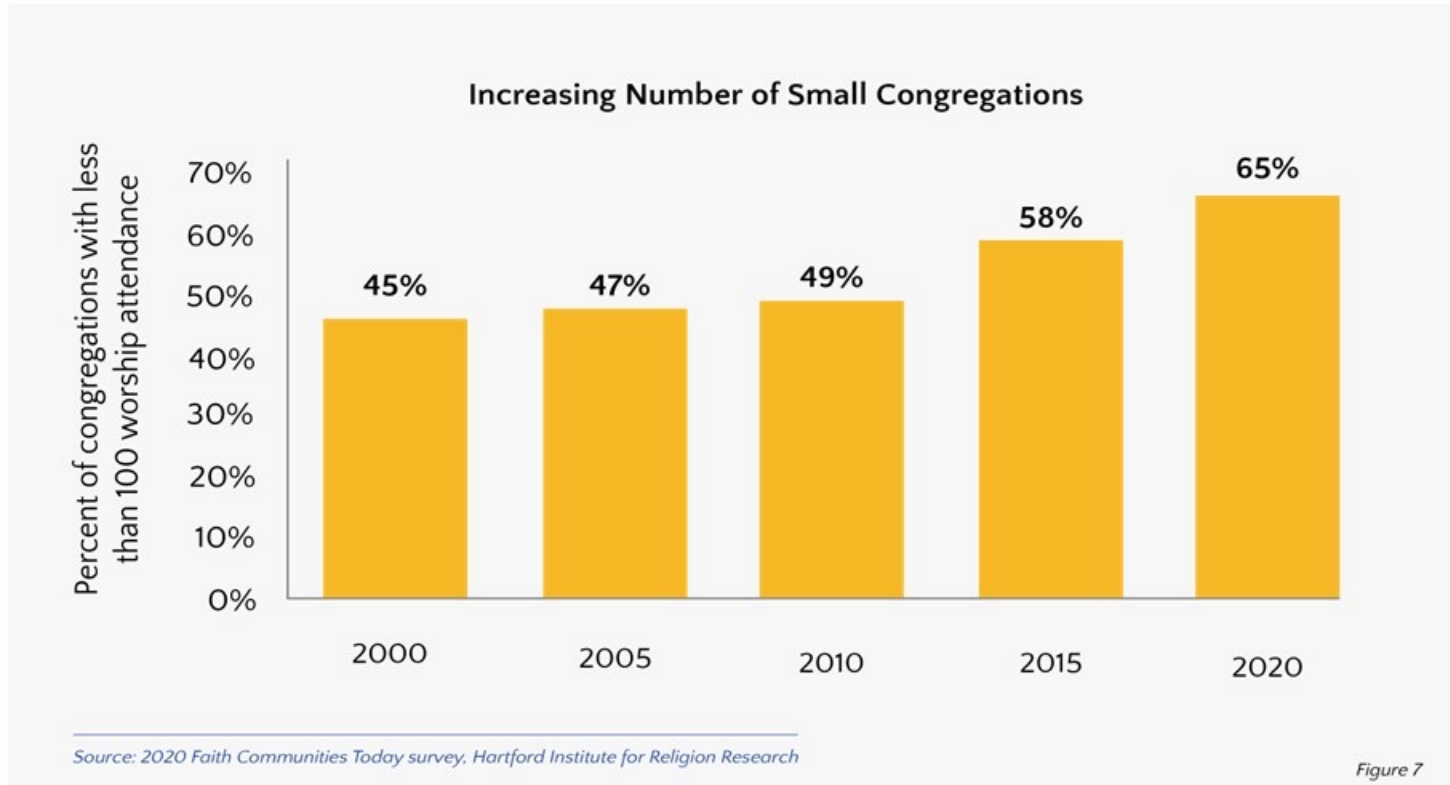
eAdventist Report on Attendance

Brian Ford

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Small Congregations Attendance

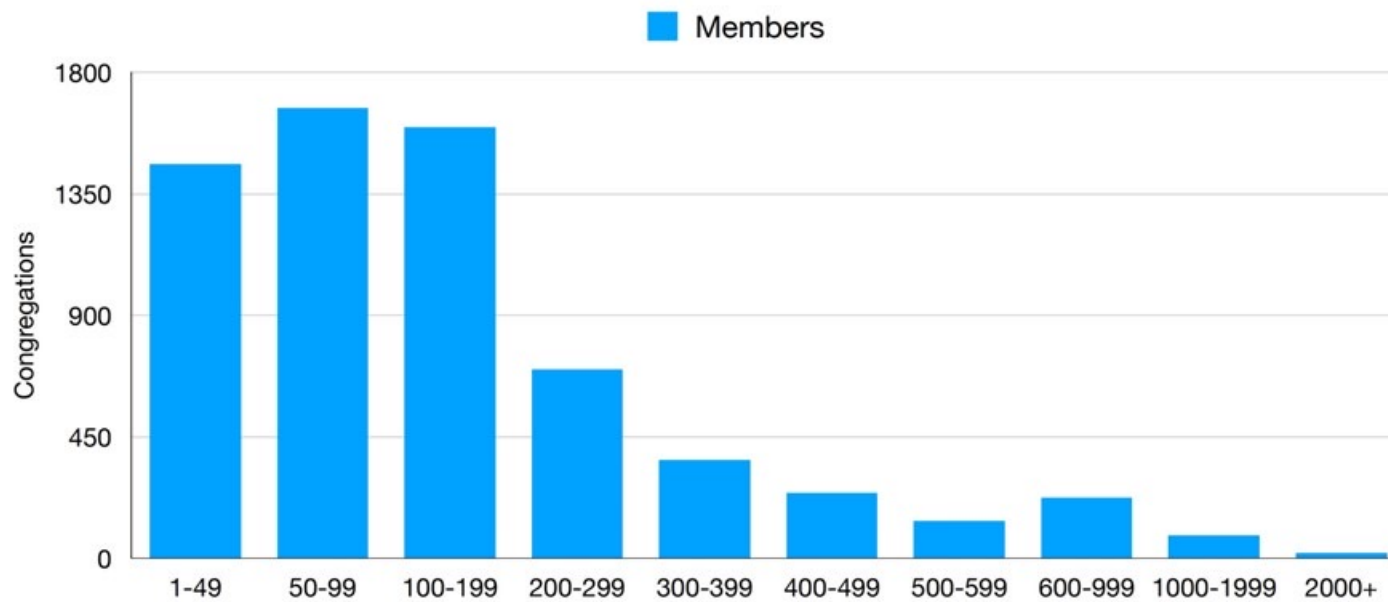


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NAD Members and Congregation

(eAdventist data)

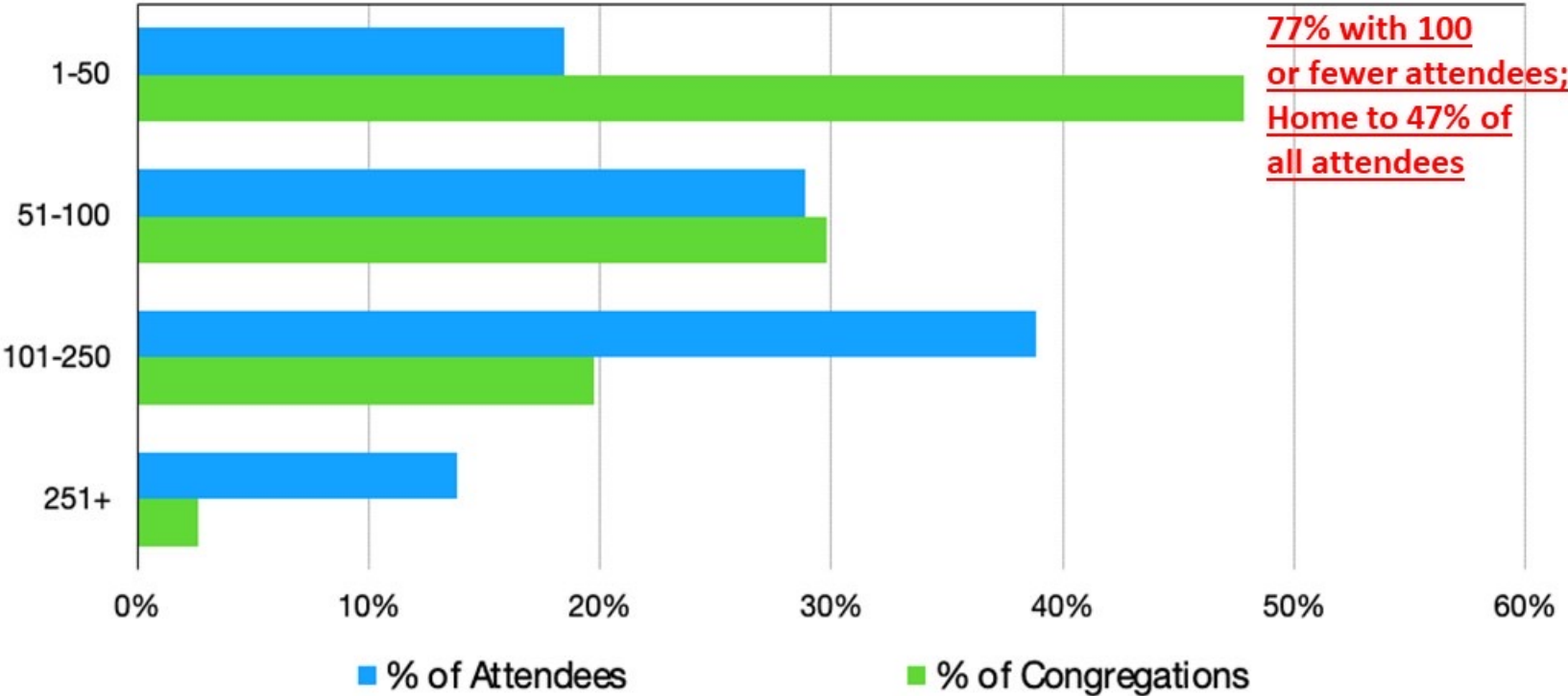


48% with less than 100

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2023 NAD Congregational Attendance



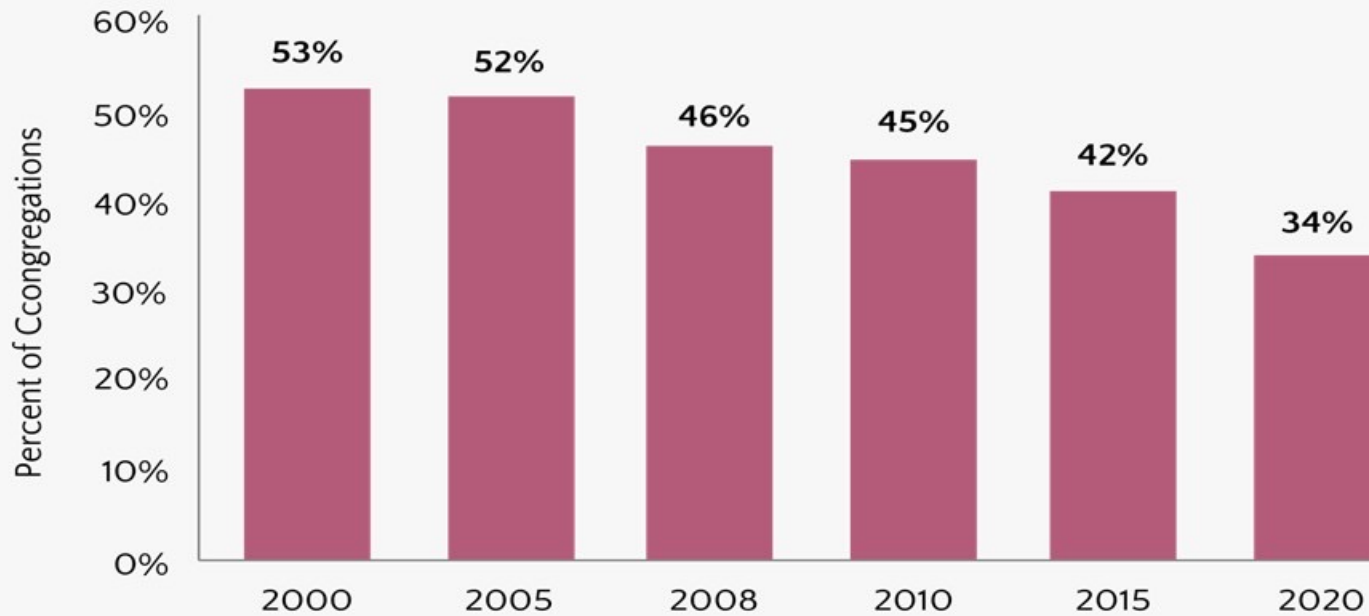
2023 eAdventist data

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Fewer Congregations Are Growing

Growth five percent or more in past five years



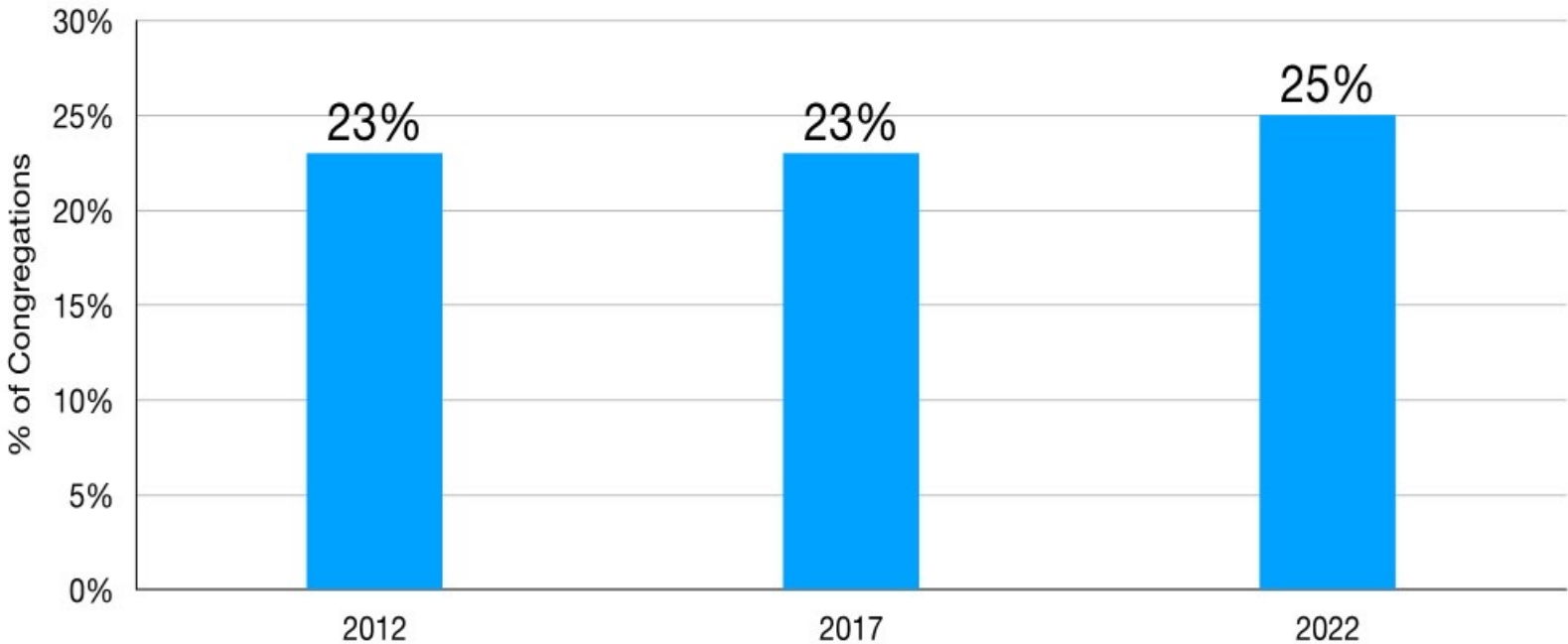
Source: 2020 Faith Communities Today survey, Hartford Institute for Religion Research

Figure 8

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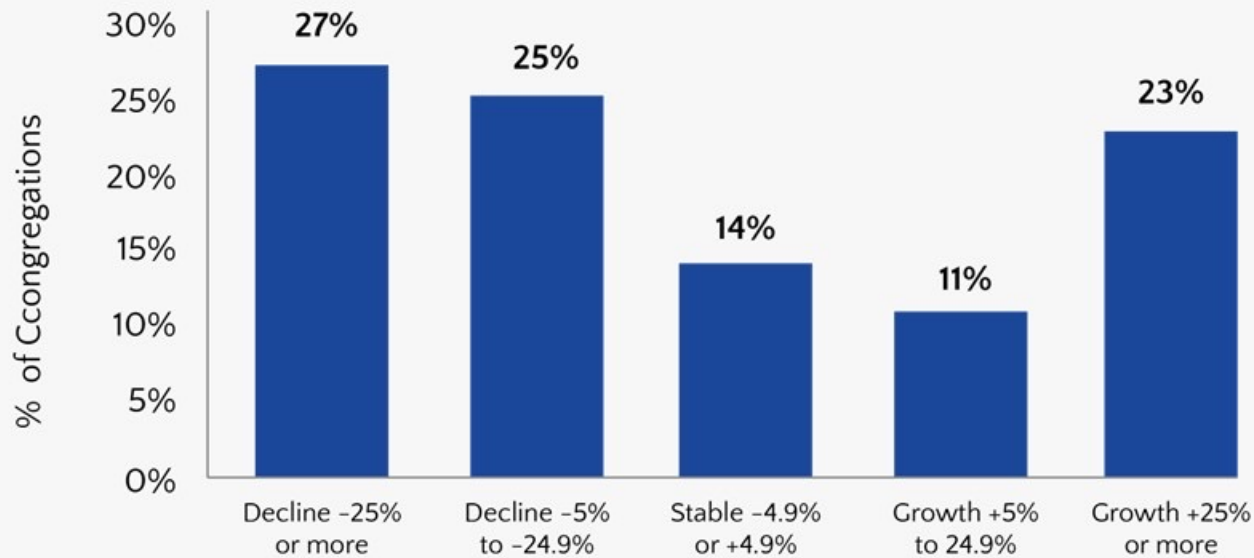
NAD Congregations: Grew Five Plus Percent in Last Five Years



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Not All Congregations Are in Decline: A Third Grew in the Last Five Years

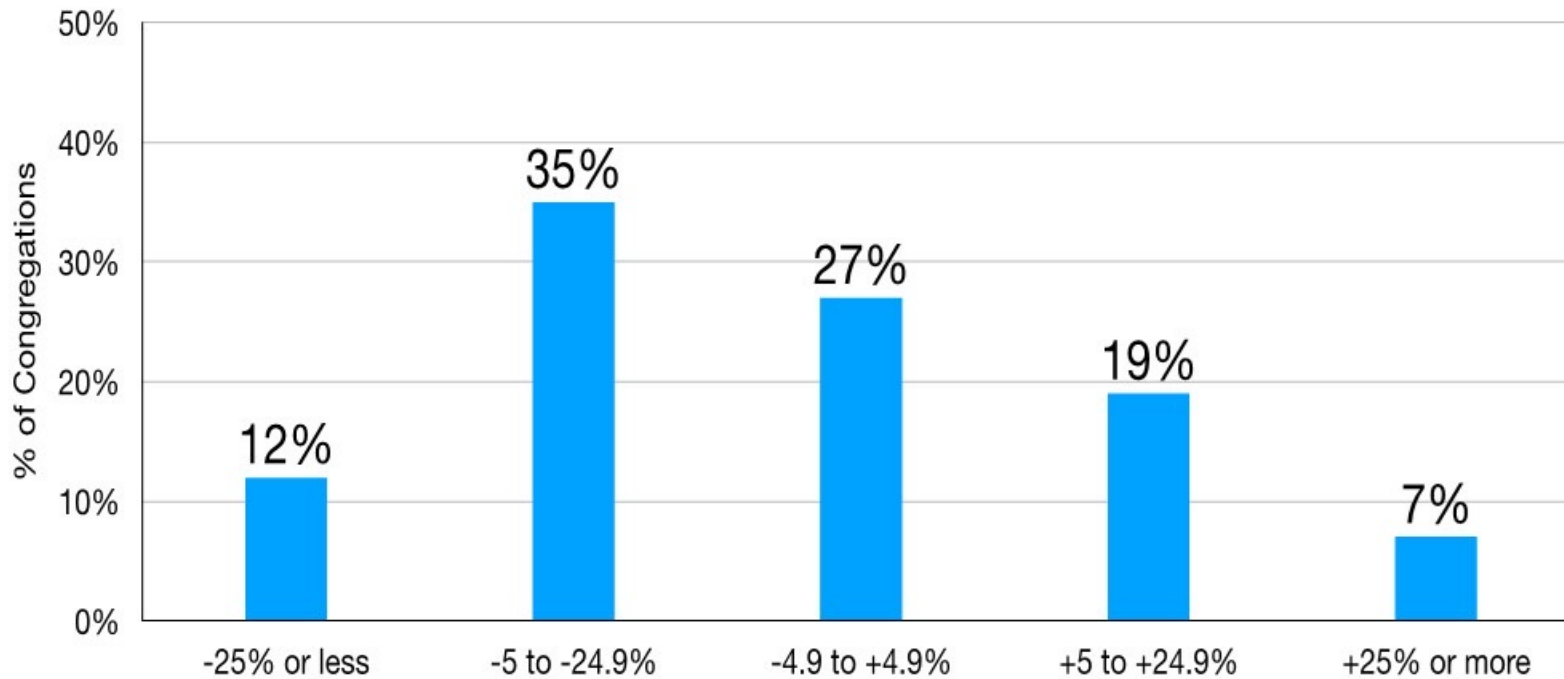


Source: 2020 Faith Communities Today survey, Hartford Institute for Religion Research

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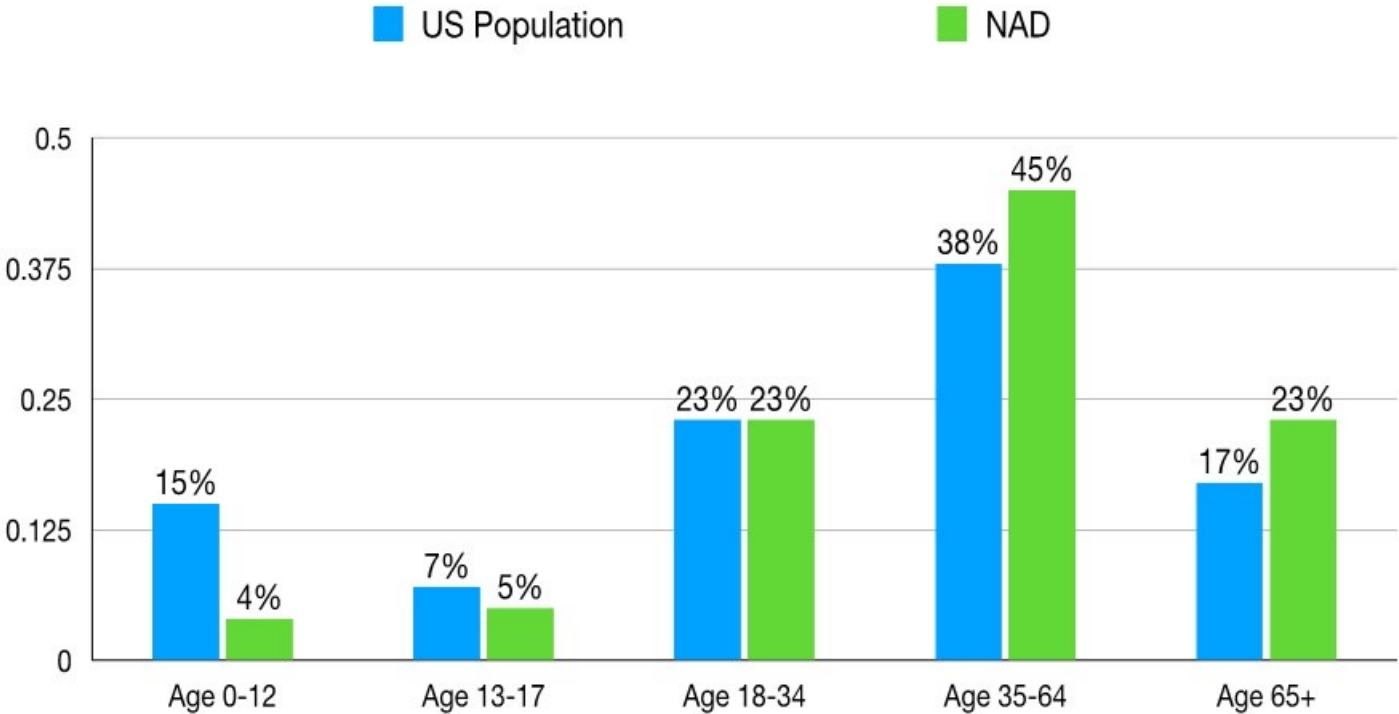
NAD Congregation Growth in the last 5 years



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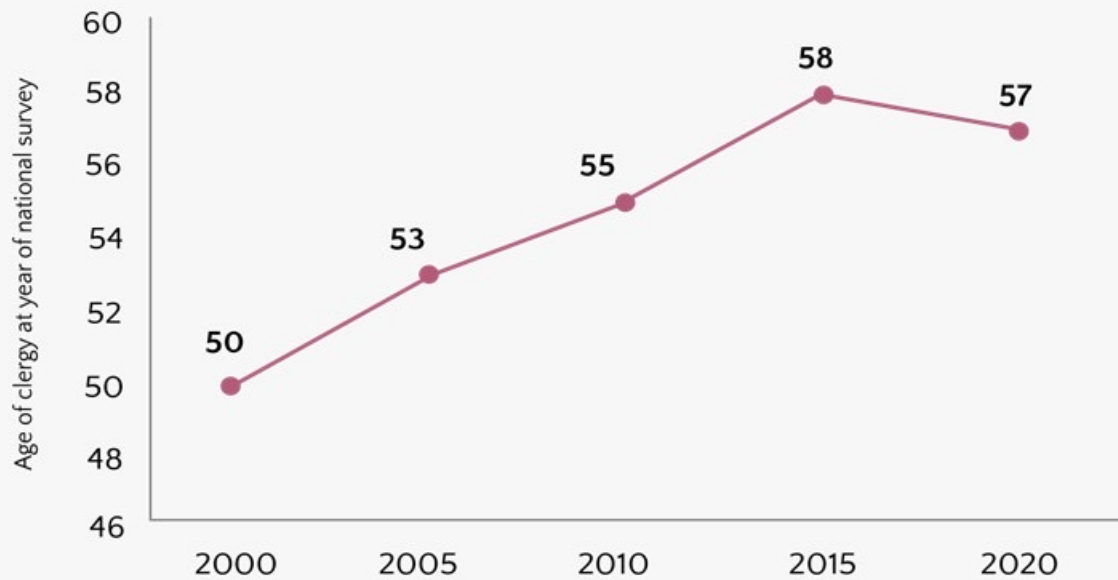
Age Groups vs. Population



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The Average Age of Clergy Is Generally on the Rise



Source: 2020 Faith Communities Today survey, Hartford Institute for Religion Research

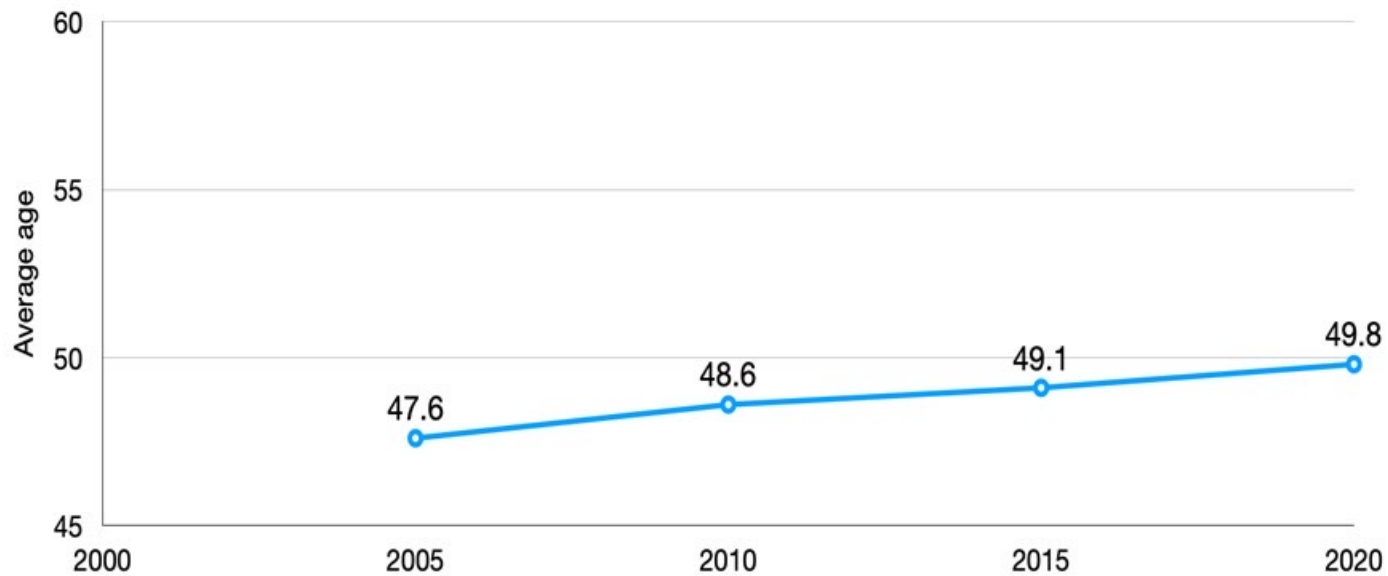
Figure 16

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NAD Average Age of Clergy

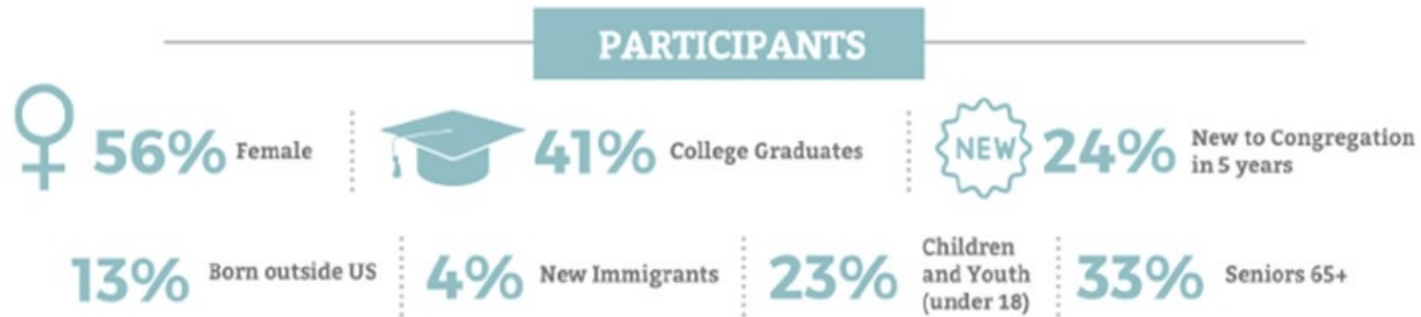
Excluding administrative and departmental clergy



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A Glimpse at 2020 Congregational Characteristics



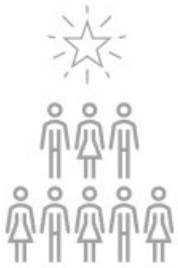
Source: 2020 Faith Communities Today survey, Hartford Institute for Religion Research

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NAD Congregations

CONGREGATIONAL CHARACTERISTICS



53%
Female

40%
College
Graduates

26%
Immigrants

5.3%*
Members and
nonmembers under 18*

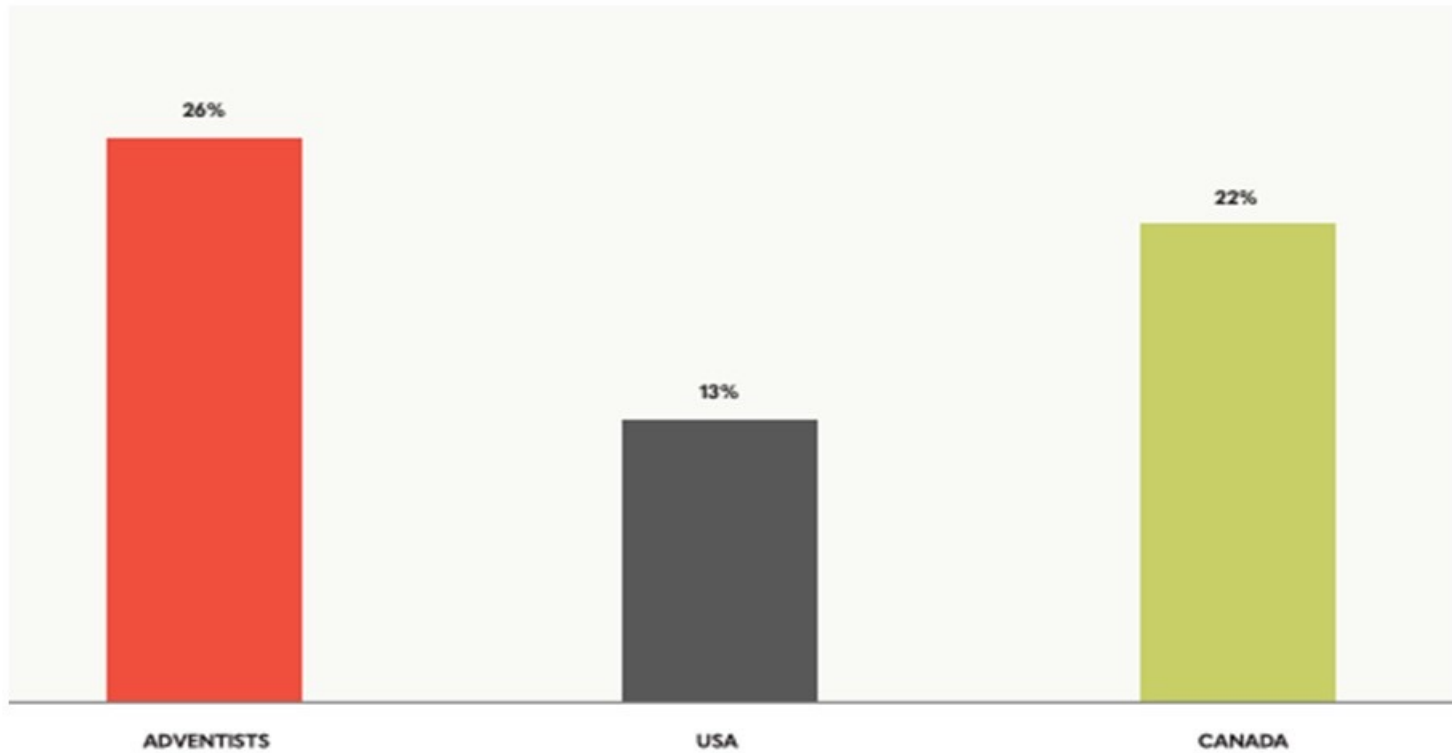
24.5%
Senior +65

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Immigrants

(from the 2019 Demographics of Adventists in North America)



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A Glimpse at 2020 Congregational Characteristics



LEADERSHIP

57
years, Pastor Age

10%
Female

31%
Senior leader
plus others

76%
Full-time

13%
Serves more
than one

15%
Also Chaplain

85% White

53%
Solitary Clergy

7
years, Tenure

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A Glimpse at 2023 Pastoral Leadership in the NAD

58
years, Pastor Age

6%
Female

79%
Solitary Clergy

13%
Senior Pastor

88%
Full-time

13%
Serves more
than one
4%
Chaplain

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Worship Service

Congregations in General

- **64% of Congregation – see their services as reverent.**
- **77% as thought provoking.**

Adventist Congregations

- **74% of congregations assess their services as reverent.**
- **64% of congregations as thought provoking.**

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Volunteer Ministries

Ernest Hernandez

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Human Relations

Carolyn R. Forrest

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Human Resources

Danielle Toddy

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Archives, Statistics, and Research

Michael W. Campbell

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Professional Services

Rohann Wellington

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Global Church Study

Petr Činčala

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**“Keep me as the apple of
your eye; hide me in the
shadow of your wings”**

Psalm 17:8

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