

# Pastor Views on Halloween

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Survey of Protestant Pastors

# Methodology

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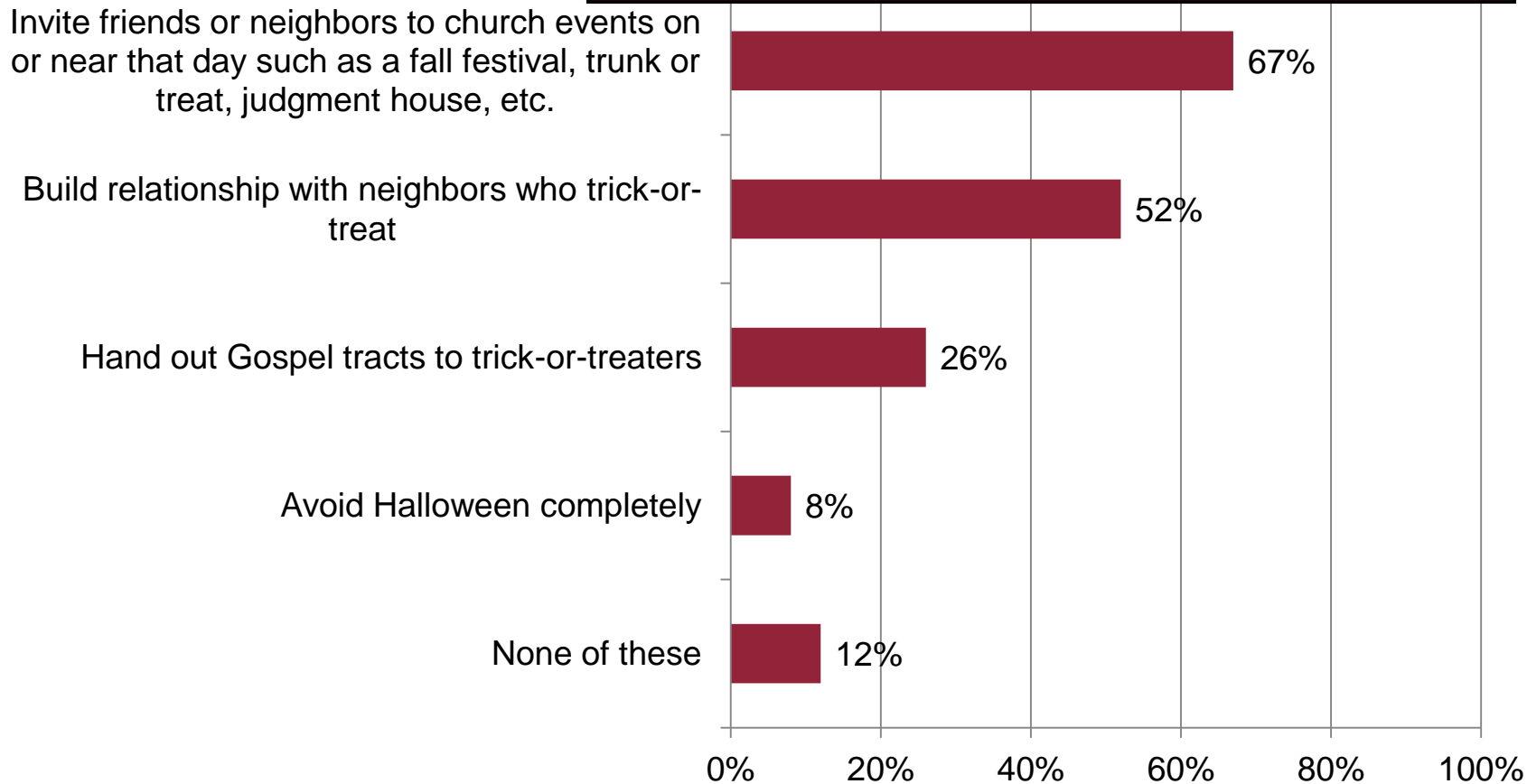
- ❑ The phone survey of Protestant pastors was conducted August 22 – September 16, 2016
- ❑ The calling list was a stratified random sample, drawn from a list of all Protestant churches. Quotas were used for church size
- ❑ Each interview was conducted with the senior pastor, minister or priest of the church called
- ❑ Responses were weighted by region to more accurately reflect the population
- ❑ The completed sample is 1,000 surveys
- ❑ The sample provides 95% confidence that the sampling error does not exceed  $\pm 3.2\%$
- ❑ Margins of error are higher in sub-groups

# Survey Responses

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# “What do you encourage your church members to do at Halloween?”

## Among Protestant Pastors



# Significant Differences

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Pastor

Ethnicity

Age

Education Level

Self-identified Evangelical/Mainline

Church

Region

Denomination

Average Attendance

# Significant Statistical Differences

- Comparisons were made to determine if there are any significant statistical differences among the church's attendance and region, the pastor's age and ethnicity.

Attendance	Region	Age	Pastor's Ethnicity
0-49	Northeast	18-44	White
50-99	Midwest	45-54	African American
100-249	South	55-64	Other Ethnicities
250+	West	65+	

Note: Region is defined by US Census regions

# Significant Statistical Differences

- Comparisons were also made to determine if there are any significant statistical differences among the self-identified Evangelical or Mainline, denomination, and education level.

Self-Identify	Denomination	Education Level
Evangelical	Baptist	No College Degree
Mainline	Christian/Church of Christ	Bachelor's Degree
	Lutheran	Master's Degree
	Methodist	Doctoral Degree
	Pentecostal	
	Presbyterian/ Reformed	

# “What do you encourage your church members to do at Halloween?”

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## Build relationship with neighbors who trick-or-treat

- Pastors of churches with attendance of 250 (63%) are more likely to select than those with attendance of 0-49 (42%) and 50-99 (51%)
- Pastors in the Midwest (58%) are more likely to select than Pastors in the South (49%)
- Pastors age 65+ the least likely to select (32%), followed by Pastors age 55-64 (48%)
- African-American pastors are the least likely to select (25%)
- Those with a Master's degree (56%) are more likely to select than those with no college degree (42%) or a Doctoral degree (45%)



# “What do you encourage your church members to do at Halloween?”

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## Hand out Gospel tracts to trick-or-treaters

- Pastors of churches with attendance of 100-249 (29%) are more likely to select than those with attendance of 50-99 (22%)
- Evangelical pastors (32%) are more likely to select than Mainline pastors (15%)
- Baptists are the most likely to select (47%)

# “What do you encourage your church members to do at Halloween?”

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**Invite friends or neighbors to church events on or near that day such as a fall festival, trunk or treat, judgment house, etc.**

- Pastors of churches with attendance of 250+ are the most likely to select (86%), followed by those with attendance of 100-24 (74%), then those with attendance 50-99 (63%), then those with attendance 0-49 (48%)
- Pastors in the South are the most likely to select (75%)
- Pastors age 65+ are the least likely to select (58%)
- Baptists (77%), Methodists (73%), Pentecostals (75%), and Holiness (82%) are more likely to select than Lutherans (56%) and Presbyterian/Reformed (55%)

# “What do you encourage your church members to do at Halloween?”

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## **Avoid Halloween completely**

- Pastors of churches with attendance of 0-49 (14%) are more likely to select than those with attendance of 100-249 (6%) and 250+ (4%)
- Pastors in the Northeast (14%) are more likely to select than Pastors in the South (7%) and Midwest (6%)
- Pastors age 65+ (13%) are more likely to select than those 18-44 (4%) and 45-54 (6%)
- African-American pastors (23%) and pastors of Other Ethnicities (15%) are more likely to select than White pastors (7%)
- Baptists (10%) are more likely to select than Lutherans (4%)
- Those with no college degree (16%) or a Bachelor's (10%) are more likely to select than those with a Master's degree (6%)

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