

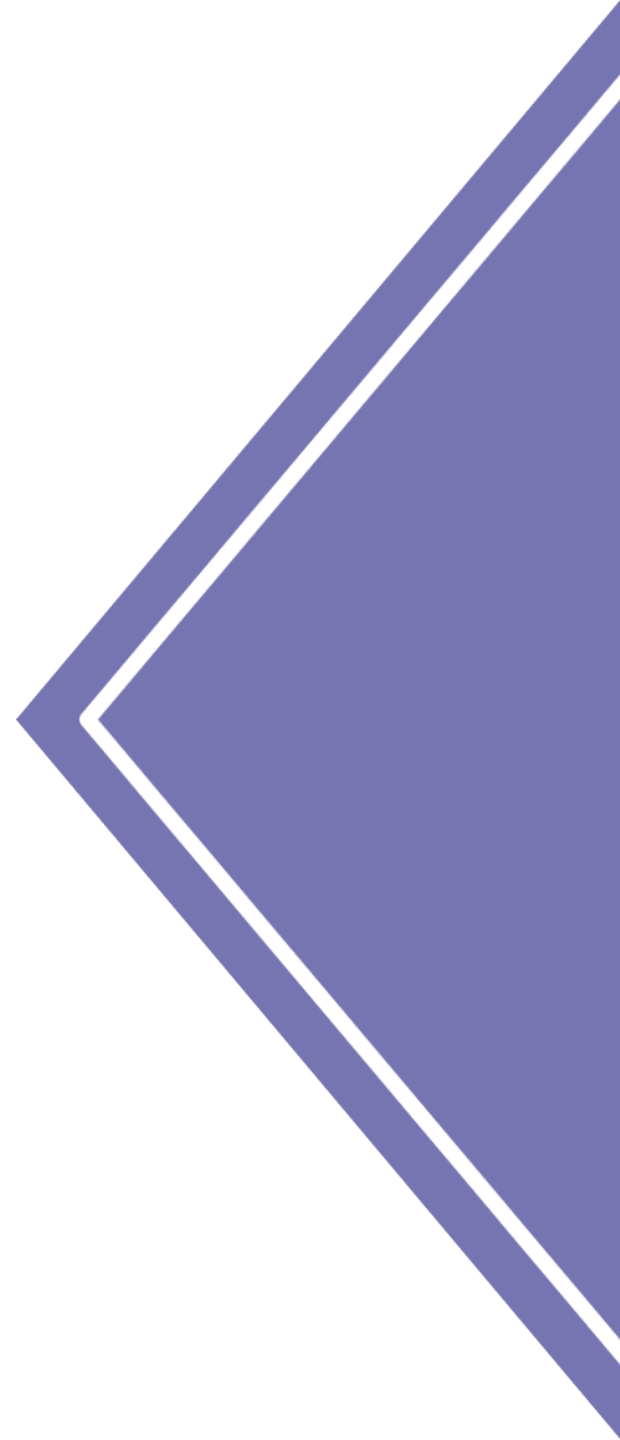
Pastors' Views on Church Security

Survey of American Protestant Pastors

Methodology

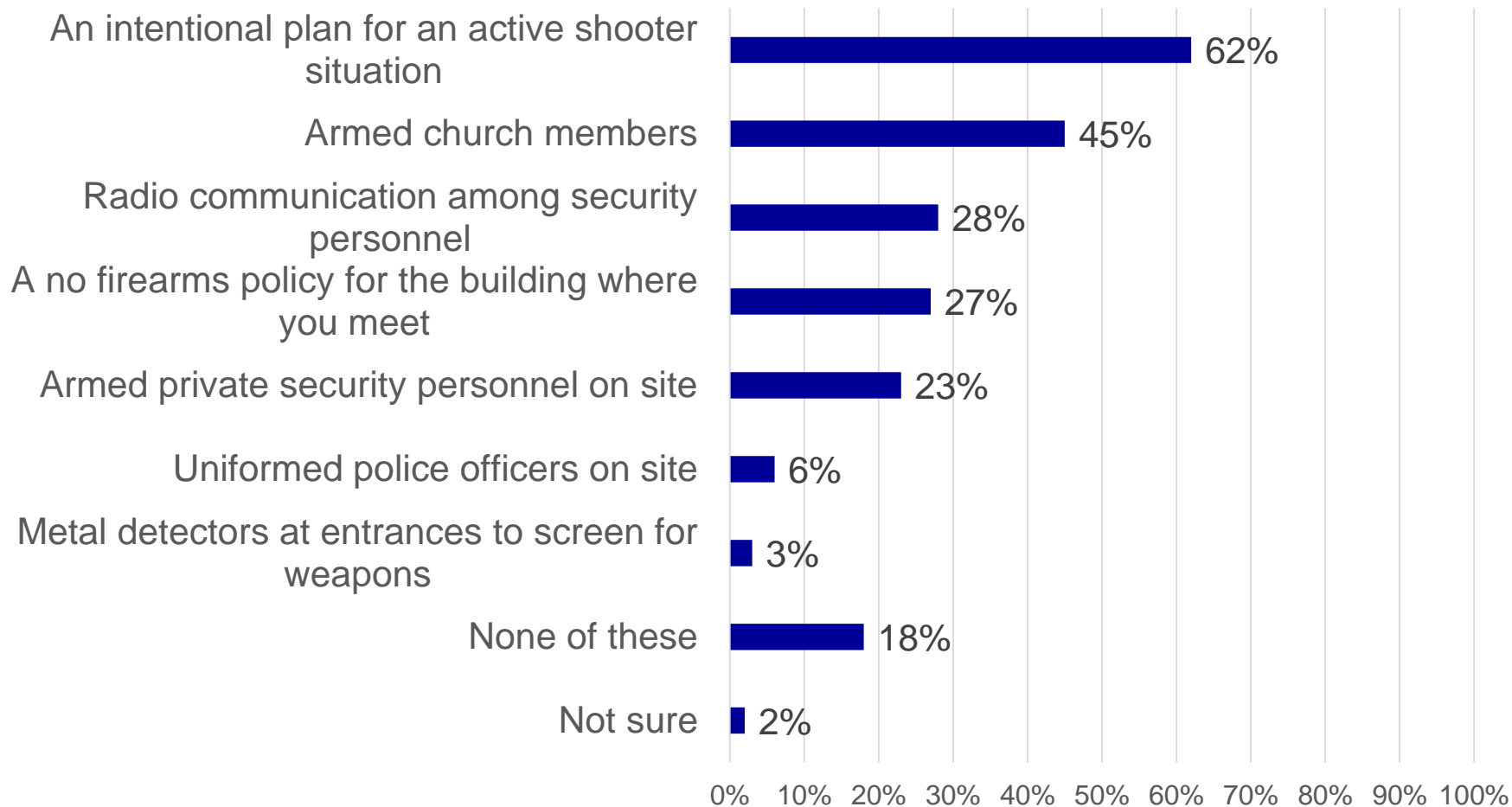
- The phone survey of 1,000 Protestant pastors was conducted August 30 -- September 24, 2019
- The calling list was a stratified random sample, drawn from a list of all Protestant churches. Quotas were used for church size
- Each interview was conducted with the senior pastor, minister or priest of the 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 $\pm 3.3\%$
- Margins of error are higher in sub-groups

Survey Responses



“Which, if any, of the following security measures does your church have in place when your church meets for worship?”

Among Protestant Pastors



Significant Differences

Pastor

Ethnicity

Age

Gender

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 pastor's ethnicity, age, gender, education, and self-identified Evangelical or Mainline.

Ethnicity	Age	Gender	Education	Self-Identified
White	18-44	Male	No College Degree	Evangelical
African-American	45-54	Female	Bachelor's Degree	Mainline
Other Ethnicity	55-64		Master's Degree	
	65+		Doctoral Degree	

Significant Statistical Differences

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

Region	Denomination	Attendance
Northeast	Baptist	0-49
South	Lutheran	50-99
Midwest	Methodist	100-249
West	Pentecostal	250+
	Presbyterian/Reformed	
	Christian/ Church of Christ	

“Which, if any, of the following security measures does your church have in place when your church meets for worship?”

Uniformed police officers on site

- African American pastors (18%) and Pastors of Other Ethnicities (12%) are more likely to select than White pastors (5%)
- Pastors with a Doctoral degree (12%) are more likely to select than those with no college degree (4%) or a Master’s degree (5%)
- Pastors in the South are the most likely to select (10%)
- Baptists (11%) are more likely to select than Lutherans (<1%) and Presbyterian/Reformed (3%)
- Pastors of churches with attendance of 250+ are the most likely to select (26%)

“Which, if any, of the following security measures does your church have in place when your church meets for worship?”

Armed private security personnel on site

- African American pastors are the most likely to select (41%)
- Pastors age 45-54 (30%) are more likely to select than pastors age 55-64 (19%)
- Male pastors are more likely to select than female pastors (26% v. 8%)
- Pastors with a Master’s degree are the least likely to select (17%)
- Evangelical pastors are more likely to select than Mainline pastors (28% v. 14%)
- Pastors in the South are the most likely to select (32%)
- Baptists are the most likely to select (44%) while Lutherans are least likely (2%)
- Pastors of churches with attendance of 250+ are the most likely to select (43%), while those with attendance 0-49 are least likely (9%)

“Which, if any, of the following security measures does your church have in place when your church meets for worship?”

Armed church members

- Male pastors are more likely to select than female pastors (50% v. 19%)
- Pastors with no college degree (60%) or a Bachelor's degree (56%) are more likely to select than those with a Master's degree (41%) or a Doctoral degree (38%)
- Evangelical pastors are more likely to select than Mainline pastors (54% v. 34%)
- Pastors in the South (51%) and West (46%) are more likely to select than those in the Northeast (33%)
- Baptists (65%), Pentecostals (71%), and Christian/Church of Christ (53%) are more likely to select than Lutherans (27%), Methodists (32%), and Presbyterian/Reformed (27%)
- Pastors of churches with attendance of 0-49 are the least likely to select (28%)

“Which, if any, of the following security measures does your church have in place when your church meets for worship?”

Radio communication among security personnel

- African American pastors (47%) and Pastors of Other Ethnicities (46%) are more likely to select than White pastors (25%)
- Pastors age 45-54 (36%) are more likely to select than pastors age 55-64 (25%) and 65+ (26%)
- Pastors with a Master’s degree are the least likely to select (23%)
- Evangelical pastors are more likely to select than Mainline pastors (32% v. 23%)
- Pastors in the South are the most likely to select (37%)
- Lutherans are the least likely to select (7%)
- Baptists (46%) and Pentecostals (35%) are more likely to select than Methodists (19%) and Presbyterian/Reformed (18%)
- Pastors of churches with attendance of 250+ are the most likely to select (60%), while those with attendance 0-49 are least likely (9%)

“Which, if any, of the following security measures does your church have in place when your church meets for worship?”

An intentional plan for an active shooter situation

- Pastors age 18-44 (67%) and 45-54 (67%) are more likely to select than pastors age 65+ (57%)
- Pastors with a Bachelor’s degree (74%) are more likely to select than those with no college degree (62%) or a Master’s degree (58%)
- Pastors in the South are the most likely to select (72%)
- Baptists (77%) are more likely to select than Lutherans (45%), Methodists (57%), Pentecostals (61%), and Presbyterian/Reformed (56%)
- Pastors of churches with attendance of 100-249 (74%) and 250+ (77%) are more likely to select than those with attendance 0-49 (45%) and 50-99 (58%)

“Which, if any, of the following security measures does your church have in place when your church meets for worship?”

A no firearms policy for the building where you meet

- African American pastors are the most likely to select (50%)
- Female pastors are more likely to select than male pastors (42% v. 25%)
- Pastors with a Doctoral degree are the most likely to select (37%)
- Mainline pastors are more likely to select than Evangelical pastors (34% v. 21%)
- Methodist (36%) and Presbyterian/Reformed (38%) are more likely to select than Baptists (21%), Lutheran (24%), Pentecostals (18%), and Christian/Church of Christ (22%)
- Pastors of churches with attendance of 250+ (38%) are more likely to select than those with attendance of 50-99 (25%) and 100-249 (26%)

“Which, if any, of the following security measures does your church have in place when your church meets for worship?”

Metal detectors at entrances to screen for weapons

- African American pastors (8%) and Pastors of Other Ethnicities (8%) are more likely to select than White pastors (2%)
- Pastors age 45-54 (6%) are more likely to select than pastors age 55-64 (2%)
- Pastors in the South (4%) are more likely to select than those in the Midwest (1%)

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