

Pastors' Views on LGBT Serving and Marriage Requests

A SURVEY OF 1,000 PROTESTANT PASTORS

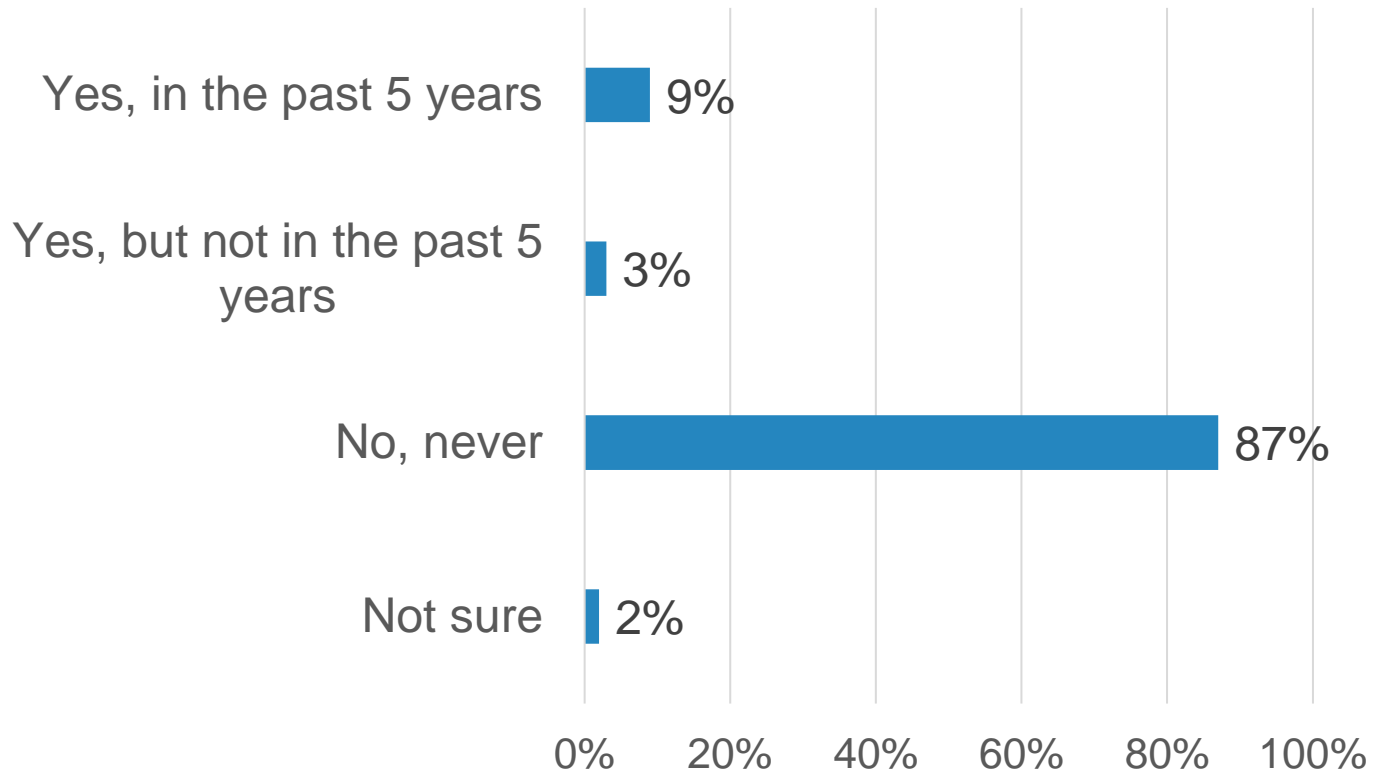
Lifeway **research**

Methodology

- The phone survey of 1,000 Protestant pastors was conducted September 1-29, 2021
- The calling list was a stratified random sample, drawn from a list of all Protestant churches. Quotas were used for church size
- Each interviews was completed by the senior or sole pastor or a minister at the church
- Responses were weighted by region and church size 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 $\pm 3.2\%$ This margin of error accounts for the effect of weighting
- Margins of error are higher in sub-groups
- Comparisons were made to a phone survey fielded among 1,000 Protestant pastors March 9-24, 2016 that used a similar methodology

87% say they have never been asked to perform a same-sex marriage ceremony

Among Protestant Pastors

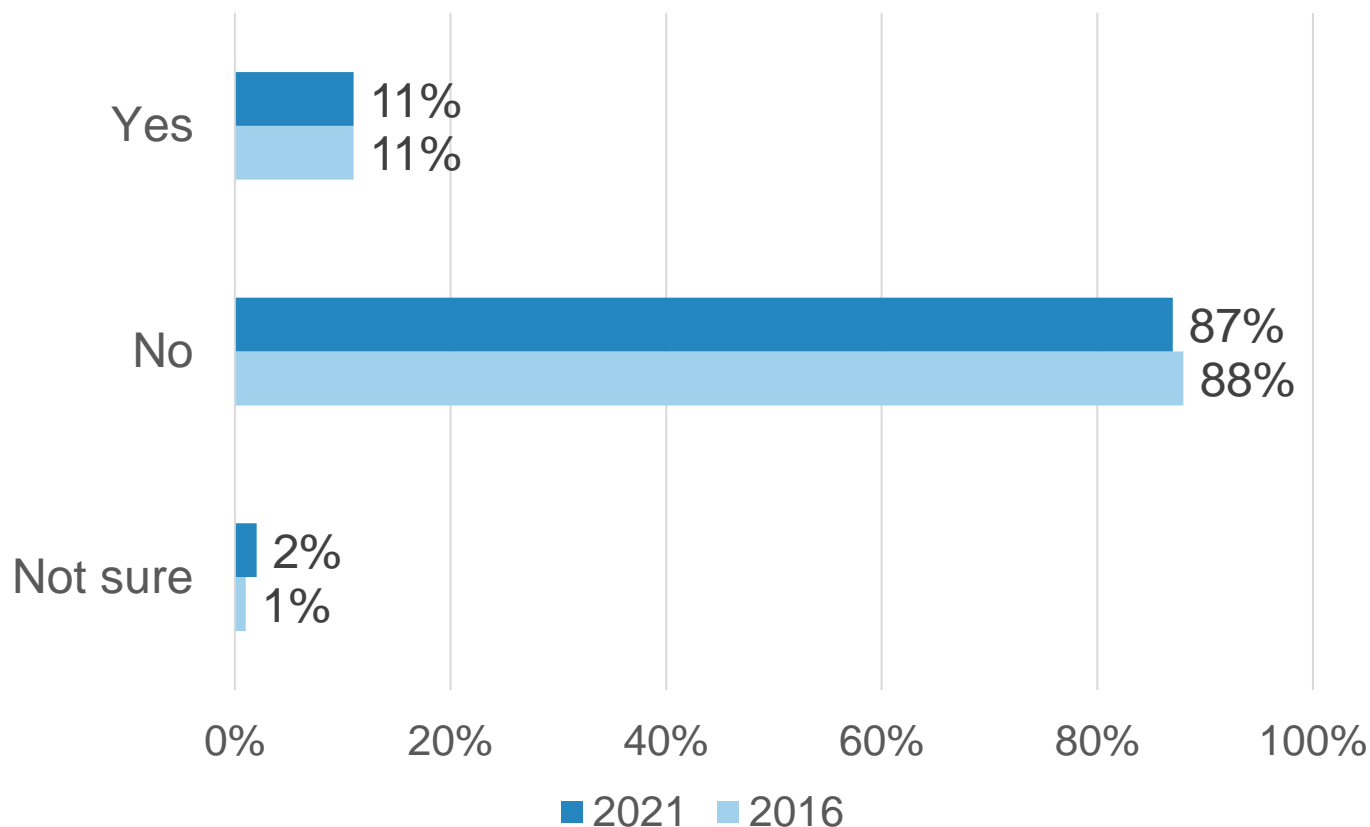


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Q26: "Have you been asked to perform a same-sex marriage ceremony? (Select One)" n=1,000

“Have you been asked to perform a same-sex marriage ceremony?” 2021 compared to 2016

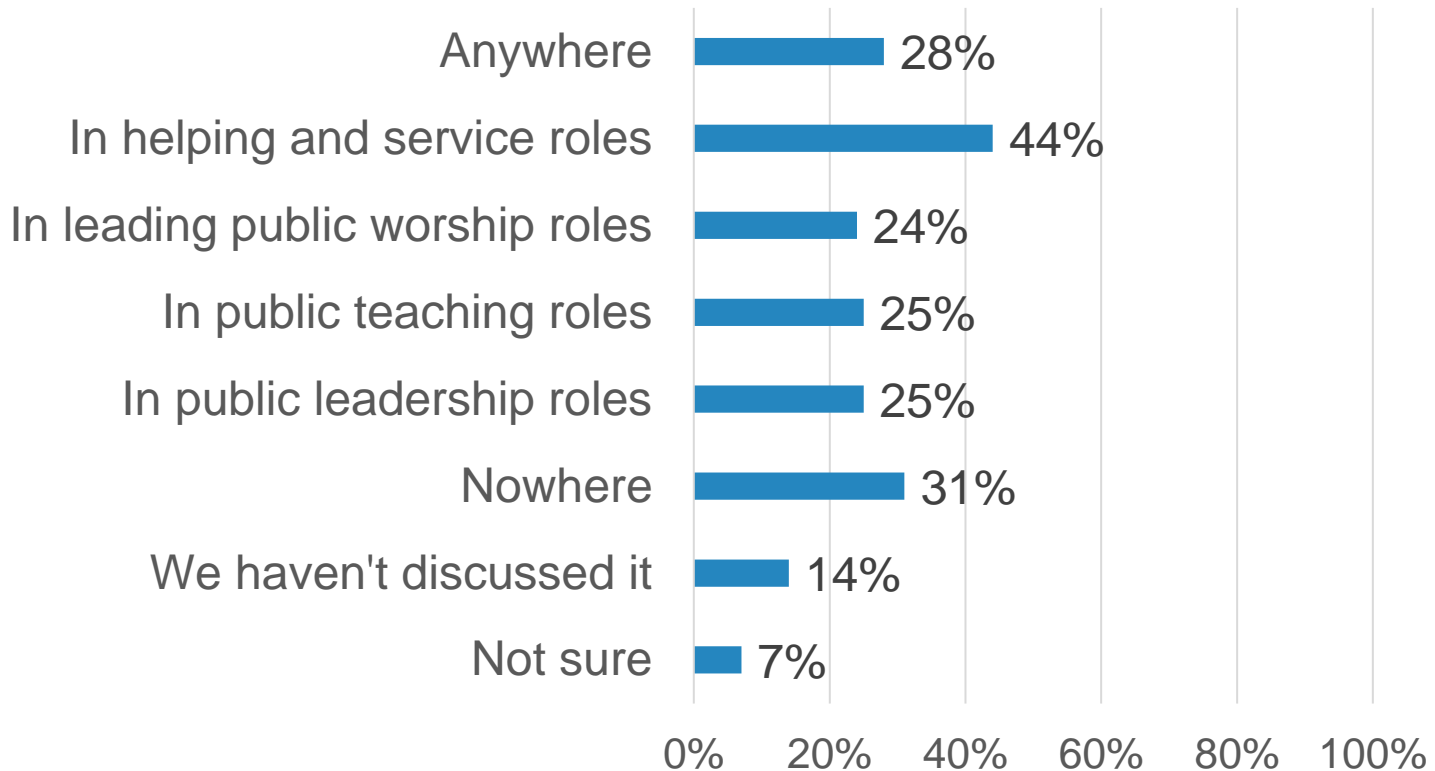
Among Protestant Pastors



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“Where can an LGBTQ plus person serve in your church?”

Among Protestant Pastors

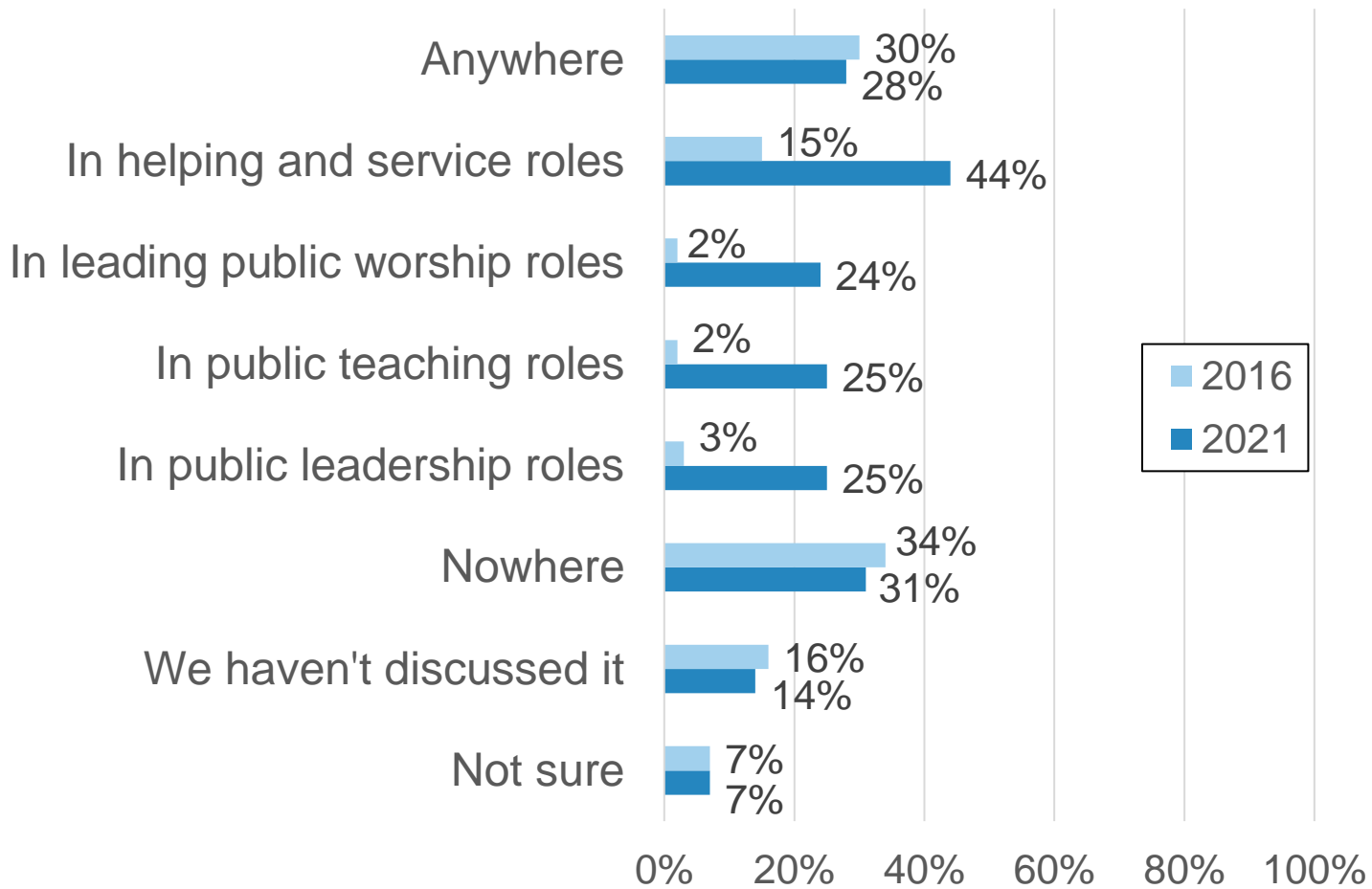


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Q27: “Where can an LGBTQ plus person serve in your church? (Select all that apply)” n=1,000

“Where can an LGBTQ plus person serve in your church?” 2021 compared to 2016

Among Protestant Pastors

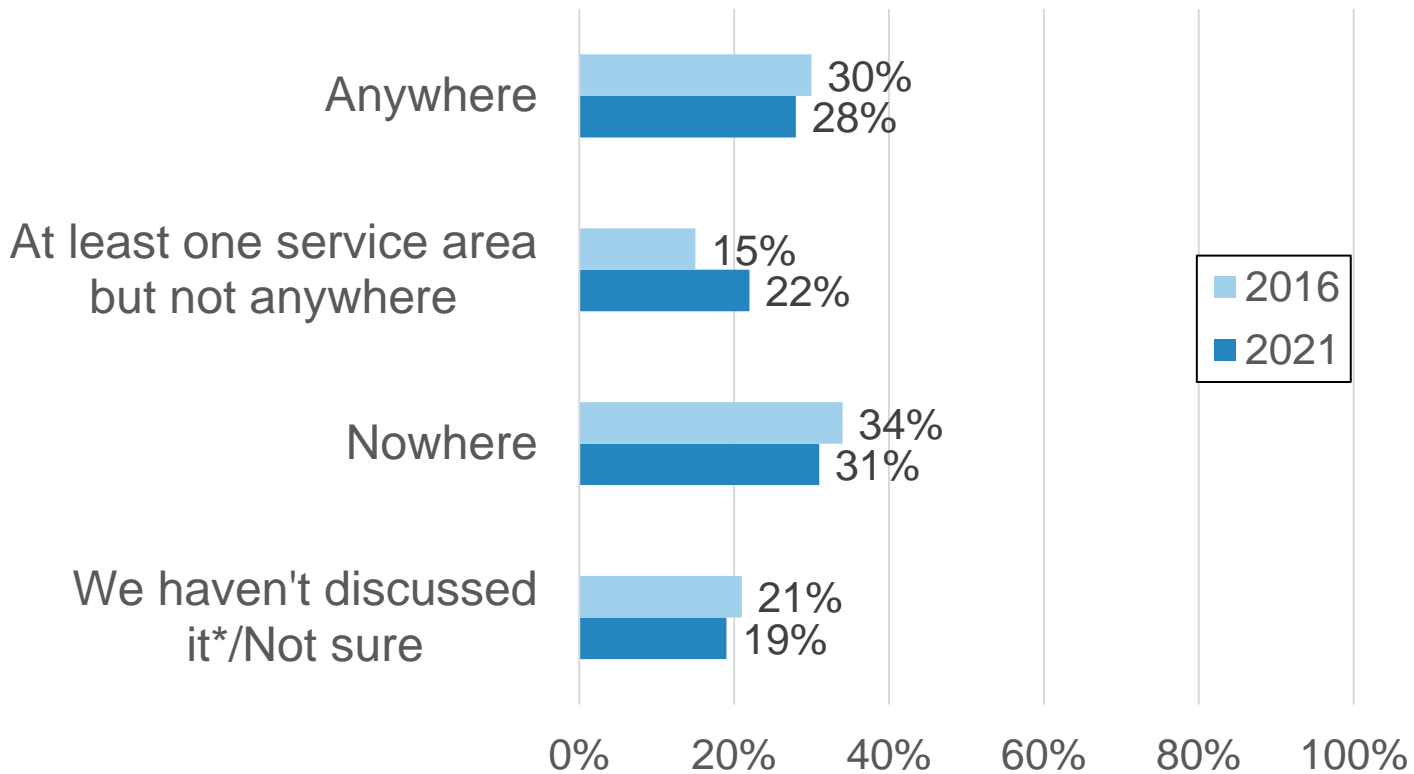


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Q27: “Where can an LGBTQ plus person serve in your church? (Select all that apply)” n=1,000

“Where can an LGBTQ plus person serve in your church?”

Among Protestant Pastors



*Excludes those who selected another option

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Q27: “Where can an LGBTQ plus person serve in your church? (Select all that apply)” n=1,000

Significant Differences

Pastor

Ethnicity

Age

Gender

Education Level

Self-identified Evangelical/Mainline

Church

Region

Denomination

Average Attendance

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Significant Differences

Comparisons were made to determine if there are any significant statistical differences among the pastor's ethnicity, age, gender, education, self-identified Evangelical or Mainline.

AGE	GENDER	ETHNICITY	EDUCATION	Self-Identified
18-44	Male	White	No College Degree	Evangelical
45-54	Female	African American	Bachelor's Degree	Mainline
55-64		Hispanic	Graduate Degree	
65+		Other Ethnicities	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 GROUP	ATTENDANCE
Northeast	Baptist	0-49
South	Lutheran	50-99
Midwest	Methodist	100-249
West	Pentecostal	250+
	Presbyterian/Reformed	
	Christian/Church of Christ	
	Non-Denominational	

Note: Region is defined by the US Census locations

“Have you been asked to perform a same-sex marriage ceremony?”

- Male pastors are more likely to select “No, never” than females (90% v. 78%)
- Pastors with no college degree (93%) or a Bachelor’s Degree (92%) are more likely to select “No, never” than those with a Master’s Degree (83%) or a Doctoral Degree (83%)
- Evangelical pastors are more likely to select “No, never” than Mainline pastors (92% v. 78%)
- Pastors in the South (90%) are more likely to select “No, never” than those in the Northeast (78%) and West (83%)
- Baptists (96%), Pentecostals (92%), Christian/Church of Christ (93%), and Non-denominational (96%) are more likely to select “No, never” than Methodists (81%) and Presbyterian/Reformed (73%)

“Where can an LGBTQ plus person serve in your church?”

Anywhere

- Pastors age 55-64 are the most likely to select (35%)
- Female pastors are more likely to select than males (51% v. 20%)
- African American pastors (37%) are more likely to select than pastors of Other Ethnicities (23%)
- Pastors with a Master’s Degree (35%) are more likely to select than those with no college degree (20%) or a Bachelor’s Degree (21%)
- Mainline pastors are more likely to select than Evangelical pastors (52% v. 12%)
- Pastors in the Northeast are the most likely to select (45%)
- Lutherans (39%), Methodists (49%), and Presbyterian/Reformed (52%) are more likely to select than Baptists (10%), Pentecostals (5%), Christian/Church of Christ (18%), and Non-denominational (17%)
- Pastors at churches with attendance 250+ (21%) are less likely to select than those at churches with attendance of 0-49 (33%) or 50-99 (31%)

“Where can an LGBTQ plus person serve in your church?”

In helping and service roles

- Female pastors are more likely to select than males (57% v. 39%)
- African American pastors (51%) are more likely to select than pastors of Other Ethnicities (35%)
- Pastors with a Master’s Degree are the most likely to select (52%)
- Mainline pastors are more likely to select than Evangelical pastors (61% v. 36%)
- Pastors in the Northeast (54%) and Midwest (50%) are more likely to select than those in the South (38%)
- Methodists (60%) and Presbyterian/Reformed (62%) are more likely to select than Baptists (24%), Pentecostals (27%), Christian/Church of Christ (37%), and Non-denominational (41%)

“Where can an LGBTQ plus person serve in your church?”

In leading public worship roles

- Female pastors are more likely to select than males (42% v. 17%)
- Pastors with a Master’s Degree (30%) are more likely to select than those with no college degree (17%) or a Bachelor’s Degree (15%)
- Mainline pastors are more likely to select than Evangelical pastors (45% v. 11%)
- Pastors in the Northeast are the most likely to select (37%)
- Methodists (45%) and Presbyterian/Reformed (48%) are more likely to select than Baptists (5%), Lutherans (29%), Pentecostals (5%), Christian/Church of Christ (13%), and Non-denominational (7%)
- Pastors at churches with attendance 0-49 (32%) are more likely to select than those at churches with attendance of 100-249 (19%) and 250+ (15%)

“Where can an LGBTQ plus person serve in your church?”

In public teaching roles

- Female pastors are more likely to select than males (43% v. 18%)
- Pastors with a Master’s Degree (31%) are more likely to select than those with no college degree (20%) or a Bachelor’s Degree (15%)
- Pastors in the Northeast are the most likely to select (39%)
- Mainline pastors are more likely to select than Evangelical pastors (48% v. 11%)
- Methodists (48%) and Presbyterian/Reformed (46%) are more likely to select than Baptists (7%), Lutherans (31%), Pentecostals (4%), Christian/Church of Christ (13%), and Non-denominational (7%)
- Pastors at churches with attendance 0-49 (31%) are more likely to select than those at churches with attendance of 100-249 (23%) and 250+ (16%)

“Where can an LGBTQ plus person serve in your church?”

In public leadership roles

- Female pastors are more likely to select than males (43% v. 18%)
- Pastors with a Master’s Degree (31%) are more likely to select than those with no college degree (19%) or a Bachelor’s Degree (16%)
- Mainline pastors are more likely to select than Evangelical pastors (47% v. 12%)
- Pastors in the Northeast are the most likely to select (37%)
- Methodists (47%) and Presbyterian/Reformed (48%) are more likely to select than Baptists (7%), Lutherans (30%), Pentecostals (6%), Christian/Church of Christ (13%), and Non-denominational (9%)
- Pastors at churches with attendance 0-49 (32%) are more likely to select than those at churches with attendance of 100-249 (21%) and 250+ (14%)

“Where can an LGBTQ plus person serve in your church?”

Nowhere

- Male pastors are more likely to select than females (37% v. 15%)
- African American pastors are the least likely to select (18%)
- Pastors with a Bachelor’s Degree (39%) or a Doctoral Degree (35%) are more likely to select than those with a Master’s Degree (26%)
- Evangelical pastors are more likely to select than Mainline pastors (41% v. 13%)
- Pastors in the South (36%) and West (34%) are more likely to select than those in the Northeast (20%)
- Baptists (55%), Lutherans (22%), Pentecostals (36%), Christian/Church of Christ (32%), and Non-denominational (40%) are more likely to select than Methodists (12%) and Presbyterian/Reformed (11%)

“Where can an LGBTQ plus person serve in your church?”

We haven't discussed it

- Pastors age 65+ (20%) are more likely to select than pastors age 18-44 (13%) and 45-54 (8%)
- African American pastors (27%) are more likely to select than White pastors (12%)
- Pastors with no college degree are the most likely to select (25%)
- Pastors in the Midwest (17%) are more likely to select than those in the Northeast (9%)
- Pentecostals (30%) are more likely to select than Baptists (10%), Lutherans (16%), Methodists (13%), and Presbyterian/Reformed (10%)

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