

Pastors' Views on How Multigenerational Their Congregation Is

A SURVEY OF AMERICAN PROTESTANT PASTORS

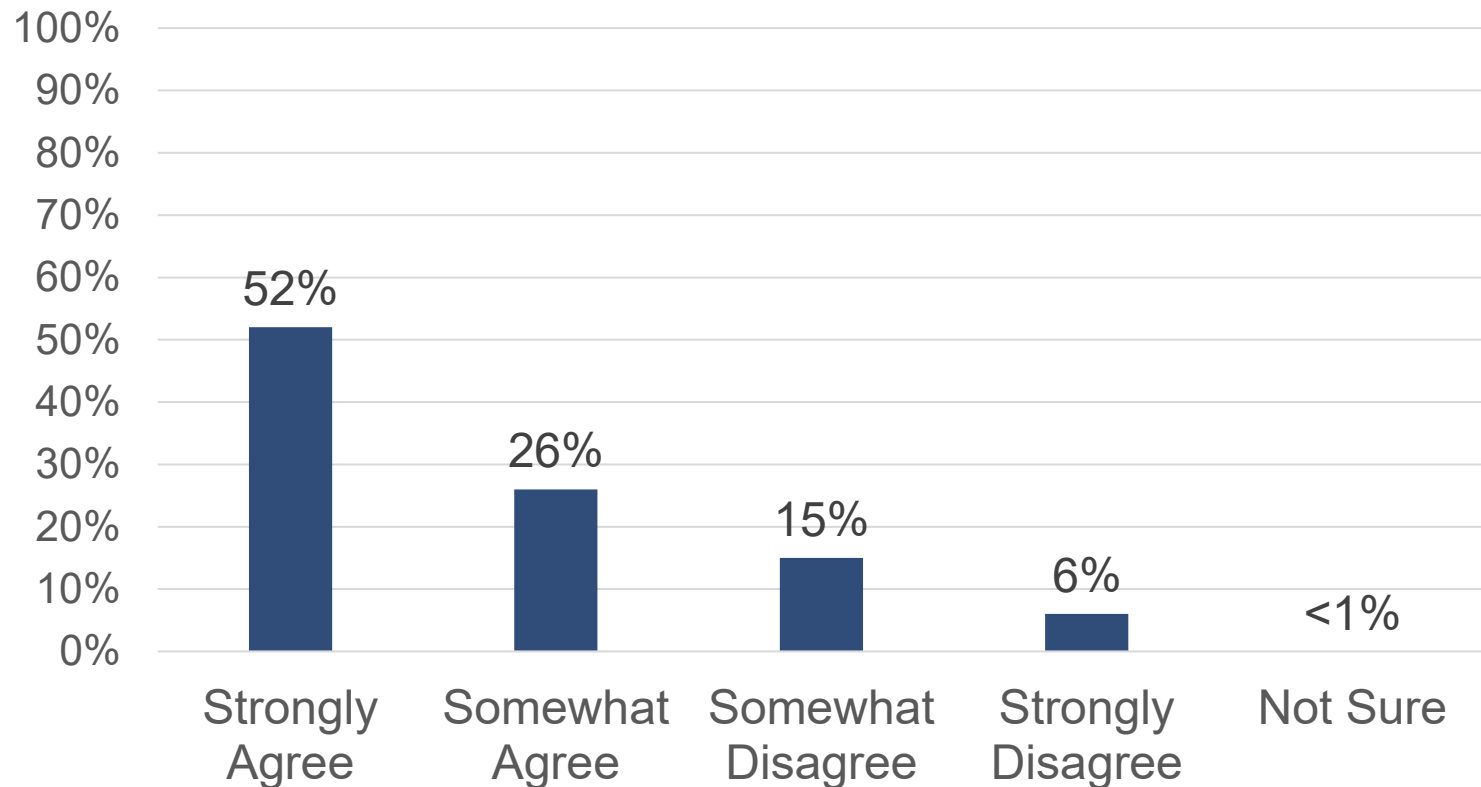
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Methodology

- The phone survey of 1,003 Protestant pastors was conducted September 2-24, 2025
- 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 at the church
- Responses were weighted by region and church size to more accurately reflect the population
- The completed sample is 1,003 surveys
- The sample provides 95% confidence that the sampling error does not exceed $\pm 3.3\%$ This margin of error accounts for the effect of weighting
- Margins of error are higher in sub-groups

78% say their church is multigenerational with a good number of active members from all generations

Among Protestant Pastors



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Q: "My church is multigenerational with a good number of active members from all generations." n=1,003

Significant Differences

Pastor

Ethnicity

Age

Gender

Education Level

Self-identified Evangelical/Mainline

Church

Region

Denomination

Average Attendance

Location

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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		Other Ethnicities	Graduate 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, attendance, and location.

REGION	DENOMINATION GROUP	ATTENDANCE	LOCATION
Northeast	Baptist	0-49	Urban
South	Lutheran	50-99	Suburban
Midwest	Methodist	100-249	Rural
West	Pentecostal	250+	
	Presbyterian/Reformed		
	Holiness		
	Non-Denominational		

Note: Region is defined by the US Census locations

“My church is multigenerational with a good number of active members from all generations.”

- Pastors age 18-44 (82%) and 45-54 (88%) are more likely to Agree than pastors age 55-64 (75%) and 65+ (72%)
- White pastors (23%) are more likely to Disagree than pastors of Other Ethnicities (14%)
- Pastors with a Bachelor's Degree (84%) are more likely to Agree than those with a Master's Degree (76%) or a Doctoral Degree (75%)
- Evangelical pastors are more likely to Agree than Mainline pastors (80% v. 74%)
- Pastors in the Midwest (80%) are more likely to Agree than those in the Northeast (71%)
- Methodists are the most likely to Disagree (39%)
- Pentecostal (88%), Holiness (90%), and Non-denominational (88%) pastors are more likely to Agree than Lutherans (76%)

“My church is multigenerational with a good number of active members from all generations.” *continued*

- Pastors at churches with attendance 250+ are the most likely to Agree (95%) followed by those with attendance of 100-249 (89%), 50-99 (74%), and 0-49 (54%)
- Pastors at churches with attendance 0-49 are the most likely to Disagree (45%) followed by those with attendance of 50-99 (26%), 100-249 (11%), and 250+ (4%)

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