

***Session Annual Statistical Report Supplement:
End of Year 2002***

**A Summary of the Research Data Received
Through the *Supplement* to the Session Annual
Statistical Report**



**Research Services
Presbyterian Church (U.S.A.)**

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END OF YEAR 2002**
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Introduction

Each year, the Research Services office develops the *Congregational Annual Report* form, a questionnaire that the Office of the General Assembly (OGA) distributes, along with the *Session Annual Statistical Report*, to all congregations. Research Services staff work with other entities of the Presbyterian Church (U.S.A.) to develop questions for inclusion in the *Congregational Annual Report* form. Instructions that accompany the form suggest that the clerk of session of each congregation complete it, reporting pertinent information for the congregation.

The 2002 *Congregational Annual Report* form included questions in the following areas: (a) Guest Preachers, (b) Women's Groups, (c) Curriculum, (d) Financial Information, (e) Congregational Location, (f) Ministry of Music, and (g) Racial Ethnic/Immigrant Membership growth. For 2002, 8,636 of the denomination's 11,097 congregations reported—a response rate of 78%. The results of the 2002 Congregational Annual Report include congregations in 158 presbyteries in 16 synods. The presbyteries that did not report are Blackhawk, Cascades, Dakota, Eastern Korean, Elizabeth, Lackawanna, Maumee Valley, Midwest Hanmi, Monmouth, Muskingum Valley, North Central Iowa, Northern New York, San Juan, Sierra Mission Partnership, Snake River Mission Area, Trinity, and Winnebago presbyteries.

Findings

The text of all questions and the percentage distribution of responses for each are presented in the attached appendix. A summary of the findings is presented below.

Guest Preachers

In 1999, the General Assembly urged congregations to invite racial ethnic ministers to preach during Sunday worship services at least once a year. Less than one-third of reporting congregations (30%) said they had invited a racial ethnic minister to preach in 2002 (this does not include the congregation's own pastor if he or she is racial ethnic). This is a slight decrease from 31% in 2001. Large congregations with more than 600 members are more likely to have invited a racial ethnic minister to preach (42% did) than are mid-size or small congregations. Of small congregations with less than 250 members, 29% invited such a guest preacher, as did 35% of mid-size congregations (251 to 600 members). The same percentage of small and midsize congregations invited racial ethnic ministers to preach in 2001 as in 2002. However, 2% fewer large congregations invited racial ethnic ministers to preach in 2001. There are also differences by region. Congregations in the West (41%) are more likely to have invited a racial ethnic minister to preach than churches in the South (30%), the Northeast (32%) and the Midwest (26%).

Of the 30% who said they had invited a racial ethnic minister in 2002, 53% invited a guest preacher on one Sunday, and another 22% asked such ministers to preach on two Sundays in 2002. Seven percent of responding congregations invited a racial ethnic minister to preach during Sunday worship services for six or more Sundays in 2002.

Congregations that did not invite racial ethnic ministers to preach in 2002 were asked when the last time was that they had done so. Table 1 reflects their answers. Four in ten had done so in the previous three years.

Table 1
Last Time a Racial Ethnic Minister Was Invited to Preach
Among Congregations that Did Not Do So in 2002

During 2001	20%
2 - 3 years ago.....	21%
4 - 6 years ago.....	12%
7 - 9 years ago.....	5%
10 years or more	15%
Never	26%

Note: Only the 5,698 congregations that did not invite a racial ethnic minister to serve as guest preacher in 2002 were asked to answer this question.

Women’s Groups

Four-fifths (82%) of the reporting congregations said that their congregation has an active women’s group. Large congregations with more than 600 members and mid-size congregations (251-600 members) are more likely to have an active women’s group (98% and 95%, respectively, do) than small congregations. Of small congregations with less than 250 members, 77% have an active women’s group. There are also differences by region. Congregations in the West (85%), South (82%), and Midwest (84%), are more likely to have active women’s groups than churches in the Northeast (77%).

Table 2 reflects the number of women participating in an active women’s group in each congregation that reported having such a group.

Table 2
Number of Women Who Participate In an
Active Women’s Group per Congregation

Less than 10	15%
10 - 19.....	30%
20 - 39.....	28%
40 - 59.....	12%
60 - 79.....	6%
80 - 99.....	2%
100 or more.....	7%

Note: Only the 6,936 congregations that reported having an active women’s group were asked to answer this question.

Curriculum

Congregations were asked what curriculum package(s) they are presently using. Each congregation could mark as many as apply from a list of 15 possibilities. Fourteen percent of the responding congregations use David C. Cook, and almost one-seventh use Cokesbury (12%), Bible Quest (11%) or Present Word (10%). All other curriculum packages were used by less than 10% of the congregations. Faith Weavers (2%) was the least used curriculum package among the 15 options listed.

Financial Information: Loans

Sixty-nine percent of reporting congregations said they did not have loans with any of the five lending institutions listed. Table 3 shows the types of institution with which congregations have loans.

Table 3
Percentage of Congregations with Loans
From Various Groups or Institutions

Banks or financial institutions	15%
Presbyterian Investment & Loan Program	3%
General Assembly Loan Program.....	4%
Presbytery or synod	6%
Other	3%
No loans with groups or institutions listed	69%

Note: Percentages add to more than 100% because respondents could make more than one response.

The following five paragraphs reflect the loan balances reported at the time of the Session Annual Statistical Report. The numbers do not reflect the full loan amount originally borrowed.

Loans From Banks or Financial Institutions: Forty percent of congregations with loans from banks and financial institutions had loan balances of \$99,999 or less. One-fourth (25%) reported loan balances of \$1,000,000 or more. The rest (36%) had balances between \$100,000 and \$999,999.

Loans From the Presbyterian Investment & Loan Program: Fifty percent of congregations with loans from the Presbyterian Investment & Loan Program had loan balances of \$99,999 or less. Four percent reported loan balances of \$1,000,000 or more. The rest (47%) had balances between \$100,000 and \$999,999.

Loans from the General Assembly Loan Program: About two-fifths (44%) of congregations with loans from the General Assembly Loan Program had loan balances of \$99,999 or less. The rest (54%) had balances between \$100,000 and \$665,000.

Loans From a Presbytery or Synod: Three-fourths (75%) of congregations with loans from a presbytery or synod had loan balances of \$99,999 or less. Only one percent reported loan balances of \$1,000,000 or more. The rest (26%) had balances between \$100,000 and \$999,999.

Loans from Other Sources: Almost two-thirds (64%) of congregations with loans from other sources had loan balances of \$99,999 or less. Three percent reported loan balances of \$1,000,000 or more. The rest (33%) had loan balances between \$100,000 and \$999,999.

Table 4 shows the median amount of loan balances from each of the five lending institutions listed.

Table 4
Median Amount of Loan Balances by Loan Source

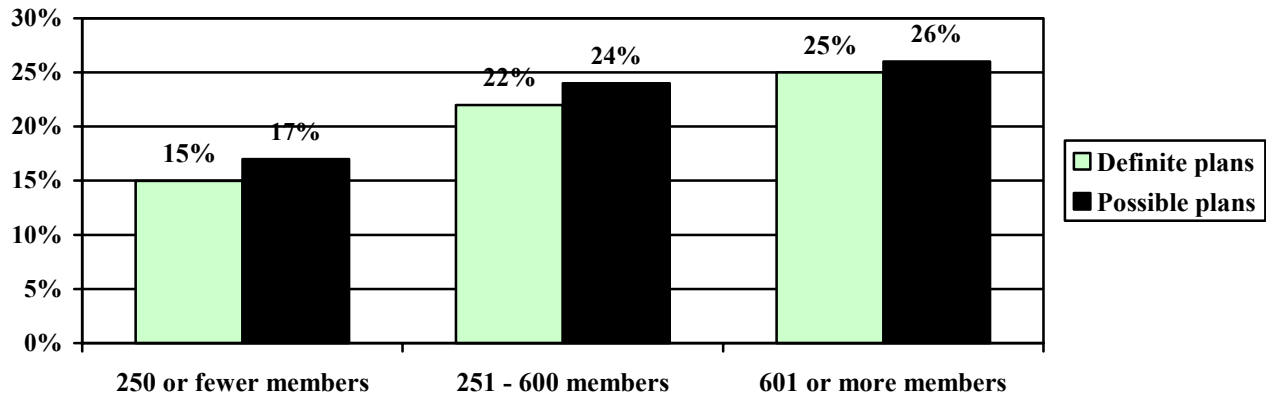
Banks or financial institutions	\$135,646.00
Presbyterian Investment & Loan Program	\$33,082.00
General Assembly Loan Program.....	\$48,752.50
Presbytery or synod	\$21,870.00
Other	\$16,842.50

Financial Information: Expansion and Renovation

Almost one-fifth (17%) of the reporting congregations said they had definite plans to expand or renovate facilities within the next two years, while 20% said they might expand or renovate. The remaining two-thirds (63%) reported that they had no plans to expand or renovate.

Eighteen percent of congregations in the South, 19% in the Northeast, 13% in the Midwest, and 21% of congregations in the West reported that they had definite plans to expand or renovate in the next two years. Figure 1 shows the overall size of congregations that plan to expand or renovate.

Figure 1
Percentage of Congregations that Plan to Expand or Renovate by Size



Four-fifths (79%) of congregations that said they definitely or possibly might expand estimated the cost of the project at \$999,999 or less. Three percent of the congregations said the expansion or renovation projects would cost \$5,000,000 or more, while the remaining 18% estimated their project costs to be \$1,000,000 to \$4,999,999.

Of the 3,058 congregations who reported that they would definitely or possibly expand or renovate in the next two years, less than one-fourth (23%) said the project would not require a capital campaign. Forty-one percent said they would definitely need a capital campaign, and 37% said they would possibly need a capital campaign to complete the expansion or renovation project.

Financial Information: Investments

Eleven percent of reporting congregations said they do not have funds invested. Table 5 shows the types of financial instruments used by the reporting congregations.

Table 5
Percentage of Congregations with Funds Invested in Various Financial Instruments

Certificates of deposit.....	48%
Money market accounts.....	43%
Bonds or treasuries.....	12%
Stocks or mutual funds.....	38%
Other.....	18%

Note: Percentages add to more than 100% because respondents could make more than one response.

Investments in Certificates of Deposit: Eighty percent of congregations with funds invested in certificates of deposit had \$99,999 or less invested there. One-fifth (20%) of the congregations reported investments between \$100,000 and \$499,999. The rest (1%) had invested \$500,000 or more.

Investments in Money Market Accounts: Almost four-fifths (78%) of congregations with funds invested in money market accounts had \$99,999 or less invested there. One-fifth (21%) reported investments between \$100,000 and \$999,999. The rest (1%) had invested \$1,000,000 or more.

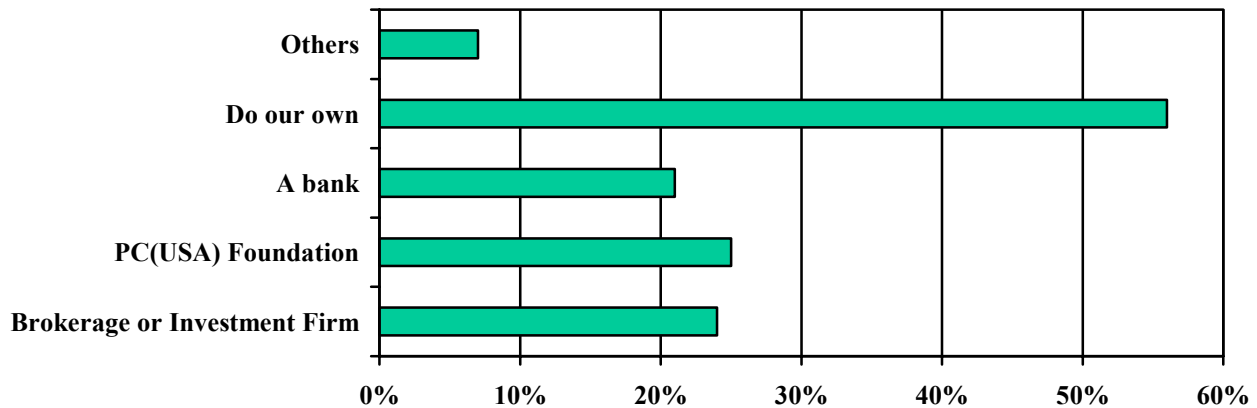
Investments in Bonds or Treasuries: Slightly more than half (52%) of congregations with funds invested in bonds or treasuries had \$99,999 or less invested there. One-third (31%) reported investments between \$100,000 and \$499,999. The rest (16%) had invested \$500,000 to \$1,000,000.

Investments in Stocks or Mutual Funds: Almost three-fifths (58%) of congregations with funds invested in stocks or mutual funds had \$99,999 or less invested there. Thirty-seven percent reported investments between \$100,000 and \$999,999. Four percent had invested \$1,000,000 to \$4,999,999, and 1% had invested \$5,000,000 or more.

Investments in Other Financial Instruments: Almost three-fourths (73%) of congregations with other investments had invested \$99,999 or less in such financial instruments. Twenty-four percent reported investments between \$100,000 and \$999,999. Three percent had invested \$1,000,000 to \$4,999,999, and less than 0.5% had invested \$5,000,000 or more.

Figure 2 shows the percentage of congregation that use five entities to manage their congregation’s investment funds.

Figure 2
Percentage of Congregations Whose Investment Funds are Managed by the Following Entities



Note: Percentages add to more than 100% because respondents could make more than one response. Only the 7,651 congregations with investments were asked to answer this question.

Congregational Location

Almost half (45%) of the reporting congregations said their congregation is in a rural area. Nearly one-fifth (18%) reported that their congregation is in a small city or town (25,000 to 49,999 population). Each of the remaining city sizes had 9% or less of the reporting congregations, the least (3%) being located in a suburb near a medium-size city (50,000 to 99,999 population).

Ministry of Music

Four-fifths (79%) of the responding congregations have an adult choir, and two-fifths (39%) have a children's choir (see Table 6). The types of music groups within congregations did not vary greatly by geographic region, with the exception of praise bands. One-third of congregations in the West (34%) have a praise band, compared to 12% in the Northeast and Midwest, and 9% in the South.

Table 6
Percentages of Congregations With
Various Types of Music Groups

Adult choir.....	79%
Children's choir.....	39%
Handbell choir.....	31%
Youth choir (teens).....	16%
Praise band.....	14%
Band.....	4%
Gospel choir.....	3%
Orchestra.....	3%
Folk choir.....	2%
Orff band.....	2%
Chamber choir.....	2%
Other.....	13%
No music groups.....	16%

Note: Percentages add to more than 100% because respondents could make more than one response.

Of congregations that reported at least one music group, most (79%) have fewer than 50 people participating actively in their music program. Sixteen percent said they have between 50 and 99 music program participants, and 6% have 100 or more people participating actively in their music program.

The majority (93%) of reporting congregations say they own a piano. Table 7 reports the percentage of congregations that own the listed musical instruments.

Table 7
Instruments Owned by Congregations

Piano.....	93%
Electric organ.....	60%
Handbells.....	37%
Pipe organ.....	35%
Electric piano.....	24%
Orff instruments.....	7%
Orchestral or band instruments.....	7%
Other.....	16%
No musical instruments.....	1%

Note: Percentages add to more than 100% because respondents could make more than one response.

There was little difference in instrument ownership between geographic regions. Only the pipe organ and orchestral and band instruments reflected a great deal of difference in ownership by region. A larger percentage of congregations in the Northeast reported owning pipe organs (47%) compared to 29% in the South, 30% in

the West, and 37% in the Midwest. Orchestra and band instruments are owned by 13% of the congregations in the West, but by 6% or less of the reporting congregations in the other three geographic regions.

Over half (54%) of the reporting congregations use *The Presbyterian Hymnal* (1990) on a regular basis. One-fourth (25%) use *The Hymnbook* (1955), and 3% each use *The Worshipbook* (1955) and *Lift Up Your Hearts*. Forty percent of the congregations reported using hymnals other than those mentioned above.

Less than one-tenth (8%) of the reporting congregations said that they employ professional singers. More than two-fifths (43%) of those congregations who do employ professional singers were in the South. Of congregations in the Midwest and the Northeast, slightly more than one-fifth (22% each) employ professional singers; however, only 13% in the West do. Three in ten congregations with more than 600 members (34%) employ professional singers. This compares to 13% of mid-size congregations (251 to 600 members) and 4% of small congregations (250 or fewer members).

Half (50%) of the reporting congregations stated that their total music budget, excluding professional salaries, was \$999 or less. About one-third (32%) reported budgeting between \$1,000 and \$4,999 for their music ministry. Thirteen percent reported spending between \$5,000 and \$14,999, and 6% said that they spend \$15,000 or more on their total music budget.

Nine-tenths (89%) of the reporting congregations said that three or fewer people provide music leadership (not including the person most responsible for maintaining the music program). Eight percent reported four or five people, and 4% said six or more people provide music leadership.

Racial Ethnic/Immigrant Membership Growth

Seventeen percent of the reporting congregations said they increased their racial ethnic and/or immigrant membership during 2002. Figure 3 shows that the greatest percentage of congregations reporting an increase in racial ethnic or immigrant membership was in the West (27%) and the smallest percentage was in the Midwest (12%).

Figure 3
Percentage of Congregations Reporting an Increase in Racial Ethnic and/or Immigrant Membership by Region

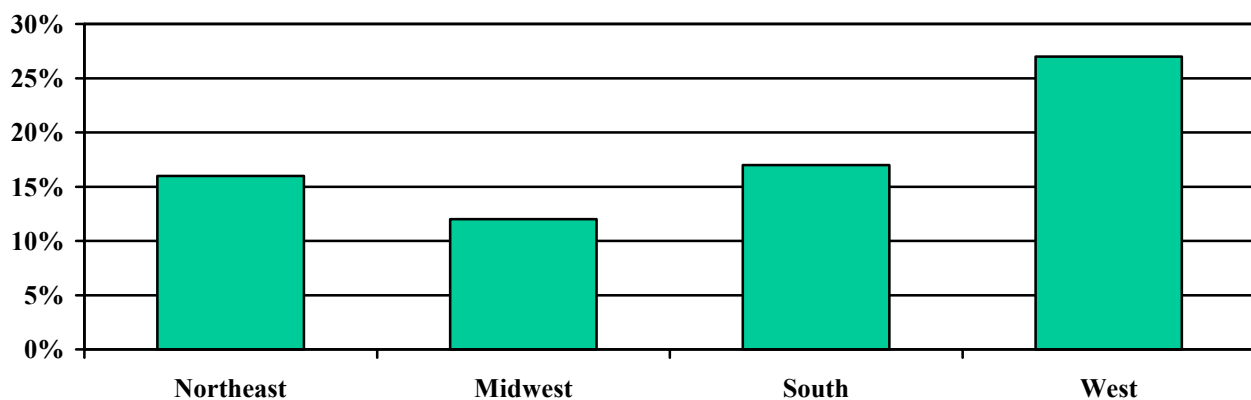
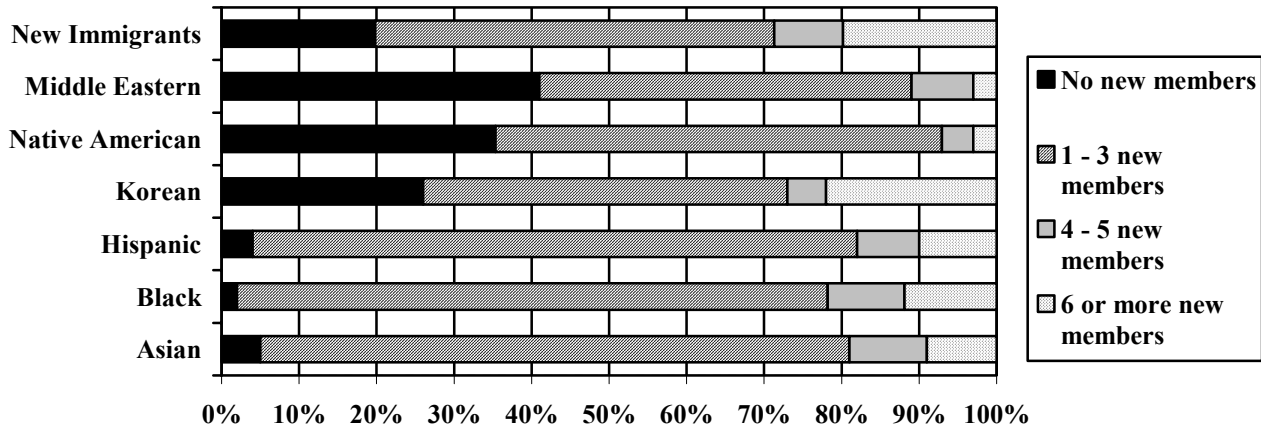


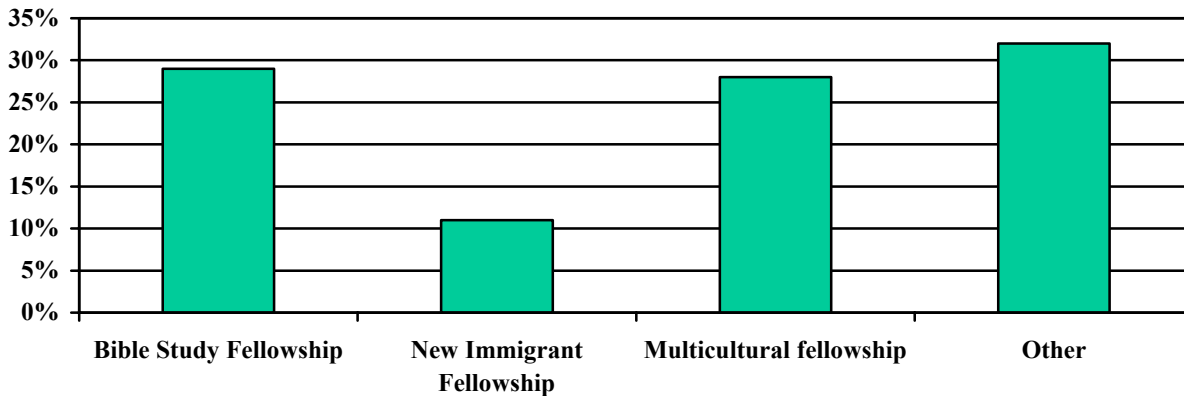
Figure 4 reports the racial ethnic and/or immigrant membership growth in the 17% of congregations that reported such growth during 2002. Of congregations reporting racial ethnic and/or immigrant membership growth, most reported adding one to three new members in each of the racial ethnic groups (new Asian members, 76%; new Black members, 77%; new Hispanic members, 78%; new Korean members, 47%; new Native American members, 57%; new Middle Eastern members, 48%; and new immigrant members, 52%).

Figure 4
Number of New Members in Various Categories
Among Congregations Reporting an Increase
in Racial Ethnic and/or Immigrant Membership



Eight percent of the reporting congregations said that they had engaged in discussion about possible projects relating to the General Assembly Racial Ethnic/Immigrant Church Growth Strategy. Figure 5 shows the percentage of congregations reporting projects started as a result of that discussion.

Figure 5
Percentage of Congregations Starting Four Types of Projects as a Result of Discussions
Relating to The General Assembly Racial Ethnic/Immigrant Church Growth Strategy



Note: Only the 636 congregations that reported having discussed the General Assembly Racial Ethnic/Immigrant church growth strategy were asked to answer this question.

Nine percent of the reporting congregations said that they have been engaged in mission work groups that have traveled to Native American communities or reservations. Of those, nearly one-third (31%) said that their congregations have an established partnership relationship with a Native American community or reservation.