

Our Journey 2020 Report of CRCNA Members, 2018

This is a report of the 2018 CRCNA congregational survey that **1,371** participating congregants completed. The report is divided into three sections.

Desired Futures: The first section consists of Desired Futures, along with a few matrix questions from the Individual Items.

Multiple Choice: The second section contains all of the matrix questions from the Individual Items, along with church involvement, CRC loyalty and support, and financial contributions.

Demographics: The third section contains demographic information for your congregation compared with other participating congregations.

We hope this information is fruitful for you.

Peace and Blessings, Calvin College Center for Social Research



Church and Community

Please indicate how true each statement is concerning your church and yourself:

Our church strongly encourages us to build relationships with one another.		54% 727	32 42	
We are generous in offering our God-given gifts of time, talents, and goods to meet the needs of our church and community.	36% 481		44% 593	17% 235
Our church clearly reflects a holistic commitment to reaching the unchurched in our community and beyond.	20% 265	35% 470		2% 10% 35 137
Our congregation is discerning how God is at work in our church.	30% 396		42% 569	20% 275
Our congregation is discerning how God is at work in our local community.	18% 235	40% 530		9% 10% 87 130
Our congregation is involved in the birth of new churches and discipling communities (e.g. evangelism and church planting).	7% 12% 90 162	26% 343	32% 423	15% 9% 206 116
'm growing in my sense of belonging in my congregation.	35% 473		36% 481	19% 6% 252 80
intentionally build relationships with non-Christians.	17% 231	28% 375	35% 467	17% 233
intentionally build relationships with other Christians.	34% 446		42% 548	20% 254
	0% 10% 20%		50% 60% 70 Respondents	% 80% 90% 1004
Definitely TrueSomewhat TrueMostly TrueHardly True		efinitely UNTRU nsure	E	

Collaboration

Please indicate how true each statement is concerning your church:

Our congregation works effectively with Christian Reformed Church congregations throughout the denomination.	11% 141	18% 242	249 329		19% 246	25% 334	
Our congregation should financially support ministries and services of the Christian Reformed Church at the full amount recommended for a congregation of our size.		35% 469		25% 339	18% 235	7% 12% 87 164	
Our congregation works effectively with ministries of the Christian Reformed Church.	239 312			9% 15	23% 309		
Our congregation is closely connected to the Christian Reformed Church denomination and its ministries.		7% 56		3% 35	22% 298	7% 9% 92 125	-
Our congregation works effectively with other Christian Reformed Church congregations from our region.	16% 220		5% 29	24% 322	16% 215		
Our congregation works effectively with other nearby Christian Reformed Church congregations.	22% 300		27% 362		25% 331	14% 9% 191 122	
Definitely True Somewhat Tru	0% 10% e		30% 40% % itely UNT	of Respond	0% 70% ents	80% 90% 1	1009

Discipleship

Please indicate how true each statement is concerning your church and yourself:

	41% 543		38% 500		14% 193	5% 63
16% 210			32% 434		13% 175	7% 88
						5% 64
	44% 599		34% 463		16% 213	
				28% 374		9% 19
24% 330					19% 259	
					13% 178	
23% 310		43% 580				
24% 329		26% 355			19% 259	
12% 163	27% 365		40% 542		18% 239	
					22% 299	
			39% 520			6% 80
0% 10%	20% 30%	6 40% 5	50% 60%	70% 80	% 90%	5 100
	210 33 4 34 30 24% 330 310 24% 310 24% 329 12% 163 29% 38 4 31 20% 310 310 310 310 310 310 310 310 310 310				$ \ \ \ \ \ \ \ \ \ \ \ \ \ \ \ \ \ \ \$	19316% 21030% 402 $32%$ $430213%1$

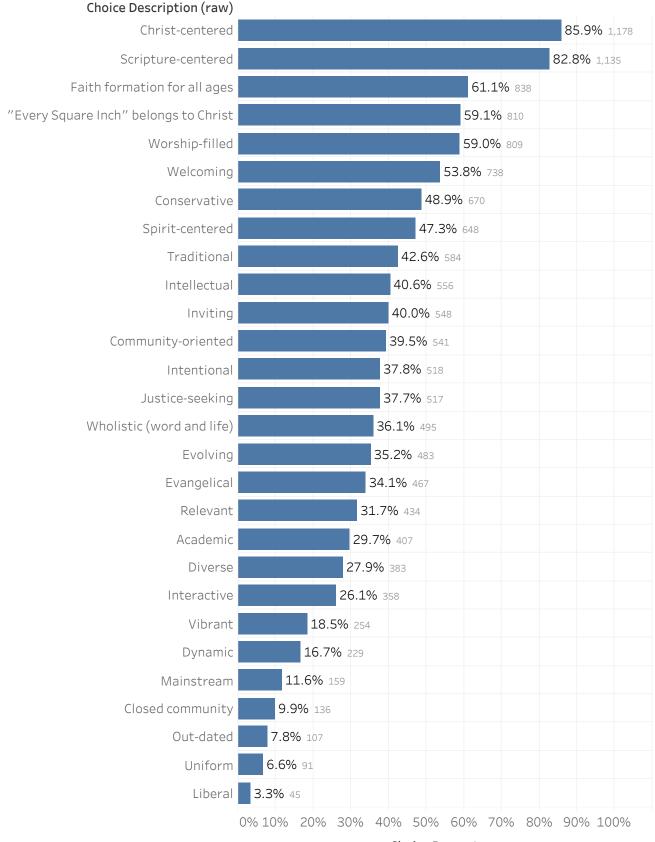
Identity

Please indicate how true each statement is concerning your church and yourself:

call to "do justice, love kindly, and walk humbly" with God.		29% 386		45% 604		19% 258	
People in our congregation feel like they are part of a diverse church, gathered from "every nation, tribe, and tongue."	229 29		30% 399		26% 341	11% 150	9% 114
People in our congregation feel like they are part of Christ's worldwide church.		31% 415		42% 558		17% 229	7% 94
People in our congregation understand what it means to be a part of the Christian Reformed Church in North America.	14% 183		2% 29		33% 438	11% 149	7% 97
My church helps me think through the complex issues facing our world today (such as poverty, war, abortion, environment, racism, and homosexuality) using kingdom values.	219 288		30% 403		29% 384	14% 182	
Our church's programs and activities flow from a clear mission and vision.		29% 393		41% 546		21% 275	5% 68
I'm actively involved in working for justice in our community (e.g. advocating for better policies, speaking out about injustice, caring for immigrants and refugees).	14%	17% 228		29% 389			0% 35
I'm committed to my church's mission/vision and I'm willing to make sacrifices for it.		31% 413		43% 575		19% 247	
	0% 10%	6 20% 30)% 40%	50% 6	50% 70%	6 80% 90)% 10

To me, the term "Christian Reformed" means (check all that apply):

[This question first appeared in 2018 in the "Identity" section]



Choice Percentage

Leadership

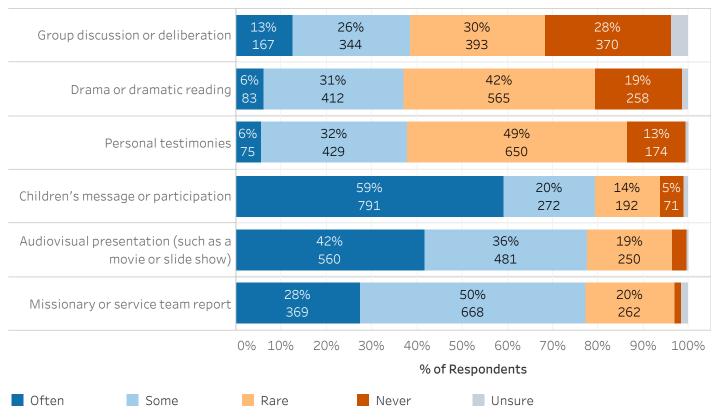
Please indicate how true each statement is concerning your church:



CRCNA Member Survey Results

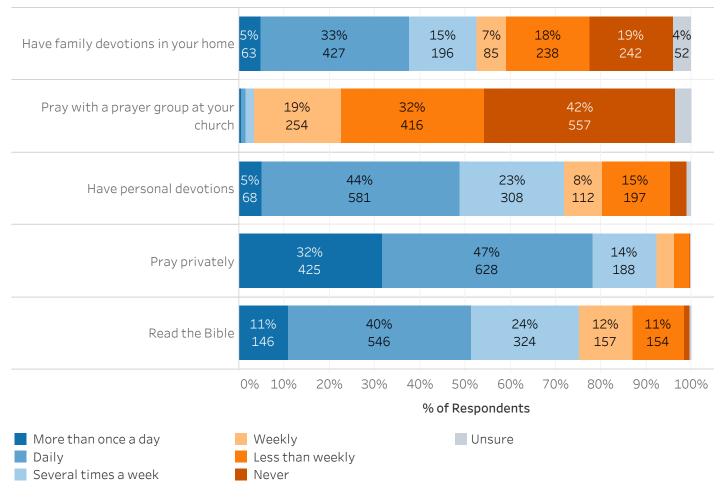
Spring 2018

How frequently does your congregation engage in this kind of activity during worship?



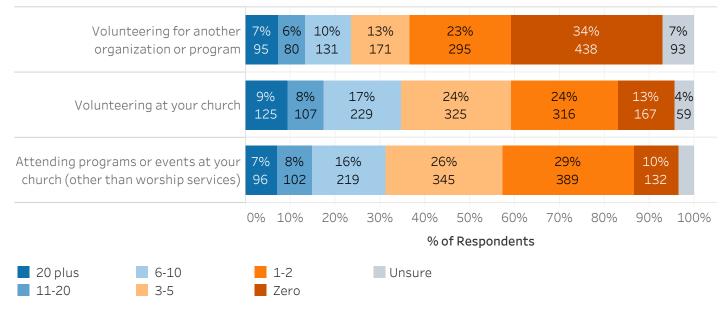
How much value does each activity have for worship, in your opinion?

Group discussion or deliberation		29% 356				42% 529			16% 200	13 16	
Drama or dramatic reading		28% 353				47% 595			179 21(8% 105
Missionary or service team report			46% 590					47% 600			
Personal testimonies				53% 676				38% 480			% <mark>4%</mark> 0 55
Audiovisual presentation (such as a movie or slide show)			479 599					44% 561		6) 7	
Children's message or participation)% 32				24% 308		
	0%	10%	20%	30%	40%	50%	60%	70%	80%	90%	100%
					70	of Respo	Juents	>			
Much Some		[None			Unsui	re				



How often do you:

Please indicate how many hours you spent during an average month over the last year in each of the following:



Worship and Belonging

Q26. Which of the following	Liturgical	14.3%	
words best describes your preferences for the style of	Traditional	23.2	%
a worship service?	Blended		67.9%
	Contemporary	26.	.7%
	No preference	3.2%	
	Other, please specify:	2.6%	
232. How much enthusiasm	Very high enthusiasm	16.3%	
do you feel, in general, about the work and	Moderately high enthusiasm		54.6%
programs of [your church]?	Moderately low enthusiasm	1 9.5%	,
	Very low enthusiasm	6.1%	
	Unsure	1.8%	
Q46. Do you have a strong sense of belonging to [your church]?	A strong/growing sense of belonging	26.	5%
	Yes, about the same as last year		45.6%
	Yes, but not as strong as in the past	18.2%	
	No, but I am new to [this church]	0.9%	
	No, and I wish I did by now	4.2%	
	No, but I am happy as I am	1.4%	
	Unsure	1.6%	
Q48. Do you prefer a	Prefer needs met/gifts used now	11.0%	
ong-term relationship with a particular congregation,	Lean toward needs met/gifts used	14.8%	
even if some needs go unmet and gifts go unused?	Neutral, don't lean either way	10.3%	
Or do you find it best to attend the congregation	Lean toward long-term relationship	29	9.8%
hat meets your needs and uses your gifts in the	Prefer a long-term relationship	26.	5%
present?	Unsure	5.5%	

Financial Contribution

Q43. Approximately how	Nothing	• 0.6%	
much did your household	\$1-\$499	• 5.2%	
contribute to [your church]? ⁻	\$500-\$999	• 4.7%	
	\$1,000-\$1,499	6 .1%	
	\$1,500-\$1,999	• 5.1%	
	\$2,000-\$2,499	• 4.7%	
	\$2,500-\$2,999	6 .3%	
	\$3,000-\$3,499	• 4.0%	
	\$3,500-\$3,999	• 4.5%	
	\$4,000-\$4,499	• 5.3%	
	\$4,500-\$4,999	• 4.8%	
-	\$5,000-\$7,499	• 17.6%	
	\$7,500-\$9,999	● 8.7%	
-	\$10,000-\$14,999	• 7.4%	
	\$15,000 or more	• 4.2%	
	l prefer not to disclose.	• 5.7%	
	Unsure	• 3.4%	
Q44. Approximately how	Nothing	● 1.5%	
much did your household	\$1-\$499	• 22.0%	
contribute to all other charitable causes	\$500-\$999	• 14.7%	
(excluding what you	\$1,000-\$1,499	• 10.4%	
reported in the previous	\$1,500-\$1,999	6.5%	
question)?	\$2,000-\$2,499	• 5.9%	
	\$2,500-\$2,999	• 2.6%	
-	\$3,000-\$3,499	• 3.1%	
	\$3,500-\$3,999	1 .7%	
	\$4,000-\$4,499	2.0%	
	\$4,500-\$4,999	• 1.1%	
	\$5,000-\$7,499	5 .6%	
-	\$7,500-\$9,999	• 2.9%	
-	\$10,000-\$14,999	• 2.9%	
-	\$15,000 or more	• 4.1%	
-	I prefer not to disclose.	• 5.8%	
-	Unsure	• 4.9%	

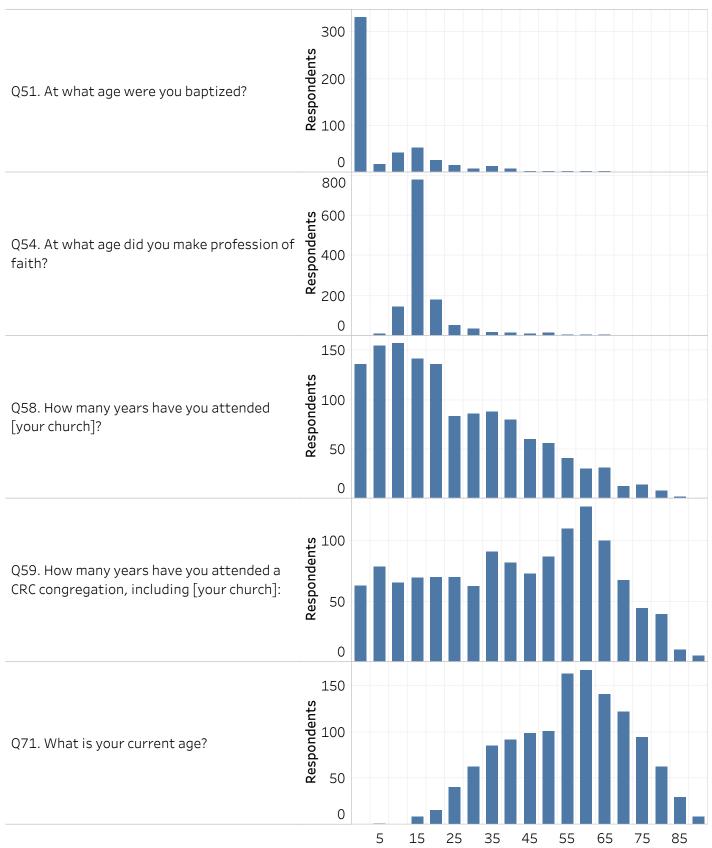
Q27. Which option below	I am not a Christian.	0.1%
best describes your current spiritual condition?	l am not yet a Christian but am seeki	0.1%
	I am a Christian but quite new at livi	1.4%
	I am a committed Christian but still	58.3%
	I am a mature Christian.	36.9%
	Unsure	1.2%
Q28. How would you say	Has declined significantly	1.5%
your spiritual life and faith has changed over the last	Has declined a little	7.0%
12 months?	Has been stable	23.4%
	Has grown a little	42.9%
	Has grown significantly	22.3%
	Unsure	1.0%
		0% 20% 40% 60% 80% 100% % of Respondents

Spiritual Condition

Membership, Baptism, Loyalty, and Heritage

Q47. How would you describe your loyalty to [your church]? ⁻ -	I am very loyal to [this church]				• 7	1.7%
	I am somewhat loyal to [this church]		22.6%			
	I am not very loyal to [this church]	1.8%				
	I feel no loyalty to [this church].	1.2%				
	Unsure	1.2%				
Q50. Have you been baptized?	Yes					98.0%
	No	0.7%				
	Unsure	0.1%				
Q52. Were you baptized in a	Yes				66.4	1%
IRC congregation?	No		30	.6%		
	Unsure	0.4%				
Q53. Have you made a public profession of faith?	Yes				ç	95.0% 🔵
	No	2.4%				
	Unsure	1.2%				
)55. Did you make profession	Yes					77.3%
n a CRC congregation?	No		16.9%			
	Unsure	0.2%				
)57. How would you describe	I am very loyal to the CRC.				57.9%	
our loyalty to the Christian Reformed Church?	I am somewhat loyal to the CRC.		3 0.	0%		
	I am not very loyal to the CRC.	• 4.0%				
	I feel no loyalty to the CRC.	4.4%				
	Unsure	2.2%				
)62. Which generations of	None, I'm the first generation		24.9%	6		
our ancestors have been nvolved in the Christian	My parents	1	2.6%			
Reformed Church?	Some grandparents		22.9%			
	Some great-grandparents		18.7%			
	Great-great or more		15.5%			
	Unsure	3.4%				

Years of Age and Attendance



Q22. Please describe [your church's] current health:	Awful	1.1%
-	Poor	7.1%
	Fair	18.3%
	Good	47.0%
	Great	1 9.8%
	Unsure	4.7%
Q23. Please describe [your church's] health five years	Awful	2.2%
200.	Poor	8.5%
· · · · · ·	Fair	27.3%
	Good	40.0%
_	Great	10.6%
	Unsure	9.1%
Q24. From the following life cycle stages, select the one -		2.1%
that comes closest to where you think your congregation	Adolescence	3.1%
is today.	Young adulthood	28.4%
-	Maturing adulthood	26.6%
-	Empty nest/retirement	28.0%
	Old age/dying	7.9%

Church Health

Q30. How often do you 83.6% Every Sunday attend Sunday morning 12.4% Two or three Sundays a month worship services? One Sunday a month 1.2% 0.4% Less than one Sunday a month 0.1% Never 0.7% No answer Q31. How often do you **Every Sunday** 15.0% attend Sunday evening Two or three Sundays a month 9.1% worship services? One Sunday a month 4.4% Less than one Sunday a month 8.3% 13.2% Never 46.8% [this church] does not have evening s.. 1.6% No answer 6.7% Q35. How often do you Every week attend church education Almost every week 3.5% classes for adults at [your church]? Two or three times a month 4.9% Once a month 3.8% Less than once a month 13.1% 28.7% Never Does not apply - no classes for adults 30.2% Unsure 6.5% 90.3% Q49. Which of the following Professing member (have made publ.. describes your connection Baptized member (have not made pu.. 1.5% with [your church]? Regular attender 5.5% 0.3% Occasional visitor None of the above 0.6% 40% 60% 0% 20% 80% 100%

Church Involvement

CRC Agencies and Ministries

Q63. Which of the following ministries and agencies of the CRCNA do you believe	Back to God		•	36.1%		
	Calvin College		• 30	.4%		
are making a positive,	Calvin Seminary			41.8%	ó	
significant contribution to [[your churches] health?	Faith Alive		• 32	2.8%		
	Home Missions	• 0.0%				
	World Missions	0.0%				
	World Renew (CRWRC)				67.3	%
	Safe Church Ministry		26.4	%		
	Canadian Ministries	• 1	3.4%			
-	Chaplaincy Ministries	• 1	3.1%			
	Disability Concerns		20.1%			
	Dynamic Youth Ministries	• 18.7%				
	Ministry Planning	8.3	%			
	Partners Worldwide	8.00	%			
-	Pastor-Church Relations		22.2%			
-	Race Relations	• 10	.2%			
	Social Justice		16.3%			
-	Resonate Global Missions		030	.5%		
Q65. What are the best	The Banner				5 9.9%	
ways for the denomination [†] to keep you informed about -	E-mail			36.8%		
the ministries you support	Social media (Facebook, Twitter, etc.)		20.7%			
through your Ministry Shares, gifts and offerings? -	Newsletters mailed to your home	9.8	8%			
shares, gires and orienings.	Newsletters distributed at your chu			35.7%		
-	Ministry videos		• 31	4%		
	Church bulletins and newsletters				58.4%	
-	Personal appearances		31	.0%		
-	Direct mail	• 3.8%				
-	Other	1.1%				
	I prefer not to receive information	2.3%				

Decision-making

Q39. Which of the following statements best describes	I have been given the opportunity and often participate in decision-making.	35.1%
your involvement in the making of important decisions in [your church]?	I have been given the opportunity, but don't usually get involved in decision-making.	7.3%
	I have been given the opportunity and occasionally get involved in decision-making.	27.5%
	I have not been given an opportunity to be involved, and this is fine with me.	13.2%
	I have not been given an opportunity to be involved, and I am not happy with this.	5.9%
	Unsure	9.1%
Q40. How much influence do you feel that church	Too much	2.3%
members have on the decision-making at your church?	Justright	60.6%
	Not enough	20.6%
	Unsure	14.8%
Q41. How much do you trust the leaders of your	High level of trust	53.6%
church?	Medium level of trust	28.7%
	Low level of trust	5.8%
	Unsure	2.3%
		0% 20% 40% 60% 80% 100% % of Respondents

	We have more than enough volunteers	14.3%	
is closest to describing the situation at [your church]?	Recruiting volunteers is challenging		66.8%
	Not enough volunteers	11.6%	
	Unsure	5.4%	
	Sunday or church school teacher		47.5%
been involved in [your church]?	Choir member	26	.5%
	Small group member		68.4%
	Small group leader		35.4%
	Church committee member		58.6%
	Church committee chairperson	25.0	0%
	Deacon	25.	4%
	Elder	28	3.5%
	Council or consistory officer	21.09	%
	Organist or pianist	7.6%	
	Other instrumentalist	7.8%	
	Pastor (senior, associate, youth, etc.)	5.0%	
	Praise team	19.8%	6
	Usher or greeter		38.7%
	Worship leader	11.2%	
	Youth leader	20.69	6
	Administrator	7.6%	
	Custodian	5.0%	
	None of the above	3.0%	
	Other (specify):	17.8%	
			0% 60% 80% 100% Respondents

Participation

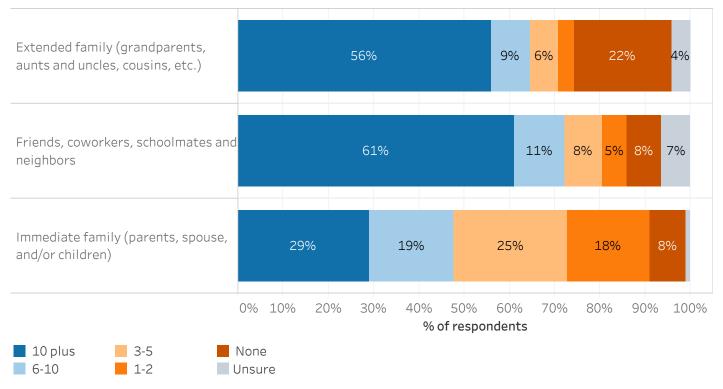
CRCNA Member Survey Results: All churches Spring 2018

Q67. Please indicate your agreement or disagreement with this statement:	Strongly disagree		19.3%				
	Disagree		22.8%				
"Personal support for Christian day schools is a	Neutral		18.6%				
requirement to be part of a covenant community of	Agree		17.5%				
believers."	Strongly agree		L3.7%				
	Unsure	5.9%	6				Γ
Q68. In the past year, how	Paid tuition		21.4%				Γ
have you supported one or more Christian day schools?	Gave a financial gift			52	2.9%		
	Participated in a fundraiser			38.7%			
	Volunteered time		23.7%				
	Prayer support			42.5%			
	None of the above		21.1%				
	Other, specify	4.2%					
		0% 20)% 40% % of Re	6 60 esponde)% 100	%

Christian Day Schools

Spring 2018

About how many people do you know in each category below who are in the Christian Reformed Church?



Demographics: Gender and Marital Status

Q70. Are you:	Female	53.5%
	Male	44.4%
Q72. Please check any marital status that currently applies to you.	Single, never married	7.7%
	Married once	74.0%
	Separated or divorced	3.6%
	Widowed	6.9%
	Remarried	6.7%
	Other	0.9%
		0% 20% 40% 60% 80% 100%
		% of Respondents

Q84. How would you describe yourself? Check as	North American Indian/Aboriginal	0.4%
	Asian/Asian American	1.2%
many as apply.	Black/African American	0.5%
	Hispanic/Latino	1.9%
	Native Hawaiian/other Pacific Islander	0.1%
	White/Caucasian/Anglo	92.0%
	Prefer not to say	2.0%
	Other	0.4%
)85. Are you of	No	87.8%
Hispanic, Latino, or Spanish origin?	Mexican, Chicano, etc.	1.2%
	Puerto Rican	0.0%
	Cuban	0.0%
	Another Hispanic, Latino, etc.	0.1%
286. What is your	White	85.0%
ace or nationality?	Black or African American	0.4%
	American Indian or Alaska Native	0.0%
	Asian Indian	0.1%
	Filipino	0.2%
	Other Asian	0.5%
	Japanese	0.0%
	Korean	0.5%
	Vietnamese	0.0%
	Native Hawaiian	0.0%
	Guamanian or Chamorro	0.0%

Demographics: Race (US)

Demographics: Race (Canada)

Aboriginal person,that is, North	No			95.3% 🔵
	Yes, Metis	0.2%		
Q89. Are you: Check all that apply	White			90.9% 🔵
	Chinese	0.6%		
	South Asian (e.g.,. East Indian, Pakistani, Sri Lankan, etc.)	0.0%		
	Black	0.2%		
	Filipino	0.2%		
	Latin American	0.0%		
	Southeast Asian (e.g.,. Vietnamese, Cambodian, Malaysian, Laotian, etc.)	0.0%		
	Arab	0.0%		
	West Asian (e.g. Iranian, Afghan, etc.)	0.0%		
	Korean	0.0%		
	Japanese	0.0%		
	No answer	1.1%		
	Other	2.8%		
	Dutch		39.7%	

Demographics: Education

Q76. Please choose the highest level of education you have achieved.	8 years or less	1.2%
	Some high school	1.7%
	High school graduate	11.9%
	Technical/trade school	5.7%
	Some college	15.2%
	College graduate	34.9%
	Post-graduate education	26.2%
	Prefer not to say	1.2%
Q77. Which of the following schools have you attended? Check as many as apply.	Christian day school (primary or secondary)	61.3%
	Public school (primary or secondary)	56.3%
	Secular private school (primary or secondary)	3.9%
	Calvin College	17.1%
	Other denominationally-related college(s)	14.8%
	Other private or church-related college(s)	10.2%
	Public college(s) or university(ies)	53.4%
	None of the above	0.9%
	Other	3.4%

% of Respondents

Demographics: Employment and Vocation

081. What is vour	Full-time employment		34.0%)	
current employment situation? Check	Part-time employment		16.3%		
	Full-time student	1.0%			
as many as apply.	Part-time student	0.9%			
	Homemaker or primary caregiver	• 11	.4%		
	Self-employed	9.4			
	Own a business with employees	• 4.2%			
	Own an agricultural business	● 3.8%			
	Retired	0.070	● 35.69	26	
	Unemployed	1.0%	- 33.0		
	Actively looking for new work	1.5%			
	Disabled or otherwise unable to work	2.0%			
	Volunteer or unpaid position	4.3%			
	None of the above	0.3%			
	Other (specify):	1.8%			
Q82. How would	Ordained Christian ministry	5.0%			
you describe your	Lay Christian ministry	8.09	6		
current vocation?Please	Church leadership		18.3%		
check all areas of	For-profit business		16.4%		
your calling in	Non-profit organization		16.5%		
which you are active, whether	Farming or agriculture	6.6%			
paid or voluntary.	Entrepreneurship	• 4.4%			
	Social or political activism	3 .2%			
-	Missions and evangelism	• 5.2% • 6.7%			
	Environmental stewardship	3 .9%			
	Technology and social media	4 .3%			
		4.5%			
	Engagement with children or youth	■ 2 20/	21.3%		
	Cross-cultural/racial reconciliation	3.2%			
			23.0%		
	Other (specify):	8.60	//0		

Q73. How many None 72.1% dependent childrenunder age 18 do One 7.1% you have living with you? 8.6% Two 5.5% Three Four 3.3% 0.8% Five or more 0.3% Unsure 11.5% Q74. How many None dependent childrenunder age 18 do 5.0% One you have living with you who Two 5.5% attend a private Christian school? Three 2.4% Four 0.8% Five or more 0.2% Q75. Do your Yes, through sixth grade 3.9% children regularly attend Children's Yes, through junior high 1.8% Ministry/catechism_ classes? Yes, through high school 11.2% No 2.0% Does not apply - I have no children of 3.4% that age Other (specify) 1.5% Does not apply - My church does not 1.5% offer classes for my children's age 0% 20% 40% 60% 80% 100%

Demographics: Your Children's Education

% of Respondents

Physical disability (e.g., blindness, Q78. Is there 5.3% deafness, M.S., paralysis) anyone living in your household Cognitive disability 3.2% with any of the following disabilities? Mental health diagnosis 7.8% Learning disability 4.8% Drug or alcohol addiction 1.7% None of the above 74.2% Q79. How would A large city (750,000 or more) 8.5% you describe the area in which you 14.7% The suburbs of a large city live? A medium-sized city (150,000 to 12.8% 749,000) The suburbs of a medium-sized city 6.2% A small city (50,000 to 149,000) 13.2% A large town (10,000 to 49,000) 14.5% A small town (less than 10,000) 12.8% Open country, not a farm 7.9% A farm 5.6% 1.6% Unsure 100% 0% 20% 40% 60% 80% % of Respondents

Disability, Residential Setting

Demographics: Income

Q91. What was your total household income last year (2017) before taxes and deductions?	Less than \$10,000	• 0.9%
	\$10,000 to \$14,999	1.3%
This includes	\$15,000 to \$19,999	1.3%
	\$20,000 to \$29,999	• 4.6%
	\$30,000 to \$39,999	5.3%
	\$40,000 to \$49,999	6.6%
	\$50,000 to \$59,999	7.3%
	\$60,000 to \$69,999	7.9%
	\$70,000 to \$79,999	9.9%
	\$80,000 to \$99,999	10.4%
	\$100,000 to \$149,999	14.9%
-	\$150,000 to \$199,000	3.6%
	\$200,000 or more	3.6%
	I prefer not to disclose.	16.1%
	Don't know or unsure	2.6%
		0% 20% 40% 60% 80% 100%
		% of Respondents