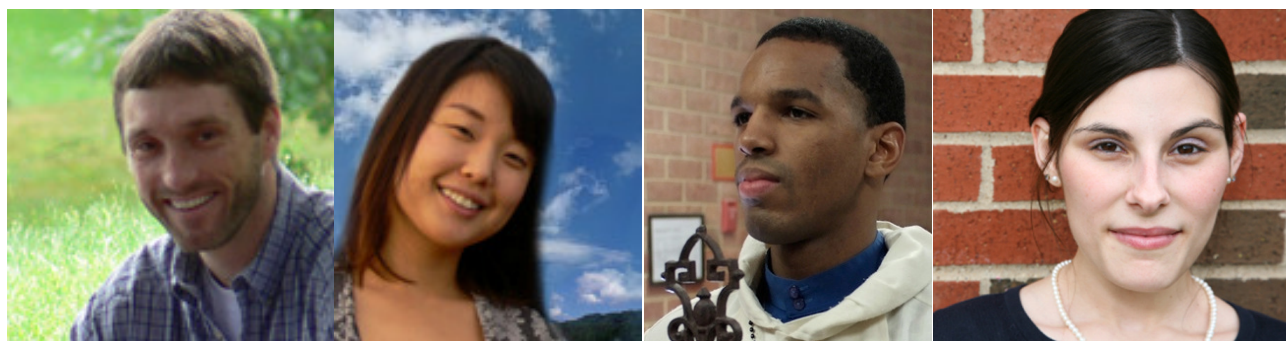


A Lewis Center Report
on

Clergy Age Trends

in the
United Methodist Church
2010 Report

Elders • Deacons • Local Pastors



2010
Lewis Center for Church Leadership
Wesley Theological Seminary

A Lewis Center Report on

Clergy Age Trends

in the
United Methodist Church: 1985-2010

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For the latest figures available from other denominations, see the 2008 edition of the Lewis Center's clergy age trends report available under the Research section of our website www.churchleadership.com.

Highlights of the 2010 Report

Average Age of United Methodist Clergy Reaches a Historic High

- For the first time ever, just over half of active elders are between age 55 and 72.
- The median age of elders is 55, the highest in history, up from 50 in 2000 and 45 in 1973.
- As expected, the total number of clergy retirements went down dramatically in 2009 because of the economic downturn (811 compared to 1,113 in 2008).
- Even with fewer retirements in 2009, the average retirement age still went down by half a year to 64 in 2009.

The Percentage of Middle Age Elders Shrank Dramatically Since 2000

- The percentage of elders aged 35 to 54 continues to shrink, from 65 percent of all active elders in 2000 to 45 percent in 2010.

The Number of Young United Methodist Clergy Grew in the Past Decade

- There are more young elders, deacons, and local pastors than ten years ago.
- While fewer in number than young elders, young deacons and local pastors are growing in number faster than young elders.
- In 1985 there were 24 young elders for every one young local pastor. In 2010 there are just two young elders for every young local pastor.

Purpose and Description

The purpose of this ongoing research effort is to identify clergy age trends in the United Methodist Church so that denominational leaders have the data for planning and a baseline for monitoring future changes. This report builds on previous reports on clergy age trends issued by the Lewis Center for Church Leadership. The first report, *Clergy Age Trends in the United Methodist Church: 1985-2005*, documented the dramatic decline in United Methodist young clergy in both numbers and percentages over twenty years. This report presents a snapshot of where clergy age trends stand in May 2010.

These clergy age trends are further analyzed in *The Crisis of Younger Clergy* (Abingdon Press, 2008) by Lovett H. Weems, Jr., and Ann A. Michel. The book considers why the number of young clergy has declined so precipitously in recent decades and what can be done to reverse this trend. Drawing on clergy age data and recent survey results, the book profiles the young clergy population in the United Methodist Church. It exposes the many challenges younger clergy face while lifting up the unique gifts they have to offer.

Clergy ages are not easy to track because few units of the church have up-to-date age information on clergy. The one exception is the General Board of Pension and Health Benefits (GBOPHB). The Lewis Center for Church Leadership of Wesley Theological Seminary has worked with the Board to determine age trends for United Methodist clergy.

The project covers elders, deacons, and local pastors in the five jurisdictional conferences of the United Methodist Church. Ordained deacons as we have now in the United Methodist Church are relatively new, making historical trend comparisons limited. To have comparable figures across the years for elders, the figures include *not only those ordained elder but also those commissioned* on the elder track but not yet ordained. While not all clergy are in the denominational pension system, most are, and the percentage not in the system tends to stay the same across the years, thus making trend comparisons possible. Readers should keep in mind that the total number of deacons is significantly lower in this report than their presence in the denomination because more deacons than other clergy work in employment settings with pension plans other than through the GBOPHB. For local pastors, both full-time and part-time local pastors are included. Since the GBOPHB does not keep records of clergy by race, we are not able to make comparisons by racial groups.

Lovett H. Weems, Jr., distinguished professor of church leadership and founding director of the Lewis Center for Church Leadership, was project director. Joseph E. Arnold, research manager of the Lewis Center, and Ann A. Michel, associate director of the Lewis Center, were associate directors of the project. Barbara Boigegrain, general secretary of the General Board of Pension and Health Benefits, and the staff of the Board, particularly Anne Borish, Helen Exarhakos, Tanya Lerner, and Otisstean Arrington, provided essential cooperation and data. Thanks go also to the General Council on Finance and Administration for sharing data they collect and to the General Board of Higher Education and Ministry for their collaboration around enlistment and overall young clergy issues.

Young Clergy Trends

Young Elders

- The number of under-35 elders increased from 906 in 2009 to 946 in 2010, the largest number in over a decade.
- The percentage of young elders increased from 5.25% in 2009 to 5.47% in 2010, also the highest in over a decade.
- The Mississippi Conference reported the highest percentage of young elders at 11.11%. Other conferences in the top ten included: Louisiana, Central Texas, Holston, Oklahoma, Virginia, Tennessee, Alabama-West Florida, Arkansas, and North Alabama.
- The largest total numbers of young elders are in the Western North Carolina (57) and Virginia (56) Conferences.

Young Deacons

- The number and percentage of young deacons reached their highest levels in 2010 with 89 young deacons (up from 77 in 2009) representing 9.56% of deacons (up from 8.42%).
- While the number of young deacons is still small compared to young elders, the growth of young deacons is faster than that of young elders. Ten years ago there were 18.5 young elders for one young deacon. Now there are 10.5 young elders for every young deacon.

Young Local Pastors

- There are more young local pastors in 2010 (426) than at any time in recent history. But their percentage of all local pastors (5.8%) is actually a bit lower than it was ten to fifteen years ago because the overall growth in the number of local pastors has been even greater than the growth among the young local pastors.
- The relative growth of young local pastors compared to young elders can be seen in these ratios: In 1985 there were 24 young elders for every one young local pastor. In 2010 there are just two young elders for every young local pastor.

Middle Age Clergy Trends

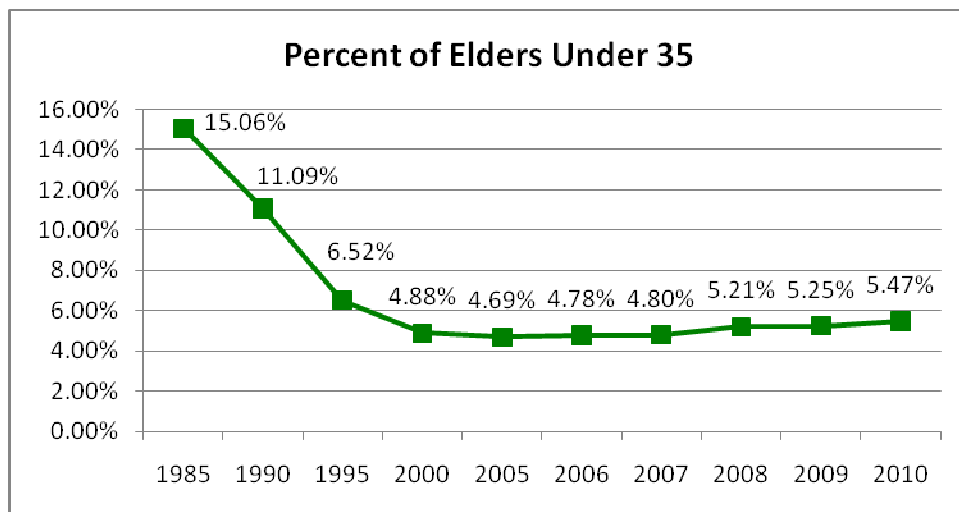
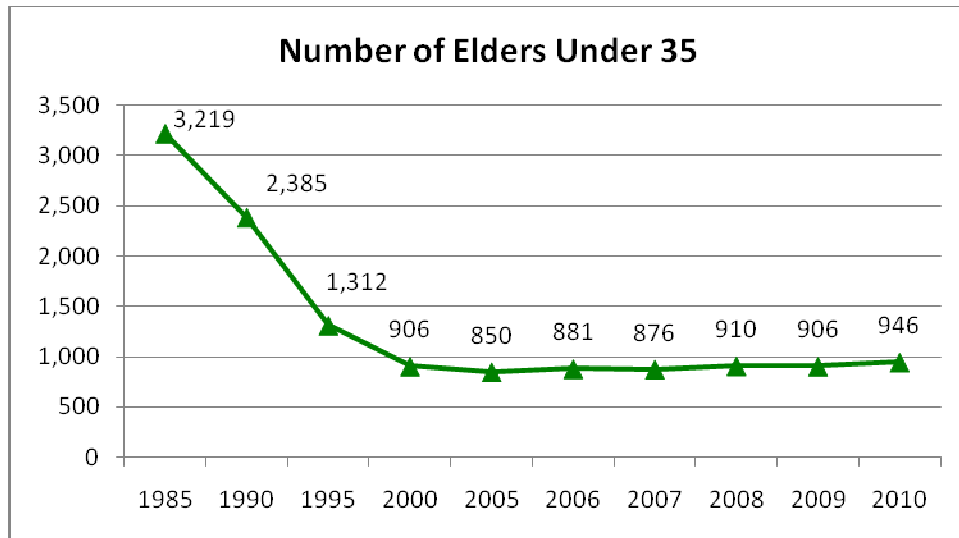
- In 1985 clergy aged 35 to 54 made up 65% of all active elders.
- In 2010 this group made another sharp drop and now represents only 45% of elders.

Older Clergy Trends

Age statistics for older clergy passed two significant milestones in 2010:

- For the first time just over half of active elders are in the age group 55 to 72.
- The median age of elders reached 55, the highest in history.
- The number of clergy retirements went down dramatically in 2009 because of the economic downturn. In 2009 there were only 811 retirements compared to 1,113 the previous year.
- However, the average age of retirement continues to go down slightly. Even with so many choosing not to retire in 2009, the average retirement age still went down by half a year, from 64.5 in 2008 to 64 in 2009.
- Elders and deacons are tending to retire on average at 64, full-time local pastors at about 65, and part-time local pastors at about 66.

To have comparable figures across the years for elders, the figures include *not only those ordained elder but also those commissioned* on the elder track but not yet ordained. Since the General Board of Pension and Health Benefits does not keep records of clergy by race, we were not able to make comparisons by racial groups.



Elders by Jurisdiction

Jurisdiction	Under 35 2010	% Under 35 2010	35-54 2010	% 35-54 2010	55-72 2010	% 55-72 2010	Total 2010
North Central	171	5%	1,690	45%	1,921	51%	3,782
Northeastern	119	4%	1,383	42%	1,773	54%	3,275
South Central	199	6%	1,379	44%	1,533	49%	3,111
Southeastern	405	7%	2,639	47%	2,622	46%	5,666
Western	52	4%	607	42%	800	55%	1,459
Total	946	5.47%	7,698	44.52%	8,649	50.01%	17,293

Gender Breakdown within Age Cohorts - Elders

		Under 35	35- 54	55 -72
2007	Men	68.55%	74.66%	77.32%
	Women	31.40%	25.33%	22.67%
2008	Men	66.89%	74.19%	75.89%
	Women	33.10%	25.80%	24.10%
2009	Men	64.02%	72.75%	74.28%
	Women	35.98%	27.25%	25.72%
2010	Men	63.75%	70.43%	73.68%
	Women	36.25%	29.57%	26.32%

Median, Average, and Mode Ages by Year - Elders

Year	Median* Age	Average Age	Mode* Age
1985	48	46.8	54
1990	47	47.5	43
1995	48	48.4	48
2000	50	49.5	53
2005	52	51.5	58
2006	53	51.8	59
2007	53	52.0	59
2008	54	52.1	56
2009	54	54.4	57
2010	55	52.8	58

*Median – half older, half younger

*Mode – single age most represented

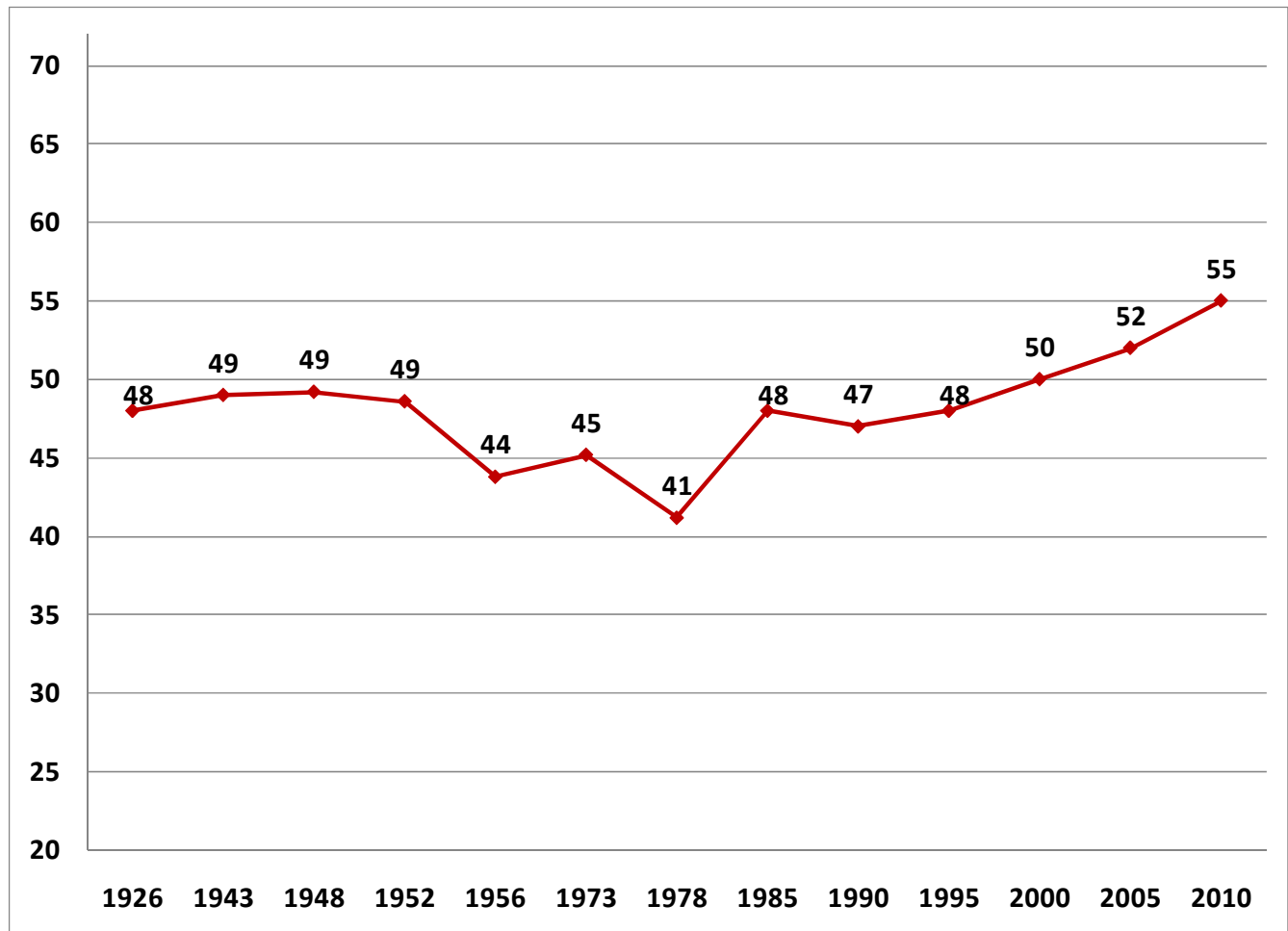
Data on Age Trends for Elders 1985 – 2010

Year	No. of Elders	Elders under 35	% Elders under 35	Elders 35-54	% Elders 35-54	Elders 55-72	% Elders 55-72
1985	21,378	3,219	15.06%	12,305	57.56%	5,854	27.38%
1990	21,507	2,385	11.09%	12,678	58.95%	6,444	29.96%
1995	20,117	1,312	6.52%	12,843	63.84%	5,962	29.64%
2000	18,576	906	4.88%	12,005	64.63%	5,665	30.50%
2005	18,141	850	4.69%	9,872	54.42%	7,419	40.90%
2006	18,005	881	4.89%	9,482	52.66%	7,642	42.44%
2007	17,800	876	4.92%	9,032	50.74%	7,892	44.34%
2008	17,480	910	5.21%	8,587	49.12%	7,983	45.67%
2009	17,254	906	5.25%	8,139	47.17%	8,209	47.58%
2010	17,293	946	5.47%	7,698	44.52%	8,649	50.01%

Historical Trends for Elders

Below are more extensive age trends than have appeared in previous reports. Data from previous studies help track patterns from the early twentieth century.

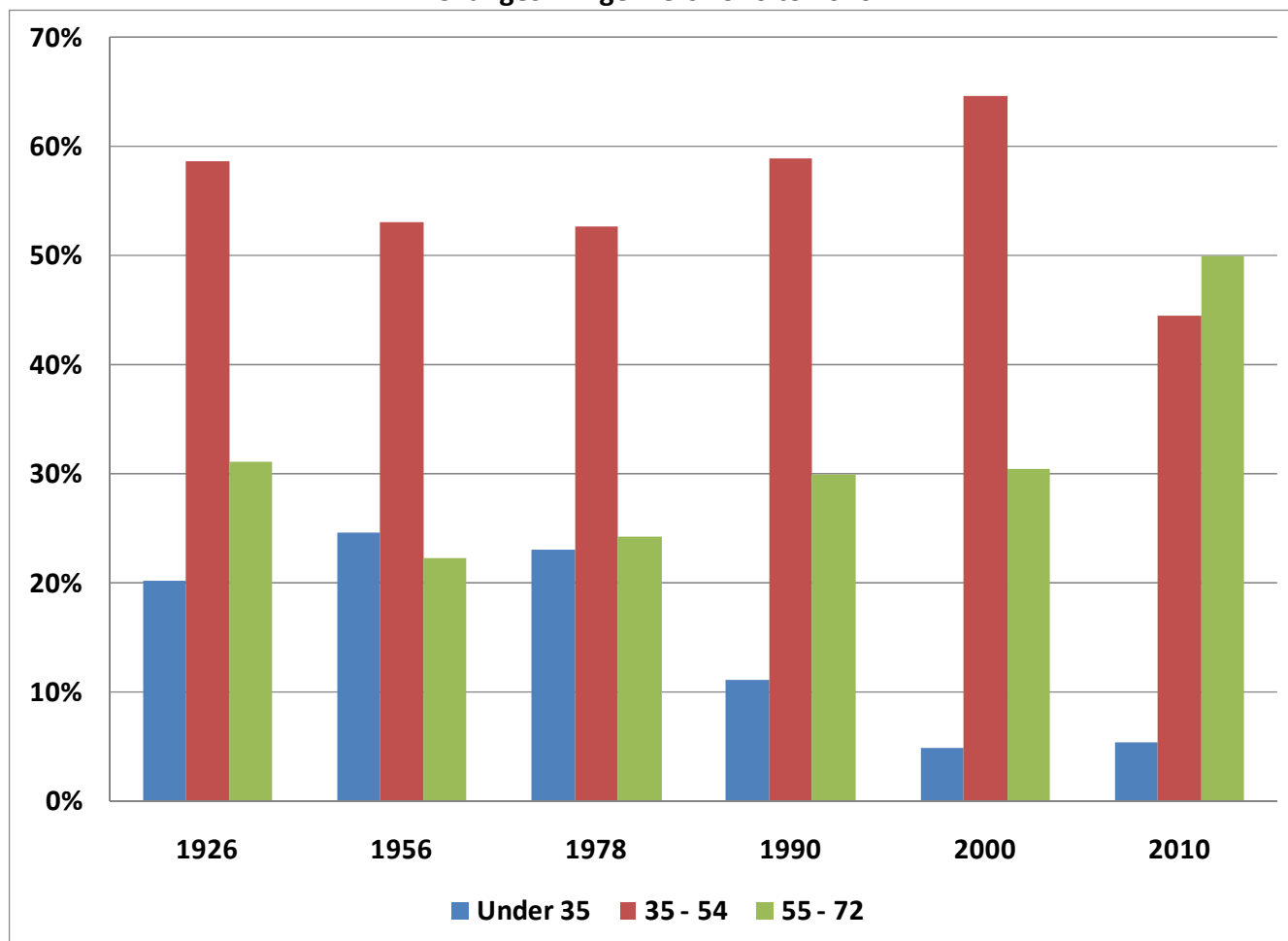
Changes in Median Age of Elders



Average and Median Ages

Elders	1926	1943	1948	1952	1956	1973	1978	1985	1990	1995	2000	2005	2010
Average Age	48.6					45.1	45.1	46.8	47.5	48.4	49.5	51.5	52.8
Median Age	48	49	49	49	44	45	41	48	47	48	50	52	55

Changes in Age Tiers 1926 to 2010



Elders	1926	1943	1948	1952	1956	1973	1978	1985	1990	1995	2000	2005	2010
Under 35	20%	13%	15%	15%	25%	21%	23%	15%	11%	6.52%	4.88%	4.69%	5.47%
35 - 54	59%	51%	51%	53%	53%	54%	53%	58%	59%	63.84%	64.63%	54.42%	44.52%
55 - 72	31%	36%	34%	32%	22%	25%	24%	27%	30%	29.64%	30.50%	40.90%	50.01%

1926 data are for the Methodist Episcopal Church, 1939-1968 data are for The Methodist Church, 1968 to present data are for The United Methodist Church

Sources:

1926: Journal of the Thirtieth Delegated General Conference of the Methodist Episcopal Church, 1928
 1943: A Study of Retirement & Recruitment in the Methodist Ministry by Murray H. Leiffer, Garrett Biblical Institute
 1948: The Methodist Ministry in 1948, Commission on Ministerial Training
 1952-1956: The Methodist Ministry in 1956, Report of Study Committee to 1956 General Conference
 1973-1978: The Age of Ministers by Alan K. Waltz, General Council on Ministries, 1973 and 1978
 1985-2010: General Board of Pension and Health Benefits, United Methodist Church

Mean, Median, and Mode Ages by Conference

*Some have no mode value because no unique mode exists (no single age occurred more frequently than another).

CONFERENCE NAME	2010 Mean	2010 Median	2010 Mode
Alabama-West Florida	51.02	53	62
Alaska Missionary	43.00	41	--
Arkansas	51.07	54	61
Baltimore-Washington	53.92	55	59
California-Nevada	54.57	56	58
California-Pacific	53.19	54	52
Central Pennsylvania	52.79	54	53
Central Texas	52.32	55	--
Dakotas	53.42	56	58
Desert Southwest	54.19	57	57
Detroit	53.93	56	59
East Ohio	53.59	55	--
Eastern Pennsylvania	53.94	55	57
Florida	52.30	54	58
Greater New Jersey	54.02	55	--
Holston	51.04	52	--
Illinois Great Rivers	52.68	54	53
Indiana	53.05	55	56
Iowa	53.44	56	58
Kansas East	53.79	56	58
Kansas West	53.65	56	58
Kentucky	52.62	54	58
Louisiana	51.45	53	53
Memphis	53.93	56	62
Minnesota	52.54	54	58
Mississippi	50.96	53	--
Missouri	52.02	54	55
Nebraska	54.66	56	58
New England	54.68	56	62
New Mexico	53.02	54	59
New York	55.99	57	61
North Alabama	51.07	53	54

CONFERENCE NAME	2010 Mean	2010 Median	2010 Mode
North Carolina	54.97	56	62
North Central New York	52.01	53	52
North Georgia	52.08	53	--
North Texas	52.57	54	61
Northern Illinois	52.03	54	--
Northwest Texas	51.64	54	58
OK Indian Missionary	59.29	58	--
Oklahoma	53.66	56	56
Oregon-Idaho	54.07	56	--
Pacific Northwest	54.81	56	60
Peninsula-Delaware	62.50	63	--
Red Bird Missionary	53.90	52	--
Rio Grande	53.60	56	58
Rocky Mountain	53.29	56	--
South Carolina	51.98	54	--
South Georgia	54.80	57	57
Southwest Texas	51.72	55	62
Tennessee	51.64	53	55
Texas	55.07	58	58
Troy	52.05	54	54
Virginia	54.39	55	61
West Michigan	52.36	54	57
West Ohio	52.52	55	61
West Virginia	54.09	55	--
Western New York	51.31	53	58
Western North Carolina	52.75	55	56
Western Pennsylvania	53.42	55	60
Wisconsin	53.84	56	57
Wyoming	56.56	57	63
Yellowstone	56.19	58	62

**Presence of Elders under 35
by Annual Conference
2008 to 2010**

CONFERENCE	2010 Elders under 35	2010 Elders under 35	2010 Elders	2009 Elders under 35	2009 Elders under 35	2009 Elders	2008 Elders under 35	2008 Elders under 35	2008 Elders
Alabama-West Florida	8.10%	23	284	5.56%	16	288	8.51%	24	282
Alaska Missionary	0.00%	0	4	33.33%	1	3	0.00%	0	3
Arkansas	8.09%	22	272	8.61%	23	267	9.29%	25	269
Baltimore-Washington	4.18%	17	407	4.51%	19	421	4.17%	18	432
California-Nevada	2.93%	9	307	2.56%	8	313	3.15%	10	317
California-Pacific	2.65%	10	378	3.15%	12	381	2.72%	11	405
Central Pennsylvania	5.86%	18	307	6.56%	20	305	7.02%	21	299
Central Texas	9.92%	25	252	8.20%	21	256	7.54%	19	252
Dakotas	4.73%	7	148	5.59%	8	143	7.53%	11	146
Desert Southwest	3.03%	4	132	3.76%	5	133	3.70%	5	135
Detroit	3.82%	11	288	4.07%	12	295	5.56%	17	306
East Ohio	3.83%	14	366	4.66%	18	386	4.90%	20	408
Eastern Pennsylvania	1.70%	5	294	1.74%	5	288	2.36%	7	297
Florida	3.89%	19	489	4.40%	22	500	5.62%	29	516
Greater New Jersey	4.35%	17	391	3.76%	15	399	2.86%	11	384
Holston	9.50%	32	337	9.82%	32	326	7.30%	23	315
Illinois Great Rivers	5.66%	21	371	4.59%	17	370	3.62%	14	387
Indiana	5.75%	34	591	5.35%	32	598	5.02%	30	598
Iowa	4.81%	19	395	4.63%	18	389	4.36%	17	390
Kansas East	4.52%	7	155	4.46%	7	157	6.79%	11	162
Kansas West	6.29%	11	175	5.78%	10	173	6.40%	11	172
Kentucky	4.44%	12	270	3.69%	10	271	2.20%	6	273
Louisiana	10.39%	24	231	7.96%	18	226	8.05%	19	236
Memphis	4.52%	8	177	3.93%	7	178	3.76%	7	186
Minnesota	6.75%	17	252	6.00%	15	250	5.28%	13	246
Mississippi	11.11%	41	369	11.11%	41	369	8.79%	32	364
Missouri	6.65%	22	331	6.12%	20	327	6.19%	21	339
Nebraska	2.44%	4	164	2.40%	4	167	1.20%	2	166
New England	1.69%	5	296	2.65%	8	302	2.52%	7	278
New Mexico	5.05%	5	99	4.21%	4	95	5.26%	5	95
New York	2.48%	8	323	2.42%	7	289	2.65%	8	302
North Alabama	7.83%	26	332	6.78%	23	339	8.50%	30	353

**Presence of Elders under 35
by Annual Conference
2008 to 2010, continued**

CONFERENCE	2010 Elders under 35	2010 Elders under 35	2010 Elders	2009 Elders under 35	2009 Elders under 35	2009 Elders	2008 Elders under 35	2008 Elders under 35	2008 Elders
North Carolina	7.06%	32	453	6.22%	28	450	5.49%	25	455
North Central New York	3.94%	5	127	4.03%	5	124	3.65%	5	137
North Georgia	6.43%	37	575	6.06%	35	578	6.45%	38	589
North Texas	3.30%	9	273	6.25%	17	272	5.88%	16	272
Northern Illinois	5.71%	18	315	5.47%	17	311	4.09%	13	318
Northwest Texas	7.63%	9	118	6.19%	7	113	5.98%	7	117
OK Indian Missionary	0.00%	0	14	0.00%	0	14	0.00%	0	13
Oklahoma	9.12%	30	329	8.51%	28	329	8.36%	28	335
Oregon-Idaho	5.45%	9	165	4.29%	6	140	4.79%	7	146
Pacific Northwest	3.81%	8	210	2.91%	6	206	3.43%	7	204
Peninsula-Delaware	1.70%	3	176	1.71%	3	175	1.08%	2	186
Red Bird Missionary	0.00%	0	2	0.00%	0	0	0.00%	0	0
Rio Grande	0.00%	0	41	0.00%	0	42	0.00%	0	38
Rocky Mountain	5.12%	11	215	5.66%	12	212	4.55%	10	220
South Carolina	5.84%	27	462	5.98%	28	468	6.67%	32	480
South Georgia	6.25%	18	288	6.57%	19	289	5.19%	15	289
Southwest Texas	3.42%	8	234	2.59%	6	232	3.23%	8	248
Tennessee	8.29%	17	205	4.90%	10	204	6.06%	12	198
Texas	5.44%	23	423	4.88%	21	430	4.65%	20	430
Troy	2.08%	2	96	1.06%	1	94	1.11%	1	90
Virginia	8.40%	56	667	6.94%	46	663	6.55%	43	656
West Michigan	1.92%	4	208	2.79%	6	215	2.76%	6	217
West Ohio	2.40%	14	584	2.55%	15	588	2.99%	18	603
West Virginia	6.67%	16	240	7.05%	17	241	5.20%	13	250
Western New York	3.17%	4	126	2.50%	3	120	3.15%	4	127
Western North Carolina	7.54%	57	756	8.36%	62	742	8.12%	60	739
Western Pennsylvania	4.23%	16	378	3.96%	15	379	4.33%	17	393
Wisconsin	4.55%	12	264	4.17%	11	264	5.36%	14	261
Wyoming	2.63%	3	114	2.68%	3	112	3.64%	4	110
Yellowstone	2.08%	1	48	2.33%	1	43	2.17%	1	46
Total	5.47%	946	17,291	5.25%	906	17,254	5.21%	910	17,480

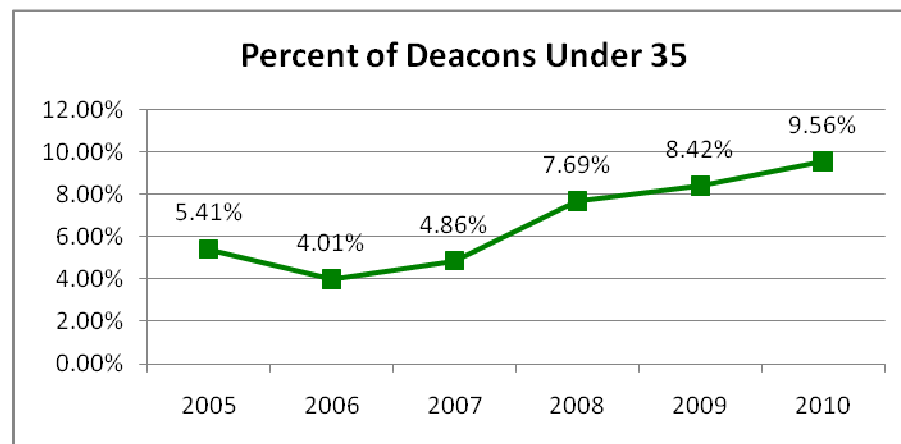
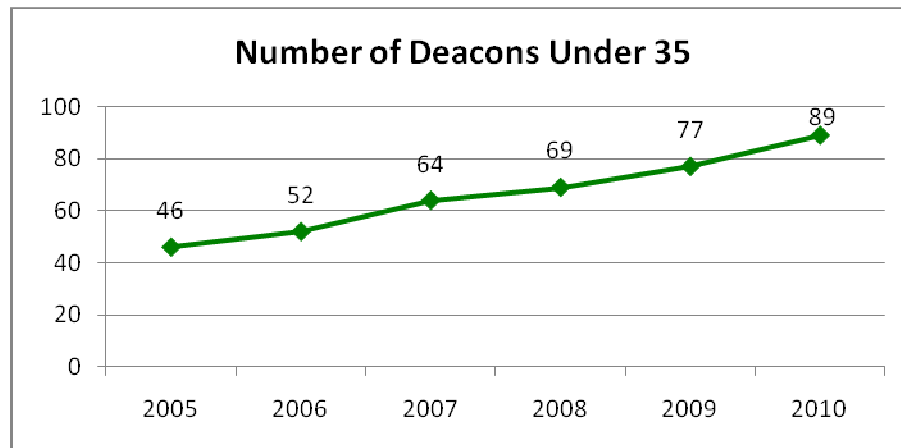
**Presence of Elders under 35
by 2010 Percentage
2008 to 2010**

CONFERENCE	2010 Elders under 35	2010 Elders under 35	2010 Elders	2009 Elders under 35	2009 Elders under 35	2009 Elders	2008 Elders under 35	2008 Elders under 35	2008 Elders
Mississippi	11.11%	41	369	11.11%	41	369	8.79%	32	364
Louisiana	10.39%	24	231	7.96%	18	226	8.05%	19	236
Central Texas	9.92%	25	252	8.20%	21	256	7.54%	19	252
Holston	9.50%	32	337	9.82%	32	326	7.30%	23	315
Oklahoma	9.12%	30	329	8.51%	28	329	8.36%	28	335
Virginia	8.40%	56	667	6.94%	46	663	6.55%	43	656
Tennessee	8.29%	17	205	4.90%	10	204	6.06%	12	198
Alabama-West Florida	8.10%	23	284	5.56%	16	288	8.51%	24	282
Arkansas	8.09%	22	272	8.61%	23	267	9.29%	25	269
North Alabama	7.83%	26	332	6.78%	23	339	8.50%	30	353
Northwest Texas	7.63%	9	118	6.19%	7	113	5.98%	7	117
Western North Carolina	7.54%	57	756	8.36%	62	742	8.12%	60	739
North Carolina	7.06%	32	453	6.22%	28	450	5.49%	25	455
Minnesota	6.75%	17	252	6.00%	15	250	5.28%	13	246
West Virginia	6.67%	16	240	7.05%	17	241	5.20%	13	250
Missouri	6.65%	22	331	6.12%	20	327	6.19%	21	339
North Georgia	6.43%	37	575	6.06%	35	578	6.45%	38	589
Kansas West	6.29%	11	175	5.78%	10	173	6.40%	11	172
South Georgia	6.25%	18	288	6.57%	19	289	5.19%	15	289
Central Pennsylvania	5.86%	18	307	6.56%	20	305	7.02%	21	299
South Carolina	5.84%	27	462	5.98%	28	468	6.67%	32	480
Indiana	5.75%	34	591	5.35%	32	598	5.02%	30	598
Northern Illinois	5.71%	18	315	5.47%	17	311	4.09%	13	318
Illinois Great Rivers	5.66%	21	371	4.59%	17	370	3.62%	14	387
Oregon-Idaho	5.45%	9	165	4.29%	6	140	4.79%	7	146
Texas	5.44%	23	423	4.88%	21	430	4.65%	20	430
Rocky Mountain	5.12%	11	215	5.66%	12	212	4.55%	10	220
New Mexico	5.05%	5	99	4.21%	4	95	5.26%	5	95
Iowa	4.81%	19	395	4.63%	18	389	4.36%	17	390
Dakotas	4.73%	7	148	5.59%	8	143	7.53%	11	146
Wisconsin	4.55%	12	264	4.17%	11	264	5.36%	14	261

**Presence of Elders under 35
by 2010 Percentage
2008 to 2010, continued**

CONFERENCE	2010 Elders under 35	2010 Elders under 35	2010 Elders	2009 Elders under 35	2009 Elders under 35	2009 Elders	2008 Elders under 35	2008 Elders under 35	2008 Elders
Memphis	4.52%	8	177	3.93%	7	178	3.76%	7	186
Kansas East	4.52%	7	155	4.46%	7	157	6.79%	11	162
Kentucky	4.44%	12	270	3.69%	10	271	2.20%	6	273
Greater New Jersey	4.35%	17	391	3.76%	15	399	2.86%	11	384
Western Pennsylvania	4.23%	16	378	3.96%	15	379	4.33%	17	393
Baltimore-Washington	4.18%	17	407	4.51%	19	421	4.17%	18	432
North Central New York	3.94%	5	127	4.03%	5	124	3.65%	5	137
Florida	3.89%	19	489	4.40%	22	500	5.62%	29	516
East Ohio	3.83%	14	366	4.66%	18	386	4.90%	20	408
Detroit	3.82%	11	288	4.07%	12	295	5.56%	17	306
Pacific Northwest	3.81%	8	210	2.91%	6	206	3.43%	7	204
Southwest Texas	3.42%	8	234	2.59%	6	232	3.23%	8	248
North Texas	3.30%	9	273	6.25%	17	272	5.88%	16	272
Western New York	3.17%	4	126	2.50%	3	120	3.15%	4	127
Desert Southwest	3.03%	4	132	3.76%	5	133	3.70%	5	135
California-Nevada	2.93%	9	307	2.56%	8	313	3.15%	10	317
California-Pacific	2.65%	10	378	3.15%	12	381	2.72%	11	405
Wyoming	2.63%	3	114	2.68%	3	112	3.64%	4	110
New York	2.48%	8	323	2.42%	7	289	2.65%	8	302
Nebraska	2.44%	4	164	2.40%	4	167	1.20%	2	166
West Ohio	2.40%	14	584	2.55%	15	588	2.99%	18	603
Troy	2.08%	2	96	1.06%	1	94	1.11%	1	90
Yellowstone	2.08%	1	48	2.33%	1	43	2.17%	1	46
West Michigan	1.92%	4	208	2.79%	6	215	2.76%	6	217
Peninsula-Delaware	1.70%	3	176	1.71%	3	175	1.08%	2	186
Eastern Pennsylvania	1.70%	5	294	1.74%	5	288	2.36%	7	297
New England	1.69%	5	296	2.65%	8	302	2.52%	7	278
Alaska Missionary	0.00%	0	4	33.33%	1	3	0.00%	0	3
OK Indian Missionary	0.00%	0	14	0.00%	0	14	0.00%	0	13
Red Bird Missionary	0.00%	0	2	0.00%	0	0	0.00%	0	0
Rio Grande	0.00%	0	41	0.00%	0	42	0.00%	0	38
Total	5.47%	946	17,291	5.25%	906	17,254	5.21%	910	17,480

Ordained deacons as we have now in the United Methodist Church are relatively new, making trend comparisons over many years difficult; however, we do report current age data. We include *not only those who have been ordained deacon but also those who have been commissioned on the deacon track but not yet ordained*. Readers should keep in mind that the number of total deacons is significantly lower in this report than their presence in the denomination because more deacons than other clergy work in employment settings with pension plans other than through the General Board.



Median, Average, and Mode Ages - Deacons by Year

Year	Median* Age	Average Age	Mode* Age
2006	53	51.67	50
2007	52	51.40	51
2008	53	51.34	-
2009	53	51.42	53
2010	54	51.61	54

*Median - half older, half younger *Mode - single age most represented

*Some groups have no mode value because no unique mode exists--no age occurred more frequently than another.

Gender Breakdown within Age Cohorts – Deacons

	Men	Under 35	35 - 54	55 - 72
2007		37%	32%	19%
2008		36%	34%	21%
2009		35%	33%	29%
2010		38%	32%	24%
	Women	Under 35	35 - 54	55 - 72
2007		63%	68%	81%
2008		64%	66%	79%
2009		65%	67%	71%
2010		62%	68%	76%

Deacons Under 35 by Jurisdiction

	2010	2009	2008
Jurisdiction			
North Central	20	14	11
Northeastern	5	3	3
South Central	18	18	20
Southeastern	45	40	33
Western	1	2	1
Total	89	77	68

Data on Age Trends for Deacons 2006 – 2010

Year	No. of Deacons	No. of Deacons Under 35	% Deacons Under 35	No. of Deacons 35-54	% Deacons 35-54	No. of Deacons 55-72	% Deacons 55-72
2006	844	52	6.16%	438	51.90%	354	41.94%
2007	902	64	7.10%	457	50.67%	381	42.24%
2008	897	69	7.69%	441	49.16%	387	43.14%
2009	915	77	8.42%	438	47.87%	400	43.72%
2010	930	89	9.57%	419	45.05%	422	45.38%

**Presence of Deacons under 35
by Annual Conference
2008 to 2010**

CONFERENCE NAME	% under 35 in 2010	Total under 35 2010	Deacons Total 2010	% under 35 in 2009	Total under 35 2009	Deacons Total 2010	% younger than 35 in 2008	Total under 35 2008	Deacons Total 2008
Alabama-West Florida	18.92%	7	37	13.89%	5	36	11.76%	4	34
Alaska Missionary	0.00%	0	0	0.00%	0	0	0.00%	0	0
Arkansas	0.00%	0	16	0.00%	0	19	5.88%	1	17
Baltimore-Washington	0.00%	0	23	0.00%	0	23	0.00%	0	23
California-Nevada	0.00%	0	7	9.09%	1	11	11.11%	1	9
California-Pacific	5.88%	1	17	5.26%	1	19	0.00%	0	17
Central Pennsylvania	14.29%	1	7	14.29%	1	7	14.29%	1	7
Central Texas	11.54%	3	26	7.69%	2	26	6.90%	2	29
Dakotas	0.00%	0	2	0.00%	0	4	0.00%	0	5
Desert Southwest	0.00%	0	11	0.00%	0	11	0.00%	0	11
Detroit	22.22%	4	18	12.50%	2	16	6.67%	1	15
East Ohio	6.25%	1	16	0.00%	0	18	0.00%	0	18
Eastern Pennsylvania	0.00%	0	6	0.00%	0	6	0.00%	0	5
Florida	6.67%	2	30	9.38%	3	32	6.06%	2	33
Greater New Jersey	16.67%	3	18	12.50%	2	16	12.50%	2	16
Holston	15.38%	2	13	8.33%	1	12	0.00%	0	9
Illinois Great Rivers	0.00%	0	10	0.00%	0	10	0.00%	0	11
Indiana	15.79%	3	19	0.00%	0	16	0.00%	0	17
Iowa	15.38%	2	13	7.69%	1	13	0.00%	0	11
Kansas East	12.50%	1	8	0.00%	0	8	0.00%	0	9
Kansas West	0.00%	0	11	0.00%	0	7	0.00%	0	6
Kentucky	3.70%	1	27	7.41%	2	27	4.00%	1	25
Louisiana	9.09%	2	22	9.09%	2	22	4.76%	1	21
Memphis	8.33%	1	12	8.33%	1	12	18.18%	2	11
Minnesota	20.00%	3	15	18.75%	3	16	12.50%	2	16
Mississippi	8.00%	2	25	8.33%	2	24	7.69%	2	26
Missouri	0.00%	0	20	0.00%	0	20	6.25%	1	16
Nebraska	0.00%	0	1	0.00%	0	1	0.00%	0	1
New England	33.33%	1	3	0.00%	0	4	0.00%	0	4
New Mexico	0.00%	0	8	0.00%	0	7	0.00%	0	7
New York	0.00%	0	5	0.00%	0	3	0.00%	0	2
North Alabama	0.00%	0	4	7.69%	1	13	6.67%	1	15

**Presence of Deacons under 35
by Annual Conference
2008 to 2010, continued**

CONFERENCE NAME	% under 35 in 2010	Total under 35 2010	Deacons Total 2010	% under 35 in 2009	Total under 35 2009	Deacons Total 2009	% younger than 35 in 2008	Total under 35 2008	Deacons Total 2008
North Carolina	15.38%	2	13	0.00%	0	22	0.00%	0	22
North Central New York	0.00%	0	24	0.00%	0	3	0.00%	0	2
North Georgia	18.52%	10	54	19.61%	10	51	15.38%	8	52
North Texas	7.89%	3	38	13.51%	5	37	11.43%	4	35
Northern Illinois	0.00%	0	5	27.78%	5	18	26.32%	5	19
Northwest Texas	26.32%	5	19	0.00%	0	5	0.00%	0	5
Oklahoma	18.42%	7	38	16.67%	6	36	22.86%	8	35
OK Indian Missionary	0.00%	0	1	0.00%	0	1	0.00%	0	0
Oregon-Idaho	0.00%	0	9	0.00%	0	6	0.00%	0	6
Pacific Northwest	0.00%	0	9	0.00%	0	8	0.00%	0	9
Peninsula-Delaware	0.00%	0	3	0.00%	0	2	0.00%	0	3
Red Bird Missionary	0.00%	0	0	0.00%	0	0	0.00%	0	0
Rio Grande	0.00%	0	1	50.00%	1	2	50.00%	1	2
Rocky Mountain	0.00%	0	24	0.00%	0	23	0.00%	0	23
South Carolina	11.54%	3	26	4.35%	1	23	4.35%	1	23
South Georgia	16.67%	2	12	15.38%	2	13	0.00%	0	11
Southwest Texas	7.69%	1	13	14.29%	2	14	14.29%	2	14
Tennessee	17.65%	6	34	11.43%	4	35	12.12%	4	33
Texas	3.70%	1	27	0.00%	0	24	3.85%	1	26
Troy	0.00%	0	1	0.00%	0	0	0.00%	0	0
Virginia	4.17%	1	24	10.00%	3	30	9.38%	3	32
West Michigan	0.00%	0	5	0.00%	0	4	0.00%	0	4
West Ohio	9.09%	2	22	12.00%	3	25	8.33%	2	24
West Virginia	0.00%	0	11	0.00%	0	11	0.00%	0	8
Western New York	0.00%	0	5	0.00%	0	5	0.00%	0	6
Western North Carolina	13.04%	6	46	11.63%	5	43	12.20%	5	41
Western Pennsylvania	0.00%	0	9	0.00%	0	9	0.00%	0	9
Wisconsin	0.00%	0	5	0.00%	0	5	20.00%	1	5
Wyoming	0.00%	0	1	0.00%	0	1	0.00%	0	1
Yellowstone	0.00%	0	1	0.00%	0	1	0.00%	0	1
Total	9.57%	89	930	8.42%	77	915	7.69%	69	897

**Presence of Deacons under 35
by 2010 Percentage
2008 to 2010**

CONFERENCE NAME	% under 35 in 2010	Total under 35 2010	Deacons Total 2010	% under 35 in 2009	Total under 35 2009	Deacons Total 2009	% younger than 35 in 2008	Total under 35 2008	Deacons Total 2008
New England	33.33%	1	3	0.00%	0	4	0.00%	0	4
Northwest Texas	26.32%	5	19	0.00%	0	5	0.00%	0	5
Detroit	22.22%	4	18	12.50%	2	16	6.67%	1	15
Minnesota	20.00%	3	15	18.75%	3	16	12.50%	2	16
Alabama-West Florida	18.92%	7	37	13.89%	5	36	11.76%	4	34
North Georgia	18.52%	10	54	19.61%	10	51	15.38%	8	52
Oklahoma	18.42%	7	38	16.67%	6	36	22.86%	8	35
Tennessee	17.65%	6	34	11.43%	4	35	12.12%	4	33
Greater New Jersey	16.67%	3	18	12.50%	2	16	12.50%	2	16
South Georgia	16.67%	2	12	15.38%	2	13	0.00%	0	11
Indiana	15.79%	3	19	0.00%	0	16	0.00%	0	17
Holston	15.38%	2	13	8.33%	1	12	0.00%	0	9
Iowa	15.38%	2	13	7.69%	1	13	0.00%	0	11
North Carolina	15.38%	2	13	0.00%	0	22	0.00%	0	22
Central Pennsylvania	14.29%	1	7	14.29%	1	7	14.29%	1	7
Western North Carolina	13.04%	6	46	11.63%	5	43	12.20%	5	41
Kansas East	12.50%	1	8	0.00%	0	8	0.00%	0	9
Central Texas	11.54%	3	26	7.69%	2	26	6.90%	2	29
South Carolina	11.54%	3	26	4.35%	1	23	4.35%	1	23
Louisiana	9.09%	2	22	9.09%	2	22	4.76%	1	21
West Ohio	9.09%	2	22	12.00%	3	25	8.33%	2	24
Memphis	8.33%	1	12	8.33%	1	12	18.18%	2	11
Mississippi	8.00%	2	25	8.33%	2	24	7.69%	2	26
North Texas	7.89%	3	38	13.51%	5	37	11.43%	4	35
Southwest Texas	7.69%	1	13	14.29%	2	14	14.29%	2	14
Florida	6.67%	2	30	9.38%	3	32	6.06%	2	33
East Ohio	6.25%	1	16	0.00%	0	18	0.00%	0	18
California-Pacific	5.88%	1	17	5.26%	1	19	0.00%	0	17
Virginia	4.17%	1	24	10.00%	3	30	9.38%	3	32
Kentucky	3.70%	1	27	7.41%	2	27	4.00%	1	25
Texas	3.70%	1	27	0.00%	0	24	3.85%	1	26
Alaska Missionary	0.00%	0	0	0.00%	0	0	0.00%	0	0

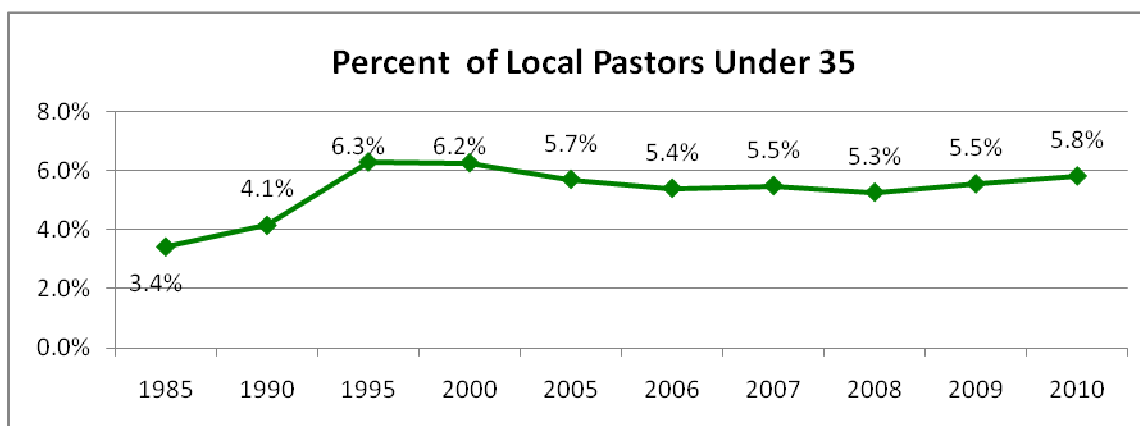
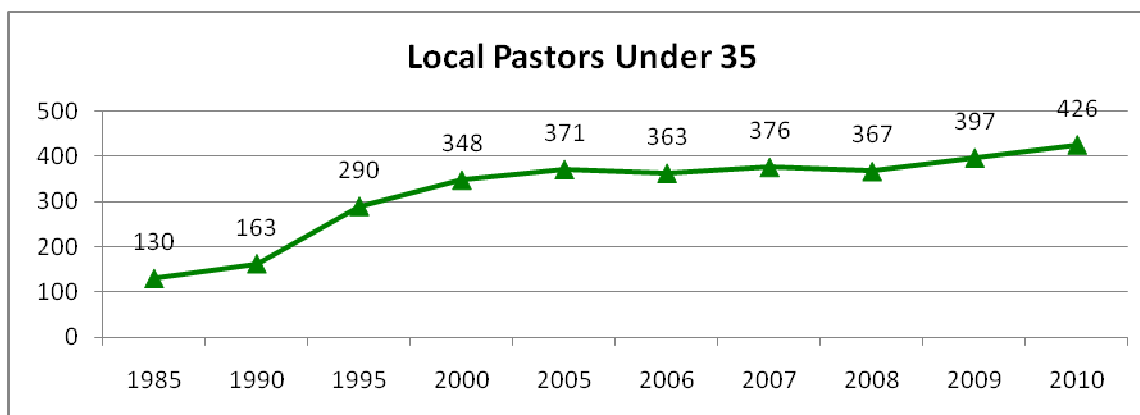
Deacons

Presence of Deacons under 35 by 2010 Percentage 2008 to 2010, continued

CONFERENCE NAME	% under 35 in 2010	Total under 35 2010	Deacons Total 2010	% under 35 in 2009	Total under 35 2009	Deacons Total 2009	% younger than 35 in 2008	Total under 35 2008	Deacons Total 2008
Arkansas	0.00%	0	16	0.00%	0	19	5.88%	1	17
Baltimore-Washington	0.00%	0	23	0.00%	0	23	0.00%	0	23
California-Nevada	0.00%	0	7	9.09%	1	11	11.11%	1	9
Dakotas	0.00%	0	2	0.00%	0	4	0.00%	0	5
Desert Southwest	0.00%	0	11	0.00%	0	11	0.00%	0	11
Eastern Pennsylvania	0.00%	0	6	0.00%	0	6	0.00%	0	5
Illinois Great Rivers	0.00%	0	10	0.00%	0	10	0.00%	0	11
Kansas West	0.00%	0	11	0.00%	0	7	0.00%	0	6
Missouri	0.00%	0	20	0.00%	0	20	6.25%	1	16
Nebraska	0.00%	0	1	0.00%	0	1	0.00%	0	1
New Mexico	0.00%	0	8	0.00%	0	7	0.00%	0	7
New York	0.00%	0	5	0.00%	0	3	0.00%	0	2
North Alabama	0.00%	0	4	7.69%	1	13	6.67%	1	15
North Central New York	0.00%	0	24	0.00%	0	3	0.00%	0	2
Northern Illinois	0.00%	0	5	27.78%	5	18	26.32%	5	19
OK Indian Missionary	0.00%	0	1	0.00%	0	1	0.00%	0	0
Oregon-Idaho	0.00%	0	9	0.00%	0	6	0.00%	0	6
Pacific Northwest	0.00%	0	9	0.00%	0	8	0.00%	0	9
Peninsula-Delaware	0.00%	0	3	0.00%	0	2	0.00%	0	3
Red Bird Missionary	0.00%	0	0	0.00%	0	0	0.00%	0	0
Rio Grande	0.00%	0	1	50.00%	1	2	50.00%	1	2
Rocky Mountain	0.00%	0	24	0.00%	0	23	0.00%	0	23
Troy	0.00%	0	1	0.00%	0	0	0.00%	0	0
West Michigan	0.00%	0	5	0.00%	0	4	0.00%	0	4
West Virginia	0.00%	0	11	0.00%	0	11	0.00%	0	8
Western New York	0.00%	0	5	0.00%	0	5	0.00%	0	6
Western Pennsylvania	0.00%	0	9	0.00%	0	9	0.00%	0	9
Wisconsin	0.00%	0	5	0.00%	0	5	20.00%	1	5
Wyoming	0.00%	0	1	0.00%	0	1	0.00%	0	1
Yellowstone	0.00%	0	1	0.00%	0	1	0.00%	0	1
Total	9.57%	89	930	8.42%	77	915	7.69%	69	897

Local Pastors

For local pastors, full-time and part-time local pastors are included.



Data on Age Trends for Local Pastors 1985 - 2010

Year	No. of Local Pastors	Local Pastors Under 35	% Under 35	Local Pastors 35-54	% 35-54	Local Pastors 55-72	% 55-72
1985	3,804	130	3.4%	2,212	58.1%	1,462	38.4%
1990	3,936	163	4.1%	2,244	57.0%	1,529	38.8%
1995	4,622	290	6.3%	2,641	57.1%	1,691	36.6%
2000	5,571	348	6.2%	3,109	55.8%	2,114	37.9%
2005	6,517	371	5.7%	3,213	49.3%	2,933	45.0%
2006	6,731	363	5.4%	3,201	47.6%	3,167	47.1%
2007	6,863	376	5.5%	3,166	46.1%	3,321	48.4%
2008	6,981	367	5.3%	3,094	44.3%	3,520	50.4%
2009	7,164	397	5.5%	3,039	42.4%	3,728	52.0%
2010	7,341	426	5.8%	2,932	39.9%	3,983	54.3%

**Median, Average, and Mode Ages – Local Pastors
by Year**

	Median Age*	Average Age	Mode Age*
1985	51	49.6	59
1990	51	50.4	60
1995	51	50.3	48
2000	52	50.8	53
2005	53	52.2	58
2006	54	52.5	59
2007	54	52.8	60
2008	55	53.3	59
2009	55	53.5	60
2010	55	53.8	51

* Median – half older, half younger

* Mode – single age most represented

Gender Breakdown within Age Cohorts - Local Pastors

	Men	Under 35	35 - 54	55 - 72
2007		76%	71%	69%
2008		75%	70%	68%
2009		77%	70%	68%
2010		77%	70%	67%
	Women	Under 35	35 - 54	55 - 72
2007		24%	29%	31%
2008		25%	30%	32%
2009		23%	30%	32%
2010		23%	30%	33%

Local Pastors under 35 by Jurisdictions

	2010	2009	2008
Jurisdiction			
North Central	62	57	46
Northeastern	79	91	76
South Central	99	99	93
Southeastern	171	130	135
Western	15	20	17
Total	426	397	367

**Presence of Local Pastors under 35
by Annual Conference
2008 to 2010**

CONFERENCE NAME	% under 35 in 2010	# under 35 in 2010	Local Pastors Total 2010	% under 35 in 2009	# under 35 in 2009	Local Pastors Total 2009	% under 35 in 2008	# under 35 in 2008	Local Pastors Total 2008
Alabama-West Florida	7.02%	12	171	7.98%	13	163	6.76%	10	148
Alaska Missionary	0.00%	0	2	25.00%	1	4	0.00%	0	2
Arkansas	3.98%	8	201	3.72%	7	188	4.74%	9	190
Baltimore-Washington	8.16%	8	98	3.96%	4	101	4.12%	4	97
California-Nevada	5.88%	3	51	3.70%	2	54	1.85%	1	54
California-Pacific	9.86%	7	71	12.66%	10	79	12.33%	9	73
Central Pennsylvania	6.25%	10	160	8.92%	14	157	7.53%	11	146
Central Texas	2.70%	1	37	5.41%	2	37	7.50%	3	40
Dakotas	3.03%	1	33	5.13%	2	39	6.45%	2	31
Desert Southwest	3.45%	1	29	0.00%	0	28	0.00%	0	26
Detroit	1.15%	1	87	2.20%	2	91	1.11%	1	90
East Ohio	5.71%	12	210	2.55%	5	196	2.58%	5	194
Eastern Pennsylvania	2.86%	4	140	5.13%	6	117	2.83%	3	106
Florida	5.81%	10	172	4.00%	6	150	3.47%	5	144
Greater New Jersey	4.88%	8	164	6.62%	10	151	6.72%	9	134
Holston	4.17%	6	144	3.25%	5	154	6.63%	11	166
Illinois Great Rivers	5.14%	9	175	5.62%	10	178	4.09%	7	171
Indiana	5.39%	9	167	2.88%	12	416	5.79%	11	190
Iowa	2.94%	5	170	3.78%	7	185	3.21%	6	187
Kansas East	10.94%	7	64	9.09%	6	66	10.45%	7	67
Kansas West	8.00%	6	75	5.33%	4	75	0.00%	0	67
Kentucky	9.88%	16	162	6.50%	8	123	6.50%	8	123
Louisiana	5.33%	8	150	9.80%	15	153	8.05%	12	149
Memphis	8.47%	5	59	8.06%	5	62	12.31%	8	65
Minnesota	4.65%	2	43	6.98%	3	43	0.00%	0	39
Mississippi	5.67%	16	282	4.94%	12	243	3.40%	8	235
Missouri	6.90%	16	232	8.48%	19	224	9.01%	21	233
Nebraska	6.94%	5	72	4.55%	3	66	3.45%	2	58
New England	5.00%	6	120	4.50%	5	111	3.23%	3	93
New Mexico	0.00%	0	27	0.00%	0	24	0.00%	0	24
New York	7.02%	4	57	8.62%	5	58	9.84%	6	61
North Alabama	8.27%	22	266	6.20%	16	258	4.44%	11	248

**Presence of Local Pastors under 35
by Annual Conference
2008 to 2010, continued**

CONFERENCE NAME	% under 35 in 2010	# under 35 in 2010	Local Pastors Total 2010	% under 35 in 2009	# under 35 in 2009	Local Pastors Total 2009	% under 35 in 2008	# under 35 in 2008	Local Pastors Total 2008
North Carolina	3.88%	8	206	5.74%	12	209	8.17%	17	208
North Central New York	1.11%	1	90	0.00%	0	83	1.31%	1	76
North Georgia	7.48%	24	321	7.30%	23	315	6.78%	20	295
North Texas	4.00%	4	100	4.17%	4	96	6.28%	6	88
Northern Illinois	4.62%	6	65	2.86%	2	70	1.41%	1	71
Northwest Texas	11.76%	3	51	8.51%	4	47	8.70%	4	46
Oklahoma	10.85%	14	129	9.60%	12	125	7.02%	8	114
OK Indian Missionary	5.56%	1	18	16.00%	4	25	11.11%	3	27
Oregon-Idaho	7.14%	2	28	14.29%	4	28	16.00%	4	25
Pacific Northwest	7.14%	2	28	11.54%	3	26	4.55%	1	22
Peninsula-Delaware	3.70%	3	81	1.28%	1	78	0.00%	0	77
Red Bird Missionary	0.00%	0	6	0.00%	0	9	0.00%	0	9
Rio Grande	0.00%	0	18	0.00%	0	19	0.00%	0	16
Rocky Mountain	0.00%	0	50	0.00%	0	46	4.26%	2	47
South Carolina	3.98%	8	201	4.32%	8	185	3.65%	7	192
South Georgia	10.53%	16	152	5.48%	8	146	6.62%	9	136
Southwest Texas	10.48%	13	124	8.62%	10	116	4.63%	5	108
Tennessee	5.99%	10	167	7.41%	12	162	6.29%	10	159
Texas	7.60%	13	171	5.23%	9	172	7.39%	13	176
Troy	1.96%	1	51	0.00%	0	50	1.96%	1	51
Virginia	5.45%	15	275	5.73%	16	279	6.60%	19	288
West Michigan	2.88%	3	104	2.88%	3	104	1.98%	2	101
West Ohio	7.81%	10	128	6.52%	9	138	6.43%	9	140
West Virginia	4.17%	10	240	3.75%	9	240	2.95%	7	237
Western New York	12.50%	9	72	14.71%	10	68	7.25%	5	69
Western North Carolina	4.26%	11	258	3.80%	10	263	5.54%	15	271
Western Pennsylvania	2.83%	3	106	1.94%	2	103	2.08%	2	96
Wisconsin	4.21%	4	95	2.25%	2	89	2.33%	2	86
Wyoming	4.40%	4	91	1.23%	1	81	1.49%	1	67
Yellowstone	0.00%	0	24	0.00%	0	26	0.00%	0	25
Total	5.80%	426	7,341	5.37%	397	7,392	5.26%	367	6,981

**Presence of Local Pastors under 35
by 2010 Percentage
2008 to 2010**

CONFERENCE NAME	% under 35 in 2010	# under 35 in 2010	Local Pastors Total 2010	% under 35 in 2009	# under 35 in 2009	Local Pastors Total 2009	% under 35 in 2008	# under 35 in 2008	Local Pastors Total 2008
Western New York	12.50%	9	72	14.71%	10	68	7.25%	5	69
Northwest Texas	11.76%	3	51	8.51%	4	47	8.70%	4	46
Kansas East	10.94%	7	64	9.09%	6	66	10.45%	7	67
Oklahoma	10.85%	14	129	9.60%	12	125	7.02%	8	114
South Georgia	10.53%	16	152	5.48%	8	146	6.62%	9	136
Southwest Texas	10.48%	13	124	8.62%	10	116	4.63%	5	108
Kentucky	9.88%	16	162	6.50%	8	123	6.50%	8	123
California-Pacific	9.86%	7	71	12.66%	10	79	12.33%	9	73
Memphis	8.47%	5	59	8.06%	5	62	12.31%	8	65
North Alabama	8.27%	22	266	6.20%	16	258	4.44%	11	248
Baltimore-Washington	8.16%	8	98	3.96%	4	101	4.12%	4	97
Kansas West	8.00%	6	75	5.33%	4	75	0.00%	0	67
West Ohio	7.81%	10	128	6.52%	9	138	6.43%	9	140
Texas	7.60%	13	171	5.23%	9	172	7.39%	13	176
North Georgia	7.48%	24	321	7.30%	23	315	6.78%	20	295
Oregon-Idaho	7.14%	2	28	14.29%	4	28	16.00%	4	25
Pacific Northwest	7.14%	2	28	11.54%	3	26	4.55%	1	22
Alabama-West Florida	7.02%	12	171	7.98%	13	163	6.76%	10	148
New York	7.02%	4	57	8.62%	5	58	9.84%	6	61
Nebraska	6.94%	5	72	4.55%	3	66	3.45%	2	58
Missouri	6.90%	16	232	8.48%	19	224	9.01%	21	233
Central Pennsylvania	6.25%	10	160	8.92%	14	157	7.53%	11	146
Tennessee	5.99%	10	167	7.41%	12	162	6.29%	10	159
California-Nevada	5.88%	3	51	3.70%	2	54	1.85%	1	54
Florida	5.81%	10	172	4.00%	6	150	3.47%	5	144
Total	5.80%	426	7,341	5.37%	397	7,392	5.26%	367	6,981
East Ohio	5.71%	12	210	2.55%	5	196	2.58%	5	194
Mississippi	5.67%	16	282	4.94%	12	243	3.40%	8	235
OK Indian Missionary	5.56%	1	18	16.00%	4	25	11.11%	3	27
Virginia	5.45%	15	275	5.73%	16	279	6.60%	19	288
Indiana	5.39%	9	167	2.88%	12	416	5.79%	11	190
Louisiana	5.33%	8	150	9.80%	15	153	8.05%	12	149

**Presence of Local Pastors under 35
by 2010 Percentage
2008 to 2010, continued**

CONFERENCE NAME	% under 35 in 2010	# under 35 in 2010	Local Pastors Total 2010	% under 35 in 2009	# under 35 in 2009	Local Pastors Total 2009	% under 35 in 2008	# under 35 in 2008	Local Pastors Total 2008
Illinois Great Rivers	5.14%	9	175	5.62%	10	178	4.09%	7	171
New England	5.00%	6	120	4.50%	5	111	3.23%	3	93
Greater New Jersey	4.88%	8	164	6.62%	10	151	6.72%	9	134
Minnesota	4.65%	2	43	6.98%	3	43	0.00%	0	39
Northern Illinois	4.62%	6	65	2.86%	2	70	1.41%	1	71
Wyoming	4.40%	4	91	1.23%	1	81	1.49%	1	67
Western North Carolina	4.26%	11	258	3.80%	10	263	5.54%	15	271
Wisconsin	4.21%	4	95	2.25%	2	89	2.33%	2	86
Holston	4.17%	6	144	3.25%	5	154	6.63%	11	166
West Virginia	4.17%	10	240	3.75%	9	240	2.95%	7	237
North Texas	4.00%	4	100	4.17%	4	96	6.28%	6	88
Arkansas	3.98%	8	201	3.72%	7	188	4.74%	9	190
South Carolina	3.98%	8	201	4.32%	8	185	3.65%	7	192
North Carolina	3.88%	8	206	5.74%	12	209	8.17%	17	208
Peninsula-Delaware	3.70%	3	81	1.28%	1	78	0.00%	0	77
Desert Southwest	3.45%	1	29	0.00%	0	28	0.00%	0	26
Dakotas	3.03%	1	33	5.13%	2	39	6.45%	2	31
Iowa	2.94%	5	170	3.78%	7	185	3.21%	6	187
West Michigan	2.88%	3	104	2.88%	3	104	1.98%	2	101
Eastern Pennsylvania	2.86%	4	140	5.13%	6	117	2.83%	3	106
Western Pennsylvania	2.83%	3	106	1.94%	2	103	2.08%	2	96
Central Texas	2.70%	1	37	5.41%	2	37	7.50%	3	40
Troy	1.96%	1	51	0.00%	0	50	1.96%	1	51
Detroit	1.15%	1	87	2.20%	2	91	1.11%	1	90
North Central New York	1.11%	1	90	0.00%	0	83	1.31%	1	76
Alaska Missionary	0.00%	0	2	25.00%	1	4	0.00%	0	2
New Mexico	0.00%	0	27	0.00%	0	24	0.00%	0	24
Red Bird Missionary	0.00%	0	6	0.00%	0	9	0.00%	0	9
Rio Grande	0.00%	0	18	0.00%	0	19	0.00%	0	16
Rocky Mountain	0.00%	0	50	0.00%	0	46	4.26%	2	47
Yellowstone	0.00%	0	24	0.00%	0	26	0.00%	0	25

Annual Conference Clergy by Age Group - Numeric

CONFERENCE NAME	Elders				Deacons				Local Pastors			
	Under 35	35 to 54	55 to 72	Total	Under 35	35 to 54	55 to 72	Total	Under 35	35 to 54	55 to 72	Total
Alabama-West Florida	23	140	121	284	7	24	6	37	12	67	92	171
Alaska Missionary	0	3	1	4	0	0	0	0	0	0	2	2
Arkansas	22	126	124	272	0	7	9	16	8	65	128	201
Baltimore-Washington	17	171	219	407	0	13	10	23	8	33	57	98
California-Nevada	9	123	175	307	0	4	3	7	3	16	32	51
California-Pacific	10	187	181	378	1	5	11	17	7	35	29	71
Central Pennsylvania	18	145	144	307	1	2	4	7	10	66	84	160
Central Texas	25	101	126	252	3	10	13	26	1	18	18	37
Dakotas	7	61	80	148	0	2	0	2	1	16	16	33
Desert Southwest	4	49	79	132	0	4	7	11	1	11	17	29
Detroit	11	125	152	288	4	8	6	18	1	23	63	87
East Ohio	14	158	194	366	1	4	11	16	12	84	114	210
Eastern Pennsylvania	5	137	152	294	0	4	2	6	4	58	78	140
Florida	19	237	233	489	2	11	17	30	10	74	88	172
Greater New Jersey	17	164	210	391	3	4	11	18	8	61	95	164
Holston	32	160	145	337	2	4	7	13	6	55	83	144
Illinois Great Rivers	21	167	183	371	0	2	8	10	9	65	101	175
Indiana	34	249	308	591	3	9	7	19	9	73	85	167
Iowa	19	167	209	395	2	9	2	13	5	61	104	170
Kansas East	7	59	89	155	1	6	1	8	7	22	35	64
Kansas West	11	62	102	175	0	3	8	11	6	29	40	75
Kentucky	12	126	132	270	1	12	14	27	16	74	72	162
Louisiana	24	108	99	231	2	6	14	22	8	56	86	150
Memphis	8	65	104	177	1	10	1	12	5	25	29	59
Minnesota	17	113	122	252	3	6	6	15	2	18	23	43
Mississippi	41	163	165	369	2	14	9	25	16	121	145	282
Missouri	22	159	150	331	0	11	9	20	16	99	117	232
Nebraska	4	65	95	164	0	1	0	1	5	24	43	72
New England	5	123	168	296	1	1	1	3	6	47	67	120
New Mexico	5	45	49	99	0	2	6	8	0	8	19	27
New York	8	117	198	323	0	1	4	5	4	24	29	57
North Alabama	26	167	139	332	2	6	5	13	22	112	132	266

Annual Conference Clergy by Age Group – Numeric (continued)

	Elders				Deacons				Local Pastors			
CONFERENCE NAME	Under 35	35 to 54	55 to 72	Total	Under 35	35 to 54	55 to 72	Total	Under 35	35 to 54	55 to 72	Total
North Carolina	32	221	200	453	0	9	15	24	8	80	118	206
North Central New York	5	46	76	127	0	3	1	4	1	30	59	90
North Georgia	37	283	255	575	10	25	19	54	24	153	144	321
North Texas	9	135	129	273	3	22	13	38	4	46	50	100
Northern Illinois	18	147	150	315	5	9	5	19	6	21	24	51
Northwest Texas	9	54	55	118	0	3	2	5	3	29	33	65
Oklahoma	30	145	154	329	7	15	16	38	14	47	68	129
OK Indian Missionary	0	2	12	14	0	1	0	1	1	7	10	18
Oregon-Idaho	9	61	95	165	0	2	7	9	2	7	19	28
Pacific Northwest	8	84	118	210	0	0	9	9	2	10	16	28
Peninsula-Delaware	3	71	102	176	0	1	2	3	3	29	49	81
Red Bird Missionary	0	0	2	2	0	0	0	0	0	4	2	6
Rio Grande	0	22	19	41	0	1	0	1	0	7	11	18
Rocky Mountain	11	86	118	215	0	12	12	24	0	22	28	50
South Carolina	27	184	251	462	3	14	9	26	8	67	126	201
South Georgia	18	129	141	288	2	6	4	12	16	70	66	152
Southwest Texas	8	90	136	234	1	5	7	13	13	43	68	124
Tennessee	17	85	103	205	6	16	12	34	10	74	83	167
Texas	23	206	194	423	1	8	18	27	13	63	95	171
Troy	2	33	61	96	0	0	1	1	1	18	32	51
Virginia	56	302	309	667	1	12	11	24	15	108	152	275
West Michigan	4	94	110	208	0	4	1	5	3	33	68	104
West Ohio	14	299	271	584	2	12	8	22	10	54	64	128
West Virginia	16	102	122	240	0	2	9	11	10	80	150	240
Western New York	4	54	68	126	0	5	0	5	9	35	28	72
Western North Carolina	57	377	322	756	6	24	16	46	11	128	119	258
Western Pennsylvania	16	172	190	378	0	1	8	9	3	43	60	106
Wisconsin	12	110	142	264	0	2	3	5	4	40	51	95
Wyoming	3	48	63	114	0	0	1	1	4	40	47	91
Yellowstone	1	14	33	48	0	0	1	1	0	4	20	24
Total	946	7,698	8,649	17,293	89	419	422	930	426	2,932	3,983	7,341

Annual Conference Clergy by Age Group - Percentage

CONFERENCE NAME	Elders			Deacons			Local Pastors		
	Under 35	35 to 54	55 to 72	Under 35	35 to 54	55 to 72	Under 35	35 to 54	55 to 72
Alabama-West Florida	8%	49%	43%	19%	65%	16%	7%	39%	54%
Alaska Missionary	0%	75%	25%	0%	0%	0%	0%	0%	100%
Arkansas	8%	46%	46%	0%	44%	56%	4%	32%	64%
Baltimore-Washington	4%	42%	54%	0%	57%	43%	8%	34%	58%
California-Nevada	3%	40%	57%	0%	57%	43%	6%	31%	63%
California-Pacific	3%	49%	48%	6%	29%	65%	10%	49%	41%
Central Pennsylvania	6%	47%	47%	14%	29%	57%	6%	41%	53%
Central Texas	10%	40%	50%	12%	38%	50%	3%	49%	49%
Dakotas	5%	41%	54%	0%	100%	0%	3%	48%	48%
Desert Southwest	3%	37%	60%	0%	36%	64%	3%	38%	59%
Detroit	4%	43%	53%	22%	44%	33%	1%	26%	72%
East Ohio	4%	43%	53%	6%	25%	69%	6%	40%	54%
Eastern Pennsylvania	2%	47%	52%	0%	67%	33%	3%	41%	56%
Florida	4%	48%	48%	7%	37%	57%	6%	43%	51%
Greater New Jersey	4%	42%	54%	17%	22%	61%	5%	37%	58%
Holston	9%	47%	43%	15%	31%	54%	4%	38%	58%
Illinois Great Rivers	6%	45%	49%	0%	20%	80%	5%	37%	58%
Indiana	6%	42%	52%	16%	47%	37%	5%	44%	51%
Iowa	5%	42%	53%	15%	69%	15%	3%	36%	61%
Kansas East	5%	38%	57%	13%	75%	13%	11%	34%	55%
Kansas West	6%	35%	58%	0%	27%	73%	8%	39%	53%
Kentucky	4%	47%	49%	4%	44%	52%	10%	46%	44%
Louisiana	10%	47%	43%	9%	27%	64%	5%	37%	57%
Memphis	5%	37%	59%	8%	83%	8%	8%	42%	49%
Minnesota	7%	45%	48%	20%	40%	40%	5%	42%	53%
Mississippi	11%	44%	45%	8%	56%	36%	6%	43%	51%
Missouri	7%	48%	45%	0%	55%	45%	7%	43%	50%
Nebraska	2%	40%	58%	0%	100%	0%	7%	33%	60%
New England	2%	42%	57%	33%	33%	33%	5%	39%	56%
New Mexico	5%	45%	49%	0%	25%	75%	0%	30%	70%
New York	2%	36%	61%	0%	20%	80%	7%	42%	51%
North Alabama	8%	50%	42%	15%	46%	38%	8%	42%	50%

Annual Conference Clergy by Age Group – Percentage (continued)

CONFERENCE NAME	Elders			Deacons			Local Pastors		
	Under 35	35 to 54	55 to 72	Under 35	35 to 54	55 to 72	Under 35	35 to 54	55 to 72
North Carolina	7%	49%	44%	0%	38%	63%	4%	39%	57%
North Central New York	4%	36%	60%	0%	75%	25%	1%	33%	66%
North Georgia	6%	49%	44%	19%	46%	35%	7%	48%	45%
North Texas	3%	49%	47%	8%	58%	34%	4%	46%	50%
Northern Illinois	6%	47%	48%	26%	47%	26%	12%	41%	47%
Northwest Texas	8%	46%	47%	0%	60%	40%	5%	45%	51%
Oklahoma	9%	44%	47%	18%	39%	42%	11%	36%	53%
OK Indian Missionary	0%	14%	86%	0%	100%	0%	6%	39%	56%
Oregon-Idaho	5%	37%	58%	0%	22%	78%	7%	25%	68%
Pacific Northwest	4%	40%	56%	0%	0%	100%	7%	36%	57%
Peninsula-Delaware	2%	40%	58%	0%	33%	67%	4%	36%	60%
Red Bird Missionary	0%	0%	100%	0%	0%	0%	0%	67%	33%
Rio Grande	0%	54%	46%	0%	100%	0%	0%	39%	61%
Rocky Mountain	5%	40%	55%	0%	50%	50%	0%	44%	56%
South Carolina	6%	40%	54%	12%	54%	35%	4%	33%	63%
South Georgia	6%	45%	49%	17%	50%	33%	11%	46%	43%
Southwest Texas	3%	38%	58%	8%	38%	54%	10%	35%	55%
Tennessee	8%	41%	50%	18%	47%	35%	6%	44%	50%
Texas	5%	49%	46%	4%	30%	67%	8%	37%	56%
Troy	2%	34%	64%	0%	0%	100%	2%	35%	63%
Virginia	8%	45%	46%	4%	50%	46%	5%	39%	55%
West Michigan	2%	45%	53%	0%	80%	20%	3%	32%	65%
West Ohio	2%	51%	46%	9%	55%	36%	8%	42%	50%
West Virginia	7%	43%	51%	0%	18%	82%	4%	33%	63%
Western New York	3%	43%	54%	0%	100%	0%	13%	49%	39%
Western North Carolina	8%	50%	43%	13%	52%	35%	4%	50%	46%
Western Pennsylvania	4%	46%	50%	0%	11%	89%	3%	41%	57%
Wisconsin	5%	42%	54%	0%	40%	60%	4%	42%	54%
Wyoming	3%	42%	55%	0%	0%	100%	4%	44%	52%
Yellowstone	2%	29%	69%	0%	0%	100%	0%	17%	83%
Total	5%	45%	50%	10%	45%	45%	6%	40%	54%

About the Lewis Center for Church Leadership

Established by Wesley Theological Seminary in 2003, the Lewis Center for Church Leadership has worked to help the United Methodist Church address its current challenges. The Center is building a vision for church leadership grounded in faith, informed by knowledge, and exercised in effective action. It seeks a holistic understanding of Christian leadership that brings together theology and management, scholarship and practice, research and application.

Committed to the broad goal of helping the church reach more people, younger people, and more diverse people, the Center focuses on improving leadership effectiveness and providing actionable insights and best practices to promote effective ministry. The Center seeks to be a trusted resource for church leadership, helping congregations and denominations serve, thrive, and grow. The Center staff of six, along with other researchers and consultants who assist with special projects, also draws on the expertise of the entire Wesley faculty and a wide array of gifted practitioners.

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Building a New Vision for Church Leadership

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