

- **Attendance** – While the percentage of members attending weekly services has increased over the past two decades in all jurisdictions, the NCJ and WJ have seen the most dramatic increases.

Attendance as % jurisdictional membership

Year	NCJ		NEJ		SCJ		SEJ		WJ	
1985	833,468	42.1%	659,946	36.2%	654,909	34.2%	1,124,470	38.7%	229,149	43.7%
1990	806,257	44.3%	631,595	36.5%	655,226	35.1%	1,143,666	39.5%	228,343	46.2%
1995	766,604	45.3%	607,888	37.2%	657,741	36.2%	1,164,553	40.3%	229,149	49.2%
2000	758,952	47.9%	603,913	39.2%	686,193	37.9%	1,215,621	41.6%	222,950	51.6%
2005	717,827	49.2%	540,754	37.8%	669,346	37.7%	1,210,432	41.3%	205,959	51.8%

- **Expenditures per Member** – The WJ has continuously had the greatest expenditures per member. Over the past 20 years, the NCJ and SEJ have seen the greatest increases in spending per member.

Expenditures per Member (In 2005 dollars)

Year	NCJ	NEJ	SCJ	SEJ	WJ
1985	480.20	402.42	475.96	453.23	612.89
1990	539.99	443.89	473.43	506.65	671.73
1995	586.78	465.38	518.25	535.07	715.61
2000	689.94	551.52	638.41	662.07	839.67
2005	788.42	616.16	706.37	745.29	981.76

Percent Increase in Expenditures per Member

	Year	NCJ	NEJ	SCJ	SEJ	WJ
20 yr	1985-2005	64.2%	53.1%	48.4%	64.4%	60.2%
10 yr	1995-2005	34.4%	32.4%	36.3%	39.3%	37.2%
5 yr	2000-2005	14.3%	11.7%	10.6%	12.6%	16.9%

- **Diversity**

Lay Members
2005

Jurisdiction	African American/Hispanic/Latino Native American Pacific Islander White Multi-Racial						
	Asian	Black	Latino	American	Islander	White	Racial
North Central	0.91%	2.39%	0.27%	0.12%	0.05%	95.59%	0.67%
Northeastern	1.60%	7.32%	0.56%	0.16%	0.11%	89.55%	0.70%
South Central	0.48%	5.38%	1.80%	0.77%	0.07%	90.99%	0.52%
Southeastern	0.37%	6.92%	0.45%	0.15%	0.05%	91.89%	0.19%
Western	8.28%	4.12%	1.78%	0.30%	1.91%	80.98%	2.63%

- **New Church Starts** – Since the Jan. 2005, 102 new churches have been **founded** in the US. Of these, 40 have been reported non-white churches. Seven predominantly Asian churches have been founded in the WJ and 13 Hispanic/Latino churches have been founded in the SEJ.

Six annual conferences have reported 6 or more newly founded churches since 2005. (4 SEJ, 1 SCJ, and 1 WJ)

During the same time period (2005-2006), 29 churches were chartered representing 1340 members/1361 attendees. Eight of these new **chartered** churches are in the state of Texas. One-third of these new churches are non-white (5 Asian, 3 Hispanic, and 2 Native American).

Founded churches by ethnic/racial majority

Asian	11	(7 in WJ)
African American/Black	5	
Hispanic/Latino	21	(13 in SEJ)
Native American	2	
Multi-Racial	1	

Founded churches by state

Georgia	14	SEJ
Alabama	13	SEJ
Texas	12	SCJ
Florida	9	SEJ
North Carolina	6	SEJ
California	6	WJ

Total churches founded 2005-2006 102

- **Funding Sources** – Pledge giving is the dominant type of funding for annual operating budgets and benevolence giving across all jurisdictions; however, the WJ received over 60% of funds through pledge giving whereas the NEJ received only 42% through pledges.

	Pledges	Non-Pledging, Identified Givers	Unidentified Givers	Interest & Dividends	Sale of Church Assets	Use Fees, Contributions, Rentals	Fundraisers & Other Sources
North Central	51.1%	36.5%	5.1%	1.3%	0.8%	2.1%	3.1%
Northeastern	42.0%	34.5%	7.8%	2.7%	2.4%	5.2%	5.4%
South Central	54.9%	35.0%	3.7%	0.8%	0.9%	1.4%	3.3%
Southeastern	50.3%	40.4%	5.6%	0.6%	1.5%	1.3%	2.5%
Western	60.5%	24.0%	3.6%	1.6%	0.9%	7.4%	4.5%

2. Leadership

- **Gender** – Women are taking a greater role in pastoral leadership. In 2005, female clergy represented 22.1% of total clergy and 16.7% of elders in full connection.

Year	% Female – Total Clergy	% Female – Elders Full Connection
2000	17.5	13.2
2005	22.1	16.7

- **Race** – Our pastoral leadership is also increasingly diverse

		2000	2005	Change
Elders in Full Connection	Non-white	7.92%	8.66%	0.74
	White	92.08%	91.34%	
Total Clergy	Non-white	9.13%	10.02%	0.89
	White	90.87%	89.98%	

- **Age** – Our pastors are also getting older.

Age	1985		1990		1995		2000		2005	
	Full Member	Probationary Member	Full Member	Probationary Member	Full Member	Probationary Member	Full Member	Probationary Member	Full Member	Probationary Member
35 & Under	3,402	1,645	2,573	1,196	1,452	803	835	628	624	574
36-45	5,772	722	6,700	799	6,077	800	4,419	675	2,705	590
46-55	6,682	249	6,097	394	6,924	553	7,610	676	6,806	588
56-65	5,382	73	5,954	115	5,434	173	5,130	229	6,103	373
Over 65	297	4	360	10	366	6	369	18	423	25
Total	21,535	2,693	21,684	2,514	20,253	2,335	18,363	2,226	16,661	2,150

3. A Time of Rapid Change

- **Members per Population** – Despite holding increasing shares of UMC members, the southern jurisdictions have seen the greatest declines in members per capita in their respective states.

Jurisdiction		2005	2000	1990
North Central	Population	55,668,190	54,397,884	50,495,600
	UMC Members	1,458,582	1,585,545	1,819,553
	% Pop	2.62%	2.91%	3.60%
Northeastern	Population	63,453,184	62,054,867	58,657,242
	UMC Members	1,432,188	1,541,372	1,677,847
	% Pop	2.26%	2.48%	2.86%
South Central	Population	45,942,802	43,258,788	37,390,894
	UMC Members	1,776,222	1,811,735	1,868,203
	% Pop	3.87%	4.19%	5.00%
Southeastern	Population	64,983,490	60,331,481	50,895,124
	UMC Members	2,931,045	2,921,729	2,893,773
	% Pop	4.51%	4.84%	5.69%
Western	Population	66,362,738	61,378,886	51,271,013
	UMC Members	397,392	432,150	494,275
	% Pop	0.60%	0.70%	0.96%
United States	U.S. Population	296,410,404	281,421,906	248,709,873
	UMC Members	7,995,429	8,292,531	8,753,651
	% Pop	2.70%	2.95%	3.52%

- **Size of Churches** – The size of congregations is trending towards the extremes. We have more very small churches and more very large churches.

Congregation Size	Change in # of Churches in Category
1-49	3.60%
50-99	-5.90%
100-199	-9.31%
200-299	-16.88%
300-499	-18.03%
500-749	-19.96%
750-999	-26.35%
1000-1499	-26.41%
1500-1999	-15.75%
2000-2999	0.57%
3000-3999	60.53%
4000-4999	110.00%
5000-5999	200.00%

More of our members are found in very large churches and very small churches as well.

Congregation Size	% Change in Percentage of Total Membership in Size Category
1-49	0.38%
50-99	0.49%
100-199	0.45%
200-299	-0.61%
300-499	-1.16%
500-749	-1.17%
750-999	-1.58%
1000-1499	-1.70%
1500-1999	-0.21%
2000-2999	0.77%
3000-3999	1.21%
4000-4999	0.69%
5000-5999	2.46%

4. UMC Identity

- **Professions of Faith/Transfers** – Professions of faith are a more common way of getting new members in the North and West, while transfers are more common in the South

Received 2005	NCJ	NEJ	SCJ	SEJ	WJ
Profession or Restoration of Faith	64.4%	63.2%	43.2%	44.4%	58.6%
From other UMC	22.7%	24.3%	32.4%	30.4%	27.0%
From other denomination	12.9%	12.5%	24.4%	25.2%	14.4%

Northerners also appear less likely to transfer to other churches when leaving UM congregations.

Removed 2005	NCJ	NEJ	SCJ	SEJ	WJ
Charge Conference or Withdrawn	51.7%	52.0%	48.9%	37.6%	55.0%
To other UMC	14.0%	13.0%	20.4%	21.6%	14.8%
To other denomination	6.9%	7.0%	8.7%	12.4%	8.3%
Death	27.4%	27.9%	22.1%	28.3%	21.9%

Transfers in from other UMCs have declined in the last 20 years.

Received	NCJ	NEJ	SCJ	SEJ	WJ
Profession or Restoration of Faith	8.2%	3.7%	9.0%	7.3%	7.5%
From other UMC	-6.0%	-2.2%	-9.9%	-8.5%	-7.2%
From other denomination	-2.2%	-1.4%	0.9%	1.3%	-0.3%

Meanwhile, a declining share of membership outflow is being reported as transfers to other UM churches.

Removed	NCJ	NEJ	SCJ	SEJ	WJ
Charge Conference or Withdrawn	4.9%	9.6%	17.1%	9.0%	0.4%
To other UMC	-6.6%	-6.5%	-11.9%	-7.8%	-4.3%
To other denomination	-3.2%	-3.0%	-4.7%	-3.1%	0.6%
Death	4.9%	0.0%	-0.5%	1.9%	3.3%

5. Signs of Hope

- **Worship** - In the United States, attendance as a percentage of professing membership has increased 3.6% points. Currently nearly 42% of our professing membership can be found in worship on an average Sunday.
- **Giving** – Giving per professing member has increased over 58% in the last 20 years, over \$270 per member, adjusted for inflation.
- **Growth** – Although aggregate data from the US does not yet show an increase in membership, 35% of our churches consistently report growth from year to year.

6. Structure and Organization

- **Fewer churches/more pastoral charges** –While the US has fewer churches, it has a greater number of pastoral charges. That appears to mean fewer churches are sharing pastors together.

	# Churches	# Charges	# Districts
1985	37,830	25,727	537
1995	36,331	25,934	526
2005	34,398	26,228	488
% Change 1985- 2005	-9.1%	1.9%	-9.1%
% Change 1995- 2005	-5.3%	1.1%	-7.2%