

# CHURCH MISSIONS LEADER SURVEY

REPORT + ANALYSIS 2019



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# CHURCH MISSIONS LEADER SURVEY

REPORT + ANALYSIS 2019

The 2019 Church Missions Leader (CML) Survey was commissioned and conducted by Missio Nexus.

Missio Nexus' vision is to see missional leaders accelerating the fulfillment of the Great Commission in servant partnership with the church globally. Its mission is to catalyze relationships, collaboration, and ideas within the Great Commission community.

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For more on the Missio Nexus 2019 CML Survey, visit [missionnexus.org](http://missionnexus.org). Inquiries about research methodology may be directed to: [info@missionnexus.org](mailto:info@missionnexus.org).

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## Introduction

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I believe the local church is the seedbed for global missions engagement. Although we face significant challenges in our culture today in regards to people's perspective on evangelical Christianity, the opportunities that are available for us as believers in local church ministry to equip and cultivate new generations of cross-cultural mission workers are still significant.

Our tactics may need to change as many in younger generations have not been oriented to ideas and concepts that have propelled older generations to board ships and planes to head to distant mountains, islands and cities to proclaim this Good News. No longer can we assume that people in our churches know the need or understand the call upon all of us to be gospel-bearers in our world. Discipleship of upcoming generations is essential in preparing them to even consider engaging in the work of the Great Commission.

First and foremost, we must teach people to value and treasure their relationships with our almighty God to the degree that they can't help but consider opportunities of sharing that great knowledge with those who don't know. Second, we must help them to understand that in an ever growing globalized world, people remain unreached, unengaged and forgotten. Even now, people live in distant jungles and deserts where no missionary has ever travelled before. And even in the ever-growing megacities, people are not asking, "Who is Jesus?" but rather, "What is Jesus?" It is entirely possible that those who have no gospel witness among them could potentially live a lifetime without encountering a follower of Christ. Yes, as long as human beings live in places without a gospel witness among them, human beings will be needed to take the gospel witness to them!

We also need to be creative in our mission efforts. That might mean coming alongside our global brothers and sisters in bringing leadership and theological training to help support their church planting initiatives. Or perhaps they need help developing structure and strategies that will support national movements and the willing servants who are waiting to be sent from them. Simply put, the opportunities for cross-cultural missions are not decreasing but increasing.

Those opportunities are not only expanding overseas but also within our own borders. Many of us are seeing our local neighborhoods transformed as the nations are coming to us. Previously, engaging with those from other cultures would have required long-distance travel, but now we have incredible opportunities literally right next door. Perhaps we simply have to be bold enough to knock on a door or maybe open our churches in order to host an ESL class.

Along the way, we must become more strategic and intentional in how we partner together as a church in North America. We need to build

stronger ties with partner mission agencies, churches and ministries in our local communities. We must learn from those who have served globally to understand how we can be effective in both our neighborhoods and around the world.

As you read through this report, I hope that you will find at least two or three key points which motivate you to find ways to be more effective as a mission leader in your sphere of influence. Perhaps you will be led to think differently, or to pray more strategically, or to partner more effectively. Whatever the case may be, may you see opportunities to engage with this research in a way that better equips you reach the lost.

Together, may we urge our congregations to seek the guidance of the Holy Spirit as we pursue ways to share this message of hope to a world in desperate need.

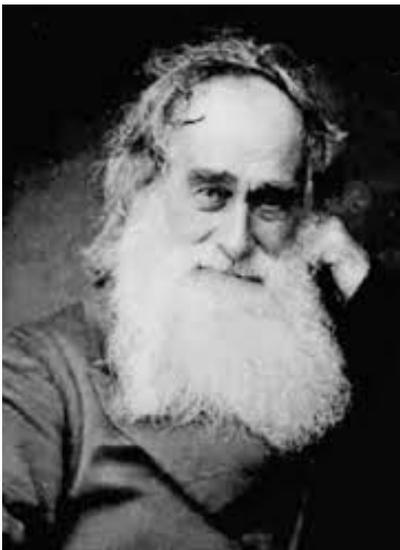
Till all have heard,



Michael VanHuis

*Vice President of Strategic Initiatives*

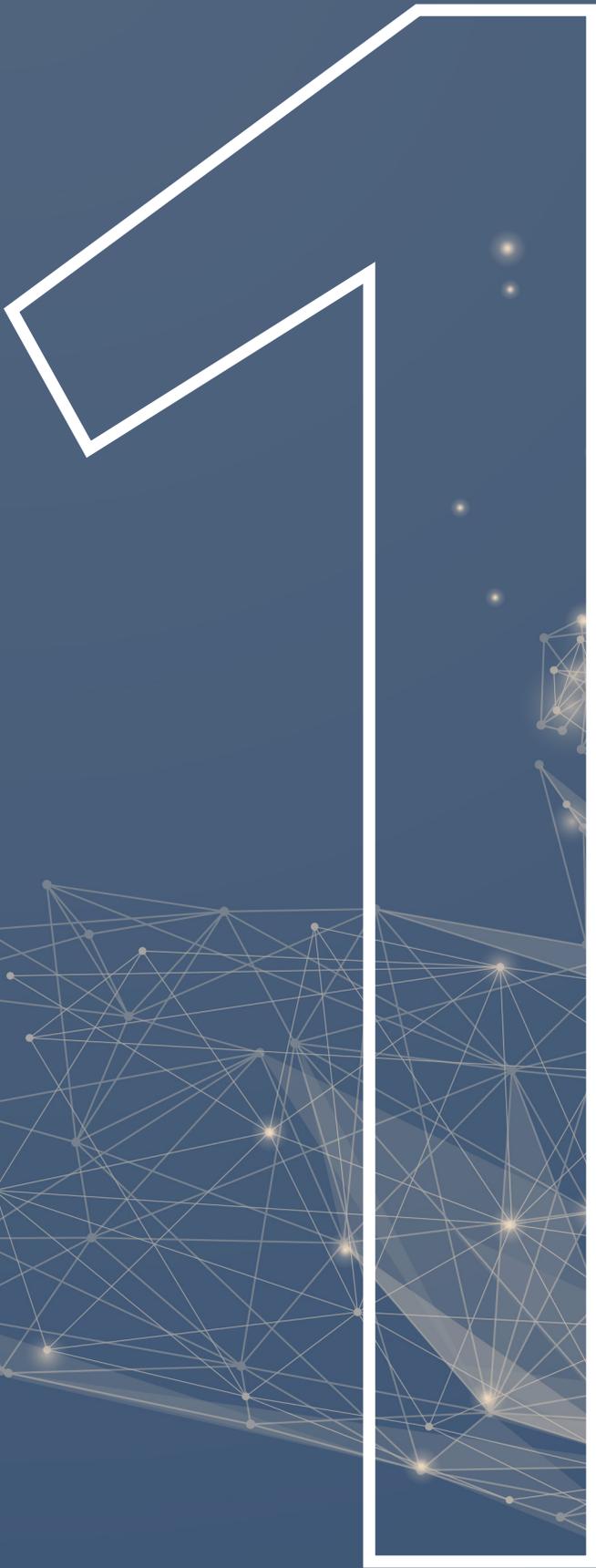
*Missio Nexus*



***“In the vast plain to the north  
I have sometimes seen, in the  
morning sun, the smoke of a  
thousand villages where no  
missionary has ever been.”***

**—Robert Moffat**

*The Matabele Journals of Robert Moffat, 1829–1860*

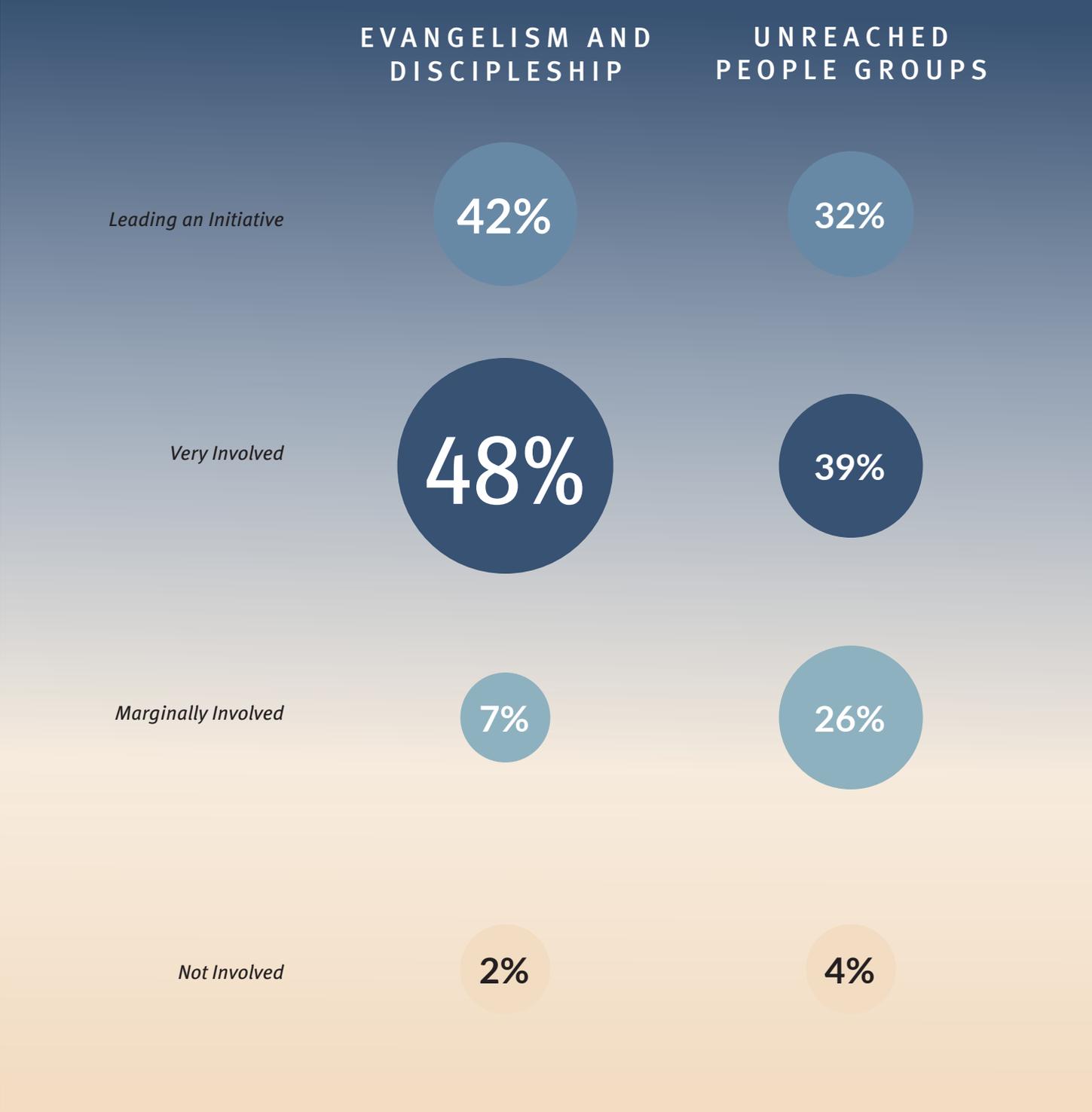




# CHURCH MISSIONS FOCUS

S E C T I O N O N E

# CHURCH MISSIONS: PROGRAM FOCUS



SOCIAL JUSTICE

COMMUNITY DEVELOPMENT

HUMANITARIAN AID

8%

7%

5%

20%

43%

31%

54%

41%

51%

20%

9%

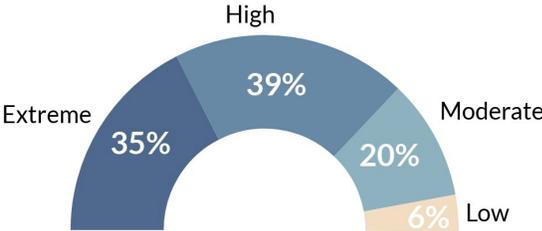
13%

# CHURCH MISSIONS: PRIORITIZED CONCERNS

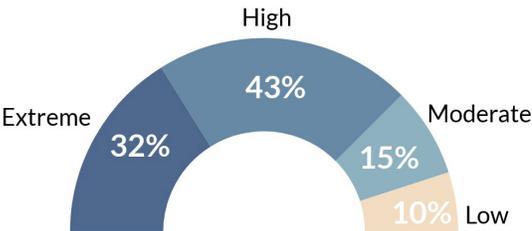
## EXTREME TO HIGH CONCERN

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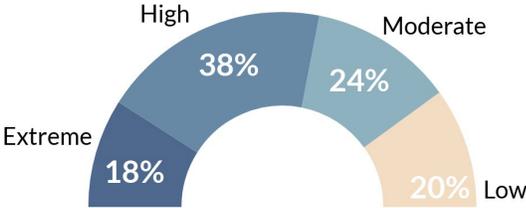
Church Planting



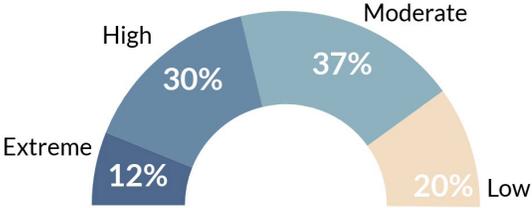
Unreached People Groups



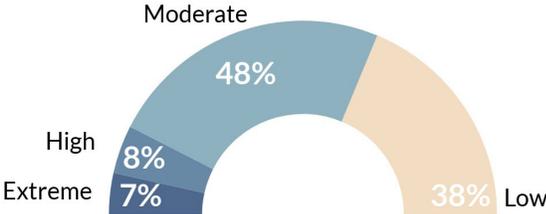
Training National Leaders



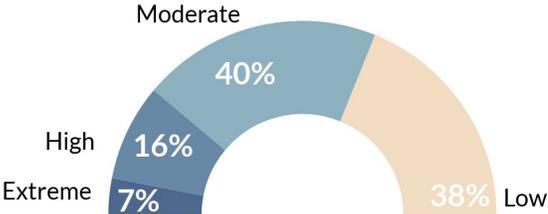
Local Cross-Cultural Ministry



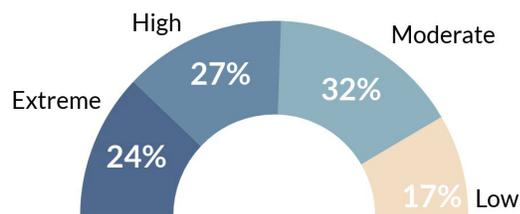
Medical Missions



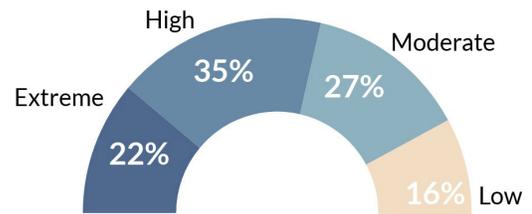
Social Justice



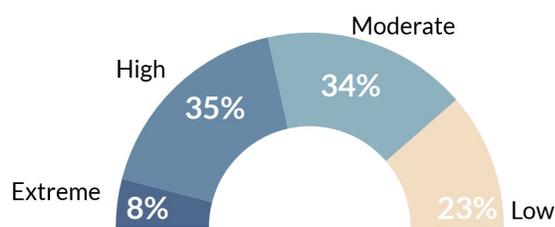
### Muslim World Evangelism



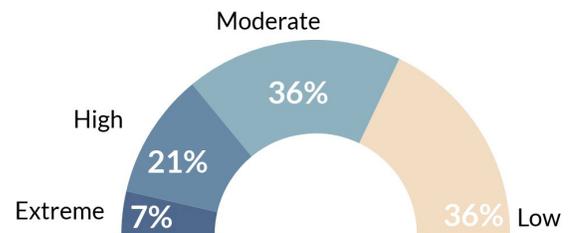
### Long-Term Missionaries



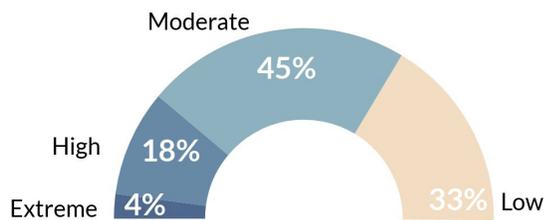
### Theological Education



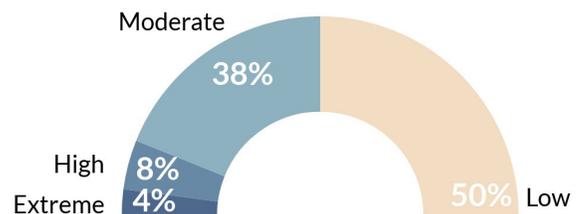
### Bible Translation



### Poverty Relief



### Resourcing Churches



MODERATE TO LOW CONCERN



**Matthew Ellison**  
*President of Sixteen:  
Fifteen and Church  
Missions Coach*  
1615.org

## An Audacious Mission for An Audacious Church

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Alexander Whyte called the church at Antioch the true mother-church of evangelical Christianity. The church at Jerusalem was the hub of the early church and has some important lessons to teach us, but like many churches today, they were reticent to accept the multi-ethnic dimensions of the Great Commission. An audacious mission required an audacious church. Antioch was that church, and they led the way and changed the world forever. In fact, if you are a Christ follower, your spiritual heritage can be traced back to a prayer meeting that happened in Antioch over two thousand years ago. Let's explore what was going on at Antioch to better understand what a church mobilized to reach the nations looks like.

**Antioch Was God-Passionate.** “While they were worshipping the Lord...” (Acts 13:2). For churches to effectively engage in missions, they need sound strategies that are in touch with global realities; they need to understand how to partner effectively; and they need to know about the complexities of planting churches among the world's remaining unreached and least reached peoples, as well as a host of other things. In short, churches need an abundance of mission skill and knowledge. And make no mistake, the absence of these things will hinder their global work, but if churches have little passion for God, they will have little passion for missions.

The leaders at Antioch were about to receive instructions from God about their global mission, a call to commend Him to the nations, so it's not surprising that this happened in the context of a prayer and worship gathering.

**Antioch's Leaders Were Activated.** “Now there were in the church at Antioch prophets and teachers ...” (Acts 13:1). The leaders at Antioch were champions of the church's missions vision. In my experience, members of a church with a passion to reach the nations can begin the missions conversation, but without the participation and engagement of church leaders, mobilizing a church is unbelievably difficult.

**Antioch Had a Biblical Definition of Missions.** “Set apart for me Barnabas and Saul for the work to which I have called them” (Acts 13:2). In Acts 1:8 (one of the five commissioning statements given by Jesus), the missions work of his Church to take the gospel to all peoples was reinforced again, but for some reason, the church in Jerusalem became parochial instead of missional. This would finally change at Antioch. The work to which the Spirit appointed them is made explicit in Acts 13:44–48. It was the work of proclaiming the gospel to the Gentiles. Missions for the church at Antioch wasn't just about making disciples—it was about making disciples of all the nations.

One of the most important questions a church needs to consider is, “What is the missions work God has appointed to his Church and

why does it matter?” This is especially critical today because a massive number of churches in the West have adopted a philosophy that says every good, altruistic, or evangelistic work is a missions work, and every follower of Christ is a missionary. Though well intentioned, this philosophy almost always obfuscates the cross-cultural dimensions of the Great Commission, particularly among the unreached.

**Antioch Was Intentional.** “While they were worshiping the Lord and fasting, the Holy Spirit said, ‘Set apart for me Barnabas and Saul for the work to which I have called them.’ Then after fasting and praying they laid their hands on them and sent them off” (Acts 13:2–3). Out of the prayer chamber at Antioch came a Spirit-infused missions plan:

First, they sent specific people—people appointed by the Spirit. Second, they were sent to specific peoples, the Gentiles. Now I’m pretty sure they didn’t employ an “adopt a people group” model of missions. Neither did they view missions as just winning and discipling as many people to Jesus as possible, but as making steady headway in reaching more peoples. Third, they did specific work—namely proclaiming the gospel and planting churches.

**Antioch’s Missions Engagement Was Church-Wide.** “And when they arrived and gathered the church together, they declared all that God had done with them, and how he had opened a door of faith to the Gentiles” (Acts 14:27). What a service this must have been! Imagine Paul and Barnabas rehearsing all that God had done on this inaugural missions journey. Why gather the church for this special service? Because for Antioch, it seems that God’s all-peoples mission was an all-hands-on-deck effort. Some went, some sent but all were a part of this epic adventure.

Most folks will not leave home permanently to minister on the mission field. If they are to participate in missions, they must be empowered where they are, in the context of their local church.

**Antioch Prayerfully Embraced Risk.** Acts 13–14: Intense spiritual opposition accompanied Antioch’s mission, which included severe persecution and eventually martyrdom for some. Danger was simply an occupational hazard of their mission to reach the nations. This is still true today.

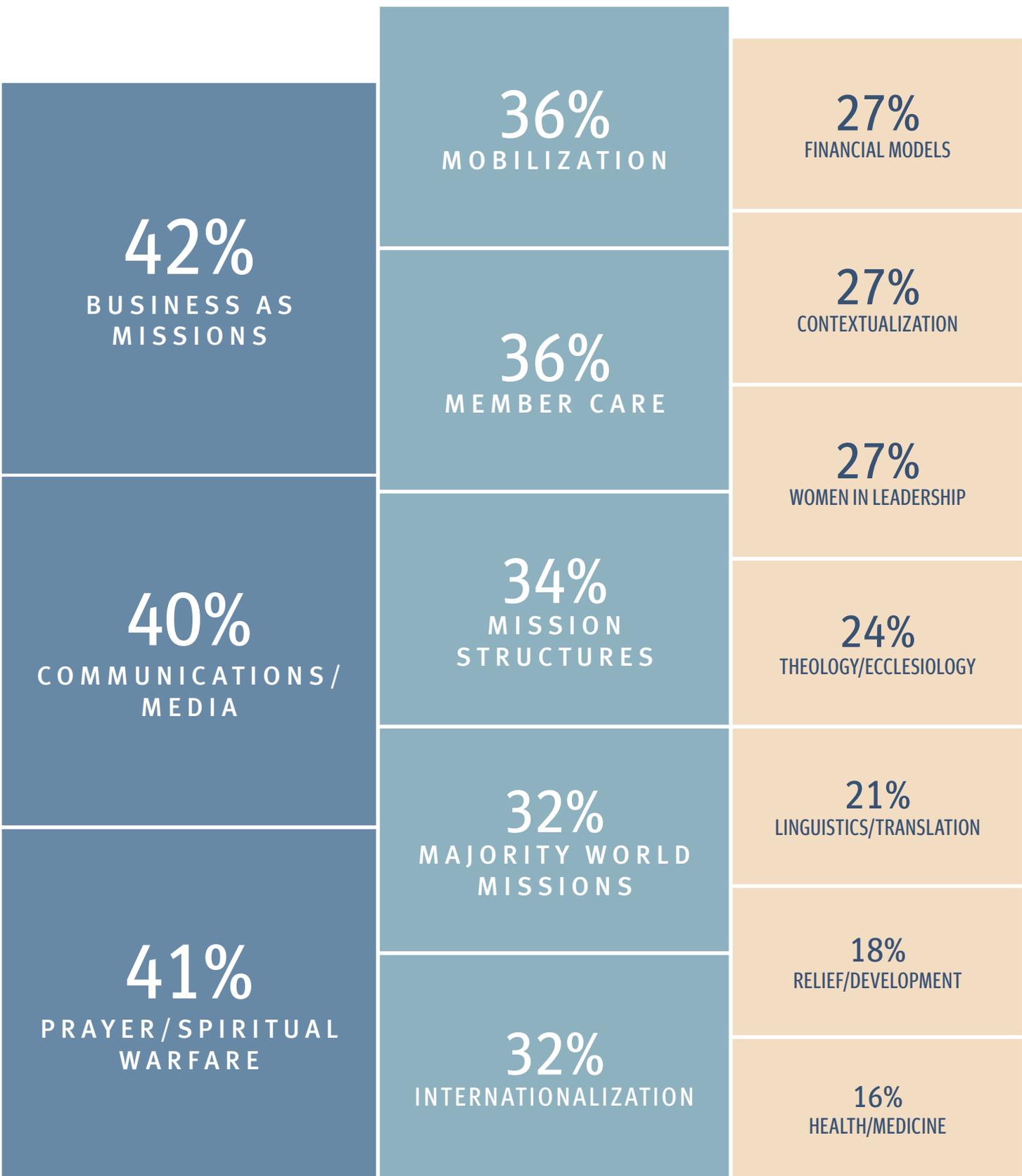
Since the vast majority of unreached and least reached peoples are in places and under regimes that are hostile to the presence of Christians, like Antioch, we must prayerfully embrace the Christ-exalting risks necessary to reach them.

**Connecting Present and Past.** Sixteen:Fifteen has been mobilizing churches to reach the nations since 2004, and do you know what we’ve discovered? The very traits that marked Antioch as a church mobilized to reach the nations distinguish churches that are bearing abundant fruit among the nations today. I wonder, are there people groups who are right now beyond the gospel’s reach but won’t remain so for long because ancient prayers from Antioch are still being answered today? Will your church, which is a product of a long missions history that began at Antioch, continue extending and expanding the work that began in and through this audacious church?

What has the highest need for innovation in the missions world?

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**CHURCH MISSIONS:  
EXTERNAL FORCE IMPACT**

**LOCAL CHURCH  
MISSIONS**

*Percentage of impact these elements  
will have on local church missions  
in the next three to five years.*

45%

## GOVERNMENT RESTRICTIONS

*Whether it is basic issues with obtaining long-term visas, or more restrictive policies toward North American mission workers residing within countries around the world, these issues are not subsiding but appear to only be a growing hinderance to mission sending. We need to continue to analyze risk and strategies for missionary placement.*

44%

## PERSECUTION

*The global church faces persecution on a daily basis. This ranges from limitations on gospel proclamation to harsher restrictions leading to imprisonment and even death. Enemies of the gospel are becoming more bold. We must remain bold, trusting God's sovereignty, and wisely equipping our workers to face these issues.*

40%

## INTERNATIONAL POLITICS

*As power shifts globally, the power of the U.S. passport is also changing. Greater limitations are inhibiting the ability of Americans to work globally. We need to be aware and in prayer for God to give us wisdom to navigate this changing world and not rest on old methods but to seek new innovative approaches to global church planting.*

39%

## COMMUNICATIONS

*Utilization of modern communication tools is essential to effectively communicate the task of Great Commission work globally. We also need to ensure what we are communicating is most helpful for younger generations who may have been raised with less understanding of the dynamics of cross-cultural church planting.*

39%

## BUSINESS AS MISSION

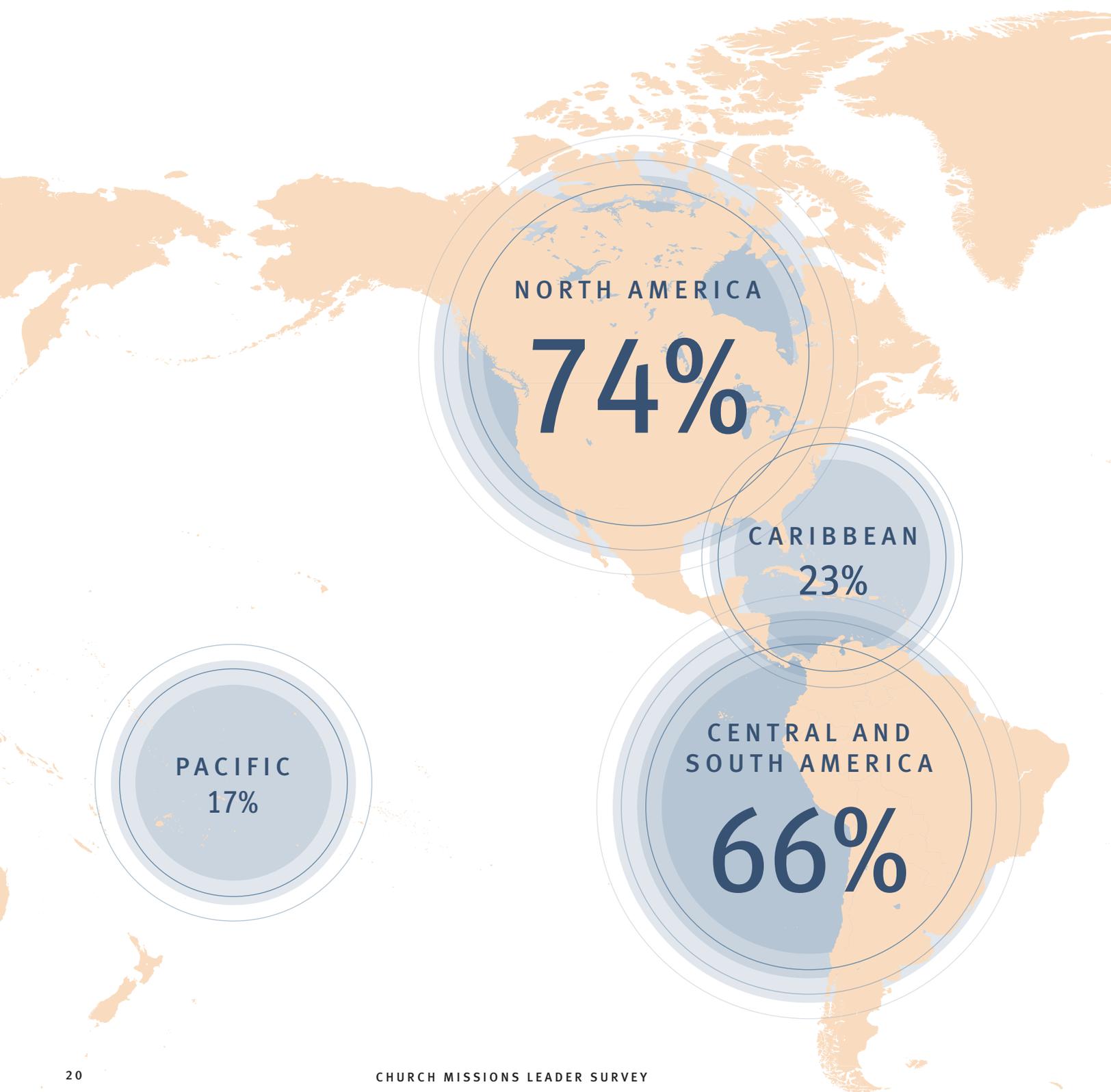
*In an ever changing global economic environment, seeing business as a legitimate platform for ministering in a global context is significant. Our process for missionary appointment and sending needs to accommodate these opportunities—including business methods that assist workers to holistically impact communities.*

39%

## GLOBALIZATION

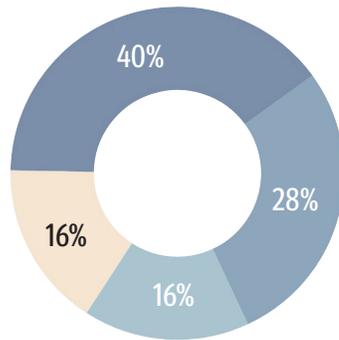
*The reach of cell phones and the Internet seems to know no bounds in the world today. The world feels smaller as each day goes by. Yet it can lull us into a feeling that the gospel has been heard by all. We need to continue to herald not only the gospel to the unengaged and unreached, but their plight to the global church.*

# CHURCH MISSIONS: WHERE DO YOU SERVE?

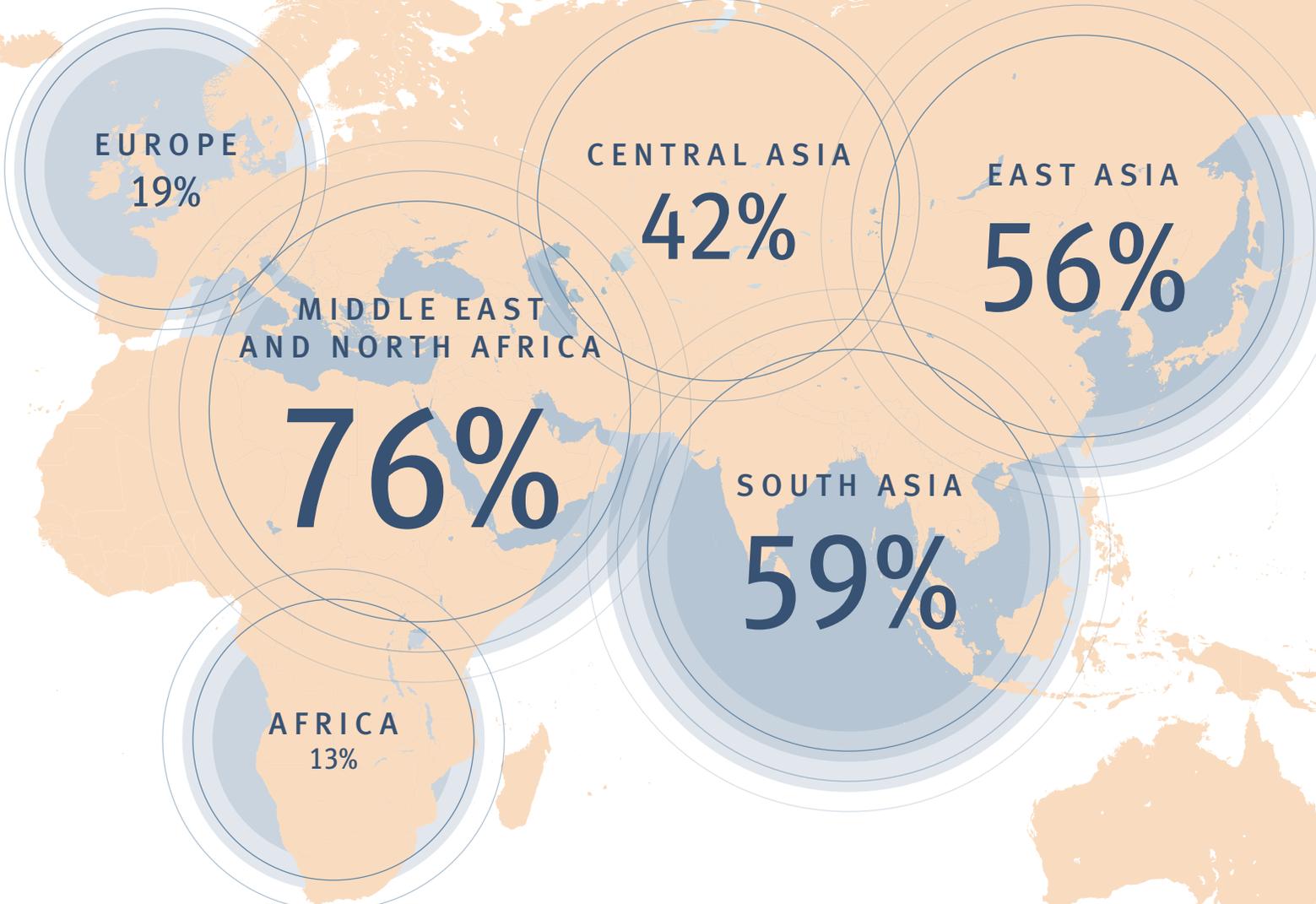
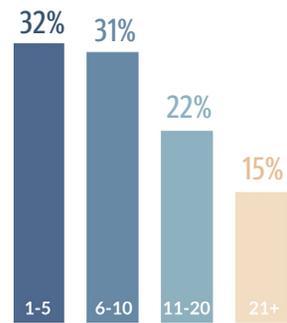


Partnership  
Engagement  
with National  
Ministries

- Extremely Well
- Moderately Well
- Very Well
- Not Well



Number of Partner  
Countries  
per Local  
Church





**Dr. Mark Byrom**  
*Associate Pastor of  
Global Connections at  
Appleton Alliance Church*  
appletonalliance.org

## Effective Global Partnerships

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Global partners have been the centerpiece of the vision of our church. Over the past twenty years, our church leadership has developed multiple partnerships with similar-minded church congregations on other continents. In my service in this role over the past six years, we have experienced a measured growth in collaboration and vision awareness. Together we are driven to reach our communities with the gospel of Christ, always keeping the larger needs of the world connected to our local work. In spite of being a megachurch in the heartland of the United States, we have been able to develop strong relationships with these sister church families. It is easy to focus on our own context and lose touch with the rest of the world and what God is doing, but we have found some great resources to counter this internalization.

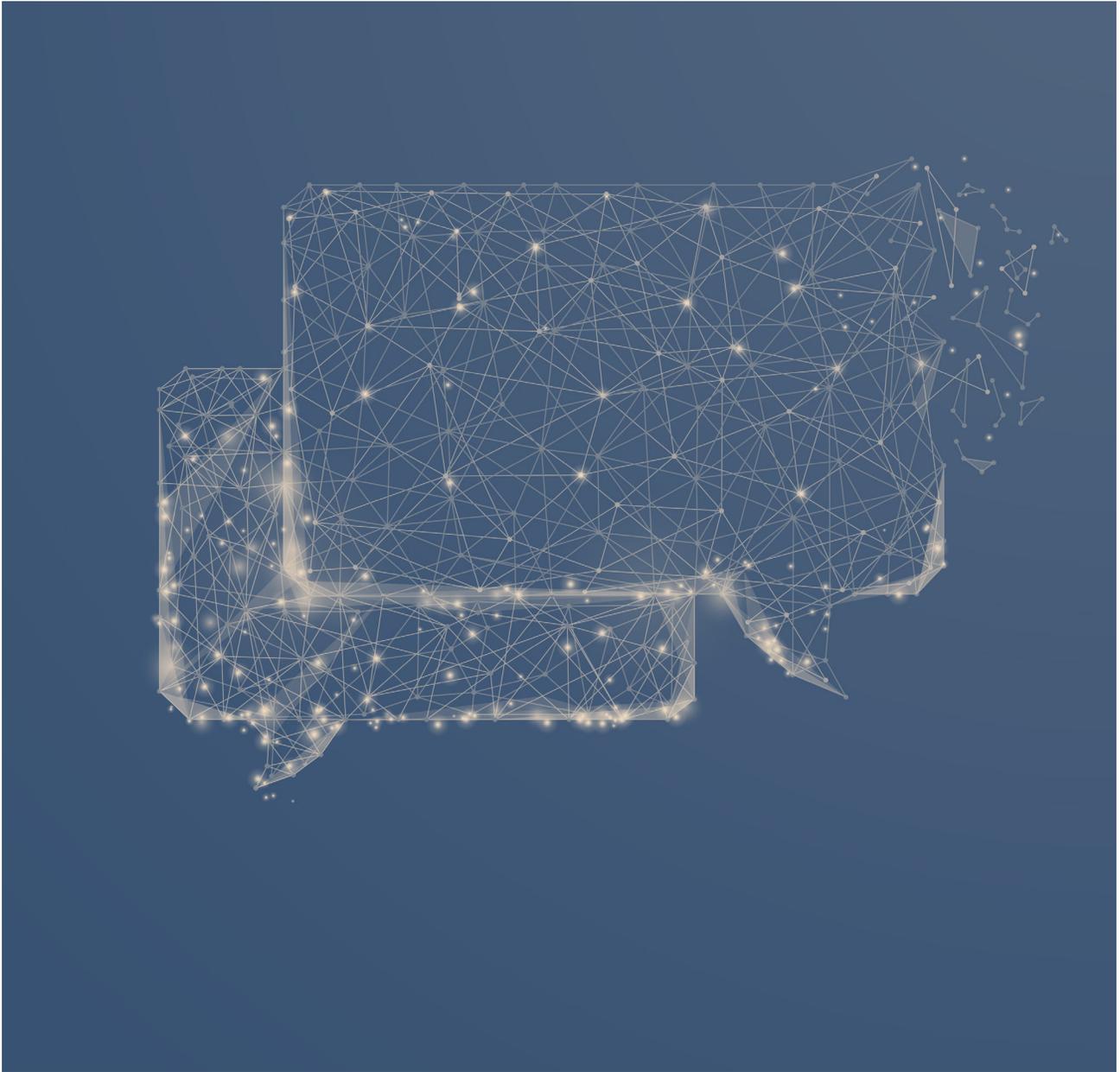
I served overseas for over a decade, bridging together churches in Europe and the States. Coming to the other side, as a US missions pastor, I have found that both sides have a tendency to focus inward and lose touch with each other. Intentionality is key to real relational breakthrough. A few countering forces that are very transferable across the world and that have greatly helped us in sister-church partnering are listed as follows:

**Mutual respect.** The driving force of how much church leaders on different continents are willing to partner with each other comes from mutual respect and willingness to learn from each other. In our partnerships, we have provided similar opportunity to meet in each other's locations and speak into each other's congregations. Through mutual respect of each culture, we have each been inspired.

**Regular communication.** Personal opportunities to connect is how we live out real relationship. This entails the simple things of regular interaction and awareness of each other. I have found that avenues such as translation tools and video chat are huge multipliers of regular contact and exchange of mutual awareness. But we need to do in-person interaction regularly, always looking for opportunities to be in each other's contexts.

**Top down.** A partnership relationship is driven top-down, from the leaders to the congregation. Just as a pastor should share passion for brothers and sisters in another location and their heart with the sister congregation, the Spirit is contagious. As more people catch the vision and relationship, partnering congregations become truly aware of and inspired by each other.

**Shared experiences in Christ.** Our stories drive awareness. As real lives are changed by Christ, these stories are contagious encouragements to each of those in partnering congregations. Each church context has its challenges where overcomers can impact the dreams and vision of the other church family.



Globalization opens great opportunities to partner between churches around the world. International travel, communication resources, shared material and personnel resources have all opened up a whole new world. Let's explore where each of our churches can partner with other churches whose hearts beat in the same way and who share similar visions of impacting the local to global.



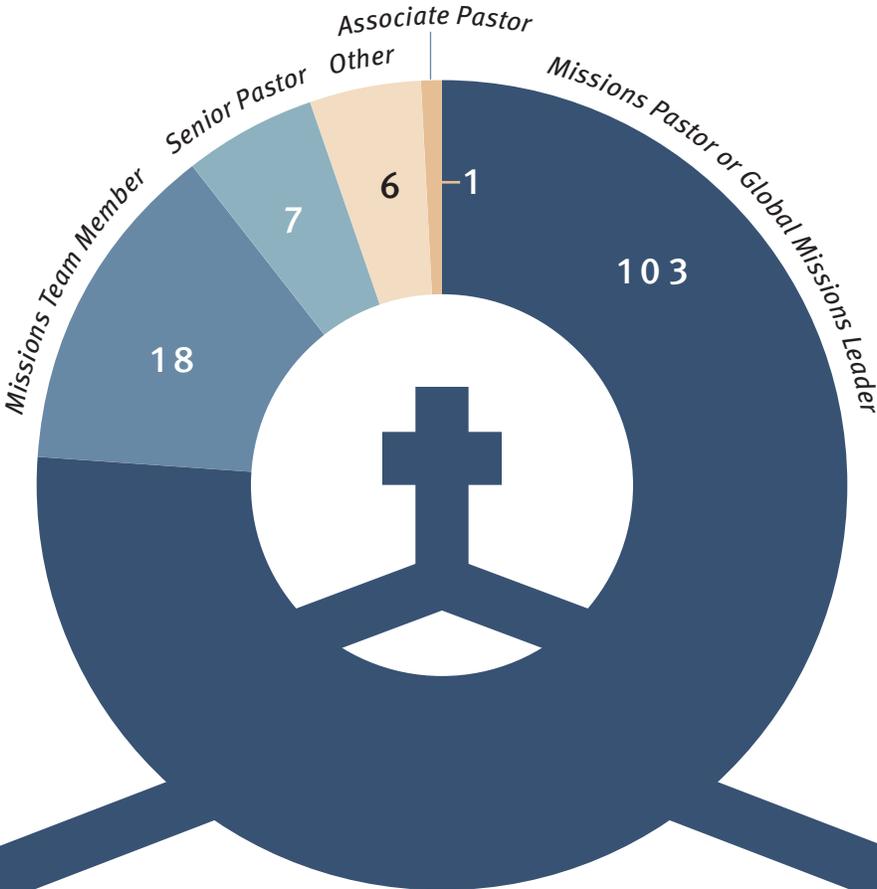
# THE CHURCH MISSIONS LEADER

S E C T I O N T W O



# CHURCH MISSIONS LEADER: SURVEY PARTICIPANTS

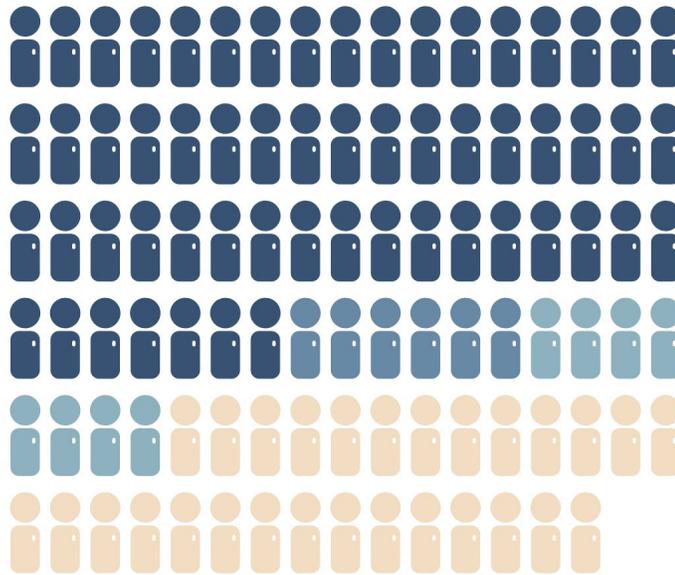
Who Serves as the Church Missions Leader?



Staff Position of Missions Pastors and Global Missions Leaders



## Staff Position of All Church Mission Leaders



**87** Full-Time Paid Staff

**9** Part-Time Paid Staff

**12** On Staff w/ Split Role

**41** Volunteer

\* 14 Noted "Other"

## Staff Positions of Missions Pastors by Church Attendance



**0-20**

1 Missions Pastor  
1 Volunteer



**51-100**

1 Missions Pastor  
1 Volunteer



**101-250**

11 Missions Pastors  
2 Full-Time, 9 Volunteers



**251-500**

19 Missions Pastors  
4 Full-Time, 4 Part-Time,  
5 Split-Role, 6 Volunteers



**501-1,000**

11 Missions Pastors  
7 Full-Time, 1 Part-Time,  
1 Split-Role, 3 Volunteers



**1,001-2,000**

24 Missions Pastors  
19 Full-Time, 3 Part-Time,  
1 Split-Role, 1 Volunteer



**2,001-3,500**

22 Missions Pastors  
20 Full-Time,  
2 Volunteers



**3,501-5,000**

9 Missions Pastors  
9 Full-Time



**5,000+**

6 Missions Pastors  
6 Full-Time

# KEY ATTRIBUTES OF AN EFFECTIVE CHURCH MISSIONS LEADER

## TEACH THE CONGREGATION

*A critical and essential element for every congregation is to equip them to understand not only the calling of the Great Commission for each believer, but also the needs of the unreached around the globe today. Ensuring your church regularly communicates these truths from the platform, classrooms, and ministry groups is paramount to raising up new missionaries.*

## PRAY FOR THE NATIONS

*Creating a culture of prayer in your own life and that of your congregation for the plight of the unreached among the nations is essential. Utilizing tools like [prayercast.com](http://prayercast.com), [joshuaproject.org](http://joshuaproject.org) and others will enable you on a daily basis to stay focused on the end goal of Great Commission work and will nurture a heart for the lost in yourself and congregation.*

## ENGAGE YOUR SENIOR PASTOR

*One of the greatest ways of engaging a congregation in missions is through a leader who is passionate about it. Walking alongside your Senior Pastor to help equip him with information and experiences globally will affect the direction of the church and the perspective he brings on Scripture. Engage him on key issues—don't wait for him to engage you.*

## STEWARD YOUR MISSIONARIES

*As your church sends out and supports missionaries globally, they desperately need you to be engaged with them along the way. Send well, serve well, care well - simply steward them well. Believing in them, encouraging them, and standing with them through the ups and downs of ministry will aid them in being more effective gospel proclaimers.*

## IDENTIFY POTENTIAL MISSIONARIES

*Proactively seeking out missionary candidates in your congregation will help to create an environment in your church that fosters mission awareness and engagement. Creating clear on-ramps for congregants to see pathways to the mission field that are attainable is critical. Creating opportunities for awareness and exposure will open doors for new missionaries.*

## BUILD A CONNECTED TEAM

*Building a team around global missions is essential not only to the Church Mission Leader's personal effectiveness, but to the overall growth and involvement of the congregation. Allow them to walk with you to build deep relationships with missionaries, partner ministries and global relationships. This will allow you to expand the depth and width of your impact.*

## DEFINE OUTREACH AND MISSIONS

*Building a distinction between local outreach and cross-cultural missions is key. Both need to exist in a local church and both can fuel each other. But cross-cultural engagement among the nations needs to be uniquely highlighted and differentiated from outreach and service within our communities.*

## GROW GLOBAL PARTNERSHIPS

*Partnerships with churches and ministries around the globe will help awaken your congregation to the realities that exist for the majority world. There are amazing networks and ministries that can help guide you in these relationships. As you partner for the sake of the unreached, you will benefit in untold ways as you serve together with the global church.*

## KNOW YOUR AGENCY PARTNERS

*The more deeply you know your agency partners, the more effectively you can steward your missionaries. And the deeper these relationships are established, the more opportunities your church will have to engage more effectively with diaspora communities locally. It will also lead to broader connections for deeper global impact.*

## READ LITERATURE ABOUT MISSIONS

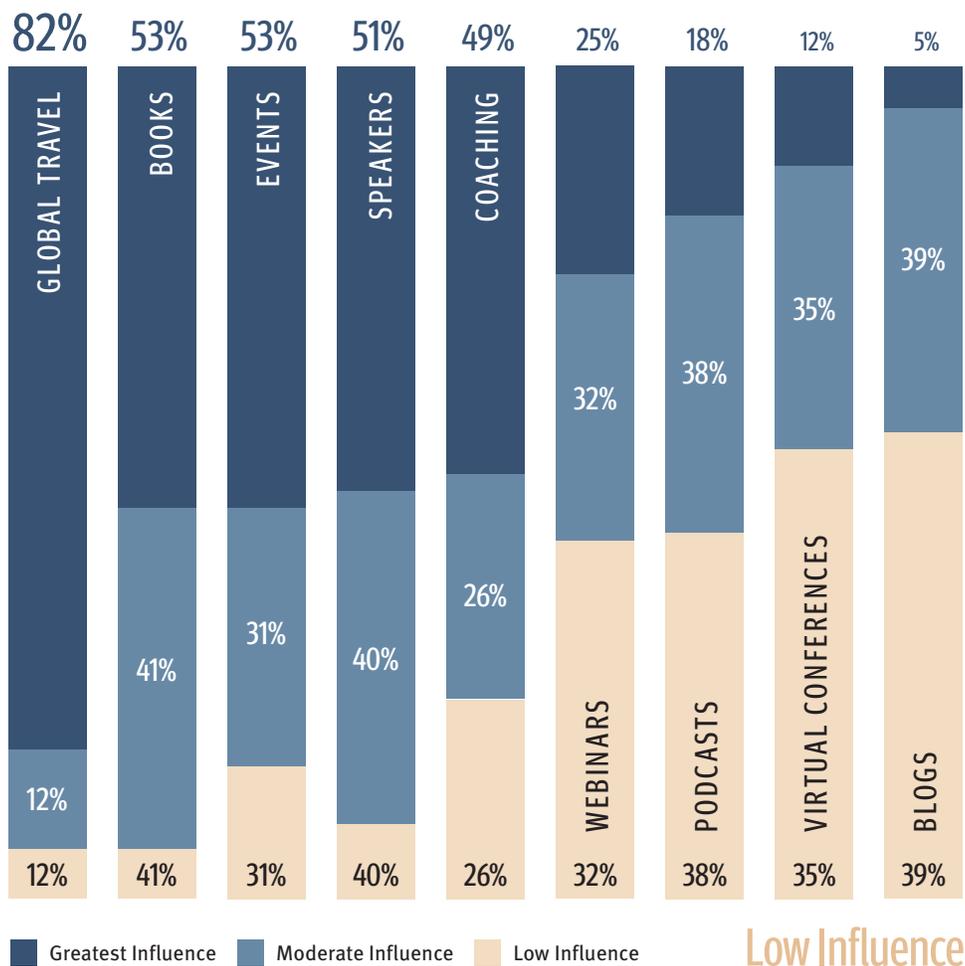
*Time spent reading books, articles, blogs, journals and missionary biographies will help you grow personally as you seek to serve your congregation, partner effectively and steward your missionaries. A commitment to life-long learning will yield untold benefits and is most certainly a key to being an effective church missions leader.*

# CHURCH MISSION LEADER: KEY RESOURCES

## Influence of Resources on Church Missions Leaders

By Level of Influence

### Greatest Influence



# PERSONAL LEADERSHIP INFLUENCERS

## Key Books/Magazines:

- *3D Gospel* by Jason Georges
- *Becoming a Welcoming Church* by Thom Rainer
- *Contagious Disciple Making* by David Watson and Paul Watson
- *Deepening the Soul for Justice* by Bethany Hoang
- *Drop the Stones* by Carlos Rodriguez
- *Disruptive Witness* by Alan Noble
- *Exponential* by Dave Ferguson
- *Gifted to Lead* by Nancy Beach
- *Good Faith* by David Kinnamon
- *Good to Great* by Jim Collins
- *Leadership Network HUB* by Kadi Cole
- *Let the Nations Be Glad!* by John Piper
- *Life on Mission* by Dustin Willis and Aaron Coe
- *Looming Transitions* by Amy Young
- *Mapping Church Missions* by Sharon Hoover
- *Mission Frontiers Magazine*
- *Mobilizing the Mobilizers* by Dave Guiles
- *No Silver Bullets* by Daniel Im
- *Pipeline* by David and Lorene Wilson
- *Scatter* by Andrew Scott
- *Spirit Walk* by Steve Smith
- *Strangers Next Door* by J.D. Payne
- *The God Ask* by Steve Shadrach and Scott Morton
- *The Mission of God* by Christopher Wright
- *Thriving in Babylon* by Larry Osborne
- *The Global Gospel* by Werner Mischke
- *Toxic Charity* by Robert Lupton
- *Transforming Worldviews* by Paul Hiebert
- *What is the Mission of the Church?* by Kevin DeYoung
- *When Helping Hurts* by Steve Corbett and Brian Fikkert
- *When Everything is Missions* by Ellison and Spitters
- *Why Not Women?* by Loren Cunningham
- *Why Revival Tarries* by Leonard Ravenhill

## Key Networks:

- Advance Church Planting Network
- Accelerate Network Conference
- Baptist Mission Metro
- ECO Connecting Missions Leaders
- Greenhouse Environment in the C&MA
- International Turkey Network Consultation
- Mapping Church Missions
- Missio Nexus
- Mission Pastors Round Table
- OMF Church Partnership in Mobilization
- Partnering with Launch Global
- Partnering with other like minded churches
- Regular meetings with the regional Alliance network

## Key Conferences:

- Charles Simeon Trust Conference
- Converge - C&MA annual missions gathering
- Crescent Project National Conference
- Cross Conference
- D Conference Sonlife Ministries
- Every Church Every Nation Summit
- Exponential
- Finishing the Task
- Global Leadership Summit
- IMB Conference
- International Orality Network
- Launch Global
- MC2
- Minding the Gap
- Mission Leaders Conference (hosted by Missio Nexus)
- On Mission Virtual Conference (hosted by Missio Nexus)
- Multisite Mission Cohort-Sojourn Church, Louisville, KY
- Peer2Peer
- T4G
- Transform Minnesota
- Upstream Collective Mission Pastor Cohort
- Urbana
- Voice of the Martyrs Conference

## Key Training:

- 3DM Discipleship Training
- CARE for AIDS [www.careforaids.org](http://www.careforaids.org)
- Missio Nexus webinars
- Missio Nexus CML OnBoard
- NAMB Send Network Training
- Perspectives
- TIM Centre workshops/courses
- Webinars with Encompass World Partners
- Webinars with Sixteen:Fifteen
- Missio Nexus Conferences

## The Church Missions Leader Reading List

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As a missions pastor, global missions team leader, or other missions influencer in the local church, what do you read? Here is a checklist to get you started.

### Ecclesiology and Missions

- The Essence of the Church: A Community Created by the Spirit* by Van Gelder, Craig
- The Church: The Body Of Christ In The World of Today* by Hayes, Edward L., Swindoll, Chuck & Zuck, Roy
- Loving the Church, Blessing the Nations: Pursuing the Role of the Local Church in Global Mission* by Miley, George

### Cross-Cultural Issues

- American Cultural Baggage: How to Recognise and Deal With It* by Nussebaum, Stan
- Cross-Cultural Partnerships: Navigating the Complexities of Money and Mission* by Lederleitner, Mary T.
- Crossing Cultures in Scripture: Biblical Principles for Mission Practice* by Newell, Marvin J
- Leading Cross-Culturally: Covenant Relationships for Effective Christian Leadership* by Lingenfelter, Sherwood G.
- Ministering in Honor-Shame Cultures: Biblical Foundations and Practical Essentials* by Georges, Jayson

### General Reading

- Bruchko and the Motilone Miracle* by Olson, Bruce
- Daughters of Hope: Stories of Witness & Courage in the Face of Persecution* by Strom, Kay Marshall
- End of the Spear* by Saint, Steve
- Eternity in Their Hearts: Startling Evidence of Belief in the One True God in Hundreds of Cultures Throughout the World* by Richardson, Don
- Lords of the Earth* by Richardson, Don
- Peace Child: An Unforgettable Story of Primitive Jungle Treachery in the 20th Century* by Richardson, Don
- Perspectives on the World Christian Movement* by Winter, Ralph
- Shadow of the Almighty: The Life and Testament of Jim Elliot* by Elliot, Elisabeth
- Six Dangerous Questions to Transform Your View of the World: Discipleship for the Post-College Years* by Borthwick, Paul
- The Church Is Bigger Than You Think* by Johnstone, Patrick

### Inspiration

- Don't Waste Your Life* by Piper, John
- Radical: Taking Back Your Faith from the American Dream* by Platt, David

This is an selection of resources from the article "Reading List for a Church Missions Leader". To view the complete and most up-to-date list, go to: [MissioNexus.org/reading-list-church-missions-leader](http://MissioNexus.org/reading-list-church-missions-leader).

## Local Church

- Receiving Sent Ones During Reentry: The Challenges of Returning “Home” and How Churches Can Help* (Sending Church Elements Book 15) by Bradley, Zach
- The Art of Coming Home* by Storti, Craig
- The Mission Leadership Team* by Mays, David
- The Reentry Team: Caring for Your Returning Missionaries* by Pirolo, Neal
- Mind The Gaps: Engaging The Church In Missionary Care* by Wilson, David J.
- Serving As Senders—Today* by Pirolo, Neal

## Prayer

- Operation World: When We Pray God Works: 21st Century Edition* by Johnstone, Patrick
- Touch the World Through Prayer* by Duewel, Wesley L.

## Preparation

- Before You Pack Your Bag, Prepare Your Heart* by Judge, Cindy
- Don’t Go Overseas Until You’ve Read This Book* by Gallagher, Neil
- Global Mission Handbook: A Guide for Crosscultural Service* by Hoke, Steve
- On Being a Missionary: Revised Edition* by Hale, Thomas

## Short Term

- Effective Engagement in Short-Term Missions: Doing It Right!* by Priest, Robert J.
- The Essential Guide to the Short Term Mission Trip* by Forward, David

## Strategies

- Business as Mission* by Baer, Michael R.
- Church Planting Movements: How God is Redeeming a Lost World* by Garrison, David
- Making Disciples of Oral Learners* by Jr., Avery T. Willis
- Miraculous Movements: How Hundreds of Thousands of Muslims Are Falling in Love with Jesus* by Trousdale, Jerry
- Missionary Methods: St. Paul’s or Ours?* by Allen, Roland
- Planting Churches In Muslim Cities: A Team Approach* by Livingstone, Greg
- Tentmaking: Business As Missions* by Lai, Patrick
- Tradecraft: For the Church on Mission* by McCrary, Larry E

## Theology of Mission

- A Reader’s Guide to Transforming Mission* by Nussbaum, Stan
- Commissioned* by Newell, Marvin
- God’s Heart for the Nations* by Lewis, Jeff
- Let the Nations Be Glad!: The Supremacy of God in Missions* by Piper, John
- Mission in the Old Testament: Israel as a Light to the Nations* by Jr., Walter C. Kaiser
- Transforming Mission: Paradigm Shifts in Theology of Mission* by Bosch, David Jacobus



# SHORT-TERM TEAMS

S E C T I O N T H R E E

3

# SHORT-TERM TEAMS: WHERE DO TEAMS GO?

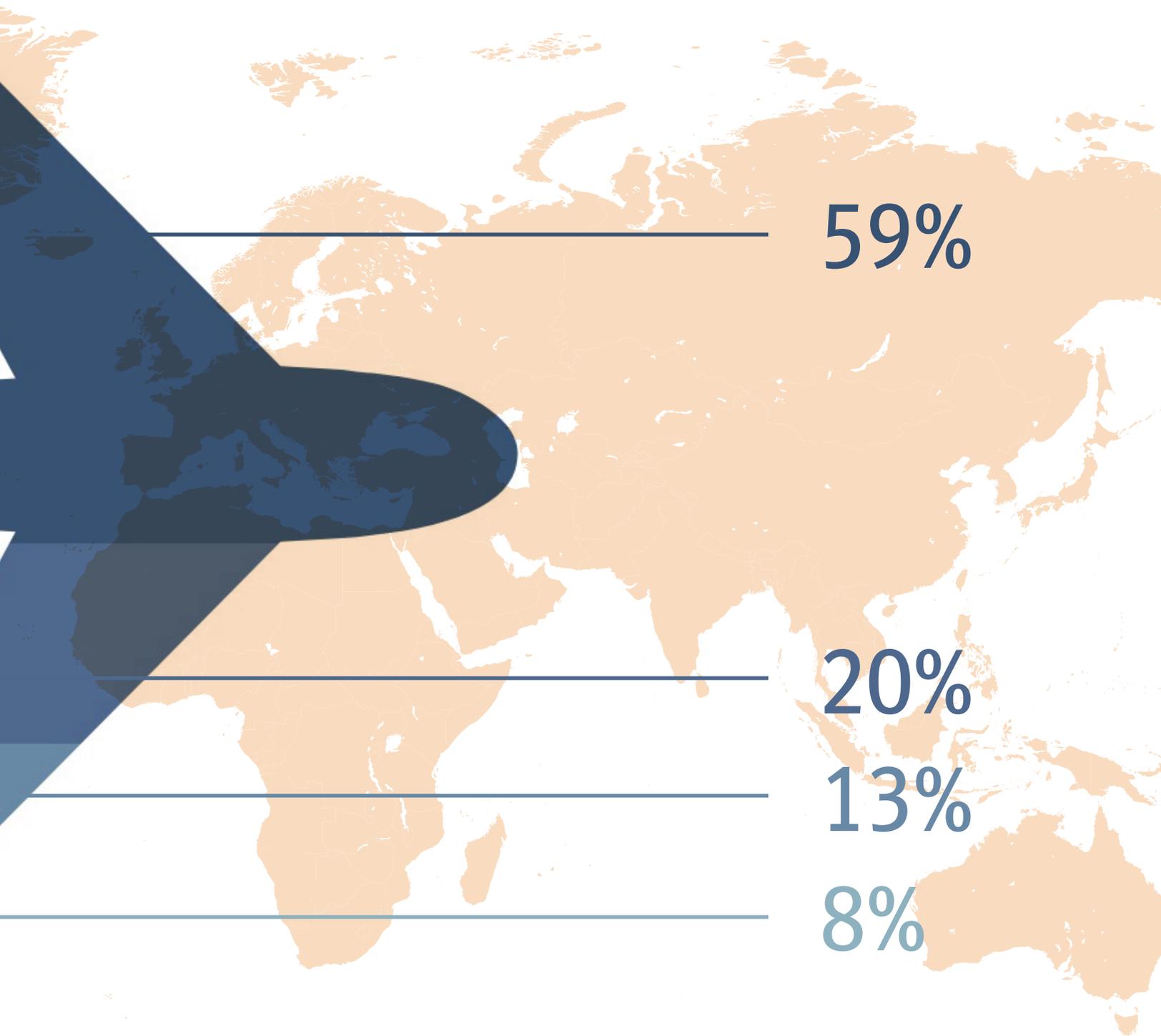


TO MISSIONARIES PARTNERING WITH THE LOCAL CHURCH

TO NATIONAL MINISTRY PARTNERS

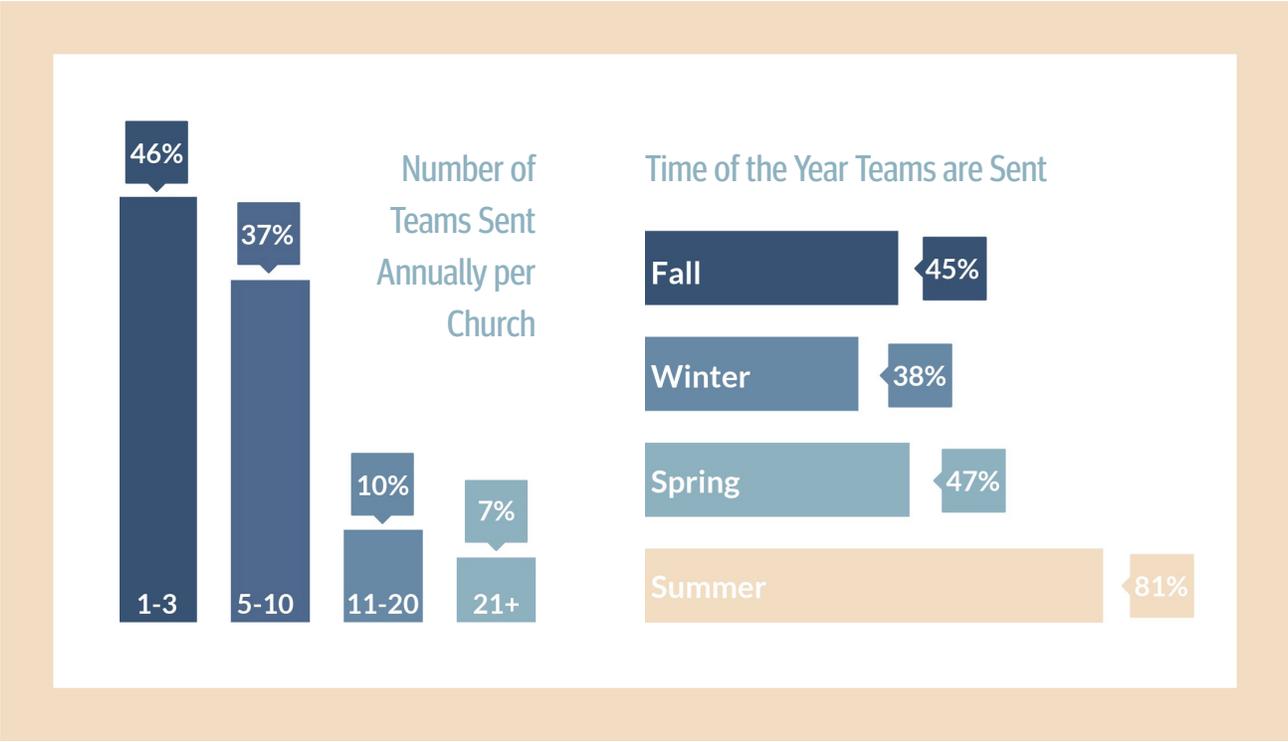
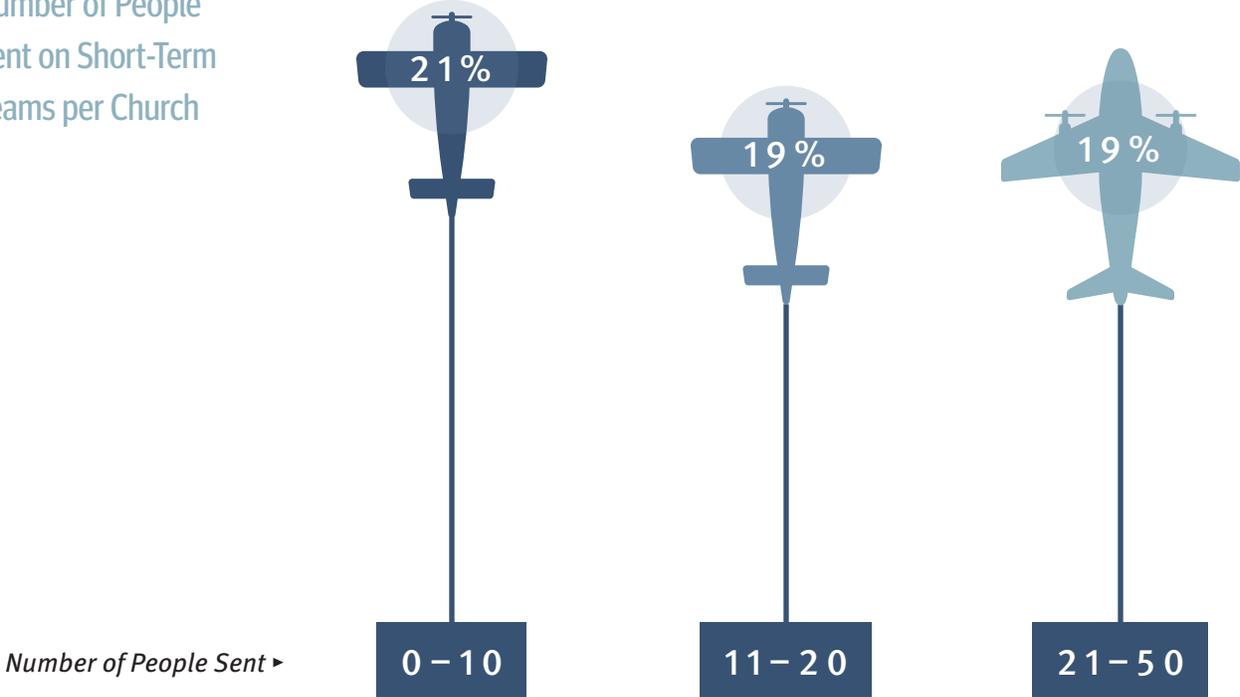
TO LOCATIONS OF PARTNERING MISSION AGENCIES

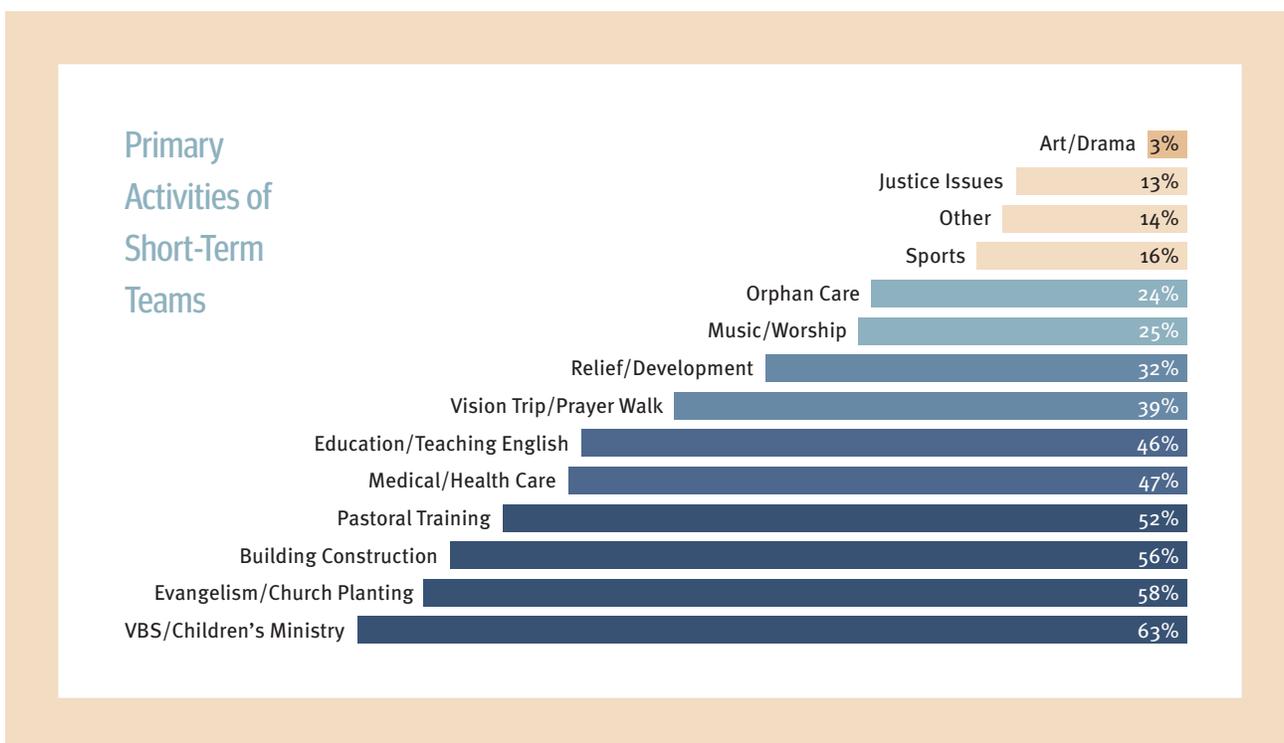
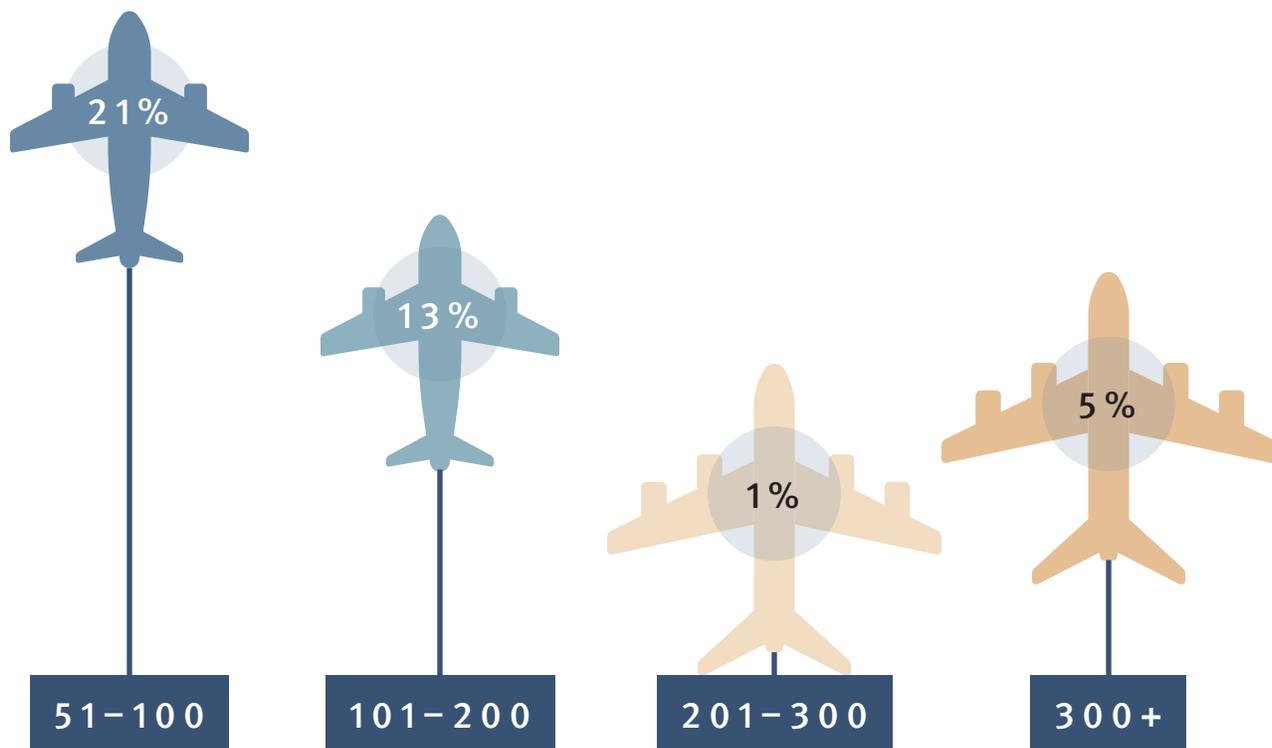
TO OTHER LOCATIONS



# SHORT-TERM TEAMS: NUMBER AND ACTIVITIES

Number of People Sent on Short-Term Teams per Church





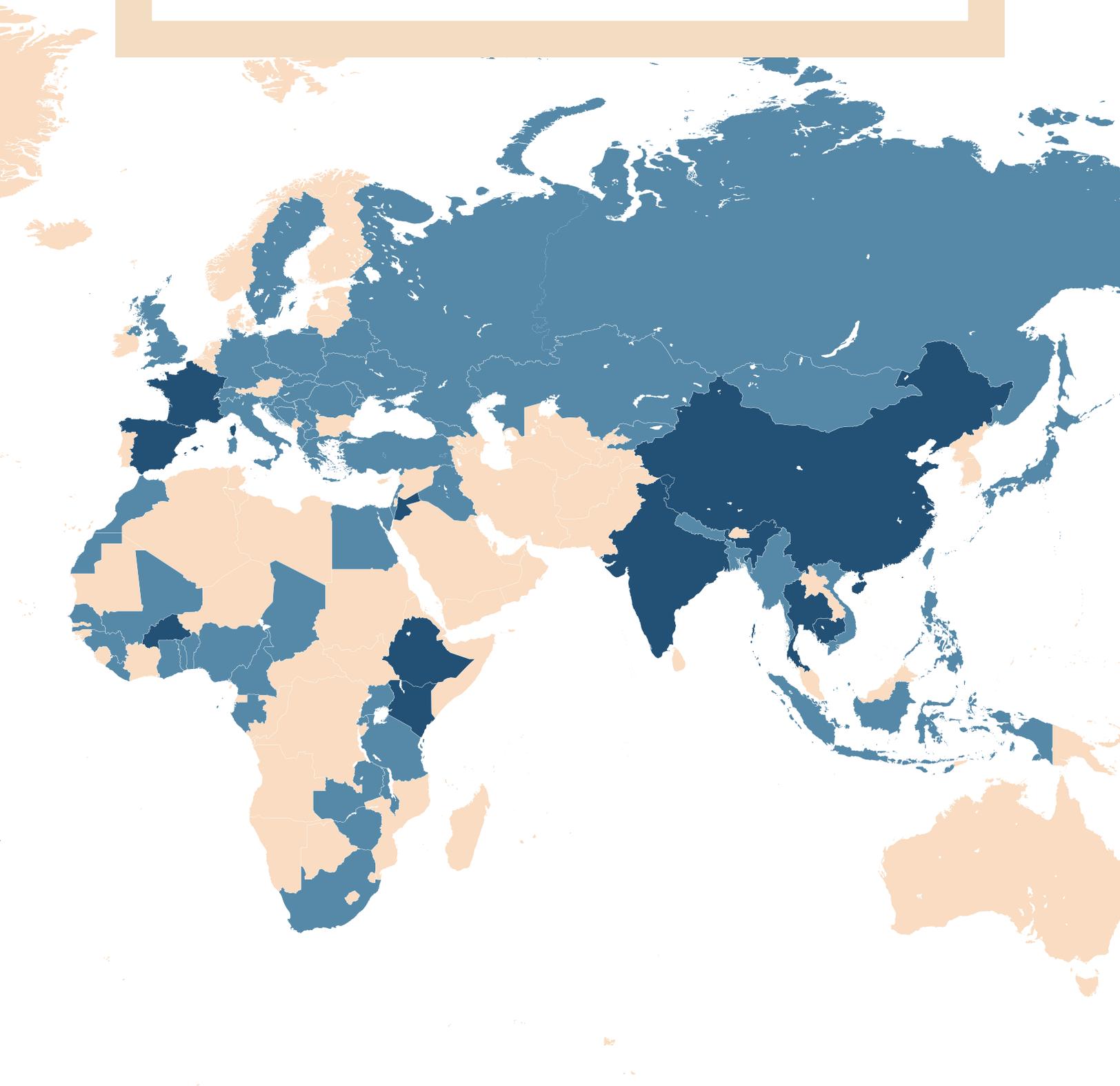
# SHORT-TERM TEAMS: COUNTRIES OF SERVICE

## Top 20 Countries Where Teams Are Sent

1. United States
2. Mexico
3. Haiti
4. India
5. Guatemala
6. Dominican Republic
7. China
8. Thailand
9. Kenya
10. Jordan
11. Spain
12. Cambodia
13. Honduras
14. Peru
15. Burkina Faso
16. Canada
17. Ecuador
18. France
19. Cuba
20. Ethiopia

## Places where short-term teams were sent from our participants

■ Top 20 places teams were sent   ■ Other places teams were sent   ■ Places no teams were sent



# SHORT-TERM TEAM PREPARATION AND PROTECTION

*Percentage of churches providing these  
programs for short-term teams.*

96%

## PRE-TRIP PLANNING

*Cultural awareness, team-building, travel advice, and ministry preparation are all key elements of preparing teams to travel and minister effectively. Supporting these core elements with a biblical foundation for missions, prepares not only for an effective trip, but forming a heart for global missions in each participant.*

## POST-TRIP DEBRIEF

*Whether a trip lasts ten days, two months, or a year, there is much to process after a short-term trip. Having a structured plan and tools are essential for individuals and groups to digest what has taken place, how their hearts were moved on the trip, and assist individuals in their faith journey with open minds to future mission engagement.*

84%

55%

## SECURITY TRAINING

*Various levels of risk exist for most trips. As we seek to steward our teams, it is essential for us not only to prepare team members for potential risks, but also to ensure our church staff is prepared for any issues that may take place while our teams are on the field. Training is available for various levels of risk your teams may face.*

## EVACUATION INSURANCE

*With each trip there is always a risk of someone getting sick or injured from accidents or mishaps. There are also global issues ranging from environmental to political which could necessitate an evacuation. Many low-cost policies are available to ensure this is an option that can be utilized if the circumstance requires it.*

55%

27%

## HOSTAGE INSURANCE

*This growing threat to Americans traveling abroad is something to take seriously. Whether working along the border in Mexico, or traveling to the Middle East or Africa, some may take advantage of American teams. More churches are obtaining policies that provide protection and extraction if necessary.*

## OTHER

*Other tools and training that our participants identified include: fundraising training, prayer partner development, on-field training, contextualized education on specific regions of the world, devotional tools, health insurance awareness, spiritual warfare, group dynamics training, and evangelism.*

13%



**Jim Davis**  
*Director of Outreach at  
Asbury United Methodist  
Church in Tulsa, Oklahoma*  
asburytulsa.org

## Keeping Short-Term Teams Safe

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Short-term teams are often an integral part of churches' missional engagement and allow us to take the gospel of Jesus Christ to the world in both word and action. While there is risk all around us, taking teams to foreign countries brings additional elements of risk, which may come in the form of travel, dangerous roads, disease, civil unrest, terrorism, or dark spiritual forces. While we trust and pray for God's hand of protection over our teams, we also strive to make wise choices and decisions that help keep teams safe.

While the safety of our teams is vitally important in today's world, we must also consider the financial and legal exposure to our churches in case of an incident. The wise choices and decisions that help keep teams safe must also address the financial and legal well-being of our church.

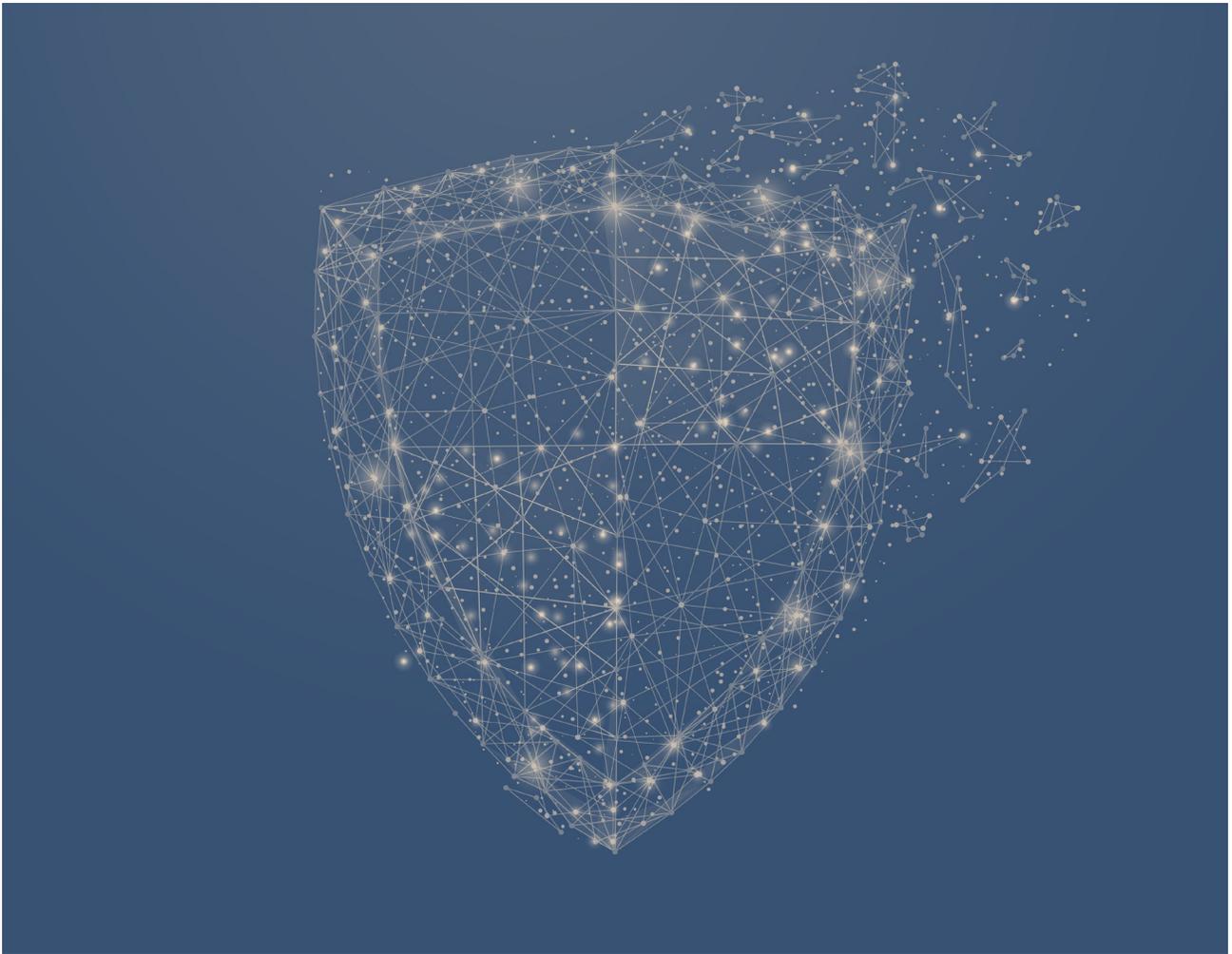
Some basic analysis of potential risk exposures from short-term teams can mitigate illness, injury, and legal liability. Think through the types and locations of trips you take and identify the most likely sources of risk. In most cases, a supplemental insurance policy readily mitigates illness, injury, and the need to evacuate. With higher risk countries, more complicated scenarios should be considered, along with more complex solutions.

For most trips, consider planning these elements into your trip if you haven't already:

- Always buy supplemental insurance that will cover medical expenses for illness and injury and evacuation expenses for medical or security reasons. Some evacuation plans will come get you where you are, for example, in a hotel room during a coup or earthquake.
- Always register your teams with the U.S. State Department's Smart Traveler Enrollment Program (STEP). This notifies the nearest U.S. Embassy of the team's presence and automatically sends appropriate alerts or notices while in country. It's free.
- In team training meetings, address the potential risk exposures from the trip such as health (drinking water, cholera, malaria), physical risks (construction, power tools, transportation, snakes), and spiritual risks (closed countries, spiritual warfare). Develop plans for staying safe, and remind your team regularly while in country.
- Monitor world events and relevant U.S. State Department, Centers for Disease Control, and World Health Organization alerts and notices.
- Provide additional leadership training for team leaders and consider background checks.
- Consider background checks for team participants if working with children.
- Be willing to cancel, change, shorten, or re-route a trip based on safety, security, or health threats, even at the expense of the church if necessary.
- Have a written risk-management plan in some form. If a lawsuit ever

arises, a written plan demonstrates to a court that forethought and planning has taken place.

- Know what your church's or denomination's general liability policy covers regarding short-term international trips.
- Brief teams on social media protocols, especially if you are in a high-risk area where a Facebook post could jeopardize national believers or the team.
- For churches taking team to high risk areas, consider having a prepared crisis management plan in case of an incident. Post-crisis debriefs from mission agencies and churches that have experienced major events usually indicate they were not adequately prepared for the firestorm of media coverage. Who gets called? Who talks to the press? Crisis Consulting International ([cricon.org](http://cricon.org)) is a great resource to know.



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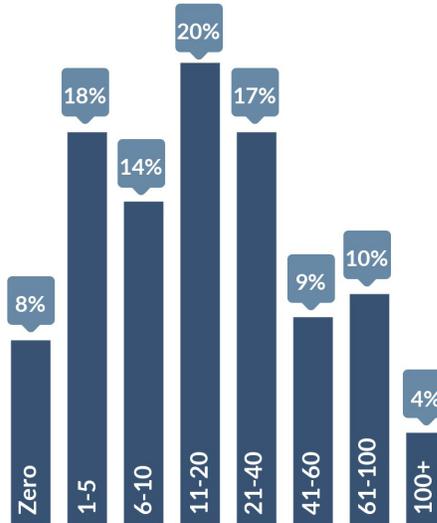


# LONG-TERM SENDING

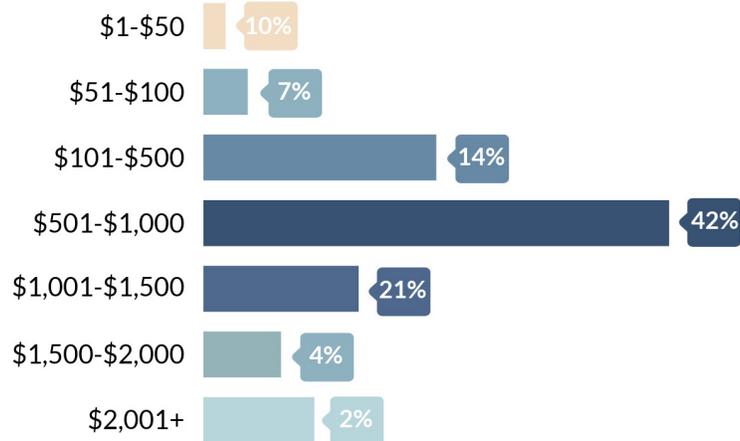
S E C T I O N F O U R

## LONG-TERM SENDING: STATISTICS

Number of Missionaries  
Supported per Church



Average Amount  
of Missionary  
Support per  
Church



## PIPELINE

Engaging the Church in Missionary Mobilization

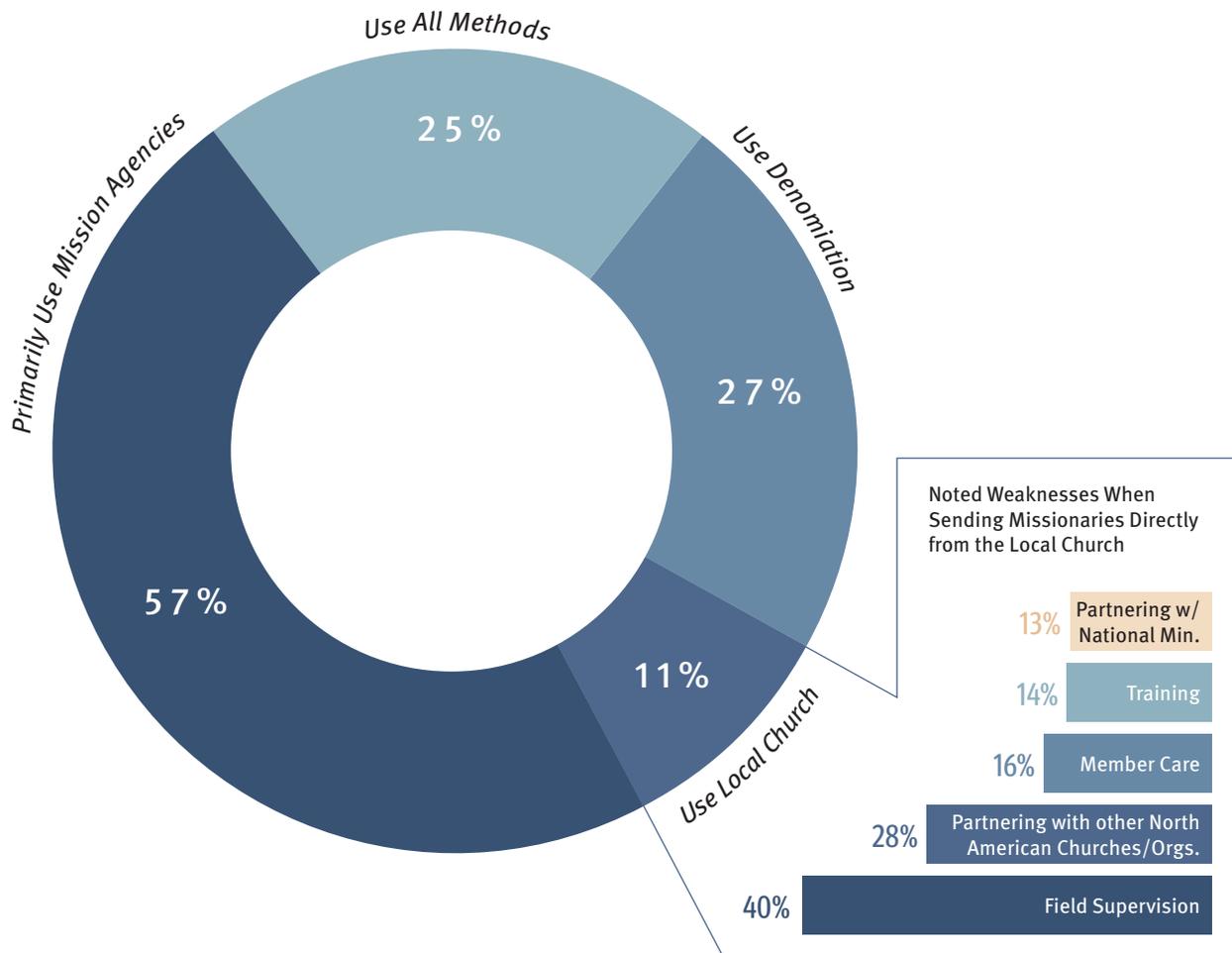
*“If the pipeline is only built to handle a few workers, the Lord will probably only send a few workers. However, if the pipeline is built to accommodate many workers, he will send many workers. And the church is at the head of the supply line.”*

—David J. and Lorene Wilson, *Pipeline: Engaging the Church in Missionary Mobilization*

## Sending Missionaries

Raising up, discipling, preparing and supporting career missionaries is an important and critical role of the local church. No matter the size of the congregation, each church has the ability to create awareness and nurture people toward cross-cultural mission service. There are numerous resources available to help each church raise up and support missionaries effectively. Many mission agencies are more than willing to explore deeper levels of partnership and aid in the equipping of your congregation to see more missionaries sent out. Once sent out, the stable, consistent, and loving support of the local church is a critical component of seeing missionaries endure the long-haul of the ups and downs of career missionary service.

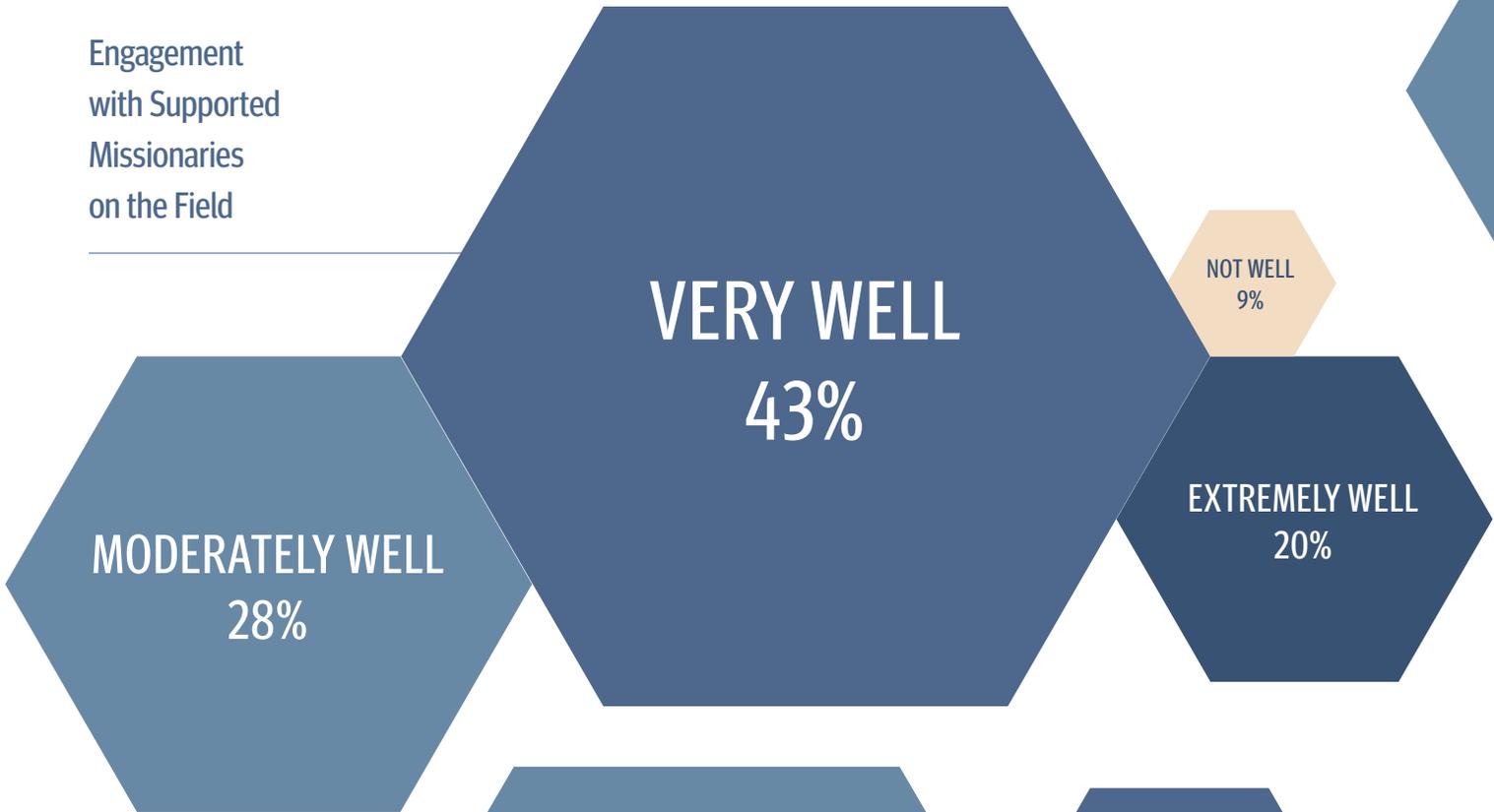
### Means of Sending Long-Term Missionaries



# CHURCH MISSIONS: MISSIONARY ENGAGEMENT

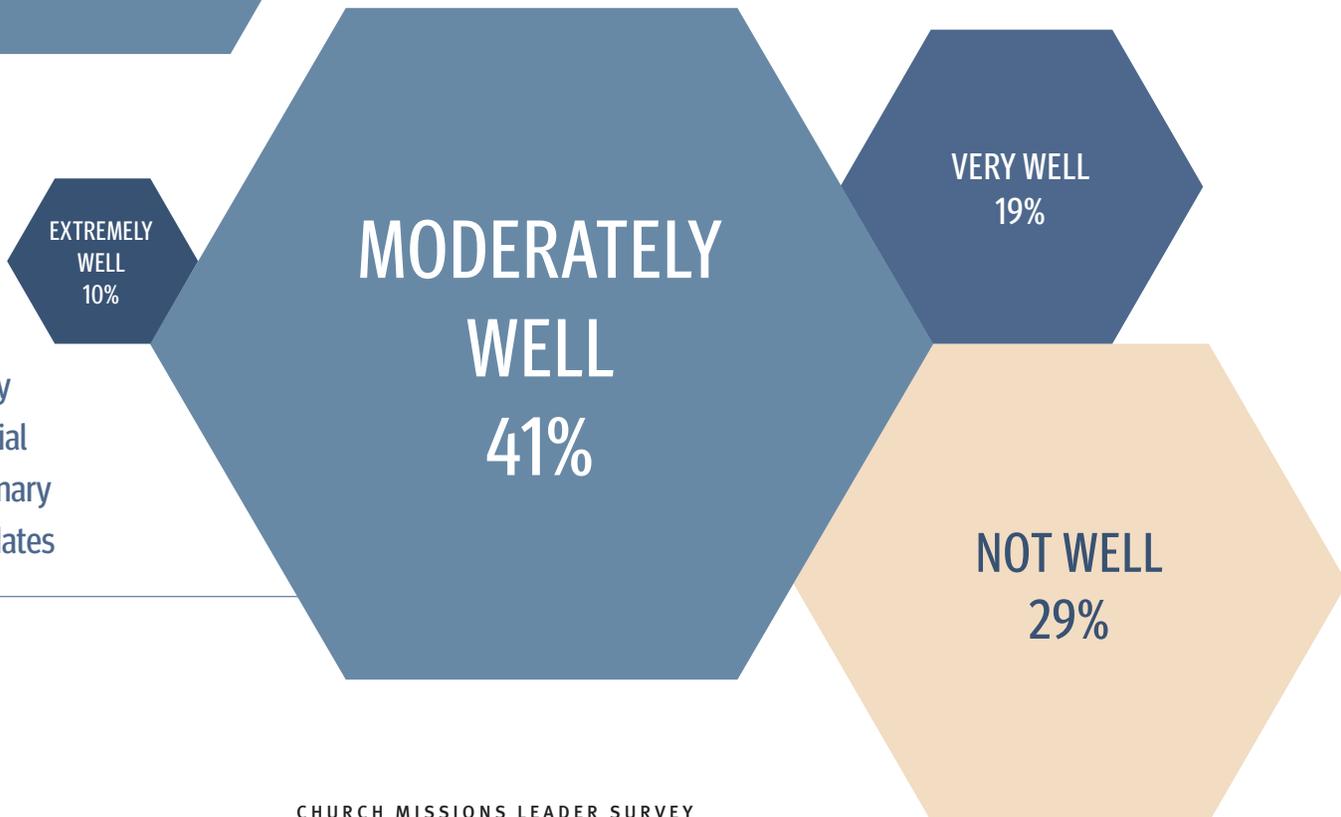
Engagement  
with Supported  
Missionaries  
on the Field

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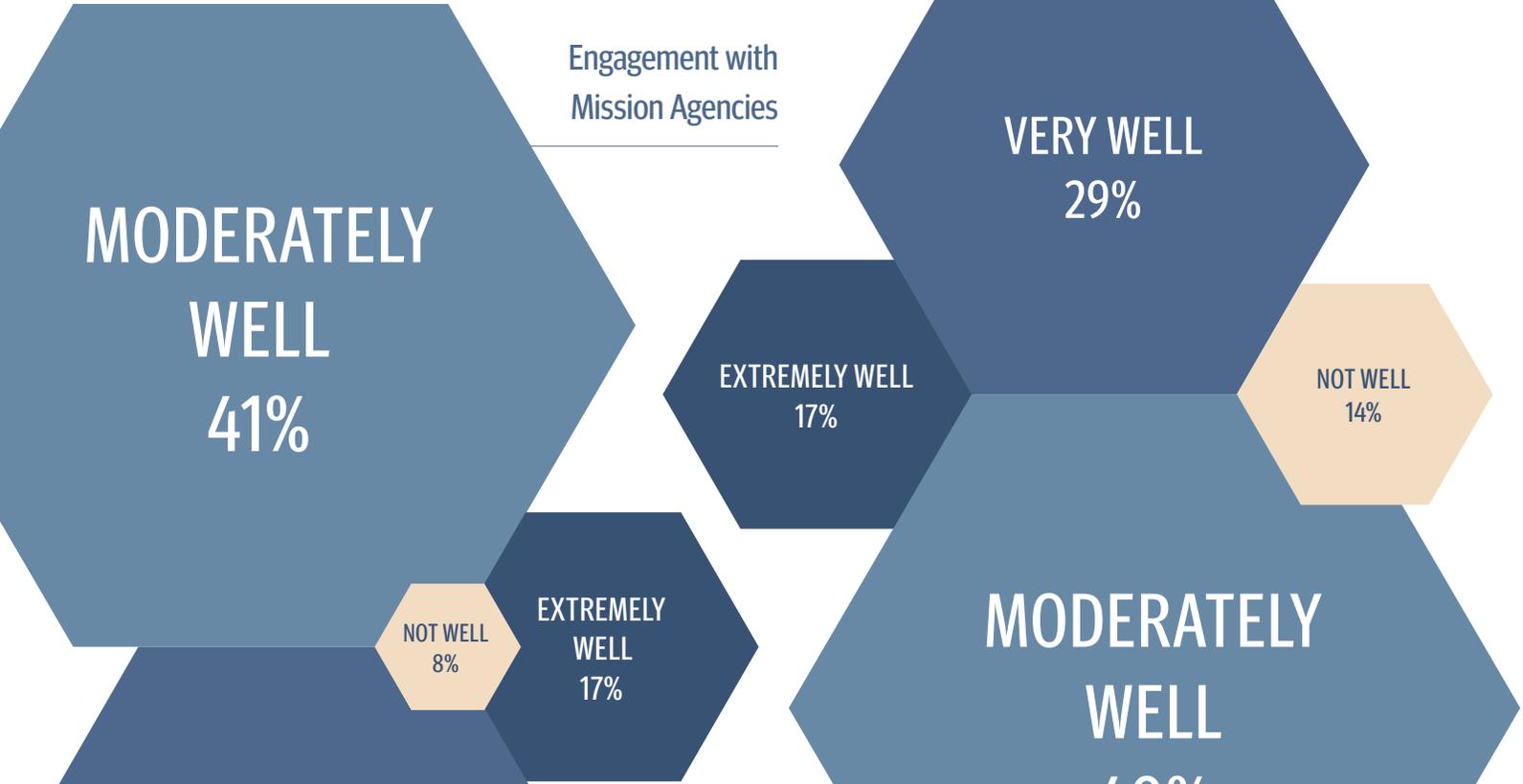


Identify  
Potential  
Missionary  
Candidates

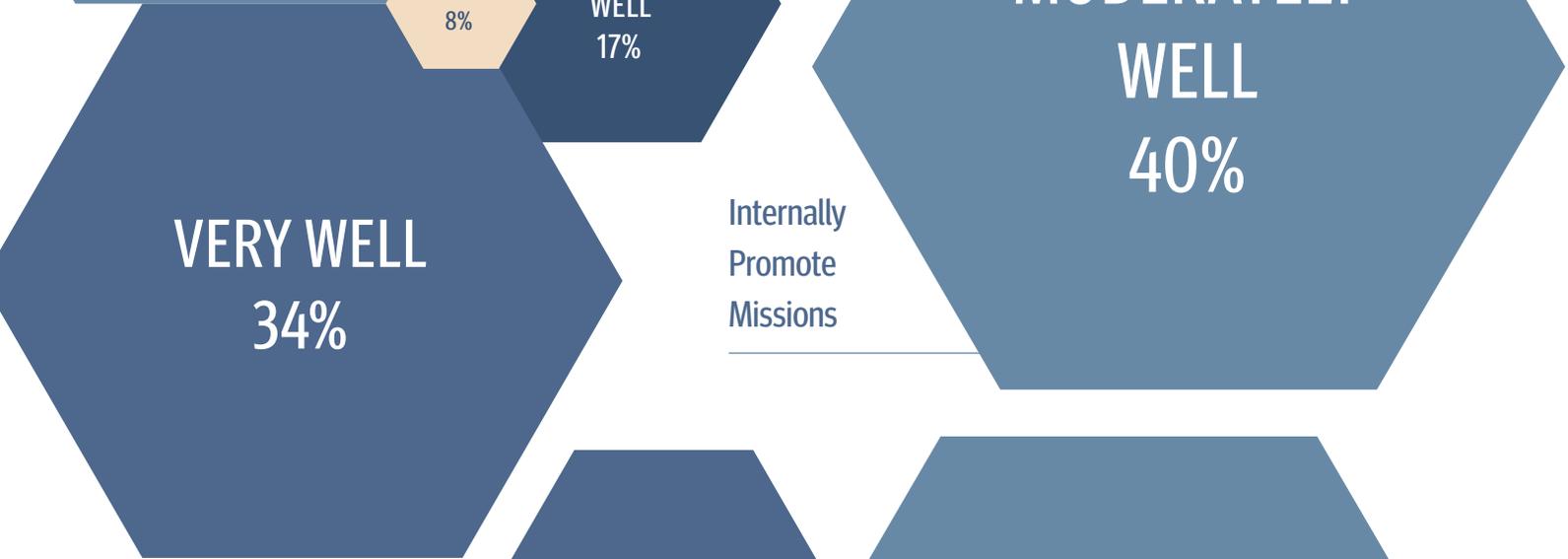
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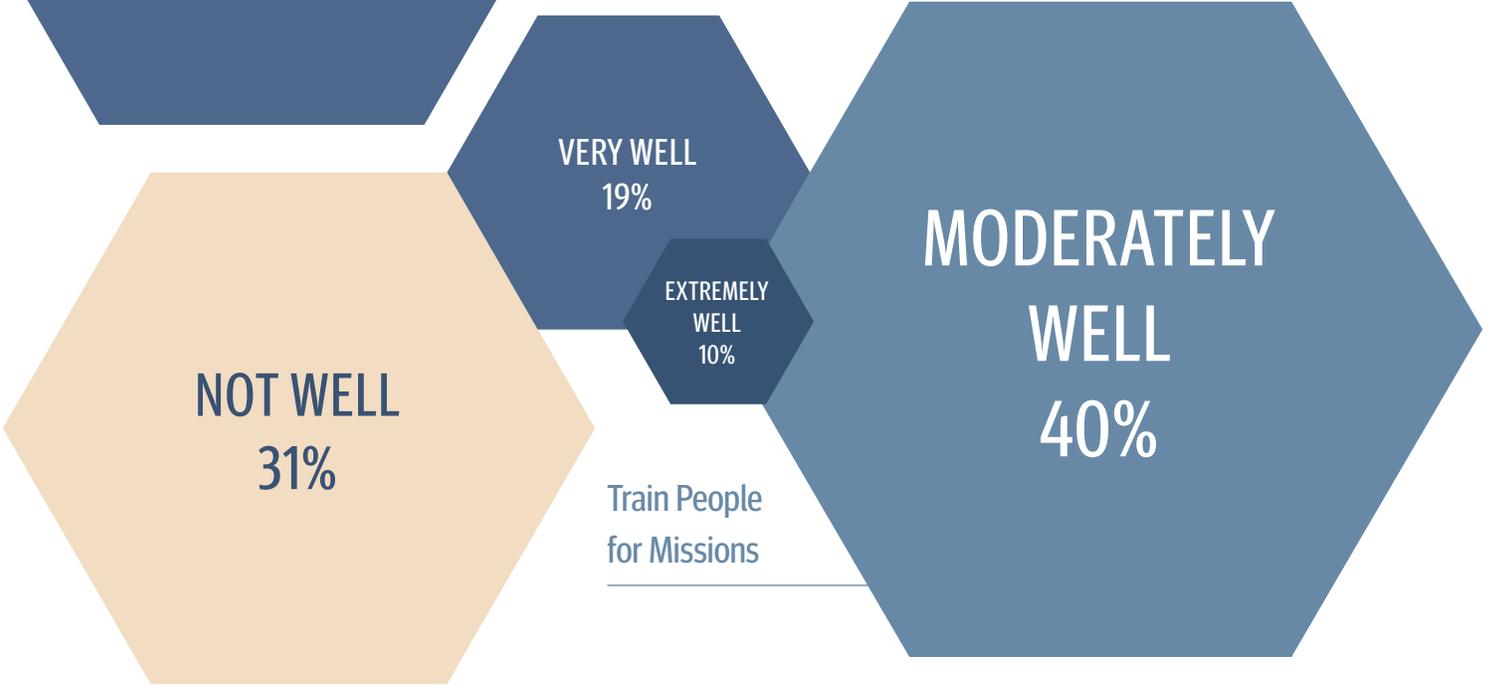
Engagement with  
Mission Agencies



Internally  
Promote  
Missions



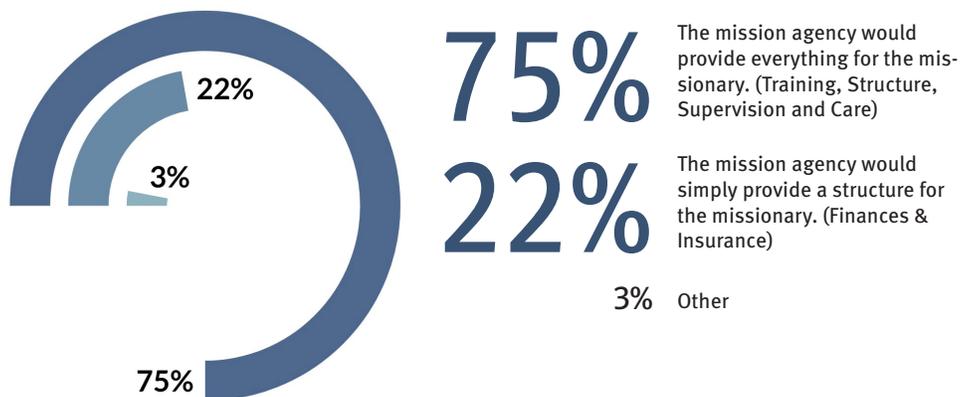
Train People  
for Missions



# LONG-TERM SENDING: CHURCH AND AGENCY

## Training Expectations

Churches were asked to consider their expectations regarding their relationship and involvement with mission sending agencies on four topics: Training, Mobilization, Crisis, and Engagement.



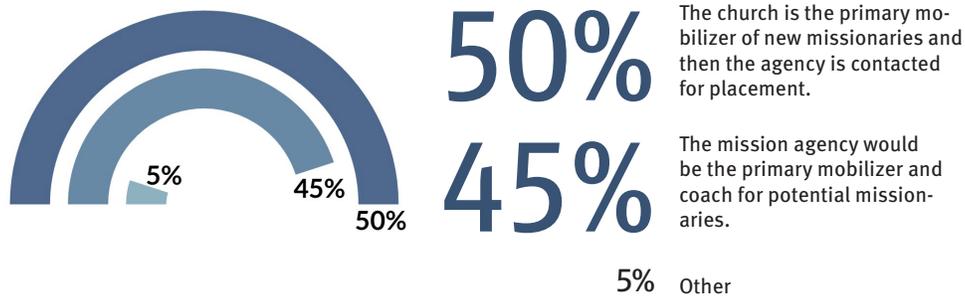
Comments on training expectations with agencies from church participants:

- “We jointly provide care with the mission agency.”
- “We partner with agencies to provide supervision, care and training.”
- “We seek to have a true partnership with the agency. The church provides pre-field assessment, development and ongoing care. We work with our agencies to complement each other.”
- “We look to the agency to provide financial, ministry, and personal life accountability.”
- “We train all our own people.”
- “It depends on each agency.”
- “We look for support structures in the agencies, but we are involved in the mission of the missionary.”
- “We look to the agency to provide an insurance and a retirement plan.”
- “We train before the trip. The mission agency handles everything in country.”
- “We require all of our candidates to attend Radius International for 10 months prior to going overseas.”
- “We prepare the candidates, and we expect the agency to provide cultural and contextual training.”

***“We want a partnership where church and agency leverage their respective strengths with sufficient communication.”***

–Church Missions Leader Survey Participant

### Mobilization Expectations



Comments on mobilization expectations with agencies from church participants:

- “The two should work together in identifying potential missionaries for long-term assignment.”
- “The church is the primary mobilizer and decides with the missionary the field placement and nature of work. The agency is selected by which one can best accomplish those decided objectives.”
- “Some perspective missionaries have a clear direction in which field they wish to serve. Thus, the agency is usually taking the lead role in mobilization.”
- “As a church, we have a responsibility to vet the calling and readiness of those we recommend to agencies.”
- “We mobilize and send through an agency partner. The missionaries themselves usually negotiate what they want/need/expect from the two partners.”
- “The church mobilizers connect them to an agency, and then the agency coaches further through deployment.”
- “Working together is best!”



Ellen Livingood  
CEO of Catalyst Services  
info@catalystservices.org  
catalystservices.org

## Church/Agency Marriages

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### What Churches Can Do to Facilitate Collaboration:

- **Preach/Teach the biblical basis of missions.** Pastors and missions leaders intentionally and regularly keep God's vision for the nations before the congregation. Missions is integrated into the heart of the church's vision, goals, and programs for all ages.
- **Prioritize continuity of involvement.** The church leaders maintain missions focus and funding commitments even when launching major projects such as church plants and building programs.
- **Screen applicants.** The church takes seriously their responsibility to send well-qualified workers by screening out those not qualified, and by investing in building character and ministry competence in those whom the church has prayerfully determined are potential workers.
- **Invest in personal relationships.** In order to provide quality, integrated support, the sending church engages in three-way dialogue involving church/agency/missionary to build collaborative understanding. Church leaders take time to get to know key agency staff and policies, whenever possible via an in-person visit to agency headquarters.
- **Generously finance.** The church provides a significant amount of monthly financial support for those missionaries they send from their own body and fund extra projects for these workers to the extent possible.
- **Share pastoral care.** Designated church caregivers walk alongside their missionaries by providing on-field and home-assignment pastoral care in collaboration with the agency.
- **Communicate around the sending triangle.** Throughout their missionary's service, the church makes sure that there is transparency among church, agency, and missionary on important issues and decisions. If the church perceives a problem, they discuss it confidentially with missionary and agency to seek resolution.
- **Engage with contemporary agency challenges.** The church takes time to learn the challenges that agencies grapple with in today's fast-changing global and missions context. They encourage new paradigms such as the sending of Kingdom professionals, global networking, etc.
- **Avoid duplication.** Before launching their own non-profit to fulfill their vision, the church researches whether an existing agency can facilitate a ministry or project.

# col•lab•o•ra•tion *noun*

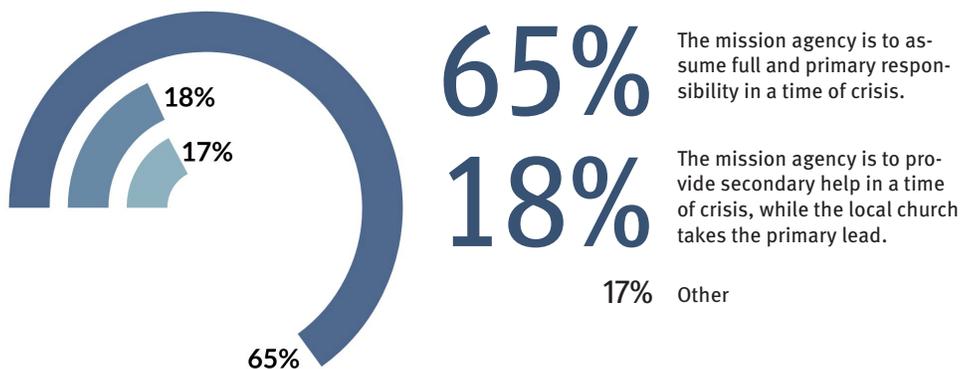
Two or more people working together toward shared goals.

## **What Churches Sometimes Do That Makes it Difficult for Agencies to Partner:**

- **Lack careful leadership transition.** The church appoints new missions leaders without adequately informing them of the background of current agency relationships. Poor transitions require extensive time and energy from the agency to start from scratch in building partnership with new leaders.
- **Bypass the agency with funding.** The church sends funds directly to the field rather than through the agency in order to avoid administrative fees.
- **Lack transparency in references.** The church glosses over a candidate's personal or ministry inadequacies on reference forms with the hope that the agency discovers the deficiencies and takes full responsibility for determining the candidate's suitability for missions service.
- **Block access.** In an effort to protect staff schedules, some churches make it difficult for agency personnel to interface with church leaders responsible for missions. Both sides must respect each other's time but also create space for dialogue.
- **Micromanage.** Church leaders attempt to control details of field ministry instead of delegating them to the on-site leadership.
- **Make unilateral decisions.** Church leaders make decisions about moving or removing their missionary from the field without fully discussing the decision with agency leaders.
- **Fail to listen.** The church sides with their missionary when there is a personnel conflict without listening to the agency and/or other team members' perspectives.
- **Resist funding agency overhead.** The church desires all monies to go to the field missionary and avoids responsibility to help fund administrative costs.
- **Refuse end-of-service decisions.** The church rejects any decision to remove a missionary from the field or from a particular assignment in situations where the worker is no longer effective.

# LONG-TERM SENDING: CHURCH AND AGENCY

## Crisis Expectations



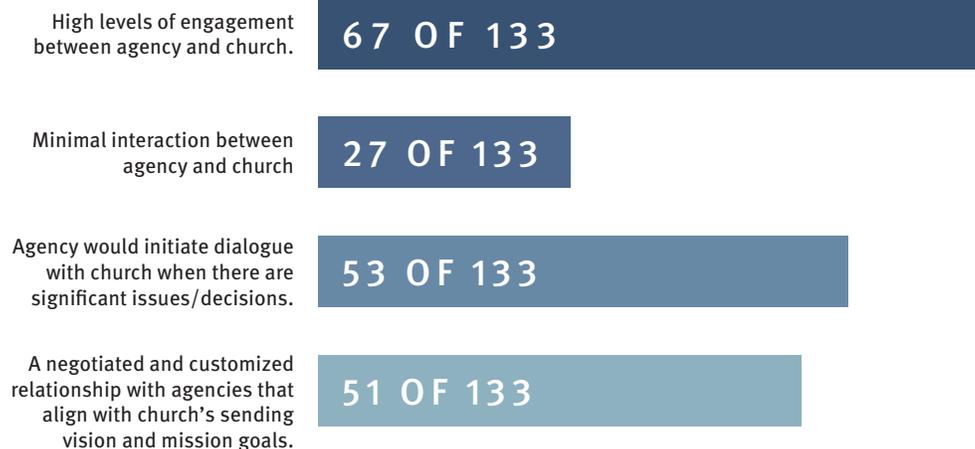
Comments on crisis expectations with agencies from church participants:

- “We decide this through a customized relationship development”.
- “Varies by agency.”
- “The agency has primary responsibility but not FULL responsibility.”
- “The mission agency would take the lead, according to their policies and procedures, but the sending church would have an equal “seat at the table” in terms of input.”
- “The mission agency assumes primary responsibility and the church provides secondary aid.”
- “This is collaborative based on the competency of the agency.”
- “It really depends on who is best positioned to lead in the situation. For our primary fields, we are able to do that; for others the agency is better positioned.”
- “It should be mutual.”
- “We expect to care for the missionary after a crisis, but require the agency to be equipped to evacuate and intervene appropriately when necessary.”
- “It depends on the issue—If it is a crisis on the field, we expect the agency to take full and primary responsibility. If it is a problem with co-workers, the agency takes primary but the home church a secondary role. If it is a personal issue with the missionary (marriage, health, etc.), the church takes a primary role and the agency a secondary role.”
- “We expect to be engaged and kept aware and to be invited into appropriate roles as the workers’ home church.”

***“Our goal is that we would work together utilizing our strengths and minimizing weaknesses”***

–Church Missions Leader Survey Participant

### Engagement Expectations



Comments on engagement expectations with agencies from church participants:

- “We prefer high engagement, but the reality is only a few engage directly with us as a church.”
- “It really varies with the agency. We don’t interact with them much after a missionary is sent except in the cases of crisis or moving.”
- “We would like there to be some individualization in the sending process.”
- “An open and well-connected relationship with the agency to collaborate as needed.”
- “Mutual design in the initial stages of planning. Execution of that mutual design and ongoing communication.”



**David and Lorene Wilson**  
*Director of Church Relations at Avant Ministries in Kansas City, Missouri*  
avantministries.org

## Proactive and Intentional Relationships

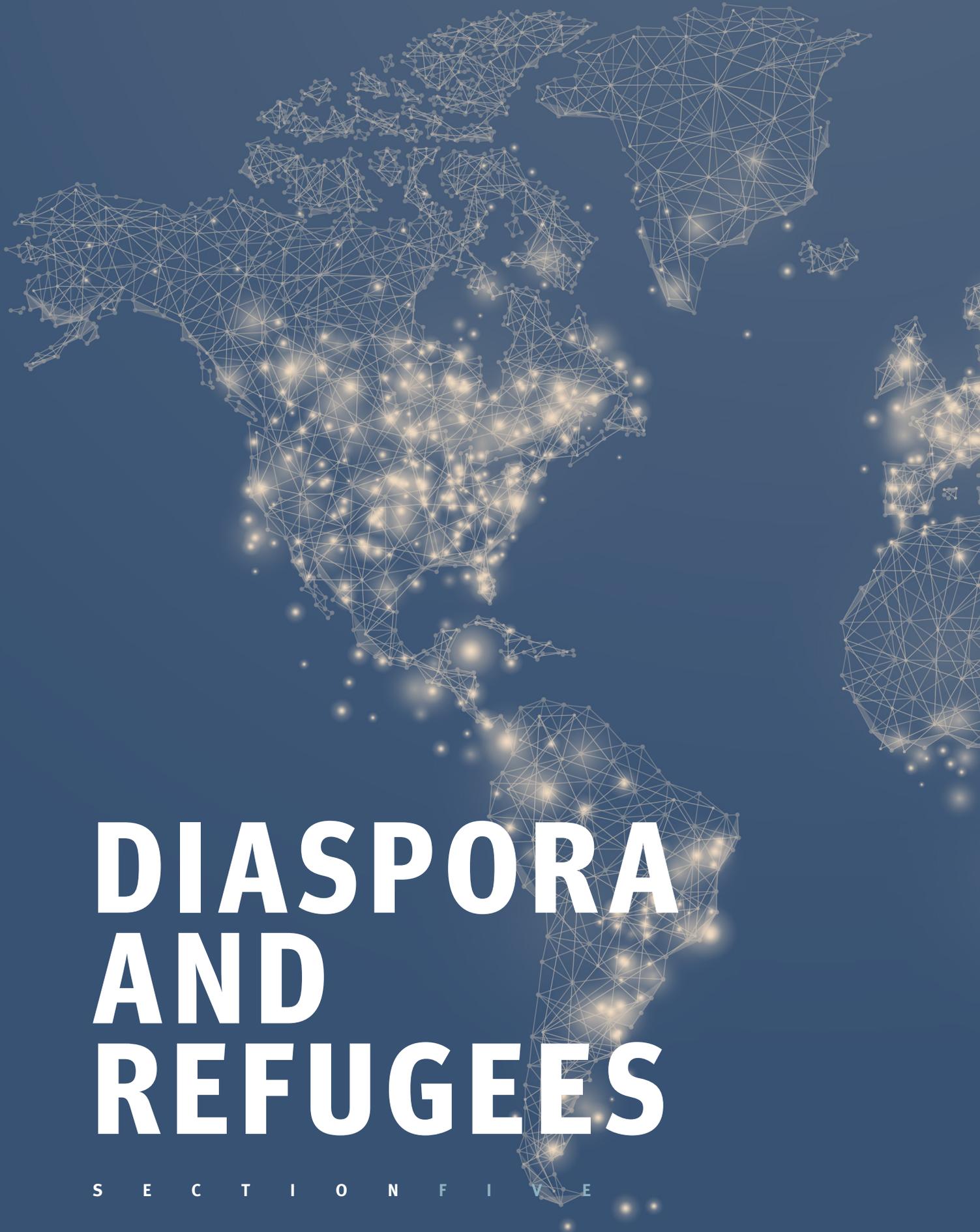
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The relationship between churches and mission agencies is vital to the resiliency and effectiveness of our missionaries serving overseas. Therefore, it is essential for both entities to be proactive and intentional in building and maintaining a system of frequent contact. As with any relationship, the potential for miscommunication is high, and it can potentially have long-term consequences. For example, if a church is a passive participant in sending missionaries (i.e. they only send support money), then the agency may assume that they are merely “outsourcing” the Great Commission to the sending organization. This communicates that since they are “experts” in the field of cross-cultural ministry, there is no real role for the church to play in these global endeavors. But we have all heard the saying: “experts built the Titanic, but Noah was simply a faithful servant of God who built the ark.”

On the other hand, when the mission agency ignores the sending church during times of major decisions, they may be sending the tacit message that all they need to do is pay, pray, and stay out of the way. Neither of these valuable Great Commission partners want to communicate this, but sometimes things left unspoken are heard the loudest – remember that 93% of communication is non-verbal. Thankfully, churches are beginning to see that they are God’s chosen vessel to take the message of Jesus Christ to the nations. They are not sitting idle anymore, wanting more responsibility in cultivating the next generation of missionaries, commissioning people to the field, and caring for them while they are serving on behalf of the church. Likewise, missionary sending agencies are recognizing the benefits of establishing deep connections with the churches that raise up and disciple people in the areas of missionary mobilization and care.

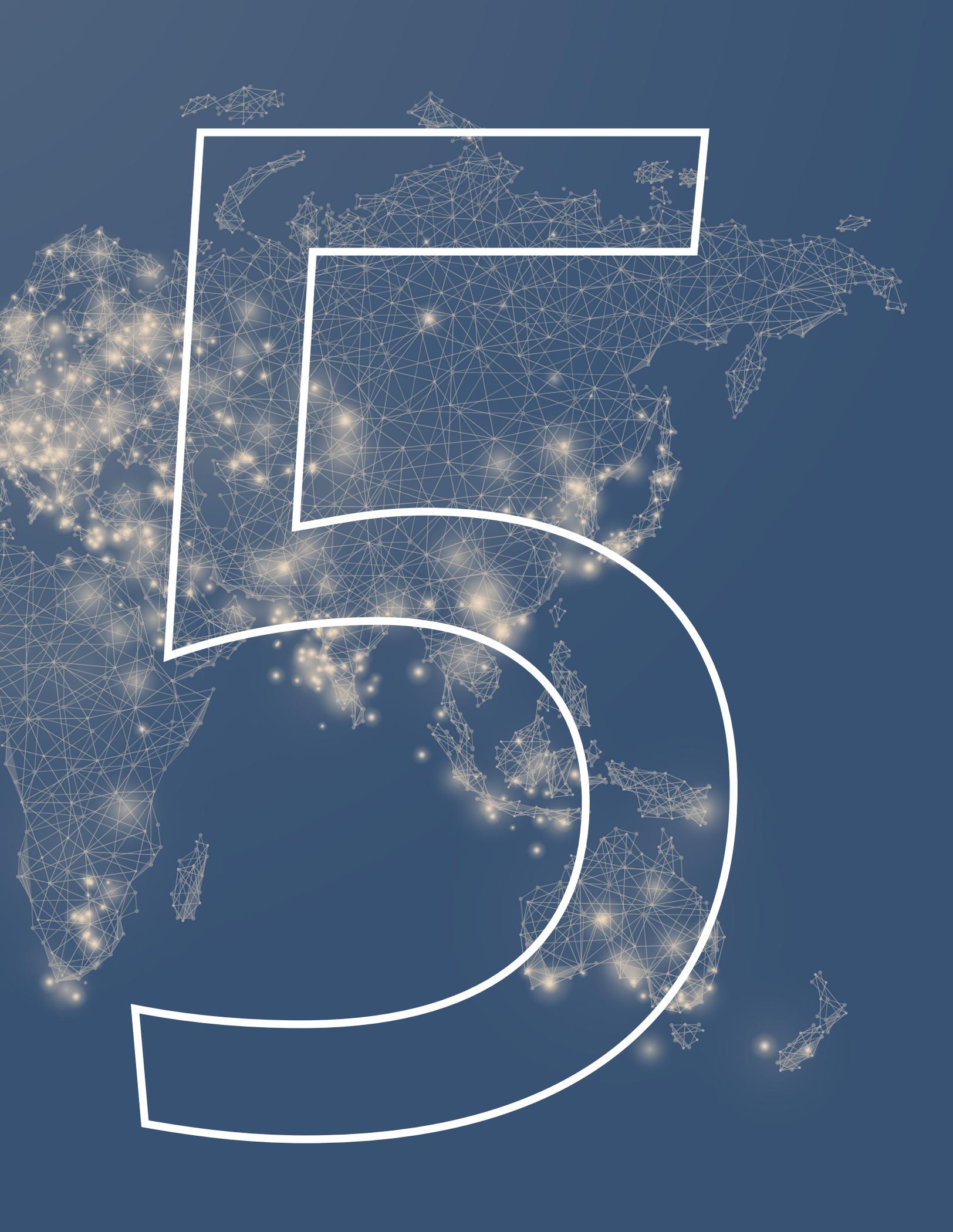
In the words of the teacher in Ecclesiastes: “Though one may be overpowered, two can defend themselves. A cord of three strands is not quickly broken.” When the relationship between a mission agency, the church, and the missionary is well established, the Lord is glorified, and the Kingdom will grow. May God continue to bless all those who are engaged in the Great Commission to the end of the age.





# DIASPORA AND REFUGEES

S E C T I O N F I V E





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*Director of NextMove  
Diaspora Ministry*  
NextMove.net

## Better Together: Partnerships for Engaging Immigrant Communities

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**Three Levels Church Engagement.** Churches across the North American continent are reaching out to the new arrivals. These churches engage with new immigrant groups along three different vectors or environments.

**Church-based Ministries.** First, churches engage with church-based ministries. These are typically ministries of help for the new arrivals. They include efforts to adopt refugee families, ESL classes, tutoring, international student hosting, and the like. These are important ministries that convey the love of Christ to the newly arrived community. What they have in common is the explicit association with the church and they typically result in new converts culturally extracting themselves from their immigrant community in order to be part of the local church. This creates limits for outreach to immigrant communities highly resistant to the gospel.

**New Immigrant Churches.** Second, churches help to form either mono or multi-cultural churches among the new residents coming into the community. Typically, these new congregations are sponsored by, and often housed in, the existing local church. However, most of these new congregations arise from immigrant groups that have a significant church presence in their country of origin such as the Philippines, Mexico, Korea, or Nigeria.

**Resistant Community Focused.** The third level, and most challenging for the local church, is engagement centered in gospel-resistant immigrant communities. Local churches can struggle with the creation of ministries that facilitate both care for the immigrant community and the opportunity for indigenously led and culturally appropriate movements of the gospel that do not result in cultural extraction. This type of ministry is genuinely cross-cultural and typically not explicitly identified with existing churches or Christian ministries.

**Three Areas of Need.** As churches work through these different levels of engagement, they often encounter difficulties in three areas: leadership capacity, cross-cultural expertise, and ministry longevity.

**Leadership Capacity.** Pastors and churches develop ministries to meet the needs of their own local church and surrounding community and often find it challenging to resource the core ministries of the church. When a brand-new immigrant people group arrives on their doorstep with different customs, worldview, needs, and even language, the church can feel overwhelmed. Focused on their own local community and culture, few pastors have the capacity to add to their circle of responsibility an entirely new and often unreached people group. Additional leadership is needed. New leadership must be mobilized and trained within the church for diaspora missions.

**Cross-Cultural Expertise.** The question is how new leadership can

be mobilized and trained. More specifically, how does the local church develop leaders who attain expertise in cross-cultural evangelism and discipleship among migrating people groups? Training for this type of expertise is rarely included in pastoral educational programs. But even beyond theoretical education, those who work cross-culturally know this expertise is gained primarily through experience. Churches need to find cross-cultural mentors for their emerging diaspora missions leadership.

**Ministry Longevity.** Even with a commitment to engage new immigrant communities and to develop leadership for diaspora missions, churches may still find long-term perseverance in these ministries difficult. One reason for this may be conceptual. Many North American churches have a short-term understanding of church ministry—one that typically runs concurrent with the school year. Ministries that don't produce positive results on a yearly time scale get dropped. But engagement with immigrant people groups necessitates a conceptual shift to the long term. Gaining trust, finding ways to overcome cultural resistance to the gospel, finding and developing indigenous leadership, and creating sustainable faith communities among societies that have lost all basis for cooperation and trust takes years of investment. We must sow with tears before we reap with joy.

Beyond conceptual change, individual churches often lack the personnel and resource capacity for long-term engagement. Individual churches may be able initially to mobilize some of its leaders and members for high commitment ministry among diaspora communities, but the forces of natural attrition, such as business relocation, family changes, or even frustration with cross-cultural ministry, easily reduces the numbers of workers to an unsustainable level, especially since this type of ministry requires the investment of many years.

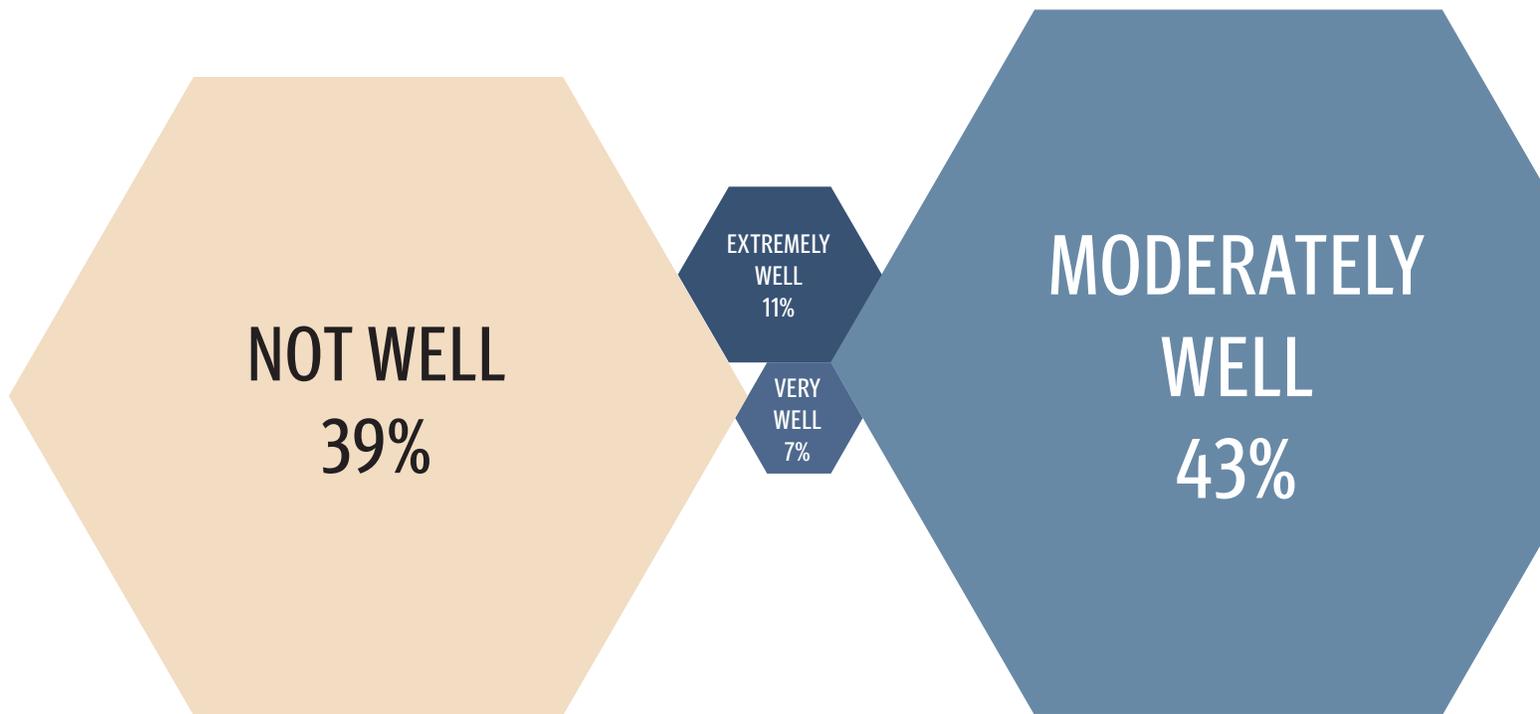
**Better Together: Church and Mission Agency Partnerships.** The problems associated with the questions of leadership capacity, cross-cultural expertise, and ministry longevity are largely alleviated by working together. Working together can be envisioned in two distinct ways. First is the creation of a consortium of churches in the same geographic area partnering together to reach an immigrating people group.

The second way is the formation of church/mission agency partnerships. Mission agency personnel have cross-cultural training and experience that aids the local church in mentoring diaspora mission leaders and in entering and remaining present in communities highly resistant to the gospel.

There have arisen in the past few years many new paradigms for church/agency partnerships. What is common to all of them is the recognition that the task is too large to do alone. Missio Nexus is a great source of information on this expanding world of diaspora mission partnerships.

# DIASPORA AND REFUGEES: LOCAL ENGAGEMENT

## Level of Engagement with Internationals Locally



## Types of Engagement by Local Churches with Diaspora & Refugees:

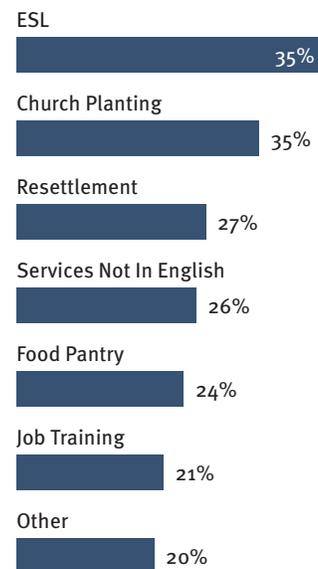
- “A local health clinic.”
- “A diaspora focused church plant.”
- “We have sent missionaries to work with forcibly displaced people in Europe.”
- “We partner with a local ministry that offers many services to adults and children.”
- “Our church is made up of over 70% immigrants from Liberia—we serve them through economic stability, business development, legal referrals, family matters local and abroad.”
- “Community events and an international fellowship at church.”
- “We train church leaders.”
- “Develop friendships, give driving instruction and help with cultural assimilation.”
- “We provide our space to be utilized by diaspora congregations.”
- “We focus on international students.”
- “Individual families are assisted in housing.”
- “We have a ministry to migrant field workers.”
- “We provide education for children.”
- “We provide medical care.”
- “We provide legal services.”
- We support missionaries working with refugees.

## Networks and partner churches who are serving diaspora and refugee communities (as identified by surveyed participants):

- Arrive Ministries ([arriveministries.org](http://arriveministries.org))
- Building Hope in the City ([buildinghopeinthecity.org](http://buildinghopeinthecity.org))
- Catholic Charities ([catholiccharitiesusa.org](http://catholiccharitiesusa.org))
- City for the Nations ([iafr.org](http://iafr.org))
- Crescent Project ([crescentproject.org](http://crescentproject.org))
- Centreville Labor Resource Center—undocumented immigrants, day laborers ([centreville-lrc.org](http://centreville-lrc.org))
- ESCMF ([escm.hhosts.net](http://escm.hhosts.net))
- FTNDC ([ftndc.org](http://ftndc.org))
- Forefront Experience ([forefrontexperience.com](http://forefrontexperience.com))
- Global Gates ([globalgates.info](http://globalgates.info))
- Global Boise ([globalboise.org](http://globalboise.org))
- Global Friends ([globalfriendsomaha.org](http://globalfriendsomaha.org))
- Greater Boston Refugee Network of the Emmanuel Gospel Center ([egc.org/refugee](http://egc.org/refugee))
- Home for Refugees ([homeforrefugeesusa.org](http://homeforrefugeesusa.org))
- Houston Welcomes Refugees ([houstonwelcomesrefugees.com](http://houstonwelcomesrefugees.com))
- International Association for Refugees ([iafr.org](http://iafr.org))
- International Friendships, Inc. ([ifipartners.org](http://ifipartners.org))
- International Project ([internationalproject.org](http://internationalproject.org))
- International Students Ministry Canada—Toronto’s mobilizers and diaspora workers meeting
- Launch Global ([launchglobal.org](http://launchglobal.org))
- Lynchburg Refugee Partnership ([lynchburgrefugeepartnership.com](http://lynchburgrefugeepartnership.com))
- Migros Aid Indy ([migrosaid.wordpress.com](http://migrosaid.wordpress.com))
- Prestige Learning Institute ([prestigeinstitute.org](http://prestigeinstitute.org))
- Salem for Refugees ([salemforrefugees.org](http://salemforrefugees.org))
- SALT—Somali Adult Literacy Training ([arriveministries.org/salt](http://arriveministries.org/salt))
- Toronto Alliance ([torontoalliancechurch.ca/parkdale](http://torontoalliancechurch.ca/parkdale))
- Toronto City Mission ([torontocitymission.com](http://torontocitymission.com))
- Tyndale Intercultural Centre ([tyndale.ca](http://tyndale.ca))
- World Relief ([worldrelief.org](http://worldrelief.org))

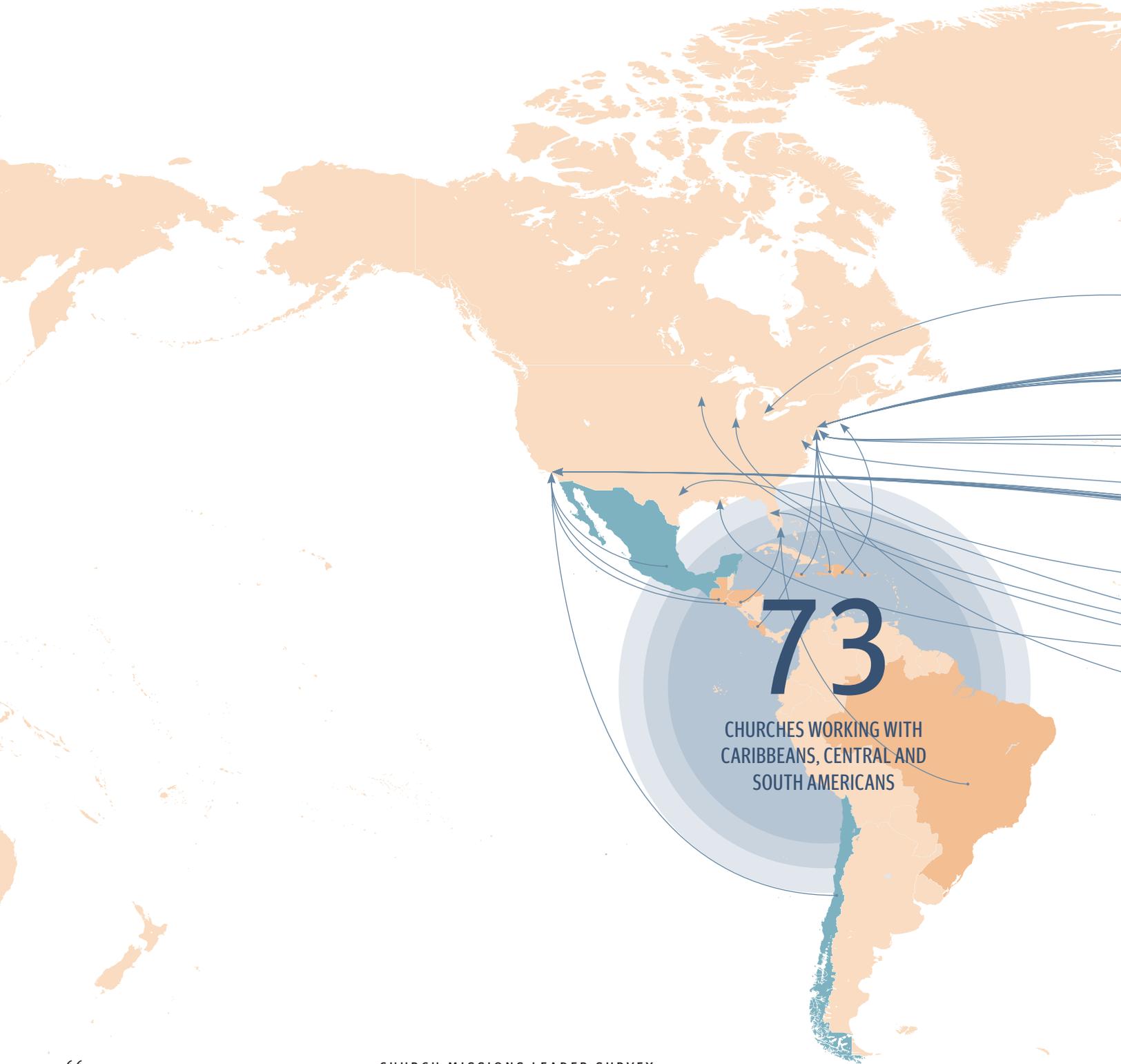
Missio Nexus is not necessarily endorsing these organization nor are they all members of the Missio Nexus association.

## Type of Engagement by Churches



# DIASPORA AND REFUGEES: NATIONALITY ENGAGEMENT IN NORTH AMERICA

■ Most Noted Countries of Origin   ■ Highlighted Countries/Regions of Origin   ↪ Regions with Significant Populations

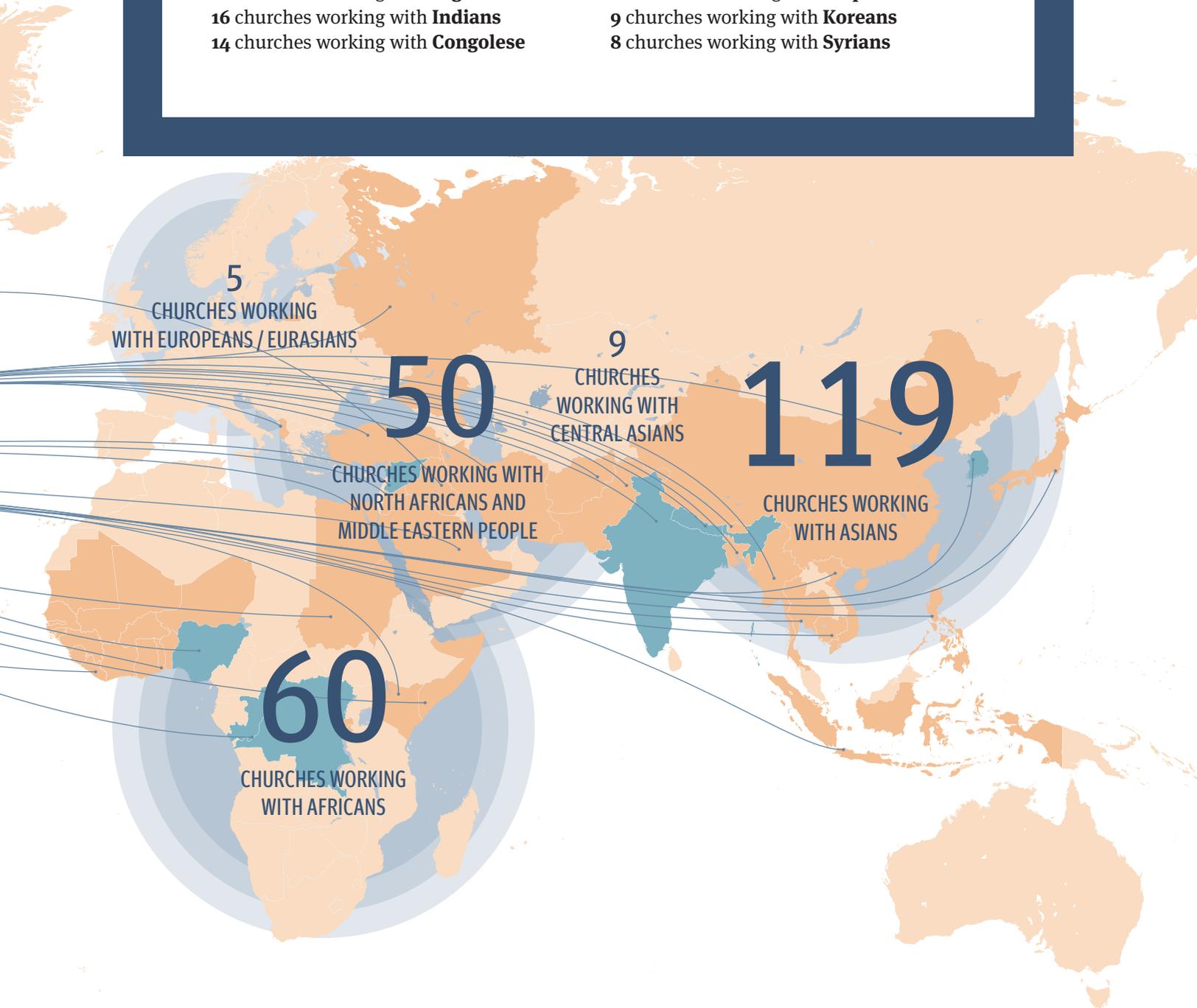


## Most Noted Countries

*By Number of Churches Working with Diaspora/Refugee People Group*

**28** churches working with **Chileans**  
**16** churches working with **Nigerians**  
**16** churches working with **Indians**  
**14** churches working with **Congolese**

**13** churches working with **Mexicans**  
**11** churches working with **Nepalese**  
**9** churches working with **Koreans**  
**8** churches working with **Syrians**





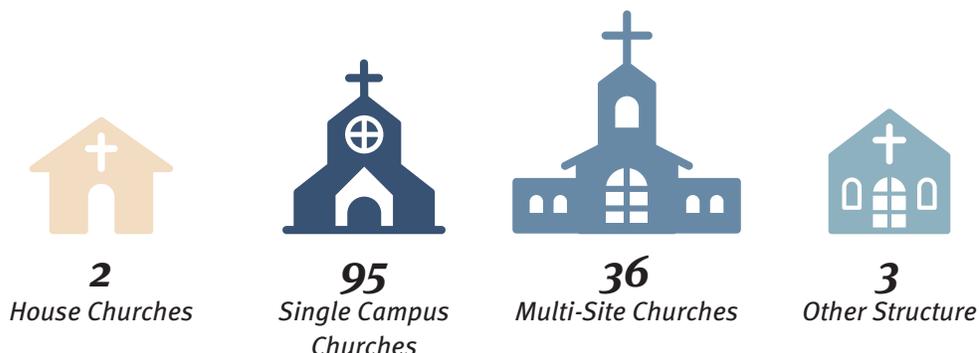
# CHURCH STATISTICS

S E C T I O N S I X

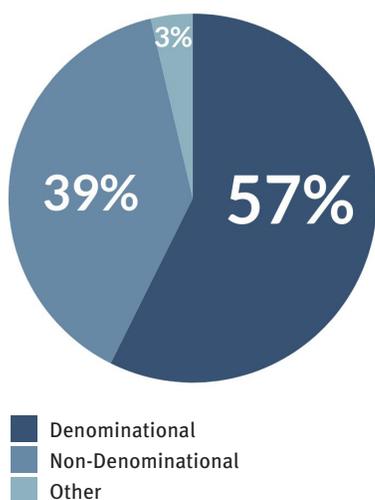


# CHURCH MISSIONS: SURVEY STATISTICS

## Church Structure of Survey Participants



## Church Affiliation



Age of Church	Denominational	Non-Denominational
0-5 Years	3	1
6-10 Years	3	1
11-20 Years	6	2
21+ Years	66	48

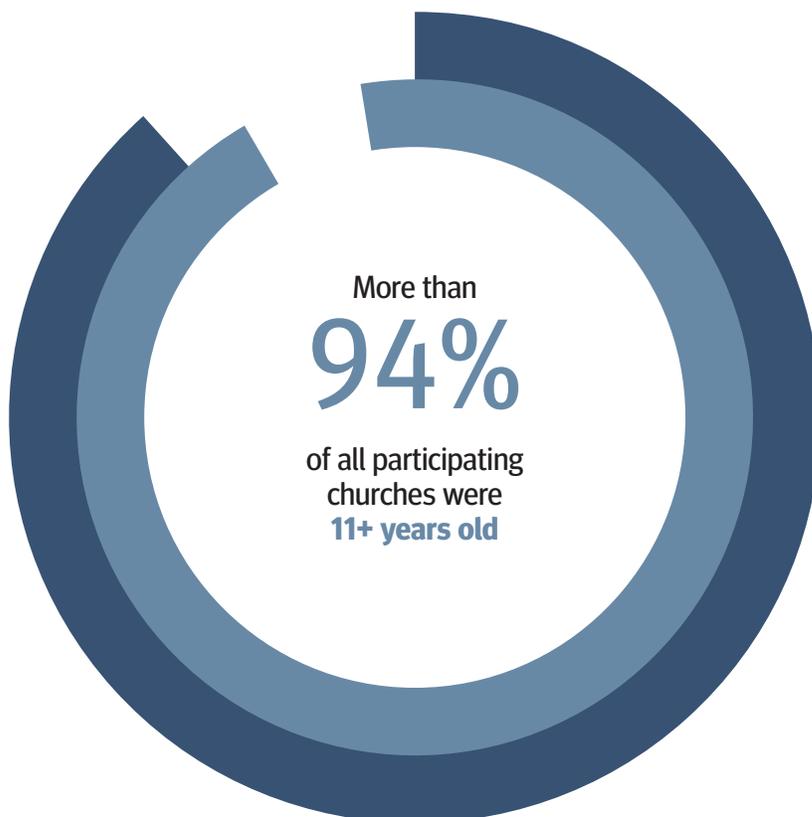
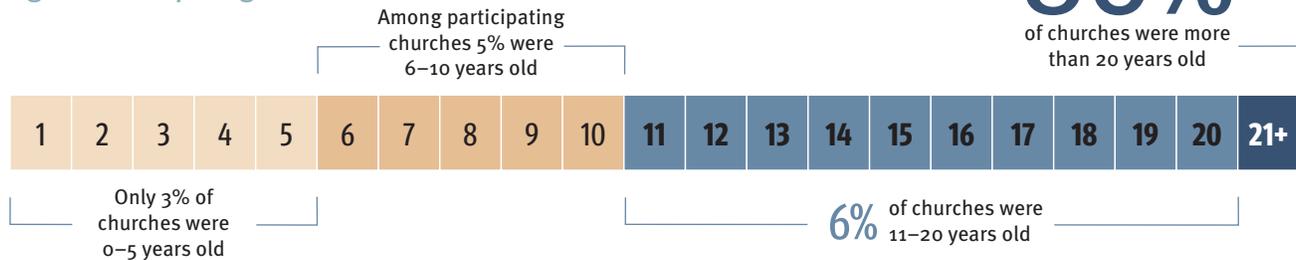
Average Age of Congregation	Denominational	Non-Denominational
20-29	1	1
30-39	18	4
40-49	43	38
50-59	10	9
60-69	5	0

Missionaries Supported	Denominational	Non-Denominational
0	8	0
1-5	16	6
6-10	8	8
11-20	17	9
21-40	12	11
41-60	6	5
61-100	4	10

## Intentionality In Church Missions

Regardless of the age, size, structure or affiliation of your church there remains a call on churches to disciple and shepherd their congregations to be engaged in mission. That engagement should be demonstrated through outreach to local communities and cross-cultural missions to the diaspora, both around us and to the ends of the earth. Churches which demonstrate this type of intentionality from day one create a unique environment towards ministering outward rather than being inward focused. Let us rise to the call of Christ to be his “witnesses in Jerusalem, in all Judea and Samaria, and to the ends of the earth” (Acts 1:8).

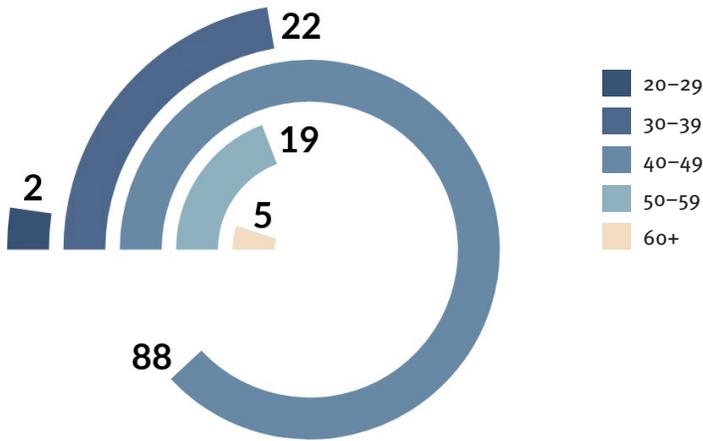
### Age of Participating Churches



**86%** of churches were **21+ years old**

# CHURCH MISSIONS: CONGREGATIONS

## Average Age of the Congregation

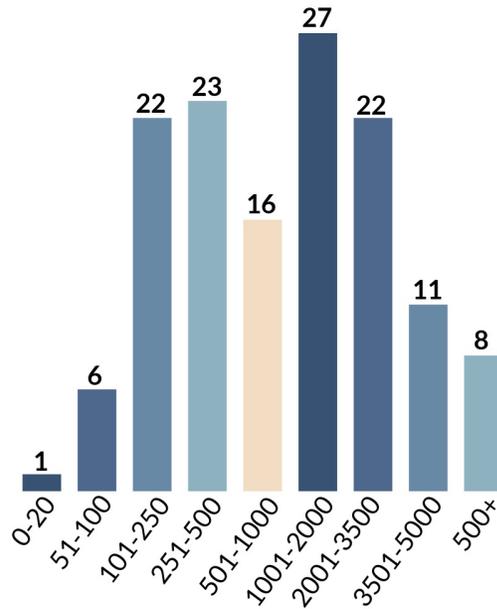


**62%**  
of churches have an average congregational **age in the 40s**

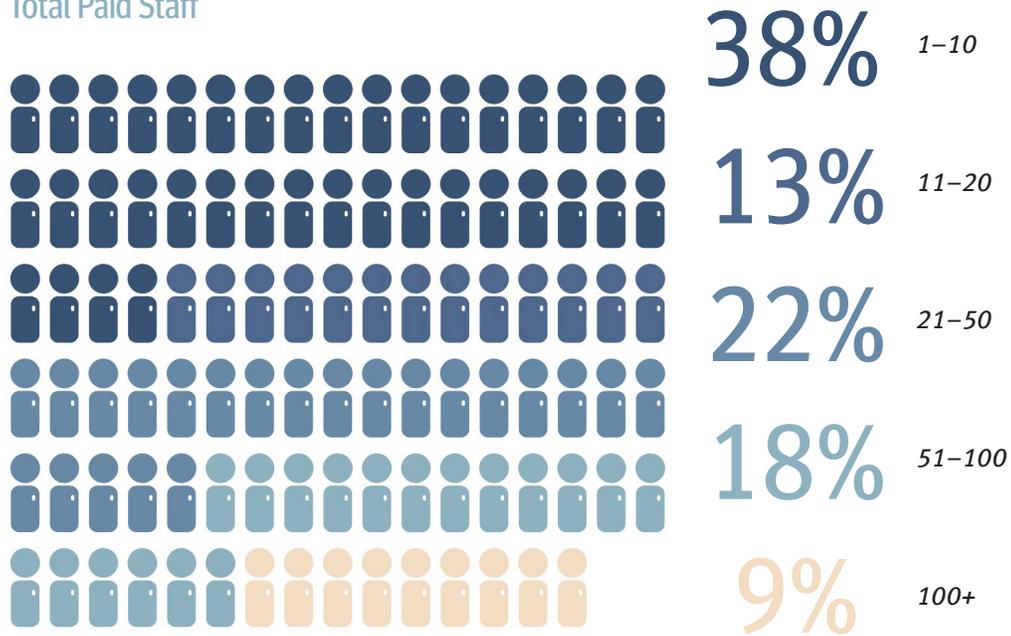
## Average Attendance Size

**50%**  
of the surveyed churches average **over 1000** in attendance

**38%**  
of the surveyed churches average **under 500** in attendance



Total Paid Staff

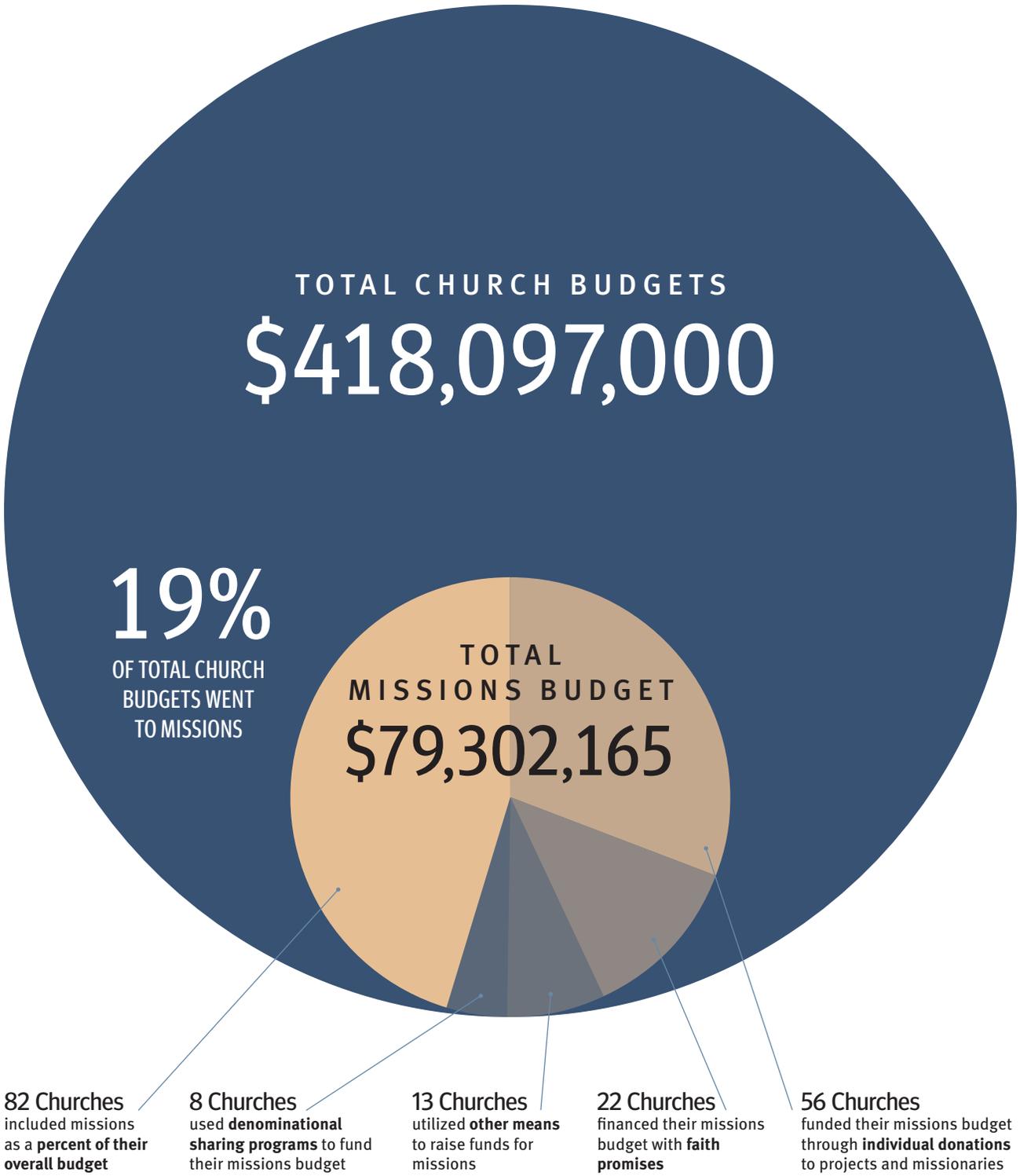


***“We do not have time to waste. We do not have time to play artificial games in contemporary culture or wage artificial wars in comfortable churches. We have been compelled by a God-centered passion, and we have been created for a global purpose. Every Christian and every church has been called to participate on the front lines of this mission. Together we sacrifice our lives and our churches in death-defying obedience to His commands, confident that one day soon we will gather with a ransomed people from every nation, tribe, and tongue; and we will declare His praises for all of eternity.”***

—David Horner

When Missions Shapes the Mission: You and Your Church Can Reach the World

# CHURCH MISSIONS: FINANCES

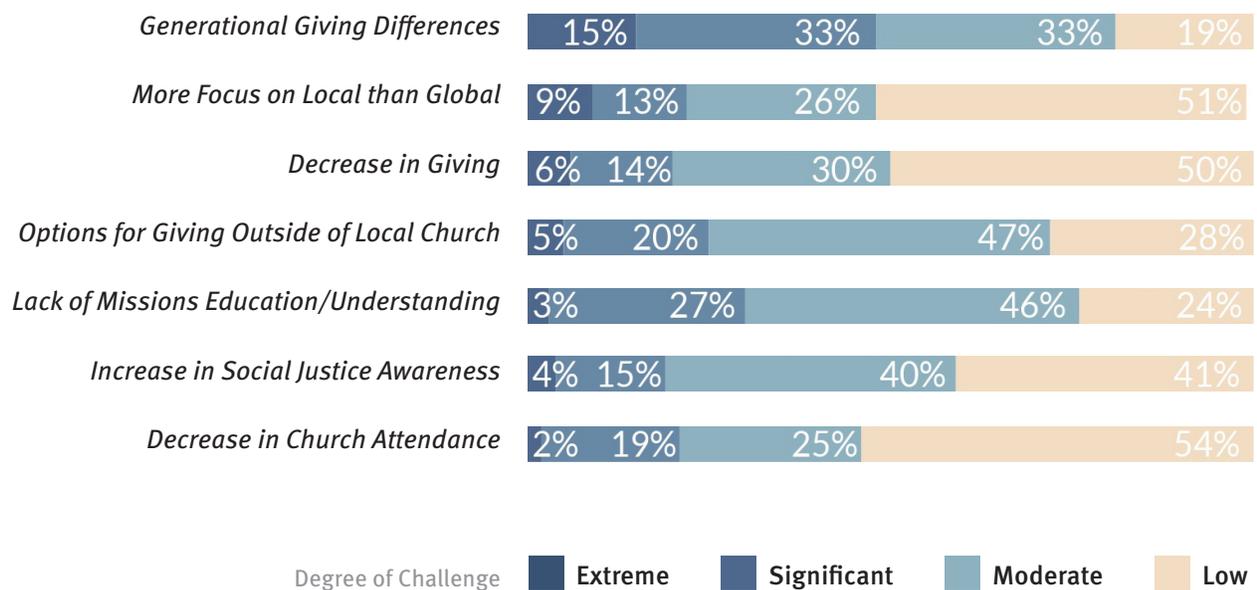


**Other Means of Funding:** Outside partners and businesses; Special offerings; Ten percent of weekly offering and all of fifth week offerings; Thanksgiving offering; Submitted budget funded from church budget; Year-end offering; Combination of general fund giving, plus individual donations and special offerings

## Mission Budgets by Church Size

Congregation Size	# of Churches	Combined Total	Average
51–100	6	\$174,000	\$29,000
101–250	18	\$1 million	\$60,000
251–500	19	\$2.4 million	\$127,000
501–1000	14	\$4.5 million	\$323,000
1001–2000	27	\$22.4 million	\$933,000
2001–3500	19	\$20 million	\$1 million
3501–5000	10	\$12.2 million	\$1.2 million
5000+	8	\$16.3 million	\$2 million

## Challenges to Funding Missions



# CHURCH MISSIONS: MISSIO NEXUS MEMBERSHIP

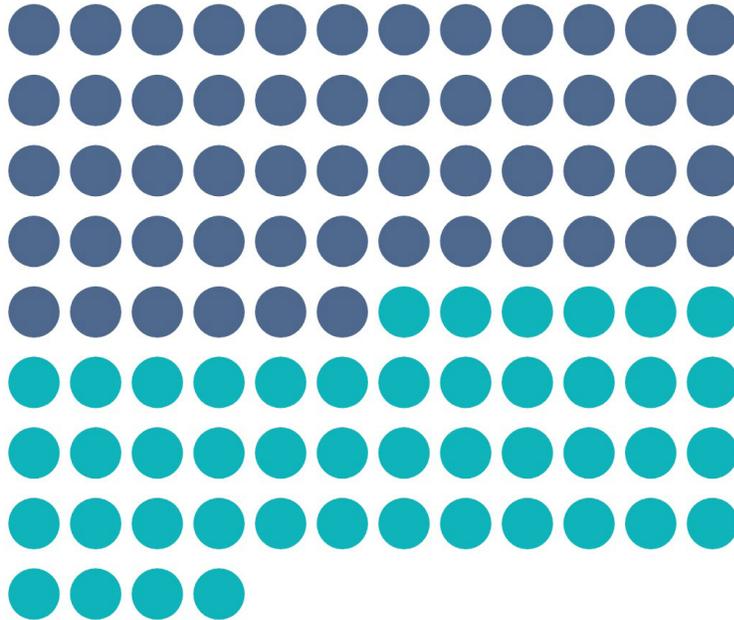
Survey  
Participants

**54%**

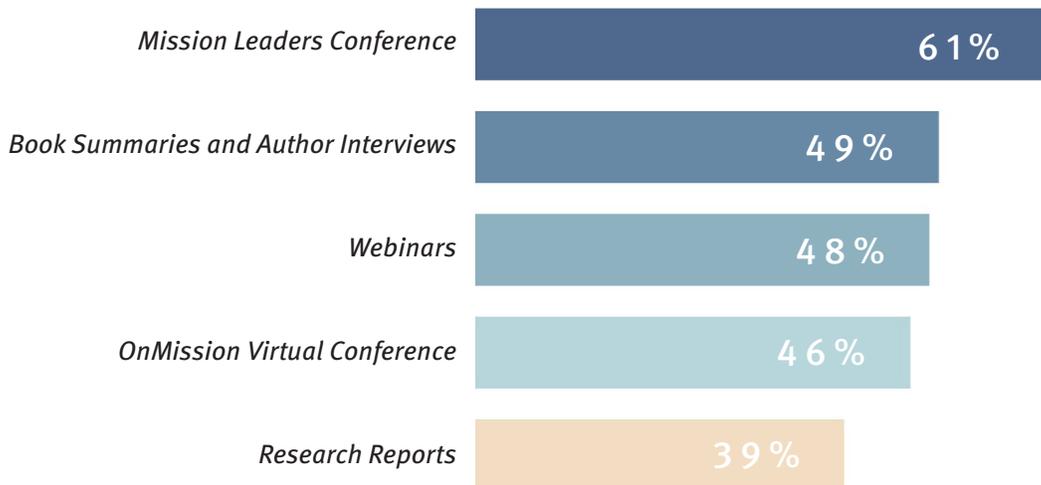
were members of  
Missio Nexus

**46%**

were non-members



## Most Utilized Missio Nexus Benefits



# Membership Benefits

*Catalyzing relationships, collaboration and ideas within the Great Commission community.*



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**Cohorts**



**EMQ**



**Leader's Edge**



**Missiographics**



**Online Media**



**OnMission**



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**CEO Retreat**



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**Improve Framework**



**Mission Advisors**



**OnBoard Course**

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Together, may we urge our congregations to seek the guidance of the Holy Spirit as we pursue ways to share this message of hope to a world in desperate need.



Church Missions Leader Survey  
Report + Analysis 2019  
MissioNexus.org