

# CHURCH LIFE Profile

## Community Church, Churchville Sample Denomination

- This dynamic report contains your survey results. It celebrates your strengths,
- helps you build vision and direction, and move forward together into the future.

### LISTEN TO EVERY *voice*

You will hear the responses from all your attenders summarised clearly in one report

### SEE EMERGING *trends*

You will see how your church has progressed grown or changed in trends over time

### UNDERSTAND THE BIG *picture*

You will know how your church ranks next to others in clear comparisons and benchmarkers

#### Your Profile results are based on:

Attender Surveys (aged 15+): **190 forms**

Child Surveys (aged 8 to 14): **15 forms**

Church Code: **ZZ100050**

# Dear local church,

**This Church Life Profile contains your church's unique results from your participation in a Church Life Survey.**

We provide this profile to you, along with supporting resources, to help you strengthen the vitality of your church, grow an owned vision and plan for the future. This profile is part of a Church Life Pack of resources, including the Church Life Survey Workbook, to help you and your church make best use of your results.

Our hope and prayer is that these resources will help, encourage and equip your church in its mission and ministry.

- The NCLS Research Team

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### Weighing up Your Survey Results

It is always important to consider who participated in the survey and in what context. Compare the number of people surveyed (shown at the bottom of each results page) with the total number in the church. Consider what else was happening in the life of the church at the time of the survey and whether/how it might have influenced their responses.

### Community Church, Churchville in:

2023 - **190 forms**    2016 - **233 forms**    2011 - **231 forms**    2006 - **99 forms**    2001 - **146 forms**

### For 8 - 14 year olds:

Your church returned 15 completed Child Survey forms. If this is less than 10 forms, then no results are displayed to fulfill commitment to confidentiality. All children's responses will be included in major reports.

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# Dashboard

## Community Church, Churchville

190 adult attender forms, 15 child forms



### The People of this Church

Average age (years)	44
Female	50%
University degree	68%
Non-English speaking background	49%
New arrivals in last 5 years	18%
Young people aged 15 to 19	11%



### What We Value and Prioritise

Value: Small prayer, discussion or Bible study groups	43%
Value: Sermons, preaching or Bible teaching	43%
Prioritise: Spiritual growth (e.g. direction)	44%
Prioritise: Encouraging people here to discover/use their gifts	37%



### How We Relate to God

Experienced much growth in faith in past 12 months	35%
Private devotions at least weekly	65%
Agree faith in God is an important part of who I am	95%
Worship services always/usually challenge me to take action	64%



### How We Relate to Each Other

Strong sense of belonging	88%
Found it easy to make friends	76%
Involved in group activities at church	86%
Satisfied with activities for children under 12 years	77%



### How We Relate to Community

Helped others in 3 or more informal ways in last year	44%
Involved in local church service, justice or welfare activities	14%
Part of community groups not connected to local church	44%
Feel at ease sharing faith with others	66%



### Our Vision and Leadership

Aware of and strongly committed to church's vision	27%
Agree this church is ready to try something new	62%
Attendees who perform at least one leadership or ministry role here	50%
Leaders encourage use of gifts & skills to a great extent	17%

# People of This Church

This Summary Profile contains a snapshot of your church’s unique results from your Church Life Survey. This profile is based on 190 responses from attenders aged 15+ and 15 responses from children aged 8 - 14 years.

Supporting resources available at [ncls.org.au](https://ncls.org.au) may also help you to make best use of your results, to strengthen the vitality of your church, grow an owned vision and plan for the future.



## Demographic Profile



### Gender

**50%** are female

**50%** are male

N.B. The percent for those who chose ‘other’ will be included in denominational and national reports. Figures have been rounded to 100%.

### Marital status

**54%** are currently married

### Ethnicity

**47%** are born in Australia

**53%** are born overseas

**49%** are migrants to Australia

**65%** speak a language other than English at home

### Employment

**47%** are employed full-time (30 hours plus)

**15%** are retired

### Education

**68%** have a university degree

**10%** have a trade certificate, diploma or associate diploma



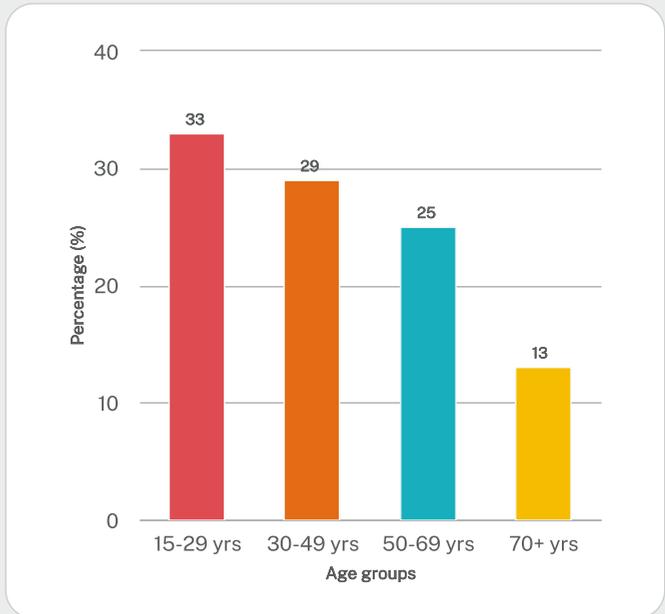
## Age and Intergenerational Ministry

**44** is the average age of all attenders

**77%** are satisfied with what is offered for children aged under 12 years

**79%** are satisfied with what is offered for youth aged 12 to 18

**N/A** agree that people of all ages are encouraged to get involved at this local church

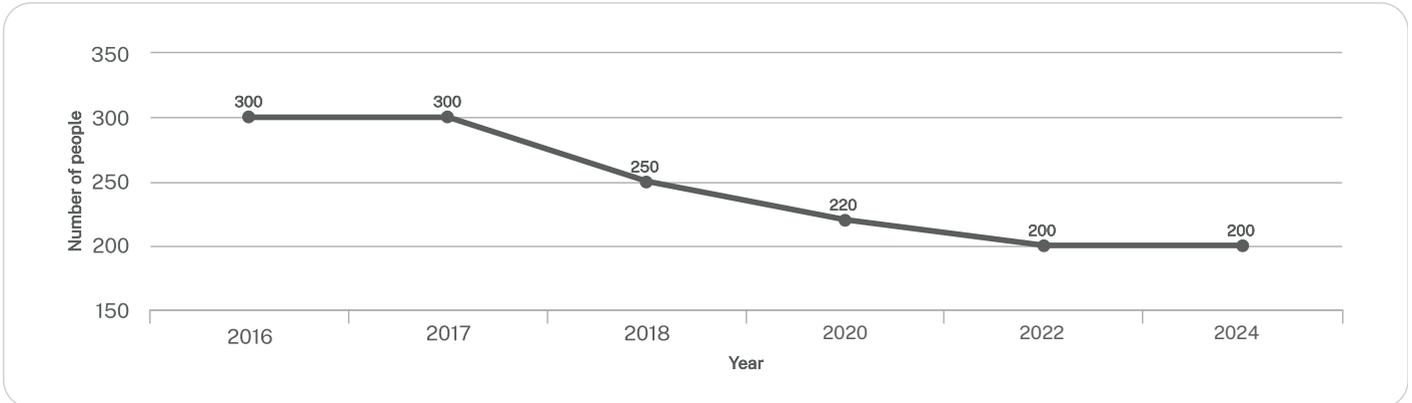


# Church Attendance and Background



## Attendance Patterns

### Estimated attendance



Source: Community Church, NCLS 2016, 2017, 2018, 2020, 2022, 2024

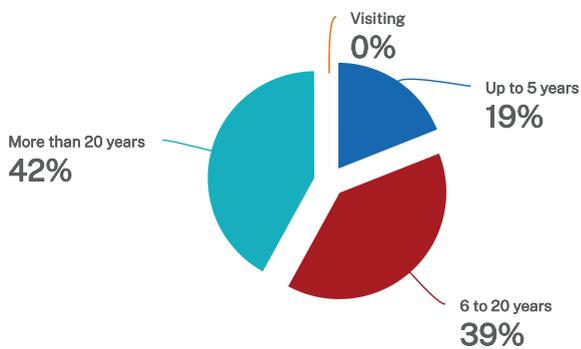
### Attendance at this local church (including online)

- 99%** are frequent attenders (monthly or more)
- 93%** attend weekly or more
- 81%** have attended this church for more than five years

### Attendance elsewhere (in person and online)<sup>+</sup>

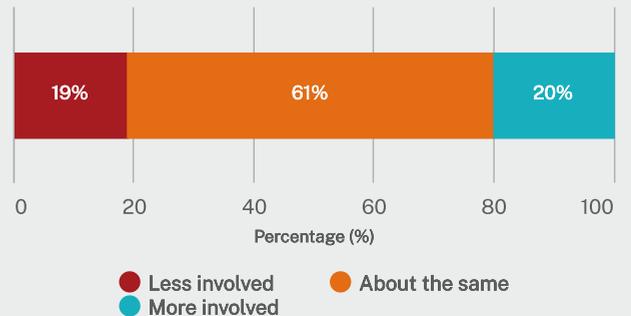
- 84%** do not attend any other church
- 9%** attend elsewhere, in person
- 10%** attend elsewhere, via online services

<sup>+</sup>Note attenders could choose more than one option



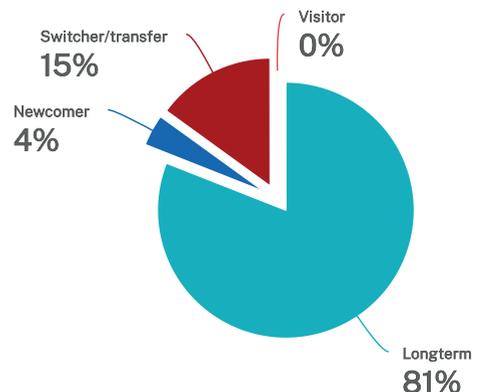
### Impact of COVID-19

Current involvement compared with 2019 (before COVID-19)



## Church Background

**18%** of attenders here are new arrivals to this local church in the past 5 years

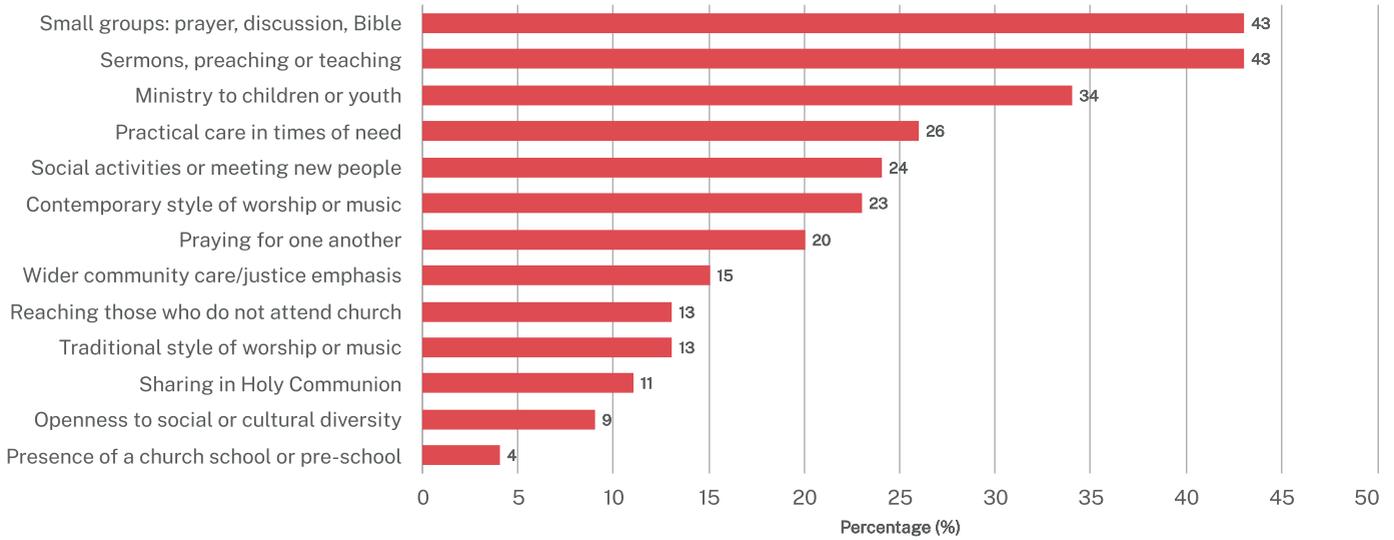


# What People Value and Prioritise



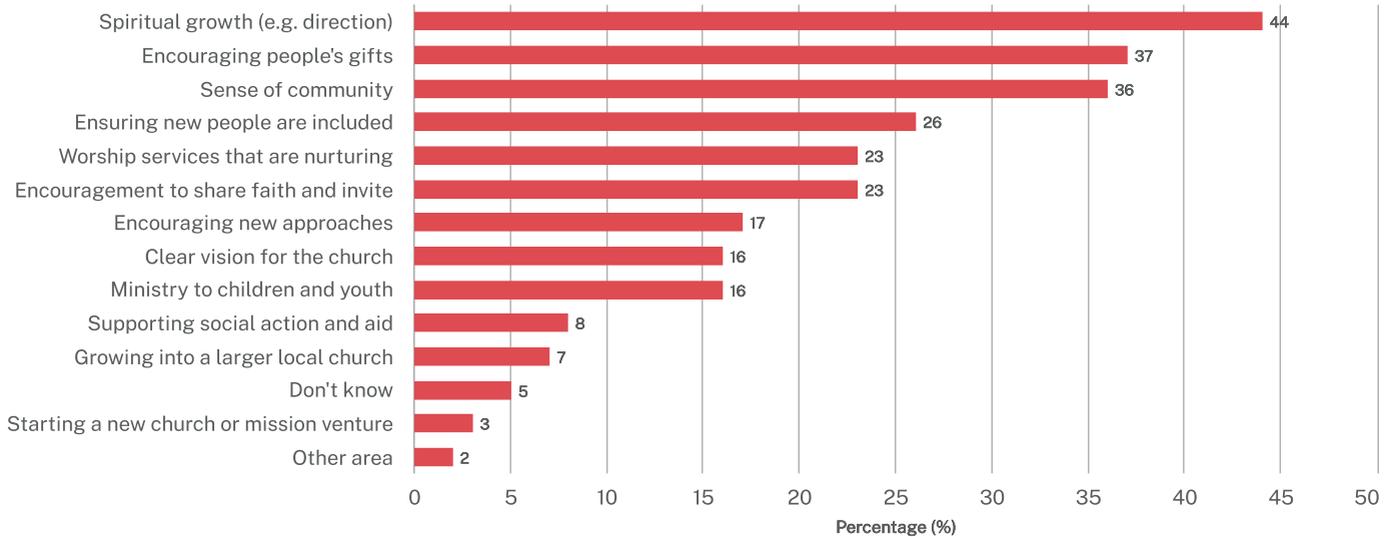
## What People Value about this Church

Attendees of this local church most value 'Small prayer, discussion or Bible study groups' and 'Sermons, preaching or Bible teaching'.



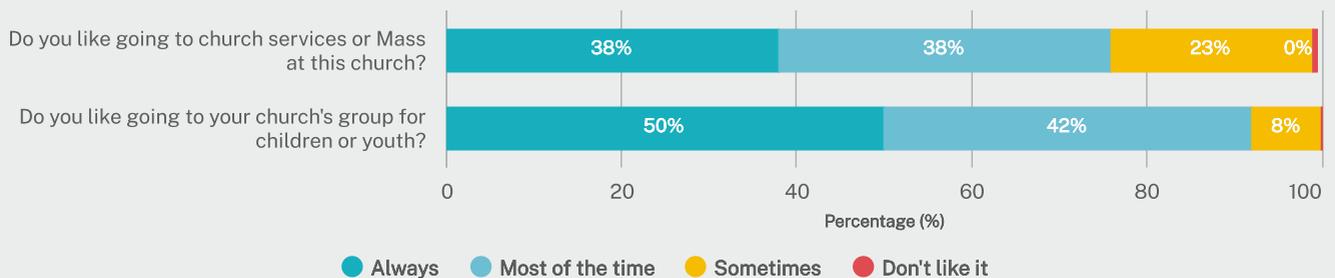
## Future Priorities

Over the next 12 months most attendees would like priority given to 'Spiritual growth (e.g. direction)' and 'Encouraging people here to discover/use their gifts'.



## Children's views about church activities

*Do you like going to...*

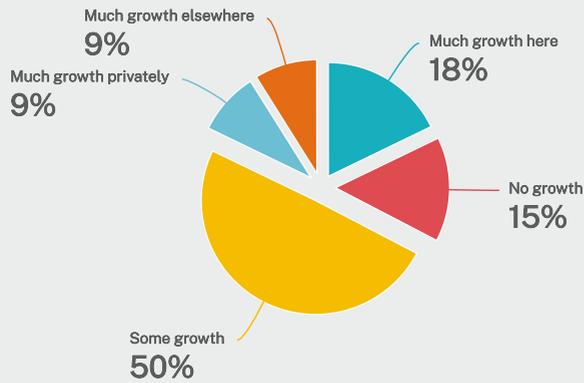


# How People Relate to God

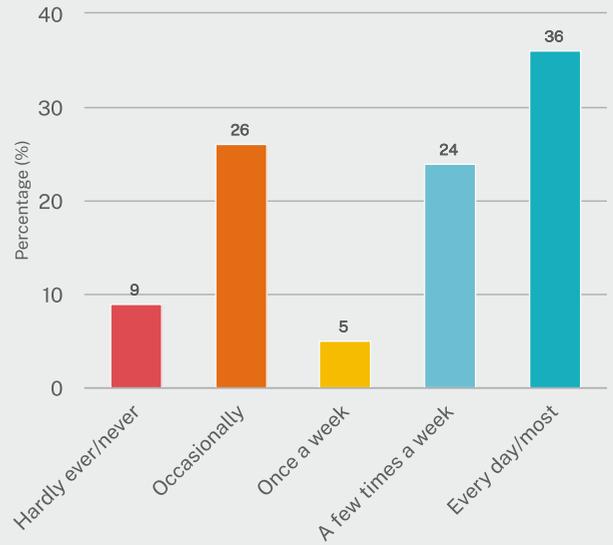


## Personal Faith

**35%** of attenders said that they had experienced much growth in faith in the previous 12 months



**36%** spend time in prayer, Bible reading, meditation everyday or most days



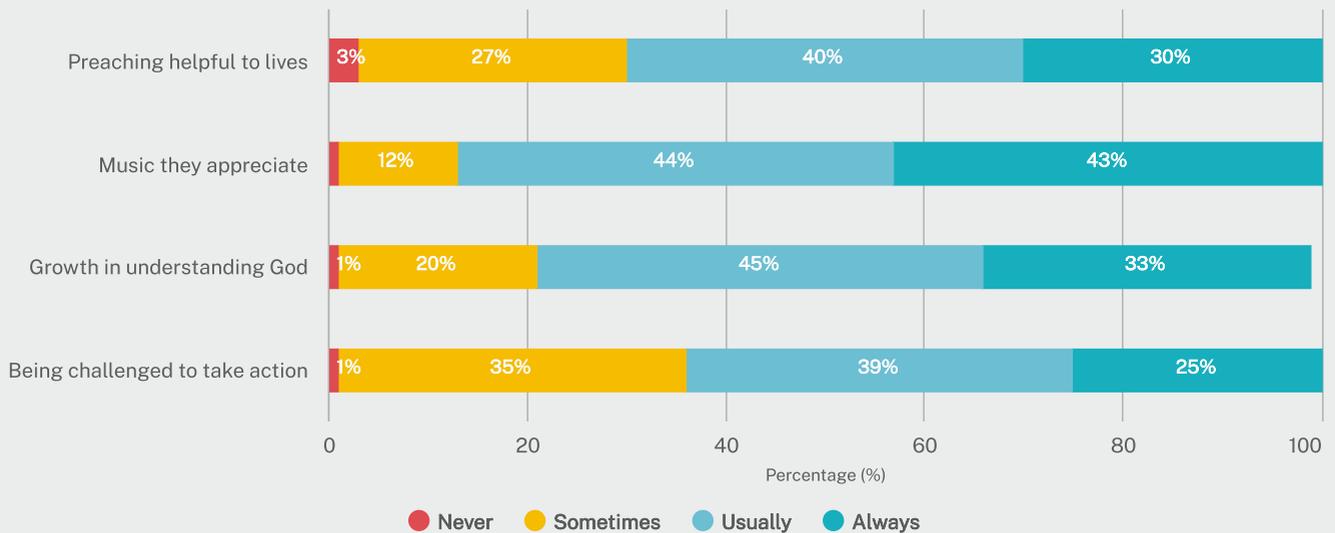
**92%** agree their faith influences decisions and actions in daily life

**95%** agree that 'my faith in God is an important part of who I am'



## Church Worship Services

*During worship services here, attenders experience:*



## Children's Views of God

**80%** agree 'God helps me lead a better life'

**87%** agree 'I know that Jesus is very close to me'

# How People Relate to Each Other



## Belonging and Inclusion

**37%** always or mostly personally seek to make new arrivals welcome

**53%** are likely to follow up someone drifting away from church involvement

### Belonging

Have a strong sense of belonging



### Inclusive

Agree this church is inclusive of different kinds of people



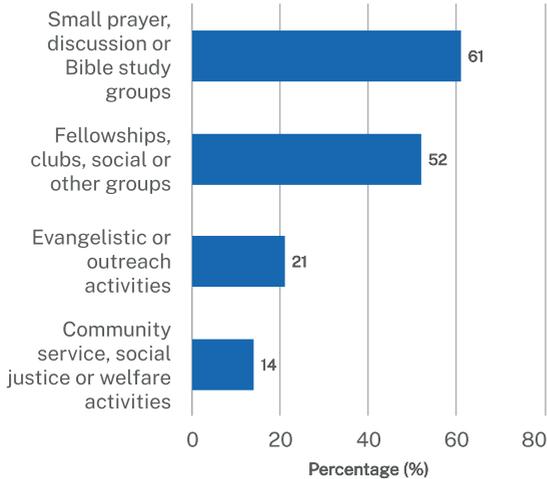
### Friendly

Found it easy to make friends in this local church

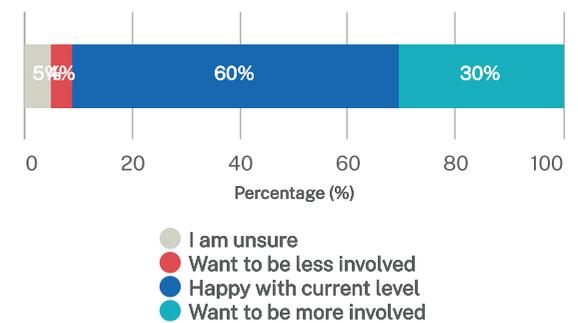


## Involvement

### Group Involvement

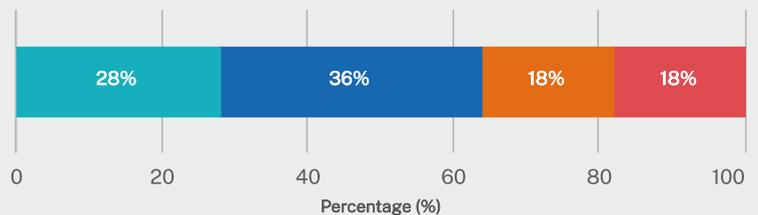


**30%** want to be more involved at this local church



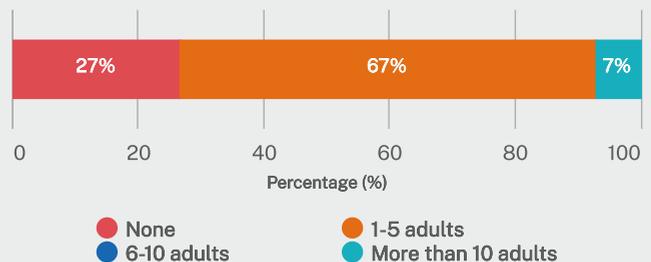
## Financial Giving

- Give about 10% of their net income to this local church
- Give less than 10% of net income
- Give a small amount when present
- Give no amount to this church



## Children's Relationship with Others

Number of adults at church not in their families that children feel they can talk to about normal everyday things



# How People Relate to Wider Community



## Involvement in groups

**44%** of people participate in wider community groups  
**10%** are very actively involved in online groups (e.g. social media, community groups)

## Church-based activities

**32%** reach out to the wider community through activities of this local church  
**14%** are part of community service activities  
**21%** are part of evangelistic outreach activities



## Words and Actions

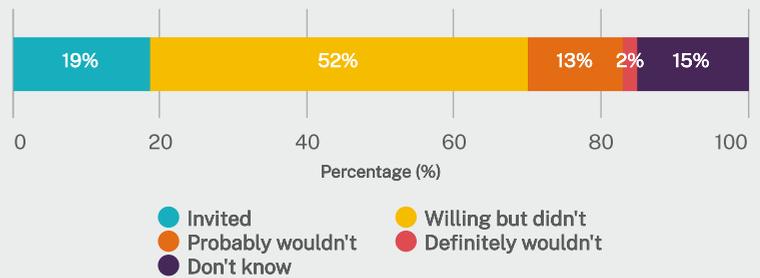
**43%** talk about matters of faith with other members of their household (7% live alone)  
**19%** feel at ease talking about faith with others and look for opportunities to do so

### Attendees have offered to help others in the past 12 months

Donated money to a charitable organisation	<b>59%</b>
Helped someone through a personal crisis (not sickness)	<b>37%</b>
Lent or gave money to someone outside your family	<b>35%</b>
Cared for someone who was very sick	<b>31%</b>
Given some of your possessions to someone in need	<b>26%</b>
Supported a campaign (online or other)	<b>24%</b>
Visited someone in hospital	<b>20%</b>
Tried to stop someone abusing alcohol or drugs	<b>5%</b>
Contacted a parliamentarian/councillor on a public issue	<b>5%</b>
Attended a public meeting/march	<b>3%</b>

## Inviting others to church

**19%** invited friends and relatives to a church service in this last year



## Acting for the Environment

**94%** agree that Christians have a responsibility to actively care for the environment  
**14%** are very active  
**47%** are a little active  
**33%** are currently not active



## Children's Acts of Service & Justice

Children at this local church often or sometimes do the following:

**67%** talk to their school friends about God  
**60%** help raise money for poor people  
**80%** do things to help the environment

# Vision, Innovation & Leadership Culture

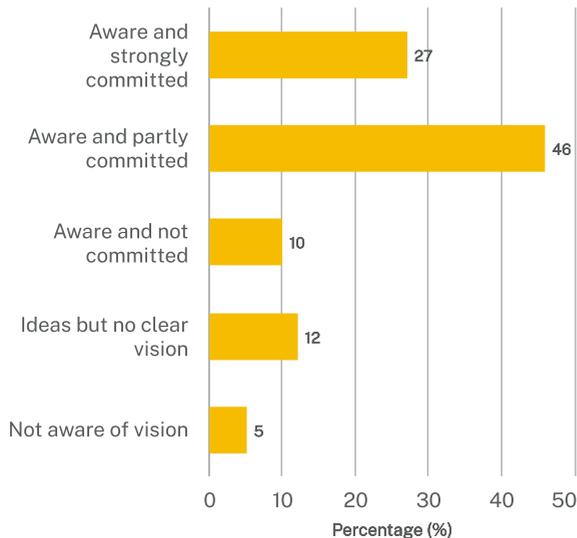


## Vision and Innovation

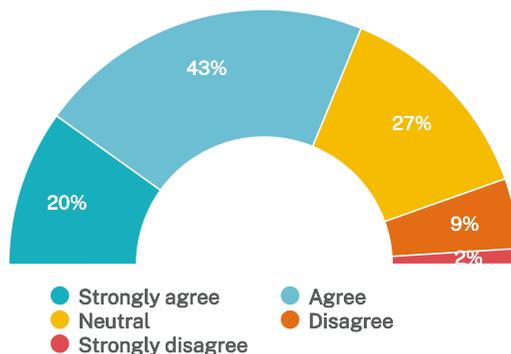
**27%** of people are both aware and strongly committed to the vision, goals or directions for this local church

**33%** are fully confident that this local church can achieve the vision, goals or directions set

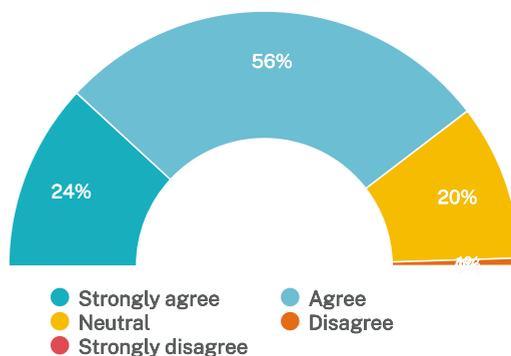
### Vision



**62%** agree that this local church is always ready to try something new



**80%** agree that they would support the development of new initiatives in the ministry and mission of this local church



## Leadership Culture

**77%** agree it is easy to get involved in ministry at this church (e.g. join a roster, take on a role)

**50%** of attenders perform a leadership or ministry role

**60%** agree 'leaders encourage me to find and use my gifts and skills to great or some extent'

**80%** agree that this church has good clear systems for how it operates

**64%** agree 'leaders here inspire me to action'



## Role Models for Children

**80%** agree adults at church (including leaders) are good examples of people who follow Jesus

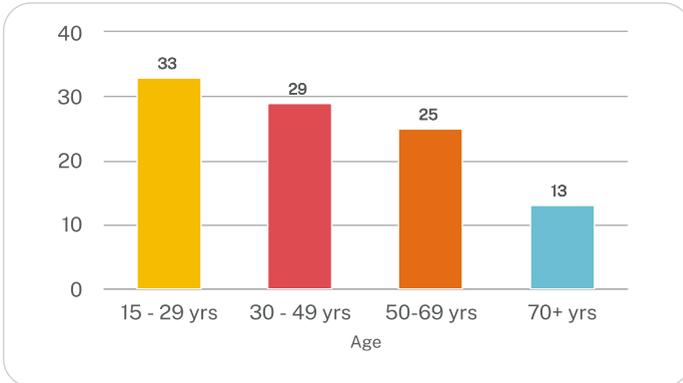
**87%** agree family members are good examples of people who follow Jesus

# A Demographic Profile



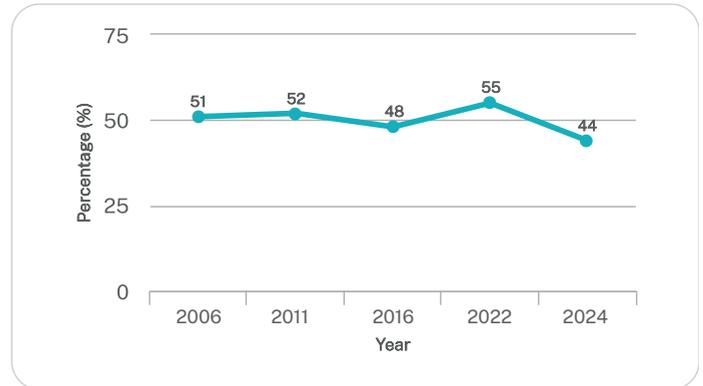
## Age Profile

**44** years is the average of attenders at this local church (aged 15+)



Source: 2024 CLS, Community Church

**Change over time:** Average age of church attenders aged 15+ years.



Source: Community Church, NCLS 2006, 2011, 2016, 2022, 2024

## Gender

**50%** are female

*\* Other not available for local churches to honour commitment to confidentiality. See [2021ncls.org.au/faqs](https://2021ncls.org.au/faqs) for more.*

	You in 2024 (%)	You in 2022 (%)	All NCLS in 2022 (%)
Female	50	59	60
Male	50	41	40
Other	N/A	N/A	0

## Marital Status

**54%** are currently married

	You in 2024 (%)	You in 2022 (%)	All NCLS in 2022 (%)
Never married	38	21	17
Married	54	61	65
In a defacto relationship	1	0	2
Separated or divorced	5	8	6
Widowed	3	10	10

## Education

**68%** have a University degree

	You in 2024 (%)	You in 2022 (%)	All NCLS in 2022 (%)
Primary/secondary school	23	34	38
Trade certificate, diploma or associate diploma	10	22	25
University degree	68	45	37

## Employment

**64%** are employed

	You in 2024 (%)	You in 2022 (%)	All NCLS in 2022 (%)
Employed	64	50	49
Full-time home duties/family responsibilities	5	10	8
Retired	15	30	36

## Ethnicity

**47%** are born in Australia

**49%** are born in non-English speaking countries

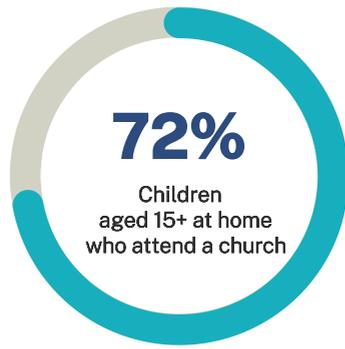
**65%** speak a language other than English at home

	You in 2024 (%)	You in 2022 (%)	All NCLS in 2022 (%)
Aboriginal or Torres Strait Islander origin	0	3	1
Born in Australia (including above)*	47	69	64
Born in another country where English is the main language*	4	10	9
Born in Non English-speaking country*	49	21	27
At least one parent born in a Non English - speaking country*	77	26	35

\* 'Don't Know' was included in 2021 as a response option for country of birth

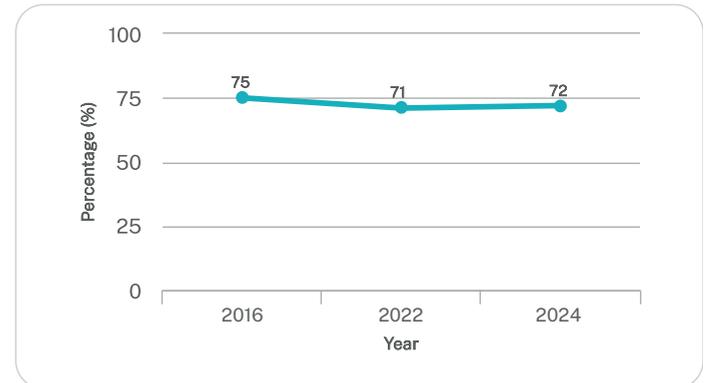
## Children and Youth

**72%** is the proportion of attenders' children (aged 15+ and living at home) who attend a church



Source: 2024 CLS, Community Church

**Change over time:** Percent of attenders' children (aged 15+ and living at home) who attend a church



Source: Community Church, NCLS 2016, 2022, 2024

Note: Figures are suppressed and replaced with \* when there are fewer than 6 cases.

### Children and youth of church attenders

**92%** of attenders' children aged 0 to 14 years living at home attend church here

**71%** of attenders' children aged 15 and over still living at home attend church here

You in 2024 (%)

You in 2022 (%)

All NCLS in 2022 (%)

#### Attenders' children aged 0-14 still living at home:

	You in 2024 (%)	You in 2022 (%)	All NCLS in 2022 (%)
Still attend this church	92	96	86
Attend elsewhere	2	2	7
Do not attend any church	2	4	7

#### Attenders' children aged 15 and over still living at home:

	You in 2024 (%)	You in 2022 (%)	All NCLS in 2022 (%)
Still attend this church	71	51	46
Attend elsewhere	1	21	13
Do not attend any church	24	26	40

### Young people at this local church

**11%** of attenders who completed the survey were aged 15 to 19 years

#### Young people who:

	You in 2024 (%)	You in 2022 (%)	All NCLS in 2022 (%)
Completed the survey	11	7	5
Have been attending more than 5 years	9	5	2
Have been attending 5 years or less	2	1	2

### Satisfaction with what local church offers

For children aged under 12 years

**77%** are very satisfied or satisfied

For youth aged 12 to 18 years

**79%** are very satisfied or satisfied

Note: Figures are suppressed and replaced with\* when there are fewer than 6 cases.

#### Satisfaction with what is offered here 'for children aged under 12 years':

	You in 2024 (%)	You in 2022 (%)	All NCLS in 2022 (%)
All attenders very satisfied or satisfied	77	83	65

#### Satisfaction with what is offered here 'for youth aged 12-18 years':

	You in 2024 (%)	You in 2022 (%)	All NCLS in 2022 (%)
All attenders very satisfied or satisfied	79	74	54
15-18 year olds very satisfied or satisfied	82	67	64

# Church Background



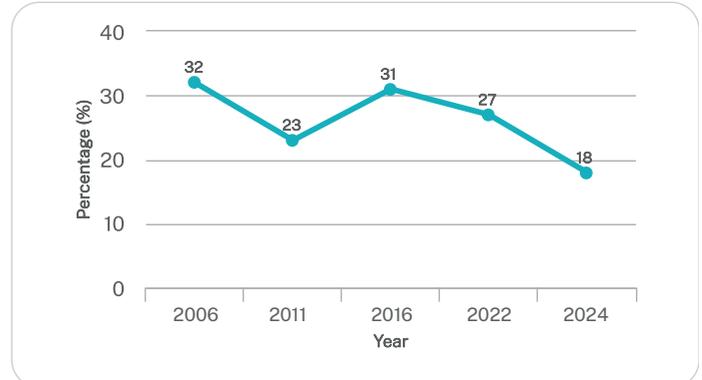
## Background of Church Attenders

**18%** of attenders here are new arrivals to this local church in the past 5 years



Source: 2024 CLS, Community Church

**Change over time:** Percent of attenders who were new arrivals in the 5 years prior to the survey



Source: Community Church, NCLS 2006, 2011, 2016, 2022, 2024

## Church Attendance History<sup>+</sup>

- 18%** are new arrivals in the last five years, comprising
  - 15%** moved from a different church
  - 4%** are newcomers (new to any church in the last 5 years)
- 81%** are long-term having attended here for more than 5 years
- 0%** were visitors

	You in 2024 (%)	You in 2022 (%)	All NCLS in 2022 (%)
New Arrivals (total) <sup>1</sup>	18	27	29
Newcomers <sup>2</sup>	4	4	6
Returns: after absence of several years	2	3	3
Never regularly attended	2	2	2
Switchers <sup>3++</sup>	7	15	7
Transfers <sup>4</sup>	7	8	16
Long-term attenders <sup>5</sup>	81	72	68
Visitors from other churches	0	0	2
Visitors who do not regularly go to church	0	0	1

## Length of Attendance at This Church

- 6%** have been here less than 1 year
- 13%** have been here for 1-5 years
- 42%** have been here for more than 20 years

Total new arrivals (new to your local church) in the last 5 years			
Less than 1 year	6	9	8
1-2 years	5	6	9
3-5 years / unsure	7	12	13
6-10 years	13	19	14
11-20 years	26	23	19
More than 20 years	42	30	33

**+Note:** Church attendance history is calculated from three survey questions. The figures may not match those for length of attendance due to non-responses.

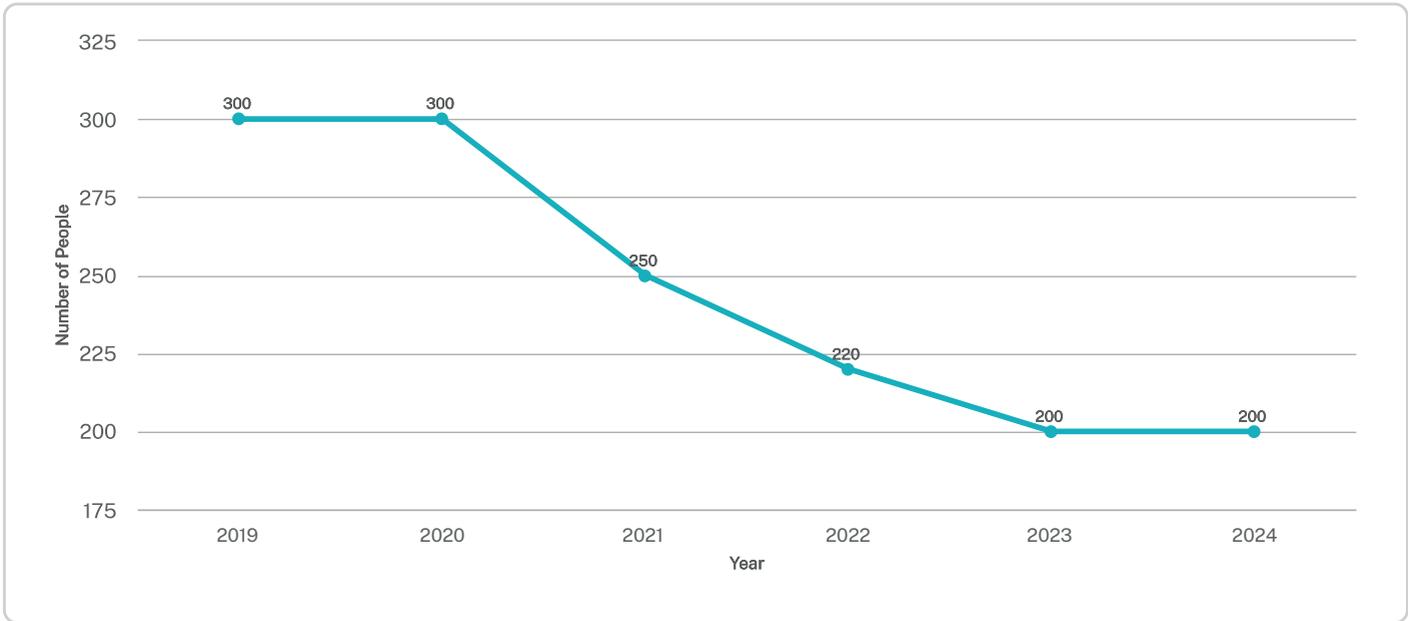
**++Note:** The wording of the response options to the survey about the denomination of the previous church changed in 2016.

- 1. New Arrivals:** attended a different church in the last 5 years
- 2. Newcomers:** new to any church in the last 5 years
- 3. Switchers:** from another denomination in the last 5 years
- 4. Transfers:** from same denomination in the last 5 years
- 5. Long-term attenders:** attended here for more than 5 years

# Attendance Estimates



## Estimated Church Attendance



This chart shows the pattern of attendance change for your church over recent years. It is based on estimates supplied by your local church leader or representative.

### Attendance at this Local Church (including online)

**99%** are frequent attenders (monthly or more)

	You in 2024 (%)	You in 2022 (%)	All NCLS in 2022 (%)
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Attend here (inc. online)			
First time/hardly ever/special occasions only	1	1	3
Less than once a month	0	1	1
Once, twice or three times a month	7	10	13
Usually every week	89	80	69
More than once a week	4	8	13

### Attendance Elsewhere

**9%** attend elsewhere, in person

**10%** attend elsewhere, via online services

Attend elsewhere			
No	84	N/A	N/A
Yes, attend in person elsewhere	9	N/A	N/A
Yes, via online services	10	N/A	N/A

### Impact of COVID on Involvement

**20%** are more involved than in 2019

**61%** are involved about the same as in 2019

**19%** are less involved than in 2019

Compared to 2019, more or less involved here			
More involved	20	N/A	N/A
About the same	61	N/A	N/A
Less involved	19	N/A	N/A

# Inflow and Outflow



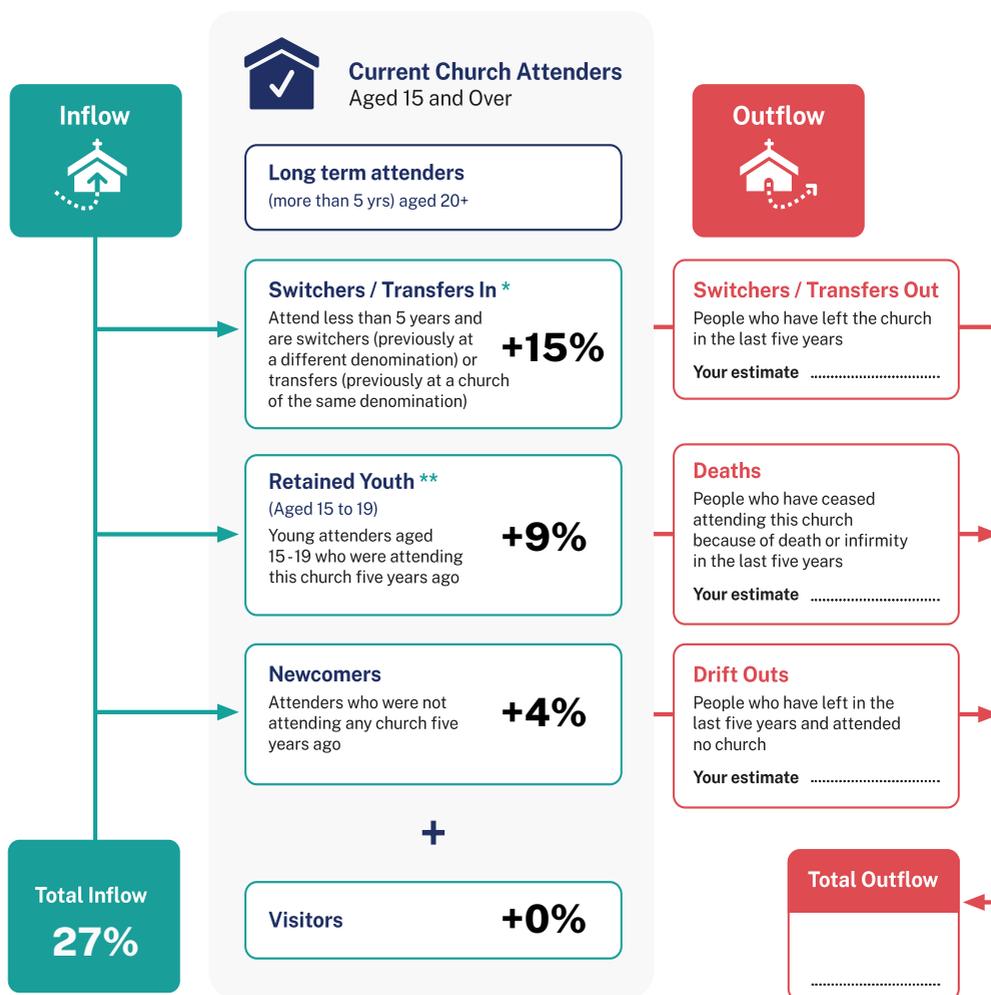
**How do churches grow? In numerical terms churches grow when the inflow of church attenders exceeds the outflow.**

**About the NCLS Inflow Outflow model**

Long term attenders have attended a local church for 5 or more years. There are three types of inflow. For each inflow path, there is a matching outflow:

1. People arrive from other churches and leave to go to other churches.
2. Children are born to church attenders\*\* and people die.
3. Newcomers with no church background start attending and others drift out from church life.

Information from your church attenders (aged 15 and over) is used to calculate three types of inflows. Based on your current attendance, you will need to estimate your outflows.



**Notes:**

Current church attenders = Long-term attenders + inflow in past 5 years + visitors = 100%

\* **About Switchers and Transfers:** Switchers change denominations. Transfers change churches within the same denomination.

\*\* **About Retained Youth:** Instead of births, the calculation includes youth who are still attending and who were attending this church five years ago.

## About the 9 Core Qualities of Church Life

Over 30 years NCLS Research has identified 9 Core Qualities shown to be central to the life of a vital and healthy church. The blend of these qualities points to the unique character of each church, its areas of strength and its potential for growth. These Core Qualities are measured and grouped into three areas of church life:

### The Internal Core Qualities



Faith



Worship



Belonging

#### Internal Core Qualities

focus on the inner life of the community of faith, and a measure is made of the extent to which the community:

- has an alive and growing faith
- experiences vital and nurturing worship
- feels a strong and growing belonging

### The Outward Core Qualities



Service



Faith Sharing



Inclusion

#### Outward Core Qualities

focus on the outward looking life of the church, and a measure is made of the extent to which the church undertakes:

- practical and diverse service
- willing and effective faith-sharing
- intentional and welcoming inclusion

### The Inspirational Core Qualities



Vision



Innovation



Leadership Culture

#### Inspirational Core Qualities

focus on the vigour of a church and the catalysts that inspire a church culture to move forward. They give a measure of the extent to which the church has:

- a clear and owned vision
- openness to imaginative and flexible innovation
- an inspiring and empowering leadership culture

### NCLS Research also explores three attendance measures for every church:



**Young adult retention** - the extent to which the children of the faith community remain regular attenders when they grow into young adulthood.



**Newcomers** - the extent to which newcomers who have arrived on previous five years make up the congregation.



**Attendance change** - the extent to which attendance numbers have changed over the last five years through the inflow and outflow of people.

For more detail on the NCLS Research Vitality Framework refer to the book:  
**Enriching Church Life 3rd Edition**



or go to:

[ncls.org.au/church-vitality](https://ncls.org.au/church-vitality)

# Circle of Strengths

## Core Qualities Overview

Over 30 years of research in Australian churches, the NCLS has highlighted key indicators for each of the nine Core Qualities of church health and vitality. This Circle of Strengths is a simple 'broad brush' view of your church's survey results in each Core Quality of church life.

A single indicator of responses has been chosen for each Core Quality area. The order of the Core Qualities in the Circle of Strengths is based on ranking the indicator scores from highest to lowest.



## Headline Indicators

In Rank Order	Quality	Indicator	Score out of 10
1	 <b>Worship</b>	Always experience inspiration in church worship services	6.9
2	 <b>Innovation</b>	Strongly agree this church is always ready to try something new	6.8
3	 <b>Inclusion</b>	Attendees certain they would follow up someone drifting from church	4.7
4	 <b>Vision</b>	Aware of and strongly committed to the vision of this church	4.6
5	 <b>Faith</b>	Much growth in faith in the past year, through this church	3.7
6	 <b>Leadership Culture</b>	Agree that leaders encourage attendees to find their gifts and skills to a great extent	3.4
7	 <b>Belonging</b>	Sense of belonging is strong and growing	3.0
8	 <b>Service</b>	Number of different ways attendees have helped others in the last 12 months	3.0
9	 <b>Faith Sharing</b>	Have invited someone in the last 12 months	2.5

### How do these scores work?

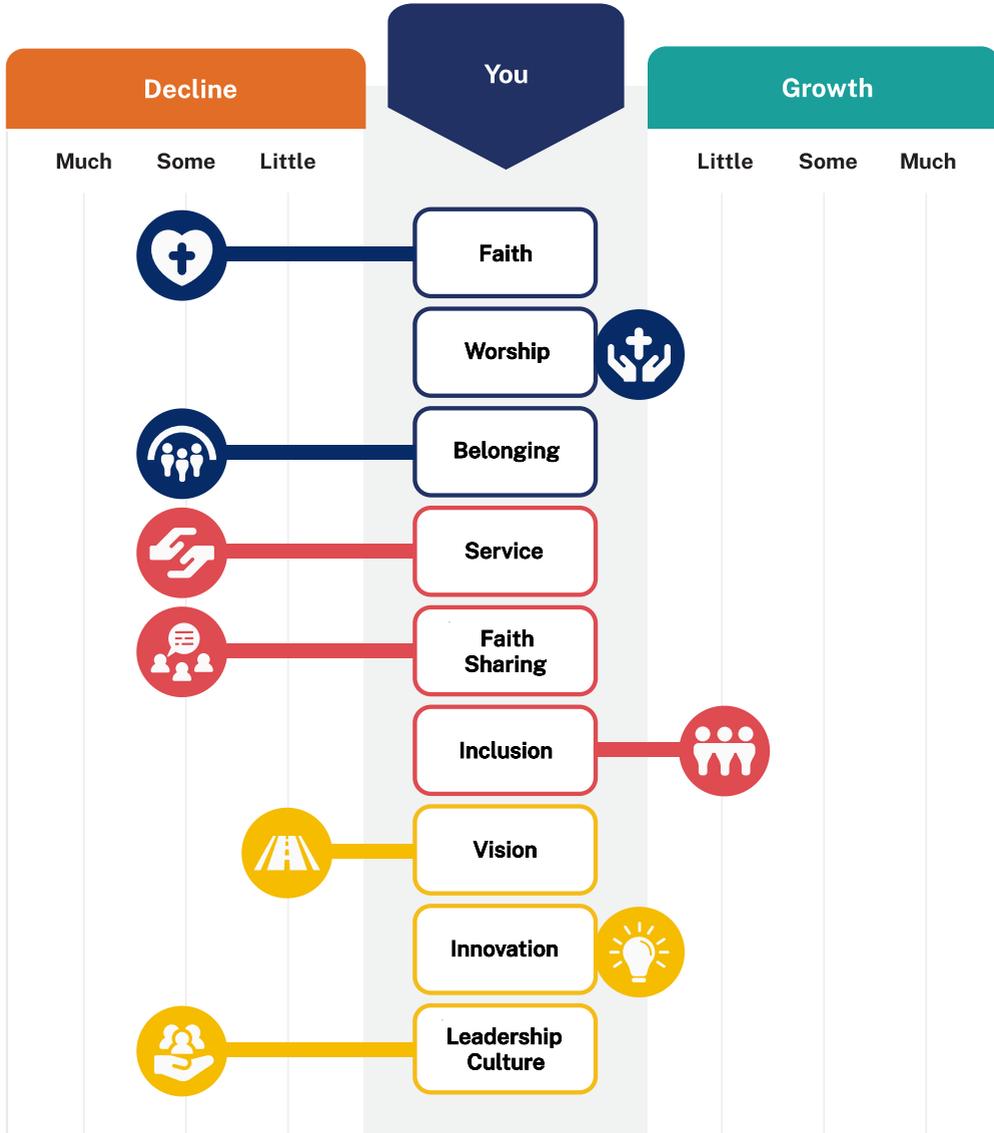
For each indicator question the percentage of the people in the church who selected a given response is converted into a score between 1 and 10. A score of 5 is the average across all churches who participated in the NCLS. See more at [ncls.org.au/church-vitality](https://ncls.org.au/church-vitality)



# Change Over Time

When a church takes part in a Church Life Survey more than once, it's possible to see changes over time.

This chart shows how selected indicators of the qualities of church health have changed since the last Church Life Survey. (See [ncls.org.au/church-vitality](https://ncls.org.au/church-vitality) for more information)



## No results for Change Over Time?

### Now

For each Core Quality ask if this is an area of church life that has improved, declined or stayed the same over the past five years?

### Later

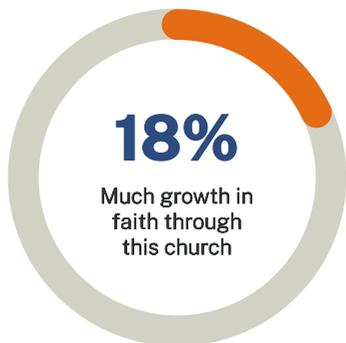
Any church can conduct a Church Life Survey at any time that suits them into the future. New results will be compared with previous results. Contact NCLS Research for details.

# Faith: Alive and Growing



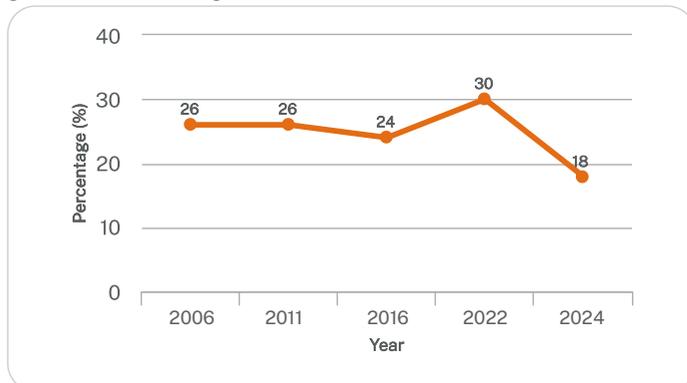
## Growth in Faith through this Local Church

**18%** said they had experienced much growth in faith through this local church in the last 12 months



Source: 2024 CLS, Community Church

**Change over time:** Percentage of attenders who experienced much growth in faith through this local church in the last 12 months



Source: Community Church, NCLS 2006, 2011, 2016, 2022, 2024

### Growth in Faith in the Past Year

**85%** have grown their faith, either through this church, other groups or churches or through private activity

	You in 2024 (%)	You in 2022 (%)	All NCLS in 2022 (%)
Much: this local church	18	30	28
Much: other groups	9	5	7
Much: private activity	9	11	12
Some growth	50	46	40

### Private Devotional Activity

**65%** spend time in prayer, Bible reading or meditation at least weekly

	You in 2024 (%)	You in 2022 (%)	All NCLS in 2022 (%)
Everyday/most days	36	48	49
A few times a week	24	27	21
Once a week	5	5	5
Occasionally	26	15	17
Hardly ever/never	9	4	8

### Identification with Matters of Faith

Attenders chose up to 2 out of 6 options (e.g. Catholic or Anglo-Catholic; Pentecostal or Charismatic; Evangelistic or Reformed; Liberal or Progressive; Other and 'Do not identify')

**55%** chose Evangelical or Reformed  
**25%** chose I do not identify with such descriptions

	You in 2024 (%)	You in 2022 (%)	All NCLS in 2022 (%)
Evangelical or Reformed	55	55	15
I do not identify with such descriptions	25	15	11
Pentecostal or charismatic	15	11	25
Other	11	25	9

### Faith and Life

**92%** agree or strongly agree that their faith influences decisions and actions in daily life  
**95%** agree or strongly agree their faith in God is an important part of who they are

My faith influences decisions and actions in my daily life			
Agree or strongly agree	92	N/A	N/A
Neutral or unsure	6	N/A	N/A
Disagree or strongly disagree	2	N/A	N/A
Faith in God is an important part of who I am			
Agree or strongly agree	95	N/A	N/A
Neutral or unsure	4	N/A	N/A
Disagree or strongly disagree	1	N/A	N/A

# Worship: Vital and Nurturing



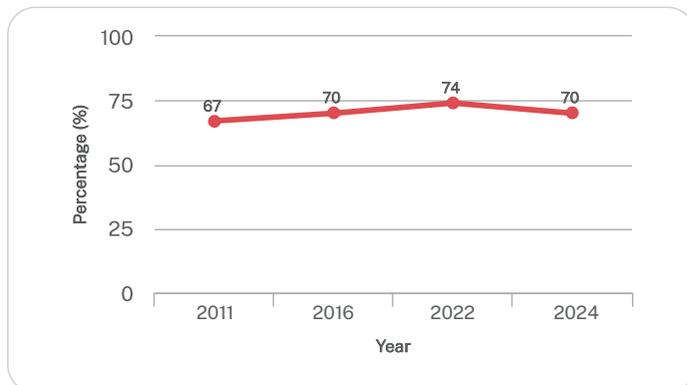
## Experience Inspiration during Church Services

**70%** of attenders said they always/usually experience inspiration during services



Source: 2024 CLS, Community Church

**Change over time:** Percent of attenders who always/usually experience inspiration during services



Source: Community Church, NCLS 2011, 2016, 2022, 2024

### Helpful Preaching

**70%** always/usually experience preaching very helpful to their lives during church services here

	You in 2024 (%)	You in 2022 (%)	All NCLS in 2022 (%)
Always	30	37	37
Usually	40	44	41

### Appreciate Music

**87%** always/usually experience music they appreciate during church services here

Always	43	52	49
Usually	44	38	35

### Presence and Growth in Understanding of God

**74%** always/usually experience a sense of God's presence during church services here

**79%** always/usually experience growth in understanding of God during church services here

Always	37	41	52
Usually	37	40	32

Always	33	38	38
Usually	45	44	40

### Being Challenged to Take Action

**64%** always/usually experience being challenged to take action

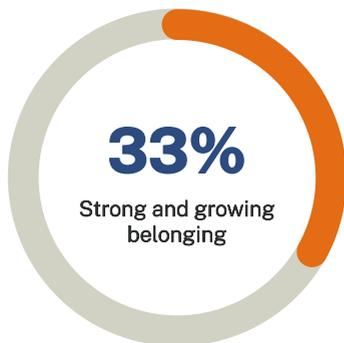
Always	25	24	27
Usually	39	43	34

# Belonging: Strong and Growing



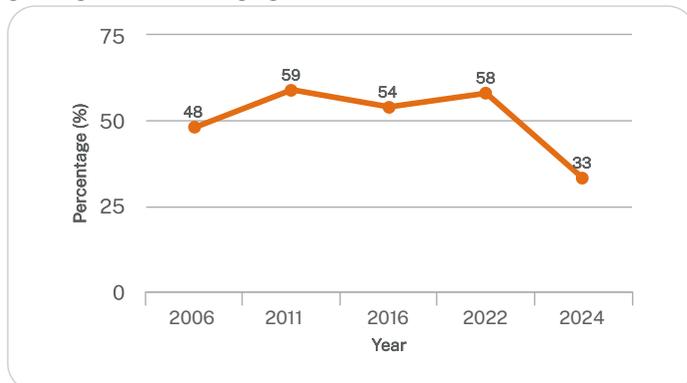
## A Strong and Growing Sense of Belonging

**33%** of attenders said they have a strong sense of belonging to this church which is growing



Source: 2024 CLS, Community Church

**Change over time:** Percentage of attenders who have a strong and growing sense of belonging to this church



Source: Community Church, NCLS 2006, 2011, 2016, 2022, 2024

### Sense of Belonging to the Local Church

**88%** have a strong sense of belonging to this local church

**10%** do not feel they belong

	You in 2024 (%)	You in 2022 (%)	All NCLS in 2022 (%)
--	-----------------	-----------------	----------------------

Sense of belonging	You in 2024 (%)	You in 2022 (%)	All NCLS in 2022 (%)
Strong and growing	33	58	50
Strong and stable	36	24	27
Strong but weakening	20	7	9
No, but new here	4	2	4
No, and wish they did	2	3	2
No, but happy	4	3	6
Don't know / NA	2	1	2

### Regular Participation in this Local Church's Activities

**86%** take part in group activities at this local church

**32%** take part in activities of the local church that reach out to the wider community

	You in 2024 (%)	You in 2022 (%)	All NCLS in 2022 (%)
Small prayer, discussion	61	50	31
Fellowship, clubs or other social groups	52	41	31
Evangelical or outreach	21	31	17
Community service, social justice or welfare	14	30	25

### Financial Giving

**28%** regularly give 10% of net income

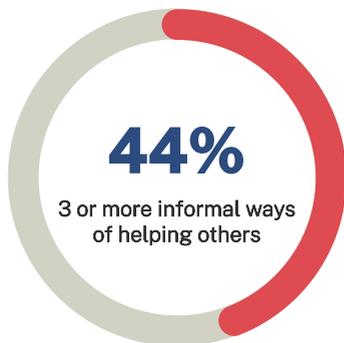
	You in 2024 (%)	You in 2022 (%)	All NCLS in 2022 (%)
Regularly give 10%	28	27	20
Regularly give up to 9% of net income	36	48	45
Give a small amount whenever I am here	18	16	29

# Service: Practical and Diverse



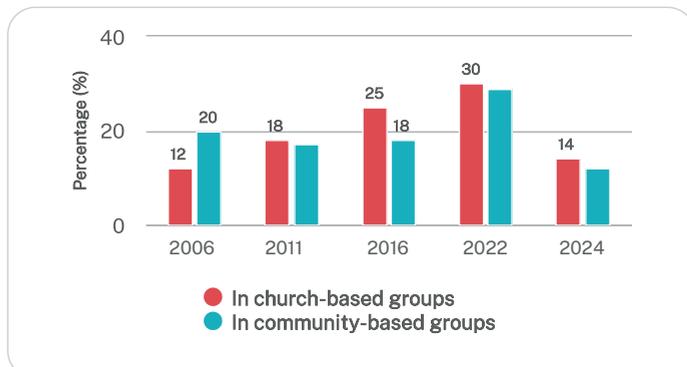
## Acts of Service

**44%** of attenders said they had informally helped others in three or more of a list of ways in the last year



Source: 2024 CLS, Community Church

**Change over time:** Percent of attenders who have been involved in community service, care or welfare groups or activities



Source: Community Church, NCLS 2006, 2011, 2016, 2022, 2024

### Informal Ways of Helping Others (in the last year)

**84%** said they had informally helped others in at least one of the ways listed in the last year

**+ Note:** Was changed from 'lent money' in 2011 to 'lent or gave money' in 2016 and 2021

**++ Note:** Added in 2021

	You in 2024 (%)	You in 2022 (%)	All NCLS in 2022 (%)
Lent or gave money outside family <sup>+</sup>	35	46	49
Attended a public meeting/march <sup>++</sup>	3	N/A	N/A
Supported a campaign (online or other) <sup>++</sup>	24	N/A	N/A
Cared for someone who was very sick	31	35	31
Helped someone through a personal crisis	37	48	41
Visited someone in hospital	20	50	48
Gave possessions to a person in need	26	39	38
Tried to stop someone abusing alcohol or drugs	5	15	13
Donated money to a charitable organisation	59	76	73
Contact parliamentarian/councillor about issue	5	16	14

### Community Activities

**14%** are regularly involved in community service, social justice or welfare activities based in the local church

**44%** are regularly involved in community groups not connected to this local church

	You in 2024 (%)	You in 2022 (%)	All NCLS in 2022 (%)
In community service or justice activities based in local church	14	30	25
<b>Involvement in community groups not connected to this local church</b>			
Community service, care or welfare groups	12	29	22
Social action, justice or lobby groups	2	7	6
Sport, recreation or hobby groups	24	21	15
School or youth groups (e.g. P&C Scouts)	7	15	8
Another kind of group	6	13	10
Online groups or communities	12	N/A	N/A
Not involved with such groups	56	42	54

### Care for the Environment

**94%** agree Christians should care for the environment

**61%** are currently active

<b>Belief about Christian responsibility to actively care for the environment</b>			
Yes, am very active	14	19	22
Yes, and am a little active	47	52	40
Yes, but currently not active	33	28	31
No	1	0	2
Unsure	5	2	5

You in 2024 | Community Church, Churchville (ZZ100050, 190 forms, 15 child forms).

You in 2022 | Community Church, Churchville (ZZ100050, 233 forms).

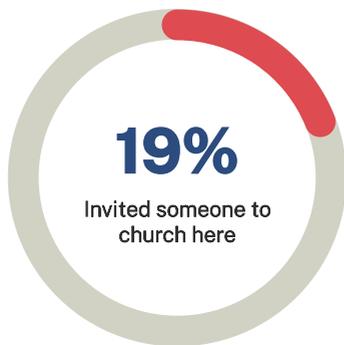
All NCLS in 2022 | Australian Attenders (0000000, 189751 forms).

# Faith Sharing: Willing and Effective



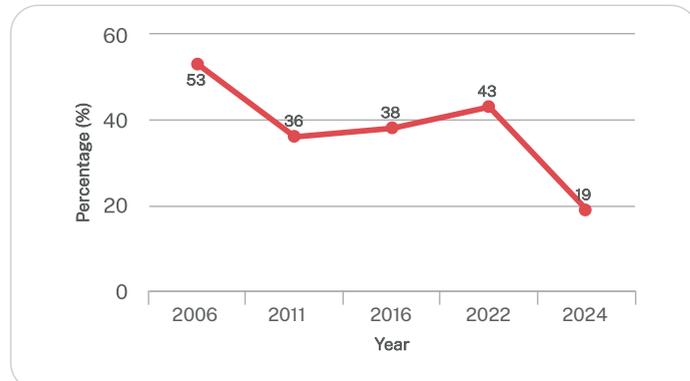
## Inviting Others to Church

**19%** of attenders said they had invited a friend or relative who does not currently attend church to a service here in the last year



Source: 2024 CLS, Community Church

**Change over time:** Percent of attenders who invited a friend or relative who does not currently attend church to a service here in the last year



Source: Community Church, NCLS 2006, 2011, 2016, 2022, 2024

## Inviting Others to Church here

**71%** are willing to invite someone to a church service

You in 2024 (%)	You in 2022 (%)	All NCLS in 2022 (%)
19	43	35
52	39	37
13	8	12
2	0	1
15	10	15

Willingness to invite to a church service here any friends/relatives who don't currently attend a church			
	You in 2024 (%)	You in 2022 (%)	All NCLS in 2022 (%)
Invited someone in the last 12 months	19	43	35
Willing, but didn't invite someone in the last 12 months	52	39	37
Probably wouldn't invite someone	13	8	12
Definitely wouldn't invite someone	2	0	1
Don't know	15	10	15

## Willing and Effective Faith-sharing

**21%** are involved regularly in outreach or evangelistic activity

**66%** feel at ease talking about their faith

Attenders involved regularly in outreach or evangelistic activity			
	You in 2024 (%)	You in 2022 (%)	All NCLS in 2022 (%)
Feel at ease talking about their faith and look for opportunities	19	22	18
Mostly feel at ease talking about their faith and do so if it comes up	48	51	53
Find it hard to talk about their faith in ordinary language	25	18	16
Do not like to talk about their faith; life and actions are sufficient	8	9	11
Do not have faith	1	0	1

## Faith-sharing in Households

**43%** frequently talk about matters of faith with other members of their household

Attenders talk about faith with other members of their household			
	You in 2024 (%)	You in 2022 (%)	All NCLS in 2022 (%)
No, live alone	7	N/A	N/A
No, do not talk about matters of faith	10	N/A	N/A
Yes, occasionally	40	N/A	N/A
Yes, frequently in informal ways	27	N/A	N/A
Yes, frequently in informal ways as well as part of family or household devotions	15	N/A	N/A

# Inclusion: Intentional and Welcoming



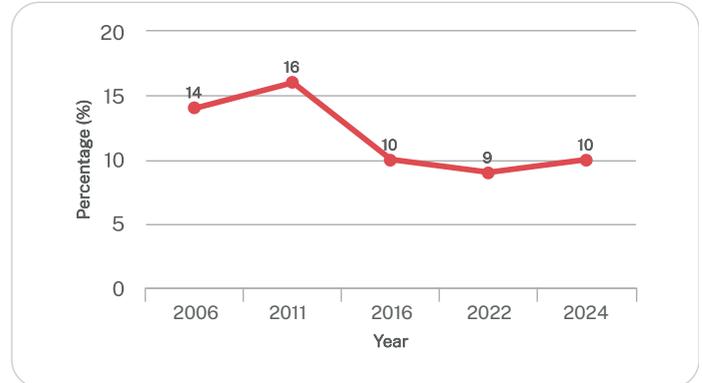
## Follow-up of People Drifting Away

**10%** of attenders said they would certainly follow up someone they knew who was drifting away from church

**Change over time:** Percent of attenders who are certain they would follow up someone they knew who was drifting away from church



Source: 2024 CLS, Community Church



Source: Community Church, NCLS 2006, 2011, 2016, 2022, 2024

## Views about Inclusiveness of Local Church

**65%** agree that this local church is inclusive of different kinds of people

You in 2024 (%)	You in 2022 (%)	All NCLS in 2022 (%)
-----------------	-----------------	----------------------

This local church is inclusive of different kinds of people			
Strongly agree	26	N/A	N/A
Agree	39	N/A	N/A
Neutral/Unsure	25	N/A	N/A
Disagree	9	N/A	N/A
Strongly disagree	1	N/A	N/A

## Likelihood of Follow-up of Those Drifting Away

**53%** are likely to follow up someone drifting away from church

Likelihood of attenders to follow up someone drifting away from church			
Certain	10	9	10
Very likely	14	21	18
Likely	30	34	26
Hard to say	35	31	35
Unlikely	12	5	11

## Welcoming New Arrivals

**37%** always or mostly personally seek out and welcome people they know who are new arrivals

Attenders personally seek out and welcome new arrivals			
Always	16	23	23
Mostly	21	36	25
Sometimes	39	27	28
Rarely/Never	24	14	25

## Making Friends

**76%** have found it easy to make friends here

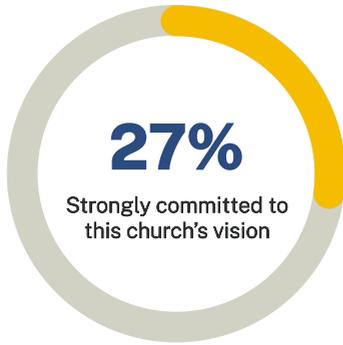
Attenders found it easy to make friends here			
Attenders agree or strongly agree	76	85	79
Attenders disagree or strongly disagree	5	5	4
Among arrivals in last five years:			
Agree or strongly agree	69	N/A	N/A
Disagree or strongly disagree	3	N/A	N/A

# Vision: Clear and Owned



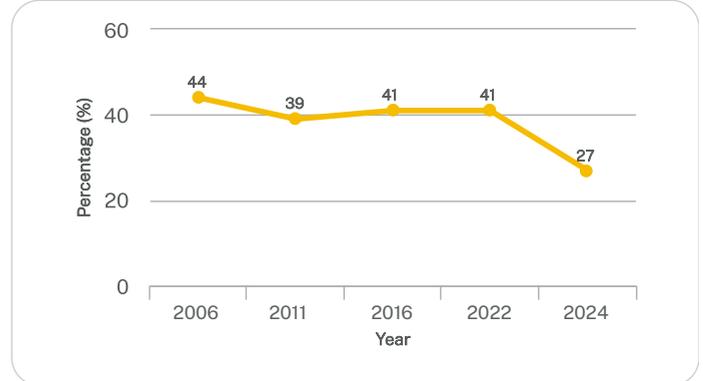
## Committed to this Local Church's Vision

**27%** of attenders said they are aware of and strongly committed to this local church's vision, goals or directions



Source: 2024 CLS, Community Church

**Change over time:** Percent of attenders who are aware of and strongly committed to this local church's vision, goals or directions



Source: Community Church, NCLS 2006, 2011, 2016, 2022, 2024

### Aware of Vision, Goals and Directions of Local Church

**73%** are aware and strongly or partly committed to the vision, goals or direction of the local church

	You in 2024 (%)	You in 2022 (%)	All NCLS in 2022 (%)
Aware and strongly committed	27	41	30
Aware and partly committed	46	32	26
Aware and not committed	10	6	14
Aware of ideas not of any clear vision	12	13	13
Unaware of any clear vision, goals or direction	5	7	16

### Confidence that the Local Church can Achieve its Vision, Goals or Directions

**33%** are fully confident that the vision can be achieved

Fully confident the vision can be achieved	33	51	48
Partly confident vision can be achieved	41	29	28
Not confident the vision can be achieved	5	5	3

### Attenders' Views on Priorities for this Local Church in the Next 12 Months: +

Spiritual growth (e.g. spiritual direction, prayer groups)	44	41	32
Worship services that are nurturing to people's faith	23	32	25
Building a strong sense of community within this local church	36	31	31
Creating a clear vision for this local church's future	16	16	17
Encouraging people here to discover/use their gifts	37	25	22
Encouraging new approaches to ministry and mission	17	14	11
Supporting social justice and aid to people in need	8	10	15
Encouraging people here to share their faith or invite others	23	21	15
Ensuring new people are included well in church life	26	26	21
Ministry to children and youth	16	19	21
Growing into a larger local church	7	14	16
Starting a new church or mission venture	3	4	9

\*Note: The wording on the introduction to this question changed slightly from 2016 onwards

# Innovation: Imaginative and Flexible



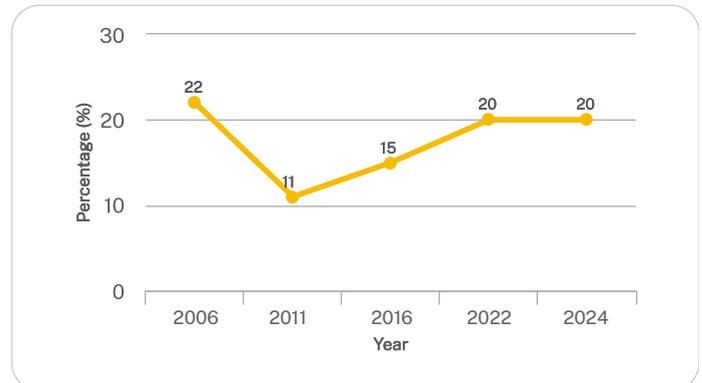
## Ready to Try Something New

**20%** of attenders strongly agree that this local church is always ready to try something new



Source: 2024 CLS, Community Church

**Change over time:** Percent of attenders who strongly agree that this local church is always ready to try something new



Source: Community Church, NCLS 2006, 2011, 2016, 2022, 2024

### Willingness of the Local Church to Try New Things

**62%** strongly agree or agree that this local church is always ready to try something new

	You in 2024 (%)	You in 2022 (%)	All NCLS in 2022 (%)
--	-----------------	-----------------	----------------------

This local church is always ready to try something new			
Strongly agree	20	20	22
Agree	43	51	48
Neutral/Unsure	27	25	25
Disagree	9	3	4
Strongly disagree	2	0	1

### Leaders Encourage Innovation

**64%** strongly agree or agree that leaders here encourage innovation and creative thinking

Leaders here encourage innovation			
Strongly agree	19	15	19
Agree	45	51	46
Neutral/Unsure	25	28	30
Disagree	10	5	4
Strongly disagree	1	0	1

### Openness to New Initiatives

**80%** support the development of new initiatives in ministry and mission in this local church

I would support the development of new initiatives in ministry and mission in the local church			
Strongly agree	24	38	32
Agree	56	48	48
Neutral/Unsure	20	13	18
Disagree	1	1	1
Strongly disagree	0	0	0

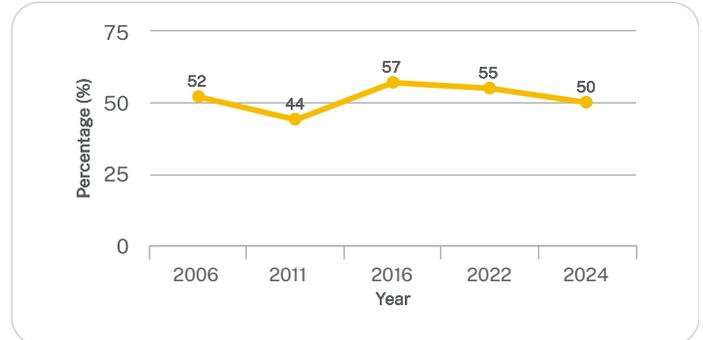
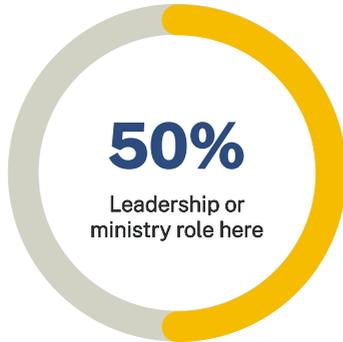
# Leadership Culture: Inspiring and Empowering



## Leadership Roles

**50%** of attenders perform at least one leadership or ministry role here

**Change over time:** Percent of attenders who perform at least one leadership or ministry role here



Source: Community Church, NCLS 2006, 2011, 2016, 2022, 2024

Source: 2024 CLS, Community Church

### Leadership and Ministry Roles Performed by Attenders

	You in 2024 (%)	You in 2022 (%)	All NCLS in 2022 (%)
Worship services (teach/preach, music, lead/assist in service)	27	36	25
Children's ministry/youth ministry role	19	19	10
Small group leadership	18	11	9
Administrator role	2	9	4
Compliance role (e.g. safe church)	3	N/A	N/A
Council/board/elder/deacon	3	7	6
Committee/task force member	3	8	5
Pastoral care/visitation role	5	10	8
Communications/news	3	N/A	N/A
Some other role	15	20	17
Perform any of above leadership/ministry roles here	50	55	42

### Views about Local Church Leaders

**17%** agree this local church's leaders encourage them to find and use their gifts and skills to a great extent

**64%** agree leaders here inspire them to action

Local leaders encourage attenders to find and use gifts and skills			
To a great extent	17	25	22
To some extent	42	40	29
Attenders strongly agree or agree that...			
Leaders here inspire me to action	64	68	66
Leaders encourage innovation & creativity	64	66	65
Local church has good and clear systems	80	81	76

### Getting Involved Here

**77%** agree it is easy to get involved in ministry at this church (e.g. join a roster, take on a role)

**30%** would like to be more involved here

Attenders strongly agree or agree that...			
It is easy to get involved in ministry here	77	N/A	N/A
All (ages) encouraged to get involved	N/A	N/A	N/A
Evaluation of involvement here			
Would like to be more involved	30	16	20
Happy with current level of involvement	60	78	67
Would like to be less involved	4	1	2

# About the Children of this Church

## Age

8 years	7%
9 years	33%
10 years	7%
11 years	27%
12 years	13%
13 years	7%
14 years	7%

## Gender

Boy	40%
Girl	60%

## School Attended

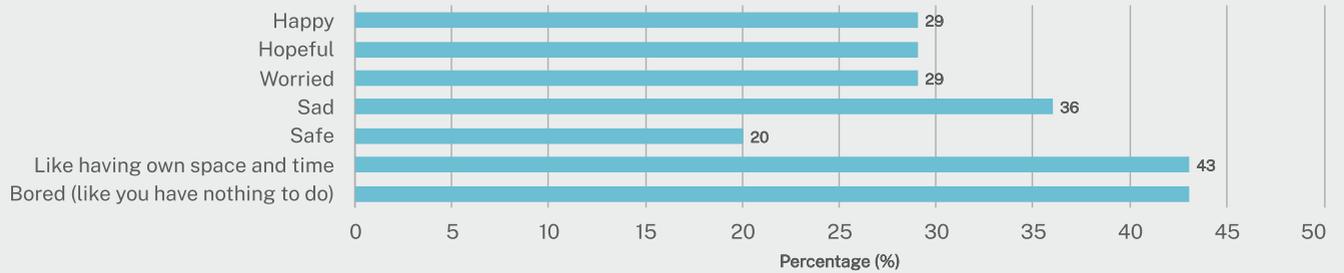
A public/state school	33%
A Catholic or other Christian school	67%
Other independent school	0%
Home school	0%

## Country of Birth

Australia	93%
Another English speaking country	7%
Another non-English speaking country	0%

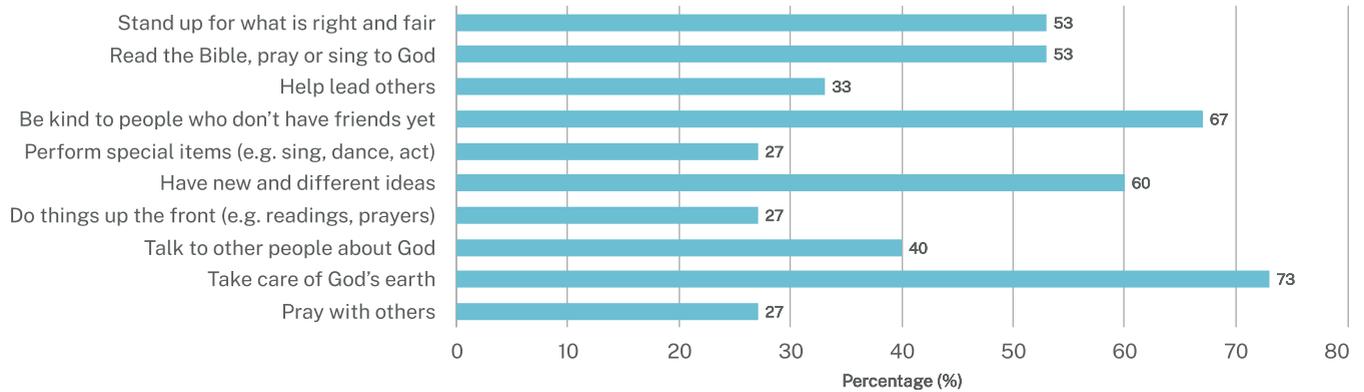
## Changes Since COVID-19

Compared to the time before COVID-19 started, those who feel more:



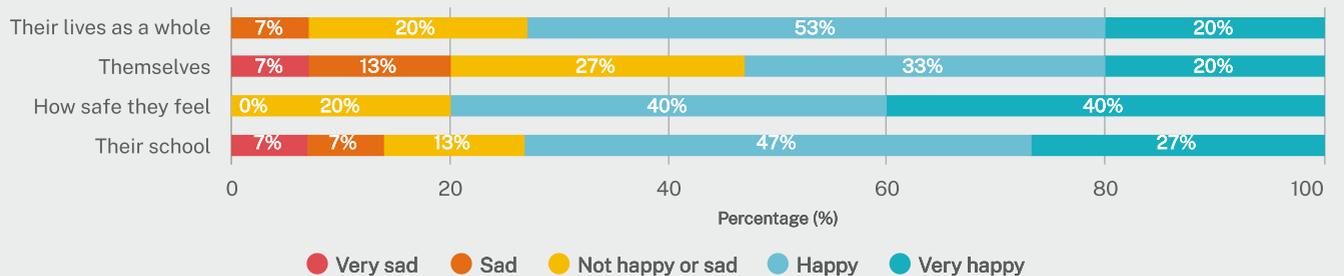
## Gifts, Skills and Talents

Things children think they are good at:



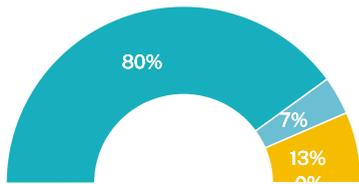
## Happiness with Areas of Life

How happy are you in each of these areas of your life?

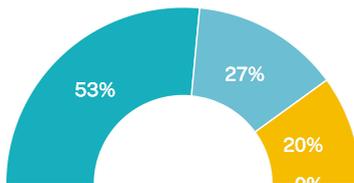


# Children's Spirituality

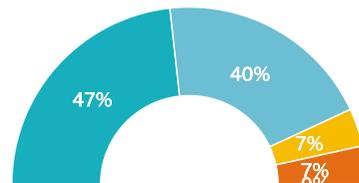
**87%** agree God means a lot to me



**80%** agree God helps me to lead a better life

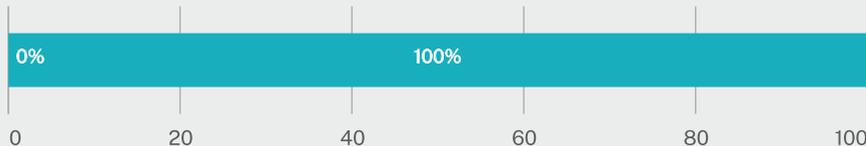


**87%** agree that I know Jesus is very close to me

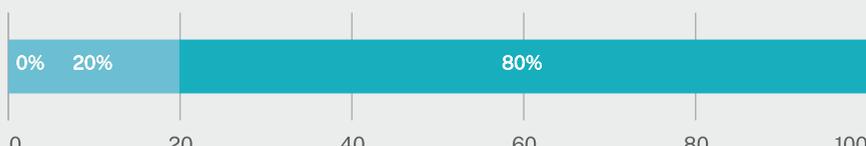


● Strongly agree ● Agree ● Neutral ● Disagree ● Strongly disagree

**100%** believe that God exists



**80%** would call themselves a Christian



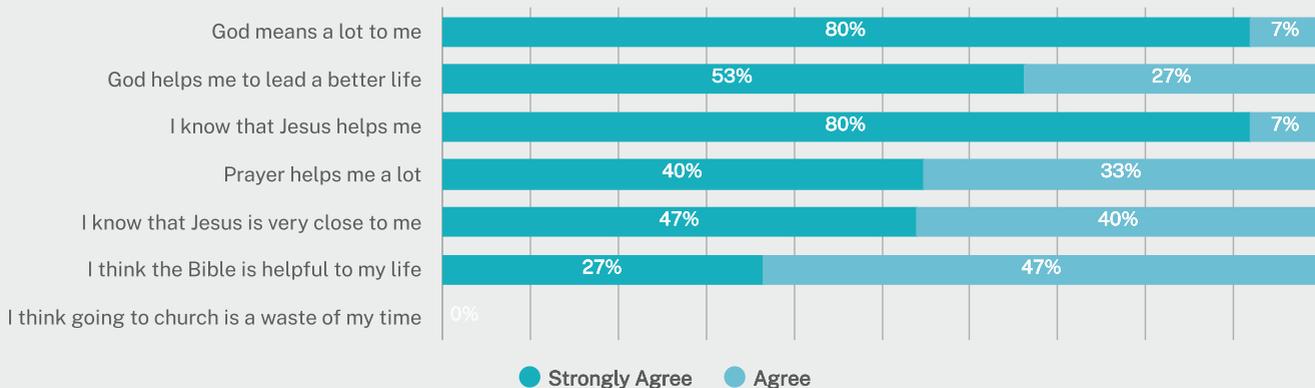
● Do not believe that God exists ● Not Sure ● Believe that God exists

● No ● Not Sure ● Yes

## Children who often do the following faith practices

	Often	Sometimes	Never
Pray on their own	33%	53%	13%
Read the Bible on their own	0%	53%	47%
Say thank you to God or Jesus	60%	33%	7%
Say sorry to God or Jesus	53%	40%	7%
Ask God or Jesus to help others	47%	40%	13%
Ask God or Jesus to make the world a better place	33%	40%	27%
Talk to their school friends about God or Jesus	27%	40%	33%
Help raise money for poor people	20%	40%	40%
Do things to help the environment	33%	47%	20%
Read Christian stories or books	33%	53%	13%
Listen to Christian music (outside church)	27%	53%	20%

## Children who strongly agree or agree



# Children's Church Activities

## Attendance of Children in Church Activities

Children reported how often they do the following things

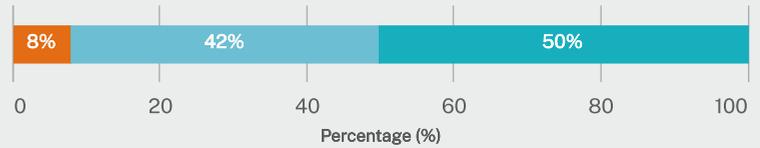
	Every week	Most weeks	Some weeks	Hardly/n ever
Go to church services or Mass	36%	14%	36%	14%
Go to a separate children's program during church services	53%	0%	27%	20%
Go to a church youth group or kids club	33%	25%	8%	33%

## Children reported the kinds of groups they attend

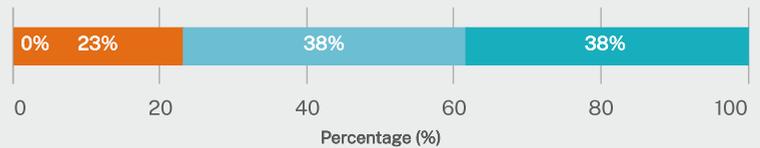
Kids Club	14%
Youth Group	21%
Sunday children's program (e.g. Sunday School)	64%
A group at school	43%
Some other kind of church group	7%
There are no groups for children or youth at this church	0%

## Feelings about Church Activities

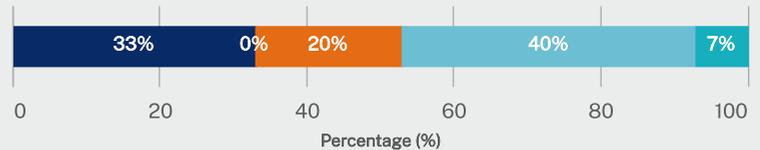
**92%** always or mostly like going to the church's groups for children and youth



**77%** always or mostly like going to church services or Mass at this church

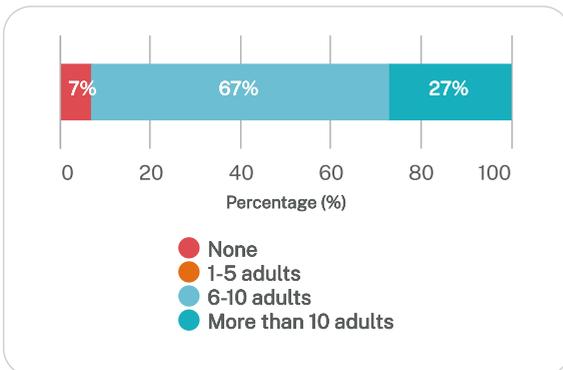


**47%** always or mostly like going to online church services or Mass



## Intergenerational Connection

Children were asked 'Think about the adults at church not in your family. How many can you talk to about normal everyday things?'



## Children's involvement at their church

	I do this	I would like to do this
Welcome people as they arrive	46%	47%
Do things up the front (e.g. do readings, prayers)	31%	53%
Be part of the music team	8%	53%
Perform special items (e.g. sing, dance, act in a play)	38%	40%
Pray with others	69%	20%
Help with serving food	15%	67%
Help with technology (e.g. sound, website etc.)	0%	67%
Giving practical help to people who need food clothes or other things	15%	80%
Taking care of God's earth (e.g. gardening, clean up)	46%	47%

# Children's Faith

## Role Models for Faith

Family members who are a good examples of people who follow Jesus

Mum	53%
Dad	87%
Grandmother	60%
Grandfather	47%
Sisters or brothers	47%
Other family adults (e.g. step-parents, aunts, uncles)	60%

Adults not part of family who are good examples of people who follow Jesus

Sunday School teachers	47%
Youth leaders	47%
The minister/pastor/priest at church	40%
Other adults at church	60%
School teacher or other school staff	67%
Other adults (e.g. sports coach, music teacher or others)	27%

## Children whose family members often do the following

	Often	Sometimes	Never
Have discussions with the child about God or Christian faith	20%	60%	20%
Read the Bible or pray with the child	47%	40%	13%
Ask the child what they have learned at church	40%	47%	13%
Talk with the child about questions, doubts or worries about Christian faith	7%	53%	40%

## Technology and Faith Activities



Have a mobile phone

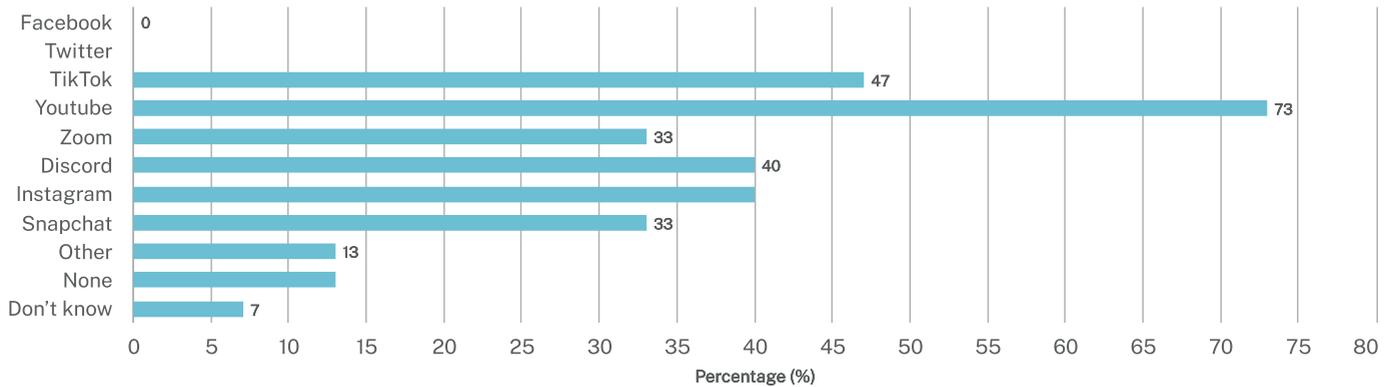


Have a computer they can use

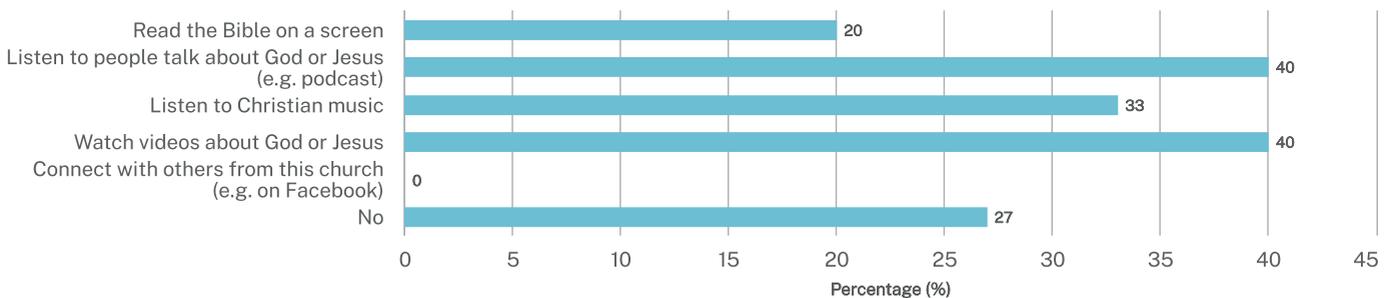


Have a tablet

## Social networking sites used in the last week



## Faith activities using technology



# Your results

This Church Life Profile contains your church's unique results from your participation in the 2021 National Church Life Survey.

This Church Life Profile will enable you to:

- ✓ Hear all voices and take time to listen
- ✓ Make better, more informed choices
- ✓ Find out the values and hopes of your attenders
- ✓ Take stock of your church's health
- ✓ See how you compare to other churches
- ✓ Identify your strengths and use them to grow



# What next?

Use your Profile, workbook and other resources to evaluate, communicate and act on your results at your church



## Evaluate

Look at your results to see what they reveal



## Communicate

Share key insights and plans with your church



## Act

Take steps of action into the future

More resources available:  [ncls.org.au](https://ncls.org.au)