

CHURCH LIFE *Profile*

Berg-en-Dal Bloemfontein Dutch Reformed

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 benchmarks

Your Profile results are based on:

Attender Surveys (aged 15+): **182 forms**
Church Code: **ZANGVS0046**

Dear local church,


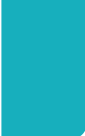

This Church Life Profile contains your church's unique results from your participation in a 2023 Church Life Survey.

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 it's mission and ministry.

- The NCLS Research Team

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A summary of results about the people of this church, what they value and prioritise, how they relate to God, each other, and the wider community, as well as vision, innovation and leadership culture.		
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Attendees' demographics, patterns of attendance and involvement in church life.		
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A detailed look at each of the nine core qualities that shape church health and vitality.		



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.

Berg-en-Dal Bloemfontein in:

2023 - **182 forms**

2019 - **249 forms**

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Dashboard

Berg-en-Dal Bloemfontein

182 adult attender forms



The People of this Church

Average age (years)	59
Female	60%
University degree	51%
Non-English speaking	100%
New arrivals in last 5 years	32%
Young people aged 15 to 19	9%



What We Value and Prioritise

Value: Sermons, preaching or Bible teaching	67%
Value: Traditional style of worship or music	50%
Prioritise: Ensuring new people are included	35%
Prioritise: Building a sense of community	28%



How We Relate to God

Experienced much growth in faith in past 12 months	70%
Private devotions at least weekly	85%
Agree faith in God is an important part of who I am	97%
Worship services always/usually challenge me to take action	58%



How We Relate to Each Other

Strong sense of belonging	82%
Found it easy to make friends	65%
Involved in group activities at church	57%
Satisfied with activities for children under 12 years	86%



How We Relate to Community

Helped others in 3 or more informal ways in last year	61%
Involved in local church service, justice or welfare activities	27%
Part of community groups not connected to local church	47%
Feel at ease sharing faith with others	85%



Our Vision and Leadership

Aware of and strongly committed to church's vision	31%
Agree this church is ready to try something new	68%
Attendees who perform at least one leadership or ministry role here	43%
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 the 2023 National Church Life Survey. This profile is based on 182 responses from attenders aged 15+ .

Supporting resources available at 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



The language most commonly spoken at home by attenders is **Afrikaans (100%)**

Race of attenders in this church

		%
	White	100
	Black	0
	Asian	0
	Coloured	0
	Other	0

Gender

60% are female

40% 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%.

Employment

45% are employed full-time (30 hours plus)

39% are retired

Marital status

65% are currently married

Education

51% have a university degree

24% have a trade certificate, diploma or associate diploma



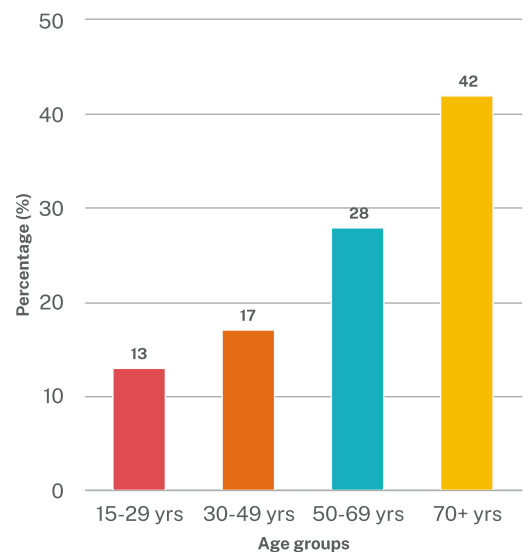
Age and Intergenerational Ministry

59 is the average age of adult attenders

86% are satisfied with what is offered for children aged under 12 years

80% are satisfied with what is offered for youth aged 12 to 18

93% agree that people of all ages are encouraged to get involved at this local church

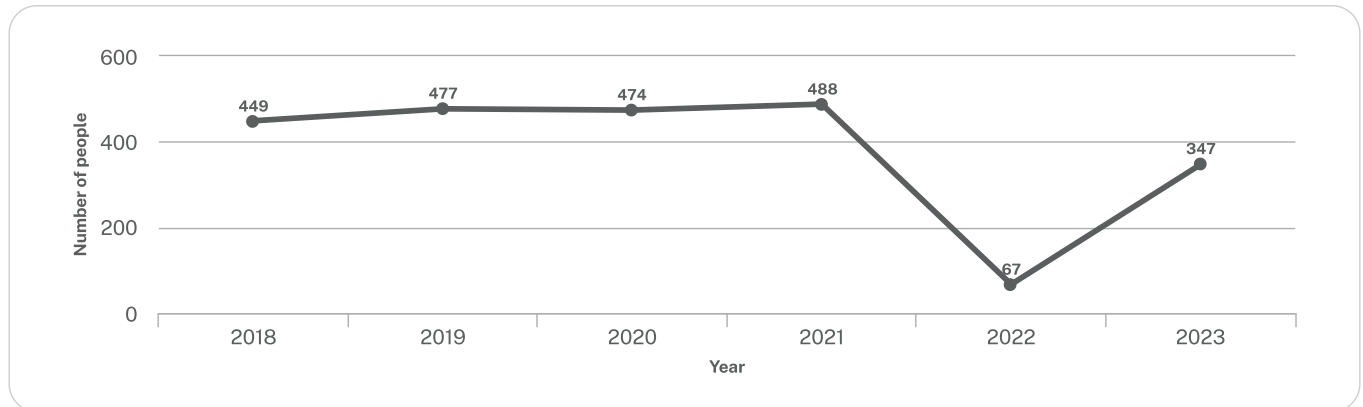


Church Attendance and Background



Attendance Patterns

Estimated attendance



Source: Berg-en-Dal Bloemfontein, NCLS 2018, 2019, 2020, 2021, 2022, 2023

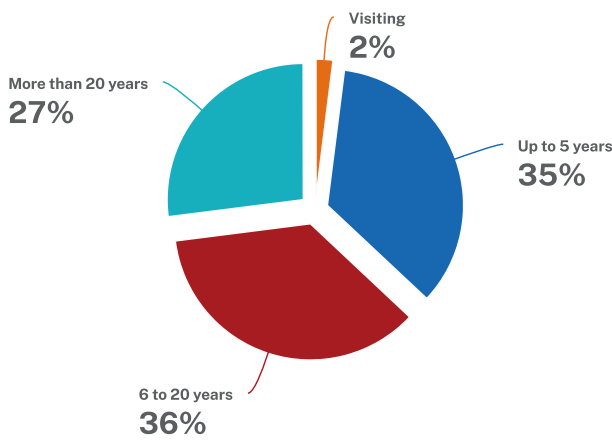
Attendance at this local church (including online)

- 94%** are frequent attenders (monthly or more)
- 63%** attend weekly or more
- 63%** have attended this church for more than five years

Attendance elsewhere (in person and online)⁺

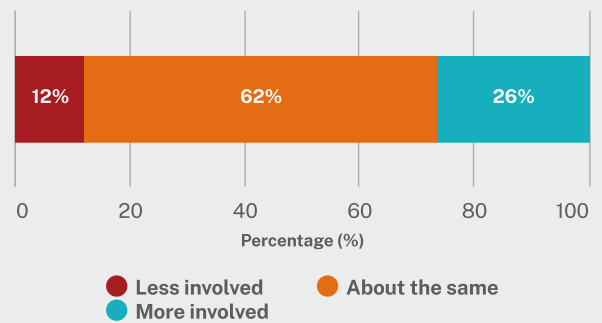
- 49%** do not attend any other church
- 35%** attend elsewhere, in person
- 29%** attend elsewhere, via online services

⁺Note attenders could choose more than one option



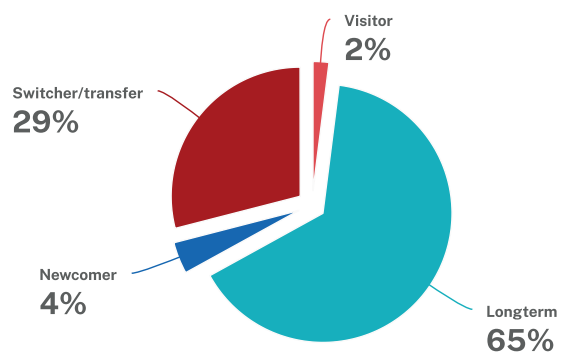
Impact of COVID-19

Current involvement compared with 2019 (before COVID-19)



Church Background

32% of attenders here are new arrivals to this local church in the past 5 years

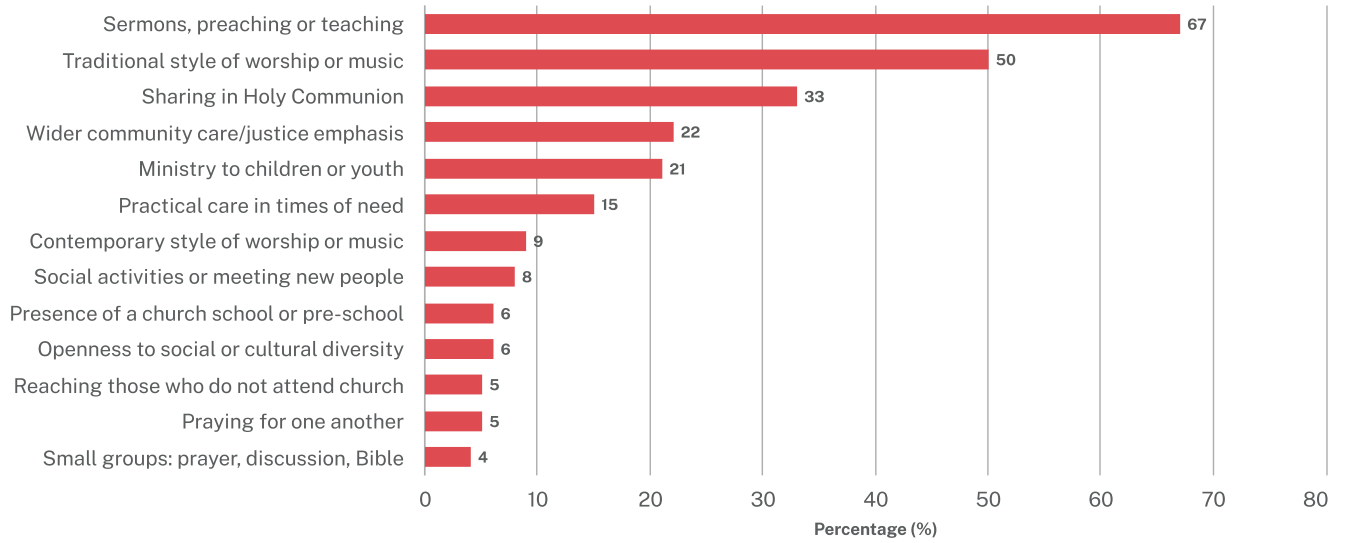


What People Value and Prioritise



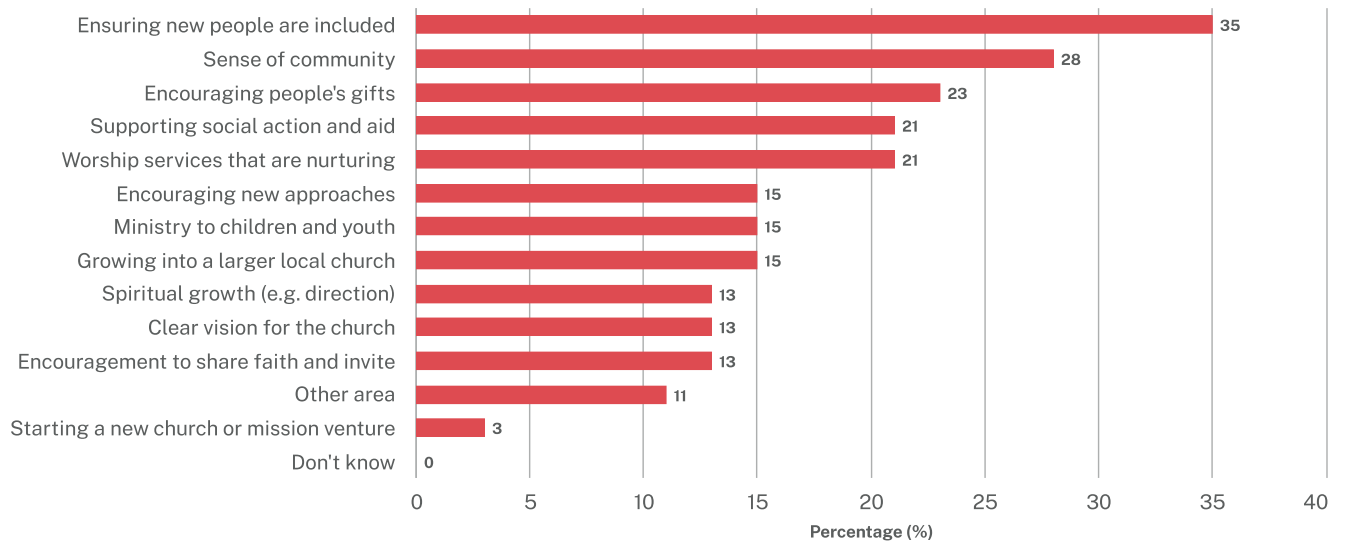
What People Value about this Church

Attendees of this local church most value 'Sermons, preaching or Bible teaching' and 'Traditional style of worship or music'.



Future Priorities

Over the next 12 months most attendees would like priority given to 'Ensuring new people are included' and 'Building a sense of community'.

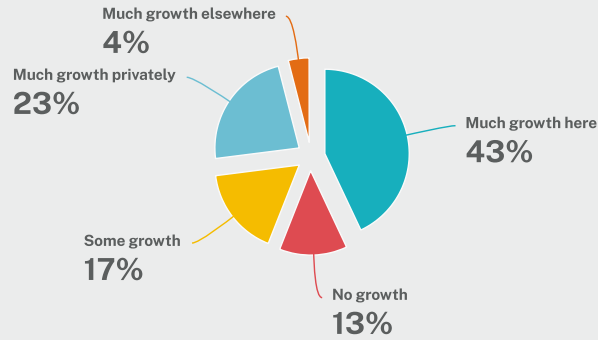


How People Relate to God

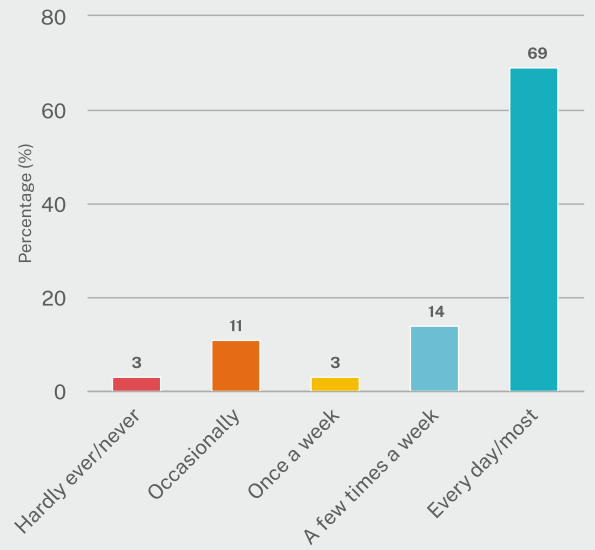


Personal Faith

70% of attenders said that they had experienced much growth in faith in the previous 12 months



69% spend time in prayer, Bible reading, meditation everyday or most days



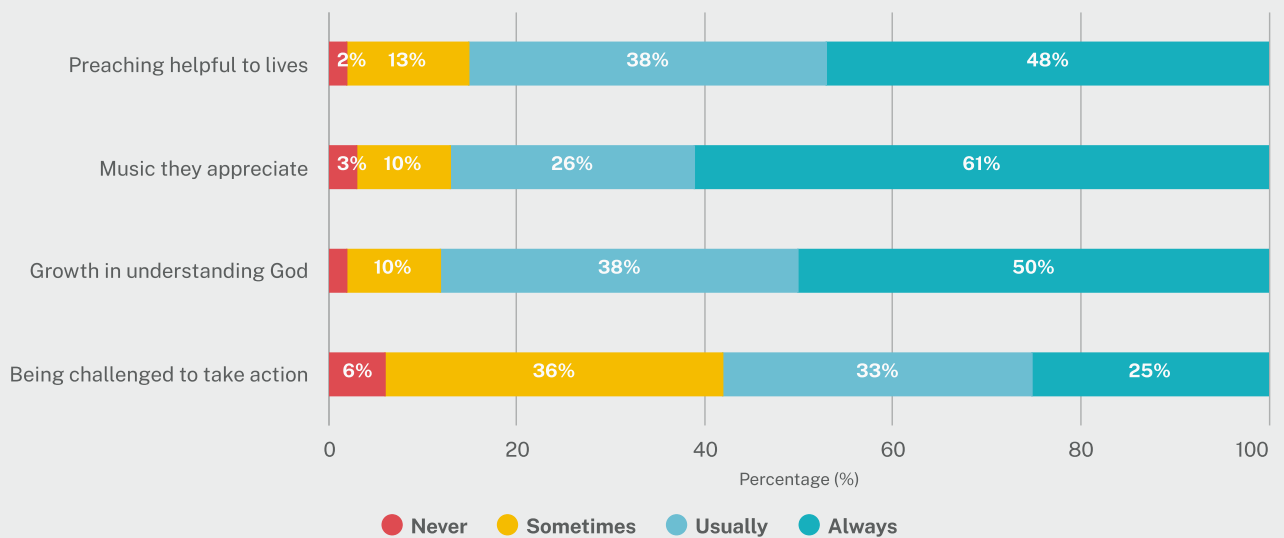
94% agree their faith influences decisions and actions in daily life

97% agree that 'my faith in God is an important part of who I am'



Church Worship Services

During worship services here, attenders experience:



How People Relate to Each Other



Belonging and Inclusion

32% always or mostly personally seek to make new arrivals welcome

34% are likely to follow up someone drifting away from church involvement

Belonging

Have a strong sense of belonging



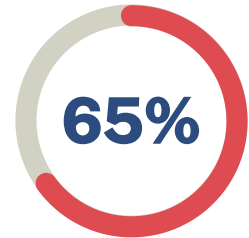
Inclusive

Agree this church is inclusive of different kinds of people



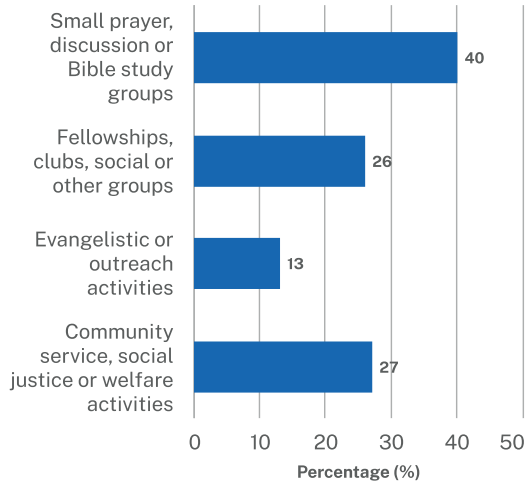
Friendly

Found it easy to make friends in this local church

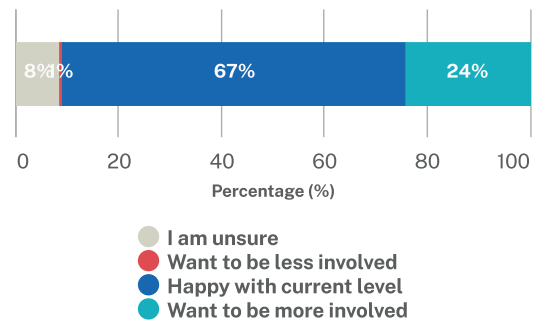


Involvement

Group Involvement

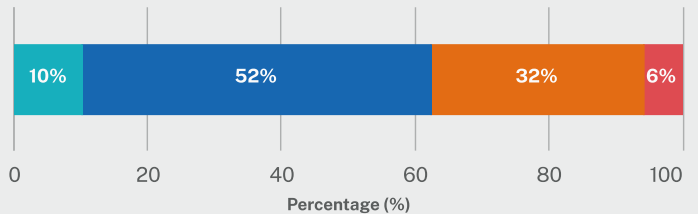


24% want to be more involved at this local church



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



How People Relate to Wider Community



Involvement in groups

47% of people participate in wider community groups
11% are very actively involved in online groups (e.g. social media, community groups)

Church-based activities

34% reach out to the wider community through activities of this local church
27% are part of community service activities
13% are part of evangelistic outreach activities



Words and Actions

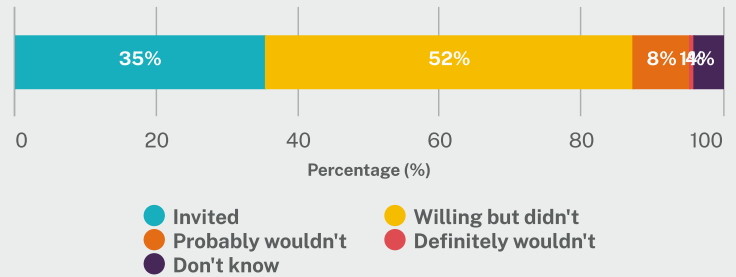
65% talk about matters of faith with other members of their household (6% live alone)
9% feel at ease talking about faith with others and look for opportunities to do so

Attendees have offered to help others in the past 12 months

Lent or gave money to someone outside your family	62%
Visited someone in hospital	51%
Given some of your possessions to someone in need	47%
Helped someone through a personal crisis (not sickness)	43%
Donated money to a charitable organisation	42%
Cared for someone who was very sick	32%
Supported a campaign (online or other)	26%
Contacted a parliamentarian/councillor on a public issue	12%
Attended a public meeting/march	8%
Tried to stop someone abusing alcohol or drugs	8%

Inviting others to church

35% invited friends and relatives to a church service in this last year



Acting for the Environment

88% agree that Christians have a responsibility to actively care for the environment
14% are very active
23% are a little active
51% are currently not active

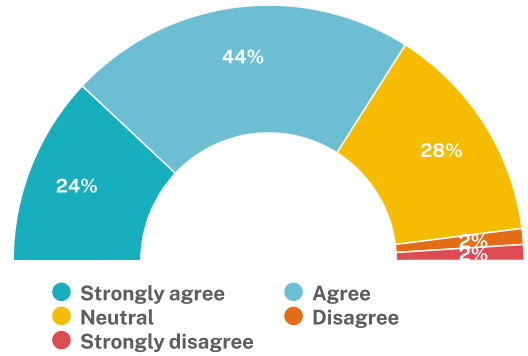
Vision, Innovation & Leadership Culture



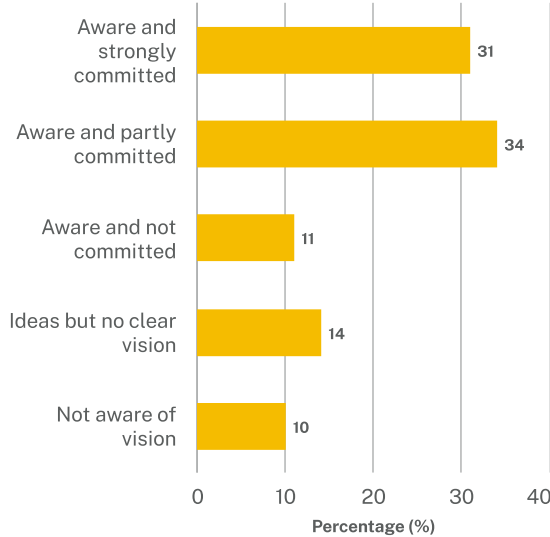
Vision and Innovation

68% agree that this local church is always ready to try something new

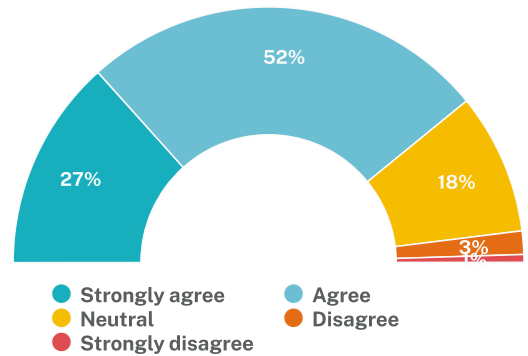
31% of people are both aware and strongly committed to the vision, goals or directions for this local church
49% are fully confident that this local church can achieve the vision, goals or directions set



Vision



79% agree that they would support the development of new initiatives in the ministry and mission of this local church



Leadership Culture

68% agree it is easy to get involved in ministry at this church (i.e. take on a role)

94% agree that this church has good clear systems for how it operates

43% of attenders perform a leadership or ministry role

73% agree 'leaders here inspire me to action'

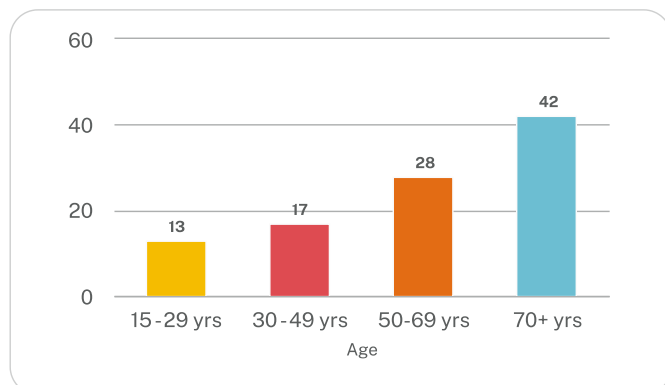
54% agree 'leaders encourage me to find and use my gifts and skills to great or some extent'

A Demographic Profile



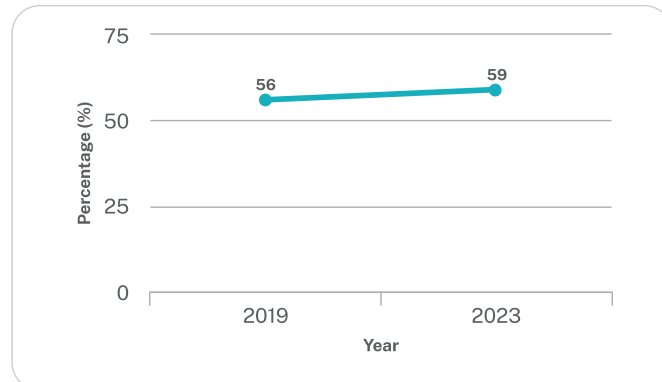
Age Profile

59 years is the average age of attenders at this local church (aged 15+)



Source: 2023 CLS-SA, Berg-en-Dal Bloemfontein

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



Source: Berg-en-Dal Bloemfontein, NCLS 2019, 2023

Gender

60% are female

* Other not available for local churches to honour commitment to confidentiality. See ncls.org.au/faqs for more.

	You in 2023 (%)	You in 2019 (%)	Denom in 2019 (%)
Female	60	59	57
Male	40	41	43
Other	N/A	N/A	N/A

Marital Status

65% are currently married

	You in 2023 (%)	You in 2019 (%)	Denom in 2019 (%)
Never married	16	13	12
Married	65	69	72
In a defacto relationship	1	2	2
Separated or divorced	5	3	5
Widowed	14	13	10

Education

51% have a University degree

	You in 2023 (%)	You in 2019 (%)	Denom in 2019 (%)
Primary/secondary school	24	22	39
Trade certificate, diploma or associate diploma	24	18	25
University degree	51	61	36

Employment

64% are employed

	You in 2023 (%)	You in 2019 (%)	Denom in 2019 (%)
Employed	64	46	56
Full-time home duties/family responsibilities	20	6	7
Retired	39	40	31

Ethnicity

Main language used at home. The two most common here were:+

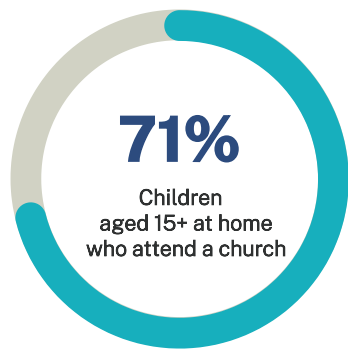
Language	You in 2023 (%)	You in 2019 (%)	Denom in 2019 (%)
Afrikaans	100	98	98
English	0	1	1

+ Available options were: Afrikaans, English, IsiNdebele, IsiXhosa, IsiZulu, Sepedi, Sesotho, Setswana, Siswati, Tshivenda, Xitsonga, Other

Race	You in 2023 (%)	You in 2019 (%)	Denom in 2019 (%)
White	98	N/A	N/A
Black	1	N/A	N/A
Asian	0	N/A	N/A
Coloured	1	N/A	N/A
Other	0	N/A	N/A
Not applicable	1	N/A	N/A

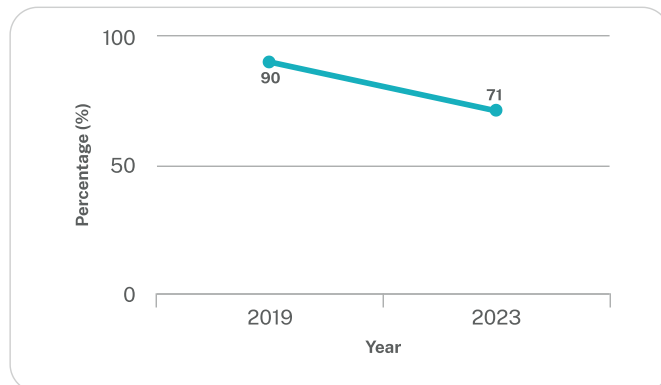
Children and Youth

71% is the proportion of attenders' children (aged 15 + and living at home) who attend a church



Source: 2023 CLS-SA, Berg-en-Dal Bloemfontein

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



Source: Berg-en-Dal Bloemfontein, NCLS 2019, 2023

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

Children and youth of church attenders

98% of attenders' children aged 0 to 14 years living at home attend church here

52% of attenders' children aged 15 and over still living at home attend church here

	You in 2023 (%)	You in 2019 (%)	Denom in 2019 (%)
--	-----------------	-----------------	-------------------

Attenders' children aged 0-14 still living at home:			
Still attend this church	98	97	93
Attend elsewhere	10	4	4
Do not attend any church	1	3	4
Attenders' children aged 15 and over still living at home:			
Still attend this church	52	70	63
Attend elsewhere	21	27	20
Do not attend any church	16	12	17

Young people at this local church

9% of attenders who completed the survey were aged 15 to 19 years

Young people who:			
Completed the survey	9	7	5
Have been attending more than 5 years	6	4	3
Have been attending 5 years or less	2	3	1

Satisfaction with what local church offers

For children aged under 12 years

86% are very satisfied or satisfied

For youth aged 12 to 18 years

80% 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':			
All attenders very satisfied or satisfied	86	74	74
Satisfaction with what is offered here 'for youth aged 12-18 years':			
All attenders very satisfied or satisfied	80	65	64
15-18 year olds very satisfied or satisfied	93	81	64

Church Background



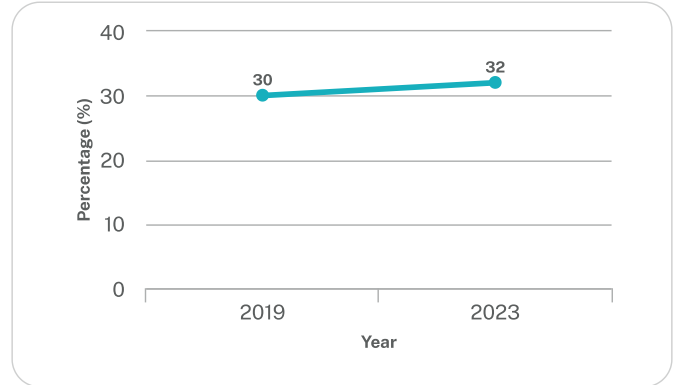
Background of Church Attenders

32% of attenders here are new arrivals to this local church in the past 5 years



Source: 2023 CLS-SA, Berg-en-Dal Bloemfontein

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



Source: Berg-en-Dal Bloemfontein, NCLS 2019, 2023

Church Attendance History⁺

- 32%** are new arrivals in the last five years, comprising
 - 29%** moved from a different church
 - 4%** are newcomers (new to any church in the last 5 years)
- 65%** are long-term having attended here for more than 5 years
- 2%** were visitors

	You in 2023 (%)	You in 2019 (%)	Denom in 2019 (%)
New Arrivals (total) ¹	32	30	24
Newcomers ²	4	3	2
Returnees: after absence of several years	3	2	2
Never regularly attended	2	1	1
Switchers ³⁺⁺	4	1	3
Transfers ⁴	24	26	20
Long-term attenders ⁵	65	68	74
Visitors from other churches	1	1	1
Visitors who do not regularly go to church	2	0	0

Length of Attendance at this Church

- 9%** have been here less than 1 year
- 26%** have been here for 1-5 years
- 27%** 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	9	9	5
1-2 years	12	7	7
3-5 years / unsure	14	14	13
6-10 years	14	15	13
11-20 years	22	21	21
More than 20 years	27	32	39

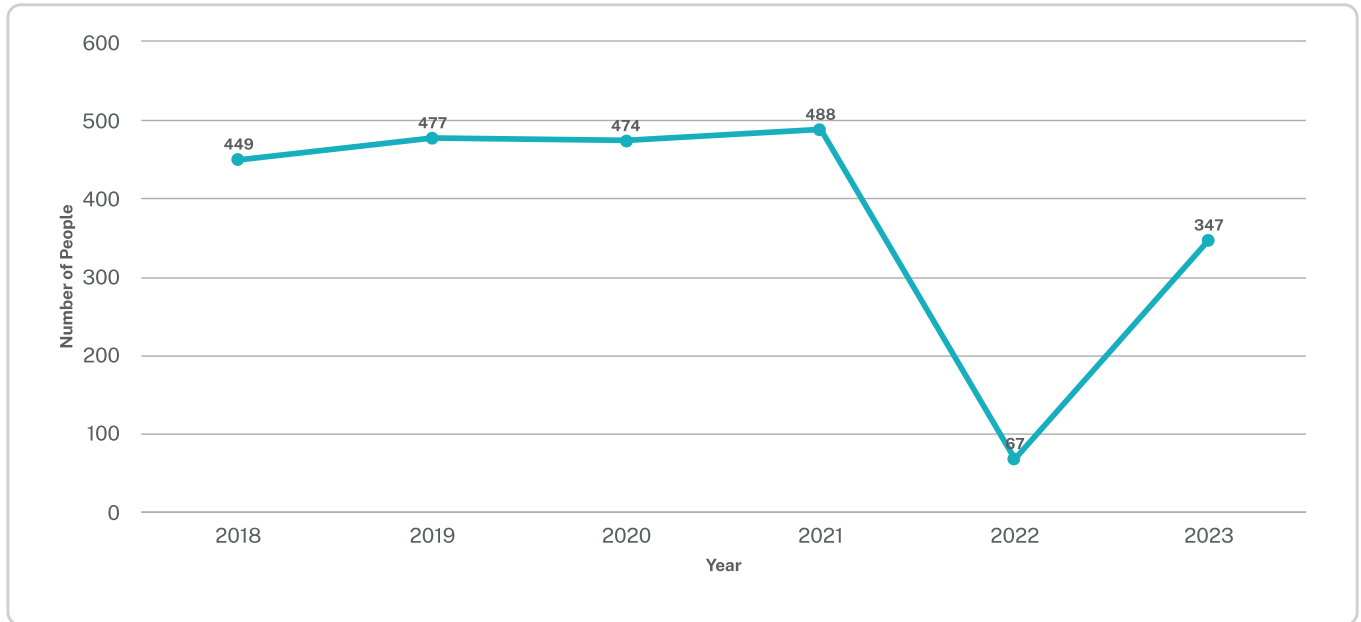
+Note: Church attendance history is calculated from three survey questions. The figures may not match those for length of attendance due to non-responses.
++Note: The wording of the response options to the survey about the denomination of the previous church changed in 2016.

- 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)

94% are frequent attenders (monthly or more)

	You in 2023 (%)	You in 2019 (%)	Denom in 2019 (%)
--	-----------------	-----------------	-------------------

Attend here (inc. online)			
First time/hardly ever/special occasions only	3	3	2
Less than once a month	2	4	2
Once, twice or three times a month	32	30	37
Usually every week	59	60	56
More than once a week	3	3	3

Attendance Elsewhere

35% attend elsewhere, in person

29% attend elsewhere, via online services

Attend elsewhere			
No	49	N/A	N/A
Yes, attend in person elsewhere	35	N/A	N/A
Yes, via online services	29	N/A	N/A

Impact of COVID on Involvement

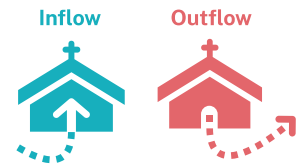
26% are more involved than in 2019

62% are involved about the same as in 2019

12% are less involved than in 2019

Compared to 2019, more or less involved here			
More involved	26	N/A	N/A
About the same	62	N/A	N/A
Less involved	12	N/A	N/A

Inflow and Outflow



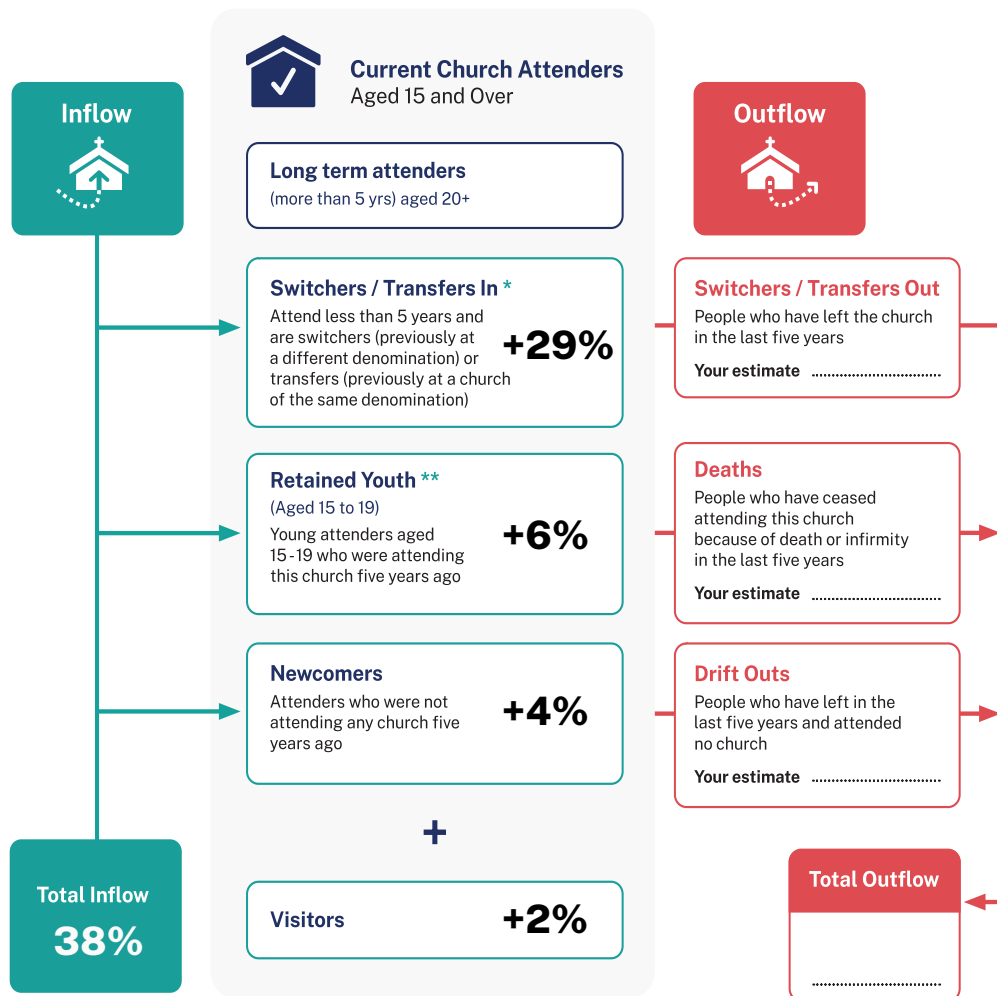
How do churches grow? In numerical terms churches grow when the inflow of church attenders exceeds the outflow.

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.

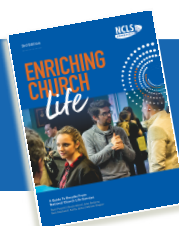


Newcomers - the extent to which newcomers with no church background who have arrived in the previous five years make up the congregation.



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

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	Worship	Always experience inspiration in church worship services	9.6
2	Faith	Much growth in faith in the past year, through this church	8.0
3	Innovation	Strongly agree this church is always ready to try something new	7.6
4	Service	Number of different ways attenders have helped others in the last 12 months	6.0
5	Vision	Aware of and strongly committed to the vision of this church	5.0
6	Faith Sharing	Have invited someone in the last 12 months	4.3
7	Belonging	Sense of belonging is strong and growing	4.2
8	Inclusion	Attenders certain they would follow up someone drifting from church	4.0
9	Leadership Culture	Agree that leaders encourage attenders to find their gifts and skills to a great extent	3.4

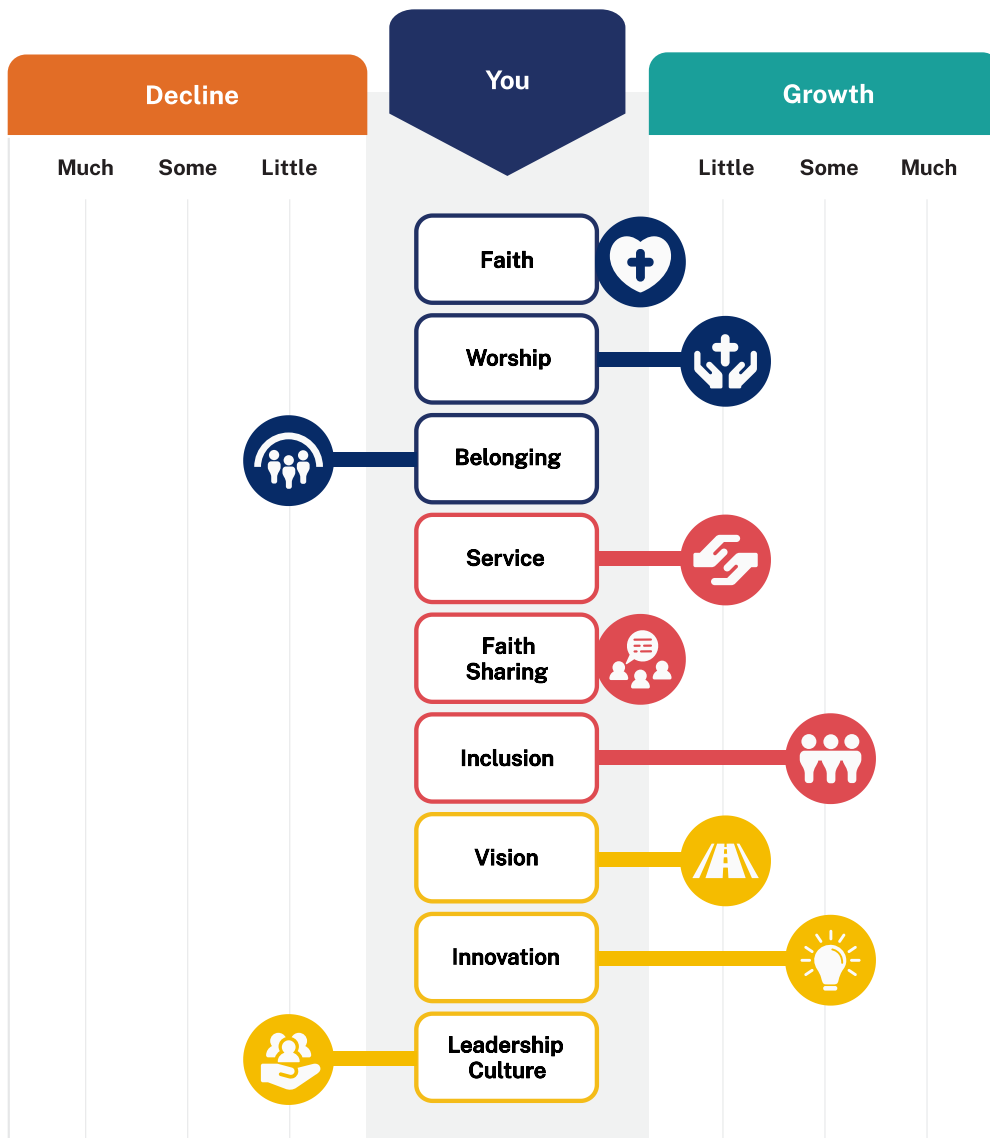
How do these scores work?

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 a representative sample of Australian local churches. See more at 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 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

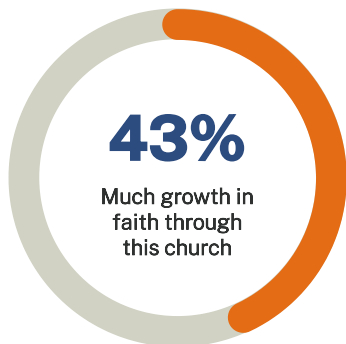
Any church can conduct a Church Life Survey at any time that suits them into the future. New results will be compared with previous results. Contact NCLS Research for details.

Faith: Alive and Growing



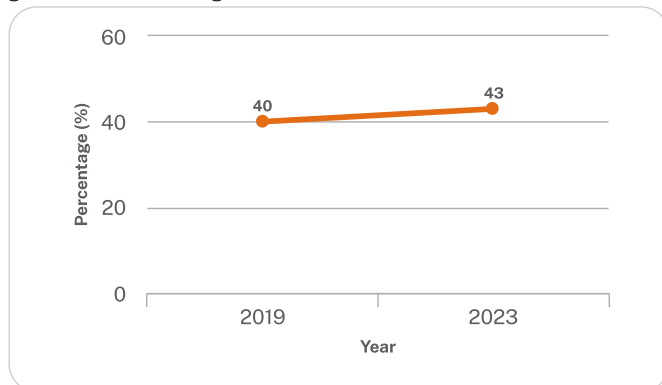
Growth in Faith through this Local Church

43% said they had experienced much growth in faith through this local church in the last 12 months



Source: 2023 CLS-SA, Berg-en-Dal Bloemfontein

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



Source: Berg-en-Dal Bloemfontein, NCLS 2019, 2023

Growth in Faith in the Past Year

87% have grown their faith, either through this church, other groups or churches or through private activity

	You in 2023 (%)	You in 2019 (%)	Denom in 2019 (%)
Much: this local church	43	40	39
Much: other groups	4	8	10
Much: private activity	23	25	23
Some growth	17	19	23

Private Devotional Activity

85% spend time in prayer, Bible reading or meditation at least weekly

	You in 2023 (%)	You in 2019 (%)	Denom in 2019 (%)
Everyday/most days	69	69	70
A few times a week	14	15	15
Once a week	3	3	2
Occasionally	11	9	10
Hardly ever/never	3	4	3

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')

65% chose Evangelical or Reformed

20% chose I do not identify with such descriptions

	You in 2023 (%)	You in 2019 (%)	Denom in 2019 (%)
Evangelical or Reformed	65	N/A	N/A
I do not identify with such descriptions	20	N/A	N/A
Pentecostal or charismatic	14	N/A	N/A
Catholic or Anglo-Catholic	11	N/A	N/A

Faith and Life

94% agree or strongly agree that their faith influences decisions and actions in daily life

97% 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	94	N/A	N/A
Neutral or unsure	4	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	97	N/A	N/A
Neutral or unsure	3	N/A	N/A
Disagree or strongly disagree	1	N/A	N/A

Worship: Vital and Nurturing



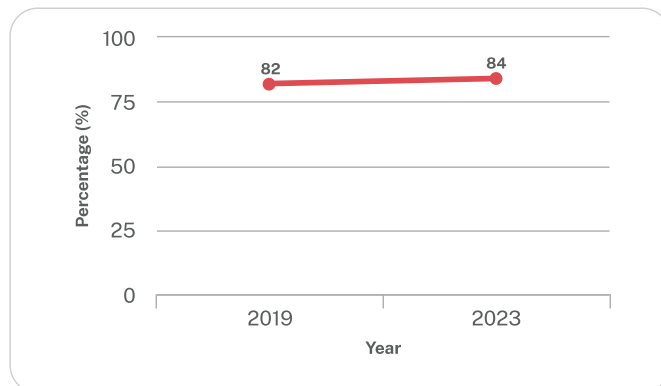
Experience Inspiration during Church Services

84% of attenders said they always/usually experience inspiration during services



Source: 2023 CLS-SA, Berg-en-Dal Bloemfontein

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



Source: Berg-en-Dal Bloemfontein, NCLS 2019, 2023

Inspiration

84% always/usually experience inspiration during church services

	You in 2023 (%)	You in 2019 (%)	Denom in 2019 (%)
Always	39	38	41
Usually	45	44	43

Helpful Preaching

86% always/usually experience preaching very helpful to their lives during church services

	You in 2023 (%)	You in 2019 (%)	Denom in 2019 (%)
Always	48	48	48
Usually	38	40	40

Appreciate Music

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

Always	61	53	47
Usually	26	34	38

Presence and Growth in Understanding of God

92% always/usually experience a sense of God's presence during church services

88% always/usually experience growth in understanding of God during church services

Always	58	61	63
Usually	33	28	28

Always	50	46	48
Usually	38	41	41

Being Challenged to Take Action

58% always/usually experience being challenged to take action

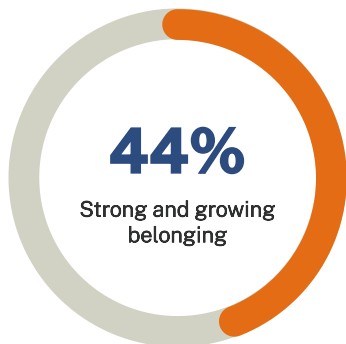
Always	25	20	24
Usually	33	42	39

Belonging: Strong and Growing



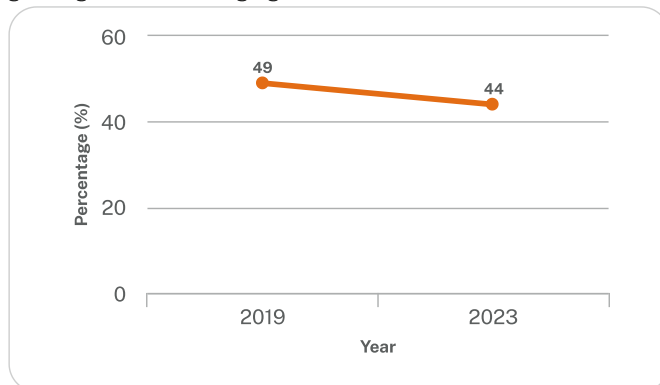
A Strong and Growing Sense of Belonging

44% of attenders said they have a strong sense of belonging to this church which is growing



Source: 2023 CLS-SA, Berg-en-Dal Bloemfontein

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



Source: Berg-en-Dal Bloemfontein, NCLS 2019, 2023

Sense of Belonging to their Local Church

82% have a strong sense of belonging to this local church

16% do not feel they belong

	You in 2023 (%)	You in 2019 (%)	Denom in 2019 (%)
--	-----------------	-----------------	-------------------

Sense of belonging			
Strong and growing	44	49	45
Strong and stable	32	29	27
Strong but weakening	6	5	11
No, but new here	9	4	4
No, and wish they did	2	5	4
No, but happy	5	6	7
Don't know / NA	2	2	2

Regular Participation in their Local Church's Activities

57% take part in group activities at this local church

34% take part in activities of the local church that reach out to the wider community

Small prayer, discussion	40	30	28
Fellowship, clubs or other social groups	26	23	25
Evangelical or outreach	13	8	9
Community service, social justice or welfare	27	19	22

Financial Giving

10% regularly give 10% of net income

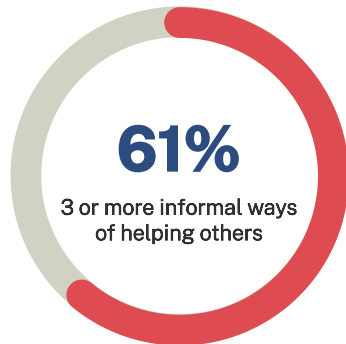
Regularly give 10%	10	15	13
Regularly give up to 9% of net income	52	58	58
Give a small amount whenever I am here	32	21	25

Service: Practical and Diverse



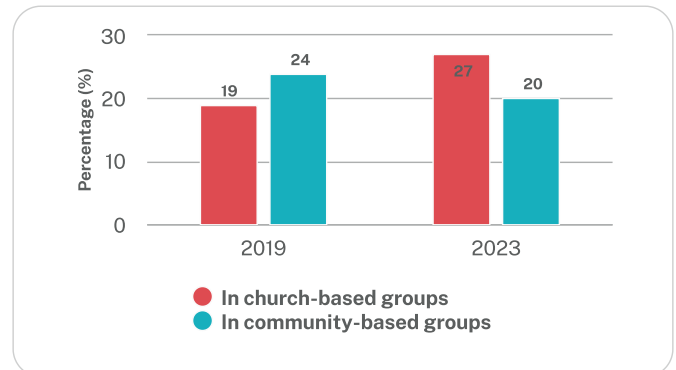
Acts of Service

61% of attenders said they had informally helped others in three or more of a list of ways in the last year



Source: 2023 CLS-SA, Berg-en-Dal Bloemfontein

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



Source: Berg-en-Dal Bloemfontein, NCLS 2019, 2023

Informal Ways of Helping Others (in the last year)

96% 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 2023 (%)	You in 2019 (%)	Denom in 2019 (%)
Lent or gave money outside family ⁺	62	33	34
Attended a public meeting/march ⁺⁺	8	N/A	N/A
Supported a campaign (online or other) ⁺⁺	26	N/A	N/A
Cared for someone who was very sick	32	36	30
Helped someone through a personal crisis	43	49	45
Visited someone in hospital	51	55	42
Gave possessions to a person in need	47	47	44
Tried to stop someone abusing alcohol or drugs	8	9	9
Donated money to a charitable organisation	42	50	42
Contact parliamentarian/councillor about issue	12	7	5

Community Activities

27% are regularly involved in community service, social justice or welfare activities based in this local church

47% are regularly involved in community groups not connected to this local church

In community service or justice activities based in local church	27	19	22
Involvement in community groups not connected to this local church			
Community service, care or welfare groups	20	24	19
Social action, justice or lobby groups	1	2	2
Sport, recreation or hobby groups	20	15	12
School or youth groups (e.g. P&C Scouts)	9	11	10
Another kind of group	19	14	7
Online groups or communities	9	N/A	N/A
Not involved with such groups	53	N/A	N/A

Care for the Environment

88% agree Christians should care for the environment

37% are currently active

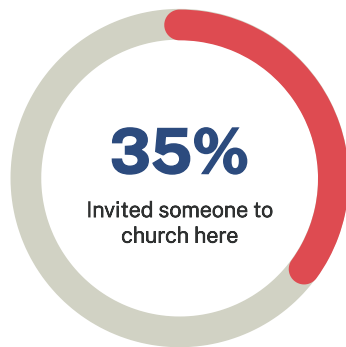
Belief about Christian responsibility to actively care for the environment			
Yes, am very active	14	16	19
Yes, and am a little active	23	45	41
Yes, but currently not active	51	34	37
No	2	1	1
Unsure	10	3	2

Faith Sharing: Willing and Effective



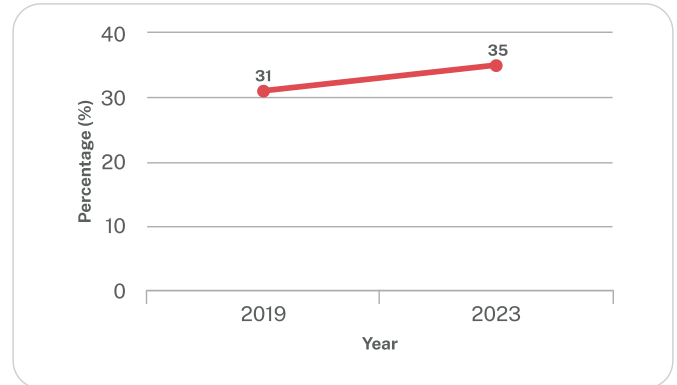
Inviting Others to Church

35% 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: 2023 CLS-SA, Berg-en-Dal Bloemfontein

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: Berg-en-Dal Bloemfontein, NCLS 2019, 2023

Inviting Others to Church here

87% are willing to invite someone to a church service

You in 2023 (%)

You in 2019 (%)

Denom in 2019 (%)

Willingness to invite to a church service here any friends/relatives who don't currently attend a church

	You in 2023 (%)	You in 2019 (%)	Denom in 2019 (%)
Invited someone in the last 12 months	35	31	34
Willing, but didn't invite someone in the last 12 months	52	53	49
Probably wouldn't invite someone	8	6	5
Definitely wouldn't invite someone	1	0	1
Don't know	4	9	11

Willing and Effective Faith-sharing

13% are involved regularly in outreach or evangelistic activity

85% feel at ease talking about their faith

Attenders involved regularly in outreach or evangelistic activity

	You in 2023 (%)	You in 2019 (%)	Denom in 2019 (%)
Feel at ease talking about their faith and look for opportunities	9	13	14
Mostly feel at ease talking about their faith and do so if it comes up	76	69	67
Find it hard to talk about their faith in ordinary language	4	10	11
Do not like to talk about their faith; life and actions are sufficient	11	8	8
Do not have faith	0	0	0

Faith-sharing in Households

65% frequently talk about matters of faith with other members of their household

Attenders talk about faith with other members of their household

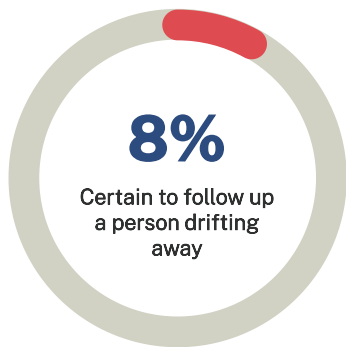
	You in 2023 (%)	You in 2019 (%)	Denom in 2019 (%)
No, live alone	6	N/A	N/A
No, do not talk about matters of faith	2	N/A	N/A
Yes, occasionally	27	N/A	N/A
Yes, frequently in informal ways	47	N/A	N/A
Yes, frequently in informal ways as well as part of family or household devotions	17	N/A	N/A

Inclusion: Intentional and Welcoming



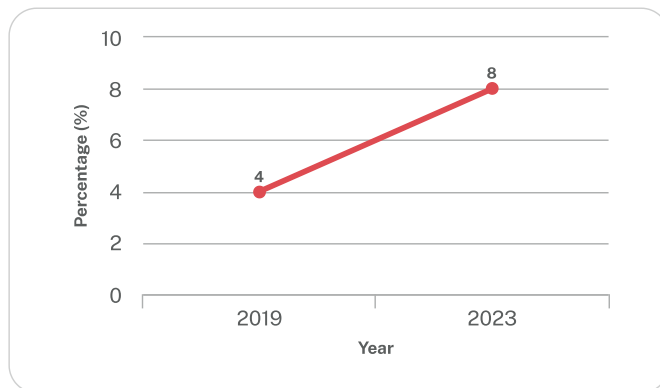
Follow-up of People Drifting Away

8% of attenders said they would certainly follow up someone they knew who was drifting away from church



Source: 2023 CLS-SA, Berg-en-Dal Bloemfontein

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



Source: Berg-en-Dal Bloemfontein, NCLS 2019, 2023

Views about Inclusiveness of Local Church

69% agree that this local church is inclusive of different kinds of people

	You in 2023 (%)	You in 2019 (%)	Denom in 2019 (%)
--	-----------------	-----------------	-------------------

This local church is inclusive of different kinds of people			
Strongly agree	23	N/A	N/A
Agree	47	N/A	N/A
Neutral/Unsure	27	N/A	N/A
Disagree	3	N/A	N/A
Strongly disagree	1	N/A	N/A

Likelihood of Follow-up of Those Drifting Away

34% are likely to follow up someone drifting away from church

Likelihood of attenders to follow up someone drifting away from church			
Certain	8	4	7
Very likely	8	8	6
Likely	19	18	22
Hard to say	44	40	41
Unlikely	22	30	25

Welcoming New Arrivals

32% always or mostly personally seek out and welcome people they know who are new arrivals

Attenders personally seek out and welcome new arrivals			
Always	11	13	11
Mostly	21	17	18
Sometimes	24	27	29
Rarely/Never/Not applicable	44	43	42

Making Friends

65% have found it easy to make friends here

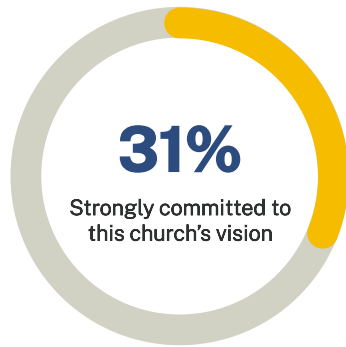
Attenders found it easy to make friends here			
Attenders agree or strongly agree	65	70	70
Attenders disagree or strongly disagree	9	7	8
Among arrivals in the last five years:			
Agree or strongly agree	62	58	63
Disagree or strongly disagree	8	9	10

Vision: Clear and Owned



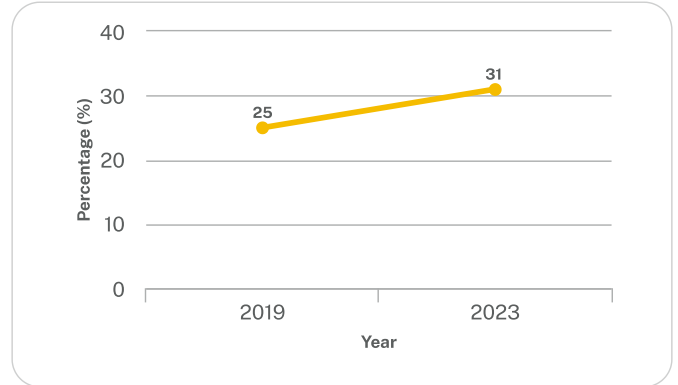
Committed to this Local Church's Vision

31% of attenders said they are aware of and strongly committed to this local church's vision, goals or directions



Source: 2023 CLS-SA, Berg-en-Dal Bloemfontein

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



Source: Berg-en-Dal Bloemfontein, NCLS 2019, 2023

Aware of Vision, Goals and Directions of Local Church

65% are aware and strongly or partly committed to the vision, goals or direction of the local church

	You in 2023 (%)	You in 2019 (%)	Denom in 2019 (%)
Aware and strongly committed	31	25	25
Aware and partly committed	34	37	34
Aware and not committed	11	12	17
Aware of ideas not of any clear vision	14	9	15
Unaware of any clear vision, goals or direction	10	16	9

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

49% are fully confident that the vision can be achieved

Fully confident the vision can be achieved	49	39	38
Partly confident vision can be achieved	38	40	44
Not confident the vision can be achieved	1	0	2

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

Spiritual growth (e.g. spiritual direction, prayer groups)	13	12	17
Worship services that are nurturing to people's faith	21	15	22
Building a strong sense of community within this local church	28	22	19
Creating a clear vision for this local church's future	13	15	11
Encouraging people here to discover/use their gifts	23	24	24
Encouraging new approaches to ministry and mission	15	12	10
Supporting social justice and aid to people in need	21	18	13
Encouraging people here to share their faith or invite others	13	11	14
Ensuring new people are included well in church life	35	24	20
Ministry to children and youth	15	18	19
Growing into a larger local church	15	7	20
Starting a new church or mission venture	3	2	2

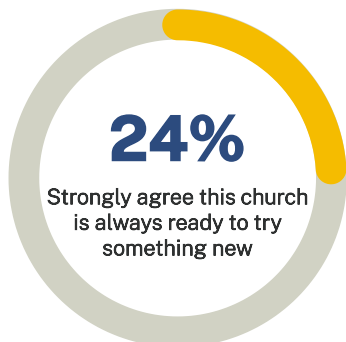
*Note: The wording on the introduction to this question changed slightly from 2016 onwards

Innovation: Imaginative and Flexible



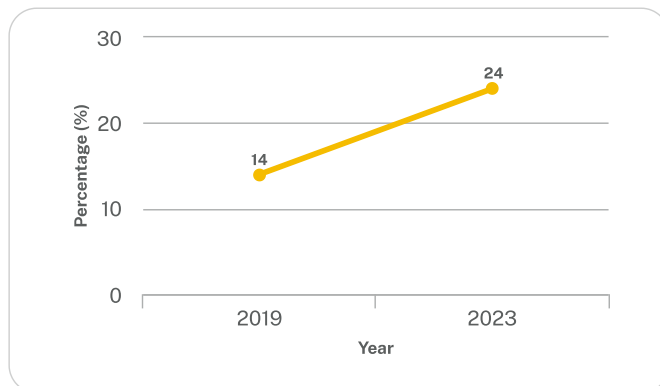
Ready to Try Something New

24% of attenders strongly agree that this local church is always ready to try something new



Source: 2023 CLS-SA, Berg-en-Dal Bloemfontein

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



Source: Berg-en-Dal Bloemfontein, NCLS 2019, 2023

Willingness of the Local Church to Try New Things

68% strongly agree or agree that this local church is always ready to try something new

	You in 2023 (%)	You in 2019 (%)	Denom in 2019 (%)
--	-----------------	-----------------	-------------------

This local church is always ready to try something new			
Strongly agree	24	14	26
Agree	44	44	46
Neutral/Unsure	28	35	21
Disagree	2	7	6
Strongly disagree	2	1	2

Leaders Encourage Innovation

74% strongly agree or agree that leaders here encourage innovation and creative thinking

Leaders here encourage innovation			
Strongly agree	23	17	26
Agree	51	52	49
Neutral/Unsure	22	27	20
Disagree	4	4	4
Strongly disagree	0	1	1

Openness to New Initiatives

79% support the development of new initiatives in ministry and mission in this local church

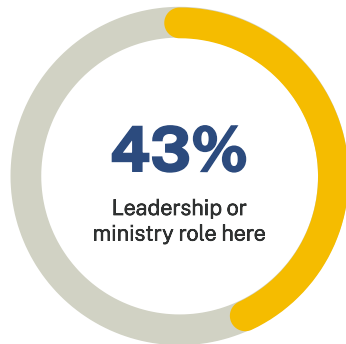
I would support the development of new initiatives in ministry and mission in the local church			
Strongly agree	27	27	33
Agree	52	44	48
Neutral/Unsure	18	25	18
Disagree	3	3	1
Strongly disagree	1	1	0

Leadership Culture: Inspiring and Empowering



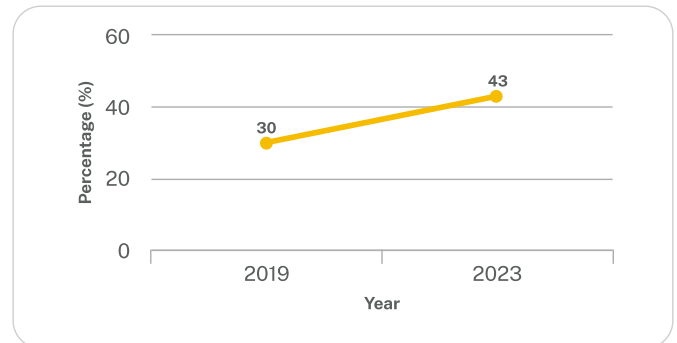
Leadership Roles

43% of attenders perform at least one leadership or ministry role here



Source: 2023 CLS-SA, Berg-en-Dal Bloemfontein

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



Source: Berg-en-Dal Bloemfontein, NCLS 2019, 2023

Leadership and Ministry Roles Performed by Attenders

	You in 2023 (%)	You in 2019 (%)	Denom in 2019 (%)
Worship services (teach/preach, music, lead/assist in service)	17	8	11
Children's ministry/youth ministry role	8	8	6
Small group leadership	4	4	7
Administrator role	3	3	4
Compliance role (e.g. safe church)	4	N/A	N/A
Council/board/elder/deacon	12	9	13
Committee/task force member	21	12	9
Pastoral care/visitation role	1	1	2
Communications/news	6	N/A	N/A
Some other role	13	N/A	N/A
Perform any of above leadership/ministry roles here	43	30	34

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

73% agree leaders here inspire them to action

Local leaders encourage attenders to find and use gifts and skills			
To a great extent	17	18	17
To some extent	37	31	27
Attenders strongly agree or agree that...			
Leaders here inspire me to action	73	68	68
Leaders encourage innovation & creativity	74	68	74
Local church has good and clear systems	94	87	84

Getting Involved Here

68% agree it is easy to get involved in ministry at this church (i.e. take on a role)

24% would like to be more involved here

Attenders strongly agree or agree that...			
It is easy to get involved in ministry here	68	N/A	N/A
All (ages) encouraged to get involved	93	N/A	N/A
Evaluation of involvement here			
Would like to be more involved	24	29	35
Happy with current level of involvement	67	65	57
Would like to be less involved	1	1	1

Page 1

Do you agree or disagree with the following statements?

I feel positive about the future of our country



Strongly agree or agree



I feel positive about the future of our country			
	You in 2023 (%)	You in 2019 (%)	Denom in 2019 (%)
Strongly agree	9	8	11
Agree	22	32	27
Neutral/Unsure	40	32	33
Disagree	19	18	20
Strongly disagree	10	10	9

The redistribution of land enhances justice in our country



Strongly agree or agree

The redistribution of land enhances justice in our country			
	You in 2023 (%)	You in 2019 (%)	Denom in 2019 (%)
Strongly agree	2	3	3
Agree	11	18	12
Neutral/Unsure	33	28	26
Disagree	23	26	33
Strongly disagree	30	25	26

We as citizens have made progress in reconciliation since the end of apartheid



Strongly agree or agree



We as citizens have made progress in reconciliation since the end of apartheid			
	You in 2023 (%)	You in 2019 (%)	Denom in 2019 (%)
Strongly agree	7	9	8
Agree	31	36	33
Neutral/Unsure	30	23	24
Disagree	22	23	24
Strongly disagree	10	9	12

Believers of all churches should work together to build our country



Strongly agree or agree

Believers of all churches should work together to build our country			
	You in 2023 (%)	You in 2019 (%)	Denom in 2019 (%)
Strongly agree	55	65	58
Agree	41	29	37
Neutral/Unsure	3	4	4
Disagree	1	1	1
Strongly disagree	1	1	1

Page 2

Do you agree or disagree with the following statements?

I shall leave the country if I have the opportunity



Strongly agree or agree

You in 2023 (%)	You in 2019 (%)	Denom in 2019 (%)
9	N/A	N/A

I shall leave the country if I have the opportunity			
Strongly agree	9	N/A	N/A
Agree	15	N/A	N/A
Neutral/Unsure	29	N/A	N/A
Disagree	21	N/A	N/A
Strongly disagree	27	N/A	N/A

The church does not treat men and women as equals



Strongly agree or agree

The church does not treat men and women as equals			
Strongly agree	7	N/A	N/A
Agree	3	N/A	N/A
Neutral/Unsure	11	N/A	N/A
Disagree	34	N/A	N/A
Strongly disagree	45	N/A	N/A

The church should be a strong voice regarding corruption and other current issues in the country



Strongly agree or agree

You in 2023 (%)	You in 2019 (%)	Denom in 2019 (%)
49	N/A	N/A

The church should be a strong voice regarding corruption and other current issues in the country			
Strongly agree	49	N/A	N/A
Agree	30	N/A	N/A
Neutral/Unsure	13	N/A	N/A
Disagree	6	N/A	N/A
Strongly disagree	3	N/A	N/A

Women should be able to hold any leadership position in the congregation



Strongly agree or agree

Women should be able to hold any leadership position in the congregation			
Strongly agree	58	N/A	N/A
Agree	37	N/A	N/A
Neutral/Unsure	3	N/A	N/A
Disagree	1	N/A	N/A
Strongly disagree	1	N/A	N/A

Page 3

Do you agree or disagree with the following statements?

Our congregation should play a role in rectifying economic injustices in our community



Strongly agree or agree



Our congregation should play a role in rectifying economic injustices in our community			
	You in 2023 (%)	You in 2019 (%)	Denom in 2019 (%)
Strongly agree	22	N/A	N/A
Agree	37	N/A	N/A
Neutral/Unsure	32	N/A	N/A
Disagree	6	N/A	N/A
Strongly disagree	4	N/A	N/A

The church should not make pronouncements regarding the sexuality of people



Strongly agree or agree

The church should not make pronouncements regarding the sexuality of people			
	You in 2023 (%)	You in 2019 (%)	Denom in 2019 (%)
Strongly agree	23	N/A	N/A
Agree	22	N/A	N/A
Neutral/Unsure	27	N/A	N/A
Disagree	17	N/A	N/A
Strongly disagree	11	N/A	N/A

Welfare grants are essential



Strongly agree or agree



Welfare grants are essential			
	You in 2023 (%)	You in 2019 (%)	Denom in 2019 (%)
Strongly agree	18	N/A	N/A
Agree	44	N/A	N/A
Neutral/Unsure	29	N/A	N/A
Disagree	5	N/A	N/A
Strongly disagree	4	N/A	N/A

Our congregation plays a vital role in improving race relationships in our community



Strongly agree or agree

Our congregation plays a vital role in improving race relationships in our community			
	You in 2023 (%)	You in 2019 (%)	Denom in 2019 (%)
Strongly agree	24	N/A	N/A
Agree	44	N/A	N/A
Neutral/Unsure	26	N/A	N/A
Disagree	3	N/A	N/A
Strongly disagree	3	N/A	N/A

Page 4

Do you agree or disagree with the following statements?

Our congregation should be involved with actions against gender-based violence



Strongly agree or agree

You in 2023 (%)	You in 2019 (%)	Denom in 2019 (%)
33	N/A	N/A
48	N/A	N/A
15	N/A	N/A
2	N/A	N/A
2	N/A	N/A

Our congregation should be involved with actions against gender - based violence			
Strongly agree	33	N/A	N/A
Agree	48	N/A	N/A
Neutral/Unsure	15	N/A	N/A
Disagree	2	N/A	N/A
Strongly disagree	2	N/A	N/A

Believers should work together to protect the rights of foreigners in the country



Strongly agree or agree

Believers should work together to protect the rights of foreigners in the country			
Strongly agree	12	N/A	N/A
Agree	33	N/A	N/A
Neutral/Unsure	38	N/A	N/A
Disagree	9	N/A	N/A
Strongly disagree	7	N/A	N/A

People living in same-sex relationships should be entirely accepted in the congregation



Strongly agree or agree

You in 2023 (%)	You in 2019 (%)	Denom in 2019 (%)
23	N/A	N/A
36	N/A	N/A
28	N/A	N/A
5	N/A	N/A
8	N/A	N/A

People living in same-sex relationships should be entirely accepted in the congregation			
Strongly agree	23	N/A	N/A
Agree	36	N/A	N/A
Neutral/Unsure	28	N/A	N/A
Disagree	5	N/A	N/A
Strongly disagree	8	N/A	N/A

The church should promote climate-friendly behaviour



Strongly agree or agree

The church should promote climate-friendly behaviour			
Strongly agree	44	N/A	N/A
Agree	45	N/A	N/A
Neutral/Unsure	10	N/A	N/A
Disagree	0	N/A	N/A
Strongly disagree	0	N/A	N/A

The church should be involved in the promotion of human rights



Strongly agree or agree

The church should be involved in the promotion of human rights			
Strongly agree	30	N/A	N/A
Agree	39	N/A	N/A
Neutral/Unsure	25	N/A	N/A
Disagree	4	N/A	N/A
Strongly disagree	2	N/A	N/A

Your results

This Church Life Profile contains your church's unique results from your participation in the 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