

SUMMARY STATISTICS 1955 - 2023

Year	Congregations	Net Change	Membership	Net Change	Christian Education/Faith Formation ^(a)	Net Change
1955	8,297	-29	2,123,792	38,943	1,301,725	43,599
1956	8,287	-10	2,173,441	49,649	1,325,842	24,117
1957	8,283	-4	2,193,593	20,152	1,333,064	7,222
1958	8,248	-35	2,208,845	15,252	1,290,680	-42,384
1959	8,253	5	2,229,178	20,333	1,279,670	-11,010
1960	8,184	-69	2,246,610	17,432	1,272,949	-6,721
1961 ^(b)	6,755	-1,429	2,015,770	-230,840	1,136,981	-135,968
1962	6,945	190	2,045,518	29,748	1,159,407	22,426
1963	6,876	-69	2,054,676	9,158	1,209,102	49,695
1964	6,957	81	2,067,179	12,503	1,163,915	-45,187
1965	6,952	-5	2,071,391	4,212	1,084,623	-79,292
1966	6,947	-5	2,063,481	-7,910	1,008,432	-76,191
1967	6,909	-38	2,052,857	10,624	957,329	-51,103
1968	6,866	-43	2,032,648	-20,209	881,227	-76,102
1969	6,803	-63	1,997,898	-34,750	825,738	-55,489
1970	6,727	-76	1,960,608	-37,290	766,244	-59,494
1971	6,688	-39	1,928,674	-31,934	711,757	-54,487
1972	6,635	-53	1,895,016	-33,658	659,122	-52,635
1973	6,617	-18	1,867,810	-27,206	626,082	-33,040
1974	6,581	-36	1,841,312	-26,498	595,457	-30,625
1975	6,552	-29	1,818,762	-22,550	578,786	-16,671
1976	6,528	-24	1,801,241	-17,521	553,119	-25,667
1977	6,512	-16	1,785,652	-15,589	533,307	-19,812
1978	6,491	-21	1,769,104	-16,548	508,964	-24,343
1979	6,467	-24	1,745,533	-23,571	487,084	-21,880
1980	6,462	-5	1,736,244	-9,289	477,416	-9,668
1981	6,443	-19	1,726,535	-9,709	472,697	-4,719
1982	6,430	-13	1,710,656	-15,879	466,563	-6,134
1983	6,427	-3	1,701,513	-9,143	453,326	-13,237
1984	6,419	-8	1,696,107	-5,406	448,505	-4,821
1985	6,408	-11	1,683,777	-12,330	450,734	-2,229
1986	6,406	-2	1,676,105	-7,672	441,439	-9,295
1987	6,395	-11	1,662,568	-13,537	435,628	-5,811
1988	6,362	-33	1,644,786	-17,782	437,836	2,208
1989	6,338	-24	1,625,985	-18,801	433,980	-3,856
1990	6,330	-8	1,605,773	-20,212	431,801	-2,179
1991	6,305	-25	1,583,830	-21,943	413,255	-18,546
1992 ^(c)	6,264	-41	1,555,382	-28,448	407,261	-5,994
1993	6,225	-39	1,530,178	-25,204	401,003	-6,258
1994	6,180	-45	1,501,310	-28,868	379,630	-21,373
1995	6,145	-35	1,472,213	-29,097	381,992	2,362
1996	6,110	-35	1,452,565	-19,648	353,877	-28,115
1997	6,061	-49	1,438,181	-14,384	358,651	4,774
1998	6,017	-44	1,421,088	-17,093	351,244	-7,407
1999	5,961	-56	1,401,682	-19,406	342,560	-8,684
2000	5,923	-38	1,377,320	-24,362	331,537	-11,023
2001	5,888	-35	1,359,105	-18,215	323,842	-7,695
2002	5,850	-38	1,330,985	-28,120	310,349	-13,493
2003 ^(d)	5,804	-46	1,302,308	-28,677	296,601	-13,748
2004	5,750	-54	1,271,785	-30,523	280,537	-16,064
2005	5,633	-117	1,229,953	-41,832	262,162	-18,375
2006	5,518	-115	1,196,474	-33,479	221,896	-40,266

Year	Congregations	Net Change	Membership	Net Change	Christian Education/Faith Formation ^(a)	Net Change
2007	5,377	-141	1,145,281	-51,193	219,581	-2,315
2008	5,320	-57	1,111,691	-33,590	218,816	-765
2009	5,287	-33	1,080,199	-31,492	220,169	1,353
2010	5,227	-60	1,058,423	-21,776	209,260	-10,909
2011	5,194	-33	1,028,324	-30,099	201,842	-7,418
2012	5,154	-40	998,906	-29,418	193,255	-8,587
2013	5,116	-38	979,239	-19,667	192,430	-825
2014	5,062	-54	943,521	-35,718	186,915	-5,515
2015	5,032	-30	914,871	-28,650	178,983	-7,932
2016	5,000	-32	880,383	-34,488	172,113	-6,870
2017	4,956	-44	853,778	-26,605	169,619	-2,494
2018	4,882	-74	824,866	-28,912	162,483	-7,136
2019	4,852	-30	802,356	-22,510	155,319	-7,164
2020 ^(e)	4,794	-58	773,539	-28,817	135,416	-19,903
2021 ^(e)	4,724	-70	745,230	-28,309	119,748	-15,668
2022 ^(f)	4,603	-121	712,296	-32,934	113,030	-6,718
2023	4,485	-118	683,936	-28,360	111,636	-1,394

Percent Change

Years	Congregations	Membership	Christian Education/Faith Formation
1955-1960	-1.36	-5.78	-2.21
1960-1965 ^(b)	-15.05	-7.79	-14.79
1965-1970	-3.23	-5.34	-29.35
1970-1975	-2.6	-7.23	-24.46
1975-1980	-1.37	-4.53	-17.51
1980-1985	-0.83	-3.02	-5.58
1985-1990	-1.22	-4.63	-4.20
1990-1995 ^(c)	-2.92	-8.32	-11.54
1995-2000	-3.61	-6.45	-13.21
2000-2005 ^(b)	-4.9	-10.7	-20.93
2005-2010	-7.21	-13.95	-20.18
2010-2015	-3.73	-13.56	-14.46
2015-2020 ^(e)	-4.73	-15.45	-24.34
2020-2023 ^(e,f)	-6.45	-11.58	-17.56

Notes

All figures from official denominational yearbooks.

Pre-1961 figures are combined for the Congregational Christian Churches and the Evangelical and Reformed Church.

^(a) Christian Education/Faith Formation refers to Church School Enrollment for all figures before 2007.

^(b) The losses between 1960-1965 result from decisions of 1,000 Congregational Christian Churches not to unite with the United Church of Christ.

^(c) Christian Education/Faith Formation totals for churches not reporting this data since 1992 are not included in the total for 2003.

^(d) Effective 1992, the membership numbers of churches coded as inactive are no longer included in the total membership figures.

^(e) Data for 2020 and 2021 is likely impacted by the global COVID-19 pandemic

^(f) Effective 2022, churches marked inactive for two years or more are removed from records, contributing to higher net decreases in this first year of the policy.