

Protestant Pastors Views on the Economy

Survey of 1,000 Protestant Pastors

Methodology

- ❑ The telephone survey of Protestant pastors was conducted September 11-18, 2014
- ❑ The calling list was a stratified random sample drawn from a list of all Protestant churches. Up to six calls were made to reach a sampled phone number
- ❑ Each interview was conducted with the senior pastor, minister or priest of the church called
- ❑ Responses were weighted to reflect the geographic distribution of Protestant churches

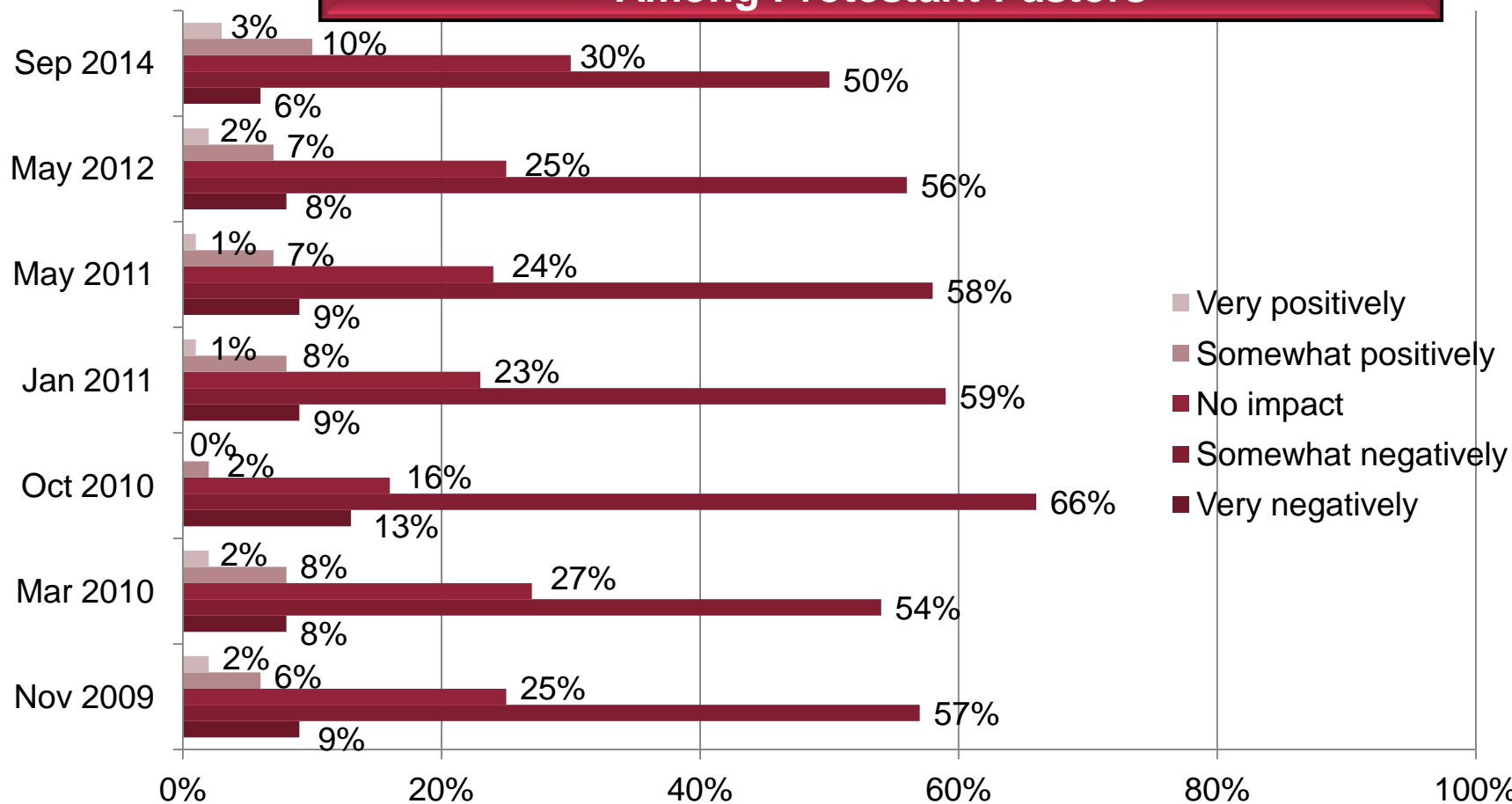
Methodology Continued

- ❑ The completed sample is 1,000 phone interviews
- ❑ The sample provides 95% confidence that the sampling error does not exceed $\pm 3.1\%$
- ❑ Margins of error are higher in sub-groups
- ❑ Comparisons are also made to the following telephone surveys using the same methodology:
 - ❑ 1,002 pastors conducted November 5-12, 2009
 - ❑ 1,000 pastors conducted March 1-9, 2010
 - ❑ 1,000 pastors conducted October 7-14, 2010
 - ❑ 1,002 pastors conducted January 17-27, 2011
 - ❑ 1,000 pastors conducted May 18-25, 2011
 - ❑ 1,000 pastors conducted May, 2012

Current Economic Impact on Churches

13% say economy is positively impacting their church*

Among Protestant Pastors

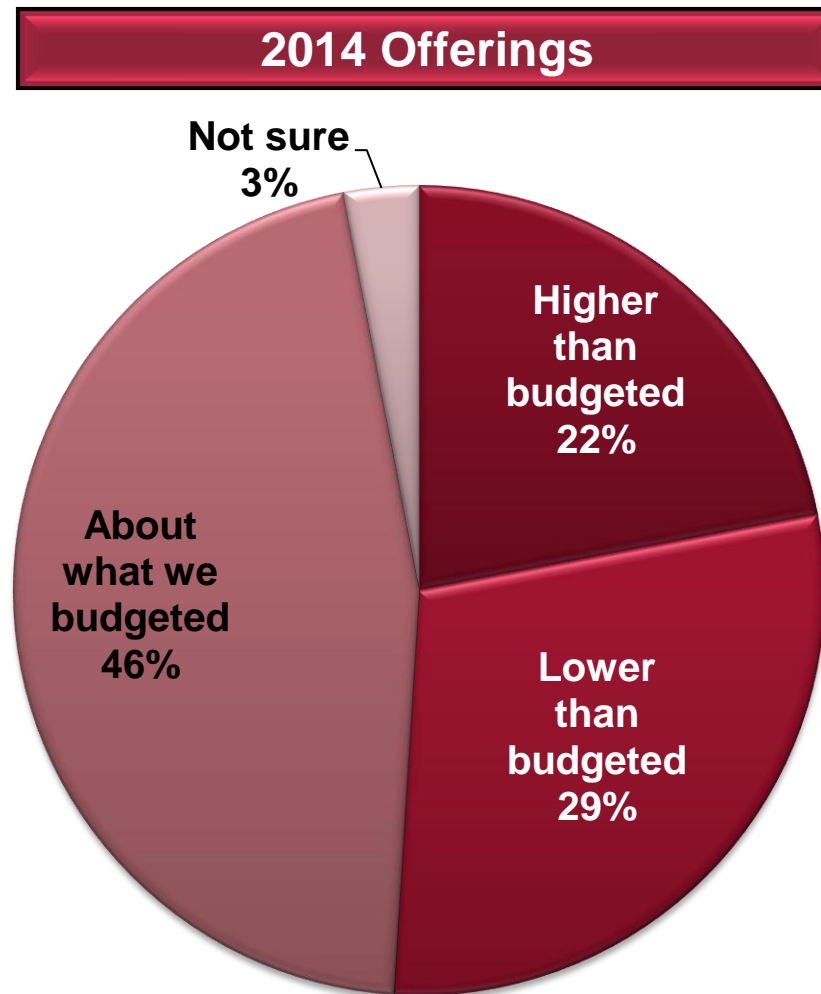


*Significantly higher than May 2012 (9%)

Don't Know - (2% Sep 2014, 1% all other surveys)

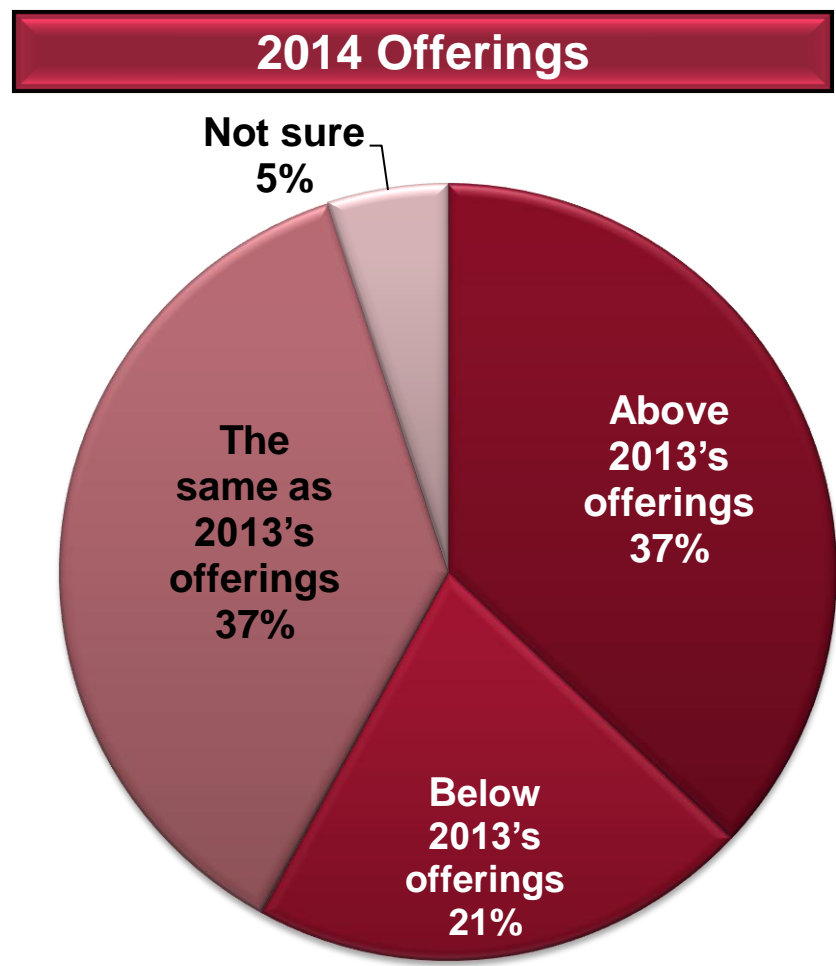
Q: "How is the current economy impacting your church?"

Nearly half of churches have received offerings similar to what was budgeted in 2014



Q: "Since the beginning of 2014, have your offerings been:"

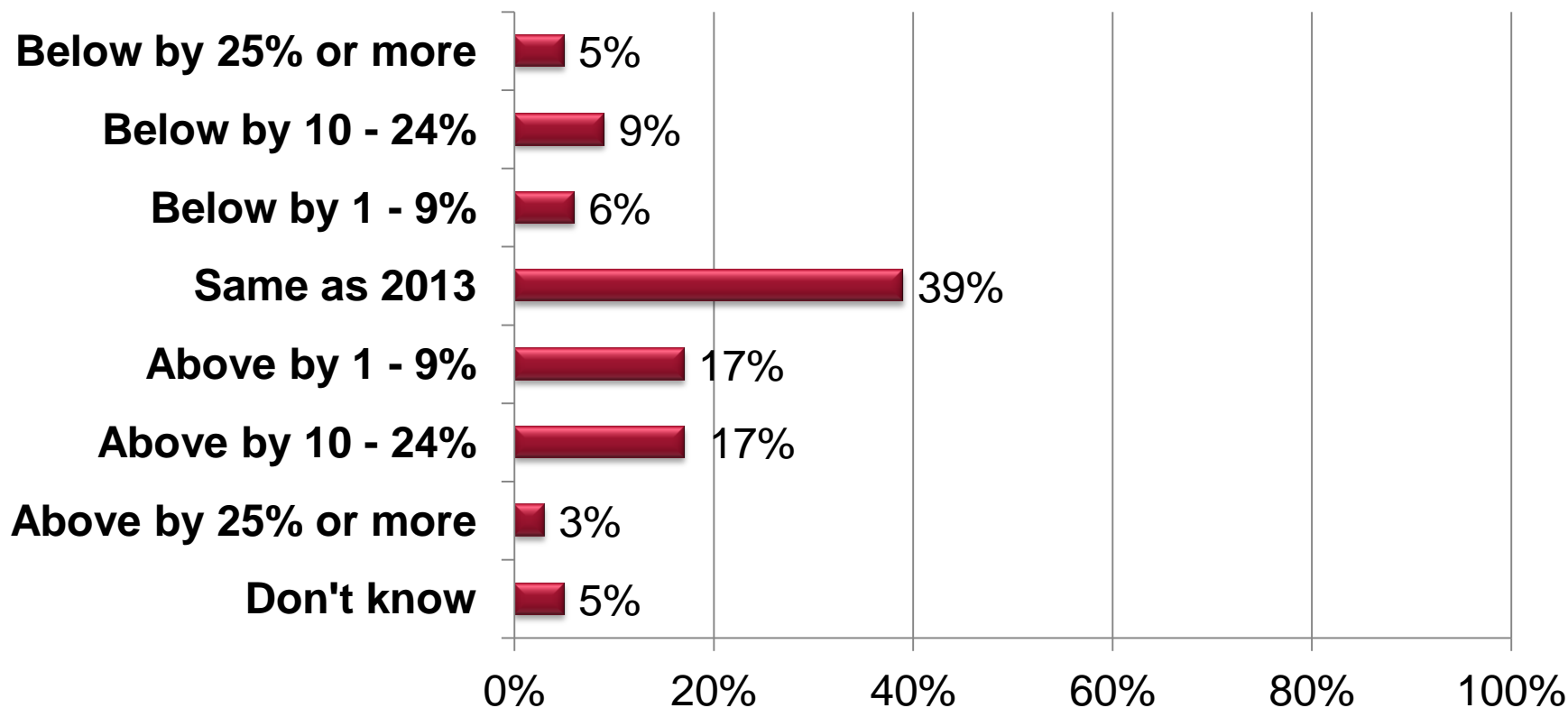
21% of churches have received offerings in 2014 that are below their 2013 offerings



Q: "Compared to your calendar year 2013 offerings, have your total offerings so far for 2014 been ..."

The average change in giving for Protestant churches in 2014 is +0.3% and the median is 0%

September 2014 Offerings Compared to 2013



Significant Differences

Church Size
Region
Pastor Age
Education Level
Ethnicity
Evangelical/Mainline

Significant Statistical Differences

- Comparisons were made to determine if there are any significant statistical differences among church sizes, region of the country, and pastor age. Each category was divided into four groups.

Church Size	Region	Pastor Age
0-49 attendees	Northeast	18-44
50-99 attendees	South	45-54
100-249 attendees	Midwest	55-64
250+ attendees	West	65+

Notes:

Church Size is based on the average weekly worship attendance

Region is defined by US Census locations

Significant Statistical Differences

- Comparisons were also made to determine if there are any significant statistical differences among education level, ethnicity, and evangelical or mainline. Each category was divided into groups.

Education Level	Ethnic Group	Self-Identify
No College Degree	African-American	Evangelical
Bachelor's Degree	White, non-Hispanic	Mainline
Master's Degree (including M.Div)		
Doctoral Degree (including Ph.D and D.Min)		

Notes:

Additional ethnic groups were identified, but did not have sufficient sample size for comparison

“How is the current economy impacting your church?”

- Pastors of churches 0-49 (11%) and 50-99 (8%) are more likely to select “Very negatively” compared to pastors of churches 100-249 (3%) and 250+ (2%)
- Pastors in the Northeast (10%) are more likely to select “Very negatively” compared to pastors in the Midwest (4%)
- Pastors in the Northeast (<1%) are less likely to select “Very positively” compared to pastors in the South (3%) and West (4%)
- Pastors age 55-64 (7%) and 65+ (9%) are more likely to select “Very negatively” compared to pastors age 18-44 (2%)
- Pastors with a Master’s (5%) are less likely to select “Very negatively” compared to pastors with no college degree (10%)
- African-American pastors (12%) are more likely to select “Very negatively” than White pastors (5%)
- White pastors (51%) are more likely to select “Somewhat negatively” than African-American pastors (35%)

“Since the beginning of 2014, have your offerings been:”

- Pastors in the Northeast (14%) are less likely to select “Higher than budgeted” than pastors in the South (25%) and West (24%)
- Pastors in the Northeast (36%) are more likely to select “Lower than budgeted” than pastors in the West (25%)
- Pastors age 65+ (28%) are more likely to select “Higher than budgeted” than pastors age 45-54 (19%)
- Pastors age 18-44 (21%) are less likely to select “Lower than budgeted” than pastors age 45-54 (32%) and 55-64 (34%)
- Pastors age 65+ (23%) are less likely to select “Lower than budgeted” than pastors age 55-64 (34%)

“Compared to your calendar year 2013 offerings, have your total offerings so far for 2014 been ...”

- Pastors of churches 0-49 (26%) are the least likely to select “Above 2013’s offerings”
- Compared to pastors of churches 100-249, pastors of churches 50-99 are less likely to select “Above 2013’s offerings” (34% v 44%) and more likely to select “The same as 2013’s offerings” (40% v 33%)
- Pastors of churches 0-49 (28%) are more likely to select “Below 2013’s offerings” than pastors of churches 100-249 (18%) and 250+ (17%)
- Pastors with a Doctoral degree (46%) are more likely to select “Above 2013’s offerings” than pastors with a Bachelor’s degree (35%) or Master’s degree (37%)

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