

# Churchgoers Views – Adoption and Foster Care

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Representative Survey of 1,010  
American Churchgoers

# Methodology

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LifeWay Research conducted the study August 22 – 30, 2017. The survey was conducted using the web-enabled KnowledgePanel®, a probability-based panel designed to be representative of the U.S. population. Initially, participants are chosen scientifically by a random selection of telephone numbers and residential addresses. Persons in selected households are then invited by telephone or by mail to participate in the web-enabled KnowledgePanel®. For those who agree to participate, but do not already have Internet access, GfK provides at no cost a laptop and ISP connection.

# Methodology

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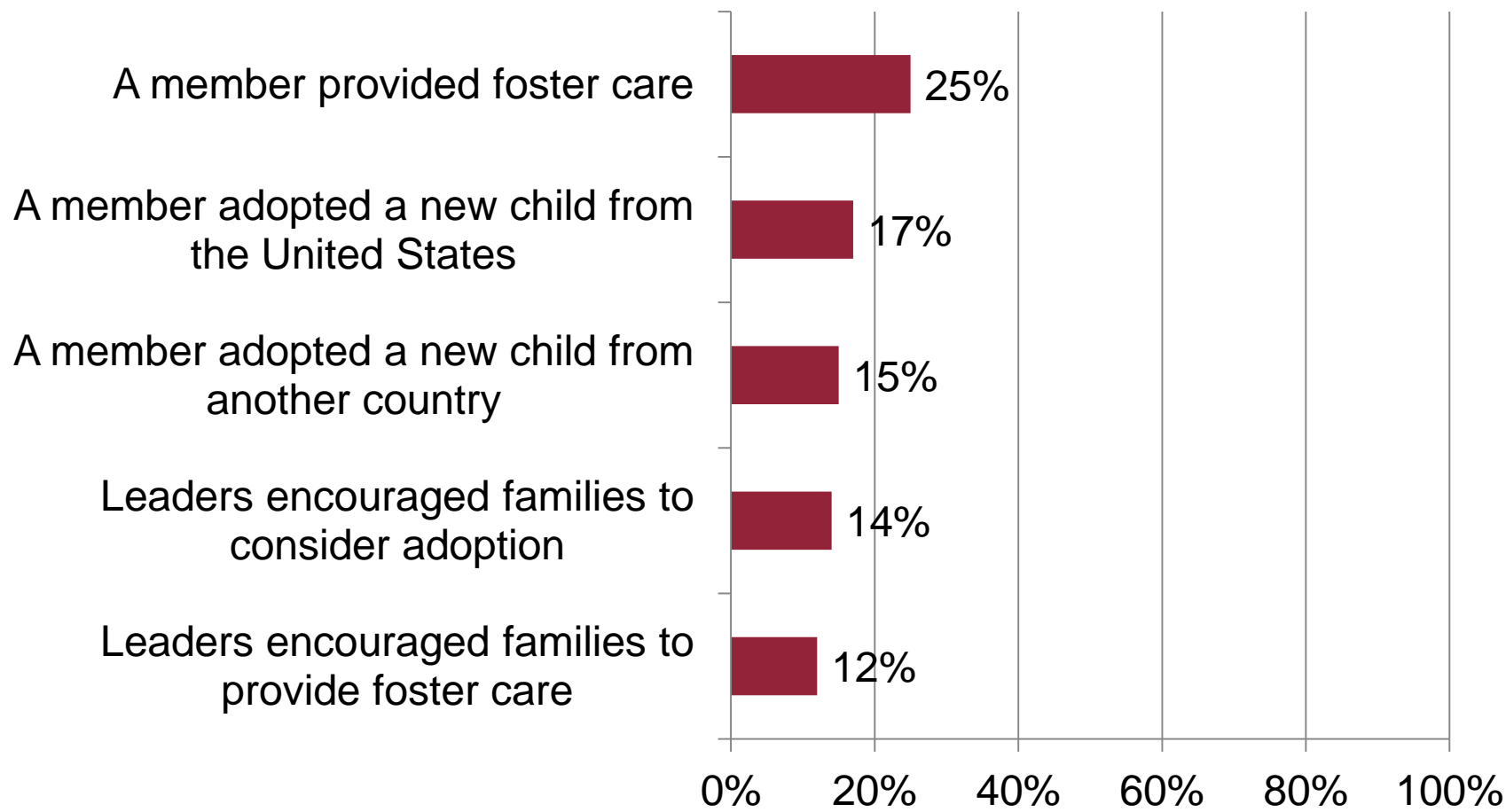
For this survey, a nationally representative sample of U.S. Protestant and non-denominational adults (18 and older) which attends religious services once a month or more often was selected from the KnowledgePanel®.

Sample stratification and base weights were used for gender, age, race/ethnicity, region, metro/non-metro, home ownership, education, and income to reflect the most recent US Census data. Study specific weights included for gender by age, race/ethnicity, region, and education to reflect GSS 2016 data. The completed sample is 1,010 surveys. The sample provides 95 percent confidence that the sampling error does not exceed plus or minus 3.1 percent. Margins of error are higher in sub-groups.

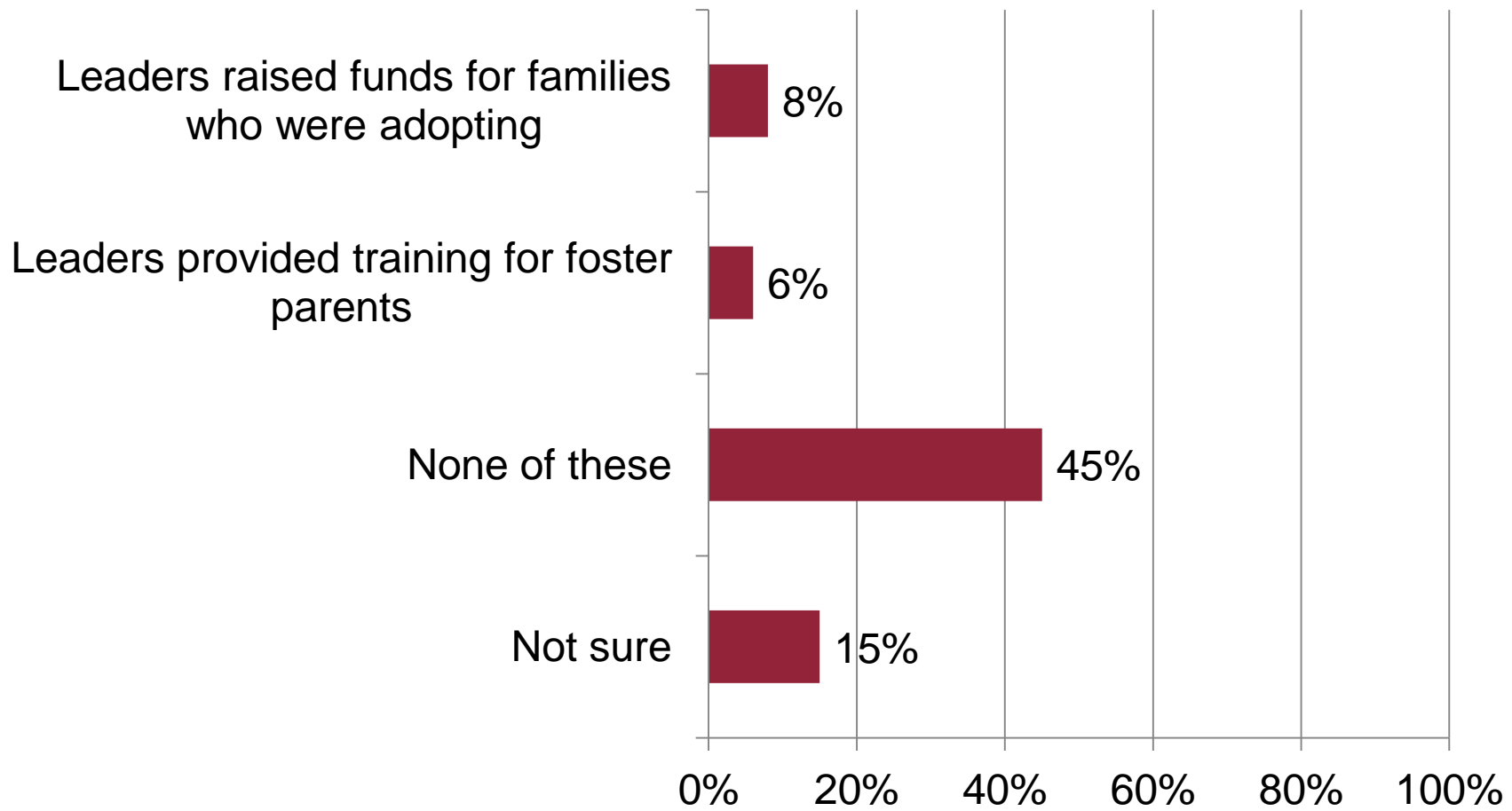
# Survey Responses

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# “Which if any of the following have you seen at your church in the last year?”



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# Significant Differences

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Gender  
Region  
Age  
Ethnicity  
Education Level  
Church Service Attendance  
Evangelical Beliefs  
Church Size (Attendance)  
Denomination

# Significant Statistical Differences

Comparisons were made to determine if there are any significant statistical differences among churchgoers' gender, region, age, ethnicity, and education.

Gender	Region	Age	Ethnicity	Education
Male	Northeast	18-34	White, Non-Hispanic	High School graduate or less
Female	Midwest	35-49	Black, Non-Hispanic	Some college
	South	50-64	Hispanic	Bachelor's Degree
	West	65+	Other Ethnicities	Graduate Degree

Note: Region is defined by US Census locations



# Significant Statistical Differences

Comparisons were made to determine if there are any significant statistical differences among churchgoers' service attendance, Evangelical Beliefs, church size (by attendance), and denomination.

Church Service Attendance	Evangelical Beliefs	Church Size (Attendance)	Denomination
At least once a week	Yes	Less than 50	Baptist
Once or twice a month	No	50-99	Lutheran
		100-249	Methodist
		250-499	Non-denominational
		500-999	Assemblies of God/Pentecostal
		1000 or more	

# Evangelical Beliefs

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- Evangelical Beliefs are defined using the NAE LifeWay Research Evangelical Beliefs Research Definition based on respondent beliefs
- Respondents are asked their level of agreement with four separate statements using a four-point, forced choice scale (strongly agree, somewhat agree, somewhat disagree, strongly disagree). Those who strongly agree with all four statements are categorized as having Evangelical Beliefs
  - The Bible is the highest authority for what I believe
  - It is very important for me personally to encourage non-Christians to trust Jesus Christ as their Savior
  - Jesus Christ's death on the cross is the only sacrifice that could remove the penalty of my sin
  - Only those who trust in Jesus Christ alone as their Savior receive God's free gift of eternal salvation

# “Which if any of the following have you seen at your church in the last year?”

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## A member provided foster care

- Those with some college (31%) are more likely to select than those who are high school graduates or less (23%) or those with a Bachelor’s degree (20%)
- Those attending a church with attendance of 250-499 (36%), 500-999 (40%), and 1000 or more (36%) are more likely to select than those attending a church with attendance of less than 50 (12%), 50-99 (21%), and 100-249 (24%)
- Non-denominational are the most likely denomination to select (39%)

# “Which if any of the following have you seen at your church in the last year?”

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## **A member adopted a new child from another country**

- Those in the West (19%) are more likely to select than those in the Northeast (10%)
- Those age 50-64 (17%) are more likely to select than those 65+ (11%)
- White, Non-Hispanics (20%) and Hispanics (15%) are more likely to select than Black, Non-Hispanics (4%)
- Those with some college (18%) are more likely to select than those who are high school graduates or less (12%)
- Those with Evangelical Beliefs are more likely to select than those without Evangelical Beliefs (18% v. 12%)
- Those attending a church with attendance of 250-499 (26%), 500-999 (30%), and 1000 or more (35%) are more likely to select than those attending a church with attendance of less than 50 (2%), 50-99 (5%), and 100-249 (11%)
- Non-denominational are the most likely denomination to select (34%)

# “Which if any of the following have you seen at your church in the last year?”

## A member adopted a new child from the United States

- Males (20%) are more likely to select than females (15%)
- Those in the South (19%) and West (18%) are more likely to select than those in the Northeast (8%)
- Those age 18-34 (23%) and 35-49 (22%) are more likely to select than those 50-64 (14%) and 65+ (11%)
- White, Non-Hispanics (19%) and Hispanics (21%) are more likely to select than Black, Non-Hispanics (11%)
- Those who are high school graduates or less are the least likely education level to select (13%)
- Those with Evangelical Beliefs are more likely to select than those without Evangelical Beliefs (19% v. 15%)
- Those attending a church with attendance of 250-499 (27%), 500-999 (30%), and 1000 or more (31%) are more likely to select than those attending a church with attendance of less than 50 (4%), 50-99 (8%), and 100-249 (18%)
- Non-denominational (25%) are more likely to select than Baptists (15%), Lutherans (12%), and Assemblies of God/Pentecostals (10%)

# “Which if any of the following have you seen at your church in the last year?”

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## Leaders raised funds for families who were adopting

- Males (12%) are more likely to select than females (6%)
- Black, Non-Hispanics are the least likely ethnic group to select (3%)
- Those with Evangelical Beliefs are more likely to select than those without Evangelical Beliefs (10% v. 6%)
- Those attending a church with attendance of 250-499 (14%), 500-999 (16%), and 1000 or more (17%) are more likely to select than those attending a church with attendance of less than 50 (5%), 50-99 (4%), and 100-249 (6%)
- Non-denominational (14%) are more likely to select than Lutherans (5%), Methodists (5%), and Assemblies of God/Pentecostals (3%)

# “Which if any of the following have you seen at your church in the last year?”

## Leaders encouraged families to consider adoption

- Those in the South (14%) and West (16%) are more likely to select than those in the Northeast (7%)
- Those age 18-34 (18%) and 35-49 (17%) are more likely to select than those 50-64 (11%) and 65+ (9%)
- White, Non-Hispanics (15%) and Hispanics (22%) are more likely to select than Black, Non-Hispanics (6%)
- Those with some college (17%) or a Graduate degree (19%) are more likely to select than those who are high school graduates or less (10%)
- Those attending church services at least once a week are more likely to select than attending once or twice a month (15% v. 8%)
- Those with Evangelical Beliefs are more likely to select than those without Evangelical Beliefs (17% v. 9%)
- Those attending a church with attendance of 250-499 (20%), 500-999 (23%), and 1000 or more (27%) are more likely to select than those attending a church with attendance of less than 50 (5%), 50-99 (8%), and 100-249 (10%)
- Non-denominational are the most likely denomination to select (29%)

# “Which if any of the following have you seen at your church in the last year?”

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## Leaders encouraged families to provide foster care

- Those in the West (18%) are more likely to select than those in the Northeast (6%) and Midwest (10%)
- White, Non-Hispanics (13%) and Hispanics (20%) are more likely to select than Black, Non-Hispanics (7%)
- Those with Evangelical Beliefs are more likely to select than those without Evangelical Beliefs (15% v. 10%)
- Those attending a church with attendance of 500-999 (20%) and 1000 or more (24%) are more likely to select than those attending a church with attendance of less than 50 (7%), 50-99 (10%), and 100-249 (8%)
- Non-denominational are the most likely denomination to select (26%)



# “Which if any of the following have you seen at your church in the last year?”

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## Leaders provide training for foster parents

- Hispanics (13%) are more likely to select than White, Non-Hispanics (5%) and Black, Non-Hispanics (6%)
- Those with Evangelical Beliefs are more likely to select than those without Evangelical Beliefs (7% v. 4%)
- Those attending a church with attendance of 1000 or more are the most likely church size to select (20%)
- Non-denominational (12%) are more likely to select than Lutherans (2%), Methodists (<1%), and Assemblies of God/Pentecostals (3%)

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