## Pastors' Views on Opioid Abuse

Survey of American Protestant Pastors



# Methodology

- The phone survey of 1,000 Protestant pastors was conducted August 29 September 11, 2018
- The calling list was a stratified random sample, drawn from a list of all Protestant churches. Quotas were used for church size
- Each interview was conducted with the senior pastor, minister or priest of the church called
- Responses were weighted by region to more accurately reflect the population
- The completed sample is 1,000 surveys
- The sample provides 95% confidence that the sampling error does not exceed <u>+</u>3.2%
- Margins of error are higher in sub-groups



# **Survey Responses**



### "Do you know any of the following who have personally been affected by opioid abuse?"

#### **Among Protestant Pastors**

A family member of someone in our congregation

A local neighbor known to me or a member of our congregation

A member of our congregation

Do not know any of these personally affected by opioid abuse

 one in our
 66%

 o me or a gation
 55%

 gregation
 52%

 ersonally use
 23%

 Not Sure
 3%

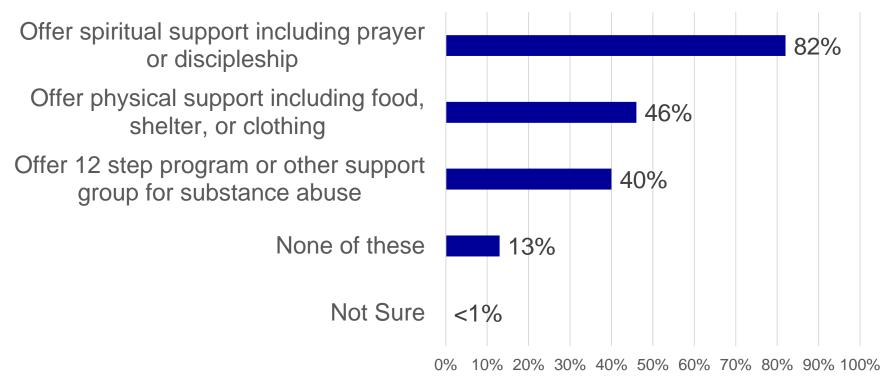
 0% 10% 20% 30% 40% 50% 60% 70% 80% 90% 100%



Q25: "Do you know any of the following who have personally been affected by opioid abuse? (Select all that apply)"

### "In what ways, if any, is your church currently serving people with opioid addiction?

#### **Among Protestant Pastors**





Q26: "In what ways, if any, is your church currently serving people with opioid addiction? (Select all that apply)"

## **Significant Differences**

Pastor Ethnicity Age Gender Education Level Self-identified Evangelical/Mainline

> <u>Church</u> Region Denomination Average Attendance



## Significant Statistical Differences

Comparisons were made to determine if there are any significant statistical differences among the church's attendance and region, the pastor's gender, age and ethnicity.

Attendance	Region	Pastor's Gender	Pastor's Age	Ethnicity
0-49	Northeast	Male	18-44	White
50-99	Midwest	Female	45-54	African- American
100-249	South		55-64	Other Ethnicity
250+	West		65+	



Note: Region is defined by US Census locations

## Significant Statistical Differences

Comparisons were made to determine if there are any significant statistical differences among the church's denomination and the pastor's education level and identification as evangelical or mainline.

Education Level	Self-Identified	Denomination
No College Degree	Evangelical	Baptist
Bachelor's Degree	Mainline	Lutheran
Master's Degree		Methodist
Doctoral Degree		Pentecostal
		Presbyterian/ Reformed
		Christian/ Church of Christ



### "Do you know any of the following who have personally been affected by opioid abuse?"

#### A member of our congregation

- Pastors of churches with attendance of 0-49 are the least likely to select (34%)
- Pastors in the Northeast (61%) are more likely to select than those in the Midwest (49%) and West (47%)
- Male pastors are more likely to select than females (54% v. 44%)
- Pastors age 45-54 (61%) are more likely to select than those 55-64 (51%) and 65+ (45%)
- Pastors with no college degree are the least likely to select (42%)
- Baptists (58%) and Christian/Church of Christ (65%) are more likely to select than Lutherans (43%) and Presbyterian/Reformed (39%)



### "Do you know any of the following who have personally been affected by opioid abuse?" (continued)

#### A family member of someone in our congregation

- Pastors of churches with attendance of 0-49 are the least likely to select (56%)
- Pastors in the Northeast are the most likely to select (79%)
- Pastors age 18-44 (71%) and 45-54 (69%) are more likely to select than those 65+ (58%)



### "Do you know any of the following who have personally been affected by opioid abuse?" (continued)

A local neighbor know to me or a member of our congregation

- Pastors of churches with attendance of 100-249 (59%) and 250+ (61%) are more likely to select than those at churches of 0-49 (47%)
- Pastors in the Northeast (65%) are more likely to select than those in the South (54%) and West (52%)
- Pastors age 18-44 (59%) and 45-54 (61%) are more likely to select than those 65+ (47%)
- Christian/Church of Christ (65%) are more likely to select than Lutherans (51%) and Presbyterian/Reformed (48%)



### "Do you know any of the following who have personally been affected by opioid abuse?" (continued)

Do not know any of these personally affected by opioid abuse

- Pastors of churches with attendance of 0-49 are the most likely to select (31%)
- Pastors in the Northeast are the least likely to select (11%)
- Pastors age 65+ (28%) are more likely to select than those 65+ (19%)
- Pastors of Other Ethnicities (36%) are more likely to select than White pastors (22%)
- Presbyterian/Reformed (30%) are more likely to select than Christian/Church of Christ (17%)



### "In what ways, if any, is your church currently serving people with opioid addiction?"

#### Offer physical support including food, shelter, or clothing

- Pastors of churches with attendance of 100-249 (49%) and 250+ (51%) are more likely to select than those at churches of 0-49 (37%)
- Christian/Church of Christ (54%) are more likely to select than Lutherans (37%)



### "In what ways, if any, is your church currently serving people with opioid addiction?" (continued)

#### Offer spiritual support including prayer or discipleship

- Pastors of churches with attendance of 100-249 (84%) and 250+ (87%) are more likely to select than those at churches of 0-49 (75%)
- Pastors in the Northeast (90%) are more likely to select than those in the South (81%) and Midwest (80%)
- Male pastors are more likely to select than females (84% v. 76%)
- Pastors age 45-54 (86%) are more likely to select than those 65+ (78%)
- Pentecostals (89%) and Christian/Church of Christ (89%) are more likely to select than Lutherans (74%), Methodists (78%), and Presbyterian/Reformed (76%)



### "In what ways, if any, is your church currently serving people with opioid addiction?" (continued)

## Offer 12 step program or other support group for substance abuse

- Pastors of churches with attendance of 250+ (55%) are more likely to select than those at churches of 0-49 (38%) and 50-99 (32%)
- Pastors with a Doctoral degree (51%) are more likely to select than those with a Bachelor's degree (39%) or a Master's degree (38%)
- Pentecostals (49%) are more likely to select than Baptists (32%) and Lutherans (33%)



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