

Protestant pastor views of denominations

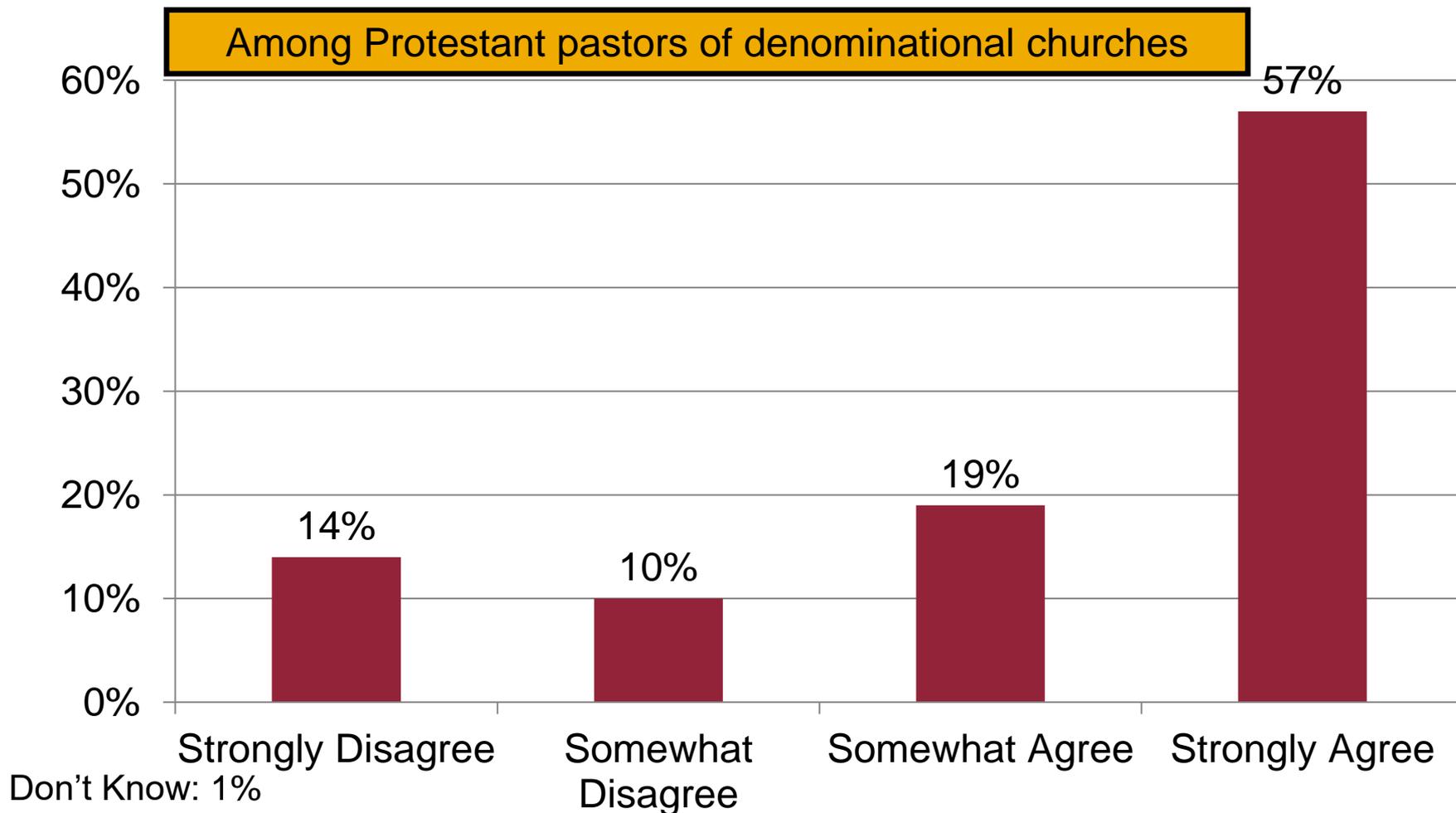
Methodology

- ❑ The telephone survey of Protestant pastors was conducted March 1-9, 2010
- ❑ The calling list was randomly 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

- ❑ Pastors of churches that are non-denominational were excluded from this study
- ❑ The completed sample is 932 phone interviews
- ❑ The sample provides 95% confidence that the sampling error does not exceed $\pm 3.2\%$
- ❑ Margins of error are higher in sub-groups.

“Personally, I consider it vital for me to be part of a denomination.”



Note: Percentages may not total 100 percent due to rounding.

I am going to read you a statement, please tell me whether you strongly agree, somewhat agree, somewhat disagree, or strongly disagree.

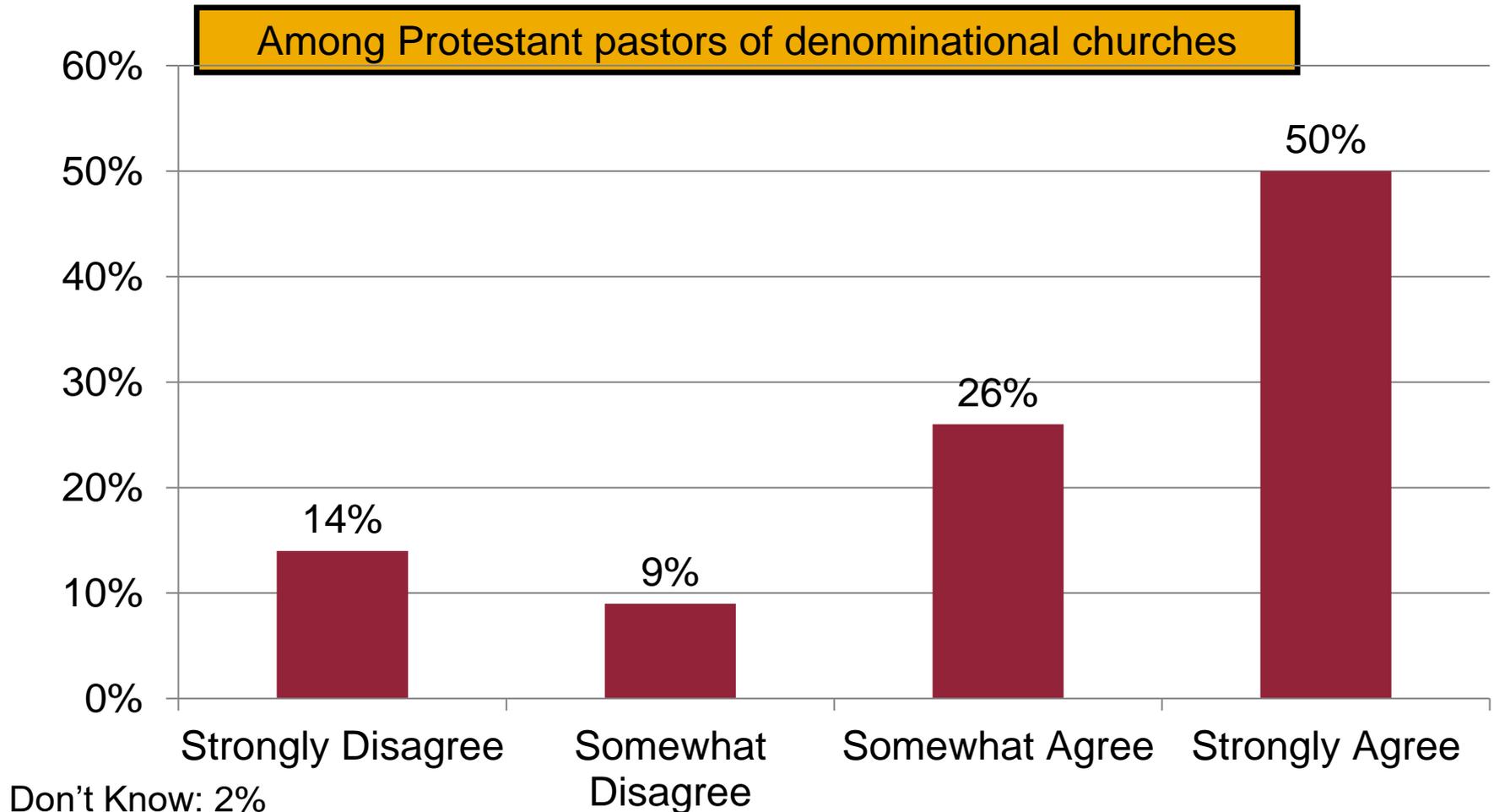
Pastors who are more likely to consider it vital to belong to a denomination

- Pastors with at least a masters degree are more likely to strongly agree (62%) than pastors with a bachelors degree (41%) or some college (48%)
- Pastors age 65 or older are more likely to strongly agree (71%) than pastors ages 55-64 (58%), 45-54 (55%), or 18-44 (48%)

Pastors who are more likely to consider it vital to belong to a denomination continued

- Although there is no difference in total agreement, pastors of churches with worship attendance under 50 are more likely to *strongly* agree (66%) than pastors of churches with attendance of 50-99 (58%), 100-249 (55%), or 250 or more (48%)
- Pastors who consider themselves mainline are more likely to agree (85%) than those who consider themselves evangelical (74%)

“Our congregation considers it vital for our congregation to be part of a denomination.”



Note: Percentages may not total 100 percent due to rounding.

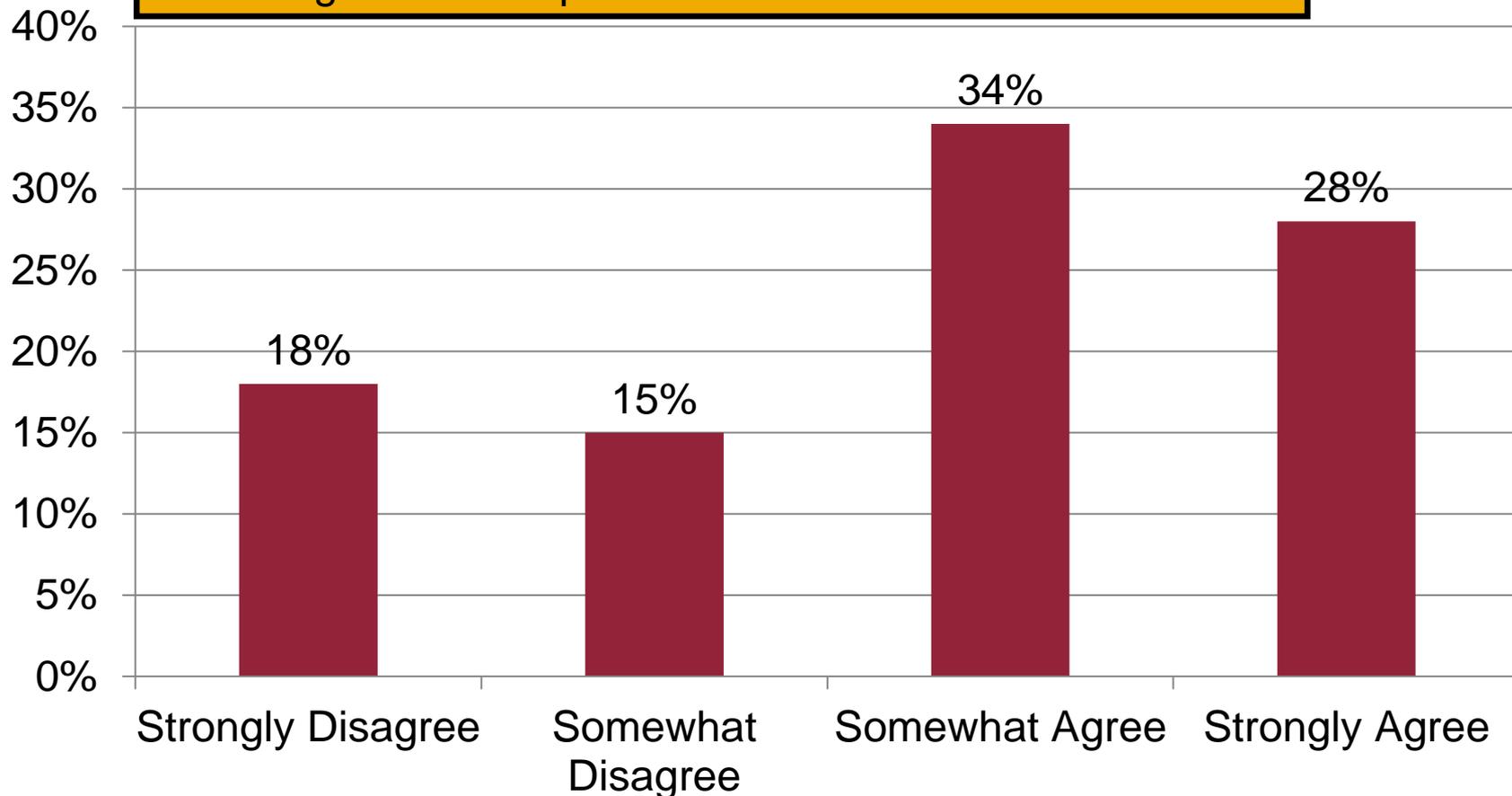
I am going to read you a statement, please tell me whether you strongly agree, somewhat agree, somewhat disagree, or strongly disagree.

Pastors whose congregations are more likely to consider it vital to be part of a denomination

- ❑ Pastors with at least a masters degree (53%) and those with some college (45%) are both more likely to strongly agree than pastors with a bachelors degree (35%)
- ❑ Although there is no difference in total agreement, Pastors age 65 or older are more likely to *strongly* agree (62%) than pastors ages 55-64 (48%), 45-54 (49%), or 18-44 (45%)
- ❑ Pastors who consider themselves mainline are more likely to agree (85%) than those who consider themselves evangelical (77%)

“I believe that the importance of being identified with a denomination will diminish over the next 10 years.”

Among Protestant pastors of denominational churches



Don't Know: 5%

Note: Percentages may not total 100 percent due to rounding.

I am going to read you a statement, please tell me whether you strongly agree, somewhat agree, somewhat disagree, or strongly disagree.

Pastors who are more likely to *agree* that the importance of being identified with a denomination will diminish this decade

- Pastors of churches with worship attendance of 250 or more are more likely to agree (72%) than pastors of churches with attendance 50-99 (62%) or under 50 (53%)

Pastors who are more likely to *disagree* that the importance of being identified with a denomination will diminish this decade

- ❑ Pastors with less than a bachelors degree are more likely to strongly disagree (28%) than pastors with at least a masters degree (14%)
- ❑ Although the majority of all age groups agree, pastors age 65 or older are more likely to strongly disagree (27%) than pastors ages 55-64 (16%), 45-54 (15%), or 18-44 (16%)

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