Protestant Pastors' Views on the Environment

Survey of 1,000 Protestant Pastors



Methodology

- The telephone survey of Protestant pastors was conducted in September 26 – October 3, 2012
- 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

- The completed sample is 1,000 phone interviews
- The sample provides 95% confidence that the sampling error does not exceed +3.2%
- Margins of error are higher in sub-groups

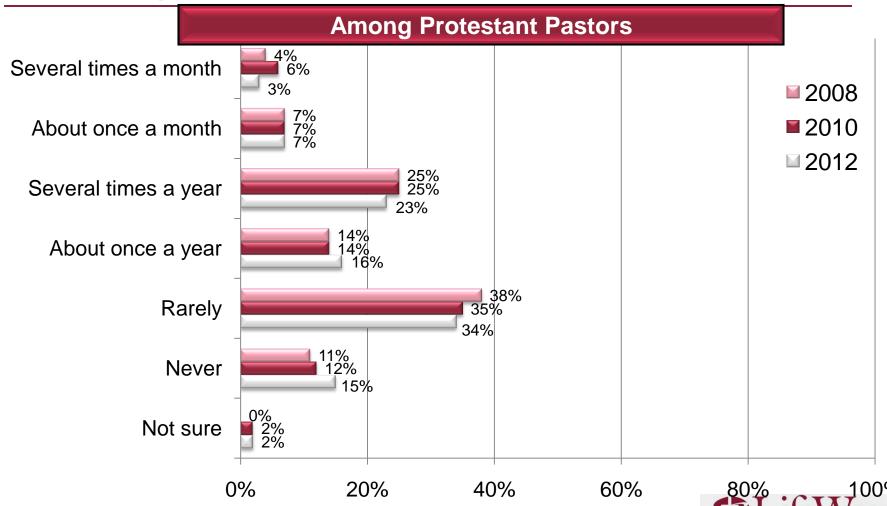


Survey Responses

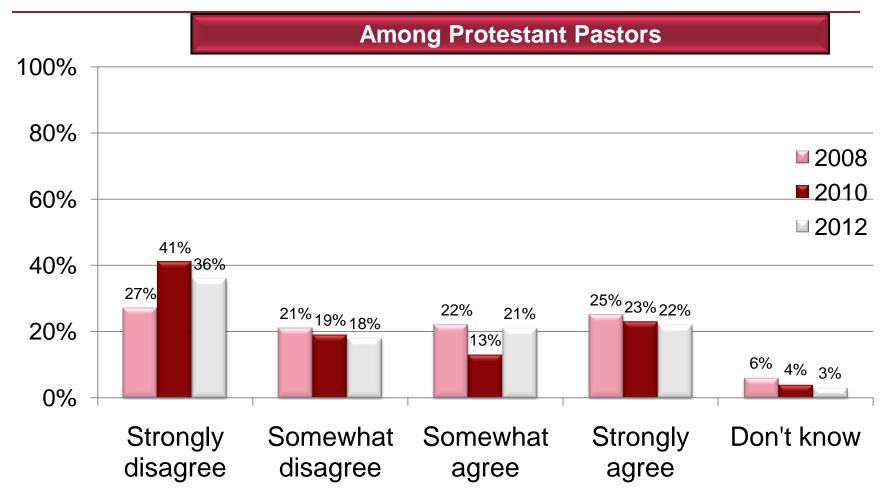


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Frequency of speaking to their churches on the environment remains relatively unchanged since 2008.

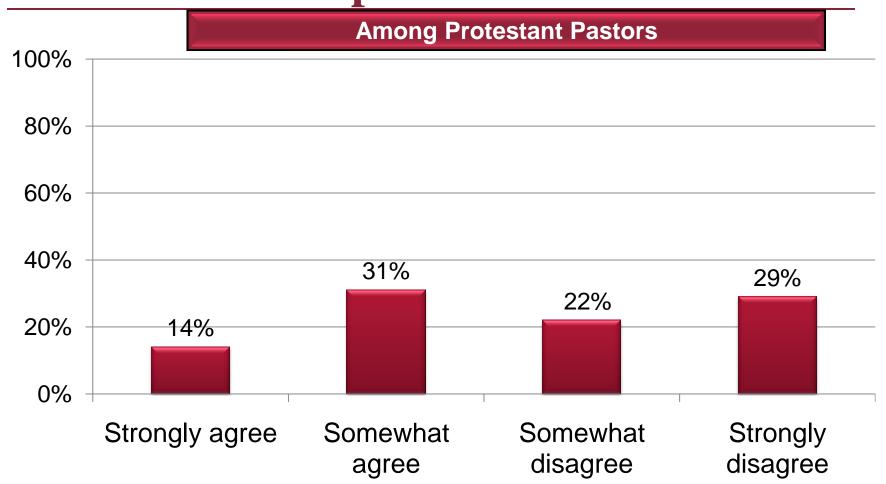


The percentage of pastors strongly disagreeing that global warming is real and man made has increased since 2008.





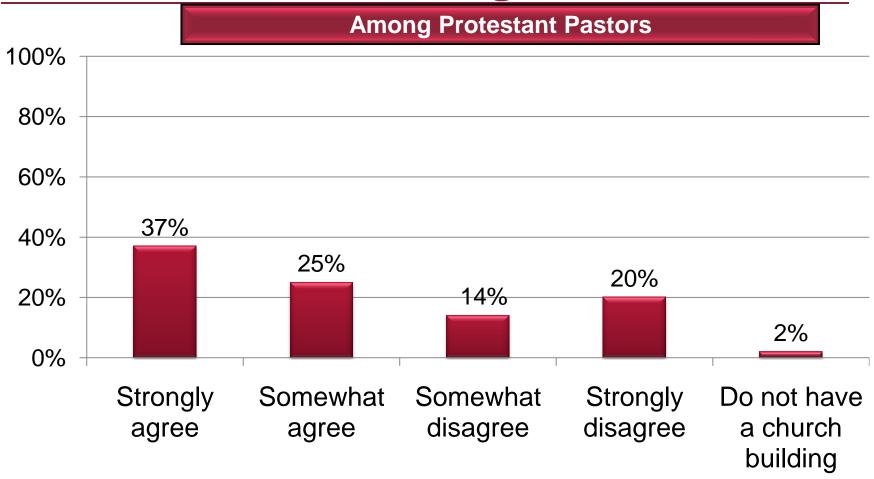
Less than half of pastors agree their church has taken tangible steps to reduce our carbon footprint.



4% Not sure



Over 60% of pastors agree their church has an active recycling program in place at their church building.



1% Not sure



Significant Differences

Church Size
Region
Pastor Age
Education Level
Church Location
Evangelical or Mainline
Political Affiliation



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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	Midwest	45-54
100-249 attendees	South	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 made to determine if there are any significant statistical differences among education level, evangelical or mainline, church location, and political affiliation. Each category was divided into groups.

Location	Education Level	Self-Identify	Political Affiliation
Large City	No College Degree	Evangelical	Democrat
Small City	College Degree	Mainline	Republican
Suburbs			Independent
Rural Area			



"How often do you speak to your church on the environment?"

- Pastors in the West (14%) are the least likely to speak several times a year
- Pastors age 65+ (8%) are more likely to speak several times a month than those age 18-44 (2%) and 45-54 (3%)
- Democrat pastors are the more likely to speak several times a month (9%) and about once a month (15%) but the least likely to speak rarely (17%) and never (3%)
- Self-identified mainline pastors are
 - More likely to speak several times a month (4% to 2%)
 - More likely to speak about once a month (9% to 4%)
 - More likely to speak several times a year (27% to 22%)
 - Less likely to speak rarely (30% to 39%)
 - Less likely to speak never (10% to 17%)

than self-identified evangelical pastors



"How often do you speak to your church on the environment?" continued

 Pastors with a college degree are less likely to speak several times a month (3% to 7%) and more likely to speak several times a year (24% to 15%) than pastors without a college degree



"I believe global warming is real and man made"

- Pastors of churches 250+ (27%) are more likely to somewhat agree than pastors of churches 50-99 (17%) and 100-249 (20%)
- Pastors of churches 0-49 (11%) are less likely to somewhat disagree than pastors of churches 100-249 (20%) and 250+ (22%)
- Pastors of churches 250+ (25%) are the least likely to strongly disagree
- Pastors in the South (18%) are less likely to strongly agree than pastors in the Northeast (30%) and West (25%)
- Pastors age 65+ (32%) are more likely to strongly agree than pastors age 18-44 (19%) and 45-54 (20%)
- Pastors age 65+ (11%) are less likely to somewhat agree than pastors age 18-44 (24%) and 45-54 (24%)



"I believe global warming is real and man made" continued

- Pastors age 18-44 (25%) are more likely to somewhat disagree than pastors age 55-64 (16%) and 65+ (11%)
- Pastors age 18-44 (28%) are less likely to strongly disagree than pastors age 55-64 (40%) and 65+ (41%)
- Democrat pastors (76%) are the most likely to strongly agree followed by independents (20%) and then republicans (7%)
- Democrat pastors (3%) are less likely to somewhat disagree than independent (18%) and republican (22%) pastors
- Republican pastors (49%) are the most likely to strongly disagree followed by independent (35%) and democrat (5%) pastors
- Pastors in large cities (32%) are more likely to strongly agree than pastors in small cities (20%) and rural areas (18%)



"I believe global warming is real and man made" continued

- Self-identified mainline pastors compared self-identified evangelical are
 - More likely to strongly agree (35% to 15%)
 - Less likely to somewhat disagree (15% to 20%)
 - Less likely to strongly disagree (25% to 41%)
- Pastors with a college degree compared to those without a college degree are more likely to strongly agree (25% to 6%) and less likely to strongly disagree (32% to 59%)



"Our church has taken tangible steps to reduce our carbon footprint."

- Pastors age 65+ (11%) are the least likely to somewhat disagree
- Democrat pastors compared to republican and independent pastors are the
 - Most likely to strongly agree (34% to 8% to 10%)
 - Least likely to somewhat disagree (12% to 25% to 25%)
 - Least likely to strongly disagree (9% to 37% to 26%)
- Republican pastors (26%) are the least likely to somewhat agree compared to democrat (43%) and independent (37%) pastors
- Pastors in large cities (22%) are more likely to strongly agree compared to those in small cities (12%) and rural areas (11%)
- Self-identified mainline pastors compared self-identified evangelical are
 - More likely to strongly agree (20% to 10%)
 - More likely to somewhat agree (37% to 30%)
 - Less likely to strongly disagree (18% to 32%)



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"Our church has an active recycling program in place at our church building."

- Pastors of churches 0-49 (25%) are the least likely to strongly agree
- Pastors in the Northeast (52%) are the most likely to strongly agree while pastors in the South (30%) are the least likely
- Pastors in the Northeast (6%) are the least likely to strongly disagree
- Pastors age 55-64 (42%) are more likely to strongly agree than pastors age 18-44 (31%) and 45-54 (34%)
- Pastors age 55-64 (15%) are less likely to strongly disagree than pastors age 18-44 (24%) and 45-54 (23%)
- Democrat (62%) pastors are the most likely to strongly agree compared to republican (29%) and independent (37%) pastors
- Republican (19%) pastors are the most likely to somewhat disagree compared to democrat (7%) and independent (11%) pastors
- Democrat (6%) pastors are the least likely to strongly disagree compared to republican (23%) and independent (22%) pastors

"Our church has an active recycling program in place at our church building." continued

- Pastors in large cities (48%) and suburbs (51%) are more likely to strongly agree compared to pastors in small cities (35%) and rural areas (29%)
- Pastors in rural areas (19%) are the most likely to somewhat disagree
- Self-identified mainline pastors compared self-identified evangelical are
 - More likely to strongly agree (43% to 34%)
 - Less likely to strongly disagree (15% to 22%)
- Pastors with a college degree compared to those without a college degree are more likely to strongly agree (39% to 25%) and less likely to strongly disagree (18% to 28%)



"I believe global warming is real and man made" Significant Statistical Differences

Comparisons were made to determine if there are any significant statistical differences among responses to the statement "I believe global warming is real and man made." The responses to this statement were divided into agree-disagree only.



"I believe global warming is real and man made"

- How often do you speak to your church on the environment?
 - Several times a month More likely to agree (5% to 2%)
 - About once a month More likely to agree (12% to 3%)
 - Several times a year More likely to agree (33% to 15%)
 - Rarely More likely to disagree (40% to 25%)
 - Never More likely to disagree (23% to 6%)
- Our church has taken steps to reduce our carbon footprint.
 - Strongly agree More likely to agree (25% to 6%)
 - Somewhat agree More likely to agree (41% to 23%)
 - Strongly disagree More likely to disagree (44% to 12%)
- Our church has an active recycling program in place at our church building.
 - Strongly agree More likely to agree (48% to 29%)
 - Somewhat disagree More likely to disagree (17% to 11%)
 - Strongly disagree More likely to disagree (25% to 13%)



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