

# CHURCH LIFE Profile

## Lara Parish Anglican Church

- This dynamic report contains your survey results. It celebrates your strengths,
- helps you build vision and direction, and move forward together into the future.

### LISTEN TO EVERY *voice*

You will hear the responses from all your attenders summarised clearly in one report

### SEE EMERGING *trends*

You will see how your church has progressed grown or changed in trends over time

### UNDERSTAND THE BIG *picture*

You will know how your church ranks next to others in clear comparisons and benchmarkers

#### Your Profile results are based on:

Attender Surveys (aged 15+): **26 forms**  
Church Code: **ANM104**

Dear local church,

**This Church Life Profile contains your church's unique results from your participation in the 2021 National Church Life Survey.**

We provide this profile to you, along with supporting resources, to help you strengthen the vitality of your church, grow an owned vision and plan for the future. This profile is part of a Church Life Pack of resources, including the Church Life Survey Workbook, to help you and your church make best use of your results.

Our hope and prayer is that these resources will help, encourage and equip your church in it's mission and ministry.

- The NCLS Research Team

## Profile Contents

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 **Weighing up Your Survey Results**  
It is always important to consider who participated in the survey and in what context. Compare the number of people surveyed (shown at the bottom of each results page) with the total number in the church. Consider what else was happening in the life of the church at the time of the survey and whether/how it might have influenced their responses.

### Lara Parish in:

2021 - **26 forms**   2011 - **38 forms**   2006 - **39 forms**   2001 - **56 forms**

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# Dashboard

## Lara Parish

26 adult attender forms



### The People of this Church

Average age (years)	66
Female	65%
University degree	35%
Non-English speaking background	4%
New arrivals in last 5 years	24%
Young people aged 15 to 19	0%



### What We Value and Prioritise

Value: Sharing in Holy Communion/the Eucharist/Lord's Supper	58%
Value: Small prayer, discussion or Bible study groups	38%
Prioritise: Creating a clear vision for the church	50%
Prioritise: Encouraging new approaches	46%



### How We Relate to God

Experienced much growth in faith in past 12 months	38%
Private devotions at least weekly	81%
Agree faith in God is an important part of who I am	96%
Worship services always/usually challenge me to take action	35%



### How We Relate to Each Other

Strong sense of belonging	92%
Found it easy to make friends	79%
Involved in group activities at church	68%
Satisfied with activities for children under 12 years	23%



### How We Relate to Community

Helped others in 3 or more informal ways in last year	57%
Involved in local church service, justice or welfare activities	56%
Part of community groups not connected to local church	46%
Feel at ease sharing faith with others	69%



### Our Vision and Leadership

Aware of and strongly committed to church's vision	23%
Agree this church is ready to try something new	58%
Attenders who perform at least one leadership or ministry role here	76%
Leaders encourage use of gifts & skills to a great extent	16%

## People of This Church

This Summary Profile contains a snapshot of your church's unique results from the 2021 National Church Life Survey. This profile is based on 26 responses from attenders aged 15+.

Supporting resources available at [ncls.org.au](https://ncls.org.au) may also help you to make best use of your results, to strengthen the vitality of your church, grow an owned vision and plan for the future.



### Demographic Profile



#### Gender

**65%** are female

**35%** are male

N.B. The percent for those who chose 'other' will be included in denominational and national reports. Figures have been rounded to 100%.

#### Marital status

**58%** are currently married

#### Ethnicity

**81%** are born in Australia

**19%** are born overseas

**17%** are migrants to Australia

**4%** speak a language other than English at home

#### Employment

**22%** are employed full-time (30 hours plus)

**61%** are retired

#### Education

**35%** have a university degree

**35%** have a trade certificate, diploma or associate diploma



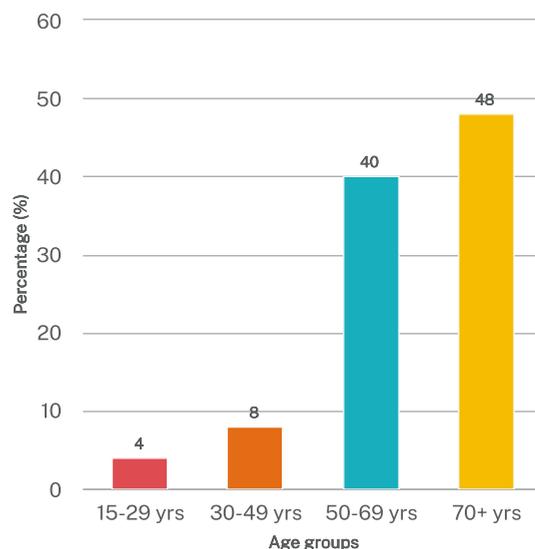
### Age and Intergenerational Ministry

**66** is the average age of all attenders

**23%** are satisfied with what is offered for children aged under 12 years

**54%** are satisfied with what is offered for youth aged 12 to 18

**77%** agree that people of all ages are encouraged to get involved at this local church

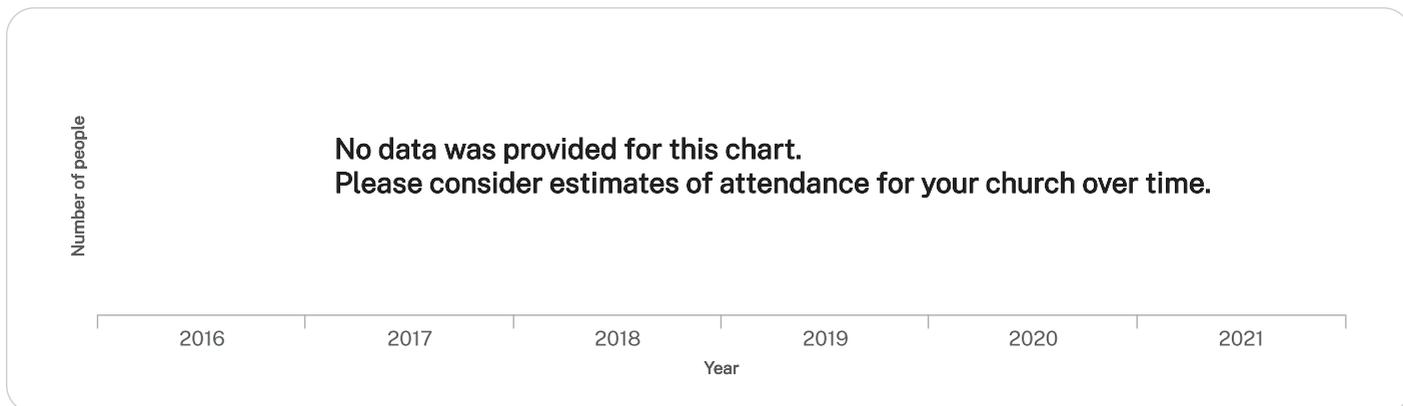


# Church Attendance and Background



## Attendance Patterns

### Estimated attendance



Source: Lara, NCLS 2016, 2017, 2018, 2019, 2020, 2021

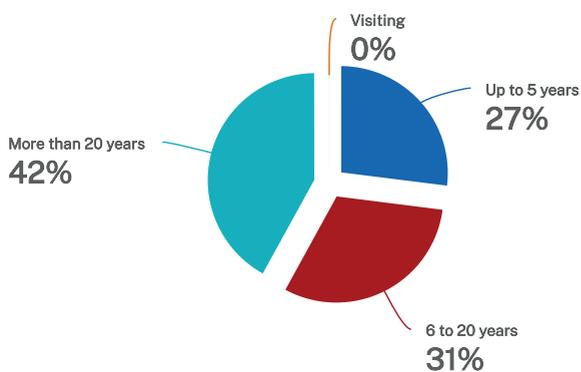
### Attendance at this local church (including online)

- 96%** are frequent attenders (monthly or more)
- 85%** attend weekly or more
- 73%** have attended this church for more than five years

### Attendance elsewhere (in person and online)<sup>+</sup>

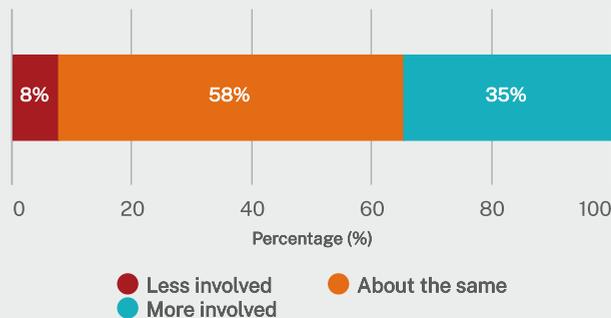
- 81%** do not attend any other church
- 8%** attend elsewhere, in person
- 12%** attend elsewhere, via online services

<sup>+</sup>Note attenders could choose more than one option



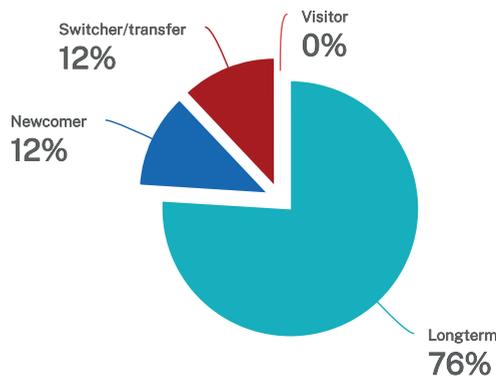
### Impact of COVID-19

Current involvement compared with 2019 (before COVID-19)



## Church Background

**24%** of attenders here are new arrivals to this local church in the past 5 years

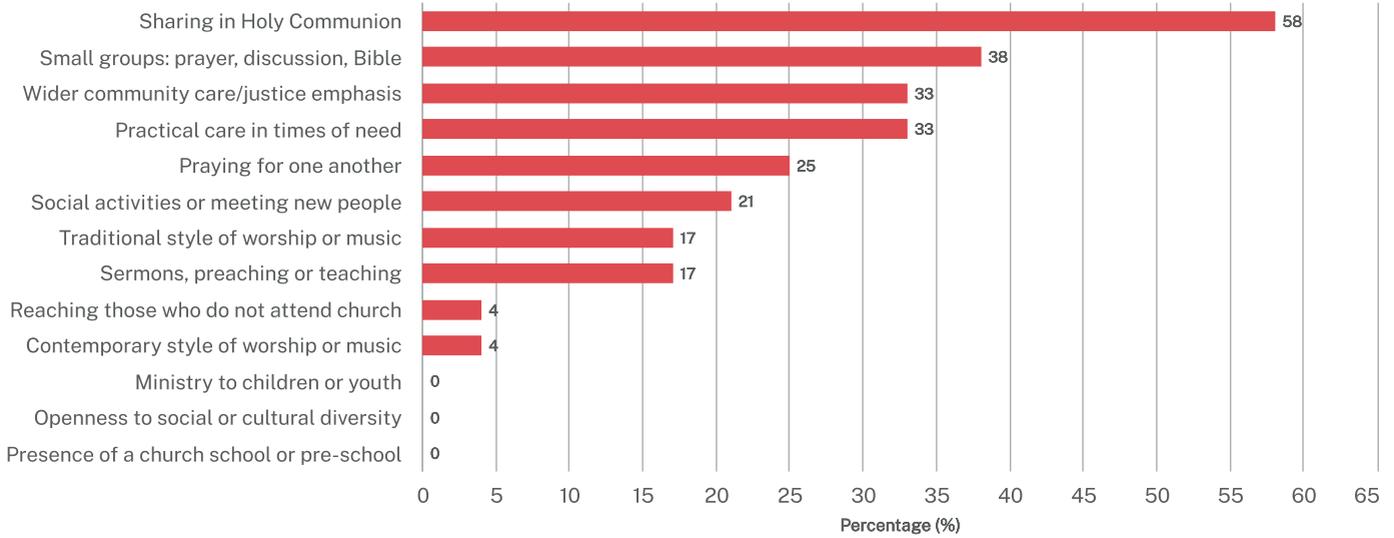


# What People Value and Prioritise



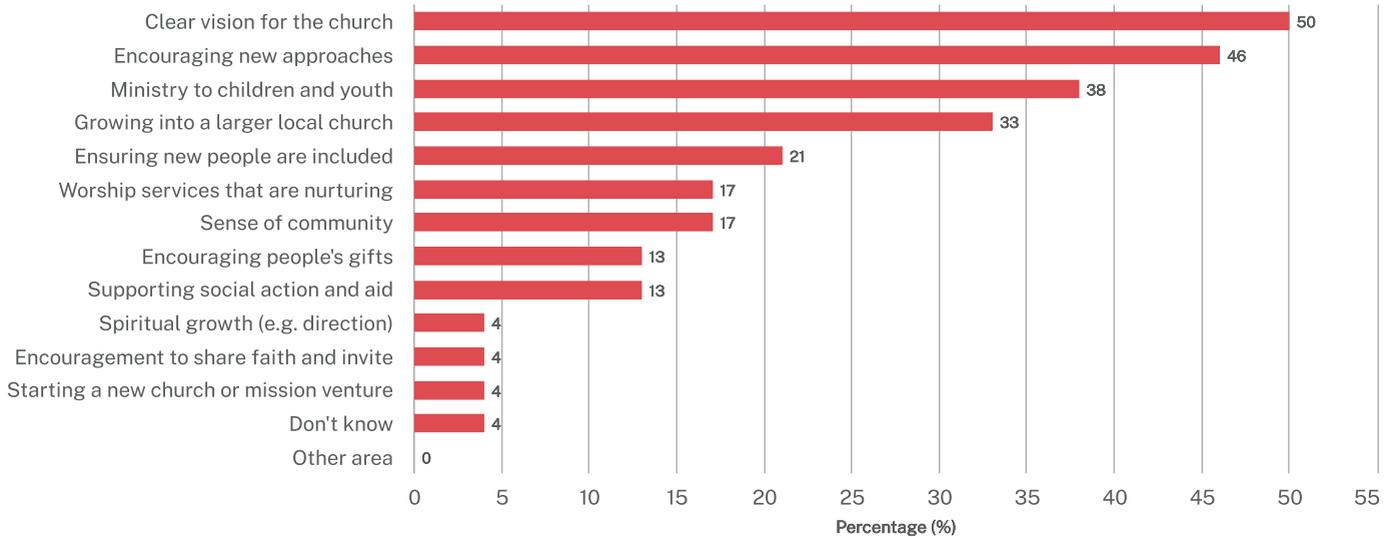
## What People Value about this Church

Attendees of this parish most value 'Sharing in Holy Communion/the Eucharist/Lord's Supper' and 'Small prayer, discussion or Bible study groups'.



## Future Priorities

Over the next 12 months most attendees would like priority given to 'Creating a clear vision for the church' and 'Encouraging new approaches'.

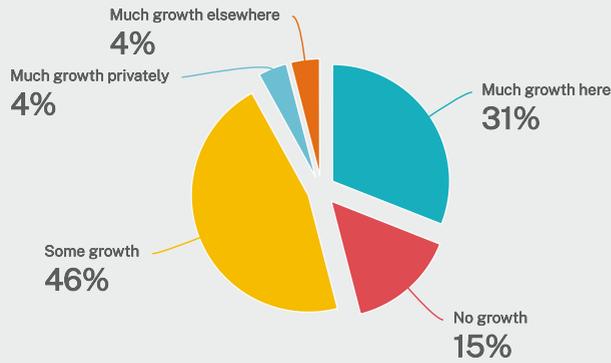


# How People Relate to God

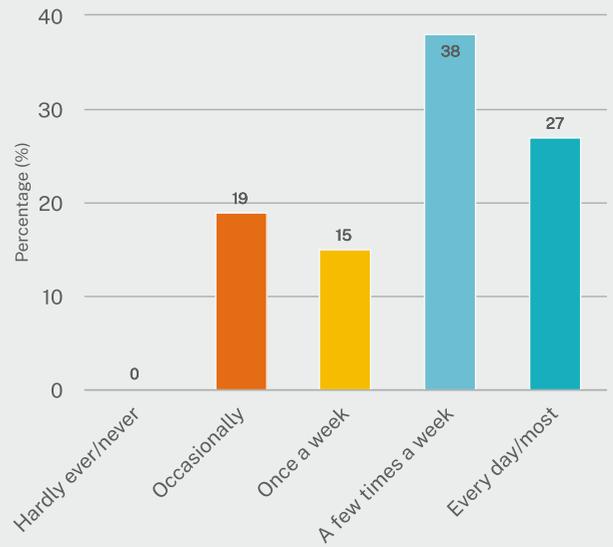


## Personal Faith

**38%** of attenders said that they had experienced much growth in faith in the previous 12 months



**27%** spend time in prayer, Bible reading, meditation everyday or most days



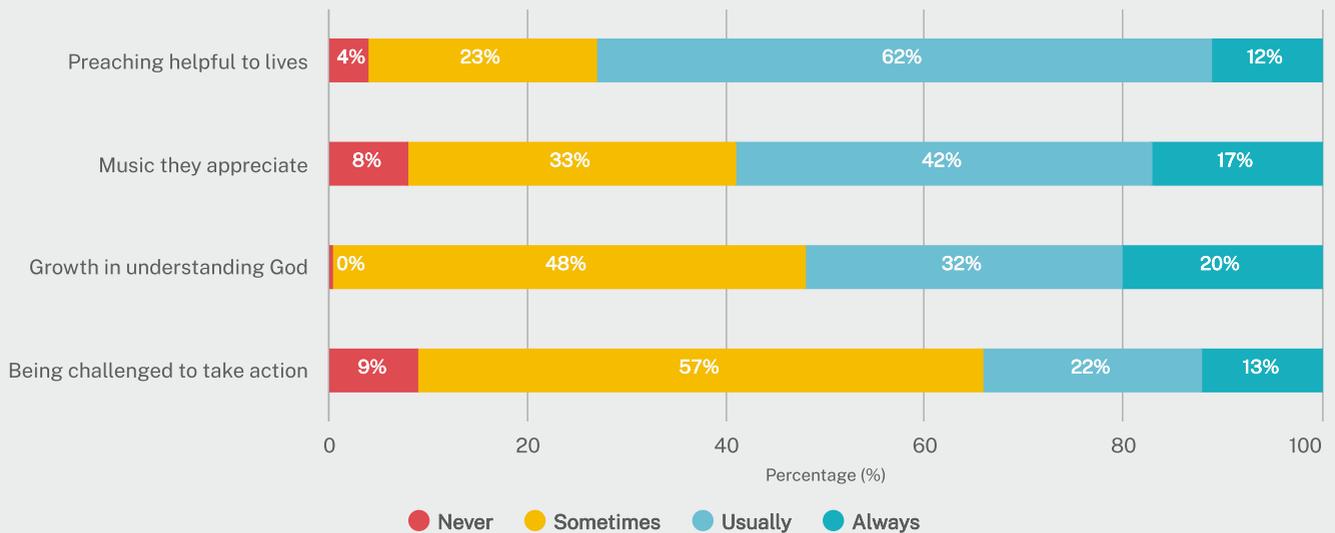
**96%** agree their faith influences decisions and actions in daily life

**96%** agree that 'my faith in God is an important part of who I am'



## Church Worship Services

*During worship services here, attenders experience:*



# How People Relate to Each Other



## Belonging and Inclusion

**63%** always or mostly personally seek to make new arrivals welcome

**50%** are likely to follow up someone drifting away from church involvement

### Belonging

Have a strong sense of belonging



### Inclusive

Agree this church is inclusive of different kinds of people



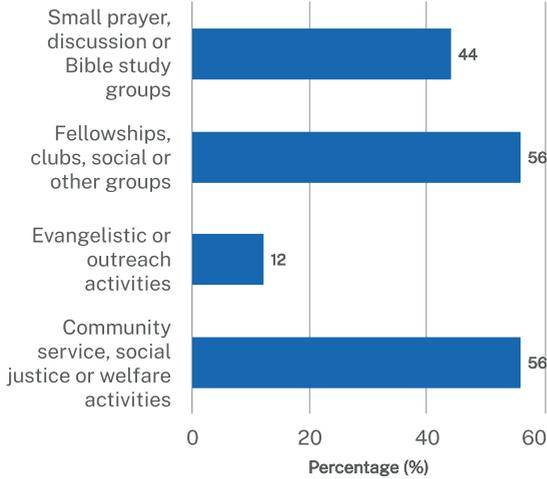
### Friendly

Found it easy to make friends in this parish

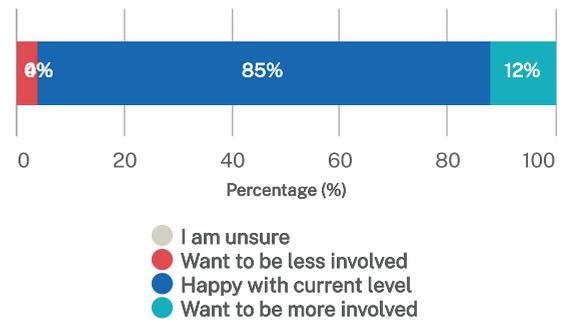


## Involvement

### Group Involvement

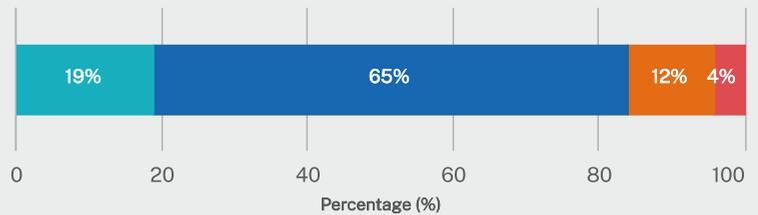


### 12% want to be more involved at this parish



### Financial Giving

- Give about 10% of their net income to this local church
- Give less than 10% of net income
- Give a small amount when present
- Give no amount to this church



# How People Relate to Wider Community



## Involvement in groups

**46%** of people participate in wider community groups  
**0%** are very actively involved in online groups (e.g. social media, community groups)

## Church-based activities

**64%** reach out to the wider community through activities of this local church  
**56%** are part of community service activities  
**12%** are part of evangelistic outreach activities



## Words and Actions

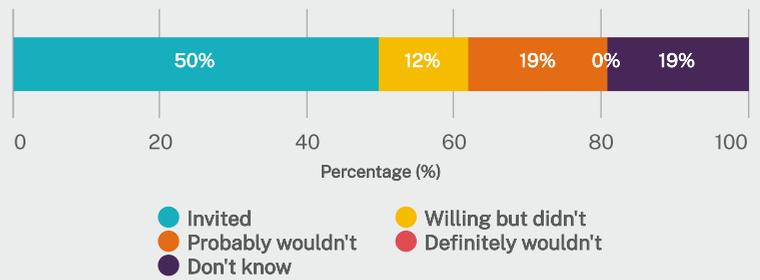
**29%** talk about matters of faith with other members of their household (4% live alone)  
**12%** feel at ease talking about faith with others and look for opportunities to do so

## Attendees have offered to help others in the past 12 months

Donated money to a charitable organisation	<b>88%</b>
Helped someone through a personal crisis (not sickness)	<b>42%</b>
Visited someone in hospital	<b>33%</b>
Lent or gave money to someone outside your family	<b>29%</b>
Given some of your possessions to someone in need	<b>29%</b>
Cared for someone who was very sick	<b>25%</b>
Contacted a parliamentarian/councillor on a public issue	<b>25%</b>
Supported a campaign (online or other)	<b>17%</b>
Attended a public meeting/march	<b>8%</b>
Tried to stop someone abusing alcohol or drugs	<b>4%</b>

## Inviting others to church

**50%** invited friends and relatives to a church service in this last year



## Acting for the Environment

**96%** agree that Christians have a responsibility to actively care for the environment

**29%** are very active

**46%** are a little active

**21%** are currently not active

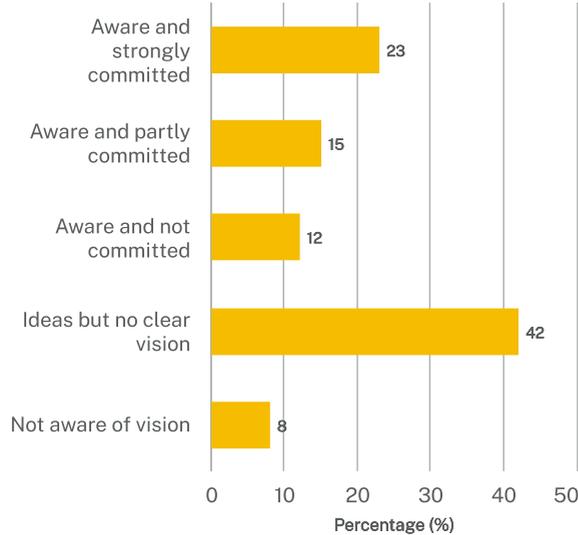
# Vision, Innovation & Leadership Culture



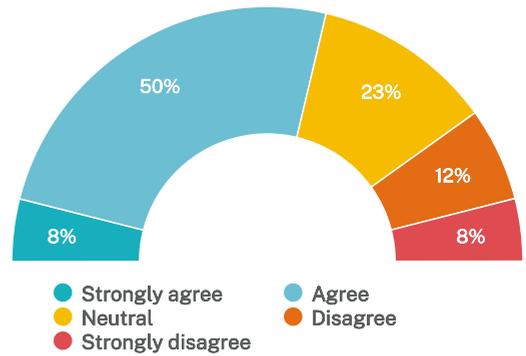
## Vision and Innovation

**23%** of people are both aware and strongly committed to the vision, goals or directions for this parish  
**27%** are fully confident that this parish can achieve the vision, goals or directions set

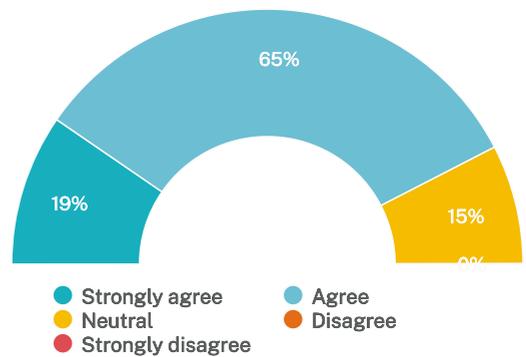
### Vision



**58%** agree that this parish is always ready to try something new



**85%** agree that they would support the development of new initiatives in the ministry and mission of this parish



## Leadership Culture

**85%** agree it is easy to get involved in ministry at this church (e.g.join a roster, take on a role)

**75%** agree that this church has good clear systems for how it operates

**76%** of attenders perform a leadership or ministry role

**52%** agree 'leaders here inspire me to action'

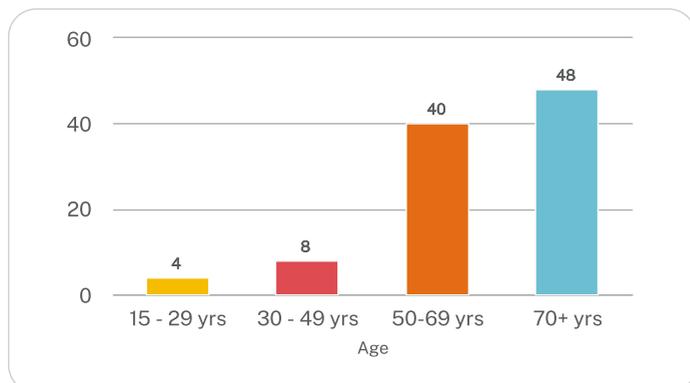
**68%** agree 'leaders encourage me to find and use my gifts and skills to great or some extent'

# A Demographic Profile



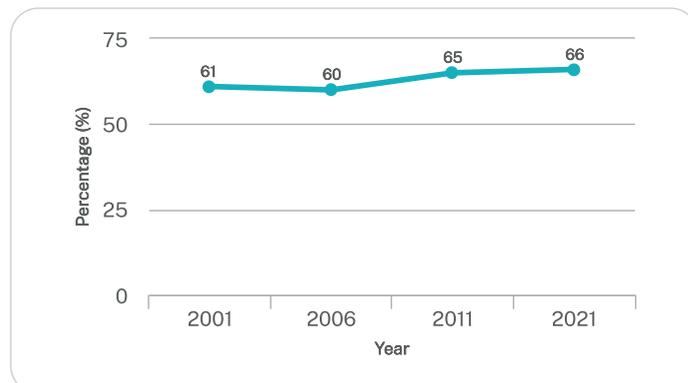
## Age Profile

**66** years is the average of attenders at this local church (aged 15+)



Source: 2021 NCLS, Lara

**Change over time:** Average age of church attenders aged 15+ years.



Source: Lara, NCLS 2001, 2006, 2011, 2021

## Gender

**65%** are female

\* Other not available for local churches to honour commitment to confidentiality. See [2021ncls.org.au/faqs](https://2021ncls.org.au/faqs) for more.

	You in 2021 (%)	You in 2011 (%)	Diocese in 2021 (%)
Female	65	68	61
Male	35	32	39
Other	N/A	N/A	0

## Marital Status

**58%** are currently married

	You in 2021 (%)	You in 2011 (%)	Diocese in 2021 (%)
Never married	0	8	17
Married	58	69	63
In a defacto relationship	0	0	2
Separated or divorced	17	5	7
Widowed	25	18	11

## Education

**35%** have a University degree

	You in 2021 (%)	You in 2011 (%)	Diocese in 2021 (%)
Primary/secondary school	31	55	20
Trade certificate, diploma or associate diploma	35	32	22
University degree	35	13	57

## Employment

**35%** are employed

	You in 2021 (%)	You in 2011 (%)	Diocese in 2021 (%)
Employed	35	37	51
Full-time home duties/family responsibilities	13	11	6
Retired	61	53	39

## Ethnicity

**81%** are born in Australia

**4%** are born in non-English speaking countries

**4%** speak a language other than English at home

	You in 2021 (%)	You in 2011 (%)	Diocese in 2021 (%)
Aboriginal or Torres Strait Islander origin	0	0	0
Born in Australia (including above)*	81	70	64
Born in another country where English is the main language*	15	30	16
Born in Non English-speaking country*	4	0	20
At least one parent born in a Non English - speaking country*	8	3	29

\* 'Don't Know' was included in 2021 as a response option for country of birth

# Children and Youth

\* is the proportion of attenders' children (aged 15 + and living at home) who attend a church



Source: 2021 NCLS Lara

**Change over time:** Percent of attenders' children (aged 15+ and living at home) who attend a church



Source: Lara, NCLS 2011

**Note:** Figures are suppressed and replaced with \* when there are fewer than 6 cases.

## Children and youth of church attenders

- \* of attenders' children aged 0 to 14 years living at home attend church here
- \* of attenders' children aged 15 and over still living at home attend church here

You in 2021 (%)	You in 2011 (%)	Diocese in 2021 (%)
-----------------	-----------------	---------------------

Attenders' children aged 0-14 still living at home:			
Still attend this church	*	33	89
Attend elsewhere	*	17	2
Do not attend any church	*	50	8
Attenders' children aged 15 and over still living at home:			
Still attend this church	*	14	40
Attend elsewhere	*	29	10
Do not attend any church	*	71	49

## Young people at this parish

0% of attenders who completed the survey were aged 15 to 19 years

Young people who:			
Completed the survey	0	0	1
Have been attending more than 5 years	0	0	1
Have been attending 5 years or less	0	0	1

## Satisfaction with what parish offers

For children aged under 12 years  
**23%** are very satisfied or satisfied

For youth aged 12 to 18 years  
**54%** are very satisfied or satisfied

**Note:** Figures are suppressed and replaced with \* when there are fewer than 6 cases.

Satisfaction with what is offered here 'for children aged under 12 years':			
All attenders very satisfied or satisfied	23	18	57
Satisfaction with what is offered here 'for youth aged 12-18 years':			
All attenders very satisfied or satisfied	54	12	41
15-18 year olds very satisfied or satisfied	N/A	*	70

## Church Background



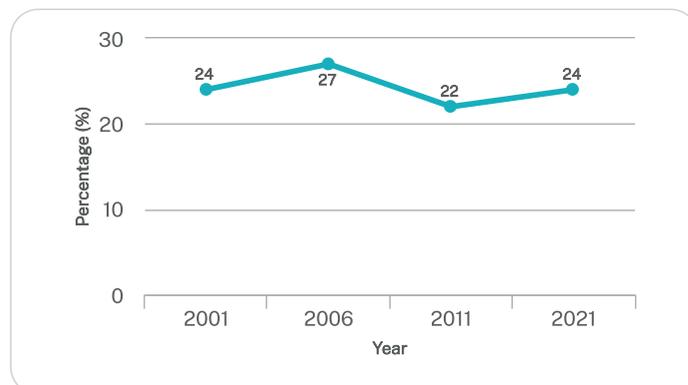
### Background of Church Attenders

**24%** of attenders here are new arrivals to this parish in the past 5 years



Source: 2021 NCLS, Lara

**Change over time:** Percent of attenders who were new arrivals in the 5 years prior to the survey



Source: Lara, NCLS 2001, 2006, 2011, 2021

### Church Attendance History<sup>+</sup>

**24%** are new arrivals in the last five years, comprising

**12%** moved from a different church

**12%** are newcomers (new to any church in the last 5 years)

**76%** are long-term having attended here for more than 5 years

**0%** were visitors

	You in 2021 (%)	You in 2011 (%)	Diocese in 2021 (%)
New Arrivals (total) <sup>1</sup>	24	22	41
Newcomers <sup>2</sup>	12	3	6
Returnees: after absence of several years	8	3	4
Never regularly attended	4	0	2
Switchers <sup>3++</sup>	4	3	20
Transfers <sup>4</sup>	8	17	15
Long-term attenders <sup>5</sup>	76	78	58
Visitors from other churches	0	0	0
Visitors who do not regularly go to church	0	0	0

### Length of Attendance at This Church

**0%** have been here less than 1 year

**27%** have been here for 1-5 years

**42%** have been here for more than 20 years

Total new arrivals (new to your parish) in the last 5 years			
Less than 1 year	0	8	9
1-2 years	12	13	12
3-5 years / unsure	15	5	21
6-10 years	12	5	16
11-20 years	19	29	15
More than 20 years	42	40	25

**+Note:** Church attendance history is calculated from three survey questions. The figures may not match those for length of attendance due to non-responses.

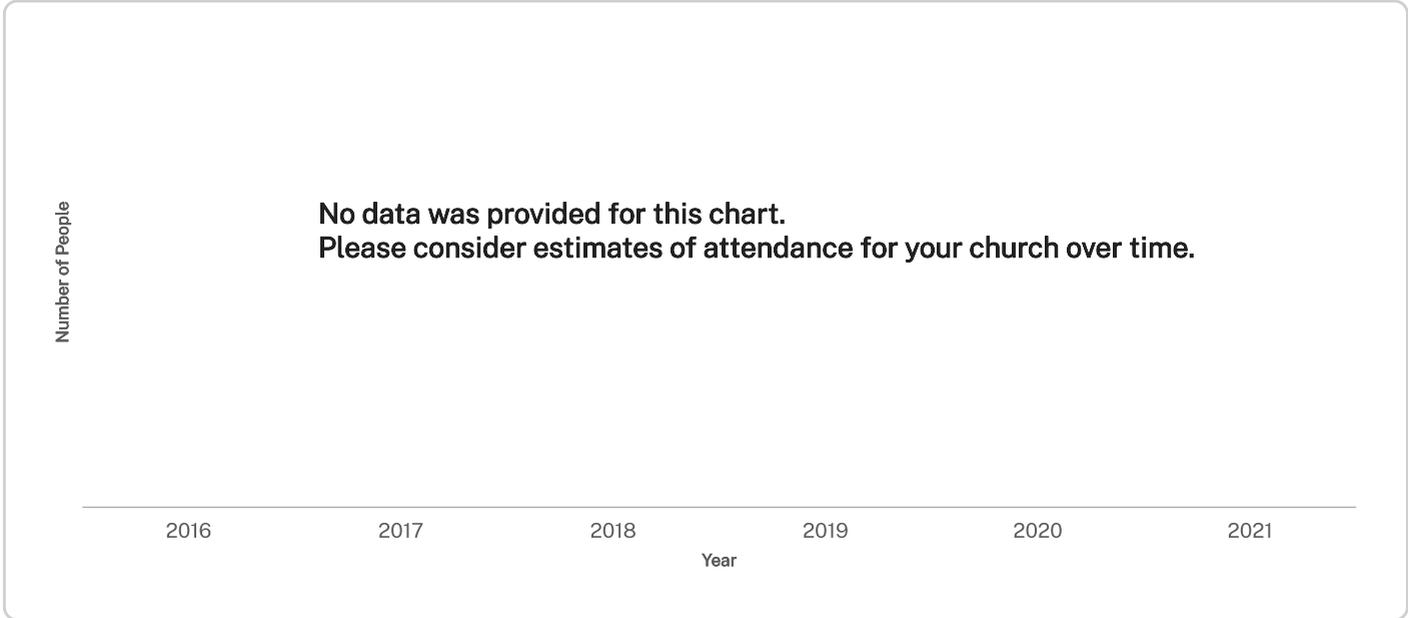
**++Note:** The wording of the response options to the survey about the denomination of the previous church changed in 2016.

- 1. New Arrivals:** attended a different church in the last 5 years
- 2. Newcomers:** new to any church in the last 5 years
- 3. Switchers:** from another denomination in the last 5 years
- 4. Transfers:** from same denomination in the last 5 years
- 5. Long-term attenders:** attended here for more than 5 years

# Attendance Estimates



## Estimated Church Attendance



This chart shows the pattern of attendance change for your church over recent years. It is based on estimates supplied by your local church leader or representative.

### Attendance at this Local Church (including online)

**96%** are frequent attenders (monthly or more)

You in 2021 (%)
You in 2011 (%)
Diocese in 2021 (%)

Attend here (inc. online)	You in 2021 (%)	You in 2011 (%)	Diocese in 2021 (%)
First time/hardly ever/special occasions only	0	3	2
Less than once a month	4	3	1
Once, twice or three times a month	12	27	13
Usually every week	73	60	76
More than once a week	12	8	8

### Attendance Elsewhere

**8%** attend elsewhere, in person

**12%** attend elsewhere, via online services

Attend elsewhere	You in 2021 (%)	You in 2011 (%)	Diocese in 2021 (%)
No	81	N/A	77
Yes, attend in person elsewhere	8	N/A	13
Yes, via online services	12	N/A	14

### Impact of COVID on Involvement

**35%** are more involved than in 2019

**58%** are involved about the same as in 2019

**8%** are less involved than in 2019

Compared to 2019, more or less involved here	You in 2021 (%)	You in 2011 (%)	Diocese in 2021 (%)
More involved	35	N/A	25
About the same	58	N/A	54
Less involved	8	N/A	21

# Inflow and Outflow



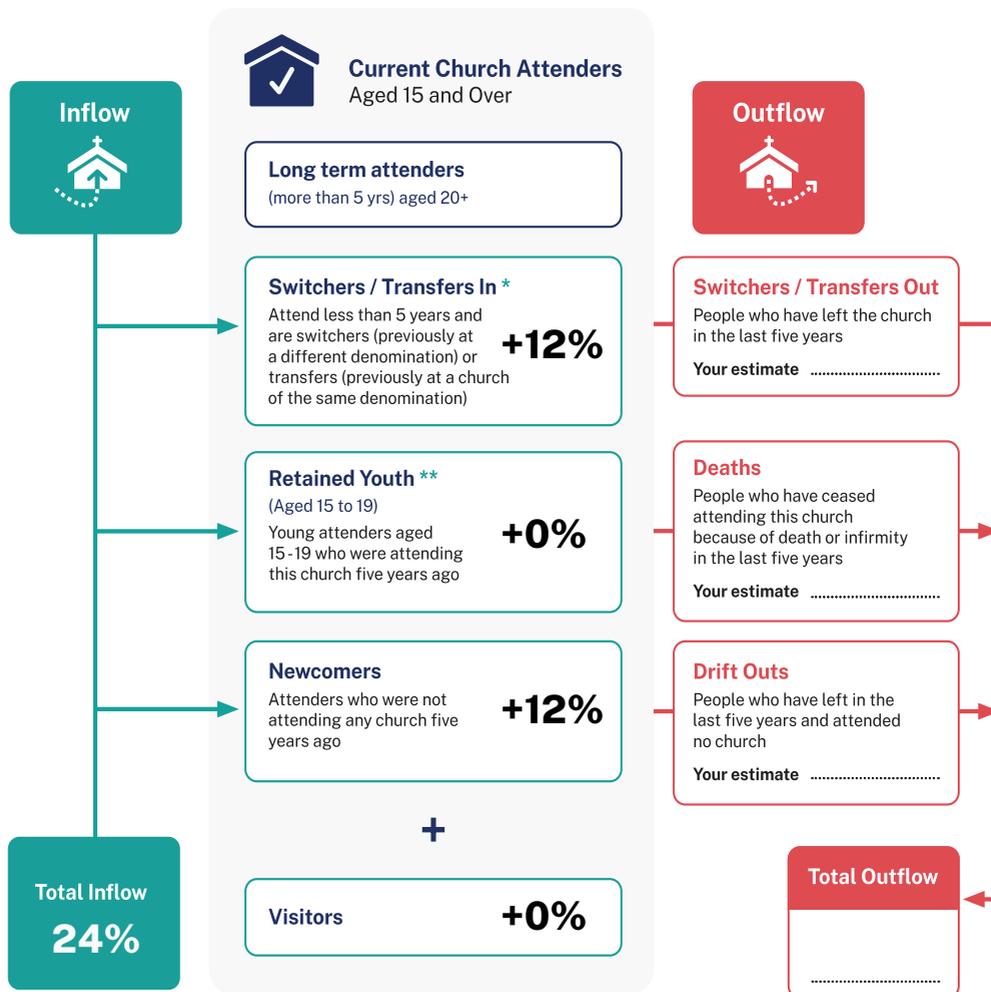
**How do churches grow? In numerical terms churches grow when the inflow of church attenders exceeds the outflow.**

**About the NCLS Inflow Outflow model**

Long term attenders have attended a local church for 5 or more years. There are three types of inflow. For each inflow path, there is a matching outflow:

1. People arrive from other churches and leave to go to other churches.
2. Children are born to church attenders\*\* and people die.
3. Newcomers with no church background start attending and others drift out from church life.

Information from your church attenders (aged 15 and over) is used to calculate three types of inflows. Based on your current attendance, you will need to estimate your outflows.



**Notes:**

Current church attenders = Long-term attenders + inflow in past 5 years + visitors = 100%

\* **About Switchers and Transfers:** Switchers change denominations. Transfers change churches within the same denomination.

\*\* **About Retained Youth:** Instead of births, the calculation includes youth who are still attending and who were attending this church five years ago.

## About the 9 Core Qualities of Church Life

Over 30 years NCLS Research has identified 9 Core Qualities shown to be central to the life of a vital and healthy church. The blend of these qualities points to the unique character of each church, its areas of strength and its potential for growth. These Core Qualities are measured and grouped into three areas of church life:

### The Internal Core Qualities



Faith



Worship



Belonging

#### Internal Core Qualities

focus on the inner life of the community of faith, and a measure is made of the extent to which the community:

- has an alive and growing faith
- experiences vital and nurturing worship
- feels a strong and growing belonging

### The Outward Core Qualities



Service



Faith Sharing



Inclusion

#### Outward Core Qualities

focus on the outward looking life of the church, and a measure is made of the extent to which the church undertakes:

- practical and diverse service
- willing and effective faith-sharing
- intentional and welcoming inclusion

### The Inspirational Core Qualities



Vision



Innovation



Leadership Culture

#### Inspirational Core Qualities

focus on the vigour of a church and the catalysts that inspire a church culture to move forward. They give a measure of the extent to which the church has:

- a clear and owned vision
- openness to imaginative and flexible innovation
- an inspiring and empowering leadership culture

### NCLS Research also explores three attendance measures for every church:



**Young adult retention** - the extent to which the children of the faith community remain regular attenders when they grow into young adulthood.

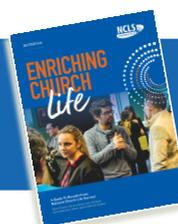


**Newcomers** - the extent to which newcomers who have arrived on previous five years make up the congregation.



**Attendance change** - the extent to which attendance numbers have changed over the last five years through the inflow and outflow of people.

For more detail on the NCLS Research Vitality Framework refer to the book:  
**Enriching Church Life 3rd Edition**



or go to:

[ncls.org.au/church-vitality](https://ncls.org.au/church-vitality)

# Circle of Strengths

## Core Qualities Overview

Over 30 years of research in Australian churches, the NCLS has highlighted key indicators for each of the nine Core Qualities of church health and vitality. This Circle of Strengths is a simple 'broad brush' view of your church's survey results in each Core Quality of church life.

A single indicator of responses has been chosen for each Core Quality area. The order of the Core Qualities in the Circle of Strengths is based on ranking the indicator scores from highest to lowest.



## Headline Indicators

In Rank Order	Quality	Indicator	Score out of 10
1	 <b>Worship</b>	Always experience inspiration in church worship services	<b>7.8</b>
2	 <b>Faith Sharing</b>	Have invited someone in the last 12 months	<b>6.1</b>
3	 <b>Faith</b>	Much growth in faith in the past year, through this church	<b>6.0</b>
4	 <b>Service</b>	Number of different ways attenders have helped others in the last 12 months	<b>5.2</b>
5	 <b>Innovation</b>	Strongly agree this church is always ready to try something new	<b>4.3</b>
6	 <b>Belonging</b>	Sense of belonging is strong and growing	<b>4.2</b>
7	 <b>Vision</b>	Aware of and strongly committed to the vision of this church	<b>4.1</b>
8	 <b>Leadership Culture</b>	Agree that leaders encourage attenders to find their gifts and skills to a great extent	<b>3.2</b>
9	 <b>Inclusion</b>	Atenders certain they would follow up someone drifting from church	<b>2.2</b>

### How do these scores work?

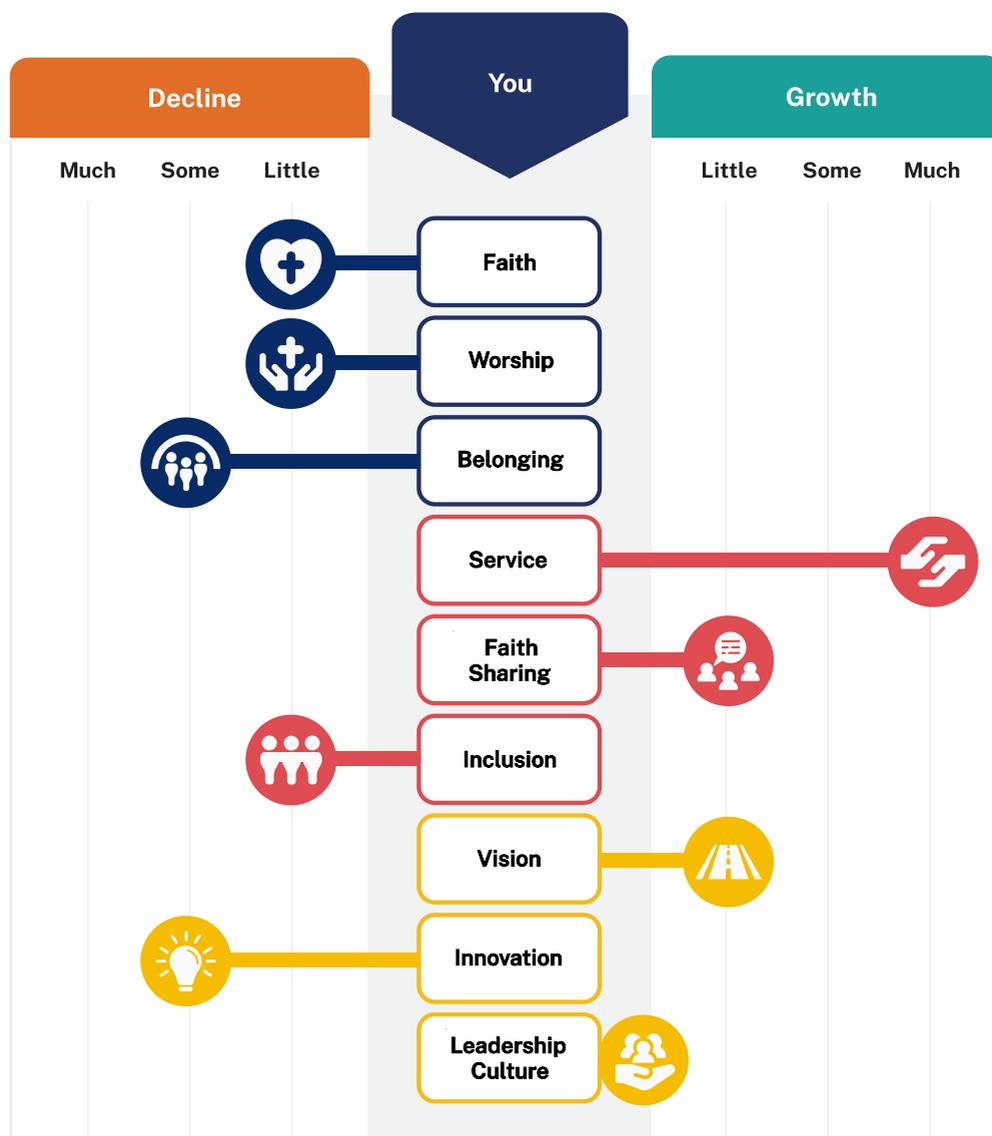
For each indicator question the percentage of the people in the church who selected a given response is converted into a score between 1 and 10. A score of 5 is the average across all churches who participated in the NCLS. See more at [ncls.org.au/church-vitality](https://ncls.org.au/church-vitality)

## QUALITIES OF CHURCH HEALTH

## Change Over Time

When a church takes part in a Church Life Survey more than once, it's possible to see changes over time.

This chart shows how selected indicators of the qualities of church health have changed since the last Church Life Survey. (See [ncls.org.au/church-vitality](https://ncls.org.au/church-vitality) for more information)



## No results for Change Over Time?

## Now

For each Core Quality ask if this is an area of church life that has improved, declined or stayed the same over the past five years?

## Later

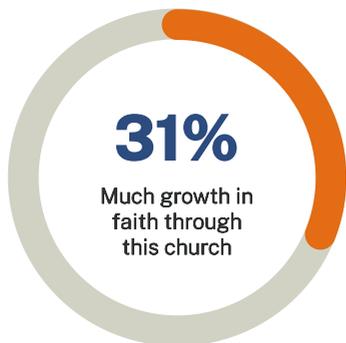
Any church can conduct a Church Life Survey at any time that suits them into the future. New results will be compared with previous results. Contact NCLS Research for details.

# Faith: Alive and Growing



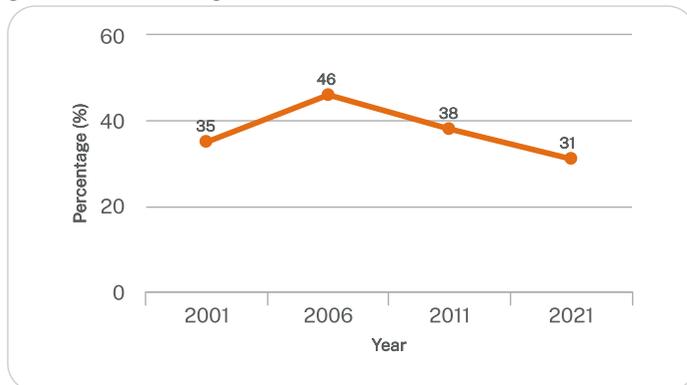
## Growth in Faith through this Local Church

**31%** said they had experienced much growth in faith through this local church in the last 12 months



Source: 2021 NCLS, Lara

**Change over time:** Percentage of attenders who experienced much growth in faith through this local church in the last 12 months



Source: Lara, NCLS 2001, 2006, 2011, 2021

### Growth in Faith in the Past Year

**85%** have grown their faith, either through this church, other groups or churches or through private activity

	You in 2021 (%)	You in 2011 (%)	Diocese in 2021 (%)
Much: this local church	31	38	21
Much: other groups	4	3	5
Much: private activity	4	3	11
Some growth	46	49	47

### Private Devotional Activity

**81%** spend time in prayer, Bible reading or meditation at least weekly

	You in 2021 (%)	You in 2011 (%)	Diocese in 2021 (%)
Everyday/most days	27	35	49
A few times a week	38	32	25
Once a week	15	16	6
Occasionally	19	11	14
Hardly ever/never	0	N/A	6

### Identification with Matters of Faith

Attenders chose up to 2 out of 6 options (e.g. Catholic or Anglo-Catholic; Pentecostal or Charismatic; Evangelistic or Reformed; Liberal or Progressive; Other and 'Do not identify')

**45%** chose Catholic or Anglo-Catholic

**36%** chose I do not identify with such descriptions

	You in 2021 (%)	You in 2011 (%)	Diocese in 2021 (%)
Catholic or Anglo-Catholic	45	45	36
I do not identify with such descriptions	36	36	18
Evangelical or Reformed	18	14	45
Liberal or Progressive	14	0	9

### Faith and Life

**96%** agree or strongly agree that their faith influences decisions and actions in daily life

**96%** agree or strongly agree their faith in God is an important part of who they are

My faith influences decisions and actions in my daily life			
Agree or strongly agree	96	N/A	94
Neutral or unsure	4	N/A	5
Disagree or strongly disagree	0	N/A	1
Faith in God is an important part of who I am			
Agree or strongly agree	96	N/A	96
Neutral or unsure	4	N/A	3
Disagree or strongly disagree	0	N/A	1

## Worship: Vital and Nurturing



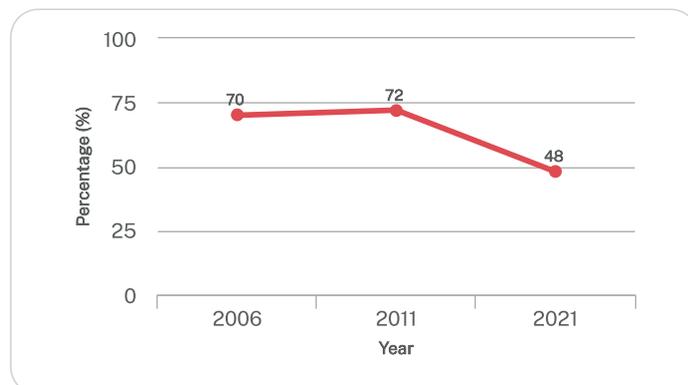
### Experience Inspiration during Church Services

**48%** of attenders said they always/usually experience inspiration during services



Source: 2021 NCLS Lara

**Change over time:** Percent of attenders who always/usually experience inspiration during services



Source: Lara, NCLS 2006, 2011, 2021

### Helpful Preaching

**73%** always/usually experience preaching very helpful to their lives during church services here

	You in 2021 (%)	You in 2011 (%)	Diocese in 2021 (%)
Always	12	33	34
Usually	62	47	45

### Appreciate Music

**58%** always/usually experience music they appreciate during church services here

Always	17	N/A	43
Usually	42	N/A	41

### Presence and Growth in Understanding of God

**58%** always/usually experience a sense of God's presence during church services here

**52%** always/usually experience growth in understanding of God during church services here

Always	38	46	38
Usually	21	35	37

Always	20	41	33
Usually	32	41	44

### Being Challenged to Take Action

**35%** always/usually experience being challenged to take action

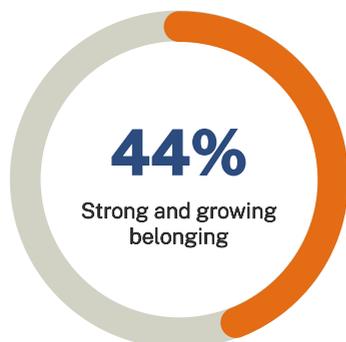
Always	13	31	21
Usually	22	25	39

## Belonging: Strong and Growing



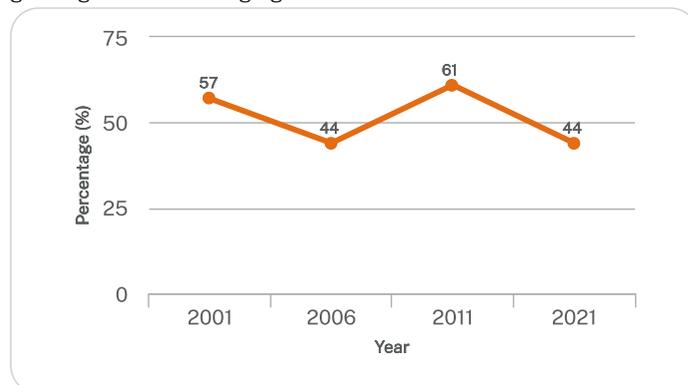
### A Strong and Growing Sense of Belonging

**44%** of attenders said they have a strong sense of belonging to this church which is growing



Source: 2021 NCLS, Lara

**Change over time:** Percentage of attenders who have a strong and growing sense of belonging to this church



Source: Lara, NCLS 2001, 2006, 2011, 2021

### Sense of Belonging to the Local Church

**92%** have a strong sense of belonging to this local church

**8%** do not feel they belong

You in 2021 (%)

You in 2011 (%)

Diocese in 2021 (%)

#### Sense of belonging

	You in 2021 (%)	You in 2011 (%)	Diocese in 2021 (%)
Strong and growing	44	61	41
Strong and stable	32	26	31
Strong but weakening	16	5	14
No, but new here	0	0	5
No, and wish they did	4	0	5
No, but happy	4	5	2
Don't know / NA	0	3	2

### Regular Participation in this Local Church's Activities

**68%** take part in group activities at this local church

**64%** take part in activities of the local church that reach out to the wider community

	You in 2021 (%)	You in 2011 (%)	Diocese in 2021 (%)
Small prayer, discussion	44	16	53
Fellowship, clubs or other social groups	56	46	31
Evangelical or outreach	12	12	11
Community service, social justice or welfare	56	38	26

### Financial Giving

**19%** regularly give 10% of net income

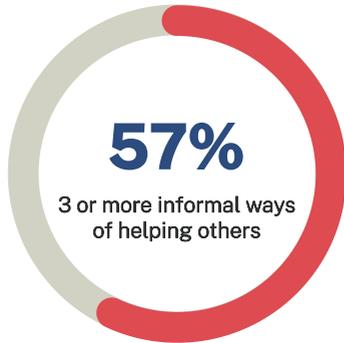
	You in 2021 (%)	You in 2011 (%)	Diocese in 2021 (%)
Regularly give 10%	19	21	26
Regularly give up to 9% of net income	65	47	52
Give a small amount whenever I am here	12	29	13

# Service: Practical and Diverse



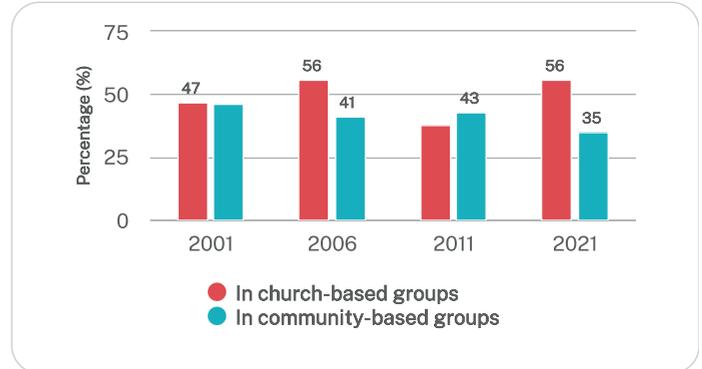
## Acts of Service

**57%** of attenders said they had informally helped others in three or more of a list of ways in the last year



Source: 2021 NCLS, Lara

**Change over time:** Percent of attenders who have been involved in community service, care or welfare groups or activities



Source: Lara, NCLS 2001, 2006, 2011, 2021

### Informal Ways of Helping Others (in the last year)

**100%** said they had informally helped others in at least one of the ways listed in the last year

**+ Note:** Was changed from 'lent money' in 2011 to 'lent or gave money' in 2016 and 2021

**++ Note:** Added in 2021

	You in 2021 (%)	You in 2011 (%)	Diocese in 2021 (%)
Lent or gave money outside family <sup>+</sup>	29	29	42
Attended a public meeting/march <sup>++</sup>	8	N/A	8
Supported a campaign (online or other) <sup>++</sup>	17	N/A	30
Cared for someone who was very sick	25	40	27
Helped someone through a personal crisis	42	40	40
Visited someone in hospital	33	49	21
Gave possessions to a person in need	29	46	30
Tried to stop someone abusing alcohol or drugs	4	11	4
Donated money to a charitable organisation	88	77	72
Contact parliamentarian/councillor about issue	25	23	21

### Community Activities

**56%** are regularly involved in community service, social justice or welfare activities based in the parish

**46%** are regularly involved in community groups not connected to this parish

	You in 2021 (%)	You in 2011 (%)	Diocese in 2021 (%)
In community service or justice activities based in parish	56	38	26
<b>Involvement in community groups not connected to this parish</b>			
Community service, care or welfare groups	35	43	23
Social action, justice or lobby groups	4	14	9
Sport, recreation or hobby groups	4	19	19
School or youth groups (e.g. P&C Scouts)	4	5	6
Another kind of group	19	14	12
Online groups or communities	8	N/A	9
Not involved with such groups	54	46	48

### Care for the Environment

**96%** agree Christians should care for the environment

**75%** are currently active

<b>Belief about Christian responsibility to actively care for the environment</b>			
Yes, am very active	29	N/A	17
Yes, and am a little active	46	N/A	49
Yes, but currently not active	21	N/A	28
No	0	N/A	2
Unsure	4	N/A	5

# Faith Sharing: Willing and Effective



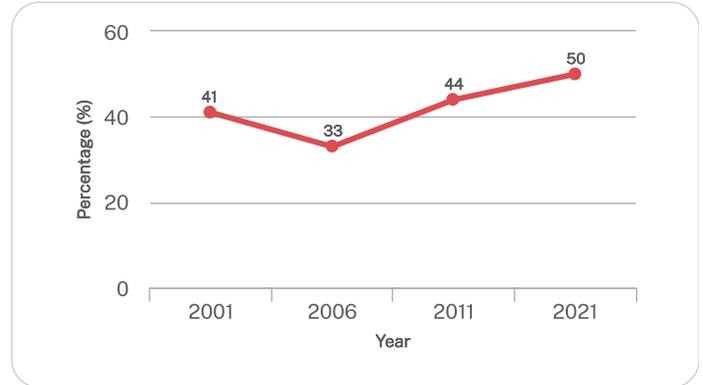
## Inviting Others to Church

**50%** of attenders said they had invited a friend or relative who does not currently attend church to a service here in the last year

**Change over time:** Percent of attenders who invited a friend or relative who does not currently attend church to a service here in the last year



Source: 2021 NCLS Lara



Source: Lara, NCLS 2001, 2006, 2011, 2021

## Inviting Others to Church here

**62%** are willing to invite someone to a church service

You in 2021 (%)	You in 2011 (%)	Diocese in 2021 (%)
50	44	29
12	28	46
19	11	10
0	0	1
19	17	13

Willingness to invite to a church service here any friends/relatives who don't currently attend a church			
	You in 2021 (%)	You in 2011 (%)	Diocese in 2021 (%)
Invited someone in the last 12 months	50	44	29
Willing, but didn't invite someone in the last 12 months	12	28	46
Probably wouldn't invite someone	19	11	10
Definitely wouldn't invite someone	0	0	1
Don't know	19	17	13

## Willing and Effective Faith-sharing

**12%** are involved regularly in outreach or evangelistic activity

**69%** feel at ease talking about their faith

Attenders involved regularly in outreach or evangelistic activity			
	You in 2021 (%)	You in 2011 (%)	Diocese in 2021 (%)
Feel at ease talking about their faith and look for opportunities	12	9	17
Mostly feel at ease talking about their faith and do so if it comes up	58	53	55
Find it hard to talk about their faith in ordinary language	19	27	20
Do not like to talk about their faith; life and actions are sufficient	12	12	7
Do not have faith	0	0	0

## Faith-sharing in Households

**29%** frequently talk about matters of faith with other members of their household

Attenders talk about faith with other members of their household			
	You in 2021 (%)	You in 2011 (%)	Diocese in 2021 (%)
No, live alone	4	N/A	14
No, do not talk about matters of faith	4	N/A	4
Yes, occasionally	63	N/A	31
Yes, frequently in informal ways	17	N/A	32
Yes, frequently in informal ways as well as part of family or household devotions	13	N/A	19

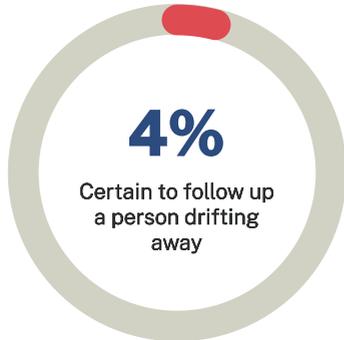
# Inclusion: Intentional and Welcoming



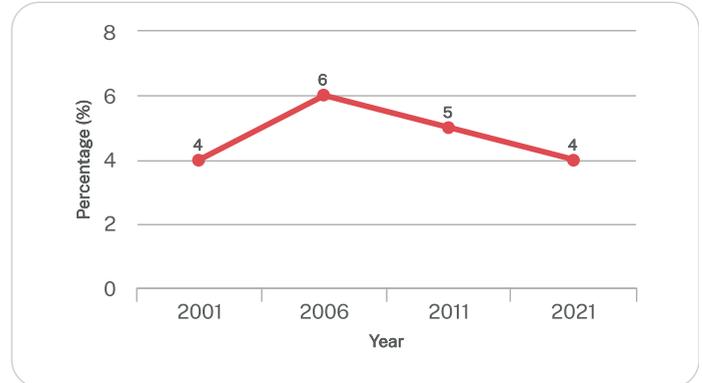
## Follow-up of People Drifting Away

**4%** of attenders said they would certainly follow up someone they knew who was drifting away from church

**Change over time:** Percent of attenders who are certain they would follow up someone they knew who was drifting away from church



Source: 2021 NCLS, Lara



Source: Lara, NCLS 2001, 2006, 2011, 2021

## Views about Inclusiveness of Parish

**72%** agree that this parish is inclusive of different kinds of people

You in 2021 (%)	You in 2011 (%)	Diocese in 2021 (%)
-----------------	-----------------	---------------------

This parish is inclusive of different kinds of people			
Strongly agree	20	N/A	39
Agree	52	N/A	48
Neutral/Unsure	20	N/A	10
Disagree	8	N/A	3
Strongly disagree	0	N/A	1

## Likelihood of Follow-up of Those Drifting Away

**50%** are likely to follow up someone drifting away from church

Likelihood of attenders to follow up someone drifting away from church			
Certain	4	5	7
Very likely	12	11	21
Likely	35	24	32
Hard to say	38	49	34
Unlikely	12	11	7

## Welcoming New Arrivals

**63%** always or mostly personally seek out and welcome people they know who are new arrivals

Attenders personally seek out and welcome new arrivals			
Always	17	44	23
Mostly	46	28	30
Sometimes	17	19	29
Rarely/Never	21	9	17

## Making Friends

**79%** have found it easy to make friends here

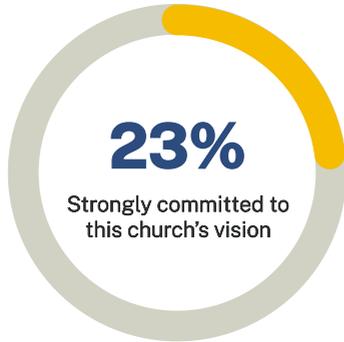
Attenders found it easy to make friends here			
Attenders agree or strongly agree	79	84	78
Attenders disagree or strongly disagree	13	3	7
Among arrivals in last five years:			
Agree or strongly agree	57	N/A	69
Disagree or strongly disagree	43	N/A	12

# Vision: Clear and Owned



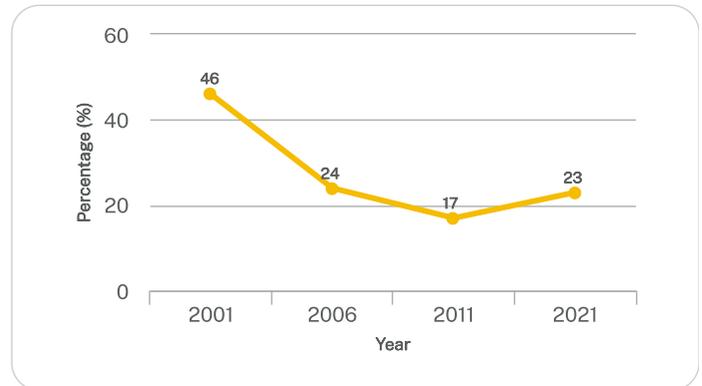
## Committed to this Parish's Vision

**23%** of attenders said they are aware of and strongly committed to this parish's vision, goals or directions



Source: 2021 NCLS, Lara

**Change over time:** Percent of attenders who are aware of and strongly committed to this parish's vision, goals or directions



Source: Lara, NCLS 2001, 2006, 2011, 2021

### Aware of Vision, Goals and Directions of Parish

**38%** are aware and strongly or partly committed to the vision, goals or direction of the parish

	You in 2021 (%)	You in 2011 (%)	Diocese in 2021 (%)
Aware and strongly committed	23	17	41
Aware and partly committed	15	29	32
Aware and not committed	12	11	6
Aware of ideas not of any clear vision	42	20	14
Unaware of any clear vision, goals or direction	8	23	8

### Confidence that the Parish can Achieve its Vision, Goals or Directions

**27%** are fully confident that the vision can be achieved

Fully confident the vision can be achieved	27	46	40
Partly confident vision can be achieved	35	30	40
Not confident the vision can be achieved	12	3	6

### Attenders' Views on Priorities for this Parish in the Next 12 Months: +

Spiritual growth (e.g. spiritual direction, prayer groups)	4	20	39
Worship services that are nurturing to people's faith	17	33	31
Building a strong sense of community within this parish	17	33	39
Creating a clear vision for this parish's future	50	10	18
Encouraging people here to discover/use their gifts	13	33	28
Encouraging new approaches to ministry and mission	46	23	14
Supporting social justice and aid to people in need	13	10	15
Encouraging people here to share their faith or invite others	4	10	17
Ensuring new people are included well in church life	21	17	26
Ministry to children and youth	38	37	22
Growing into a larger parish	33	20	13
Starting a new church or mission venture	4	0	2

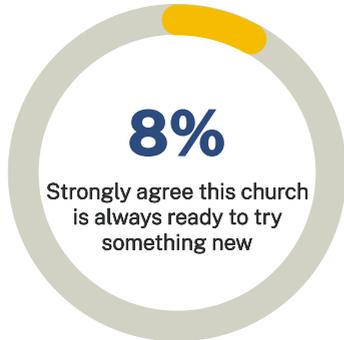
\*Note: The wording on the introduction to this question changed slightly from 2016 onwards

# Innovation: Imaginative and Flexible



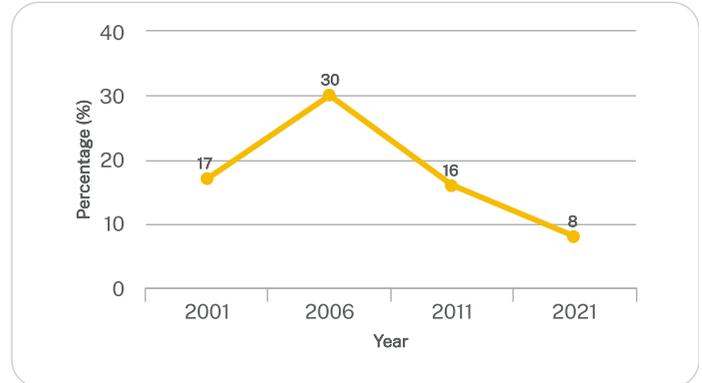
## Ready to Try Something New

**8%** of attenders strongly agree that this parish is always ready to try something new



Source: 2021 NCLS Lara

**Change over time:** Percent of attenders who strongly agree that this parish is always ready to try something new



Source: Lara, NCLS 2001, 2006, 2011, 2021

## Willingness of the Parish to Try New Things

**58%** strongly agree or agree that this parish is always ready to try something new

	You in 2021 (%)	You in 2011 (%)	Diocese in 2021 (%)
--	-----------------	-----------------	---------------------

This parish is always ready to try something new			
Strongly agree	8	16	18
Agree	50	41	49
Neutral/Unsure	23	30	26
Disagree	12	14	6
Strongly disagree	8	0	1

## Leaders Encourage Innovation

**52%** strongly agree or agree that leaders here encourage innovation and creative thinking

Leaders here encourage innovation			
Strongly agree	9	29	19
Agree	43	39	47
Neutral/Unsure	48	29	27
Disagree	0	3	6
Strongly disagree	0	0	1

## Openness to New Initiatives

**85%** support the development of new initiatives in ministry and mission in this parish

I would support the development of new initiatives in ministry and mission in the parish			
Strongly agree	19	N/A	24
Agree	65	N/A	57
Neutral/Unsure	15	N/A	18
Disagree	0	N/A	1
Strongly disagree	0	N/A	0

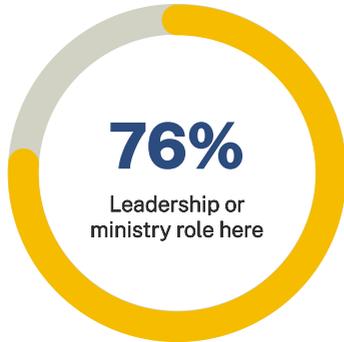
# Leadership Culture: Inspiring and Empowering



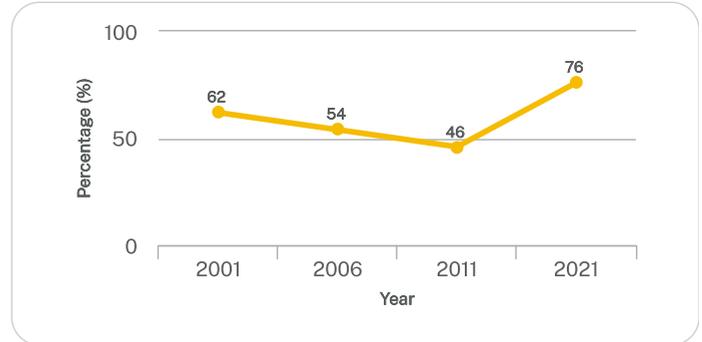
## Leadership Roles

**76%** of attenders perform at least one leadership or ministry role here

**Change over time:** Percent of attenders who perform at least one leadership or ministry role here



Source: 2021 NCLS, Lara



Source: Lara, NCLS 2001, 2006, 2011, 2021

### Leadership and Ministry Roles Performed by Attenders

	You in 2021 (%)	You in 2011 (%)	Diocese in 2021 (%)
Worship services (teach/preach, music, lead/assist in service)	56	34	31
Children's ministry/youth ministry role	0	0	12
Small group leadership	24	3	14
Administrator role	16	N/A	6
Compliance role (e.g. safe church)	20	N/A	5
Council/board/elder/deacon	16	N/A	10
Committee/task force member	20	14	6
Pastoral care/visitation role	12	11	9
Communications/news	8	N/A	4
Some other role	20	20	19
Perform any of above leadership/ministry roles here	76	46	53

### Views about Local Church Leaders

**16%** agree this local church's leaders encourage them to find and use their gifts and skills to a great extent

**52%** agree leaders here inspire them to action

Local leaders encourage attenders to find and use gifts and skills			
To a great extent	16	14	24
To some extent	52	35	34
Attenders strongly agree or agree that...			
Leaders here inspire me to action	52	76	71
Leaders encourage innovation & creativity	52	68	66
Local church has good and clear systems	75	79	81

### Getting Involved Here

**85%** agree it is easy to get involved in ministry at this church (e.g. join a roster, take on a role)

**12%** would like to be more involved here

Attenders strongly agree or agree that...			
It is easy to get involved in ministry here	85	N/A	83
All (ages) encouraged to get involved	77	N/A	79
Evaluation of involvement here			
Would like to be more involved	12	N/A	24
Happy with current level of involvement	85	N/A	68
Would like to be less involved	4	N/A	2

# Your results

**This Church Life Profile contains your church's unique results from your participation in the 2021 National Church Life Survey.**

**This Church Life Profile will enable you to:**

- ✓ Hear all voices and take time to listen
- ✓ Make better, more informed choices
- ✓ Find out the values and hopes of your attenders
- ✓ Take stock of your church's health
- ✓ See how you compare to other churches
- ✓ Identify your strengths and use them to grow



# What next?

Use your Profile, workbook and other resources to evaluate, communicate and act on your results at your church



## Evaluate

Look at your results to see what they reveal



## Communicate

Share key insights and plans with your church



## Act

Take steps of action into the future

More resources available:  [ncls.org.au](https://ncls.org.au)