

Churches of Christ in Canada, 2001: The Profile

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Churches of Christ in Canada in the year 2001 numbered 151 congregations. Previous surveys reported 147 churches in 1991 and 133 in 1981. Membership projections for the three survey years give 6,757 in 2001, 6,550 in 1991 and 5,789 in 1981.

The estimated average membership of Churches of Christ in Canada in 2001 was 45.5. This compares with 44.6 in 1991 and 43.5 in 1981. The average Sunday a.m. assembly attendance in 2001 was 62.1 compared with 56.2 in 1991 and 64.7 in 1981. In 2001 45% of the churches reported holding Sunday p.m. services with an average attendance of 36.4. In 2001 73% of the churches reported meeting

mid-week with an average attendance of 28.6.

The survey secured the age profile of the congregations' membership: The percentage of members in 2001 under 25 was 19%; between 25 and 50, 43%; and over 50, 38%. The percentages for 1991 and 1981 respectively were: 20%, 53% and 27%; and 24%, 49% and 27%.

Sunday Bible classes in 2001 found 29% of the students in classes through grade nine, 17% of high school and university age, 9% younger adult (from about age 22 to the mid-thirties), and 45% older adults.

Reporting on leadership, the survey found that 1 in 3 churches had elders (cf. 1 in 4 in 1991 and 1981). Deacons were found in 1 of 5 churches (cf. 1 of 5.4 in 1991, and 1 of 5 in 1981). Preachers served in 4 of 5 churches in 2001 (cf. 5 of 6 in 1991 and 4 of 5 in 1981).

The churches made an average gain of 2.45 members per congregation in 2001 (cf. 1.25 member gain per church per year in 1991). This included an average of 4.03 baptisms per congregation (cf. 2.9 in 1991 and 7 in 1981). These baptisms were categorized as: from church families, 1.59; from a previous "churched" condition, 1.0; and from a previous "unchurched" condition, 1.44. Congregations averaged 3.62 members transferring in compared with 2.86 transferring out. Decreases included an average of .67 deaths and 1.67 lapses per congregation per year.

The survey found that with respect to outreach, 1 church in 6.58 is involved in church planting; 1 in 1.88 participates in foreign missions, and these averaging 17.9% of their budgets. One of 2 churches engages in home studies, 1 of 3 in TV, radio or phone outreach, and 1 of 2.3 in correspondence course work. Almost all congregations (96%) are involved in benevolence outreach; 59% do benevolence as needed; 41% of the congregations have a program of benevolence; 1 of 2 congregations report a

benevolence budget with an overall average of 8%.

Three in four of Churches of Christ in Canada met in their own buildings in 2001 (cf. 2 in 3 in 1991); 1 in 7 met in rented quarters (cf. 1 in 5 in 1991), and 1 in 12.5 met in homes (cf. 1 in 8 in 1991).

Thirty-Year Comparison Age Profile of Members

1 = 1981, 2 = 1991, 3 = 2001

	%	Under 25	25-50	Over 50
BC	1	35%	44%	21%
	2	28	49	23
	3	19	47	34
AB/NT	1	30	54	16
	2	22	61	17
	3	20	46	34
SK	1	21	44	35
	2	19	47	34
	3	19	33	48
MB	1	25	39	36
	2	16	48	36
	3	25	35	40
ON	1	22	48	30
	2	16	50	34
	3	18	44	38
PQ	1	25	55	20
	2	25	57	18
	3	30	46	24
NB/NS	1	8	62	30
	2	16	59	25
	3	12	34	54
Nation	1	24%	49%	27%
	2	20	53	27
	3	19	43	38

OWEN SOUND Ladies Renewal

Date: September 27, 28, 29, 2002

Theme: Rejoice Regardless

Scriptures: Philippians 4:4-7
& 4:13; James 1:2-4

Speakers: Nelle Merritt,
Ina Smith, and Ruby Ford

Location: Riverview Bible Camp,
near Chesley

Registration: Friday Night -
4:00 - 7:00

Cost: \$30.00 per person & \$40.00
for mother and daughter.
Each additional daughter is
\$10.00. Grade 6 - High School

Contact: Donna Muzzell
1-519-371-4301

**Register early, as
numbers are limited!**