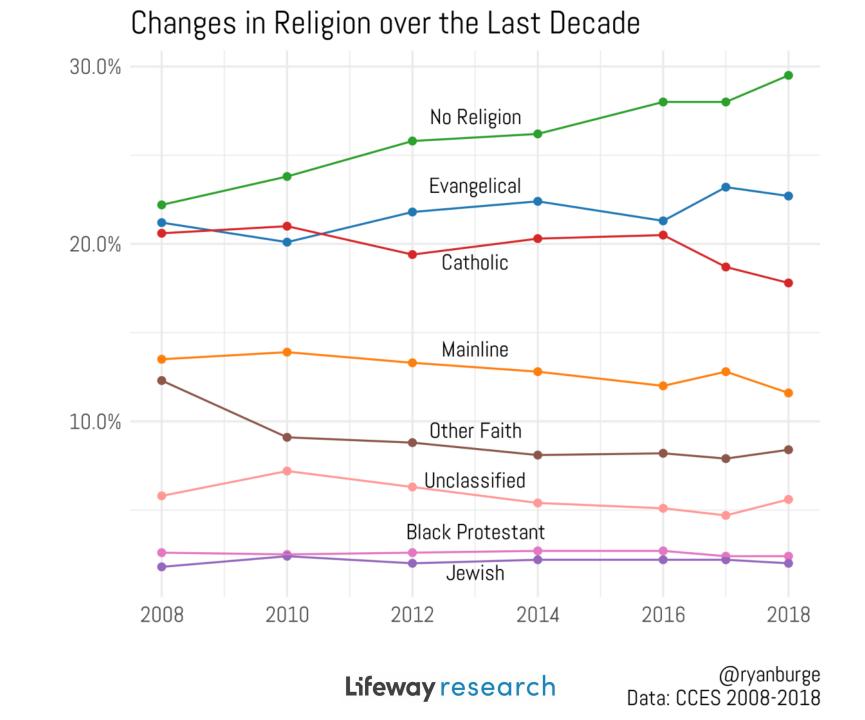
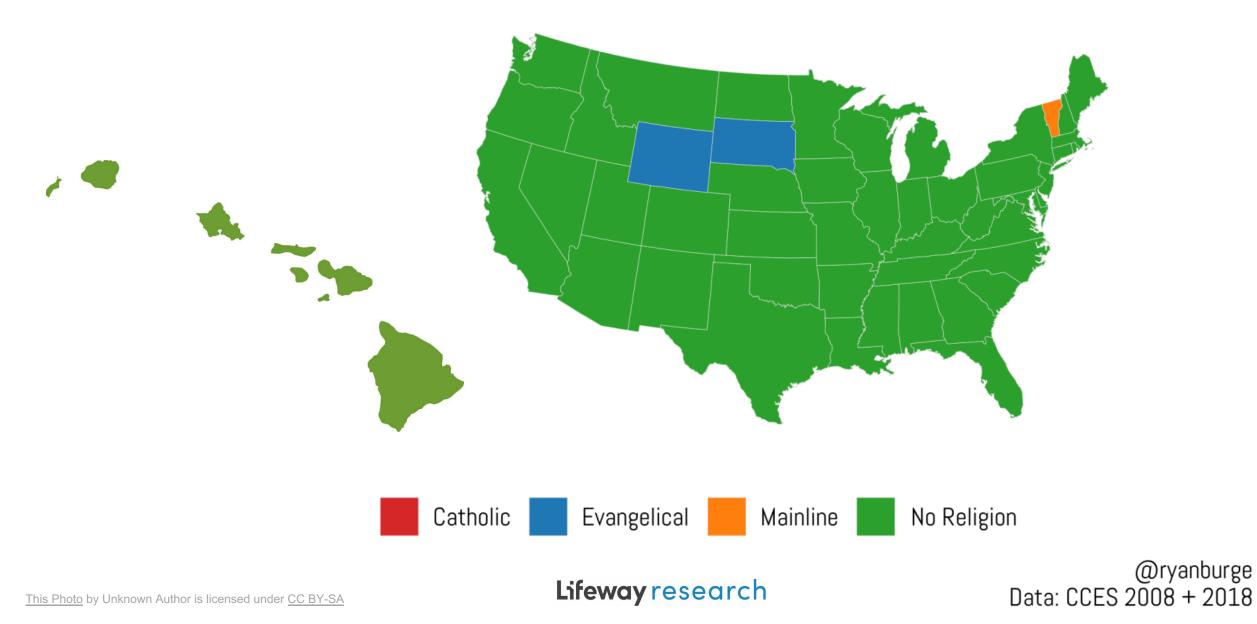
## The Church Health Landscape

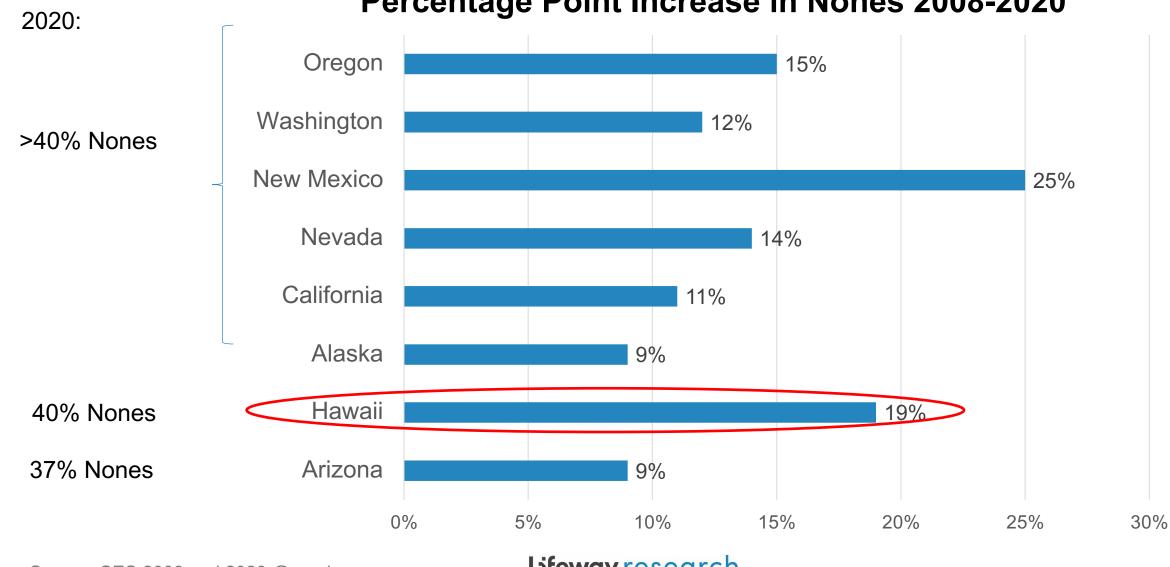
## Lifewayresearch

## America is Growing Less Religious



Which Religious Group Has Grown the Most Per State? (2008-2018)

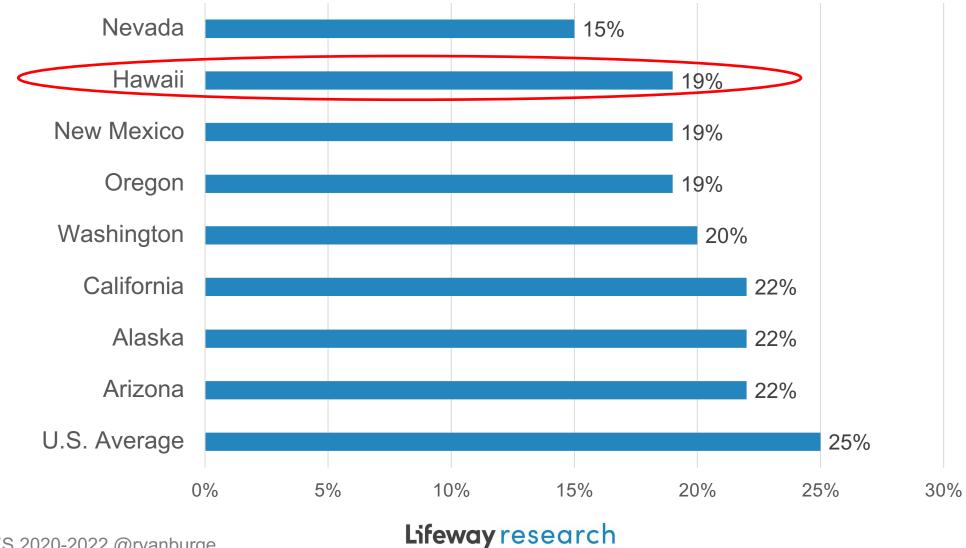




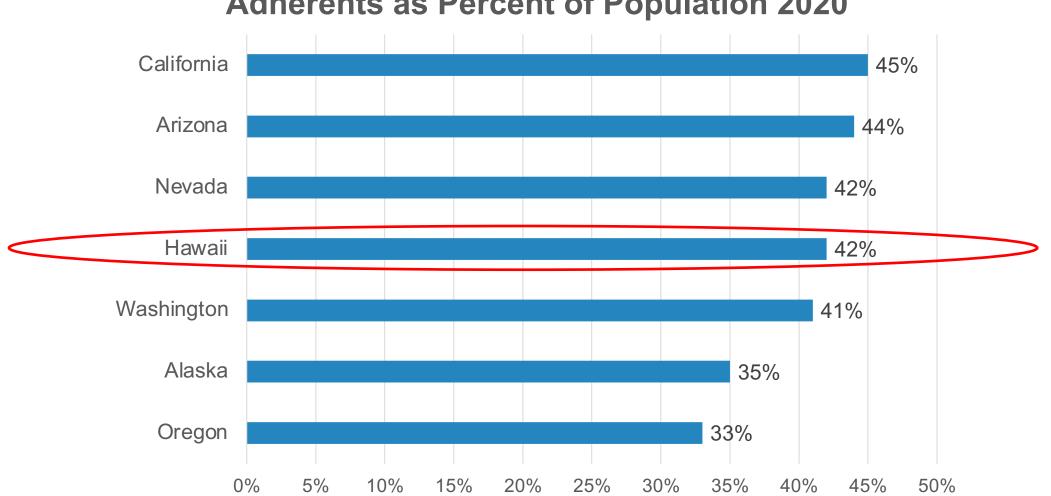
Percentage Point Increase in Nones 2008-2020

Source: CES 2008 and 2020 @ryanburge

#### Weekly Religious Attendance 2020-2022



Source: CES 2020-2022 @ryanburge



#### **Adherents as Percent of Population 2020**

Source: ASARB Religion Census 2020

#### **2020 Religion Census Data for Hawaii**

	Congregations	Adherents
Black Protestant	18	4,194
Buddhist	119	55,240
Catholic	86	269,726
Evangelical	625	128,653
Jehovah's Witnesses	107	25,076
Latter Day Saints	142	75,009
Mainline	206	32,103
Orthodox	12	593
Other Religions/Sects	107	13,232

Average Evangelical Church has 205 adherents (membership+babies)

Reported Evangelical adherents are 8.8% of population

Source: ASARB Religion Census 2020

## Church Health Indicators in Protestant Churches

SEPTEMBER 2022 SURVEY OF AMERICAN PROTESTANT PASTORS

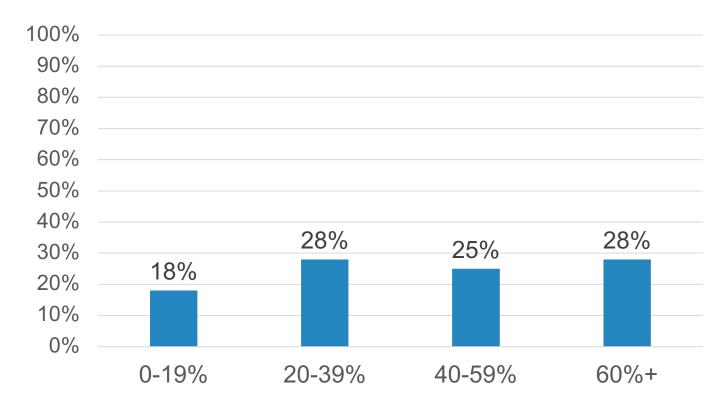
# Predictors of higher percent change in worship attendance over a 5-year period

What percentage of your current weekend worship attendance is involved in some small group, Sunday School class, or similar group?
In the past 12 months, how many people have indicated a new commitment to Jesus Christ as Savior through your church?
Among these commitments in the past 12 months, what PERCENTAGE have also become active in the life of your church?

A church's level of participation in small groups, evangelism, and assimilation all predict the level of growth in average worship attendance while controlling for the size of the church

# Percentage of adults who have regular responsibilities at church varies widely

**Among Protestant Pastors** 



#### Mean percentage: 42% Median percentage: 40%

#### Lifeway research

Q15: "What percentage of adults who attend your church at least once a month have regular responsibilities at your church (for example, greeter, teacher, childcare, etc.)?" n=1,000

11

#### The mean and median percentage of adult attendees who have regular responsibilities at their church has been relatively stable for the past 14 years

**Among Protestant Pastors** 

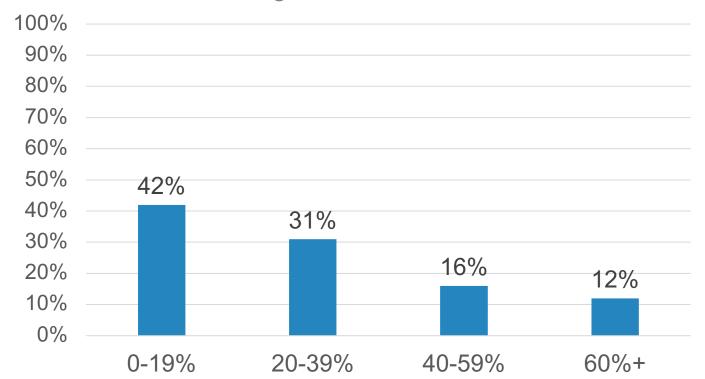
Mean percentage of adults with regular responsibilities at your church:

2022: 42% 2010: 42% 2008: 43%

Median adults with regular responsibilities at your church : 2022: 40% 2010: 40% 2008: 40%

# Percentage of adults who serve in their community is lower

**Among Protestant Pastors** 



#### Mean percentage: 27% Median percentage: 20%

#### Lifeway research

Q16: "What percentage of adults who attend your church at least once a month are involved in ministries or projects that serve people in your community not affiliated with your church?" n=1,000

#### The mean percentage of adult attendees involved in serving people outside the church has increased since 2010

**Among Protestant Pastors** 

Mean percentage of adults serving in your community: 2022: 27% 2010: 22% 2008: 23%

Median percentage of adults serving in your community : 2022: 20% 2010: 15% 2008: 20%



## Evangelism Explosion Study of Americans' Openness to Talking about Faith

Survey of 1,002 Americans in December 2021 Survey of 1,011 American Christians in April 2022

Christians were asked 12 questions about their evangelistic activity. Scoring their answers placed them in one of four groups:

Evangelism Group	Percent	
Never Active	24%	
Rarely Active	26%	
Somewhat Active	37%	
Very Active	13%	

There are significant differences in evangelistic activity by age and number of years a Christian

	Ages	Ages	Ages	Ages
	18-29	30-49	50-64	65+
Never Active	12%	16%	29%	41%

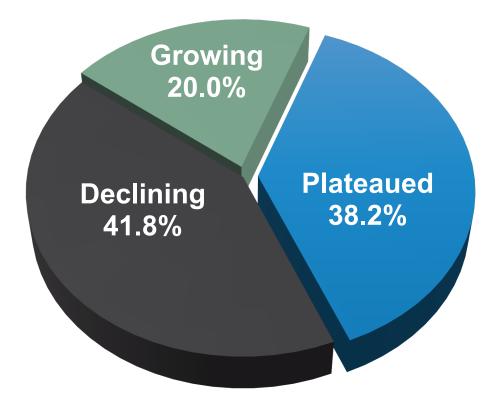
	1-17 years	50-64 years	65+ years	Not sure # years
Never Active	7%	34%	44%	44%

Lifeway research

Lifeway Research study with Evangelism Explosion of American Christians 2022

# In a phase when church growth is difficult

#### **Growth Status of Hawaii-Pacific Churches—2023**



#### Total Membership over 5-year period

Growing = 10% or more increase Declining = 10% or more decline Plateaued is between Growing and Declining Lifeway research

### The Front Door: New people entrusted to Hawaii-Pacific congregations

## 2023 Baptisms = 375 2023 Other Additions = 632

## Membership Front Door = 1,007

1 Baptism per 31 members (much better than national average of 1:57) 37% of new members from baptism (lower than national average of 53%)

Note: these numbers are only for congregations who reported

### The Back Door: Those who leave a Hawaii-Pacific congregation for another church, leave the faith, or death

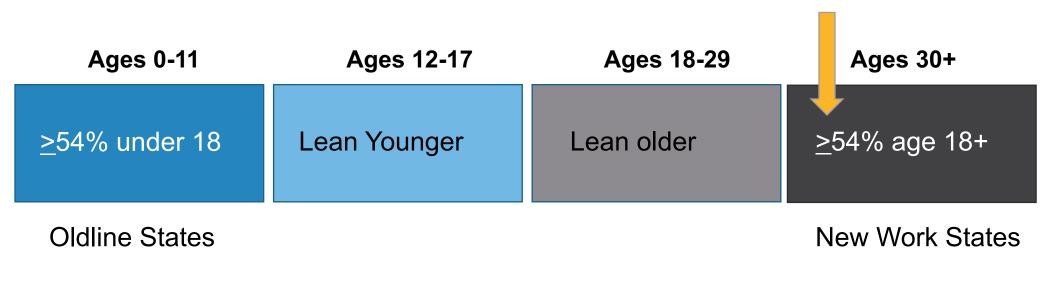
## 2023 v 2022 Total Membership net growth = 555

## Membership Back Door = - 452

Note: these numbers are only for congregations who reported

# On the age continuum of who is being baptized, HI is reaching more adults

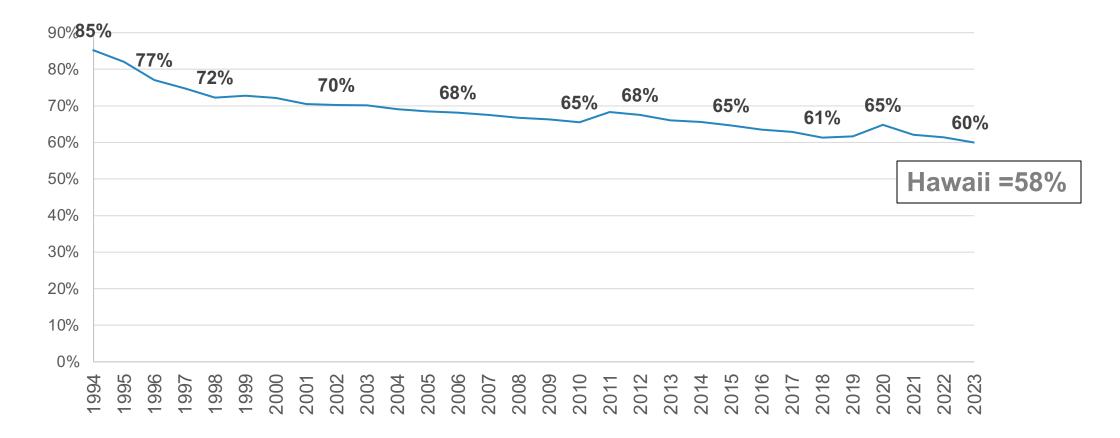
#### 33% under age 18 and 67% age 18+ (29% age 18-29)



**Conversions within families** 

Conversions of adults in new families

# SBC Average percentage of worship attendees in Sunday School/ small groups each week



# Vacation Bible School is an effective means of evangelism

## On 2019 ACP, the median number of baptisms



In a church reporting no VBS enrollment



In a church reporting they conducted VBS

## Hawaii Church Trends

- People in Hawaii are becoming less religious
- Population has little growth, is aging
- Hawaii-Pacific baptisms are largely adults
- Twice as many people are becoming members than leaving Hawaii-Pacific churches
- 8 in 10 churches are not growing

## What can Hawaii-Pacific churches do?

- Help each other (e.g., training, joint VBS, serve together)
- Engage in more evangelism and prayer for the lost
  - Older adults must join the evangelism effort
  - Conduct VBS in 2025
  - New church plants
  - > New ministries that interact with new people
- Engage more members in the life of the church
  - New Sunday School classes or small groups
  - Intentional discipleship of new believers
  - Every member serving

## The Church Health Landscape

## Lifewayresearch