# A Lewis Center Report on Reaching More Diverse People

in the United Methodist Church

African American • Asian • Hispanic • Native American • Pacific Islander



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**Covering Statistical Year 2009** 



2011 Lewis Center for Church Leadership Wesley Theological Seminary

## A Lewis Center Report on Reaching More Diverse People in the United Methodist Church

One of the priorities of the Lewis Center for Church Leadership is to help churches and denominations reach more people, younger people, and more diverse people. The purpose of this research report is to identify how well the United Methodist Church is reaching the increasingly diverse population of the United States so that denominational leaders have the data for planning and a baseline for monitoring future changes. This report presents a snapshot of United Methodism's efforts through 2009 to reach more racially diverse people in the United States.

Data for this research come from two primary sources. Data regarding the membership of the United Methodist Church come from the Office of Analysis and Research of the General Council on Finance and Administration. This office maintains and makes available for research purposes the statistical reports submitted by all United Methodist congregations each year. John Southwick of the Research Office of the General Board of Global Ministries combined denominational statistics with population figures using the geographic boundaries of the U.S. annual conferences. The Research Office and the Lewis Center worked cooperatively on this project. Southwick's analysis is found in Appendix I, and his charts on which both reports rely are found in Appendix II.

Since 1989, congregations have provided in their annual statistical reports the breakdown of membership by racial ethnic background. From 1989 to 2004, the categories included were: African American/Black, Asian, Hispanic, Native American, Pacific Islander, and White. These are the categories used in this report. In 2005, a further category of *Multi-racial* was added. Comparisons across years of totals by racial ethnic group are not made because reporting patterns vary across the years. Reporting patterns, however, are becoming much more complete. For example, in 2005, over 900,000 members were not reported in any racial ethnic group; whereas, by 2009 that figure was down to less than 60,000.

The project covers the annual conferences within the bounds of the United States. Three conferences have boundaries that overlap with other annual conferences to an extent that calculations for this report were not possible. They are Oklahoma Indian Missionary, Red Bird Missionary, and Rio Grande. The Oklahoma Indian Missionary and Rio Grande conferences are included in two of the conference membership charts.

NOTE: All figures used in this report are for 2009.

Lovett H. Weems, Jr., distinguished professor of church leadership and founding director of the Lewis Center for Church Leadership, was project director. Joseph E. Arnold, research manager of the Lewis Center, was associate director of the project. John H. Southwick, Director of Research of the Office of Research of the General Board of Global Ministries, contributed to this report and provided the figures on the United States population Virtually all conferences reach people of color less well than they reach whites. The exceptions are conferences focusing on particular racial ethnic groups such as the Oklahoma Indian Missionary Conference and the Rio Grande Conference.

A diverse population within the area of a conference is normally reflected in more diversity among United Methodists within that conference. Conferences that reach a higher percentage of the white population (compared to other conferences) also tend to reach a comparatively higher percentage of people of color. But the percentage of people of color reached is still less than the percentage of whites.

Effectiveness in reaching people of color and whites varies considerably. Conferences with the greatest gaps between the percent of the white population who are United Methodist and the percent of the people of color who are United Methodist include South Georgia, Oklahoma, Memphis, North Carolina, Alabama-West Florida, Western North Carolina, and Northwest Texas.

The conferences that come closest to reaching whites and people of color at the same rates tend to be conferences in areas with sizable populations of whites and people of color, but a low percentage of both population groups that are United Methodist. Such conferences include New York, California-Nevada, and California Pacific.

North Georgia has the largest *number* of United Methodist members who are people of color. California-Pacific has the highest *percentage* of United Methodist members who are people of color.

United Methodist people of color are concentrated within certain areas. About half of the total of United Methodists for each ethnic group was found within a few Annual Conferences that vary depending on the racial ethnic group.

## Effectiveness of Reaching People Residing within the Bounds of Annual Conferences

### Virtually all conferences reach people of color less well than they reach whites.

- The exceptions are conferences focusing on particular racial ethnic groups such as the Oklahoma Indian Missionary Conference and the Rio Grande Conference.
- The median percentage of the white population that is United Methodist among conferences is 4.0 percent. The median for the people of color population is 0.6 percent.
- $\circ$  Conferences with the highest percentage of various populations that are United Methodist are:
  - Total population Kansas West with 6.8 percent (i.e., 6.8 % of the total population of the area that is the Kansas West Conference are United Methodist.)
  - White population South Georgia with 8.7 percent
  - People of color population Peninsula-Delaware with 3.5 percent.
- Four conferences rank in the top ten conferences in all three categories of reaching all people, reaching whites, and reaching people of color.
  - Kansas West (6.8% all people, 7.6% whites, 2.6% people of color)
  - Peninsula-Delaware (6.4% all people, 7.4% whites, 3.5% people of color)
  - Mississippi (6.2% all people, 8.4% whites, 3.0% people of color)
  - Western North Carolina (6.2% all people, 7.8% whites, 1.2% people of color)

## Effectiveness in reaching people of color and whites varies considerably.

- Generally conferences that reach a higher percentage of the white population (compared to other conferences) also tend to reach a comparatively higher percentage of people of color. But the percentage of people of color reached is still less than the percentage of whites.
- Only six conferences were above the median for white membership as a percentage of population in 2009 while below the median for people of color. And only nine conferences were above the median for people of color membership as a percentage of the population in 2009 while below the median for whites.
- Conferences with the greatest gaps between the percent of the white population and the percent of the people of color who are United Methodist include:
  - South Georgia: 8.7 percent of whites but only 0.6 percent of people of color
  - Oklahoma: 8.3 percent of whites but only 1.0 percent of people of color (However, the Oklahoma Indian Missionary Conference has a strong presence in Oklahoma.)
  - Memphis: 7.7 percent of whites compared to only 0.5 percent of people of color
  - North Carolina: 7.7 percent of whites compared to 0.5 percent of people of color
  - Alabama-West Florida: 7.4 percent of whites compared to 0.6 of people of color
  - Western North Carolina: 7.8 percent of whites compared to 1.2 of people of color
  - Northwest Texas: 6.5 percent of whites compared to 0.6 percent of people of color
- The conferences that come closest to reaching whites and people of color at the same rates tend to be conferences in areas with sizable populations of whites and people of color but low United Methodist percentages among both groups based on the size of the population. They include:
  - New York: 0.8 percent of whites are UM compared to 0.5 percent of people of color.
  - California-Nevada: 0.6 percent of whites are UM and 0.3 percent of people of color.
  - California-Pacific: 0.32 percent of whites are UM compared to 0.25 percent of the people of color.

## United Methodist People of Color among the Conferences

#### A diverse population normally is reflected in more diverse United Methodists.

- For the most part the percent of conference membership made up of people of color corresponds to the presence of people of color in their population. But there are some exceptions.
- There are six conferences in areas where the racial ethnic percentage of the overall population is less than 20 percent but where the racial ethnic *membership percentage* is above the median for U.S. annual conferences (4.5%). [Keep in mind that percentages in this section refer to percent of *membership*; whereas they referred to percent of *population* in the previous section.] They are Pacific Northwest, Tennessee, Rocky Mountain, Missouri, Kansas West, and New England.
- There are six annual conferences in areas where the racial ethnic population is more than 20 percent; yet the percentage of membership that is racial ethnic falls below the median among U.S. annual conferences (4.5%). They are Virginia, South Georgia, North Carolina, Oklahoma, Alabama-West Florida, and Northwest Texas.

## North Georgia has the largest number of United Methodist people of color.

- As North Georgia grew in recent years in total membership, it also grew to include the largest number of racial ethnic United Methodists.
- North Georgia replaced South Carolina in recent years as home to the most African American United Methodists as Atlanta far surpassed other metropolitan areas in its African American population gain during the 2000s. It replaced Chicago as home to the second largest African American population.

## California-Pacific has the highest percentage of United Methodist people of color.

- The California-Pacific Conference is home to the most diverse population in the United States and to the highest percentage of racial ethnic membership.
- California-Pacific is home to the largest Asian and Pacific Islander memberships. California-Pacific and California-Nevada together are home to 30 percent of Asian United Methodists and 39 percent of Pacific Islander United Methodists.

## United Methodist people of color are concentrated with about half of each racial ethnic group found within a few Annual Conferences.

- Forty-nine percent of African American United Methodists are in five conferences: North Georgia, South Carolina, Texas, Baltimore-Washington, and Mississippi.
- Fifty-two percent of Asian United Methodists are in five conferences: California-Pacific, California-Nevada, New York, Greater New Jersey, and Virginia.
- Forty-nine percent of Hispanic United Methodists are in five annual conferences: Rio Grande, Southwest Texas, Florida, Texas, and New York.
- Fifty-two percent of Native American United Methodists are in two conferences: Oklahoma and Oklahoma Indian Missionary Conference.
- Forty-seven percent of United Methodists who are Pacific Islanders are in three conferences: California-Pacific, California-Nevada, and South Carolina.
- Fifty-one percent of United Methodist people of color combined are in eight conferences: North Georgia, South Carolina, Texas, Baltimore-Washington, Mississippi, New York, California-Pacific, and Florida

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**Reaching More Diverse People** United Methodism's 2009 Record in the U.S.

## Top Conferences in Reaching All People within Their Boundaries

	Highest Percentage of Reaching		
	All People - 200	9	
	Conference	Percentage	
1	Kansas West	6.8%	
2	Oklahoma	6.5%	
3	Peninsula - Delaware	6.4%	
4	Mississippi	6.2%	
5	Western North Carolina	6.2%	
6	Holston	6.1%	
7	lowa	6.1%	
8	West Virginia	6.1%	
9	Central Pennsylvania	5.8%	
10	South Georgia	5.4%	

## Top Conferences in Reaching Non-Hispanic Whites within Their Boundaries

## Top Conferences in Reaching People of Color within Their Boundaries

Highest Percentage of Reaching		
Non-Hispanic Whites - 2009		
	Conference	Percentage
1	South Georgia	8.7%
2	Mississippi	8.4%
3	Oklahoma	8.3%
4	Western North Carolina	7.8%
5	Memphis	7.7%
6	North Carolina	7.7%
7	Kansas West	7.6%
8	Peninsula - Delaware	7.4%
9	Alabama - West Florida	7.4%
10	North Alabama	6.7%

Highest Percentage of Reaching			
	People of Color - 2009		
	Conference	Percentage	
1	Peninsula - Delaware	3.5%	
2	South Carolina	3.4%	
3	Mississippi	3.0%	
4	Kansas West	2.6%	
5	North Georgia	2.1%	
6	Baltimore - Washington	1.8%	
7	Texas	1.7%	
8	Holston	1.5%	
9	Tennessee	1.4%	
10	Western North Carolina	1.2%	

How Does the Racial Ethnic Population of the United States and United Methodist Membership Compare by Annual Conferences?

## **Total People of Color Population and Membership**

Со	Conferences with Largest Total People of	
	Color Populations -	2009
	Conference	Number
1	California - Pacific	11,105,391
2	California - Nevada	6,581,209
3	New York	6,510,058
4	Florida	3,778,464
5	Northern Illinois	3,085,054
6	Texas	2,988,576
7	North Georgia	2,768,632
8	Greater New Jersey	2,700,138
9	Baltimore - Washington	2,548,803
10	Desert Southwest	2,522,958

Conferences with Highest Percentage of Total People of Color Population - 2009			
	Conference Percentage		
1	New Mexico	65.2%	
2	Southwest Texas	64.4%	
3	California - Pacific	61.1%	
4	Texas	50.5%	
5	California - Nevada	48.9%	
6	North Texas	47.4%	
7	New York	46.4%	
8	Baltimore - Washington	44.4%	
9	Northern Illinois	44.2%	
10	Desert Southwest	42.3%	

C	Conferences with Largest Total People of Color		
	United Methodist Membership - 2009		
	Conference	Number	
1	North Georgia	57,045	
2	South Carolina	50,362	
3	Texas	50,315	
4	Baltimore - Washington	44,952	
5	Mississippi	35,488	
6	New York	33,823	
7	California - Pacific	28,258	
8	Florida	23,913	
9	California - Nevada	22,176	
10	Greater New Jersey	17,338	

	contenences with highest rencentage of rotal	
P	People of Color United Methodist Membership -	
	2009	
	Conference	Percentage
1	California - Pacific	34.9%
2	New York	29.2%
3	California - Nevada	27.7%
4	Baltimore - Washington	24.2%
5	South Carolina	21.2%
6	Mississippi	19.5%
7	Greater New Jersey	18.4%
8	Texas	17.5%
9	North Georgia	16.0%
10	Peninsula - Delaware	14.2%

Conferences with Highest Percentage of Total

## Total African American Population and Membership

Conferences with Largest African American Populations - 2009		
	Conference	Number
1	New York	2,910,312
2	Florida	2,281,930
3	North Georgia	2,041,461
4	Baltimore - Washington	1,901,234
5	Northern Illinois	1,522,869
6	Virginia	1,516,514
7	California - Pacific	1,493,328
8	Louisiana	1,444,782
9	Texas	1,368,750
10	South Carolina	1,280,402

	Conferences with Highest Percentage of African American Population - 2009		
	Conference Percentage		
1	Mississippi	37.3%	
2	Memphis	35.6%	
3	South Georgia	35.5%	
4	Louisiana	32.4%	
5	Baltimore - Washington	31.9%	
6	South Carolina	28.4%	
7	North Georgia	27.7%	
8	Alabama - West Florida	27.1%	
9	North Carolina	26.4%	
10	North Alabama	21.6%	

Conferences with Largest African American		
<b>United Methodist Membersh</b>	nip - 2009	
Conference	Number	
North Georgia	50,980	
South Carolina	47,658	
Texas	43,483	
Baltimore - Washington	41,322	
Mississippi	34,905	
New York	22,894	
Florida	15,694	
Louisiana	14,353	
Western North Carolina	11,792	
North Texas	11,417	
	Jnited Methodist Membersh Conference North Georgia South Carolina Texas Baltimore - Washington Mississippi New York Florida Louisiana Western North Carolina	

Conferences with Highest Percentage of		
Af	rican American United Metho	odist - 2009
	Conference	Percentage
1	Baltimore - Washington	22.3%
2	South Carolina	20.0%
3	New York	19.8%
4	Mississippi	19.2%
5	Texas	15.1%
6	North Georgia	14.3%
7	Peninsula - Delaware	12.9%
8	Louisiana	11.9%
9	Northern Illinois	8.6%
10	California - Pacific	8.6%

## Total Asian Population and Membership

Conferences with Largest			
	Asian Populations - 2009		
	Conference	Number	
1	California - Pacific	2,951,071	
2	California - Nevada	2,187,044	
3	New York	1,288,728	
4	Greater New Jersey	655,698	
5	Northern Illinois	471,220	
6	Pacific Northwest	441,138	
7	New England	395,756	
8	Virginia	378,519	
9	Florida	362,767	
10	Texas	350,758	

Со	Conferences with Highest Percentage of Asian Population - 2009		
	Conference	Percentage	
1	California - Nevada	13.6%	
2	California - Pacific	12.6%	
3	New York	7.8%	
4	Greater New Jersey	7.5%	
5	Pacific Northwest	6.4%	
6	Northern Illinois	5.5%	
7	Virginia	5.2%	
8	Baltimore - Washington	5.0%	
9	North Texas	4.9%	
10	Alaska Missionary	4.6%	

	Conferences with Largest		
Asian United Methodist Membership - 2009			
	Conference	Number	
1	California - Pacific	15,491	
2	California - Nevada	10,624	
3	New York	7,666	
4	Greater New Jersey	7,601	
5	Virginia	4,124	
6	North Georgia	3,764	
7	Northern Illinois	3,536	
8	North Texas	2,881	
9	Baltimore - Washington	2,536	
10	Pacific Northwest	2,174	

Conferences with Highest Percentage of Asian United Methodist Membership - 2009		
	Conference	Percentage
1	California - Pacific	19.1%
2	California - Nevada	13.3%
3	Greater New Jersey	8.1%
4	New York	6.6%
5	Pacific Northwest	4.2%
6	Northern Illinois	3.5%
7	Alaska Missionary	2.6%
8	Oregon - Idaho	2.2%
9	Desert Southwest	2.0%
10	New England	1.9%

## **Total Hispanic Population and Membership**

The Rio Grande Conference is included in the list of conference by membership though not in the other charts.

Conferences with Largest Hispanic Populations - 2009		
	Conference	Number
1	California - Pacific	9,525,779
2	California - Nevada	4,514,207
3	Southwest Texas	3,496,625
4	New York	3,384,944
5	Desert Southwest	2,543,763
6	Florida	2,413,912
7	Texas	2,290,880
8	Northern Illinois	1,762,152
9	New Mexico	1,628,239
10	Greater New Jersey	1,417,992

Conferences with Highest Percentage of Hispanic Population - 2009		
	Conference	Percentage
1	Southwest Texas	57.0%
2	New Mexico	54.9%
3	California - Pacific	40.6%
4	Northwest Texas	31.6%
5	Desert Southwest	29.9%
6	Texas	28.5%
7	California - Nevada	28.0%
8	North Texas	27.4%
9	Central Texas	22.5%
10	Northern Illinois	20.6%

Conferences with Largest Hispanic United Methodist Membership - 2009		
	Conference	Number
1	Rio Grande	13,494
2	Southwest Texas	6,041
3	Florida	5,973
4	Texas	4,750
5	New York	2,862
6	California - Pacific	2,659
7	North Georgia	2,035
8	North Texas	2,007
9	California - Nevada	1,979
10	Central Texas	1,945

Conferences with Highest Percentage of Hispanic United Methodist Membership - 2009		
	Conference	Percentage
1	Southwest Texas	5.1%
2	New Mexico	4.1%
3	California - Pacific	3.3%
4	Desert Southwest	2.6%
5	California - Nevada	2.5%
6	New York	2.5%
7	Florida	2.1%
8	Northwest Texas	1.8%
9	Texas	1.7%
10	Greater New Jersey	1.6%

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## **Total Native American Population and Membership**

The Oklahoma Indian Missionary Conference is included in the list of conference by membership though not in the other charts.

<b>Conferences with Largest Native</b>		
American Populations - 2009		
	Conference	Number
1	Desert Southwest	320,383
2	Oklahoma	289,887
3	California - Pacific	211,453
4	California - Nevada	199,971
5	New Mexico	192,593
6	Pacific Northwest	111,598
7	Alaska Missionary	103,429
8	Dakotas	103,309
9	Rocky Mountain	97,392
10	North Carolina	85,554

Conferences with Highest Percentage of Native American Population - 2009			
	Conference Percentage		
1	Alaska Missionary	15.0%	
2	Oklahoma	7.9%	
З	Dakotas	7.1%	
4	New Mexico	6.5%	
5	Yellowstone	6.3%	
6	Desert Southwest	3.8%	
7	North Carolina	1.9%	
8	Pacific Northwest	1.6%	
9	Oregon - Idaho	1.3%	
10	California - Nevada	1.2%	

Con	Conferences with Largest Native American		
U	United Methodist Membership - 2009		
	Conference	Number	
1	Oklahoma	5,823	
2	Okla. Indian Missionary	5,671	
3	North Carolina	2,465	
4	New Mexico	607	
5	East Ohio	505	
6	Western North Carolina	467	
7	California - Nevada	376	
8	Wisconsin	369	
9	Detroit	312	
10	Alabama - West Florida	260	

Conferences with Highest Percentage of		
Native American United Methodist		
Membership - 2009		
	Conference	Percentage
1	Alaska Missionary	3.9%
2	Oklahoma	2.4%
3	New Mexico	1.7%
4	North Carolina	1.0%
5	California - Nevada	0.5%
6	Wisconsin	0.5%
7	Yellowstone	0.4%
8	Pacific Northwest	0.4%
9	Desert Southwest	0.4%
10	Detroit	0.3%

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## Total Pacific Islander Population and Membership

Conferences with Largest Pacific Islander Populations - 2009										
	Conference Number									
1	California - Pacific	181,927								
2	California - Nevada	69,821								
З	Pacific Northwest	29,249								
4	Rocky Mountain	25,408								
5	Desert Southwest	20,404								
6	Oregon - Idaho	12,038								
7	New York	11,115								
8	Florida	10,833								
9	Central Texas	6,051								
10	Virginia	5,579								

Conferences with Largest Pacific Islander United Methodist Membership - 2009											
	Conference Number										
1	California - Pacific	3,054									
2	California - Nevada	2,880									
3	South Carolina	1,289									
4	Pacific Northwest	589									
5	Central Texas	439									
6	East Ohio	434									
7	Central Pennsylvania	416									
8	Desert Southwest	358									
9	Florida	353									
10	Dakotas & Kentucky (tie)	317									

Conferences with Highest Percentage of Pacific Islander Population - 2009											
	Conference Percentage										
1	California - Pacific	0.8%									
2	Alaska Missionary	0.6%									
3	California - Nevada	0.4%									
4	Pacific Northwest	0.4%									
5	Rocky Mountain	0.3%									
6	Desert Southwest	0.2%									
7	Oregon - Idaho	0.2%									
8	Central Texas	0.2%									
9	New Mexico	0.1%									
10	Arkansas	0.1%									

	Conferences with Highest Percentage of									
Pacific Islander United Methodist Membership - 2009										
	Conference Percentage									
1	Alaska Missionary	5.8%								
2	California - Pacific	3.8%								
3	California - Nevada	3.6%								
4	Pacific Northwest	1.1%								
5	Desert Southwest	0.9%								
6	Dakotas	0.8%								
7	South Carolina	0.5%								
8	Oregon - Idaho	0.5%								
9	Rocky Mountain	0.5%								
10	Central Pennsylvania	0.3%								

### **Background Data for Mission, May 2011**

## Market Share Progress, or Not, Part II By John H. Southwick Research Office, General Board of Global Ministries

The March issue of this newsletter highlighted annual conference growth (or decline) rates since 2000 and compared those with the corresponding population changes within their borders over the same period. This issue will again compare demographics of the general population in each conference with the UMC statistics, this time with respect to race and Hispanic/Latino presence. In the previous newsletter, with no exceptions, the UMC failed to keep up with the population growth. In this case, the gaps were even greater, on average, where there were significant racial and/or Hispanic populations present. However, some individual exceptions are notable.

In broadest numbers, the UMC in the US reports membership for people of color at 8.4% of the total while the general population is at 33%. The Western jurisdiction has the highest percentage of members of color (17.3%) and the highest percent of population (43.5%) as people of color. The North Central was lowest in both categories with UMC membership at 3.68% and population at 20.3%. Southwest Texas conference has the highest percentage of people of color in the population at 64.4%, with their membership far behind at 9.7%. The California-Pacific conference has the highest UMC membership of color at 34.9%, compared to the population at 61.1%. West Virginia is lowest in population numbers at 5.1% (1% of members) while Wyoming came in lowest with UMC members at 0.7% (population at 7.7%).

With regard to particular categories, Hispanic/Latinos (H/L) comprise the largest non-Anglo category, with over 15% of the total US population. Hispanic/Latino UMC members stand at only 0.9% however. This group is most prevalent in the Western Jurisdiction in terms of percentages, at 27.5% (with UMC members at 1.9%). This group is least present in the North Central at 6.5% (0.3% of members). Southwest Texas leads all conferences in both population, at 57%, and membership, at 5.1%. New Mexico is not far behind with 54% of the population and 4.1% of members. Rio Grande conference is not mentioned because its boundaries are not clearly defined, making population matching difficult, and overlap other conferences. Its 13,494 Hispanic members are captured in the denominational totals.

The largest racial category is blacks with 12.4% of the population and 5.85% of UMC members. This group makes up 21% of the South East and comprises 7.2% of members. Their presence is lowest in the West at 4.9% of the population. Notably, however, this jurisdiction has church membership at very near this level, with 4.5% of members. Both California conferences actually have membership figures higher than their population figures. Bravo. Four conferences have populations over 30% black, with Mississippi leading at 37.3% (and 19.2% of members). Baltimore-Washington has the highest percent of members, at 22.3% (32% of the population).

Asians form the next largest racial category with 4.4% of the population and 1.1% of UMC members. The West has the highest Asian presence with 8.9% of the population. Again it is notable that the

UMC membership is very close in this case, at 8.5%. Three other jurisdictions have populations with around 2.5% Asian and membership percentages below 0.8%. California-Pacific wins the prize of actually having a much higher Asian membership level, at 19.1% than the population, which is at 12.6%. California-Nevada is home to the highest percentage of Asians, at 13.6% and nearly matches that level with its 13.3% membership, the highest in the US.

Native Americans and Pacific Islanders make up 1.1% of the US population and 0.5% of UMC membership. Native Americans are most present in the Dakotas, New Mexico, Oklahoma, and Alaska. Pacific Islanders are most present in California and Alaska (percentage). Interestingly, Alaska Missionary conference has nearly 6% of its members as Pacific Islanders while this group comprise less than 1% of the population. Oklahoma Indian Missionary Conference is not mentioned because its boundaries are not clearly defined and overlap other conferences. Its 5,671 Native American members are reflected in the totals.

Although there are exceptions in a few locations, it is clear that UMC membership greatly trails the percentage of peoples of color. This is well known, of course, and many Annual Conferences are highly committed to addressing this. While exact statistics are elusive, we can say with some confidence that half or so of all new church starts target non-Anglo populations. Still much work remains. Just as local churches are encouraged to have membership which more closely resembles their community demographics, the denomination should do the same.

Note that Annual Conference charts with more data are attached. Church data is 2009 official statistics from the General Council on Finance and Administration. Demographics are 2009 Census updates from Neilsen Claritas. For additional details and analysis of this data, you are encouraged to go to the report, "Reaching More Diverse People in the United Methodist Church" prepared by the Lewis Center for Church Leadership of Wesley Theological Seminary at <u>www.churchleadership.com</u>. The Research Office and Lewis Center worked cooperatively with the data reporting.

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## Background Data for Mission Charts, May 2011 Research Office, General Board of Global Ministries

Conference	Conference % Af Am		% Hisp		% As	sian	% Na	at Am	% Pac Is		% c	olor	Рор-
	UMC	Рор	UMC	Рор	UMC	Рор	UMC	Рор	UMC	Рор	UMC	Рор	UMC
NORTHERN ILLINOIS	8.63%	17.76%	1.48%	20.55%	3.53%	5.50%	0.06%	0.32%	0.23%	0.06%	13.92%	44.19%	30.26%
DAKOTAS	0.15%	1.04%	0.06%	2.25%	0.14%	0.79%	0.16%	7.14%	0.82%	0.06%	1.33%	11.28%	9.95%
ILLINOIS GRT RIVERS	0.68%	8.72%	0.20%	5.05%	0.18%	1.88%	0.07%	0.26%	0.14%	0.03%	1.27%	15.95%	14.68%
INDIANA	1.82%	17.96%	0.35%	10.66%	0.18%	2.76%	0.05%	0.60%	0.04%	0.08%	2.43%	32.06%	29.62%
IOWA	0.22%	2.57%	0.19%	4.19%	0.41%	1.60%	0.03%	0.39%	0.15%	0.05%	0.99%	8.79%	7.80%
DETROIT	8.16%	18.10%	0.35%	3.49%	1.79%	2.79%	0.33%	0.55%	0.07%	0.03%	10.71%	24.97%	14.26%
WEST MICHIGAN	0.62%	6.45%	0.39%	5.31%	0.70%	1.58%	0.32%	0.69%	0.10%	0.04%	2.12%	14.07%	11.95%
MINNESOTA	1.03%	4.37%	0.18%	4.12%	1.22%	3.51%	0.09%	1.17%	0.03%	0.05%	2.55%	13.22%	10.67%
EAST OHIO	2.13%	12.15%	0.10%	2.68%	0.54%	1.24%	0.30%	0.22%	0.26%	0.03%	3.33%	16.31%	12.98%
WEST OHIO	2.19%	11.70%	0.19%	2.47%	0.42%	1.90%	0.04%	0.26%	0.04%	0.03%	2.87%	16.36%	13.49%
WISCONSIN	0.74%	5.89%	0.49%	5.00%	0.59%	2.01%	0.45%	0.96%	0.05%	0.04%	2.32%	13.90%	11.58%
North Central Jurisdiction	2.31%	10.53%	0.33%	6.54%	0.76%	2.53%	0.14%	0.67%	0.13%	0.04%	3.68%	20.31%	16.63%
NEW ENGLAND	3.25%	4.59%	0.79%	6.99%	1.93%	3.70%	0.17%	0.35%	0.05%	0.05%	6.18%	15.68%	9.49%
CENTRAL PENNSYLVANIA	0.46%	4.68%	0.31%	2.78%	0.27%	1.42%	0.13%	0.18%	0.31%	0.03%	1.48%	9.09%	7.60%
GREATER NEW JERSEY	8.49%	13.66%	1.56%	16.27%	8.07%	7.52%	0.12%	0.27%	0.17%	0.05%	18.41%	37.77%	19.37%
NEW YORK	19.77%	17.65%	2.47%	20.53%	6.62%	7.82%	0.09%	0.39%	0.26%	0.07%	29.20%	46.45%	17.25%
TROY	0.63%	4.21%	0.30%	2.65%	0.55%	1.95%	0.09%	0.31%	0.03%	0.03%	1.59%	9.16%	7.57%
EASTERN PENNSYLVANIA	6.33%	15.93%	1.04%	7.54%	0.60%	3.71%	0.03%	0.21%	0.05%	0.04%	8.05%	27.44%	19.38%
WYOMING	0.28%	2.84%	0.09%	3.32%	0.24%	1.37%	0.02%	0.19%	0.04%	0.02%	0.67%	7.74%	7.07%
WESTERN PENNSYLVANIA	0.70%	6.75%	0.09%	1.21%	0.12%	1.22%	0.03%	0.16%	0.01%	0.03%	0.96%	9.39%	8.43%
NORTH CNTRL NEW YORK	0.41%	5.05%	0.09%	2.77%	0.29%	1.80%	0.30%	0.71%	0.03%	0.04%	1.12%	10.37%	9.25%
WESTERN NEW YORK	1.53%	10.96%	0.62%	4.09%	0.56%	1.85%	0.11%	0.63%	0.06%	0.03%	2.87%	17.57%	14.69%
BALTIMORE-WASHINGTON	22.29%	31.93%	0.40%	7.00%	1.37%	5.04%	0.06%	0.32%	0.13%	0.06%	24.25%	44.36%	20.11%
PENINSULA-DELAWARE	12.91%	19.51%	0.28%	5.55%	0.67%	2.25%	0.27%	0.33%	0.05%	0.05%	14.19%	27.69%	13.50%
WEST VIRGINIA	0.71%	3.23%	0.06%	0.91%	0.10%	0.70%	0.04%	0.23%	0.03%	0.03%	0.95%	5.09%	4.14%
Northeastern Jurisdiction	7.36%	13.43%	0.64%	10.73%	1.68%	4.87%	0.10%	0.33%	0.11%	0.05%	9.89%	29.41%	19.52%
ARKANSAS	2.50%	15.66%	0.19%	5.63%	0.30%	1.10%	0.07%	0.82%	0.04%	0.09%	3.09%	23.31%	20.23%
CENTRAL TEXAS	2.67%	11.85%	1.18%	22.51%	0.51%	3.04%	0.07%	0.69%	0.27%	0.17%	4.70%	38.26%	33.56%
NORTH TEXAS	7.31%	14.34%	1.28%	27.40%	1.84%	4.87%	0.09%	0.70%	0.05%	0.08%	10.57%	47.38%	36.80%
TEXAS	15.14%	17.02%	1.65%	28.49%	0.56%	4.36%	0.08%	0.53%	0.09%	0.07%	17.52%	50.46%	32.94%
KANSAS WEST	5.25%	4.77%	0.58%	11.55%	0.16%	2.06%	0.13%	0.89%	0.03%	0.06%	6.15%	19.33%	13.18%
KANSAS EAST	0.90%	6.80%	0.36%	7.19%	0.37%	2.36%	0.16%	1.06%	0.07%	0.06%	1.85%	17.48%	15.63%
LOUISIANA	11.90%	32.43%	0.22%	3.37%	0.19%	1.49%	0.20%	0.61%	0.03%	0.04%	12.53%	37.94%	25.41%
MISSOURI	4.03%	11.37%	0.23%	3.17%	0.21%	1.48%	0.12%	0.49%	0.05%	0.08%	4.63%	16.60%	11.96%
NEBRASKA	0.77%	4.32%	0.30%	7.84%	0.17%	1.73%	0.07%	0.98%	0.03%	0.07%	1.33%	14.94%	13.62%
NEW MEXICO	0.89%	2.57%	4.13%	54.86%	1.21%	1.21%	1.66%	6.49%	0.08%	0.10%	7.97%	65.24%	57.27%
OKLAHOMA	0.91%	7.82%	0.40%	7.53%	0.35%	1.74%	2.45%	7.92%	0.04%	0.09%	4.15%	25.09%	20.94%
NORTHWEST TEXAS	0.63%	5.95%	1.84%	31.59%	0.20%	1.11%	0.22%	0.80%	0.04%	0.04%	2.93%	39.49%	36.56%
SOUTHWEST TEXAS	3.92%	4.66%	5.09%	57.04%	0.47%	1.91%	0.10%	0.70%	0.10%	0.08%	9.68%	64.38%	54.70%
South Central Jurisdiction	5.57%	12.45%	1.94%	22.99%	0.51%	2.48%	0.78%	1.58%	0.07%	0.08%	8.87%	39.58%	30.71%

Conference	% Af Am		%	% Hisp		% Asian		% Nat Am		ac Is	% c	olor	Pop-
	UMC	Рор	UMC	Рор	UMC	Рор	UMC	Рор	UMC	Рор	UMC	Рор	UMC
NORTH GEORGIA	14.30%	27.71%	0.57%	9.39%	1.06%	3.38%	0.02%	0.33%	0.05%	0.07%	16.01%	40.88%	24.87%
SOUTH GEORGIA	3.56%	35.52%	0.31%	4.21%	0.30%	1.13%	0.04%	0.32%	0.11%	0.07%	4.32%	41.24%	36.93%
ALABAMA-W. FLORIDA	2.45%	27.06%	0.34%	2.78%	0.38%	1.36%	0.17%	0.67%	0.05%	0.06%	3.39%	31.92%	28.53%
NORTH ALABAMA	4.57%	21.62%	0.21%	3.34%	0.09%	0.95%	0.02%	0.49%	0.03%	0.05%	4.93%	26.45%	21.52%
WESTERN N CAROLINA	4.03%	16.73%	0.33%	7.35%	0.25%	1.82%	0.16%	0.56%	0.03%	0.05%	4.79%	26.51%	21.72%
SOUTH CAROLINA	20.04%	28.43%	0.33%	4.05%	0.21%	1.22%	0.05%	0.39%	0.54%	0.05%	21.18%	34.14%	12.96%
FLORIDA	5.42%	14.79%	2.06%	15.64%	0.60%	2.35%	0.06%	0.39%	0.12%	0.07%	8.25%	33.24%	24.99%
MISSISSIPPI	19.16%	37.27%	0.10%	2.17%	0.09%	0.83%	0.12%	0.49%	0.01%	0.03%	19.48%	40.79%	21.31%
KENTUCKY	2.18%	7.71%	0.43%	2.36%	0.21%	1.03%	0.05%	0.25%	0.21%	0.05%	3.09%	11.39%	8.31%
HOLSTON	1.80%	5.86%	0.16%	2.22%	0.18%	0.86%	0.03%	0.29%	0.03%	0.04%	2.20%	9.26%	7.07%
MEMPHIS	4.07%	35.57%	0.26%	3.34%	0.10%	1.43%	0.02%	0.27%	0.04%	0.05%	4.49%	40.67%	36.17%
TENNESSEE	4.46%	12.38%	0.22%	4.98%	0.59%	1.59%	0.05%	0.34%	0.20%	0.06%	5.53%	19.34%	13.82%
NORTH CAROLINA	2.62%	26.44%	0.30%	7.43%	0.27%	1.96%	1.04%	1.87%	0.03%	0.08%	4.26%	37.78%	33.52%
VIRGINIA	2.68%	20.64%	0.34%	7.23%	1.22%	5.15%	0.05%	0.35%	0.08%	0.08%	4.36%	33.45%	29.08%
Southeast Jurisdicion	7.15%	21.00%	0.50%	7.85%	0.49%	2.22%	0.15%	0.49%	0.11%	0.06%	8.40%	31.63%	23.23%
YELLOWSTONE	0.05%	0.59%	0.21%	3.34%	0.18%	0.65%	0.42%	6.28%	0.04%	0.07%	0.90%	10.94%	10.03%
ROCKY MOUNTAIN	1.98%	2.87%	1.20%	16.89%	1.87%	2.30%	0.15%	1.21%	0.47%	0.32%	5.67%	23.58%	17.91%
CALIFORNIA-PACIFIC	8.59%	6.36%	3.28%	40.55%	19.13%	12.56%	0.11%	0.90%	3.77%	0.77%	34.89%	61.14%	26.25%
DESERT SOUTHWEST	2.74%	4.97%	2.60%	29.87%	2.03%	3.49%	0.37%	3.76%	0.92%	0.24%	8.67%	42.33%	33.66%
ALASKA	1.26%	4.03%	0.56%	6.13%	2.60%	4.56%	3.88%	15.01%	5.84%	0.61%	14.14%	30.34%	16.20%
OREGON-IDAHO	0.67%	1.60%	0.58%	11.17%	2.21%	3.06%	0.23%	1.31%	0.54%	0.24%	4.23%	17.39%	13.16%
CALIFORNIA-NEVADA	7.89%	5.63%	2.47%	28.02%	13.27%	13.58%	0.47%	1.24%	3.60%	0.43%	27.70%	48.90%	21.20%
PACIFIC NORTHWEST	0.71%	3.30%	0.50%	9.40%	4.17%	6.38%	0.39%	1.61%	1.13%	0.42%	6.89%	21.12%	14.23%
Western Jurisdiction	4.45%	4.86%	1.89%	27.50%	8.50%	8.94%	0.32%	1.69%	2.07%	0.49%	17.23%	43.48%	26.25%
			0.000/	4 - 4 - 44	4 4 9 9 (				0.000/	0.4694	0.050		24 70%
USA	5.85%	12.41%	0.89%	15.13%	1.13%	4.42%	0.29%	0.94%	0.20%	0.16%	8.35%	33.06%	24.70%

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## About the Lewis Center for Church Leadership

Established by Wesley Theological Seminary in 2003, the Lewis Center for Church Leadership has worked to help the United Methodist Church address its current challenges. The Center is building a vision for church leadership grounded in faith, informed by knowledge, and exercised in effective action. It seeks a holistic understanding of Christian leadership that brings together theology and management, scholarship and practice, research and application.

Committed to the broad goal of helping the church reach more people, younger people, and more diverse people, the Center focuses on improving leadership effectiveness and providing actionable insights and best practices to promote effective ministry. The Center seeks to be a trusted resource for church leadership, helping congregations and denominations serve, thrive, and grow. The Center staff of six, along with other researchers and consultants who assist with special projects, also draws on the expertise of the entire Wesley faculty and a wide array of gifted practitioners.

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