

Church Demographics Summary

Church Demographics

This part of the SJCC Comprehensive Health and Minister Search Survey provides a view of who makes up our church. This area of the survey shows the age, race, family status, and employment status of our church members. We will also look at how this compares to our neighbors in the 32217 zip code.

SJCC Demographics

174 people provided responses to this section of the survey. These survey responses provided a good representation of the adults in our church.

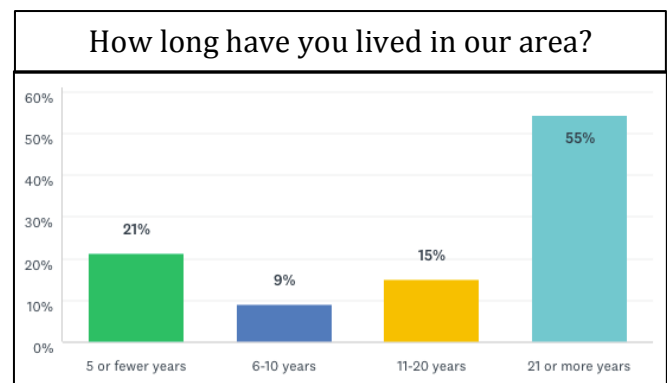
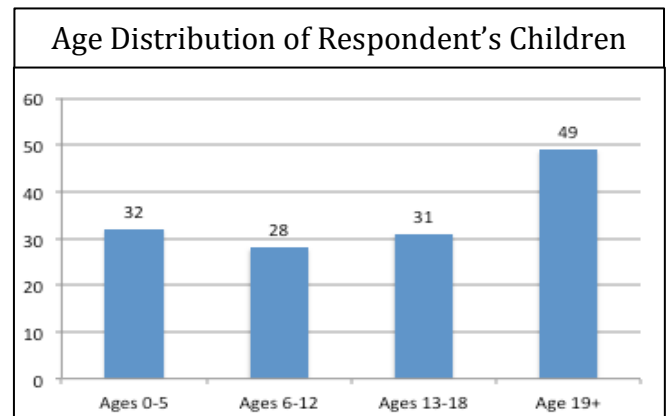
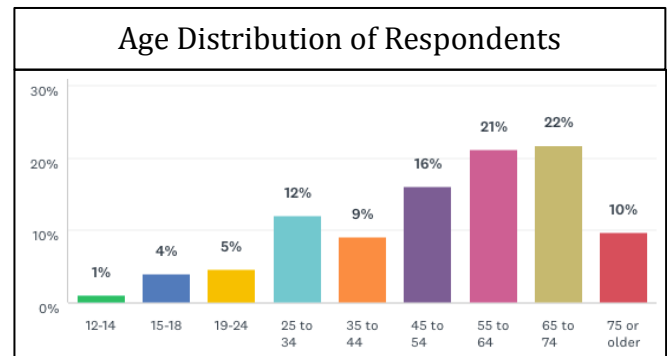
The respondents were 47% male and 53% female. 53% of the survey takers were age 55 or older, but it is important to remember that those age 18 and under are mostly not represented in this data. Survey respondents have over 90 children ages 18 or younger and almost 50 young adult children living at home that are 19 or older. This is a large group of youth that are poised to be the church of tomorrow.

Most survey respondents have lived in the Jacksonville area longer than 20 years. 21% have lived in Jacksonville less than 5 years. This combination of long-time and new residents gives our congregation stability and the chance for new growth.

Our church is predominantly white (89%) and married (79%). Nearly half (47%) of respondents live in a household made up of a couple without children. One third (33%) live in a household made up of two or more adults with children.

We are also a highly educated congregation. 62% have a college degree or higher and another 21% have finished some college. 49% are employed full time with another 27% retired.

Our church has been very richly blessed with income. Two thirds (67%) of respondents have a household family income of \$75,000 or greater.



Our Neighbors

This section will look at how the makeup of our church compares with our surrounding community living in the 32217 Zip Code.

A majority of our members live and work outside the 32217 Zip Code, but our church facilities are located in this area, making it a great spot to see how we compare with our neighboring area.

We have a number of notable differences when compared with our neighbors. Ethnic backgrounds are more diverse in our surrounding area as compared with our church. The marriage rate among our neighbors is 50% for people 15 years and older compared with our rate of 79%.

Approximately 85% of our households have a higher income than the median household income of \$43,421 for this area. In fact, 16% of residents in 32217 are living below the poverty line, and that jumps to 25% for children under the age of 18. This presents an amazing opportunity for us to use the blessings God has given us to take care of the less fortunate in our immediate area.

Overall, our church members have obtained a higher level of education compared to our surrounding community where 33% have a college degree and 84% have a high school diploma.

Some other interesting facts about our community residents are that nearly 1 in 4 (24%) speak a language other than English at home and over 18% were born in a foreign country before moving to Jacksonville. Our foreign-born neighbors are primarily from Latin America (38%), Europe (34%), and Asia (27%).

Summary

It is important to understand who we are, as well as whom we are trying to reach, and how we are similar and different. The great news is that our congregation is placed in an area where we can make a huge difference in the lives of our neighbors through the gifts that God has given us. God is already at work in our community and we must only recognize that and allow Him to use us as His hands and feet. There are some important questions that we can ask ourselves as we seek to further God's Kingdom in our surrounding area:

- How do we reach out to people that come from different backgrounds and situations than us?
- Why has God placed us in the community that we are in?
- How can we work with God to make the greatest impact in His Kingdom?
- In what ways can we utilize our differences and similarities as a congregation?
- How can we make use of the wide reach of our members, since we live all around the Jacksonville area?

