

WOMEN BY THE NUMBERS

Women's leadership in annual conferences

By Craig This

The chart below* lists the top 10 U.S. annual conferences that have the highest percentage of leadership positions held by women (lay and clergy). This chart looks at only leadership positions because this is where decisions, authority and power are held. Generally, when assessing the overall statistics of an organization, there is a high percentage of women primarily because women are employed as support staff rather than managerial/leadership staff.

Conference	All Leadership Positions Reported	% of Women In Leadership Position
Nebraska	18	83%
Minnesota	35	80%
Western Pennsylvania	28	71%
Southwest Texas	38	71%
Wyoming	17	71%
South Carolina	84	70%
Red Bird Missionary	10	70%
Western North Carolina	20	70%
Wisconsin	28	68%
Central Texas	34	68%
North Carolina	43	67%
Troy	6	67%
Kansas East	30	67%
Pacific Northwest	36	67%

The chart below* lists the 10 annual conferences with the lowest percentage of women in leadership positions within the conference.

Conference	All Leadership Positions Reported	% of Women In Leadership Position
California-Pacific	72	54%
Kansas West	30	50%
Memphis	24	50%
Alabama West Florida	27	48%
Florida	42	48%
South Georgia	31	45%
Kentucky	43	44%
Northwest Texas	14	43%
Yellowstone	102	41%
Texas	1314	27%

What is the gender balance we seek in our leadership? What other factors (age, race, ethnicity, experience, etc.) need to be considered in determining the mix of leadership? What effects does the mix of leadership have on the future direction of the church?

—Craig This is data analyst at Wright State University in Dayton, Ohio.

*Annual conferences NOT reporting: East Ohio, Greater New Jersey, Holston, Indiana, New York, Northern Illinois, Rio Grande, Rocky Mountain and Susquehanna.