

FAST FACTS ABOUT THE SOUTHERN BAPTIST CONVENTION

Updated 10/25/18

SOUTHERN BAPTIST CONVENTION

GENERAL INFORMATION

The Southern Baptist Convention (SBC) is a fellowship of over 47,000 Baptist churches scattered across the United States and its territories. These congregations, comprised of numerous racial, ethnic, language, and socioeconomic people groups, are called "cooperating churches." They have organized themselves to accomplish a specific set of missions and ministry initiatives, all for the purpose of proclaiming the Gospel of Jesus Christ to all people everywhere.

Cooperating churches	47,544
Total membership in the SBC network of churches	15,005,638
Weekly worship attendance in the SBC network	5,320,488
Total baptisms (reported by Southern Baptist churches)	254,122
Cooperating state conventions	41
Cooperating local associations	1,131

from 2017 Annual Church Profile report

MISSION BOARD REPORTS

The International Mission Board (IMB) and North American Mission Board (NAMB) assist churches in evangelizing, discipling, and planting reproducing churches in our nation and around the world in fulfillment of the Great Commission.

Overseas missionaries <i>reported by IMB, 10/2018</i>	3,667
Unengaged Unreached People Groups <i>reported by IMB, 6/2018</i>	3,200
Domestic missionaries <i>reported by NAMB in the 2018 Book of Reports</i>	5,262
New churches planted <i>reported by NAMB in the 2018 Book of Reports</i>	691
Existing churches joining with the SBC <i>reported by NAMB in the 2018 Book of Reports</i>	284

SEMINARY STUDENTS TRAINED

The Convention operates six seminaries and a Seminary Extension program to train its ministers and Christian workers.

Gateway Seminary of the Southern Baptist Convention	1,948
Midwestern Baptist Theological Seminary	3,079
New Orleans Baptist Theological Seminary	3,788
Southeastern Baptist Theological Seminary	3,624
Southern Baptist Theological Seminary	5,513
Southwestern Baptist Theological Seminary	4,076
TOTAL	22,028
Seminary Extension Division, Nashville	608

from 2016–2017 academic year as reported in 2018 Book of Reports

MISSION:DIGNITY

Mission:Dignity, a ministry of GuideStone Financial Resources, provides financial assistance to retired ministers, denominational workers, their spouses, and widows.

Individuals or couples receiving financial assistance	1,723
Distributed in 2017	\$7,014,765

from GuideStone Financial Resources ministry report in 2018 Book of Reports

RACIAL/ETHNIC DIVERSITY

Dominant Ethnic Composition	Churches	Congregations*	Dominant Ethnic Composition	Churches	Congregations*
Anglo churches	39,094	40,621	Haitian churches	357	514
African American churches	3,228	3,828	Chinese churches	197	251
Hispanic churches	2,103	3,453	Filipino churches	140	191
Korean churches	734	884	Multi-ethnic churches	169	278
Native American churches	399	440	20+ other ethnic and language groups	829	1,276

*Includes churches and church-type missions
provided by NAMB Center for Missional Research from 2016 Annual Church Profile data

REGULAR CHURCH GIVING

Total reported undesignated receipts given in Southern Baptist churches in 2016–2017 <i>as reported by the churches on the 2017 Annual Church Profile, June 2018</i>	\$9,518,257,051.00
Total Cooperative Program dollars given by Southern Baptist churches in fiscal 2016–2017 <i>as reported to the Executive Committee by the cooperating state Baptist conventions, April 2018</i>	\$462,662,332.00
Cooperative Program Allocation Budget gifts received for SBC causes <i>as reported by the Executive Committee, October 2018</i>	\$197,044,828.14
Average percentage of undesignated receipts churches gave through the Cooperative Program in 2017 <i>as reported by the SBC Executive Committee, 2016–2017 fiscal year</i>	4.86 percent

DESIGNATED INDIVIDUAL GIVING

Lottie Moon Christmas Offering for International Missions—100% goes to support overseas missionaries <i>updated by IMB as of October 2018</i>	\$158,890,638.47
Annie Armstrong Easter Offering for North American Missions—100% goes to support North American missionaries <i>updated by NAMB as of October 2018</i>	\$61,185,207.25
Global Hunger Relief—100% goes to fight hunger in North America and around the world <i>amount received through the SBC Executive Committee, 2016–2017 fiscal year; does not include direct gifts to IMB and NAMB for GHR</i>	\$3,077,696.00



COOPERATIVE PROGRAM

The Cooperative Program is Southern Baptists' unified plan of giving through which cooperating Southern Baptist churches give a percentage of their undesignated receipts in support of their respective state convention and the Southern Baptist Convention missions and ministries.

IN PARTNERSHIP WITH STATE CONVENTIONS

DISASTER RELIEF

The North American Mission Board and state convention partners organize Southern Baptists' response to disasters. They contribute manpower, ministry, and financial help during floods, hurricanes, tornadoes, fires, earthquakes, and urban disasters.

Volunteer days	65,401
Work hours	673,319
Ministry contacts	26,481
Chaplaincy contacts	22,887
Gospel presentations	3,157
Professions of faith	603
Meals served	2,952,613

from NAMB ministry report in 2018 Book of Reports

CHILDREN'S AND FAMILY MINISTRIES

The Baptist Coalition for Children and Families represents twenty-one ministries established by state Baptist conventions to serve at-risk children and their families through residential care, counseling, foster care enlistment, and adoption assistance.

Number of children in residential care	7,866
Number of others served	654,964
Spiritual decisions reported	1,174

from Baptist Coalition for Children and Families 2017 data

BAPTIST COLLEGIATE MINISTRIES

LifeWay Christian Resources and state conventions collaborate to make disciples on college campuses across the nation through Baptist Collegiate Ministries (BCM).

Number of Baptist Collegiate Ministries	794
Total number of students involved	78,367
Total number of reported salvations through BCM	9,766

from National Collegiate Ministries 2016–2017 Annual Statistics