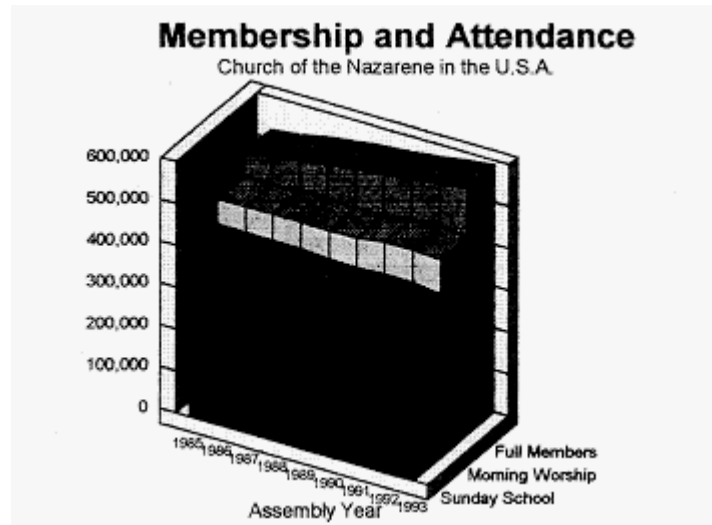


# 1993 Nazarene Annual Report

Rev. Dale Jones

. S. A. Statistics Reviewed by the Church Growth Research Center Membership and Attendance

Membership in the Church of the Nazarene continued to increase in the United States during 1993. Membership now stands at 589, 398 full members. Additionally, 1,736 people are associate members of the denomination. The number of inactive members, a category new since the 1989 General Assembly, stands at 67, 619.

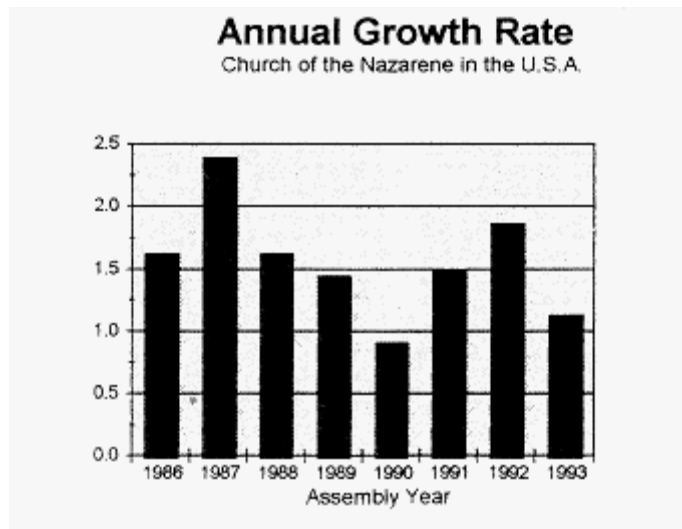


Attendance in Morning Worship Services also remains high. Though it has dropped slightly from its 1991 high, the average attendance of 474, 518 is higher than the averages in the 1980s.

While remaining within 4% of the 1985 level, Sunday School attendance continues to decline. The average attendance in 1993 was 390, 468 in the Sunday Schools of the Church of the Nazarene.

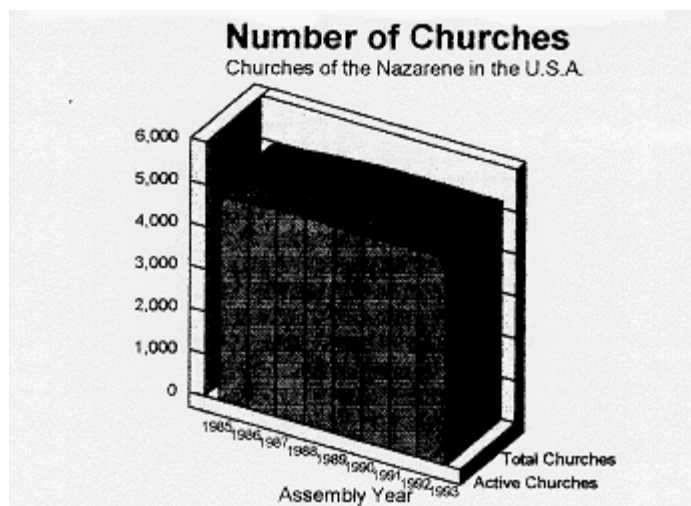
The annual growth rate remained above one percent during 1993. While representing a decline from the pervious two years, it remains better than the 1990 rate.

Of the 4, 910 active churches in 1993, 30% have shown increases in membership, Sunday School, and morning worship since 1990.



1993 Nazarene Annual Report U.S.A. Statistics Reviewed by the Church Growth Research Center Churches

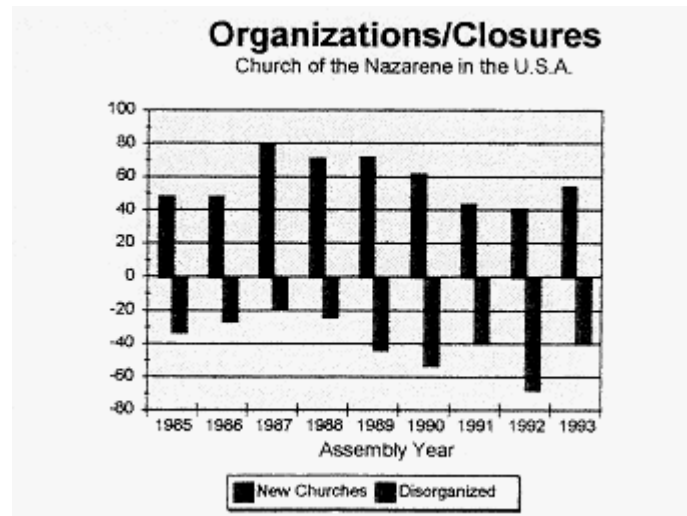
The number of Churches of the Nazarene rebounded in 1993 to 5,161. The number of churches in a denomination very largely determines the outreach possibilities for the denominations, especially for future years. Therefore, the increase in total churches is encouraging.



Even better is the increase in active churches. The total list of churches includes many that are not currently functioning as worship centers. Such inactive churches may have property and buildings and a membership list. While this is a base for future operations, it is not a source of current growth or outreach. After a three-year decline in active churches, the number has now grown to 4,190.

New church starts are also up this year. This is not only important now, but also crucial to the denomination's future. Churches of the Nazarene seem to have "half-life" of fifty years. That is, half of all existing congregations will be disorganized within about fifty years. Thus, with

more new churches today. Future Nazarenes will have a much larger base from which to evangelize.

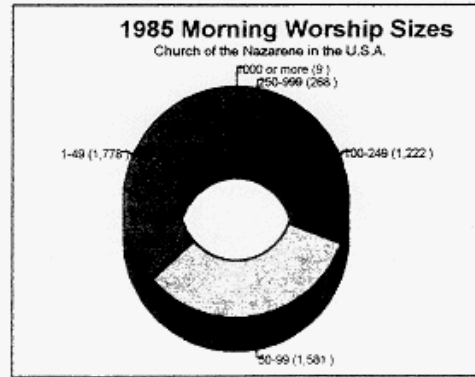
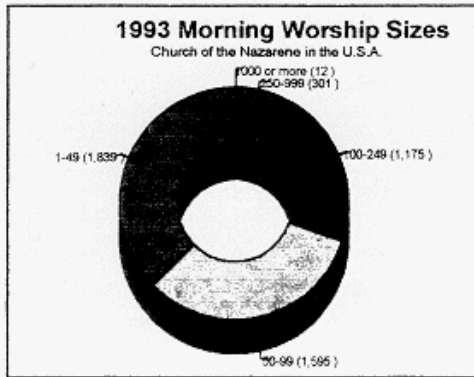


**1993 Nazarene Annual Report** U.S.A. Statistics Reviewed by the Church Growth Research Center Church Sizes

The normal size of a Church of the Nazarene in the United States can be expressed in several different ways. One can simply take the total membership or attendance and divided by the total number of congregations. This is the "mean," or average, for each congregation. Or, one can use the midpoint of all the sizes. This is known as the "median." Half the congregations will be no larger than this, and half will be at least this size. Finally, one can identify the size that the largest number of congregations actually report. This is the "mode."

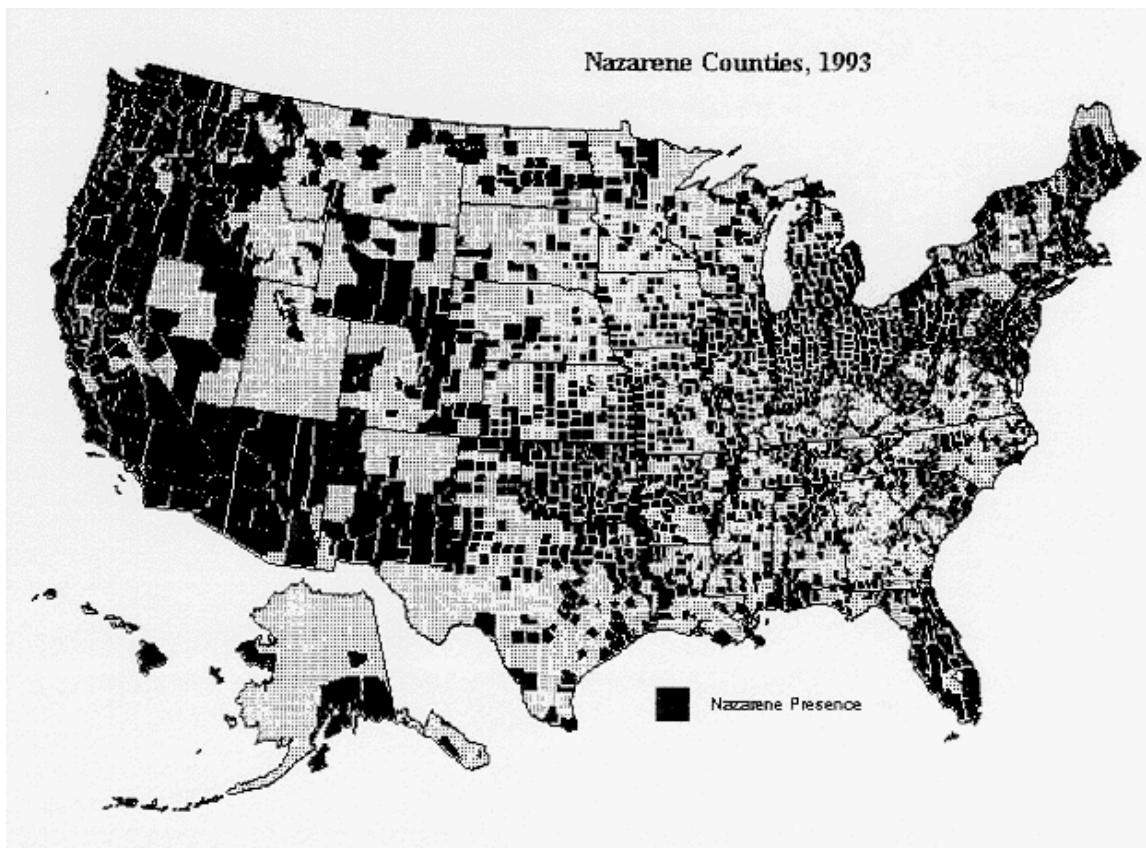
|        | A.M. Attendance |       |       | Sunday School Average |       |       | Membership |       |       |
|--------|-----------------|-------|-------|-----------------------|-------|-------|------------|-------|-------|
|        | 1985            | 1990  | 1993  | 1985                  | 1990  | 1993  | 1985       | 1990  | 1993  |
| Mean   | 96              | 95    | 96    | 83                    | 80    | 79    | 107        | 114   | 119   |
| Median | 64              | 62    | 63    | 59                    | 54    | 54    | 69         | 73    | 75    |
| Mode   | 45              | 30    | 25    | 40/45                 | 25    | 40    | 34         | 35    | 56    |
| Active | 4,858           | 4,939 | 4,922 | 4,895                 | 4,967 | 4,915 | 4,843      | 4,910 | 4,910 |

The range of congregational sizes is far greater than the sizes above would indicate. The numbers of larger churches have increased since 1985, while the numbers of smaller churches have remained nearly the same, thanks to church planting during the latter 1980s.



**1993 Nazarene Annual Report** U.S.A. Statistics Reviewed by the Church Growth Research Center Distribution of Churches.

Nazarenes are present in all 50 states as well as the District of Columbia, in 441 of 458 counties with at least 100,000 people, and in 265 of 268 metro areas.

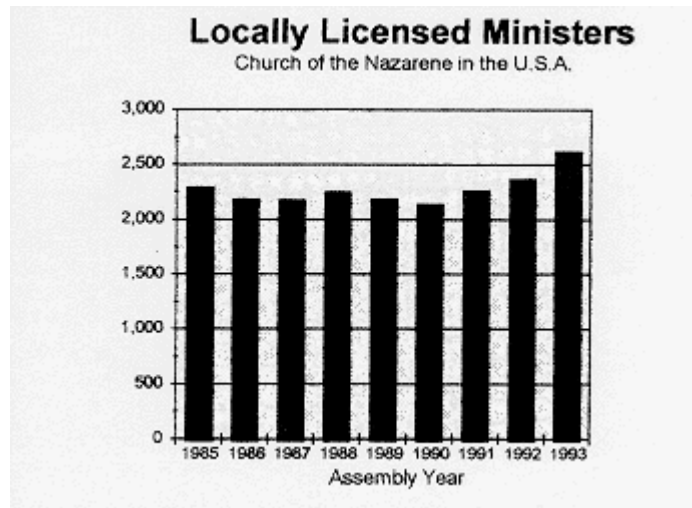


The Church of the Nazarene is located in more counties than all but 7 other denominations, according to the *1990 Churches and Church Membership in the United States*. In considering 4,991 active churches and missions in 1993, Nazarenes are now present in 1,843 of the counties in the United States.

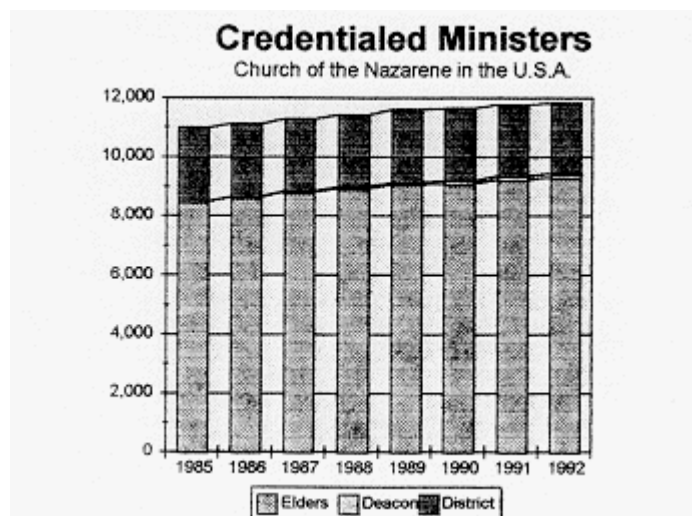
**1993 Nazarene Annual Report** U.S.A. Statistics Reviewed by the Church Growth Research Center Ministerial Workforce

Ministers in the Church of the Nazarene may have any of four different credentials: Local License, District License, Ordination as a Deacon, and Ordination as an Elder.

The first step in recognition as a minister is a license issued by a local church. This is the source of future ministers, so the number of local minister licenses reported annually is an indication of the future workforce. In 1993, a dramatic increase in locally licensed ministers was reported by local churches. The 2,618 licenses is an increase of more than 10% over the previous year. Ten districts reported at least a 50% gain in local license during 1993.

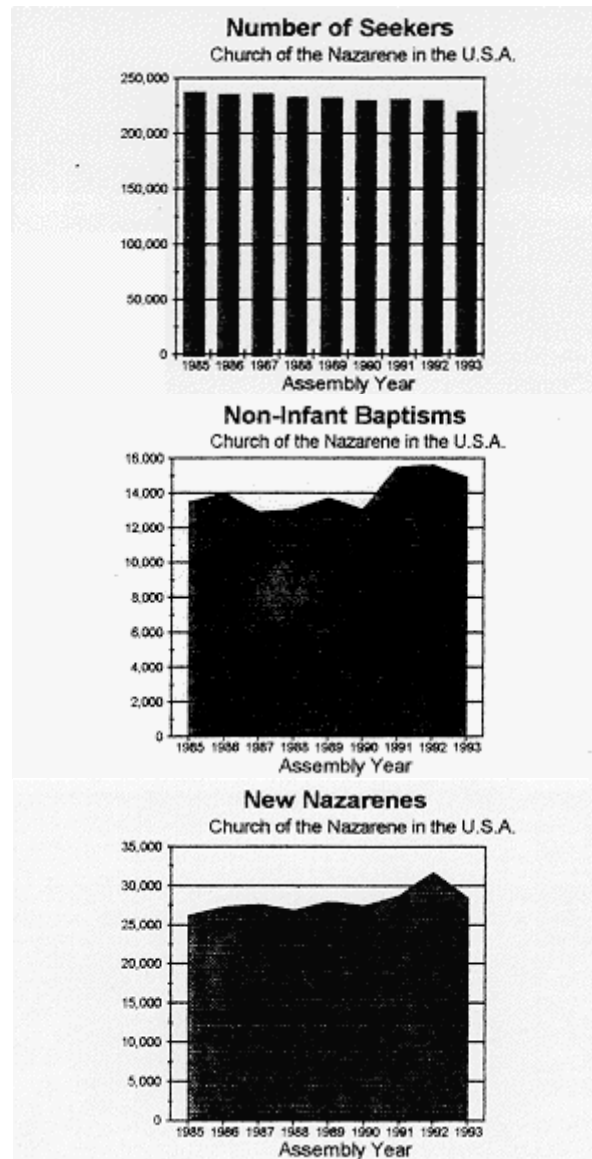


Obtaining a local license is just the first step in ministerial preparation. The number of district licenses indicates the degree to which those considering a call continue to pursue it. While the number of district licenses has been fairly steady over the past few years, the total number of elders and deacons has been increasing. This would indicate that the Nazarene ministerial workforce will continue to increase for several more years.

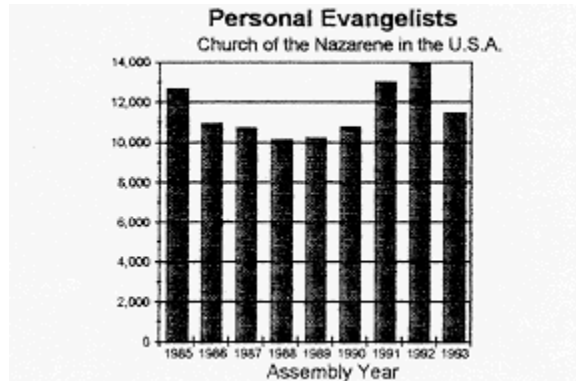


**1993 Nazarene Annual Report** U.S.A. Statistics Reviewed by the Church Growth Research Center Evangelism

Outreach results in the Church of the Nazarene can be measured initially by number so seekers and numbers of non-infant baptisms. Number of seekers have declined during recent years to 219,436 in 1993, but numbers of baptisms are at 14,895 this year.



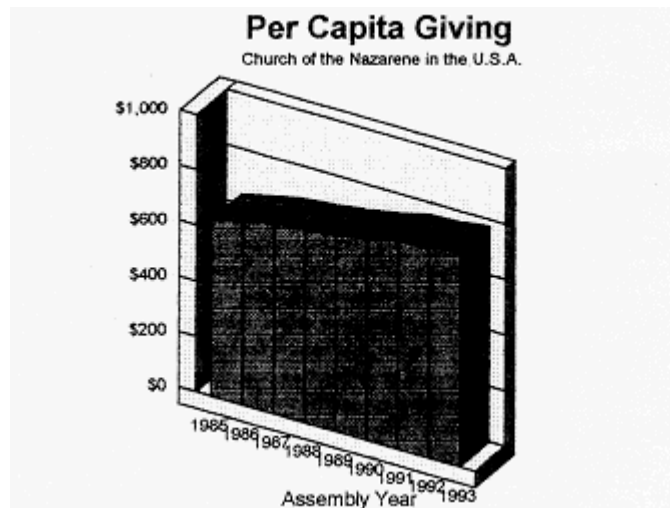
Number of revivals held dropped 4% in 1993 to 6,083. This continues a steady decline in revival reported annually since 1986. Only 10 districts reported at least 1.5 revivals per church in 1993, a decline of 8 districts over the previous year; districts had report in 1985.



**1993 Nazarene Annual Report** U.S.A. Statistics Reviewed by the Church Growth Research Center Finances

Total giving within the Church of the Nazarene in the United States was over \$450 million dollars in 1993, an increase of over 3%. Giving by individual Nazarenes also continues at its high levels. Per capita giving is the total amount raised per member. Last year; per capita giving stood at \$777 dollars in the United States, an increase of 2% over the 1992 level.

Churches of the Nazarene are asked to contribute beyond their own congregation to district, education, and general interests. Each organized church is assigned budgets, and is asked to contribute at least that much to each of the denominational programs. Last year, there were 2,921 churches, or 59% of the active churches, which reported paying all of their budgets in full. This compares to 58% of our active churches paying all budgets in 1990 and 57% in 1985.

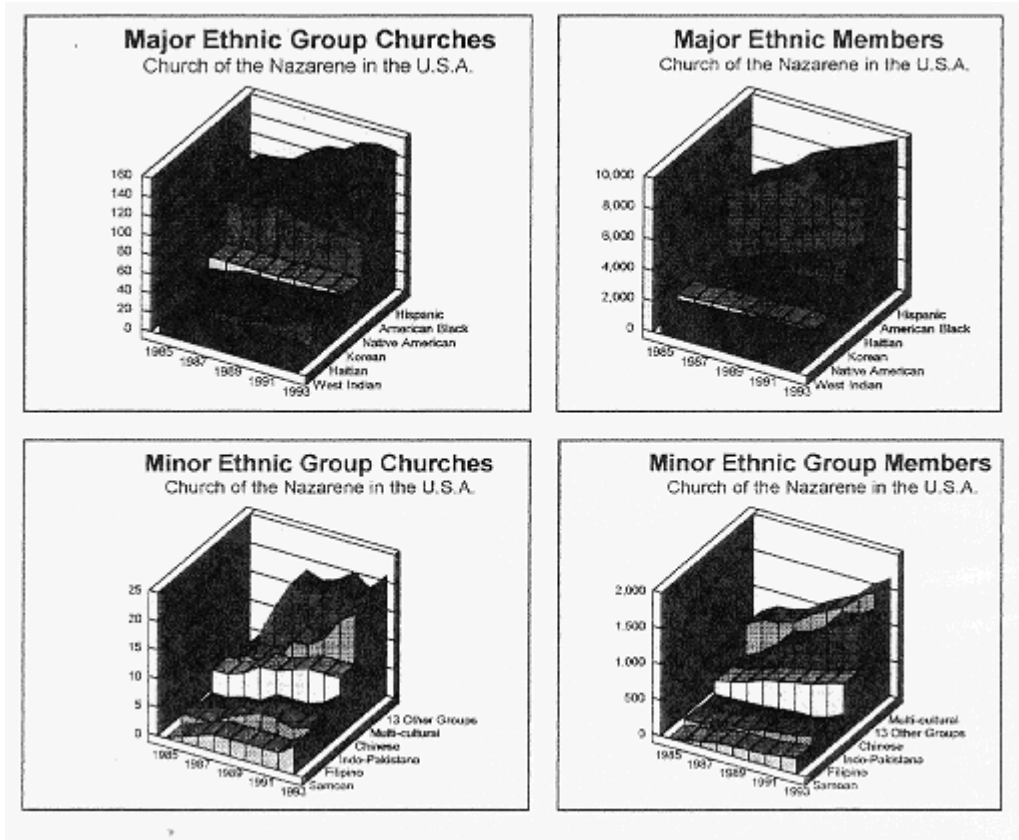


Churches of the Nazarene are encouraged to contribute \$1 to World Evangelization for every \$10 spent on other interests. This is known as 10% Giving. In 1993, the figure was actually 10.2%.

The bulk of all moneys raised are spent within the local church, with payments on general and district interests next.

1993 Nazarene Annual Report U.S.A. Statistics Reviewed by the Church Growth Research Center Membership and Churches by Non-Anglo Group.

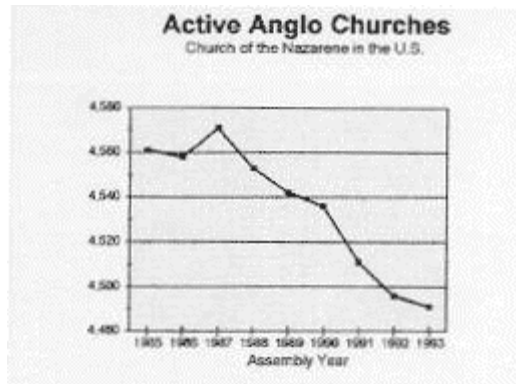
The Church of the Nazarene in the United States is ministering among two dozen cultural groups. In 1993 nearly 9% of active churches were predominantly non-Anglo. Together, they contained nearly 6% of the denomination's full membership. This up from 6% of active churches and 3% of full members in 1985.



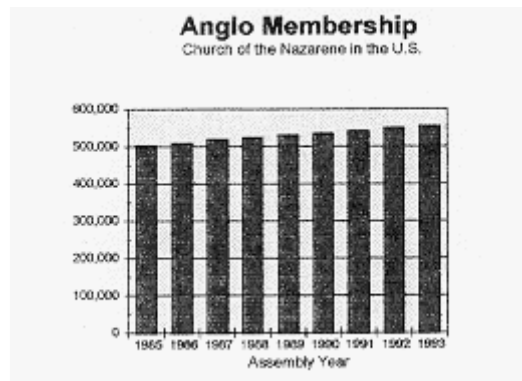
The major non-Anglo groups were Hispanic, Black, and Native American in 1985. Since then, Korean and Haitian groups have grown considerably, especially in members. Smaller groups have also grown; 10 others have been entered. Most growth in all non-Anglo groups has been on predominantly Anglo districts.

1993 Nazarene Annual Report U.S.A. Statistics Reviewed by the Church Growth Research Center Membership and Churches among Anglos.

The Church of the Nazarene in the United States is ministering among two dozen cultural groups. The largest group of Nazarenes remains the White, English-speaking population, even more than in the general population.



The number of active Anglo churches has declined steadily for the past 6 years. Geographically, the Nazarene heartland of Ohio, Indiana, Illinois, and Michigan has seen many Anglo churches closed or merged and very few organized during the 1980s. Fortunately, the remaining churches have continued to grow enough that the membership has grown during the same time period.



Membership is predominantly Anglo churches today stands at 555,176 in the United States. This represents less than 1% growth during the 1992–93 assembly year.

Many of our Anglo churches were planted during the 1940s and 1950s. As a younger generation has grown up, many of these churches have not effectively made the transition to reach the people now living around them.

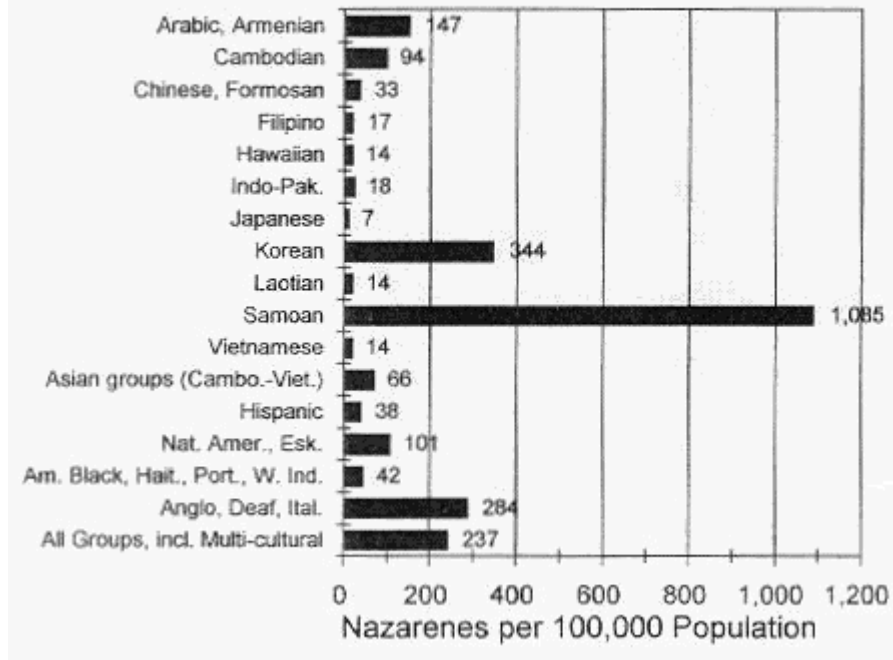
If the Church of the Nazarene is to continue to minister to the nation’s largest cultural group, we will need churches targeted on the Anglo population today.

**1990 Nazarene Multi-Cultural Report** U.S.A. Statistics Reviewed by the Church Growth Research Center Membership Representation in Cultural Groups.

The Church of the Nazarene has work among 24 cultural groups in the United States. The U.S. government only reports population figures for most groups at the time of each decennial census. This table compares Nazarene members in 1990 to the reported population for each group in that year’s census. Groups have been combined to reflect the ways the Census Bureau collects and reports data.

# Cultural Ratios

Church of the Nazarene in the U.S.



Samoans, Koreans, and Anglos have responded well to efforts of the Church of the Nazarene. Among large groups, Blacks and Hispanics have shown fewer results, but recent attempts among Hispanics have shown good results to new methods.