

MEMBERSHIP STATISTICS

Guidelines to completing the Membership Statistics form

1. **Membership - Refer to Chapter 4 of the Book of Order**

Members are persons recognised by the church as:

- having been baptised ***and***
- having professed publicly their faith in Jesus Christ ***and***
- having expressed their intention to live their discipleship as part of the congregation

Associate members: The list of associate members consists of persons recognised by the church as expressing their intention to be associated with the congregation.

Age of Members: This is an estimation of the age bands to which members belong.

2. **Changes to the Roll**

Changes to the membership role over the 12-month period to the balance date, including the addition of new members, and the removal of existing members due to death, transfer to another church or prolonged non-attendance.

3. **Attendance at Worship**

These figures are the *average* weekly attendance in June. Worship events include:

- regular Sunday worship
- weekday services
- youth worship events

Only include events where worship is the primary focus. This excludes funerals, weddings or worship conducted in rest homes (unless it is a regular service and the people attending are members, associates or under the pastoral care of the congregation).

Total the attendance in June and divide that number by 4.3 (the average number of weeks per month over the year). Count each time a person attends, even if they worship more than once a week. If churches hold combined services, each church should include a proportion rather than duplicate numbers.

4. **Baptisms**

The number of baptisms of children and adults for the year.

5. **Dedications**

The number of dedications, usually of children, for the year ended 30 June. This includes services which may not formally be called dedications, but which involve parents or participants acknowledging God's claim on their life or the life of their children.

6. Confirmations/Professions of Faith

The number of people who, over the year to 30 June, have professed their faith or have been confirmed, leading to membership.

7. Christian Formation

This is the average weekly attendance during June. Activities which could be included in this definition are: house groups, cell groups, study groups, network courses, alpha courses, Sunday school, Bible classes, choir, lectures and study groups.

Please count a person for every event attended, even where they attend several events in a week. People who are involved in the preparation or running of an event should also be counted among those attending. Again, please total the attendance in June and divide that number by 4.3 (the average number of weeks per month over the year).

8. Leadership/Staff

This provides an indication of the human resources employed by or offering voluntary assistance to the church. The number of people in each of the listed roles is required, together with an estimate of the average number of hours worked in a normal week, over the year to 30 June, split between paid positions (including stipend, wages, salaries, and allowances) or voluntary placements.

If a minister, employee or volunteer fill more than one of the listed roles, enter their primary role only. Leave the space blank if there is no placement in the listed position.

Voluntary positions may be defined as a person not on the church payroll and with no expectation of remuneration, although small gifts or koha may be given to volunteers.