

# CHURCH OF CHRIST (HOLINESS) U. S. A.

## STATISTICS

**Summary for the United States, with urban-rural classification.**—A general summary of the statistics for the Church of Christ (Holiness) U. S. A. for the year 1926 is presented in Table 1, which shows also the distribution of these figures between urban and rural territory.

The membership of the Church of Christ (Holiness) U. S. A. consists of persons who have declared their experience of salvation, their belief in the doctrines of this church, and their willingness to submit to its government.

**TABLE 1.—SUMMARY OF STATISTICS FOR CHURCHES IN URBAN AND RURAL TERRITORY, 1926: CHURCH OF CHRIST (HOLINESS) U. S. A.**

ITEM	Total	In urban territory <sup>1</sup>	In rural territory <sup>1</sup>	PER CENT OF TOTAL <sup>2</sup>	
				Urban	Rural
<b>Churches (local organizations)</b> .....	82	46	36		
<b>Members</b> .....	4,919	3,002	1,917	61.0	39.0
Average per church.....	60	65	53		
Membership by sex:					
Male.....	1,589	978	611	61.5	38.5
Female.....	2,942	1,864	1,078	63.4	36.6
Sex not reported.....	388	160	228	41.2	58.8
Males per 100 females.....	54.0	52.5	56.7		
Membership by age:					
Under 13 years.....	422	237	185	56.2	43.8
13 years and over.....	3,990	2,486	1,504	62.3	37.7
Age not reported.....	507	279	228	55.0	45.0
Per cent under 13 years <sup>3</sup> .....	9.6	8.7	11.0		
<b>Church edifices:</b>					
Number.....	69	37	32		
Value—Churches reporting.....	68	36	32		
Amount reported.....	\$326,850	\$274,750	\$52,100	84.1	15.9
Average per church.....	\$4,807	\$7,632	\$1,628		
Debt—Churches reporting.....	20	13	7		
Amount reported.....	\$79,224	\$76,153	\$3,071	96.1	3.9
Churches reporting "no debt" on church edifice.....	36	16	20		
<b>Parsonages:</b>					
Value—Churches reporting.....	11	10	1		
Amount reported.....	\$30,500	\$29,000	\$1,500	95.1	4.9
Debt—Churches reporting.....	6	6			
Amount reported.....	\$4,222	\$4,222		100.0	
Churches reporting "no debt" on parsonage.....	4	3	1		
<b>Expenditures during year:</b>					
Churches reporting.....	64	33	31		
Amount reported.....	\$48,968	\$36,006	\$12,962	73.5	26.5
Current expenses and improvements.....	\$36,532	\$27,776	\$8,756	76.0	24.0
Benevolences, missions, etc.....	\$8,191	\$4,718	\$3,473	57.6	42.4
Not classified.....	\$4,245	\$3,512	\$733	82.7	17.3
Average expenditure per church.....	\$765	\$1,091	\$418		
<b>Sunday schools:</b>					
Churches reporting.....	72	40	32		
Officers and teachers.....	460	249	211	54.1	45.9
Scholars.....	2,511	1,482	1,029	59.0	41.0

<sup>1</sup> Urban territory includes all cities and other incorporated places which had 2,500 inhabitants or more in 1920, the date of the last Federal census; rural territory comprises the remainder of the country.

<sup>2</sup> Per cent not shown where base is less than 100.

<sup>3</sup> Based on membership with age classification reported.

The data given for 1926 represent 82 active organizations of the Church of Christ (Holiness) U. S. A. with 4,919 members. The classification of membership by sex was reported by 74 churches and the classification by age was reported by 71 churches, including, however, only 49 which reported any members under 13 years of age.

Although this denomination has been in existence for some years prior to the 1926 census of religious bodies, it has not been reported, and comparative data are not available.

**State tables.**—Tables 2, 3, 4, and 5 present the statistics for the Church of Christ (Holiness) by States. Table 2 gives for each State the number and membership of the churches classified according to their location in urban or rural territory and the total membership classified by sex. Table 3 gives for selected States the number and membership of the churches, together with the membership classified as under 13 years of age and 13 years of age and over. Table 4 shows the value of church property and the debt on such property. Table 5 presents, for 1926, the church expenditures, showing separately the amounts expended for current expenses and improvements, and for benevolences, etc., and also gives the data for Sunday schools. Separate presentation in Tables 4 and 5 is limited to those States in which three or more churches reported the principal items shown (values or expenditures), in order to avoid disclosing the financial statistics of any individual church. The States omitted from these tables can be determined by referring to the complete list which appears in Table 2.

**TABLE 2.—NUMBER AND MEMBERSHIP OF CHURCHES IN URBAN AND RURAL TERRITORY, AND TOTAL MEMBERSHIP BY SEX, BY STATES, 1926: CHURCH OF CHRIST (HOLINESS) U. S. A.**

GEOGRAPHIC DIVISION AND STATE	NUMBER OF CHURCHES			NUMBER OF MEMBERS			TOTAL MEMBERSHIP BY SEX			
	Total	Ur- ban	Ru- ral	Total	Urban	Rural	Male	Female	Sex not report- ed	Males per 100 females ( <sup>1</sup> )
United States.....	82	46	36	4,919	3,002	1,917	1,589	2,942	388	54.0
Middle Atlantic:										
New York.....	1	1		74	74		22	52		
East North Central:										
Ohio.....	1	1		60	60				60	
Indiana.....	2	2		110	110		28	82		
Illinois.....	3	3		571	571		208	363		57.3
West North Central:										
Missouri.....	3	3		189	189		70	94	25	
Nebraska.....	1	1		25	25		5	20		
South Atlantic:										
Virginia.....	17	8	9	733	493	240	276	457		60.4
North Carolina.....	1	1		18	18		5	13		
East South Central:										
Tennessee.....	4	2	2	123	90	33	35	55	33	
Alabama.....	3	3		130	130		39	91		
Mississippi.....	25	7	18	1,632	346	1,286	523	875	234	59.8
West South Central:										
Arkansas.....	7	4	3	287	229	58	75	212		35.4
Louisiana.....	6	3	3	393	103	290	115	278		41.4
Texas.....	1	1		36	36				36	
Pacific:										
California.....	7	6	1	538	528	10	188	350		53.7

<sup>1</sup> Ratio not shown where number of females is less than 100.

TABLE 3.—NUMBER AND MEMBERSHIP OF CHURCHES, AND MEMBERSHIP BY AGE, BY STATES, 1926: CHURCH OF CHRIST (HOLINESS) U. S. A.

[Separate presentation is limited to States having 3 or more churches]

STATE	Number of churches	Number of members	MEMBERSHIP BY AGE			
			Under 13 years	13 years and over	Age not reported	Per cent under 13 <sup>1</sup>
United States.....	82	4,919	422	3,990	507	9.6
Illinois.....	3	571	37	534		6.5
Missouri.....	3	189	30	134	25	18.3
Virginia.....	17	733	44	669	20	6.2
Tennessee.....	4	123	10	80	33	
Alabama.....	3	130	4	126		3.1
Mississippi.....	25	1,632	135	1,263	234	9.7
Arkansas.....	7	287	15	272		5.2
Louisiana.....	6	393	67	326		17.0
California.....	7	538	59	479		11.0
Other States.....	7	323	21	107	195	16.4

<sup>1</sup> Based on membership with age classification reported; not shown where base is less than 100.

TABLE 4.—VALUE OF CHURCH PROPERTY AND CHURCH DEBT, BY STATES, 1926: CHURCH OF CHRIST (HOLINESS) U. S. A.

[Separate presentation is limited to States having 3 or more churches reporting value of edifices]

STATE	Total number of churches	Number of church edifices	VALUE OF CHURCH EDIFICES		DEBT ON CHURCH EDIFICES		VALUE OF PARSONAGES		DEBT ON PARSONAGES	
			Churches reporting	Amount	Churches reporting	Amount	Churches reporting	Amount	Churches reporting	Amount
United States.....	82	69	68	\$326,850	20	\$79,224	11	\$30,500	6	\$4,222
Virginia.....	17	13	13	64,850	8	28,197		( <sup>1</sup> )		
Alabama.....	3	4	3	18,000	2	2,153		( <sup>1</sup> )		( <sup>1</sup> )
Mississippi.....	25	25	25	80,750	3	1,274	3	12,500	1	200
Arkansas.....	7	7	7	14,750	2	975	3	5,000	2	1,069
Louisiana.....	6	6	6	20,700				( <sup>1</sup> )		
California.....	7	4	4	12,700	2	1,850		( <sup>1</sup> )		( <sup>1</sup> )
Other States <sup>2</sup> .....	17	10	10	115,100	3	44,775	5	13,000	3	2,953

<sup>1</sup> Amount included in figures shown for "Other States," to avoid disclosing the statistics of individual churches.

<sup>2</sup> The figures for parsonages (value and debt) include data for 4 churches in Virginia, Alabama, Louisiana, and California.

## HISTORY, DOCTRINE, AND ORGANIZATION<sup>1</sup>

### DENOMINATIONAL HISTORY

This church was organized in 1894 by Dr. C. P. Jones, a pastor of the Tabernacle Baptist Church, of Selma, Ala. He was dissatisfied with his own spiritual experiences and longed for a new faith which would make him one of wisdom's true sons and, like Abraham, "a friend of God." After fasting and prayer, he had a new inspiration in his work and accepted a call to another Baptist church at Jackson, Miss., where he called a Holiness convention, inviting men who appeared to be interested in his purposes.

<sup>1</sup> This statement was furnished by Dr. W. H. Dunn, secretary, and approved by him in its present form.

TABLE 5.—CHURCH EXPENDITURES AND SUNDAY SCHOOLS, BY STATES, 1926:  
CHURCH OF CHRIST (HOLINESS) U. S. A.

[Separate presentation is limited to States having 3 or more churches reporting expenditures]

STATE	Total number of churches	EXPENDITURES DURING YEAR				SUNDAY SCHOOLS			
		Churches reporting	Total amount	For current expenses and improvements	For benevolences, missions, etc.	Not classified	Churches reporting	Officers and teachers	Scholars
United States.....	82	64	\$48,968	\$36,532	\$8,191	\$4,245	72	460	2,511
Virginia.....	17	17	18,074	15,205	2,744	125	15	76	396
Alabama.....	3	3	1,249	1,197	52	—	3	24	82
Mississippi.....	25	21	11,245	7,730	2,815	700	21	161	867
Arkansas.....	7	7	4,758	3,811	664	283	7	50	205
Louisiana.....	6	6	4,089	2,588	1,501	—	6	45	230
California.....	7	6	5,766	5,451	315	—	7	47	325
Other States.....	17	4	3,787	550	100	3,137	13	57	406

The movement was at first interdenominational and antisectarian, but its mission was misunderstood, and it finally developed into a new denomination in 1898, the original church at Jackson, Miss., being joined by others in Virginia and North Carolina, under the National Convention of the Church of Christ (Holiness), U. S. A.

#### DOCTRINE

This denomination stresses belief in original sin, the atonement, repentance, justification, regeneration, sanctification, the resurrection, the second coming of Christ, baptism by immersion, the Lord's Supper as a New Testament ordinance, the gift of the Holy Ghost, foot washing, and divine healing. The membership consists of persons who have declared their experience of salvation and their belief in the doctrines of this denomination and willingness to submit to its government.

#### ORGANIZATION AND WORK

The supreme authority for expressing the doctrine and making the laws of this denomination is vested in the National Convention, which meets annually. This body is composed of its regular and elected officers, district superintendents, ordained elders, and both elected and general delegates. It elects five bishops, one of whom is designated senior bishop and is the executive of the National Convention. The national work is divided into four dioceses, Northern, Southern, Eastern, and Western, each of which is under the supervision of a junior bishop. This convention also elects four secretaries, a treasurer, one or more missionaries and evangelists, a general board of education, a general mission board, and a general board of publications.

The district convention is composed of representatives of the local churches and of their various auxiliaries, as well as all elders and licensed ministers in its jurisdiction. It meets semiannually.

Each local church may elect a pastor, clerk, treasurer, deacons, deaconesses, trustees, and such other officers as are necessary. The auxiliaries of the church are the Sunday school, the Holiness Young People's Union, and the Christian Women's Willing Workers.

Mission work, both home and foreign, is under the supervision of the general mission board.

The general board of education has charge of all matters pertaining to education. Boydton Institute, at Boydton, Va., is under the care of this denomination.