

Reference Copy

UNITED STATES DEPARTMENT OF COMMERCE

R. P. LAMONT, SECRETARY

BUREAU OF THE CENSUS

W. M. STUART, Director

Census
B
12439
4N3
1926
241

Census
REF
BR
525
.U55x
1926
v.1

RELIGIOUS BODIES: 1926

VOLUME I

SUMMARY AND DETAILED TABLES



*Bureau of the Census
Library*

UNITED STATES
GOVERNMENT PRINTING OFFICE
WASHINGTON: 1930

RELIGIOUS BODIES: 1926

This report is published in two volumes, as follows:

VOLUME I.—SUMMARY AND DETAILED TABLES.

VOLUME II.—SEPARATE DENOMINATIONS.
STATISTICS, HISTORY, DOCTRINE, ORGANIZATION, AND WORK.

II



CONTENTS

	Page
INTRODUCTION.....	3
Scope of the report.....	3
Schedule for local church organizations.....	4
Methods of collecting data.....	5
Conduct of the work.....	6
Plan of the report.....	6
Classification of religious bodies.....	7
ANALYSIS OF RESULTS.....	13
Summary.....	13
CHURCHES AND THEIR MEMBERS.....	13
Number of members.....	15
Members under 13 years of age.....	16
Members per church.....	18
Sex ratios.....	19
CHURCH FINANCE.....	20
Total value of edifices.....	20
Edifice value per church.....	21
Debt on church edifices.....	22
Total church expenditures.....	23
Local expenses versus benevolences.....	25
Value of parsonages.....	26
DENOMINATIONAL CHURCH SCHOOLS.....	28
DISTRIBUTION OF CHURCHES.....	31
State membership by sex and age.....	34
Sunday schools by States.....	34
Church edifices by States.....	37
Church expenditures by States.....	38
Urban versus rural figures.....	38
Individual denominations by States.....	41
GROWTH OR DECLINE OF CHURCHES SINCE 1906.....	46
Membership growth.....	48
Development of Sunday schools.....	51
Changes in church expenditures.....	53
Increase in edifice value.....	54
Increase and decrease by States.....	56
Changes in Sunday school enrollment by States.....	60
Increase in church finances by States.....	60
Denominational expansion by States.....	60
Church totals for large cities.....	61
Denominational data for cities.....	63
Population and church membership increase.....	68
THE NEGRO CHURCH.....	69
Value of Negro church edifices.....	71
Negro church expenditures.....	72
Negro parsonages.....	72
Negro Sunday schools.....	73
Distribution of Negro churches.....	76
Negro church finances by States.....	76
Statistics of Negro denominations by States.....	77
Growth of Negro churches.....	79
Growth in Negro church finances.....	79
CONCLUSION.....	80

SUMMARY TABLES

	Page
1. Rank of States according to number of churches and church members: 1926.....	32
2. Rank of States according to Sunday schools and Sunday school scholars: 1926.....	36
3. Denominations ranking first, second, and third, respectively, according to number of churches, in each State: 1926.....	42
4. Denominations ranking first, second, and third, respectively, according to number of church members, in each State: 1926.....	44
5. Increase in number of church members, in the principal denominations: 1916-1926.....	49
6. Increase in number of churches, by divisions and States: 1906-1926...	57
7. Increase in number of church members, by divisions and States: 1906-1926.....	58
8. Average number of members per church, exclusive of Jewish Congregations, by geographic divisions: 1926 and 1916.....	59
9. Denominations ranking first, second, and third, respectively, according to number of churches, in the 50 largest cities: 1926.....	64
10. Denominations ranking first, second, and third, respectively, according to number of church members, in the 50 largest cities: 1926...	66
11. Increase in number of church members in the 50 largest cities: 1916-1926.....	68
12. Leading denominations among Negro churches, according to number of churches and church members, respectively, by States: 1926.....	78

DETAILED TABLES

13. Number of churches and membership classified by sex and age, with separate figures for urban and rural churches, by denominations: 1926.....	82
14. Value of church edifices and debt, with separate figures for urban and rural churches, by denominations: 1926.....	92
15. Church expenditures during year, with separate figures for urban and rural churches, by denominations: 1926.....	107
16. Value of parsonages and debt, for all churches, and statistics of Sunday schools distinguished as urban and rural, by denominations: 1926.....	122
17. Number of churches, membership classified by sex and age, and Sunday schools, with separate figures for urban and rural churches, by divisions and States: 1926.....	132
18. Value of church property, church debt, and expenditures, by divisions and States: 1926.....	134
19. Church membership classified by sex and age, for urban and rural churches, by divisions and States: 1926.....	136
20. Value of church edifices and debt, for urban and rural churches, by divisions and States: 1926.....	138
21. Church expenditures and Sunday schools, for urban and rural churches, by divisions and States: 1926.....	140
22. Statistics of churches for selected denominations in each State: 1926.....	142
23. Number of churches, membership, and Sunday schools, by denominations: 1926, 1916, and 1906.....	276
24. Increase in number of churches, by denominations: 1906-1926.....	290
25. Increase in number of church members, by denominations: 1906-1926.....	293

CONTENTS

	Page
26. Expenditures, 1926 and 1916, and value of church edifices, 1926, 1916, and 1906, by denominations.....	296
27. Number of churches, membership, and Sunday schools, by divisions and States: 1926, 1916, and 1906.....	310
28. Expenditures, 1926 and 1916, and value of church edifices, 1926, 1916, and 1906, by divisions and States.....	312
29. Number of members in selected denominations, by divisions and States: 1926, 1916, and 1906.....	314
30. Statistics of churches for cities having 25,000 inhabitants or more in 1920: 1926.....	348
31. Number of churches, membership by age, and Sunday schools, by denominations, in each city having 25,000 inhabitants or more in 1920: 1926.....	360
32. Members in selected denominations, by counties: 1926.....	577

NEGRO CHURCHES

33. Negro churches—Number of churches, and membership classified by sex, with separate figures for urban and rural churches, by denominations: 1926.....	706
34. Negro churches—Value of church edifices and debt, with separate figures for urban and rural churches, by denominations: 1926.....	710
35. Negro churches—Church expenditures during year, with separate figures for urban and rural churches, by denominations: 1926.....	714
36. Negro churches—Value of parsonages and debt, and statistics of Sunday schools distinguished as urban and rural, by denominations: 1926.....	718
37. Negro churches—Number of churches and membership, with separate figures for urban and rural churches, membership classified by sex, and Sunday schools, by divisions and States: 1926.....	722
38. Negro churches—Value of church edifices, church debt, and expenditures, by divisions and States: 1926.....	724
39. Negro churches—Number of churches, membership, number and value of church edifices, and debt, for each State, by denominations: 1926.....	726
40. Negro churches—Number of churches, membership, and Sunday schools, by denominations: 1926, 1916, and 1906.....	758
41. Negro churches—Expenditures, 1926 and 1916, and value of church edifices, 1926, 1916, and 1906, by denominations.....	762

DIAGRAMS

1. Nineteen leading denominations according to number of churches: 1926.....	14
2. Nineteen leading denominations according to number of church members: 1926.....	15
3. Per cent of members over and under 13 years of age, in denominations reporting over 50,000 members: 1926.....	17
4. Average members per church of urban and rural churches, by principal denominations: 1926.....	18
5. Number of male per 100 female members, by principal denominations: 1926.....	19
6. Nineteen leading denominations according to value of church edifices: 1926.....	21

	Page
7. Average value of edifices of urban and rural churches, by principal denominations: 1926.....	22
8. Nineteen leading denominations according to total church expenditures: 1926.....	24
9. Average expenditures of urban and rural churches, by principal denominations: 1926.....	25
10. Nineteen leading denominations according to value of parsonages: 1926.....	27
11. Nineteen leading denominations according to number of Sunday school scholars: 1926.....	29
12. Urban and rural churches, by States: 1926.....	30
13. Urban and rural membership, by States: 1926.....	33
14. Urban and rural Sunday school scholars, by States: 1926.....	35
15. Average value of urban and rural churches, by States: 1926.....	39
16. Average expenditures per church of urban and rural churches, by States: 1926.....	40
17. Number of churches in the principal denominations, with adjustment for organic changes: 1926, 1916, and 1906.....	47
18. Number of church members in the principal denominations, with adjustment for organic changes: 1926 and 1916.....	50
19. Number of Sunday school scholars, by principal denominations, with adjustment for organic changes: 1926, 1916, and 1906.....	52
20. Average expenditures per church, by principal denominations, with adjustment for organic changes: 1926 and 1916.....	54
21. Average edifice value of churches, by principal denominations, with adjustment for organic changes: 1926, 1916, and 1906.....	55
22. Average expenditures per church, for 25 cities of 200,000 or more inhabitants: 1926.....	63
23. Negro churches—Distribution by principal denominations: 1926.....	70
24. Negro churches—Distribution of membership by principal denominations: 1926.....	71

MAPS

Negro churches—Distribution by States: 1926.....	74
Negro churches—Distribution of membership by States: 1926.....	75

INDEX

Classification of statistics for all churches.....	766
Classification of statistics for Negro churches.....	768