

BALANCED CHURCH

RECALIBRATE

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Balanced Church

When your auditorium is full, do you have enough spaces for the cars, capacity in the nursery and stalls in the women's restroom? Use this resource to guide this discussion.

Balanced Attendance				
Overall Church Size	Total Adults	Children		Total Youth
		Nursery	Elementary	
250	167	20	38	25
500	334	39	77	50
750	500	59	116	75
1,000	667	78	155	100
1,500	1,000	117	233	150
2,000	1,334	156	311	200
2,500	1,667	195	388	250
3,000	2,000	234	466	300

Note: A balanced church reaching young families will see 1/3 of its attendance from children and youth. Less than 1/3 indicates your average adult is 50 plus.

Elements of a Balanced Church					
Auditorium Chairs	Total People per Hour	Parking Spaces		Kids in Nursery	Women's Restroom Stalls
		2.5/Car	2.25/Car		
150	203	82	91	16	3
250	338	136	151	27	4
500	675	270	300	53	6
750	1,013	406	451	79	8
1,000	1,350	540	600	105	9
1,250	1,688	676	751	132	11
1,500	2,025	810	900	158	13

Note: If your average per car is 2.5 or higher you are reaching young families. An average of 2 or less indicates an aging congregation.

Balanced Nursery

When your auditorium is full, do you have enough spaces for the cars, capacity in the nursery and stalls in the women's restroom? Use this resource to guide this discussion.

Nursery 101				
Age Range	Ratio	Max per Room	Max Room Size	Potty Status
Infant (birth to 1 year)	5 to 1	8	280 sq ft	Diapers
Toddler (1 to 2 years)	7 to 1	12	420 sq ft	Training
Preschooler (3 to 4 years)	10 to 1	18	630 sq ft	Trained

Note: Rooms serving children who are potty training or potty trained should have immediate access to bathrooms (ideally without leaving the room).

Nursery Rooms Needed					
Auditorium Chairs	Kids in Nursery	Infant Rooms	Toddler Rooms	Preschool Rooms	Total Nursery Rooms
150	16	1	1	1	3
250	27	1	1 to 2	1 to 2	3 to 5
500	53	1	2	2	5
750	79	1	2 to 3	2 to 3	5 to 7
1,000	105	1	3	3	7
1,250	132	1 to 2	3 to 4	3 to 4	7 to 10
1,500	158	1 to 2	4 to 5	4 to 5	9 to 12

Calculations & Assumptions

Parking Spaces

Step 1: Count total cars during largest service

Step 2: Count total people on campus during that service (include onsite groups & serving teams)

Step 3: Divide total people by total cars. Your average should be between 2 and 3 people per car.

Total Children & Youth

~ Children & Youth = 33% of overall attendance (23% Children; 10% Youth)

~ Nursery = 1/3 of Children attendance or 8% of overall attendance

~ Elementary = 2/3 of Children attendance or 15% of overall attendance

Total People Per Hour

The above charts assume 90% max capacity in main auditorium and the total kids and youth will be half of the adult total or 1/3 of the overall attendance. For example, 500 seat auditorium: $500 \times 90\% = 450 + (450/2) = 675$.

Counting Attendance

~ Consistently is more importantly than perfection when it comes to counting.

~ Children and youth attendance totals include everyone involved (including adults).

Nursery Rooms

~ Size of room should be 35 square foot per child

~ Max per room factors in chaos theory...too many kids in a room is chaos.