

New congregations created by the LDS church last year: Down by 27%.

Posted by: kingbrigham ()
Date: April 13, 2017 04:01PM

Total members added to the LDS rolls last year: Down by 5.2%. New congregations created last year: Down by 27%. New converts made last year: Down by 6.7%.

The total number of members added to the LDS rolls each year has been on the decline since 2013 when the decrease over the previous year was 12.19%. In 2014 the decline was 3.09%, and it was 9.8% in 2015. Last year, 13,644 fewer members were added, a decline of 5.2%. These figures come from ldsstatistics.com.

Even more significant is the decrease in the number of congregations (wards and branches) created last year. As reported by Matt Martinich on his blog, 107 fewer congregations were established in 2016 than in 2015*. "Congregational growth trends," Martinich states, "constitute the greatest concern ... as the increase in the number of congregations (wards and branches) organized in 2016 significantly declined compared to 2015 (e.g. 288 versus 395)...." The decline was 27%.

Martinich further notes that 17,271 fewer conversions occurred in 2016, a decline of 6.7%.

It is particularly interesting to compare the number of conversions in 2016 with 2012, the year the church announced the lowering of the missionary age: The number of conversions was down by 93,000. That's also a decline of 27%, meaning that increasing the missionary force from 59,000 to 83,000 had no appreciable benefit. Some of us will remember Jeffrey Holland saying at the time that the Lord was "hastening" the work.

"Essentially all other indicators of church growth reported in the 2016 Statistical Report suggest slightly decelerating growth for the Church as a whole...," Martinich writes.

Please note that this doesn't mean that absolute numbers in all of these categories showed a decline. The absolute numbers all increased. The decline shows up when the results from one year are compared with the previous year.

For example, in absolute terms, the church membership grew by 1.59% last year. But as ldsstatistics.com notes, it was the "worst growth since 1909."

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*<http://ldschurchgrowth.blogspot.com>

**Re: New congregations created by the LDS church
last year: Down by 27%.**

Posted by: **Britboy** ()
Date: April 14, 2017 05:48AM

Membership in Britain has reduced again this year as is the number of congregations! I know of three wards already closed this year. In Europe the church is experiencing a slow death!

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