Survey by Episcopal Region of the Grades Confirmation is Celebrated

PLEASE READ THIS OVERVIEW BEFORE READING REGIONAL AND NATIONAL SUMMARIES.

These are the preliminary reports on the average age of confirmation in Roman Catholic dioceses nationally. This report was the result of a voluntary survey sent to diocesan Directors of Religious Education and Directors of Youth Ministry. Primarily only one person from each diocese responded, however occasionally both directors responded. The reports are divided by episcopal region and include a national report.

To better understand the results, this is how each question was interpreted.

Question 1:
Please select the title that best describes your position:

a. *Director of Faith Formation excluding HS adolescent catechesis*
b. *Director of Faith Formation including HS adolescent catechesis*
c. *Director of Youth (and Young Adult) Ministry excluding HS adolescent catechesis*
d. *Director of Youth (and Young Adult) Ministry including HS adolescent catechesis*
e. *Other, please describe*

Percentages are exactly as individuals self-identified and include all respondents' answers.

Question 2:
On average, at what grade(s) do most parishes celebrate the Sacrament of Confirmation in your diocese? Please select the grade(s) that apply to the majority of your parishes. Choices available:
2nd 3rd 4th 5th 6th 7th 8th 9th 10th 11th 12th
Open/Readiness Based Other

If a diocese had more than one respondent the answers of the two individuals were combined into a single answer. For example, if the DRE of diocese Y responded "10th and 11th grades" and the DYM of diocese Y responded, "9th, 10th, and 11th grades," the answer logged for diocese Y would be "9th, 10th, and 11th grades."

The results are divided into three categories:

- Average grade of confirmation
- Grade at which the most dioceses confirm – the grade that had the highest number of responses
- Grade ranges in which diocese confirm - 2nd-3rd, 6th-8th only, 9th-12th only, 6th-12th grade, and Open/Readiness/Other

The data from this survey is for informational purposes and should not be used for research purposes.

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Questions 3 and 4:
What diocesan office is primarily responsible for supporting parish Confirmation preparation programs?
What diocesan office is primarily responsible for supporting adolescent catechesis in parishes?

These were "open response" questions. Respondent could enter their own descriptions of the offices. This however made interpretation difficult. Some diocesan offices of Religious Education, Faith Formation, and Evangelization include departments of sacramental preparation, youth and young adult ministry, and catechesis. For the purposes of classification, diocesan offices that identified themselves as "Faith Formation," "Religious Education," "Catechesis," "Evangelization," "Lifelong Formation," or included multiple age groups were listed as "Office of Religious Education/Catechesis/Faith Formation." Please note that these offices could include an individual or department that is specifically focused on youth ministry.

If more than one person responded from a diocese and their answers differed from each other, the diocesan response was listed as "Both."

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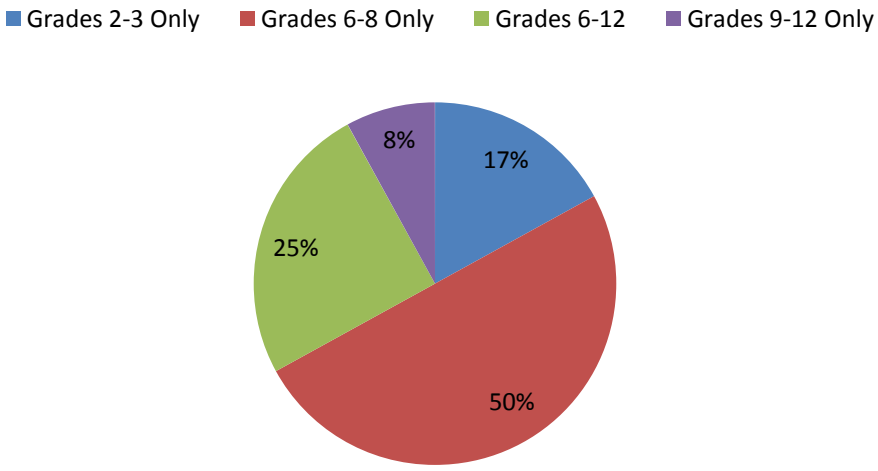
Region VI Report

Number of Dioceses Participating: 13 of 13

1. Position of Respondents:
   - 26% Dir. of Faith Formation including HS Adolescent Catechesis
   - 7% Dir. of Faith Formation excluding HS Adolescent Catechesis
   - 20% Dir. of Youth Ministry including HS Adolescent Catechesis
   - 7% Dir. of Youth Ministry excluding HS Adolescent Catechesis
   - 40% Other

2. Grade Confirmation is Commonly Celebrated:
   - Average grade of Confirmation in region: 7th grade
   - Regional Range: 2nd to 11th grade
   - Grade at which the most dioceses in the region confirm: 7th grade

Ranges at Which Dioceses Typically Confirm



3. Diocesan Office(s) that is primarily responsible for supporting parish Confirmation preparation programs:
   - 100% Office of Religious Education/Catechesis/Faith Formation*
   - 0% Office of Youth Ministry

4. Diocesan Office(s) that is primarily responsible for supporting adolescent catechesis in parishes
   - 31% Office of Religious Education/Catechesis/Faith Formation*
   - 15% Office of Youth Ministry
   - 54% Both

* For the purposes of classification, diocesan offices that identified themselves as "Faith Formation," "Religious Education," "Catechesis," "Evangelization," "Lifelong Formation," or included multiple age groups were listed as "Office of Religious Education/Catechesis/Faith Formation." Please note that these offices could include an individual or department that is specifically focused on youth ministry.

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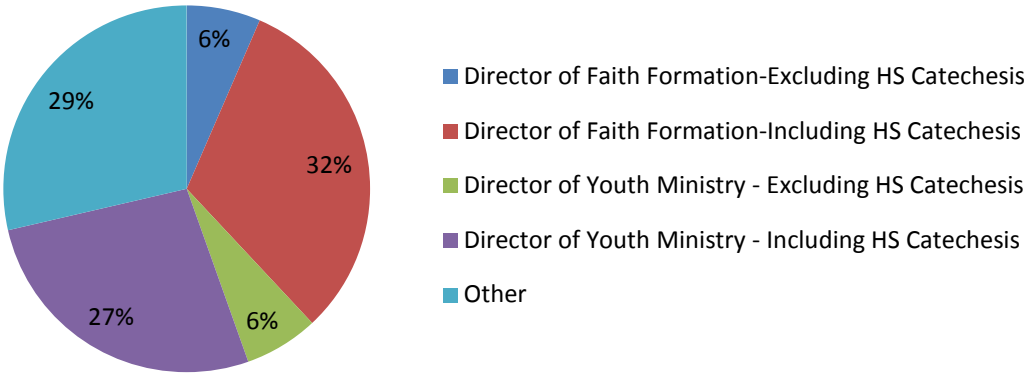
National Results

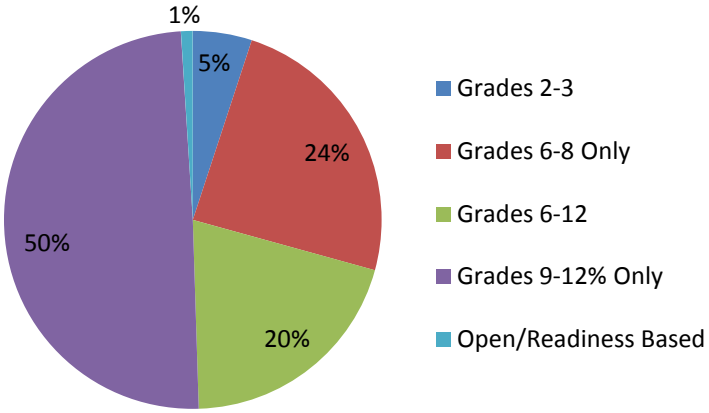
Number of participating dioceses: 148 of 179

What title best describes your position?



Average grade of Confirmation nationally: 9th
Grade at which the most dioceses in the region confirm: 10th

Ranges at Which Dioceses Typically Confirm



Diocesan Office(s) that is primarily responsible for supporting parish Confirmation preparation programs:

76% Office of Religious Education/Catechesis/Faith Formation*
14% Office of Youth Ministry
10% Both

Diocesan Office(s) that is primarily responsible for supporting adolescent catechesis in parishes

54% Office of Religious Education/Catechesis/Faith Formation*
22% Office of Youth Ministry
34% Both

* For the purposes of classification, diocesan offices that identified themselves as "Faith Formation," "Religious Education," "Catechesis," "Evangelization," "Lifelong Formation," or included multiple age groups were listed as "Office of Religious Education/Catechesis/Faith Formation." Please note that these offices could include an individual or department that is specifically focused on youth ministry.

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