

Slide 8
**Trends in Proportion of Personal Income Contributed to
 LCMS Churches by Members, 14 States, 1950-2003**
Percent

Year	1950s	1960s	1970s	1980s	1990s	2000s
0	3.3	4.7	3.4	2.5	2.4	2.4
1	3.7	4.7	3.2	2.6	2.4	2.3
2	4.3	4.4	3.1	2.5	2.4	2.2
3	3.9	4.3	2.9	2.5	2.3	2.2
4	4.1	4.1	2.8	2.4	2.2	
5	4.1	3.9	2.7	2.4	2.2	
6	4.3	3.9	2.7	2.4	2.2	
7	4.4	3.9	2.6	2.4	2.2	
8	4.5	3.6	2.6	2.4	2.2	
9	4.5	3.5	2.8	2.6	2.2	

Sources of basic data: Personal income from the Bureau of Economic Analysis, United States Department of Commerce; contribution and membership data were compiled from Synod Statistical Yearbooks and Luthran Annuals. The 14 states represent the maximum number back to the early years with complete data coverage within state boundaries and without portions of adjoining states. The exception is California which at times included portions of adjoining states and Hawaii. However, these data values were small relative to California with respect to both LCMS members and contributions. The 14 states accounted for 60 to 70 percent of the U.S. totals for members and contributions.

The annual state averages of income and contributions, respectively, were weighted by annual state numbers of communicant members. The resulting weighted averages of contributions were divided by the weighted averages of personal income.