

Springtide's Catholic School Dataset Methodology

Springtide Research Institute's Catholic School Dataset comprises 50,350 survey responses from students in Catholic schools. We collected these responses between October 2022 and December 2024 from students enrolled in one of 51 middle and high schools across four Catholic school districts in the United States.

Springtide worked with each district to develop their unique survey instrument to best serve their schools' needs, replicating core questions across multiple districts' surveys. All students in this dataset completed the Springtide Belonging Index, which measures three elements of belonging: being *noticed*, being *named*, and being *known*. Additional core questions touch on themes of school support, academic success, religious/spiritual experiences, religious practice, and the role of adults in students' lives. All districts collected demographic information, such as grade level, race, ethnicity, gender, and religious affiliation. Survey items used Likert scale, matrix, and check-all-that-apply response option structures.

Springtide provided each participating school with a unique link to collect student responses via an online survey platform called Alchemer. Each school distributed this survey to their students per their school's own policy. Most students completed the survey during a class period (e.g., during homeroom). Others completed the survey during unstructured periods at school or at home. One school administered the survey to students on paper during the school day.

The surveys were administered across three academic years. One district administered their survey all three years (i.e., three times total); two districts administered their survey twice, and one district administered their survey once. Springtide synthesized all student responses into a single dataset. Aggregate analyses conducted by Springtide using the Catholic School Dataset control for variables like district, school, and academic year.

Figure 1 depicts the proportion of students from each district included in the dataset. To protect client confidentiality, we will not name these districts or the participating schools. Figure 2 depicts the proportion of responses collected each academic year. *Percentages listed may not add up to exactly 100% due to rounding.*

Figure 1: District breakdown in the Springtide Catholic School Dataset

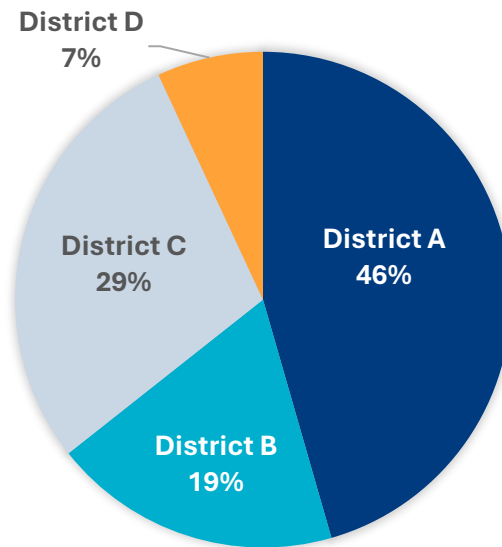
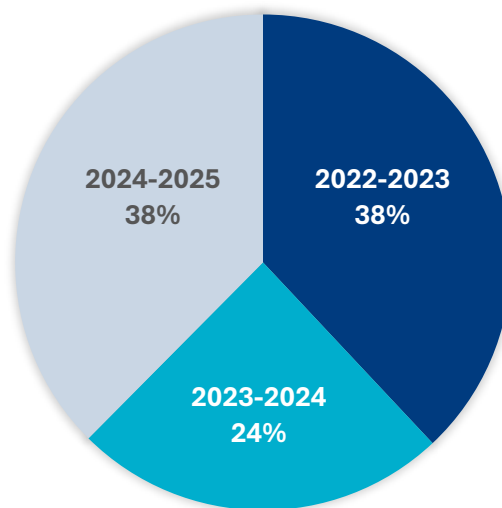


Figure 2: Academic year breakdown in the Springtide Catholic School Dataset



Figures 3–7 present an aggregated breakdown of demographic variables across all survey responses. Responses divide mostly evenly between grades 9–12, with just 3% of responses coming from middle school students. Just under half of the respondents (48%) are White. More than half identify as male (59%) and exclusively Catholic (57%). *Percentages listed in demographic charts may not add up to exactly 100% due to rounding.*

Figure 3: Grade-level breakdown in the Springtide Catholic School Dataset

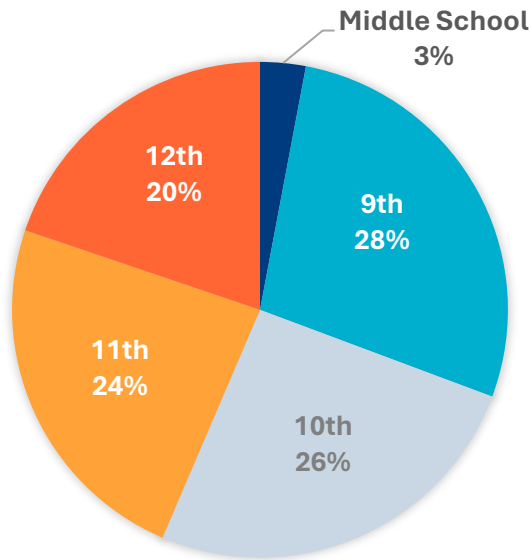
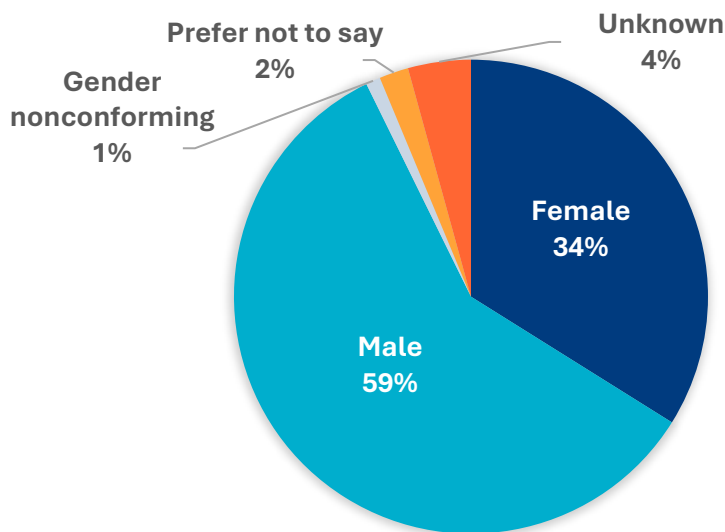


Figure 4: Gender breakdown in the Springtide Catholic School Dataset



The “Unknown” category represents students who provided uncategorizable write-in responses to describe their gender and those from schools that removed this question from their survey.

Figure 5: Racial and ethnic breakdown in the Springtide Catholic School Dataset

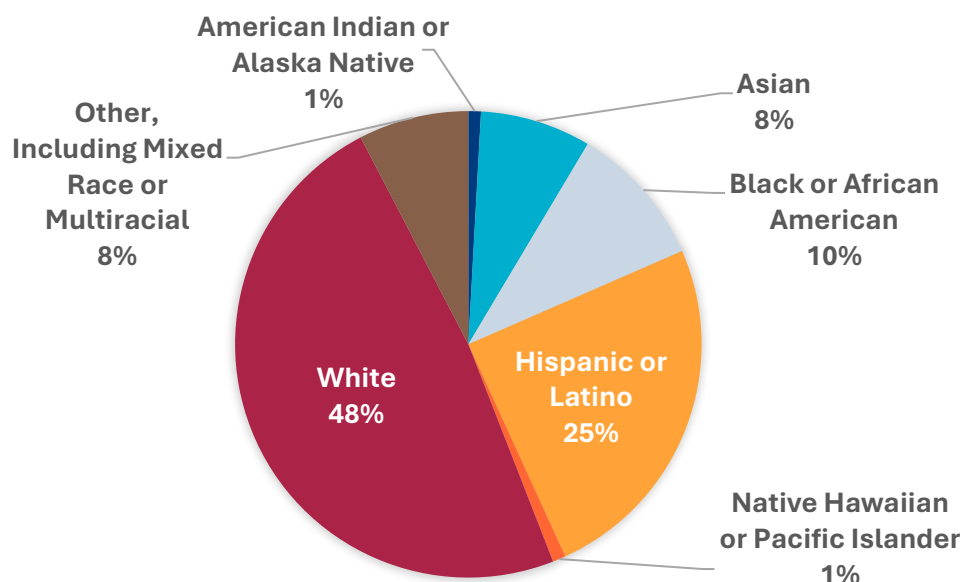
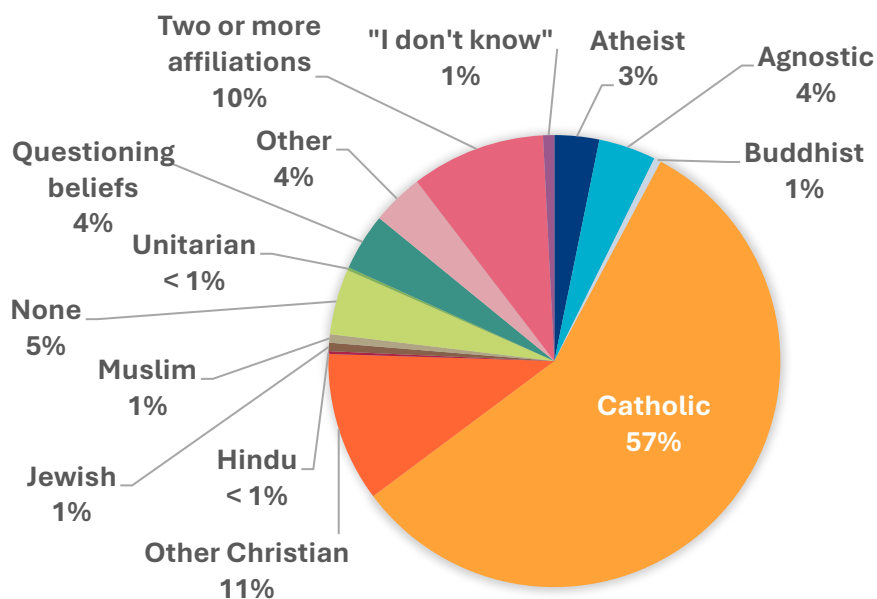
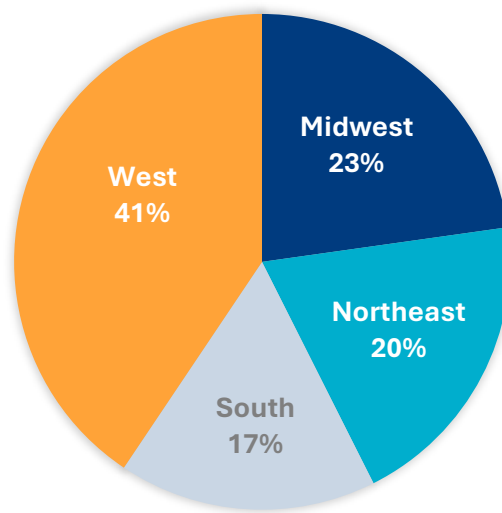


Figure 6: Religious breakdown in the Springtide Catholic School Dataset



The "Other Christian" category includes students who identify as Protestant, Christian Orthodox, Mormon, or Just Christian.

Figure 7: Region breakdown in the Springtide Catholic School Dataset



For

further information on the Springtide Catholic School Dataset or how your school can get involved, contact the Springtide Research Team at research@springtideresearch.org.