

Keeping the Catholic Faith Alive: Stories of Service and Hope of Filipino Women in the Catechetical Ministry (CM)

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OUR RESEARCH PROJECT

RESEARCH
INSIGHTS

KATEKISTA

The National Study on
Catechetical Ministry
2016-2021



A RESEARCH PRIMER

KATEKISTA

A National Study on Catechetical Ministry
2016-2018

To investigate the current state of catechetical ministry in the Philippines from the perspectives of Filipino catechists and catechetical leaders.



NCS 2021: PARI Project

**The National Catechetical Study
(NCS) 2021: Pastoral Action Research
and Intervention (PARI) Project**

Envisions understanding and energizing the Philippine catechetical scene by implementing pastoral researches and intervention activities toward quality catechetical ministry (CM) to generate educative opportunities for new modes of catechesis and evangelization in the country.

STUDYING THE CATECHIZED

A descriptive research of a sample of catechized respondents across sociodemographic landscape in the last 50 years (1970s to present) to know the impact and influence of CM on selected life domains.



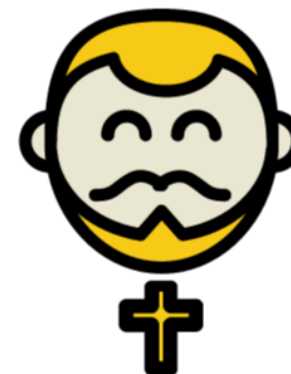
STUDYING CATECHETICAL CENTERS

Investigates the state of selected catechetical centers relative to formation, content and pedagogy dimensions intended to generate educative insights to improve catechetical teaching and learning in the country.



STUDYING CATECHETICAL HUMAN RESOURCES

Examines salient aspects of human resources dimension in relation to the well-being and future of all those involved in catechetical ministry.



PRESENTATION OUTLINE

- A. Introduction (Context)**
- B. Related Literatures**
- C. Research Focus**
- D. Methods**
- E. Research Photo-journey with women of catechetical ministry (CM)**
- F. Empirical findings & Discussion points**
- G. Concluding insights**



Introduction | Context

Society has slowly changed its landscape in terms of gender role appreciation. Women presence are now being felt if not recognized in various sectors like economics, politics (Reddy, 2012) and education .



ARGUMENT

This paper argues about the significant role of **Filipino women** in Catechetical Ministry; being carried-out by relatively **aging volunteers**, who are receiving minimum transportation allowance. These women catechists fulfill their duties with utmost commitment, happiness and satisfaction. Their stories of service and hope *despite of their age* are crucial in making the Catholic Christian faith alive in the Philippines.



LITERATURE REVIEW

Church Documents

ROLE OF WOMEN CATECHISTS IN THE CHURCH

- ☐ Women would seem to be the natural choice for educating the young and working for the Christian promotion of women.
(Tomko,1993)
- ☐ How can we forget the important role played by women: their work in the family, in schools, in political, social and cultural life, and especially their teaching of Christian doctrine?
(Redemptoris Missio 71)



LITERATURE REVIEW

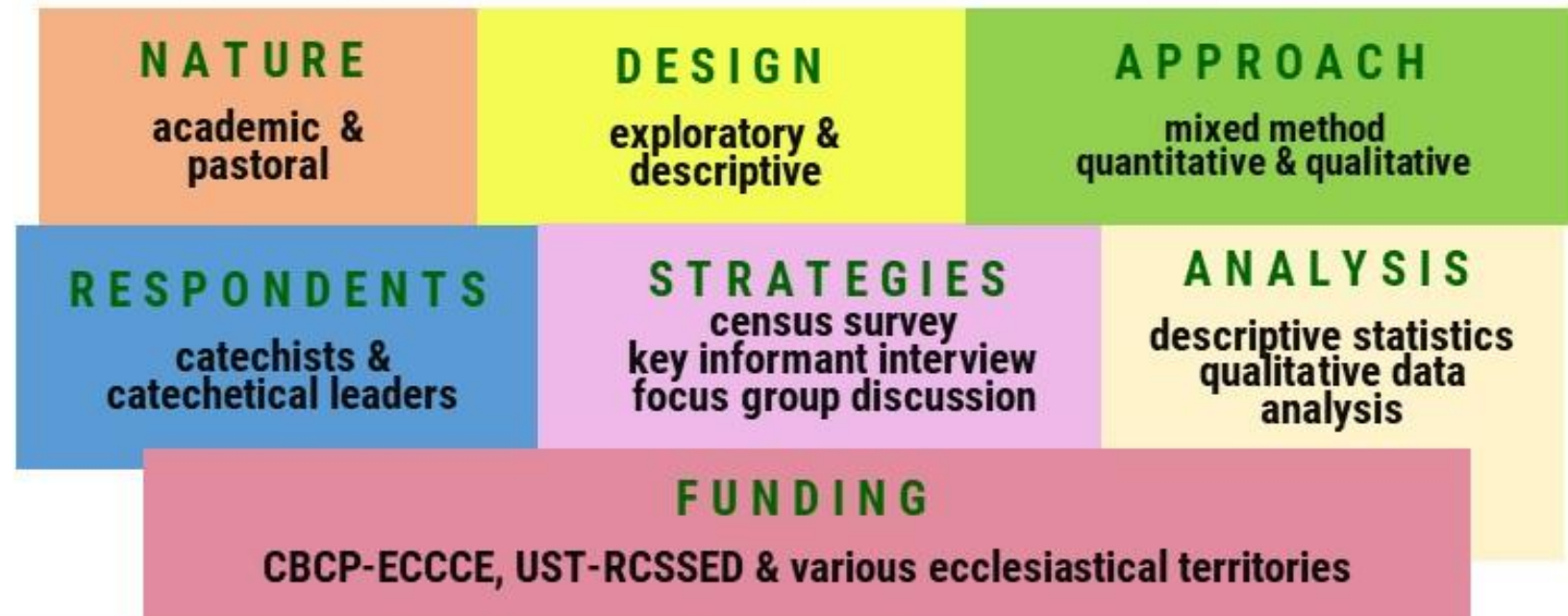
Women participated in the spreading of the gospel on the basis of their faith in Christ, not because of their sex, marital status, or role in reproduction (Kelly, 2019).



RESEARCH FOCUS

How the intersection of Filipino women catechists' age and gender play constructive & critical roles in making the Catholic faith alive in the Philippines





Research Space

Philippine Catholic Church
17 Ecclesiastical Provinces
86 Ecclesiastical Territories



RESEARCH photo-journey of Filipino women in Catechetical Ministry (CM)

Notice women in photos



NCS 2021: PARI Project LAUNCH & ACCCRE/NAC-PHIL General Assembly

March 18, 2019





The Catechist in All of Us *Ang Katekista sa Ating Lahat*

119th CBCP Plenary Assembly

July 8, 2019

Pope Pius XII Catholic Center United Nations Ave.
Manila, Philippines





CBCP-ECCCE CONSULTATION

July 14, 2019
Diocese of San Jose, Nueva Ecija



National Association of Catechists of the Philippines (NAC-PHIL)



1st General Assembly

July 17, 2019 | Siena College Quezon City





Orientation & Pilot-Testing of NCS 2021 Research Tool

during the Joint *19th Annual Meeting of Catechetical Ministers (AMCM)* –
*14th Association of Catechetical Centers and Colleges/Universities with Religious
Education (ACCCRE) Annual Assembly*

October 1 to 3, 2019 | Sta. Catalina Spirituality Center, Baguio City



NCS 2016-2018: The Case of the Diocese of San Jose Nueva Ecija

October 14, 2019 at Cathedral of St. Joseph San Jose Chancery





NCS 2016-2018: The Case of the Diocese of Cabanatuan

October 19, 2019

Bahay Pari Cabanatuan City





NCS 2016-2018: Research Insights

October 27, 2019

Diocese of Marbel, Koronadal, South Cotabato





NCS 2016-2018: The Case of the Archdiocese of Cotabato

October 28, 2019

San Pedro Calungsod Parish, Purok Daisy, New Isabela, Tacurong City



NCS 2021 PARI Project Katekistang Kalakbay sa Pananaliksik Orientation



November 7, 2019

Sala ni Ka Luring, CFAM-ICAM Building, San Carlos Seminary
Compound, Guadalupe Viejo, EDSA, Makati City



The National Catechetical Study (NCS) 2016 - 2018: The Case of the Diocese of San Jose de Antique



November 12, 2019

Catechetical Institute Mensa Domini, San Jose de Antique



NCS 2021: PARI PROJECT

Katekistang Kalakbay sa Pananaliksik (KKP) Orientation



November 19, 2019
Arzobispo de Pampanga Multi-purpose Hall





NATIONAL CATECHETICAL STUDY (NCS) 2016 **PAMBANSANG PANANALIKSIK SA KATESISMO (PPK) 2016**

*A project of the Catholic Bishops' Conference of the Philippines (CBCP)
- Episcopal Commission on Catechesis and Catholic Education (ECCCE)
and the UST Research Center for Social Sciences and Education (RCSSED)*

EMPIRICAL FINDINGS



DEMOGRAPHIC PROFILE OF THE CATECHIST RESPONDENTS



NATIONAL

26,978

surveyed catechists validated for analysis

Research Story

In general, catechetical ministry (CM) in the Philippines is being carried-out by older lay educated women volunteers receiving minimal transportation support.



Data Matrix of Discussion Points

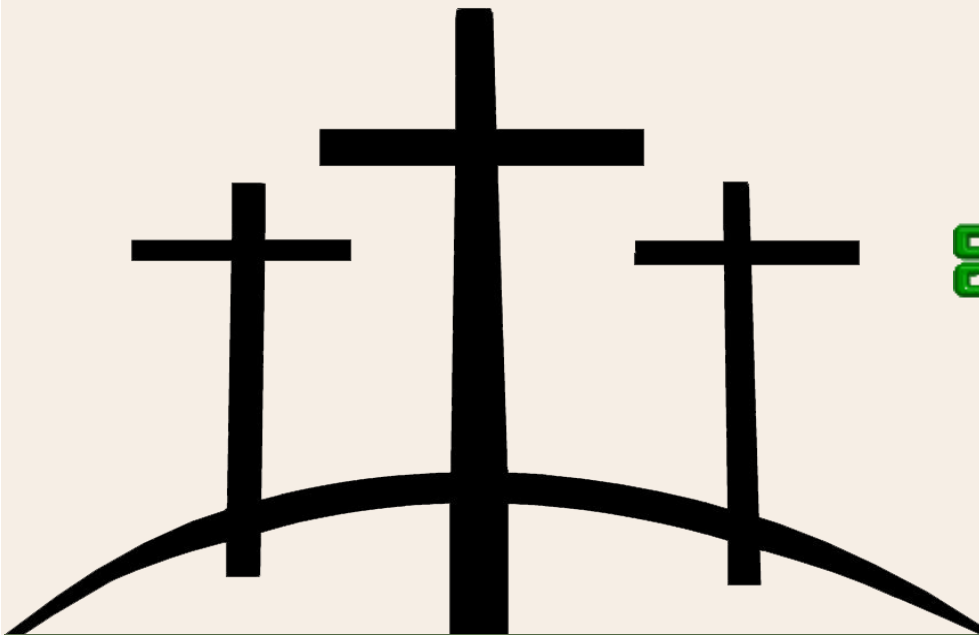
Research Poems Themes	Discussion Points	Argument Points
Hapunan	*Role of women in the family *Desire to serve the church	Service
Sanhedrin	Women and authority	Service
Simon Sireneo	*Support of family *"Kumadre" system	Hope
Pagsalubong	*Informal leaders *Multi-tasking	Service
Habilin	Marian devotion and deep appreciation/relation to the "suffering Christ" (Via Crucis)	Hope
Pagkabuhay	Sharing witness of the resurrection promise of renewed life	Service & hope



KRUS NA DAAN NG KATEKISTANG-LINGKOD

MGA TULANG-PANANALIKSIK HANGO SA NATIONAL CATECHETICAL STUDY (NCS) 2018

NI PROF. CLARENCE M. BATAN, PHD | PRINCIPAL INVESTIGATOR NCS 2018



HAPUNAN

Nagulat ang lahat nang
Sa gitna ng hapunang
Kanyang hinanda,
Nagsabi si Nanay -
Nakangiti, nananabik
Sa desisyong magturo
Muli, tulad noon.



HAPUNAN

Na muling gawin
Ang mahal na propesyon -
Malaking pananagutan
Misyon sa simbahan,
Ang maging katekista.
Di naman nagulat
Si Tatay at mga anak
Dahil palagi siyang
Nasa simbahan.



HAPUNAN

Bilin ni Tatay,
"Huwag mo lang kaming
Kalilimutan, isasantabi".
Tugon ni Nanay,
"Hindi naman Mahal,
"Kayo pa rin, una
"Kong pananagutan".
Ngumiti ang lahat
Sa hapunang masarap





HAPUNAN

At matapos kumain,
Si Nanay pa rin
Nagmismis, naghugas.
Ito ang unang
Krus sa daan
Ng katekistang-lingkod,
Sakrispiyong makahulugan.



BIOLOGICAL SEX OF THE CATECHIST RESPONDENTS

NATIONAL

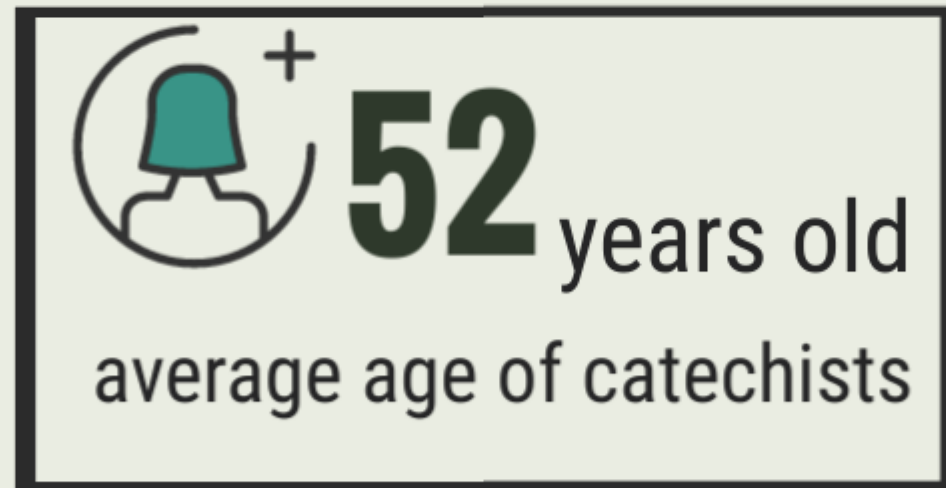
n=26,217



90%
women

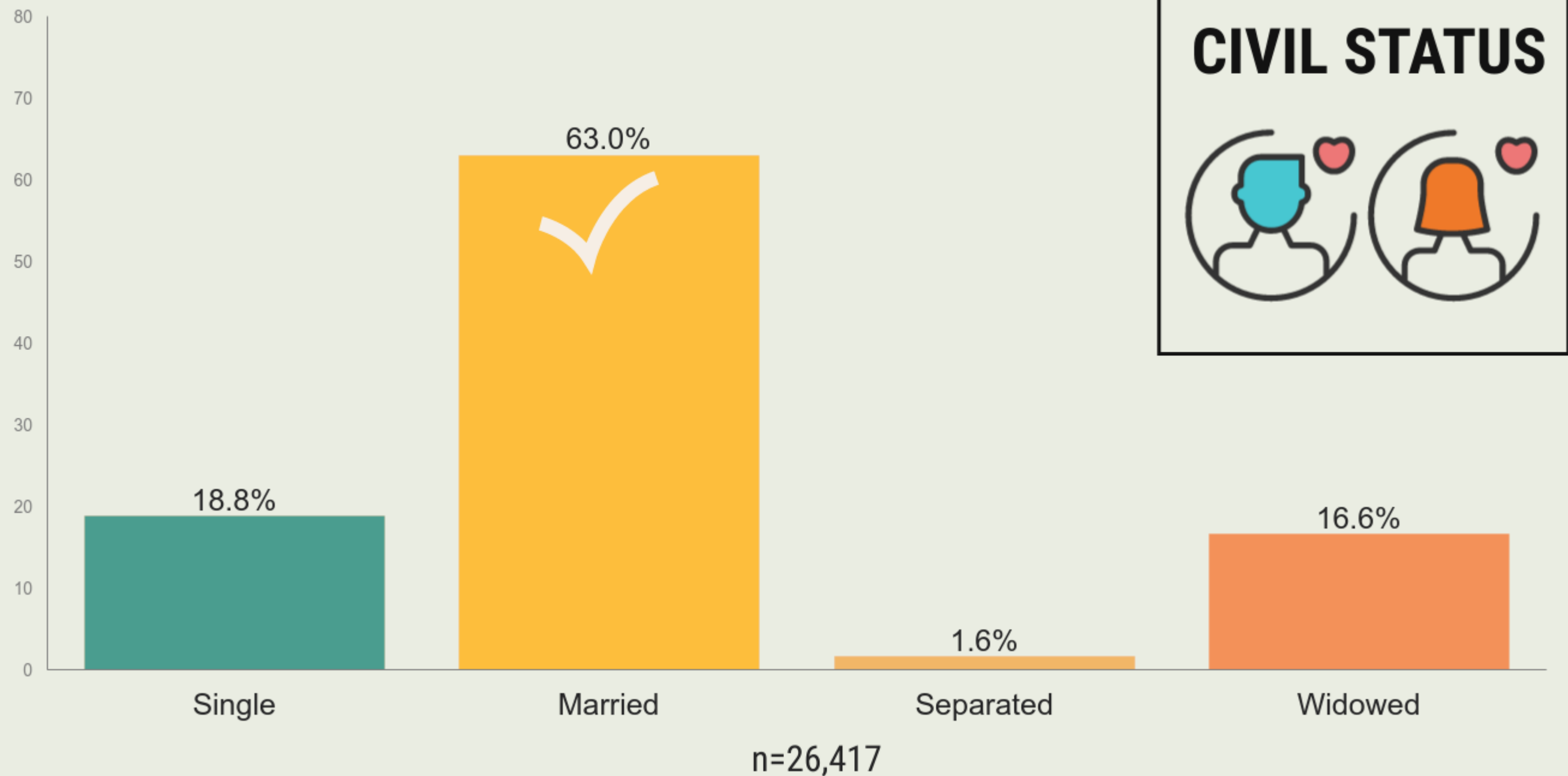
AGE OF THE CATECHIST RESPONDENTS

NATIONAL

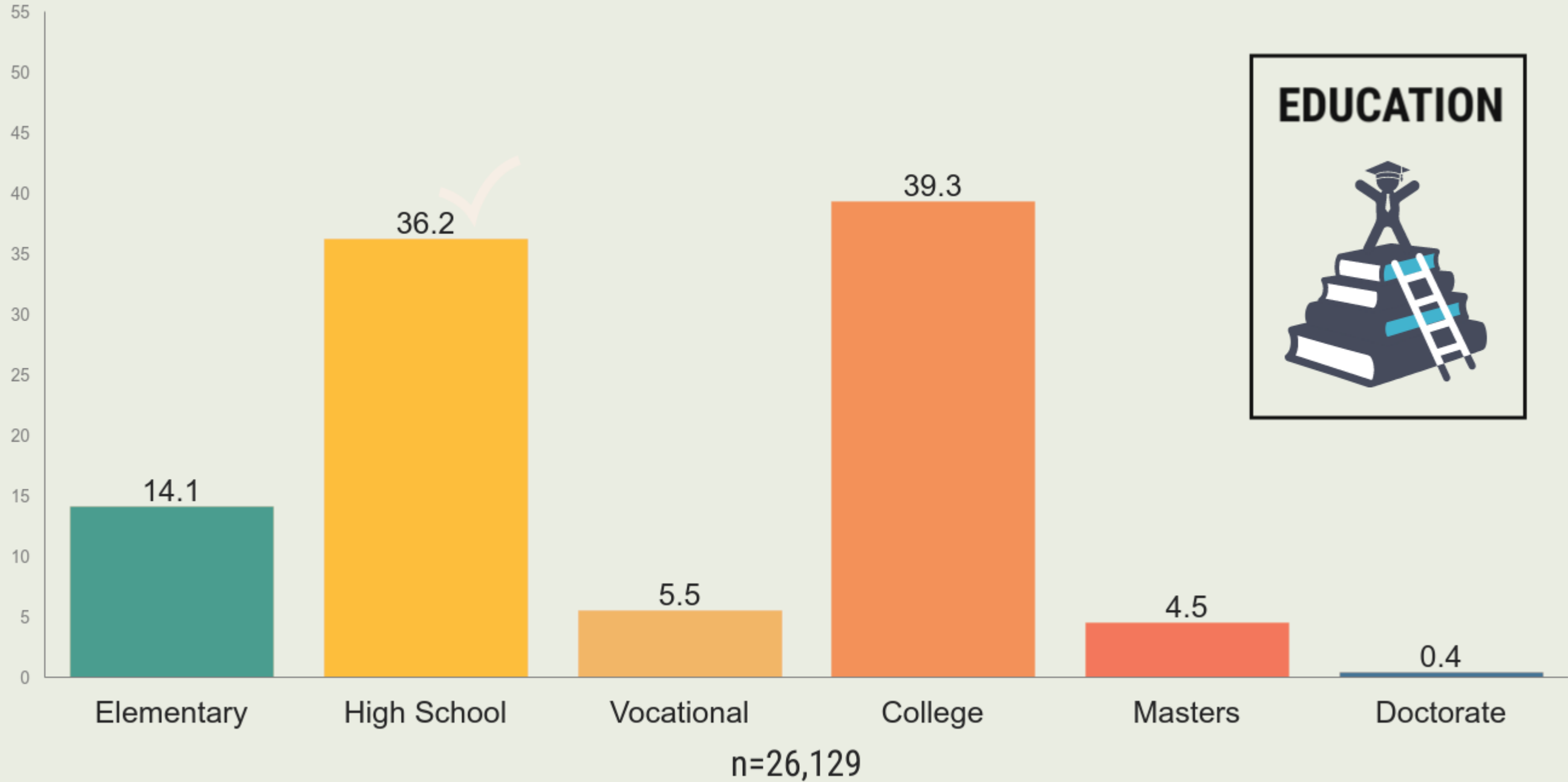


n=26,262

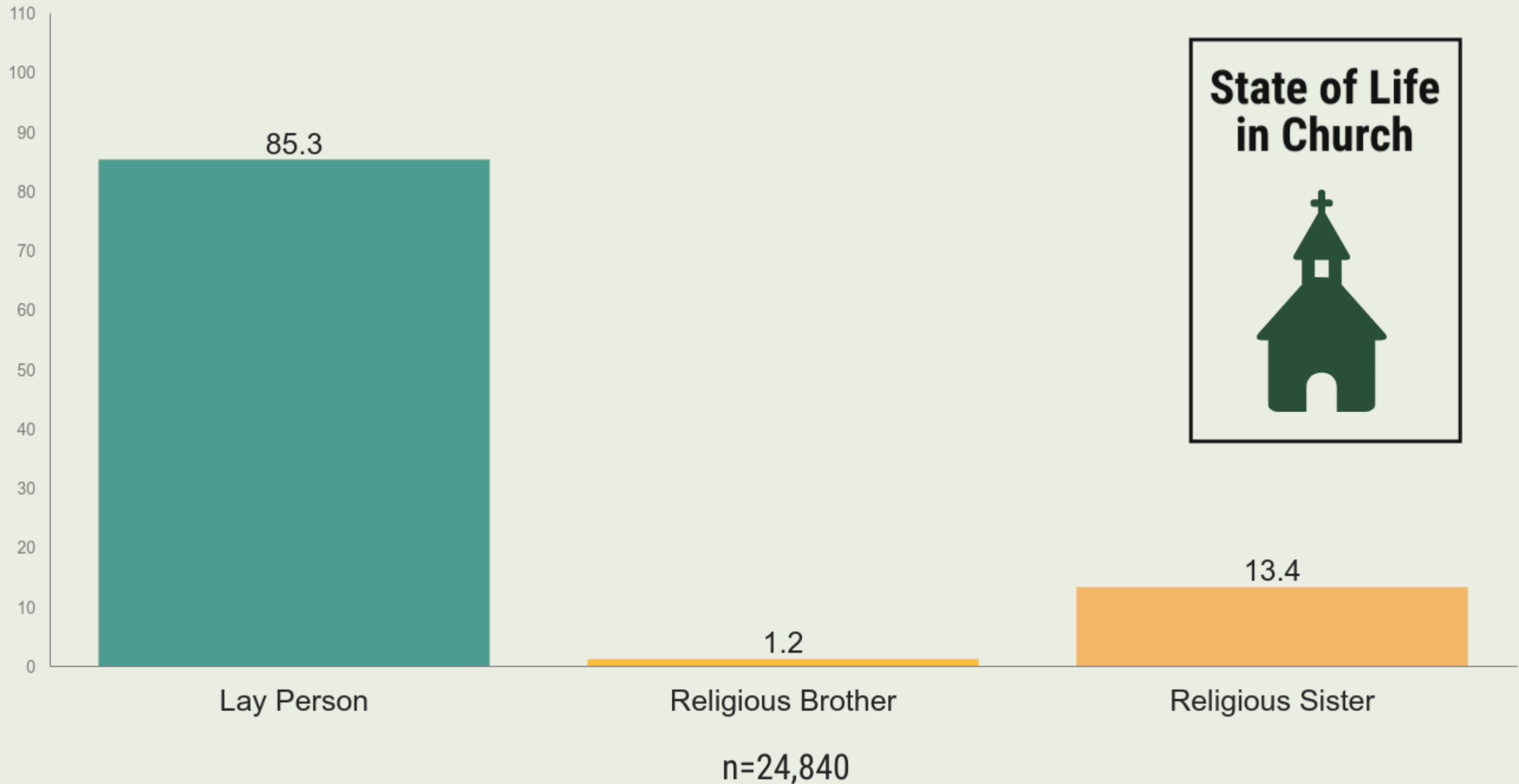
Civil Status of the Catechist Respondents



Highest Educational Attainment of Catechist Respondents



State of Life in Church of Catechist Respondents



Discussion point

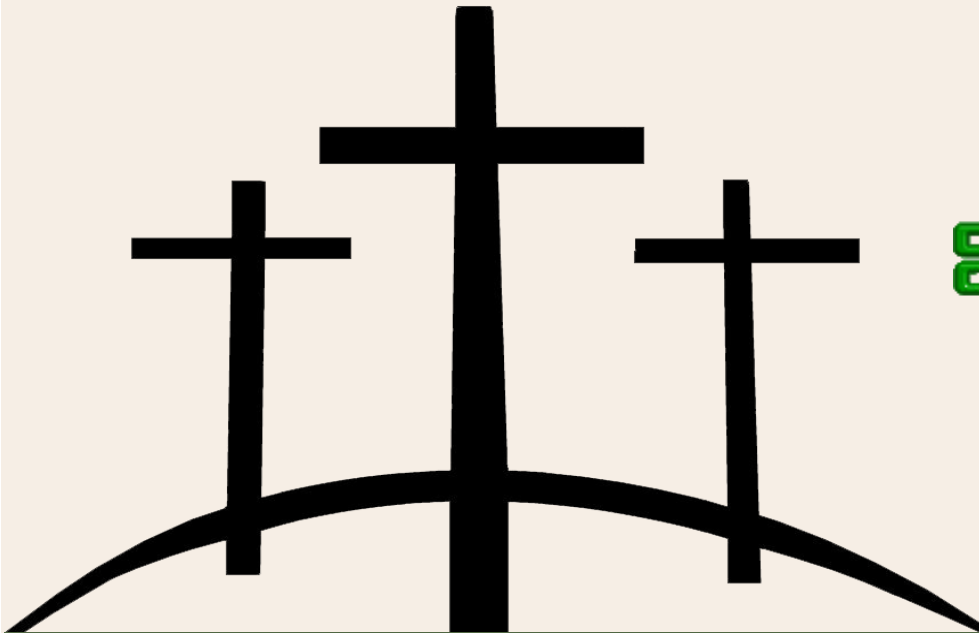
Hapunan | Filipino women catechists are nurturers of the family and they desire to serve the church even in their old age.



KRUS NA DAAN NG KATEKISTANG-LINGKOD

MGA TULANG-PANANALIKSIK HANGO SA NATIONAL CATECHETICAL STUDY (NCS) 2018

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SANHEDRÍN

Nang masayang matanggap
Ni Nanay-teacher -
Ang bagong katekista,
Ang kanyang assignment
Sa pampublikong paaralan,
Pinaghandaan niya ang araw
Pagdalaw sa school
Pagharap sa principal
Upang kunin - schedule.



SANHEDRÍN

Apat lang pagpipilian:
Umagang-umaga,
Sa pagitan ng recess,
Matapos ang tanghalian,
O bago mag-uwian.
Tulad ni Hesus
Sa harap ng Sanhedrin,
Ang mapagkumbabang-tangan



SANHEDRÍN

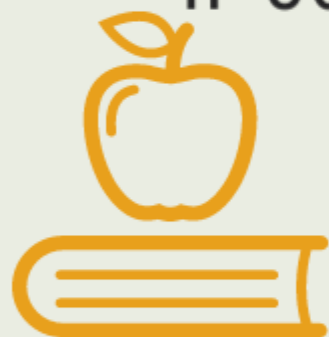
Sa harap ng makapangyarihan,
Waring di pagtutol
Para misyon matuloy,
Kahit anong oras,
Katekesismo matupad.
Ito ang ikatlong
Krus sa daan
Ng katekistang-lingkod,
Sakrispiyong makahulugan.



NATIONAL

Where are you doing catechesis?

n=369 to 18,942



70%

Public School



50%

Parishes



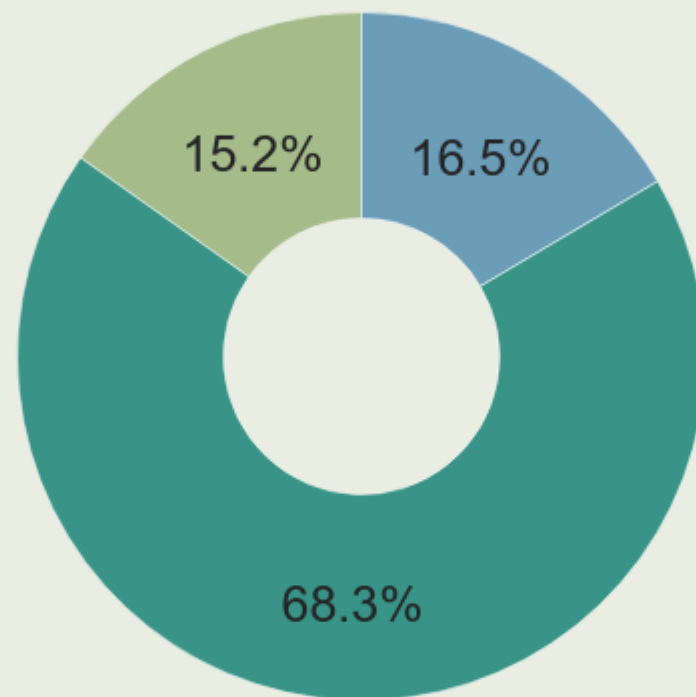
n=313 to 23,410

87% of the
catechized are
**elementary
pupils**

How are you ministering as a catechist?

National

n = 24,776



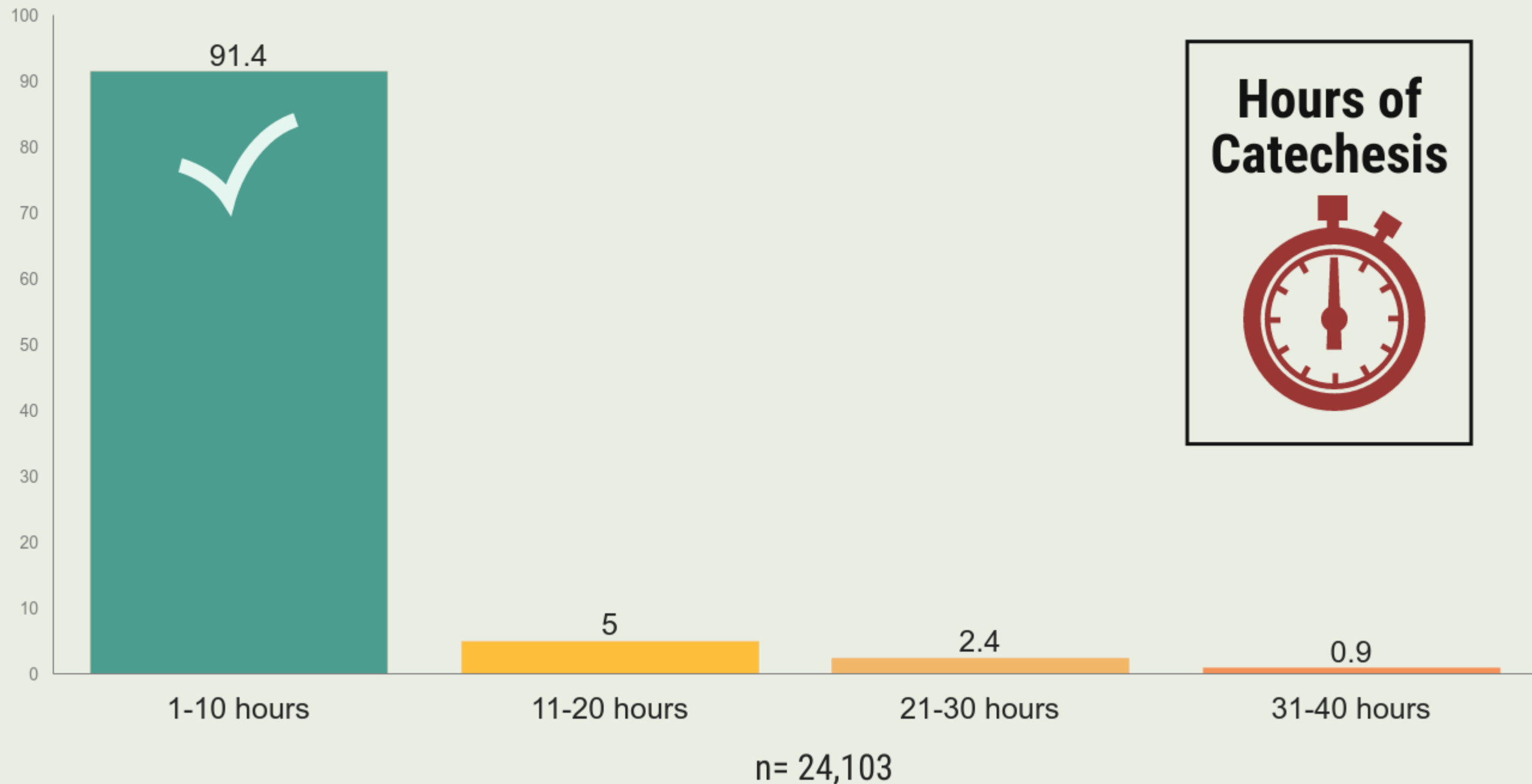
● Full time 16.5%

● Other 15.2%

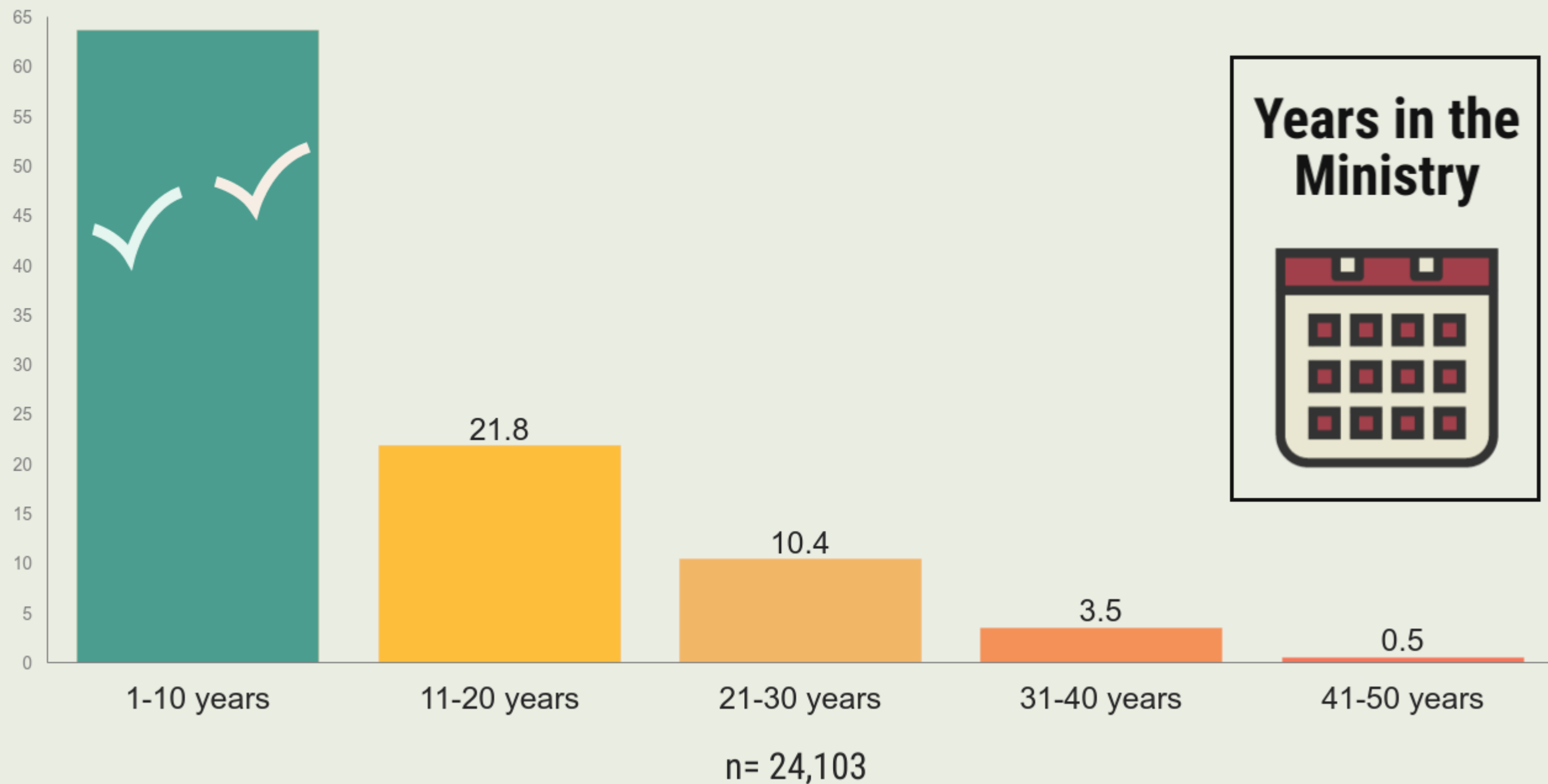
● Part time 68.3%



How many number of hours per week do you catechize?

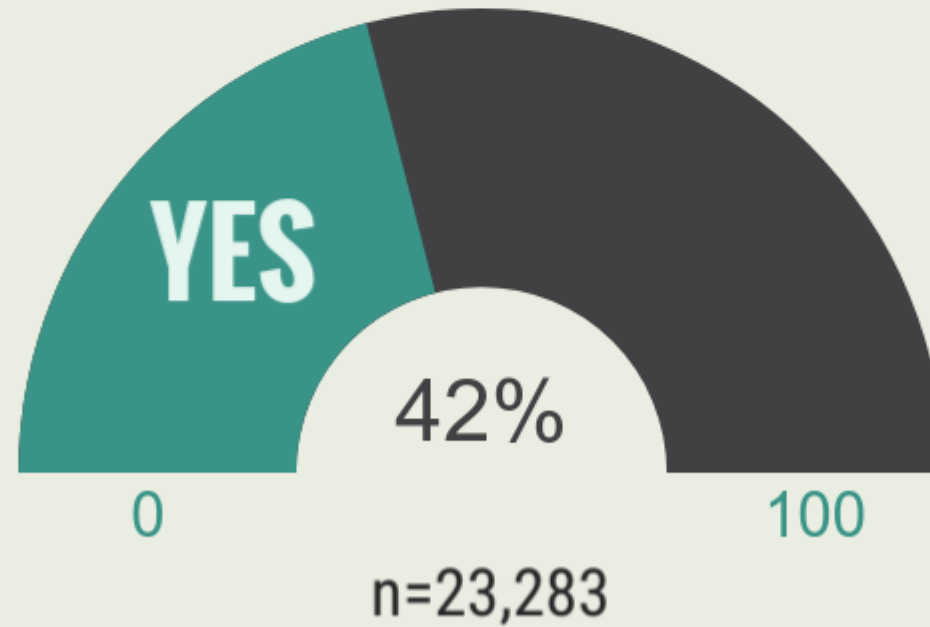


How many years have been in the ministry as catechist?

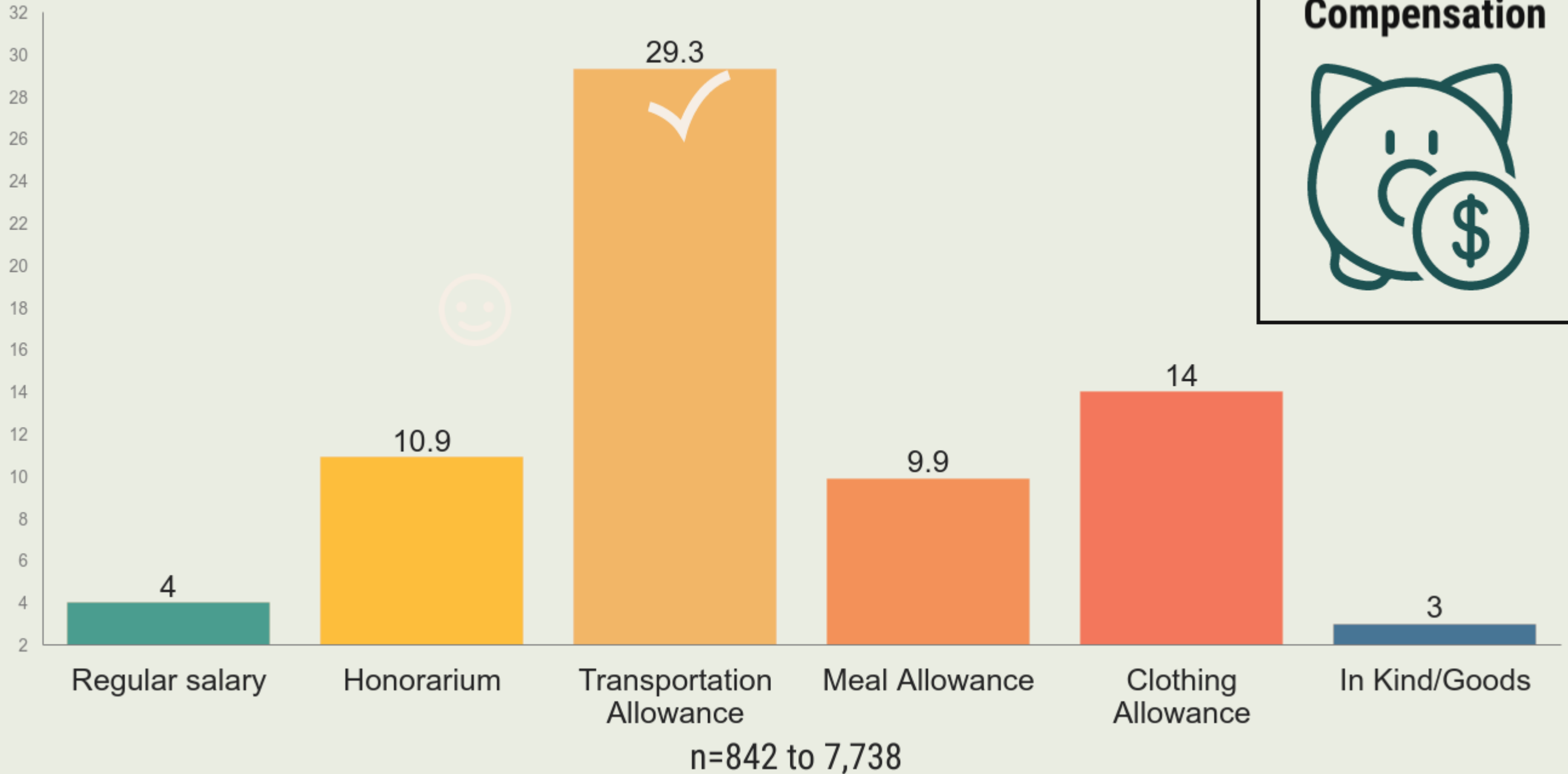


Do you receive compensation?

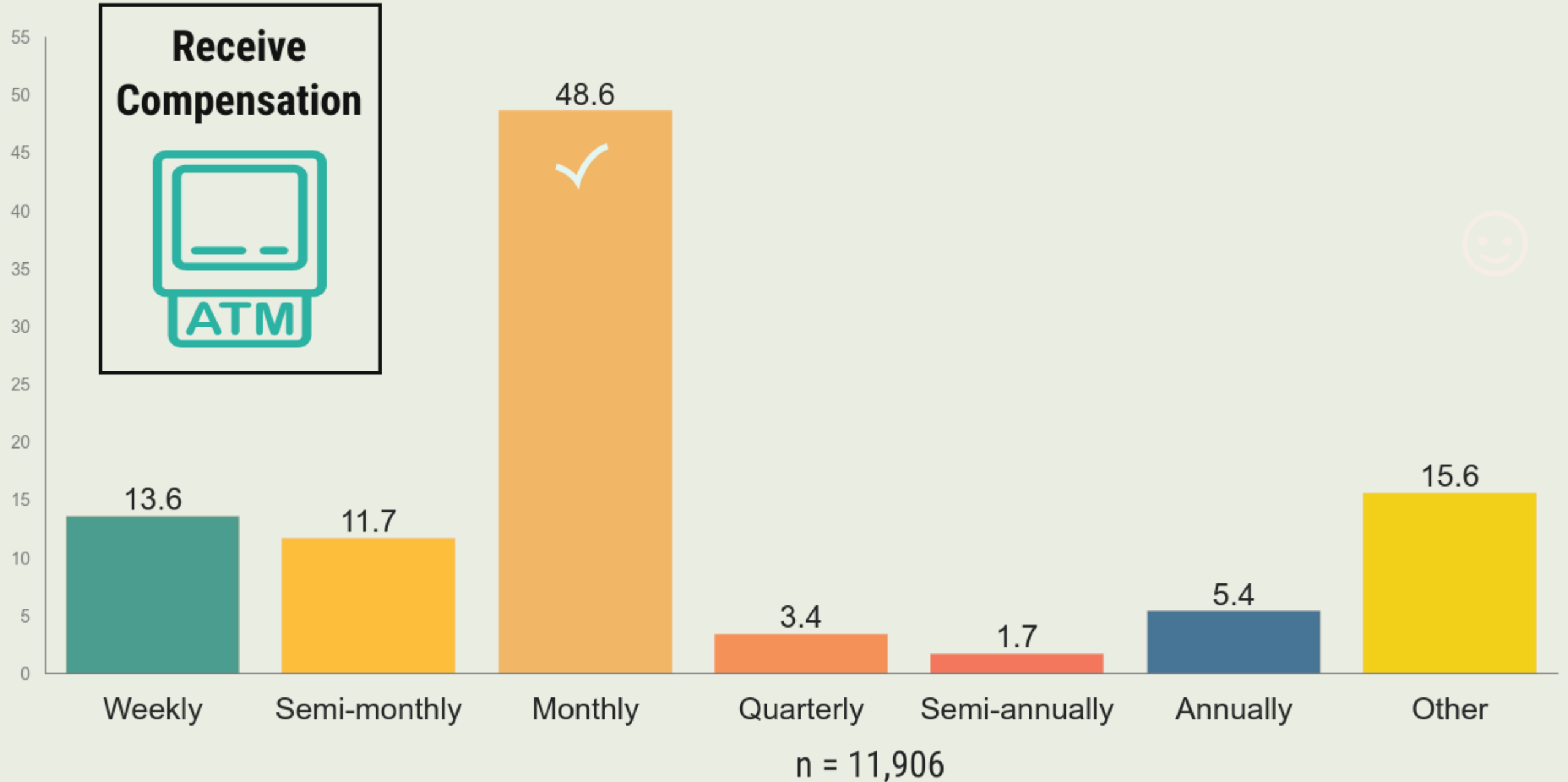
NATIONAL



If yes, what form of compensation?



How often do you receive compensation?



At present, what external factors make your ministry difficult?

NATIONAL

n= 886 to 9,181

1

Passive
students

2

Passive
parents of
students

3

Inaccessibility
of teaching aids

4

Insufficient
compensation



In your observation, what issues and concerns do your students usually experience?

NATIONAL

n=555 to 18,776



1

Parents who
do not go to
church

2

Jobless
Parents

3

Parents who
are not
married

4

Separated
Parents

Discussion point

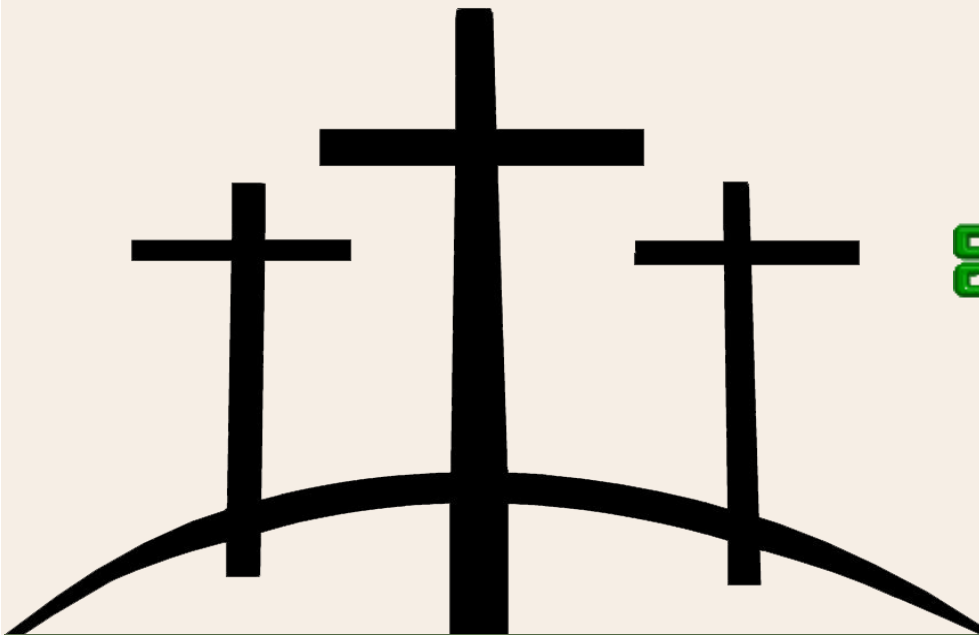
Sanhedrin | Filipino women catechists submit to authorities in the fulfillment of their teaching tasks.



KRUS NA DAAN NG KATEKISTANG-LINGKOD

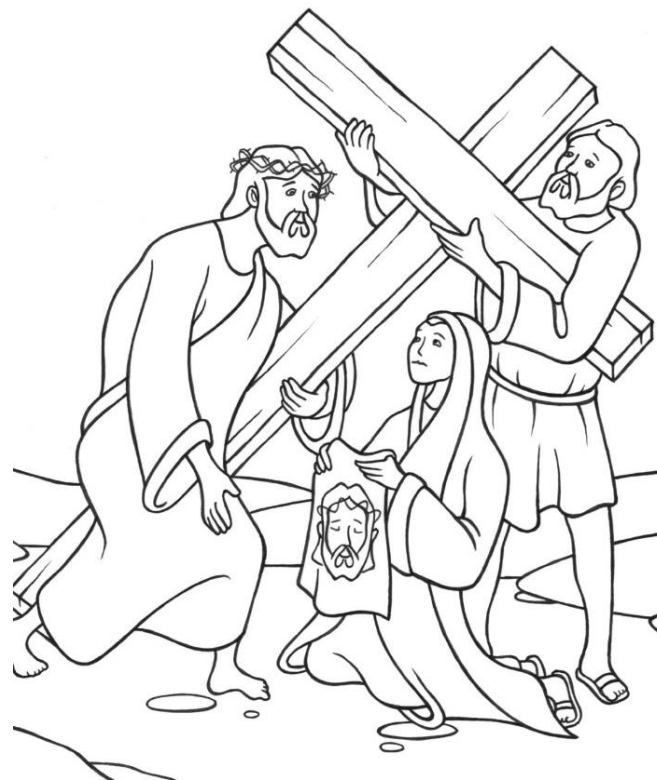
MGA TULANG-PANANALIKSIK HANGO SA NATIONAL CATECHETICAL STUDY (NCS) 2018

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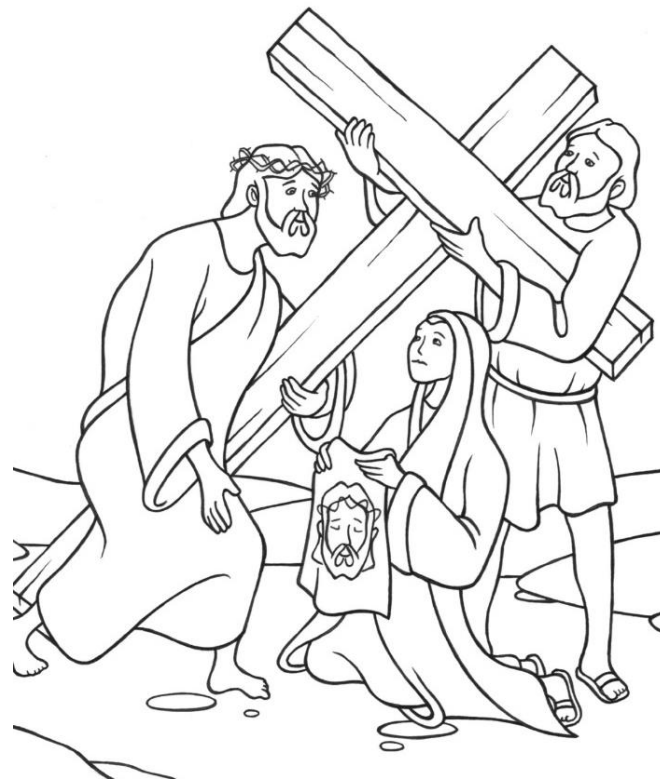
SIMÓN SIRENEO

Sa panahon ng
pangangailangan
Sa mga gawaing-katesismo
Maraming Simon Sireneo -
Mga mabubuting taong
Sa katekista'y tumutulong.
Mula sa mga Tatay
At maraming kasama
Sa abalang bahay,
Para libreng ihatid



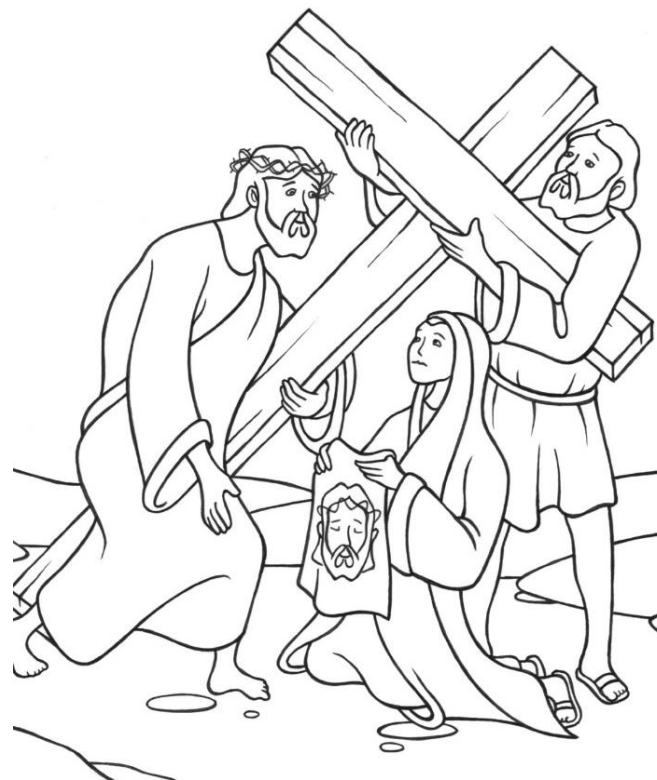
SIMÓN SIRENEO

Ang Nanay na katekista
Sa anumang pagtitipon,
At libre ding sunduin
Pagkatapos ng pulong.
Hanggang sa kasamang
Kapwa-katekistang
Kumadre't kaibigan,
Handang magpautang



SIMÓN SIRENEO

Kahit bayaran, matagal.
Itong mysteryong-misyon
Kung bakit di maiwan
Ang pagiging katekista
Ang teacher na Nanay.
Ito ang ikapitong
Krus sa daan
Ng katekistang-lingkod,
Sakrispiyong makahulugan.



Who influenced you to be a catechist? (TOP 3)

NATIONAL



CO-CATECHISTS

▼ 53%



FRIENDS

▼ 36%



PRIESTS

▼ 29%



n=357 to 14,247

What motivated you to be a catechist? (TOP 3)

NATIONAL

n= 240 to 14,554



1

**Sense of
Volunteerism**

2

**Deep
relationship
with Jesus**

3

**Sense of
Mission**

At present, what external factors contribute most in doing your catechesis effectively?

NATIONAL

n=667 to 18,971

1

Family

2

**Parish
Priest**

3

**Co -
Catechists**

4

**Director or
Coordinator**



Discussion point

Simon Sireneo |

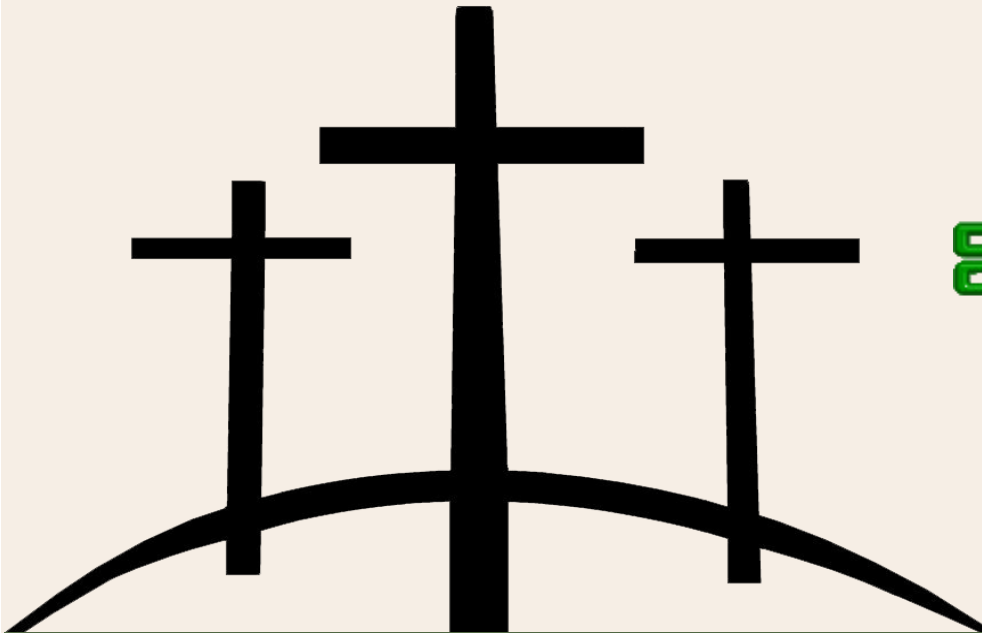
- **The support of family is crucial in their ministry.**
- **They develop long lasting relationships with their co-catechists and form communion with them (“kumadre” system).**



KRUS NA DAAN NG KATEKISTANG-LINGKOD

MGA TULANG-PANANALIKSIK HANGO SA NATIONAL CATECHETICAL STUDY (NCS) 2018

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PAGSALUBONG

Ang pagiging katekista,
Kahit puno ng sakripisyo'y
May dulot na galak
Dahil sa misyong-pagtahak.
Maraming makakasalubong
Na palaging magtatanong,
Kaya't tamang sagot
Dapat laging tangan.



PAGSALUBONG

Kailan ang binyag?

Kailan ang kasal?

Sino ang magpapakumpisal?

Ang kumpilan kelan?

Saan ang daan ng
prusisyon?

Bakit wala si Father?

Nasaan si Father?

May kasal ba si Father?



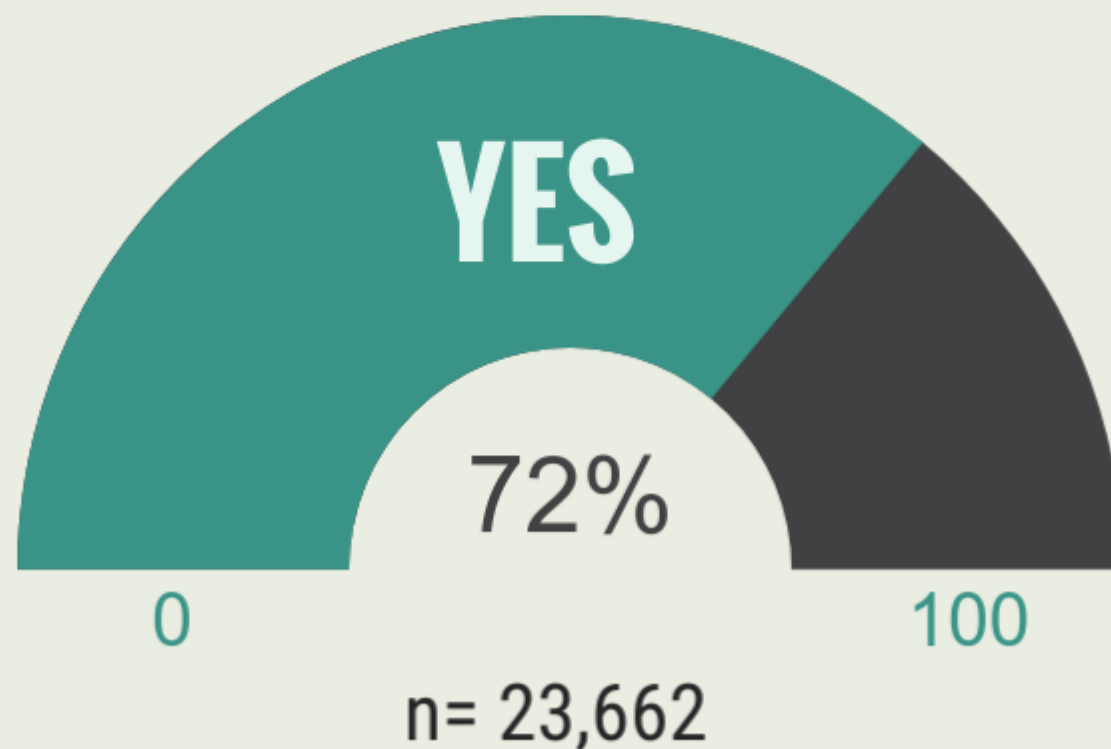
PAGSALUBONG

Pwede bang magpa-bless
Kahit nagsi-siesta si Father?
Lahat ito'y impormasyon
Na waring pananagutan
Ng katekistang laging
Laman ng simbahan.
Ito ang ikawalong
Krus sa daan
Ng katekistang-lingkod,
Sakrispisyong makahulugan.



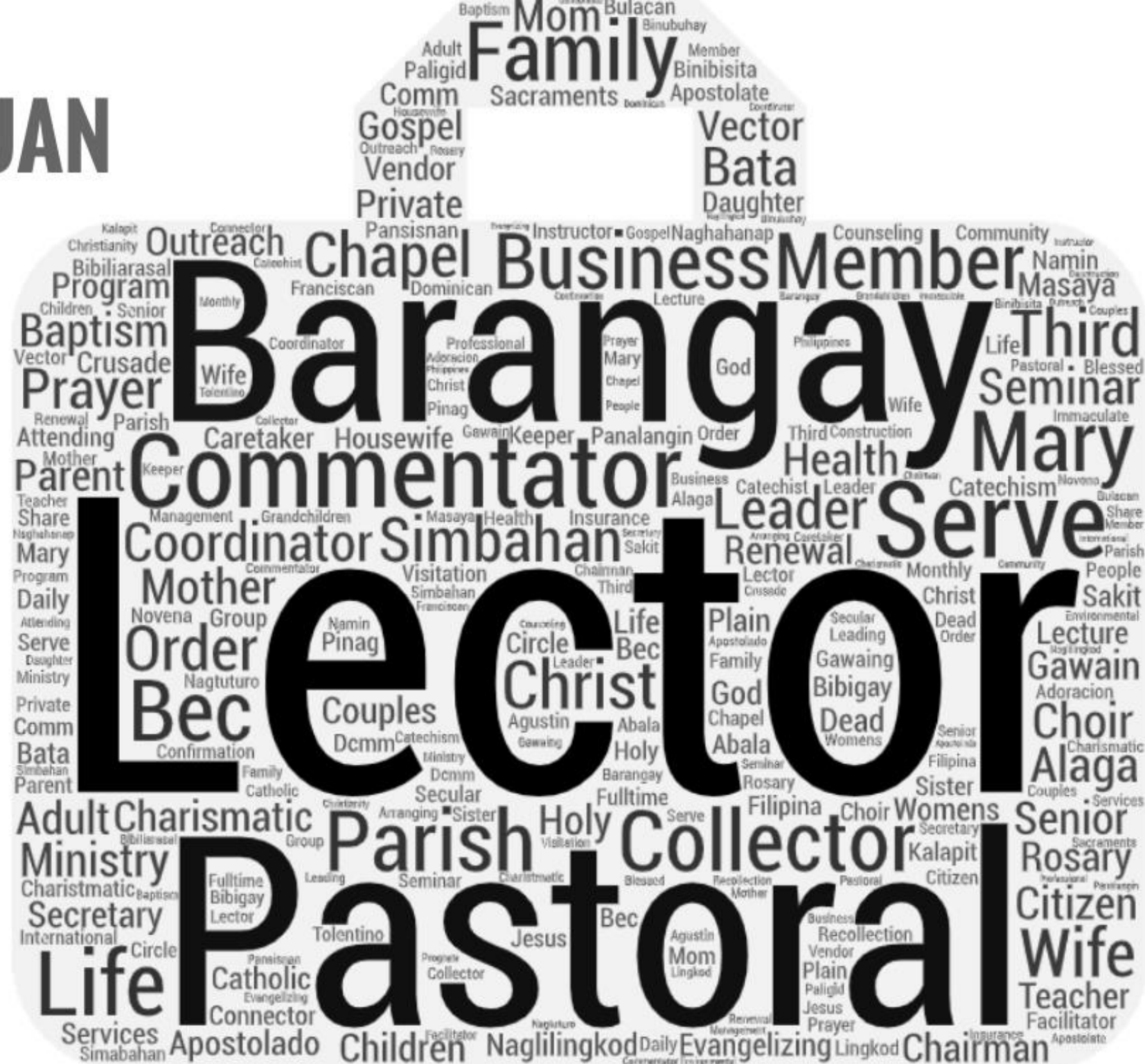
Aside from being a catechist, do you have other works/services?

NATIONAL



CABANATUAN

Aside from being a catechist, do you have other works/ services? If yes, what are they?



Discussion point

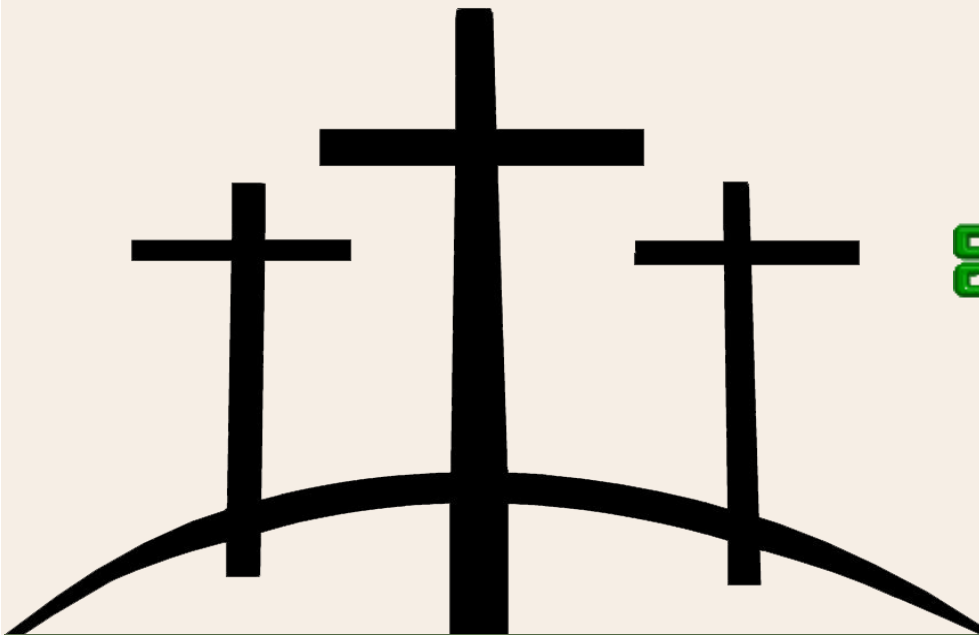
Pagsalubong | Filipino women catechists are considered as informal leaders in their respective parishes/communities.



KRUS NA DAAN NG KATEKISTANG-LINGKOD

MGA TULANG-PANANALIKSIK HANGO SA NATIONAL CATECHETICAL STUDY (NCS) 2018

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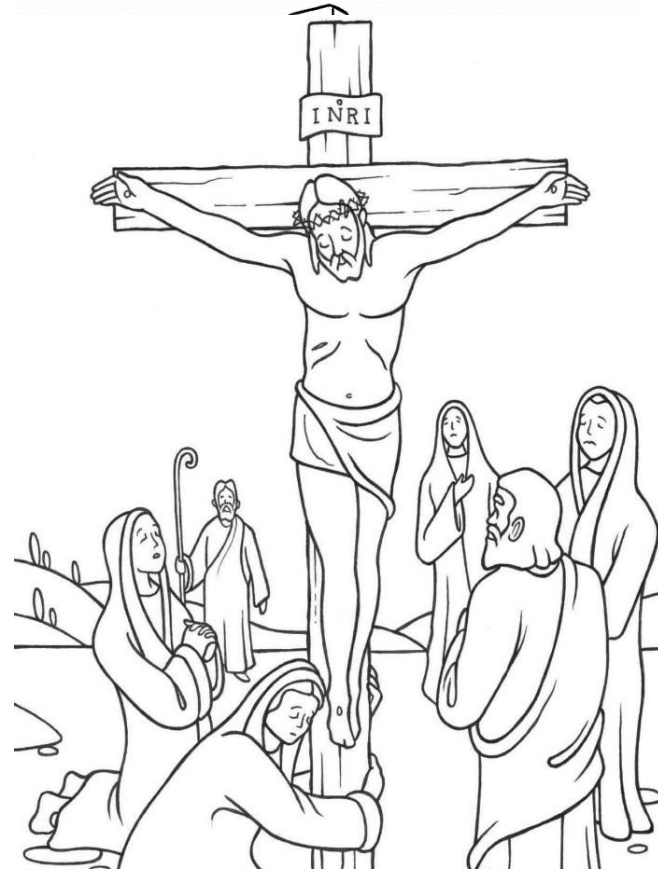
HABILIN

Ang pagiging katekista
At tiwalang-bigay
Habiling-taglay
Malaking pananagutan
Upang manatiling-buhay,
Bawat aral ng ebanghelyo
Bawat kwento ng bibliya
Bawat tradisyong turo
Bawat istorya ng kabanalan



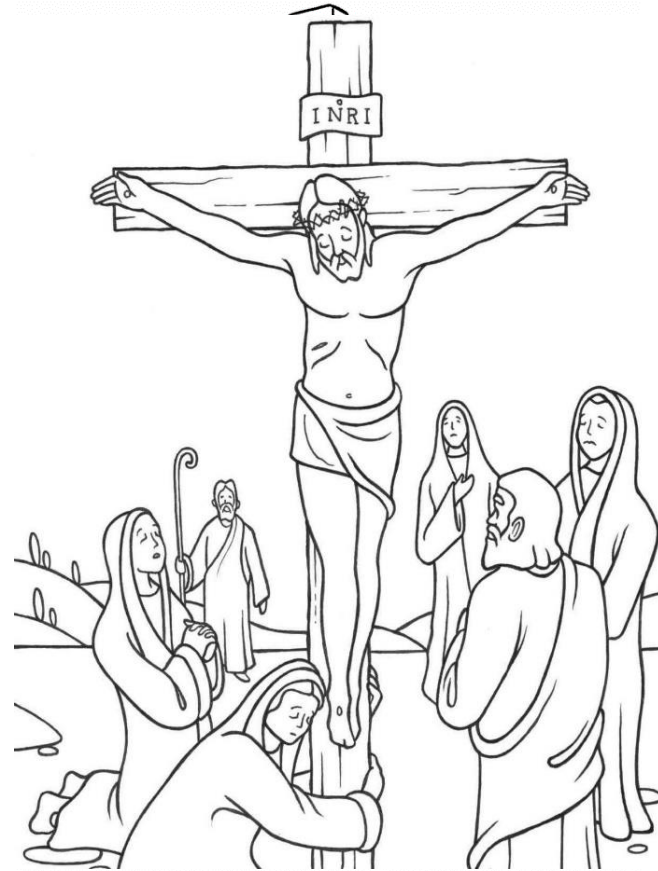
HABILIN

Katuwang ang patnubay
Ng apostol na Juan,
Ang malapit kay Jesus
Kanyang kaibigan.
At tangan ang pagmamahal,
Ni Mariang ating ina
Na tadtad-dalamhati
Ang pusong-sinugatan
Ng hirap ng Anak
Timping nasaksihan.



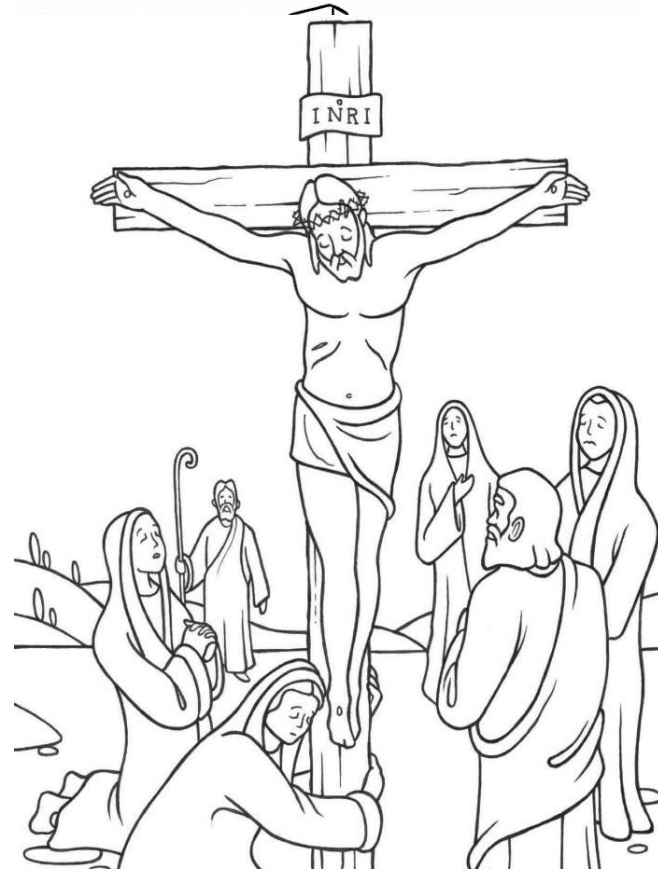
HABILIN

Kay Maria ibinilin
Ni Hesus ang simbahan
Sa panahong lumilimlim
Ang lahat ng pag-asa
Sa bantang kawalan
Ng mundong-buhay.

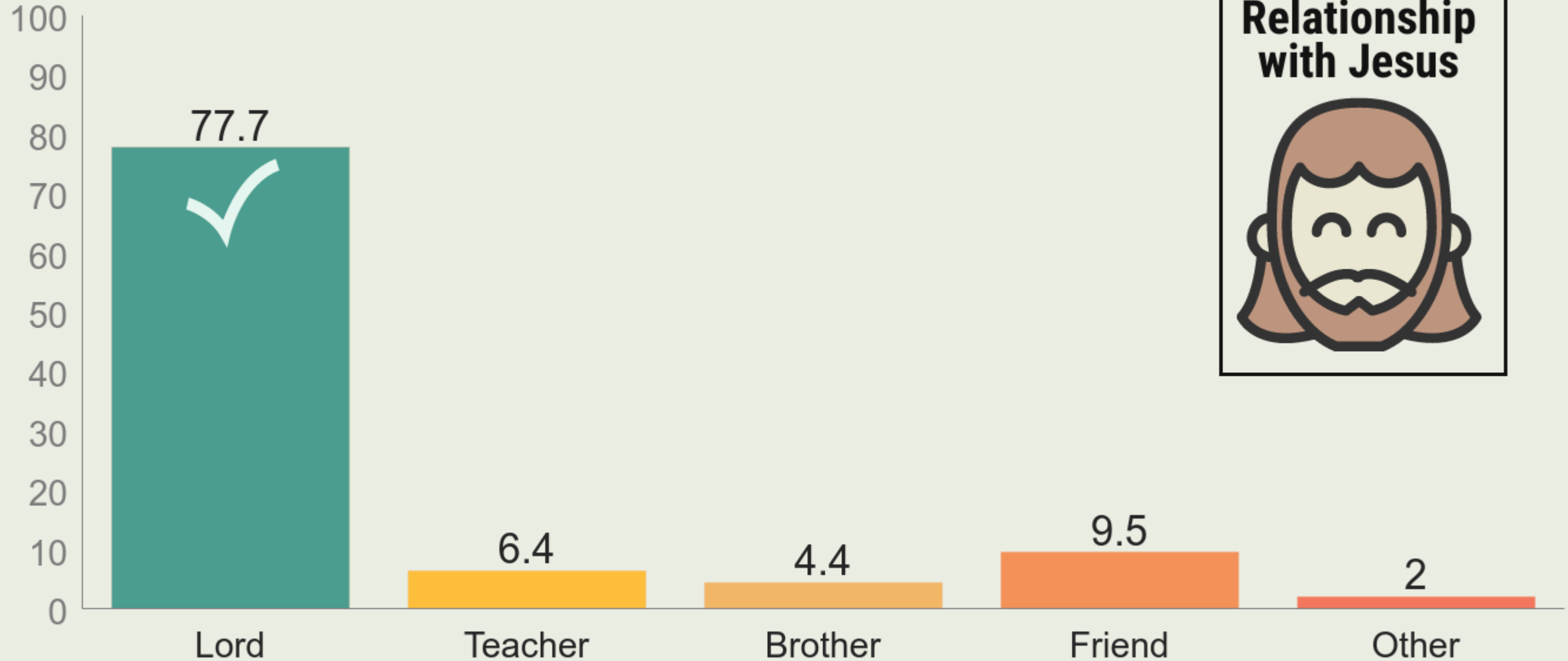


HABILIN

Katekista'y maka-Maria
Rosaryo laging kapit
Sa lipunang makulit
Katesismong himig.
Ito ang ikalabing-isang
Krus sa daan
Ng katekistang-lingkod,
Sakrispiyong makahulugan.



Which of these images BEST describe your relationship with Jesus at the moment?



n=25,153

Which of the following spiritual activities do you do on a daily basis?

NATIONAL

n=131 to 19,868

1

Pray the
Rosary

2

Read the
Bible

3

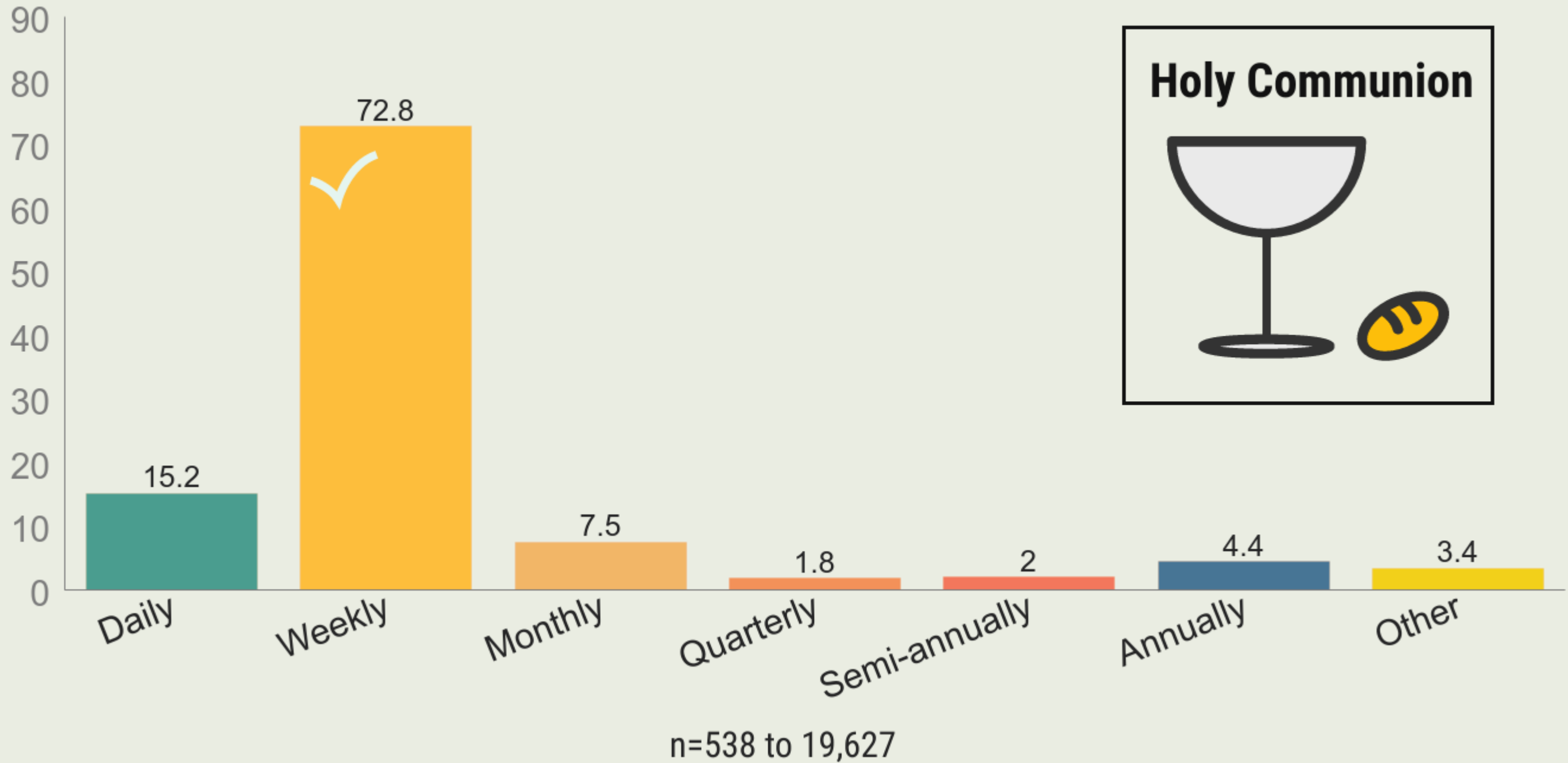
Silent
Prayer

4

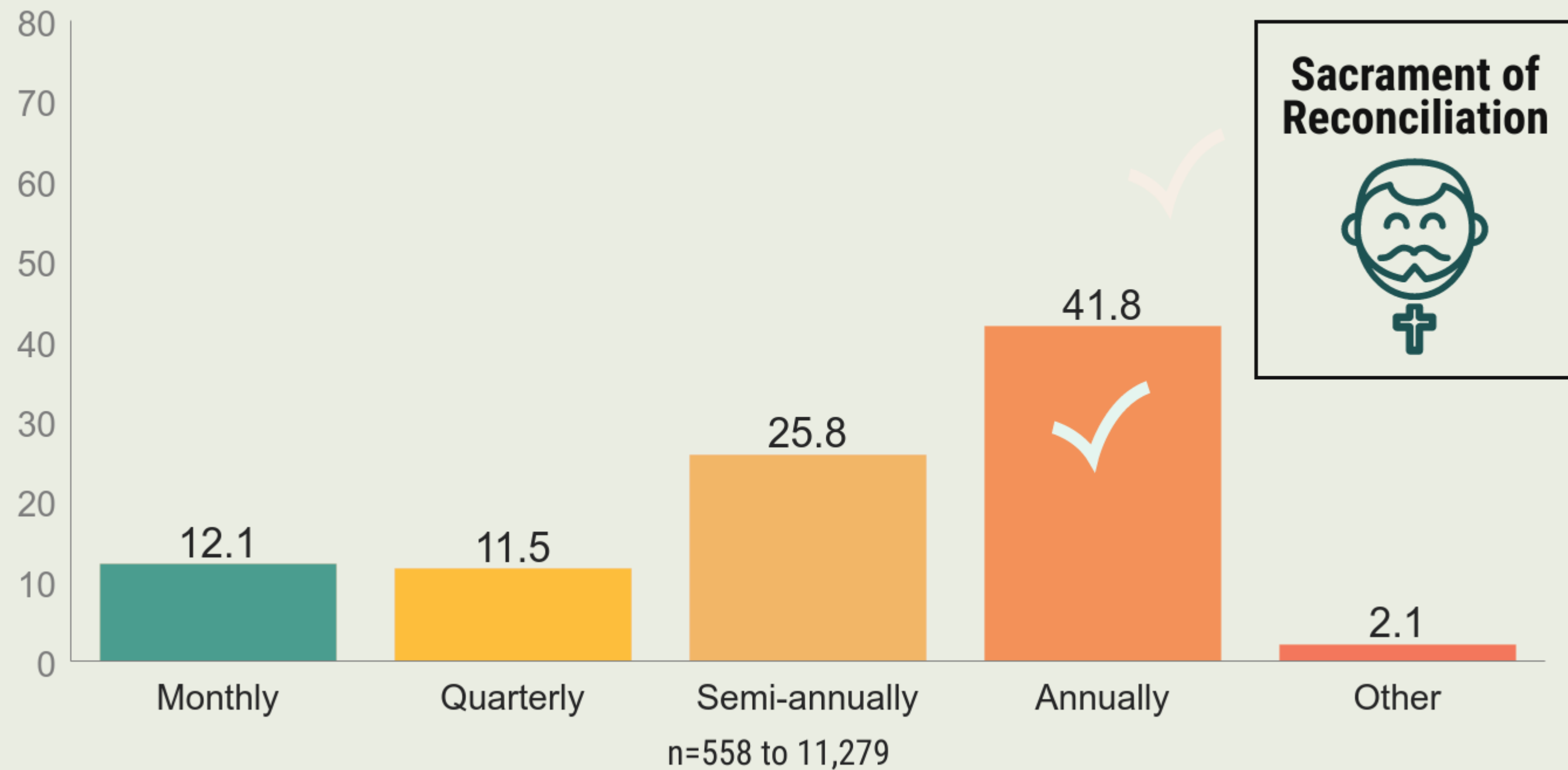
Go to
Mass



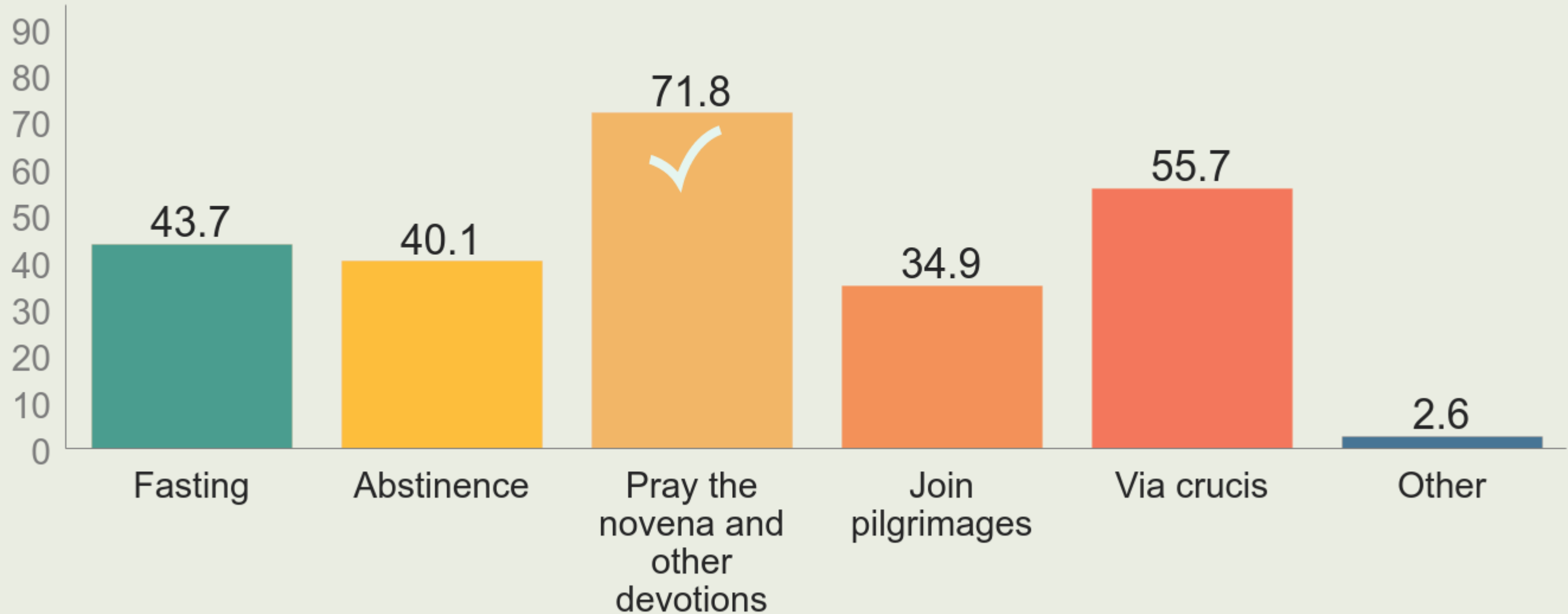
How often do you receive the Holy Communion?



How often do you receive the Sacrament of Reconciliation?



Which of the following religious practices do you regularly observe?



n=690 to 19,360

Discussion point

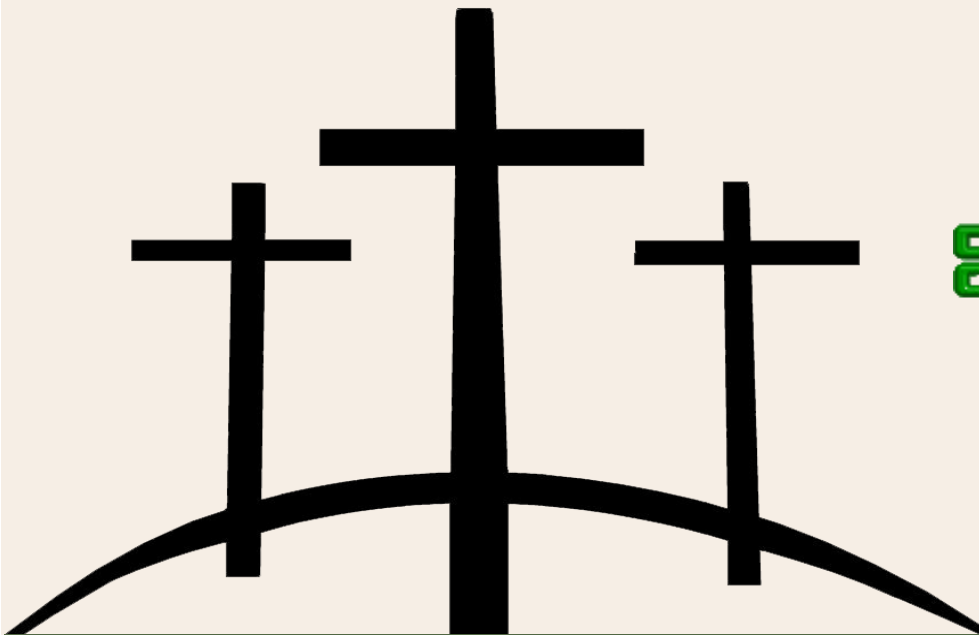
Habilin | Marian devotion and deep appreciation/relation to the “suffering Christ” (Via Crucis) give hope and strength to Filipino women catechists in rendering their services despite of many challenges.



KRUS NA DAAN NG KATEKISTANG-LINGKOD

MGA TULANG-PANANALIKSIK HANGO SA NATIONAL CATECHETICAL STUDY (NCS) 2018

NI PROF. CLARENCE M. BATAN, PHD | PRINCIPAL INVESTIGATOR NCS 2018



PAGKABUHAY

Piniling misyon ay
Maging katekista
Pero ang totoo -
Sila'y maingat na pinili
Ng Poong Maykapal,
Upang maging katuwang
Sa matiyagang pag-aalaga
Sa simbahang mahal.



PAGKABUHAY

Buhayin ang
pananampalatayang
Nanamlay at paulit-ulit
Walang tigil, nagpaalala
Ng mga mahahalagang aral
Tungkol sa paghahanda
Sa muling pagkabuhay!



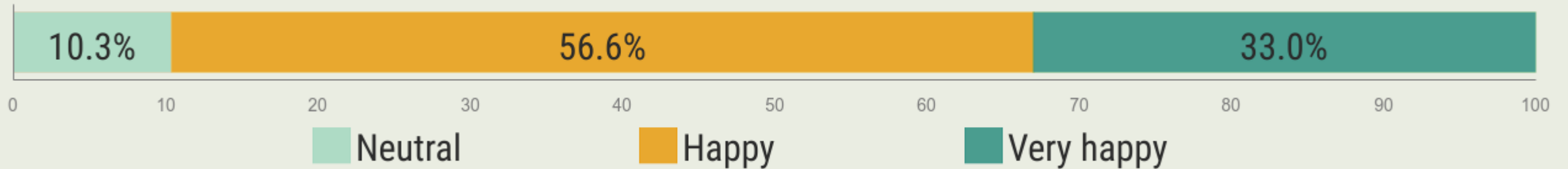
PAGKABUHAY

Katekistang kayamanan
Ng ating simbahan.
Ito ang ikalabing-apat
Krus sa daan
Ng katekistang-lingkod,
Sakrispiyong makahulugan.



What best describes your life situation at present?

NATIONAL



n=25,059

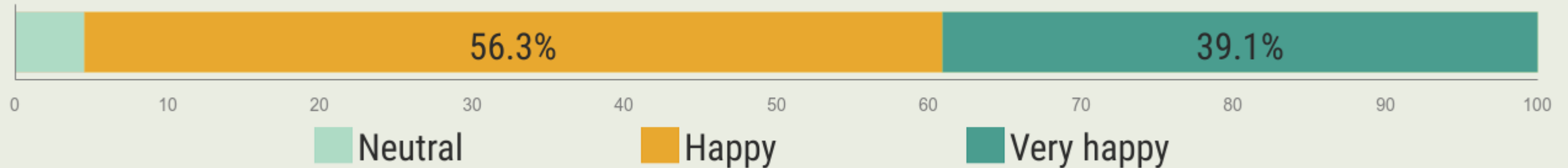
COTABATO

What best describes your life situation at present?



Are you happy at the moment as a catechist?

NATIONAL



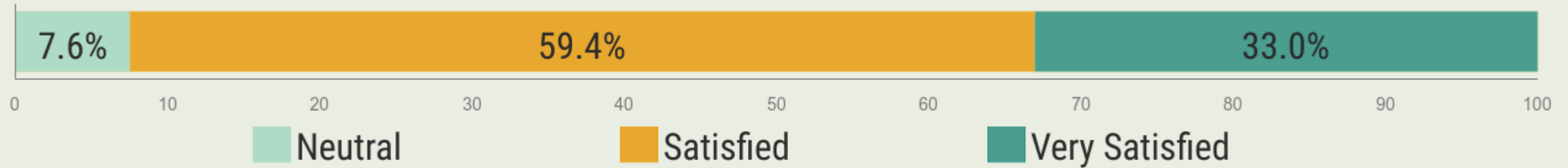
n=24,967

Are you happy at the moment as a catechist?



How satisfied are you as a catechist?

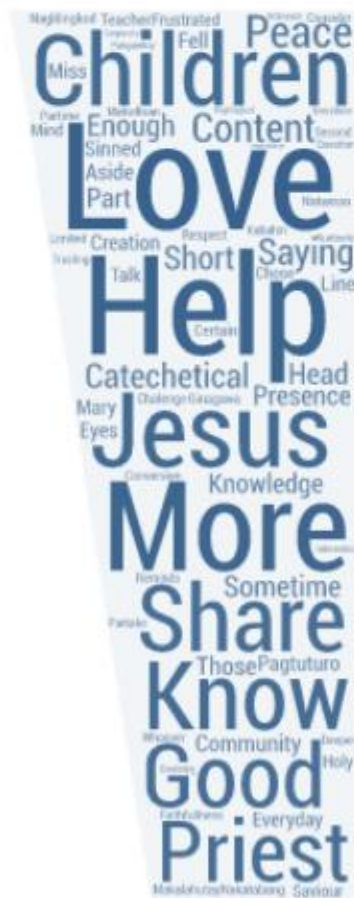
NATIONAL



n=24,449

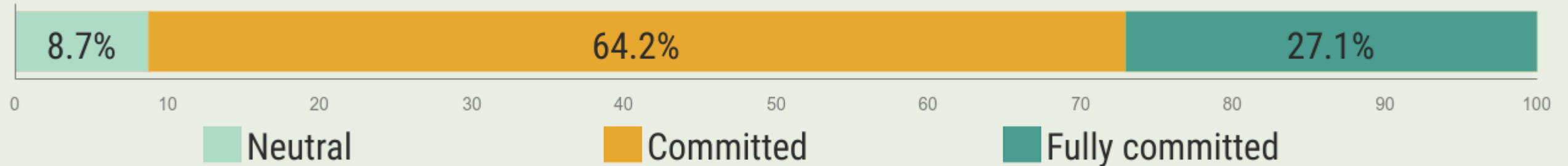
ANTIPOLO

How satisfied are you
as a catechist?



How would you rate your commitment as a catechist at the moment?

NATIONAL



n=23,446

[illegible][illegible]

Discussion point

Pagkabuhay | The Filipino women catechists' life is filled with hope like the women in the biblical times who witnessed the resurrection. Their old age do not hinder them in sharing their faith in Jesus, to those whom they catechize.



Data Matrix of Discussion Points

Research Poems Themes	Discussion Points	Argument Points
Hapunan	*Role of women in the family *Desire to serve the church	Service
Sanhedrin	Women and authority	Service
Simon Sireneo	*Support of family *"Kumadre" system	Hope
Pagsalubong	*Informal leaders *Multi-tasking	Service
Habilin	Marian devotion and deep appreciation/relation to the "suffering Christ" (Via Crucis)	Hope
Pagkabuhay	Sharing witness of the resurrection promise of renewed life	Service & hope



Concluding Insights

- **The Filipino women catechists' religious disposition to serve is noteworthy in making catechetical ministry (CM) alive in the Philippines. However, there is a need to explore on how CM invite/include other church members like the males and youth to serve as catechists.**



Concluding Insights

- Such inclusivity calls for research-based interventions that focus on **other forms of catechesis** (for example, catechesis focusing on youth, adult, family and community). This will hopefully make the **Catholic Christian faith more alive and enduring in the Philippines.**



Concluding Insights

- **Despite persisting & emerging Catholic Church crises** (for example, various church scandals and state indifferences on selected social issues) **and the reality of aging Filipino women** in catechetical ministry, **they are meaningfully keeping the Catholic faith alive.**



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"Dumadami ang katekista kapag ang pari at obispo ay may pusong katekista."
("The number of catechists grows when priests and bishops cradle a catechist's heart.")

*Princess, katekista,
Diocese of San Jose
(Nueva Ecija)*

