



A STUDY OF THE CHURCHES
AND PEOPLE IN FOUR BAPTIST
ASSOCIATIONS IN METROPOLITAN
OKLAHOMA CITY

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SURVEY AND SPECIAL STUDIES

A STUDY OF THE CHURCHES AND PEOPLE IN FOUR BAPTIST ASSOCIATIONS
IN METROPOLITAN OKLAHOMA CITY

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Prepared by

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DEPARTMENT OF SURVEY AND SPECIAL STUDIES

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INTRODUCTION

This brief paper has been prepared at the request of the Metropolitan Missions program of the Home Mission Board and the Capital Baptist Association in Oklahoma City. It is addressed to the strategy planning group and other interested persons who relate to Capital, Pottawatomie-Lincoln, and Union Baptist Associations, and the Canadian County portion of Central Baptist Association. It is to be used as a tool in developing a strategy for this strategic area of Oklahoma. The report is an attempt to assemble several data that are important in the analysis of the communities, churches, and growth of the metropolitan Oklahoma City area, and to give some brief interpretation of these data. The initial part of the paper is an analytical text which accompanies the tables of data included there and in the appendix. The last section deals with church data. The conclusions have been developed by the author as a result of observations of the data, and are an attempt to share with the associations in metropolitan Oklahoma City his observations.

This report will be stimulative in nature rather than exhaustive, since there is neither a demand nor space for full treatment of all the available data.

Appreciation must be expressed to several people who have made significant contributions to this report. Dr. J. T. Elliff, Mr. C. B. Lewis, and Mr. Ed Onley of the Capital Baptist Association staff have made invaluable contribution through their counsel and suggestions and by assisting in the searching out of certain data contained in this report. Several people from Capital Association have gathered data from community agencies and have compiled the church data. They are Earl Fuller, John Salvo, R. B. Cherry, Norman Wester, and H. V. Gritz who assisted on interviewing the

community agencies, dealing with community facilities, and the courts and police. Then J. R. Sammons, Mrs. Glen McClain, Harvey G. Albright, Lyndol Adams, Mrs. Howard Cyphers, Mrs. C. L. Fike, John Morton, and Clovis Hibbard interviewed the agencies dealing with social services. June Wilfong and Donnie Ball helped in compiling the church data. These people are due a great big "thank you" for their efforts and time required in collating the data. Further, appreciation must be expressed to several public agencies who have shared materials and observations that have contributed to the report and have helped to understand some of the activities and trends in metropolitan Oklahoma City.

A very special "thank you" goes to Miss Cathy Hulsey, the department office secretary, whose diligence and efforts has made the preparation of this report possible.

Don F. Mabry, Director

Department of Survey and Special Studies

POPULATION TRENDS

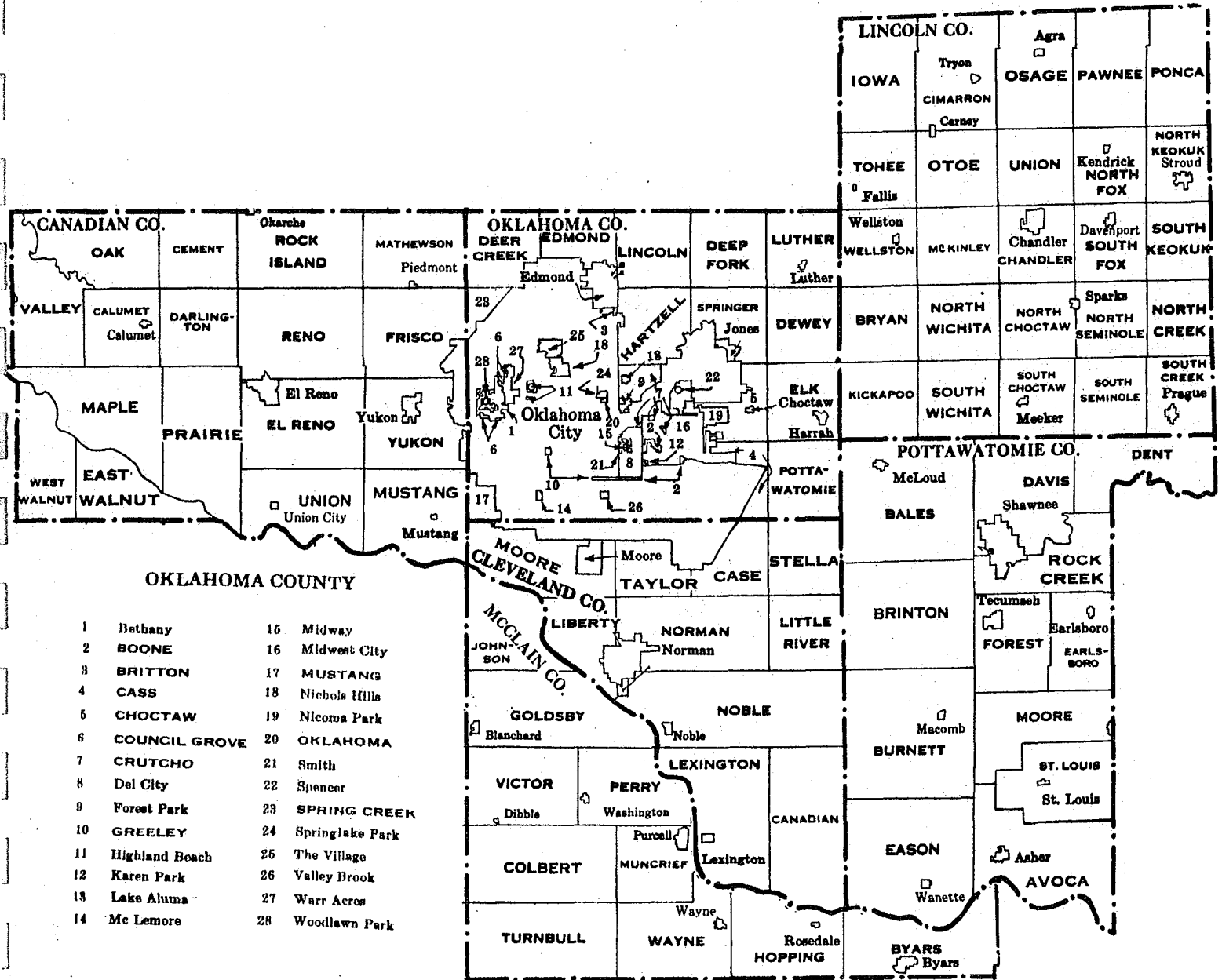
Significant Numerical Growth

Between 1960 and 1970, the population of metropolitan Oklahoma City grew by 22.7%, or 132,820 persons. The largest percentage growth occurred in Union Association, with a 59% increase, and the smallest occurred in Pottawatomie-Lincoln Association, with 3.9%. The largest numerical increase, of course, occurred in Capital Association, with 87,299 persons, or a 19.9% increase. On Table 1 are the data which indicate these trends and also the change in population data for Oklahoma and the United States. Oklahoma experienced a 9.9% increase, and it is very interesting to note that 57.5% of the total population increase in the state occurred in the metropolitan Oklahoma City area.

On Figure 1 is a map of the metropolitan Oklahoma City area, which delineates the four study areas used in this report for comparison of data. The reader should review this map before continuing, so as to understand the dimensions of the area studied. It should be understood that the associations used in the report make up the Standard Metropolitan Statistical Area of Oklahoma City as of April 1, 1973. In the 1970 Census, only the counties of Oklahoma, Cleveland, and Canadian were in the metropolitan area. The area was redefined on April 1, 1973, and Pottawatomie and McClain counties were added to the metropolitan area. For the purpose of this study, Lincoln County has been included, since it is a portion of Pottawatomie-Lincoln Association. The remaining three counties of Central Association were not included, since they are not a portion of the metropolitan area.

FIGURE 1

LOCATION OF COUNTIES IN METROPOLITAN OKLAHOMA CITY^a



Oklahoma County is Capital Association.
 Canadian County is a portion of Central Association.
 Cleveland and McClain Counties are in Union Association.
 Pottawatomie and Lincoln Counties are an association by that name.

TABLE 1

POPULATION AND POPULATION PROJECTIONS IN FOUR BAPTIST ASSOCIATIONS
IN METROPOLITAN OKLAHOMA CITY, 1960, 1970, AND 1980^a

ASSOCIATIONS, STATE AND USA	POPULATION						
	1960	1970	Change 1960-1970		1980	Change 1970-1980	
			Number	Percent		Number	Percent
Capital	439,506	526,805	87,299	19.9	639,300	112,495	21.4
Canadian Co.	24,727	32,245	7,518	30.4	NA	NA	NA
Pott.-Lincoln	60,269	62,616	2,347	3.9	NA	NA	NA
Union	60,340	95,996	35,656	59.1	NA	NA	NA
Total Area	584,842	717,662	132,820	22.7	921,050	203,388	28.3
Oklahoma	2,328,284	2,559,229	230,945	9.9	NA	NA	NA
United States	NA	NA	NA	13.5	NA	NA	NA

^aSource: U.S. Bureau of Census. Number of Inhabitants. Final Report PC(1)-A38 Oklahoma, and Research and Education Division. Population Estimates and Projections for Oklahoma City Metropolitan Area. Oklahoma City Chamber of Commerce, May 14, 1973.

NA - Not Available or Not Applicable.

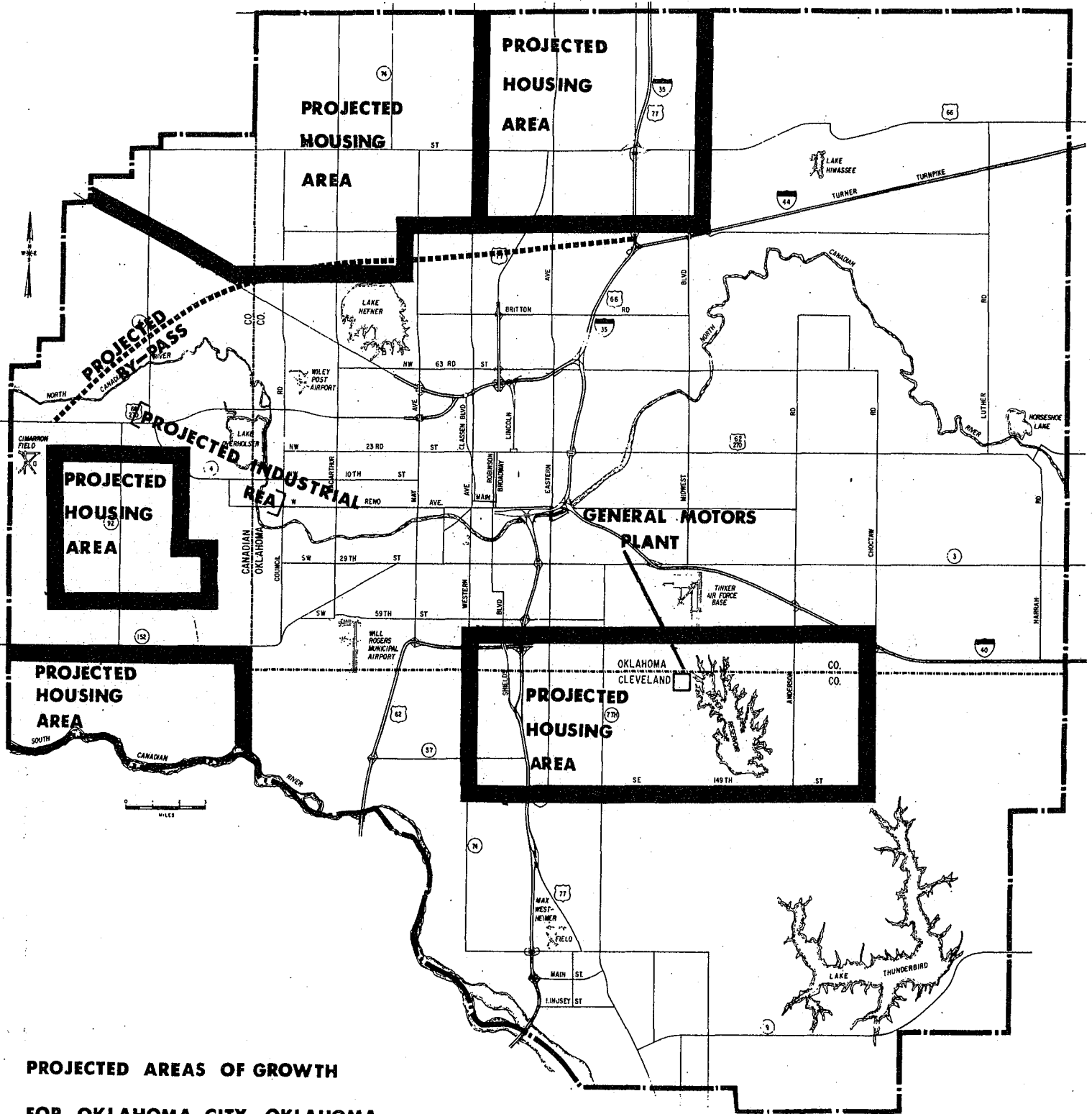
Table 1 also indicates that 73.4% of all the population in the metro area is in Oklahoma County or Capital Association. The smallest unit in this study is Canadian County, which has about 4.5% of the metropolitan population.

Also included on Table 1 are population projections for Oklahoma County and the metropolitan region. Population projections for the United States and Oklahoma were not available. The author was unable to delineate the other counties of the metropolitan region other than Oklahoma County, but the total metropolitan area is listed. It is anticipated that Capital Association will increase by 112,500 people during the 1970s, for a 21.4% increase. The entire metropolitan region will increase by 203,400 persons, or 28.3%. Both of these estimates seem to be very realistic, since Capital Association increased by 20% during the 1960s and the entire area increased by 23% during that decade.

Perhaps the key word for future growth in the metropolitan Oklahoma City area will be "compaction," that is, the areas "leap-frogged" during the development of the '60s will be filled in during the '70s. This is true because of the tremendous expense of extending water and sewer lines in the new areas of development. However, there are several satellite areas around the metropolitan area where significant development is taking place, and where services have already been extended.

An interview with the Oklahoma City Planning Commission revealed several very interesting factors about the development of the Oklahoma City area. Some of the information gathered from this interview is reflected on Figure 2, which indicates the projected housing areas, the location of the General Motors plant, the projected bypass on the north side, and the projected

FIGURE 2



PROJECTED AREAS OF GROWTH
FOR OKLAHOMA CITY, OKLAHOMA

industrial area along the railroad tracks to the west of the downtown area. In addition, the conversation with authorities at the Planning Commission indicates that some of the more rapid growing areas of the city are located around Lake Hefner, where townhouses, apartments, and single-family dwellings are currently being constructed. Quail Creek, for instance, is a high income housing area being developed to the north of Lake Hefner. The entire area to the northwest of Lake Hefner is one of the most active growth areas in the entire metropolitan area. Surry Hills and Greenbriar are two additional developments on the north side which are receiving a great deal of emphasis at this time. Building has slowed somewhat during the later part of 1973 and early 1974, but it is expected to increase in the spring.

A conversation with an official of the Oklahoma Gas and Electric Company revealed some facts about other areas. Mustang appears to have slowed down in its growth after a rapid start. In Norman there are two different types of developments. On the east side are acreage developments of small ranchettes and on the west side are more conventional developments of single family homes on lots.

The faster growing areas will likely be west from Reno along I-40, between Yukon and Mustang. Piedmont, with most of the development being one to ten acre sites, will continue rapid development, and also north of Edmond. Mustang, Midwest City, and Del City will all likely slow down in their growth, while the northeast area will have almost no growth. Looking again at Figure 2, it can be noted that one of the areas marked for significant development is north of Edmond, some of which extends into Logan County. Most of this will be high income developments for persons who can afford the acreage and recreational amenities of these kinds of housing.

The Planning Commission indicated that there is a great deal of open space and low density development in Oklahoma City itself. There are 640 square miles in the city and only 120 to 150 of these are developed.

The bulk of the Black population in Oklahoma City is located to the northeast of the central business district, and much of this area is older housing, with a portion of it being sub-standard housing. This area is marked for some emphasis on renewal in the immediate future, but it does not appear that the area will show much change in its racial and economic characteristics. There are urban renewal projects to the north and the east of the central business district that are presently under development. It is not known what the nature of these developments will be, but if they follow the pattern of most metropolitan areas, it will be some distance in the future before they are fully developed.

The interview with the Planning Commission also indicated that there is a relatively good thoroughfare plan in Oklahoma City, with no real transportation problems at the present time. Sewer and water facilities of the city are also adequate for present development. A map of the extensions of the water and sewer system indicates that most of these new extensions will be on the north and west sides of the city.

There are, of course, several factors that will have a direct bearing on the continuing growth rate of the Oklahoma City area. Some of these factors are: (1) the ability of the area to continue attracting new industries and the expansion of present industries; (2) the provision of adequate housing for the new families migrating into the county; (3) the retention of young people native to the area; (4) provision of adequate care and activities for persons 65 years of age and older; (5) development of a workable water and

sewer master plan for the suburban areas; (6) the continued development of a master thoroughfare plan.

Racial and Ethnic Characteristics of the Population

On Table 2 are the data indicating the number and percentage of persons who are Negro, foreign stock, Spanish language, and Indian in the metropolitan Oklahoma City area. The data indicates that 16.9% of all persons in the area belong in one of the five categories listed on the table. About 8% of the population is Negro, while 4.3% is foreign stock (either they or one or both of their parents were born in a foreign country). Those who have Spanish language heritage are 17,677 persons, or 2.5% of the population, and about 15,570 persons are Indians. Comparative data for the state of Oklahoma and the United States are shown, and a much lesser portion of the population of Oklahoma and metropolitan Oklahoma City are Negro when compared to the nation. This is also true regarding foreign stock and foreign born persons. A much greater percentage of the population of Oklahoma City is Spanish language than is true of the state, but only about half as many persons in Oklahoma City are Indian as in the state.

The Oklahoma City area almost matches the nation in the percentage of its population born in the state of residency. Research findings indicate that 63.6% of all people in the metropolitan area were born in Oklahoma, while in the state as a whole, 63.2% were, and in the nation, 64.8% of the people were born in the state in which they now live. Only about 15% of the population in the metro area and in the state moved in from the South, and the remaining 21% moved in from the North and West or were born of American parents abroad. This indicates that the churches of the metro area are most dependent upon native-born population for their prospects and

TABLE 2

NEGRO AND ETHNIC POPULATION IN FOUR BAPTIST ASSOCIATIONS IN METROPOLITAN OKLAHOMA CITY, 1970^a

ASSOCIATIONS, STATE, AND USA	NEGRO AND ETHNIC GROUPS									
	Negro		Foreign Stock				Spanish Language		Indian	
			Total		Foreign Born					
	Number	Percent ^b	Number	Percent ^b	Number	Percent ^b	Number	Percent ^b	Number	Percent ^b
Capital	52,744	10.0	23,683	4.5	5,561	1.1	15,486	2.9	10,341	2.0
Canadian Co.	999	3.1	1,386	4.3	149	.5	261	.8	1,168	3.6
Pott.-Lincoln	2,028	3.2	1,650	2.6	232	.4	662	1.1	2,310	3.7
Union	760	.8	4,119	4.3	1,260	1.3	1,268	1.3	1,750	1.8
Total Area	56,531	7.9	30,838	4.3	7,202	1.0	17,677	2.5	15,569	2.2
Oklahoma	171,892	6.7	92,873	3.6	20,160	.8	36,007	1.4	98,468	3.9
United States	NA	11.1	NA	16.5	NA	4.7	NA	4.7	NA	.4

^aSource: U.S. Bureau of Census. General Social and Economic Characteristics, Final Report PC(1)-C38, Oklahoma and General Population Characteristics, Final Report PC(1)-B38, Oklahoma.

^bPercent of total population.

growth. Even those persons who have migrated from the South will have much the same life-style and background as those native to Oklahoma.

Age Characteristics of the Population

Age distribution of the Oklahoma City population has changed significantly between 1960 and 1970. This is true of the nation, Oklahoma, and the metro Oklahoma City area, and is caused by the large numbers of persons who were born from 1946 to 1950. The "baby boom" is very much a part of the population of Oklahoma City, and offers a very real challenge for the churches.

When a comparison is made between the age characteristics of the general population of Oklahoma City and the age characteristics of the Sunday School enrollment of the Southern Baptist churches, it will be found that the age group born between 1946 and 1955 is generally missing from Sunday School attendance. These are persons from 18 to 28 years of age.

Table 3 contains age characteristics of the population. About the same proportion of the population in metro Oklahoma City is under 18, as is true in Oklahoma and in the United States as a whole. A larger portion of Oklahoma City is between 19 and 64, but a lesser portion is 65 years of age or older. Note that almost 12 percent of the state's population is 65 years or over, while only 9.2% of the metro area is in this age group. However, almost 66,000 people in the metro area are over the age of 65, and many of these are living in poverty, loneliness, poor health, and without transportation. The incidence of these four factors in the life of persons over 65 is much more frequent than in any other age group. The median age for each one of the associations is listed in addition to the state and the United States. The significant fact here is that in Union Association, the median age is about 25 years, which is much less than the other associations.

TABLE 3

AGE CHARACTERISTICS OF POPULATION IN FOUR ASSOCIATIONS
IN METROPOLITAN OKLAHOMA CITY, 1970^a

ASSOCIATION, STATE, AND USA	AGE GROUPINGS						MEDIAN AGE
	Under 18 Years		19-64 Years		65 Years and Over		
	Number	Percent ^b	Number	Percent ^b	Number	Percent ^b	
Capital	181,535	34.4	300,799	57.0	45,384	8.6	27.7
Canadian Co.	11,318	35.1	17,380	53.9	3,547	11.0	28.0
Pott.-Lincoln	19,379	30.9	33,451	53.4	9,786	15.6	33.1
Union	30,632	31.9	58,105	60.5	7,259	7.6	24.9
Total Area	242,864	33.8	409,735	57.0	65,976	9.2	27.1
Oklahoma	836,867	32.7	1,422,931	55.6	299,430	11.7	29.4
United States	NA	34.3	NA	55.9	NA	9.9	28.1

^aSource: U.S. Bureau of Census. General Population Characteristics.
Final Report PC(1)-B38, Oklahoma.

^bPercent of total population.

However, Capital Association, Canadian County, the state, and the nation are very close at 27 to 29 median years of age.

Migration of the Population

On Table 4 are the data reflecting the migration of persons to Oklahoma City area. In the 1970 Census, one of the questions asked was, "What was your place of residence in 1965?" It can be noted on the table that almost 45% of all people in Oklahoma City were living in the same house in 1970 as they were in 1965. The range among the associations is from 53.1% in Canadian County to 38% in Union Association. Both the state and the United States have higher percentages of persons remaining in the same house. An additional 24% of the people changed houses, but remained in the same county in which they had been living. This is almost exactly the same as in Oklahoma and the nation. The data further indicates that 12% of the people moved in from other regions of the nation, with the remaining portion not indicated on the table being those who moved from other counties in Oklahoma. Note that 4%, or 26,000 moved from Northern states to the Oklahoma City region, which is only slightly less than the 32,300 persons who moved in from Southern states.

The author is at a loss to indicate why the small percentage of persons in Union Association remained in the same house, while in Canadian County and Pottawatomie-Lincoln Association, almost 53% of the people remained in the same house.

Educational Achievement of the Population

Perhaps one of the best indicators of a person's life-style is the educational achievement which he has made. On Table 5 are the data reflecting the school years completed by persons 25 years of age and older. This

TABLE 4

PLACE OF RESIDENCE IN 1965 OF PERSONS IN FOUR BAPTIST ASSOCIATIONS IN METROPOLITAN OKLAHOMA CITY, 1970^a

ASSOCIATION, STATE, AND USA	PERSONS 5 YEARS OLD AND OVER IN 1970									
	Same House in 1970 as in 1965		Different House in 1970 than in 1965							
			Same County		North		South		West	
	Number	Percent ^b	Number	Percent ^b	Number	Percent ^b	Number	Percent ^b	Number	Percent ^b
Capital	214,005	44.4	137,423	28.5	19,669	4.1	24,205	5.0	14,984	3.1
Canadian Co.	15,828	53.1	5,317	17.8	1,080	3.6	671	2.3	729	2.4
Pott.-Lincoln Union	30,759	52.6	460	.8	1,110	1.9	1,817	3.1	1,483	2.5
	33,539	38.0	14,088	16.0	4,285	4.9	5,671	6.4	3,456	3.9
Total Area	294,131	44.6	157,288	23.9	26,144	4.0	32,364	4.9	20,652	3.1
Oklahoma	1,127,306	47.7	557,669	23.6	90,081	3.8	111,310	4.7	76,433	3.2
United States	NA	53.0	NA	23.3	NA	NA	NA	NA	NA	NA

^aSource: U.S. Bureau of Census. General Social and Economic Characteristics, Final Report PC(1)-C38, Oklahoma.

^bPercent of persons 5 years old or older.

NA - Not Applicable or Not Available.

TABLE 5

EDUCATIONAL ATTAINMENT OF PERSONS 25 YEARS OLD AND OVER IN FOUR
BAPTIST ASSOCIATIONS IN METROPOLITAN OKLAHOMA CITY, 1970^a

ASSOCIATIONS, STATE, AND USA	SCHOOL YEARS COMPLETED									
	No School and 1-4 Years		5-8 Years		High School 1-4 Years		College 1-4 Years		Median Years Comp.	Percent High School Grad.
	Number	Percent ^b	Number	Percent ^b	Number	Percent ^b	Number	Percent ^b		
Capital	9,260	3.3	47,969	16.9	147,444	51.9	79,645	28.0	12.3	60.6
Canadian Co.	523	3.0	3,575	20.5	9,792	56.3	3,513	20.2	12.2	58.0
Pott.-Lincoln	2,139	5.8	11,326	30.7	17,780	48.3	5,592	15.2	11.2	45.0
Union	1,764	3.8	9,174	19.7	21,468	46.0	14,539	31.2	11.7	60.1
Total Area	13,686	3.6	72,044	18.7	196,484	51.0	103,289	26.8	NA	NA
Oklahoma	79,663	5.6	340,047	23.9	734,046	51.6	142,257	10.0	12.1	51.6
United States	NA	4.8	NA	20.5	NA	51.4	NA	23.4	12.2	51.1

^aSource: U.S. Bureau of Census. General Social and Economic Characteristics, Final Report PC(1)-C38, Oklahoma.

^bPercent of population 25 years old and older.

table shows that only a very small portion of the metropolitan area's population is functionally illiterate (no school or less than fifth grade). More than 50% of the population completed one or more years of high school, while 27% have completed one to four years of college. The four associations reflect the same trends as the total area, but there are some drastic differences between the Oklahoma City area and the state. For instance, almost 6% of the state population is functionally illiterate, and only 10% of the state's population has completed one to four years of college. The median school years completed is almost the same in all areas, the state, and the nation.

This table should be studied closely by church leaders in order to understand the educational attainment of the community and to design an educational program for the constituency of each congregation. This is not to say that some communities are smarter than others, but simply that the content and technique of teaching in the various congregations would need to fit the educational patterns of those attending the local churches.

HOUSING CHARACTERISTICS

The following two tables have been assimilated to indicate the housing characteristics in the Oklahoma City area.

The data on Table 6 indicate the housing occupancy characteristics as to the type occupancy and the year that the persons moved into their present unit. The first two columns indicate the number and percent of persons who are living in owner-occupied housing, and the incidence of home ownership in Oklahoma and Oklahoma City is much greater than in the nation as a whole. Almost 69% of the people in Oklahoma own their own home, while in the nation, only 60% do. Two of the study areas, Canadian County and Pottawatomie-Lincoln Association, indicate that more than 73% of the homes are owner occupied. The companion data for renters appears in columns three and four on the table, and the reverse of owner occupied housing is indicated here. There is very little variation between the data for Oklahoma City and that for the state.

The second portion of Table 6 indicates the years which the 1970 occupant moved into their housing. Again, it is very interesting to note the parallel between metropolitan Oklahoma City, the state, and the nation. As might be expected, Canadian County and Pottawatomie-Lincoln Association indicate the highest percentage of persons who moved in before 1950 and the least number of persons who moved in between 1965 and 1970. Almost 10% of all the homes in Oklahoma County were occupied before 1950 by their present occupants. It is also significant that in Union Association, almost 63% of all housing was occupied by the 1970 dwellers between 1965 and 1970.

Data on Table 7 indicates the number of units in the housing for the study areas, the state, and the nation. Two of the study areas indicate

TABLE 6

HOUSING OCCUPANCY CHARACTERISTICS IN FOUR BAPTIST ASSOCIATIONS IN METROPOLITAN OKLAHOMA CITY, 1970^a

ASSOCIATIONS, STATE, AND USA	TYPE OCCUPANCY				YEAR MOVED INTO UNIT							
	Owner		Renter		1949 or Earlier		1950-1959		1960-1964		1965-1970	
	Number	Percent	Number	Percent	Number	Percent	Number	Percent	Number	Percent	Number	Percent
Capital Canadian Co.	119,379	67.9	56,535	32.1	16,916	9.6	29,318	16.7	29,220	16.6	100,460	57.1
Pott.-Lincoln Union	7,299	73.4	2,643	26.6	1,715	17.3	1,576	15.9	1,995	20.1	4,656	46.8
	15,996	74.7	5,412	25.3	3,630	17.0	3,457	16.2	3,354	15.7	8,845	41.3
	18,886	65.3	10,047	34.7	2,459	8.5	3,513	12.1	4,787	16.6	18,174	62.8
Total Area	161,560	68.4	74,637	31.6	24,720	10.6	37,864	16.2	39,356	16.8	132,135	56.5
Oklahoma	588,886	69.2	261,183	30.7	124,715	14.7	142,241	16.7	138,680	16.3	445,167	52.4
United States	NA	58.9	NA	34.8	NA	14.9	NA	18.2	NA	16.7	NA	50.2

^aSource: U.S. Bureau of Census. Detailed Housing Characteristics, Final Report HC(1)-B38, Oklahoma.

TABLE 7

NUMBER OF UNITS IN HOUSING IN FOUR BAPTIST ASSOCIATIONS IN METROPOLITAN OKLAHOMA CITY, 1970^a

ASSOCIATIONS, STATE, AND USA	UNITS IN STRUCTURE								MOBILE HOME	
	Single Family		2-4		5-19		20 or More			
	Number	Percent	Number	Percent	Number	Percent	Number	Percent	Number	Percent
Capital Canadian Co.	150,765	79.4	14,477	7.6	10,776	5.7	10,505	5.5	3,319	1.8
Pott.-Lincolna Union	10,241	91.6	327	2.9	271	2.4	240	2.2	107	1.0
	21,550	91.7	929	4.0	454	1.9	42	.2	537	2.3
	24,982	80.4	1,954	6.3	2,134	6.9	1,218	3.9	786	2.5
Total Area	207,538	81.2	17,687	6.9	13,635	5.3	12,005	4.7	4,749	1.9
Oklahoma	796,031	84.9	54,150	5.8	60,034 ^b	6.4	NA	NA	27,600	2.9
United States	NA	72.2	NA	13.3	NA	14.5	NA	NA	NA	3.1

^aSource: U.S. Bureau of Census. Detailed Housing Characteristics, Final Report HC(1)-B38, Oklahoma.^bData for 5 or more units in structure.

NA - Not Available or Not Applicable.

more than 90% of their homes are single family, while in the state, this is 85%, and in the metropolitan area, it is 81%. The lowest occurrence of single family homes is in Capital Association, where approximately 80% of the homes are single family dwellings. It is interesting to note that in the nation as a whole, only 72% of all housing is single family.

Among the multi-family units, the largest occurrence is in the low-rise, two to four unit buildings, followed by those buildings with five to nineteen units, and then with twenty units or more. There is very little difference in these multi-unit housing differentials. In the state, almost 3% of the housing is mobile homes, which compares with the nation. In the Oklahoma City area, only about 2% of the homes, or 4,749 units, are mobile homes.

Southern Baptists have not yet learned the technique for reaching persons who live in multi-family units. This became quite obvious when a study was made of the churches that are in close proximity to apartment houses and multi-family condominium units. Since only about 20% of the units in metropolitan Oklahoma City are multi-family units, it is very easy for the churches to overlook these people and to continue reaching the single family unit dwellers. However, in order to remain true to the claims of the Gospel and to carry out the Great Commission, it is mandatory that the churches begin to develop the techniques and the programs which will reach those persons who live in multi-family housing. Much has been said about the life-style and the mind-set of apartment house dwellers, and it is evident that they are quite different in attitude, life-style, income, family size, and religious involvement, but they are also in need of the spiritual guidance of local churches.

SOCIAL PROBLEMS

The churches of the associations want to relate to the problems of their community. This section is concerned with the community's social service agencies and their efforts to deal with these problems. It is also an attempt at helping the churches to associate themselves with many of the problems, and to direct their efforts of ministry toward community betterment.

Mental Health Association

In addition to the normal program of dealing with the mentally ill, this organization is dealing with the drug abuse problem by referring people to the drug abuse clinics in the area, as well as psychiatrists and doctors. There are no requirements necessary to receive aid and since there are many requests, they are under staffed. The organization has only two paid staff members with several volunteer helpers. Many more volunteers are needed, however. Baptist churches can be involved on an educational level by providing speakers, films, and printed materials. Qualified church members can serve on some of the referral committees. Churches can help provide answers to spiritual needs which have never been dealt with.

Special Unit on Aging

The purpose of this agency is to set up program needs for senior citizens. With a staff of 14, the agency attempts to help in the areas of nutrition, homemaking, education, and transportation. The agency has a budget of \$2.7 million and is growing in its outreach. Churches can render help by providing programs of care and involving these people in church and community affairs. It would be good for the churches to report their results and activities to this agency if possible.

Community Action Program

This organization helps disadvantaged and low income people with personal needs and problems such as recreation, alcoholism, medical, employment, legal aid, and nutrition. Volunteers in the area of guidance are needed.

Alcoholics Anonymous

Ten million people in the United States are being helped by this organization which attempts to treat and rehabilitate alcoholics. Two hundred thousand people are being aided in the state of Oklahoma, and 50,000 are aided in Oklahoma County. Less than 5% of the alcoholics are cured enough to leave the organization. Churches can be of help by referring alcoholics to this organization.

Oklahoma City-County Health Department

The purpose of this agency is to prevent illness and to detect physical defects as early as possible. Several thousand people are employed in the areas of administration, community service, nursing, and laboratory research. Church help is needed in two ways: to provide building space for mobile units in order that the community may be helped, and to help publicize the dates when the department will be in the community. The Dixon Baptist Church was scheduled to be used by the health department in January of this year. Several other churches are already involved in this ministry.

Welfare Office Volunteer Services

This agency attempts to offer tutoring in special skills, Big Brother programs, Adopted Grandmother programs, and help in doing light chores. They need 14 volunteers daily to assist parents who apply for welfare in caring for their children during interviews.

Lackey Manor

Lackey Manor is owned and operated by the Oklahoma Baptist General Convention, and attempts to offer nursing care for aged persons. There are 60 persons on the staff, with 103 persons being served. Patients are being admitted as space becomes available, but must be able to pay for accommodations in some way. Churches can help by sending toilet articles, sheets, gowns, wash cloths, and towels.

Housing and Urban Development

This organization attempts to provide housing for underprivileged people. At present, there are 137 paid workers serving many families. To receive aid, one must be of a low income bracket. Volunteer help is needed, but at present, only one Catholic church is involved. Volunteers can contribute financially and to make referrals. There are other areas of volunteer help such as classes in carpentry work, painting, cooking, and housekeeping.

There are some other agencies which the churches in the area should be aware of, especially as to what these agencies do. The Employment Security Commission provides market information about employment, unemployment, and worker earnings. The Housing Authority provides services to residents through programs established by the Community Services Coordinator.

Oklahomans for Indian Opportunity is an organization which serves as a clearing house for accumulating information and data concerning needs and resources for Indians. The Juvenile Bureau provides services centering around problems requiring adjudication (such as adoption of minors, termination of rights, and institutionalization). It also provides intake and

referral in case of neglect, abuse, and delinquency as well as the operation of a juvenile detention home for delinquents.

The Central Oklahoma Council for Children with Learning Disabilities aids children with perceptual learning disabilities through special classes within the Oklahoma public education system. The Neighborhood Services Organization, Incorporated, creates and demonstrates within the neighborhoods new service methods and patterns of service organization which are effective in the prevention, diagnosis, and treatment of social problems. The State Information and Referral Service attempts to help professional people, agencies, organizations, and individuals to locate resources to meet the problems of the chronically ill, handicapped, aging, or persons with special health related needs. The Urban League of Oklahoma, Incorporated, gathers and interprets facts of social and economic conditions and their effects on minority group life as a guide for remedial action.

ECONOMIC TRENDS

It can generally be said that the economy of the metropolitan area is alive, well, and functioning. There is certainly more wealth than poverty in the metropolitan area, but those with poverty-level incomes are still a sizeable portion of the population. Generally, the metro area leads the state in terms of representative employment, industrial plants, financial investment, and a dispersed economic base. The 1970 Census data indicate that the largest industry in the area is wholesale and retail trade, followed closely by manufacturing and government employees. This would indicate that the number one single industry of the metropolitan area is manufacturing, and when the 61 employers with more than 250 persons are considered, the bulk of these are in manufacturing or in the processing of manufactured goods. It is expected that new industries and services will continue to expand in the region. Such companies as General Motors, Purina, Bunte, and T. G. & Y. will continue their growth while government (which now has 70,000 employees), mining, and oil will all slow down their activities.

It appears that the metropolitan area has diversified itself and its economic life, and since there is an available labor force, desirable climate, available land and services, it is likely that the area will continue to attract desirable industries in the future.

On Table 8 are some indicators of family income groups that should be indicative of the resources available to the churches. This table shows that more than 31% of the families in the metropolitan area had incomes greater than \$12,000 in 1970. The median family income for the metro area is \$9,345, which is lead by Capital Association, with \$9,437. In addition to these income groups, almost 20% of the families in the metro area are

TABLE 8

PERCENT OF FAMILIES BY INCOME GROUPS AND MEDIAN AND MEAN FAMILY INCOME
IN FOUR BAPTIST ASSOCIATIONS IN METROPOLITAN OKLAHOMA CITY, 1970^a

ASSOCIATIONS, STATE, AND USA	FAMILY INCOME GROUPS							MEDIAN	MEAN
	\$0- \$2,999	\$3,000- \$5,999	\$6,000- \$8,999	\$9,000- \$11,999	\$12,000- \$14,999	\$15,000- \$24,999	\$25,000 or More		
Capital	9.0	15.9	22.0	19.4	14.1	15.2	4.4	\$9,437	\$11,008
Canadian Co.	10.9	19.5	23.4	18.7	13.9	10.9	2.3	8,462	9,522
Pott.-Lincoln	20.6	22.9	23.8	15.8	8.5	6.7	1.7	6,711	7,652
Union	10.8	17.9	23.6	19.9	11.7	12.7	3.3	8,950	9,819
Total Area	10.4	16.9	22.5	19.1	13.3	13.9	3.9	9,345	10,865
Oklahoma	15.6	14.3	36.8	17.2	10.4	10.1	2.9	7,725	9,100
United States	10.3	15.7	20.0	19.6	13.7	16.0	4.6	9,590	10,999

^aSource: U.S. Bureau of Census. General Social and Economic Characteristics, Final Report PC(1)-C38, Oklahoma.

in the \$9,000 to \$12,000 category. The percent of families in these categories are higher in metropolitan Oklahoma City than the state. The nation, on the other hand, is more compatible with the metropolitan area. While affluence is fairly evident in the metropolitan region, poverty is also very much a part of the economy of the area. In Pottawatomie-Lincoln Association, almost one-fifth of the families have incomes of less than \$3,000, and an additional 23% have incomes between \$3,000 and \$6,000. In Oklahoma County, only 9% of the families are below \$3,000, and 16% between \$3,000 and \$6,000. The incidence of families below \$3,000 is much higher in the state than in Oklahoma City and the nation.

Basically, the poverty level in metropolitan areas of the United States is represented by a family of four who earns less than \$4,000 annually, although there are other considerations. The 10.4% of the families in the metro area that earn less than \$3,000 is almost exactly the same as the percentage indicated on Table 9 that are below the poverty line. Table 9 gives the indicators of the poverty level families and shows that about 10%, or 19,500 families, in the metro area are living in poverty. In the state as a whole, more than 100,000 families are below the prescribed poverty level. This is a far greater percentage than is true in the nation as a whole.

The average family income for poverty families is also listed on Table 9, and in the metropolitan area, it is less than that for the state or the nation. It is very interesting that more than 20% of all persons and 21% of all households in Pottawatomie-Lincoln Association are below poverty, and in the total area 13% of all persons and 14% of all households are below the poverty line. This is comparable to the United States, but the state

TABLE 9

POVERTY LEVEL FAMILY INCOME INDICATORS IN FOUR BAPTIST
ASSOCIATIONS IN METROPOLITAN OKLAHOMA CITY, 1970^a

ASSOCIATIONS, STATE, AND USA	FAMILIES BELOW POVERTY		AVERAGE FAMILY INCOME OF POVERTY FAMILIES	PERCENT BELOW POVERTY	
	Number	Percent		All Persons	All Households
Capital	13,058	9.4	\$1,922	12.4	14.2
Canadian Co.	842	10.2	1,953	12.7	15.3
Pott.-Lincoln Union	3,006 2,533	17.7 10.7	1,750 1,874	20.3 13.1	21.2 15.3
Total Area	19,439	10.3	1,885	13.0	14.4
Oklahoma	102,210	15.0	1,943	18.8	21.5
United States	NA	10.7	1,935	13.7	14.7

^aSource: U.S. Bureau of Census. General Social and Economic Characteristics, Final Report PC(1)-C38, Oklahoma.

of Oklahoma has a greater percentage of its persons and households below the poverty line.

An additional table of data is included in the appendix on Table 23, which indicates the percent of families by type of income. Here it can be noted that 16.5% of all families have a social security income and 5.4% are on public assistance in the metropolitan area. This means that almost 22% of the families in the metropolitan area are in these categories. The table also reveals that more than 87% of all the families have wage and salary incomes, and 16.6% of the families are self-employed. This is less than in the state of Oklahoma, where 22% of the families are self-employed.

It seems to the author that there is a great deal of affluence, but poverty is still very much a factor in the lives of many persons residing in the Oklahoma City area. It is also true that many of the elderly persons are living on fixed incomes that are at or near the poverty level. These are persons who have achieved all that they ever will in income-producing activities and now find themselves with the cost of living spiraling upwards and an inability to increase their incomes. The churches should give very serious consideration to programs and activities that will relate to these groups in order to have a more effective ministry and witness among these people.

Labor Characteristics

In the appendix on Tables 22 and 24 are some collated data which indicate labor characteristics for the metropolitan area. On Table 22 are the data indicating the employment of females in the Oklahoma City area. This table will be helpful in understanding the percentage of women who are employed and also wives and mothers of small children. The data on the

table indicate that 44.5% of all women 16 years of age and older in the metropolitan area are employed. As might be expected, the highest occurrence of female employment is in Oklahoma County, followed by Union Association. The surprising factor is that less than one-third of the women in the Pottawatomie-Lincoln Association are employed. Further, the table indicates that 44% of all married women are employed, with more than 45% of all married women in Capital Association being employed. This is quite different from Oklahoma and the nation, since Oklahoma has only 38% of its married women employed, and the nation 39%. Among the families where the husband is present in the home and there are small children under six years of age, 35% of the women are employed in the metro area and in Capital Association. A lesser percentage of the mothers with small children are employed in the three suburban associations. Again, a higher percentage of these women in the study areas are employed than in the state or the nation.

The data on Table 24 indicate the occupations of employed persons. All of the employment occupations have been divided into seven groups, with the first three of these indicating the white-collar occupations, and the last four the blue-collar. The data indicate that 27.5% of all persons in the study area are professionals or managers and when the sales and clerical people are added to this, more than 56% of all employed persons in the metropolitan area are in white-collar jobs. In the state, 51.2% of the people are in white-collar jobs, and in the nation, 45.6% are. Surprisingly, more than 21% of the employed persons in Union Association are professionals, while almost 15% are service and household workers. When this is compared to Capital Association, only 16% of the people are professionals, and 3.4% are service and household workers.

SOUTHERN BAPTIST TRENDS

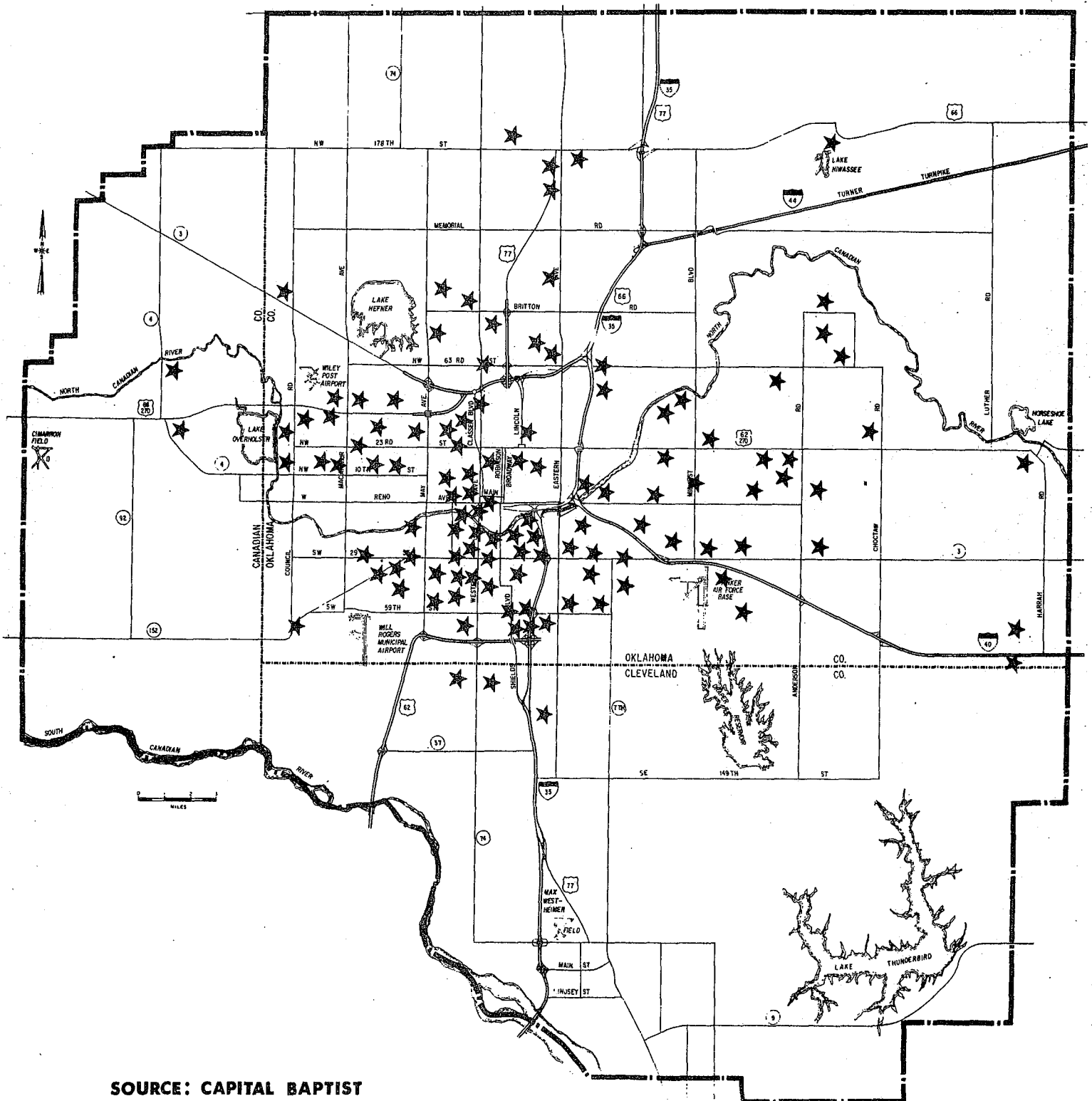
Baptists are Strong and Numerous in Oklahoma City

Data contained in this report tend to indicate that Southern Baptists and their churches in Oklahoma City are relatively strong within each congregation, and the penetration which they have made into the population is significant. As will be seen in this section, Southern Baptists have grown during the past decade, but the community and population grew at a more rapid pace. On Tables 15 through 19 in the appendix are the selected data for the past ten years in the metropolitan Oklahoma City area. Also on Figure 3 is the location of the churches in Capital Association.

The data on Table 10 indicates the congregational distribution in the four associations, the state, and the nation. There were 223 churches in the metropolitan area in 1973 and the churches have a greater church to population ratio in the suburban associations than in Capital Association. As would be expected, Capital Association has the largest number of churches, but on the other hand, has the largest church to population ratio. In column three on Table 10 is the church to population ratio, which indicates the population per church in each of the associations, the state, and the nation. Capital Association relates more to the nation than to any of the other areas in the study. There is one church for each 4,502 people in Capital Association, while in the metropolitan area there is one church per 3,218. The total Southern Baptist Convention (entire nation) ratio is one church per 5,878. The church to population ratio in Capital Association is almost twice as great as that for Canadian County and Union Association. When compared to the Oklahoma ratio (1:1,846), Capital Association is significantly greater.

FIGURE 3

LOCATION OF SOUTHERN BAPTIST CHURCHES IN OKLAHOMA CITY, OKLAHOMA



SOURCE: CAPITAL BAPTIST
ASSOCIATION

TABLE 10

INDICATORS OF CONGREGATIONAL DISTRIBUTION IN THE FOUR BAPTIST
ASSOCIATIONS IN METROPOLITAN OKLAHOMA CITY, 1973^a

ASSOCIATIONS, STATE CONVENTIONS, AND SBC	Number of Churches	Total Population 1970	Church/ Population Ratio	Resident Members	Member/ Population Ratio	Average Church Size
Capital	117	526,805	1:4,502	71,016	1: 7.4	607
Canadian Co.	13	32,245	1:2,480	4,085	1: 7.9	314
Pott.-Lincoln	52	62,616	1:1,204	13,714	1: 4.6	264
Union	41	95,996	1:2,341	15,386	1: 6.2	375
Total Area	223	717,662	1:3,218	104,201	1: 6.9	467
Oklahoma ^b	1,386	2,559,175	1:1,846	371,275	1: 6.9	268
SBC ^b	34,534	203,000,000	1:5,878	8,784,699	1:23.1	254

^aSource: 1973 Uniform Church Letters.

^bSource: 1972 Annual Minutes, Baptist General Convention of Oklahoma and Baptist Sunday School Board, "Southern Baptist Handbook," The Quarterly Review, Nashville: 1973.

Also indicated on the table is the member to population ratio, which indicates that the penetration to the population is about the same among the four associations, except for Pottawatomie-Lincoln. Surprisingly, the metropolitan area and the state convention have exactly the same penetration ratios. Capital Association is more compatible with the other three associations in its ratio than in the church to population ratio. Further, the data on the table indicates the average church size for resident membership among the four associations and the other study areas. Note that the average size church in Capital Association is almost twice as large as the next average size church, which is in Union Association. The total metro area has an average size church with 200 resident members more than is true for the state convention and the Southern Baptist Convention. This might be expected because churches and cities must be larger in order to serve a larger constituency and more population. They are also expected to perform more services and ministries to their constituencies.

It is very surprising that the average size church has grown so large in Oklahoma City and in the suburban associations when it is noted that 43 new churches (17.8% of the total 223 churches) have been constituted in the past 10 years (21 of these in Capital). One would normally assume that the older churches had grown larger at the expense of new churches not being started.

Significant Changes in the Past Five Years

On Table 11 are the indicators of congregational change. There has been a net gain of only two churches in the metropolitan area in the last five years, while the state convention had a net gain of 24 and the SBC 387. It is immediately evident that most of the church extension was done in the

TABLE 11

INDICATORS OF CONGREGATIONAL CHANGE IN FOUR BAPTIST ASSOCIATIONS IN METROPOLITAN OKLAHOMA CITY, 1968 TO 1973^a

ASSOCIATIONS, STATE, AND SBC	CHANGES 1968 TO 1973									
	Churches		Resident Members		Avg. Sunday School Attendance		Total Receipts		Gifts to Missions	
	Number	Percent	Number	Percent	Number	Percent	Number	Percent	Number	Percent
Capital Canadian Co. ^b	3 (-1)	2.6 (-7.1)	5,196 1,210	7.9 42.1	(-1,649) 292	(-5.8) 24.0	3.5 ^c 222,556	47.2 78.3	461,352 24,009	42.1 44.1
Pott.-Lincoln Union	(-2) 2	(-3.7) 5.1	1,383 3,118	11.2 25.4	(-343) 1,385	(-6.6) 27.5	575,109 250,514	65.4 15.0	83,125 144,222	49.5 92.4
Total Area	2	.9	10,911	11.7	(-315)	(-.8)	4.5 ^c	44.3	692,497	46.4
Oklahoma ^b	24	1.8	30,072	8.8	NA	NA	21.2 ^c	74.0	2.2 ^c	41.9
SBC ^b	387	1.1	860,570	10.9	NA	NA	359.7 ^c	50.5	54.3 ^c	45.1

^aSource: Annual Minutes of Baptist General Convention of Oklahoma 1968 and 1973, Uniform Church Letters, and Table 26 in the appendix.

^b1967 to 1972 data, since 1973 not available.

^cIn Millions.

NA - Not Available.

years 1963-1967. The percentage net gain in churches in the area is the greatest in Canadian County, but this represents only 2 churches. One-fifth of the new churches in the state convention were formed in the study area. The data also indicates that during the past five years the metropolitan area has added approximately 40,000 people to its population and since Southern Baptists have added only two churches, it is evident that the population is growing at a faster rate than are the number of churches in the area.

A comparison can also be made between the increase in the resident membership and the population. The resident membership of the metropolitan area has increased 10,911 in comparison with the 40,000 increase in the population. This would indicate that the existing churches are doing a better job of increasing their membership in proportion to the increase in population. However, it is evident that there are still many thousands of unchurched persons in the metropolitan area. Again, it can be noted that approximately one-third of the increase in resident membership in the state occurred in the metropolitan Oklahoma City area.

Also included on Table 11 are data indicating the change in the average Sunday School attendance, total receipts, and gifts to missions. The author found it necessary to estimate some of the data on Canadian County, although it was available on Central Association. The three areas which are reflected on the table indicate that there has been a net loss of 315 in the average attendance of Sunday Schools in metropolitan Oklahoma City. Increases occurred in Canadian County and Union Association. The data on total receipts reveals some distinct differences among the four associations as to the increase in the financial receipts of the churches.

On the other hand, gifts to missions in the metropolitan area reflects some unusual trends. Capital Association increased in proportion to the increase in receipts, but Canadian County had 34.1% more increase in receipts than mission gifts, while Pottawatomie-Lincoln had 16% more, but the real surprise is in Union Association which had a 15% increase in receipts, but a 92.4% increase in mission gifts. This is highly unusual, but the per capita receipts listed on Table 19 in the appendix reflects \$136.02 per capita in 1968 and \$127.26 in 1973 and the per capita to missions has changed from \$12.72 in 1968 to \$19.52 in 1973. The 25.0% increase in resident membership accounts for most of the increase.

Churches of Metropolitan Oklahoma City Have a Strong Base of Support

On Table 12 are the indicators of congregational resources which are available to the churches of the area. This data is an average for the past three years, and gives a more reliable picture as to the resources available than any one year. It can be noted on the table that the Sunday School enrollment rate per 100 resident members is 87.2 in the total area, with the greatest rate occurring in Central Association (98.5%). The study area, state, and SBC are all basically the same in the Sunday School enrollment rate. The higher this figure the better, as far as Baptists are concerned. This figure should run 100% of the resident membership, but it is evident that many resident members do not belong to Sunday School. However, the higher this number, the more likelihood there is of lost people being enrolled in Sunday School.

The column entitled, "Baptisms," "Letters," "Losses," and "Net" reflect the evangelism trend for the associations, state, and SBC. The churches have baptized an average of 5.8 persons per 100 resident members on the

TABLE 12

INDICATORS OF CONGREGATIONAL RESOURCES IN FOUR BAPTIST
ASSOCIATIONS IN METROPOLITAN OKLAHOMA CITY, 1971-1973^a (AVERAGED FOR THREE YEARS)

ASSOCIATIONS, STATE, AND SBC	Rate per 100 Resident Members, Average 1971-1973					PER CAPITA DOLLARS		Percent Receipts to Missions
	S.S. Enr.	Baptisms	Letters	Losses	Net	Total Receipts	Gifts to Missions	
Capital	87.2	5.8	7.9	12.6	1.1	\$145.49	\$21.21	14.6
Central ^b	98.5	6.3	7.2	10.8	2.7	143.21	18.64	13.0
Pott.-Lincoln	79.7	4.8	9.6	10.0	4.4	101.73	17.45	17.2
Union	87.8	6.4	9.7	12.5	3.6	116.49	14.96	12.8
Total Area	87.2	5.8	8.3	12.2	1.9	126.73	18.07	14.3
Oklahoma ^c	85.9	5.3	6.8	10.4	1.7	107.52	18.58	17.3
SBC ^c	83.7	4.7	5.9	8.8	1.8	113.77	18.34	16.1

^aSource: 1973 Uniform Church Letters and Annual Minutes of the Baptist General Convention of Oklahoma.

^bData for entire Central Association.

^cData for 1970-1972, since 1973 data not available.

average for the past three years. During this same time, they have taken in 8.3 persons per 100 by letter, and lost 12.2, for a net gain of 1.9. There are some variations in the baptism and letter rates among the four associations, the state, and SBC, and these can be noted on the table. The most indicative factor in this portion of the study is that for every 14 persons who join the churches, 12 persons leave, for a net gain in resident membership of 2 persons. The greatest net gain occurred in Pottawatomie-Lincoln, followed by Union Association. Union also has the highest loss rate along with Capital Association. In Capital Association, it can be noted that the net gain is only one person out of fourteen who join the churches.

The final three columns on Table 12 indicate the per capita dollars received by the churches, the per capita dollars given to missions, and the percentage of receipts that are given to missions. The greatest per capita giving occurs in Capital Association, which also gives the greatest per capita dollars to missions. Three of the associations receive more dollars per capita than the state or the SBC, but only two of them give greater per capita to missions. The greatest percent of the receipts to missions occurs in Pottawatomie-Lincoln Association, followed by Capital Association and Union Association. Only Pottawatomie-Lincoln has a percent of receipts to missions as great as the state or SBC.

Most of the Churches are 20 Years of Age or Older

Also on Table 13 are data indicating the age of the congregations in metropolitan Oklahoma City. More than 64% of the churches in the metropolitan area are more than 20 years of age. Interestingly, Capital Association has more than 50% of its churches between 21 and 50 years of age, while

TABLE 13

PERCENT OF CHURCHES BY AGE AND SIZE OF CONGREGATIONS IN
FOUR BAPTIST ASSOCIATIONS IN METROPOLITAN OKLAHOMA CITY, 1972^a

ASSOCIATIONS, STATE, AND USA	AGE OF CHURCHES				PERCENT OF MEMBERS ^b									
	10 Yrs. or Less	11-20 Yrs.	21-50 Yrs.	51 Yrs. or More	Less Than 100	100- 199	200- 299	300- 499	500- 749	750- 999	1,000- 1,499	1,500- 1,999	2,000- 2,999	3,000 or More
Capital	18.1	22.4	50.0	9.5	1.8	10.7	10.7	20.5	11.6	13.4	18.8	4.5	3.6	4.5
Central ^c	18.2	24.2	15.2	42.4	21.2	24.2	15.2	12.1	18.2	3.0	0.0	6.1	0.0	0.0
Pott.-Lincoln Union	7.7	5.8	26.9	59.6	17.3	38.5	11.5	7.7	11.5	9.6	0.0	0.0	3.9	0.0
	30.0	17.5	17.5	35.0	22.0	24.4	12.2	12.2	12.2	4.9	2.4	4.9	2.4	2.4
Total Area	17.8	18.3	34.9	29.1	11.3	21.0	11.8	15.1	12.6	9.7	9.2	3.8	2.9	2.5
Oklahoma	NA	NA	NA	NA	23.9	25.1	12.5	13.3	10.8	5.0	5.1	1.5	1.7	1.1
SBC	NA	NA	NA	NA	19.5	27.4	17.5	16.8	8.4	4.1	3.7	1.4	0.9	0.4

^aSource: 1972 Uniform Church Letters and Table 25 in the appendix.

^bTotal Members

^cData for entire Central Association

NA - Not Available.

Central Association has 42% more than 51 years, and Pottawatomie-Lincoln has almost 60% more than 51 years of age. Union Association has the largest number of churches less than 10 years of age (30%). When the entire metropolitan area is considered, there is a fairly even distribution into each of the four age categories listed on Table 13.

Large Churches are More Prevalent in Oklahoma City

An interesting factor uncovered in the research of the author is that more than 18 percent of the churches in the metro area have more than 1,000 total members. In addition to this, 22% have between 500 and 1,000 members. In the state as a whole, only 9.4% of the churches have more than 1,000 members, and in the SBC it is 6.4%.

As the churches grow and get larger, it becomes obvious that the churches are not offering all sizes of congregations to all kinds of people.

Most Pastors are Short-Termers

Data on Table 20 in the appendix indicate that 52.9% of all pastors in the four associations in 1972 came to their present pastorate between 1970 and 1972. In Central Association this is more than 70% and in Pottawatomie-Lincoln and Union Associations, it is about 60%. In Capital Association almost 22% came before 1965, with almost 9% coming before 1955. About one-third of the pastors came to their pastorate between 1965 and 1969.

TABLE 14

SELECTED DATA ON THE FOUR BAPTIST ASSOCIATIONS IN METROPOLITAN OKLAHOMA CITY, 1973^a

SELECTED DATA	ASSOCIATIONS				TOTAL AREA
	Capital	Central ^b	Pottawatomie- Lincoln	Union	
Number of Churches	117	34	52	41	244
Total Members	104,867	12,820	20,586	21,874	160,147
Resident Members	71,016	8,340	13,714	15,386	108,456
Baptisms	3,833	545	669	893	5,940
Baptism Rate	8.0	6.7	5.0	6.1	5.6
Other Additions	5,641	666	1,154	1,434	8,895
Enrollments:	XX	XX	XX	XX	XX
Sunday School	61,393	8,346	10,627	13,231	93,597
Church Training	17,094	2,521	3,278	3,381	26,274
WMU	6,067	1,136	1,214	1,034	9,451
Brotherhood	3,230	527	364	514	4,635
Sunday School					
Average Attend.	26,985	4,376	4,886	6,415	42,662

^aSource: 1973 Uniform Church Letters.^bIncludes data for all four counties in Central Association.

TABLE 15

SUMMARY OF SELECTED CHURCH DATA FOR CAPITAL ASSOCIATION, 1964-1973^a

ASSOCIATION TOTALS	YEARS									
	1973	1972	1971	1970	1969	1968	1967	1966	1965	1964
1. Number of Churches	117	117	115	114	115	114	115	114	113	115
2. Total Membership	104,867	104,589	103,108	101,492	101,069	97,523	96,019	95,224	93,244	90,175
3. Resident Membership	71,016	70,899	68,777	68,744	67,801	65,820	64,223	64,301	63,348	61,858
4. Baptisms	3,833	4,449	3,842	3,434	3,512	3,967	3,602	3,500	3,247	3,102
5. Baptism Rate ^b	5.4	6.5	5.6	5.1	5.3	6.2	5.6	5.5	5.3	XX
6. Other Additions	5,641	5,512	5,524	5,361	5,683	5,556	6,041	7,183	6,053	6,577
7. Enrollments	XX	XX	XX	XX	XX	XX	XX	XX	XX	XX
(1) Sunday School	61,393	60,580	61,653	63,107	62,876	65,635	64,693	65,084	65,066	64,908
(2) Church Training	17,094	17,754	20,296	21,556	21,330	25,004	23,135	23,531	23,898	23,887
(3) WMU	6,067	6,529	7,139	7,614	8,693	9,503	9,982	10,459	10,208	9,918
(4) Brotherhood	3,230	3,539	3,376	2,840	2,677	3,117	3,284	3,378	3,499	4,172
8. S. S. Average Attendance	26,985	27,163	26,956	27,555	27,939	28,634	30,042	30,473	30,468	30,285
9. Total Receipts (millions)	\$ 10.8	\$ 10.3	\$ 9.5	\$ 8.6	\$ 8.3	\$ 7.4	\$ 6.6	\$ 6.5	\$ 5.9	\$ 5.6
10. Per Capita Receipts ^c	\$ 153.03	\$ 145.94	\$ 137.51	\$ 124.73	\$ 123.29	\$ 112.20	\$ 103.41	\$ 100.45	\$ 93.34	\$ 90.34
11. Gifts to Missions (mill.)	\$ 1.6	\$ 1.5	\$ 1.4	\$ 1.2	\$ 1.6	\$ 1.1	\$ 1.1	\$ 1.1	\$.95	\$.92
12. Per Capita Missions ^c	\$ 21.92	\$ 21.06	\$ 20.65	\$ 17.46	\$ 23.65	\$ 16.64	\$ 17.13	\$ 17.11	\$ 15.09	\$ 14.86
13. Gifts to Coop. Program	\$782,581	\$733,985	\$728,879	\$689,916	\$669,479	\$646,066	\$594,216	\$624,439	\$554,022	\$554,237
14. Per Capita Coop. Prog. ^c	\$ 11.02	\$ 10.35	\$ 10.60	\$ 8.58	\$ 9.87	\$ 9.82	\$ 9.25	\$ 9.71	\$ 8.75	\$ 8.96
15. Gifts to Association	\$166,922	\$140,156	\$132,486	\$126,316	\$128,055	\$128,200	\$128,401	\$124,805	\$116,793	\$104,310
16. Per Capita Association ^c	\$ 2.35	\$ 1.98	\$ 1.93	\$ 1.84	\$ 1.89	\$ 1.95	\$ 2.00	\$ 1.94	\$ 1.84	\$ 1.69

^aSource: Associational Minutes on the church's Uniform Church Letters for the past 10 years.^bDivide baptisms by previous year's resident membership to get rate per 100 members.^cDivide total of each item by resident membership for that year.

TABLE 16

SUMMARY OF SELECTED CHURCH DATA FOR CANADIAN COUNTY, 1964-1973^a

COUNTY TOTALS	YEARS									
	1973	1972	1971	1970	1969	1968	1967	1966	1965	1964
1. Number of Churches		13	11	11	11	14	9	8	7	7
2. Total Membership		5,607	5,131	5,108	4,841	5,007	4,286	3,816	3,800	3,774
3. Resident Membership		4,085	3,619	3,567	3,359	3,117 ^e	2,875 ^e	NA	NA	NA
4. Baptisms		277	261	262	216		245	107	174	138
5. Baptism Rate ^b		7.7	7.3	7.8	6.9					XX
6. Other Additions		448	349	305	306					
7. Enrollments	XX	XX	XX	XX	XX	XX	XX	XX	XX	XX
(1) Sunday School		4,297	3,824	3,819	3,679	4,018	3,548	3,269	3,311	3,187
(2) Church Training		1,897	1,505	1,643	1,483	1,596	1,307	1,113	1,122	1,076
(3) WMU						623	551	502	643	617
(4) Brotherhood						298	204	151	112	149
8. S. S. Average Attendance		1,511 ^e					1,219 ^e			
9. Total Receipts		\$506,854	\$456,713	\$400,831	\$350,237	\$438,525	\$284,298	\$224,866	\$201,443	\$193,938
10. Per Capita Receipts ^c		\$ 124.08	\$ 126.20	\$ 112.37	\$ 104.27					
11. Gifts to Missions		\$ 78,441	\$ 82,291	\$ 62,123	\$ 54,209	\$ 66,518	\$ 54,432	\$ 35,314	\$ 36,836	\$ 38,189
12. Per Capita Missions ^c		\$ 19.20	\$ 22.74	\$ 17.42	\$ 16.14					
13. Gifts to Coop. Program										
14. Per Capita Coop. Prog. ^c										
15. Gifts to Association										
16. Per Capita Association ^c										

^aSource: Associational Minutes on the church's Uniform Church Letters for the past 10 years.

^bDivide baptisms by previous year's resident membership to get rate per 100 members.

^cDivide total of each item by resident membership for that year.

^eEstimate.

TABLE 17

SUMMARY OF SELECTED CHURCH DATA FOR CENTRAL ASSOCIATION, 1964-1973^a

ASSOCIATION TOTALS	YEARS									
	1973	1972	1971	1970	1969	1968	1967	1966	1965	1964
1. Number of Churches	34	34	33	33	33	32	32	32	32	32
2. Total Membership	12,820	12,165	11,540	11,475	11,059	11,222	10,933	10,659	10,547	10,310
3. Resident Membership	8,340	8,138	7,679	7,537 ^e	7,394	7,526				
4. Baptisms	545	511	464	504	383	415	494	322	393	352
5. Baptism Rate ^b	6.7	6.7	6.2	6.8	5.1					XX
6. Other Additions	666	584	481		481	534				
7. Enrollments	XX	XX	XX	XX	XX	XX	XX	XX	XX	XX
(1) Sunday School	8,346	7,953	7,486	7,691	7,592	7,791	7,769	7,719	8,134	7,870
(2) Church Training	2,521	2,414	2,480	2,672	2,785	2,740	2,434	2,505	2,607	2,682
(3) WMU	1,136	1,040	1,128	1,196	1,109	1,314	1,358	1,419	1,739	1,702
(4) Brotherhood	527	627	574	307	360	514	470	451	284	471
8. S. S. Average Attendance	4,376	4,178	3,727							
9. Total Receipts ^d	1.1	1.5	.8							
10. Per Capita Receipts ^c	131.87	185.41	112.35							
11. Gifts to Missions	\$183,552	\$154,454	\$114,794	\$112,778	\$104,613	\$96,985	\$98,456	\$91,674	\$83,127	\$81,934
12. Per Capita Missions ^c	\$ 22.01	\$ 18.98	\$ 14.95	\$ 14.96	\$ 14.15	\$ 12.89				
13. Gifts to Coop. Program	\$107,003	\$ 93,486	\$ 86,322	\$ 83,514	\$ 76,934	\$72,175	\$65,602	\$57,490	\$60,392	\$62,335
14. Per Capita Coop. Prog. ^c	\$ 12.83	\$ 11.49	\$ 11.24	\$ 11.08	\$ 10.40	\$ 9.59				
15. Gifts to Association	\$ 22,677	\$ 19,595	\$ 17,286							
16. Per Capita Association ^c	\$ 2.72	\$ 2.41	\$ 2.25							

^aSource: Associational Minutes on the church's Uniform Church Letters for the past 10 years.

^bDivide baptisms by previous year's resident membership to get rate per 100 members.

^cDivide total of each item by resident membership for that year.

^dIn Millions.

^eEstimate.

TABLE 18

SUMMARY OF SELECTED CHURCH DATA FOR POTTAWATOMIE-LINCOLN ASSOCIATION, 1964-1973^a

ASSOCIATION TOTALS	YEARS									
	1973	1972	1971	1970	1969	1968	1967	1966	1965	1964
1. Number of Churches	52	55	54	55	55	54				53
2. Total Membership	20,586	20,053	19,604	19,334	18,987	18,574	17,994	17,806	17,621	17,595
3. Resident Membership	13,714	13,265	11,996	12,178 ^e	12,579 ^e	12,331 ^e				
4. Baptisms	669	618	586	575	489	570	475	574	395	440
5. Baptism Rate ^b	5.0	5.2	4.8	4.6	4.0					XX
6. Other Additions	1,154	1,255	1,321	1,325	1,341	1,013				
7. Enrollments	XX	XX	XX	XX	XX	XX	XX	XX	XX	XX
(1) Sunday School	10,627	10,479	9,975	10,540	10,345	10,410	10,457	10,770	10,510	10,804
(2) Church Training	3,278	3,292	3,180	3,867	3,888	3,718	3,743	4,307	4,317	4,184
(3) WMU	1,214	1,156	1,016	1,416	1,648	1,800	1,820	1,916	1,945	2,049
(4) Brotherhood	364	315	239	285	390	325	405	516	252	572
8. S. S. Average Attendance	4,886	5,183	5,012	5,016	5,080	5,229 ^e				
9. Total Receipts ^d	1.5	1.3	1.2			.9				
10. Per Capita Receipts ^c	106.02	99.47	99.70							
11. Gifts to Missions	\$251,220	\$246,573	\$185,334	\$190,597	\$173,408	\$168,095	\$147,285	\$134,340	\$127,834	\$126,908
12. Per Capita Missions ^c	\$ 18.32	\$ 18.59	\$ 15.45							
13. Gifts to Coop. Program	\$159,680	\$158,960	\$147,815	\$146,542	\$140,291	\$136,447	\$116,896	\$106,242	\$ 99,510	\$ 94,179
14. Per Capita Coop. Prog. ^c	\$ 11.64	\$ 11.98	\$ 12.32							
15. Gifts to Association	\$ 31,792	\$ 29,788	\$ 21,683							
16. Per Capita Association ^c	\$ 2.32	\$ 2.25	\$ 1.81							

^aSource: Associational Minutes on the church's Uniform Church Letters for the past 10 years.

^bDivide baptisms by previous year's resident membership to get rate per 100 members.

^cDivide total of each item by resident membership for that year.

^dIn Millions.

^eEstimate.

TABLE 19

SUMMARY OF SELECTED CHURCH DATA FOR _____ UNION _____ ASSOCIATION, 1964-1973^a

ASSOCIATION TOTALS	YEARS									
	1973	1972	1971	1970	1969	1968	1967	1966	1965	1964
1. Number of Churches	41	41	40	40	41	39				
2. Total Membership	21,874	20,817	19,187	18,268	17,819	17,382	16,570	15,876	14,678	13,934
3. Resident Membership	15,386	14,552	13,802	12,592 ^e	12,665 ^e	12,268 ^e				
4. Baptisms	893	1,103	793	678	770	877	843	633	555	445
5. Baptism Rate ^b	6.1	8.0	5.6	5.4	6.3					XX
6. Other Additions	1,434	1,417	1,398	1,283	1,225	1,370				
7. Enrollments	XX	XX	XX	XX	XX	XX	XX	XX	XX	XX
(1) Sunday School	13,231	12,712	12,447	12,226	12,098	11,363	11,025	10,777	10,262	9,552
(2) Church Training	3,381	3,525	3,799	4,313	4,983	4,736	4,456	4,187	4,191	4,024
(3) WMU	1,034	1,149	1,342	1,370	1,501	1,656	1,524	1,596	1,515	1,328
(4) Brotherhood	514	475	450	519	574	730	619	471	236	290
8. S. S. Average Attendance	6,415	6,027	5,494	4,784	5,382 ^e	5,030 ^e				
9. Total Receipts	1.9	1.7	1.5			1.7				
10. Per Capita Receipts ^c	127.26	115.87	106.33			136.02				
11. Gifts to Missions	\$300,322	\$183,706	\$175,839	\$162,023	\$147,847	\$156,100	\$156,974	\$143,953	\$125,927	\$120,523
12. Per Capita Missions ^c	\$ 19.52	\$ 12.62	\$ 12.74	\$ 12.87	\$ 11.67	\$ 12.72				
13. Gifts to Coop. Program	\$156,186	\$143,263	\$138,558	\$124,303	\$109,821	\$114,694	\$114,525	\$101,737	\$ 91,645	\$ 83,550
14. Per Capita Coop. Prog. ^c	\$ 10.15	\$ 9.84	\$ 10.04	\$ 9.87	\$ 8.67	\$ 9.35				
15. Gifts to Association	\$ 43,080	\$ 38,003	\$ 37,475							
16. Per Capita Association ^c	\$ 2.80	\$ 2.61	\$ 2.72							

^aSource: Associational Minutes on the church's Uniform Church Letters for the past 10 years.

^bDivide baptisms by previous year's resident membership to get rate per 100 members.

^cDivide total of each item by resident membership for that year.

^dIn Millions.

^eEstimate.

TABLE 20

YEARS PASTORS CAME TO PRESENT PASTORATE IN FOUR ASSOCIATIONS
IN METROPOLITAN OKLAHOMA CITY, 1972^a

YEARS PASTORS CAME	ASSOCIATIONS								TOTAL AREA	
	Capital		Central		Pott.-Lincoln		Union			
	Number	Percent	Number	Percent	Number	Percent	Number	Percent	Number	Percent
1972	19	18.1	7	23.3	6	13.0	7	20.0	39	18.1
1971	13	12.4	13	43.3	11	23.9	7	20.0	44	20.4
1970	13	12.4	1	3.3	10	21.7	7	20.0	31	14.4
1965-69	37	35.2	8	26.7	16	34.8	10	28.6	71	32.9
1960-64	12	11.4	1	3.3	2	4.4	3	8.6	18	8.3
1955-59	2	1.9			1	2.2			3	1.4
1950-54	6	5.7							6	2.8
Before 1950	3	2.9					1	2.9	4	1.9
TOTAL	105	100.0	30	100.0	46	100.0	35	100.0	216	100.0

^aSource: Data from Uniform Church Letter computer printouts provided by the Research Services Department, Baptist Sunday School Board.

TABLE 21

NUMBER AND PERCENT OF PERSONS^b BY MARITAL STATUS IN FOUR BAPTIST ASSOCIATIONS
IN METROPOLITAN OKLAHOMA CITY, 1970^a

ASSOCIATIONS, STATE, AND USA	MARITAL STATUS									
	Single		Married		Separated		Widowed		Divorced	
	Number	Perc.	Number	Perc.	Number	Perc.	Number	Perc.	Number	Perc.
Capital	80,472	20.8	255,481	66.1	5,451	1.4	27,726	7.2	22,769	5.9
Central	5,232	22.2	15,688	66.6	212	.9	1,816	7.7	823	3.5
Pott.-Lincoln	10,032	20.8	31,241	64.8	418	.9	5,059	10.5	1,870	3.9
Union	20,411	28.4	44,978	62.6	564	.8	3,912	5.4	2,562	3.6
Total Area	116,177	21.9	347,388	65.5	6,645	1.3	38,513	7.3	28,024	5.3
Oklahoma	410,235	21.3	1,239,393	64.5	21,126	1.1	164,206	8.5	86,599	4.5
United States	37,880,118	25.4	91,774,609	61.4	2,898,452	1.9	11,727,331	7.9	5,026,723	3.4

^aSource: U.S. Bureau of Census. General Population Characteristics, Final Report PC(1)-B38, Oklahoma.

^bPersons 14 years old and over.

TABLE 22

FEMALE LABOR CHARACTERISTICS IN FOUR BAPTIST ASSOCIATIONS
IN METROPOLITAN OKLAHOMA CITY, 1970^a

ASSOCIATIONS, STATE, AND USA	IN LABOR FORCE					
	FEMALE 16 YRS. AND OVER		MARRIED WOMEN, HUSBAND PRESENT			
			Total		With Children Under 6 Yrs.	
	Number	Percent ^b	Number	Percent ^b	Number	Percent ^b
Capital Canadian Co.	91,612	46.8	55,475	45.4	11,304	35.3
Pott.-Lincoln Union	4,114	37.7	2,766	37.6	609	33.9
	7,505	31.7	5,218	35.5	898	29.8
	14,605	42.1	9,211	43.7	2,016	32.5
Total Area	117,836	44.5	72,670	44.0	14,827	34.4
Oklahoma	367,199	38.6	231,758	38.8	43,534	30.5
United States	NA	41.4	NA	39.2	NA	28.2

^aSource: U.S. Bureau of Census. General Social and Economic Characteristics,
Final Report PC(1)-C38, Oklahoma.

^bPercent of women in each category.

TABLE 23

NUMBER AND PERCENT OF FAMILIES BY TYPE OF INCOME IN FOUR BAPTIST ASSOCIATIONS
IN METROPOLITAN OKLAHOMA CITY, 1970^a

ASSOCIATIONS, STATE, AND USA	FAMILIES BY TYPE OF INCOME									
	Wage and Salary		Self- Employment		Social Security		Public Assistance		Other	
	Number	Percent	Number	Percent	Number	Percent	Number	Percent	Number	Percent
Capital	124,346	89.1	20,796	14.9	22,057	15.8	7,507	5.4	45,724	32.7
Central	6,772	82.1	2,109	25.6	1,609	19.5	357	4.3	2,068	25.1
Pott.-Lincoln	13,204	77.7	3,883	22.9	4,134	24.3	1,366	8.0	4,287	25.2
Union	20,208	85.5	4,552	19.3	3,303	14.0	856	3.6	7,581	32.1
Total Area	164,530	87.3	31,340	16.6	31,103	16.5	10,086	5.4	59,660	31.7
Oklahoma	555,037	81.7	150,933	22.2	139,510	20.5	51,297	7.6	199,090	29.3
United States	NA	86.3	NA	15.3	NA	19.7	NA	5.3	NA	35.1

^a Source: U.S. Bureau of Census. General Social and Economic Characteristics. Final Report PC(1)-C38, Oklahoma.

TABLE 24

PERCENT OF EMPLOYED PERSONS BY OCCUPATIONS IN FOUR BAPTIST ASSOCIATIONS
IN METROPOLITAN OKLAHOMA CITY, 1970^a

ASSOCIATIONS, STATE, AND USA	OCCUPATIONS						
	Profes- sionals	Managers	Sales and Clerical	Craftsmen	Operatives and Transport	Laborers	Service and Household Workers
Capital	15.7	10.8	30.4	13.8	8.9	15.0	3.4
Central	11.4	16.3	19.4	16.3	15.7	6.7	14.2
Pott.-Lincoln	12.1	12.7	21.0	18.0	15.5	6.5	14.1
Union	21.2	14.0	25.4	12.7	11.6	4.0	14.8
Total Area	16.0	11.5	28.6	14.1	10.0	12.6	6.1
Oklahoma	14.1	12.9	24.2	14.2	14.9	5.6	14.2
United States	14.0	7.9	23.7	12.9	16.3	7.1	11.9

^aSource: U.S. Bureau of Census. General Social and Economic Characteristics. Final Report PC(1)-C38, Oklahoma.

TABLE 25

NUMBER OF CHURCHES BY AGE AND SIZE OF CONGREGATIONS IN FOUR BAPTIST ASSOCIATIONS
IN METROPOLITAN OKLAHOMA CITY, 1972^a

ASSOCIATIONS, STATE, AND USA	AGE OF CHURCHES				NUMBER OF MEMBERS ^b									
	10 Yrs. or Less	11-20 Yrs.	21-50 Yrs.	51 Yrs. or More	Less Than 100	100- 199	200- 299	300- 499	500- 749	750- 999	1,000- 1,499	1,500- 1,999	2,000- 2,999	3,000 or More
Capital	21	26	58	11	2	12	12	23	13	15	21	5	4	5
Central	6	8	5	14	7	8	5	4	6	1	0	2	0	0
Pott.-Lincoln	4	3	14	31	9	20	6	4	6	5	0	0	2	0
Union	12	7	7	14	9	10	5	5	5	2	1	2	1	1
Total Area	43	44	84	70	27	50	28	36	30	23	22	9	7	6
Oklahoma	NA	NA	NA	NA	327	344	171	182	148	69	70	21	23	15
SBC	NA	NA	NA	NA	6,652	9,350	5,956	5,725	2,851	1,390	1,267	482	305	135

^aSource: 1972 Annual Minutes, Baptist General Convention of Oklahoma.

^bTotal members.

TABLE 26

SELECTED DATA FOR 1968 AND 1973 IN FOUR BAPTIST ASSOCIATIONS IN METROPOLITAN OKLAHOMA CITY, 1968 AND 1973^a

ASSOCIATIONS, STATE, AND SBC	CHURCHES		RESIDENT MEMBERS		AVERAGE S.S. ATTENDANCE		TOTAL RECEIPTS		TOTAL MISSION GIFTS	
	1968	1973	1968	1973	1968	1973	1968	1973	1968	1973
Capital	114	117	65,820	71,016	28,634	26,985	7.4 ^c	10.9 ^c	1.1 ^c	1.6 ^c
Canadian Co. ^b	14	13	2,875	4,085	1,219 ^e	1,511 ^e	284,298 ^c	506,854	54,432	78,441
Pott.-Lincoln	54	52	12,331	13,714	5,229	4,886	878,881 ^c	1.5 ^c	168,095	251,220
Union	39	41	12,268	15,386	5,030	6,415	1.7 ^c	1.9 ^c	156,100	300,322
Total Area	218	223	93,290	104,201	40,112	39,797	10.2 ^c	14.7 ^c	1.5 ^c	2.2 ^c
Oklahoma ^b	1,362	1,386	341,203	371,275	NA	149,590	28.7 ^c	49.9 ^c	5.2 ^c	7.3 ^c
SBC ^b	34,147	34,534	7.9 ^c	8.8 ^c	NA	3.7 ^c	711.8 ^c	1,071.5 ^c	120.4 ^c	174.8 ^c

^aSource: 1972 Annual Minutes, Baptist General Convention of Oklahoma.^b1967 to 1972.^cIn Millions.^eEstimate.