

CHURCH OF ENGLAND CATHEDRALS

HEADLINE MISSION STATISTICS 2010*

- ◆ [Attendance levels](#) at regular weekly services in Church of England cathedrals have increased significantly more this year, by 7%. Since the turn of the millennium, they have steadily grown by a total of 37%, which is about 4% on average each year. At Sunday services alone 15,800 adults and 3,100 children and young people are usually present while over the whole week the figures rise (by 73%) to 27,400 and 7,600 respectively. Westminster Abbey adds, on average, 1,800 people each week to these numbers.
- ◆ [Midweek attendance](#) has more than doubled since the turn of the millennium and is approaching the same level as Sunday attendance. In 2010, for example, it added 85% to Sunday congregations (slightly higher than previous years). Cathedrals are key places of daily Christian worship outside Sundays adding an additional 73% to the number of adult attenders and more than doubling the number of children over the whole week.
- ◆ Approximately 110,100 people attended services in cathedrals on [Christmas Day/Eve 2010](#) while services over Advent, the period leading up to Christmas attract attendances of 682,400. These figures were adversely affected by reduced services and even a cathedral closure due to severe weather. Attendance at services on Easter Day including Easter vigil services decreased slightly to 47,800 while attendance over Holy week was 110,400.
- ◆ Cathedral attendances on these two major Christian festivals average over 2,600 and 1,100 respectively for each cathedral and for many cathedrals additional services have been created to respond to the space restrictions that continue to limit attendance levels. Westminster Abbey adds over 5,000 adults, children and young people to Christmas Day/Eve attendance and more than 22,000 over the Advent season. Comparable figures from parish churches are currently being collected and collated.
- ◆ The number of children attending [educational events](#) at cathedrals has reduced slightly by 1% compared to the previous year. In 2010 the number was 295,970 with Westminster Abbey adding a further 2,900. In addition, a further 10,946 children are being educated at schools associated with cathedrals. Over 2,000 children and adults are also involved week by week in providing cathedral music traditions, a figure that has increased primarily among the lay clerks. In addition, 590 children (less than 16 years of age) are involved in singing in other Cathedral choirs and 1,370 voluntary choir members.

(continued)

* Specific figures of interest for Westminster Abbey have been included

- ◆ Over the last ten years the number of [volunteers](#) involved in the mission and ministry of cathedrals on a regular basis has increased by 26% to 14,800 that is, around 352 volunteers for every cathedral. In contrast, over the last ten years, the number of [visitors](#) reported has gradually reduced by approximately 2.8 million to 9,423,200, that is, around 67,700 for every cathedral. *With the addition of Westminster Abbey and other Royal Peculiars and, given the imprecise nature visitor counting, our working estimate of the total number of visitors to Cathedrals remains at approximately 12 million.*

- ◆ Over 3,150 [specially arranged services](#) were conducted by cathedrals in 2010 which attracted almost 1 million people. [Regular services](#) attracted nearly 2 million people while 1.63 million people attended about 5,150 [public/civic events](#) arranged in cathedrals. Over the last ten years both the numbers of public/civic events and specially arranged services have considerably increased. In particular, the number of public/civic events has almost doubled.

- ◆ In 2010 approximately 760 [baptisms](#) (and thanksgivings for the birth of a child), 330 [marriages](#) (and blessings of marriage), 410 [funerals](#) and 130 [memorial](#) services were conducted by cathedral clergy. Baptisms of young people and adults (over 13 years of age) and number of child baptisms (aged 1 to 12 years) have almost doubled since the turn of the millennium. Overall, these figures reflect a fairly static picture over recent years but in common with the national trend the number of baptisms of older children, young people and adults is growing.

From the accompanying press release:

“Cathedrals are proof of the benefit of being open and available throughout the week. Attendance at services outside Sundays has grown more significantly, by 10%, over the past year and will soon double Sunday congregations. Steady growth since the beginning of the millennium is encouraging cathedrals to explore the unique position they hold in the life of the nation and is restoring confidence in mission.”

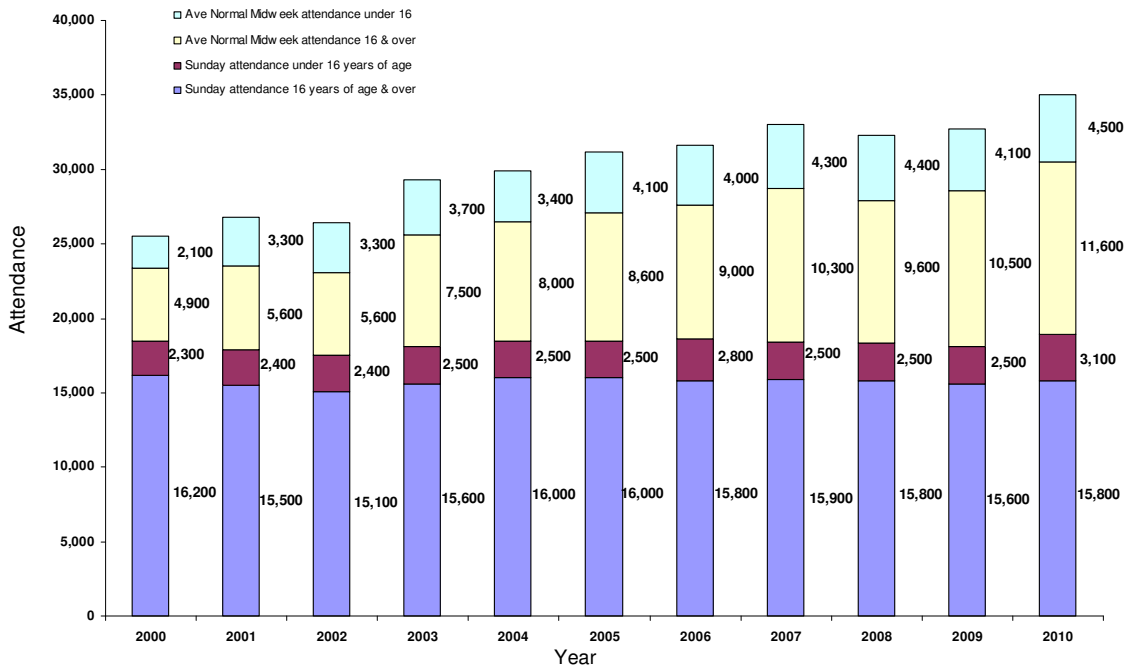
“The ministry of cathedrals is valued by wider society from ordinary people to royalty. They have a treasured place in the heart of the nation and are actively used at key moments in individual lives and on public occasions.”

Revd Preb Lynda Barley (Head of Research and Statistics)

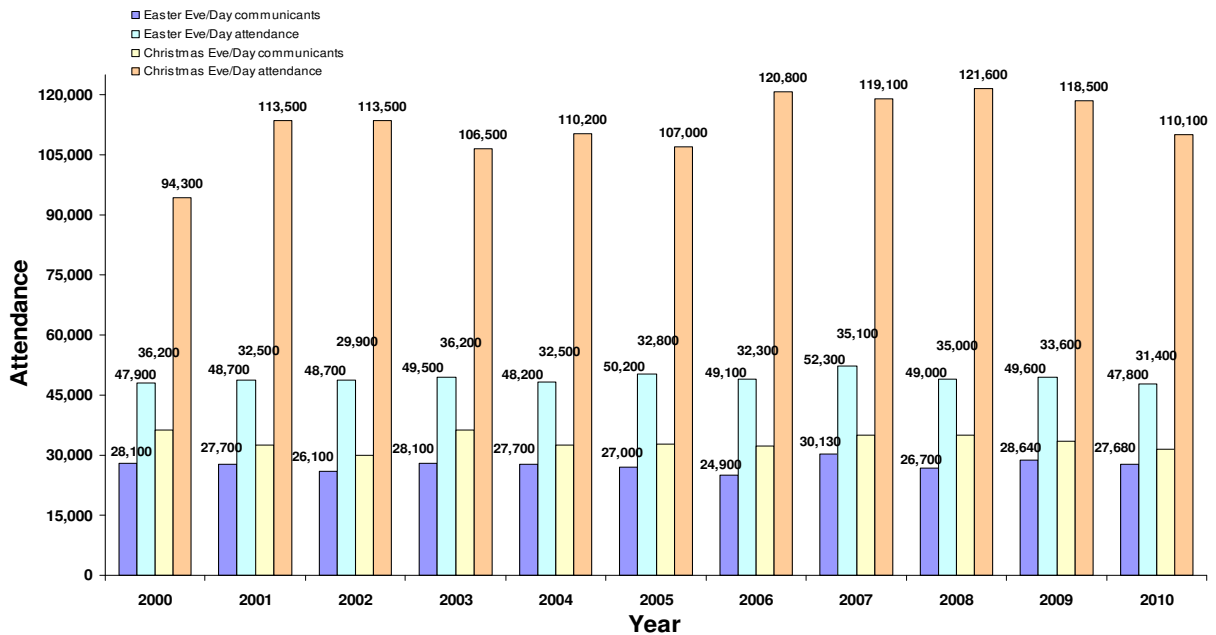
**Research and Statistics Department
Archbishops' Council, April 2011**

** Specific figures of interest for Westminster Abbey have been included*

Church of England Cathedrals (excluding Royal Peculiars) Sunday & total weekly attendance 2000 to 2010



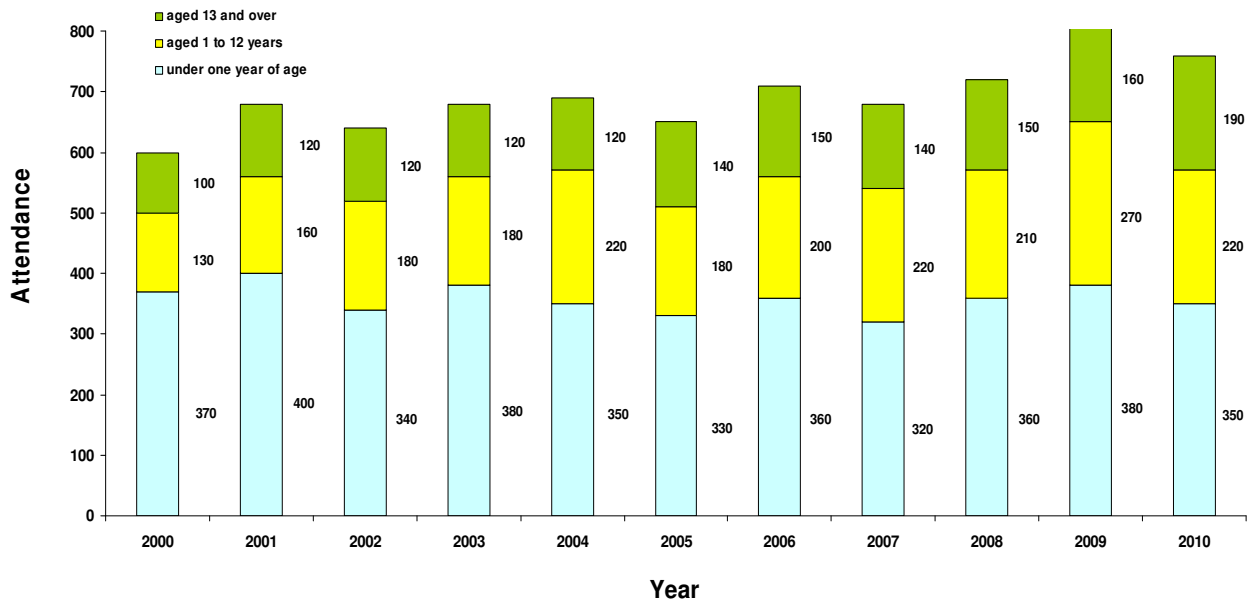
Church of England Cathedrals (excluding Royal Peculiars) Easter & Christmas 2000 to 2010



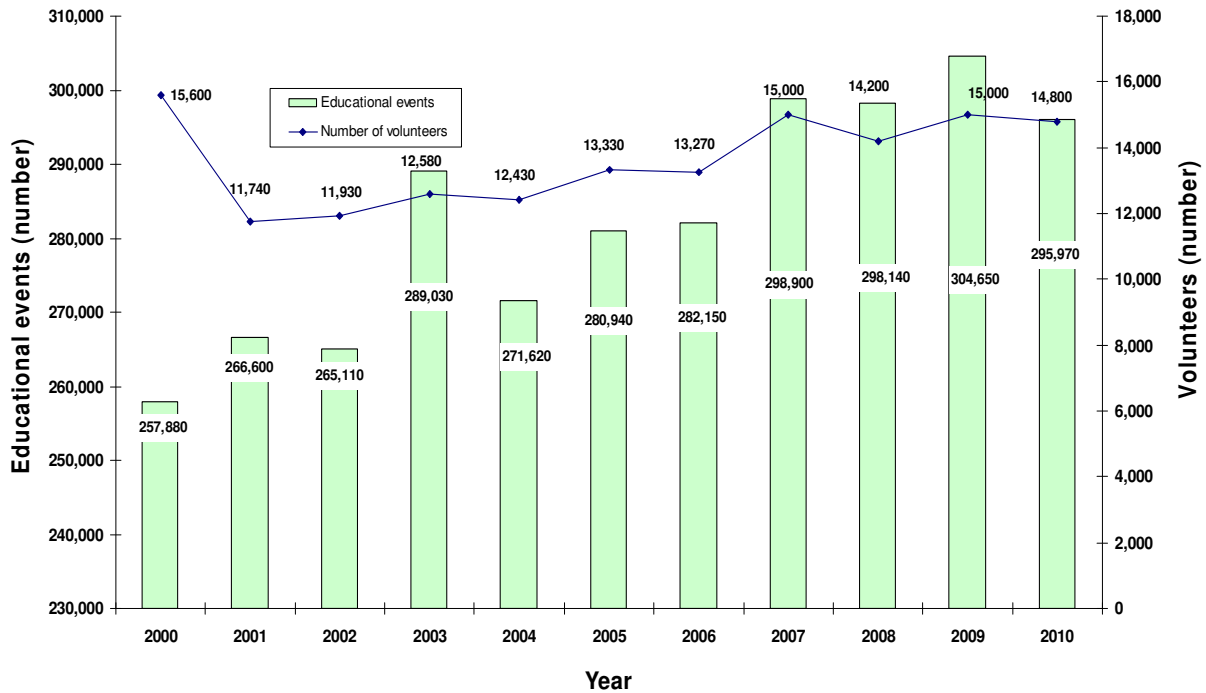
Total attendance during Advent

| Year | 2000 | 2001 | 2002 | 2003 | 2004 | 2005 | 2006 | 2007 | 2008 | 2009 | 2010 |
|------------|---------|---------|---------|---------|---------|---------|---------|---------|---------|---------|---------|
| Attendance | 615,500 | 720,300 | 712,200 | 714,000 | 714,200 | 723,600 | 717,300 | 726,500 | 778,800 | 729,600 | 682,400 |

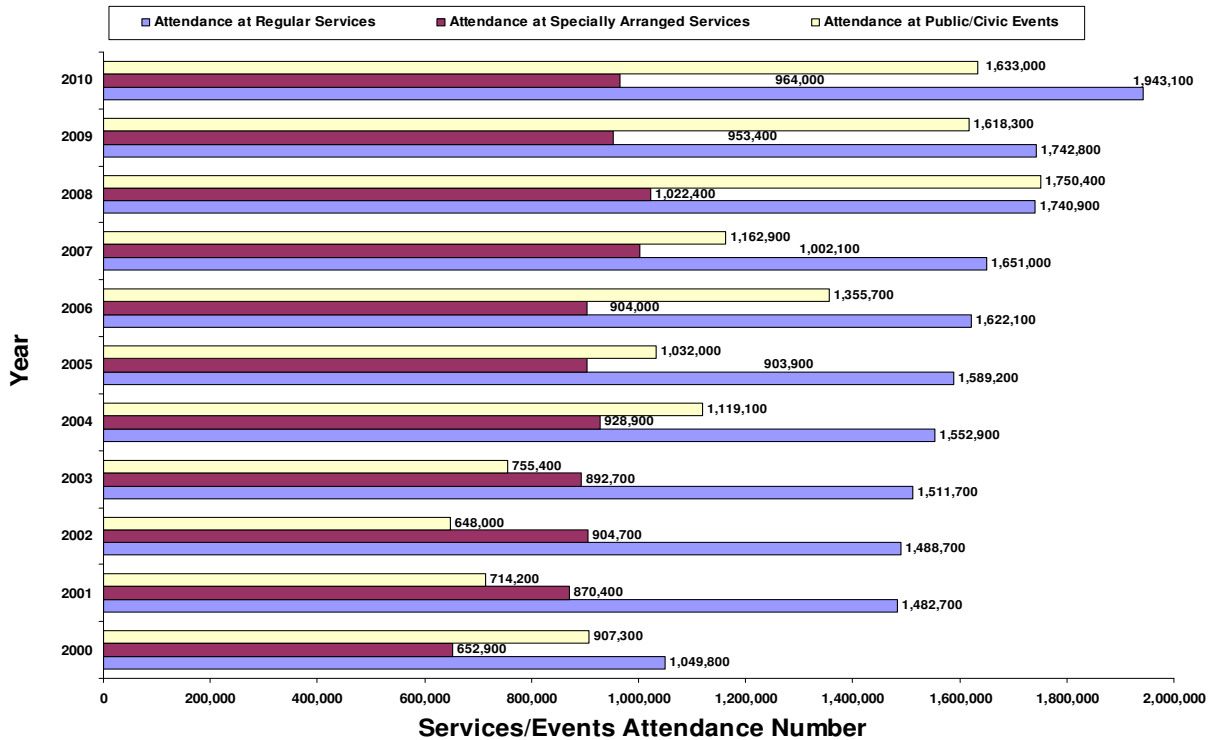
Church of England Cathedrals (excluding Royal Peculiars) Baptisms 2000 to 2010



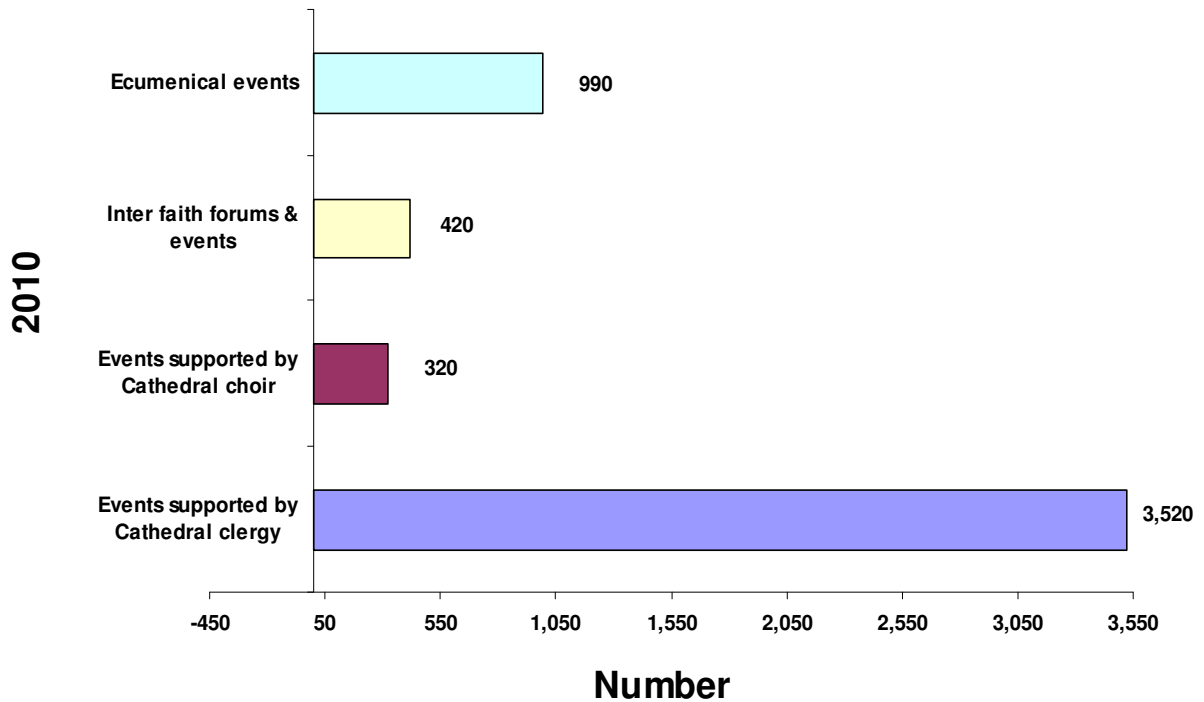
Church of England Cathedrals (excluding Royal Peculiars) Educational events & Volunteers 2000 to 2010



Church of England Cathedrals (excluding Royal Peculiars) Services/Events Attendances 2000 to 2010



Church of England Cathedrals (excluding Royal Peculiars) Events supported by Cathedral clergy



Church of England Cathedrals (excluding Royal Peculiars) Choristers and Lay Clerks 2001 to 2010

