



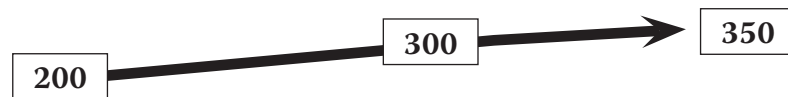
Estimating Participation in ARISE Small Communities

It is difficult to estimate participation in the small communities accurately because there are many variables—for example, the vibrancy of the parish, the involvement of the pastor, the quality of the parish team, the integration of *ARISE* into the Sunday liturgies, recent parish struggles, other current parish activities, and so forth. Still, you need to start somewhere. We suggest that you use the following three formulas to create a continuum with which to estimate your parish participation for Season One.

1. 20% of registered households
2. 25% of total Mass attendance on an average weekend
3. The equivalent of the largest annual parish event

Suppose yours is a parish of 1000 households. Your church seats 350. You have four Sunday Masses on a weekend that are mostly full. Your annual spaghetti dinner draws 300 people. Using the three criteria above, your estimates would be as follows.

1 = **200** (20% of 1000) # 2 = **350** (25% of 1400) # 3 = **300**



In this parish you would have a continuum from the low of 200 to the high of 350. The event figure of 300 suggests that you might want to lean toward the higher numbers.

Other factors will influence your decision.

For instance,

- if your parish is full of energy and people generally turn out for things
 - if people are excited about *ARISE*
 - if the parish team is strong
 - and if the invitation ministry is effectively engaging the parish,
- then prepare for **350**.

On the other hand,

- if your parish is a bit sleepy
 - and if the *ARISE* leaders are struggling
- you might want to estimate closer to **200**.

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If, in this scenario, you decided to anticipate about 350, then we suggest you enlist the help of 35 small-community leaders. This would be based on an average size small group of 10 people. If you end up with fewer groups you can have two leaders in one group.

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