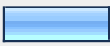
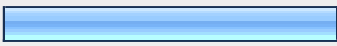
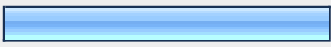
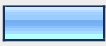




2009 Vision Vocation Guide Discerner Survey 02-09

1. How seriously are you considering a religious vocation?				
			Response Percent	Response Count
I plan to enter a formation program in the next 12 months			11.4%	21
Very seriously			36.8%	68
Seriously			35.7%	66
Not very seriously			10.8%	20
I am no longer interested			4.9%	9
I never was seriously considering it			0.5%	1
			answered question	185
			skipped question	0

2. Please rank in order of importance what most attracts you to a particular religious community.							
	essential	very important	important	somewhat important	not important at all	Rating Average	Response Count
Praying with members of the community	48.9% (88)	29.4% (53)	17.2% (31)	3.3% (6)	1.1% (2)	1.78	180
Devotional prayer	42.8% (77)	26.7% (48)	22.2% (40)	3.9% (7)	4.4% (8)	2.01	180
Being able to do ministry with other members of the congregation	35.2% (63)	27.4% (49)	22.9% (41)	11.2% (20)	3.4% (6)	2.20	179
Wearing a religious habit	31.5% (57)	14.9% (27)	14.9% (27)	14.9% (27)	23.8% (43)	2.85	181
Living in community	47.5% (85)	24.0% (43)	14.5% (26)	8.9% (16)	5.0% (9)	2.00	179
Justice and peace outreach	31.9% (58)	24.7% (45)	19.8% (36)	17.0% (31)	6.6% (12)	2.42	182
Living a life of faithfulness to the church and its teachings	70.9% (127)	17.9% (32)	7.8% (14)	1.7% (3)	1.7% (3)	1.45	179
Other (please specify)							38

	<i>answered question</i>	184
	<i>skipped question</i>	1

3. Please rank in order of importance what resources you have found most helpful in gathering vocation information.							
	essential	very important	important	somewhat important	not at all important	Rating Average	Response Count
A religious community's website	33.5% (60)	41.3% (74)	18.4% (33)	5.0% (9)	1.7% (3)	2.00	179
Discerners' blogs	7.2% (12)	19.8% (33)	24.6% (41)	25.1% (42)	23.4% (39)	3.38	167
Vocation-related websites	27.0% (47)	29.3% (51)	25.3% (44)	16.1% (28)	2.3% (4)	2.37	174
Vocation periodicals, spiritual books, brochures	25.7% (45)	30.9% (54)	24.6% (43)	14.3% (25)	4.6% (8)	2.41	175
Come and see weekends/discernment retreats	43.2% (70)	27.2% (44)	14.8% (24)	9.3% (15)	5.6% (9)	2.07	162
Parish priest	21.2% (36)	24.1% (41)	25.3% (43)	17.1% (29)	12.4% (21)	2.75	170
Vocation director	32.1% (53)	28.5% (47)	20.0% (33)	8.5% (14)	10.9% (18)	2.38	165
Campus minister	9.8% (16)	20.2% (33)	20.9% (34)	13.5% (22)	35.6% (58)	3.45	163
Personal contact with a religious priest, sister, or brother	55.4% (98)	27.7% (49)	11.3% (20)	3.4% (6)	2.3% (4)	1.69	177
Parents/family	20.5% (35)	18.7% (32)	17.5% (30)	19.9% (34)	23.4% (40)	3.07	171
Friends	10.5% (18)	26.9% (46)	22.8% (39)	19.3% (33)	20.5% (35)	3.12	171
Counselor/spiritual director	39.3% (66)	26.8% (45)	14.3% (24)	10.1% (17)	9.5% (16)	2.24	168
					Other (please specify)		19
					<i>answered question</i>		181
					<i>skipped question</i>		4



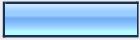

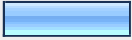
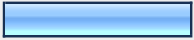

4. Please rank in order of importance what you would find most helpful in making a decision about your vocation.

	essential	very important	important	somewhat important	not at all important	Rating Average	Response Count
Prayer	85.1% (154)	12.2% (22)	2.2% (4)	0.0% (0)	0.6% (1)	1.19	181
Talking with other seekers like myself	30.7% (55)	30.2% (54)	19.6% (35)	13.4% (24)	6.1% (11)	2.34	179
Spiritual direction	61.2% (109)	27.5% (49)	8.4% (15)	2.2% (4)	0.6% (1)	1.53	178
Opportunities to get a taste of community life	59.0% (105)	26.4% (47)	10.1% (18)	2.8% (5)	1.7% (3)	1.62	178
Greater understanding about what community/vocation would be a good fit for me	63.1% (113)	24.6% (44)	10.6% (19)	1.1% (2)	0.6% (1)	1.51	179
Information about the requirements and steps necessary to enter religious life	51.7% (92)	29.2% (52)	14.6% (26)	3.4% (6)	1.1% (2)	1.73	178
A structured discernment process	40.7% (72)	28.2% (50)	18.6% (33)	9.0% (16)	3.4% (6)	2.06	177
					Other (please specify)		14
					answered question		183
					skipped question		2

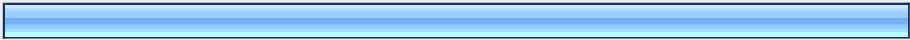
5. Please rank in order of importance what you consider the most challenging aspects of being a religious priest, brother, or sister.



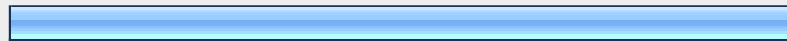


	essential	very important	important	somewhat important	not at all important	Rating Average	Response Count
Amount of time one can spend with family and friends	23.2% (41)	18.6% (33)	27.1% (48)	18.1% (32)	13.0% (23)	2.79	177
Living in community	22.6% (40)	24.9% (44)	26.0% (46)	13.6% (24)	13.0% (23)	2.69	177
The vow of celibacy	26.1% (46)	11.4% (20)	19.9% (35)	18.2% (32)	24.4% (43)	3.03	176
The discipline of prayer	33.3% (59)	15.8% (28)	20.9% (37)	14.1% (25)	15.8% (28)	2.63	177
Sharing resources and living simply	23.7% (42)	22.0% (39)	19.8% (35)	16.4% (29)	18.1% (32)	2.83	177
A life of service	30.1% (52)	14.5% (25)	15.6% (27)	18.5% (32)	21.4% (37)	2.87	173
Restrictions on personal freedom	18.6% (33)	23.2% (41)	26.6% (47)	25.4% (45)	6.2% (11)	2.77	177
Living with people who are not my age	5.9% (10)	19.5% (33)	21.9% (37)	24.3% (41)	28.4% (48)	3.50	169
Other (please specify)							21
answered question							181
skipped question							4

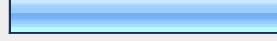

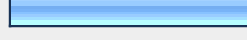
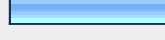
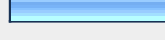
6. What is your age range?

		Response Percent	Response Count
Under 18		14.1%	26
18-22		18.9%	35
23-29		14.6%	27
30-39		11.4%	21
40-49		13.5%	25
50-59		20.5%	38
60+		7.0%	13
		<i>answered question</i>	185
		<i>skipped question</i>	0

7. What is your gender?

		Response Percent	Response Count
female		100.0%	185
male		0.0%	0
		<i>answered question</i>	185
		<i>skipped question</i>	0

8. What vocation interests you most?			Response Percent	Response Count
religious brother			0.5%	1
religious priest			0.5%	1
diocesan priest			0.0%	0
religious sister			86.5%	160
secular institute			4.3%	8
lay minister			8.1%	15
		answered question		185
		skipped question		0

9. What kind of community do you feel most drawn to? Please choose one.			Response Percent	Response Count
apostolic/evangelical			29.7%	55
monastic			8.6%	16
semi-cloistered/active			26.5%	49
missionary			17.3%	32
contemplative			17.8%	33
		answered question		185
		skipped question		0

10. Since you have begun your discernment, what has most surprised you about religious life?			Response Count
			139
		answered question	139
		skipped question	46

11. What is your greatest fear about living the religious life?		Response Count
		148
	<i>answered question</i>	148
	<i>skipped question</i>	37

12. Overall, communities have reported an increase in inquiries into religious life. To what do you attribute this increase?							
	essential	very important	important	somewhat important	not at all important	Rating Average	Response Count
Easy availability of information via the Internet	39.9% (71)	34.8% (62)	16.3% (29)	6.2% (11)	2.8% (5)	1.97	178
Improved promotion and recruitment methods	24.7% (43)	27.6% (48)	26.4% (46)	17.2% (30)	4.0% (7)	2.48	174
Desire for deeper spirituality	65.0% (115)	28.8% (51)	5.1% (9)	1.1% (2)	0.0% (0)	1.42	177
Desire for community and identity	38.3% (67)	40.0% (70)	10.9% (19)	8.6% (15)	2.3% (4)	1.97	175
Desire for economic stability	9.5% (16)	14.9% (25)	15.5% (26)	23.2% (39)	36.9% (62)	3.63	168
					Other (please specify)		44
					<i>answered question</i>		181
					<i>skipped question</i>		4