

global missions and risk

risk defined

- the possibility of suffering harm or loss; danger.
- a factor, thing, element or course involving uncertain danger.

230+ mission leaders, field workers and church mission staff members participated in our 2022 risk in missions survey.



how much risk is enough?

tolerance levels for institutional risk

Will send and support staff in countries that are generally welcoming to westerners and that accept missionary visas.

3%

Will send and support in any country at any time, no matter the threat level.

9%

Will send and support staff in countries that are gospel resistant, but only if the country has received approval by the state department for US citizens to travel or live there.

11%

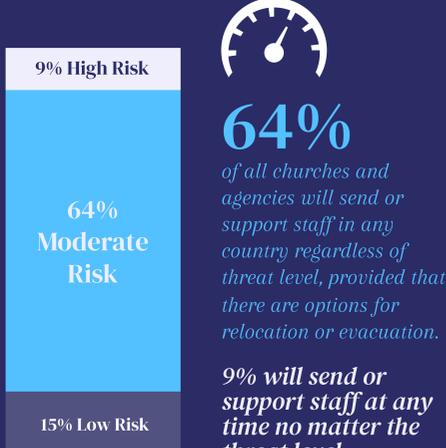
Will send and support staff in countries that do not accept missionary visas but instead require another platform for entry.

20%

Will send and support staff in countries regardless of threat level, provided that there are options for relocation or evacuation if the threat to staff increases to an unsafe level.

54%

3% no response



other risks

- ✓ medical evacuations
- ✓ worker burnout
- ✓ global finances
- ✓ threats from extremist
- ✓ organizational culture

risk for global staff

These potential areas of risk were identified as areas of greatest concern for field workers

32% political/social unrest

25% personal safety

22% stress, trauma, fear

8% illness/medical emergency

5% in country accidents

6% arrest/detention

what are areas of greatest risk for your ministry?



in-country threats

48% of risks are related to staff in foreign countries



COVID-19

23% of risks are related to navigating COVID-19 issues



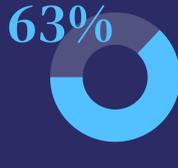
cultural standards

13% of risks are related to changing cultural issues

what are your concerns for north american ministries?

culture shifts

The enactment of more intrusive laws that seek to push cultural shifts into faith-based ministries.



finances

Concerned about losing donors due to polarizing positions within their donor base.



global health crisis

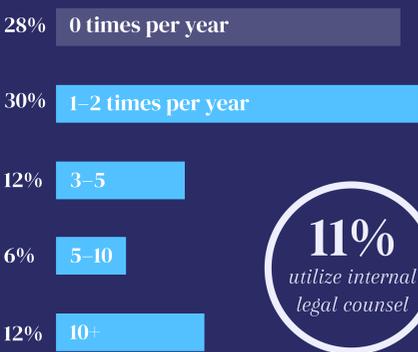
85%

The majority of respondents were still navigating rules and restrictions related to COVID-19 on a global scale.



legal counsel

frequency of organizations contacting legal counsel each year



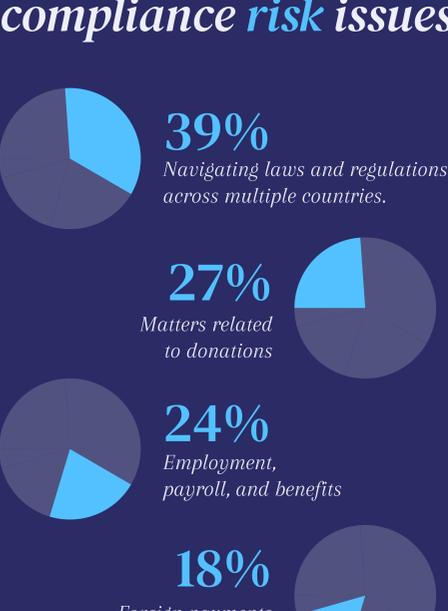
for what areas of risk did you utilize an attorney?

- ✓ employment issues
- ✓ covid policies
- ✓ business as mission
- ✓ child protection
- ✓ foreign property issues
- ✓ visa issues
- ✓ policies and by-laws

employment risks

- 68% employee turnover
- 57% generational differences
- 56% managing foreign based staff
- 41% providing appropriate compensation
- 24% abuse & harassment prevention
- 14% employee classification (w2/1099)

concerns for compliance risk issues



what are areas of future risk for your ministry?

- gender issues**
Issues range from hiring, to international laws, and the definition of identity
- employment**
Legal issues for hiring, firing, and working with global staff
- beliefs and social agendas**
Keeping biblical values amidst growing social pressure that could become new laws

what are areas of needed resources to manage risk?

- 51% changing cultural standards & legal trends
- 49% in-country threats to staff safety
- 47% international travel concerns for staff
- 27% best practices in managing staff turnover
- 22% organizational structure & restructuring