

# 2015 Red Suit Survey



July 6-10, 2016

The World's Largest meeting of Santa's and Mrs. Claus

Survey director - Santa Tim Connaghan

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Survey Name: 2015 Red Suit Survey

Results collected between 10/22/15 and 10/29/15 553 Santas participated

1. How Old are you? Average Age of Santa 63.52 years

Youngest Santa 29

Oldest Santa 94 - Leonard Kane, Ladera Ranch, CA

2. How much do you weigh? Average weight 252.1 pounds 114.3 kilos

Lightest Santa 130 pounds Heaviest Santa 450 pounds

3. Is the "Bowl of Jelly" real or padding?

	Number of Responses	Response Ratio
Real	434	78.4%
Padding	113	20.4%
No Responses	6	1.0%
<b>Total</b>	<b>553</b>	<b>100%</b>

4. Where do you Live? 41.8% (231) Eastern - 28.2% (156) Central 29.9% (165) Western

5. How many years have you been Santa? 15.23 yrs 12 Santas - over 50 years in the Red Suit.

**6. Where have you appeared or worked as Santa? You may select as many categories as you have worked.**

	<b>Number of Responses</b>	<b>Response Ratio</b>
I appear at Private and Corporate Parties	484	87.8%
I work for a Photo Company/Mall	248	45.0%
I appear at Charity and Non-Profit events	452	82.0%
I am retired from being Santa	3	<1%
I appear in a Parade	198	35.9%
I appear at a Tree Lighting	238	43.1%
I have appeared as Santa in print advertising	153	27.7%
I have appeared as Santa in a local commercial - Cable	96	17.4%
I have appeared as Santa in a regional Commercial	52	9.4%
I have appeared as Santa in a national commercial	27	4.9%
I have appeared on a national network talk or reality show (not the news)	29	5.2%
I have appeared as Santa in a major motion picture	8	1.4%
I have been interviewed or featured as Santa in a documentary about Santas	87	15.7%
I visit family of deployed Military personnel	115	20.8%
I visit Wounded Warriors	51	9.2%
I volunteer as Santa for Toys for Tots	133	24.1%
I am Santa for Make a Wish	34	6.1%
I am a Hospice trained Santa	72	13.0%
I visit Senior Centers and Convalescent Homes	294	53.3%
I visit Hospitals	238	43.1%
<b>Total</b>	<b>551</b>	<b>100%</b>

**7. Why or What made you decide to be a Santa? (Since it is one of the hardest jobs you do!) Select the one that most closely matches you.**

	<b>Number of Responses</b>	<b>Response Ratio</b>
My Church asked me	24	4.3%
My Family(Wife, Daughter, Son) asked me to do it	103	18.6%
The Local School asked me	18	3.2%
My employer asked me	37	6.6%
My Service Club asked me	9	1.6%
My Friends / Neighbors asked me	85	15.3%
I have always wanted to be Santa	121	21.8%
I have the look or size and /or mage of Santa	132	23.8%
I was interested in the business opportunities	21	3.7%
No Responses	3	<1%
<b>Total</b>	<b>553</b>	<b>100%</b>

### 8. Have you ever been 'wet' on by a child or baby

	Number of Responses	Response Ratio
Yes	171	30.9%
No	381	68.8%
No Responses	1	<1%
<b>Total</b>	<b>553</b>	<b>100%</b>

### 9. When you first became Santa, did you readily accept the Red Suit? Or were you a reluctant Santa?

	Number of Responses	Response Ratio
I readily became Santa, even before meeting the children	408	73.7%
I was reluctant, but once I put on the suit, and saw the children's faces, I knew I could do this forever.	144	26.0%
No Responses	1	<1%
<b>Total</b>	<b>553</b>	<b>100%</b>

### 10. Are you a "Traditional Bearded" Santa or a "Real Bearded" Santa.

	Number of Responses	Response Ratio
Traditional Bearded (Wearing a Theatrical or temporary beard and wig set)	37	6.6%
Real Bearded (your own real beard)	515	93.1%
<b>Total</b>	<b>553</b>	<b>100%</b>

### 11. What was your Beard Evolution?

	Number of Responses	Response Ratio
I have always worn a beard and wig set.	35	6.3%
I started with a beard and wig set and now have a real beard	174	31.4%
I have had a real beard, but now just wear a beard and wig set	3	<1%
I have always been real bearded	340	61.4%
<b>Total</b>	<b>553</b>	<b>100%</b>

**12. Tell us about your beard and hair. Do you have a full head of hair or are you bald? (Of course we wear a hat so most children don't know) Are you naturally white or do you have a beauty salon take care of you. Or, do you have an account at Sally's!**

	<b>Number of Responses</b>	<b>Response Ratio</b>
I wear a commercial beard and wig set.	33	5.9%
I am naturally bearded, have a full set of hair and am naturally white	176	31.8%
I am naturally bearded, am bald on top and am naturally white	89	16.0%
I am naturally bearded, am totally bald and am naturally white	3	<1%
I am naturally bearded, have a full set of hair and bleach or lighten my hair	159	28.7%
I am naturally bearded, am bald on top and bleach or lighten my hair	59	10.6%
I am naturally bearded, totally bald and bleach or lighten my beard	5	<1%
Other	27	4.8%
<b>Total</b>	<b>553</b>	<b>100%</b>

**13. Have you ever had someone pull on your beard to see if it were real?**

	<b>Number of Responses</b>	<b>Response Ratio</b>
Yes, mostly by questioning children	369	66.7%
Yes, mostly by inquisitive adults	136	24.6%
No, I have never experienced a puller	48	8.6%
<b>Total</b>	<b>553</b>	<b>100%</b>

#### 14. What Size Boot do you wear?

	Number of Responses	Response Ratio
8	14	2.5%
8.5	18	3.2%
9	38	6.8%
9.5	42	7.5%
10	65	11.7%
10.5	81	14.6%
11	67	12.1%
11.5	42	7.5%
12	72	13.0%
12.5	21	3.7%
13	58	10.4%
13.5	8	1.4%
14	26	4.7%
<b>Total</b>	<b>553</b>	<b>100%</b>

#### 15. How many times a day do children step on your boots?

	Number of Responses	Response Ratio
1-5	285	51.5%
6-10	94	16.9%
11-15	26	4.7%
16-20	35	6.3%
21-25	14	2.5%
26-30	5	<1%
More than thirty times a day	28	5.0%
Other	65	11.7%
<b>Total</b>	<b>553</b>	<b>100%</b>

#### 16. What Percentage of Babies visiting you, Cry?

	Number of Responses	Response Ratio
Less than 10%	382	69.0%
25%	138	24.9%
50%	25	4.5%
More than 50%	6	1.0%
<b>Total</b>	<b>553</b>	<b>100%</b>

### 17. What is Santa's (Your) preferred give-a-way?

	Number of Responses	Response Ratio
Stickers	88	15.9%
Plastic Coins	58	10.4%
Candy Canes	251	45.3%
Trading Cards	34	6.1%
Other	120	21.6%
No Responses	2	<1%
<b>Total</b>	<b>553</b>	<b>100%</b>

### 18. Do you use an agent?

	Number of Response(s)	Response Ratio
Yes, I use an agent to exclusive handle my bookings	15	2.7%
No, I handle all of my bookings personally	315	56.9%
No, I work directly for a Mall or Photo Company	57	10.3%
Nothing exclusive. I am listed with many entertainment agents.	115	20.7%
Other	50	9.0%
No Responses	1	<1%
<b>Total</b>	<b>553</b>	<b>100%</b>

### 19. What is the longest distance you have traveled for a regular Santa Visit?

	Number of Response(s)	Response Ratio
I keep it under 50 miles	215	38.8%
I keep it under 100 miles	144	26.0%
I have traveled up to 150 miles	82	14.8%
I have traveled up to 200 miles	22	3.9%
I have traveled over 250 miles to make a visit	61	11.0%
Other	28	5.0%
No Responses	1	<1%
<b>Total</b>	<b>553</b>	<b>100%</b>

## 20. What is Santa's (your) favorite cookie?

	Number of Response(s)	Response Ratio
Chocolate Chip	245	44.3%
Rice Krispy Treat	4	<1%
Gingerbread	10	1.8%
Oatmeal Raisin	112	20.2%
Oreo	12	2.1%
Peanut Butter	47	8.4%
Sugar Cookie	52	9.4%
Other	70	12.6%
No Responses	1	<1%
<b>Total</b>	<b>553</b>	<b>100%</b>

## 21. What is Santa's (your) favorite Christmas Eve beverage?

	Number of Response(s)	Response Ratio
Milk	138	24.9%
Hot Cocoa	170	30.7%
Egg Nog	109	19.7%
Coca-Cola	41	7.4%
Coffee	27	4.8%
Tea	15	2.7%
Other	52	9.4%
No Responses	1	<1%
<b>Total</b>	<b>553</b>	<b>100%</b>

## 22. What is your favorite Christmas Song?

	Number of Response(s)	Response Ratio
Santa Claus is Coming to Town	118	21.3%
Jingle Bells	61	11.0%
White Christmas	54	9.7%
Christmas Song	21	3.7%
Rudolph the Red Nosed Reindeer	76	13.7%
Silent Night	98	17.7%
Little Drummer Boy	39	7.0%
Twelve Days of Christmas	2	<1%
Grandma Got Run over by a Reindeer	5	<1%
Other	78	14.1%
No Responses	1	<1%
<b>Total</b>	<b>553</b>	<b>100%</b>

### 23. What is Santa's (your) favorite greeting?

	Number of Response(s)	Response Ratio
Merry Christmas	530	95.8%
Happy Holidays	7	1.2%
Season's Greetings	2	<1%
Joyous Noel	0	0.0%
Feliz Navidad	1	<1%
Happy Hanukkah	0	0.0%
Mele Kalikimaka	0	0.0%
Other	12	2.1%
No Responses	1	<1%
<b>Total</b>	<b>553</b>	<b>100%</b>

### 24. What is Santa's (your) favorite movie?

	Number of Response(s)	Response Ratio
Scrooge/A Christmas Carol (1951 with Alistair Sim)	18	3.2%
Miracle on 34th Street (1948) Edmund Gwenn	206	37.2%
A Christmas Story (Ralphie, BB Gun, 50th Anniversary this year)	46	8.3%
Santa Clause (Tim Allen)	98	17.7%
White Christmas (Bing Crosby, Danny Kaye, Rosemary Clooney, Vera-Ellen)	33	5.9%
Elf (Wil Farrell)	15	2.7%
Santa Claus - the Movie (David Huddleston, Dudley Moore)	6	1.0%
It's a Wonderful Life (Jimmy Stewart)	83	15.0%
Nightmare Before Christmas (Tim Burton)	0	0.0%
Holiday Inn (Bing Crosby and Fred Astaire)	5	<1%
Other	42	7.5%
No Responses	1	<1%
<b>Total</b>	<b>553</b>	<b>100%</b>



## 25. What is Santa Driving this year? Personal Vehicles only.

	Number of Response(s)	Response Ratio
Compact Car	53	9.5%
Mid-Sized Car	88	15.9%
All-electric Car	1	<1%
Bio-fuel Vehicle	3	<1%
Hybrid (Electric/Gas) vehicle	22	3.9%
Pick Up Truck	133	24.0%
SUV	148	26.7%
Van	52	9.4%
Other	52	9.4%
No Responses	1	<1%
<b>Total</b>	<b>553</b>	<b>100%</b>

## 26. If you could upgrade Santa's Sleigh (your vehicle), what would you add?

	Number of Response(s)	Response Ratio
Heated Seats	45	8.1%
Sun/Moon Roof	32	5.7%
GPS	90	16.2%
Blue Tooth for Phone	35	6.3%
Ice Chest (for cold water & snacks)	32	5.7%
Personal Driver / Navigator / Assistant	139	25.1%
Mobile Internet	56	10.1%
Other	118	21.3%
<b>Total</b>	<b>553</b>	<b>100%</b>

## 27. Do you ride a motorcycle?

	Number of Response(s)	Response Ratio
I own and ride a Harley Davidson	44	7.9%
I own and ride a Gold Wing	11	1.9%
I ride a Can-Am Spyder	0	0.0%
I like to ride but do not own a motorcycle	102	18.4%
I do not ride a bike	361	65.2%
Other	34	6.1%
<b>Total</b>	<b>553</b>	<b>100%</b>

**28. Where will you be working this year? Select one answer as your main area of work.**

	<b>Number of Response(s)</b>	<b>Response Ratio</b>
Volunteer Santa	68	12.2%
In Business for my self - private parties, home visits	297	53.7%
Work for Home Video Calls Company	3	<1%
Work for Amusematte	2	<1%
Work for WorldWide	33	5.9%
Work for Cherry Hill	20	3.6%
Work for Noerr Programs	12	2.1%
Work for an independent Photo Co or Mall (No national photo company)	22	3.9%
Work at Bass Pro	20	3.6%
Work Directly for a Mall, or Department Store. no photo company	17	3.0%
Work for a Theme Park or Attraction or Stage Show	13	2.3%
Own my own Photo Company	3	<1%
Other	41	7.4%
<b>Total</b>	<b>553</b>	<b>100%</b>

**29. Do you appear in a community parade?**

	<b>Number of Response(s)</b>	<b>Response Ratio</b>
No, I do not appear in any parade	337	60.9%
Yes, I volunteer to appear in a parade	116	20.9%
Yes, I am paid to appear in a parade	66	11.9%
Other	32	5.7%
No Responses	2	<1%
<b>Total</b>	<b>553</b>	<b>100%</b>

**30. Do you appear or preside over any Tree Lighting Ceremonies?**

	<b>Number of Response(s)</b>	<b>Response Ratio</b>
No, I do not appear at any tree lighting	296	53.5%
Yes, I volunteer to appear at a tree lighting ceremony	89	16.0%
Yes, I get paid to appear at a tree lighting ceremony	140	25.3%
Other	26	4.7%
No Responses	2	<1%
<b>Total</b>	<b>553</b>	<b>100%</b>

### 31. When are you starting work this year?

	Number of Response(s)	Response Ratio
Prior to November 5	88	15.9%
November 6 or 7	58	10.4%
November 13 or 14	115	20.7%
November 20 or 21	79	14.2%
The day after Thanksgiving, November 27	66	11.9%
November 28 or later	98	17.7%
Other	46	8.3%
No Responses	3	<1%
<b>Total</b>	<b>553</b>	<b>100%</b>

### 32. If working at a Mall, how many hours a day will you be working?

	Number of Response(s)	Response Ratio
4 hours or less a day	37	6.6%
5 hours a day	26	4.7%
6 hours a day	28	5.0%
7 hours a day	10	1.8%
8 hours a day	16	2.8%
9 hours a day	12	2.1%
10 hours a day	14	2.5%
11 hours a day	2	<1%
12 hours a day	7	1.2%
More than 12 hours a day	2	<1%
Other	110	19.8%
No Responses (Do not work at a Mall)	289	52.2%
<b>Total</b>	<b>553</b>	<b>100%</b>

### 33. If you are working or volunteering independently, when will you start your Holiday visits?

	Number of Response(s)	Response Ratio
During the week before Thanksgiving	143	25.8%
After Thanksgiving	223	40.3%
The week before Christmas	15	2.7%
Other	74	13.3%
No Responses	98	17.7%
<b>Total</b>	<b>553</b>	<b>100%</b>

**34. As an independent Santa, how many total hours will you work during the season?**

	<b>Number of Response(s)</b>	<b>Response Ratio</b>
10 hours or less	26	4.7%
10 to 20 hours	45	8.1%
21 to 30 hours	52	9.4%
31 to 40 hours	47	8.4%
41 to 50 hours	41	7.4%
51 to 60 hours	49	8.8%
61 to 70 hours	29	5.2%
71 to 80 hours	32	5.7%
81 to 90 hours	24	4.3%
91 to 100 hours	21	3.7%
Over 100 hours	130	23.5%
Other	517	10.2%
<b>Total</b>	<b>553</b>	<b>100%</b>

**35. Besides the basic tasks or work as Santa, what else do you do when visiting children and families or making public appearances? You may check more than one.**

	<b>Number of Response(s)</b>	<b>Response Ratio</b>
I am a basic Santa, talk to children, pose for photos and hand out presents.	459	83.3%
I read a book or tell stories	409	74.2%
I can sing songs	213	38.6%
I can perform a little magic	109	19.7%
I play a musical instrument (explain below)	22	3.9%
I work with puppets (explain below)	20	3.6%
Other	27	4.9%
<b>Total</b>	<b>551</b>	<b>100%</b>

### 36. As Santa, how many children do you visit with on a daily basis?

	Number of Response(s)	Response Ratio
Less than 24	125	22.6%
25 to 50	110	19.8%
50 to 100	107	19.3%
100 to 150	83	15.0%
200	38	6.8%
250	18	3.2%
300	18	3.2%
350	9	1.6%
400	11	1.9%
450	2	<1%
500	10	1.8%
550	0	0.0%
600	3	<1%
650	3	<1%
700	5	<1%
750	0	0.0%
800	3	<1%
850	0	0.0%
900	0	0.0%
More than 1000 children every day.	7	1.2%
<b>Total</b>	<b>553</b>	<b>100%</b>

### 37. What is the average length of a child's visit with you?

	Number of Response(s)	Response Ratio
30 seconds	16	2.8%
one minute	69	12.4%
90 seconds	92	16.6%
two minutes	150	27.1%
more than two minutes	225	40.6%
<b>Total</b>	<b>553</b>	<b>100%</b>

**38. Santa often hears difficult requests and wishes from Children. Often these children are worried because the parents are having difficulties and the children are trying to help find a fix. The scale is 1 to 5 with 1= hearing it much less than previous years and 5 = hearing requests much more than in previous years.**

**1 = Much Less, 2 = Slightly Less, 3 = About the Same, 4 = Slightly More, 5 = Much More**

**Top number is the count of respondents selecting the option. Bottom % is percent of the total respondents selecting the option.**

	<b>1</b>	<b>2</b>	<b>3</b>	<b>4</b>	<b>5</b>
Children wishing for help to reverse a Divorce or Separation	114 24%	50 10%	272 56%	39 8%	7 1%
Children worried about the economy	159 34%	92 19%	183 39%	35 7%	3 1%
Children wishing for a Parent to find a job	104 22%	79 17%	196 41%	86 18%	9 2%
Children wishing to have a home	114 25%	81 18%	211 46%	45 10%	7 2%
Children worried that Santa won't be able to find them	53 11%	60 12%	257 52%	109 22%	14 3%
Children worried because a loved-one died	93 19%	68 14%	259 54%	60 12%	2 0%
Children worried because someone is very ill	78 16%	65 14%	262 54%	70 15%	6 1%

**39. Have you ever had a child tell you that someone is hurting them? Children trust Santa and most of us have never, ever had a child report abuse. But, we know that this is the most difficult thing a child may tell Santa.**

	<b>Number of Response(s)</b>	<b>Response Ratio</b>
No, I have never had a child tell me of abuse	488	88.2%
Yes,, I have had a child tell me of being hurt and/or abused	64	11.5%
No Responses	1	<1%
<b>Total</b>	<b>553</b>	<b>100%</b>

**40. Many Santas are active year round and sometimes perform or appear as someone other than Santa. So, other than Santa Claus, St. Nicholas, Pere Noel, Sinter Klaus, etc., have you portrayed other characters or famous persons?**

	Number of Response(s)	Response Ratio
I only appear as Santa Claus/St. Nicholas, etc.	414	77.3%
I have appeared as a pirate	45	8.4%
I portray a cowboy, or western character	24	4.4%
I enjoy civil war re-enactment	17	3.1%
I sometimes portray someone from "Duck Dynasty"	5	<1%
I have dressed up as a Rock Star (ZZ Top or Jerry Garcia)	16	2.9%
I have participated in local pioneer/western days	28	5.2%
I have been a wizard (Harry Potter or Lord of the Rings)	32	5.9%
I compete in Hemingway Look-a-like competitions	3	<1%
Other	74	13.8%
<b>Total</b>	<b>535</b>	<b>100%</b>

**41. Do you feel like ever since you became Santa you've gotten the cold or flu more frequently?**

	Number of Response(s)	Response Ratio
Yes, I have gotten a cold or flu more often	115	20.7%
No, I have not gotten a cold or flu more often	437	79.0%
No Responses	1	<1%
<b>Total</b>	<b>553</b>	<b>100%</b>

**42. How many times a day does a child cough or sneeze directly in your face?**

	Number of Response(s)	Response Ratio
None	110	19.8%
Once or twice	254	45.9%
3 or 4 times a day	84	15.1%
5 or 6 times a day	37	6.6%
7 or 8 times a day	13	2.3%
9 or ten times a day	8	1.4%
more than a dozen times a day	16	2.8%
more than twenty times a day	6	1.0%
Other	23	4.1%
<b>Total</b>	<b>553</b>	<b>100%</b>

**43. When you work as Santa, please tell us what steps you take to help reduce the spread of colds and flu.**

	<b>Number of Response(s)</b>	<b>Response Ratio</b>
I have gotten or will be getting a flu shot	458	83.2%
I try to wash my hands often with soap	339	61.6%
I like to have a hand sanitizer disperser near where I work	200	36.3%
I carry a personal bottle of hand sanitizer	263	47.8%
I have my Santa set and chair wiped down and sanitized daily	87	15.8%
I encourage children to help fight germs.	86	15.6%
I sanitize my gloves and change them when needed.	398	72.3%
Other	38	6.9%
<b>Total</b>	<b>550</b>	<b>100%</b>

**44. Do you get any other shots or tests prior to the holiday Season? Pneumonia, TB, etc.**

	<b>Number of Response(s)</b>	<b>Response Ratio</b>
I get a pneumonia shot	263	74.7%
I get an annual TB Test	102	28.9%
Other	55	15.6%
<b>Total</b>	<b>352</b>	<b>100%</b>

**45. If you volunteer as a Santa for a special cause, which ones do you volunteer for? You may check more than one. You may also check other and list a charity.**

	<b>Number of Response(s)</b>	<b>Response Ratio</b>
Marines Toys for Tots	133	32.1%
Make a Wish	35	8.4%
Wounded Warriors	41	9.9%
Military Units	90	21.7%
Operation Snowball or Operation Snowflake	1	<1%
Starlight Foundation	2	<1%
Autism Society	54	13.0%
Ronald McDonald House	36	8.6%
Children's Hospital	128	30.9%
Other	191	46.1%
<b>Total</b>	<b>414</b>	<b>100%</b>



**46. Have you had Hospice Training? Not everyone is cut out to be a Hospice Care Giver. Some Santas have taken that step.**

	<b>Number of Response(s)</b>	<b>Response Ratio</b>
Yes, I have had hospice training.	101	18.2%
No, I have not had hospice training	434	78.4%
No Responses	18	3.2%
<b>Total</b>	<b>553</b>	<b>100%</b>

**47. Marital Status**

	<b>Number of Response(s)</b>	<b>Response Ratio</b>
Single	33	5.9%
Married	479	86.6%
Separated	4	<1%
Divorced	35	6.3%
No Responses	2	<1%
<b>Total</b>	<b>553</b>	<b>100%</b>

**48. If Married, How Many Years? Average years married 34.7**

**Longest Married: Santa Tom & Edna Schoenecker, Chanhasen, MN - 62 yrs Congratulations!**  
 490 Response(s)

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**49. How Many Children do you have? Average 2.8 children**

484 Response(s)

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**50. How Many Grandchildren? Average 4.9**

**Most Grandchildren: Santa Jay & Phyllis Bennett, North Branch, MN - 29 grandchildren**  
 370 Response(s)

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**51. How Many Great-Grandchildren? Average 3.2 Great Grandchildren**

**Most Great-Grandchildren: Also Santa Jay and Phyllis Bennet, 13 Great-Grandchildren**  
 55 Response(s)

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**52. Did you Serve in the Military? If so, please select your Branch of Service.**

	Number of Response(s)	Response Ratio
No Military Service	295	53.3%
Air Force	50	9.0%
Army	79	14.2%
Coast Guard	3	<1%
Marines	21	3.7%
Navy	55	9.9%
Other	25	4.5%
No Responses	25	4.5%
<b>Total</b>	<b>553</b>	<b>100%</b>

**53. Education. Please select the highest level of School you completed. These are degrees from accredited Schools or Universities (Unfortunately not Santa School)**

	Number of Response(s)	Response Ratio
High School	85	15.3%
AA Degree	69	12.4%
BA or BS Degree	111	20.0%
MA or MS Degree	64	11.5%
Some College	148	26.7%
PhD or Doctoral Degree (Accredited College or University, Not Santa School)	27	4.8%
GED	6	1.0%
Other	18	3.2%
No Responses	25	4.5%
<b>Total</b>	<b>553</b>	<b>100%</b>

**54. Have you attended any National or International Santa Events? Select as many events as you have attended.**

	Number of Response(s)	Response Ratio
No, I have never attended a National or International Santa Meeting	252	47.7%
Discover Santa 2006 (convention ten years ago)	68	12.8%
International Santa Claus Congress - Bakken, Copenhagen (any year)	3	<1%
FORBS - National Regional Meetings in Southern California (any year)	59	11.1%
Celebrate Santa in Gatlinburg- 2009 or 2010	83	15.7%
Claus Fest in Gatlinburg (any year)	79	14.9%
ISC - Tampa Florida - 2014	52	9.8%
I plan on attending Discover Santa 2016 in Branson next July	190	35.9%
Other	40	7.5%
<b>Total</b>	<b>528</b>	<b>100%</b>

### 55. Do you belong to any Santa Association?

	Number of Response(s)	Response Ratio
I belong to Claus Net	223	45.0%
FORBS - Fraternal Order of Real Bearded Santas (California, Arizona, Nevada)	72	14.5%
IBRBS - International Brotherhood of Real Bearded Santas	319	64.4%
Santa America	45	9.0%
MOTS - Mystic Order of Traditional Santas	8	1.6%
Long Star Santas	28	5.6%
Palm Tree Santas	37	7.4%
Peachtree Santas	19	3.8%
Long Leaf Pine Santas	24	4.8%
MAPS - Michigan Assn of Professional Santas	17	3.4%
North Star Santas	19	3.8%
Brotherhood of the Direct Descendants of Santa	24	4.8%
Buckeye Santas	25	5.0%
Clan Claus	28	5.6%
Great Plains Santas	0	0.0%
Heart of Dixie Santas	6	1.2%
Virginia Santas	24	4.8%
New England Santa Society	12	2.4%
Santa Claus Oath Foundation and Hall of Fame	38	7.6%
SOS - Society of Santa	20	4.0%
Other	115	23.2%
<b>Total</b>	<b>495</b>	<b>100%</b>

### 56. Have you taken the Santa Claus Oath?

	Number of Response(s)	Response Ratio
No, I have not had the opportunity to take the Santa Claus Oath	123	22.2%
Yes, I have taken the Santa Claus Oath.	404	73.0%
No Responses	26	4.7%
<b>Total</b>	<b>553</b>	<b>100%</b>

**57. Santa has become more and more 'tech savvy" in recent years. Please tell us how you use the internet to connect, network and/or promote.**

	<b>Number of Response(s)</b>	<b>Response Ratio</b>
I am not tech oriented. In fact this Survey was almost too much for me!	31	5.9%
I am lucky if I can just use email.	125	23.8%
I have a Facebook page as Santa	264	50.3%
I use twitter	52	9.9%
I have a dedicated "Santa" web site for business	173	33.0%
I have a dedicated "Santa" web site just for children	13	2.4%
I have a dedicated "Santa" web site that is both for children and for getting business.	55	10.4%
Other	84	16.0%
<b>Total</b>	<b>524</b>	<b>100%</b>

**58. Have you attended a Santa School? Select all that apply.**

	<b>Number of Response(s)</b>	<b>Response Ratio</b>
Charles W. Howard	63	11.9%
School4Santas - International University of Santa Claus	322	61.1%
Victor Nevada School	5	<1%
Professional Santa Claus School	32	6.0%
St. Nicholas Institute	24	4.5%
Noerr Programs Santa Training	20	3.7%
IUSC Correspondence DVD Course	16	3.0%
No, I have never attended a Santa School	121	22.9%
Other	66	12.5%
<b>Total</b>	<b>527</b>	<b>100%</b>

**59. How many Santa Suits or outfits do you own? Please the total number of outfits for Santa, Kris Kringle, or St. Nicolas.**

	<b>Number of Response(s)</b>	<b>Response Ratio</b>
1	70	12.6%
2	134	24.2%
3	112	20.2%
4	80	14.4%
5	52	9.4%
6	30	5.4%
7	13	2.3%
8	11	1.9%
9	5	<1%
10	9	1.6%
None	4	<1%
Other	8	1.4%
No Responses	25	4.5%
<b>Total</b>	<b>553</b>	<b>100%</b>

**60. Where did you obtain your Santa Suit?**

	<b>Number of Response(s)</b>	<b>Response Ratio</b>
My wife or a family friend made it for me	53	9.5%
I had a local tailor/seamstress make it for me	72	13.0%
I had someone from a theater company make it for me	14	2.5%
I bought it on the internet from a costume shop	87	15.7%
I bought it from a professional Santa Suit company (Adele, Sam Mitello, etc.)	198	35.8%
I bought it from a local costume store	52	9.4%
Other	52	9.4%
No Responses	25	4.5%
<b>Total</b>	<b>553</b>	<b>100%</b>

**61. How do you keep cool when working as Santa? Select one or more answers.**

	<b>Number of Response(s)</b>	<b>Response Ratio</b>
I have a fan nearby, giving me a slight breeze.	245	46.4%
I wear a Commercial Cooling Vest	78	14.7%
I made my own cooling vest	10	1.8%
I do not use anything to keep cool	179	33.9%
I keep plenty of bottled water nearby.	263	49.8%
I keep my hair short.	39	7.3%
Other	24	4.5%
<b>Total</b>	<b>528</b>	<b>100%</b>

**62. During the regular Holiday season, do you work with a full Santa Suit or more casual?**

	<b>Number of Response(s)</b>	<b>Response Ratio</b>
I always wear a full traditional (fur down the front) Santa Suit with Hat.	290	52.4%
I always wear a full traditional Santa Suit but sometimes take my hat off	40	7.2%
I always wear a full Coca-Cola Style Suit (Buttons down the front) with Hat.	31	5.6%
I always wear a full Coca-Cola Style Suit but sometime take my hat off	8	1.4%
I work in a workshop outfit with no coat or hat	7	1.2%
I work in a workshop outfit with no coat, but with hat	1	<1%
I switch between a traditional Santa Suit and the Workshop outfit	70	12.6%
I switch between a Coca-Cola style Suit and the Workshop outfit	13	2.3%
I generally dress in a Father Christmas outfit with hat.	12	2.1%
I generally dress as St. Nicholas	3	<1%
Other	53	9.5%
No Responses	25	4.5%
<b>Total</b>	<b>553</b>	<b>100%</b>
49 Comment(s)		

**63. In your previous life (Before Santa) what was your main occupation?**

	<b>Number of Response(s)</b>	<b>Response Ratio</b>
Arts - Painter/Sculptor/Writer etc.	5	<1%
Public Service/Law Enforcement/Fire	31	5.6%
Government Employee/Federal, State or Local	59	10.6%
Elected Official	1	<1%
General Construction / Building Trades - Carpenter/Electrician/Plumber/ etc.	30	5.4%
Heavy Construction / Roads/ Sewers / Iron Worker	7	1.2%
Doctor- Medical/Dental etc.	4	<1%
Finance/ Banking/ Loans/ Investments (St. Nicholas is your Patron Saint)	14	2.5%
Sales / Marketing / Advertising	56	10.1%
Education - Administrator or Teacher	37	6.6%
Entertainer / Entertainment Industry	12	2.1%
Culinary/ Restaurant Owner/ Cook/ etc.	11	1.9%
Lawyer (St. Nicholas is your Patron Saint, too!)	4	<1%
Health Professional / Nurse / Lab Technician	14	2.5%
Public Administration - City/County/State etc.	4	<1%
Public Works	4	<1%
Aviation	6	1.0%
Career Military (Retired)	21	3.7%
Broadcasting - Radio/TV	5	<1%
Journalism	2	<1%
Other	196	35.4%
No Responses	30	5.4%
<b>Total</b>	<b>553</b>	<b>100%</b>

**64. What does Santa (That's you) want for Christmas? We are always being asked this question.**

	<b>Number of Response(s)</b>	<b>Response Ratio</b>
New Phone	20	3.6%
Electronics; Computers, etc.	29	5.2%
Sporting Goods / Recreation / Outdoors etc.	28	5.0%
Entertainment/ Big Screen TV / Audio Components etc.	14	2.5%
Power Tools etc.-	22	3.9%
New Santa Suit / Accessories	106	19.1%
Travel / Vacation	173	31.2%
Other	135	24.4%
No Responses	26	4.7%
<b>Total</b>	<b>553</b>	<b>100%</b>

**65. As most of us are Senior Citizens or "Boomers," part of our responsibility protecting Santa's health. What do you do to keep healthy and stay in shape? Select any or all answers that apply to you.**

	<b>Number of Response(s)</b>	<b>Response Ratio</b>
I get regular check-up with my Doctor	463	88.0%
I practice preventive care by getting my shots (flu, pneumonia, etc.)	402	76.4%
I like to see a chiropractor or get a massage to keep well adjusted	87	16.5%
I play golf, tennis, or outdoor sports to keep fit	68	12.9%
I enjoy swimming and water exercises	76	14.4%
I practice Yoga	10	1.9%
I practice Pilates	1	<1%
I practice Zumba	1	<1%
I am a member of Silver Sneakers	41	7.7%
I practice Aerobics	8	1.5%
I exercise privately with videos / DVD's by Richard Simmons, Jane Fonda, Jack LaLanne, etc.	11	2.0%
Other	127	24.1%
<b>Total</b>	<b>526</b>	<b>100%</b>

**66. If you could change, fix or upgrade something about Santa, what would it be, and why?**

242 Response(s)

**67. And Finally, What are Santa's Plans (Your plans) after this Holiday Season? Select as many options as you wish.**

	<b>Number of Response(s)</b>	<b>Response Ratio</b>
I plan on taking a well-deserved vacation	169	32.0%
I plan on attending Discover Sana 2016 in July	205	38.8%
Go Shopping at After Christmas Sales	61	11.5%
Catch up on Household Chores	143	27.1%
Visit relatives and friends	163	30.9%
I must return to a regular job	169	32.0%
Other	71	13.4%
<b>Total</b>	<b>527</b>	<b>100%</b>