

Parish and Parish Circle Registration and Mass Attendance Statistics



ONE CHURCH
ENCOUNTERING JESUS
EQUIPPING DISCIPLES
LIVING MERCY

Metrics used in calculations:

2000 to 2020 recorded figures

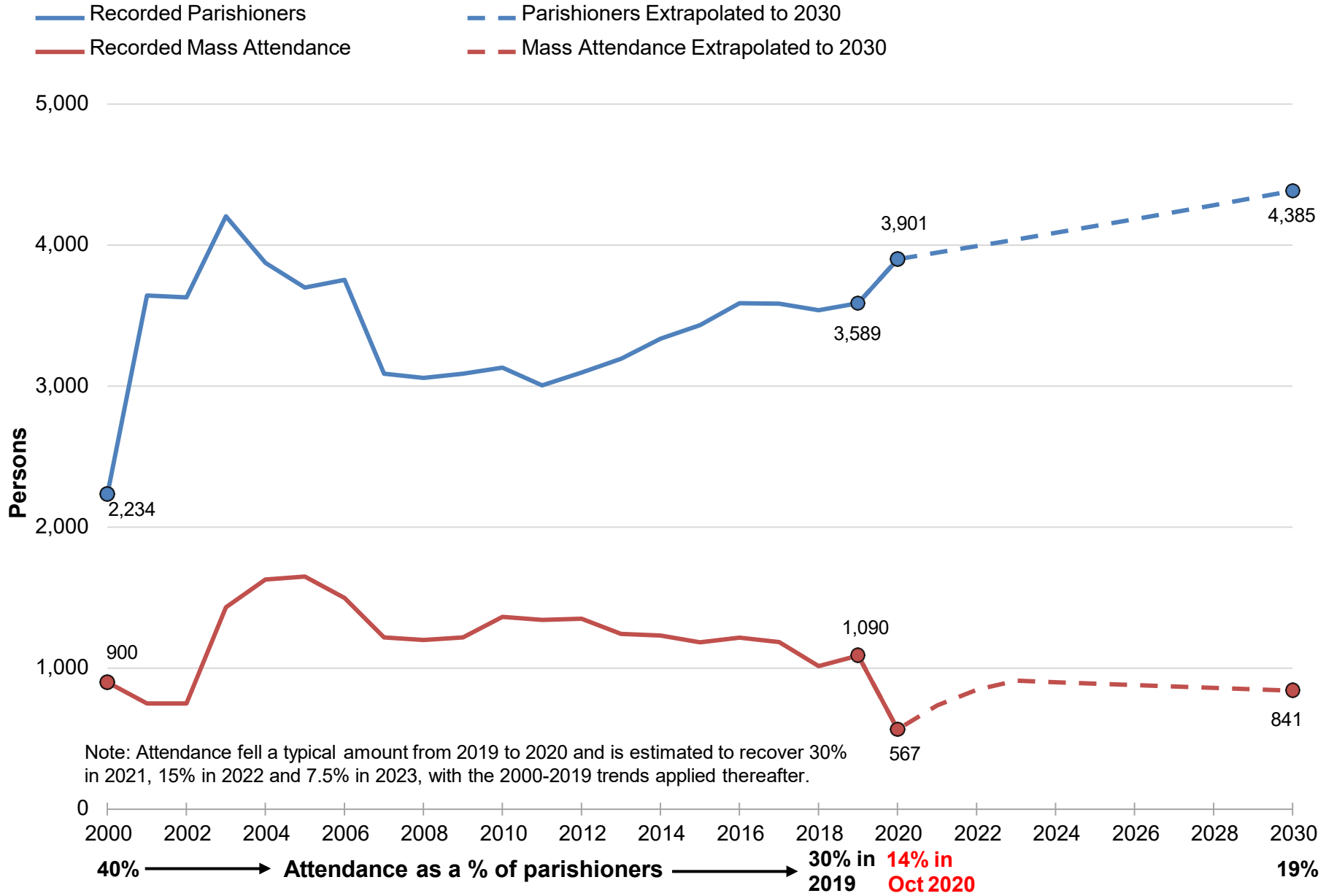
**Expected recovery from the virus between
2021 and 2023**

Extrapolation of past trends to 2030

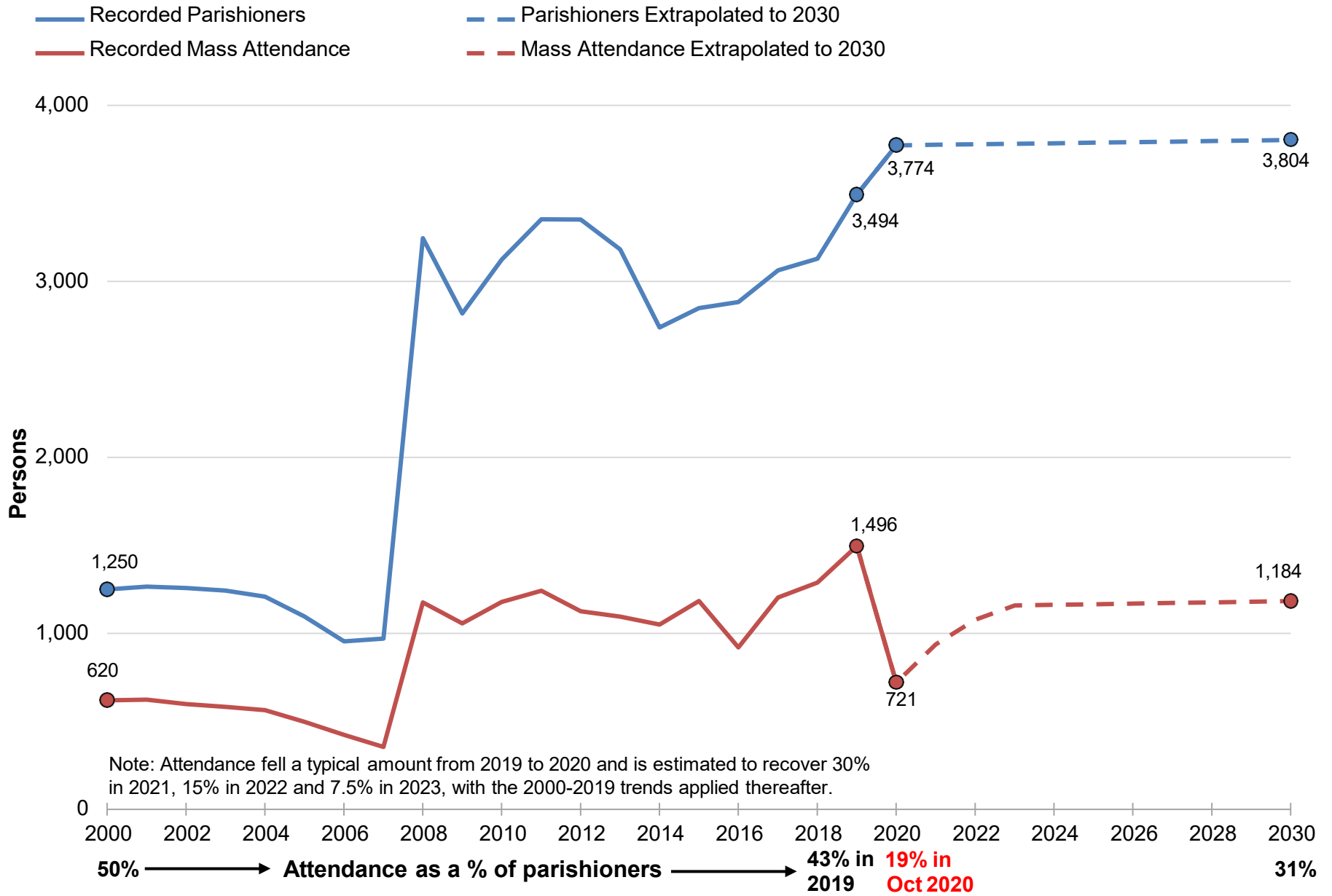
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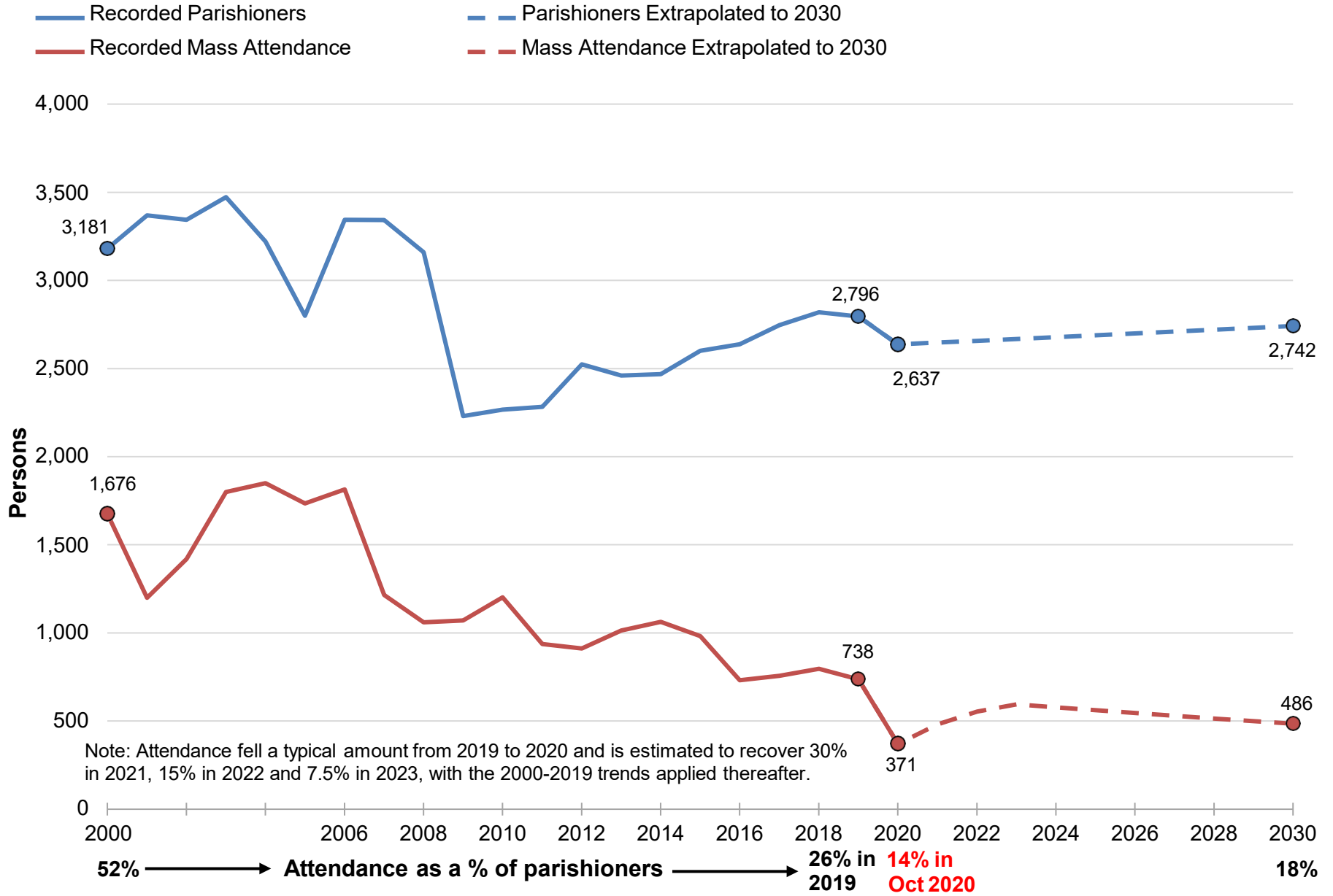
Christ the King Statistics 2000 to 2020 with 3-Year Virus Recovery and Extrapolation to 2030



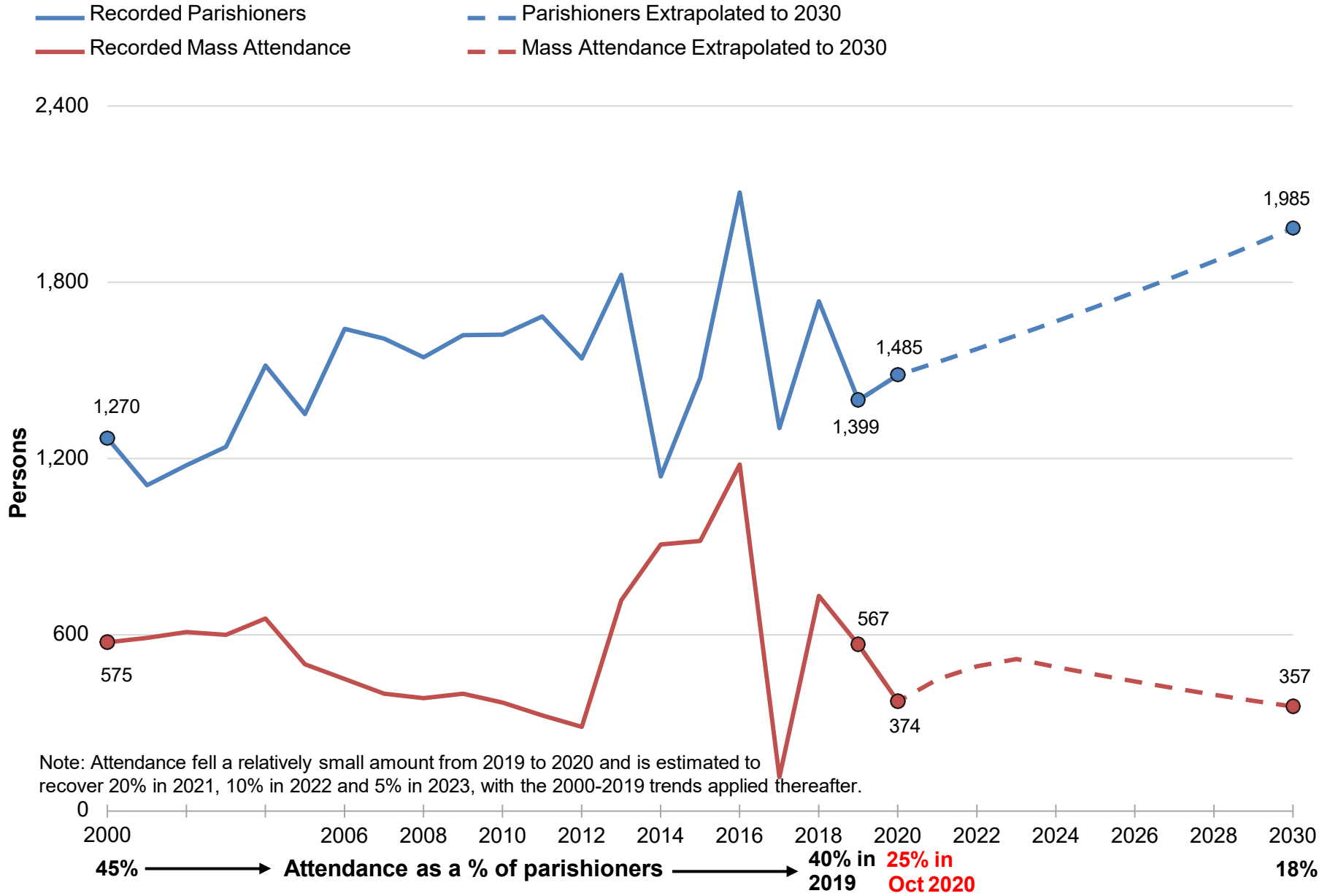
Divine Mercy Statistics 2000 to 2020 with 3-Year Virus Recovery and Extrapolation to 2030



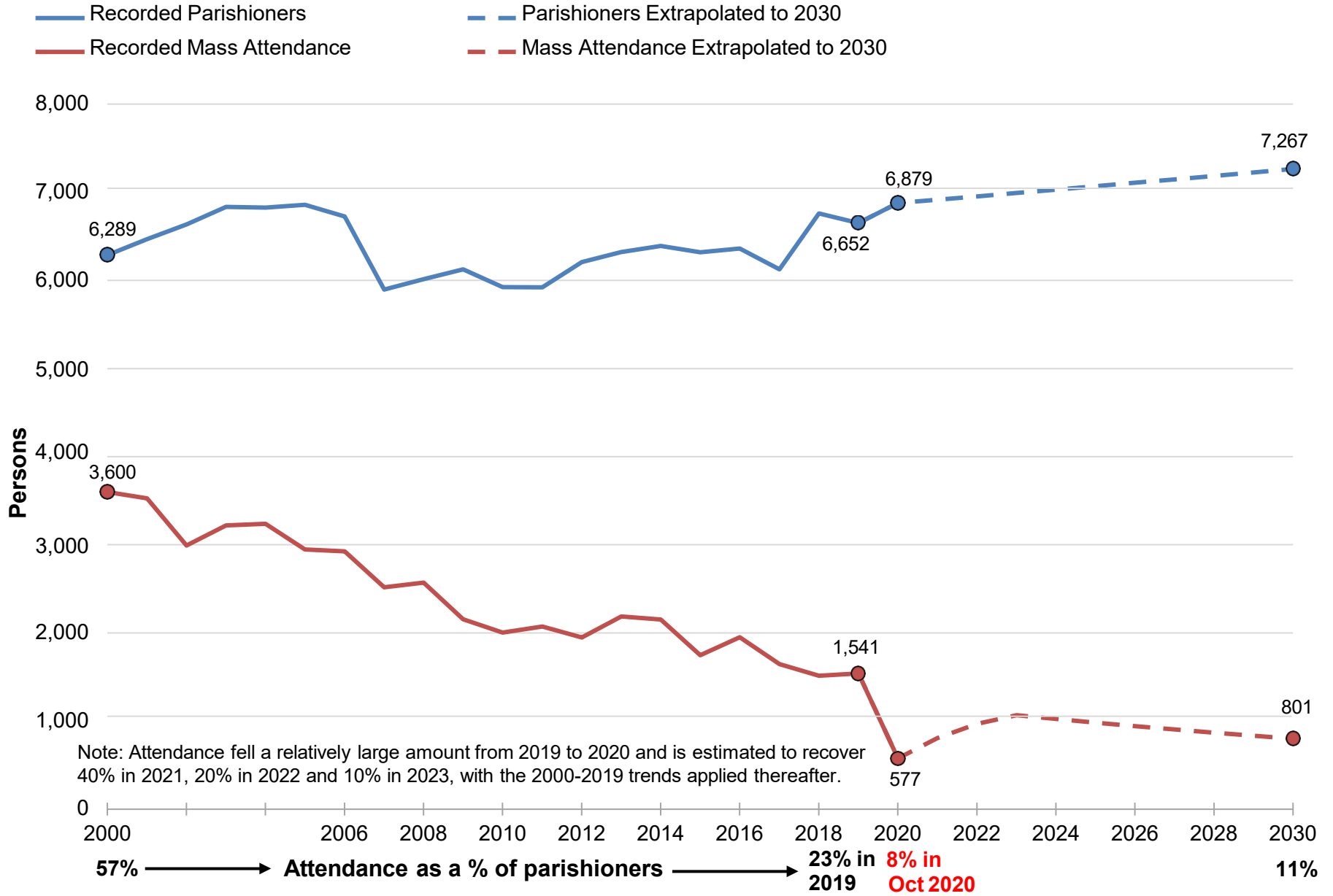
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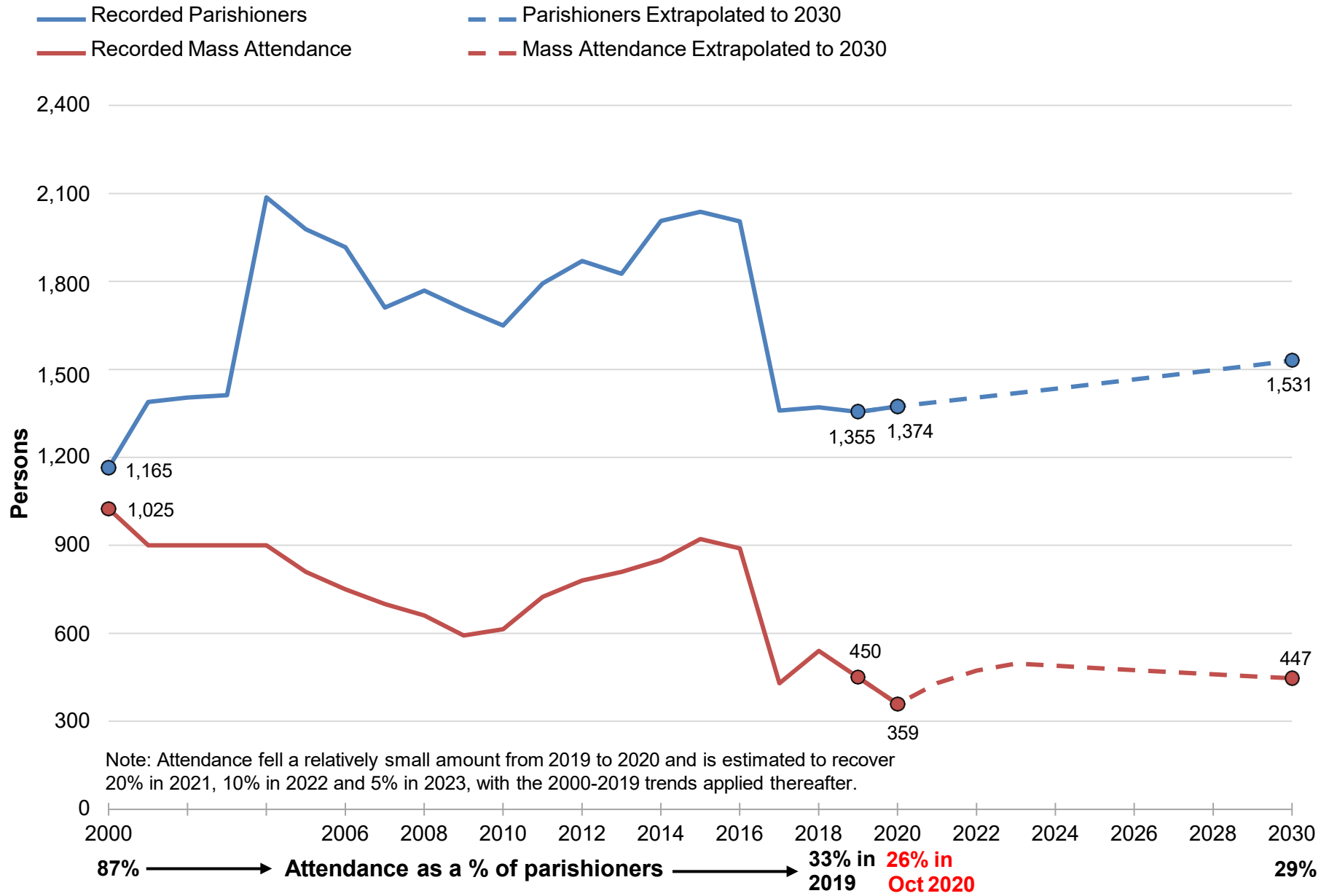
Holy Name Statistics 2000 - 2020 with 3-Year Virus Recovery and Extrapolation to 2030



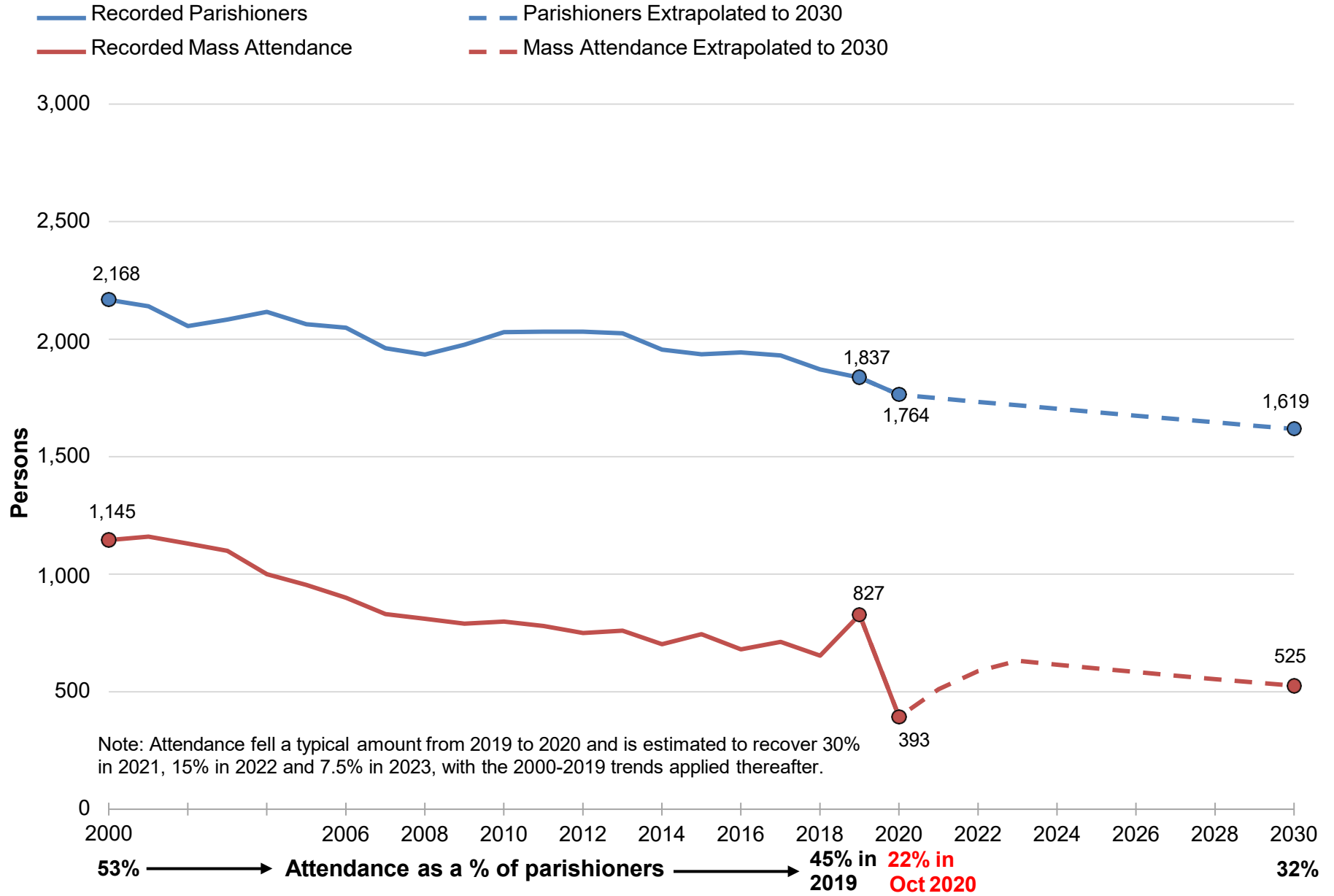
Mary Our Queen Statistics 2000 to 2020 with 3-Year Virus Recovery and Extrapolation to 2030



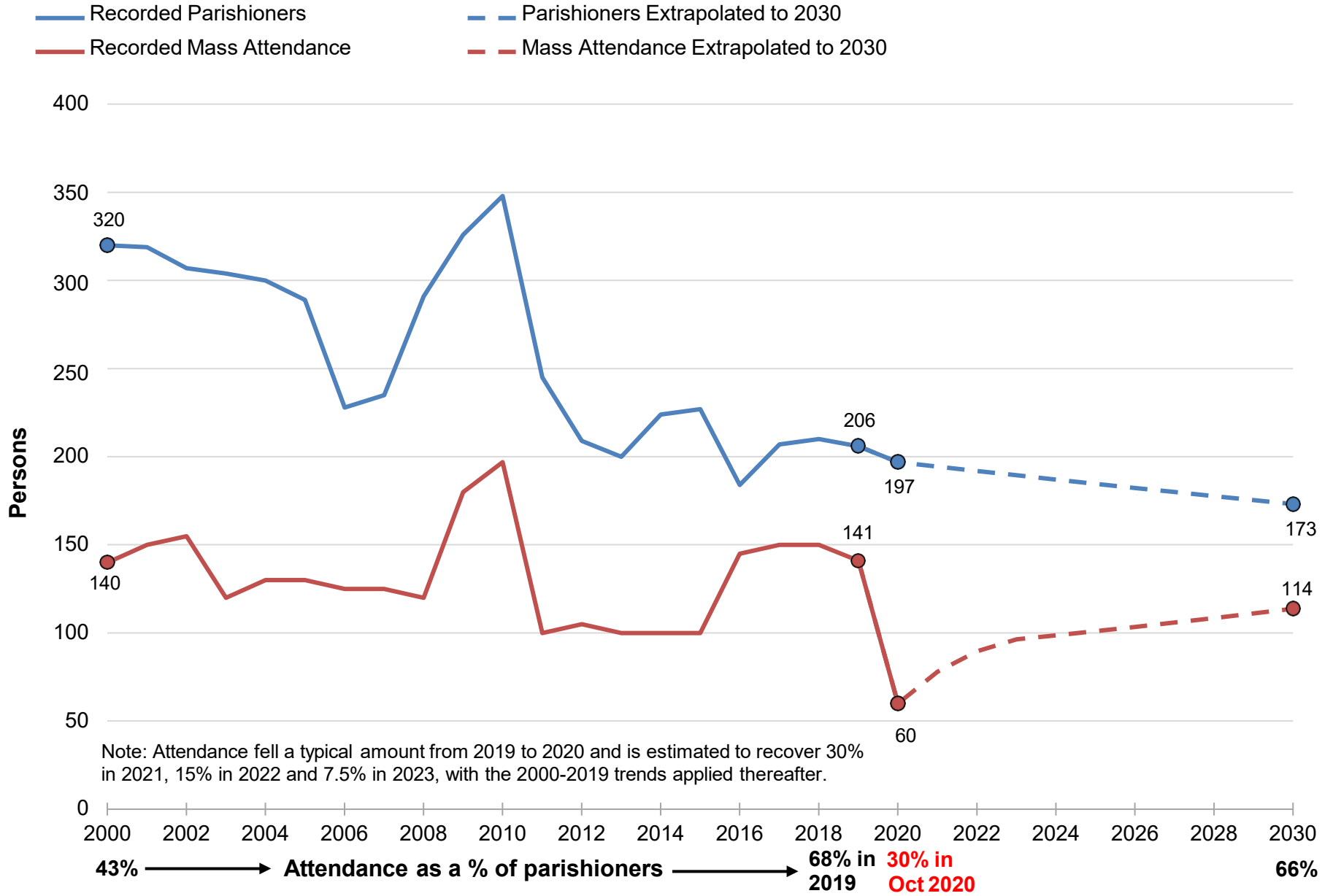
Sacred Heart Omaha Statistics 2000 to 2020 with 3-Year Virus Recovery and Extrapolation to 2030



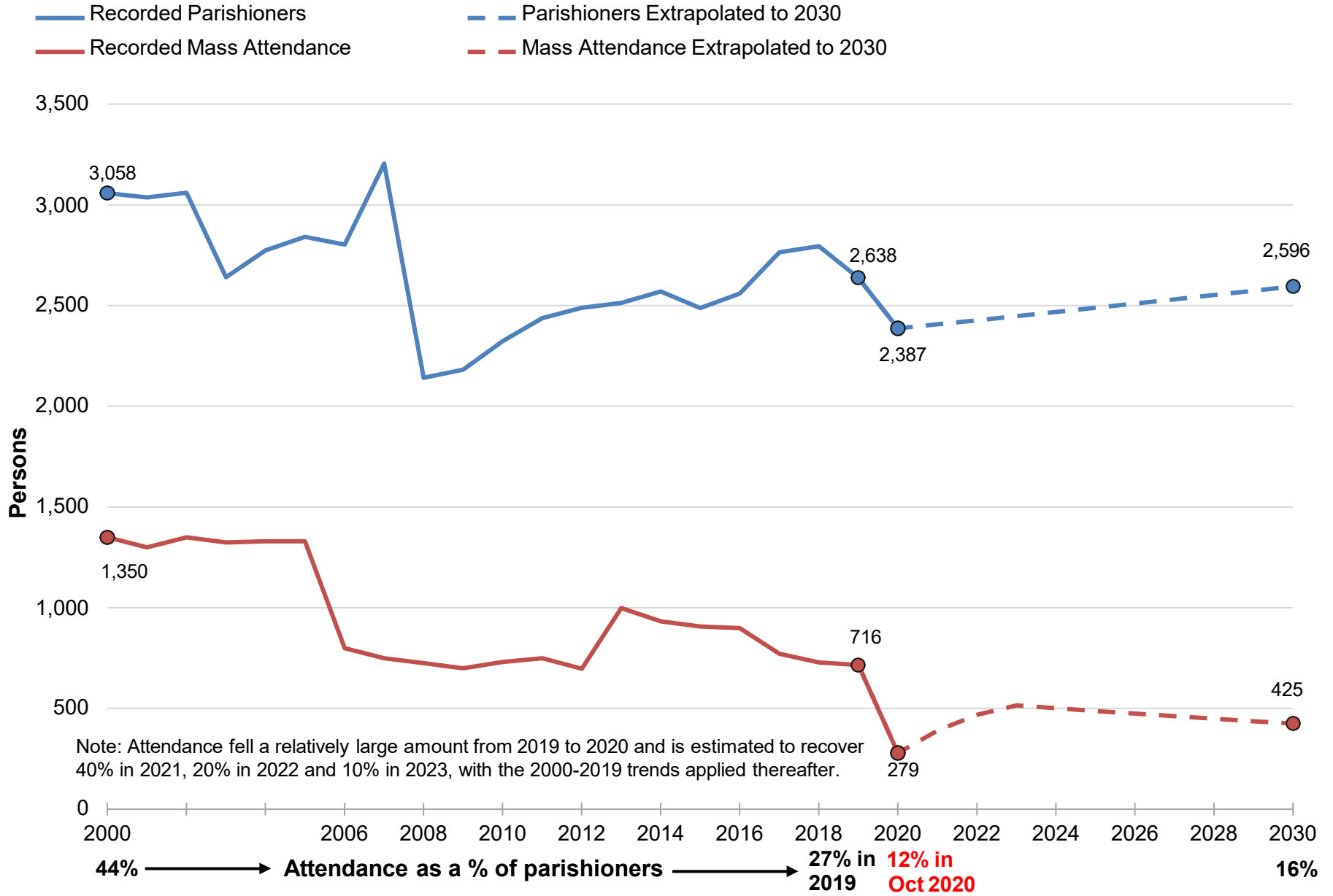
St. Anthony Columbus Statistics 2000 to 2020 with 3-Year Virus Recovery and Extrapolation to 2030



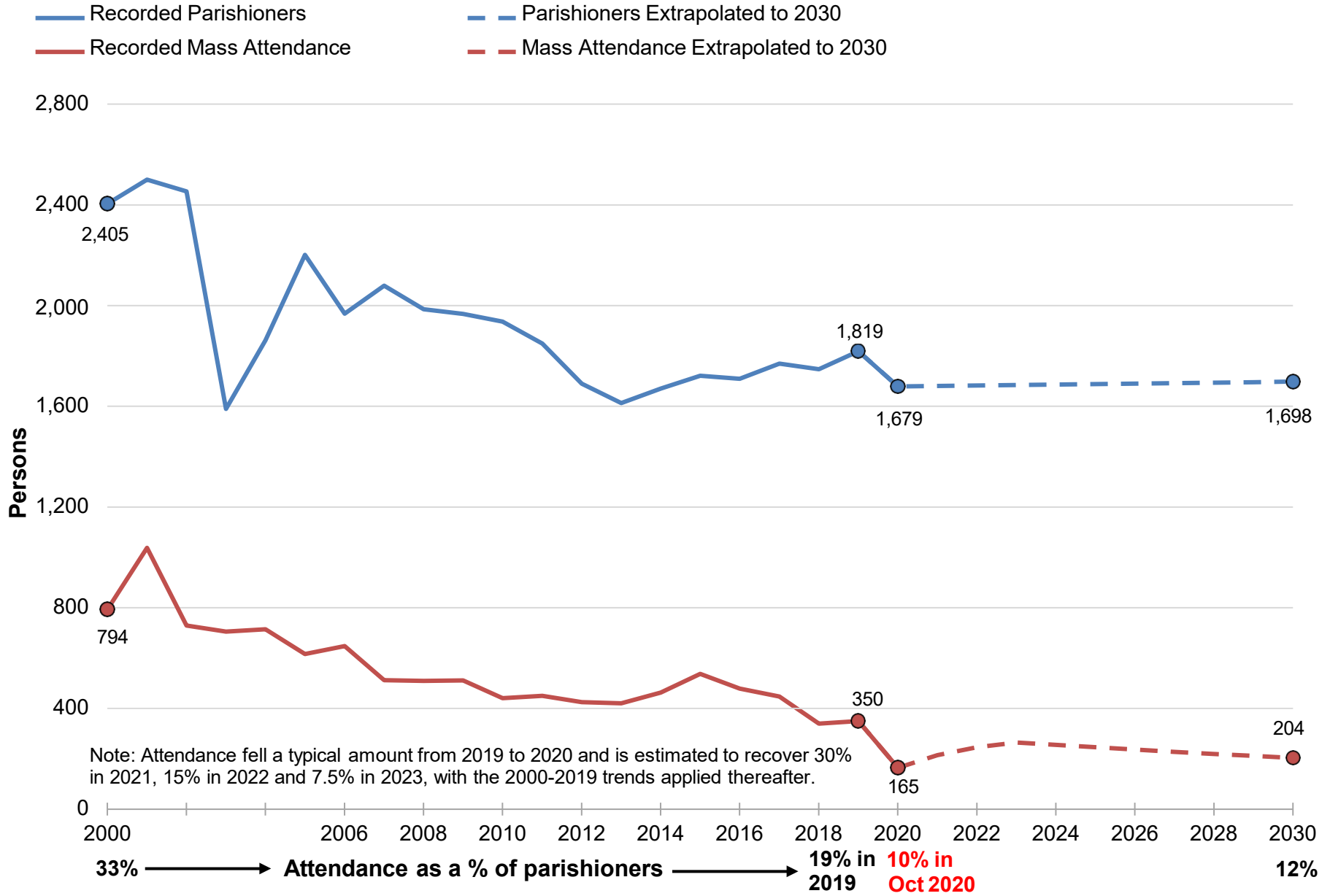
St. Benedict the Moor Statistics 2000 to 2020 with 3-Year Virus Recovery and Extrapolation to 2030



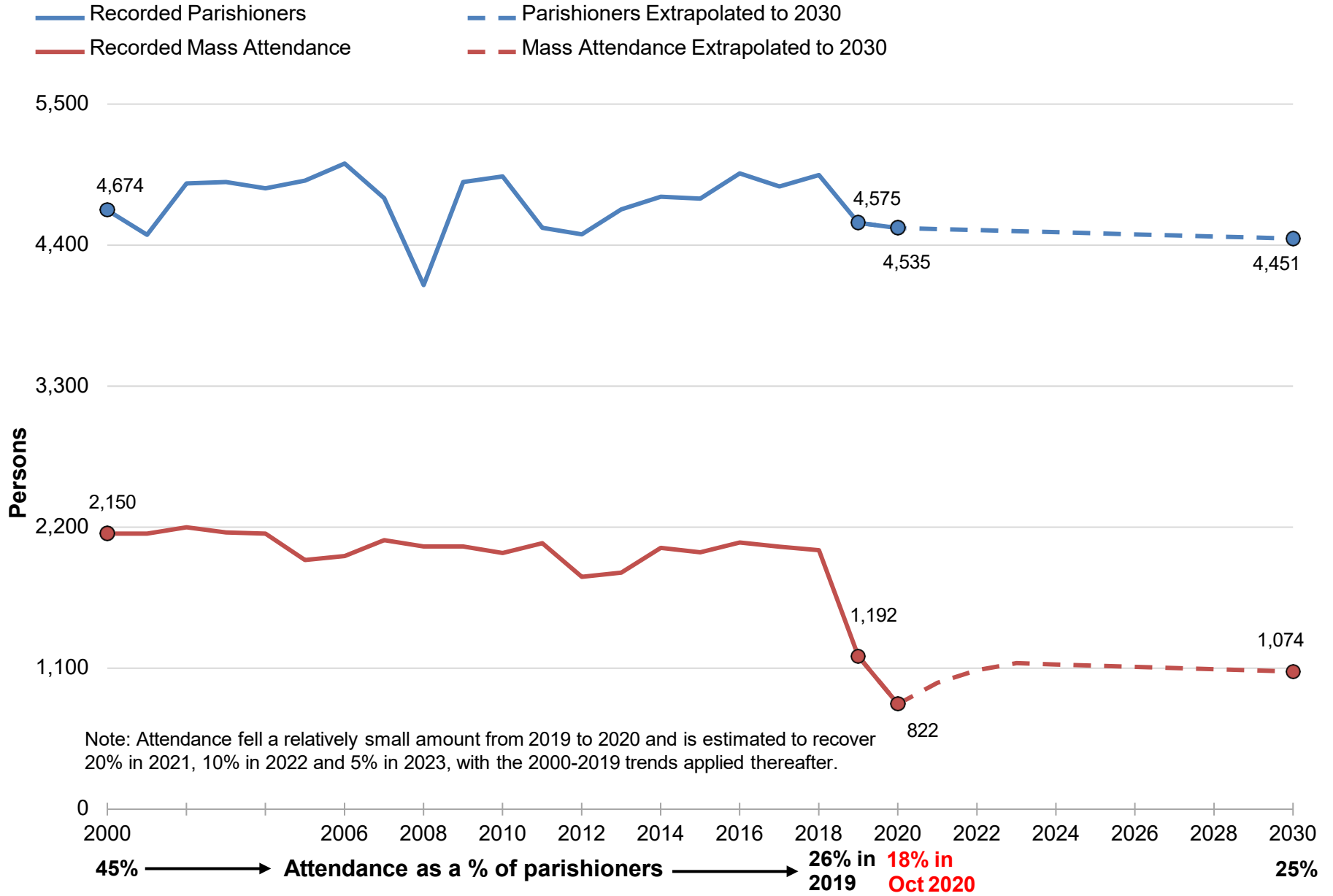
St. Bernadette Statistics 2000 to 2020 with 3-Year Virus Recovery and Extrapolation to 2030



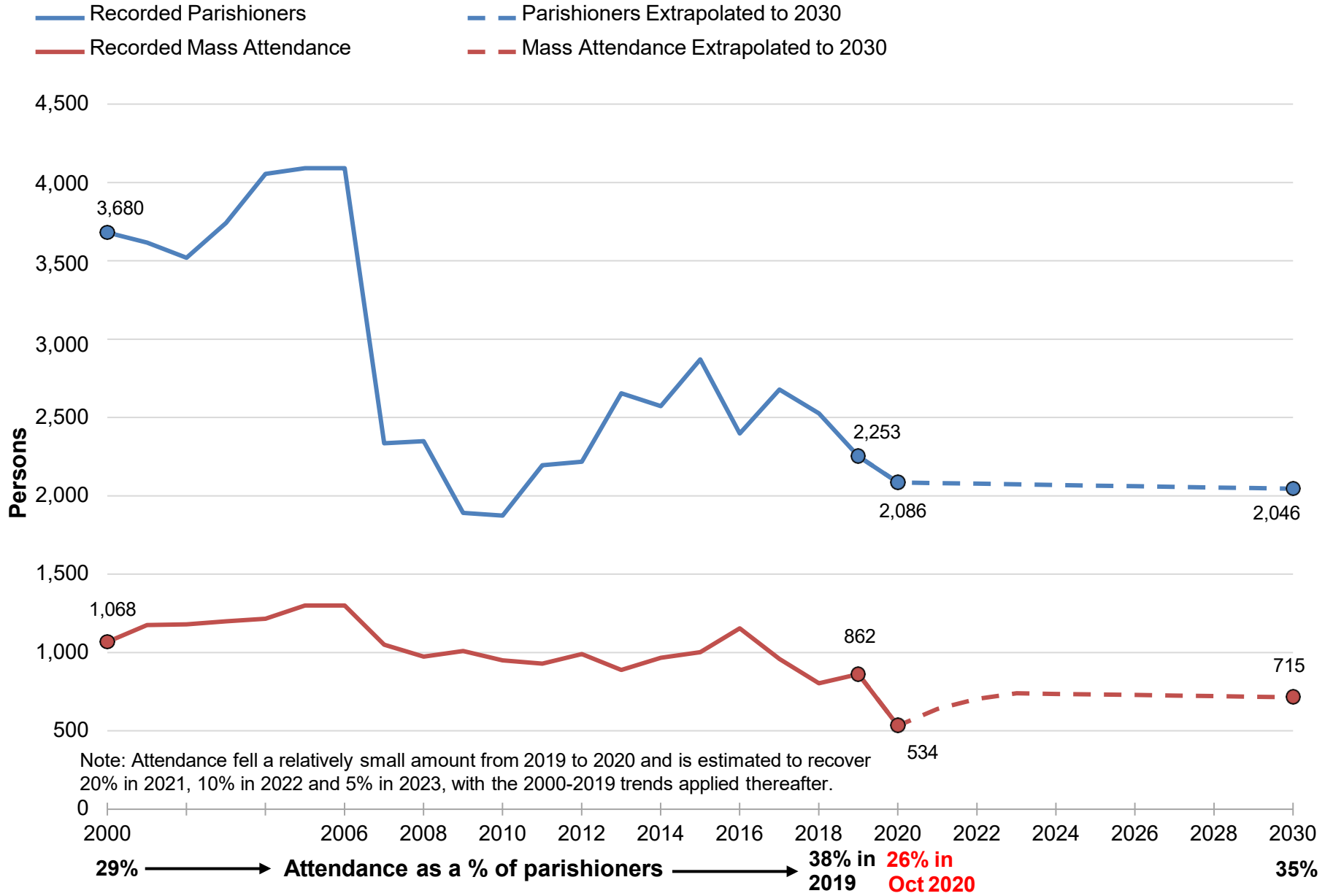
St. Bernard Omaha Statistics 2000 to 2020 with 3-Year Virus Recovery and Extrapolation to 2030



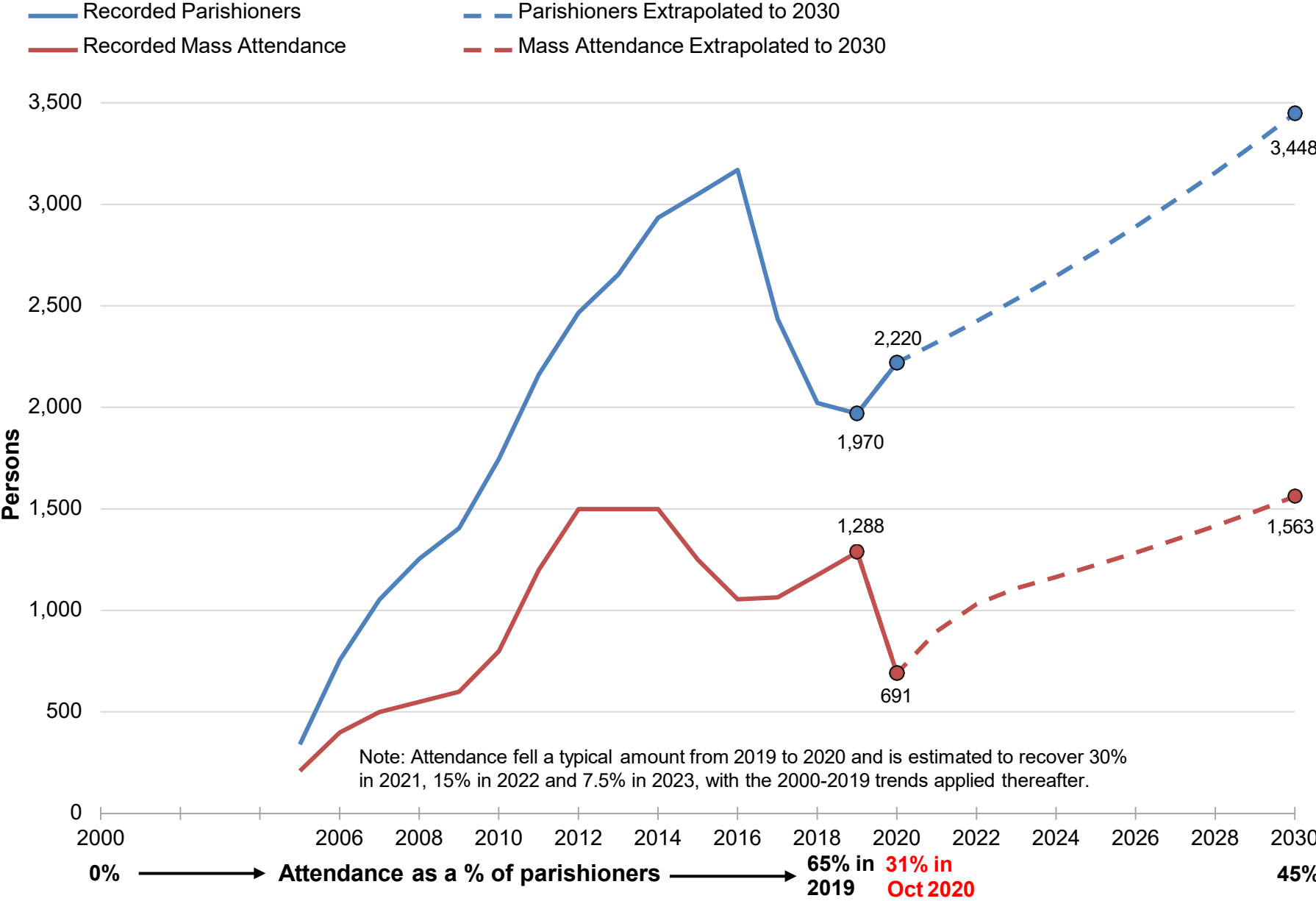
St. Bonaventure Statistics 2000 to 2020 with 3-Year Virus Recovery and Extrapolation to 2030



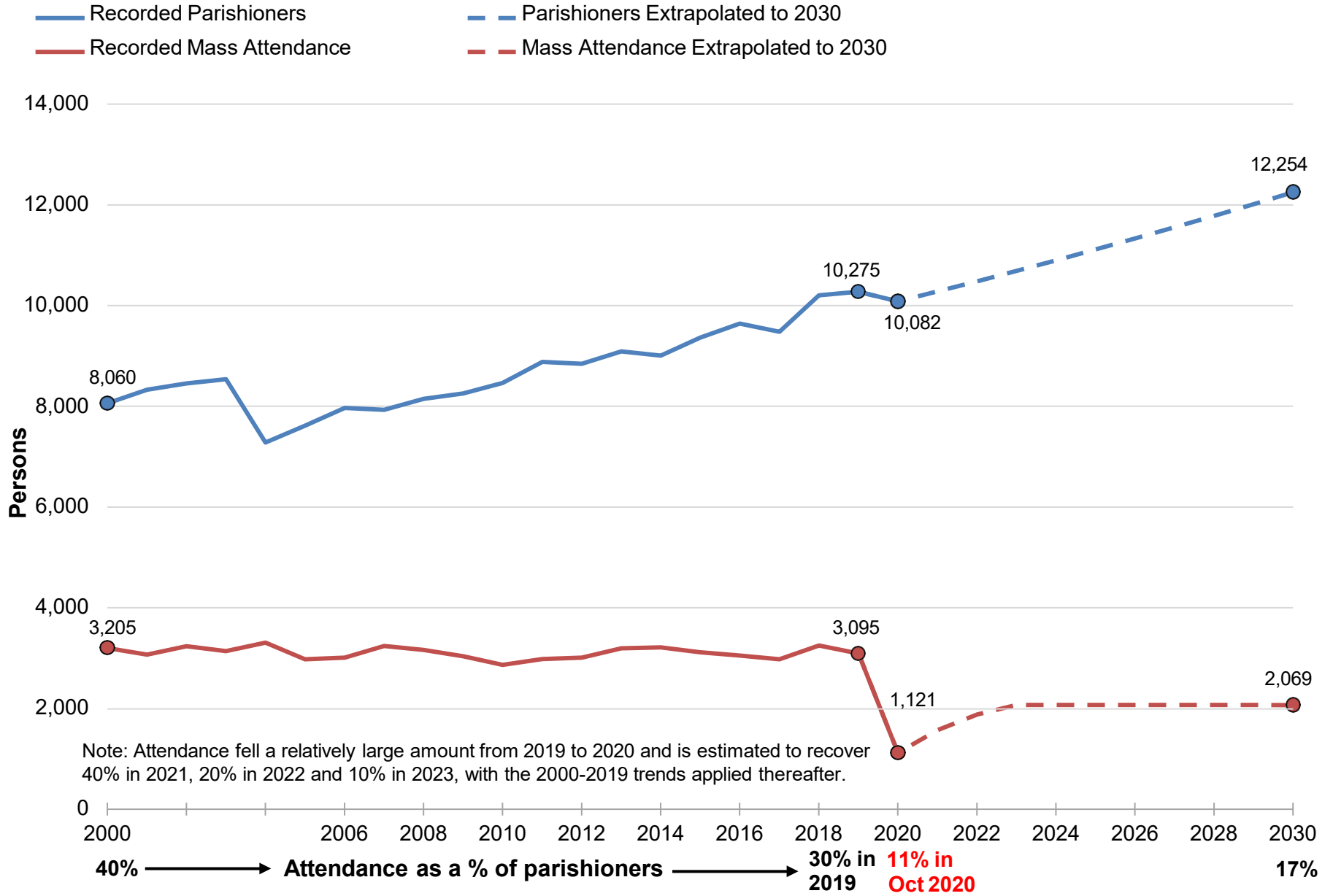
St. Cecilia Statistics 2000 to 2020 with 3-Year Virus Recovery and Extrapolation to 2030



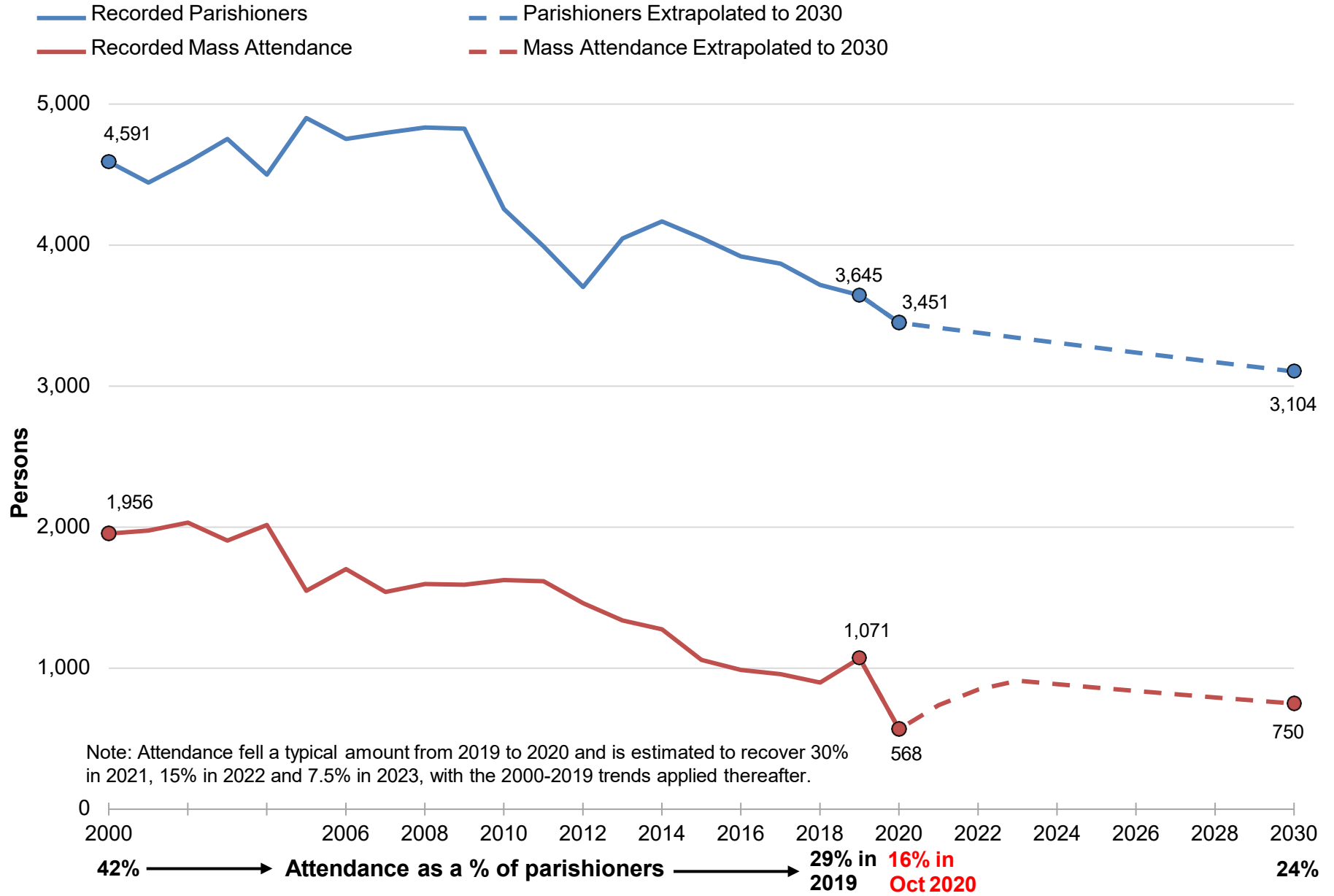
St. Charles Borromeo Statistics 2000 to 2020 with 3-Year Virus Recovery and Extrapolation to 2030



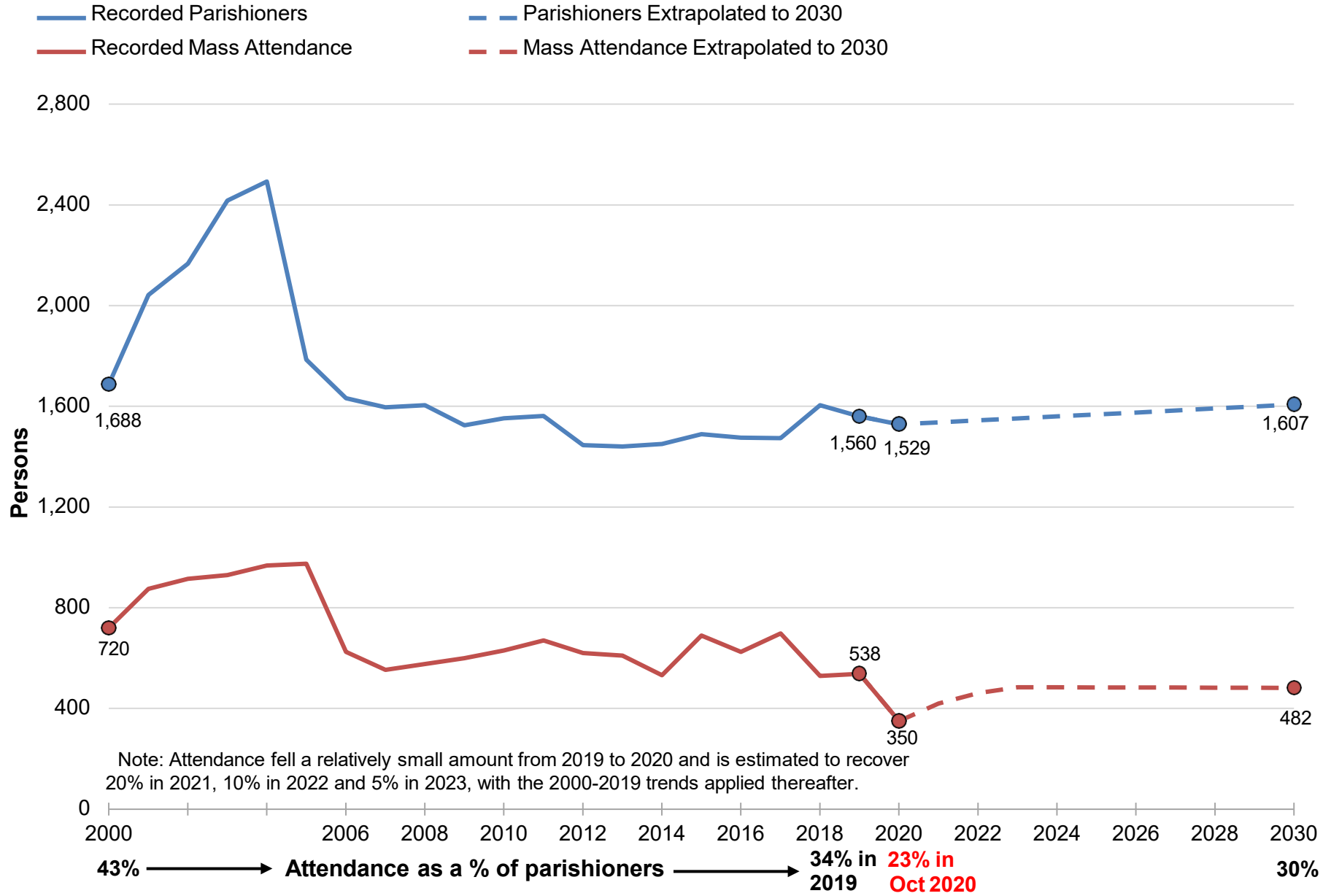
St. Columbkille Statistics 2000 to 2020 with 3-Year Virus Recovery and Extrapolation to 2030



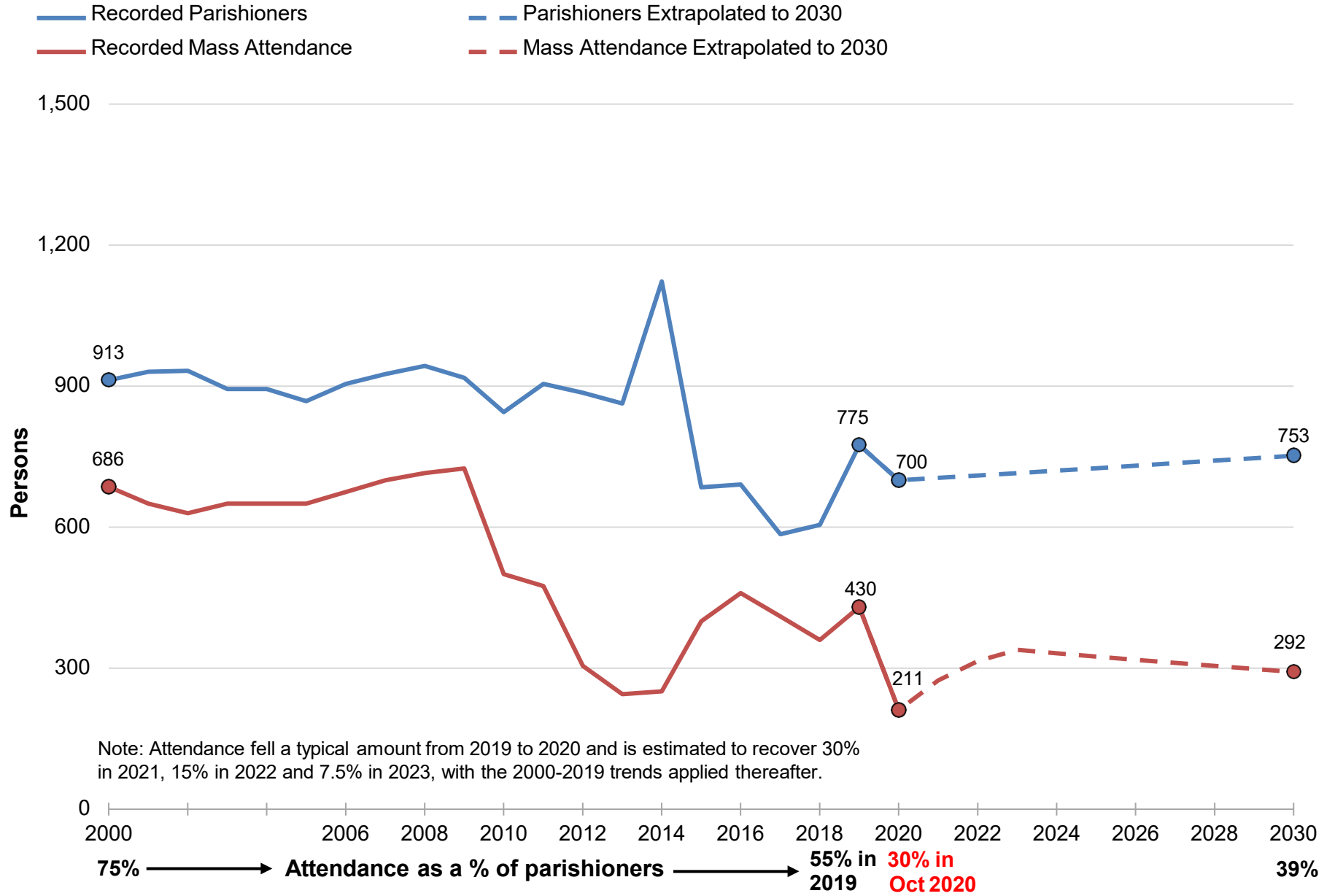
St. Elizabeth Ann Seton Statistics 2000 - 2020 with 3-Year Virus Recovery and Extrapolation to 2030



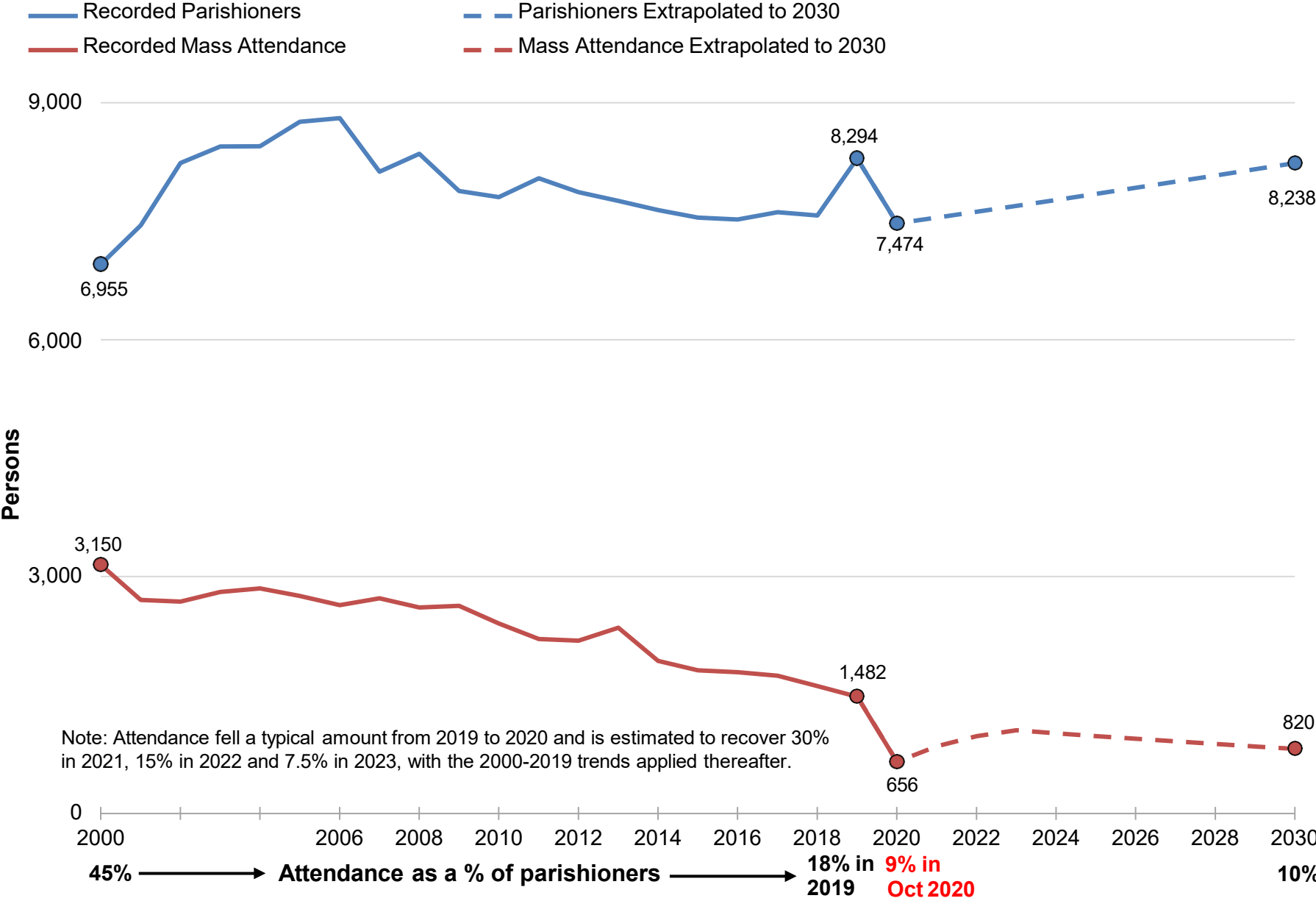
St. Francis Borgia Statistics 2000 to 2020 with 3-Year Virus Recovery and Extrapolation to 2030



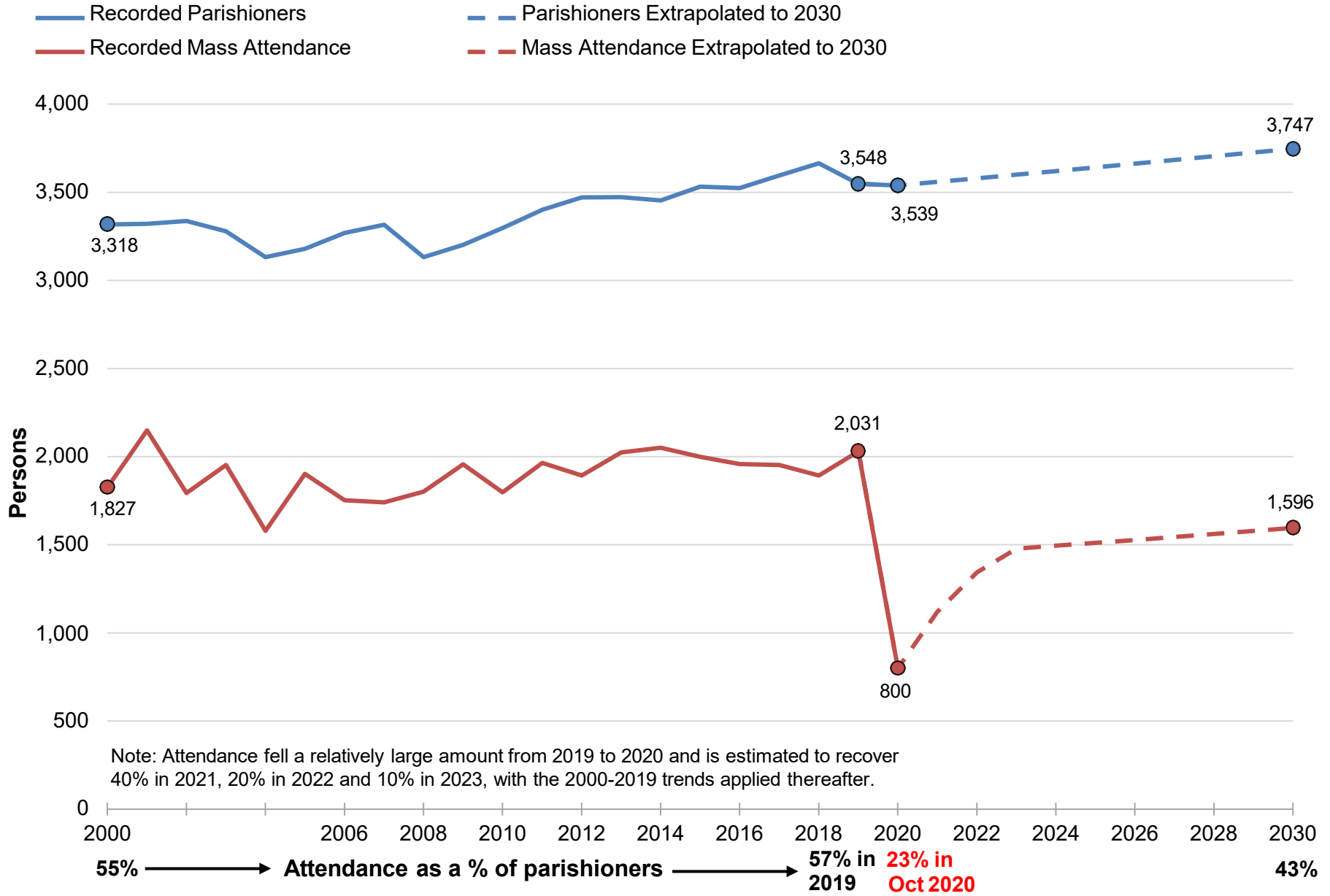
St. Francis Cabrini Statistics 2000 to 2020 with 3-Year Virus Recovery and Extrapolation to 2030



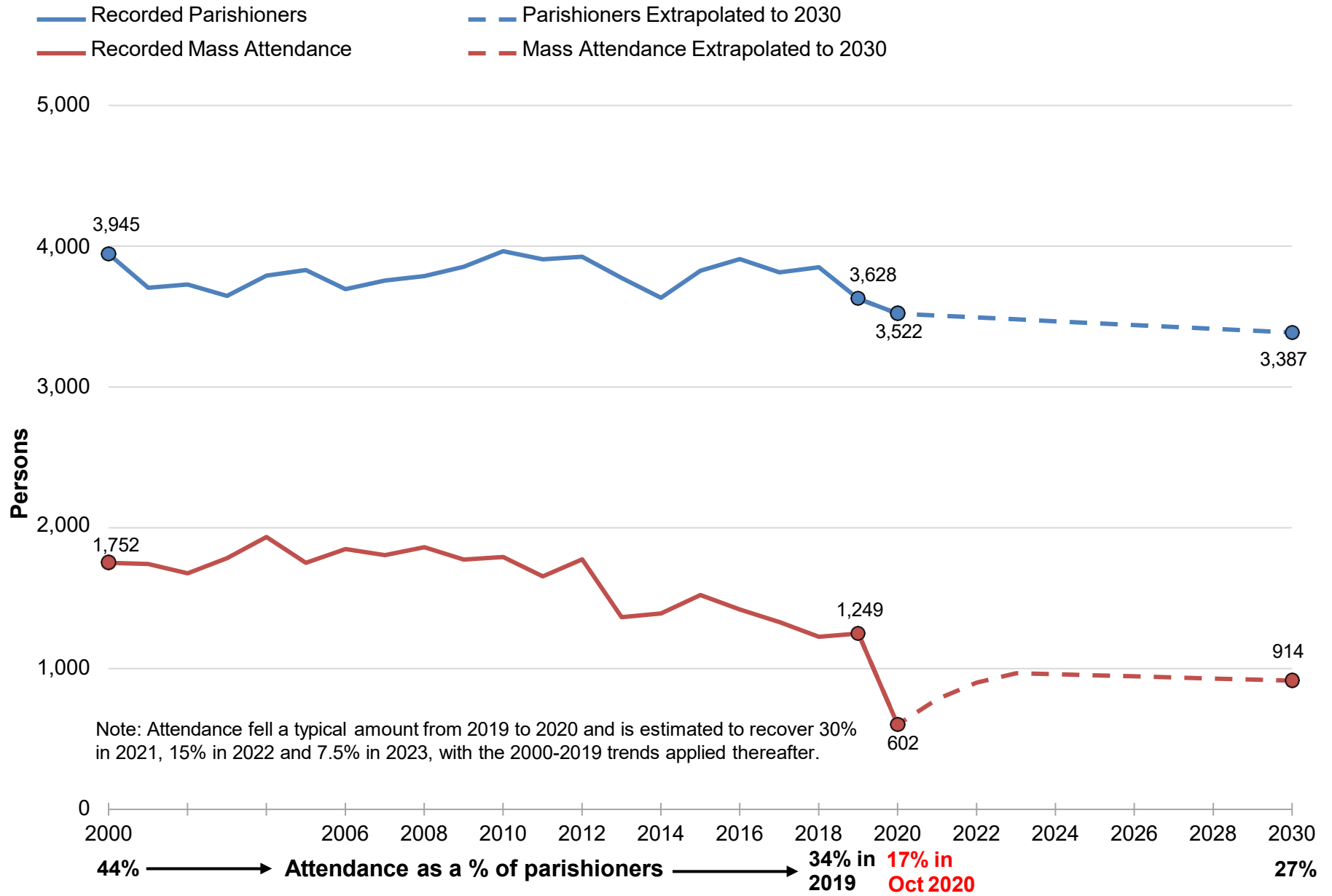
St. Gerald - Ralston Statistics 2000 to 2020 with 3-Year Virus Recovery and Extrapolation to 2030



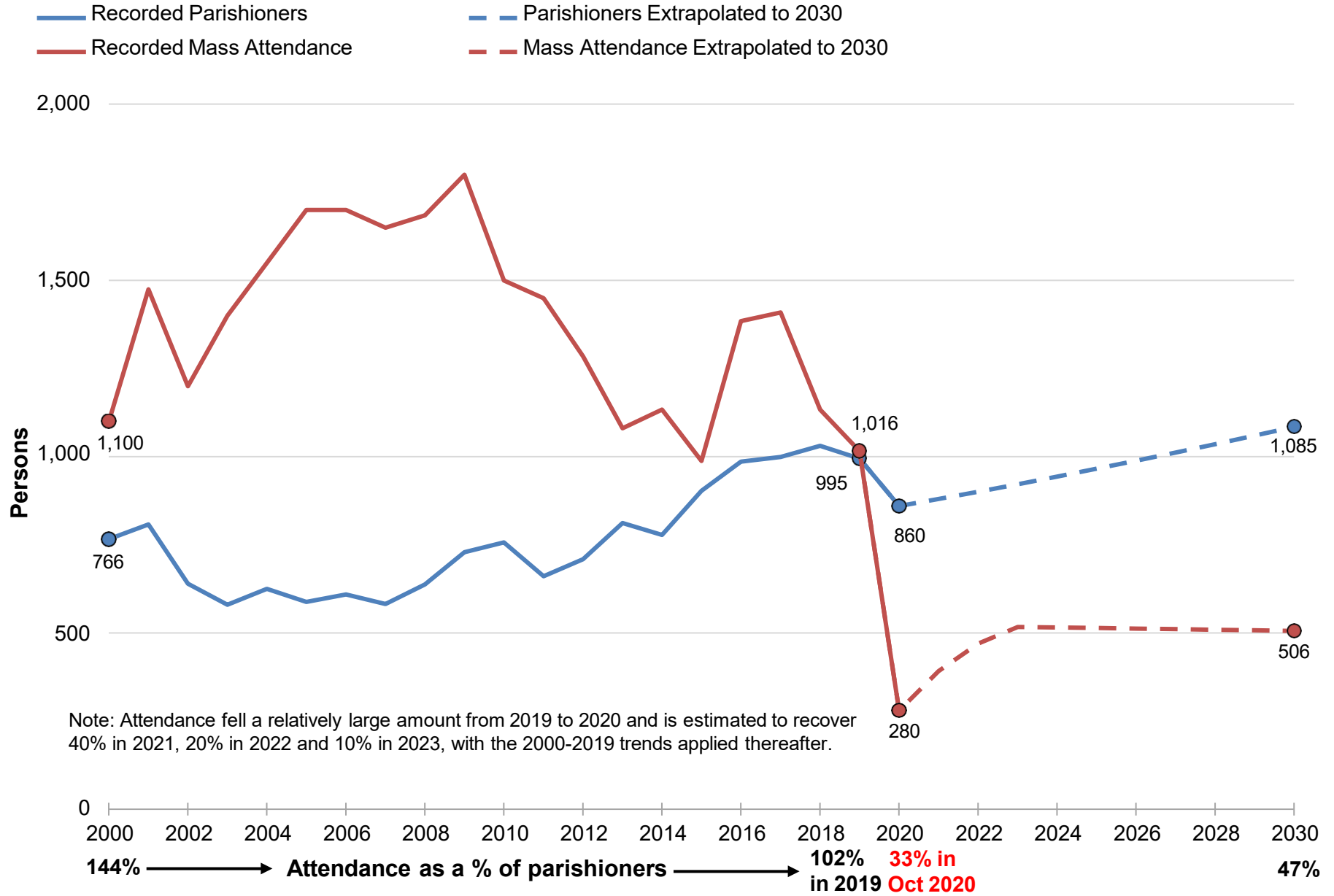
St. Isidore Statistics 2000 to 2020 with 3-Year Virus Recovery and Extrapolation to 2030



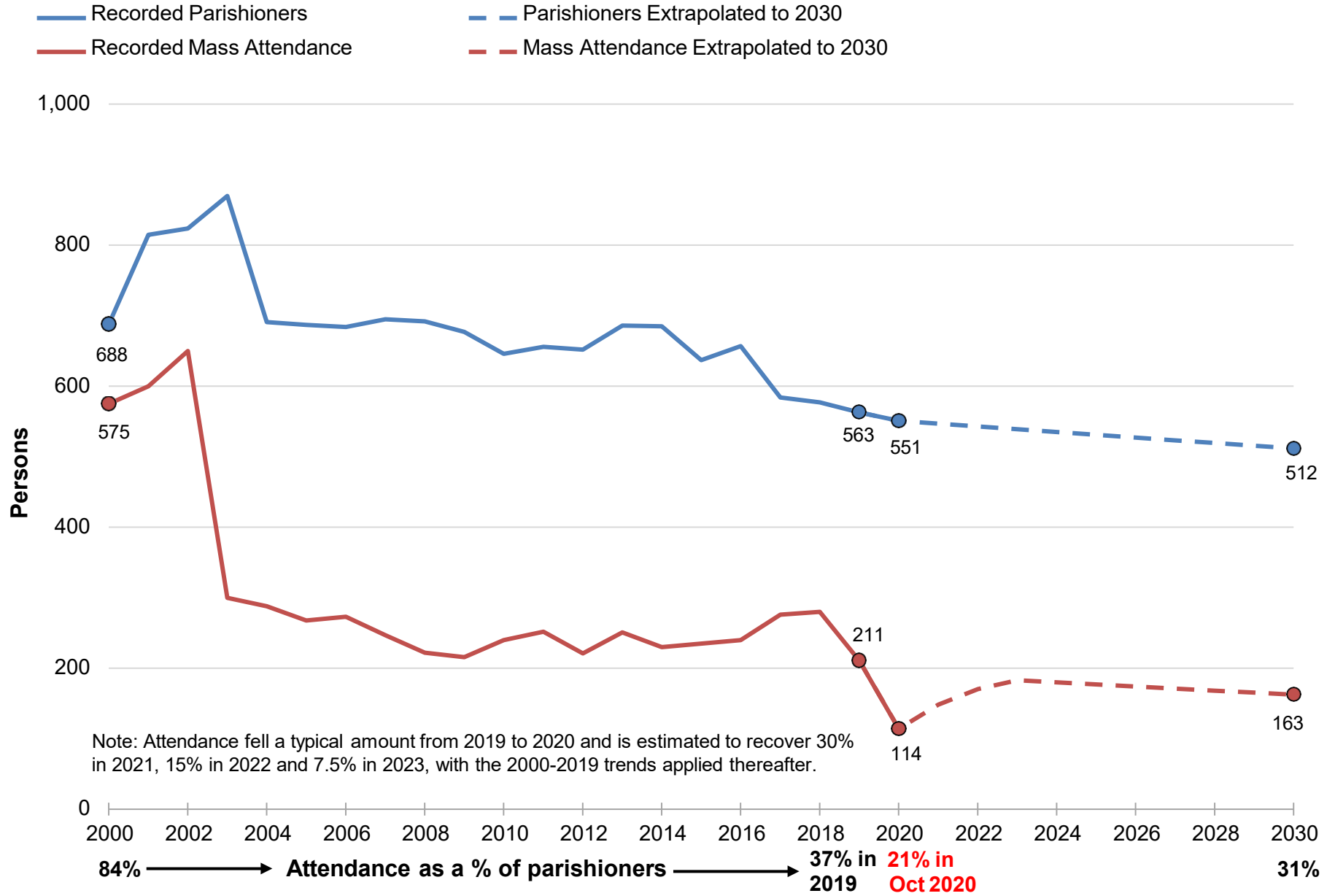
St. James Omaha Statistics 2000 to 2020 with 3-Year Virus Recovery and Extrapolation to 2030



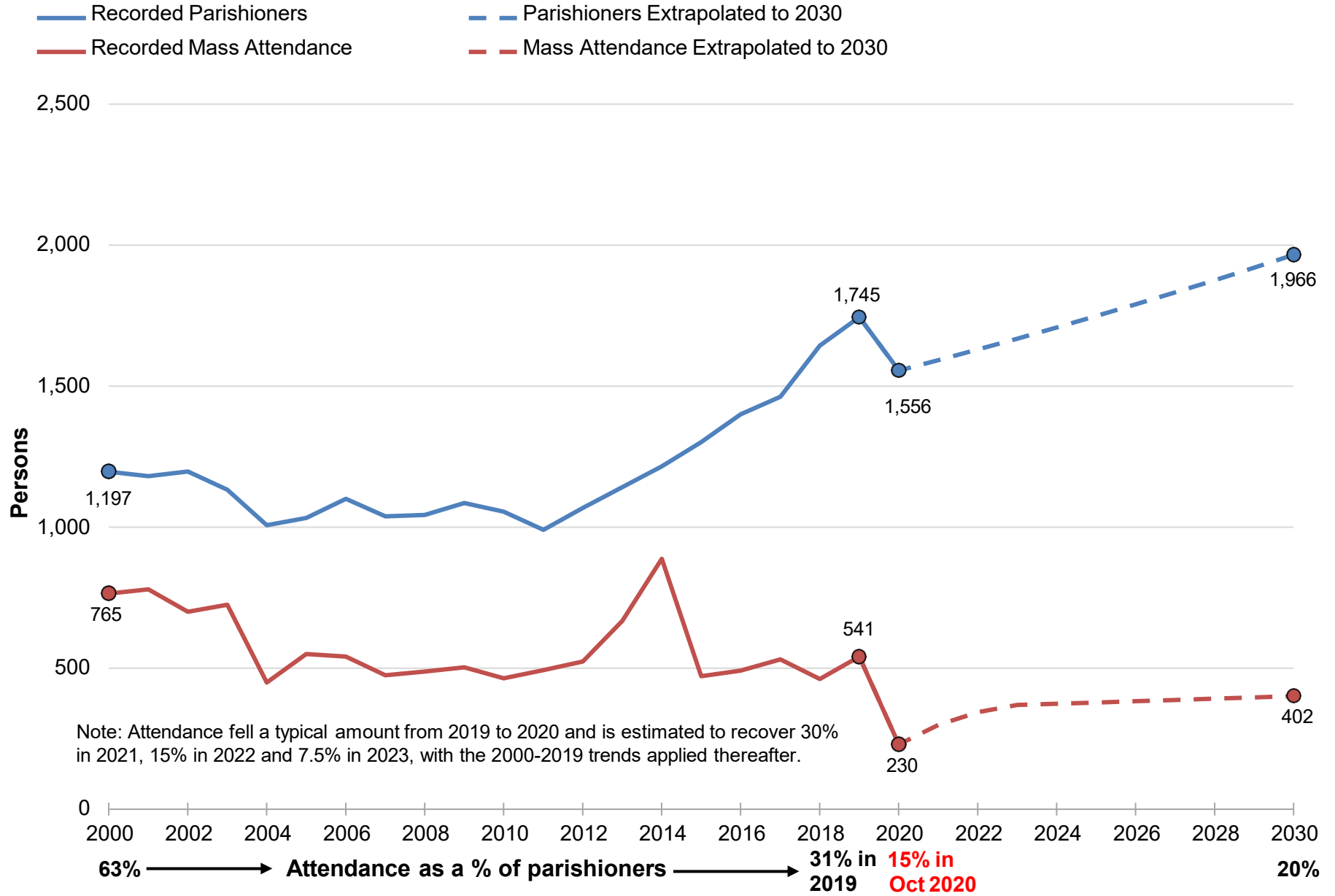
St. John Creighton Statistics 2000 to 2020 with 3-Year Virus Recovery and Extrapolation to 2030



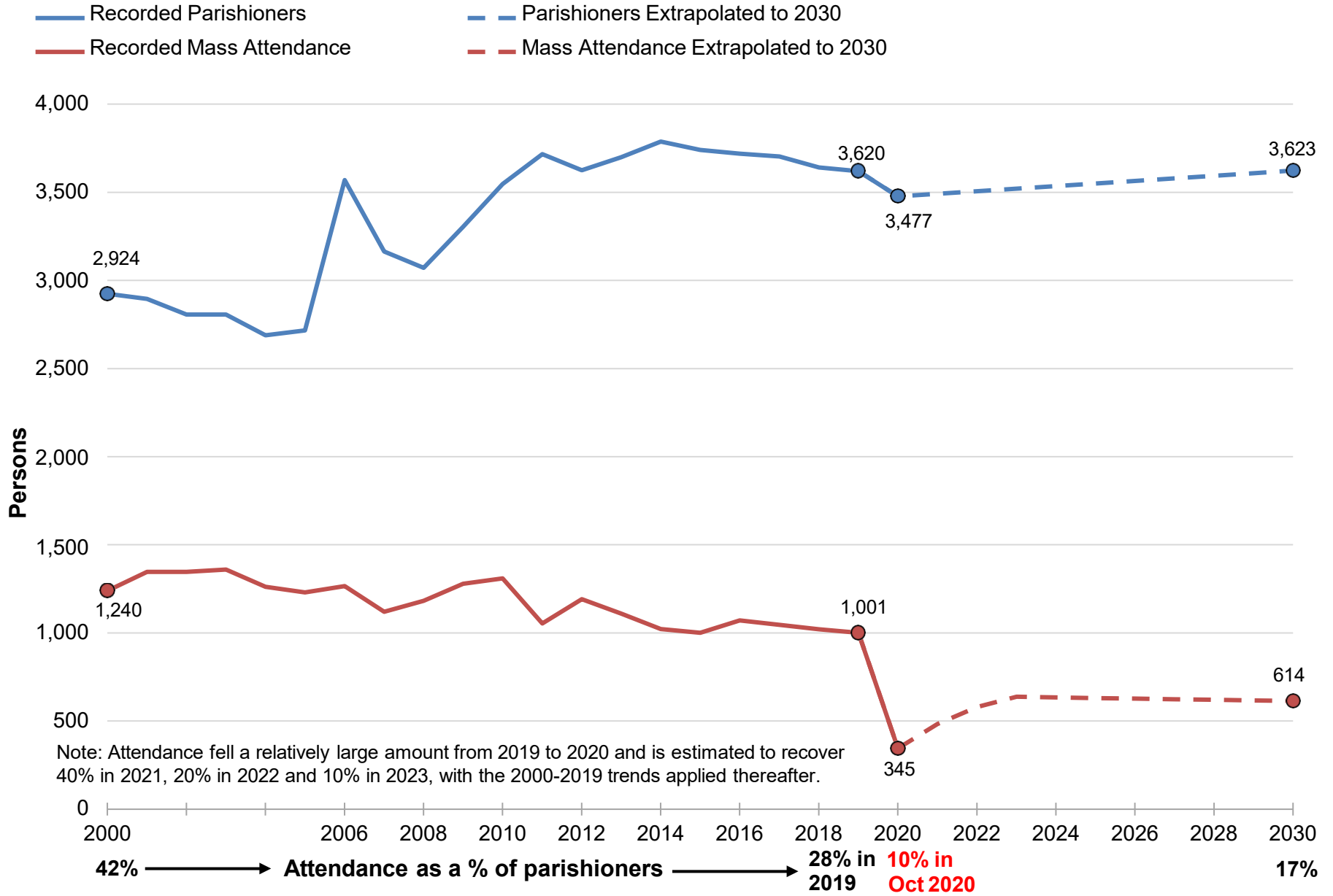
St. John the Baptist FC Statistics 2000 to 2020 with 3-Year Virus Recovery and Extrapolation to 2030



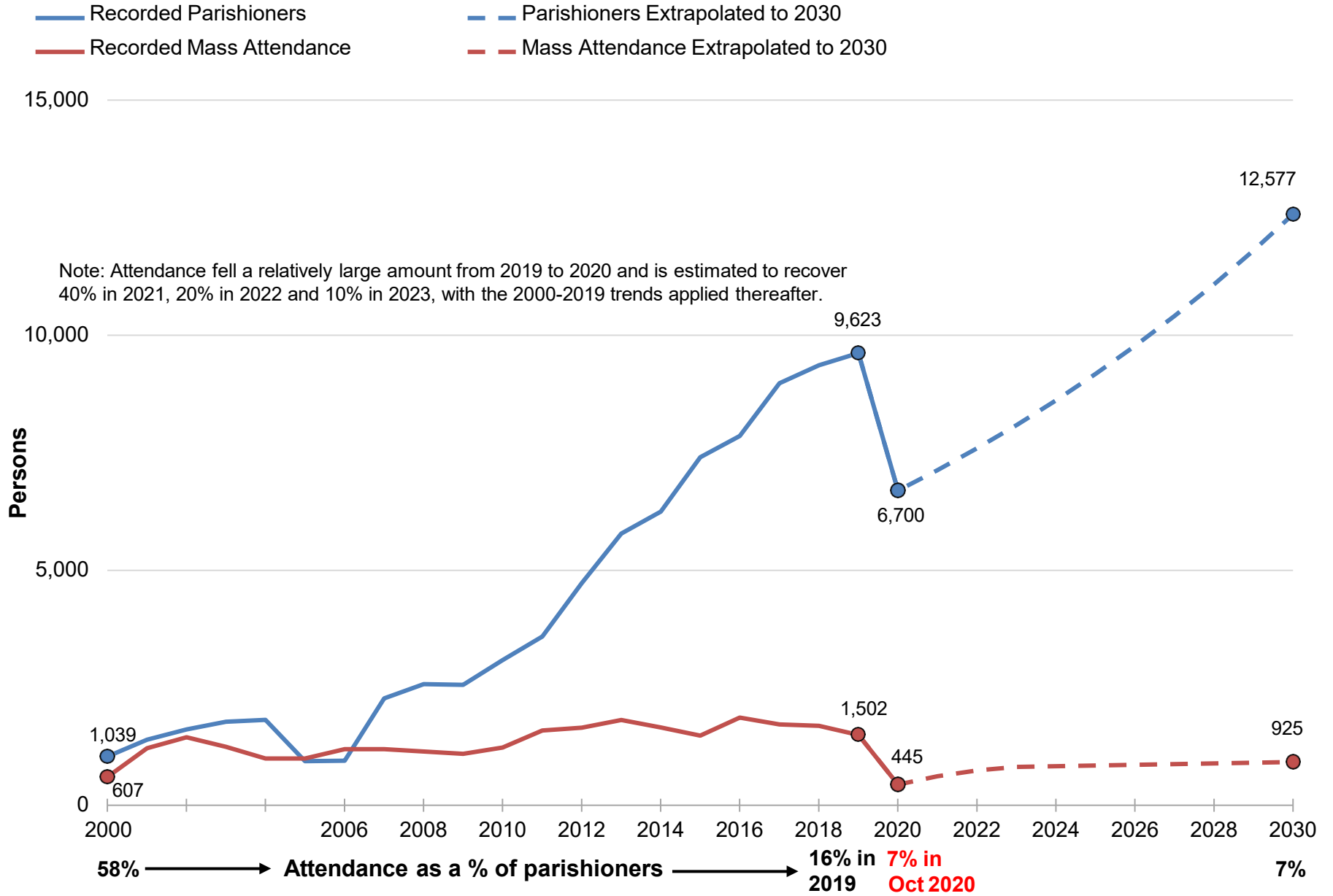
St. John the Evangelist Statistics 2000 to 2020 with 3-Year Virus Recovery and Extrapolation to 2030



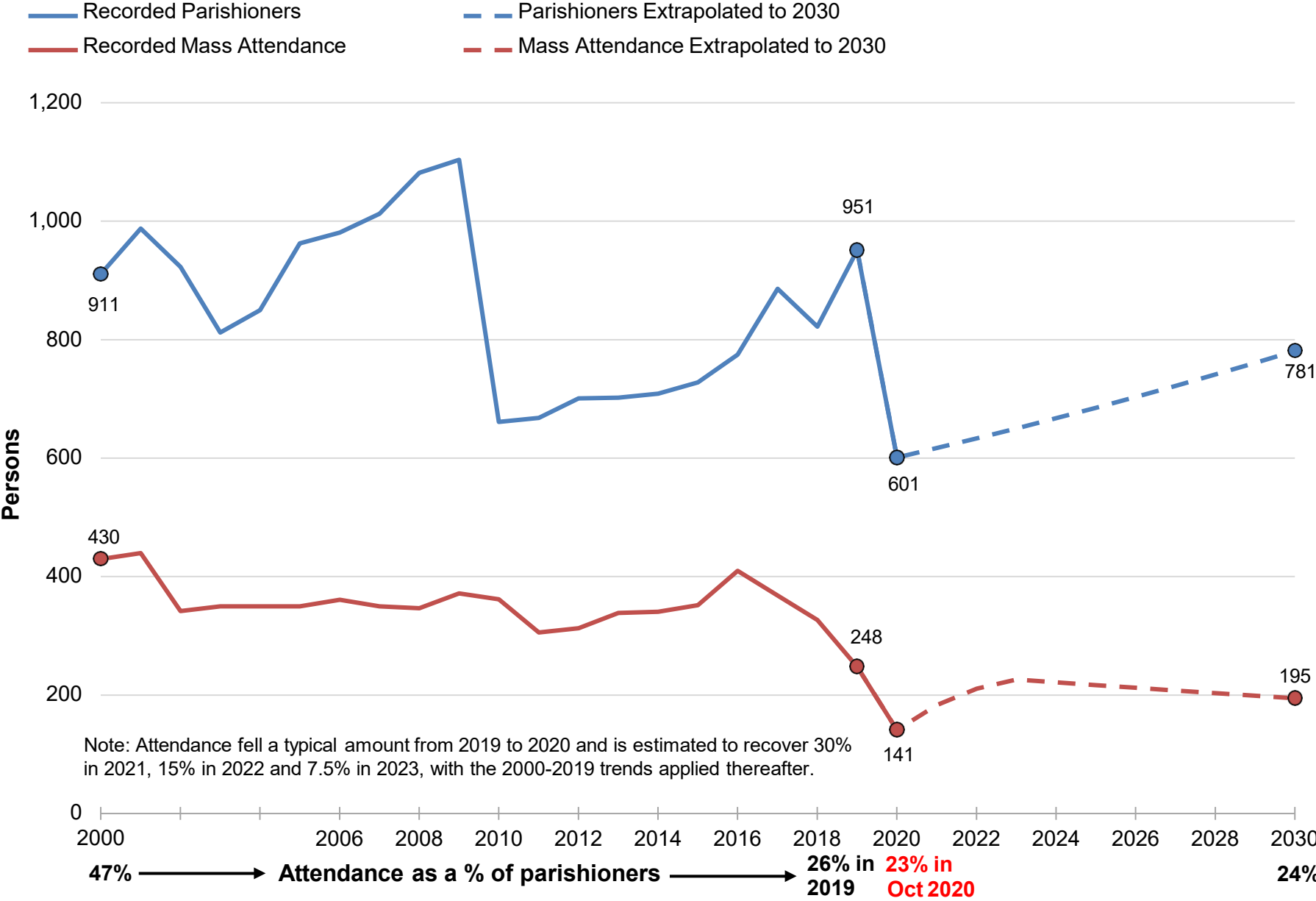
St. John Vianney Statistics 2000 to 2020 with 3-Year Virus Recovery and Extrapolation to 2030



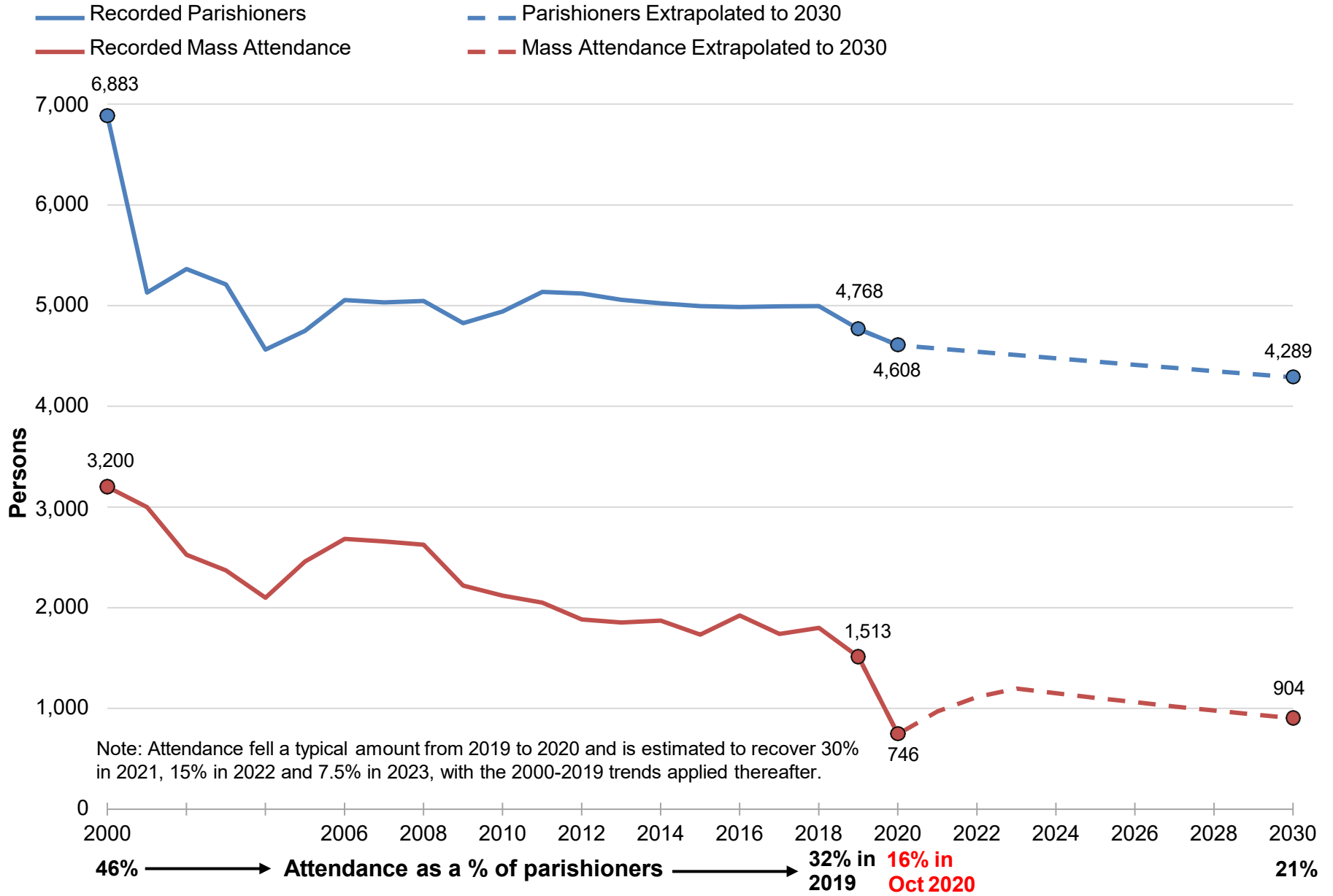
St. Joseph Omaha Statistics 2000 to 2020 with 3-Year Virus Recovery and Extrapolation to 2030



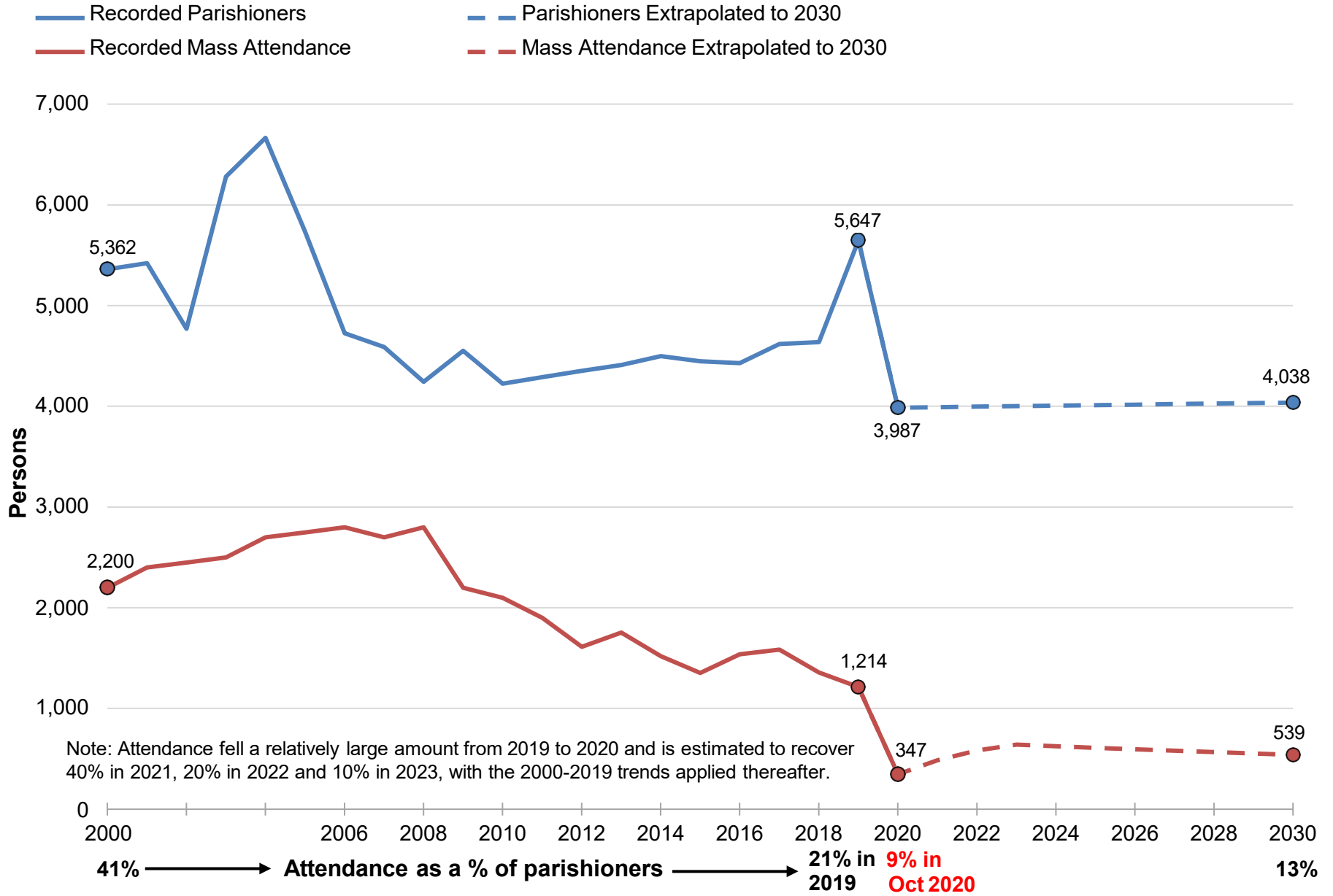
St. Joseph Springfield Statistics 2000 to 2020 with 3-Year Virus Recovery and Extrapolation to 2030



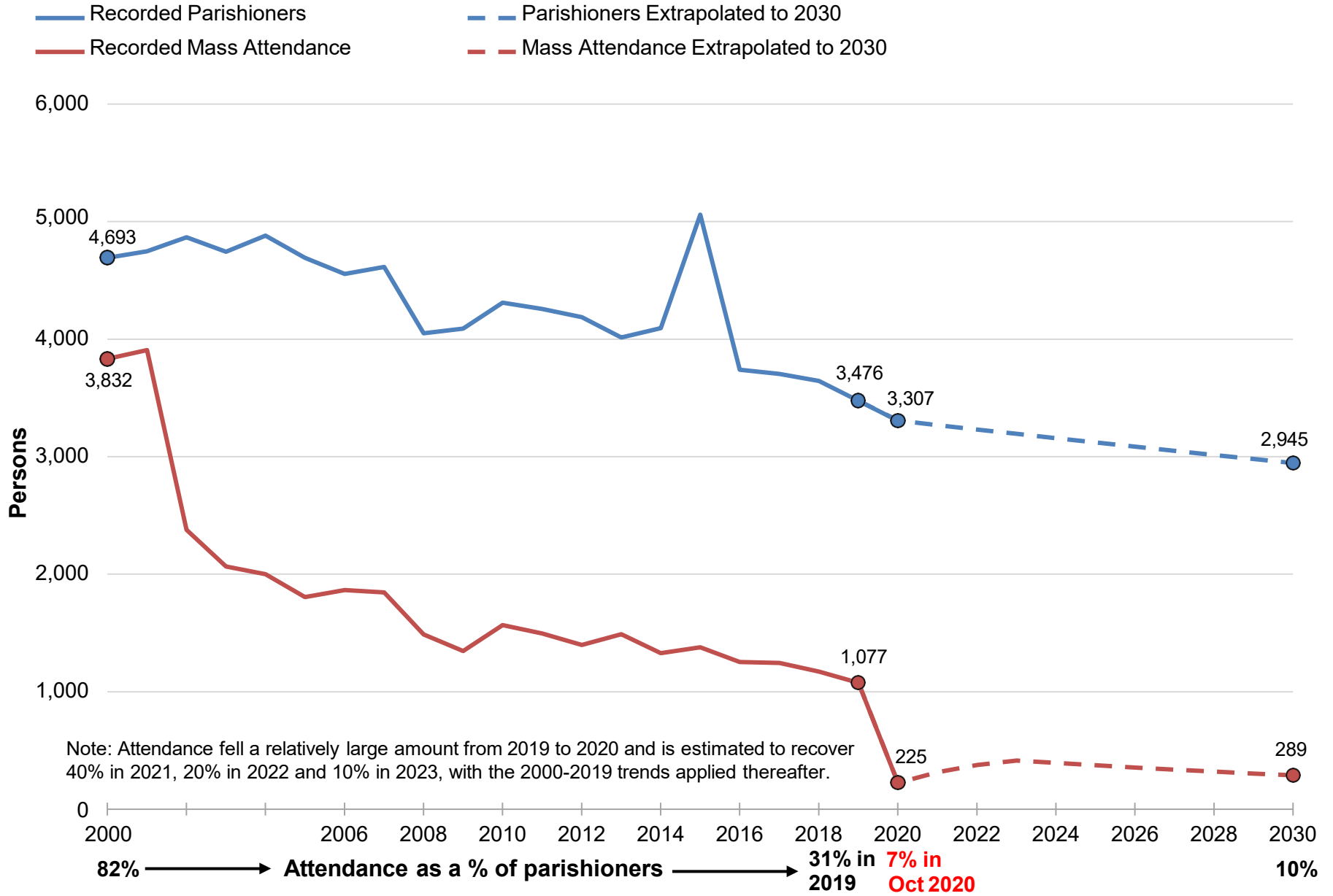
St. Leo the Great Statistics 2000 to 2020 with 3-Year Virus Recovery and Extrapolation to 2030



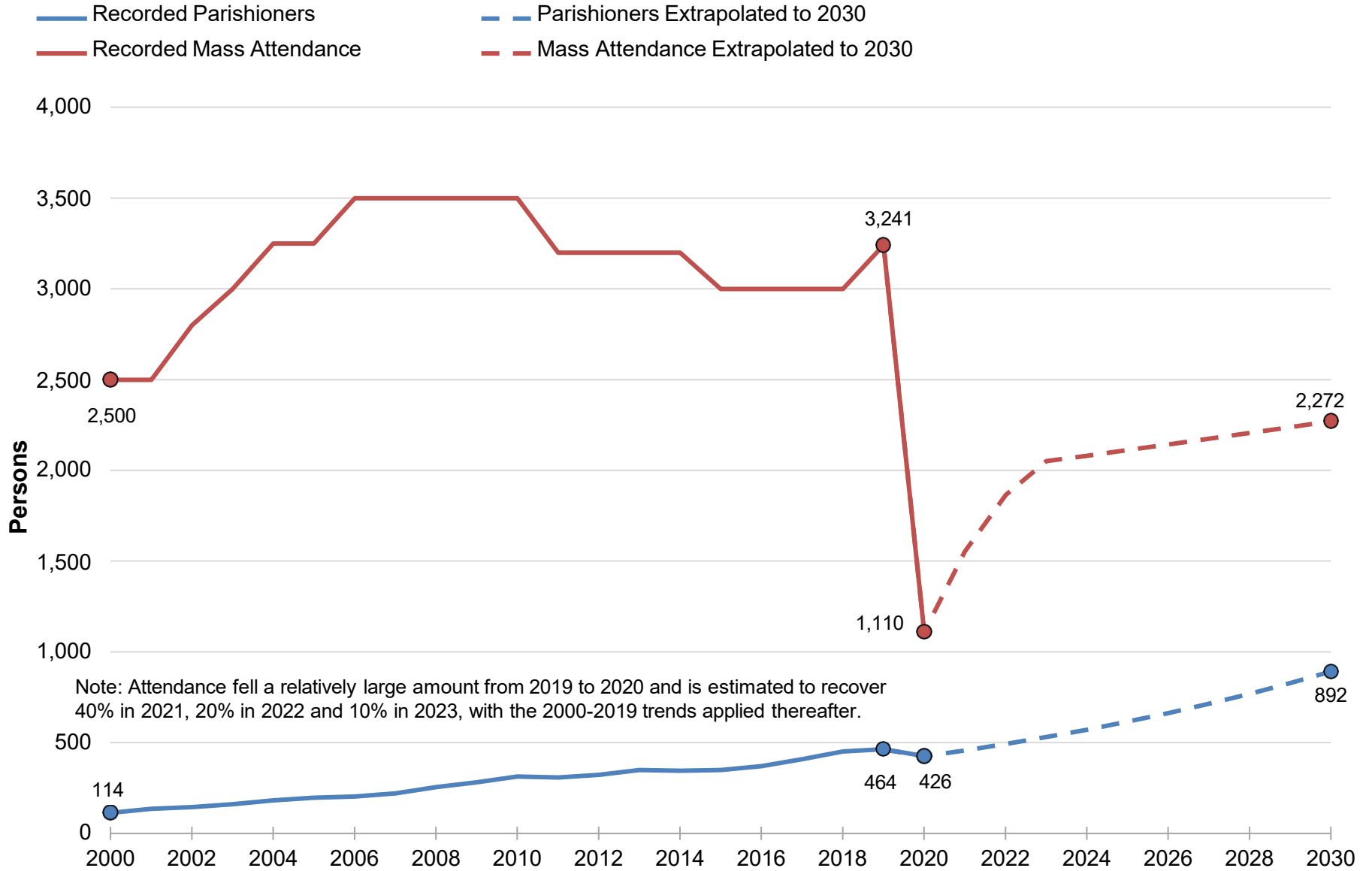
St. Margaret Mary Statistics 2000 to 2020 with 3-Year Virus Recovery and Extrapolation to 2030



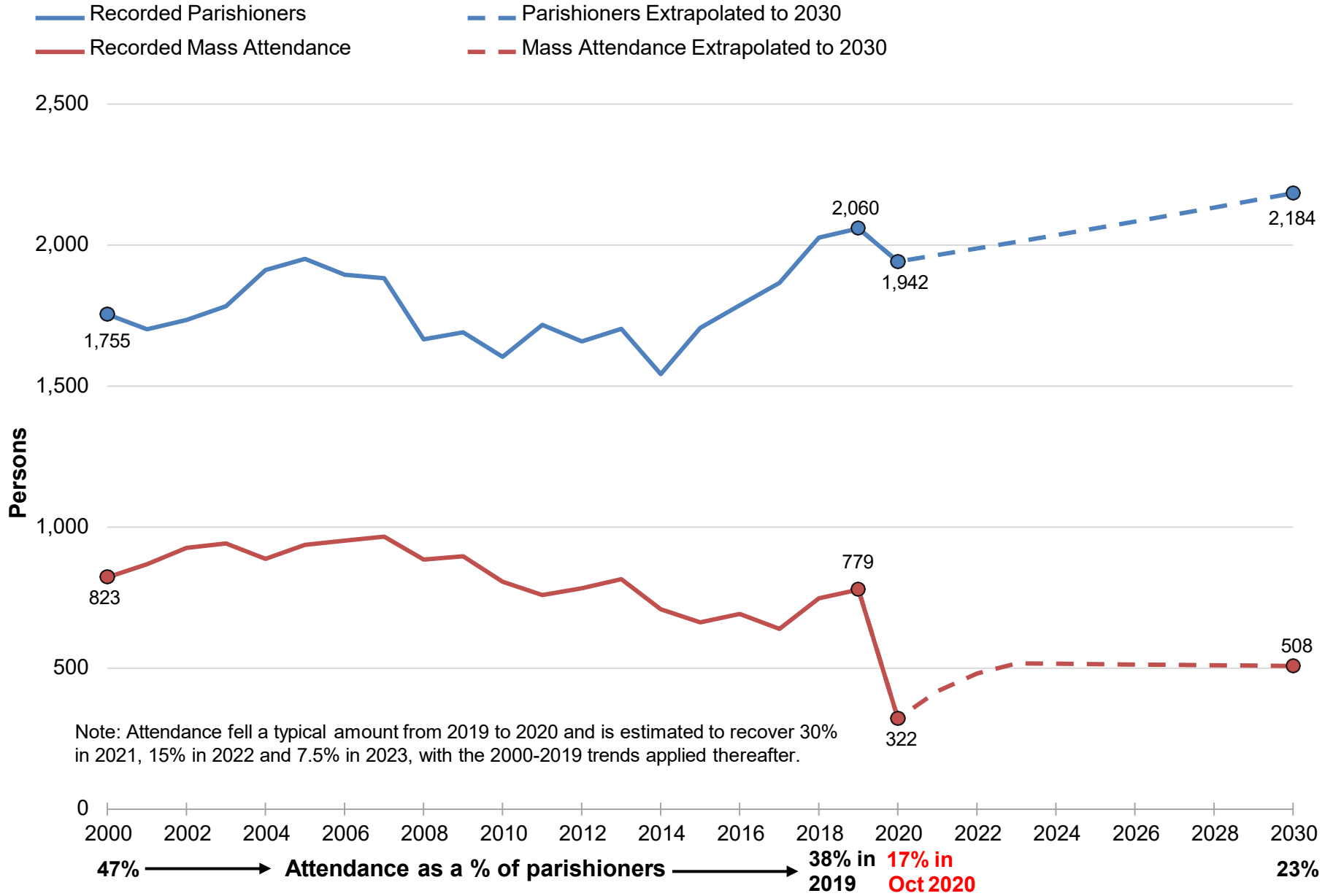
St. Mary Bellevue Statistics 2000 to 2020 with 3-Year Virus Recovery and Extrapolation to 2030



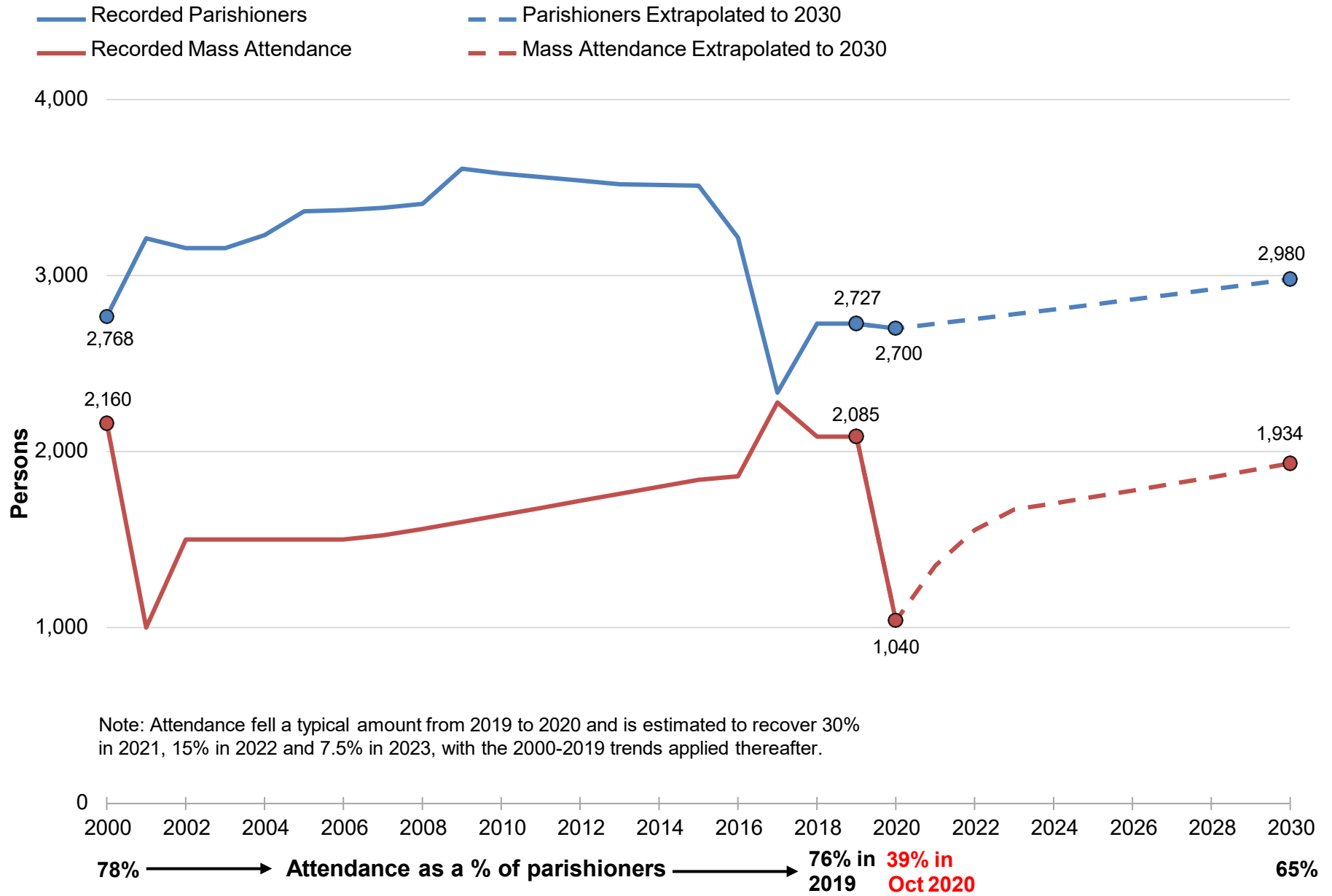
St. Mary Magdalene Omaha Statistics 2000-2020 with 3-Year Virus Recovery & Extrapolation to 2030



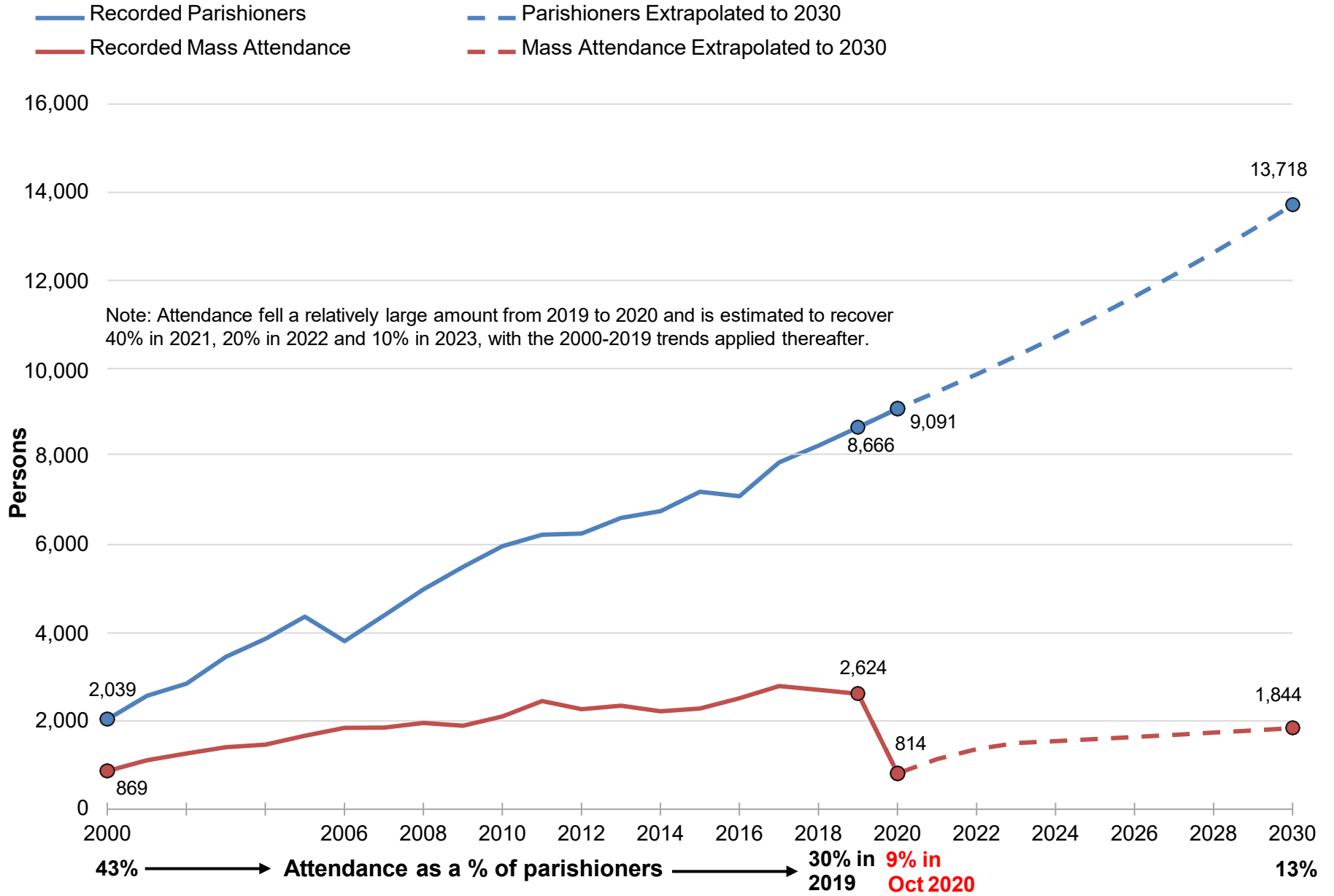
St. Matthew the Evang. Statistics 2000 to 2020 with 3-Year Virus Recovery and Extrapolation to 2030



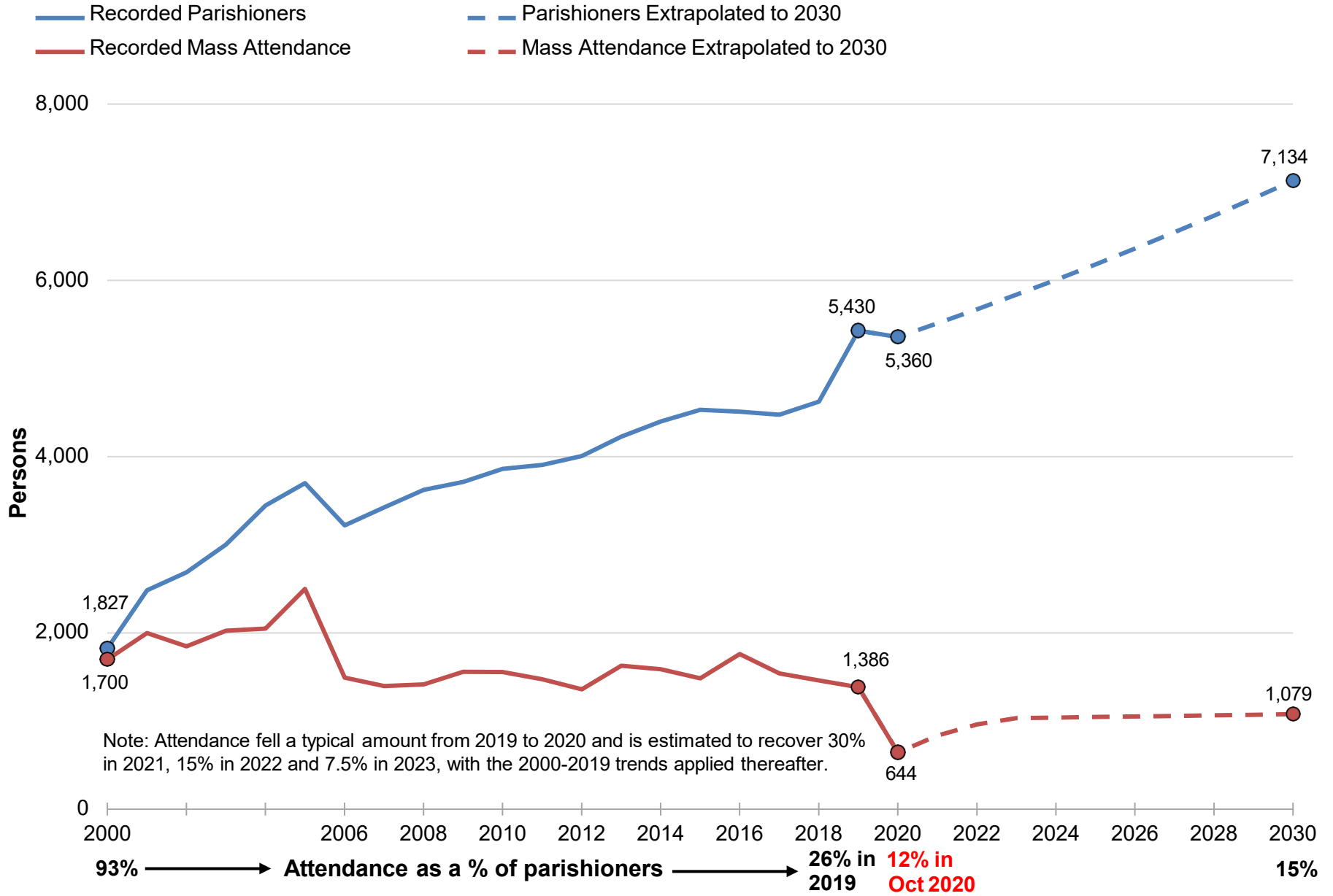
St. Michael Statistics 2000 to 2020 with 3-Year Virus Recovery and Extrapolation to 2030



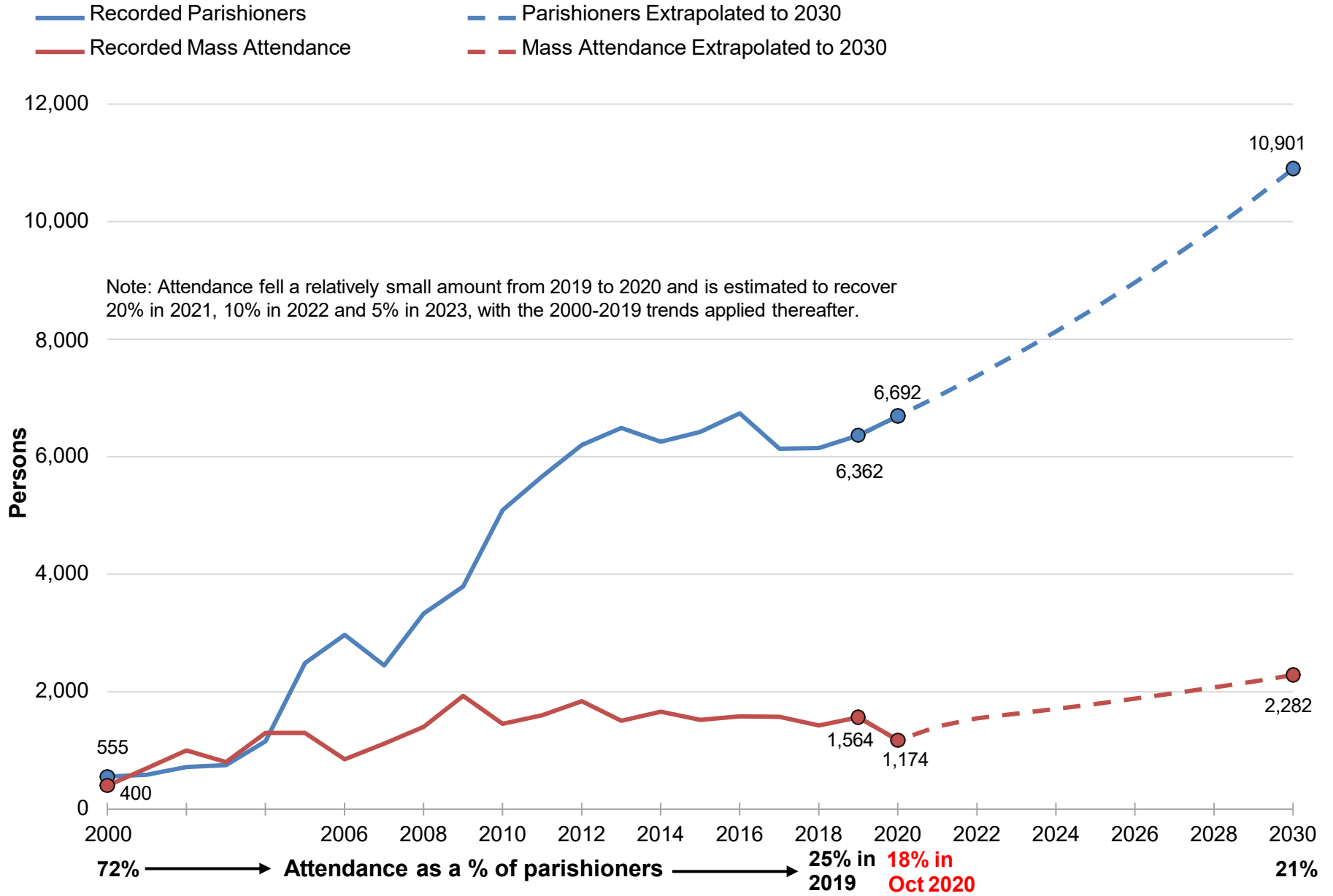
St. Patrick Elkhorn Statistics 2000 to 2020 with 3-Year Virus Recovery and Extrapolation to 2030



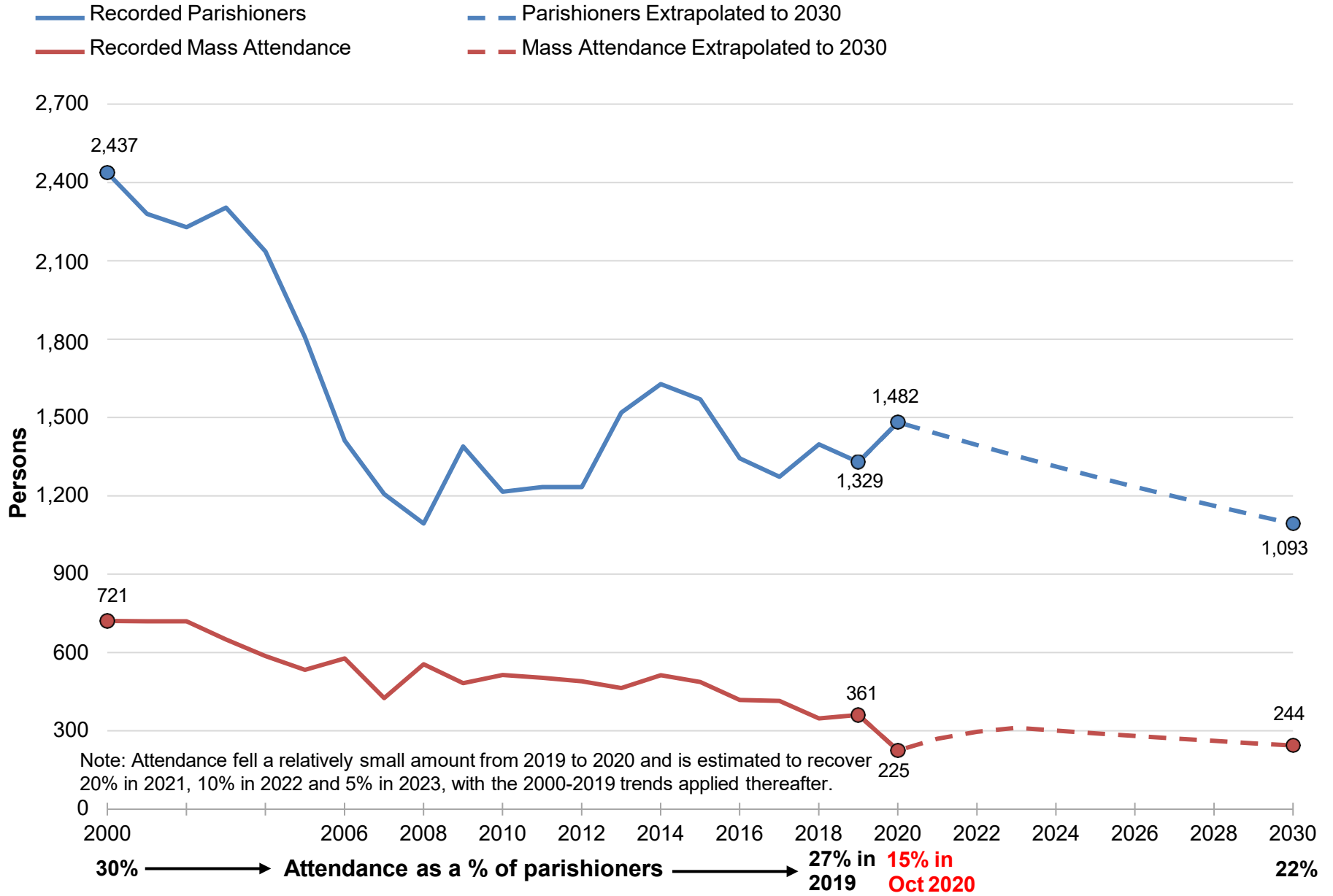
St. Patrick - Gretna Statistics 2000 to 2020 with 3-Year Virus Recovery and Extrapolation to 2030



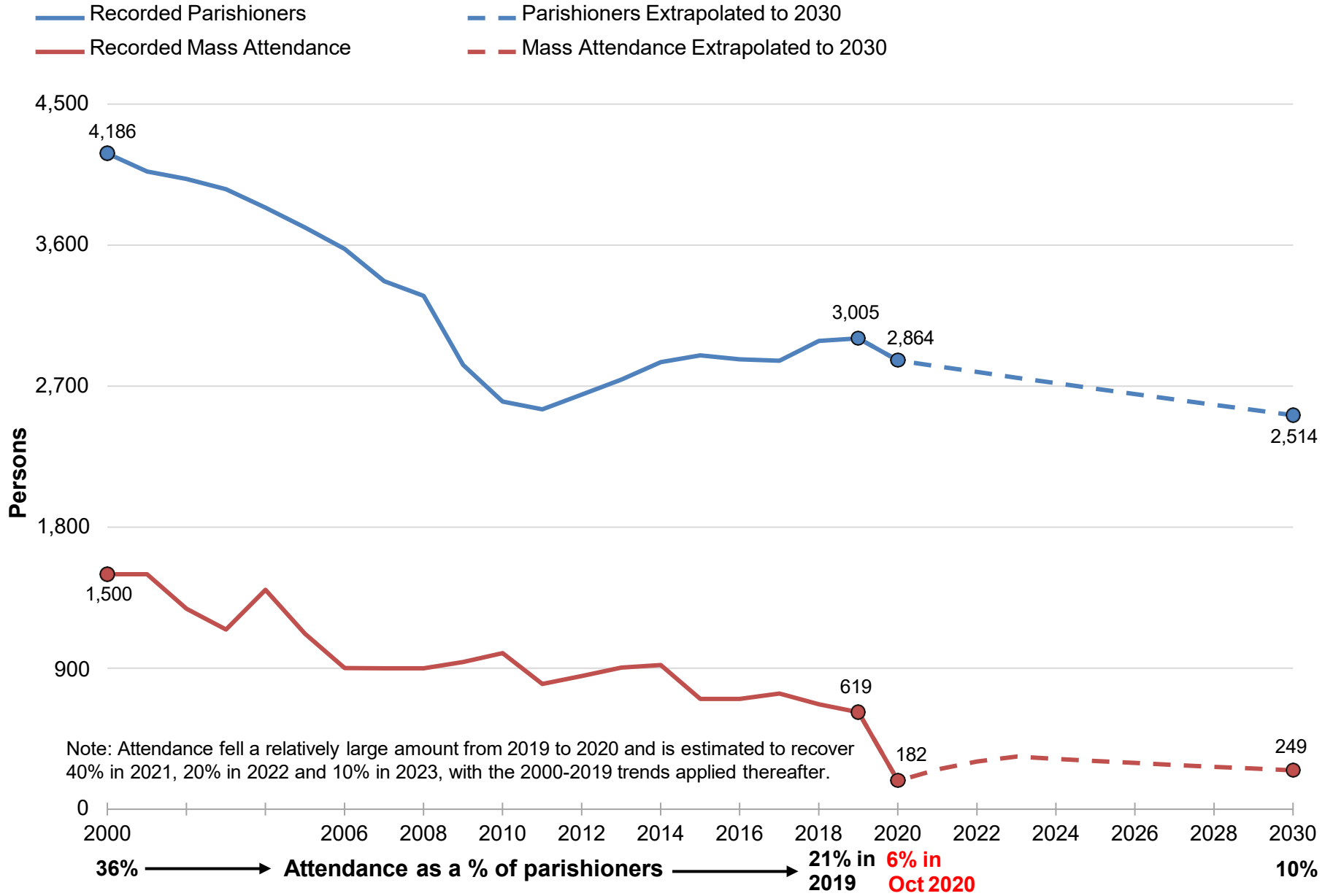
St. Peter Statistics 2000 to 2020 with 3-Year Virus Recovery and Extrapolation to 2030



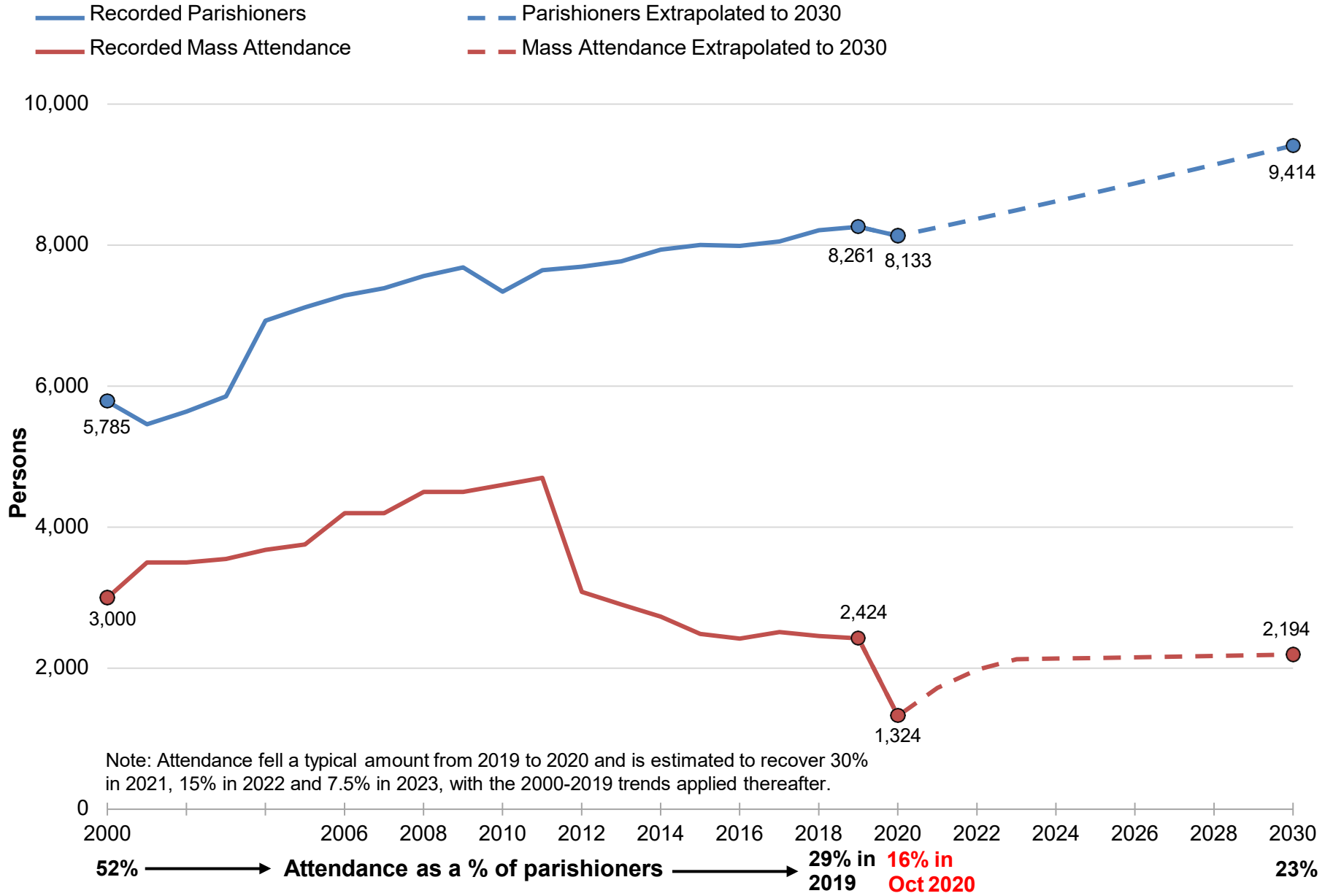
St. Philip Neri Statistics 2000 to 2020 with 3-Year Virus Recovery and Extrapolation to 2030



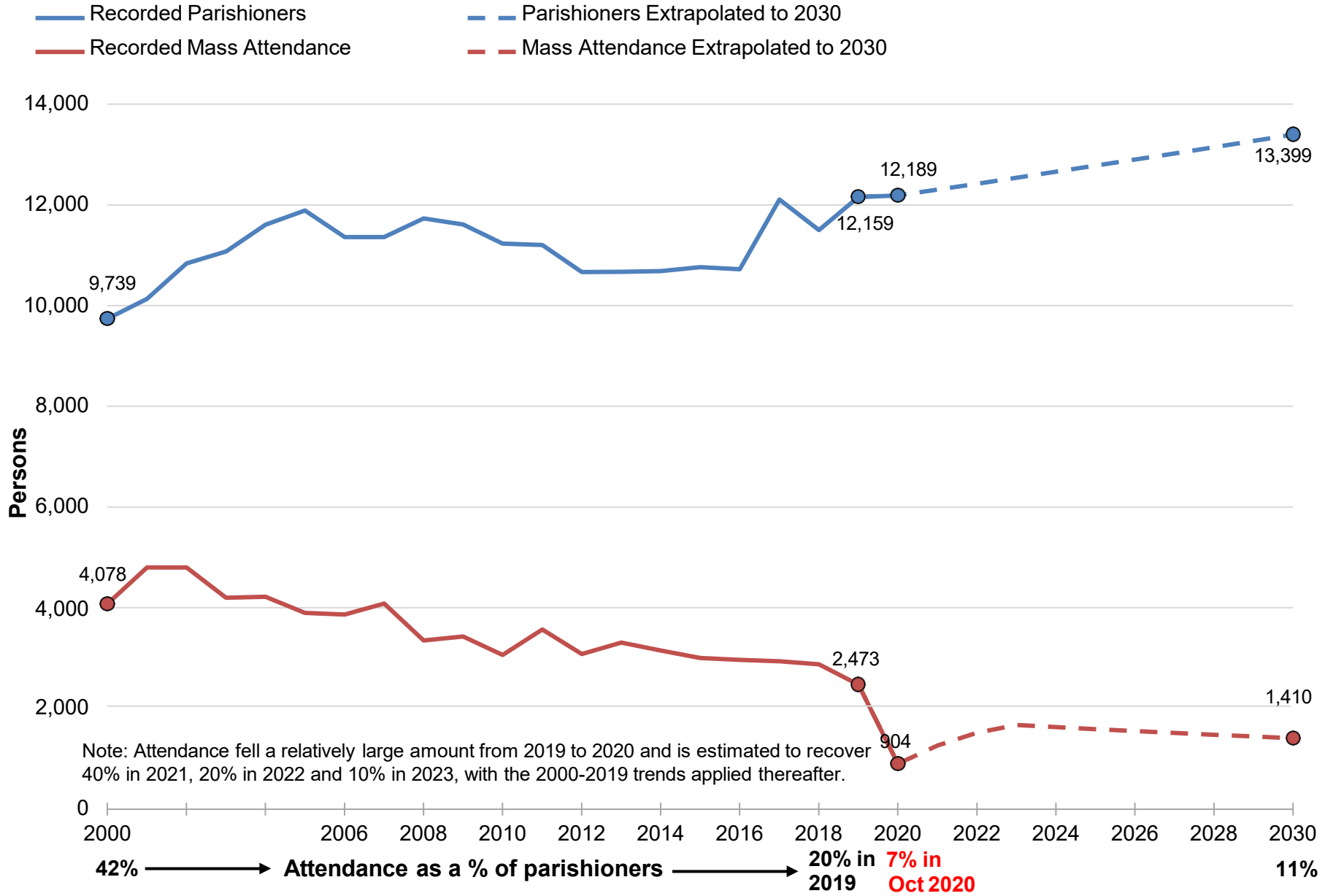
St. Pius X Statistics 2000 to 2020 with 3-Year Virus Recovery and Extrapolation to 2030



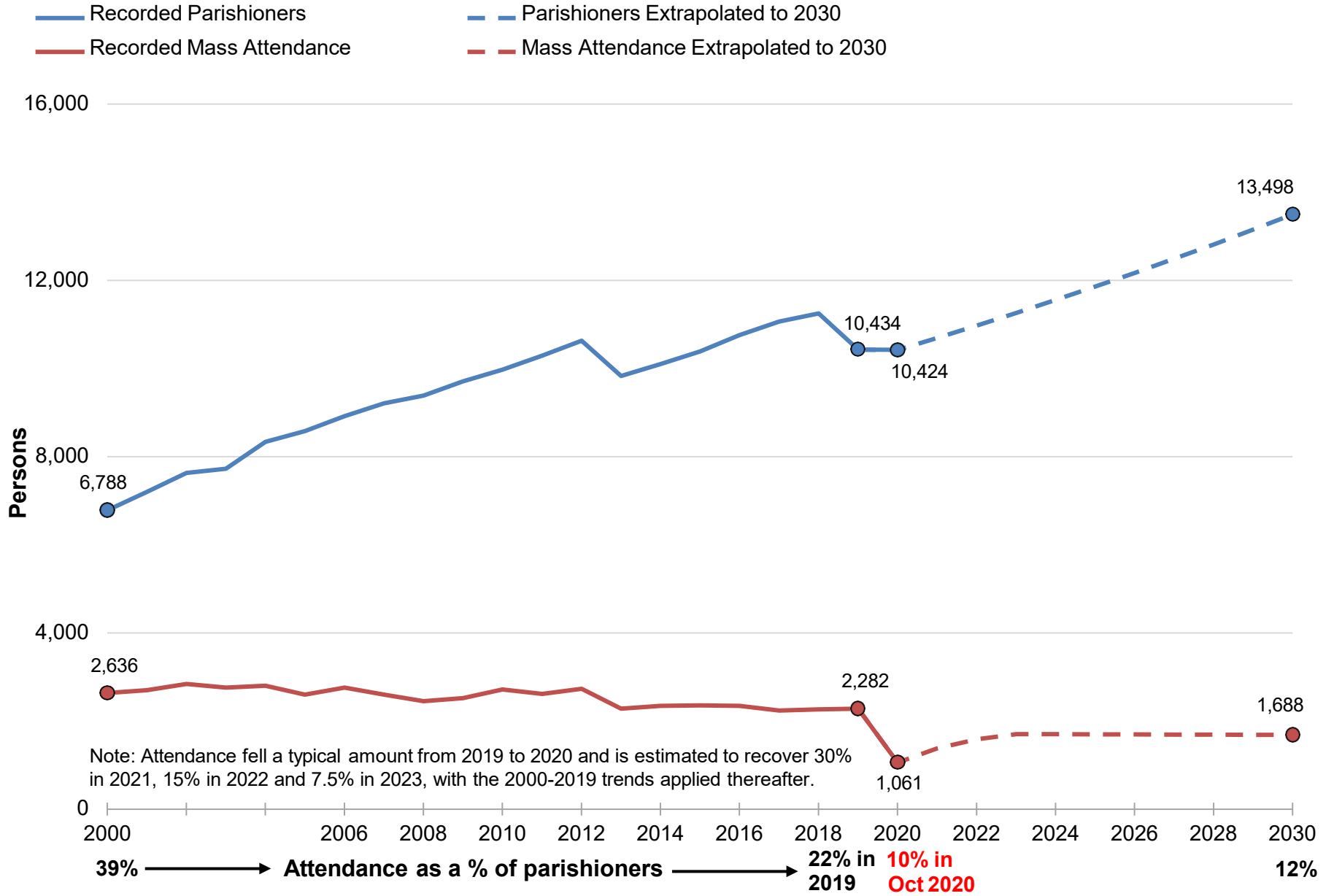
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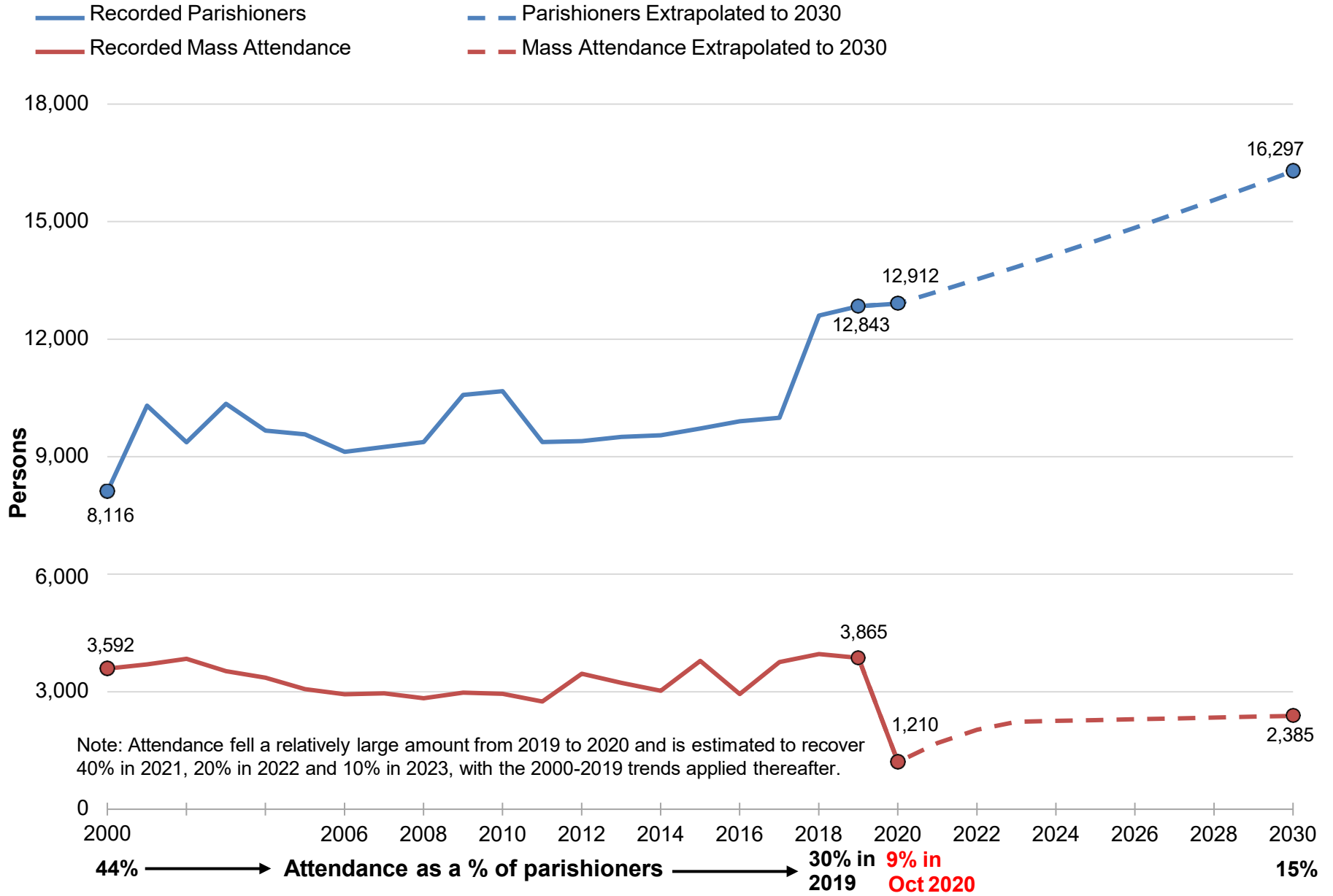
St. Stephen the Martyr Statistics 2000 to 2020 with 3-Year Virus Recovery and Extrapolation to 2030



St. Vincent dePaul Statistics 2000 to 2020 with 3-Year Virus Recovery and Extrapolation to 2030



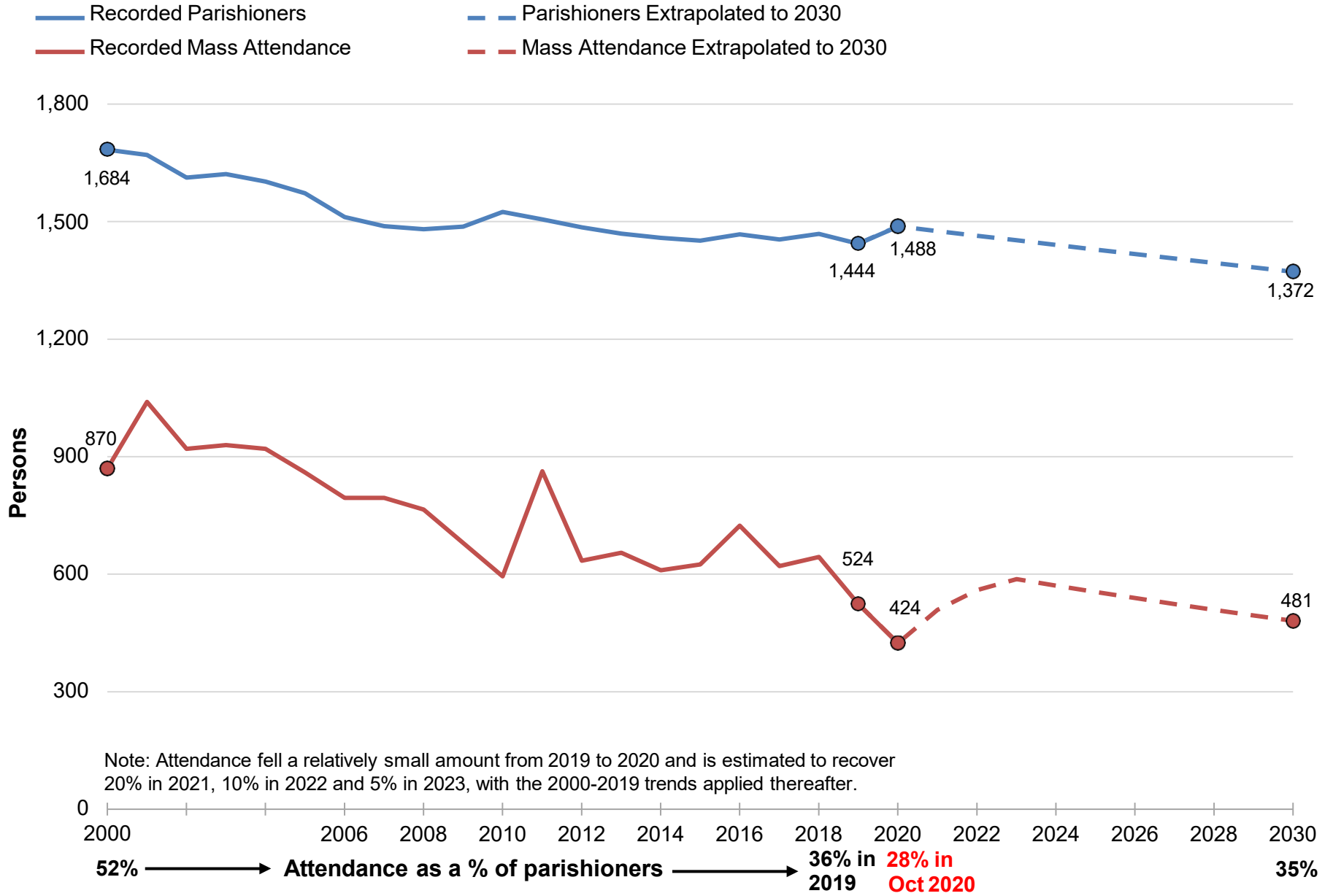
St. Wenceslaus Omaha Statistics 2000 to 2020 with 3-Year Virus Recovery and Extrapolation to 2030



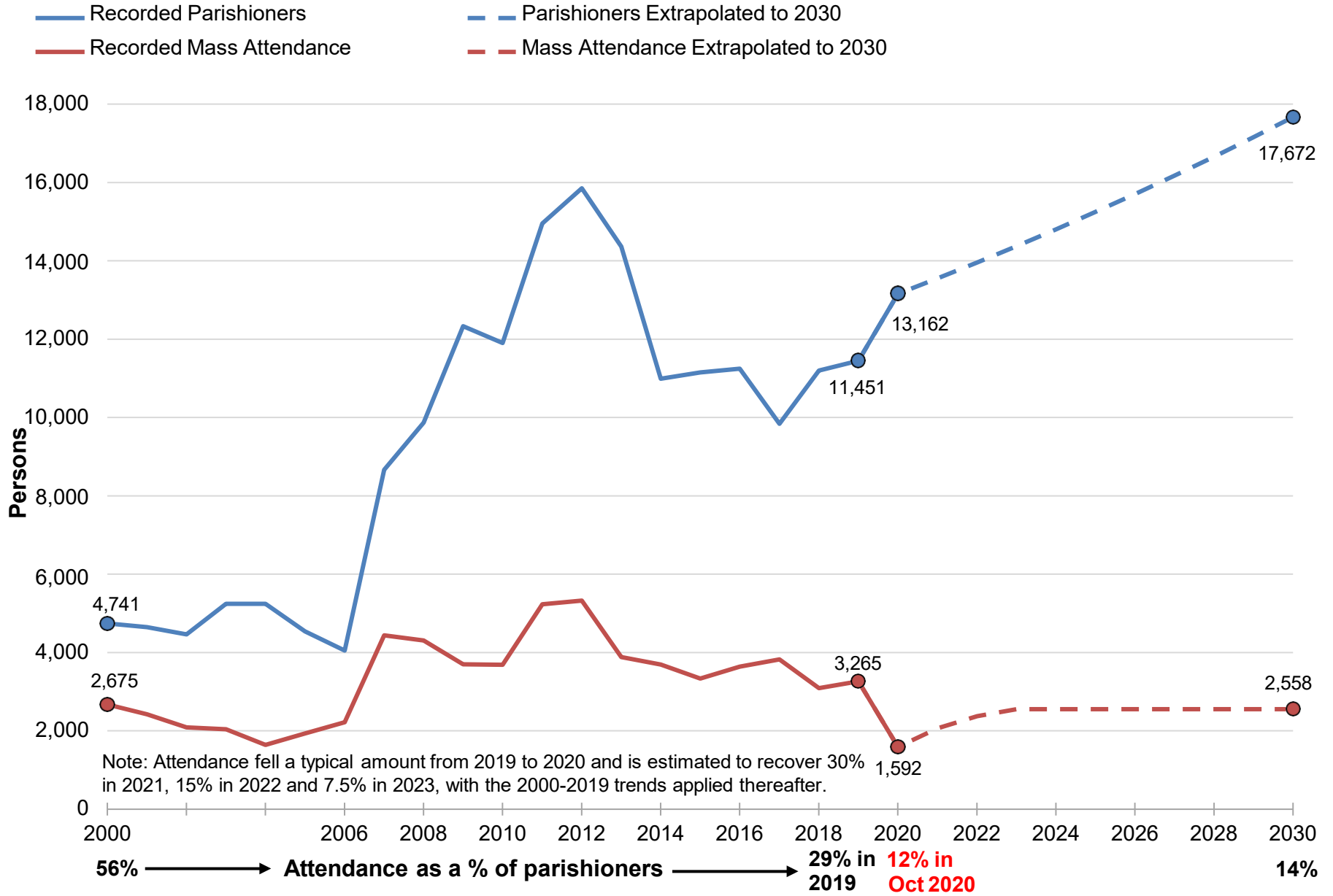
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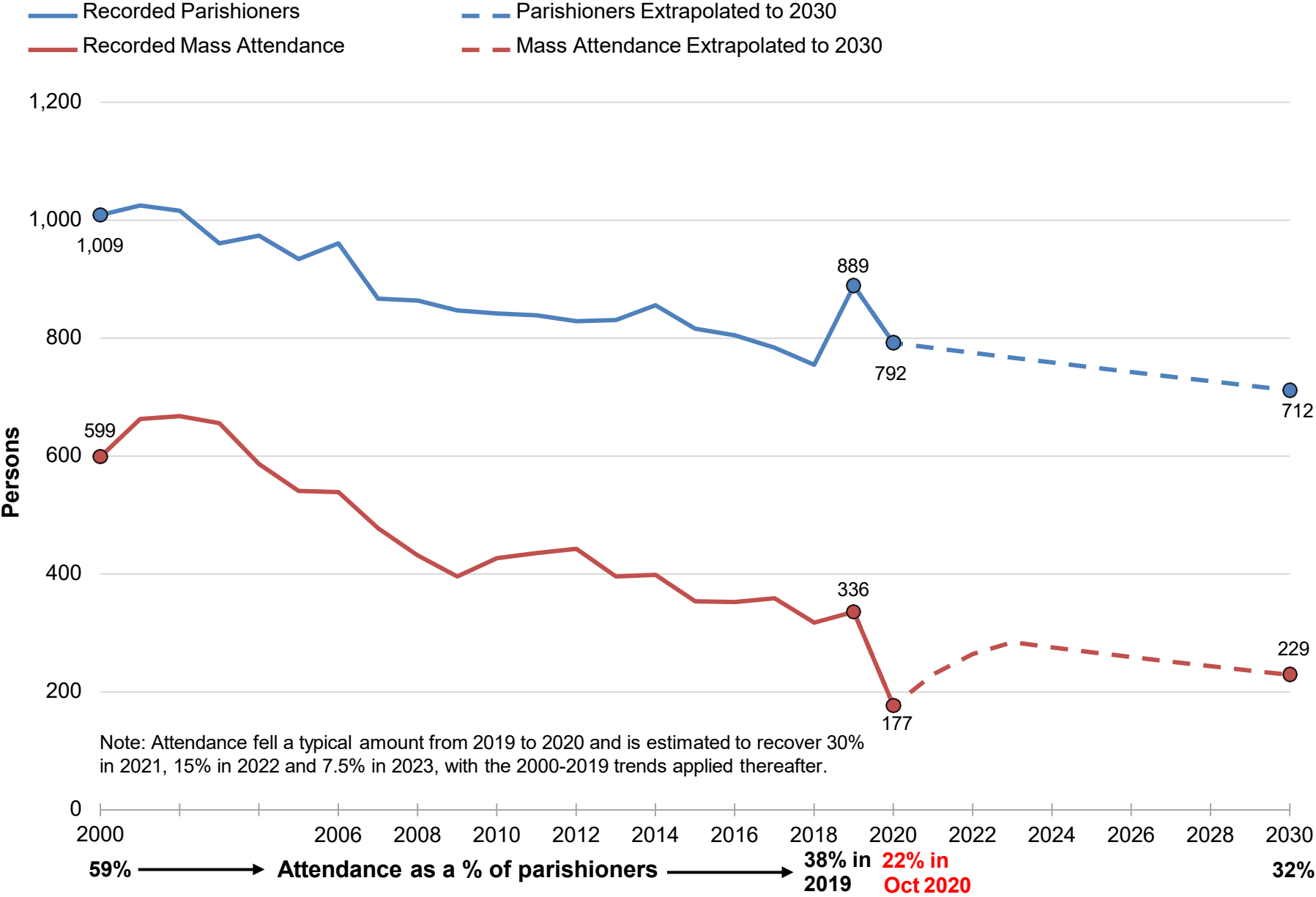
Albion Parish Circle Statistics 2000 to 2020 with 3-Year Virus Recovery and Extrapolation to 2030



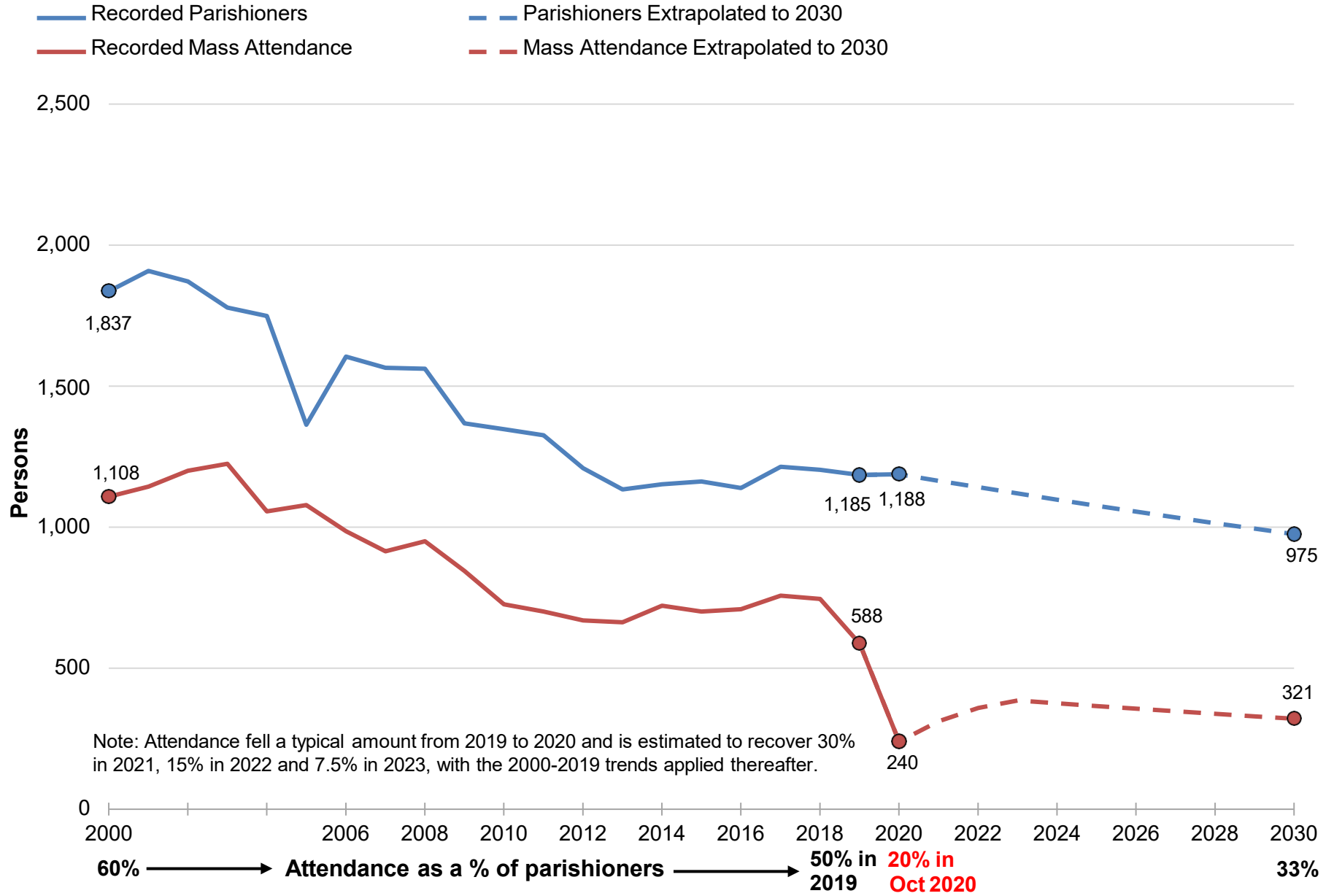
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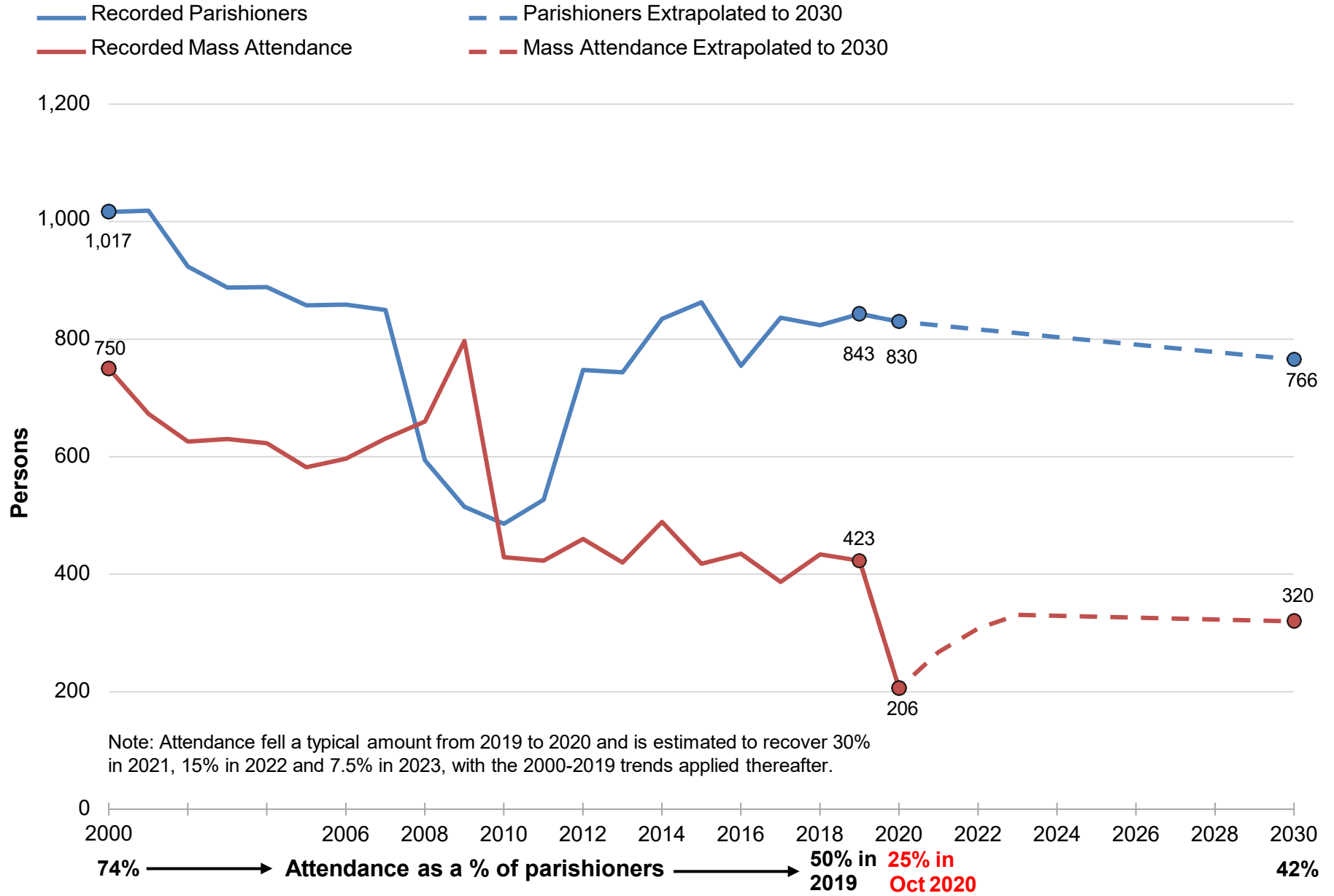
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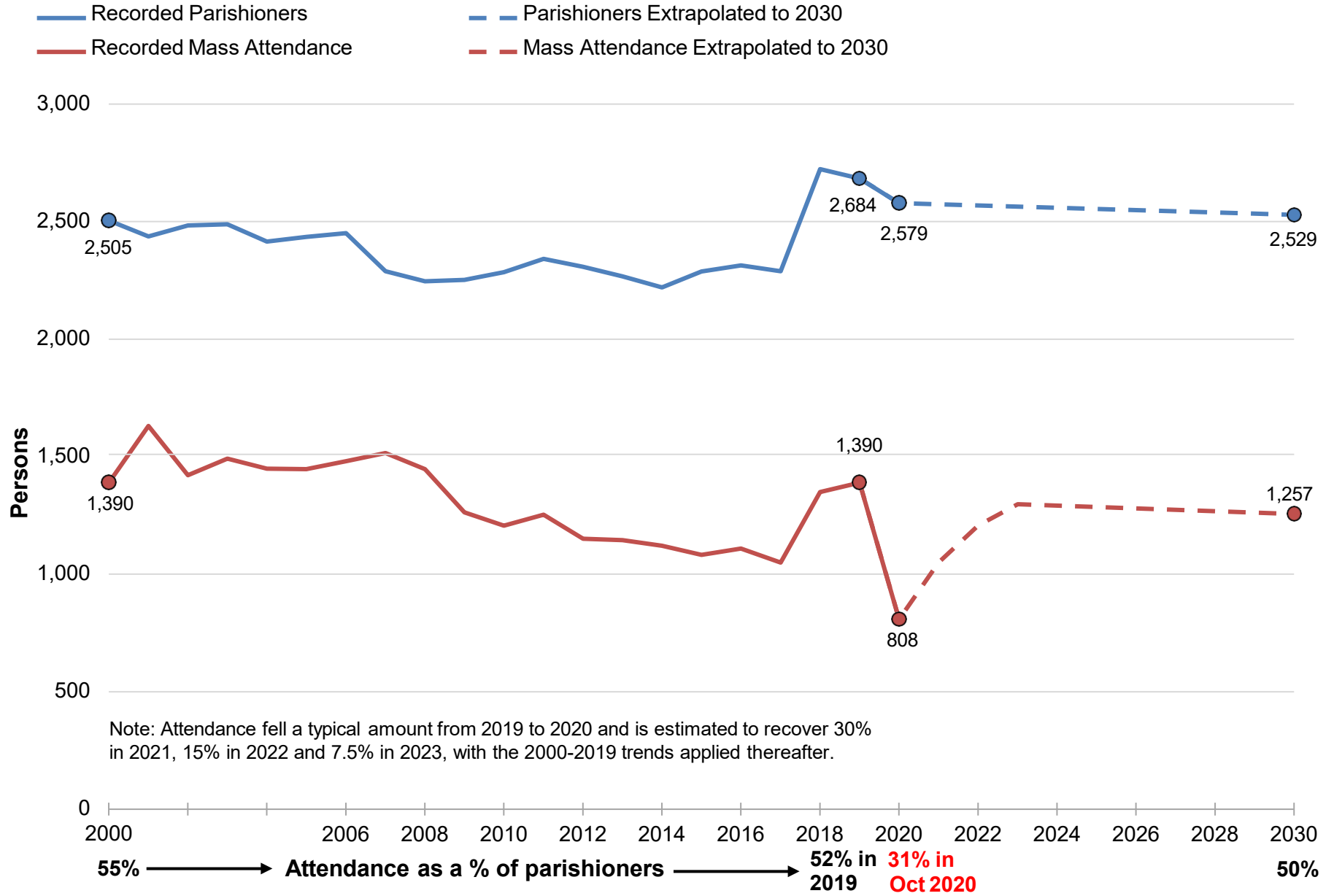
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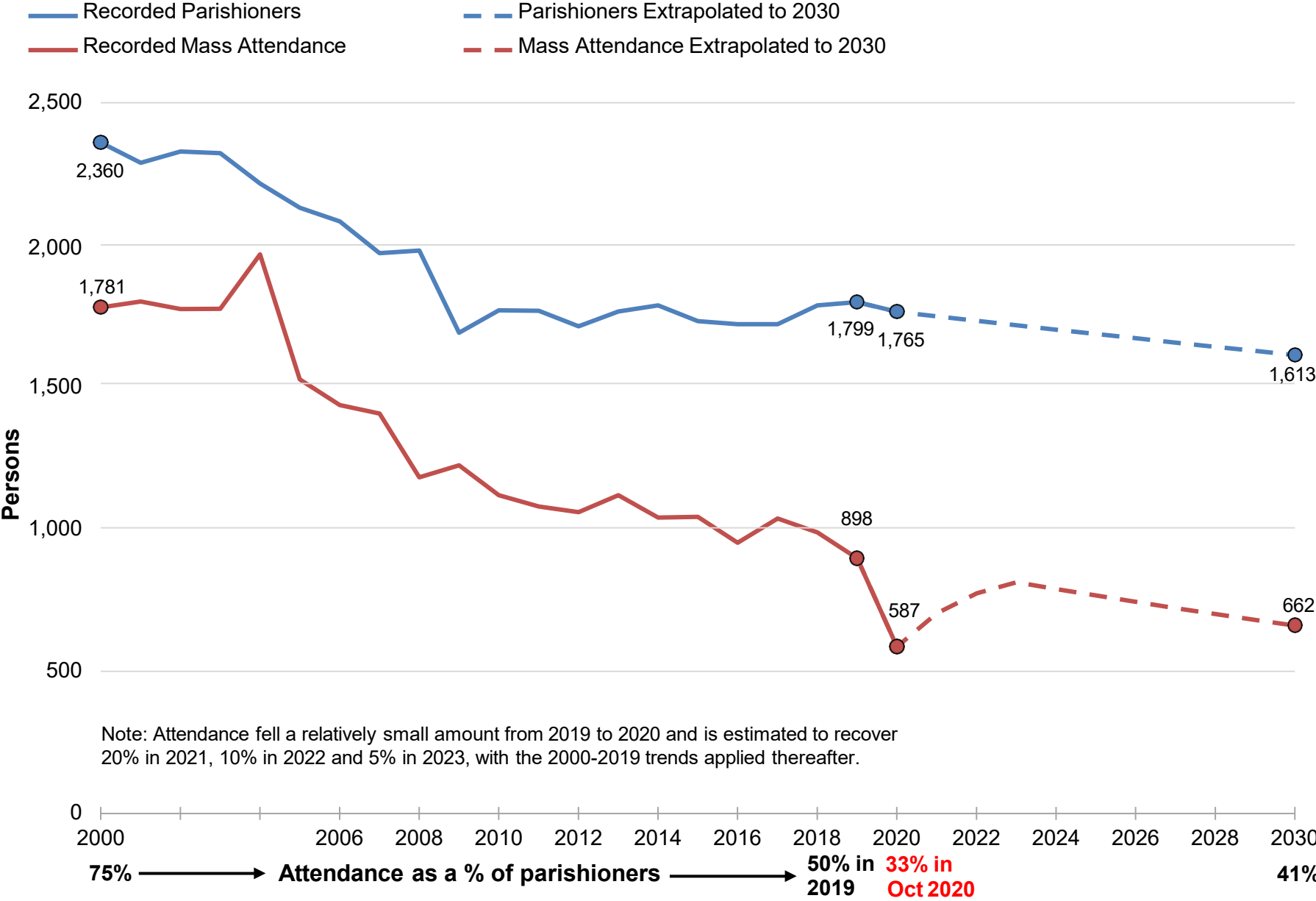
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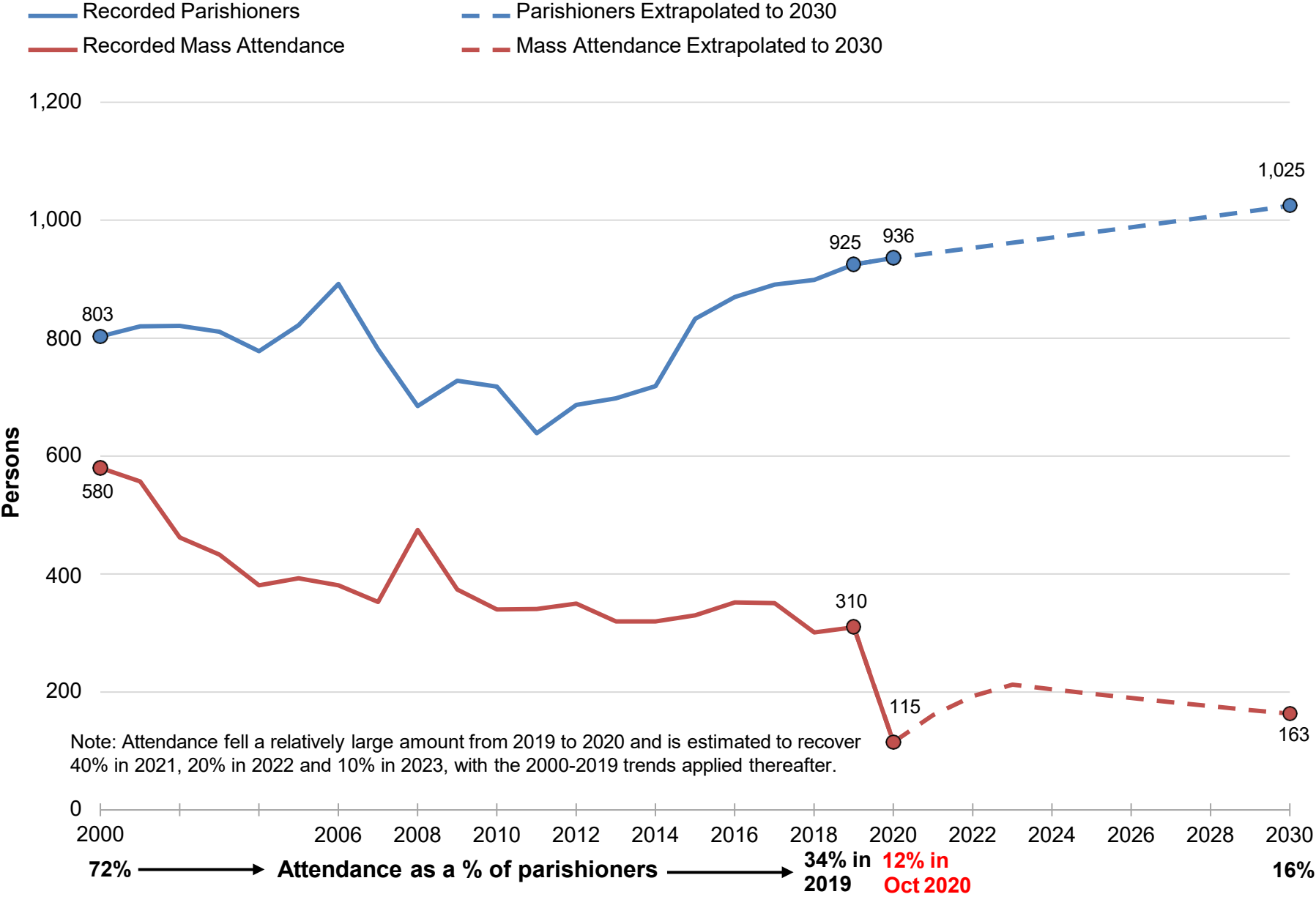
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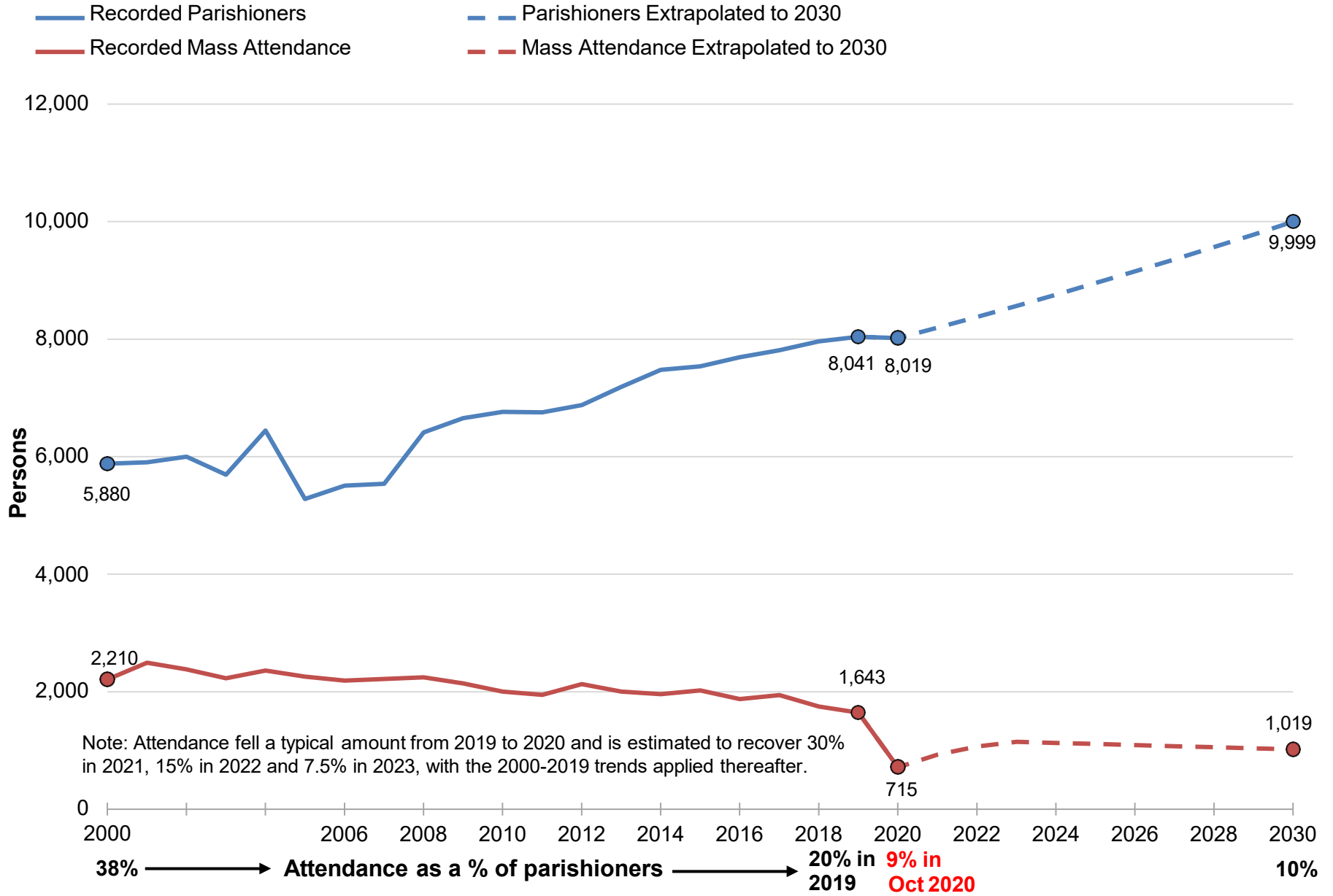
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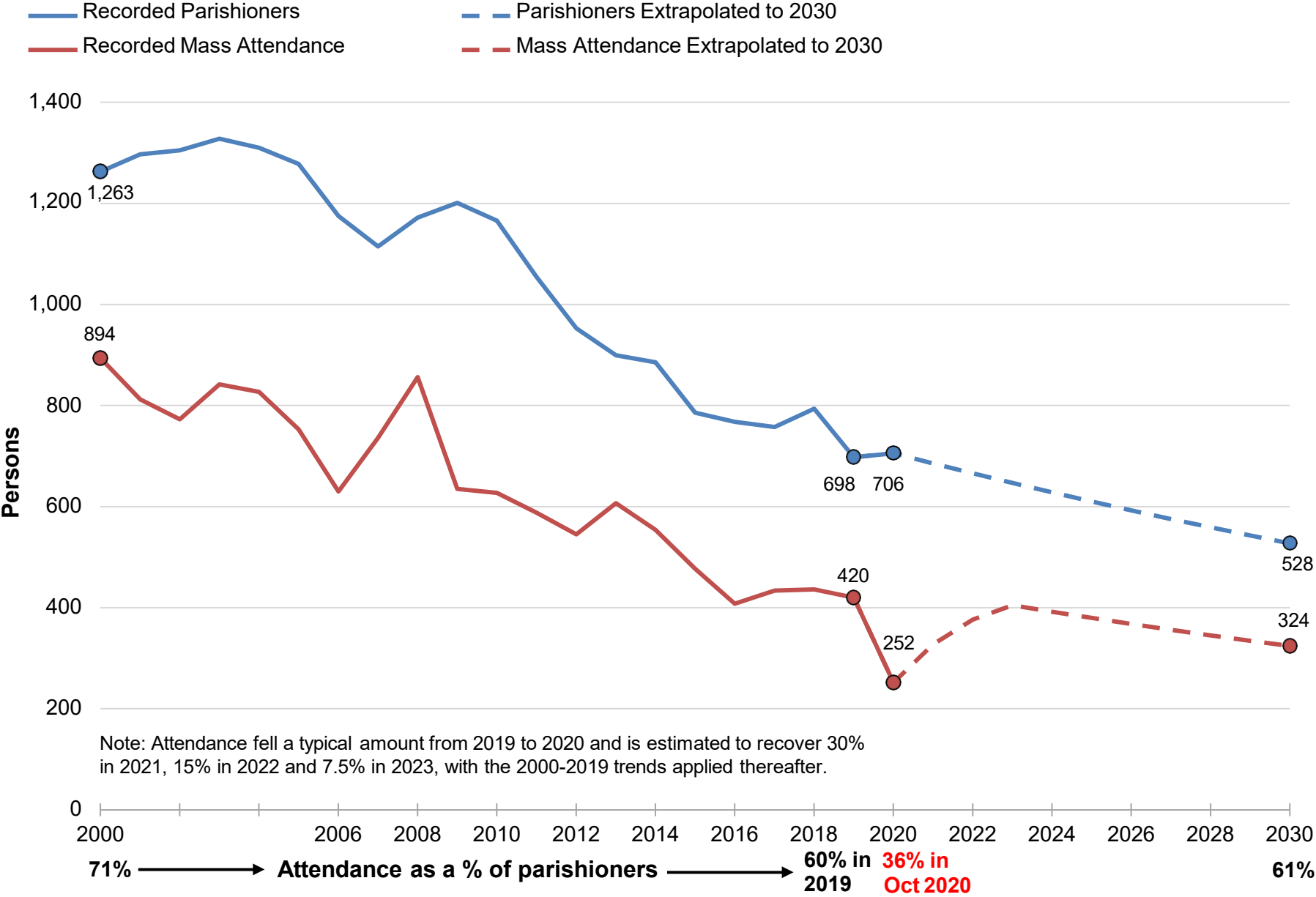
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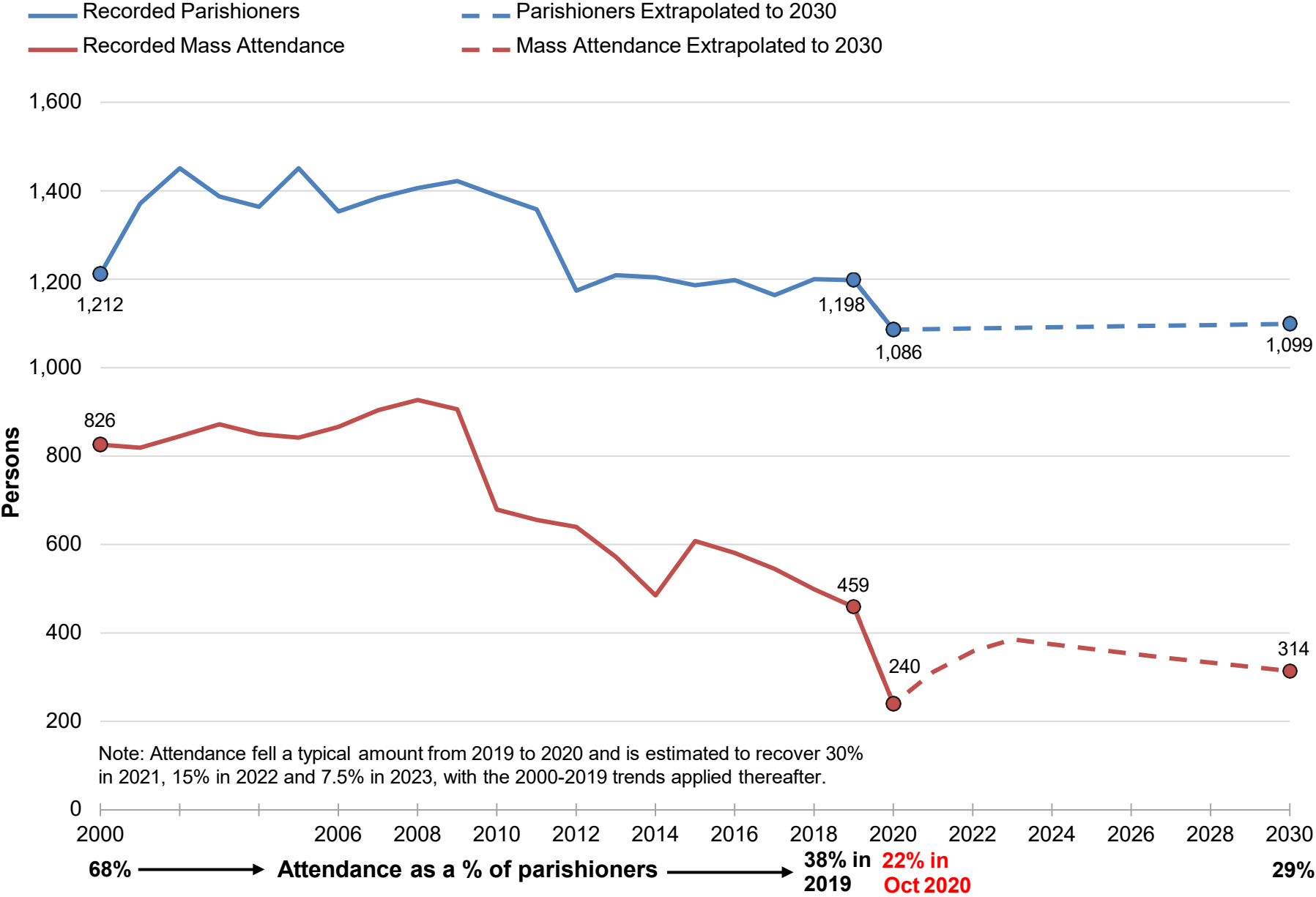
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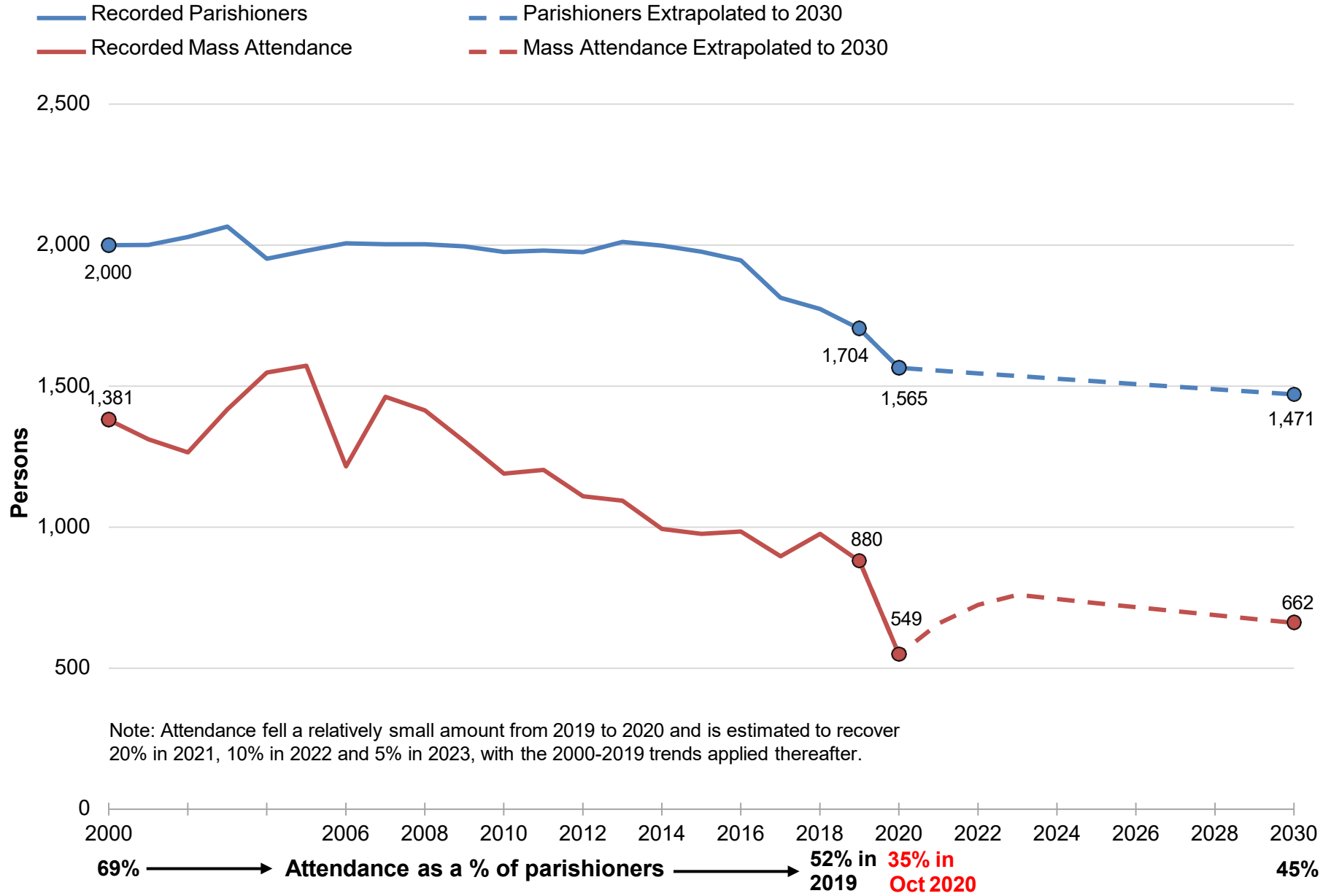
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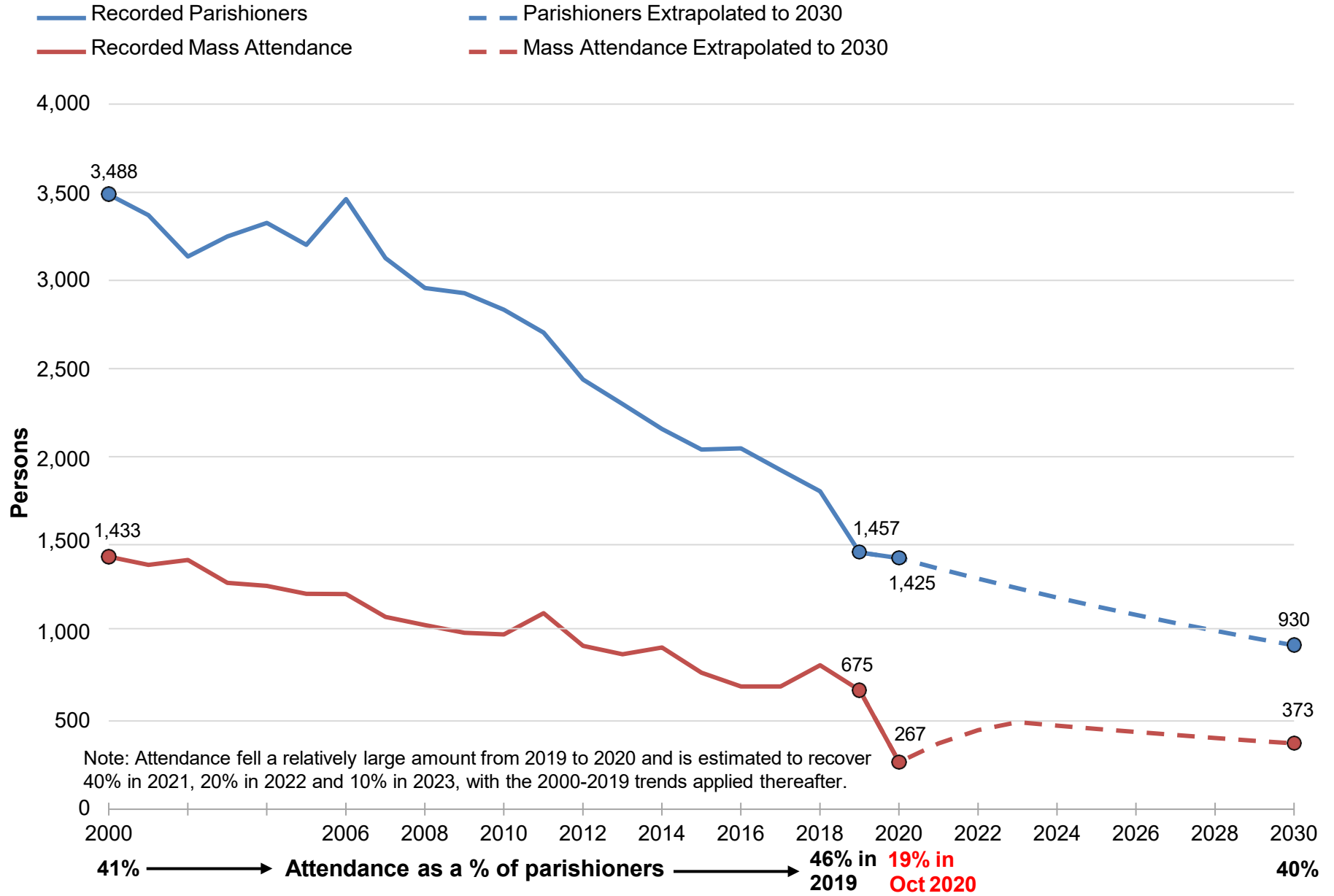
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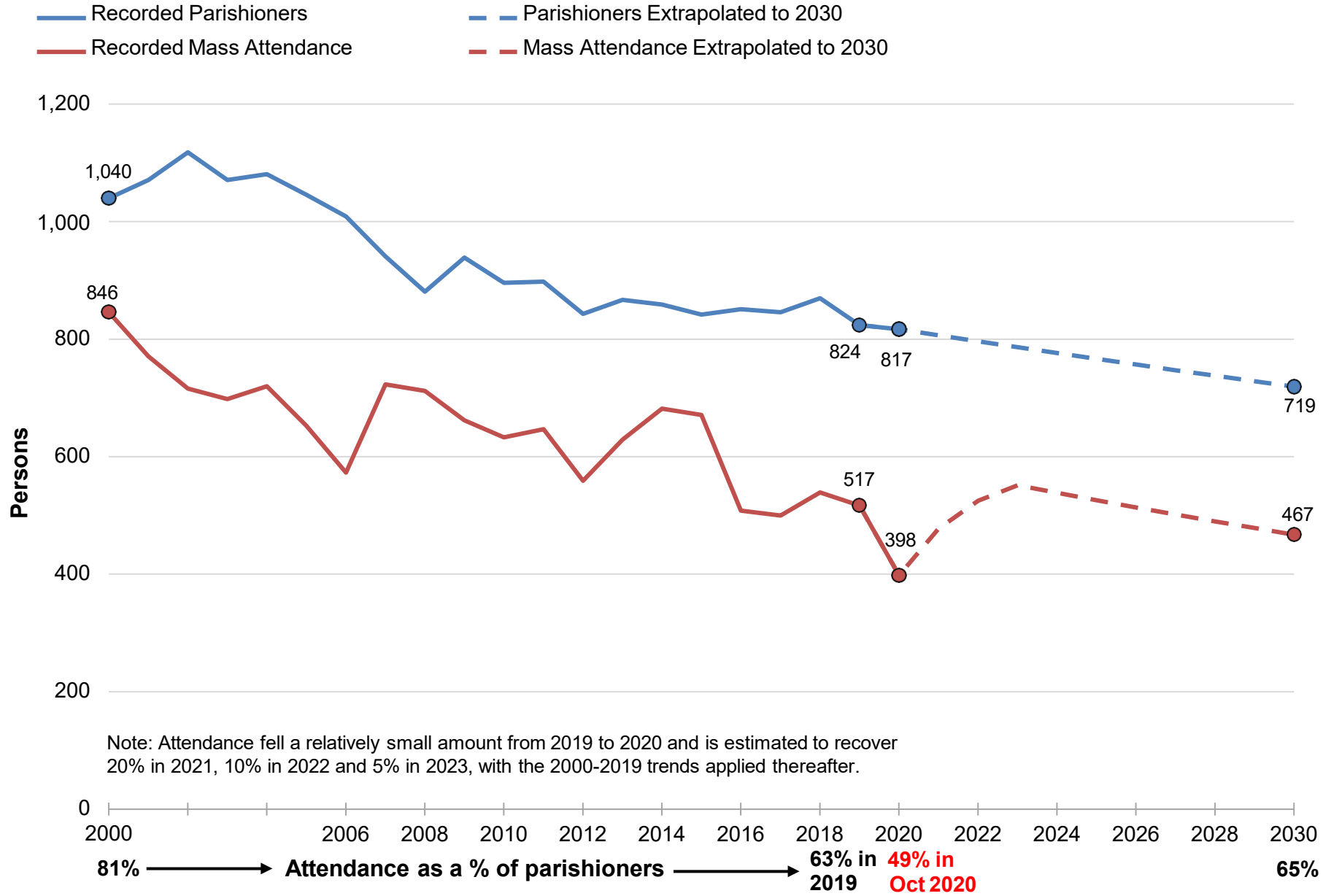
Hartington Parish Circle Statistics 2000 to 2020 with 3-Year Virus Recovery & Extrapolation to 2030



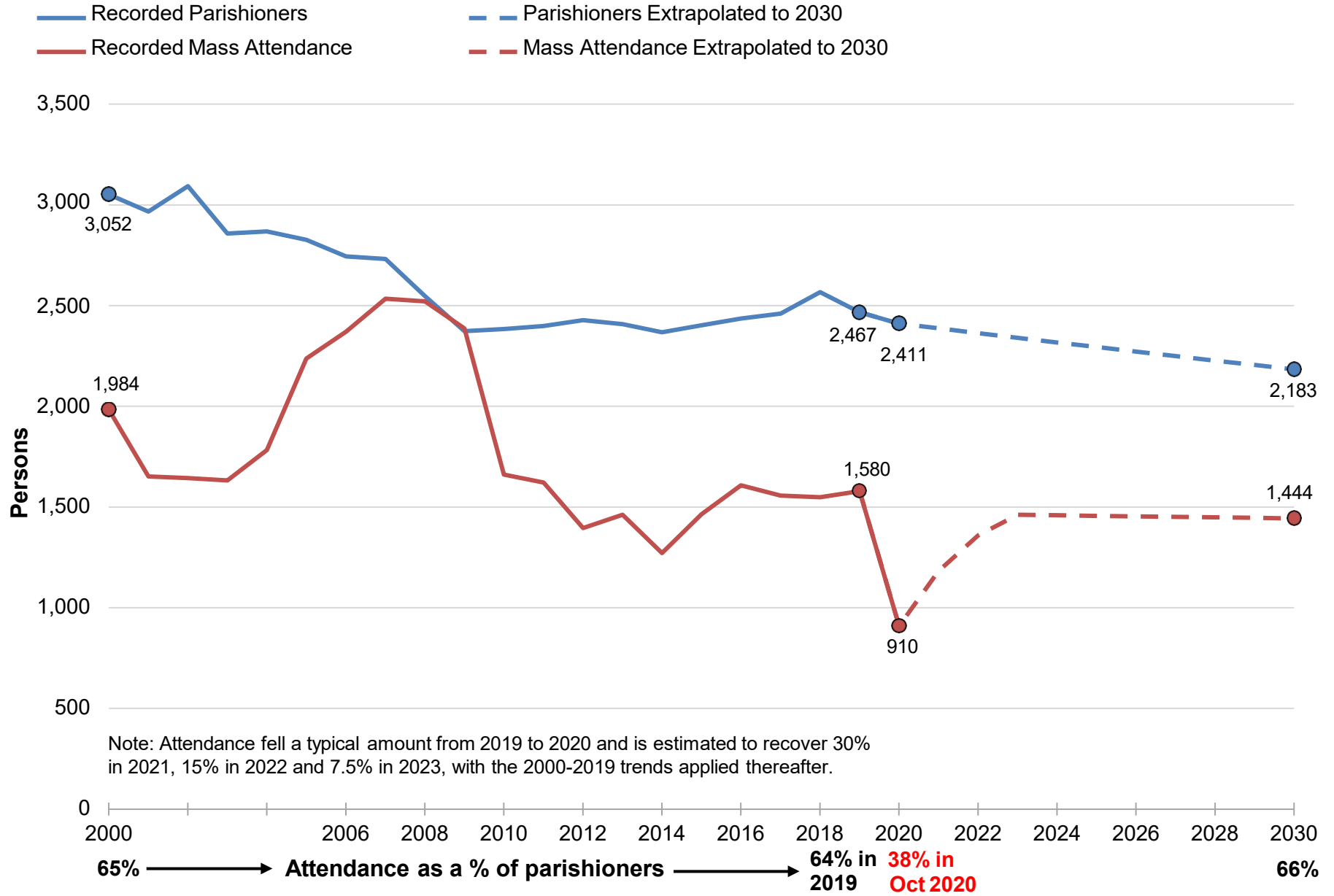
Holy Ghost Parish Circle Statistics 2000 to 2020 with 3-Year Virus Recovery & Extrapolation to 2030



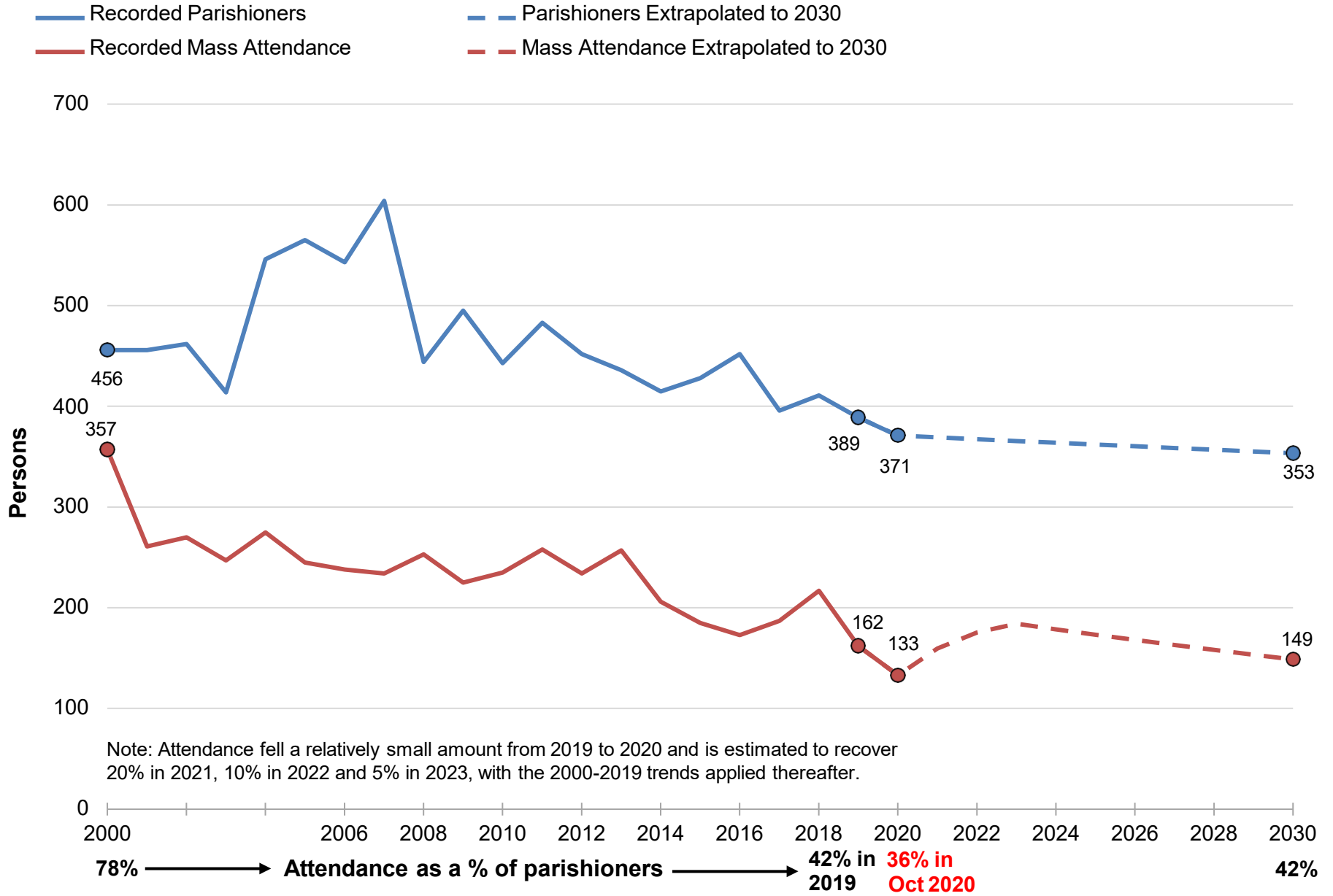
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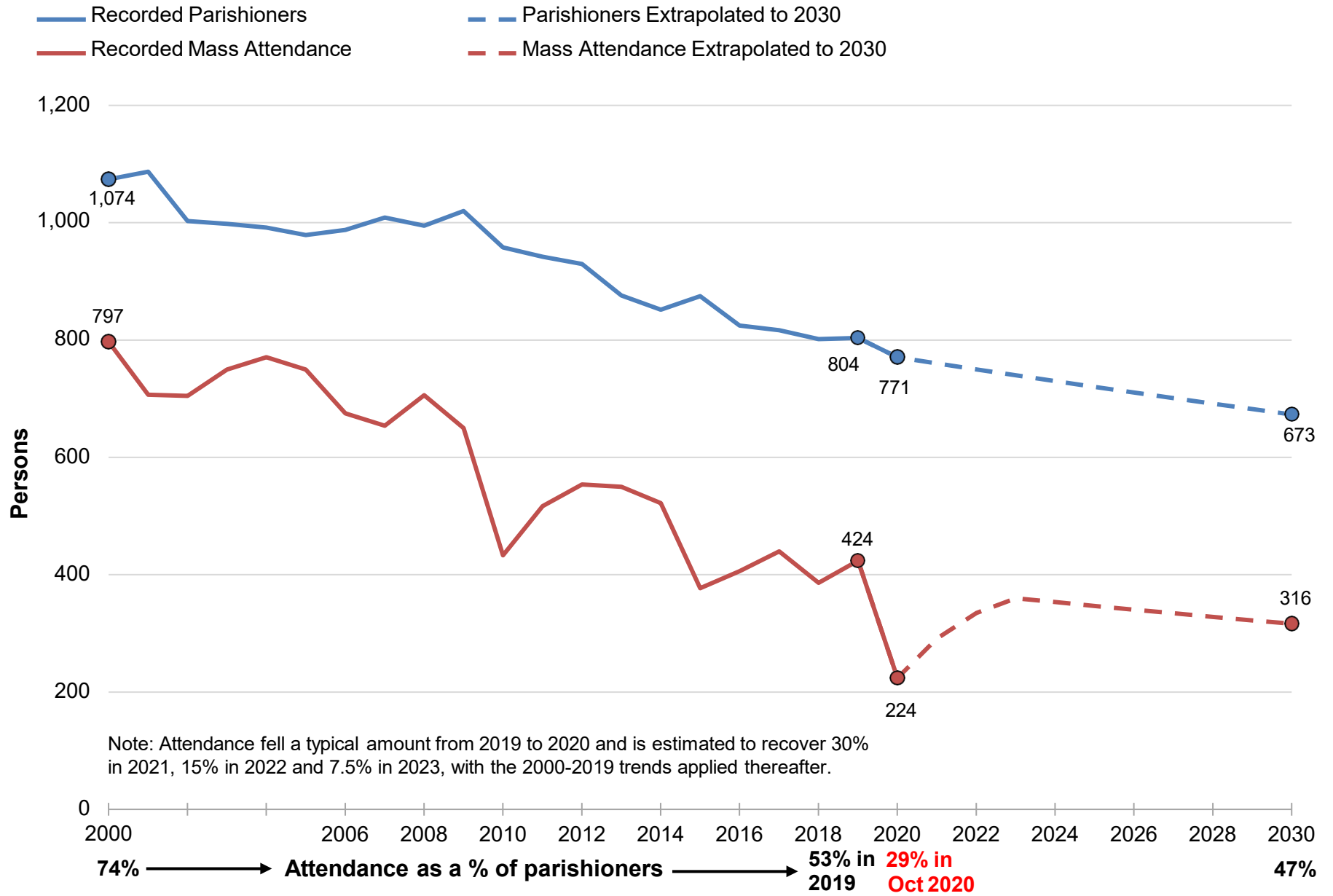
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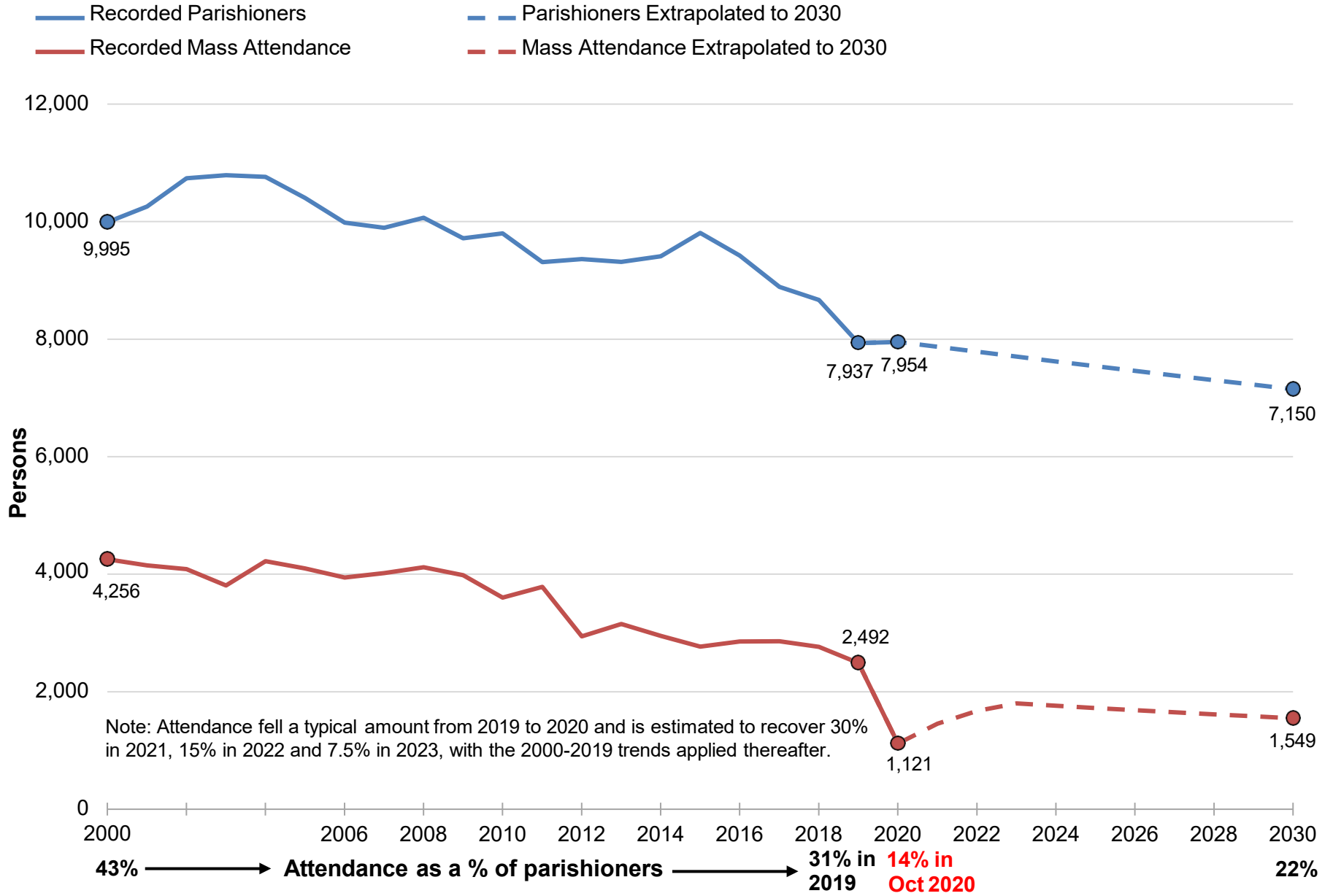
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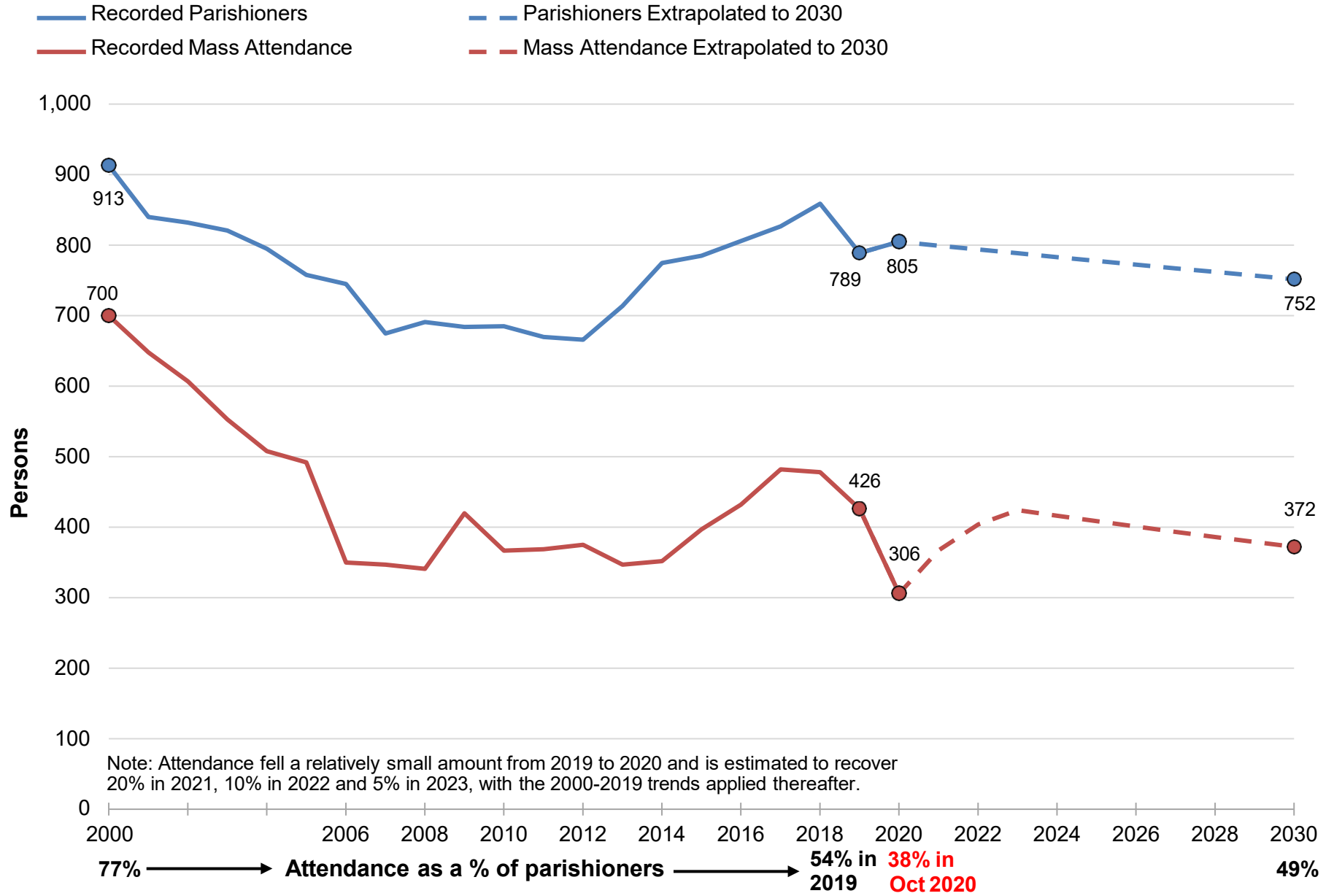
Neligh Parish Circle Statistics 2000 - 2020 with 3-Year Virus Recovery and Extrapolation to 2030



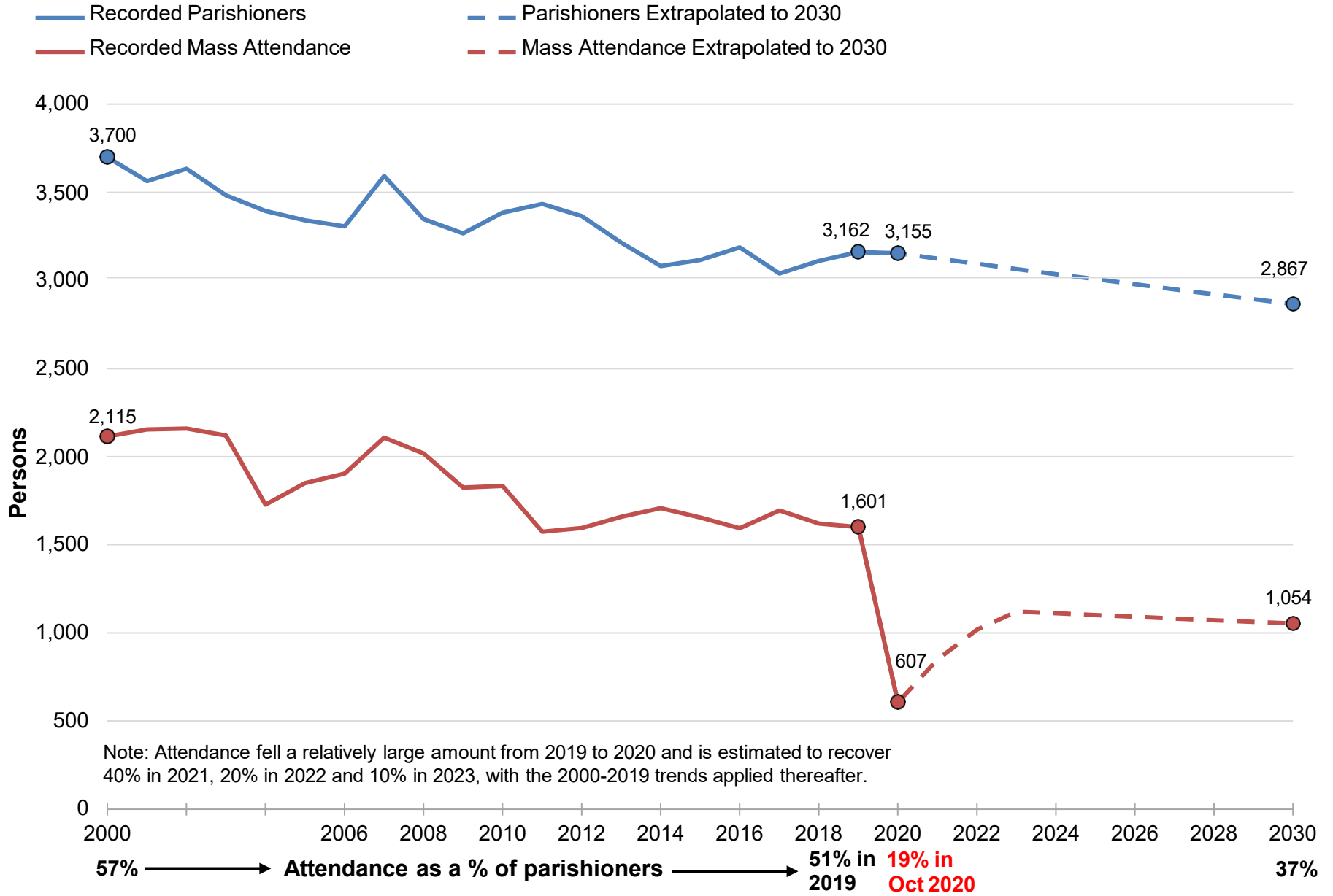
Norfolk Parish Circle Statistics 2000 to 2020 with 3-Year Virus Recovery and Extrapolation to 2030



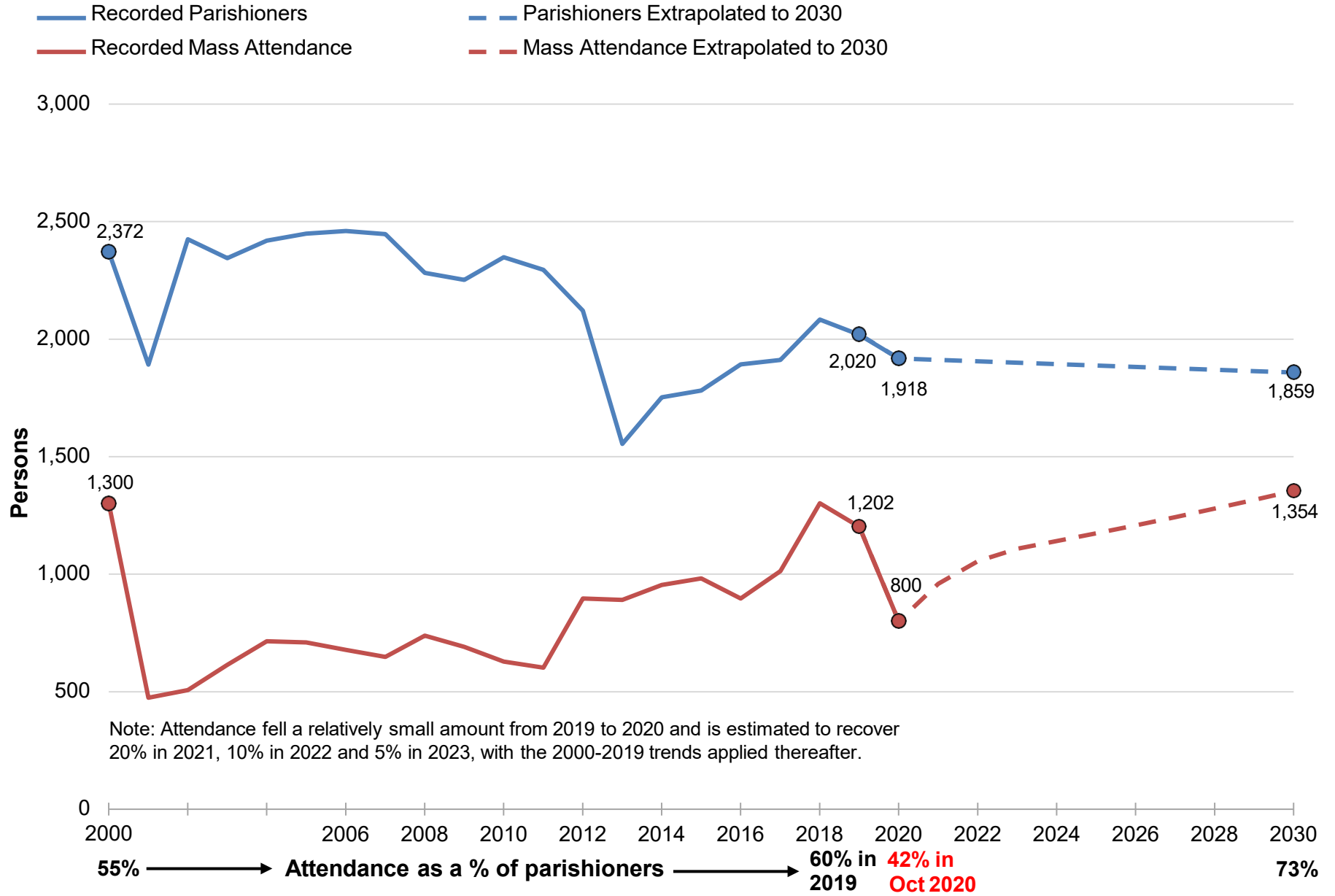
North Bend Parish Circle Statistics 2000 to 2020 with 3-Year Virus Recovery & Extrapolation to 2030



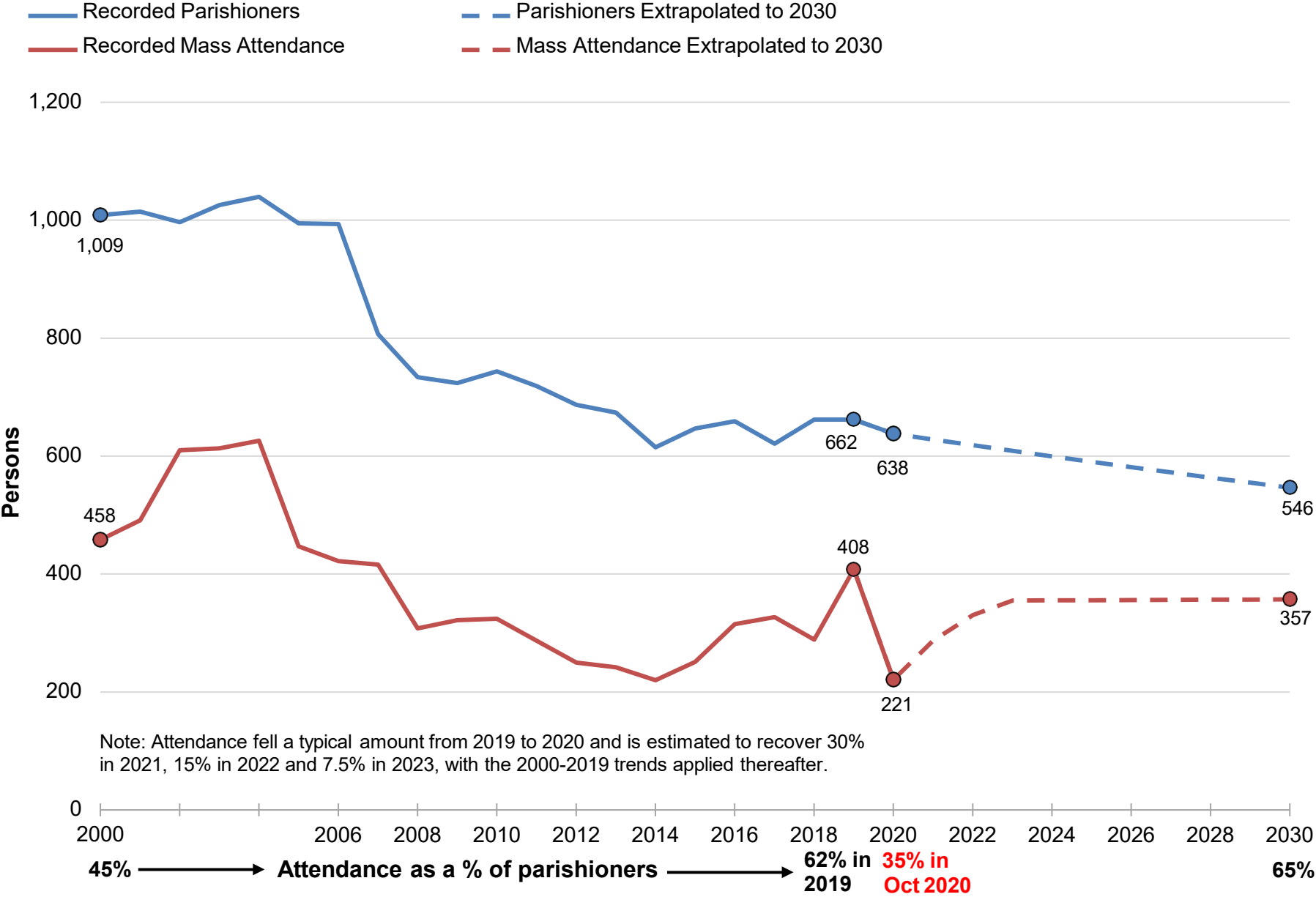
O'Neill Parish Circle Statistics 2000 to 2020 with 3-Year Virus Recovery and Extrapolation to 2030



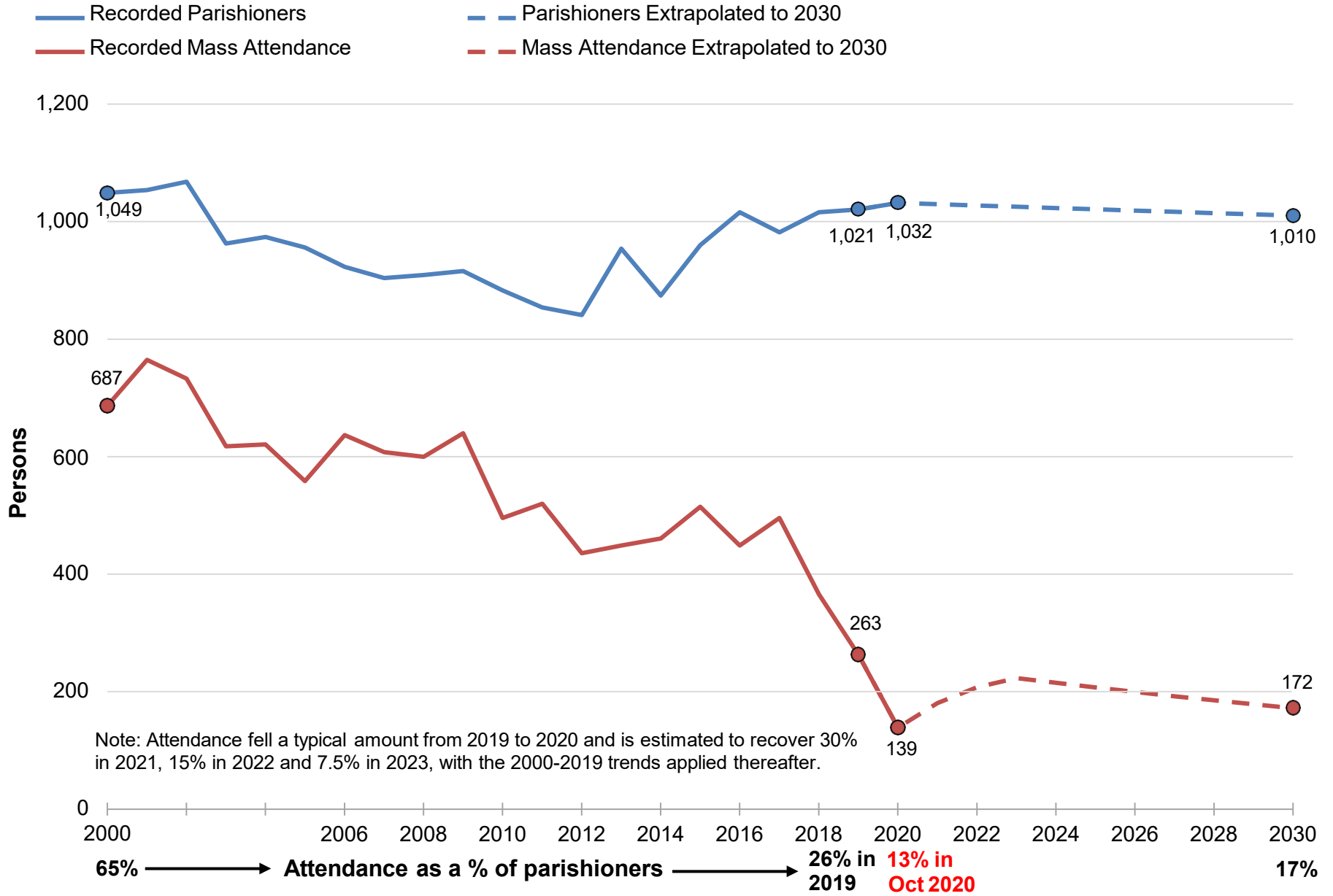
Our Lady of Lourdes-St Adalbert Data 2000-2020 with 3-Year Virus Recovery & Extrapolation to 2030



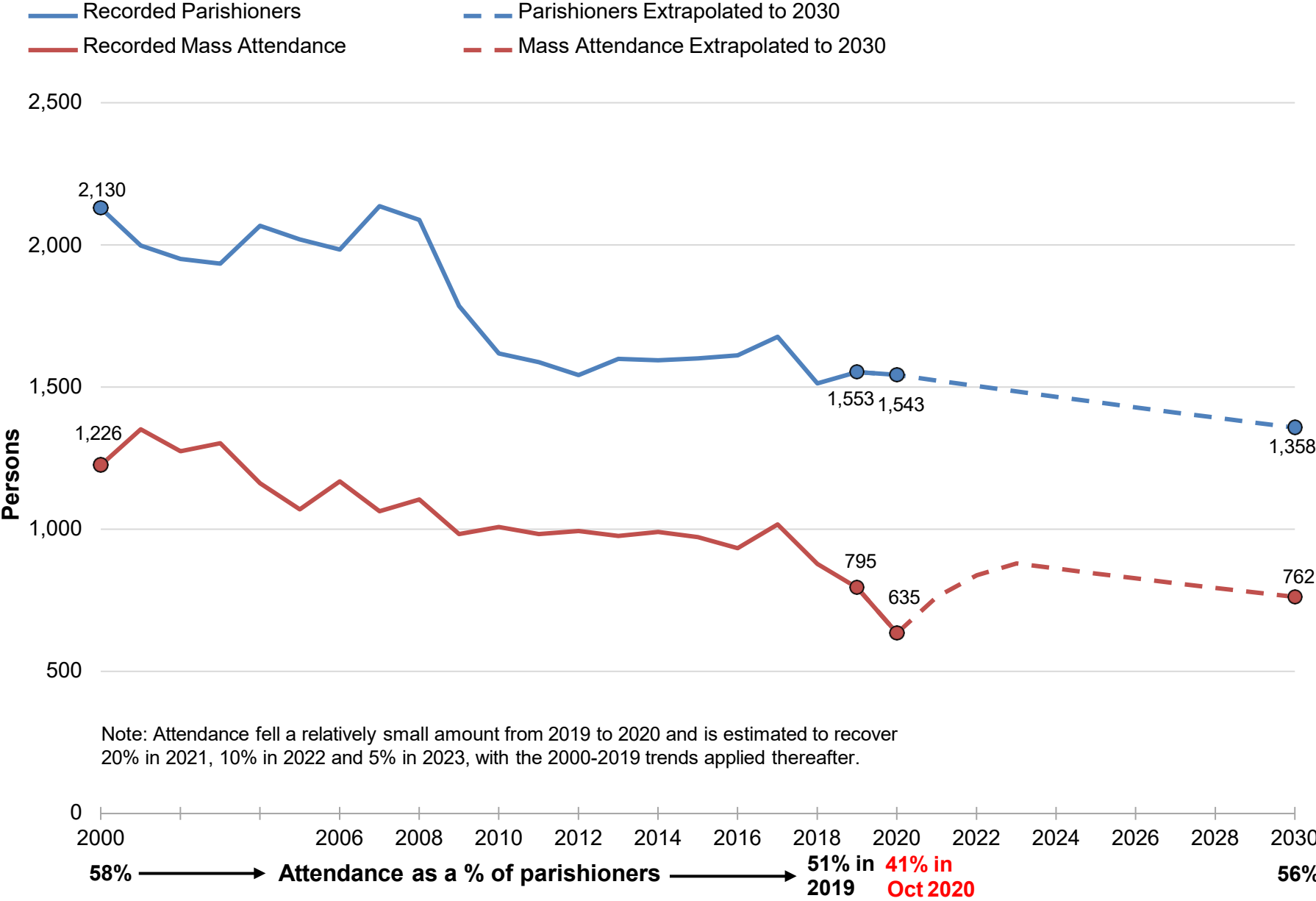
Platte Center Parish Circle Statistics 2000 - 2020 with 3-Year Virus Recovery & Extrapolation to 2030



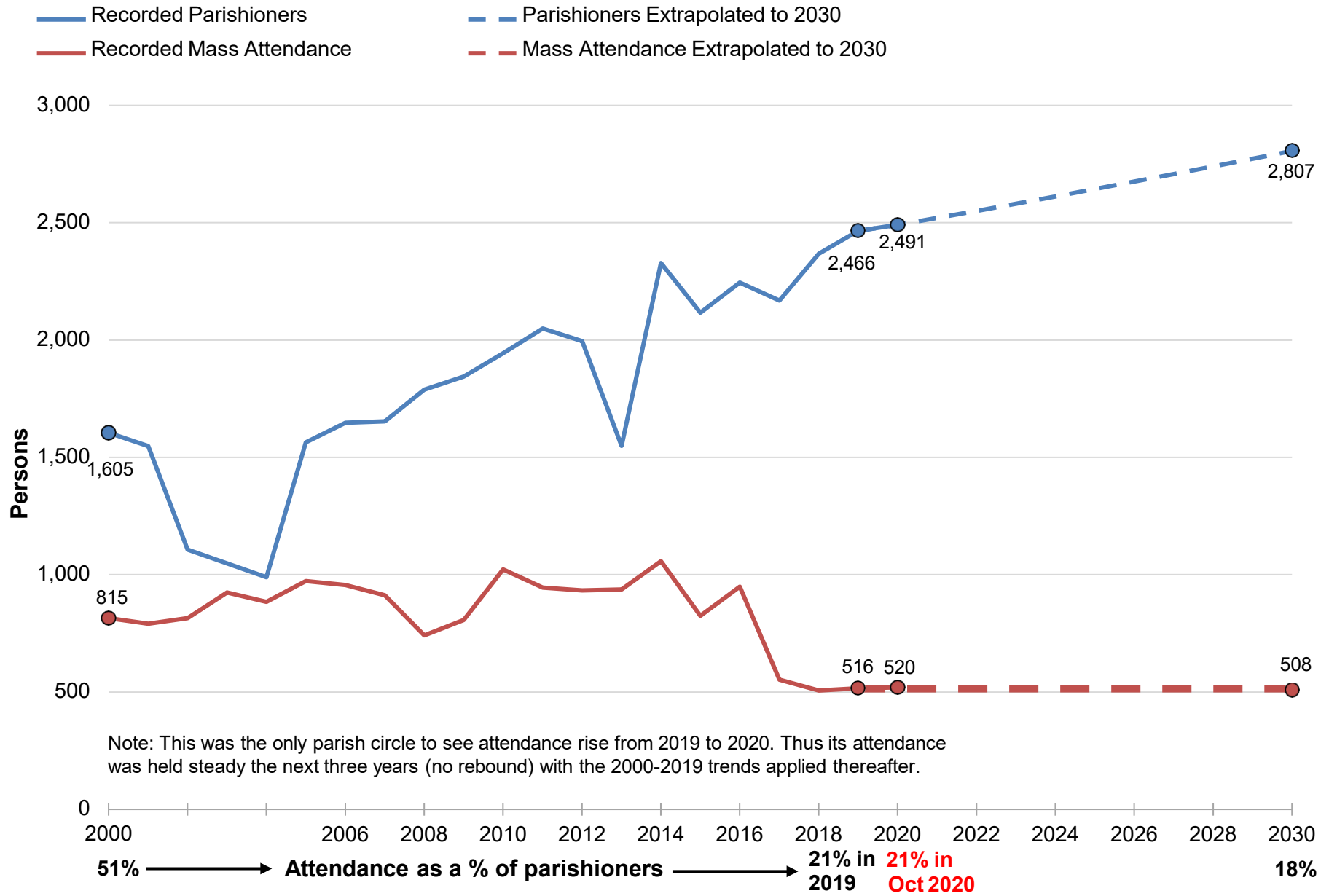
Ponca Parish Circle Statistics 2000 - 2020 with 3-Year Virus Recovery and Extrapolation to 2030



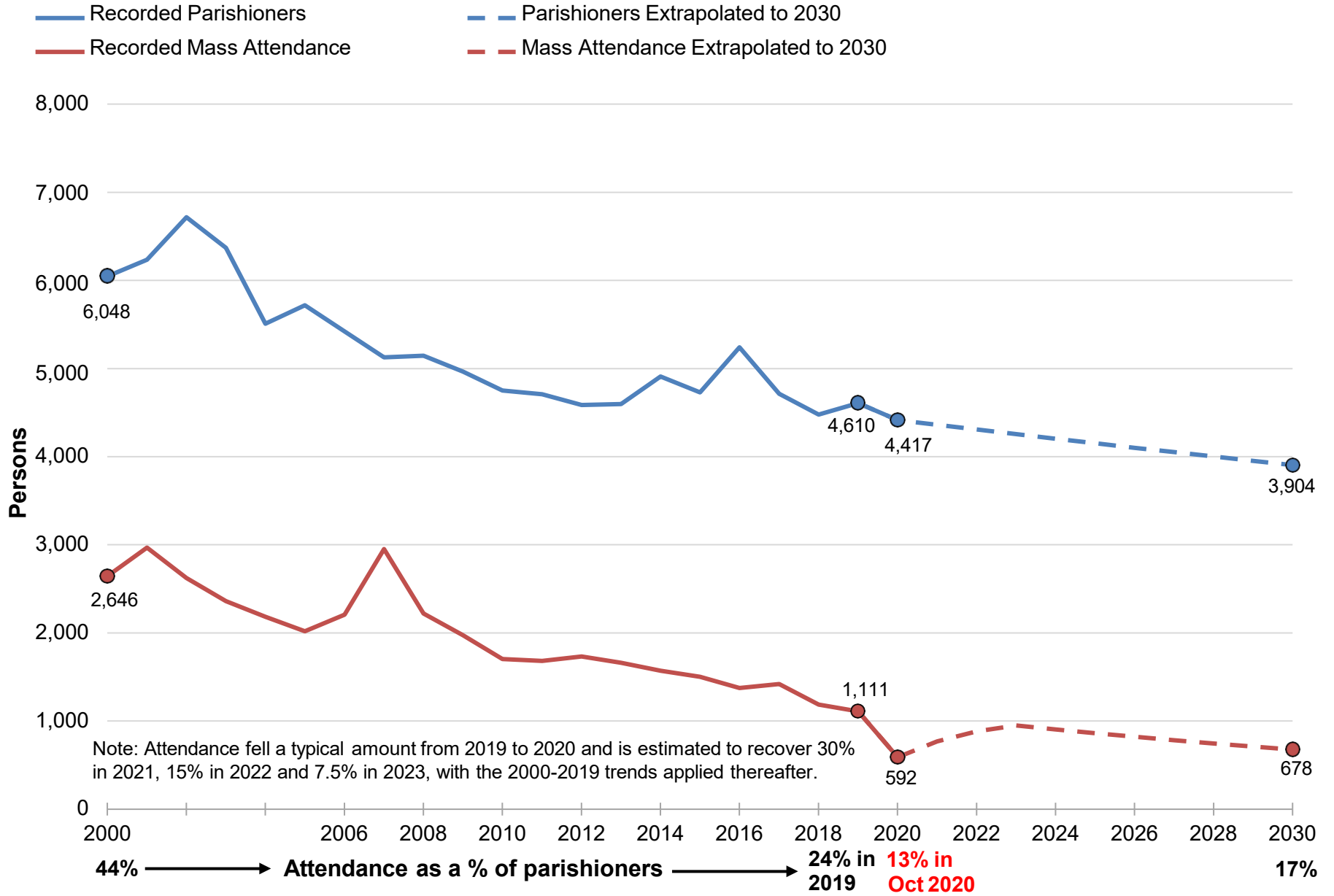
Randolph Parish Circle Statistics 2000 to 2020 with 3-Year Virus Recovery and Extrapolation to 2030



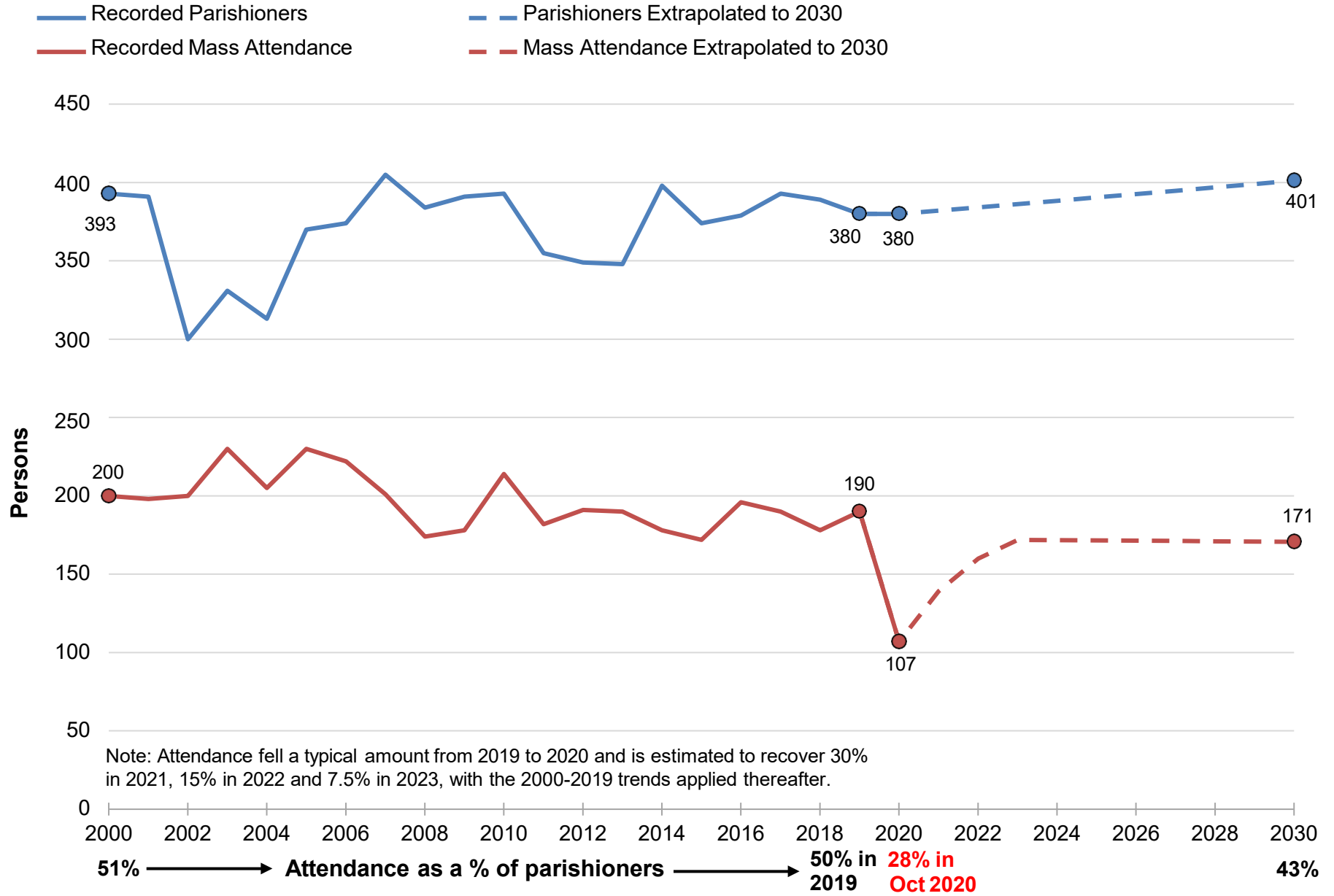
St Francis-Omaha Parish Circle Data 2000 - 2020 with 3-Year Virus Recovery & Extrapolation to 2030



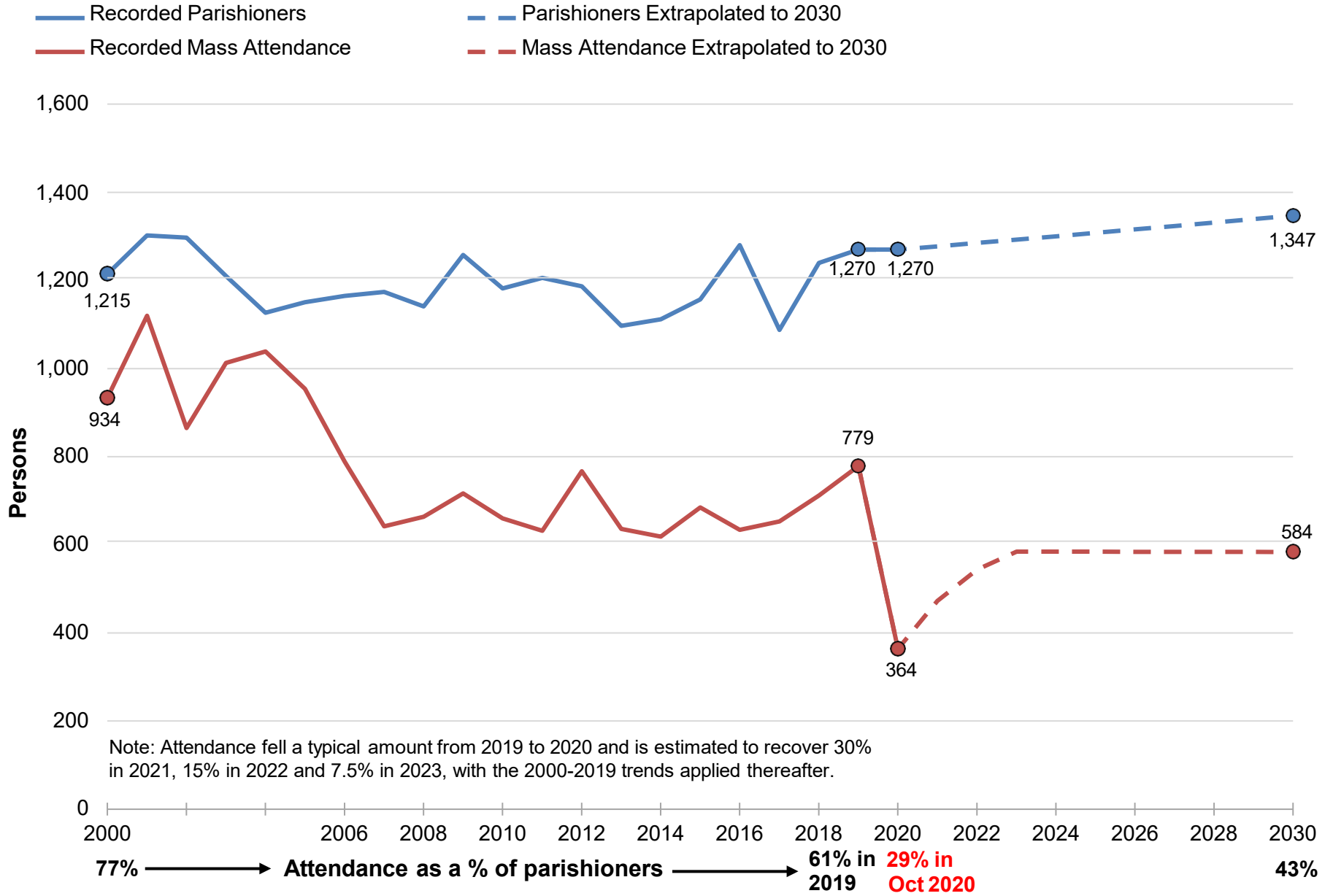
St. Thomas More Parish Circle Data 2000 - 2020 with 3-Year Virus Recovery & Extrapolation to 2030



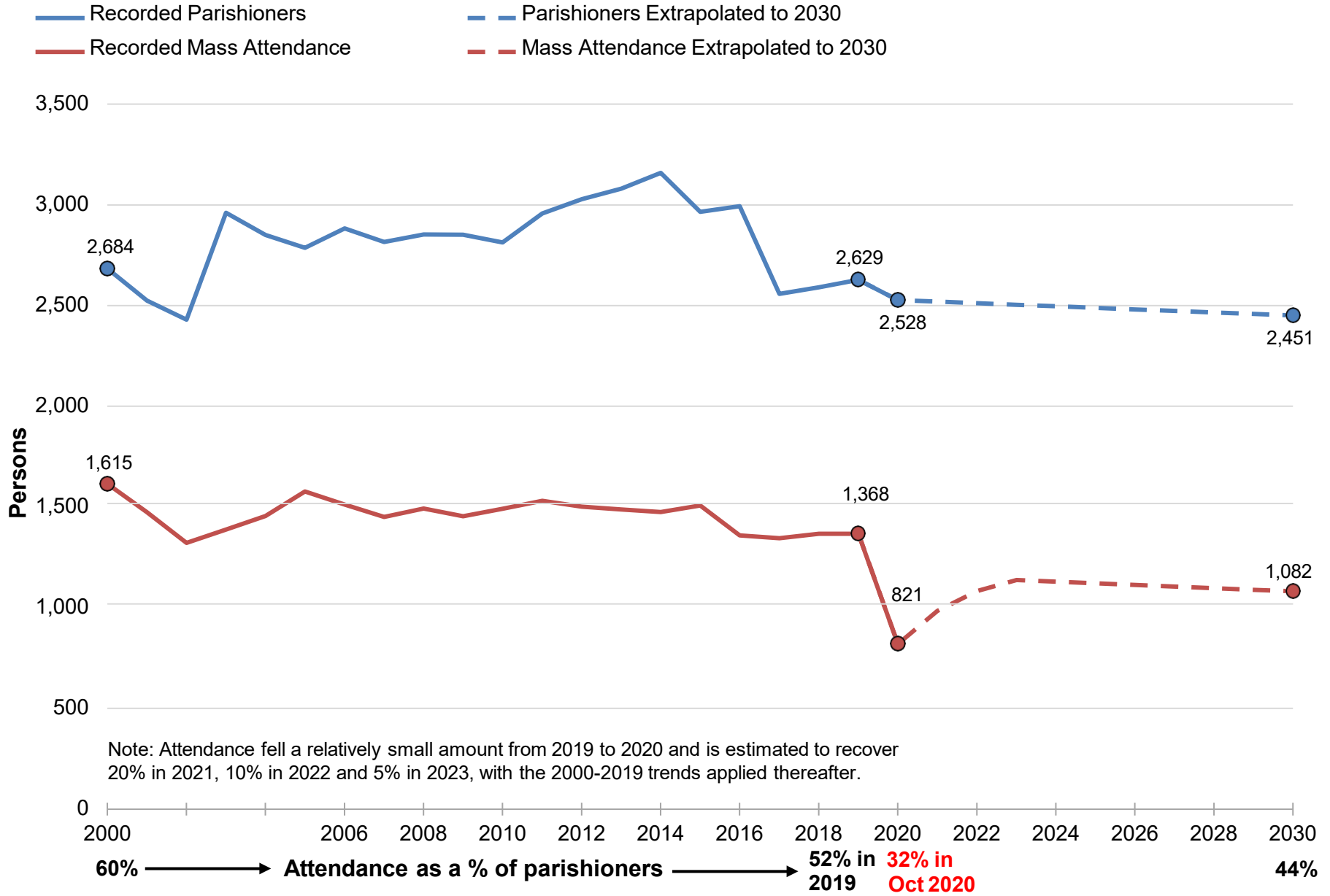
Tekamah Parish Circle Statistics 2000 - 2020 with 3-Year Virus Recovery and Extrapolation to 2030



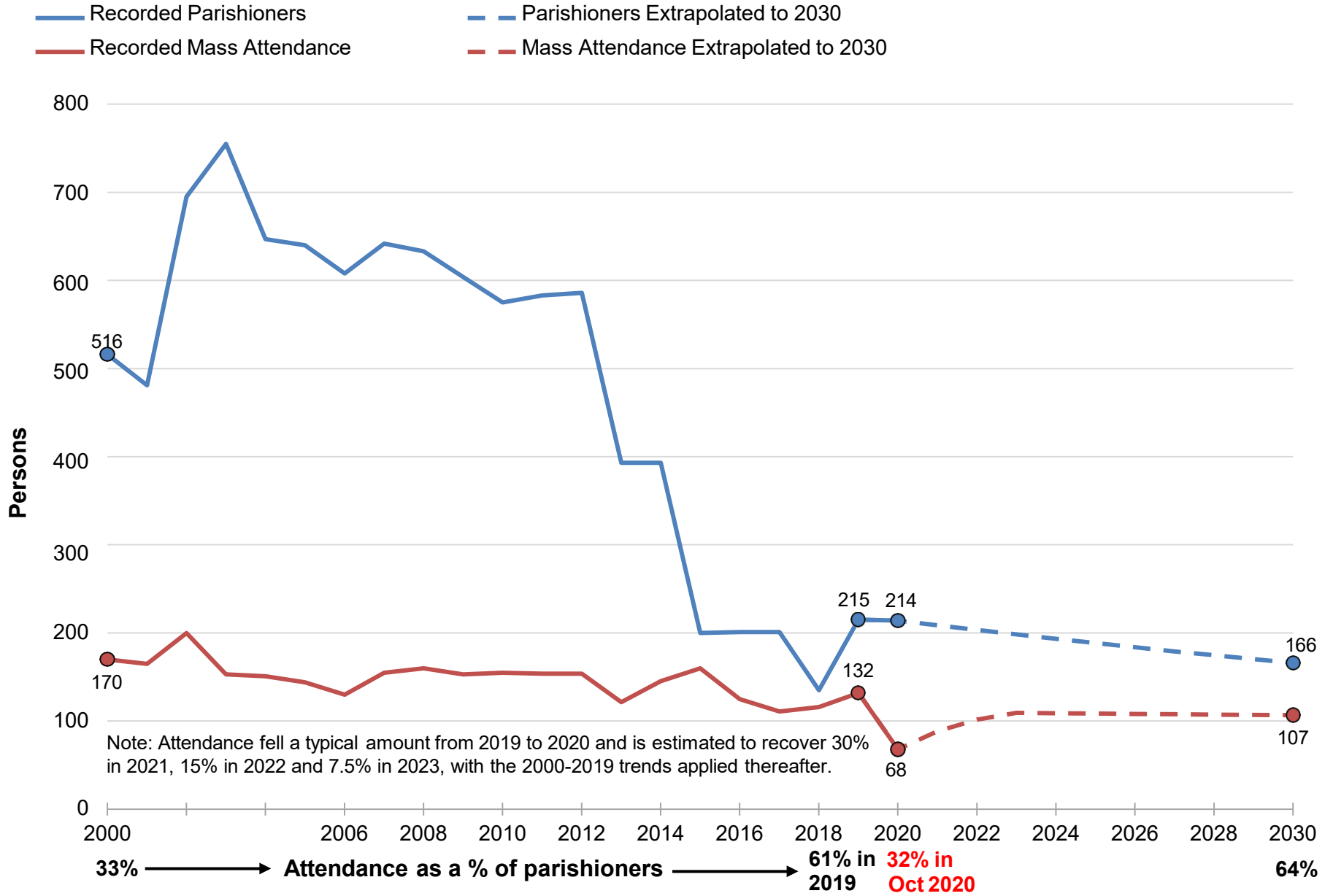
Wayne Parish Circle Statistics 2000 to 2020 with 3-Year Virus Recovery and Extrapolation to 2030



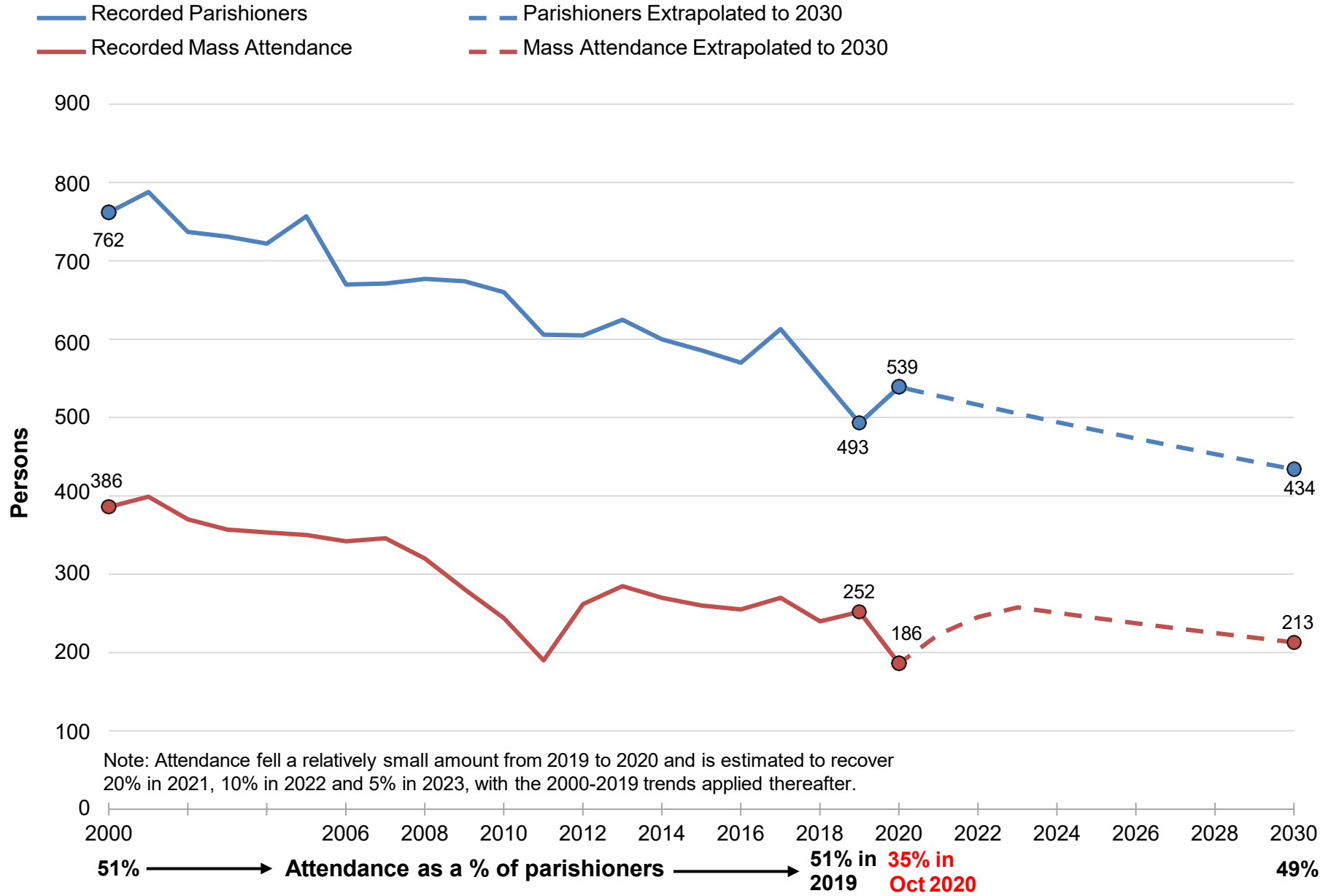
West Point Parish Circle Statistics 2000 to 2020 with 3-Year Virus Recovery & Extrapolation to 2030



Winnebago Parish Circle Statistics 2000 - 2020 with 3-Year Virus Recovery & Extrapolation to 2030



Wisner Parish Circle Statistics 2000 to 2020 with 3-Year Virus Recovery and Extrapolation to 2030



FAQs on Parish & Parish Circle Registration and Mass Attendance Statistics in the Omaha Archdiocese

Why was this project regarding parish statistics completed?

This project aimed to provide information on both past and predicted parish trends regarding the number of registered parishioners and those attending weekly mass. Compiled annual statistics between 2000 and 2020 show what has occurred, with a particular focus given to the covid-influenced changes between 2019 and 2020. Then an expected recovery from the pandemic is estimated to occur over the next three years, with an extrapolation of past trends to 2030 showing what would be expected thereafter using recent history as a guide.

How can I access the information and see the trends?

A compiled pdf file has a graph of recent and expected future statistics for each parish or parish circle in the Omaha Archdiocese. The information is in the process of being loaded to an interactive website where menus will allow a user to select a parish or parish circle to display their information.

What is a parish circle?

Parish circles are places mostly in rural areas that share the same pastor. The pastor's assignment includes two or more nearby parishes. For this project, the data reported by individual parishes associated with the parish circle was summed so that figures and trends for the entire parish circle as a whole could be understood.

What is the source of the parish data and statistics?

Parish staff provide the information on a questionnaire referred to as the annual Pastoral Report. It asks a variety of questions, such as annual baptisms and confirmations. The report requests an estimate of registered parishioners, including by various age groups. The report instructs the parish to take a head count of those attending the Saturday and Sunday Masses on the first or second weekend in October.

How was the information compiled over time?

The Omaha Archdiocese compiles the information annually, entering it into an electronic format. The Archdiocese provided the relevant attendance and registration data to a local demographer, who cleaned and organized the data as well as determined the methods for calculating expected attendance recovery over the next three years along with extrapolating the figures to 2030 using past average annual trends.

FAQs Continued

What was the process used for predicting future mass attendance and parish registration trends?

Annual percent change rates for both attendance and registrations were calculated for each year between 2000 and 2019. To smooth fluctuations or reporting inconsistencies, the largest and smallest percent changes were removed, leaving 17 years over which to calculate the average or typical change. This average was used to extrapolate parish registrations from the reported 2020 value to 2030.

To project the expected recovery from reduced mass attendance in 2020 due to the virus, the change between 2019 and 2020 in attendance was calculated and categorized into three levels of change: small declines, average or typical declines, and large declines. Then varying levels of recovery were applied over the next three years from 2021 to 2023, with larger recoveries given to areas that had larger declines. Similar to the method for registrations, past average annual change rates in attendance were applied after 2023 to extrapolate expected changes to 2030 based upon the recent history each parish or parish circle has experienced.

What does the “attendance percentage” mean? How is it defined?

The bottom of each graph shows the “attendance percentage” at various points in time. The attendance percentage is simply the level of mass attendance divided by total registered parishioners in that year. From this, we see what portion of parishioners attended mass for the weekend in early October when data collection from the mass head count occurred.

How can the information be used?

The information is useful for planning purposes, to understand how parish attendance and registrations have changed, and how they might change in the future. While no one knows exactly how the recovery from the covid pandemic will occur, or if other future events will have notable impacts on these items, the figures shown on the graphs provide a guide for what may occur over the next several years given reasonable assumptions.

Comparisons between parishes or parish circles can be made. For example, urban parishes are best compared to other urban parishes to see their changes in parish registrations (usually increases) but typically with smaller rises in mass attendance. Rural parishes or parish circles can compare their changes to other areas and see how they are similar or different and converse with parishes having good performance regarding what they are doing to address their various challenges to keep registrations and attendance relatively high (share best practices).

Who can I contact for more information?

Those requesting more information or answers to additional questions, please contact:

Jim Jansen, Director of Pastoral Services, at jmjansen@archomaha.org or 402.557.5610 or David Drozd at ddrozd2@yahoo.com for an in-depth analysis for your parish/school.

Suggestions for Sharing the Data

The purpose of this section is to provide some concrete ideas of how this information might be shared more broadly. The need to foster awareness among parishioners of the underlying historical trends is important because this information will give parishioners a context to understand new initiatives which respond to these same trends. In other words, if this information influences the direction of the parish or any changes that a pastor and his key leaders make, then the parishioners at large must understand the context for those changes in order to receive and embrace them more readily. Towards that end, there are a few key assumptions which undergird the practical ideas below.

Key assumptions:

- **This information matters.** One of the assumptions behind the publication of this information is that it is relevant and significant for the pastoral leaders within these communities. The trendlines tell an important story even if that story must be interpreted as part of larger demographic and cultural trends.
- **Parishioners have a right to this information.** Although the steady decrease in Mass attendance has been obvious to many, it is still not widely known. Publicizing the information allows the parish community to take ownership of a trend that affects their experience of the faith.
- **The information can make a positive difference.** There is no denying that the information presented here is sobering. It could even be characterized as depressing. Catholics, however, have a deep conviction that the truth will set you free (Jn 8:32). And so, a deeply shared awareness of the trendlines can be unifying. A compelling presentation of the current reality often results in generosity, unity, and heroic embrace of change.

How to share this information

- **Pastoral Council** - Provide your parish graph to the pastoral and/or finance councils with the following questions:
 - What is your first reaction to the data presented?
 - What do you think is the significance of this information for our parish community?
 - Who else needs to know and understand this information?
 - What questions do you have about this information?
 - How might we respond to this information as we seek to become a missional community?
- **Bulletin and a Town Hall** - Publish this information in the parish bulletin along with an announcement of an upcoming town hall. (Suggested: Hold the town hall within 2-3 weeks after the bulletin publication.) Provide similar questions for reflection in the bulletin and again in small groups at the town hall. Provide a brief explanation of the data at the town hall meeting. Divide into small groups so attendees can process the questions, and then reconvene to share what was discussed with the large group.
- **Parish Consultation** - Arrange for a personal consultation with demographer David Drozd about the opportunities and challenges particular to your parish demographics. For a sample of David's work see the attached appendix.

Outcome Measurements Blog

When Archbishop Lucas announced The Big Goal – each parish in the Archdiocese of Omaha will be a missional community by 2026 – he also outlined specific outcomes that would be used to measure the fruit of this endeavor. These indicators of mission are financial giving, Baptisms & full-receptions, and Mass attendance.

At first glance, Mass attendance may seem like an odd way to measure the fruit of a missional community. After all, the very nature of the Mass requires a person to be both converted and initiated in order for them to fully enter into the experience and to participate. As such, Mass attendance is a measurement of insider participation rather than a parish's growing reach to outsiders.

What is the case for publicizing historical Mass attendance as a key outcome of a missional community?

- **The Mass is our summit** – The ultimate aim of all evangelization, ecumenism, outreach, mission, hospitality, and catechesis is the reconciliation of man with God and mankind with each other. That happens in its fullest sense in heaven, but here on earth, we find the culmination of our efforts in the gathering of those who would have been strangers or enemies around a common table. The Mass is the summit of our worship and of our communion with God on earth, and so it seems that growing each parish's Mass attendance will be a good indicator of a community on mission.
- **The Mass is our source** – If a military outpost had the benefit of a supernatural food which inspired and strengthened its soldiers for the mission before them, it would seem reasonable to take notice of the attendance of the soldiers at meals. That food would be the source of strength for all their varied activities and tasks. Gaps in attendance would be concerning for the officers and leaders.
- **It is a great place to start.** While the trendlines must be interpreted as part of larger demographic and cultural trends, they tell an important story. Just as an individual's heart rate and blood pressure provides an incomplete picture of health, they also provide an important starting point for any health assessment. In the same way, Mass attendance provides an important starting point for assessing the health of the parish community.
- **Parishioners have a right to this information.** Although the steady decrease in Mass attendance has been obvious to many, it is still not widely known. Publicizing the information allows the parish community to take ownership of a trend that affects their experience of the faith.
- **The information can make a positive difference.** There is no denying that the information presented here is sobering. It could even be characterized as depressing. Catholics, however, have a deep conviction that the truth will set you free (Jn 8:32). And so, a deeply shared awareness of the trendlines can be unifying. A compelling presentation of the current reality often results in generosity, unity, and heroic embrace of change.

If you'd like to use this information to make a difference, check out the section in the attached document on how to share this data. There you will find questions for reflection and ideas on how to share this information with groups and the community at large.