Methodology

This analysis is based on a telephone survey conducted April 25 to June 4, 2017, among a national sample of 5,002 adults ages 18 and older who live in all 50 U.S. states and the District of Columbia (1,250 respondents were interviewed on a landline telephone and 3,752 were interviewed on a cellphone, including 2,284 who had no landline telephone). The survey was conducted by interviewers at Abt Associates. A combination of landline and cellphone random-digit dial samples was used; both samples were provided by Survey Sampling International. Interviews were conducted in English and Spanish. Respondents in the landline sample were selected by randomly asking for the youngest adult male or female who is now at home. Interviews in the cell sample were conducted with the person who answered the phone, if that person was 18 years of age or older.

The combined landline and cellphone sample was weighted using an iterative technique that matches gender, age, education, race, Hispanic origin and nativity, and region to parameters from the Census Bureau’s 2015 American Community Survey and population density to parameters from the decennial census. The sample also is weighted to match current patterns of telephone status (landline only, cellphone only, or both landline and cellphone), based on extrapolations from the 2016 National Health Interview Survey. The weighting procedure also accounts for the fact that respondents with both a landline and cellphone have a greater probability of being included in the combined sample, and it adjusts for household size among respondents with a landline phone. Many of the questions in this survey were asked of a random half of respondents. The margin of sampling error for the random half of respondents who received the questions on “Form 1” of the survey (n=2,502) is plus or minus 2.2 percentage points. The margin of sampling error for the random half of respondents who received “Form 2” of the survey, which included the questions that asked whether respondents consider themselves “spiritual” and “religious,” (n=2,500) also is plus or minus 2.2 percentage points. Details about which questions were asked of “Form 1” respondents and which were asked of “Form 2” respondents are provided in the survey questionnaire.

Sample sizes and sampling errors for subgroups are available upon request. The reported margins of error and statistical tests of significance are adjusted to account for the survey’s design effect, a measure of how much efficiency is lost from the weighting procedures.