

**2025 PEW RESEARCH CENTER'S AMERICAN TRENDS PANEL  
WAVE 170 SURVEY 2025  
May 5-11, 2025**

**TOPLINE  
N=8,937**

**Note:** All numbers are percentages unless otherwise noted. Percentages less than 0.5% are replaced by an asterisk (\*). Rows/columns may not total 100% due to rounding. The questions presented below are part of a larger survey conducted on the American Trends Panel.

"No answer" includes web respondents who do not answer the question as well as telephone respondents who refuse to answer or who say they don't know how to answer. In cases where "Not sure" was offered as an explicit option to web and telephone respondents, the "No answer" category includes only web skips and telephone refusals.

This survey was conducted primarily online, with some interviews conducted by live telephone. This topline shows the programming language for online administration. For details on how questions were slightly modified for phone administration, visit the questionnaire.

American Trends Panel surveys conducted between October 2016 and June 2024 were conducted fully online (with tablets and data plans provided to adults without home internet). For additional details, visit the Methodology.

**PN = Programming note**

	<b>Sample size</b>	<b>Margin of error at 95% confidence level</b>
U.S. adults	8,937	+/- 1.4 percentage points

**Recommended Citation:** Alper, Becka A., Patricia Tevington, Asta Kallo, Jeff Diamant. 2025. "Why Do Some Americans Leave Their Religion While Others Stay?" Pew Research Center. doi: [10.58094/52kn-8828](https://doi.org/10.58094/52kn-8828).

**RELHOUSE****ASK ALL:**

[ PN: ROTATE RESPONSE OPTIONS 1-5/5-1; INCLUDE ROTATION IN DATA FILE ]

In general, would you say the household you grew up in was...

May 5-11,  
2025

5	Extremely religious
27	Very religious
40	Somewhat religious
18	Not too religious
9	Not at all religious
*	No answer

**CHRELEXP****ASK ALL:**

[ PN: ROTATE RESPONSE OPTIONS 1-2/2-1 HOLDING 3, 4, 5, 98 AND 99 LAST; INCLUDE ROTATION IN DATA FILE ]

In general, when you were growing up, was your experience with religion...

May 5-11,  
2025

54	Mostly positive
6	Mostly negative
23	Some of both
10	Neither positive nor negative
7	I did not have much experience with religion when I was growing up
*	No answer

**RAISEDBY****ASK ALL:**

Thinking about when you were growing up, who were you raised by? (Parents may include any stepparents or others you think of as parents.)

May 5-11,  
2025

14	One parent
75	Two parents
6	More than two parents
3	Other relative(s)
2	Some other arrangement
*	No answer

**RAISED BY2**

**ASK IF RAISED BY OTHER RELATIVE(S), IN SOME OTHER ARRANGEMENT OR NO ANSWER (RAISED BY=4, 5, 98, OR 99)[N=342]:**

Were you raised mainly by...

May 5-11,

2025

26	One person
70	More than one person
4	No answer

**PARTALK**

**ASK ALL:**

**[ PN: ROTATE RESPONSE OPTIONS 1-5/5-1 IN SAME ORDER AS RELHOUSE; INCLUDE ROTATION IN DATA FILE ]**

When you were growing up, how often did [ **PN: IF RAISED BY=2,3 INSERT: your parents; IF RAISED BY=1 INSERT: your parent; IF RAISED BY2=1 INSERT: the person who raised you; IF RAISED BY2=2,98,99 INSERT: the people who raised you** ] talk about religion?

May 5-11,

2025

6	Extremely often
20	Very often
30	Somewhat often
36	Not too often
8	Not at all
*	No answer

**RELROLE**

**ASK ALL:**

**[ PN: ROTATE RESPONSE OPTIONS 1-2/2-1 HOLDING 3, 4, 98 AND 99 LAST; INCLUDE ROTATION IN DATA FILE ]**

When you were growing up, who played the biggest role in how you thought about religion?

May 5-11,

2025

44	Your mother
10	Your father
28	Both parents/guardians equally
9	Grandparent(s) (VOL.)
1	Other family member(s) (VOL.)
1	Friends and neighbors (VOL.)
1	Religious figure/leader (VOL.)
*	Religious school/camp (VOL.)
*	House of worship (VOL.)
1	Neither parent/no one (VOL.)
1	Combination of people (i.e., family and clergy) (VOL.)
1	Some other person(s)
1	No answer

**PARREL****ASK IF RAISED BY MORE THAN 1 PERSON (RAISEDBY=2,3 OR RAISEDBY2=2):**

When you were growing up, did [ **PN: IF RAISEDBY=2,3 INSERT:** your parents; **IF RAISEDBY2=2 INSERT:** the people who raised you ] have the same religion as each other?

**BASED ON TOTAL**

May 5-11, 2025	
16	Raised by one person (Not asked PARREL)
84	Raised by more than one person (In RAISEDBY or RAISEDBY2)
61	Yes, they had the same religion as each other
16	No, they had different religions from each other (including if one was religious and another was not)
7	They were not religious
*	No answer
*	No answer in RAISEDBY2 (Not asked PARREL)

**CHATTEND****ASK ALL:**

Aside from weddings and funerals, how often did you attend religious services in person when you were growing up?

May 5-11, 2025		Jul 17, 2023- Mar 4, 2024
19	More than once a week	20
38	Once a week	36
12	Once or twice a month	11
12	A few times a year	13
12	Seldom	11
6	Never	8
*	No answer	1

**TXT:****[ PN: SHOW CHEDU1 AND CHEDU2 ON SAME SCREEN ]****CHEDU1****ASK ALL:**

Thinking about the type of school you attended when you were growing up, from kindergarten through 12<sup>th</sup> grade, how many years did you attend a private religious school, if any?

May 5-11, 2025		Jul 17, 2023- Mar 4, 2024
75	None – I never attended a private religious school	75
9	1-3 years	8
6	4-6 years	6
10	7 years or more	11
*	No answer	1

**CHEDU2**  
**ASK ALL:**

Aside from any religious schools you might have attended, how many years, if any, did you attend Sunday School, CCD, or some other form of religious education?

May 5-11, 2025		Jul 17, 2023- Mar 4, 2024	Feb 4-19, 2019 <sup>1</sup>
33	None – I never attended a private religious school	37	24
23	1-3 years	20	24
14	4-6 years	13	14
29	7 years or more	28	37
1	No answer	1	1

**CHPRACTICE**  
**ASK ALL:**

[ PN: RANDOMIZE ITEMS; INCLUDE RANDOMIZATION IN DATA FILE ]

Did you do each of the following on a regular basis when you were growing up?

	<u>Yes</u>	<u>No</u>	<u>No answer</u>
a. Say prayers at night May 5-11, 2025	64	35	*
b. Do religious arts and crafts May 5-11, 2025	30	70	*
c. Say grace or pray before meals May 5-11, 2025	58	42	*
d. Listen to religious music May 5-11, 2025	40	60	*
e. Read religious stories May 5-11, 2025	51	49	*

<sup>1</sup> In the 2019 survey, respondents were asked, "How many years, if any, did you attend Sunday school, CCD, or some other form of religious education?"

**PPRACTICE\_ADLTCH**

**ASK IF PARENT OF ADULT CHILD AND DOES NOT HAVE MINOR CHILDREN (X\_ADULTCHILD=1 AND X\_KIDS1≠1)[N=4,140]:**

**[ PN: RANDOMIZE ITEMS IN SAME ORDER AS CHPRACTICE; INCLUDE RANDOMIZATION IN DATA FILE ]**

In a previous survey you told us that you are the parent of at least one adult child (age 18 or older). For the next set of questions, please think generally about them.

When they were growing up, did your children do each of the following on a regular basis?

	<u>Yes</u>	<u>No</u>	<u>No answer</u>
a. Say prayers at night May 5-11, 2025	56	43	1
b. Do religious arts and crafts May 5-11, 2025	28	71	1
c. Say grace or pray before meals May 5-11, 2025	51	48	1
d. Listen to religious music May 5-11, 2025	32	67	1
e. Read religious stories May 5-11, 2025	45	54	1

**PPRACTICE\_CH18****ASK IF PARENT OF CHILD UNDER 18 (X\_KIDS1=1)[N=2,298]:****[ PN: RANDOMIZE ITEMS IN SAME ORDER AS CHPRACTICE; INCLUDE RANDOMIZATION IN DATA FILE ]**

**[ PN: IF DOES NOT HAVE A CHILD OVER 18 (X\_ADULTCHILD=2,99): ]** In a previous survey you told us that you are the parent of at least one child under the age of 18. For the next set of questions, please think generally about them.

**[ PN: IF DOES HAVE A CHILD OVER 18 (X\_ADULTCHILD=1): ]** In a previous survey you told us that you are the parent of at least one child under the age of 18. For the next set of questions, please think only about your children under the age of 18.

Do your children do each of the following on a regular basis?

	<u>Yes</u>	<u>No</u>	<u>No answer</u>
a. Say prayers at night May 5-11, 2025	46	53	1
b. Do religious arts and crafts May 5-11, 2025	28	72	1
c. Say grace or pray before meals May 5-11, 2025	43	57	*
d. Listen to religious music May 5-11, 2025	37	62	1
e. Read religious stories May 5-11, 2025	43	57	1

**PTALKCHILD\_ADLTCH**

**ASK IF PARENT OF ADULT CHILD AND DOES NOT HAVE MINOR CHILDREN (X\_ADULTCHILD=1 AND X\_KIDS1≠1) [N=4,140]:**

**[ PN: ROTATE RESPONSE OPTIONS 1-5/5-1 IN SAME ORDER AS RELHOUSE; INCLUDE ROTATION IN DATA FILE ]**

When they were kids, how often did you talk with your children about religion, if at all?

May 5-11,  
2025

5	Extremely often
19	Very often
32	Somewhat often
36	Not too often
7	Not at all
1	No answer

**PTALKCHILD\_CH18**

**ASK IF PARENT OF CHILD UNDER 18 (X\_KIDS1=1)[N=2,298]:**

**[ PN: ROTATE RESPONSE OPTIONS 1-5/5-1 IN SAME ORDER AS RELHOUSE; INCLUDE ROTATION IN DATA FILE ]**

How often do you talk with your children about religion, if at all?

May 5-11,  
2025

7	Extremely often
18	Very often
31	Somewhat often
33	Not too often
11	Not at all
*	No answer

**PRELHOUSE\_ADLTCH**

**ASK IF PARENT OF ADULT CHILD AND DOES NOT HAVE MINOR CHILDREN (X\_ADULTCHILD=1 AND X\_KIDS1≠1) [N=4,140]:**

**[ PN: ROTATE RESPONSE OPTIONS 1-5/5-1 IN SAME ORDER AS RELHOUSE; INCLUDE ROTATION IN DATA FILE ]**

In general, would you say the household your children were raised in was...

May 5-11,  
2025

3	Extremely religious
19	Very religious
43	Somewhat religious
24	Not too religious
10	Not at all religious
1	No answer



**PRELHOUSE\_CH18****ASK IF PARENT OF CHILD UNDER 18 (X\_KIDS1=1)[N=2,298]:****[ PN: ROTATE RESPONSE OPTIONS 1-5/5-1 IN SAME ORDER AS RELHOUSE; INCLUDE ROTATION IN DATA FILE ]**

In general, would you say the household your children are being raised in is...

May 5-11,

2025

4	Extremely religious
18	Very religious
34	Somewhat religious
24	Not too religious
19	Not at all religious
1	No answer

**PATTEND\_ADLTCH****ASK IF PARENT OF ADULT CHILD AND DOES NOT HAVE MINOR CHILDREN (X\_ADULTCHILD=1 AND X\_KIDS1≠1) [N=4,140]:**

Aside from weddings and funerals, how often did your children attend religious services in person when they were kids?

May 5-11,

2025

14	More than once a week
35	Once a week
14	Once or twice a month
14	A few times a year
14	Seldom
8	Never
1	No answer

**PATTEND\_CH18****ASK IF PARENT OF CHILD UNDER 18 (X\_KIDS1=1)[N=2,298]:**

Aside from weddings and funerals, how often do your children attend religious services in person?

May 5-11,

2025

9	More than once a week
21	Once a week
13	Once or twice a month
14	A few times a year
18	Seldom
24	Never
*	No answer

**PRELRESP\_ADLTCH**

**ASK IF PARENT OF ADULT CHILD AND DOES NOT HAVE MINOR CHILDREN (X\_ADULTCHILD=1 AND X\_KIDS1≠1) [N=4,140]:**

Who was more responsible for how your children learned about religion?

May 5-11,  
2025

36	Me
18	My spouse or partner
6	Another person
29	It was shared equally between myself and another person
9	No one – my children didn't receive religious instruction
1	No answer

**PRELRESP\_CH18**

**ASK IF PARENT OF CHILD UNDER 18 (X\_KIDS1=1)[N=2,298]:**

Who is more responsible for how your children learn about religion?

May 5-11,  
2025

30	Me
13	My spouse or partner
6	Another person
36	It is shared equally between myself and another person
15	No one – my children don't receive religious instruction
1	No answer

**PRELSAME**

**ASK IF PARENT OF CHILD OF ANY AGE (X\_PARENT\_RECODE=1) [N=6,438]:**

Which of the following best describes you?

May 5-11,  
2025

72	My children and I have the same religion
11	My children and I have different religions
15	Some of my children have the same religion as me, and others do not
2	No answer

**INTERVENING QUESTIONS PREVIOUSLY RELEASED OR HELD FOR FUTURE RELEASE****TXT:****DISPLAY IF X\_NETNEEDCONFIRM=1:**

Now we have a few questions about why some people change their religion during their lives, and other people keep the same religion throughout their lives.

**TXT:****[ PN: SHOW RELCONFIRM and CHRELCONFIRM ON THE SAME SCREEN ]****RELCONFIRM****ASK IF X\_NETNEEDCONFIRM=1[N=8,627]:****[ PN: FILLS1 for RELCONFIRM based on X\_RELIG\_W162:**

**IF X\_RELIG\_W162=1, INSERT** "are Protestant (for example, Baptist, Methodist, non-denominational, Lutheran, Presbyterian, Pentecostal, Episcopalian, Church of Christ, Congregational/United Church of Christ, Holiness, Reformed, Church of God, etc.)"

**IF X\_RELIG\_W162=2, INSERT** "are Catholic"

**IF X\_RELIG\_W162=3, INSERT** "are a member of the Church of Jesus Christ of Latter-day Saints"

**IF X\_RELIG\_W162=4, INSERT** "are an Orthodox Christian"

**IF X\_RELIG\_W162=5, INSERT** "are Jewish"

**IF X\_RELIG\_W162=6, INSERT** "are Muslim"

**IF X\_RELIG\_W162=7, INSERT** "are Buddhist"

**IF X\_RELIG\_W162=8, INSERT** "are Hindu"

**IF X\_RELIG\_W162=9, INSERT** "are atheist"

**IF X\_RELIG\_W162=10 INSERT** "are agnostic"

**IF X\_RELIG\_W162=12 INSERT** "have no particular religion" ]

In a previous survey we asked what your current religion is, and you indicated you [ **PN: INSERT TEXT FROM FILLS1** ]. Do we have that right?

May 5-11,

2025

95 Yes

5 No

\* No answer

**CHRELCONFIRM****ASK IF X\_NETNEEDCONFIRM=1[N=8,627]:****[ PN: FILLS2 for CHRELCONFIRM based on X\_CHRELIG\_W162 ]:****IF X\_CHRELIG\_W162=1, INSERT** "Protestant (for example, Baptist, Methodist, non-denominational, Lutheran, Presbyterian, Pentecostal, Episcopalian, Church of Christ, Congregational/United Church of Christ, Holiness, Reformed, Church of God, etc.)"**IF X\_CHRELIG\_W162=2, INSERT** "Catholic"**IF X\_CHRELIG\_W162=3, INSERT** "as a member of the Church of Jesus Christ of Latter-day Saints"**IF X\_CHRELIG\_W162=4, INSERT** "as an Orthodox Christian"**IF X\_CHRELIG\_W162=5, INSERT** "Jewish"**IF X\_CHRELIG\_W162=6, INSERT** "Muslim"**IF X\_CHRELIG\_W162=7, INSERT** "Buddhist"**IF X\_CHRELIG\_W162=8, INSERT** "Hindu"**IF X\_CHRELIG\_W162=9, INSERT** "atheist"**IF X\_CHRELIG\_W162=10 INSERT** "agnostic"**IF X\_CHRELIG\_W162=12 INSERT** "with no particular religion" ]

And you also indicated that as a child, you were raised [ **PN: INSERT TEXT FROM FILLS2** ].  
Do we have that right?

May 5-11,

2025

94 Yes

5 No

\* No answer

**TXT:****[ PN: COMPUTE CONFIRMSUCCESS=0****IF RELCONFIRM=1 and CHRELCONFIRM=1, CONFIRMSUCCESS=1****var label CONFIRMSUCCESS** "Indicates whether respondent successfully confirmed childhood and current religion"**val label CONFIRMSUCCESS=0** "Did not successfully confirm (includes those who were not asked to confirm)" **CONFIRMSUCCESS=1** "Confirmed childhood and current religion" ]**TXT:****DISPLAY IF X\_NETNEEDCONFIRM=0:**

Now we have a few questions about why some people change their religion during their lives, and other people keep the same religion throughout their lives.

**EVERSWITCH****ASK IF CONFIRMSUCCESS=0:**

Which of the following best describes you?

I was raised in a religion, and I still have the same religion today

I was not raised in a religion, and I still do not have a religion today

I was raised in a religion, but today I have a different religion

I was raised in a religion, but today I do not have a religion

I was not raised in a religion, but today I have a religion

No answer

**TXT:**

**[ PN: COMPUTE RELSTATUS**

**IF CONFIRMSUCCESS=1 and X\_RELIGREC=X\_CHRELIGREC, RELSTATUS=1**

**IF CONFIRMSUCCESS=1 and X\_RELIGREC≠X\_CHRELIGREC, RELSTATUS=2**

**IF CONFIRMSUCCESS=0 and EVERSWITCH=1,2,98,99 RELSTATUS=1**

**IF CONFIRMSUCCESS=0 and EVERSWITCH=3,4,5 RELSTATUS=2**

**Var label RELSTATUS=1** "Respondent has not switched religions" **RELSTATUS=2** "Respondent has switched religions" ]

**SWITCH\_AGE**

**ASK IF SWITCHED RELIGIONS (RELSTATUS=2):**

**[ PN: FILLS3 for SWITCH\_AGE based on CONFIRMSUCCESS, X\_CHRELIG\_W162, and EVERSWITCH:**

**IF CONFIRMSUCCESS=1 AND X\_CHRELIG\_W162≠9, 10, 12 INSERT, "stopped identifying with your childhood religion"**

**IF CONFIRMSUCCESS=1 AND X\_CHRELIG\_W162=9, 10, 12 INSERT, "started identifying with your current religion"**

**IF CONFIRMSUCCESS=0 AND EVERSWITCH=3,4 INSERT "stopped identifying with your childhood religion"**

**IF CONFIRMSUCCESS=0 AND EVERSWITCH=5 INSERT "started identifying with your current religion" ]**

About how old were you when you [ **PN: INSERT TEXT FROM FILLS3** ]?

**BASED ON THOSE WHO CONFIRMED THEIR CURRENT AND CHILDHOOD RELIGIOUS IDENTITY AND WHO SWITCHED RELIGIONS BETWEEN CHILDHOOD AND ADULTHOOD [N=2,476]**

May 5-11,  
2025

17	12 or younger
29	13 to 17
39	18 to 29
11	30 to 49
3	50 or older
1	No answer

**WHY SWITCH\_AFFIL**

**ASK IF SWITCHED AND RAISED IN A RELIGION (RELSTATUS=2 AND X\_CHRELIG\_W162=1-8 AND CONFIRMSUCCESS=1) OR DID NOT CONFIRM BUT SWITCHED AND RAISED IN A RELIGION (RELSTATUS=2 AND EVERSWITCH=3,4):**

**[ PN: RANDOMIZE ORDER OF SCREEN 1 AND SCREEN 2; RANDOMIZE ITEMS WITHIN EACH SCREEN; ROTATE RESPONSE OPTIONS IN SAME ORDER AS RELHOUSE; INCLUDE BOTH RANDOMIZATIONS AND ROTATION IN DATA FILE ]**

How important, if at all, are each of the following reasons for why you no longer identify with your childhood religion?

**BASED ON THOSE WHO CONFIRMED THEIR CURRENT AND CHILDHOOD RELIGIOUS IDENTITY AND WHO WERE RAISED IN A RELIGION BUT NO LONGER IDENTIFY WITH THEIR CHILDHOOD RELIGION [N=2,277]**

	<u>Extremely important</u>	<u>Very important</u>	<u>Somewhat important</u>	<u>Not too important</u>	<u>Not at all important</u>	<u>No answer</u>
<b>SCREEN 1</b>						
a. I married someone with a different religion May 5-11, 2025	4	4	7	9	76	1
b. My spiritual needs were not being met May 5-11, 2025	14	14	19	15	37	1
c. I moved to a new community May 5-11, 2025	4	5	9	13	69	1
d. I just gradually drifted away May 5-11, 2025	15	23	26	12	23	1
e. It just wasn't important to my life May 5-11, 2025	19	18	24	16	21	1
f. I stopped believing in the religion's teachings May 5-11, 2025	29	17	22	12	19	1
<b>SCREEN 2</b>						
g. I wasn't satisfied with my congregation May 5-11, 2025	7	8	17	18	49	1
h. I felt called to a new faith May 5-11, 2025	8	8	9	9	65	1
i. I was unhappy about the way the religion treated women May 5-11, 2025	14	12	19	16	39	*
j. I was unhappy about the religion's teachings about social and political issues May 5-11, 2025	18	16	23	12	30	1
k. My religion was out of date May 5-11, 2025	11	11	19	14	43	1
l. Scandals involving clergy or religious leaders May 5-11, 2025	18	14	22	13	33	1

**WHYSWITCH\_AFFIL\_OE**

**ASK IF SWITCHED AND RAISED IN A RELIGION (RELSTATUS=2 AND X\_CHRELIG\_W162=1-8 AND CONFIRMSUCCESS=1) OR DID NOT CONFIRM BUT SWITCHED AND RAISED IN A RELIGION (RELSTATUS=2 AND EVERSWITCH=3,4)**

In your own words, are there any other important reasons why you no longer identify with your childhood religion?

**BASED ON THOSE WHO CONFIRMED THEIR CURRENT AND CHILDHOOD RELIGIOUS IDENTITY AND WHO WERE RAISED IN A RELIGION BUT NO LONGER IDENTIFY WITH THEIR CHILDHOOD RELIGION [N=2,277]**

**RESULTS DO NOT SUM TO 100% BECAUSE MULTIPLE RESPONSES WERE PERMITTED; UP TO THREE RESPONSES WERE CODED**

May 5-11,  
2025

24	I questioned or stopped believing in the religion's teachings
10	Bad experiences with members of congregation or religion
6	Never strongly identified with previous religion/Did not choose previous religion
5	Came to distrust or disagree with organized religion broadly
5	Developed personal religious or spiritual practices or beliefs
5	Views or behavior of clergy, hierarchy, or organization of religion
3	I felt called or drawn to a new faith
3	Learned more about religious tenets or historical events
3	I was unhappy about the religion's teaching's on social and political issues
3	I didn't need it/It wasn't beneficial
3	Too rigid or restrictive
2	I drifted away
2	My spiritual needs were not being met
2	For marriage or family unity/compatibility
2	Explored or became open to other religions
1	I didn't enjoy religious services
1	I was unhappy about the way the religion treated women
1	I wasn't satisfied with my congregation
1	Felt the religion or congregation had changed
1	I moved to a new community
1	It just wasn't important to my life/Didn't have time for it
1	My religion was out of date
*	No particular reason
4	No additional reasons
2	Other/Unclear
34	No answer

**TXT:**

**[ PN: FILLS4 for WHYAFFIL, WHYAFFIL\_OE, WHYNONE\_MOD, WHYNONE\_OE based on X\_RELIG\_W162:**

**IF X\_RELIG\_W162=1, INSERT "are Protestant"**

**IF X\_RELIG\_W162=2, INSERT "are Catholic"**

**IF X\_RELIG\_W162=3, INSERT "are a member of the Church of Jesus Christ of Latter-day Saints"**

**IF X\_RELIG\_W162=4, INSERT "are an Orthodox Christian"**

**IF X\_RELIG\_W162=5, INSERT "are Jewish"**

**IF X\_RELIG\_W162=6, INSERT "are Muslim"**

**IF X\_RELIG\_W162=7, INSERT "are Buddhist"**

**IF X\_RELIG\_W162=8, INSERT "are Hindu"**

**IF X\_RELIG\_W162=9, INSERT "are atheist"**

**IF X\_RELIG\_W162=10 INSERT "are agnostic"**

**IF X\_RELIG\_W162=12 INSERT "have no particular religion" ]**



**WHYAFFIL**

**ASK IF CONFIRMED RELIGION AND CURRENTLY RELIGIOUSLY AFFILIATED OR UNCONFIRMED AND RELIGIOUSLY AFFILIATED ((X\_RELIG\_W162=1-8 AND CONFIRMSUCCESS=1) OR (EVERSWITCH=1,3,5 AND CONFIRMSUCCESS=0):**

**[ PN: RANDOMIZE ORDER OF SCREEN 1 AND SCREEN 2; RANDOMIZE ITEMS WITHIN EACH SCREEN; ROTATE RESPONSE OPTIONS IN SAME ORDER AS RELHOUSE; INCLUDE BOTH RANDOMIZATIONS AND ROTATION IN DATA FILE ]**

Thinking about your current religion, how important, if at all, are each of the following for why you [ **PN: IF X\_RELIG\_W162=1-8 AND CONFIRMSUCCESS=1, INSERT FILLS4; IF EVERSWITCH=1,3,5 AND CONFIRMSUCCESS=0, INSERT "identify with your current religion" ]?**

**BASED ON THOSE WHO CONFIRMED THEIR CURRENT AND CHILDHOOD RELIGIOUS IDENTITY AND WHO IDENTIFY WITH A RELIGION TODAY [N=5,922]**

		<u>Extremely important</u>	<u>Very important</u>	<u>Somewhat important</u>	<u>Not too important</u>	<u>Not at all important</u>	<u>No answer</u>
<b>SCREEN 1</b>							
a.	Because I feel a religious obligation May 5-11, 2025	10	17	31	22	20	1
b.	I believe in the religion's teachings May 5-11, 2025	33	32	24	6	4	1
c.	It fulfills my spiritual needs May 5-11, 2025	31	31	25	7	5	1
d.	I like the sense of community May 5-11, 2025	16	29	32	13	8	1
e.	I like the religion's teachings about social and political issues May 5-11, 2025	11	21	30	20	17	1
<b>SCREEN 2</b>							
f.	It's what I'm familiar with May 5-11, 2025	12	25	37	14	12	1
g.	I've gone to the same congregation my whole life May 5-11, 2025	6	10	19	25	40	1
h.	I like the traditions May 5-11, 2025	12	25	34	16	12	1
i.	It gives my life meaning May 5-11, 2025	28	29	26	10	7	*
j.	It's the same religion as my family May 5-11, 2025	12	23	30	17	18	1

**WHYAFFIL\_OE**

**ASK IF CONFIRMED RELIGION AND CURRENTLY RELIGIOUSLY AFFILIATED OR UNCONFIRMED AND RELIGIOUSLY AFFILIATED ((X\_RELIG\_W162=1-8 AND CONFIRMSUCCESS=1) OR (EVERSWITCH=1,3,5 AND CONFIRMSUCCESS=0):**

In your own words, are there any other important reasons why you [ **PN: IF X\_RELIG\_W162=1-8 AND CONFIRMSUCCESS=1, INSERT FILLS4; IF EVERSWITCH=1,3,5 AND CONFIRMSUCCESS=0, INSERT** "identify with your current religion"]?

**BASED ON THOSE WHO CONFIRMED THEIR CURRENT AND CHILDHOOD RELIGIOUS IDENTITY AND WHO IDENTIFY WITH A RELIGION TODAY [N=5,922]**

**RESULTS DO NOT SUM TO 100% BECAUSE MULTIPLE RESPONSES WERE PERMITTED; UP TO THREE RESPONSES WERE CODED**

May 5-11,  
2025

21	Belief in higher power/teachings of a religion
9	It was how I was raised
6	Teachings are closest to what I believe/Appreciate the values that the religion teaches
4	Made a choice/I prefer this religion over others
3	I enjoy things about participating/I have a positive experience with my religion
2	It is the same religion as my family
2	Affiliation matters less than beliefs, practices and values
2	I like the tradition
1	Religion gives my life purpose, meaning, or direction
1	It provides comfort/It is what I'm most comfortable with
1	Beliefs or concerns about the afterlife
1	It is part of my heritage/part of myself that cannot be given up
1	I had a spiritual or religious experience
1	Through the influence of people such as family and friends
1	The religion provides a community/I like the sense of community
1	Religion does good/promotes good things
1	It provides a connection with something larger than myself
1	I want to pass on the religion to the next generation
*	Appreciate religion's teachings about social and political issues
*	The influence of other important people outside of family and friends
*	Reaction to the term "Protestant" being used in the question
*	Other reason
1	Unclear
7	No other reason
47	No answer

**WHYNONE\_MOD**

**ASK IF CONFIRMED RELIGION AND CURRENTLY UNAFFILIATED OR UNCONFIRMED AND RELIGIOUSLY UNAFFILIATED ((X\_RELIG\_W162=9,10,12 AND CONFIRMSUCCESS=1) OR (EVERSWITCH=2,4 AND CONFIRMSUCCESS=0):**

**[ PN: RANDOMIZE ORDER OF SCREEN 1 AND SCREEN 2; RANDOMIZE ITEMS WITHIN EACH SCREEN; ROTATE RESPONSE OPTIONS IN SAME ORDER AS RELHOUSE; INCLUDE BOTH RANDOMIZATIONS AND ROTATION IN DATA FILE ]**

How important, if at all, are the following reasons for why you [ **PN: IF X\_RELIG\_W162=9,10,12 AND CONFIRMSUCCESS=1, INSERT FILLS4; IF EVERSWITCH=2,4 AND CONFIRMSUCCESS=0, INSERT "do not have a religion" ]?**

**BASED ON THOSE WHO CONFIRMED THEIR CURRENT AND CHILDHOOD RELIGIOUS IDENTITY AND WHO ARE RELIGIOUSLY UNAFFILIATED TODAY [N=2,239]**

		<u>Extremely important</u>	<u>Very important</u>	<u>Somewhat important</u>	<u>Not too important</u>	<u>Not at all important</u>	<u>No answer</u>
<b>SCREEN 1</b>							
a.	I don't like religious organizations May 5-11, 2025	30	20	25	12	12	1
b.	I don't believe in God or a higher power May 5-11, 2025	25	11	16	17	29	2
c.	I question a lot of religion's teachings May 5-11, 2025	40	24	20	8	7	1
d.	Religion is just not something that's ever been a part of my life May 5-11, 2025	12	11	23	22	30	2
e.	I believe I can be moral without religion May 5-11, 2025	57	21	12	3	5	1
<b>SCREEN 2</b>							
f.	I don't see a need for religion in my life May 5-11, 2025	29	18	23	14	15	1
g.	I have had bad experiences with religious people May 5-11, 2025	15	13	23	21	27	1
h.	I don't have time for religion May 5-11, 2025	7	5	17	25	45	1
i.	I don't trust religious leaders May 5-11, 2025	28	21	25	13	13	1
j.	I don't need a religion to be spiritual May 5-11, 2025	35	19	20	10	15	1

**WHYNONE\_OE**

**ASK IF CONFIRMED RELIGION AND CURRENTLY UNAFFILIATED OR UNCONFIRMED AND RELIGIOUSLY UNAFFILIATED ((X\_RELIG\_W162=9,10,12 AND CONFIRMSUCCESS=1) OR (EVERSWITCH=2,4 AND CONFIRMSUCCESS=0):**

In your own words, are there any other important reasons why you [ **PN: IF X\_RELIG\_W162=9,10,12 AND CONFIRMSUCCESS=1, INSERT FILLS4; IF EVERSWITCH=2,4 AND CONFIRMSUCCESS=0, INSERT "do not have a religion" ]?**

**BASED ON THOSE WHO CONFIRMED THEIR CURRENT AND CHILDHOOD RELIGIOUS IDENTITY AND WHO ARE RELIGIOUSLY UNAFFILIATED TODAY [N=2,239]**

**RESULTS DO NOT SUM TO 100% BECAUSE MULTIPLE RESPONSES WERE PERMITTED; UP TO THREE RESPONSES WERE CODED**

May 5-11,  
2025

- |    |  |
|----|--|
| 6  | Religion is harmful/does more harm than good   |
| 6  | Belief in God or scripture/Open to religion without needing to affiliate                                 |
| 4  | Unsure of beliefs/Agnostic   |
| 4  | Indifferent to religion/No need for it   |
| 4  | Religion is silly/Doesn't make sense (including inconsistencies and contradictions like suffering, etc.) |
| 4  | General opposition to or distrust of organized religion  |
| 3  | Can be a good person without religion  |
| 3  | Can be spiritually or religiously fulfilled without identifying as one religion                          |
| 3  | No or insufficient evidence  |
| 3  | Don't believe in God, higher power or scripture  |
| 3  | Science  |
| 2  | Religion is forced on people/Oppressive tool for social control  |
| 2  | Corruption/abuse of power and misconduct/unequal treatment within religious organizations                |
| 2  | Religion is a construct or man-made  |
| 2  | Grew up without religion   |
| 2  | Religion is too dogmatic/inflexible  |
| 1  | Bad personal experiences with religion   |
| 1  | Just because/Don't see why not   |
| 1  | Have yet to find the right religion or congregation  |
| 2  | Other/Unclear  |
| 59 | No answer  |

**ADDITIONAL QUESTIONS PREVIOUSLY RELEASED OR HELD FOR FUTURE RELEASE**