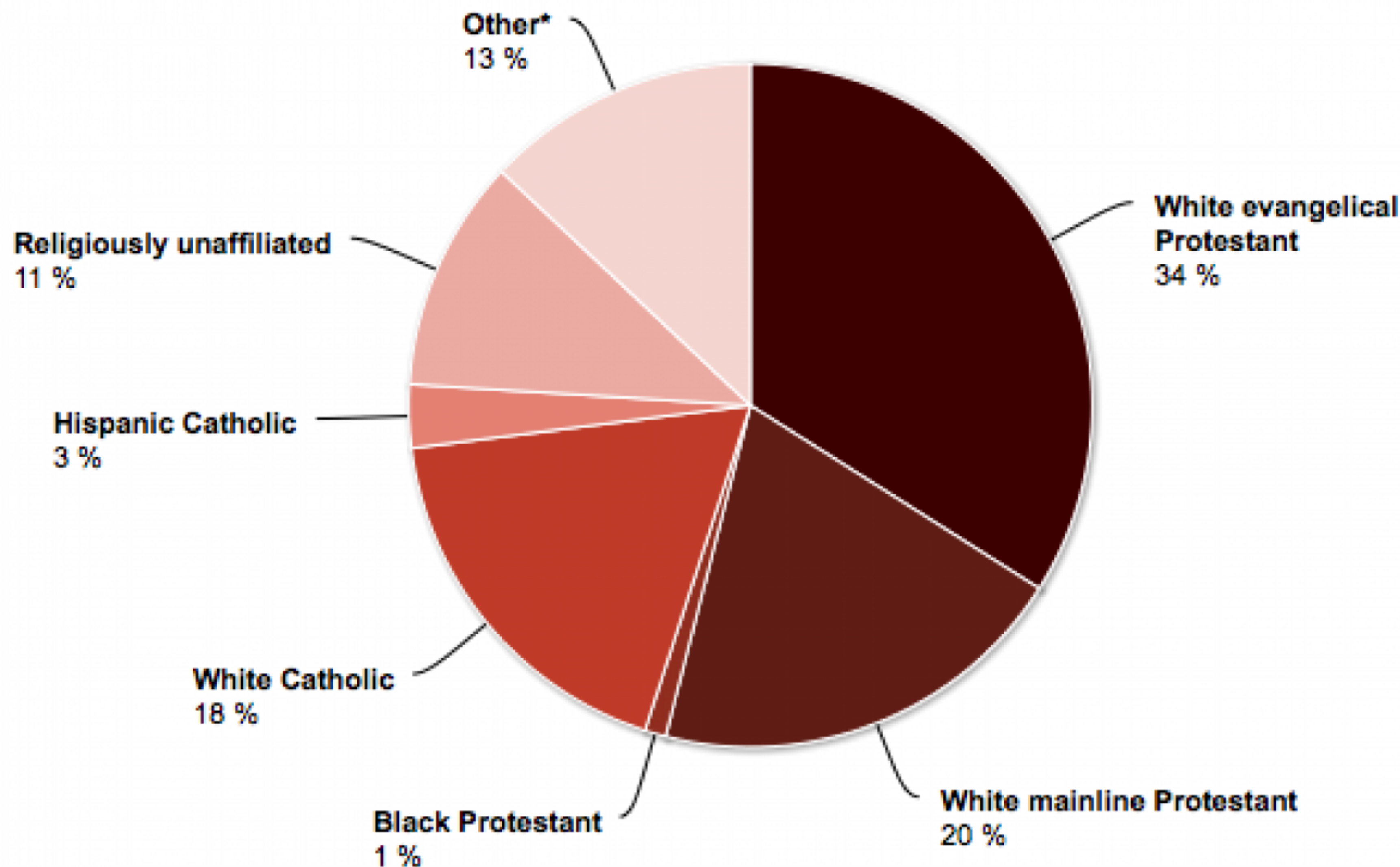
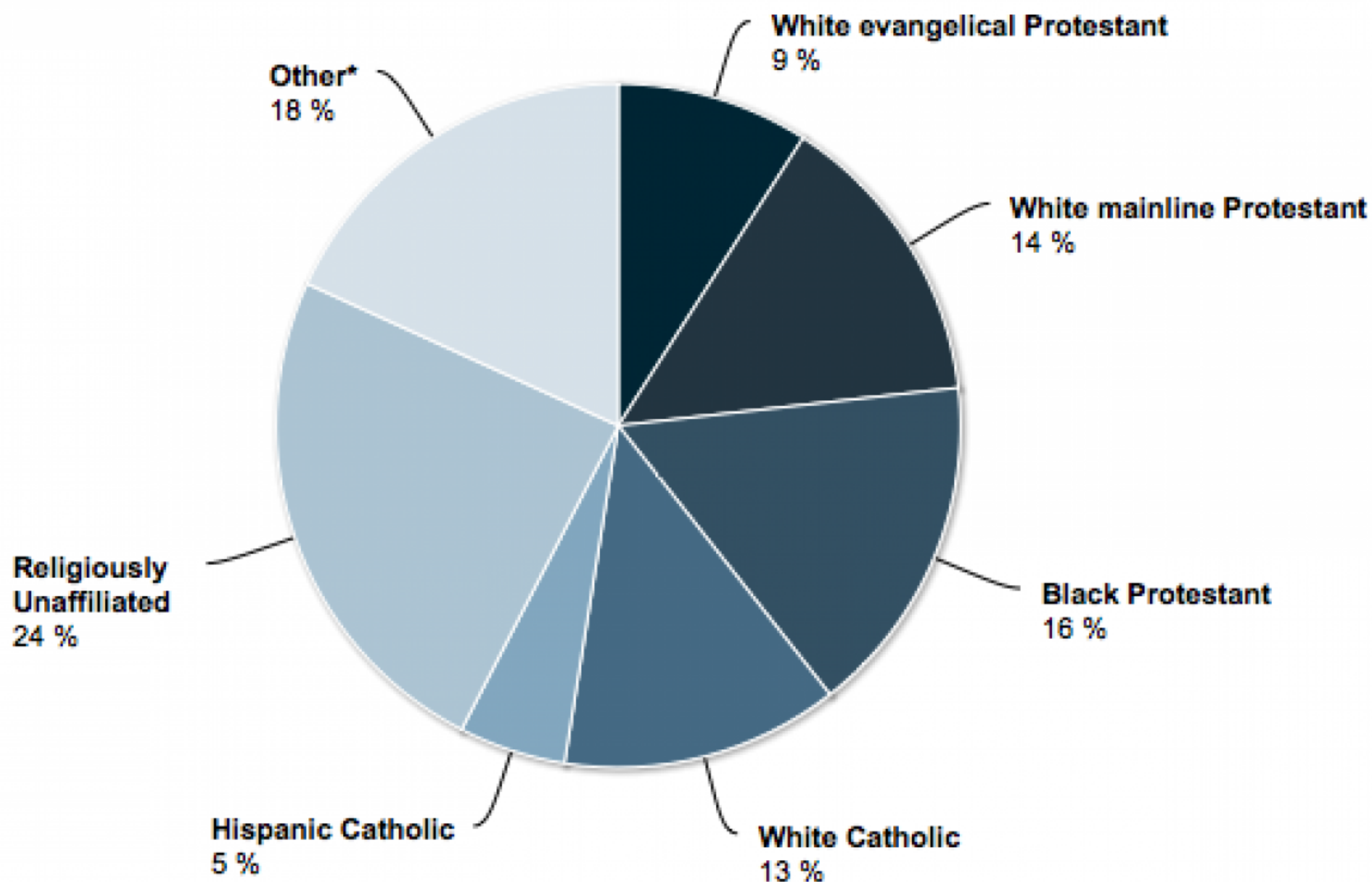


2012 Religious Composition of Republicans/Republican Leaners



*The "other" category includes members of smaller religious groups (e.g., Mormons, Jews, Muslims, Buddhists, Hindus and others) as well as Protestants and Catholics who describe their race as something other than white, black or Hispanic (e.g., Asian, mixed race).

2012 Religious Composition of Democrats/Democrat Leaners



*The "other" category includes members of smaller religious groups (e.g., Mormons, Jews, Muslims, Buddhists, Hindus and others) as well as Protestants and Catholics who describe their race as something other than white, black or Hispanic (e.g., Asian, mixed race).

The politics of race and religion — in two pie charts

By **Chris Cillizza** September 10, 2012

Republicans are the party of white evangelicals. Democrats are the party of minorities and those without any traditional religious affiliation.

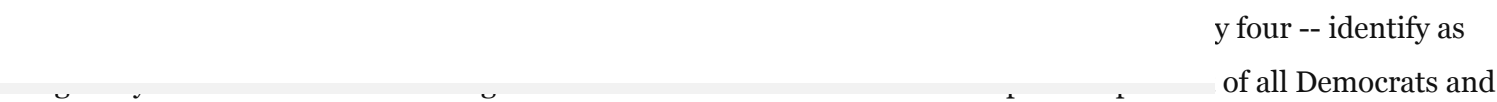
Stereotypes? Absolutely. But, according to a [study conducted by the Pew Forum on Religion and Public Life of all of the organization's polling so far in 2012](#), at least *partially* accurate -- if not entirely illustrative of the full face of either party.

Let's start on the Republican side. Fully 87 percent of those who identify themselves as Republicans or Republican-leaners are white in 2012 Pew polling while just 5 percent are Hispanic and four percent are black.

When it comes to the religious affiliations of GOPers and GOP leaners, the largest bloc are white evangelical Protestants who comprise roughly one in every three Republicans (34 percent). Here's the full GOP religious affiliation chart via Pew:

Now, for the Democrats. As expected, the party is more racially diverse. Sixty-one percent of Democrats and Democratic-leaners are white while 21 percent are black and 10 percent are Hispanic.

Here's the full breakdown of Democratic religious affiliation by party ID:



Demographic leaners in Pew polling.

Here's the full breakout of Democratic religious affiliation by party ID:

What does the data tell us? Yes, white evangelical voters comprise a major bloc of registered Republican voters. And, yes, minorities and those with no religious affiliation are a major portion of the Democratic voting base.

Yet, neither white evangelicals nor religiously unaffiliated voters make up even close to a majority of the registered voters in their respective parties -- meaning that the stereotypes of the two parties are, not surprisingly, a bit overblown.

Chris Cillizza writes “The Fix,” a politics blog for the Washington Post. He also covers the White House.

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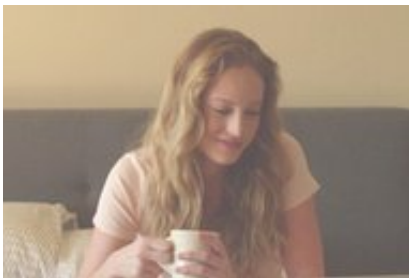
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