**2017 PEW RESEARCH CENTER’S AMERICAN TRENDS PANEL**

**WAVE 30 December**

**FINAL TOPLINE**

**December 4-18, 2017**

**TOTAL N=4,729**

**NOTE: Some questions that appear in this topline have been previously released. See Pew Research Center’s reports,** [**“When Americans Say They Believe in God, What Do They Mean?”**](http://www.pewforum.org/2018/04/25/when-americans-say-they-believe-in-god-what-do-they-mean/) **and** [**“Why Americans Go (and Don’t Go) to Religious Services”**](http://www.pewforum.org/2018/08/01/why-americans-go-to-religious-services/) **for more information.**

**ASK ALL:**

LIFE1 Overall, are you satisfied or dissatisfied with the way things are going IN YOUR LIFE today?

|  |  |
| --- | --- |
| Dec 4-18  2017 |  |
| 18 | Very satisfied |
| 63 | Mostly satisfied |
| 15 | Mostly dissatisfied |
| 3 | Very dissatisfied |
| <1 | No answer |

**RANDOMIZE ORDER OF “MOSTLY POSITIVE” AND “MOSTLY NEGATIVE” IN QUESTION STEM WITH RESPONSE OPTIONS IN SAME ORDER**

**ASK ALL:**

INSTVIEW Do you have a **[RANDOMIZE ORDER: “**mostly positive or mostly negative,” “mostly negative or mostly positive”**]** view of the following groups and institutions? **[RANDOMIZE ITEMS]**

|  |  |  |  |  |
| --- | --- | --- | --- | --- |
|  | Mostly  positive view | Mostly  negative view | Neither positive nor negative view | No  answer |
| a. The federal government |  |  |  |  |
| Dec 4-18, 2017 | 16 | 57 | 27 | <1 |
|  |  |  |  |  |
| b. Large corporations |  |  |  |  |
| Dec 4-18, 2017 | 21 | 39 | 40 | <1 |
|  |  |  |  |  |
| c. The national news media |  |  |  |  |
| Dec 4-18, 2017 | 25 | 49 | 25 | <1 |
|  |  |  |  |  |
| d. Churches and religious organizations |  |  |  |  |
| Dec 4-18, 2017 | 45 | 23 | 32 | <1 |
|  |  |  |  |  |
| e. Colleges and universities |  |  |  |  |
| Dec 4-18, 2017 | 46 | 24 | 30 | <1 |
|  |  |  |  |  |
| f. The military |  |  |  |  |
| Dec 4-18, 2017 | 63 | 10 | 27 | <1 |

**ASK ALL:**

GOVT\_ROLE[[1]](#footnote-1) Which statement comes closer to your own views – even if neither is exactly right?

**[PROGRAMMING NOTE: RANDOMIZE RESPONSE OPTIONS]**

|  |  |
| --- | --- |
| Dec 4-18  2017 |  |
| 56 | Government should do more to solve problems |
| 43 | Government is doing too many things better left to businesses and individuals |
| 1 | No answer |

**ASK ALL:**

IMMCULT2 Which statement comes closer to your own views — even if neither is exactly right? **[PROGRAMMING NOTE: RANDOMIZE RESPONSE OPTIONS]**

|  |  |
| --- | --- |
| Dec 4-18  2017 |  |
| 44 | The growing number of newcomers from other countries threatens traditional American customs and values |
| 54 | The growing number of newcomers from other countries strengthens American society |
| 2 | No answer |

**ASK ALL:**

MORALISSUE Do you personally believe thateach of the following is **[RANDOMIZE ORDER: “**morally acceptable,” “morally wrong,”**]** or is it not a moral issue?

**[RANDOMIZE LIST]**

|  |  |  |  |  |
| --- | --- | --- | --- | --- |
|  | Morally acceptable | Morally  wrong | Not a moral issue | No  answer |
| **NO ITEM a** |  |  |  |  |
|  |  |  |  |  |
| b. Having an abortion |  |  |  |  |
| Dec 4-18, 2017 | 20 | 48 | 31 | 1 |
|  |  |  |  |  |
| c. Homosexual behavior |  |  |  |  |
| Dec 4-18, 2017 | 22 | 34 | 44 | 1 |
|  |  |  |  |  |
| d. Drinking alcohol |  |  |  |  |
| Dec 4-18, 2017 | 31 | 13 | 55 | 1 |

**ASK ALL:**

EQUALITY Which of these two statements comes closer to your own views – even if neither is exactly right? **[DO NOT ROTATE RESPONSES]**

|  |  |
| --- | --- |
| Dec 4-18  2017 |  |
| 47 | Our country has made the changes needed to give blacks equal rights with whites |
| 52 | Our country needs to continue making changes to give blacks equal rights with whites |
| 1 | No answer |

**ASK ALL:**

ENV20A Which of these three statements about the Earth’s temperature comes closest to your view? **[RANDOMIZE “The earth is getting warmer mostly because of natural patterns in the Earth’s environment” and “The Earth is getting warmer mostly because of human activity such as burning fossil fuels” ; KEEP “There is no solid evidence that the Earth is getting warmer” and “Not sure” LAST]**

|  |  |
| --- | --- |
| Dec 4-18  2017 |  |
| 18 | The Earth is getting warmer mostly because of natural patterns in the Earth’s environment |
| 49 | The Earth is getting warmer mostly because of human activity such as burning fossil fuels |
| 12 | There is no solid evidence that the Earth is getting warmer |
| 21 | Not sure |
| <1 | No answer |

**ASK ALL:**

GODMORAL Which of these statements comes closer to your view, even if neither is exactly right?

**[RANDOMIZE RESPONSE OPTIONS]**

|  |  |
| --- | --- |
| Dec 4-18  2017 |  |
| 66 | It is NOT necessary to believe in God in order to be moral and have good values |
| 33 | It is necessary to believe in God in order to be moral and have good values |
| <1 | No answer |

ASK ALL:

SHAREVAL How important, if at all, is it to you to belong to a community of people who share your values and beliefs?

|  |  |
| --- | --- |
| Dec 4-18  2017 |  |
| 24 | Very important |
| 47 | Somewhat important |
| 20 | Not too important |
| 8 | Not at all important |
| <1 | No answer |

ASK ALL:

GUIDE\_1 How much, if at all, do you look to each of the following to help you make decisions about what is right and wrong?

**[RANDOMIZE ITEMS]**

|  |  |  |  |  |  |
| --- | --- | --- | --- | --- | --- |
|  | A lot | Some | Not much | Not at all | No answer |
| a. Religious teachings and beliefs |  |  |  |  |  |
| Dec 4-18, 2017 | 31 | 30 | 21 | 18 | <1 |
|  |  |  |  |  |  |
| b. Philosophy and reason |  |  |  |  |  |
| Dec 4-18, 2017 | 34 | 48 | 11 | 6 | <1 |
|  |  |  |  |  |  |
| c. Practical experience and common sense |  |  |  |  |  |
| Dec 4-18, 2017 | 74 | 20 | 4 | 2 | <1 |
|  |  |  |  |  |  |
| d. Scientific information |  |  |  |  |  |
| Dec 4-18, 2017 | 30 | 46 | 16 | 8 | <1 |

ASK ALL:

GUIDE\_1 How much, if at all, do you look to each of the following to help you make decisions about what is right and wrong?

**ASK IF SELECTED MORE THAN ONE ITEM AS “A LOT” IN GUIDE\_1:**

GUIDE\_2Which of these do you rely on the MOST to help you make decisions about what is right and wrong?

**[PROGRAMMING NOTE: DISPLAY SELECTED RESPONSE OPTIONS IF SELECTED MORE THAN ONE ITEM AS “A LOT” IN GUIDE\_1]**

**BASED ON TOTAL**

**Summary table: Each row includes those who *only* said they rely on the corresponding item “a lot” when making decisions about right and wrong, as well as those who said they rely “a lot” on more than one source (in GUIDE\_1a-d) and then indicated, in a follow-up question (GUIDE\_2), that the corresponding item is the source of guidance they rely on “most” when making decisions about what is right and wrong.**

|  |  |
| --- | --- |
| Dec 4-18  2017 |  |
| 50 | Practical experience and common sense |
| 23 | Religious teachings and beliefs |
| 7 | Philosophy and reason |
| 6 | Scientific information |
| 14 | Do not rely “a lot” on any source of guidance (in **GUIDE\_1a-d**)/no answer (in **GUIDE\_2**) |

**ASK ALL:**

MEANING\_1 Many things can make a person feel that their life is meaningful and fulfilling. Regardless of how much time you spend doing it, how much meaning and fulfillment, if any, does each of the following provide you?

**[RANDOMIZE ITEMS a-h]**

|  |  |  |  |  |  |
| --- | --- | --- | --- | --- | --- |
|  | A great deal | Some | Not much | None at all | No answer |
| a. Your religious faith |  |  |  |  |  |
| Dec 4-18, 2017 | 36 | 27 | 15 | 22 | 1 |
|  |  |  |  |  |  |
| b. Spiritual practices, such as meditation |  |  |  |  |  |
| Dec 4-18, 2017 | 20 | 35 | 24 | 21 | 1 |
|  |  |  |  |  |  |
| c. Volunteer work |  |  |  |  |  |
| Dec 4-18, 2017 | 20 | 44 | 22 | 14 | 1 |
|  |  |  |  |  |  |
| d. Being outdoors and experiencing nature |  |  |  |  |  |
| Dec 4-18, 2017 | 47 | 41 | 9 | 2 | <1 |
|  |  |  |  |  |  |
| e. Arts or crafts, such as painting, making music or pottery |  |  |  |  |  |
| Dec 4-18, 2017 | 24 | 37 | 25 | 13 | <1 |
|  |  |  |  |  |  |
| f. Spending time with family |  |  |  |  |  |
| Dec 4-18, 2017 | 69 | 24 | 5 | 2 | <1 |
|  |  |  |  |  |  |
| g. Reading |  |  |  |  |  |
| Dec 4-18, 2017 | 37 | 43 | 16 | 5 | <1 |
|  |  |  |  |  |  |
| h. Watching television shows or videos |  |  |  |  |  |
| Dec 4-18, 2017 | 13 | 42 | 33 | 11 | <1 |

**ASK ALL:**

MEANING\_2 Now still thinking about what gives your life meaning and fulfillment, regardless of how much time you spend doing it, how much meaning and fulfillment, if any, does each of the following provide you?

**[RANDOMIZE ITEMS]**

|  |  |  |  |  |  |
| --- | --- | --- | --- | --- | --- |
|  | A great deal | Some | Not much | None at all | No answer |
| i. Spending time with friends |  |  |  |  |  |
| Dec 4-18, 2017 | 47 | 44 | 7 | 2 | 1 |
|  |  |  |  |  |  |
| j. Your job or career |  |  |  |  |  |
| Dec 4-18, 2017 | 34 | 36 | 15 | 14 | 1 |
|  |  |  |  |  |  |
| k. Caring for pets or animals |  |  |  |  |  |
| Dec 4-18, 2017 | 45 | 31 | 13 | 10 | 1 |
|  |  |  |  |  |  |
| **MEANING\_2 CONTINUED…** |  |  |  |  |  |
|  | A great deal | Some | Not much | None at all | No answer |
| l. Participating in sports or exercising |  |  |  |  |  |
| Dec 4-18, 2017 | 22 | 43 | 23 | 11 | 1 |
|  |  |  |  |  |  |
| m. Supporting a social or political cause |  |  |  |  |  |
| Dec 4-18, 2017 | 12 | 39 | 32 | 17 | 1 |
|  |  |  |  |  |  |
| n. Listening to music |  |  |  |  |  |
| Dec 4-18, 2017 | 44 | 42 | 11 | 2 | <1 |
|  |  |  |  |  |  |

**ASK ALL:**

MEANING\_2o Is there something else not listed previously that gives your life a GREAT DEAL of meaning and fulfillment?

|  |  |
| --- | --- |
| Dec 4-18  2017 |  |
| 27 | Yes |
| 72 | No |
| 1 | No answer |

**ASK ALL:**

MEANING\_1 Many things can make a person feel that their life is meaningful and fulfilling. Regardless of how much time you spend doing it, how much meaning and fulfillment, if any, does each of the following provide you?

**ASK ALL:**

MEANING\_2 Now still thinking about what gives your life meaning and fulfillment, regardless of how much time you spend doing it, how much meaning and fulfillment, if any, does each of the following provide you?

**ASK ALL:**

MEANING\_2o Is there something else not listed previously that gives your life a GREAT DEAL of meaning and fulfillment?

**ASK IF SELECTED MORE THAN ONE ITEM AS “A GREAT DEAL” IN MEANING\_1, MEANING\_2 OR MEANING\_2o:**

MEANING\_3 What is the MOST IMPORTANT source of meaning and fulfillment in your life?

**[PROGRAMMING NOTE: DISPLAY SELECTED RESPONSE OPTIONS IF SELECTED MORE THAN ONE ITEM AS “A GREAT DEAL” IN MEANING\_1, MEANING\_2 OR MEANING\_2o.]**

**BASED ON TOTAL**

**Summary table: Each row includes those who *only* said the corresponding item provides a “great deal” of meaning, as well as those who said more than one source provides a “great deal” of meaning (in MEANING\_1a-h or MEANING\_2i-n or MEANING\_2o) and then indicated, in a follow-up question (MEANING\_3), that the corresponding item is the “most important” source of meaning.**

|  |  |
| --- | --- |
| Dec 4-18  2017 |  |
| 40 | Spending time with family |
| 20 | Your religious faith |
| 6 | Caring for pets or animals |
| 5 | Being outdoors and experiencing nature |
| 4 | Spending time with friends |
| 4 | Your job or career |
| 3 | Arts or crafts, such as painting, making music or pottery |
| 3 | Listening to music |
| 2 | Reading |
| 1 | Spiritual practices, such as meditation |
| 1 | Watching television shows or videos |
| 1 | Participating in sports or exercising |
| 1 | Volunteer work |
| 1 | Supporting a social or political cause |
| 6 | Something else |
| 4 | No reason provides a “great deal” of meaning (in **MEANING\_1a-h** or **MEANING\_2i-n** or **MEANING\_2o**)/no answer (in **MEANING\_3)** |

**ASK ALL:**

RELIMP How important is religion in your life?[[2]](#footnote-2)

|  |  |
| --- | --- |
| Dec 4-18  2017 |  |
| 35 | Very important |
| 26 | Somewhat important |
| 18 | Not too important |
| 21 | Not at all important |
| <1 | No answer |

**ASK ALL:**

RELIMP How important is religion in your life?

**ASK IF RESPONDENT SAID RELIGION VERY IMPORTANT (RELIMP=1):**

RELMOST Which statement comes closer to your views, even if neither is exactly right?

**[RANDOMIZE RESPONSE OPTIONS]**

**BASED ON TOTAL**

|  |  |
| --- | --- |
| Dec 4-18  2017 |  |
| 35 | NET Religion is very important |
| 16 | My religion is the single most important thing in my life |
| 19 | Although my religious beliefs are important, there are other things in my life that are equally important or more important |
| <1 | No answer |
| 65 | NET Religion less than very important/no answer |

Now, thinking about churches and religious organizations here in the United States…

**ASK ALL:**

CHURCHMORAL Do you think churches and religious organizations…

**[RANDOMIZE “Strengthen morality in society” & “Weaken morality in society,” KEEP “Don’t make much difference” LAST]**

|  |  |
| --- | --- |
| Dec 4-18  2017 |  |
| 52 | Strengthen morality in society |
| 14 | Weaken morality in society |
| 33 | Don’t make much difference |
| 1 | No answer |

**ASK ALL:**

CHURCHPOL Do you think churches and religious organizations have…

**[RANDOMIZE “Too much influence in politics” & “Not enough influence in politics,” KEEP “About the right amount of influence in politics” LAST]**

|  |  |
| --- | --- |
| Dec 4-18  2017 |  |
| 41 | Too much influence in politics |
| 25 | Not enough influence in politics |
| 33 | About the right amount of influence in politics |
| 1 | No answer |

**ASK ALL:**

CHURCHUNITE Do you think churches and religious organizations…

**[RANDOMIZE “Mostly bring people together” & “Mostly push people apart,” KEEP “Neither” LAST]**

|  |  |
| --- | --- |
| Dec 4-18  2017 |  |
| 49 | Mostly bring people together |
| 23 | Mostly push people apart |
| 27 | Neither |
| 1 | No answer |

**ASK ALL:**

CHURCHIMPACT Considering everything, what impact do churches and religious organizations have on American society?

**[RANDOMIZE “They do more harm than good” & “They do more good than harm,” KEEP “Don’t make much difference” LAST]**

|  |  |
| --- | --- |
| Dec 4-18  2017 |  |
| 21 | They do more harm than good |
| 55 | They do more good than harm |
| 23 | Don’t make much difference |
| 1 | No answer |

Thinking now about your attendance at religious services…

**ASK RESPONDENTS WHO ATTEND RELIGIOUS SERVICES ONCE OR TWICE A MONTH OR MORE OFTEN [N=1,894][[3]](#footnote-3):**

REASONATTEND\_1 People attend religious services for many reasons. How important, if at all, is each of the following reasons for why you personally attend religious services?

**[PROGRAMMING NOTE: RANDOMIZE a-e]**

|  |  |  |  |  |
| --- | --- | --- | --- | --- |
|  | Very important | Somewhat important | Not important | No  answer |
| a. To become closer to God |  |  |  |  |
| Dec 4-18, 2017 | 81 | 13 | 4 | 1 |
|  |  |  |  |  |
| b. To be part of a community of faith |  |  |  |  |
| Dec 4-18, 2017 | 57 | 32 | 10 | 1 |
|  |  |  |  |  |
| c. To continue my family’s religious traditions |  |  |  |  |
| Dec 4-18, 2017 | 37 | 35 | 27 | 1 |
|  |  |  |  |  |
| d. To meet new people or to socialize |  |  |  |  |
| Dec 4-18, 2017 | 19 | 47 | 34 | 1 |
|  |  |  |  |  |
| e. Because I feel a religious obligation to go |  |  |  |  |
| Dec 4-18, 2017 | 31 | 36 | 32 | 1 |

**ASK RESPONDENTS WHO ATTEND RELIGIOUS SERVICES ONCE OR TWICE A MONTH OR MORE OFTEN [N=1,894][[4]](#footnote-4):**

REASONATTEND\_2 And now, still thinking about why you attend religious services, how important, if at all, is each of the following reasons for why you personally attend religious services? **[RANDOMIZE]**

|  |  |  |  |  |
| --- | --- | --- | --- | --- |
|  | Very important | Somewhat important | Not important | No  answer |
| f. For comfort in times of trouble and sorrow |  |  |  |  |
| Dec 4-18, 2017 | 66 | 28 | 5 | 1 |
|  |  |  |  |  |
| g. To make me a better person |  |  |  |  |
| Dec 4-18, 2017 | 68 | 24 | 7 | 1 |
|  |  |  |  |  |
| h. I find the sermons valuable |  |  |  |  |
| Dec 4-18, 2017 | 59 | 34 | 6 | 1 |
|  |  |  |  |  |
| i. To please my family, spouse or partner |  |  |  |  |
| Dec 4-18, 2017 | 16 | 25 | 57 | 1 |
|  |  |  |  |  |
| j. So my children will grow up with a moral foundation |  |  |  |  |
| Dec 4-18, 2017 | 69 | 21 | 9 | 1 |

**ASK IF RESPONDENT SELECTED MORE THAN ONE ITEM AS “VERY IMPORTANT” IN REASONATTEND\_1 OR REASONATTEND\_2:**

REASONATTEND\_3 What is the most important reason you attend religious services?

**[PROGRAMMING NOTE: DISPLAY SELECTED ITEMS IF SELECTED MORE THAN ONE ITEM AS “VERY IMPORTANT” IN REASONATTEND\_1 OR REASONATTEND\_2]**

**BASED ON THOSE WHO ATTEND RELIGIOUS SERVICES AT LEAST ONCE OR TWICE A MONTH OR MORE OFTEN [N=1,894]**

**Summary table: Each row includes those who named *only* the corresponding item as a “very important” reason for regularly attending religious services, as well as those who named more than one reason as “very important” in REASONATTEND\_1a-e or REASONATTEND\_2f-j and then indicated, in a follow-up question (REASONATTEND\_3), that the corresponding item is the “most” important reason they attend religious services.**

|  |  |
| --- | --- |
| Dec 4-18  2017 |  |
| 61 | To become closer to God |
| 8 | To make me a better person |
| 6 | To be part of a community of faith |
| 5 | For comfort in times of trouble and sorrow |
| 4 | So my children will grow up with a moral foundation |
| 4 | I find the sermons valuable |
| 2 | To please my family, spouse or partner |
| 2 | To continue my family’s religious traditions |
| 1 | Because I feel a religious obligation to go |
| <1 | To meet new people or to socialize |
| 6 | No reason is very important **(IN REASONATTEND\_1a-e or REASONATTEND\_2f-j)** orno answer (**in REASONATTEND\_3)** |

**ASK IF ATTEND RELIGIOUS SERVICES A FEW TIMES A YEAR OR LESS OFTEN [N=2,826][[5]](#footnote-5):**

NOATTEND In a previous survey you indicated that you **[IF ATTENDS A FEW TIMES A YEAR:** “only attend religious services a few times a year”, **IF SELDOM ATTENDS:** “seldom attend religious services”, **IF NEVER ATTENDS:** “never attend religious services”**]**. How important, if at all, is each of the following reasons for why you **[IF ATTENDS A FEW TIMES A YEAR:** “only attend religious services a few times a year”, **IF SELDOM ATTENDS:** “seldom attend religious services”, **IF NEVER ATTENDS:** “never attend religious services”**]**?

**[RANDOMIZE]**

|  |  |  |  |  |
| --- | --- | --- | --- | --- |
|  | Very important | Somewhat important | Not important | No  answer |
| a. I am not a believer |  |  |  |  |
| Dec 4-18, 2017 | 28 | 21 | 48 | 3 |
|  |  |  |  |  |
| b. I don’t have the time |  |  |  |  |
| Dec 4-18, 2017 | 12 | 28 | 58 | 2 |
|  |  |  |  |  |
| c. I haven’t found a church or other house of worship I like |  |  |  |  |
| Dec 4-18, 2017 | 23 | 26 | 50 | 1 |
|  |  |  |  |  |
| d. There isn’t a church or other house of worship for my religion in my area |  |  |  |  |
| Dec 4-18, 2017 | 7 | 15 | 76 | 2 |
|  |  |  |  |  |
| e. I don’t like the sermons |  |  |  |  |
| Dec 4-18, 2017 | 18 | 26 | 55 | 2 |
|  |  |  |  |  |
| f. I don’t feel welcome |  |  |  |  |
| Dec 4-18, 2017 | 14 | 22 | 62 | 2 |
|  |  |  |  |  |
| g. I’m in poor health or find it difficult to get around |  |  |  |  |
| Dec 4-18, 2017 | 9 | 13 | 76 | 2 |
|  |  |  |  |  |
| h. I practice my faith in other ways |  |  |  |  |
| Dec 4-18, 2017 | 37 | 29 | 33 | 1 |

**ASK IF ATTEND A FEW TIMES A YEAR OR SELDOM [N=1,804][[6]](#footnote-6):**

ATTENDHOL Aside from weddings and funerals, when you attend religious services, is it…

|  |  |
| --- | --- |
| Dec 4-18  2017 |  |
| 17 | Almost always on religious holidays, **[IF CHRISTIAN[[7]](#footnote-7):** such as Christmas or Easter**]** |
| 20 | Almost always at other times |
| 60 | Sometimes for religious holidays and sometimes for other occasions |
| 3 | No answer |

**ASK RESPONDENTS WHO ATTEND RELIGIOUS SERVICES ONCE OR TWICE A MONTH OR MORE OFTEN [N=1,894][[8]](#footnote-8):**

ATTENDEXP How often do you experience each of the following when you attend religious services? **[RANDOMIZE]**

|  |  |  |  |  |  |  |
| --- | --- | --- | --- | --- | --- | --- |
|  | Always | Often but not always | Sometimes | Rarely | Never | No  answer |
| 1. A sense of God’s presence |  |  |  |  |  |  |
| Dec 4-18, 2017 | 51 | 29 | 14 | 3 | 3 | <1 |
|  |  |  |  |  |  |  |
| 1. A sense of connection to a longstanding tradition |  |  |  |  |  |  |
| Dec 4-18, 2017 | 36 | 24 | 25 | 8 | 6 | 1 |
|  |  |  |  |  |  |  |
| 1. A sense of community with people who share your religion |  |  |  |  |  |  |
| Dec 4-18, 2017 | 41 | 32 | 19 | 5 | 2 | 1 |

**ASK RESPONDENTS WHO ATTEND RELIGIOUS SERVICES ONCE OR TWICE A MONTH OR MORE OFTEN [N=1,894][[9]](#footnote-9):**

CHURCHACT Besides attending religious services, how often do you take part in other activities connected with your church or house of worship, for example, volunteering, participating in prayer groups, or sharing community meals?

|  |  |
| --- | --- |
| Dec 4-18  2017 |  |
| 24 | At least once a week |
| 22 | Once or twice a month |
| 24 | Several times a year |
| 21 | Seldom |
| 8 | Never |
| 1 | No answer |

**ASK ALL:**

PRAY Other than during religious services, how often do you pray?[[10]](#footnote-10)

|  |  |
| --- | --- |
| Dec 4-18  2017 |  |
| 29 | Several times a day |
| 15 | Once a day |
| 14 | A few times a week |
| 3 | Once a week |
| 5 | A few times a month |
| 17 | Seldom |
| 17 | Never |
| 1 | No answer |

**ASK ALL:**

READBIB How often, if at all, do you read **[Holy book: If Christian or no religion insert** “the Bible”**; If Jewish, insert** “the Torah”; **If Muslim, insert,** “the Quran”**; If other non-Christian affiliations insert** “holy scripture”**; if did not answer the question about religious affiliation, insert** "the Bible"**]** outside of religious services?[[11]](#footnote-11)

|  |  |
| --- | --- |
| Dec 4-18  2017 |  |
| 3 | Several times a day |
| 8 | Once a day |
| 8 | A few times a week |
| 3 | Once a week |
| 8 | A few times a month |
| 32 | Seldom |
| 36 | Never |
| 1 | No answer |

**ASK ALL:**

LITERAL Which comes closest to your views, even if none is exactly right?

**[Holy book: If Christian or no religion insert** “The Bible”**; If Jewish, insert** “The Torah”; **If Muslim, insert,** “The Quran”**; If other non-Christian affiliations, insert** “The holy scripture”**; if did not answer the question about religious affiliation, insert** "The Bible"**][[12]](#footnote-12)**

|  |  |
| --- | --- |
| Dec 4-18  2017 |  |
| 25 | **[Holy book]** is the word of God and should be taken literally, word for word |
| 41 | **[Holy book]** is the word of God, but not everything in it should be taken literally, word for word |
| 33 | **[Holy book]** is a book written by people and is not the word of God |
| 1 | No answer |

**ASK ALL:**

RELMEDIA How often, if at all, do you watch or listen to religious programs on TV, the radio or online?

|  |  |
| --- | --- |
| Dec 4-18  2017 |  |
| 14 | At least once a week |
| 7 | Once or twice a month |
| 7 | Several times a year |
| 24 | Seldom |
| 48 | Never |
| <1 | No answer |

**ASK ALL AFFILIATED WITH A RELIGION[[13]](#footnote-13):**

RELHELP\_1 How much, if at all, do you find that your religious beliefs help you in…

**BASED ON TOTAL**

|  |  |  |  |  |  |  |
| --- | --- | --- | --- | --- | --- | --- |
|  | A lot | Some | Not much | Not  at all | No answer | Did not receive question because do not identify with a religion[[14]](#footnote-14) |
| a. Your family relationships |  |  |  |  |  |  |
| Dec 4-18, 2017 | 30 | 22 | 8 | 6 | <1 | 33 |
|  |  |  |  |  |  |  |
| b. Your relationships with other people, such as friends and neighbors |  |  |  |  |  |  |
| Dec 4-18, 2017 | 26 | 23 | 10 | 7 | <1 | 33 |

**ASK ALL AFFILIATED WITH A RELIGION[[15]](#footnote-15):**

RELHELP\_2 How much, if at all, do you find that your religious beliefs help you in…

**[RANDOMIZE OPTIONS]**

**BASED ON TOTAL**

|  |  |  |  |  |  |  |
| --- | --- | --- | --- | --- | --- | --- |
|  | A lot | Some | Not much | Not  at all | No answer | Did not receive question because do not identify with a religion[[16]](#footnote-16) |
| c. The way you do your job or pursue your career |  |  |  |  |  |  |
| Dec 4-18, 2017 | 23 | 20 | 11 | 11 | 1 | 33 |
|  |  |  |  |  |  |  |
| d. Coping with difficult times in life |  |  |  |  |  |  |
| Dec 4-18, 2017 | 42 | 17 | 4 | 3 | <1 | 33 |
|  |  |  |  |  |  |  |
| e. Doing what’s right, even when it’s hard |  |  |  |  |  |  |
| Dec 4-18, 2017 | 40 | 18 | 5 | 4 | <1 | 33 |

**ASK ALL:**

ACTVORG\_1 Are you currently active in any of the following groups or organizations, or not? **[RANDOMIZE]**

|  |  |  |  |
| --- | --- | --- | --- |
|  | Yes, active | No, not active | No  answer |
| a. Church groups or other religious or spiritual organizations |  |  |  |
| Dec 4-18, 2017 | 19 | 80 | 1 |
|  |  |  |  |
| b. A book club or study group |  |  |  |
| Dec 4-18, 2017 | 11 | 88 | 1 |
|  |  |  |  |
| c. A performing arts, singing or dance group |  |  |  |
| Dec 4-18, 2017 | 7 | 92 | 1 |
|  |  |  |  |
| d. A professional association, trade association or union |  |  |  |
| Dec 4-18, 2017 | 16 | 83 | 1 |
|  |  |  |  |
| e. A parent group or youth organization, such as PTA, scouts or youth sports |  |  |  |
| Dec 4-18, 2017 | 9 | 90 | 1 |

**ASK ALL:**

ACTVORG\_2 Are you currently active in any of the following groups or organizations, or not? **[RANDOMIZE]**?

|  |  |  |  |
| --- | --- | --- | --- |
|  | Yes, active | No, not active | No  answer |
| f. A social club, sorority or fraternity |  |  |  |
| Dec 4-18, 2017 | 8 | 91 | 1 |
|  |  |  |  |
| g. A veterans group such as American Legion or VFW |  |  |  |
| Dec 4-18, 2017 | 5 | 94 | 1 |
|  |  |  |  |
| h. A hobby group or club |  |  |  |
| Dec 4-18, 2017 | 19 | 80 | 1 |
|  |  |  |  |
| i. A charitable or volunteer organization |  |  |  |
| Dec 4-18, 2017 | 18 | 80 | 1 |
|  |  |  |  |
| j. A community group or neighborhood association |  |  |  |
| Dec 4-18, 2017 | 15 | 84 | 1 |

**ASK ALL:**

ACTVORG\_2k Are you currently active in any other group or organization not already listed?

|  |  |
| --- | --- |
| Dec 4-18  2017 |  |
| 10 | Yes, active |
| 90 | No, not active |
| 1 | No answer |

**RANDOMIZE ORDER OF RELPER AND SPIRPER**

**ASK ALL:**

RELPER To what extent do you consider yourself a religious person? Are you…

|  |  |
| --- | --- |
| Dec 4-18  2017 |  |
| 13 | Very religious |
| 37 | Somewhat religious |
| 23 | Not too religious |
| 26 | Not at all religious |
| <1 | No answer |

**ASK ALL:**

SPIRPER To what extent do you consider yourself a spiritual person? Are you…

|  |  |
| --- | --- |
| Dec 4-18  2017 |  |
| 28 | Very spiritual |
| 43 | Somewhat spiritual |
| 18 | Not too spiritual |
| 11 | Not at all spiritual |
| <1 | No answer |

**ASK ALL:**

GOD Do you believe in God, or not?

1 Yes

2 No

99 No answer

**ASK IF BELIEVES IN GOD (GOD=1):**

GODBIBLE Which of these statements comes closer to your views, even if neither is exactly right?

**[RANDOMIZE]**

1 I believe in God as described in the Bible

2 I DO NOT believe in God as described in the Bible, but I do believe there is some other higher power or spiritual force in the universe

99 No answer

**ASK IF DOES NOT BELIEVE IN GOD (GOD=2):**

HGHPWR Which of these statements comes closer to your views, even if neither is exactly right?

**[RANDOMIZE]**

1 I DO NOT believe in God as described in the Bible, but I do believe there is some other higher power or spiritual force in the universe

2 I do not believe there is ANY higher power or spiritual force in the universe

99 No answer

**ASK IF REFUSED GOD (GOD=99):**

MISSINGGOD Which of these statements comes closest to your views, even if none is exactly right?

1 I believe in God as described in the Bible

2 I DO NOT believe in God as described in the Bible, but I do believe there is some other higher power or spiritual force in the universe

3 I do not believe there is ANY higher power or spiritual force in the universe

99 No answer

**SUMMARY TABLE, BASED ON TOTAL**

|  |  |
| --- | --- |
| Dec 4-18  2017 |  |
| **80** | **NET Believe in God** |
| 56 | Believe in God as described in the Bible[[17]](#footnote-17) |
| 23 | Believe in higher power, not God of the Bible |
| 1 | Believe in God, unsure whether Biblical God or higher power |
| **19** | **NET Do not believe in God** |
| 9 | Do not believe in God, but do believe in a higher power[[18]](#footnote-18) |
| 10 | Do not believe in anything[[19]](#footnote-19) |
| <1 | Do not believe in God, unclear whether believes in higher power or believes in nothing |
| **1** | **No answer[[20]](#footnote-20)** |

**ASK IF BELIEVES IN GOD OR HIGHER POWER:**

GODBELIEFS Which of the following, if any, do you believe about **[IF BELIEVES IN GOD OF BIBLE INSERT:** God**;** **IF DOESN’T BELIEVE IN GOD OF BIBLE BUT BELIEVES IN SOMETHING ELSE INSERT:** the higher power or spiritual force in the universe**]**?

Do you believe that **[IF BELIEVES IN GOD OF BIBLE INSERT:** God**;** **IF DOESN’T BELIEVE IN GOD OF BIBLE BUT BELIEVES IN SOMETHING ELSE INSERT:** the higher power or spiritual force in the universe**]**…

**[RANDOMIZE ITEMS]**

**BASED ON TOTAL**

|  |  |  |  |  |  |
| --- | --- | --- | --- | --- | --- |
|  | NET Believe in God or higher power | *Yes* | *No* | *No*  *answer* | NET Do not believe in anything/ unclear/ref |
| a. Knows everything that goes on in the world |  |  |  |  |  |
| Dec 4-18, 2017 | 90 | *71* | *18* | *1* | 10 |
|  |  |  |  |  |  |
| b. Has the power to direct or change everything that goes on in the world |  |  |  |  |  |
| Dec 4-18, 2017 | 90 | *61* | *27* | *1* | 10 |
|  |  |  |  |  |  |
| c. Loves all people regardless of their faults |  |  |  |  |  |
| Dec 4-18, 2017 | 90 | *77* | *11* | *1* | 10 |
|  |  |  |  |  |  |
| d. Will judge all people on what they have done |  |  |  |  |  |
| Dec 4-18, 2017 | 90 | *61* | *28* | *1* | 10 |

**ASK IF BELIEVES IN GOD OR HIGHER POWER:**

TALKGOD Do you ever try to talk to **[IF BELIEVES IN GOD OF BIBLE INSERT:** God**;** **IF DOESN’T BELIEVE IN GOD OF BIBLE BUT BELIEVES IN SOMETHING ELSE INSERT:** the higher power or spiritual force in the universe**]**, or not?

**BASED ON TOTAL**

|  |  |
| --- | --- |
| Dec 4-18  2017 |  |
| **90** | **NET Believe in God or higher power** |
| 74 | Yes |
| 15 | No |
| <1 | No answer |
| **10** | **NET Do not believe in anything/unclear/ref** |

**ASK IF BELIEVES IN GOD OR HIGHER POWER:**

GODRESPOND Does **[IF BELIEVES IN GOD OF BIBLE INSERT:** God**;** **IF DOESN’T BELIEVE IN GOD OF BIBLE BUT BELIEVES IN SOMETHING ELSE INSERT:** the higher power or spiritual force in the universe**]** evertalk directly with you, or not?

**BASED ON TOTAL**

|  |  |
| --- | --- |
| Dec 4-18  2017 |  |
| **90** | **NET Believe in God or higher power** |
| 28 | Yes |
| 60 | No |
| 2 | No answer |
| **10** | **NET Do not believe in anything/unclear/ref** |

**ASK IF BELIEVES IN GOD OR HIGHER POWER:**

GODACT Do you think **[IF BELIEVES IN GOD OF BIBLE INSERT:** God**;** **IF DOESN’T BELIEVE IN GOD OF BIBLE BUT BELIEVES IN SOMETHING ELSE INSERT:** the higher power or spiritual force in the universe**]** has ever…

**[RANDOMIZE ITEMS]**

**BASED ON TOTAL**

|  |  |  |  |  |  |
| --- | --- | --- | --- | --- | --- |
|  | NET Believe in God or higher power | *Yes* | *No* | *No*  *answer* | NET Do not believe in anything/ unclear/ref |
| a. Rewarded you |  |  |  |  |  |
| Dec 4-18, 2017 | 90 | *67* | *22* | *1* | 10 |
|  |  |  |  |  |  |
| b. Punished you |  |  |  |  |  |
| Dec 4-18, 2017 | 90 | *40* | *48* | *1* | 10 |
|  |  |  |  |  |  |
| c. Protected you |  |  |  |  |  |
| Dec 4-18, 2017 | 90 | *77* | *12* | *1* | 10 |

**ASK IF BELIEVES IN GOD OR HIGHER POWER:**

GODDTRMN Do you think **[IF BELIEVES IN GOD OF BIBLE INSERT:** God**;** **IF DOESN’T BELIEVE IN GOD OF BIBLE BUT BELIEVES IN SOMETHING ELSE INSERT:** the higher power or spiritual force in the universe**]** directly determines what happens in your life…

**BASED ON TOTAL**

|  |  |
| --- | --- |
| Dec 4-18  2017 |  |
| **90** | **NET Believe in God or higher power** |
| 27 | All of the time |
| 21 | Most of the time |
| 18 | Just some of the time |
| 9 | Hardly ever |
| 13 | Never |
| 1 | No answer |
| **10** | **NET Do not believe in anything/unclear/ref** |

**ASK IF BELIEVES IN GOD OR HIGHER POWER:**

GODDTRMN Do you think **[IF BELIEVES IN GOD OF BIBLE INSERT:** God**;** **IF DOESN’T BELIEVE IN GOD OF BIBLE BUT BELIEVES IN SOMETHING ELSE INSERT:** the higher power or spiritual force in the universe**]** directly determines what happens in your life…

**ASK IF GOD OR HIGHER POWER DETERMINES WHAT HAPPENS IN LIFE MOST OF THE TIME, SOME OF THE TIME OR HARDLY EVER (GODDTRMN=2, 3, 4):**

DTRMNALL Which things do you think **[IF BELIEVES IN GOD OF BIBLE:** God**;** **IF DOESN’T BELIEVE IN GOD OF BIBLE BUT BELIEVES IN SOMETHING ELSE INSERT:** the higher power or spiritual force in the universe**]** directly determines in your life?

**BASED ON TOTAL**

|  |  |
| --- | --- |
| Dec 4-18  2017 |  |
| **90** | **NET Believe in God or higher power** |
| 27 | God determines what happens in life all of the time (in GODDTRMN) |
| 48 | NET God determines what happens in life most of time, some of the time or hardly ever (in GODDTRMN) |
| *2* | *Just the little things* |
| *4* | *Just the big things* |
| *41* | *A mix of big and little things* |
| *1* | *No answer* |
| 13 | God never determines what happens in life (in GODDTRMN) |
| 1 | No answer about whether or not God directly determines what happens in life (in GODDTRMN) |
| **10** | **NET Do not believe in anything/unclear/ref** |

**ASK IF BELIEVES IN GOD OR HIGHER POWER:**

GODDTRMN Do you think **[IF BELIEVES IN GOD OF BIBLE INSERT:** God**;** **IF DOESN’T BELIEVE IN GOD OF BIBLE BUT BELIEVES IN SOMETHING ELSE INSERT:** the higher power or spiritual force in the universe**]** directly determines what happens in your life…

**ASK IF GOD OR HIGHER POWER DETERMINES WHAT HAPPENS IN LIFE MOST OF THE TIME, SOME OF THE TIME OR HARDLY EVER (GODDTRMN=2, 3, 4):**

DTRMNGOOD Do you think **[IF BELIEVES IN GOD OF BIBLE:** God**;** **IF DOESN’T BELIEVE IN GOD OF BIBLE BUT BELIEVES IN SOMETHING ELSE INSERT:** the higher power or spiritual force in the universe**]** determines…

**BASED ON TOTAL**

|  |  |
| --- | --- |
| Dec 4-18  2017 |  |
| **90** | **NET Believe in God or higher power** |
| 27 | God determines what happens in life all of the time (in GODDTRMN) |
| 48 | NET God determines what happens in life most of time, some of the time or hardly ever (in GODDTRMN) |
| *5* | *Only the good things that happen to you* |
| *1* | *Only the bad things that happen to you* |
| *40* | *A mix of good and bad things that happen to you* |
| *1* | *No answer* |
| 13 | God never determines what happens in life (in GODDTRMN) |
| 1 | No answer about whether or not God directly determines what happens in life (in GODDTRMN) |
| **10** | **NET Do not believe in anything/unclear/ref** |

**ASK ALL:**

BELIEVE Which of the following, if any, do you believe in? **[RANDOMIZE ITEMS]**

|  |  |  |  |
| --- | --- | --- | --- |
|  | Yes, believe in | No, don’t believe | No  answer |
| a. Heaven |  |  |  |
| Dec 4-18, 2017 | 71 | 28 | 2 |
|  |  |  |  |
| b. Hell |  |  |  |
| Dec 4-18, 2017 | 60 | 38 | 2 |
|  |  |  |  |
| c. Spiritual energy located in physical things, such as mountains, trees or crystals |  |  |  |
| Dec 4-18, 2017 | 42 | 56 | 2 |
|  |  |  |  |
| d. Reincarnation (people will be reborn again and again in this world) |  |  |  |
| Dec 4-18, 2017 | 33 | 64 | 3 |
|  |  |  |  |
| e. Astrology (the position of stars and planets can affect people’s lives) |  |  |  |
| Dec 4-18, 2017 | 29 | 70 | 1 |
|  |  |  |  |
| f. Psychics (that some people perceive or are sensitive to supernatural forces) |  |  |  |
| Dec 4-18, 2017 | 41 | 58 | 2 |

**ASK IF UNAFFILIATED [N=1,321][[21]](#footnote-21):**

WHYNONE\_1 In a previous survey, you told us that, when it comes to religion, you are **[IF ATHEIST,** “an atheist”; **IF AGNOSTIC,** “agnostic”, **IF** **NOTHING IN PARTICULAR,** “nothing in particular”**]**.How important, if at all, is each of the following reasons for why **[IF ATHEIST,** “you are an atheist”; **IF AGNOSTIC,** “you are agnostic”, **IF NOTHING IN PARTICULAR,** “your religion is nothing in particular”**]**?

**[RANDOMIZE]**

|  |  |  |  |  |  |
| --- | --- | --- | --- | --- | --- |
|  | Very important | Somewhat important | Not important at all | Undesig-nated[[22]](#footnote-22) | No  answer |
| a. I don’t believe in God |  |  |  |  |  |
| Dec 4-18, 2017 | 37 | 20 | 40 | <1 | 2 |
|  |  |  |  |  |  |
| b. I don’t like religious leaders |  |  |  |  |  |
| Dec 4-18, 2017 | 34 | 35 | 30 | <1 | 1 |
|  |  |  |  |  |  |
|  |  |  |  |  |  |
| **WHYNONE\_1 CONTINUED…** |  |  |  |  |  |
|  | Very important | Somewhat important | Not important at all | Undesig-nated[[23]](#footnote-23) | No  answer |
|  |  |  |  |  |  |
|  |  |  |  |  |  |
| c. I don’t like religious organizations |  |  |  |  |  |
| Dec 4-18, 2017 | 41 | 31 | 26 | <1 | 2 |
|  |  |  |  |  |  |
| d. I question a lot of religious teachings |  |  |  |  |  |
| Dec 4-18, 2017 | 60 | 24 | 15 | <1 | 1 |
|  |  |  |  |  |  |
| e. Religion is irrelevant to me |  |  |  |  |  |
| Dec 4-18, 2017 | 36 | 30 | 33 | <1 | 1 |
|  |  |  |  |  |  |
| f. I don’t like the positions that churches take on social or political issues |  |  |  |  |  |
| Dec 4-18, 2017 | 49 | 26 | 23 | <1 | 2 |

**ASK IF UNAFFILIATED AND IF SELECTED MORE THAN ONE ITEM AS “VERY IMPORTANT” IN WHYNONE\_1[[24]](#footnote-24):**

WHYNONE\_2 What is the MOST important reason that you are **[IF ATHEIST,** “an atheist”; **IF AGNOSTIC,** “agnostic”, **IF NOTHING IN PARTICULAR,** “nothing in particular”**]**?

**[PROGRAMMING NOTE: DISPLAY SELECTED ITEMS IF SELECTED MORE THAN ONE ITEM AS “VERY IMPORTANT” IN WHYNONE\_1]**

**BASED ON TOTAL UNAFFILIATED [N=1,321]**

**Summary table: Each row includes those who *only* said the corresponding item is a “very important” reason they are an atheist/agnostic or say their religion is “nothing in particular,” as well as those who said more than one reason is very important (in WHYNONE\_1a-f) and then indicated, in a follow-up question (WHYNONE\_2), that the corresponding item is the “most important” reason.**

|  |  |
| --- | --- |
| Dec 4-18  2017 |  |
| 25 | I question a lot of religious teachings |
| 22 | I don’t believe in God |
| 16 | I don’t like the positions that churches take on social or political issues |
| 9 | Religion is irrelevant to me |
| 6 | I don’t like religious organizations |
| 2 | I don’t like religious leaders |
| 19 | Did not select any reason as very important (in **WHYNONE\_1a-f**)/no answer (in **WHYNONE\_2**) |

**QUESTIONS ABOUT DENOMINATIONAL AFFILIATION AND CHILDHOOD RELIGION NOT SHOWN. SEE** [**QUESTIONNAIRE**](http://assets.pewresearch.org/wp-content/uploads/sites/11/2018/08/28150815/Full-questionnaire-for-release-NUMBER-CHECKED.pdf) **FOR FULL QUESTION WORDING.**

1. GOVT\_ROLE has been asked in previous Pew Research Center phone surveys. Because of mode differences (phone vs. web/mail), these question should not be treated as directly comparable to those instances when they have been asked on the phone. [↑](#footnote-ref-1)
2. For a variety of methodological reasons (e.g., differences in weighting procedures, mode of survey administration, etc.), figures are not directly comparable to estimates from telephone surveys, including Pew Research Center’s Religious Landscape Studies. [↑](#footnote-ref-2)
3. Respondents were asked about their attendance at religious services in a previous wave of the ATP; nearly all respondents (n=4,699) most recently answered the question about religious attendance in an ATP wave conducted May 30-Oct. 23, 2017, though a few respondents (n=30) last answered the question in an earlier survey. The religious attendance question in the May 30-Oct. 23, 2017 wave was “Aside from weddings and funerals, how often do you attend religious services? More than once a week, once a week, once or twice a month, a few times a year, seldom, never.” [↑](#footnote-ref-3)
4. Respondents were asked about their attendance at religious services in a previous wave of the ATP; nearly all respondents (n=4,699) most recently answered the question about religious attendance in an ATP wave conducted May 30-Oct. 23, 2017, though a few respondents (n=30) last answered the question in an earlier survey. The religious attendance question in the May 30-Oct. 23, 2017 wave was “Aside from weddings and funerals, how often do you attend religious services? More than once a week, once a week, once or twice a month, a few times a year, seldom, never.” [↑](#footnote-ref-4)
5. Respondents were asked about their attendance at religious services in a previous wave of the ATP; nearly all respondents (n=4,699) most recently answered the question about religious attendance in an ATP wave conducted May 30-Oct. 23, 2017, though a few respondents (n=30) last answered the question in an earlier survey. The religious attendance question in the May 30-Oct. 23, 2017 wave was “Aside from weddings and funerals, how often do you attend religious services? More than once a week, once a week, once or twice a month, a few times a year, seldom, never.” [↑](#footnote-ref-5)
6. Respondents were asked about their attendance at religious services in a previous wave of the ATP; nearly all respondents (n=4,699) most recently answered the question about religious attendance in an ATP wave conducted May 30-Oct. 23, 2017, though a few respondents (n=30) last answered the question in an earlier survey. The religious attendance question in the May 30-Oct. 23, 2017 wave was “Aside from weddings and funerals, how often do you attend religious services? More than once a week, once a week, once or twice a month, a few times a year, seldom, never.” [↑](#footnote-ref-6)
7. Respondents’ religion is based on their answer to a question about religious identity administered in a previous wave of the ATP; nearly all respondents (n=4,699) most recently answered the question about their religious identity in an ATP wave conducted May 30-Oct. 23, 2017, though a few respondents (n=30) last answered the question about their religious identity in an earlier survey. The religious identity question in the May 30-Oct. 23, 2017 ATP wave was “What is your present religion, if any? Protestant (for example, Baptist, Methodist, Non-denominational, Lutheran, Presbyterian, Pentecostal, Episcopalian, Reformed, Church of Christ, etc.), Roman Catholic, Mormon (Church of Jesus Christ of Latter-day Saints or LDS), Orthodox (such as Greek, Russian, or some other Orthodox Church) Jewish, Muslim, Buddhist, Hindu, Atheist, Agnostic, Something else (SPECIFY), Nothing in particular.” [↑](#footnote-ref-7)
8. Respondents were asked about their attendance at religious services in a previous wave of the ATP; nearly all respondents (n=4,699) most recently answered the question about religious attendance in an ATP wave conducted May 30-Oct. 23, 2017, though a few respondents (n=30) last answered the question in an earlier survey. The religious attendance question in the May 30-Oct. 23, 2017 wave was “Aside from weddings and funerals, how often do you attend religious services? More than once a week, once a week, once or twice a month, a few times a year, seldom, never.” [↑](#footnote-ref-8)
9. Respondents were asked about their attendance at religious services in a previous wave of the ATP; nearly all respondents (n=4,699) most recently answered the question about religious attendance in an ATP wave conducted May 30-Oct. 23, 2017, though a few respondents (n=30) last answered the question in an earlier survey. The religious attendance question in the May 30-Oct. 23, 2017 wave was “Aside from weddings and funerals, how often do you attend religious services? More than once a week, once a week, once or twice a month, a few times a year, seldom, never.” [↑](#footnote-ref-9)
10. For a variety of methodological reasons (e.g., differences in weighting procedures, mode of survey administration, etc.), figures are not directly comparable to estimates from telephone surveys, including Pew Research Center’s Religious Landscape Studies. [↑](#footnote-ref-10)
11. Respondents’ religion is based on their answer to a question about religious identity administered in a previous wave of the ATP; nearly all respondents (n=4,699) most recently answered the question about their religious identity in an ATP wave conducted May 30-Oct. 23, 2017, though a few respondents (n=30) last answered the question about their religious identity in an earlier survey. The religious identity question in the May 30-Oct. 23, 2017 ATP wave was “What is your present religion, if any? Protestant (for example, Baptist, Methodist, Non-denominational, Lutheran, Presbyterian, Pentecostal, Episcopalian, Reformed, Church of Christ, etc.), Roman Catholic, Mormon (Church of Jesus Christ of Latter-day Saints or LDS), Orthodox (such as Greek, Russian, or some other Orthodox Church) Jewish, Muslim, Buddhist, Hindu, Atheist, Agnostic, Something else (SPECIFY), Nothing in particular.” [↑](#footnote-ref-11)
12. Respondents’ religion is based on their answer to a question about religious identity administered in a previous wave of the ATP; nearly all respondents (n=4,699) most recently answered the question about their religious identity in an ATP wave conducted May 30-Oct. 23, 2017, though a few respondents (n=30) last answered the question about their religious identity in an earlier survey. The religious identity question in the May 30-Oct. 23, 2017 ATP wave was “What is your present religion, if any? Protestant (for example, Baptist, Methodist, Non-denominational, Lutheran, Presbyterian, Pentecostal, Episcopalian, Reformed, Church of Christ, etc.), Roman Catholic, Mormon (Church of Jesus Christ of Latter-day Saints or LDS), Orthodox (such as Greek, Russian, or some other Orthodox Church) Jewish, Muslim, Buddhist, Hindu, Atheist, Agnostic, Something else (SPECIFY), Nothing in particular.” [↑](#footnote-ref-12)
13. Respondents’ religion is based on their answer to a question about religious identity administered in a previous wave of the ATP; nearly all respondents (n=4,699) most recently answered the question about their religious identity in an ATP wave conducted May 30-Oct. 23, 2017, though a few respondents (n=30) last answered the question about their religious identity in an earlier survey. The religious identity question in the May 30-Oct. 23, 2017 ATP wave was “What is your present religion, if any? Protestant (for example, Baptist, Methodist, Non-denominational, Lutheran, Presbyterian, Pentecostal, Episcopalian, Reformed, Church of Christ, etc.), Roman Catholic, Mormon (Church of Jesus Christ of Latter-day Saints or LDS), Orthodox (such as Greek, Russian, or some other Orthodox Church) Jewish, Muslim, Buddhist, Hindu, Atheist, Agnostic, Something else (SPECIFY), Nothing in particular.” RELHELP\_1a-b was asked of everyone except those who self-identify, religiously, as atheist, agnostic or nothing in particular and those who declined to answer the religious affiliation question. [↑](#footnote-ref-13)
14. This group includes those who declined to answer the religious affiliation question. [↑](#footnote-ref-14)
15. Respondents’ religion is based on their answer to a question about religious identity administered in a previous wave of the ATP; nearly all respondents (n=4,699) most recently answered the question about their religious identity in an ATP wave conducted May 30-Oct. 23, 2017, though a few respondents (n=30) last answered the question about their religious identity in an earlier survey. The religious identity question in the May 30-Oct. 23, 2017 ATP wave was “What is your present religion, if any? Protestant (for example, Baptist, Methodist, Non-denominational, Lutheran, Presbyterian, Pentecostal, Episcopalian, Reformed, Church of Christ, etc.), Roman Catholic, Mormon (Church of Jesus Christ of Latter-day Saints or LDS), Orthodox (such as Greek, Russian, or some other Orthodox Church) Jewish, Muslim, Buddhist, Hindu, Atheist, Agnostic, Something else (SPECIFY), Nothing in particular.” RELHELP\_2c-e was asked of everyone except those who self-identify, religiously, as atheist, agnostic or nothing in particular and those who declined to answer the religious affiliation question. [↑](#footnote-ref-15)
16. This group includes those who declined to answer the religious affiliation question. [↑](#footnote-ref-16)
17. Includes those who said they believe in God as described in the Bible in MISSINGGOD [↑](#footnote-ref-17)
18. Includes those who said they do not believe in God as described in the Bible but do believe in a higher power or spiritual force in MISSINGGOD [↑](#footnote-ref-18)
19. Includes those who said they do not believe in a higher power of any kind in MISSINGGOD [↑](#footnote-ref-19)
20. Includes those who refused to answer both GOD and MISSINGGOD. [↑](#footnote-ref-20)
21. Respondents’ religion is based on their answer to a question about religious identity administered in a previous wave of the ATP; nearly all respondents (n=4,699) most recently answered the question about their religious identity in an ATP wave conducted May 30-Oct. 23, 2017, though a few respondents (n=30) last answered the question about their religious identity in an earlier survey. The religious identity question in the May 30-Oct. 23, 2017 ATP wave was “What is your present religion, if any? Protestant (for example, Baptist, Methodist, Non-denominational, Lutheran, Presbyterian, Pentecostal, Episcopalian, Reformed, Church of Christ, etc.), Roman Catholic, Mormon (Church of Jesus Christ of Latter-day Saints or LDS), Orthodox (such as Greek, Russian, or some other Orthodox Church) Jewish, Muslim, Buddhist, Hindu, Atheist, Agnostic, Something else (SPECIFY), Nothing in particular.” [↑](#footnote-ref-21)
22. For some questions asked of a subset of eligible respondents and filtered on previous questions subject to backcoding, the term “undesignated” is used to denote those respondents who did not receive the question even though they should have received it. [↑](#footnote-ref-22)
23. For some questions asked of a subset of eligible respondents and filtered on previous questions subject to backcoding, the term “undesignated” is used to denote those respondents who did not receive the question even though they should have received it. [↑](#footnote-ref-23)
24. Respondents’ religion is based on their answer to a question about religious identity administered in a previous wave of the ATP; nearly all respondents (n=4,699) most recently answered the question about their religious identity in an ATP wave conducted May 30-Oct. 23, 2017, though a few respondents (n=30) last answered the question about their religious identity in an earlier survey. The religious identity question in the May 30-Oct. 23, 2017 ATP wave was “What is your present religion, if any? Protestant (for example, Baptist, Methodist, Non-denominational, Lutheran, Presbyterian, Pentecostal, Episcopalian, Reformed, Church of Christ, etc.), Roman Catholic, Mormon (Church of Jesus Christ of Latter-day Saints or LDS), Orthodox (such as Greek, Russian, or some other Orthodox Church) Jewish, Muslim, Buddhist, Hindu, Atheist, Agnostic, Something else (SPECIFY), Nothing in particular.” [↑](#footnote-ref-24)