

**PEW RESEARCH CENTER FOR THE PEOPLE & THE PRESS  
AND PEW FORUM ON RELIGION & PUBLIC LIFE  
2009 RELIGION & PUBLIC LIFE SURVEY**

**FINAL TOPLINE**

Survey A: August 11-17, 2009, N=2,010

Survey B: August 20-27, 2009, N=2,003

Combined N=4,013

**NOTE: QUESTION NUMBERING IS NOT CONTINUOUS BECAUSE SOME ITEMS HAVE BEEN PREVIOUSLY RELEASED OR HELD FOR FUTURE RELEASE**

**ASK ALL:**

RELIG What is your present religion, if any? Are you Protestant, Roman Catholic, Mormon, Orthodox such as Greek or Russian Orthodox, Jewish, Muslim, Buddhist, Hindu, atheist, agnostic, something else, or nothing in particular?

[INTERVIEWER: IF R VOLUNTEERS “nothing in particular, none, no religion, etc.” BEFORE REACHING END OF LIST, PROMPT WITH: And would you say that’s atheist, agnostic, or just nothing in particular?]

**IF SOMETHING ELSE, NOTHING IN PARTICULAR OR DK/REF (RELIG=11, 12, 99) ASK:**

CHR Do you think of yourself as a Christian or not?

|    |   |
|----|---|
| 40 | Protestant (Baptist, Methodist, Non-denominational, Lutheran, Presbyterian, Pentecostal, Episcopalian, Reformed, Church of Christ, Jehovah’s Witness, etc.) |
| 23 | Roman Catholic (Catholic)   |
| 2  | Mormon (Church of Jesus Christ of Latter-day Saints/LDS)  |
| *  | Orthodox (Greek, Russian, or some other orthodox church)  |
| 2  | Jewish (Judaism)  |
| *  | Muslim (Islam)  |
| 1  | Buddhist  |
| *  | Hindu   |
| 2  | Atheist (do not believe in God)   |
| 3  | Agnostic (not sure if there is a God)   |
| 2  | Something else ( <b>SPECIFY</b> )   |
| 12 | Nothing in particular   |
| 11 | Christian ( <b>VOL.</b> )   |
| *  | Unitarian (Universalist) ( <b>VOL.</b> )  |
| 2  | Don’t Know/Refused ( <b>VOL.</b> )  |

**IF CHRISTIAN (RELIG=1-4, 13 OR ((RELIG=11 OR RELIG=99) AND CHR=1)):**

BORN Would you describe yourself as a "born again" or evangelical Christian, or not?

**BASED ON TOTAL**

|          |                                    |
|----------|------------------------------------|
| 34       | Yes, would                         |
| 40       | No, would not                      |
| <u>4</u> | Don’t know/Refused ( <b>VOL.</b> ) |
| 78%      | Christian                          |

**ASK ALL:****ATTEND**

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, or never?

**NOTE: ATTEND FOR BOTH SURVEY A AND SURVEY B ARE PRESENTED HERE.**

|                    | <u>More than<br/>once a week</u> | <u>Once<br/>a week</u> | <u>Once or twice<br/>a month</u> | <u>A few times<br/>a year</u> | <u>Seldom</u> | <u>Never</u> | <b>(VOL.)<br/>DK/Ref</b> |
|--------------------|----------------------------------|------------------------|----------------------------------|-------------------------------|---------------|--------------|--------------------------|
| August 11-27, 2009 | 14                               | 23                     | 16                               | 18                            | 16            | 11           | 1                        |
| August, 2008       | 13                               | 26                     | 16                               | 19                            | 15            | 10           | 1                        |
| Aug, 2007          | 14                               | 26                     | 16                               | 18                            | 16            | 9            | 1                        |
| July, 2006         | 15                               | 25                     | 15                               | 18                            | 14            | 12           | 1                        |
| July, 2005         | 14                               | 27                     | 14                               | 19                            | 14            | 11           | 1                        |
| Aug, 2004          | 13                               | 25                     | 15                               | 20                            | 15            | 11           | 1                        |
| July, 2003         | 16                               | 27                     | 15                               | 18                            | 14            | 10           | *                        |
| March, 2003        | 15                               | 24                     | 15                               | 21                            | 15            | 9            | 1                        |
| March, 2002        | 15                               | 25                     | 17                               | 18                            | 15            | 9            | 1                        |
| Mid-Nov, 2001      | 16                               | 26                     | 14                               | 17                            | 16            | 10           | 1                        |
| March, 2001        | 17                               | 26                     | 17                               | 17                            | 15            | 7            | 1                        |
| Sept, 2000 (RVs)   | 17                               | 28                     | 16                               | 17                            | 13            | 8            | 1                        |
| June, 1997         | 12                               | 26                     | 17                               | 20                            | 15            | 10           | *                        |
| June, 1996         | 14                               | 25                     | 17                               | 21                            | 13            | 9            | 1                        |

**ASK SURVEY B IF ATTEND AT LEAST A FEW TIMES A YEAR (ATTEND=1-4):**

Q.281 Aside from when you're traveling and special events like weddings and funerals, do you always attend religious services at the same place, mostly attend at one place but occasionally go to different places, or do you go to different places on a regular basis?

**BASED ON TOTAL SURVEY B**

|      |  |
|------|--|
| 36   | Always attend at the same place  |
| 26   | Mostly attend at one place but occasionally go to different places         |
| 9    | Go to different places on a regular basis                                  |
| 1    | Don't know/Refused <b>(VOL.)</b>   |
| (28) | <i>Attend religious services less than yearly/refused to say how often</i> |

**ASK SURVEY B IF ATTEND AT MORE THAN ONE PLACE (Q.281=2,3):**

Q.282 And aside from weddings and funerals, do you ever [INSERT; RANDOMIZE]? Do you ever [INSERT NEXT ITEM]?

**BASED ON TOTAL SURVEY B**

|  | ---Multiple places---<br>(VOL.) |    |        | Don't attend multiple places | Attend less than yearly |
|--|---------------------------------|----|--------|------------------------------|-------------------------|
|  | Yes                             | No | DK/Ref |                              |                         |
| <b>ASK IF PROTESTANT/JUST CHRISTIAN (RELIG=1,13) [N=1099]:</b>                           |                                 |    |        |                              |                         |
| a. attend services at a Protestant denomination different than your own                  | 24                              | 13 | 2      | 44                           | 17                      |
| <b>ASK IF NOT PROTESTANT/JUST CHRISTIAN (RELIG≠1,13) [N=904]:</b>                        |                                 |    |        |                              |                         |
| b. attend services at a Protestant church  | 13                              | 18 | *      | 28                           | 40                      |
| <b>ASK IF NOT CATHOLIC (RELIG≠2) [N=1566]:</b>   |                                 |    |        |                              |                         |
| c. attend Catholic mass  | 14                              | 20 | *      | 35                           | 31                      |
| <b>ASK IF NOT JEWISH (RELIG≠5) [N=1968]:</b>   |                                 |    |        |                              |                         |
| d. attend services at a Jewish synagogue   | 4                               | 31 | *      | 37                           | 28                      |
| <b>ASK IF NOT MUSLIM (RELIG≠6) [N=1991]:</b>   |                                 |    |        |                              |                         |
| e. attend services at a Muslim mosque  | 2                               | 34 | 0      | 37                           | 28                      |
| <b>ASK ALL WHO ATTEND AT MORE THAN ONE PLACE (Q.281=2,3) [N=2003]:</b>                   |                                 |    |        |                              |                         |
| f. attend services of a religion different than yours that I haven't mentioned (SPECIFY) | 8                               | 26 | 1      | 37                           | 28                      |

**ASK SURVEY B IF ALWAYS AT THE SAME PLACE: (Q.281=1):**

Q.283 Are the religious services you attend held at a church or house of worship, or are they held at some other location such as at a restaurant or a person's home?

**ASK SURVEY B IF NOT ALWAYS AT THE SAME PLACE: (Q.281=2-9):**

Q.284 In general, are the religious services you attend held at houses of worship such as churches, synagogues or mosques, are they held at other locations such as at restaurants or people's homes, or do you attend services both in houses of worship and at other locations?

**BASED ON TOTAL SURVEY B**

- 60 At church(es)/house(es) of worship
- 3 At other location(s)
- 8 Both churches/houses of worship and other locations
- 1 Don't know/Refused (VOL)
- (28) Attend religious services less than yearly

**BASED ON TOTAL SURVEY B**

Q.285 **IF ‘OTHER LOCATIONS’ (Q.283=2 OR Q.284=2) ASK:** And what kind of place or location is this? **IF “BOTH” (Q.284=3) ASK:** What kinds of places are these other locations? **[RECORD VERBATIM RESPONSE] [INTERVIEWER NOTE: We are interested in the type of place R attends other than a church/house of worship, for example a restaurant, home, park or other location. We are not interested in a specific address or geographic place, such as a city. Please clarify for R as needed, such as “For example, is it a restaurant, or someone’s home, or a park, or what?”]**

**BASED ON TOTAL SURVEY B**

- 7 Homes
- 1 Schools
- 1 Parks/campgrounds
- 1 Restaurants
- 1 Hotels
- 4 Other

**ASK ALL SURVEY B:**

Q.290 Would you say that you have ever had a 'religious or mystical experience'-- that is, a moment of sudden religious insight or awakening?

|    |                           | <i>Ipsos</i> | <i>Newsweek</i> | <i>---Gallup---</i> |             |
|----|---------------------------|--------------|-----------------|---------------------|-------------|
|    |                           | April        | Nov             | Aug                 | Feb         |
|    |                           | <u>2006</u>  | <u>1994</u>     | <u>1976</u>         | <u>1962</u> |
| 49 | Yes                       | 47           | 33              | 31                  | 22          |
| 48 | No                        | 51           | 65              | 69                  | 78          |
| 4  | Don't know/Refused (VOL.) | 2            | 2               | 0                   | 0           |

**ASK ALL SURVEY B:**

Q.291 Which, if any, of the following do you believe in? Do you believe **[INSERT; RANDOMIZE]**? Do you believe **[INSERT NEXT ITEM]**?

|                   |   | Yes,<br><u>believe in</u> | No, don't<br><u>believe</u> | (VOL.)<br><u>DK/Ref</u> |
|-------------------|---|---------------------------|-----------------------------|-------------------------|
| a.                | in reincarnation, that people will be reborn in this world again and again                                    | 24                        | 69                          | 6                       |
| b.                | in spiritual energy located in physical things, such as mountains, trees or crystals                          | 26                        | 69                          | 5                       |
| c.                | in yoga, not just as exercise, but as a spiritual practice  | 23                        | 70                          | 7                       |
| <b>NO ITEM d.</b> |   |                           |                             |                         |
| e.                | in the “evil eye” or that certain people can cast curses or spells that cause bad things to happen to someone | 16                        | 81                          | 2                       |
| f.                | in astrology, or that the position of the stars and planets can affect people’s lives                         | 25                        | 71                          | 4                       |

**ASK ALL SURVEY B:**

Q.292 Have you ever [INSERT; RANDOMIZE]? Have you ever [INSERT NEXT ITEM]?

|  | <u>Yes</u> | <u>No</u> | <u>(VOL.)<br/>DK/Ref</u> |
|--|------------|-----------|--------------------------|
| a. felt that you were in touch with someone who has already died |            |           |                          |
| August 20-27, 2009   | 29         | 69        | 2                        |
| September, 1996 <i>Gallup</i>                                    | 18         | 81        | 1                        |
| June, 1990 <i>Gallup</i>   | 17         | 82        | 1                        |
| b. consulted a fortune-teller or psychic                         |            |           |                          |
| August 20-27, 2009   | 15         | 85        | 1                        |
| September, 1996 <i>Gallup</i>                                    | 17         | 83        | *                        |
| June, 1990 <i>Gallup</i>   | 14         | 85        | 1                        |
| c. seen or been in the presence of a ghost                       |            |           |                          |
| August 20-27, 2009   | 18         | 80        | 2                        |
| September, 1996 <i>Gallup</i>                                    | 9          | 90        | 2                        |
| June, 1990 <i>Gallup</i>   | 9          | 90        | 1                        |

**ASK SURVEY B IF MARRIED OR PARTNERED (MARITAL=1,2) [N=1219]:**

SPREL And what is your [IF MARITAL=1: spouse's/IF MARITAL=2: partner's] religion, if any? Are they Protestant, Roman Catholic, Mormon, Orthodox such as Greek or Russian Orthodox, Jewish, Muslim, Buddhist, Hindu, atheist, agnostic, something else, or nothing in particular?

[INTERVIEWER: IF R VOLUNTEERS “nothing in particular, none, no religion, etc.” BEFORE REACHING END OF LIST, PROMPT WITH: and would you say they are atheist, agnostic, or just nothing in particular?]

**IF SOMETHING ELSE, OR DK (SPREL=11, 99), ASK:**

SPCHR And is that a Christian religion, or not?

|    |   |
|----|---|
| 43 | Protestant (Baptist, Methodist, Non-denominational, Lutheran, Presbyterian, Pentecostal, Episcopalian, Reformed, Church of Christ, Jehovah's Witness, etc.) |
| 25 | Roman Catholic (Catholic)   |
| 2  | Mormon (Church of Jesus Christ of Latter-day Saints/LDS)  |
| *  | Orthodox (Greek, Russian, or some other orthodox church)  |
| 1  | Jewish (Judaism)  |
| 1  | Muslim (Islam)  |
| 1  | Buddhist  |
| *  | Hindu   |
| 1  | Atheist (do not believe in God)   |
| 2  | Agnostic (not sure if there is a God)   |
| 1  | Something else ( <b>SPECIFY</b> )   |
| 10 | Nothing in particular   |
| 10 | Christian ( <b>VOL.</b> )   |
| *  | Unitarian (Universalist) ( <b>VOL.</b> )  |
| 2  | Don't Know/Refused ( <b>VOL.</b> )  |

**ASK SURVEY B IF SPOUSE CHRISTIAN (SPREL=1-4, 13 OR SPCHR=1):**

SPBORN      Would you describe your spouse as a "born again" or evangelical Christian, or not?

|          |                                    |
|----------|------------------------------------|
| 36       | Yes, would                         |
| 41       | No, would not                      |
| <u>3</u> | Don't know/Refused ( <b>VOL.</b> ) |
| (80)     | Total married to Christian         |