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Faith and the 2016 Campaign

GOP candidates seen as religious – except for Trump

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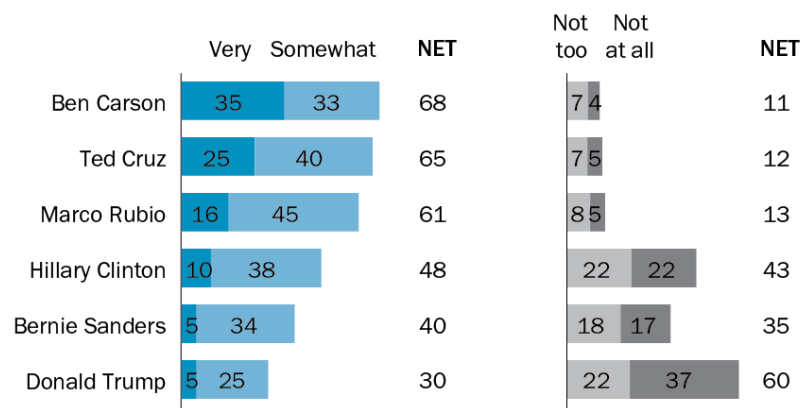
GOP candidates seen as religious – except for Trump

The conventional wisdom in American politics has long been that someone who is not religious cannot be elected president of the United States. Most Americans have consistently said [that it is important to them that the president have strong religious beliefs](#). And a new Pew Research Center survey finds that being an atheist remains one of the biggest liabilities that a presidential candidate can have; fully half of American adults say they would be less likely to vote for a hypothetical presidential candidate who does not believe in God, while just 6% say they would be more likely to vote for a nonbeliever.

On the other hand, the share of American adults who say they would be less likely to vote for an atheist candidate has been declining over time. Moreover, one of the candidates who is [widely viewed by Republicans as a potentially “good” or “great” president](#), Donald Trump, is not widely viewed as a religious person, even by those in his own party. And on the Democratic side, the share of Americans who say Hillary Clinton is not a religious person now stands at 43%, which is sharply higher than it was in the summer of 2007, when she was seeking the presidential nomination for the first time.

Among presidential candidates, Trump seen as least religious

% of adults who view each candidate as _____ religious



Source: Survey conducted Jan. 7-14, 2016. Don't know/refused responses not shown.

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These are among the key findings of a new Pew Research Center survey conducted Jan. 7-14, 2016, on landlines and cellphones among a national sample of 2,009 adults. This is the latest in a long line of research the Center has conducted on the role of religion in presidential campaigns. In [2012](#), for instance, polling found that Mitt Romney's Mormon faith was a potentially important factor in the Republican primaries but was not likely to play a major role in determining the

outcome of the general election. In the run-up to the [2008](#) campaign, voters who saw presidential candidates as at least “somewhat” religious expressed more favorable views of those candidates; but the Center’s research also showed that White House contenders need not be seen as *very* religious to be broadly acceptable to the voting public. And in [2004](#), a majority of the U.S. public thought it was improper for the Catholic Church to deny communion to pro-choice politicians like John Kerry.

The new survey confirms that being an atheist continues to be one of the biggest perceived shortcomings a hypothetical presidential candidate could have, with 51% of adults saying they would be less likely to vote for a presidential candidate who does not believe in God. Indeed, in the eyes of the public, being a nonbeliever remains a bigger drawback than having had an extramarital affair (37% say they would be less likely to support a candidate who had been unfaithful), having had personal financial troubles (41% say they would be less likely to support a candidate who had had financial struggles), or having used marijuana in the past (20% would be less likely to support a former pot smoker).

Half of adults say they would be less likely to support atheist for president

% of U.S. adults who would be more/less likely to support a hypothetical candidate for president who ...

| | More likely | Less likely | Wouldn't matter |
|---|--------------------|--------------------|------------------------|
| Traits that are assets | | | |
| Has served in the military | 50 | 4 | 45 |
| Attended prestigious university | 20 | 6 | 74 |
| Is Catholic | 16 | 8 | 75 |
| Traits that are neither assets nor liabilities | | | |
| Is an evangelical Christian | 22 | 20 | 55 |
| Is Jewish | 8 | 10 | 80 |
| Traits that are liabilities | | | |
| Has longtime Washington experience | 22 | 31 | 46 |
| Has used marijuana in the past | 6 | 20 | 74 |
| Is Mormon | 5 | 23 | 69 |
| Is gay or lesbian | 4 | 26 | 69 |
| Had personal financial troubles | 8 | 41 | 49 |
| Had extramarital affair in past | 3 | 37 | 58 |
| Is Muslim | 3 | 42 | 53 |
| Does not believe in God | 6 | 51 | 41 |

Source: Survey conducted Jan. 7-14, 2016. Don't know/refused responses not shown.

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The study also shows that having a president who shares their religious beliefs is important to many Americans, with about half of U.S. adults saying it is “very important” (27%) or “somewhat important” (24%) to have someone in the White House who shares their religious perspective. This view is particularly common among Republicans, among whom roughly two-thirds say it is at least “somewhat important” to them that the president share their religious beliefs.

At the same time, the new survey also finds that the share of Americans who have reservations about voting for an atheist president has been declining over time. As recently as 2007, more than six-in-ten Americans said they would be less likely to support an atheist presidential candidate, while just 51% express this view today. Over this period, the share who say a candidate’s lack of belief would not be a factor in how they vote has been growing.

Two-thirds of Republicans say it is important to have a president who shares their religious beliefs

How important is it to have a president who shares your religious beliefs?

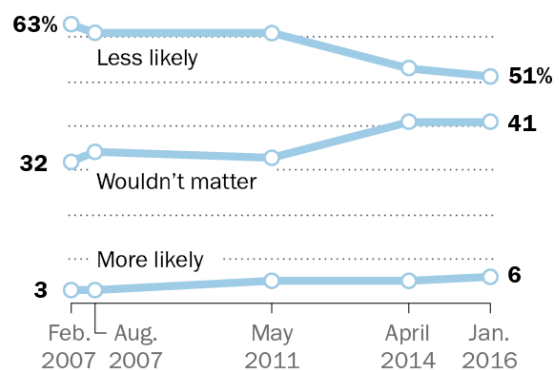
| | Total | Rep/lean Rep | Dem/lean Dem |
|---|------------|--------------|--------------|
| NET very/somewhat important | 51 | 64 | 41 |
| Very important | 27 | 33 | 22 |
| Somewhat important | 24 | 31 | 19 |
| NET not too/not at all important | 48 | 35 | 58 |
| Don't know | 1 | 1 | 1 |
| | 100 | 100 | 100 |

Source: Survey conducted Jan. 7-14, 2016.

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Fewer Americans would be deterred by atheist presidential candidate

% of U.S. adults who would be more/less likely to support a candidate for president who does not believe in God



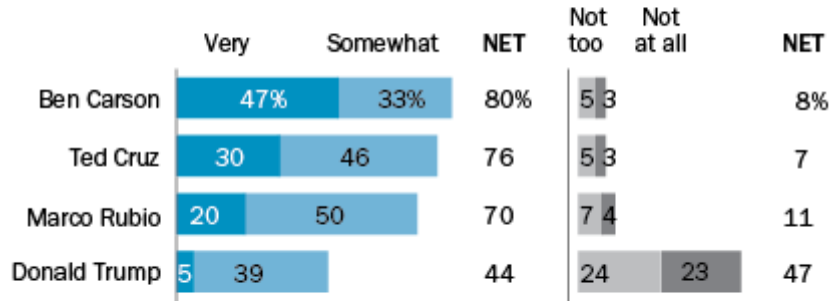
Source: Survey conducted Jan. 7-14, 2016

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The new survey finds that Trump is widely viewed as a potentially “good” or “great” president by GOP voters in spite of the fact that, compared with other leading candidates, relatively few Republicans think Trump is a particularly religious person. Overall, 44% of Republicans and those who lean toward the Republican Party say Trump is a “very religious” (5%) or “somewhat religious” (39%) person, while 47% say he is “not too religious” or “not at all religious.” By contrast, fully eight-in-ten Republicans say they think Ben Carson is a religious person, three-quarters view Ted Cruz as a religious person, and seven-in-ten say the same about Marco Rubio.

Compared with Carson, Cruz and Rubio, fewer Republicans see Trump as religious person

% of Republicans and Republican leaners who view each candidate as ___ religious



Source: Survey conducted Jan. 7-14, 2016.

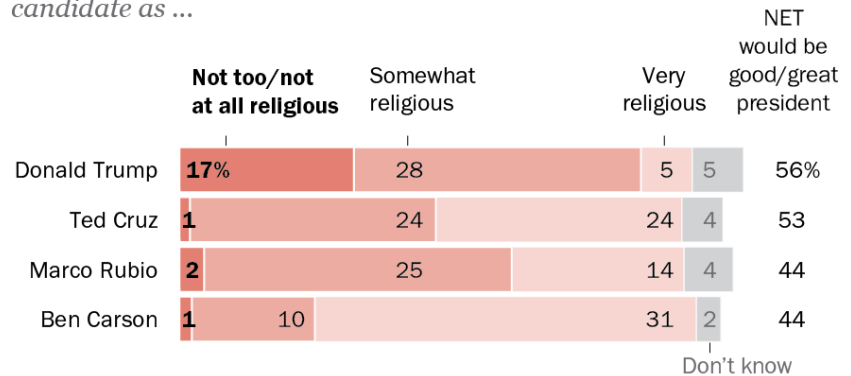
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Being seen as a religious person is generally an asset for candidates; people who think a candidate is a religious person tend to be more likely to see that candidate as a potentially good president. But many Republicans think Trump would be a good president *despite* his perceived lack of religiousness. Of the 56% of GOP voters who think Trump would be a good or great president, a substantial minority of them (17% of Republican registered voters overall) say they think Trump is not religious. The pattern is very different for the other leading

GOP candidates; virtually all Republicans who think Cruz, Rubio and Carson would be successful presidents (and who express a view about their religiousness) also say they view those candidates as at least somewhat religious. Just 2% of GOP voters think Rubio would be a good president and that he is not particularly religious, with just 1% saying the same about Cruz and Carson.

Many Republicans say Trump would be good or great president despite not being religious; few say same about other candidates

% of Republican/Republican-leaning registered voters who think each candidate would be good or great president and see that candidate as ...



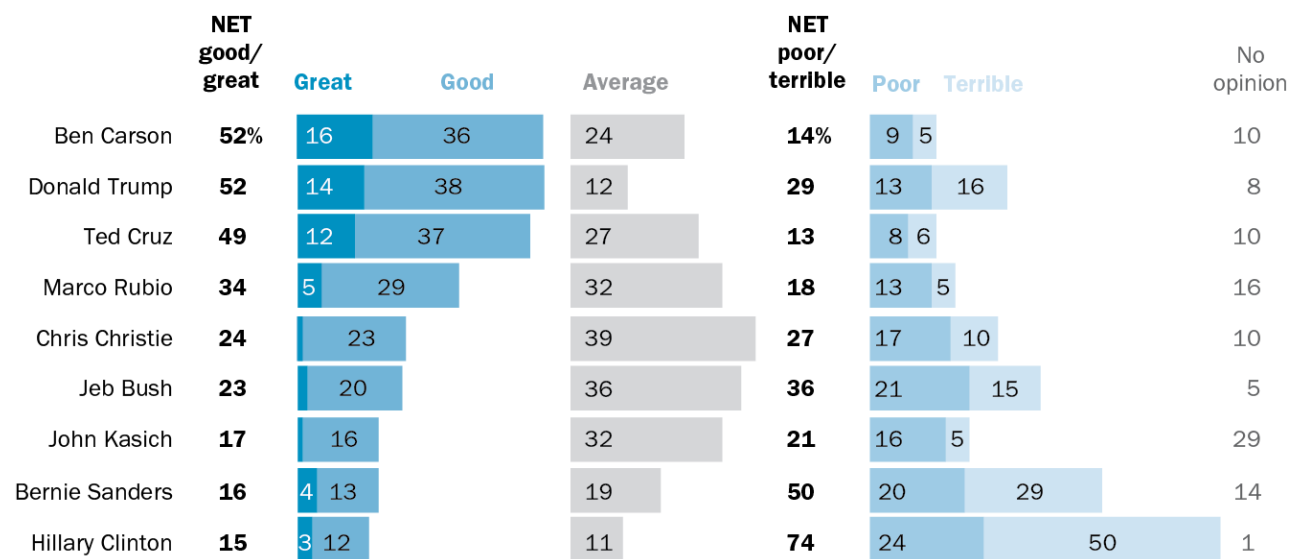
Source: Survey conducted Jan. 7-14, 2016

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The new survey shows that among religious groups, fully half of white evangelical Protestant voters (including both Republicans and those who identify with the Democratic Party or as political independents) think Trump would make a “good” or a “great” president. Evangelicals – who are among the most reliably Republican religious constituencies in the electorate – express a similar degree of confidence that Carson and Cruz would be successful presidents.¹ Evangelical voters are less convinced that other Republican candidates would be good presidents. And few evangelical voters think Bernie Sanders (16%) or Clinton (15%) would be good presidents.

Half of evangelical voters think Carson, Trump and Cruz would be good presidents

% of white evangelical Protestant registered voters saying each candidate would be a great, good, average, poor or terrible president



Source: Survey conducted Jan. 7-14, 2016. Based on registered voters.

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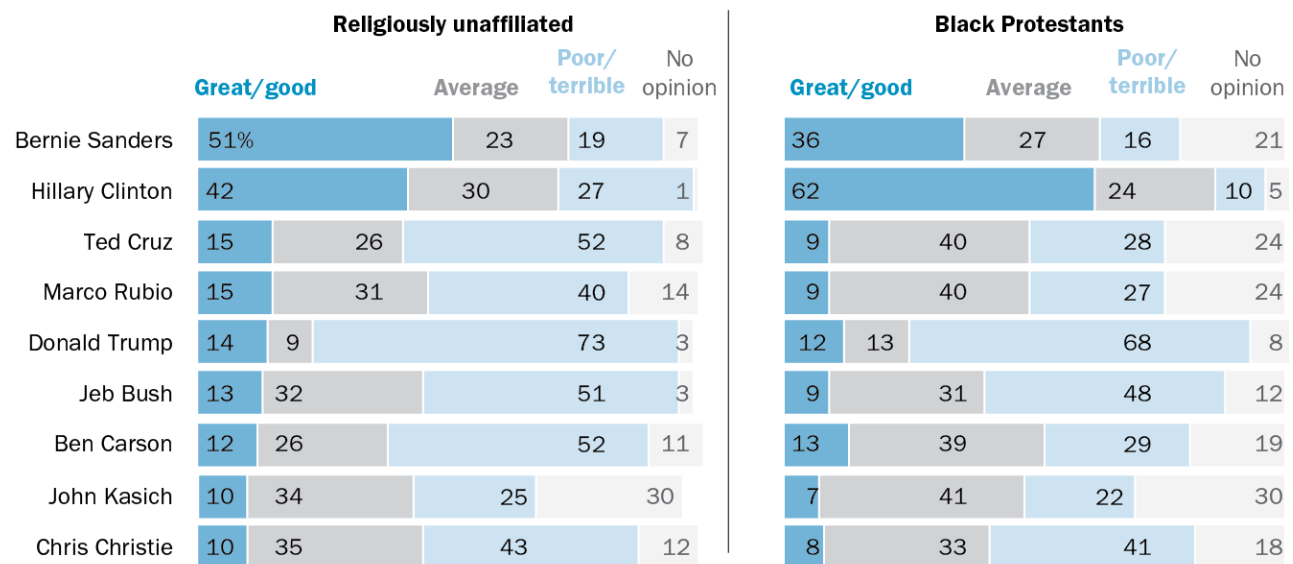
¹ Full details on religious groups' confidence in the presidential candidates are available in the detailed tables included at the end of this report. And a previous Pew Research Center report, "[Voters Skeptical That 2016 Candidates Would Make Good Presidents.](#)" shows that there is a strong partisan component to views about which candidates would make successful presidents; Republicans are much more likely than Democrats to have optimistic expectations for the GOP candidates, while Democrats express more confidence than Republicans in Clinton and Sanders.

While there are about as many evangelicals who think Trump would be a “good” or “great” president as say the same about Cruz and Carson, there also is considerably more wariness about Trump than about Carson or Cruz; three-in-ten evangelicals (29%) say Trump would be a “poor” or “terrible” president, which is roughly twice the share who say this about either Cruz or Carson.

On the Democratic side, the view that Sanders and Clinton would be good presidents is most common among two reliably Democratic religious constituencies – black Protestants and religiously unaffiliated voters (i.e., religious “nones”). Fully half of religiously unaffiliated registered voters (51%) think Sanders would be a successful president, while four-in-ten (42%) think Clinton would be a good or great president. Among black Protestant voters, about six-in-ten (62%) think Clinton will be a “good” or a “great” president, while 36% say this about Sanders. Among both groups (religious “nones” and black Protestants), just 15% or fewer think any of the Republican candidates would be good presidents. (More information on religious groups’ views of which candidates would be successful presidents is available in Section 1 and in the detailed tables included at the end of this report.)

Half of religious ‘nones’ say Sanders would be good president; most black Protestants say same about Clinton

% saying each would make a _____ president



Source: Survey conducted Jan. 7-14, 2016. Based on registered voters who are religiously unaffiliated (i.e., identify religiously as atheist, agnostic, or “nothing in particular”) or black Protestants. Totals might not sum to 100% because of rounding.

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More people view Clinton as “very” or “somewhat” religious than say the same about Sanders. This is true among both the public as a whole (48% vs. 40%) and those who identify with or lean toward the Democratic Party (65% vs. 47%). But the share of Americans who say Hillary Clinton is “not too” or “not at all” religious has risen sharply since 2007. At that time, during the run-up to the campaign for the 2008 Democratic nomination, 24% of adults said Clinton was “not too” or “not at

all” religious; today, 43% say she is not religious. Over this period, the share of Americans expressing no opinion about Clinton’s religiousness declined from 22% to 9%, while the share describing her as “very” or “somewhat” religious ticked down from 53% to 48%. The uptick in the view that Clinton is not particularly religious is most pronounced among Republicans, but also seen among Democrats. (See Section 1 for more details.)

When asked about their view of religion's influence in American society, the survey finds that the large majority of U.S. adults continue to believe that religion is losing influence. And most who hold this view – about half of all U.S. adults – say they think religion's declining influence is a bad thing for American society.

The survey also shows that four-in-ten Americans think there has been too little expression of religious faith and prayer by political leaders, compared with roughly a quarter (27%) who say there has been too much religious talk by politicians. These figures have not changed much since 2014, but they are considerably different from the results of a survey taken at a similar point in the 2012 presidential election cycle. At that time, there were more people who thought there was *too much* religious discussion (38%) than who said there wasn't enough (30%).

Other key findings include:

- Candidates are viewed as religious by more people in their own party than the opposing party. The biggest partisan gap on these questions is seen in views about Hillary Clinton; two-thirds of Democrats say she is “very” or “somewhat” religious, while two-thirds of Republicans express the opposite view, saying that she is “not too” or “not at all” religious.
- Like Hillary Clinton, Barack Obama is also seen as less religious today than in 2007; about one-third of adults (35%) now say Obama is “not too” or “not at all” religious, up from 9% in 2007.
- Half of Americans (51%) believe religious conservatives have too much control over the GOP, and more than four-in-ten (44%) think that liberals who are *not* religious have too much control over the Democratic Party. Partisans are deeply divided on this question. Two-thirds of Democrats say the GOP has been co-opted by religious conservatives, while most Republicans

Most say religion is losing influence on American life

| | Jul 2012 | Sep 2014 | Jan 2016 |
|---|-------------|-------------|-------------|
| <i>Religion is ___ its influence on American life</i> | % | % | % |
| Losing | 66 | 72 | 68 |
| Good thing | 12 | 12 | 13 |
| Bad thing | 49 | 56 | 51 |
| Other/DK | 5 | 3 | 4 |
| Increasing | 25 | 22 | 26 |
| Same (VOL.) | 2 | 2 | 3 |
| Don't know | 7 | 4 | 4 |
| | 100 | 100 | 100 |

| | Mar 2012 | Sep 2014 | Jan 2016 |
|--|-------------|-------------|-------------|
| <i>Political leaders talk ___ about their faith, prayer...</i> | % | % | % |
| Too much | 38 | 30 | 27 |
| Too little | 30 | 41 | 40 |
| Right amount | 25 | 23 | 26 |
| Don't know | 7 | 7 | 7 |
| | 100 | 100 | 100 |

Source: Survey conducted Jan. 7-14, 2016.

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reject this notion. Conversely, two-thirds of Republicans believe that secular liberals have too much power in the Democratic Party, while two-thirds of Democrats disagree.

- One-quarter of adults (26%) say they would be less likely to vote for a gay or lesbian presidential candidate, while 4% say they would be more likely to support such a candidate and seven-in-ten (69%) say it would make no difference to their vote. Since 2007, the share of Americans who say a candidate's sexual orientation would not matter in their vote has been steadily rising, while the share who say they would be less likely to support a gay or lesbian candidate has been declining.
- There are more than twice as many Republicans who say they would be less likely to support a presidential candidate who has been an elected official in Washington for many years as who would be more likely to support such a candidate (44% vs. 18%). Among Democrats, the balance of opinion leans in the opposite direction; 27% see extensive Washington experience as a positive, compared with 19% who see it as a liability.

1. Religion and the 2016 presidential candidates

Views of candidates' religiousness

In general, more people view the leading Republican candidates for president as being very or somewhat religious than say the same about the Democratic candidates. Roughly seven-in-ten adults say Ben Carson is at least somewhat religious, for example; 65% say the same about Ted Cruz and 61% say this about Marco Rubio. By comparison, about half of Americans say that Hillary Clinton is at least somewhat religious (48%), and four-in-ten view Bernie Sanders as a religious person.

Except for Trump, GOP candidates generally viewed as more religious than Democratic candidates

How religious do you think _____ is?

| | NET very / somewhat religious | Very religious | Somewhat religious | NET not too / not at all religious | No opinion |
|-----------------|-------------------------------------|-------------------|-----------------------|--|---------------|
| | % | % | % | % | % |
| Ben Carson | 68 | 35 | 33 | 11 | 21=100 |
| Ted Cruz | 65 | 25 | 40 | 12 | 22=100 |
| Marco Rubio | 61 | 16 | 45 | 13 | 26=100 |
| Donald Trump | 30 | 5 | 25 | 60 | 10=100 |
| Hillary Clinton | 48 | 10 | 38 | 43 | 9=100 |
| Bernie Sanders | 40 | 5 | 34 | 35 | 26=100 |

Source: Survey conducted Jan. 7-14, 2016. Figures may not add to 100% due to rounding.

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The major exception to this pattern is Donald Trump. Just three-in-ten Americans say Trump is very or somewhat religious, while six-in-ten say Trump is not too religious (22%) or not at all religious (37%).

Candidates are seen as more religious by those in their own party than by those who affiliate with or lean to the opposing party. For example, 80% of Republicans and those who lean toward the GOP say Ben Carson is at least somewhat religious, compared with 63% of Democrats and those who lean toward the Democratic Party who say this.

The biggest partisan gap occurs in views of Hillary Clinton. Among Democrats and those who lean toward the Democratic Party, about two-thirds say Clinton is at least “somewhat” religious, while just 27% say she is not religious. Among Republicans, these figures are reversed; 28% say Clinton is very or somewhat religious, while roughly two-thirds (65%) say she is not too or not at all religious. Among the public overall, 43% say Clinton is not very religious, while 48% say she is at least somewhat religious.

Candidates viewed as religious by more people in their own party

| | Rep/lean Rep | Dem/lean Dem |
|--|--------------|--------------|
| <i>How religious is Ben Carson?</i> | % | % |
| Very/somewhat | 80 | 63 |
| Not too/not at all | 8 | 14 |
| No opinion | <u>12</u> | <u>23</u> |
| | 100 | 100 |
| <i>How religious is Ted Cruz?</i> | | |
| Very/somewhat | 76 | 62 |
| Not too/not at all | 7 | 15 |
| No opinion | <u>17</u> | <u>22</u> |
| | 100 | 100 |
| <i>How religious is Marco Rubio?</i> | | |
| Very/somewhat | 70 | 60 |
| Not too/not at all | 11 | 14 |
| No opinion | <u>19</u> | <u>26</u> |
| | 100 | 100 |
| <i>How religious is Donald Trump?</i> | | |
| Very/somewhat | 44 | 20 |
| Not too/not at all | 47 | 71 |
| No opinion | <u>9</u> | <u>9</u> |
| | 100 | 100 |
| <i>How religious is Hillary Clinton?</i> | | |
| Very/somewhat | 28 | 65 |
| Not too/not at all | 65 | 27 |
| No opinion | <u>7</u> | <u>8</u> |
| | 100 | 100 |
| <i>How religious is Bernie Sanders?</i> | | |
| Very/somewhat | 31 | 47 |
| Not too/not at all | 44 | 31 |
| No opinion | <u>25</u> | <u>22</u> |
| | 100 | 100 |

Source: Survey conducted Jan. 7-14, 2016. Figures may not add to 100% due to rounding.

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Religion and the GOP candidates

Among Republicans and those who lean toward the Republican Party, there are few large differences in perceptions of candidates' religiousness across religious constituencies. Ted Cruz, for example, is viewed as very or somewhat religious by 80% of Catholics, 80% of white evangelical Protestants and 74% of white mainline Protestants who identify as Republicans. And among Republicans, roughly half or fewer white mainline Protestants (54%), white evangelical Protestants (48%) and Catholics (44%) view Donald Trump as very or somewhat religious.

Republicans with a college degree are more inclined than those with less education to say that Carson, Cruz and Rubio are religious people; Republicans with less than a college degree are more likely than college graduates to express no opinion about the religiousness of these candidates. In rating Donald Trump, however, there are no statistically significant differences on this question by level of education.

Among Republicans, few religious differences in views of GOP candidates' religiousness

Based on Republicans and those who lean toward the Republican Party

| | How religious is Ben Carson? | | | How religious is Ted Cruz? | | | How religious is Marco Rubio? | | | How religious is Donald Trump? | | |
|----------------|------------------------------|------------------------------|---------------|----------------------------|------------------------------|---------------|-------------------------------|------------------------------|---------------|--------------------------------|------------------------------|---------------|
| | Very/ somewhat | Not too/ not at all | No opinion | Very/ somewhat | Not too/ not at all | No opinion | Very/ somewhat | Not too/ not at all | No opinion | Very/ somewhat | Not too/ not at all | No opinion |
| | % | % | % | % | % | % | % | % | % | % | % | % |
| Total | 80 | 8 | 12=100 | 76 | 7 | 17=100 | 70 | 11 | 19=100 | 44 | 47 | 9=100 |
| Protestant | 82 | 6 | 12 | 76 | 6 | 18 | 67 | 10 | 23 | 47 | 43 | 10 |
| White evang. | 88 | 2 | 10 | 80 | 3 | 16 | 67 | 8 | 25 | 48 | 44 | 8 |
| White mainline | 78 | 7 | 14 | 74 | 7 | 19 | 72 | 9 | 19 | 54 | 35 | 11 |
| Catholic | 78 | 10 | 11 | 80 | 7 | 13 | 76 | 13 | 11 | 44 | 49 | 7 |
| College grad | 87 | 4 | 8 | 84 | 5 | 11 | 79 | 10 | 11 | 41 | 51 | 8 |
| Some college | 79 | 7 | 14 | 77 | 5 | 18 | 67 | 11 | 23 | 47 | 44 | 9 |
| HS or less | 75 | 11 | 14 | 70 | 11 | 20 | 65 | 12 | 23 | 45 | 45 | 10 |

Source: Survey conducted Jan. 7-14, 2016. Figures may not add to 100% due to rounding.

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Being seen as a religious person generally redounds to a candidate's benefit. For example, among Republican registered voters who view Donald Trump as at least somewhat religious, about three-quarters also say they think he would make for a good or a great president. By contrast, among Republican voters who say Trump is not religious, just 41% think he would be a good or a great president. Similarly, about six-in-ten Republican registered voters (61%) who say Ted Cruz is a religious person also think he would be a good or great president; just 25% of those who say Cruz is not religious (or do not know if he is) think he has the makings of a good or great president. A similar pattern is seen for Carson and Rubio.

Views of potential GOP presidents linked with perceived religiousness

Based on Republican/Republican-leaning registered voters

| | Trump is very/somewhat religious | Trump is not too/not at all religious/no opinion |
|---------------------------|-----------------------------------|---|
| <i>Trump would be...</i> | % | % |
| Great/good president | 73 | 41 |
| Average | 18 | 17 |
| Poor/terrible | 5 | 36 |
| Don't know/refused | <u>4</u> | <u>6</u> |
| | 100 | 100 |
| | Cruz is very/somewhat religious | Cruz is not too/not at all religious/no opinion |
| <i>Cruz would be...</i> | % | % |
| Great/good president | 61 | 25 |
| Average | 24 | 31 |
| Poor/terrible | 11 | 21 |
| Don't know/refused | <u>5</u> | <u>22</u> |
| | 100 | 100 |
| | Carson is very/somewhat religious | Carson is not too/not at all religious/no opinion |
| <i>Carson would be...</i> | % | % |
| Great/good president | 50 | 15 |
| Average | 31 | 25 |
| Poor/terrible | 15 | 29 |
| Don't know/refused | <u>4</u> | <u>31</u> |
| | 100 | 100 |
| | Rubio is very/somewhat religious | Rubio is not too/not at all religious/no opinion |
| <i>Rubio would be...</i> | % | % |
| Great/good president | 53 | 22 |
| Average | 31 | 28 |
| Poor/terrible | 14 | 25 |
| Don't know/refused | <u>3</u> | <u>26</u> |
| | 100 | 100 |

Source: Survey conducted Jan. 7-14, 2016. Based on Republican and Republican-leaning registered voters. Figures may not add to 100% due to rounding.

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More broadly, among registered voters, evangelical Republicans stand out from mainline Protestants and Catholics in their views about a potential Carson presidency. Most white evangelical Republicans (62%) say they think Carson would be a good or a great president, while 39% of Catholics and 37% of white mainline Protestants agree. Religious differences are smaller in expectations for other candidates.

For a full analysis of voters' assessments of the presidential candidates' prospects for success in the White House, see the Pew Research Center report [“Voters Skeptical That 2016 Candidates Would Make Good Presidents.”](#)

Six-in-ten evangelical Republicans say Carson would be good president

Based on Republican/Republican-leaning registered voters

| | Would Carson be _____ president? | | | Would Cruz be _____ president? | | | Would Rubio be _____ president? | | | Would Trump be _____ president? | | |
|----------------|-------------------------------------|---------|-------------------|-----------------------------------|---------|-------------------|------------------------------------|---------|-------------------|------------------------------------|---------|-------------------|
| | Good/ great | Average | Poor/ terrible | Good/ great | Average | Poor/ terrible | Good/ great | Average | Poor/ terrible | Good/ great | Average | Poor/ terrible |
| | % | % | % | % | % | % | % | % | % | % | % | % |
| Total | 44 | 30 | 18 | 53 | 25 | 13 | 44 | 30 | 17 | 56 | 18 | 22 |
| Protestant | 52 | 27 | 14 | 58 | 23 | 12 | 43 | 30 | 16 | 58 | 17 | 19 |
| White evang. | 62 | 26 | 7 | 63 | 24 | 5 | 44 | 33 | 11 | 59 | 14 | 18 |
| White mainline | 37 | 33 | 24 | 53 | 25 | 19 | 47 | 26 | 17 | 57 | 21 | 20 |
| Catholic | 39 | 36 | 18 | 52 | 32 | 8 | 51 | 31 | 12 | 54 | 21 | 21 |

Source: Survey conducted Jan. 7-14, 2016. Based on Republican and Republican-leaning registered voters. Don't know/refused responses not shown.

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Religion and the Democratic candidates

About two-thirds of Democrats and those who lean toward the Democratic Party say Hillary Clinton is very or somewhat religious. Roughly half of Democrats (47%) say Bernie Sanders is at least somewhat religious.

Three-quarters of Catholic Democrats say Clinton is a religious person, and 69% of Protestant Democrats agree. Fewer Democrats who are religiously unaffiliated share this view; 58% say Clinton is a religious person, but 36% say she is not too or not at all religious. Religiously unaffiliated Democrats are also more likely than Catholics and Protestants to say Sanders is not too or not at all religious.

Clinton is viewed as a religious person by 57% of Democratic college graduates and 63% of those with some college

education. Among Democrats with a high school education or less, 74% say Clinton is at least somewhat religious. The survey also shows that Democratic college graduates are less likely than those who do not have a college degree to view Bernie Sanders as a religious person.

Roughly two-thirds of Democrats say Clinton is religious; about half say Sanders is religious

Based on Democrats and those who lean toward the Democratic Party

| | How religious is Hillary Clinton? | | | How religious is Bernie Sanders? | | |
|------------------|-----------------------------------|------------------------|--------------|----------------------------------|------------------------|--------------|
| | Very / somewhat % | Not too / not at all % | No opinion % | Very / somewhat % | Not too / not at all % | No opinion % |
| Total | 65 | 27 | 8=100 | 47 | 31 | 22=100 |
| Protestant | 69 | 22 | 9 | 53 | 23 | 24 |
| White mainline | 76 | 16 | 8 | 58 | 26 | 16 |
| Black Protestant | 70 | 20 | 9 | 50 | 22 | 29 |
| Catholic | 75 | 19 | 5 | 46 | 26 | 27 |
| Unaffiliated | 58 | 36 | 6 | 41 | 45 | 14 |
| College grad | 57 | 37 | 7 | 36 | 42 | 22 |
| Some college | 63 | 29 | 8 | 54 | 31 | 15 |
| HS or less | 74 | 17 | 8 | 50 | 21 | 28 |

Source: Survey conducted Jan. 7-14, 2016. Based on Democrats and those who lean toward the Democratic Party. Figures may not add to 100% due to rounding.

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Among Democrats who are registered to vote, those who see Clinton as a religious person are more likely than those who say she is not religious to think she would be a good or great president. The survey finds no such link between the perceived religiousness of Bernie Sanders and views of whether he would make for a good president. Roughly half of Democratic registered voters who think Sanders is religious believe he would be a good or great president (53%), as do 49% of Democrats who think Sanders is not particularly religious (or who do not know how religious he is).

For Clinton, views of religiousness linked with views of whether she would be good president; not so for Sanders

Based on Democratic and Democratic-leaning registered voters

| | Clinton is very/somewhat religious | Clinton is not too/not at all religious/no opinion |
|----------------------------|---|---|
| <i>Clinton would be...</i> | % | % |
| Great/good president | 69 | 54 |
| Average | 22 | 26 |
| Poor/terrible | 8 | 16 |
| Don't know/refused | <u>2</u> | <u>4</u> |
| | 100 | 100 |

| | Sanders is very/somewhat religious | Sanders is not too/not at all religious/no opinion |
|----------------------------|---|---|
| <i>Sanders would be...</i> | % | % |
| Great/good president | 53 | 49 |
| Average | 30 | 22 |
| Poor/terrible | 11 | 14 |
| Don't know/refused | <u>7</u> | <u>15</u> |
| | 100 | 100 |

Source: Survey conducted Jan. 7-14, 2016. Based on Democratic and Democratic-leaning registered voters. Figures may not add to 100% due to rounding.

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Overall, the survey finds some differences among major religious groups in views toward Democratic candidates. About two-thirds of religiously unaffiliated Democrats who are registered to vote (65%) say Sanders would be a good or great President; 46% of Democratic Catholics and 43% of Democratic Protestants agree. By contrast, the view that Clinton would make a good or great president is more common among Democratic Catholics (69%) and Democratic Protestants (66%) than among religious “nones” who identify as Democrats (57%).

About two-thirds of unaffiliated Democrats say Sanders would be good or great president

Based on Democratic and Democratic-leaning registered voters

| | Would Clinton be _____ president? | | | Would Sanders be _____ president? | | |
|--------------|-----------------------------------|--------------|------------------------|-----------------------------------|--------------|------------------------|
| | Good/ great % | Average % | Poor/ terrible % | Good/ great % | Average % | Poor/ terrible % |
| Total | 64 | 23 | 11 | 51 | 26 | 13 |
| Protestant | 66 | 18 | 13 | 43 | 27 | 14 |
| Catholic | 69 | 18 | 10 | 46 | 30 | 15 |
| Unaffiliated | 57 | 33 | 9 | 65 | 20 | 9 |

Source: Survey conducted Jan. 7-14, 2016. Based on Democratic and Democratic-leaning registered voters. Don't know/refused responses not shown.

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Trends in perceptions of religiousness: Obama and Clinton

The Pew Research Center last asked Americans about their impression of the religiousness of Barack Obama and Hillary Clinton in August 2007. (This survey marks the first time the Center has asked about the religiousness of Bernie Sanders and the current group of GOP presidential candidates.) Compared with 2007, the share of Americans who say Obama and Clinton are *not* religious has increased

markedly, while the share expressing no opinion about their religiousness has declined.

Roughly one-third of Americans now say that Obama is not too or not at all religious, up from 9% in 2007. Over this period, the share expressing no opinion of Obama's religiousness declined from 40% to 6%. The share of Americans saying Clinton is not religious now stands at 43%, up from 24% in 2007.

Growing share say Obama, Clinton are not religious; fewer now express no opinion

| | General public | | Rep/lean Rep | | Dem/lean Dem | |
|--|----------------|----------|--------------|----------|--------------|----------|
| | Aug 2007 | Jan 2016 | Aug 2007 | Jan 2016 | Aug 2007 | Jan 2016 |
| <i>How religious is Barack Obama?</i> | % | % | % | % | % | % |
| Very/somewhat | 50 | 59 | 47 | 38 | 57 | 76 |
| Not too/not at all | 9 | 35 | 13 | 57 | 8 | 19 |
| No opinion | <u>40</u> | <u>6</u> | <u>40</u> | <u>5</u> | <u>35</u> | <u>5</u> |
| | 100 | 100 | 100 | 100 | 100 | 100 |
| <i>How religious is Hillary Clinton?</i> | | | | | | |
| Very/somewhat | 53 | 48 | 37 | 28 | 68 | 65 |
| Not too/not at all | 24 | 43 | 43 | 65 | 12 | 27 |
| No opinion | <u>22</u> | <u>9</u> | <u>20</u> | <u>7</u> | <u>19</u> | <u>8</u> |
| | 100 | 100 | 100 | 100 | 100 | 100 |

Source: Survey conducted Jan. 7-14, 2016. Figures may not add to 100% due to rounding.

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The shift in opinion has been most pronounced among Republicans. A majority of the GOP now say that both Obama and Clinton are not too or not at all religious (57% and 65%, respectively). Democrats are also now more likely to express an opinion on this question, and there has been an increase in the share of Democrats who say these political figures are not particularly religious. However, there are still far more Democrats who say Obama and Clinton *are* at least somewhat religious than who express the opposite view.

2. Religion and other candidate traits

Candidate traits: assets and liabilities

The survey asked about a series of hypothetical traits of presidential candidates and whether each would make one more or less likely to support a candidate. The most positive trait among those asked about was having served in the military: Half of Americans say they would be more likely to support a candidate with military experience, while very few (4%) would be less likely to support a military veteran; 45% say it wouldn't matter one way or the other. Being Catholic and having attended a prestigious university, such as Harvard or Yale, are other traits that are seen as more positive than negative among U.S. adults.

At the other end of the spectrum, half of Americans (51%) say they would be less likely to support a candidate who does not believe in God. Other examples of traits that are seen as more negative than positive are being Muslim, having had an extramarital affair in the past and having had personal financial troubles.

Views of presidential traits: military experience seen most positively, not believing in God most negatively

% of U.S. adults who would be more/less likely to support a candidate for president who ...

| <i>Traits that are assets</i> | More likely | Less likely | Wouldn't matter | Don't know |
|---|--------------------|--------------------|------------------------|-------------------|
| Has served in the military | 50 | 4 | 45 | 1=100 |
| Attended prestigious university | 20 | 6 | 74 | * |
| Is Catholic | 16 | 8 | 75 | 1 |
| <i>Traits that are neither assets nor liabilities</i> | | | | |
| Is an evangelical Christian | 22 | 20 | 55 | 3 |
| Is Jewish | 8 | 10 | 80 | 2 |
| <i>Traits that are liabilities</i> | | | | |
| Has longtime Washington experience | 22 | 31 | 46 | 1 |
| Has used marijuana in the past | 6 | 20 | 74 | 1 |
| Is Mormon | 5 | 23 | 69 | 3 |
| Is gay or lesbian | 4 | 26 | 69 | 1 |
| Had personal financial troubles | 8 | 41 | 49 | 2 |
| Had extramarital affair in past | 3 | 37 | 58 | 2 |
| Is Muslim | 3 | 42 | 53 | 2 |
| Does not believe in God | 6 | 51 | 41 | 1 |

Source: Survey conducted Jan. 7-14, 2016. Items ranked from largest net positive to largest net negative. Figures may not add to 100% due to rounding.

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Impact of candidates' religion on potential support

Being an atheist remains one of the biggest potential liabilities a presidential candidate could have. But a lack of belief in God is less of a liability today than it was in the recent past. As recently as 2007, 61% of Americans said they would be less likely to vote for an atheist presidential candidate, while just 3% said they would be more likely to vote for a nonbeliever. Today, the number of people saying they would be less likely to support an atheist has declined to 51%, while 6% say they would be more likely to vote for a nonbelieving presidential candidate. The ratio of negative to positive feelings toward an atheist presidential candidate now stands at about nine-to-one, compared with about twenty-to-one just a few years ago.

Being an atheist still a liability for politicians, but acceptance is increasing

Would you be more likely or less likely to support a candidate for president who does not believe in God, or wouldn't this matter to you?

| | August 2007 | | | April 2014 | | | January 2016 | | |
|----------------------------|-------------|-------------|-----------------|-------------|-------------|-----------------|--------------|-------------|-----------------|
| | More likely | Less likely | Wouldn't matter | More likely | Less likely | Wouldn't matter | More likely | Less likely | Wouldn't matter |
| | % | % | % | % | % | % | % | % | % |
| Total | 3 | 61 | 34 | 5 | 53 | 41 | 6 | 51 | 41 |
| Republican/lean Republican | 3 | 70 | 26 | 2 | 67 | 29 | 5 | 65 | 29 |
| Democrat/lean Democrat | 3 | 55 | 41 | 7 | 42 | 49 | 7 | 41 | 51 |
| Protestant | 3 | 74 | 23 | 2 | 71 | 25 | 4 | 71 | 24 |
| <i>White evangelical</i> | 3 | 86 | 10 | 2 | 82 | 15 | 4 | 83 | 12 |
| <i>White mainline</i> | 3 | 60 | 36 | 2 | 60 | 36 | 3 | 56 | 40 |
| <i>Black Protestant</i> | 2 | 77 | 20 | 2 | 76 | 21 | 4 | 75 | 19 |
| Catholic | 2 | 58 | 38 | 5 | 48 | 43 | 7 | 53 | 38 |
| <i>White Catholic</i> | 2 | 55 | 42 | 1 | 52 | 45 | 5 | 51 | 43 |
| <i>Hispanic Catholic</i> | -- | -- | -- | -- | -- | -- | 11 | 59 | 28 |
| Unaffiliated | 8 | 28 | 64 | 12 | 24 | 64 | 10 | 17 | 72 |

Source: Survey conducted Jan. 7-14, 2016. Don't know/refused responses not shown. Whites and blacks include only those who are not Hispanic. Hispanics are of any race.

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The decreased negativity toward atheists is seen among both parties, but it is especially pronounced among Democrats and those who lean toward the Democratic Party. About four-in-ten Democrats (41%) now say they would be less likely to support an atheist presidential candidate, down from 55% in 2007. Most Republicans and those who lean toward the Republican Party (65%) still say they would be less likely to support an atheist for president, though the share who say they would be turned off by a nonbelieving candidate has declined slightly from 70% in 2007.

Protestants' views toward atheist candidates have not changed very much in recent years. Catholics, however, are now slightly more accepting of atheist candidates than in 2007. Similarly, religious "nones" – who have long been *most* accepting of atheist presidential candidates – have also become *more* accepting of nonbelieving candidates over time. In addition, religious "nones" have grown significantly as a share of the U.S. population since 2007, which could help account for the growing acceptance of atheist candidates seen among the public as a whole.

Four-in-ten Americans say they would be less likely to support a candidate for president who is Muslim (42%), though the share saying this has shrunk slightly since the question was first asked in 2007 (46%). Republicans and white evangelical Protestants hold particularly negative views of potential Muslim candidates. Roughly six-in-ten or more in each group say they would be less likely to support a Muslim candidate (62% and 65%, respectively).

Many Catholics, white evangelicals say they would be more likely to support a candidate who shares their faith

Would you be more likely or less likely to support a presidential candidate who _____, or wouldn't this matter to you?

| | ...is Catholic | | | ...is an evangelical Christian | | | ...is Jewish | | | ...is Mormon | | | ...is Muslim | | |
|----------------|----------------|-------------|---------|--------------------------------|-------------|---------|--------------|-------------|---------|--------------|-------------|---------|--------------|-------------|---------|
| | More likely | Less likely | No diff | More likely | Less likely | No diff | More likely | Less likely | No diff | More likely | Less likely | No diff | More likely | Less likely | No diff |
| <i>Among</i> | % | % | % | % | % | % | % | % | % | % | % | % | % | % | % |
| Total | 16 | 8 | 75 | 22 | 20 | 55 | 8 | 10 | 80 | 5 | 23 | 69 | 3 | 42 | 53 |
| Rep/lean Rep | 18 | 9 | 74 | 33 | 12 | 52 | 10 | 7 | 81 | 8 | 22 | 69 | 2 | 62 | 34 |
| Dem/lean Dem | 16 | 8 | 75 | 14 | 27 | 57 | 5 | 10 | 84 | 3 | 24 | 69 | 5 | 27 | 66 |
| Protestant | 15 | 11 | 74 | 37 | 11 | 49 | 12 | 10 | 76 | 5 | 27 | 64 | 3 | 55 | 39 |
| White evang. | 12 | 15 | 73 | 51 | 6 | 41 | 13 | 11 | 76 | 5 | 32 | 61 | 3 | 65 | 30 |
| White mainline | 13 | 6 | 81 | 15 | 24 | 58 | 6 | 12 | 81 | 4 | 16 | 76 | 1 | 55 | 39 |
| Black Prot. | -- | -- | -- | 36 | 8 | 53 | -- | -- | -- | -- | -- | -- | 6 | 39 | 52 |
| Catholic | 39 | 1 | 58 | 15 | 17 | 65 | 4 | 11 | 84 | 8 | 20 | 70 | 4 | 44 | 50 |
| White Catholic | 29 | 2 | 69 | 10 | 18 | 68 | 5 | 1 | 93 | 7 | 14 | 79 | 3 | 45 | 52 |
| Hispanic Cath. | -- | -- | -- | 23 | 14 | 61 | -- | -- | -- | -- | -- | -- | 5 | 46 | 45 |
| Unaffiliated | 3 | 8 | 89 | 4 | 35 | 57 | 2 | 10 | 86 | 2 | 23 | 74 | 2 | 21 | 76 |

Source: Survey conducted Jan. 7-14, 2016. Don't know/refused responses not shown. Whites and blacks include only those who are not Hispanic. Hispanics are of any race.

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Being Mormon is also seen more negatively than positively by U.S. adults, with roughly a quarter (23%) saying they would be less likely to support a Mormon candidate and only 5% saying this would make a candidate more desirable. Evangelicals stand out from other religious groups for their comparatively high levels of wariness toward Mormon presidential candidates, though [the vast majority of evangelical voters supported Mitt Romney in the 2012 presidential election](#).

Catholic candidates are seen more positively than negatively by the American public, with 16% saying they would be more likely to support a Catholic candidate and 8% saying they would be less likely. Catholics, in particular, express support for hypothetical candidates who share their religion; 39% of Catholics say they would be more likely to vote for a Catholic presidential candidate, while just 1% say they would be less likely to do this.

The balance of opinion on Jewish and evangelical candidates is more evenly divided, with roughly equal shares saying they would be more likely to support each kind of candidate as saying they would be less likely.

Large numbers of white evangelicals and black Protestants (most of whom identify themselves as born-again or evangelical Christians) say they would be more likely to support an evangelical presidential candidate. Religious “nones,” by contrast, display the greatest wariness toward evangelical candidates; 35% say they would be less likely to support an evangelical and just 4% say they would be more likely to vote for an evangelical Christian for president.

Impact of candidates' personal life on potential support

Acceptance of gay and lesbian candidates has grown rapidly in recent years, reflecting [increased acceptance of homosexuality and same-sex marriage more broadly](#). As recently as 2007, nearly half of Americans (46%) said they would be less likely to support gay or lesbian presidential candidates. Today, one-quarter of Americans say they would be less likely to support a gay or lesbian presidential candidate (26%), while 4% say they would be more likely to support a candidate who is gay or lesbian. About seven-in-ten now say a candidate's sexual orientation would not influence their vote.

Nearly seven-in-ten now say a candidate's sexual orientation would make no difference in their voting decision

Would you be more likely or less likely to support a candidate for president who is gay or lesbian, or wouldn't this matter to you?

| | February 2007 | | | April 2014 | | | January 2016 | | |
|----------------------------|---------------|-------------|-----------------|-------------|-------------|-----------------|--------------|-------------|-----------------|
| | More likely | Less likely | Wouldn't matter | More likely | Less likely | Wouldn't matter | More likely | Less likely | Wouldn't matter |
| | % | % | % | % | % | % | % | % | % |
| Total | 1 | 46 | 51 | 5 | 27 | 66 | 4 | 26 | 69 |
| Republican/lean Republican | * | 62 | 36 | 1 | 41 | 55 | 2 | 38 | 59 |
| Democrat/lean Democrat | 2 | 38 | 58 | 7 | 16 | 75 | 6 | 16 | 77 |
| Protestant | 1 | 56 | 41 | 3 | 39 | 56 | 2 | 38 | 58 |
| <i>White evangelical</i> | 1 | 71 | 26 | 3 | 54 | 41 | 1 | 54 | 44 |
| <i>White mainline</i> | 1 | 37 | 59 | * | 26 | 72 | 2 | 21 | 75 |
| <i>Black Protestant</i> | 4 | 56 | 39 | 5 | 29 | 63 | 4 | 34 | 61 |
| Catholic | 0 | 36 | 64 | 5 | 20 | 72 | 5 | 21 | 72 |
| <i>White Catholic</i> | 0 | 40 | 59 | 2 | 18 | 78 | 3 | 20 | 75 |
| <i>Hispanic Catholic</i> | -- | -- | -- | -- | -- | -- | 7 | 24 | 66 |
| Unaffiliated | 1 | 27 | 70 | 7 | 10 | 82 | 7 | 11 | 82 |

Source: Survey conducted Jan. 7-14, 2016. Don't know/refused responses not shown. Whites and blacks include only those who are not Hispanic. Hispanics are of any race.

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Increased acceptance of homosexual candidates is broad-based, having occurred among both Republicans and Democrats and within every major religious group. For example, in 2007, about six-in-ten Republicans (62%) said they would be less likely to support a gay or lesbian presidential candidate. Today, just 38% of Republicans express that view, a decline of 24 percentage points. Nearly six-in-ten Republicans (59%) now say a candidate's sexual orientation makes no difference to them.

Similarly, while white evangelical Protestants remain more wary than those in other religious groups of gay and lesbian candidates, they have grown more accepting over time. Today, roughly half of white evangelicals (54%) say they would be less likely to vote for a gay or lesbian presidential candidate, down from 71% in 2007.

More white evangelical Protestants and Catholics see past marijuana use as a negative than a positive. White mainline

Protestants and the religiously unaffiliated, by comparison, are more ambivalent on the issue. Roughly eight-in-ten in each group say this wouldn't affect their support for a candidate one way or the other, while the remainder are roughly evenly divided between those saying they would be less likely and those saying they would be more likely to support a candidate who has used marijuana.

Roughly half of white evangelical Protestants (56%) would be less likely to support a candidate who has had an extramarital affair in the past, compared with roughly four-in-ten Catholics (41%) and

white mainline Protestants (38%) and a quarter of religiously unaffiliated adults (26%). The survey also finds that Republicans and those who lean toward the GOP are more wary than Democrats about candidates who have infidelity in their past.

White evangelicals particularly negative toward candidates who had affairs

Would you be more likely or less likely to support a presidential candidate who _____, or wouldn't this matter to you?

| | Used marijuana | | | Had an affair | | | Had personal financial troubles | | |
|----------------|----------------|-------------|---------|---------------|-------------|---------|---------------------------------|-------------|---------|
| | More likely | Less likely | No diff | More likely | Less likely | No diff | More likely | Less likely | No diff |
| <i>Among</i> | % | % | % | % | % | % | % | % | % |
| Total | 6 | 20 | 74 | 3 | 37 | 58 | 8 | 41 | 49 |
| Rep/lean Rep | 4 | 21 | 74 | 2 | 49 | 48 | 6 | 42 | 50 |
| Dem/lean Dem | 6 | 16 | 78 | 3 | 32 | 64 | 9 | 42 | 48 |
| Protestant | 6 | 21 | 71 | 2 | 43 | 53 | 10 | 41 | 46 |
| White evang. | 5 | 25 | 70 | 1 | 56 | 42 | 8 | 41 | 49 |
| White mainline | 7 | 15 | 78 | 4 | 38 | 56 | 6 | 47 | 46 |
| Catholic | 2 | 23 | 74 | 4 | 41 | 54 | 5 | 42 | 50 |
| White Catholic | 3 | 12 | 85 | 4 | 39 | 56 | 6 | 41 | 50 |
| Unaffiliated | 9 | 10 | 81 | 1 | 26 | 73 | 6 | 39 | 53 |

Source: Survey conducted Jan. 7-14, 2016. Don't know/refused responses not shown. Results for black Protestants and Hispanic Catholics not shown due to insufficient sample size.

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Impact of candidates' professional and educational experience on potential support

Half of U.S. adults say they would be more likely to support a candidate who has served in the military, and 45% say this wouldn't matter one way or another.

Protestants are particularly likely to say that having served in the military would make them more likely to support a candidate for president, with roughly six-in-ten white evangelical Protestants (64%) and white mainline Protestants (60%) holding this view. The survey also shows that military service is a bigger selling point among Republicans and those who lean toward the GOP than among Democrats.

Protestants see military experience as a positive, Washington experience as a negative

Would you be more likely or less likely to support a presidential candidate who _____, or wouldn't this matter to you?

| | Served in the military | | | Attended prestigious university | | | Has been elected official in Washington for many years | | |
|----------------|------------------------|-------------|---------|---------------------------------|-------------|---------|--|-------------|---------|
| | More likely | Less likely | No diff | More likely | Less likely | No diff | More likely | Less likely | No diff |
| <i>Among</i> | % | % | % | % | % | % | % | % | % |
| Total | 50 | 4 | 45 | 20 | 6 | 74 | 22 | 31 | 46 |
| Rep/lean Rep | 67 | 2 | 30 | 14 | 9 | 78 | 18 | 44 | 37 |
| Dem/lean Dem | 39 | 5 | 55 | 24 | 4 | 71 | 27 | 19 | 53 |
| Protestant | 57 | 5 | 37 | 17 | 6 | 78 | 22 | 36 | 41 |
| White evang. | 64 | 6 | 29 | 11 | 6 | 83 | 18 | 47 | 34 |
| White mainline | 60 | 2 | 39 | 18 | 3 | 79 | 21 | 39 | 37 |
| Catholic | 52 | 3 | 43 | 28 | 5 | 67 | 25 | 26 | 49 |
| White Catholic | 53 | 0 | 47 | 13 | 7 | 81 | 19 | 31 | 49 |
| Unaffiliated | 40 | 5 | 54 | 20 | 6 | 73 | 19 | 27 | 52 |

Source: Survey conducted Jan. 7-14, 2016. Don't know/refused responses not shown. Results for black Protestants and Hispanic Catholics not shown due to insufficient sample size.

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Among the public as a whole, more see having attended a prestigious university as a positive (20%) than a negative (6%), but a majority (74%) say it wouldn't matter to them. Compared with other religious groups, fewer white evangelical Protestants say they would be more likely to support a candidate who attended a prestigious university, but majorities in all major religious groups say this characteristic would not matter to them.

Americans as a whole see having been an elected official in Washington as more of a negative (31%) than a positive (22%). This is especially true for white evangelical Protestants and white mainline Protestants. Catholics are more divided on this question. Half of Catholics (49%) say it wouldn't matter to them if a candidate has served as an elected official in Washington for many years, while a quarter say this would make them more likely to support a candidate; about as many Catholics (26%) say it would make them less likely to offer their support.

By more than a two-to-one margin, Republicans say they would be less likely to support a candidate with a lot of Washington experience than say they would be more likely to support a Washington insider. Democrats are more evenly divided; 27% say they would be more likely to support a candidate with a lot of Washington experience, while 19% say they would be less inclined to support such a candidate.

3. Religion in public life

Religious expression by political leaders

Currently, 27% of Americans say there has been too much discussion of religious faith and prayer by political leaders, while 40% say there has been too little religious discussion. At a similar point in the 2012 presidential campaign, the balance of opinion on this question leaned in the opposite direction – 38% thought there was too much religious discussion occurring, and 30% thought there was too little.

Compared with last presidential campaign, more now say ‘too little’ religious discussion by political leaders

% of U.S. adults who say political leaders have been talking about their faith and prayer...

| | Mar 2012 | Sept 2014 | Jan 2016 |
|--------------|-----------------|------------------|-----------------|
| | % | % | % |
| Too much | 38 | 30 | 27 |
| Too little | 30 | 41 | 40 |
| Right amount | 25 | 23 | 26 |
| Don't know | 7 | 7 | 7 |
| | 100 | 100 | 100 |

Source: Survey conducted Jan. 7-14, 2016. Figures may not add to 100% due to rounding.

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Upwards of half of Republicans and those who lean toward the GOP now say there has been too little (53%) religious talk from political leaders, up 14 percentage points since 2012. Just 15% of Republicans say there has been too much of this kind of discussion. Democrats also have become somewhat more likely to say there has been too little discussion of faith by political leaders. In 2012, far more Democrats said there was too much religious talk by politicians (48%) than said there was too little (24%). Democrats are now more evenly divided on this question; 31% say there has been too little discussion of religion by political leaders, and 37% say there has been too much.

Most white evangelical Protestants (68%) and black Protestants (64%) say there has been too little expression of religious faith and prayer by political leaders. At the other end of the spectrum, half of religious “nones” (50%) say there has been too much religious talk from politicians. However, even religious “nones” have become less likely to say there is too much religious discussion by political leaders.

Both Republicans and Democrats increasingly say ‘too little’ religious discussion by political leaders

Have political leaders been talking about their faith and prayer...

| | Too much | | Too little | |
|--------------------------|----------|------|------------|------|
| | 2012 | 2016 | 2012 | 2016 |
| | % | % | % | % |
| Total | 38 | 27 | 30 | 40 |
| Rep/lean Rep | 26 | 15 | 39 | 53 |
| Dem/lean Dem | 48 | 37 | 24 | 31 |
| Protestant | 28 | 15 | 41 | 57 |
| <i>White evangelical</i> | 14 | 9 | 55 | 68 |
| <i>White mainline</i> | 44 | 27 | 19 | 38 |
| <i>Black Protestant</i> | 30 | 15 | 41 | 64 |
| Catholic | 32 | 22 | 29 | 38 |
| <i>White Catholic</i> | 40 | 27 | 25 | 36 |
| <i>Hispanic Catholic</i> | – | 14 | – | 41 |
| Unaffiliated | 64 | 50 | 10 | 15 |

Source: Survey conducted Jan. 7-14, 2016. Whites and blacks include only those who are not Hispanic. Hispanics are of any race.

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Half want president who shares their religious beliefs

About half of Americans say it is important to them that a president shares their religious beliefs, including 27% who say it is very important and 24% who say it is somewhat important.

More than six-in-ten Republicans and those who lean toward the Republican Party say it is at least somewhat important to them that a president shares their religious beliefs, including 33% who say this is very important. Most Democrats, by contrast, say it is not too or not at all important that a president shares their religious views (58%).

About eight-in-ten white evangelical Protestants (83%) and seven-in-ten black

Protestants (72%) say it is at least somewhat important to them to have a president who shares their religious beliefs. Catholics (55%) and white mainline Protestants (44%) are less likely to express this view. And just one-in-five religious “nones” (20%) say it is important for a president to share their religious beliefs.

In previous years, the Pew Research Center has posed a different question about presidential religiousness, asking whether respondents agree or disagree that “it is important that the president have strong religious beliefs.” Large majorities of Americans – roughly seven-in-ten – consistently agree with this statement. While the questions are not directly comparable, the results suggest that is more important to the American people to have a president with strong religious convictions – even if those convictions are different than their own – than it is to have a president who shares their particular religious beliefs. In other words, *what* the president believes may be less important to the American people than *whether* the president is a believer.

About half of Americans say it is important to them that a president shares their religious beliefs

| | NET Very / somewhat important | Very important | Somewhat important | NET Not too/not at all important | Don't know |
|-------------------|-------------------------------------|-------------------|-----------------------|---|------------|
| | % | % | % | % | % |
| Total | 51 | 27 | 24 | 48 | 1=100 |
| Rep/lean Rep | 64 | 33 | 31 | 35 | 1 |
| Dem/lean Dem | 41 | 22 | 19 | 58 | 1 |
| Protestant | 68 | 39 | 29 | 31 | 2 |
| White evangelical | 83 | 52 | 31 | 15 | 1 |
| White mainline | 44 | 17 | 27 | 54 | 1 |
| Black Protestant | 72 | 44 | 29 | 26 | 2 |
| Catholic | 55 | 25 | 30 | 43 | 2 |
| White Catholic | 45 | 16 | 29 | 54 | 1 |
| Hispanic Catholic | 72 | 40 | 32 | 25 | 2 |
| Unaffiliated | 20 | 9 | 11 | 80 | 1 |

Source: Survey conducted Jan. 7-14, 2016. Figures may not add to 100% due to rounding. Whites and blacks include only those who are not Hispanic. Hispanics are of any race.

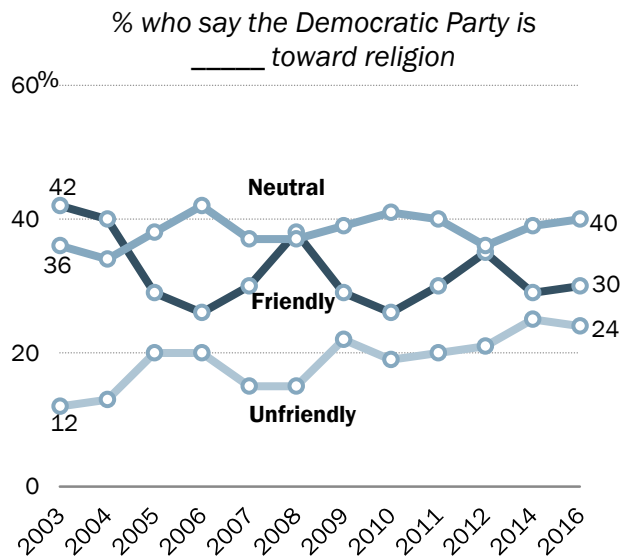
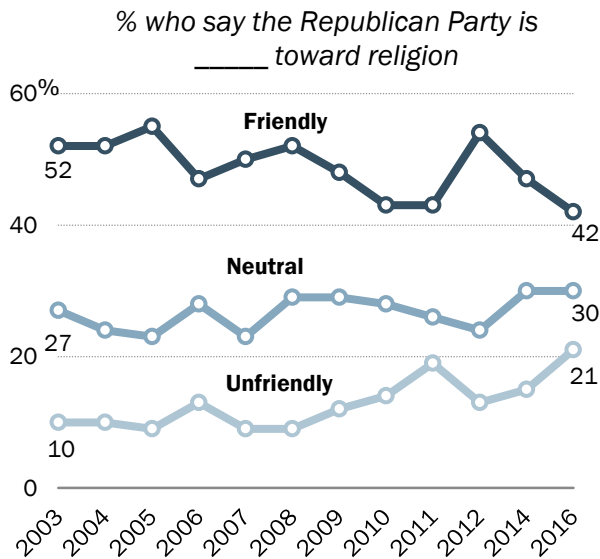
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Which institutions are friendly toward religion?

Roughly four-in-ten adults (42%) think the Republican Party is friendly toward religion, with 30% saying the GOP is neutral toward religion and 21% saying it is unfriendly toward religion. Fewer (30%) see the Democratic Party as friendly toward religion, with 40% describing the Democratic Party as neutral toward religion and 24% describing it as unfriendly toward religion.

Public opinion on these questions has fluctuated over the years. But the GOP has consistently been rated as friendly toward religion by more people than has the Democratic Party.

More see GOP as religion-friendly than say the same about the Democratic Party



Source: Survey conducted Jan. 7-14, 2016. Don't know/refused responses not shown.

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The GOP is seen as friendly toward religion by most Republicans and those who lean toward the GOP (57%), as well as by about one-third of those who support the Democratic Party (35%).

Democrats are evenly split about whether their own party is friendly (46%) or neutral (46%) toward religion. By contrast, about half of Republicans say the Democratic Party is unfriendly toward religion.

Half of white mainline Protestants (50%) and about as many white evangelical Protestants (48%) say the Republican Party is friendly toward religion, and 45% of religiously unaffiliated adults say the same. Fewer Catholics (36%) and black Protestants (25%) say the GOP is friendly toward religion.

The Democratic Party is viewed as friendly toward religion by 46% of black Protestants. Among other religious groups, roughly one-third or fewer share this perspective.

Four-in-ten say GOP is friendly toward religion; three-in-ten say Democratic Party is friendly toward religion

% who say the Republican Party is
_____ toward religion

| | Friendly % | Neutral % | Unfriendly % |
|-------------------|---------------|--------------|-----------------|
| Total | 42 | 30 | 21 |
| Rep/lean Rep | 57 | 33 | 7 |
| Dem/lean Dem | 35 | 25 | 34 |
| Protestant | 43 | 32 | 19 |
| White evangelical | 48 | 35 | 10 |
| White mainline | 50 | 28 | 15 |
| Black Protestant | 25 | 33 | 36 |
| Catholic | 36 | 32 | 24 |
| White Catholic | 52 | 30 | 13 |
| Hispanic Catholic | 15 | 35 | 39 |
| Unaffiliated | 45 | 24 | 23 |

% who say the Democratic Party is
_____ toward religion

| | Friendly % | Neutral % | Unfriendly % |
|-------------------|---------------|--------------|-----------------|
| Total | 30 | 40 | 24 |
| Rep/lean Rep | 14 | 32 | 51 |
| Dem/lean Dem | 46 | 46 | 5 |
| Protestant | 26 | 35 | 32 |
| White evangelical | 15 | 33 | 46 |
| White mainline | 28 | 35 | 28 |
| Black Protestant | 46 | 37 | 12 |
| Catholic | 30 | 39 | 24 |
| White Catholic | 24 | 38 | 33 |
| Hispanic Catholic | 36 | 42 | 12 |
| Unaffiliated | 34 | 49 | 11 |

Source: Survey conducted Jan. 7-14, 2016. Whites and blacks include only those who are not Hispanic. Hispanics are of any race. Don't know/refused responses not shown.

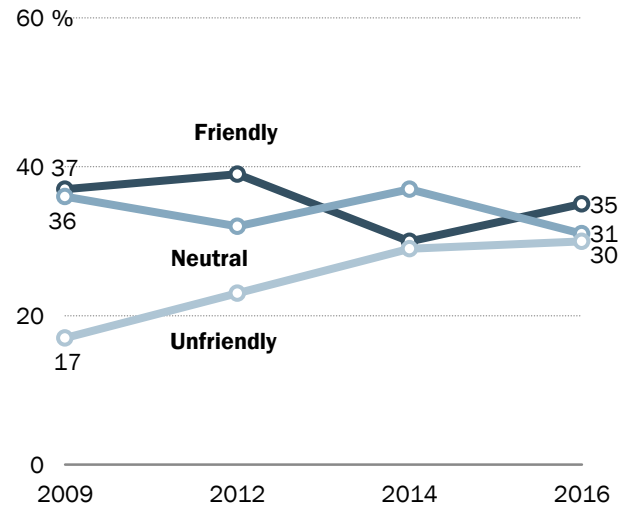
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The share of Americans who rate the Obama administration as friendly toward religion has increased in the last two years. Currently, 35% say the administration is friendly toward religion, up from 30% in 2014. Three-in-ten (30%) see the Obama administration as unfriendly toward religion, up from 17% in 2009 and 23% in 2012, but steady since 2014.

Most Republicans rate the administration as unfriendly toward religion (59%). However an overwhelming majority of Democrats and those who lean toward the Democratic Party rate the Obama administration as either friendly (51%) or neutral (39%) toward religion.

Six-in-ten black Protestants say the Obama administration is friendly toward religion, and roughly four-in-ten religiously unaffiliated adults (39%) and Catholics (40%) say the same. By comparison, just 14% of white evangelical Protestants say the Obama administration is friendly toward religion.

Slight uptick in share of Americans who say Obama administration is friendly toward religion



Source: Survey conducted Jan. 7-14, 2016.

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One-third say Obama administration friendly toward religion, three-in-ten unfriendly

| | % who say the Obama administration is ____ toward religion | | |
|-------------------|--|-----------|--------------|
| | Friendly % | Neutral % | Unfriendly % |
| Total | 35 | 31 | 30 |
| Rep/lean Rep | 16 | 23 | 59 |
| Dem/lean Dem | 51 | 39 | 8 |
| Protestant | 28 | 25 | 42 |
| White evangelical | 14 | 21 | 61 |
| White mainline | 24 | 26 | 45 |
| Black Protestant | 61 | 33 | 4 |
| Catholic | 40 | 33 | 26 |
| White Catholic | 32 | 30 | 36 |
| Hispanic Catholic | 47 | 38 | 12 |
| Unaffiliated | 39 | 44 | 13 |

Source: Survey conducted Jan. 7-14, 2016. Whites and blacks include only those who are not Hispanic. Hispanics are of any race. Don't know/refused responses not shown.

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Roughly half of the public views the Supreme Court as neutral toward religion, a similar share as in 2014. There has been a slight decline in the share of Americans who say the Supreme Court is friendly toward religion, dropping 5 percentage points from 21% in 2014 to 16% in 2016.

Half say Supreme Court is neutral toward religion

| | Sept 2014 | Jan 2016 |
|----------------------------|--------------|-------------|
| <i>Supreme Court is...</i> | % | % |
| Friendly toward religion | 21 | 16 |
| Neutral | 50 | 52 |
| Unfriendly | 22 | 25 |
| Don't know | 7 | 7 |
| | 100 | 100 |

Source: Survey conducted Jan. 7-14, 2016.
Figures may not add to 100% due to rounding.

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Religious conservatives, secular liberals and control of the parties

Half of the public says religious conservatives have too much control over the Republican Party, which is similar to how Americans felt in 2012. Fewer express the view that liberals who are not religious have too much control over the Democratic Party (44%).

Half say GOP too influenced by religious conservatives

| <i>% who say religious conservatives have too much control over the GOP</i> | Mar 2012 | Jan 2016 |
|---|-----------------|-----------------|
| | % | % |
| Agree | 51 | 51 |
| Disagree | 40 | 41 |
| Don't know | <u>9</u> | <u>7</u> |
| | 100 | 100 |

% who say secular liberals have too much control over the Democratic Party

| | | |
|------------|-----------|----------|
| Agree | 41 | 44 |
| Disagree | 49 | 47 |
| Don't know | <u>10</u> | <u>9</u> |
| | 100 | 100 |

Source: Survey conducted Jan. 7-14, 2016.
Figures may not add to 100% due to rounding.

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Two-thirds of Democrats say religious conservatives have too much control over the GOP. Conversely, two-thirds of Republicans say secular liberals have too much control over the Democratic Party.

The majority of white evangelical Protestants agree that secular liberals have too much control over the Democratic Party (66%). Half of white mainline Protestants (50%) and Catholics (48%) also share this view. Black Protestants and religious “nones” are among the least likely to think secular liberals have too much control over the Democratic Party.

Seven-in-ten religiously unaffiliated adults agree that religious conservatives have too much control over the GOP. Half of white mainline Protestants (50%) and Catholics (52%) share this sentiment. Far fewer white evangelical Protestants (31%) say religious conservatives have too much control over the GOP.

Most white evangelical Protestants say secular liberals have too much control over the Democratic Party

| | <i>Religious conservatives have too much control over the GOP</i> | | <i>Secular liberals have too much control over the Democratic Party</i> | |
|--------------------------|---|-----------------|---|-----------------|
| | Agree | Disagree | Agree | Disagree |
| | % | % | % | % |
| Total | 51 | 41 | 44 | 47 |
| Rep/lean Rep | 36 | 59 | 68 | 25 |
| Dem/lean Dem | 68 | 27 | 29 | 65 |
| Protestant | 40 | 53 | 54 | 37 |
| <i>White evangelical</i> | 31 | 64 | 66 | 27 |
| <i>White mainline</i> | 50 | 43 | 50 | 41 |
| <i>Black Protestant</i> | 48 | 43 | 37 | 51 |
| Catholic | 52 | 40 | 48 | 42 |
| <i>White Catholic</i> | 52 | 43 | 50 | 43 |
| <i>Hispanic Catholic</i> | 49 | 41 | 44 | 43 |
| Unaffiliated | 71 | 22 | 25 | 67 |

Source: Survey conducted Jan. 7-14, 2016. Whites and blacks include only those who are not Hispanic. Hispanics are of any race. Don't know and refused responses not shown.

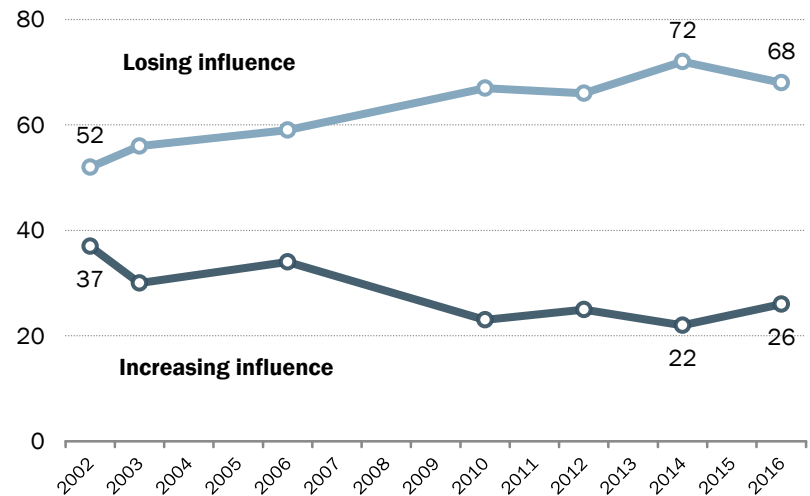
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Religion's influence on American society

Roughly seven-in-ten (68%) Americans say that religion is losing influence on American life, a [slight decline](#) since September, 2014, when a peak of nearly three-quarters of the public expressed this opinion. About one-in-four adults say religion is increasing its influence, 3% say that religion's influence has remained steady in recent years, and 4% did not answer the question.

Most Americans continue to say religion is losing influence

At the present time, do you think religion as a whole is increasing its influence on American life or losing its influence?



Source: Survey conducted Jan. 7-14, 2016.

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Americans who think religion's influence is declining mostly see this as a bad thing; about half (51%) of Americans think religion's influence is declining and that this is a bad thing, while just 13% think religion's influence is declining and see this as a good thing.

About three-quarters (74%) of white evangelical Protestants say religion's influence is waning and that this is a bad thing. At the other end of the spectrum, religiously unaffiliated Americans are divided over whether the decreasing influence of religion is a good thing (32%) or a bad thing (26%).

Two-thirds of Republicans and those who lean toward the GOP say religion's influence in society is declining and that this is a bad thing. Fewer Democrats share this view, though the balance of opinion leans in the same direction; there are far more Democrats who see religion's declining influence as a bad thing (38%) than who see it as a good thing (19%).

Among the 26% of Americans who think religion's influence is increasing, opinion is split as to whether this constitutes a negative or a positive development; 12% say growing religious influence is a good thing, while 12% say it is a bad thing.

Half see religion's decreasing influence as bad thing for American life

| | Religion is losing its influence on American life and this is a... | | | |
|-------------------|--|-----------|----------------------|-------------------------------|
| | Good thing | Bad thing | Both/neither/depends | NET Religion losing influence |
| | % | % | % | % |
| Total | 13 | 51 | 3 | =68 |
| Protestant | 5 | 65 | 2 | =73 |
| White evangelical | 3 | 74 | 1 | =77 |
| White mainline | 10 | 57 | 2 | =71 |
| Black Protestant | 5 | 64 | 1 | =70 |
| Catholic | 10 | 53 | 3 | =67 |
| White Catholic | 10 | 55 | 3 | =70 |
| Hispanic Catholic | 9 | 52 | 3 | =64 |
| Unaffiliated | 32 | 26 | 4 | =63 |
| Rep/lean Rep | 7 | 66 | 2 | =76 |
| Dem/lean Dem | 19 | 38 | 2 | =61 |

Source: Survey conducted Jan. 7-14, 2016. Figures may not add to totals due to rounding. Whites and blacks include only non-Hispanics. Hispanics are of any race.

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Methodology

The analysis in this report is based on telephone interviews conducted Jan. 7-14, 2016 among a national sample of 2,009 adults, 18 years of age or older, living in all 50 U.S. states and the District of Columbia (504 respondents were interviewed on a landline telephone, and 1,505 were interviewed on a cellphone, including 867 who had no landline telephone). The survey was conducted under the direction of Abt SRBI. A combination of landline and cellphone random digit dial samples were used; both samples were provided by Survey Sampling International. Interviews were conducted in English and Spanish. Respondents in the landline sample were selected by randomly asking for the youngest adult male or female who is now at home. Interviews in the cell sample were conducted with the person who answered the phone, if that person was an adult 18 years of age or older. For detailed information about our survey methodology, see <http://www.pewresearch.org/methodology/u-s-survey-research/>.

The combined landline and cellphone sample is weighted using an iterative technique that matches gender, age, education, race, Hispanic origin and nativity and region to parameters from the Census Bureau's 2014 American Community Survey and population density to parameters from the Decennial Census. The sample also is weighted to match current patterns of telephone status (landline only, cellphone only, or both landline and cellphone), based on extrapolations from the 2015 National Health Interview Survey. The weighting procedure also accounts for the fact that respondents with both landline and cellphones have a greater probability of being included in the combined sample and adjusts for household size among respondents with a landline phone. The margins of error reported and statistical tests of significance are adjusted to account for the survey's design effect, a measure of how much efficiency is lost from the weighting procedures.

The following table shows the unweighted sample sizes and the error attributable to sampling that would be expected at the 95% level of confidence for different groups in the survey:

Sample sizes and margins of error

| | Total | Prot- estant | White evangelical | White mainline | Black Prot. | Catholic | White Catholic | Hispanic Catholic | Unaffil- iated |
|---------------------------------------|-------|-----------------|----------------------|-------------------|----------------|----------|-------------------|----------------------|-------------------|
| Total sample | | | | | | | | | |
| Unweighted sample size | 2,009 | 915 | 368 | 284 | 133 | 439 | 273 | 139 | 429 |
| Plus or minus... percentage points | 2.5 | 3.7 | 5.8 | 6.6 | 9.7 | 5.3 | 6.8 | 9.5 | 5.4 |
| Republican/lean Republican | | | | | | | | | |
| Unweighted sample size | 849 | 487 | 273 | 151 | <100 | 200 | 155 | <100 | <100 |
| Plus or minus... points | 3.8 | 5.1 | 6.8 | 9.1 | n/a | 7.9 | 9.0 | n/a | n/a |
| Democratic/lean Democratic | | | | | | | | | |
| Unweighted sample size | 914 | 334 | <100 | 104 | 102 | 196 | 102 | <100 | 270 |
| Plus or minus... points | 3.7 | 6.1 | n/a | 10.9 | 11.1 | 8.0 | 11.1 | n/a | 6.8 |
| Registered voters (RVs) | | | | | | | | | |
| Unweighted sample size | 1,525 | 747 | 319 | 238 | 102 | 313 | 237 | <100 | 293 |
| Plus or minus... points | 2.9 | 4.1 | 6.3 | 7.2 | 11.1 | 6.3 | 7.3 | n/a | 6.5 |
| Republican/lean Republican RVs | | | | | | | | | |
| Unweighted sample size | 702 | 420 | 239 | 135 | <100 | 159 | 136 | <100 | <100 |
| Plus or minus... points | 4.2 | 5.4 | 7.2 | 9.6 | n/a | 8.9 | 9.6 | n/a | n/a |
| Democratic/lean Democratic RVs | | | | | | | | | |
| Unweighted sample size | 679 | 266 | <100 | <100 | <100 | 129 | <100 | <100 | 196 |
| Plus or minus... points | 4.3 | 6.8 | n/a | n/a | n/a | 9.8 | n/a | n/a | 8.0 |

Note: This report only includes results for groups in which the survey obtained a minimum of 100 interviews. As a result, margins of error are not reported for groups in which the survey obtained fewer than 100 interviews.

Sample sizes and sampling errors for other subgroups are available upon request.

In addition to sampling error, one should bear in mind that question wording and practical difficulties in conducting surveys can introduce error or bias into the findings of opinion polls.

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Detailed tables

Detailed tables: Views of Ben Carson as president, among registered voters

If Ben Carson were to become president, do you think he would be a great, good, average, poor or terrible president?

| | NET Great/good % | Great % | Good % | Average % | NET Poor/terrible % | Poor % | Terrible % | Never heard of/DK/Ref. % | N= |
|-----------------------------------|------------------------|------------|-----------|--------------|---------------------------|-----------|---------------|--------------------------------|-------|
| Total | 26 | 6 | 20 | 28 | 34 | 19 | 15 | 13=100 | 1,525 |
| Protestant | 34 | 8 | 26 | 27 | 25 | 16 | 9 | 14 | 747 |
| White evangelical | 52 | 16 | 36 | 24 | 14 | 9 | 5 | 10 | 319 |
| White mainline | 26 | 4 | 22 | 24 | 37 | 24 | 13 | 12 | 238 |
| Black Protestant | 13 | 2 | 11 | 39 | 29 | 17 | 11 | 19 | 102 |
| Catholic | 25 | 6 | 19 | 33 | 32 | 18 | 13 | 11 | 313 |
| White Catholic | 27 | 6 | 21 | 33 | 32 | 18 | 14 | 8 | 237 |
| Unaffiliated | 12 | 4 | 8 | 26 | 52 | 25 | 27 | 11 | 293 |
| <i>Attends religious services</i> | | | | | | | | | |
| Weekly+ | 36 | 11 | 25 | 26 | 25 | 16 | 9 | 13 | 583 |
| NET Less than weekly | 19 | 4 | 16 | 29 | 39 | 21 | 19 | 13 | 931 |
| Monthly/yearly | 24 | 5 | 19 | 31 | 33 | 19 | 15 | 11 | 514 |
| Seldom/never | 14 | 2 | 12 | 25 | 47 | 23 | 24 | 14 | 417 |

Survey conducted Jan. 7-14, 2016. Figures may not add to 100% or to subtotals indicated due to rounding. Based on registered voters. Whites and blacks include only non-Hispanics.

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Detailed tables: Views of Bernie Sanders as president, among registered voters

If Bernie Sanders were to become president, do you think he would be a great, good, average, poor or terrible president?

| | NET Great/good | Great | Good | Average | NET Poor/terrible | Poor | Terrible | Never heard of/DK/Ref. | N= |
|-----------------------------------|---------------------------|--------------|-------------|----------------|------------------------------|-------------|-----------------|-----------------------------------|-----------|
| | % | % | % | % | % | % | % | % | |
| Total | 30 | 9 | 21 | 22 | 35 | 18 | 17 | 12=100 | 1,525 |
| Protestant | 23 | 5 | 18 | 21 | 40 | 19 | 21 | 16 | 747 |
| White evangelical | 16 | 4 | 13 | 19 | 50 | 20 | 29 | 14 | 319 |
| White mainline | 24 | 7 | 17 | 20 | 44 | 24 | 20 | 11 | 238 |
| Black Protestant | 36 | 7 | 29 | 27 | 16 | 12 | 4 | 21 | 102 |
| Catholic | 28 | 6 | 21 | 24 | 39 | 20 | 19 | 10 | 313 |
| White Catholic | 26 | 6 | 20 | 21 | 46 | 24 | 23 | 6 | 237 |
| Unaffiliated | 51 | 20 | 30 | 23 | 19 | 12 | 7 | 7 | 293 |
| <i>Attends religious services</i> | | | | | | | | | |
| Weekly+ | 25 | 5 | 19 | 20 | 38 | 19 | 19 | 17 | 583 |
| NET Less than weekly | 34 | 12 | 22 | 24 | 33 | 18 | 16 | 9 | 931 |
| Monthly/yearly | 29 | 10 | 19 | 25 | 35 | 17 | 18 | 10 | 514 |
| Seldom/never | 40 | 14 | 26 | 22 | 31 | 18 | 13 | 7 | 417 |

Survey conducted Jan. 7-14, 2016. Figures may not add to 100% or to subtotals indicated due to rounding. Based on registered voters. Whites and blacks include only non-Hispanics.

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Detailed tables: Views of Chris Christie as president, among registered voters

If Chris Christie were to become president, do you think he would be a great, good, average, poor or terrible president?

| | NET Great/good | Great | Good | Average | NET Poor/terrible | Poor | Terrible | Never heard of/DK/Ref. | N= |
|-----------------------------------|---------------------------|--------------|-------------|----------------|------------------------------|-------------|-----------------|-----------------------------------|-----------|
| | % | % | % | % | % | % | % | % | |
| Total | 19 | 2 | 17 | 33 | 36 | 22 | 14 | 12=100 | 1,525 |
| Protestant | 21 | 2 | 20 | 35 | 31 | 20 | 11 | 13 | 747 |
| White evangelical | 24 | 1 | 23 | 39 | 27 | 17 | 10 | 10 | 319 |
| White mainline | 26 | 3 | 23 | 33 | 30 | 21 | 9 | 12 | 238 |
| Black Protestant | 8 | 2 | 6 | 33 | 41 | 24 | 16 | 18 | 102 |
| Catholic | 23 | 3 | 20 | 31 | 37 | 23 | 14 | 9 | 313 |
| White Catholic | 28 | 3 | 25 | 33 | 34 | 21 | 13 | 5 | 237 |
| Unaffiliated | 10 | 1 | 10 | 35 | 43 | 26 | 17 | 12 | 293 |
| <i>Attends religious services</i> | | | | | | | | | |
| Weekly+ | 22 | 2 | 20 | 34 | 29 | 19 | 11 | 15 | 583 |
| NET Less than weekly | 17 | 2 | 15 | 33 | 40 | 25 | 15 | 10 | 931 |
| Monthly/yearly | 18 | 2 | 16 | 33 | 39 | 25 | 14 | 10 | 514 |
| Seldom/never | 15 | 1 | 13 | 34 | 41 | 24 | 17 | 10 | 417 |

Survey conducted Jan. 7-14, 2016. Figures may not add to 100% or to subtotals indicated due to rounding. Based on registered voters. Whites and blacks include only non-Hispanics.

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Detailed tables: Views of Donald Trump as president, among registered voters

If Donald Trump were to become president, do you think he would be a great, good, average, poor or terrible president?

| | NET Great/good | Great | Good | Average | NET Poor/terrible | Poor | Terrible | Never heard of/DK/Ref. | N= |
|-----------------------------------|---------------------------|--------------|-------------|----------------|------------------------------|-------------|-----------------|-----------------------------------|-----------|
| | % | % | % | % | % | % | % | % | |
| Total | 31 | 11 | 20 | 12 | 52 | 14 | 38 | 5=100 | 1,525 |
| Protestant | 38 | 12 | 26 | 13 | 43 | 15 | 28 | 6 | 747 |
| White evangelical | 52 | 14 | 38 | 12 | 29 | 13 | 16 | 8 | 319 |
| White mainline | 39 | 13 | 25 | 14 | 44 | 13 | 30 | 3 | 238 |
| Black Protestant | 12 | 3 | 9 | 13 | 68 | 22 | 46 | 8 | 102 |
| Catholic | 30 | 10 | 20 | 13 | 53 | 14 | 39 | 4 | 313 |
| White Catholic | 36 | 12 | 23 | 16 | 46 | 15 | 31 | 2 | 237 |
| Unaffiliated | 14 | 6 | 8 | 9 | 73 | 15 | 58 | 3 | 293 |
| <i>Attends religious services</i> | | | | | | | | | |
| Weekly+ | 36 | 12 | 24 | 14 | 44 | 14 | 30 | 7 | 583 |
| NET Less than weekly | 28 | 10 | 18 | 11 | 58 | 15 | 43 | 4 | 931 |
| Monthly/yearly | 29 | 9 | 20 | 12 | 55 | 16 | 39 | 4 | 514 |
| Seldom/never | 26 | 10 | 16 | 10 | 61 | 13 | 47 | 3 | 417 |

Survey conducted Jan. 7-14, 2016. Figures may not add to 100% or to subtotals indicated due to rounding. Based on registered voters. Whites and blacks include only non-Hispanics.

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Detailed tables: Views of Hillary Clinton as president, among registered voters

If Hillary Clinton were to become president, do you think she would be a great, good, average, poor or terrible president?

| | NET Great/good | Great | Good | Average | NET Poor/terrible | Poor | Terrible | Never heard of/DK/Ref. | N= |
|-----------------------------------|---------------------------|--------------|-------------|----------------|------------------------------|-------------|-----------------|-----------------------------------|-----------|
| | % | % | % | % | % | % | % | % | |
| Total | 35 | 11 | 24 | 18 | 44 | 16 | 28 | 2=100 | 1,525 |
| Protestant | 30 | 10 | 20 | 15 | 53 | 19 | 33 | 3 | 747 |
| White evangelical | 15 | 3 | 12 | 11 | 74 | 24 | 50 | 1 | 319 |
| White mainline | 29 | 7 | 22 | 14 | 54 | 25 | 28 | 4 | 238 |
| Black Protestant | 62 | 26 | 36 | 24 | 10 | 5 | 5 | 5 | 102 |
| Catholic | 40 | 13 | 28 | 17 | 41 | 11 | 30 | 2 | 313 |
| White Catholic | 31 | 7 | 24 | 15 | 51 | 14 | 38 | 3 | 237 |
| Unaffiliated | 42 | 12 | 30 | 30 | 27 | 14 | 13 | 1 | 293 |
| <i>Attends religious services</i> | | | | | | | | | |
| Weekly+ | 29 | 9 | 20 | 16 | 53 | 18 | 35 | 2 | 583 |
| NET Less than weekly | 40 | 12 | 27 | 20 | 38 | 15 | 23 | 2 | 931 |
| Monthly/yearly | 38 | 12 | 26 | 20 | 40 | 16 | 24 | 2 | 514 |
| Seldom/never | 42 | 13 | 29 | 21 | 36 | 14 | 22 | 1 | 417 |

Survey conducted Jan. 7-14, 2016. Figures may not add to 100% or to subtotals indicated due to rounding. Based on registered voters. Whites and blacks include only non-Hispanics.

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Detailed tables: Views of Jeb Bush as president, among registered voters

If Jeb Bush were to become president, do you think he would be a great, good, average, poor or terrible president?

| | NET | Great | Good | Average | NET | Poor | Terrible | Never heard | N= |
|-----------------------------------|-------------------|--------------|-------------|----------------|----------------------|-------------|-----------------|--------------------|-----------|
| | Great/good | | | | Poor/terrible | | | of/DK/Ref. | |
| | % | % | % | % | % | % | % | % | |
| Total | 18 | 2 | 15 | 35 | 42 | 24 | 18 | 5=100 | 1,525 |
| Protestant | 19 | 3 | 17 | 35 | 39 | 23 | 16 | 6 | 747 |
| White evangelical | 23 | 2 | 20 | 36 | 36 | 21 | 15 | 5 | 319 |
| White mainline | 18 | 4 | 14 | 38 | 38 | 22 | 16 | 6 | 238 |
| Black Protestant | 9 | * | 9 | 31 | 48 | 31 | 17 | 12 | 102 |
| Catholic | 20 | 1 | 19 | 36 | 39 | 25 | 14 | 4 | 313 |
| White Catholic | 20 | 0 | 20 | 36 | 41 | 27 | 14 | 3 | 237 |
| Unaffiliated | 13 | 2 | 11 | 32 | 51 | 28 | 23 | 3 | 293 |
| <i>Attends religious services</i> | | | | | | | | | |
| Weekly+ | 20 | 2 | 18 | 36 | 38 | 22 | 16 | 6 | 583 |
| NET Less than weekly | 16 | 2 | 14 | 35 | 44 | 25 | 19 | 4 | 931 |
| Monthly/yearly | 16 | 2 | 14 | 36 | 43 | 24 | 19 | 5 | 514 |
| Seldom/never | 16 | 3 | 13 | 34 | 46 | 26 | 20 | 3 | 417 |

Survey conducted Jan. 7-14, 2016. Figures may not add to 100% or to subtotals indicated due to rounding. Based on registered voters. Whites and blacks include only non-Hispanics.

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Detailed tables: Views of John Kasich as president, among registered voters

If John Kasich were to become president, do you think he would be a great, good, average, poor or terrible president?

| | NET | | | | NET | | | Never heard | |
|-----------------------------------|-------------------|--------------|-------------|----------------|----------------------|-------------|-----------------|--------------------|-----------|
| | Great/good | Great | Good | Average | Poor/terrible | Poor | Terrible | of/DK/Ref. | N= |
| | % | % | % | % | % | % | % | % | |
| Total | 13 | 1 | 12 | 32 | 24 | 17 | 7 | 31=100 | 1,525 |
| Protestant | 13 | 1 | 12 | 32 | 23 | 17 | 6 | 32 | 747 |
| White evangelical | 17 | 1 | 16 | 32 | 21 | 16 | 5 | 29 | 319 |
| White mainline | 14 | 1 | 13 | 28 | 24 | 19 | 6 | 33 | 238 |
| Black Protestant | 7 | 1 | 5 | 41 | 22 | 14 | 8 | 30 | 102 |
| Catholic | 16 | 2 | 13 | 32 | 25 | 15 | 10 | 27 | 313 |
| White Catholic | 18 | 3 | 15 | 34 | 25 | 16 | 10 | 23 | 237 |
| Unaffiliated | 10 | * | 10 | 34 | 25 | 19 | 7 | 30 | 293 |
| <i>Attends religious services</i> | | | | | | | | | |
| Weekly+ | 14 | 2 | 13 | 33 | 20 | 14 | 6 | 32 | 583 |
| NET Less than weekly | 12 | 1 | 11 | 32 | 27 | 19 | 8 | 30 | 931 |
| Monthly/yearly | 12 | 1 | 11 | 34 | 26 | 18 | 8 | 28 | 514 |
| Seldom/never | 12 | 1 | 11 | 28 | 27 | 20 | 7 | 32 | 417 |

Survey conducted Jan. 7-14, 2016. Figures may not add to 100% or to subtotals indicated due to rounding. Based on registered voters. Whites and blacks include only non-Hispanics.

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Detailed tables: Views of Marco Rubio as president, among registered voters

If Marco Rubio were to become president, do you think he would be a great, good, average, poor or terrible president?

| | NET | | | | NET | | | Never heard | |
|-----------------------------------|-------------------|--------------|-------------|----------------|----------------------|-------------|-----------------|--------------------|-----------|
| | Great/good | Great | Good | Average | Poor/terrible | Poor | Terrible | of/DK/Ref. | N= |
| | % | % | % | % | % | % | % | % | |
| Total | 25 | 4 | 20 | 33 | 28 | 19 | 10 | 14=100 | 1,525 |
| Protestant | 27 | 4 | 23 | 33 | 22 | 15 | 6 | 18 | 747 |
| White evangelical | 34 | 5 | 29 | 32 | 18 | 13 | 5 | 16 | 319 |
| White mainline | 30 | 5 | 25 | 30 | 23 | 16 | 8 | 17 | 238 |
| Black Protestant | 9 | 1 | 8 | 40 | 27 | 20 | 8 | 24 | 102 |
| Catholic | 29 | 7 | 22 | 36 | 28 | 18 | 9 | 8 | 313 |
| White Catholic | 33 | 9 | 25 | 34 | 27 | 18 | 9 | 6 | 237 |
| Unaffiliated | 15 | 2 | 13 | 31 | 40 | 24 | 17 | 14 | 293 |
| <i>Attends religious services</i> | | | | | | | | | |
| Weekly+ | 32 | 6 | 26 | 33 | 19 | 13 | 7 | 16 | 583 |
| NET Less than weekly | 20 | 3 | 17 | 33 | 34 | 22 | 12 | 13 | 931 |
| Monthly/yearly | 22 | 4 | 18 | 34 | 30 | 21 | 10 | 14 | 514 |
| Seldom/never | 18 | 2 | 16 | 30 | 39 | 24 | 14 | 13 | 417 |

Survey conducted Jan. 7-14, 2016. Figures may not add to 100% or to subtotals indicated due to rounding. Based on registered voters.

Whites and blacks include only non-Hispanics.

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Detailed tables: Views of Ted Cruz as president, among registered voters

If Ted Cruz were to become president, do you think he would be a great, good, average, poor or terrible president?

| | NET | | | | NET | | | Never heard | |
|-----------------------------------|-------------------|--------------|-------------|----------------|----------------------|-------------|-----------------|--------------------|-----------|
| | Great/good | Great | Good | Average | Poor/terrible | Poor | Terrible | of/DK/Ref. | N= |
| | % | % | % | % | % | % | % | % | |
| Total | 28 | 8 | 20 | 28 | 31 | 16 | 15 | 13=100 | 1,525 |
| Protestant | 34 | 9 | 25 | 28 | 23 | 14 | 9 | 15 | 747 |
| White evangelical | 49 | 12 | 37 | 27 | 13 | 8 | 6 | 10 | 319 |
| White mainline | 30 | 9 | 22 | 23 | 33 | 22 | 11 | 13 | 238 |
| Black Protestant | 9 | 2 | 6 | 40 | 28 | 17 | 11 | 24 | 102 |
| Catholic | 30 | 8 | 22 | 30 | 28 | 13 | 15 | 12 | 313 |
| White Catholic | 33 | 10 | 23 | 30 | 27 | 11 | 16 | 11 | 237 |
| Unaffiliated | 15 | 5 | 9 | 26 | 52 | 24 | 28 | 8 | 293 |
| <i>Attends religious services</i> | | | | | | | | | |
| Weekly+ | 35 | 10 | 25 | 30 | 21 | 12 | 9 | 14 | 583 |
| NET Less than weekly | 24 | 6 | 17 | 26 | 38 | 19 | 19 | 12 | 931 |
| Monthly/yearly | 27 | 8 | 19 | 29 | 31 | 17 | 14 | 13 | 514 |
| Seldom/never | 20 | 4 | 15 | 22 | 47 | 22 | 25 | 12 | 417 |

Survey conducted Jan. 7-14, 2016. Figures may not add to 100% or to subtotals indicated due to rounding. Based on registered voters. Whites and blacks include only non-Hispanics.

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**PEW RESEARCH CENTER
JANUARY 2016 RELIGION AND POLITICS SURVEY
FINAL TOPLINE
JANUARY 7-14, 2016
N=2,009**

QUESTIONS 1-3, 8-9, 19-22 PREVIOUSLY RELEASED**NO QUESTIONS 4-7, 10-18, 23-24****ASK ALL:**

On another subject ...

Q.25 Do you think there has been too much, too little or the right amount of expression of religious faith and prayer by political leaders?

| | <u>Too much</u> | <u>Too little</u> | <u>Right amount</u> | (VOL.) <u>DK/Ref</u> |
|--------------------------|-----------------|-------------------|---------------------|--------------------------------|
| Jan 7-14, 2016 | 27 | 40 | 26 | 7 |
| Sep 2-9, 2014 | 30 | 41 | 23 | 7 |
| Mar 7-11, 2012 | 38 | 30 | 25 | 7 |
| Jul 21-Aug 5, 2010 | 29 | 37 | 24 | 10 |
| August, 2008 | 29 | 36 | 28 | 7 |
| August, 2007 | 27 | 38 | 26 | 9 |
| July, 2005 | 26 | 39 | 27 | 8 |
| August, 2004 | 27 | 31 | 32 | 10 |
| Mid-July, 2003 | 21 | 41 | 29 | 9 |
| March, 2002 ¹ | 16 | 24 | 53 | 7 |
| Early October, 2001 | 12 | 22 | 60 | 6 |

ASK ALL:

Q.26 At the present time, do you think religion as a whole is increasing its influence on American life or losing its influence?

| | <u>Increasing influence</u> | <u>Losing influence</u> | (VOL.) <u>Same</u> | (VOL.) <u>DK/Ref</u> |
|------------------------|-----------------------------|-------------------------|------------------------------|--------------------------------|
| Jan 7-14, 2016 | 26 | 68 | 3 | 4 |
| Sep 2-9, 2014 | 22 | 72 | 2 | 4 |
| Jun 28-Jul 9, 2012 | 25 | 66 | 2 | 7 |
| Jul 21-Aug 5, 2010 | 23 | 67 | 3 | 7 |
| July, 2006 | 34 | 59 | 2 | 5 |
| Mid-July, 2003 | 30 | 56 | 5 | 9 |
| March, 2002 | 37 | 52 | 3 | 8 |
| Gallup: December, 2001 | 71 | 24 | 2 | 3 |
| Mid-November, 2001 | 78 | 12 | 3 | 7 |
| March, 2001 | 37 | 55 | 4 | 4 |
| Gallup: March, 2000 | 37 | 58 | 0 | 5 |
| Gallup: June, 1998 | 37 | 56 | 4 | 3 |
| Gallup: March, 1994 | 27 | 69 | 2 | 2 |
| Gallup: March, 1988 | 36 | 49 | 6 | 9 |
| Gallup: June, 1984 | 42 | 39 | 14 | 6 |
| Gallup: December, 1978 | 37 | 48 | 10 | 5 |
| Gallup: December, 1974 | 31 | 56 | 8 | 5 |
| Gallup: April, 1968 | 19 | 67 | 8 | 7 |
| Gallup: February, 1965 | 33 | 45 | 13 | 8 |

¹ In March 2002 the question was worded, "Since September 11th, has there been too much, too little or the right amount of expressions of religious faith and prayer by political leaders?" In Early October 2001 the question was part of a series and began, "As I read from a list, tell me if you think there has been too much, too little or the right amount of what I mention."

Q.26 CONTINUED...

| | Increasing influence | Losing influence | (VOL.) Same | (VOL.) DK/Ref |
|--------------------------------|-------------------------|---------------------|----------------|------------------|
| <i>Gallup</i> : February, 1962 | 45 | 32 | 17 | 7 |
| <i>Gallup</i> : March, 1957 | 69 | 14 | 10 | 6 |

ASK IF GAVE RESPONSE IN Q.26 (Q.26=1,2,3) [N=1,927]:

Q.27 All in all, do you think this is a good thing or a bad thing?

BASED ON TOTAL:

| Jan 7-14 <u>2016</u> | | Sep 2-9 <u>2014</u> | Jun 28-Jul 9 <u>2012</u> | Jul 21-Aug 5 <u>2010</u> | Jul <u>2006</u> | Mar <u>2002</u> |
|-------------------------|-----------------------------|------------------------|-----------------------------|-----------------------------|--------------------|--------------------|
| 26 | Increasing influence | 22 | 25 | 23 | 34 | 37 |
| 12 | Good thing | 12 | 16 | 13 | 21 | 31 |
| 12 | Bad thing | 10 | 8 | 7 | 11 | 4 |
| 1 | Both/Neither/Depends (VOL.) | 1 | 1 | 2 | 1 | 1 |
| 1 | Don't know/Refused (VOL.) | * | * | 1 | 1 | 1 |
| 68 | Losing influence | 72 | 66 | 67 | 59 | 52 |
| 13 | Good thing | 12 | 12 | 10 | 6 | 5 |
| 51 | Bad thing | 56 | 49 | 53 | 50 | 44 |
| 3 | Both/Neither/Depends (VOL.) | 2 | 3 | 2 | 2 | 2 |
| 1 | Don't know/Refused (VOL.) | 1 | 2 | 2 | 1 | 1 |
| 3 | Same (VOL.) | 2 | 2 | 3 | 2 | 3 |
| 4 | Don't know/Refused (VOL.) | 4 | 7 | 7 | 5 | 8 |

ASK ALL:Q.28 How important is it to you that a president shares your religious beliefs? Is it **[READ IN ORDER]**?

| Jan 7-14 <u>2016</u> | |
|-------------------------|---------------------------|
| 27 | Very important |
| 24 | Somewhat important |
| 20 | Not too important |
| 27 | Not at all important |
| 1 | Don't know/Refused (VOL.) |

NO QUESTIONS 29-30**ASK ALL:**

Next,

Q.31 As I name some groups, please tell me whether you feel each one is generally FRIENDLY toward religion, NEUTRAL toward religion, or UNFRIENDLY toward religion. First, do you feel that **[INSERT ITEM; RANDOMIZE]** is/are generally friendly toward religion, neutral toward religion, or unfriendly toward religion? How about **[SECOND ITEM]**? Do you feel that **[ITEM]** is/are generally friendly toward religion, neutral toward religion, or unfriendly toward religion? And, how about **[NEXT ITEM]**? **[IF NECESSARY: Do you feel that [ITEM] is generally friendly toward religion, neutral toward religion, or unfriendly toward religion?]**

| | Friendly | Neutral | Unfriendly | (VOL.) DK/Ref |
|-------------------------|----------|---------|------------|------------------|
| a. The Democratic Party | | | | |
| Jan 7-14, 2016 | 30 | 40 | 24 | 6 |
| Sep 2-9, 2014 | 29 | 39 | 25 | 6 |
| Mar 7-11, 2012 | 35 | 36 | 21 | 8 |
| Nov 9-14, 2011 | 30 | 40 | 20 | 11 |
| Jul 21-Aug 5, 2010 | 26 | 41 | 19 | 14 |
| August 20-27, 2009 | 29 | 39 | 22 | 11 |
| August, 2008 | 38 | 37 | 15 | 10 |
| August, 2007 | 30 | 37 | 15 | 18 |
| July, 2006 | 26 | 42 | 20 | 12 |

Q.31 CONTINUED...

| | <u>Friendly</u> | <u>Neutral</u> | <u>Unfriendly</u> | (VOL.) <u>DK/Ref</u> |
|------------------------------------|-----------------|----------------|-------------------|--------------------------------|
| July, 2005 | 29 | 38 | 20 | 13 |
| August, 2004 | 40 | 34 | 13 | 13 |
| Mid-July, 2003 | 42 | 36 | 12 | 10 |
| b. The Republican Party | | | | |
| Jan 7-14, 2016 | 42 | 30 | 21 | 7 |
| Sep 2-9, 2014 | 47 | 30 | 15 | 7 |
| Mar 7-11, 2012 | 54 | 24 | 13 | 10 |
| Nov 9-14, 2011 | 43 | 26 | 19 | 12 |
| Jul 21-Aug 5, 2010 | 43 | 28 | 14 | 15 |
| August 20-27, 2009 | 48 | 29 | 12 | 12 |
| August, 2008 | 52 | 29 | 9 | 10 |
| August, 2007 | 50 | 23 | 9 | 18 |
| July, 2006 | 47 | 28 | 13 | 12 |
| July, 2005 | 55 | 23 | 9 | 13 |
| August, 2004 | 52 | 24 | 10 | 14 |
| Mid-July, 2003 | 52 | 27 | 10 | 11 |
| c. The Obama administration | | | | |
| Jan 7-14, 2016 | 35 | 31 | 30 | 4 |
| Sep 2-9, 2014 | 30 | 37 | 29 | 4 |
| Mar 7-11, 2012 | 39 | 32 | 23 | 6 |
| Aug 20-27, 2009 | 37 | 36 | 17 | 10 |
| d. The Supreme Court | | | | |
| Jan 7-14, 2016 | 16 | 52 | 25 | 7 |
| Sep 2-9, 2014 | 21 | 50 | 22 | 7 |

ASK ALL:

Q.32 Here are a couple of statements about the political parties. For each, please tell me if you completely agree, mostly agree, mostly DISagree, or completely DISagree with it. (The first one is...) **(INSERT ITEM; RANDOMIZE ITEMS)**

| | -----AGREE----- | | | -----DISAGREE----- | | | (VOL.) <u>DK/Ref</u> |
|--|-----------------|-------------------------|---------------|--------------------|-------------------------|---------------|--------------------------------|
| | <u>Total</u> | <u>Comp- letely</u> | <u>Mostly</u> | <u>Total</u> | <u>Comp- letely</u> | <u>Mostly</u> | |
| a. Religious conservatives have too much control over the Republican Party | | | | | | | |
| Jan 7-14, 2016 | 51 | 21 | 30 | 41 | 29 | 13 | 7 |
| Mar 7-11, 2012 | 51 | 21 | 30 | 40 | 13 | 27 | 9 |
| August, 2008 | 48 | 17 | 31 | 41 | 11 | 30 | 11 |
| August, 2007 | 43 | 15 | 28 | 41 | 10 | 31 | 16 |
| July, 2005 | 45 | 14 | 31 | 43 | 11 | 32 | 12 |
| Early September, 2004 (RVs) ² | 43 | 17 | 26 | 48 | 18 | 30 | 9 |
| b. Liberals who are not religious have too much control over the Democratic Party | | | | | | | |
| Jan 7-14, 2016 | 44 | 16 | 28 | 47 | 31 | 15 | 9 |
| Mar 7-11, 2012 | 41 | 12 | 28 | 49 | 19 | 30 | 10 |
| August, 2008 | 43 | 14 | 29 | 45 | 13 | 32 | 12 |
| August, 2007 | 37 | 13 | 24 | 47 | 14 | 33 | 16 |
| July, 2005 | 44 | 12 | 32 | 42 | 11 | 31 | 14 |

² In 2004, asked as part of a list that began: "Here are some statements about the candidates and political parties.

NO QUESTION 33**QUESTIONS 34-35 HELD FOR FUTURE RELEASE****ASK ALL:**

Q.36 Now I am going to read you a list of some political figures. For each name that I read, please tell me how religious you think that person is -- very religious, somewhat religious, not too religious, or not at all religious. First, **(INSERT ITEM; RANDOMIZE)**. How about **[INSERT NEXT]**? **[IF NECESSARY: How religious do you think (he/she) is – very religious, somewhat religious, not too religious, or not at all religious?]**

| | | Very <u>religious</u> | Somewhat <u>religious</u> | Not too <u>religious</u> | Not at all <u>religious</u> | (VOL.) <u>DK/Ref</u> |
|----|-----------------|--------------------------|------------------------------|-----------------------------|--------------------------------|--------------------------------|
| a. | Barack Obama | | | | | |
| | Jan 7-14, 2016 | 17 | 42 | 19 | 16 | 6 |
| | August, 2007 | 15 | 36 | 6 | 3 | 40 |
| b. | Ben Carson | | | | | |
| | Jan 7-14, 2016 | 35 | 33 | 4 | 7 | 21 |
| c. | Bernie Sanders | | | | | |
| | Jan 7-14, 2016 | 5 | 34 | 17 | 18 | 26 |
| d. | Donald Trump | | | | | |
| | Jan 7-14, 2016 | 5 | 25 | 37 | 22 | 10 |
| e. | Hillary Clinton | | | | | |
| | Jan 7-14, 2016 | 10 | 38 | 22 | 22 | 9 |
| | August, 2007 | 12 | 41 | 16 | 9 | 22 |
| | June, 1996 | 11 | 45 | 18 | 7 | 19 |
| f. | Marco Rubio | | | | | |
| | Jan 7-14, 2016 | 16 | 45 | 5 | 8 | 26 |
| g. | Ted Cruz | | | | | |
| | Jan 7-14, 2016 | 25 | 40 | 5 | 7 | 22 |

QUESTIONS 37-38 HELD FOR FUTURE RELEASE**QUESTION 43 PREVIOUSLY RELEASED****NO QUESTIONS 39-42, 44-62****ASK ALL:**

Now a different kind of question...

Q.63 Regardless of the specific candidates who are running for president, we'd like to know how you generally feel about some different traits. First, would you be more likely or less likely to support a candidate for president who **[INSERT ITEM; RANDOMIZE]**, or wouldn't this matter to you? How about if a candidate **[NEXT ITEM]**? **[INTERVIEWER NOTE: PLEASE PROMPT RESPONDENT WITH RESPONSE OPTIONS EVERY FOUR TO SIX ITEMS AS A REMINDER]**

| | | More <u>likely</u> | Less <u>likely</u> | Wouldn't <u>matter</u> | (VOL.) <u>DK/Ref</u> |
|----|----------------|-----------------------|-----------------------|---------------------------|--------------------------------|
| a. | Is Muslim | | | | |
| | Jan 7-14, 2016 | 3 | 42 | 53 | 2 |
| | August, 2007 | 3 | 45 | 49 | 3 |
| | February, 2007 | 1 | 46 | 49 | 4 |

Q.63 CONTINUED...

| | More likely | Less likely | Wouldn't matter | (VOL.) DK/Ref |
|--|----------------|----------------|--------------------|------------------|
| b. Is an evangelical Christian | | | | |
| Jan 7-14, 2016 | 22 | 20 | 55 | 3 |
| Apr 23-27, 2014 | 21 | 17 | 58 | 4 |
| August, 2007 | 19 | 16 | 60 | 5 |
| c. Does not believe in God | | | | |
| Jan 7-14, 2016 | 6 | 51 | 41 | 1 |
| Apr 23-27, 2014 | 5 | 53 | 41 | 2 |
| May 25-30, 2011 | 5 | 61 | 33 | 2 |
| August, 2007 | 3 | 61 | 34 | 2 |
| February, 2007 | 3 | 63 | 32 | 2 |
| d. Is gay or lesbian | | | | |
| Jan 7-14, 2016 | 4 | 26 | 69 | 1 |
| Apr 23-27, 2014 ³ | 5 | 27 | 66 | 2 |
| May 25-30, 2011 | 3 | 33 | 62 | 2 |
| February, 2007 | 1 | 46 | 51 | 2 |
| ASK FORM 1 ONLY [N=997]: | | | | |
| e.F1 Has served in the military | | | | |
| Jan 7-14, 2016 | 50 | 4 | 45 | 1 |
| Apr 23-27, 2014 | 43 | 4 | 53 | 1 |
| May 25-30, 2011 | 49 | 4 | 47 | 1 |
| February, 2007 | 48 | 3 | 48 | 1 |
| f.F1 Had an extramarital affair in the past | | | | |
| Jan 7-14, 2016 | 3 | 37 | 58 | 2 |
| Apr 23-27, 2014 | 2 | 35 | 61 | 2 |
| May 25-30, 2011 | 2 | 46 | 49 | 3 |
| February, 2007 | 1 | 39 | 56 | 4 |
| g.F1 Is Mormon | | | | |
| Jan 7-14, 2016 | 5 | 23 | 69 | 3 |
| May 25-30, 2011 | 5 | 25 | 68 | 3 |
| August, 2007 | 5 | 25 | 66 | 4 |
| February, 2007 | 2 | 30 | 64 | 4 |
| h.F1 Attended a prestigious university such as Harvard or Yale | | | | |
| Jan 7-14, 2016 | 20 | 6 | 74 | * |
| Apr 23-27, 2014 | 19 | 6 | 74 | 1 |
| February, 2007 | 22 | 5 | 72 | 1 |
| i.F1 Is Catholic | | | | |
| Jan 7-14, 2016 | 16 | 8 | 75 | 1 |
| Apr 23-27, 2014 | 9 | 8 | 81 | 1 |
| August, 2007 | 13 | 7 | 79 | 1 |

³ In April 2014, a wording experiment tested two different items: "is homosexual" for Form 1 respondents and "is gay or lesbian" for Form 2 respondents. There were no significant differences between the two wordings, so the figures here show the combined responses. In surveys before April 2014, the item was "is homosexual."

Q.63 CONTINUED...

| | More likely | Less likely | Wouldn't matter | (VOL.) DK/Ref |
|--|----------------|----------------|--------------------|------------------|
| ASK FORM 2 ONLY [N=1,012]: | | | | |
| j.F2 Has used marijuana in the past | | | | |
| Jan 7-14, 2016 | 6 | 20 | 74 | 1 |
| Apr 23-27, 2014 | 6 | 22 | 70 | 2 |
| May 25-30, 2011 | 5 | 24 | 69 | 2 |
| TREND FOR COMPARISON: | | | | |
| <i>Used drugs in the past</i> | | | | |
| February, 2007 | 2 | 45 | 47 | 6 |
| k.F2 Is Jewish | | | | |
| Jan 7-14, 2016 | 8 | 10 | 80 | 2 |
| August, 2007 | 9 | 11 | 79 | 1 |
| l.F2 Has been an elected official in Washington for many years | | | | |
| Jan 7-14, 2016 | 22 | 31 | 46 | 1 |
| Apr 23-27, 2014 | 19 | 30 | 48 | 3 |
| May 25-30, 2011 | 26 | 25 | 46 | 3 |
| February, 2007 | 35 | 15 | 45 | 5 |
| m.F2 Has had personal financial troubles | | | | |
| Jan 7-14, 2016 | 8 | 41 | 49 | 2 |

NO QUESTIONS 64-71, 73**QUESTIONS 72, 74-78 HELD FOR FUTURE RELEASE**