

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

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

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

Combined N=4,013

QUESTIONS 101-139 AND 145-169 PREVIOUSLY RELEASED OR HELD FOR FUTURE RELEASE

QUESTION 141 FOUND AT THE BACK OF THE TOPLINE

ASK ALL SURVEY A:

Moving on...

Q.170 Just your impression, in the United States today, is there a lot of discrimination against **[INSERT; RANDOMIZE; OBSERVE FORM SPLITS]**, or not? And is there a lot of discrimination against **[INSERT NEXT ITEM]**, or not?

		Yes, there is a <u>lot of discrimination</u>	No, there is not <u>a lot of discrimination</u>	(VOL.) <u>DK/Ref</u>
a.	Evangelical Christians	27	56	17
b.	Muslims	58	29	13
c.	Jews	35	54	11
d.	Atheists, that is, people who don't believe in God	26	59	14
e.	Mormons	24	56	20
ASK FORM 1 SURVEY A ONLY [N=1011]:				
f.	Blacks	49	46	5
g.	Gays and lesbians	64	30	6
ASK FORM 2 SURVEY A ONLY [N=999]:				
h.	Hispanics	52	41	7
i.	Women	37	59	4

NO QUESTIONS 171 THROUGH 174

ASK ALL SURVEY A:

Q.175 Do you, yourself happen to know anyone who is Muslim?

BASED ON ALL SURVEY A NON-MUSLIMS [N=2004]

		August <u>2007</u>	Mid-Nov <u>2001</u>
45	Yes	45	38
54	No	54	61
1	Don't know/Refused (VOL.)	1	1

ASK ALL SURVEY A:

Q.176 As I read a pair of statements, tell me whether the FIRST statement or the SECOND statement comes closer to your own views even if neither is exactly right **[READ]**.

		August <u>2007</u>	July <u>2005</u>	July <u>2004</u>	Mid-July <u>2003</u>	March <u>2002</u>
38	The Islamic religion is more likely than others to encourage violence among its believers	45	36	46	44	25
	-OR-					
45	The Islamic religion does not encourage violence more than others	39	47	37	41	51
1	Neither (VOL.)	4	3	2	3	3
15	Don't know (VOL.)	12	14	15	12	21

NO QUESTION 177

RANDOMIZE ORDER OF Q.178 AND Q.179

ASK ALL SURVEY A:

Q.178 Do you happen to know what name Muslims use to refer to God?

		July <u>2005</u>	Mid-July <u>2003</u>	March <u>2002</u>
53	Yes, Correct Answer [Allah]	48	45	47
7	Yes, Incorrect Answer	14	9	11
40	No/Don't know/Refused (VOL.)	38	46	42

RANDOMIZE ORDER OF Q.178 AND Q.179

ASK ALL SURVEY A:

Q.179 Do you happen to know the name of the Islamic equivalent to the Bible?

		July <u>2005</u>	Mid-July <u>2003</u>	March <u>2002</u>
52	Yes, Correct Answer [Koran]	51	42	43
4	Yes, Incorrect Answer	9	4	8
45	No/Don't know/Refused (VOL.)	40	54	49

QUESTION 180 HELD FOR FUTURE RELEASE

ASK ALL:

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

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

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

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

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

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

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

BASED ON TOTAL

- 34 Yes, would
- 40 No, would not
- 4 Don't know/Refused (**VOL.**)
- 78% Christian

ASK ALL:

ATTEND Aside from weddings and funerals, how often do you attend religious services... more than once a week, once a week, once or twice a month, a few times a year, seldom, or never?

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

	More than <u>once a week</u>	Once <u>a week</u>	Once or twice <u>a month</u>	A few times <u>a year</u>	Seldom	Never	(VOL.) DK/Ref
August 11-27, 2009	14	23	16	18	16	11	1
August, 2008	13	26	16	19	15	10	1
Aug, 2007	14	26	16	18	16	9	1
July, 2006	15	25	15	18	14	12	1
July, 2005	14	27	14	19	14	11	1
Aug, 2004	13	25	15	20	15	11	1
July, 2003	16	27	15	18	14	10	*
March, 2003	15	24	15	21	15	9	1

ATTEND CONTINUED...

	<u>More than once a week</u>	<u>Once a week</u>	<u>Once or twice a month</u>	<u>A few times a year</u>	<u>Seldom</u>	<u>Never</u>	(VOL.) DK/Ref
March, 2002	15	25	17	18	15	9	1
Mid-Nov, 2001	16	26	14	17	16	10	1
March, 2001	17	26	17	17	15	7	1
Sept, 2000 (<i>RVs</i>)	17	28	16	17	13	8	1
June, 1997	12	26	17	20	15	10	*
June, 1996	14	25	17	21	13	9	1

NO QUESTIONS 181 THROUGH 184

ASK ALL:

Q.280 How important is religion in your life – very important, somewhat important, not too important, or not at all important?

NOTE: Q.280 WAS ASKED AS Q.185 ON SURVEY A. Q.185 IS PRESENTED HERE WITH Q.280.

		<u>August 2008</u>	<u>August 2007</u>
57	Very important	58	61
25	Somewhat important	27	24
8	Not too important	7	8
8	Not at all important	7	6
1	Don't know/Refused (VOL.)	1	1

QUESTIONS 186-188 HELD FOR FUTURE RELEASE

ASK ALL SURVEY A:

Q.189 Do you think of yourself as a member of a minority because of your religious beliefs, or not?

		<u>March 2001</u>
19	Yes	19
78	No	78
3	Don't know/refused (VOL.)	3

ASK SURVEY A IF AFFILIATED WITH A RELIGION (RELIG=1-8,11,13,14 OR (RELIG=99 & CHR=1)):

Q.190 From what you know, do you think that [INSERT; RANDOMIZE; OBSERVE FILTERS] and your own religion are very similar, somewhat similar, somewhat different, or very different. How about [INSERT NEXT ITEM] and your own religion? [READ AS NECESSARY: are they very similar, somewhat similar, somewhat different, or very different?] [READ RESPONSE OPTIONS IN REVERSE ORDER FOR RANDOM HALF OF SAMPLE]

	<u>Very similar</u>	<u>Somewhat similar</u>	<u>Somewhat different</u>	<u>Very different</u>	(VOL.) DK/Ref
ASK IF AFFILIATED AND NOT CATHOLIC (RELIG#2) [N=1269]:					
a. the Catholic religion	15	31	29	20	5
ASK IF AFFILIATED AND NOT PROTESTANT/ OTHER CHRISTIAN (RELIG#1,13) [N=615]:					
b. the Protestant religion	17	37	22	12	13
ASK IF AFFILIATED AND NOT MORMON (RELIG#3) [N=1684]:					
c. the Mormon religion	3	18	24	36	19
ASK IF AFFILIATED AND NOT JEWISH (RELIG#5) [N=1671]:					
d. the Jewish religion	8	29	26	21	16
ASK IF AFFILIATED AND NOT MUSLIM (RELIG#6) [N=1709]:					
e. the Muslim religion	3	14	19	47	17
ASK FORM 1 IF AFFILIATED AND NOT BUDDHIST (RELIG#7) [N=841]:					
f. the Buddhist religion	2	9	16	51	23
ASK FORM 2 IF AFFILIATED AND NOT HINDU (RELIG#8) [N=864]:					
g. the Hindu religion	2	9	15	44	30

ASK SURVEY A IF R IS ATHEIST, AGNOSTIC, NOTHING IN PARTICULAR OR DK & NOT CHRISTIAN (RELIG=9, 10, 12 OR (RELIG=99 AND CHR=2, 9)), [N=295]:

Q.191 From what you know, do you think that [INSERT; RANDOMIZE;] and your own beliefs are very similar, somewhat similar, somewhat different, or very different. How about [INSERT NEXT ITEM] and your own beliefs? [READ AS NECESSARY: are they very similar, somewhat similar, somewhat different, or very different?] [READ RESPONSE OPTIONS IN REVERSE ORDER FOR RANDOM HALF OF SAMPLE]

	<u>Very similar</u>	<u>Somewhat similar</u>	<u>Somewhat different</u>	<u>Very different</u>	(VOL.) DK/Ref
a. the Catholic religion	4	27	23	29	17
b. the Protestant religion	4	22	20	26	28
c. the Mormon religion	1	15	16	41	27
d. the Jewish religion	4	22	18	29	28

Q.191 CONTINUED...		Very similar	Somewhat similar	Somewhat different	Very different	(VOL.) DK/Ref
e.	the Muslim religion	*	14	21	38	27
f.	the Buddhist religion	3	23	15	30	29
g.	the Hindu religion	1	13	20	31	36

ASK ALL:

PARTY In politics TODAY, do you consider yourself a Republican, Democrat, or Independent?

IF ANSWERED 3, 4, 5 OR 9 IN PARTY, ASK:

PARTYLN As of today do you lean more to the Republican Party or more to the Democratic Party?

NOTE: PARTY/PARTYLN FOR BOTH SURVEY A AND SURVEY B ARE PRESENTED HERE.

	<u>Republican</u>	<u>Democrat</u>	<u>Independent</u>	(VOL.) <u>No preference</u>	(VOL.) <u>Other party</u>	(VOL.) <u>DK/Ref</u>	<i>Lean Rep</i>	<i>Lean Dem</i>
August 20-27, 2009	26	32	36	3	*	3	14	16
August 11-17, 2009	23	33	38	3	*	3	16	15
July, 2009	22	34	37	5	*	2	15	14
June, 2009	25	34	34	3	*	3	11	16
May, 2009	23	39	29	4	*	4	9	14
April, 2009	22	33	39	3	*	3	13	18
March, 2009	24	34	35	5	*	2	12	17
February, 2009	24	36	34	3	1	2	13	17
January, 2009	25	37	33	3	*	2	11	16
December, 2008	26	39	30	2	*	3	8	15
Late October, 2008	24	39	32	2	*	3	11	15
Mid-October, 2008	27	35	31	4	*	3	9	16
Early October, 2008	26	36	31	4	*	3	11	15
Late September, 2008	25	35	34	3	1	2	13	15
Mid-September, 2008	28	35	32	3	*	2	12	14
August, 2008	26	34	34	4	*	2	12	17
July, 2008	24	36	34	3	*	3	12	15
June, 2008	26	37	32	3	*	2	11	16
Late May, 2008	25	35	35	2	*	3	13	15
April, 2008	24	37	31	5	1	2	11	15
March, 2008	24	38	29	5	*	4	9	14
Late February, 2008	24	38	32	3	*	3	10	17
Early February, 2008	26	35	31	5	*	3	11	14
January, 2008	24	33	37	4	*	2	12	18
Yearly Totals								
2008	25.3	35.8	31.7	3.8	.3	3.1	10.5	15.4
2007	25.4	32.9	33.7	4.6	.4	3.1	10.7	16.7
2006	27.6	32.8	30.3	5.0	.4	3.9	10.2	14.5
2005	29.2	32.8	30.3	4.5	.3	2.8	10.2	14.9
2004	29.7	33.4	29.8	3.9	.4	2.9	11.7	13.4
2003	29.8	31.4	31.2	4.7	.5	2.5	12.1	13.0
2002	30.3	31.2	30.1	5.1	.7	2.7	12.6	11.6
2001	29.2	33.6	28.9	5.1	.5	2.7	11.7	11.4
2001 Post-Sept 11	30.9	31.8	27.9	5.2	.6	3.6	11.7	9.4
2001 Pre-Sept 11	28.2	34.6	29.5	5.0	.5	2.1	11.7	12.5

PARTY/PARTYLN CONTINUED...

				(VOL.)	(VOL.)	(VOL.)		
	<u>Republican</u>	<u>Democrat</u>	<u>Independent</u>	No <u>preference</u>	Other <u>party</u>	DK/ <u>Ref</u>	<i>Lean</i> <u>Rep</u>	<i>Lean</i> <u>Dem</u>
2000	27.5	32.5	29.5	5.9	.5	4.0	11.6	11.6
1999	26.6	33.5	33.7	3.9	.5	1.9	13.0	14.5
1998	27.5	33.2	31.9	4.6	.4	2.4	11.8	13.5
1997	28.2	33.3	31.9	4.0	.4	2.3	12.3	13.8
1996	29.2	32.7	33.0	5.2	--	--	12.7	15.6
1995	31.4	29.7	33.4	5.4	--	--	14.4	12.9
1994	29.8	31.8	33.8	4.6	--	--	14.3	12.6
1993	27.4	33.8	34.0	4.8	--	--	11.8	14.7
1992	27.7	32.7	35.7	3.9	--	--	13.8	15.8
1991	30.9	31.4	33.2	4.5	--	--	14.6	10.8
1990	31.0	33.1	29.1	6.8	--	--	12.4	11.3
1989	33	33	34	--	--	--	--	--
1987	26	35	39	--	--	--	--	--

Due to systematic differences across surveys in the percentage of respondents declining to offer a rating of religious groups, the trends for the following favorability ratings are not reliable. Current data are used for analytical purposes only, and are not compared to past survey results. Overall results from the current survey are shown here in grey for illustrative purposes only. See footnote for more details.

ASK ALL SURVEY A:

Q.141 Now thinking about some specific religious groups... Is your overall opinion of [INSERT FIRST ITEM, RANDOMIZE WITH ITEM f LAST; OBSERVE FORM SPLITS] very favorable, mostly favorable, mostly UNfavorable, or very unfavorable? [INTERVIEWERS: PROBE TO DISTINGUISH BETWEEN “NEVER HEARD OF” AND “CAN’T RATE.”]
 How about (NEXT ITEM)? [IF NECESSARY: would you say your overall opinion is very favorable, mostly favorable, mostly UNfavorable, or very unfavorable? [INTERVIEWERS: PROBE TO DISTINGUISH BETWEEN “NEVER HEARD OF” AND “CAN’T RATE.”]]

	---- Favorable ----			---- Unfavorable ----			(VOL.)	(VOL.)
	<u>Total</u>	<u>Very</u>	<u>Mostly</u>	<u>Total</u>	<u>Very</u>	<u>Mostly</u>	Never <u>Heard of</u>	Can't rate/ <u>Ref</u>
a. Catholics								
August 11-17, 2009	67	19	48	13	4	9	*	19 ¹
August, 2007	76	21	55	14	4	10	*	10
July, 2005	73	24	49	14	4	10	0	13
Mid-July, 2003	69	21	48	18	6	12	*	13
March, 2002	74	19	55	13	4	9	*	13
Mid-November, 2001	78	29	49	8	3	5	*	14
March, 2001	74	19	55	13	3	10	1	12
September, 2000 (RVs)	78	29	49	9	3	6	*	13
b. Jews								
August 11-17, 2009	63	17	46	11	4	7	1	25 ¹
August, 2007	76	21	55	9	3	6	*	15
March, 2006	84	27	57	6	2	4	*	10
July, 2005	77	23	54	7	2	5	*	16
Mid-July, 2003	72	20	52	9	3	6	1	18
June, 2003	79	25	54	8	2	6	*	13

Q.141 CONTINUED...

	---- Favorable ----			---- Unfavorable ----			(VOL.) Never	(VOL.) Can't rate/
	<u>Total</u>	<u>Very</u>	<u>Mostly</u>	<u>Total</u>	<u>Very</u>	<u>Mostly</u>	<u>Heard of</u>	<u>Ref</u>
March, 2002	74	18	56	9	2	7	*	17
Mid-November, 2001	75	24	51	7	2	5	*	18
March, 2001	72	16	56	10	2	8	*	18
September, 2000 (<i>RVs</i>)	77	27	50	8	3	5	*	15
June, 1997	82	26	56	9	2	7	1	8
c. Evangelical Christians								
August 11-17, 2009	57	16	41	17	4	13	4	22 ¹
August, 2007	60	18	42	19	6	13	5	16
March, 2006	68	22	46	18	5	13	2	12
July, 2005	57	17	40	19	5	14	5	19
Mid-July, 2003	58	18	40	18	6	12	3	21
June, 2003	62	21	41	17	4	13	7	14
March, 2002	55	13	42	18	5	13	7	20
March, 2001	55	13	42	16	4	12	8	21
September, 2000 (<i>RVs</i>)	63	21	42	16	3	13	3	18
February, 1996	39	13	26	38	15	23	11	12
July, 1994	43	10	33	32	10	22	11	14
May, 1990	43	12	31	38	19	19	7	12
d. Mormons								
August 11-17, 2009	44	9	34	26	10	17	1	29 ¹
August, 2007	53	10	43	27	9	18	2	18
e. Muslims								
August 11-17, 2009	38	6	33	32	12	19	1	29 ¹
August, 2007	43	7	36	35	13	22	1	21
Mid-July, 2003	47	9	38	31	12	19	--	22
June, 2003	50	12	38	30	10	20	*	20
March, 2002	47	7	40	29	11	18	--	24
f. Atheists, that is people who don't believe in God								
August 11-17, 2009	29	6	23	49	26	23	*	21 ¹
August, 2007	35	7	28	53	30	23	*	12
July, 2005	35	7	28	50	28	22	0	15
Mid-July, 2003	34	7	27	52	33	19	*	14
March, 2002	34	5	29	54	31	23	*	12
Mid-November, 2001	32	7	25	49	28	21	*	19
March, 2001	29	4	25	57	35	22	*	14
September, 2000 (<i>RVs</i>)	32	8	24	52	32	20	*	16

¹ Due to unusually high item nonresponse in the August 11-17, 2009 survey, results for these questions cannot be compared with previous trends. Fluctuations in nonresponse are due to variations in interviewing techniques used by different data collection organizations and do not necessarily reflect meaningful changes in opinion. Item nonresponse cannot simply be reallocated proportionally (i.e. repercentaging the responses based upon those offering a rating) because variance in nonresponse is more closely associated with variance in certain response categories. The trends for Hindus and Buddhists are also shown in grey although we do not have trend data for these groups to compare item nonresponse for this survey to previous ones. Current data are used for analytical purposes only.

Q.141 CONTINUED...

		---- Favorable ----			---- Unfavorable ----			(VOL.) Never	(VOL.) Can't rate/ Ref
		<u>Total</u>	<u>Very</u>	<u>Mostly</u>	<u>Total</u>	<u>Very</u>	<u>Mostly</u>	<u>Heard of</u>	
ASK SURVEY A FORM 1 ONLY [N=1011]:									
g.	Hindus								
	August 11-17, 2009	39	6	33	21	9	13	2	37
ASK SURVEY A FORM 2 ONLY [N=999]:									
h.	Buddhists								
	August 11-17, 2009	45	10	35	20	9	11	2	33