

# Why do People Believe What They Believe in Terms of God?

By Zac Sechler

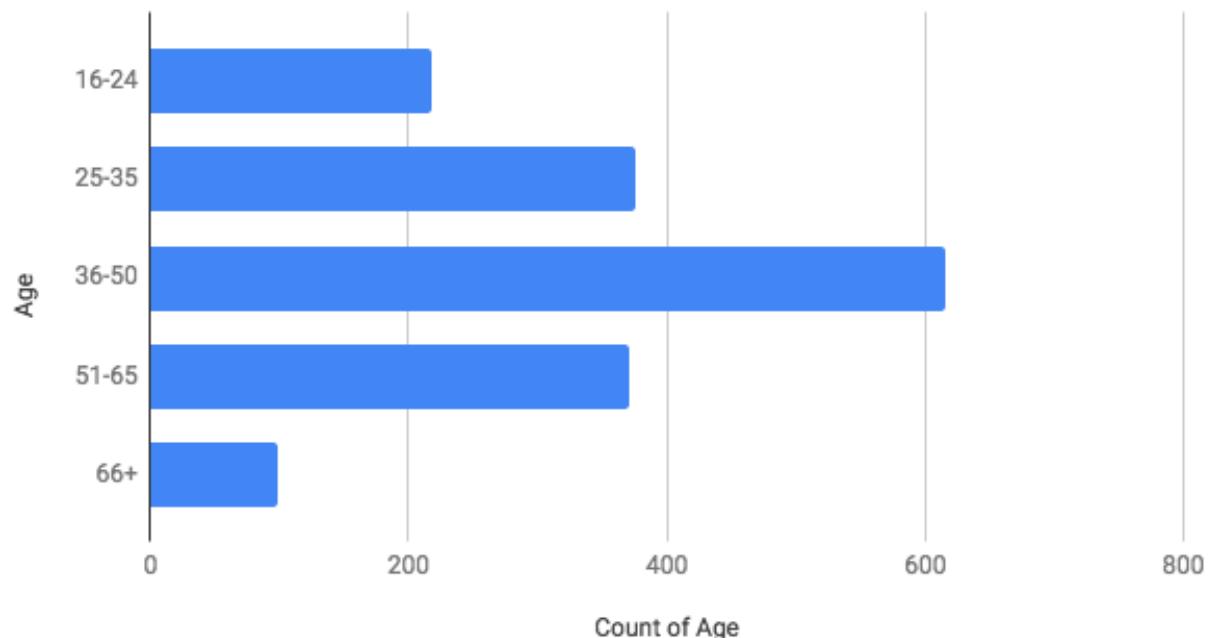
1681 people were asked what their worldview was and why they believe what they believe. This report has been divided into different sections.

## Table of Contents

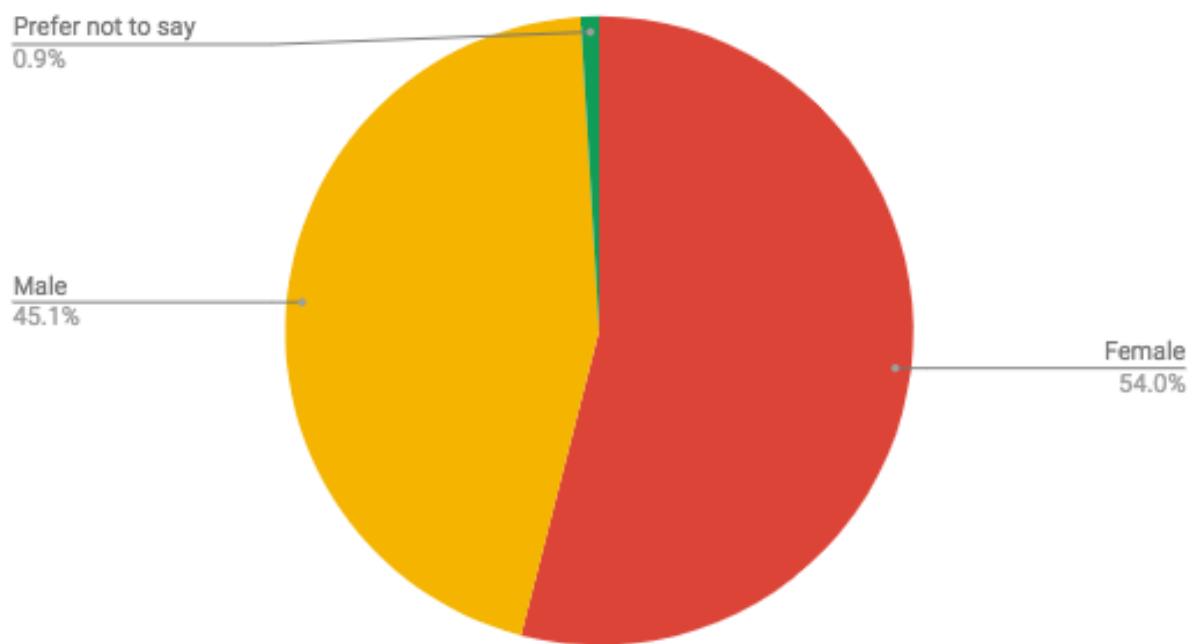
1.) General Demographics.....	3
2.) Christian Responses.....	8
3.) Atheist Responses.....	15
4.) Agnostic Responses.....	17
5.) Christians and Atheists on Political/Social Issues.....	19
6.) Comparison of Respondents who were Raised Christian and Remain Christian with Respondents who were Raised Christian and became Atheists.....	24
7.) Age, Wealth, and Education Compared to Worldview...	28
8.) Scripture Reading Compared to Christian Belief on the Doctrine of Hell.....	36
9.) Conclusion.....	40

# 1.) General Demographics

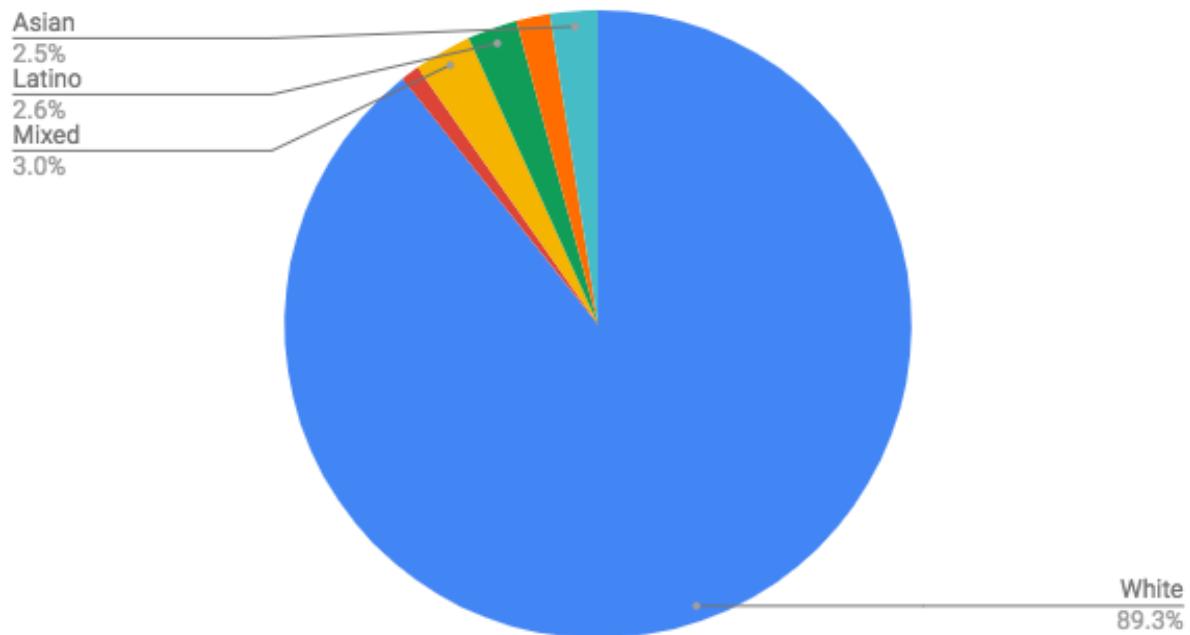
Age



Gender

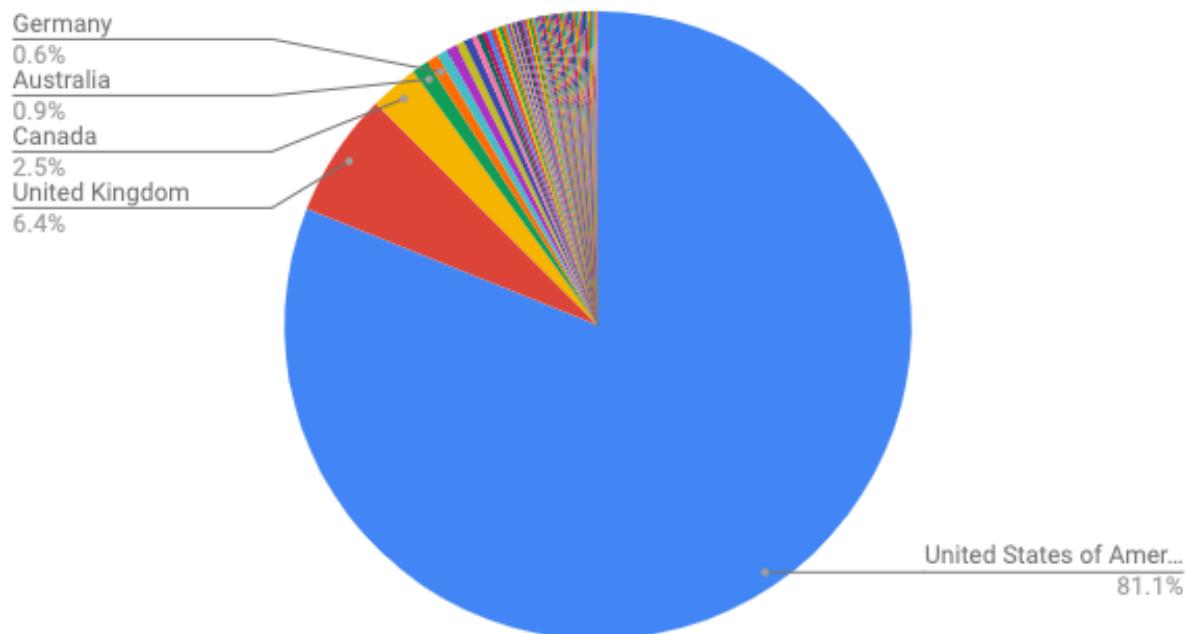


## Race

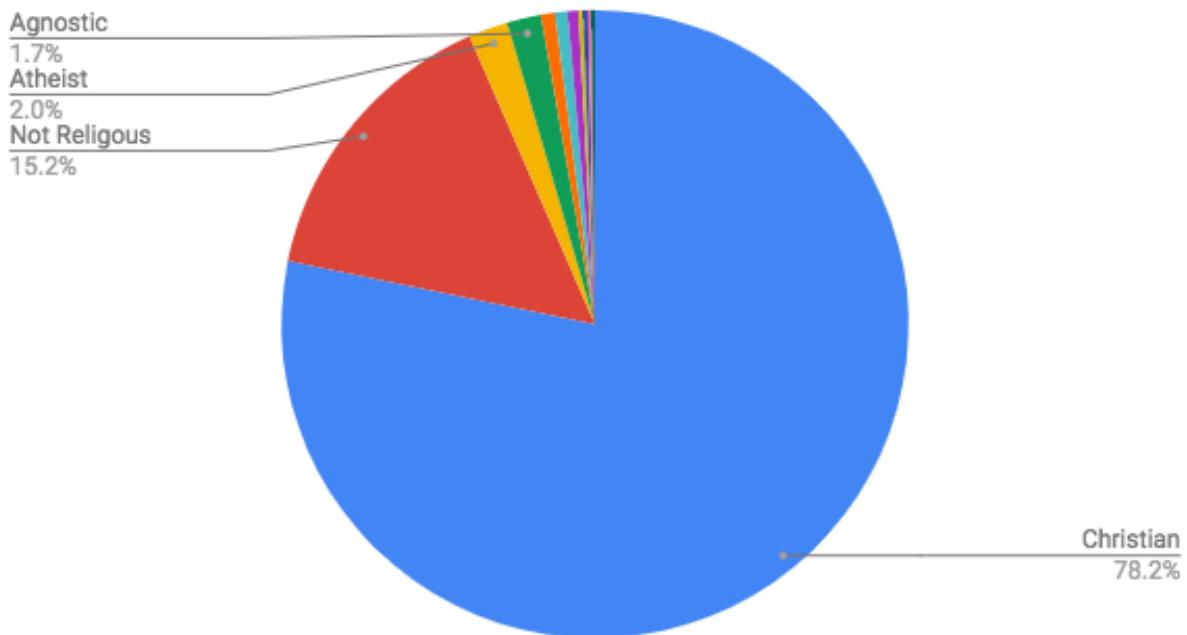


Also Note: 1.7% Black and 1% Native American

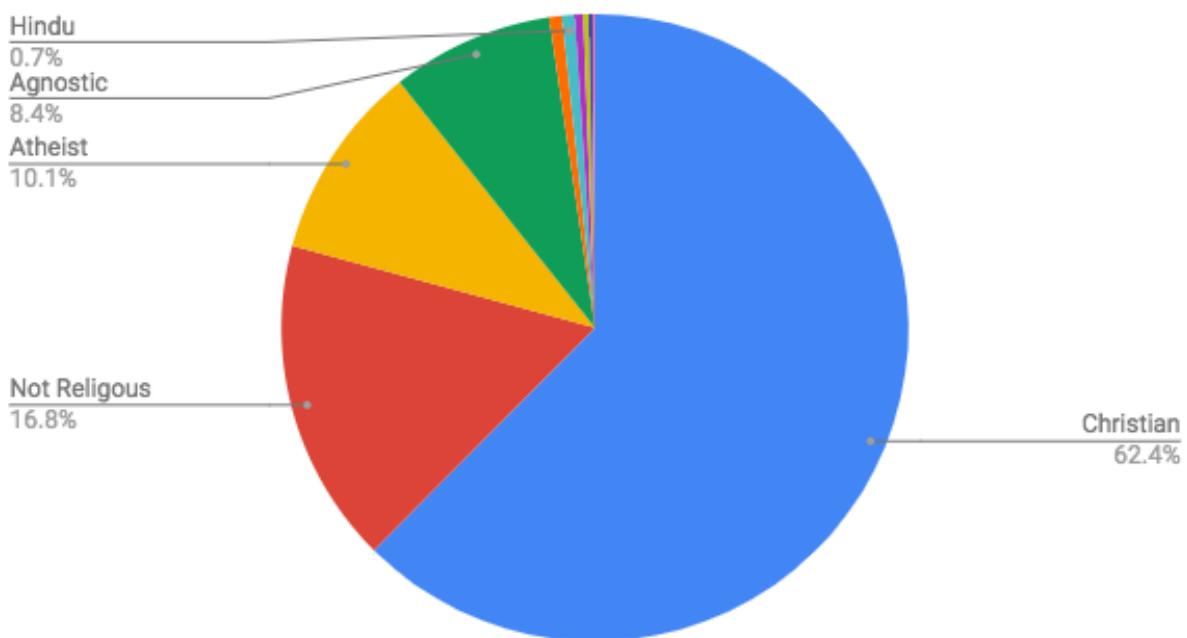
I am a citizen of \_\_\_\_\_.



My Parents Raised Me As \_\_\_\_\_.

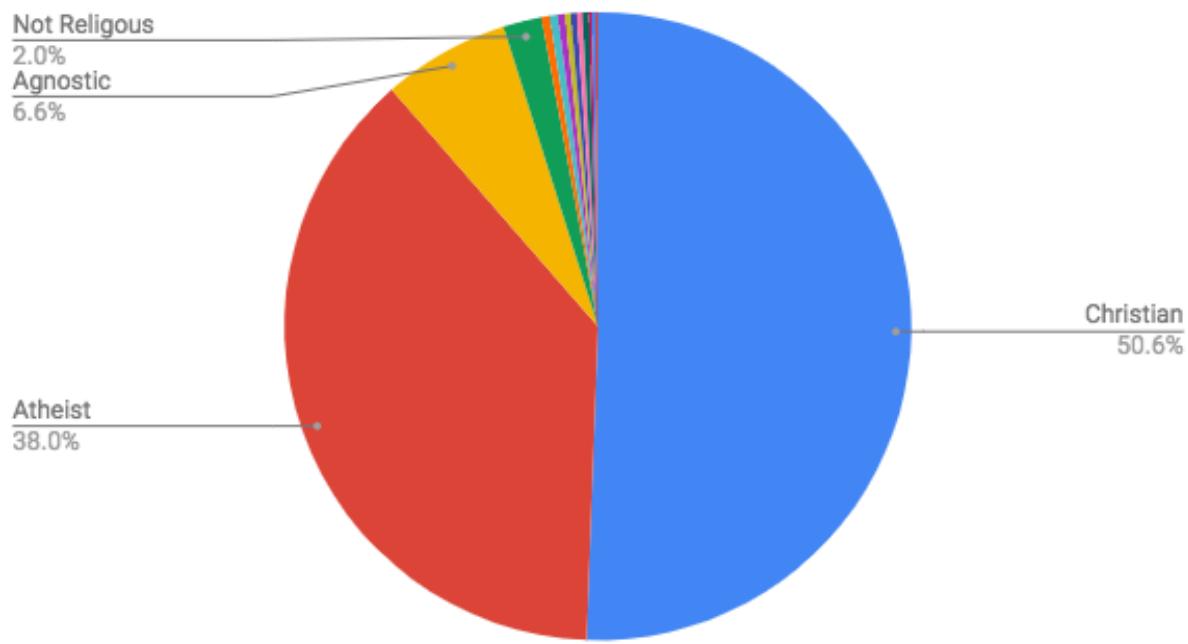


When I was 14, I was a \_\_\_\_\_.



It is interesting to note that 78% of respondents were raised Christian, but only 62% of respondents were Christians at age 14.

I am currently a \_\_\_\_\_.



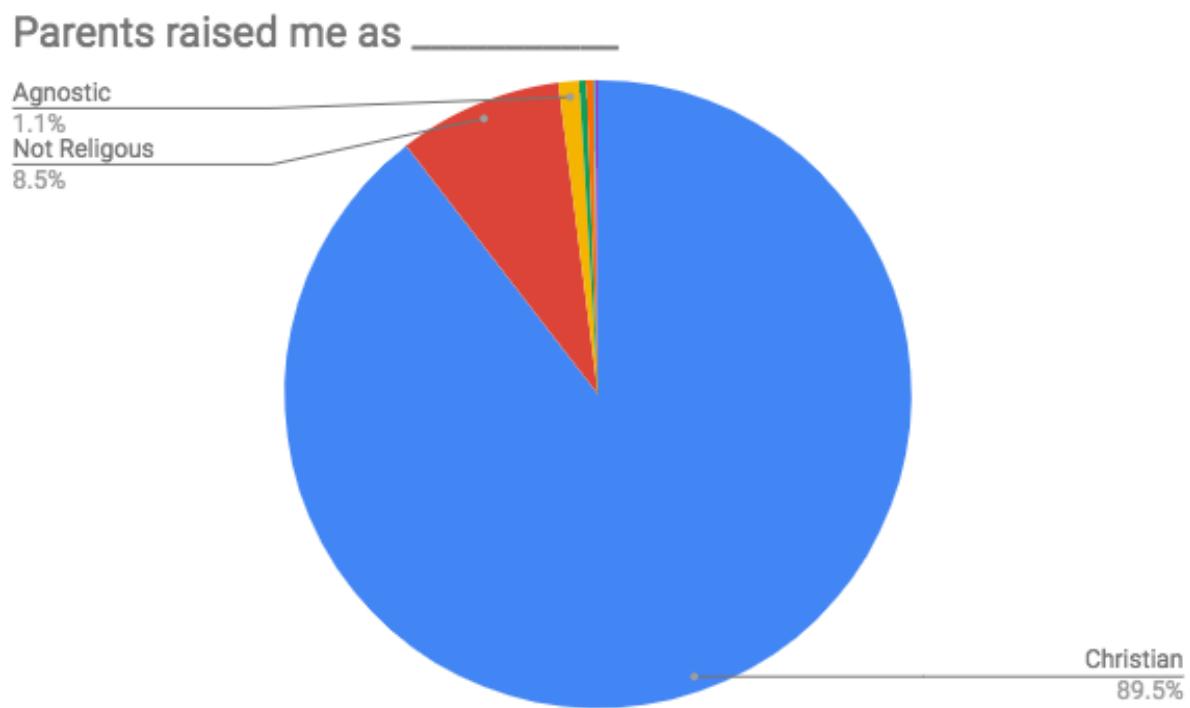
An interesting note is how the amount of respondents identify as Christians over time. Over 78% were raised as Christian, but only 62% are Christians at age 14. As time progresses, the amount of respondents who identify as Christians drops to 50% now, and the amount of people who identify as atheists jumps to 38%, compared to 10% at age 14.

Another very interesting statistic is that 16% of people claim to be

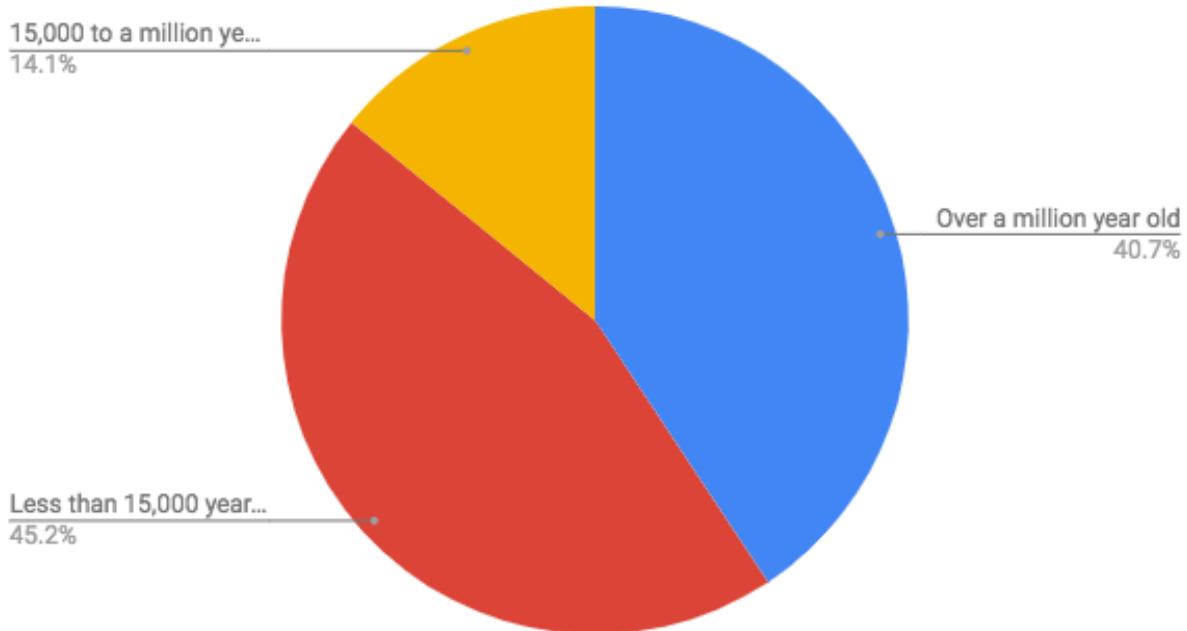
Not Religious at age 14, but only 2% claim to be Not Religious currently. This proves that people will develop their worldview as they get older, and try to find a definitive truth.

## 2.) Christian Responses

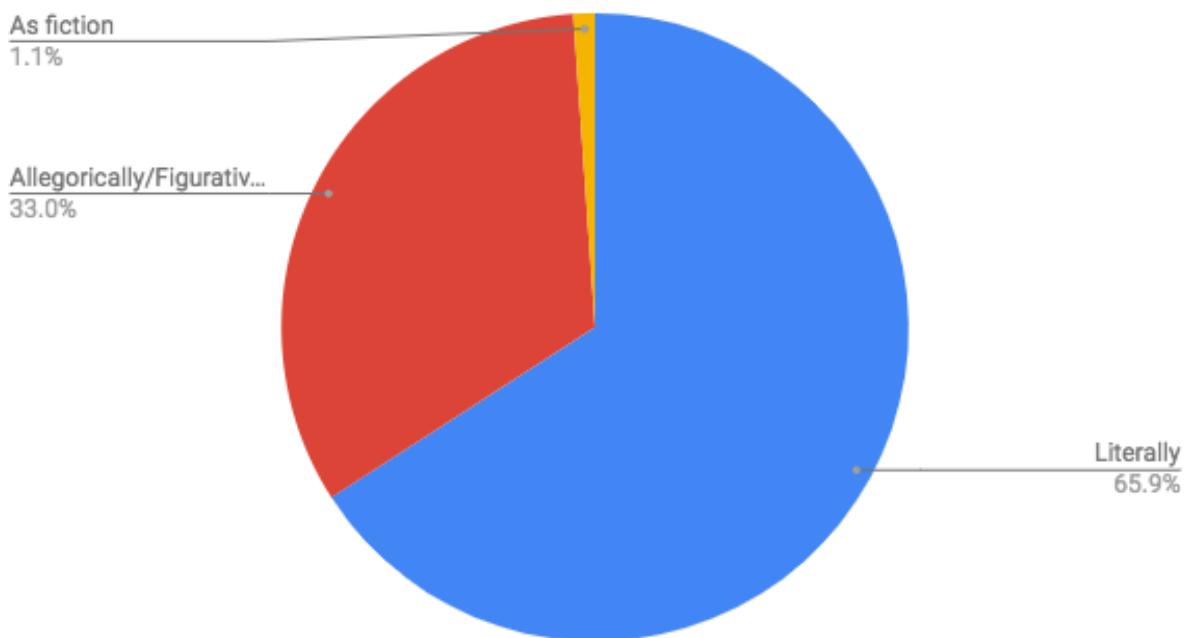
Here are what the 842 Christian respondents believe with respect to scientific, social, and moral issues. Also, there is data how people who claim to be Christians live in their religious lives.



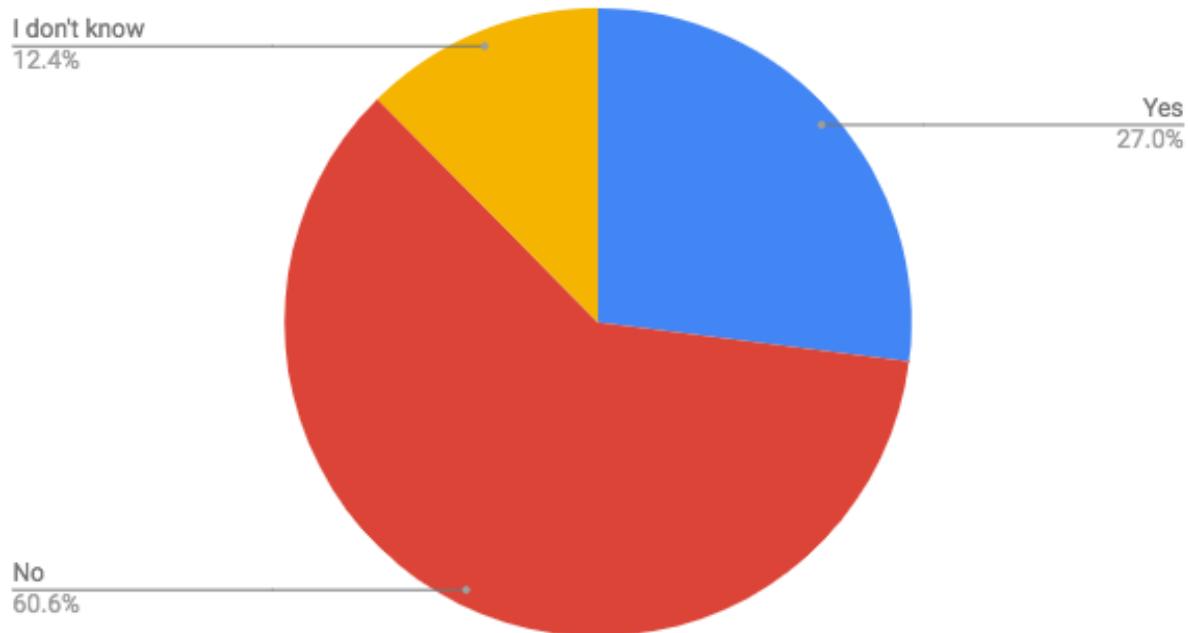
### Christians: How old is the earth?



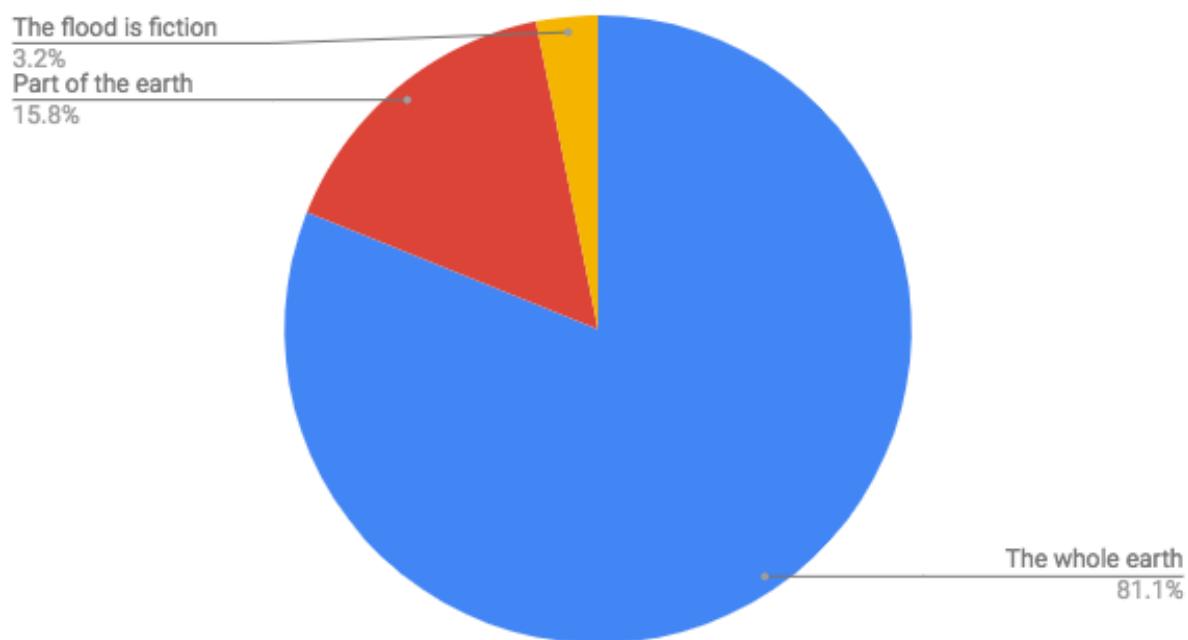
### Christians: Genesis 1's English translation should be interpreted



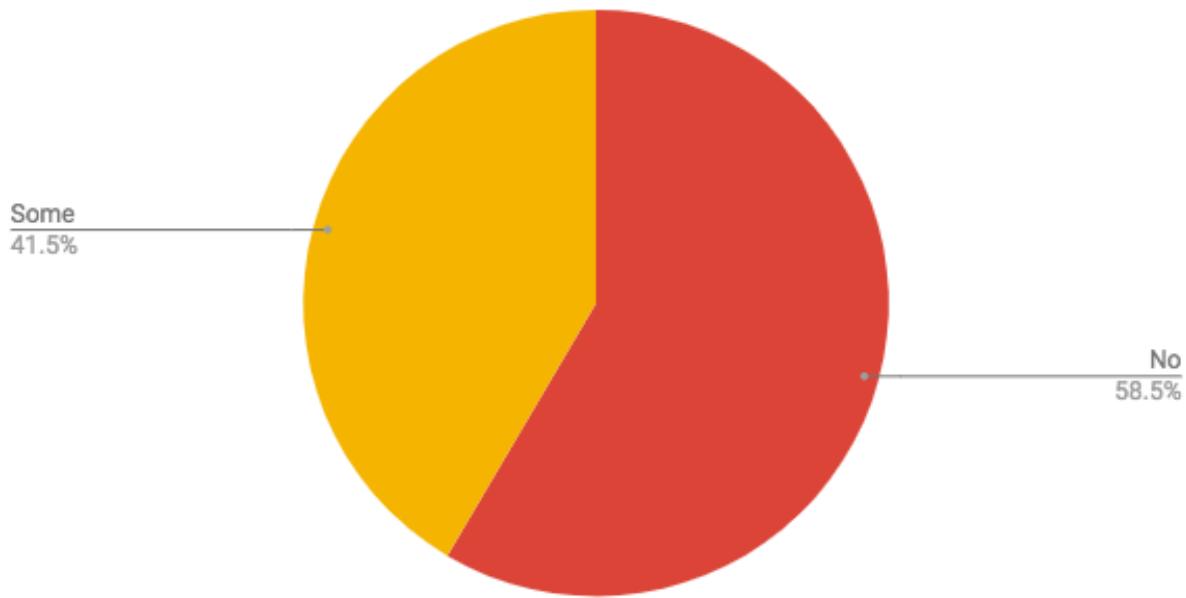
### Christians: Did Humans evolve over a long period of time?



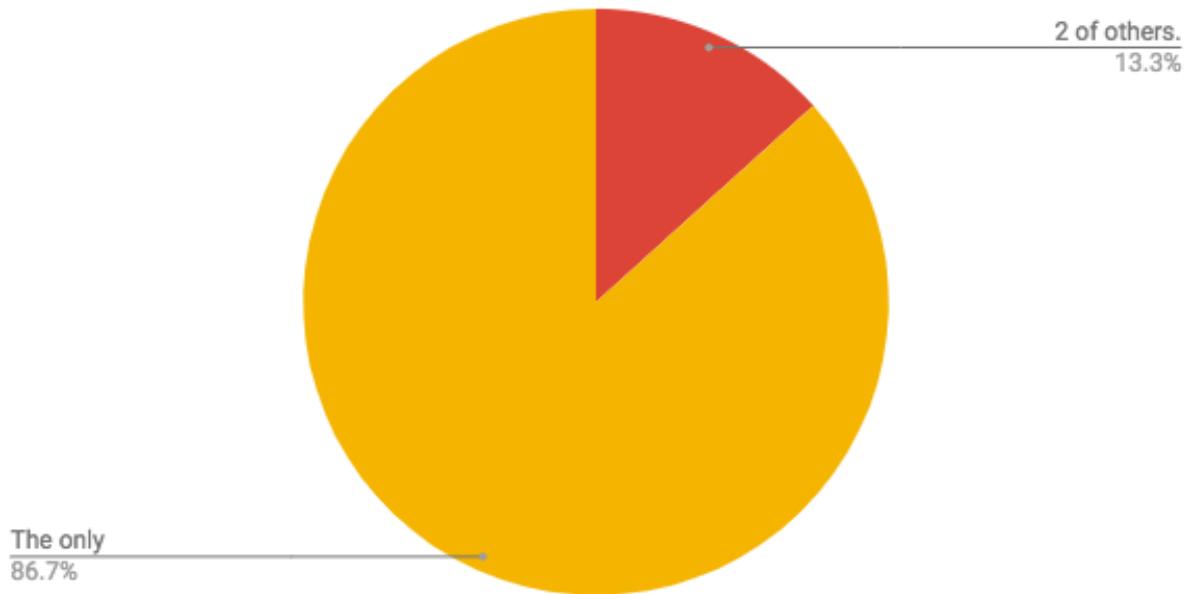
### Christians: The Flood Covered \_\_\_\_\_.



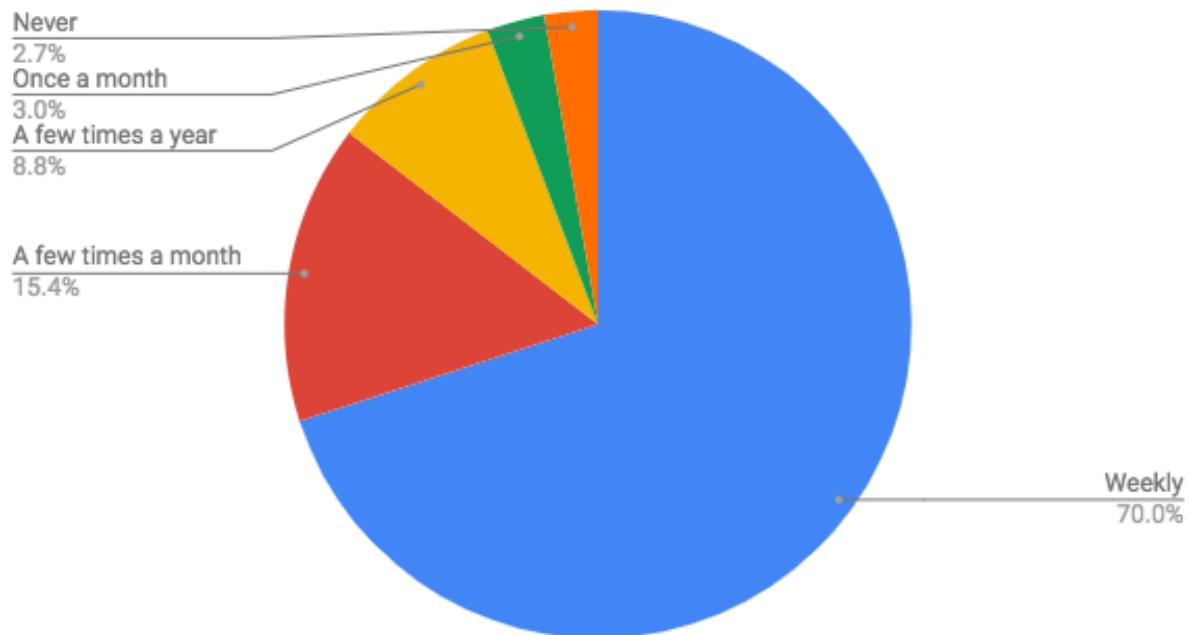
Christians: The genealogies (from Adam to Noah and Shem to Abram) in Genesis 5 and 11 have \_\_\_\_\_ gaps.



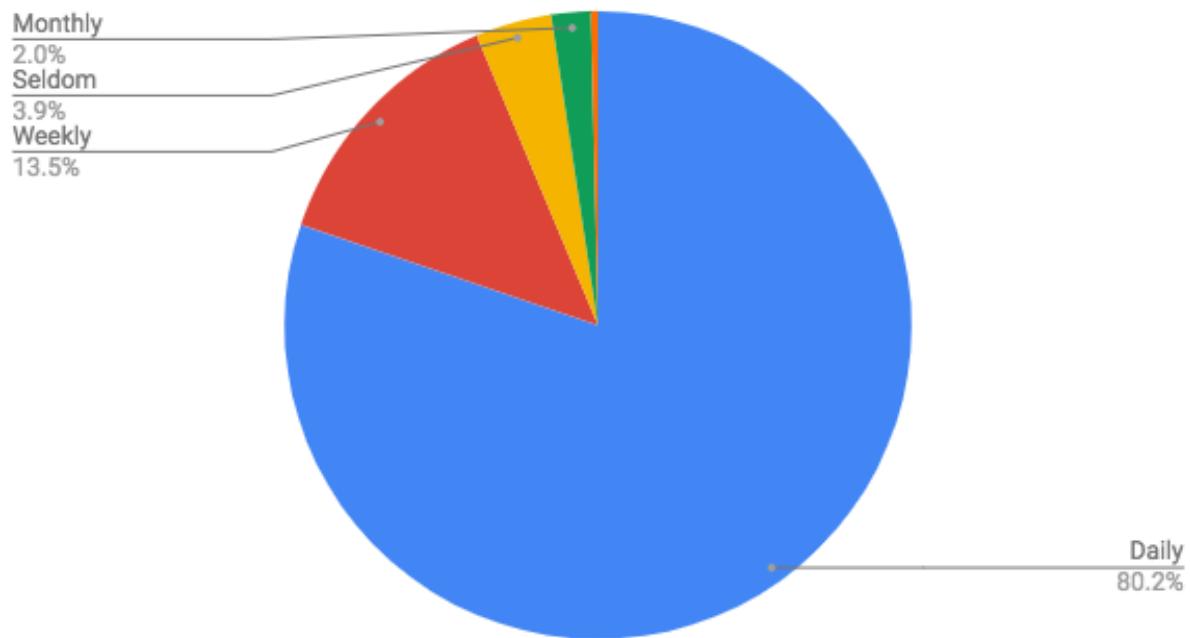
Christians: Adam and Eve were \_\_\_\_\_ humans on earth when they are first placed in the Garden of Eden



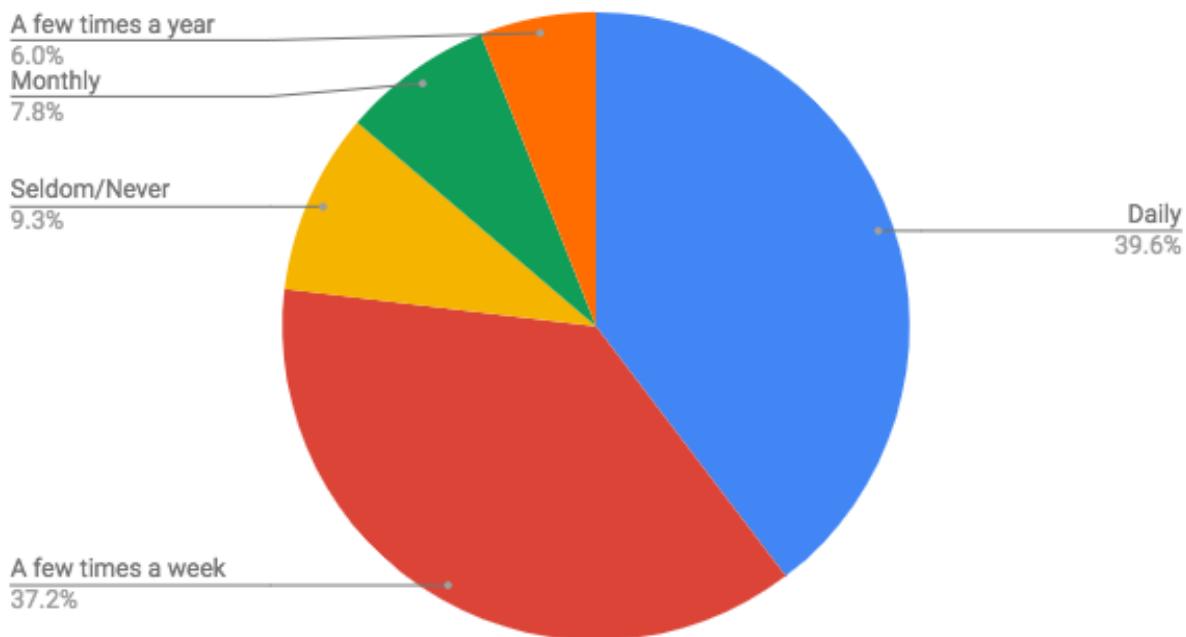
### Christians: How often do you attend religious services?



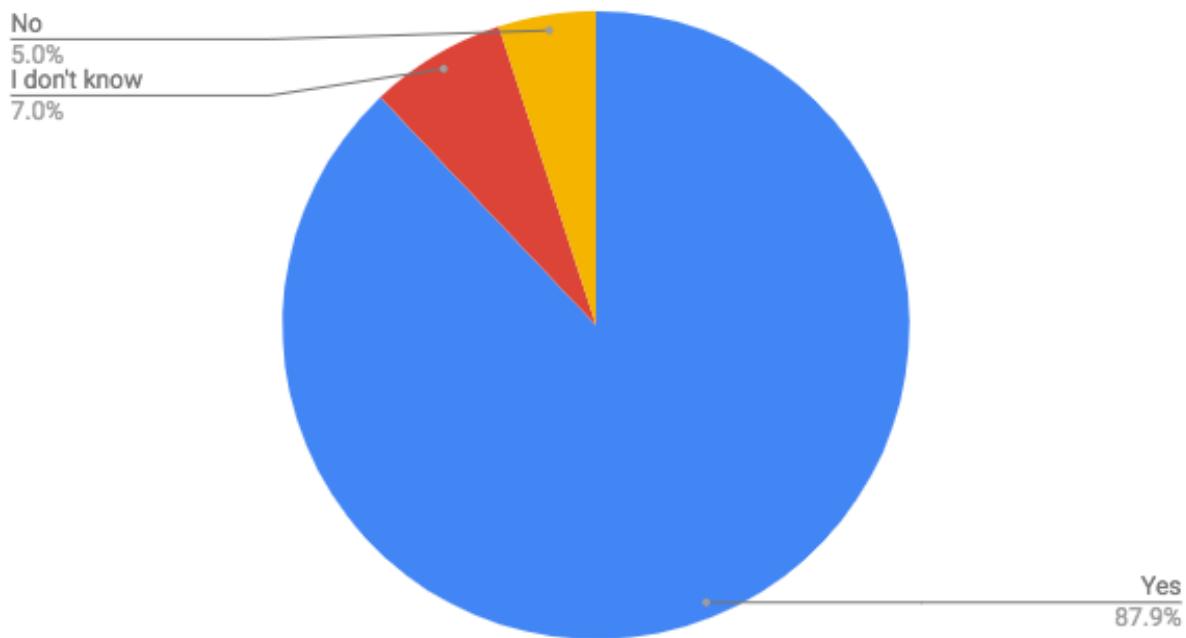
### Christians: How often do you pray?



### Christians: How often do you read scripture?



### Christians: Do you believe in hell?

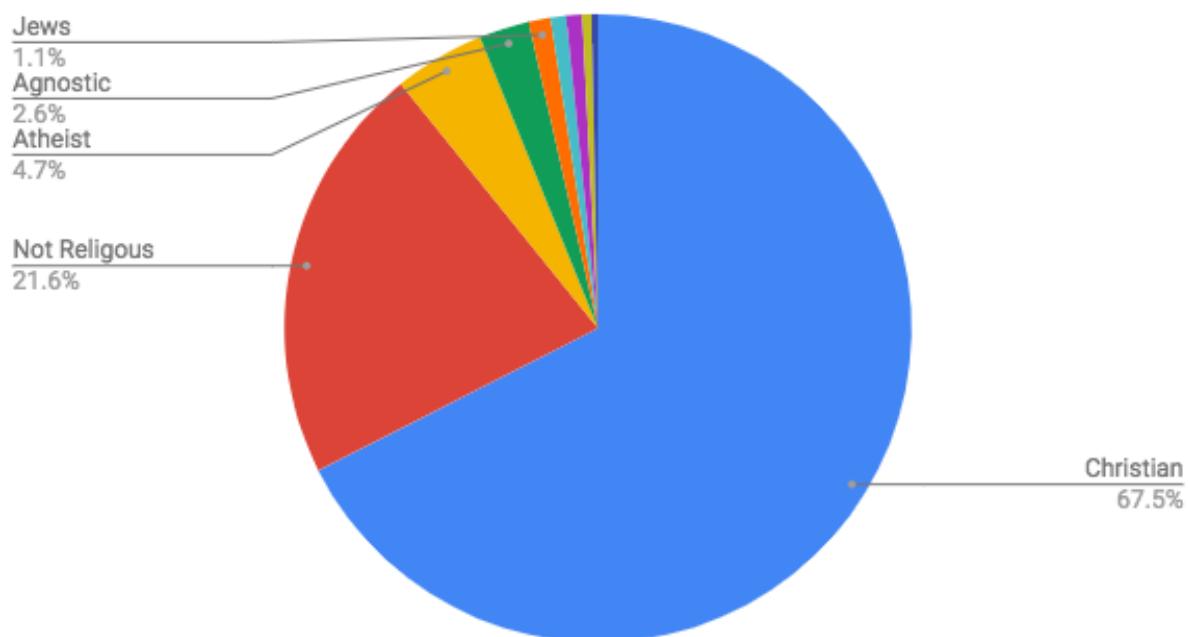


An interesting statistic is the amount of Christians who believe in an earth over a million years (40.7%) but not as many (27%) believe that humans evolved over a long period of time. Also, 12% of Christians either say they don't believe in Hell or are not sure.

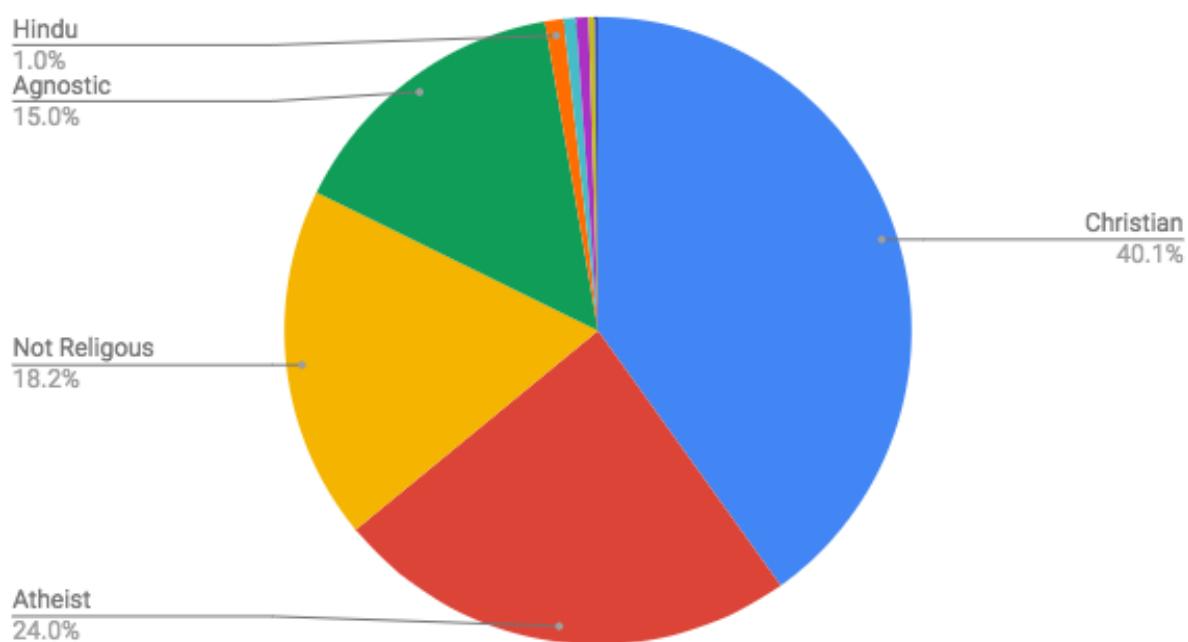
### 3.) Atheist Responses

632 atheists responded to this survey. The following graphs document how they were raised and what their beliefs were at age 14. It is interesting to note the significant drop in religious belief among atheists by age 14.

I was raised as a \_\_\_\_\_.



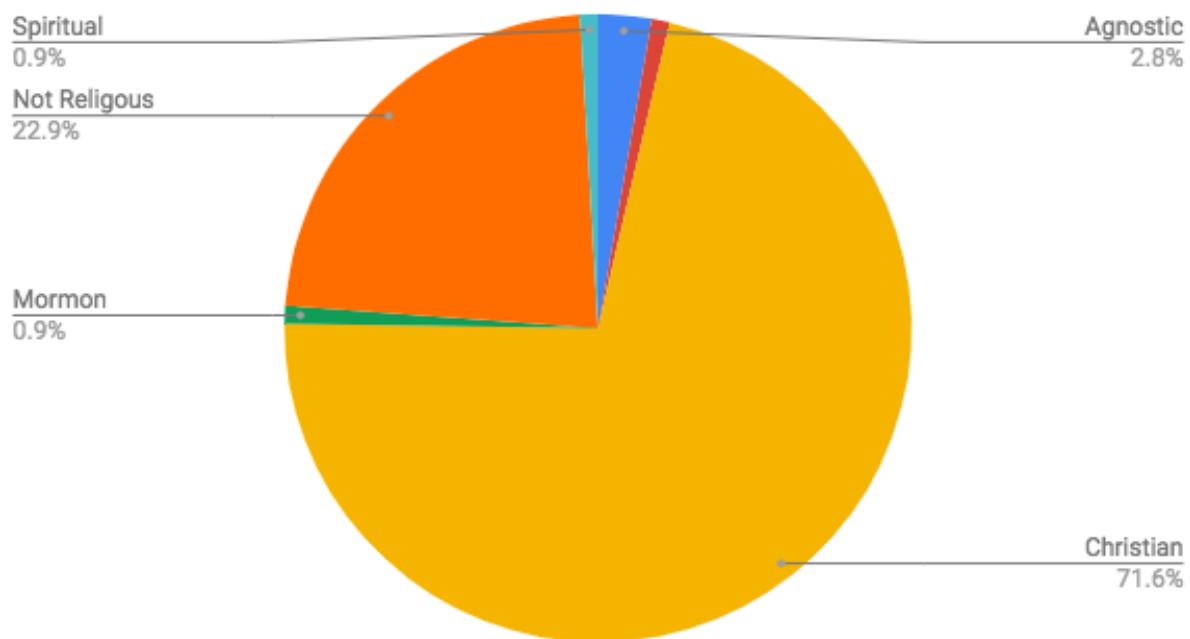
When I was 14, I was a \_\_\_\_\_.



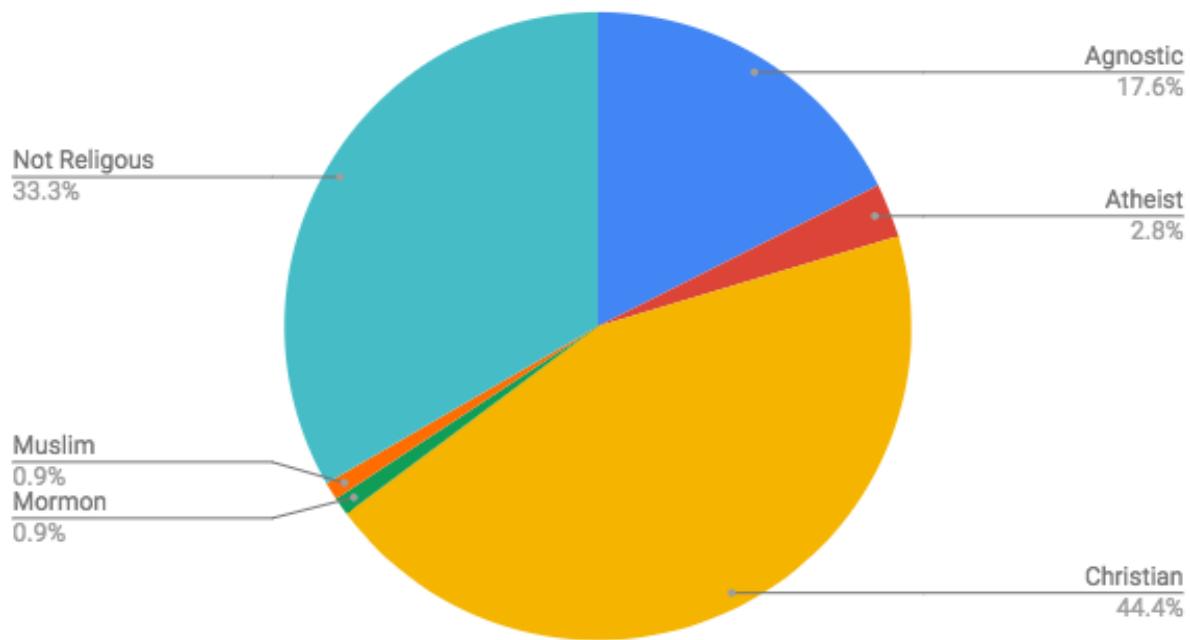
## 4.) Agnostic Responses

110 agnostics responded to this survey. Here is how they were raised and what they believed at age 14. It is significant to note the drop in faith in Christianity by age 14.

My parents raised me as \_\_\_\_\_.



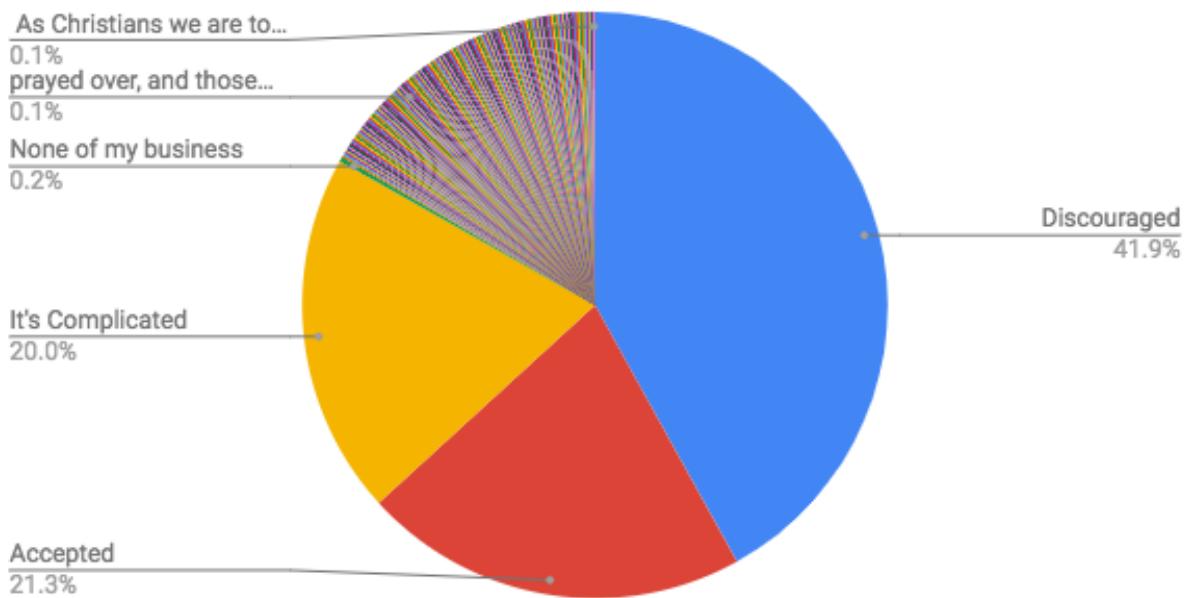
When I was 14, I was \_\_\_\_\_.



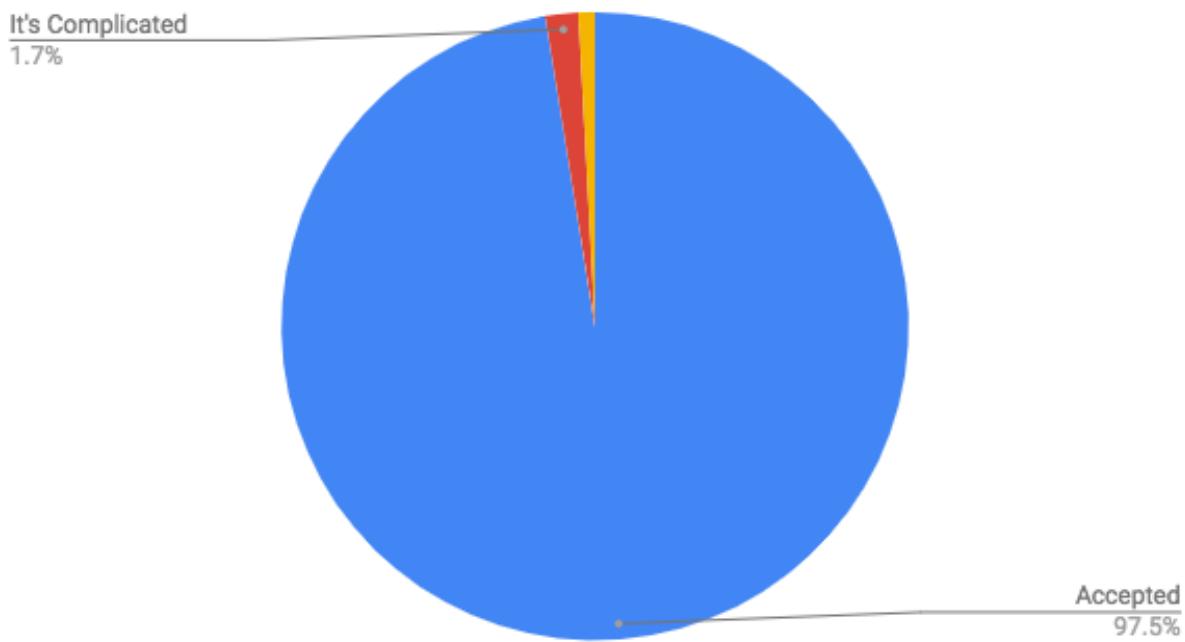
## 5.) Christians and Atheists on Political/Social Issues

This section tackles the political ideology of Christians and Atheists. It is interesting to note that Christians statistically take a more conservative stance, while Atheists take a much more liberal stances on political and social issues.

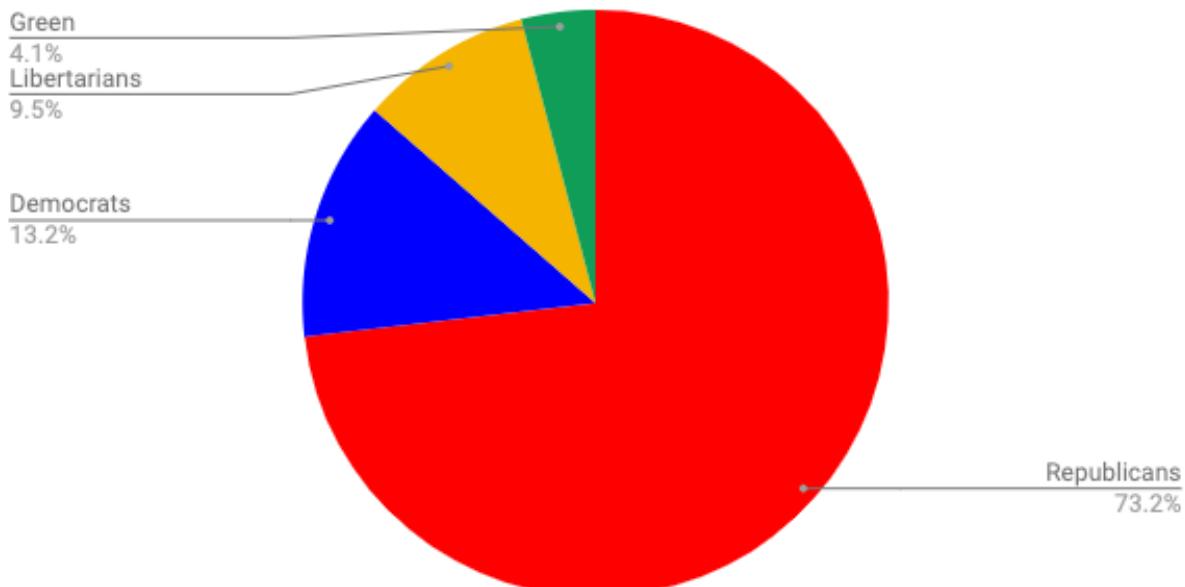
Christians: Homosexuality should be \_\_\_\_\_. Note: The rainbow colored section are all of the "other" responses.



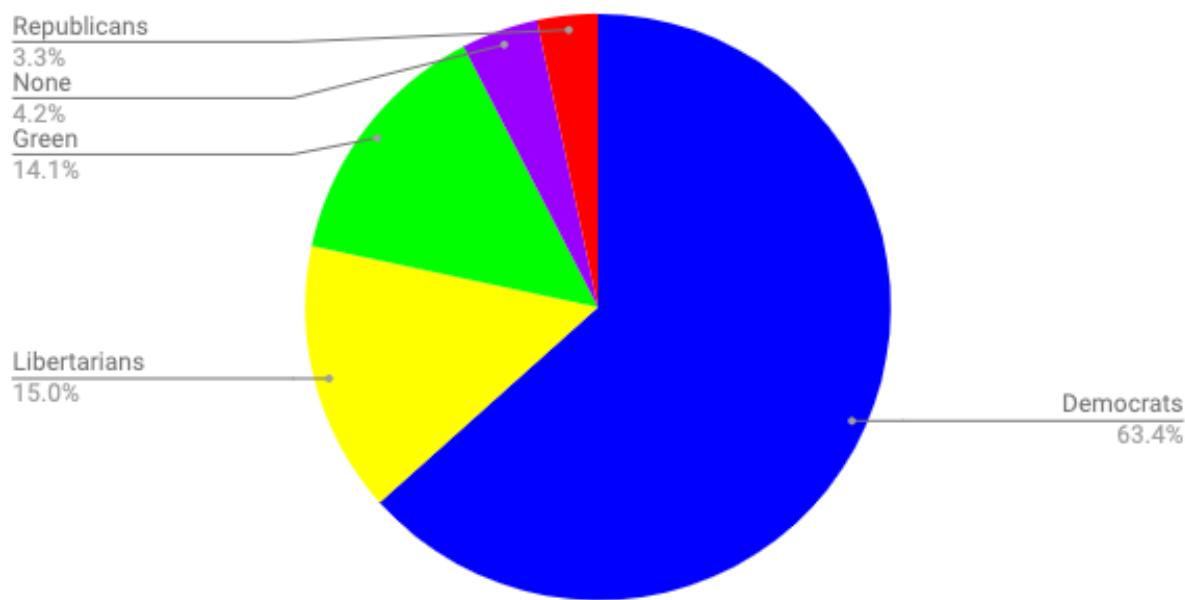
Atheists: Homosexuality should be \_\_\_\_\_.  
Note: The rainbow colored section are all of the "other" responses.



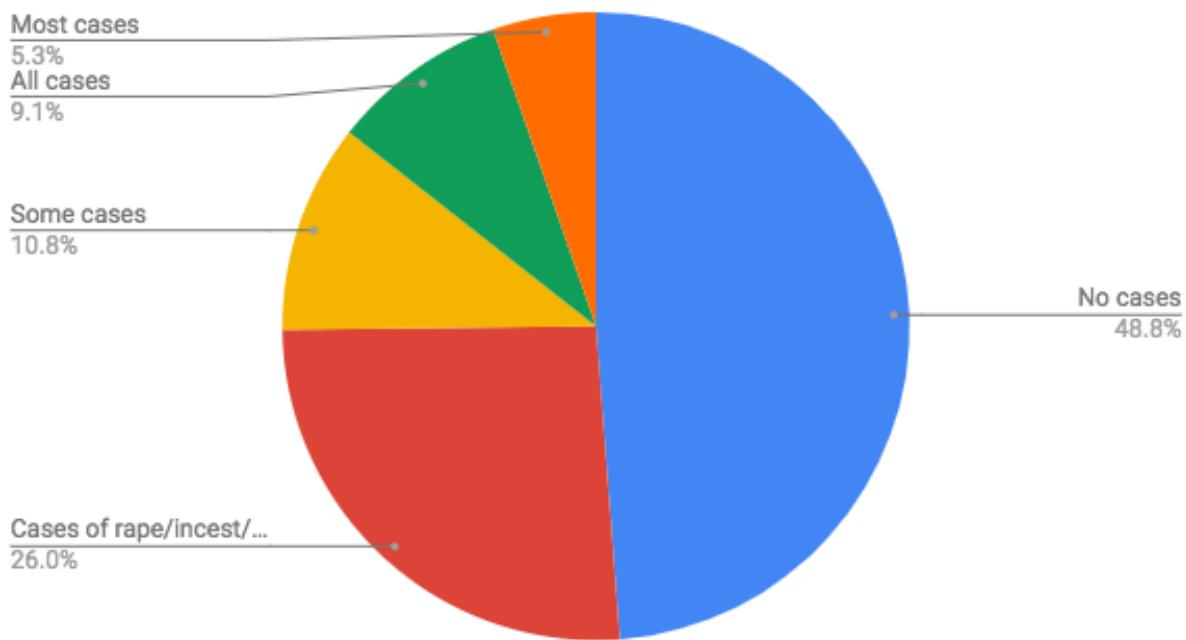
Christians: Which political party represents your beliefs most accurately? (Summarized to the 4 major US parties)



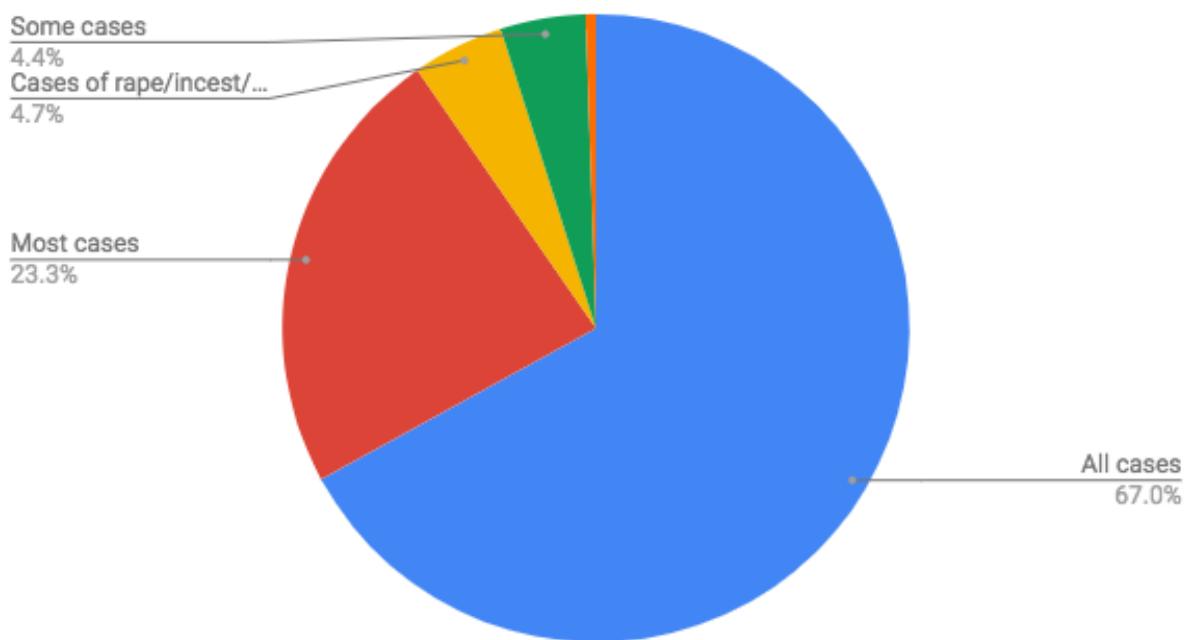
Atheists: Which political party represents your beliefs most accurately? (Summarized to the 4 major US parties)



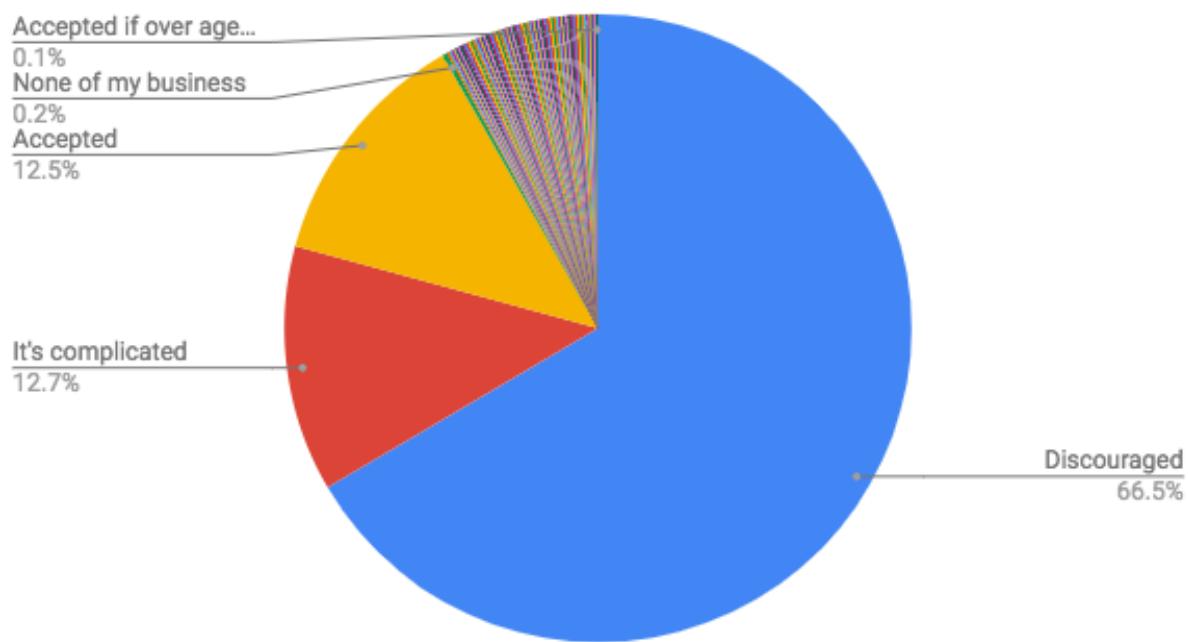
Christians: Abortion should be legalized in \_\_\_\_\_.



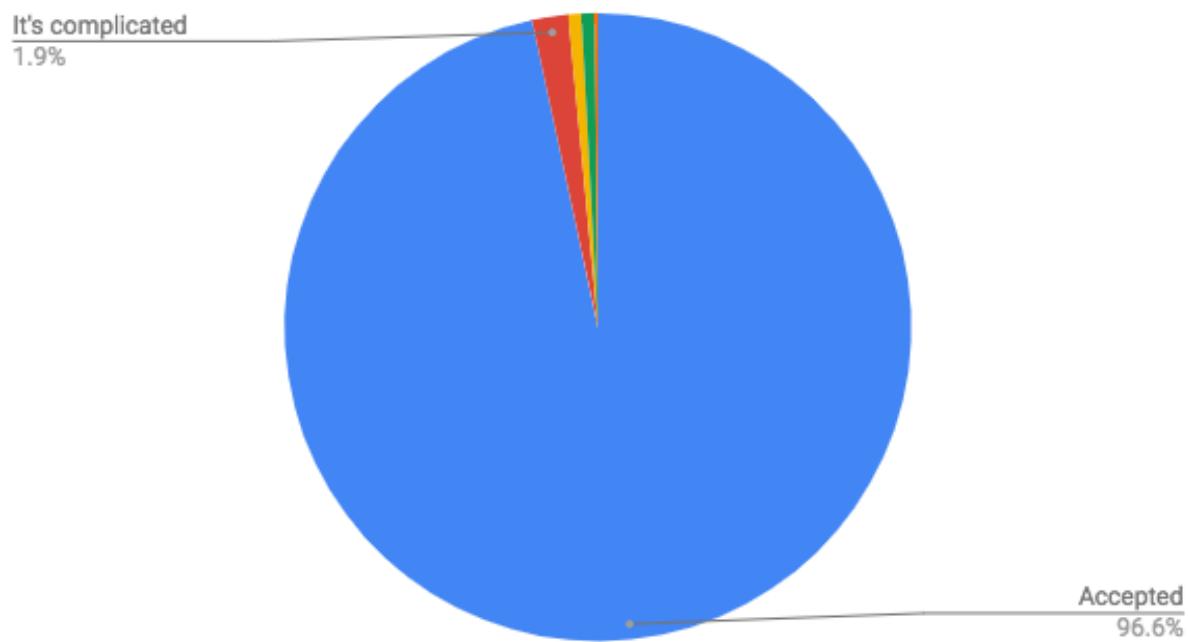
Atheists: Abortion should be legalized in \_\_\_\_\_.



Christians: Pre-Marital Sex should be \_\_\_\_\_.



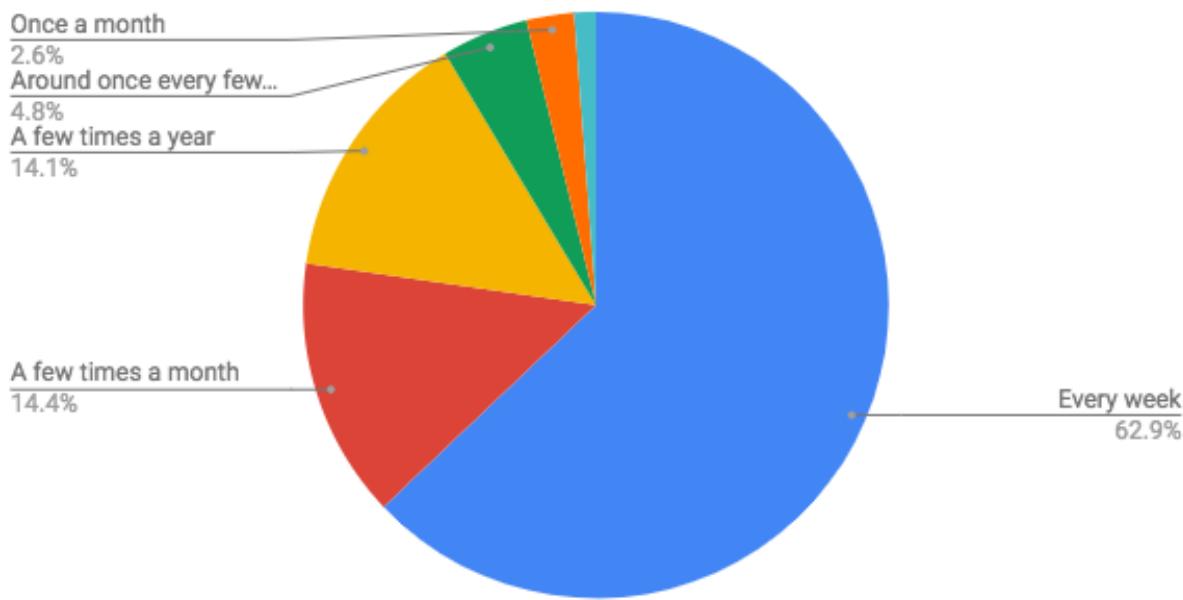
Atheists: Pre-Marital Sex should be \_\_\_\_\_.



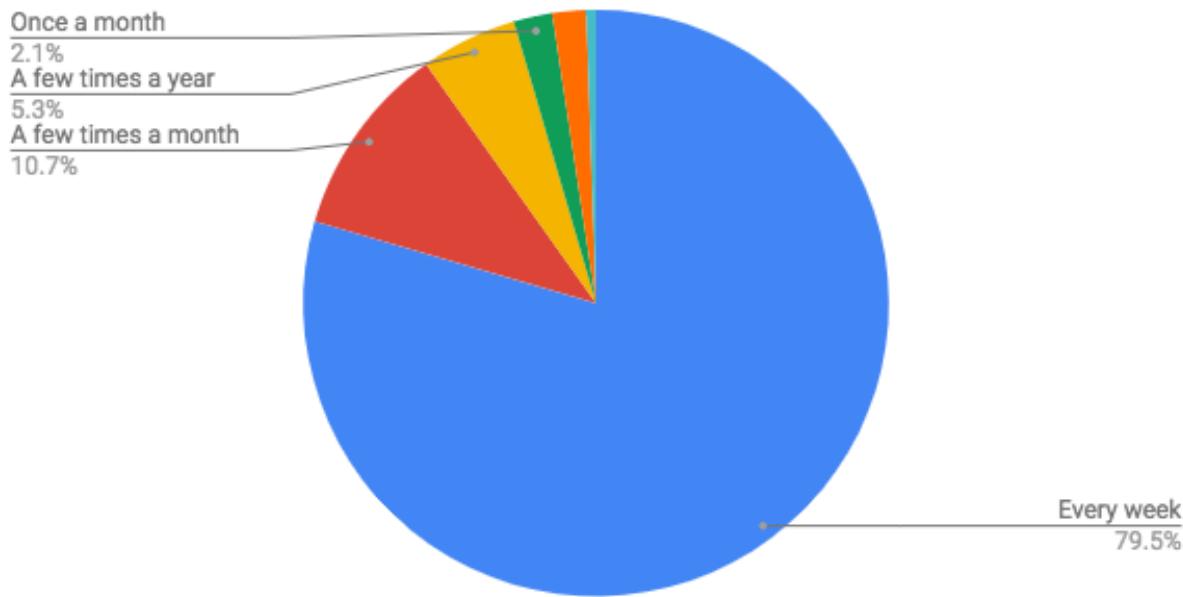
## 6.) Christians who were raised Christians Compared to those who were Raised Christians and became Atheists

This section covers the similarities and differences of people who leave Christianity and those who don't. It is interesting to note that Christians who become Atheists statistically have worse relationships with their parents, and attended religious services less frequently than people who were raised Christian and stayed Christian.

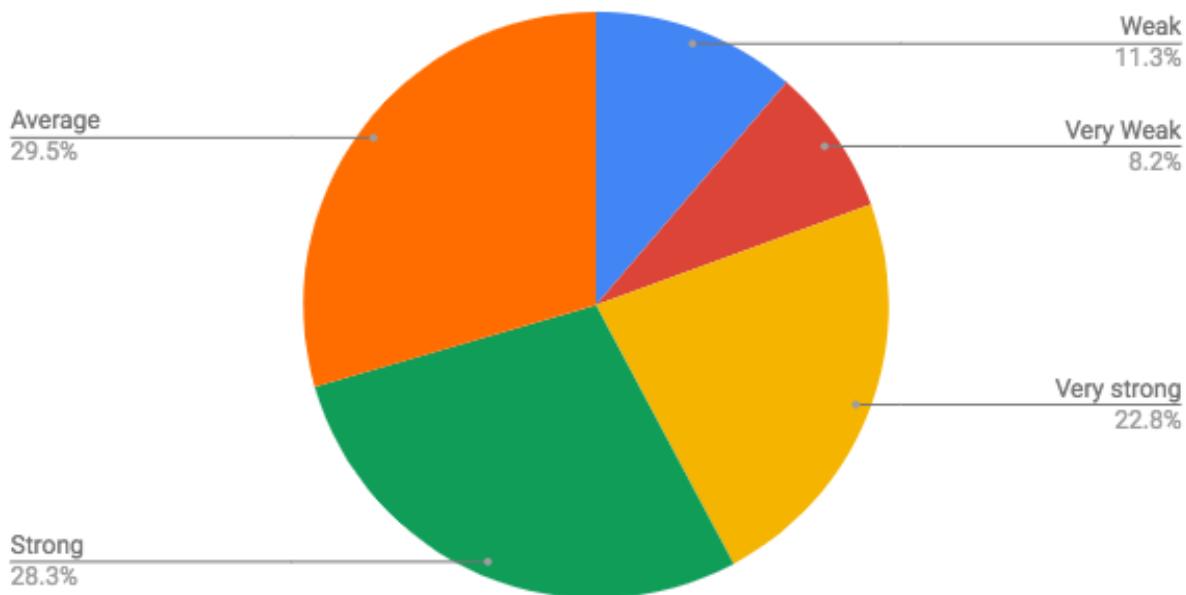
### Christians who became Atheists: As a kid I attended religious services \_\_\_\_\_.



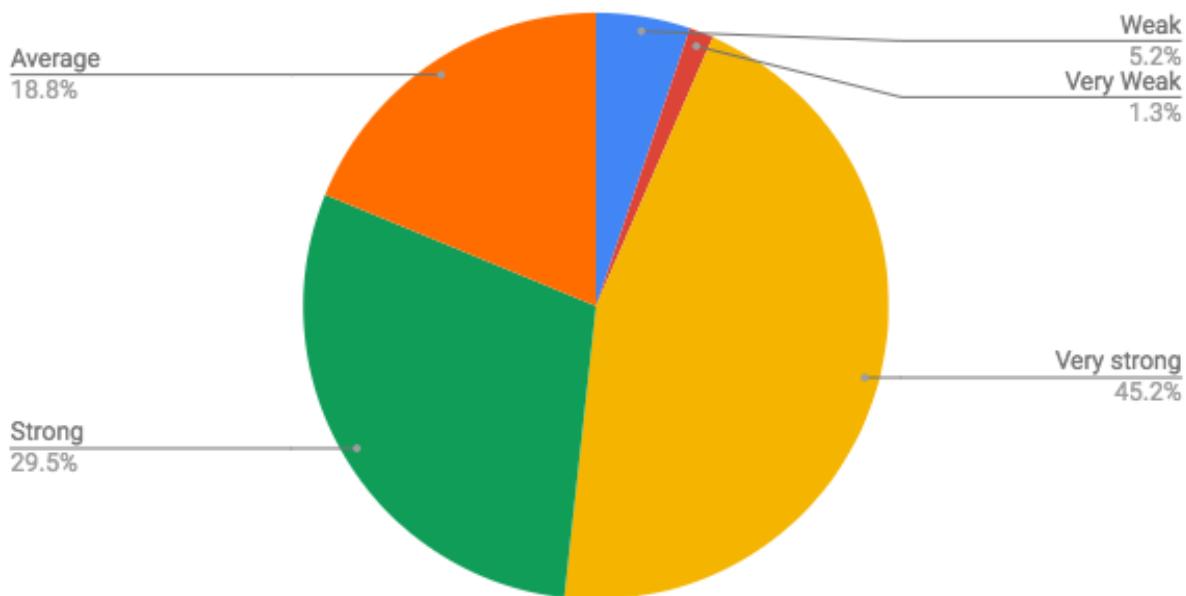
### Raised Christian and Stayed Christian: As a kid I attended religious services \_\_\_\_\_.



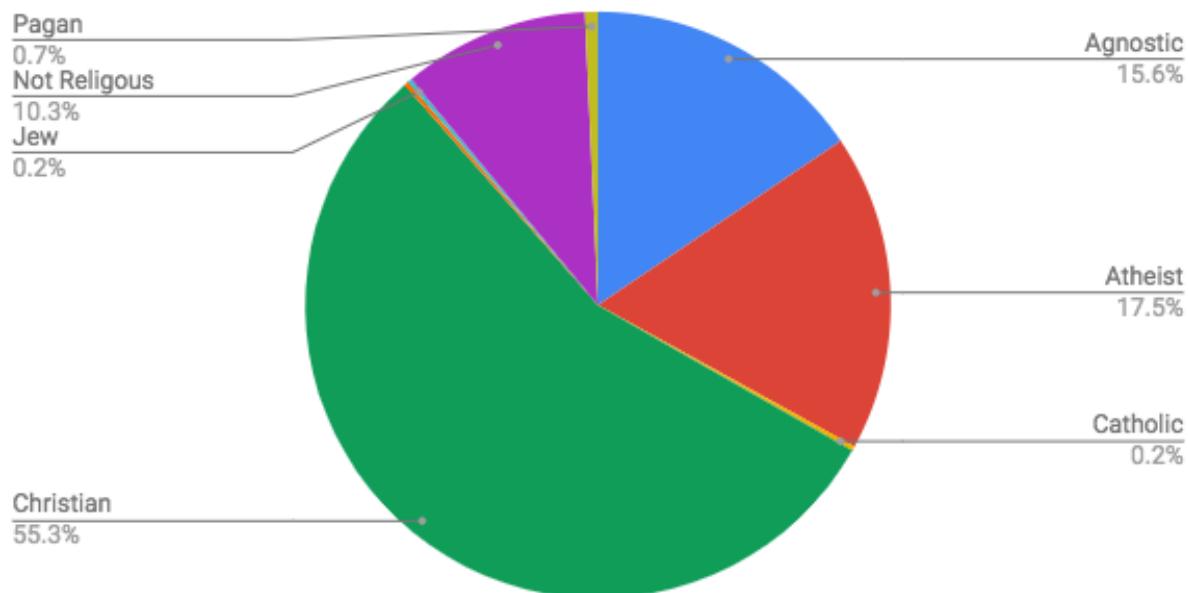
Christians who became Atheists: I would describe my relationship with my parents as \_\_\_\_\_.



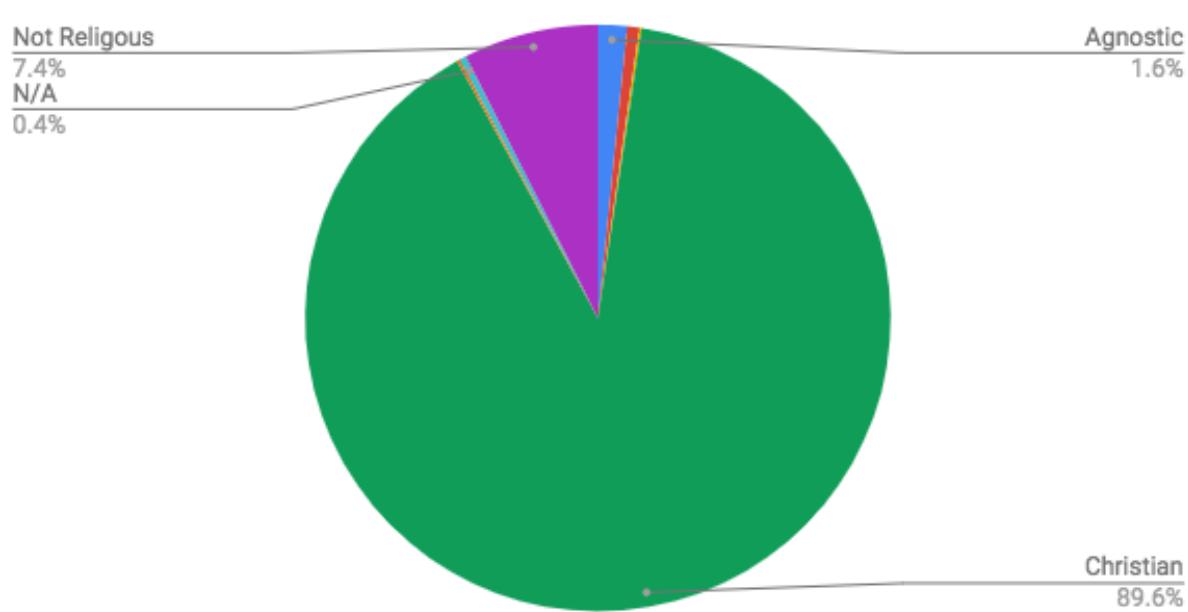
Raised Christian and Stayed Christian: I would describe my relationship with my parents as \_\_\_\_\_.



People who were Raised Christians who became Atheists:  
When I was 14 I was \_\_\_\_\_.



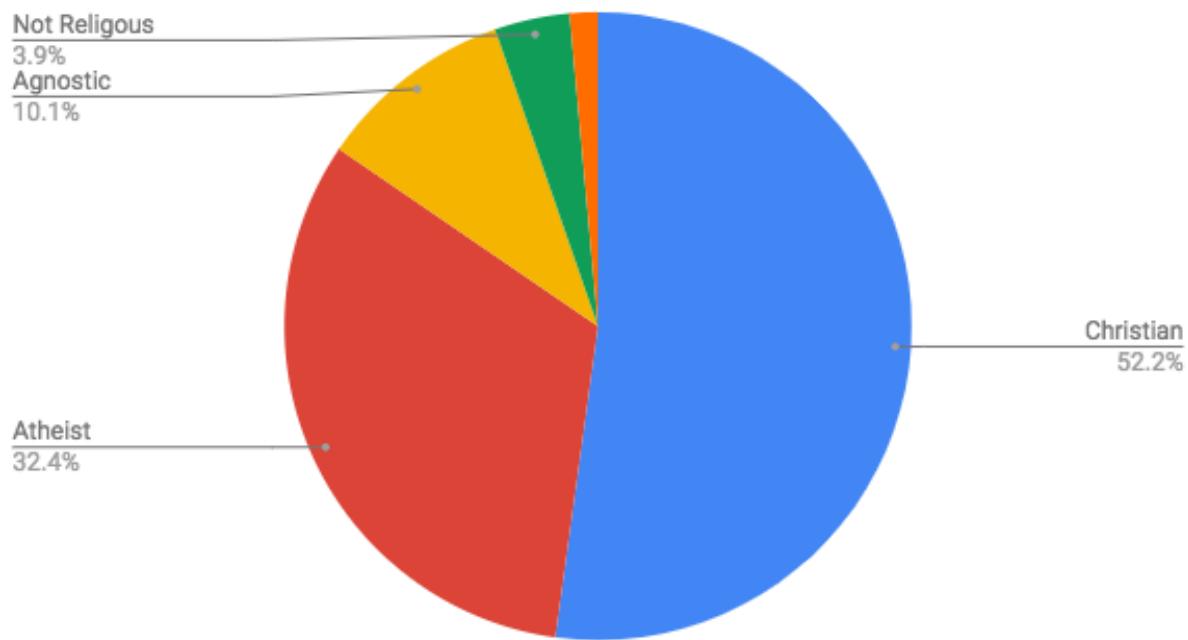
Raised Christian and Stayed Christian: When I was 14 I was \_\_\_\_\_.



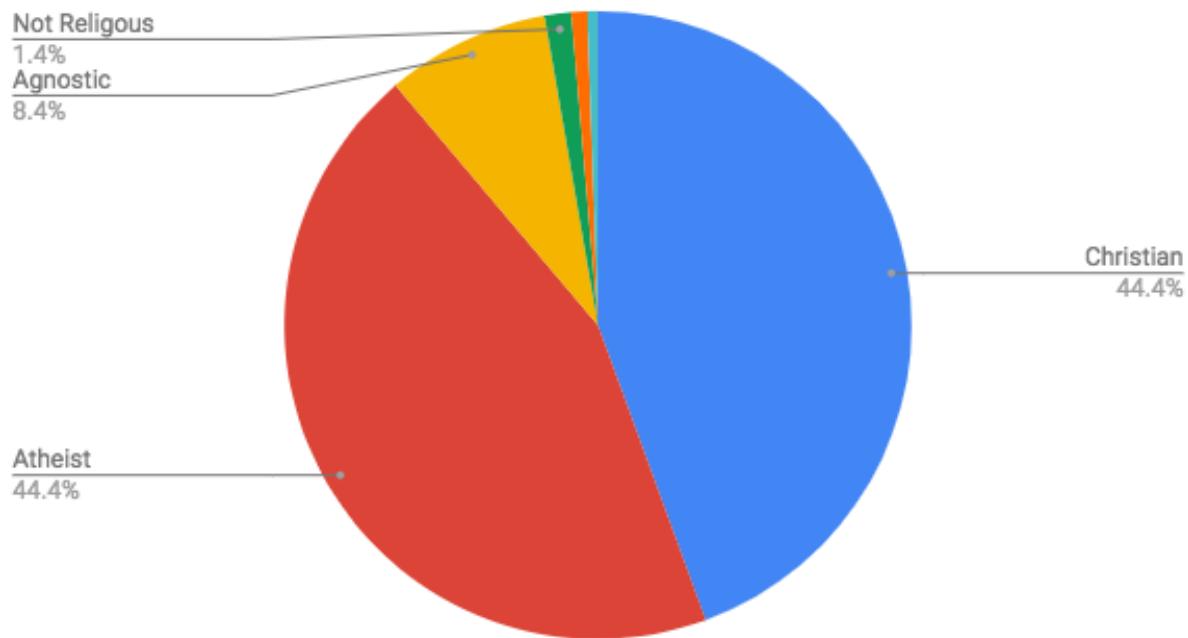
## 7.) Age, Wealth, and Education Compared to Worldview

This section focuses on the education level, age, and marital status with relation to the respondents worldview. In this survey, Christians are more common among older generations and amongst 16-24 year olds today. Also, typically, the higher the income of a respondent and the higher their education status, the more likely they are to be a Christian.

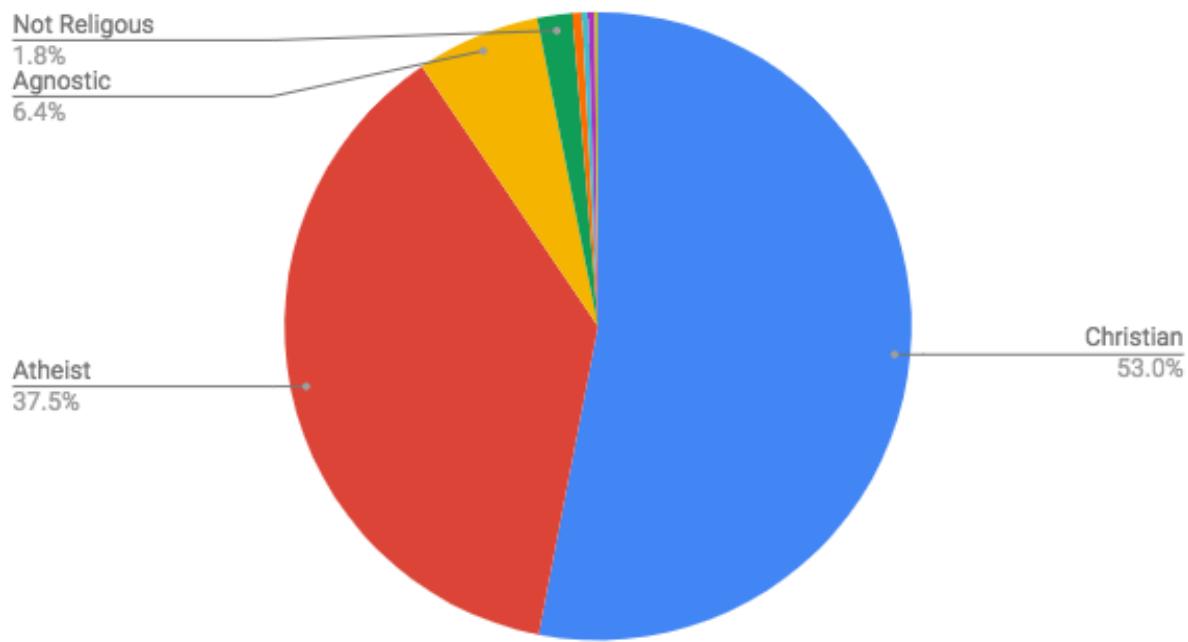
Age 16-24: I am currently a \_\_\_\_\_. (218 Responses)



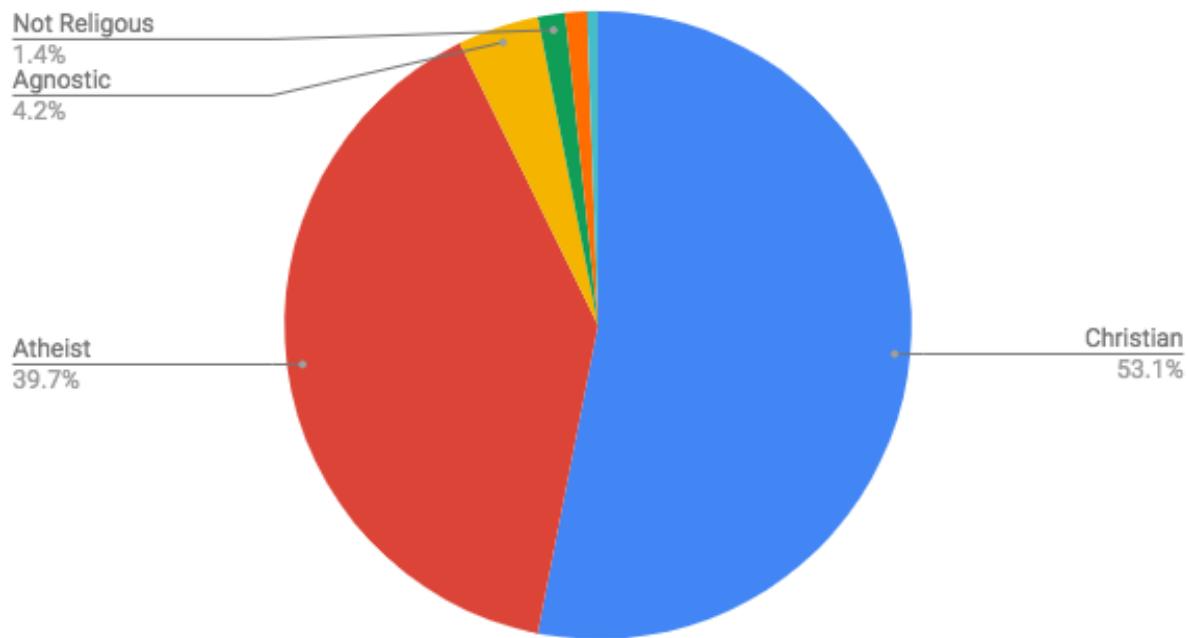
Age 25-35: I am currently a \_\_\_\_\_. (376 Responses)



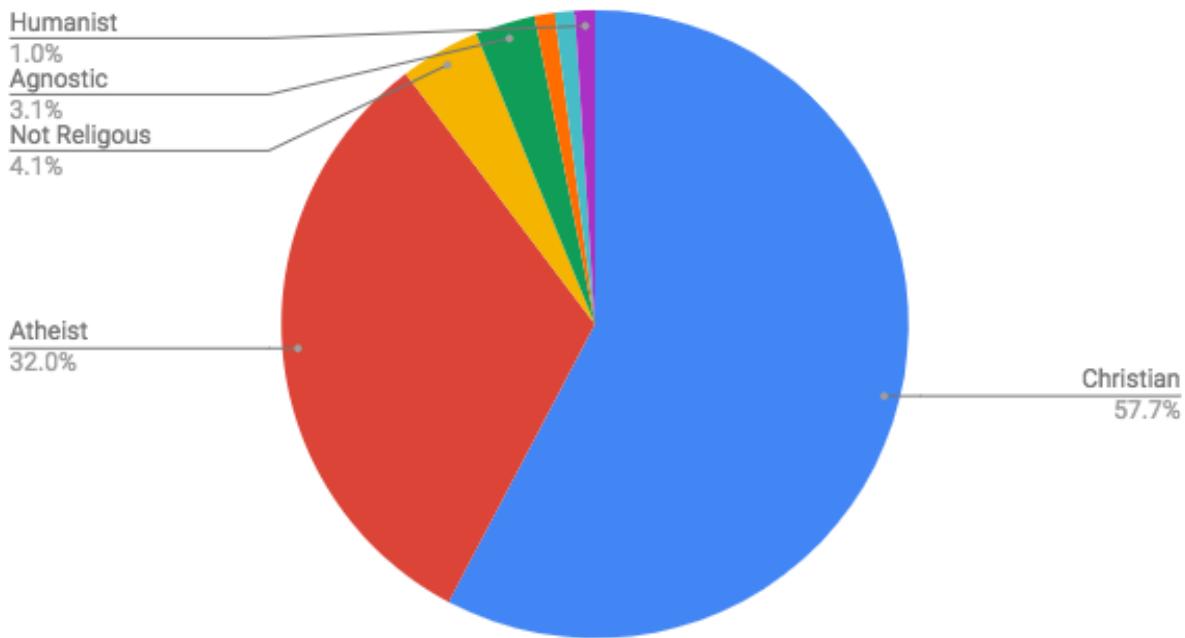
Age 36-50: I am currently a \_\_\_\_\_. (615 Responses)



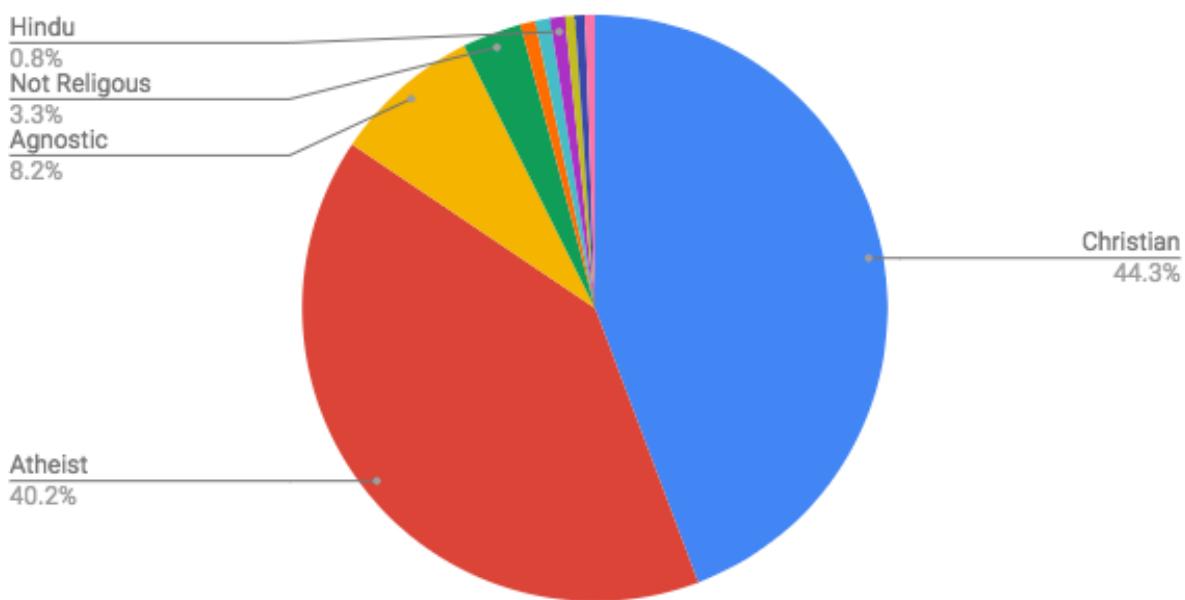
Age 51-65: I am currently a \_\_\_\_\_. (367 Responses)



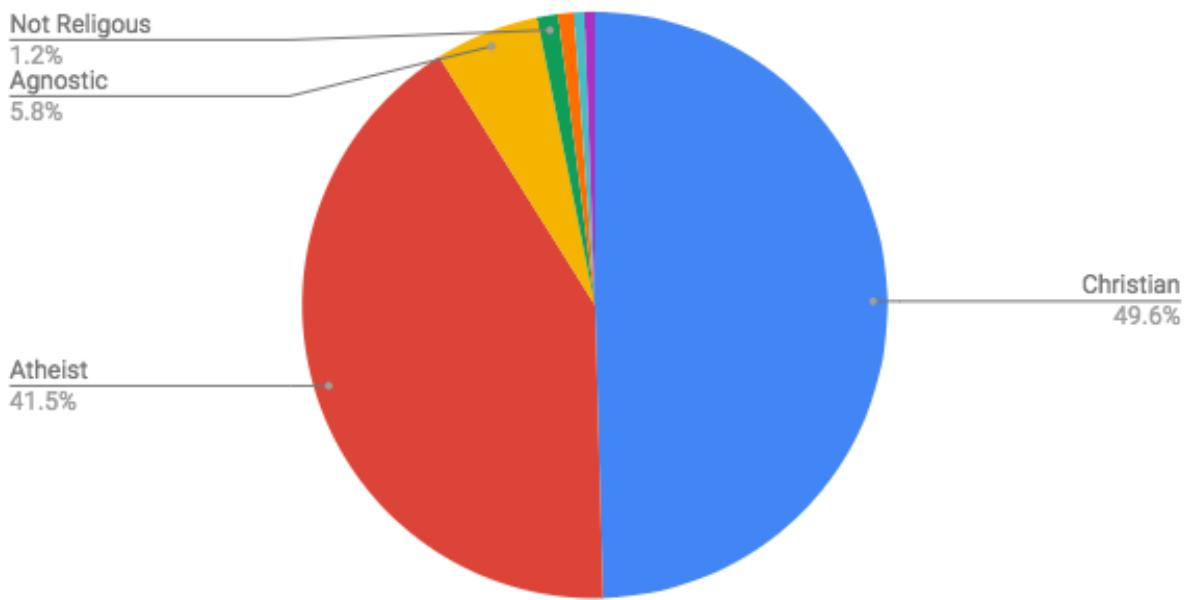
Age 66+: I am currently a \_\_\_\_\_. (98 Responses)



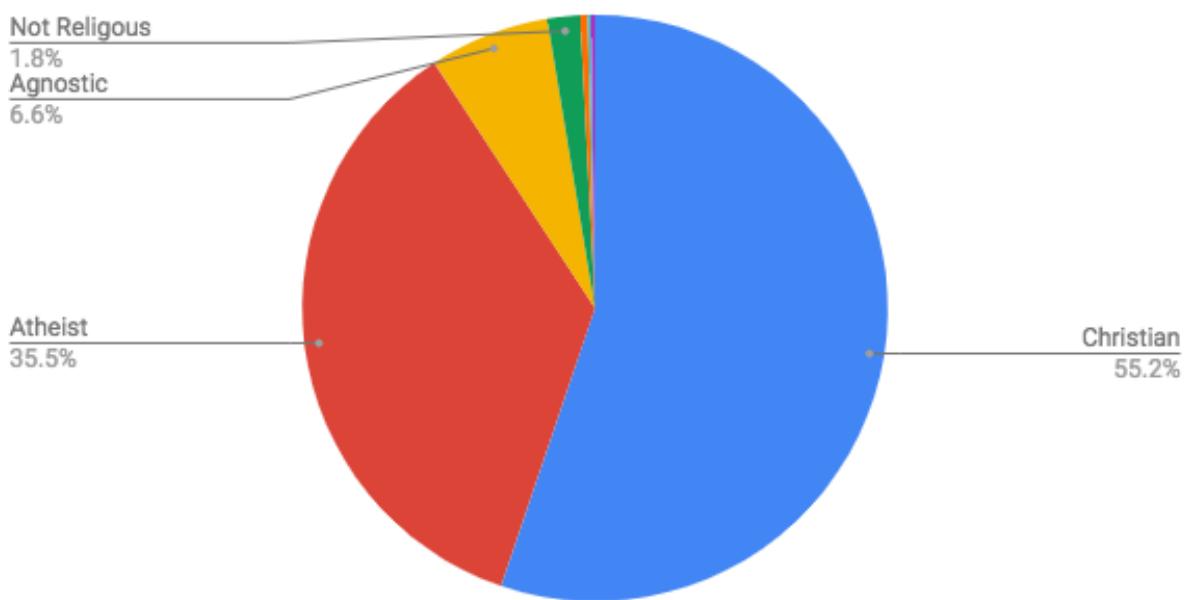
Income Less than \$30,000: I am currently a \_\_\_\_\_. (371 Responses)



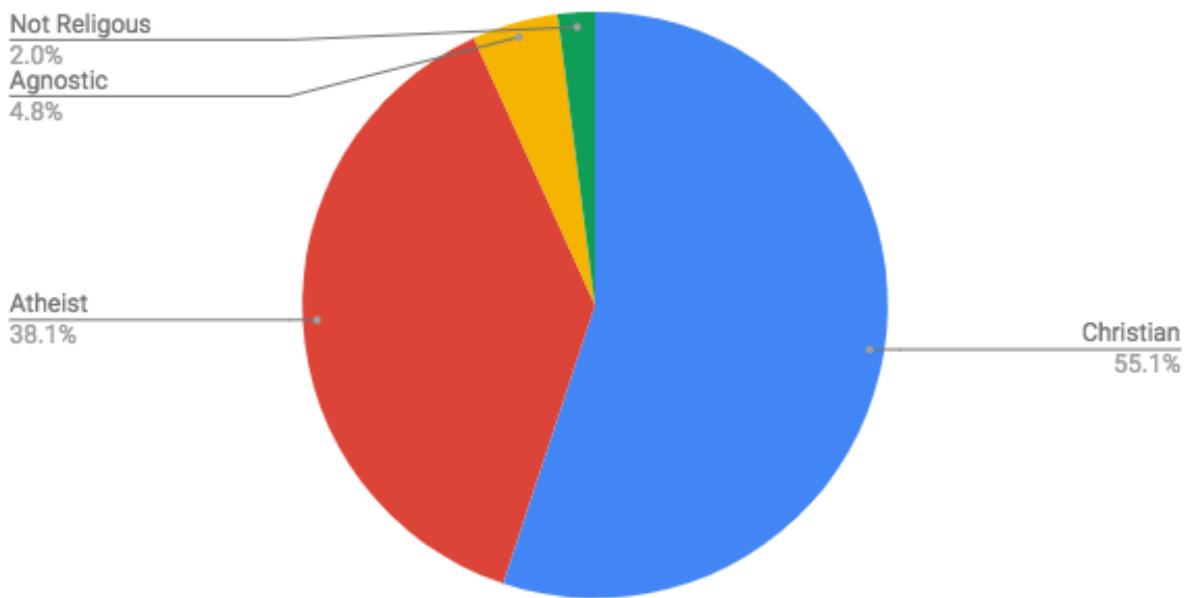
Income \$30,000 to \$50,000: I am currently a \_\_\_\_\_.  
(353 Responses)



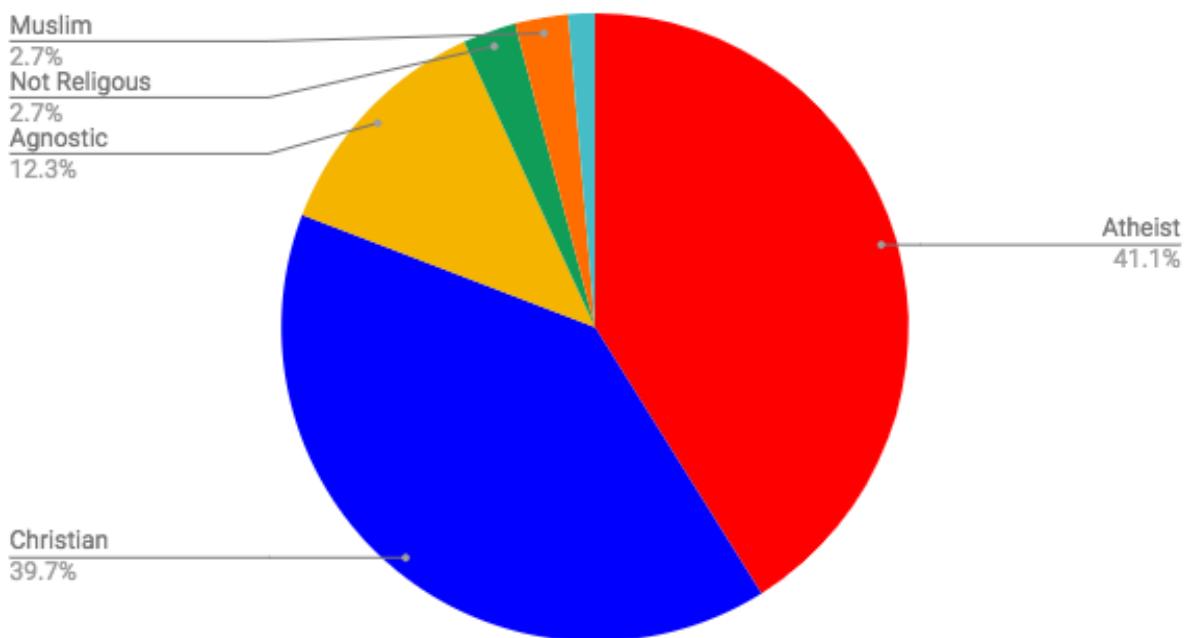
Income \$50,000-\$100,000: I am currently a \_\_\_\_\_.  
(503 Responses)



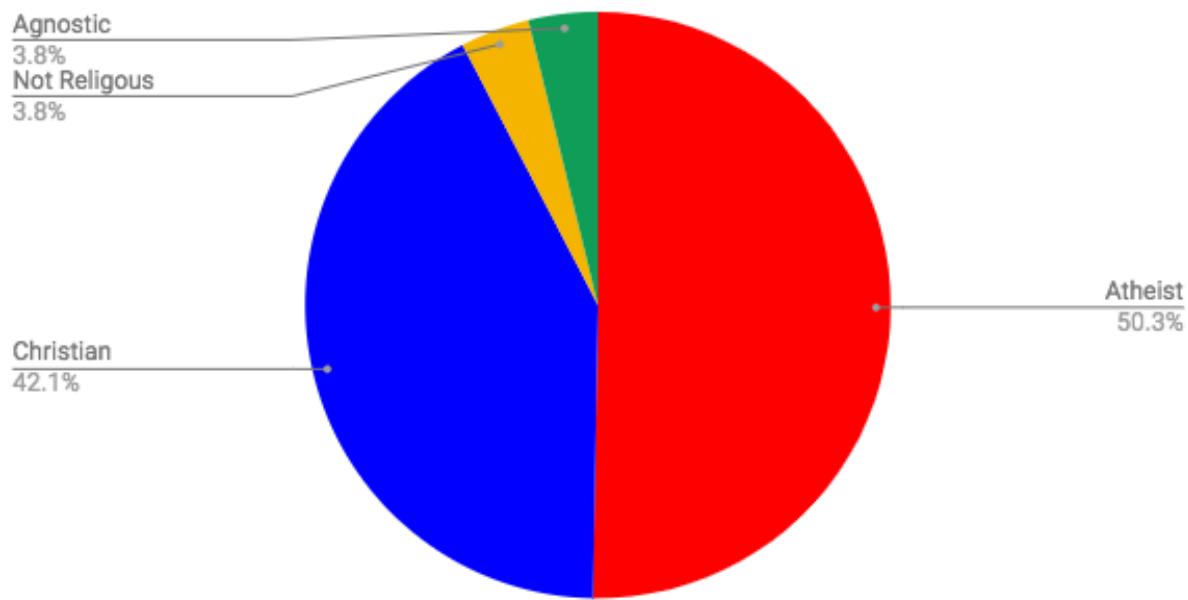
Income \$100,000-\$1,000,000: I am currently a \_\_\_\_\_.  
(300 Responses)



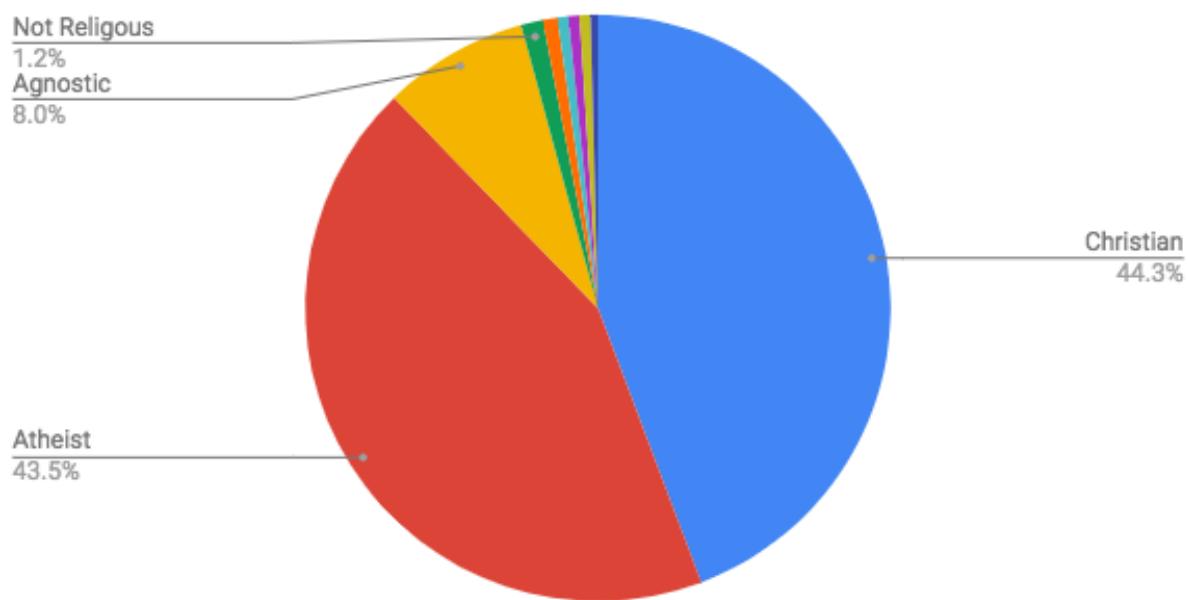
Still a Student: I am currently a \_\_\_\_\_. (78 Responses)



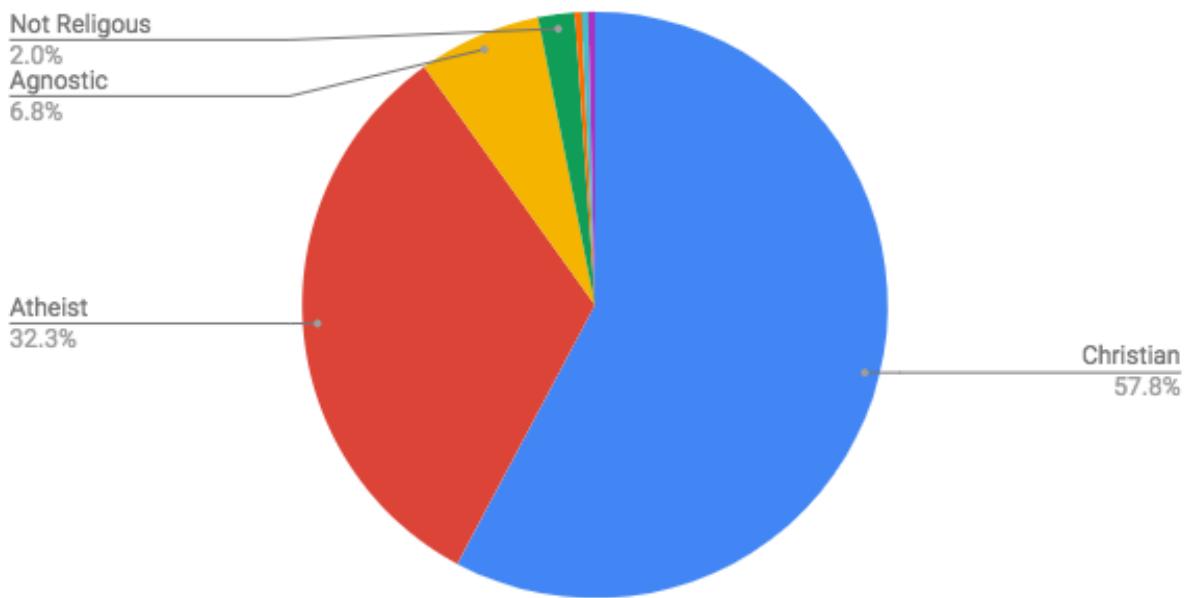
High School or Less: I am currently a \_\_\_\_\_. (187 Respondents)



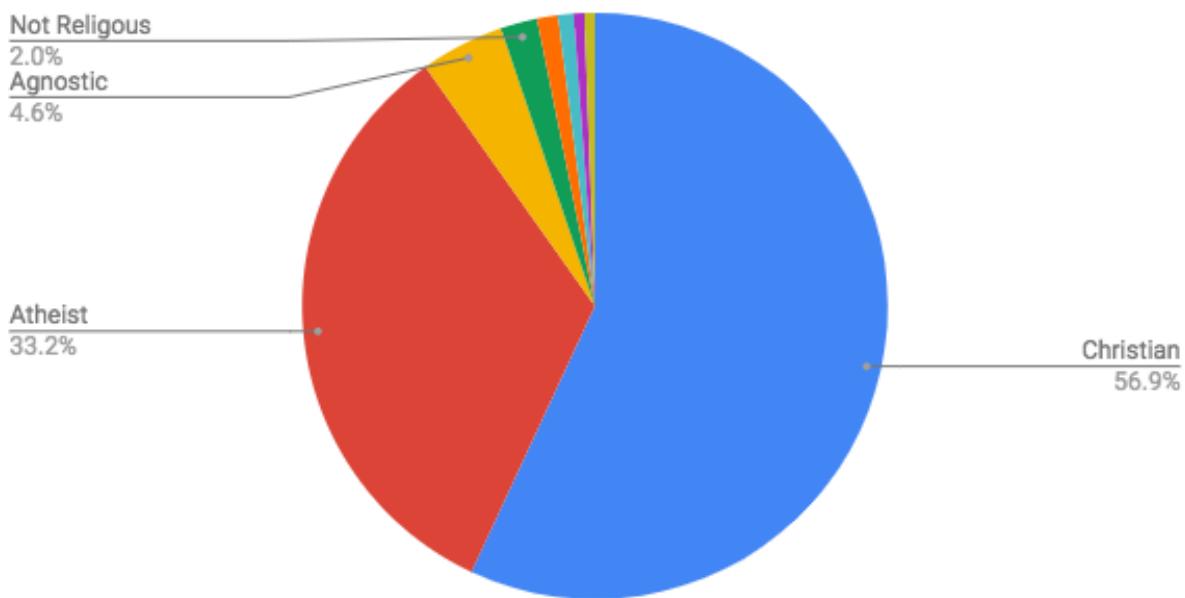
Some College: I am currently a \_\_\_\_\_. (502 Responses)



Bachelor's Degree: I am currently a \_\_\_\_\_. (550 Responses)



Post-Graduate Degrees: I am currently a \_\_\_\_\_. (351 Responses)

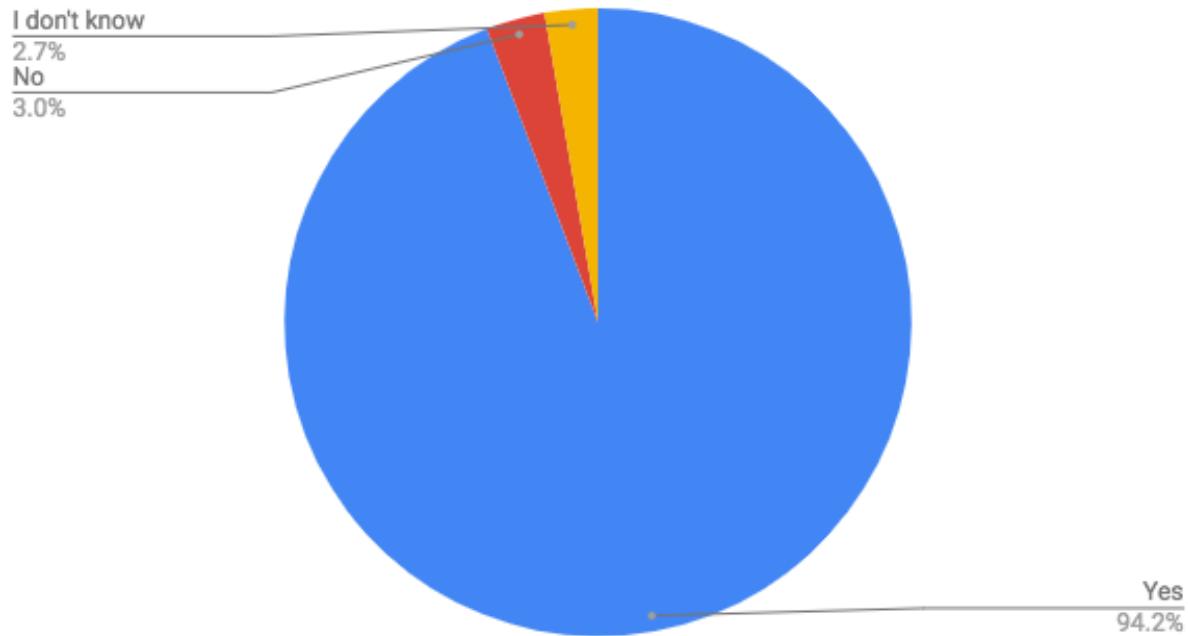


## 8.) Christian Belief in the Doctrine of Hell

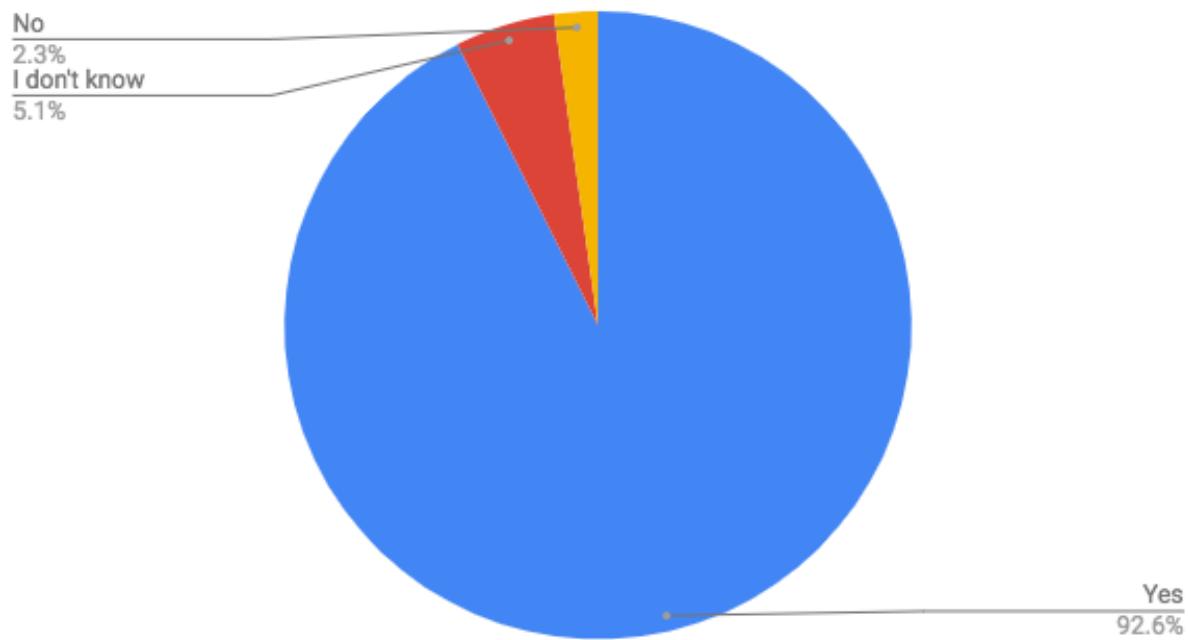
### Compared to Scripture Reading

This section is dedicated to finding out what Christians believe on the doctrine of hell, and beliefs are correlated with how much people who say they are Christians read scripture. Among respondents, Christians who read scripture more frequently, are more likely to believe in the doctrine of hell.

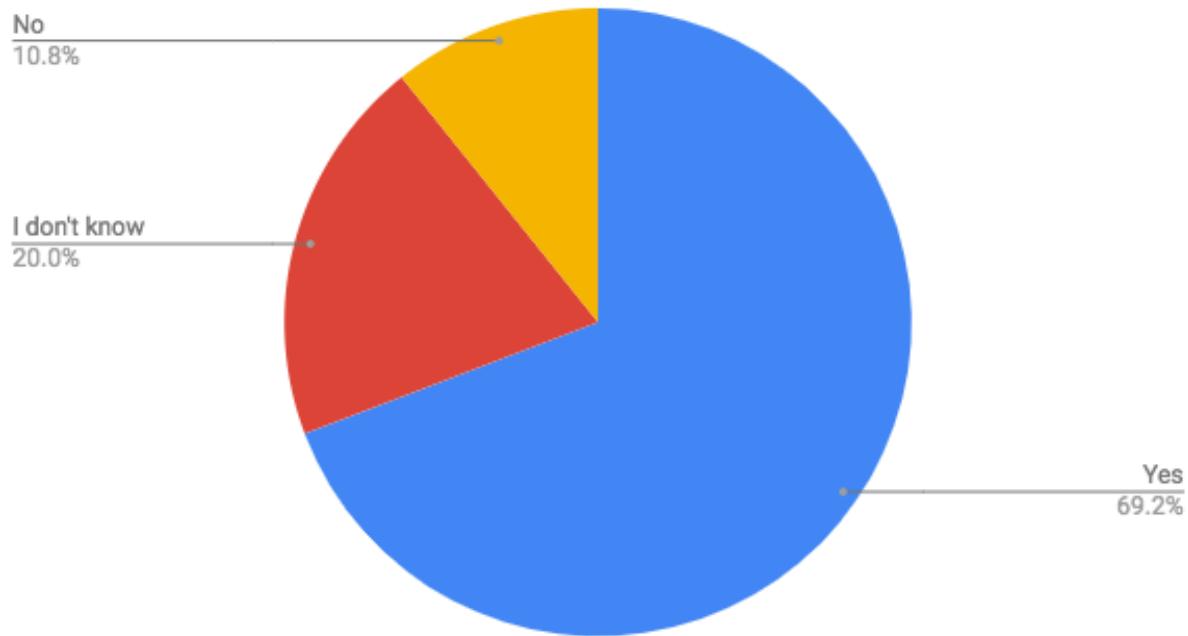
### Read Scripture Daily: Do you believe in hell?



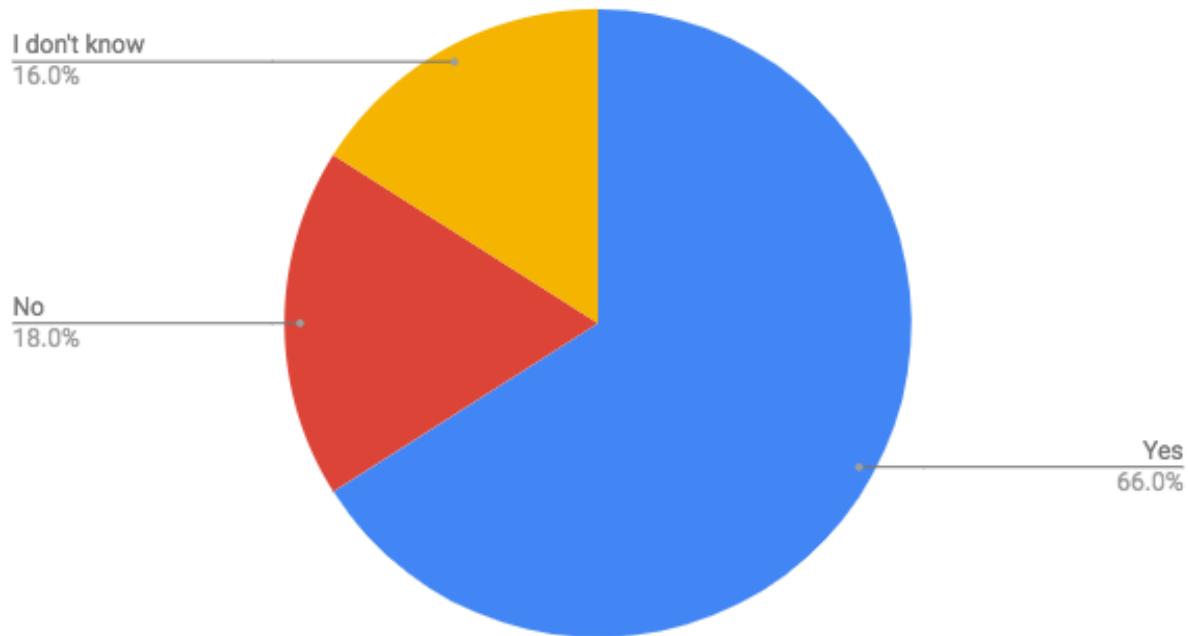
### Read Scripture a Few Times a Week: Do you believe in hell?



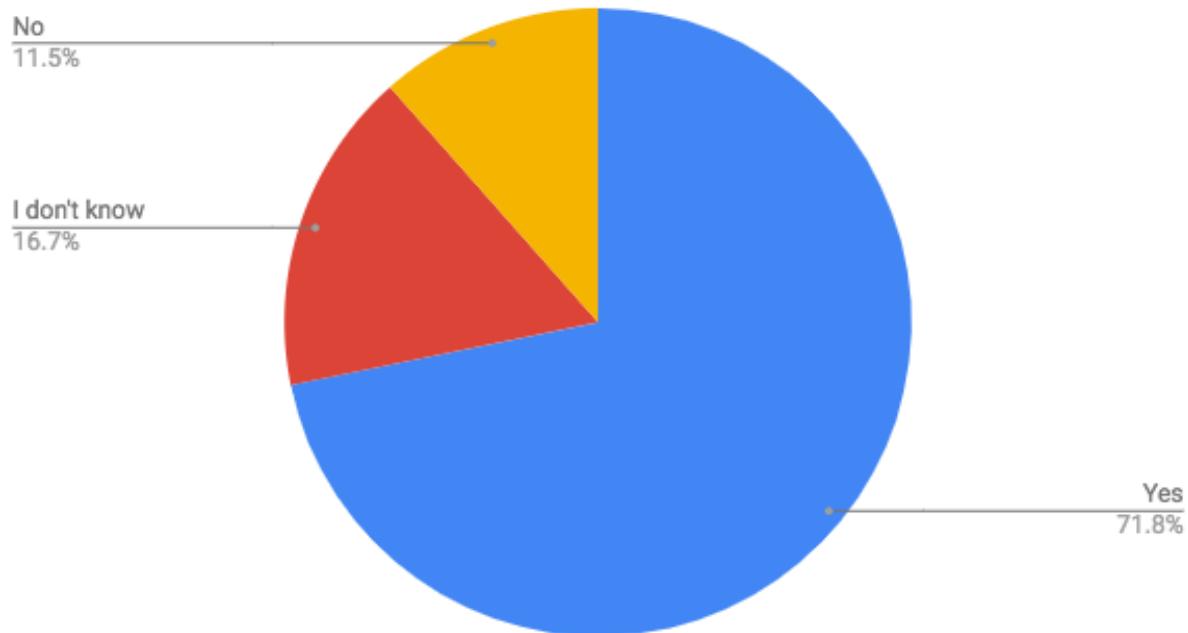
### Read Scripture Monthly: Do you believe in hell?



### Read Scripture a Few Times a Year: Do you believe in hell?



## Read Scripture Seldom/Never: Do you believe in hell?



## 9.) Conclusion

This survey has brought forth a variety of interesting conclusions. Thank you for all of your support and I hope that you learned something new!