

THE  
**AMERICAN BELIEFS**  
STUDY  
RELIGIOUS PREFERENCES & PRACTICES

**The ReligiousInsite Report 2021**

Prepared for: MissionInsite  
Study area: Gwinnett County

Date of Report: 7/27/22  
American Beliefs Study Version: 2021

**About the American Beliefs Study Reports**

The American Beliefs Study provides a projection of likely religious beliefs, preferences, and practices for a defined study area. This report is based on the American Beliefs Study national survey, which MissionInsite conducts every five (5) years. While general religious data is available through various organizations, only MissionInsite can provide current local geography projections. This report is based upon the 2021 American Beliefs Study Survey.

The 2021 American Beliefs Study Survey series contains two reports. **ReligiousInsite** provides insights into community beliefs and religious preferences. **MinistryInsite** focuses on practical applications of the 2021 survey. It includes life concerns, reasons for non-participation (or considered nonparticipation) in a religious congregation or community, and a list of preferred ministries or programs. These are based on the specific study area. Customized priority address the study area’s concerns, program and ministry preferences and more.

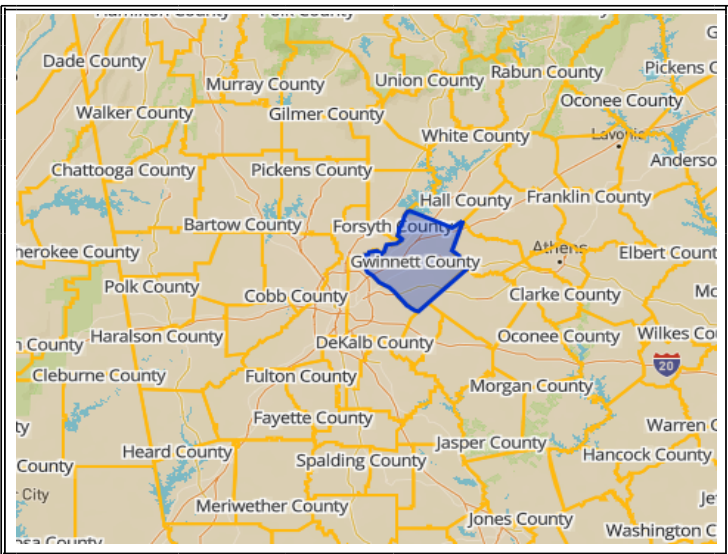
The **ReligiousInsite Priorities** Report and **MinistryInsite Priorities** Report capture the priorities of some survey questions based upon strengths of beliefs plus the direction of the beliefs, whether towards agreement or disagreement. These two reports correspond to the full reports.

**Contents of the ReligiousInsite Report**

The **ReligiousInsite** Report has six sections that provide multiple views about a single topic.

| Topics                              | Page |
|-------------------------------------|------|
| Beliefs about God                   | 2    |
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**The Study Area**



**How to Read the Different Report Types**

Four windows provide insight into the respondent’s answers.

- Window #1:** Reveals the detailed responses across all options.
- Window #2:** Compares the study area responses to national average responses. For more details, see the last page.
- Window #3:** Compares data between this survey and previous surveys to reveal trends.
- Window #4:** Provides prioritized lists of the topic. This window is only available on certain topics and after applying analytics.

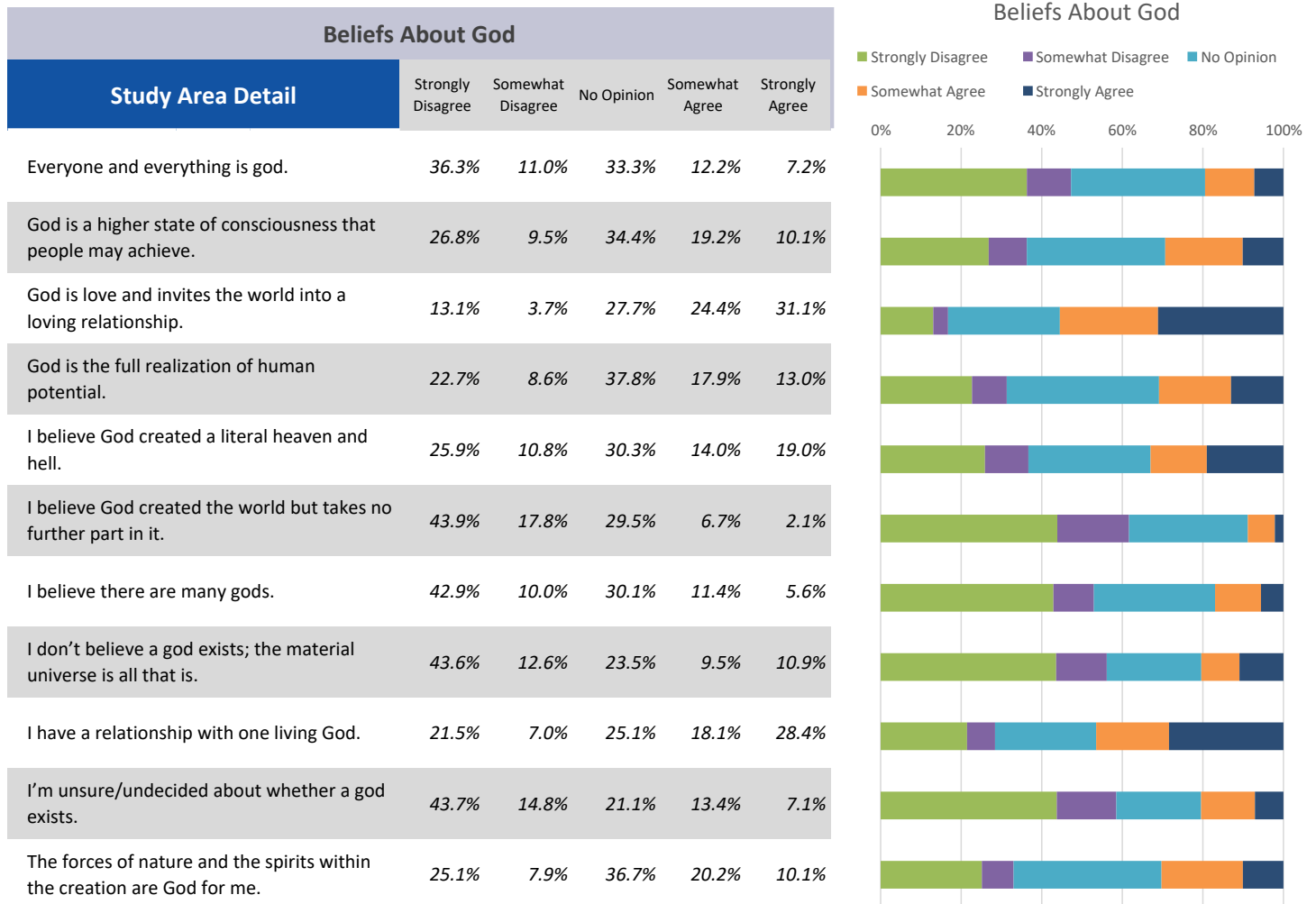
## ReligiousInsite Report 2021

Prepared for: MissionInsite  
 Study Area: Gwinnett County  
 American Beliefs Study Region: South

Date of Report: 7/27/2022  
 American Beliefs Study Version: 2021

### Beliefs about God

Beliefs about God are diverse. These statements express your study area's likely beliefs, ranging from well defined monotheism to loosely defined polytheism.



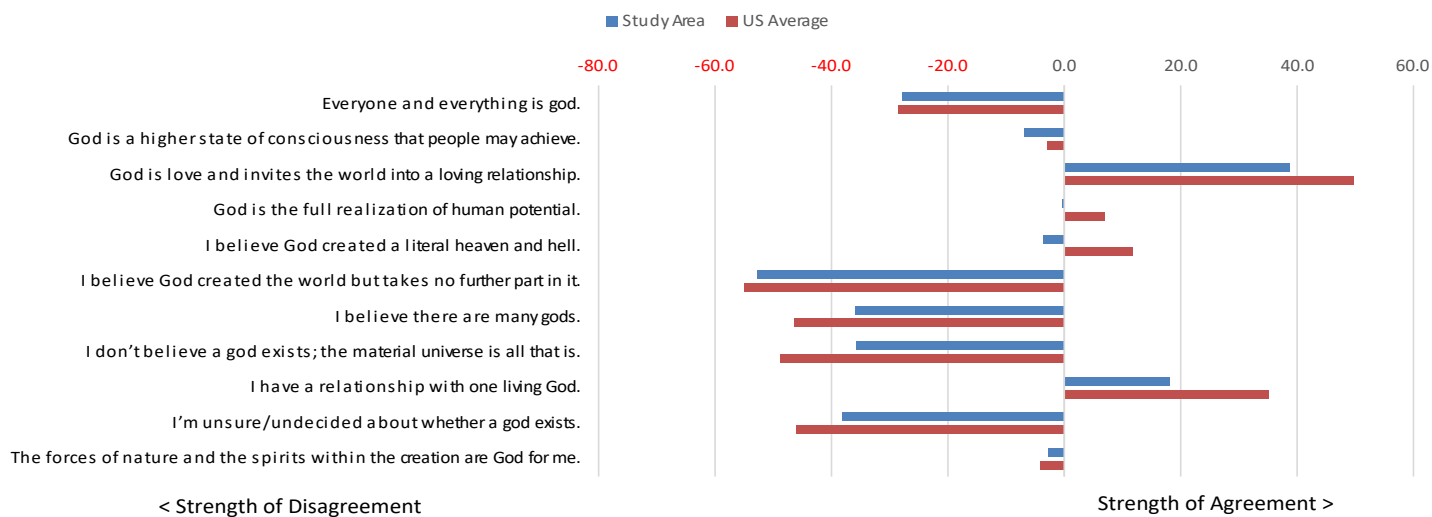
Hint: The report indicates how people within the study area likely respond to the statements about God. Look for the distribution across the five categories and use the illustrative graph to see where the largest percentage is found.

## Beliefs About God

| Study Area Compared to National Average                                  | Study Area                      |           |          | US Average   |           |          | Comparative Index |       |
|--|---------------------------------|-----------|----------|--------------|-----------|----------|-------------------|-------|
|  | All Disagree                    | All Agree | Distance | All Disagree | All Agree | Distance | Disagree          | Agree |
|  | Everyone and everything is god. | 47.3%     | 19.5%    | -27.8        | 48.0%     | 19.6%    | -28.4             | 98    |
| God is a higher state of consciousness that people may achieve.          | 36.3%                           | 29.3%     | -7.0     | 34.2%        | 31.4%     | -2.9     | 106               | 93    |
| God is love and invites the world into a loving relationship.            | 16.7%                           | 55.5%     | 38.7     | 12.7%        | 62.3%     | 49.7     | 132               | 89    |
| God is the full realization of human potential.                          | 31.3%                           | 30.9%     | -0.4     | 27.5%        | 34.5%     | 7.0      | 114               | 89    |
| I believe God created a literal heaven and hell.                         | 36.7%                           | 33.0%     | -3.7     | 29.8%        | 41.6%     | 11.7     | 123               | 79    |
| I believe God created the world but takes no further part in it.         | 61.7%                           | 8.8%      | -52.8    | 64.0%        | 8.9%      | -55.1    | 96                | 99    |
| I believe there are many gods.   | 52.9%                           | 17.0%     | -36.0    | 59.8%        | 13.3%     | -46.5    | 89                | 128   |
| I don't believe a god exists; the material universe is all that is.      | 56.1%                           | 20.4%     | -35.8    | 64.1%        | 15.2%     | -48.9    | 88                | 134   |
| I have a relationship with one living God.                               | 28.4%                           | 46.5%     | 18.1     | 20.9%        | 55.9%     | 35.0     | 136               | 83    |
| I'm unsure/undecided about whether a god exists.                         | 58.5%                           | 20.4%     | -38.1    | 63.6%        | 17.5%     | -46.0    | 92                | 117   |
| The forces of nature and the spirits within the creation are God for me. | 33.0%                           | 30.3%     | -2.7     | 34.4%        | 30.3%     | -4.1     | 96                | 100   |

Hint: The Comparative Index shows how your study area compares to the national average on each statement. If the Disagree numbers are red, then your study area is below the national average of those who disagree regarding that statement. If the Agree numbers are red, then your study area is below the national average of those agreed with that statement. If the Comparative Index has no color then you are very close to the national average. The higher or lower the number on any particular statement, the greater is the study area's departure from the national average.

### Direction and Strength of Beliefs About God Compared to National Average



Hint: This chart compares the study area to the national average and reveals the belief's strength. The longer the bars, the greater the agreement or disagreement.

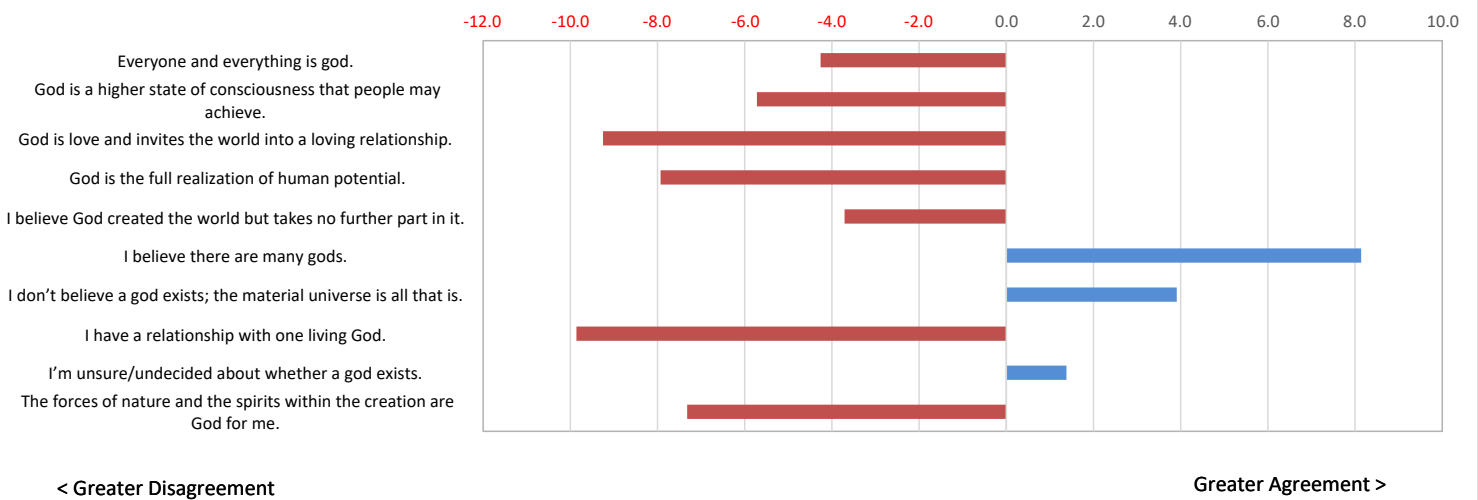
## Beliefs About God

### Study Area Comparison between 2017 & 2021

|  | 2017         |            |           | 2021         |            |           | Change Between Surveys |            |           |
|--|--------------|------------|-----------|--------------|------------|-----------|------------------------|------------|-----------|
|  | All Disagree | No Opinion | All Agree | All Disagree | No Opinion | All Agree | All Disagree           | No Opinion | All Agree |
| Everyone and everything is god.  | 47.8%        | 28.5%      | 23.7%     | 47.3%        | 33.3%      | 19.5%     | -0.5                   | 4.8        | -4.3      |
| God is a higher state of consciousness that people may achieve.          | 36.2%        | 28.7%      | 35.1%     | 36.3%        | 34.4%      | 29.3%     | 0.1                    | 5.7        | -5.7      |
| God is love and invites the world into a loving relationship.            | 13.7%        | 21.6%      | 64.7%     | 16.7%        | 27.7%      | 55.5%     | 3.0                    | 6.2        | -9.3      |
| God is the full realization of human potential.                          | 29.0%        | 32.2%      | 38.8%     | 31.3%        | 37.8%      | 30.9%     | 2.3                    | 5.6        | -7.9      |
| I believe God created the world but takes no further part in it.         | 61.7%        | 25.8%      | 12.6%     | 61.7%        | 29.5%      | 8.8%      | -0.0                   | 3.7        | -3.7      |
| I believe there are many gods.   | 70.2%        | 21.0%      | 8.8%      | 52.9%        | 30.1%      | 17.0%     | -17.3                  | 9.0        | 8.1       |
| I don't believe a god exists; the material universe is all that is.      | 64.7%        | 18.8%      | 16.5%     | 56.1%        | 23.5%      | 20.4%     | -8.6                   | 4.7        | 3.9       |
| I have a relationship with one living God.                               | 22.7%        | 20.9%      | 56.3%     | 28.4%        | 25.1%      | 46.5%     | 5.7                    | 4.2        | -9.9      |
| I'm unsure/undecided about whether a god exists.                         | 62.1%        | 18.8%      | 19.1%     | 58.5%        | 21.1%      | 20.4%     | -3.6                   | 2.2        | 1.4       |
| The forces of nature and the spirits within the creation are God for me. | 31.4%        | 31.0%      | 37.6%     | 33.0%        | 36.7%      | 30.3%     | 1.6                    | 5.8        | -7.3      |

This report compares answers on the 2017 and 2021 American Beliefs Study surveys and shows changing trends on these social and moral belief statements, if any. The chart displays the distance between the 2017 and 2021 statements. The longer the bar, either positive or negative, the greater the shift in agreement.

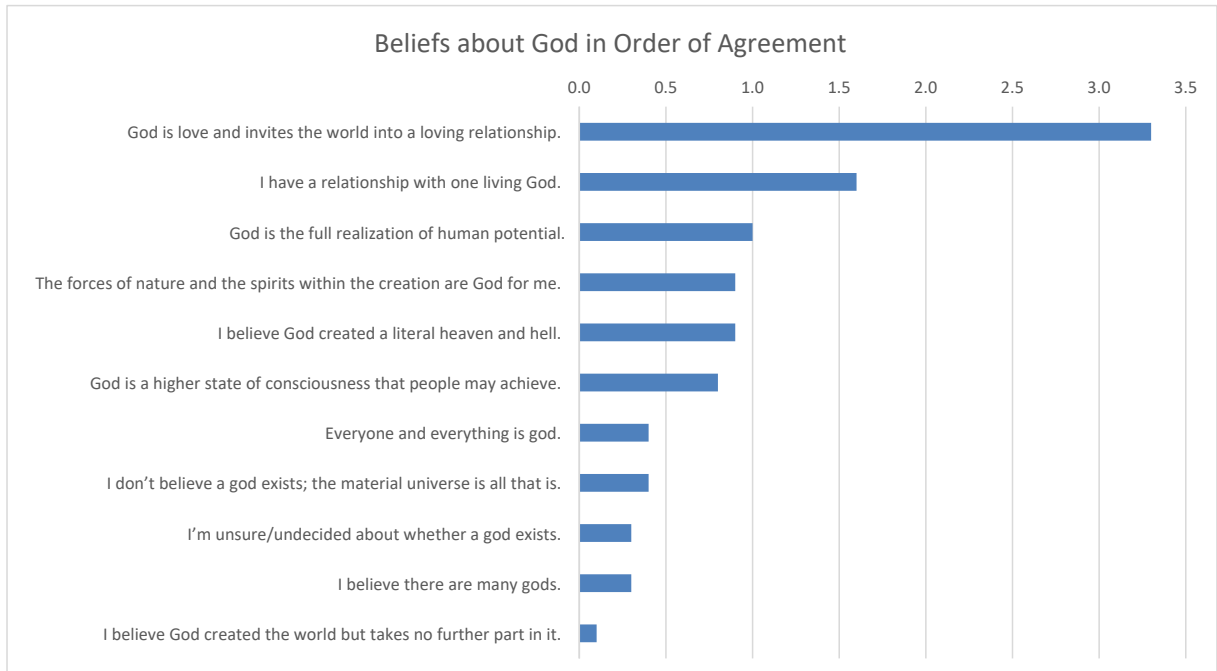
### Trends in Beliefs About God Between 2017 & 2021



Hint: This graph compares the change in agreement between the 2017 American Beliefs Study Survey and the 2021 American Beliefs Study Survey for this study area. It is not a comparison to the national profile.

Beliefs about God in Rank Order

| Ranking | Concern  | Ratio | Strength                  |
|---------|--|-------|---------------------------|
| 1       | God is love and invites the world into a loving relationship.            | 3.3   | Strong Agreement          |
| 2       | I have a relationship with one living God.                               | 1.6   | Somewhat Strong Agreement |
| 3       | God is the full realization of human potential.                          | 1.0   | Neutral Agreement         |
| 4       | The forces of nature and the spirits within the creation are God for me. | 0.9   | Neutral Agreement         |
| 5       | I believe God created a literal heaven and hell.                         | 0.9   | Neutral Agreement         |
| 6       | God is a higher state of consciousness that people may achieve.          | 0.8   | Neutral Agreement         |
| 7       | Everyone and everything is god.  | 0.4   | Weak Agreement            |
| 8       | I don't believe a god exists; the material universe is all that is.      | 0.4   | Weak Agreement            |
| 9       | I'm unsure/undecided about whether a god exists.                         | 0.3   | Very Weak Agreement       |
| 10      | I believe there are many gods.   | 0.3   | Very Weak Agreement       |
| 11      | I believe God created the world but takes no further part in it.         | 0.1   | Extremely Weak Agreement  |

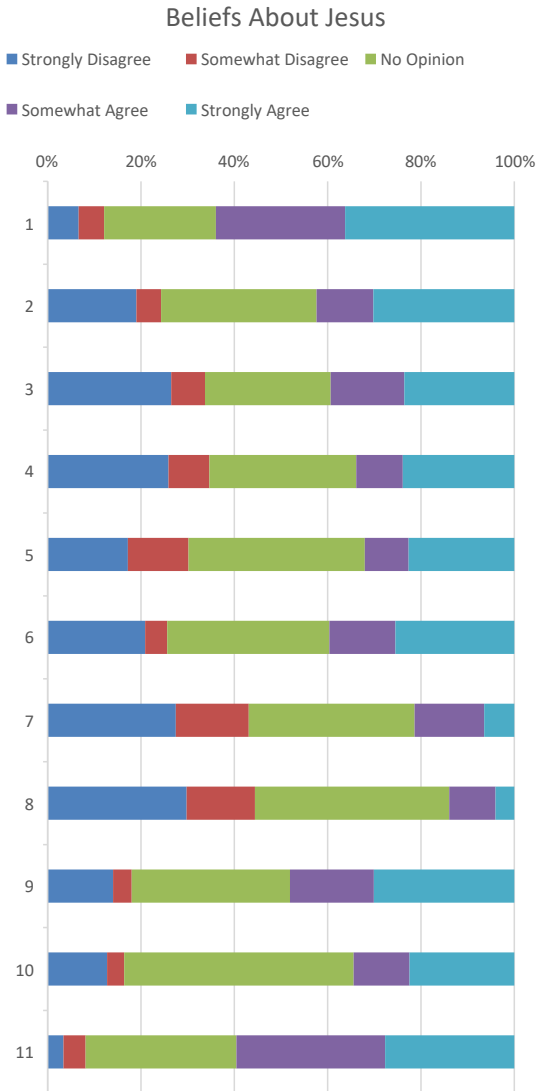


Hint: This report compares the percentage of people who agreed with the statement to those who disagreed with the statement. Those who responded with "No Opinion" are not included.

# Beliefs about Jesus

Jesus is a person of interest to many people, but what they think about who he was and what he did varies. These statements express your study area's likely beliefs.

| Beliefs About Jesus   |                   |                   |            |                |                |
|---|-------------------|-------------------|------------|----------------|----------------|
| Study Area Detail   | Strongly Disagree | Somewhat Disagree | No Opinion | Somewhat Agree | Strongly Agree |
| Belief in Jesus does not require participation in a church. | 6.6%              | 5.5%              | 24.0%      | 27.7%          | 36.3%          |
| Jesus actually rose from the dead as the Bible teaches.     | 19.0%             | 5.3%              | 33.3%      | 12.2%          | 30.2%          |
| I have a personal relationship with Jesus.                  | 26.5%             | 7.2%              | 26.9%      | 15.8%          | 23.6%          |
| Jesus is the only way for human salvation from sin.         | 25.9%             | 8.8%              | 31.5%      | 10.0%          | 23.9%          |
| Jesus lived a perfect, sinless life while on earth.         | 17.2%             | 13.0%             | 37.8%      | 9.4%           | 22.7%          |
| Jesus rules now and always as Lord of heaven and earth.     | 20.9%             | 4.7%              | 34.7%      | 14.2%          | 25.5%          |
| Jesus was a good and wise moral teacher but no more.        | 27.5%             | 15.6%             | 35.5%      | 14.9%          | 6.5%           |
| Jesus was a great prophet only.                             | 29.8%             | 14.6%             | 41.6%      | 9.9%           | 4.0%           |
| Jesus was both divine and human.                            | 14.0%             | 4.0%              | 33.9%      | 18.0%          | 30.1%          |
| Jesus was the expected Jewish Messiah.                      | 12.7%             | 3.7%              | 49.1%      | 12.0%          | 22.4%          |
| People in the church do not behave as Jesus would behave.   | 3.4%              | 4.7%              | 32.3%      | 31.9%          | 27.7%          |

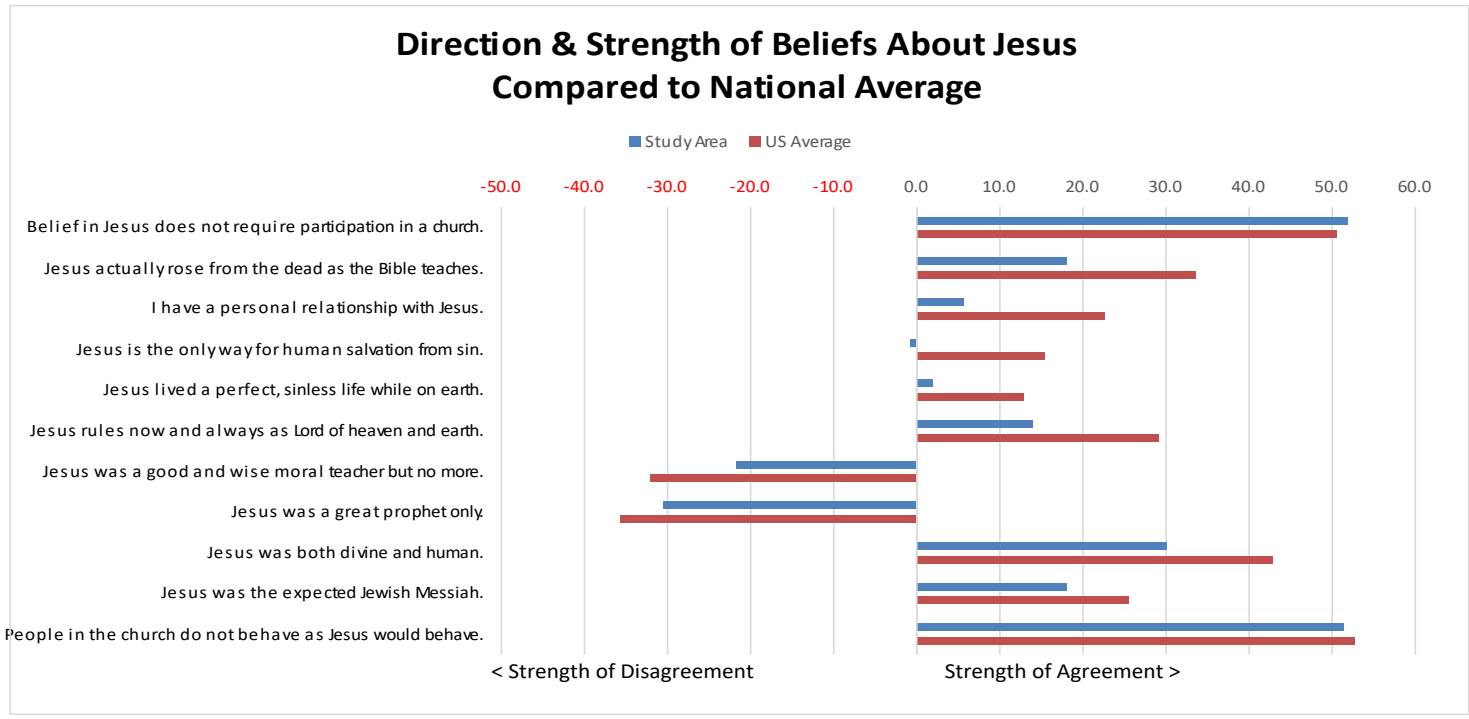


Hint: The report indicates how people within the study area likely respond to the statements about Jesus. Look for the distribution across the five categories and use the illustrative graph to see where the largest percentage is found.

## Beliefs About Jesus

| Study Area Compared to National Average                     | Study Area   |           |          |              |           |          | US Average |       |  | Comparative Index |  |
|---|--------------|-----------|----------|--------------|-----------|----------|------------|-------|--|-------------------|--|
|   | All Disagree | All Agree | Distance | All Disagree | All Agree | Distance | Disagree   | Agree |  |                   |  |
|   |              |           |          |              |           |          |            |       |  |                   |  |
| Belief in Jesus does not require participation in a church. | 12.1%        | 63.9%     | 51.8     | 13.5%        | 64.0%     | 50.5     | 90         | 100   |  |                   |  |
| Jesus actually rose from the dead as the Bible teaches.     | 24.3%        | 42.4%     | 18.1     | 19.0%        | 52.5%     | 33.5     | 128        | 81    |  |                   |  |
| I have a personal relationship with Jesus.                  | 33.7%        | 39.3%     | 5.6      | 26.2%        | 48.9%     | 22.6     | 128        | 81    |  |                   |  |
| Jesus is the only way for human salvation from sin.         | 34.7%        | 33.9%     | -0.8     | 28.2%        | 43.6%     | 15.3     | 123        | 78    |  |                   |  |
| Jesus lived a perfect, sinless life while on earth.         | 30.2%        | 32.0%     | 1.9      | 26.8%        | 39.7%     | 12.9     | 113        | 81    |  |                   |  |
| Jesus rules now and always as Lord of heaven and earth.     | 25.6%        | 39.6%     | 14.0     | 20.3%        | 49.4%     | 29.1     | 126        | 80    |  |                   |  |
| Jesus was a good and wise moral teacher but no more.        | 43.1%        | 21.4%     | -21.7    | 50.1%        | 18.1%     | -32.0    | 86         | 118   |  |                   |  |
| Jesus was a great prophet only.                             | 44.4%        | 13.9%     | -30.5    | 49.4%        | 13.8%     | -35.7    | 90         | 101   |  |                   |  |
| Jesus was both divine and human.                            | 18.0%        | 48.1%     | 30.1     | 14.1%        | 56.9%     | 42.9     | 128        | 84    |  |                   |  |
| Jesus was the expected Jewish Messiah.                      | 16.4%        | 34.4%     | 18.0     | 15.0%        | 40.4%     | 25.5     | 110        | 85    |  |                   |  |
| People in the church do not behave as Jesus would behave.   | 8.1%         | 59.6%     | 51.4     | 8.6%         | 61.3%     | 52.7     | 95         | 97    |  |                   |  |

Hint: The Comparative Index shows how your study area compares to the national average on each statement. If the Disagree numbers are red, then your study area is below the national average of those who disagree regarding that statement. If the Agree numbers are red, then your study area is below the national average of those agreed with that statement. If the Comparative Index has no color then you are very close to the national average. The higher or lower the number on any particular statement, the greater is the study area's departure from the national average.



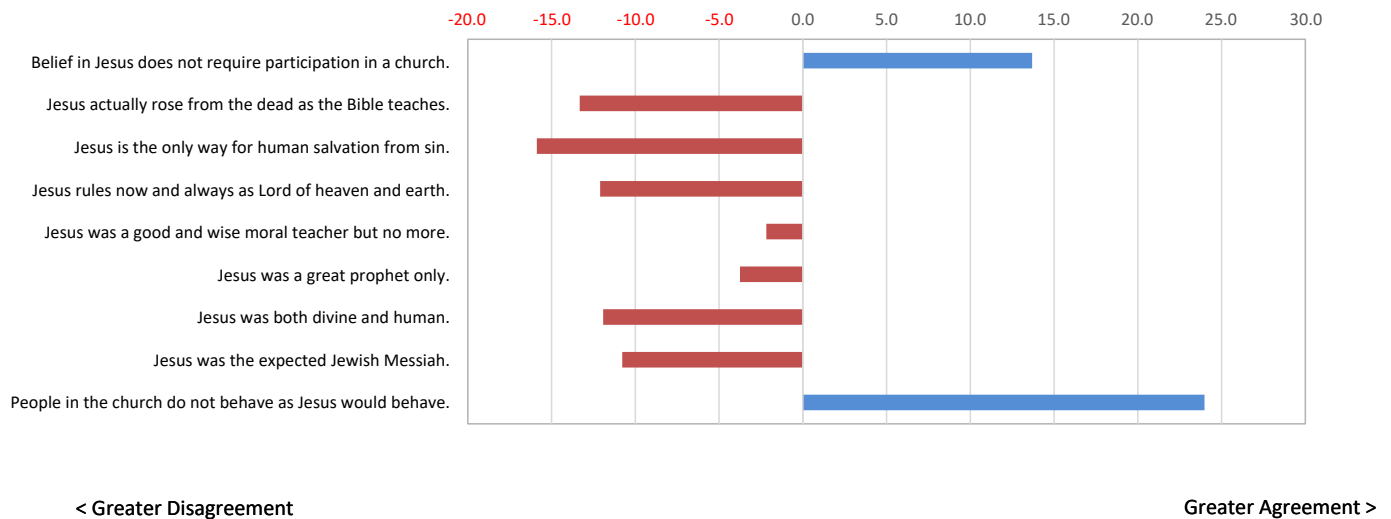
## Beliefs about Jesus

### Study Area Comparison between 2017 & 2021

|   | 2017         |            |           | 2021         |            |           | Point Change Between Surveys |            |           |
|---|--------------|------------|-----------|--------------|------------|-----------|------------------------------|------------|-----------|
|   | All Disagree | No Opinion | All Agree | All Disagree | No Opinion | All Agree | All Disagree                 | No Opinion | All Agree |
| Belief in Jesus does not require participation in a church. | 24.1%        | 25.7%      | 50.3%     | 12.1%        | 24.0%      | 63.9%     | -12.0                        | -1.7       | 13.7      |
| Jesus actually rose from the dead as the Bible teaches.     | 17.7%        | 26.5%      | 55.7%     | 24.3%        | 33.3%      | 42.4%     | 6.6                          | 6.8        | -13.3     |
| Jesus is the only way for human salvation from sin.         | 25.7%        | 24.6%      | 49.8%     | 34.7%        | 31.5%      | 33.9%     | 8.9                          | 6.9        | -15.9     |
| Jesus rules now and always as Lord of heaven and earth.     | 20.0%        | 28.3%      | 51.7%     | 25.6%        | 34.7%      | 39.6%     | 5.7                          | 6.4        | -12.1     |
| Jesus was a good and wise moral teacher but no more.        | 49.6%        | 26.9%      | 23.6%     | 43.1%        | 35.5%      | 21.4%     | -6.5                         | 8.7        | -2.2      |
| Jesus was a great prophet only.                             | 51.4%        | 30.9%      | 17.7%     | 44.4%        | 41.6%      | 13.9%     | -7.0                         | 10.7       | -3.8      |
| Jesus was both divine and human.                            | 14.5%        | 25.6%      | 60.0%     | 18.0%        | 33.9%      | 48.1%     | 3.6                          | 8.4        | -11.9     |
| Jesus was the expected Jewish Messiah.                      | 15.5%        | 39.4%      | 45.2%     | 16.4%        | 49.1%      | 34.4%     | 0.9                          | 9.8        | -10.8     |
| People in the church do not behave as Jesus would behave.   | 23.8%        | 40.6%      | 35.6%     | 8.1%         | 32.3%      | 59.6%     | -15.7                        | -8.3       | 24.0      |

This report compares answers on the 2017 and 2021 American Beliefs Study surveys and shows changing trends on these social and moral belief statements, if any. The chart displays the distance between the 2017 and 2021 statements. The longer the bar, either positive or negative, the greater the shift in agreement.

### Trends in Beliefs About Jesus Between 2017 & 2021

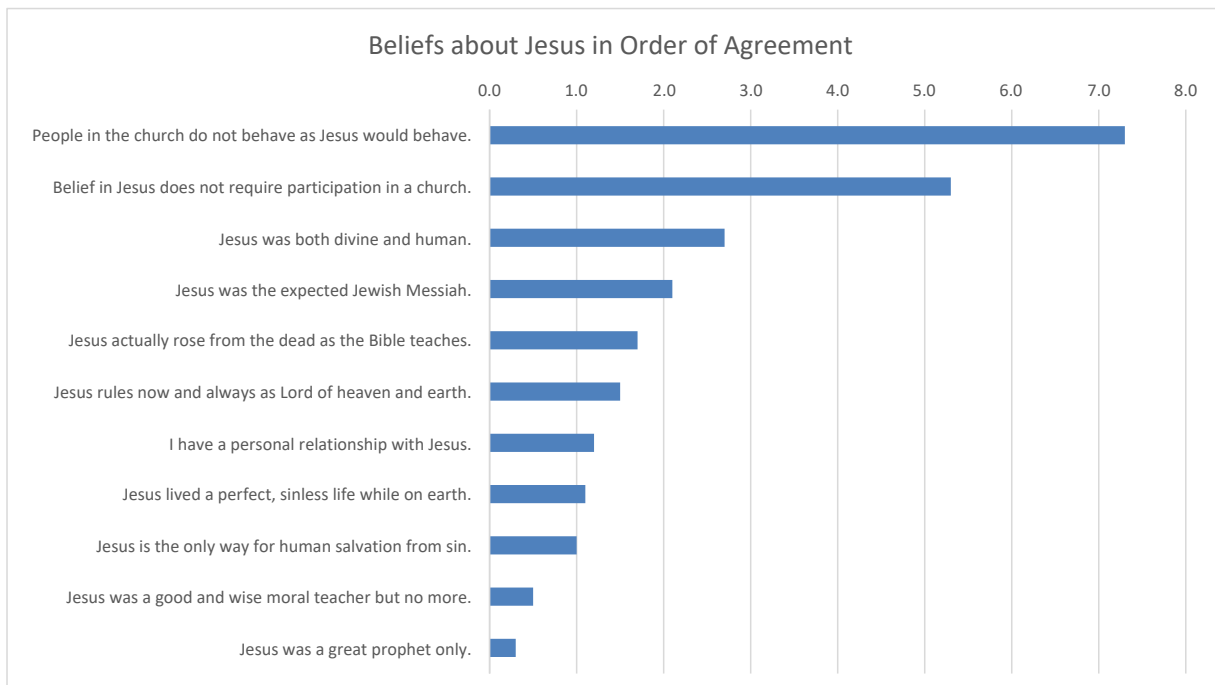


Hint: This graph compares the change in agreement between the 2017 American Beliefs Study Survey and the 2021 American Beliefs Study Survey for this study area. It is not a comparison to the national profile.



Beliefs about Jesus in Rank Order

| Ranking | Concern   | Ratio | Strength                  |
|---------|---|-------|---------------------------|
| 1       | People in the church do not behave as Jesus would behave.   | 7.3   | Very Strong Agreement     |
| 2       | Belief in Jesus does not require participation in a church. | 5.3   | Very Strong Agreement     |
| 3       | Jesus was both divine and human.                            | 2.7   | Strong Agreement          |
| 4       | Jesus was the expected Jewish Messiah.                      | 2.1   | Strong Agreement          |
| 5       | Jesus actually rose from the dead as the Bible teaches.     | 1.7   | Somewhat Strong Agreement |
| 6       | Jesus rules now and always as Lord of heaven and earth.     | 1.5   | Somewhat Strong Agreement |
| 7       | I have a personal relationship with Jesus.                  | 1.2   | Neutral Agreement         |
| 8       | Jesus lived a perfect, sinless life while on earth.         | 1.1   | Neutral Agreement         |
| 9       | Jesus is the only way for human salvation from sin.         | 1.0   | Neutral Agreement         |
| 10      | Jesus was a good and wise moral teacher but no more.        | 0.5   | Weak Agreement            |
| 11      | Jesus was a great prophet only.                             | 0.3   | Very Weak Agreement       |



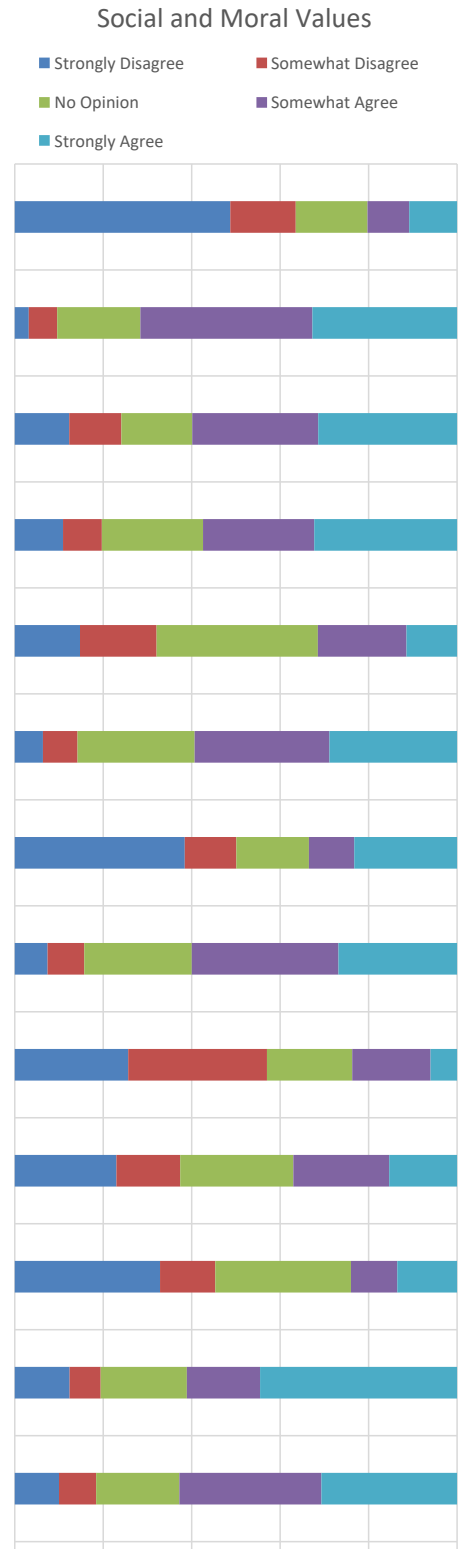
Hint: This report compares the percentage of people who agreed with the statement to those who disagreed with the statement. Those who responded with "No Opinion" are not included.

# Beliefs about Social & Moral Values

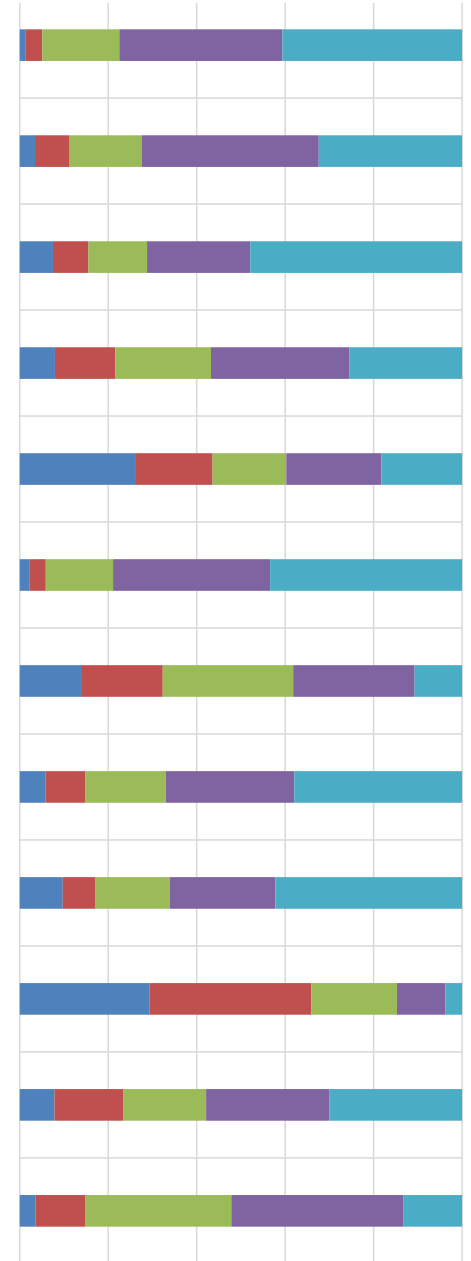
Beliefs about social and moral values are diverse. These statements express your study area's likely views.

## Social and Moral Values

| Study Area Detail   | Strongly Disagree | Somewhat Disagree | No Opinion | Somewhat Agree | Strongly Agree |
|---|-------------------|-------------------|------------|----------------|----------------|
| <i>I believe...</i>   |                   |                   |            |                |                |
| Abortion should become illegal.   | 48.7%             | 14.8%             | 16.2%      | 9.4%           | 10.8%          |
| America has a moral responsibility to be a force for good in the world.   | 3.2%              | 6.4%              | 18.8%      | 38.9%          | 32.7%          |
| Asking the rich to pay a higher tax rate is a way to establish economic justice.  | 12.3%             | 11.8%             | 16.0%      | 28.5%          | 31.4%          |
| Children should be raised by a mother and father only, if possible.   | 10.9%             | 8.8%              | 22.9%      | 25.1%          | 32.3%          |
| Globalism is a threat to our nation's economic future.  | 14.8%             | 17.3%             | 36.5%      | 20.0%          | 11.4%          |
| Greater emphasis must be given to embracing our ethnic diversity.   | 6.4%              | 7.8%              | 26.5%      | 30.5%          | 28.9%          |
| Marriage is a relationship between one man and one woman only.  | 38.4%             | 11.7%             | 16.4%      | 10.3%          | 23.3%          |
| Our society must give more attention to accomplishing economic justice.   | 7.4%              | 8.3%              | 24.3%      | 33.2%          | 26.8%          |
| Race relations in the United States are generally good.   | 25.7%             | 31.4%             | 19.3%      | 17.7%          | 6.0%           |
| Religion must play a primary role in shaping social morality.   | 23.0%             | 14.4%             | 25.6%      | 21.7%          | 15.3%          |
| Religious communities should be exempt from LGBTQ-based policies or regulations.  | 32.8%             | 12.5%             | 30.7%      | 10.5%          | 13.5%          |
| Same-sex marriage must remain legal and protected.  | 12.4%             | 7.0%              | 19.5%      | 16.6%          | 44.6%          |
| Some form of amnesty program for illegal immigrants who have been working and living in this country should be implemented. | 10.0%             | 8.4%              | 18.8%      | 32.1%          | 30.7%          |



|  |       |       |       |       |       |
|--|-------|-------|-------|-------|-------|
| Strong families are key to social stability.   | 1.4%  | 3.7%  | 17.4% | 36.9% | 40.6% |
| That the US is losing its place of world leadership.   | 3.5%  | 7.7%  | 16.5% | 40.0% | 32.4% |
| The science that says humans are affecting the climate of the planet (i.e. climate change).            | 7.5%  | 8.0%  | 13.3% | 23.3% | 47.9% |
| The US should pursue avenues to stop illegal immigration.  | 8.0%  | 13.7% | 21.6% | 31.2% | 25.5% |
| There is too much attention paid to race and racial issues in our country these days.                  | 26.1% | 17.5% | 16.7% | 21.5% | 18.2% |
| Tolerance is necessary for social peace and wellbeing.   | 2.3%  | 3.6%  | 15.2% | 35.5% | 43.4% |
| Traditional marriage as a social institution is becoming obsolete.                                     | 14.1% | 18.3% | 29.5% | 27.5% | 10.7% |
| We must be good stewards of the environment even if it means restricting natural resource development. | 5.9%  | 9.0%  | 18.1% | 29.1% | 37.9% |
| We need to promote sensible gun laws to reduce gun violence.   | 9.7%  | 7.4%  | 16.8% | 23.8% | 42.2% |
| Children are adequately taught good moral standards today.   | 29.3% | 36.6% | 19.4% | 10.9% | 3.8%  |
| Believe the government should be deeply involved in solving poverty.                                   | 7.9%  | 15.6% | 18.7% | 27.8% | 30.1% |
| I have great hope for the future of my own community (i.e. neighborhood, village, town).               | 3.6%  | 11.2% | 33.1% | 38.9% | 13.3% |



Hint: The report indicates how people within the study area likely respond to the statements about social and moral values. Look for the distribution across the five categories and use the illustrative graph to see where the largest percentage is found.

## Social and Moral Values

| Study Area Compared to the National Average   | Study Area |       |                | US Average |       |                | Comparative Index |       |
|---|------------|-------|----------------|------------|-------|----------------|-------------------|-------|
|   | Disagree   | Agree | Point Distance | Disagree   | Agree | Point Distance | Disagree          | Agree |
| <b><i>I believe...</i></b>  |            |       |                |            |       |                |                   |       |
| Abortion should become illegal.   | 63.5%      | 20.2% | -43.3          | 55.0%      | 26.7% | -28.3          | 115               | 76    |
| America has a moral responsibility to be a force for good in the world.   | 9.6%       | 71.6% | 62.0           | 8.8%       | 72.3% | 63.5           | 109               | 99    |
| Asking the rich to pay a higher tax rate is a way to establish economic justice.  | 24.1%      | 59.8% | 35.8           | 27.0%      | 55.9% | 28.9           | 89                | 107   |
| Children should be raised by a mother and father only, if possible.   | 19.7%      | 57.4% | 37.7           | 16.9%      | 62.8% | 46.0           | 117               | 91    |
| Globalism is a threat to our nation's economic future.  | 32.1%      | 31.5% | -0.6           | 29.1%      | 34.5% | 5.4            | 110               | 91    |
| Greater emphasis must be given to embracing our ethnic diversity.   | 14.2%      | 59.3% | 45.1           | 16.6%      | 55.2% | 38.5           | 85                | 108   |
| Marriage is a relationship between one man and one woman only.  | 50.1%      | 33.5% | -16.6          | 43.6%      | 39.7% | -3.9           | 115               | 84    |
| Our society must give more attention to accomplishing economic justice.   | 15.7%      | 60.0% | 44.3           | 17.8%      | 56.4% | 38.7           | 88                | 106   |
| Race relations in the United States are generally good.   | 57.0%      | 23.7% | -33.3          | 55.0%      | 25.8% | -29.2          | 104               | 92    |
| Religion must play a primary role in shaping social morality.   | 37.4%      | 37.0% | -0.4           | 29.1%      | 46.4% | 17.3           | 129               | 80    |
| Religious communities should be exempt from LGBTQ-based policies or regulations.  | 45.3%      | 24.0% | -21.3          | 40.5%      | 27.3% | -13.2          | 112               | 88    |
| Same-sex marriage must remain legal and protected.  | 19.4%      | 61.1% | 41.7           | 23.0%      | 54.2% | 31.2           | 84                | 113   |
| Some form of amnesty program for illegal immigrants who have been working and living in this country should be implemented. | 18.4%      | 62.8% | 44.4           | 22.9%      | 56.7% | 33.8           | 81                | 111   |
| Strong families are key to social stability.  | 5.1%       | 77.5% | 72.4           | 4.2%       | 80.7% | 76.6           | 122               | 96    |
| That the US is losing its place of world leadership.  | 11.1%      | 72.4% | 61.2           | 13.7%      | 69.2% | 55.6           | 81                | 104   |

| Study Area Compared to the National Average  | Study Area |       |                | US Average |       |                | Comparative Index |       |
|--|------------|-------|----------------|------------|-------|----------------|-------------------|-------|
|  | Disagree   | Agree | Point Distance | Disagree   | Agree | Point Distance | Disagree          | Agree |
| The science that says humans are affecting the climate of the planet (i.e. climate change).            | 15.5%      | 71.2% | 55.7           | 17.9%      | 65.5% | 47.6           | 87                | 109   |
| The US should pursue avenues to stop illegal immigration.  | 21.6%      | 56.8% | 35.1           | 18.8%      | 60.8% | 42.0           | 115               | 93    |
| There is too much attention paid to race and racial issues in our country these days.                  | 43.6%      | 39.8% | -3.8           | 40.9%      | 43.7% | 2.8            | 107               | 91    |
| Tolerance is necessary for social peace and wellbeing.   | 5.9%       | 78.9% | 73.0           | 7.8%       | 75.1% | 67.4           | 76                | 105   |
| Traditional marriage as a social institution is becoming obsolete.                                     | 32.3%      | 38.2% | 5.9            | 32.3%      | 40.8% | 8.4            | 100               | 94    |
| We must be good stewards of the environment even if it means restricting natural resource development. | 14.9%      | 67.0% | 52.1           | 18.3%      | 61.2% | 42.8           | 81                | 110   |
| We need to promote sensible gun laws to reduce gun violence.   | 17.1%      | 66.1% | 48.9           | 18.4%      | 65.3% | 46.9           | 93                | 101   |
| Children are adequately taught good moral standards today.   | 65.9%      | 14.7% | -51.2          | 69.1%      | 13.5% | -55.6          | 95                | 109   |
| Believe the government should be deeply involved in solving poverty.                                   | 23.5%      | 57.9% | 34.4           | 24.1%      | 56.6% | 32.6           | 98                | 102   |
| I have great hope for the future of my own community (i.e. neighborhood, village, town).               | 14.8%      | 52.2% | 37.4           | 13.5%      | 54.6% | 41.1           | 109               | 96    |

Hint: The Comparative Index shows how your study area compares to the national average on each statement. If the Disagree numbers are red, then your study area is below the national average of those who disagree regarding that statement. If the Agree numbers are red, then your study area is below the national average of those agreed with that statement. If the Comparative Index has no color then you are very close to the national average. The higher or lower the number on any particular statement, the greater is the study area's departure from the national average.

## Direction & Strength of Social and Moral Beliefs Compared to National Average

■ Study Area ■ US Average

*I believe...*



Hint: This chart displays general trends in social and moral beliefs. It calculates the distance between the "agrees" and the "disagrees". If the boxes display to the left, it means the general trend is to disagree. If they display to the right, the trend is to agree. The longer the bars are, the stronger the trend in either direction. The graph also compares the study area to the national average on each belief.

## Social and Moral Values

### Study Area Comparison between 2017 & 2021

|  | 2017         |            |           | 2021         |            |           | Point Change Between Surveys |            |           |
|--|--------------|------------|-----------|--------------|------------|-----------|------------------------------|------------|-----------|
|  | All Disagree | No Opinion | All Agree | All Disagree | No Opinion | All Agree | All Disagree                 | No Opinion | All Agree |

*I believe...* *Note not all items on 2017 were on 2021 and not all on 2021 were on 2017. Only same items are compared.*

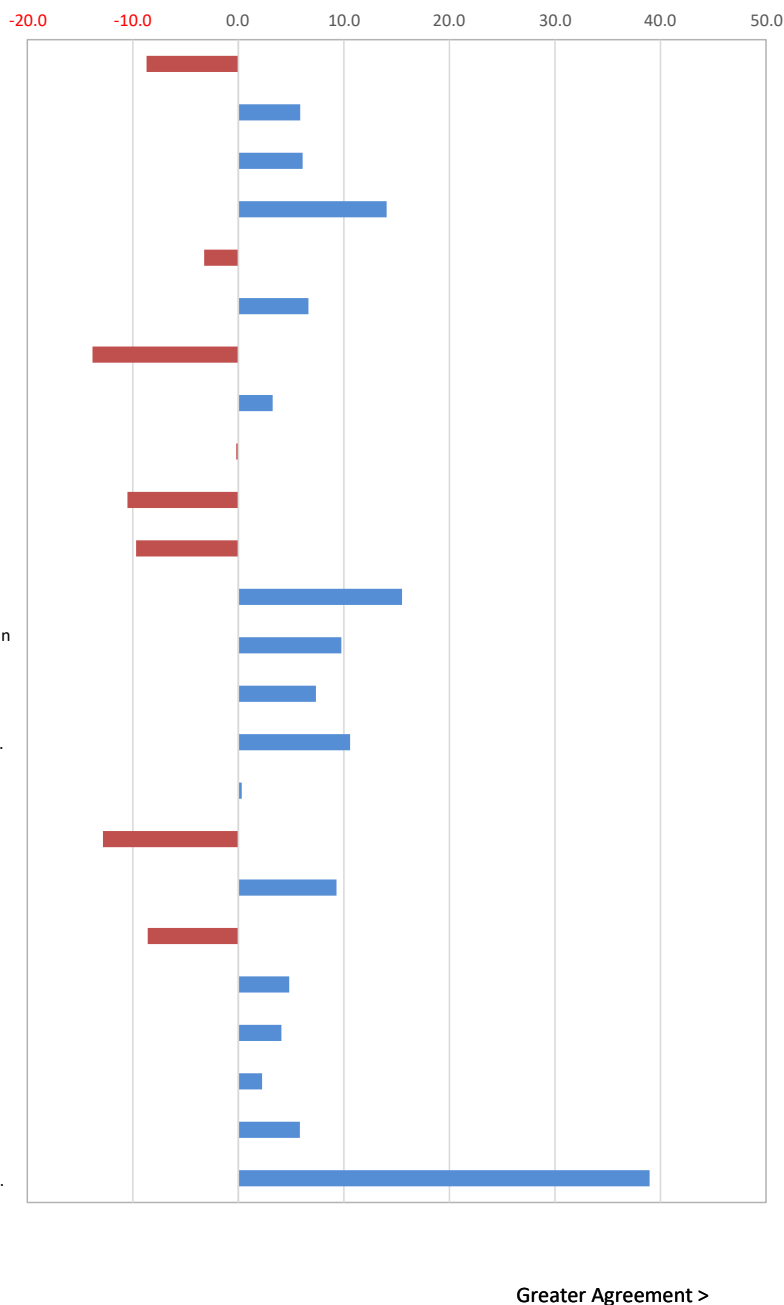
|   |       |       |       |       |       |       |       |      |       |
|---|-------|-------|-------|-------|-------|-------|-------|------|-------|
| Abortion should become illegal.   | 49.9% | 21.2% | 28.9% | 63.5% | 16.2% | 20.2% | 13.7  | -5.0 | -8.7  |
| America has a moral responsibility to be a force for good in the world.   | 12.7% | 21.6% | 65.7% | 9.6%  | 18.8% | 71.6% | -3.1  | -2.8 | 5.9   |
| Asking the rich to pay a higher tax rate is a way to establish economic justice.  | 25.6% | 20.7% | 53.7% | 24.1% | 16.0% | 59.8% | -1.5  | -4.7 | 6.1   |
| Children should be raised by a mother and father only, if possible.   | 34.7% | 21.9% | 43.4% | 19.7% | 22.9% | 57.4% | -15.0 | 1.0  | 14.1  |
| Globalism is a threat to our nation's economic future.  | 27.9% | 37.4% | 34.7% | 32.1% | 36.5% | 31.5% | 4.2   | -0.9 | -3.2  |
| Greater emphasis must be given to embracing our ethnic diversity.   | 18.2% | 29.1% | 52.7% | 14.2% | 26.5% | 59.3% | -4.0  | -2.6 | 6.6   |
| Marriage is a relationship between one man and one woman only.  | 35.1% | 17.6% | 47.3% | 50.1% | 16.4% | 33.5% | 15.0  | -1.2 | -13.8 |
| Our society must give more attention to accomplishing economic justice.   | 16.4% | 26.8% | 56.7% | 15.7% | 24.3% | 60.0% | -0.7  | -2.5 | 3.3   |
| Race relations in the United States are generally good.   | 53.8% | 22.3% | 23.9% | 57.0% | 19.3% | 23.7% | 3.3   | -3.0 | -0.2  |
| Religion must play a primary role in shaping social morality.   | 30.1% | 22.4% | 47.5% | 37.4% | 25.6% | 37.0% | 7.3   | 3.2  | -10.5 |
| Religious communities should be exempt from LGBTQ-based policies or regulations.  | 39.9% | 26.4% | 33.7% | 45.3% | 30.7% | 24.0% | 5.4   | 4.3  | -9.7  |
| Same-sex marriage must remain legal and protected.  | 31.0% | 23.4% | 45.6% | 19.4% | 19.5% | 61.1% | -11.6 | -3.9 | 15.5  |
| Some form of amnesty program for illegal immigrants who have been working and living in this country should be implemented. | 25.1% | 21.9% | 53.1% | 18.4% | 18.8% | 62.8% | -6.7  | -3.0 | 9.8   |
| That the US is losing its place of world leadership.  | 15.4% | 19.6% | 65.0% | 11.1% | 16.5% | 72.4% | -4.3  | -3.1 | 7.4   |
| The science that says humans are affecting the climate of the planet (i.e. climate change).                                 | 19.5% | 19.9% | 60.7% | 15.5% | 13.3% | 71.2% | -3.9  | -6.6 | 10.6  |

|  |       |       |       |       |       |       |       |      |       |
|--|-------|-------|-------|-------|-------|-------|-------|------|-------|
| The US should pursue avenues to stop illegal immigration.  | 22.8% | 20.8% | 56.4% | 21.6% | 21.6% | 56.8% | -1.2  | 0.8  | 0.3   |
| There is too much attention paid to race and racial issues in our country these days.                  | 29.2% | 18.2% | 52.6% | 43.6% | 16.7% | 39.8% | 14.4  | -1.5 | -12.8 |
| Tolerance is necessary for social peace and wellbeing.   | 11.5% | 18.9% | 69.6% | 5.9%  | 15.2% | 78.9% | -5.6  | -3.6 | 9.3   |
| Traditional marriage as a social institution is becoming obsolete.                                     | 27.8% | 25.5% | 46.8% | 32.3% | 29.5% | 38.2% | 4.6   | 4.0  | -8.6  |
| We must be good stewards of the environment even if it means restricting natural resource development. | 16.2% | 21.6% | 62.2% | 14.9% | 18.1% | 67.0% | -1.4  | -3.5 | 4.8   |
| We need to promote sensible gun laws to reduce gun violence.   | 20.9% | 17.1% | 62.0% | 17.1% | 16.8% | 66.1% | -3.8  | -0.3 | 4.1   |
| Children are adequately taught good moral standards today.   | 71.1% | 16.5% | 12.5% | 65.9% | 19.4% | 14.7% | -5.2  | 2.9  | 2.3   |
| Believe the government should be deeply involved in solving poverty.                                   | 27.4% | 20.5% | 52.1% | 23.5% | 18.7% | 57.9% | -4.0  | -1.8 | 5.8   |
| I have great hope for the future of my own community (i.e. neighborhood, village, town).               | 55.1% | 31.7% | 13.2% | 14.8% | 33.1% | 52.2% | -40.4 | 1.4  | 39.0  |

Hint: This report compares answers on the 2017 and 2021 American Beliefs Study surveys and shows changing trends on these social and moral belief statements, if any. The chart displays the distance between the 2017 and 2021 statements. The longer the bar, either positive or negative, the greater the shift in agreement.



## Trends in Social and Moral Beliefs Between 2017 & 2021



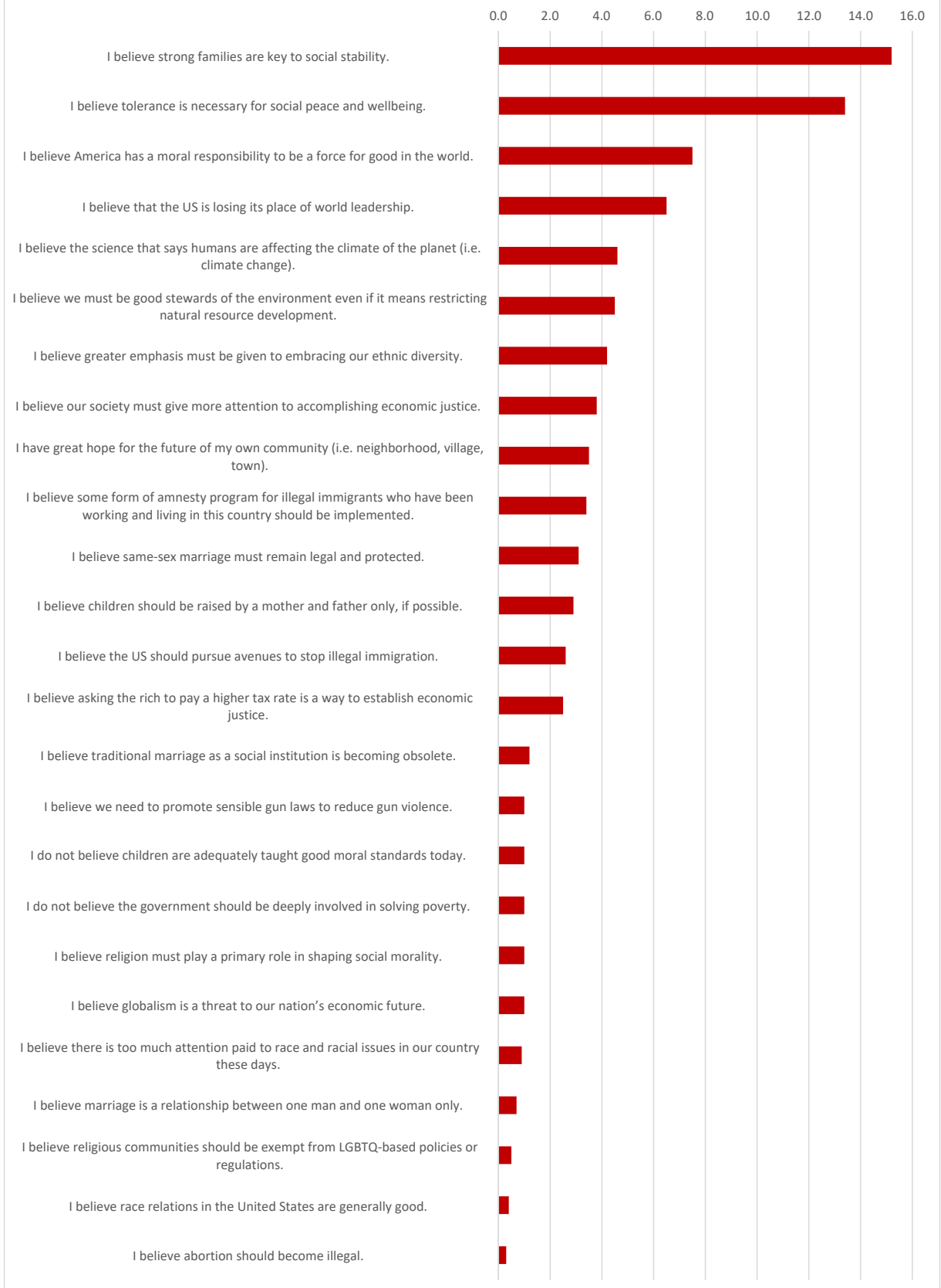
Hint: What does this graph show? It compares the change in agreement between the 2017 American Beliefs Study Survey and the 2021 American Beliefs Study Survey for this study area. (It is not a comparison to the national profile.) Look for significant swings in either direction.

## Social and Moral Beliefs by Strength of Importance

| <i>Ranking</i> | <i>Concern</i>  | <i>Ratio</i> | <i>Strength</i>            |
|----------------|---|--------------|----------------------------|
| 1              | I believe strong families are key to social stability.  | 15.2         | Extremely Strong Agreement |
| 2              | I believe tolerance is necessary for social peace and wellbeing.  | 13.4         | Extremely Strong Agreement |
| 3              | I believe America has a moral responsibility to be a force for good in the world.   | 7.5          | Very Strong Agreement      |
| 4              | I believe that the US is losing its place of world leadership.  | 6.5          | Very Strong Agreement      |
| 5              | I believe the science that says humans are affecting the climate of the planet (i.e. climate change).                                 | 4.6          | Very Strong Agreement      |
| 6              | I believe we must be good stewards of the environment even if it means restricting natural resource development.                      | 4.5          | Very Strong Agreement      |
| 7              | I believe greater emphasis must be given to embracing our ethnic diversity.   | 4.2          | Very Strong Agreement      |
| 8              | I believe our society must give more attention to accomplishing economic justice.   | 3.8          | Strong Agreement           |
| 9              | I have great hope for the future of my own community (i.e. neighborhood, village, town).  | 3.5          | Strong Agreement           |
| 10             | I believe some form of amnesty program for illegal immigrants who have been working and living in this country should be implemented. | 3.4          | Strong Agreement           |
| 11             | I believe same-sex marriage must remain legal and protected.  | 3.1          | Strong Agreement           |
| 12             | I believe children should be raised by a mother and father only, if possible.   | 2.9          | Strong Agreement           |
| 13             | I believe the US should pursue avenues to stop illegal immigration.   | 2.6          | Strong Agreement           |
| 14             | I believe asking the rich to pay a higher tax rate is a way to establish economic justice.  | 2.5          | Strong Agreement           |
| 15             | I believe traditional marriage as a social institution is becoming obsolete.  | 1.2          | Neutral Agreement          |
| 16             | I believe we need to promote sensible gun laws to reduce gun violence.  | 1.0          | Neutral Agreement          |
| 17             | I do not believe children are adequately taught good moral standards today.   | 1.0          | Neutral Agreement          |
| 18             | I do not believe the government should be deeply involved in solving poverty.   | 1.0          | Neutral Agreement          |
| 19             | I believe religion must play a primary role in shaping social morality.   | 1.0          | Neutral Agreement          |
| 20             | I believe globalism is a threat to our nation's economic future.  | 1.0          | Neutral Agreement          |
| 21             | I believe there is too much attention paid to race and racial issues in our country these days.                                       | 0.9          | Neutral Agreement          |
| 22             | I believe marriage is a relationship between one man and one woman only.  | 0.7          | Somewhat Weak Agreement    |
| 23             | I believe religious communities should be exempt from LGBTQ-based policies or regulations.  | 0.5          | Weak Agreement             |
| 24             | I believe race relations in the United States are generally good.   | 0.4          | Weak Agreement             |
| 25             | I believe abortion should become illegal.   | 0.3          | Very Weak Agreement        |

Hint: This report compares the percentage of people who agreed with the statement to those who disagreed with the statement. Those who responded with "No Opinion" are not included.

### Social and Moral Beliefs in Order of Agreement



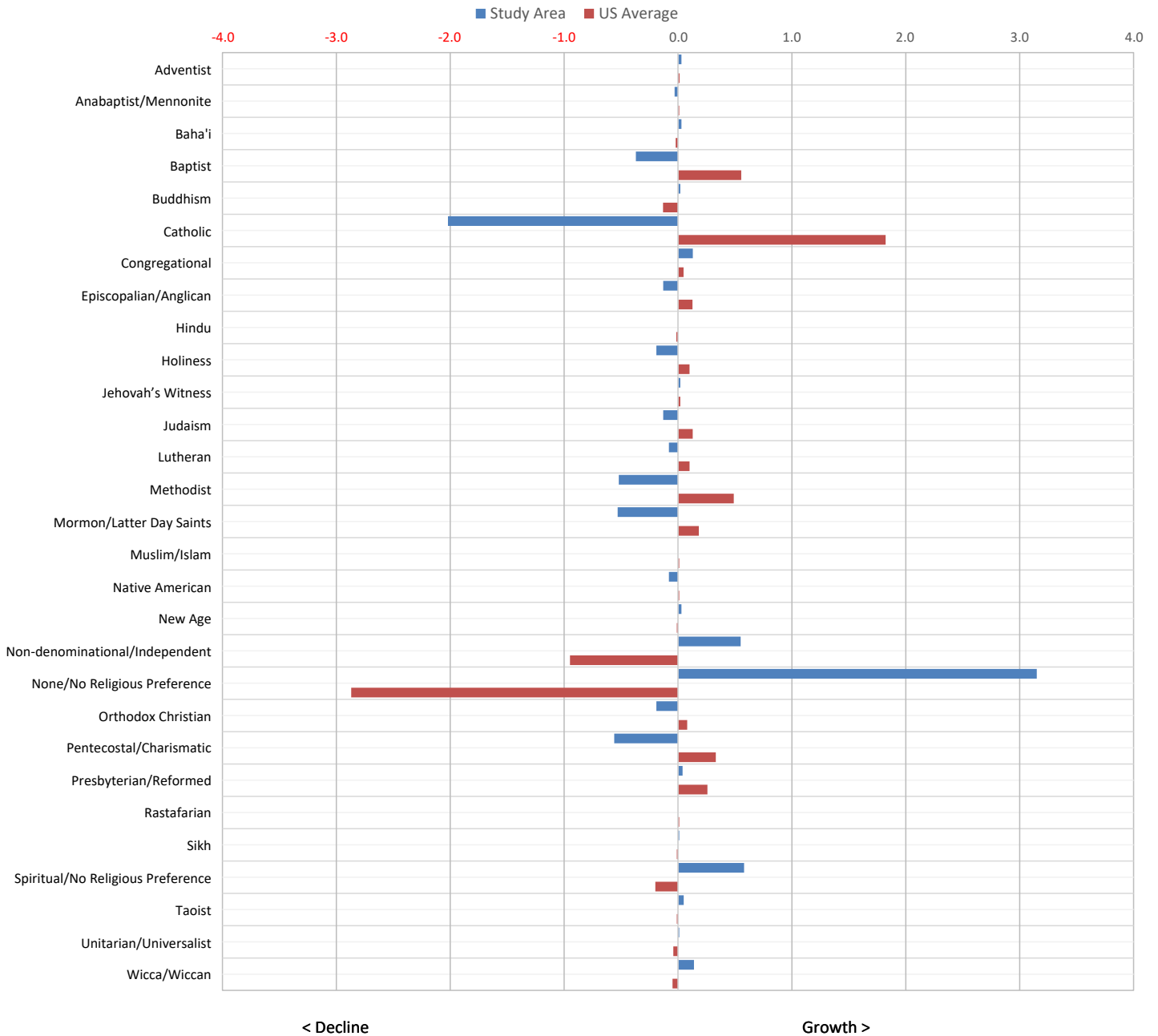
## Religious Preferences

Religious preferences range from the “Nones” to very specific traditions. The likely preferences within this study area are presented below for both now and 10 years prior. Note any changes up or down.

| Study Area Compared to National Average | Religious Preferences |       |              |                |       |              |                   |     |  |
|---|-----------------------|-------|--------------|----------------|-------|--------------|-------------------|-----|--|
|   | Study Area            |       |              | US Average     |       |              | Comparative Index |     |  |
|   | 10 Years Prior        | Now   | Point Change | 10 Years Prior | Now   | Point Change | 10 Years Prior    | Now |  |
| Adventist                               | 0.2%                  | 0.2%  | 0.0          | 0.2%           | 0.3%  | 0.0          | 77                | 85  |  |
| Anabaptist/Mennonite                    | 0.0%                  | 0.0%  | -0.0         | 0.1%           | 0.1%  | 0.0          | 44                | 0   |  |
| Baha'i                                  | 0.1%                  | 0.1%  | 0.0          | 0.1%           | 0.0%  | -0.0         | 91                | 234 |  |
| Baptist                                 | 4.0%                  | 3.6%  | -0.4         | 7.8%           | 8.4%  | 0.6          | 51                | 43  |  |
| Buddhism                                | 2.7%                  | 2.7%  | 0.0          | 1.2%           | 1.1%  | -0.1         | 219               | 248 |  |
| Catholic                                | 19.7%                 | 17.7% | -2.0         | 23.1%          | 24.9% | 1.8          | 85                | 71  |  |
| Congregational                          | 3.9%                  | 4.0%  | 0.1          | 4.0%           | 4.1%  | 0.0          | 97                | 99  |  |
| Episcopalian/Anglican                   | 1.8%                  | 1.7%  | -0.1         | 1.8%           | 2.0%  | 0.1          | 100               | 87  |  |
| Hindu                                   | 0.4%                  | 0.4%  | 0.0          | 0.5%           | 0.5%  | -0.0         | 69                | 71  |  |
| Holiness                                | 0.9%                  | 0.7%  | -0.2         | 0.9%           | 1.0%  | 0.1          | 100               | 72  |  |
| Jehovah's Witness                       | 0.5%                  | 0.5%  | 0.0          | 0.4%           | 0.4%  | 0.0          | 124               | 123 |  |
| Judaism                                 | 5.0%                  | 4.8%  | -0.1         | 5.0%           | 5.2%  | 0.1          | 99                | 94  |  |
| Lutheran                                | 4.6%                  | 4.5%  | -0.1         | 5.3%           | 5.4%  | 0.1          | 87                | 84  |  |
| Methodist                               | 3.6%                  | 3.1%  | -0.5         | 6.0%           | 6.5%  | 0.5          | 60                | 47  |  |
| Mormon/Latter Day Saints                | 4.1%                  | 3.5%  | -0.5         | 1.1%           | 1.2%  | 0.2          | 381               | 283 |  |
| Muslim/Islam                            | 0.5%                  | 0.5%  | 0.0          | 0.4%           | 0.4%  | 0.0          | 116               | 114 |  |
| Native American                         | 0.2%                  | 0.1%  | -0.1         | 0.1%           | 0.1%  | 0.0          | 219               | 113 |  |
| New Age                                 | 0.1%                  | 0.2%  | 0.0          | 0.1%           | 0.1%  | -0.0         | 135               | 183 |  |
| Non-denominational/Independent          | 9.0%                  | 9.6%  | 0.6          | 8.7%           | 7.7%  | -0.9         | 104               | 124 |  |
| None/No Religious Preference            | 29.9%                 | 33.0% | 3.2          | 23.6%          | 20.8% | -2.9         | 126               | 159 |  |
| Orthodox Christian                      | 1.1%                  | 0.9%  | -0.2         | 0.9%           | 1.0%  | 0.1          | 114               | 86  |  |
| Pentecostal/Charismatic                 | 2.0%                  | 1.4%  | -0.6         | 1.9%           | 2.2%  | 0.3          | 104               | 63  |  |
| Presbyterian/Reformed                   | 4.2%                  | 4.3%  | 0.0          | 5.4%           | 5.7%  | 0.3          | 78                | 75  |  |
| Rastafarian                             | 0.0%                  | 0.0%  | 0.0          | 0.0%           | 0.0%  | 0.0          | 0                 | 0   |  |
| Sikh                                    | 0.0%                  | 0.0%  | 0.0          | 0.0%           | 0.0%  | -0.0         | 37                | 73  |  |
| Spiritual/No Religious Preference       | 1.0%                  | 1.5%  | 0.6          | 0.8%           | 0.6%  | -0.2         | 128               | 278 |  |
| Taoist                                  | 0.1%                  | 0.2%  | 0.1          | 0.1%           | 0.1%  | -0.0         | 125               | 191 |  |
| Unitarian/Universalist                  | 0.1%                  | 0.1%  | 0.0          | 0.2%           | 0.2%  | -0.0         | 44                | 61  |  |
| Wicca/Wiccan                            | 0.4%                  | 0.6%  | 0.1          | 0.3%           | 0.3%  | -0.0         | 143               | 226 |  |

Hint: Respondents were asked to indicate their religious preference, if any, for both 10 years ago and now. The report provides both data points plus a calculation of the change between the two points. If the point change column is red, fewer respondents preferred a particular tradition today than 10 years ago. If the point change column is black, more respondents embrace a religious preference more today than 10 years ago. This shows the trends below. This report also compares the study area to the national average responses. The Comparative Indexes reveal whether the study area averages are higher or lower than the national average.

### Direction & Strength of Religious Preferences Compared to National Average

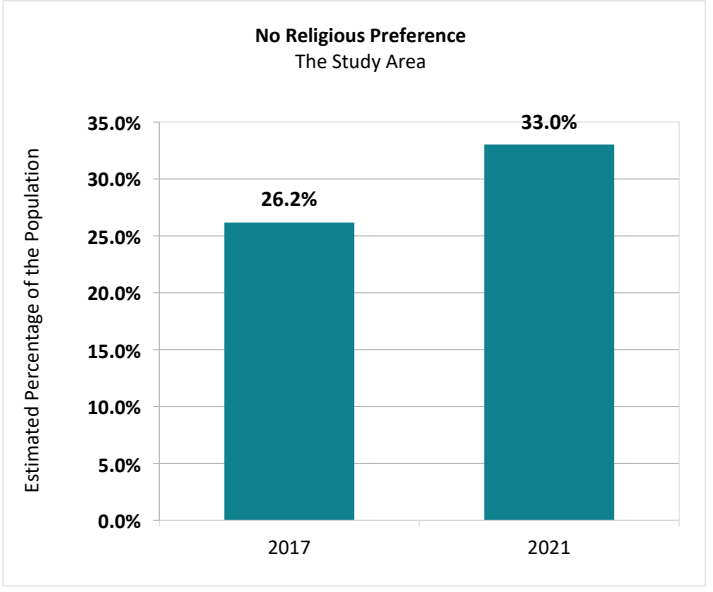
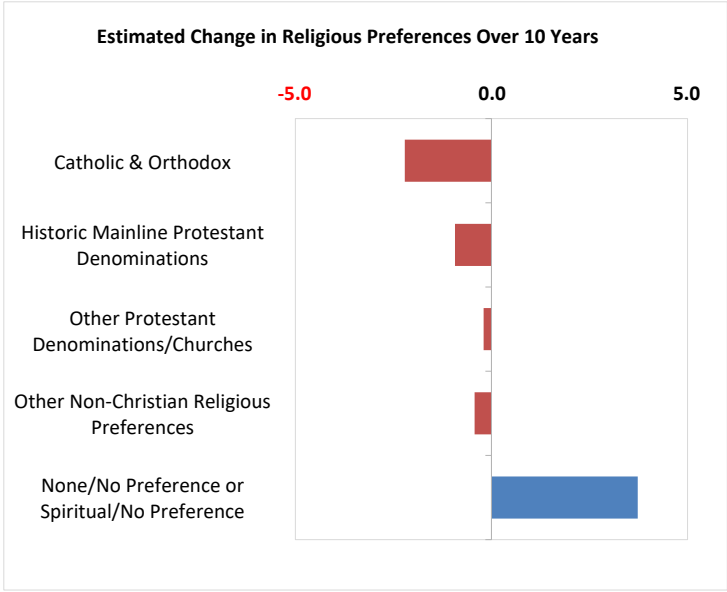


Hint: Bars on the right indicate an estimated increase in affiliation. Bars on the left indicate an estimated decline in affiliation.

## Summary Religious Preferences: Christian and Other

| Study Area Compared to National Average              | Study Area     |              |              | US Average     |              |              | Comparative Index |     |
|--|----------------|--------------|--------------|----------------|--------------|--------------|-------------------|-----|
|  | 10 Years Prior | Now          | Point Change | 10 Years Prior | Now          | Point Change | 10 Years Prior    | Now |
| Catholic & Orthodox                                  | 20.8%          | 18.6%        | -2.2         | 24.0%          | 25.9%        | 1.9          | 87                | 72  |
| <b>Historic Mainline Protestant Denominations</b>    | <b>22.2%</b>   | <b>21.3%</b> | <b>-0.9</b>  | <b>30.4%</b>   | <b>31.9%</b> | 1.6          | 73                | 67  |
| Other Protestant Denominations/Churches              | 12.1%          | 11.9%        | -0.2         | 11.8%          | 11.3%        | -0.5         | 103               | 106 |
| <b>Total: Christian Religious Preferences</b>        | <b>55.1%</b>   | <b>51.7%</b> | <b>-3.3</b>  | <b>66.1%</b>   | <b>69.1%</b> | 3.0          | 83                | 75  |
| Other Non-Christian Religious Preferences            | 14.0%          | 13.6%        | -0.4         | 9.5%           | 9.6%         | 0.1          | 148               | 142 |
| <b>None/No Preference or Spiritual/No Preference</b> | <b>30.8%</b>   | <b>34.6%</b> | 3.7          | <b>24.4%</b>   | <b>21.3%</b> | <b>-3.1</b>  | 126               | 162 |

Hint: This report summarizes the religious preference report by gathering many different religious traditions into general categories. This focuses on where growth and/or decline is happening.



Hint: The graph on the left visualizes the growth or decline of the major categories of the study area's different religious traditions. The graph on the right shows the significance of the population that indicated their preference was "none" or "no preference."

Note: **Historic Mainline Protestant** includes Baptist, Congregational, Episcopal, Lutheran, Methodist, and Presbyterian/Reformed.

## Denominational Affiliations

Some people within a study area indicate an affiliation with one of the following denominations. These projected affiliations are for now and 10 years prior.

| Study Area Compared to National Average                 | Denominations  |       |              |                |       |              |                   |     |  |
|---|----------------|-------|--------------|----------------|-------|--------------|-------------------|-----|--|
|   | Study Area     |       |              | US Average     |       |              | Comparative Index |     |  |
|   | 10 Years Prior | Now   | Point Change | 10 Years Prior | Now   | Point Change | 10 Years Prior    | Now |  |
| A Covenant Order of Evangelical Presbyterians (ECO) *** | 0.0%           | 0.5%  | 0.5          | 0.0%           | 0.2%  | 0.2          |                   | 202 |  |
| African Methodist Episcopal Church                      | 0.2%           | 0.0%  | -0.2         | 0.3%           | 0.4%  | 0.0          | 64                | 6   |  |
| African Methodist Episcopal Zion Church                 | 0.0%           | 0.1%  | 0.1          | 0.2%           | 0.1%  | -0.0         | 0                 | 54  |  |
| American Baptist Churches/ USA                          | 5.1%           | 4.8%  | -0.3         | 7.0%           | 6.8%  | -0.2         | 73                | 71  |  |
| Assemblies of God                                       | 1.9%           | 1.6%  | -0.3         | 1.3%           | 1.6%  | 0.3          | 152               | 101 |  |
| Christian and Missionary Alliance                       | 0.3%           | 0.4%  | 0.1          | 0.6%           | 0.6%  | 0.0          | 47                | 56  |  |
| Christian Church (Disciples of Christ)                  | 5.4%           | 6.9%  | 1.5          | 5.0%           | 4.8%  | -0.3         | 107               | 144 |  |
| Church of Jesus Christ of Latter Day Saints             | 0.7%           | 0.4%  | -0.3         | 0.4%           | 0.4%  | 0.1          | 195               | 95  |  |
| Church of the Nazarene                                  | 1.1%           | 0.8%  | -0.3         | 0.6%           | 0.7%  | 0.0          | 169               | 114 |  |
| Episcopal Church  | 2.6%           | 3.2%  | 0.6          | 2.3%           | 2.2%  | -0.0         | 115               | 144 |  |
| Evangelical Free Church of America                      | 2.0%           | 1.8%  | -0.2         | 1.1%           | 0.9%  | -0.2         | 178               | 193 |  |
| Evangelical Lutheran Church in America                  | 3.3%           | 3.4%  | 0.1          | 3.5%           | 3.5%  | 0.0          | 95                | 97  |  |
| Foursquare Gospel                                       | 1.1%           | 0.9%  | -0.2         | 0.2%           | 0.3%  | 0.0          | 482               | 334 |  |
| Lutheran Church, Missouri Synod                         | 7.0%           | 7.4%  | 0.4          | 5.7%           | 5.5%  | -0.3         | 122               | 136 |  |
| Presbyterian Church (USA)                               | 5.8%           | 6.9%  | 1.1          | 5.2%           | 5.0%  | -0.2         | 111               | 138 |  |
| Presbyterian Church in America                          | 0.9%           | 0.6%  | -0.2         | 0.7%           | 0.9%  | 0.2          | 122               | 72  |  |
| Reformed Church, RCA/CRC                                | 0.5%           | 0.5%  | 0.0          | 0.6%           | 0.6%  | 0.0          | 83                | 87  |  |
| Roman Catholic Church                                   | 47.0%          | 45.9% | -1.1         | 44.3%          | 44.5% | 0.2          | 106               | 103 |  |
| Salvation Army  | 0.7%           | 0.7%  | -0.0         | 0.3%           | 0.3%  | -0.1         | 234               | 276 |  |
| Seventh Day Adventist                                   | 0.5%           | 0.5%  | 0.1          | 0.4%           | 0.4%  | -0.0         | 103               | 129 |  |
| Southern Baptist Convention                             | 3.4%           | 3.1%  | -0.4         | 6.2%           | 6.6%  | 0.5          | 56                | 46  |  |
| United Church of Christ                                 | 2.0%           | 2.3%  | 0.3          | 2.9%           | 2.8%  | -0.1         | 67                | 81  |  |
| United Methodist Church                                 | 8.0%           | 7.4%  | -0.6         | 10.7%          | 10.9% | 0.1          | 75                | 68  |  |





# Faith and Religious Involvement

Faith is a dynamic factor in many people's lives. It grows and declines, and the level of active involvement changes as well. The Faith and Religious Involvement variables use several vantage points to provide an understanding of your study area's faith and involvement.

## Activity in a Religious Congregation or Community

### Study Area Compared to National Average

|   | Study Area | US Average | Comparative Index |
|---|------------|------------|-------------------|
| <b>Involvement</b>  |            |            |                   |
| Projected percentage involved   | 27.7%      | 35.4%      | 78                |
| Projected percentage NOT involved                                     | 72.4%      | 64.6%      | 112               |
| Estimated change of those involved over prior 10 years (point change) | -7.5       | -8.9       |                   |

Hint: This table presents the percentage of the population in the study area likely to either be involved or not be involved in a religious congregation or community. It also compares these two data points to the national average.

Also, consider the Estimated (point) Change over 10 years. This looks at how respondents answered the question about involvement both currently and 10 years ago. If this number is negative, it means it is likely that the level of involvement is declining in the study area. You can compare this to national changes.

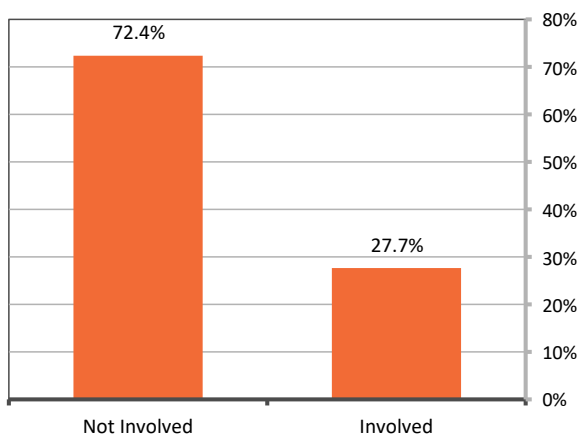
|  | Study Area | US Average | Comparative Index |
|--|------------|------------|-------------------|
|--|------------|------------|-------------------|

### Directional Change in Involvement

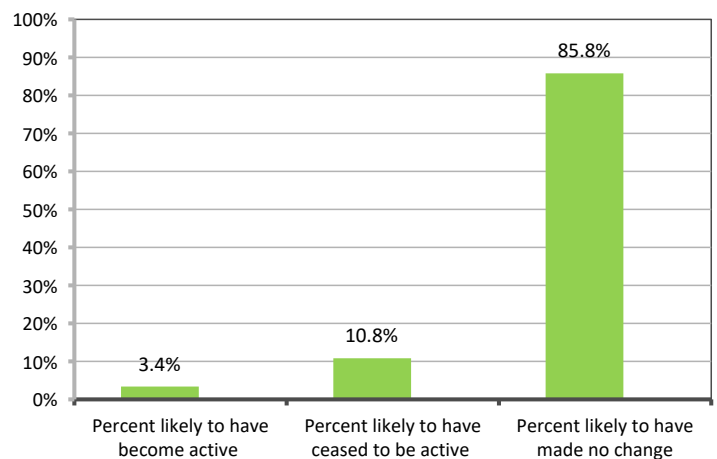
|  | Study Area | US Average | Comparative Index |
|--|------------|------------|-------------------|
| Percent likely to have become active       | 3.4%       | 3.8%       | 89                |
| Percent likely to have ceased to be active | 10.8%      | 12.7%      | 85                |
| Percent likely to have made no change      | 85.8%      | 83.5%      | 103               |
| Net Change in direction of activity        | -7.4       | -8.9       |                   |

Hint: This table reflects how respondents answered a question about activity in a religious congregation or community. If they were involved 10 years ago, but not today, this is reflected in the "Percent likely to have ceased to be active" column. If they were not active 10 years ago, but are now, this is reflected in the "Percent likely to have become active" column. The net change in direction of activity displays the direction the religious activity is moving. If the number is red, more individuals have stopped being active than have become active. You can also compare the study area to the national average.

**Involvement in Religious Congregation or Community**  
The Study Area



**Trends in Active Religious Involvement**  
The Study Area



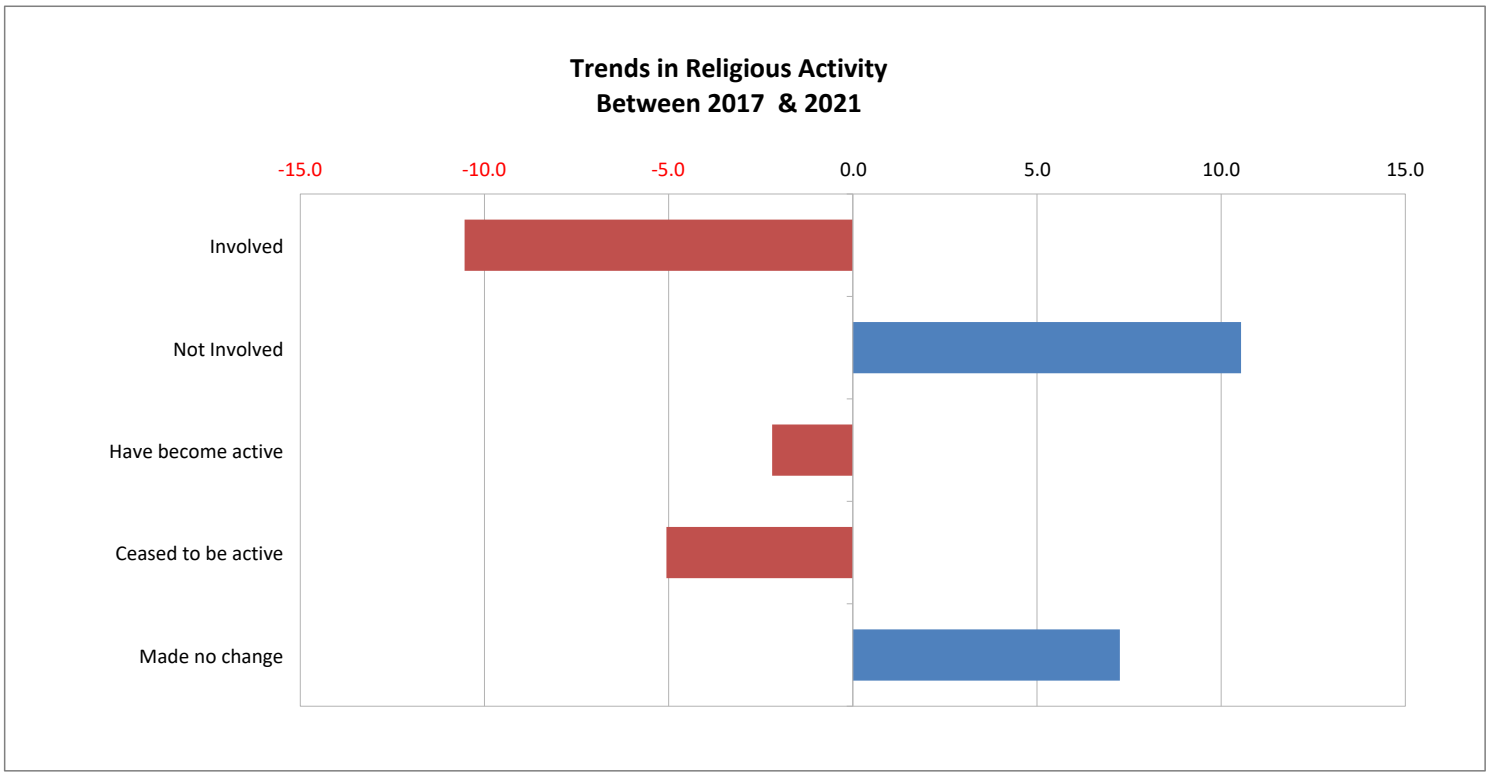
## Activity in a Religious Congregation or Community

### Study Area Comparison between 2017 & 2021

|                                   | 2017  | 2021  | Point Change Between Surveys |
|-----------------------------------|-------|-------|------------------------------|
| <b><i>Involvement</i></b>         |       |       |                              |
| Projected percentage involved     | 38.2% | 27.7% | -10.5                        |
| Projected percentage NOT involved | 61.8% | 72.4% | 10.5                         |

|   | 2017  | 2021  | Point Change Between Surveys |
|---|-------|-------|------------------------------|
| <b><i>Directional Change in Involvement</i></b> |       |       |                              |
| Percent likely to have become active            | 5.6%  | 3.4%  | -2.2                         |
| Percent likely to have ceased to be active      | 15.9% | 10.8% | -5.1                         |
| Percent likely to have made no change           | 78.6% | 85.8% | 7.3                          |

Hint: These tables compare 2021's level of involvement and the direction of active involvement to the same data from the 2017 Survey.



Hint: This graph compares the changes between the 2017 and 2021 American Beliefs Study Surveys for this study area. Look for significant changes in either direction.

## Projected Role of Religious Faith to Life

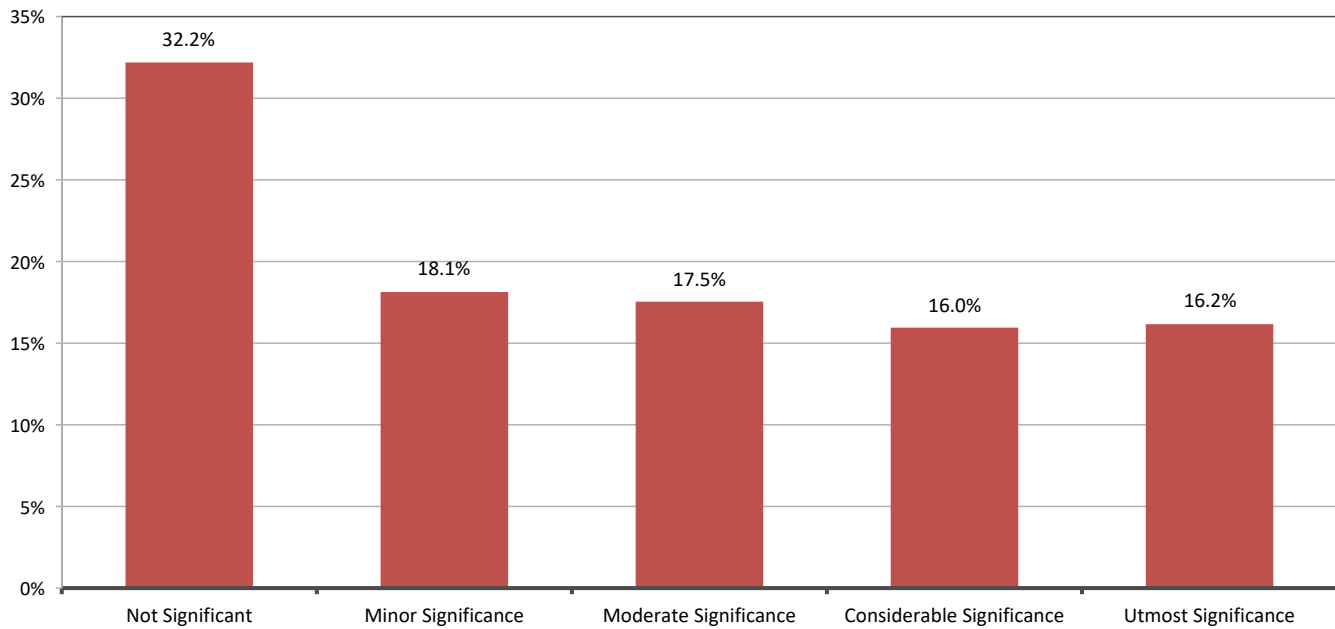
### Study Area Compared to National Average

#### Level of Significance

|                           | Study Area | US Average | Comparative Index |
|---------------------------|------------|------------|-------------------|
| Not Significant           | 32.2%      | 23.5%      | 137               |
| Minor Significance        | 18.1%      | 15.9%      | 114               |
| Moderate Significance     | 17.5%      | 20.1%      | 87                |
| Considerable Significance | 16.0%      | 20.5%      | 78                |
| Utmost Significance       | 16.2%      | 20.0%      | 81                |

Hint: The survey asked respondents how significant religious faith is in their life. This report compares your study area to national averages for each possible choice.

**Role of Religious Faith to Life**  
The Study Area



## Projected Role of Religious Faith to Life

### Study Area Compared to National Average

Study Area

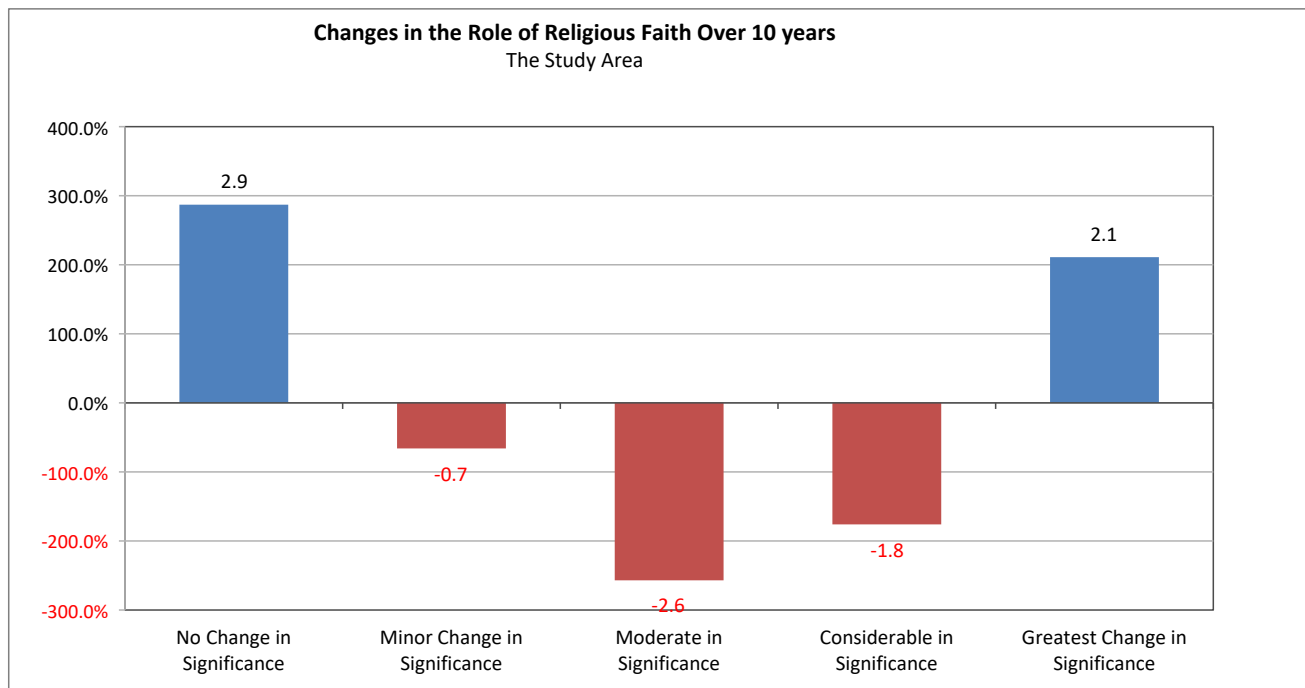
US Average

Comparative Index

#### Change in the role of religious faith over 10 years:

|                                 | Study Area | US Average | Comparative Index |
|---------------------------------|------------|------------|-------------------|
| No Change in Significance       | 2.9        | 2.2        | 133               |
| Minor Change in Significance    | -0.7       | -1.3       | 49                |
| Moderate in Significance        | -2.6       | -2.9       | 89                |
| Considerable in Significance    | -1.8       | -1.0       | 181               |
| Greatest Change in Significance | 2.1        | 3.0        | 69                |

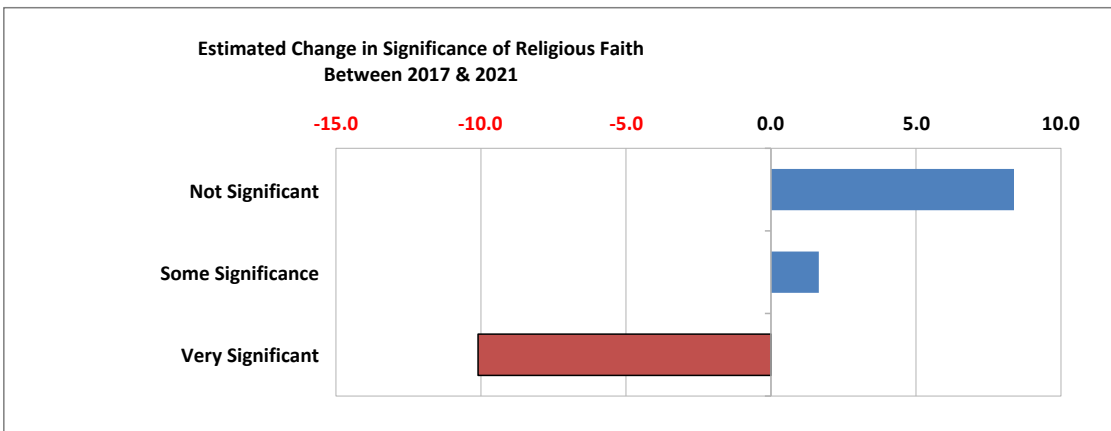
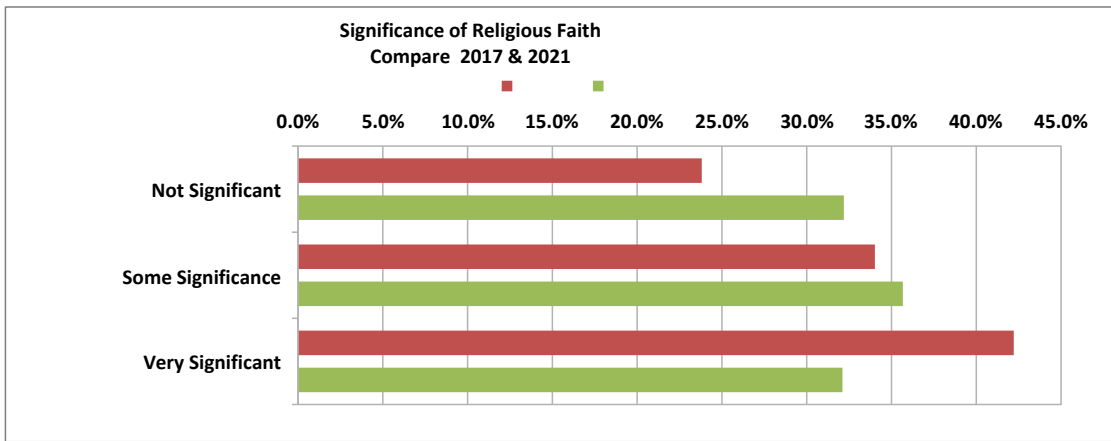
Hint: This survey asked respondents to compare how significant their faith is now to 10 years ago. If a number is red, faith significance declined. If a number is black, faith significance increased. If Considerable in Significance and Great Change in Significance are positive, faith has become more important to your study area. The graph compares your study area to the national average.



## Projected Role of Religious Faith to Life

| Study Area Compared to Same Area in 2021 | 2017  | 2021  | Point Change |
|--|-------|-------|--------------|
| <b>Level of Significance</b>             |       |       |              |
| Not Significant                          | 23.8% | 32.2% | 8.4          |
| Some Significance                        | 34.0% | 35.7% | 1.7          |
| Very Significant                         | 42.2% | 32.1% | -10.1        |

Hint: This report compares the level of significance between the 2017 and 2021 American Beliefs Study surveys and displays the changing role of religious faith in life.



Hint: These graphs present the change in the significance of religious faith between the 2017 and 2021 surveys so you can see categories that gained or lost significance.

## Level of Participation in Religious Faith

### Study Area Compared to National Average

Study Area

US Average

Comparative Index

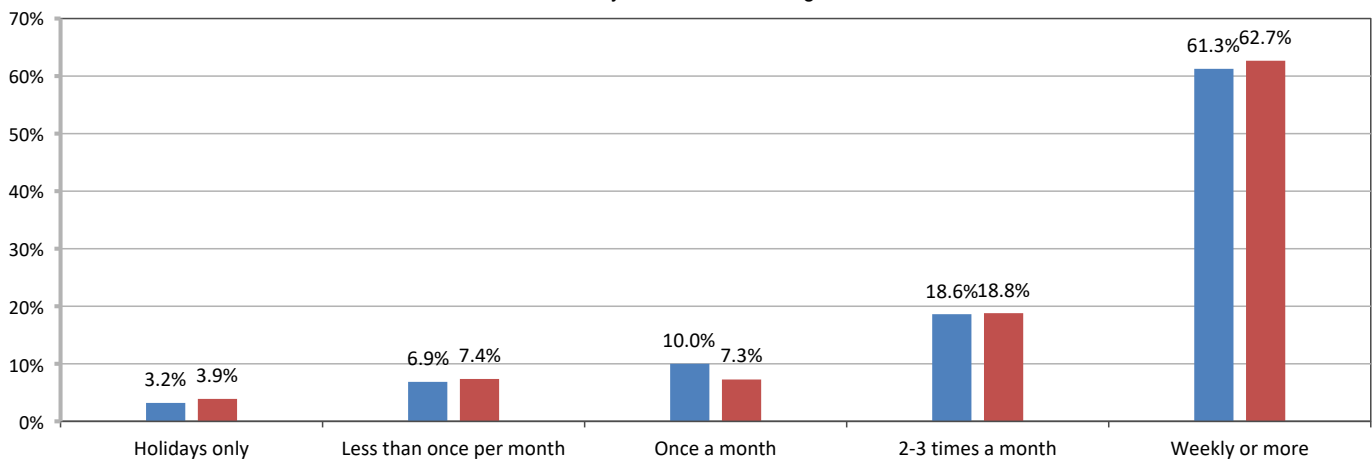
#### Of those who indicated participation

|                          |       |       |            |
|--------------------------|-------|-------|------------|
| Holidays only            | 3.2%  | 3.9%  | <b>82</b>  |
| Less than once per month | 6.9%  | 7.4%  | <b>93</b>  |
| Once a month             | 10.0% | 7.3%  | <b>138</b> |
| 2-3 times a month        | 18.6% | 18.8% | <b>99</b>  |
| Weekly or more           | 61.3% | 62.7% | <b>98</b>  |

Hint: This report focuses on those who participate in a religious congregation or community and compares your study area's percentages to national averages.

**Estimated Level of Participation**  
The Study Area Compared to National Average

■ Study Area ■ US Average



## Supporting Information

### Interpreting the Report

The American Beliefs Study reports help you interpret data at a glance.

**Comparative Indexes:** All variables have a column called Comparative Index, which compares your study area with a larger area. For this report, all comparisons are with the national averages for the data item.

- Indexes of 100 mean the study area variable is the same as its base area.
- Indexes greater than 100 mean the study area variable is above the base area. The higher the number, the greater it is above the base.
- Indexes less than 100 mean the study area variable is below the base area. The lower the number, the greater it is below the base.

**Color Coding:** The Comparative Indexes columns are color coded so you can easily spot changes and the direction of change.

Index: Above Ave    Ave    Below Ave.

### Support

If you need support, email us at [misupport@acst.com](mailto:misupport@acst.com) or call 1-877-230-3212.