

# Gallopedia

From **Gilani Research Foundation**

April 2019, Issue # **584\***

Compiled on a weekly basis since January 2007

Gilani's Gallopedia is a weekly Digest of Opinions in a globalized world - one window on global opinion polling compiled by Gilani Research Foundation

## Who are we?

*Gilani's Gallopedia* is a weekly digest of opinions in a globalized world. It provides a one window access to Global Opinion Polls on a weekly basis. It is produced by a team of researchers led by Dr. Ijaz Shafi Gilani, and is a not for profit public service. It is co-edited by Mohsina Ahmed.

Our name reflects the rapid pace at which global polls are brought to the community of pollsters and other interested readers. Gilani's Gallopedia is not related to any polling agency and makes its selection from any publically available poll based on its relevance to our reader's interests. Over the years it has reported polls conducted by over 350 agencies and institutions.

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[Topic of the week: \(Click for details\)](#)

## INSIDE THIS ISSUE

THIS WEEKLY REPORT CONSISTS OF **15**  
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POLLING ORGANIZATIONS HAVE BEEN  
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Countries are represented in blue; Polling organizations are represented in pink. For reference to source of each poll clicks to detail are provided in the text

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**\*Archives:** Gilani's Gallopedia has been compiled on a weekly basis since January 2007. Previous material is available upon request. Please contact [mohsina.ahmed@gallup.com.pk](mailto:mohsina.ahmed@gallup.com.pk)



## Asia Zone

- ▶ MIDDLE EAST & NORTH AFRICA; WEST ASIA; SOUTH ASIA; NORTH ASIA; EAST ASIA

### ▶ MIDDLE EAST & NORTH AFRICA:

584-1 [1 in 5 UAE residents are likely to buy a new car online](#) (Click for Details)

(UAE) A quarter (25%) said they will buy online if they have to purchase a second-hand car. Although traditionally, we see online car buying in the UAE being associated with pre-owned cars, the research shows that people are opening up to the idea of buying even a new car online. (YouGov MENA)

April 16, 2019

4.7 Society » Morality, Values & Customs / Lifestyle



584-2 [Most Pinoys agree that the suit against Xi Jinping in the ICC tells the world that China should leave the West PH Sea](#) (Click for Details)

(Phillipines) 49% of adult Filipinos agree that the suit filed by former officials of the Philippine government against Chinese President Xi Jinping before the International Criminal Court (ICC) tells the world that China should leave the islands it has occupied in the West Philippine Sea. (SWS)

April 17, 2019

4.6 Society » Media/ New Media



## Africa Zone

- ▶ WEST AFRICA; EAST AFRICA; CENTRAL AFRICA; SOUTHERN AFRICA

### ▶ AFRICA

584-3 [Nigerian Households Suffered Worsened Power Supply in Q1 2019](#) (Click for Details)

(Africa) The new Power Poll results released by NOIPolls for the first quarter of 2019 revealed that the power sector experienced a decline in power supply to Nigerian households to 37 percent in Q1, 2019 from 42-percents obtained in Q4, 2018. (NOI Polls)

April 09, 2019

3.7 Economy » Infrastructure



## Euro Americas Zone

▶ EAST EUROPE, WEST EUROPE; NORTH AMERICA; LATIN AMERICA  
& AUSTRALASIA

### ▶ WEST EUROPE

584-4 [Brexit Party leading in EU Parliament polls \(Click for Details\)](#)

(UK) Following the burst of publicity that came with their official formation, our second poll, conducted for the People's Vote, shows the Brexit Party leapfrogging into first place on 27% of the vote. (YouGov)

April 17, 2019

1.4 Domestic Politics » Political Parties



584-5 [Three-quarters would make spreading fake news a crime \(Click for Details\)](#)

(UK) Three in four British adults think that it should be a criminal offence to spread fake news deliberately, newly-published research by Ipsos MORI for King's College London has found. Seven in ten also say they are worried that fake news could influence the result of an election or referendum in Britain. Gov data suggests perhaps so; Mothercare is still viewed favourably by customers, particularly women, with 52% having a positive opinion of the brand, compared to 35% of men. (Ipsos MORI)

April 17, 2019

4.6 Society » Media/ New Media

584-6 [Kindness and love most important traits for a 'good' Christian \(Click for Details\)](#)

(UK) The trait Britons are most likely to pick is kindness, chosen by 35% of respondents. Women are significantly more likely than men to regard kindness as the most important trait (42% versus 27%). (YouGov)

April 18, 2019

4.1 Society » Religion



584-7 [Voting Intention: Conservatives 29%, Labour 30% \(16-17 Apr\) \(Click for Details\)](#)

(UK) The latest YouGov/Times voting intention survey sees 29% of Britons backing the Conservative (from 28% in last week's survey) while 30% say they would vote Labour (from 32%). (YouGov)

April 18, 2019

1.1 Domestic Politics » Elections

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584-8 [One in five Britons have nobody to open up to about problems](#) (Click for Details)

(UK) Men are more likely than women to feel they don't have someone they can confide in: a quarter (24%) say they have no one to turn to, compared to 17% of women (YouGov)

April 19, 2019

4.13 Society » Social Problems

584-9 [Most Britons support ban on harmful plastics](#) (Click for Details)

(UK) A third are reducing plastic in household cleaning products (36%) or homeware (32%). A quarter are considering plastic packaging when purchasing personal care products like shampoo or toothpaste (27%), and a fifth are doing so when buying cosmetics (18%). (YouGov)

April 19, 2019

4.14 Society » Environment/ Disasters

► NORTH AMERICA

584-10 [U.S. Seniors Pay Billions, yet Many Cannot Afford Healthcare](#) (Click for Details)

(USA) 77% of seniors, defined as those 65 and older, reported being concerned that rising healthcare costs will result in significant and lasting damage to the economy. This forward-looking pessimism is pervasive, with 92% of the older population expecting that healthcare costs will increase (73%) or stay about the same (19%). (Gallup USA)

April 15, 2019

4.11 Society » Health



584-11 [Sharp Rise in the Share of Americans Saying Jews Face Discrimination](#) (Click for Details)

(USA) 64% of Americans say Jews face at least some discrimination – a 20-percentage-point increase from 2016; the share saying Jews face “a lot” of discrimination has nearly doubled, from 13% to 24%. Democrats remain more likely than Republicans to say there is discrimination against Jews, but the shift in these views is evident in both parties. (PEW)

April 15, 2019

4.1 Society » Religion

584-12 [Naples, Florida, Metro Tops U.S. in Wellbeing for Fourth Time](#) (Click for Details)

(USA) For the fourth straight year, the Naples-Immokalee-Marco Island, Florida, metro area had the highest wellbeing across 156 U.S. communities, based on data collected in 2017 and 2018 as part of the Gallup National Health and Well-Being Index. Salinas, California; Boulder, Colorado; Santa Rosa, California; and Ann Arbor, Michigan round out the top five metro areas. (Gallup USA)

April 17, 2019

3.1 Economy » Perceptions on Performance/ Well-Being



584-13 [U.S. Church Membership Down Sharply in Past Two Decades \(Click for Details\)](#)

(USA) U.S. church membership was 70% or higher from 1937 through 1976, falling modestly to an average of 68% in the 1970s through the 1990s. The past 20 years have seen an acceleration in the drop-off, with a 20-percentage-point decline since 1999 and more than half of that change occurring since the start of the current decade. (Gallup USA)



April 18, 2019

4.1 Society » Religion

► AUSTRALASIA

584-14 [Real unemployment jumps to 10.9% as Australians prepare to vote in election \(Click for Details\)](#)

(Australia) The workforce, which comprises employed Australians and those who are unemployed and looking for work, increased by 65,000 to 13,649,000 on a year ago. However, despite the increasing workforce, now 216,000 fewer Australians were employed in March than a year ago, down to 12,158,000. (Roy Morgan)

April 16, 2019

3.3 Economy » Employment Issues

► MULTI-COUNTRY STUDIES

584-15 [For Earth Day, a look at how people around the world view climate change \(Click for Details\)](#)

April 22 is Earth Day, an annual event that highlights environmental concerns and encourages civic action. This year's Earth Day comes amid widespread global concern about climate change. (PEW)

April 18, 2019

4.14 Society » Environment/ Disasters



## Topic of the week:

# U.S. Church Membership Down Sharply in the Past Two Decades

► This page is devoted to opinions of countries whose polling activity is generally not known very widely or where a recent topical issue requires special attention.

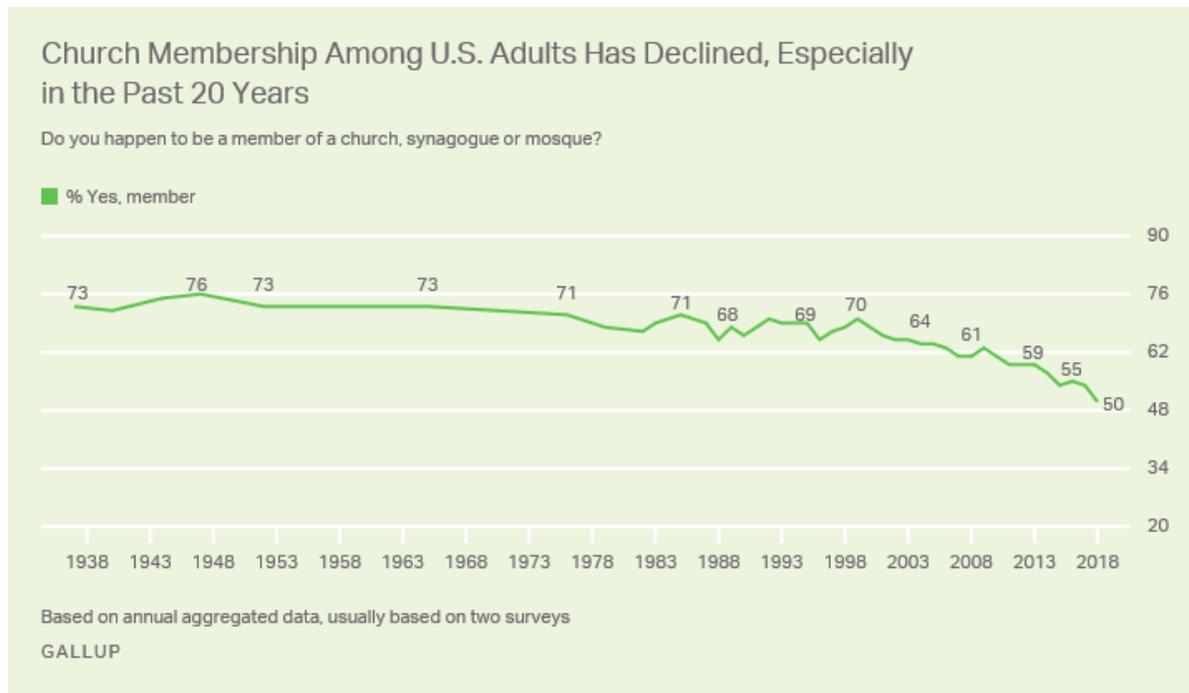
### U.S. Church Membership Down Sharply in Past Two Decades



As Christian and Jewish Americans prepare to celebrate Easter and Passover, respectively, Gallup finds the percentage of Americans who report belonging to a church, synagogue or mosque at an all-time low, averaging 50% in 2018.



U.S. church membership was 70% or higher from 1937 through 1976, falling modestly to an average of 68% in the 1970s through the 1990s. The past 20 years have seen an acceleration in the drop-off, with a 20-percentage-point decline since 1999 and more than half of that change occurring since the start of the current decade.



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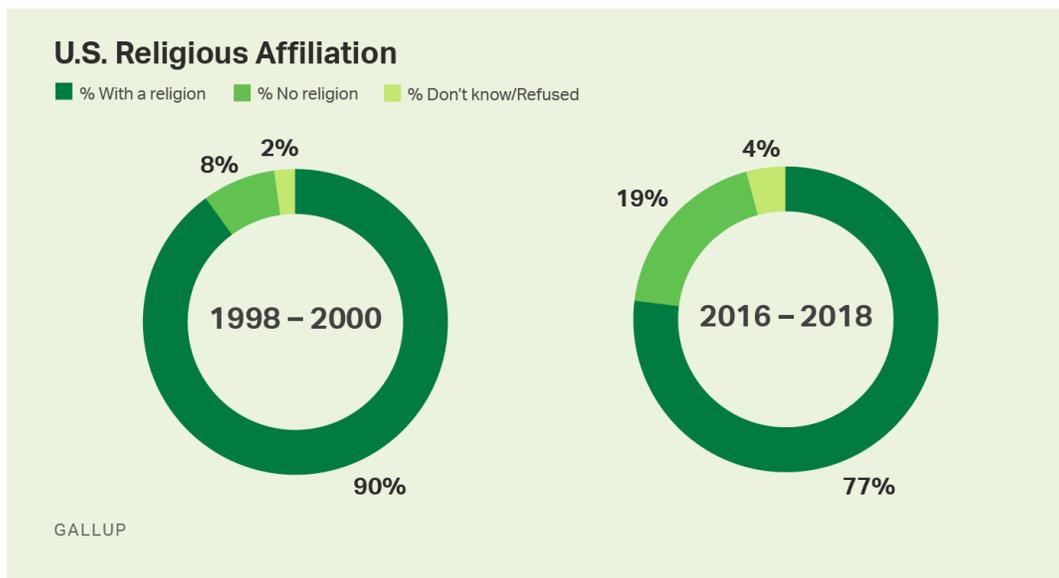
The decline in church membership is consistent with larger societal trends in [declining church attendance](#) and [an increasing proportion of Americans with no religious preference](#).

This article compares church membership data for the 1998-2000 and 2016-2018 periods, using combined data from multiple years to facilitate subgroup analysis. On average, 69% of U.S. adults were members of a church in 1998-2000, compared with 52% in 2016-2018.

The decline in church membership mostly reflects the fact that fewer Americans than in the past now have any religious affiliation. However, even those who do identify with a particular religion are less likely to belong to a church or other place of worship than in the past.

### Trend Toward No Religious Preference Key Factor in Declining Membership

Since the turn of the century, the percentage of U.S. adults with no religious affiliation has more than doubled, from 8% to 19%.



Although some of those who do not identify with a religion nevertheless indicate that they belong to a church, the vast majority of nonreligious Americans do not. In 1998 through 2000, one in 10 Americans with no religious preference said they belonged to a church, as did an average of 7% in the past three years.

As such, there is an almost one-to-one correspondence between not being religious and not belonging to a church. Consequently, the 11-point increase in no religious affiliation accounts for the majority of the 17-point decline in church membership over the past two decades.

### Fewer Religious Americans Are Church Members

Although there has been a steep increase in the proportion of Americans who do not have a religious attachment, they remain a small minority of the U.S. population. Three-quarters of Americans, 77%, identify with some organized religion, though that is down from 90% in 1998 through 2000.

The still-sizable proportion of religious Americans also contribute to declining church membership, as fewer in this group belong to a church than did so two decades ago. At the turn of the century, 73% of U.S. adults with a religious preference belonged to a church, compared with 64% today.

### Fewer Religious Americans Belong to a Church

Figures are the percentage who say they belong to a church, synagogue or mosque

	1998-2000	2016-2018	Change
	%	%	pct. pts.
Have a religious preference	73	64	-9
Do not have a religious preference	10	7	-3

Data for the small proportion of respondents who did not answer the religious preference question are not shown (approximately four in 10 of these respondents indicated they were members of a church in each time period).

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It is clear then, that the nature of Americans' orientation to religion is changing, with fewer religious Americans finding membership in a church or other faith institution to be a necessary part of their religious experience.

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### Generational Change Helping Push the Decline in Church Membership

Religiosity is strongly related to age, with older Americans far more likely than younger adults to be members of churches. However, church membership has dropped among all generational groups over the past two decades, with declines of roughly 10 percentage points among traditionalists, baby boomers and Generation X.

Most millennials were too young to be polled in 1998-2000. Now that they have reached adulthood, their church membership rates are exceedingly low and appear to be a major factor in the drop in overall U.S. church membership. Just 42% of millennials are members of churches, on average.

#### Changes in Church Membership by Generation, Over Time

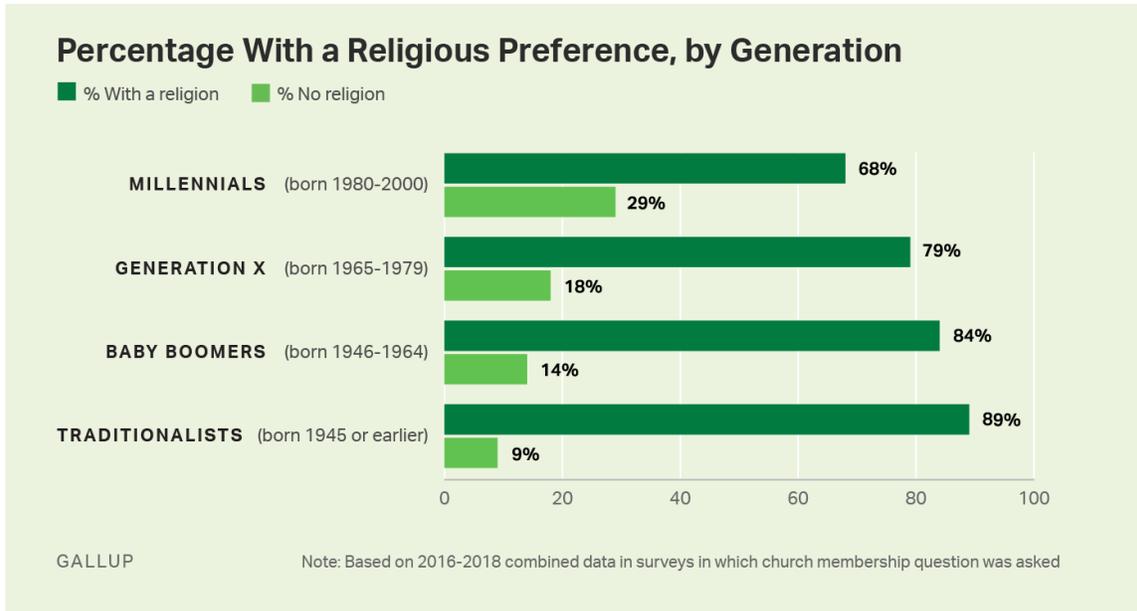
	1998-2000	2016-2018	Change
	%	%	pct. pts.
Traditionalists (born in 1945 or before)	77	68	-9
Baby boomers (born 1946-1964)	67	57	-10
Generation X (born 1965-1979)	62	54	-8
Millennials (born 1980-2000)	n/a	42	n/a

Note: Given that Gallup's polls are based on the 18+ U.S. adult population, the 1998-2000 time period would have included only a small proportion of the millennial generation.

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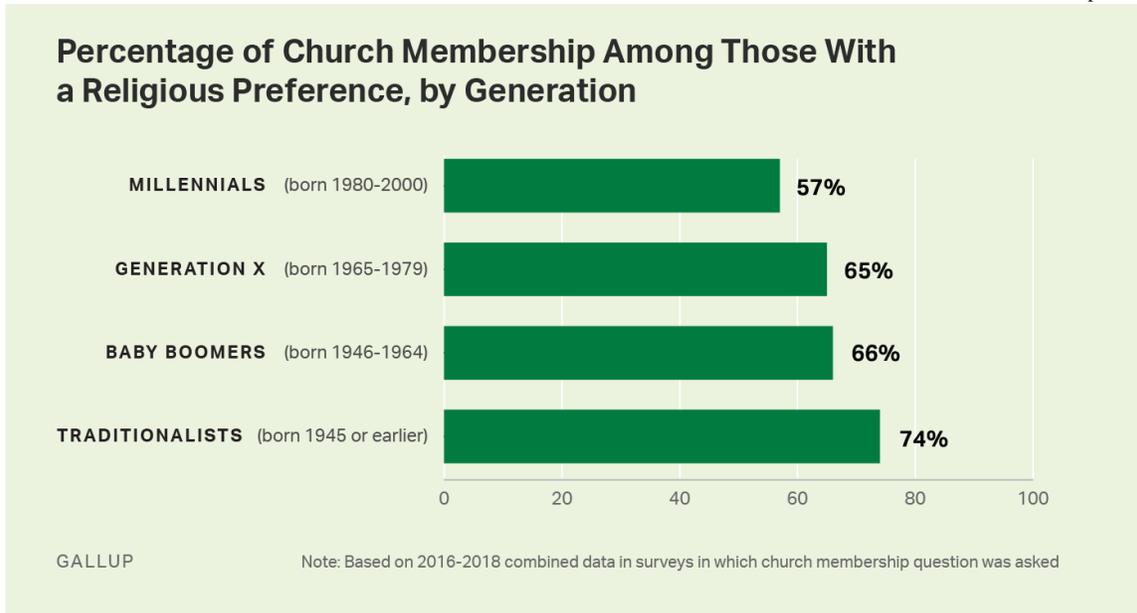
By comparison, 20 years ago, 62% of members of Generation X belonged to a church, when they were about the same age as millennials are today.

The low rates of church membership among millennials conform with the generation's weaker attachment to religion in general. On average, 68% of millennials identify with a religion in the 2016-2018 church membership surveys, while 29% do not. In all other generations, at least 79% have a religious affiliation, with correspondingly lower percentages expressing no faith preference.



The percentage of millennials with no religion may be continuing to grow, as an average of 33% in Gallup surveys conducted in 2019 to date say they have no religious affiliation.

Not only are millennials less likely than older Americans to identify with a religion, but millennials who are religious are significantly less likely to belong to a church. Fifty-seven percent of religious millennials belong to a church, compared with 65% or more in older generations.



The lower rate of church membership among religious millennials appears to be more a product of generational differences than of life-stage effects. In 1998-2000, 68% of Generation X respondents were church members when they were roughly the same age as today's millennials.

Given that church membership, and religiosity in general, is greater among older adults, the emergence of an increasingly secular generation to replace far more religious older generations suggests the decline in U.S. church membership overall will continue.

### Membership Decline Steeper Among Catholics

Gallup has previously reported that [church attendance has dropped more among Catholics](#) than among Protestants. Consistent with this, the decline in church membership has been greater among Catholics. Twenty years ago, 76% of Catholics belonged to a church; now, 63% do.

Meanwhile, 67% of Protestants, down from 73% in 1998-2000, are members of a church. Much of the decline in Protestant membership is attributable to the increasing percentage of Americans who simply identify their religion as "Christian" rather than as a specific Protestant denomination such as Baptist, Lutheran or Methodist. Gallup classifies "Christian" respondents as Protestants but, as might be expected, nondenominational Christians are less likely to belong to a church (57%) than Americans who identify with a specific Protestant denomination (70%).

There are insufficient cases to provide reliable estimates on church membership among other religions, but the data suggest that membership in a place of worship has been stable among Mormons (near 90% in both time periods) and Jews (in the mid- to low 50% range in both time periods) over the past two decades.

In contrast to the variable changes in church membership among generational and faith subgroups, the declines have been fairly similar among most other demographic subgroups. However, the rates have differed by party identification, as Republicans show a relatively modest decline in church membership of eight points since 1998-2000 (from 77% to 69%). In contrast, Democrats show one of the largest subgroup declines, of 23 points, from 71% to 48%.

Full data for subgroups are shown in a table at the bottom of the article.

### **Implications**

Although the United States is one of [the more religious countries, particularly among Western nations](#), it is far less religious than it used to be. Barely three-quarters of Americans now identify with a religion and only about half claim membership in a church, synagogue or mosque.

The rate of U.S. church membership has declined sharply in the past two decades after being relatively stable in the six decades before that. A sharp increase in the proportion of the population with no religious affiliation, a decline in church membership among those who do have a religious preference, and low levels of church membership among millennials are all contributing to the accelerating trend.

The challenge is clear for churches, which depend on loyal and active members to keep them open and thriving. How do they find ways to convince some of the unaffiliated religious adults in society to make a commitment to a particular house of worship of their chosen faith? Roughly one in four U.S. adults are religious but not members of a church, synagogue or mosque.

Church leaders must also grapple with the generational slide away from religion. Millennials are much less likely than their elders to indicate a religious preference, and presumably the nearly one-third of millennials without a religious preference are unlikely to ever join a church. But the roughly two-thirds of millennials who do express a religious preference may one day be convinced to join, perhaps as more get established in their lives, including having families, which can be an impetus to becoming a part of a faith community.

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Another obstacle churches face is Americans' [eroding confidence in the institution of organized religion](#). While organized religion is not the only U.S. institution suffering a loss of confidence, Americans have lost more confidence in it than in most other institutions.

In addition to the ongoing trends toward declining religiosity, Americans who are religious may also be changing their relationship to churches. They may not see a need to, or have a desire to, belong to a church and participate in a community of people with similar religious beliefs.

These trends are not just numbers, but play out in the reality that thousands of U.S. churches are closing each year. Religious Americans in the future will likely be faced with fewer options for places of worship, and likely less convenient ones, which could accelerate the decline in membership even more.

Changes in Church Membership, by Subgroup

	1998-2000	2016-2018	Change
	%	%	pct. pts.
U.S. adults	69	52	-17
<b>Religion</b>			
Catholic	76	63	-13
Protestant ^	73	67	-6
<b>Gender</b>			
Men	64	47	-17
Women	73	58	-15
<b>Age</b>			
18-29 years old	63	41	-22
30-49 years old	65	49	-16
50-64 years old	71	56	-15
65+ years old	79	64	-15
<b>Race/Ethnicity</b>			

	1998-2000	2016-2018	Change
	%	%	pct. pts.
Non-Hispanic white	68	53	-15
Non-Hispanic black	78	65	-13
Hispanic	68	45	-23
<b>Region</b>			
East	69	50	-19
Midwest	72	56	-16
South	74	58	-16
West	57	43	-14
<b>Education</b>			
College graduate	68	55	-13
College nongraduate	69	51	-18
<b>Party ID</b>			
Republican	77	69	-8
Independent	59	45	-14
Democrat	71	48	-23
<b>Ideology</b>			
Conservative	78	67	-11
Moderate	66	48	-18
Liberal	56	37	-19
<b>Marital status</b>			
Married	71	59	-12
Not married	64	45	-19

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	1998-2000	2016-2018	Change
	%	%	pct. pts.

^ Protestants include those who identify their religion as "Christian."

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**Source:** [https://news.gallup.com/poll/248837/church-membership-down-sharply-past-two-decades.aspx?g\\_source=link\\_NEWSV9&g\\_medium=NEWSFEED&g\\_campaign=item\\_&g\\_content=U.S.%2520Church%2520Membership%2520Down%2520Sharply%2520in%2520Past%2520Two%2520Decades](https://news.gallup.com/poll/248837/church-membership-down-sharply-past-two-decades.aspx?g_source=link_NEWSV9&g_medium=NEWSFEED&g_campaign=item_&g_content=U.S.%2520Church%2520Membership%2520Down%2520Sharply%2520in%2520Past%2520Two%2520Decades)

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## Gilani's Gallopedia (2007-2019)

### A Quantitative Analysis

A quantitative analysis of global polls monitored during the 8 year period January 2007 – January 2014

#### KEY STATISTICS

- 1- Number of Surveys (*a selection on key political and social issues*):  $\approx$  6,805 polls during the period 2007-2014
- 2- Subjects of Interest (*we have made a list of 125 subjects, further grouped into 9 broad categories, namely: **Governance, Globalization** (inclusive of global economic issues) **Global Conflicts** (conflict zones), **Global leaders** (USA and Emerging powers), **Global Environment, Family, Religion, and other miscellaneous***)
- 3- Number of **countries** covered by one or more surveys:  $\approx$  178 during the period 2007-2014
- 4- Number **polling organizations** whose polls have been cited:  $\approx$  358 during the period 2007-2014

