

# Gallopedia

From **Gilani Research Foundation**

**October** 2012, issue # **245\***

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 Mohammad Zubair and Sara Salam.

Gilani's Gallopedia is in a way the 'wikipedia' for global polling. We plan to make it an interactive platform where you are both *reader* and *contributor*. ❖

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## INSIDE THIS ISSUE

THIS WEEK'S REPORT CONSISTS OF **26** NATIONAL & MULTI COUNTRY SURVEYS. **12** POLLING ORGANIZATIONS HAVE BEEN REPRESENTED.

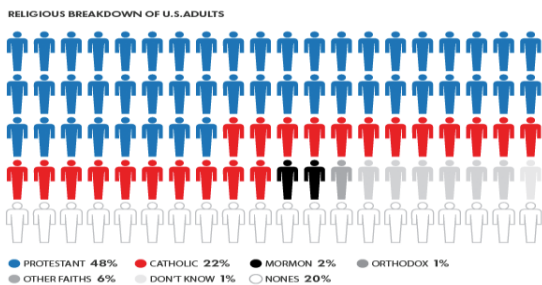
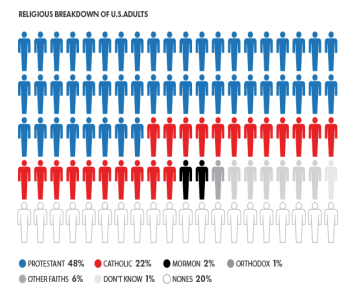
Pg **2** **Asia** zone  
this week- **02** national polls



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Pg **8** **Topic of the week-**  
**"Nones" on the Rise**

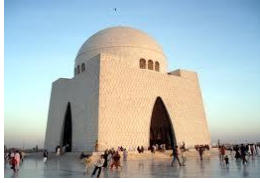


**Topic of the week:** (Click for details)

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 [sara.salam@gilanifoundation.com](mailto:sara.salam@gilanifoundation.com)



## Asia zone

► MIDDLE EAST & NORTH AFRICA; WEST ASIA; SOUTH ASIA; NORTH ASIA; EAST ASIA

### ► MIDDLE EAST & NORTH AFRICA



#### 245-1 **Palestinians Seem Disappointed by Palestinian Authority & Oslo Accord** [\(Click for Details\)](#)

**(Palestine)** A recent survey of Palestinian show that almost half (47 percent) of Palestinians want Palestinian Authority to be abolished or (38 percent want) the basic principles of PA be amended. Around seven in ten (67 percent) believe that Israel is the primary beneficiary of Oslo Accord and half of the respondents want to bring an end to it. **(An Najah University)**

October 11, 2012

[2.3 Foreign Affairs & Security » Palestine/ Israel Conflict](#)

### ► NORTHEAST ASIA

#### 245-2 **International Trends: South Korea 2012 Partners** [\(Click for Details\)](#)

**(South Korea)** A recent survey noted that South Koreans have mixed reactions about the relations with various states. Forty-four percent of South Koreans described U.S.-Korea relations as being good, 51% described relations as mixed, and 5% said that relations were bad. When asked about EU-Korea relations, only 29% described relations as good and 63% described them as mixed. **(ASAN/GMF)**

October 10, 2012

[1.5 Domestic Politics » National Image/ Trust](#)



## Euro Americas zone

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

### EUROPE

#### ► EAST EUROPE

#### 245-3 **Russia: Insulting Believers** [\(Click for Details\)](#)

**(Russia)** Every fifth Russians knows about cases of insulting of religious feelings in Russia. The share of those who support the initiative to toughen the punishment for such actions is 82%. **(Russian Public Opinion Research Center)**

September 26, 2012

[4.1 Society » Religion](#)



245-4 **Russia: Results Of Tourist Summer-2012** (Click for Details)

(Russia) During the 2012 summer season 20% of adult Russians have traveled far from their homes. The most popular way to spend summer vacations is visiting cities of Russia or Russian Black Sea Coast (domestic tourism). The average sum of money spent on vacations is 15% more than a year ago. (Russian Public Opinion Research Center)

September 27, 2012

[4.7 Society » Morality, Values & Customs / Lifestyle](#)

▶ **WEST EUROPE**245-5 **UK: The Olympics legacy** (Click for Details)

(UK) A recent survey in Great Britain has found that respondents are hugely positive about the Games with 96% believing that they have had a positive effect on the image of the UK internationally. They are also very positive about the legacy left by the Games: two thirds believe that they delivered a 'Sporting inspiration for young Britons', and also the successful 'Regeneration of a deprived part of London'. (Yougov)

October 13, 2012

[1.5 Domestic Politics » National Image/ Trust](#)

[4.15 Society » Sports](#)

245-6 **Britons pick their 007 favourites** (Click for Details)

(UK) MI5 super-spy James Bond is celebrating his 50th anniversary by adding another film, Skyfall, to the massively successful and world famous film franchise. Bond has been played by six actors, each film has featured theme song and of course there have also been countless Bond girls. Casino Royale (2006), starring current Bond Daniel Craig, was the number one favourite Bond film for Britons, with 11% choosing it over all others. Third ever Bond film Goldfinger (1964) came in second place, with 7% of the public choosing it as their favourite. (Yougov)

October 08, 2012

[4.16 Society » Entertainment](#)

245-7 **Labour Holds Twelve-Point Lead Over Conservatives in Britain** (Click for Details)

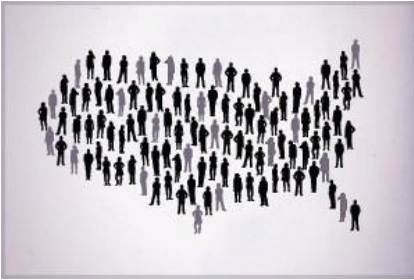
(UK) The Labour Party maintains the upper hand in Britain's political scene, a new Angus Reid Public Opinion poll conducted in partnership with the Sunday Express has found. The Liberal Democrats drop to single digits and are now tied with the United Kingdom Independence Party. (Angus Reid)

October 14, 2012

[1.4 Domestic Politics » Political Parties](#)

## AMERICAS

### ► NORTH AMERICA



245-8 **“Nones” on the Rise** ([Click for Details](#))

(US) The number of Americans who do not identify with any religion continues to grow at a rapid pace. One-fifth of the U.S. public – and a third of adults under 30 – are religiously unaffiliated today, the highest percentages ever in Pew Research Center polling. ([Pew Research Center](#))  
October 9, 2012

[1.1 Domestic Politics » Elections](#)

245-9 **Public Less Negative About Economic News** ([Click for Details](#))

(US) Americans are hearing less negative news about the nation’s economy than they were just a month ago, and perceptions of news about other economic sectors – notably, the job situation – have improved as well.

([Pew Research Center](#))

October 10, 2012

[3.1 Economy » Perceptions on Performance/ Well-Being](#)

[3.2 Economy » Consumer Confidence/Protection](#)

245-10 **Deep Divisions over Debt Reduction Proposals** ([Click for Details](#))

(US) Public concern over the debt and deficit, already extensive, is only likely to increase as the so-called “fiscal cliff” approaches at the end of the year. Yet among a dozen specific options for reducing the debt and deficit, only two win majority approval from the public – raising taxes on annual incomes over \$250,000 (64% approve) and limiting corporate tax deductions (58%). ([Pew Research Center](#))

October 12, 2012

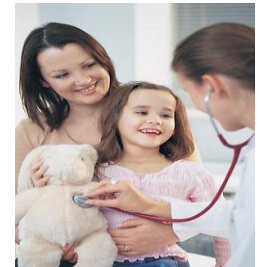
[3.9 Economy » Financial systems & Institutions](#)

245-11 **Americans Who Like Where They Live Are in Better Health** ([Click for Details](#))

(US) Americans who are either satisfied with their community or feel that their community is becoming a better place to live have Physical Health Index scores that are roughly nine points higher than score for Americans who are not satisfied with their communities or feel that their community is becoming a worse place to live. ([Gallup USA](#))

October 12, 2012

[4.11 Society » Health](#)



245-12 **Most Americans Believe Majorities in Egypt, Libya, Did Not Support Attacks** ([Click for Details](#))

(US) Majorities of Americans say that the attacks against American embassies in Egypt and Libya on September 11, 2012, were supported only by extremist minorities--not by majorities of the population (63% for Egypt, 61% for Libya). ([PIPA](#))

October 8, 2012

[2.5 Foreign Affairs & Security » Regional Conflicts/ Issues](#)

[2.10 Foreign Affairs & Security » Military Issues/ Defence](#)

245-13 **Americans' Views of Obama More Polarized as Election Nears** (Click for Details)

(US) Thus far in October, an average of 90% of Democrats, and 8% of Republicans, approve of the job Barack Obama is doing as president. That 82-percentage-point gap in approval ratings by party is on pace to be the largest Gallup has measured for a recent incumbent president in the final month before Americans vote on his re-election. George W. Bush had an 80-point party gap in approval, while the October gaps for other presidents were less than 70 points. (Gallup USA)

October 12, 2012

1.2 Domestic Politics » Performance Ratings

245-14 **Latino Voters Support Obama by 3-1 Ratio, But Are Less Certain than Others about Voting** (Click for Details)

(US) Latino registered voters prefer President Barack Obama over Republican challenger Mitt Romney by 69% to 21% and express growing satisfaction with the direction of the nation and the state of their personal finances but are somewhat less certain than non-Hispanics that they will vote in this election, according to a new nationwide survey of 1,765 Latinos. The survey was conducted from September 7 to October 4, 2012, by the Pew Hispanic Center, a project of the Pew Research Center. (Pew Research Center)

October 11, 2012

1.2 Domestic Politics » Performance Ratings

245-15 **Americans Now Say Gov't Should Not Favor Any Set of Values** (Click for Details)

(US) For the first time, Gallup finds a majority of Americans, 52%, saying the government should not favor any set of values in society, while 44% believe it should promote traditional values. From 1993 through 2004, the majority of Americans consistently favored the government's promoting of traditional values, but views have since been more mixed. (Gallup USA)

October 10, 2012

1.3 Domestic Politics » Governance

245-16 **Romney Narrows Vote Gap After Historic Debate Win** (Click for Details)

(US) Registered voters' preferences for president are evenly split in the first three days of Gallup tracking since last Wednesday's presidential debate. In the three days prior to the debate, Barack Obama had a five-percentage-point edge among registered voters. (Gallup USA)

October 8, 2012

1.2 Domestic Politics » Performance Ratings

245-17 **Obama and Romney Are Tied as U.S. Presidential Election Nears** (Click for Details)

(US) Barack Obama and Mitt Romney head to the final weeks of the American presidential campaign with the same level of support, a new Angus Reid Public Opinion poll has found. Since September, the incumbent president has lost ground among women and voters aged 35-to-54. (Angus Reid)

October 12, 2012

1.1 Domestic Politics » Elections

## ► AUSTRALASIA



245-18 **What makes Australians React to car TV commercials?** (Click for Details)

(Australia) Hundreds of Australians have given their *Reactions* to some of Australia's most frequently aired car ads on TV. Commercials for Holden, Honda, Hyundai, Mitsubishi, Renault, Subaru and Volkswagen were tested with the Roy Morgan *Reactor*, the proven ad testing technology that captures the second-by-second *reactions* of people who score the appeal of the ads with the *Reactor* slider-bar on their computer or smartphone. (Roy Morgan)

October 12, 2012

4.7 Society » Morality, Values & Customs / Lifestyle

## ► MULTI-COUNTRY SURVEYS

245-19 **Women Worldwide Less Confident Than Men in Elections** (Click for Details)

Women worldwide are less confident than men in the honesty of elections, according to Gallup surveys in 125 countries in 2011. Forty-six percent of women say they are confident in the elections in their countries, compared with 48% of men. Confidence is greatest in high-income countries, but so is the gender gap, with 53% of women expressing confidence versus 61% of men. (Gallup USA)

October 11, 2012

4.5 Society » Gender Issues



245-20 **Global vs National Business: Interpreting the Gap in Trust** (Click for Details)

In a slowing global economy, many nations are aiming to out-compete their rivals and offer a more attractive environment for global companies to operate in. But GlobeScan's most recent tracking illustrates that there may be cultural factors for countries to contend with. Citizens sometimes perceive national and global companies in a different light. (Globescan)

October 12, 2012

3.8 Economy » Enterprise/ Investments

245-21 **Canadians Confident on Economy; Americans and Britons Despondent** (Click for Details)

Canadians are decidedly more confident about the state of their country's finances than people in the United States and Britain, a new Angus Reid Public Opinion poll has found. While most people in Canada are satisfied with the state of their own personal finances, those in the U.S. and Britain hold negative views. (Angus Reid)

October 10, 2012

3.1 Economy » Perceptions on Performance/ Well-Being

**245-22 Nurses, Doctors Are Most Respected Jobs in Canada, U.S. and Britain**[\(Click for Details\)](#)

Nurses and doctors continue to be well regarded by people in Canada, the United States and Britain, a new Angus Reid Public Opinion poll has found. Less than three-in-ten respondents in the three countries express respect for politicians.

**(Angus Reid)**

October 02, 2012

[4.7 Society » Morality, Values & Customs / Lifestyle](#)**► CYBERWORLD****245-23 Email Scams, Phishing Widespread in Britain, Canada and U.S** [\(Click for Details\)](#)

More than four-in-five people in Britain, Canada and the United States have endured email scams, phishing, viruses and even hacking when they use computers, a new Angus Reid Public Opinion poll has found. Practically one-in-five respondents in the three countries admit their email address has been hacked. **(Angus Reid)**

October 04, 2012

[3.11 Economy » Science & Technology](#)**245-24 Russia: Why Do We Need The Internet?** [\(Click for Details\)](#)

**(Russia)** The share of Russians who use the Internet keeps rising. Currently this proportion makes up 60% of Russians; 40% use the Internet every day (a year ago – 30%). Simultaneously, the share of those who do not use the Internet is decreasing (from 50 to 40% over a year). Russians use the Internet in search for news, information, communication, and music. **(Russian Public Opinion Research Center)**

September 25, 2012

[4.6 Society » Media/ New Media](#)[4.7 Society » Morality, Values & Customs / Lifestyle](#)**245-25 Brazil: Growing audience of on-demand videos sites** [\(Click for Details\)](#)

**(Brazil)** According to IBOPE Nielsen Online, in August, the consolidated hearing on-demand videos sites (video on demand) was 4.3 million unique users – 8.5% of total Internet users who sailed from home or from work during the period. In the same period from 2011, this group was 2.8 million, an increase of 53.6%. **(IBOPE Nielsen)**

October 10, 2012

[4.16 Society » Entertainment](#)**245-26 The State of the 2012 Election — Mobile Politics** [\(Click for Details\)](#)

**(US)** As of late September, 88% of registered voters own a cell phone of some kind—and significant numbers of these voters are using their mobile devices to get information about the 2012 election, to interact with the campaigns, and to converse with other voters about political issues. **(Pew Research Center)**

October 09, 2012

[3.12 Economy » IT & Telecom](#)

## Topic of the week:

### "Nones" on the Rise

► 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.

#### One-in-Five Adults Have No Religious Affiliation

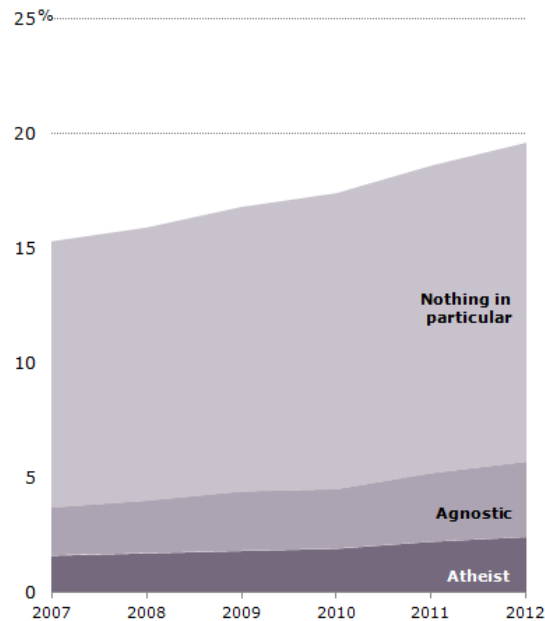
POLL October 9, 2012



The number of Americans who do not identify with any religion continues to grow at a rapid pace. One-fifth of the U.S. public – and a third of adults under 30 – are religiously unaffiliated today, the highest percentages ever in Pew Research Center polling.

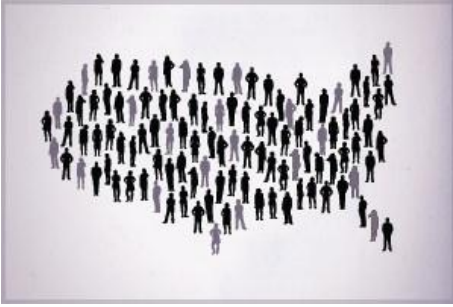
In the last five years alone, the unaffiliated have increased from just over 15% to just under 20% of all U.S. adults. Their ranks now include more than 13 million self-described atheists and agnostics (nearly 6% of the U.S. public), as well as nearly 33 million people who say they have no particular religious affiliation (14%).<sup>3</sup>

#### Growth of the Religiously Unaffiliated



Source: Aggregated data from surveys conducted by the Pew Research Center for the People & the Press, 2007-July 2012.

PEW RESEARCH CENTER



This large and growing group of Americans is less religious than the public at large on many conventional measures, including frequency of attendance at religious services and the degree of importance they attach to religion in their lives.

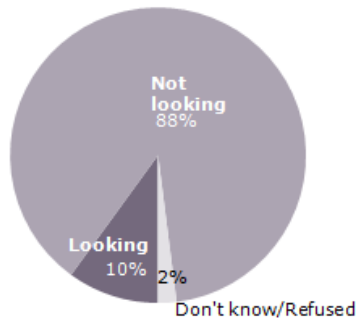
However, a new survey by the Pew Research Center's Forum on Religion & Public Life, conducted jointly with the PBS television program Religion & Ethics NewsWeekly, finds that many of the country's 46 million unaffiliated adults are religious or spiritual in some way. Two-thirds of them say they believe in God (68%). More than half say they often feel a deep connection with nature and the earth (58%), while more than a third classify themselves as "spiritual" but not "religious" (37%), and one-in-five (21%) say they pray every day. In addition, most religiously unaffiliated Americans think that churches and other religious institutions benefit society by strengthening community bonds and aiding the poor.

With few exceptions, though, the unaffiliated say they are *not* looking for a religion that would be right for them. Overwhelmingly, they think that religious organizations are too concerned with money and power, too focused on rules and too involved in politics.

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**Are You Looking For a Religion that Would be Right for You?**

*Among those who identify their religion as "nothing in particular," % who say they are ...*



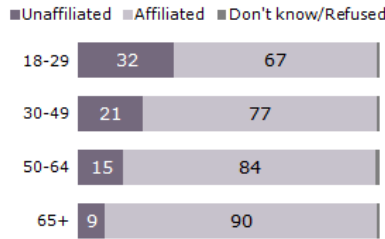
Source: Pew Research Center survey, June 28-July 9, 2012. Q72. Based on those who say their religion is "nothing in particular."

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The growth in the number of religiously unaffiliated Americans – sometimes called the rise of the “nones” – is largely driven by generational replacement, the gradual supplanting of older generations by newer ones.<sup>4</sup> A third of adults under 30 have no religious affiliation (32%), compared with just one-in-ten who are 65 and older (9%). And young adults today are much more likely to be unaffiliated than previous generations were at a similar stage in their lives.

**Religious Affiliation by Age**



Source: Aggregated data from surveys conducted by the Pew Research Center for the People & the Press, January-July 2012.

PEW RESEARCH CENTER

These generational differences are consistent with other signs of a gradual softening of religious commitment among some (though by no means all) Americans in recent decades. Pew Research Center surveys conducted over the last 10 years, for example, find modest growth in the number of people who say they seldom or never attend religious services, as well as a declining number who say they never doubt the existence of God.

In addition to religious behavior, the way that Americans talk about their connection to religion seems to be changing. Increasingly, Americans describe their religious affiliation in terms that more closely match their level of involvement in churches and other religious organizations. In 2007, 60% of those who said they seldom or never attend religious services nevertheless described themselves as belonging to a particular religious tradition. In 2012, just 50% of those who say they seldom or never attend religious services still retain a religious affiliation – a 10-point drop in five years. These trends suggest that the ranks of the unaffiliated are swelling in surveys partly because Americans who rarely go to services are more willing than in the past to drop their religious attachments altogether.

**Share of Infrequent Churchgoers Who Describe Themselves as Unaffiliated Has Been Growing**

*Among those who attend religious services...*

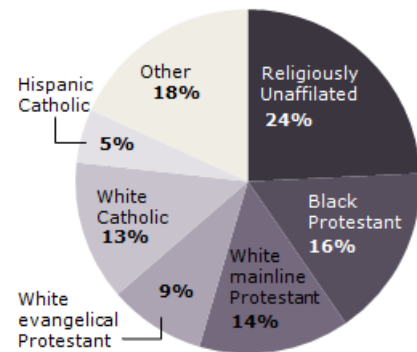
	Seldom/never		At least yearly	
	2007	2012	2007	2012
% who say they are...	%	%	%	%
Religiously Unaffiliated	38	49	7	8
Affiliated	60	50	92	91
Don't know	3	1	1	1
	100	100	100	100
<i>Share of total pop.</i>	27%	29%	71%	70%

Source: Aggregated data from surveys conducted by the Pew Research Center for the People & the Press, 2007 and 2012.

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With their rising numbers, the religiously unaffiliated are an increasingly important segment of the electorate. In the 2008 presidential election, they voted as heavily for Barack Obama as white evangelical Protestants did for John McCain. More than six-in-ten religiously unaffiliated registered voters are Democrats (39%) or lean toward the Democratic Party (24%). They are about twice as likely to describe themselves as political liberals than as conservatives, and solid majorities support legal abortion (72%) and same-sex marriage (73%). In the last five years, the unaffiliated have risen from 17% to 24% of all registered voters who are Democrats or lean Democratic. (See religious groupings in pie chart below.)

**Religious Composition of Democratic/Democratic-Leaning Registered Voters**



Source: Aggregated data from surveys conducted by the Pew Research Center for the People & the Press, January-July 2012. Based on registered voters. Whites and blacks include only those who are not Hispanic; Hispanics are of any race. "Other" includes Protestants and Catholics of a race or ethnic group not shown and those affiliated with other religions.

PEW RESEARCH CENTER

This report includes findings from a nationwide survey by the Pew Research Center, conducted June 28-July 9, 2012, using both landlines and cell phones, among a representative sample of 2,973 adults. In partnership with Religion & Ethics NewsWeekly, the Pew Forum conducted an additional 511 interviews with religiously unaffiliated adults between June 28 and July 10, producing a total sample of 958 religiously unaffiliated respondents in the new survey.

To help paint a full portrait of religiously unaffiliated Americans, the Pew Forum also aggregated and analyzed data on this large and growing population from prior Pew Research Center surveys.

In addition, this report contains capsule summaries of some leading theories put forward by scholars in an attempt to explain the root causes of the rise of the "nones." These theories run the gamut from a backlash against the entanglement of religion and politics to a global relationship between economic development and secularization. While Pew Research Center surveys are unlikely to settle the debate, they may help to rule out some misconceptions about the unaffiliated. For example, the surveys show that religious affiliation is declining among Americans who do not have college degrees, as well as among college graduates, which suggests that the trend is not solely a result of attitudes toward religion on college campuses. Nor, as the new

Pew Research Center/Religion & Ethics NewsWeekly survey shows, are the unaffiliated composed largely of religious “seekers” who are looking for a spiritual home and have not found it yet.

### Ranks of the Religiously Unaffiliated Continue To Grow

In 2007 Pew Research Center surveys, 15.3% of U.S. adults answered a question about their current religion by saying they were atheist, agnostic or “nothing in particular.” The number of religiously unaffiliated respondents has ticked up each year since, and now stands at 19.6%.

#### Trends in Religious Affiliation, 2007-2012

	2007	2008	2009	2010	2011	2012	07-12 Change
	%	%	%	%	%	%	
<b>Christian</b>	<b>78</b>	<b>77</b>	<b>77</b>	<b>76</b>	<b>75</b>	<b>73</b>	-5
Protestant	53	52	51	51	50	48	-5
White evang.	21	19	20	19	18	19	-2
White mainline	18	18	17	17	17	15	-3
Black Protestant	8	8	9	9	9	8	--
Other minority Prot.	6	6	6	6	6	6	--
Catholic	23	22	23	23	23	22	-1
Mormon	2	2	2	2	2	2	--
Orthodox	1	1	1	1	1	1	--
<b>Other faith</b>	<b>4</b>	<b>5</b>	<b>5</b>	<b>5</b>	<b>5</b>	<b>6</b>	+2
<b>Unaffiliated</b>	<b>15.3</b>	<b>16.0</b>	<b>16.8</b>	<b>17.4</b>	<b>18.6</b>	<b>19.6</b>	+4.3
Atheist	1.6	1.7	1.8	1.9	2.2	2.4	+0.8
Agnostic	2.1	2.3	2.6	2.6	3.0	3.3	+1.2
Nothing in particular	11.6	11.9	12.4	12.9	13.4	13.9	+2.3
<b>Don't know</b>	<b>2</b>	<b>2</b>	<b>2</b>	<b>2</b>	<b>1</b>	<b>2</b>	--
	<b>100</b>	<b>100</b>	<b>100</b>	<b>100</b>	<b>100</b>	<b>100</b>	

N 9,443,290,35 22,159 24,764 19,377 17,010

Source: Aggregated data from surveys conducted by the Pew Research Center for the People & the Press, 2007-2012. In the change column, figures that are statistically significant are shown in bold. Figures may not add to 100% due to rounding.

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

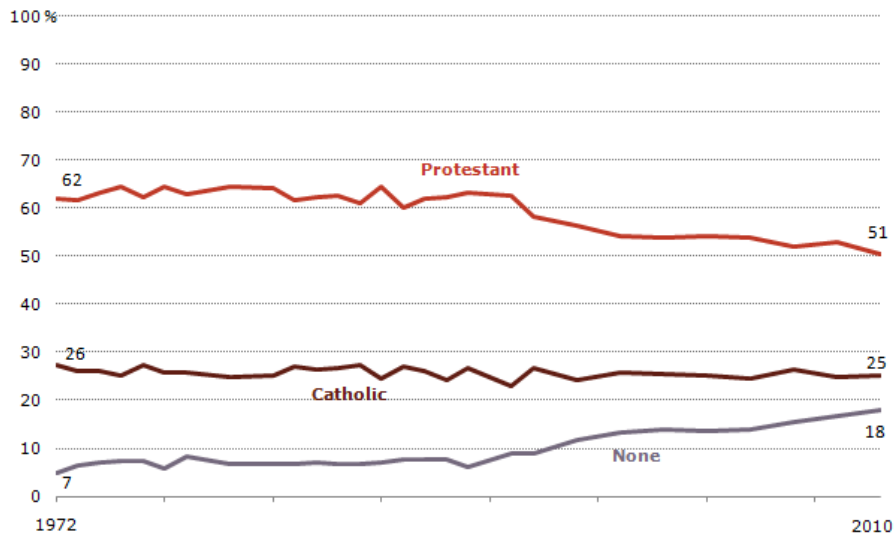
PEW RESEARCH CENTER

While the ranks of the unaffiliated have grown significantly over the past five years, the Protestant share of the population has shrunk. In 2007, 53% of adults in Pew Research Center surveys described themselves as Protestants. In surveys conducted in the first half of 2012, fewer than half of American adults say they are Protestant (48%). This marks the first time in Pew Research Center surveys that the Protestant share of the population has dipped significantly below 50%.

The decline is concentrated among white Protestants, both evangelical and mainline. Currently, 19% of U.S. adults identify themselves as white, born-again or evangelical Protestants, down slightly from 21% in 2007.

And 15% of adults describe themselves as white Protestants but say they are not born-again or evangelical Christians, down from 18% in 2007.<sup>5</sup> There has been no change in minority Protestants' share of the population over the past five years.

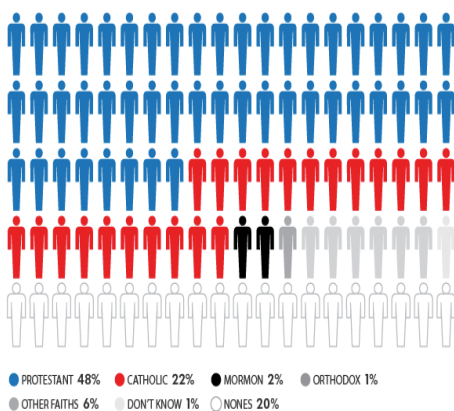
**Long-Term Trends in Religious Affiliation**



Source: General Social Surveys, 1972-2010. Other religious affiliations and those who did not give an answer are not shown.  
PEW RESEARCH CENTER

These findings represent a continuation of long-term trends.<sup>6</sup> The General Social Surveys (GSS), conducted by the National Opinion Research Center at the University of Chicago for roughly four decades, show that the number of religiously unaffiliated adults remained below 10% from the 1970s through the early 1990s. The percentage of religiously unaffiliated respondents began to rise noticeably in the 1990s and stood at 18% in the 2010 GSS.

RELIGIOUS BREAKDOWN OF U.S. ADULTS



The Protestant share of the population, by contrast, has been declining since the early 1990s. In the GSS, about six-in-ten adults identified as Protestants in the 1970s and 1980s. By 2000, however, 54% of GSS respondents were Protestant. And in the 2010 GSS, 51% of respondents identified themselves as Protestants.

The Catholic share of the population has been roughly steady over this period, in part because of immigration from Latin America.<sup>7</sup>

**What Is Behind the Growth of the Religiously Unaffiliated?**

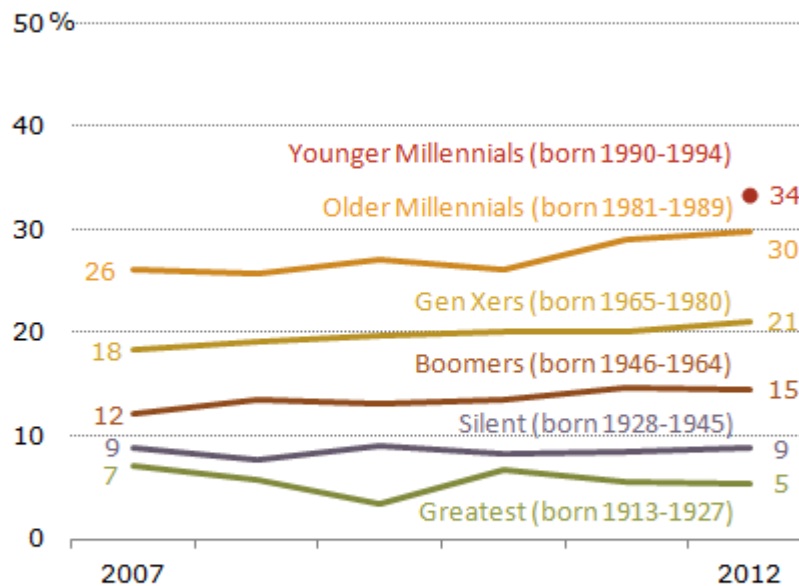
*Generational Replacement*

One important factor behind the growth of the religiously unaffiliated is generational replacement, the gradual supplanting of older generations by newer ones. Among the youngest Millennials (those ages 18-22, who were minors in 2007 and thus not eligible to be interviewed in Pew Research Center surveys conducted that year), fully one-third (34%) are religiously unaffiliated, compared with about one-in-ten members of the Silent Generation (9%) and one-in-twenty members of the World War II-era Greatest Generation (5%). Older Millennials (ages 23-30) also are substantially less likely than prior generations to be religiously affiliated.

But generational replacement is not the only factor at play. Generation Xers and Baby Boomers also have become more religiously unaffiliated in recent years. In 2012, 21% of Gen Xers and 15% of Baby Boomers describe themselves as religiously unaffiliated, up slightly (but by statistically significant margins) from 18% and 12%, respectively, since 2007. The trend lines for earlier generations are essentially flat. Not only are young adults less likely to be affiliated than their elders, but the GSS shows that the percentage of Americans who were raised without an affiliation has been rising gradually, from about 3% in the early 1970s to about 8% in the past decade. However, the overwhelming majority of the “nones” were brought up in a religious tradition. The new Pew Research Center/Religion & Ethics NewsWeekly survey finds that about three-quarters of unaffiliated adults were raised with some affiliation (74%).

### Recent Trends in Affiliation, by Generation

*% of each age cohort that is unaffiliated*



Source: Aggregated data from surveys conducted by the Pew Research Center for the People & the Press, 2007-2012.

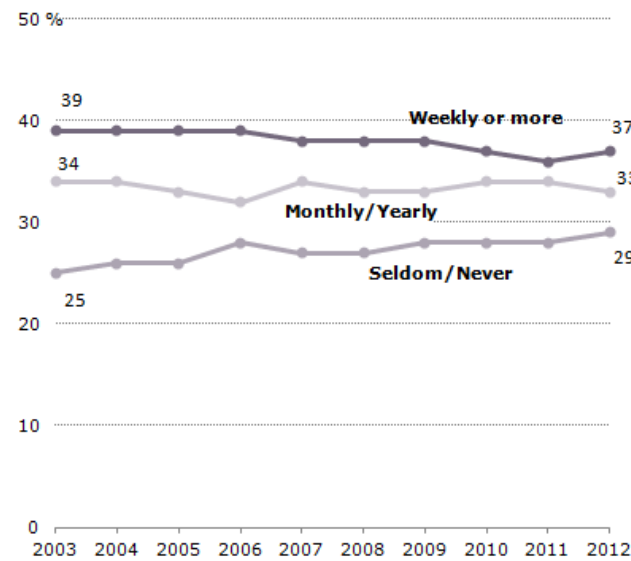
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*Some Evidence of Decline in Religious Commitment in the U.S. Public*

The continued growth of the religiously unaffiliated is one of several indicators suggesting that the U.S. public gradually may be growing less religious. To be sure, the United States remains a highly religious country – particularly by comparison with other advanced industrial democracies – and some measures of religious commitment in America have held remarkably steady over the years. The number of Americans who currently say religion is very important in their lives (58%), for instance, is little changed since 2007 (61%) and is far higher than in Britain (17%), France (13%), Germany (21%) or Spain (22%).<sup>108</sup> And over the longer term, Pew Research surveys find no change in the percentage of Americans who say that prayer is an important part of their daily life; it is 76% in 2012, the same as it was 25 years ago, in 1987.

But on some other key measures, there is evidence of a gradual decline in religious commitment. In 2003, for instance, 25% of U.S. adults indicated they seldom or never attend religious services. By 2012, that number had ticked up 4 points, to 29%.

**Religious Attendance of U.S. Adults, 2003-2012**

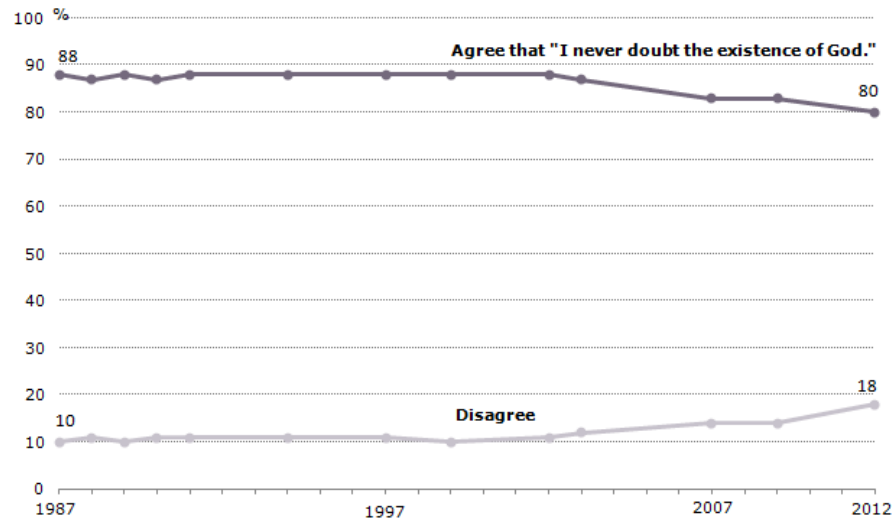


Source: Aggregated data from surveys conducted by the Pew Research Center for the People & the Press, 2003-2012.

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Similarly, the percentage of Americans who say they never doubt the existence of God has fallen modestly but noticeably over the past 25 years. In 1987, 88% of adults said they never doubt the existence of God. As of 2012, this figure was down 8 percentage points to 80%.

**Declining Share Say They "Never Doubt" the Existence of God**



Source: Surveys conducted by the Pew Research Center for the People & the Press, 1987-2012.  
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In addition, the percentage of Americans who say the Bible should be taken literally has fallen in Gallup polls from an average of about 38% of the public in the late 1970s and early 1980s to an average of 31% since.<sup>2</sup> And based on analysis of GSS data, Mark Chaves of Duke University has found that Americans born in recent decades are much less likely than their elders to report having attended religious services weekly at age 12. Young adults are also less likely than older adults to report that when they were growing up, their parents attended religious services regularly.

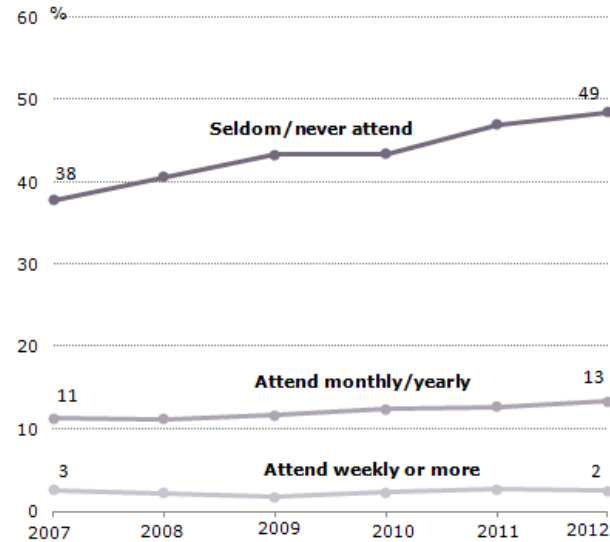
Chaves recently summarized trends in American religion by asserting that "... there is much continuity, and there is some decline, but no traditional religious belief or practice has increased in recent decades."

*Less Religious Americans Increasingly Say They Have No Affiliation*

Part of the reason that the ranks of the unaffiliated have grown in recent years is that Americans who are not particularly religious – at least by conventional measures, such as self-reported rates of attendance at religious services – increasingly describe themselves as atheist, agnostic or "nothing in particular."

**Trends in Disaffiliation, by Religious Attendance**

% of each attendance category that is unaffiliated



Source: Aggregated data from surveys conducted by the Pew Research Center for the People & the Press, 2007-2012.

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In 2007, 38% of people who said they seldom or never attend religious services described themselves as religiously unaffiliated. In 2012, 49% of infrequent attenders eschew any religious affiliation. By comparison, the percentage describing themselves as unaffiliated has been flat among those who attend religious services once a week or more often.

Over this same period (2007-2012), change in self-reported levels of religious attendance has been relatively modest. In 2007, 38% of U.S. adults reported attending religious services weekly. Today, the figure is 37%. And although there has been a four-point uptick over the past decade in the number saying they seldom or never attend services, the change over the past five years has been more modest (from 27% saying they seldom or never attend in 2007 to 29% in 2012).

Summarizing these trends from another angle, the religiously unaffiliated population is increasingly composed of people who rarely or never attend religious services. In 2007, 68% of religiously unaffiliated Americans said they seldom or never attend religious services. As of 2012, this figure has risen slightly but significantly to 72%. Over the same period, the share of religiously affiliated adults who seldom or never attend religious services has declined slightly.<sup>11</sup>

### Worship Attendance Among the Unaffiliated and Affiliated

	Unaffiliated		Affiliated	
	2007	2012	2007	2012
<i>Attends worship services...</i>	%	%	%	%
Weekly or more	7	5	44	45
Monthly/Yearly	25	22	35	36
Seldom/Never	68	72	20	18
Don't know	1	1	1	1
	100	100	100	100
N	1,304	2,942	7,933	13,821

Source: Aggregated data from surveys conducted by the Pew Research Center for the People & the Press, 2007 and 2012. Figures may not add to 100% due to rounding.

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### Who Are the Unaffiliated?

#### *Demographically Broad-Based*

The growth of the unaffiliated has taken place across a wide variety of demographic groups. The percentage of unaffiliated respondents has ticked up among men and women, college graduates and those without a college degree, people earning \$75,000 or more and those making less than \$30,000 annually, and residents of all major regions of the country.

## Trends in Religious Disaffiliation, by Demographic Groups

*% who describe themselves as religiously unaffiliated among ...*

	2007	2012	Change
	%	%	
<b>U.S. general public</b>	15.3	19.6	<b>+4.3</b>
Men	18	23	<b>+5</b>
Women	13	17	<b>+4</b>
White	15	20	<b>+5</b>
Black	13	15	+2
Hispanic	16	16	--
College grad+	17	21	<b>+4</b>
College grad	15	22	<b>+7</b>
Post-grad	19	20	+1
Some college or less	15	19	<b>+4</b>
\$75,000+	16	21	<b>+5</b>
\$30,000-\$74,999	15	20	<b>+5</b>
<\$30,000	17	20	<b>+3</b>
Married	14	14	--
Not married	20	24	<b>+4</b>
Northeast	15	21	<b>+6</b>
Midwest	15	19	<b>+4</b>
South	12	15	<b>+3</b>
West	21	26	<b>+5</b>

Source: Aggregated data from surveys conducted by the Pew Research Center for the People & the Press, 2007 and 2012. Hispanic figures based only on surveys that included Spanish interviewing. Changes that are statistically significant are shown in bold.

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When it comes to race, however, the recent change has been concentrated in one group: whites. One-fifth of (non-Hispanic) whites now describe themselves as religiously unaffiliated, up five percentage points since 2007. By contrast, the share of blacks and Hispanics who are religiously unaffiliated has not changed by a statistically significant margin in recent years.

### *Beliefs and Practices*

In terms of their religious beliefs and practices, the unaffiliated are a diverse group, and far from uniformly secular. Just 5% say they attend worship services on a weekly basis. But one-third of the unaffiliated say religion is at least somewhat important in their lives. Two-thirds believe in God (though less than half say they are absolutely certain of God's existence). And although a substantial minority of the unaffiliated consider

themselves neither religious nor spiritual (42%), the majority describe themselves either as a religious person (18%) or as spiritual but not religious (37%).

**Unaffiliated, But Not Uniformly Secular**

	U.S. general public	Unaffil- iated	Affil- iated
<i>How important is religion in your life?</i>	%	%	%
Very important	58	14	67
Somewhat	22	19	24
Not too/not at all	18	65	8
Don't know/refused	<u>1</u>	<u>1</u>	<u>*</u>
	100	100	100
<i>Believe in God or universal spirit?</i>			
Yes, absolutely certain	69	30	77
Yes, but less certain	23	38	20
No	7	27	2
Other/don't know	<u>2</u>	<u>5</u>	<u>1</u>
	100	100	100
<i>Frequency of prayer</i>			
Daily	58	21	66
Weekly/monthly	21	20	22
Seldom/never	19	58	11
Don't know	<u>2</u>	<u>1</u>	<u>1</u>
	100	100	100
<i>Think of self as...</i>			
Religious person	65	18	75
Spiritual but not religious	18	37	15
Neither spiritual nor religious	15	42	8
Don't know	<u>2</u>	<u>2</u>	<u>1</u>
	100	100	100

Source: Pew Research Center survey, June 28-July 9, 2012. Q50, Q53-54, Q52, Q97a-b. Figures may not add to 100% due to rounding.

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The unaffiliated also are not uniformly hostile toward religious institutions. They are much more likely than the public overall to say that churches and other religious organizations are too concerned with money and power, too focused on rules, and too involved in politics. But at the same time, a majority of the religiously unaffiliated clearly think that religion can be a force for good in society, with three-quarters saying religious organizations bring people together and help strengthen community bonds (78%) and a similar number saying religious organizations play an important role in helping the poor and needy (77%).

**Views of Religious Institutions**

*% who agree that churches and other religious organizations ...*

	U.S.		
	general public	Unaffiliated	Affiliated
	%	%	%
Are too concerned w/money and power	51	70	47
Focus too much on rules	51	67	47
Are too involved w/politics	46	67	41
Bring people together/strengthen community bonds	88	78	90
Play important role in helping poor and needy	87	77	90
Protect and strengthen morality	76	52	81

Source: Pew Research Center survey, June 28-July 9, 2012. Q73a-g. Responses of disagree and those who did not give an answer are not shown.

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The religiously unaffiliated population is less convinced that religious institutions help protect morality; just half say this, considerably lower than the share of the general public that views churches and other religious organizations as defenders of morality (52% vs. 76%).

Two-thirds of Americans, including 63% of the religiously unaffiliated, say religion as a whole is losing its influence on American life. A large majority of those who think religion's influence is on the decline see this as a bad thing. But those who describe their religion as "nothing in particular" are less inclined to view religion's declining influence as a bad thing. And atheists and agnostics overwhelmingly view religion's declining influence as a good thing for society.

## Differing Views over the Impact of Religion's Influence on Society

*Is religion increasing or losing its influence on American life? Is this a good thing or a bad thing?*

	U.S. general public	Unaffiliated	Atheist/ Agnostic	Nothing in particular
	%	%	%	%
Increasing	25	27	34	24
Losing	66	63	59	65
<i>Good thing</i>	12	28	43	22
<i>Bad thing</i>	49	26	10	32
<i>Other/DK</i>	5	9	6	11
Same (VOL.)	2	2	2	2
Don't know	7	7	5	8
	100	100	100	100

Source: Pew Research Center survey, June 28-July 9, 2012. Q42/42b. Figures may not add to 100% - and nested figures may not add to total - due to rounding.

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The vast majority of religiously unaffiliated Americans are not actively seeking to find a church or other religious group to join. Leaving aside atheists or agnostics, just 10% of those who describe their current religion as “nothing in particular” say they are looking for a religion that is right for them; 88% say they are not.<sup>12</sup>

**Neither "Seekers" Nor More Inclined Toward New Age Beliefs Than the General Public**

% of "nothing in particulars" who are...	U.S. general public	Unaffiliated
	%	%
Looking for religion that is right for them	n/a	10
Not doing this	n/a	88
Don't know	n/a	2
		100
<i>% who believe in...</i>		
Spiritual energy in physical things like mountains, trees, crystals	26	30
Astrology	25	25
Reincarnation	24	25
Yoga as spiritual practice	23	28
<i>% who often...</i>		
Think about meaning and purpose of life	67	53
Feel deep connection w/nature and the earth	58	58
<i>% who say it is very important...</i>		
To belong to community w/shared values and beliefs	49	28
<i>% who have ever...</i>		
Had religious or mystical experience	49	30
Been in touch w/someone who has died	29	31
Seen or been in presence of ghost	18	19
Consulted psychic	15	15

Sources: Data on looking for a religion, thinking about meaning of life, connection with nature, and importance of community from Pew Research Center survey, June 28-July 9, 2012. Q72, Q21a-b, Q22. See topline in Appendix 2 for details. All other data from August 2009 survey by the Pew Research Center for the People & the Press and Pew Forum on Religion & Public Life. Q290, Q291a,b,c,f,Q292a-c.

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Nor are the ranks of the unaffiliated predominantly composed of practitioners of New Age spirituality or alternative forms of religion. Generally speaking, the unaffiliated are no more likely than members of the public as a whole to have such beliefs and practices.

For example, roughly three-in-ten religiously unaffiliated adults say they believe in spiritual energy in physical objects and in yoga as a spiritual practice. About a quarter believe in astrology and reincarnation. In addition, nearly six-in-ten of the religiously unaffiliated say they often feel a deep connection with nature and

the earth; about three-in-ten say they have felt in touch with someone who is dead; and 15% have consulted a psychic. All of these figures closely resemble the survey's findings among the public as a whole.

On the other hand, the religiously unaffiliated are less inclined than Americans overall to say they often think about the meaning and purpose of life (53% vs. 67%). They also attach much less importance to belonging to a community of people with shared values and beliefs; 28% of the unaffiliated say this is very important to them, compared with 49% of all adults.

*Social and Political Views*

The religiously unaffiliated are heavily Democratic in their partisanship and liberal in their political ideology. More than six-in-ten describe themselves as Democrats or say they lean toward the Democratic Party (compared with 48% of all registered voters). And there are roughly twice as many self-described liberals (38%) as conservatives (20%) among the religiously unaffiliated. Among voters overall, this balance is reversed.

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**Partisanship and Ideology**  
*% among registered voters*

	All registered voters	Un-affiliated
<i>Party identification</i>		
	%	%
Dem/lean Dem	48	63
Rep/lean Rep	43	26
Independent/other - no lean	9	11
	100	100
<i>Ideology</i>		
Conservative	39	20
Moderate	36	38
Liberal	21	38
Don't know	4	4
	100	100

Source: Aggregated data from surveys conducted by the Pew Research Center for the People & the Press, January-July 2012. Based on registered voters.

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The liberalism of the unaffiliated extends to social issues, though not necessarily to attitudes about the size of government. Nearly three-quarters (72%) of religiously unaffiliated Americans say abortion should be legal in most or all cases, compared with 53% of the public overall. And 73% of the religiously unaffiliated express support for same-sex marriage, compared with 48% of the public at large. But the portion of the unaffiliated who say they would prefer a smaller government providing fewer services to a larger government providing more services is similar to the share of the general public who take the same view (50% and 52%, respectively).

**Social and Political Issues**

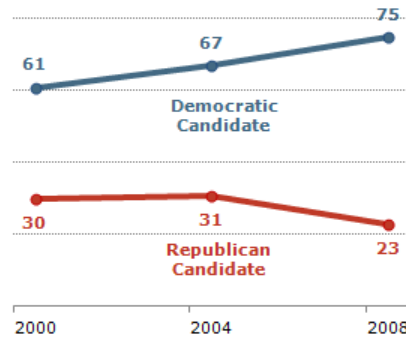
	U.S. general public	Unaffil- iated	Affil- iated
	%	%	%
<i>Abortion should be...</i>			
Legal in all/most cases	53	72	49
Illegal in all/most cases	41	24	46
Don't know	6	4	6
	100	100	100
<i>Same-sex marriage...</i>			
Favor	48	73	41
Oppose	44	20	50
Don't know	9	7	9
	100	100	100
<i>Prefer...</i>			
Bigger gov't, more services	39	42	38
Smaller gov't, fewer services	52	50	52
Depends/don't know	9	8	10
	100	100	100

Sources: Abortion figures from aggregated data from surveys conducted by the Pew Research Center for the People & the Press, 2011-2012. Same-sex marriage figures from aggregated data from surveys conducted by the Pew Research Center for the People & the Press, 2012. Views on role of government from Pew Research Center for the People & the Press survey, January 2012. Figures may not add to 100% due to rounding.

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In recent elections, the religiously unaffiliated have become one of the most reliably Democratic segments of the electorate. Exit polls conducted by a consortium of news organizations indicate that in 2000, 61% of the unaffiliated voted for Al Gore over George W. Bush. By 2004, John Kerry's share of the unaffiliated vote had increased to 67%. And in 2008, fully three-quarters of the religiously unaffiliated voted for Barack Obama over John McCain. In 2008, religiously unaffiliated voters were as strongly Democratic in their vote choice as white evangelicals were Republican. Obama's margin of victory among the religiously unaffiliated was 52 points; McCain's margin of victory among white evangelical voters was 47 points.

**Presidential Vote of the Religiously Unaffiliated, 2000-2008**



Source: Exit polls conducted by the National Election Pool, 2000, 2004, 2008. Based on those with no religion.  
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The religiously unaffiliated constitute a growing share of Democratic and Democratic-leaning registered voters. In 2007, there were about as many religiously unaffiliated Democratic and Democratic-leaning registered voters as white mainline and white Catholic Democratic voters. And the religiously unaffiliated were only slightly more numerous among Democratic and Democratic-leaning registered voters than were black Protestants (17% vs. 14%).

**Trends in Religious Affiliation, by Party**

	Rep/Rep leaning RVs		Dem/Dem leaning RVs	
	2007	2012	2007	2012
	%	%	%	%
<b>Protestant</b>	<b>63</b>	<b>60</b>	<b>49</b>	<b>45</b>
White evangelical	34	34	13	9
White mainline	23	20	17	14
Black Protestant	2	1	14	16
Other Protestant	4	5	5	5
<b>Catholic</b>	<b>23</b>	<b>22</b>	<b>24</b>	<b>21</b>
White Catholic	19	18	17	13
Hispanic Catholic	3	3	5	5
Other Catholic	1	1	2	2
<b>Other Faith</b>	<b>5</b>	<b>7</b>	<b>8</b>	<b>9</b>
<b>Unaffiliated</b>	<b>9</b>	<b>11</b>	<b>17</b>	<b>24</b>
<b>Don't know/refused</b>	<b>1</b>	<b>1</b>	<b>2</b>	<b>1</b>
	<b>100</b>	<b>100</b>	<b>100</b>	<b>100</b>
N	3,198	6,083	3,752	6,251

Source: Aggregated data from surveys conducted by the Pew Research Center for the People & the Press, 2007 and January-July 2012. Based on registered voters. Whites and blacks include only those who are not Hispanic; Hispanics are of any race. Figures may not add to 100% due to rounding.

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Today, the religiously unaffiliated are clearly more numerous than any of these groups within the Democratic coalition (24% unaffiliated, 16% black Protestant, 14% white mainline Protestant, 13% white Catholic). By contrast, Republican and Republican-leaning registered voters are only slightly more likely to be religiously unaffiliated today than they were in 2007 (11% vs. 9%).

Source: <http://www.pewforum.org/Unaffiliated/nones-on-the-rise.aspx#src=prc-newsletter>

## Gilani's Gallopedia (2007-2012)

### A Quantitative Analysis

A quantitative analysis of global polls monitored during the 4 year period January 2007 – May 2012

#### KEY STATISTICS

- 1- Number of Surveys (*a selection on key political and social issues*):  $\approx$  6,535 polls during the period 2007-2012
- 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 2007-2012
- 4- Number **polling organizations** whose polls have been cited:  $\approx$  347 during the period 2007-2012

