

# American Views on Race Relations

A SURVEY OF 1,200 AMERICANS

Lifeway research

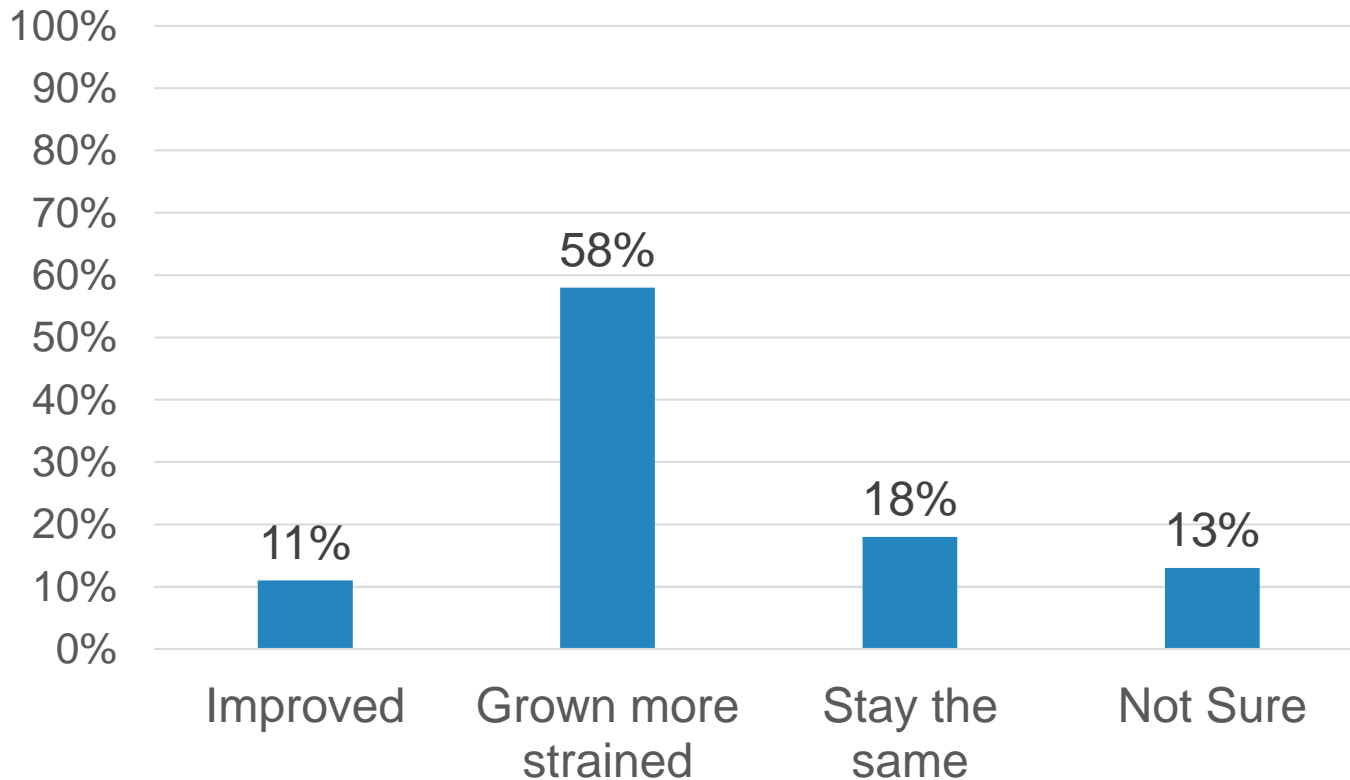
# Methodology

- The online survey of 1,200 Americans was conducted September 9-23, 2020 using a national pre-recruited panel
- Quotas and slight weights were used to balance gender, age, region, ethnicity, education, and religion to more accurately reflect the population
- The sample includes an over-sample of Americans with Evangelical Beliefs providing additional reliability for breakouts of this group. Totals for all Americans reduce these responses to their correct proportion through weighting
- The completed sample is 1,200 surveys
- The sample provides 95% confidence that the sampling error from the panel does not exceed  $\pm 3.2\%$  This margin of error accounts for the effect of weighting
- Margins of error are higher in sub-groups
- Data is also shown from a phone survey (random digit dial) conducted by Lifeway Research September 19-28, 2014 of 1,000 Americans

# Definitions

- **Evangelical Beliefs** are defined using the NAE Lifeway Research Evangelical Beliefs Research Definition based on respondent beliefs
- Respondents are asked their level of agreement with four separate statements using a four-point, forced choice scale (strongly agree, somewhat agree, somewhat disagree, strongly disagree). Those who strongly agree with all four statements are categorized as having Evangelical Beliefs
  - The Bible is the highest authority for what I believe
  - It is very important for me personally to encourage non-Christians to trust Jesus Christ as their Savior
  - Jesus Christ's death on the cross is the only sacrifice that could remove the penalty of my sin
  - Only those who trust in Jesus Christ alone as their Savior receive God's free gift of eternal salvation

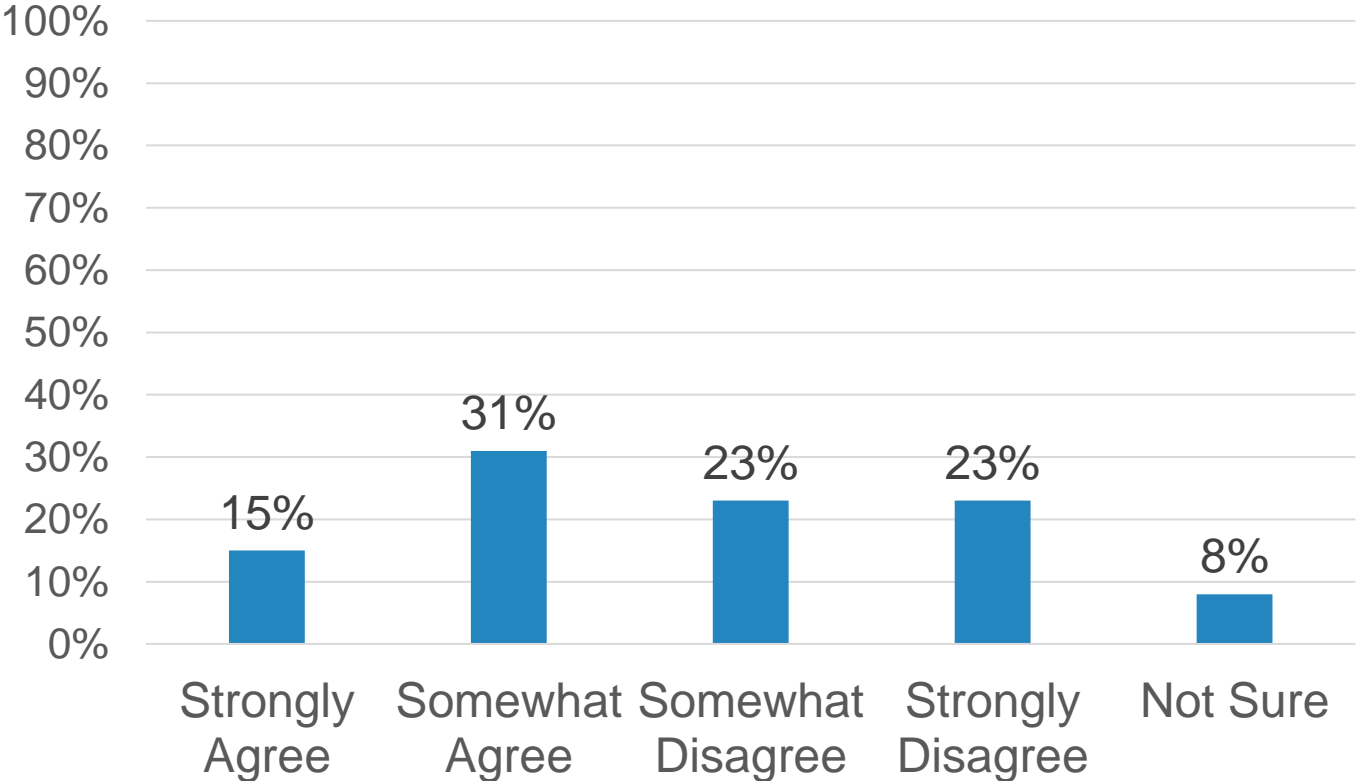
# 58% say that race relations have grown more strained under President Trump



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Q: "Have race relations in the U.S. improved, grown more strained, or stayed the same since the election of Donald Trump as president?"

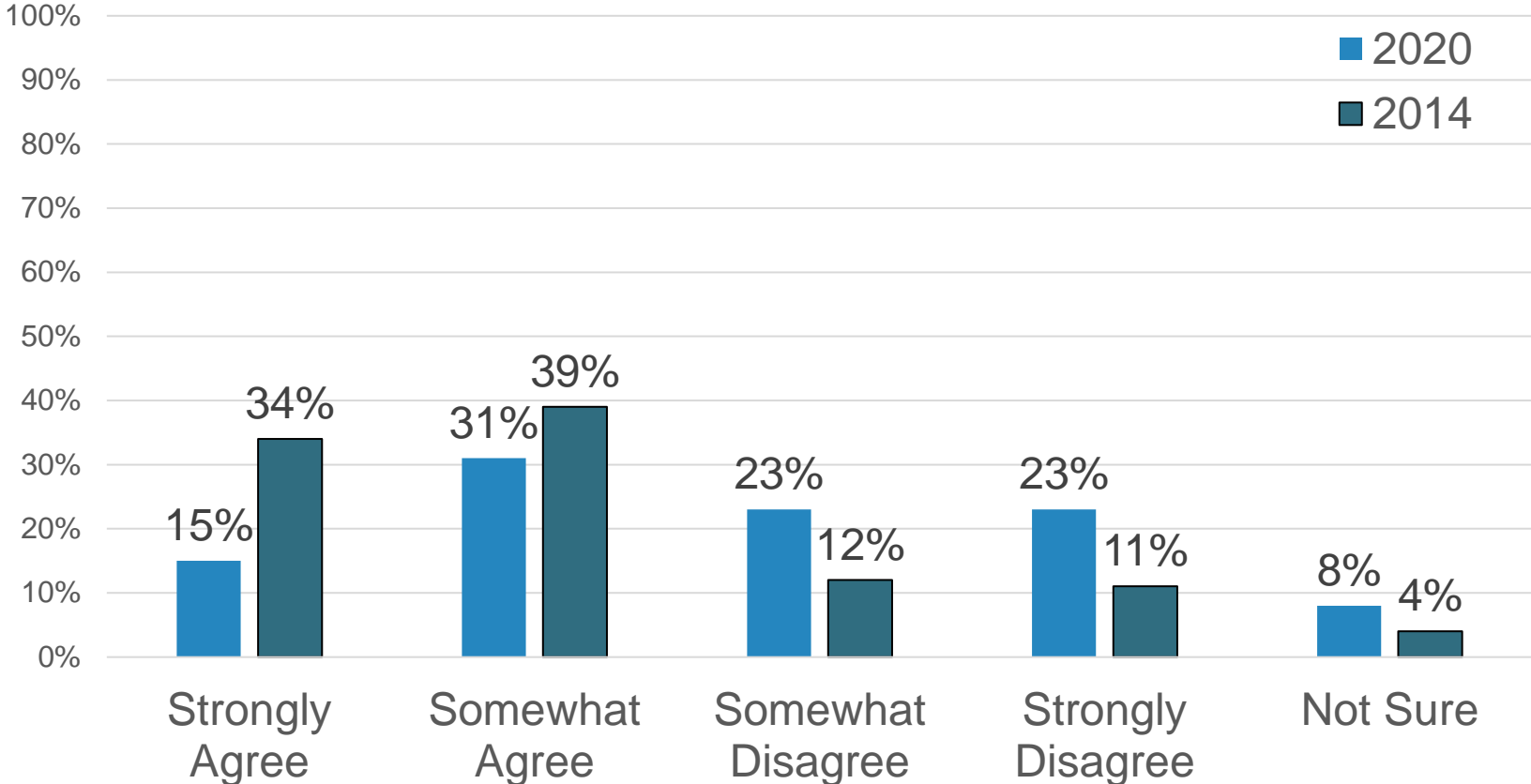
# 46% agree with the statement “We have come so far on racial relations”



**Lifeway**research

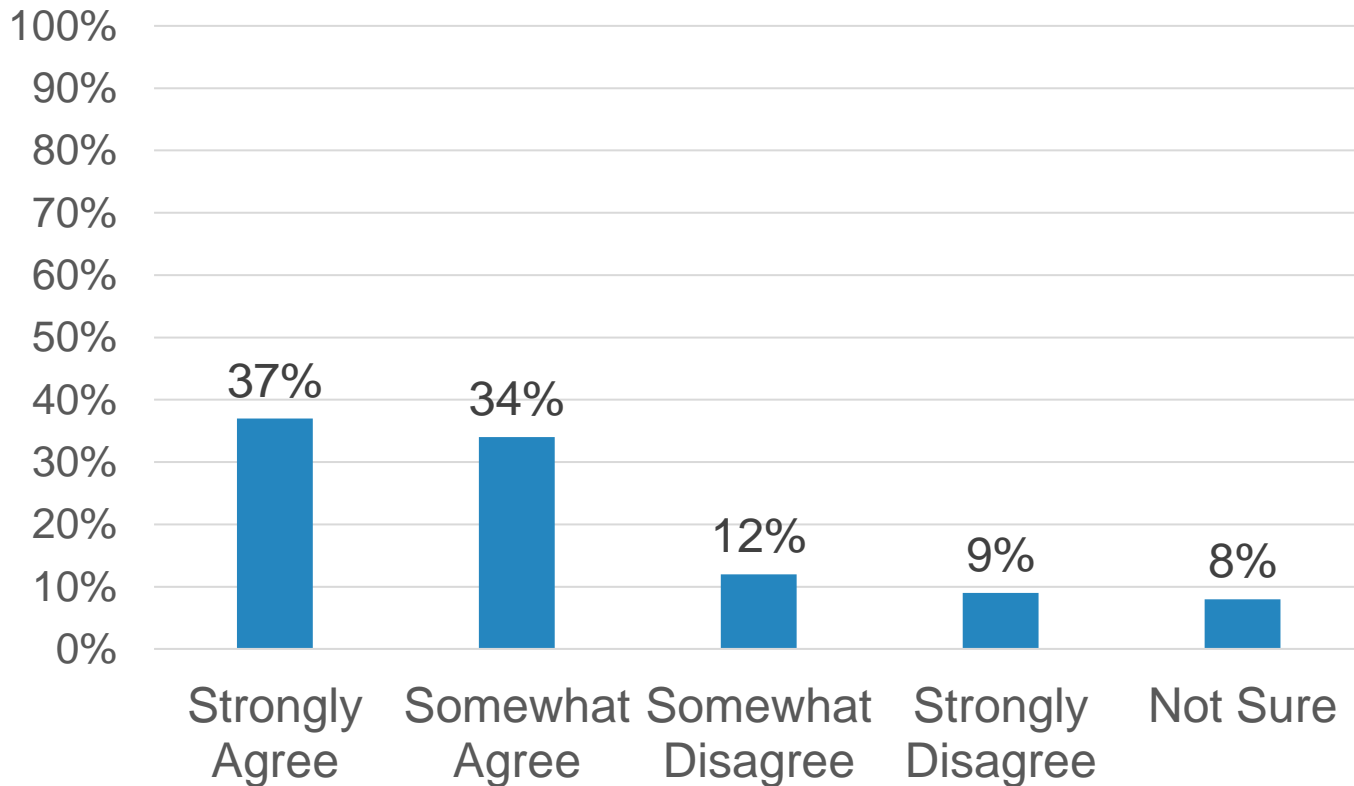
Q: “We have come so far on racial relations.”

# 28% fewer Americans agree racial relations “have come so far” than in 2014



*Comparisons may not be appropriate because of differences in methodology. 2014 was conducted by phone and 2020 online.*

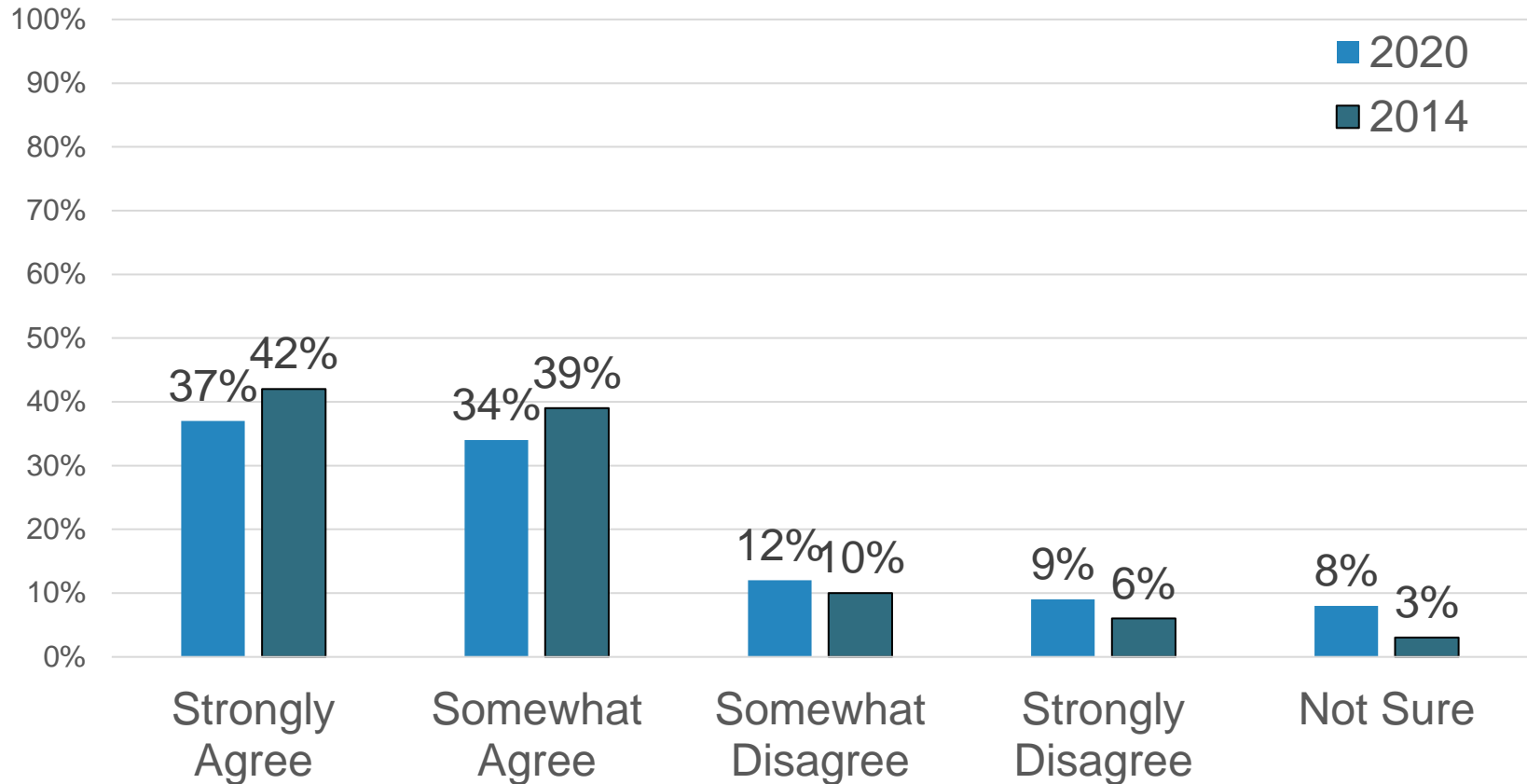
# 71% agree with the statement “We’ve got so far to go on racial relations”



**Lifeway**research

Q: “We’ve got so far to go on racial relations.”

# 10% fewer Americans agree “We’ve got so far to go on racial relations” than in 2014



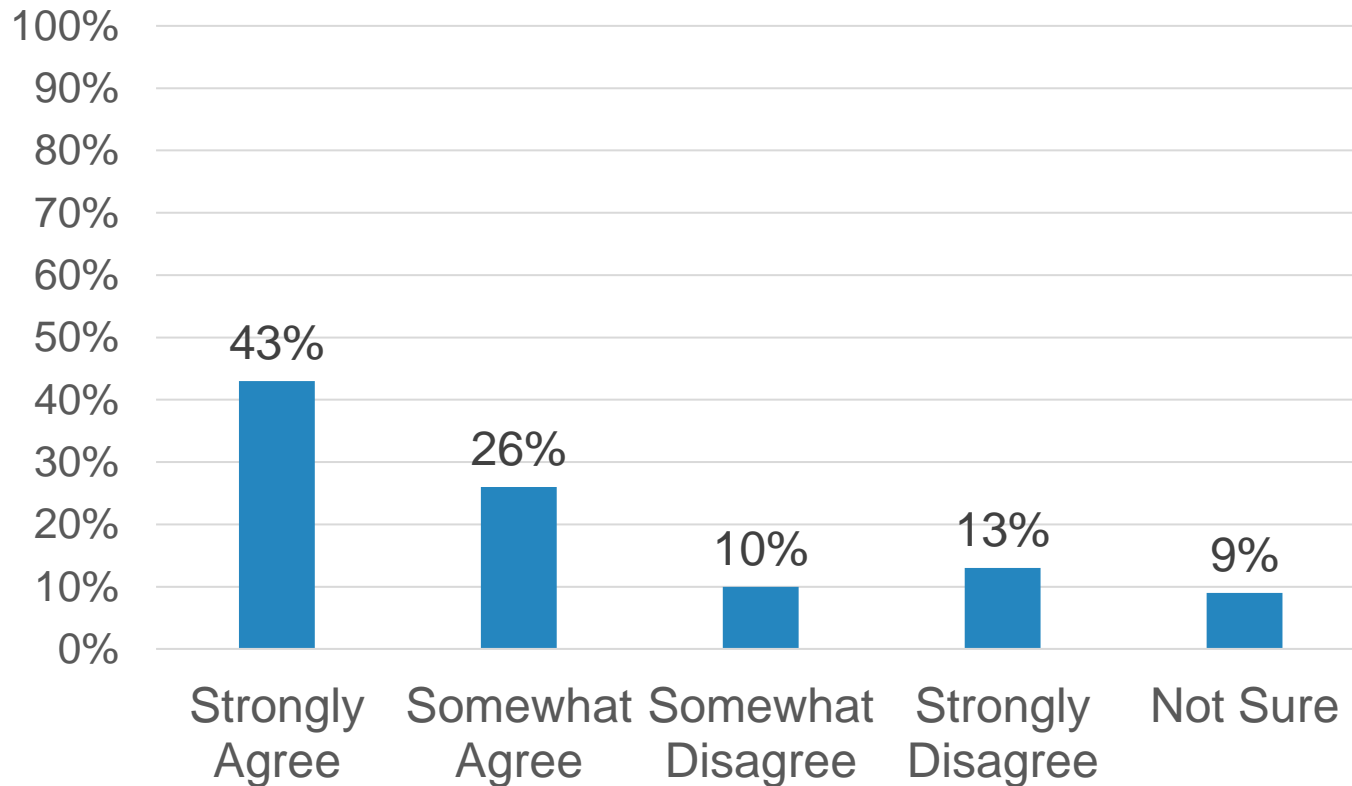
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**Lifeway**research

Q: “We’ve got so far to go on racial relations.”



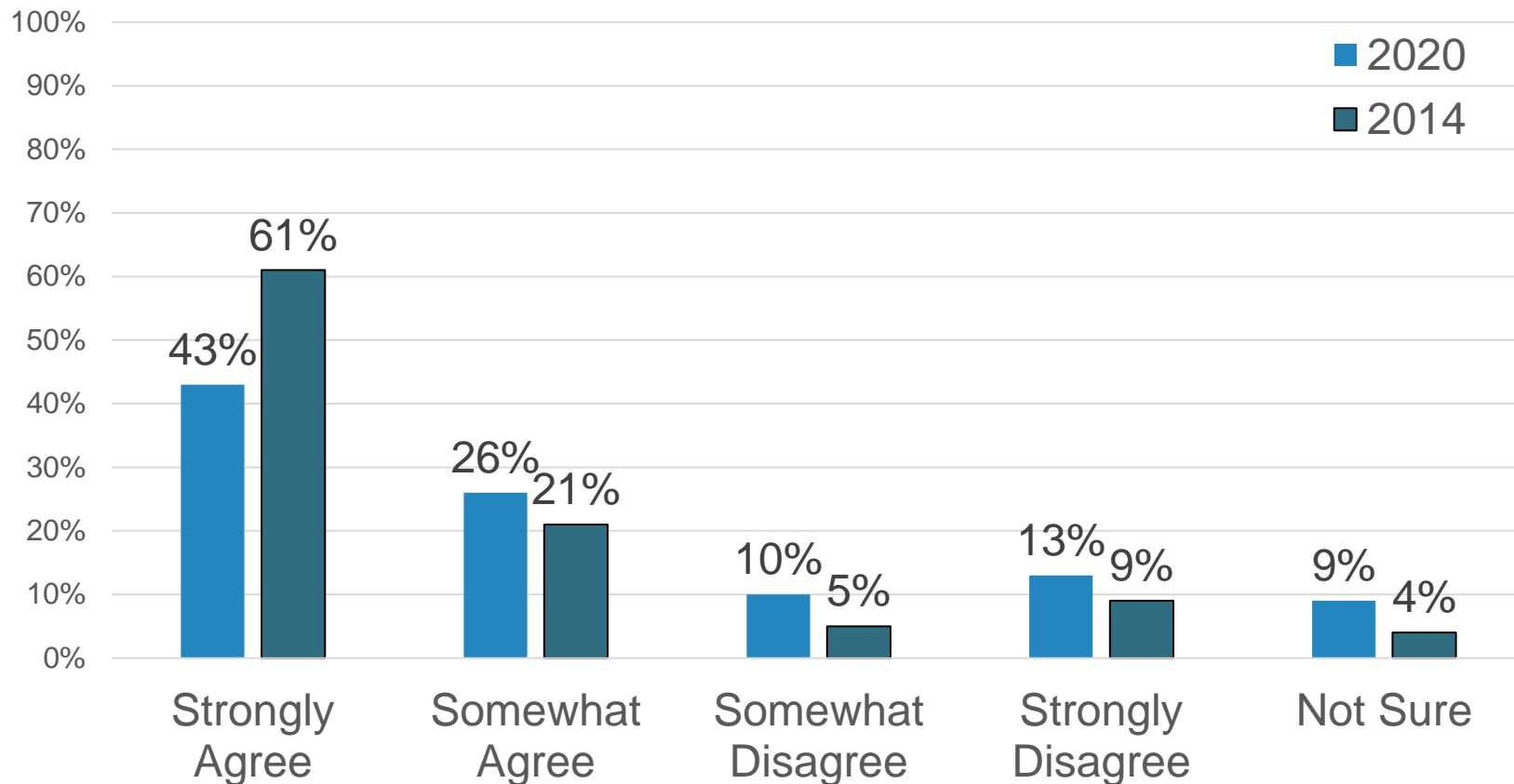
# 69% agree that racial diversity is good for America



**Lifeway**research

Q: "Racial diversity is good for America."

# 13% fewer Americans agree that racial diversity is good for America than in 2014

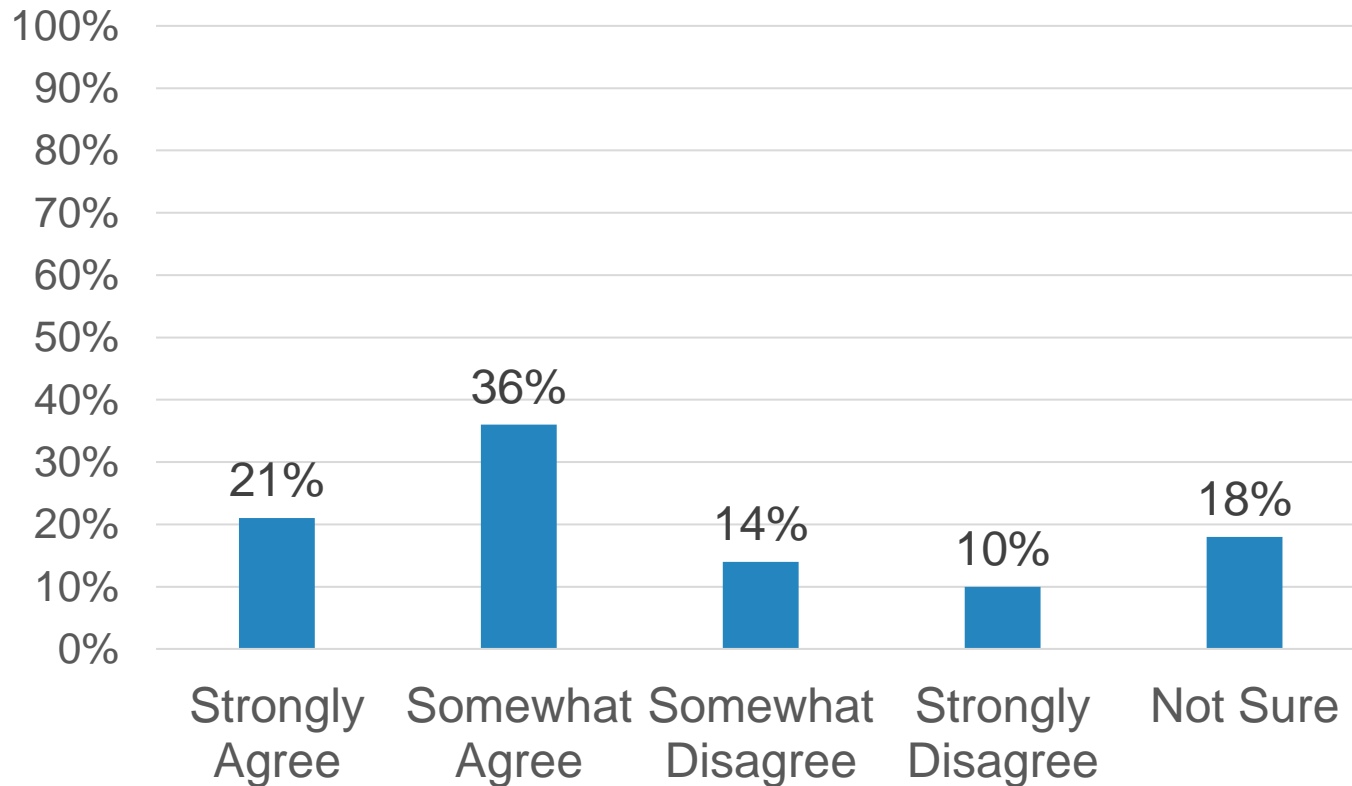


*Comparisons may not be appropriate because of differences in methodology. 2014 was conducted by phone and 2020 online.*

**Lifeway**research

Q: "Racial diversity is good for America."

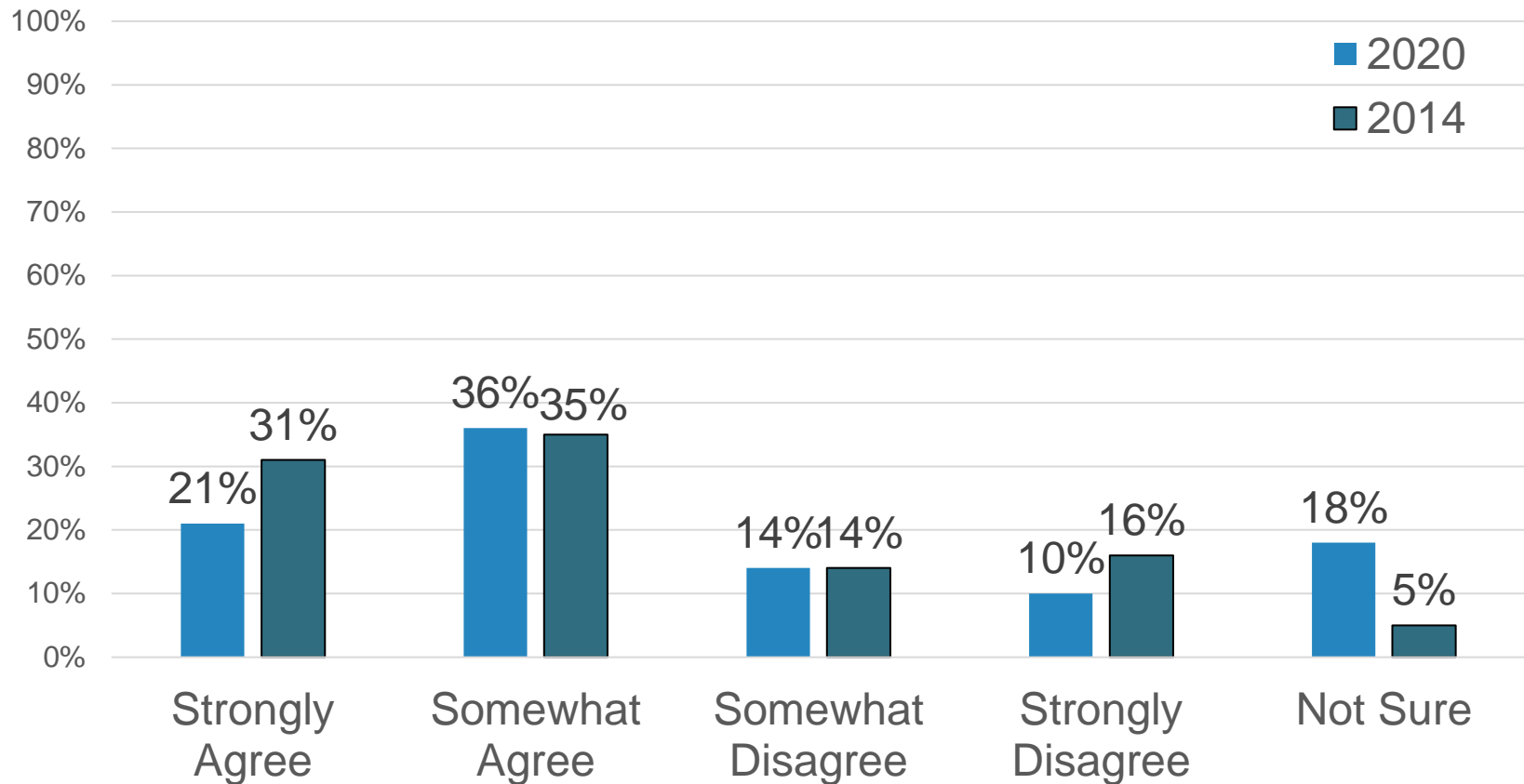
# 57% say that religious leaders play a positive role in race relations in America



**Lifeway**research

Q: "Religious leaders play a positive role in race relations in America"

# 8% fewer Americans say religious leaders play a positive role in race relations in America

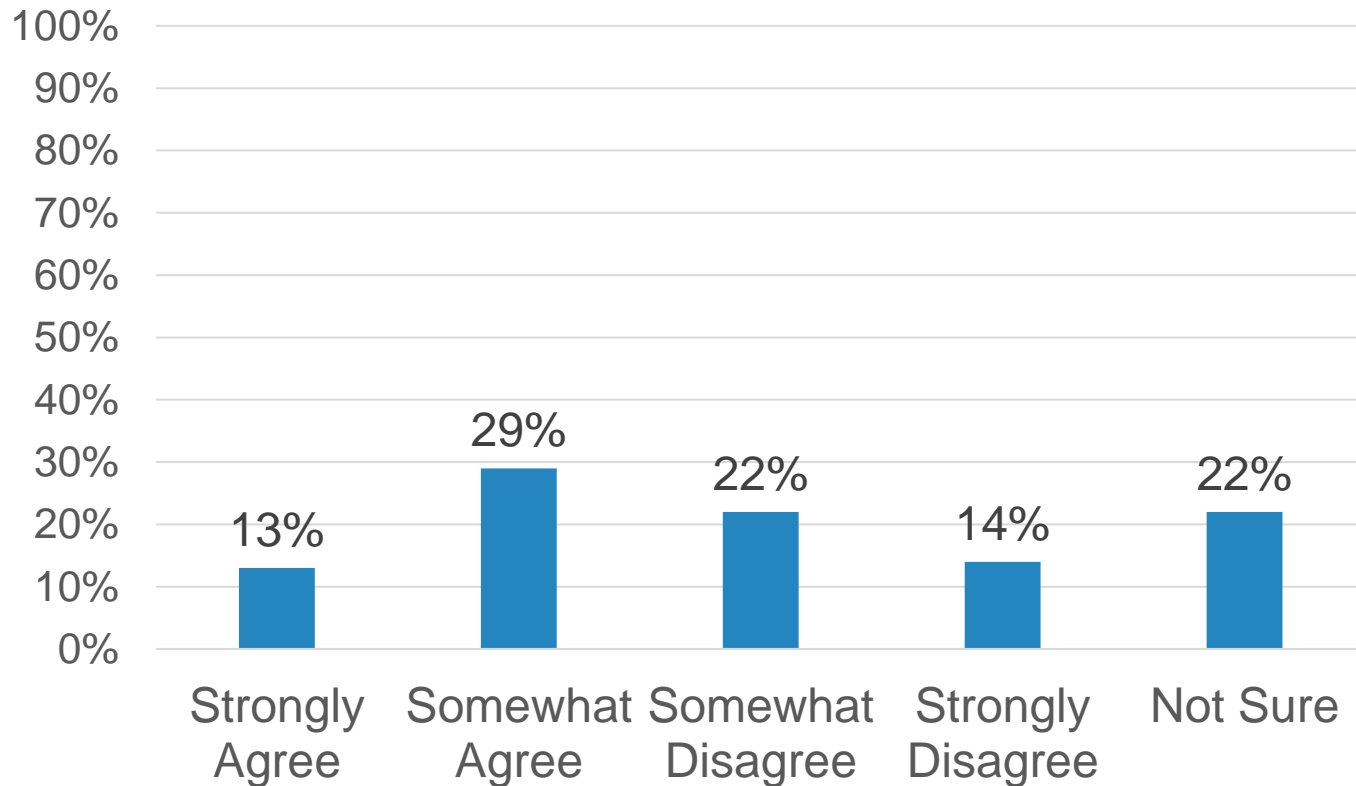


*Comparisons may not be appropriate because of differences in methodology. 2014 was conducted by phone and 2020 online.*

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Q: "Religious leaders play a positive role in race relations in America"

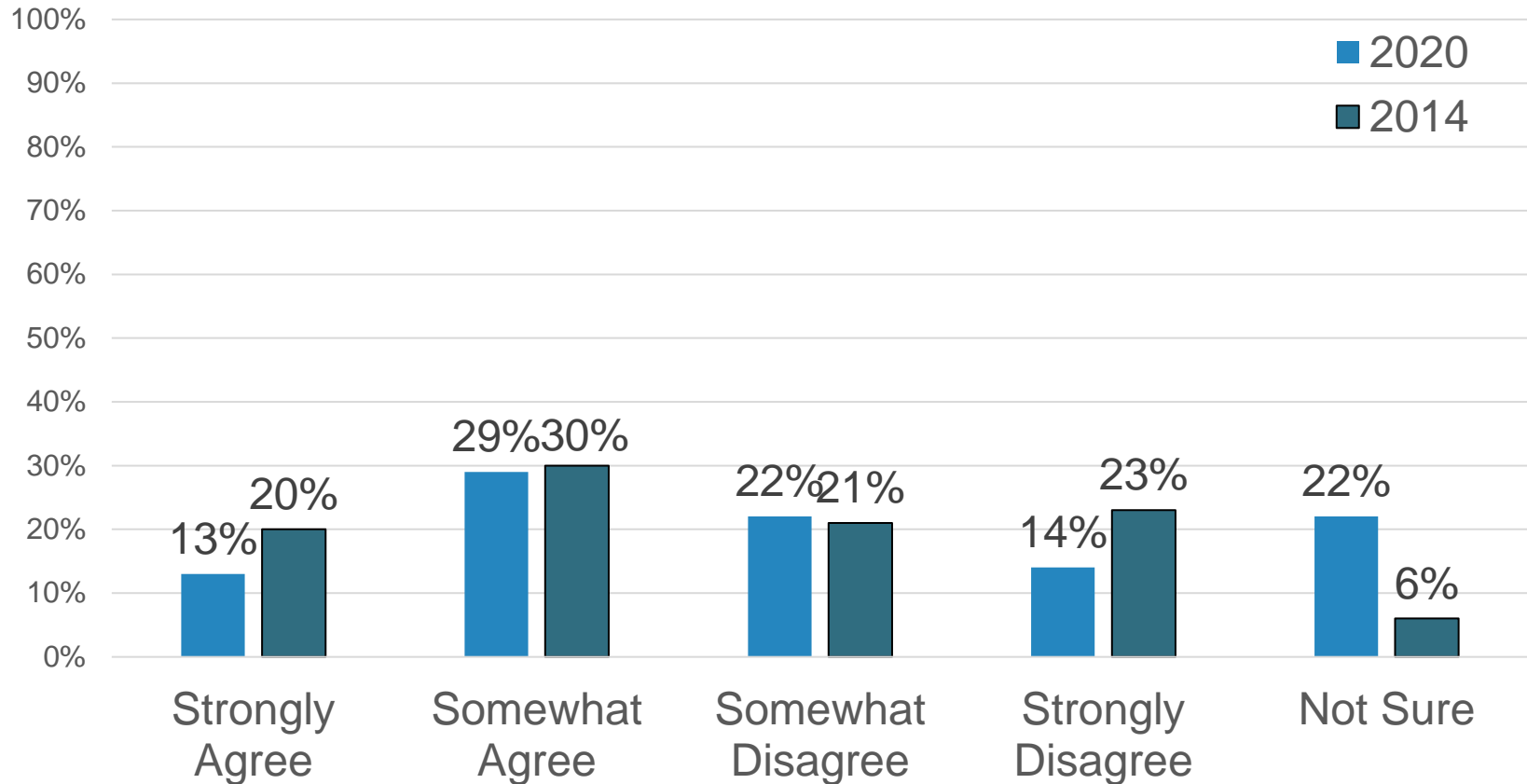
# 42% say that churches in America are too segregated



**Lifeway**research

Q: "Churches in America are too segregated."

# 8% fewer Americans agree churches in America are too segregated than in 2014



*Comparisons may not be appropriate because of differences in methodology. 2014 was conducted by phone and 2020 online.*

**Lifeway**research

Q: "Churches in America are too segregated."

# Significant Differences

Gender

Age

Ethnicity

Region

Education Level

Religion

Worship Service Attendance

Evangelical Beliefs

# Significant Differences

Comparisons were made to determine if there are any significant statistical differences among gender, age, ethnicity, region, and education.

<b>GENDER</b>	<b>AGE</b>	<b>ETHNICITY</b>	<b>REGION</b>	<b>EDUCATION</b>
Male	18-34	White	Northeast	High School graduate or less
Female	35-49	African American	Midwest	Some college
	50-64	Hispanic	South	Bachelor's Degree
	65+	Other Ethnicities	West	Graduate Degree



# Significant Statistical Differences

Comparisons were made to determine if there are any significant statistical differences among religion, worship service attendance, and evangelical beliefs.

RELIGION	WORSHIP SERVICE ATTENDANCE AMONG CHRISTIANS	EVANGELICAL BELIEFS
Catholic	Less than once a month	Yes
Protestant	1 to 3 times a month	No
Other Religions	4 or more times a month	
Unaffiliated		

## **“Have race relations in the U.S. improved, grown more strained, or stayed the same since the election of Donald Trump as president?”**

- Males are more likely to select “Improved” than Females (16% v. 6%)
- Those age 50-64 (64%) and 65+ (65%) are more likely to select “Grown more strained” than those 18-34 (52%) and 35-49 (54%)
- African Americans (72%) are more likely to select “Grown more strained” than Whites (54%) or Hispanics (61%)
- Those in the South are the most likely to select “Grown more strained” (65%)
- Those who are High School Graduates or less are the least likely to select “Improved” (7%)
- Other Religions are the least likely to select “Grown more strained” (44%)

**“Have race relations in the U.S. improved, grown more strained, or stayed the same since the election of Donald Trump as president?”** *(continued)*

- Among those who identify as Christian, those who attend a Christian worship service less than once a month (62%) or 1 to 3 times a month (64%) are more likely to “Grown more strained” than those who attend 4 or more times a month (52%)
- Those with evangelical beliefs are less likely to select “Grown more strained” than those without evangelical beliefs (43% v. 62%)

## **“We have come so far on racial relations”**

- Males are more likely to Agree than Females (54% v. 38%)
- Those age 50-64 (55%) are more likely to Disagree than those 18-34 (40%) and 35-49 (42%)
- Whites are the most likely to Agree (51%)
- African Americans are the most likely to Disagree (66%)
- Those in the West (51%) are more likely to Agree than those in the South (42%)
- Those with a Bachelor’s Degree (56%) are more likely to Agree than those who are High School Graduates or less (39%) or with some college (45%)
- Those who are religiously unaffiliated are the least likely to Agree (38%)
- Among those who identify as Christian, those who attend a Christian worship service 1 to 3 times a month (55%) or 4 or more times a month (59%) are more likely to Agree than those who attend less than once a month (39%)
- Those with evangelical beliefs are more likely to Agree than those without evangelical beliefs (58% v. 43%)

## **“We've got so far to go on racial relations.”**

- Those age 50-64 (74%) and 65+ (76%) are more likely to Agree than those 18-34 (66%)
- African Americans are the most likely to Agree (81%)
- Those in the Northeast (25%) and Midwest (25%) are more likely to Disagree than those in the South (18%)
- Those with a Graduate Degree (78%) are more likely to Agree than those who are High School Graduates or less (68%)

## **“Racial diversity is good for America.”**

- Males are more likely to Agree than Females (74% v. 63%)
- Hispanics (76%) are more likely to Agree than Whites (66%)
- Those in the West (72%) are more likely to Agree than those in the Midwest (64%)
- Those who are High School Graduates or less are the most likely to Disagree (30%)
- Among those who identify as Christian, those who attend a Christian worship service less than once a month are the least likely to Agree (63%)

## **“Religious leaders play a positive role in race relations in America.”**

- Males are more likely to Agree than Females (64% v. 51%)
- Those age 18-34 are least likely to Agree (50%) and most likely to be Not sure (27%)
- Those age 50-64 (27%) are more likely to Disagree than those 35-49 (20%)
- Those in the South (60%) and West (63%) are more likely to Agree than those in the Northeast (51%) and Midwest (49%)
- Those with a Bachelor’s Degree (67%) or a Graduate Degree (63%) are more likely to Agree than those who are High School Graduates or less (51%)
- Those who are religiously unaffiliated are the most likely to Disagree (38%)

## **“Religious leaders play a positive role in race relations in America.”** *(continued)*

- Among those who identify as Christian, those who attend a Christian worship service 1 to 3 times a month (67%) or 4 or more times a month (78%) are more likely to Agree than those who attend less than once a month (55%)
- Those with evangelical beliefs are more likely to Agree than those without evangelical beliefs (78% v. 52%)



## **“Churches in America are too segregated.”**

- Males are more likely to Agree than Females (46% v. 38%)
- Those age 18-34 (46%) are more likely to Agree than those 50-64 (38%) and 65+ (38%)
- African Americans (52%) and Hispanics (50%) are more likely to Agree than White (38%)
- Those in the Midwest (40%) are more likely to Disagree than those in the South (32%)
- Those with a Graduate Degree are the most likely to Agree (65%)
- Protestants are the least likely to Agree (37%)
- Among those who identify as Christian, those who attend a Christian worship service 1 to 3 times a month (50%) are more likely to Agree those who attend less than once a month (38%) or 4 or more times a month (39%)
- Those with evangelical beliefs are more likely to Disagree than those without evangelical beliefs (44% v. 34%)

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