

# American Views on Religious Liberty

A SURVEY OF 1,005 AMERICANS

Lifeway research

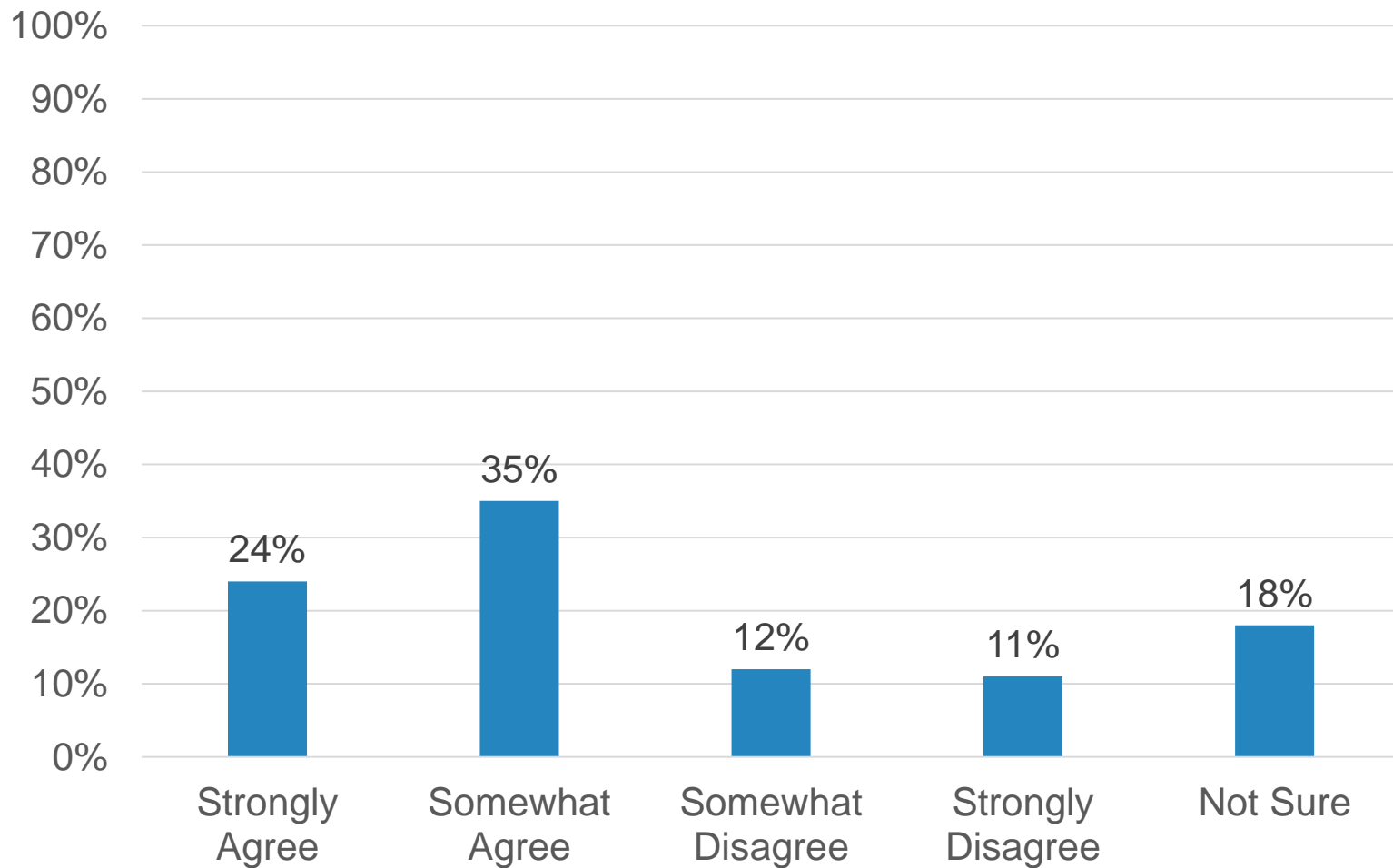
# Methodology

- The online survey of 1,005 Americans was conducted September 3-14, 2021 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 completed sample is 1,005 surveys
- The sample provides 95% confidence that the sampling error from the panel does not exceed  $\pm 3.3\%$  This margin of error accounts for the effect of weighting
- Margins of error are higher in sub-groups

# 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

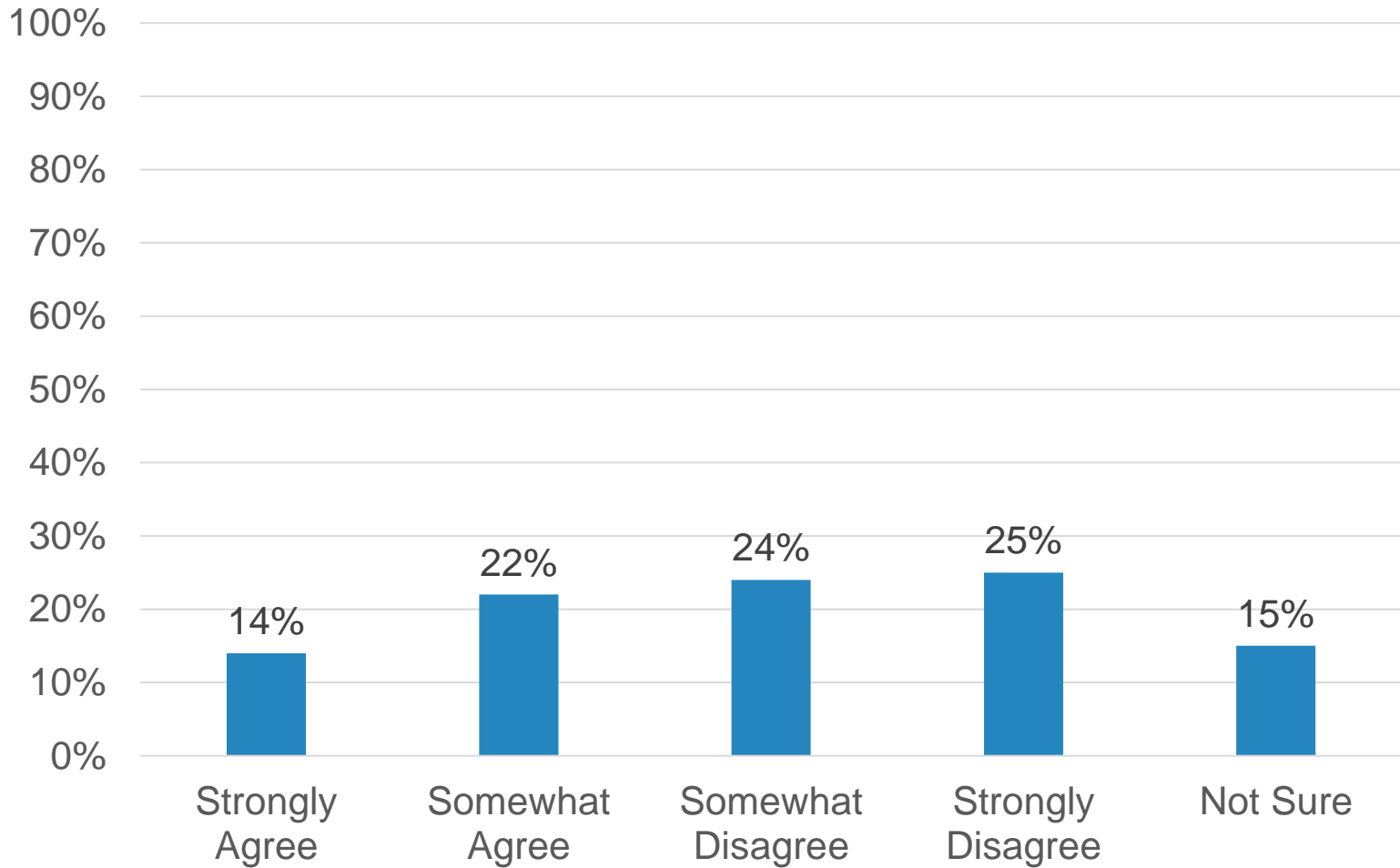
# 59% say that Christians are increasingly confronted with intolerance in America



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Q12: "Christians increasingly are confronted by intolerance in America today." n=1,005

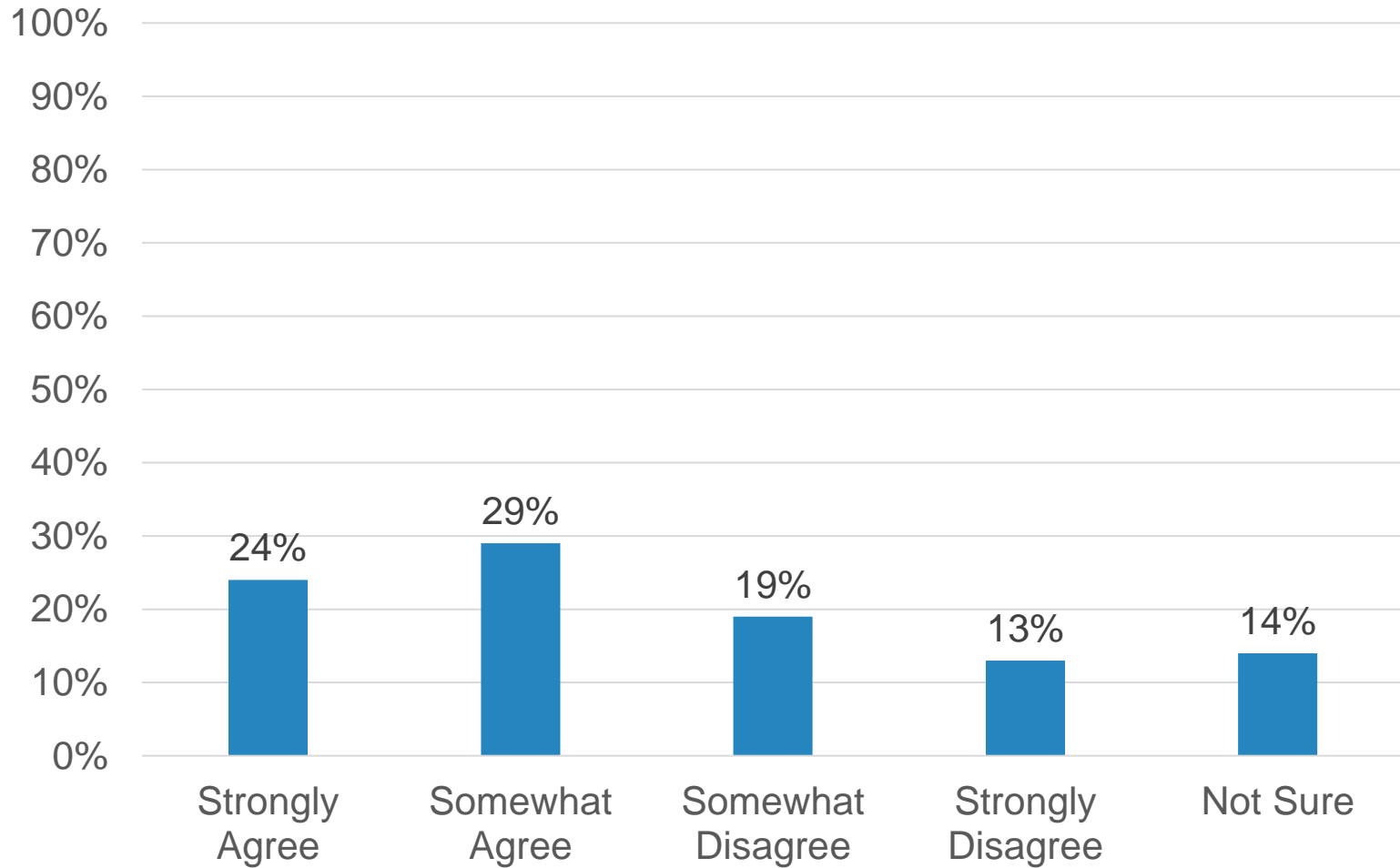
# 36% say that American Christians complain too much about how they are treated



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Q13: "American Christians complain too much about how they are treated." n=1,005

# 54% say that religious liberty is on the decline in America



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Q14: "Religious liberty is on the decline in America." n=1,005

# 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.

GENDER	AGE	ETHNICITY	REGION	EDUCATION
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

Note: Region is defined by the US Census locations



# 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		

## **“Christians increasingly are confronted by intolerance in America today.”**

- Those age 50-64 (67%) are more likely to Agree than those 18-34 (54%) and 35-49 (54%)
- Whites (59%) and African Americans (68%) are more likely to Agree than Other Ethnicities (47%)
- Those in the South (63%) are more likely to Agree than those in the Northeast (53%)
- Those with a Bachelor’s Degree (30%) or a Graduate Degree (31%) are more likely to Disagree than those who are High School Graduates or less (21%) or with some college (20%)
- Protestants are the most likely to Agree (69%) followed by Catholics (59%), Other Religions (53%) and Religiously Unaffiliated (41%)
- Christians who attend a worship service less than once a month are the least likely to Agree (55%)
- Those with evangelical beliefs are more likely to Agree than those without evangelical beliefs (84% v. 52%)

## **“American Christians complain too much about how they are treated.”**

- Males are more likely to Agree than females (40% v. 32%)
- Those age 65+ are the most likely to Disagree (64%)
- Hispanics (47%) and Other Ethnicities (44%) are more likely to Agree than Whites (31%)
- Those who are High School Graduates or less are the most likely to Disagree (56%)
- Religiously Unaffiliated (53%) are more likely to Agree than Catholics (34%) and Protestants (27%)
- Christians who attend a worship service 1 to 3 times a month are the most likely to Agree (44%)
- Those with evangelical beliefs are more likely to Disagree than those without evangelical beliefs (61% v. 45%)

## **“Religious liberty is on the decline in America.”**

- Males are more likely to Disagree than females (36% v. 29%)
- Whites (57%) are more likely to Agree than Hispanics (45%) and Other Ethnicities (43%)
- Those in the Midwest (59%) are more likely to Agree than those in the West (48%)
- Those with a Bachelor’s Degree (42%) are more likely to Agree than those who are High School Graduates or less (29%) or with some college (28%)
- Religiously Unaffiliated are the least likely to Agree (40%)
- Christians who attend a worship service 4 or more times a month (64%) are more likely to Agree than Christians who attend less than once a month (53%)
- Those with evangelical beliefs are more likely to Agree than those without evangelical beliefs (74% v. 48%)

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