

Protestant Churchgoer Views On Politics

A SURVEY OF 1,002 AMERICAN PROTESTANT CHURCHGOERS

Lifeway **research**

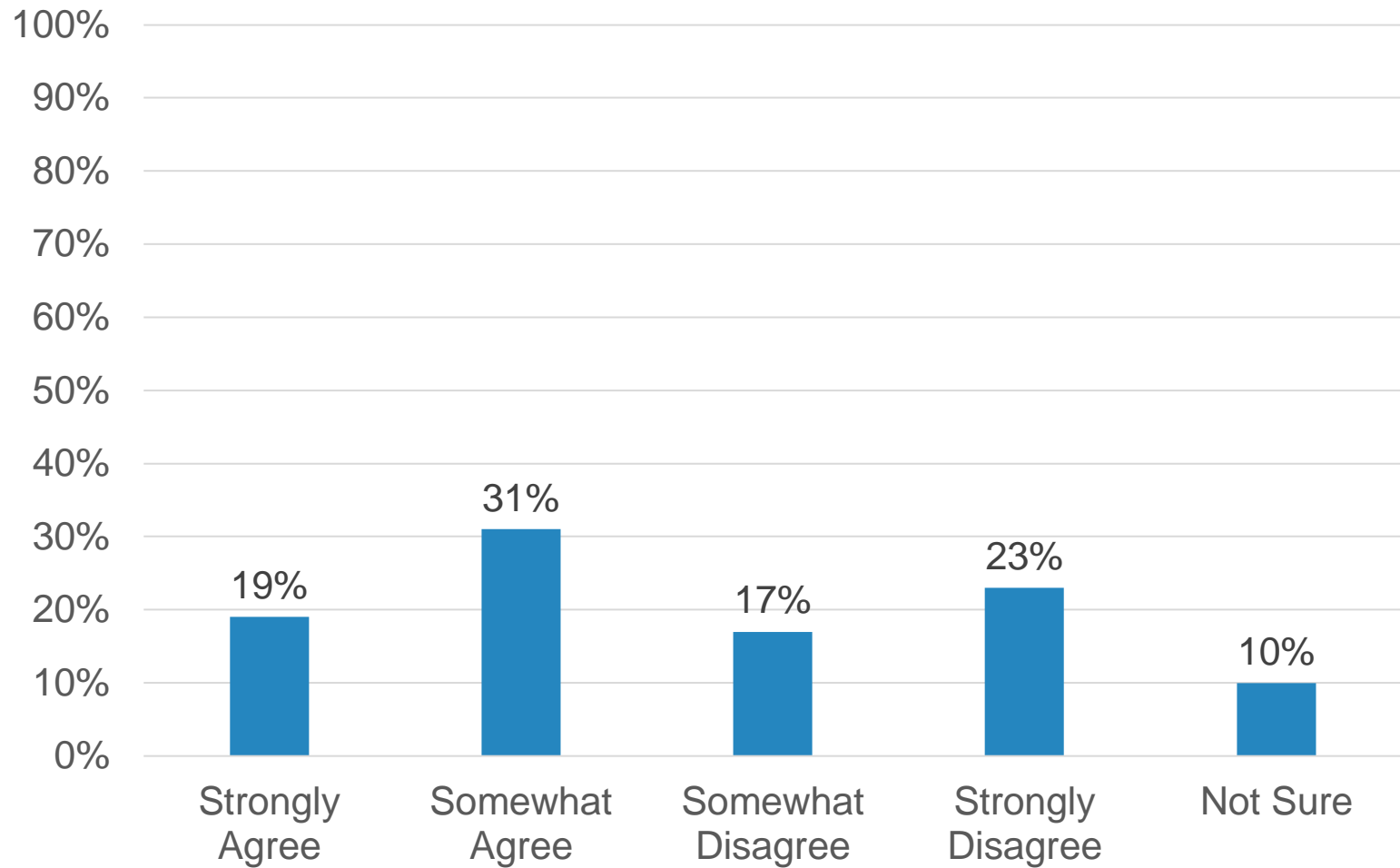
Methodology

- The online survey of 1,002 Americans was conducted September 19-29, 2022, using a national pre-recruited panel
- Respondents were screened to include those who identified as Protestant/non-denominational and attend religious services at least once a month
- 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 1,002 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
- Comparison was made to an online survey of 1,010 Protestant Americans conducted August 22-30, 2017

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

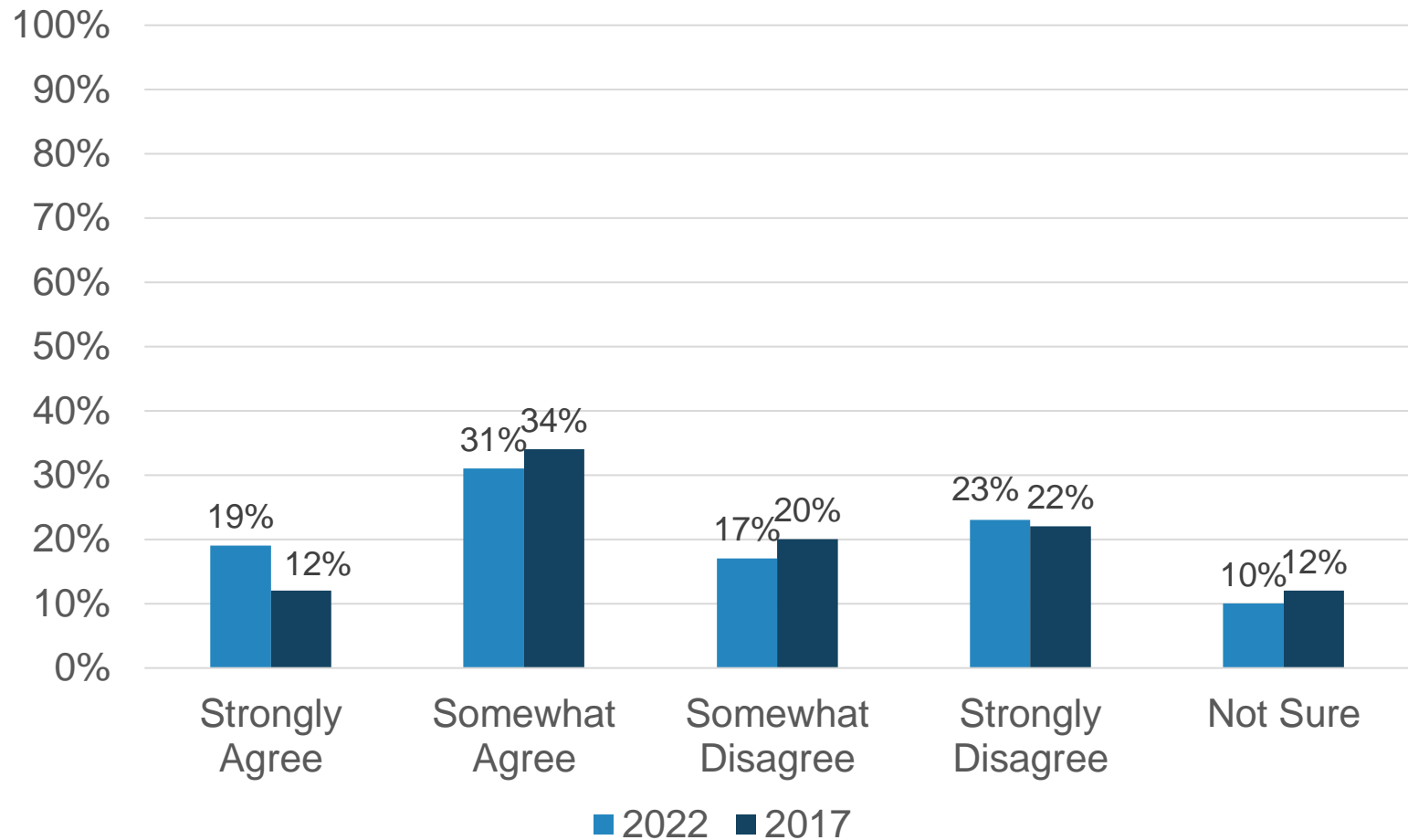
50% prefer to attend a church where people share their political views



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Q: "I prefer to attend a church where people share my political views." n=1,002

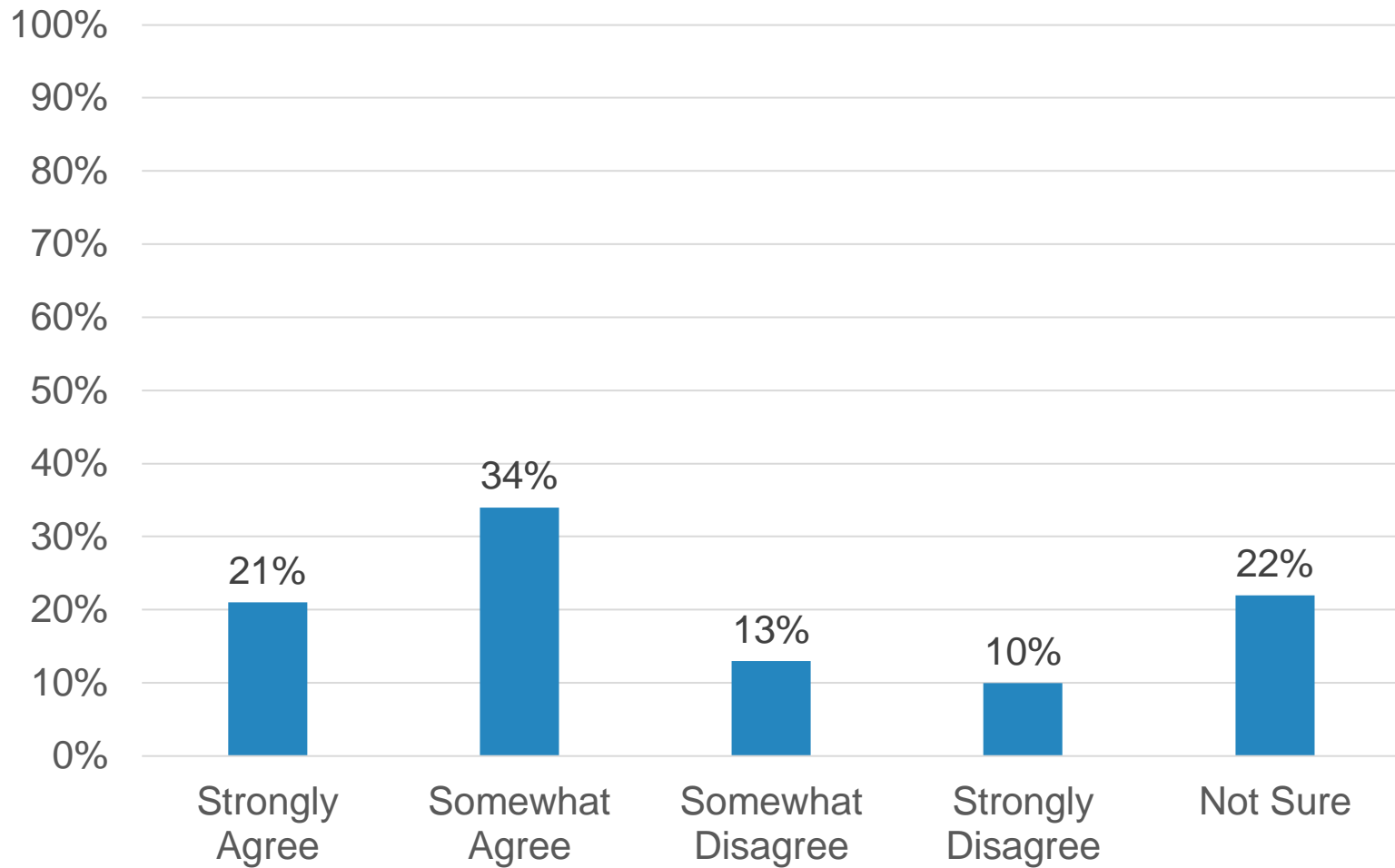
More Protestant churchgoers strongly agree they prefer to attend church where people share their political views than in 2017



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Q: "I prefer to attend a church where people share my political views."

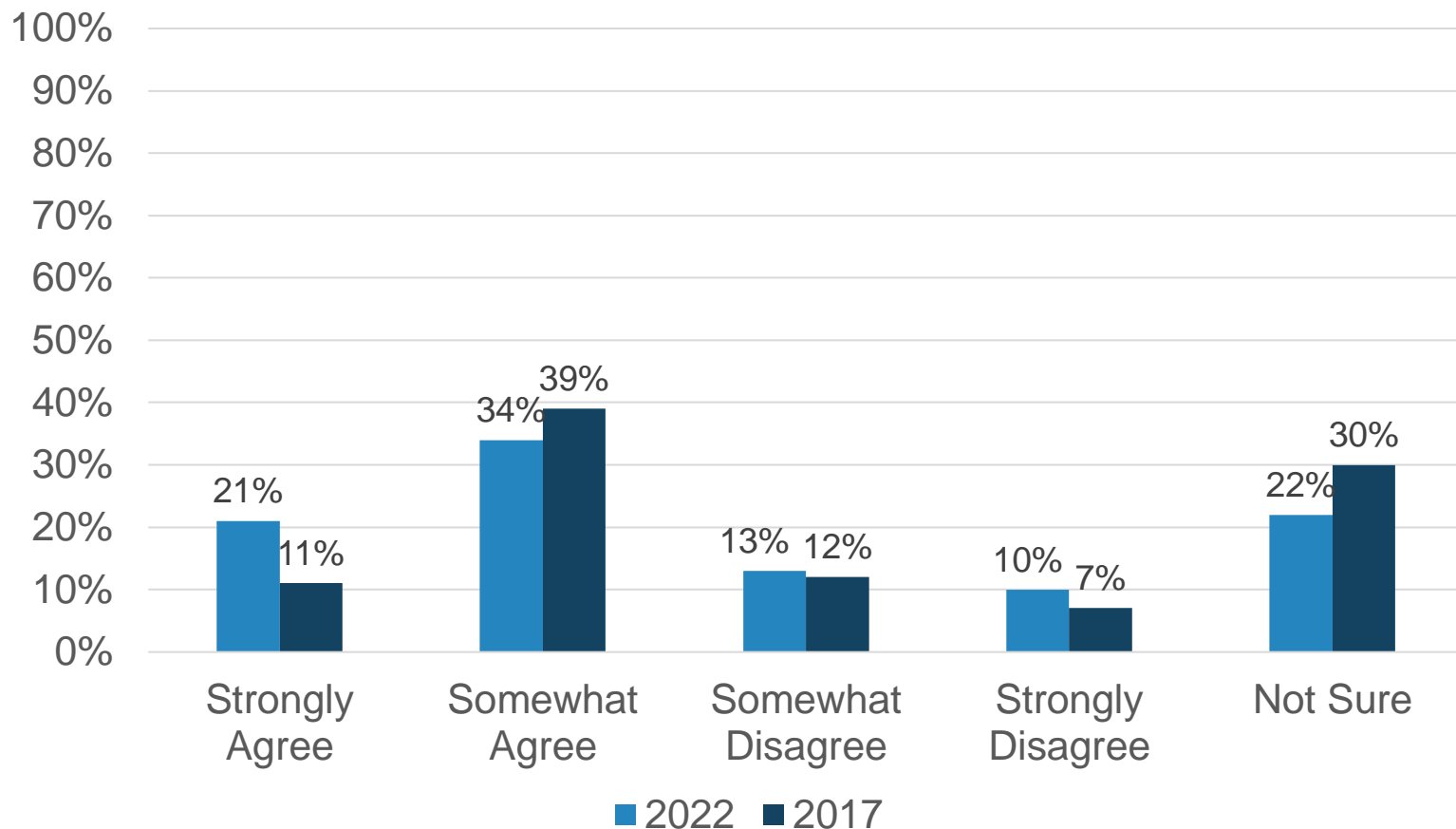
55% say that their political views match those of most people at their church



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Q: "My political views match those of most people at my church." n=1,002

More Protestant churchgoers strongly agree their political views match those of most people at their church than in 2017



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Q: "My political views match those of most people at my church."

Significant Differences

Gender

Age

Ethnicity

Region

Education Level

Denomination

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 denomination, worship service attendance, and evangelical beliefs.

DENOMINATION	WORSHIP SERVICE ATTENDANCE	EVANGELICAL BELIEFS
Baptist	1 to 3 times a month	Yes
Methodist	4 or more times a month	No
Lutheran	Not sure	
Presbyterian/Reformed		
Christian/Church of Christ		
Non-denominational		

“I prefer to attend a church where people share my political views.”

- Those age 18-34 (57%) and 35-49 (57%) are more likely to Agree than those 50-65 (47%) and 65+ (41%)
- Whites (54%) and African Americans (53%) are more likely to Agree than Hispanics (25%)
- Those with some college (54%) or with a Graduate Degree (55%) are more likely to Agree than who are High School Graduates or less (44%)
- Methodists (88%) and Christians/Church of Christ (80%) are more likely to Agree than Baptists (47%), Lutherans (38%), Presbyterian/Reformed (47%), and Non-denominational (38%)
- Those without evangelical beliefs are more likely to Agree than those with evangelical beliefs (54% v. 44%)

“My political views match those of most people at my church.”

- Those age 65+ are the least likely to Agree (46%) and the most likely to be Not sure (32%)
- Whites (58%) and African Americans (60%) are more likely to Agree than Hispanics (35%) and Other Ethnicities (44%)
- Methodists are the most likely to Agree (89%) followed by Christian/Church of Christ (76%) and Baptists (59%)
- Those with evangelical beliefs are more likely to Agree than those without evangelical beliefs (59% v. 53%)

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