

# 2024 Evangelical Views on Immigration Study

A SURVEY OF AMERICAN EVANGELICALS

Sponsored by the  
Evangelical Immigration Table

Lifeway **research**

# Methodology

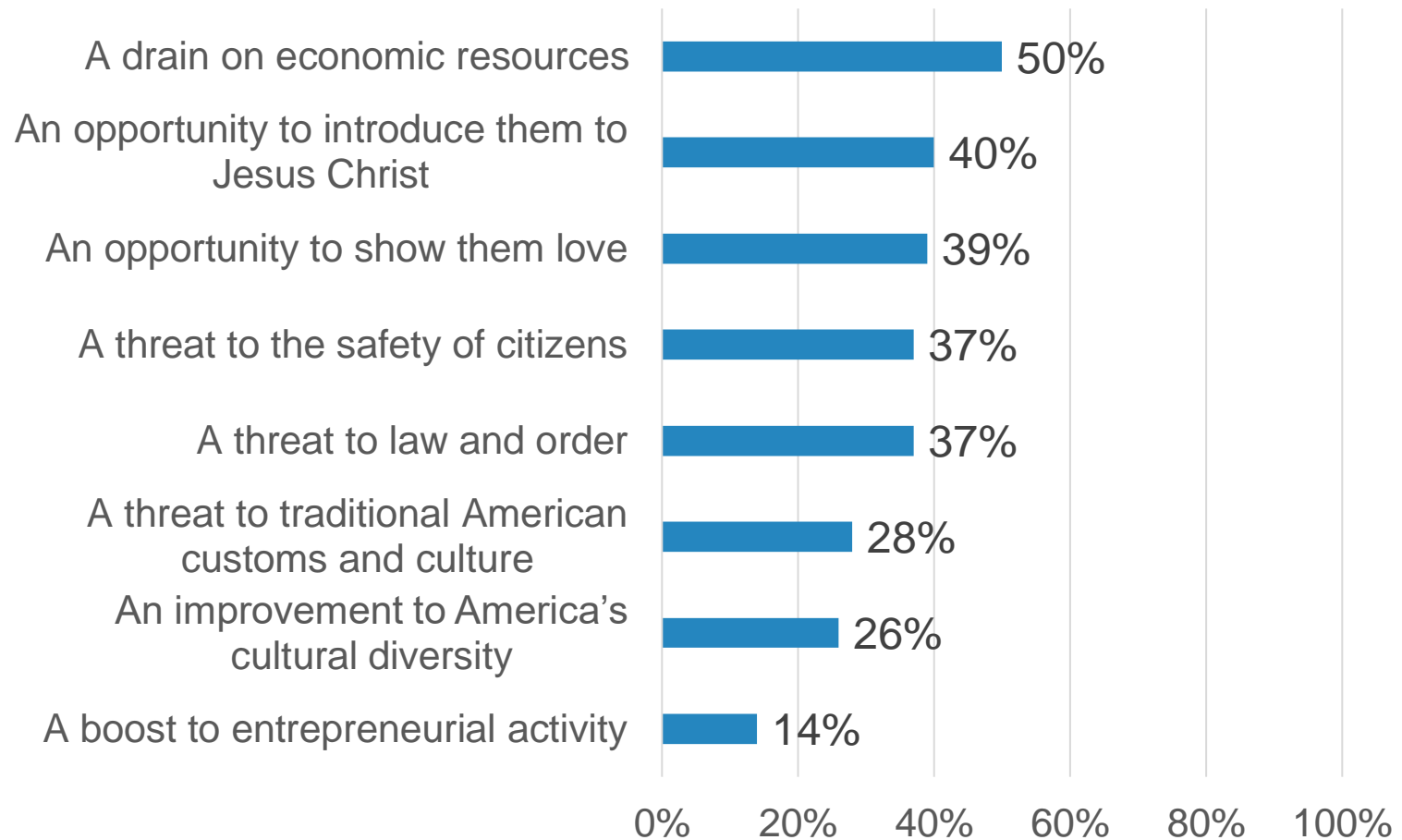
- The study was sponsored by the Evangelical Immigration Table, World Relief, National Association of Evangelicals, National Latino Evangelical Coalition, Ethics & Religious Liberty Commission, Council for Christian Colleges & Universities, and Bethany Christian Services.
- The online survey of 1,010 Americans was conducted January 15-22, 2024, using a national pre-recruited panel
- Quotas and slight weights were used to balance gender, age, region, ethnicity, and education to more accurately reflect the population
- The survey was completed by people who self-identified as evangelical or qualified as evangelical by belief.
- The completed sample is 1,010 surveys
- 507 surveys were completed by those with evangelical beliefs; 914 were completed by self-identified evangelicals
- The sample provides 95% confidence that the sampling error does not exceed  $\pm 3.1\%$  This margin of error accounts for the effect of weighting
- Margins of error are higher in sub-groups
- Comparisons are made to an online survey by Lifeway Research of 911 self-identified evangelicals August 8-19, 2022, and 1,000 self-identified evangelicals February 17-27, 2015

# Definitions

- **Self-Identified Evangelicals** are those who consider themselves an evangelical, a born-again, or a fundamentalist Christian
- **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

# “The number of recent immigrants to the United States is...”

Total Evangelicals

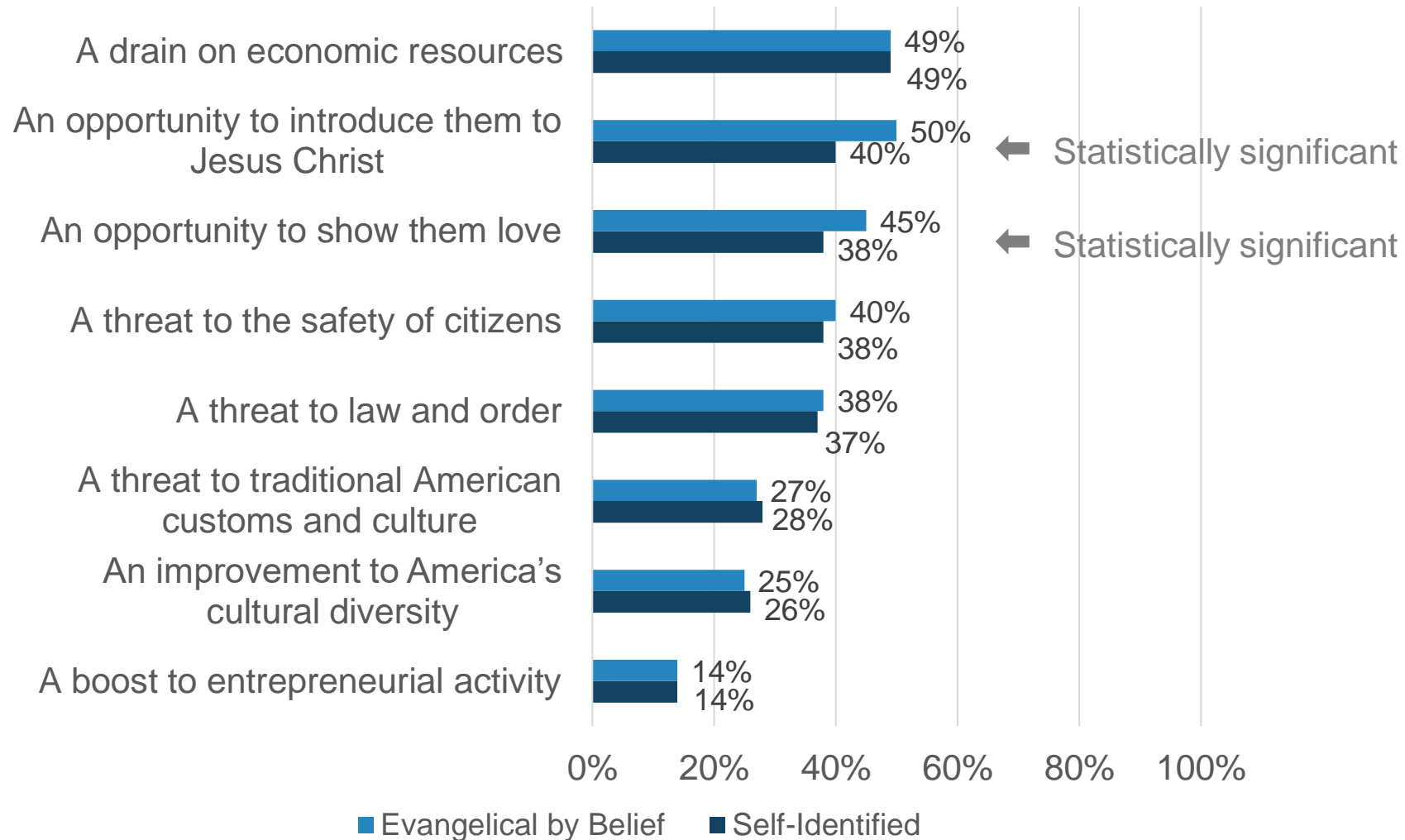


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Q13: “Which of the following reflect your beliefs? The number of recent immigrants to the United States is... (Select all that apply)” n=1,010

# “The number of recent immigrants to the United States is...”

Evangelical by Belief v. Self-Identified

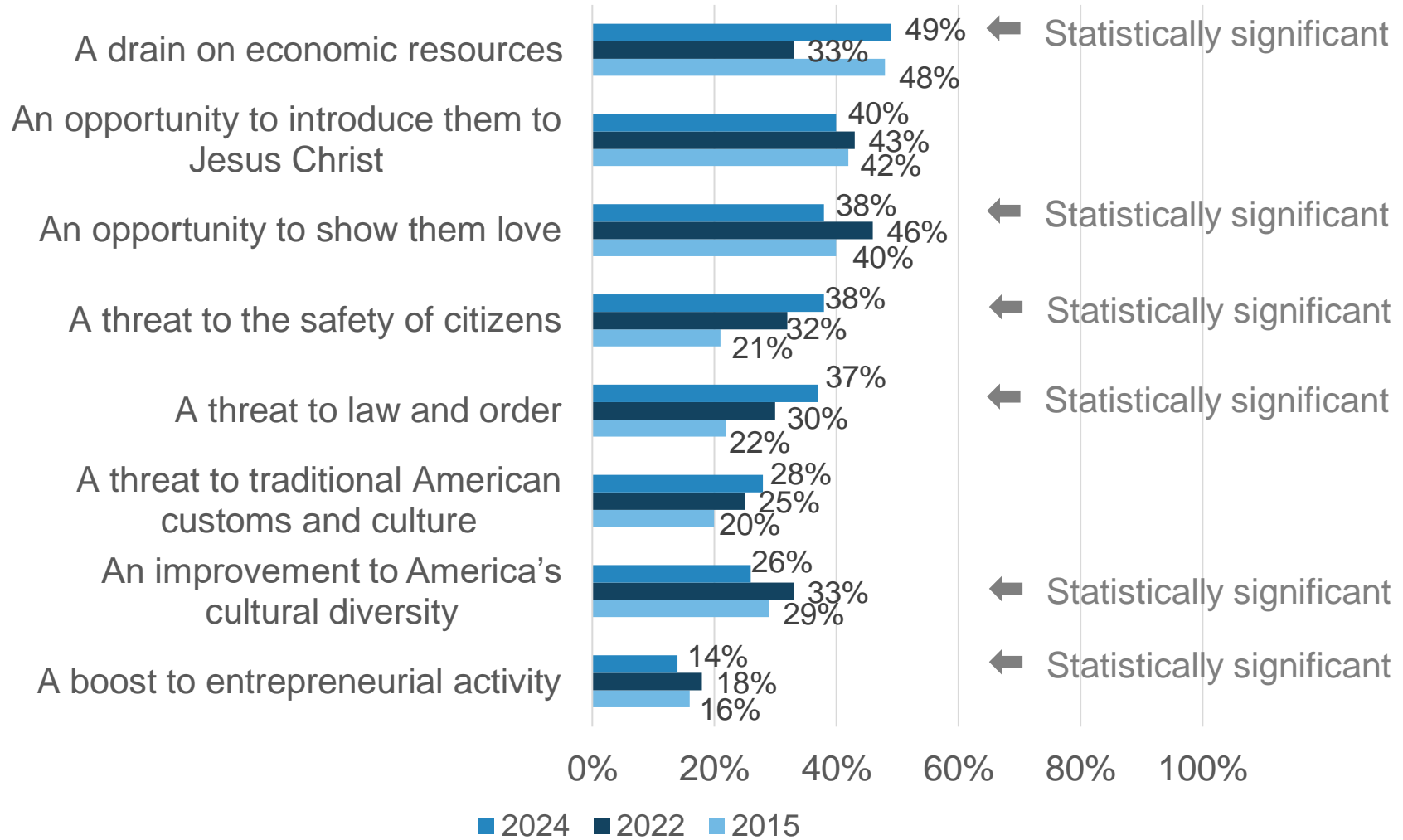


Lifeway research

Q13: “Which of the following reflect your beliefs? The number of recent immigrants to the United States is... (Select all that apply)” n=507 (EVB), 914 (SIEV)

# Self-Identified Evangelicals are slightly more pessimistic than in 2022 about the number of recent immigrants

Self-Identified Evangelicals 2024 compared to 2022 & 2015

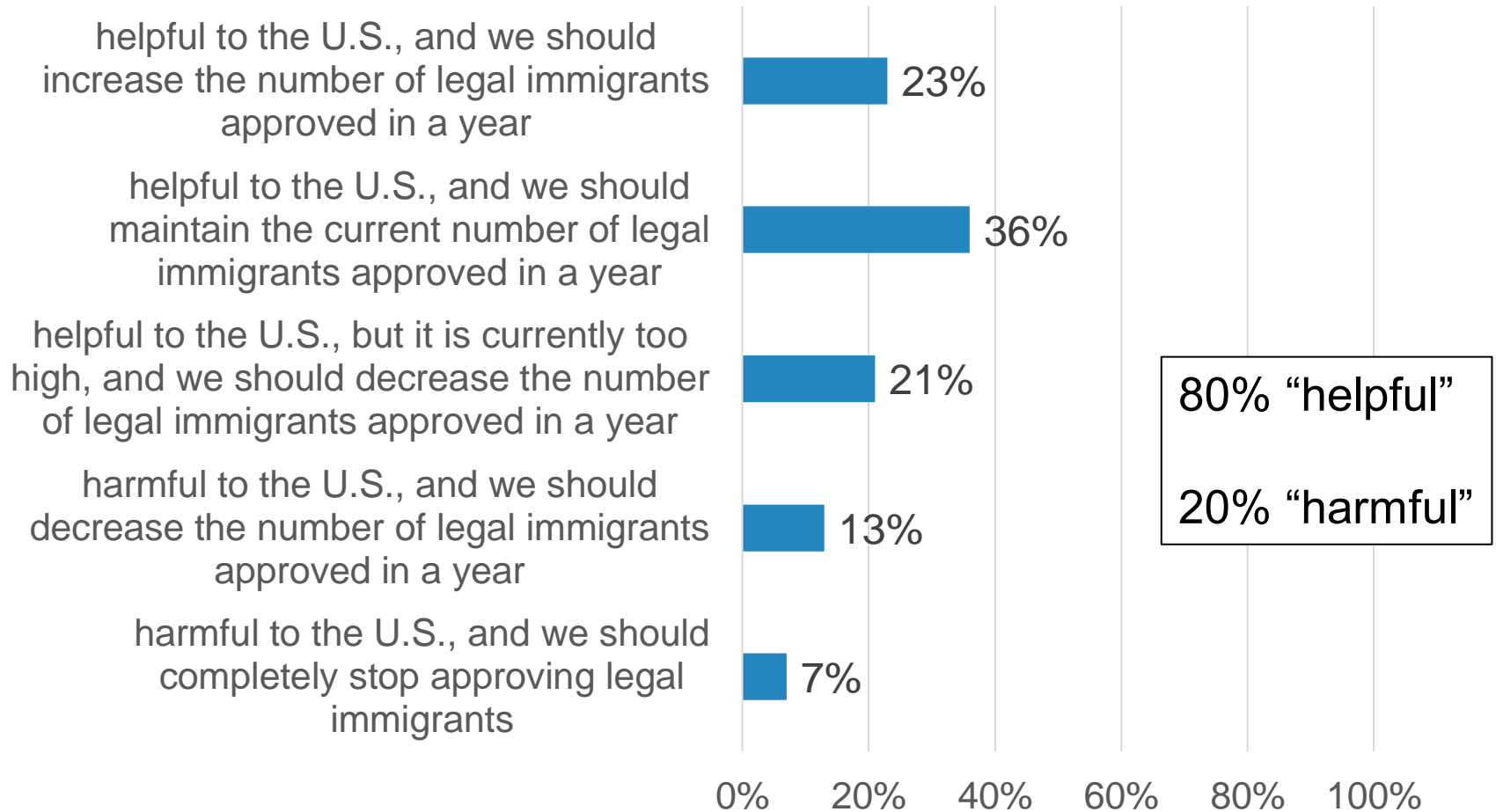


Lifeway research

Q13: "Which of the following reflect your beliefs? The number of recent immigrants to the United States are... (Select all that apply)"

# “Legal immigration is...”

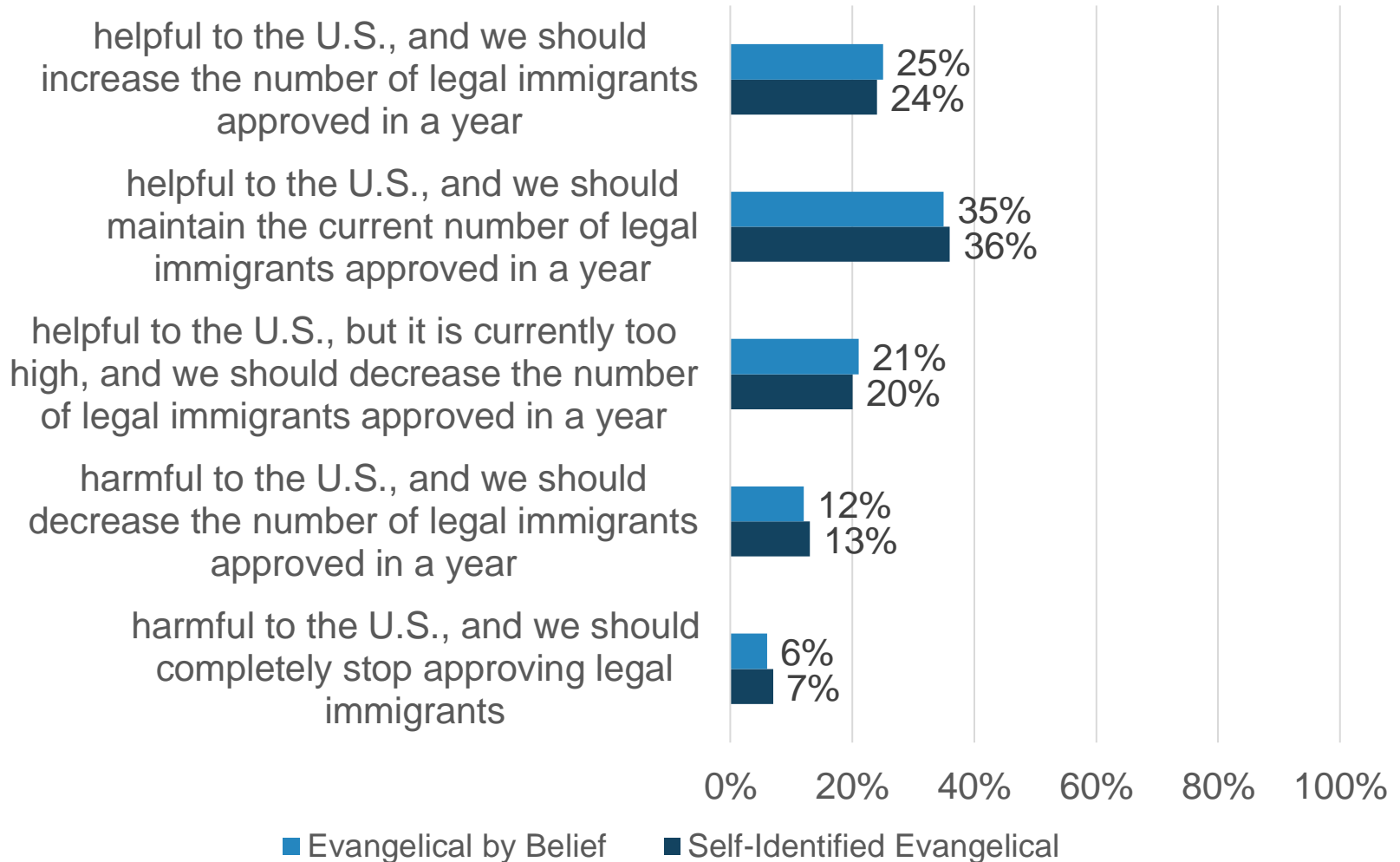
## Total Evangelicals



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# “Legal immigration is...”

Evangelical by Belief v. Self-Identified

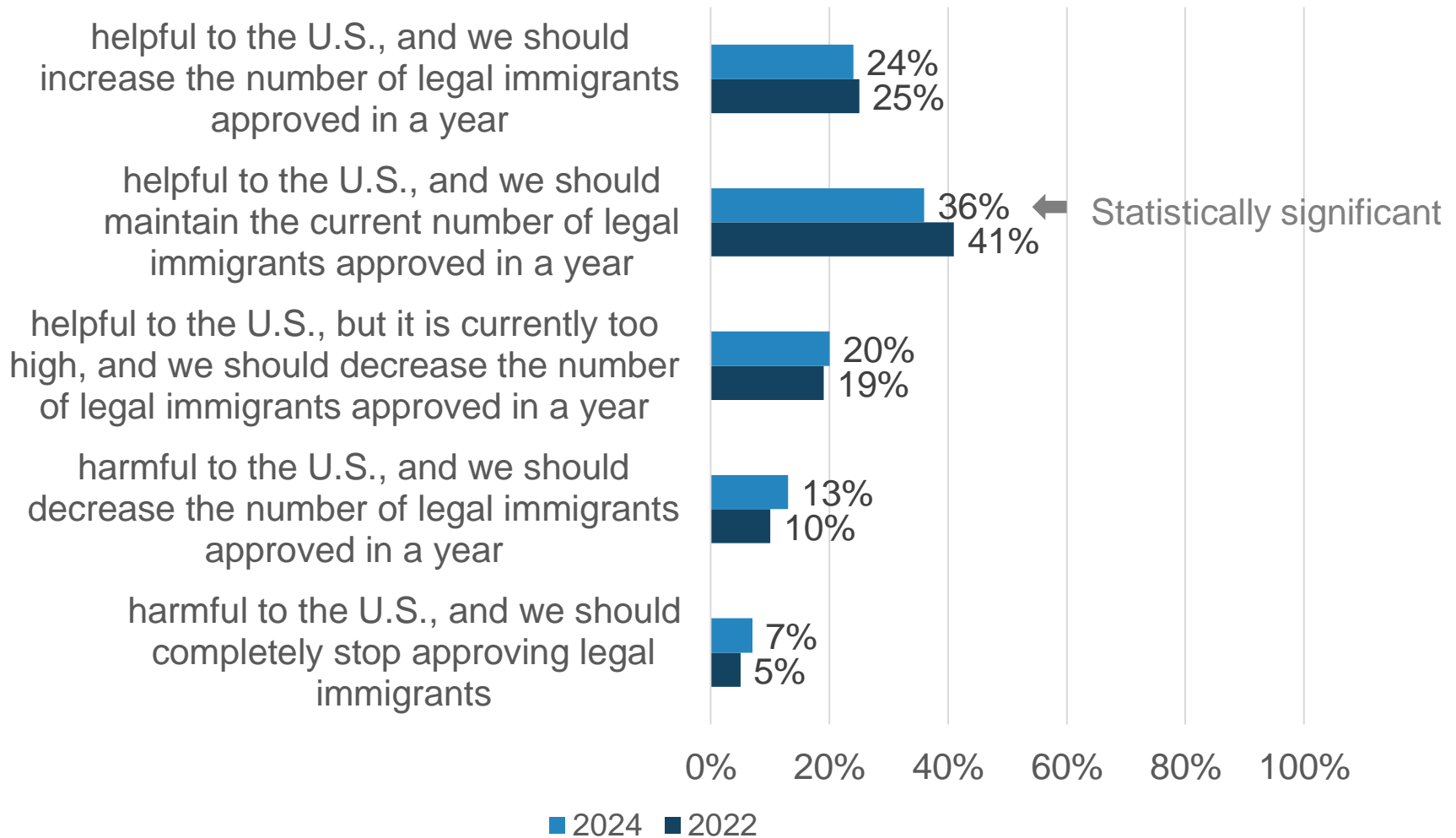


Lifeway research



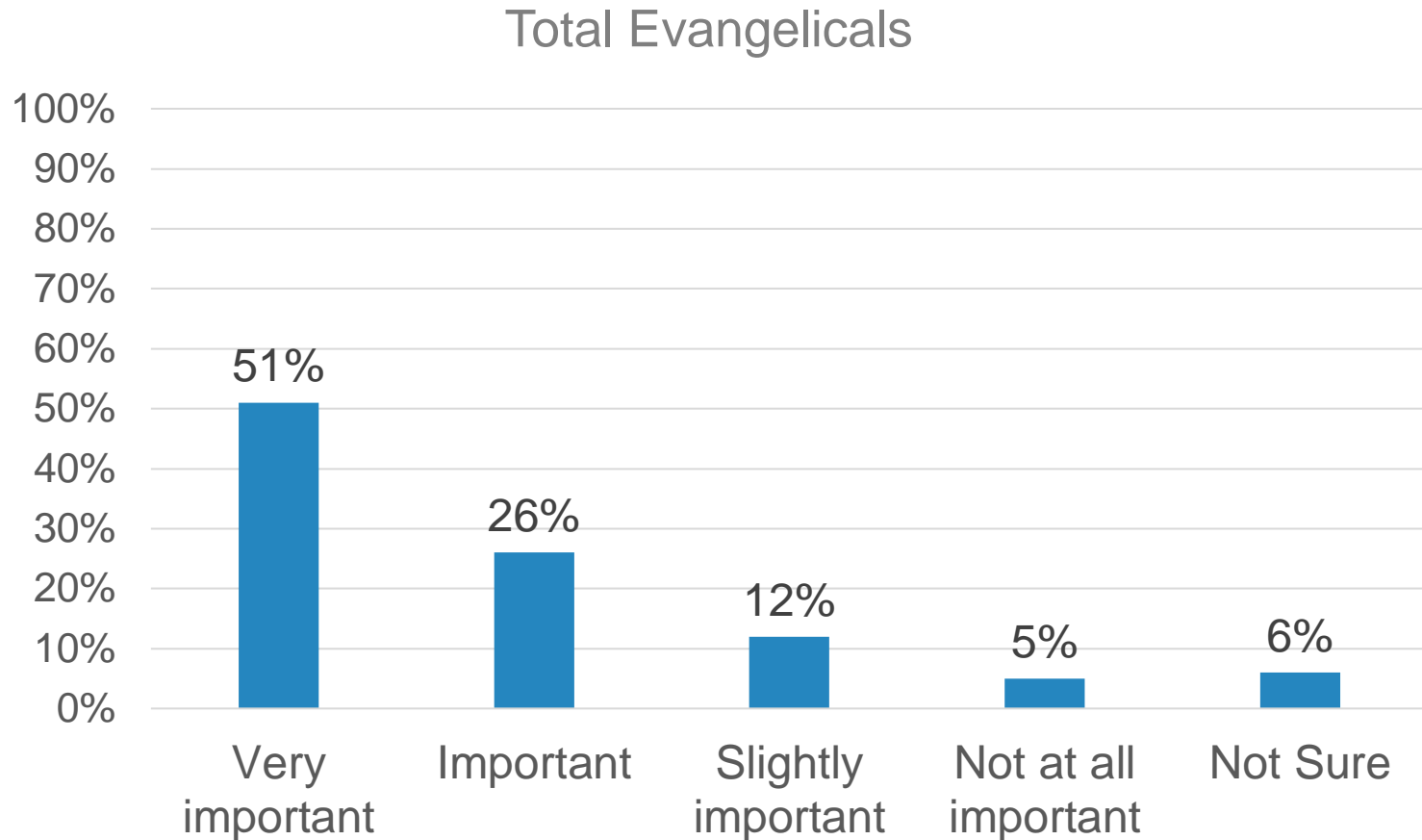
# “Legal immigration is...”

Self-Identified Evangelicals 2024 compared to 2022



Lifeway research

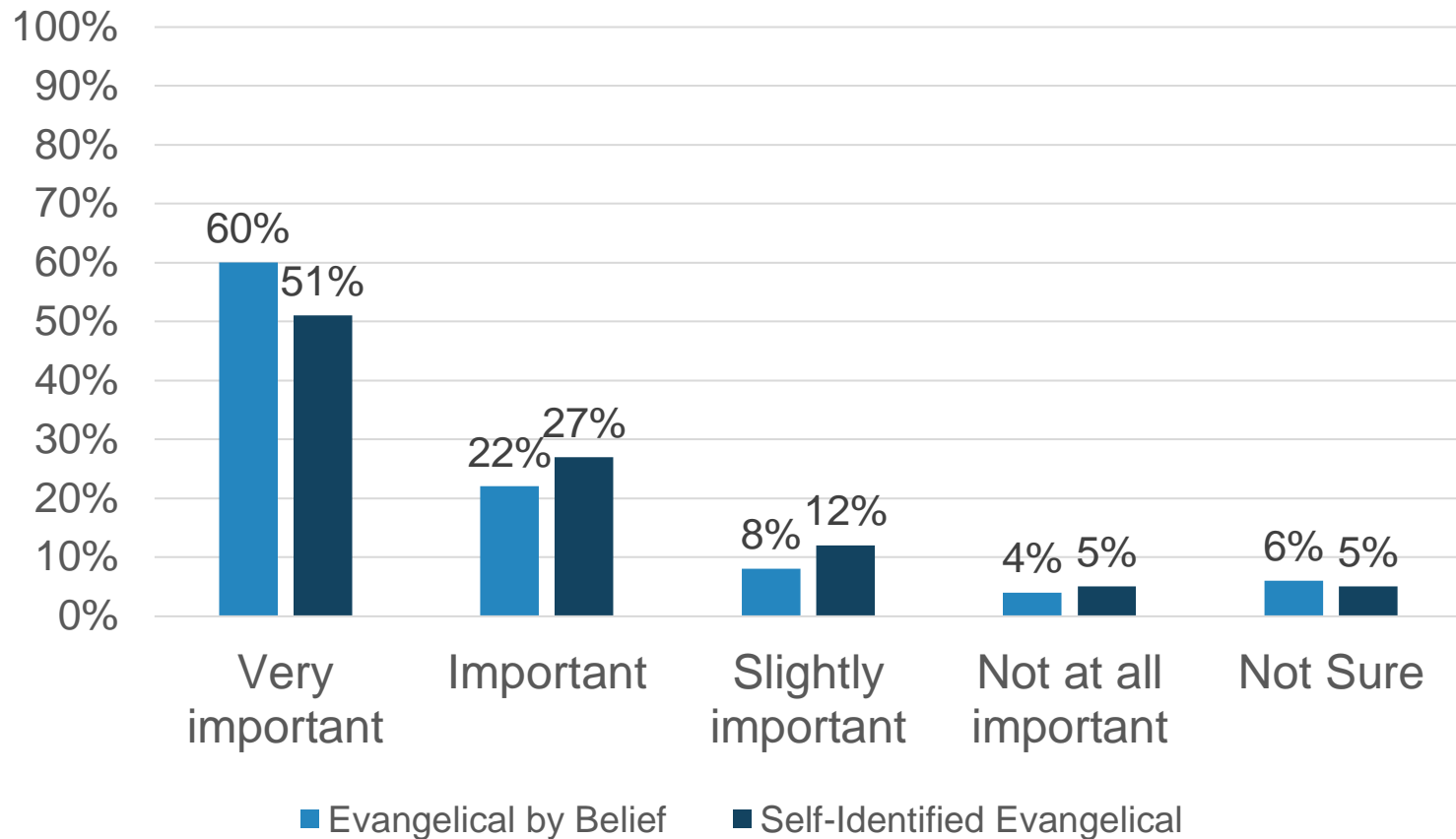
# 77% say it is important that Congress passes significant new immigration legislation in 2024



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# Those with Evangelical Beliefs are more likely to say it is very important that Congress pass new immigration legislation in 2024

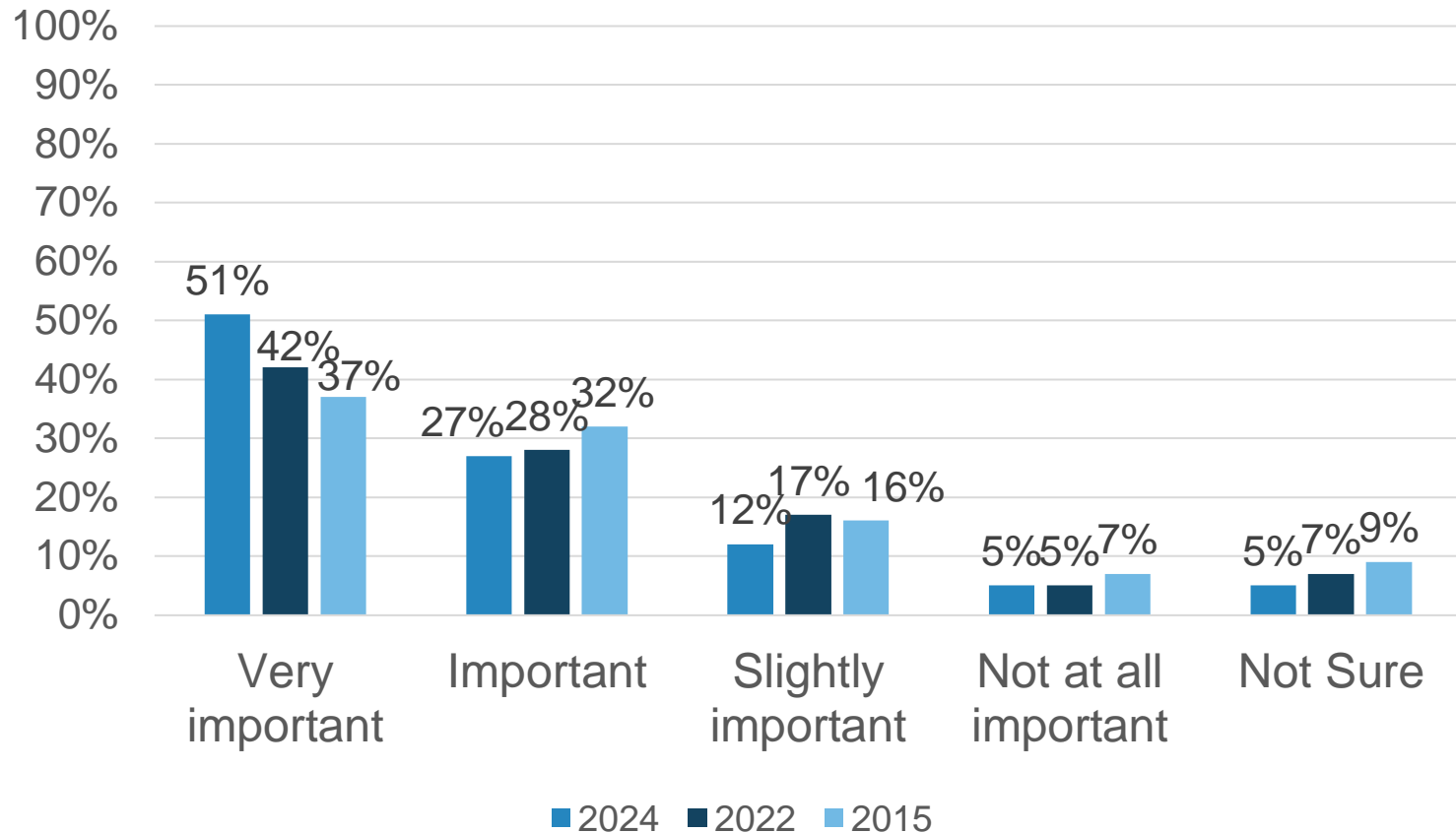
Evangelical by Belief v. Self-Identified



Lifeway research

# More Self-Identified Evangelicals say it is important for Congress to pass new immigration legislation this year than in 2022 and 2015 (78% v. 71% and 68%)

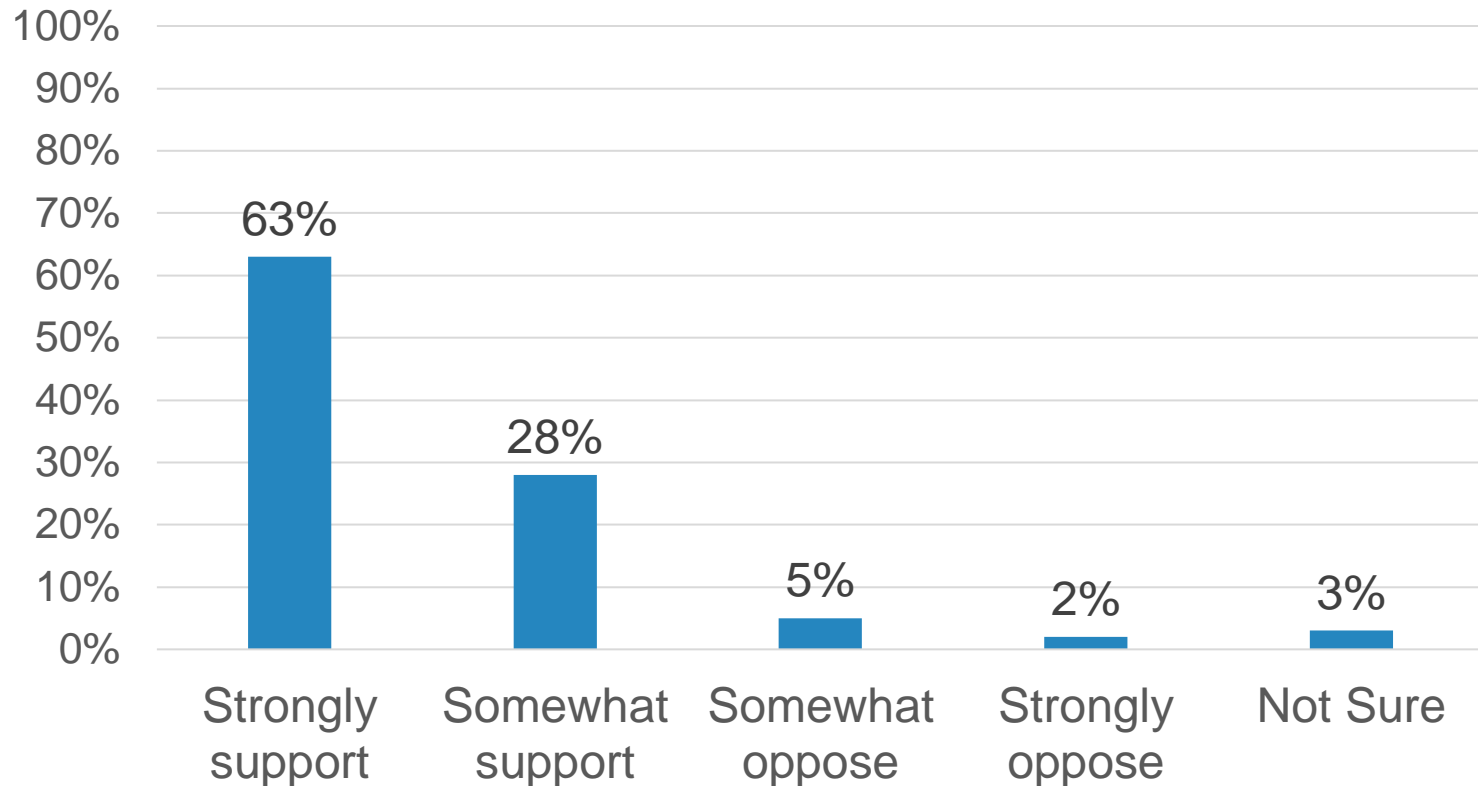
Self-Identified Evangelicals 2024 compared to 2022 & 2015



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# 91% support potential immigration legislation that respects the God-given dignity of every person

Total Evangelicals

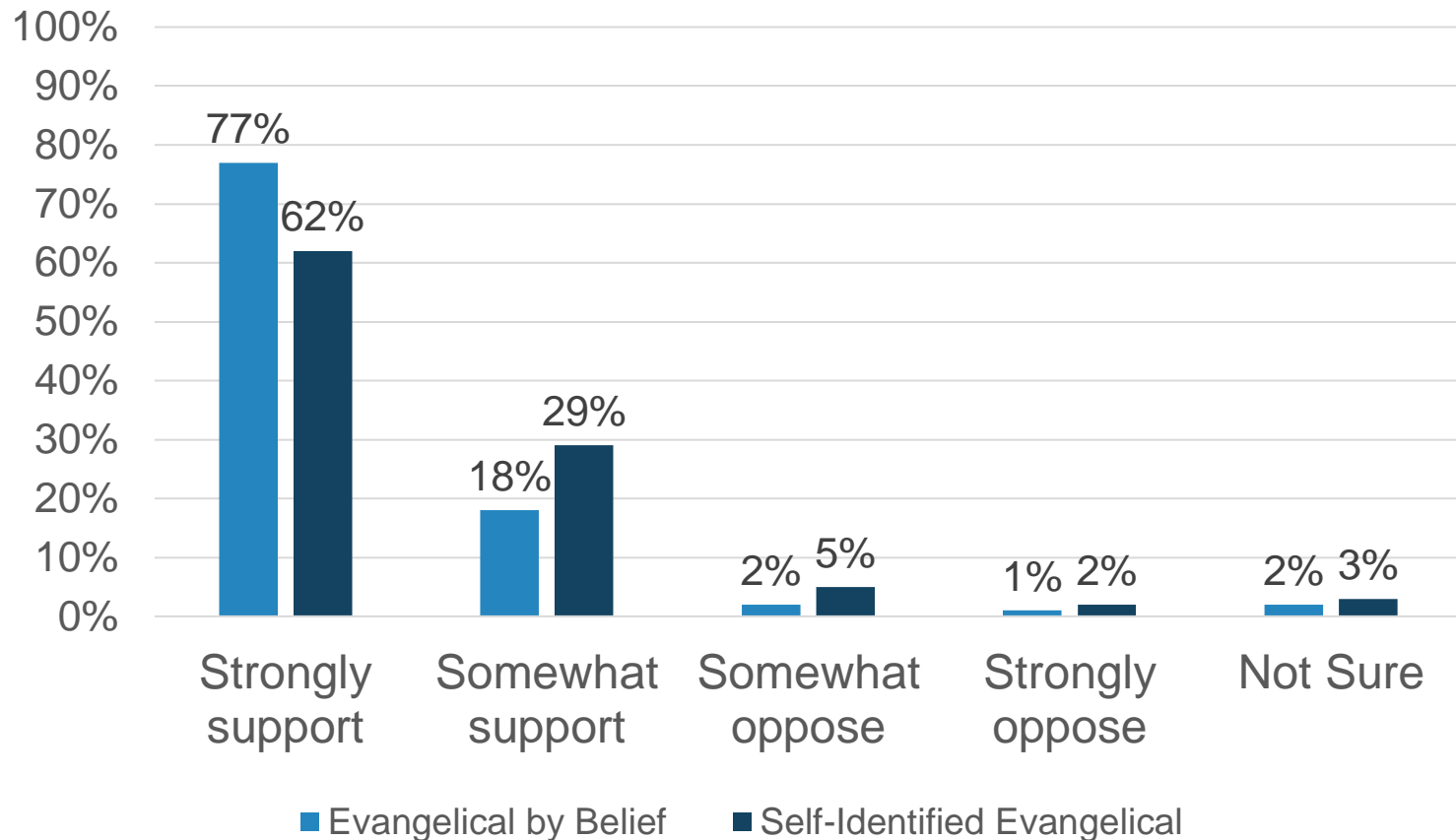


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Q16\_1: "In regards to potential legislation addressing illegal immigration, how supportive are you of each of these principles for immigration reform legislation? (Select one response for each principle) **Respect the God-given dignity of every person**" n=1,010

# Those with Evangelical Beliefs are more likely to strongly support respecting the God-given dignity of every person than Self-Identified Evangelicals

Evangelical by Belief v. Self-Identified



Lifeway research

# More Self-Identified Evangelicals support the immigration reform principle of respecting the God-given dignity of every person than in 2015

Self-Identified Evangelicals 2024 compared to 2022 and 2015

**2015: 82%** answered Yes, they believe immigration reform legislation should **respect the God-given dignity of every person**

**2022: 90%** Strongly/Somewhat support this principle for immigration reform legislation: **Respect the God-given dignity of every person**

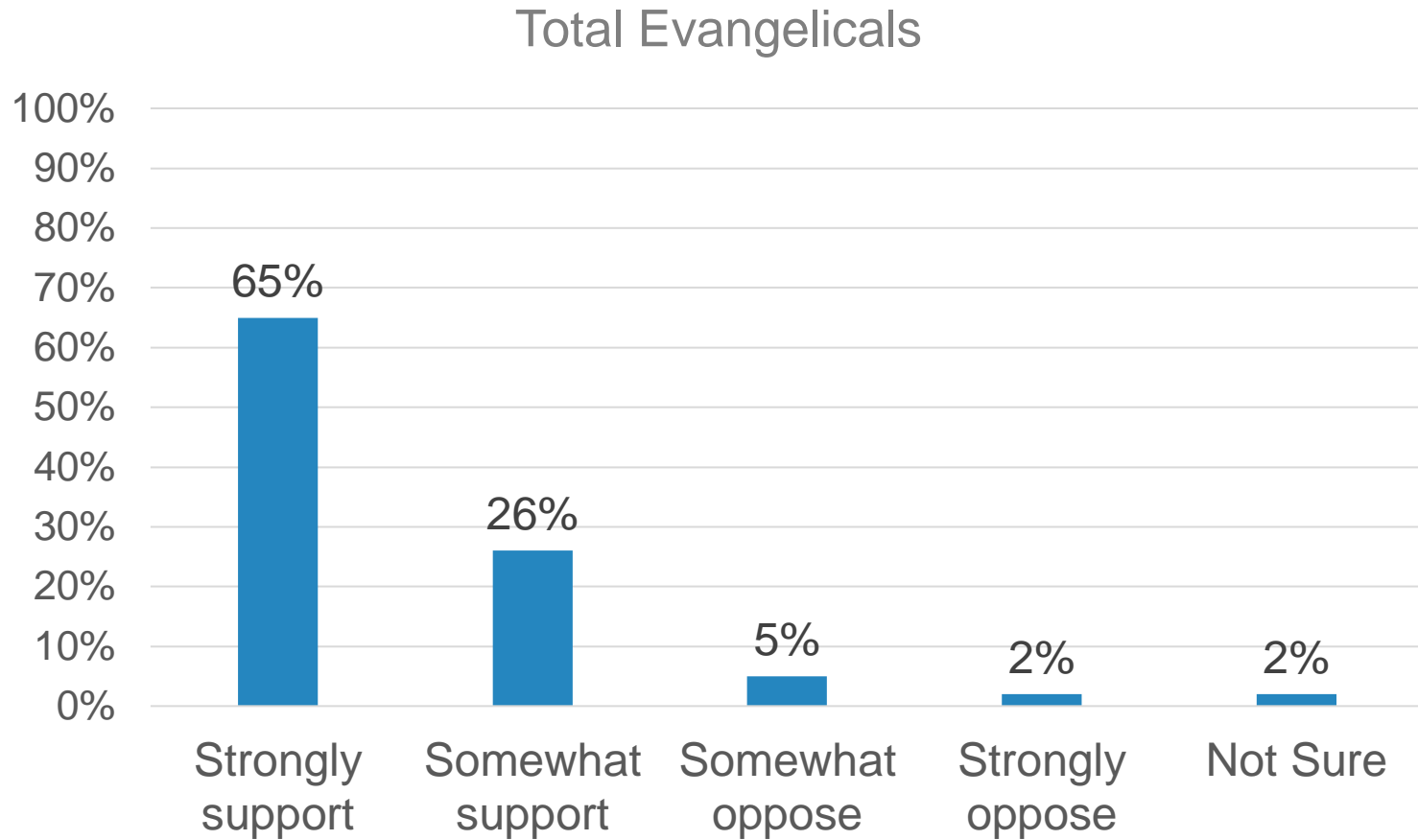
**2024: 90%** Strongly/Somewhat support this principle for immigration reform legislation: **Respect the God-given dignity of every person**

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2015: "Do you believe immigration reform legislation should respect the God-given dignity of every person?"

2024 and 2022: "In regards to potential legislation addressing illegal immigration, how supportive are you of each of these principles for immigration reform legislation? (Select one response for each principle) **Respect the God-given dignity of every person**"

# 91% support potential immigration legislation that protects the unity of the immediate family



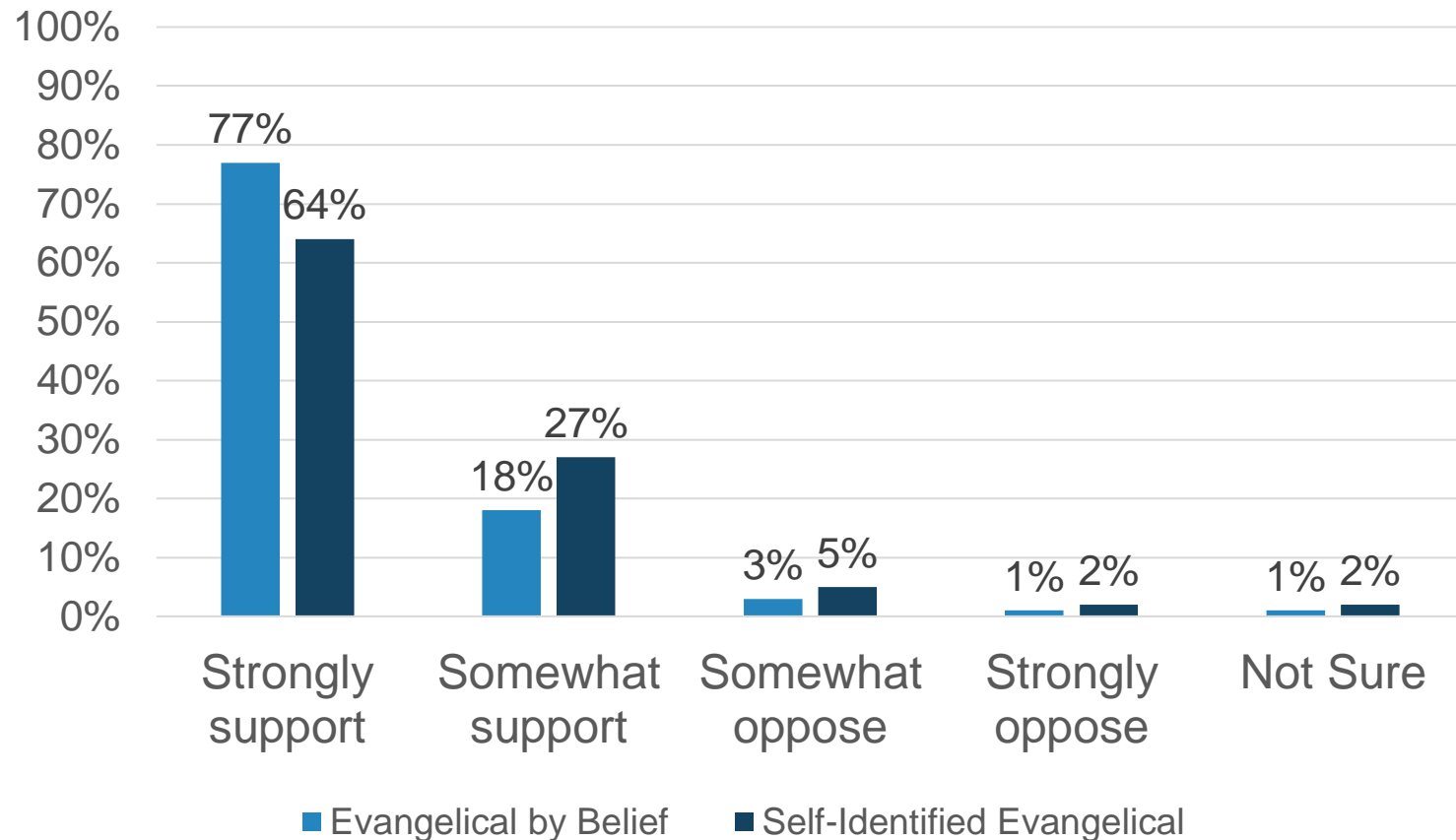
Lifeway research

Q16\_2: "In regards to potential legislation addressing illegal immigration, how supportive are you of each of these principles for immigration reform legislation? (Select one response for each principle) **Protect the unity of the immediate family**" n=1,010



# Those with Evangelical Beliefs are more likely to strongly support protecting the unity of the immediate family than Self-Identified Evangelicals

Evangelical by Belief v. Self-Identified



Lifeway research

# More Self-Identified Evangelicals support the immigration reform principle of protecting the unity of the immediate family than in 2015

Self-Identified Evangelicals 2024 compared to 2022 and 2015

**2015: 72%** answered Yes, they believe immigration reform legislation should **protect the unity of the immediate family**

**2022: 92%** Strongly/Somewhat support this principle for immigration reform legislation:  
**Protect the unity of the immediate family**

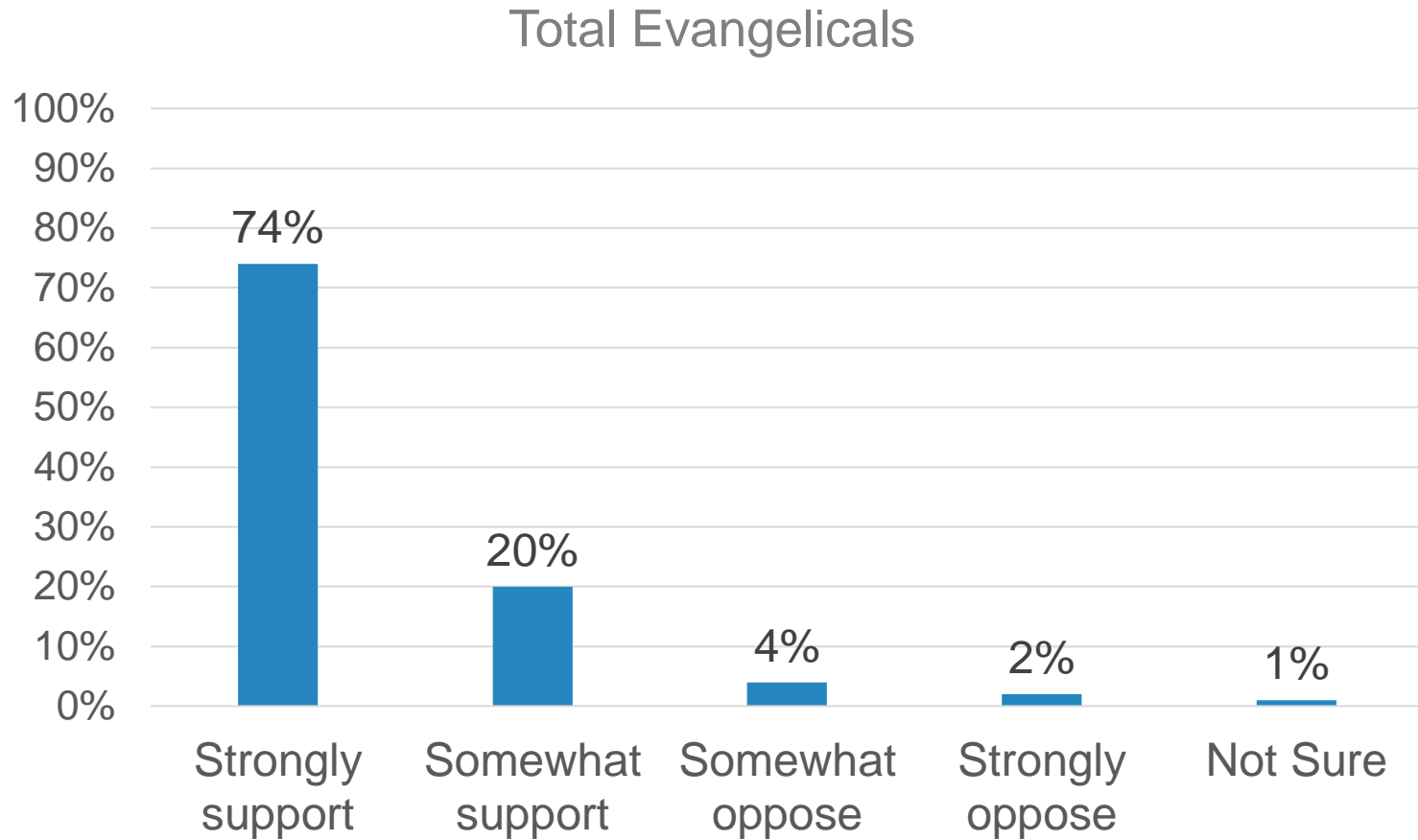
**2024: 91%** Strongly/Somewhat support this principle for immigration reform legislation:  
**Protect the unity of the immediate family**

Lifeway [research](#)

2015: "Do you believe immigration reform legislation should protect the unity of the immediate family?"

2024 and 2022: "In regards to potential legislation addressing illegal immigration, how supportive are you of each of these principles for immigration reform legislation? (Select one response for each principle) **Protect the unity of the immediate family**"

# 93% support potential immigration legislation that respects the rule of law

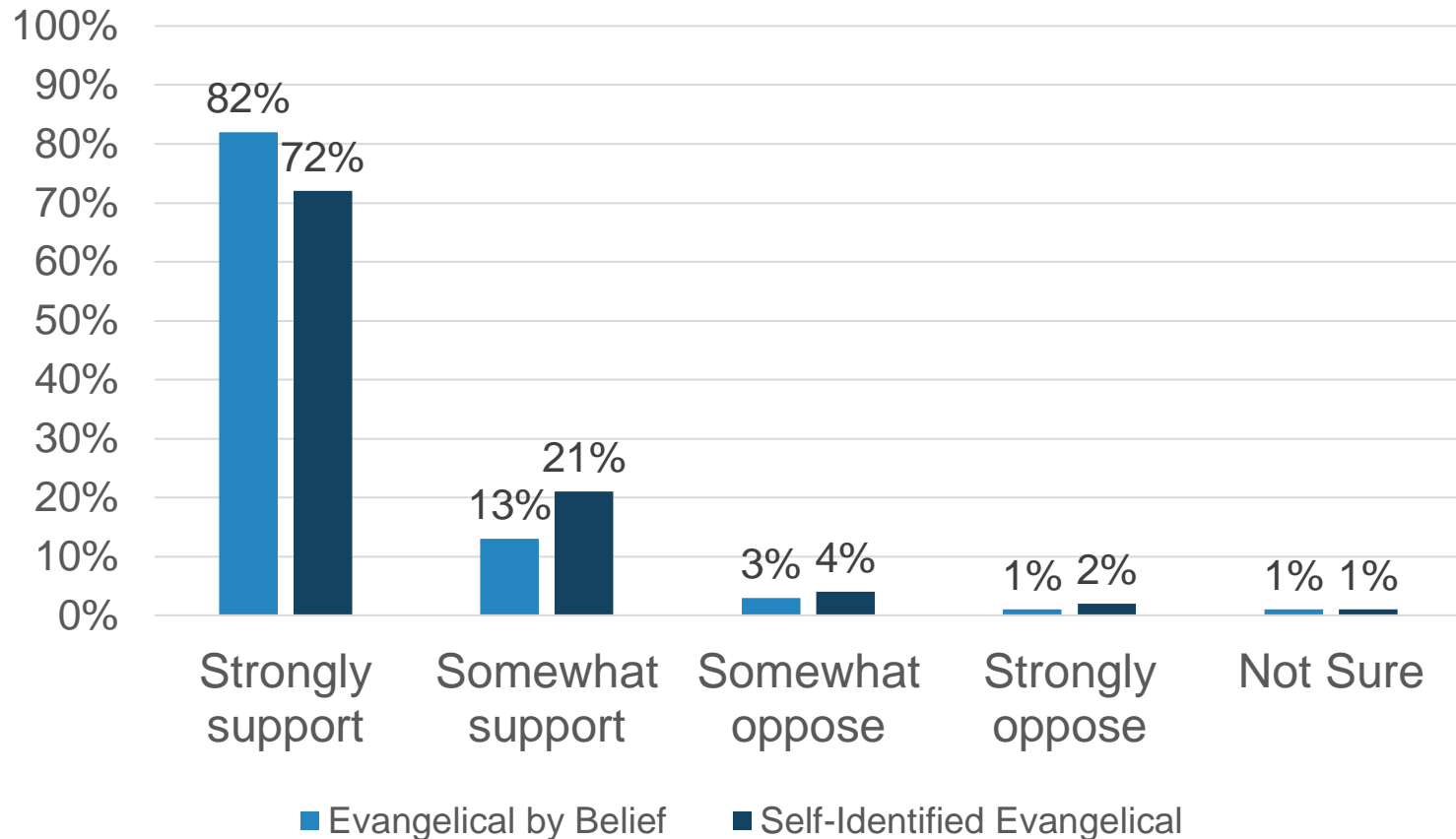


Lifeway research

Q16\_3: "In regards to potential legislation addressing illegal immigration, how supportive are you of each of these principles for immigration reform legislation? (Select one response for each principle) **Respect the rule of law**" n=1,010

# Those with Evangelical Beliefs are more likely to strongly support respecting the rule of law than Self-Identified Evangelicals

Evangelical by Belief v. Self-Identified



Lifeway research

# More Self-Identified Evangelicals support the immigration reform principle of respecting the rule of law than in 2015

Self-Identified Evangelicals 2024 compared to 2022 and 2015

**2015: 88%** answered Yes, they believe immigration reform legislation should **respect the rule of law**

**2022: 92%** Strongly/Somewhat support this principle for immigration reform legislation:  
**Respect the rule of law**

**2024: 93%** Strongly/Somewhat support this principle for immigration reform legislation:  
**Respect the rule of law**

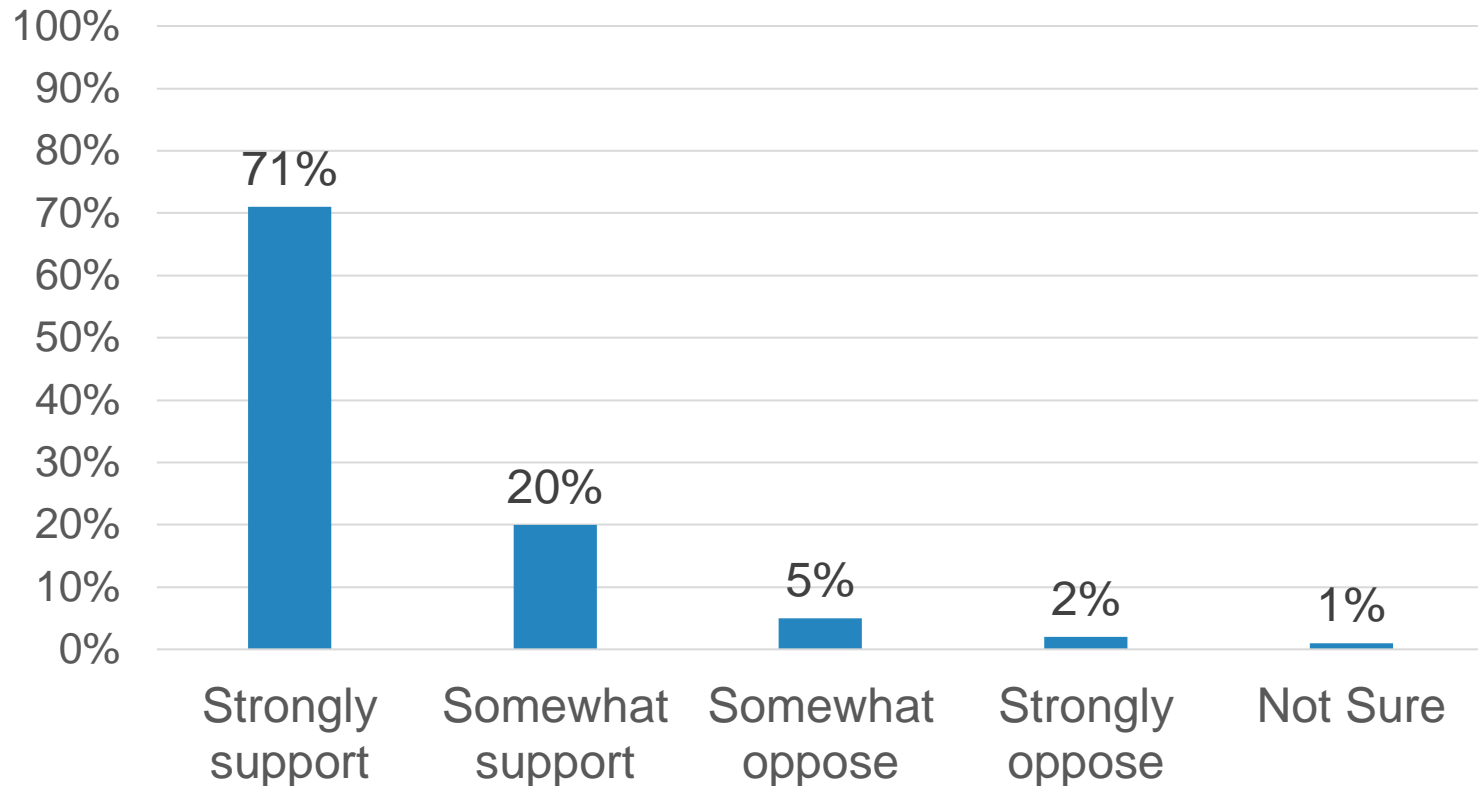
Lifeway **research**

2015: "Do you believe immigration reform legislation should respect the rule of law?"

2024 and 2022: "In regards to potential legislation addressing illegal immigration, how supportive are you of each of these principles for immigration reform legislation? (Select one response for each principle) **Respect the rule of law**"

# 91% support potential immigration legislation that guarantees secure national borders

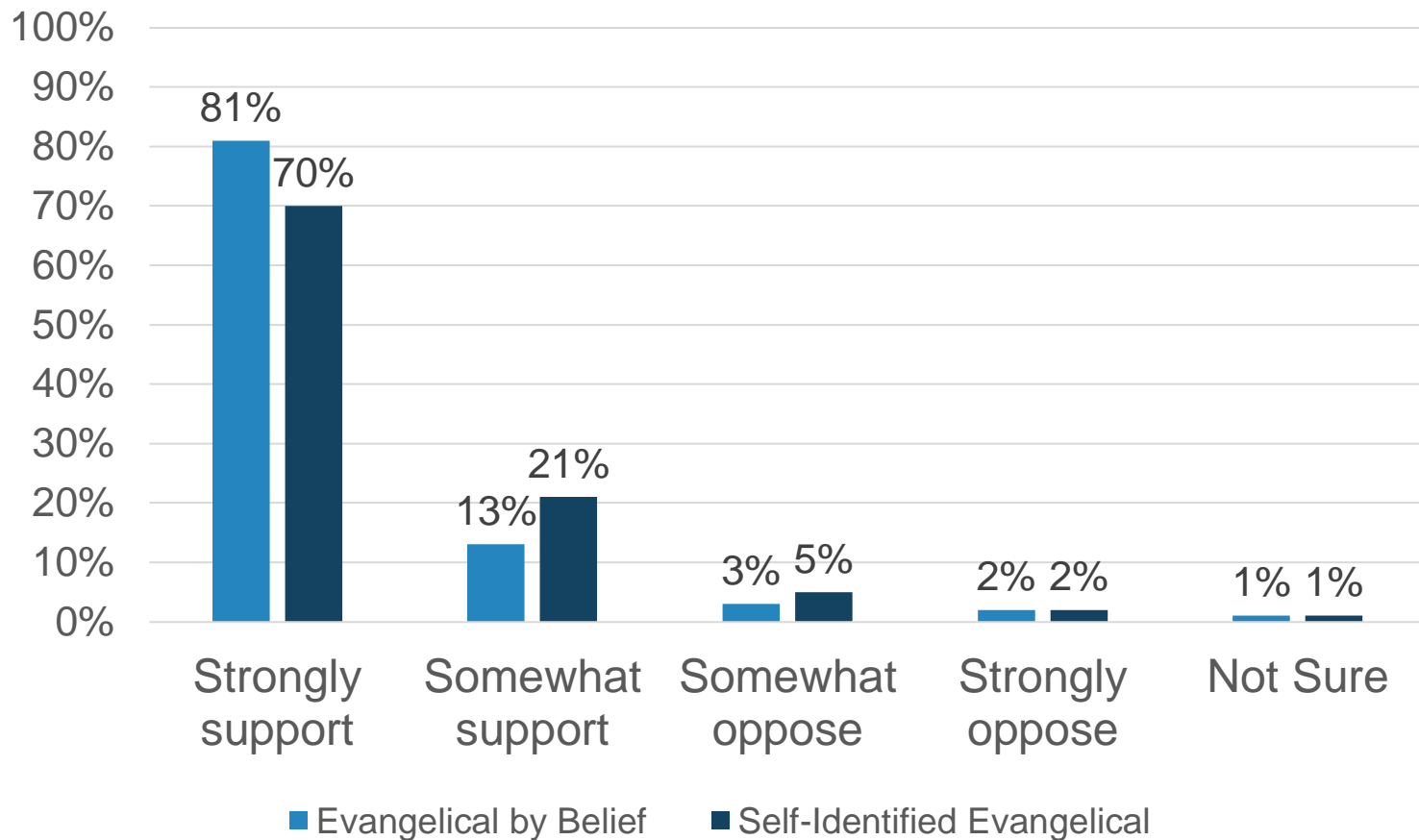
Total Evangelicals



Lifeway research

# Those with Evangelical Beliefs are more likely to strongly support guaranteeing secure national borders than Self-Identified Evangelicals

Evangelical by Belief v. Self-Identified



Lifeway research

Q16\_4: "In regards to potential legislation addressing illegal immigration, how supportive are you of each of these principles for immigration reform legislation? (Select one response for each principle) **Guarantee secure national borders**" n=507 (EVB), 914 (SIEV)

# More Self-Identified Evangelicals support the immigration reform principle of guaranteeing secure national borders than in 2015

Self-Identified Evangelicals 2024 compared to 2022 and 2015

**2015: 86%** answered Yes, they believe immigration reform legislation should **guarantee secure national borders**

**2022: 89%** Strongly/Somewhat support this principle for immigration reform legislation:  
**Guarantee secure national borders**

**2024: 91%** Strongly/Somewhat support this principle for immigration reform legislation:  
**Guarantee secure national borders**

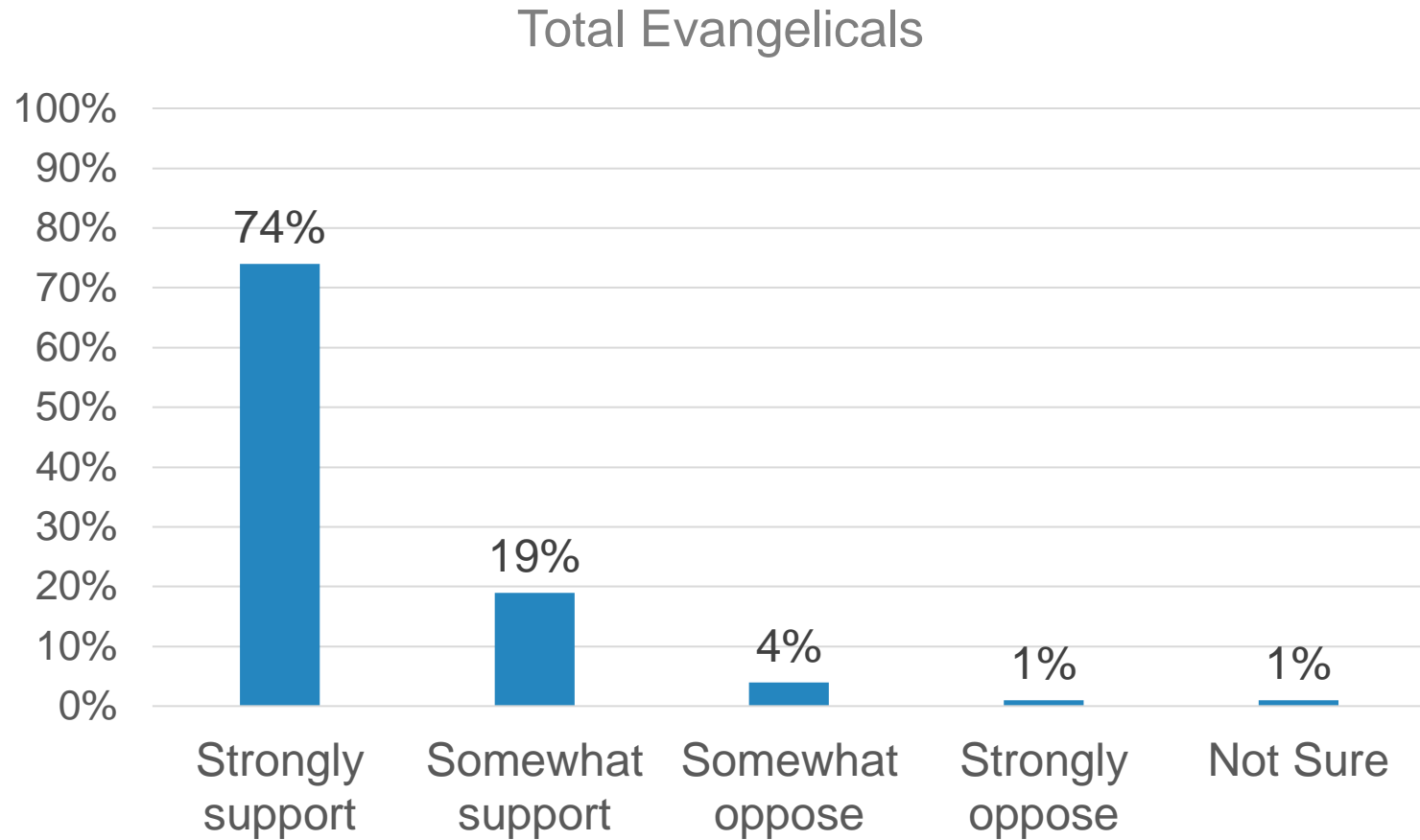
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2015: "Do you believe immigration reform legislation should guarantee secure national borders?"

2024 and 2022: "In regards to potential legislation addressing illegal immigration, how supportive are you of each of these principles for immigration reform legislation? (Select one response for each principle) **Guarantee secure national borders**"



# 93% support potential immigration legislation that ensures fairness to taxpayers

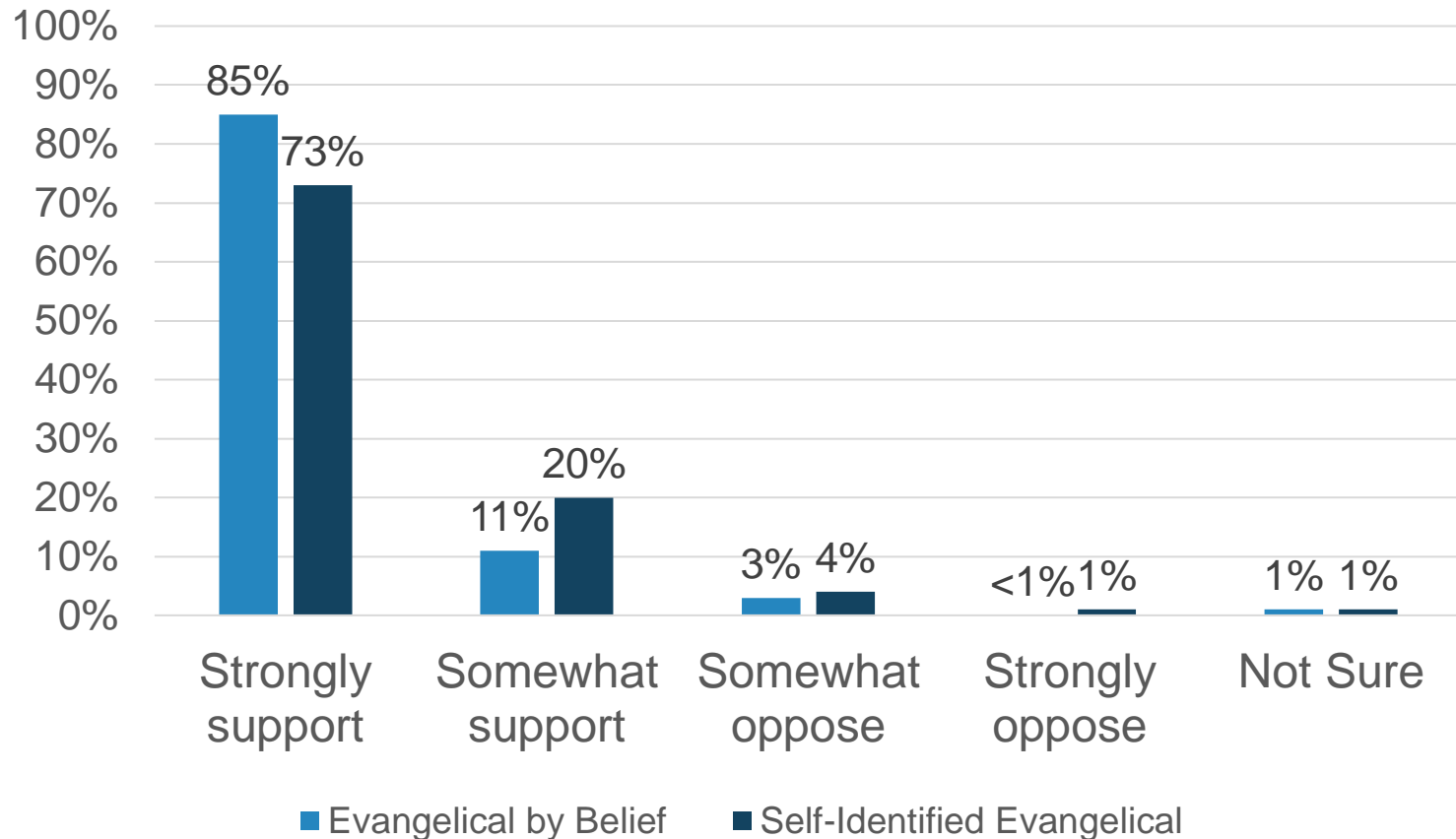


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Q16\_5: "In regards to potential legislation addressing illegal immigration, how supportive are you of each of these principles for immigration reform legislation? (Select one response for each principle) **Ensure fairness to taxpayers**" n=1,010

# Those with Evangelical Beliefs are more likely to strongly support ensuring fairness to taxpayers than Self-Identified Evangelicals

Evangelical by Belief v. Self-Identified



Lifeway research

# More Self-Identified Evangelicals support the immigration reform principle of ensuring fairness to taxpayers than in 2015

Self-Identified Evangelicals 2024 compared to 2022 and 2015

**2015: 90%** answered Yes, they believe immigration reform legislation should **ensure fairness to taxpayers**

**2022: 94%** Strongly/Somewhat support this principle for immigration reform legislation:  
**Ensure fairness to taxpayers**

**2024: 93%** Strongly/Somewhat support this principle for immigration reform legislation:  
**Ensure fairness to taxpayers**

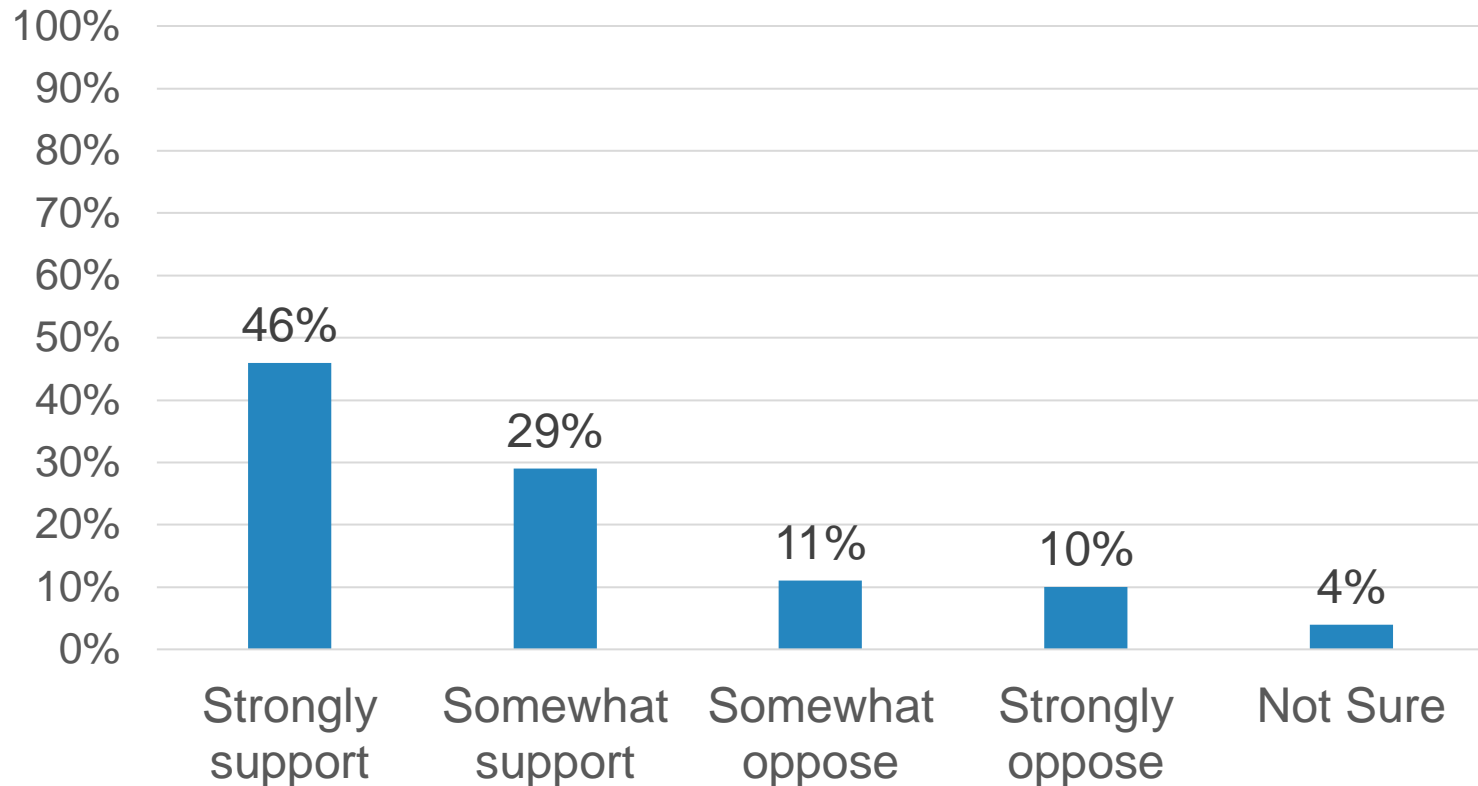
Lifeway [research](#)

2015: "Do you believe immigration reform legislation should ensure fairness to taxpayers?"

2024 and 2022: "In regards to potential legislation addressing illegal immigration, how supportive are you of each of these principles for immigration reform legislation? (Select one response for each principle) **Ensure fairness to taxpayers**"

# 75% support potential immigration legislation that establishes a path toward citizenship

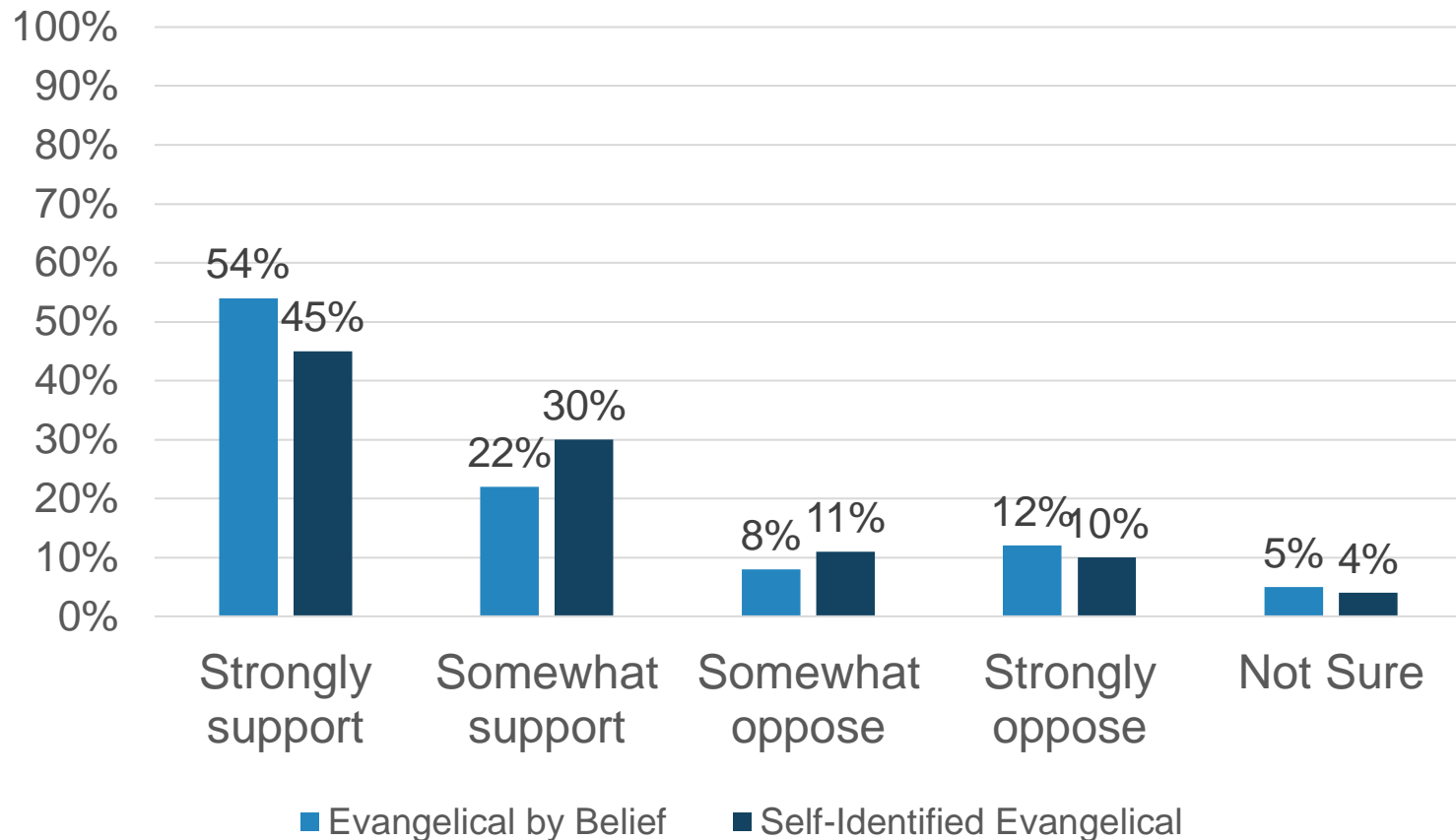
Total Evangelicals



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# Those with Evangelical Beliefs are more likely to strongly support a path to citizenship than Self-Identified Evangelicals

Evangelical by Belief v. Self-Identified



Lifeway research

# More Self-Identified Evangelicals support the immigration reform principle of establishing a path to citizenship than in 2015

Self-Identified Evangelicals 2024 compared to 2022 and 2015

- 2015: 61%** answered Yes, they believe immigration reform legislation should **establish a path toward citizenship for those who are here illegally, are interested, and meet certain qualifications for citizenship**
- 2022: 77%** Strongly/Somewhat support this principle for immigration reform legislation: **Establish a path toward citizenship for those who are here illegally, are interested, and meet certain qualifications for citizenship**
- 2024: 75%** Strongly/Somewhat support this principle for immigration reform legislation: **Establish a path toward citizenship for those who are here illegally, are interested, and meet certain qualifications for citizenship**

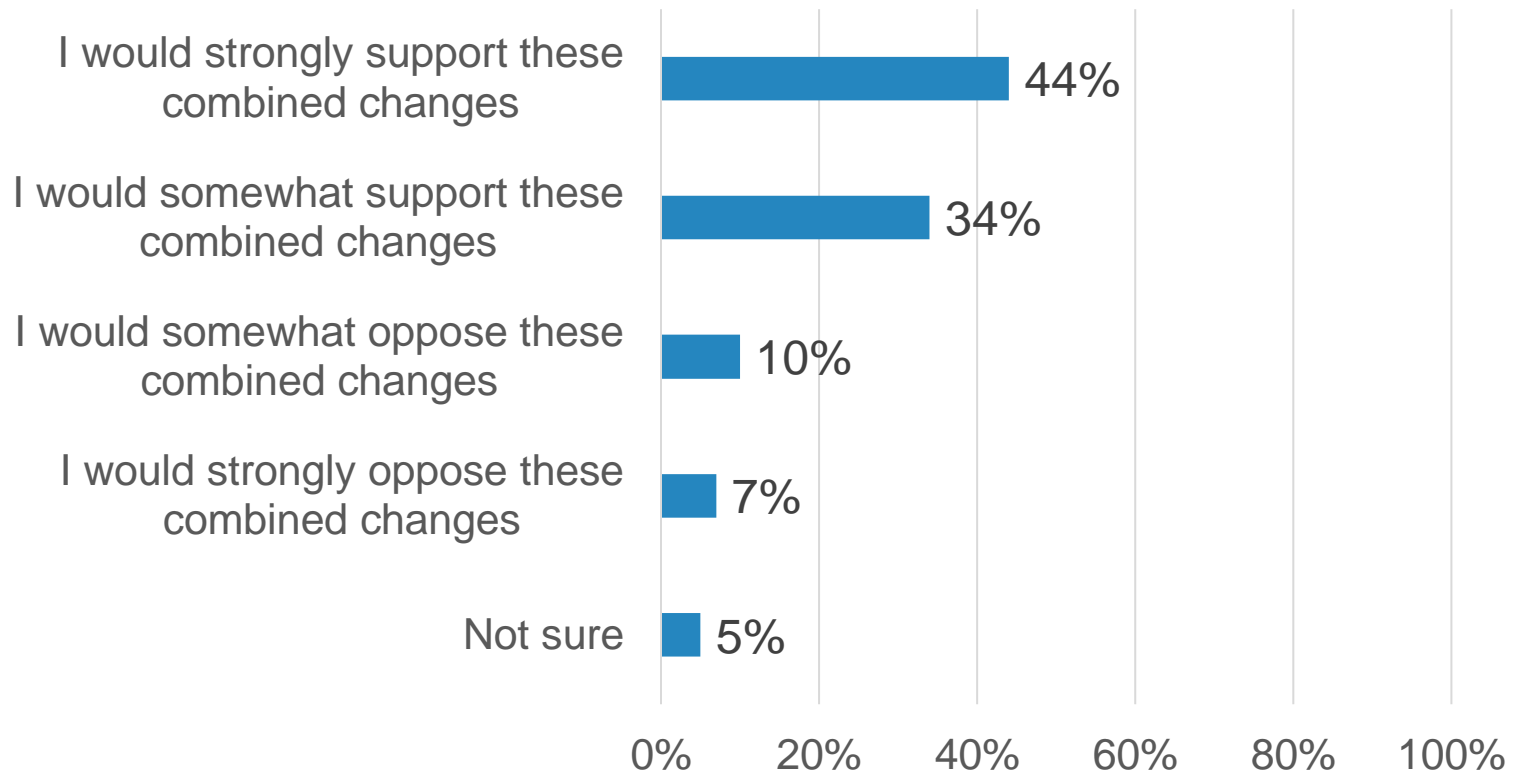
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2015: "Do you believe immigration reform legislation should establish a path toward citizenship for those who are here illegally, are interested, and meet certain qualifications for citizenship?"

2024 and 2022: "In regards to potential legislation addressing illegal immigration, how supportive are you of each of these principles for immigration reform legislation? **Establish a path toward citizenship for those who are here illegally, are interested, and meet certain qualifications for citizenship**"

# 78% would support changes to immigration law that increases border security and establishes a process to earn legal status and apply for citizenship

## Total Evangelicals

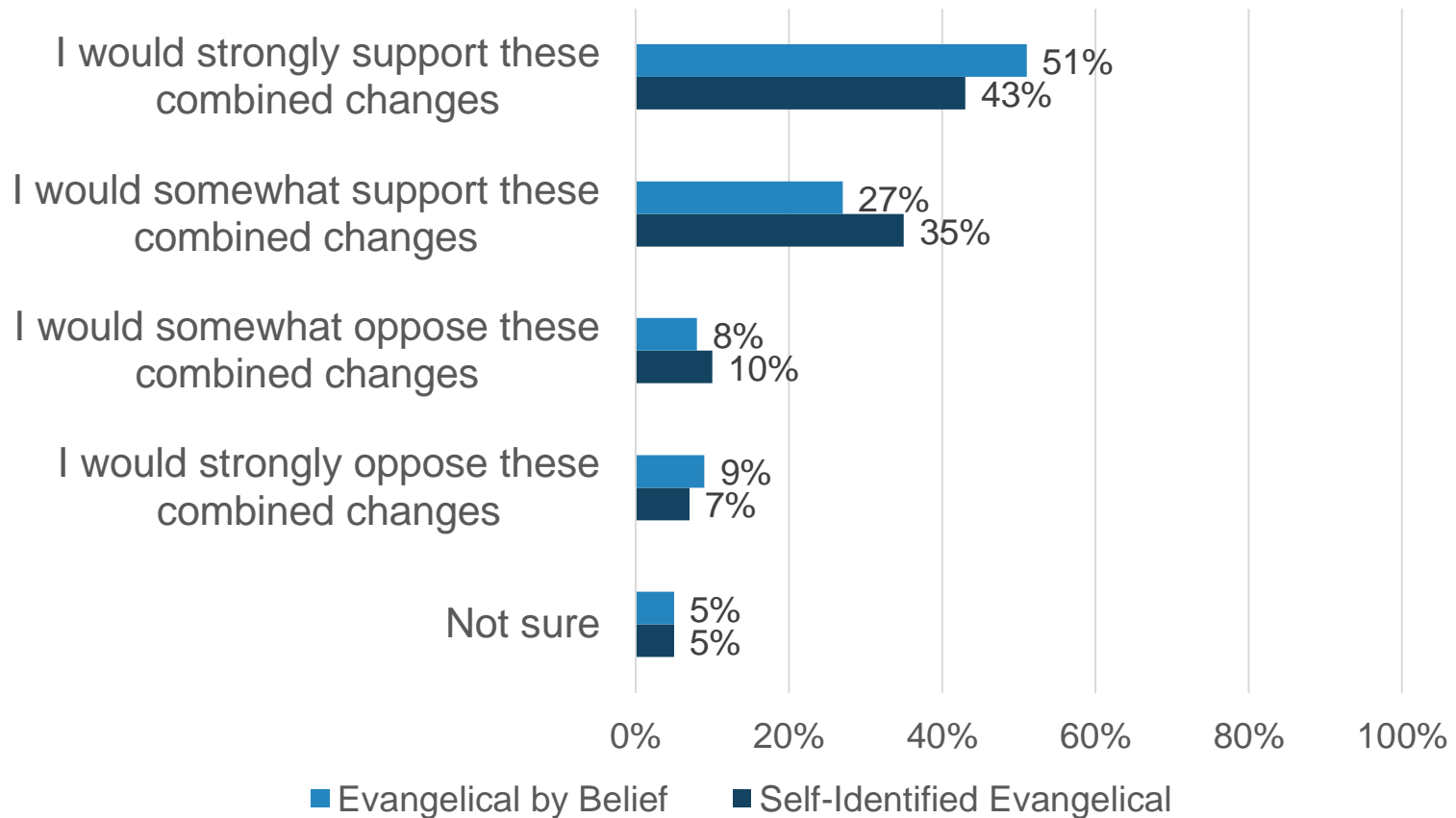


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Q17: "Please indicate if you would or would not support changes to U.S. immigration laws that would both increase border security measures and establish a process so that those immigrants in the U.S. unlawfully could earn permanent legal status and eventually apply for citizenship if they pay a fine, pass a criminal background check, and complete other requirements during a probationary period." n=1,010

# Those with Evangelical Beliefs are more likely to strongly support combined changes to increase border security and establish a process to apply for citizenship than Self-Identified Evangelicals

Evangelical by Belief v. Self-Identified



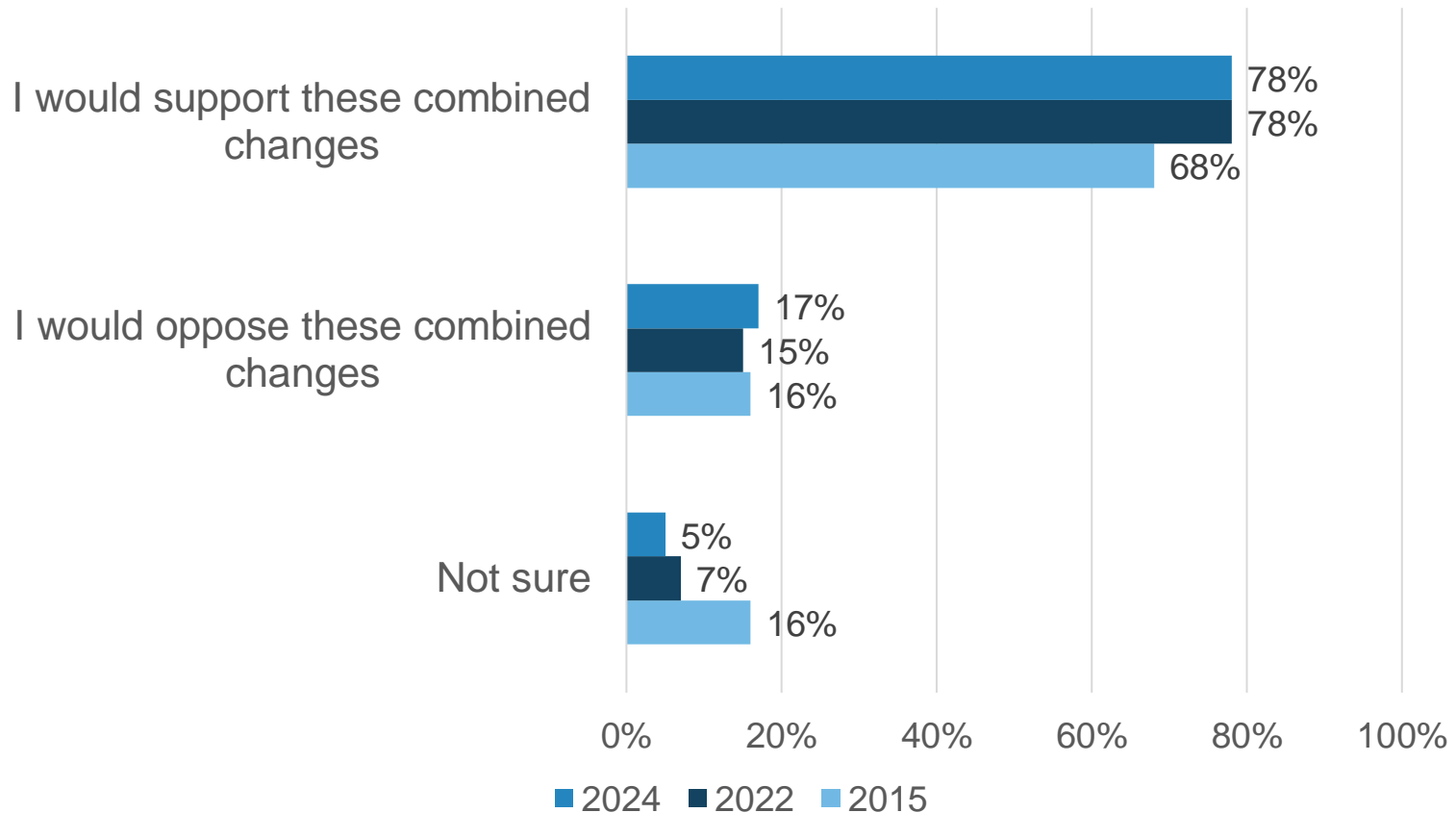
Lifeway research

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# More Self-Identified Evangelicals support combined changes to increase border security and establish a process to apply for citizenship than in 2015

Self-Identified Evangelicals 2024 compared to 2022 & 2015

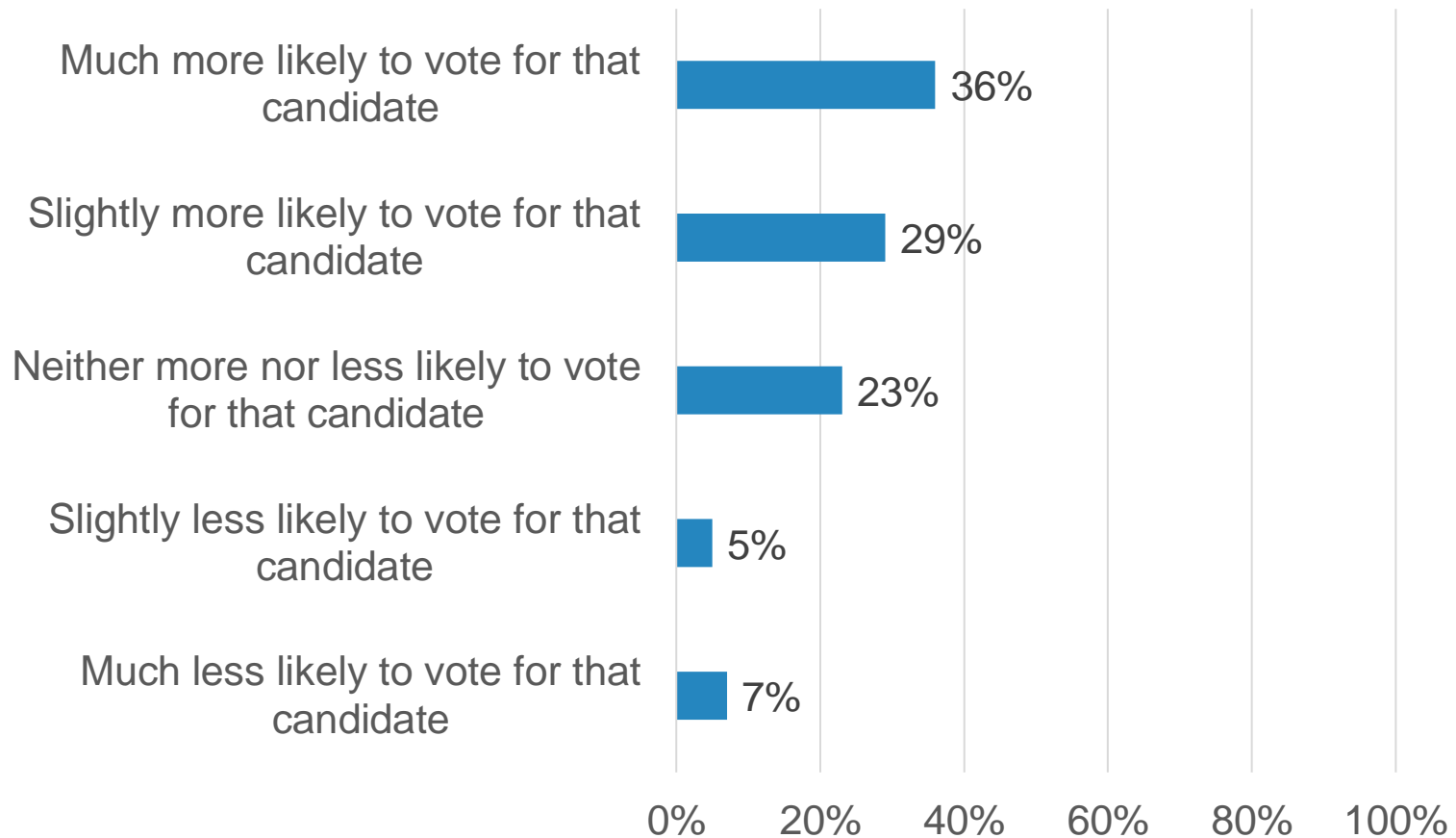


Lifeway research

Q17: "Please indicate if you would or would not support changes to U.S. immigration laws that would both increase border security measures and establish a process so that those immigrants in the U.S. unlawfully could earn permanent legal status and eventually apply for citizenship if they pay a fine, pass a criminal background check, and complete other requirements during a probationary period." 2024 and 2022: strongly and somewhat support responses are combined and strongly and somewhat oppose responses are combined.

# 65% would be more likely to vote for candidates that support immigration law changes that increase border security and establish a process to apply for citizenship

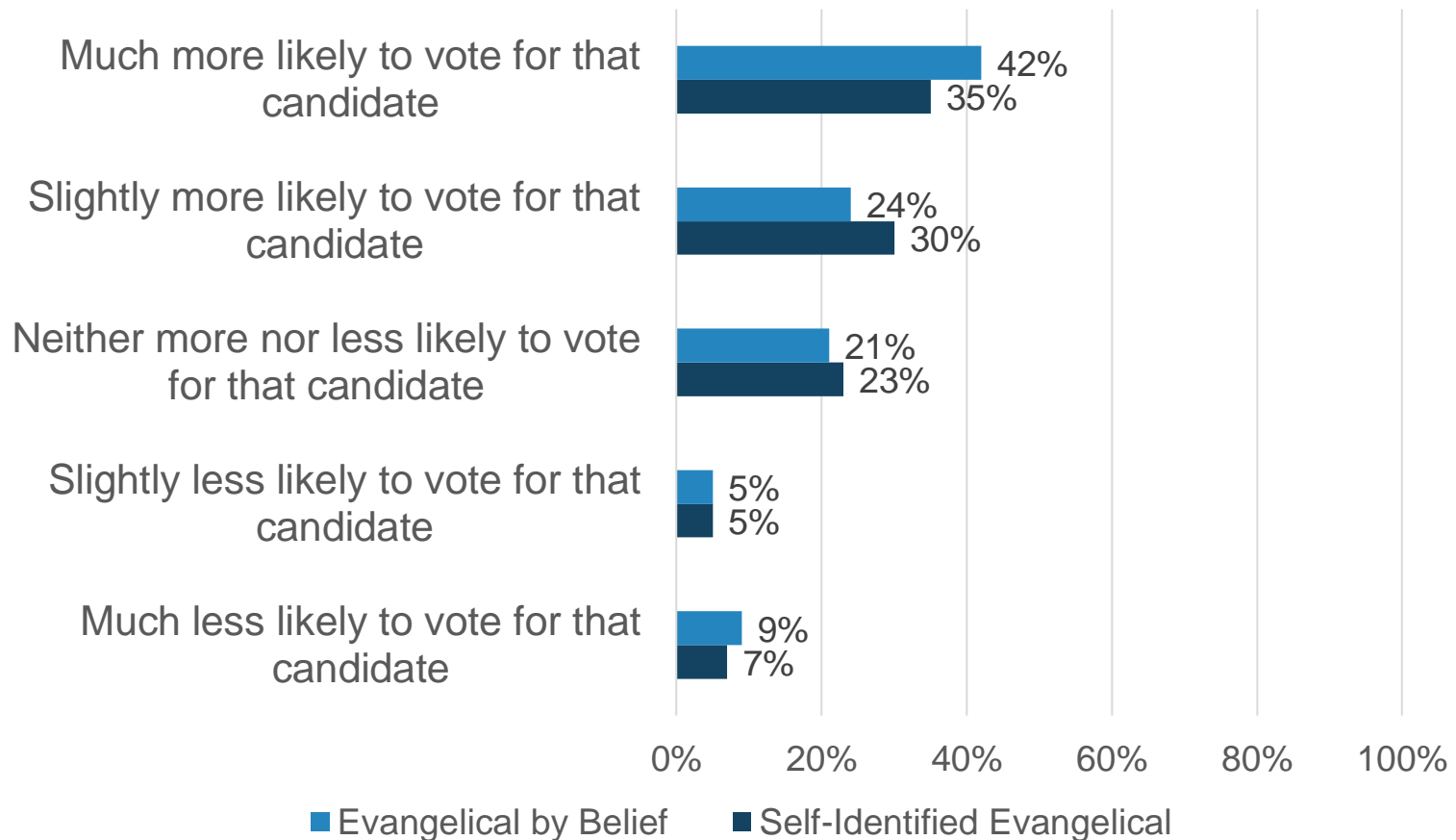
## Total Evangelicals



Lifeway research

# Those with Evangelical Beliefs are more likely to be much more likely to vote for candidates that support immigration law changes that increase border security and establish a process to apply for citizenship than Self-Identified Evangelicals

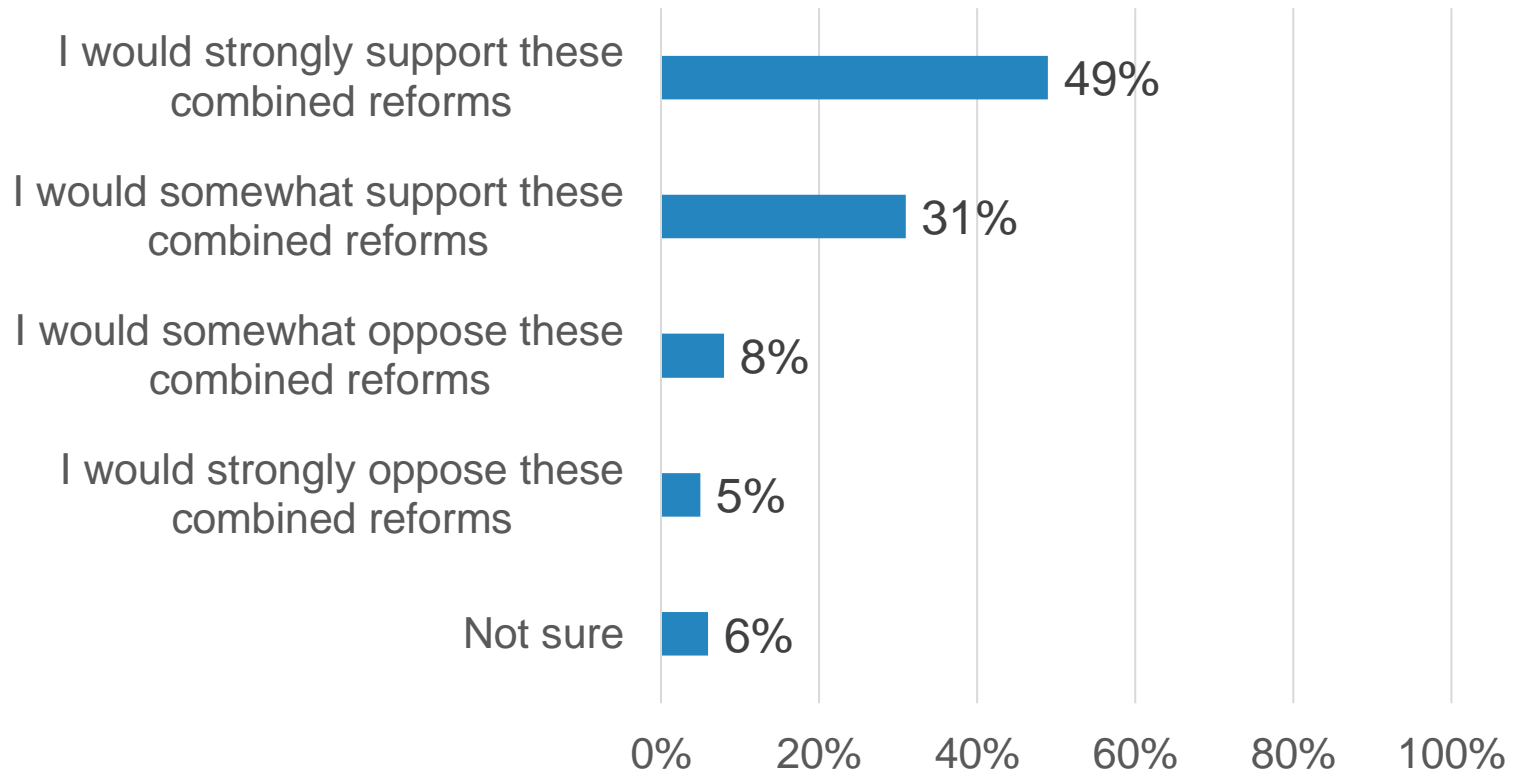
## Evangelical by Belief v. Self-Identified



Lifeway research

# 80% would support bipartisan immigration reform that strengthens border security, establishes a pathway to citizenship for Dreamers, and provides enough farmworkers

Total Evangelicals

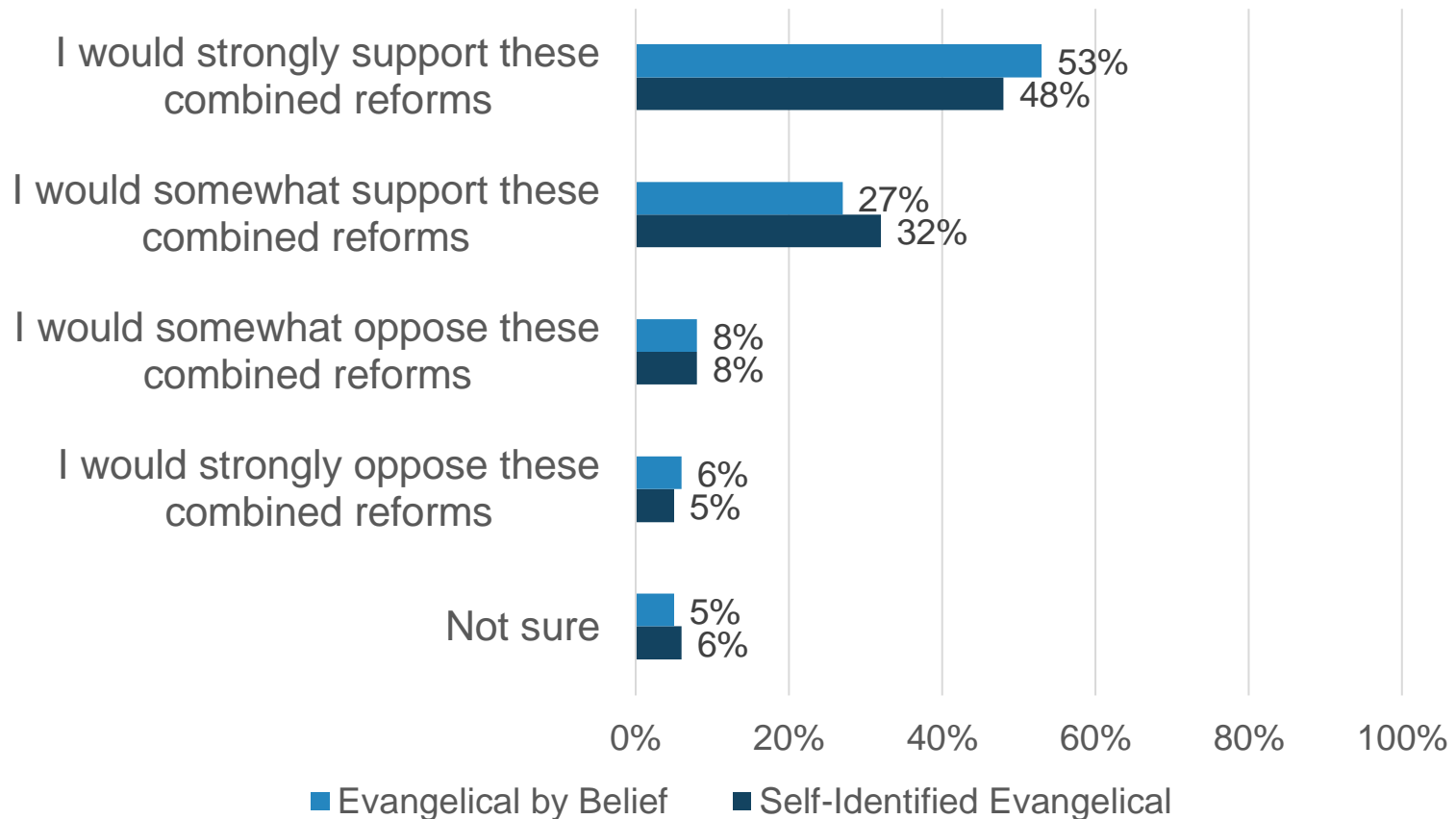


Lifeway research

Q19: "Please indicate if you would or would not support Republicans and Democrats working together on a combination of immigration reforms that strengthens border security, creates a pathway to citizenship for undocumented immigrants who came to the United States as children, and provides a reliable number of screened, legal farmworkers?" n=1,010

# Self-Identified Evangelicals and those with Evangelical Beliefs have similar support for bipartisan reform that strengthens border security, creates a path to citizenship for Dreamers, and provides farmworkers

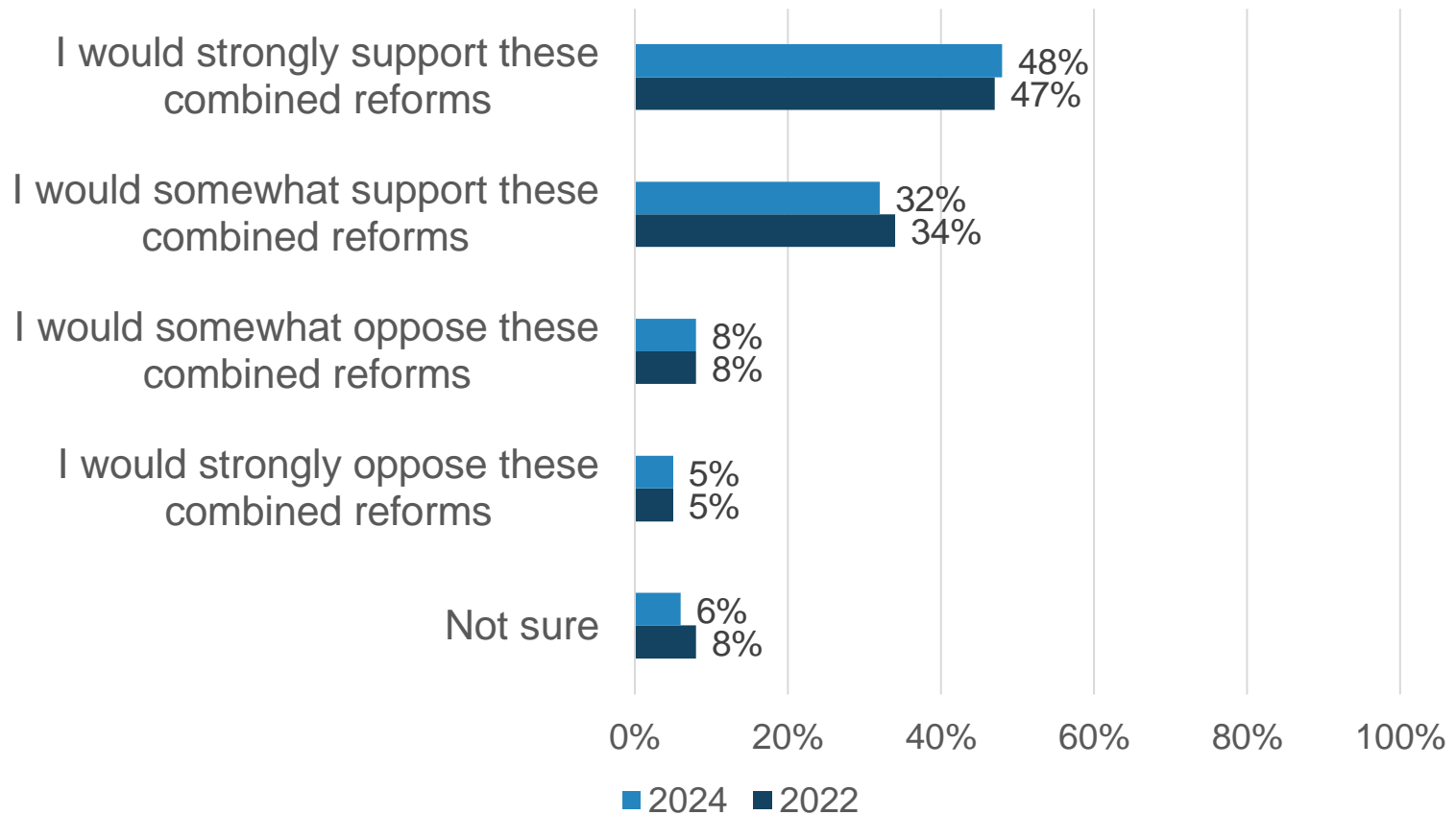
Evangelical by Belief v. Self-Identified



Lifeway research

# Support remains strong among Self-Identified Evangelicals for bipartisan reform that strengthens border security, creates a path to citizenship for Dreamers, and provides farmworkers

Self-Identified 2024 compared to 2022

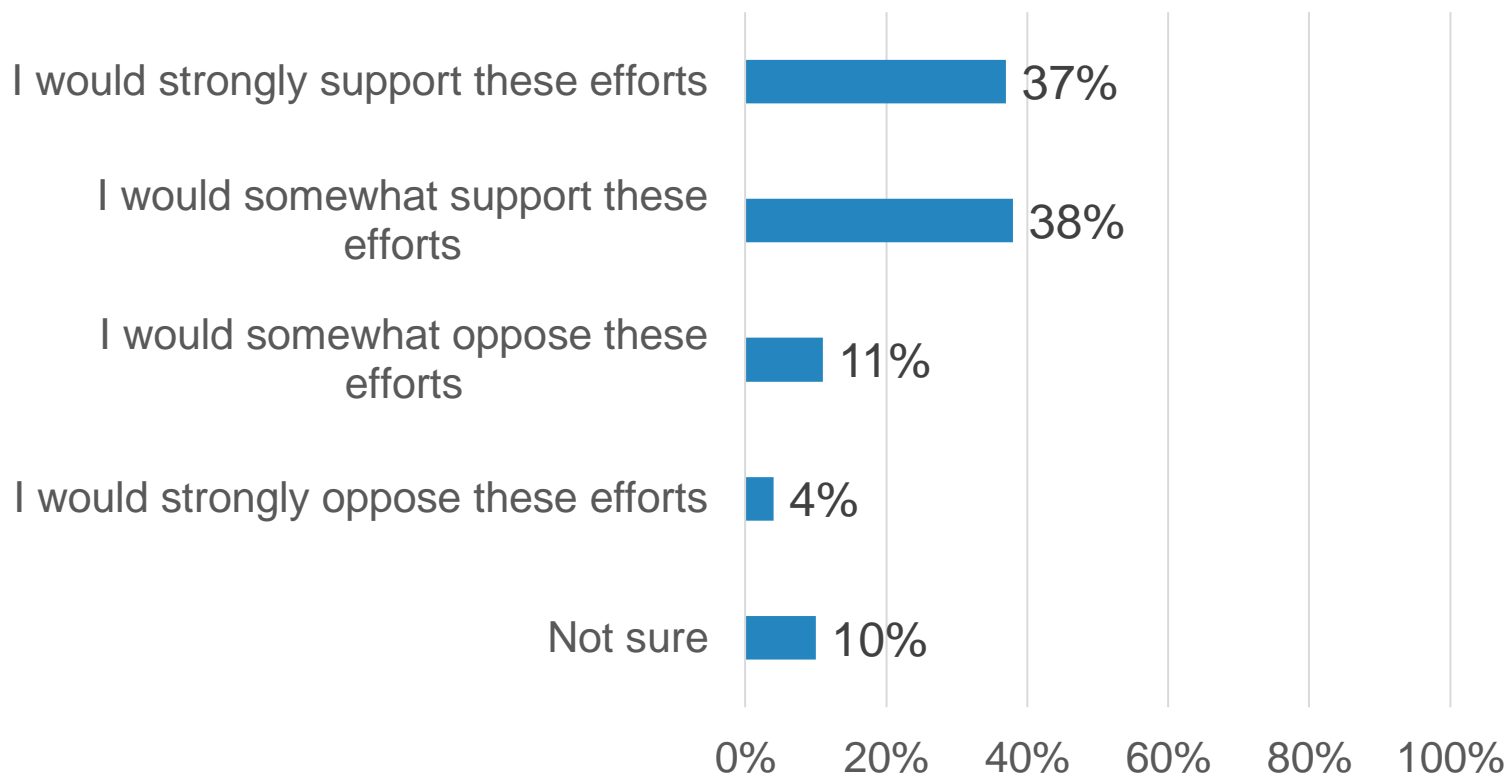


Lifeway research

Q19: "Please indicate if you would or would not support Republicans and Democrats working together on a combination of immigration reforms that strengthens border security, creates a pathway to citizenship for undocumented immigrants who came to the United States as children, and provides a reliable number of screened, legal farmworkers?"

# 75% would support legislation that would require Afghan allies evacuated by the U.S. military to apply for permanent status after vetting

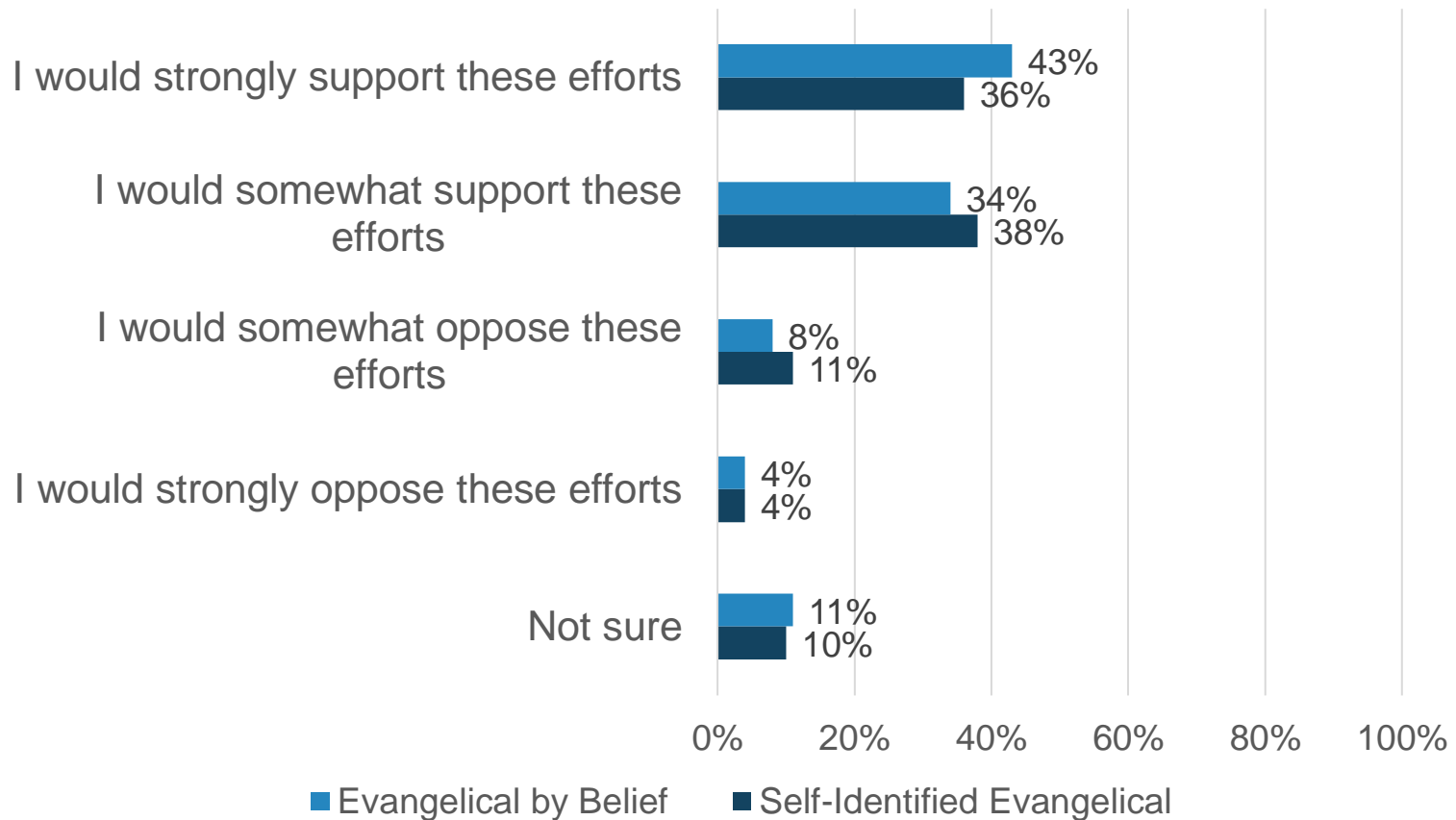
## Total Evangelicals



Lifeway research

# Those with Evangelical Beliefs are more likely to strongly support legislation that would require Afghan allies evacuated by the U.S. military to apply for permanent status after vetting

Evangelical by Belief v. Self-Identified

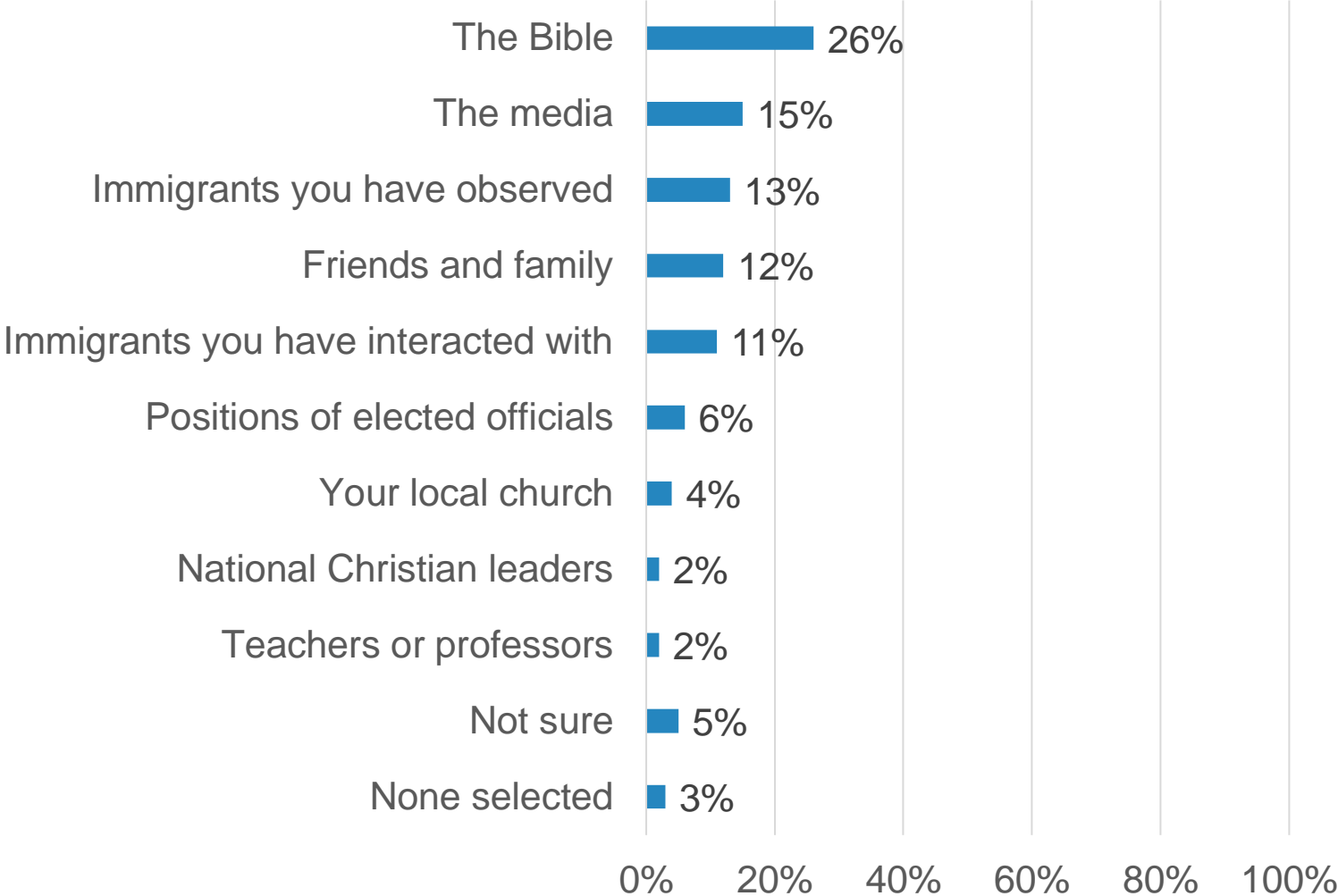


Lifeway research



# Influenced your thinking on immigration MOST

## Total Evangelicals

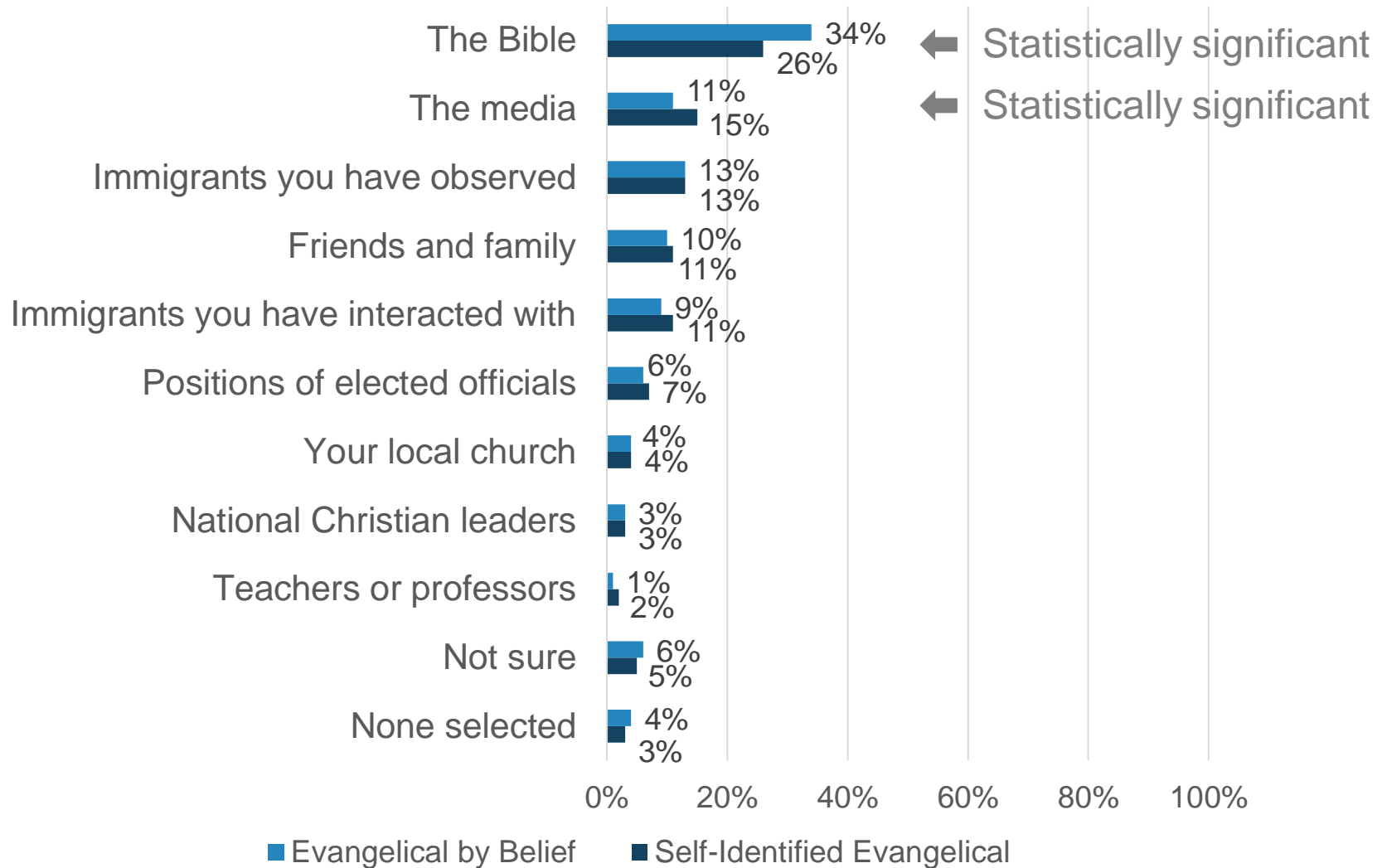


Lifeway research

Q21: "Which three of the following have influenced your thinking the most on immigration?" n=1,010

# Influenced your thinking on immigration MOST

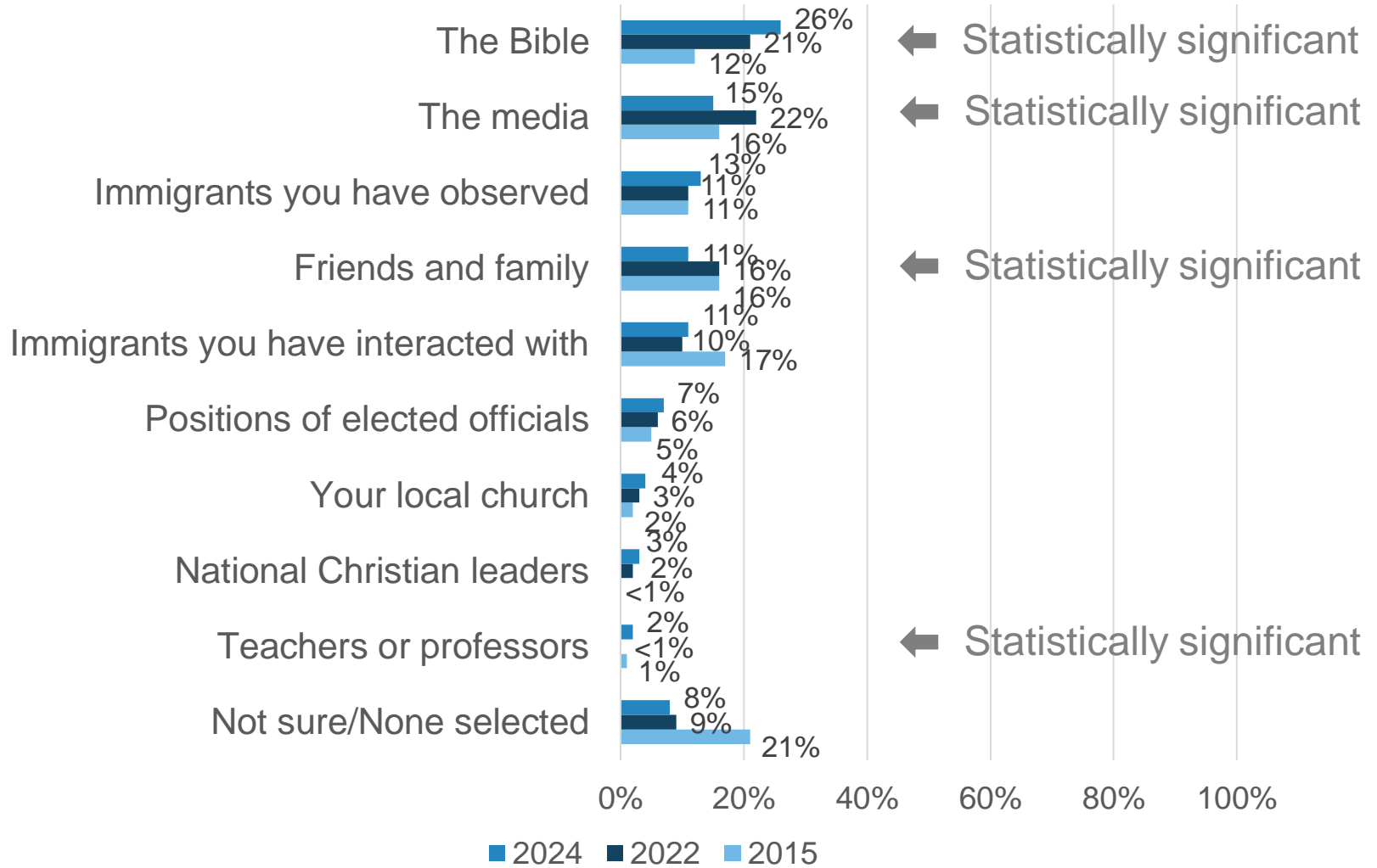
Evangelical by Belief v. Self-Identified



Lifeway research

# The Bible has most influenced Evangelicals more and friends, family, and media less than in 2022

Self-Identified Evangelicals 2024 compared to 2022 & 2015



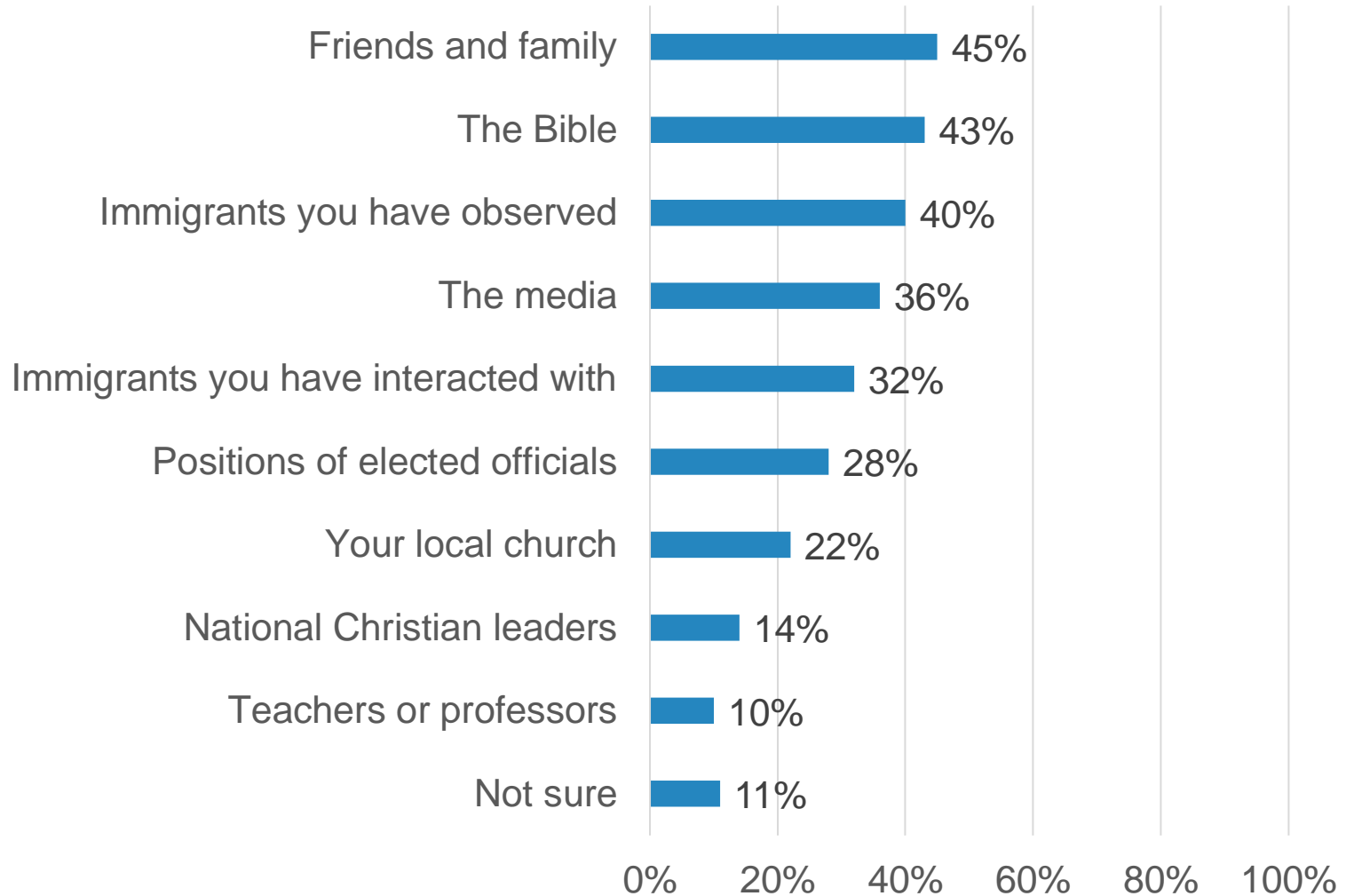
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2015: Which one of the following has influenced your thinking the most on immigration?"

2024 and 2022: "Which three of the following have influenced your thinking the most on immigration?" Includes all marked 1 as most influential

# Top three influencers

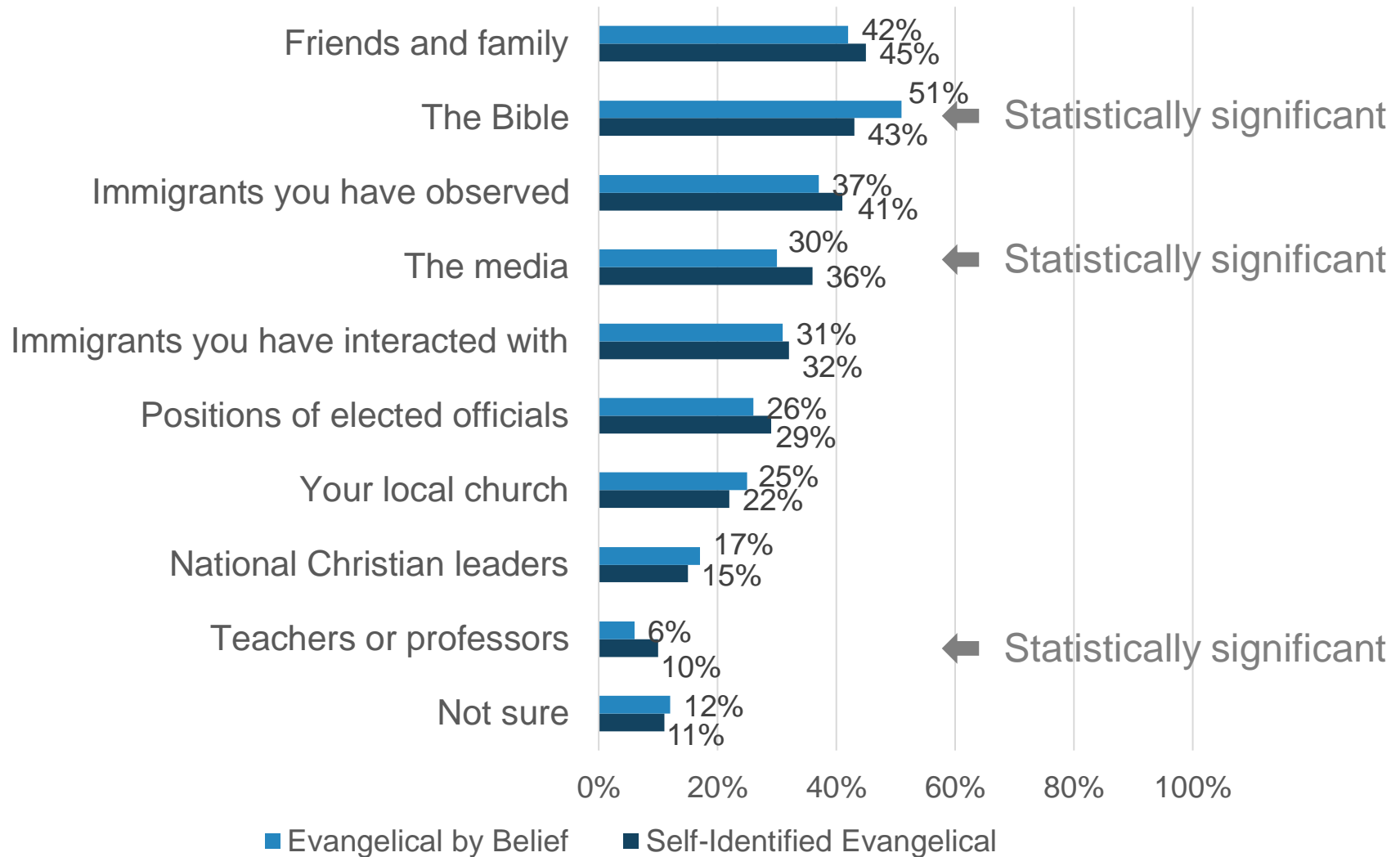
## Total Evangelicals



Lifeway research

# Top Three Influencers

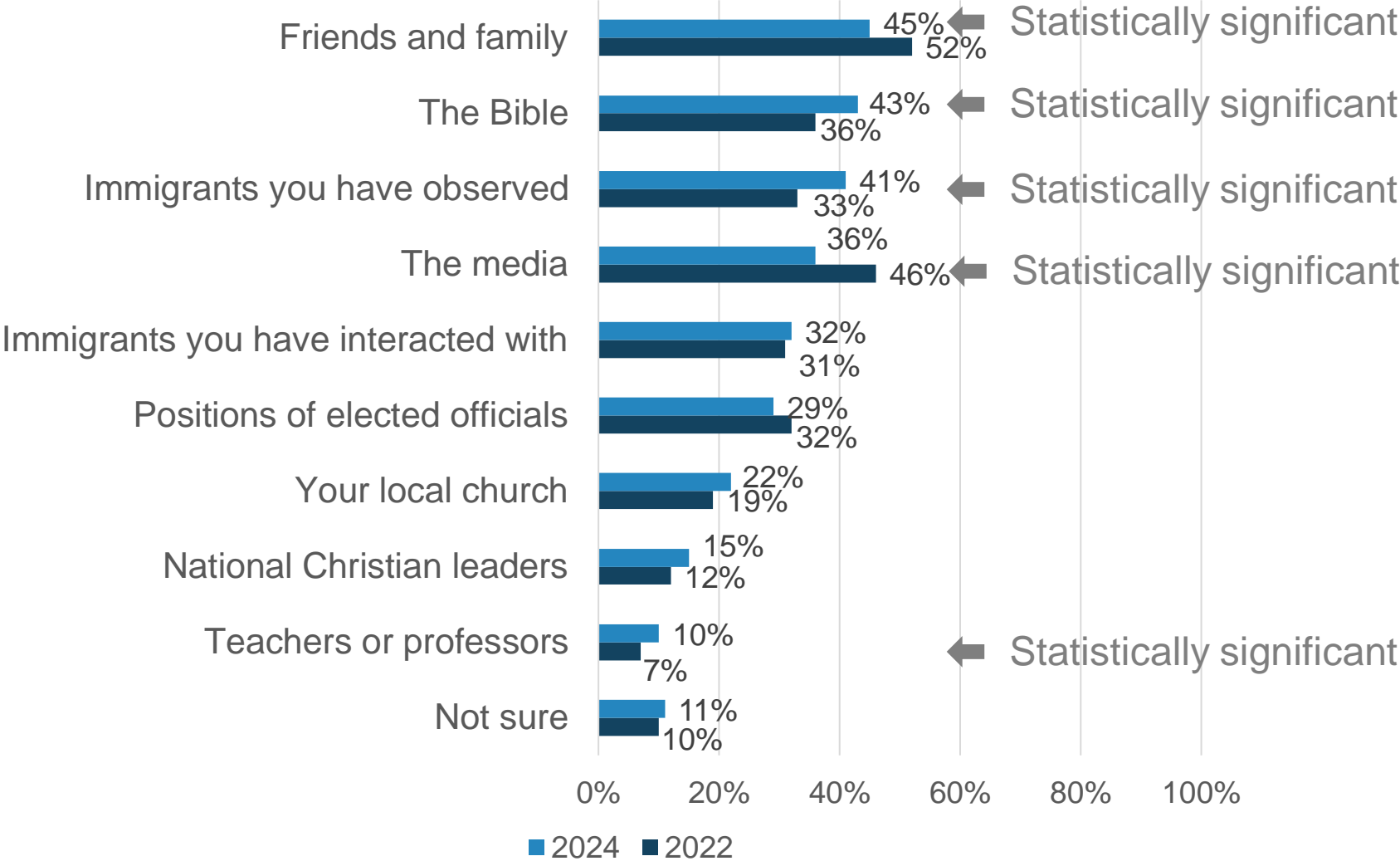
Evangelical by Belief v. Self-Identified



Lifeway research

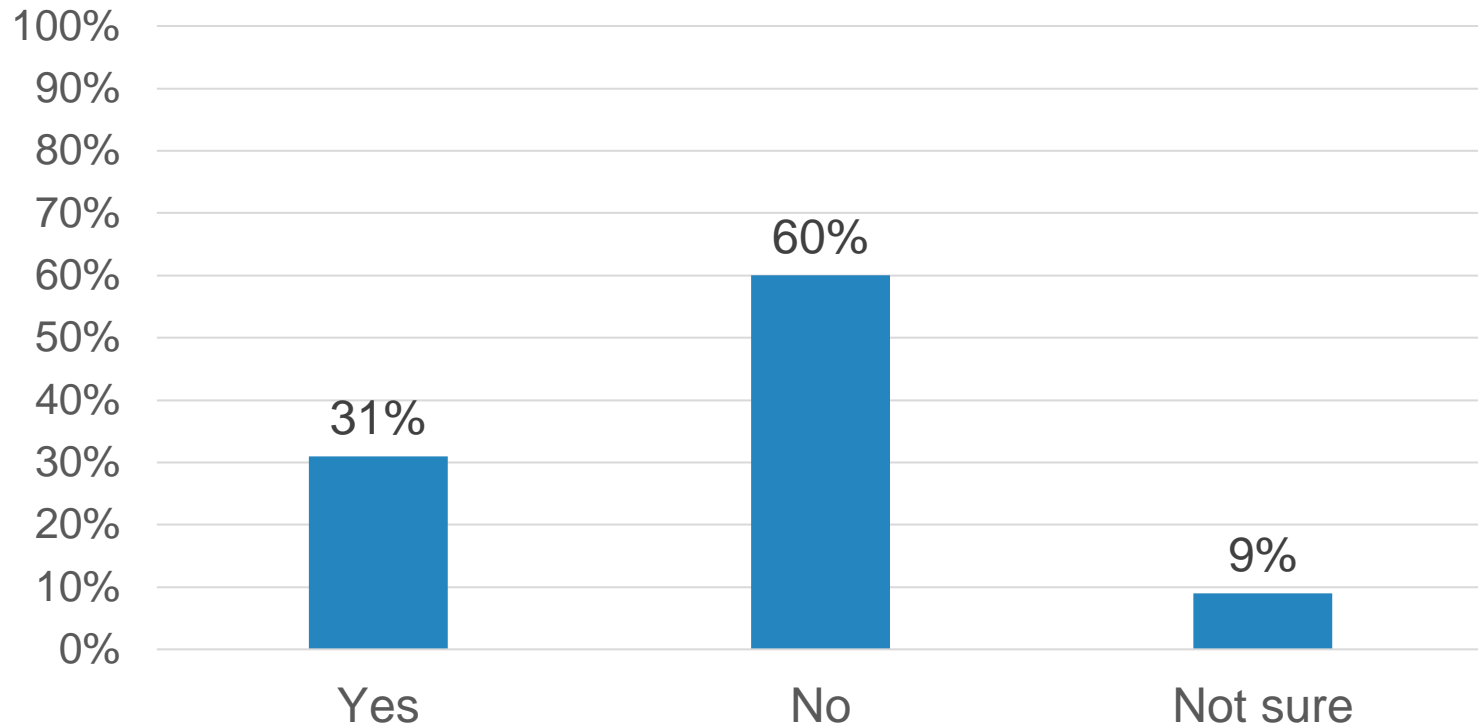
# More say Bible, observing immigrants, and teachers are top three influencers and fewer friends, family, and media than in 2022

Self-Identified 2024 compared to 2022



# 31% have heard immigration discussed at their local church that encouraged outreach to immigrants in their community

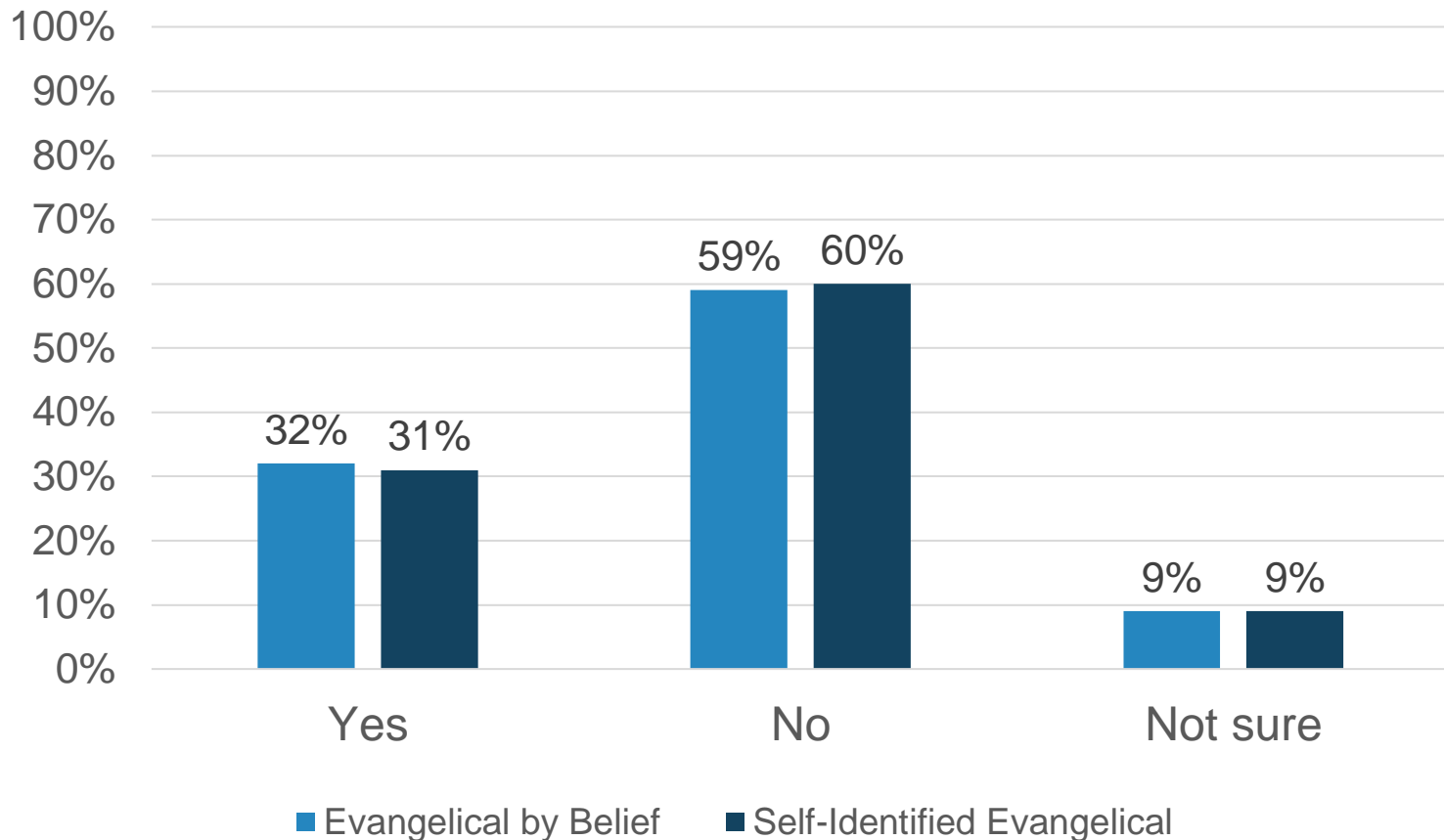
Total Evangelicals



Lifeway research

# Less than a third of both groups of Evangelicals have heard immigration discussed at their local church that encouraged outreach to immigrants

Evangelical by Belief v. Self-Identified

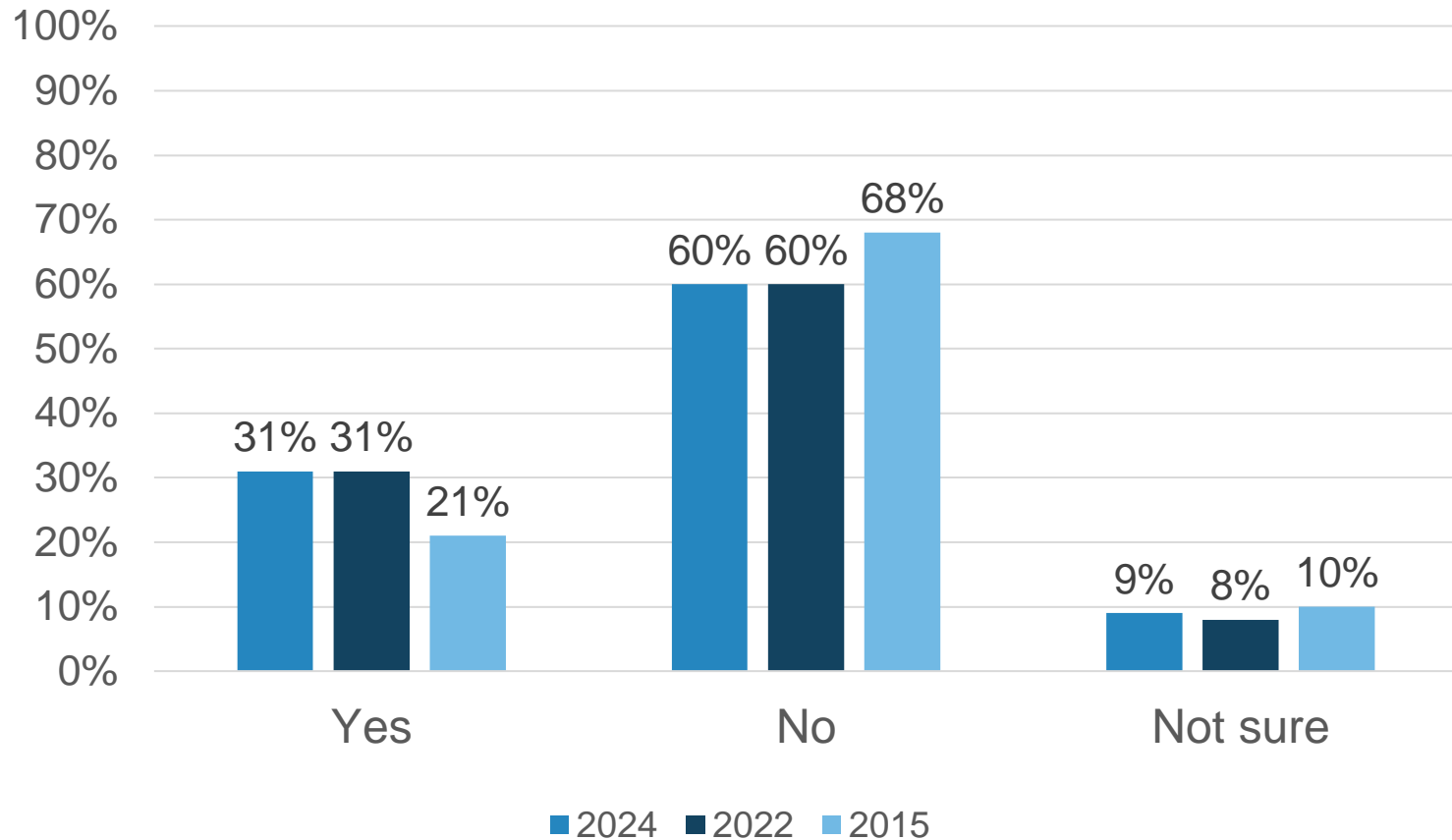


Lifeway research



# More Self-Identified Evangelicals have heard immigration discussed at their local church that encouraged outreach to immigrants than in 2015

Self-Identified Evangelicals 2024 compared to 2022 & 2015

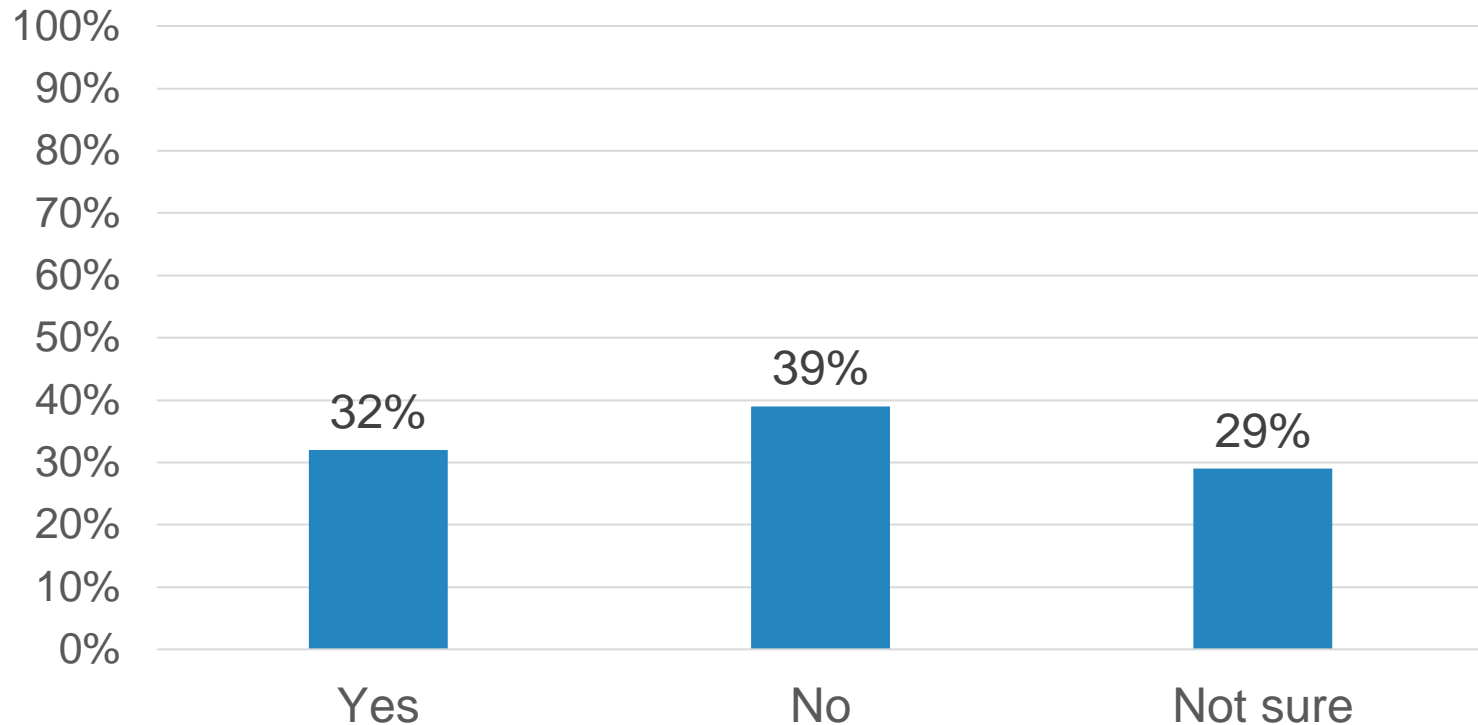


Lifeway research

Q22: "Have you ever heard immigration discussed at your local church in a way that encouraged you to reach out to the immigrants in your community?"

# 32% say their church has a ministry or outreach that serves refugees or other immigrants

Total Evangelicals

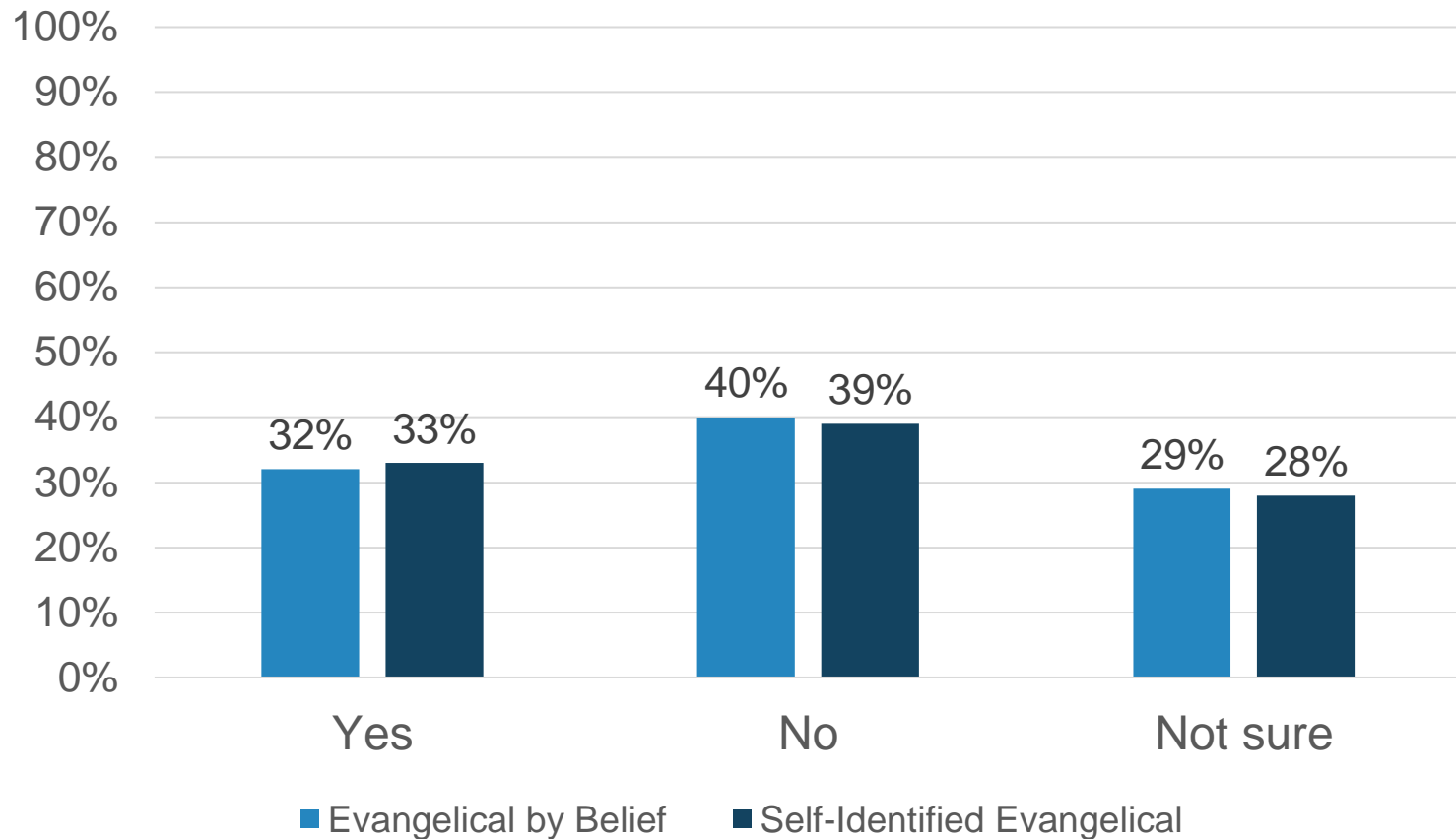


Lifeway research

Q23: "Does your church have any ministry or outreach that serves refugees or other immigrants?" n=1,010

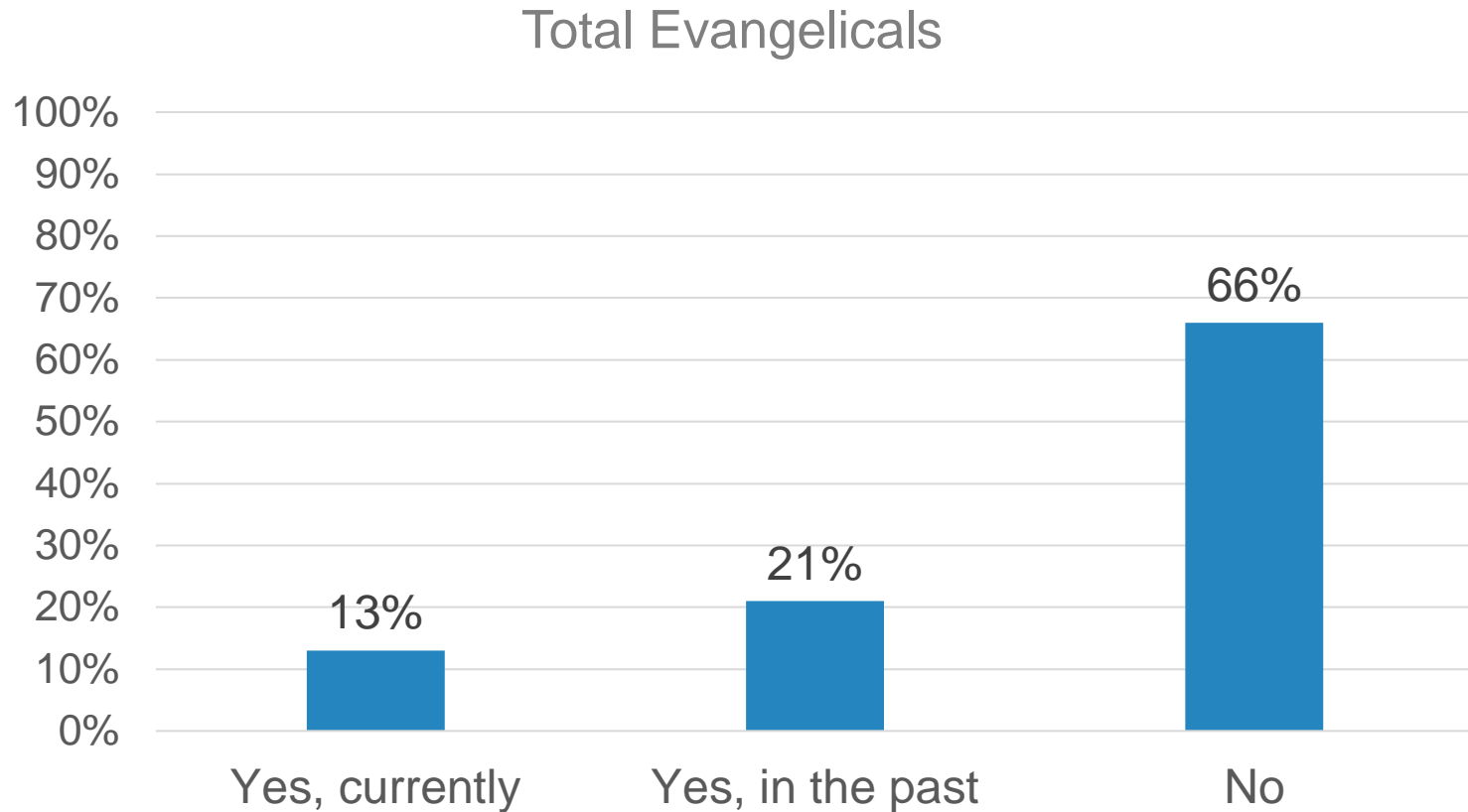
# Similar percentages of Evangelicals have a church ministry/outreach that serves refugees or other immigrants

Evangelical by Belief v. Self-Identified



Lifeway research

# 34% have been involved in a ministry that served refugees or other immigrants

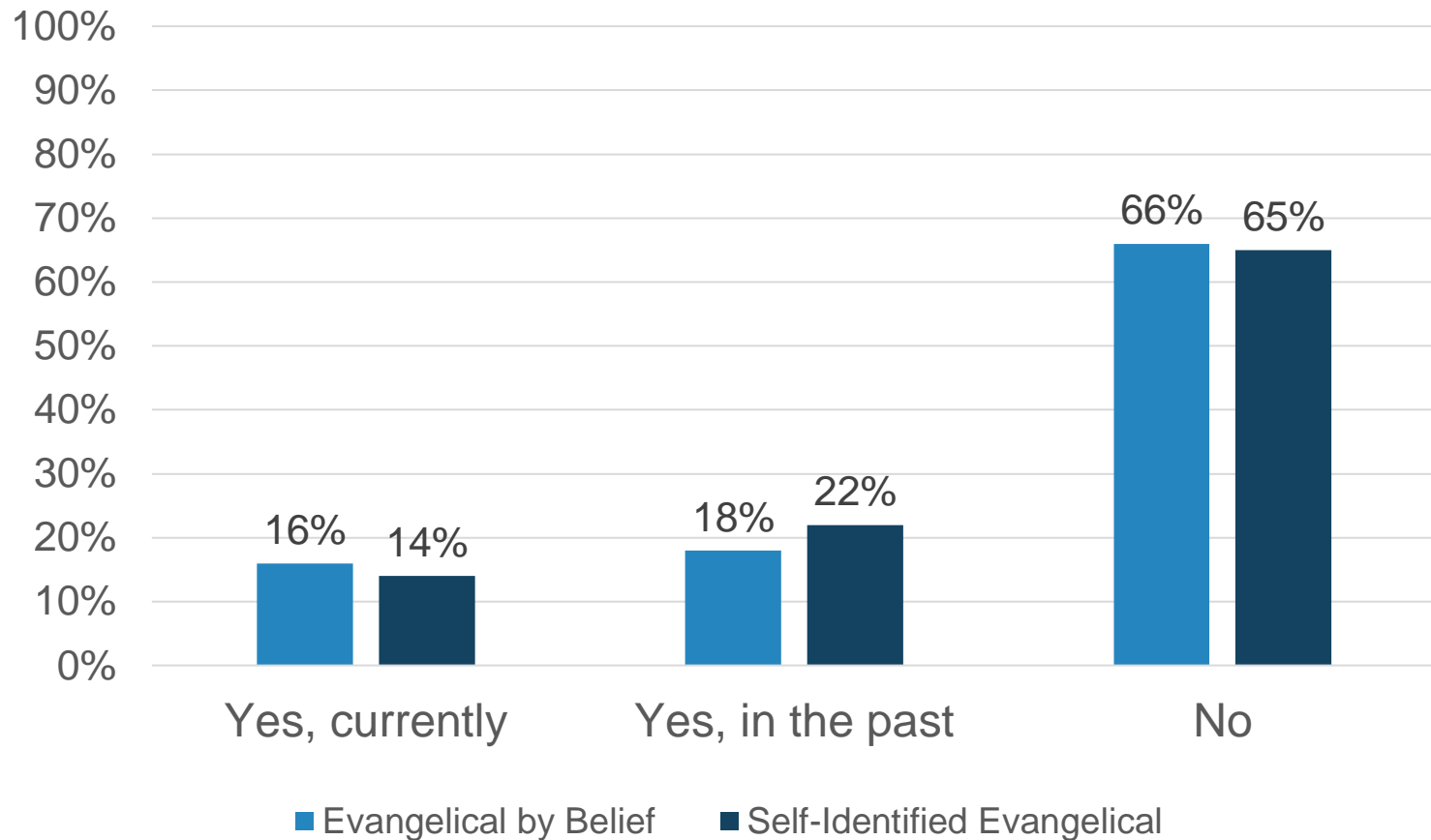


Lifeway research

Q24: "Have you ever been involved in a ministry that has served refugees or other immigrants?" n=1,010

# About a third of both types of Evangelicals have been involved in a ministry that serves refugees or other immigrants

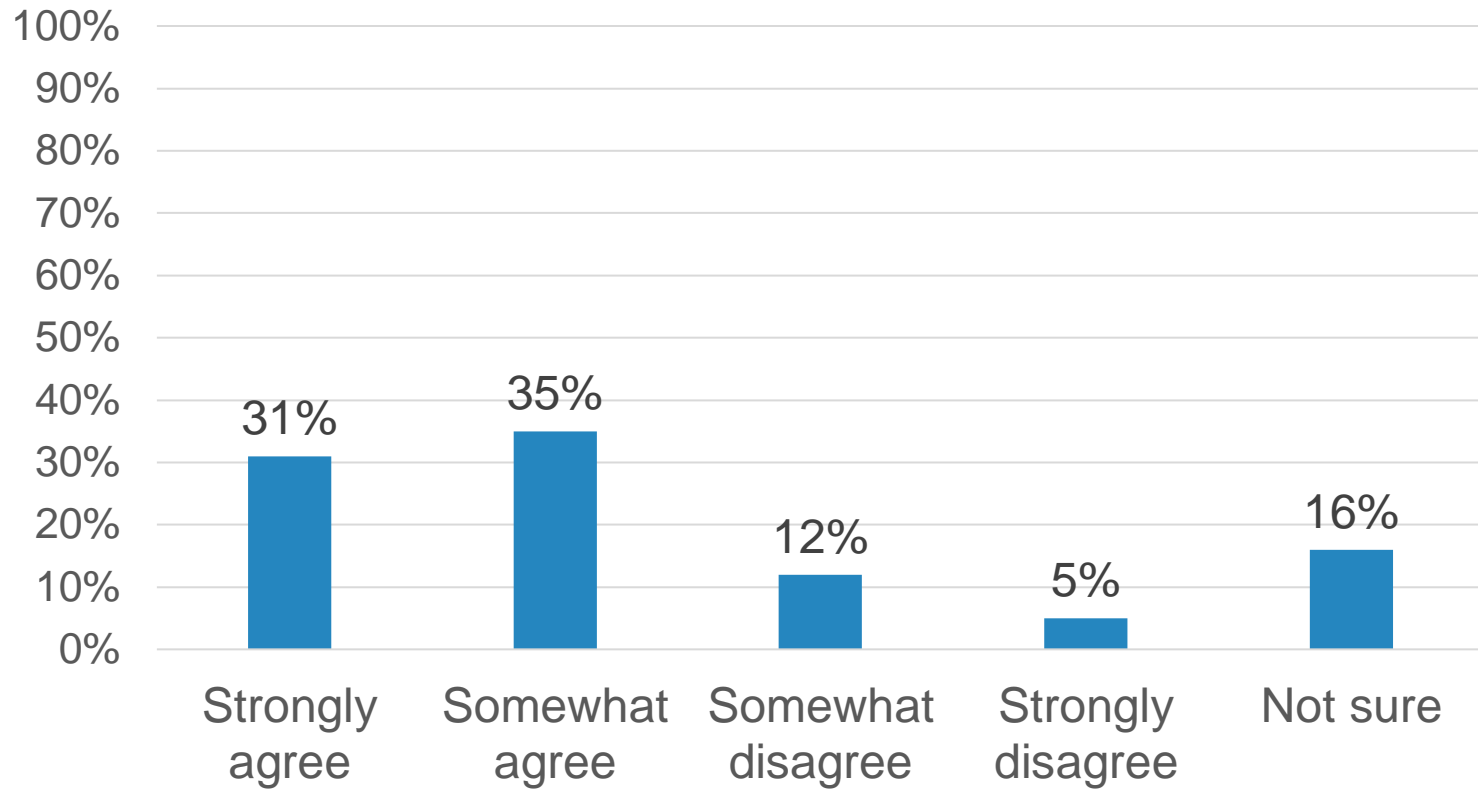
Evangelical by Belief v. Self-Identified



Lifeway research

# 66% agree they are very familiar with what the Bible teaches about how immigrants should be treated

Total Evangelicals

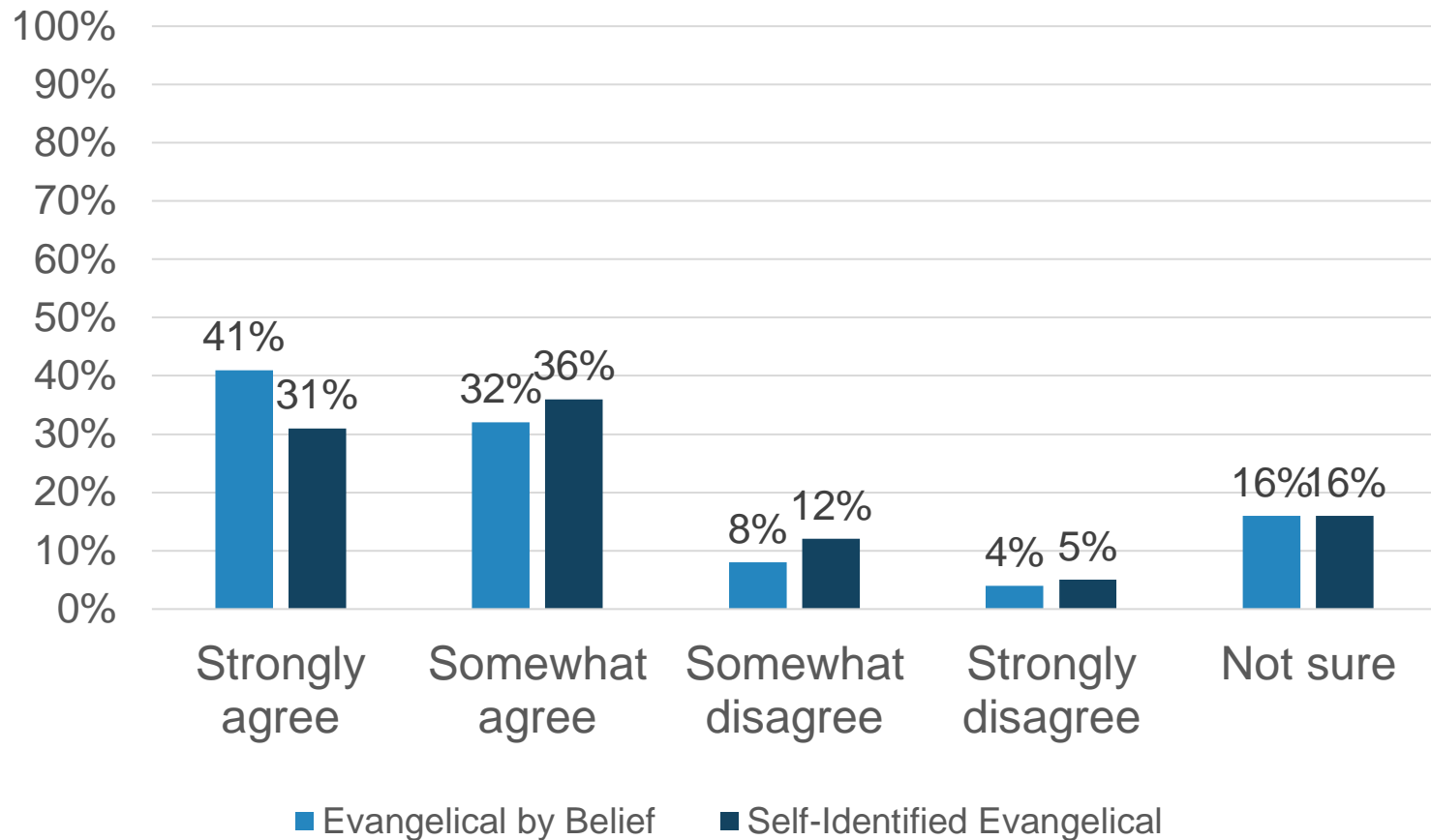


Lifeway research

Q25: "I am very familiar with what the Bible has to say about how immigrants should be treated." n=1,010

# Evangelicals by belief are more likely to strongly agree they are familiar with what the Bible has to say on how immigrants should be treated than Self-Identified Evangelicals (41% v. 31%)

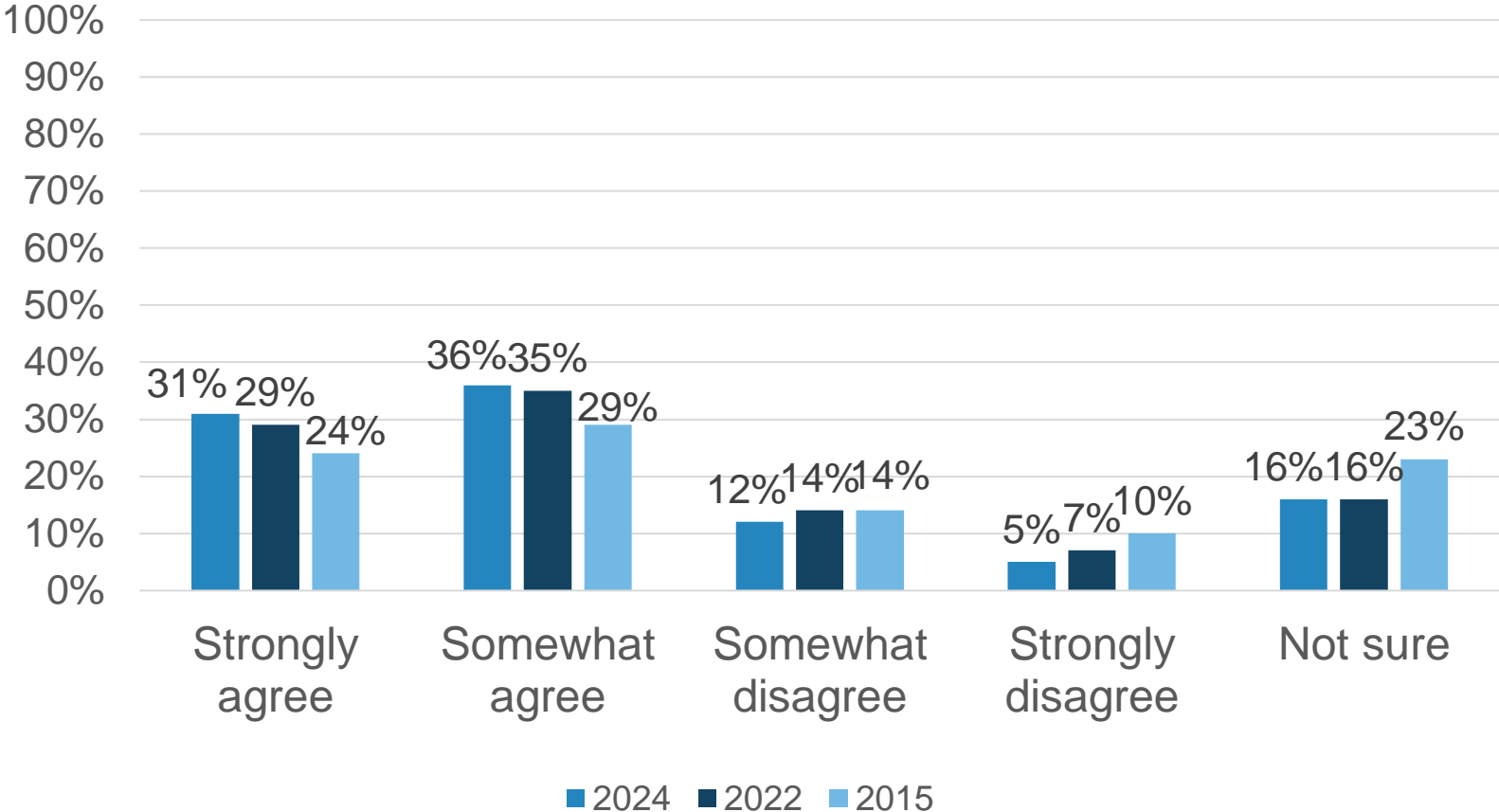
Evangelical by Belief v. Self-Identified



Lifeway research

# More Self-Identified Evangelicals agree they are familiar with what the Bible has to say on how immigrants should be treated and fewer are not sure than in 2015

Self-Identified Evangelicals 2024 compared to 2022 & 2015

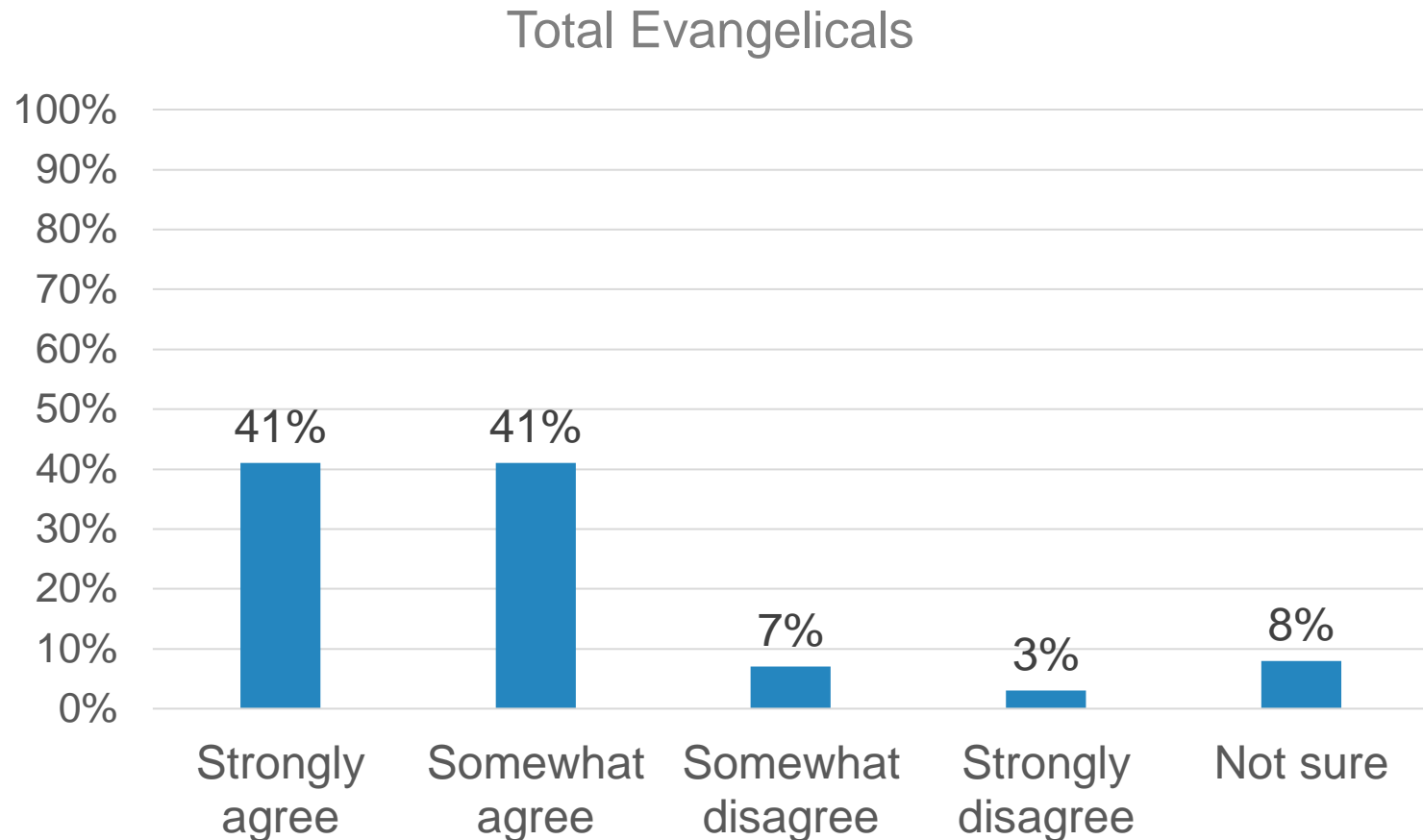


Lifeway research

Q25: "I am very familiar with what the Bible has to say about how immigrants should be treated."



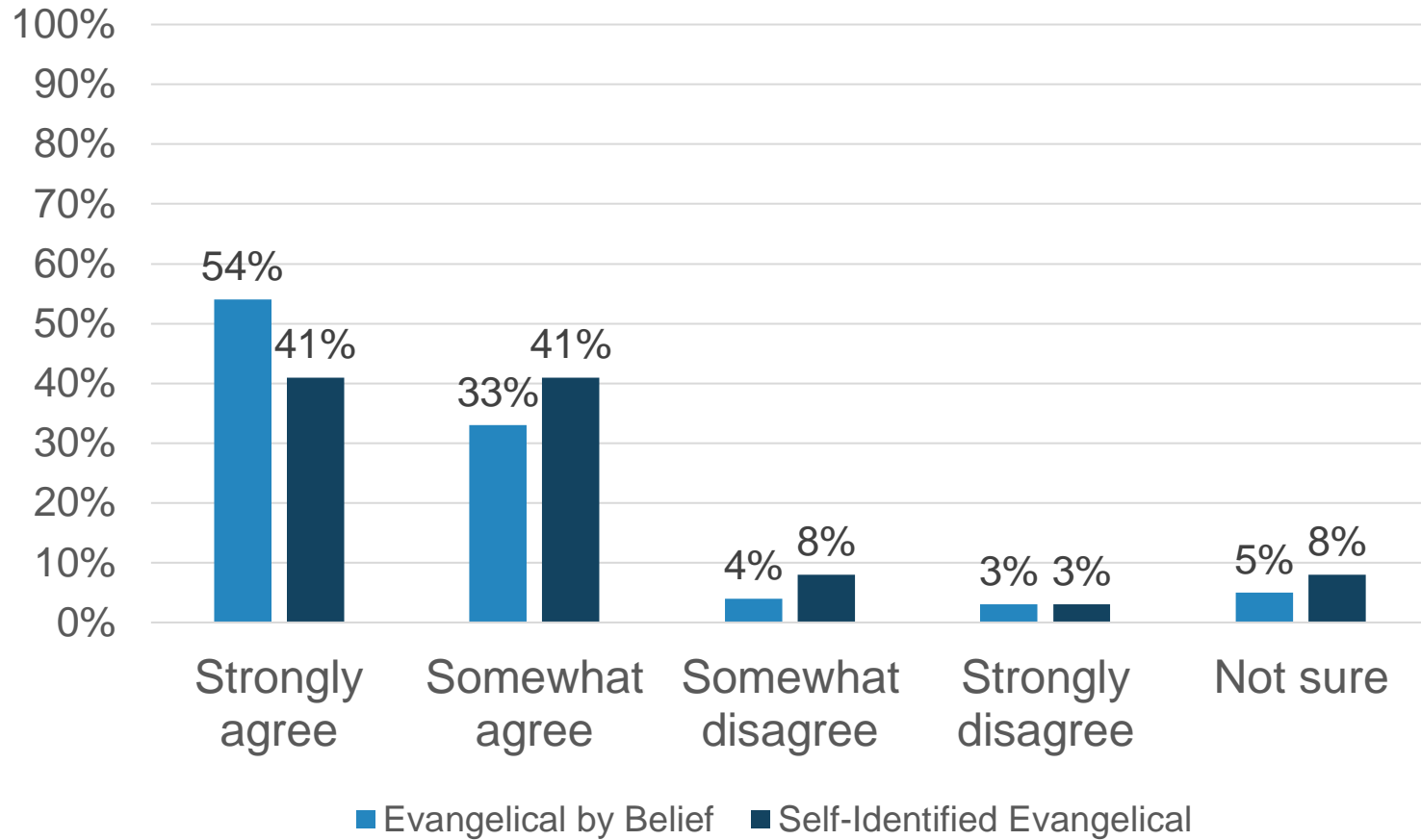
# 82% would value hearing a sermon that teaches how biblical principles and examples can be applied to immigration in the U.S.



Lifeway research

# Evangelicals by belief are more likely to agree they would value hearing a sermon on applying biblical principles to U.S. immigration than Self-Identified Evangelicals (87% v. 81%)

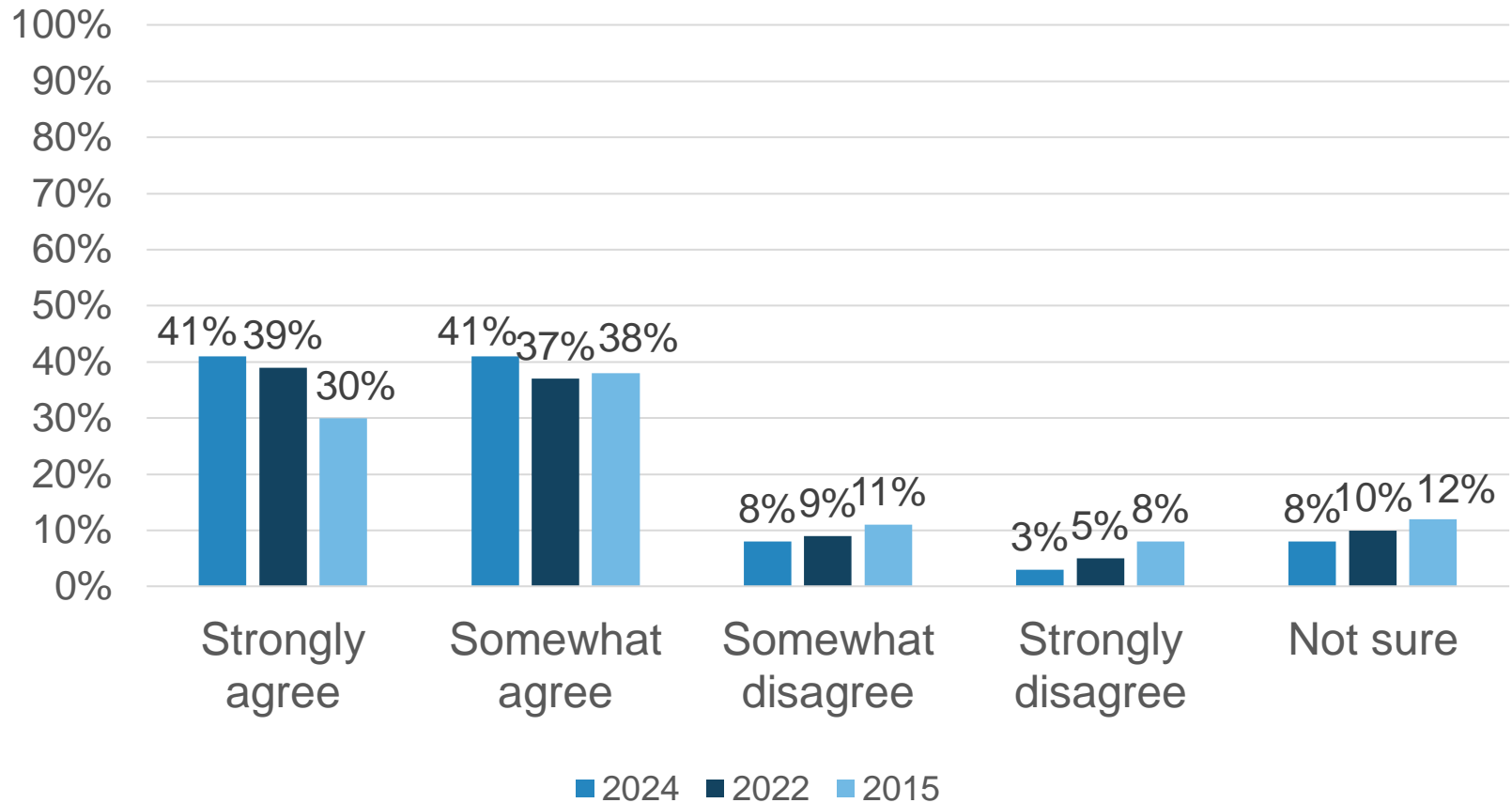
Evangelical by Belief v. Self-Identified



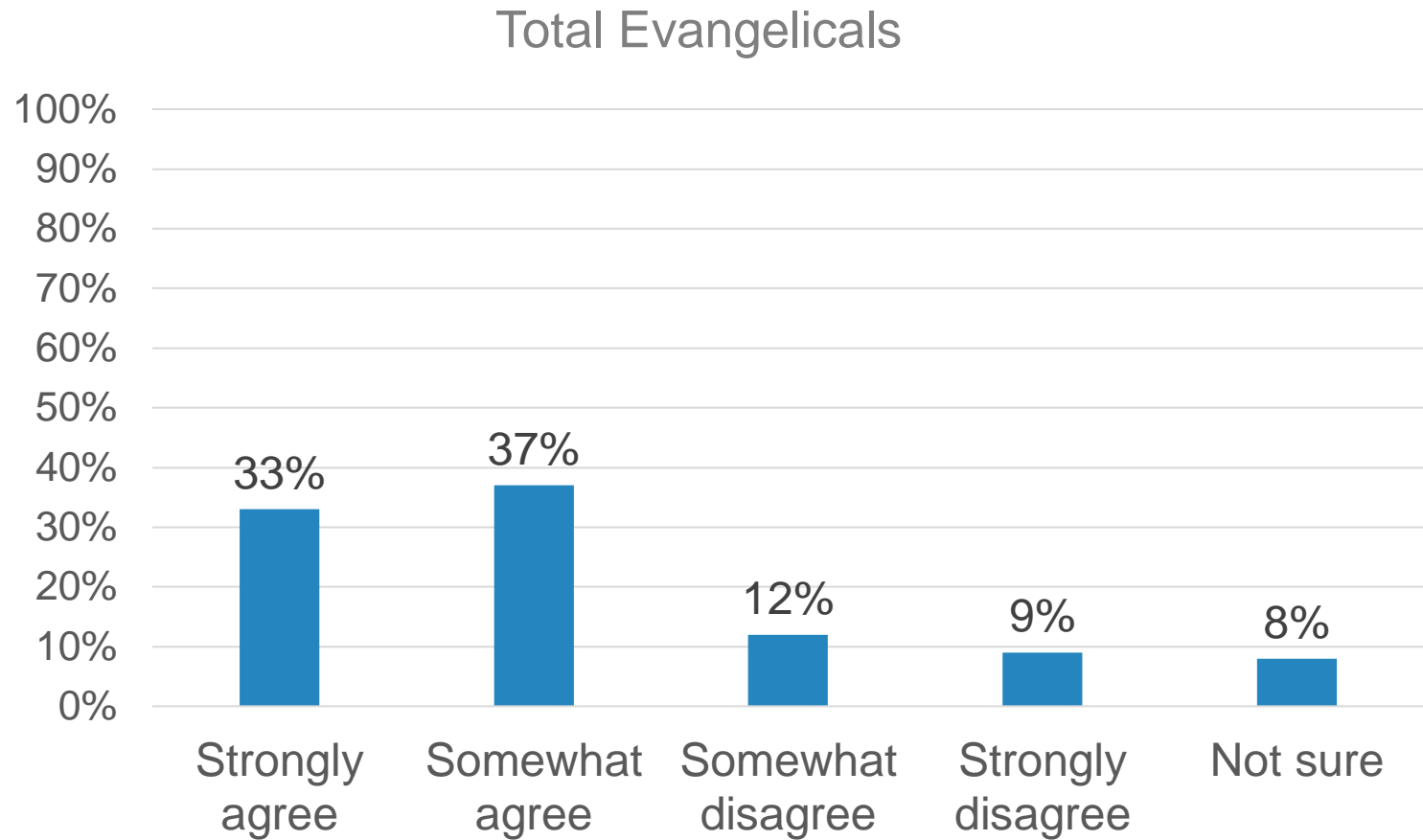
Lifeway research

# More Self-Identified Evangelicals agree they would value hearing a sermon on applying biblical principles to U.S. immigration than in 2022 and 2015 (81% v. 77% and 68%)

Self-Identified Evangelicals 2024 compared to 2022 & 2015



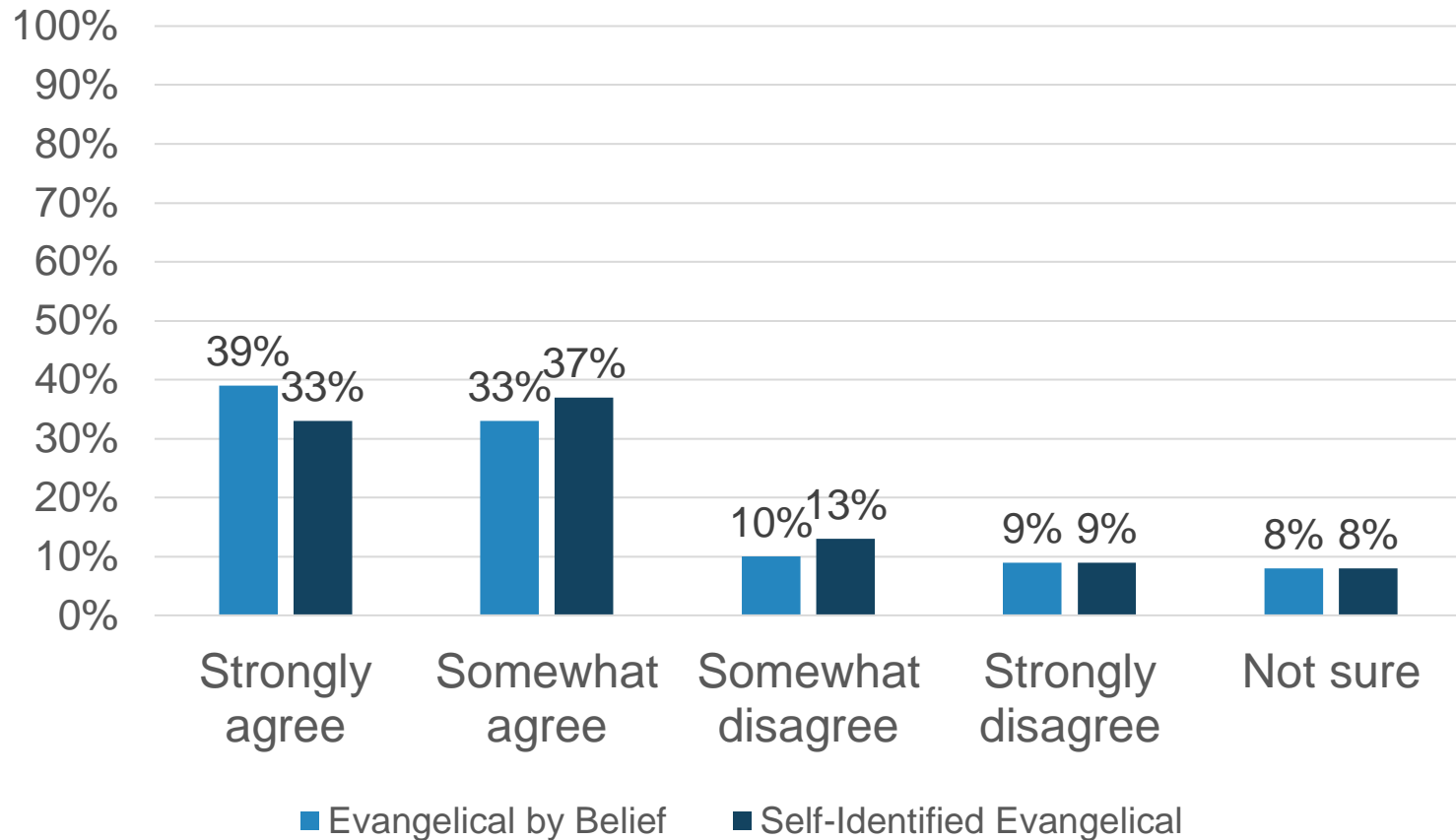
# 71% agree the U.S. has a moral responsibility to accept refugees



Lifeway research

# Evangelicals by belief are more likely to strongly agree the U.S. has a moral responsibility to accept refugees than Self-Identified Evangelicals

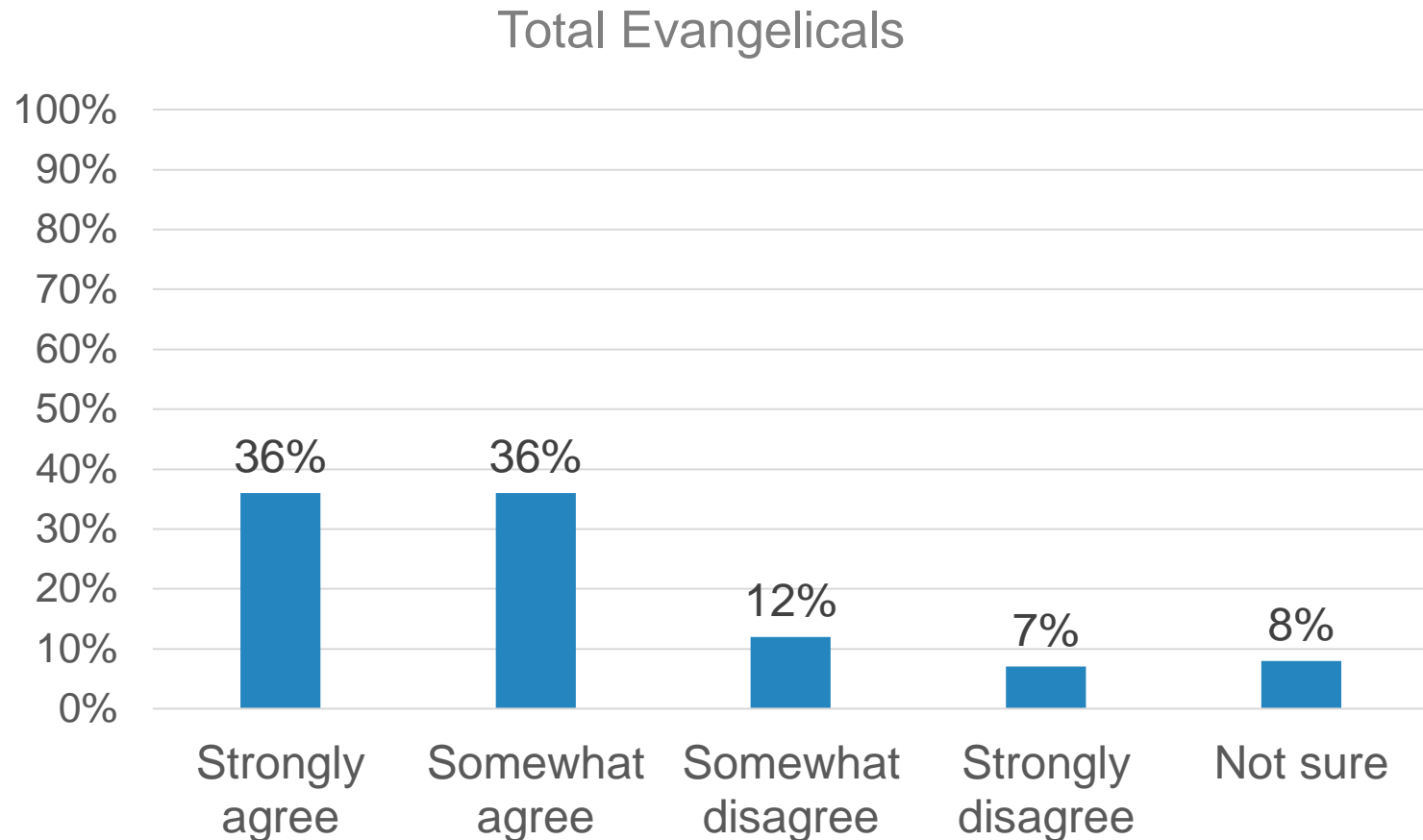
Evangelical by Belief v. Self-Identified



Lifeway research

Q27: "The U.S. has a moral responsibility to accept refugees, which U.S. law defines as someone fleeing persecution due to specific factors such as their race, religion, or political opinion." n=507 (EVB), 914 (SIEV)

# 72% agree the U.S. has a moral responsibility to accept refugees fleeing religious persecution

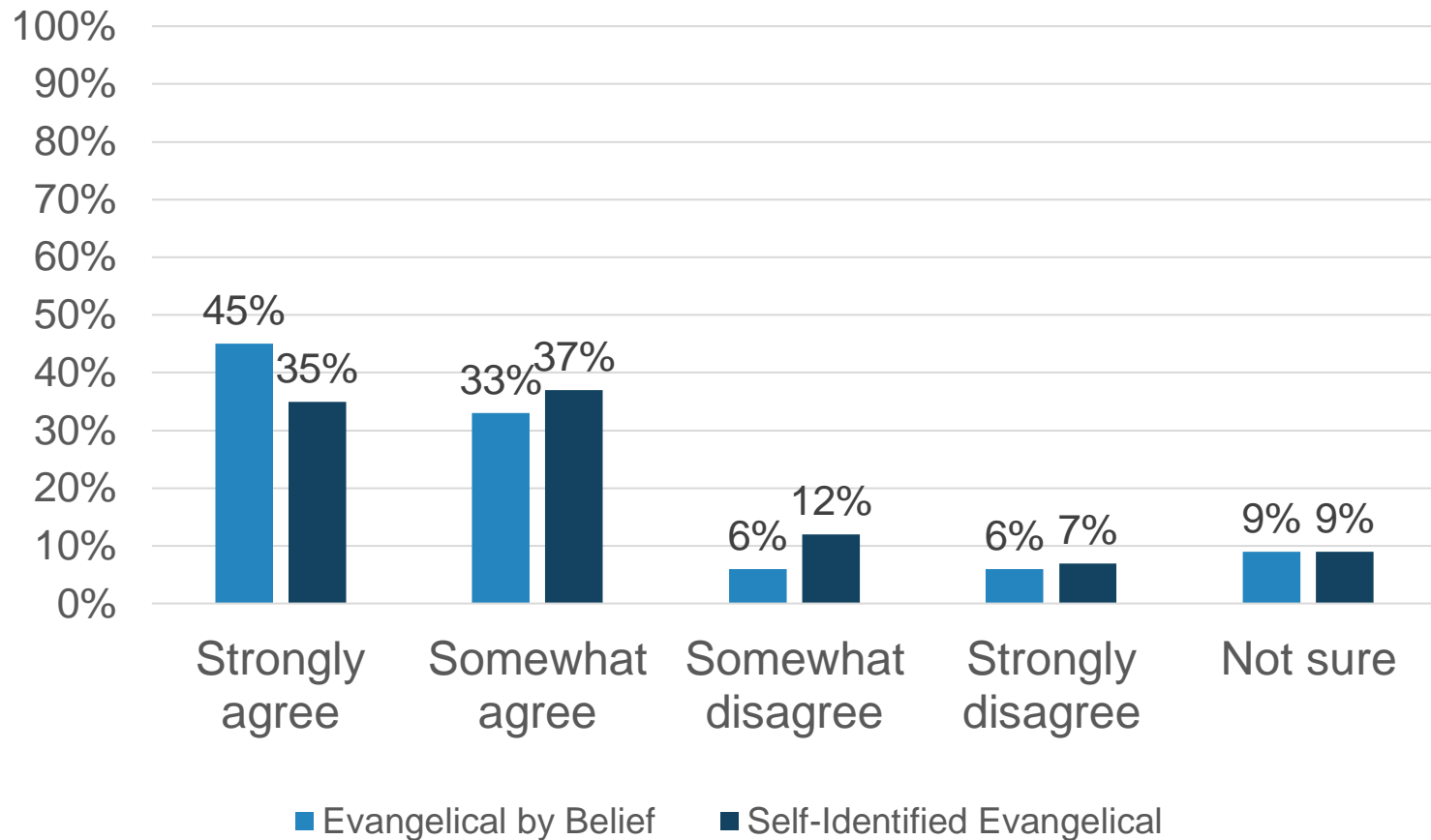


Lifeway research

Q28: "The U.S. has a moral responsibility to accept refugees fleeing religious persecution." n=1,010

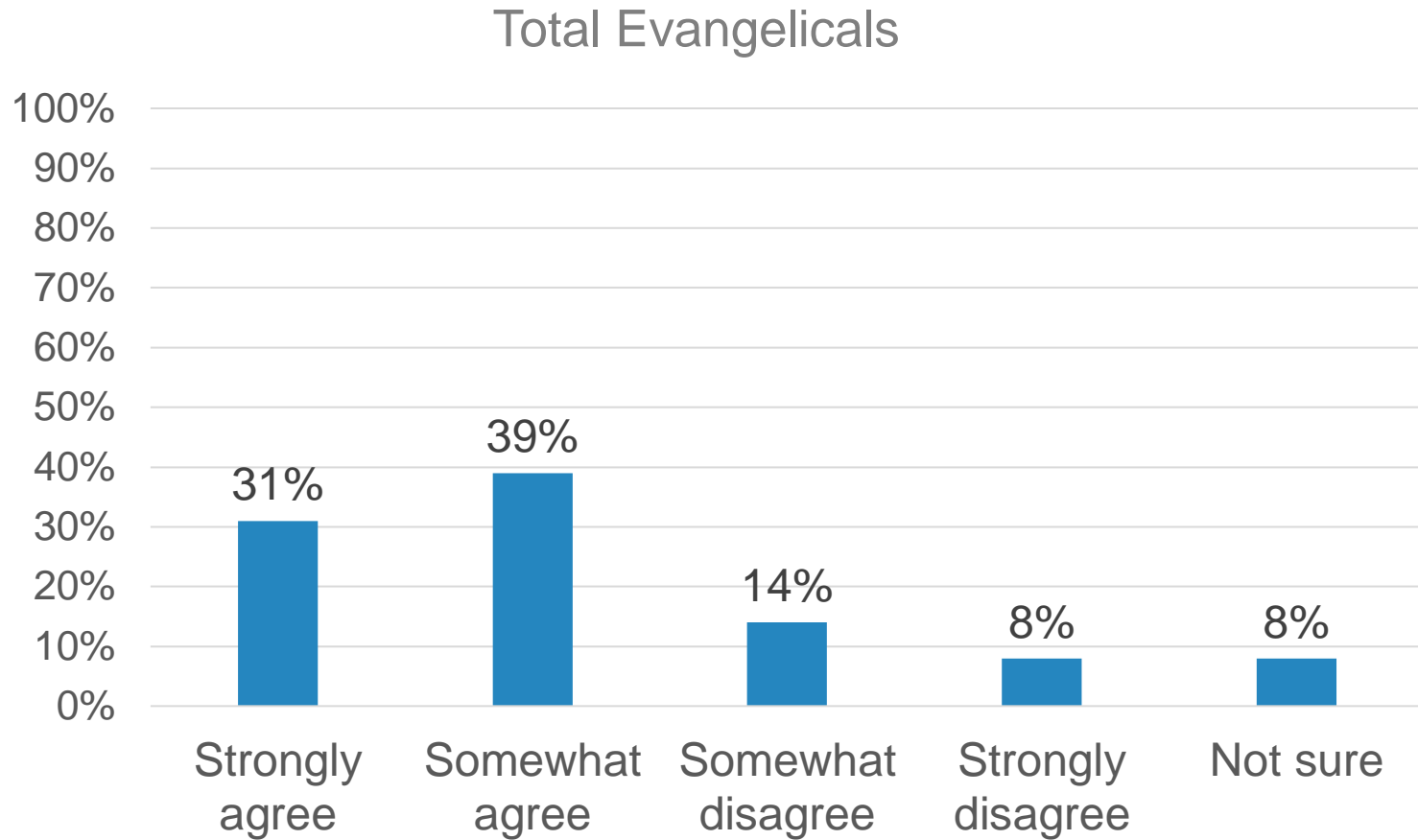
# Evangelicals by belief are more likely to agree the U.S. has a moral responsibility to accept refugees fleeing religious persecution than Self-Identified Evangelicals (78% v. 71%)

Evangelical by Belief v. Self-Identified



Lifeway research

# 70% agree that Christians have a responsibility to care sacrificially for refugees and other foreigners



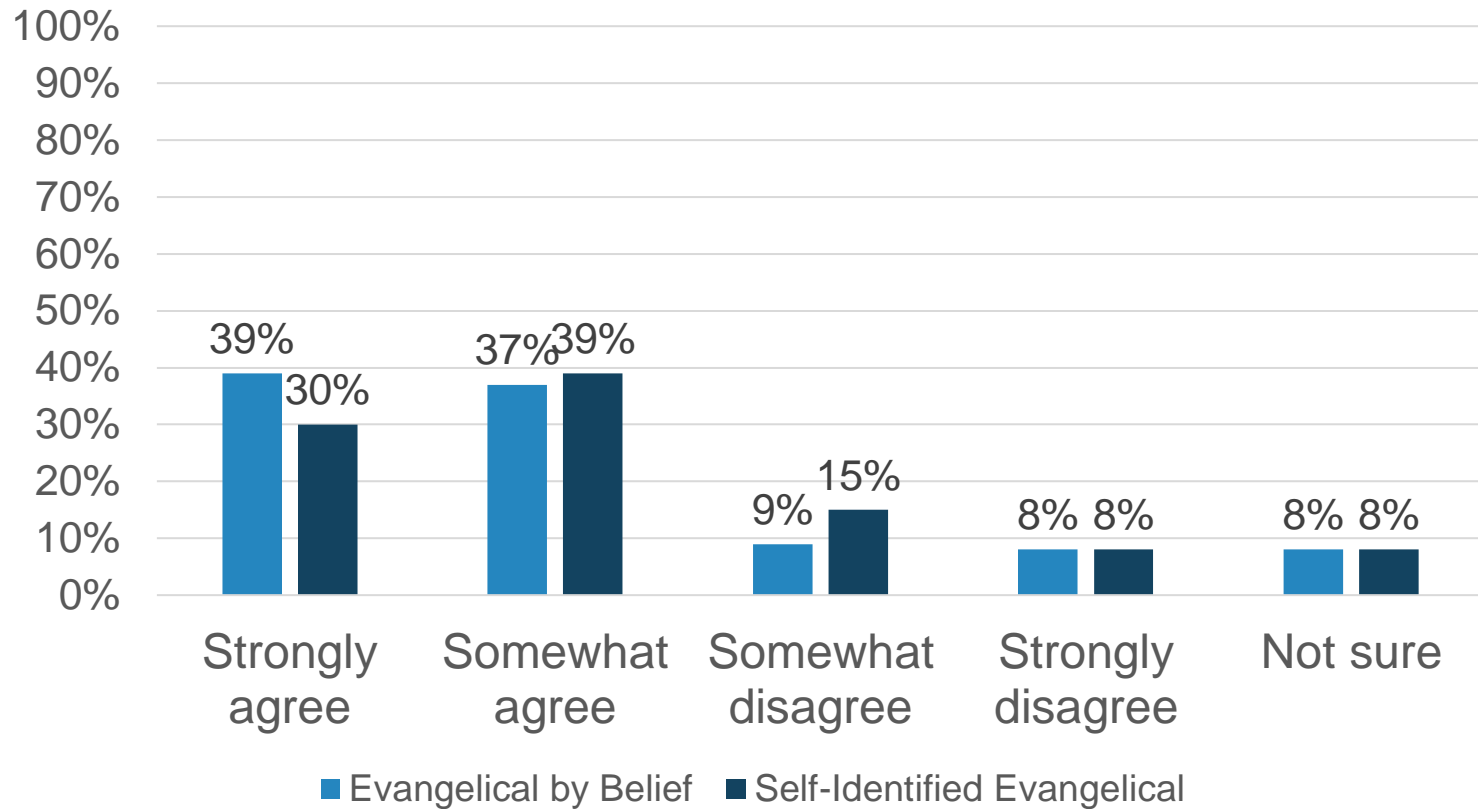
Lifeway research

Q29: "Christians have a responsibility to care sacrificially for refugees and other foreigners." n=1,010

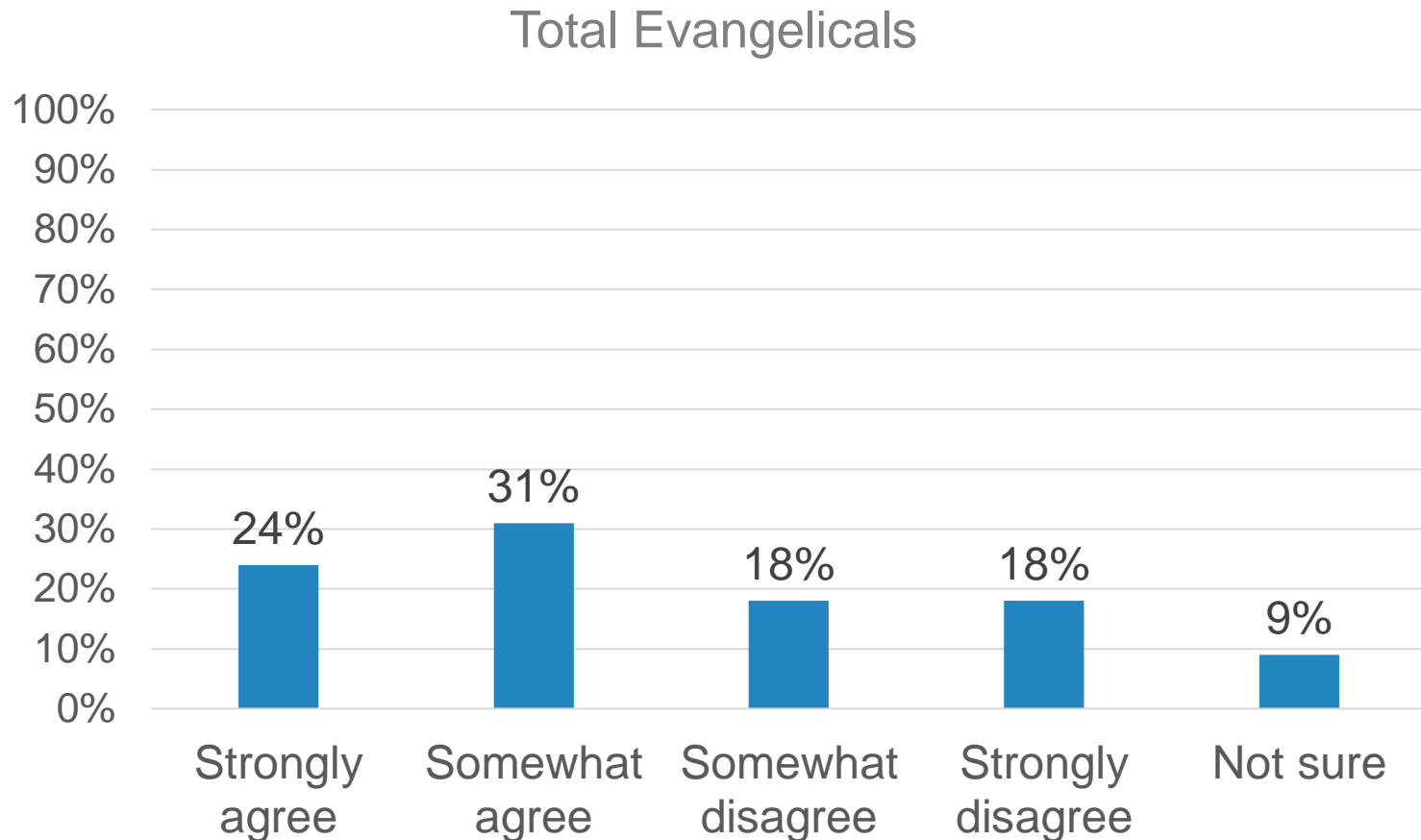


# Evangelicals by belief are more likely to agree Christians have a responsibility to care sacrificially for refugees than Self-Identified Evangelicals (76% v. 69%)

Evangelical by Belief v. Self-Identified



# 55% agree that Christians have a responsibility to assist immigrants even if they are here illegally

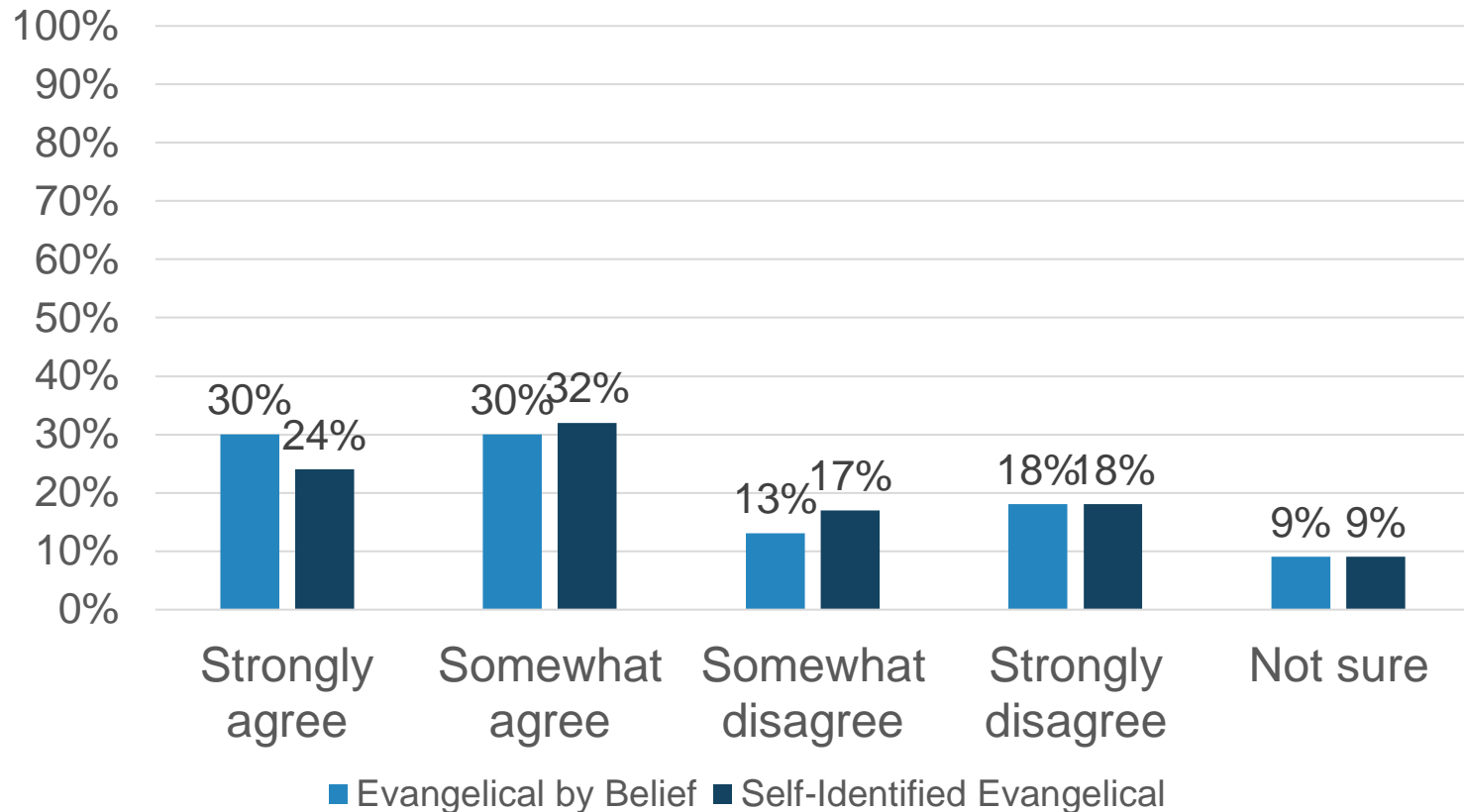


Lifeway research

Q30: "Christians have a responsibility to assist immigrants even if they are here illegally" n=1,010

# Evangelicals by belief are more likely to strongly agree Christians have a responsibility to assist immigrants here illegally than Self-Identified Evangelicals

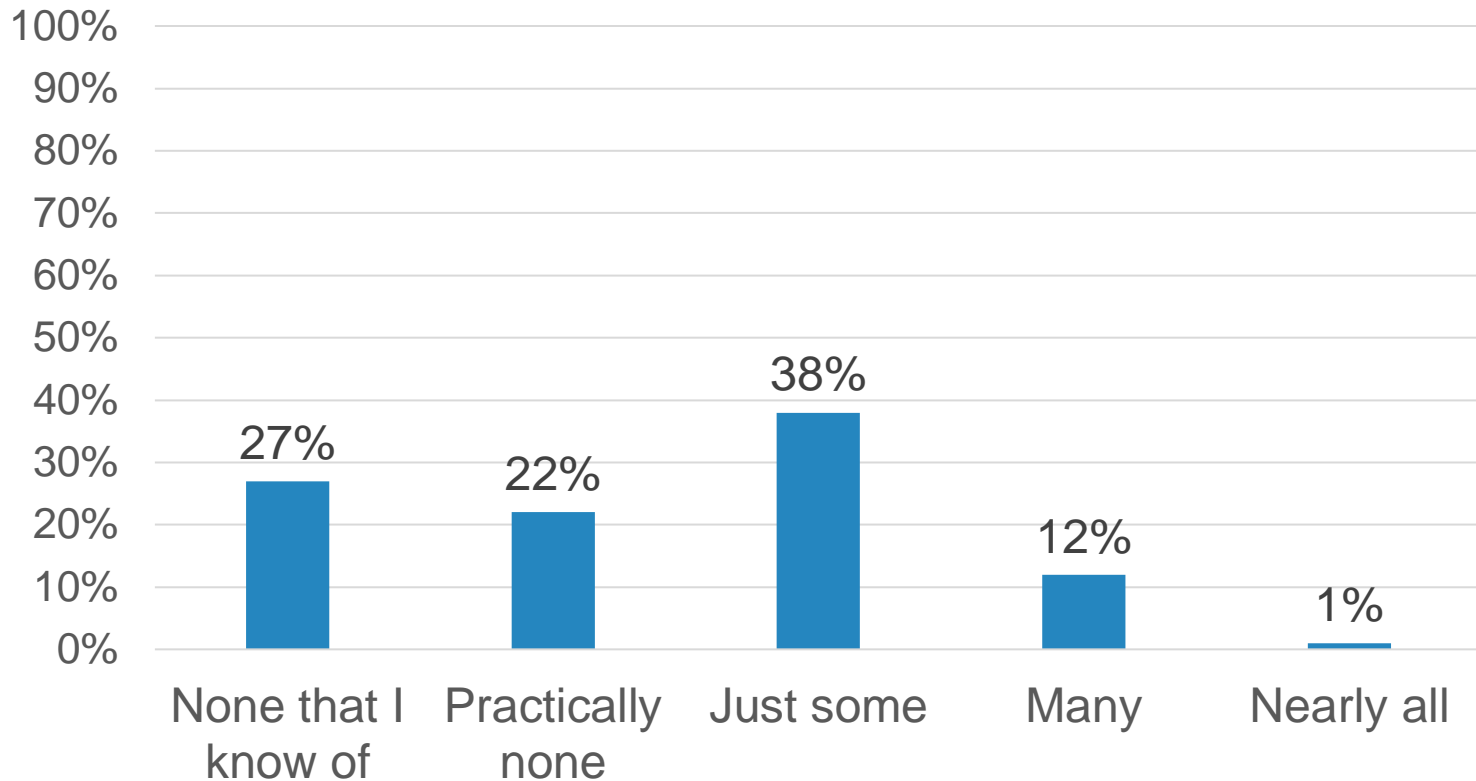
Evangelical by Belief v. Self-Identified



Lifeway research

# 51% say their church has at least some first-generation immigrants

Among Evangelicals who attend church several times a year or more



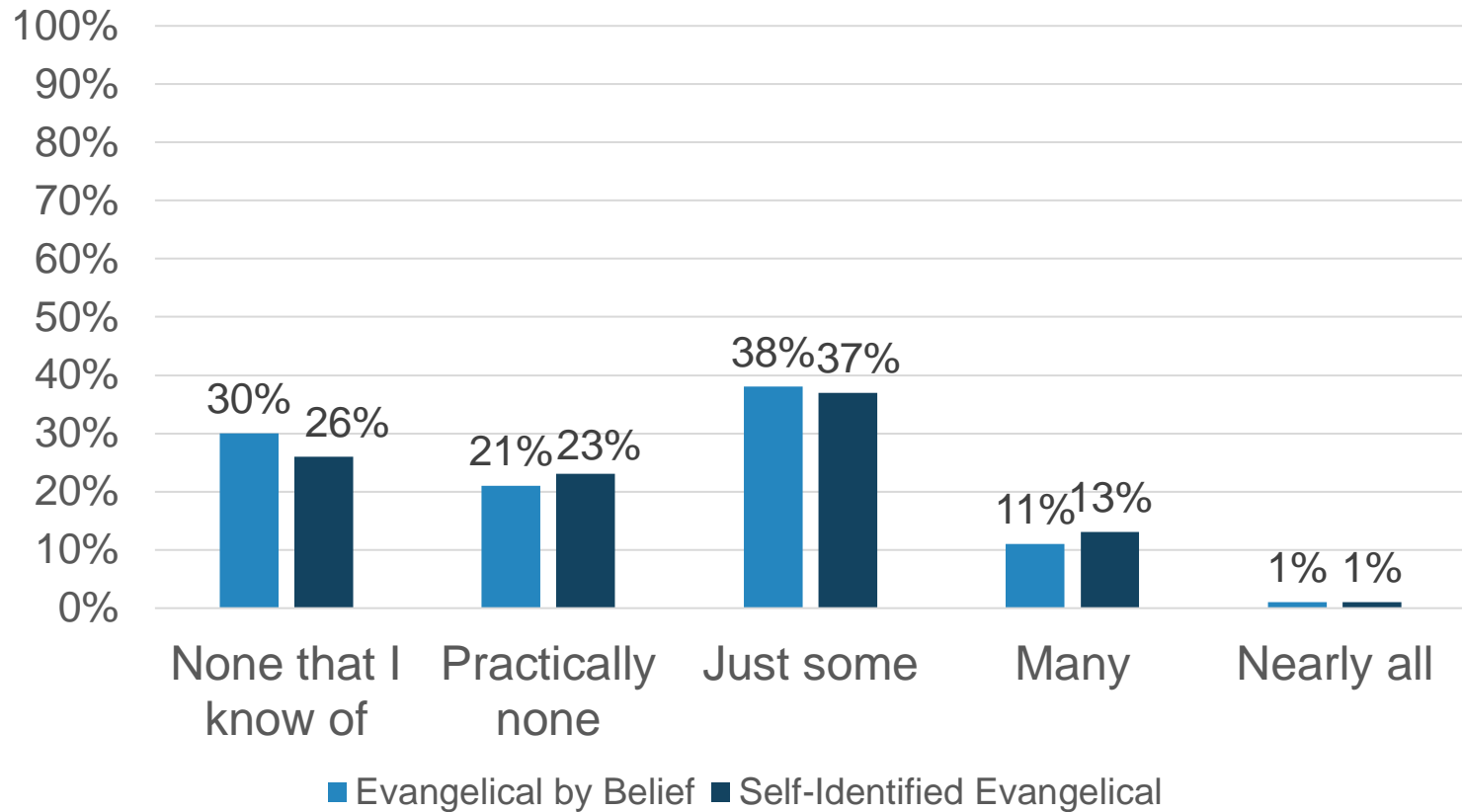
**Lifeway**research

Q32: "About what portion of your church is made up of immigrants born outside the U.S.? (Select One)" n=776

# Roughly half of both Evangelicals by belief and Self-Identified Evangelicals say their church has some first-generation immigrants

Evangelical by Belief v. Self-Identified

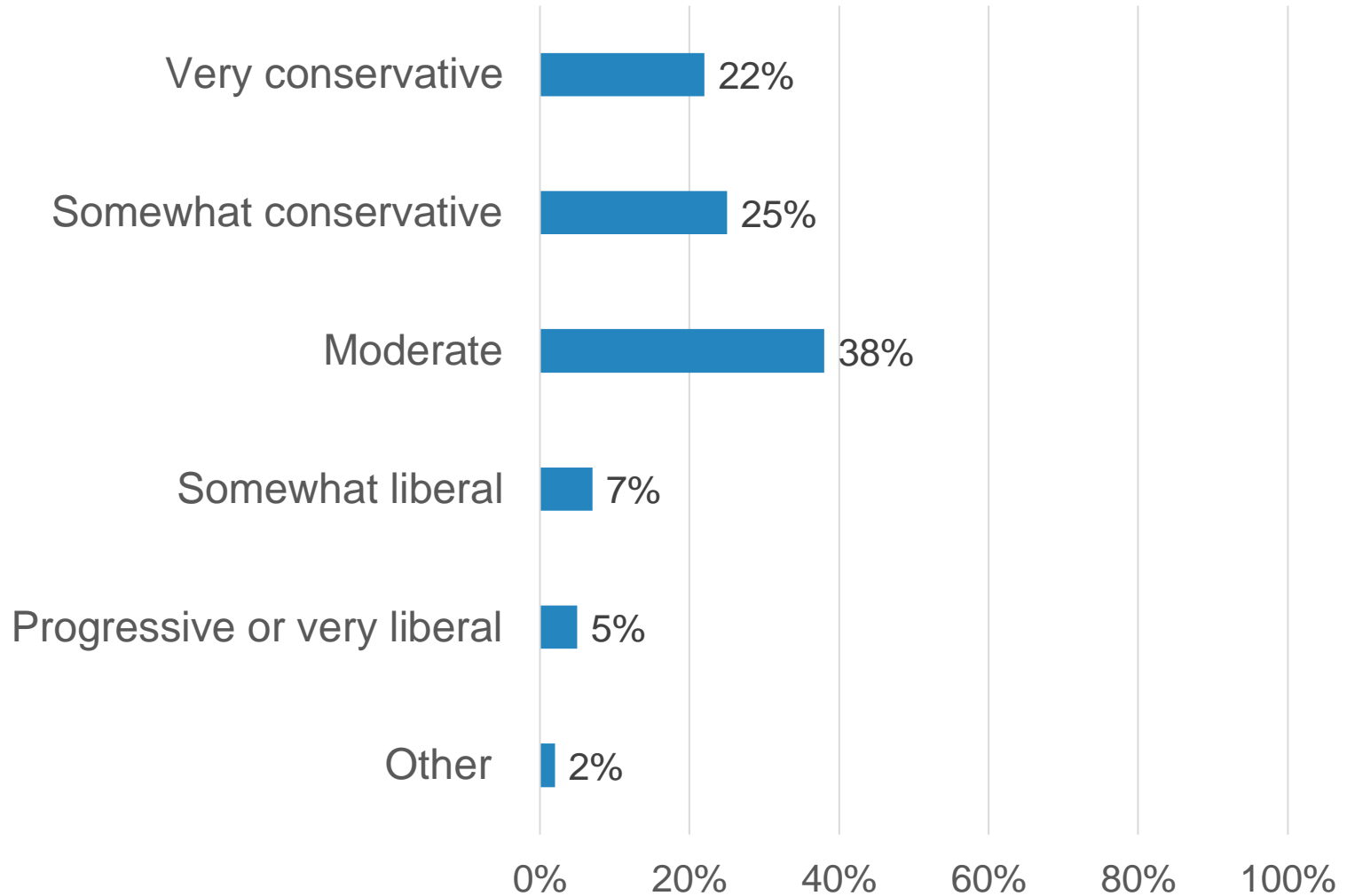
Among Evangelicals who attend church several times a year or more



Lifeway research

# 47% describe their political views as conservative

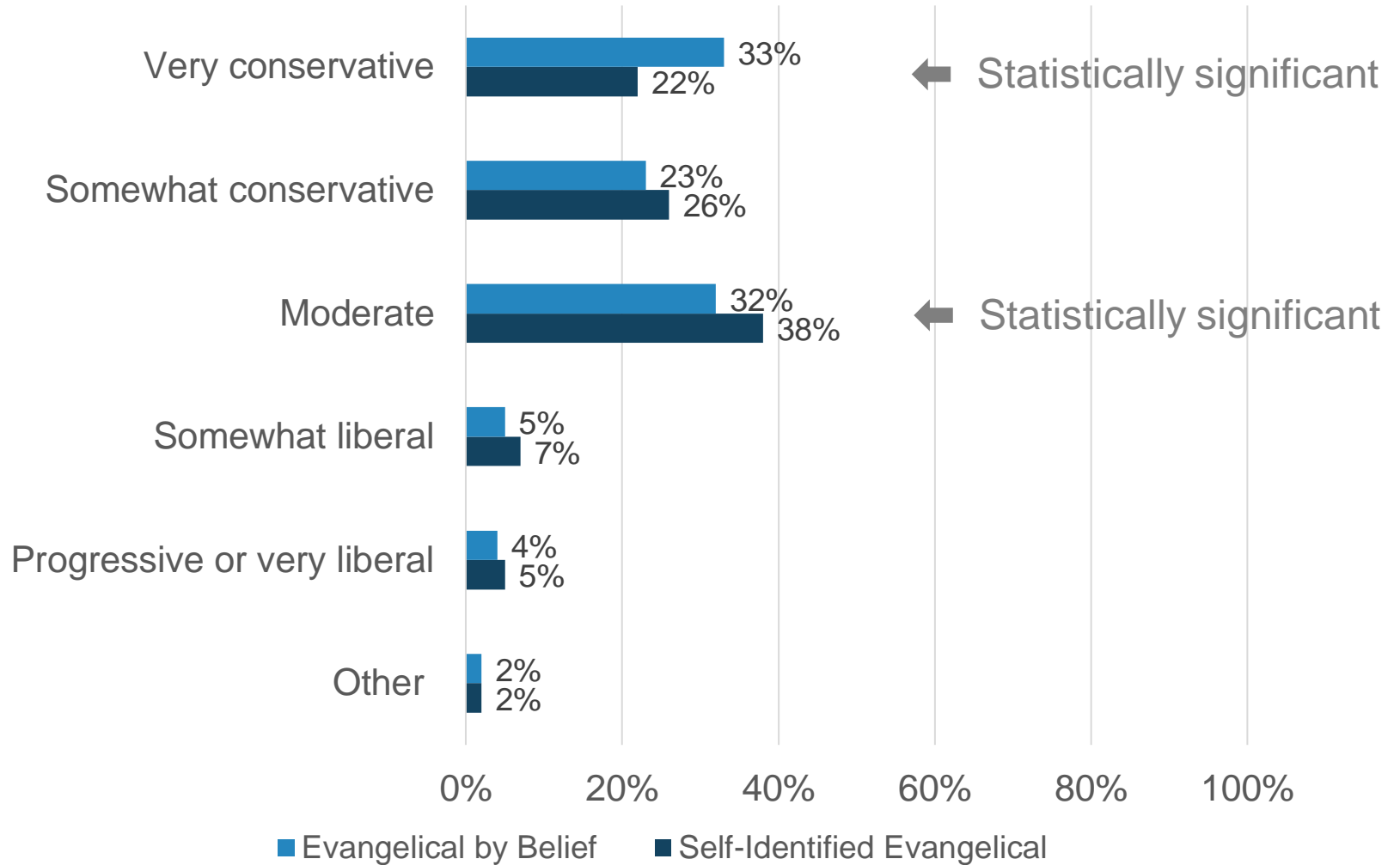
## Total Evangelicals



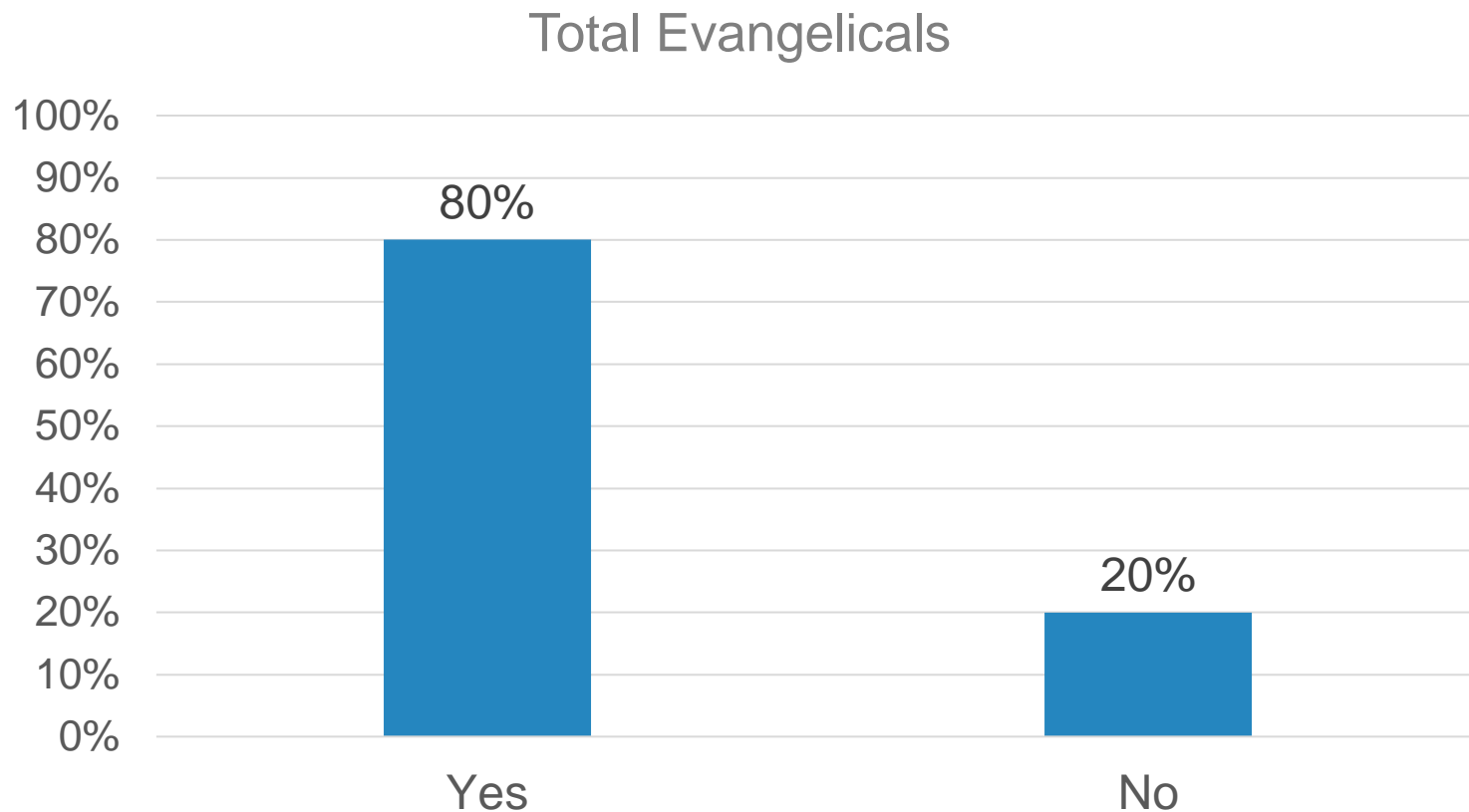
Lifeway research

# Political Views

## Evangelical by Belief v. Self-Identified



# 80% of Evangelicals say they voted in the 2020 presidential election



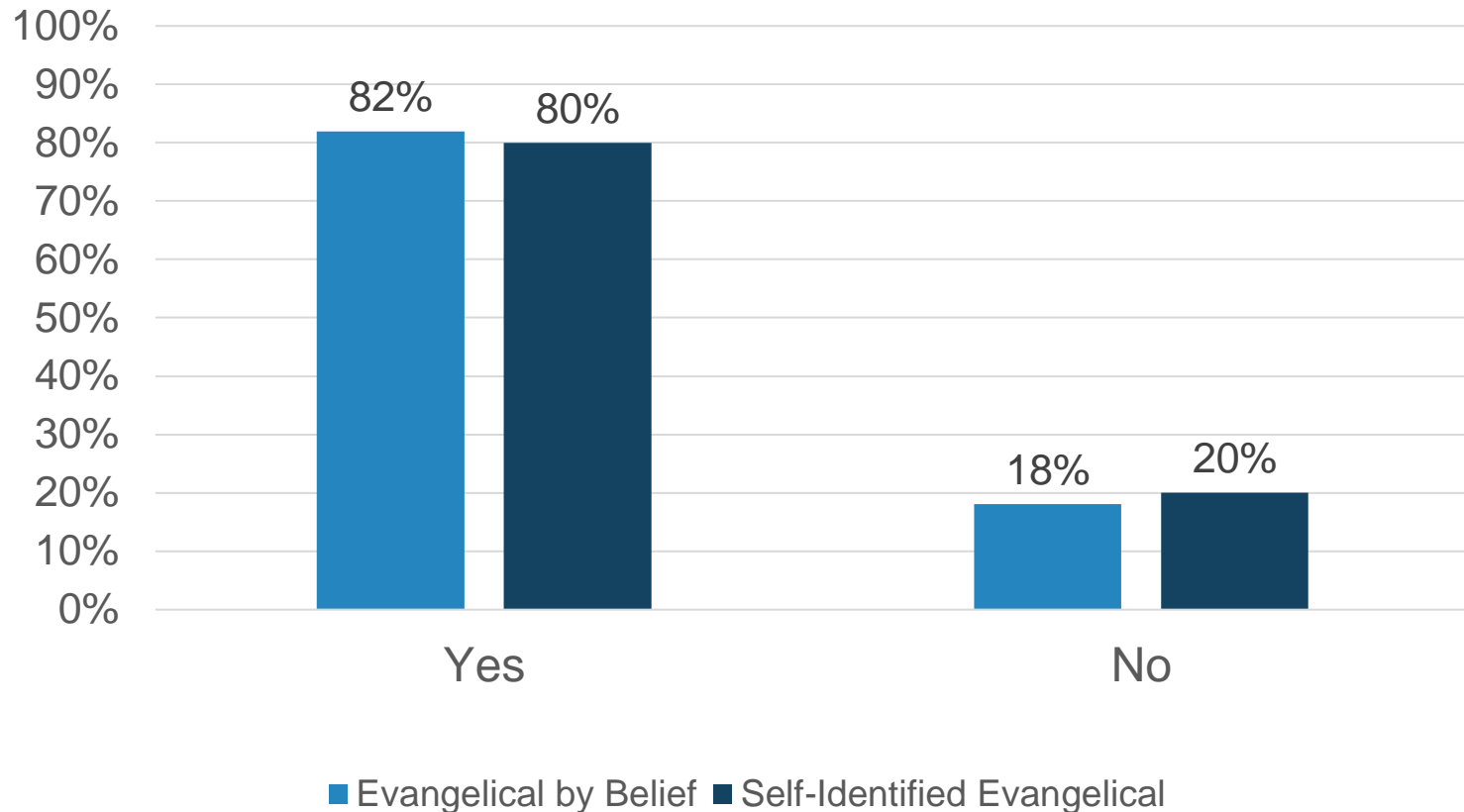
Lifeway research

Q34: "Did you vote in the 2020 presidential election?" n=1,010



# Evangelicals by belief and Self-Identified Evangelicals are equally as likely to have voted in 2020

Evangelical by Belief v. Self-Identified

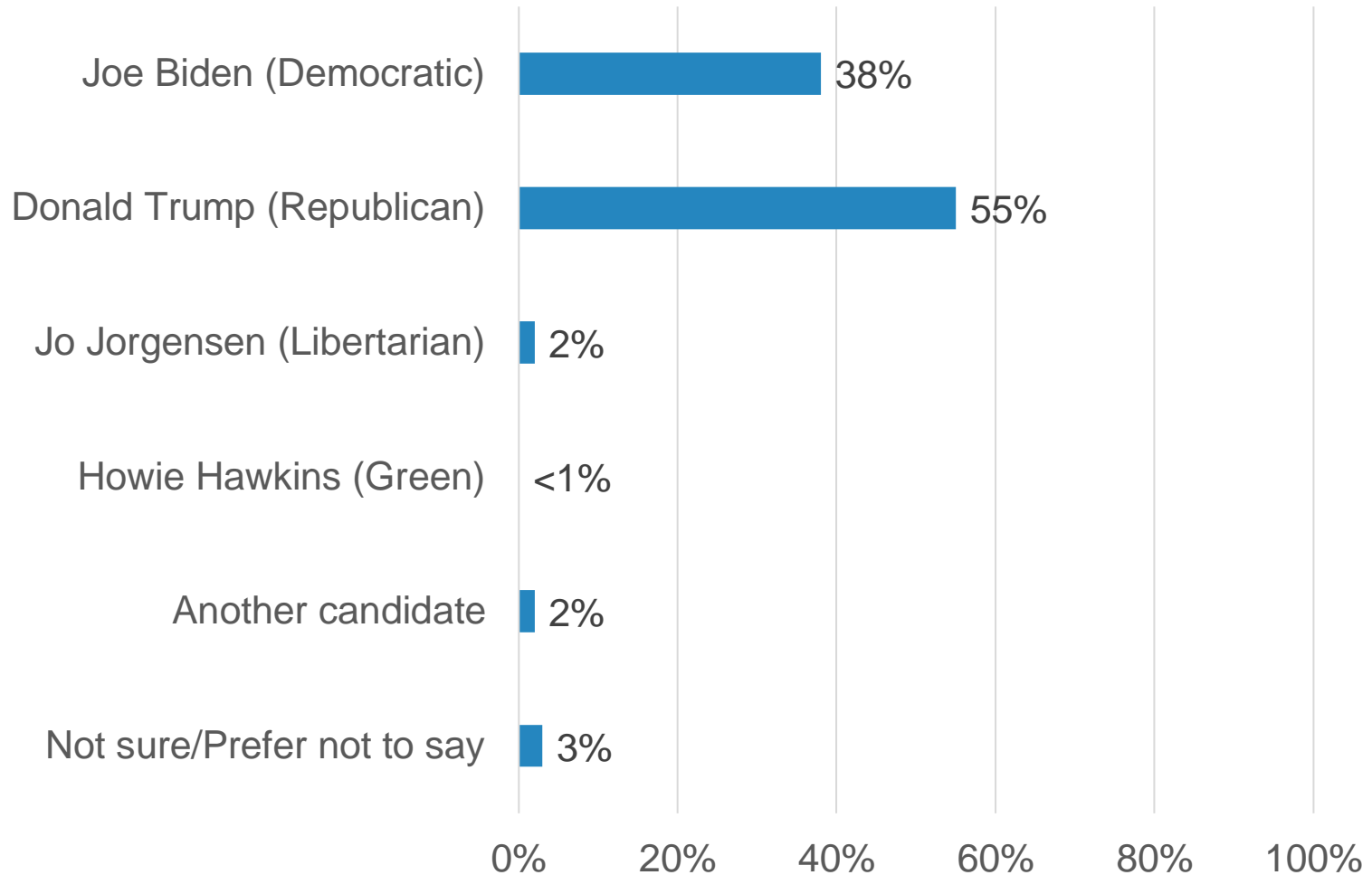


Lifeway research

Q34: "Did you vote in the 2020 presidential election?" n=507 (EVB), 914 (SIEV)

# 55% of Evangelicals voted for Trump in 2020

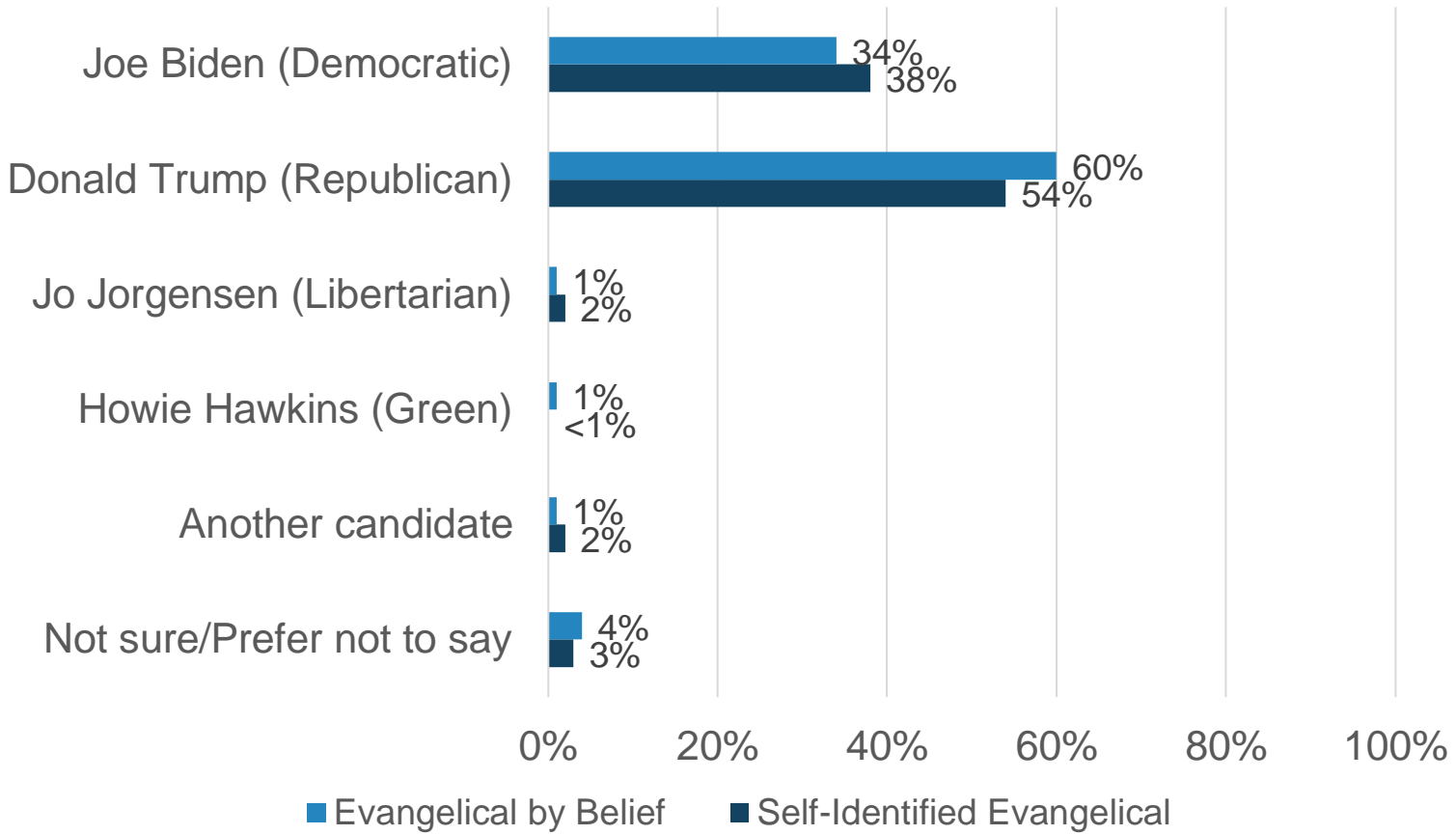
Among Those Who Voted in the 2020 Presidential Election



**Lifeway**research

# The 2020 presidential votes cast by Self-Identified Evangelicals and Evangelicals by belief were not significantly different

Evangelical by Belief v. Self-Identified  
Who Voted in the 2020 Presidential Election

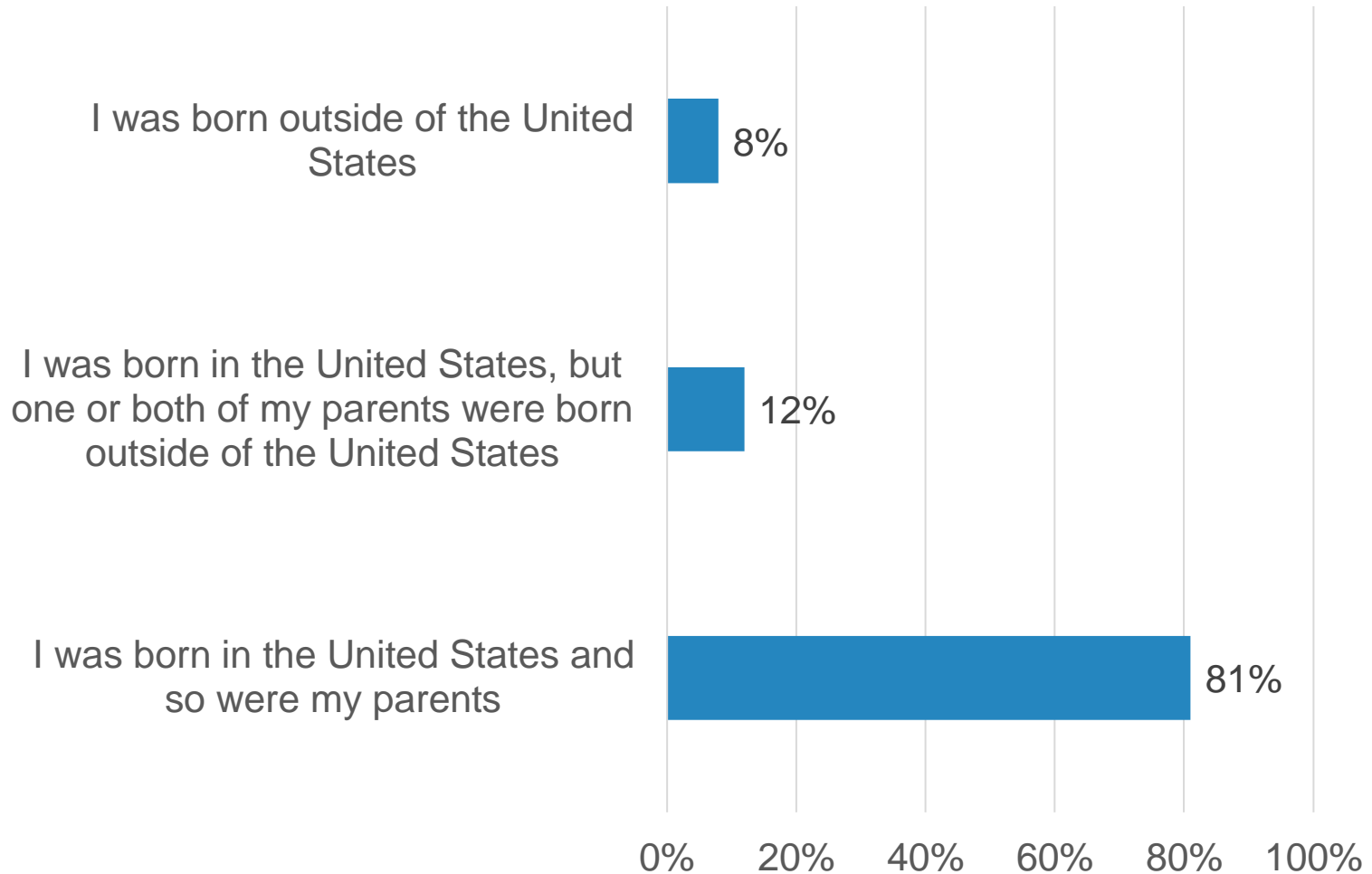


Lifeway research

Q35: "In the 2020 presidential election, for whom did you vote? (Select One)" n= 411 (EVB), 730 (SIEV)

# 19% of Evangelicals are 1<sup>st</sup> or 2<sup>nd</sup> generation immigrants

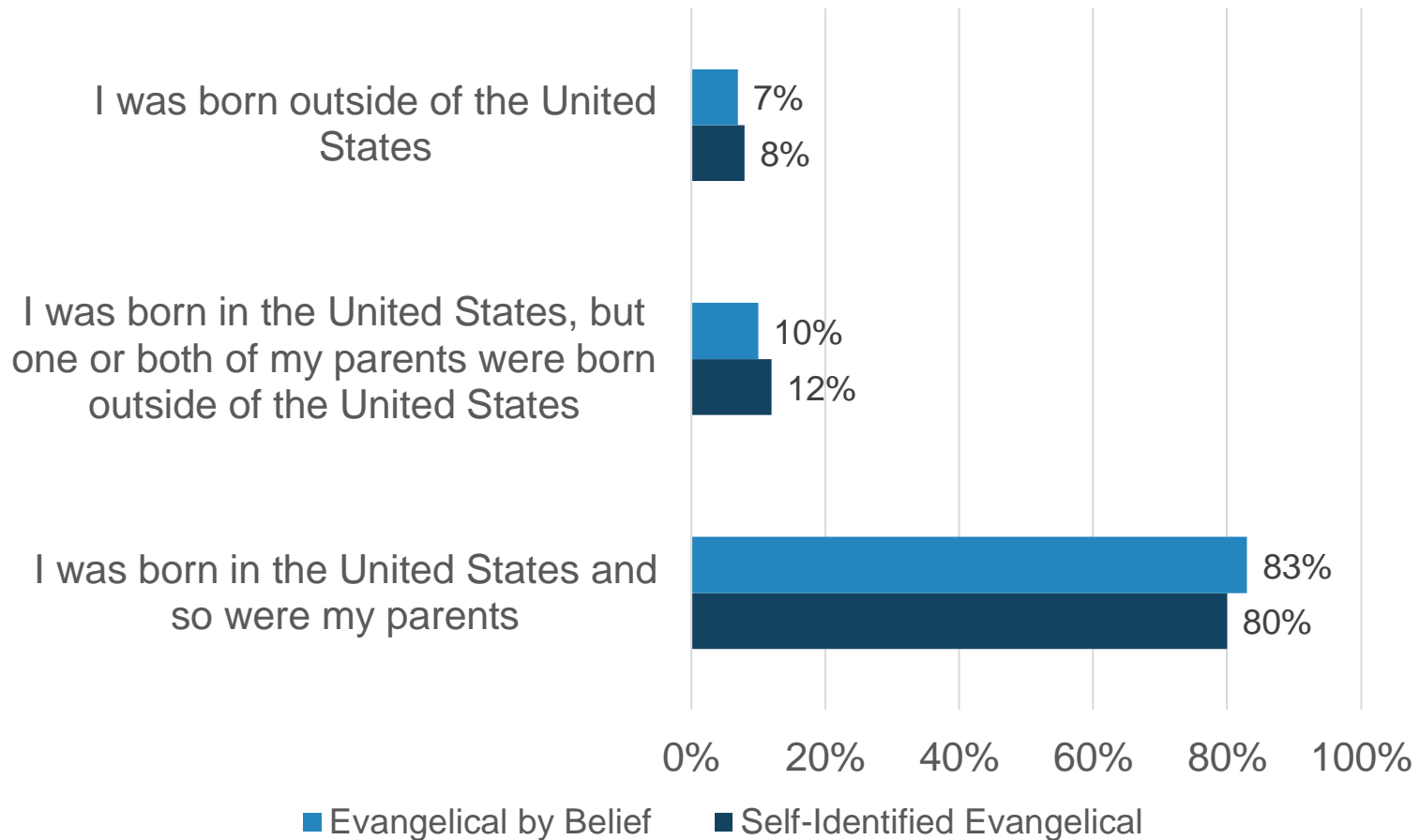
Total Evangelicals



Lifeway research

# Similar portions of Self-Identified Evangelicals and Evangelicals by belief are 1<sup>st</sup> or 2<sup>nd</sup> generation immigrants

Evangelical by Belief v. Self-Identified



Lifeway research

# Significant Differences

Age

Gender

Ethnicity

Education Level

Region

Worship Service Attendance

Political Views

# Significant Statistical Differences

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

| AGE   | GENDER | ETHNICITY         | EDUCATION                    |
|-------|--------|-------------------|------------------------------|
| 18-34 | Male   | White             | High school graduate or less |
| 35-49 | Female | African American  | Some college                 |
| 50-64 |        | Hispanic          | Bachelor's Degree            |
| 65+   |        | Other Ethnicities | Graduate Degree              |

# Significant Statistical Differences

Comparisons were made to determine if there are any significant statistical differences among region, worship service attendance, and political views.

| REGION    | WORSHIP ATTENDANCE    | POLITICAL VIEWS |
|-----------|-----------------------|-----------------|
| Northeast | At least once a week  | Conservative    |
| South     | Once or twice a month | Moderate        |
| Midwest   | Several times a year  | Liberal         |
| West      | Rarely or never       |                 |

Note: Region is defined by the US Census locations



# “The number of recent immigrants to the United States is...”

## A threat to traditional American customs and culture

- Those age 65+ are the most likely to select (36%)
- Males are more likely to select than females (31% v. 25%)
- Whites (31%) are more likely to select than African Americans (20%) and Other Ethnicities (18%)
- Those who attend a worship service several times a year are the most likely to select (38%)
- Those with conservative political views (39%) are more likely to select than those with moderate political views (16%) and liberal political views (22%)

# “The number of recent immigrants to the United States is...”

## A threat to the safety of citizens

- Those age 65+ are the most likely to select (47%)
- Those age 18-34 are the least likely to select (22%)
- Males are more likely to select than females (42% v. 34%)
- Whites are the most likely to select (45%)
- Those with some college (41%) or a Graduate Degree (45%) are more likely to select than those who are High School Graduates or less (33%)
- Those who attend a worship service several times a year are the most likely to select (52%)
- Those with conservative political views (53%) are more likely to select than those with moderate political views (25%) and liberal political views (18%)

# “The number of recent immigrants to the United States is...”

## A threat to law and order

- Those age 18-34 are the least likely to select (23%)
- Males are more likely to select than females (42% v. 34%)
- Whites are the most likely to select (44%)
- Those with some college (40%) or a Bachelor’s Degree (41%) are more likely to select than those who are High School Graduates or less (32%)
- Those who attend a worship service several times a year (46%) are more likely to select than those who attend at least once a week (36%) or once or twice a month (33%)
- Those with conservative political views (52%) are more likely to select than those with moderate political views (25%) and liberal political views (19%)

**“The number of recent immigrants to the United States is...”**

### **An opportunity to introduce them to Jesus Christ**

- Those age 18-34 (47%) are more likely to select than those 50-64 (38%) and 65+ (33%)
- African Americans (47%) are more likely to select than Whites (37%)
- Those who attend a worship service at least once a week are the most likely to select (48%)

# “The number of recent immigrants to the United States is...”

## An opportunity to show them love

- Those age 18-34 (49%) and 35-49 (45%) are more likely to select than those 50-64 (36%) and 65+ (31%)
- Whites are the least likely to select (33%)
- Those in the Northeast (45%) and Midwest (43%) are more likely to select than those in the South (35%)
- Those who attend a worship service at least once a week (43%) or once or twice a month (47%) are more likely to select than those who attend several times a year (32%) or rarely or never attend (28%)
- Those with moderate political views (46%) and liberal political views (57%) are more likely to select than those with conservative political views (28%)

# “The number of recent immigrants to the United States is...”

## An improvement to America’s cultural diversity

- Those age 18-34 are the most likely to select (40%)
- Other Ethnicities (43%) are more likely to select than Whites (21%) and Hispanics (27%)
- Those with moderate political views (32%) and liberal political views (43%) are more likely to select than those with conservative political views (17%)

# “The number of recent immigrants to the United States is...”

## A boost to entrepreneurial activity

- Those age 18-34 (24%) and 35-49 (18%) are more likely to select than those 50-64 (11%) and 65+ (10%)
- Africa Americans (23%) and Hispanics (19%) are more likely to select than Whites (11%)
- Those in the Northeast (21%) and West (18%) are more likely to select than those in the Midwest (9%)
- Those with moderate political views (20%) and liberal political views (19%) are more likely to select than those with conservative political views (9%)

# “The number of recent immigrants to the United States is...”

## A drain on economic resources

- Those age 50-65 (60%) and 65+ (64%) are more likely to select than those 18-34 (25%) and 35-49 (37%)
- Whites are the most likely to select (59%)
- Those who are High School Graduates or less are the least likely to select (41%)
- Those in the South (53%) are more likely to select than those in the Midwest (44%)
- Those who attend a worship service several times a year (63%) are more likely to select than those who attend at least once a week (46%) or once or twice a month (45%)
- Those with conservative political views (61%) are more likely to select than those with moderate political views (42%) and liberal political views (30%)



# “Which of the following best describes your opinions about legal immigration?”

## Legal immigration is...

- Those age 18-34 (29%) and 35-49 (34%) are more likely to select “Helpful to the U.S. and we should increase the number of legal immigrants approved in a year” than those 50-64 (19%) and 65+ (16%)
- Those age 65+ (40%) are more likely to select “Helpful to the U.S., and we should maintain the current number of legal immigrants approved in a year” than those 35-49 (31%)
- Females are more likely to select “Harmful to the U.S., and we should completely stop approving legal immigrants” than males (16% v. 9%)
- Whites are the least likely to select “Helpful to the U.S., and we should increase the number of legal immigrants approved in a year” (20%)
- Those with a Graduate Degree are the most likely to select “Helpful to the U.S., and we should increase the number of legal immigrants approved in a year” (37%)
- Those in the Midwest (37%) and South (37%) are more likely to select “Helpful to the U.S., and we should maintain the current number of legal immigrants approved in a year” than those in the Northeast (26%)

## **“Which of the following best describes your opinions about legal immigration?” (continued)**

### **Legal immigration is...**

- Those in the Northeast (31%) and West (27%) are more likely to select “Helpful to the U.S. and we should increase the number of legal immigrants approved in a year” than those in the South (20%)
- Those who attend a worship service at least once a week (26%) are more likely to select “Helpful to the U.S., and we should increase the number of legal immigrants approved in a year” than those who rarely or never attend (18%)
- Those with liberal political views (32%) are more likely to select “Helpful to the U.S., and we should increase the number of legal immigrants approved in a year” than those with conservative political views (21%) and moderate political views (23%)

## **“How important is it to you that the Congress pass significant new immigration legislation this year (2024)?”**

- Those age 50-64 (81%) and 65+ (81%) are more likely to select “Very important/Important” than those 18-34 (71%) and 35-49 (73%)
- Males are more likely to select “Very important/Important” than females (81% v. 74%)
- Whites (81%) are more likely to select “Very important/Important” than African Americans (72%) and Other Ethnicities (64%)
- Those with a Graduate Degree (86%) are more likely to select “Very important/Important” than those who are High School Graduates or less (74%)
- Those who attend a worship service at least once a week (80%) are more likely to select “Very important/Important” than those who rarely or never attend (71%)
- Those with conservative political views are the most likely to select “Very important/Important” (85%)

**“In regards to potential legislation addressing illegal immigration, how supportive are you of each of these principles for immigration reform legislation?”**

**Respect the God-given dignity of every person**

- Males are more likely to support than females (93% v. 88%)
- Those who are High School Graduates or less are the least likely to support (87%)

# **“In regards to potential legislation addressing illegal immigration, how supportive are you of each of these principles for immigration reform legislation?”**

## **Protect the unity of the immediate family**

- Those in the Northeast (95%) are more likely to support than those in the Midwest (88%)
- Those with a Graduate Degree are the most likely to support (98%)
- Those who attend a worship service at least once a week (94%) are more likely to support than those who attend several times a year (88%) and rarely or never attend (88%)

# **“In regards to potential legislation addressing illegal immigration, how supportive are you of each of these principles for immigration reform legislation?”**

## **Respect the rule of law**

- Those age 50-64 (96%) and 65+ (95%) are more likely to support than those 18-34 (88%)
- Whites (95%) are more likely to support than African Americans (87%) and Hispanics (90%)
- Those with a Graduate Degree (97%) are more likely to support than those who are High School Graduates or less (91%)
- Those in the South (95%) are more likely to select than those in the Northeast (89%) and Midwest (90%)
- Those who attend a worship service once or twice a month (9%) are more likely to oppose than those who attend at least once a week (5%) or rarely or never attend (4%)
- Those with conservative political views are the most likely to support (96%)

**“In regards to potential legislation addressing illegal immigration, how supportive are you of each of these principles for immigration reform legislation?”**

### **Guarantee secure national borders**

- Those age 18-34 are the least likely to support (80%) and most likely to oppose (16%)
- Whites (94%) and Other Ethnicities (92%) are more likely to support than African Americans (82%)
- Those with conservative political views are the most likely to support (95%)

# **“In regards to potential legislation addressing illegal immigration, how supportive are you of each of these principles for immigration reform legislation?”**

## **Ensure fairness to taxpayers**

- Those age 50-64 (96%) and 65+ (96%) are more likely to support than those 18-34 (87%) and 35-49 (91%)
- Whites (95%) and Hispanics (96%) are more likely to support than African Americans (86%)
- Those with some college (96%) are more likely to support than those who are High School Graduates or less (91%)
- Those in the West (97%) are more likely to support than those in the Northeast (90%) and Midwest (92%)
- Those who attend a worship service at least once a week (95%) or rarely or never attend (95%) are more likely to support than those who attend once or twice a month (88%)
- Those with conservative political views (96%) are more likely to support than those with moderate political views (91%)



## **“In regards to potential legislation addressing illegal immigration, how supportive are you of each of these principles for immigration reform legislation?”**

### **Establish a path toward citizenship for those who are here illegally, are interested, and meet certain qualifications for citizenship**

- Those age 35-49 (83%) are more likely to support than those 50-64 (72%) and 65+ (71%)
- African Americans (80%) and Hispanics (87%) are more likely to support than Whites (72%)
- Those who attend a worship service at least once a week (77%) are more likely to support than those who rarely or never attend (70%)
- Those with moderate political views (80%) and liberal political views (86%) are more likely to support than those with conservative political views (68%)

**“Please indicate if you would or would not support changes to U.S. immigration laws that would both increase border security measures and establish a process so that those immigrants in the U.S. unlawfully could earn permanent legal status and eventually apply for citizenship if they pay a fine, pass a criminal background check, and complete other requirements during a probationary period.”**

- Whites (19%) are more likely to oppose than Hispanics (10%)
- Those with some college (81%) or a Graduate Degree (86%) are more likely to support than those who are High School Graduates or less (75%)
- Those who rarely or never attend are the least likely to support (70%)
- Those with moderate political views (81%) and liberal political views (85%) are more likely to support than those with conservative political views (74%)

## **“In future elections, if a candidate supported the changes described above (Q17), would you be:”**

- Those age 35-49 (72%) are more likely to select “More likely to vote for that candidate” than those 50-64(61%) and 65+ (62%)
- Hispanics (74%) are more likely to select “More likely to vote for that candidate” than Whites (62%)
- Those with a Graduate Degree (77%) are more likely to select “More likely to vote for that candidate” than those who are High School Graduates or less (60%) or with a Bachelor’s Degree (65%)
- Those in the Midwest (28%) are more likely to select “Neither more nor less likely to vote for that candidate” than those in the West (18%)
- Those who rarely or never attend a worship service (31%) are more likely to select “Neither more nor less likely to vote for that candidate” than those who attend at least once a week (21%) or attend several times a year (17%)
- Those with conservative political views (18%) are more likely to select “Less likely to vote for that candidate” than those with moderate political views (7%) and liberal political views (4%)

**“Please indicate if you would or would not support Republicans and Democrats working together on a combination of immigration reforms that strengthens border security, creates a pathway to citizenship for undocumented immigrants who came to the United States as children, and provides a reliable number of screened, legal farmworkers?”**

- Hispanics are the most likely to support (91%)
- Those with some college (83%) or a Graduate Degree (87%) are more likely to support than those who are High School Graduates or less (76%)
- Those in the West (86%) are more likely to support than those in the South (78%)
- Those who attend a worship service at least once a week (84%) are more likely to support than those who attend several times a year (75%) and rarely or never attend (74%)
- Those with conservative political views (17%) are more likely to oppose than those with moderate political views (11%)

**“A bill currently cosponsored by 9 Republicans and 6 Democrats in the U.S. Senate and supported by many U.S. military veterans would require Afghan allies evacuated by the U.S. military in 2021 to undergo additional vetting and then allow them to apply for permanent legal status.**

**Please indicate if you would or would not support Republicans and Democrats working together to pass this bill.”**

- Those age 65+ (79%) are more likely to support these efforts than those 35-49 (69%)
- Males are more likely to support these efforts than females (83% v. 67%)
- Whites (78%) are more likely to support these efforts than African Americans (69%) and Other Ethnicities (65%)
- Those with a Graduate Degree (86%) are more likely to support these efforts than those who are High School Graduates or less (70%) and with a Bachelor’s Degree (74%)
- Those who attend a worship service at least once a week (80%) and several times a year (76%) are more likely to support these efforts than those who rarely or never attend (65%)

# “Which three of the following have influenced your thinking the most on immigration?”

## Top choice

- Those age 50-64 (17%) and 65+ (18%) are more likely to select “The media” than those 35-49 (9%)
- Other Ethnicities (20%) are more likely to select “Immigrants you have interacted with” than African Americans (6%) and Hispanics (8%)
- Those with a Bachelor’s Degree (19%) are more likely to select “The media” than those with a Graduate Degree (8%)
- Those in the Midwest (19%) are more likely to select “The media” than those in the Northeast (10%)
- Those who attend a worship service at least once a week (32%) are more likely to select “The Bible” than those who attend once or twice a month (21%) or rarely or never attend (21%)
- Those who attend a worship service several times a year are the most likely to select “The media” (27%)
- Those with conservative political views (17%) and moderate political views (14%) are more likely to select “The media” than those with liberal political views (7%)

## **“Have you ever heard immigration discussed at your local church in a way that encouraged you to reach out to the immigrants in your community?”**

- Those age 50-64 (69%) and 65+ (71%) are more likely to select “No” than those 18-34 (43%) and 35-49 (49%)
- Whites (64%) are more likely to select “No” than Hispanics (50%) and Other Ethnicities (50%)
- Those who are high school graduates or less (64%) or with some college (64%) are more to select “No” than those with a Bachelor’s Degree (54%) or a Graduate Degree (49%)
- Those in the South (64%) are more likely to select “No” than those in the Northeast (51%)
- Those who attend a worship service at least once a week are the most likely to select “Yes” (43%)
- Those who rarely or never attend a worship service are the most likely to select “No” (81%)

## **“Does your church have any ministry or outreach that serves refugees or other immigrants?”**

- Those age 18-34 (43%) and 35-49 (38%) are more likely to select “Yes” than those 50-64 (26%) and 65+ (26%)
- Hispanics (42%) are more likely to select “Yes” than Whites (29%)
- Those with a Graduate Degree (43%) are more likely to select “Yes” than those who are high school graduates or less (26%) or with some college (31%)
- Those in the West (39%) are more likely to select “Yes” than those in the South (29%)
- Those who rarely or never attend a worship service are the least likely to select “Yes” (10%)
- Those who attend a worship service at least once a week are the most likely to select “Yes” (42%)



## **“Have you ever been involved in a ministry that has served refugees or other immigrants?”**

- Those age 65+ are the most likely to select “No” (82%) followed by 50-64 (72%), 35-49 (56%) and 18-34 (41%)
- Males are more likely to select “Yes, currently” than females (16% v. 11%)
- African Americans (17%) and Hispanics (25%) are more likely to select “Yes, currently” than Whites (11%)
- Whites are the most likely to select “No” (72%)
- Those with a Graduate Degree (24%) are more likely to select “Yes, currently” than those who are high school graduates or less (14%) or with some college (7%)
- Those who attend a worship service at least once a week are the most likely to select “Yes, currently” (23%)
- Those with liberal political views (27%) are more likely to select “Yes, in the past” than those with conservative political views (19%)

## **“I am very familiar with what the Bible has to say about how immigrants should be treated.”**

- Those age 18-34 (76%) and 35-49 (73%) are more likely to Agree than those 65+ (57%)
- Males are more likely to Agree than females (73% v. 61%)
- African Americans (75%) and Hispanics (76%) are more likely to Agree than Whites (62%)
- Those with a Graduate Degree (78%) are more likely to Agree than those who are high school graduates or less (63%) or with some college (64%)
- Those who attend a worship service rarely or never attend are the least likely to Agree (40%)
- Those with liberal political views (74%) are more likely to Agree than those with moderate political views (64%)

**“I would value hearing a sermon that taught how biblical principles and examples can be applied to immigration in the United States.”**

- Those with a Graduate Degree (88%) are more likely to Agree than those with a Bachelor’s Degree (78%)
- Those who rarely or never attend a worship service are the least likely to Agree (68%)
- Those who rarely or never attend a worship service (16%) are more likely to Disagree than those who attend at least once a week (9%) or several times a year (7%)

**“The U.S. has a moral responsibility to accept refugees, which U.S. law defines as someone fleeing persecution due to specific factors such as their race, religion, or political opinion.”**

- Those age 18-34 (80%) are more likely to Agree than those 50-64 (66%) and 65+ (69%)
- African Americans (81%) are more likely to Agree than Whites (67%) and Other Ethnicities (68%)
- Those with a Graduate Degree (79%) are more likely to Agree than those who are high school graduates or less (67%)
- Those who attend a worship service at least once a week (76%) are more likely to Agree than those who attend several times a year (65%) and rarely or never attend (61%)
- Those with liberal political views are the most likely to Agree (87%) followed by those with moderate political views (75%) and conservative political views (65%)

# **“The U.S. has a moral responsibility to accept refugees fleeing religious persecution.”**

- Males are more likely to Agree than females (76% v. 69%)
- Those with a Graduate Degree (81%) are more likely to Agree than those who are high school graduates or less (69%)
- Those in the Midwest (23%) are more likely to Disagree than those in the Northeast (13%)
- Those who attend a worship service at least once a week are the most likely to Agree (81%)
- Those with liberal political views (81%) are more likely to Agree than those with conservative (70%)
- Those with conservative political views (24%) are more likely to Disagree than those with moderate political views (16%) and liberal political views (11%)

## **“Christians have a responsibility to care sacrificially for refugees and other foreigners.”**

- Males are more likely to Agree than females (74% v. 65%)
- African Americans (81%) are more likely to Agree than Whites (66%) and Other Ethnicities (68%)
- Those with a Graduate Degree (79%) are more likely to Agree than those who are high school graduates or less (66%)
- Those who attend a worship service at least once a week are the most likely to Agree (77%)
- Those with liberal political views are the most likely to Agree (86%)

## **“Christians have a responsibility to assist immigrants even if they are here illegally.”**

- Those age 18-34 (69%) and 35-49 (66%) are more likely to Agree than those 50-64 (52%) and 65+ (40%)
- Those age 65+ are the most likely to Disagree (51%)
- Males are more likely to Agree than females (58% v. 52%)
- African Americans (68%) and Hispanics (74%) are more likely to Agree than Whites (48%)
- Those who attend a worship service at least once a week (59%) or once or twice a month (60%) are more likely to Agree than those who rarely or never attend (46%)
- Those with liberal political views (75%) and moderate political views (59%) are more likely to Agree than those with conservative political views (48%)

## **“About what portion of your church is made up of immigrants born outside the U.S.?”**

- Those age 18-34 (19%) are more likely to select “Many” than those 50-64 (9%) and 65+ (9%)
- Those age 65+ (32%) are more likely to select “None that I know of” than those 18-34 (21%) and 35-49 (21%)
- Females are more likely to select “None that I know of” than males (31% v. 23%)
- Hispanics (32%) and Other Ethnicities (20%) are more likely to select “Many” than Whites (9%)
- Those in the West (21%) are more likely to select “Many” than those in the Midwest (9%) and South (11%)
- Those who are high school graduates or less are the most likely to select “None that I know of” (34%)
- Those who attend a worship service once or twice a month (45%) are more likely to select “Just some” than those who attend several times a year (32%)
- Those with liberal political views (56%) are more likely to select “Just some” than those with conservative political views (36%) and moderate political views (35%)



## **“About what portion of your church is made up of immigrants born outside the U.S.?”**

- Those age 18-34 (19%) are more likely to select “Many” than those 50-64 (9%) and 65+ (9%)
- Those age 65+ (32%) are more likely to select “None that I know of” than those 18-34 (21%) and 35-49 (21%)
- Females are more likely to select “None that I know of” than males (31% v. 23%)
- Hispanics (32%) and Other Ethnicities (20%) are more likely to select “Many” than Whites (9%)
- Those in the West (21%) are more likely to select “Many” than those in the Midwest (9%) and South (11%)
- Those who are high school graduates or less are the most likely to select “None that I know of” (34%)
- Those who attend a worship service once or twice a month (45%) are more likely to select “Just some” than those who attend several times a year (32%)
- Those with liberal political views (56%) are more likely to select “Just some” than those with conservative political views (36%) and moderate political views (35%)

## “Did you vote in the 2020 presidential election?”

- Those age 65+ are the most likely to select “Yes” (91%) followed by those 50-64 (85%), 35-49 (75%), and 18-34 (60%)
- Whites (83%) are more likely to select “Yes” than African Americans (76%) and (68%)
- Those who are high school graduates or less are the most likely to select “No” (29%)
- Those who rarely or never attend a worship service are the most likely to select “No” (32%)
- Those with conservative political views (88%) and liberal political views (85%) are more likely to select “Yes” than those with moderate political views (73%)

## **“In the 2020 presidential election, for whom did you vote?”**

- Those age 50-64 (58%) and 65+ (64%) are more likely to select “Donald Trump” than those 18-34 (44%) and 35-49 (44%)
- African Americans are the most likely to select “Joe Biden” (75%)
- Those in the South (61%) are more likely to select “Donald Trump” than those in the Northeast (42%)
- Those who attend a worship service several times a year (46%) are more likely to select “Joe Biden” than those who attend at least once a week (34%)
- Those with conservative political views are the most likely to select “Donald Trump” (77%)

# 2024 Evangelical Views on Immigration Study

A SURVEY OF AMERICAN EVANGELICALS

Sponsored by the  
Evangelical Immigration Table

Lifeway **research**