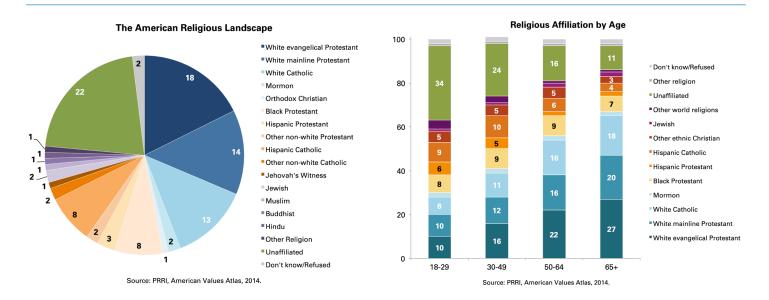


Quick Facts on Religious Pluralism in the U.S.



Looking to the future: fewer white Protestants and Catholics, more Hispanic Protestants and Catholics, plus more religiously unaffiliated Americans. The most common "religious" identity among Americans under the age of 30 is no affiliation. Only about three in ten (29 percent) Americans under the age of 30 identify as white and Christian, compared to about two-thirds (67 percent) of seniors (age 65 and older).

Multi-religious families and identities are on the rise. One-quarter (25 percent) of married Americans report being in interreligious unions. Close to one in five (16 percent) Americans report that they themselves follow the teachings or practices of more than one faith.

Fewer Americans today believe the U.S. is a Christian nation. Today, only about one-third (35 percent) of Americans believe America is and has always been a Christian nation—a notable drop from 2010, when 42 percent affirmed this statement. Nearly half (45 percent) of Americans say the U.S. was a Christian nation in the past but is not any longer, while 14 percent say the U.S. was never a Christian nation.

Even as religious and ethnic diversity increases, for most Americans close friendships remain with people in their own faith tradition. The core social networks of Protestants are largely made up of other Protestants (68 percent), while the same is true for Catholics (72 percent).

^{*}Members of "core social networks" are people with whom one has discussed important matters in the last six months.

