



National Scientific and Technical Research Council
Center for Labor Studies and Research
Society, Culture and Religion Program

Second National Survey on Religious Beliefs and Attitudes in Argentina

Society and Religion in Transformation

Directors: Fortunato Mallimaci (Ph.D.), Verónica Giménez Béliveau (Ph.D.), Juan Cruz Esquivel (Ph.D.)
General Coordinator: Gabriela Irrazábal (Ph.D.)
Technical Assistance: Agostina Carballo

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Authorities

CEIL-CONICET

Director: Guillermo Neiman

Deputy Director: Claudia Figari

Society, Culture and Religion Program

Coordinator: Verónica Giménez Béliveau

Publishing Team: Irene Brousse, Graciela Torrecillas

e-mail: publicaciones@ceil-conicet.gov.ar

CEIL Institutional Cover art: Anabella Bustos

General Design & Data visualization: Flavio Burstein

Data processing & Analysis with SPSS: Gabriela Irrazábal

Authors: Fortunato Mallimaci, Verónica Giménez Béliveau, Juan Cruz Esquivel, Gabriela Irrazábal

English Translator: Gerardo Bensi

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Technical Data

Type of Study

This is a representative survey. The universe under study is the population of the Argentine Republic aged 18 or older, living in urban districts or agglomerations of at least 5,000 inhabitants according to the 2010 National Population, Households and Housing Census.

A total of 2421 cases were selected through multi-stage sampling. The primary sampling units were 89 districts/urban agglomerations. In the first stage, the sample was stratified (considering region and district size) and urban agglomerations within each stratum were selected in a systematic random fashion, according to the probability proportional to size (PPS) method. In the second stage, the sampling units (sample block groups) in each selected district were chosen through systematic random sampling (the order being based on socioeconomic level indicators) with PPS (according to the size of the population) and equal allocation per census block group. In the third stage, once the working areas had been identified, a survey and systematic selection of individual houses was conducted. Finally, in the fourth stage, the final sampling units were selected according to sex and age quotas based on population parameters. Data were collected between August and September 2019.

Margin of error and scope of the study

The margin of error is +/- 2% for a confidence level of 95%. The scope of the study is the Argentine Republic (Country Total). Since this is a multi-stage survey combining stratification by region and city size, and systematic random sampling (with PPS), the data can be extrapolated to the general population, giving due consideration to the margin of error.

Contact for further information

CEIL CONICET Society, Culture and Religion Program

Coordinator: Verónica Giménez Béliveau (Ph.D.)

* vgimenez@ceil-conicet.gov.ar

Saavedra 15, 4to piso (1083) Ciudad Autónoma de Buenos Aires, Argentina.

(54 9 11 4952 7440)

Introduction

Society and Religion in Transformation

Eleven years ago, we conducted the First Scientific Survey on Religious Beliefs and Attitudes in Argentina. Today, we are proud and excited to present the second one. This means that, for the first time ever, we can compare and interpret continuities and discontinuities in religious beliefs. This was possible thanks to the continued long-term existence of the CEIL/CONICET Society, Culture and Religion Program, involving a large number of researchers who met on an everyday basis, produced results, published them, made a strong commitment, organized national and international conferences and worked as a team with passion and tenacity.

This Second Survey shows ongoing transformations among the diversity of Catholics, Evangelicals and unaffiliated individuals, the three large categories on which our work focused. These active individuals interact and dream in their own way, by themselves and communally, in both private life and public space, against the background of a changing society, which produces sacred objects and continues to claim and broaden rights in spite of crises, impoverizations and dominations.

A warning: no societies undergo changes even in spite of believers who oppose them, and vice versa, there can be no changing believers in a paralyzed society. We live in a capitalist modernity which produces societies and religions connected by various communication channels and multiple historical and sociological links. Contrary to a “lazy” common sense, prone to universalizing and overgeneralizing, the results of this research will show how people living in Argentina have changed (or not) and how they differ in their meaning attributions, actions, body and soul care behaviors, cultures, views, identities and representations.

We will also see that beliefs and convictions are plural and that they are experienced differently by the poor and the satisfied, by men and women, by those who live individuation and communitarianism in the Metropolitan Area of Buenos Aires, the Argentine North-East (NEA), the North-West (NOA), Cuyo, Patagonia or the Center of Argentina (the six region in which Argentina is divided), or by those who have not completed high-school and those with a university-level education. The histories, memories, conceptions of time and representations produced and reproduced by religious beliefs are not to be ignored or dismissed. Every day, about one quarter of the population interacts in religious spaces, which face no competition from any other political, social or cultural space or local activity. This is why we must not forget that religions are still important communities of interpretation in a world of uncertainties, as well as significant socio-religious actors across the territory of our country and in its political and cultural life. According to this survey, public, tuition-free university is the most credible institution in our society. Since we belong to this institution, to CONICET and to the MINCyT, we hope this hard, long-term collaborative effort will bear witness to the value of investing in education, in science and in broadening rights for the majority of the population. This is what will make our effort and commitment truly meaningful.

Fortunato Mallimaci

Results

Religious affiliation, beliefs, practices and Pope Francis

Catholicism has decreased, but it still holds a majority (62.9%). The unaffiliated (18.9%) and Evangelicals (15.3%) are growing.

The proportion of the unaffiliated increases as educational level rises. Evangelicals are predominant among the lowest educational levels.

The Argentine North-West (NOA) is the most Catholic region, whereas the Metropolitan Area of Buenos Aires (AMBA) and Patagonia are home to the largest share of unaffiliated individuals. In Patagonia and the Argentine North-East (NEA), the percentage of Evangelicals is higher than in the rest of the country.

Individuation consolidates in the religious field: people prefer to relate to God on their own; rates of weekly attendance to worship services have dropped and the prevailing religious practices are those which take place in private.

The election of an Argentine Pope has not caused any significant change in society's religious life. People hold contradictory socio-religious positions about Pope Francis.

Society, state and religion

Between 2008 and 2019, the proportion of those who claim that abortion is a right of women has doubled. Most respondents think that abortion should be allowed in some circumstances. Evangelicals are the ones that oppose abortion most often, whereas the unaffiliated are the ones that most often support it.

Most people living in Argentina challenge patriarchal conceptions about the family and the roles of men and women in the household. The patriarchal family model is more widely accepted among Evangelicals. Catholics and unaffiliated respondents show more acceptance of family diversity and same-sex marriage.

Opinions about migratory controls and capital punishment for serious crimes are a challenge to Human Rights. More than half of the population supports the death penalty, and 7 out of 10 people demand more stringent migration controls. The largest number of responses against the death penalty is expressed by Evangelicals.

Most of Argentine society thinks that the state must not fund religions, rejects confessional teaching in state schools and objects to exclusive financial support for the Catholic Church.

Main Results

01

Religions in Argentina



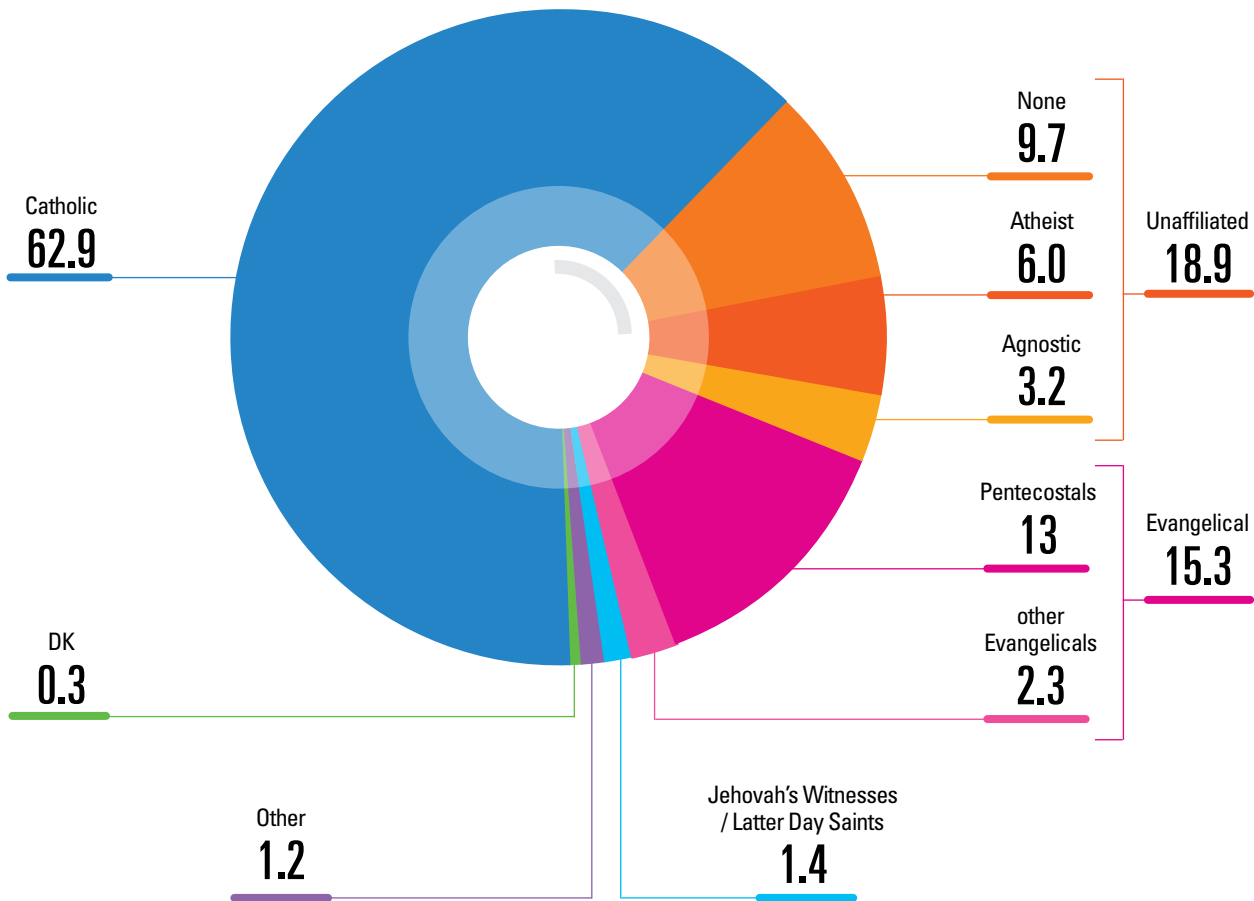
Religious affiliation in Argentina

Catholicism still holds a majority. 2 out of 10 people living in Argentina claim to be unaffiliated with any religion. Evangelicals account for 15.3%.



What is your religion?

Country total. Data as percentages



Base: 2421 cases

Source: Second National Survey on Religious Beliefs and Attitudes in Argentina, CEIL CONICET Society, Culture and Religion Program, 2019

Religious affiliation by men and women

Women identify more often with some religion. Most unaffiliated respondents are males.



2019 What is your religion?

Country total. Data as percentage by men and women

Values greater than 2% are displayed on the graph

Total



Women



Men



Base: 2421 cases

Source: Second National Survey on Religious Beliefs and Attitudes in Argentina, CEIL CONICET Society, Culture and Religion Program, 2019

Religious affiliation by age

Most people aged 65 or older identify with Catholicism, while the Evangelical and unaffiliated grow among the young.



2019 What is your religion?

Country total. Data as percentage by age

Values greater than 2% are displayed on the graph

Total



18-29



30-44



45-64



65 and older



Base: 2421 cases

Source: Second National Survey on Religious Beliefs and Attitudes in Argentina, CEIL CONICET Society, Culture and Religion Program, 2019

Religious affiliation by educational level

Catholicism is evenly distributed among the different educational levels. The proportion of the unaffiliated increases as educational level rises. Evangelicals grow among no education and elementary school levels.



2019 What is your religion?

Country total. Data as percentage by educational level

Values greater than 2% are displayed on the graph

Total



No education



Elementary school



Secondary school



Non-university college



University



Base: 2421 cases

Source: Second National Survey on Religious Beliefs and Attitudes in Argentina, CEIL CONICET Society, Culture and Religion Program, 2019

Religious affiliation by region

Catholics stand out in the North-West (NOA), the unaffiliated in Buenos Aires (AMBA) and Patagonia and Evangelicals in Patagonia and the North-East region (NEA) of the country.



2019 What is your religion? Country total.

Data as percentage by region

Values greater than 2% are displayed on the graph

Total



AMBA



Patagonia



Center



Cuyo



NEA



NOA



Base: 2421 cases

Source: Second National Survey on Religious Beliefs and Attitudes in Argentina, CEIL CONICET Society, Culture and Religion Program, 2019

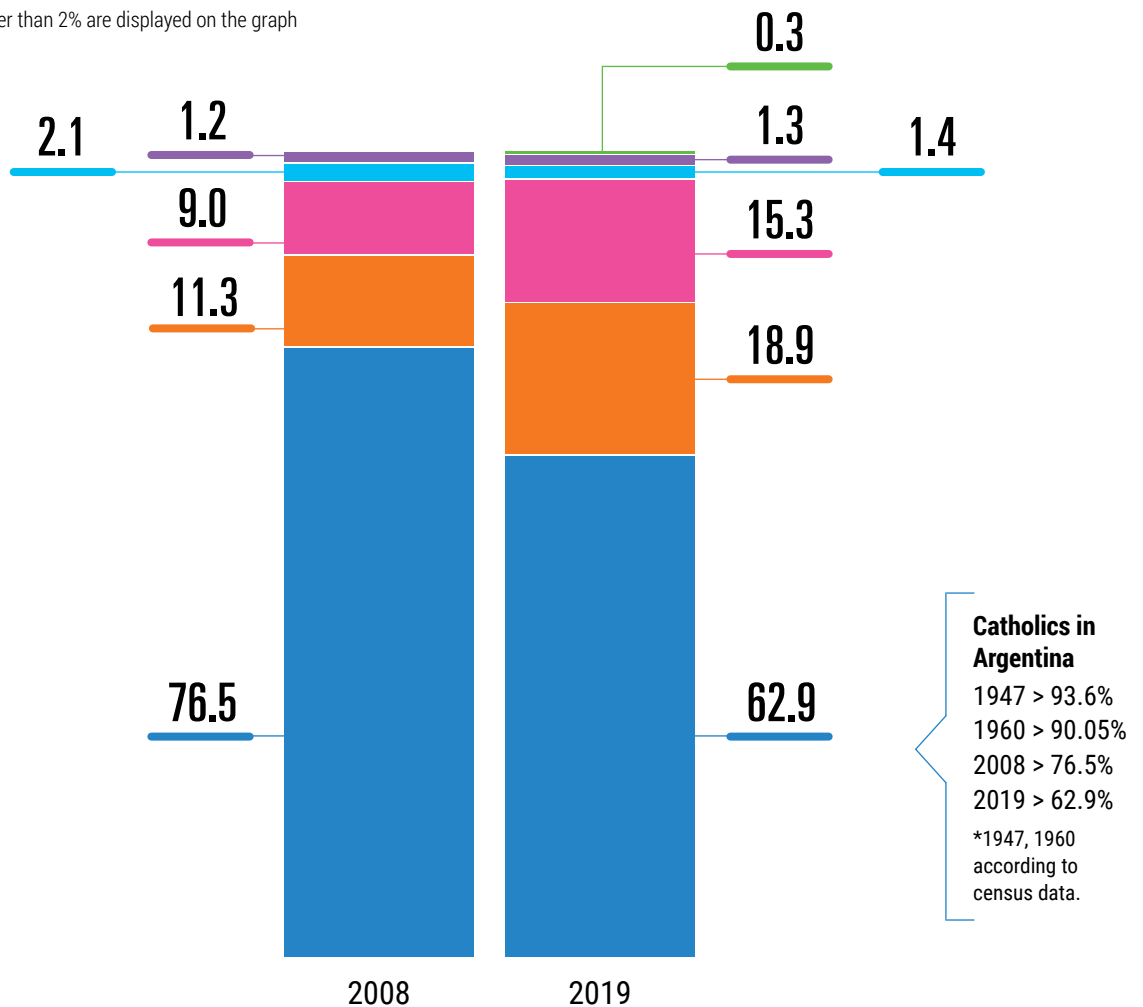
Religious affiliation 2008 vs 2019

Between 2008 and 2019, Catholicism has decreased, but it still holds a small majority (62.9%). The unaffiliated (18.9%) and Evangelicals (15.3%) are growing.

What is your religion? Country total.

Data as percentage by region in 2008 vs 2019

Values greater than 2% are displayed on the graph



- Catholic
- Evangelical
- Other
- Unaffiliated
- Jehovah's Witnesses / Latter Day Saints
- DK

2008



Base: 2403 cases

Source: First National Survey on Religious Beliefs and Attitudes in Argentina, CEIL CONICET Society, Culture and Religion Program, 2008

2019



Base: 2421 cases

Source: Second National Survey on Religious Beliefs and Attitudes in Argentina, CEIL CONICET Society, Culture and Religion Program, 2019

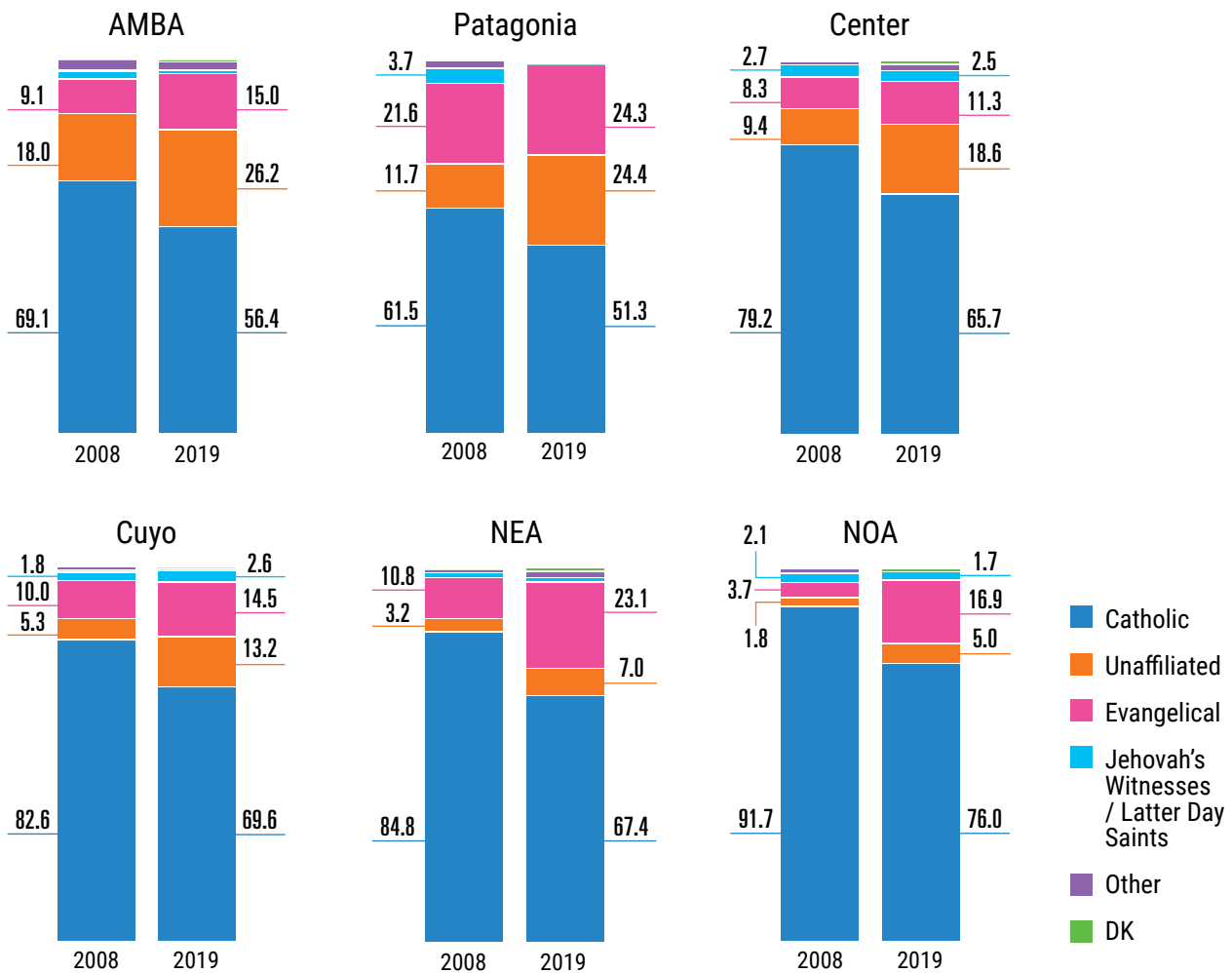
Religious affiliation 2008 vs 2019 by region

After one decade, Catholicism has decreased more sharply in the AMBA and NEA regions. 1 out of 4 people living in the AMBA region claim to be unaffiliated with any religion. The growth of Evangelicals is more pronounced in the NEA and NOA regions.

What is your religion?

Country total. Data as percentage by region in 2008 vs 2019

Values greater than 2% are displayed on the graph



2008



Base: 2403 cases

Source: First National Survey on Religious Beliefs and Attitudes in Argentina, CEIL CONICET Society, Culture and Religion Program, 2008

2019



Base: 2421 cases

Source: Second National Survey on Religious Beliefs and Attitudes in Argentina, CEIL CONICET Society, Culture and Religion Program, 2019

02

Beliefs



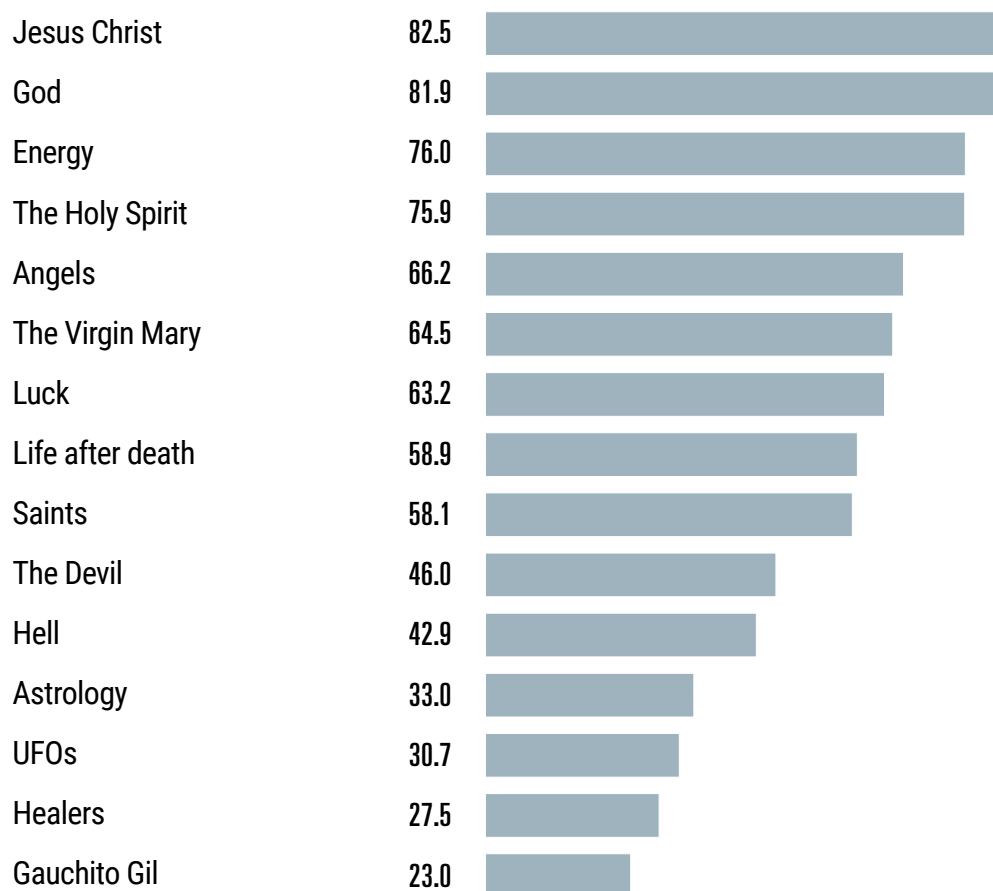
Ranking of beliefs

Christian culture beliefs, as well as the belief in energy, are prevalent.



2019 Do you believe in...?

Country total. Data as percentage of affirmative answers



* **Gauchito Gil** Icon of popular religiosity originating in rural worker Antonio Gil. The myth about him says that he was murdered for deserting during a war in the province of Corrientes.



Base: 2421 cases

Source: Second National Survey on Religious Beliefs and Attitudes in Argentina, CEIL CONICET Society, Culture and Religion Program, 2019

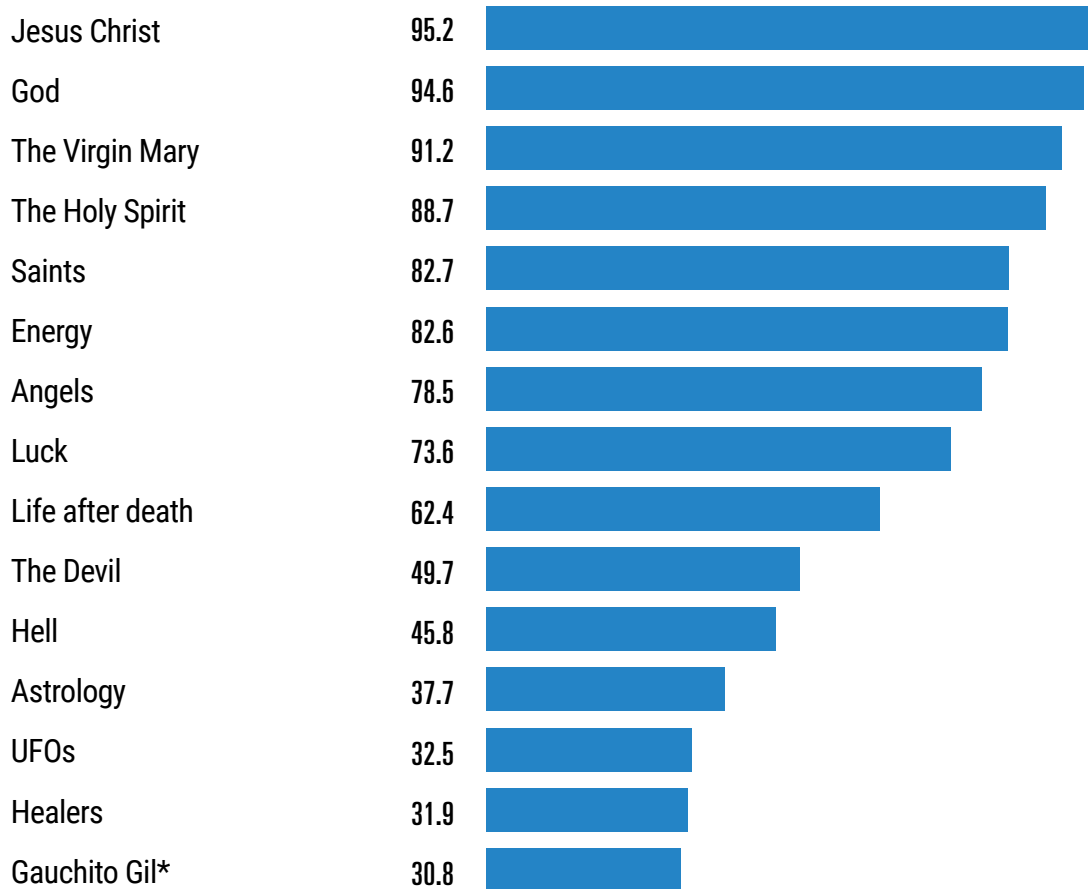
Ranking of beliefs for Catholics

More than a third of Catholics do not believe in life after death.



Do you believe in...?

Country total. Data as percentage of affirmative answers



Base: 2421 cases

Source: Second National Survey on Religious Beliefs and Attitudes in Argentina,
CEIL CONICET Society, Culture and Religion Program, 2019

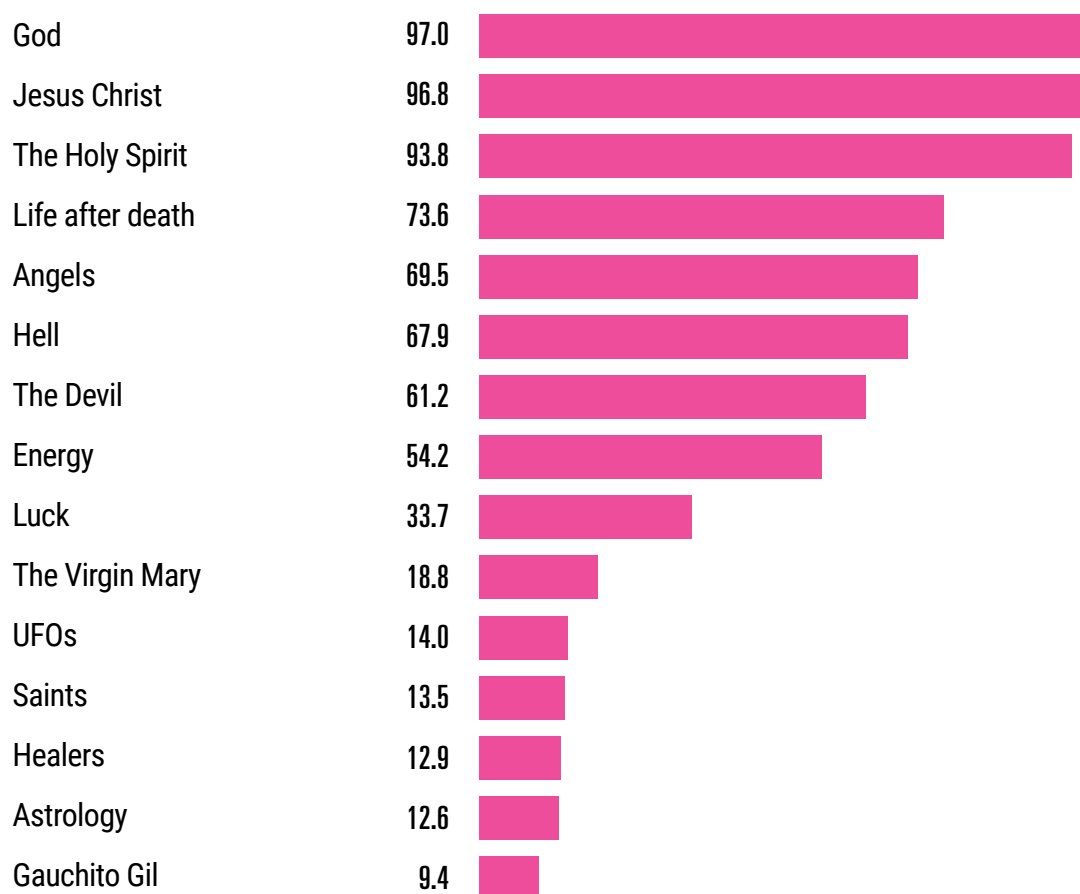
Ranking of beliefs for Evangelicals

2 out of 10 Evangelicals believe in the Virgin Mary.



Do you believe in...?

Country total. Data as percentage of affirmative answers 2019



Base: 2421 cases

Source: Second National Survey on Religious Beliefs and Attitudes in Argentina,
CEIL CONICET Society, Culture and Religion Program, 2019

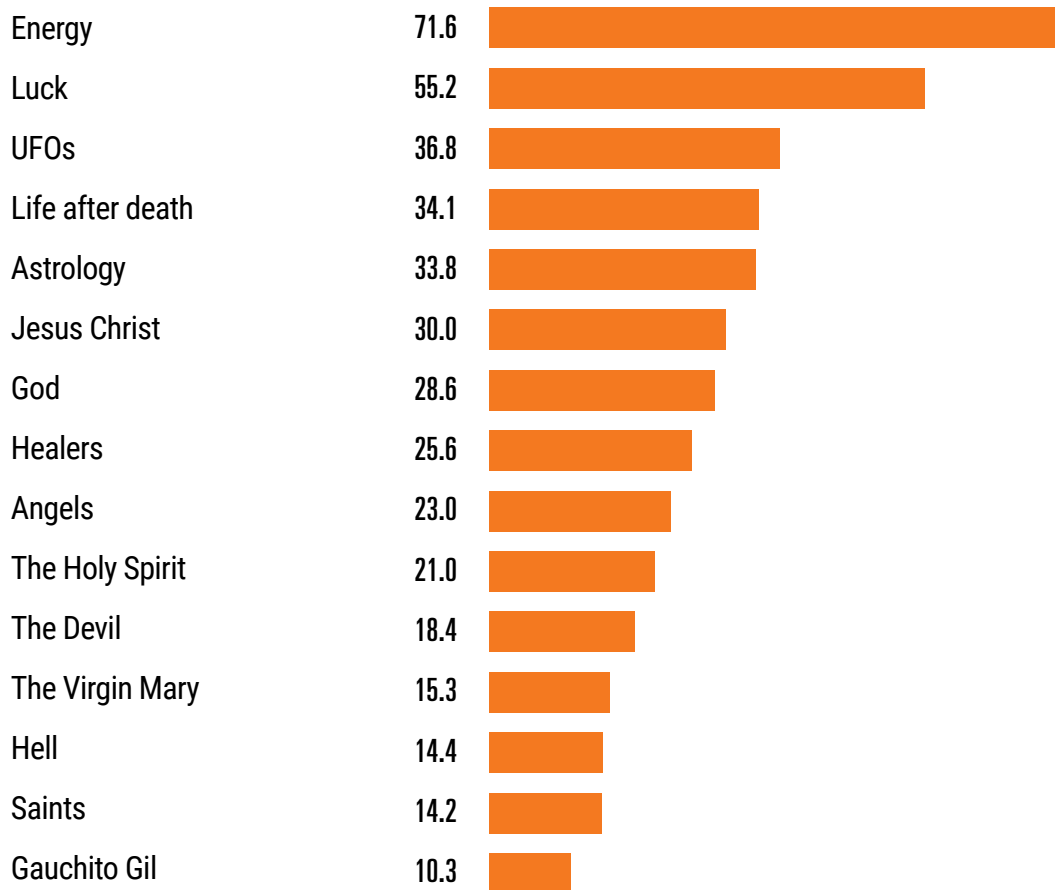
Ranking of beliefs for unaffiliated individuals

The unaffiliated express lower levels of belief as compared to the general population, although they believe in energy, luck and UFOs.



Do you believe in...?

Country total. Data as percentage of affirmative answers



Base: 2421 cases

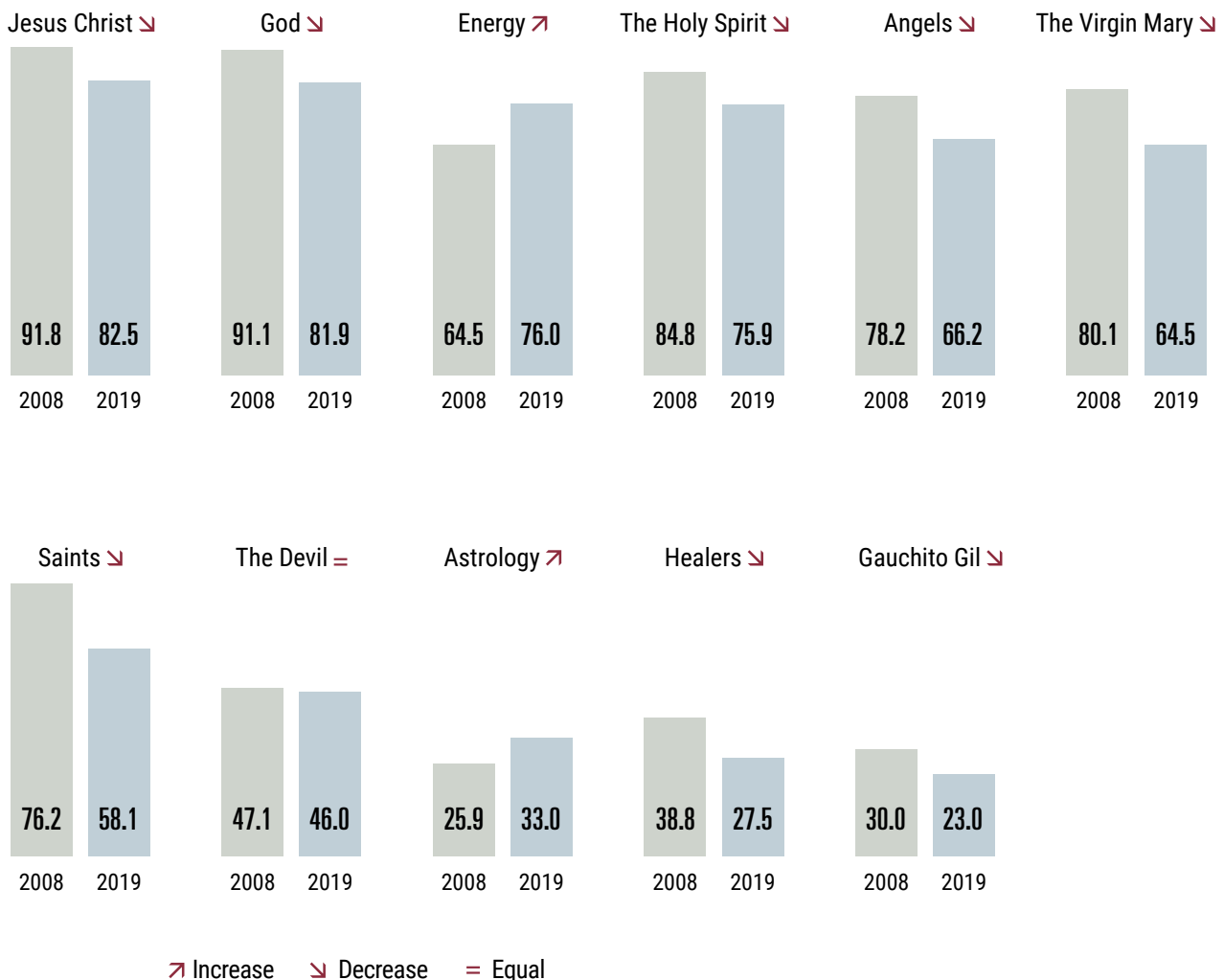
Source: Second National Survey on Religious Beliefs and Attitudes in Argentina, CEIL CONICET Society, Culture and Religion Program, 2019

Ranking of beliefs 2008 vs 2019

As a result of the transformations in religious affiliation, the belief in the Virgin, saints and angels has decreased. After one decade, beliefs in energy and astrology have grown. The belief in the Devil remains stable.

Do you believe in...?

Country total. Data as percentage of beliefs surveyed in 2008 and 2019



2008



Base: 2403 cases

Source: First National Survey on Religious Beliefs and Attitudes in Argentina, CEIL CONICET Society, Culture and Religion Program, 2008

2019



Base: 2421 cases

Source: Second National Survey on Religious Beliefs and Attitudes in Argentina, CEIL CONICET Society, Culture and Religion Program, 2019

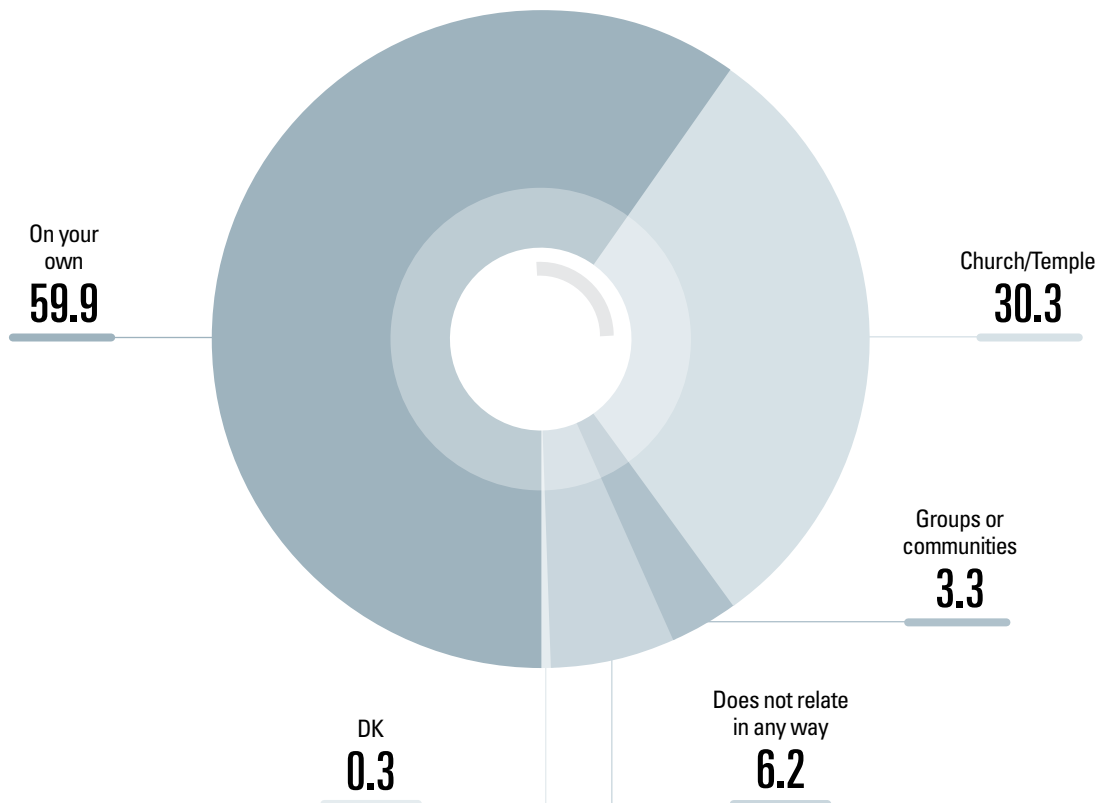
Relationship with God

6 out of 10 believers relate to God on their own, while 3 out of 10 choose to do it through a church or temple.



2019 What is the main way in which you relate to God?

Country total. Data as percentages 2019



Base: 2421 cases

Source: Second National Survey on Religious Beliefs and Attitudes in Argentina, CEIL CONICET Society, Culture and Religion Program, 2019

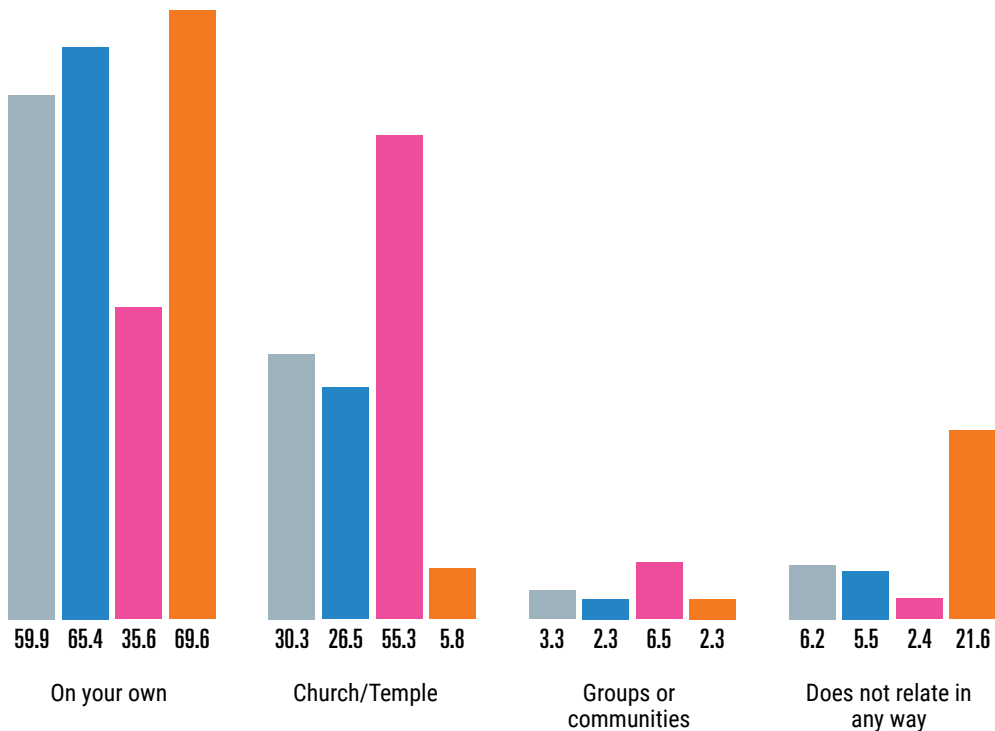
Relationship with God by religious affiliation

Catholics and the unaffiliated are the largest share of respondents who relate to God on their own, while most Evangelicals relate to God through a temple.



2019 What is the main way in which you relate to God?

Country total. Data as percentage of affirmative answers by religious affiliation 2019



- Catholic
- Evangelical
- Other
- Unaffiliated
- Jehovah's Witnesses / Mormons
- DK



Base: 2421 cases

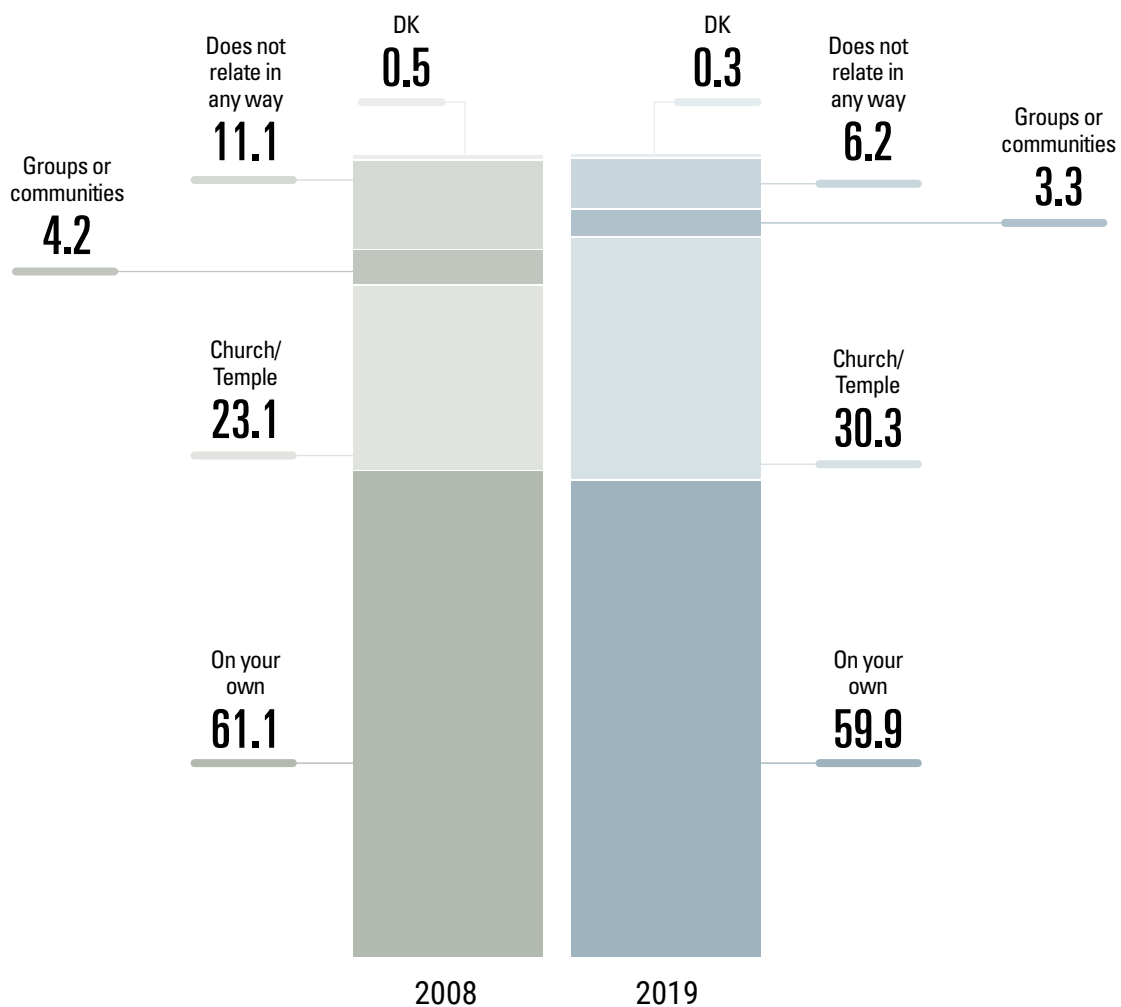
Source: Second National Survey on Religious Beliefs and Attitudes in Argentina, CEIL CONICET Society, Culture and Religion Program, 2019

Relationship with God 2008 vs 2019

Like in 2008, people living in Argentina prefer to relate to God on their own.

What is the main way in which you relate to God?

Country total. Data as percentage 2008 vs 2019



2008



Base: 2403 cases

Source: First National Survey on Religious Beliefs and Attitudes in Argentina, CEIL CONICET Society, Culture and Religion Program, 2008

2019



Base: 2421 cases

Source: Second National Survey on Religious Beliefs and Attitudes in Argentina, CEIL CONICET Society, Culture and Religion Program, 2019

03

Religious practices



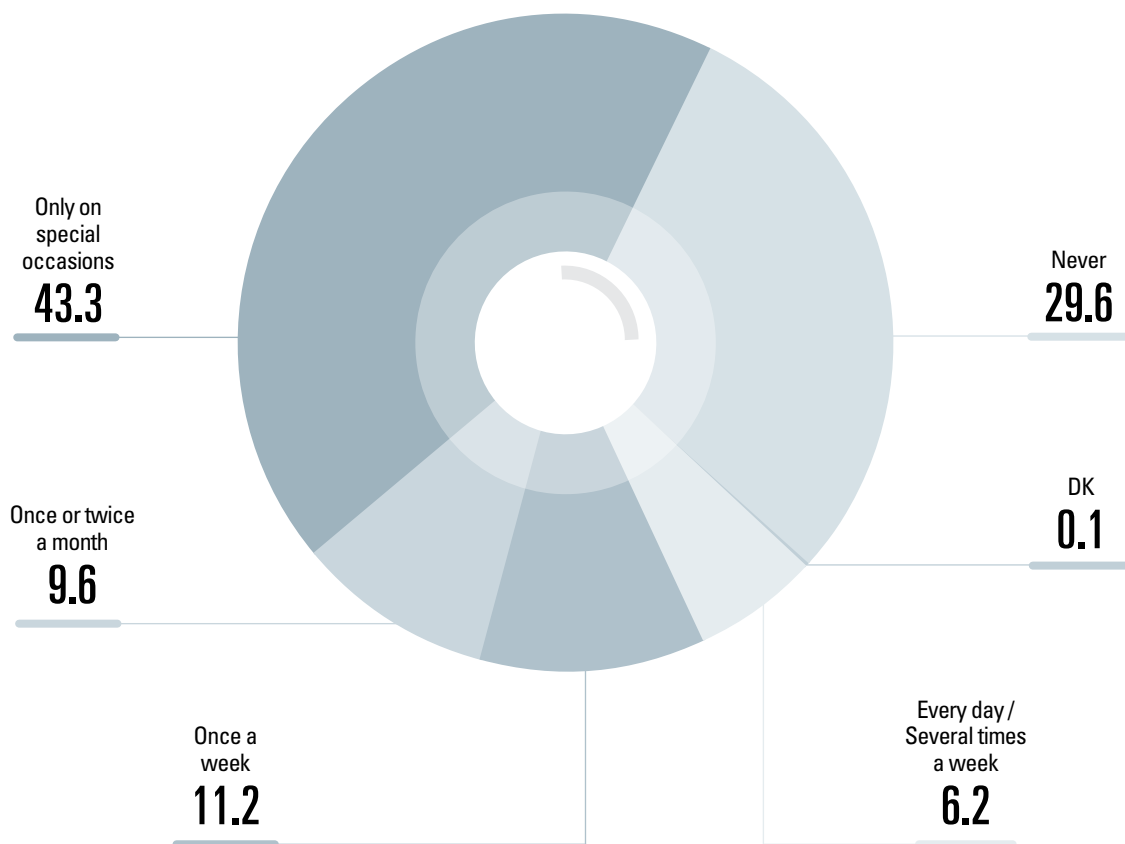
Attendance to worship services

27% attends worship ceremonies at least once a month.



2019 How often do you go to Mass or to a worship service?

Country total. Data as percentages



Base: 2421 cases

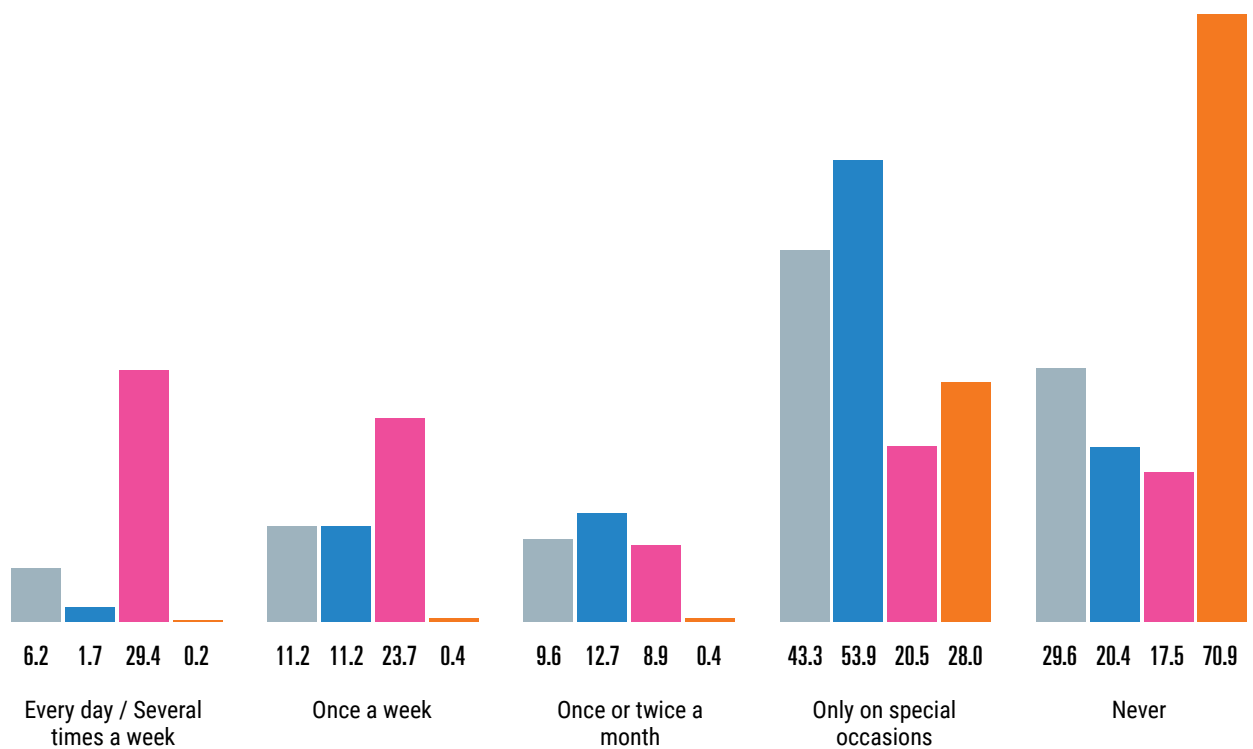
Source: Second National Survey on Religious Beliefs and Attitudes in Argentina, CEIL CONICET Society, Culture and Religion Program, 2019

Attendance to worship services by religious affiliation

Evangelicals attend worship services weekly more often than Catholics (53.1% vs 17.4%).



How often do you go to Mass or to a worship service?
Country total. Data as percentage of affirmative answers



■ Total ■ Catholics ■ Evangelicals ■ Unaffiliated



Base: 2421 cases

Source: Second National Survey on Religious Beliefs and Attitudes in Argentina, CEIL CONICET Society, Culture and Religion Program, 2019

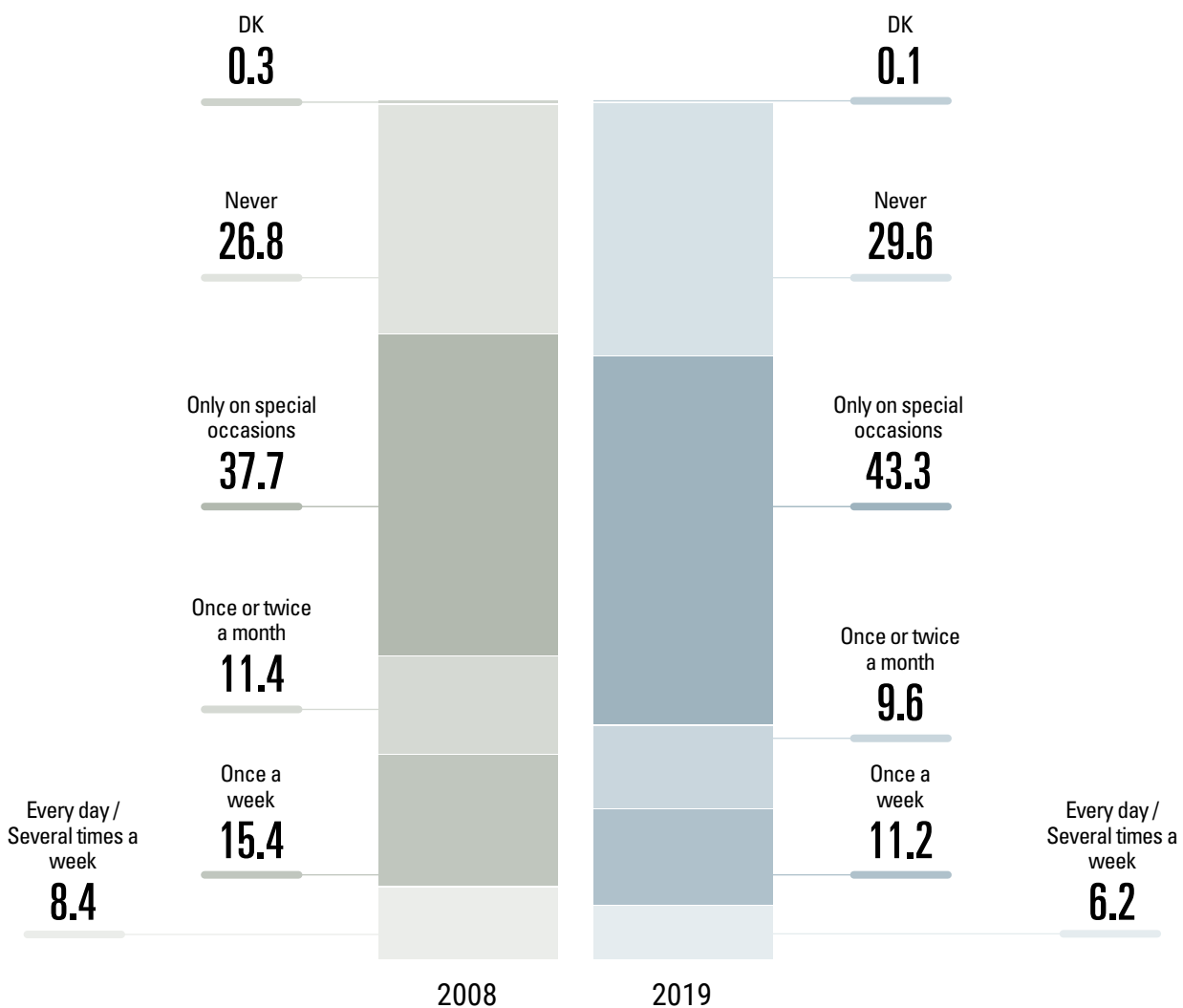
Attendance to worship services 2008 vs 2019

Weekly attendance to worship services has dropped as compared to 2008. The tendency to attend only on special occasions has grown.



How often do you go to Mass or to a worship service?

Country total. Data as percentage of affirmative answers 2008 vs 2019



Base: 2403 cases

Source: First National Survey on Religious Beliefs and Attitudes in Argentina, CEIL CONICET Society, Culture and Religion Program, 2008



Base: 2421 cases

Source: Second National Survey on Religious Beliefs and Attitudes in Argentina, CEIL CONICET Society, Culture and Religion Program, 2019

Ranking of religious practices

In Argentina, almost 60% of individuals does not read the Bible or other sacred book.



How often did you do any of the following during the last year?

Country total. Data as percentage of practices carried out at some point during the last year



Base: 2421 cases

Source: Second National Survey on Religious Beliefs and Attitudes in Argentina, CEIL CONICET Society, Culture and Religion Program, 2019

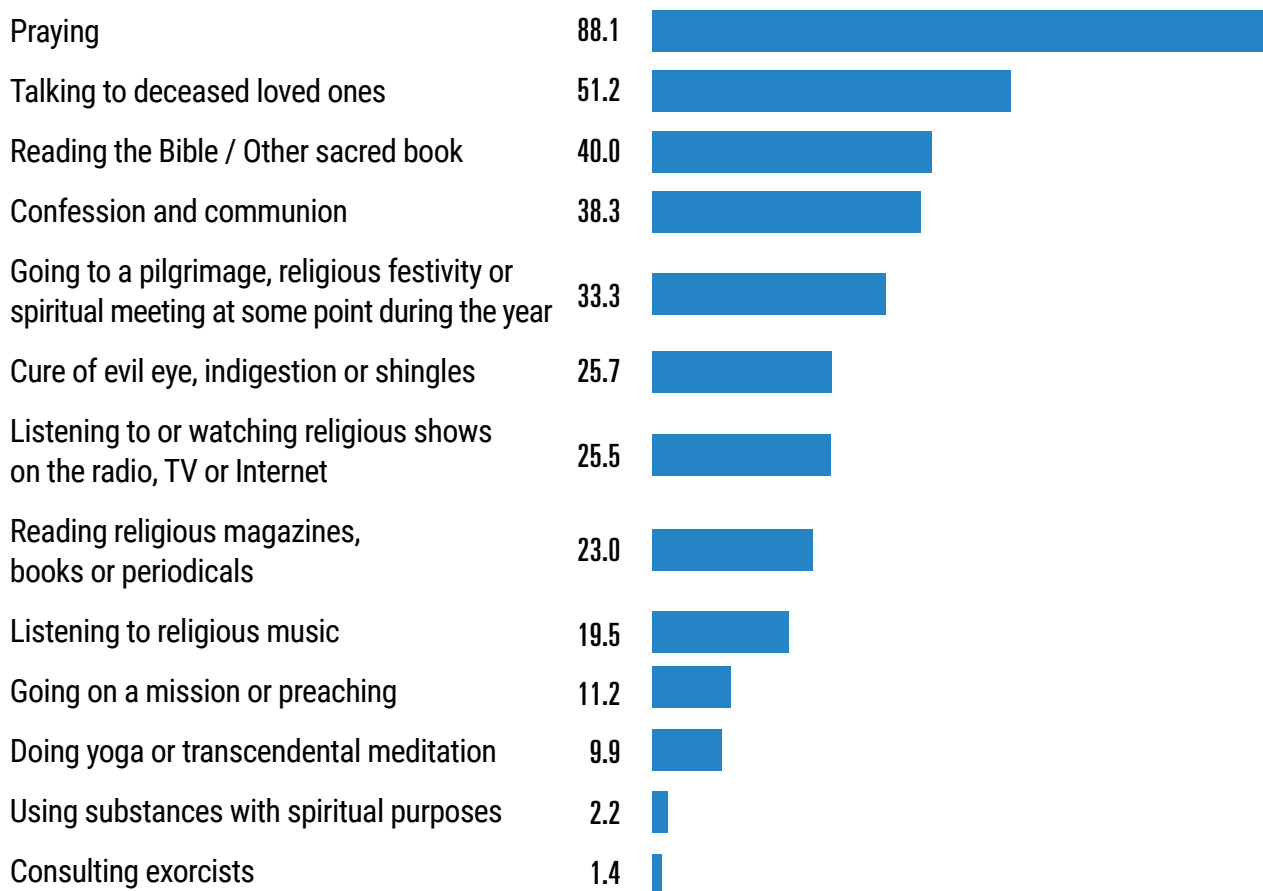
Catholics' ranking of religious practices

Catholics pray and talk to their deceased relatives.



2019 How often did you do any of the following during the last year?

Country total. Data as percentage of practices carried out at some point during the last year by religious affiliation



Base: 2421 cases

Source: Second National Survey on Religious Beliefs and Attitudes in Argentina, CEIL CONICET Society, Culture and Religion Program, 2019

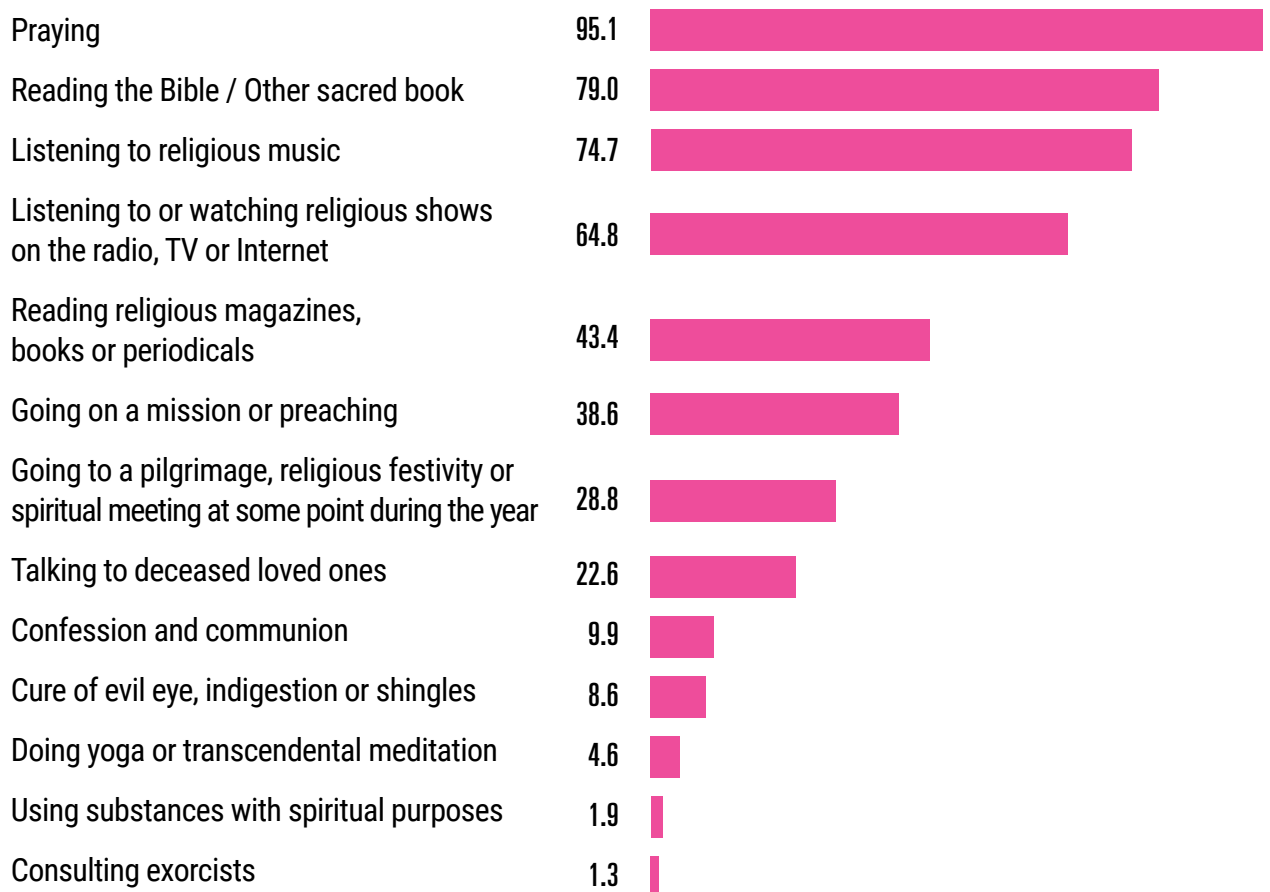
Evangelicals' ranking of religious practices

Evangelicals are the ones who pray, read the Bible and listen to religious music most often.



2019 How often did you do any of the following during the last year?

Country total. Data as percentage of practices carried out at some point during the last year by religious affiliation



Base: 2421 cases

Source: Second National Survey on Religious Beliefs and Attitudes in Argentina, CEIL CONICET Society, Culture and Religion Program, 2019

Unaffiliated individuals' ranking of religious practices

2 out of 10 unaffiliated respondents pray, talk to their deceased relatives, do yoga and cure of evil eye, indigestion or shingles.



2019 How often did you do any of the following during the last year?

Country total. Data as percentage of practices carried out at some point during the last year by religious affiliation



Base: 2421 cases

Source: Second National Survey on Religious Beliefs and Attitudes in Argentina, CEIL CONICET Society, Culture and Religion Program, 2019

Religious practices 2008 vs 2019

Over one decade, practices carried out in private, such as praying and reading sacred books have remained stable. A decreasing trend can be observed in the rest of religious practices.

2019 How often did you do any of the following during the last year?

Country total. Data as percentage of practices carried out at some point during the last year



↗ Increase ↘ Decrease = Equal

2008



Base: 2403 cases

Source: First National Survey on Religious Beliefs and Attitudes in Argentina, CEIL CONICET Society, Culture and Religion Program, 2008

2019



Base: 2421 cases

Source: Second National Survey on Religious Beliefs and Attitudes in Argentina, CEIL CONICET Society, Culture and Religion Program, 2019

04

Pope Francis



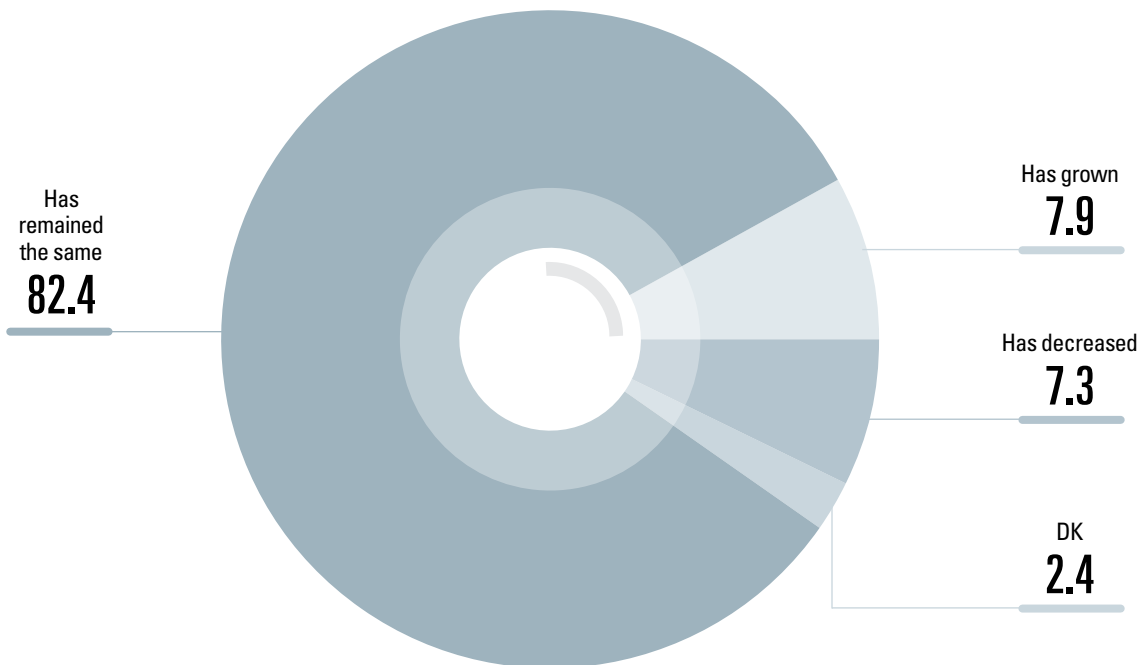
Influence of Pope Francis in personal religiosity

The election of an Argentine Pope has not caused any significant change in society's religious life.



Would you say that your religiosity has grown, decreased or remained the same since Pope Francis was elected?

Country total. Data as percentages



Base: 2421 cases

Source: Second National Survey on Religious Beliefs and Attitudes in Argentina, CEIL CONICET Society, Culture and Religion Program, 2019

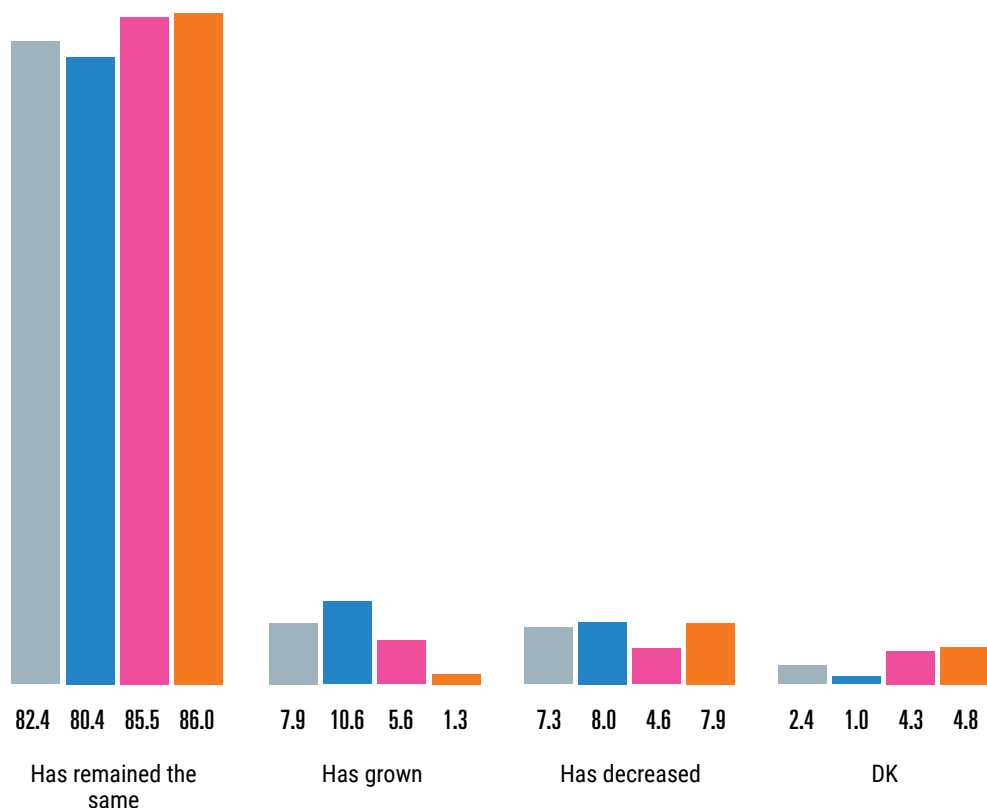
Influence of Pope Francis in personal religiosity by religious affiliation

9 out of 10 Catholics claim that their religiosity has not grown since the election of Pope Francis.



Would you say that your religiosity has grown, decreased or remained the same since Pope Francis was elected?

Country total. Data as percentages



■ Total ■ Catholics ■ Evangelicals ■ Unaffiliated



Base: 2421 cases

Source: Second National Survey on Religious Beliefs and Attitudes in Argentina, CEIL CONICET Society, Culture and Religion Program, 2019

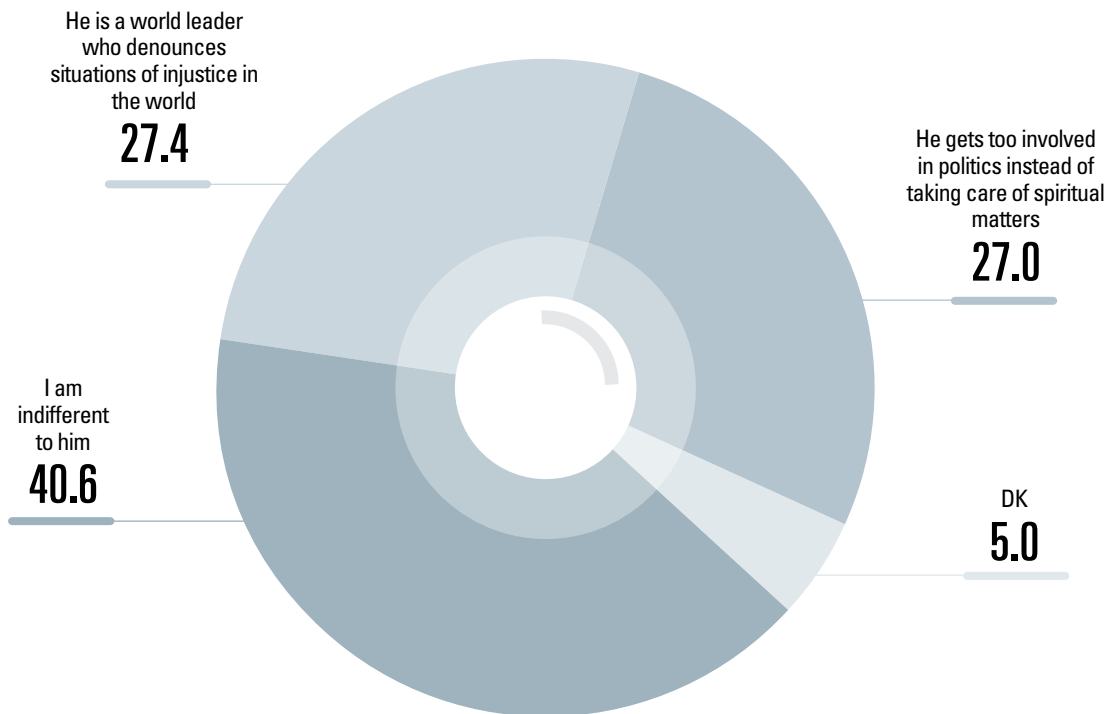
Opinion about the Pope

In a context of indifference, Pope Francis motivates contradictory positions among people.



Which of the following statements best reflects your opinion about Pope Francis?

Country total. Data as percentages



Base: 2421 cases

Source: Second National Survey on Religious Beliefs and Attitudes in Argentina, CEIL CONICET Society, Culture and Religion Program, 2019

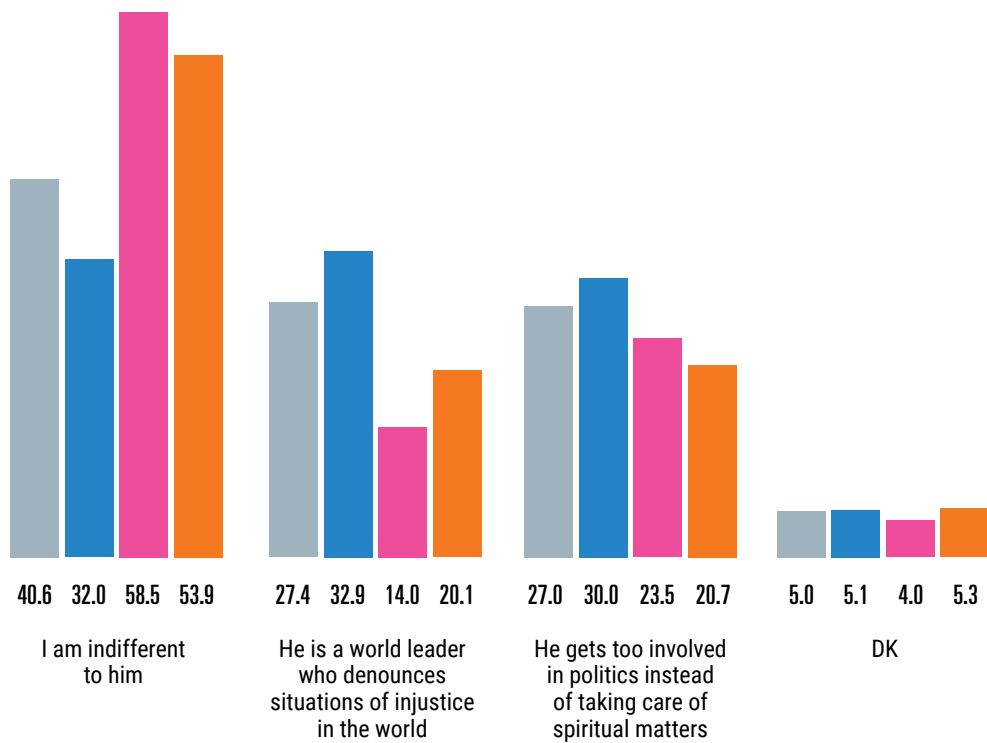
Opinion about the Pope by religious affiliation

Most Evangelicals and unaffiliated respondents are indifferent to the Pope.
Catholics are divided as to their opinion about the Pope.



Which of the following statements best reflects your opinion about Pope Francis?

Country total. Data as percentages



■ Total ■ Catholics ■ Evangelicals ■ Unaffiliated



Base: 2421 cases

Source: Second National Survey on Religious Beliefs and Attitudes in Argentina, CEIL CONICET Society, Culture and Religion Program, 2019

05

Opinions and attitudes towards society, religion and the state



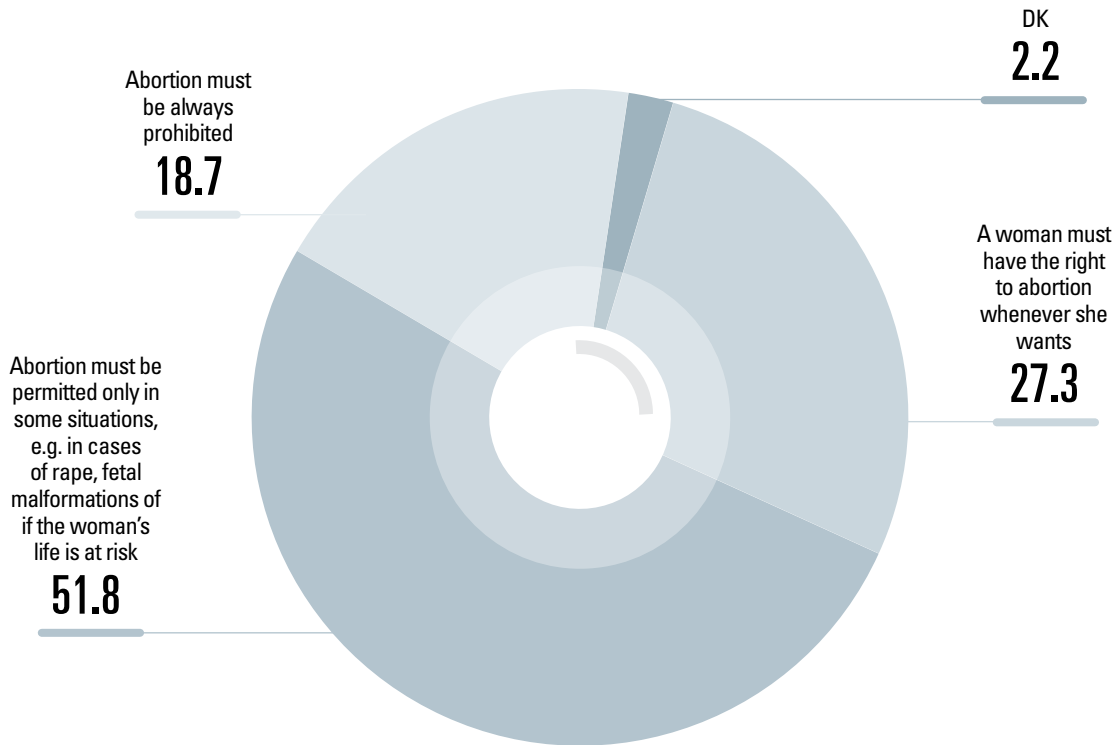
Opinion about Abortion

Half the population thinks that abortion should be allowed in some circumstances. Only 2 out of 10 people consider that abortion must always be prohibited.



Which of the following statements best reflects your opinion about abortion?

Country total. Data as percentages



Base: 2421 cases

Source: Second National Survey on Religious Beliefs and Attitudes in Argentina, CEIL CONICET Society, Culture and Religion Program, 2019

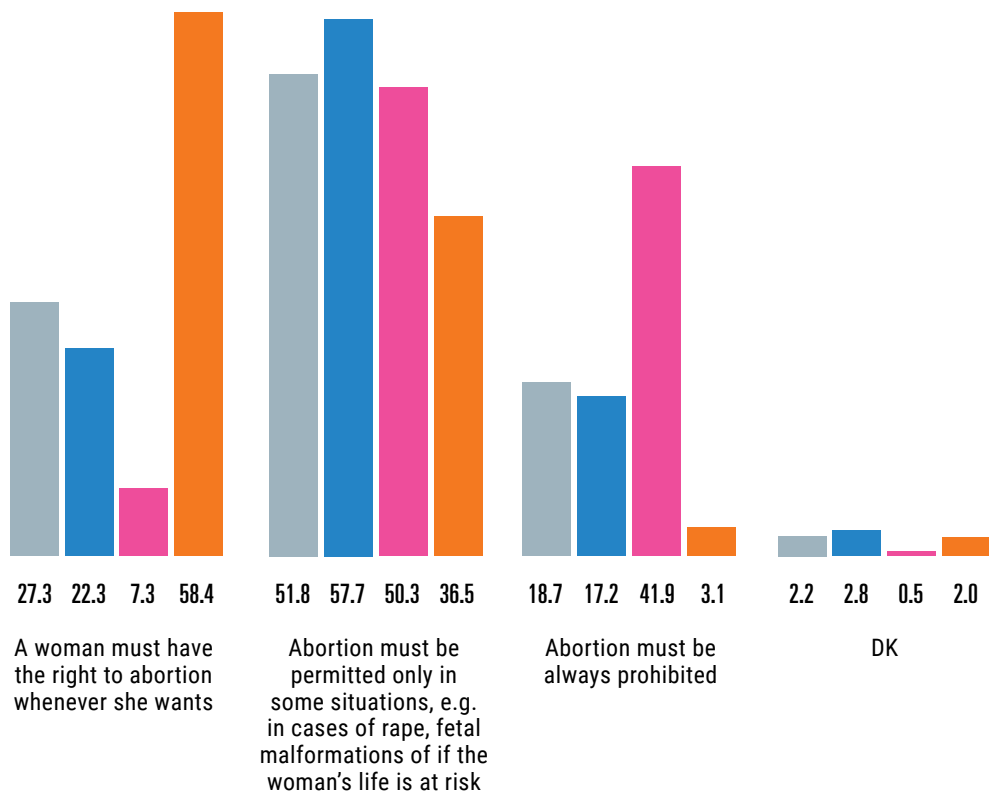
Opinion about abortion by religious affiliation

6 out of 10 Evangelicals and 8 out of 10 Catholics consider that abortion must not always be prohibited.



Which of the following statements best reflects your opinion about abortion?

Country total. Data as percentages



■ Total ■ Catholics ■ Evangelicals ■ Unaffiliated



Base: 2421 cases

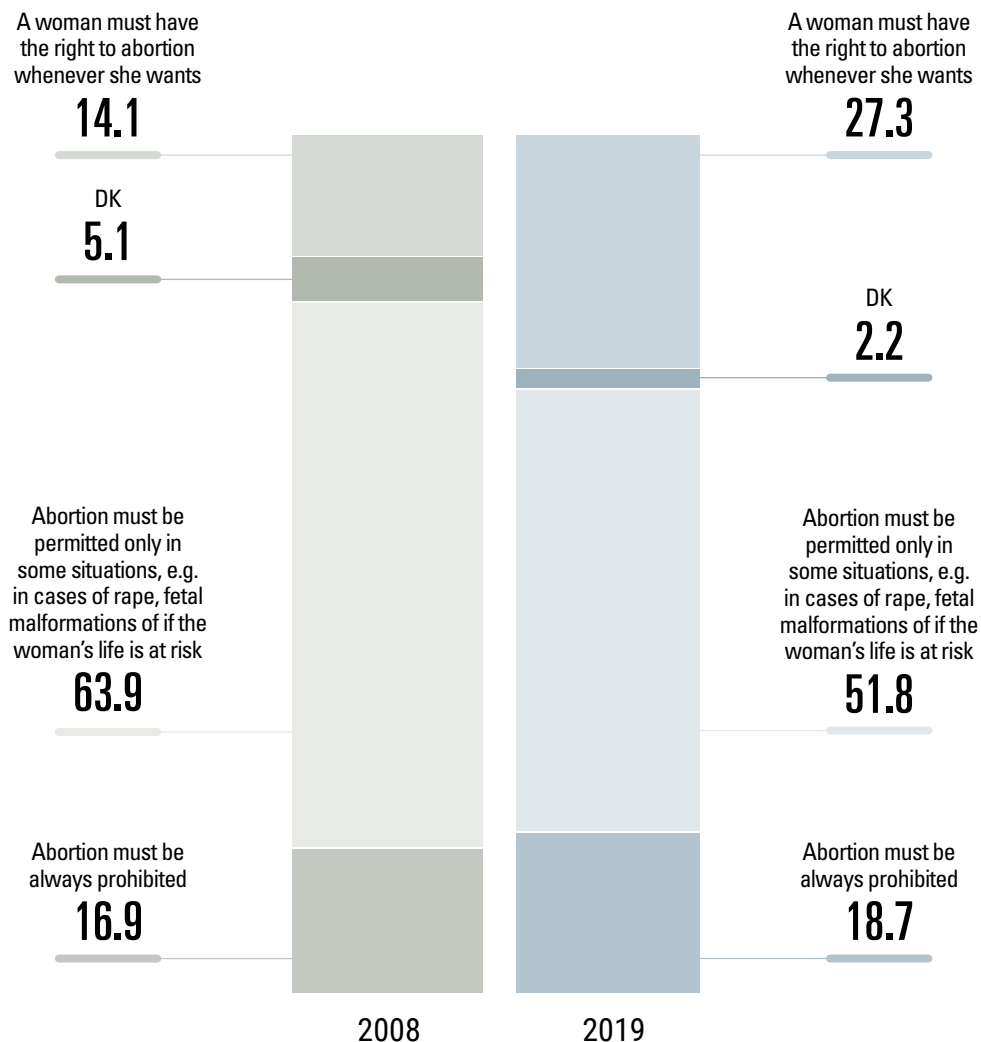
Source: Second National Survey on Religious Beliefs and Attitudes in Argentina, CEIL CONICET Society, Culture and Religion Program, 2019

Opinion about abortion by religious affiliation 2008 vs 2019

Between 2008 and 2019, the proportion of those who claim that abortion is a woman's right has doubled. Most respondents think that abortion should be allowed in some circumstances.

Which of the following statements best reflects your opinion about abortion?

Country total. Data as percentages



2008



Base: 2403 cases

Source: First National Survey on Religious Beliefs and Attitudes in Argentina, CEIL CONICET Society, Culture and Religion Program, 2008

2019



Base: 2421 cases

Source: Second National Survey on Religious Beliefs and Attitudes in Argentina, CEIL CONICET Society, Culture and Religion Program, 2019

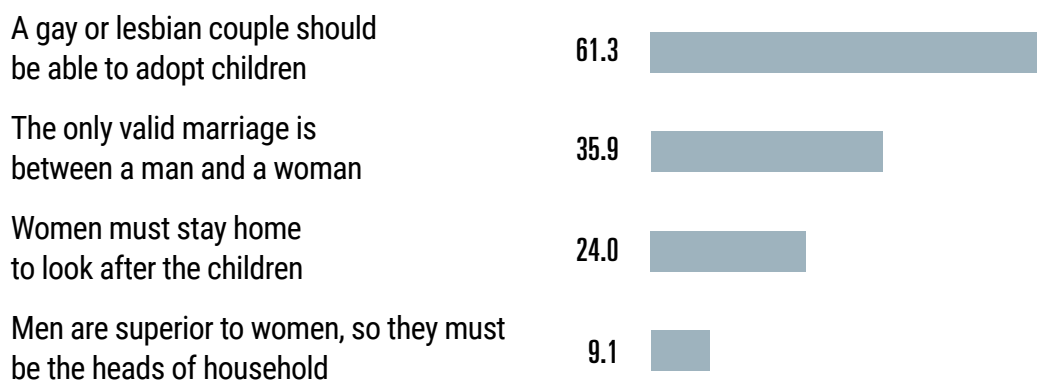
Opinion about family

Most of Argentine society disagrees with patriarchal conceptions about the family and the roles of men and women in the household.



Do you agree with the following statements?

Country total. Data as percentage of affirmative answers



Base: 2421 cases

Source: Second National Survey on Religious Beliefs and Attitudes in Argentina, CEIL CONICET Society, Culture and Religion Program, 2019

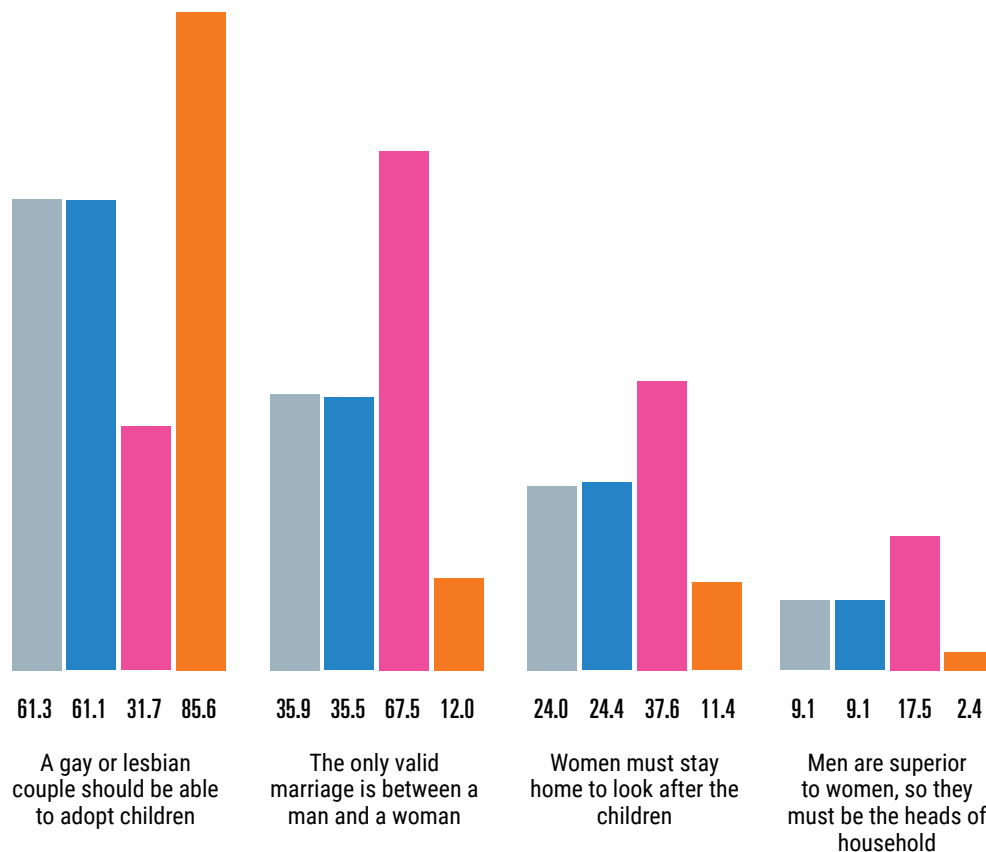
Opinion about family by religious affiliation

The patriarchal family model is more widely accepted among Evangelicals. Catholics and unaffiliated respondents show greater acceptance of family diversity and same-sex marriage.



Do you agree with the following statements?

Country total. Data as percentage of affirmative answers by religious affiliation



■ Total ■ Catholics ■ Evangelicals ■ Unaffiliated



Base: 2421 cases

Source: Second National Survey on Religious Beliefs and Attitudes in Argentina, CEIL CONICET Society, Culture and Religion Program, 2019

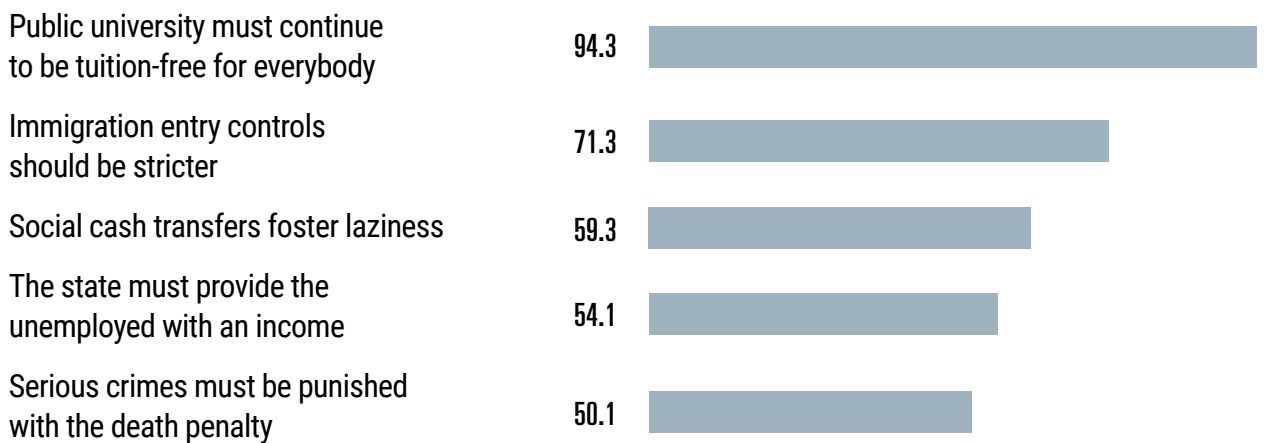
Opinions about society

Tuition-free university education is widely accepted in Argentine society. More than half of the respondents think that the state must provide the unemployed with an income and, at the same time, they have a negative view of social cash transfers. Opinions about migration controls and capital punishment for serious crimes are a challenge to Human Rights.



Do you agree with the following statements?

Country total. Data as percentage of affirmative answers



Base: 2421 cases

Source: Second National Survey on Religious Beliefs and Attitudes in Argentina, CEIL CONICET Society, Culture and Religion Program, 2019

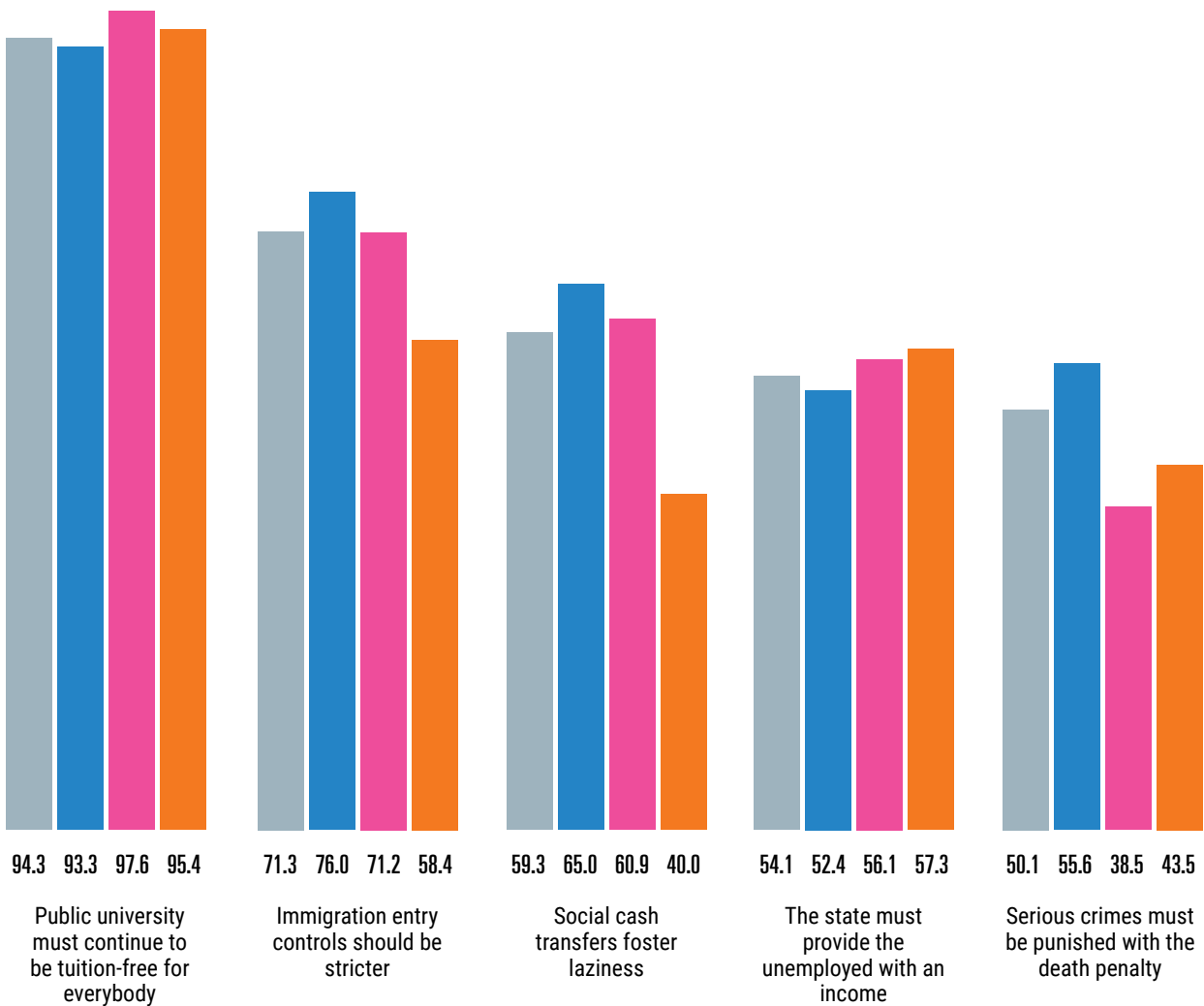
Opinions about society by religious affiliation

Evangelicals are the ones that most often reject the death penalty.



Do you agree with the following statements?

Country total. Data as percentage of affirmative answers by religious affiliation



■ Total ■ Catholics ■ Evangelicals ■ Unaffiliated



Base: 2421 cases

Source: Second National Survey on Religious Beliefs and Attitudes in Argentina, CEIL CONICET Society, Culture and Religion Program, 2019

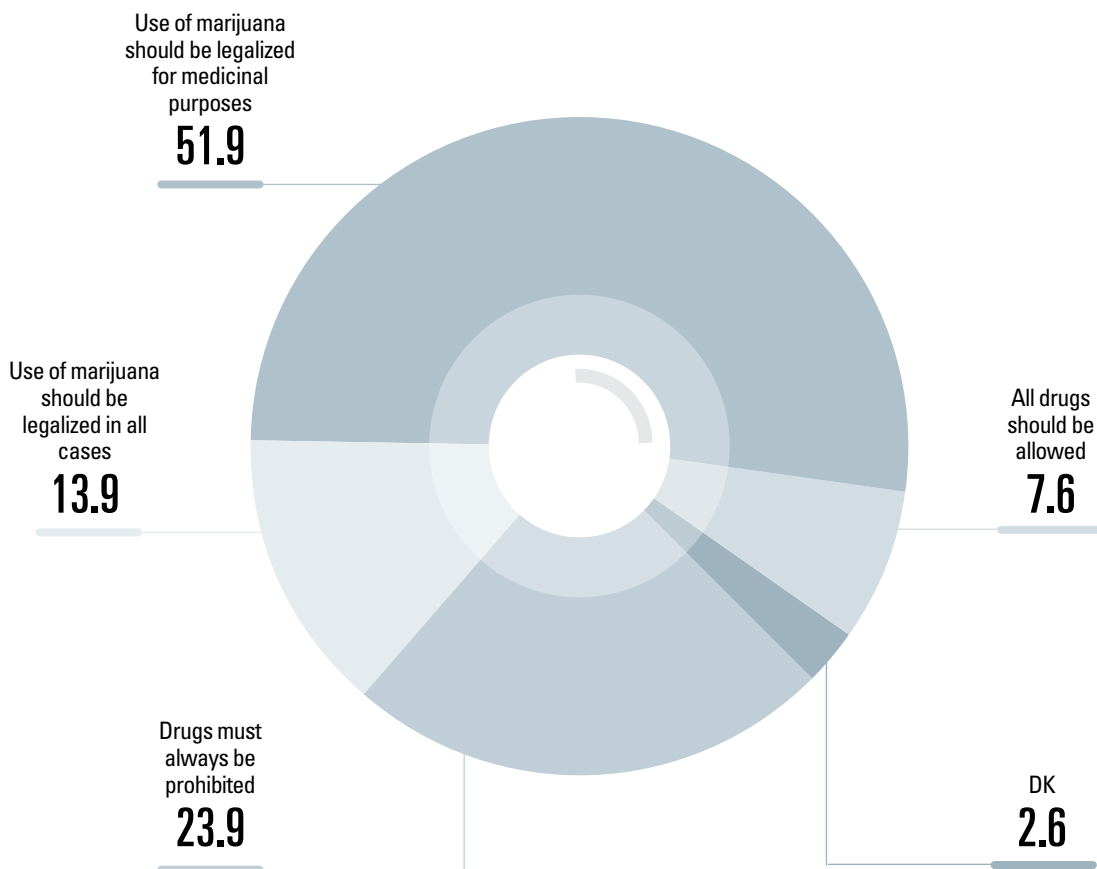
Opinion about drug legalization

Use of marijuana is widely accepted, especially for medicinal purposes.



Which of the following statements best reflects your opinion about drugs?

Country total. Data as percentages



Base: 2421 cases

Source: Second National Survey on Religious Beliefs and Attitudes in Argentina, CEIL CONICET Society, Culture and Religion Program, 2019

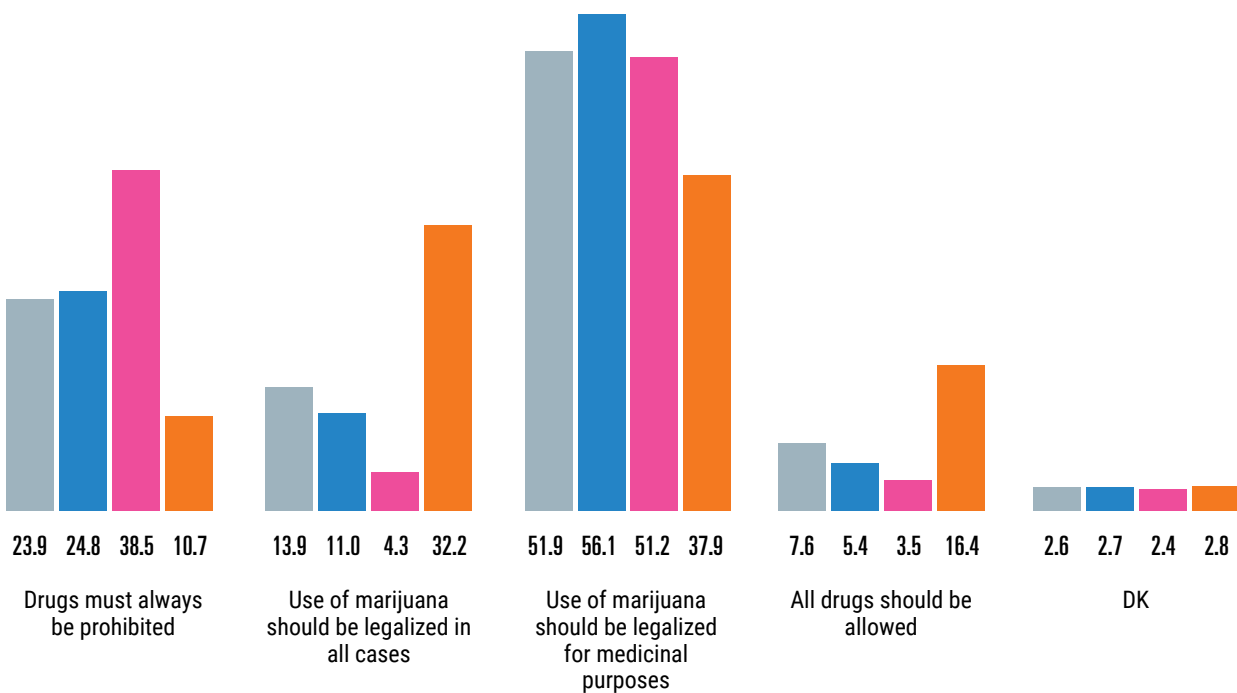
Opinion about drug legalization by religious affiliation

Evangelicals are the ones the express the greatest opposition to drug legalization. In contrast, the unaffiliated are more favorable to legalizing drug use.



Which of the following statements best reflects your opinion about drugs?

Country total. Data as percentage by religious affiliation



■ Total ■ Catholics ■ Evangelicals ■ Unaffiliated



Base: 2421 cases

Source: Second National Survey on Religious Beliefs and Attitudes in Argentina, CEIL CONICET Society, Culture and Religion Program, 2019

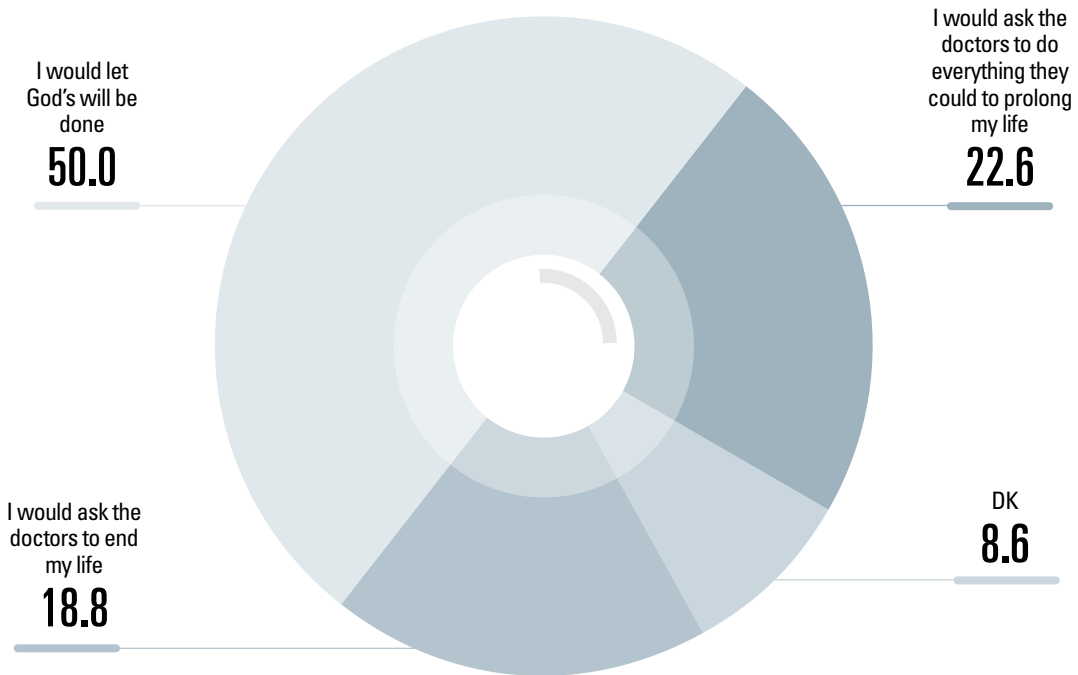
Opinion about the end of life

Half of Argentine society would “let God’s will be done” in case of a terminal and irreversible disease. A smaller proportion would choose to have their life ended or prolonged.



If you had a terminal and irreversible disease, which decision would you make?

Country total. Data as percentages



Base: 2421 cases

Source: Second National Survey on Religious Beliefs and Attitudes in Argentina, CEIL CONICET Society, Culture and Religion Program, 2019

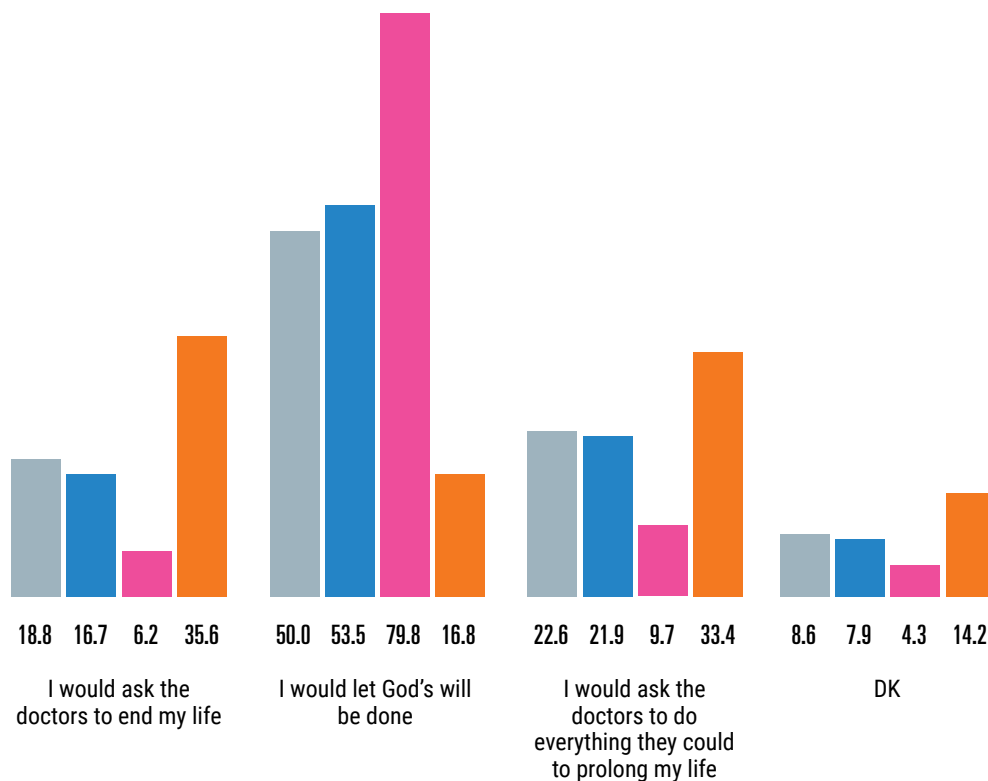
Opinion the end of life by religious affiliation

Most Evangelicals think that death is God's will. Unaffiliated respondents stress the individual's decision regarding the end of his or her life.



If you had a terminal and irreversible disease, which decision would you make?

Country total. Data as percentage by religious affiliation



■ Total ■ Catholics ■ Evangelicals ■ Unaffiliated



Base: 2421 cases

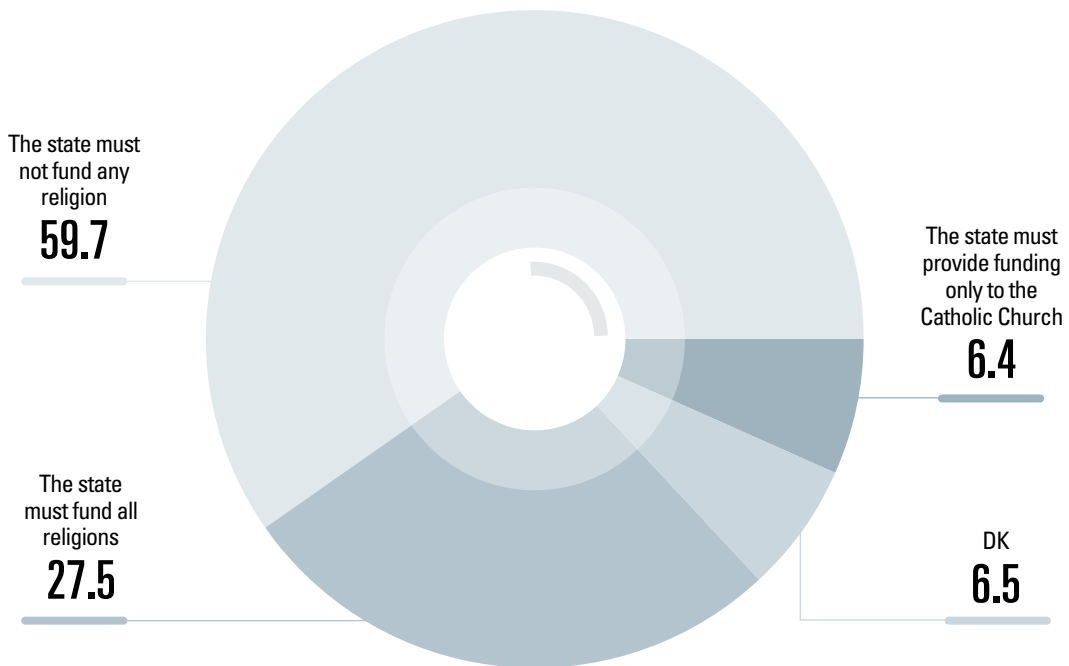
Source: Second National Survey on Religious Beliefs and Attitudes in Argentina, CEIL CONICET Society, Culture and Religion Program, 2019

Opinion about public funding of religions

The majority of Argentine society thinks that the state must not fund religions. Only 6.4% stated that they agree with exclusive financial support for the Catholic Church.



Which of the following statements best reflects your opinion about public funding of religions?
Country total. Data as percentages



Base: 2421 cases

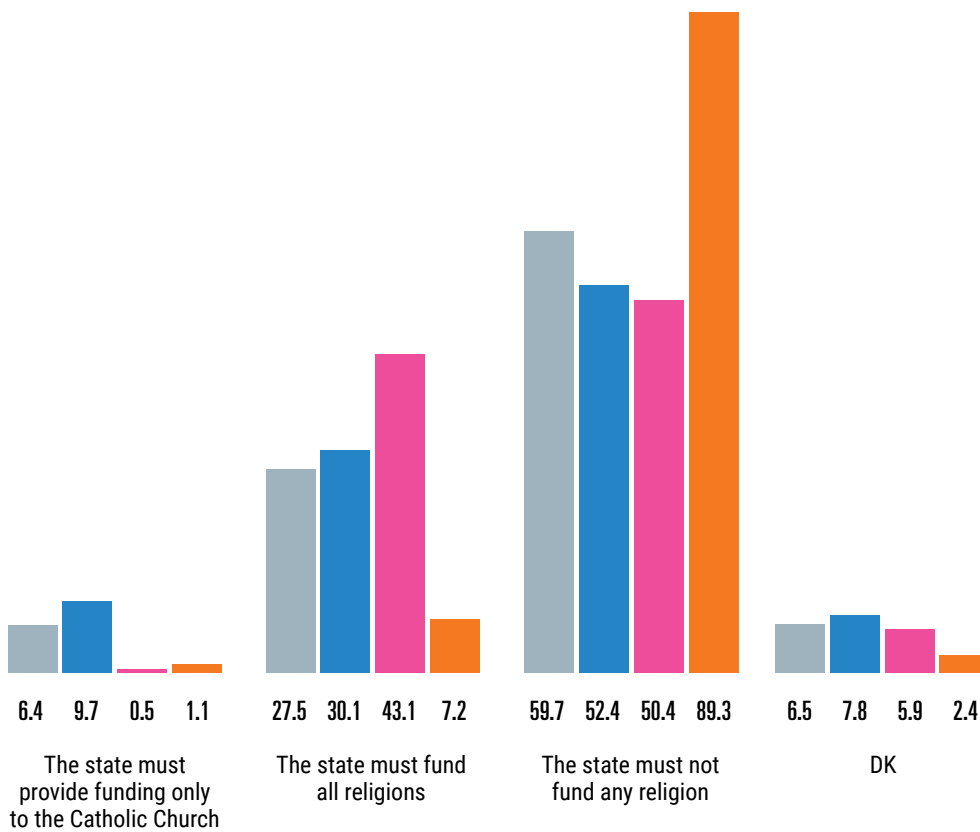
Source: Second National Survey on Religious Beliefs and Attitudes in Argentina, CEIL CONICET Society, Culture and Religion Program, 2019

Opinion about public funding of religions by religious affiliation

9 out of 10 unaffiliated respondents object to state funding of religions. Half of Catholics and Evangelicals agree with that view.



Which of the following statements best reflects your opinion about public funding of religions?
Country total. Data as percentage by religious affiliation



■ Total ■ Catholics ■ Evangelicals ■ Unaffiliated



Base: 2421 cases

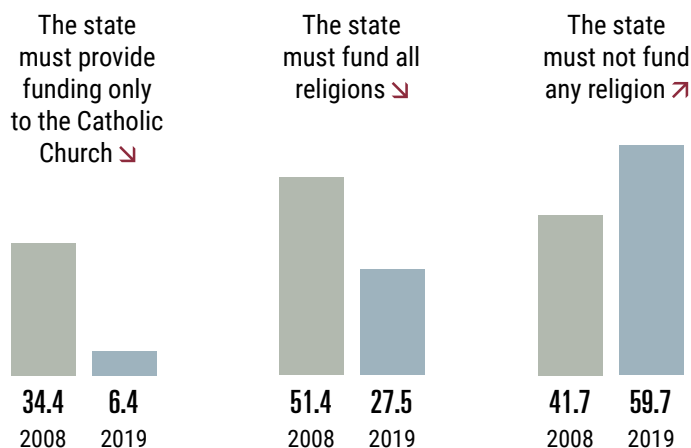
Source: Second National Survey on Religious Beliefs and Attitudes in Argentina, CEIL CONICET Society, Culture and Religion Program, 2019

Opinion about public funding of religions 2008 vs 2019

Over one decade, opinions about public funding of religions have changed significantly. While in 2008 the majority upheld that the state had to fund all confessions, today most respondents think that it must not support any religion.

Which of the following statements best reflects your opinion about public funding of religions?

Country total. Data as percentage of affirmative answers by each category



↗ Increase ↘ Decrease = Equal

2008
👤👤👤👤👤

Base: 2403 cases

Source: First National Survey on Religious Beliefs and Attitudes in Argentina, CEIL CONICET Society, Culture and Religion Program, 2008

2019
👤👤👤👤👤

Base: 2421 cases

Source: Second National Survey on Religious Beliefs and Attitudes in Argentina, CEIL CONICET Society, Culture and Religion Program, 2019

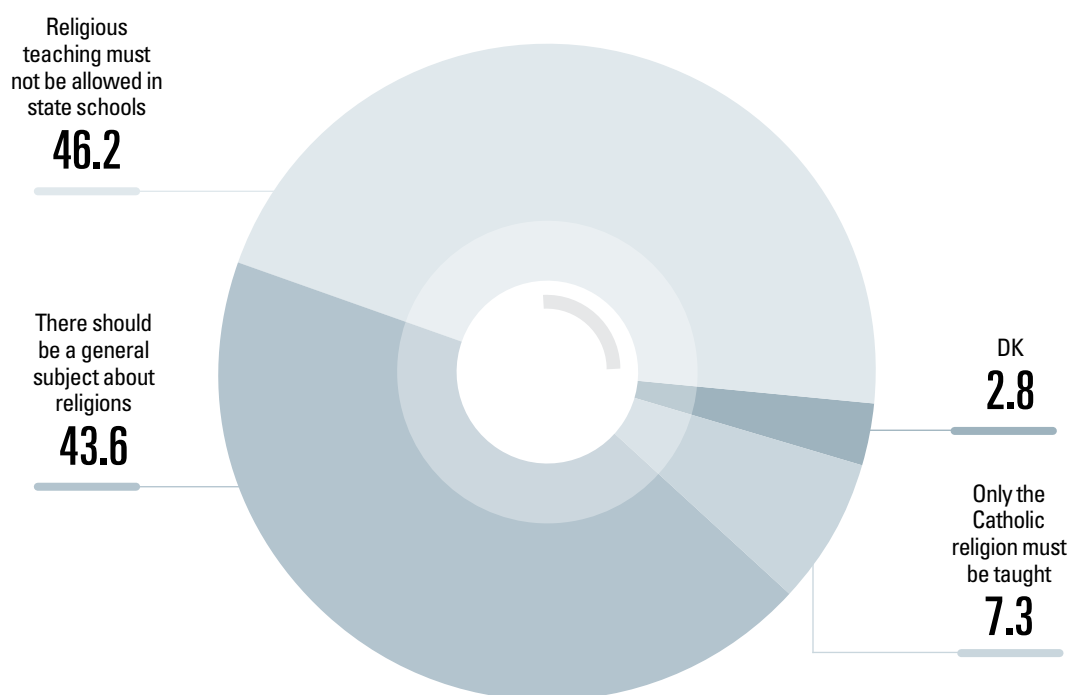
Religious teaching in state schools

The majority of Argentine society rejects the teaching of the Catholic religion in state schools. At the same time, those who think that there should be a general subject about religions and those who object to religious education in state schools are similar in number.



Which of the following statements best reflects your opinion about teaching religion in state schools?

Country total. Data as percentages



Base: 2421 cases

Source: Second National Survey on Religious Beliefs and Attitudes in Argentina, CEIL CONICET Society, Culture and Religion Program, 2019

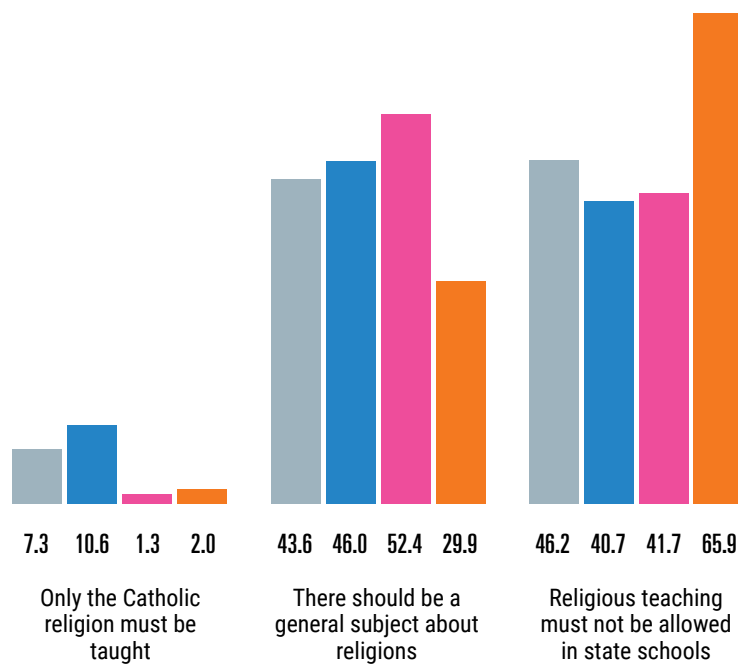
Opinion about teaching religion in state schools by religious affiliation

Most of the unaffiliated reject the teaching of religion in state schools. Evangelicals prefer a general subject about religions.



Which of the following statements best reflects your opinion about teaching religion in state schools?

Country total. Data as percentage by religious affiliation



■ Total ■ Catholics ■ Evangelicals ■ Unaffiliated



Base: 2421 cases

Source: Second National Survey on Religious Beliefs and Attitudes in Argentina, CEIL CONICET Society, Culture and Religion Program, 2019

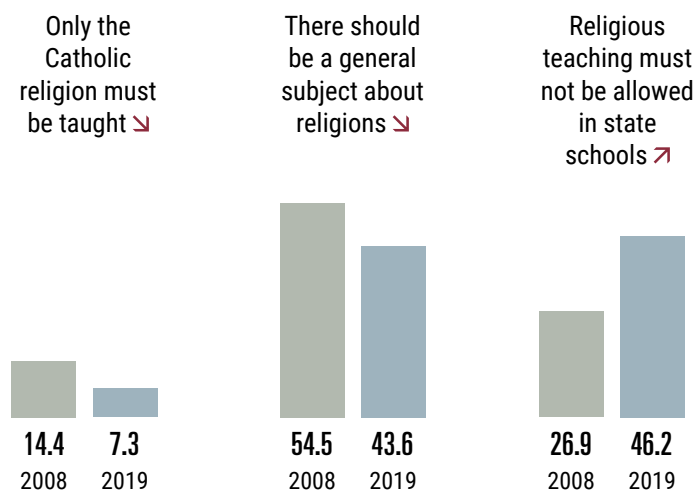
Opinion about teaching religion in state schools 2008 vs 2019

As in the case of the opinion about state funding of religions, views against the influence of religion in state schools have grown over the last decade.



Which of the following statements best reflects your opinion about teaching religion in state schools?

Country total. Data as percentage of affirmative answers 2008 vs 2019



↗ Increase ↘ Decrease = Equal

2008



Base: 2403 cases

Source: First National Survey on Religious Beliefs and Attitudes in Argentina, CEIL CONICET Society, Culture and Religion Program, 2008

2019



Base: 2421 cases

Source: Second National Survey on Religious Beliefs and Attitudes in Argentina, CEIL CONICET Society, Culture and Religion Program, 2019

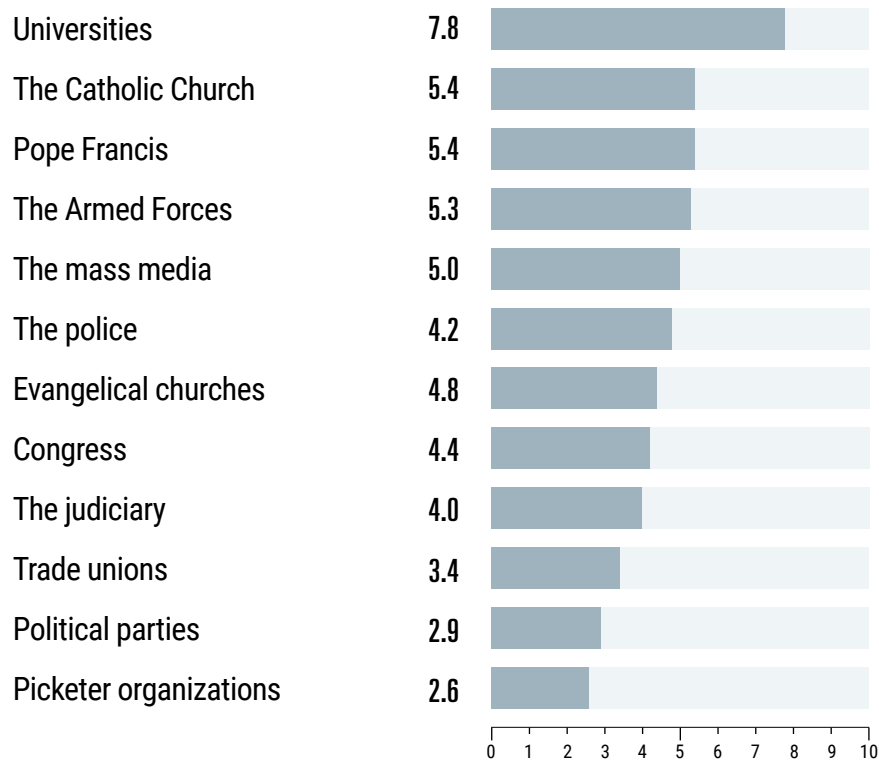
Degree of trust in institutions and in Pope Francis

In a general context of mistrust, universities stand out as the most credible institution. The Catholic Church, the Armed Forces and Pope Francis come next in the confidence ranking.



In a scale of 1 to 10, to what extent do you trust the following people and institutions, 1 being no trust at all and 10 full trust?

Country total. Average



Base: 2421 cases

Source: Second National Survey on Religious Beliefs and Attitudes in Argentina, CEIL CONICET Society, Culture and Religion Program, 2019

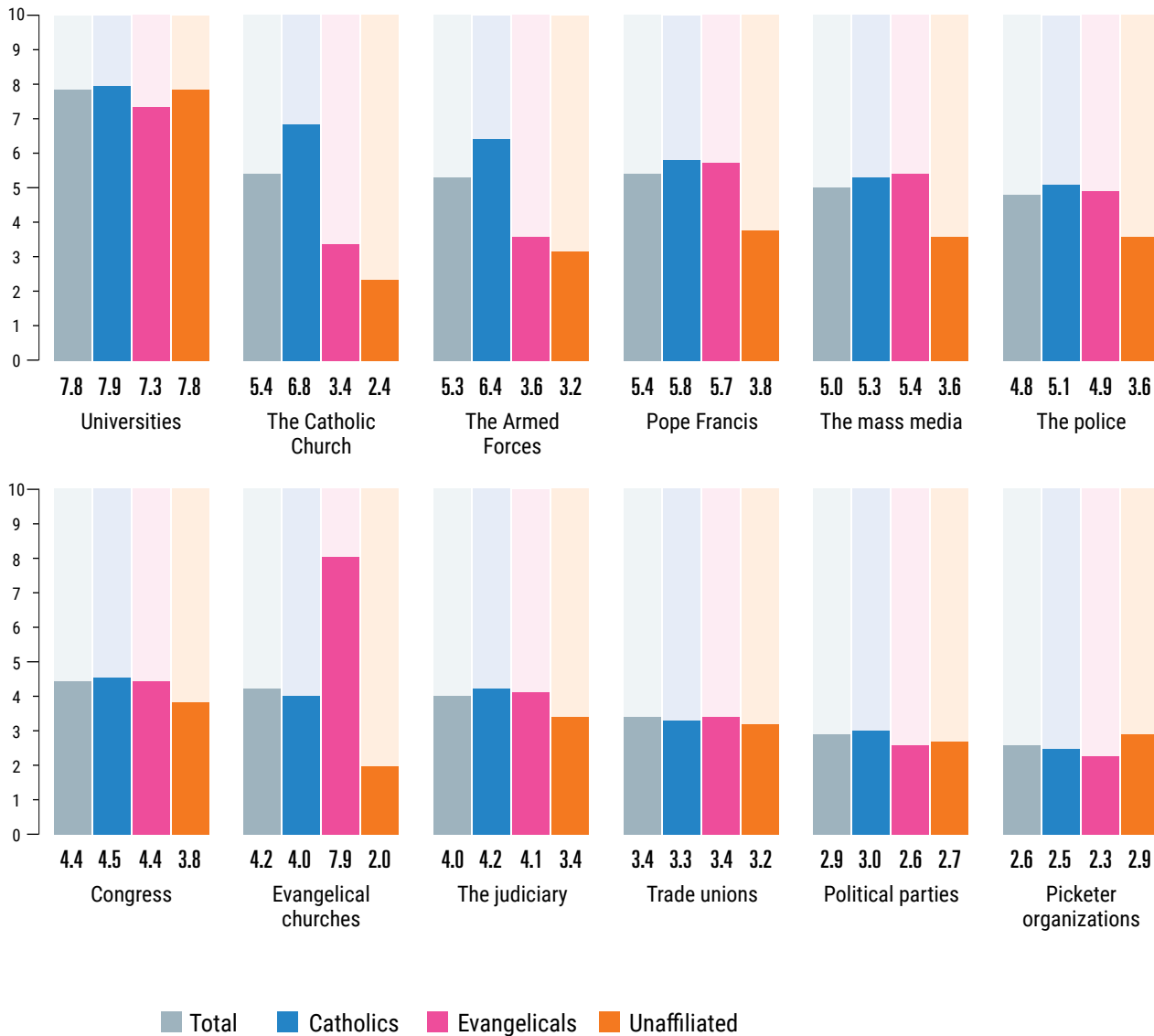
Degree of trust in institutions and in Pope Francis by religious affiliation

Catholics trust institutions slightly more than Evangelicals. The unaffiliated show little trust in all institutions, with the exception of universities.



In a scale of 1 to 10, to what extent do you trust the following people and institutions, 1 being no trust at all and 10 full trust?

Country total. Average by religious affiliation



Base: 2421 cases

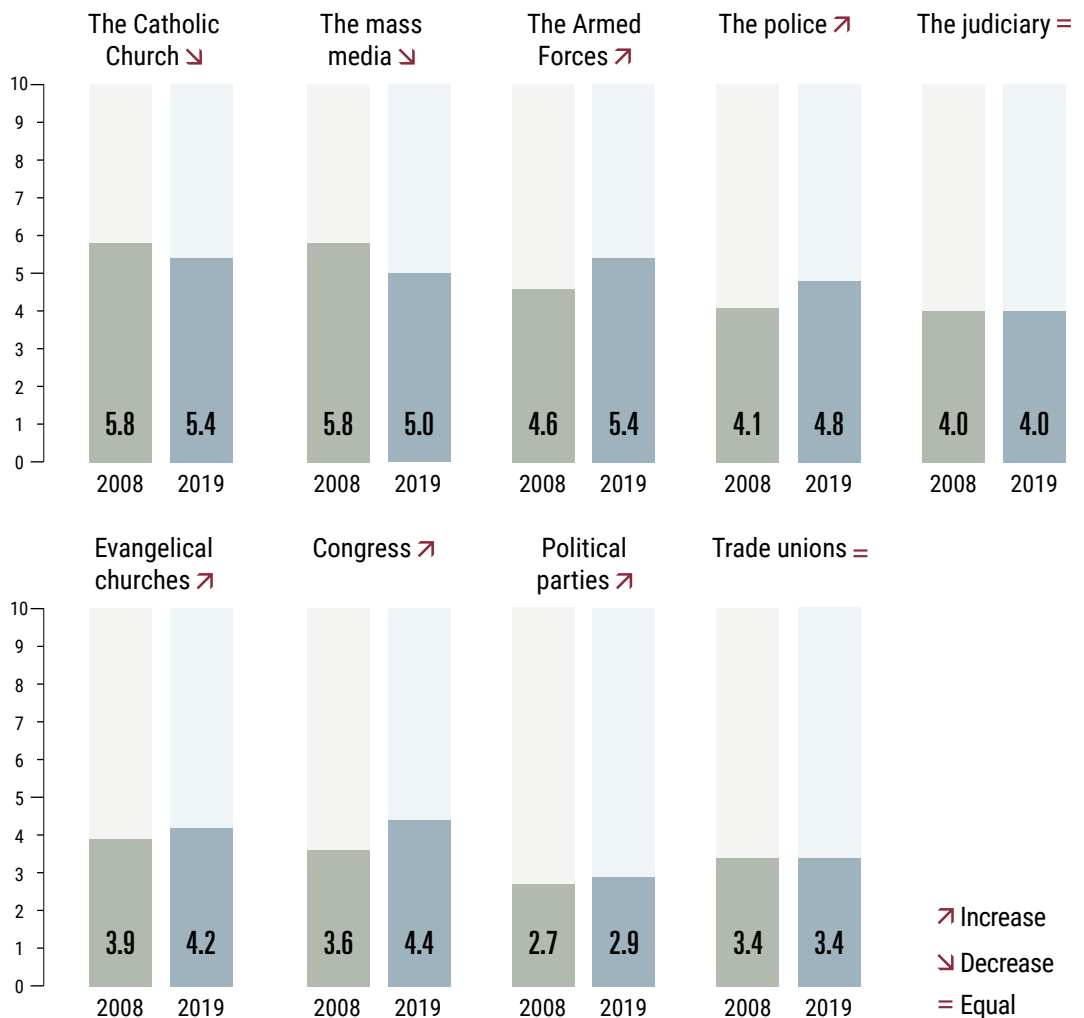
Source: Second National Survey on Religious Beliefs and Attitudes in Argentina, CEIL CONICET Society, Culture and Religion Program, 2019

Degree of trust in institutions and in Pope Francis 2008 vs 2019

After one decade, there have been no remarkable changes in degrees of trust in institutions. Trust in the Catholic Church and the mass media has decreased. The judiciary and trade unions have remained stable.

In a scale of 1 to 10, to what extent do you trust the following people and institutions, 1 being no trust at all and 10 full trust?

Country total. Average from comparison between data about institutions collected in 2019 and 2008



2008
👤👤👤👤

Base: 2403 cases

Source: First National Survey on Religious Beliefs and Attitudes in Argentina, CEIL CONICET Society, Culture and Religion Program, 2008

2019
👤👤👤👤

Base: 2421 cases

Source: Second National Survey on Religious Beliefs and Attitudes in Argentina, CEIL CONICET Society, Culture and Religion Program, 2019

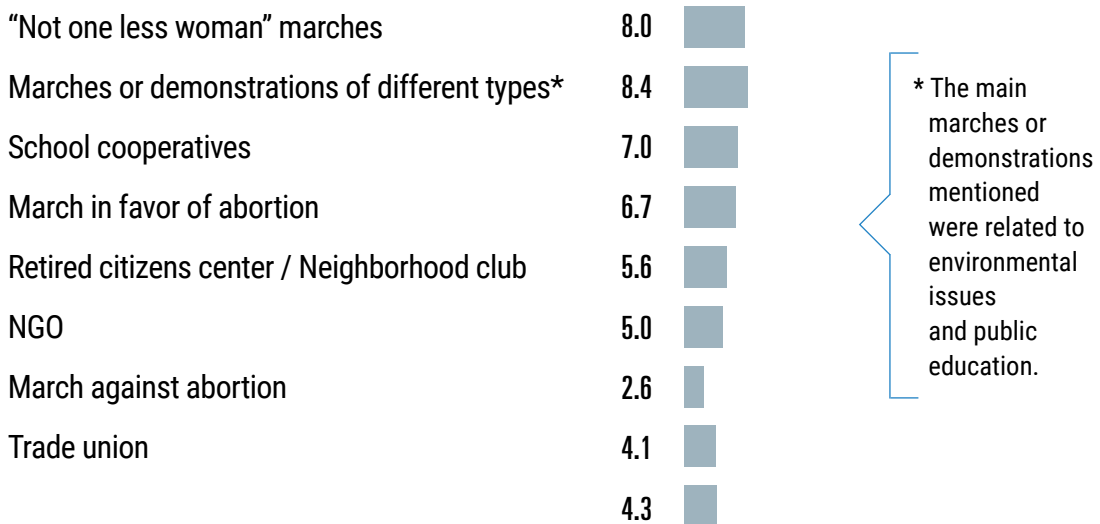
Participation in organizations, marches and social demonstrations

In a context of low levels of participation in social, trade union and political demonstrations and organizations, there is a moderate tendency to demonstrating in support of womens' rights, environmental issues and public education.



During the last year, did you take part in...?

Country total. Data as percentage of affirmative answers



Base: 2421 cases

Source: Second National Survey on Religious Beliefs and Attitudes in Argentina,
CEIL CONICET Society, Culture and Religion Program, 2019

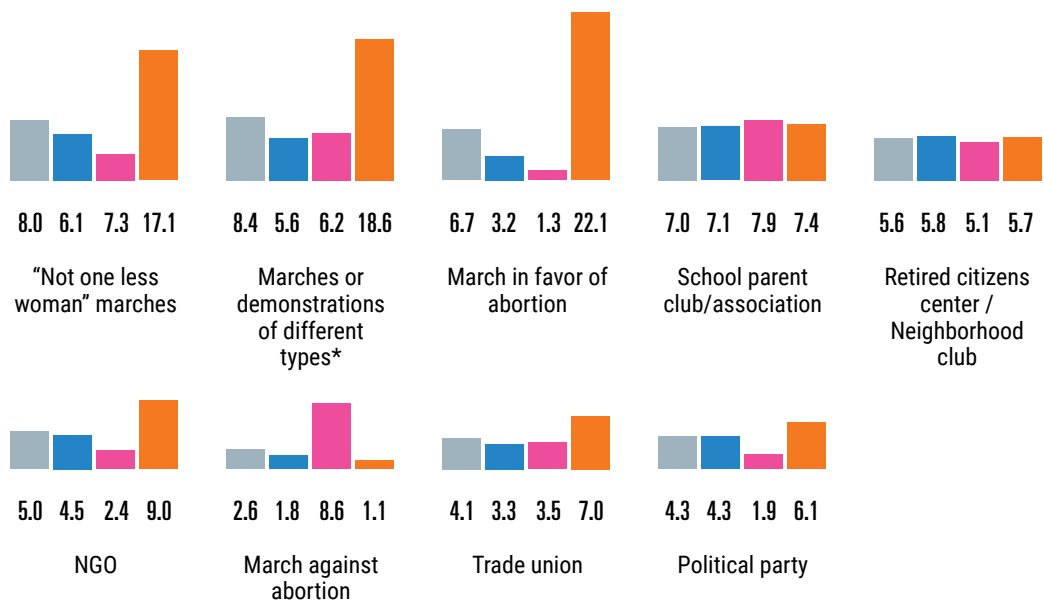
Participation in organizations, marches and social demonstrations by religious affiliation

The unaffiliated tend to participate in social demonstrations more than Catholics and Evangelicals.



During the last year, did you take part in...?

Country total. Data as percentage of affirmative answers



■ Total ■ Catholics ■ Evangelicals ■ Unaffiliated

* The main marches or demonstrations mentioned were related to environmental issues and public education.



Base: 2421 cases

Source: Second National Survey on Religious Beliefs and Attitudes in Argentina, CEIL CONICET Society, Culture and Religion Program, 2019

Additional information

The project directors would like to thank those who participated in all stages of the Second National Survey on Religious Beliefs and Attitudes in Argentina.

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General project coordination and statistical analysis of data:

Gabriela Irrazábal.

Technical assistance:

Agostina Carballo.

Research team of the Society, Culture and Religion Program

Researchers: Joaquín Algranti, Aldo Ameigeiras, Marcos Carbonelli, Soledad Catoggio, Luis Donatello, Guido Giorgi, Mariela Mosqueira, Damián Setton, Hugo Simkin.

Post-doctoral fellows: Facundo Diéguez, María Eugenia Funes, Gabriel Levita, Sol Prieto, Germán Torres, Agostina Zaros.

Doctoral fellows: Matías Javier Aparicio, Taly Barán Attias, Sofía Bilbao, Natalia Fernández, Mariano Gialdino, Magalí Katz, Catalina Monjeau Castro, Mercedes Nachón Ramírez, Pedro Porta Fernández, Julieta Ruffa, María Macarena Sáenz Valenzuela, Leonel Tribilsi.

Sampling design

Diego Palacios.

Edition, digitization and database team:

Silvia Bonacalza, Ana Bianchetti, Marina Gerolimetti.

Publishing team:

Irene Brousse, Anabella Bustos, Graciela Torrecillas, Flavio Burstein.

Regional data collection teams:

Regional heads: Azucena Reyes, Ezequiel Potaschner, Virginia Trevignani, Milagros Ibarbia, Maira Sorraire, Leandro Gielis, Marcela Defelipe, Graciela Dato, Gabriel Di Lorenzo, Mabel Schrotlin, Antonio Luccione.

Interviewers and supervisors:

Natalia Peña Boero, Augusto Norte, Luciana Lucero, Micaela Lisboa, María Belén Álvarez Rivera, Macarena Carrasco, María Victoria Castro Santamaría, Ana Celedon, Belén Ferrando, Graciela Garípoli, Sayi Abel García Osilda, Camila Guevara, Andrea Laucieri, Daniela Páez, Pamela Gutiérrez, Micaela Salinas, Camila Silvestre, Lucia Sosa, Ailen Suyai Chacon, Andrea Ybañez, Catalina Zaneff. Gabriel Alejandro Pino, Daniela Soledad Velzi, Antonella Lescano, Yhonny Silva, José Manuel Candia, Lucía Manuela Díaz, Emilio Pancheri, Valentín Cañete, Gabriela Carolina Marchi, Stefano Bedino, Cecilia Lemos Moltó, Flavia Scoreanzi, Justina Pacifico, Nicolás Juan Pacífico, Cecilia Inés Bernini, Camila Zalazar, Lucrecia Saltzman, Macarena Acuña, Mara Dobry, Julián Aguilera, Nicolás Alejandro Ramírez, Andrea Paola Lescano, Mauricio Moltó. Griselda Bozzer, Carolina Elizabeth Hueller, Macarena de las Mercedes Barrionuevo, Cintia Vanesa Ríos, María Rocío Ferré, Sergio Rubilar Guiñazu. Martinano Ruiz, Mercedes Acosta Quinta, Analía Castro, Adrián Hernández, Gabriela Escalona, Julio Nocheti, Juliana Bocchicchio, Liliana Aguirre, Silvana Lorena Montero, Verónica Becerra, Mariela Lauría, Griselda Segovia. Marta Zerbini, Martina Castro, Silvia Baiunco. Mario Segovia, Eduardo Bravo, Melisa Maximowicz, Edgardo Duarte Lachnicht, Walter Soveron, Victoria Solís, Gisel Orrego, Mariela Delgado, Isabel Rodríguez, Valeria Sosa, Alejandro Amilcar Duarte Schrotlin. Cristian Gerez, Ana Gerez, Érica Ruiz, Mónica Perea, Erica Cáceres, Fabiana Paz, Yamila Arévalo, Ivonne Petroff, Diego Gil, Martin Florio, Lilia Tacacho, Ivana Ríos, Milagro Lizarraga, Noelia Giri Adad.

Ethical aspects:

This research complies with the CONICET Guidelines for Ethical Behavior in Social Sciences and Humanities (Resolution 2857/2006), the Declaration of Helsinki (Fortaleza version, 2013), the UNESCO Universal Declaration on Bioethics and Human Rights and the Human Rights laws and conventions currently in force in Argentina. Participation in the survey was voluntary. Participants' informed consent was obtained once the goals and expected benefits of the study were explained to them. The data collected are used for statistical purposes, with confidentiality and anonymity guaranteed to respondents so that they cannot be identified.

Publications about the First National Survey on Religious Beliefs and Attitudes in Argentina

Mallimaci, Fortunato; Esquivel, Juan Cruz; Giménez Béliveau, Verónica (2015) What do Argentine people believe in? Religion and social structure in Argentina, *Social Compass*, 62 (2): 255-277, doi:10.1177/0037768615571694

Mallimaci Fortunato (2013), *Atlas de las creencias religiosas en Argentina*, Buenos Aires, Biblos

Mallimaci, Fortunato; Esquivel, Juan Cruz e Irrazábal Gabriela (2008) *Primera Encuesta sobre Creencias y Actitudes Religiosas*. Informe de investigación. <http://www.ceil-conicet.gov.ar/wp-content/uploads/2013/02/encuesta1.pdf>

