Overall, 1 in 2 Australians do not identify with a religion. 40% consider themselves as Christian, identifying as Catholic, Orthodox, Protestant or Evangelical. 31% do not identify with any religion or spiritual belief. 19% are spiritual, not religious.

Q: What is your religion?

Religious

- Christianity (Catholic/Orthodox): 22%
- Christianity (Protestant/Evangelical): 18%
- Judaism: 1%
- Hinduism: 1%
- Buddhism: 3%
- Islam: 1%
- None: 31%
- Spiritual, not religious: 19%
- Other: 5%

Q: How active are you in practicing your religion?

Religious identity, but less activity

- Not at all active in practising:
  - Christianity (Protestant/Evangelical): 27%
  - Mainstream Christians are both more active and less active
- Somewhat identify with a religion, rarely/never worship as part of a group:
  - Christianity (Protestant/Evangelical): 34%
- Significantly involved in practising my religion, worship as part of a group sometimes:
  - Mainstream Christians are both more active and less active
- Extremely involved in practising my religion, worship as part of a group very regularly:
  - Mainstream Christians are both more active and less active

This research was conducted by McCrindle Research in October 2011 based on focus groups and a national survey of 1,094 Australians.
**Outgrowing Religion**

- **Never been religious** 24%
- **Not now religious** 29%
- **Synthesizer** 11% (Set of beliefs not fitting any one religion)
- ** Adopter** 4% (Non-religious prior to choosing current religion)
- **Converter** 5% (Switched from a different religion)
- **Continuer** Committed to religion brought up in 27%

Q: What best describes your current religious status?

**Family is formative**

- **Parents & family** 67%
- **Mass media & social media** 25%
- **Networks & relationships** 24%
- **Other** 23%
- **Books & articles** 20%

Q: Who or what has most influenced your perceptions & opinions of Christians & Christianity? (select all that apply)

**Religious conversations: not routine, but not taboo**

- **Yes - often** 7%
- **Yes - occasionally** 46%
- **No - never** 47%

Q: Do you ever talk about spirituality or religion when you gather with friends?

**Significant “warmth” towards Christianity**

- **4%** I’m passionately opposed
- **13%** Strong reservations
- **11%** Some issues with Christianity
- **13%** ...but should have religious freedoms
- **15%** I believe in the ethics & values of...
- **5%** I believe much of Christianity, but...
- **5%** I believe in Christianity, but don’t consider myself a Christian
- **33%** I consider myself a Christian

Q: What best describes your current beliefs & attitudes towards Christianity?

**Influences on religious views**

- I went to Catholic primary school so we had to go to church... it faded out when I got older, in my life and my family’s as well...
- The church needs to let people know that it is not that they are enforcing something on the society. Let them know that it’s about faith.

**Half of Aussies “NOT OPEN AT ALL”**

- Extremely open 3%
- Significantly open 4%
- Somewhat open 10%
- Slightly open 31%
- Not open at all 51%

Q: How open are you to changing your religious worldview?

**But almost half are to some extent “open”**

- "Cool" 13%
- "Warm" 15%
- "Very warm" 33%

Q: What best describes your current religious status?
**Christianity’s Belief Blockers**

- **Doctrines & Practices**
  - Homosexuality: 29% block completely, 15% block significantly, 25% block slightly.
  - Hell & condemnation: 25% block completely, 15% block significantly, 26% block slightly.
  - The role of women: 20% block completely, 14% block significantly, 26% block slightly.
  - Suffering: 20% block completely, 14% block significantly, 26% block slightly.
  - Science & evolution: 20% block completely, 14% block significantly, 23% block slightly.
  - The Bible: 21% block completely, 14% block significantly, 19% block slightly.
  - Supernatural elements: 20% block completely, 12% block significantly, 23% block slightly.

**Christianity’s Top Ten Belief Blockers**

1. Church abuse
2. Hypocrisy
3. Judging others
4. Religious views
5. Suffering
6. Issues around money
7. Outdated
8. Hell & condemnation
9. Homosexuality
10. Exclusivity

**Christianity & the Church**

- Church abuse: 55% massive negative influence, 21% significant negative influence.
- Religious war: 45% massive negative influence, 22% significant negative influence.
- Hypocrisy: 42% massive negative influence, 26% significant negative influence.
- Judging others: 41% massive negative influence, 28% significant negative influence.
- Issues around money: 37% massive negative influence, 29% significant negative influence.
- Outdated: 33% massive negative influence, 25% significant negative influence.
- Authoritarian style: 33% massive negative influence, 29% significant negative influence.
- Exclusivity: 32% massive negative influence, 26% significant negative influence.

**My Belief is that God will send you somewhere else, but not actually to hell.**

**They should put a message across that they’re not going to bash people over the head for not coming in ten years.**

Q: To what extent do the following block or engage you...

Q: To what extent do the following attract or repel you...?
**Beliefs about Jesus**

**Significant belief in Jesus**

- **Jesus was an ordinary man - without divine powers**: 42%
- **Had divine powers but not the Son of God**: 35%
- **Had divine powers & was the Son of God**: 17%
- **Did not exist**: 6%

**Reasonable acceptance of the miraculous**

- **Jesus died on the cross**: 53%
  - Fully believe: 27%
  - Partly believe: 20%
  - Not at all believe: 16%
- **Jesus rose from the dead**: 47%
  - Fully believe: 31%
  - Partly believe: 21%
  - Not at all believe: 21%
- **Jesus was born of a virgin**: 50%
  - Fully believe: 31%
  - Partly believe: 19%
  - Not at all believe: 8%
- **Jesus walked on water**: 53%
  - Fully believe: 27%
  - Partly believe: 21%
  - Not at all believe: 16%

**Surprising knowledge of Jesus’ messages**

- **I have come that you may have life**: 62%
- **Do unto others as you would have them do unto you**: 62%
- **This is my commandment that you love one another**: 51%
- **God helps those who help themselves**: 21%
- **There but for the grace of God go I**: 16%
- **While you live tell the truth and shame the devil**: 10%
- **Such is life**: 6%

**When did Jesus live?**

- **In ancient times (BC)**: 27%
- **1st Century (1-100AD)**: 42%
- **2nd Century (101-200AD)**: 1%
- **Between 200 & 1000AD**: 1%
- **After 1000AD**: 0%
- **No idea**: 28%

**Quote耶稣 said?**

- **Fully believe**:
  - Jesus died on the cross: 53%
  - Jesus rose from the dead: 47%
  - Jesus was born of a virgin: 50%
  - Jesus walked on water: 53%
- **Partly believe**:
  - Jesus died on the cross: 27%
  - Jesus rose from the dead: 21%
  - Jesus was born of a virgin: 31%
  - Jesus walked on water: 27%
- **Not at all believe**:
  - Jesus died on the cross: 16%
  - Jesus rose from the dead: 21%
  - Jesus was born of a virgin: 19%
  - Jesus walked on water: 21%

**Q: Was Jesus a real person from history?**

- **Yes**: 71%
- **No**: 11%
- **I don’t know**: 18%

**Q: Which of the following statements can be accurately attributed to Jesus?**

- **I have come that you may have life**: 62%
- **Do unto others as you would have them do unto you**: 62%
- **This is my commandment that you love one another**: 51%
- **God helps those who help themselves**: 21%
- **There but for the grace of God go I**: 16%
- **While you live tell the truth and shame the devil**: 10%
- **Such is life**: 6%