



PRRI/RNS June 2015 Survey
N = 1,007 (501 Landline, 506 Cell phone)
June 10-June 14, 2015

Q.1 Now as I read a few statements please tell me whether you completely agree, mostly agree, mostly disagree or completely disagree with each one. The first statement is [INSERT; RANDOMIZE]. Next... [INSERT NEXT].

a. God has granted America a special role in human history

<u>June</u> <u>2015</u>	<u>July</u> <u>2013</u>	<u>Sept.</u> <u>2012</u>	<u>May</u> <u>2011</u>	
35	27	30	30	Completely agree
27	33	32	21	Mostly agree
14	16	14	18	Mostly disagree
19	21	18	22	Completely disagree
<u>5</u>	<u>3</u>	<u>6</u>	<u>7</u>	Don't know/Refused (VOL.)
100	100	100	100	Total

b. It is important to publicly show support for your country by doing things such as displaying the flag

52	Completely agree
31	Mostly agree
9	Mostly disagree
5	Completely disagree
<u>2</u>	Don't know/Refused (VOL.)
100	Total

c. America today sets a good moral example for the world

12	Completely agree
31	Mostly agree
33	Mostly disagree
20	Completely disagree
<u>4</u>	Don't know/Refused (VOL.)
100	Total

d. In America today, discrimination against Christians has become as big a problem as discrimination against other groups

24	Completely agree
25	Mostly agree
26	Mostly disagree
21	Completely disagree
<u>5</u>	Don't know/Refused (VOL.)
100	Total

ASK FORM 1 ONLY [N=505]:

e. When Americans speak up and protest unfair treatment by the government it always makes our country better

20	Completely agree
43	Mostly agree
22	Mostly disagree
10	Completely disagree
<u>5</u>	Don't know/Refused (VOL.)
100	Total

ASK FORM 2 ONLY [N=502]:

f. When black Americans speak up and protest unfair treatment by the government it always makes our country better

18	Completely agree
36	Mostly agree
22	Mostly disagree
17	Completely disagree
<u>7</u>	Don't know/Refused (VOL.)
100	Total

Q.2 Which of the following statements comes closest to your view? **[READ IN ORDER]**

June <u>2015</u>	Sept. <u>2012</u>	<u>Oct. 2010</u>	
35	39	42	America has always been and is currently a Christian nation
45	41	37	America was a Christian nation in the past but not now
14	15	17	America has never been a Christian nation
<u>7</u>	<u>5</u>	<u>4</u>	Don't know/Refused (VOL.)
100	100	100	Total

IF NO LONGER A CHRISTIAN NATION (Q2=2), ASK [N=441]:

Q.3 And do you think this is generally a good thing or a bad thing?

29	Good thing
61	Bad thing
<u>10</u>	Don't know/Refused (VOL.)
100	Total

ASK ALL:

Q.4 Some people say the following things are important for being truly American. In your opinion, do you think **[INSERT; RANDOMIZE]** is a very important, somewhat important, not too important or not at all important part of being truly American? What about **[INSERT NEXT]**?

a. Believing in God

52	Very important
17	Somewhat important
9	Not too important
20	Not at all important
<u>2</u>	Don't know/Refused (VOL.)
100	Total

b. Being able to speak English

66	Very important
23	Somewhat important
5	Not too important
4	Not at all important
<u>1</u>	Don't know/Refused (VOL.)
100	Total

c. Being a Christian

33	Very important
20	Somewhat important
16	Not too important
27	Not at all important
<u>5</u>	Don't know/Refused (VOL.)
100	Total

d. Being born in America

33	Very important
25	Somewhat important
18	Not too important
22	Not at all important
<u>2</u>	Don't know/Refused (VOL.)
100	Total

Q.5 Overall, do you think of yourself as a typical American or very different from a typical American?

<u>June</u> <u>2015</u>	<u>June</u> <u>2013</u>	
69	72	Typical American
26	25	Very different from typical American
*	--	Not an American (VOL.)
<u>4</u>	<u>3</u>	Don't know/Refused (VOL.)
100	100	Total

Q.6 Has there ever been a time when you were not proud to be an American?

<u>June 2015</u>	<u>June 2013</u>	
35	31	Yes
63	68	No
1	--	Not an American (VOL.)
<u>2</u>	<u>1</u>	Don't know/Refused (VOL.)
100	100	Total

Thinking about some issues in the country today...

Q.7 All in all, do you strongly favor, favor, oppose or strongly oppose **[INSERT; RANDOMIZE]**? And do you strongly favor, favor, oppose or strongly oppose **[INSERT NEXT]**?

- a. Allowing illegal immigrants brought to the U.S. as children to gain legal resident status if they join the military or go to college.

	<u>Strongly favor</u>	<u>Favor</u>	<u>Oppose</u>	<u>Strongly oppose</u>	<u>Don't know/ Refused (VOL.)</u>
June 2015	33	33	15	14	4=100
Feb. 2015	21	47	18	10	5=100
Dec. 2014	26	38	20	14	2=100
March 2013	21	40	21	13	4=100
Oct. 2012	25	35	20	17	4=100
Sept. 2012	23	37	18	18	4=100
June 2012	23	32	21	20	4=100
Sept. 2011	18	39	24	16	3=100

- b. Allowing illegal immigrants who are the parents of children with legal status to stay in the U.S. for three years without being subject to deportation, if they pass a background check and have lived in the country for at least five years.

<u>June 2015</u>	<u>Feb. 2015</u>	<u>Dec. 2014</u>	
33	22	28	Strongly favor
40	54	44	Favor
12	13	15	Oppose
11	6	12	Strongly oppose
<u>4</u>	<u>4</u>	<u>2</u>	Don't know/Refused (VOL.)
100	100	100	Total

Q.8 Which statement comes closest to your view about how the immigration system should deal with immigrants who are currently living in the U.S. illegally? The immigration system should... **[FORM 1 READ IN ORDER (1-3), FORM 2 READ REVERSE ORDER (3-1)]**

	Allow them a way to become citizens provided they meet certain <u>requirements</u>	Allow them to become permanent legal residents but <u>not citizens</u>	Identify and <u>deport them</u>	None of these <u>(VOL.)</u>	Don't know/ Refused <u>(VOL.)</u>
June 2015	64	15	16	1	4=100
May 2015	60	14	21	1	3=100
Feb. 2015	59	19	18	1	3=100
Late Dec. 2014	65	18	15	1	1=100
Early Dec. 2014	58	19	20	1	2=100
Nov. 2014	59	16	22	1	3=100
Oct. 2014	60	17	20	1	2=100
Sept. 2014	57	17	23	1	2=100
Aug. 2014	57	19	21	1	2=100
Late July 2014	58	17	22	1	2=100
Early July 2014	58	18	19	2	4=100
June 2014	61	16	20	1	2=100
May 2014	64	16	17	1	2=100
April 2014	61	16	20	1	2=100
Nov. 2013	63	14	18	1	4=100
Aug. 2013	63	12	19	1	4=100
March 2013	63	14	21	1	1=100

Q.9 Which political party, **[INSERT; RANDOMIZE]** or **[INSERT]**, do you trust to do a better job handling the issue of immigration?

June <u>2015</u>	Dec. <u>2014</u>	March <u>2013</u>	
41	39	39	Democratic Party
25	34	29	Republican Party
1	1	1	Both (VOL.)
24	21	23	Neither (VOL.)
<u>8</u>	<u>5</u>	<u>8</u>	Don't know/Refused (VOL.)
100	100	100	Total

Q.10 Do you think the Republican Party's position on immigration will help or hurt the party in the upcoming 2016 election, or do you think it will not make a difference in the election?

15	Will help
34	Will hurt
38	Will not make a difference
<u>13</u>	Don't know/Refused (VOL.)
100	Total

Q.11 Would you say that, in general, the growing number of newcomers from other countries... **[INSERT; RANDOMIZE]**?

	Threatens traditional American customs and <u>values</u>	Strengthens American <u>society</u>	Neither/ Both equally <u>(Vol.)</u>	Don't know/ Refused <u>(VOL.)</u>
June 2015	33	54	7	7=100
May 2015	29	50	10	10=100
Dec. 2014	45	48	5	3=100
April 2013	36	55	5	4=100
March 2013	40	54	3	3=100
Aug. 2011	42	53	2	3=100

Q.12 Were you born in the United States or in another country?

88	Born in the U.S.
11	Born in another country
1	Born in Puerto Rico (VOL.)
*	Born in U.S. territories (Guam, Samoa, Virgin Islands) (VOL.)
*	Don't know/Refused (VOL.)
100	Total

Survey Methodology

The survey was designed and conducted by Public Religion Research Institute in partnership with Religion News Service. The survey was made possible by a generous grant from The Henry Luce Foundation. Results of the survey were based on bilingual (Spanish and English) RDD telephone interviews conducted between June 10, 2015, and June 14, 2015, by professional interviewers under the direction of SSRS. Interviews were conducted among a random sample of 1,007 adults 18 years of age or older living in the United States (506 respondents were interviewed on a cell phone). The selection of respondents within households was accomplished by randomly requesting to speak with the youngest adult male or female currently living in the household.

Data collection is based on stratified, single-stage, random-digit-dialing (RDD) sample of landline telephone households and randomly generated cell phone numbers. The sample is designed to represent the total U.S. adult population and includes respondents from all 50 states, including Hawaii and Alaska. The landline and cell phone samples are provided by Marketing Systems.

The weighting is accomplished in two separate stages. The first stage of weighting corrects for different probabilities of selection associated with the number of adults in each household and each respondent's telephone usage patterns.¹ In the second stage, sample demographics are balanced to match target population parameters for gender, age, education, race and Hispanic ethnicity, region (U.S. Census definitions), population density and telephone usage. The population density parameter was derived from Census 2010 data. The telephone usage parameter came from an analysis of the January-September 2014 National Health Interview Survey. All other weighting parameters are derived from an analysis of the U.S. Census Bureau's May 2015 Current Population Survey.

The sample weighting is accomplished using an iterative proportional fitting (IFP) process that simultaneously balances the distributions of all variables. Weights were trimmed to prevent individual interviews from having too much influence on the final results. The use of these weights in statistical analysis ensures that the demographic characteristics of the sample closely approximate the demographic characteristics of the target populations.

The margin of error for the survey is +/- 3.6 percentage points at the 95% level of confidence. The design effect for the survey is 1.4. In addition to sampling error, surveys may also be subject to error or bias due to question wording, context and order effects.

¹ Telephone usage refers to whether respondents have only a landline telephone, only a cell phone, or both types.

Appendix

**Table 1. Demographic, Political, Religious,
and Issue Subgroup Sample Sizes**
(All figures are unweighted)

	General <u>Public</u>
Total Sample	1,007
Male	474
Female	533
Republican	229
Independent	413
Democrat	310
White, non-Hispanic	709
Black, non-Hispanic	109
Hispanic	121
18-29	169
30-49	242
50-64	299
65+	293
White evangelical Protestant	193
White mainline Protestant	184
Minority Protestant	135
Catholic	218
<i>White Catholic</i>	<i>145</i>
Religiously Unaffiliated	185