

**PEW RESEARCH CENTER'S AMERICAN TRENDS PANEL  
WAVE 61 FEBRUARY 2020  
FEBRUARY 4 – 15, 2020<sup>1</sup>**

**ASK ALL:**

HAPPEN2      How likely do you think it is that each of the following will happen in the next 30 years?  
[RANDOMIZE]

**[NO ITEMS a, b, d, g, h]**

- c. There will be a cure for Alzheimer's disease
- e. A woman will be elected U.S. president
- f. A Hispanic person will be elected U.S. president
- i. There will be another world war

**RESPONSE CATEGORIES:**

- 1 Will definitely happen
- 2 Will probably happen
- 3 Will probably not happen
- 4 Will definitely not happen

How likely do you think it is that each of the following will happen in the next 30 years?

A Hispanic person will be elected U.S. president

☐ Will definitely happen  
☐ Will probably happen  
☐ Will probably not happen  
☐ Will definitely not happen

A woman will be elected U.S. president

☐ Will definitely happen  
☐ Will probably happen  
☐ Will probably not happen  
☐ Will definitely not happen

There will be a cure for Alzheimer's disease

☐ Will definitely happen  
☐ Will probably happen  
☐ Will probably not happen  
☐ Will definitely not happen

There will be another world war

☐ Will definitely happen  
☐ Will probably happen  
☐ Will probably not happen  
☐ Will definitely not happen

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<sup>1</sup> Open-end responses are excluded from public datasets to protect the confidentiality of ATP panelists

**ASK ALL:**

HAPPEN3

How likely do you think it is that each of the following will happen in the next 30 years?  
**[RANDOMIZE]**

**[NO ITEMS b-g, i]**

- a. There will be a terrorist attack on the U.S. as bad as or worse than 9/11
- h. There will be increasing violence against Jews in the U.S.
- j. Jesus Christ will return to earth

**RESPONSE CATEGORIES:**

- 1 Will definitely happen
- 2 Will probably happen
- 3 Will probably not happen
- 4 Will definitely not happen

How likely do you think it is that each of the following will happen in the next 30 years?

**Jesus Christ will return to earth**

☐ Will definitely happen  
☐ Will probably happen  
☐ Will probably not happen  
☐ Will definitely not happen

**There will be increasing violence against Jews in the U.S.**

☐ Will definitely happen  
☐ Will probably happen  
☐ Will probably not happen  
☐ Will definitely not happen

**There will be a terrorist attack on the U.S. as bad as or worse than 9/11**

☐ Will definitely happen  
☐ Will probably happen  
☐ Will probably not happen  
☐ Will definitely not happen

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**ASK ALL:**

WINLOSE

Thinking about the way things have been going in politics over the last few years on the issues that matter to you, would you say your side has been... **[RANDOMIZE]**

- 1 Winning more often than losing
- 2 Losing more often than winning

Thinking about the way things have been going in politics over the last few years on the issues that matter to you, would you say your side has been...

- ☐ Losing more often than winning
- ☐ Winning more often than losing

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**ASK ALL:**

PRES1 In general, how important is it to you to have a president of the United States who...  
[RANDOMIZE]

- a. Shares your religious beliefs
- b. Has strong religious beliefs, even if they are different from your own
- c. Personally lives a moral and ethical life
- d. Stands up for people with your religious beliefs

**RESPONSE CATEGORIES:**

- 1 Very important
- 2 Somewhat important
- 3 Not too important
- 4 Not at all important

In general, how important is it to you to have a president of the United States who...

Has strong religious beliefs, even if they are different from your own

- ☐ Very important
- ☐ Somewhat important
- ☐ Not too important
- ☐ Not at all important

Personally lives a moral and ethical life

- ☐ Very important
- ☐ Somewhat important
- ☐ Not too important
- ☐ Not at all important

Shares your religious beliefs

- ☐ Very important
- ☐ Somewhat important
- ☐ Not too important
- ☐ Not at all important

## Stands up for people with your religious beliefs

- ☐ Very important
- ☐ Somewhat important
- ☐ Not too important
- ☐ Not at all important

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**ASK ALL:**

CAND Here is a list of some political figures. How religious do you think each person is?  
**[RANDOMIZE]**

- a. Bernie Sanders
- b. Donald Trump
- c. Elizabeth Warren
- d. Joe Biden
- e. Pete Buttigieg
- f. Mike Pence

**RESPONSE CATEGORIES:**

- 1 Very religious
- 2 Somewhat religious
- 3 Not too religious
- 4 Not at all religious

**[space]**

- 8 Never heard of this person

Here is a list of some political figures. How religious do you think each person is?

**Joe Biden**

- ☐ Very religious
- ☐ Somewhat religious
- ☐ Not too religious
- ☐ Not at all religious
- ☐ Never heard of this person

**Bernie Sanders**

- ☐ Very religious
- ☐ Somewhat religious
- ☐ Not too religious
- ☐ Not at all religious
- ☐ Never heard of this person

**Elizabeth Warren**

- ☐ Very religious  
☐ Somewhat religious  
☐ Not too religious  
☐ Not at all religious  
  
☐ Never heard of this person

**Donald Trump**

- ☐ Very religious  
☐ Somewhat religious  
☐ Not too religious  
☐ Not at all religious  
  
☐ Never heard of this person

**Mike Pence**

- ☐ Very religious  
☐ Somewhat religious  
☐ Not too religious  
☐ Not at all religious  
  
☐ Never heard of this person

**Pete Buttigieg**

- ☐ Very religious  
☐ Somewhat religious  
☐ Not too religious  
☐ Not at all religious  
  
☐ Never heard of this person

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CENTER**ASK ALL:**

TRUMPRELIG As far as you know, what is Donald Trump's religion?

- 1 Protestant
- 2 Catholic
- 3 Jewish
- 4 Muslim
- 5 Buddhist
- 6 Atheist
- 7 Something else **[text box]**
- 8 Nothing in particular
- [space]**
- 9 Not sure

As far as you know, what is Donald Trump's religion?

☐ Protestant

☐ Catholic

☐ Jewish

☐ Muslim

☐ Buddhist

☐ Atheist

☐ Something else

☐ Nothing in particular

☐ Not sure

**ASK ALL:**

INC2 Please indicate whether you have had difficulty paying for any of the following things in the past year...

**[RANDOMIZE a, b, c; d ALWAYS LAST]**

- a. Medical care for yourself or your family
- b. Rent or mortgage
- c. Food
- d. Other bills or debts

**RESPONSE CATEGORIES**

- 1 Yes, had difficulty paying for this
- 2 No, did not have difficulty paying for this

Please indicate whether you have had difficulty paying for any of the following things in the past year...

**Medical care for yourself or your family**

☐ Yes, had difficulty paying for this

☐ No, did not have difficulty paying for this

**Rent or mortgage**

☐ Yes, had difficulty paying for this

☐ No, did not have difficulty paying for this

**Food**

☐ Yes, had difficulty paying for this

☐ No, did not have difficulty paying for this

**Other bills or debts**

☐ Yes, had difficulty paying for this

☐ No, did not have difficulty paying for this

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**ASK ALL:**

TRUMPISSUE1 Thinking about important issues facing the country today, overall, would you say you tend to agree with Donald Trump on... **[RANDOMIZE DISPLAY OF OPTIONS 1-4 AND 4-1]**

- 1 All or nearly all issues
- 2 Many, but not all issues
- 3 A few issues
- 4 No or almost no issues

Thinking about important issues facing the country today, overall, would you say you tend to agree with Donald Trump on...

☐ No or almost no issues

☐ A few issues

☐ Many, but not all issues

☐ All or nearly all issues

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**ASK ALL:**

TRUMPISSUE2 Now thinking NOT about issues, but just about the way Donald Trump conducts himself as president, would you say you... **[RANDOMIZE DISPLAY OF OPTIONS 1-3 AND 3-1]**

- 1 Like the way he conducts himself
- 2 Have mixed feelings about the way he conducts himself
- 3 Don't like the way he conducts himself

Now thinking NOT about issues, but just about the way Donald Trump conducts himself as president, would you say you...

☐ Don't like the way he conducts himself

☐ Have mixed feelings about the way he conducts himself

☐ Like the way he conducts himself

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**ASK ALL:**

TRUMPDESC How well does each of the following describe Donald Trump? **[RANDOMIZE]**

- a. Fights for what I believe in
- b. Morally upstanding
- c. Even-tempered
- d. Honest
- e. Self-centered
- f. Prejudiced
- g. Intelligent

**RESPONSE CATEGORIES:**

- 1 Very well
- 2 Fairly well
- 3 Not too well
- 4 Not at all well



How well does each of the following describe Donald Trump?

**Fights for what I believe in**

- ☐ Very well
- ☐ Fairly well
- ☐ Not too well
- ☐ Not at all well

**Morally upstanding**

- ☐ Very well
- ☐ Fairly well
- ☐ Not too well
- ☐ Not at all well

**Self-centered**

- ☐ Very well
- ☐ Fairly well
- ☐ Not too well
- ☐ Not at all well

**Prejudiced**

- ☐ Very well
- ☐ Fairly well
- ☐ Not too well
- ☐ Not at all well

**Honest**

- ☐ Very well
- ☐ Fairly well
- ☐ Not too well
- ☐ Not at all well

**Intelligent**

- ☐ Very well
- ☐ Fairly well
- ☐ Not too well
- ☐ Not at all well

**Even-tempered**

- ☐ Very well
- ☐ Fairly well
- ☐ Not too well
- ☐ Not at all well

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**ASK ALL:**

**TRUMPHELP** Do you think the Trump administration has helped or hurt the interests of each of the following groups, or hasn't it made much of a difference? **[RANDOMIZE]**

- a. Evangelical Christians
- b. Muslims
- c. Jews
- d. Catholics
- e. People who are not religious

**RESPONSE CATEGORIES:**

- 1 Trump administration has HELPED this group
- 2 Trump administration has HURT this group
- 3 Has not made much difference

Do you think the Trump administration has helped or hurt the interests of each of the following groups, or hasn't it made much of a difference?

**People who are not religious**

- ☐ Trump administration has HELPED this group
- ☐ Trump administration has HURT this group
- ☐ Has not made much difference

**Catholics**

- ☐ Trump administration has HELPED this group
- ☐ Trump administration has HURT this group
- ☐ Has not made much difference

**Muslims**

- ☐ Trump administration has HELPED this group
- ☐ Trump administration has HURT this group
- ☐ Has not made much difference

**Jews**

- ☐ Trump administration has HELPED this group
- ☐ Trump administration has HURT this group
- ☐ Has not made much difference

**Evangelical Christians**

- ☐ Trump administration has HELPED this group
- ☐ Trump administration has HURT this group
- ☐ Has not made much difference

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**ASK ALL:**

ISUPP Which of the following statements come closest to your overall view of U.S. support for Israel?

**[RANDOMIZE 1 & 2, 3 ALWAYS LAST]**

- 1 The U.S. is too supportive of Israel
- 2 The U.S. is not supportive enough of Israel
- 3 The level of U.S. support for Israel is about right **[anchor]**

Which of the following statements come closest to your overall view of U.S. support for Israel?

☐ The U.S. is not supportive enough of Israel

☐ The U.S. is too supportive of Israel

☐ The level of U.S. support for Israel is about right

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**ASK ALL:**

COEX Do you think a way can be found for Israel and an independent Palestinian state to coexist peacefully with each other?

- 1 Yes, can coexist peacefully
- 2 No, cannot coexist peacefully

Do you think a way can be found for Israel and an independent Palestinian state to coexist peacefully with each other?

☐ Yes, can coexist peacefully

☐ No, cannot coexist peacefully

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**ASK ALL:**

RELIGMINORITY

Do you think of yourself as part of a minority group because of your religious beliefs?

- 1 Yes, consider myself part of a minority group because of my religious beliefs
- 2 No, do not consider myself part of a minority group because of my religious beliefs

Do you think of yourself as part of a minority group because of your religious beliefs?

☐ Yes, consider myself part of a minority group because of my religious beliefs

☐ No, do not consider myself part of a minority group because of my religious beliefs

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**ASK ALL:**

RELIGCONFLICT

How much conflict, if any, is there between your own religious beliefs and mainstream American culture?

- 1 A great deal of conflict
- 2 Some conflict
- 3 Not much conflict
- 4 No conflict at all

How much conflict, if any, is there between your own religious beliefs and mainstream American culture?

☐ A great deal of conflict

☐ Some conflict

☐ Not much conflict

☐ No conflict at all

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**ASK ALL:**

PPLFAV Is your overall opinion of... **[RANDOMIZE]**

- a. Pope Francis
- b. Vladimir Putin
- c. Benjamin Netanyahu

**RESPONSE OPTIONS**

- 1 Very favorable
- 2 Mostly favorable
- 3 Mostly unfavorable
- 4 Very unfavorable

**[space]**

- 8 Never heard of this person

Is your overall opinion of...

**Pope Francis**

☐ Very favorable  
☐ Mostly favorable  
☐ Mostly unfavorable  
☐ Very unfavorable  
☐ Never heard of this person

**Vladimir Putin**

☐ Very favorable  
☐ Mostly favorable  
☐ Mostly unfavorable  
☐ Very unfavorable  
☐ Never heard of this person

**Benjamin Netanyahu**

☐ Very favorable  
☐ Mostly favorable  
☐ Mostly unfavorable  
☐ Very unfavorable  
☐ Never heard of this person

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**ASK ALL:**

CHR\_INFL1 Do you think Christianity's influence on American life is...

**[RANDOMIZE RESPONSE OPTIONS 1 & 2 WITH 3 ALWAYS LAST]**

- 1 Increasing
- 2 Decreasing
- 3 Not changing very much **[anchor]**

Do you think Christianity's influence on American life is...

☐ Increasing  
☐ Decreasing  
☐ Not changing very much

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**ASK IF CHRISTIANITY'S INFLUENCE IS DECLINING (CHR\_INFL1=2):**CHR\_INFL2 All in all, do you think Christianity's declining influence is... **[RANDOMIZE]**

- 1 A permanent change
- 2 A temporary change that may reverse itself in the future

All in all, do you think Christianity's declining influence is...

☐ A temporary change that may reverse itself in the future

☐ A permanent change

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**ASK IF CHRISTIANITY'S INFLUENCE IS DECREASING (CHR\_INFL1=2):**CHR\_INFL3 How important has each of the following been in causing the decline of Christianity's influence in American life? **[RANDOMIZE]**

- a. Negative portrayals of Christianity in popular culture
- b. Government policies have limited religion's role in public life
- c. Misconduct by ministers, priests or other Christian leaders
- d. More permissive attitudes about sexual behavior and sexuality in popular culture
- e. Christianity is too closely associated with conservative politics

**RESPONSE CATEGORIES:**

- 1 Major cause of Christianity's declining influence
- 2 Minor cause of Christianity's declining influence
- 3 Not a cause of Christianity's declining influence

How important has each of the following been in causing the decline of Christianity's influence in American life?

Christianity is too closely associated with conservative politics

- ☐ Major cause of Christianity's declining influence
- ☐ Minor cause of Christianity's declining influence
- ☐ Not a cause of Christianity's declining influence

Government policies have limited religion's role in public life

- ☐ Major cause of Christianity's declining influence
- ☐ Minor cause of Christianity's declining influence
- ☐ Not a cause of Christianity's declining influence

Misconduct by ministers, priests or other Christian leaders

- ☐ Major cause of Christianity's declining influence
- ☐ Minor cause of Christianity's declining influence
- ☐ Not a cause of Christianity's declining influence

More permissive attitudes about sexual behavior and sexuality in popular culture

- ☐ Major cause of Christianity's declining influence
- ☐ Minor cause of Christianity's declining influence
- ☐ Not a cause of Christianity's declining influence

Negative portrayals of Christianity in popular culture

- ☐ Major cause of Christianity's declining influence
- ☐ Minor cause of Christianity's declining influence
- ☐ Not a cause of Christianity's declining influence

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**ASK IF CHRISTIANITY'S INFLUENCE IS DECREASING (CHR\_INFL1=2):**

CHR\_INFL4 How important has each of the following been in causing the decline of Christianity's influence in American life? **[SHOW IN ORDER]**

- a. Growth in the number of people in the U.S. who are not religious
- b. Growth in the number of people in the U.S. who identify with non-Christian religions (such as Islam, Buddhism or Hinduism)

**RESPONSE CATEGORIES:**

- 1 Major cause of Christianity's declining influence
- 2 Minor cause of Christianity's declining influence
- 3 Not a cause of Christianity's declining influence

How important has each of the following been in causing the decline of Christianity's influence in American life?

Growth in the number of people in the U.S. who are not religious

☐ Major cause of Christianity's declining influence

☐ Minor cause of Christianity's declining influence

☐ Not a cause of Christianity's declining influence

Growth in the number of people in the U.S. who identify with non-Christian religions (such as Islam, Buddhism or Hinduism)

☐ Major cause of Christianity's declining influence

☐ Minor cause of Christianity's declining influence

☐ Not a cause of Christianity's declining influence

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**ASK IF CHRISTIANITY'S INFLUENCE IS DECREASING (CHR\_INFL1=2):**

CHR\_DECOE In your view, are there any other causes of Christianity's declining influence in American life?

- 1 Yes [text box]  
2 No

In your view, are there any other causes of Christianity's declining influence in American life?

☐ Yes

☐ No

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**ASK IF CHRISTIANITY'S INFLUENCE IS INCREASING (CHR\_INFL1=1):**

CHR\_INFL5 How important has each of the following been in causing the growth of Christianity's influence in American life? [RANDOMIZE]

- Christians are building strong communities that watch out for people
- Church leaders are doing a better job responding to scandals and misconduct
- Christianity's influence had declined so much that it was bound to increase eventually
- Christians pushing back against secular trends in society
- God intervening to ensure that Christianity prospers
- The Trump administration giving Christians more influence
- Positive portrayals of Christianity in popular culture

**RESPONSE CATEGORIES:**

- Major cause of Christianity's growing influence
- Minor cause of Christianity's growing influence
- Not a cause of Christianity's growing influence



How important has each of the following been in causing the growth of Christianity's influence in American life?

**Positive portrayals of Christianity in popular culture**

- ☐ Major cause of Christianity's growing influence
- ☐ Minor cause of Christianity's growing influence
- ☐ Not a cause of Christianity's growing influence

**God intervening to ensure that Christianity prospers**

- ☐ Major cause of Christianity's growing influence
- ☐ Minor cause of Christianity's growing influence
- ☐ Not a cause of Christianity's growing influence

**The Trump administration giving Christians more influence**

- ☐ Major cause of Christianity's growing influence
- ☐ Minor cause of Christianity's growing influence
- ☐ Not a cause of Christianity's growing influence

**Church leaders are doing a better job responding to scandals and misconduct**

- ☐ Major cause of Christianity's growing influence
- ☐ Minor cause of Christianity's growing influence
- ☐ Not a cause of Christianity's growing influence

**Christianity's influence had declined so much that it was bound to increase eventually**

- ☐ Major cause of Christianity's growing influence
- ☐ Minor cause of Christianity's growing influence
- ☐ Not a cause of Christianity's growing influence

**Christians pushing back against secular trends in society**

- ☐ Major cause of Christianity's growing influence
- ☐ Minor cause of Christianity's growing influence
- ☐ Not a cause of Christianity's growing influence

**Christians are building strong communities that watch out for people**

- ☐ Major cause of Christianity's growing influence
- ☐ Minor cause of Christianity's growing influence
- ☐ Not a cause of Christianity's growing influence

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**ASK IF CHRISTIANITY'S INFLUENCE IS INCREASING (CHR\_INFL1=1):**

CHR\_INCROE In your view, are there any other causes of Christianity's growing influence in American life?

- 1 Yes [text box]
- 2 No

In your view, are there any other causes of Christianity's growing influence in American life?

☐ Yes

☐ No

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**ASK ALL:**

BIBLE\_INFL1 How much influence should the Bible have on the laws of the United States?

- 1 A great deal
- 2 Some
- 3 Not much
- 4 None at all

How much influence should the Bible have on the laws of the United States?

☐ A great deal

☐ Some

☐ Not much

☐ None at all

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**ASK IF BIBLE SHOULD HAVE AT LEAST SOME INFLUENCE (BIBLE\_INFL1=1,2):**

BIBLE\_INFL2 When the Bible and the will of the people conflict with each other, which should have more influence on the laws of the United States?

- 1 The Bible
- 2 The will of the people

When the Bible and the will of the people conflict with each other, which should have more influence on the laws of the United States?

☐ The Bible

☐ The will of the people

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**RANDOMIZE ORDER OF ELECT\_TRUMP AND ELECT\_OBAMA****ASK ALL:**

ELECT\_TRUMP

Which comes closest to your own views about God's role in the 2016 election, even if none are exactly right?

- 1 God chose Trump to become president because God approves of Trump's policies
- 2 Trump's election must be part of God's overall plan, but doesn't necessarily mean God approves of Trump's policies
- 3 God does not get involved in U.S. presidential elections
- 4 I do not believe in God

**ASK ALL:**

ELECT\_OBAMA

Which comes closest to your own views about God's role in the 2008 and 2012 elections, even if none are exactly right?

- 1 God chose Obama to become president because God approved of Obama's policies
- 2 Obama's election must have been part of God's overall plan, but doesn't necessarily mean God approved of Obama's policies
- 3 God does not get involved in U.S. presidential elections
- 4 I do not believe in God

Which comes closest to your own views about God's role in the 2008 and 2012 elections, even if none are exactly right?

- ☐ God chose Obama to become president because God approved of Obama's policies
- ☐ Obama's election must have been part of God's overall plan, but doesn't necessarily mean God approved of Obama's policies
- ☐ God does not get involved in U.S. presidential elections
- ☐ I do not believe in God

Which comes closest to your own views about God's role in the 2016 election, even if none are exactly right?

- ☐ God chose Trump to become president because God approves of Trump's policies
- ☐ Trump's election must be part of God's overall plan, but doesn't necessarily mean God approves of Trump's policies
- ☐ God does not get involved in U.S. presidential elections
- ☐ I do not believe in God



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