

Pastor views on the return of Jesus Christ

Survey of 1,000 Pastors from Evangelical
and Historically Black Denominations

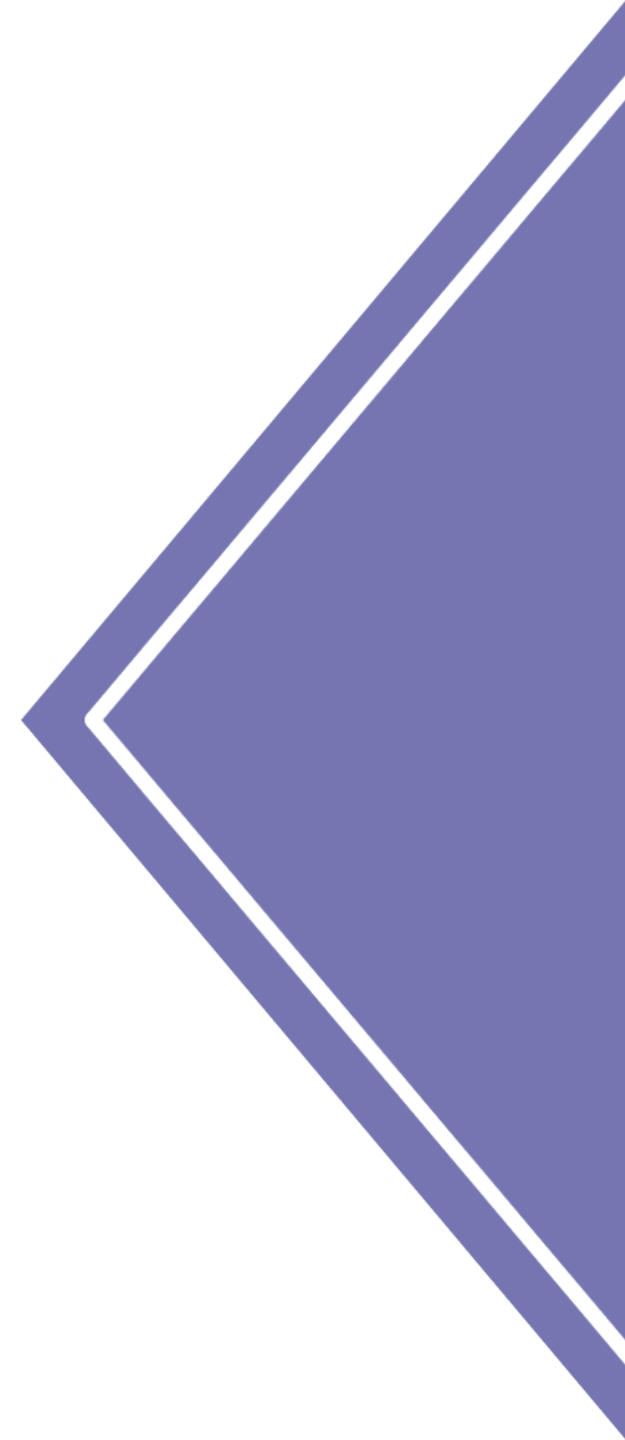


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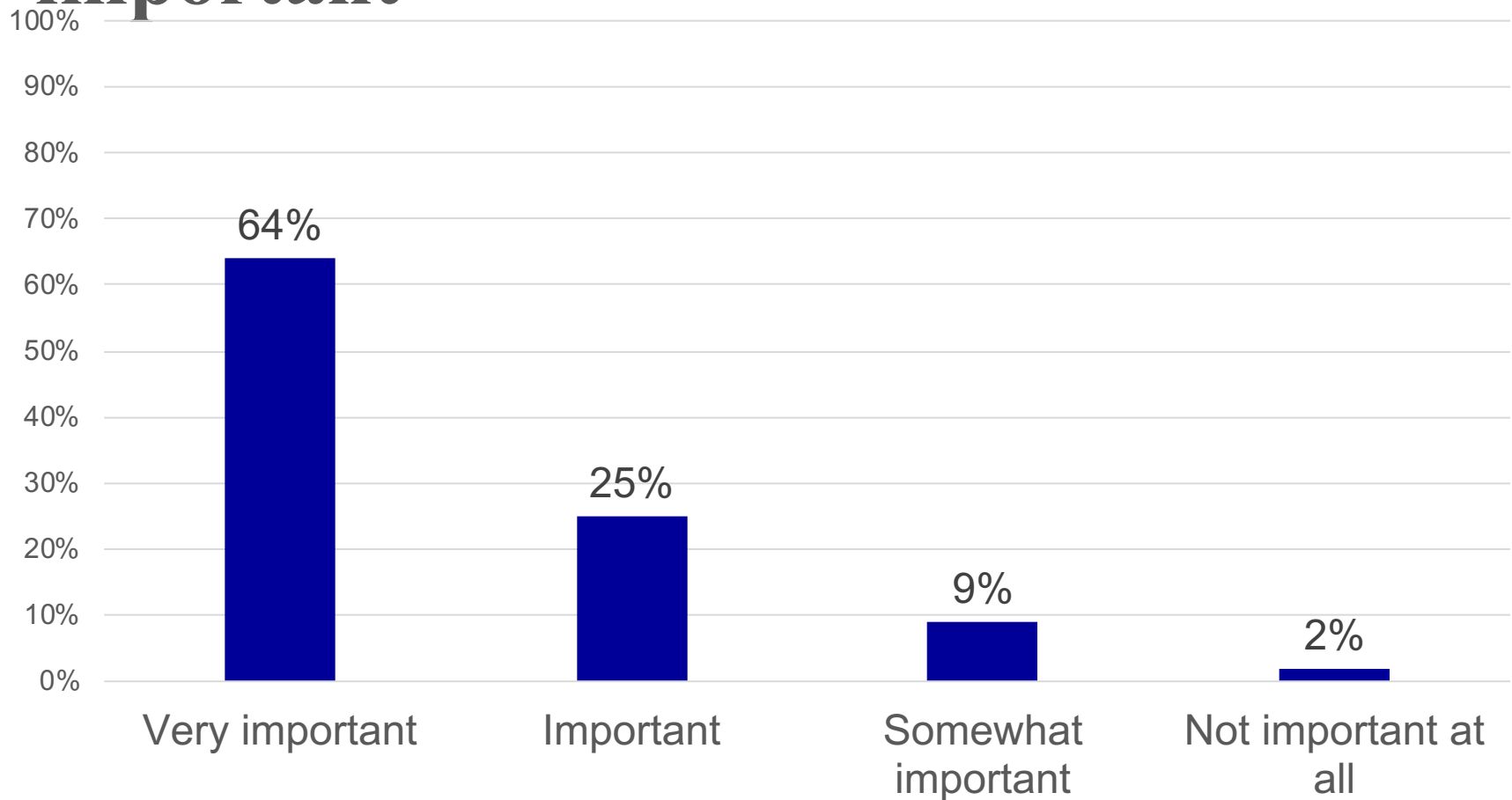
Methodology

- The phone survey of 1,000 pastors from Evangelical and Historically Black denominations was conducted January 24 – February 11, 2020
- The calling list was a stratified random sample, drawn from a list of all Evangelical and Historically Black churches. Quotas were used for church size
- Each interview was conducted with the senior pastor, minister or priest of the church called
- Responses were weighted by region to more accurately reflect the population
- The completed sample is 1,000 surveys
- The sample provides 95% confidence that the sampling error does not exceed $\pm 3.2\%$
- Margins of error are higher in sub-groups

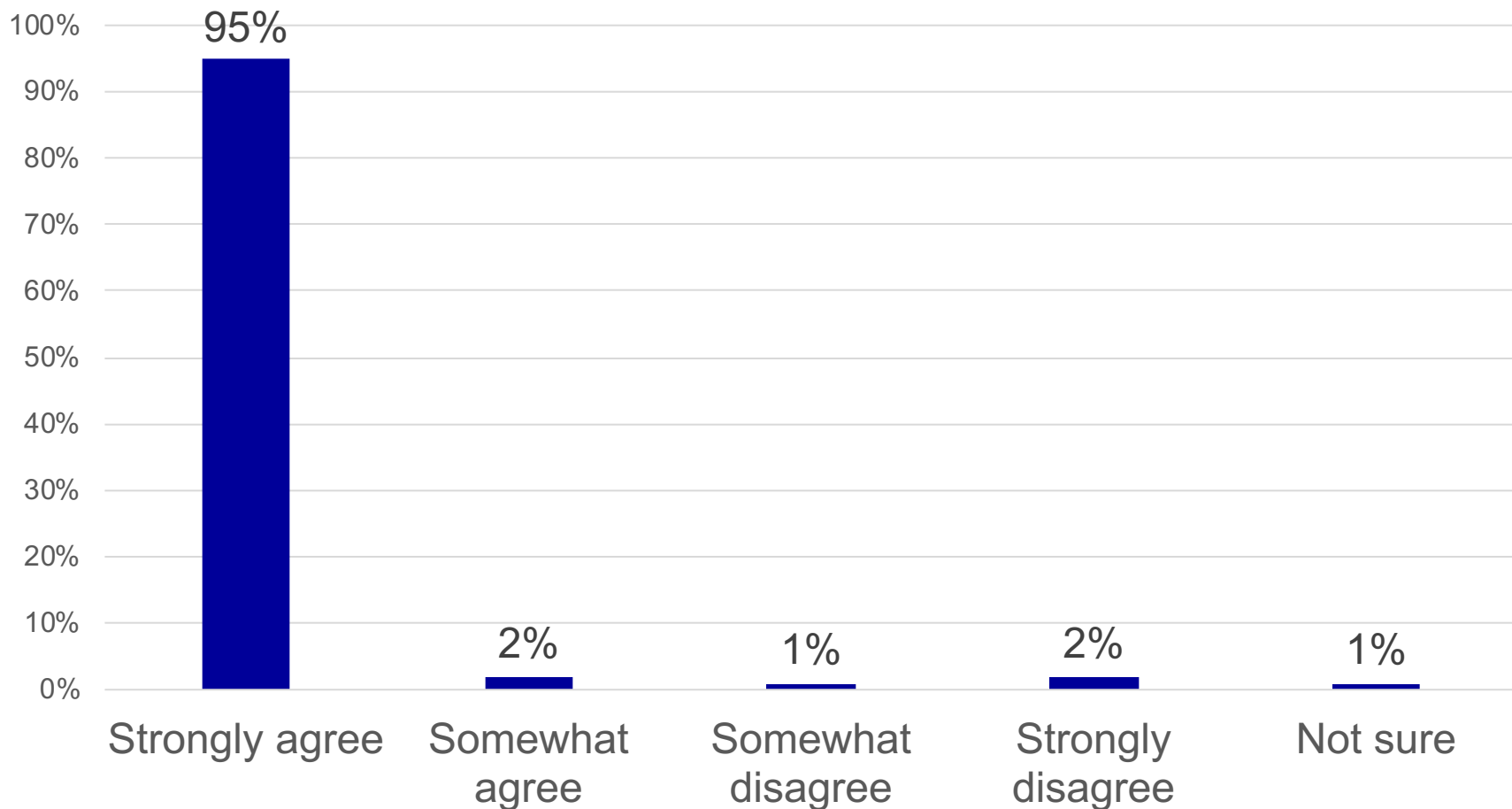
Survey Responses



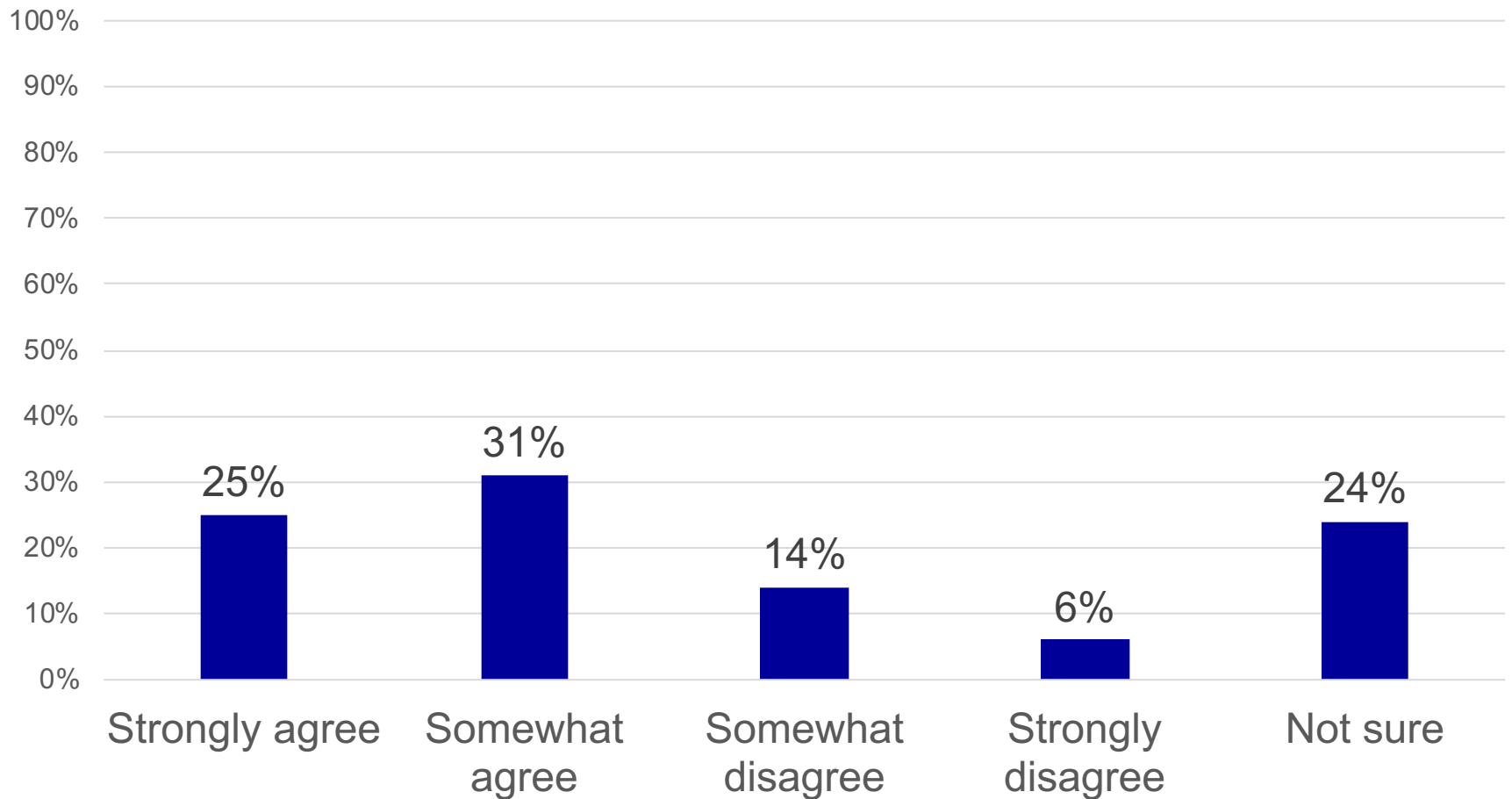
89% say that communicating the urgency of Christ's return is important



97% agree that Christ will literally and personally return to earth again



56% expect Jesus to return in their lifetime

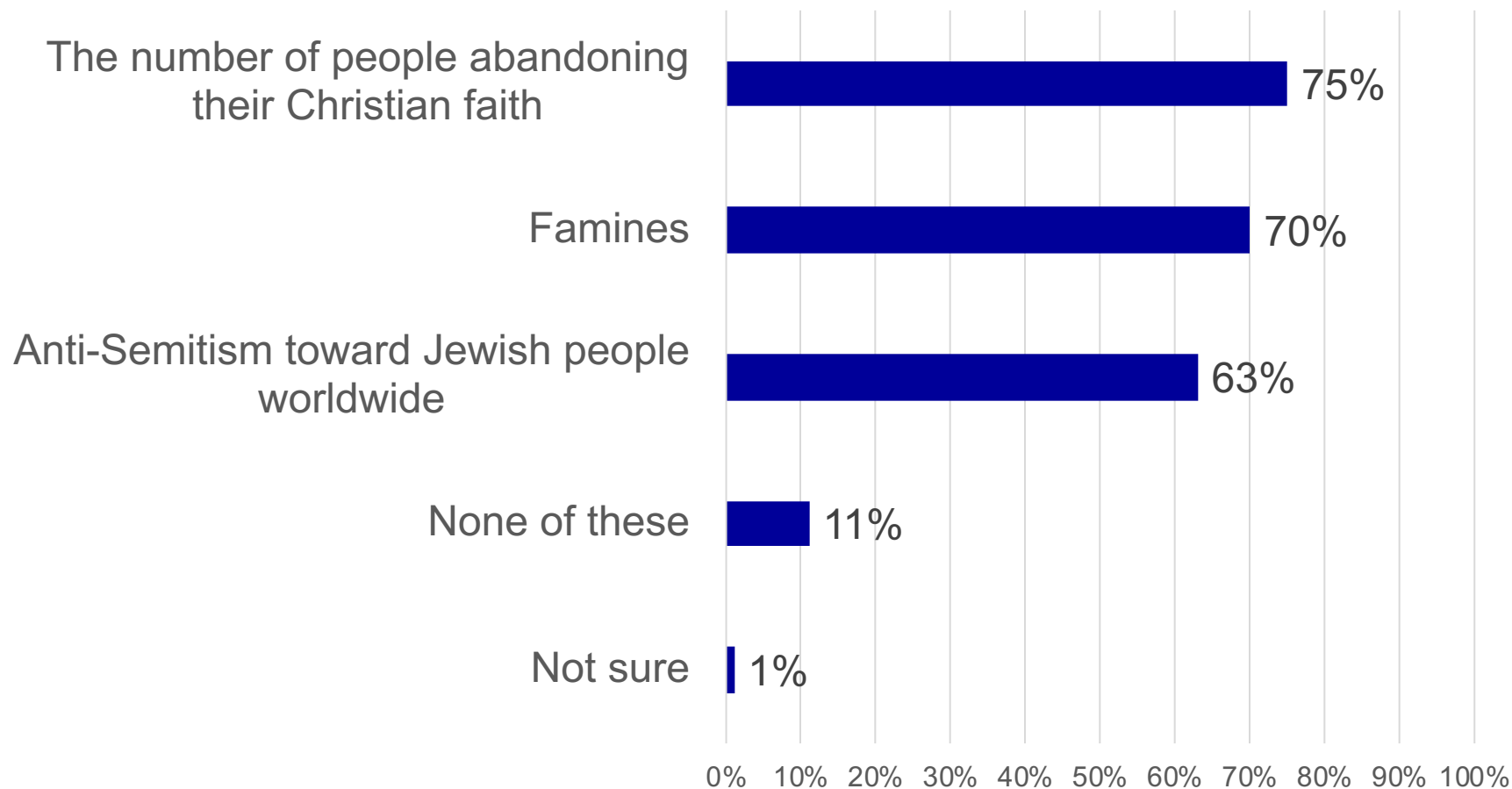


“Do you consider any of the following types of current events to be the “birth pains” that Jesus was referring to when he was asked by his disciples when he would return?”



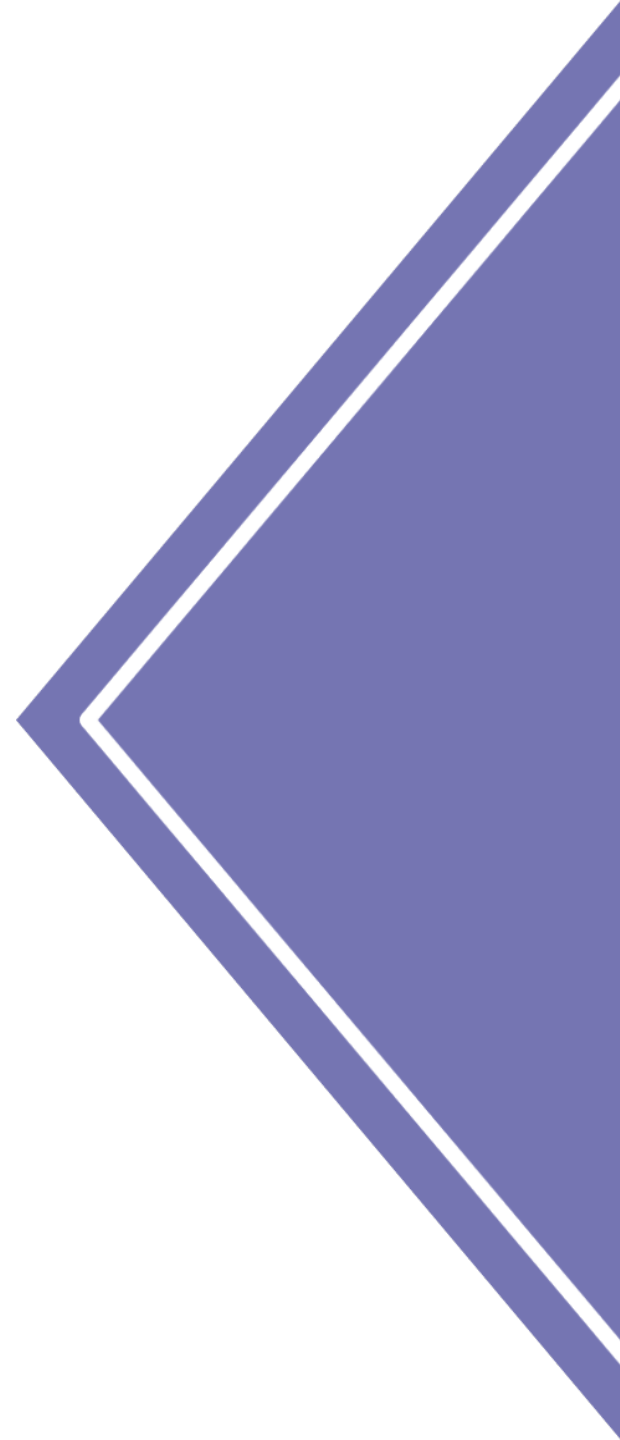
Q32: “Do you consider any of the following types of **current events** to be the “birth pains” that Jesus was referring to when he was asked by his disciples when he would return? (Select all that apply)” n=1,000

“Do you consider any of the following types of current events to be the “birth pains” that Jesus was referring to when he was asked by his disciples when he would return?” (continued)

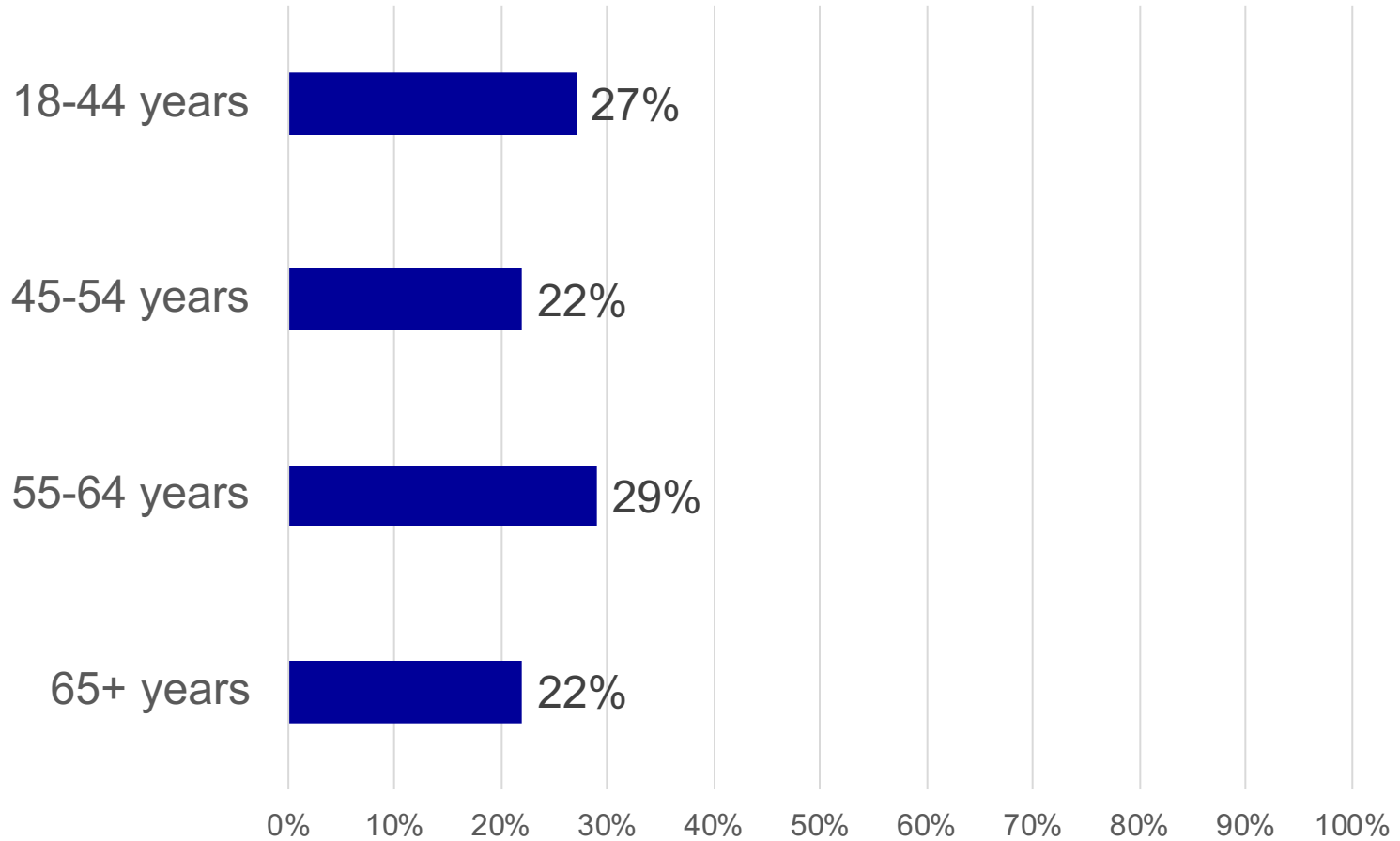


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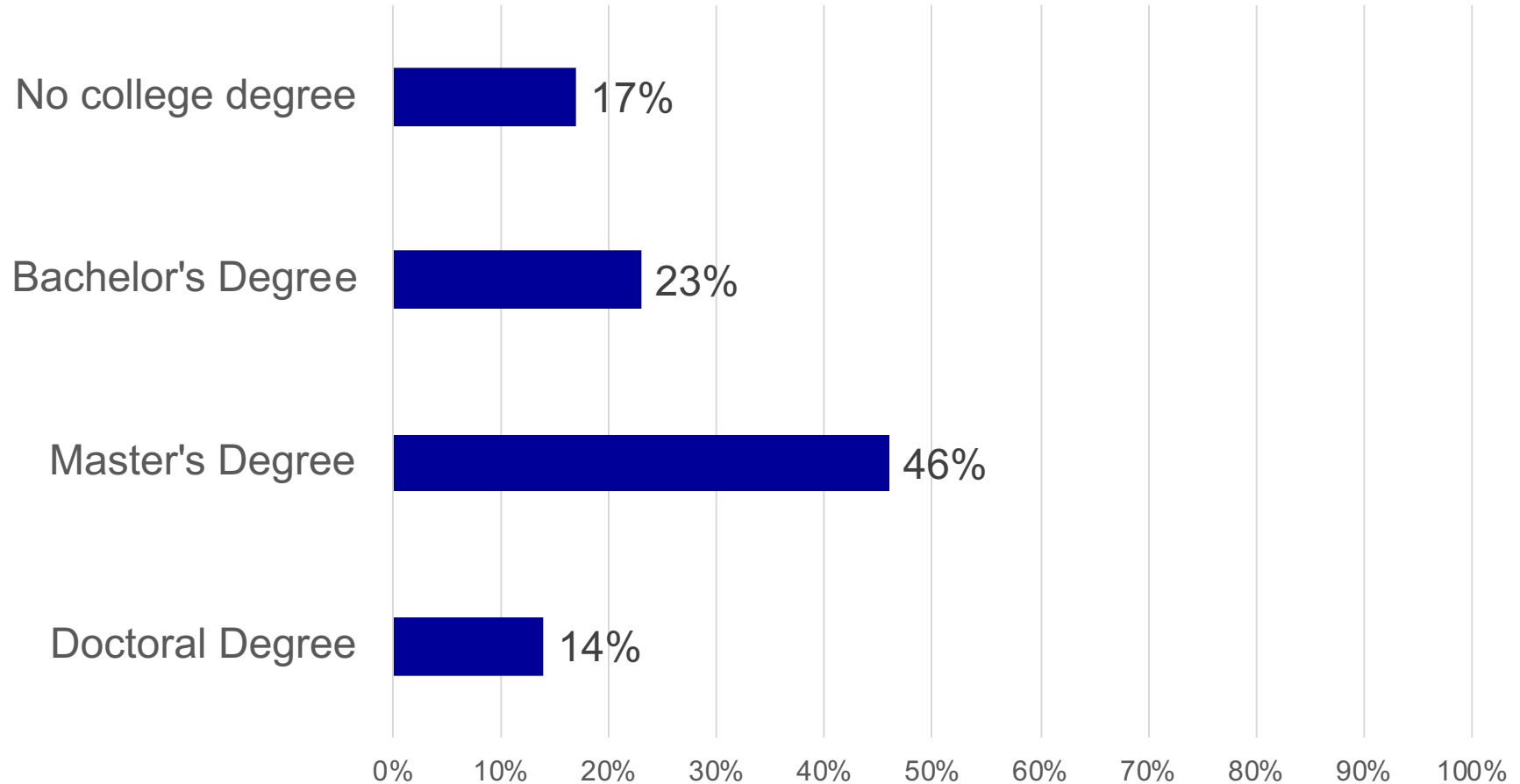
Demographics



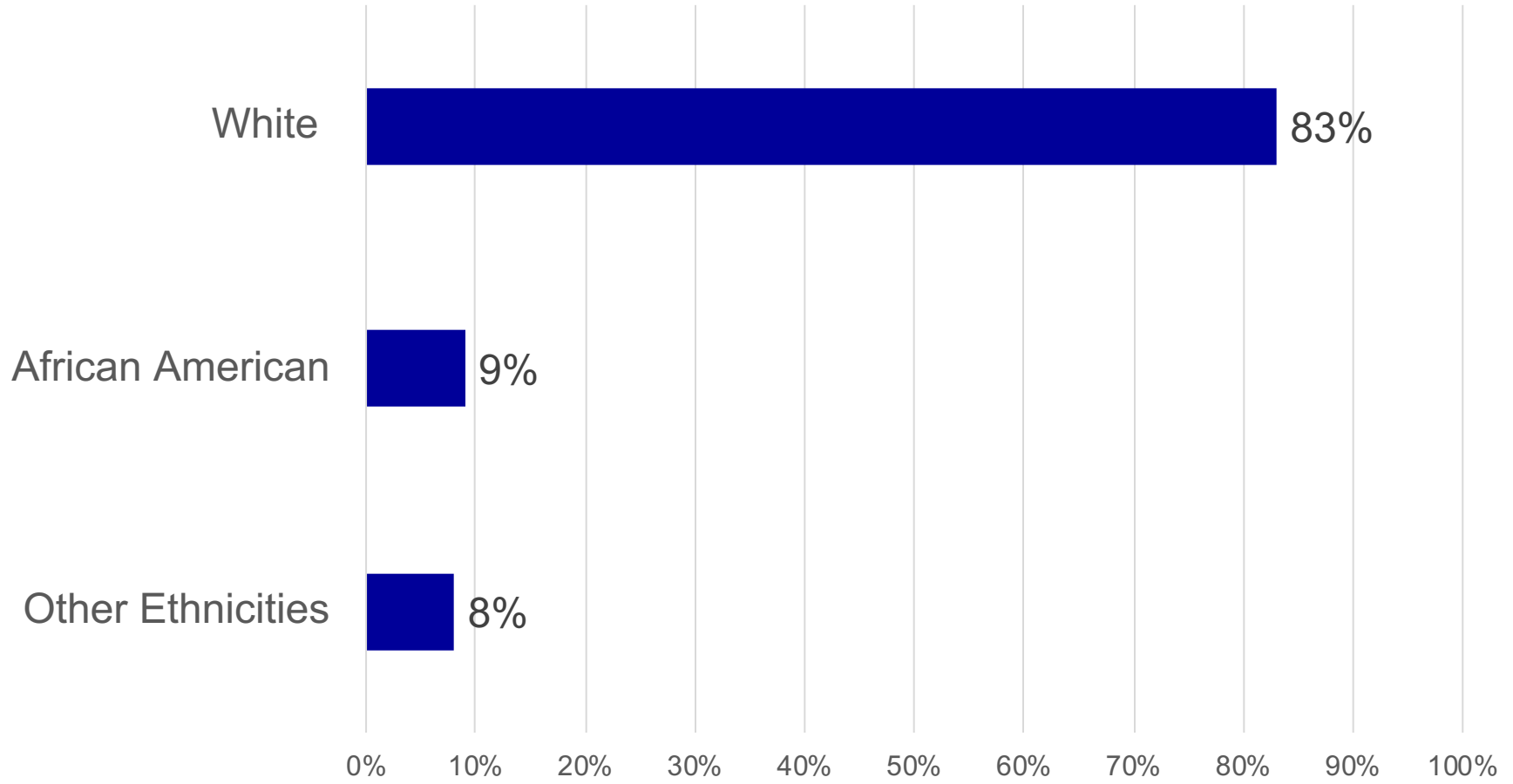
Age of participants



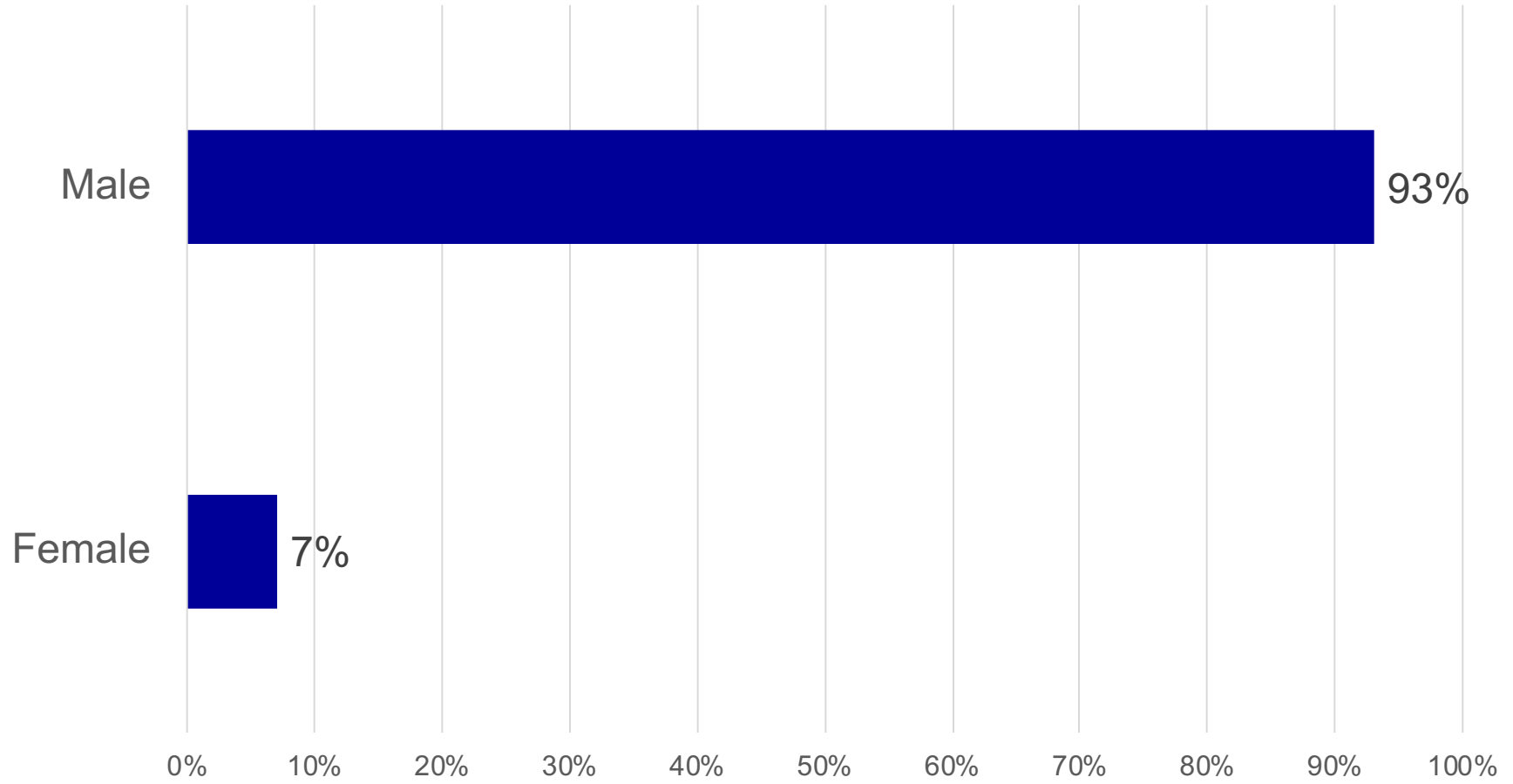
Education level of participants



Ethnicity of participants



Gender of participants



Significant Differences

Pastor

Ethnicity

Age

Education Level

Self-identified Eschatological Stance

Church

Region

Denomination

Average Attendance

Significant Statistical Differences

Comparisons were made to determine if there are any significant statistical differences among the pastor's ethnicity, age, education, and self-identified eschatological stance.

Ethnicity	Age	Education	Self-Identified
White	18-44	No College Degree	Amillennial
African-American	45-54	Bachelor's Degree	Postmillennial
Other Ethnicity	55-64	Master's Degree	Premillennial
	65+	Doctoral Degree	

Significant Statistical Differences

Comparisons were made to determine if there are any significant statistical differences among the church's region, denomination, and attendance.

Region	Denomination	Attendance
Northeast	Baptist	0-49
South	Lutheran	50-99
Midwest	Pentecostal	100-249
West	Christian/ Church of Christ	250+

“Communicating urgency to my congregation about Christ’s return”

Percent selecting “Very Important/Important”:

- Pastors age 55-64 (92%) are more likely to select than those age 18-44 (86%)
- Male pastors (90%) are more likely to select than female pastors (78%)
- Premillennial pastors (93%) are more likely to select than Amillennial (86%) and Postmillennial pastors (82%)

“Jesus Christ will literally and personally return to earth again”

- Baptists (99%) and Pentecostals (99%) are more likely to Strongly Agree than Lutherans (94%) and Christian/Church of Christ (76%)
- Male pastors (96%) are more likely to Strongly Agree than female pastors (90%)
- Premillennial pastors (99%) are more likely to Strongly Agree than Amillennial (91%) and Postmillennial pastors (84%)

“I expect Jesus to return in my lifetime”

- White pastors (59%) are more likely to Agree than African American pastors (42%) and pastors of Other Ethnicities (46%)
- Pastors age 18-44 are most likely to Disagree (27%)
- Pastors with no college degree (64%) or a Bachelor's (64%) are more likely to Agree than those with a Master's degree (49%)
- Pastors in the Midwest (25%) are more likely to Disagree than those in the South (18%)
- Baptists (66%) and Pentecostals (75%) are more likely to Agree than Lutherans (26%) and Christian/Church of Christ (34%)
- Pastors of churches with attendance of 250+ are most likely to Disagree (28%)
- Male pastors (57%) are more likely to Agree than female pastors (39%)
- Premillennial pastors (70%) are more likely to Agree than Amillennial (36%) and Postmillennial pastors (34%)

“Do you consider any of the following types of current events to be the ‘birth pains’ that Jesus was referring to when he was asked by his disciples when he would return?”

Wars and national conflicts

- Pastors age 18-44 are least likely to select (69%)
- Christian/Church of Christ pastors are least likely to select (47%)
- Male pastors (79%) are more likely to select than female pastors (68%)
- Premillennial pastors (85%) are more likely to select than Amillennial (69%) and Postmillennial pastors (67%)

Famines

- Pastors age 45-54 (75%) and 55-64 (72%) are more likely to select than those age 18-44 (63%)
- Christian/Church of Christ pastors are least likely to select (44%)
- Male pastors (71%) are more likely to select than female pastors (56%)
- Premillennial pastors (76%) are more likely to select than Amillennial (65%) and Postmillennial pastors (60%)

“Do you consider any of the following types of current events to be the ‘birth pains’ that Jesus was referring to when he was asked by his disciples when he would return?” (continued)

Earthquakes and other natural disasters

- Pastors age 18-44 are least likely to select (67%)
- Pastors with no college degree (84%) are more likely to select than those with a Master’s degree (74%)
- Christian/Church of Christ pastors are least likely to select (45%)
- Male pastors (77%) are more likely to select than female pastors (65%)
- Premillennial pastors (85%) are more likely to select than Amillennial (67%) and Postmillennial pastors (61%)

“Do you consider any of the following types of current events to be the ‘birth pains’ that Jesus was referring to when he was asked by his disciples when he would return?” (continued)

The rise of false prophets and false teachings

- Pastors 18-44 are least likely to select (75%)
- Pastors with no college degree (87%) or a Bachelor’s (87%) are more likely to select than those with a Master’s degree (80%)
- Christian/Church of Christ pastors are least likely to select (61%)
- Pastors of churches with attendance of 50-99 (87%) are more likely to select than those with attendance 100-249 (81%) or 250+ (79%)
- Male pastors (84%) are more likely to select than female pastors (71%)
- Premillennial pastors (90%) are more likely to select than Amillennial (78%) and Postmillennial pastors (68%)

“Do you consider any of the following types of current events to be the ‘birth pains’ that Jesus was referring to when he was asked by his disciples when he would return?” (continued)

The number of people abandoning their Christian faith

- Pastors age 18-44 are least likely to select (67%)
- Pastors with no college degree (83%) are more likely to select than those with a Master’s degree (71%)
- Pastors in the South (78%) are more likely to select than those in the Midwest (68%)
- Pentecostals are most likely to select (88%), while Christian/Church of Christ pastors are least likely (54%)
- Male pastors (76%) are more likely to select than female pastors (62%)
- Premillennial pastors (82%) are more likely to select than Amillennial (69%) and Postmillennial pastors (64%)

“Do you consider any of the following types of current events to be the ‘birth pains’ that Jesus was referring to when he was asked by his disciples when he would return?” (continued)

Traditional morals becoming less accepted

- Pastors age 18-44 are least likely to select (67%)
- Pastors with a Master’s degree are least likely to select (73%)
- Pastors in the South (82%) and West (83%) are more likely to select than those in the Northeast (71%) and Midwest (73%)
- Baptists (86%) and Pentecostals (91%) are more likely to select than Lutherans (77%) and Christian/Church of Christ (58%)
- Pastors of churches with attendance of 50-99 (82%) are more likely to select than those with attendance 100-249 (76%)
- Male pastors (80%) are more likely to select than female pastors (63%)
- Premillennial pastors (86%) are more likely to select than Amillennial (72%) and Postmillennial pastors (66%)

“Do you consider any of the following types of current events to be the ‘birth pains’ that Jesus was referring to when he was asked by his disciples when he would return?” (continued)

The love of many believers growing cold

- Pastors age 18-44 are least likely to select (70%)
- Pastors with no college degree (86%) are more likely to select than those with a Master’s degree (77%)
- Christian/Church of Christ pastors are least likely to select (57%)
- Pastors of churches with attendance of less than 50 (85%) are more likely to select than those with attendance 250+ (76%)
- Male pastors (82%) are more likely to select than female pastors (71%)
- Premillennial pastors (88%) are more likely to select than Amillennial (76%) and Postmillennial pastors (65%)

“Do you consider any of the following types of current events to be the ‘birth pains’ that Jesus was referring to when he was asked by his disciples when he would return?” (continued)

Anti-Semitism toward Jewish people worldwide

- Pastors age 55-64 (67%) are more likely to select than those age 18-44 (56%)
- Pastors with a Bachelor’s degree (71%) are more likely to select than those with a Master’s (58%) or Doctoral degree (59%)
- Pastors in the South (66%) are more likely to select than those in the Midwest (57%)
- Baptists (72%) and Pentecostals (84%) are more likely to select than Lutherans (46%) and Christian/Church of Christ (33%)
- Premillennial pastors (76%) are more likely to select than Amillennial (42%) and Postmillennial pastors (52%)

“Do you consider any of the following types of current events to be the ‘birth pains’ that Jesus was referring to when he was asked by his disciples when he would return?” (continued)

None of these

- Pastors age 18-44 are most likely to select (18%)
- Pastors with a Master’s degree (15%) are more likely to select than those with no college degree (7%) or a Bachelor’s degree (8%)
- Lutherans (14%) and Christian/Church of Christ (31%) are more likely to select than Baptists (7%) and Pentecostals (2%)
- Pastors of churches with attendance of 100-249 (15%) are more likely to select than those with attendance 50-99 (8%)
- Female pastors (19%) are more likely to select than male pastors (11%)
- Amillennial (16%) and Postmillennial pastors (24%) are more likely to select than Premillennial pastors (6%)

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