

Poll: 77% Celebrate Christmas as a Religious Holiday

Rasmussen Reports surveys conducted this season have found that between 87% and 90% of American adults will celebrate Christmas in some form or another.

The latest survey found that 77% of those who celebrate Christmas treat it as a religious holiday ([see crosstab](#)). Seventeen percent (17%) celebrate Christmas as a secular holiday while 6% are not sure. African-Americans are more likely to celebrate Christmas as a religious holiday while upper income Americans are least likely to do so.

Eighty-five percent (85%) of those who celebrate Christmas say they believe that Jesus Christ is the Son of God sent to earth to die for our sins. Seventy-nine percent (79%) believe he was born to a virgin. Ten percent (10%) do not believe in the virgin birth while 11% are not sure.

Among all Americans, including those who do not celebrate Christmas, 83% believe that the man known to history as Jesus Christ actually walked on the earth more than 2,000 years ago. Just 3% believe he did not exist while 13% are not sure.

Another [recent survey](#) found that 71% of Americans rate Christmas as one of our nation's most important holidays. That tops every other holiday, including the [Fourth of July](#)

Sixty-five percent (65%) of all Americans would like to see a greater emphasis on the [birth of Christ](#) on Christmas [attend during the holiday](#) season and 59% say they will [open their](#) [Eve or Christmas morning](#) [with family and friends](#). Sixty percent [will stay during the holiday season](#) and, by a 3-to-1 margin, most want to hear [?Merry Christmas?](#) instead of [?Happy Holidays?](#) while shopping.

Only 14% will go [Christmas caroling](#)

Forty percent (40%) of Americans started their holiday shopping before Thanksgiving while 28% had not begun to shop in mid-December

[Crosstabs](#) available only Premium Members