



# CARA Catholic Polls: A Profile of Latino/a Catholics in the United States

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## CARA Catholic Polls (CCP)

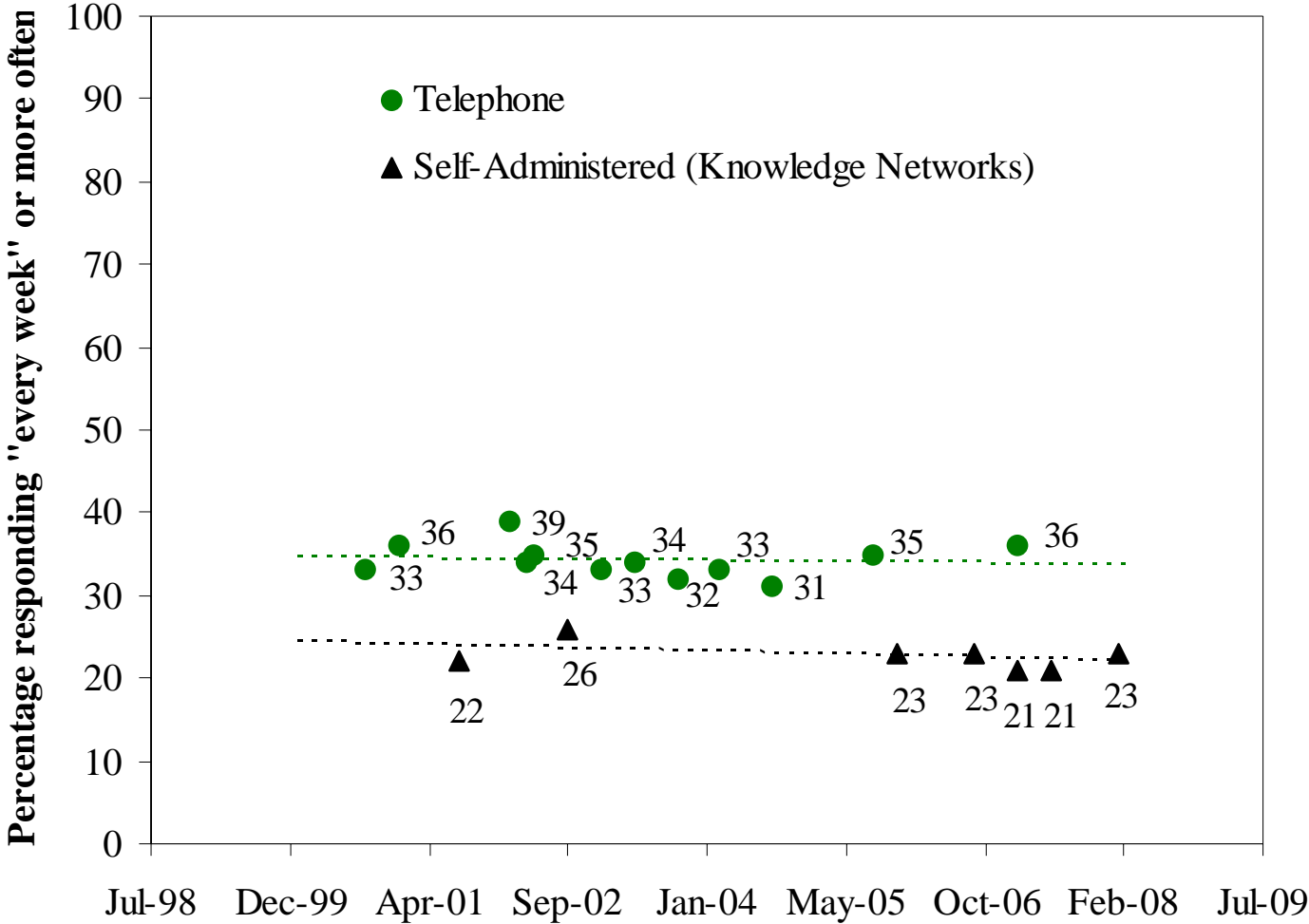
CARA Surveys commissioned by the USCCB and conducted with random samples of self-identified Catholic respondents from the Knowledge Networks' U.S. panel:

- Including 1,007 adult Catholics in February 2008. Margin of sampling error  $\pm 3.1$  percentage points.
- Including 1,008 adult Catholics in June 2007. Margin of sampling error  $\pm 3.1$  percentage points.

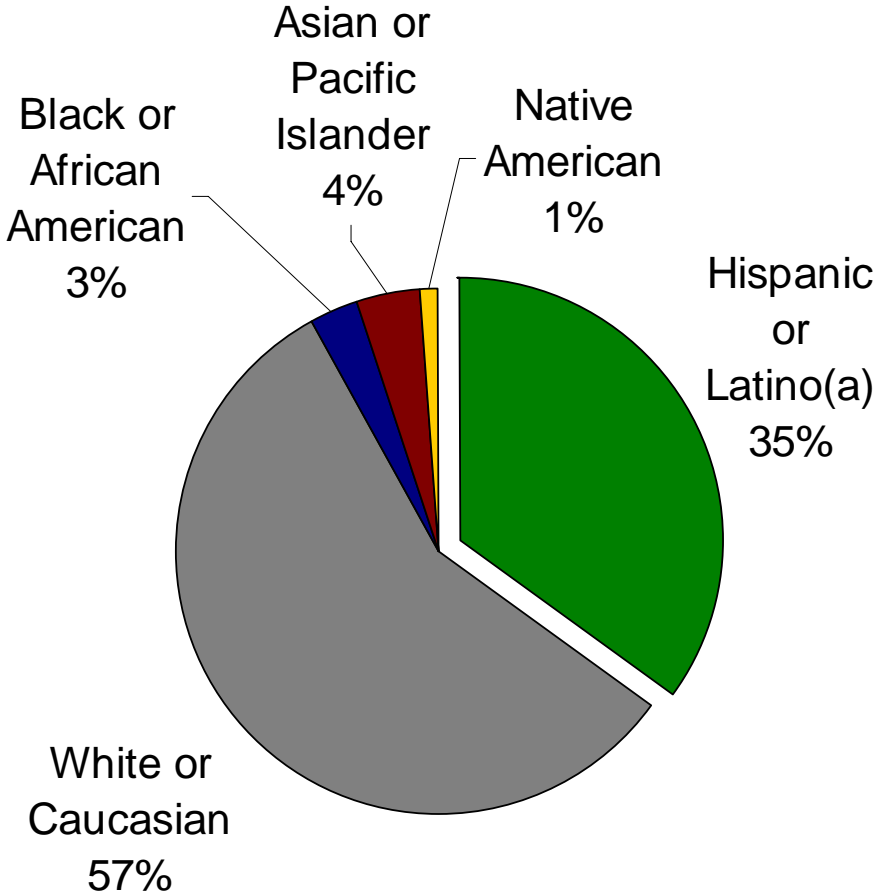


*Aside from weddings and funerals,  
about how often do you attend Mass?*

CARA Polls, 2000-2008



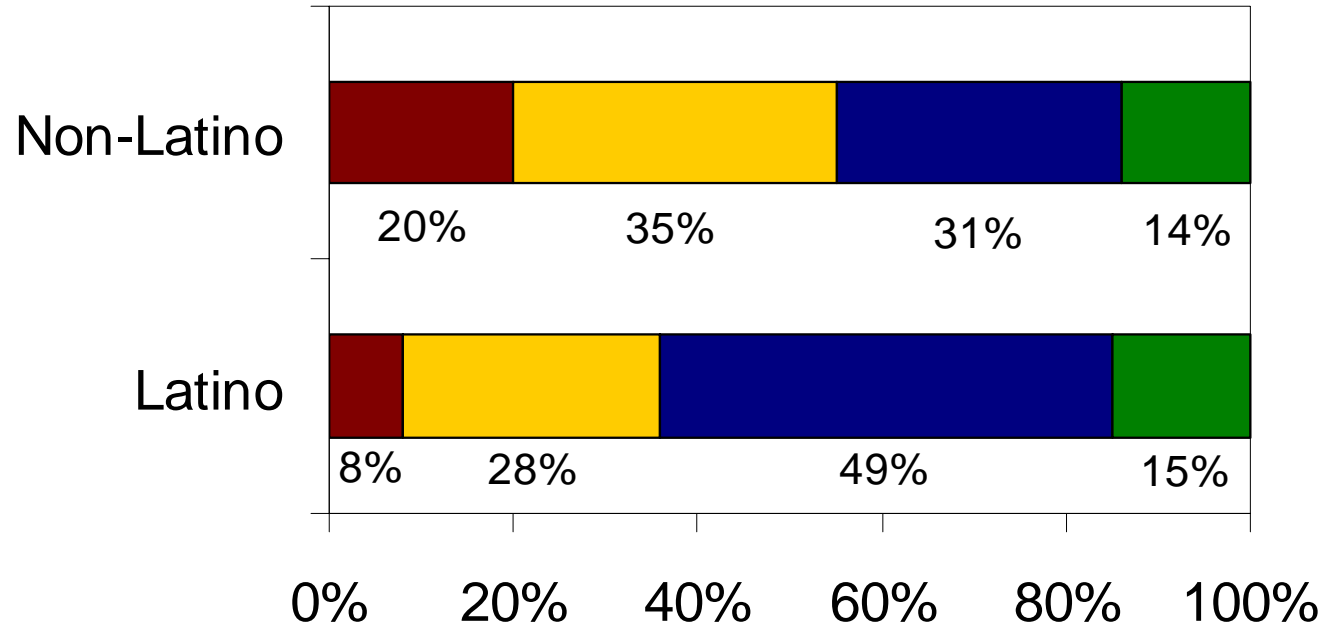
# Race and Ethnicity of the Adult Catholic Population





# Catholic Generations

- Pre-Vatican II (born before 1943)
- Vatican II (born 1943-60)
- Post-Vatican II (born 1961-81)
- Millennial (born after 1981)

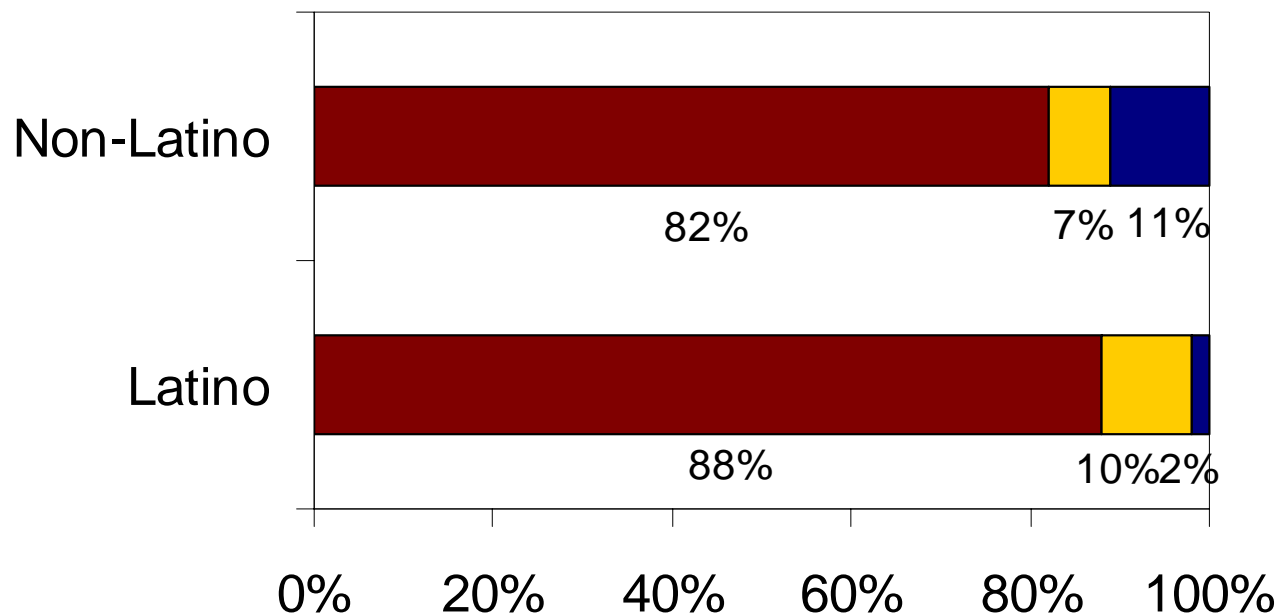


## When did you become a Catholic? As an...

■ Infant (under age 1)

■ Child (ages 1 to 12)

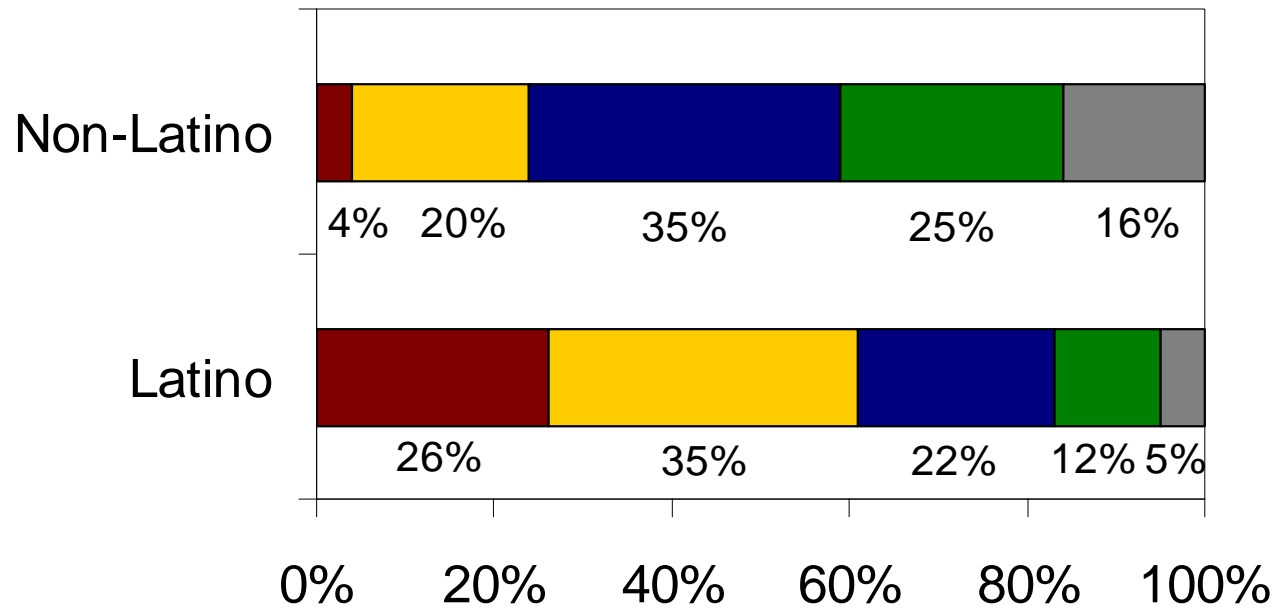
■ Teenager or adult (age 13 or older)





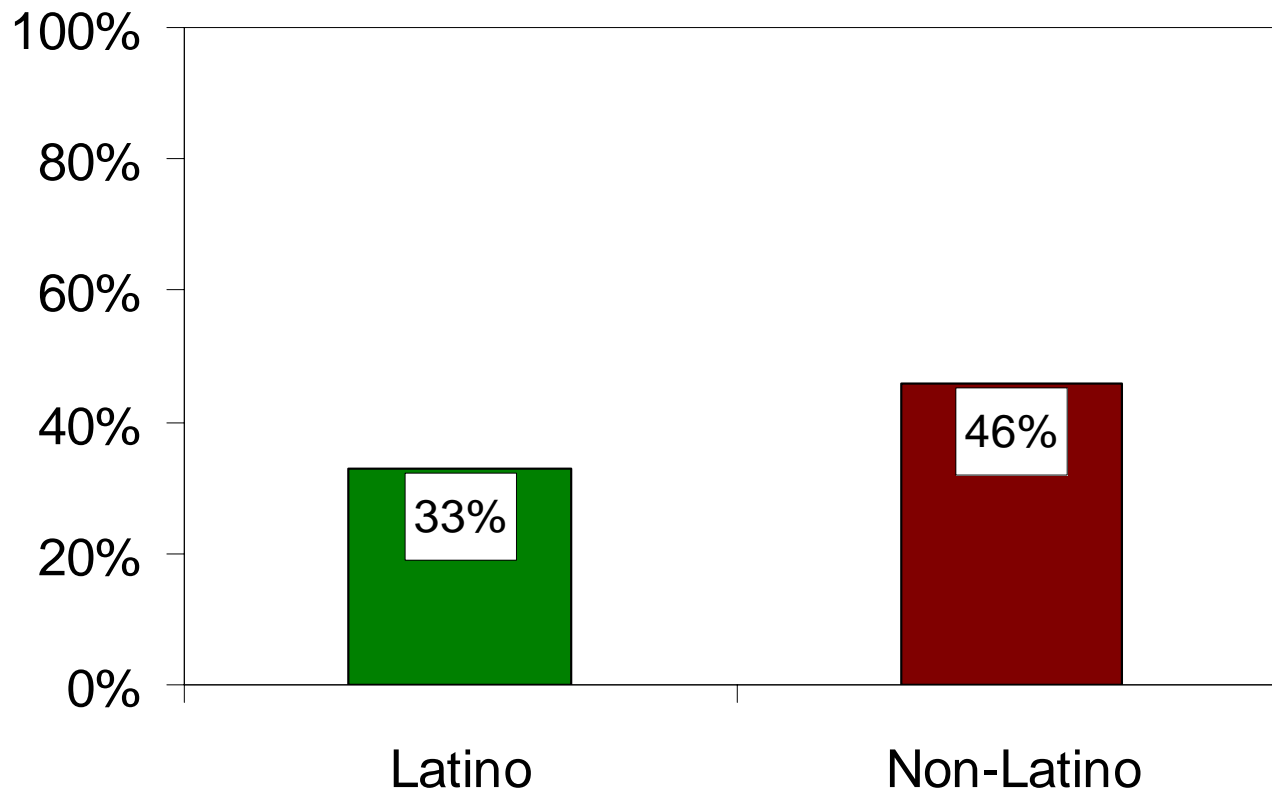
# Highest Level of Education

- Less than high school
- High school graduate
- Some college
- Four-year college degree
- Graduate school





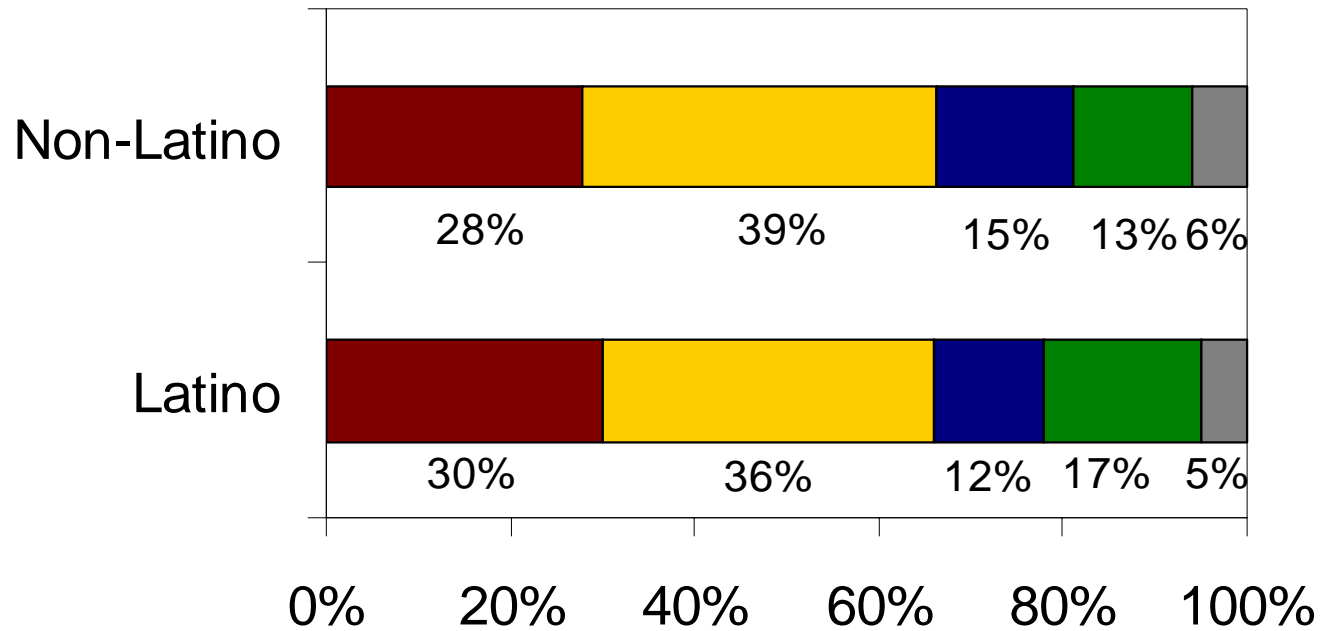
# Attended a Catholic Primary School





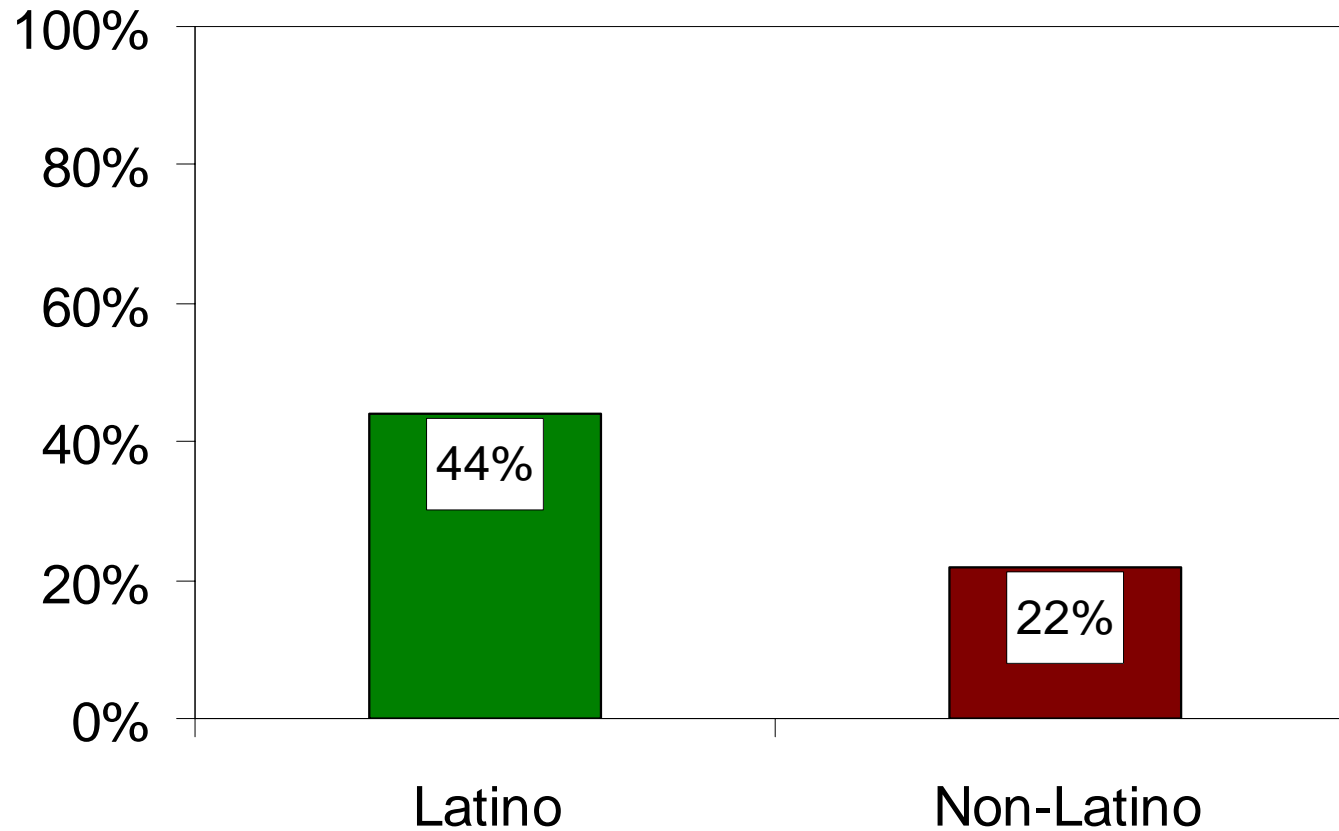
# Marital Status

- Never married
- Married to a fellow Catholic
- Married to a non-Catholic
- Divorced or separated
- Widowed



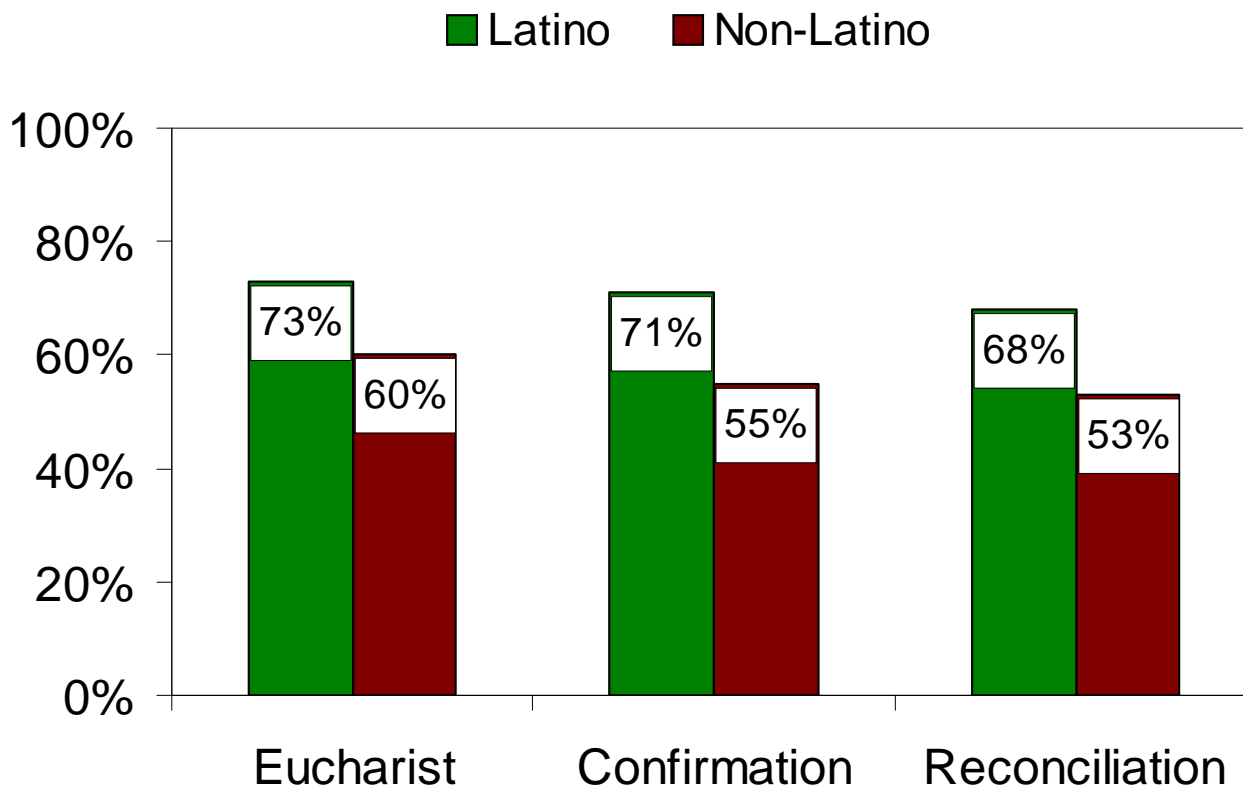


# Parent of a Child Under Age 18



**How important is it to you that your child or children have celebrated each of the following Catholic Sacraments?**

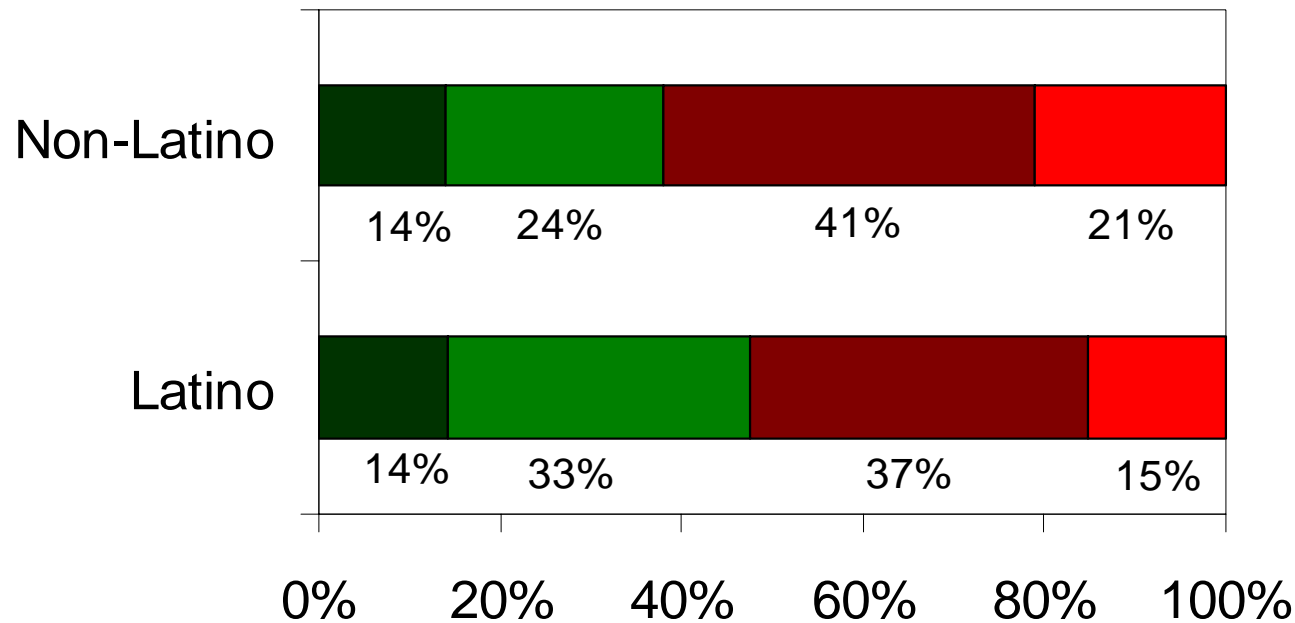
Percentage responding 'very important'





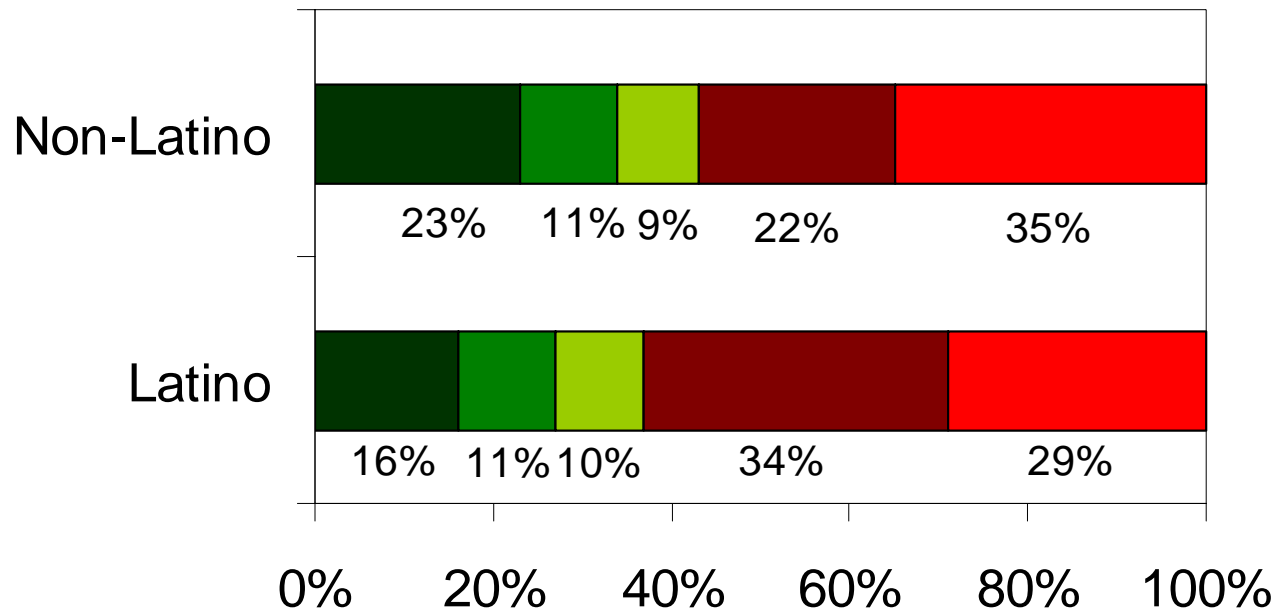
## *How important is your Catholic faith in your daily life? Is it...*

- The most important part of your life
- Among the most important parts of your life
- Important but so are many other parts of your life
- Not too important or not important at all



## *Aside from weddings and funerals, about how often do you attend Mass?*

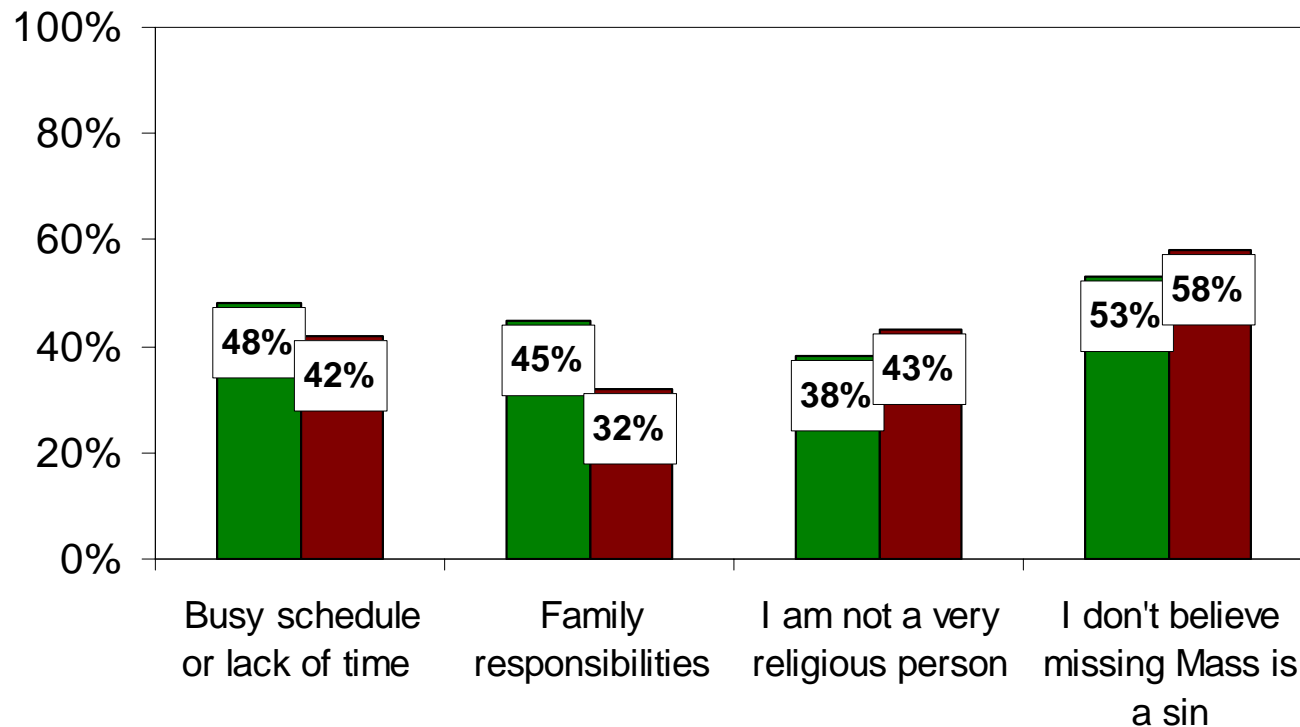
- Every week
- Almost every week
- Once or twice a month
- A few times a year
- Rarely or never



***If you missed Sunday Mass at least once in the last six months how well do each of the following explain why you missed Mass?***

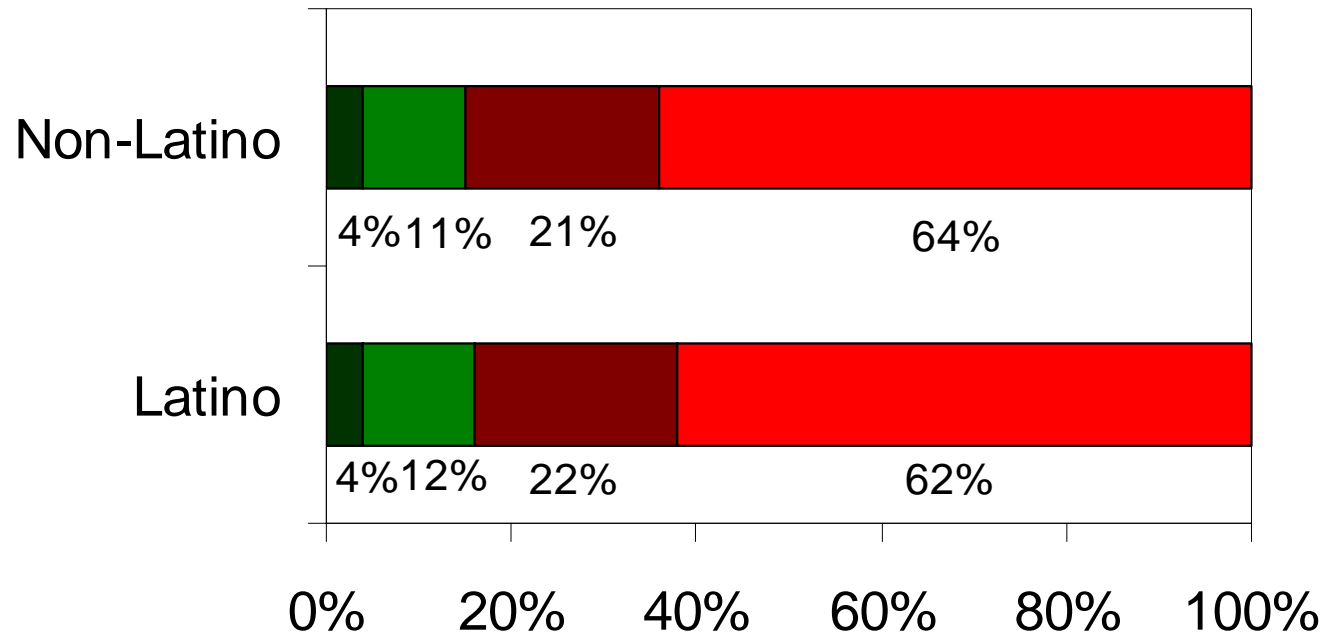
Percentage of those missing a Mass responding “somewhat” or “very much.”

■ Latino ■ Non-Latino



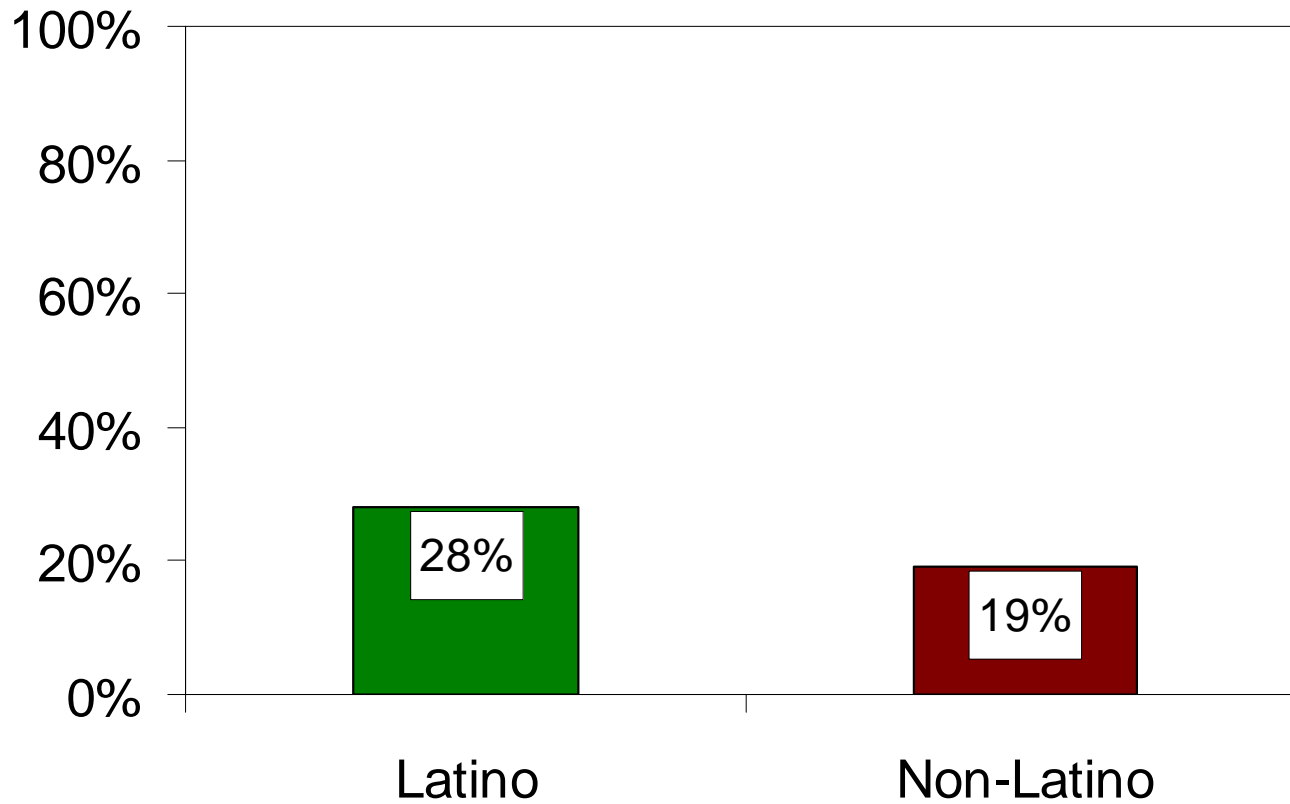
***Besides attending Mass, how involved are you in parish or other religious activities?***

- Very involved
- Somewhat involved
- Involvement a little
- Not involved at all



■ ■ **Aside from weddings and funerals, about how often, if ever, do you attend religious services for a faith other than Catholicism?**

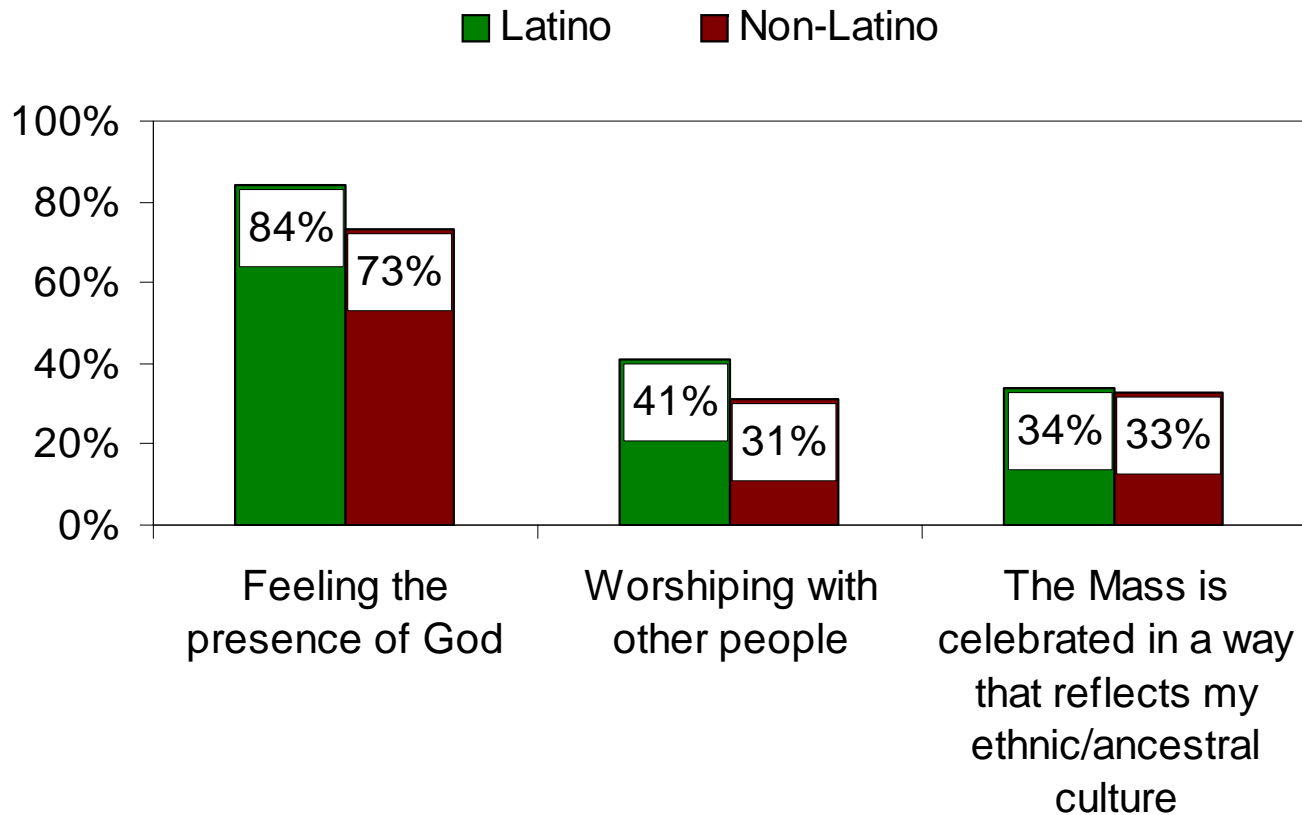
Percentage attending at least 'a few times a year'





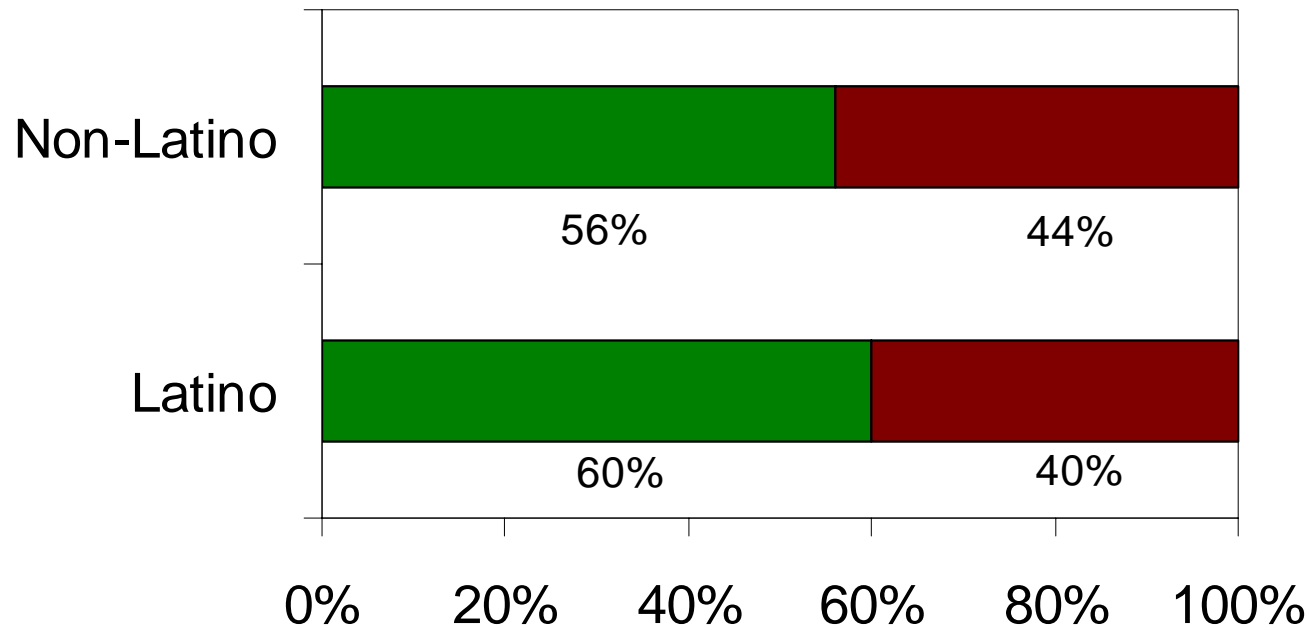
## ***How important are each of the following aspects of Mass to you?***

Percentage of those attending Mass 'a few times a year' or more responding "very important."



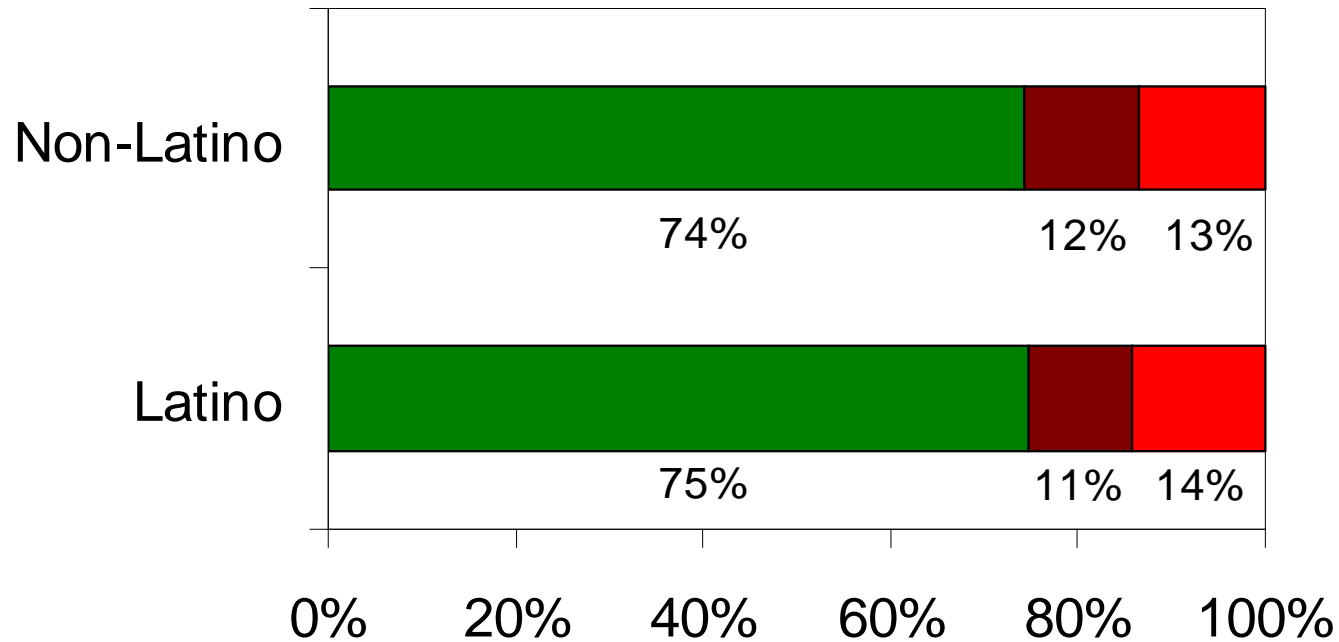
**Which of the following statements best agrees with your belief about the Eucharist/Holy Communion?**

- Jesus Christ is really present in the bread and wine of the Eucharist
- Bread and wine are symbols of Jesus, but Jesus is not really present



# How often, if ever, do you participate in the Sacrament of Reconciliation or Confession?

■ Less than once a year ■ Once a year ■ Several times a year or more





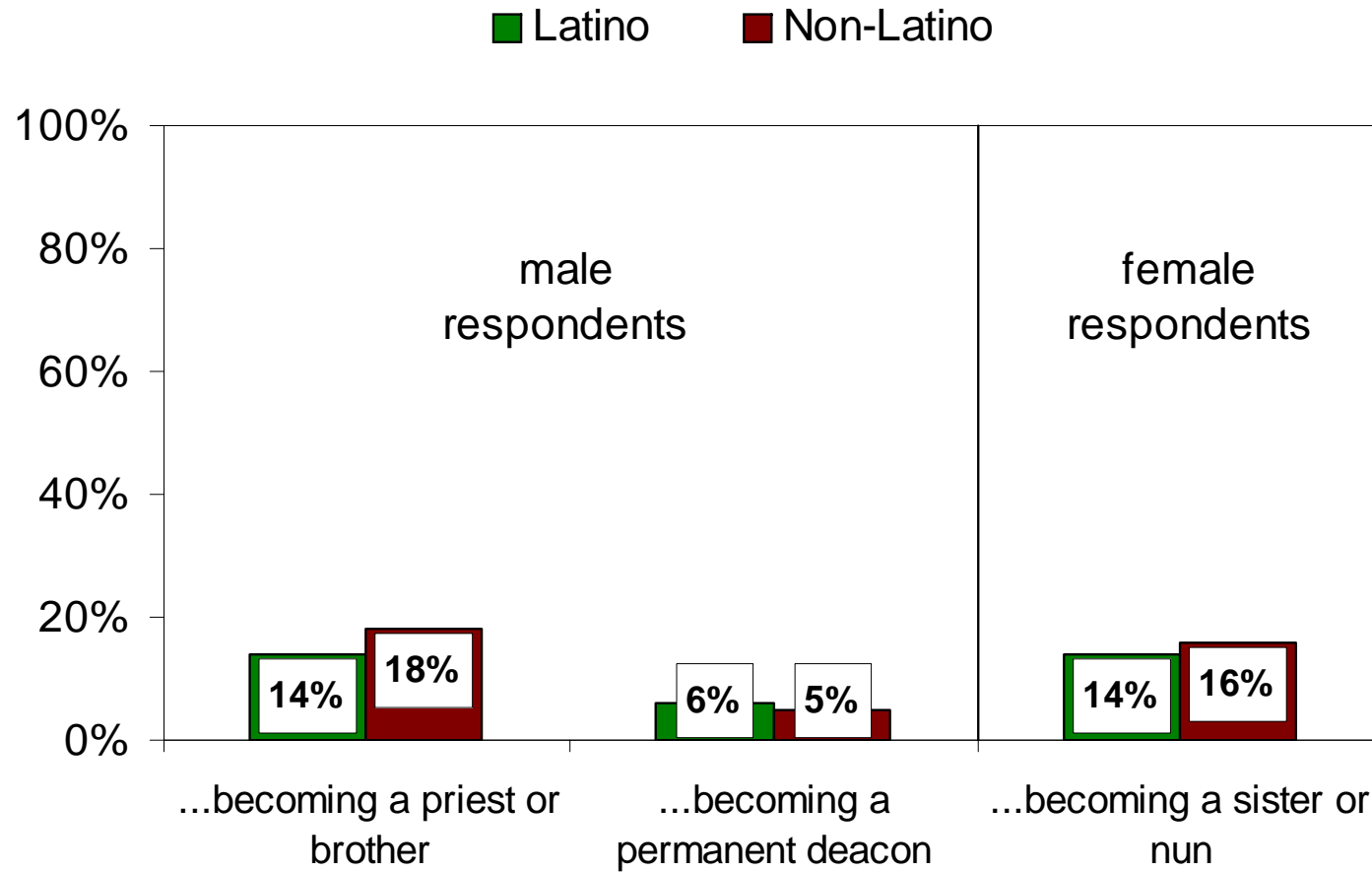
***Which of these Catholic sacraments  
is the most meaningful to you? Select one.***

	<u>Latino</u>	<u>Non-Latino</u>
Baptism	39%	40%
Marriage	26	26
Eucharist	23	26
Reconciliation	4	3
Anointing of the Sick	4	3
Confirmation	4	2
Holy Orders	<1	1



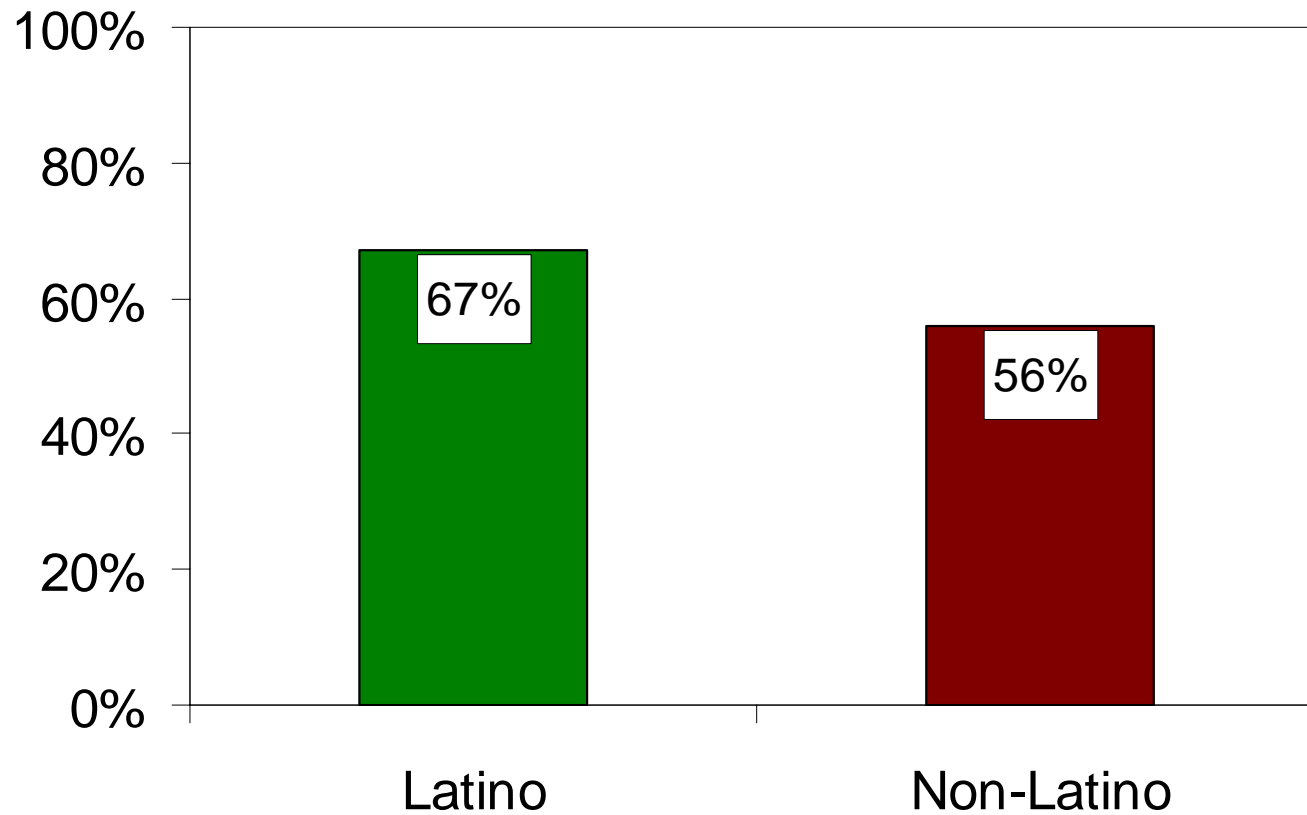


# *Has ever considered...*





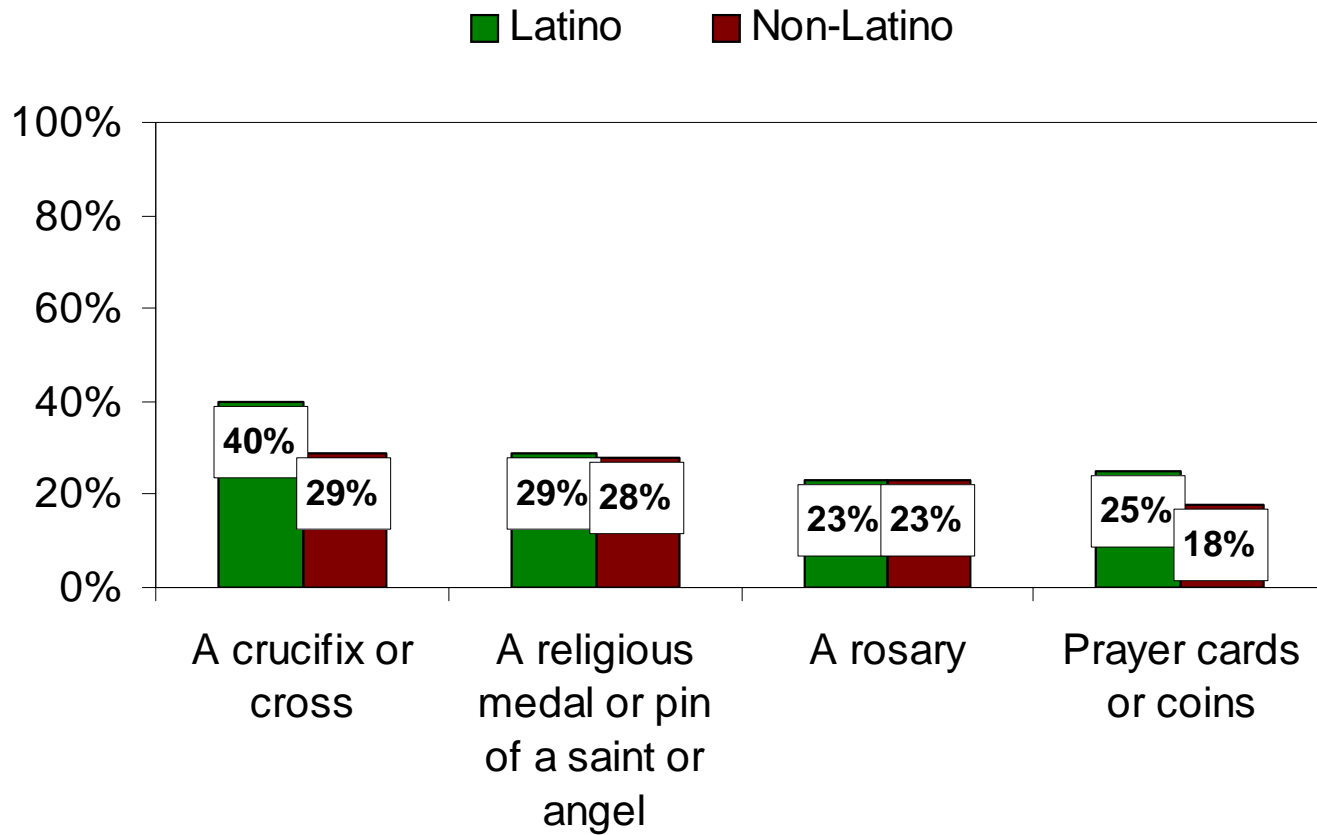
***Is there a statue or picture of Mary,  
the Mother of Jesus, on display in your home?***  
Percentage responding 'yes'





## *Do you typically wear or carry any of the following with you?*

Percentage responding 'yes'

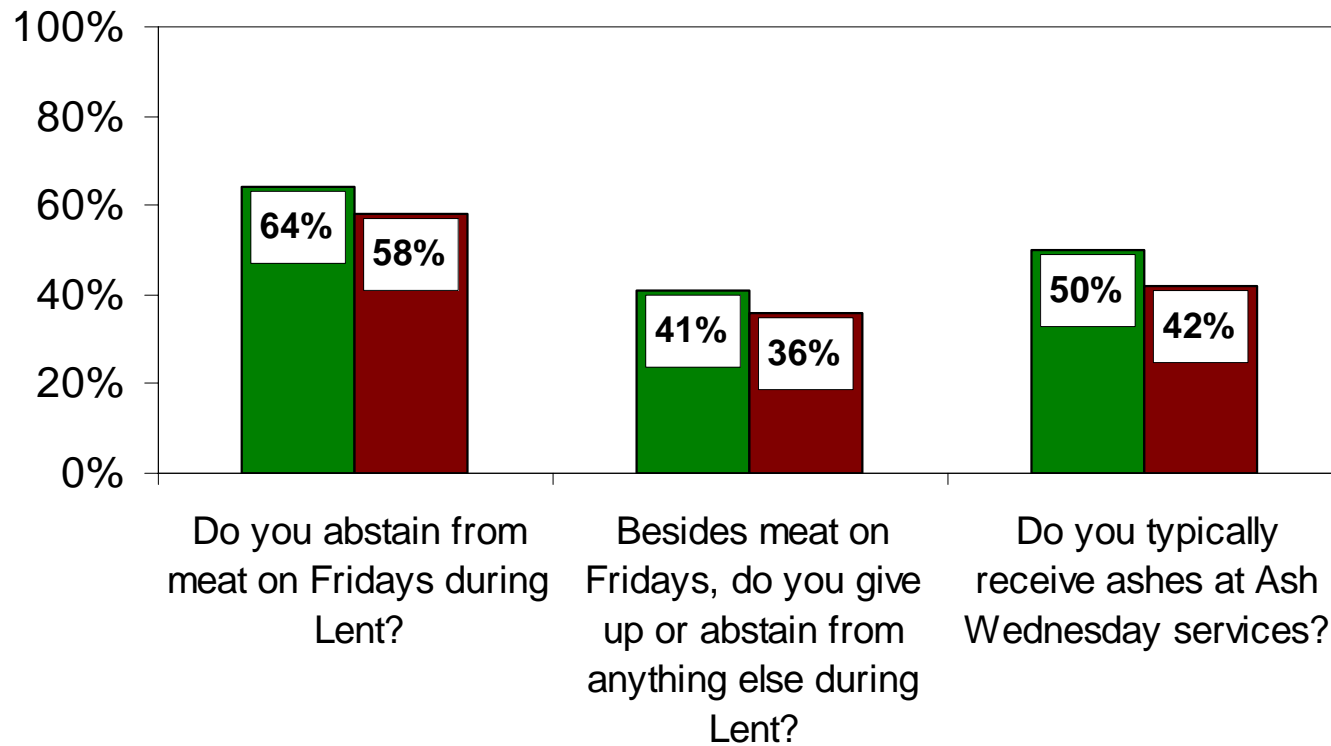




# Lenten Practices

Percentage responding “yes”

■ Latino ■ Non-Latino





## Core Beliefs:

Percentage who have 'never doubted' each

	<u>Latino</u>	<u>Non-Latino</u>
There is only one God, a Holy Trinity of the Father, the Son, and the Holy Spirit.	79%	73%
Jesus rose from the dead and ascended to heaven.	75	72
Jesus was conceived by the power of the Holy Spirit and born of the Virgin Mary.	74	70
God, the Father, is creator of heaven, the earth, and all we know of the universe.	72	66
There is a heaven.	71	68
Mary, the Mother of God, was immaculately conceived without original sin.	65	65
There is a hell.	60	58





## Statements about Catholic Identity:

Percentage who agree ('strongly' or 'somewhat' with each)

	<u>Latino</u>	<u>Non-Latino</u>
I am proud to be Catholic.	83%	75%
I can be a good Catholic without going to Mass every Sunday.	72	66
Helping the poor and needy is a moral obligation for Catholics.	69	65
Sacraments are essential to my faith.	66	59
I think of myself as a practicing Catholic.	57	54
In deciding what is morally acceptable, I look to Catholic Church teachings and statements made by the Pope and Bishops to form my conscience.	45	43





***How important are the following factors  
to your sense of what it means to be Catholic?***

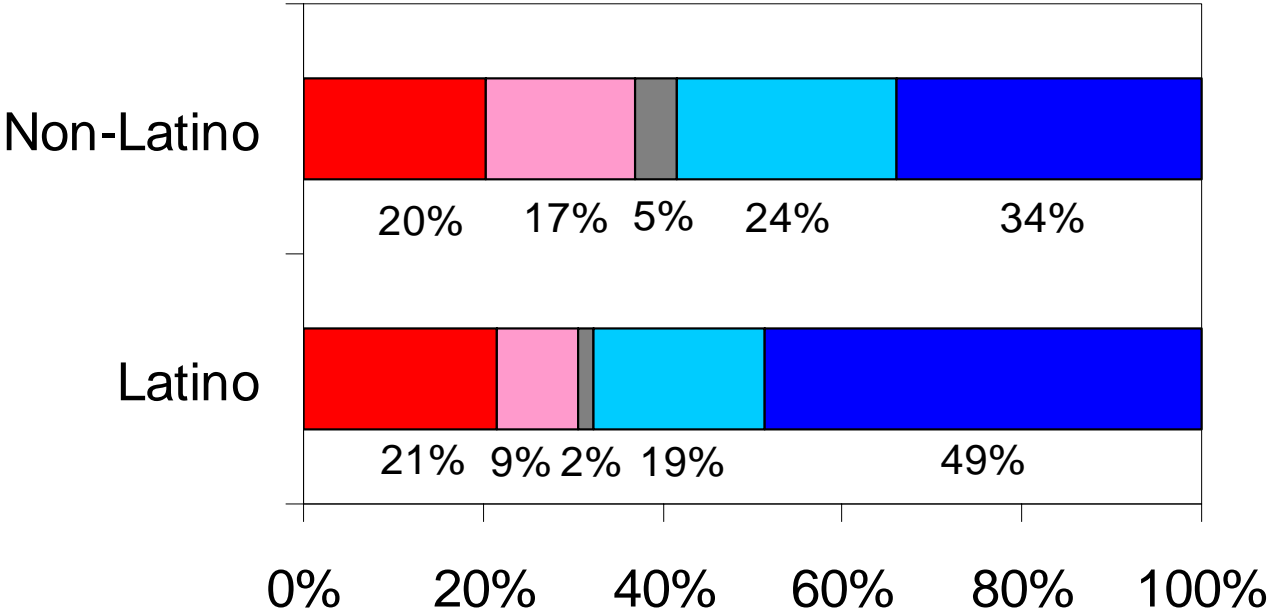
Percentage responding 'very important'

	<u>Latino</u>	<u>Non-Latino</u>
Helping those in need	55%	45%
Receiving the Eucharist/Holy Communion	51	51
Attending Mass	39	39
Living my life consistent with Church teaching	38	36
Having devotion to Mary	38	37
Going to Reconciliation or Confession	34	25



# Party Identification (Feb. 2008)

■ Republican      ■ Leans Republican      ■ Independent/Apolitical  
■ Leans Democrat      ■ Democrat





# Political Attitudes (Oct. 2006):

Percentage who agree ('strongly' or 'somewhat' with each)

	<u>Latino</u>	<u>Non-Latino</u>	<u>Latino Difference</u>
I support the death penalty for people convicted of premeditated murder	61%	69%	-8
A woman should have the right to choose whether or not to abort an unwanted pregnancy	64	56	+8
The number of immigrants who are permitted to come to the United States should be decreased	40	59	-19
Regardless of cost, the U.S. government should guarantee basic health care for all citizens	84	76	+8
There should be a tax increase for the wealthiest Americans	71	62	+9
The U.S. should be willing to use military force to overthrow governments that support terrorism against the U.S., even if it means losing the lives of U.S. service members.	32	46	-14
Workers have the right to a living wage and the right to form and join labor unions	84	82	+2

