

**PRRI/RNS Religion News Survey
N=1,012 (500 Landline, 512 Cell phone)
January 14 - January 18, 2015**

Q.1 What is your favorite sport to watch, if any? **[READ IN ORDER]**

<u>2015</u>	<u>2014¹</u>	
40	39	Football
12	10	Basketball
11	9	Baseball
8	7	Soccer
6	7	Ice hockey
5	5	Auto racing
1	1	Tennis (VOL.)
1	1	Golf (VOL.)
-	1	Boxing (VOL.)
12	8	Something else (VOL.—SPECIFY)
4	11	None/Do not watch sports (VOL.)
*	*	Don't know (VOL.)
100	100	Total

¹ Public Religion Research Institute, Religion and Politics Tracking Survey, January 2014.

Q.2 And thinking of when you were young, what sport, if any, did you play MOST often growing up? **[READ; RANDOMIZE]**

25	Baseball or softball
15	Basketball
12	Soccer
11	Football
9	Volleyball
5	Tennis
4	Track or cross country
1	Wrestling (VOL.)
1	Swimming (VOL.)
1	Cheerleading (VOL.)
1	Ice Hockey (VOL.)
*	Golf (VOL.)
10	None/Did not play sports (VOL.)
4	Something else (VOL.—SPECIFY)
*	Don't know (VOL.)
100	Total

Q.3 Do you consider yourself a fan of any particular sports teams?

<u>2015</u>	<u>2014</u> ²	<u>2013</u> ³	
64	60	62	Yes
36	40	37	No
*	*	*	Don't know (VOL.)
100	100	100	Total

Q.4 On any given Sunday are you more likely...? **[ROTATE OPTIONS 1 & 2]**

<u>2015</u>	<u>2014</u> ⁴	<u>2013</u> ⁵	
25	25	26	To be in church
18	21	17	To be watching football
25	21	21	Doing both, OR
32	33	36	Doing neither
*	*	*	Don't know (VOL.)
100	100	100	Total

² Public Religion Research Institute, Religion and Politics Tracking Survey, January 2014.

³ Public Religion Research Institute, Religion & Politics Tracking Poll, January 2013.

⁴ Public Religion Research Institute, Religion and Politics Tracking Survey, January 2014.

⁵ Public Religion Research Institute, Religion & Politics Tracking Poll, January 2013.

Q.5 How likely are you to watch the Super Bowl this year? Are you...? **[READ IN ORDER]**

<u>2015</u>	<u>2014</u> ⁶	<u>2013</u> ⁷	
49	51	44	Very likely
23	21	22	Somewhat likely
9	6	11	Not too likely
18	21	23	Not at all likely
<u>1</u>	<u>*</u>	<u>1</u>	Don't know (VOL.)
100	100	100	Total

Q.6 If you had a young son today, do you think you would or would not allow him to play competitive football?

76	Would allow him to play
22	Would not allow him to play
<u>2</u>	Don't know (VOL.)
100	Total

Q.7 Now, please tell me if you completely agree, mostly agree, mostly DISagree or completely disagree with the following statements. First... **[INSERT; RANDOMIZE]**. Next...

READ FOR FIRST ITEM, THEN REPEAT AS NECESSARY: Do you completely agree, mostly agree, mostly DISagree or completely disagree?

a. God rewards athletes who have faith with good health and success

<u>2015</u>	<u>2014</u> ⁸	<u>2013</u> ⁹	
22	18	24	Completely agree
31	30	29	Mostly agree
19	18	17	Mostly disagree
26	29	25	Completely disagree
<u>3</u>	<u>5</u>	<u>5</u>	Don't know/Refused (VOL.)
100	100	100	Total

⁶ Public Religion Research Institute, Religion and Politics Tracking Survey, January 2014.

⁷ Public Religion Research Institute, Religion & Politics Tracking Poll, January 2013.

⁸ Public Religion Research Institute, Religion and Politics Tracking Survey, January 2014.

⁹ Public Religion Research Institute, Religion & Politics Tracking Poll, January 2013.

b. God plays a role in determining which team wins a sporting event

<u>2015</u>	<u>2014</u> ¹⁰	<u>2013</u> ¹¹	
10	10	12	Completely agree
16	12	15	Mostly agree
20	21	21	Mostly disagree
51	54	49	Completely disagree
<u>3</u>	<u>3</u>	<u>3</u>	Don't know/Refused (VOL.)
100	100	100	Total

c. Football is generally more dangerous than other sports

25	Completely agree
40	Mostly agree
21	Mostly disagree
13	Completely disagree
<u>1</u>	Don't know/Refused (VOL.)
100	Total

Now thinking about professional sports teams....

Q.8 Would you strongly favor, favor, oppose, or strongly oppose **[IF FAN INSERT: "your favorite"; IF NON-FAN INSERT: "a"]** professional sports team signing **[INSERT; RANDOMIZE]** And would you favor or oppose **[INSERT: your/a]** team signing **[INSERT]**?

a. A player who has been convicted of domestic violence but is not in current legal trouble

6	Strongly favor
24	Favor
33	Oppose
31	Strongly oppose
<u>5</u>	Don't know (VOL.)
100	Total

b. A player who is gay or lesbian

26	Strongly favor
47	Favor
11	Oppose
8	Strongly oppose
<u>8</u>	Don't know (VOL.)
100	Total

¹⁰ Public Religion Research Institute, Religion and Politics Tracking Survey, January 2014.

¹¹ Public Religion Research Institute, Religion & Politics Tracking Poll, January 2013.

Q.9 Just your impression, how much discrimination do you think gay and lesbian athletes face in professional sports? **[READ IN ORDER]**

56	A lot
32	A little
9	None at all
<u>3</u>	Don't know (VOL.)
100	Total

Q.10 How should the NFL (the National Football League) handle a player who has been found guilty of domestic violence? Do you think the NFL should...
[FORM 1 READ IN ORDER 1-3; FORM 2 READ IN REVERSE ORDER 3-1]

29	Ban the player for life
59	Allow the player to return after a temporary suspension
8	Take no formal action against the player
<u>3</u>	Don't know (VOL.)
100	Total

Note: Numbers may not add to 100% due to rounding

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 January 14 and 18, 2015, by professional interviewers under the direction of SSRS. Interviews were conducted among a random sample of 1,012 adults 18 years of age or older living in the United States (512 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 were provided by Marketing Systems Group.

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.¹² 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 July-December 2013 National Health Interview Survey. All other weighting parameters are derived from an analysis of the U.S. Census Bureau's March 2014 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.

¹² Telephone usage refers to whether respondents have only a landline telephone, only a cell phone or both types.

Appendix: Subgroup Sample Sizes

Table 1. Demographic and Religious Subgroup Sample Sizes		
<i>(All figures are unweighted)</i>		
	General <u>Public</u>	Sports <u>Fans</u>
Total Sample	1,012	634
Male	510	343
Female	502	291
White Evangelical Protestant	198	111
White Mainline Protestant	162	100
Minority Protestant	164	118
Catholic	200	137
Religiously Unaffiliated	219	123
White, non-Hispanic	695	418
Black, non-Hispanic	136	96
Hispanic	106	76
18-29	164	108
30-49	260	182
50-64	285	182
65+	301	161
Republican	246	149
Independent	387	246
Democrat	304	207