

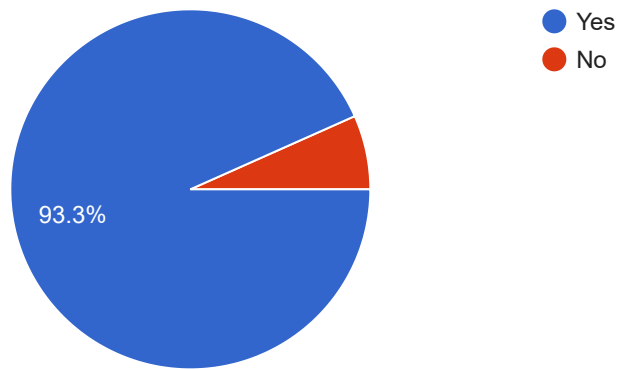


# Open Wide Our Hearts Listening Session

60 responses

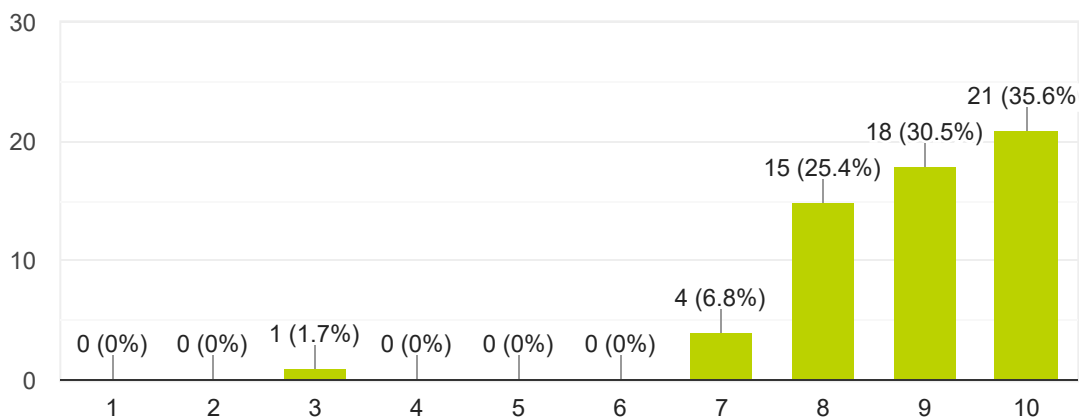
## Did you attend the June 19th Listening Session on Racism?

60 responses



## How would you rate your overall experience with the Listening Session? (1=least favorable, 10=highly favorable)

59 responses



## Have your thoughts on racism and prejudice change during or after this Listening Session? Please explain:

54 responses

yes

No

No!! It's going to take the church more intense effort to change the ways people act

Not yet

No, I have been living this experience for 56 years. But, I am hopeful!

My opinions haven't changed. I hope the Catholic Church can be the role models for positive changes. Every person is made in the image and likeness of God regardless of gender, ethnicity, age, class and nationality and should be treated the same.

I think my perspective has been expanded.

Yes. I'm encouraged that the church is willing to admit to it and try to address it.

No. Nothing happened in the session to bring about change. Glad for the listening opportunity but a lot more than a listening session is needed.

Yes, I gained new insights and was particularly moved by the comments of the speakers. I have worked on this issue for quite some time, but each time I hear a new story or experience I go deeper into retrospection and firm my commitment to do more to confront racism.

No. EVEN MORE convinced that our young people have/ a different experience of racism.

Confirmed

I don't know if changed is the right word. It definitely deepened to listen to the stories shared.

Hearing stories is the best way to connect to change hearts. Listening to stories didn't really change my thoughts, but deepen the feeling they committed.

No, I had no doubts that racism is alive and well, but I must say the session reminded me how grateful I am for our white allies

Not really. Mark Huddy's comments on white privilege were very insightful. The stories, even happening this year are shameful.

The session identified additional ways we need to work on educating people on being aware of their actions and the effects they have on others.

Stories are forever like this. It's whether the listener will change their mindset about racism in the world and church to try and eliminate it.

Yes. My thoughts on the prevalence of racism continue to evolve and grow. This session helped me continue to educate myself on the nature and scope of racism in Central Ohio.

Yes, I believe that racism is happening but some of the examples they used happen to me.

I've always known that racism and prejudice have existed but I never really thought about how that affects the Catholic Church. I grew up in Central California, in a family where my father is Mexican and my mother is German/Irish. Listening to people's stories, I can see moments where racism touched my life, growing up in a mixed race household and has made me think about how my internalized prejudices affect my behavior, although I don't believe that I hold as many prejudices as others due to my upbringing in a very diverse area.

No. It was mostly confirmed by the speakers.

No, as a 65 year old AA woman, I've experienced many instances at school, work, etc It makes me feel hopeful that the church is aware

i'm hopeful that we will continue to work on this. i feel hope.

No, As a 65 year old AA woman, I've experienced many instances at school, work, etc It makes me feel hopeful that the church is aware

No, racism is taught and learned, until adults, parents, teachers, and those in authority change their thinking that we are all

an eye opener, realized how serious racism is God created all of us, we all are on in God's love.

B

it has not changed because it was a listening session, action is required

i made me realize, im not a racist anymore

reinforced

No, speaker shared what i experienced and we all continue to experience

It was about how i expected but not with love and kindness

no, we have been living within the institution of racism all our lives

no, but they have been validated

Yes

my hope soared because the church listens. i was happy the forum was created.

no, they were reinforced by the experiences cited

No, I knew it existed but it was good to listen to all the studies

sad that there is still so many stories to hear

about the same

I am an open minded person at heart and would like all members of my parish to be the same

racial prejudice begins in the home or family, usually fostered by parents or relatives

As a white person i seem to need constant reminding of how present and daily racial injustice is. even though i have black people in my family and close community my lived experience is clouded by privilege i

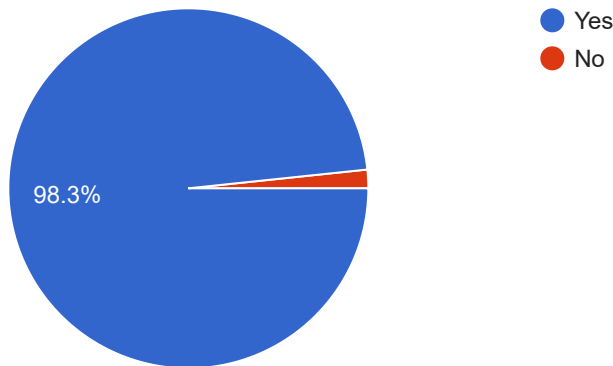
should know better.

not at all

Yes. I think I have broadened the vision on the sensitive issue of racism and prejudice after this Listening section.

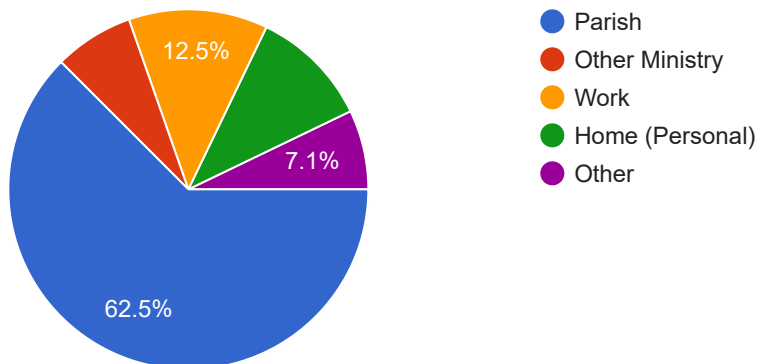
Would you be interested in similar opportunities and engagements on the topic of racism and prejudice from the Diocese of Columbus?

60 responses



Where will you apply the information and your experience at the Listening Session?

56 responses



## Based on your answer to the previous question, how will you apply:

44 responses

More accepting of others

Talk to father

Conversation with my family.

When I see instances of racism, I will be more intentional in my response. That may mean a gentle education.

Trying to be aware and raise awareness of assumptions where people aren't treated the same.

I will take care to recognize the humanity in every individual I meet.

I'll be more likely to speak up with the belief of being listened to by church leadership.

Share what happened at the session with parish members. Hopefully there will be sessions building on the June 19 program. We need to hear response from the white audience members as to their reaction to incidents of racial insensitivity or outright racism. Set the stage to begin constructive dialogue between the groups so we can work together & create a climate for change to begin.

Actually I will apply to all of the above. But since my work is about spreading Catholic Social Teaching and working towards systemic change, I will continue to apply this information this is area to have a greater impact.

I will apply the information and all that I learned from the Listening Session in all parts of my daily activities.

I could only choose one but I will apply. in all ways. home, work personal etc. I would like to have discussions following the viewing of Sr. Thea Bowman's address to the bishops

Bring awareness in places I volunteer.

As a teacher the more I learn about institutional racism the better I will be at fighting it wherever it occurs.

I am a writer, I'll remember the stories, become more attentive to examples I encounter. These things help inform my writing.

I will organize and support events and activities that encourage action, education, and engagement around racism as well as the past and current impact and contributions of POC's in the Catholic Church. I will also always spread love.

Be more aware when white privilege is at work and more sensitive to anyone being discounted.

I wanted to respond all of the above (except work - am retired). It's being aware of looking at actions and words through the eyes of others, not necessarily what you meant but how what one said or did could be interpreted.

I will actually apply the information in all areas of my life, realizing my own personal prejudices and working to pray and develop a sense of pure inclusion and love of fellow man.

PSR Students

Get people of color more exposed throughout the diocese, especially children

that the church does care about the sin of

I will talk with members of my family and neighborhood community friends about info renewal

preach the truth, there is only one race, human race

prayer group

tell the naysayers we are children of the same God

where needed

engage in diverse activities in the parish

need to think about it but will make sure everyone in church near me feels welcome

teach the kids about racism

expand the justice ministry at st Dominic

not sure, but being on the look out for racists acts toward people of color and visa versa

catechizing and sensitizing the faithful, more about a loving heart

i'll continue to be an excellent graduate and teacher

be open with my son who is in a very diverse school and daughter in day care

i'll share this information

seek inclusion in upper levels

speaking and listening session at all catholic churches should be encouraged

continue to call out injustices i speak the truth to our heart and mind

inform or speak on what i heard and learned tonight to my other fellow parishioners; by my actions

will try to interact more with the people in my parish to build more personal relationships

call out myself and others when behaving in ways the perpetrate racism. act always with love and lift up every person i meet in the neighborhood, church, work, everywhere

have an open heart towards all, embrace and love everyone

proposing to our priest to make small meetings and workshops, to make known the pastoral letter open wide our heart, so that as a community we become aware of the reality of racism in the world and how to approach it.

# What aspects of this session do you feel impacted you the MOST?

51 responses

personal stories

Personal stories

Personal Experience

Stories from fellow partitioner.

The sharing of individual stories. That was very moving. Storytelling is a key means of catechesis.

Hearing other perspectives and experiences.

Hearing from young people.

Personal stories.

Personal stories

Listening to the stories. This is the most effective way to move people to action. Also the reception was great as well since we were able to build relationships around food. That's what Jesus did.

Managing up will help, but being a sensitive issue, I feel it will be best if the examples or the reminder of the issue is filtered from the top.

the response from our young adults And from the more recent events of discrimination. It was also extremely important to hear from white community members. What Mark Huddy shared was the most moving and thought provoking point in the program.

Some of the testimonies

The stories shared by my fellow Catholics.

The stories connect- also I loved the choir!

The reflections and support of Bishop Brennan.

The stories

I felt there was an unintended bias in the meeting itself. I believe that the St. Dominic Parish and the Holy Rosary/St John's Parish received different messages about the evening. HRSJ definitely received the message (I was there) that individuals would be welcomed to speak at the event and came prepared to speak. It appeared that St Dominic received the message of whom they needed to contact to be put on a list and be given a spot to speak. The result was that I don't believe we heard from anyone at HRSJ. The parishes are different and I expect the experiences are different.

Singing

I feel that the stories are what binds us together as brothers and sisters.

The discrimination aspects

The personal stories of our brothers and sisters who have been made to feel "other" because of their race.

Hearing stories that were very familiar. Disappointed that not much has changed since the 1970's.

peoples stories

different stories

the sharing of stories and how lives have changed because of racism. the music was quite enjoyable

we need to love and respect one another. spread God's love to His creation.

Solutions to the issue of discriminations

all

all the speakers

that there is work to be done

love

racial epitaphs thrown by catholic kids at other catholic kids of color

awareness of the level of racism

whole session was a beautiful experience

personal testimony

the speakers were authentic

stories of prejudice toward a current 10 year old boy so sad that todays you still foster hatred

diversity of assistance

it happens all over

hearing/listening

stores and witnesses

Grace and Deacon Neely's experiences in the small town and never saw an african american clergyman

experiences shared about what goes on in catholic schools and at the level of the parishes with regards to racism

stories of individuals' experiences of racial injustice within the church

testimonies

very well organized, punctuality, simplicity of our bishops, diversity of attendees



# What aspects of this session do you feel impacted you the LEAST?

39 responses

N/A

none

The course the church will take

Need more Caucasians to talk

Participation or lack of by the Bishop.

The musical selections. While well done, they were not integral.

Some speakers weren't over their time allotted.

I hope the bishops will respond down the road with how they're implementing what the presenters said.

Food

There was no mention of next steps for ongoing sessions that would work toward change. one listening session is meaningless. Bringing about racial harmony will take a lot of time/hard work.

None. It was great!

The choir did enlighten and liven up the session but, we could probably have done it just once.

It was all impactful, but probably the stories of happenings so long ago.

Another pastoral letter will not do it. When will Bishops & priest talk about it from the pulpit in light if the gospel

Nothing

What will these talks change given by the speakers to the people in the Catholic Church .

I did not think that the pastoral letter had much depth and was unfavorably surprised that the Ad Hoc Committee had no "grass roots" laity on it. I think that's a mistake that hinders any meaningful action and understanding.

every day minor items because they happen to everyone

response from the Bishops lacked substance.

the people who did not actually speak about racism impacting them

I really cannot say

all aspects impacted me

it was all important least is not relevant

all of the sessions were great

some of the speakers repeated the similar issues

it was all good

every was important

time constraints needed

too many speakers

the speaker spoke on lunch at her workplace

i think everything was really important

i did not realize that all the people with opportunity to speak were pre-selected and invited. i had hoped for a more open and spontaneous dialogue. However i give all regard to the speakers, they prepared well and spoke honestly

for me everything was fine

Regarding the topic of racism in regards to the Catholic Church, please provide suggestions for future events or actions the Diocese of Columbus can explore:

38 responses

More and more discussions

Follow up on what policies will be implemented to promote change.

We really need to find a way to provide for dialogues with minorities in parishes outside of "downtown" Columbus. We are out there and certainly experience the issues discussed tonight. This is especially difficult in isolation.

Create sister parish events so different communities get to know each other and work together. Through relationships your opinions change. Also having ethnic events celebrated at the cathedral.

Provide thorough catechesis to minority Catholics.

Diversity & inclusion training for all staff. More listening sessions, but this time with the opportunity to speak being open to ALL attendees, not just those invited/approved ahead of time.

Need to promote solution oriented sessions in which causes/actions of racism are discussed. people need to become aware, understand how their behavior, attitudes lead to racial insensitivity; & provide means to help modify behavior. These kinds of workshops take time/ effort/ probably money . If eradicating racism was easy it would've been done. I'd be happy if we can make a difference.

Provide the sharing of stories or personal experiences in other venues around the diocese like the Men's and Women's Conferences, youth and young adult conferences, and parish presentations. Provide training on how to talk with someone in the family or at work or in the parish. Provide dialogues for schools and

other parish groups: K of C, DCCW, etc. Focus on vocations efforts. Produce and promote a parish checklist for parish councils to confront racism.

Encouragement of ethnic groups in every parish would be ideal. Maybe, for Parishes without one, the Parish Council can look into it.

Good Question. Whatever it is, it would be directed at clergy.- Maybe a peer to peer discussion.

Better training on diversity in our seminaries, our schools, our laity & clergy, to address issues when they occur

I would like to see more of a dialogue. The listening session was a great first step but I would like to see true dialogue. For example, I would have really liked the Bishop to respond directly to the speaker whose grandson was given no responsibilities at his installation mass.

sounded like intentional teaching/informing about racism-heightening awareness is needed in Catholic schools and seminary-with he people who work with children

Share positive examples of change.

I am particularly mindful of the seminarian who ignored the African-American server and gave all assignments to the white server. Perhaps some awareness training as part of the curriculum.

As our future, seminarians clearly need to be well educated in this regard and their behavior observed. While there are other possible explanations for the actions that took place, the perceived understanding that the seminarian gave all of the assignments to the white altar boy at the first Confirmation of Bishop Brennan in Columbus and left the black altar boy to simply observe is wrong. Given some of the extremely conservative, and at times hurtful actions and words that I have seen in the last 5 years from Josephinum seminarians, I believe this is an area that needs work.

As for practicing Catholics, we need more situations that encourage white and black Catholics to work together to increase familiarity with one another. With familiarity comes comfort and with comfort barriers break down.

How to bring g the Hispanic : Mexican Community into the whole Church

Ongoing education of pastors, priests, deacons, and seminarians would go a long way. Additionally, it would empower these groups to more forcefully preach on the topic. These listening sessions should be mandatory for all priests in the diocese.

A learning type session. Some of the presenters were all over the board.

Needs to start in the schools! Catholic schools are segregated similarly to public schools and this perpetuates the status quo.

have the results and stances, how lives were changed.

cultural awareness

education of young folks

more of this

encourage anti-racism teaching in all churches

homilies and stories

mental ideas

listening sessions like this one at a diocesan level to involve more people

outline solution develop a bias awareness

we need more discussions like this

we can share a day at all readings and studying the pastoral better

have a talk with priest in catholic church about diversities of all groups not just the hispanic community

more round tables talks in individual parishes may help the hate on racial prejudice

the church could evangelize using more talks like this one in schools, hospitals, parishes, and the media as well

small group discussion meetings, larger events with opportunities for attendees to speak/respond/dialogue. have more groups from all white parishes visit st dominic, holy rosary, st john, st thomas, and other diverse parishes to worship

expand experiences to include more than just the minorities

I believe that there should be sections directed by our priests at the level of parishes and then call a general section at the diocesan level. I think it is necessary as soon as possible. Priests with Hispanic communities should have been more interested in attending this activity. This is part of the social doctrine of the church, an important part for a good shepherd who takes care of his sheep.

Regarding the topic of evangelization in the Catholic Church, please provide suggestions for future events or actions the Diocese of Columbus can explore:

27 responses

More meetings

Make it easier for black men to become Deacons.

Create/design a kick-off event allowing all to bring a friend who is of a different ethnicity than oneself. This could further an intercultural/inter generational dialogue.

Offer small groups or ways people can form intentional relationships and find someone to walk with on the journey to Heaven.

.

Evangelization means reaching out & welcoming the stranger. Many of the stories at the listening session June 19 were of people not feeling welcomed in the church. Perhaps we can have an entire catechetical program on welcoming the stranger, especially the one who looks different from "us." This lesson should include "A kind hello" as one enters the church. By all means, parishioners should be encouraged to extend one's hand at the sign of peace.

Have strong diversity in diocesan pastoral council. Distribute prayer and reflection cards with a focus on this issue. Have themes throughout the year incorporating elements like the Body of Christ and Eucharist. Use in social networking. Have more articles in the Catholic Times and Columbus Dispatch about unity in diversity. Show Catholics in action.

I think that there is enough of this going on around the Diocese. The challenge is how to get people to participate.

Family driven activity. Ways to evangelize to our own families.

Getting parishes to work together more. it is clear to me that some churches have a very different "feel" than others. As someone who grew up in St. Anthony parish who now resides in Gahanna, I feel real differences. for example, I cannot afford the exorbitant amount charged for PSR at St. Matthew. I taught PSR at my church in SC, and we asked for a donation for the books. That's all.

A deeper focus on youth and young adults. Deepen the message of acceptance. More engagement with the Holy Spirit through praise and worship in a less traditional manner because the world changes while the Church stays the same.

Activities that bring Catholics from across the city together.

Spiritual Dancing for the lord

No suggestions.

Again learning sessions

this event and venue for at least 2 more viewers

events should open at individual parishes

have events for ethnic groups

the church being included in intercultural faith activities

through a listening session is nice, i want more action

better catechists at grade school level better training of future priests about racism and love

we need to clean our catholic house before we preach it to others

gather his college for a session like this one in the diocese

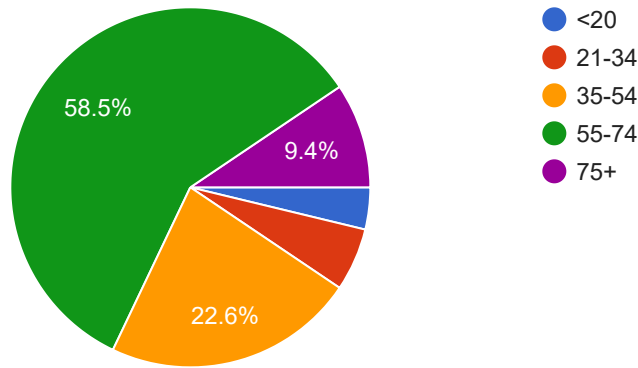
like Devin mentioned, PREACH give young people a reason to want to attend mass. listen to young people and have regard for their needs

priests and clergy to be more inclusive in what they do

I would give priority to a topic that the Pope Francis has mentioned as a priority on several occasions; "Unity by rediscovering diversity", both ethnically and in spirituality. make us aware that everything revolves around Christ and that the different apostolates must respect others. knowing that together we are mystical body of Christ.

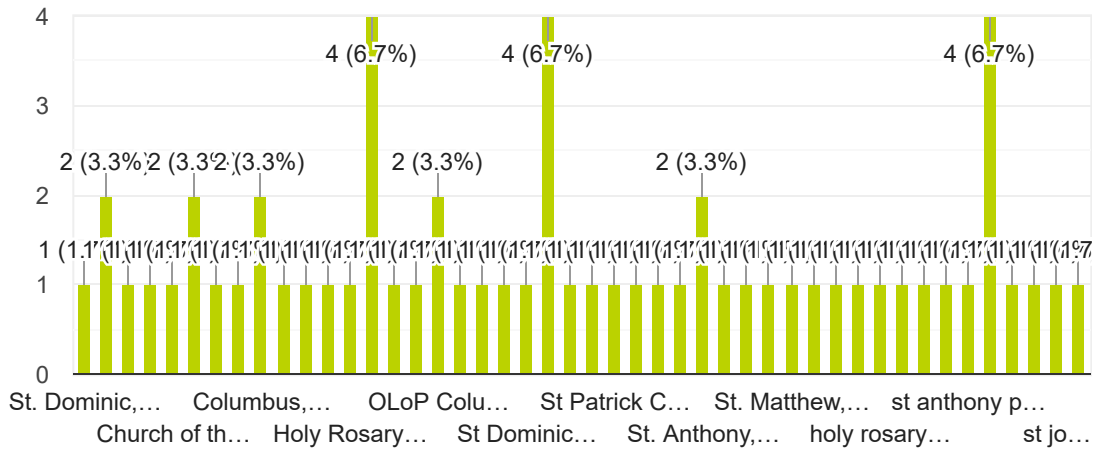
### Age range

53 responses



### Parish (City, State)

60 responses



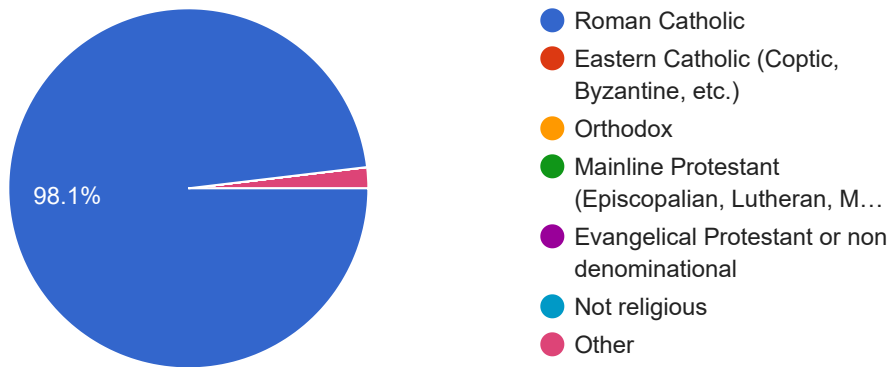
### How did you hear about this event?

60 responses



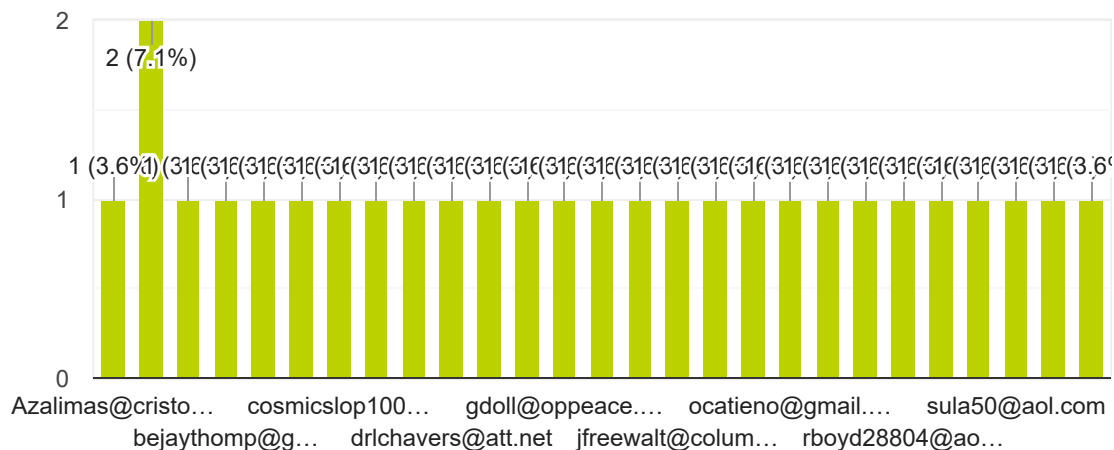
# Religion

53 responses



Email for follow-up/reply. Only provide email if you DO NOT wish to remain anonymous with the above information:

28 responses





# Google Forms