

[I] Comparison Over the Years in the Results for the 1st through 12th Surveys

Chapter 1: Changes Over the Years in Students' Attitudes toward Religion

a) Presence or lack of faith

Question Content

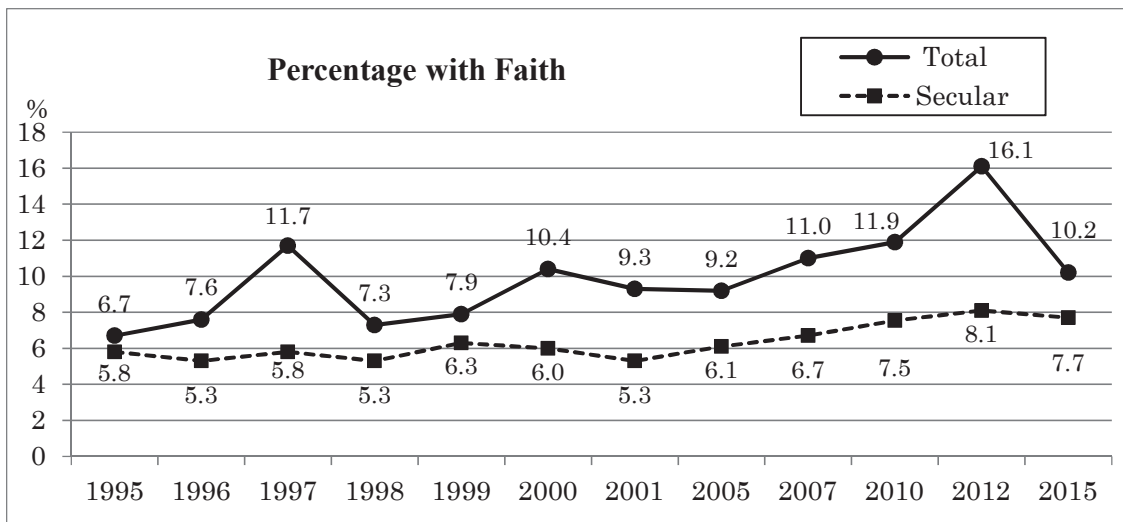
To what extent are you interested in religion? Please select an answer from the following, and then answer the relevant follow-up questions.

1. At present, I have religious faith.
2. I do not have a religious faith, but I am interested in religion.
3. I do not have a religious faith and I am also not very interested in religion.
4. I do not have a religious faith and I have no interest in religion whatsoever.

This question was asked in every survey from 1995 to 2015. The percentages of students who answered "At present, I have religious faith" are shown broken down into percentages of total respondents and of those from secular institutions.

Below, "Total" indicates all respondents; "religious" refers to students enrolled at a parochial or religious institution; and "secular" refers to students at other institutions.

Graph 1a1



b) Interest in religion

Percentages of students who responded to the foregoing question, broken down by "I have religious faith," "I am interested," "I am not very interested," and "I have no interest whatsoever."

Total

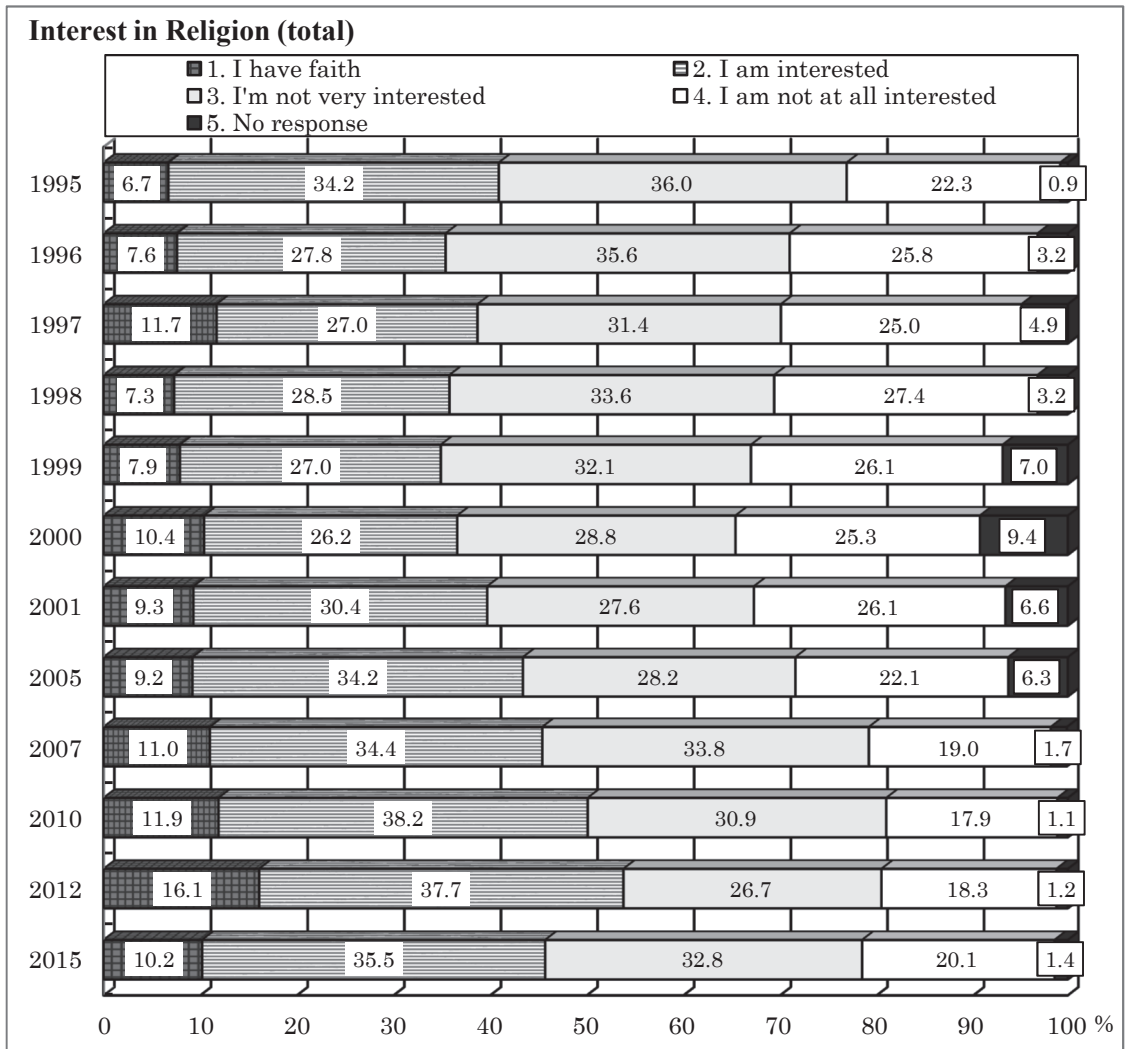
*Aggregate figures for all respondents are shown below in the figures marked "Total."

Table 1b1

	1995	1996	1997	1998	1999	2000	2001	2005	2007	2010	2012	2015
1. I have faith	6.7	7.6	11.7	7.3	7.9	10.4	9.3	9.2	11.0	11.9	16.1	10.2
2. I am interested	34.2	27.8	27.0	28.5	27.0	26.2	30.4	34.2	34.4	38.2	37.7	35.5
3. I'm not very interested	36.0	35.6	31.4	33.6	32.1	28.8	27.6	28.2	33.8	30.9	26.7	32.8
4. I am not at all interested	22.3	25.8	25.0	27.4	26.1	25.3	26.1	22.1	19.0	17.9	18.3	20.1
5. No response	0.9	3.2	4.9	3.2	7.0	9.4	6.6	6.3	1.7	1.1	1.2	1.4

*Figures here are percentages. The same holds true for the items below.

Graph 1b1



This graph makes it easier to see the difference between students at religious and secular institutions with respect to "interest in religion."

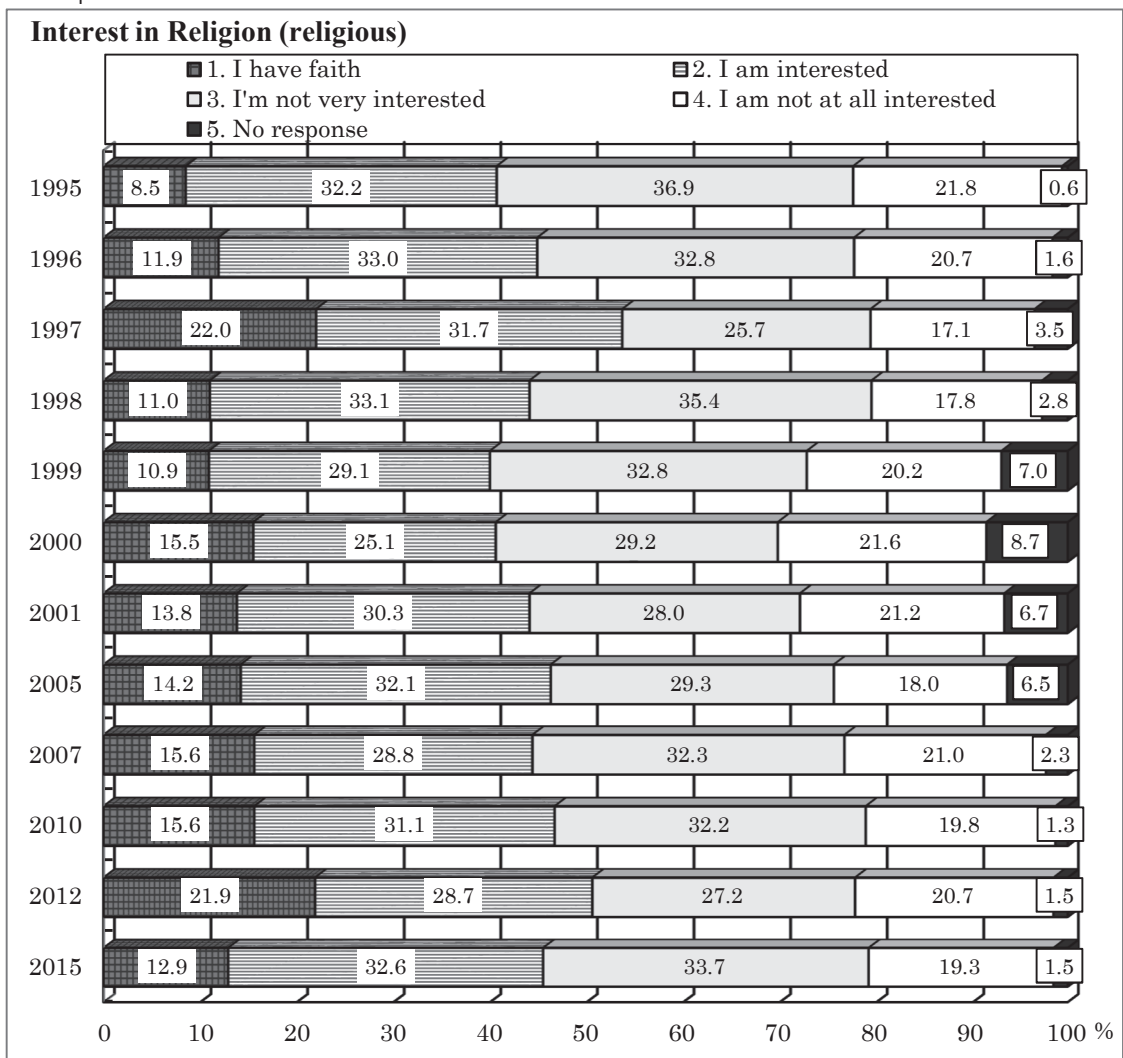
"Religious" indicates students enrolled at religious universities, while "Secular" indicates students enrolled at private non-religious institutions or at public universities.

Religious

Table 1b2

	1995	1996	1997	1998	1999	2000	2001	2005	2007	2010	2012	2015
1. I have faith	8.5	11.9	22.0	11.0	10.9	15.5	13.8	14.2	15.6	15.6	21.9	12.9
2. I am interested	32.2	33.0	31.7	33.1	29.1	25.1	30.3	32.1	28.8	31.1	28.7	32.6
3. I'm not very interested	36.9	32.8	25.7	35.4	32.8	29.2	28.0	29.3	32.3	32.2	27.2	33.7
4. I am not at all interested	21.8	20.7	17.1	17.8	20.2	21.6	21.2	18.0	21.0	19.8	20.7	19.3
5. No response	0.6	1.6	3.5	2.8	7.0	8.7	6.7	6.5	2.3	1.3	1.5	1.5

Graph 1b2



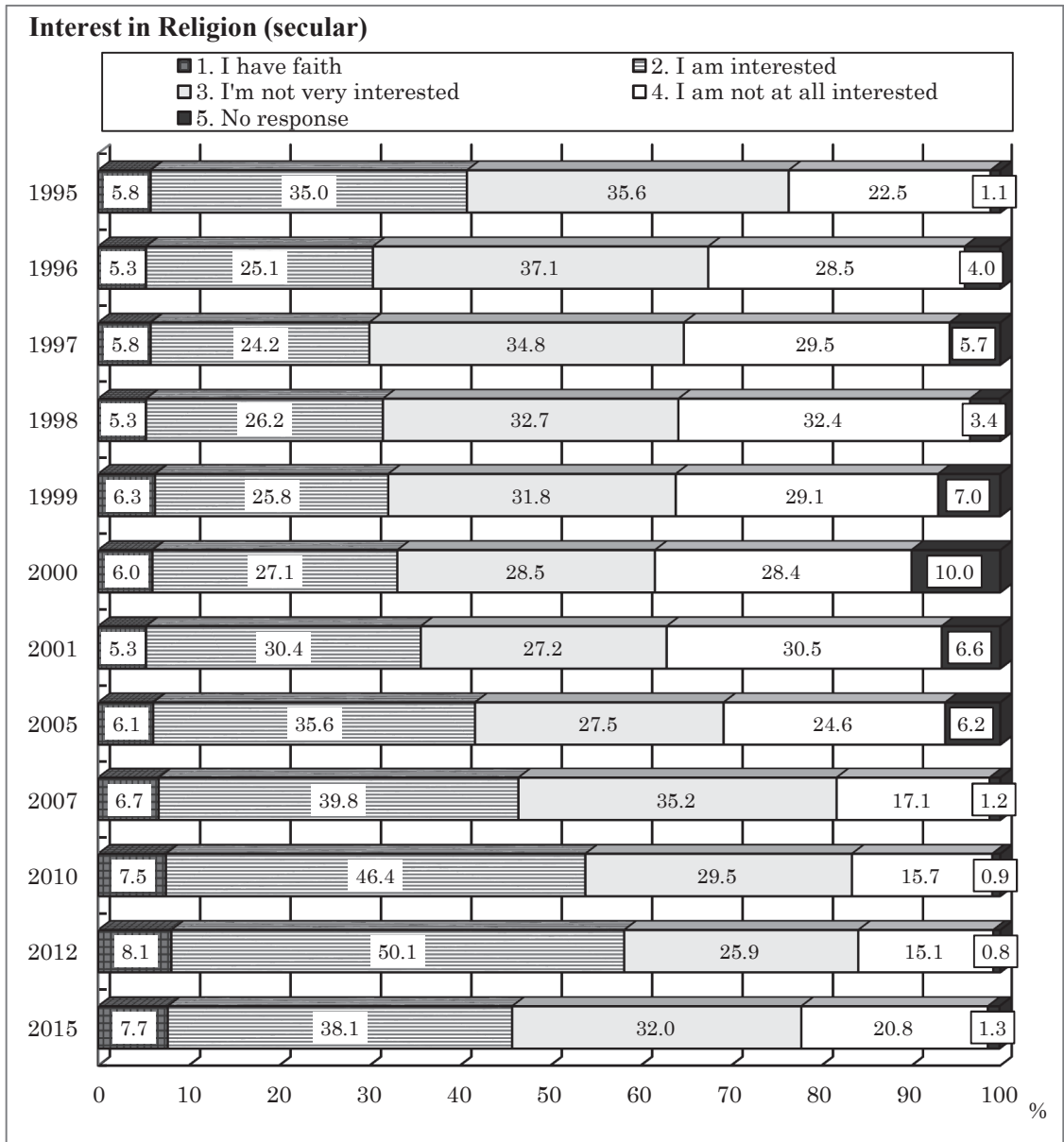
Comparison Over the Years in the Results for the 1st through 12th Surveys

Secular

Table 1b3

	1995	1996	1997	1998	1999	2000	2001	2005	2007	2010	2012	2015
1. I have faith	5.8	5.3	5.8	5.3	6.3	6.0	5.3	6.1	6.7	7.5	8.1	7.7
2. I am interested	35.0	25.1	24.2	26.2	25.8	27.1	30.4	35.6	39.8	46.4	50.1	38.1
3. I'm not very interested	35.6	37.1	34.8	32.7	31.8	28.5	27.2	27.5	35.2	29.5	25.9	32.0
4. I am not at all interested	22.5	28.5	29.5	32.4	29.1	28.4	30.5	24.6	17.1	15.7	15.1	20.8
5. No response	1.1	4.0	5.7	3.4	7.0	10.0	6.6	6.2	1.2	0.9	0.8	1.3

Graph 1b3

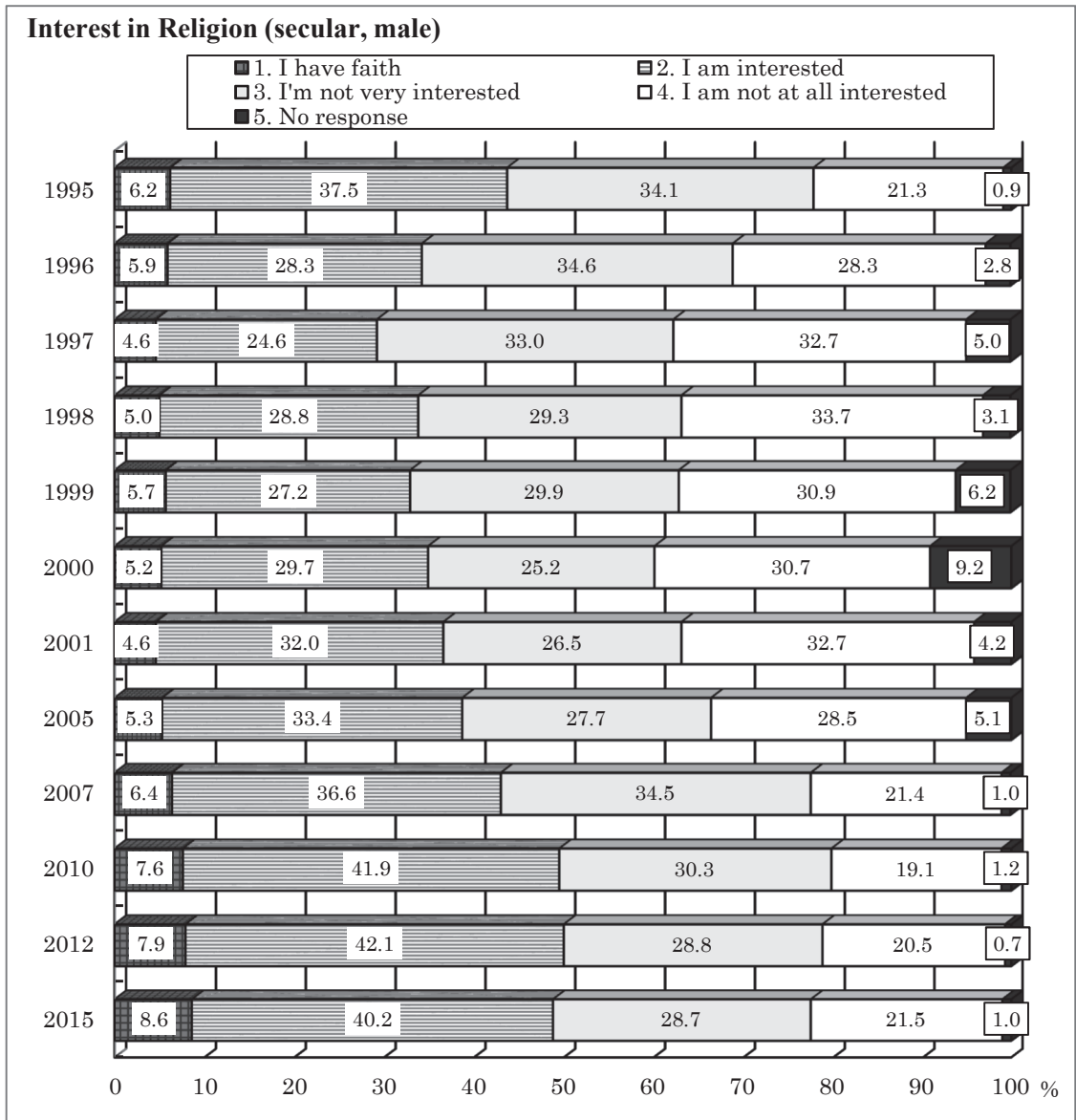


Secular, male

Table 1b4

	1995	1996	1997	1998	1999	2000	2001	2005	2007	2010	2012	2015
1. I have faith	6.2	5.9	4.6	5.0	5.7	5.2	4.6	5.3	6.4	7.6	7.9	8.6
2. I am interested	37.5	28.3	24.6	28.8	27.2	29.7	32.0	33.4	36.6	41.9	42.1	40.2
3. I'm not very interested	34.1	34.6	33.0	29.3	29.9	25.2	26.5	27.7	34.5	30.3	28.8	28.7
4. I am not at all interested	21.3	28.3	32.7	33.7	30.9	30.7	32.7	28.5	21.4	19.1	20.5	21.5
5. No response	0.9	2.8	5.0	3.1	6.2	9.2	4.2	5.1	1.0	1.2	0.7	1.0

Graph 1b4

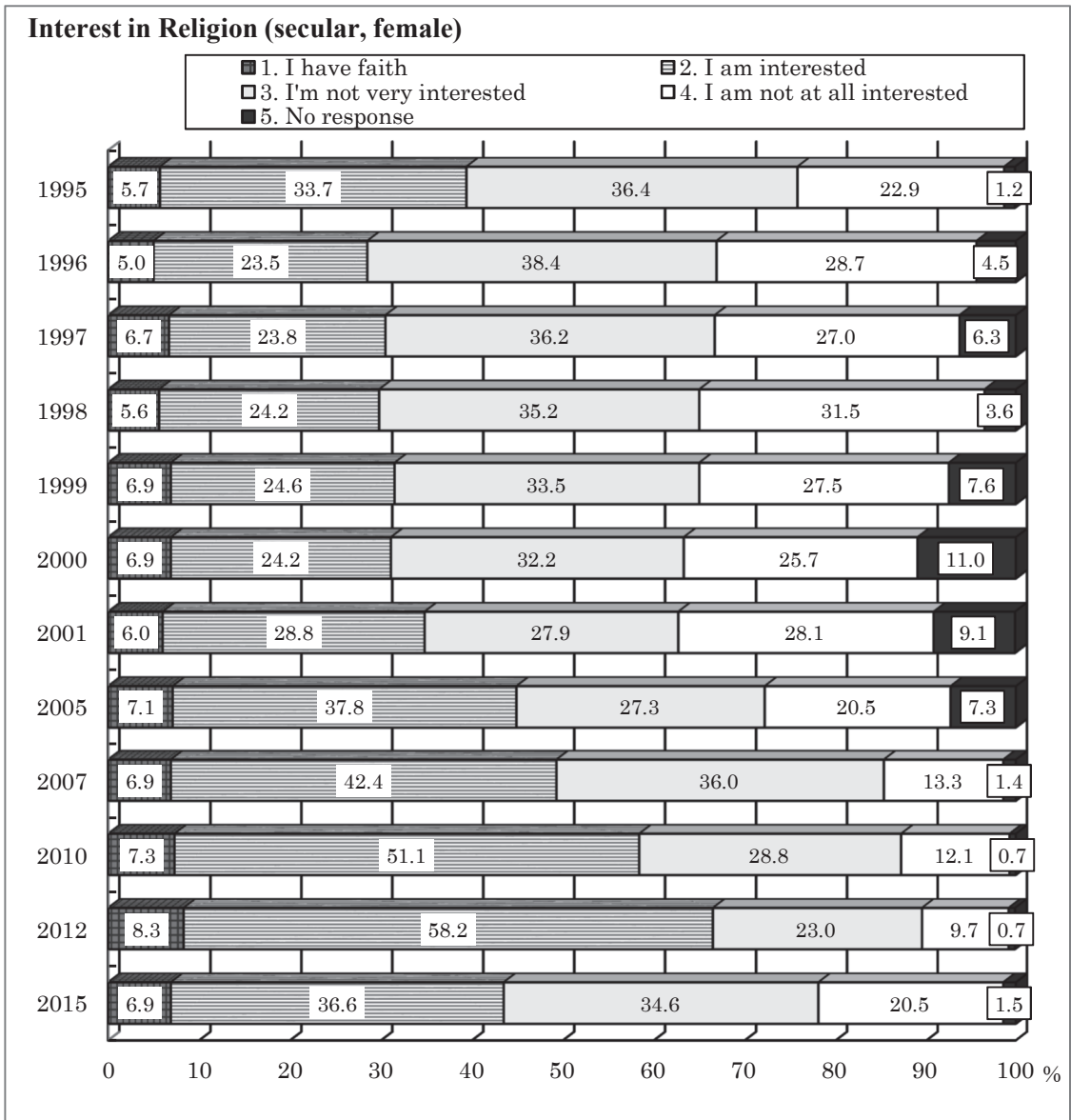


Secular, female

Table 1b5

	1995	1996	1997	1998	1999	2000	2001	2005	2007	2010	2012	2015
1. I have faith	5.7	5.0	6.7	5.6	6.9	6.9	6.0	7.1	6.9	7.3	8.3	6.9
2. I am interested	33.7	23.5	23.8	24.2	24.6	24.2	28.8	37.8	42.4	51.1	58.2	36.6
3. I'm not very interested	36.4	38.4	36.2	35.2	33.5	32.2	27.9	27.3	36.0	28.8	23.0	34.6
4. I am not at all interested	22.9	28.7	27.0	31.5	27.5	25.7	28.1	20.5	13.3	12.1	9.7	20.5
5. No response	1.2	4.5	6.3	3.6	7.6	11.0	9.1	7.3	1.4	0.7	0.7	1.5

Graph 1b5

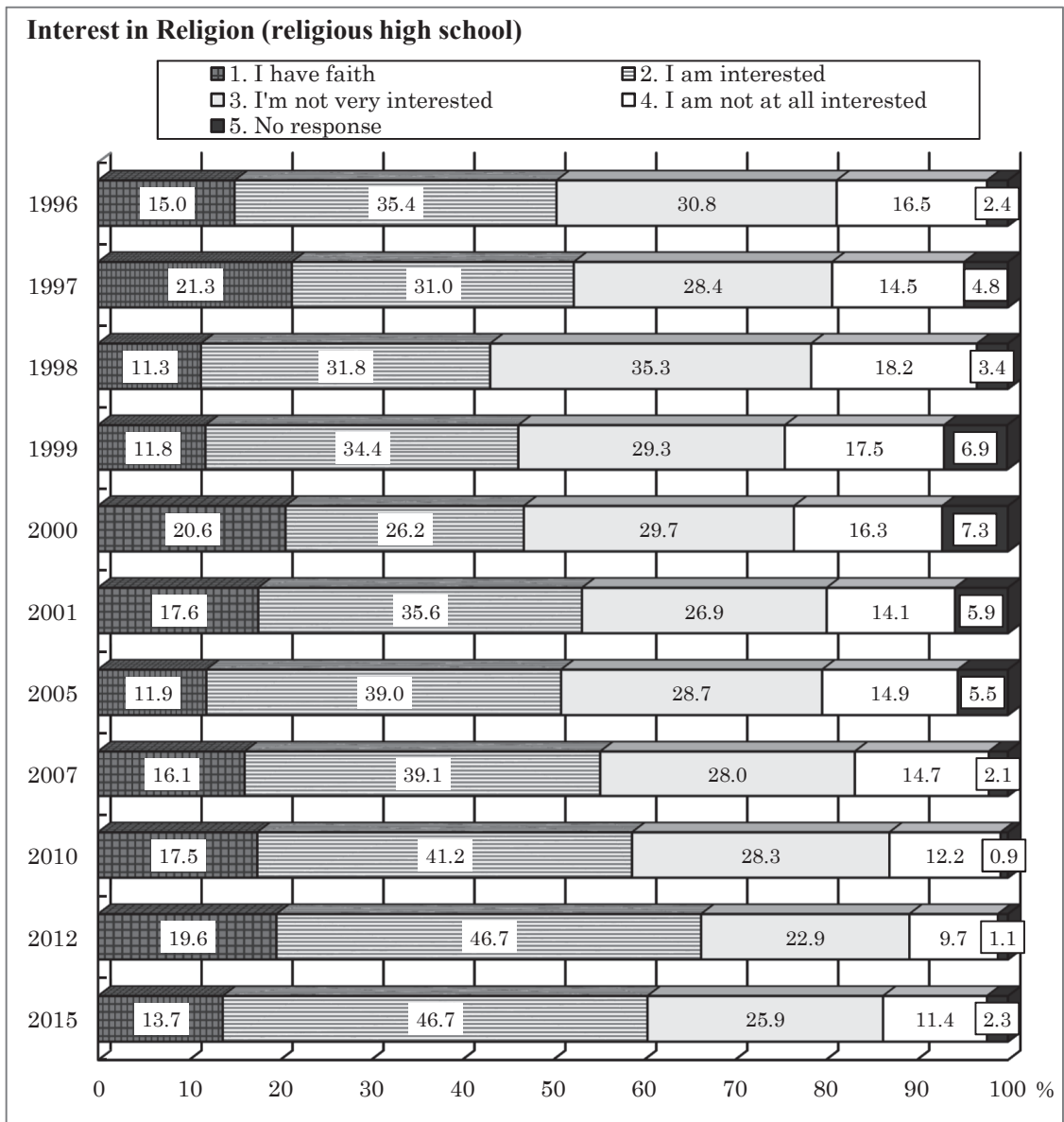


Religious high school

Table 1b6

	1996	1997	1998	1999	2000	2001	2005	2007	2010	2012	2015
1. I have faith	15.0	21.3	11.3	11.8	20.6	17.6	11.9	16.1	17.5	19.6	13.7
2. I am interested	35.4	31.0	31.8	34.4	26.2	35.6	39.0	39.1	41.2	46.7	46.7
3. I'm not very interested	30.8	28.4	35.3	29.3	29.7	26.9	28.7	28.0	28.3	22.9	25.9
4. I am not at all interested	16.5	14.5	18.2	17.5	16.3	14.1	14.9	14.7	12.2	9.7	11.4
5. No response	2.4	4.8	3.4	6.9	7.3	5.9	5.5	2.1	0.9	1.1	2.3

Graph 1b6

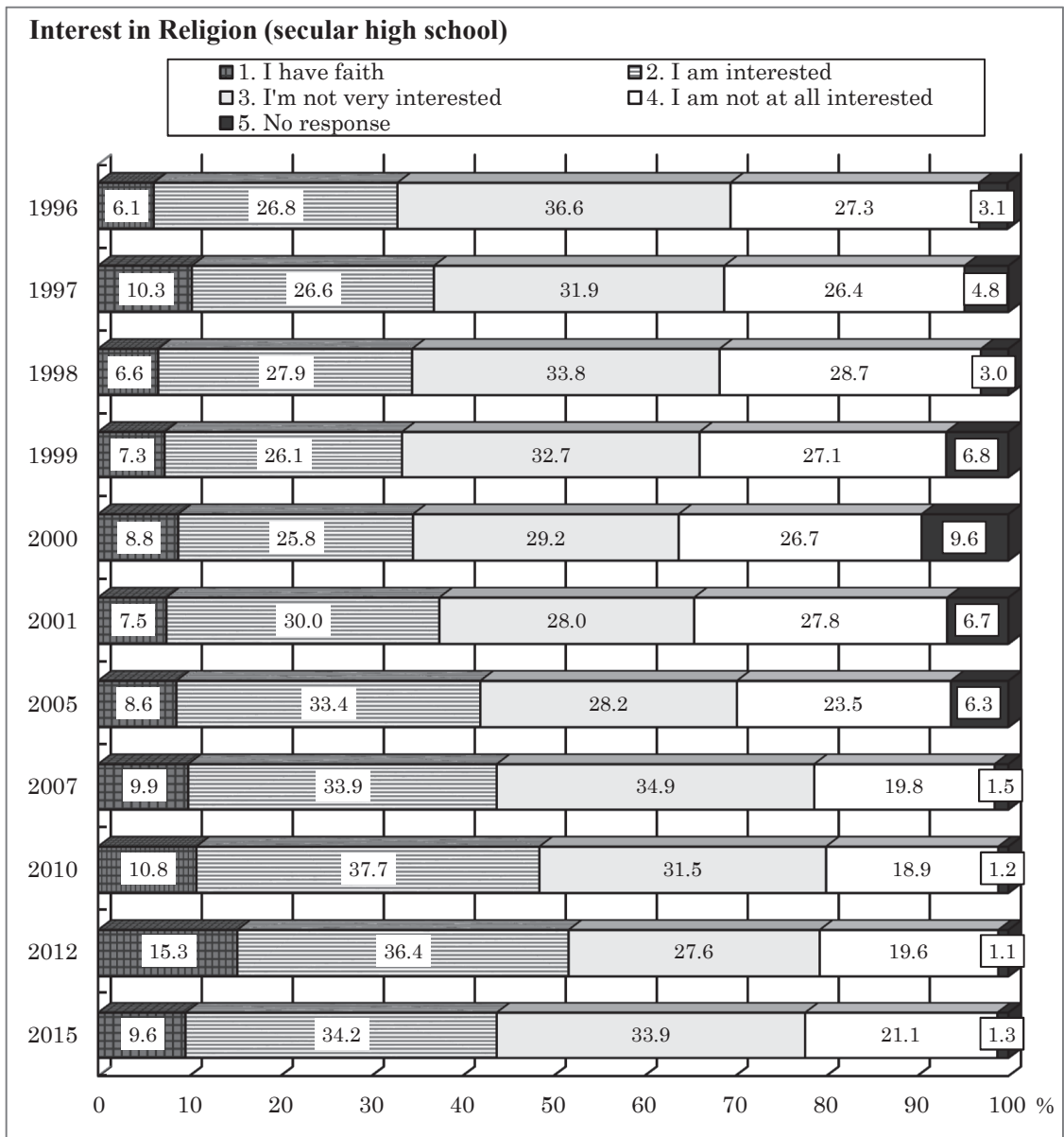


Secular high school

Table 1b7

	1996	1997	1998	1999	2000	2001	2005	2007	2010	2012	2015
1. I have faith	6.1	10.3	6.6	7.3	8.8	7.5	8.6	9.9	10.8	15.3	9.6
2. I am interested	26.8	26.6	27.9	26.1	25.8	30.0	33.4	33.9	37.7	36.4	34.2
3. I'm not very interested	36.6	31.9	33.8	32.7	29.2	28.0	28.2	34.9	31.5	27.6	33.9
4. I am not at all interested	27.3	26.4	28.7	27.1	26.7	27.8	23.5	19.8	18.9	19.6	21.1
5. No response	3.1	4.8	3.0	6.8	9.6	6.7	6.3	1.5	1.2	1.1	1.3

Graph 1b7



c) Belief in gods, buddhas, and souls or spirits?

Question Content

What do you think about the existence of gods or buddhas? Please write in the brackets the number that corresponds to your response for each category: (1) "I believe they exist," (2) "It's possible they exist," (3) "I don't really believe they exist," or (4) "I deny it."

1. The existence of gods []
2. The existence of buddhas []
3. The existence of souls or spirits []

The table below presents trends in the responses to these questions regarding the existence of gods, buddhas, and souls or spirits.

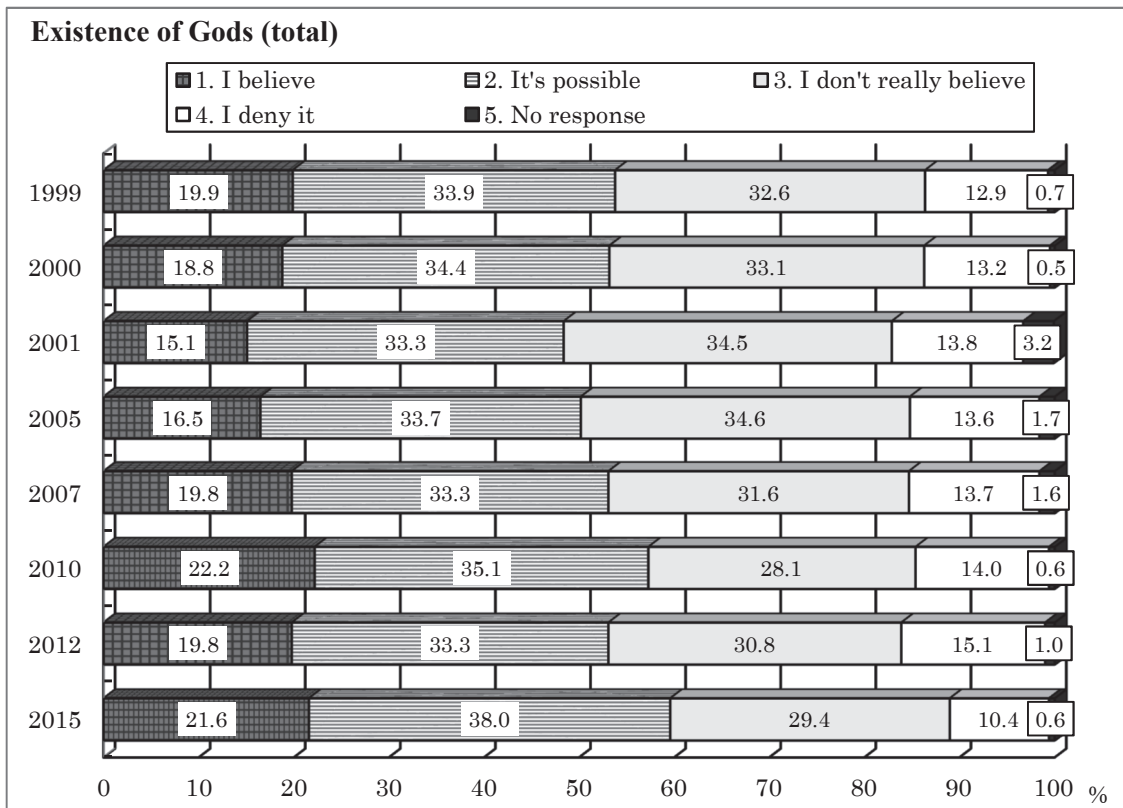
[1] Existence of gods

Total

Table 1c1

	1999	2000	2001	2005	2007	2010	2012	2015
1. I believe	19.9	18.8	15.1	16.5	19.8	22.2	19.8	21.6
2. It's possible	33.9	34.4	33.3	33.7	33.3	35.1	33.3	38.0
3. I don't really believe	32.6	33.1	34.5	34.6	31.6	28.1	30.8	29.4
4. I deny it	12.9	13.2	13.8	13.6	13.7	14.0	15.1	10.4
5. No response	0.7	0.5	3.2	1.7	1.6	0.6	1.0	0.6

Graph 1c1

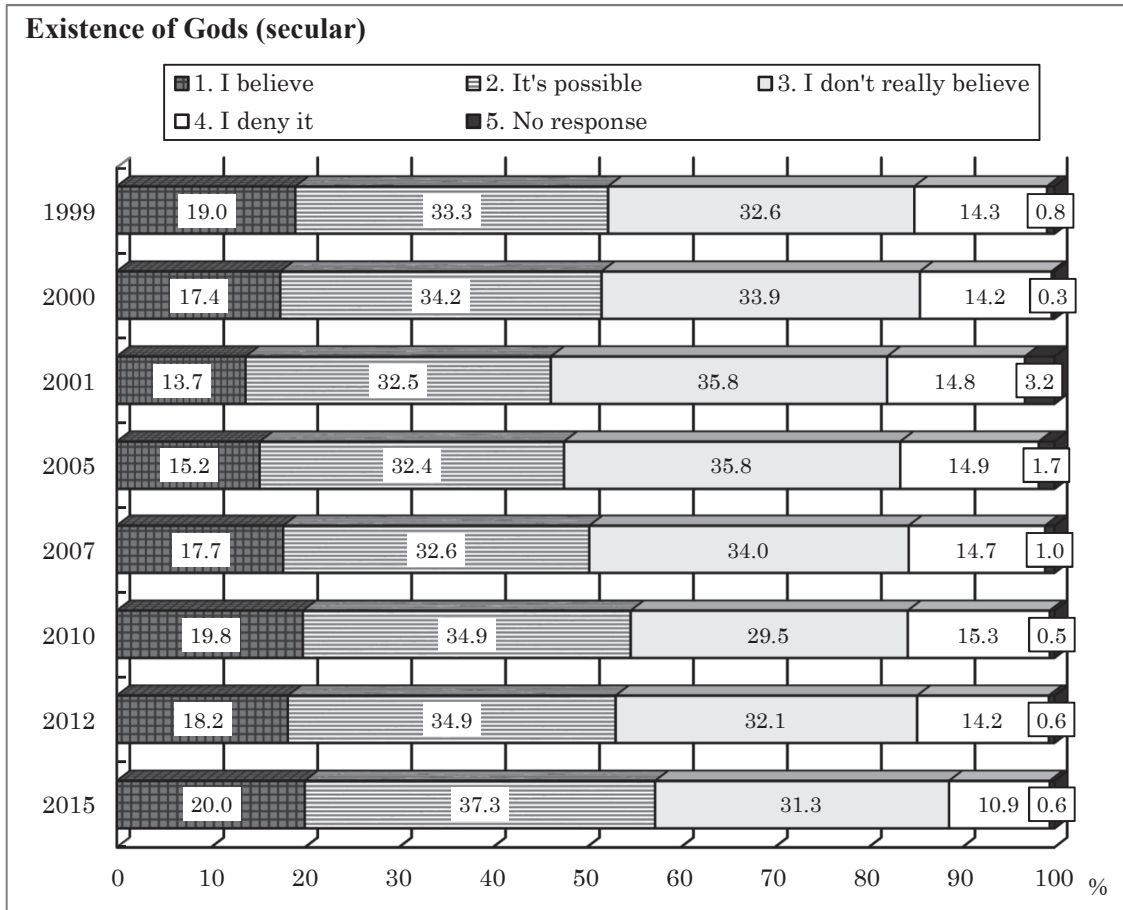


Secular

Table 1c2

	1999	2000	2001	2005	2007	2010	2012	2015
1. I believe	19.0	17.4	13.7	15.2	17.7	19.8	18.2	20.0
2. It's possible	33.3	34.2	32.5	32.4	32.6	34.9	34.9	37.3
3. I don't really believe	32.6	33.9	35.8	35.8	34.0	29.5	32.1	31.3
4. I deny it	14.3	14.2	14.8	14.9	14.7	15.3	14.2	10.9
5. No response	0.8	0.3	3.2	1.7	1.0	0.5	0.6	0.6

Graph 1c2



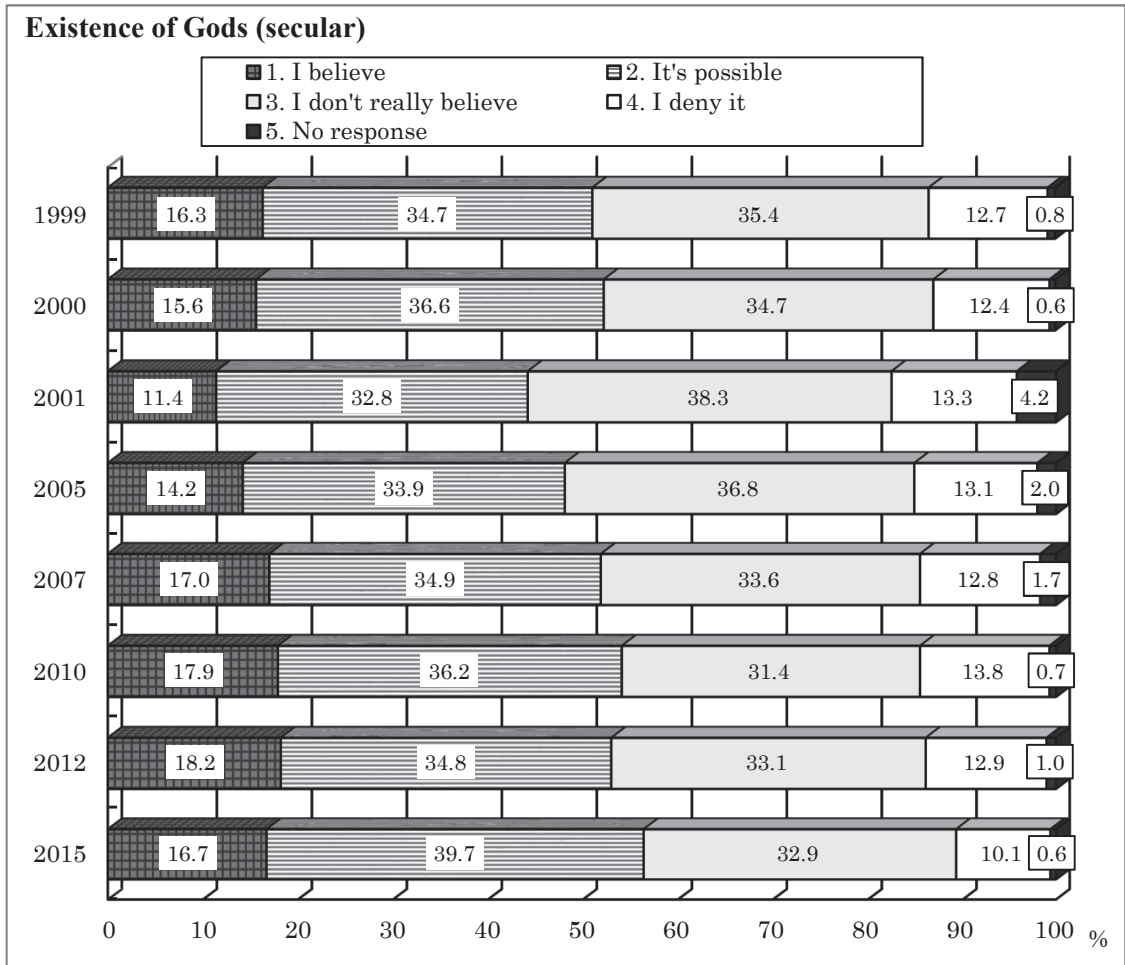
[2] Existence of buddhas

Total

Table 1c3

	1999	2000	2001	2005	2007	2010	2012	2015
1. I believe	16.3	15.6	11.4	14.2	17.0	17.9	18.2	16.7
2. It's possible	34.7	36.6	32.8	33.9	34.9	36.2	34.8	39.7
3. I don't really believe	35.4	34.7	38.3	36.8	33.6	31.4	33.1	32.9
4. I deny it	12.7	12.4	13.3	13.1	12.8	13.8	12.9	10.1
5. No response	0.8	0.6	4.2	2.0	1.7	0.7	1.0	0.6

Graph 1c3

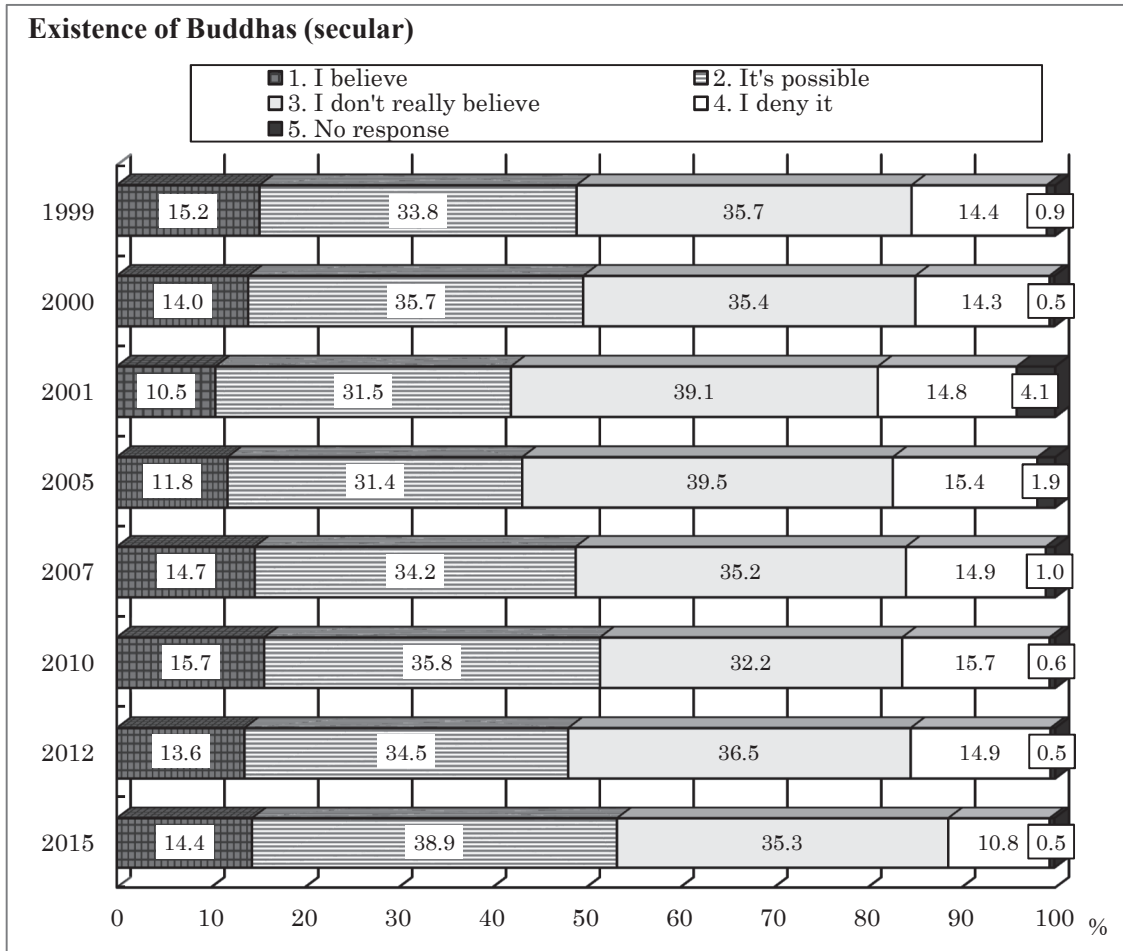


Secular

Table 1c4

	1999	2000	2001	2005	2007	2010	2012	2015
1. I believe	15.2	14.0	10.5	11.8	14.7	15.7	13.6	14.4
2. It's possible	33.8	35.7	31.5	31.4	34.2	35.8	34.5	38.9
3. I don't really believe	35.7	35.4	39.1	39.5	35.2	32.2	36.5	35.3
4. I deny it	14.4	14.3	14.8	15.4	14.9	15.7	14.9	10.8
5. No response	0.9	0.5	4.1	1.9	1.0	0.6	0.5	0.5

Graph 1c4



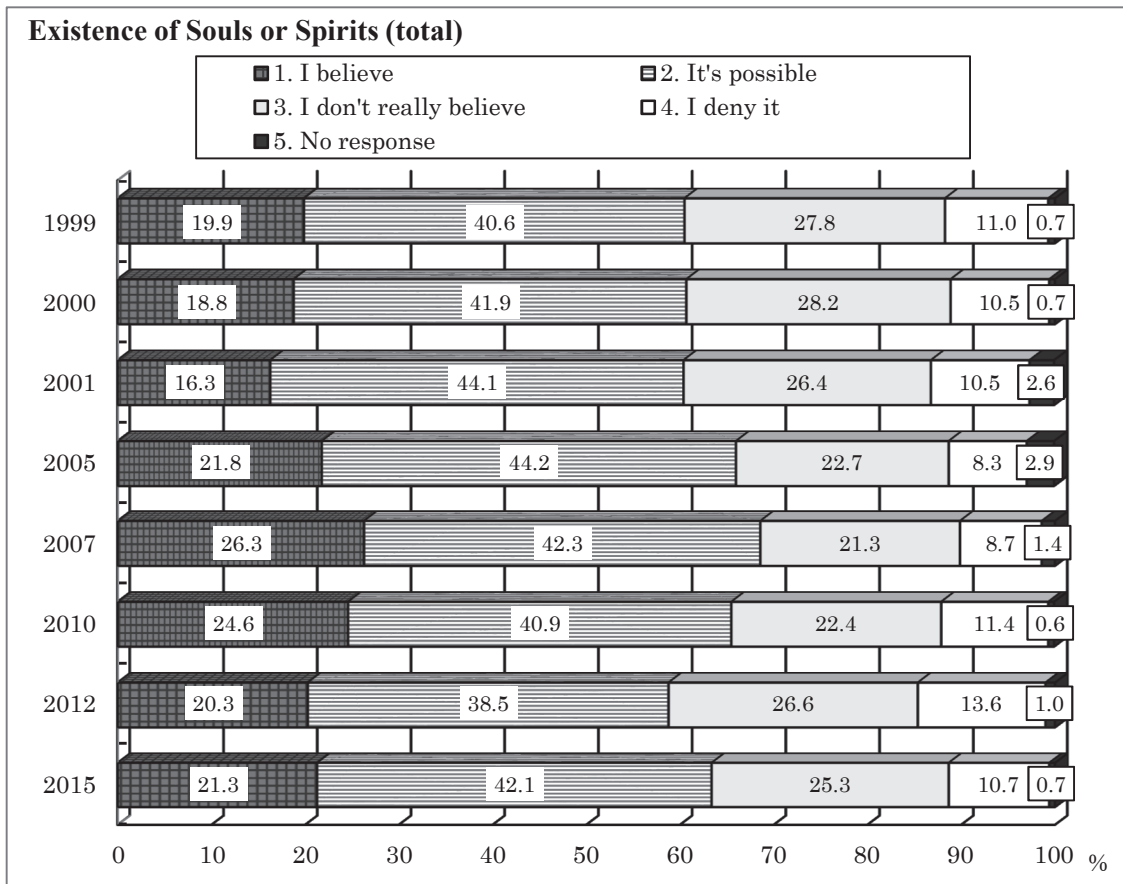
[3] Existence of souls or spirits

Total

Table 1c5

	1999	2000	2001	2005	2007	2010	2012	2015
1. I believe	19.9	18.8	16.3	21.8	26.3	24.6	20.3	21.3
2. It's possible	40.6	41.9	44.1	44.2	42.3	40.9	38.5	42.1
3. I don't really believe	27.8	28.2	26.4	22.7	21.3	22.4	26.6	25.3
4. I deny it	11.0	10.5	10.5	8.3	8.7	11.4	13.6	10.7
5. No response	0.7	0.7	2.6	2.9	1.4	0.6	1.0	0.7

Graph 1c5

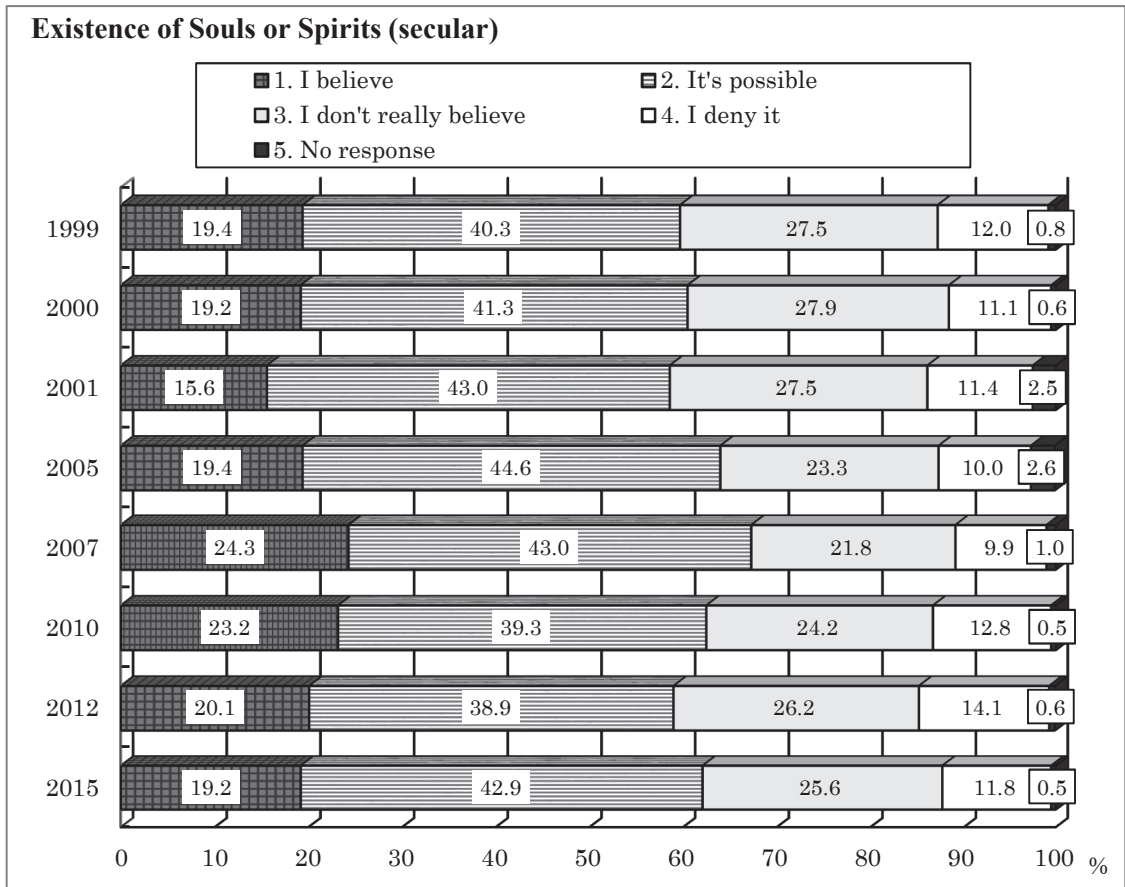


Secular

Table 1c6

	1999	2000	2001	2005	2007	2010	2012	2015
1. I believe	19.4	19.2	15.6	19.4	24.3	23.2	20.1	19.2
2. It's possible	40.3	41.3	43.0	44.6	43.0	39.3	38.9	42.9
3. I don't really believe	27.5	27.9	27.5	23.3	21.8	24.2	26.2	25.6
4. I deny it	12.0	11.1	11.4	10.0	9.9	12.8	14.1	11.8
5. No response	0.8	0.6	2.5	2.6	1.0	0.5	0.6	0.5

Graph 1c6



[4] Our ancestors are watching over us

This question was asked 4 times between 1998 and 2005.

Question Content

Please write in the brackets the number that corresponds to your response regarding each opinion expressed: (1) "I think so," (2) "If I had to say which one, I would say yes," (3) "If I had to say which one, I would say no," or (4) "I don't think so."

"Our ancestors are watching over us" []

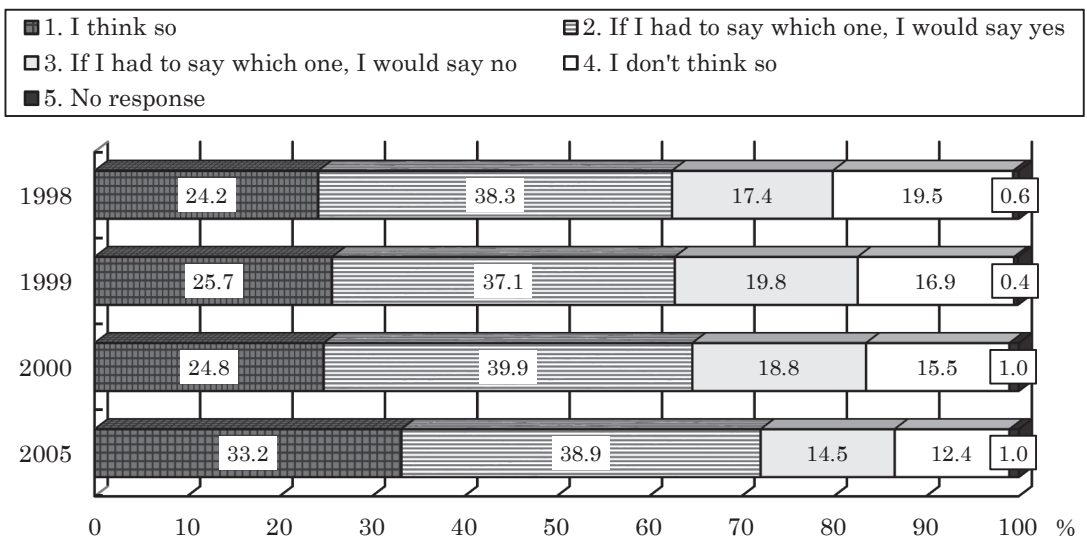
Total

Table 1c7

	1998	1999	2000	2005
1. I think so	24.2	25.7	24.8	33.2
2. If I had to say which one, I would say yes	38.3	37.1	39.9	38.9
3. If I had to say which one, I would say no	17.4	19.8	18.8	14.5
4. I don't think so	19.5	16.9	15.5	12.4
5. No response	0.6	0.4	1.0	1.0

Graph 1c7

Watched Over by Ancestors (total)



Secular

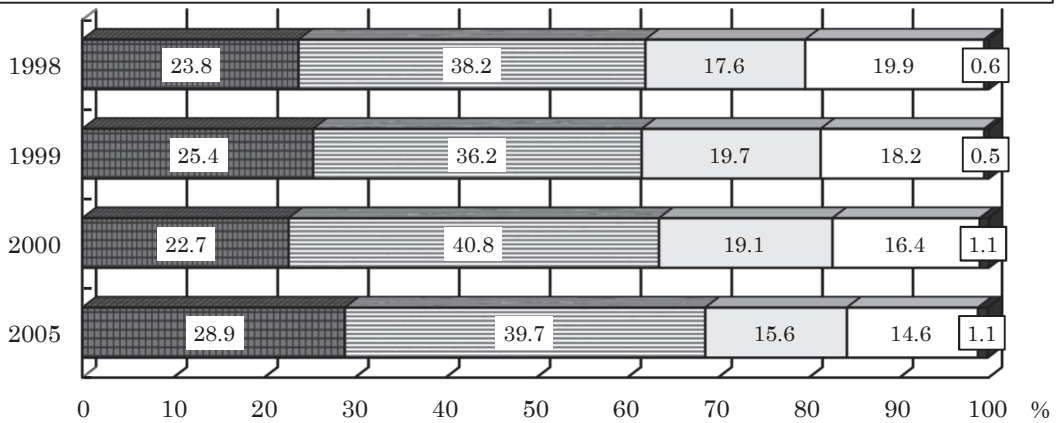
Table 1c8

	1998	1999	2000	2005
1. I think so	23.8	25.4	22.7	28.9
2. If I had to say which one, I would say yes	38.2	36.2	40.8	39.7
3. If I had to say which one, I would say no	17.6	19.7	19.1	15.6
4. I don't think so	19.9	18.2	16.4	14.6
5. No response	0.6	0.5	1.1	1.1

Graph 1c8

Watched Over by Ancestors (secular)

- 1. I think so
- ▨ 2. If I had to say which one, I would say yes
- 3. If I had to say which one, I would say no
- ▩ 4. I don't think so
- 5. No response



[5] The existence of an afterlife

This question was asked 5 times between 1996 and 2000.

Question Content

Please write in the brackets the number that corresponds to your response regarding each item: (1) "I believe it," (2) "I believe it's possible," (3) "I don't really believe it," (4) "I deny it," or (5) "I know nothing of that item."

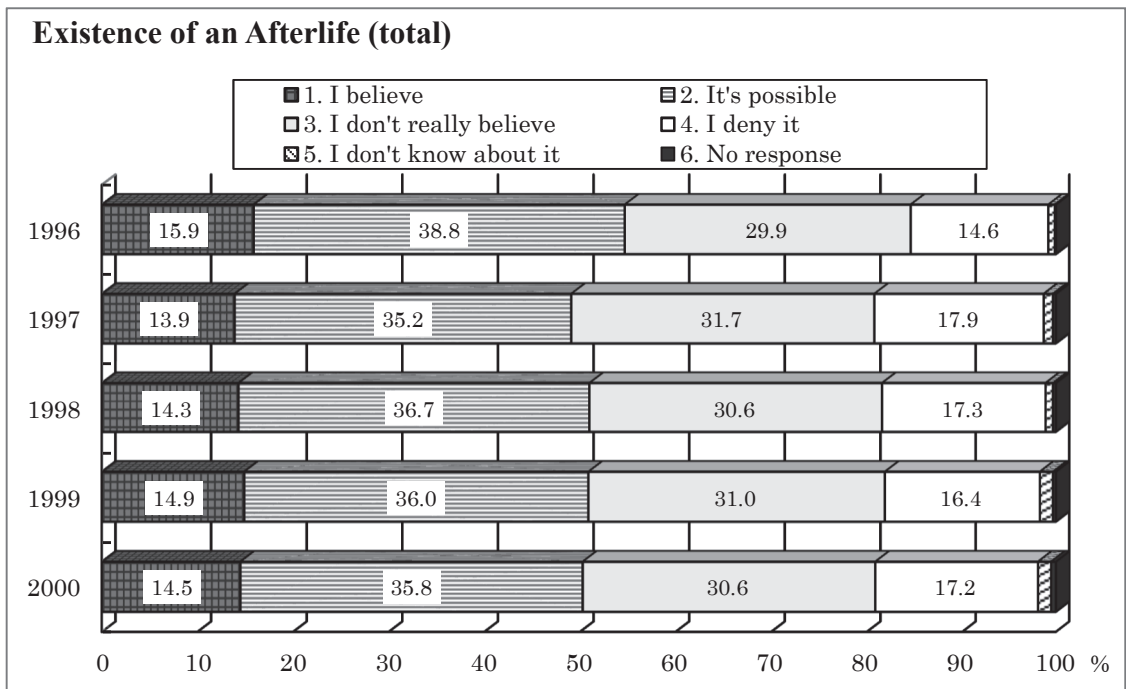
"The existence of an afterlife" []

Total

Table 1c9

	1996	1997	1998	1999	2000
1. I believe	15.9	13.9	14.3	14.9	14.5
2. It's possible	38.8	35.2	36.7	36.0	35.8
3. I don't really believe	29.9	31.7	30.6	31.0	30.6
4. I deny it	14.6	17.9	17.3	16.4	17.2
5. I don't know about it	0.7	1.0	0.8	1.4	1.4
6. No response	0.1	0.3	0.4	0.3	0.5

Graph 1c9

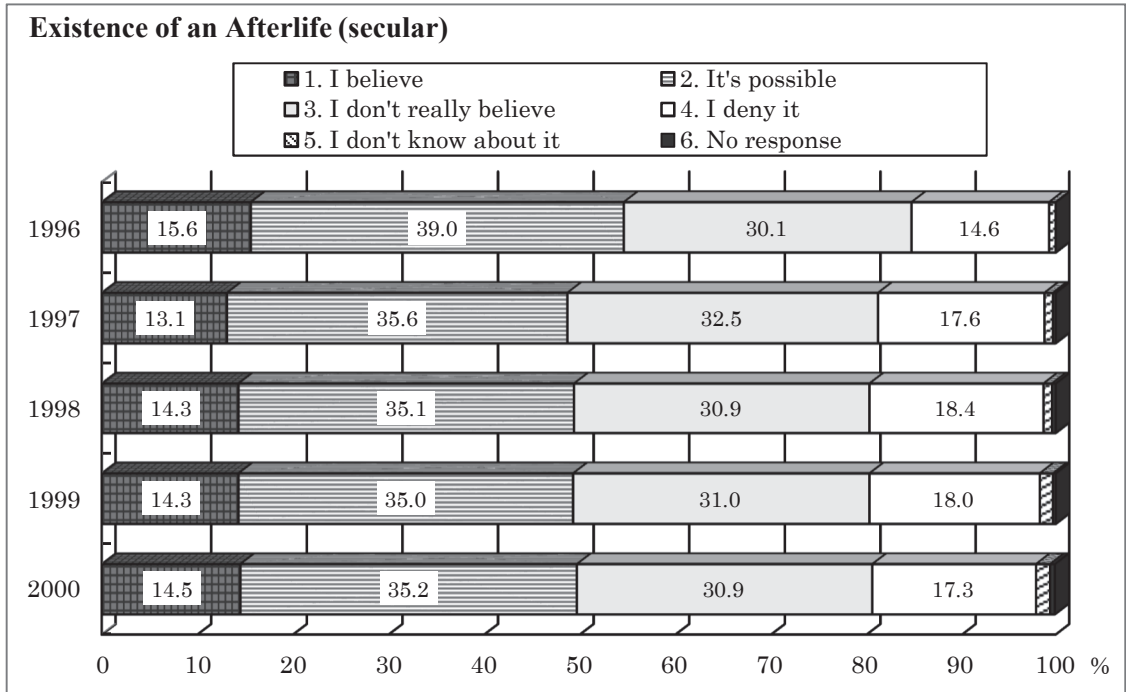


Secular

Table 1c10

	1996	1997	1998	1999	2000
1. I believe	15.6	13.1	14.3	14.3	14.5
2. It's possible	39.0	35.6	35.1	35.0	35.2
3. I don't really believe	30.1	32.5	30.9	31.0	30.9
4. I deny it	14.6	17.6	18.4	18.0	17.3
5. I don't know about it	0.7	0.9	0.9	1.4	1.5
6. No response	0.1	0.3	0.4	0.3	0.5

Graph 1c10



Chapter 2: Religious Environment in the Home

a) Family's religion

Responses regarding a family's religion differed considerably between religious and secular school students. The religious school responses were greatly impacted by the number of respondents from Sōka University and Tenri University, and so accordingly in the comparative sense there is a sharp split between religious and secular school students.

Question Content

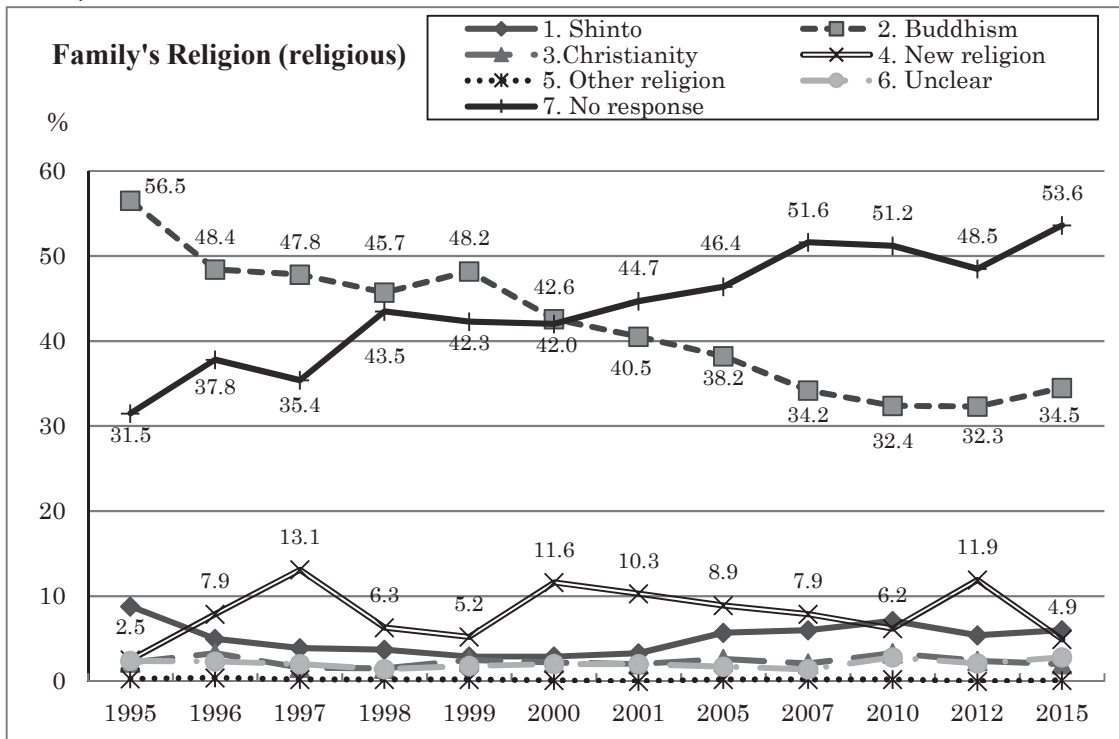
If you have a "family religion," please examine the Names of Religions list and write down the number or specific name corresponding to that religion. If your family has two or more religions, please write them all down. []

Religious

Table 2a1

	1995	1996	1997	1998	1999	2000	2001	2005	2007	2010	2012	2015
1. Shinto	8.8	5.0	3.9	3.7	2.9	2.9	3.3	5.7	6.0	7.1	5.4	6.0
2. Buddhism	56.5	48.4	47.8	45.7	48.2	42.6	40.5	38.2	34.2	32.4	32.3	34.5
3. Christianity	2.2	3.3	1.6	1.5	2.5	2.2	2.0	2.6	2.1	3.3	2.4	2.0
4. New religion	2.5	7.9	13.1	6.3	5.2	11.6	10.3	8.9	7.9	6.2	11.9	4.9
5. Other religion	0.3	0.4	0.2	0.2	0.2	0.1	0.0	0.2	0.2	0.2	0.0	0.1
6. Unclear	2.4	2.3	2.0	1.4	1.8	2.0	2.0	1.7	1.4	2.8	2.1	2.8
7. No response	31.5	37.8	35.4	43.5	42.3	42.0	44.7	46.4	51.6	51.2	48.5	53.6

Graph 2a1

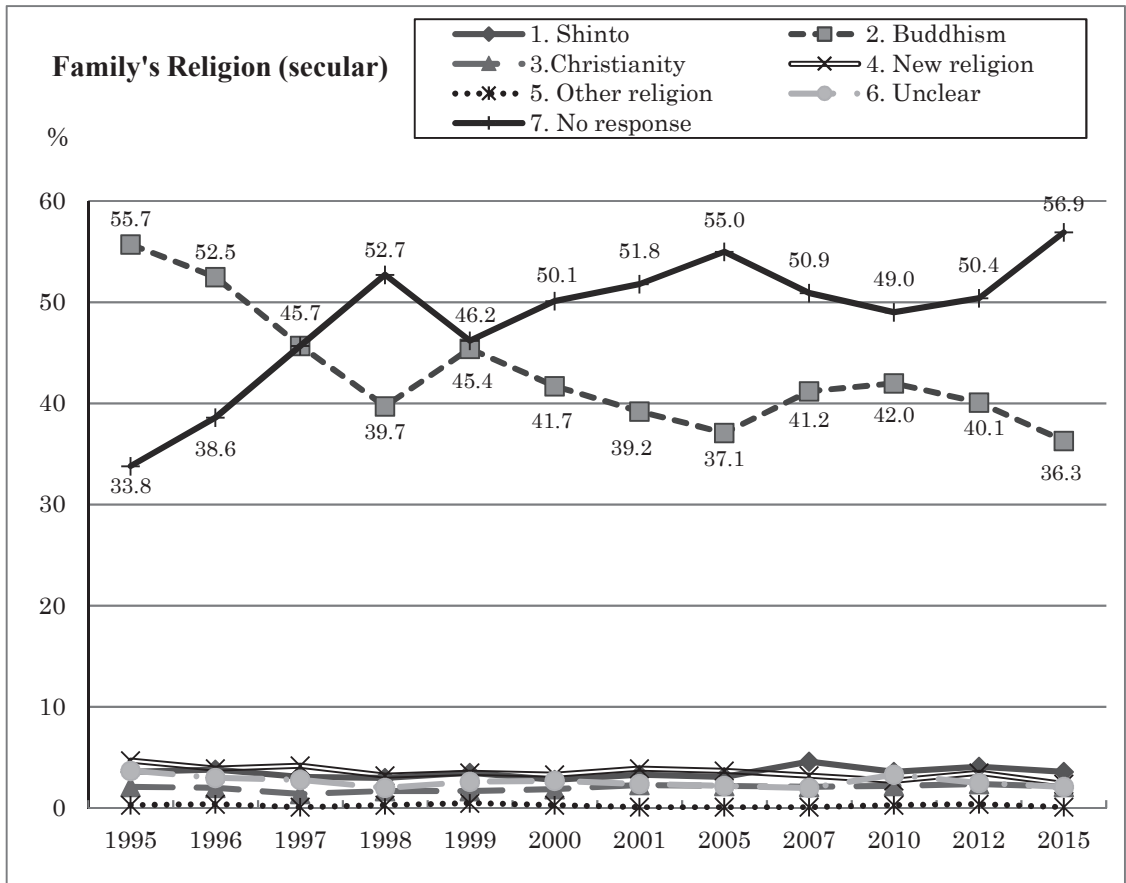


Secular

Table 2a2

	1995	1996	1997	1998	1999	2000	2001	2005	2007	2010	2012	2015
1. Shinto	3.6	3.8	3.1	3.0	3.5	2.8	3.3	3.1	4.6	3.6	4.1	3.6
2. Buddhism	55.7	52.5	45.7	39.7	45.4	41.7	39.2	37.1	41.2	42.0	40.1	36.3
3. Christianity	2.1	2.0	1.4	1.7	1.7	1.9	2.3	2.2	2.1	2.2	2.4	2.1
4. New religion	4.7	3.9	4.2	3.2	3.5	3.3	3.9	3.7	3.2	2.7	3.5	2.4
5. Other religion	0.3	0.4	0.1	0.3	0.5	0.3	0.1	0.1	0.1	0.3	0.4	0.1
6. Unclear	3.7	3.0	2.8	2.0	2.6	2.7	2.4	2.2	2.0	3.3	2.5	2.1
7. No response	33.8	38.6	45.7	52.7	46.2	50.1	51.8	55.0	50.9	49.0	50.4	56.9

Graph 2a2



b) Faith of parents

The questions regarding parents' religious faith went so far as to ask for the specific names of religions, but here we compare only the responses about whether or not they had such faith or not.

Question Content

Does your father personally have faith in a religion? 1. Yes 2. No

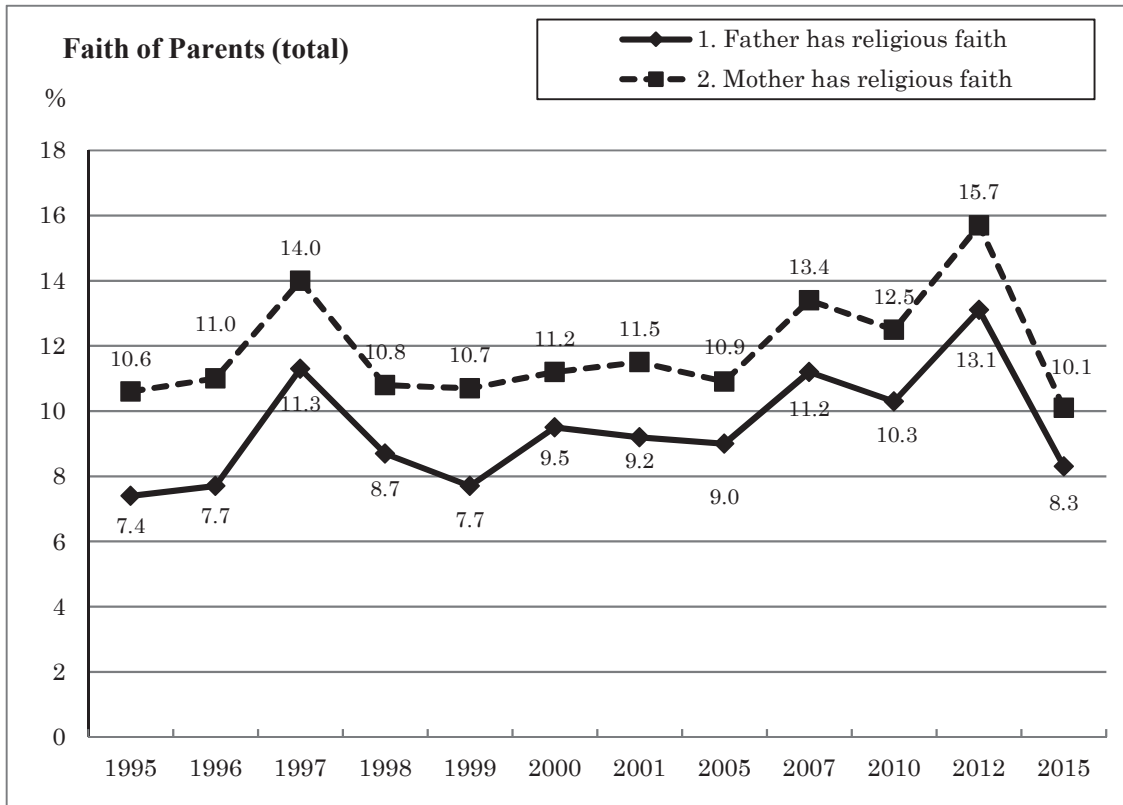
Does your mother personally have faith in a religion? 1. Yes 2. No

Total

Table 2b1

	1995	1996	1997	1998	1999	2000	2001	2005	2007	2010	2012	2015
1. Father has religious faith	7.4	7.7	11.3	8.7	7.7	9.5	9.2	9.0	11.2	10.3	13.1	8.3
2. Mother has religious faith	10.6	11.0	14.0	10.8	10.7	11.2	11.5	10.9	13.4	12.5	15.7	10.1

Graph 2b1

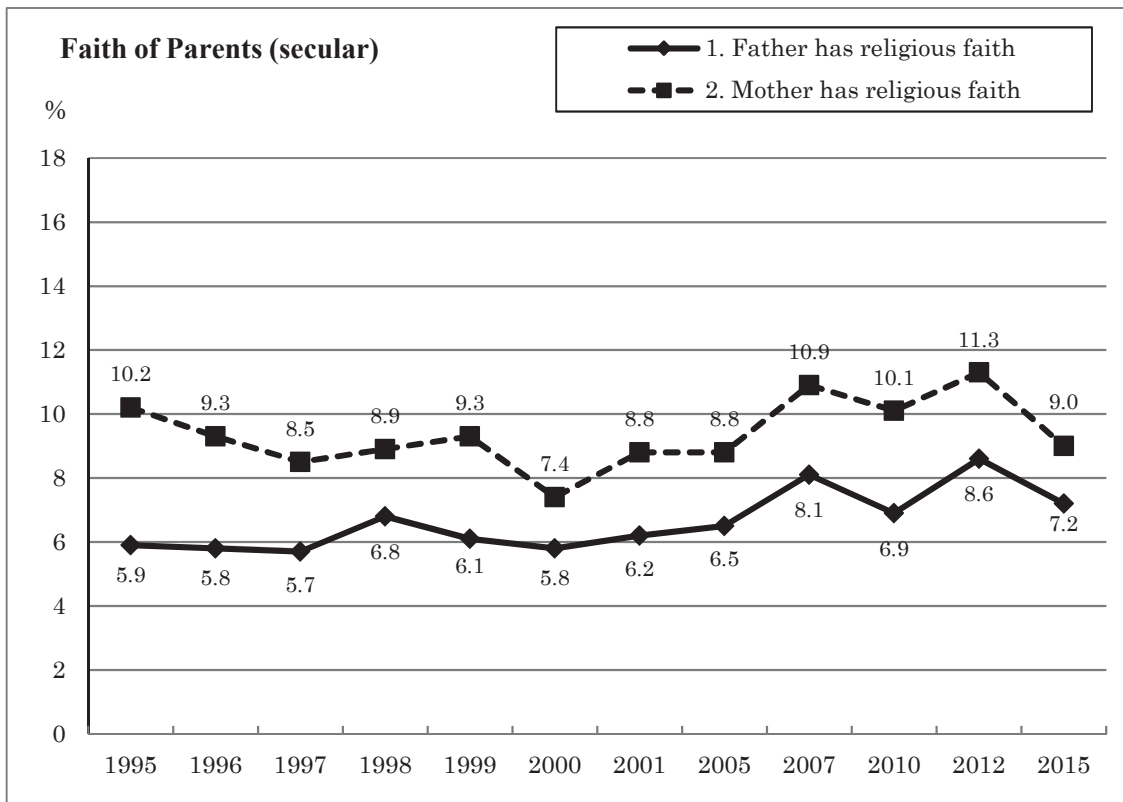


Secular

Table 2b2

	1995	1996	1997	1998	1999	2000	2001	2005	2007	2010	2012	2015
1. Father has religious faith	5.9	5.8	5.7	6.8	6.1	5.8	6.2	6.5	8.1	6.9	8.6	7.2
2. Mother has religious faith	10.2	9.3	8.5	8.9	9.3	7.4	8.8	8.8	10.9	10.1	11.3	9.0

Graph 2b2



*Whether looking at the whole or only at respondents from secular institutions, the rate of mothers having faith is consistently higher than that of fathers throughout the 12 surveys.

c) Household Shinto and Buddhist altars

These questions ask about whether or not the respondent's home had a Shinto or Buddhist household altar or some other religious object. This was asked in order to find out whether or not the respondent's family and not the respondent personally had such altars or objects at home.

Question Content

Please choose any or all of the following religious objects that you have in your home (if you are currently living by yourself, your childhood home).

1. Shinto household altar
2. Buddhist household altar
3. Item displaying photo of a deceased close relative
4. Other religious object (Specifically:)

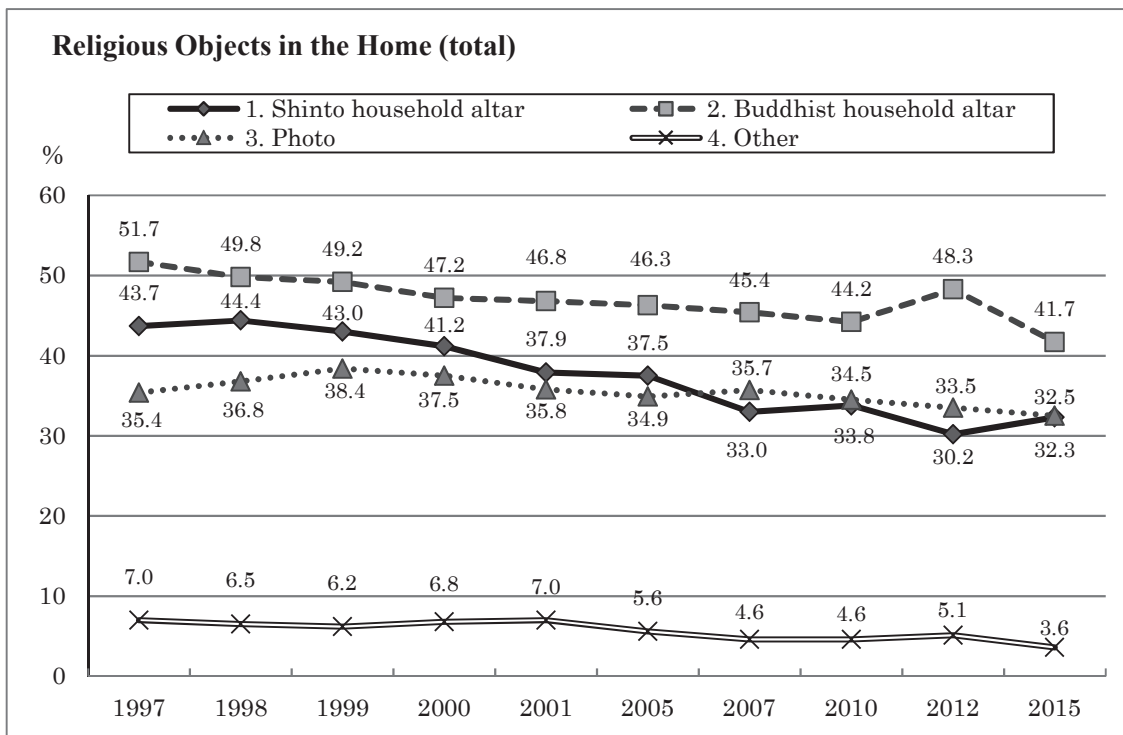
Total

Table 2c1

	1997	1998	1999	2000	2001	2005	2007	2010	2012	2015
1. Shinto household altar	43.7	44.4	43.0	41.2	37.9	37.5	33.0	33.8	30.2	32.3
2. Buddhist household altar	51.7	49.8	49.2	47.2	46.8	46.3	45.4	44.2	48.3	41.7
3. Photo	35.4	36.8	38.4	37.5	35.8	34.9	35.7	34.5	33.5	32.5
4. Other	7.0	6.5	6.2	6.8	7.0	5.6	4.6	4.6	5.1	3.6

*Specific options included "Shinto household altar," "Buddhist household altar," "Item displaying photo of a deceased close relative," and "Other religious object." Multiple answers were possible.

Graph 2c1

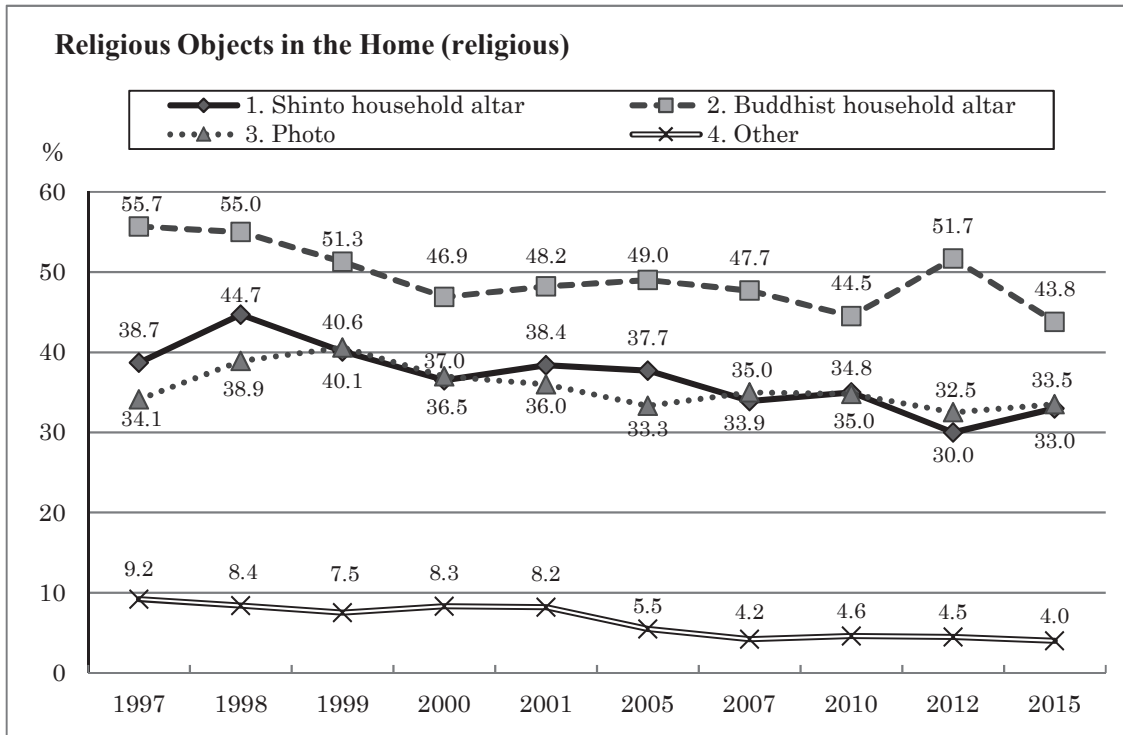


Religious

Table 2c2

	1997	1998	1999	2000	2001	2005	2007	2010	2012	2015
1. Shinto household altar	38.7	44.7	40.1	36.5	38.4	37.7	33.9	35.0	30.0	33.5
2. Buddhist household altar	55.7	55.0	51.3	46.9	48.2	49.0	47.7	44.5	51.7	43.8
3. Photo	34.1	38.9	40.6	37.0	36.0	33.3	35.0	34.8	32.5	33.5
4. Other	9.2	8.4	7.5	8.3	8.2	5.5	4.2	4.6	4.5	4.0

Graph 2c2

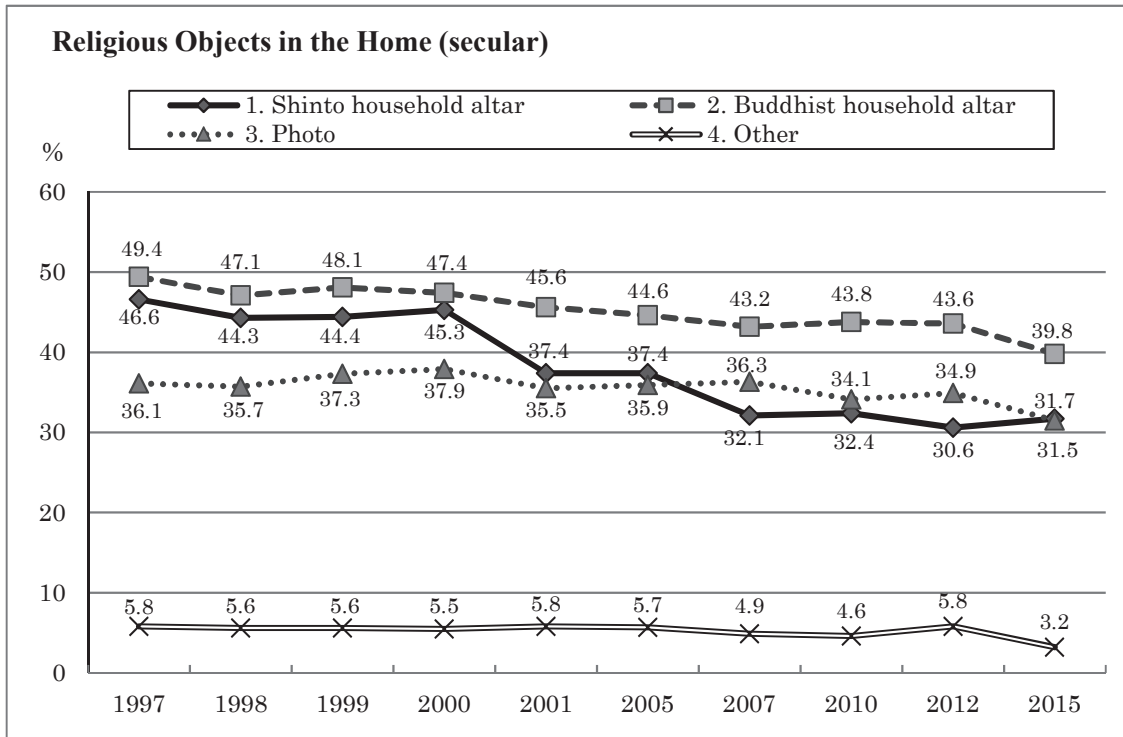


Secular

Table 2c3

	1997	1998	1999	2000	2001	2005	2007	2010	2012	2015
1. Shinto household altar	46.6	44.3	44.4	45.3	37.4	37.4	32.1	32.4	30.6	31.7
2. Buddhist household altar	49.4	47.1	48.1	47.4	45.6	44.6	43.2	43.8	43.6	39.8
3. Photo	36.1	35.7	37.3	37.9	35.5	35.9	36.3	34.1	34.9	31.5
4. Other	5.8	5.6	5.6	5.5	5.8	5.7	4.9	4.6	5.8	3.2

Graph 2c3



Chapter 3: Involvement with Religious Customs

With respect to religious customs, each outing of the survey asked questions about visiting Shinto shrines at New Year's (*hatsumode*) and visiting the graves of deceased relatives during the summer festival of the dead (*obon no haka-mairi*). Questions regarding marking *setsubun* (the last day of winter under the lunisolar calendar) and celebrating Christmas were asked only once apiece, but the responses are included here for comparative purposes.

a) Visiting Shinto Shrines at New Year's

Question Content

What did you do for this year's New Year's Shinto shrine visit? Please choose from among the following options.

1. I visited with my family; 2. I visited separately from my family; 3. Members of my family made visits, but I did not go; 4. Nobody from my family made a visit; 5. Other []

(However, in 1995 only the question asked was, "What did your family do for this year's New Year's Shinto shrine visit?")

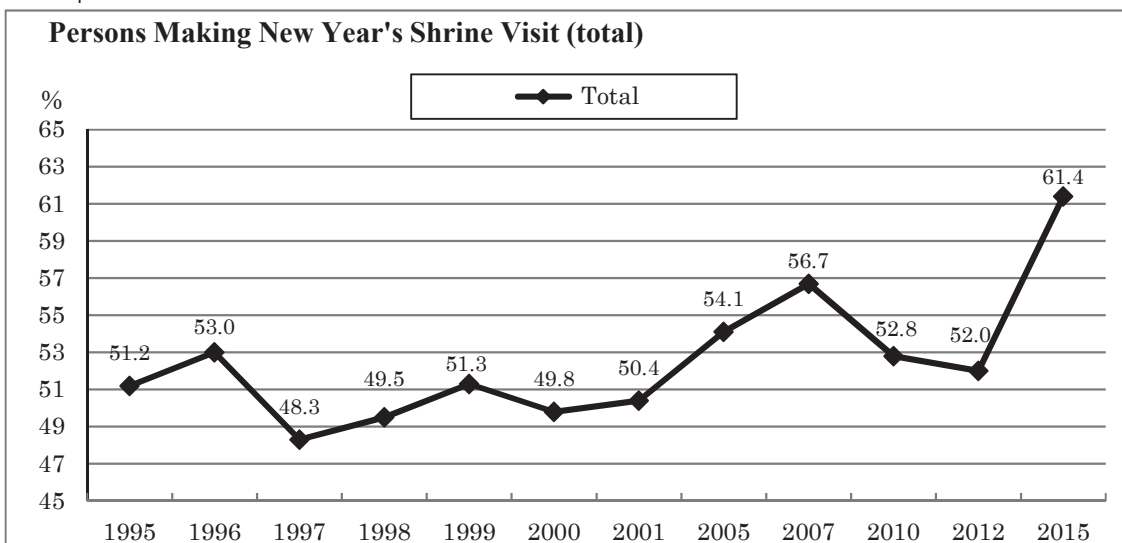
The table shows the percentages for those respondents who answered "I visited with my family" or "I visited separately from my family."

Total

Table 3a1

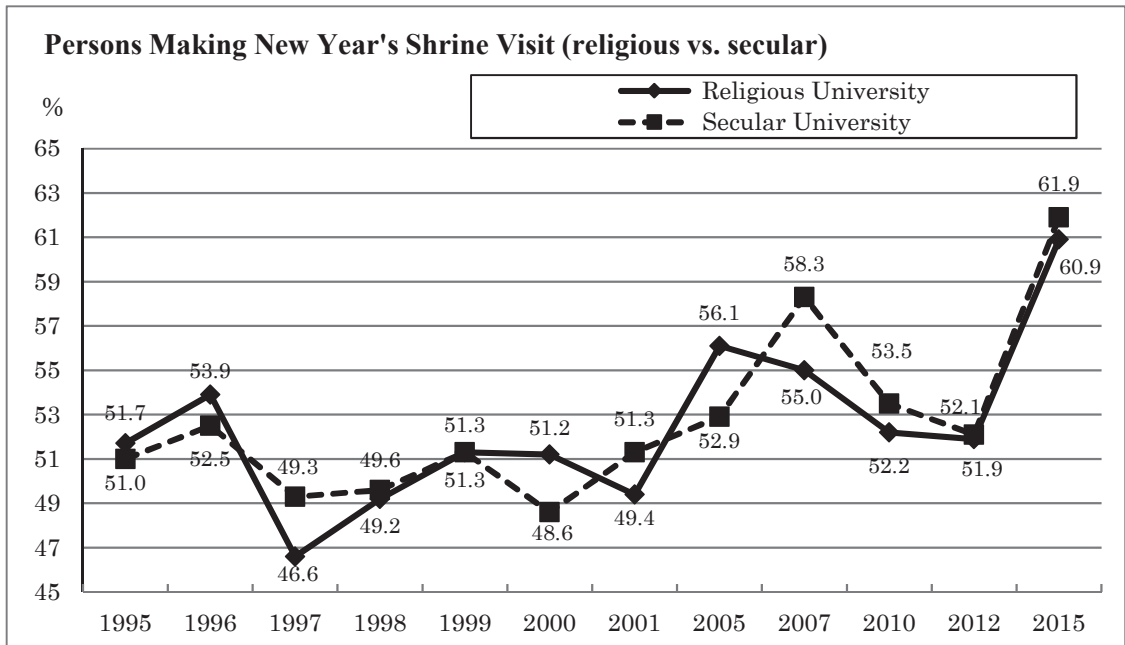
	1995	1996	1997	1998	1999	2000	2001	2005	2007	2010	2012	2015
Total	51.2	53.0	48.3	49.5	51.3	49.8	50.4	54.1	56.7	52.8	52.0	61.4
Religious University	51.7	53.9	46.6	49.2	51.3	51.2	49.4	56.1	55.0	52.2	51.9	60.9
Secular University	51.0	52.5	49.3	49.6	51.3	48.6	51.3	52.9	58.3	53.5	52.1	61.9

Graph 3a1



Comparison of Religious to Secular

Graph 3a2



b) Visiting graves

Question Content

What did you do about visiting graves during the summer festival of the dead last year? Please choose from among the following options.

1. I visited with my family; 2. Members of my family visited, but I did not go
3. I visited separately from my family; 4. Nobody from my family made a visit; 5. Other []

(In 1995, the survey asked, "What did your family do about visiting graves during the summer festival of the dead last year?")

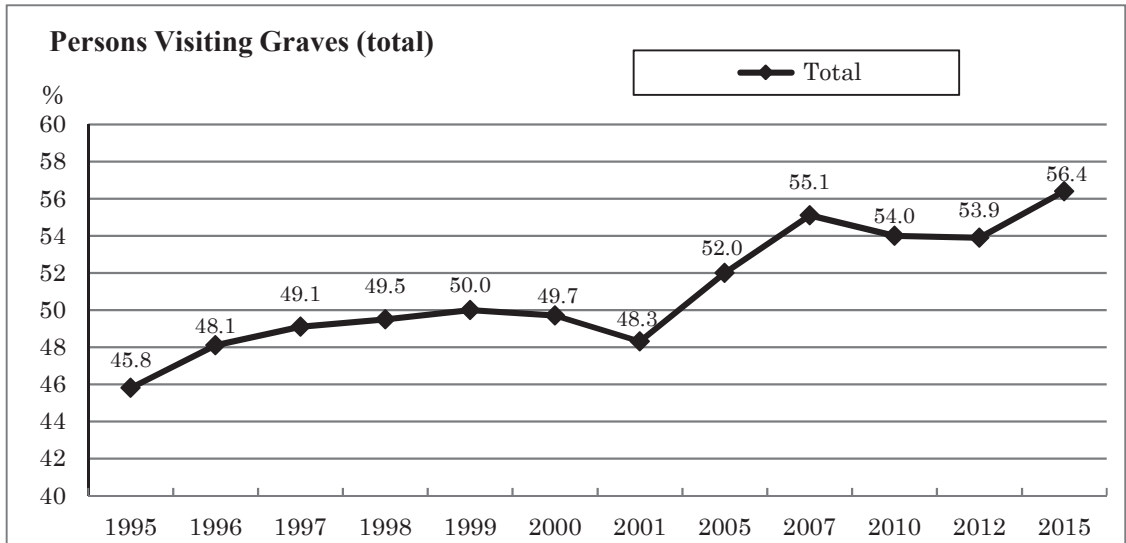
The table shows the percentages for those respondents who answered "I visited with my family" or "I visited separately from my family."

Table 3b1

	1995	1996	1997	1998	1999	2000	2001	2005	2007	2010	2012	2015
Total	45.8	48.1	49.1	49.5	50.0	49.7	48.3	52.0	55.1	54.0	53.9	56.4
Religious University	45.3	44.1	44.3	47.3	48.4	47.3	46.2	53.3	55.8	55.2	55.3	58.3
Secular University	46.1	50.2	51.8	50.7	50.9	51.7	50.1	51.3	54.4	52.6	51.9	54.6

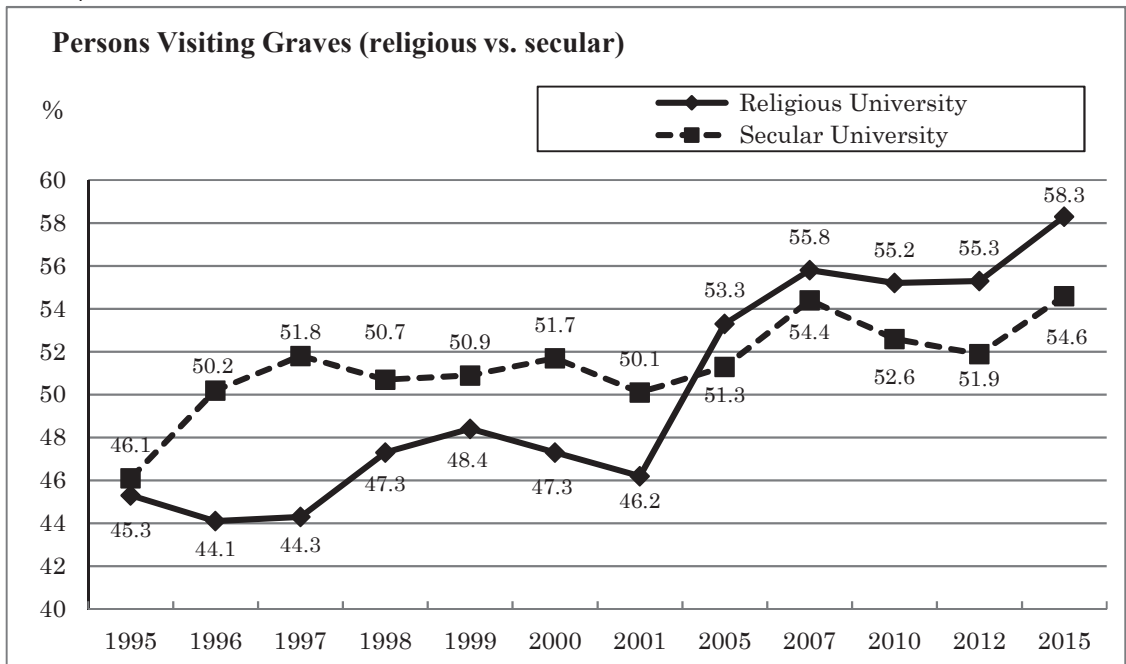
Total

Graph 3b1



Comparison of Religious to Secular

Graph 3b2



c) Christmas and *setsubun*

[1] Christmas

Question Content

What did your family do for Christmas last year? Please choose from among the following options.

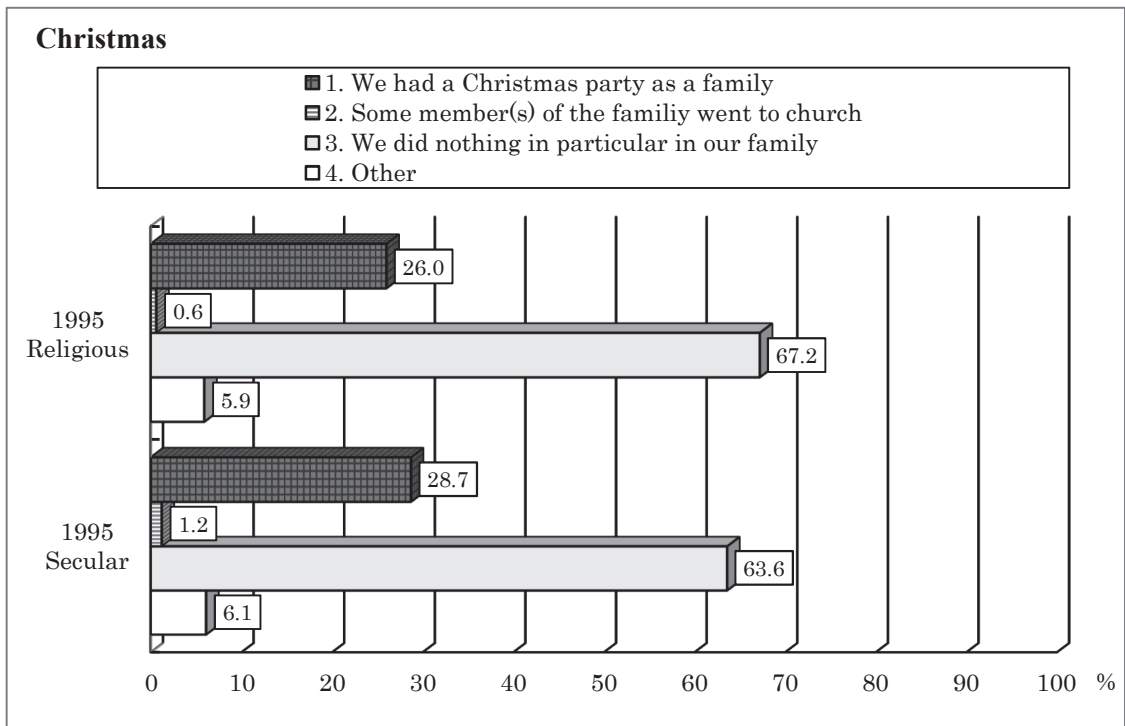
1. We had a Christmas party as a family
2. Some member(s) of the family went to church
3. We did nothing in particular in our family
4. Other []

Table 3c1

	1995 Religious	1995 Secular
1. We had a Christmas party as a family	26.0	28.7
2. Some member(s) of the family went to church	0.6	1.2
3. We did nothing in particular in our family	67.2	63.6
4. Other	5.9	6.1

*Multiple responses were possible for this question.

Graph 3c1



[2] Setsubun

Question Content

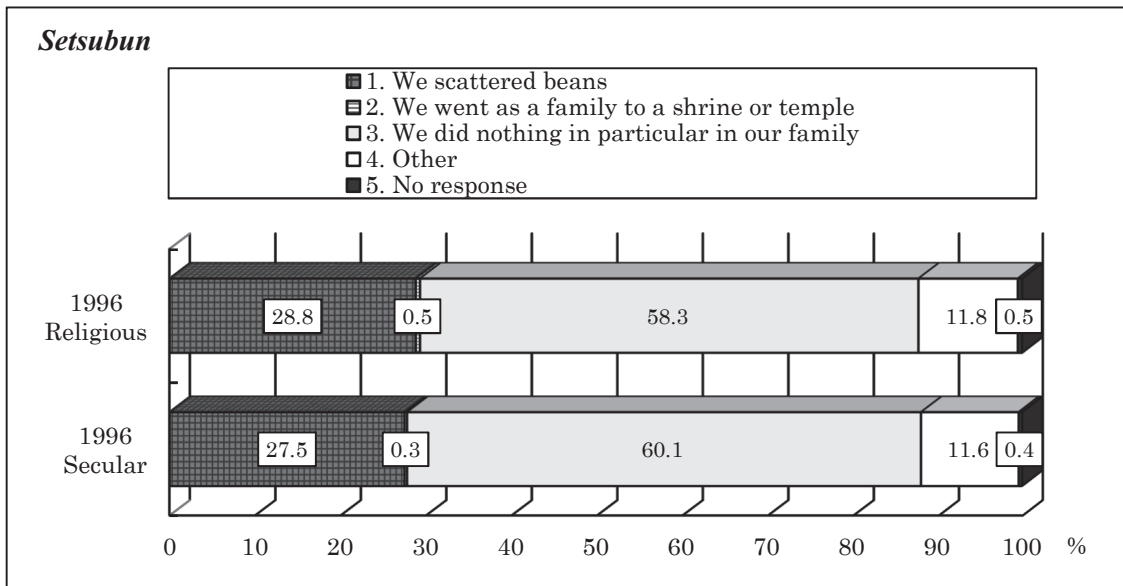
What did you do for this year's *setsubun*? Please choose from among the following options.

1. We scattered beans
2. We went as a family to a shrine or temple
3. We did nothing in particular in our family
4. Other []

Table 3c2

	1996 Religious	1996 Secular
1. We scattered beans	28.8	27.5
2. We went as a family to a shrine or temple	0.5	0.3
3. We did nothing in particular in our family	58.3	60.1
4. Other	11.8	11.6
5. No response	0.5	0.4

Graph 3c2



d) Funerals

Regarding funerals, the surveys asked what sort of funeral a respondent wanted to have and about their awareness regarding the scattering of cremains and natural burials.

[1] Type of funeral I prefer when I die

Question Content

What kind of funeral do you want?

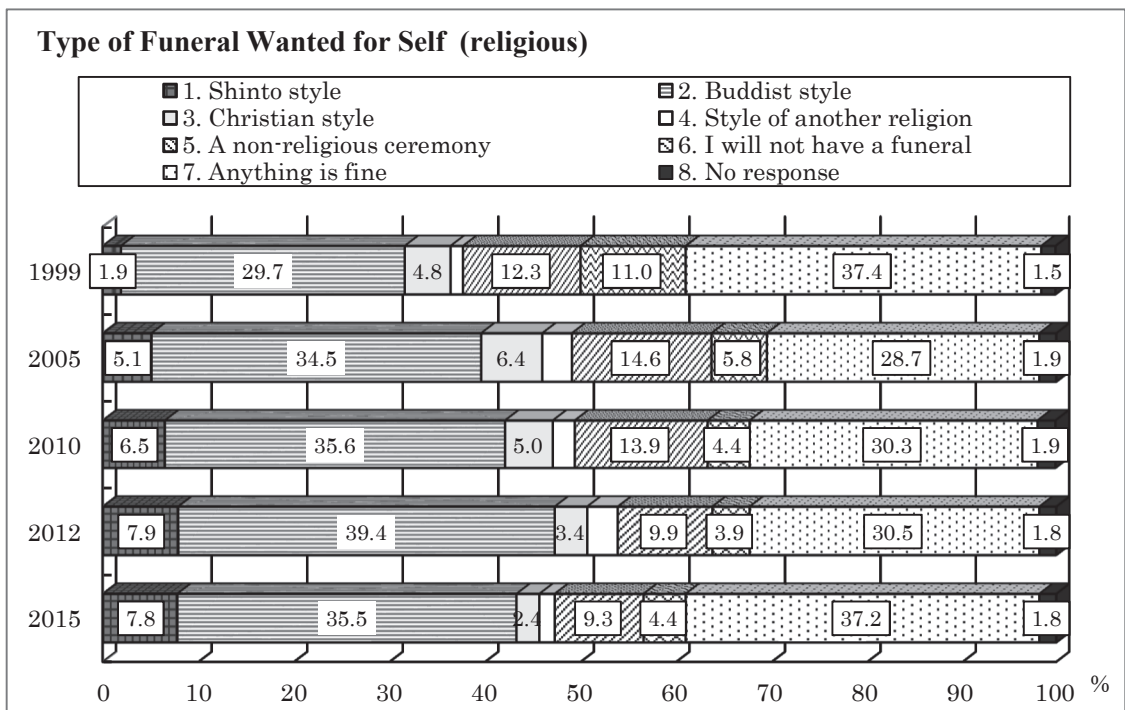
- 1. Shinto style 2. Buddhist style 3. Christian style 4. Style of another religion
- 5. A non-religious ceremony 6. I will not have a funeral 7. Anything is fine

Religious

Table 3d1

	1999	2005	2010	2012	2015
1. Shinto style	1.9	5.1	6.5	7.9	7.8
2. Buddhist style	29.7	34.5	35.6	39.4	35.5
3. Christian style	4.8	6.4	5.0	3.4	2.4
4. Style of another religion	1.3	3.1	2.3	3.2	1.6
5. A non-religious ceremony	12.3	14.6	13.9	9.9	9.3
6. I will not have a funeral	11.0	5.8	4.4	3.9	4.4
7. Anything is fine	37.4	28.7	30.3	30.5	37.2
8. No response	1.5	1.9	1.9	1.8	1.8

Graph 3d1

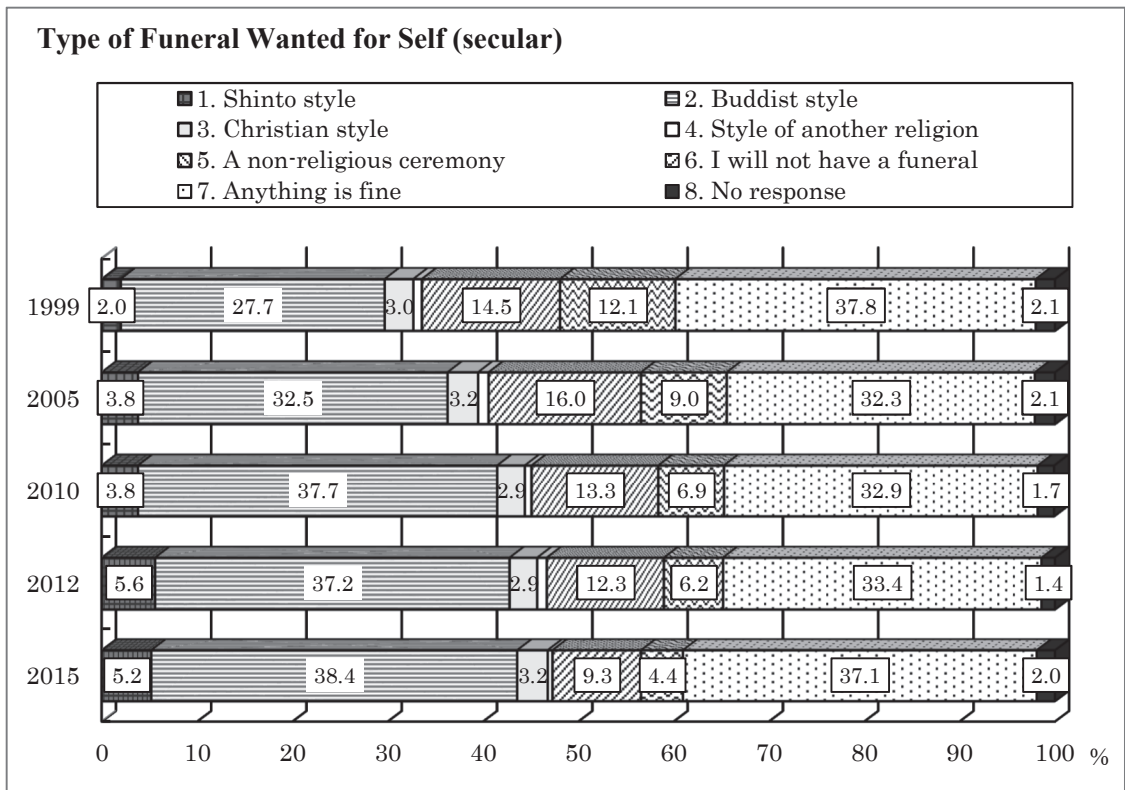


Secular

Table 3d2

	1999	2005	2010	2012	2015
1. Shinto style	2.0	3.8	3.8	5.6	5.2
2. Buddhist style	27.7	32.5	37.7	37.2	38.4
3. Christian style	3.0	3.2	2.9	2.9	3.2
4. Style of another religion	0.9	1.1	0.7	1.0	0.5
5. A non-religious ceremony	14.5	16.0	13.3	12.3	9.3
6. I will not have a funeral	12.1	9.0	6.9	6.2	4.4
7. Anything is fine	37.8	32.3	32.9	33.4	37.1
8. No response	2.1	2.1	1.7	1.4	2.0

Graph 3d2



[2] In the event parents desired scattering of cremains or natural burial

Question Content

In the event that your parents wanted their cremains to be scattered or a natural burial, did you go along with their wishes?

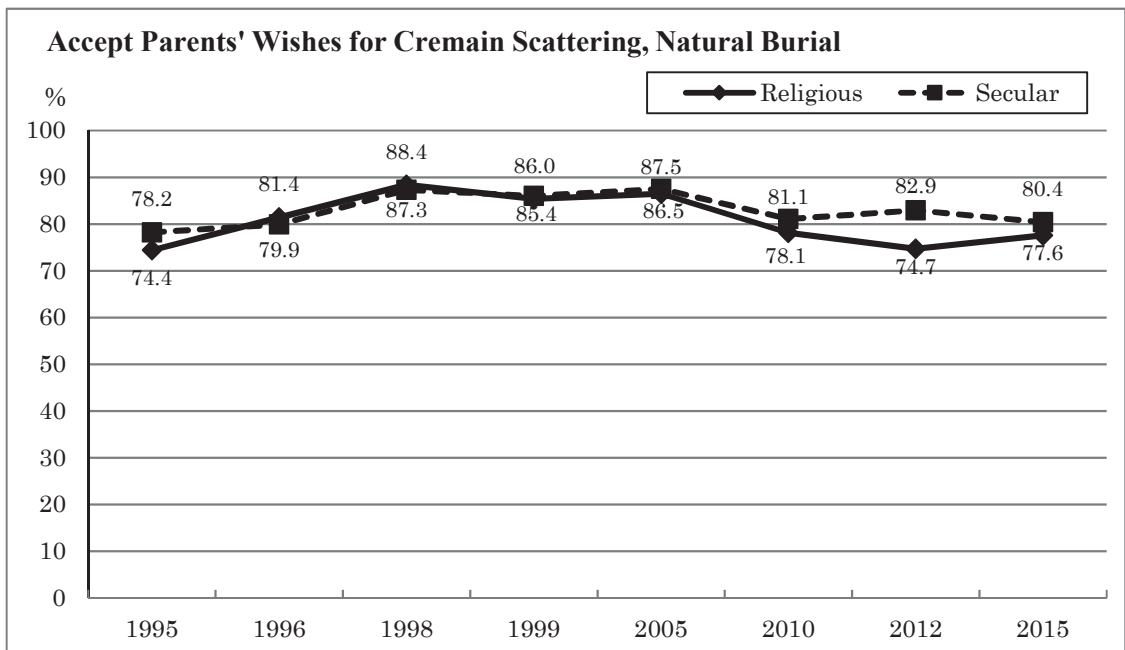
1. Yes 2. No

Table 3d3

	1995	1996	1998	1999	2005	2010	2012	2015
Religious University	74.4	81.4	88.4	85.4	86.5	78.1	74.7	77.6
Secular University	78.2	79.9	87.3	86.0	87.5	81.1	82.9	80.4

*Limited in the 1995 and 1996 surveys to persons who responded "1. Yes" to the question, "Are you familiar with the scattering of cremains or natural burials?"

Graph 3d3



[3] Personal desire for scattering of cremains or natural burial?

Question Content

In the event that you have thought about your own death, would you like to your cremains scattered or receive a natural burial?

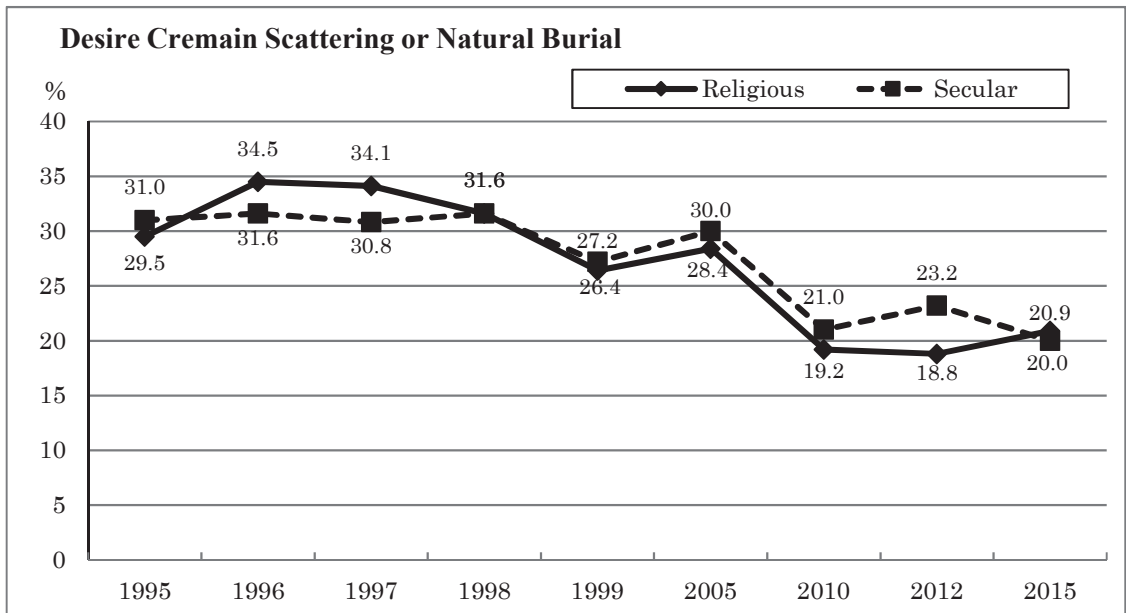
1. Yes 2. No

Table 3d4

	1995	1996	1997	1998	1999	2005	2010	2012	2015
Religious University	29.5	34.5	34.1	31.6	26.4	28.4	19.2	18.8	20.9
Secular University	31.0	31.6	30.8	31.6	27.2	30.0	21.0	23.2	20.0

*Limited in the 1995 and 1996 surveys to persons who responded "1. Yes" to the question, "Are you familiar with the scattering of cremains or natural burials?"

Graph 3d4



e) Faith and religious customs

[1] Non-Christian's wedding held in a Christian church

Question Content

Please write in the brackets the number that corresponds to your response regarding each of the following items: (1) "I think so," (2) "If I had to say which one, I would say I think so," (3) "If I had to say which one, I would say I don't think so," (4) "I don't think so," or (5) "No response."

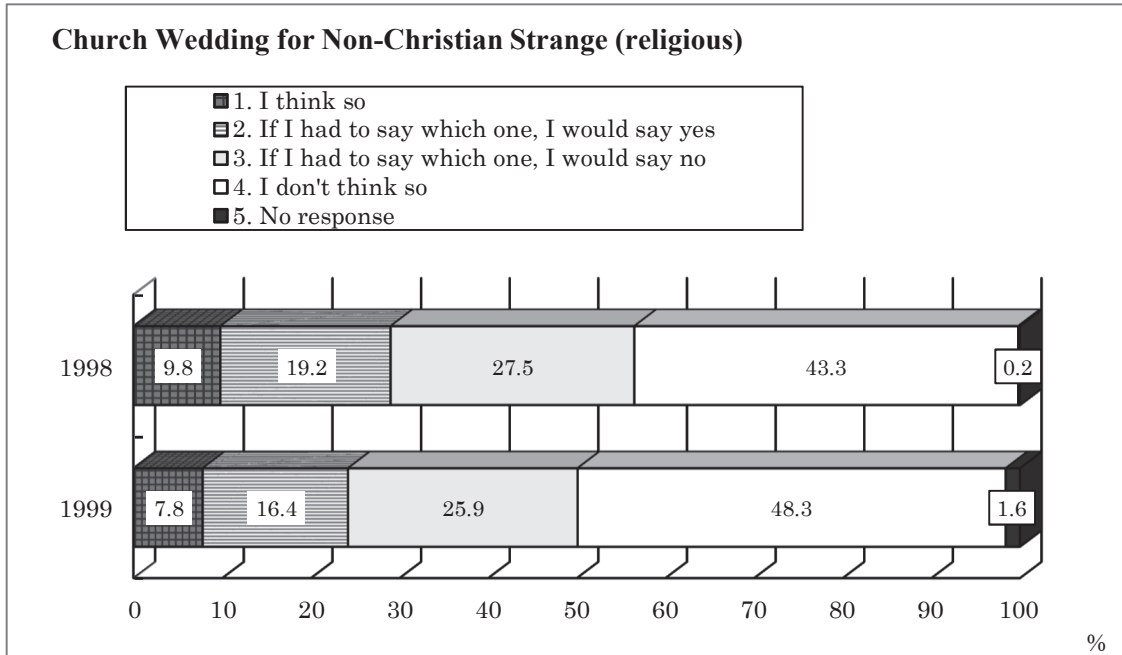
"It is strange for someone who is not a Christian to hold their wedding in a Christian church." []

Religious

Table 3e1

	1998	1999
1. I think so	9.8	7.8
2. If I had to say which one, I would say yes	19.2	16.4
3. If I had to say which one, I would say no	27.5	25.9
4. I don't think so	43.3	48.3
5. No response	0.2	1.6

Graph 3e1

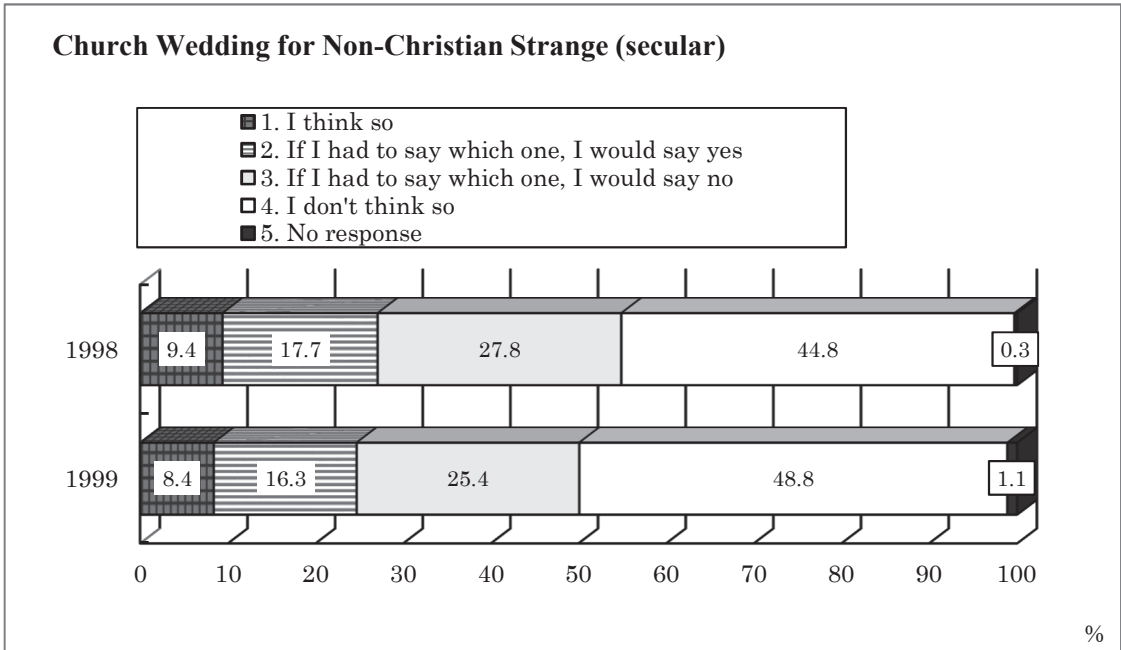


Secular

Table 3e2

	1998	1999
1. I think so	9.4	8.4
2. If I had to say which one, I would say yes	17.7	16.3
3. If I had to say which one, I would say no	27.8	25.4
4. I don't think so	44.8	48.8
5. No response	0.3	1.1

Graph 3e2



[2] On calling a Buddhist priest for a funeral by individuals with no religious belief

Question Content

Please write in the brackets the number that corresponds to your response regarding each of the following items: (1) "I think so," (2) "If I had to say which one, I would say I think so," (3) "If I had to say which one, I would say I don't think so," (4) "I don't think so," or (5) "No response."

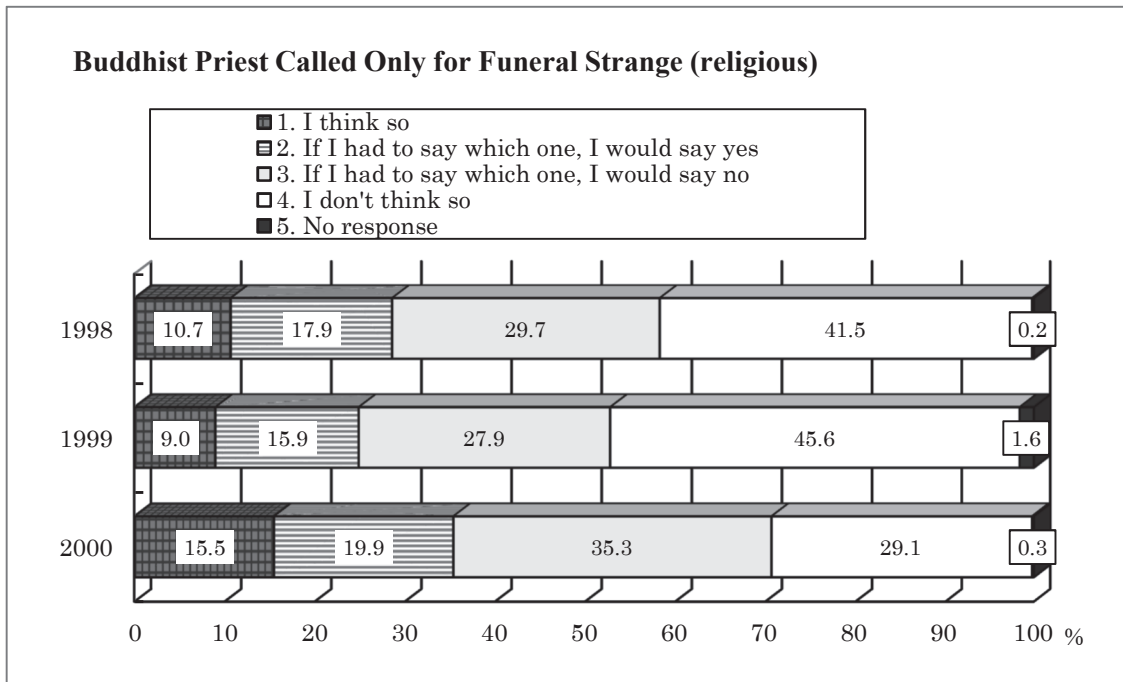
"It's strange for a family that normally practices no faith to call a priest (monk) just for a funeral. "
[]

Religious

Table 3e3

	1998	1999	2000
1. I think so	10.7	9.0	15.5
2. If I had to say which one, I would say yes	17.9	15.9	19.9
3. If I had to say which one, I would say no	29.7	27.9	35.3
4. I don't think so	41.5	45.6	29.1
5. No response	0.2	1.6	0.3

Graph 3e3

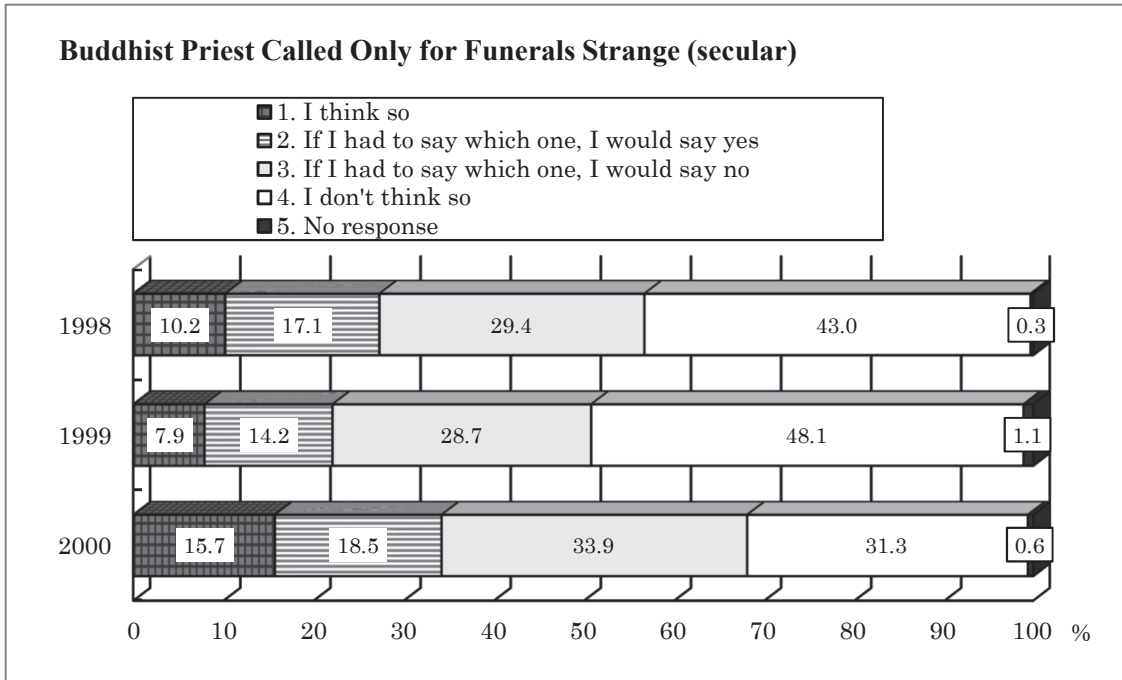


Secular

Table 3e4

	1998	1999	2000
1. I think so	10.2	7.9	15.7
2. If I had to say which one, I would say yes	17.1	14.2	18.5
3. If I had to say which one, I would say no	29.4	28.7	33.9
4. I don't think so	43.0	48.1	31.3
5. No response	0.3	1.1	0.6

Graph 3e4



Chapter 4: Opinions on Religion and Religious Figures

a) Religious figures you might want to seek advice from

Question Content

Please choose from among the following types of religious person if there is one with whom you would want to talk when something troubles you about life. (multiple responses allowed)

1. Buddhist priest or monk
2. Christian minister, priest, or nun
3. Shrine priest
4. Streetside fortune-teller
5. Some other religious figure (specifically:)

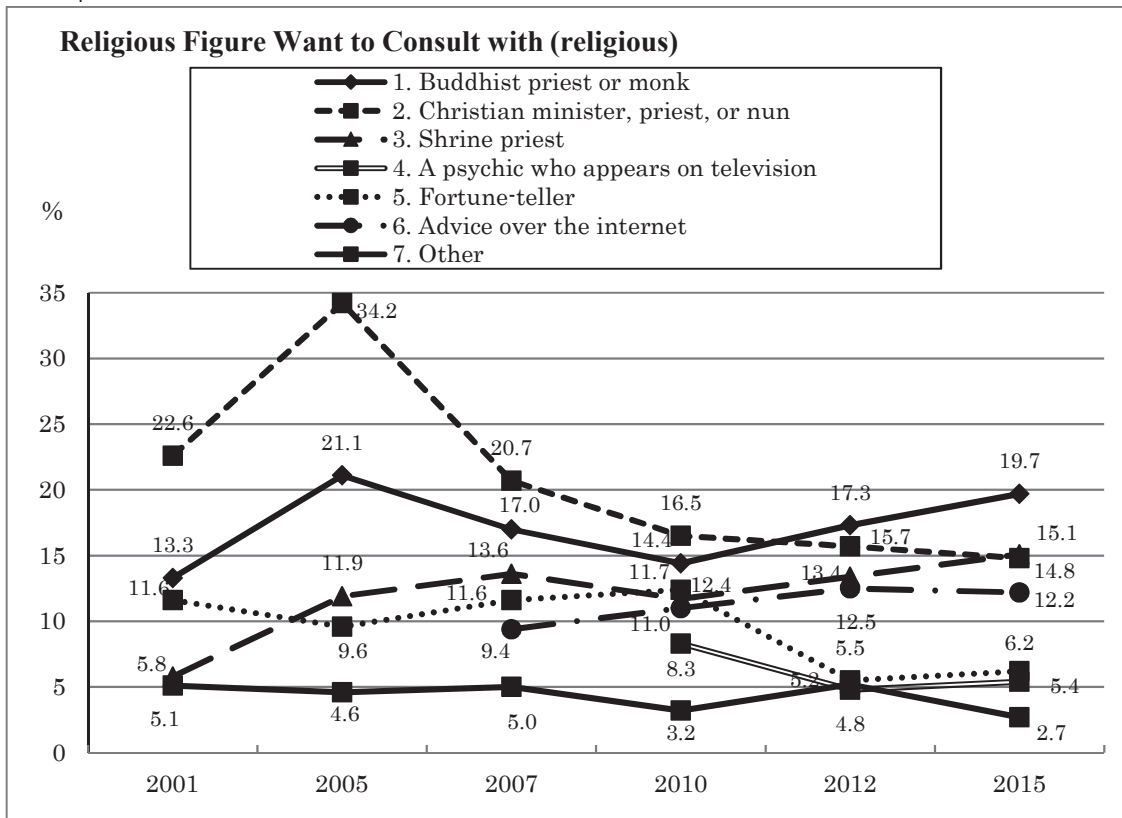
("Respondents via the internet" was added in 2007, followed in 2010 by the addition of "Psychics like those who appear on television.")

Religious

Table 4a1

	2001	2005	2007	2010	2012	2015
1. Buddhist priest or monk	13.3	21.1	17.0	14.4	17.3	19.7
2. Christian minister, priest, or nun	22.6	34.2	20.7	16.5	15.7	14.8
3. Shrine priest	5.8	11.9	13.6	11.7	13.4	15.1
4. A psychic who appears on television	—	—	—	8.3	4.8	5.4
5. Fortune-teller	11.6	9.6	11.6	12.4	5.5	6.2
6. Advice over the internet	—	—	9.4	11.0	12.5	12.2
7. Other	5.1	4.6	5.0	3.2	5.2	2.7

Graph 4a1

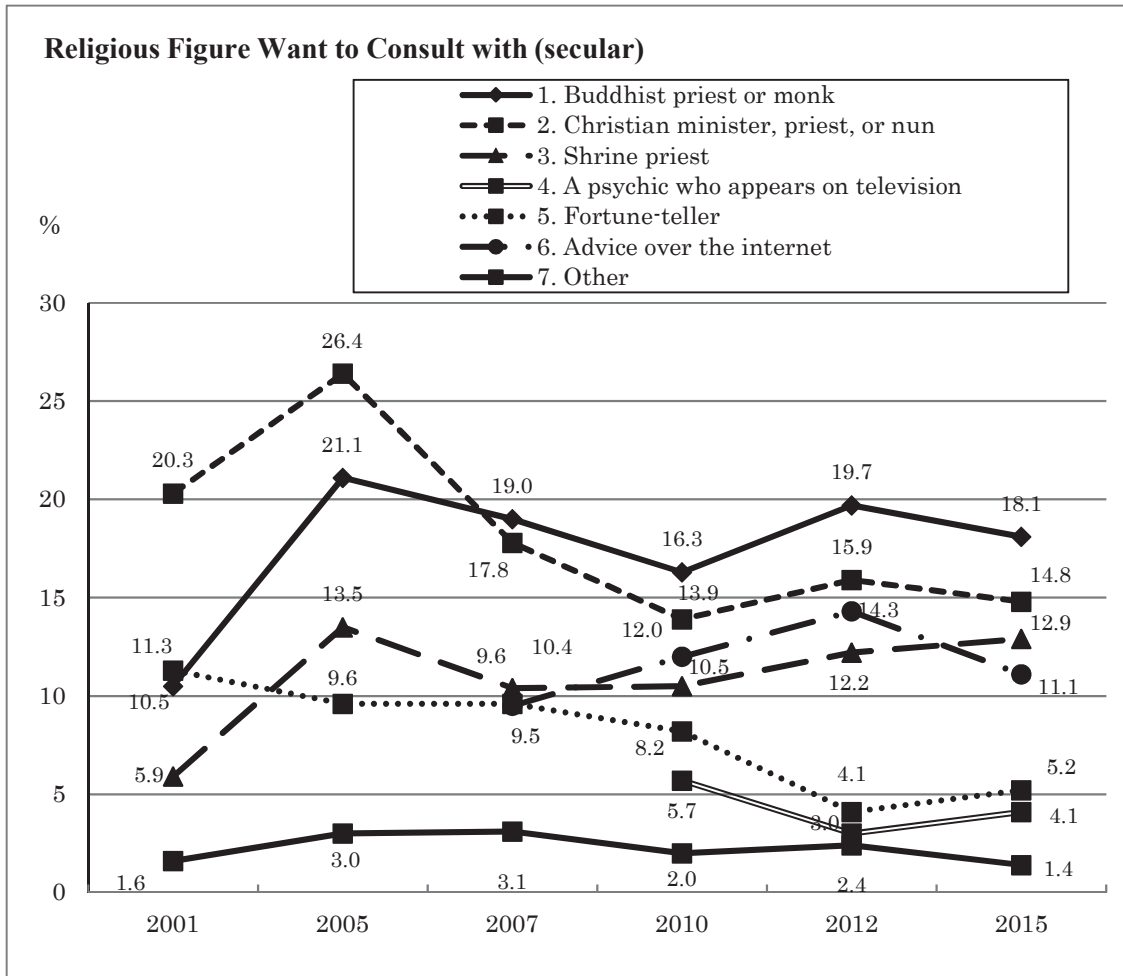


Secular

Table 4a2

	2001	2005	2007	2010	2012	2015
1. Buddhist priest or monk	10.5	21.1	19.0	16.3	19.7	18.1
2. Christian minister, priest, or nun	20.3	26.4	17.8	13.9	15.9	14.8
3. Shrine priest	5.9	13.5	10.4	10.5	12.2	12.9
4. Psychic	—	—	—	5.7	3.0	4.1
5. Fortune-teller	11.3	9.6	9.6	8.2	4.1	5.2
6. Advice over the internet	—	—	9.5	12.0	14.3	11.1
7. Other	1.6	3.0	3.1	2.0	2.4	1.4

Graph 4a2



b) What is sought from religion

Question Content

Please select below those societal activities someone should participate in if they are a religious person.
(multiple responses allowed)

1. Work to get rid of discrimination
2. Provide spiritual assistance to disaster victims
3. Provide spiritual assistance to help persons prepare for death
4. Social work activities for the disabled and the elderly
5. Other activities (specifically: _____)

(As the table below shows, some years also included such options as "Pray for peace," "Peace movement," and "Provide spiritual assistance to persons suffering from illness."

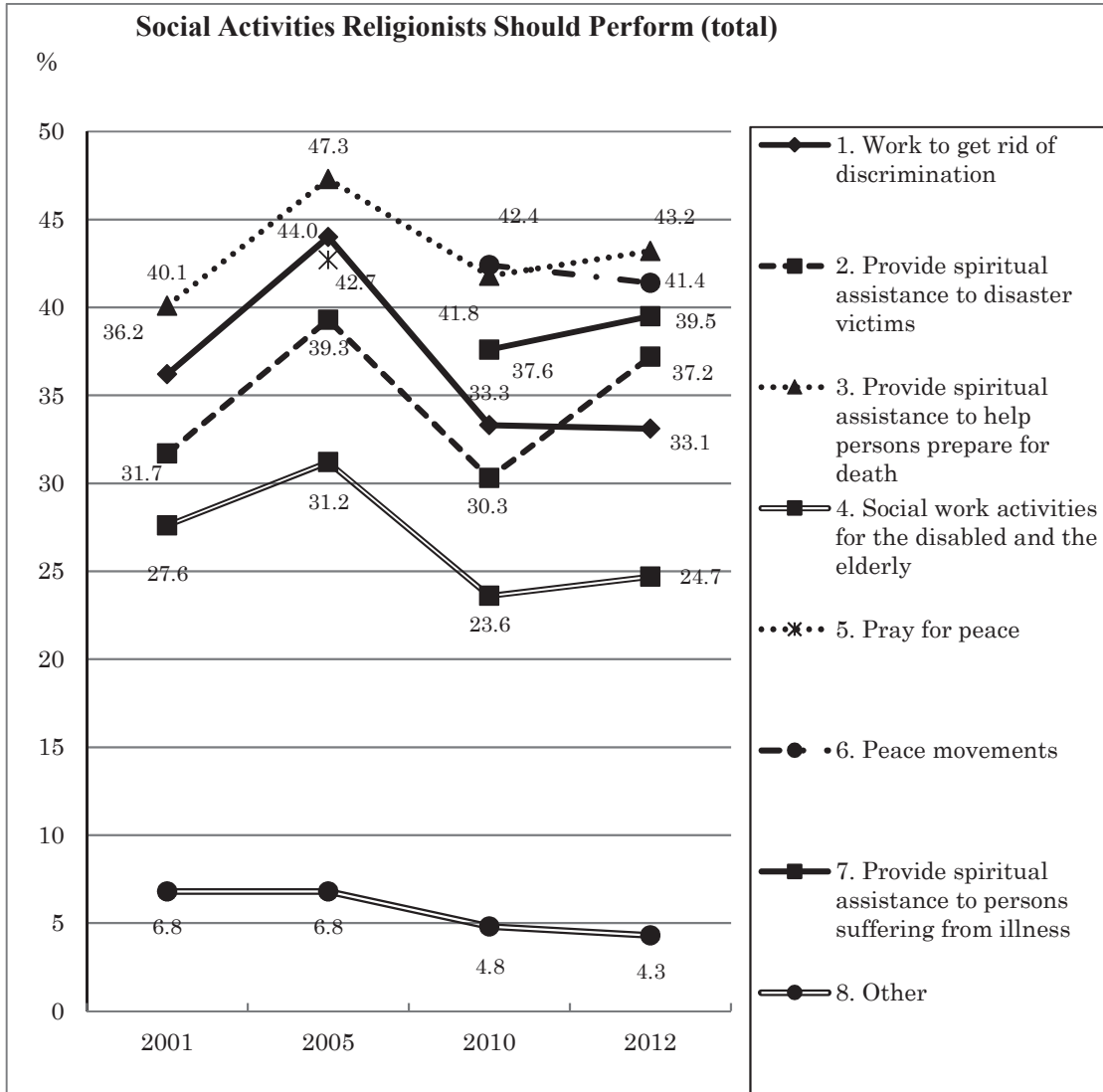
Total

Table 4b1

	2001	2005	2010	2012
1. Work to get rid of discrimination	36.2	44.0	33.3	33.1
2. Provide spiritual assistance to disaster victims	31.7	39.3	30.3	37.2
3. Provide spiritual assistance to help persons prepare for death	40.1	47.3	41.8	43.2
4. Social work activities for the disabled and the elderly	27.6	31.2	23.6	24.7
5. Pray for peace	—	42.7	—	—
6. Peace movements	—	—	42.4	41.4
7. Provide spiritual assistance to persons suffering from illness	—	—	37.6	39.5
8. Other	6.8	6.8	4.8	4.3

*The Great East Japan Earthquake happened in 2011. However, based solely on a comparison of changes in the figures, it would seem that this event did not have much of an effect on the responses.

Graph 4b1

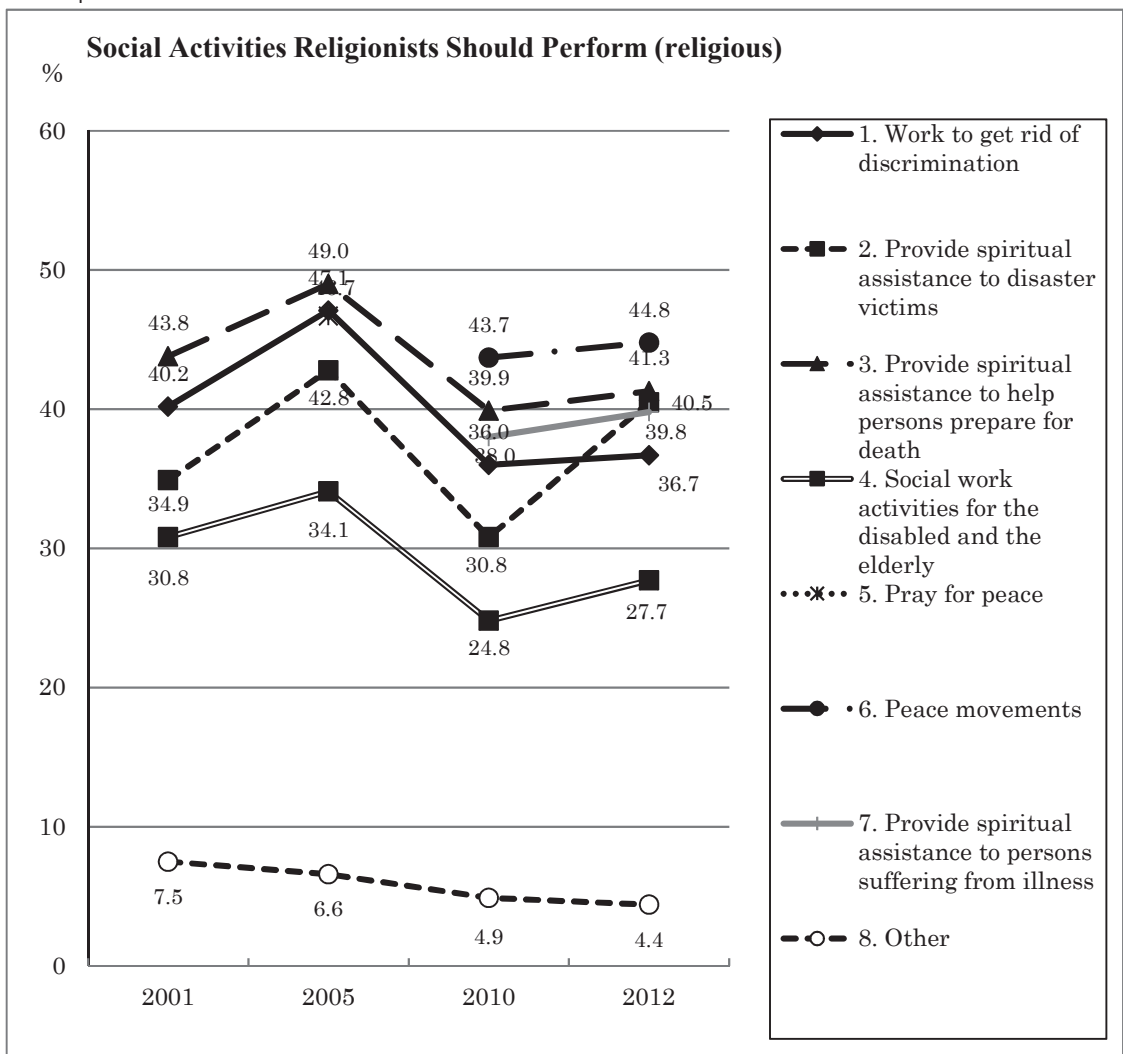


Religious

Table 4b2

	2001	2005	2010	2012
1. Work to get rid of discrimination	40.2	47.1	36.0	36.7
2. Provide spiritual assistance to disaster victims	34.9	42.8	30.8	40.5
3. Provide spiritual assistance to help persons prepare for death	43.8	49.0	39.9	41.3
4. Social work activities for the disabled and the elderly	30.8	34.1	24.8	27.7
5. Pray for peace	—	46.7	—	—
6. Peace movements	—	—	43.7	44.8
7. Provide spiritual assistance to persons suffering from illness	—	—	38.0	39.8
8. Other	7.5	6.6	4.9	4.4

Graph 4b2

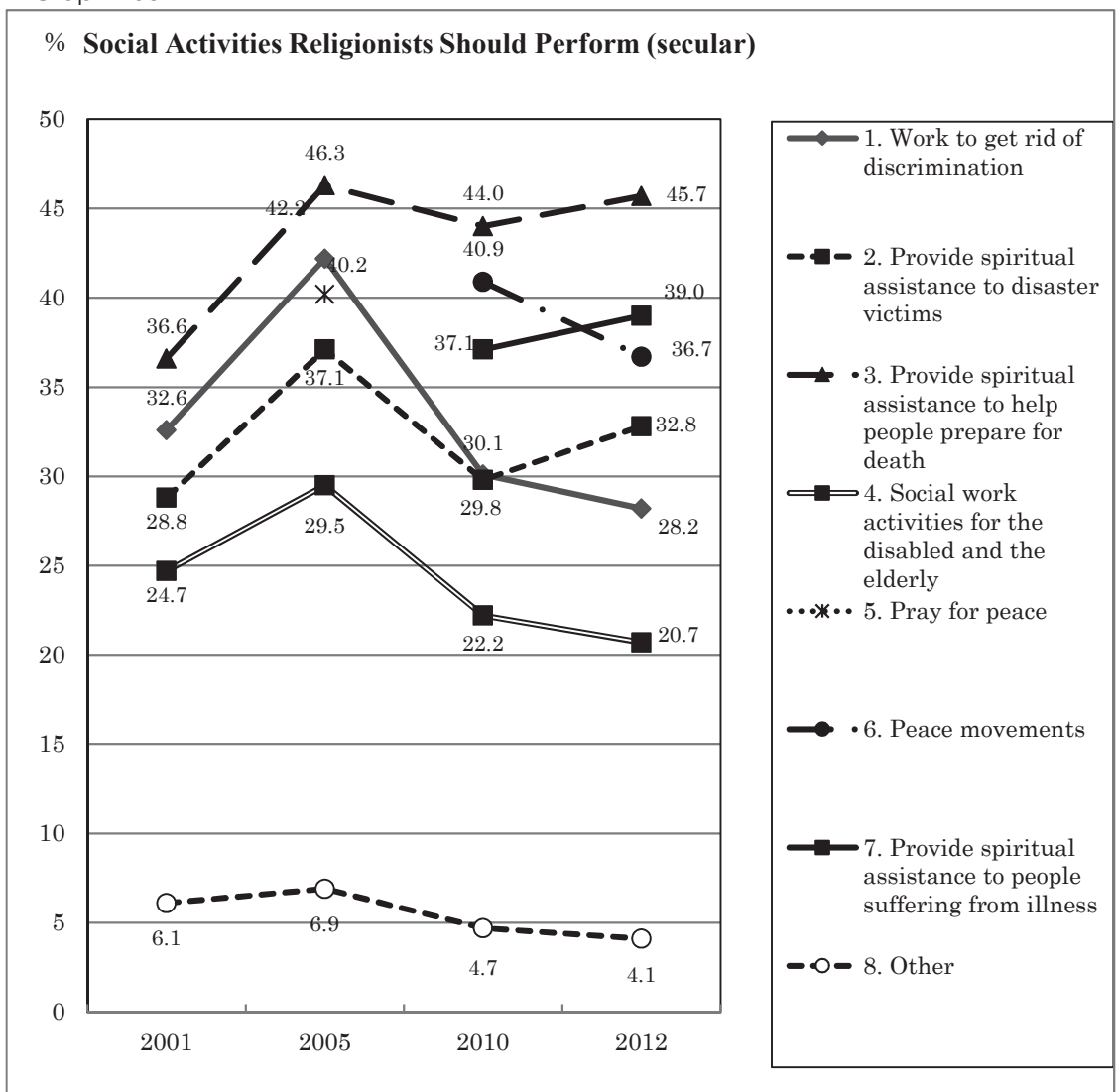


Secular

Table 4b3

	2001	2005	2010	2012
1. Work to get rid of discrimination	32.6	42.2	30.1	28.2
2. Provide spiritual assistance to disaster victims	28.8	37.1	37.1	39.0
3. Provide spiritual assistance to help persons prepare for death	36.6	46.3	44.0	45.7
4. Social work activities for the disabled and the elderly	24.7	29.5	22.2	20.7
5. Pray for peace	—	40.2	—	—
6. Peace movements	—	—	40.9	36.7
7. Provide spiritual assistance to persons suffering from illness	—	—	37.1	32.8
8. Other	6.1	6.9	4.7	4.1

Graph 4b3



c) Do you think humans need religion?

Question Content

Please write in the brackets the number that corresponds to your response regarding each opinion expressed: (1) "I think so," (2) "If I had to say which one, I would say yes," (3) "If I had to say which one, I would say no," or (4) "I don't think so."

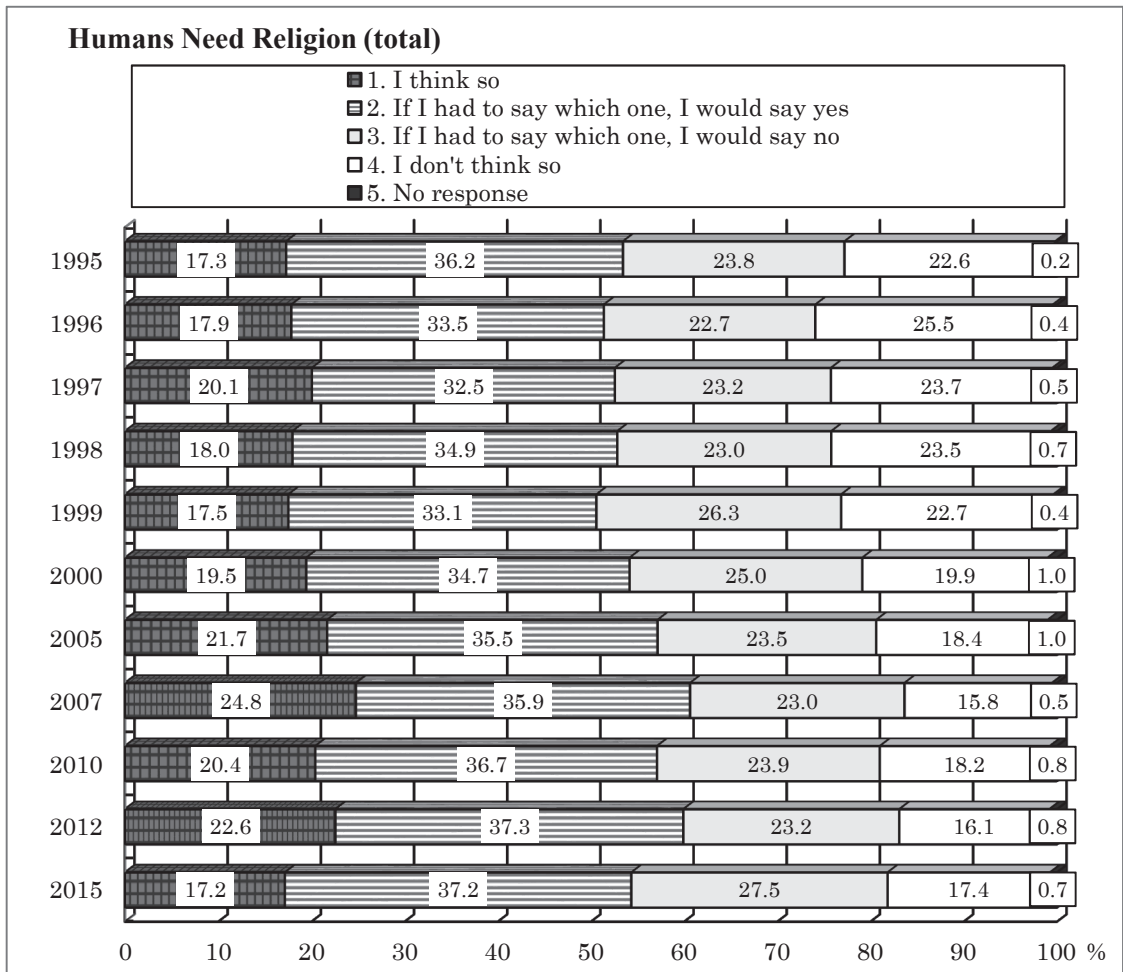
"No matter how much science develops, humans still need religion" []

Total

Table 4c1

	1995	1996	1997	1998	1999	2000	2005	2007	2010	2012	2015
1. I think so	17.3	17.9	20.1	18.0	17.5	19.5	21.7	24.8	20.4	22.6	17.2
2. If I had to say which one, I would say yes	36.2	33.5	32.5	34.9	33.1	34.7	35.5	35.9	36.7	37.3	37.2
3. If I had to say which one, I would say no	23.8	22.7	23.2	23.0	26.3	25.0	23.5	23.0	23.9	23.2	27.5
4. I don't think so	22.6	25.5	23.7	23.5	22.7	19.9	18.4	15.8	18.2	16.1	17.4
5. No response	0.2	0.4	0.5	0.7	0.4	1.0	1.0	0.5	0.8	0.8	0.7

Graph 4c1

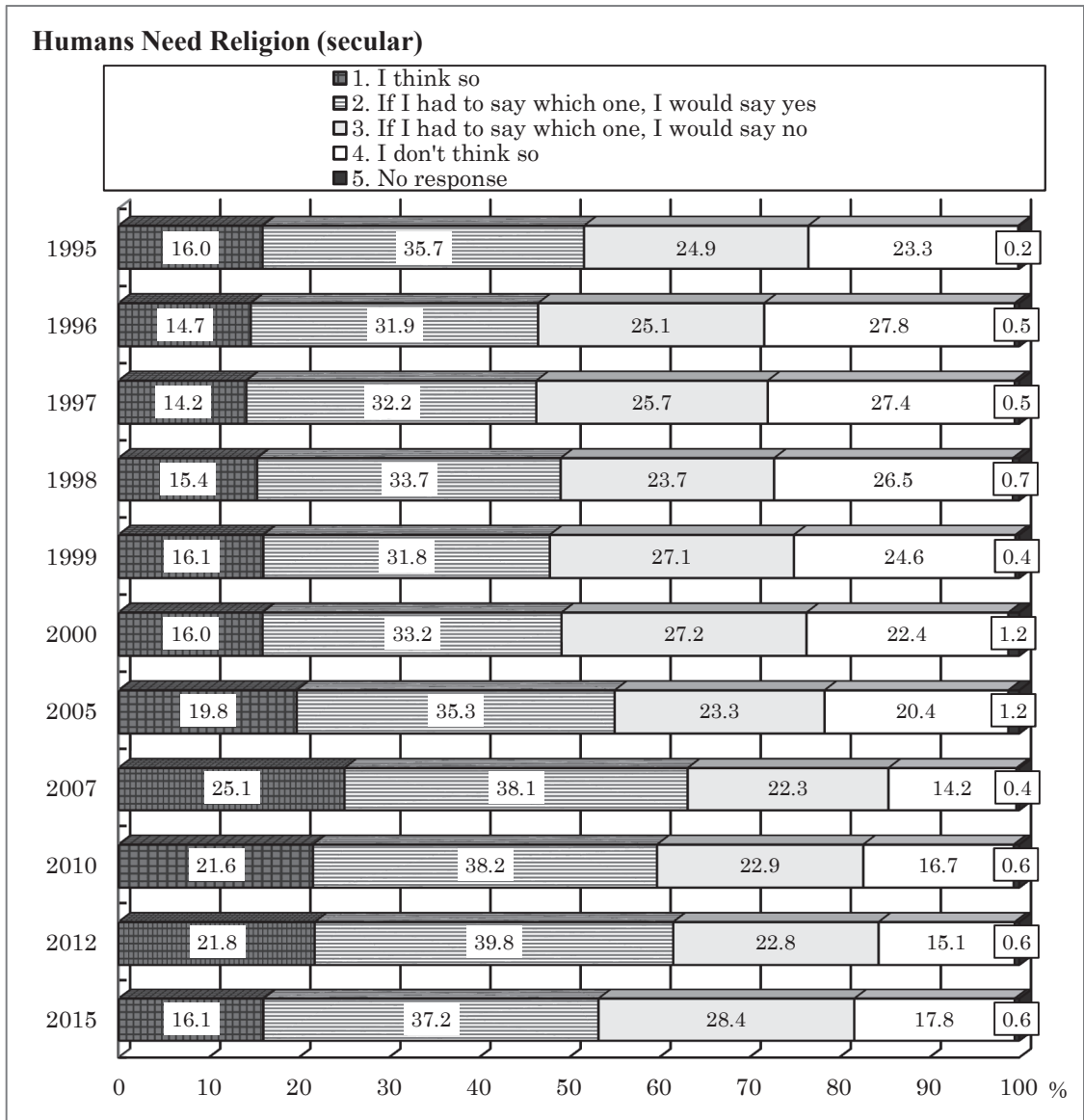


Secular

Table 4c2

	1995	1996	1997	1998	1999	2000	2005	2007	2010	2012	2015
1. I think so	16.0	14.7	14.2	15.4	16.1	16.0	19.8	25.1	21.6	21.8	16.1
2. If I had to say which one, I would say yes	35.7	31.9	32.2	33.7	31.8	33.2	35.3	38.1	38.2	39.8	37.2
3. If I had to say which one, I would say no	24.9	25.1	25.7	23.7	27.1	27.2	23.3	22.3	22.9	22.8	28.4
4. I don't think so	23.3	27.8	27.4	26.5	24.6	22.4	20.4	14.2	16.7	15.1	17.8
5. No response	0.2	0.5	0.5	0.7	0.4	1.2	1.2	0.4	0.6	0.6	0.6

Graph 4c2



d) If you have a faith, can you turn to it for inspiration?

Question Content

Please write in the brackets the number that corresponds to your response regarding each opinion expressed: (1) "I think so," (2) "If I had to say which one, I would say yes," (3) "If I had to say which one, I would say no," or (4) "I don't think so."

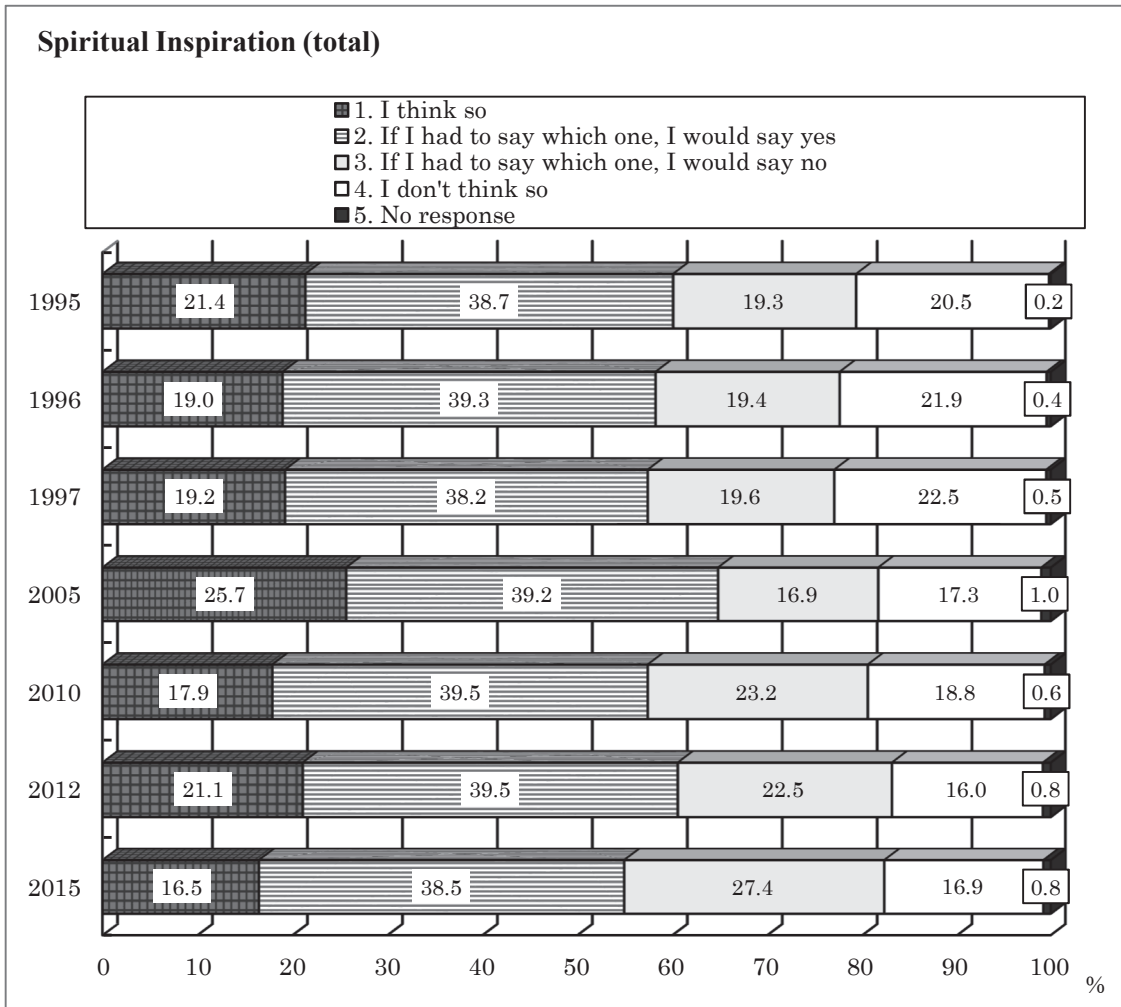
"If you have a faith, you can turn to it for inspiration" []

Total

Table 4d1

	1995	1996	1997	2005	2010	2012	2015
1. I think so	21.4	19.0	19.2	25.7	17.9	21.1	16.5
2. If I had to say which one, I would say yes	38.7	39.3	38.2	39.2	39.5	39.5	38.5
3. If I had to say which one, I would say no	19.3	19.4	19.6	16.9	23.2	22.5	27.4
4. I don't think so	20.5	21.9	22.5	17.3	18.8	16.0	16.9
5. No response	0.2	0.4	0.5	1.0	0.6	0.8	0.8

Graph 4d1

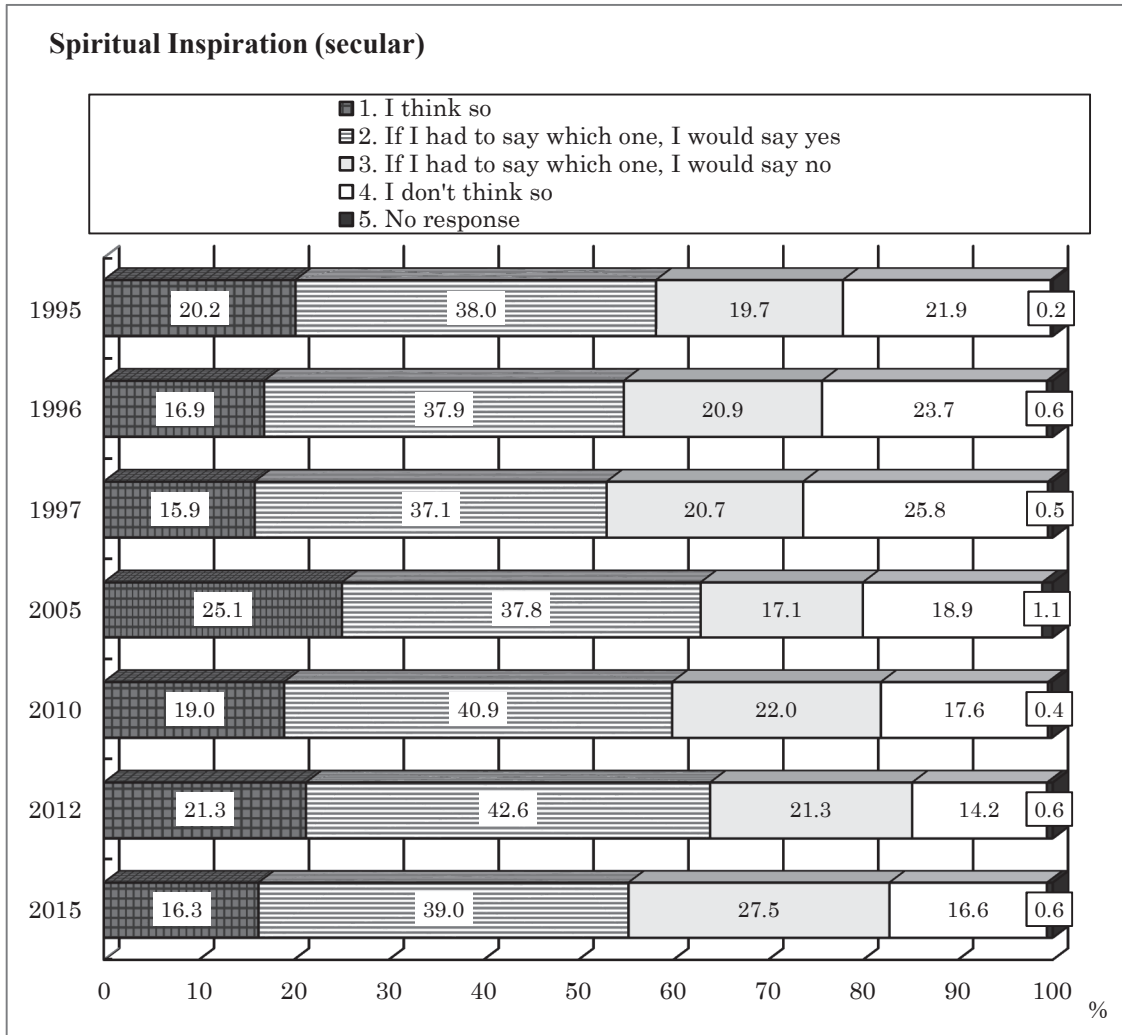


Secular

Table 4d2

	1995	1996	1997	2005	2010	2012	2015
1. I think so	20.2	16.9	15.9	25.1	19.0	21.3	16.3
2. If I had to say which one, I would say yes	38.0	37.9	37.1	37.8	40.9	42.6	39.0
3. If I had to say which one, I would say no	19.7	20.9	20.7	17.1	22.0	21.3	27.5
4. I don't think so	21.9	23.7	25.8	18.9	17.6	14.2	16.6
5. No response	0.2	0.6	0.5	1.1	0.4	0.6	0.6

Graph 4d2



e) Do you have the image of religion being dangerous?

Question Content

Please write in the brackets the number that corresponds to your response regarding each opinion expressed: (1) "I think so," (2) "If I had to say which one, I would say yes," (3) "If I had to say which one, I would say no," or (4) "I don't think so."

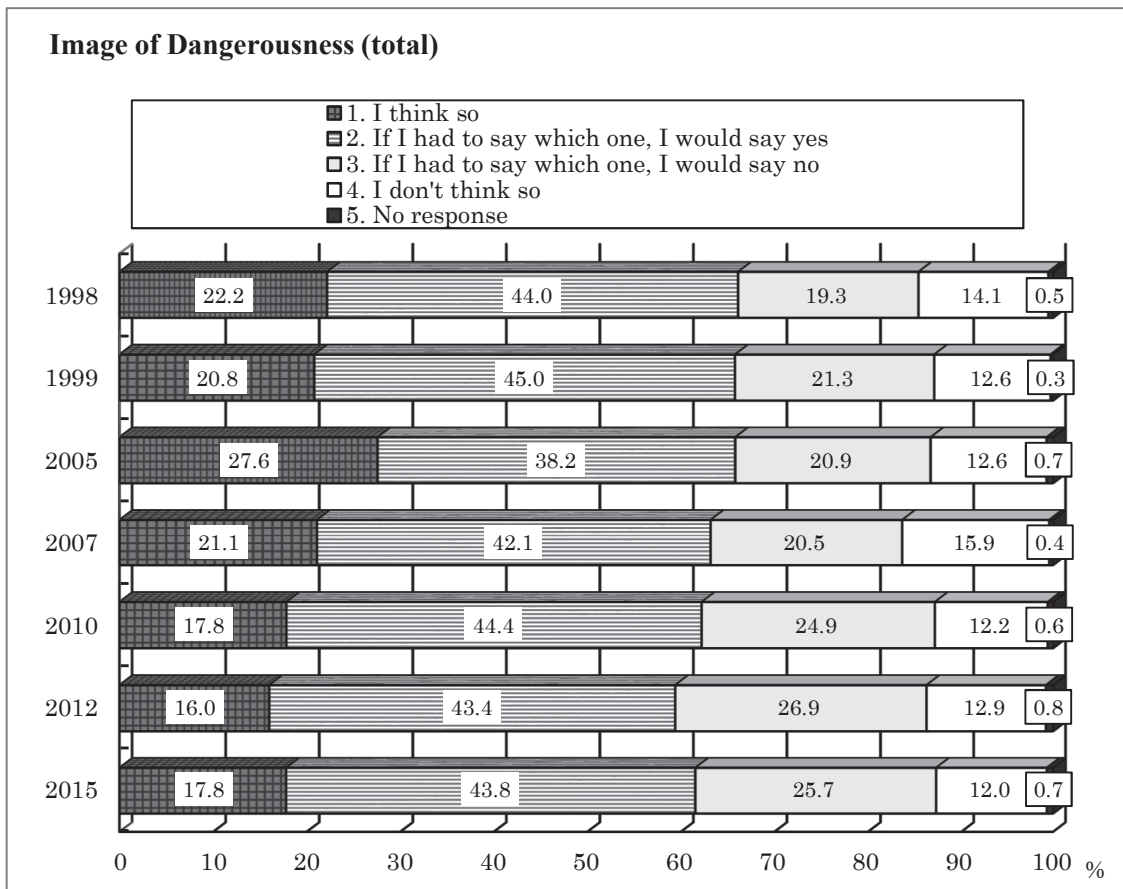
"Generally speaking, religion has the image of being dangerous" []

Total

Table 4e1

	1998	1999	2005	2007	2010	2012	2015
1. I think so	22.2	20.8	27.6	21.1	17.8	16.0	17.8
2. If I had to say which one, I would say yes	44.0	45.0	38.2	42.1	44.4	43.4	43.8
3. If I had to say which one, I would say no	19.3	21.3	20.9	20.5	24.9	26.9	25.7
4. I don't think so	14.1	12.6	12.6	15.9	12.2	12.9	12.0
5. No response	0.5	0.3	0.7	0.4	0.6	0.8	0.7

Graph 4e1

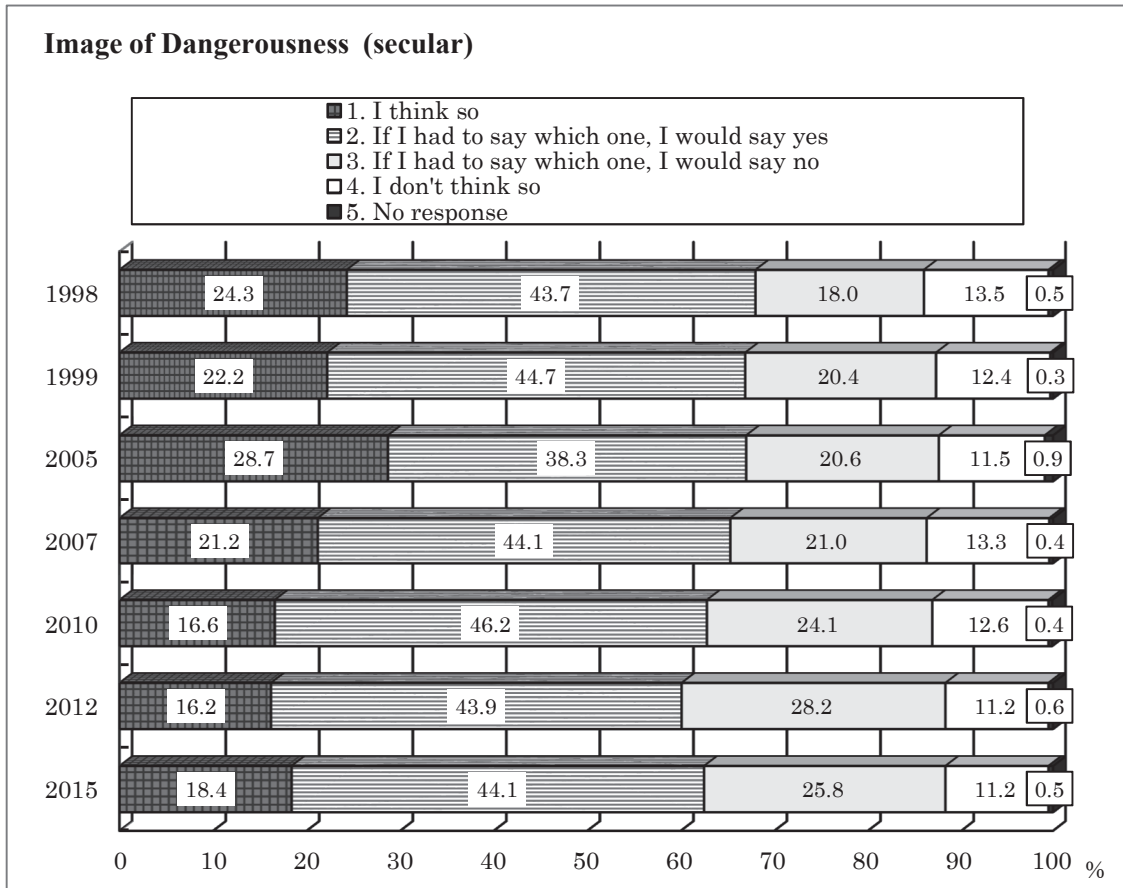


Secular

Table 4e2

	1998	1999	2005	2007	2010	2012	2015
1. I think so	24.3	22.2	28.7	21.2	16.6	16.2	18.4
2. If I had to say which one, I would say yes	43.7	44.7	38.3	44.1	46.2	43.9	44.1
3. If I had to say which one, I would say no	18.0	20.4	20.6	21.0	24.1	28.2	25.8
4. I don't think so	13.5	12.4	11.5	13.3	12.6	11.2	11.2
5. No response	0.5	0.3	0.9	0.4	0.4	0.6	0.5

Graph 4e2



Chapter 5: Social Problems Connected with Religion

a) On religious solicitation

Questions about religious solicitation were asked in 2000 and 2005, and those responses are compared here.

[1] Experience of being solicited

Question Content

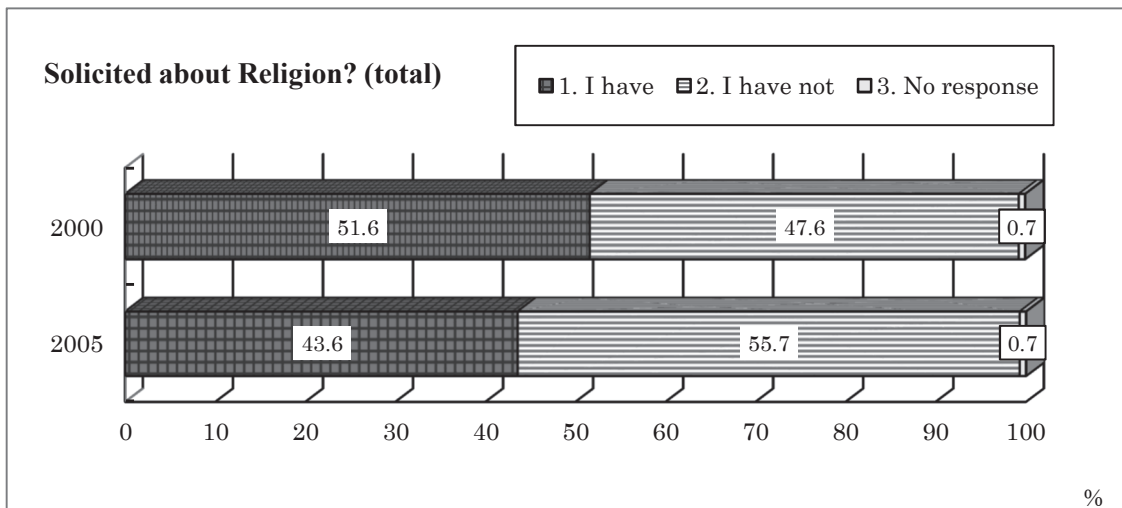
Have you ever been solicited about religion by someone you do not know? 1. Yes 2. No

Total

Table 5a1

	2000	2005
1. I have	51.6	43.6
2. I have not	47.6	55.7
3. No response	0.7	0.7

Graph 5a1



[2] Religion by which solicited

Question Content

Please write in the space below the name of the religion about which you were solicited.

(If you don't know, please wrote "unclear.") If there were multiple religions, please write the names of no more than two.

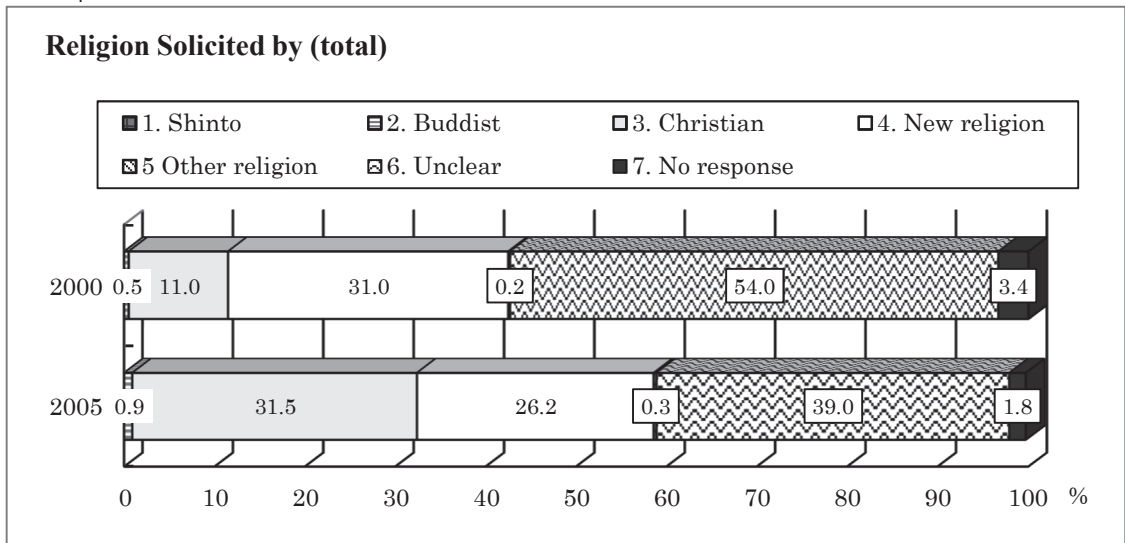
Total

Table 5a2

	2000	2005
1. Shinto	0.0	0.0
2. Buddhist	0.5	0.9
3. Christian	11.0	31.5
4. New religion	31.0	26.2
5. Other religion	0.2	0.3
6. Unclear	54.0	39.0
7. No response	3.4	1.8

*In some cases, respondents wrote down the names of a specific religions. These were assigned the categories written above and tabulated on that basis.

Graph 5a2



[3] Period in life when solicited

The period in life when the solicitation occurred also differs by class year (please refer to the cross tabulations). The figures here present trends in the aggregate. High-school years were the most frequent period during which respondents were solicited, but some 20% to 30% recalled being approached during their junior high years.

Question Content

When were you solicited about a religion? Please choose from the following and write the number in column B.

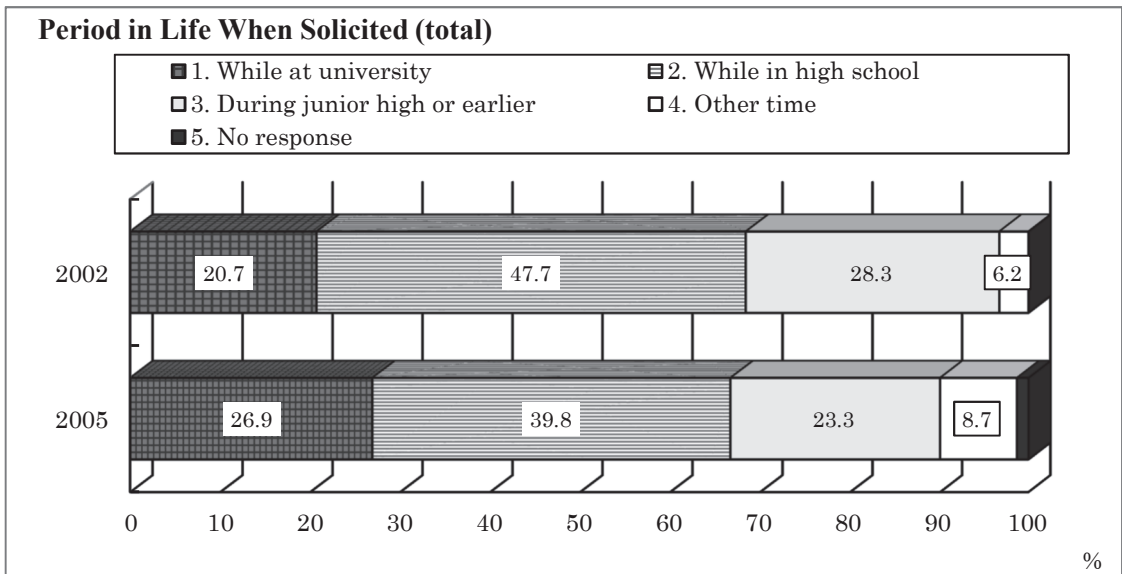
1. While at university
2. While in high school
3. During junior high or earlier
4. Other time

Total

Table 5a3

	2000	2005
1. While at university	20.7	26.9
2. While in high school	47.7	39.8
3. During junior high or earlier	28.3	23.3
4. Other time	6.2	8.7
5. No response	2.2	1.3

Graph 5a3



*Approximately 70% responded high school years or later.

[4] Location where solicited

Question Content

Where were you solicited about a religion? Please choose from the following and write the number in column C.

1. On campus 2. Near a train station (on the street) 3. At home 4. Over the telephone 5. Other (specifically:)

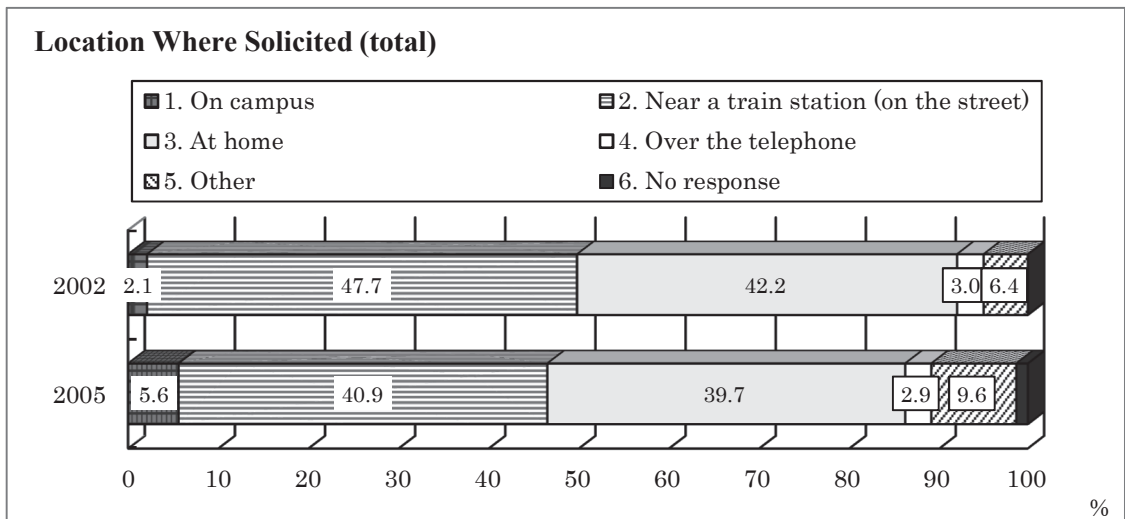
Total

Table 5a4

	2000	2005
1. On campus	2.1	5.6
2. Near a train station (on the street)	47.7	40.9
3. At home	42.2	39.7
4. Over the telephone	3.0	2.9
5. Other	6.4	9.6
6. No response	1.6	1.3

*Location options were already listed.

Graph 5a4



[5] Response when solicited

Question Content

How do you handle it when you were solicited? Please choose from the following and write the number in column D.

1. I ignored it; 2. I at least listened to what was said; 3. I listened to that person and found it interesting
4. I listened to what that person said and objected and debated them
- ("5. Turned it down" and "6. Other" were included as options only in 2000)

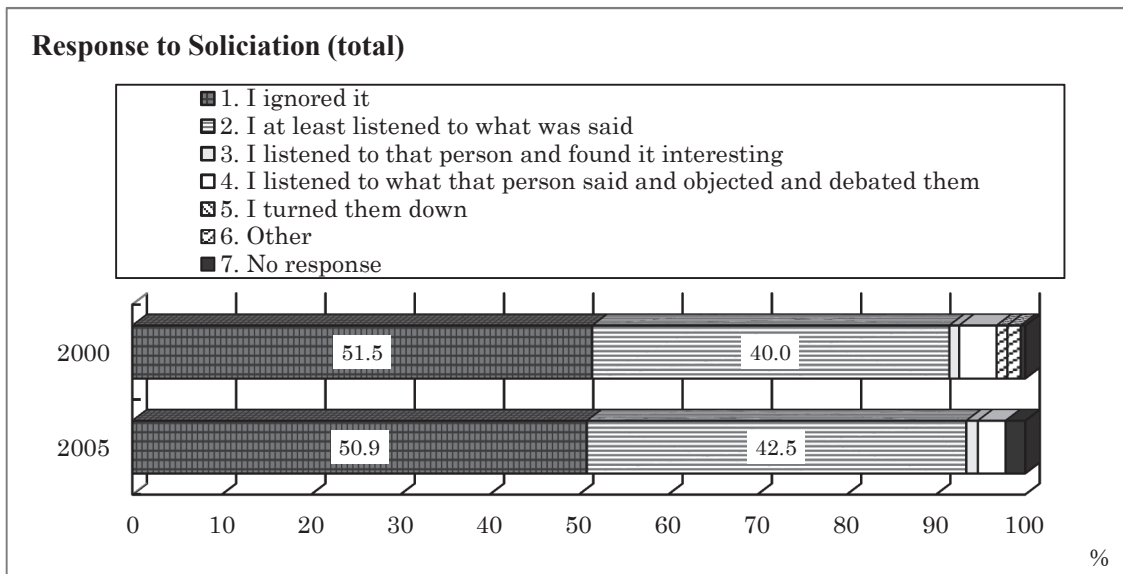
Total

Table 5a5

	2000	2005
1. I ignored it	51.5	50.9
2. I at least listened to what was said	40.0	42.5
3. I listened to that person and found it interesting	1.1	1.3
4. I listened to what that person said and objected and debated them	4.2	3.1
5. I turned them down	1.2	—
6. Other	1.5	—
7. No response	1.4	2.2

*Options for ways of responding were already listed.

Graph 5a5



b) Restrictions on proselytization in the streets

Question Content

Please write in the brackets the number that corresponds to your response regarding each opinion expressed: (1) "I think so," (2) "If I had to say which one, I would say yes," (3) "If I had to say which one, I would say no," or (4) "I don't think so."

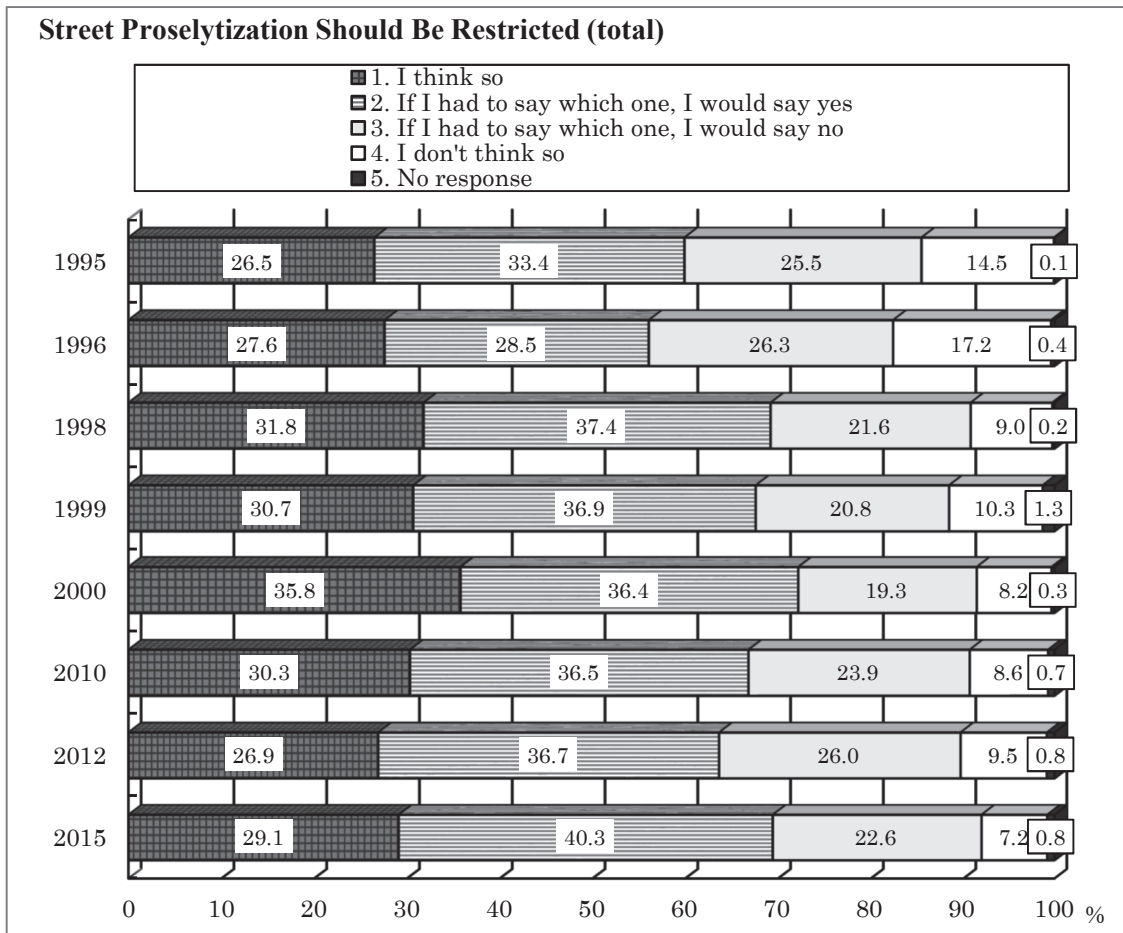
"Proselytization in the streets is a nuisance and should be restricted by law" []

Total

Table 5b1

	1995	1996	1998	1999	2000	2010	2012	2015
1. I think so	26.5	27.6	31.8	30.7	35.8	30.3	26.9	29.1
2. If I had to say which one, I would say yes	33.4	28.5	37.4	36.9	36.4	36.5	36.7	40.3
3. If I had to say which one, I would say no	25.5	26.3	21.6	20.8	19.3	23.9	26.0	22.6
4. I don't think so	14.5	17.2	9.0	10.3	8.2	8.6	9.5	7.2
5. No response	0.1	0.4	0.2	1.3	0.3	0.7	0.8	0.8

Graph 5b1

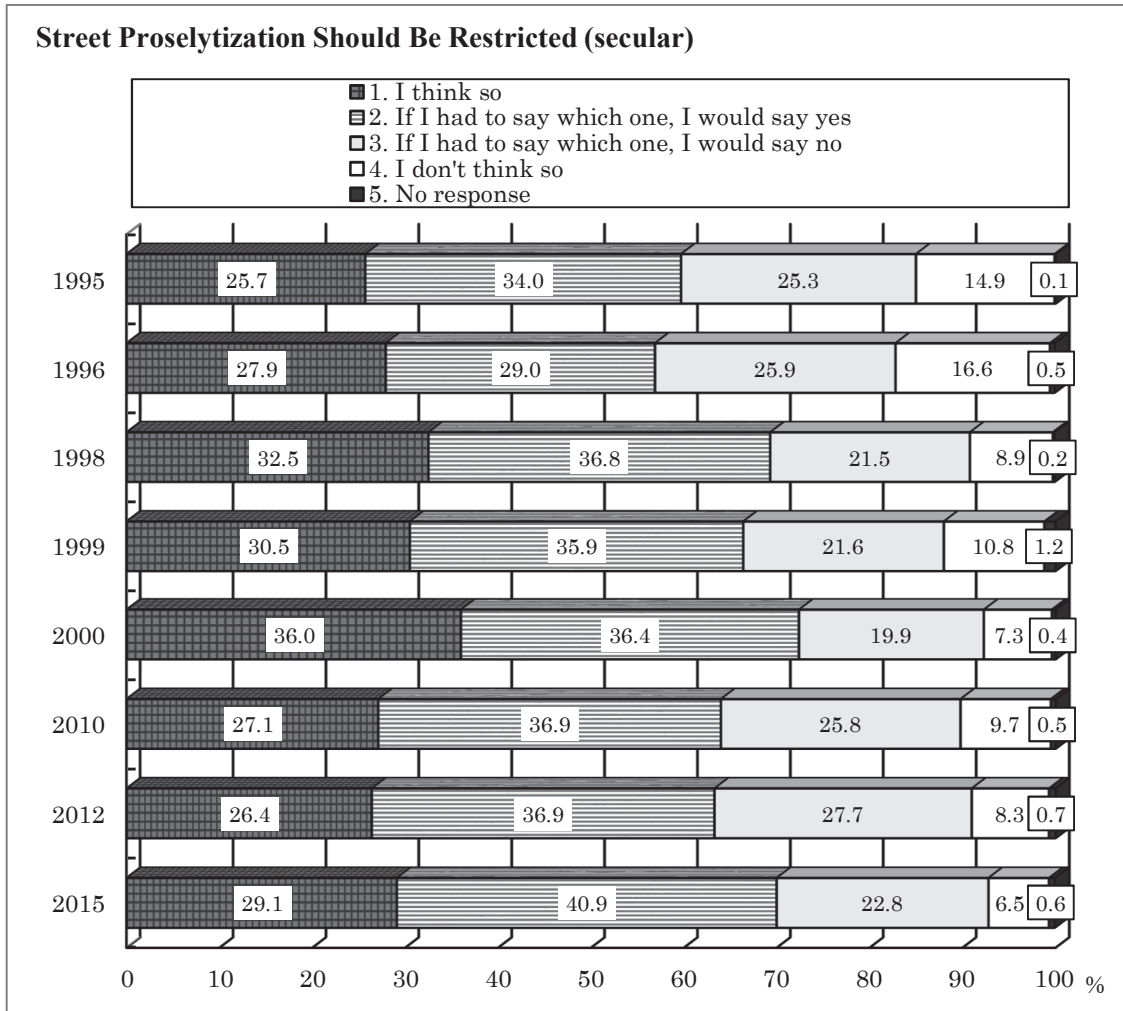


Secular

Table 5b2

	1995	1996	1998	1999	2000	2010	2012	2015
1. I think so	25.7	27.9	32.5	30.5	36.0	27.1	26.4	29.1
2. If I had to say which one, I would say yes	34.0	29.0	36.8	35.9	36.4	36.9	36.9	40.9
3. If I had to say which one, I would say no	25.3	25.9	21.5	21.6	19.9	25.8	27.7	22.8
4. I don't think so	14.9	16.6	8.9	10.8	7.3	9.7	8.3	6.5
5. No response	0.1	0.5	0.2	1.2	0.4	0.5	0.7	0.6

Graph 5b2



c) "Cult" problem

Question Content

What do you think about the idea of your university teaching "cult countermeasures" to newly matriculated students and others? Please choose from among the following options 1 through 5.

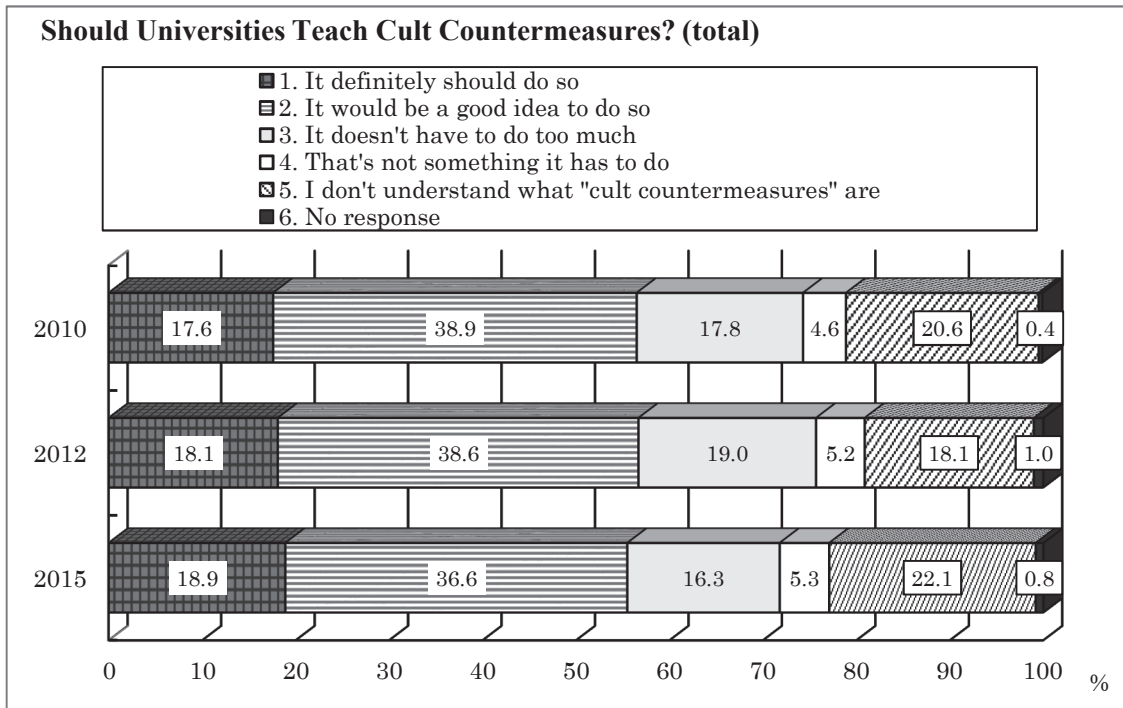
1. It definitely should do so.
2. It would be a good idea to do so.
3. It doesn't have to do too much.
4. That's not something it has to do.
5. I don't understand what "cult countermeasures" are.

Total

Table 5c1

	2010	2012	2015
1. It definitely should do so	17.6	18.1	18.9
2. It would be a good idea to do so	38.9	38.6	36.6
3. It doesn't have to do too much	17.8	19.0	16.3
4. That's not something it has to do	4.6	5.2	5.3
5. I don't understand what "cult countermeasures" are	20.6	18.1	22.1
6. No response	0.4	1.0	0.8

Graph 5c1

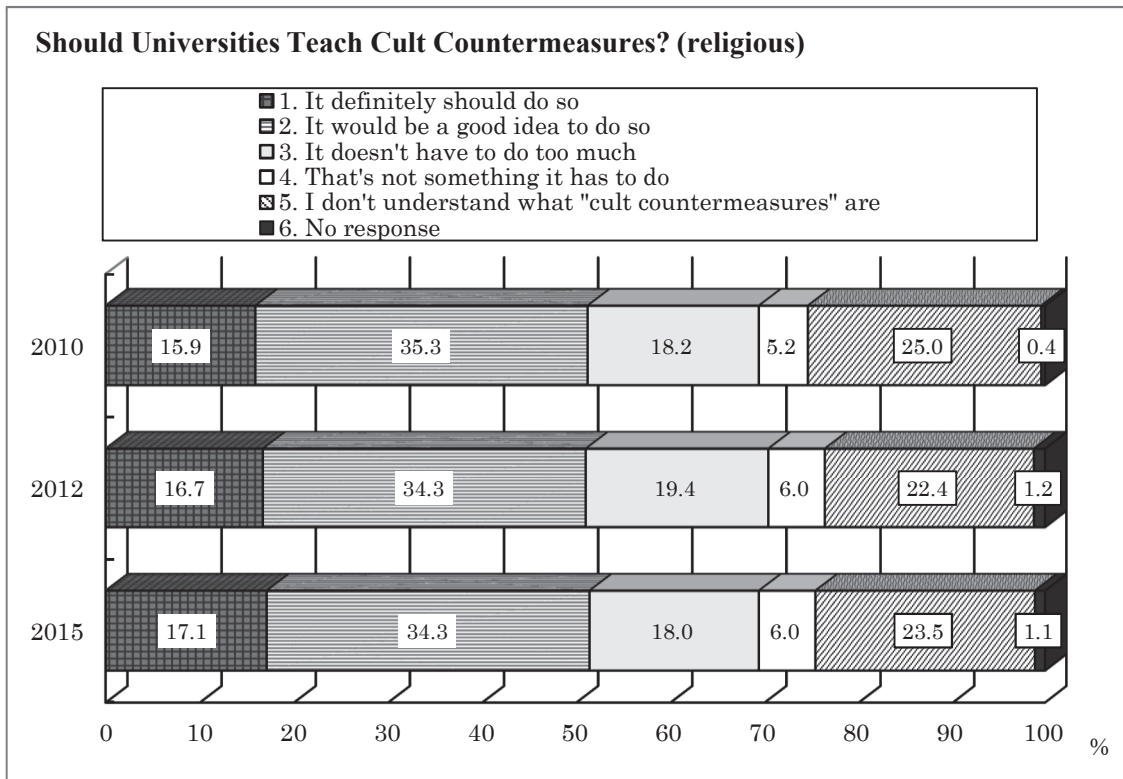


Religious

Table 5c2

	2010	2012	2015
1. It definitely should do so	15.9	16.7	17.1
2. It would be a good idea to do so	35.3	34.3	34.3
3. It doesn't have to do too much	18.2	19.4	18.0
4. That's not something it has to do	5.2	6.0	6.0
5. I don't understand what "cult countermeasures" are	25.0	22.4	23.5
6. No response	0.4	1.2	1.1

Graph 5c2

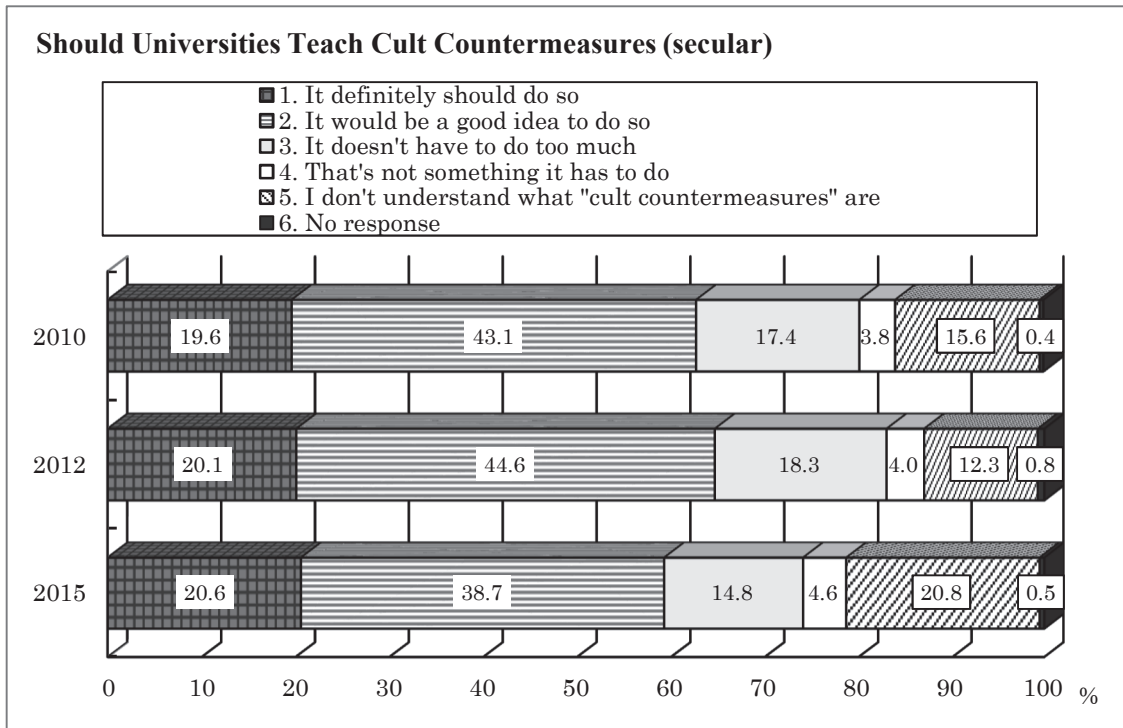


Secular

Table 5c3

	2010	2012	2015
1. It definitely should do so	19.6	20.1	20.6
2. It would be a good idea to do so	43.1	44.6	38.7
3. It doesn't have to do too much	17.4	18.3	14.8
4. That's not something it has to do	3.8	4.0	4.6
5. I don't understand what "cult countermeasures" are	15.6	12.3	20.8
6. No response	0.4	0.8	0.5

Graph 5c3



d) Need for public information center for religious conflicts

Question Content

Please write in the brackets the number that corresponds to your response regarding each of the following items: (1) "I think so," (2) "If I had to say which one, I would say I think so," (3) "If I had to say which one, I would say I don't think so," (4) "I don't think so," or (5) "No response."

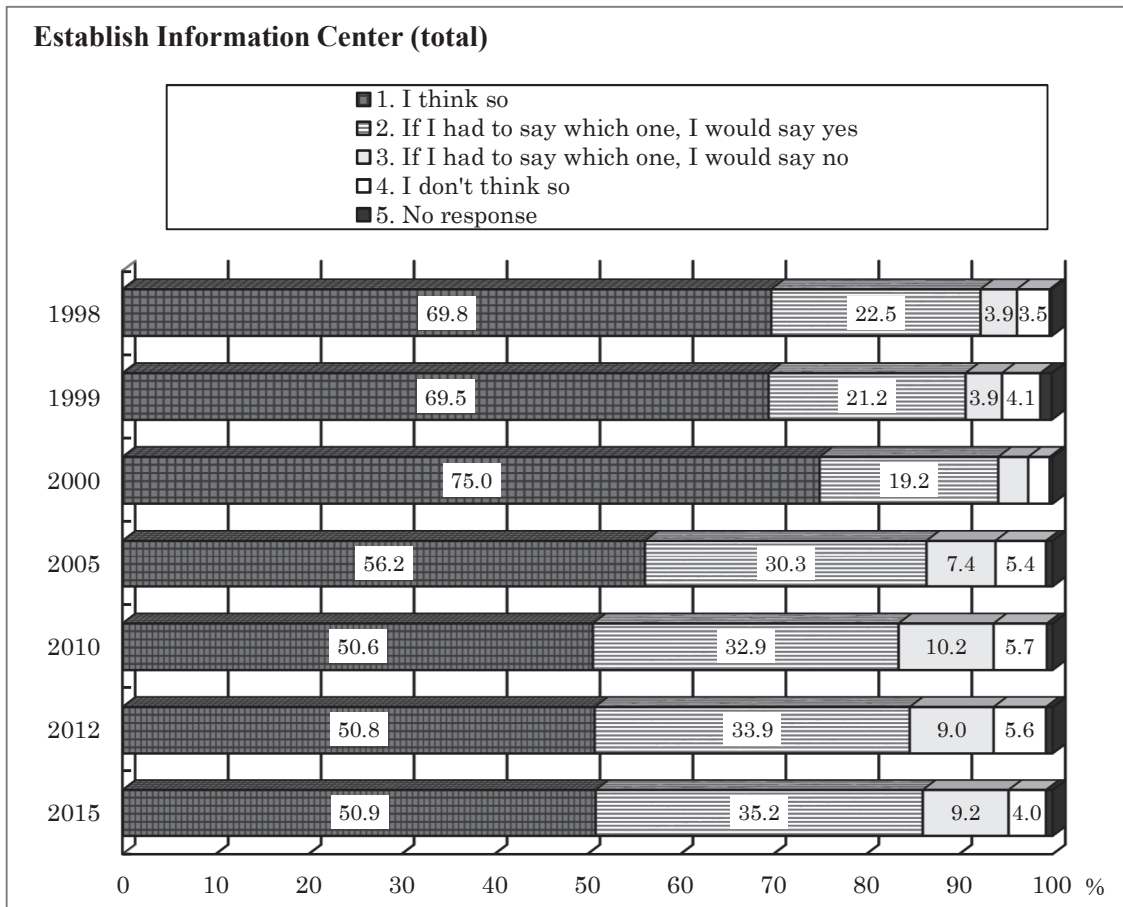
"We need a public information center established where persons can provide advice about religious conflicts." []

Total

Table 5d1

	1998	1999	2000	2005	2010	2012	2015
1. I think so	69.8	69.5	75.0	56.2	50.6	50.8	50.9
2. If I had to say which one, I would say yes	22.5	21.2	19.2	30.3	32.9	33.9	35.2
3. If I had to say which one, I would say no	3.9	3.9	3.2	7.4	10.2	9.0	9.2
4. I don't think so	3.5	4.1	2.3	5.4	5.7	5.6	4.0
5. No response	0.2	1.2	0.3	0.7	0.6	0.8	0.7

Graph 5d1

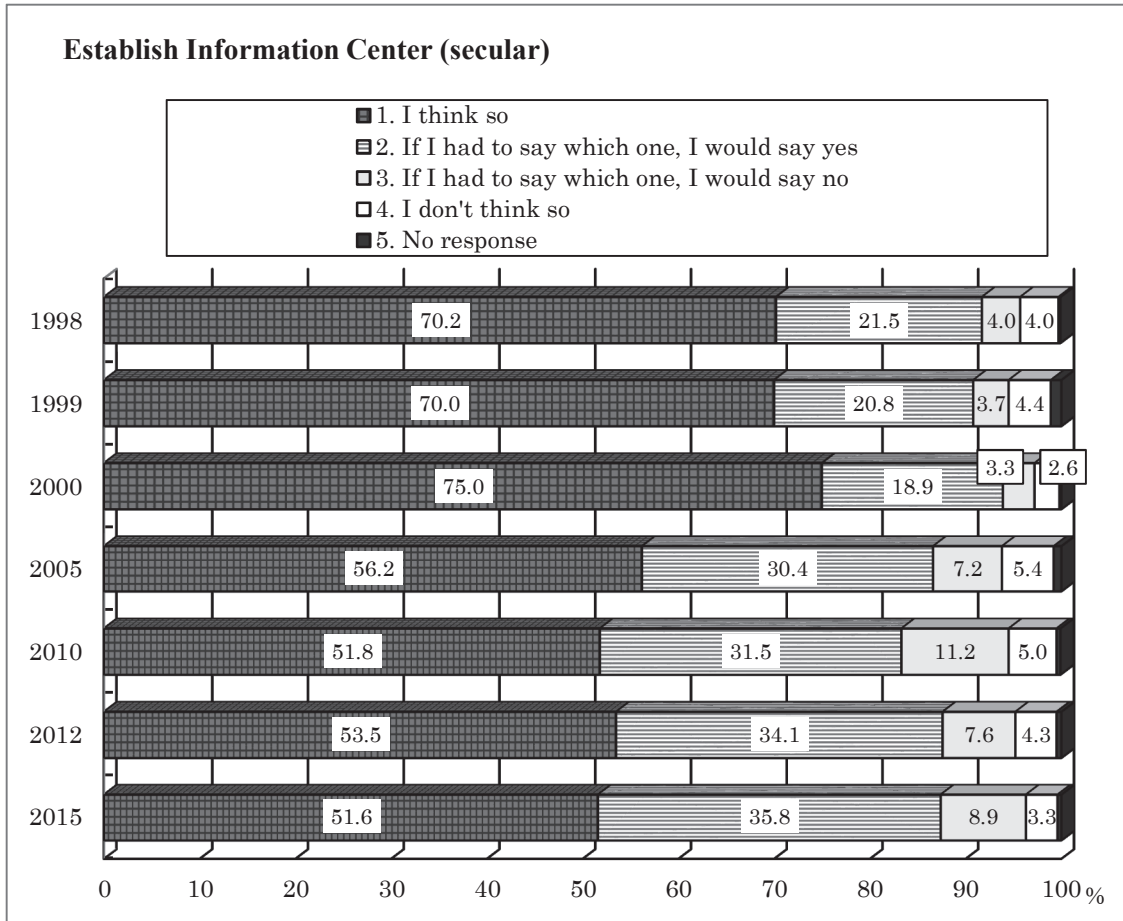


Secular

Table 5d2

	1998	1999	2000	2005	2010	2012	2015
1. I think so	70.2	70.0	75.0	56.2	51.8	53.5	51.6
2. If I had to say which one, I would say yes	21.5	20.8	18.9	30.4	31.5	34.1	35.8
3. If I had to say which one, I would say no	4.0	3.7	3.3	7.2	11.2	7.6	8.9
4. I don't think so	4.0	4.4	2.6	5.4	5.0	4.3	3.3
5. No response	0.2	1.1	0.3	0.9	0.4	0.6	0.5

Graph 5d2



e) Gender issues

Gender issues were taken up through questions about discrimination with respect to positions (jobs) and status in religious groups, prohibitions on women entering sacred spaces, and on homosexuality. The differences between men and women in their responses were striking. Separate tables and graphs were created for each.

[1] Discrimination related to positions or ranks

Question Content

(1999, 2000)

In some religions, women are not appointed to certain positions or levels of status within the religious community. What do you think about this?

1. This is something based on that religion's conventions, so I'm fine with it
2. While this might be a matter of that religion's conventions, it's a problem
3. I'm not interested in this sort of issue

(2001, 2005, 2010, 2012)

In some religions, women are not appointed to certain positions or levels of status within the religious community. Do you think this is discrimination?

1. I think it is discrimination
2. I do not think it is discrimination
3. I don't know

(Men)

Table 5e1

	1999	2000
1. It's a rule, so it's fine	39.3	39.4
2. That sort of thing is a problem	20.3	21.3
3. I have no interest	39.8	38.3
4. No response	0.5	1.0

Graph 5e1

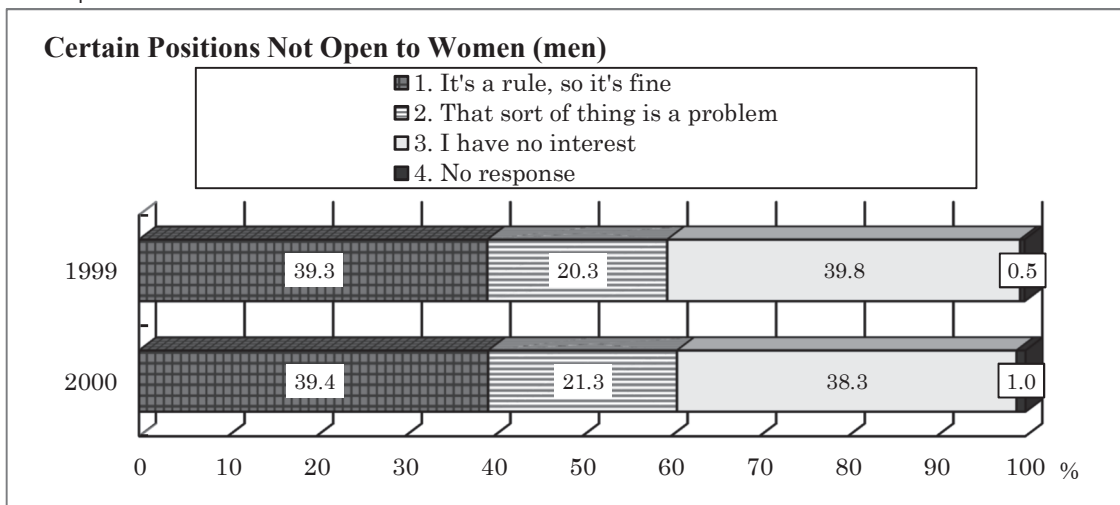
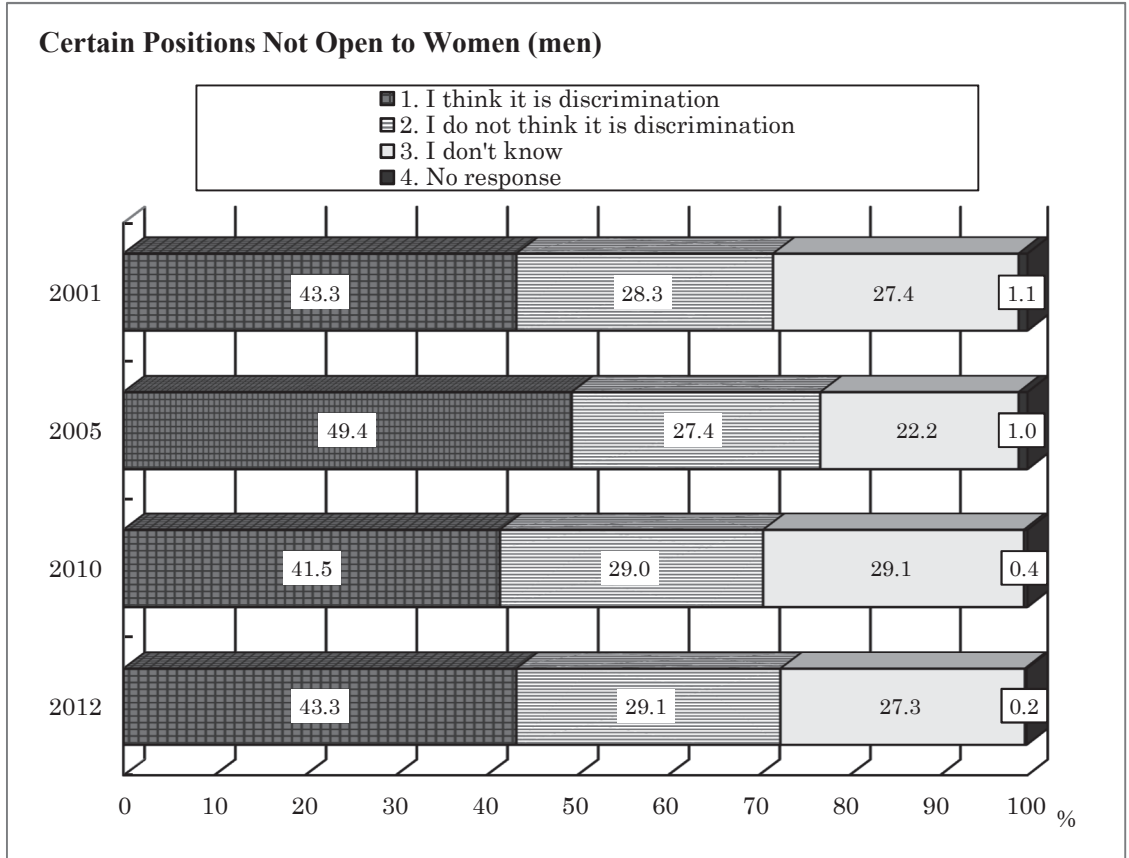


Table 5e2

	2001	2005	2010	2012
1. I think it is discrimination	43.3	49.4	41.5	43.3
2. I do not think it is discrimination	28.3	27.4	29.0	29.1
3. I don't know	27.4	22.2	29.1	27.3
4. No response	1.1	1.0	0.4	0.2

Graph 5e2



(Women)

Table 5e3

	1999	2000
1. It's a rule, so it's fine	26.7	29.4
2. That sort of thing is a problem	33.5	31.4
3. I have no interest	39.5	38.4
4. No response	0.4	0.8

Graph 5e3

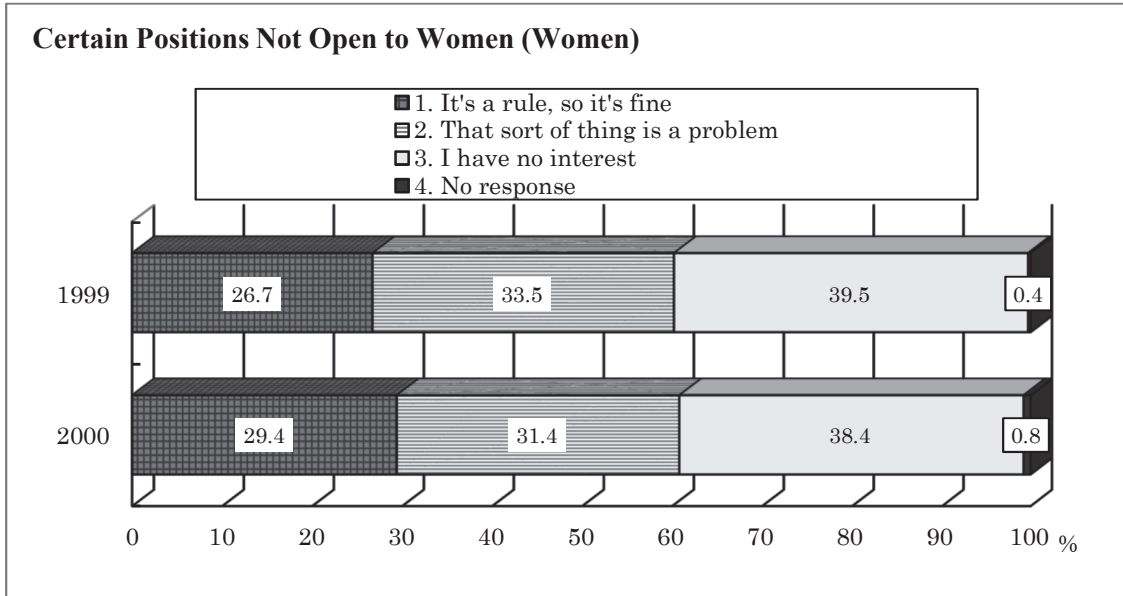
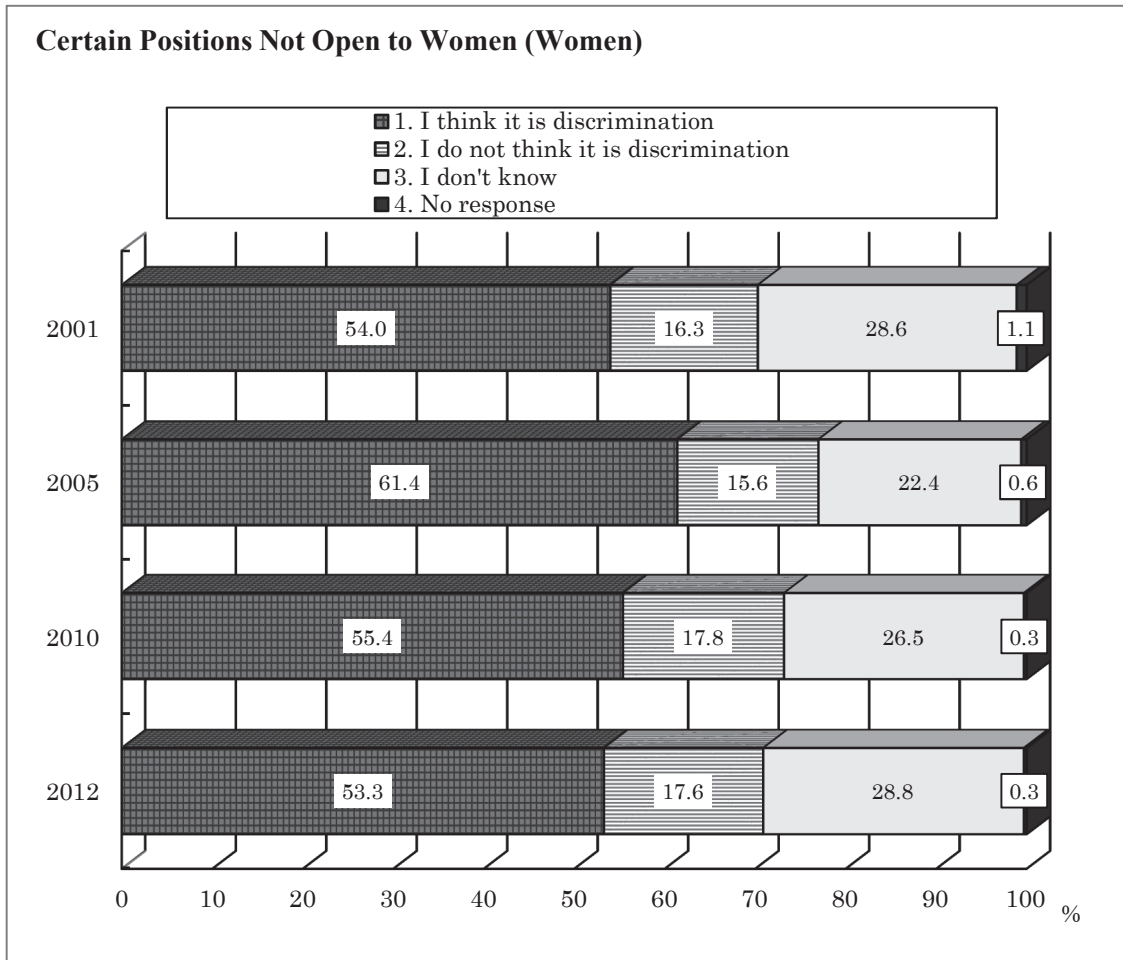


Table 5e4

	2001	2005	2010	2012
1. I think it is discrimination	54.0	61.4	55.4	53.3
2. I do not think it is discrimination	16.3	15.6	17.8	17.6
3. I don't know	28.6	22.4	26.5	28.8
4. No response	1.1	0.6	0.3	0.3

Graph 5e4



[2] Prohibitions on women entering sacred spaces

Question Content

(1999, 2000)

In some religions, women are not allowed to enter certain sacred spaces such as holy mountains and so forth. What do you think about this?

1. This is something based on that religion's conventions, so I'm fine with it
2. While this might be a matter of that religion's conventions, it's a problem
3. I'm not interested in this sort of issue

(2001, 2005, 2010, 2012)

In some religions, women are not allowed to enter certain sacred spaces such as holy mountains and so forth. Do you think this is discrimination?

1. I think it is discrimination
2. I do not think it is discrimination
3. I don't know

(Men)

Table 5e5

	1999	2000
1. It's a rule, so it's fine	41.2	42.4
2. That sort of thing is a problem	21.3	23.2
3. I have no interest	36.9	33.6
4. No response	0.6	0.9

Graph 5e5

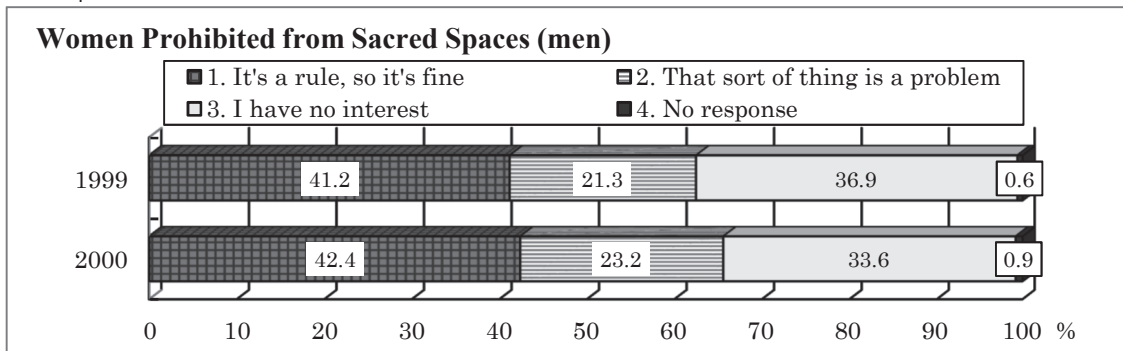
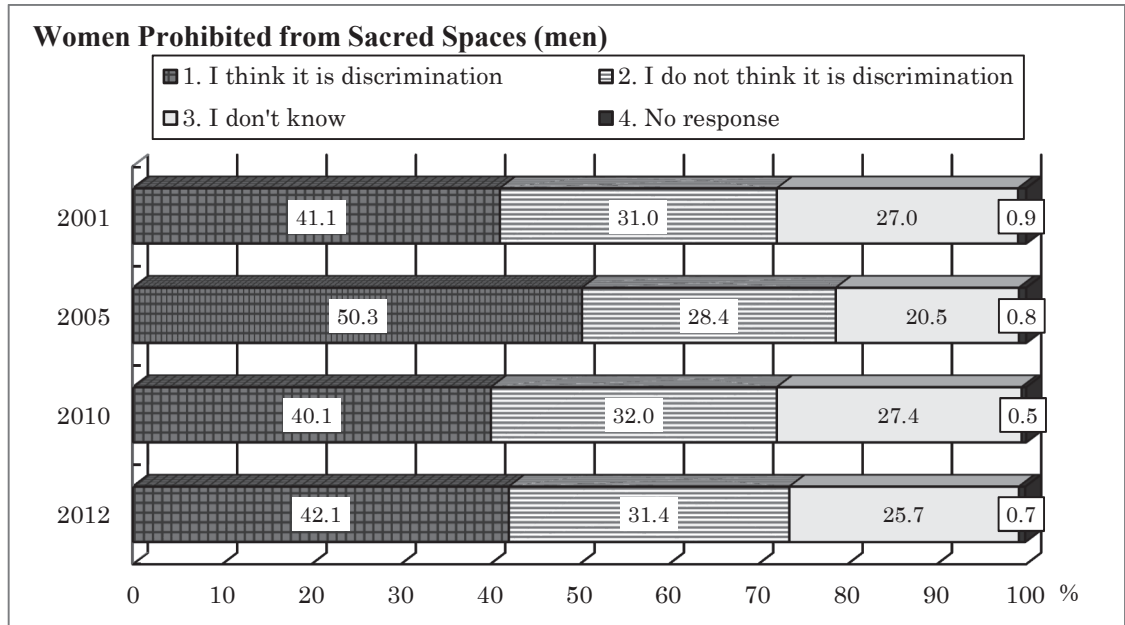


Table 5e6

	2001	2005	2010	2012
1. I think it is discrimination	41.1	50.3	40.1	42.1
2. I do not think it is discrimination	31.0	28.4	32.0	31.4
3. I don't know	27.0	20.5	27.4	25.7
4. No response	0.9	0.8	0.5	0.7

Graph 5e6



(Women)

Table 5e7

	1999	2000
1. It's a rule, so it's fine	28.9	32.5
2. That sort of thing is a problem	38.0	36.9
3. I have no interest	32.6	29.7
4. No response	0.5	0.9

Graph 5e7

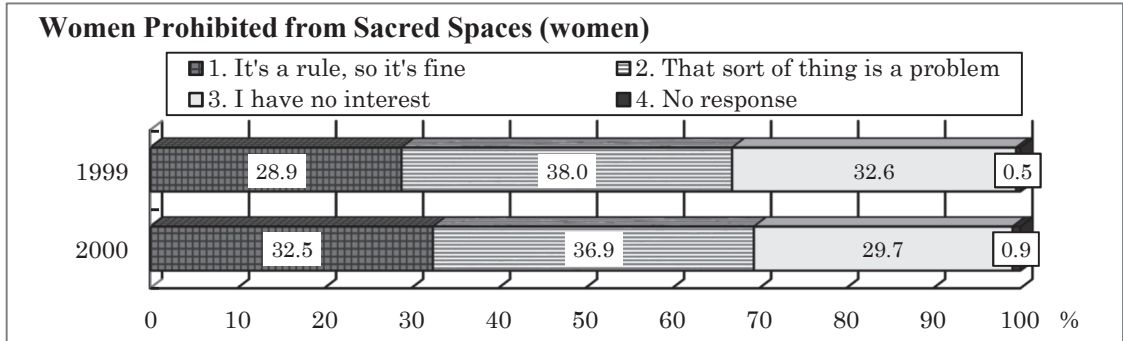
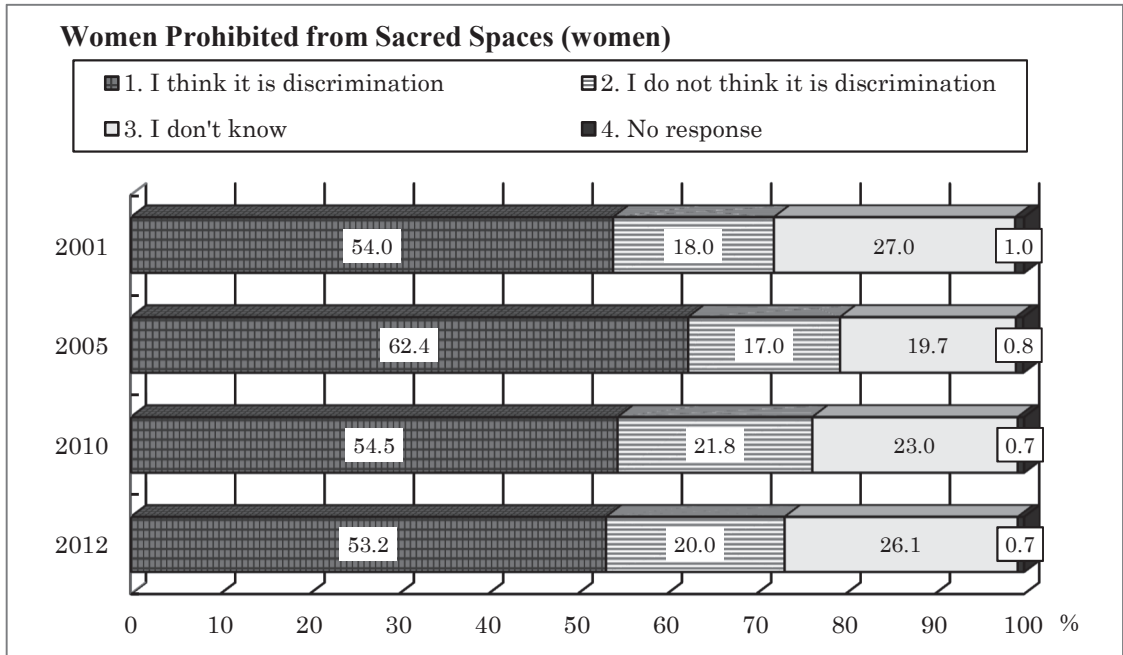


Table 5e8

	2001	2005	2010	2012
1. I think it is discrimination	54.0	62.4	54.5	53.2
2. I do not think it is discrimination	18.0	17.0	21.8	20.0
3. I don't know	27.0	19.7	23.0	26.1
4. No response	1.0	0.8	0.7	0.7

Graph 5e8



[3] Prohibitions on homosexuality

Question Content

(1999, 2000)

Homosexuality is prohibited in certain religions. What do you think about this?

1. This is something based on that religion's conventions, so I'm fine with it
2. It might be a religion, but this is not the kind of issue it should meddle in
3. I'm not interested in this sort of issue

(2001, 2005, 2010, 2012)

Homosexuality is prohibited in certain religions. What do you think about this?

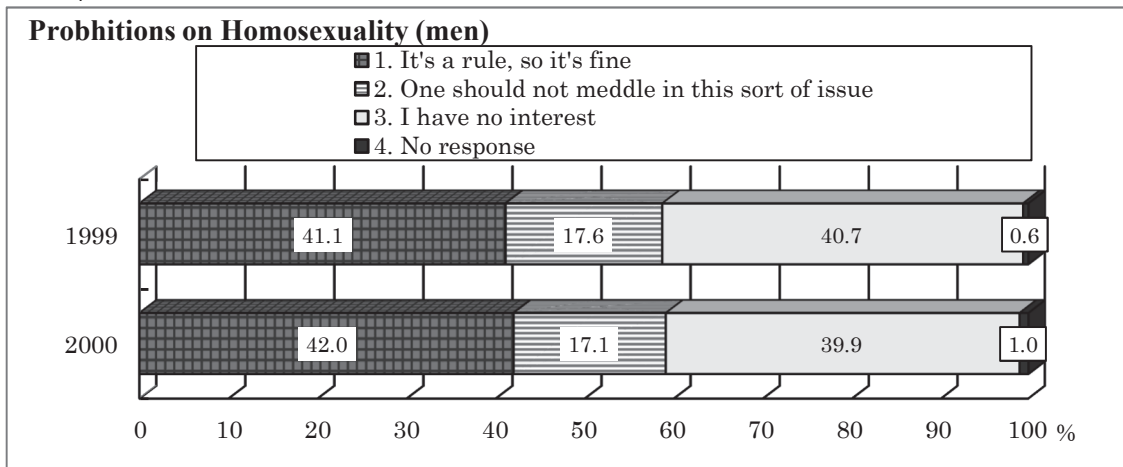
1. The involvement of religions in this sort of thing is acceptable
2. Religions should not be involved in this sort of thing
3. I don't know

(Men)

Table 5e9

	1999	2000
1. It's a rule, so it's fine	41.1	42.0
2. One should not meddle in this sort of issue	17.6	17.1
3. I have no interest	40.7	39.9
4. No response	0.6	1.0

Graph 5e9

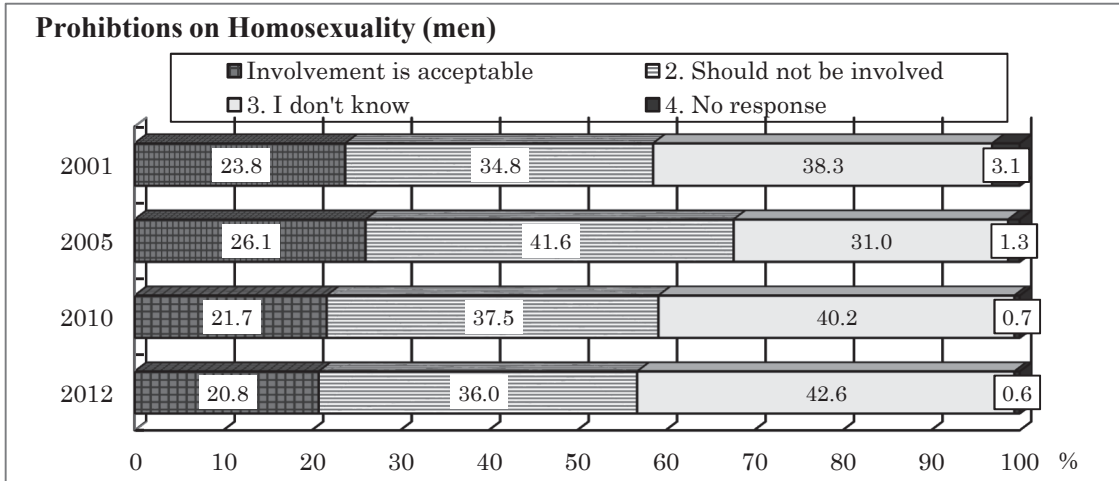


Comparison Over the Years in the Results for the 1st through 12th Surveys

Table 5e10

	2001	2005	2010	2012
1. Involvement is acceptable	23.8	26.1	21.7	20.8
2. Should not be involved	34.8	41.6	37.5	36.0
3. I don't know	38.3	31.0	40.2	42.6
4. No response	3.1	1.3	0.7	0.6

Graph 5e10



(Women)

Table 5e11

	1999	2000
1. It's a rule, so it's fine	28.1	33.4
2. One should not meddle in this sort of issue	34.9	26.3
3. I have no interest	36.7	39.3
4. No response	0.4	1.1

Graph 5e11

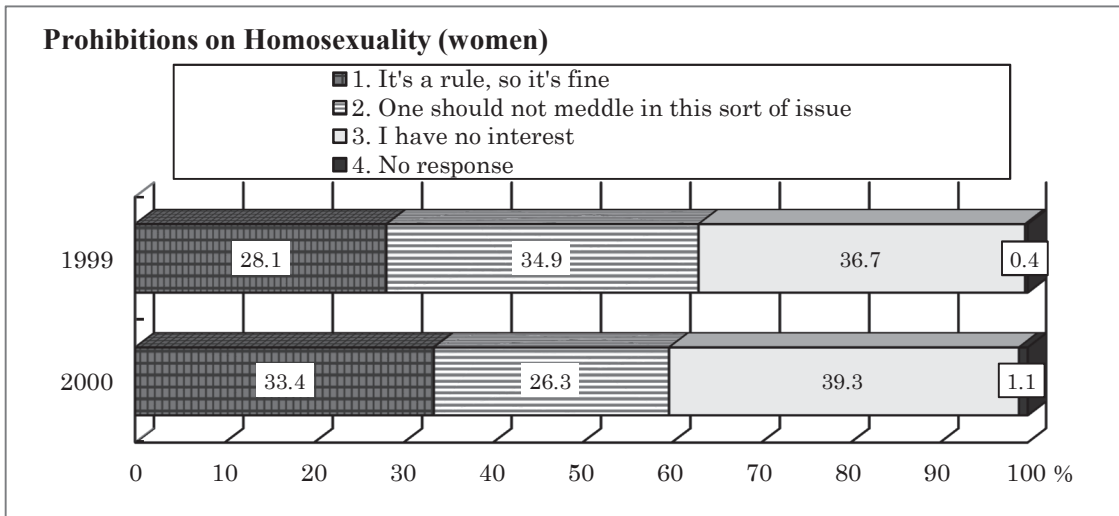
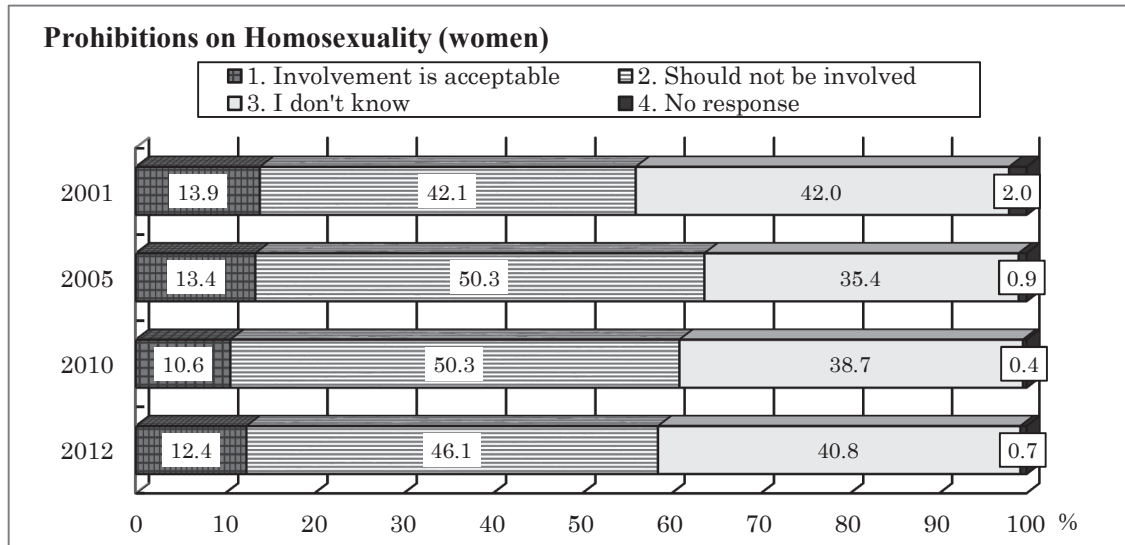


Table 5e12

	2001	2005	2010	2012
1. Involvement is acceptable	13.9	13.4	10.6	12.4
2. Should not be involved	42.1	50.3	50.3	46.1
3. I don't know	42.0	35.4	38.7	40.8
4. No response	2.0	0.9	0.4	0.7

Graph 5e12



f) Religion and politics

Question Content

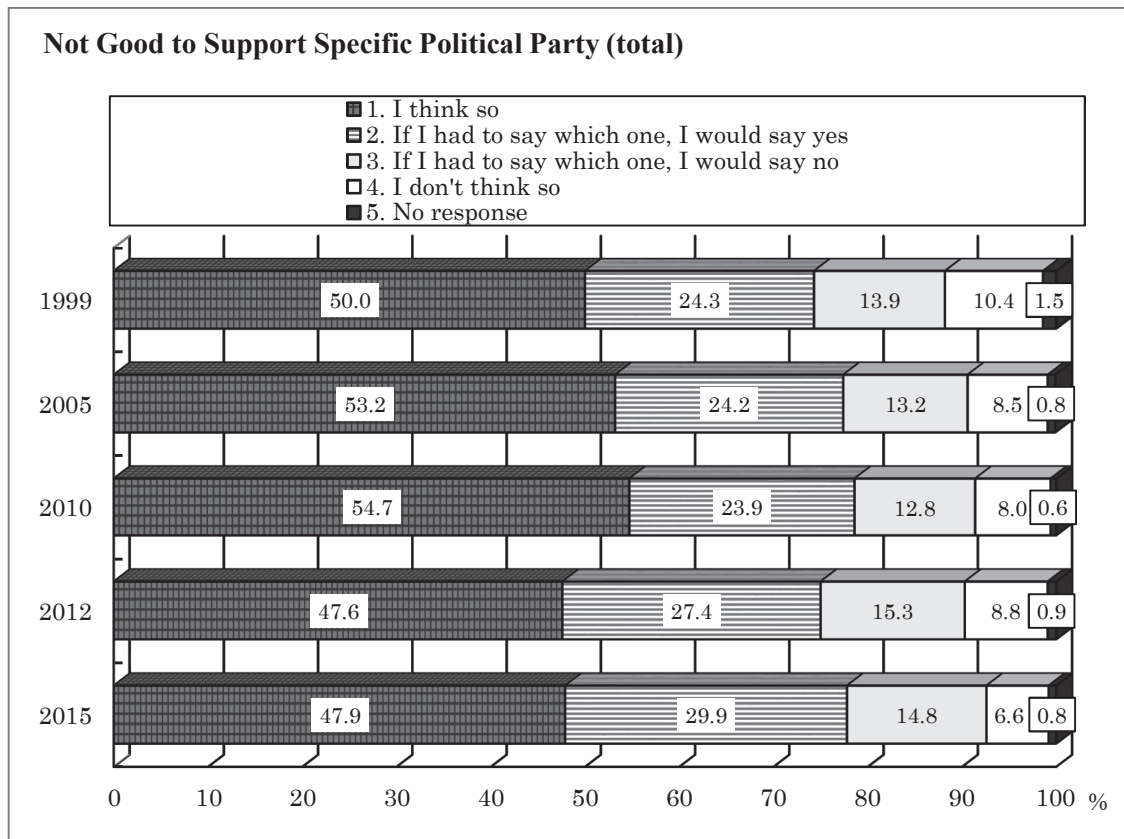
Please write in the brackets the number that corresponds to your response regarding each of the following items: (1) "I think so," (2) "If I had to say which one, I would say yes," (3) "If I had to say which one, I would say no," (4) "I don't think so," or (5) "No response."

"It's not good for a specific religious group to support a specific political party." []

Table 5f1

	1999	2005	2010	2012	2015
1. I think so	50.0	53.2	54.7	47.6	47.9
2. If I had to say which one, I would say yes	24.3	24.2	23.9	27.4	29.9
3. If I had to say which one, I would say no	13.9	13.2	12.8	15.3	14.8
4. I don't think so	10.4	8.5	8.0	8.8	6.6
5. No response	1.5	0.8	0.6	0.9	0.8

Graph 5f1



g) Tax exemptions for religious facilities

For this question, response options 2 and 4 changed between 1996 and 1997 on the one hand and 1999 and 2000 on the other. The differences in options 2 and 4 are apparent when viewed side by side.

Question Content

(1996, 1997)

Please circle all of the opinions with which you can agree regarding the following situations.

"Religious facilities like shrines, temples, and churches are not taxed at present, but they ought to be taxed like ordinary buildings. " []

(1999, 2000)

Please write in the brackets the number that corresponds to your response regarding each of the following items: (1) "I think so," (2) "If I had to say which one, I would say I say yes," (3) "If I had to say which one, I would say no" (4) "I don't think so," or (5) "No response."

"Religious facilities like shrines, temples, and churches are not taxed at present, but they ought to be taxed like ordinary buildings. " []

Table 5g1

	1996	1997
1. I agree	46.1	36.4
2. No response	53.9	63.6

Graph 5g1

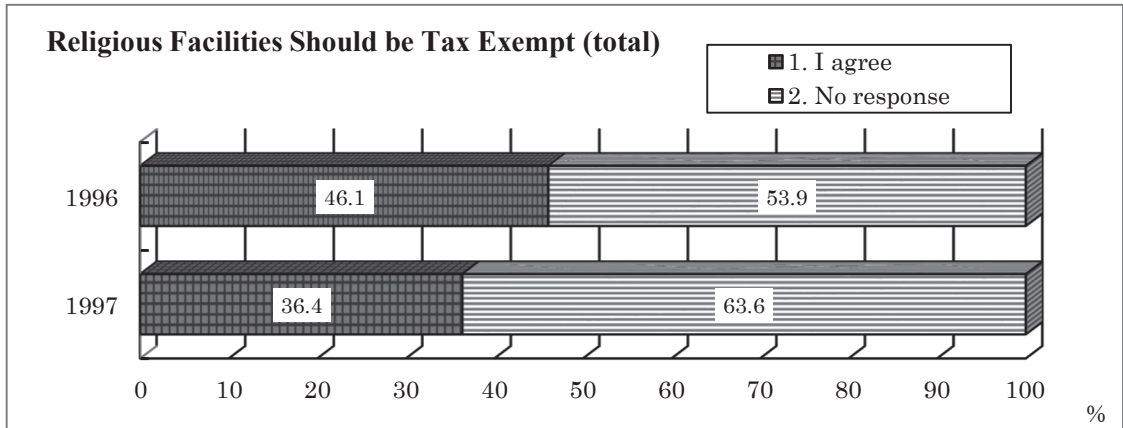
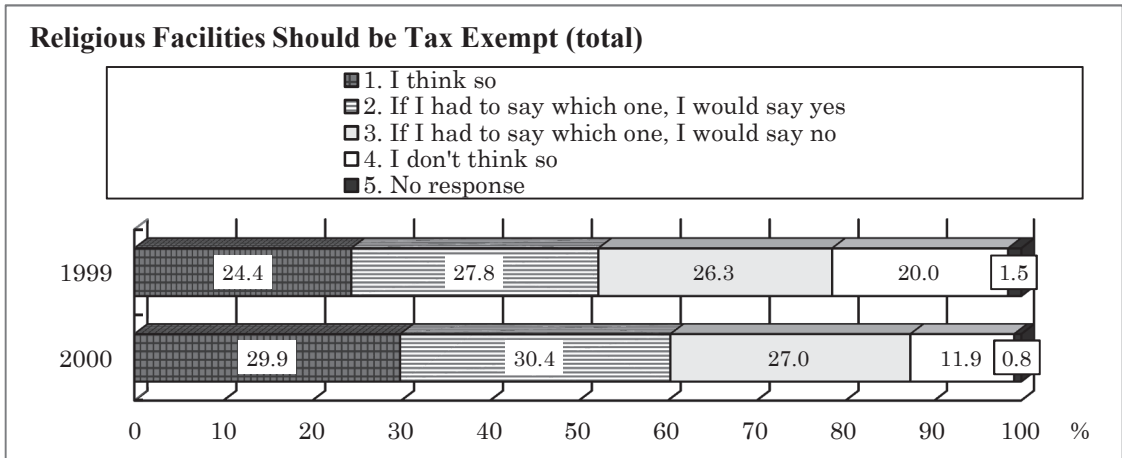


Table 5g2

	1999	2000
1. I think so	24.4	29.9
2. If I had to say which one, I would say yes	27.8	30.4
3. If I had to say which one, I would say no	26.3	27.0
4. I don't think so	20.0	11.9
5. No response	1.5	0.8

Graph 5g2



Chapter 6: The Aum Shinrikyō Issue

a) News coverage of Aum Shinrikyō

The survey began asking questions about what level of interest respondents had in news coverage of Aum Shinrikyō two years (1997) after the subway sarin gas attack. The question was asked for two decades from the time of the incident until 2015.

Question Content

How much interest do you have at present in news coverage of Aum Shinrikyō? Please choose from among the following options.

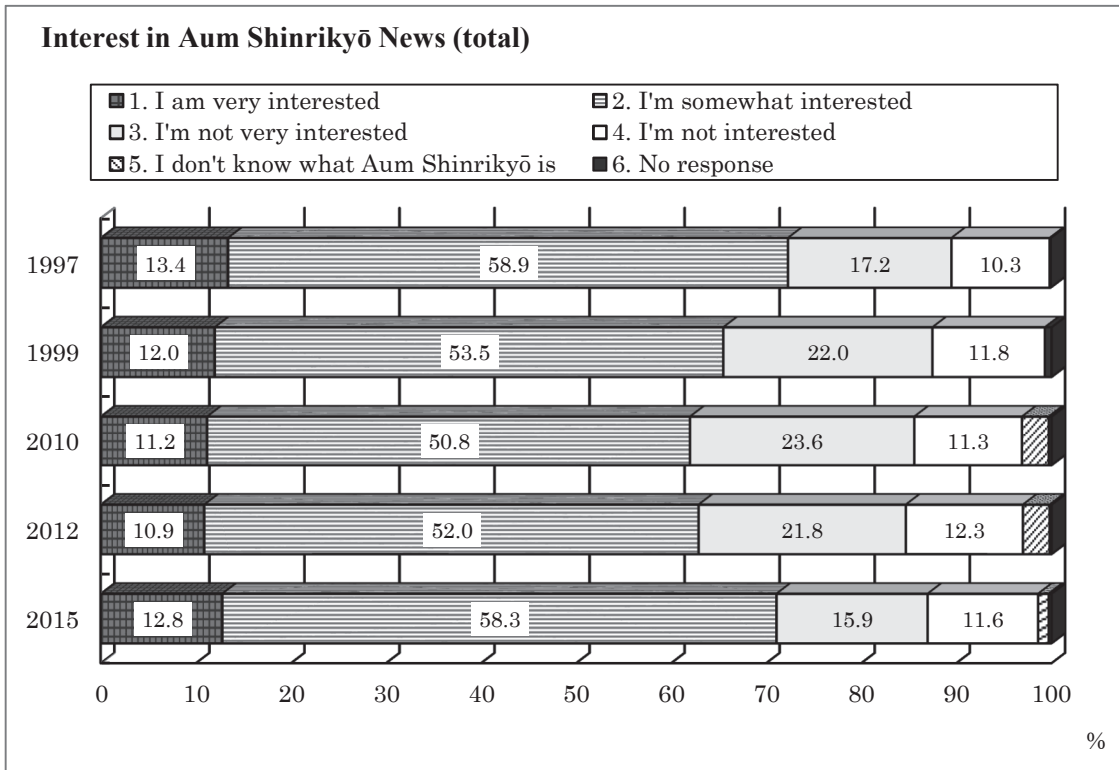
- 1. I am very interested
- 2. I'm somewhat interested
- 3. I'm not very interested
- 4. I'm not interested

(Starting in 2010, the survey added "5. I don't know what Aum Shinrikyō is")

Table 6a1

	1997	1999	2010	2012	2015
1. I am very interested	13.4	12.0	11.2	10.9	12.8
2. I'm somewhat interested	58.9	53.5	50.8	52.0	58.3
3. I'm not very interested	17.2	22.0	23.6	21.8	15.9
4. I'm not interested	10.3	11.8	11.3	12.3	11.6
5. I don't know what Aum Shinrikyō is	—	—	2.8	2.8	1.1
6. No response	0.1	0.7	0.3	0.3	0.3

Graph 6a1



b) Content of interest

The form of the question varied slightly from year to year. In 1997 and 1999, the question content continued on the question about whether or not the respondent was interested in news coverage about Aum Shinrikyō.

In 2005, following a question on whatever particulars the respondent knew about Aum Shinrikyō, they were then asked about their interest in the group. Thus, the context of the question was rather different.

To be precise, in 2005 item 2 regarding "what's going on now with persons who are still believers" became more precisely "troubles between persons who are still believers today and residents of the community in which they live."

Question Content

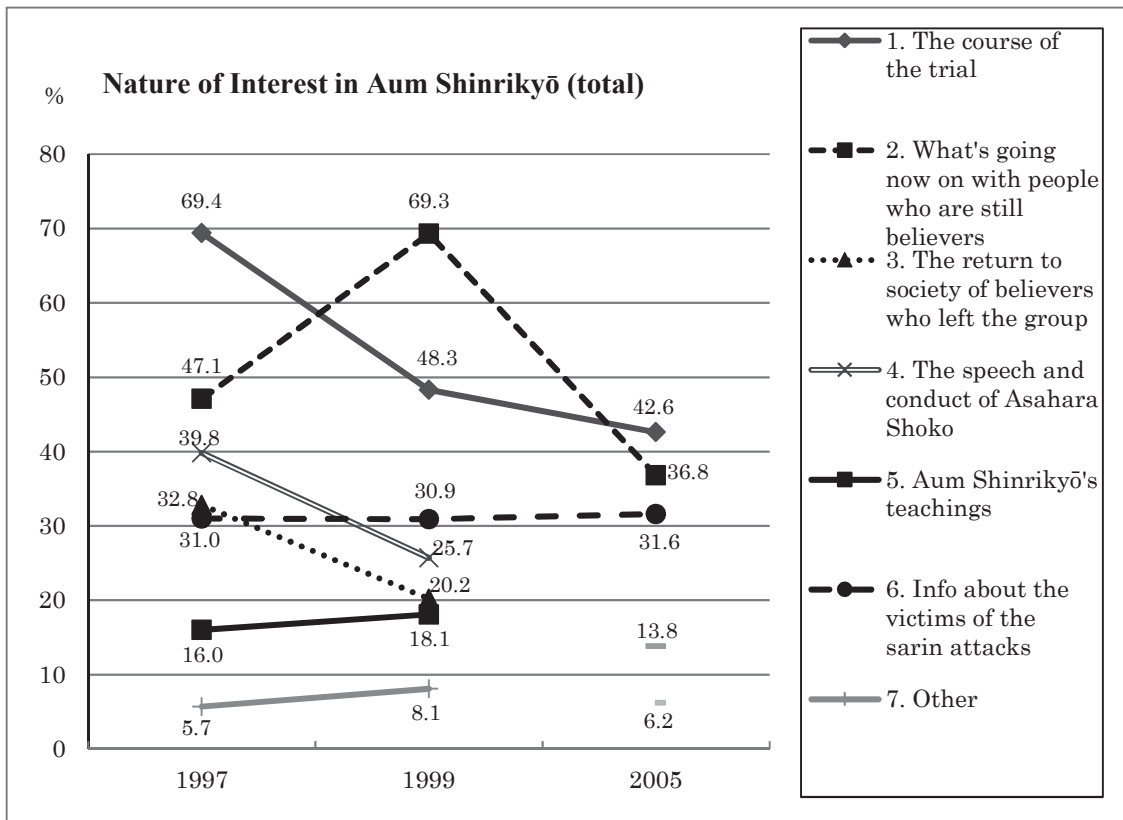
If you chose 1, 2, or 3 (in response to the above question, with respect to those persons interested in Aum Shinrikyō), please choose from among the following the details of your interest. (Multiple responses allowed.)

1. The course of the trial
2. What's going now on with persons who are still believers
3. The return to society of believers who left the group
4. The speech and conduct of Asahara Shōkō (Matsumoto Chizuo)
5. Aum Shinrikyō's teachings
6. Info about the victims of the sarin attacks
7. Other (specifically:)

Table 6a2

	1997	1999	2005
1. The course of the trial	69.4	48.3	42.6
2. What's going now on with persons who are still believers	47.1	69.3	36.8
3. The return to society of believers who left the group	32.8	20.2	—
4. The speech and conduct of Asahara Shōkō	39.8	25.7	—
5. Aum Shinrikyō's teachings	16.0	18.1	—
6. Info about the victims of the sarin attacks	31.0	30.9	31.6
7. Other	5.7	8.1	—
8. Information over the internet about Aleph	—	—	6.2
9. I have no interest in anything	—	—	13.8

Graph 6a2



c) Knowledge about Aum Shinrikyō

There were differences in the details of some of the response options for this question, too. Regarding "3. Aleph," the items changed slightly to reflect a slight change in the group's name as rendered in Japanese. In 2005, the item read "It is active today under the new name of Aleph (*Ārefu*)", while from 2010 on the item read, "Some former members of Aum Shinrikyō today belong to an organization called Aleph (*Ārefu*)."

Also, two previous response options—"1. They carried out the subway sarin gas attack" and "8. Several thousand victims resulted" in 2005—were combined into a single response in 2015, "they carried out the subway sarin gas attack in Tokyo, resulting in several thousand victims including more than a dozen deaths."

Question Content

Please indicate what you know about Aum Shinrikyō by marking the space next to the appropriate response. (Multiple responses allowed.)

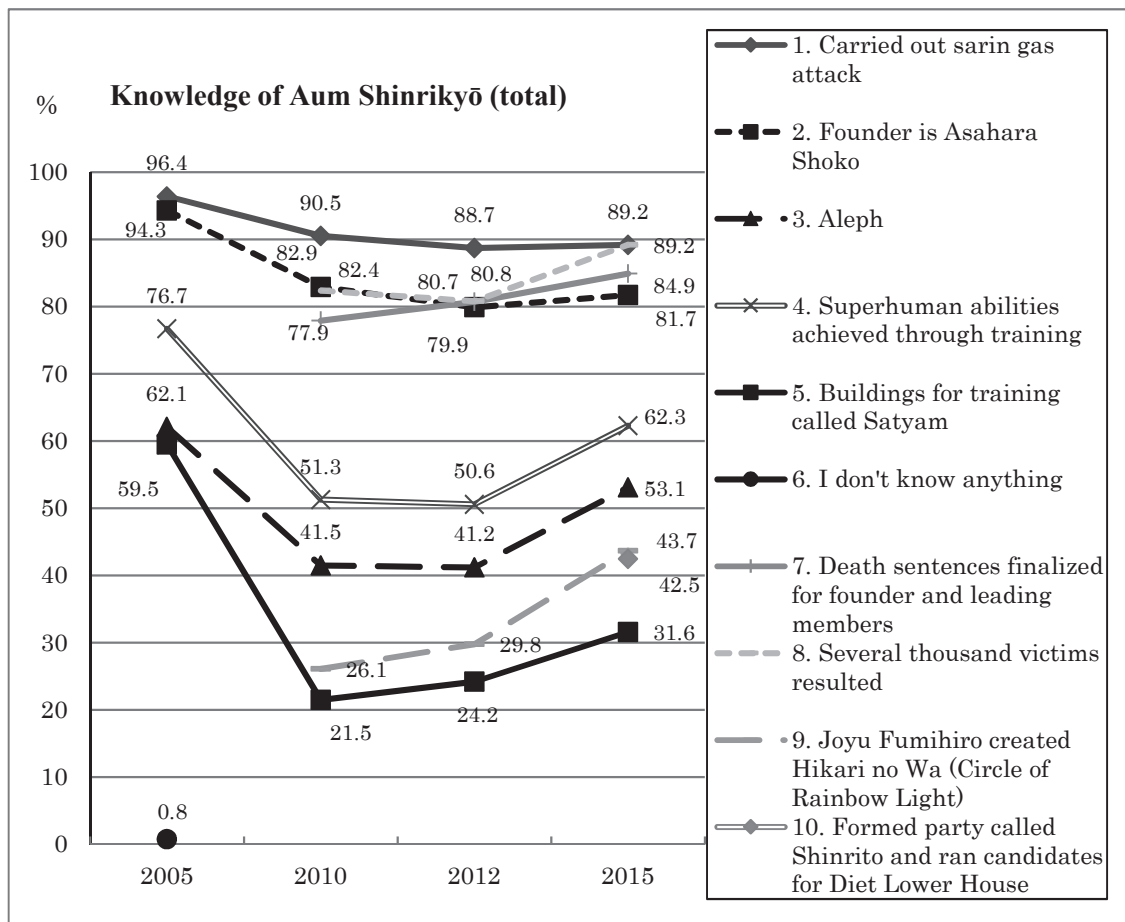
1. They carried out the subway sarin gas attack in 1995
2. Its founder is Asahara Shōkō (given name: Matsumoto Chizuo).
3. It is active today under the new name of Aleph.
4. They claim to have achieved superhuman abilities through their training like levitating in the air
5. Believers called their training facility Satyam
6. I don't know anything about Aum Shinrikyō

Table 6c1

	2005	2010	2012	2015
1. Carried out sarin gas attack	96.4	90.5	88.7	89.2
2. Founder is Asahara Shōkō	94.3	82.9	79.9	81.7
3. Aleph	62.1	41.5	41.2	53.1
4. Superhuman abilities achieved through training	76.7	51.3	50.6	62.3
5. Buildings for training called Satyam	59.5	21.5	24.2	31.6
6. I don't know anything	0.8	—	—	—
7. Death sentences finalized for founder and leading members	—	77.9	80.7	84.9
8. Several thousand victims resulted	—	82.4	80.8	89.2
9. Joyu Fumihiro created Hikari no Wa (Circle of Rainbow Light)	—	26.1	29.8	43.7
10. Formed party called Shinrito and ran candidates for Diet Lower House	—	—	—	42.5

*In 2015, options 1 and 8 were both parts of the same option and so the responses are presented as a single number.

Graph 6c1



Chapter 7: Regarding Islam

Questions were asked about Islam in the surveys for 2005, 2012, and 2015. Questions related to the religion itself were asked all three times, while questions related to mosques specifically came up only in the 2012 and 2015 surveys. The results show that there was considerable change during that three-year period.

a) Connections with Muslims

Question Content

Please choose from among the following those responses that apply to your involvement with followers of Islam (Muslims).

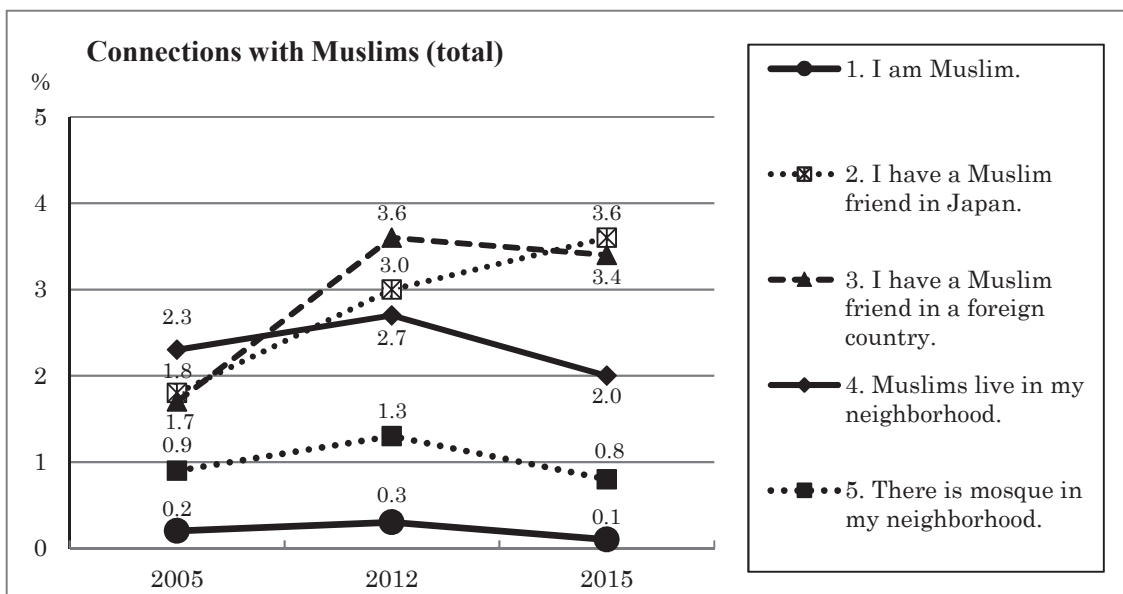
(Multiple responses allowed.)

1. I am Muslim.
2. I have a Muslim friend in Japan.
3. I have a Muslim friend in a foreign country.
4. Muslims live in my neighborhood.
5. There is mosque in my neighborhood.

Table 7a1

	2005	2012	2015
1. I am Muslim.	0.2	0.3	0.1
2. I have a Muslim friend in Japan.	1.8	3.0	3.6
3. I have a Muslim friend in a foreign country.	1.7	3.6	3.4
4. Muslims live in my neighborhood.	2.3	2.7	2.0
5. There is mosque in my neighborhood.	0.9	1.3	0.8

Graph 7a1



b) Interest in Islam

Question Content

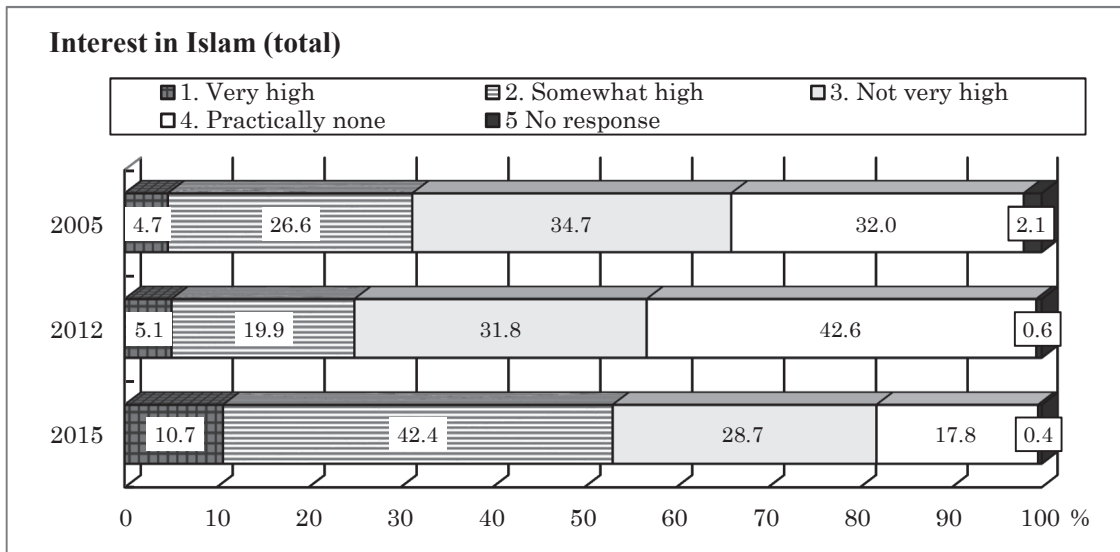
Which of the following applies to your recent levels of interest in Islam?

1. Very high 2. Somewhat high 3. Not very high 4. Practically none

Table 7b1

	2005	2012	2015
1. Very high	4.7	5.1	10.7
2. Somewhat high	26.6	19.9	42.4
3. Not very high	34.7	31.8	28.7
4. Practically none	32.0	42.6	17.8
5. No response	2.1	0.6	0.4

Graph 7b1



c) Regarding the establishment of mosques

Question Content

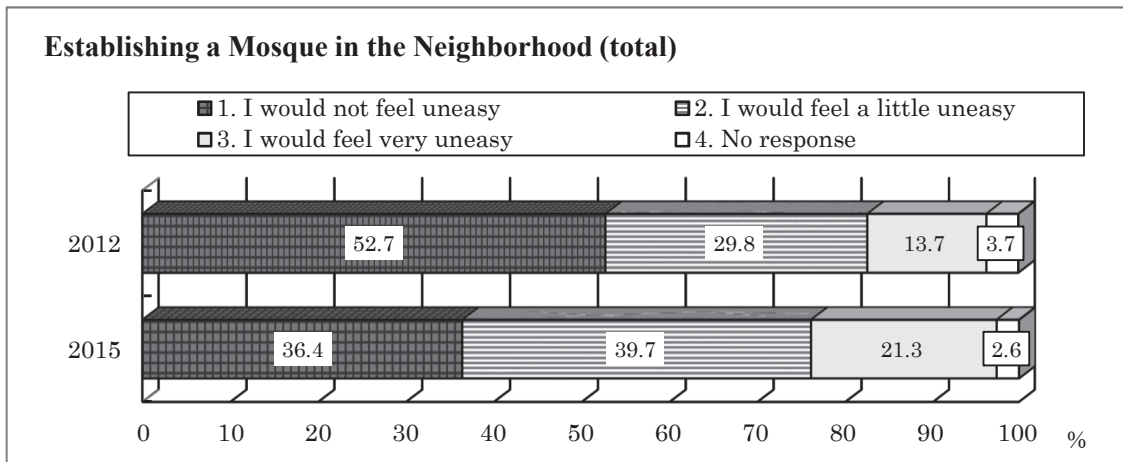
Would you feel uneasy if a mosque were to be established in your neighborhood?

1. I would not feel uneasy 2. I would feel a little uneasy 3. I would feel very uneasy

Table 7c1

	2012	2015
1. I would not feel uneasy	52.7	36.4
2. I would feel a little uneasy	29.8	39.7
3. I would feel very uneasy	13.7	21.3
4. No response	3.7	2.6

Graph 7c1



Chapter 8: Regarding Religious Education

a) Need for religious education

Three types of questions (with two small changes being made depending on the year) were asked about whether respondents felt the need for any education about religion in classes through high school. Changes to the questions produced great differences in the responses.

Question Content

(1996 to 1999)

Please write in the brackets the number that corresponds to your response regarding each opinion expressed: (1) "I think so," (2) "If I had to say which one, I would say yes," (3) "If I had to say which one, I would say no," or (4) "I don't think so."

"There should be more teaching of elementary knowledge about religion through high school." []

(2005)

Please write in the brackets the number that corresponds to your opinion regarding religion: (1) "I think so," (2) "If I had to say which one, I would say yes," (3) "If I had to say which one, I would say no," or (4) "I don't think so."

"There should be more teaching of elementary knowledge about religion through high school." []

(2007 to 2015)

Please write in the brackets the number that corresponds to your opinion regarding religion and education: (1) "I think so," (2) "If I had to say which one, I would say yes," (3) "If I had to say which one, I would say no," or (4) "I don't think so."

"Learning elementary knowledge about religious culture in Japan and the world through high school years would be good." []

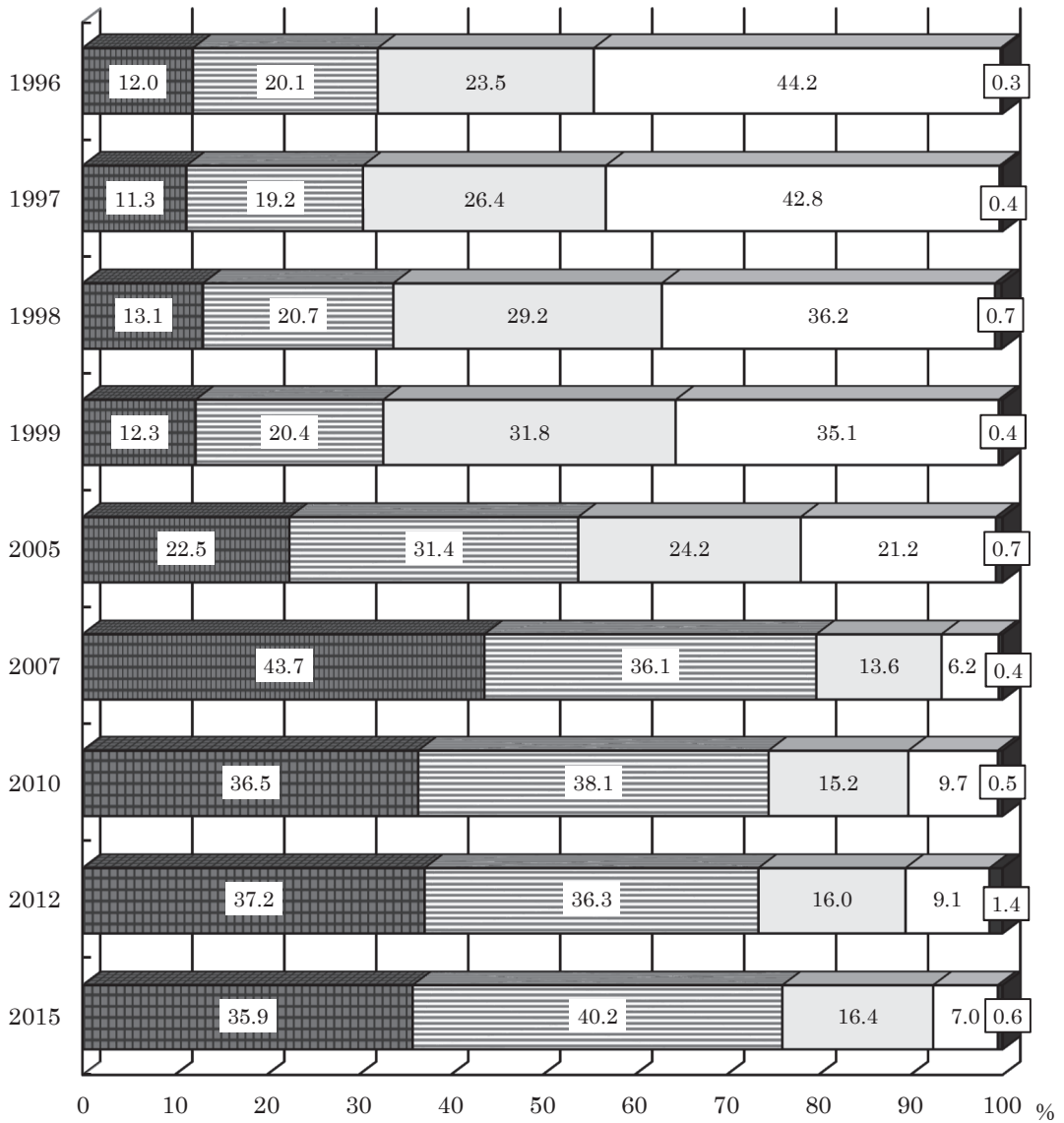
Table 8a1

	1996	1997	1998	1999	2005	2007	2010	2012	2015
1. I think so	12.0	11.3	13.1	12.3	22.5	43.7	36.5	37.2	35.9
2. If I had to say which one, I would say yes	20.1	19.2	20.7	20.4	31.4	36.1	38.1	36.3	40.2
3. If I had to say which one, I would say no	23.5	26.4	29.2	31.8	24.2	13.6	15.2	16.0	16.4
4. I don't think so	44.2	42.8	36.2	35.1	21.2	6.2	9.7	9.1	7.0
5. No response	0.3	0.4	0.7	0.4	0.7	0.4	0.5	1.4	0.6

Graph 8a1

Should Learn Fundamentals about Religion by High School (total)

- 1. I think so
- ▨ 2. If I had to say which one, I would say yes
- 3. If I had to say which one, I would say no
- 4. I don't think so
- 5. No response



b) Opinions on religious culture education

Questions about high schools classes were asked four times from 2007 to 2015. Options 1 through 4 shown below were options in 2007, response 5 was added in 2010, and response 6 was added in 2012. Also, the surveys for 2007 and 2010 included "It's fine if in school they teach us just the knowledge and skills needed for entrance exams and finding work." The item earned the lowest percentage of "I think so" responses.

Options 1, 5, and 6 are ones that were created with the assumption that they included content related to religious culture education.

Question Content

Please select from among responses 1 through 4 listed in the angle brackets the one that corresponds to your opinion regarding religion and education.

< (1) "I think so," (2) "If I had to say, I think so," (3) "If I had to say, I don't think so," (4) "I don't think so" >

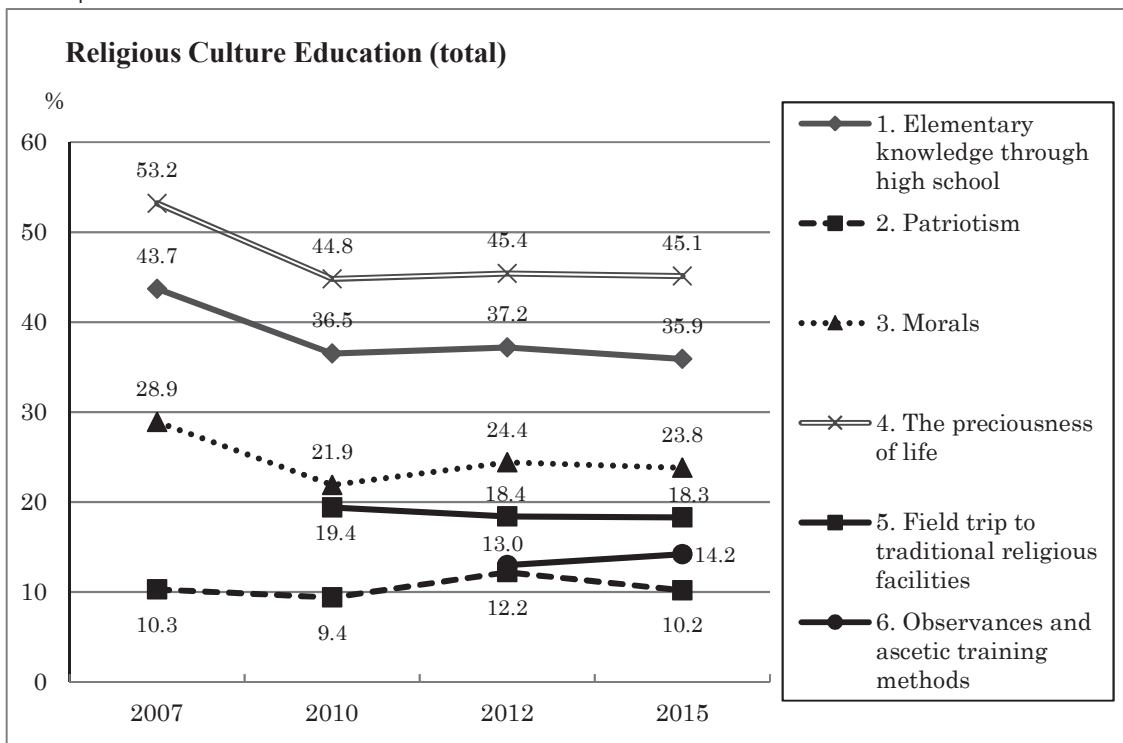
1. "Learning elementary knowledge about religious culture in Japan and the world through high school years would be good." []
2. "Engaging in some means to deepen patriotism in education through high school years would be good." []
3. "Further augmenting classes on morals would be good." []
4. "Augmenting classes that teach the preciousness of life would be good." []
5. "Creating opportunities to go on field trips to Japan's traditional religious facilities like shrines and temples would be good." []
6. "Creating opportunities to experience the rites and training practices of religions such as *zazen* and how to carry out rituals would be good." []

Here we compare the percentages of persons who responded "I think so" for each of items 1 through 6.

Table 8b1

	2007	2010	2012	2015
1. Elementary knowledge through high school	43.7	36.5	37.2	35.9
2. Patriotism	10.3	9.4	12.2	10.2
3. Morals	28.9	21.9	24.4	23.8
4. The preciousness of life	53.2	44.8	45.4	45.1
5. Field trip to traditional religious facilities	—	19.4	18.4	18.3
6. Observances and ascetic training methods	—	—	13.0	14.2

Graph 8b1



*The opinion "Augmenting classes that teach the preciousness of life would be good" received the most "I think so" responses all four times, followed by "Learning elementary knowledge about religious culture in Japan and the world through high school years would be good." Field trips to religious facilities and experiencing rites occupied the middle ground along moral education and patriotic education.

Chapter 9: Subculture, Religious Subculture, and Other Phenomena

In the subculture, religious subculture, and other phenomena category, we compare responses to several questions that here are thought of as adjacent to religion. Specifically, these have to do with interest in divination, name-character reading, astrology, computer horoscopes and similar kinds of fortune-telling, the prophecies of Nostradamus that had been of marked interest in Japan at the end of the 20th century, and supernatural phenomena. Respondents were asked from the perspectives of how much interest they had in such things, and to what extent did they believe any of them.

a) Interest and levels of belief in divination

[1] Palm reading

Question Content

For the following type of divination, please write down in the space provided the number corresponding to your answer: (1)"I think it is quite accurate," (2)"I think it is sometimes accurate," (3)"It is not accurate," or (4)"I'm not interested, so I don't know what it is they do."

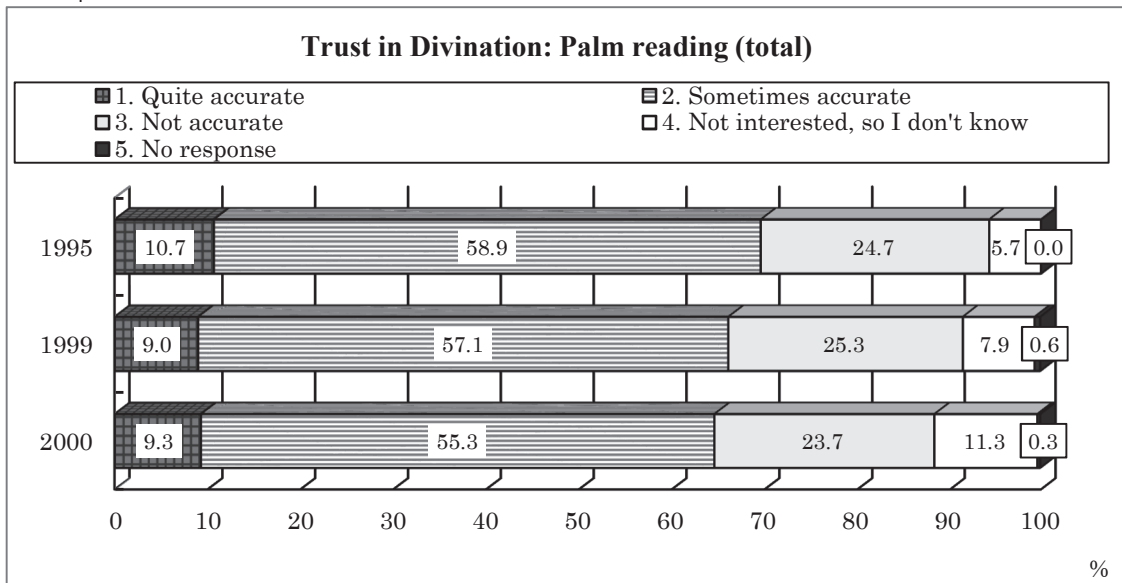
"Palm reading" []

Total

Table 9a1

	1995	1999	2000
1. Quite accurate	10.7	9.0	9.3
2. Sometimes accurate	58.9	57.1	55.3
3. Not accurate	24.7	25.3	23.7
4. Not interested, so I don't know	5.7	7.9	11.3
5. No response	0.0	0.6	0.3

Graph 9a1



[2] Name-character reading

Question Content

For the following type of divination, please write down in the space provided the number corresponding to your answer: (1)"I think it is quite accurate," (2)"I think it is sometimes accurate," (3)"It is not accurate," or (4)"I'm not interested, so I don't know what it is they do."

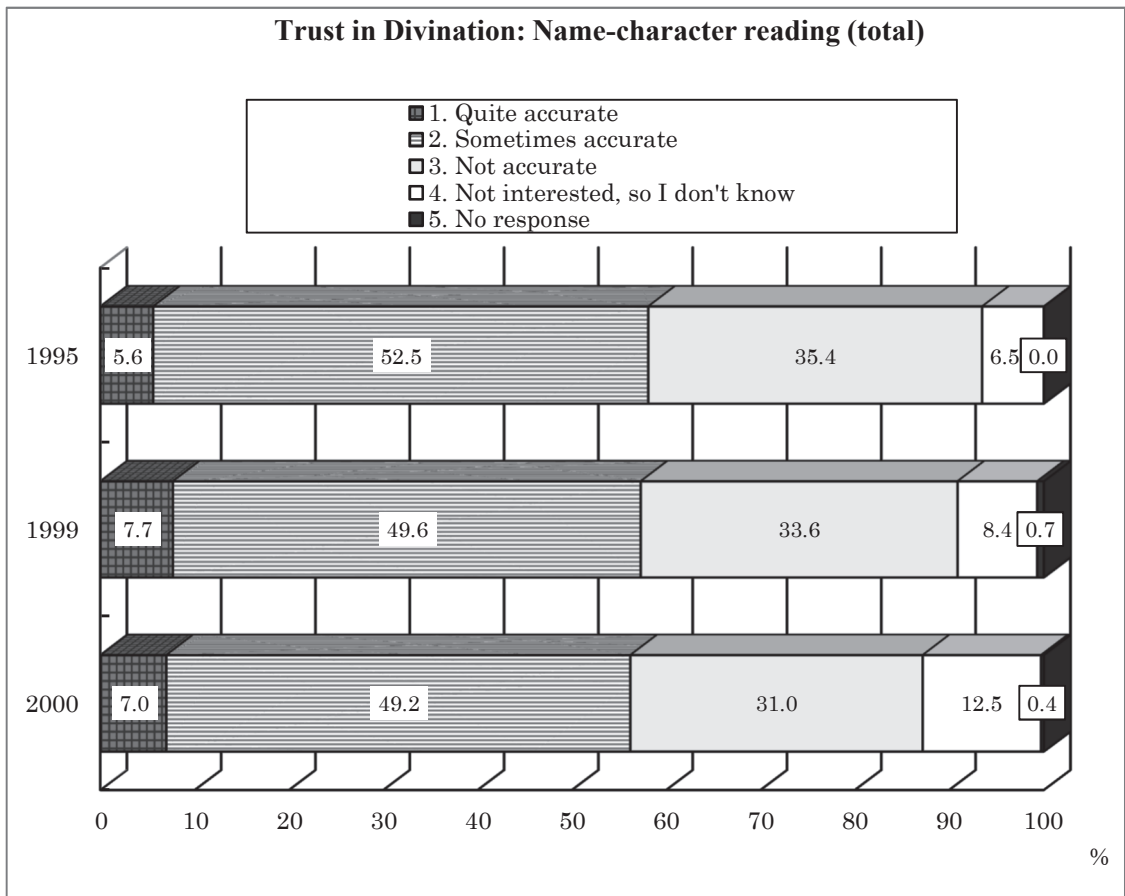
"Name-character reading" []

Total

Table 9a2

	1995	1999	2000
1. Quite accurate	5.6	7.7	7.0
2. Sometimes accurate	52.5	49.6	49.2
3. Not accurate	35.4	33.6	31.0
4. Not interested, so I don't know	6.5	8.4	12.5
5. No response	0.0	0.7	0.4

Graph 9a2



[3] Personality determination based on blood type

Question Content

For the following type of divination, please write down in the space provided the number corresponding to your answer: (1)"I think it is quite accurate," (2)"I think it is sometimes accurate," (3)"It is not accurate," or (4)"I'm not interested, so I don't know what it is they do."

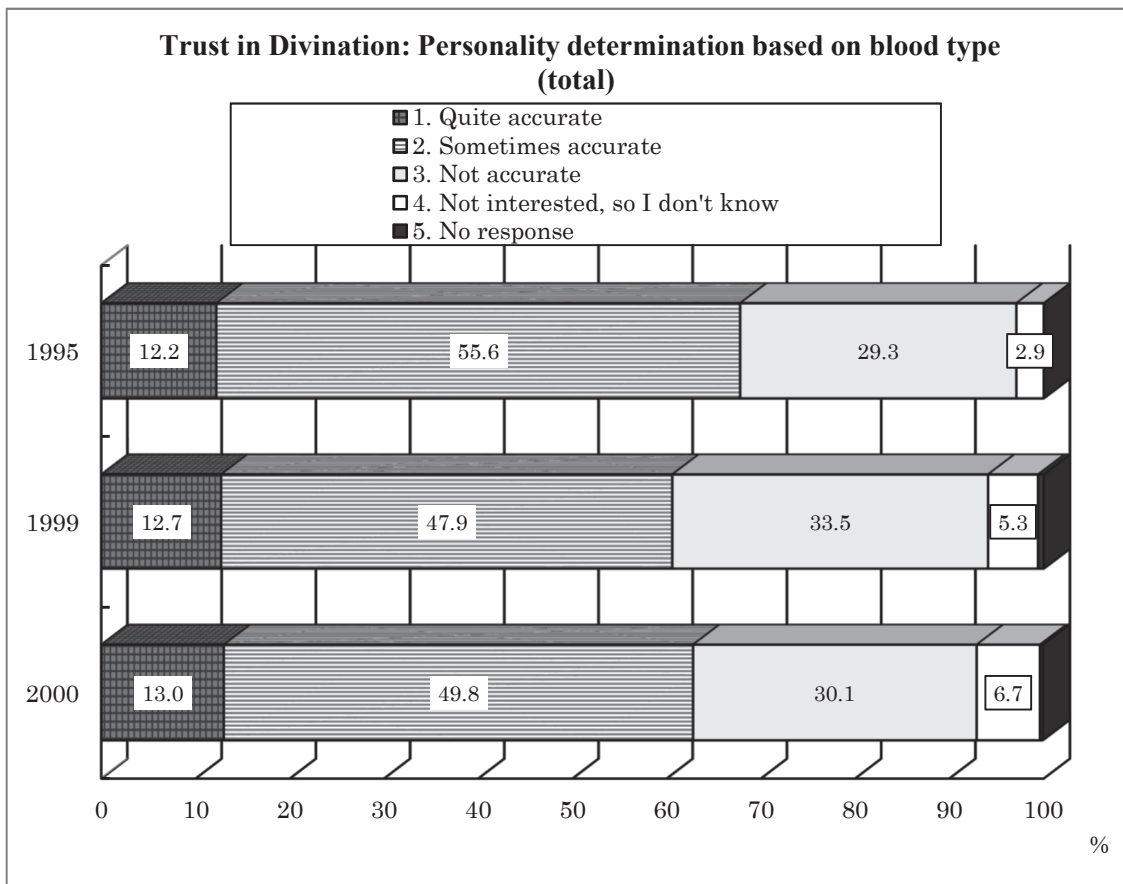
"Personality determination based on blood type" []

Total

Table 9a3

	1995	1999	2000
1. Quite accurate	12.2	12.7	13.0
2. Sometimes accurate	55.6	47.9	49.8
3. Not accurate	29.3	33.5	30.1
4. Not interested, so I don't know	2.9	5.3	6.7
5. No response	0.0	0.6	0.3

Graph 9a3



[4] Astrology

Question Content

For the following type of divination, please write down in the space provided the number corresponding to your answer: (1)"I think it is quite accurate", (2)"I think it is sometimes accurate", (3)"It is not accurate," or (4)"I'm not interested, so I don't know what it is they do."

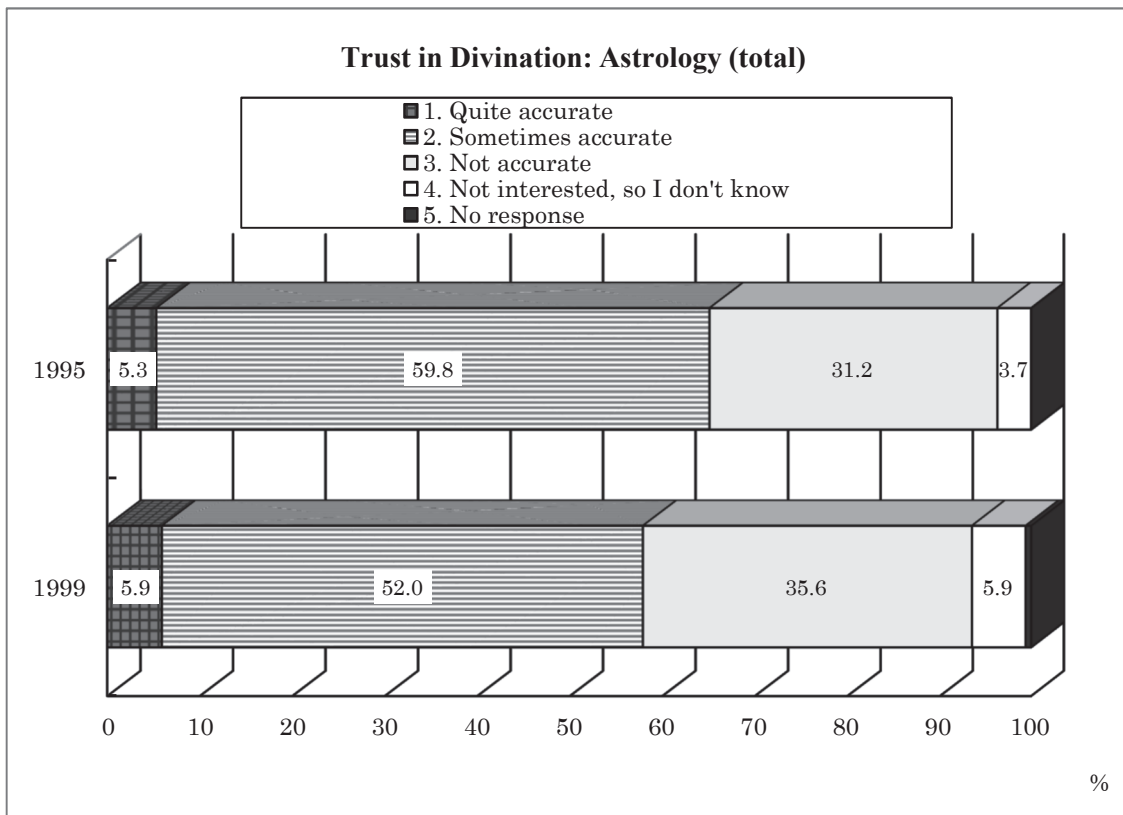
"Astrology based on month of birth" []

Total

Table 9a4

	1995	1999
1. Quite accurate	5.3	5.9
2. Sometimes accurate	59.8	52.0
3. Not accurate	31.2	35.6
4. Not interested, so I don't know	3.7	5.9
5. No response	0.1	0.6

Graph 9a4



[5] Computer horoscope

Question Content

For the following type of divination, please write down in the space provided the number corresponding to your answer: (1)"I think it is quite accurate," (2)"I think it is sometimes accurate," (3)"It is not accurate," or (4)"I'm not interested, so I don't know what it is they do."

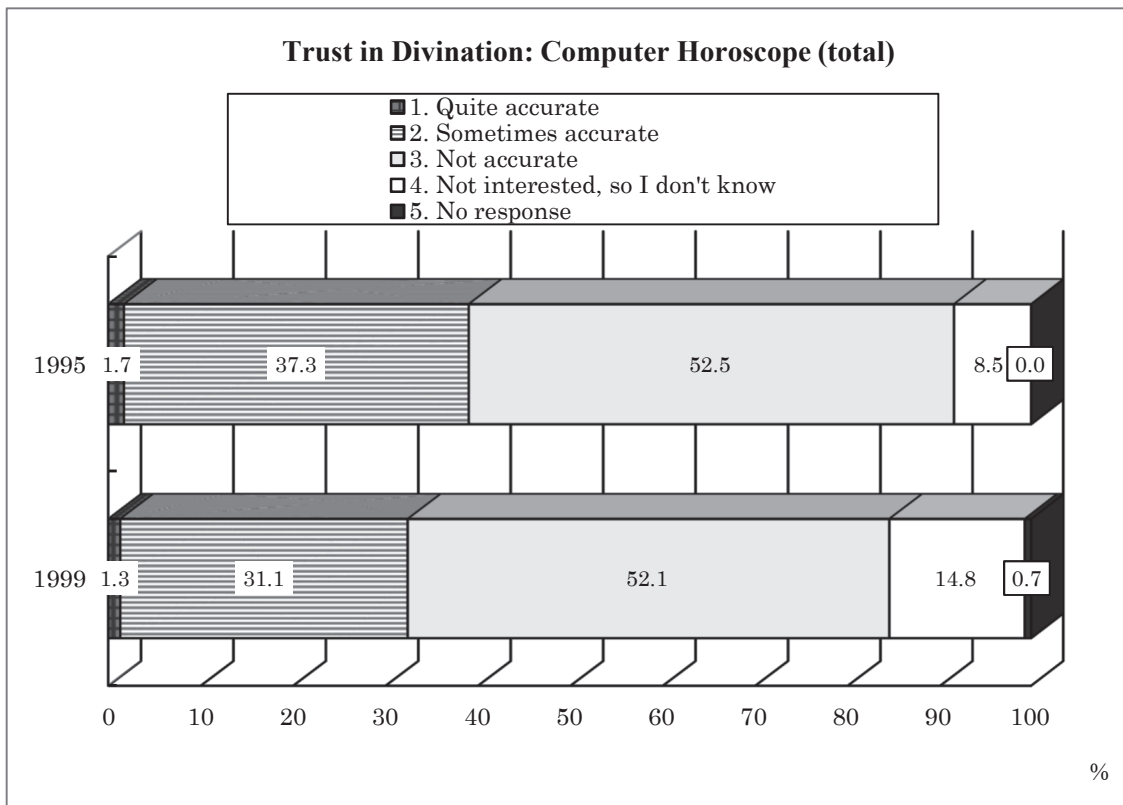
"Computer horoscope" []

Total

Table 9a5

	1995	1999
1. Quite accurate	1.7	1.3
2. Sometimes accurate	37.3	31.1
3. Not accurate	52.5	52.1
4. Not interested, so I don't know	8.5	14.8
5. No response	0.0	0.7

Graph 9a5



b) Interest in the eschatological prophecies of Nostradamus

Question Content

Please write in the brackets the number that corresponds to your response regarding each item: (1) "I believe it," (2) "I believe it's possible," (3) "I don't really believe it," (4) "I deny it," or (5) "I know nothing of that item."

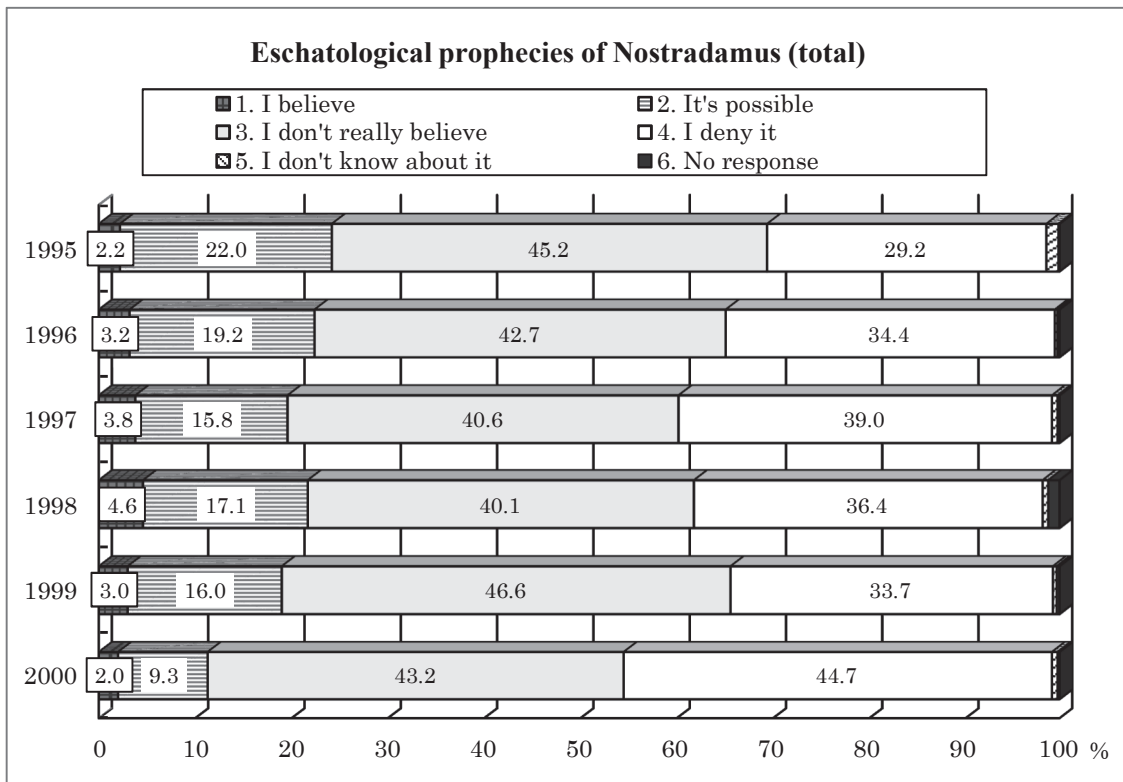
"Nostradamus's eschatological prophecies about 1999" []

Total

Table 9b1

	1995	1996	1997	1998	1999	2000
1. I believe	2.2	3.2	3.8	4.6	3.0	2.0
2. It's possible	22.0	19.2	15.8	17.1	16.0	9.3
3. I don't really believe	45.2	42.7	40.6	40.1	46.6	43.2
4. I deny it	29.2	34.4	39.0	36.4	33.7	44.7
5. I don't know about it	1.3	0.3	0.6	0.6	0.4	0.6
6. No response	0.1	0.2	0.2	1.3	0.3	0.3

Graph 9b1



c) Interest in supernatural phenomena

Included here are the results to questions regarding the spirit readings of Aiko Gibo, near-death experiences, past lives and reincarnation, the afterlife, auras, and telepathy. It may not be appropriate to group some of these together as supernatural phenomena, but they closely resemble one another from the perspective of student interests and there is a tendency for the actual responses to closely resemble one another as well.

[1] Spirit readings of Aiko Gibo

Question Content

Please write in the brackets the number that corresponds to your response regarding each item: (1)"I believe it," (2)"I believe it's possible," (3)"I don't really believe it," (4)"I deny it," or (5)"I know nothing of that item."

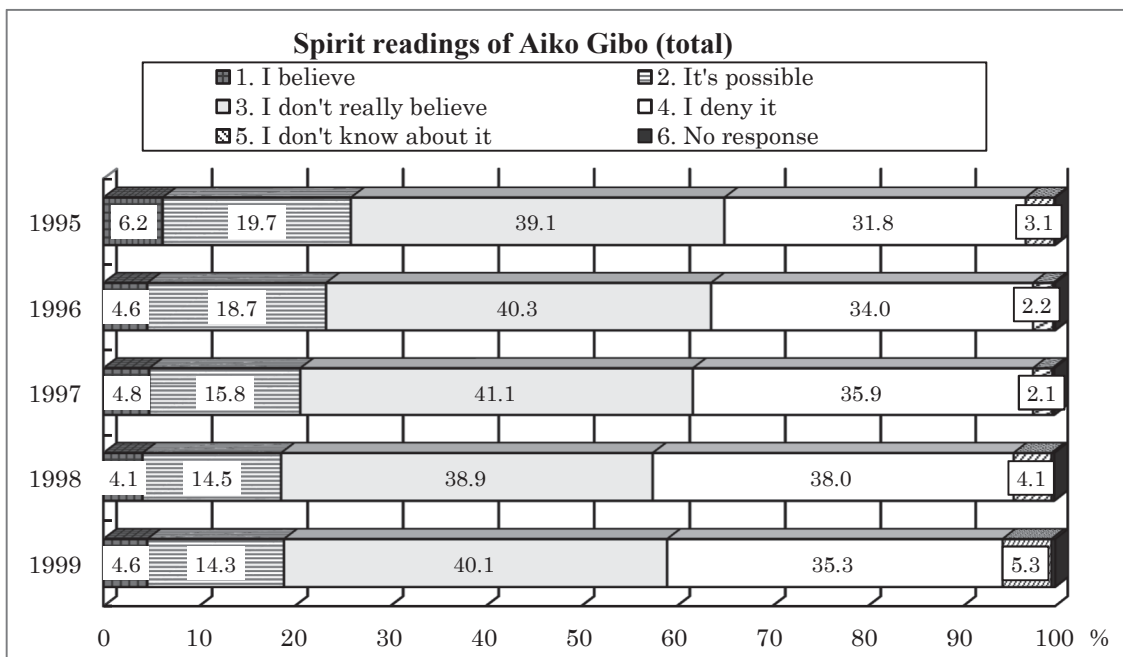
"Spirit readings of Aiko Gibo" []

Total

Table 9c1

	1995	1996	1997	1998	1999
1. I believe	6.2	4.6	4.8	4.1	4.6
2. It's possible	19.7	18.7	15.8	14.5	14.3
3. I don't really believe	39.1	40.3	41.1	38.9	40.1
4. I deny it	31.8	34.0	35.9	38.0	35.3
5. I don't know about it	3.1	2.2	2.1	4.1	5.3
6. No response	0.1	0.2	0.2	0.3	0.4

Graph 9c1



[2] Near-death experience

Question Content

Please write in the brackets the number that corresponds to your response regarding each item: (1)"I believe it," (2)"I believe it's possible," (3)"I don't really believe it," (4)"I deny it," or (5)"I know nothing of that item."

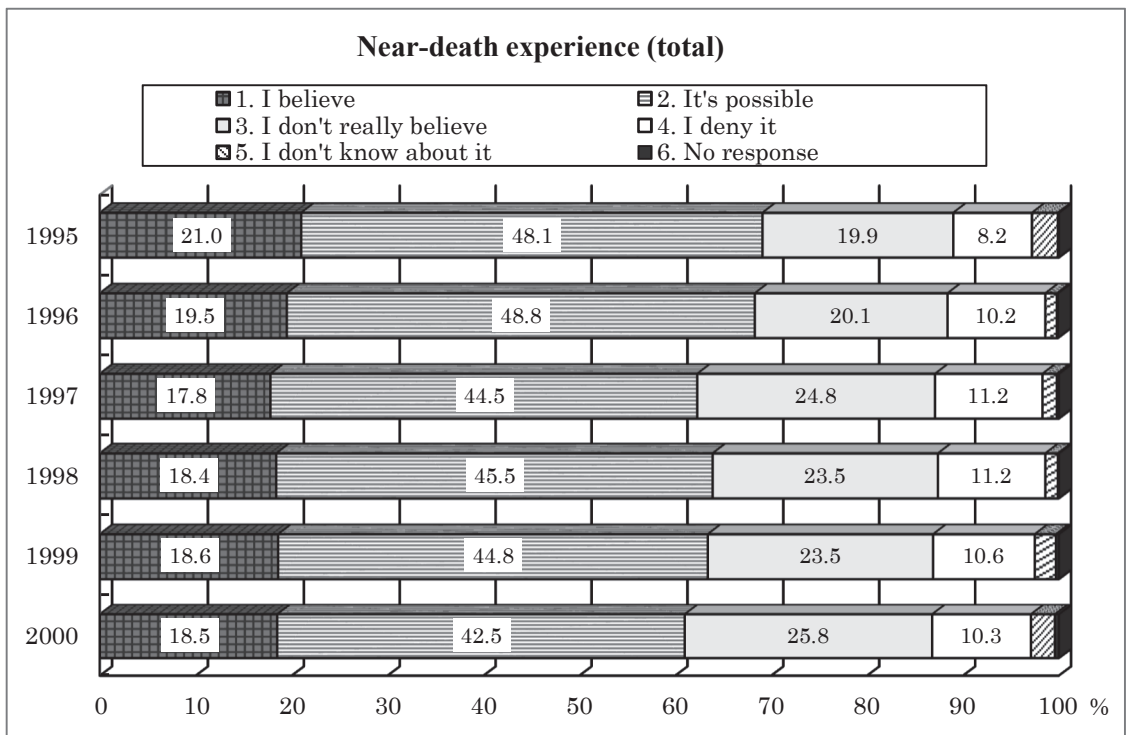
"Near-death experience" []

Total

Table 9c2

	1995	1996	1997	1998	1999	2000
1. I believe	21.0	19.5	17.8	18.4	18.6	18.5
2. It's possible	48.1	48.8	44.5	45.5	44.8	42.5
3. I don't really believe	19.9	20.1	24.8	23.5	23.5	25.8
4. I deny it	8.2	10.2	11.2	11.2	10.6	10.3
5. I don't know about it	2.7	1.2	1.5	1.3	2.2	2.5
6. No response	0.1	0.1	0.2	0.3	0.3	0.4

Graph 9c2



[3] Past lives and reincarnation

Question Content

Please write in the brackets the number that corresponds to your response regarding each item: (1)"I believe it," (2)"I believe it's possible," (3)"I don't really believe it," (4)"I deny it," or (5)"I know nothing of that item."

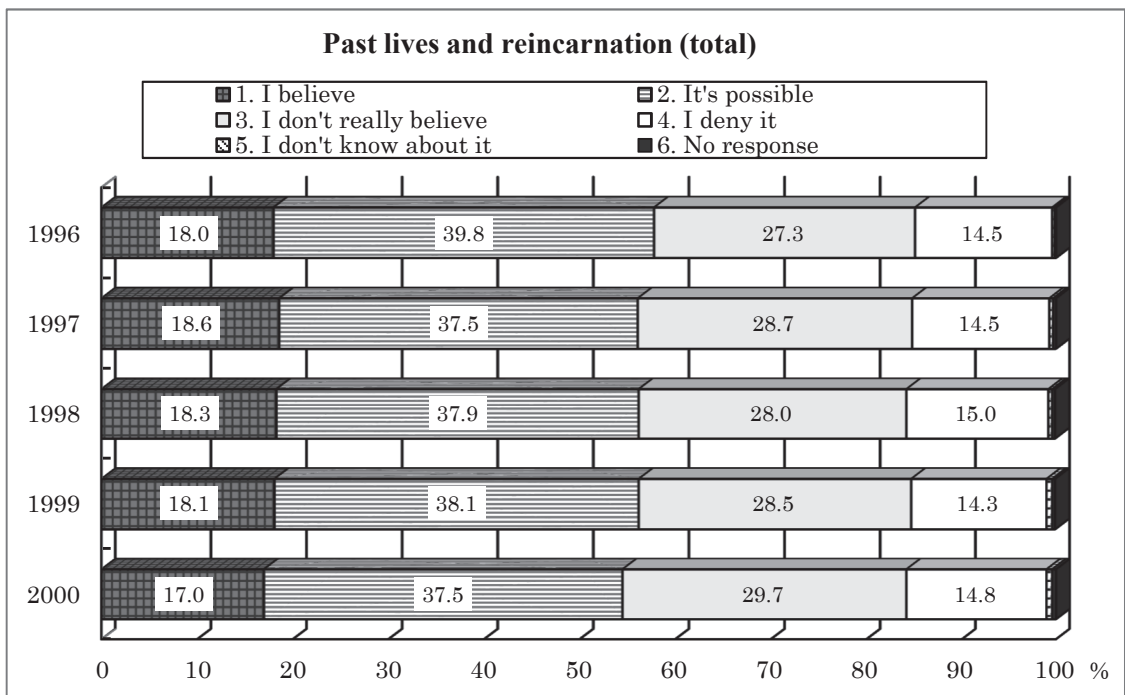
"Past lives and reincarnation" []

Total

Table 9c3

	1996	1997	1998	1999	2000
1. I believe	18.0	18.6	18.3	18.1	17.0
2. It's possible	39.8	37.5	37.9	38.1	37.5
3. I don't really believe	27.3	28.7	28.0	28.5	29.7
4. I deny it	14.5	14.5	15.0	14.3	14.8
5. I don't know about it	0.3	0.4	0.4	0.6	0.6
6. No response	0.1	0.3	0.3	0.3	0.4

Graph 9c3



[4] The existence of an afterlife

Question Content

Please write in the brackets the number that corresponds to your response regarding each item: (1)"I believe it," (2)"I believe it's possible," (3)"I don't really believe it," (4)"I deny it," or (5)"I know nothing of that item."

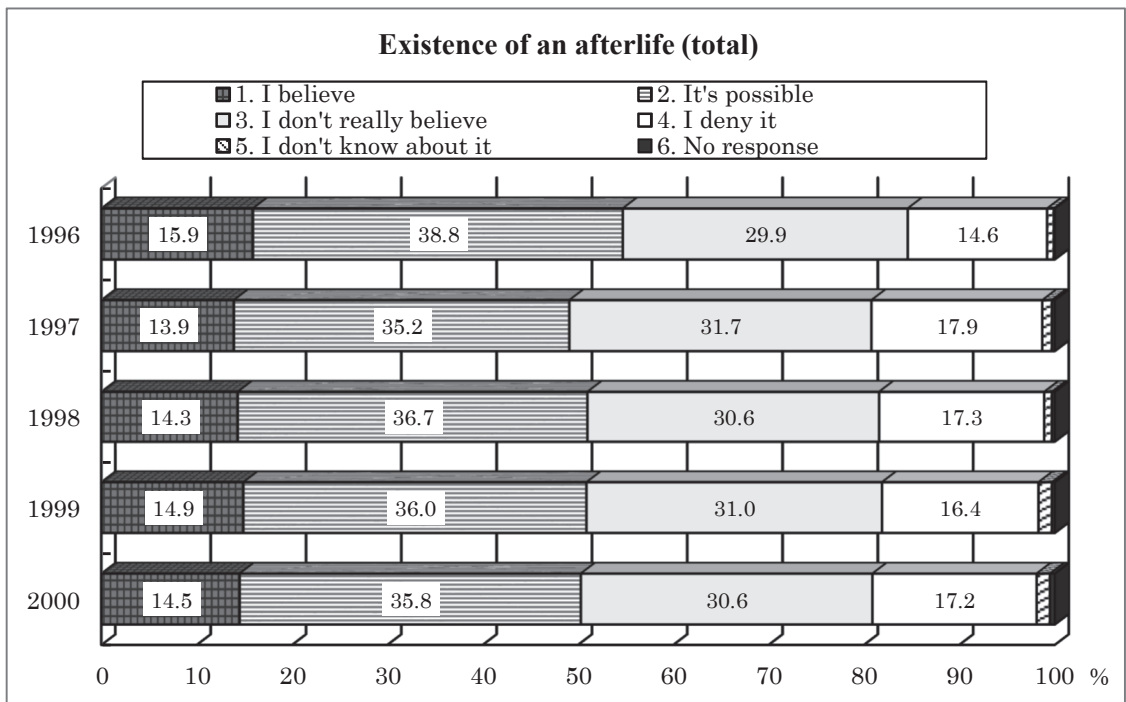
"The existence of an afterlife" []

Total

Table 9c4

	1996	1997	1998	1999	2000
1. I believe	15.9	13.9	14.3	14.9	14.5
2. It's possible	38.8	35.2	36.7	36.0	35.8
3. I don't really believe	29.9	31.7	30.6	31.0	30.6
4. I deny it	14.6	17.9	17.3	16.4	17.2
5. I don't know about it	0.7	1.0	0.8	1.4	1.4
6. No response	0.1	0.3	0.4	0.3	0.5

Graph 9c4



[5] Existence of auras

Question Content

Please write in the brackets the number that corresponds to your response regarding each item: (1) "I believe it," (2) "I believe it's possible," (3) "I don't really believe it," (4) "I deny it," or (5) "I know nothing of that item."

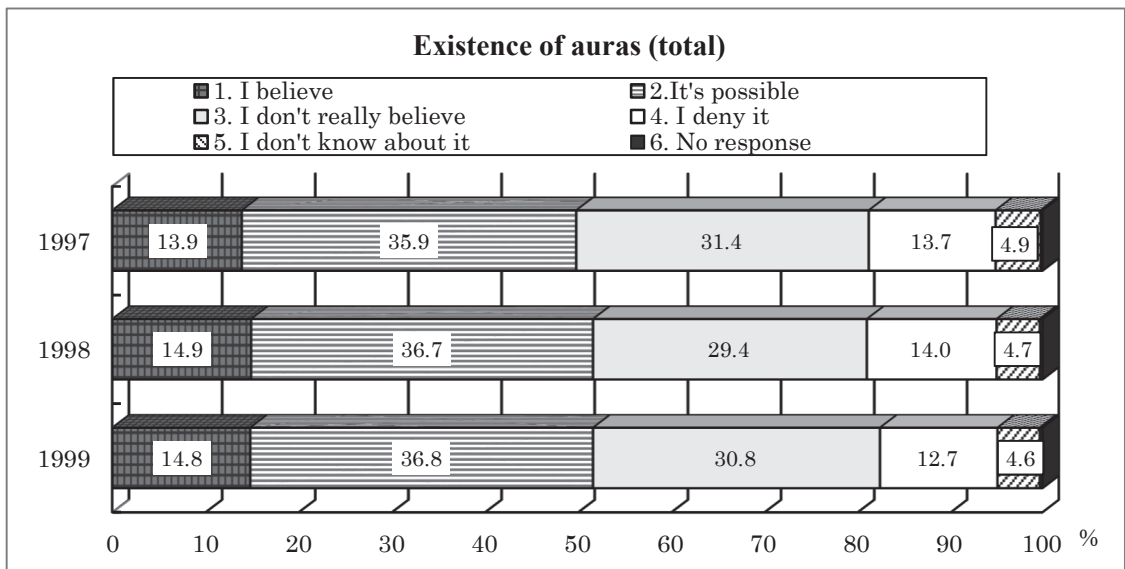
"Existence of auras" []

Total

Table 9c5

	1997	1998	1999
1. I believe	13.9	14.9	14.8
2. It's possible	35.9	36.7	36.8
3. I don't really believe	31.4	29.4	30.8
4. I deny it	13.7	14.0	12.7
5. I don't know about it	4.9	4.7	4.6
6. No response	0.2	0.3	0.3

Graph 9c5



[6] Existence of telepathy

Question Content

Please write in the brackets the number that corresponds to your response regarding each item: (1) "I believe it," (2) "I believe it's possible," (3) "I don't really believe it," (4) "I deny it," or (5) "I know nothing of that item."

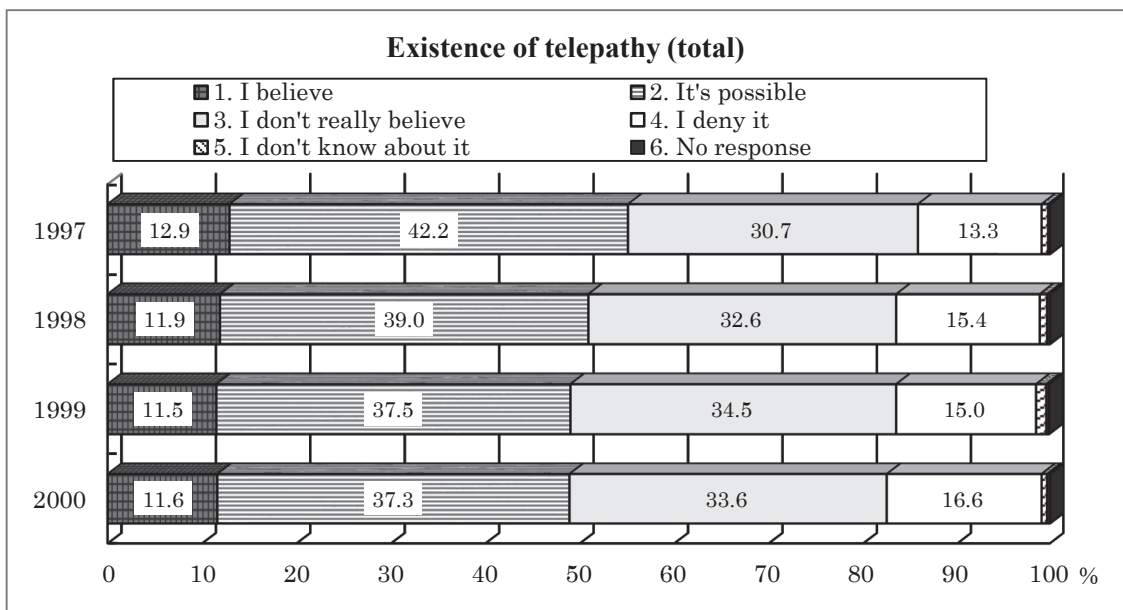
"Existence of telepathy" []

Total

Table 9c6

	1997	1998	1999	2000
1. I believe	12.9	11.9	11.5	11.6
2. It's possible	42.2	39.0	37.5	37.3
3. I don't really believe	30.7	32.6	34.5	33.6
4. I deny it	13.3	15.4	15.0	16.6
5. I don't know about it	0.7	0.8	1.1	0.6
6. No response	0.2	0.3	0.3	0.4

Graph9c6



d) Power spots

The power spot phenomenon has a subculture aspect to it and also has a dimension that can be included among supernatural phenomena. Given this classification difficulty, it was treated independently. It is a phenomenon that especially came to track attention at the start of the 21st century, and so it was the subject of questions three times from 2010 to 2015. The percentage of respondents who believe in them was slightly higher among students with a religious school background than those from secular schools. However, the disparity in responses was far greater based on gender. Accordingly, aside from any overall change, it shows a change over the years between men and women with respect to "I believe they exist" and "It's possible they exist."

Question Content

Please write in the brackets the number from 1 to 4 that corresponds to your response for each category:

(1) "I believe they exist," (2) "It's possible they exist," (3) "I don't really believe they exist," or (4) "I deny it."

"Existence of power spots" []

Total

Table 9d1

	2010	2012	2015
1. I believe	16.2	13.8	14.8
2. It's possible	37.6	35.1	39.4
3. I don't really believe	27.7	30.8	30.6
4. I deny it	17.5	19.2	14.6
5. No response	1.0	1.1	0.7

Graph 9d1

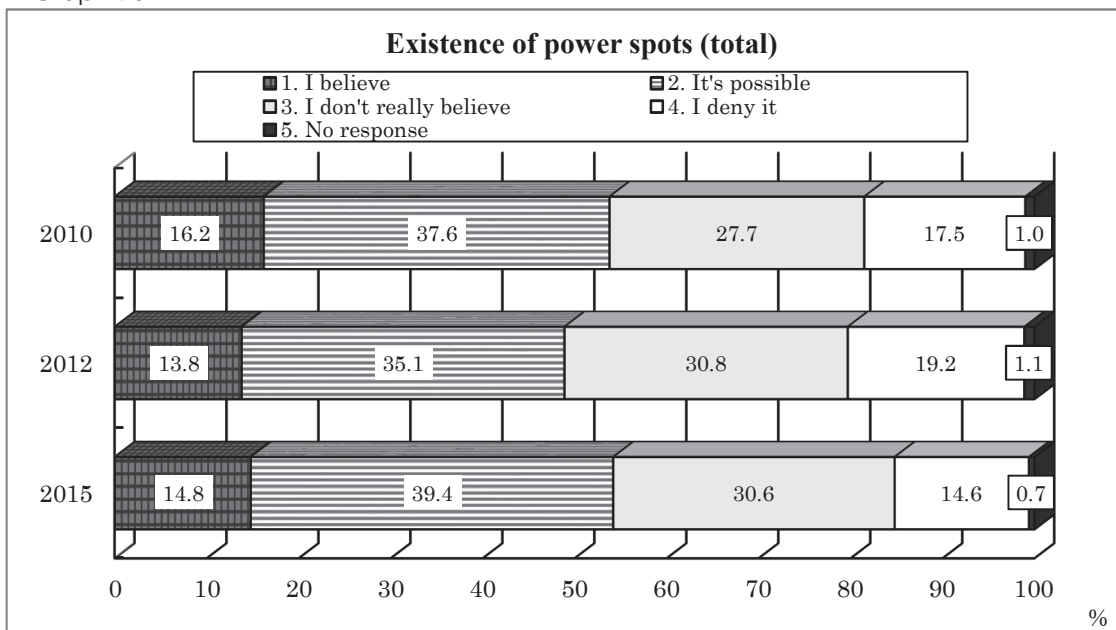


Table 9d2

Gender

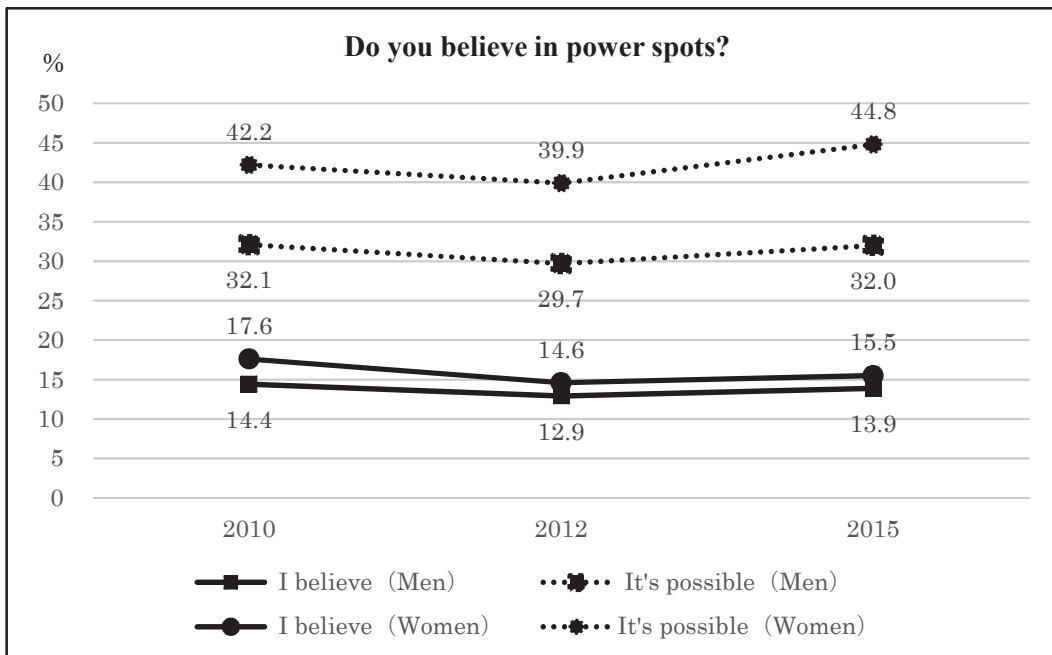
Ratio of "I believe"

	2010	2012	2015
Men	14.4	12.9	13.9
Women	17.6	14.6	15.5

Ratio of "It's possible"

	2010	2012	2015
Men	32.1	29.7	32.0
Women	42.2	39.9	44.8

Graph 9d2



*The gender difference is clearly visible in the percentages for "I believe" and "It's possible." A comparison of responses from the three surveys shows the highest figures were among men while the lowest were among women.

Chapter 10: Faith of Friends

Eight surveys from 1995 to 2005 asked respondents if there was anyone (including themselves) in their circle of friends who had some sort of religious faith. They were also asked if—assuming if someone did follow one or another faith—that belief had an effect on that friendship. There were slight differences in the wording of the response options between 1995 through 1999 and 2000 through 2005.

a) Have friends with religious faith?

First, we will look at changes in the percentages of friends who have religious faith.

Question Content

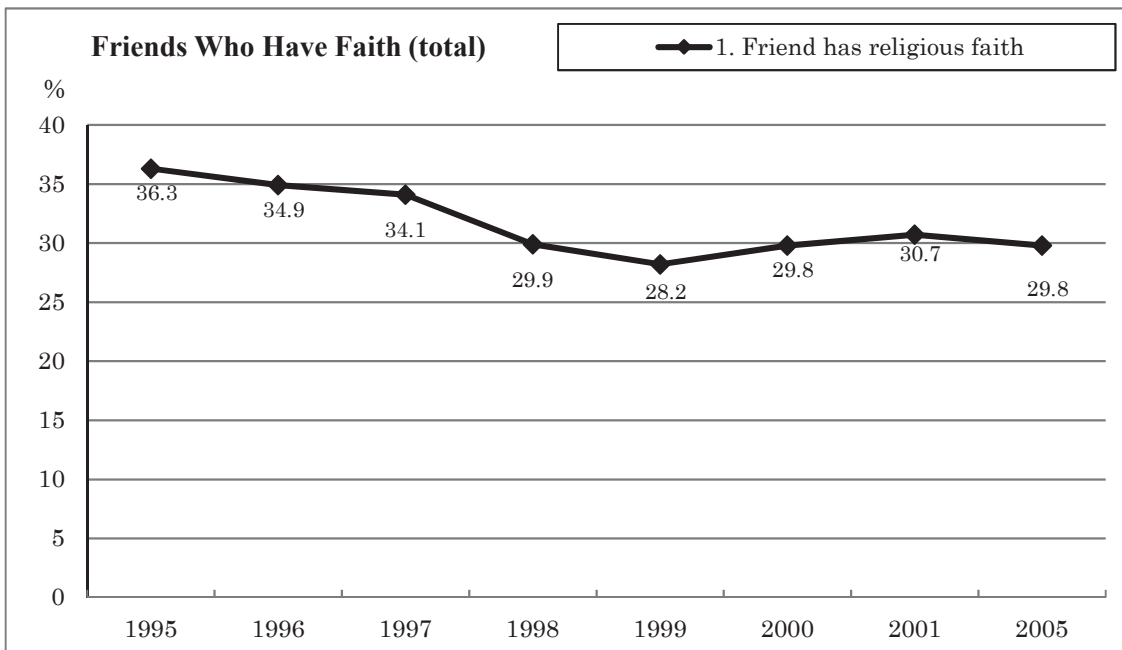
Do you have any friends who have religious faith? 1. Yes 2. No

Total

Table 10a1

	1995	1996	1997	1998	1999	2000	2001	2005
1. Friend has religious faith	36.3	34.9	34.1	29.9	28.2	29.8	30.7	29.8

Graph 10a1



*The change over the 10 years in question can be described perhaps as something of a decrease.

b) Attitudes toward friends with religious faith

Question Content

(1995, 1996, 1997, 1998, 1999)

Which of the following describes your attitude with regard to that friend believing in a particular religion.

1. My attitude when I contact them is no different from that with my other friends. 2. I'm a bit more careful in my contacts with them 3. I'm a little more careful in my contacts with them than with my other friends. 4. I encourage them to abandon their faith 5. Other (Specifically:)

(2000, 2001, 2005)

Which of the following describes your attitude with regard to that friend believing in a particular religion.

1. My attitude when I contact them is no different from that with my other friends. 2. I'm more friendly in my contacts than with other friends. 3. I'm a little more careful in my contacts with them than with my other friends. 4. Other (Specifically:)

(In 2001 and 2005, respondents were asked for their attitudes toward two friends, respectively, at most.)

Table 10b1

	1995	1996	1997	1998	1999
1. My attitude when I contact them is no different from that with my other friends	73.6	73.9	69.5	69.6	74.2
2. I'm a bit more careful in my contacts with them	9.6	10.0	7.2	10.0	9.8
3. I'm much more careful in my contacts with them	1.6	2.2	2.2	2.3	2.6
4. I encourage them to abandon their faith	0.7	0.9	0.7	0.6	0.7
5. Other	3.1	4.1	4.7	3.4	4.8
6. No response	11.5	9.0	15.8	14.1	7.9

Graph 10b1

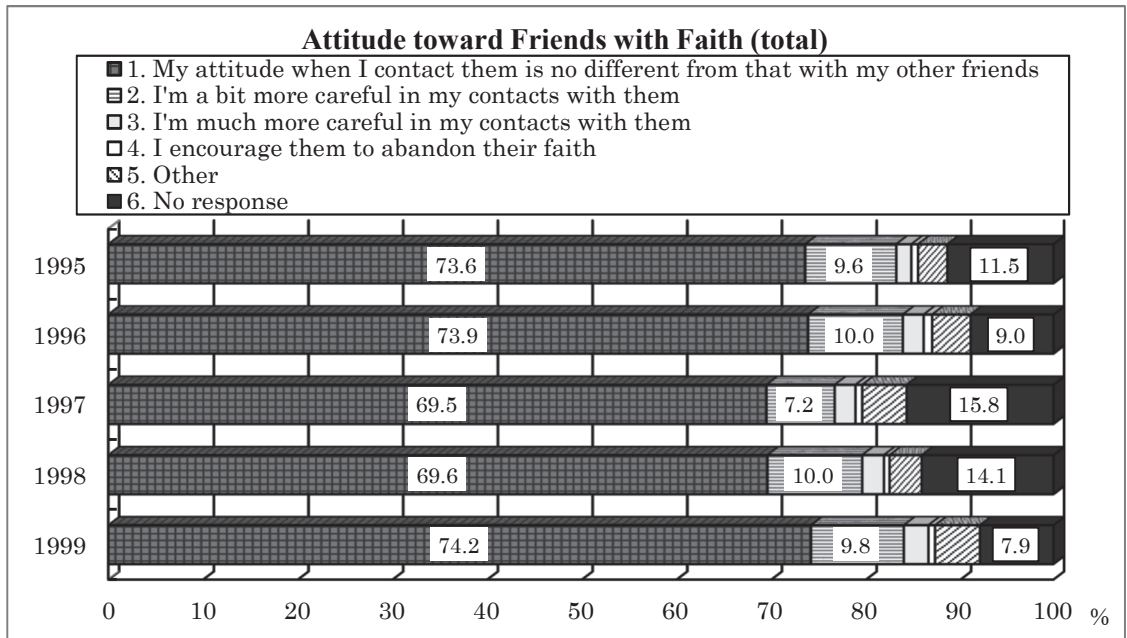
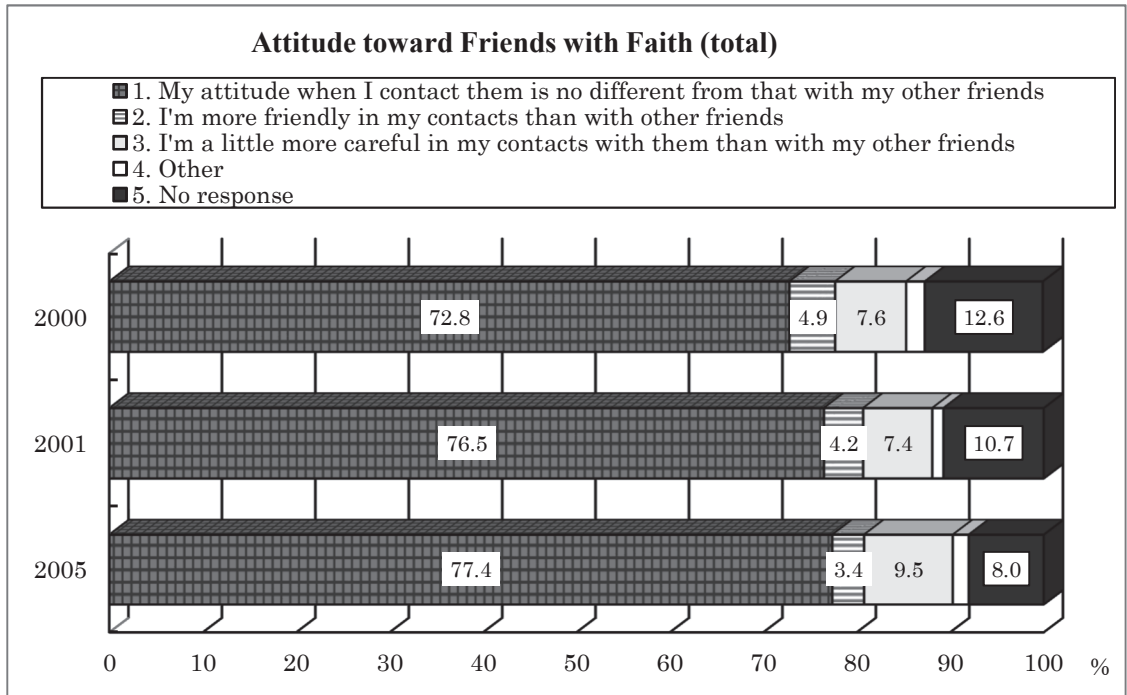


Table 10b2

	2000	2001	2005
1. My attitude when I contact them is no different from that with my other friends	72.8	76.5	77.4
2. I'm more friendly in my contacts than with other friends	4.9	4.2	3.4
3. I'm a little more careful in my contacts with them than with my other friends	7.6	7.4	9.5
4. Other	2.0	1.2	1.7
5. No response	12.6	10.7	8.0

Graph 10b2



*The percentage who said that a friend having or not having religious faith affected their relationship was low, with 70% to 80% selecting, "My attitude when I contact them is no different from that with my other friends." Also, the percentage choosing "I'm a little more careful in my contacts with them than with my other friends" was slightly higher than that for "I'm more friendly in my contacts than with other friends."

Chapter 11: Response to Spread of Information Technology

The surveys investigated what sort of impact the emergence of new information-related tools and technologies had on access to information about religion. There have been dramatic changes since the late 1990s in the kinds of information tools available. Since the turn of the century, many religious groups have created their own websites. Accordingly, questions related to such developments were asked in the four surveys since 2001.

a) Changes in IT tools at the end of the 1990s

Respondents were asked in detail about the means of communications they used in 1998 and 1999. Just looking at what occurred in the space of the one year between those surveys shows how heady the changes were at the time.

Question Content

Please mark with a circle in the space provided any of the following means of communication that you regularly use. (multiple responses allowed)

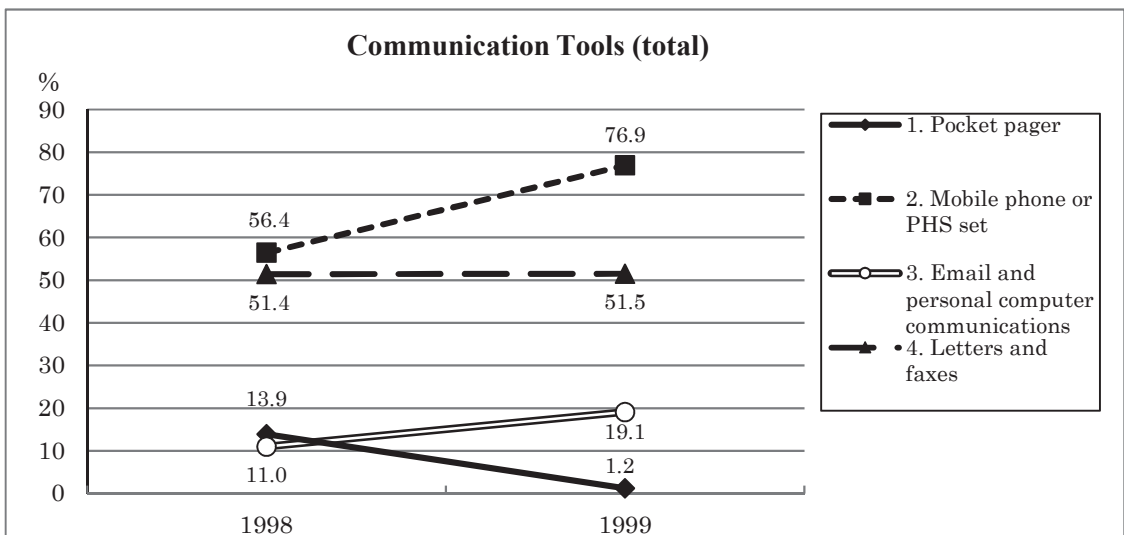
- | | |
|---|----------------------------------|
| 1. Pocket pager [] | 2. Mobile phone or PHS set [] |
| 3. Email and personal computer communications [] | 4. Letters (including faxes) [] |
- (In 1999, faxes and letters were separate options)

Total

Table 11a1

	1998	1999
1. Pocket pager	13.9	1.2
2. Mobile phone or PHS set	56.4	76.9
3. Email and personal computer communications	11.0	19.1
4. Letters and faxes	51.4	51.5

Graph 11a1



b) Interest in information about religions on the internet

To investigate what sort of interest in information about religion at internet websites respondents had, questions took the form of presenting as options several types of websites related to religion and asking respondents to select from among those options. These questions were posed four times between 2001 and 2010, coinciding with the increase in the numbers of websites related to religion since the turn of the century.

Question Content

Please choose from among the following those types of internet website in which you have an interest.
(multiple responses allowed)

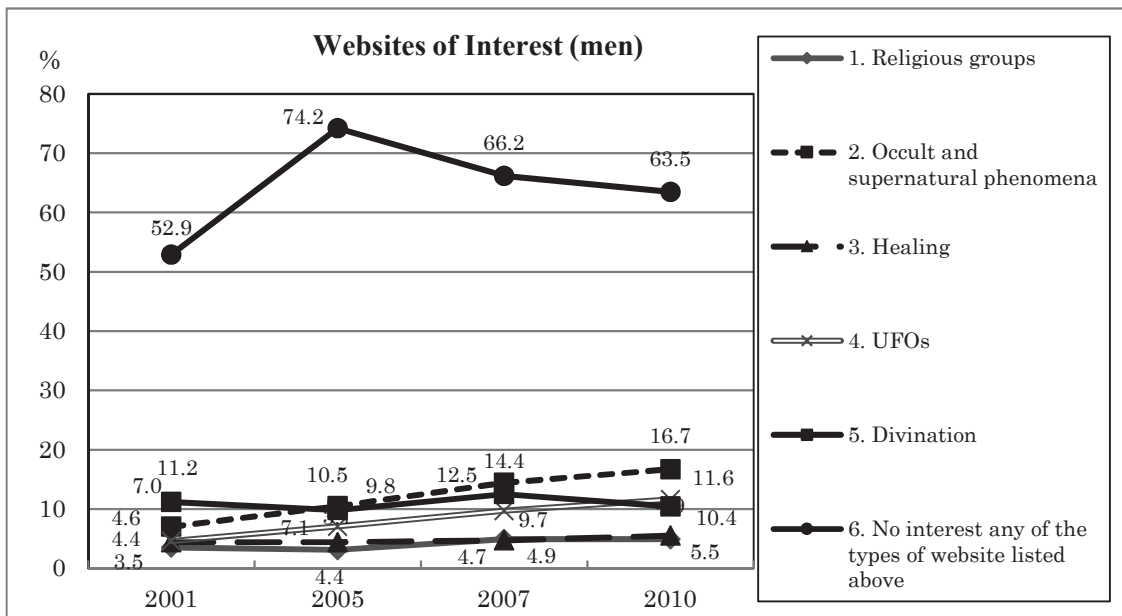
1. Websites of religious groups
2. Websites related to the occult and supernatural phenomena
3. Websites about healing
4. Websites about UFOs
5. Websites about divination
6. No interest any of the types of website listed above

(Men)

Table 11b1

	2001	2005	2007	2010
1. Religious groups	3.5	3.1	4.9	4.9
2. Occult and supernatural phenomena	7.0	10.5	14.4	16.7
3. Healing	4.4	4.4	4.7	5.5
4. UFOs	4.6	7.1	9.7	11.6
5. Divination	11.2	9.8	12.5	10.4
6. No interest any of the types of website listed above	52.9	74.2	66.2	63.5

Graph 11b1



(Women)

Table 11b2

	2001	2005	2007	2010
1. Religious groups	2.0	1.5	2.0	2.7
2. Occult and supernatural phenomena	2.3	5.8	6.3	9.9
3. Healing	5.4	10.9	9.3	11.5
4. UFOs	1.4	2.5	3.3	6.3
5. Divination	30.2	35.8	38.0	32.6
6. No interest any of the types of website listed above	39.7	55.8	52.5	54.9

Graph 11b2

