

SOCIAL SHIFTS

SPIRITUAL TRENDS

4 DECADES OF CHANGE

Christianity:
Australia's
largest
religion



But a trendline of declining adherence

Religious change: 1976 - today



Christianity
↓22%



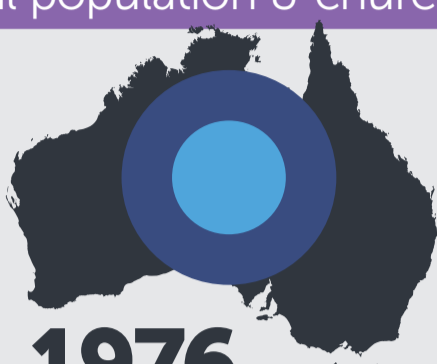
Church attendance
↓48%



No religion
↑269%

Population growing, church attendance shrinking

Total population & church attendance



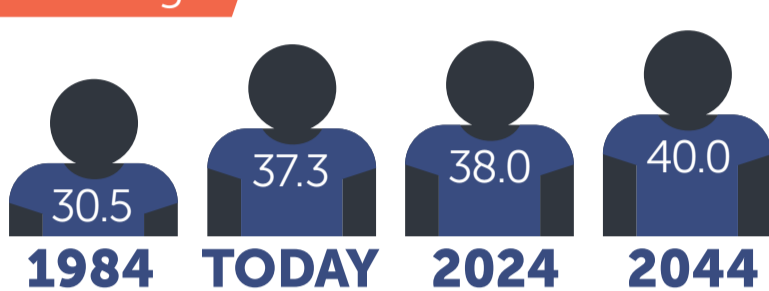
Pop.: 13.9m
Church: 3.9m



Pop.: 23.3m
Church: 3.5m

Ageing population & an ageing church

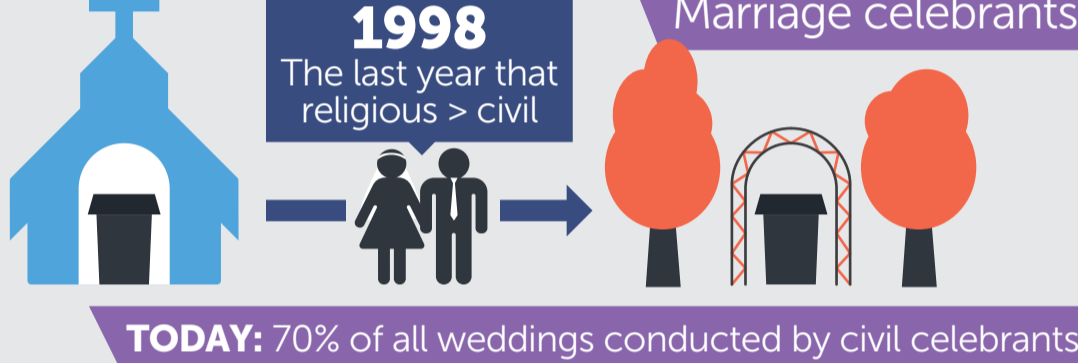
Median age



Age 60+ percentage of population



As Australia shifts from sacred to secular



TODAY: 70% of all weddings conducted by civil celebrants

Even though most Australians say the church is beneficial for their community

CHURCH IS BENEFICIAL (88%)



3 in 4 of the population are aged over 20...



Age of population vs. age of conversion



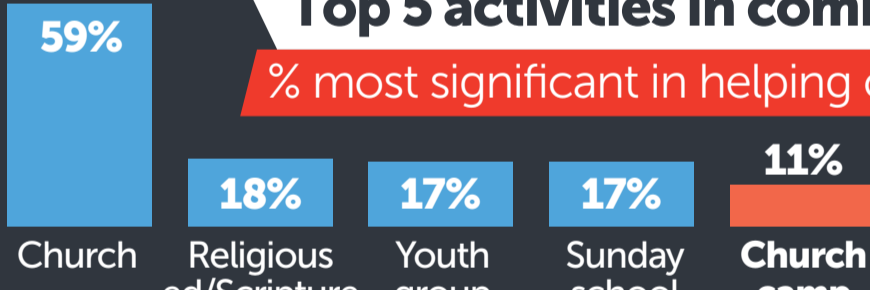
AGE 20

...yet 4 in 5 first conversions occur under age 20

CHRISTIAN CAMPS

Top 5 activities in coming to faith

% most significant in helping come to faith



5th camps

For 1 in 10, Church camps were the most significant in coming to faith. This is ahead of...

Ahead of...
Confirmation Evangelistic event
School Christian group Small group
Church outreach Introductory series
Mission group

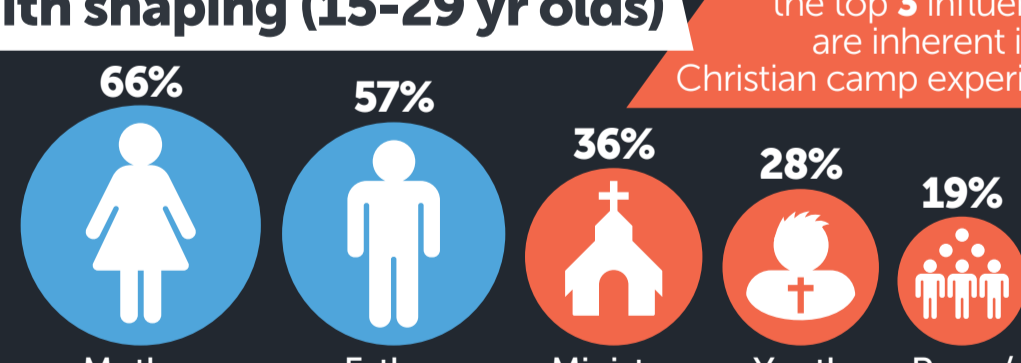
15-29 year olds

This figure rises to 3 in 10 for 15-29 year olds. Church camps are the 3rd most significant for this generation (ahead of Sunday school & small groups)

3rd camps

Top 5 most influential in faith shaping (15-29 yr olds)

After parents, the top 3 influencers are inherent in the Christian camp experience

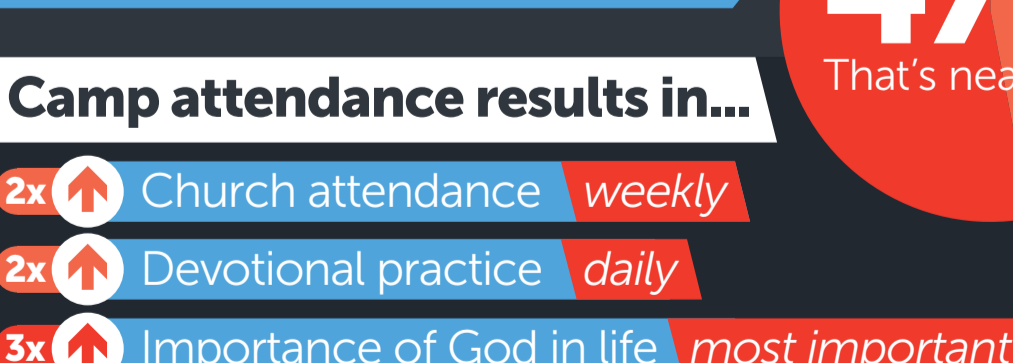


First faith commitment / conversion

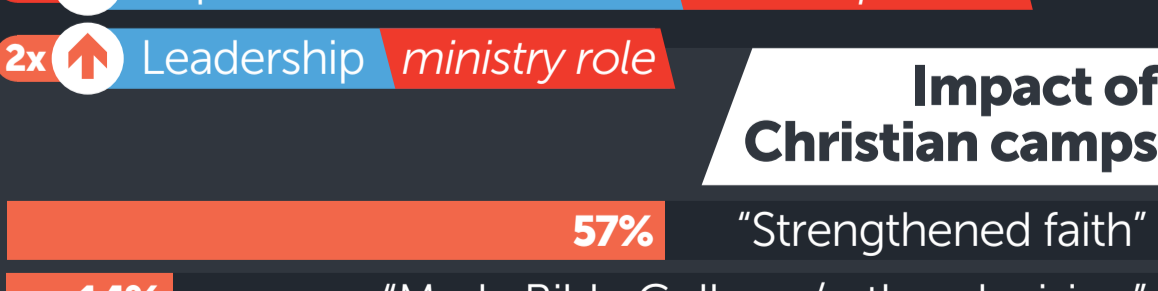
Of those who have attended a camp, conference or spiritual retreat, it was very important to the first faith commitment / conversion for...

47%
That's nearly half!

Camp attendance results in...



Impact of Christian camps



YET... 2 in 3 church goers have not attended a camp in the last 2 years!

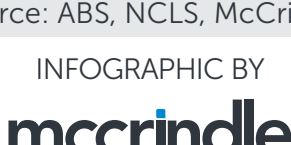
For the full report or more information on planning your next camp visit christianvenues.org.au/impact

Source: ABS, NCLS, McCrindle

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