

Executive Summary

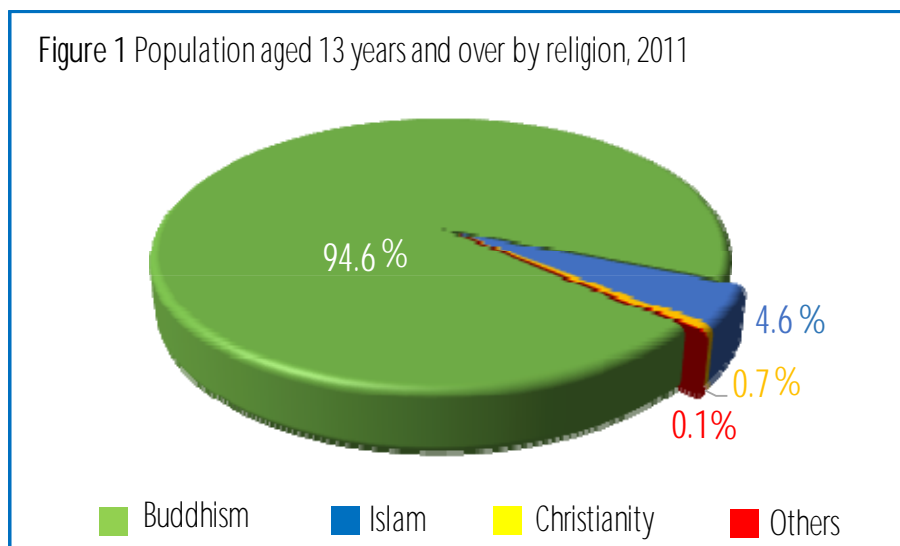
The 2011 Survey on Status of Society and Culture

The National Statistical Office (NSO) conducted the 2011 Survey on Status of Society and Culture by collecting data in October 2011 from 27,000 sampled households. The aims of this survey were to obtain the present information of social status such as behavior, values and culture of the Thai population that can be used to monitor and evaluate on the status and direction of social transition in the future and to solve the present social problems.

Major Findings

1. Religion

More than 90 per cent of Thai population were Buddhist (94.6 per cent), the rest were Islam (4.6 per cent), Christianity (0.7 per cent) and others, including population with no religion (0.1 per cent).



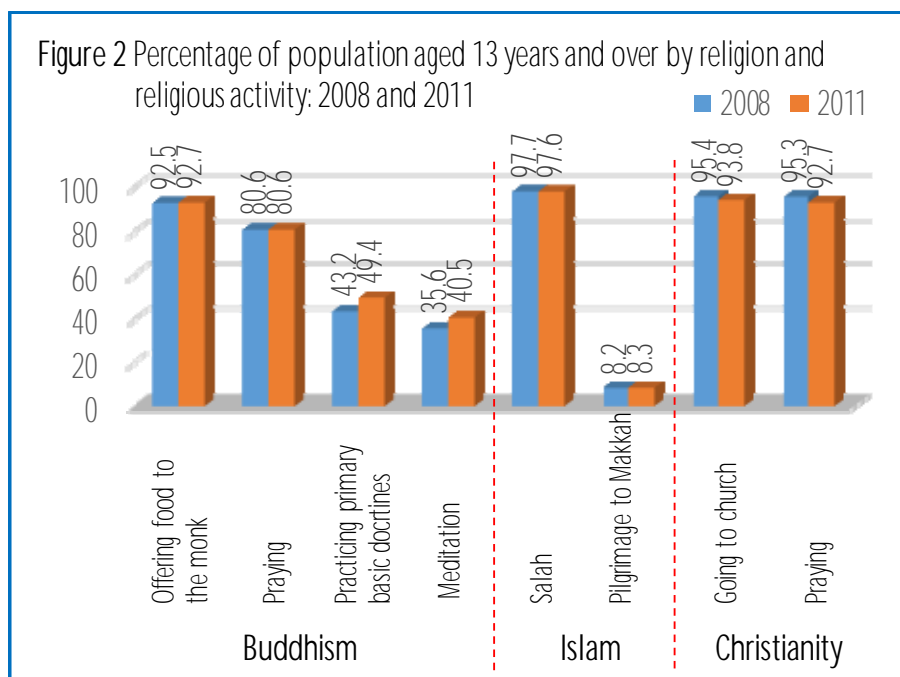
In considering by region, it was found that most population in every region were Buddhist (more than 90 per cent), except the Southern region, where there were mostly Muslim with higher proportion than other regions (24.5 per cent).

Table 1 Population aged 13 years and over by religion, area and region, 2011

Region	Religion				
	Total	Buddhism	Islam	Christianity	Others
Whole kingdom	100.0	94.6	4.6	0.7	0.1
Urban	100.0	95.0	3.9	1.1	*
Rural	100.0	94.6	4.9	0.5	*
Bangkok metropolis	100.0	93.2	5.5	1.3	*
Central	100.0	97.1	2.5	0.4	-
North	100.0	97.4	0.2	1.8	0.6
Northeast	100.0	99.4	0.2	0.4	-
South	100.0	75.2	24.5	0.3	-

Note: * less than 0.1 per cent.

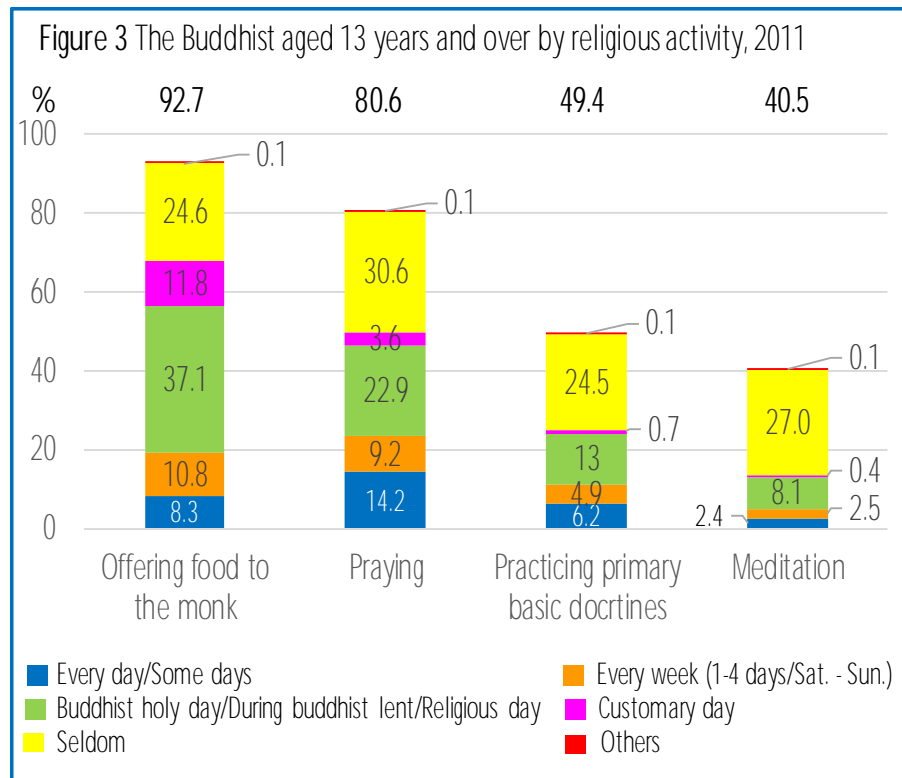
When comparing religious activities between 2008 and 2011, there were similar proportions of the Buddhist in offering food to the monk and praying in 2011 and 2008. The proportion of the Buddhist in practicing primary basic doctrines and meditation, obviously increased from 35.6 per cent in 2008 to 40.5 per cent in 2011. For the Muslim, the proportions of Salah and pilgrimage to Makkah were similar in 2008 and 2011. It was noted that the proportion of the Christian going to the church and praying slightly decreased from 95.4 and 95.3 per cent in 2008 to 93.8 and 92.7 per cent in 2011 respectively.



The Religious Activities

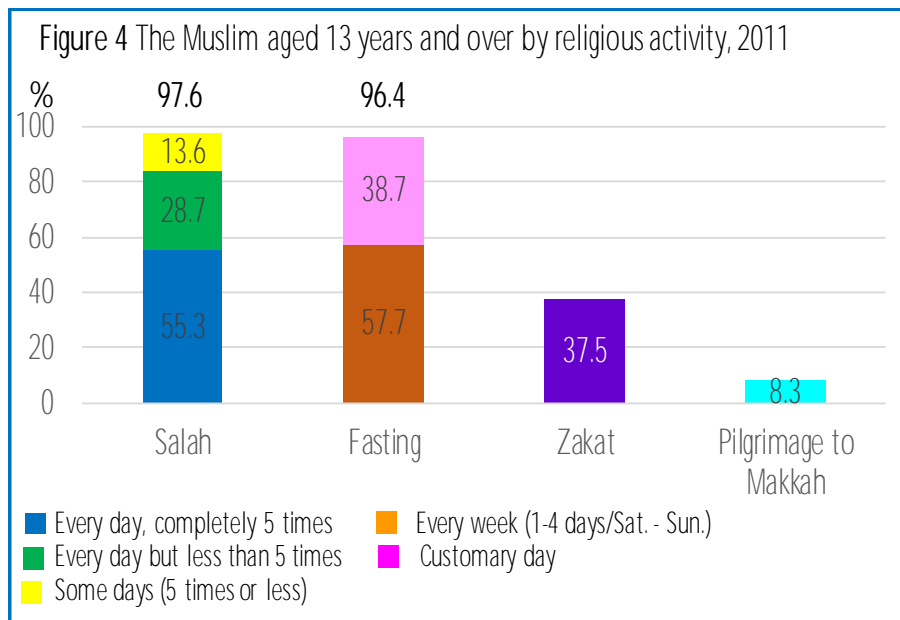
1. Buddhism

For the religious activities of the Buddhist, there were 92.7 and 80.6 per cent of Buddhist offering food to the monk and praying respectively. There were less than half (49.4 and 40.5 per cent respectively) of the Buddhist practicing primary basic doctrines and meditation. In considering the frequency of practice, the results showed that most of the Buddhist (37.1 per cent) were offering food to the monk on Buddhist holy day/during Buddhist lent/religious day. There were 19.1 per cent, offering food to the monk every day or every week. For praying, there were 23.4 and 22.9 per cent praying every day or every week and praying only on Buddhist holy day/during Buddhist lent/religious day respectively.



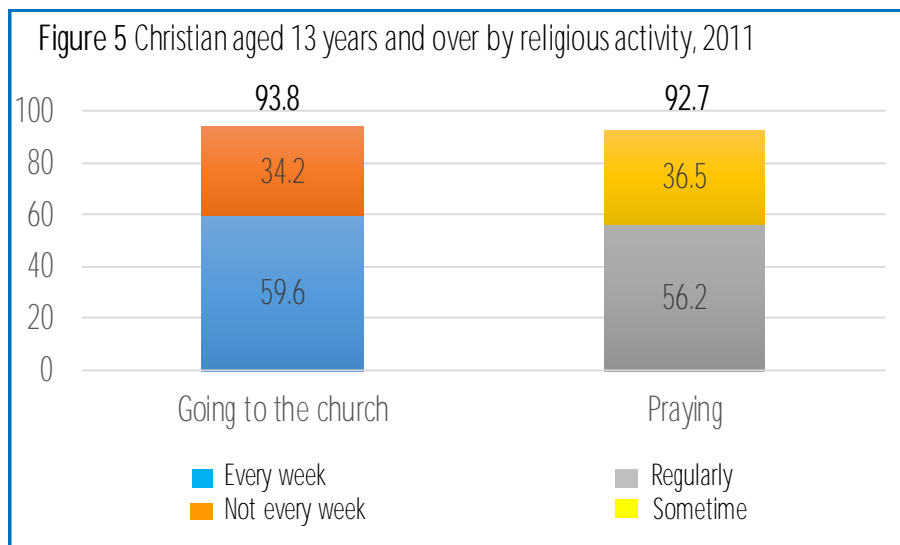
2. Islam

More than 96.0 per cent of the Muslim, Salah and fasting. There were 55.3 per cent practicing Salah every day and completely 5 times, 28.7 per cent, every day but less than 5 times. The Muslim practicing the whole month of fasting, were about 57.7 per cent. There were 37.5 per cent, for Zakat and 8.3 per cent for pilgrimage to Makkah.



3. Christianity

More than 92 per cent of Christian went to the church and prayed. Approximately three – fifths went to the church every week and regular prayed (59.6 and 56.2 per cent respectively).

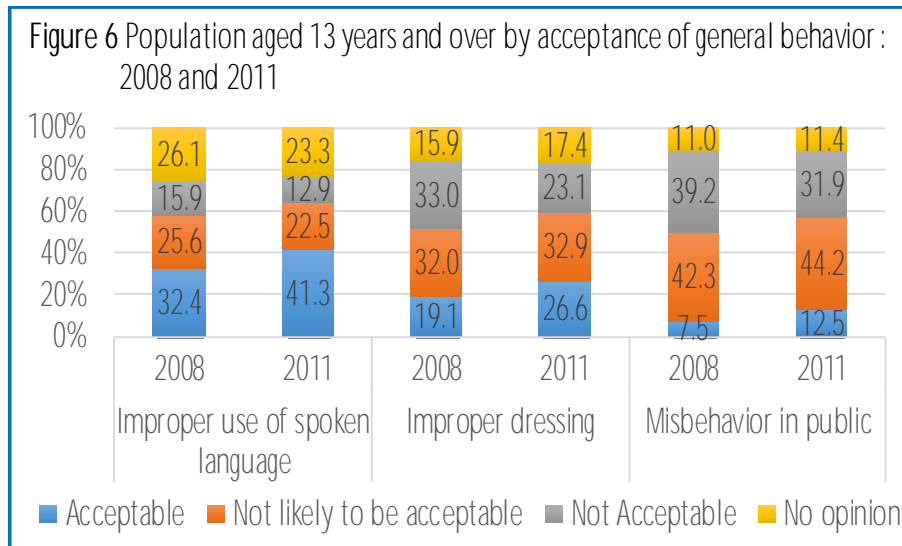


Acceptance of Social Behavior

1. General Behavior

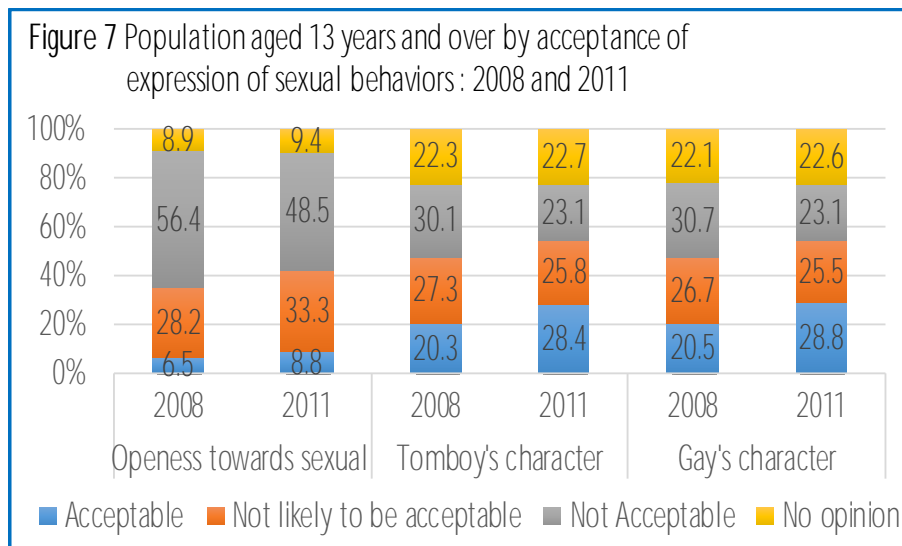
The proportion of the Thais, aged 13 years old and over, not being acceptable to an improper use of spoken language, decreased from 41.5 per cent in 2008 to 35.4 per cent in 2011. Likewise, not absolutely being acceptable to an improper dressing up and misbehavior in public decreased from 65.0 and 81.5 per cent in 2008 to 56.0 and 76.1 per cent in 2011

respectively. It means that the Thais, aged 13 years and over, were more open to these behaviors.



2. Expression of sexual behaviors

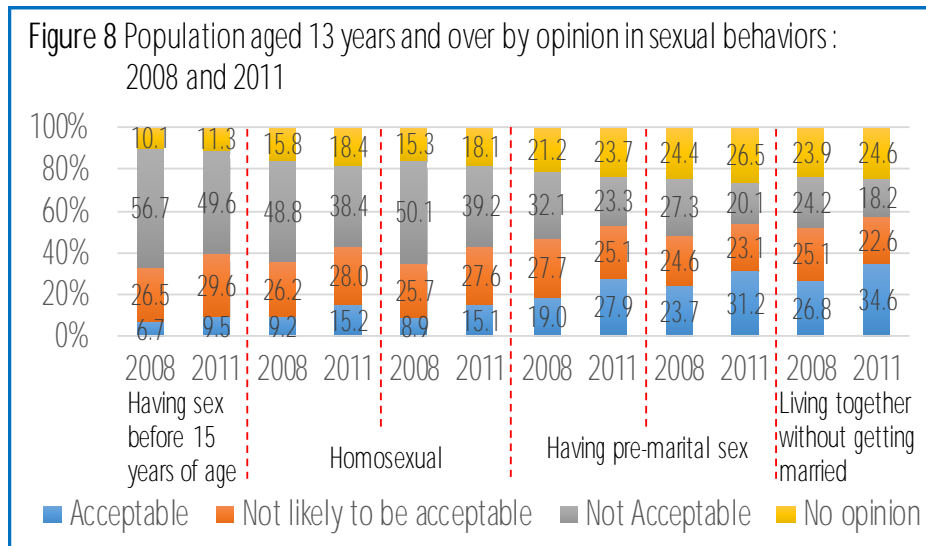
The openness towards sexual behavior which was not acceptable decreased from 84.6 per cent in 2008 to 81.8 per cent in 2011. In this figure, there was a decrease from 56.4 to 48.5 per cent of those not being absolutely acceptable. Also, opinion on gay's and tomboy's behaviors, decreased from 30.7 and 30.1 per cent in 2008 to 23.1 per cent in 2011, especially from the ones not being strongly acceptable.



3. Sexual behaviors

In Thai society, it is not common practicing in pre-marital and homosexual behaviors, therefore, there was 79.2 per cent of population aged 13 years and over not accepting the

behavior of having sex before 15, which decreased from 83.2 per cent in 2008. For homosexual, there was 38.4 per cent who totally were not acceptable, which decreased from 48.8 per cent in 2008. For the pre-marital behavior of both sexes, there was not a very high proportion for not being acceptable; with 23.3 per cent and 20.1 per cent for female and male respectively. It seems that the Thai society accepted more on pre-marital behavior.



Morality

In comparing the activities that most of the people likely to do or more likely to do when they have the opportunity, there were the similar proportions of population who will always help the needy in 2008 and 2011. For having sense of forgiveness, the proportion declined dramatically from 61.2 per cent in 2008 to 56.0 per cent in 2011. It indicates the Thai population's moral relatively decreased. For the lack of respect to the right of others and lack of discipline behaviors (overtake the queue and throw away garbage in misplaces) were slightly less than 2008, which was from 73.4 and 60.4 per cent in 2008 to 69.2 and 56.1 per cent in 2011 respectively. As saving behavior, the proportion of Thais likely to save (likely or more likely to do) were the same as 2008, but behavior in over spending (spending on brand-named stuff and luxurious dining etc.) increased more than double (1.4 per cent in 2008 to 3.4 per cent in 2011).

Table 2 Population aged 13 years old and over by type of morality: 2008 and 2011

Type of morality	Year	Total	Percentage					Never	No chance to do
			Total	Likely to do	Mostly	Some time	Seldom		
Paying back to persons who provided assistance	2008	100.0	95.6	44.3	24.9	22.4	4.0	1.0	3.4
	2011	100.0	96.0	42.7	25.7	23.8	3.8	1.1	2.9
Always helping the needy	2008	100.0	94.1	24.2	16.6	42.0	11.3	2.1	3.8
	2011	100.0	94.5	24.7	15.3	43.9	10.6	1.7	3.8
Having sense of forgiveness	2008	100.0	94.6	28.4	32.8	28.9	4.5	1.4	4.0
	2011	100.0	94.2	25.7	30.3	33.5	4.7	1.8	4.0
Having sense of acceptance guilt	2008	100.0	93.5	29.2	31.6	27.6	5.1	2.0	4.5
	2011	100.0	94.1	28.6	30.0	30.3	5.2	2.1	3.8
Saving	2008	100.0	84.5	20.1	20.2	26.6	17.6	8.0	7.5
	2011	100.0	85.2	21.0	17.3	28.6	18.3	7.4	7.4
Over spending	2008	100.0	28.2	0.3	1.1	8.7	18.1	64.0	7.8
	2011	100.0	53.0	0.7	2.7	22.6	27.0	39.0	8.0
Throwing away garbage in misplaces	2008	100.0	39.6	1.1	1.1	15.3	22.1	58.5	1.9
	2011	100.0	43.9	0.7	1.2	15.7	26.3	54.7	1.4
Overtaking the queue	2008	100.0	26.6	0.4	0.6	9.9	15.7	68.9	4.5
	2011	100.0	30.8	0.3	0.6	11.1	18.8	65.8	3.4

Values of Thai teenagers

The survey's results showed that there were Thai teenagers (13 – 24 years old) who were doing house work increased from 86.7 per cent in 2008 to 94.5 per cent in 2011. The proportion of teenagers doing the house work regularly increased 4.2 per cent. For relaxing such as reading, playing sport, attending the knowledgeable activity and playing music/singing song, the frequency of relaxing activities to do permanently reduced from 2008 because they turned their attention up to play the computer games, which was permanently increased about double (from 5.8 per cent in 2008 to 12.3 per cent in 2011) and there was approximately 50 per cent for accessing social network such as Twitter, Facebook, Web board etc. In these cases, there were 15.2 per cent.

Regularly, the results showed that the proportion of the teenager trends to be the night person, behaving as a playboy and involving with gambling increased less than 20 per cent from 2008. As nightlife, it decreased about 10 per cent from 2008. So, it indicates the Thai teenagers also had good attitude towards to not being the burden of the society.

Table 3 The Thai teenager (13 - 24 years old) by type of behavior: 2008 and 2011

Behavior	Year	Total	Percentage			Never
			Total	Regularly	Some time	
Doing house work	2008	100.0	86.7	47.2	39.5	13.3
	2011	100.0	94.5	51.4	43.1	5.5
Reading	2008	100.0	85.4	32.4	53.0	14.6
	2011	100.0	84.0	30.2	53.8	16.0
Playing sport	2008	100.0	78.4	25.8	52.6	21.6
	2011	100.0	76.1	20.9	55.2	23.9
Attending the activity reinforces the knowledge	2008	100.0	66.6	13.5	53.1	33.4
	2011	100.0	69.2	10.5	58.7	30.8
Playing music/singing song	2008	100.0	57.4	9.9	47.5	42.6
	2011	100.0	50.8	8.5	42.3	49.2
Playing the computer game	2008	100.0	41.3	5.8	35.5	58.7
	2011	100.0	53.3	12.3	41.0	46.7
Like to social network	2008	-	-	-	-	-
	2011	100.0	49.9	15.2	34.7	50.1
Like to sleep late	2008	100.0	59.5	5.8	53.7	40.5
	2011	100.0	63.8	7.2	56.6	36.2
Gallivant	2008	100.0	38.1	2.1	36.0	61.9
	2011	100.0	40.5	3.0	37.5	59.5
Nightlife	2008	100.0	29.9	1.0	28.9	70.1
	2011	100.0	19.5	1.0	18.5	80.5
Gambling	2008	100.0	9.8	0.3	9.5	90.2
	2011	100.0	11.9	0.9	11.0	88.1

Awareness of value of the elderly

The results showed that more than 90 per cent of population aged 13 years old and over recognized the elderly as cultural and traditions transmission, with high valuable experience that benefit young generation (95.4 and 95.0 per cent), good role models for their descendants, with contribution to the family and society and as experienced persons almost everything in their lives (94.0, 93.7 and 92.5 per cent respectively). Furthermore, more than 70 per cent disagreed on the view that the elderly should stay somewhere else rather at home, such as a nursing home (91.7 per cent), the elderly (60 – 79 years old and 80 years old and over) were burden to their children or families and thought that the elderly were usually boring (83.5 77.2 and 71.4 per cent respectively). It indicates that the Thai society still see the value of the elderly.

Table 4 Population aged 13 years old and over by awareness of value of the elderly, 2011

Awareness of value of the elderly	Total	Agree	Disagree	Not sure
Transmit cultural traditions	100.0	95.4	1.5	3.1
Valuable experience that benefits young generation	100.0	95.0	1.4	3.6
Good role models for their descendants	100.0	94.0	1.5	4.5
Contribution to the family and society	100.0	93.7	1.6	4.7
Pass almost everything in their life	100.0	92.5	2.7	4.8
Elderly are laggard	100.0	35.1	43.9	21.0
Elderly are outdated	100.0	28.6	48.7	22.7
Elderly are usually boring	100.0	11.4	71.4	17.2
Elderly (60 – 70 years old) are a burden to their children or families	100.0	11.0	77.2	11.8
Elderly (80 years old and over) are a burden to their children or families	100.0	6.2	83.5	10.3
Elderly should stay somewhere else, such as a nursing home	100.0	2.4	91.7	5.9