

# Beliefs & Practices

A young man with a grey beanie, a blue denim jacket over a white t-shirt, and dark pants is walking and reading a book. He is positioned on the right side of the frame, looking down at the book. The background is a dark, textured wall made of large, irregular stones. The lighting is dramatic, with strong highlights and deep shadows.

Of the members of the Seventh-  
day Adventist Church of Mexico

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**Global Church Member Survey**  
**Inter American Division Seventh Day Adventist Church**

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## Survey for members of the Inter American Division Seventh Day Adventist Church 2017



- 50 questions
  - Section 1: personal info
  - Section 2: demographics home & religion
  - Section 3: Religious behavior
  - Section 4: Attitudes & religious experiences
- 
- **From section 4: we choose questions 28 & 41, for Mexico data**

## Q28: Religious attitude & experiences

1	Sabbath School teachers care
2	Pastor cares
3	Other people care
4	Proud of my church role and reputation
5	Hurt by leaders
6	Church plans activities for family
7	Local church part worldwide church
8	Pastor(s) and lay leaders work together well
.	.
.	.
.	.
20	Church ability to communicate across cultures
21	Church training on conflict resolution
22	Church training on nurture and disciplining
23	Church training on Christ's method of evangelism
24	Sexually abused by an authority figure in the church

# Q41: Fundamental beliefs

1	The Seventh-day Adventist Fundamental Beliefs are the teaching of Holy Scripture.
2	I believe in a personal God who seeks a relationship with human beings.
3	The soul is a separate, spiritual part of a person and lives on after death.
4	Salvation is through Jesus Christ alone.
5	I believe God created the world in six days of 24 hours each in the relatively recent past.
6	The Seventh-day Adventist Church is God's true last-day church with a message to prepare the world for the Second Coming of Christ.
.	.
.	.
.	.
29	In order to reach people for Christ, we need to get to know them and their needs before we preach the Gospel to them.
30	The Seventh-day Adventist Fundamental Beliefs as a whole reflect the loving and gracious character of God.
31	The Bible teaches that sexual intercourse should be exclusively reserved for marriage.
32	The Bible teaches that marriage is a union between a man and a woman.

# Q28: Religious attitude & experiences

## Q41: Fundamental beliefs

- Significance level  $\alpha = 0.05$
- Statistical software: SPSS 22.0.0.0, RStudio 3.5.2
- Mexican Conferences data,  $n = 2351$
- For maps, we use spatial data from Conabio and software QGIS 2.18  
<http://www.conabio.gob.mx/informacion/gis/>



**CONABIO**  
COMISIÓN NACIONAL PARA  
EL CONOCIMIENTO Y USO  
DE LA BIODIVERSIDAD



A photograph of a man with grey hair, seen from behind, wearing a white shirt and having his hands clasped in prayer. He is looking towards a large, crowded church sanctuary. The congregation is seated in rows of red pews, and a choir is visible on a raised platform at the front of the church. The scene is lit with warm, ambient light.

**Q28: Religious attitude & experiences**

## Q28: Religious attitude & experiences

- 24 items (questions)
- Five points Likert Scale
  1. Strongly disagree, 2. disagree, 3. don't know, 4. agree, 5. strongly agree
- Reliability – internal consistency: Cronbach alpha = 0.886

Reliability	
Cronbach's Alpha	N
<b>.886</b>	242

**SPSS**



## Q28: Religious attitude & experiences

### Exploratory factor analysis (EFA)

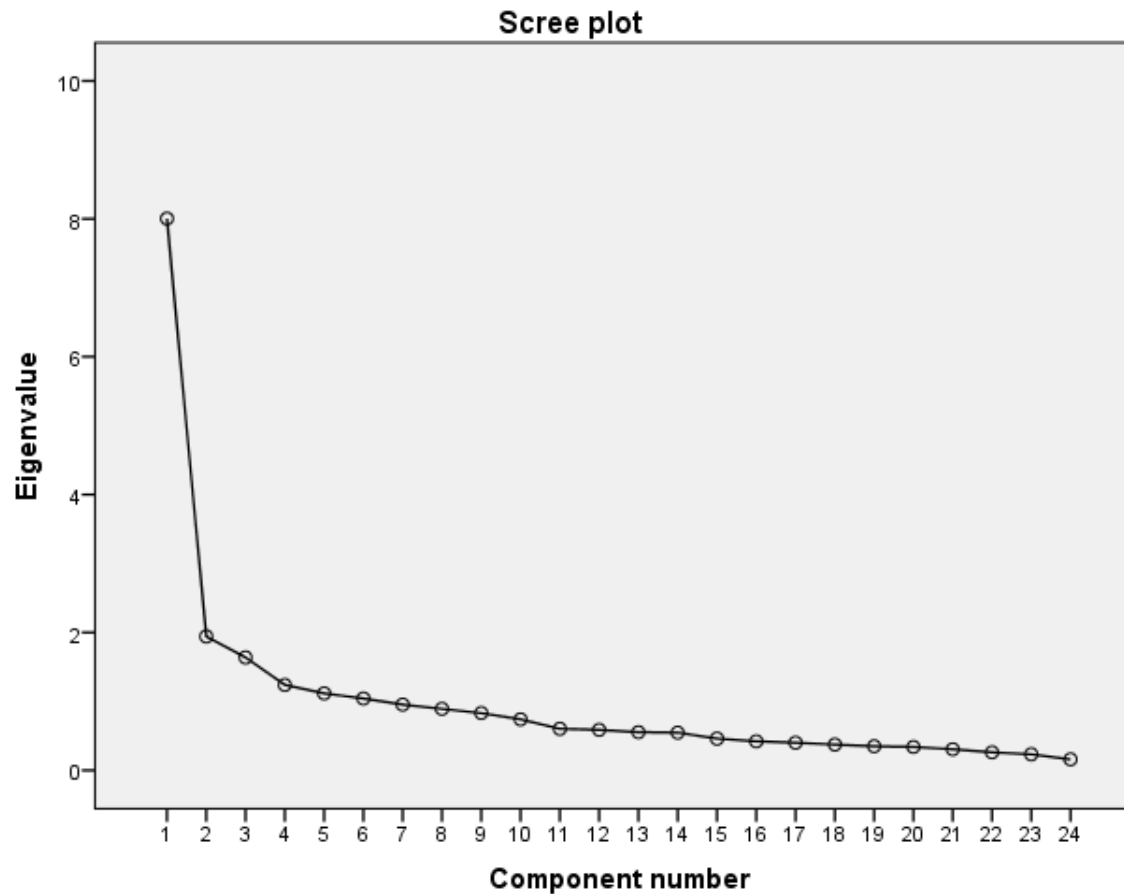
- Extraction method: Principal Component Analysis (PCA)
- Rotation method: Varimax with Kaiser normalization

Kaiser-Meyer-Olkin (**KMO**) test for sampling adequacy: **0.907**

Bartlett test of sphericity:

Aprox Chi square 17006.721, d.f. 276, **Sig. 0.000**





## Q28: Religious attitude & experiences

Component	Initial Eigenvalues		
	Total	% of variance	% cumulative
1	8.003	33.347	33.347
2	1.943	8.095	41.443
3	1.637	6.821	<b>48.264</b>



## **Q28: Religious attitude & experiences**

**Factor 1: Identity and mission.** “My local church fulfil its mission, take care of the members and has good leaders”.

Items 1, 2, 3, 4, 6, 8, 9, 10, 11, 12, 13, 14, 15.

**Factor 2: Biblical foundations.** “I live according to the teachings of the Bible, Sabbath School and Spirit of Prophecy”.

Items 16, 17, 18.

**Factor 3: Training and communication.** “My local church has programs for training leaders, sharing the gospel and to establish good relationship with other religious denominations and social groups”

Items 20, 21, 22, 23.

# Factor 1

## Identity and mission

“My local church fulfil its mission, take care of the members and has good leaders”



## **Factor 2**

### **Biblical foundations**

**“I live according to the teachings of the Bible, Sabbath School and Spirit of Prophecy”**



A photograph of a conference room with people seated at tables, overlaid with a text box. The room has a high ceiling with recessed lights and a stained glass window in the background. People are seated at long tables covered with yellow tablecloths. There are water bottles, laptops, and a floral centerpiece on the tables. A man in a dark suit is standing at the front of the room, possibly presenting. The text box is white with rounded corners and contains the following text:

### Factor 3

## Training and communication

“My local church has programs for training leaders, sharing the gospel and to establish good relationship with other religious denominations and social groups”

# Factor 1

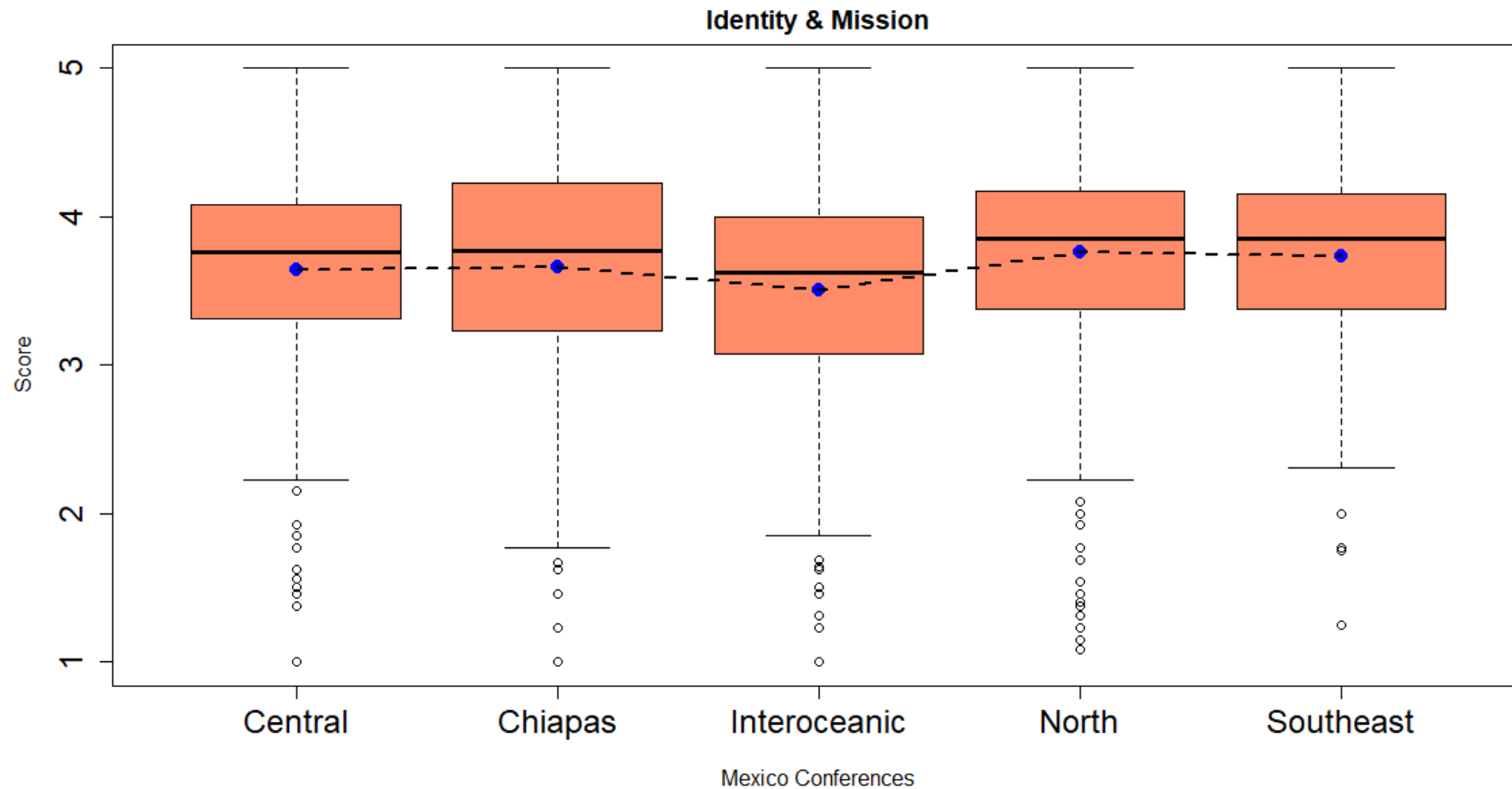
## Identity and mission



## Factor 1: Identity and mission

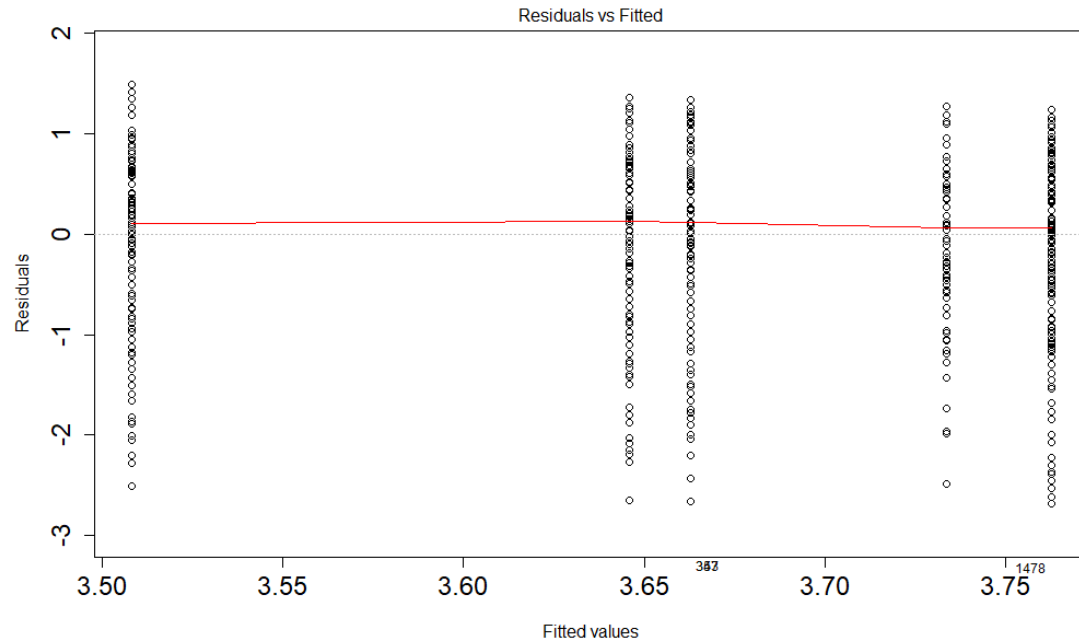
### One Way Anova

F-statistic: 9.793 on 4 and 2249 DF, p-value: 7.473e-08



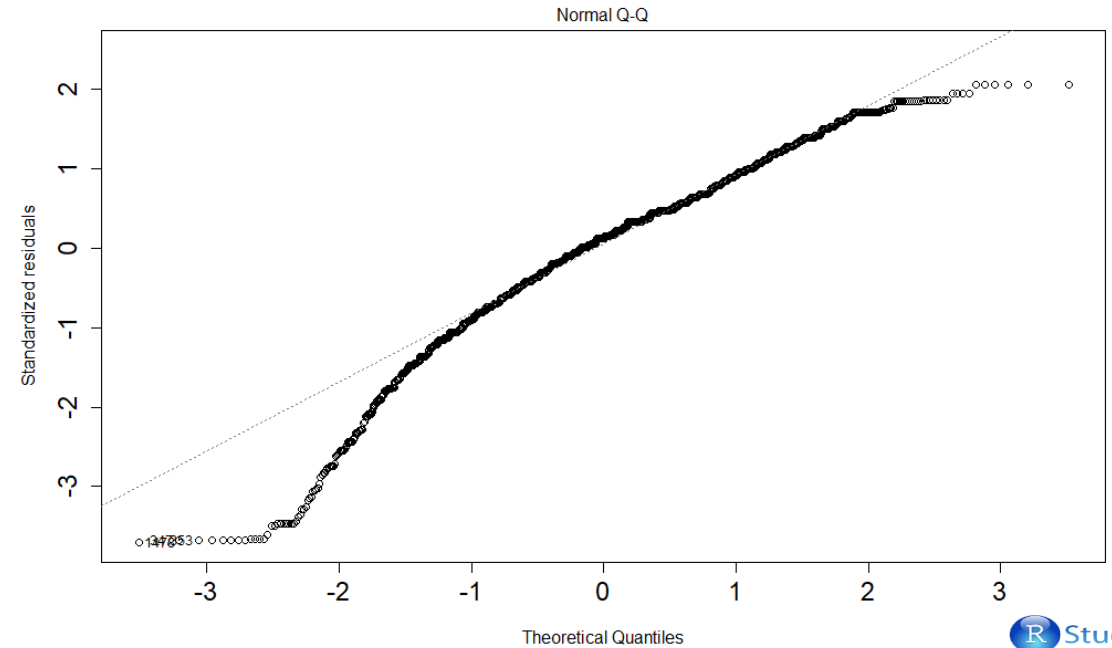


# Residuals Assumptions



**Homoscedasticity**  
Assumption of constant variance

\*The one-way ANOVA is considered a robust test against the normality assumption



**Normality**

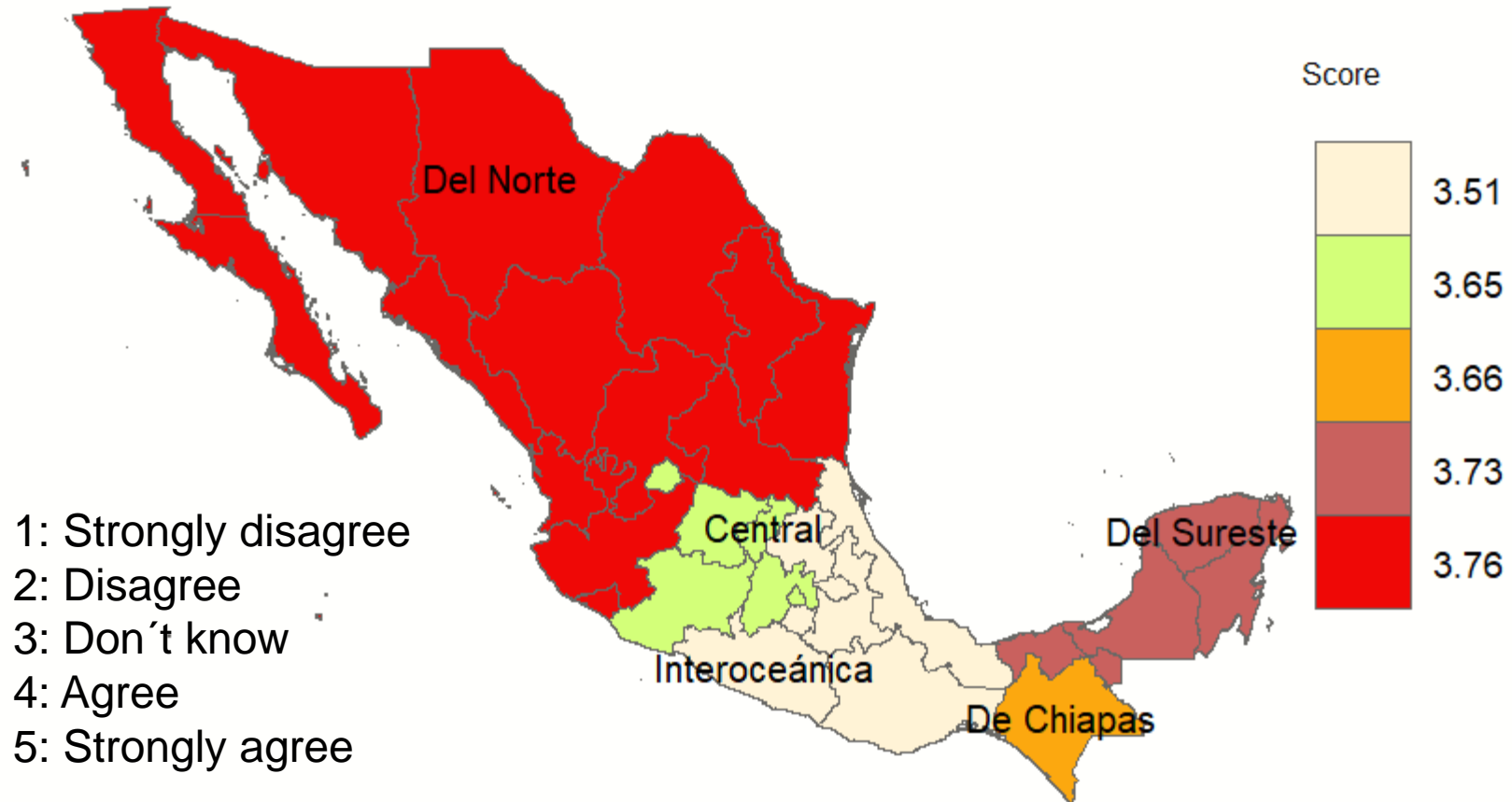
Non-parametric Anova

Kruskal-wallis rank sum test data:  
chi-squared = 35.733,  
df = 4, p-value = 3.283e-07

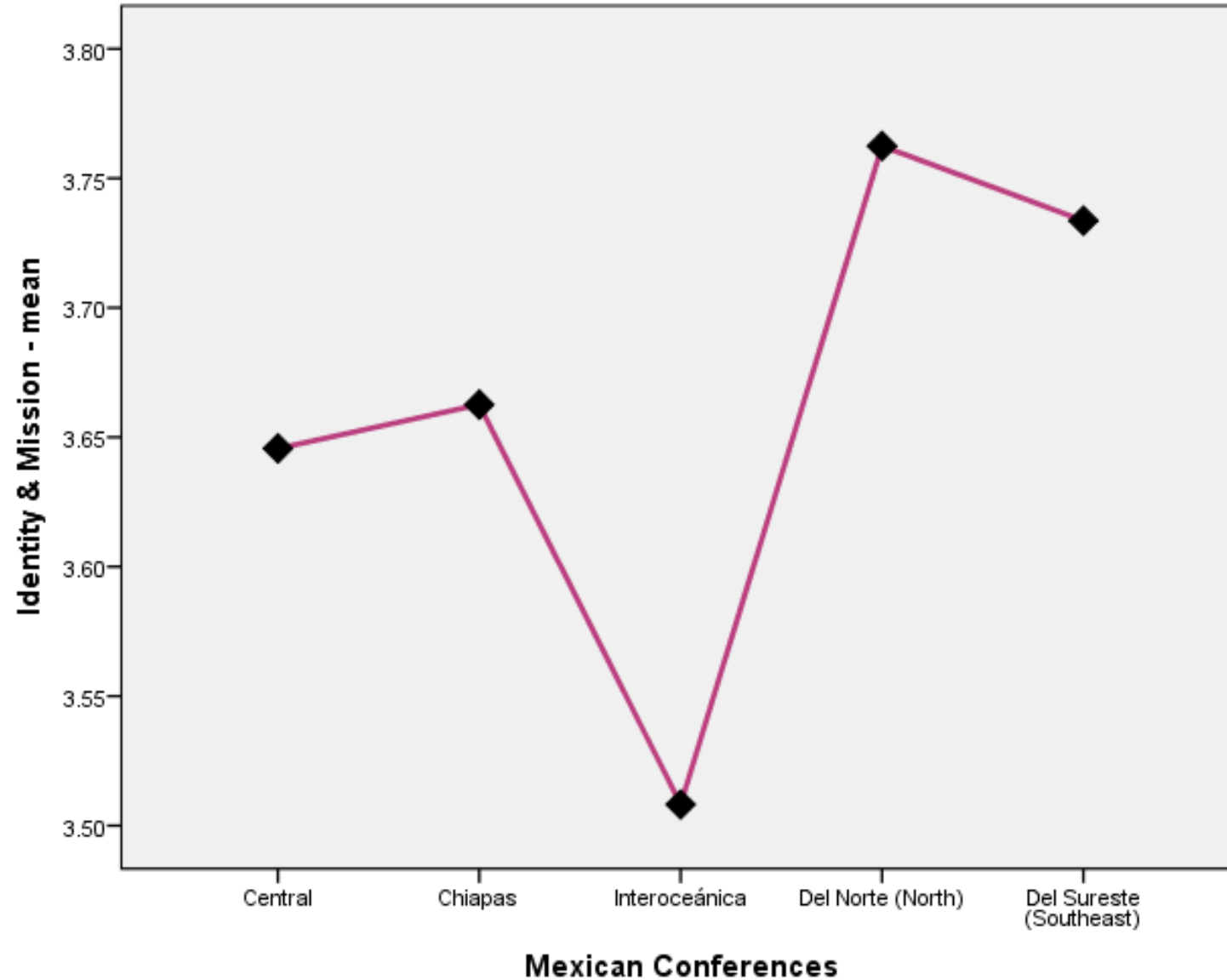
# Q28

**Factor 1: Identity and mission.** “My local church fulfil its mission, take care of the members and has good leaders”.

Identity & Mision



## Factor 1: Identity and mission

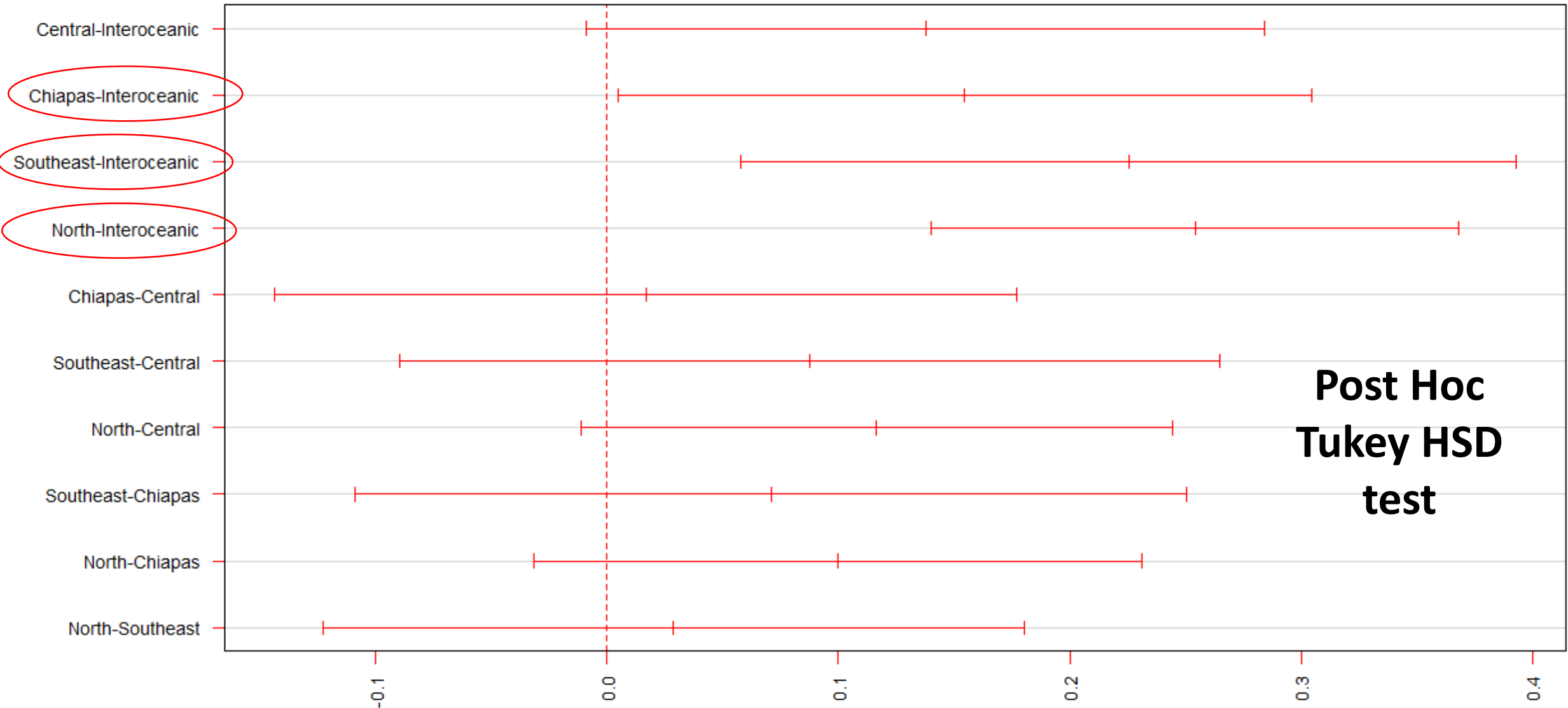


One Way Anova  
 $F=9.801$ ,  
 $p\text{-value} = 0.000$

**SPSS**

# Factor 1: Identity and mission

95% family-wise confidence level



Differences in mean levels of MexUNION

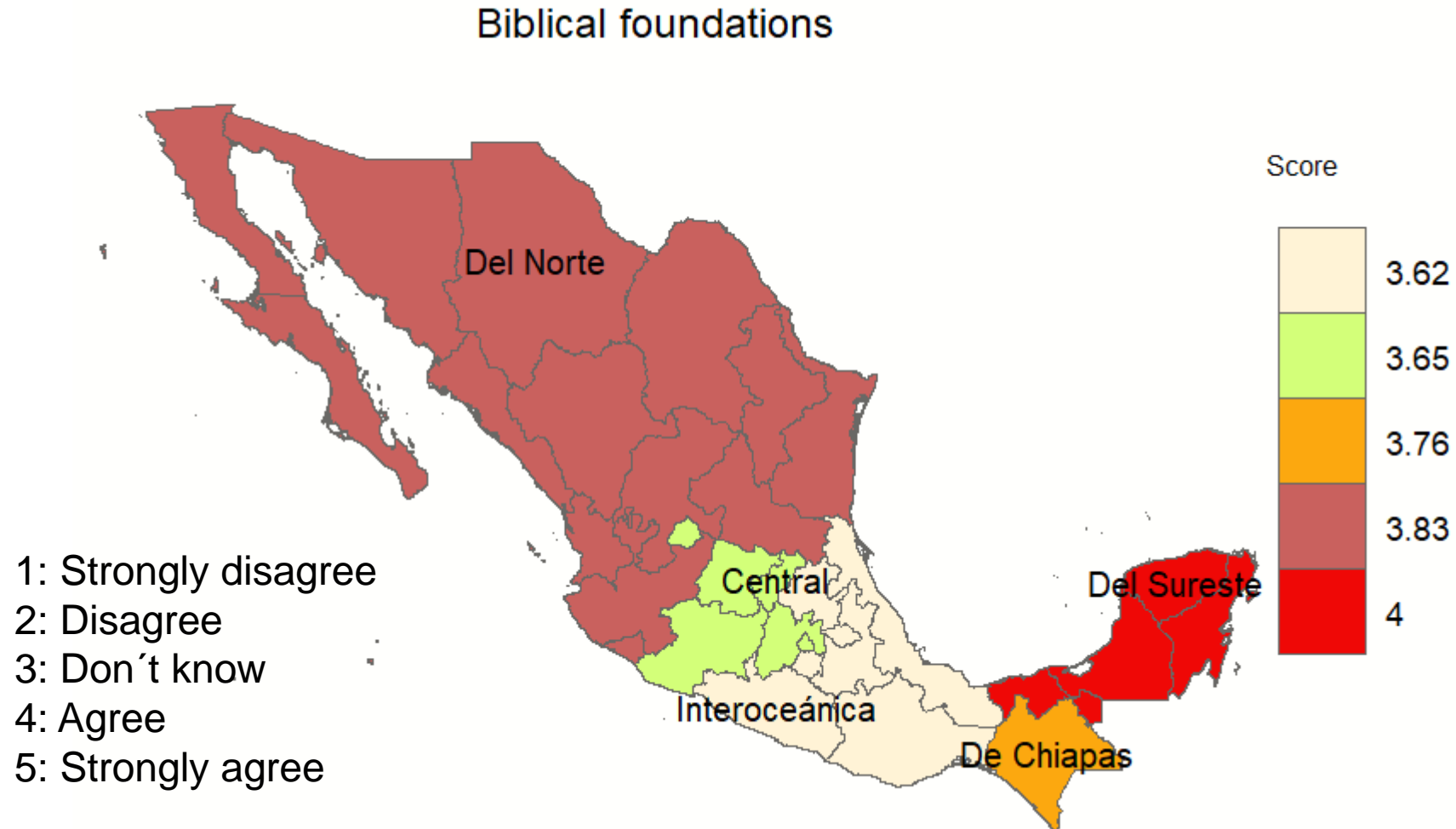
A close-up photograph of a hand holding a silver tray with several pieces of bread. The background is a blurred church interior with red seats and people in the distance.

## **Factor 2**

# **Biblical foundations**

## Q28: 2<sup>nd</sup> factor

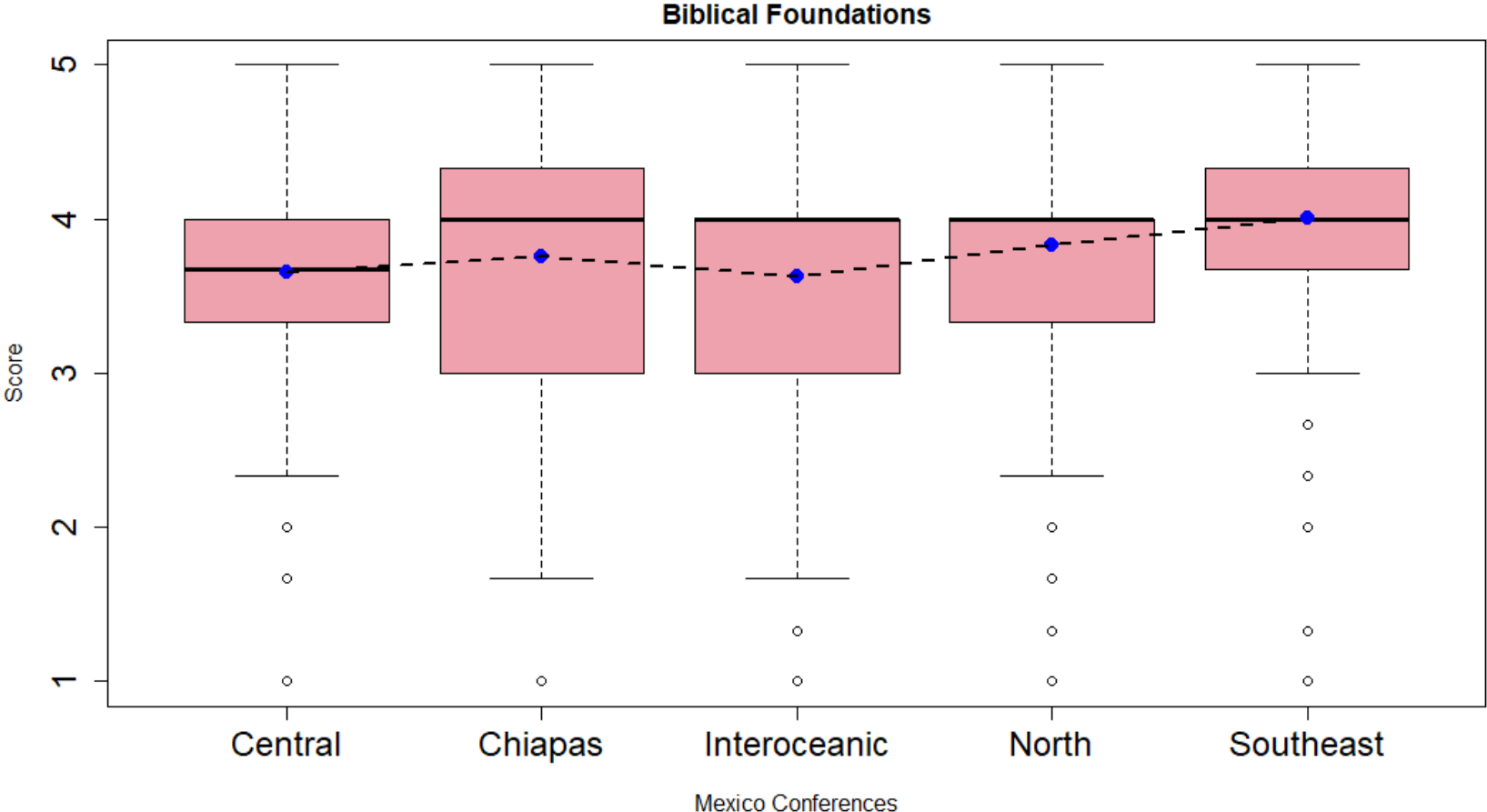
**Factor 2: Biblical foundations.** “I live according to the teachings of the Bible, Sabbath School and Spirit of Prophecy”.



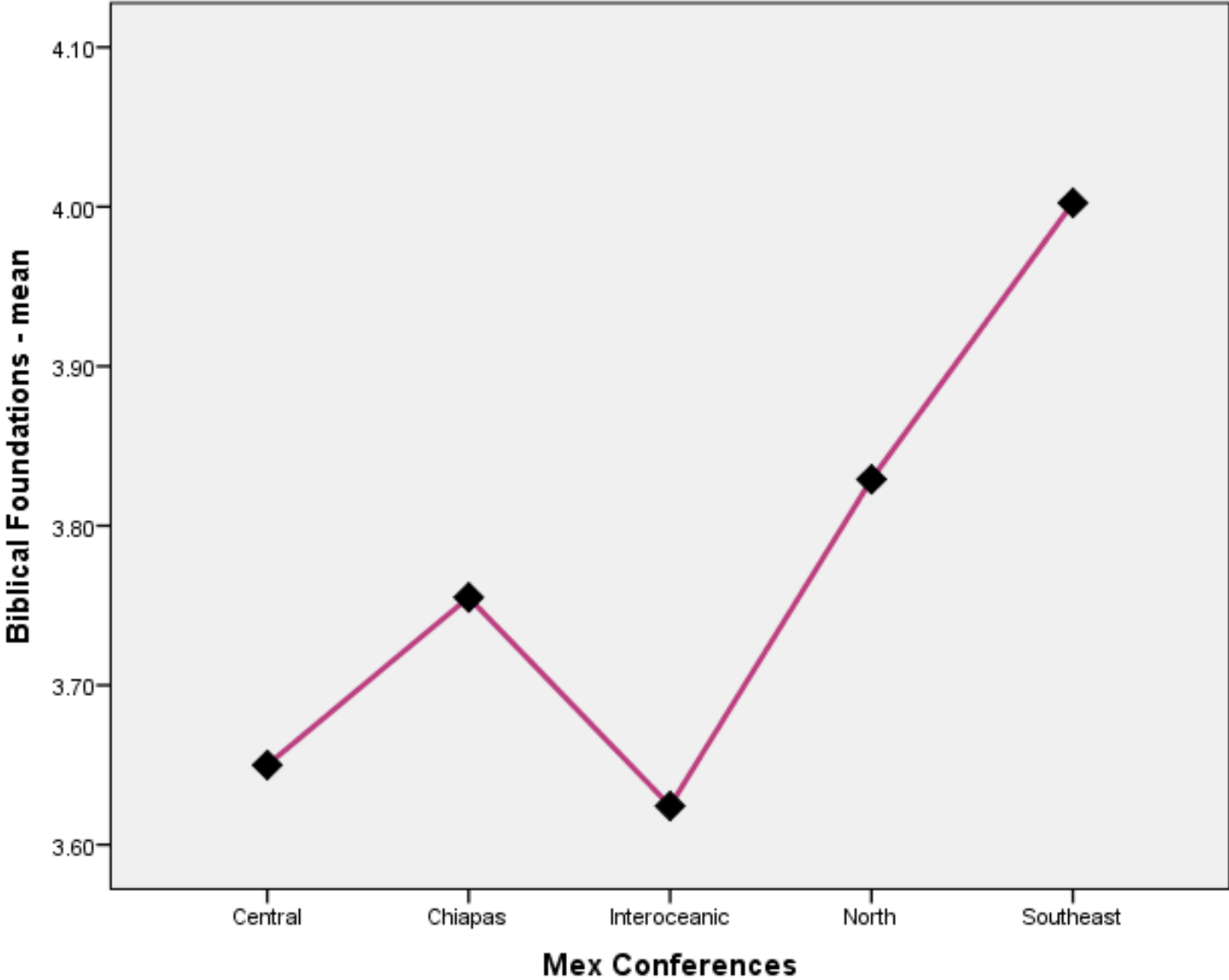
# Factor 2: Biblical foundations

## One Way Anova

F-statistic: 10.84 on 4 and 2200 DF, p-value: 1.058e-08



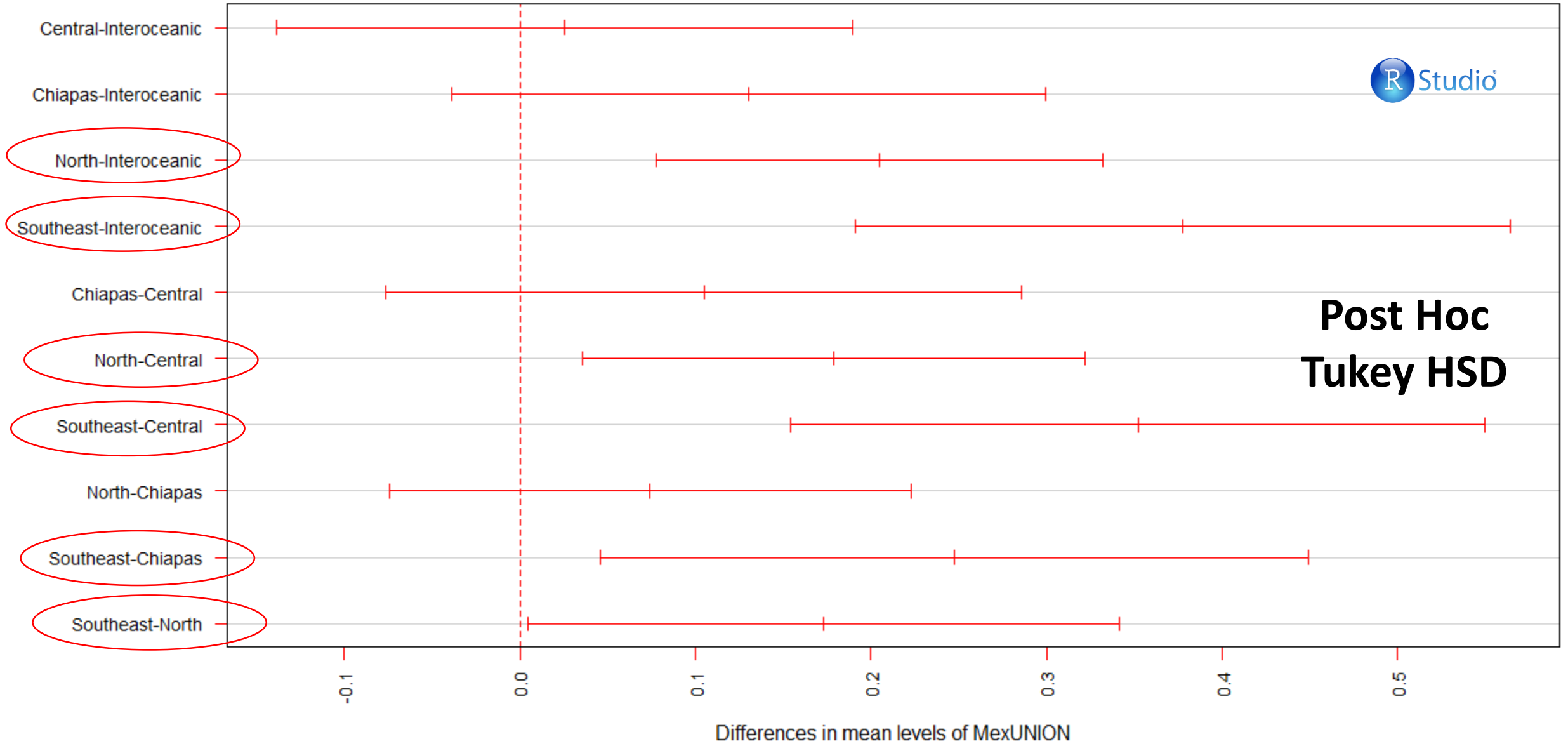
## Factor 2: Biblical foundations





## Factor 2: Biblical foundations

95% family-wise confidence level



# Factor 3

## Training and communication



## Q28: 3<sup>rd</sup> factor

**Factor 3: Training and communication.** “My local church has programs for training leaders, sharing the gospel and to establish good relationship with other religious denominations and social groups”

Training & communication

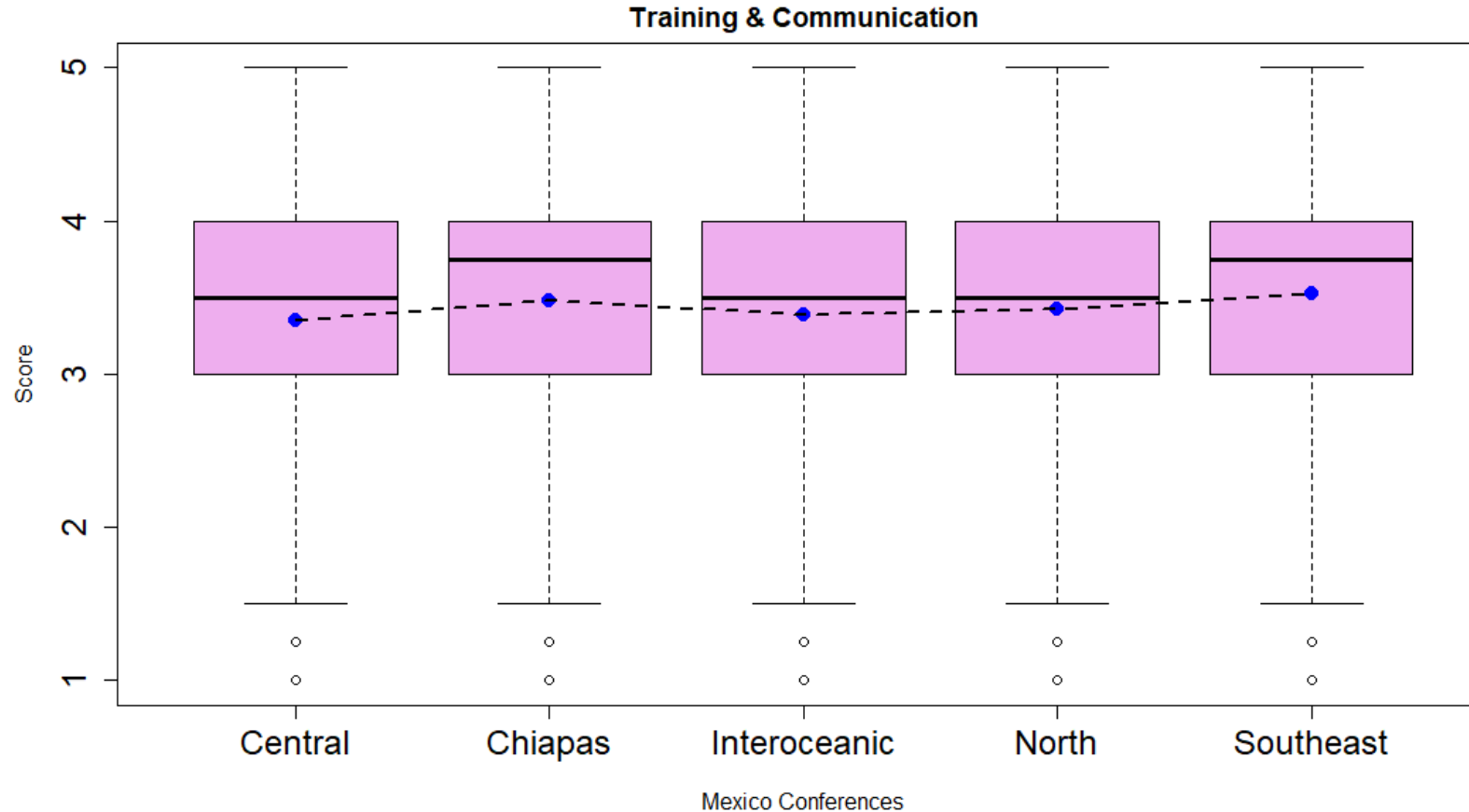


## Factor 3: Training and communication

### One Way Anova



F-statistic: 1.625 on 4 and 2164 DF, p-value: 0.1652



## Q41: Fundamental beliefs

- 32 items
- Five points Likert Scale
  1. Strongly disagree, 2. disagree, 3. don't know, 4. agree, 5. strongly agree
- Reliability – internal consistency: Cronbach alpha = 0.805

Reliability	
Cronbach's Alpha	N
.805	32

**SPSS**

# Q41: Fundamental beliefs



## Q41: Fundamental beliefs

### Exploratory factor analysis (EFA)

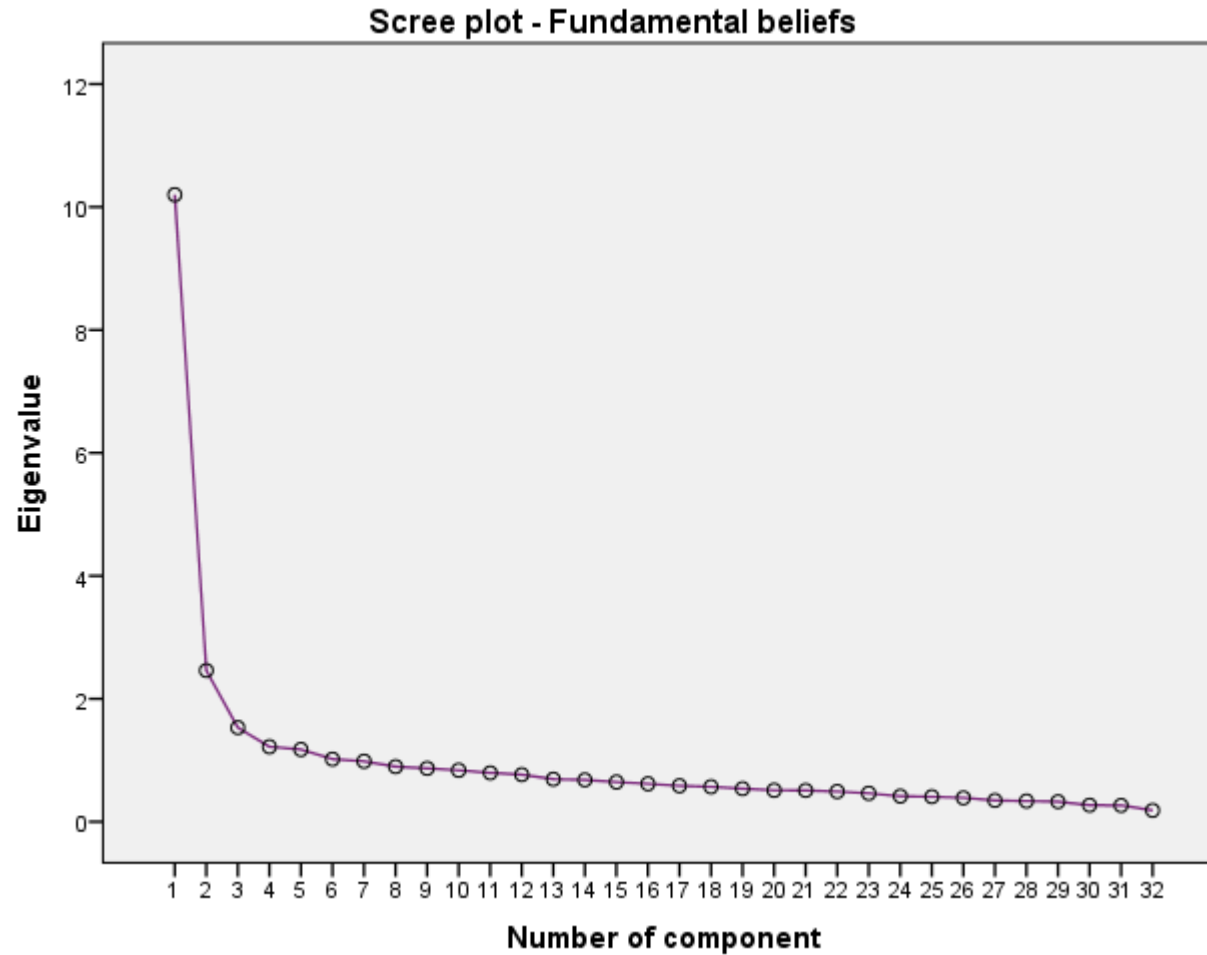
- Extraction method: Principal Component Analysis (PCA)
- Rotation method: Varimax with Kaiser normalization

Kaiser-Meyer-Olkin (**KMO**) test for sampling adequacy: **0.947**

Bartlett test of sphericity:

Aprox Chi square 20173.331, d.f. 496, **Sig. 0.000**





## Q41: Fundamental beliefs

Component	Initial Eigenvalues		
	Total	% of variance	% cumulative
1	10.199	31.873	31.873
2	2.460	7.688	39.562
3	1.531	4.783	<b>44.345</b>

Factor 2:  
No practical  
interpretation



## **Factor 1**

### **Fundamental beliefs**

“Acceptance and practice of the fundamental beliefs of the Seventh Day Adventist Church (creation, view of death, body as God temple, salvation, Spirit of Prophecy, marriage, prayer, Jesus second coming, etc.)”.

## Factor 3

### Spiritual implications

“Behaviors and beliefs of church members opposite to fundamental beliefs of SDA church”.



## Q41: Fundamental beliefs

**Factor 1: Fundamental beliefs.** “Acceptance and practice of the fundamental beliefs of the Seventh Day Adventist Church (creation, view of death, body as God temple, salvation, Spirit of Prophecy, marriage, prayer, Jesus second coming, etc.)”.

Items 1, 2, 4, 6, 8, 9, 11, 12, 13, 14, 15, 17, 19, 22, 25, 30, 31, 32.

**Factor 2: No interpretation**

**Factor 3: Spiritual implications.** “Behaviors and beliefs of church members opposite to fundamental beliefs of SDA church”.

Items 3, 7, 10, 18, 20, 23.

**Factor 1: Fundamental beliefs.** “Acceptance and practice of the fundamental beliefs of the Seventh Day Adventist Church (creation, view of death, body as God temple, salvation, Spirit of Prophecy, marriage, prayer, Jesus second coming, etc.)”.

1	The Seventh-day Adventist Fundamental Beliefs are the teaching of Holy Scripture.
2	I believe in a personal God who seeks a relationship with human beings.
4	Salvation is through Jesus Christ alone.
6	The Seventh-day Adventist Church is God’s true last-day church with a message to prepare the world for the Second Coming of Christ.
8	The most effective method for reaching people for Christ is to mingle with them, meet their needs, win their confidence, and then bid them to follow Christ.
9	Fulfillment of prophecy and events in the world indicate that Christ’s coming is very near.
11	When people die, their bodily remains decay and they have no consciousness or activity until they are resurrected.
12	God wants me to take care of my body by avoiding alcohol, drugs, and tobacco.
13	The head of the Church is Christ.
14	The true Sabbath is the seventh day (Saturday).
15	Ellen White’s writings are the result of the spiritual gift of prophecy.
17	I believe God created the universe.
19	All believers are called by God to serve each other without distinction of race, culture, education, nationality, gender, or wealth.
22	Prayer in the name of Jesus is the only way to defeat evil powers and demonic spirits.
25	My body is the temple of the Holy Spirit.
30	The Seventh-day Adventist Fundamental Beliefs as a whole reflect the loving and gracious character of God.
31	The Bible teaches that sexual intercourse should be exclusively reserved for marriage.
32	The Bible teaches that marriage is a union between a man and a woman.

## Q41: Fundamental beliefs

**Factor 3: Spiritual implications.** “Behaviors and beliefs of church members opposite to fundamental beliefs of SDA church”.

Items 3, 7, 10, 18, 20, 23.

3	The soul is a separate, spiritual part of a person and lives on after death.
7	I will not get to heaven unless I obey God’s law perfectly.
10	Christians may go to witch doctors or spiritual healers for protection or healing.
18	People who have died believing in Christ are in heaven right now.
20	If I am to be saved, I need to be baptized into the Seventh-day Adventist church.
23	The dead have powers to communicate with and influence the living.

## Factor 2: No interpretation What could this mean?

28	The sanctuary doctrine is vital to Adventist theology.
29	In order to reach people for Christ, we need to get to know them and their needs before we preach the Gospel to them.
30	The Seventh-day Adventist Fundamental Beliefs as a whole reflect the loving and gracious character of God.
31	The Bible teaches that sexual intercourse should be exclusively reserved for marriage.
32	Fundamental beliefs: The Bible teaches that marriage is a union between a man and a woman.



**Factor 1**  
**Fundamental beliefs**

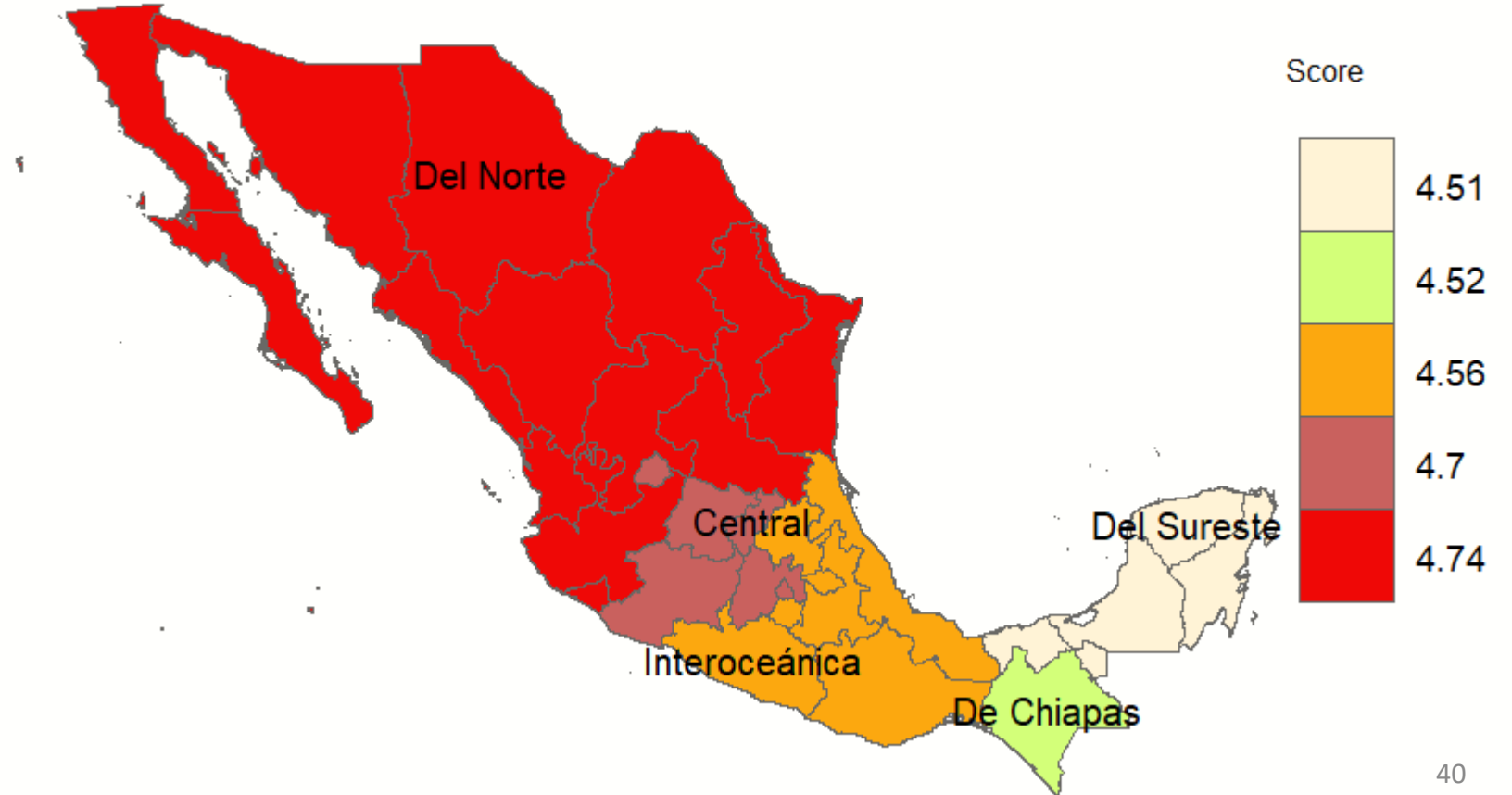
# Q41

**Factor 1: Fundamental beliefs.** “Acceptation and practice of the fundamental beliefs of the Seventh Day Adventist Church (creation, view of death, body as God temple, salvation, Spirit of Prophecy, marriage, prayer, Jesus second coming, etc.)”.

Fundamental beliefs



- 1: Strongly disagree
- 2: Disagree
- 3: Don't know
- 4: Agree
- 5: Strongly agree

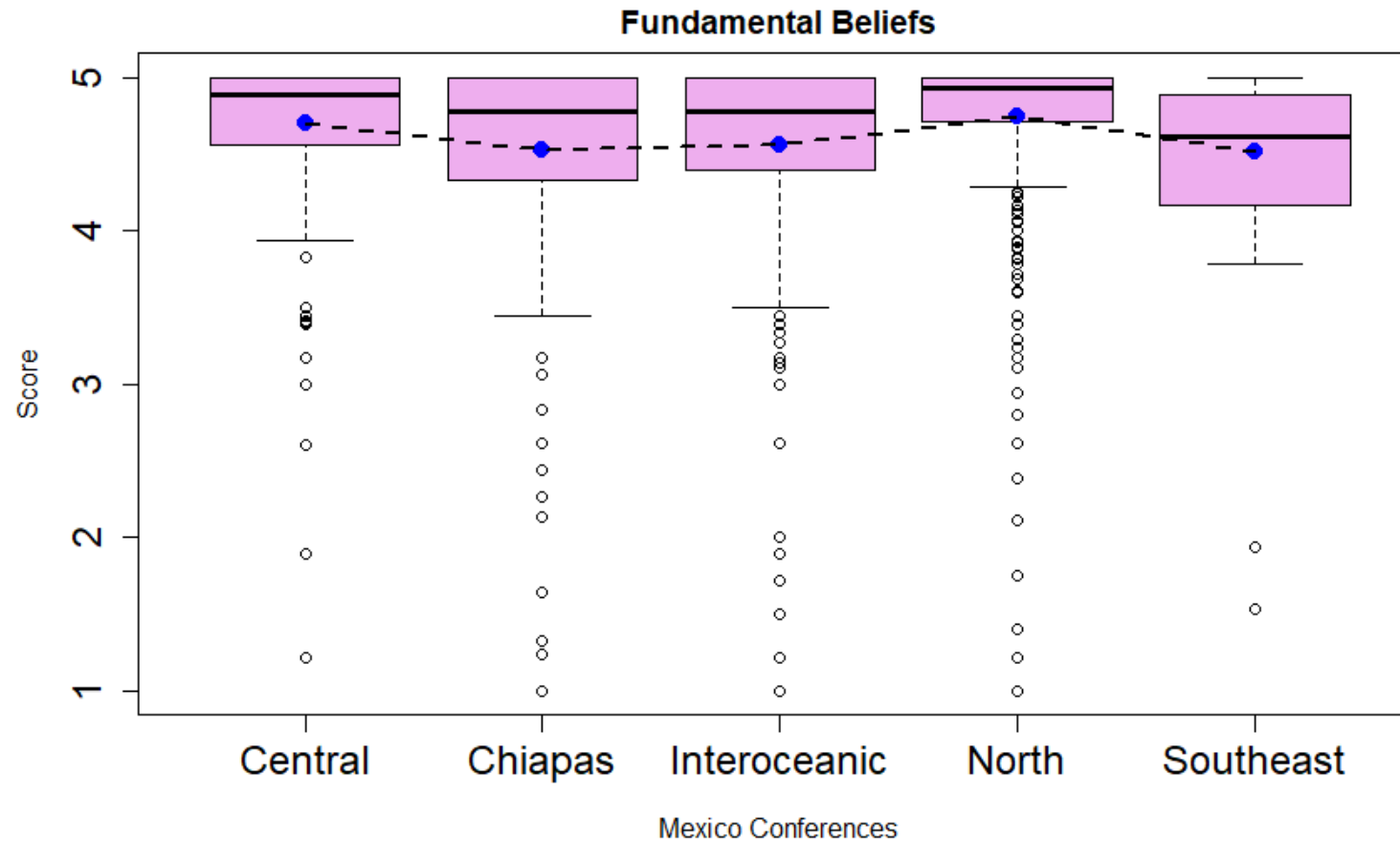




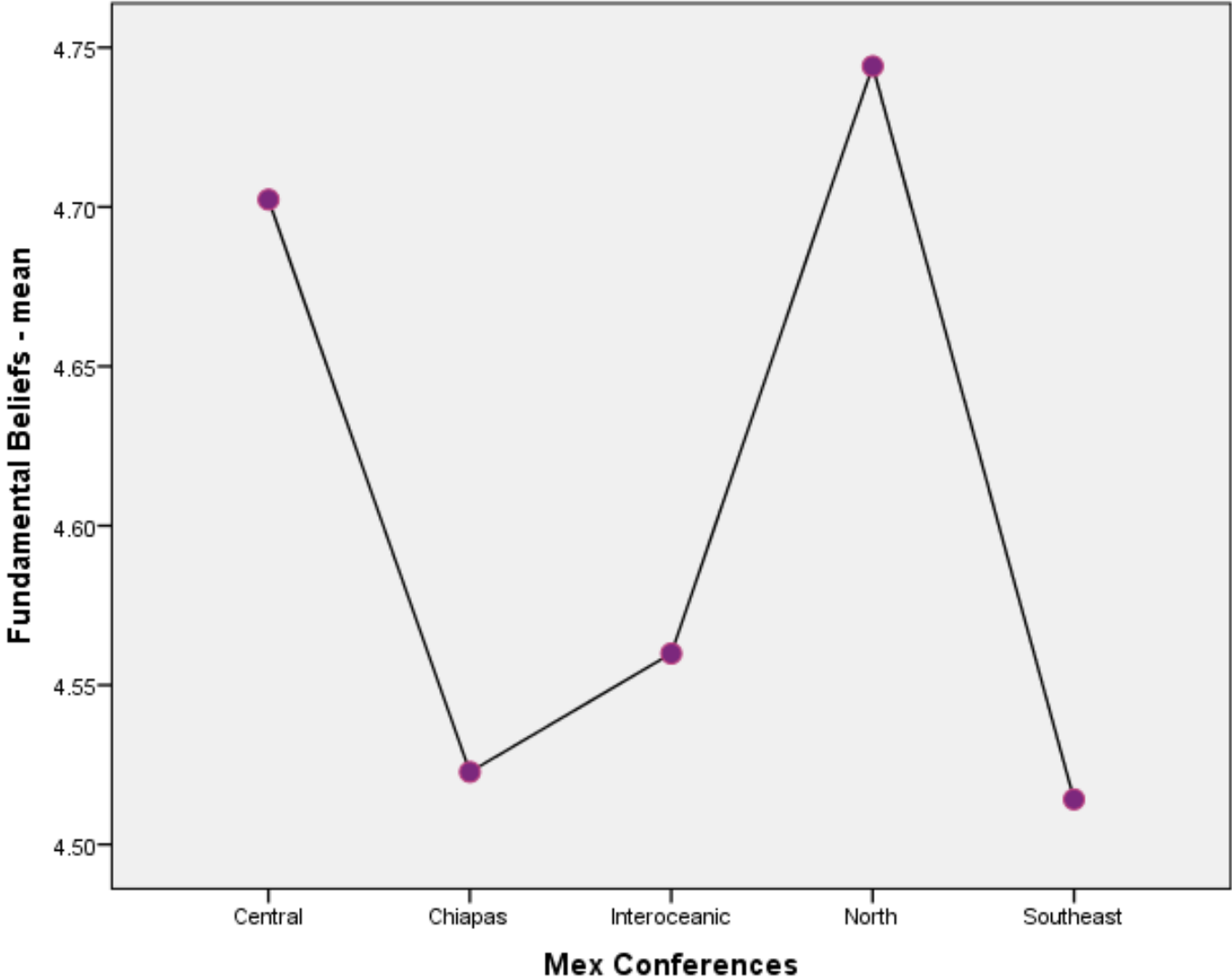
## Factor 1: Fundamental beliefs

### One Way Anova

F-statistic: 18.71 on 4 and 2172 DF, p-value: 3.938e-15

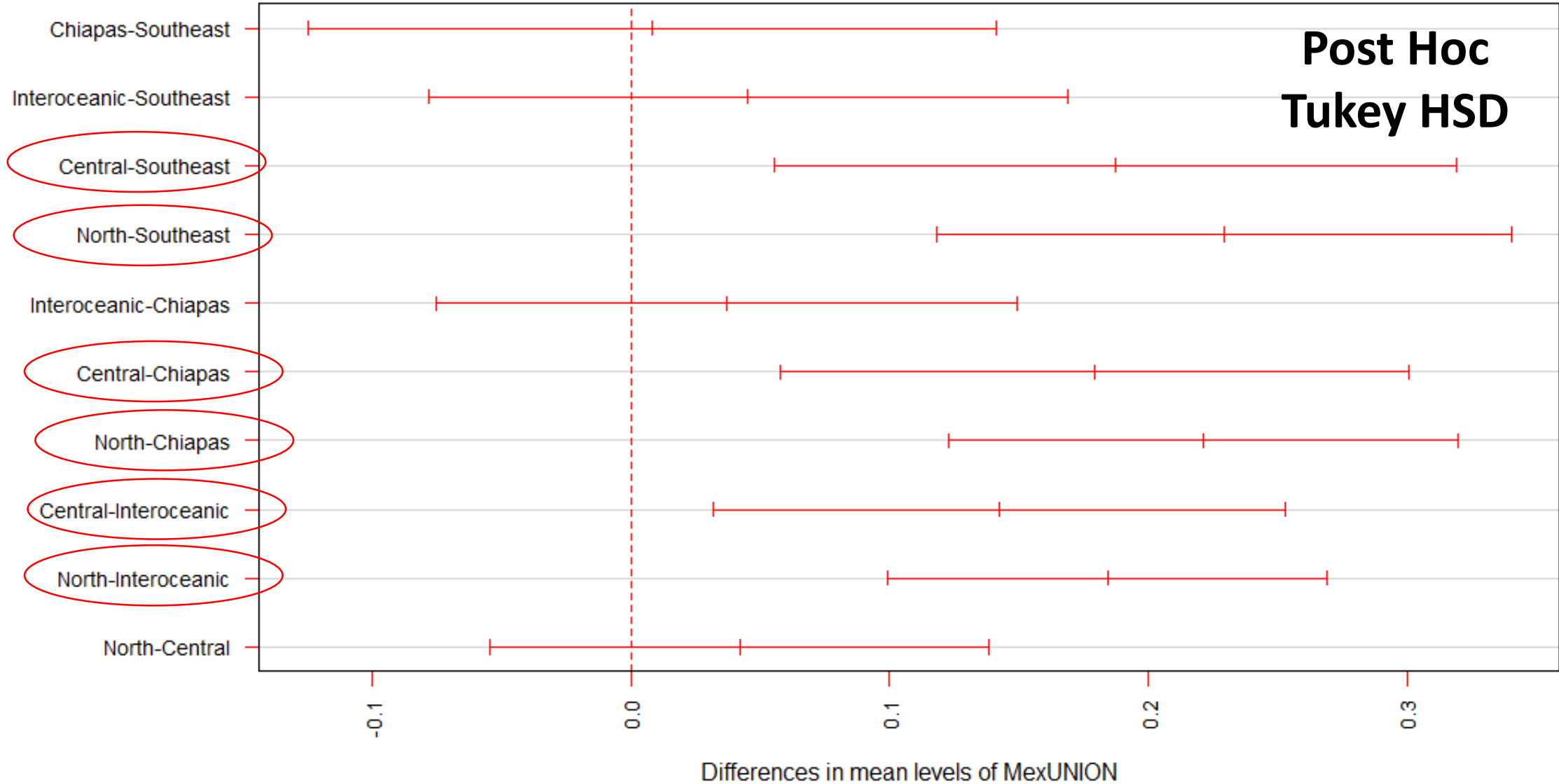


# Factor 1: Fundamental beliefs



# Factor 1: Fundamental beliefs

95% family-wise confidence level



# MI DIOS

*Es el Dios de lo Im*

## Factor 3

### Spiritual implications



# Q41

**Factor 3: Spiritual implications.** “Behaviors and beliefs of church members opposite to fundamental beliefs of SDA church”

Spiritual implications



## Q41: Fundamental beliefs

**Factor 3: Spiritual implications.** “Behaviors and beliefs of church members opposite to fundamental beliefs of SDA church”.

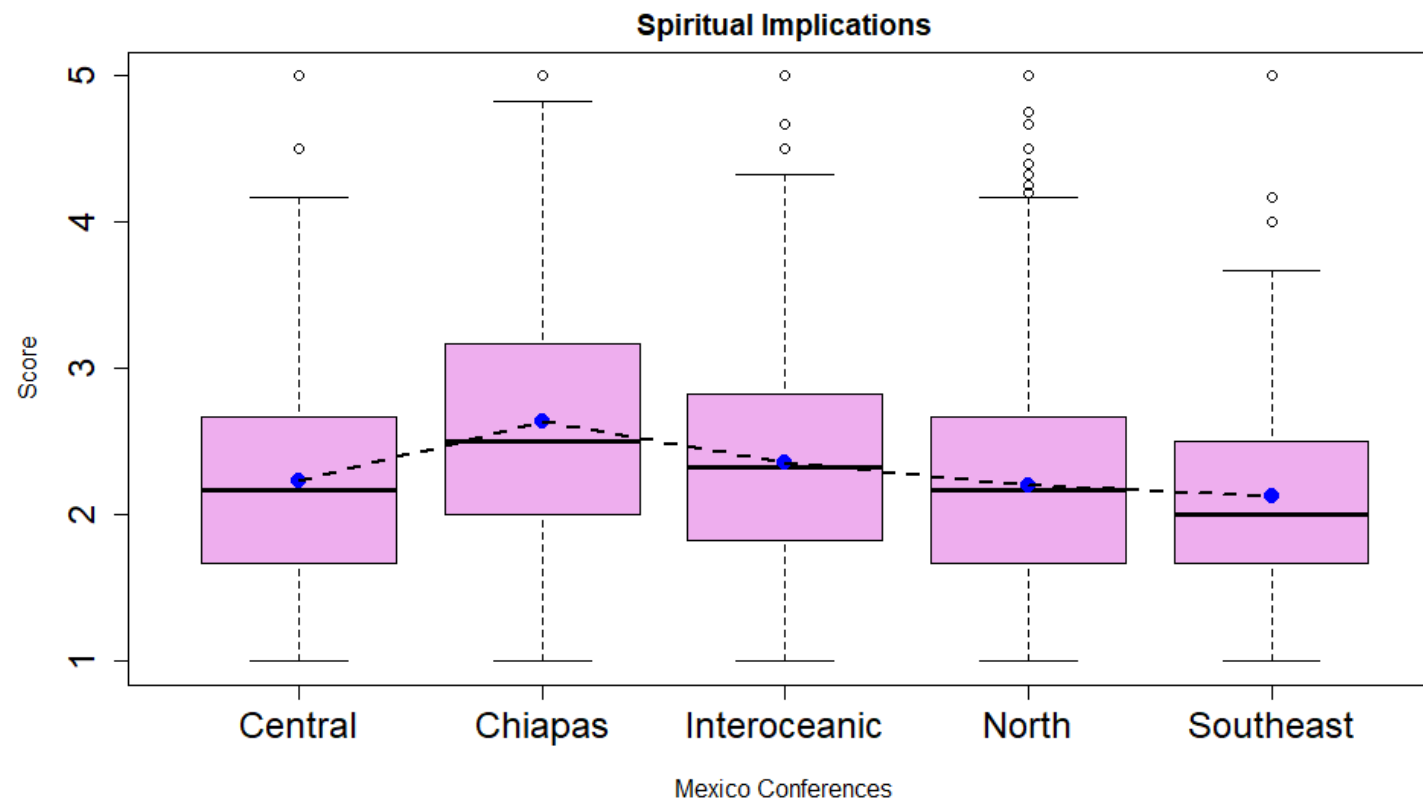
Items 3, 7, 10, 18, 20, 23.

3	The soul is a separate, spiritual part of a person and lives on after death.
7	I will not get to heaven unless I obey God’s law perfectly.
10	Christians may go to witch doctors or spiritual healers for protection or healing.
18	People who have died believing in Christ are in heaven right now.
20	If I am to be saved, I need to be baptized into the Seventh-day Adventist church.
23	The dead have powers to communicate with and influence the living.

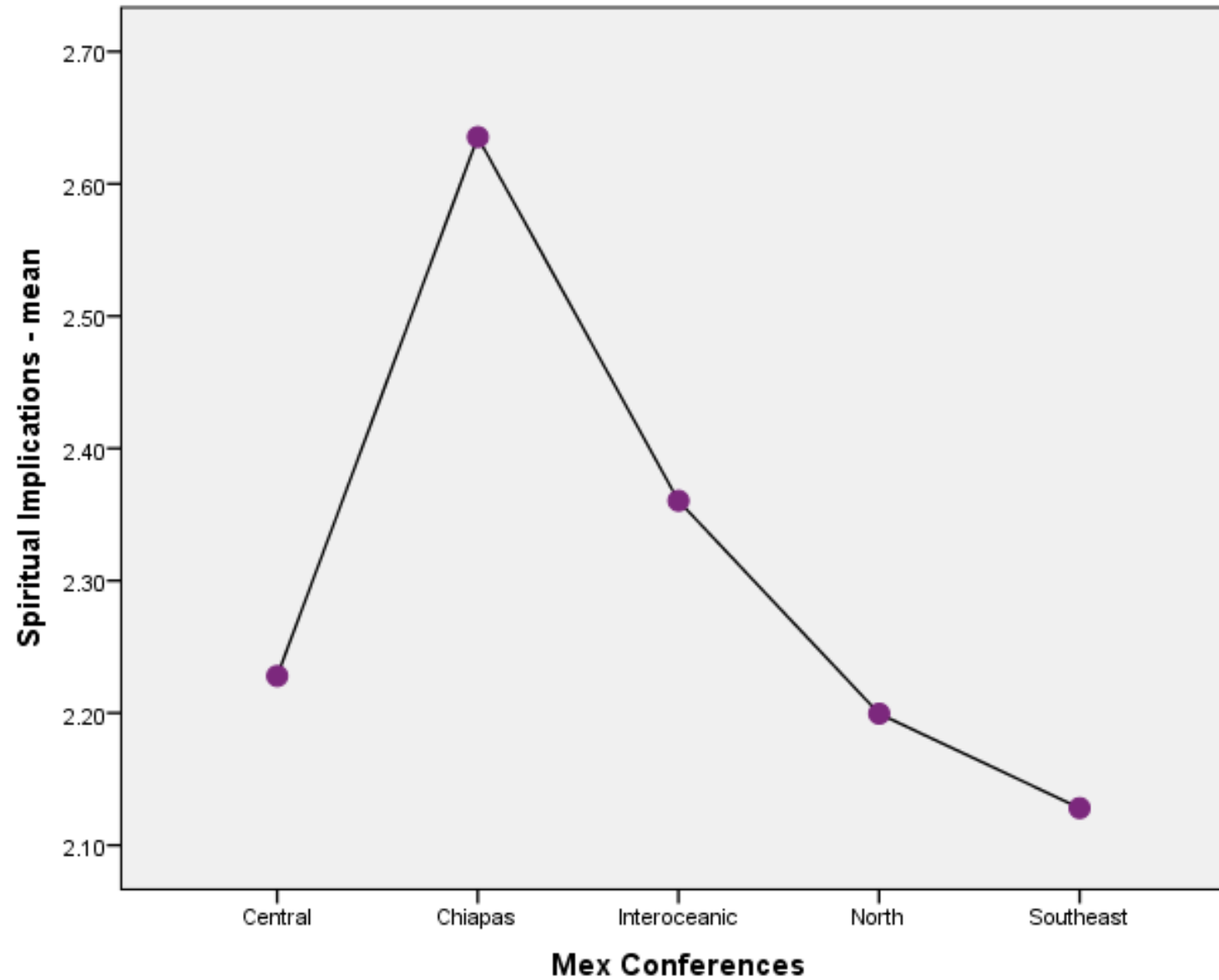
## Factor 3: Spiritual implications.

### One Way Anova

F-statistic: 19.11 on 4 and 2154 DF, p-value: 1.859e-15



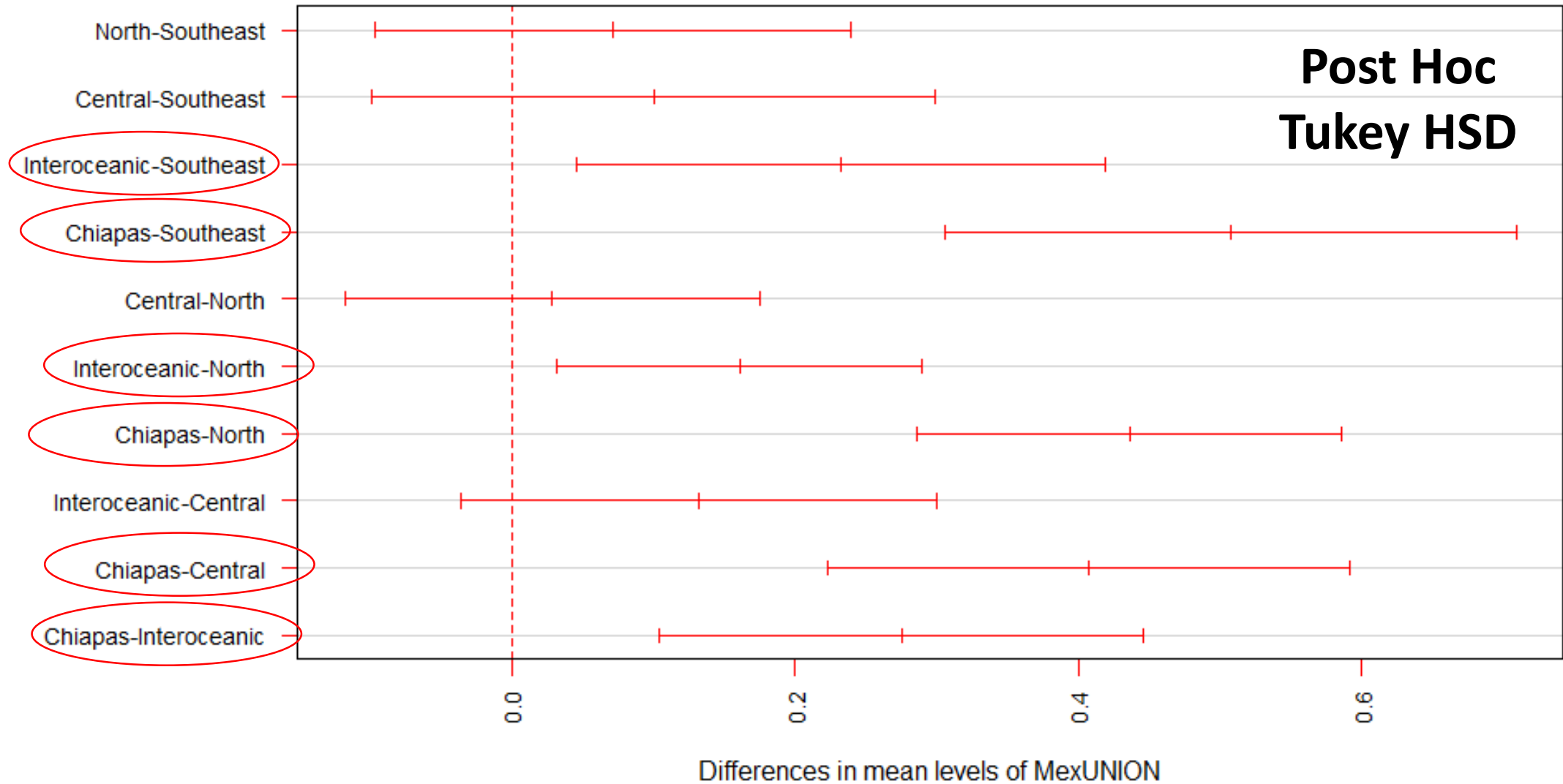
### Factor 3: Spiritual implications.





### Factor 3: Spiritual implications.

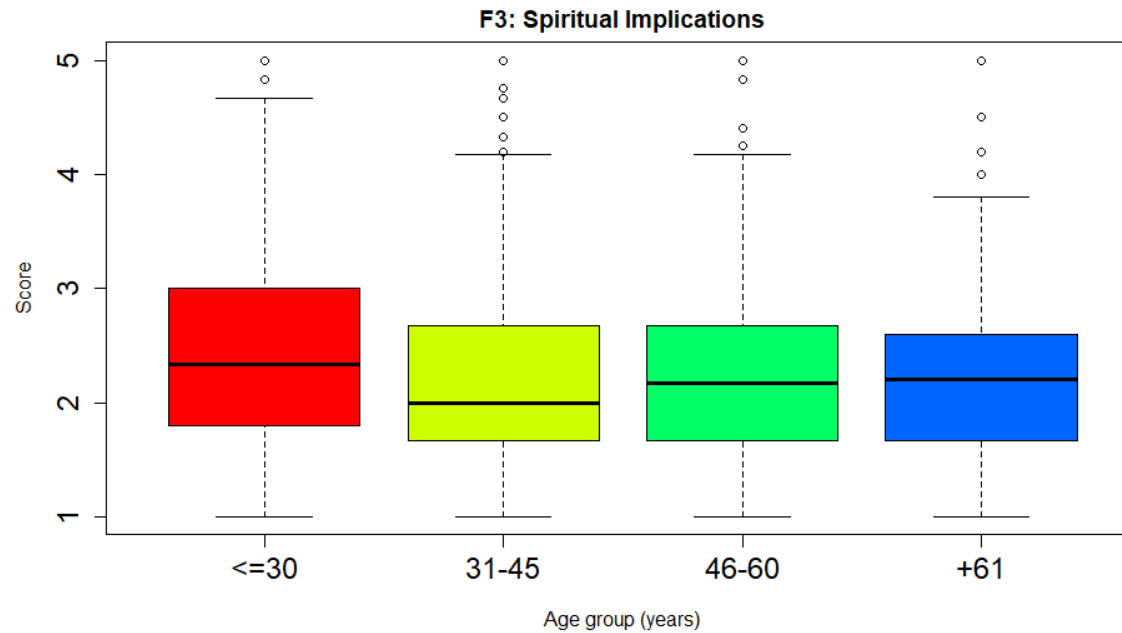
95% family-wise confidence level



# Factor 3: Spiritual implications ~ Age groups

## One Way Anova

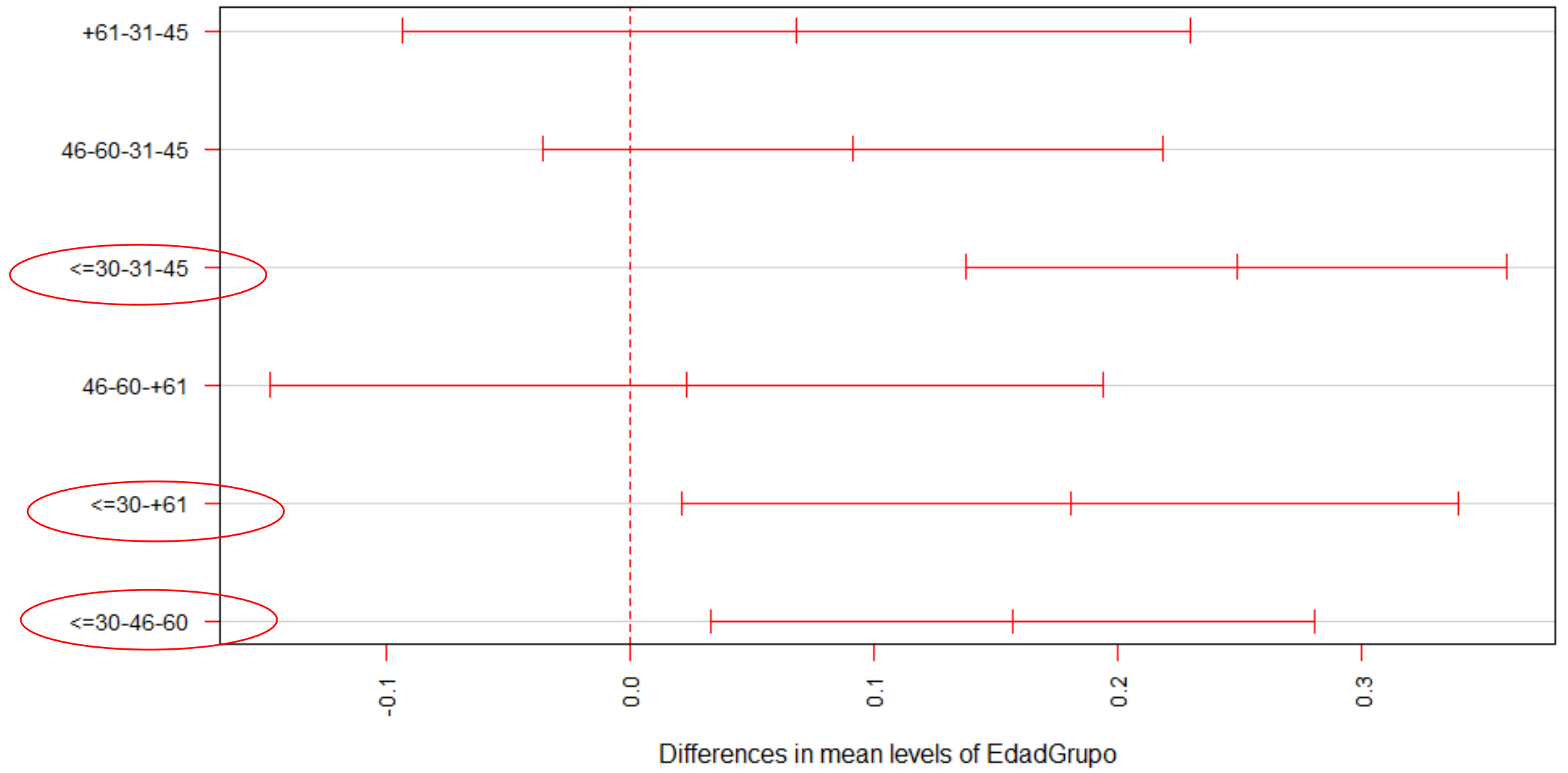
F-statistic: 11.74 on 3 and 2086 DF, p-value: 1.25e-07



### Factor 3: Spiritual implications ~ Age groups

Spiritual implications. "Behaviors and beliefs of church members opposite to fundamental beliefs of SDA church".

95% family-wise confidence level



## Regression Model

F-statistic: 31.09 on 3 and 2055 DF, p-value: < 2.2e-16

y: Response: Spiritual implications

Predictors:

- x1: Identity and mission (p-value= 0.0558)
- x2: Biblical foundations (p-value= 8.28e-08)
- x3: Training and communication (p-value= 2e-16)

$$y = 2.25628 - 0.06301 x1 - 0.12742 x2 + 0.210422 x3$$



**Thanks**

