

Canadian Religion in Global Perspective



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4 January 2022

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Introduction and Methodology

The goal of this report is to provide a concise high-quality descriptive portrait of key religiosity indicators in 81 countries from 2017-2020 European Values Survey (EVS) and World Values Survey (WVS) data, with a special focus on Canada. Between 2017-2020, the EVS and the WVS ran their 2017 and 7th waves respectively in 81 countries. Adults 18 years or older living in private residences in each country were selected using simple and multistage random sampling techniques (slight variation in sampling procedures between each country). These respondents were administered the master survey questionnaire face-to-face, over the phone or online. The survey questionnaire was administered in the language of choice of the respondent, for languages found among 5% or more of European national populations, and among 15% or more of other national populations. Table A.1 in Appendix A of this report contains the year of data collection, survey and sample size for each of the 81 countries included in the EVS 2017 and WVS7.

For the EVS 2017 and WVS7, a series of questions were asked on religious beliefs, behaviours and belonging, notably on the following key indicators included in this report: salience of religion in life, frequency of religious service attendance and prayer, belief in God and life after death, and religious affiliation. Canada took part in the 2020 WVS: a rare occasion for data collection on key religiosity indicators in the country, and to compare the Canadian situation with many other countries in a large cross-national dataset. A special thank you to the Canadian WVS principal investigator Guy Lachapelle from Concordia University and Léger for the Canadian WVS 2020 data collection.

Data used in the statistical analyses for this report are available via GESIS in the *Joint EVS/WVS 2017-2021 Dataset* (ZA7505):

<https://dbk.gesis.org/dbksearch/SDesc2.asp?ll=10¬abs=1&af=&nf=&search=&search2=&db=E&no=7505>

All statistics in this report have been weighted using the gwght variable to be more representative of general populations in each country. If you have any questions, comments or spot any errors, please email the author: sarah.wilkins-laflamme@uwaterloo.ca

To cite this report:

Wilkins-Laflamme, Sarah. 2022. *Canadian Religion in Global Perspective*. UWSpace.

<http://hdl.handle.net/10012/17849>

1. Salience of Religion in Life

- In the WVS7, respondents were asked to “indicate how important it [religion] is in your life. Would you say it is not at all important (1), not very important (2), rather important (3) or very important (4)?” The wording was only slightly different in the EVS 2017: “Please say how important it [religion] is in your life: not at all important (1), not important (2), quite important (3), very important (4).”
- This variable was coded so that higher values represent higher salience of religion in life. Country averages were then calculated, higher means representing higher salience on average in a country population.
- Across the 81 countries, averages range between 1.732 in China for the lowest mean salience of religion, to 3.979 in Indonesia for the highest mean salience of religion.
- The Canadian average is 2.148, closest to the ‘not very important’ category.
- The Canadian average is similar to those in France, Finland, Hong Kong and Switzerland.
- Canada ranks 69th out of the 81 countries for this indicator, in the lowest quartile of countries when it comes to salience of religion in life.
- Within Canada, the regional breakdown of averages is as follows for the regions included in the Canadian WVS 2020 sample:
 - Maritimes = 2.287
 - Quebec = 1.869 (least salient)
 - Ontario = 2.227
 - Alberta = 2.318 (most salient)
 - British Columbia = 2.110

Table 1: Average salience of religion in life (1 = religion not at all important in life; 4 = religion very important in life), European and World Value Surveys 2017-2020, 81 countries

Country	Mean	Ranking (first rank = highest average salience; eighty-first rank = lowest average salience)	Country	Mean	Ranking (first rank = highest average salience; eighty-first rank = lowest average salience)	Country	Mean	Ranking (first rank = highest average salience; eighty-first rank = lowest average salience)
Albania	2.869	39	Georgia	3.632	13	N. Macedonia	3.320	26
Andorra	2.035	74	Germany	2.253	63	Norway	2.267	61
Argentina	2.724	44	Great Britain	2.255	62	Pakistan	3.852	10
Armenia	3.167	34	Greece	3.305	27	Peru	3.194	33
Australia	2.019	75	Guatemala	3.288	28	Philippines	3.862	8
Austria	2.338	58	Hong Kong	2.142	70	Poland	3.095	37
Azerbaijan	2.635	48	Hungary	2.414	56	Portugal	2.687	47
Bangladesh	3.932	4	Iceland	2.313	59	Puerto Rico	3.480	18
Belarus	2.576	52	Indonesia	3.979	1	Romania	3.233	32
Bolivia	3.404	22	Iran	3.591	15	Russia	2.510	54
Bosnia and Herzegovina	3.159	35	Iraq	3.833	11	Serbia	2.864	40
Brazil	3.254	30	Italy	2.812	43	Singapore	2.901	38
Bulgaria	2.702	46	Japan	1.744	80	Slovakia	2.596	51
Canada	2.148	69	Jordan	3.943	3	Slovenia	2.231	65
Chile	2.614	49	Kazakhstan	2.862	41	South Korea	2.298	60
China	1.732	81	Kyrgyzstan	3.373	23	Spain	2.246	64
Colombia	3.332	24	Lebanon	3.538	16	Sweden	2.081	73
Croatia	2.713	45	Lithuania	2.431	55	Switzerland	2.110	71
Cyprus	3.273	29	Macau SAR	2.190	66	Taiwan	2.576	52
Czechia	1.791	79	Malaysia	3.619	14	Tajikistan	3.525	17
Denmark	1.908	78	Mexico	3.146	36	Thailand	3.242	31
Ecuador	3.320	25	Montenegro	3.449	21	Tunisia	3.891	7
Egypt	3.973	2	Myanmar	3.788	12	Turkey	3.477	19
Estonia	1.924	77	Netherlands	2.096	72	Ukraine	2.605	50
Ethiopia	3.926	5	New Zealand	1.967	76	United States	2.820	42
Finland	2.168	67	Nicaragua	3.465	20	Vietnam	2.363	57
France	2.154	68	Nigeria	3.918	6	Zimbabwe	3.858	9

2. Frequency of Religious Service Attendance

- In the WVS7, respondents were asked “Apart from weddings and funerals, about how often do you attend religious services these days? More than once a week; once a week; once a month; only on special holy days; once a year; less often; never, practically never.” Once again, the wording of the survey question in the EVS 2017 was only slightly different: “Apart from weddings, funerals and christenings, about how often do you attend religious services these days? More than once a week; once a week; once a month; only on special holy days; once a year; less often; never, practically never.”
- All respondents who attend religious services once a month or more often were grouped together for the analyses in this report.
- A reminder that not all religious traditions require frequent attendance at religious services, or may only require it of certain populations.
- Across the 81 countries, monthly or more frequent religious service attendance ranges from a low of 2.8% of respondents in China to a high of 93% of respondents in Ethiopia.
- Sixteen percent of Canadian respondents say they attend religious services at least once a month.
- This Canadian rate is similar to those in Great Britain, Hong Kong, the Netherlands and Switzerland.
- Canada ranks 65th out of the 81 countries for this indicator, in the lowest quartile of countries when it comes to monthly or more frequent religious service attendance.
- Within Canada, the regional breakdown of rates is as follows for the regions included in the Canadian WVS 2020 sample:
 - o Maritimes = 17.6%
 - o Quebec = 9.4% (lowest rate)
 - o Ontario = 18%
 - o Alberta = 22.4% (highest rate)
 - o British Columbia = 15.7%

Table 2: Rate (in %) of monthly or more frequent religious service attendance, European and World Value Surveys 2017-2020, 81 countries

Country	%	Ranking (first rank = highest rate; eighty-first rank = lowest rate)	Country	%	Ranking (first rank = highest rate; eighty-first rank = lowest rate)	Country	%	Ranking (first rank = highest rate; eighty-first rank = lowest rate)
Albania	14.9%	69	Georgia	33.8%	44	N. Macedonia	41.2%	34
Andorra	16.1%	68	Germany	19.3%	56	Norway	11.9%	73
Argentina	36.0%	41	Great Britain	16.7%	63	Pakistan	61.7%	9
Armenia	43.7%	28	Greece	44.9%	25	Peru	57.2%	16
Australia	17.6%	57	Guatemala	63.6%	8	Philippines	81.8%	4
Austria	26.9%	49	Hong Kong	16.2%	67	Poland	65.0%	7
Azerbaijan	14.3%	70	Hungary	17.4%	59	Portugal	29.9%	47
Bangladesh	54.3%	18	Iceland	8.5%	78	Puerto Rico	54.2%	19
Belarus	20.2%	55	Indonesia	77.9%	5	Romania	46.3%	23
Bolivia	65.2%	6	Iran	43.4%	30	Russia	16.9%	61
Bosnia and Herzegovina	44.1%	26	Iraq	45.1%	24	Serbia	20.6%	54
Brazil	60.2%	13	Italy	41.6%	33	Singapore	43.0%	31
Bulgaria	17.5%	58	Japan	12.4%	72	Slovakia	36.3%	40
Canada	16.4%	65	Jordan	56.7%	17	Slovenia	23.9%	50
Chile	31.3%	45	Kazakhstan	34.7%	42	South Korea	22.8%	52
China	2.8%	81	Kyrgyzstan	39.4%	36	Spain	23.2%	51
Colombia	58.3%	15	Lebanon	53.6%	21	Sweden	9.7%	75
Croatia	33.9%	43	Lithuania	30.3%	46	Switzerland	16.3%	66
Cyprus	51.7%	22	Macau SAR	9.5%	76	Taiwan	21.7%	53
Czechia	9.0%	77	Malaysia	60.3%	12	Tajikistan	40.7%	35
Denmark	6.5%	80	Mexico	60.7%	11	Thailand	38.1%	38
Ecuador	61.5%	10	Montenegro	37.4%	39	Tunisia	44.0%	27
Egypt	59.0%	14	Myanmar	43.5%	29	Turkey	42.1%	32
Estonia	8.0%	79	Netherlands	16.5%	64	Ukraine	29.7%	48
Ethiopia	93.0%	1	New Zealand	16.8%	62	United States	39.1%	37
Finland	11.2%	74	Nicaragua	54.2%	19	Vietnam	17.2%	60
France	12.4%	71	Nigeria	90.4%	2	Zimbabwe	84.8%	3

3. Belief in God

- Respondents in the WVS7 and EVS 2017 were asked “Which, if any, of the following do you believe in? God (yes/no).”
- Rates of respondents who answered ‘yes’ to belief in God range from a low of 17% in China to a high of 100% in Ethiopia.
- The Canadian rate of belief in God stands at 59%.
- This Canadian rate is similar to those in Australia, Finland, Iceland and Slovenia.
- Canada ranks 61st out of the 79 countries where this indicator was measured, in the lowest quartile of countries when it comes to belief in God.
- Within Canada, the regional breakdown of rates is as follows for the regions included in the Canadian WVS 2020 sample:
 - Maritimes = 65.3% (highest rate)
 - Quebec = 49.5% (lowest rate)
 - Ontario = 61.4%
 - Alberta = 64.7%
 - British Columbia = 54.3%

Table 3: Rate (in %) of belief in God, European and World Value Surveys 2017-2020, 79 countries

Country	%	Ranking (first rank = highest rate; seventy-ninth rank = lowest rate)	Country	%	Ranking (first rank = highest rate; seventy-ninth rank = lowest rate)	Country	%	Ranking (first rank = highest rate; seventy-ninth rank = lowest rate)
Albania	97.1%	20	Georgia	98.7%	12	N. Macedonia	92.5%	36
Andorra	64.1%	57	Germany	61.7%	58	Norway	47.3%	71
Argentina	93.4%	34	Great Britain	48.4%	70	Pakistan	98.6%	13
Armenia	92.0%	38	Greece	93.7%	33	Peru	98.2%	15
Australia	56.8%	62	Guatemala	96.3%	25	Philippines	99.7%	6
Austria	73.7%	52	Hong Kong	53.0%	67	Poland	93.4%	34
Azerbaijan	98.5%	14	Hungary	71.0%	54	Portugal	84.9%	42
Bangladesh	99.8%	3	Iceland	61.2%	59	Puerto Rico	96.9%	22
Belarus	80.6%	49	Indonesia	97.0%	21	Romania	96.6%	23
Bolivia	97.8%	17	Iran	99.3%	9	Russia	80.8%	48
Bosnia and Herzegovina	96.0%	27	Italy	84.4%	44	Serbia	85.5%	40
Brazil	97.4%	18	Japan	54.8%	65	Singapore	80.6%	49
Bulgaria	79.4%	51	Jordan	99.7%	6	Slovakia	72.8%	53
Canada	58.5%	61	Kazakhstan	94.4%	32	Slovenia	60.9%	60
Chile	86.3%	39	Kyrgyzstan	97.2%	19	South Korea	40.6%	76
China	17.0%	79	Lebanon	99.6%	8	Spain	68.0%	55
Colombia	96.4%	24	Lithuania	84.8%	43	Sweden	36.1%	78
Croatia	85.3%	41	Macau SAR	41.6%	75	Switzerland	67.2%	56
Cyprus	95.6%	29	Malaysia	95.2%	31	Taiwan	82.5%	46
Czechia	38.4%	77	Mexico	95.9%	28	Tajikistan	99.9%	1
Denmark	50.8%	68	Montenegro	96.1%	26	Thailand	46.0%	72
Ecuador	97.9%	16	Myanmar	98.9%	10	Tunisia	99.8%	3
Estonia	45.7%	73	Netherlands	43.7%	74	Turkey	95.3%	30
Ethiopia	99.9%	1	New Zealand	56.6%	64	Ukraine	83.9%	45
Finland	56.7%	63	Nicaragua	92.2%	37	United States	82.1%	47
France	53.7%	66	Nigeria	98.9%	10	Vietnam	48.5%	69
						Zimbabwe	99.8%	3

The survey question about belief in God was not asked in Egypt nor in Iraq.

4. Belief in Life After Death

- Respondents in the WVS7 and EVS 2017 were asked “Which, if any, of the following do you believe in? Life after death (yes/no).”
- Rates of respondents who answered ‘yes’ to belief in life after death range from a low of 12% in China to a high of 99% in Bangladesh.
- The Canadian rate of belief in life after death stands at 57%.
- This Canadian rate is similar to those in Australia, Austria, Taiwan and Thailand.
- Canada ranks 44th out of the 79 countries where this indicator was measured, in the third quartile of countries when it comes to belief in life after death.
- Within Canada, the regional breakdown of rates is as follows for the regions included in the Canadian WVS 2020 sample:
 - Maritimes = 59.9%
 - Quebec = 51.3% (lowest rate)
 - Ontario = 58.9%
 - Alberta = 62.9% (highest rate)
 - British Columbia = 51.3% (lowest rate)

Table 4: Rate (in %) of belief in life after death, European and World Value Surveys 2017-2020, 79 countries

Country	%	Ranking (first rank = highest rate; seventy-ninth rank = lowest rate)	Country	%	Ranking (first rank = highest rate; seventy-ninth rank = lowest rate)	Country	%	Ranking (first rank = highest rate; seventy-ninth rank = lowest rate)
Albania	28.2%	77	Georgia	59.4%	40	N. Macedonia	60.7%	38
Andorra	45.0%	59	Germany	45.9%	58	Norway	42.0%	63
Argentina	63.5%	33	Great Britain	42.2%	62	Pakistan	91.0%	7
Armenia	47.7%	52	Greece	53.7%	47	Peru	73.5%	19
Australia	55.3%	45	Guatemala	80.6%	14	Philippines	84.1%	10
Austria	57.5%	42	Hong Kong	40.6%	67	Poland	72.9%	21
Azerbaijan	72.2%	22	Hungary	46.1%	56	Portugal	40.1%	68
Bangladesh	98.9%	1	Iceland	63.3%	34	Puerto Rico	71.4%	24
Belarus	46.1%	55	Indonesia	73.6%	18	Romania	71.0%	25
Bolivia	74.9%	17	Iran	92.1%	5	Russia	47.0%	53
Bosnia and Herzegovina	73.3%	20	Italy	62.5%	35	Serbia	39.0%	70
Brazil	63.7%	32	Japan	48.1%	51	Singapore	69.8%	29
Bulgaria	34.3%	73	Jordan	92.6%	3	Slovakia	54.4%	46
Canada	56.9%	44	Kazakhstan	61.2%	37	Slovenia	39.8%	69
Chile	68.2%	30	Lebanon	86.2%	8	South Korea	33.7%	75
China	11.6%	79	Lithuania	70.7%	26	Spain	43.6%	60
Colombia	61.6%	36	Macau SAR	30.1%	76	Sweden	41.4%	65
Croatia	60.1%	39	Malaysia	81.9%	13	Switzerland	53.2%	49
Cyprus	67.6%	31	Mexico	71.7%	23	Taiwan	57.3%	43
Czechia	38.7%	71	Montenegro	42.0%	63	Tajikistan	76.3%	16
Denmark	40.8%	66	Myanmar	84.5%	9	Thailand	57.9%	41
Ecuador	70.3%	28	Netherlands	43.3%	61	Tunisia	91.9%	6
Egypt	92.5%	4	New Zealand	52.2%	50	Turkey	93.9%	2
Estonia	46.0%	57	Nicaragua	25.6%	78	Ukraine	53.5%	48
Ethiopia	83.4%	11	Nigeria	83.2%	12	United States	70.6%	27
Finland	38.6%	72				Vietnam	34.1%	74
France	46.4%	54				Zimbabwe	79.1%	15

The survey question on belief in life after death was not asked in Iraq nor in Kyrgyzstan.

5. Frequency of Prayer

- Respondents in the WVS7 were asked “Apart from weddings and funerals, about how often do you pray? Several times a day; once a day; several times each week; only when attending religious services; only on special holy days; once a year; less often; never, practically never.” The wording of this survey question is somewhat different in the EVS 2017: “How often do you pray outside of religious services? Would you say... Every day; more than once a week; once a week; at least once a month; several times a year; less often; never?”
- For the analyses in this report, all respondents who answered once a week or more often were grouped into one category.
- Rates of respondents who pray outside of religious services once a week or more often range from a low of 1% in China to a high of 98% in Nigeria.
- Thirty-six percent of Canadian respondents say they pray several times a week or more often.
- This Canadian rate is similar to those in Kazakhstan, Lithuania, Russia and Taiwan.
- Canada ranks 50th out of the 81 countries for this indicator, in the third quartile of countries when it comes to weekly or more frequent prayer.
- Within Canada, the regional breakdown of rates is as follows for the regions included in the Canadian WVS 2020 sample:
 - Maritimes = 40.1%
 - Quebec = 29.8% (lowest rate)
 - Ontario = 36.3%
 - Alberta = 42.2% (highest rate)
 - British Columbia = 31.6%

Table 5: Rate (in %) of weekly or more frequent prayer, European and World Value Surveys 2017-2020, 81 countries

Country	%	Ranking (first rank = highest rate; eighty-first rank = lowest rate)	Country	%	Ranking (first rank = highest rate; eighty-first rank = lowest rate)	Country	%	Ranking (first rank = highest rate; eighty-first rank = lowest rate)
Albania	80.0%	18	Georgia	73.0%	27	N. Macedonia	55.9%	40
Andorra	27.5%	64	Germany	29.5%	61	Norway	19.7%	72
Argentina	54.0%	42	Great Britain	26.1%	66	Pakistan	90.5%	7
Armenia	71.1%	30	Greece	67.4%	34	Peru	66.9%	35
Australia	28.9%	63	Guatemala	73.3%	26	Philippines	92.4%	6
Austria	33.1%	54	Hong Kong	18.7%	74	Poland	67.8%	32
Azerbaijan	78.0%	22	Hungary	32.8%	57	Portugal	41.4%	46
Bangladesh	78.1%	21	Iceland	25.7%	67	Puerto Rico	86.8%	10
Belarus	29.4%	62	Indonesia	95.6%	3	Romania	81.2%	16
Bolivia	82.9%	14	Iran	81.0%	17	Russia	34.6%	52
Bosnia and Herzegovina	57.5%	38	Iraq	85.9%	11	Serbia	31.8%	59
Brazil	78.5%	20	Italy	49.9%	44	Singapore	54.2%	41
Bulgaria	33.1%	54	Japan	25.1%	69	Slovakia	43.5%	45
Canada	35.5%	50	Jordan	87.5%	9	Slovenia	24.7%	70
Chile	38.0%	48	Kazakhstan	37.6%	49	South Korea	19.0%	73
China	0.9%	81	Kyrgyzstan	68.9%	31	Spain	32.9%	56
Colombia	87.9%	8	Lebanon	81.8%	15	Sweden	15.6%	78
Croatia	56.4%	39	Lithuania	33.3%	53	Switzerland	32.1%	58
Cyprus	72.1%	28	Macau SAR	15.8%	76	Taiwan	34.8%	51
Czechia	15.7%	77	Malaysia	79.7%	19	Tajikistan	67.6%	32
Denmark	13.5%	79	Mexico	71.9%	29	Thailand	41.4%	46
Ecuador	83.0%	13	Montenegro	59.9%	37	Tunisia	77.4%	23
Egypt	97.2%	2	Myanmar	83.3%	12	Turkey	74.5%	25
Estonia	17.0%	75	Netherlands	25.5%	68	Ukraine	53.1%	43
Ethiopia	94.9%	4	New Zealand	29.6%	60	United States	62.9%	36
Finland	27.2%	65	Nicaragua	76.3%	24	Vietnam	11.6%	80
France	21.6%	71	Nigeria	98.4%	1	Zimbabwe	94.2%	5

6. Christian Affiliation

- Respondents in the WVS7 were asked “Do you belong to a religion or religious denomination? If yes, which one?” In the EVS 2017, religious affiliation was asked as two questions: “Do you belong to a religious denomination? (yes/no)”; and for those who answer ‘yes’: “Which one?”
- Christian, Muslim and no religion represent the three largest affiliation groups in the WVS7 and EVS 2017.
- For Christian affiliation, this report groups together all respondents who self-identify as Roman Catholic, Orthodox Christian, of a Protestant tradition or denomination, or of another Christian tradition or denomination.
- Rates of Christian affiliation among respondents range from a low of 0% in Bangladesh, Pakistan, Tajikistan, and Turkey, to a high of 96% in Romania.
- Forty-six percent of Canadian respondents affiliate with a Christian denomination or tradition.
- This Canadian rate is similar to those in Bosnia and Herzegovina, Hungary, New Zealand and the United States.
- Canada ranks 46th out of the 81 countries, in the third quartile of countries when it comes to Christian affiliation.
- Within Canada, the regional breakdown of rates is as follows for the regions included in the Canadian WVS 2020 sample:
 - Maritimes = 53.2%
 - Quebec = 56.3% (highest rate)
 - Ontario = 44.3%
 - Alberta = 43.9%
 - British Columbia = 32% (lowest rate)

Table 6: Rate (in %) affiliated with a Christian denomination/tradition, European and World Value Surveys 2017-2020, 81 countries

Country	%	Ranking (first rank = highest rate; seventy-eighth rank = lowest rate)	Country	%	Ranking (first rank = highest rate; seventy-eighth rank = lowest rate)	Country	%	Ranking (first rank = highest rate; seventy-eighth rank = lowest rate)
Albania	16.3%	61	Georgia	83.9%	10	N. Macedonia	60.1%	36
Andorra	66.7%	28	Germany	57.9%	39	Norway	60.5%	33
Argentina	72.5%	20	Great Britain	31.3%	53	Pakistan	0.0%	78
Armenia	89.3%	6	Greece	92.5%	3	Peru	93.4%	2
Australia	38.9%	50	Guatemala	86.6%	7	Philippines	91.6%	4
Austria	67.5%	26	Hong Kong	19.4%	59	Poland	90.1%	5
Azerbaijan	0.4%	74	Hungary	43.6%	47	Portugal	73.0%	18
Bangladesh	0.0%	78	Iceland	79.2%	13	Puerto Rico	58.3%	38
Belarus	64.6%	31	Indonesia	7.7%	64	Romania	95.9%	1
Bolivia	71.5%	23	Iran	0.1%	76	Russia	51.0%	43
Bosnia and Herzegovina	43.0%	48	Iraq	0.2%	75	Serbia	73.0%	19
Brazil	78.8%	14	Italy	75.8%	16	Singapore	23.5%	55
Bulgaria	60.4%	34	Japan	1.2%	73	Slovakia	70.0%	25
Canada	46.0%	46	Jordan	1.7%	72	Slovenia	60.1%	36
Chile	67.0%	27	Kazakhstan	19.9%	58	South Korea	21.9%	56
China	2.5%	69	Kyrgyzstan	7.1%	65	Spain	39.8%	49
Colombia	53.4%	42	Lebanon	38.8%	51	Sweden	60.2%	35
Croatia	80.3%	12	Lithuania	85.8%	9	Switzerland	65.7%	29
Cyprus	72.2%	21	Macau SAR	10.2%	63	Taiwan	6.1%	66
Czechia	20.7%	57	Malaysia	17.4%	60	Tajikistan	0.0%	78
Denmark	78.1%	15	Mexico	86.4%	8	Thailand	2.2%	71
Ecuador	63.4%	32	Montenegro	53.7%	41	Tunisia	0.1%	76
Egypt	3.1%	68	Myanmar	2.3%	70	Turkey	0.0%	78
Estonia	16.2%	62	Netherlands	31.0%	54	Ukraine	73.1%	17
Ethiopia	65.7%	29	New Zealand	47.3%	45	United States	48.5%	44
Finland	72.2%	21	Nicaragua	81.1%	11	Vietnam	5.1%	67
France	34.4%	52	Nigeria	54.3%	40	Zimbabwe	70.5%	24

7. Muslim Affiliation

- Respondents in the WVS7 were asked “Do you belong to a religion or religious denomination? If yes, which one?” In the EVS 2017, religious affiliation was asked as two questions: “Do you belong to a religious denomination? (yes/no)”; and for those who answer ‘yes’: “Which one?”
- Christian, Muslim and no religion represent the three largest affiliation groups in the WVS7 and EVS 2017.
- All respondents who self-identified with an Islamic tradition are considered Muslim for the purposes of this report.
- Muslim respondents range from a low of 0% in a number of Eastern European, South American and other countries, to a high of 100% in Iraq.
- Two percent of Canadian respondents affiliate with Islam.
- This Canadian rate is similar to those in Greece, Norway, Romania and Switzerland.
- Canada ranks 40th out of the 81 countries, in the second quartile of countries when it comes to Muslim affiliation.
- Within Canada, the regional breakdown of rates is as follows for the regions included in the Canadian WVS 2020 sample:
 - o Maritimes = 0.3% (lowest rate)
 - o Quebec = 1.9%
 - o Ontario = 3.1% (highest rate)
 - o Alberta = 2.1%
 - o British Columbia = 1.1%
- It is important to note here that national minorities are not always as well represented in these cross-national survey datasets.

Table 7: Rate (in %) affiliated with Islam, European and World Value Surveys 2017-2020, 81 countries

Country	%	Ranking (first rank = highest rate; sixty-first rank = lowest rate)	Country	%	Ranking (first rank = highest rate; sixty-first rank = lowest rate)	Country	%	Ranking (first rank = highest rate; sixty-first rank = lowest rate)
Albania	77.1%	13	Georgia	9.5%	26	N. Macedonia	31.6%	20
Andorra	1.1%	45	Germany	4.4%	32	Norway	2.0%	41
Argentina	0.0%	61	Great Britain	4.4%	32	Pakistan	98.5%	4
Armenia	0.0%	61	Greece	2.9%	37	Peru	0.0%	61
Australia	1.7%	43	Guatemala	0.1%	58	Philippines	5.7%	30
Austria	4.6%	31	Hong Kong	0.3%	54	Poland	0.0%	61
Azerbaijan	94.0%	9	Hungary	0.0%	61	Portugal	0.6%	53
Bangladesh	90.1%	10	Iceland	0.0%	61	Puerto Rico	0.0%	61
Belarus	0.0%	61	Indonesia	89.7%	11	Romania	2.3%	39
Bolivia	0.0%	61	Iran	97.8%	6	Russia	8.1%	27
Bosnia and Herzegovina	53.5%	17	Iraq	99.8%	1	Serbia	0.8%	48
Brazil	0.0%	61	Italy	0.8%	48	Singapore	13.7%	23
Bulgaria	13.3%	25	Japan	0.0%	61	Slovakia	0.0%	61
Canada	2.2%	40	Jordan	98.3%	5	Slovenia	3.3%	36
Chile	0.0%	61	Kazakhstan	70.7%	14	South Korea	0.0%	61
China	1.5%	44	Kyrgyzstan	86.5%	12	Spain	1.8%	42
Colombia	0.0%	61	Lebanon	60.8%	15	Sweden	1.0%	46
Croatia	0.3%	54	Lithuania	0.0%	61	Switzerland	2.9%	37
Cyprus	26.3%	21	Macau SAR	0.2%	57	Taiwan	0.0%	61
Czechia	0.1%	58	Malaysia	57.8%	16	Tajikistan	96.5%	8
Denmark	0.9%	47	Mexico	0.1%	58	Thailand	7.1%	28
Ecuador	0.0%	61	Montenegro	17.0%	22	Tunisia	98.7%	2
Egypt	96.9%	7	Myanmar	3.6%	34	Turkey	98.7%	2
Estonia	0.2%	56	Netherlands	3.4%	35	Ukraine	0.7%	51
Ethiopia	34.1%	19	New Zealand	0.7%	51	United States	0.8%	48
Finland	0.0%	61	Nicaragua	0.0%	61	Vietnam	0.0%	61
France	5.8%	29	Nigeria	45.4%	18	Zimbabwe	13.6%	24

8. No Religious Affiliation

- Respondents in the WVS7 were asked “Do you belong to a religion or religious denomination? If yes, which one?” In the EVS 2017, religious affiliation was asked as two questions: “Do you belong to a religious denomination? (yes/no)”; and for those who answer ‘yes’: “Which one?”
- Christian, Muslim and no religion represent the three largest affiliation groups in the WVS7 and EVS 2017.
- All those respondents who answered ‘no’ they do not belong to a religion or religious denomination are grouped together as having no religion for the purposes of this report.
- Rates of no religion range from a low of 0% of respondents in Bangladesh, Egypt, Indonesia, Iraq, Jordan, Lebanon, Pakistan and Thailand; to a high of 87% in China.
- Forty-four percent of Canadian respondents say they have no religion.
- This Canadian rate is similar to those in Columbia, New Zealand, Russia and the United States.
- Canada ranks 17th out of the 81 countries, in the top quartile of countries when it comes to religious non-affiliation.
- Within Canada, the regional breakdown of rates is as follows for the regions included in the Canadian WVS 2020 sample:
 - o Maritimes = 39.9%
 - o Quebec = 39.5% (lowest rate)
 - o Ontario = 42.5%
 - o Alberta = 46.4%
 - o British Columbia = 57.1% (highest rate)

Table 8: Rate (in %) with no religious affiliation, European and World Value Surveys 2017-2020, 81 countries

Country	%	Ranking (first rank = highest rate; seventy-fourth rank = lowest rate)	Country	%	Ranking (first rank = highest rate; seventy-fourth rank = lowest rate)	Country	%	Ranking (first rank = highest rate; seventy-fourth rank = lowest rate)
Albania	6.0%	58	Georgia	5.7%	59	N. Macedonia	8.0%	55
Andorra	30.1%	26	Germany	35.9%	23	Norway	36.0%	22
Argentina	17.3%	46	Great Britain	61.5%	10	Pakistan	0.0%	74
Armenia	9.6%	52	Greece	3.9%	61	Peru	2.8%	65
Australia	53.1%	13	Guatemala	12.7%	49	Philippines	2.7%	66
Austria	26.7%	32	Hong Kong	71.5%	5	Poland	9.2%	53
Azerbaijan	5.5%	60	Hungary	55.9%	12	Portugal	24.6%	35
Bangladesh	0.0%	74	Iceland	18.2%	44	Puerto Rico	21.0%	39
Belarus	34.8%	25	Indonesia	0.0%	74	Romania	3.8%	62
Bolivia	15.3%	47	Iran	2.2%	67	Russia	39.9%	18
Bosnia and Herzegovina	3.3%	64	Iraq	0.0%	74	Serbia	25.9%	34
Brazil	17.4%	45	Italy	22.6%	38	Singapore	23.5%	37
Bulgaria	26.0%	33	Japan	66.1%	7	Slovakia	29.6%	28
Canada	44.3%	17	Jordan	0.0%	74	Slovenia	35.8%	24
Chile	27.0%	30	Kazakhstan	8.7%	54	South Korea	64.0%	8
China	87.0%	1	Kyrgyzstan	6.1%	57	Spain	37.5%	20
Colombia	46.5%	15	Lebanon	0.0%	74	Sweden	38.6%	19
Croatia	19.0%	41	Lithuania	14.1%	48	Switzerland	30.0%	27
Cyprus	1.5%	69	Macau SAR	67.9%	6	Taiwan	21.0%	39
Czechia	76.8%	3	Malaysia	2.0%	68	Tajikistan	3.5%	63
Denmark	18.5%	43	Mexico	12.7%	49	Thailand	0.0%	74
Ecuador	36.1%	21	Montenegro	28.1%	29	Tunisia	1.1%	71
Egypt	0.0%	74	Myanmar	7.4%	56	Turkey	1.2%	70
Estonia	81.1%	2	Netherlands	62.4%	9	Ukraine	24.5%	36
Ethiopia	0.2%	72	New Zealand	48.3%	14	United States	45.5%	16
Finland	26.9%	31	Nicaragua	18.9%	42	Vietnam	72.1%	4
France	58.2%	11	Nigeria	0.2%	72	Zimbabwe	11.9%	51

Appendix A

Table A.1: Year of data collection, survey and sample size information by country, European and World Value Surveys 2017-2020, 81 countries

Country	Year of data collection	Survey	Number of respondents	Country	Year of data collection	Survey	Number of respondents	Country	Year of data collection	Survey	Number of respondents
Albania	2018	EVS	1,435	Georgia	2018	EVS	2,194	N. Macedonia	2019	EVS	1,117
Andorra	2018	WVS	1,004	Germany	2017	EVS	3,698	Norway	2018	EVS	1,122
Argentina	2017	WVS	1,003	Great Britain	2018	EVS	1,788	Pakistan	2018	WVS	1,995
Armenia	2018	EVS	1,500	Greece	2017	WVS	1,200	Peru	2018	WVS	1,400
Australia	2018	WVS	1,813	Guatemala	2020	WVS	1,203	Philippines	2019	WVS	1,200
Austria	2018	EVS	1,644	Hong Kong	2018	WVS	2,075	Poland	2017	EVS	1,352
Azerbaijan	2018	EVS	1,800	Hungary	2018	EVS	1,514	Portugal	2020	EVS	1,215
Bangladesh	2018	WVS	1,200	Iceland	2017	EVS	1,624	Puerto Rico	2018	WVS	1,127
Belarus	2018	EVS	1,548	Indonesia	2018	WVS	3,200	Romania	2018	EVS & WVS	2,870
Bolivia	2017	WVS	2,067	Iran	2020	WVS	1,499	Russia	2017	EVS & WVS	3,635
Bosnia and Herzegovina	2019	EVS	1,724	Iraq	2018	WVS	1,200	Serbia	2017	EVS & WVS	2,545
Brazil	2018	WVS	1,762	Italy	2018	EVS	2,277	Singapore	2020	WVS	2,012
Bulgaria	2017	EVS	1,558	Japan	2019	WVS	1,353	Slovakia	2017	EVS	1,432
Canada	2020	WVS	4,018	Jordan	2018	WVS	1,203	Slovenia	2017	EVS	1,075
Chile	2018	WVS	1,000	Kazakhstan	2018	WVS	1,276	South Korea	2018	WVS	1,245
China	2018	WVS	3,036	Kyrgyzstan	2020	WVS	1,200	Spain	2017	EVS	1,209
Colombia	2018	WVS	1,520	Lebanon	2018	WVS	1,200	Sweden	2017	EVS	1,194
Croatia	2017	EVS	1,487	Lithuania	2018	EVS	1,448	Switzerland	2017	EVS	3,174
Cyprus	2019	WVS	1,000	Macau SAR	2020	WVS	1,023	Taiwan	2019	WVS	1,223
Czechia	2017	EVS	1,811	Malaysia	2018	WVS	1,313	Tajikistan	2020	WVS	1,200
Denmark	2017	EVS	3,362	Mexico	2018	WVS	1,739	Thailand	2018	WVS	1,500
Ecuador	2018	WVS	1,200	Montenegro	2019	EVS	1,003	Tunisia	2019	WVS	1,208
Egypt	2018	WVS	1,200	Myanmar	2020	WVS	1,200	Turkey	2018	WVS	2,415
Estonia	2018	EVS	1,304	Netherlands	2017	EVS	2,404	Ukraine	2020	EVS & WVS	2,901
Ethiopia	2020	WVS	1,230	New Zealand	2020	WVS	1,057	United States	2017	WVS	2,596
Finland	2017	EVS	1,199	Nicaragua	2020	WVS	1,200	Vietnam	2020	WVS	1,200
France	2018	EVS	1,870	Nigeria	2018	WVS	1,237	Zimbabwe	2020	WVS	1,215