Religion for the Common Good

Canada and the United States in 2025

Ray Pennings and Lynn E. Swaner | November 2025

Key Points

- In partnership with the Angus Reid Institute, Cardus fielded a survey on religiosity with 10,000 respondents in March 2025: 5,000 nationally representative respondents from Canada and 5,000 nationally representative respondents from the US. The survey included Cardus's and ARI's Spectrum of Spirituality, which provides a nuanced lens for understanding religious belief and practice.
- Our findings confirm previous research, which has shown the US population is more religious than Canada. For example, 58 percent of Americans, compared with 36 percent of Canadians, "moderately agree" or "strongly agree" that religion is very important in their day-to-day lives.
- Canadians who are religious appear to be shaped by a historical and cultural awareness of religious diversity, whereas for Americans, religion tends to enjoy broader cultural affirmation.
- These divides appear to be narrowing: Younger generations in both countries, especially among Christians, display increasingly similar religious profiles compared to their older counterparts.
- The US and Canada share the world's longest border but also have interconnected economic, linguistic, political, and cultural landscapes. When at its best, religion in North America can serve as a generative force for personal and social good.

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CONTACT

Ray Pennings
Executive Vice President
tel: 613-241-4500 x 501
rpennings@cardus.ca

CARDUS.CA

For the full publication, see Pennings, Ray, and Lynn E. Swaner. "Religion for the Common Good: Canada and the United States in 2025." Cardus, 2025. https://www.cardus.ca/research/spirited-citizenship/reports/religion-for-the-common-good.