



Quebec's Social and Health Survey Information: Baseline Data Report 2008 (Section 6)

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6. Spirituality, Religion, and Health

- The greater percentage of survey respondents felt that spiritual life was fairly important or very important and believe strongly in the positive effects of spiritual values on health.
- The greater percentage of respondents attended church once a year or never attended.
- 78.4% of respondents were Roman Catholic. 13.7% had no religious affiliation.
- Anglophone respondents were more likely than Francophones to claim a religious affiliation other than Catholic and no religious affiliation. They were also more likely than Francophones to claim that spiritual life is very important with respect to health status.

Table 6.1 – Importance accorded spiritual life, belief in the positive effect of spiritual values on health, attendance at a church or cult in a twelve-month period and current religious affiliation, population 15 years and older, Quebec, 1998

	%	Pop '000
Importance accorded spiritual life		
Very important	29.8	1,739
Fairly important	35.4	2,064
Of little importance	24.6	1,431
Not important at all	10.2	591
Belief in the positive effects of spiritual values on health		
Yes, a lot	36.9	2,150
Yes, a little	32.5	1,893
No, not at all	21.3	1,242
Do not know	9.3	540
Frequency of attendance at a church or cult in the course of 12 months		
More than once a week	4.6	270
Once a week	11.9	701
More than once a month	9.5	557
More than once a year	42.7	2,478
Never attend	31.3	1,818
Religious affiliation		
None	13.7	797
Roman Catholic	78.4	4,568
United Church	1.3	76
Anglican	1.9*	61
Greek Orthodox	0.8*	48
Jewish	0.7*	42
Islamic	0.9*	52
Other	3.2	181

Source: Institut de la statistique du Québec, *Enquête social et de santé 1998*.

* Interpret with caution

- A greater percentage of survey respondents felt that spiritual life was fairly important followed closely by those who felt it was very important.
- A greater proportion of respondents believed strongly in the positive effects of spiritual values on health.
- The greater percentage of respondents attended church more than once a year or never attended. 78.4% of respondents were Roman Catholic. 13.7% had no religious affiliation.

Table 6.2 – Current religious affiliation by mother tongue, Quebec, 1998

N=	18211	1029	1045	445
	French	English	Other	n/a
None	10.72%	18.37%	11.20%	4.94%
Catholic	83.67%	44.61%	55.02%	48.99%
Other	2.56%	33.72%	28.42%	6.52%
Unknown	3.04%	3.30%	5.36%	39.55%
	100.00%	100.00%	100.00%	100.00%

Source: Institut de la statistique du Québec, *Enquête social et de santé 1998*.

- Anglophone survey respondents were much more likely than Francophones to claim no religious affiliation and much more likely than Francophones to claim a religious affiliation other than Catholic.

Table 6.3 – Importance accorded spiritual life with respect to effect on health by mother tongue, Quebec, 1998

N=	18211	1029	1045	445
	French	English	Other	n/a
Very important	27.85%	33.21%	39.56%	28.76%
Fairly important	36.24%	35.01%	31.09%	27.87%
Of little importance	24.60%	19.83%	19.42%	13.26%
Not important at all	9.62%	9.96%	7.01%	5.39%
Refusal	1.70%	1.99%	2.92%	24.72%
	100.00%	100.00%	100.00%	100.00%

Source: Institut de la statistique du Québec, *Enquête social et de santé 1998*.

- Relatively speaking, Anglophone survey respondents were 19% more likely than Francophones to claim that spiritual life is very important with respect to its effect on health.