

CARDUS EDUCATION SURVEY 2016

Educating to Love Your Neighbour

Beth Green, Doug Sikkema, David Sikkink, Sara Skiles, and Ray Pennings | October 2016

Key Points

- Since 2011, the Cardus Education Survey (CES) has studied the school-sector effect—that is, the effect of attending a religious independent, non-religious independent, or government-run school—on the lives of high school graduates aged 24 to 39 in the United States, Canada, and Australia.
- The 2016 iteration of the CES provides a comprehensive picture of how Canada's graduates across each school sector contribute to the public life of the nation using data from a survey administered by polling group MARU.
- Specifically, this paper measures outcomes related to jobs, income, and broader categories such as political engagement, religious orientation, habits of home and social ties, levels of trust in institutions, charitable giving, and volunteering.
- Overall, Canadian public school graduates have the same level of trust in civic institutions as their peers, but are less likely to be engaged with such institutions than their peers who graduated from independent schools.
- Graduates of Catholic separate schools are more likely than public school graduates to earn a bachelor's degree and earn a higher income. Catholic independent school graduates have a more diverse set of social ties than public school graduates do, but fewer close ties.
- Graduates of nonreligious independent schools are more likely to volunteer for civic institutions and donate money to them than public school graduates.
- Graduates of evangelical Protestant schools are more likely than public school graduates to donate money and volunteer in non-congregational organizations. They are just as politically and civically engaged as their peers who graduated from public schools.
- Religious homeschool graduates are less trusting and confident in a whole range of public institutions than are graduates of public schools. They are just as engaged with political life as their peers who graduated from public schools.

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For the full publication, see Green, B., D. Sikkema, D. Sikkink, S. Skiles, and R. Pennings. "Cardus Education Survey 2016: Educating to Love Your Neighbour." <https://www.cardus.ca/research/education/research-report/cardus-education-survey-2016-educating-to-love-your-neighbour/>.