

**Table 3**  
**Support for Foreign Aid: Religiosity**

| <u>Religiosity (Importance of Religion and Spirituality)</u> | <u>Support for Foreign Aid Mean Score (six-point scale)</u> |
|--|---|
| Very Important   | 4.5   |
| Somewhat Important   | 4.4   |
| Not Very Important   | 4.1   |
| Not At All Important   | 4.0   |

Note: Respondents were asked to rate their support for the Canadian foreign aid program on a six-point scale where 1 means strongly oppose and 6 means strongly support. Whenever an ordinal scale is used, mean scores can be used to differentiate subtle, but significant, differences in responses between demographic groups. Means are essentially the average of all the responses.

Canadians with higher levels of education are no more or less supportive of Canada's foreign aid efforts, although women (mean score = 4.5) are more supportive than men (4.1). Atlantic Canadians (4.6) and Quebeckers (4.5) are more supportive of foreign aid than other Canadians (4.2).

Figure 15 shows the priorities Canadians place on different types of foreign aid, and demonstrates that most Canadians support all types of foreign aid tested in this study.<sup>9</sup> The public is most comfortable with foreign aid designed to satisfy basic human needs in the developing world. They place lower priorities on programs focusing on other issues in the developing world, such as democratization, private enterprise, environmental protection, and the rights of women.

<sup>9</sup> Respondents were asked to rate the priority of each type of foreign aid using a scale of zero to ten, where ten means highest priority and zero means lowest priority. Responses were then recoded to *highest priority* (9, 10), *high priority* (7, 8), *neutral* (4, 5, 6), *low priority* (2, 3) and *lowest priority* (0, 1).