

The Canadian Patriots of 2007: As we celebrate 140th Anniversary of Canada most agree Patriotism is Important Value; Patriotic Sentiment Rises with Age

Les Patriotes canadiens de 2007: Dans le cadre de 140^{ieme} anniversaire du Canada, la plupart affirment que le patriotisme est un valeur commune; le sentiment patriotique s'accroît avec l'âge

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There has been much debate recently about the need to define things that reflect the shared values of Canadians. Canadians have tended to regard themselves as modest when it comes to expressing pride in their country. Canada. Unlike Americans we believe that the Canadian way is characterized by less patriotic expression than our neighbour to the South. The Association for Canadian Studies commissioned the firm Leger Marketing to ask various questions about shared Canadian values including whether "patriotism" qualified as important in this regard. The specific question was "Do you think that the following issues and symbols are very important, somewhat important, not very important or not important at all?" The survey conducted between the period April 3 and 12th, 2007 amongst 1500 Canadians has a margin of error of 2.6%, 19 times out of 20.

Il y a eu récemment un débat sur le besoin de définir les valeurs communes des Canadiens. Les Canadiens sont plutôt modestes lorsqu'il s'agit de démontrer leur fierté envers leur pays. Contrairement aux Américains, nous croyons que la manière canadienne est caractérisée par une expression moins patriotique que nos voisins du sud. L'Association d'études canadiennes a commissionné la firme Leger Marketing pour effectuer un sondage d'une variété de questions à propos des valeurs communes de Canadiens, notamment du patriotisme. La question spécifique était : « Croyez-vous que les points et symboles suivants sont très importants, assez importants, peu importants ou pas importants du tout? » L'enquête a été menée auprès de 1500 Canadiens entre le 3 et le 12 avril 2007, avec une marge d'erreur de 2,6%, 19 fois sur 20.

Thirty years prior to the act of Confederation in the year 1837 the British troops defeated the rebellions led by Louis Joseph Papineau and the parti des patriote. To mark this battle in 2002 the government launched the Journee des Patriotes (replacing Victoria Day). If many Quebecers are less patriotic when it comes to the expression of Canadian identity, for the most part outside that province (and to some extent within) patriotism is widely regarded as an important shared value. In that which follows we will identify the most patriotic elements of the country.

Trente ans avant la Confédération en 1837, les troupes britanniques ont défait les rebelles de Louis-Joseph Papineau et le parti des Patriotes. Afin de souligner cette bataille en 2002, le gouvernement a instauré la journée des Patriotes (en remplacement du jour de la Confédération). Si plusieurs Québécois sont moins patriotiques lorsque l'on parle d'identité canadienne, pour la plupart des Canadiens en dehors du Québec (et aussi parmi les Québécois), le patriotisme est grandement perçue comme une valeur commune importante. Dans l'étude qui suit, nous allons examiner les éléments les plus patriotiques du pays.

As observed below women are slightly more inclined than men in Canada to describe patriotism as an important value thus dispelling the idea that such feeling is more reflective of the male persona?

There has been much debate recently about the need to define things that reflect the shared values of Canadians. Do you think that the following issues and symbols are very important, somewhat important, not very important or not important at all?

Est-ce que les femmes qui décrivent davantage le patriotisme comme étant une valeur importante par rapport aux hommes au Canada sont moins portées à le démontrer que ces derniers?

Il y a eu récemment un débat sur le besoin de définir les valeurs communes des Canadiens. Croyez-vous que les points et symboles suivants sont très importants, assez importants, peu importants ou pas importants du tout?

... Patriotism	Total	Male	Female
Total absolu :	1501	677	824
IMPORTANT	81%	78%	83%
... Very important	47%	46%	49%
... Somewhat important	34%	33%	35%
NOT IMPORTANT	16%	18%	15%
... Not very important	11%	11%	11%
... Not important at all	5%	7%	3%
Don't know / Refusal	3%	4%	2%

Age is an important factor in affirming the value of patriotism as the older you are the more likely you agree such sentiment is very important.

L'âge est un facteur important dans l'affirmation du patriotisme et les gens plus âgés sont davantage portés à dire qu'il s'agit d'une valeur importante.

... Patriotism	18-24	25-34	35-44	45-54	55-64	65 +
Total absolu :	103	230	299	335	267	267
IMPORTANT	84%	74%	80%	82%	85%	82%
... Very important	39%	40%	45%	50%	57%	55%
... Somewhat important	45%	34%	35%	33%	28%	28%
NOT IMPORTANT	15%	25%	17%	14%	12%	12%
... Not very important	9%	20%	12%	9%	7%	8%
... Not important at all	6%	4%	5%	5%	5%	4%
Don't know / Refusal	1%	1%	3%	4%	4%	6%

Not surprisingly Quebecers are least inclined to think that patriotism is an important Canadian value. Indeed when asked whether it is very important approximately 30% of Quebecers agreed compared with a majority of respondents in the rest of Canada.

Il est peu surprenant de constater que les Québécois sont les moins portés à penser que le patriotisme est une valeur importante au Canada. Lorsqu'ils ont été interrogés, environ 30% des Québécois ont répondu favorablement alors qu'au reste du Canada, il s'agit d'une majorité.

... Patriotism	Maritimes	Quebec	Ontario	Prairies	Alberta	B-C
Total absolu :	100	400	601	125	125	150
IMPORTANT	87%	68%	85%	87%	83%	85%
... Very important	54%	29%	52%	58%	56%	49%
... Somewhat important	33%	39%	32%	29%	27%	37%
NOT IMPORTANT	10%	30%	12%	11%	13%	11%
... Not very important	4%	23%	8%	5%	11%	4%
... Not important at all	6%	7%	4%	6%	2%	7%
Don't know / Refusal	3%	3%	3%	3%	4%	3%

Language appears to be a factor in the importance attributed to patriotic sentiment with the English language population most likely to value patriotic sentiment, francophones least likely to do so and the Canadian allophone population in between the two.

La langue semble un facteur d'importance attribuée au sentiment patriotique, alors que la population de langue anglaise est plus portée vers le patriotisme, les francophones sont les moins portés vers ce sentiment et les Canadiens allophones se situent entre les deux.

... Patriotism	French	English	Other
Total absolu :	415	912	166
IMPORTANT	69%	86%	78%
... Very important	30%	55%	44%
... Somewhat important	39%	32%	34%
NOT IMPORTANT	28%	11%	18%
... Not very important	23%	6%	12%
... Not important at all	5%	5%	5%
Don't know / Refusal	3%	3%	5%

Income also appears to influence to some degree the importance attributed to patriotism as a shared Canadian value as the wealthier segment of the population is more likely to value patriotic sentiment while the group with the lowest income is least inclined to value patriotic sentiment.

Le revenu semble aussi avoir une influence sur le degré d'importance attribué au patriotisme en tant que valeur canadienne commune. Les mieux nantis ont davantage un sentiment patriotique et la population ayant les plus faibles revenus ont un sentiment patriotique moins fort.

... Patriotism	\$ -20K	\$20k-39k	\$40k-59k	\$60k-79k	\$80k+
Total absolu :	146	285	298	194	327
IMPORTANT	68%	81%	80%	83%	83%
... Very important	40%	50%	46%	40%	48%
... Somewhat important	28%	31%	34%	42%	35%
NOT IMPORTANT	26%	14%	17%	16%	16%
... Not very important	19%	9%	11%	13%	11%
... Not important at all	7%	4%	6%	3%	4%
Don't know / Refusal	6%	5%	3%	2%	2%

The most educated and the least educated are least likely to feel that patriotism is an important shared value.

Les mieux scolarisés et les moins scolarisés sont les moins portés vers le patriotisme en tant que valeur importante.

... Patriotism	Elementary	High School	College	University
Total absolu :	54	488	442	498
IMPORTANT	79%	84%	84%	76%
... Very important	45%	50%	52%	40%
... Somewhat important	35%	33%	32%	36%
NOT IMPORTANT	9%	12%	14%	22%
... Not very important	8%	9%	11%	15%
... Not important at all	1%	4%	3%	8%
Don't know / Refusal	12%	4%	2%	1%

Those Canadians that regard patriotism as an important shared value are very likely to regard the Charter of Rights as very important.

Les Canadiens qui voient le patriotisme comme une valeur importante accordant moins d'importance à la Charte des droits.

Patriotism and the Charter of Rights / Le patriotisme et la Charte des droits

... Patriotism Charter of Rights	... Very important	... Somewhat important	NOT IMPORTANT	... Not very important	... Not important at all
Total absolu :	1006	356	107	67	40
IMPORTANT	84%	78%	65%	66%	62%
... Very important	54%	33%	34%	35%	32%
... Somewhat important	31%	45%	31%	31%	30%
NOT IMPORTANT	13%	20%	33%	33%	33%
... Not very important	9%	15%	20%	27%	8%
... Not important at all	4%	5%	13%	6%	25%
Don't know / Refusal	3%	2%	3%	1%	5%

Those who value patriotism are also more likely to regard multiculturalism as an important shared value amongst Canadians.

Ceux qui valorisent le patriotisme accordant aussi plus d'importance au multiculturalisme comme étant une valeur commune importante au sein de la population canadienne.

Patriotism and Multiculturalism / Le patriotisme et le multiculturalisme

... Patriotism Multi-culturalism	... Very important	... Somewhat important	NOT IMPORTANT	... Not very important	... Not important at all
Total absolu :	610	589	259	169	90
IMPORTANT	84%	83%	71%	72%	68%
... Very important	56%	40%	40%	40%	41%
... Somewhat important	28%	43%	30%	33%	26%
NOT IMPORTANT	12%	16%	26%	24%	31%
... Not very important	8%	12%	17%	21%	10%
... Not important at all	4%	4%	9%	3%	21%
Don't know / Refusal	3%	1%	3%	4%	1%