
CANADA AND THE UNITED NATIONS: MARKING 75 YEARS OF THE COUNTRY'S MEMBERSHIP IN THE LEADING INTERNATIONAL INSTITUTION

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INTRODUCTION. NOVEMBER 9 MARKS 75 YEARS OF CANADA'S JOINING THE UN

- The United Nations officially came into existence on 24 October 1945, when the Charter had been ratified by China, France, the Soviet Union, the United Kingdom, the United States and by a majority of other signatories. Canada joined the [United Nations](#) on November 9, 1945 and today marks 75 years since our country became part of one of the world's most important global institutions.
- Recently Canada lost its bid for a coveted seat on the United Nations Security Council despite an intense and costly diplomatic push. But as revealed in the October 29-31 survey from Leger and the Association for Canadian Studies most Canadians favour increased engagement with the UN and have a positive opinion of the international body

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60 PERCENT OF CANADIANS HAVE A FAVORABLE OPINION OF THE UNITED NATIONS

Do you have a very favourable, somewhat favourable, somewhat unfavourable or very unfavourable opinion of the United Nations (UN)?

| | Total | Atl. | QC | ON | MB/SK | AB | BC |
|---------------------------|-------|------|-----|-----|-------|-----|-----|
| TOTAL FAVOURABLE | 60% | 65% | 72% | 58% | 49% | 56% | 51% |
| Very favourable | 10% | 5% | 15% | 10% | 10% | 8% | 5% |
| Somewhat favourable | 50% | 60% | 56% | 48% | 39% | 48% | 46% |
| TOTAL UNFAVOURABLE | 22% | 16% | 13% | 22% | 30% | 30% | 33% |
| Somewhat unfavourable | 15% | 7% | 10% | 15% | 16% | 18% | 24% |
| Very unfavourable | 7% | 9% | 3% | 7% | 15% | 12% | 9% |
| I don't know | 18% | 19% | 16% | 21% | 20% | 14% | 17% |

A MAJORITY OF CANADIANS FOLLOW INTERNATIONAL RELATIONS CLOSELY BUT MAJORITY UNDER 35 AND MAJORITY OF FRANCOPHONES ARE DO NOT FOLLOW INTERNATIONAL RELATIONS CLOSELY

| How closely do you follow international relations and foreign affairs? | | | | | | | | | | | | | |
|------------------------------------------------------------------------|-------|-------|-------|-----|--------|---------|--------|------|-----|-----|-------|-----|-----|
| | Total | 18-34 | 35-54 | 55+ | French | English | Others | Atl. | QC | ON | MB/SK | AB | BC |
| TOTAL CLOSELY | 53% | 39% | 52% | 64% | 43% | 53% | 68% | 48% | 45% | 56% | 56% | 57% | 57% |
| Very closely | 13% | 9% | 13% | 16% | 11% | 12% | 19% | 5% | 12% | 14% | 13% | 19% | 10% |
| Somewhat closely | 40% | 30% | 39% | 48% | 32% | 41% | 50% | 43% | 33% | 41% | 44% | 39% | 47% |
| TOTAL NOT CLOSELY | 47% | 61% | 48% | 36% | 57% | 47% | 32% | 52% | 55% | 44% | 44% | 43% | 43% |
| Not very closely | 36% | 47% | 34% | 31% | 41% | 36% | 29% | 37% | 40% | 35% | 33% | 33% | 39% |
| Not closely at all | 11% | 14% | 14% | 5% | 16% | 10% | 3% | 15% | 15% | 10% | 10% | 9% | 5% |

NEARLY ONE IN TWO CANADIANS THINK WE NEED TO BE MORE INVOLVED IN THE UN WHEN COMPARED WITH OTHER INTERNATIONAL ORGANIZATIONS

| Of the following organizations, rank in order with which you think Canada needs to be more engaged / involved: | | | | | | | |
|----------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------|------------|------------|------------|------------|------------|------------|------------|
| | Total | Atl. | QC | ON | MB/SK | AB | BC |
| The United Nations | 47% | 37% | 53% | 47% | 51% | 42% | 47% |
| North Atlantic Treaty Organization (NATO) | 25% | 32% | 15% | 27% | 21% | 31% | 27% |
| Organization for Economic Development (OECD) | 17% | 23% | 12% | 17% | 15% | 19% | 21% |
| La Francophonie Mondiale | 5% | 3% | 16% | 1% | 1% | 2% | 0% |
| The Organization of American States | 6% | 4% | 5% | 7% | 12% | 7% | 5% |

TWO IN THREE CANADIANS BELIEVE WE SHOULD REJECT THE DECISIONS OF INTERNATIONAL ORGANIZATIONS THAT ARE CONTRARY TO OUR NATIONAL INTERESTS

| When it comes to international relations, which of the following should Canada do: | | | | | | | |
|--------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------|-------|------|-----|-----|-------|-----|-----|
| | Total | Atl. | QC | ON | MB/SK | AB | BC |
| Follow the decisions of international organizations to which it belongs, even if we believe it might be contrary to our national interests | 34% | 22% | 33% | 35% | 40% | 39% | 34% |
| Reject the decisions of International organizations to which we belong when we believe that they are contrary to our national interests | 66% | 78% | 67% | 65% | 60% | 61% | 66% |

THOSE CANADIANS THAT FOLLOW INTERNATIONAL RELATIONS CLOSELY ARE FAR MORE LIKELY TO FOLLOW THE SITUATION OF COVID 19 MORE CLOSELY OUTSIDE OF CANADA

| How closely are you following the COVID-19 situation outside of Canada? | How closely do you follow international relations and foreign affairs? | | | |
|-------------------------------------------------------------------------|------------------------------------------------------------------------|------------------|------------------|--------------------|
| | Very closely | Somewhat closely | Not very closely | Not closely at all |
| Very closely | 68.4% | 17.8% | 8.7% | 5.6% |
| Somewhat closely | 28.6% | 69.4% | 52.8% | 25.3% |
| Not very closely | 2.6% | 12.0% | 35.8% | 38.3% |
| Not closely at all | 0.5% | 0.8% | 2.7% | 30.9% |
| Total | 100.0% | 100.0% | 100.0% | 100.0% |

METHODOLOGY

From October 29 to 31, 2020 with 1516 Canadians surveyed via web survey using computer-assisted Web interviewing (CAWI) technology,

Using data from the 2016 Census, results were weighted according to gender, age, mother tongue, region, education level and presence of children in the household in order to ensure a representative sample of the population.

No margin of error can be associated with a non-probability sample (Web panel in this case). However for comparative purposes, a probability sample of 1500 respondents would have a margin of error of $\pm 2.52\%$, 19 times out of 20

The research results presented here are in full compliance with the CRIC Public Opinion Research Standards and Disclosure Requirements.

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