Leger

REPORT

Climate Change

Survey of Canadians

THE CANADIAN PRESS

DATE 2024-01-15

Methodology

Method

Online survey
among respondents 18 years of
age or older.
(Canadian sample: n= 1,530).

Respondents had the option of completing the

survey in English or in French and were

randomly recruited using LEO's online panel.

When

January 12 to
January 14, 2024

Margin of error

For comparison purposes,
a probability sample of this
size yields a margin of error
no greater than ±2.50%,
(19 times out of 20) for the
Canadian sample.

Weighting

Results were weighted according to **age, gender, mother tongue, region, education and presence of children in the household** in order to ensure a representative sample of the Canadian population.

Methodology

Significant differences

Data in bold **red** characters indicate a significantly lower proportion than that of other respondents. Conversely, data in bold **green** characters indicate a significantly higher proportion than that of other respondents.

Rounded data

The numbers presented have been rounded up. However, the numbers before rounding were used to calculate the sums presented and might therefore not correspond to the manual addition of these numbers.
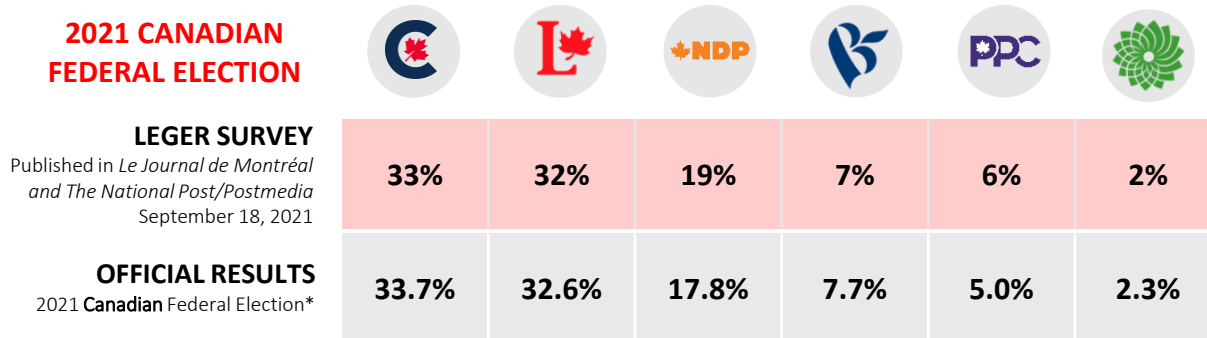
Questions

Have questions about the data presented in this report? Please contact Christian Bourque, Executive Vice-President, Eastern Canada at the following e-mail addresses: cbourque@leger360.com

A more detailed methodology is presented in the Appendix.

Methodology

Leger is the polling firm that has presented the most accurate election survey data, on average, over the last ten years in Canada. During the last federal election in 2021, Leger was once again **the most accurate** **firm in the country**. This accuracy is attributed to the quality of the LEO panel and rigorous application of methodological rules by Leger's 600 employees, including 200 professionals in Leger's eight offices across Canada (Montreal, Toronto, Quebec City, Winnipeg, Calgary, Edmonton and Vancouver) and in the United States (New York).

Poll aggregator 338Canada.com gave Leger the highest rating among all polling firms in Canada for the accuracy of its studies. See https://338canada.com/pollster-ratings.htm

2021 CANADIAN FEDERAL ELECTION	C	L	NDP	B	PPC	(green)
LEGER SURVEY Published in *Le Journal de Montréal and The National Post/Postmedia* September 18, 2021	33%	32%	19%	7%	6%	2%
OFFICIAL RESULTS 2021 **Canadian** Federal Election*	33.7%	32.6%	17.8%	7.7%	5.0%	2.3%

Key Highlights (1/2)

From January 12 to 14, 2023, we surveyed Canadians to find out about their experiences with extreme weather events and their opinions on climate change in Canada.

Some of the key highlights of our survey about climate change in Canada include…

- 80% of Canadians say that the past Holiday season has been unusually warm compared to previous years. Quebecers (85%) were more likely to think so. Three quarters (73%) of those who feel it was warmer this year attribute it to climate change.

- 81% of people who experienced warmer weather during the Holiday season this year liked it because they did not have to deal with shoveling or the cold. However, 66% of respondents did not like the warmer weather because it reminded them of the impacts of climate change. Quebecers (76%) and individuals aged 18 to 34 (75%) were more likely to not like the warmer weather because it reminded them of the impacts of climate change.

- In the past year, 88% of Canadians have witnessed at least one extreme weather event and 30% were personally impacted by one.

- Late-onset winters (49%), unusually mild winter months (46%), poor air quality (41%), extreme heat (39%) and heavy rainfall (34%) are the most common events witnessed by Canadians.

Key Highlights (2/2)

- A significant majority of Canadians think that forest fires/wildfires (74%), extreme heat (63%), late-onset winters (63%), unusually mild winter months (61%), poor air quality (60%), and wide temperature variations within the same season (59%) have increased in Canada.

- 63% of Canadians are worried about climate change in Canada, while 20% are not worried about it and 8% think that there are not really any changes in the climate in Canada. Quebecers (72%) and women (70%) are more likely to be worried about climate in Canada.

- Half of Canadians (50%) think that there is still time to reverse the consequences of climate change, while 38% think that it is too late and 12% do not believe in climate change.

Detailed Results

Frequency of Weather Events (1/2)

Q1. In your opinion, are there more, the same or fewer of the following events in Canada than before?
Base: All respondents (n=1,530)

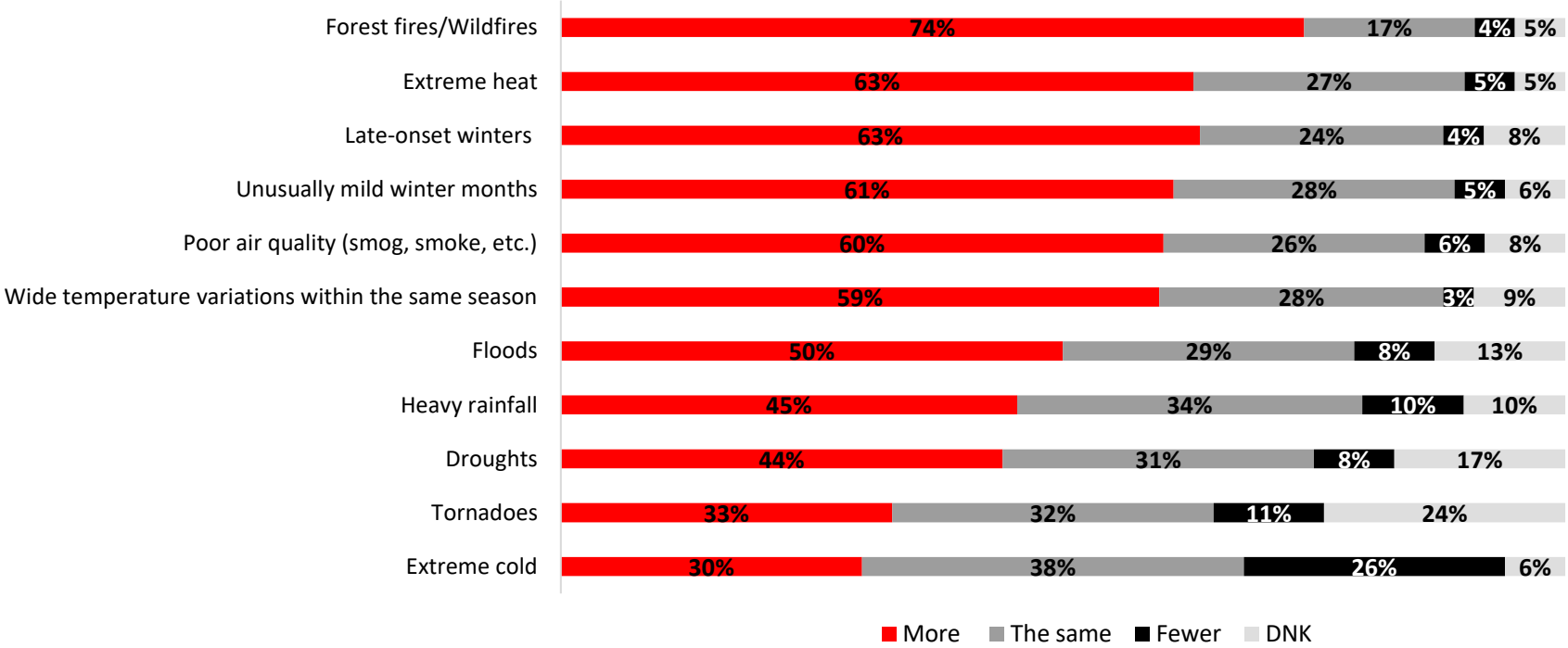|	More	The same	Fewer	DNK
Forest fires/Wildfires	74%	17%	4%	5%
Extreme heat	63%	27%	5%	5%
Late-onset winters	63%	24%	4%	8%
Unusually mild winter months	61%	28%	5%	6%
Poor air quality (smog, smoke, etc.)	60%	26%	6%	8%
Wide temperature variations within the same season	59%	28%	3%	9%
Floods	50%	29%	8%	13%
Heavy rainfall	45%	34%	10%	10%
Droughts	44%	31%	8%	17%
Tornadoes	33%	32%	11%	24%
Extreme cold	30%	38%	26%	6%

Frequency of Weather Events (2/2)

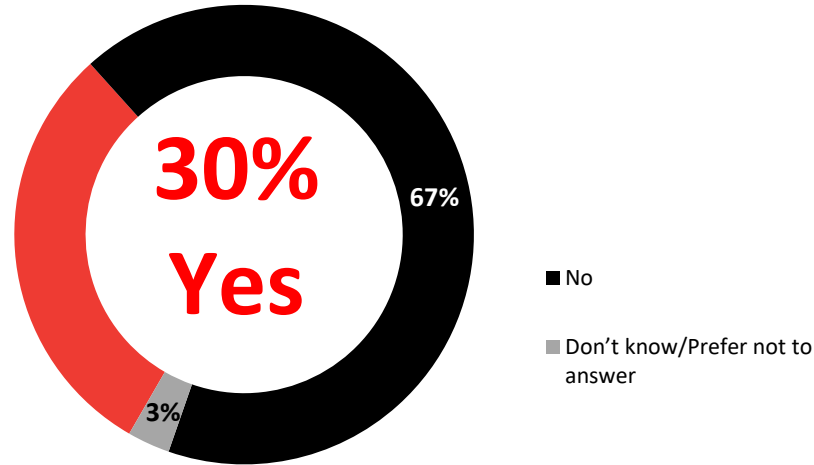**Q1.** In your opinion, are there more, the same or fewer of the following events in Canada than before?
Base: All respondents

% More Presented	Total Canada	ATL	QC	ON	MB/SK	AB	BC	Male	Female	18-34	35-54	55+	Urban	Sub-Urban	Rural	Total June 2023	Gap
Weighted n=	1,530	103	354	593	98	170	212	746	784	407	493	630	610	620	276	1,514	
Unweighted n=	1,530	100	409	609	125	133	154	759	771	381	596	553	637	596	276	1,514	
Forest fires/Wildfires	**74%**	67%	80%	71%	70%	81%	73%	69%	79%	66%	68%	84%	75%	72%	77%	**77%**	-3
Extreme heat	**63%**	63%	67%	59%	51%	63%	73%	60%	66%	61%	59%	68%	68%	59%	63%	**61%**	+2
Late-onset winters	**63%**	54%	77%	64%	49%	56%	57%	56%	70%	65%	59%	66%	63%	62%	66%	**44%**	+19
Unusually mild winter months	**61%**	61%	71%	61%	48%	54%	56%	57%	65%	58%	58%	66%	61%	60%	64%	**-**	
Poor air quality (smog, smoke, etc.)	**60%**	37%	69%	58%	49%	69%	63%	52%	68%	58%	59%	63%	61%	60%	62%	**69%**	-9
Wide temperature variations within the same season	**59%**	48%	71%	60%	44%	50%	57%	52%	66%	55%	54%	66%	60%	58%	61%	**63%**	-4
Floods	**50%**	59%	68%	43%	27%	36%	55%	44%	55%	41%	46%	58%	52%	46%	56%	**41%**	+9
Heavy rainfall	**45%**	51%	59%	44%	27%	26%	45%	38%	51%	37%	41%	53%	45%	44%	49%	**34%**	+11
Droughts	**44%**	35%	52%	34%	41%	53%	55%	39%	48%	35%	38%	54%	47%	40%	46%	**42%**	+2
Tornadoes	**33%**	25%	48%	30%	24%	36%	21%	29%	36%	27%	29%	39%	34%	31%	36%	**31%**	+2
Extreme cold	**30%**	26%	24%	24%	37%	42%	46%	26%	34%	32%	29%	30%	30%	31%	26%	**30%**	-

Impacted by Extreme Weather Events

Q2. In the past 12 months, have you been personally impacted by an extreme weather event?
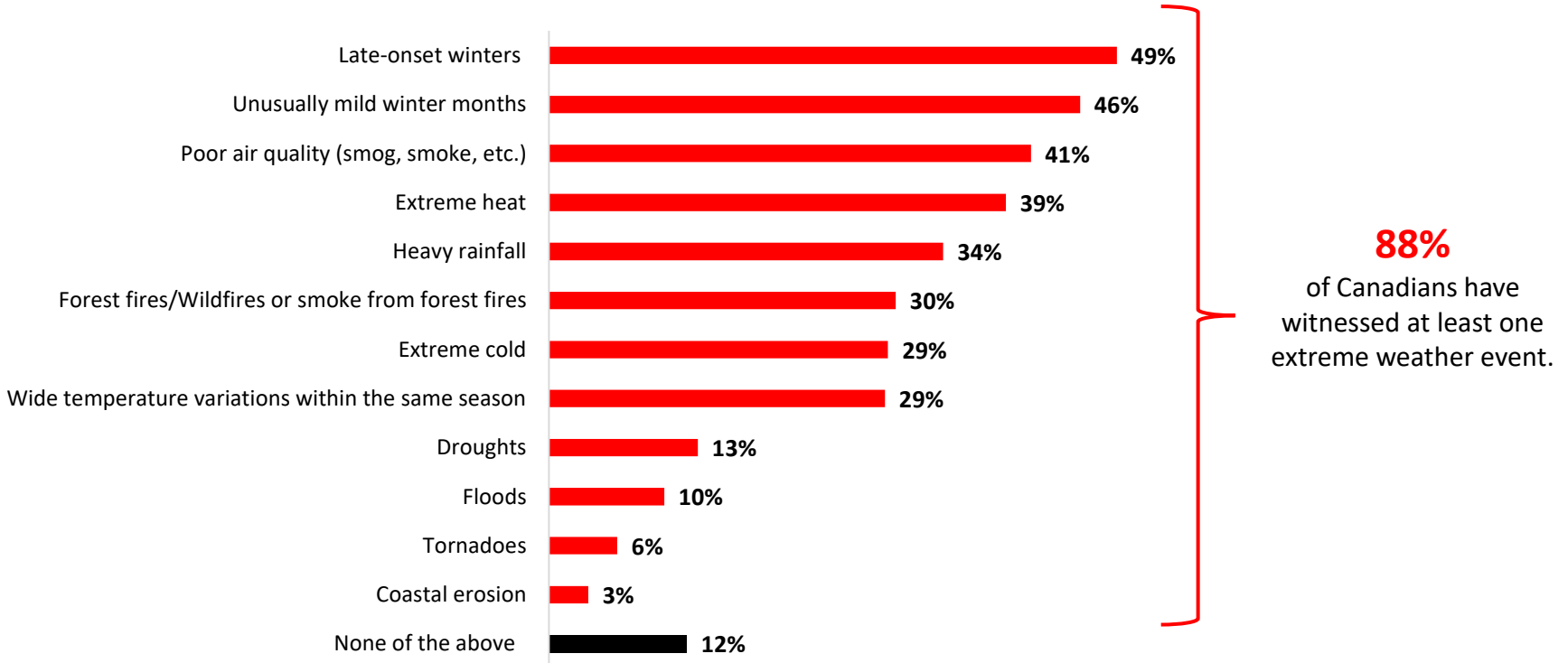Base: All respondents (n=1,530)

30% Yes

67%

3%

■ No

■ Don't know/Prefer not to answer

	Total Canada	ATL	QC	ON	MB/SK	AB	BC	Male	Female	18-34	35-54	55+	Urban	Sub-Urban	Rural	Total June 2023	Gap
Weighted n=	1,530	103	354	593	98	170	212	746	784	407	493	630	610	620	276	1,514	
Unweighted n=	1,530	100	409	609	125	133	154	759	771	381	596	553	637	596	276	1,514	
Yes	**30%**	36%	29%	25%	30%	35%	39%	30%	30%	37%	29%	26%	31%	29%	29%	23%	+7
No	**67%**	61%	67%	72%	65%	62%	59%	66%	67%	59%	66%	72%	64%	69%	69%	74%	-7
Don't know/Prefer not to answer	**3%**	2%	4%	3%	5%	3%	3%	3%	3%	4%	4%	2%	5%	2%	2%	4%	-1

Types of Weather Events Witnessed (1/2)

Q3. What type of extreme weather event did you witness in your local area, among the following? *Select all that apply*
Base: All respondents (n=1,530)

Event	%
Late-onset winters	49%
Unusually mild winter months	46%
Poor air quality (smog, smoke, etc.)	41%
Extreme heat	39%
Heavy rainfall	34%
Forest fires/Wildfires or smoke from forest fires	30%
Extreme cold	29%
Wide temperature variations within the same season	29%
Droughts	13%
Floods	10%
Tornadoes	6%
Coastal erosion	3%
None of the above	12%

88%
of Canadians have witnessed at least one extreme weather event.

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Types of Weather Events Witnessed (2/2)

Q3. What type of extreme weather event did you witness in your local area, among the following? *Select all that apply*
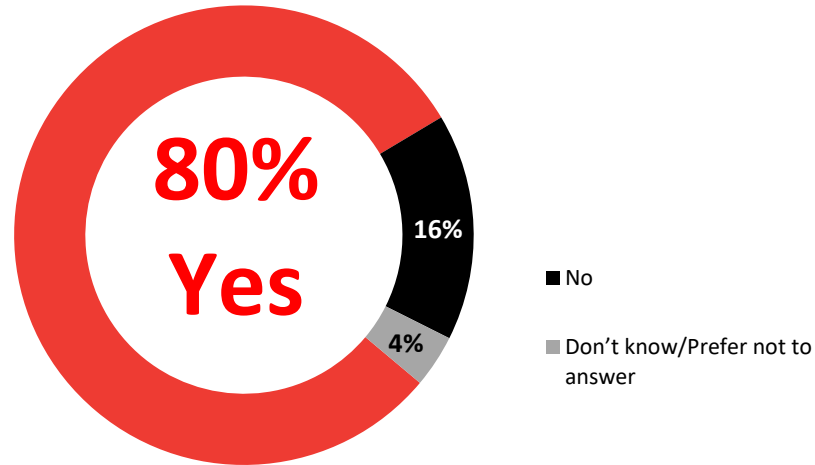Base: All respondents

	Total Canada	ATL	QC	ON	MB/SK	AB	BC	Male	Female	18-34	35-54	55+	Urban	Sub-Urban	Rural
Weighted n=	1,530	103	354	593	98	170	212	746	784	407	493	630	610	620	276
Unweighted n=	1,530	100	409	609	125	133	154	759	771	381	596	553	637	596	276
Late-onset winters	49%	31%	60%	47%	57%	57%	34%	43%	54%	47%	43%	55%	48%	48%	54%
Unusually mild winter months	46%	34%	53%	48%	43%	47%	31%	42%	49%	43%	42%	50%	44%	46%	51%
Poor air quality (smog, smoke, etc.)	41%	12%	48%	40%	33%	51%	44%	36%	46%	38%	40%	45%	42%	42%	38%
Extreme heat	39%	32%	41%	34%	37%	33%	61%	35%	43%	41%	38%	39%	40%	40%	36%
Heavy rainfall	34%	49%	44%	34%	15%	9%	38%	32%	36%	24%	35%	40%	33%	35%	35%
Forest fires/Wildfires or smoke from forest fires	30%	30%	23%	22%	29%	58%	42%	30%	30%	35%	29%	27%	32%	27%	30%
Extreme cold	29%	19%	23%	19%	44%	64%	39%	29%	30%	34%	32%	24%	31%	28%	28%
Wide temperature variations within the same season	29%	22%	34%	28%	28%	32%	25%	25%	33%	23%	26%	34%	29%	28%	31%
Droughts	13%	4%	17%	5%	23%	18%	22%	12%	14%	8%	10%	18%	11%	13%	18%
Floods	10%	25%	19%	6%	5%	4%	7%	8%	12%	7%	11%	11%	9%	10%	13%
Tornadoes	6%	4%	8%	7%	4%	6%	1%	6%	6%	4%	7%	6%	5%	6%	8%
Coastal erosion	3%	14%	6%	2%	0%	0%	2%	3%	3%	2%	3%	5%	3%	2%	9%
None of the above	12%	10%	9%	16%	7%	7%	11%	14%	10%	12%	15%	10%	13%	12%	9%

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Warmer Holiday Season

Q4. Thinking of the past 4 weeks and the Holiday Season in particular, would you say they have been unusually warm compared to prior Holiday Seasons?
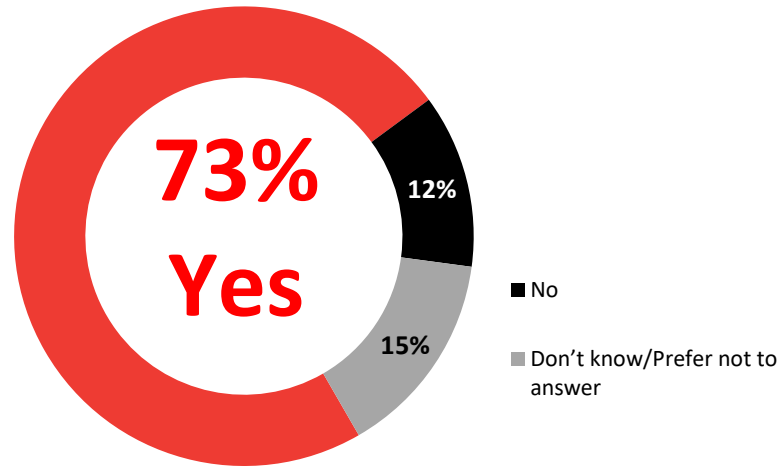Base: All respondents (n=1,530)

80% Yes
16% No
4% Don't know/Prefer not to answer

	Total Canada	ATL	QC	ON	MB/SK	AB	BC	Male	Female	18-34	35-54	55+	Urban	Sub-Urban	Rural
Weighted n=	1,530	103	354	593	98	170	212	746	784	407	493	630	610	620	276
Unweighted n=	1,530	100	409	609	125	133	154	759	771	381	596	553	637	596	276
Yes	**80%**	67%	85%	80%	85%	84%	73%	78%	83%	76%	79%	85%	82%	78%	84%
No	**16%**	28%	11%	16%	13%	12%	24%	19%	14%	20%	17%	13%	14%	19%	14%
Don't know/Prefer not to answer	**4%**	5%	3%	4%	2%	4%	3%	4%	4%	4%	5%	3%	4%	3%	2%

Origin of the Warm Spell

Q5. And in your personal opinion is that warm spell a direct consequence of climate change or not?
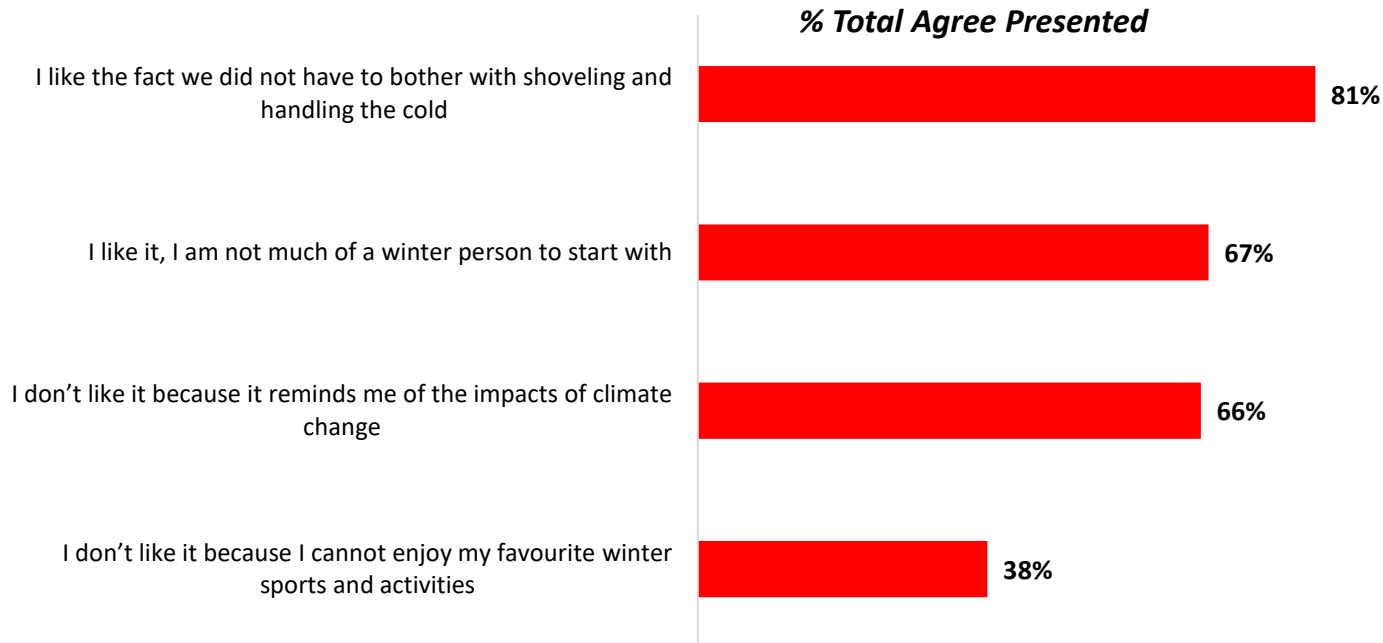Base: Respondents who experienced an unusually warm Holiday Season this year (n=1,240)

73% Yes

12% — No

15% — Don't know/Prefer not to answer

	Total Canada	ATL	QC	ON	MB/SK	AB	BC	Male	Female	18-34	35-54	55+	Urban	Sub-Urban	Rural
Weighted n=	*1,229*	*69*	*302*	*475*	*84*	*143*	*156*	*579*	*650*	*308*	*388*	*533*	*499*	*485*	*231*
Unweighted n=	*1,240*	*67*	*341*	*493*	*111*	*113*	*115*	*590*	*650*	*292*	*473*	*475*	*525*	*472*	*231*
Yes	**73%**	81%	84%	76%	54%	52%	72%	70%	76%	75%	72%	73%	75%	72%	70%
No	**12%**	9%	7%	11%	29%	24%	7%	17%	8%	9%	12%	14%	11%	13%	13%
Don't know/Prefer not to answer	**15%**	10%	9%	13%	18%	25%	21%	12%	16%	15%	16%	13%	14%	15%	17%

Level of Agreement on Statements on the Warm Weather (1/2)

Q6. To what extent do you agree or disagree with the following statements about the Holiday Season with unusually warm weather and little or no snow:

Base: Respondents who experienced an unusually warm Holiday Season this year (n=1,240)

% Total Agree Presented

Statement	%
I like the fact we did not have to bother with shoveling and handling the cold	81%
I like it, I am not much of a winter person to start with	67%
I don't like it because it reminds me of the impacts of climate change	66%
I don't like it because I cannot enjoy my favourite winter sports and activities	38%

Level of Agreement on Statements on the Warm Weather (2/2)

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Q6. To what extent do you agree or disagree with the following statements about the Holiday Season with unusually warm weather and little or no snow:
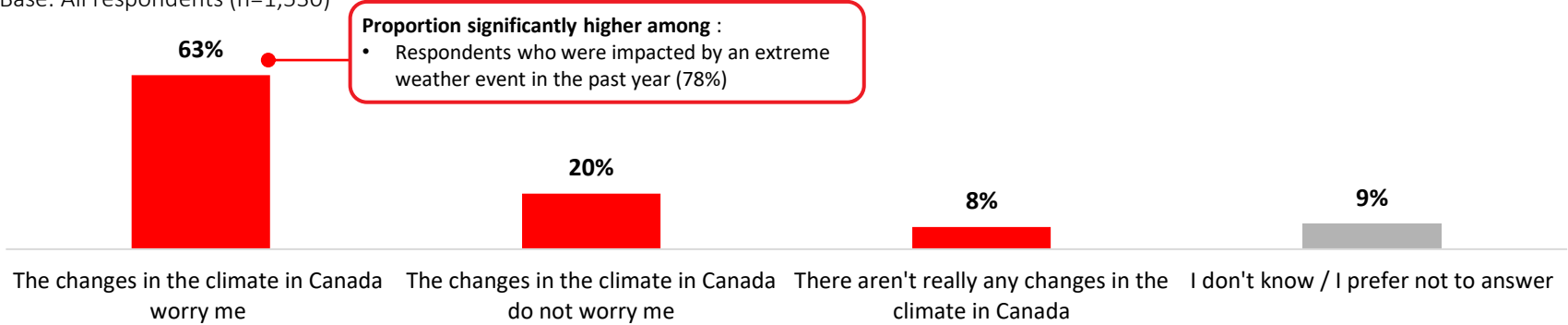
Base: Respondents who experienced an unusually warm Holiday Season this year

% Total Agree Presented	Total Canada	ATL	QC	ON	MB/SK	AB	BC	Male	Female	18-34	35-54	55+	Urban	Sub-Urban	Rural
Weighted n=	*1,530*	*103*	*354*	*593*	*98*	*170*	*212*	*746*	*784*	*407*	*493*	*630*	*610*	*620*	*276*
Unweighted n=	*1,530*	*100*	*409*	*609*	*125*	*133*	*154*	*759*	*771*	*381*	*596*	*553*	*637*	*596*	*276*
I like the fact we did not have to bother with shoveling and handling the cold	**81%**	85%	**76%**	81%	**93%**	86%	81%	79%	83%	**74%**	82%	**85%**	82%	80%	82%
I like it, I am not much of a winter person to start with	**67%**	68%	64%	66%	**79%**	73%	67%	65%	69%	**59%**	70%	70%	66%	68%	68%
I don't like it because it reminds me of the impacts of climate change	**66%**	59%	**76%**	69%	**48%**	**50%**	64%	**62%**	**69%**	**75%**	64%	**62%**	66%	67%	63%
I don't like it because I cannot enjoy my favourite winter sports and activities	**38%**	32%	**46%**	42%	**22%**	32%	31%	40%	36%	**52%**	41%	**28%**	38%	39%	38%

Concerns About Climate Change

Q7. Which of the following statements best represents your opinion?
Base: All respondents (n=1,530)

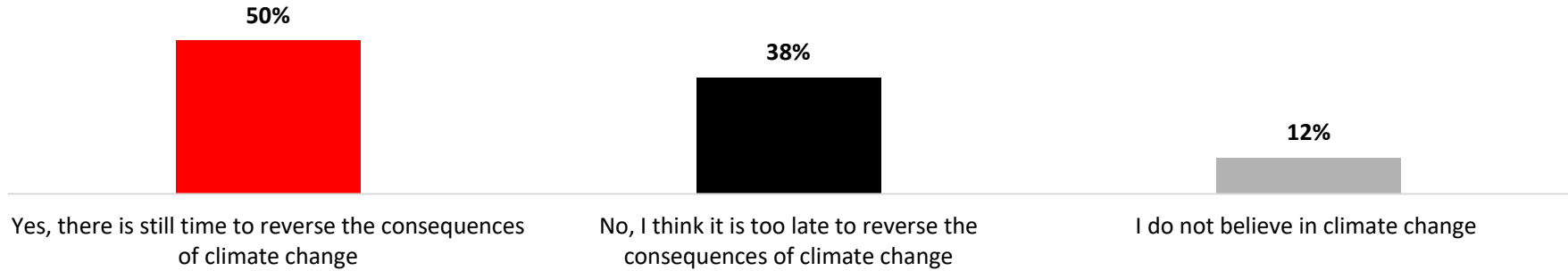**63%**

Proportion significantly higher among :
- Respondents who were impacted by an extreme weather event in the past year (78%)

20%

8%

9%

The changes in the climate in Canada worry me

The changes in the climate in Canada do not worry me

There aren't really any changes in the climate in Canada

I don't know / I prefer not to answer

	Total Canada	ATL	QC	ON	MB/SK	AB	BC	Male	Female	18-34	35-54	55+	Urban	Sub-Urban	Rural	Total June 2023	Gap
Weighted n=	1,530	103	354	593	98	170	212	746	784	407	493	630	610	620	276	1,514	
Unweighted n=	1,530	100	409	609	125	133	154	759	771	381	596	553	637	596	276	1,514	
The changes in the climate in Canada worry me	**63%**	63%	**72%**	60%	**51%**	**52%**	68%	**55%**	**70%**	64%	**59%**	65%	**68%**	**59%**	61%	**67%**	-4
The changes in the climate in Canada do not worry me	**20%**	22%	**16%**	20%	**29%**	26%	17%	**27%**	**14%**	20%	22%	19%	**16%**	**23%**	21%	**17%**	+3
There aren't really any changes in the climate in Canada	**8%**	**2%**	**4%**	10%	11%	11%	8%	**11%**	**5%**	**5%**	9%	9%	8%	9%	7%	**10%**	-2
I don't know / I prefer not to answer	**9%**	12%	7%	10%	8%	11%	7%	**7%**	**12%**	10%	11%	**7%**	8%	9%	11%	**7%**	+2

Opinion on Reversing Climate Change

Q8. Do you think it's still possible to reverse the consequences of climate change?
Base: All respondents (n=1,530)

50% — Yes, there is still time to reverse the consequences of climate change

38% — No, I think it is too late to reverse the consequences of climate change

12% — I do not believe in climate change

	Total Canada	ATL	QC	ON	MB/SK	AB	BC	Male	Female	18-34	35-54	55+	Urban	Sub-Urban	Rural	Total June 2023	Gap
Weighted n=	1,530	103	354	593	98	170	212	746	784	407	493	630	610	620	276	1,514	
Unweighted n=	1,530	100	409	609	125	133	154	759	771	381	596	553	637	596	276	1,514	
Yes, there is still time to reverse the consequences of climate change	**50%**	53%	50%	49%	44%	46%	57%	49%	51%	52%	49%	50%	52%	50%	47%	**51%**	-1
No, I think it is too late to reverse the consequences of climate change	**38%**	39%	**43%**	39%	37%	34%	31%	36%	40%	40%	39%	36%	38%	36%	41%	**37%**	+1
I do not believe in climate change	**12%**	8%	**6%**	12%	19%	**20%**	12%	**15%**	**9%**	**8%**	12%	14%	**9%**	13%	12%	**12%**	-

REPORT

Detailed Methodology

Weighted and Unweighted Sample (1/2)

The table below presents the Canadian geographic distribution of respondents before weighting.

	Unweighted	Weighted
Province	**1,530**	**1,530**
British Columbia	154	212
Alberta	133	170
Manitoba/Saskatchewan	125	98
Ontario	609	593
Quebec	409	354
Atlantic	100	103

Weighted and Unweighted Sample (2/2)

The following tables present the demographic distribution of respondents according to gender, age and language (mother tongue) for Canada.

The table below presents the Canadian geographic distribution of respondents before weighting.

	Unweighted	Weighted
Gender	**1,530**	**1,530**
Male	759	746
Female	771	784
Age	**1,530**	**1,530**
18 to 34	381	407
35 to 54	596	493
55+	553	630
Language (Mother tongue)	**1,530**	**1,530**
English	943	1,017
French	372	302
Other	212	208

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- **Customer Experience (CX)**
  Strategic and operational customer experience consulting services

- **Leger Analytics (LEA)**
  Data modelling and analysis

- **Leger Opinion (LEO)**
  Panel management

- **Leger Communities**
  Online community management

- **Leger Digital**
  Digital strategy and user experience

- **International Research**
  Worldwide Independent Network (WIN)

600
EMPLOYEES

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