

REPORT

Online Content Regulation

Survey of Canadians



DATE 2024-03-12

Methodology



Method

Online survey among respondents 18 years of age or older.

(Canadian sample: n=1,527).
Respondents had the option of completing the

survey in English or in French and were randomly recruited using LEO's online panel.



When

March 8 to March 10, 2024



Margin of error

For comparison purposes, a probability sample of this size yields a margin of error no greater than ±2.51%, (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	(%	F	+NDP	B	PPC	
LEGER SURVEY Published in <i>Le Journal de Montréal</i> 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 March 8 to March 10, 2024, we surveyed Canadians to find out their opinions and perceptions on the new government plan for online regulation.

Some of the key highlights of our survey about content regulation include...

- Two-thirds of Canadians (68%) support the government's plan to regulate content on social media to make these platforms safer, compared to one quarter (25%) who are against it and 8% undecided. Quebecers (78%), respondents aged 55 and older (78%), and women (72%) are more likely to support the government's plan.
- Nearly six in ten Canadians (57%) support the creation and associated spending on new government agencies created to regulate online content, compared to one quarter (26%) who oppose it.
- Half of Canadians (50%) do not trust the government to regulate online content in a way that protects freedom of speech, compared to 43% who trust the government to achieve this.
- The Conservative Party of Pierre Poilievre (20%) is the party Canadians would trust most to regulate online content, followed by the Liberal Party (17%) and the NDP (13%).



Key Highlights (2/2)

- Three-quarters of Canadians (72%) support the government's plan to implement stricter sentences for hate crimes, including life imprisonment for advocating genocide. Quebecers (78%) and respondents aged 55 (81%) are more likely to support tougher sentences.
- 71% of Canadians agree with allowing individuals to file complaints about online hate speech to the Canadian Human Rights Commission, compared to 16% who disagree. Men (21%) and Canadians aged 18 to 34 (20%) are more likely to disagree.
- Less than half of Canadians (41%) believe the government's plan will make social media platforms safer and remove sensitive images and content easier. Nearly one third (32%) of Canadians believe the opposite. This proportion is higher among Albertans (43%) and men (40%).

REPORT

Detailed Results

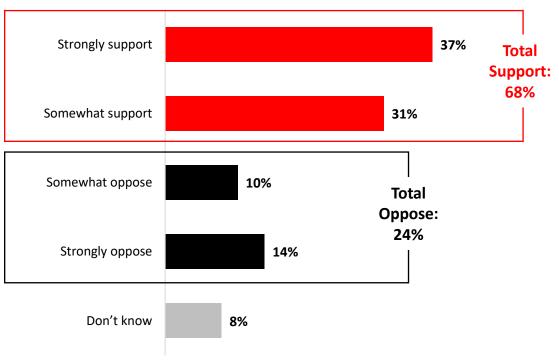




Support for Government Regulation of Online Content (1/2)

Q1. Do you support the government's plan to regulate content on social media to make their platforms safer and to remove harmful or hateful content?

Base: All respondents (n=1,527)





Support for Government Regulation of Online Content (2/2)

Q1. Do you support the government's plan to regulate content on social media to make their platforms safer and to remove harmful or hateful content?

Base: All respondents

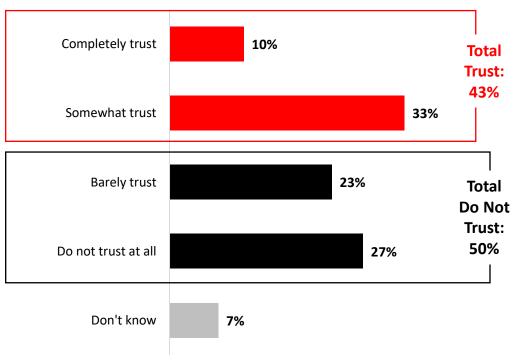
	Total Canada	ATL	QC	ON	мв/ѕк	АВ	вс	Male	Female	18-34	35-54	55+	Urban	Sub- Urban	Rural
Weighted n=	1,527	103	353	592	98	168	213	744	783	406	492	629	655	581	277
Unweighted n=	1,527	101	410	604	131	130	151	775	752	441	565	521	665	569	279
Total Support	68%	63%	78%	64%	63%	63%	71%	64%	72%	59%	63%	78%	67%	68%	70%
Strongly support	37%	38%	50%	32%	31%	35%	37%	32%	42%	21%	34%	51%	37%	39%	36%
Somewhat support	31%	25%	28%	33%	32%	27%	33%	32%	29%	38%	29%	27%	31%	29%	34%
Total Oppose	24%	28%	17%	27%	24%	29%	22%	29%	19%	30%	29%	17%	23%	25%	24%
Somewhat oppose	10%	12%	9%	10%	11%	15%	10%	11%	9%	17%	11%	5%	10%	10%	10%
Strongly oppose	14%	16%	8%	18%	13%	14%	12%	18%	10%	13%	17 %	12%	12%	16%	14%
I don't know	8%	10%	5%	8%	12%	8%	8%	6%	9%	11%	9%	5%	10%	6%	6%



Trust in Government's Online Content Regulation (1/2)

Q2. Do you trust the federal government to regulate online content in a manner that protects your right to freedom of expression online?

Base: All respondents (n=1,527)





Trust in Government's Online Content Regulation (2/2)

Q2. Do you trust the federal government to regulate online content in a manner that protects your right to freedom of expression online?

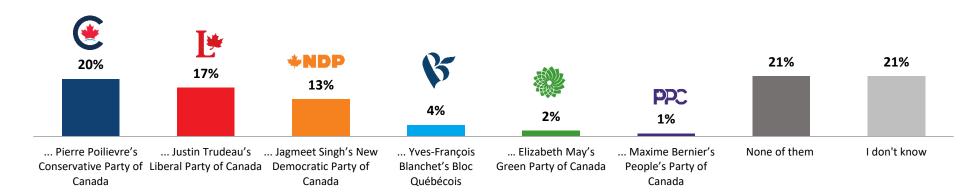
Base: All respondents

	Total Canada	ATL	QС	ON	MB/SK	АВ	ВС	Male	Female	18-34	35-54	55+	Urban	Sub- Urban	Rural
Weighted n=	1,527	103	353	592	98	168	213	744	783	406	492	629	655	581	277
Unweighted n=	1,527	101	410	604	131	130	151	775	752	441	565	521	665	569	279
Total Trust	43%	42%	48%	42%	32%	40%	46%	44%	43%	42%	40%	47%	46%	43%	37%
Completely trust	10%	11%	9%	10%	9%	16%	10%	11%	10%	7 %	12%	12%	10%	11%	11%
Somewhat trust	33%	32%	39%	33%	22%	24%	36%	32%	33%	35%	28%	36%	36%	33%	26%
Total Do Not Trust	50%	51%	46%	51%	54%	55%	47%	52%	48%	50%	52%	48%	47%	51%	54%
Barely trust	23%	24%	26%	21%	21%	22%	22%	20%	26%	29%	22%	19%	21%	24%	23%
Do not trust at all	27%	27%	20%	29%	32%	33%	25%	32%	22%	21%	31%	28%	26%	26%	31%
I don't know	7%	6%	5%	7%	15%	6%	7%	5%	9%	8%	8%	5%	7%	6%	10%



Trust in Federal Parties for Online Content Management (1/2)

Q3. Which federal party would you trust the most with regulating online content? Base: All respondents (n=1,527)





Trust in Federal Parties for Online Content Management (2/2)

Q3. Which federal party would you trust the most with regulating online content?

Base: All respondents

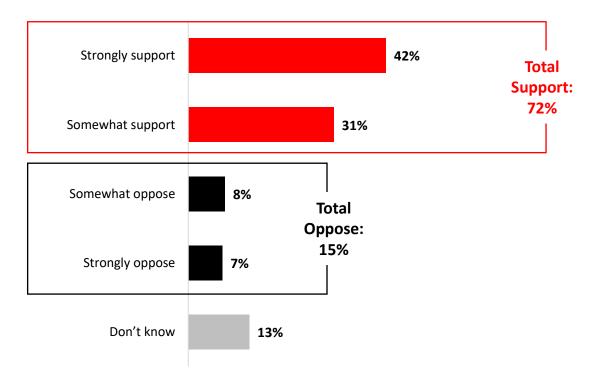
	Total Canada	ATL	QC	ON	MB/SK	АВ	ВС	Male	Female	18-34	35-54	55+	Urban	Sub- Urban	Rural
Weighted n=	1,527	103	353	592	98	168	213	744	783	406	492	629	655	581	277
Unweighted n=	1,527	101	410	604	131	130	151	775	752	441	565	521	665	569	279
Pierre Poilievre's Conservative Party of Canada	20%	16%	10%	22%	30%	31%	21%	23%	17%	20%	19%	21%	21%	19%	19%
Justin Trudeau's Liberal Party of Canada	17%	19%	18%	18%	14%	16%	13%	20%	13%	12%	16%	20%	19%	16%	14%
Jagmeet Singh's New Democratic Party of Canada	13%	18%	9%	14%	8%	15%	16%	10%	15%	21%	13%	7%	14%	14%	8%
Yves-François Blanchet's Bloc Québécois	4%	-	19%	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-
Elizabeth May's Green Party of Canada	2%	1%	2%	3%	0%	2%	2%	2%	2%	4%	2%	1%	2%	3%	1%
Maxime Bernier's People's Party of Canada	1%	3%	1%	1%	2%	1%	3%	2%	1%	1%	2%	1%	1%	2%	1%
None of them	21%	24%	17 %	23%	16%	22%	24%	24%	19%	16%	27%	21%	20%	21%	25%
I don't know	21%	19%	24%	20%	29%	13%	20%	13%	28%	22%	18%	22%	19%	21%	24%



Support for Sentences for Hate Propaganda Offences (1/2)

Q4. Do you support the government's plan to impose stiffer sentences on those convicted of a hate propaganda or hate crime offence, including up to life in prison for advocating genocide?

Base: All respondents (n=1,527)





Support for Sentences for Hate Propaganda Offences (2/2)

Q4. Do you support the government's plan to impose stiffer sentences on those convicted of a hate propaganda or hate crime offence, including up to life in prison for advocating genocide?

Base: All respondents

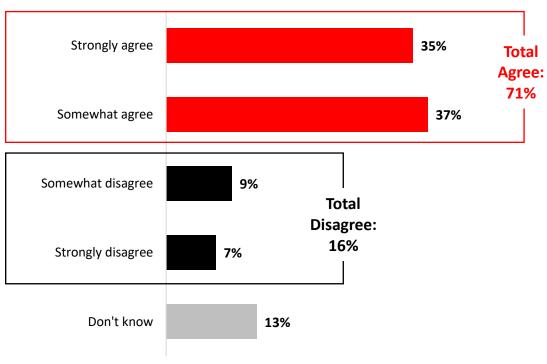
	Total Canada	ATL	QC	ON	MB/SK	АВ	вс	Male	Female	18-34	35-54	55+	Urban	Sub- Urban	Rural
Weighted n=	1,527	103	353	592	98	168	213	744	783	406	492	629	655	581	277
Unweighted n=	1,527	101	410	604	131	130	151	775	752	441	565	521	665	569	279
Total Support	72%	78%	78%	70%	65%	73%	69%	71%	74%	62%	69%	81%	72%	74%	69%
Strongly support	42%	50%	44%	38%	40%	40%	45%	40%	43%	28%	38%	53%	40%	42%	44%
Somewhat support	31%	28%	34%	32%	25%	32%	24%	31%	30%	35%	31%	28%	32%	32%	25%
Total Oppose	15%	12%	13%	16%	13%	16%	16%	20%	10%	21%	15%	11%	14%	16%	16%
Somewhat oppose	8%	4%	7%	9%	6%	8%	8%	9%	7%	14%	8%	3%	8%	7%	9%
Strongly oppose	7%	8%	6%	7%	7%	9%	8%	11%	4%	6%	8%	8%	6%	9%	7%
I don't know	13%	10%	9%	14%	22%	11%	15%	9%	16%	17%	15%	8%	14%	10%	15%



Support for Sentences for Hate Propaganda Offences (1/2)

Q5. Do you agree or disagree with allowing people to file complaints about online hate speech to the Canadian Human Rights Commission?

Base: All respondents (n=1,527)





Support for Sentences for Hate Propaganda Offences (2/2)

Q5. Do you agree or disagree with allowing people to file complaints about online hate speech to the Canadian Human Rights Commission?

Base: All respondents

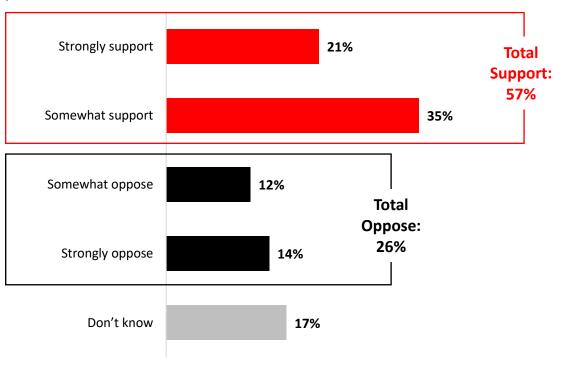
	Total Canada	ATL	QC	ON	MB/SK	АВ	ВС	Male	Female	18-34	35-54	55+	Urban	Sub- Urban	Rural
Weighted n=	1,527	103	353	592	98	168	213	744	783	406	492	629	655	581	277
Unweighted n=	1,527	101	410	604	131	130	151	775	752	441	565	521	665	569	279
Total Agree	71%	72%	79%	68%	71%	68%	70%	68%	74%	65%	68%	77%	70%	72%	72%
Strongly agree	35%	37%	44%	31%	31%	27%	34%	32%	37%	23%	34%	42%	36%	35%	31%
Somewhat agree	37%	35%	35%	36%	40%	41%	35%	37%	37%	42%	34%	35%	34%	38%	41%
Total Disagree	16%	14%	12%	19%	15%	19%	16%	21%	11%	20%	17%	13%	16%	18%	13%
Somewhat disagree	9%	6%	8%	11%	11%	10%	7%	11%	7 %	16%	8%	6%	10%	10%	6%
Strongly disagree	7%	7%	4%	8%	4%	9%	8%	10%	4%	4%	9%	7%	6%	8%	7%
I don't know	13%	15%	9%	13%	14%	13%	15%	10%	15%	15%	14%	10%	14%	10%	15%



Public Opinion on Filing Online Hate Speech Complaints (1/2)

Q6. Do you support or oppose the creation and expense of a several new federal government agencies—Digital Safety Commission, Digital Safety Ombudsman and Digital Safety Office—to regulate online content on social media platforms?

Base: All respondents (n=1,527)





Public Opinion on Filing Online Hate Speech Complaints (2/2)

Q6. Do you support or oppose the creation and expense of a several new federal government agencies—Digital Safety Commission, Digital Safety Ombudsman and Digital Safety Office—to regulate online content on social media platforms?

Base: All respondents

	Total Canada	ATL	QC	ON	MB/SK	АВ	вс	Male	Female	18-34	35-54	55+	Urban	Sub- Urban	Rural
Weighted n=	1,527	103	353	592	98	168	213	744	783	406	492	629	655	581	277
Unweighted n=	1,527	101	410	604	131	130	151	775	752	441	565	521	665	569	279
Total Support	57%	56%	64%	54%	54%	55%	56%	57%	57%	54%	55%	60%	58%	59%	52%
Strongly support	21%	26%	22%	21%	18%	21%	21%	21%	21%	17 %	19%	26%	24%	20%	19%
Somewhat support	35%	30%	42%	33%	36%	34%	35%	35%	36%	37%	36%	34%	34%	39%	33%
Total Oppose	26%	23%	21%	30%	21%	28%	28%	31%	22%	27%	26%	26%	24%	28%	28%
Somewhat oppose	12%	6%	11%	15%	8%	10%	11%	12%	12%	17%	11%	9%	12%	13%	10%
Strongly oppose	14%	16%	10%	16%	13%	18%	16%	19%	10%	10%	14%	17 %	12%	15%	19%
I don't know	17%	22%	15%	16%	25%	17%	16%	12 %	21%	19%	19%	13%	19%	13%	19%

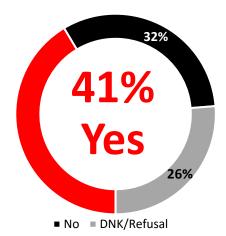


Perceived Effectiveness of Government's Regulation Plan

Q7. Do you believe the government's plan to regulate social media companies will make such online platforms safer, and make it easier to remove applicable offensive content, such as intimate images shared without a person's consent, or child sex abuse

imagery that could be used to exploit a minor?

Base: All respondents (n=1,527)



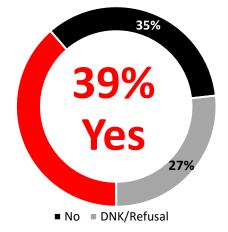
	Total Canada	ATL	QC	ON	MB/SK	АВ	вс	Male	Female	18-34	35-54	55+	Urban	Sub- Urban	Rural
Weighted n=	1,527	103	353	592	98	168	213	744	783	406	492	629	655	581	277
Unweighted n=	1,527	101	410	604	131	130	151	775	752	441	565	521	665	569	279
Yes	41%	46%	41%	40%	37%	40%	45%	40%	43%	47%	40%	39%	43%	39%	42%
No	32%	26%	32%	31%	27%	43%	32%	40%	25 %	32%	32%	32%	30%	35%	32%
I don't know	26%	28%	27%	29%	35%	17%	22%	21%	32%	21%	28%	29%	27%	26%	26%





Q8. Do you believe creating several new federal government agencies (Digital Safety Commission, Digital Safety Ombudsman and Digital Safety Office) to regulate online content on social media platforms will have a meaningful impact on online safety?

Base: All respondents (n=1,527)



	Total Canada	ATL	QC	ON	MB/SK	АВ	ВС	Male	Female	18-34	35-54	55+	Urban	Sub- Urban	Rural
Weighted n=	1,527	103	353	592	98	168	213	744	783	406	492	629	655	581	277
Unweighted n=	1,527	101	410	604	131	130	151	775	752	441	565	521	665	569	279
Yes	39%	37%	40%	41%	33%	32%	41%	36%	41%	44%	39%	35%	40%	40%	34%
No	35%	31%	31%	33%	30%	53%	35%	45%	25 %	35%	32%	37%	34%	35%	35%
I don't know	27%	32%	29%	27%	36 %	15%	24%	19%	33%	21%	29%	28%	26%	24%	31%

REPORT

Detailed Methodology





Weighted and Unweighted Sample (1/2)

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

	Unweighted	Weighted
Province	1,527	1,527
British Columbia	151	213
Alberta	130	168
Manitoba/Saskatchewan	131	98
Ontario	604	592
Quebec	410	353
Atlantic	101	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.

s	Unweighted	Weighted
Gender	1,527	1,527
Male	775	744
Female	752	783
Age	1,527	1,527
18 to 34	441	406
35 to 54	565	492
55+	521	629
Language (Mother tongue)	1,527	1,527
English	938	1,001
French	351	302
Other	236	224

Our Services

- Leger
 Marketing research and polling
- 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

185 CONSULTANTS





8 OFFICES

MONTREAL | QUEBEC CITY | TORONTO | WINNIPEG EDMONTON | CALGARY | VANCOUVER | NEW YORK



Our Commitments to Quality



Leger is a member of the <u>Canadian Research Insights Council (CRIC)</u>, the industry association for the market/survey/insights research industry.



Leger is a member of <u>ESOMAR</u> (European Society for Opinion and Market Research), the global association of opinion polls and marketing research professionals. As such, Leger is committed to applying the <u>international ICC/ESOMAR</u> code of Market, Opinion and Social Research and Data Analytics.

Leger is also a member of the <u>Insights Association</u>, the American Association of Marketing Research Analytics.



Leger is a sponsor of <u>CAIP Canada</u>, Canada's professional body for Certified Analytics and Insights Professionals who uphold CRIC's marketing research and public opinion research standards. CAIP Canada is globally endorsed by ESOMAR and the MRII/University of Georgia.

