



REPORT

# Legislation on Gender Affirming Care for Children

*Survey of Canadians*

DATE 2024-02-14



# Methodology

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## Method

Online survey among respondents 18 years of age or older.

(Canadian sample: n=2,439).

*With an oversample in Alberta (n=1,000)*

Respondents had the option of completing the survey in English or in French and were randomly recruited using LEO's online panel.



## When

February 9 to  
February 11, 2024



## Margin of error

For comparison purposes, a probability sample of this size yields a margin of error no greater than  $\pm 1.98\%$ , (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. The Alberta oversample was weighted back to ensure it did not unduly influence the national findings.

# Methodology

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## 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

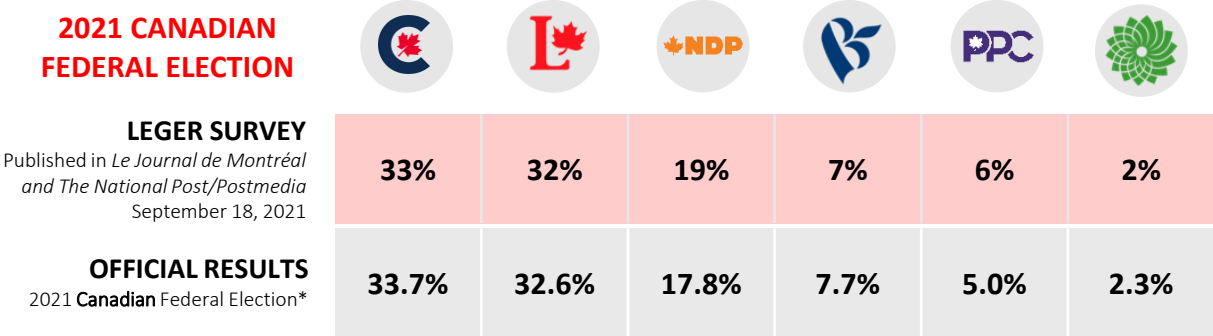
Have questions about the data presented in this report? Please contact Christian Bourque, Executive Vice-President, Eastern Canada at the following e-mail addresses: [cbourque@leger360.com](mailto:cbourque@leger360.com)

*Additional methodological information is provided in the Appendix.*

# Commitment to Accuracy

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>



\*The official results were obtained from Elections Canada on September 24, 2021, at 9:45 a.m. EDT.

# Key Highlights (1/2)

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*From February 9 to 11, 2024, we surveyed Canadians to find out their opinion and perceptions on potential new laws regarding children and gender affirming care.*

## Some of the key highlights of our survey include...

- Overall, very few differences of opinion surfaced regionally on these question and likewise, demographic differences were few as well.
- Nearly half of Canadians (45%) believe gender reassignment surgeries for minors 17 and under should be prohibited, 30% would approve with parental consent, and only 11% would support without any parental consent.
  - Respondents with children under 18 (49%) are more likely to prefer all gender reassignment surgeries to be prohibited.
- 42% of Canadians oppose puberty blockers and hormones for minors 17 and under, 26% would support it with parental consent, and 11% would support it without parental consent.
- For more mature teens, 35% oppose puberty blockers and hormone therapies for gender reassignment, 24% support the treatment with parental and medical approval, and 23% would agree without parental consent but with medical approval.
- 68% of Canadians surveyed are against allowing athletes born male to compete in women's sports, with 17% in favour.

## Key Highlights (2/2)

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- Almost 6 in 10 Canadians surveyed feel parents of school age children should be notified when formal instruction on subject matter involving gender identity, sexual orientation or human sexuality is being taught. About half of this population (32% overall) feel parents should have the right to 'opt-in' their children for such teachings.
  - Respondents with children are more likely to want the opt-in ability (38%)
- 45% think these policies provide clear rules for transgender youth, benefiting them long-term, while 24% view it as an attack on transgender children.
- Canadians are very divided when it comes to action by the federal government to intervene where provinces are passing legislation impacting gender affirming care.
  - A third (37%) believe that the federal government should intervene and challenge the passage of any legislation in this area that may limit or restrict the abilities of children to transition genders
  - The same proportion--37%-- think the federal government should not get involved
  - 26% are uncertain.

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REPORT

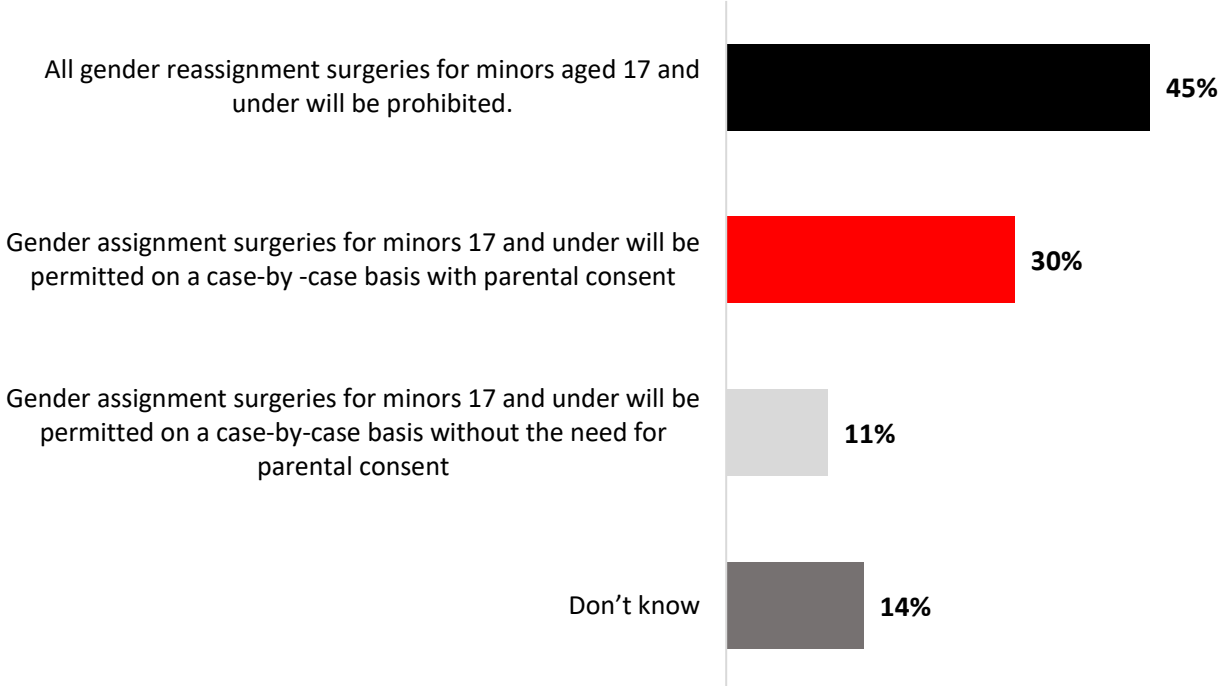
# Detailed Results



# Opinion on Gender Reassignment Surgeries in Minors (1/2)

**Q1.** When it comes to the question of gender reassignment surgeries for minors aged 17 and under which of the following policies do you feel is most appropriate?

Base: All respondents (n=2,439)





# Opinion on Gender Reassignment Surgeries in Minors (2/2)

**Q1.** When it comes to the question of gender reassignment surgeries for minors aged 17 and under which of the following policies do you feel is most appropriate?

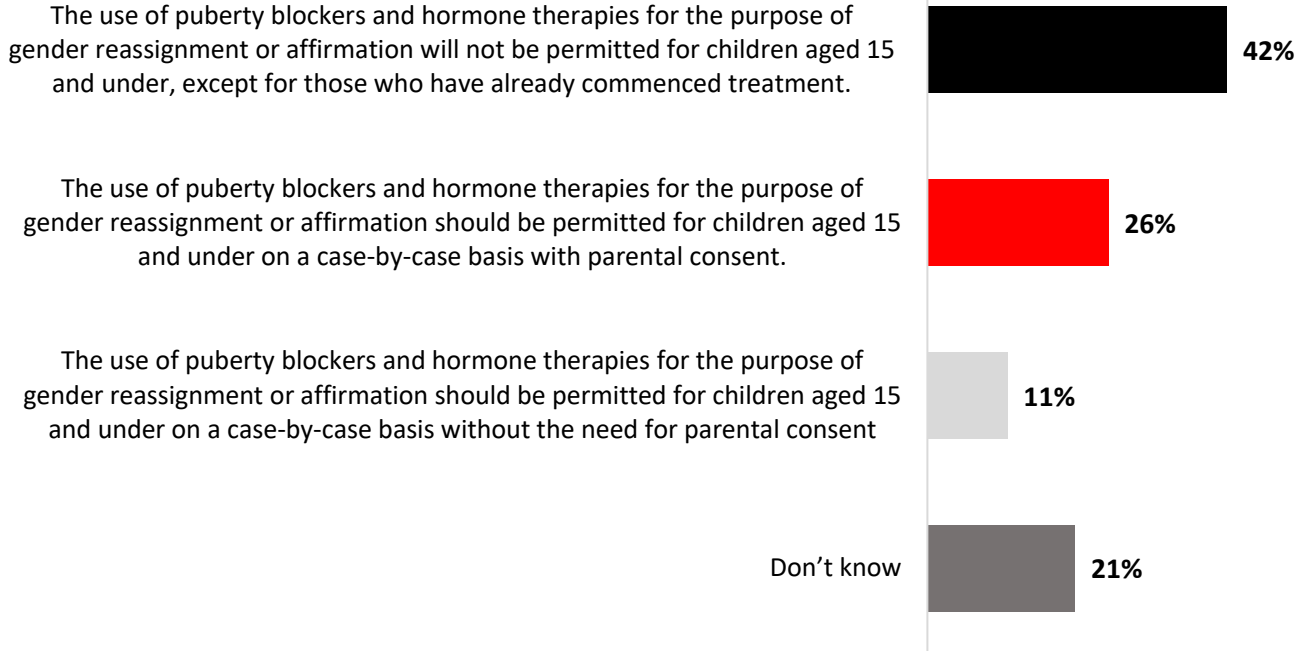
Base: All respondents

	Total Canada	ATL	QC	ON	MB/SK	AB	BC	Male	Female	18-34	35-54	55+	Urban	Sub-Urban	Rural	Kids at home	No-Kids
Weighted n=	2,439	163	563	945	157	272	339	1,189	1,250	650	785	1,004	1,014	910	484	652	1,776
Unweighted n=	2,439	103	438	608	134	1,002	1,54	1,143	1,296	614	856	969	1,070	857	485	669	1,756
All gender reassignment surgeries for minors aged 17 and under will be prohibited.	<b>45%</b>	45%	43%	46%	46%	44%	42%	46%	43%	41%	45%	46%	42%	44%	<b>53%</b>	<b>49%</b>	<b>43%</b>
Gender assignment surgeries for minors 17 and under will be permitted on a case by case basis with parental consent	<b>30%</b>	30%	32%	30%	<b>20%</b>	<b>35%</b>	28%	29%	32%	29%	<b>27%</b>	<b>34%</b>	31%	33%	<b>25%</b>	28%	31%
Gender assignment surgeries for minors 17 and under will be permitted on a case by case basis without the need for parental consent	<b>11%</b>	11%	9%	10%	<b>19%</b>	10%	12%	11%	10%	<b>14%</b>	11%	<b>8%</b>	13%	10%	8%	10%	11%
Don't know	<b>14%</b>	13%	15%	14%	16%	<b>11%</b>	18%	14%	15%	16%	17%	<b>12%</b>	14%	14%	15%	13%	15%

# Opinion on Hormone Therapy and Puberty Blockers for Children (1/2)

**Q2.** When it comes to the use of puberty blockers and hormone therapies for the purpose of gender reassignment or affirmation which of the following policies do you feel is most appropriate?

Base: All respondents (n=2,439)



# Opinion on Hormone Therapy and Puberty Blockers for Children (2/2)

**Q2.** When it comes to the use of puberty blockers and hormone therapies for the purpose of gender reassignment or affirmation which of the following policies do you feel is most appropriate?

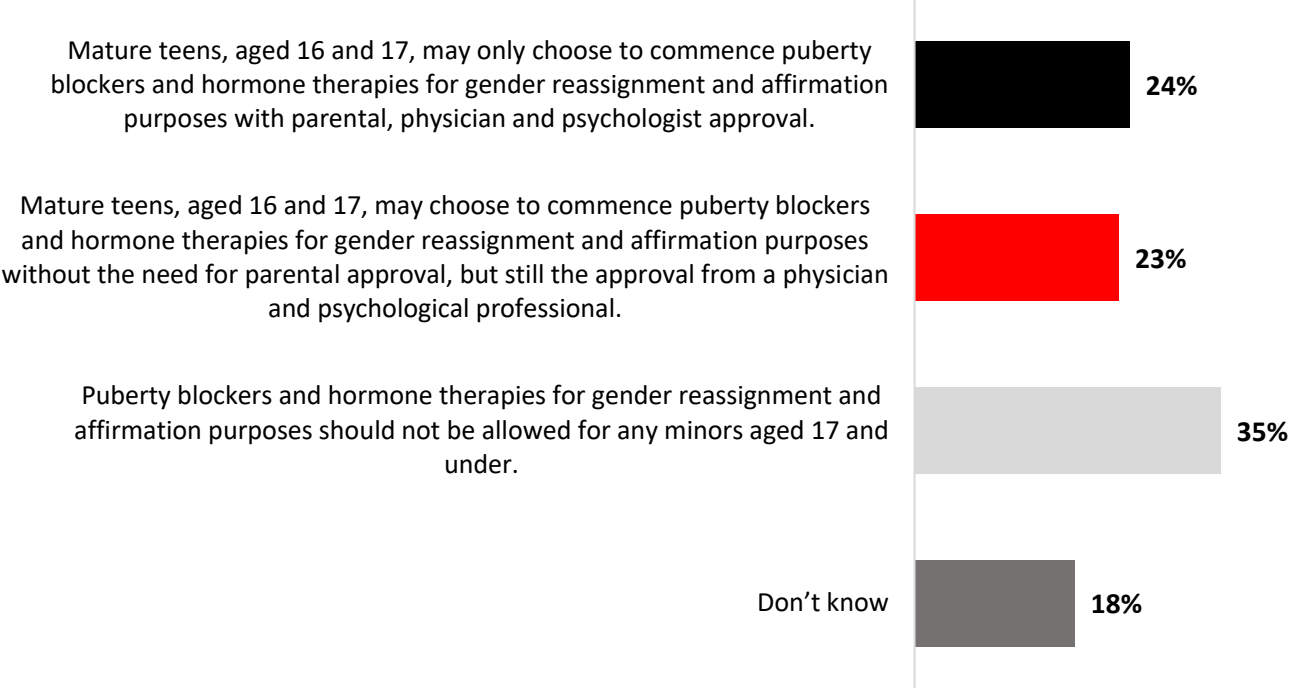
Base: All respondents

	Total Canada	ATL	QC	ON	MB/SK	AB	BC	Male	Female	18-34	35-54	55+	Urban	Sub-Urban	Rural	Kids at home	No-Kids
Weighted n=	2,439	163	563	945	157	272	339	1,189	1,250	650	785	1,004	1,014	910	484	652	1,776
Unweighted n=	2,439	103	438	608	134	1,002	1,54	1,143	1,296	614	856	969	1,070	857	485	669	1,756
The use of puberty blockers and hormone therapies for the purpose of gender reassignment or affirmation will not be permitted for children aged 15 and under, except for those who have already commenced treatment.	<b>42%</b>	42%	41%	43%	36%	44%	44%	<b>45%</b>	<b>40%</b>	<b>38%</b>	42%	45%	39%	43%	<b>49%</b>	43%	42%
The use of puberty blockers and hormone therapies for the purpose of gender reassignment or affirmation should be permitted for children aged 15 and under on a case-by-case basis with parental consent.	<b>26%</b>	24%	28%	24%	27%	<b>29%</b>	23%	<b>23%</b>	<b>28%</b>	24%	24%	28%	26%	28%	22%	25%	26%
The use of puberty blockers and hormone therapies for the purpose of gender reassignment or affirmation should be permitted for children aged 15 and under on a case-by-case basis without the need for parental consent	<b>11%</b>	12%	10%	10%	14%	12%	13%	12%	11%	<b>16%</b>	13%	<b>7%</b>	<b>15%</b>	10%	<b>7%</b>	12%	11%
Don't know	<b>21%</b>	22%	20%	23%	22%	<b>15%</b>	20%	20%	21%	22%	21%	20%	20%	20%	23%	20%	21%

# Gender Affirming Treatment for Mature Teens (1/2)

**Q3.** When it comes to the question of more mature teens and the use of puberty blockers and hormone therapies for the purpose of gender reassignment or affirmation which of the following policies do you feel is most appropriate?

Base: All respondents (n=2,439)



# Gender Affirming Treatment for Mature Teens (2/2)

**Q3.** When it comes to the question of more mature teens and the use of puberty blockers and hormone therapies for the purpose of gender reassignment or affirmation which of the following policies do you feel is most appropriate?

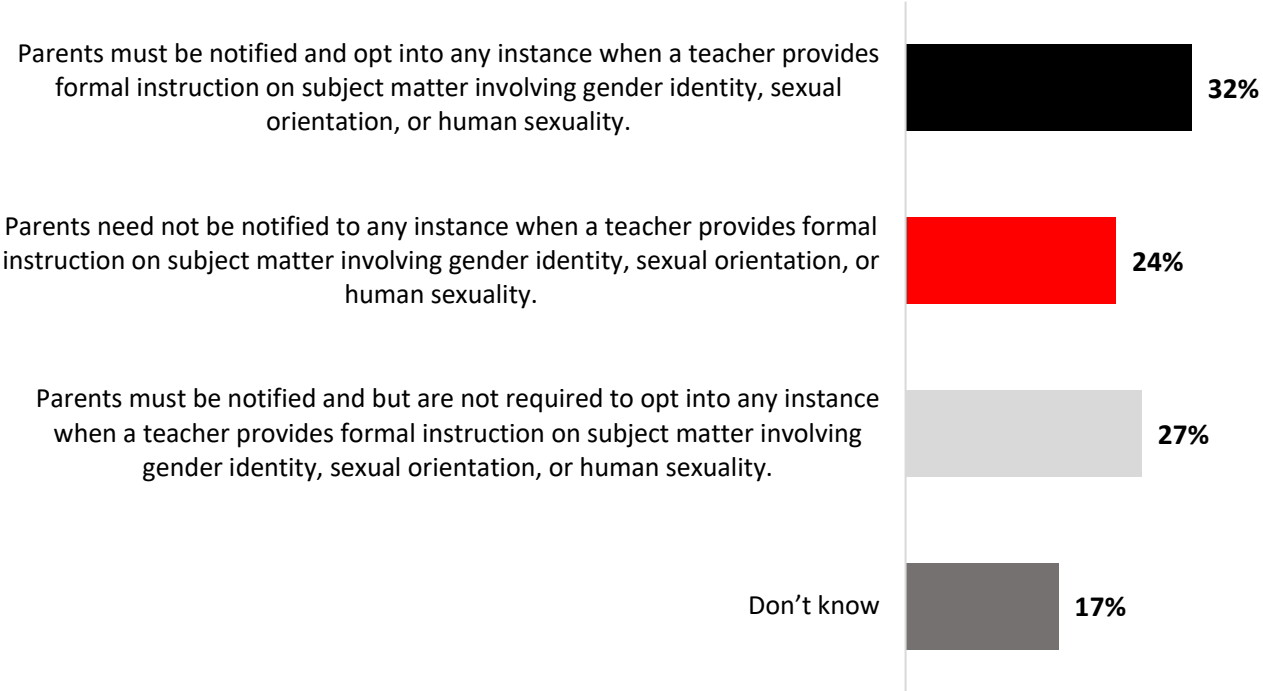
Base: All respondents

	Total Canada	ATL	QC	ON	MB/SK	AB	BC	Male	Female	18-34	35-54	55+	Urban	Sub-Urban	Rural	Kids at home	No-Kids
Weighted n=	2,439	163	563	945	157	272	339	1,189	1,250	650	785	1,004	1,014	910	484	652	1,776
Unweighted n=	2,439	103	438	608	134	1,002	1,54	1,143	1,296	614	856	969	1,070	857	485	669	1,756
Mature teens, aged 16 and 17, may only choose to commence puberty blockers and hormone therapies for gender reassignment and affirmation purposes with parental, physician and psychologist approval.	<b>24%</b>	26%	26%	24%	25%	28%	19%	25%	24%	21%	23%	<b>28%</b>	24%	25%	26%	24%	24%
Mature teens, aged 16 and 17, may choose to commence puberty blockers and hormone therapies for gender reassignment and affirmation purposes without the need for parental approval, but still the approval from a physician and psychological professional.	<b>23%</b>	17%	25%	21%	32%	25%	25%	<b>20%</b>	<b>26%</b>	<b>30%</b>	23%	<b>19%</b>	25%	23%	<b>18%</b>	21%	24%
Puberty blockers and hormone therapies for gender reassignment and affirmation purposes should not be allowed for any minors aged 17 and under.	<b>35%</b>	35%	32%	36%	29%	34%	37%	36%	33%	<b>30%</b>	35%	37%	33%	35%	38%	38%	33%
Don't know	<b>18%</b>	22%	17%	20%	14%	<b>13%</b>	19%	19%	17%	19%	19%	16%	18%	17%	18%	17%	18%

# Educational Policies on Gender Identity and Sexuality (1/2)

**Q4.** When it comes to teachers in secondary school providing formal instruction on subject matter involving gender identity, sexual orientation or human sexuality which approach do you feel is most appropriate?

Base: All respondents (n=2,439)



# Educational Policies on Gender Identity and Sexuality (2/2)

**Q4.** When it comes to teachers in secondary school providing formal instruction on subject matter involving gender identity, sexual orientation or human sexuality which approach do you feel is most appropriate?

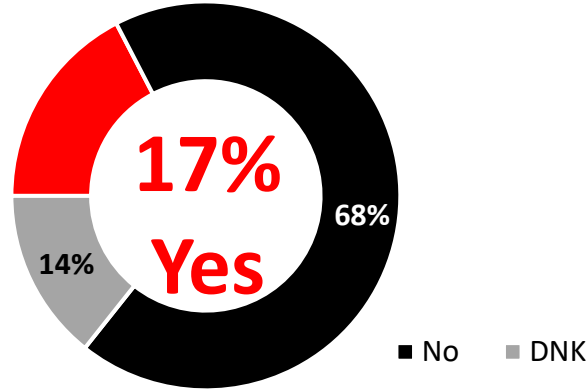
Base: All respondents

	Total Canada	ATL	QC	ON	MB/SK	AB	BC	Male	Female	18-34	35-54	55+	Urban	Sub-Urban	Rural	Kids at home	No-Kids
Weighted n=	2,439	163	563	945	157	272	339	1,189	1,250	650	785	1,004	1,014	910	484	652	1,776
Unweighted n=	2,439	103	438	608	134	1,002	1,54	1,143	1,296	614	856	969	1,070	857	485	669	1,756
Parents must be notified and opt into any instance when a teacher provides formal instruction on subject matter involving gender identity, sexual orientation, or human sexuality.	<b>32%</b>	<b>43%</b>	<b>26%</b>	30%	35%	<b>37%</b>	37%	34%	31%	<b>24%</b>	31%	<b>39%</b>	30%	32%	37%	<b>38%</b>	<b>30%</b>
Parents need not be notified to any instance when a teacher provides formal instruction on subject matter involving gender identity, sexual orientation, or human sexuality.	<b>24%</b>	27%	26%	22%	25%	23%	22%	22%	25%	<b>30%</b>	24%	<b>20%</b>	25%	25%	20%	21%	25%
Parents must be notified and but are not required to opt into any instance when a teacher provides formal instruction on subject matter involving gender identity, sexual orientation, or human sexuality.	<b>27%</b>	<b>16%</b>	26%	29%	25%	27%	26%	27%	27%	27%	29%	25%	27%	26%	28%	26%	27%
Don't know	<b>17%</b>	14%	<b>21%</b>	18%	15%	<b>13%</b>	14%	17%	17%	20%	16%	16%	18%	16%	15%	15%	18%

# Inclusion of Transgender Athletes in Women's Sports

**Q5.** Do you believe transgender athletes who were born as males should be allowed to compete in women's sports and athletics?

Base: All respondents (n=2,439)

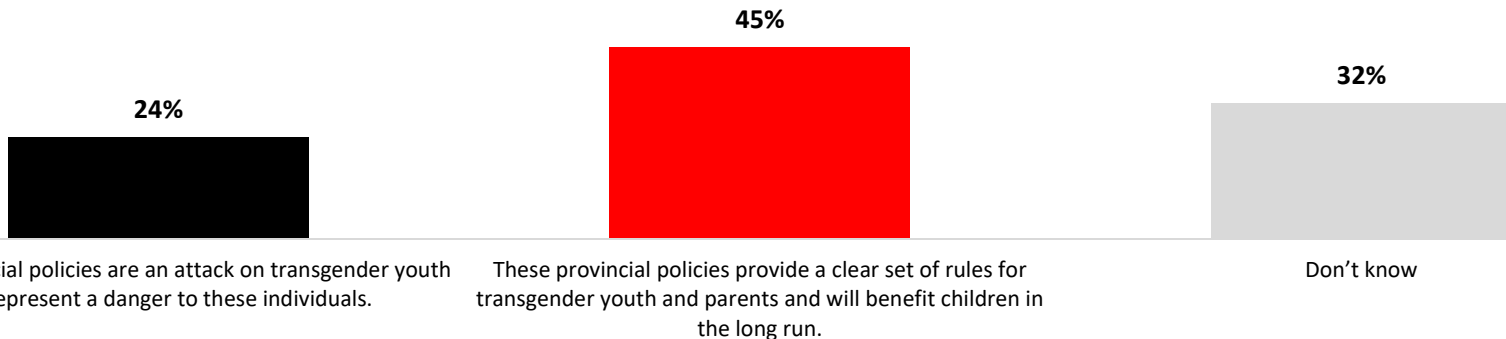


	Total Canada	ATL	QC	ON	MB/SK	AB	BC	Male	Female	18-34	35-54	55+	Urban	Sub-Urban	Rural	Kids at home	No-Kids
Weighted n=	2,439	163	563	945	157	272	339	1,189	1,250	650	785	1,004	1,014	910	484	652	1,776
Unweighted n=	2,439	103	438	608	134	1,002	1,54	1,143	1,296	614	856	969	1,070	857	485	669	1,756
Yes	17%	33%	16%	16%	18%	15%	19%	14%	21%	21%	19%	14%	19%	16%	17%	19%	17%
No	68%	55%	73%	69%	67%	67%	66%	74%	62%	63%	68%	72%	67%	70%	67%	69%	68%
Don't know	14%	12%	11%	15%	15%	18%	15%	12%	17%	16%	13%	14%	14%	14%	16%	12%	15%



# Impression of Provincial Policies on Gender Identity and Minors

**Q6.** There are two very broad points of view when it comes to some of the recent policy announcements by some provinces requiring schools notifying parents when children ask to change pronouns, genders, or limiting gender-transitioning medical treatments for children. Which of the views presented below is closest to your own? Base: All respondents (n=2,439)

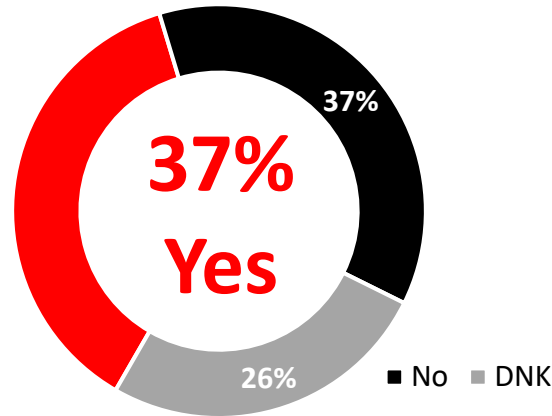


	Total Canada	ATL	QC	ON	MB/SK	AB	BC	Male	Female	18-34	35-54	55+	Urban	Sub-Urban	Rural	Kids at home	No-Kids
Weighted n=	2,439	163	563	945	157	272	339	1,189	1,250	650	785	1,004	1,014	910	484	652	1,776
Unweighted n=	2,439	103	438	608	134	1,002	154	1,143	1,296	614	856	969	1,070	857	485	669	1,756
These provincial policies are an attack on transgender youth and represent a danger to these individuals.	24%	19%	15%	24%	34%	32%	28%	22%	25%	30%	24%	19%	28%	23%	17%	24%	24%
These provincial policies provide a clear set of rules for transgender youth and parents and will benefit children in the long run.	45%	52%	48%	42%	39%	46%	45%	50%	40%	40%	41%	51%	41%	45%	51%	45%	45%
Don't know	32%	29%	37%	34%	28%	22%	27%	28%	35%	30%	35%	30%	31%	32%	33%	31%	32%

# Should the Federal Government intervene regarding Transgender Youth Policy

**Q7.** Do you feel the Federal Government should intervene in provinces that are introducing policies regarding transgender youth and challenge the passage of any legislation in this area that may limit or restrict the abilities of children to transition genders?

Base: All respondents (n=2,439)



	Total Canada	ATL	QC	ON	MB/SK	AB	BC	Male	Female	18-34	35-54	55+	Urban	Sub-Urban	Rural	Kids at home	No-Kids
Weighted n=	2,439	163	563	945	157	272	339	1,189	1,250	650	785	1,004	1,014	910	484	652	1,776
Unweighted n=	2,439	103	438	608	134	1,002	154	1,143	1,296	614	856	969	1,070	857	485	669	1,756
Yes	<b>37%</b>	38%	35%	38%	37%	33%	39%	35%	39%	41%	37%	34%	<b>40%</b>	36%	33%	<b>42%</b>	<b>35%</b>
No	<b>37%</b>	32%	40%	<b>33%</b>	35%	<b>47%</b>	36%	<b>43%</b>	<b>30%</b>	<b>31%</b>	36%	<b>41%</b>	<b>32%</b>	38%	<b>43%</b>	<b>32%</b>	<b>38%</b>
Don't know	<b>26%</b>	30%	25%	29%	27%	<b>20%</b>	25%	<b>22%</b>	<b>31%</b>	28%	27%	25%	28%	26%	24%	26%	27%

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REPORT

# Detailed Methodology



# Weighted and Unweighted Sample (1/2)

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

	Unweighted	Weighted
<b>Province</b>	<b>2,439</b>	<b>2,439</b>
British Columbia	154	339
Alberta	1,002	272
Manitoba/Saskatchewan	134	157
Ontario	608	945
Quebec	438	563
Atlantic	103	163
<b>Children in Household</b>		
Children in the HH	669	652
No Children in the HH	1756	1776

## 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
<b>Gender</b>	<b>2,439</b>	<b>2,439</b>
Male	1,143	1,189
Female	1,296	1,250
<b>Age</b>	<b>2,439</b>	<b>2,439</b>
18 to 34	614	650
35 to 54	856	785
55+	969	1,004
<b>Language (Mother tongue)</b>	<b>2,439</b>	<b>2,439</b>
English	1,700	1,648
French	422	481
Other	311	299

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