

**Leger**

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REPORT

# Railway Strike

*Survey of Canadians*

DATE 2024-08-26



# Methodology

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## Method

Online survey among respondents 18 years of age or older.

(Canadian sample: n= 1,602).

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



## When

August 23 to August 25, 2024



## Margin of error

For comparison purposes, a probability sample of this size yields a margin of error no greater than  $\pm 2.45\%$ , (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

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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 Andrew Enns, Executive Vice-President, Central Canada at the following e-mail addresses: [aenns@leger360.com](mailto:aenns@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



### LEGER SURVEY

Published in *Le Journal de Montréal*  
and *The National Post/Postmedia*  
September 18, 2021

### OFFICIAL RESULTS

2021 Canadian Federal Election\*

33%	32%	19%	7%	6%	2%
33.7%	32.6%	17.8%	7.7%	5.0%	2.3%

# Key Highlights

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*From August 23 to 25, 2024, we surveyed Canadians about their opinion on the recent labour dispute involving the railway companies CN and CPKC.*

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

- More than half of Canadians (53%) are familiar with the labour disruption involving Canada's two central national railways – CN and CPKC.
- Three-quarters of Canadians (75%) are concerned about the negative economic and supply chain impact due to the main railways shutting down.
- More than six out of ten Canadians (63%) support the federal government's legislation, stating that operations continue while labour negotiations are underway, while 20% are opposed. NDP voters are more likely to be opposed (31%).

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REPORT

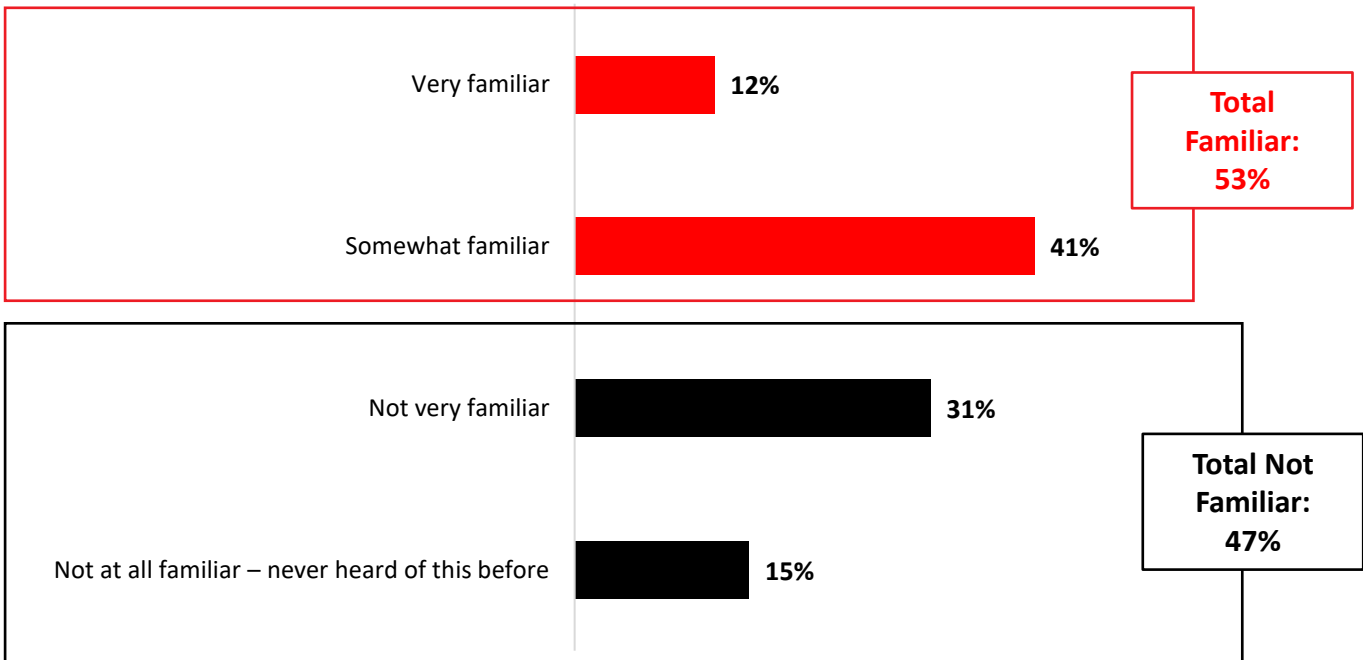
# Detailed Results



# Familiarity with Rail Labour Disruption (1/3)

**Q1.** How familiar are you of a labour disruption impacting Canada’s two main national railways—Canadian National (CN) and Canadian Pacific Kansas City (CPKC)?

Base: All respondents (n=1,602)



# Familiarity with Rail Labour Disruption (2/3)

**Q1.** How familiar are you of a labour disruption impacting Canada’s two main national railways—Canadian National (CN) and Canadian Pacific Kansas City (CPKC)?

Base: All respondents







	Total Canada	ATL	QC	ON	MB/SK	AB	BC	Male	Female	18-34	35-54	55+	Urban	Sub-Urban	Rural
Unweighted n=	1,602	105	430	621	134	142	170	781	821	424	435	743	712	583	299
<b>Total Familiar</b>	<b>53%</b>	55%	<b>31%</b>	<b>60%</b>	61%	61%	61%	<b>63%</b>	<b>44%</b>	<b>42%</b>	49%	<b>63%</b>	56%	51%	51%
Very familiar	<b>12%</b>	14%	<b>5%</b>	14%	13%	10%	<b>22%</b>	<b>17%</b>	<b>8%</b>	11%	10%	<b>15%</b>	12%	12%	12%
Somewhat familiar	<b>41%</b>	41%	<b>26%</b>	<b>46%</b>	48%	<b>51%</b>	39%	<b>45%</b>	<b>36%</b>	<b>31%</b>	39%	<b>48%</b>	44%	39%	39%
<b>Total Not Familiar</b>	<b>47%</b>	45%	<b>69%</b>	<b>40%</b>	39%	39%	39%	<b>37%</b>	<b>56%</b>	<b>58%</b>	51%	<b>37%</b>	44%	49%	49%
Not very familiar	<b>31%</b>	27%	<b>49%</b>	<b>26%</b>	25%	30%	25%	<b>28%</b>	<b>35%</b>	33%	33%	29%	30%	34%	30%
Not at all familiar – never heard of this before	<b>15%</b>	18%	<b>20%</b>	14%	14%	<b>10%</b>	14%	<b>9%</b>	<b>21%</b>	<b>25%</b>	18%	<b>7%</b>	14%	15%	19%



# Familiarity with Rail Labour Disruption (3/3)

**Q1.** How familiar are you of a labour disruption impacting Canada’s two main national railways—Canadian National (CN) and Canadian Pacific Kansas City (CPKC)?

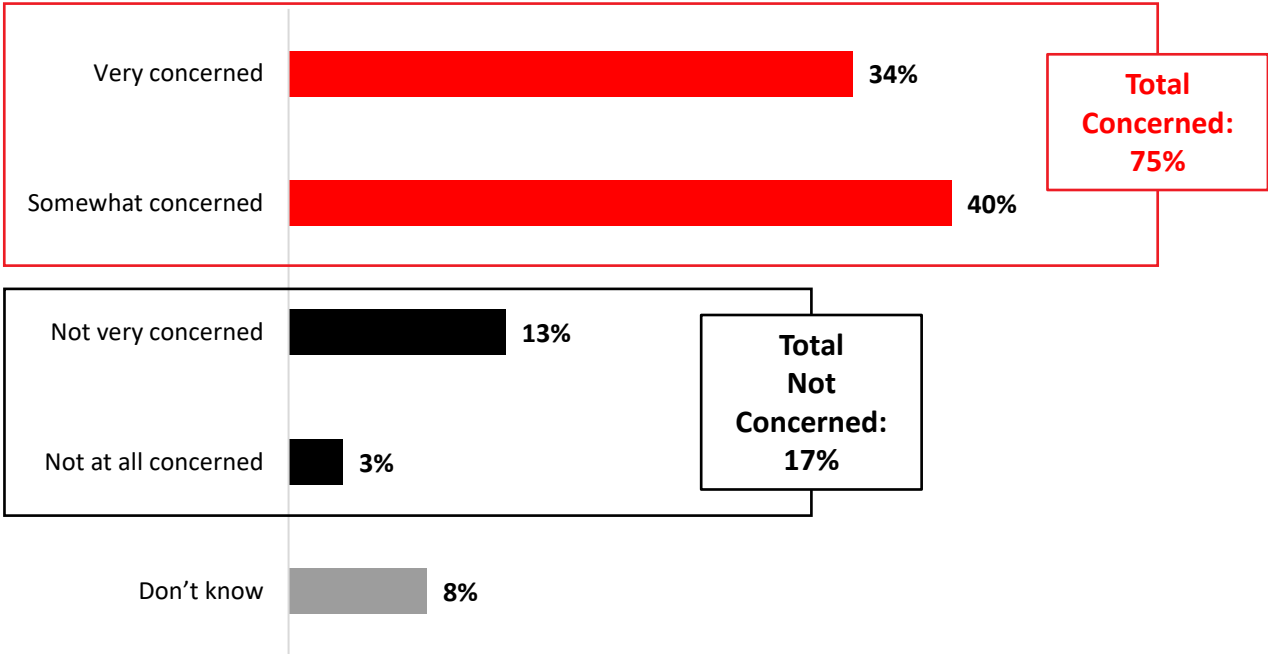
Base: All respondents

							
	TOTAL Canada	CPC	LPC	NDP	BQ	GPC	PPC
Weighted n=	1,602	544	312	186	82	87	38
Unweighted n=	1,602	471	364	227	117	74	35
<b>Total Familiar</b>	<b>53%</b>	<b>63%</b>	<b>66%</b>	55%	<b>23%</b>	53%	63%
Very familiar	<b>12%</b>	<b>17%</b>	15%	<b>8%</b>	<b>3%</b>	7%	24%
Somewhat familiar	<b>41%</b>	<b>46%</b>	<b>51%</b>	47%	<b>20%</b>	45%	39%
<b>Total Not Familiar</b>	<b>47%</b>	<b>37%</b>	<b>34%</b>	45%	<b>77%</b>	47%	37%
Not very familiar	<b>31%</b>	29%	28%	<b>23%</b>	<b>64%</b>	29%	32%
Not at all familiar – never heard of this before	<b>15%</b>	<b>8%</b>	<b>6%</b>	<b>22%</b>	13%	19%	5%

# Concern About Railway Shutdown Impact (1/3)

**Q2.** How concerned are you about the negative economic and supply chain impact of Canada’s two main railways shutting down due to a labour disruption?

Base: All respondents (n=1,602)



# Concern About Railway Shutdown Impact (2/3)

**Q2.** How concerned are you about the negative economic and supply chain impact of Canada's two main railways shutting down due to a labour disruption?







Base: All respondents

	Total Canada	ATL	QC	ON	MB/SK	AB	BC	Male	Female	18-34	35-54	55+	Urban	Sub-Urban	Rural
Unweighted n=	1,602	105	430	621	134	142	170	781	821	424	435	743	712	583	299
<b>Total Concerned</b>	<b>75%</b>	75%	73%	74%	76%	80%	76%	75%	75%	59%	73%	87%	73%	78%	73%
Very concerned	34%	37%	31%	33%	33%	45%	37%	36%	33%	18%	29%	49%	33%	36%	35%
Somewhat concerned	40%	39%	42%	42%	43%	35%	39%	39%	42%	41%	43%	38%	40%	42%	38%
<b>Total Not Concerned</b>	<b>17%</b>	14%	18%	16%	15%	17%	17%	20%	14%	24%	19%	10%	18%	15%	17%
Not very concerned	13%	11%	15%	13%	13%	11%	15%	15%	12%	19%	14%	9%	14%	12%	15%
Not at all concerned	3%	3%	3%	4%	2%	6%	2%	4%	2%	5%	5%	1%	4%	3%	2%
Don't know	8%	11%	10%	9%	9%	3%	7%	5%	11%	17%	8%	3%	9%	7%	10%

# Concern About Railway Shutdown Impact (3/3)

**Q2.** How concerned are you about the negative economic and supply chain impact of Canada's two main railways shutting down due to a labour disruption?

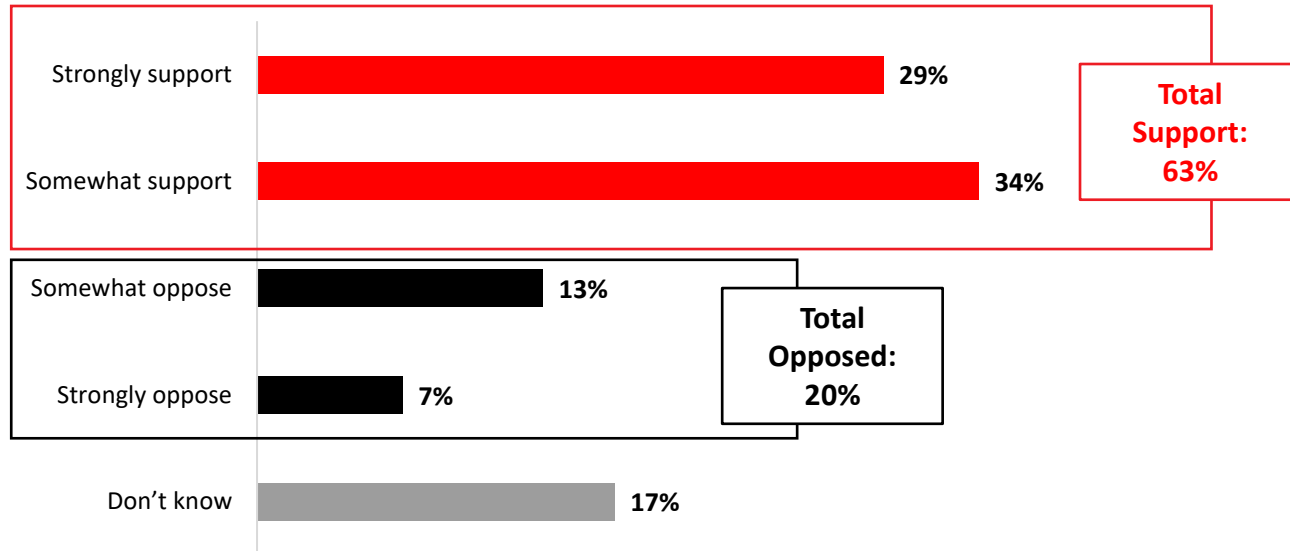
Base: All respondents

							
	TOTAL Canada	CPC	LPC	NDP	BQ	GPC	PPC
Weighted n=	1,602	544	312	186	82	87	38
Unweighted n=	1,602	471	364	227	117	74	35
<b>Total Concerned</b>	<b>75%</b>	<b>84%</b>	<b>83%</b>	<b>65%</b>	<b>84%</b>	68%	67%
Very concerned	<b>34%</b>	<b>44%</b>	40%	<b>26%</b>	30%	29%	36%
Somewhat concerned	<b>40%</b>	40%	44%	40%	<b>54%</b>	39%	30%
<b>Total Not Concerned</b>	<b>17%</b>	<b>12%</b>	14%	<b>27%</b>	12%	22%	21%
Not very concerned	<b>13%</b>	11%	12%	<b>19%</b>	10%	18%	17%
Not at all concerned	<b>3%</b>	<b>1%</b>	2%	<b>8%</b>	2%	4%	4%
<b>I don't know</b>	<b>8%</b>	<b>4%</b>	<b>3%</b>	7%	4%	10%	13%

# Support for 'Back-to-Work' Legislation (1/3)

**Q3.** Some business leaders are calling on the federal government to avoid the potential for economic and supply chain disruption as a result of the labour situation with Canada’s two main railways and to pass ‘back-to-work’ legislation ensuring the railways continue to operate. Do you support or oppose the federal government legislating that operations continue while labour negotiations are underway?

Base: All respondents (n=1,602)



# Support for 'Back-to-Work' Legislation (2/3)

**Q3.** Some business leaders are calling on the federal government to avoid the potential for economic and supply chain disruption as a result of the labour situation with Canada's two main railways and to pass 'back-to-work' legislation ensuring the railways continue to operate. Do you support or oppose the federal government legislating that operations continue while labour negotiations are underway?







Base: All respondents

	Total Canada	ATL	QC	ON	MB/SK	AB	BC	Male	Female	18-34	35-54	55+	Urban	Sub-Urban	Rural
Unweighted n=	1,602	105	430	621	134	142	170	781	821	424	435	743	712	583	299
<b>Total Support</b>	<b>63%</b>	68%	66%	61%	65%	60%	65%	69%	58%	47%	58%	77%	63%	63%	65%
Strongly support	29%	35%	28%	28%	29%	32%	31%	35%	24%	16%	23%	43%	30%	30%	27%
Somewhat support	34%	33%	38%	33%	36%	28%	34%	34%	34%	31%	36%	34%	33%	34%	37%
<b>Total Opposed</b>	<b>20%</b>	18%	18%	22%	15%	26%	19%	21%	19%	28%	23%	13%	21%	21%	18%
Somewhat oppose	13%	11%	13%	15%	9%	14%	13%	14%	13%	17%	15%	10%	14%	14%	12%
Strongly oppose	7%	6%	5%	7%	6%	12%	6%	8%	6%	11%	8%	3%	7%	7%	6%
Don't know	17%	14%	16%	18%	20%	15%	17%	10%	23%	25%	19%	10%	17%	16%	18%

# Support for 'Back-to-Work' Legislation (3/3)

**Q3.** Some business leaders are calling on the federal government to avoid the potential for economic and supply chain disruption as a result of the labour situation with Canada's two main railways and to pass 'back-to-work' legislation ensuring the railways continue to operate. Do you support or oppose the federal government legislating that operations continue while labour negotiations are underway?

Base: All respondents

							
	TOTAL Canada	CPC	LPC	NDP	BQ	GPC	PPC
Weighted n=	1,602	544	312	186	82	87	38
Unweighted n=	1,602	471	364	227	117	74	35
<b>Net Support</b>	<b>63%</b>	<b>69%</b>	<b>73%</b>	<b>50%</b>	<b>80%</b>	63%	50%
Strongly support	<b>29%</b>	<b>38%</b>	<b>35%</b>	<b>18%</b>	30%	31%	22%
Somewhat support	<b>34%</b>	30%	39%	32%	<b>49%</b>	32%	28%
<b>Net Oppose</b>	<b>20%</b>	18%	19%	<b>31%</b>	15%	28%	36%
Somewhat oppose	<b>13%</b>	13%	12%	18%	10%	22%	16%
Strongly oppose	<b>7%</b>	<b>5%</b>	6%	<b>14%</b>	5%	6%	19%
I don't know	<b>17%</b>	<b>13%</b>	<b>8%</b>	18%	<b>6%</b>	10%	14%

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# 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>1,602</b>	<b>1,602</b>
British Columbia	170	223
Alberta	142	177
Manitoba/Saskatchewan	134	103
Ontario	621	621
Quebec	430	370
Atlantic	105	108

# 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>1,602</b>	<b>1,602</b>
Male	781	781
Female	821	821
<b>Age</b>	<b>1,602</b>	<b>1,602</b>
18 to 34	424	428
35 to 54	435	515
55+	743	660
<b>Language (Mother tongue)</b>	<b>1,602</b>	<b>1,602</b>
English	1,033	1,135
French	417	316
Other	149	148

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- **Leger Opinion (LEO)**  
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- **Leger Communities**  
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- **Leger Digital**  
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- **International Research**  
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**8**

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