
QUEBEC NATIONALISM AND PUBLIC OPINION

ASSOCIATION FOR CANADIAN STUDIES

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INTRODUCTION

- Nationalism and nationalist sentiment have been the object of much debate in Canada and around the world in terms of the degree to which they reflect a positive expression of patriotism or a negative view that creates tension between those identifying with an ethnonational majority and those deemed not to be part of it.
- That which follows will look specifically at how Quebec nationalism is seen by Quebecers and how the extent to which Quebecers associate positively with Quebec nationalism affects their view of Canada, how they view selected communities, and their identity markers as well as selected diversity issues. On the eve of this year's Fête Nationale, the study offers some unique insights into perceptions about Quebec nationalism.

METHODOLOGY

- The Association for Canadian Studies commissioned the survey from the firm Leger Marketing with a number of partners amongst them the Quebec Community Groups Network for whom the oversample of 379 Quebec Anglophones was included in the sample (n.b. there are 184 allophones).
- The results that follow were collected via a web panel of Quebecers conducted between May 3-7, 2019 with 1,212 Quebeckers, 18 years of age or older. Using data from Statistics Canada, the results were weighted according to gender, age, region, language spoken at home, education and whether or not children are present in the household to ensure a sample representative of the entire population under review. For comparison purposes, a probability sample of 1,000 respondents would have a margin of error of $\pm 3.09\%$, 19 times out of 20.

97% OF QUEBEC ANGLOPHONES ATTACHED TO CANADA COMPARED WITH 64% OF QUEBEC FRANCOPHONES

Attachment to Canada (Quebecers)	French	English	Other
Very attached	23.4%	69.0%	52.9%
Somewhat attached	40.6%	27.6%	38.2%
Not very attached	24.9%	3.4%	5.9%
Not attached at all	10.0%		2.9%
I don't know	.7%		
I prefer not to answer	.2%		

ROLE REVERSAL OF ANGLOPHONES AND FRANCOPHONES WHEN IT COMES TO ATTACHMENT TO QUEBEC, WITH 2 IN 3 ANGLOPHONES ATTACHED TO QUEBEC COMPARED WITH OVER 9 IN 10 FRANCOPHONES. FOR ALLOPHONES, OVER 9 IN 10 ATTACHED TO CANADA COMPARED TO SIX IN TEN TO QUEBEC

Attachment to Quebec	French	English	Other
Very attached	63.3%	27.6%	21.2%
Somewhat attached	28.9%	41.4%	42.4%
Not very attached	6.2%	20.7%	27.3%
Not attached at all	1.2%	10.3%	9.1%
I don't know	.2%		
I prefer not to answer			

ALMOST 80% OF QUEBEC FRANCOPHONES SEE QUEBEC NATIONALISM POSITIVELY WHILE LESS THAN 25% OF ANGLOPHONES DO SO AND A LITTLE OVER ONE IN THREE ALLOPHONES

Quebec Nationalism	French	English	Other
Very positive	40.3%	6.7%	12.1%
Somewhat positive	37.8%	16.7%	24.2%
Somewhat negative	12.0%	30.0%	21.2%
Very negative	4.8%	40.0%	27.3%
I don't know	5.0%	3.3%	12.1%
I prefer not to answer	.3%	3.3%	3.0%

HALF OF QUEBEC NATIONALISTS ARE ATTACHED TO CANADA

Quebec Nationalism			
Attachment to Canada amongst Quebec Francophones	Very positive	Somewhat positive	Somewhat negative
Very attached	17.3%	25.2%	37.5%
Somewhat attached	32.1%	47.7%	47.9%
Not very attached	32.7%	22.5%	10.4%
Not attached at all	17.9%	4.6%	4.2%

THE MOST NATIONALIST QUEBECERS ARE NOT HOSTILE TOWARDS CANADA

Quebec Nationalism			
Canada	Very positive	Somewhat positive	Somewhat negative
Very positive	29.6%	22.5%	33.3%
Somewhat positive	42.6%	60.3%	58.3%
Somewhat negative	17.3%	13.9%	8.3%
Very negative	9.3%	2.0%	
I don't know	.6%	.7%	
I prefer not to answer	.6%	.7%	

“BOOMER” FRANCOPHONES ARE MORE NATIONALIST THAN YOUNGER ONES

Francophones	Quebec Nationalism					
	18 to 24	25 to 34	35 to 44	45 to 54	55 to 64	65 to 74
Total Positive	73.8	70.3	72.7	70.7	81.3	92.5
Very positive	40.5%	32.8%	31.8%	27.6%	49.3%	52.5%
Somewhat positive	33.3%	37.5%	40.9%	43.1%	32.0%	40.0%
Somewhat negative	11.9%	15.6%	13.6%	19.0%	10.7%	3.8%
Tres negative	9.5%	1.6%	3.0%	8.6%	6.7%	1.3%
I don't know	4.8%	10.9%	10.6%	1.7%	1.3%	2.5%
I prefer not to answer		1.6%				

HIGHER INCOME FRANCOPHONES SOMEWHAT LESS NATIONALIST

Quebec Nationalism						
Francophones	\$19,999 or less	\$20,000 to \$39,999	\$40,000 to \$59,999	\$60,000 to \$79,999	\$80,000 to \$99,999	\$100,000 or more
Total positive	78.2	79.7	80.6	74.5	78.9	69.1
Very positive	39.1%	41.9%	40.3%	40.0%	40.4%	32.7%
Somewhat positive	39.1%	37.8%	40.3%	34.5%	38.5%	36.4%
Somewhat negative	4.3%	8.1%	11.9%	16.4%	15.4%	20.0%
Very negative	8.7%	4.1%	4.5%	5.5%	1.9%	7.3%
I don't know	8.7%	8.1%	1.5%	3.6%	3.8%	3.6%
I prefer not to answer			1.5%			

LANGUAGE IS A KEY MARKER OF IDENTITY AMONGST FRANCOPHONES WITH STRONGER NATIONALIST SENTIMENT

Quebec Nationalism			
Francophones	Very positive	Somewhat positive	Somewhat negative
Very attached	94.4%	68.9%	37.5%
Somewhat attached	5.6%	27.8%	54.2%
Not very attached		3.3%	8.3%
Not attached at all			

ANGLOPHONES IN MORE FREQUENT CONTACT WITH FRANCOPHONES ARE SOMEWHAT MORE SYMPATHETIC TO QUEBEC NATIONALISM

Quebec Anglophones in Contact with Quebec Francophones				
Quebec Nationalism	Often	Occasionally	Rarely	Never
Very positive	14.6%	6.4%	2.7%	2.2%
Somewhat positive	14.6%	10.8%	16.6%	12.5%
Somewhat negative	38.7%	42.9%	37.7%	26.9%
Very negative	29.9%	30.1%	28.7%	28.2%
I don't know	2.2%	9.8%	13.9%	27.9%
I prefer not to answer			.4%	2.2%

FREQUENCY OF FRANCOPHONES CONTACT WITH QUEBEC ANGLOPHONES HAS NO IMPACT ON VIEW OF QUEBEC NATIONALISM

View on Quebec Nationalism	Quebec Francophones in Contact with Quebec Anglophones			
	Often	Occasionally	Rarely	Never
Very positive	36.4%	35.4%	37.4%	33.3%
Somewhat positive	33.9%	40.5%	31.8%	36.7%
Somewhat negative	15.7%	12.8%	18.7%	13.3%
Very negative	9.1%	5.1%	4.7%	16.7%
I don't know	5.0%	5.6%	6.5%	
I prefer not to answer		.5%	.9%	

NATIONALIST SENTIMENT HAS LITTLE IMPACT ON FRANCOPHONE PERCEPTIONS OF GROUPS AND SYMBOLS

Francophones	Quebec Nationalism		
	Very positive	Somewhat positive	Somewhat negative
Crucifix (definition: a representation of a cross with a figure of Jesus Christ on it)	66.0%	79.7%	83.3%
Hijabs	20.7%	25.2%	23.9%
Kippas	34.5%	40.0%	40.0%
Catholicism	65.8%	64.2%	52.1%
Muslims	32.3%	33.1%	31.3%
Jews	58.4%	49.7%	54.2%
Immigrants	66.3%	64.7%	68.1%
Multiculturalism	66.3%	75.7%	70.8%
Interculturalism	68.1%	80.0%	67.3%
Black Persons	85.2%	87.4%	77.1%

THOSE WITH STRONGER NATIONALIST SENTIMENT ARE SOMEWHAT MORE FAVORABLE TO BILL 21

Quebec Nationalism			
Francophones: Public school teachers should be allowed to wear religious signs (hijabs, kippas, crucifixes or turbans)	Very positive	Somewhat positive	Somewhat negative
Strongly agree	5.6%	5.3%	8.2%
Somewhat agree	8.1%	21.9%	18.4%
Somewhat disagree	14.3%	23.2%	18.4%
Strongly disagree	64.0%	43.7%	44.9%
I don't know	5.6%	6.0%	8.2%
I prefer not to answer	2.5%		2.0%

THOSE FRANCOPHONES WITH STRONGER NATIONALIST SENTIMENT ARE MORE LIKELY TO FEEL THREATENED BY IMMIGRANTS FROM RELIGIOUS MINORITIES

Quebec Nationalism			
Francophones: Our way of life is threatened by the presence of immigrants from religious minorities	Very positive	Somewhat positive	Somewhat negative
Strongly agree	30.6%	16.6%	10.4%
Somewhat agree	31.9%	35.1%	33.3%
Somewhat disagree	20.6%	29.1%	33.3%
Strongly disagree	11.3%	11.9%	18.8%
I don't know	4.4%	6.6%	2.1%
I prefer not to answer	1.3%	.7%	2.1%

THOSE FRANCOPHONES WITH STRONGER NATIONALIST SENTIMENT ARE MORE LIKELY TO AGREE THAT RELIGIOUS MINORITIES SHOULD BE ENCOURAGED TO GIVE UP THEIR CUSTOMS AND TRADITIONS

Quebec Nationalism			
Francophones: Religious minorities should be encouraged to give up their customs and traditions	Very positive	Somewhat positive	Somewhat negative
Strongly agree	19.4%	7.2%	4.2%
Somewhat agree	16.9%	15.1%	14.6%
Somewhat disagree	38.8%	49.3%	45.8%
Strongly disagree	17.5%	18.4%	22.9%
I don't know	5.0%	9.2%	8.3%
I prefer not to answer	2.5%	.7%	4.2%

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