
A BIG CONSENSUS AMONGST CANADIANS ON TRAVEL OUTSIDE OF CANADA AND ON STRICT TESTING FOR THOSE RETURNING

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INTRODUCTION

Highly infectious variants of the SARS-CoV-2 virus which causes COVID-19 (known as Variants of Concern, or VOCs) are circulating internationally and represent a very danger to Canadians. Given the very high stakes involved, it is better to act very strongly now and have the ability to relax constraints in the future versus not to be tough enough and lose forever the chance of shielding Canadians from the onslaught of new higher-transmission variants. Reduce the number of people leaving/entering Canada by air or by land, by defining more clearly and stringently what is essential and enforcing those criteria. As a key part of eliminating non-essential travel, immediately cancel all flights to and from non-essential destinations (e.g. seasonal holiday destinations), except to allow for the return of Canadians already there.

A survey conducted by Leger for the Association for Canadian Studies and Covid Strategic Choices points to a broad consensus across regional, demographic and party lines calling for government to halt all non-essential travel and implement stricter testing for those returning to the country. The findings arise from a survey conducted via web panel between January 15 and January 17, 2021 with 1516 Canadians and while no margin of error can be associated with a non-probability sample, for comparative purposes the national sample would have a margin of error of $\pm 2.5\%$, 19 times out of 20.

A LARGE MAJORITY OF CANADIANS OPPOSE TRAVEL OUTSIDE OF CANADA FOR LEISURE AND TWO IN THREE CANADIANS STRONGLY OPPOSE SUCH TRAVEL FOR THE NEXT 90 DAYS

Travel outside of Canada for leisure (e.g.the United States, Mexico) - In regard to travel outside of Canada over the next 90 days (three months), do you strongly support, somewhat support, somewhat oppose or strongly **oppose the following:**

TOTAL SUPPORT	17%
Strongly support	8%
Somewhat support	9%
TOTAL OPPOSE	83%
Somewhat oppose	17%
Strongly oppose	66%

TWO THIRDS OF CANADIANS OPPOSE TRAVEL OUTSIDE OF CANADA FOR BUSINESS (ONE IN THREE STRONGLY OPPOSE)

Travel outside of Canada for business - In regard to travel outside of Canada over the next 90 days (three months), do you strongly support, somewhat support, somewhat oppose or strongly oppose the following:

TOTAL SUPPORT	33%
Strongly support	8%
Somewhat support	24%
TOTAL OPPOSE	67%
Somewhat oppose	36%
Strongly oppose	31%

MAJORITY OF CANADIANS SUPPORT STOPPING DIRECT TRAVEL TO CANADA FROM OUTSIDE THE COUNTRY UNLESS IT IS FOR HUMANITARIAN REASONS

Stop direct travel to Canada from outside the country unless its for humanitarian reasons - In regard to travel outside of Canada over the next 90 days (three months), do you strongly support, somewhat support, somewhat oppose or strongly oppose

TOTAL SUPPORT	76%
Strongly support	41%
Somewhat support	34%
TOTAL OPPOSE	24%
Somewhat oppose	15%
Strongly oppose	9%

OPPOSITION TO TRAVEL OUTSIDE OF CANADA TRANSCENDS PARTY LINES

In regard to travel outside of Canada over the next 90 days (three months), do you strongly support, somewhat support, somewhat oppose or strongly oppose the following:

Total Oppose	Total	LPC	NDP	BQ	CPC	GPC
Travel outside of Canada for leisure (e.g.the United States, Mexico)	83%	86%	85%	90%	81%	80%
Travel outside of Canada for business	67%	72%	68%	61%	60%	59%
Stop direct travel to Canada from outside the country unless its for humanitarian reasons	24%	20%	19%	19%	28%	28%

ALMOST ALL CANADIANS SUPPORT ADMINISTERING COVID TESTS FOR PERSONS COMING TO OR RETURNING TO CANADA UPON ARRIVAL

Administer in-airport COVID tests for persons coming to or returning to Canada upon arrival - In regard to travel outside of Canada over the next 90 days (three months), do you strongly support, somewhat support, somewhat oppose or strongly oppose

	Total	LPC	NDP	BQ	CPC	GPC
TOTAL SUPPORT	93%	97%	95%	92%	94%	88%
Strongly support	73%	75%	77%	71%	79%	68%
Somewhat support	20%	21%	18%	21%	14%	20%
TOTAL OPPOSE	7%	3%	5%	8%	6%	12%
Somewhat oppose	4%	2%	4%	5%	5%	4%
Strongly oppose	2%	1%	1%	3%	1%	7%

ALMOST ALL CANADIANS SUPPORT REQUIRE AN ADDITIONAL TEST 5 DAYS LATER - FOR PERSONS COMING TO OR RETURNING TO CANADA

Require an additional test 5 days later - In regard to travel outside of Canada over the next 90 days (three months), do you strongly support, somewhat support, somewhat oppose or strongly oppose the following:

	Total	LPC	NDP	BQ	CPC	GPC
TOTAL SUPPORT	91%	94%	95%	94%	90%	87%
Strongly support	66%	69%	70%	80%	64%	66%
Somewhat support	25%	25%	25%	14%	25%	21%
TOTAL OPPOSE	9%	6%	5%	6%	10%	13%
Somewhat oppose	5%	4%	4%	4%	6%	6%
Strongly oppose	3%	2%	1%	1%	4%	7%

METHODOLOGY

- The findings arise from a survey conducted via web panel between January 15 and January 17, 2021 with 1516 Canadians and while no margin of error can be associated with a non-probability sample, for comparative purposes the national sample would have a margin of error of $\pm 2.5\%$, 19 times out of 20.

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