
PREMIER LEGAULT SAYS ELEMENTARY SCHOOLS TO REOPEN JANUARY 11TH AND SECONDARY JANUARY 18TH: MAJORITY OF QUEBECERS THINK IT IS UNSAFE

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INTRODUCTION: MAJORITY OF QUEBECERS FEEL THAT SCHOOL REOPENING IS UNSAFE BUT OPINION VARIES BY WHERE ONE LIVES AND WHETHER THEY HAVE CHILDREN AT HOME

Two days ago, Quebec Premier Francois Legault announced that there would be stricter measures to combat the spread of COVID-19 and that meant a full lockdown and evening curfew. But elementary schools were to reopen as scheduled on January 11th with high schools to reopen on January 18th. A Leger-Association for Canadian Studies survey revealed that a majority of Quebecers consider the reopening of schools next week to be unsafe. But as the following analysis reveals Quebecers opinion varies on the basis of where they live and whether they have school aged children. The analysis concludes with comparative data on the issue of school reopening for Quebec and the rest of Canada.

The survey was conducted between January 2 and 3 with 1506 Canadians (402 Quebecers). While no margin of error can be associated with a non-probability sample for comparative purposes, a probability sample of 1506 respondents would have a margin of error of $\pm 2.5\%$ 19 times out of 20.

A MAJORITY OF QUEBECERS THINK IT IS UNSAFE TO SEND ELEMENTARY AND HIGH SCHOOL STUDENTS BACK TO SCHOOL NEXT WEEK; BUT PARENTS WITH CHILDREN UNDER THE AGE OF 12 ARE MORE LIKELY TO THINK IT IS SAFE THAN OTHERS

Quebec	Are there any children who are UNDER 18 YEARS OF AGE living in your household? (IF SO): Are any of them 12 YEARS OLD AND OLDER or LESS THAN 12 years old?				
Do you think it will be safe or unsafe to send elementary and high school students back to school next week?	Total All Quebecers	Yes: 12 years of age and OLDER ONLY	Yes: 12 years of age and older AND younger than 12 years old	Yes: YOUNGER than 12 years old ONLY	No children under 18 years old at all in the household
Safe	29%	48%	29%	42%	24%
Unsafe	58%	42%	64%	51%	60%
I don't know	13%	10%	7%	7%	16%
Total	100%	100.0%	100.0%	100.0%	100.0%

MONTREALERS WITH CHILDREN UNDER 12 ARE MORE LIKELY TO THINK THAT IT IS UNSAFE THAN THOSE ELSEWHERE IN QUEBEC

Do you think it will be safe or unsafe to send elementary and high school students back to school next week?	ONLY have children in my household that are under the age of 12 years	
	Montreal	Rest of Quebec
Safe	37%	54%
Unsafe	58%	41%
I don't know	5%	5%
Total	100.0%	100.0%

URBAN RESIDENTS ARE MOST LIKELY TO THINK SCHOOL REOPENING NEXT WEEK IS UNSAFE

Quebec	Which of the following best describes the area in which you live:				
Do you think it will be safe or unsafe to send elementary and high school students back to school next week?	Urban area	Suburban area	Rural area	Montreal RMR	Rest of Quebec
Safe	25%	29%	35%	20%	28%
Unsafe	66%	55%	49%	66%	57%
I don't know	9%	16%	16%	13%	13%
Total	100.0%	100.0%	100.0%	100.0%	100.0%

QUEBEC NON-FRANCOPHONES ARE MORE LIKELY THAN FRANCOPHONES TO THINK NEXT WEEK'S SCHOOL REOPENING IS UNSAFE BUT MAJORITIES IN BOTH CASES SEE IT AS UNSAFE

Do you think it will be safe or unsafe to send elementary and high school students back to school next week?	Quebec Total	Francophone	Non-Francophone
Safe	29%	33%	17%
Unsafe	58%	55%	69%
I don't know	13%	13%	14%

THOSE QUEBECERS THAT ARE MOST AFRAID OF GETTING COVID-19 BELIEVE THAT IT IS UNSAFE TO SEND CHILDREN BACK TO SCHOOL NEXT WEEK

Quebec	Are you personally afraid of contracting the COVID-19 (Coronavirus)?			
Do you think it will be safe or unsafe to send elementary and high school students back to school next week?	Very afraid	Somewhat afraid	Not very afraid	Not afraid at all
Safe	12%	17%	37%	65%
Unsafe	77%	63%	55%	29%
I don't know	10%	20%	8%	6%
Total	100.0%	100.0%	100.0%	100.0%



OPINION ON SCHOOL REOPENING IN THE REST OF CANADA

ONTARIANS MOST LIKELY TO THINK THAT RETURN TO SCHOOL IS UNSAFE

Do you think it will be safe or unsafe to send elementary and high school students back to school next week?

	Total	French	English	Others	Atl.	QC	ON	MB/SK	AB	BC
Safe	29%	33%	29%	20%	47%	29%	25%	28%	30%	29%
Unsafe	57%	53%	55%	70%	30%	58%	64%	50%	56%	51%
I don't know	14%	13%	15%	10%	22%	13%	10%	22%	14%	20%

MAJORITY OF CANADIANS BELIEVE THAT RETURN TO SCHOOL IS UNSAFE WITH WOMEN AND PERSONS UNDER 35 MOST LIKELY TO FEEL THAT WAY

Do you think it will be safe or unsafe to send elementary and high school students back to school next week?

	Total	Man	Woman	18-34	35-54	55+	With Kids	Without Kids
Safe	29%	34%	24%	28%	31%	27%	41%	24%
Unsafe	57%	54%	60%	63%	56%	53%	51%	59%
I don't know	14%	13%	16%	9%	13%	19%	9%	17%

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