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# CANADA AND AMERICANS BELIEVE THE BORDER WILL REOPEN IN 2021 BUT DIFFERENCES IN VIEWS ABOUT THE CONTAGION WON'T MAKE IT EASY

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# INTRODUCTION: MOST CANADIANS AND AMERICANS THINK THE BORDER WILL REOPEN IN 2021, BUT ....

The current agreement on the U.S.-Canada border closure to non-essential travel was first imposed in March and it is safe to assume that we're several months away from reopening. There is also no official plan as to what the conditions would be needed for border reopening (that said there has been a flurry of “non-essential travel” across the border out of domestic airports). Nonetheless a December Leger-ACS survey reveals that a majority of Canadians and Americans believe that the Canada-US border will reopen in 2021. Quebecers are the most likely to feel this will happen across all regional respondents in the two countries. However, what may continue to be an obstacle to border reopening in the two countries is the divergent attitudes between Americans and Canadians with regards to vaccination and safety measures as the poll reveals much lower intention to vaccinate in the United States and less support for safety measures. The survey points to persistent divisions in the United States on the basis of partisan identification suggesting continued polarization over the COVID-19 issues south of our border. Finally, the survey that even with lifting of restrictions on travel to the US most Canadians would not feel comfortable heading there.

The survey of 1528 Canadians and 1001 Americans was conducted via web panel between December 11 to 13 by Leger Marketing in partnership with the Association for Canadian Studies.

While no margin of error can be associated with a non-probability sample for comparative purposes, a probability sample of 1528 respondents and 1001 respondents would have respective margins of error of  $\pm 2.5\%$  19 times out of 20 and  $\pm 3.5\%$  19 times out of 20.

# CANADIANS MORE LIKELY THAN AMERICANS TO THINK THE BORDER WILL RE-OPEN IN 2021 ... QUEBECERS FAR MOST LIKELY THAN OTHERS TO BELIEVE SO ... LITTLE DIFFERENCE ALONG PARTISAN LINES BETWEEN CANADA AND THE US

-Thinking ahead to 2021 do you think that The Canada-US Border will re-open for regular travel

Canada	58%
United States	55%
Atlantic	52%
Quebec	68%
Ontario	56%
Man/Sask	54%
Alberta	53%
BC	58%
NorthEast US	56%
Mid West US	50%
South	54%
West	60%

-Thinking ahead to 2021 do you think that The Canada-US Border will re-open for regular travel

<b>Canada</b>	58%
Liberals	58%
New Democrats	51%
Bloc Quebecois	65%
Conservatives	65%
Green Party	63%
<b>United States</b>	55%
Voted for Biden	60%
Voted for Trump	58%

# CANADIANS FAR MORE LIKELY THAN AMERICANS TO GET VACCINATED WITH TRUMP SUPPORTERS AND CANADIAN CONSERVATIVES LEAST LIKELY TO DO SO

-When a vaccine for COVID-19 that had been approved by The FDA becomes available to the population and it is free, do you intend to get vaccinated?

<b>Canada</b>	<b>66%</b>
<b>United States</b>	<b>48%</b>
Atlantic	66%
Quebec	64%
Ontario	68%
Man/Sask	67%
Alberta	65%
BC	67%
NorthEast US	53%
Mid West US	47%
South	44%
West	52%

-When a vaccine for COVID-19 that had been approved by The FDA becomes available to the population and it is free, do you intend to get vaccinated?

<b>Canada</b>	<b>66%</b>
Liberals	75%
New Democrats	74%
Bloc Quebecois	62%
Conservatives	53%
Green Party	76%
<b>United States</b>	<b>48%</b>
Voted for Biden	63%
Voted for Trump	45%

# CANADIANS MORE LIKELY THAN AMERICANS TO SUPPORT LOCKDOWNS AND TRUMP SUPPORTERS LEAST LIKELY TO DO SO

Do you support or oppose a general lockdown in your province, including the closure of all non-essential businesses and services, for the holiday season to tackle the pandemic?		
	Canada	United States
<b>TOTAL SUPPORT</b>	65%	49%
Strongly support	31%	25%
Somewhat support	35%	24%
<b>TOTAL OPPOSE</b>	29%	39%
Somewhat oppose	15%	13%
Strongly oppose	14%	26%
I don't know	5%	11%
I prefer not to answer	1%	2%

-Do you support a general lockdown in your province, including the closure of all non-essential businesses and services, for the holiday season to tackle the pandemic?	
<b>Canada</b>	65%
Liberals	80%
New Democrats	71%
Bloc Quebecois	76%
Conservatives	60%
Green Party	76%
<b>United States</b>	49%
Voted for Biden	70%
Voted for Trump	30%

# THOSE CANADIANS WHO STRONGLY OPPOSE LOCKDOWNS ARE MOST LIKELY TO BELIEVE THAT THE BORDER WILL REOPEN IN 2021

The Canada-US Border will re-open for regular travel - For many, 2020 represented a year of things we could not do. Thinking ahead to 2021, are the following things going to happen? Canada	Do you support or oppose a general lockdown in your province, including the closure of all non-essential businesses and services, for the holiday season to tackle the pandemic?			
	Strongly support	Somewhat support	Somewhat oppose	Strongly oppose
Yes	52.8%	55.2%	65.4%	74.5%
No	47.2%	44.8%	34.6%	25.5%
Total	100.0%	100.0%	100.0%	100.0%

EVEN IF AND WHEN TRAVEL RESTRICTIONS ARE LIFTED TWO IN THREE CANADIANS SAY THEY WILL NOT FEEL COMFORTABLE TRAVELLING TO THE US AND THAT IS ALSO TRUE AMONGST THOSE WHO FEEL THAT THE BORDER WILL RE-OPEN THAT IN THE MAJORITY REMAIN UNCOMFORTABLE TRAVELLING TO THE US

<b>Canada</b>	Travelling to the United States - Once the governments lift the protective measures put in place to fight COVID-19, which of the following would you be comfortable doing...
Comfortable	23.5%
Not comfortable	64.9%
Does not apply	11.5%
Total	100.0%

Travelling to the United States - Once the governments lift the protective measures put in place to fight COVID-19, which of the following would you be comfortable doing... <b>Canada</b>	The Canada-US Border will re-open for regular travel - For many, 2020 represented a year of things we could not do. Thinking ahead to 2021, are the following things going to happen?	
	Yes	No
Comfortable	35.1%	7.5%
Not comfortable	54.7%	79.2%
Does not apply	10.2%	13.3%
Total	100.0%	100.0%

# IRONICALLY THOSE WHO SAY THEY WILL NOT GET VACCINATED ARE THE MOST COMFORTABLE WITH TRAVELLING TO THE UNITED STATES

Travelling to the United States - Once the governments lift the protective measures put in place to fight COVID-19, which of the following would you be comfortable doing... Canada	When a vaccine for COVID-19 that had been approved by Health Canada becomes available to the population and it is free, do you intend to get vaccinated?	
	Yes	No
Comfortable	19.8%	42.0%
Not comfortable	70.5%	45.4%
Does not apply	9.7%	12.6%
Total	100.0%	100.0%



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