

Afghan Refugees: Canadian views on the arrival and settlement

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September 1, 2021

In response to the refugee crisis in Afghanistan, Canada evacuated roughly 3,700 people from the country and expanded its humanitarian program to welcome 20,000 refugees. Earlier this week, Canada has reached an agreement with the United States to accept 5,000 Afghan refugees that evacuated by American forces. Like many other refugee receiving countries, Canadians watched the troubling events unfold in the evacuation process with a great deal of concern. Such concerns are reflected in the results of a national survey conducted by Leger Marketing for the Association for Canadian Studies and Metropolis Canada which reveals that a majority of Canadians support the admission of 20 000 Afghan refugees into Canada.

Conducted with some 1544 Canadians between August 27 and 29, 2021, the survey further reveals that Canada has a responsibility to accept refugees into the country and that as many as one in four Canadians would be willing to allow a refugee from Afghanistan to temporarily reside in your home/residence (this translates into several million Canadians expressing a willingness to accommodate Afghan refugees).

While no margin of error can be associated with a non-probability sample (Web panel in this case). However for comparative purposes, a probability sample of 1544 respondents would have a margin of error of $\pm 2.52\%$, 19 times out of 20.

**Introduction:
a majority of
Canadians are
ready to welcome
Afghan refugees
into the country
and many into
their homes**

A majority of Canadians are open to taking 20,000 afghan refugees into the country: Canadians between the ages of 18 and 34 are most likely to approve

As you may know, thousands of refugees have fled Afghanistan to escape the Taliban’s overtaking of the country. Thus far Canada has taken over 1000 refugees from that country aims at taking a total of 20 000.

Do you approve or disapprove of allowing these refugees to come to Canada?

	Total	Man	Woman	18-34	35-54	55+
Approve	55%	55%	55%	60%	49%	57%
Disapprove	27%	28%	25%	24%	29%	26%
I don't know	16%	14%	18%	14%	18%	15%
I prefer not to answer	3%	3%	3%	2%	4%	2%

Prairies residents somewhat less inclined to admit 20,000 afghan refugees but plurality still approve doing so

As you may know, thousands of refugees have fled Afghanistan to escape the Taliban's overtaking of the country. Thus far Canada has taken over 1000 refugees from that country aims at taking a total of 20 000.

Do you approve or disapprove of allowing these refugees to come to Canada?

	Atl.	QC	ON	MB/SK	AB	BC
Approve	57%	56%	53%	43%	60%	56%
Disapprove	24%	27%	26%	32%	28%	24%
I don't know	19%	13%	16%	21%	11%	19%
I prefer not to answer	0%	3%	4%	4%	1%	1%

A majority of Canadians agree that Canada has a responsibility to accept refugees into the country with Quebecers and Albertans most likely to think so

Do you think Canada has a responsibility to accept refugees into the country, or do you think it does not have a responsibility to do this?

	Total	Man	Woman	18-34	35-54	55+	French	English	Others	Atl.	QC	ON	MB/SK	AB	BC
Does have a responsibility	53%	51%	54%	50%	49%	58%	60%	51%	52%	53%	59%	51%	32%	59%	52%
Does not have a responsibility	36%	39%	32%	37%	38%	33%	32%	37%	35%	40%	32%	35%	52%	31%	37%
I don't know	12%	10%	13%	13%	13%	10%	8%	12%	13%	8%	9%	14%	16%	10%	11%

Would you be willing to allow a refugee from Afghanistan to temporarily reside in your home/residence?

	Total	Man	Woman	18-34	35-54	55+	Atl.	QC	ON	MB/SK	AB	BC
Yes	25%	27%	23%	29%	19%	28%	42%	22%	23%	28%	27%	24%
No	75%	73%	77%	71%	81%	72%	58%	78%	77%	72%	73%	76%



One in four Canadians would allow an afghan refugee to reside in their home/residence with atlantic canadians most willing

A majority of Canadians disagree when asked if refugees should be encouraged to give up their customs and traditions with Quebec being the only exception

Refugees should be encouraged to give up their customs and traditions and become more like us.

Do you strongly agree, somewhat agree, somewhat disagree or strongly disagree with the following:

	Total	Man	Woman	18-34	35-54	55+	French	English	Others	Atl.	QC	ON	MB/SK	AB	BC
TOTAL AGREE	45%	51%	40%	37%	45%	52%	59%	42%	42%	38%	56%	42%	47%	44%	40%
Strongly Agree	17%	20%	14%	14%	18%	19%	26%	15%	14%	15%	25%	15%	20%	12%	14%
Somewhat agree	28%	31%	26%	23%	27%	33%	33%	26%	28%	23%	31%	27%	28%	32%	26%
TOTAL DISAGREE	55%	49%	60%	63%	55%	48%	41%	58%	58%	62%	44%	58%	53%	56%	60%
Somewhat disagree	32%	30%	34%	27%	34%	34%	29%	32%	37%	32%	32%	34%	25%	27%	34%
Strongly disagree	23%	19%	26%	36%	22%	14%	12%	26%	20%	30%	11%	24%	28%	29%	26%

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Created on September 1, 2021

