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# MILLIONS OF CANADIANS OFTEN SEE RACISM ON ONLINE

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WEEK OF MAY 16 2022

# INTRODUCTION

The New York teenager that murdered 10 people at a Buffalo supermarket on Saturday afternoon has been called a “straight-up racially motivated hate crime” In the aftermath of the shooting, New York Gov. Kathy Hochul called out social media for enabling the gunman to be heavily influenced by hatred on line. She added that: “the social media platforms that profit from their existence need to be responsible for monitoring... they can in a sense become an accomplice, if not legally but morally,”

Racism and hate on line is pervasive and youth in particular are frequently exposed to its manifestation. A Leger survey for the Association for Canadian Studies conducted via web panel during the week of April 25th 2022 reveals that millions of Canadians report ‘often’ seeing racism and prejudice on line and a majority of respondents under the age of 35 ‘often and sometimes’ see racism and prejudice on line directed at immigrants (55%) and a near majority (48%) say they see racism and prejudice on line directed at Black persons. Some 1967 persons were surveyed by Leger for the ACS which included an oversample of 543 immigrants.

Using data from the 2016 Census, results were weighted according to gender, age, mother tongue, region, education level and presence of children in the household in order to ensure a representative sample of the population. 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 1967 respondents would have a margin of error of  $\pm 2.52\%$ , 19 times out of 20.

# CANADIANS MOST LIKELY TO VIEW RACIST OR PREJUDICED REMARKS TOWARDS IMMIGRANTS ON LINE

How often do you see racist or prejudiced remarks on line about the following groups....				
Canada	Immigrants	Asian Canadians	Black People	Indigenous Peoples of Canada
TOTAL often+sometimes	42%	31%	36%	35%
Often	12%	7%	9%	9%
Sometimes	30%	24%	27%	26%
TOTAL rarely+never	58%	69%	64%	65%
Rarely	31%	35%	34%	33%
Never	27%	34%	30%	32%

# A MAJORITY OF PERSONS BETWEEN THE AGE OF 18 AND 34 OFTEN AND SOMETIMES SEE RACIST OR PREJUDICED REMARKS ABOUT IMMIGRANTS

Racist or prejudiced remarks about immigrants - How often do you encounter the following online?						
	Total	18-34	35-54	55+	White	Non-white
TOTAL often+sometimes	42%	55%	41%	33%	38%	58%
Often	12%	17%	11%	9%	10%	19%
Sometimes	30%	38%	31%	24%	28%	39%
TOTAL rarely+never	58%	45%	59%	67%	62%	42%
Rarely	31%	26%	31%	34%	33%	24%
Never	27%	19%	28%	33%	29%	19%

# BRITISH COLUMBIANS REPORT THEY'RE MOST LIKELY TO SEE RACIST OR PREJUDICED REMARKS ABOUT IMMIGRANTS

Racist or prejudiced remarks about immigrants - How often do you encounter the following online?						
	British Columbia	Alberta	Prairies	Ontario	Quebec	Atlantic Canada
TOTAL often+sometimes	53%	39%	39%	41%	41%	37%
Often	16%	9%	13%	11%	12%	9%
Sometimes	37%	31%	26%	30%	29%	28%
TOTAL rarely+never	47%	61%	61%	59%	59%	63%
Rarely	29%	31%	35%	33%	31%	19%
Never	19%	29%	26%	27%	28%	43%

NEARLY ONE IN TWO PERSONS UNDER THE AGE OF 35 REPORT SEEING RACISM OR PREJUDICE DIRECTED AT BLACK PEOPLE; THERE IS A SUBSTANTIAL DIFFERENCE IN THE EXTENT TO WHICH VISIBLE MINORITY AND WHITE CANADIANS VIEW SUCH RACISM AND PREJUDICE ONLINE

Racist or prejudiced remarks about Black People - How often do you encounter the following online?						
	Total	18-34	35-54	55+	White	Non-white
TOTAL often+sometimes	36%	48%	35%	28%	32%	52%
Often	9%	13%	7%	8%	8%	14%
Sometimes	27%	34%	28%	21%	24%	38%
TOTAL rarely+never	64%	52%	65%	72%	68%	48%
Rarely	34%	32%	33%	36%	36%	28%
Never	30%	20%	32%	35%	32%	21%

# BRITISH COLUMBIANS MOST LIKELY TO REPORT SEEING RACISM OR PREJUDICE ONLINE DIRECTED AT BLACK PEOPLE

Racist or prejudiced remarks about Black People - How often do you encounter the following online?						
	British Columbia	Alberta	Prairies	Ontario	Quebec	Atlantic Canada
TOTAL often+sometimes	43%	35%	35%	34%	35%	34%
Often	12%	7%	10%	8%	10%	10%
Sometimes	31%	28%	25%	27%	25%	23%
TOTAL rarely+never	57%	65%	65%	66%	65%	66%
Rarely	37%	38%	35%	34%	34%	22%
Never	20%	27%	30%	31%	31%	44%

# OVER ONE IN THREE CANADIANS REPORT SEEING RACISM AND PREJUDICE ONLINE DIRECTED AT INDIGENOUS PERSONS

Racist or prejudiced remarks about Indigenous People - How often do you encounter the following online?						
	Total	18-34	35-54	55+	White	Non-white
TOTAL often+sometimes	35%	45%	33%	30%	32%	47%
Often	9%	12%	8%	8%	8%	13%
Sometimes	26%	33%	26%	21%	24%	34%
TOTAL rarely+never	65%	55%	67%	70%	68%	53%
Rarely	33%	30%	33%	34%	33%	32%
Never	32%	24%	34%	37%	35%	22%



# BRITISH COLUMBIANS AND PRAIRIE RESIDENTS ARE MOST LIKELY TO REPORT SEEING RACIST OR PREJUDICED REMARKS ON LINE DIRECTED AT INDIGENOUS PERSONS

Racist or prejudiced remarks about Indigenous People - How often do you encounter the following online?						
	British Columbia	Alberta	Prairies	Ontario	Quebec	Atlantic Canada
TOTAL often+sometimes	<b>44%</b>	36%	39%	33%	33%	33%
Often	12%	7%	11%	8%	10%	6%
Sometimes	31%	29%	29%	25%	23%	26%
TOTAL rarely+never	<b>56%</b>	64%	61%	67%	67%	67%
Rarely	37%	33%	35%	32%	33%	<b>22%</b>
Never	<b>20%</b>	30%	25%	35%	35%	<b>45%</b>

# PERSONS UNDER 35 AND VISIBLE MINORITIES MOST LIKELY TO REPORT SEEING RACISM AND PREJUDICE ON LINE DIRECTED AT ASIAN CANADIANS

Racist or prejudiced remarks about Asian Canadians - How often do you encounter the following online?						
	Total	18-34	35-54	55+	White	Non-white
TOTAL often+sometimes	31%	41%	30%	26%	27%	49%
Often	7%	11%	6%	6%	6%	13%
Sometimes	24%	29%	24%	21%	21%	36%
TOTAL rarely+never	69%	59%	70%	74%	73%	51%
Rarely	35%	35%	34%	35%	36%	30%
Never	34%	24%	35%	39%	37%	21%

# BRITISH COLUMBIANS ARE BY FAR MOST LIKELY TO SEE RACISM AND PREJUDICED REMARKS ON LINE DIRECTED AT ASIAN CANADIANS

Racist or prejudiced remarks about Asian Canadians - How often do you encounter the following online?						
	British Columbia	Alberta	Prairies	Ontario	Quebec	Atlantic Canada
TOTAL often+sometimes	48%	32%	26%	31%	28%	22%
Often	13%	5%	8%	8%	5%	6%
Sometimes	34%	27%	18%	23%	23%	16%
TOTAL rarely+never	52%	68%	74%	69%	72%	78%
Rarely	32%	33%	44%	35%	35%	35%
Never	20%	35%	30%	35%	37%	43%

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Created on May 16 2022.



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