

# ASSESSING KNOWLEDGE ABOUT THE SECOND WORLD WAR AND THE HOLOCAUST IN QUEBEC AND THE REST OF CANADA

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# INTRODUCTION AND METHODOLOGY

Both as regards knowledge about the Holocaust and the history of the Second World War, Quebec francophones self report that their knowledge is insufficient when compared with other Canadians. This is especially the case when it comes to knowledge about the Holocaust. The data suggests that many francophone Quebecers may be learning about the history of the Second World War with less reference to the Holocaust. The gap in self assessed knowledge about the Holocaust is especially wide between Quebec's francophones and non-francophones. The survey points to the important relationship between securing knowledge about the history of the Second World War and learning about the Holocaust. Finally the survey confirms that one's degree of educational attainment is a critical predictor of knowledge about the Holocaust.

The results arise from a survey conducted by Leger in partnership with the Association for Canadian Studies. The survey was conducted between May 6 and May 8, 2022 with 1534 Canadians and while a margin of error cannot be associated with a non-probability sample in a panel survey for comparative purposes a probability sample of 1,534 respondents would have a margin of error of  $\pm 2.5\%$ , 19 times out of 20

## TODAY MARKS 82 YEARS SINCE THE FIRST TRANSPORT TO AUSCHWITZ

- Today marks 82 years since the first deportation of Poles to the Auschwitz concentration camp. On June 14, 1940, these 728 men were transferred from the prison in Tarnów, in southern Poland. They were the first prisoners of Auschwitz, as the camp was originally created for them

**SOME ONE IN FOUR CANADIANS REPORT THAT THEIR KNOWLEDGE ABOUT THE HOLOCAUST IS INSUFFICIENT; AT NEARLY ONE IN THREE, QUEBECERS HAVE THE LOWEST SELF ASSESSMENT WHEN IT COMES TO KNOWLEDGE ABOUT THE HOLOCAUST**

Canada	The Holocaust - To what extent are you knowledgeable when it comes to the following topics?						
	Canada	British Columbia	Alberta	Prairies	Ontario	Quebec	Maritimes
Very knowledgeable	23.7%	27.1%	24.2%	22.2%	26.3%	19.8%	20.6%
Somewhat knowledgeable	52.3%	56.8%	57.0%	53.2%	52.6%	48.0%	54.9%
Not sufficiently knowledgeable	23.9%	16.1%	18.8%	24.6%	21.1%	32.3%	24.5%
Total	100.0%	100.0%	100.0%	100.0%	100.0%	100.0%	100.0%

# FRANCOPHONES REPORT THE LOWEST SELF ASSESSMENT ABOUT THE HOLOCAUST

Canada	The Holocaust - To what extent are you knowledgeable when it comes to the following topics?		
	French	English	Other
Very knowledgeable	19.3%	26.2%	20.8%
Somewhat knowledgeable	45.5%	55.3%	62.3%
Not sufficiently knowledgeable	35.2%	18.5%	16.9%
Total	100.0%	100.0%	100.0%

# ATLANTIC CANADIANS AND QUEBECERS REPORT THE LOWEST SELF ASSESSMENTS ABOUT THE HISTORY OF THE SECOND WORLD WAR

	The history of the Second World War - To what extent are you knowledgeable when it comes to the following topics?						
	Canada	British Columbia	Alberta	Prairies	Ontario	Quebec	Maritimes
Very knowledgeable	23.1%	28.4%	24.2%	19.0%	25.7%	18.8%	20.6%
Somewhat knowledgeable	53.3%	56.8%	51.6%	59.5%	50.3%	55.4%	52.0%
Not sufficiently knowledgeable	23.6%	14.8%	24.2%	21.4%	24.0%	25.8%	27.5%
Total	100.0%	100.0%	100.0%	100.0%	100.0%	100.0%	100.0%

## NEARLY THREE IN TEN FRANCOPHONES IN CANADA GIVE LOW SELF ASSESSMENT ABOUT THE HISTORY OF WW2

The history of the Second World War - To what extent are you knowledgeable when it comes to the following topics? Canada			
	French	English	Other
Very knowledgeable	18.7%	24.6%	28.6%
Somewhat knowledgeable	52.2%	53.7%	54.5%
Not sufficiently knowledgeable	29.1%	21.7%	16.9%
Total	100.0%	100.0%	100.0%

# CANADIANS THAT REPORT THEY ARE VERY KNOWLEDGEABLE ABOUT THE HOLOCAUST SAY THEY ARE VERY KNOWLEDGEABLE ABOUT THE HISTORY OF THE SECOND WORLD WAR

The history of the Second World War - To what extent are you knowledgeable when it comes to the following topics? Canada	The Holocaust - To what extent are you knowledgeable when it comes to the following topics?		
	Very knowledgeable	Somewhat knowledgeable	Not sufficiently knowledgeable
Very knowledgeable	79.7%	7.0%	2.2%
Somewhat knowledgeable	18.4%	81.4%	26.4%
Not sufficiently knowledgeable	1.9%	11.6%	71.4%
Total	100.0%	100.0%	100.0%



# QUEBEC FRANCOPHONES HAVE A CONSIDERABLY LOWER SELF ASSESSMENT OF THE HOLOCAUST THAN DO THE PROVINCE'S NON-FRANCOPHONES

The Holocaust - To what extent are you knowledgeable when it comes to the following topics?	Quebec...What is the language you first learned at home in your childhood and that you still understand?	
	Francophone	Non-francophone
Very knowledgeable	17.3%	21.3%
Somewhat knowledgeable	46.3%	65.6%
Not sufficiently knowledgeable	36.5%	13.1%
Total	100.0%	100.0%

# IN QUEBEC THERE IS A LARGE GAP BETWEEN FRANCOPHONES AND NON-FRANCOPHONES IN THE EXTENT TO WHICH THEY REPORT INSUFFICIENT KNOWLEDGE OF WORLD WAR 2

The history of the Second World War - To what extent are you knowledgeable when it comes to the following topics?	Quebec...What is the language you first learned at home in your childhood and that you still understand?	
	Francophone	Non-francophone
Very knowledgeable	16.9%	18.2%
Somewhat knowledgeable	54.1%	68.7%
<b>Not sufficiently knowledgeable</b>	<b>29.0%</b>	<b>13.1%</b>
Total	100.0%	100.0%

QUEBECERS THAT REPORT THEY ARE VERY KNOWLEDGEABLE ABOUT THE HOLOCAUST SAY THEY ARE VERY KNOWLEDGEABLE ABOUT THE HISTORY OF THE SECOND WORLD WAR

The history of the Second World War - To what extent are you knowledgeable when it comes to the following topics? Quebec	The Holocaust - To what extent are you knowledgeable when it comes to the following topics?		
	Very knowledgeable	Somewhat knowledgeable	Not sufficiently knowledgeable
Very knowledgeable	78.0%	5.0%	3.0%
Somewhat knowledgeable	18.3%	87.4%	30.6%
Not sufficiently knowledgeable	3.7%	7.5%	66.4%
Total	100.0%	100.0%	100.0%

# PERSONS WITH UNIVERSITY DEGREES REPORT CONSIDERABLY HIGHER SELF ASSESSMENTS ABOUT THE HOLOCAUST

Canada	The Holocaust - To what extent are you knowledgeable when it comes to the following topics?		
	High school, general or vocational (8 to 12 years)	College (pre-university, technical training, certificate, accreditation or advanced diploma (13-15 years))	University certificates and diplomas
Very knowledgeable	19.4%	20.3%	32.1%
Somewhat knowledgeable	49.7%	51.2%	54.8%
Not sufficiently knowledgeable	30.9%	28.5%	13.1%
Total	100.0%	100.0%	100.0%

# NEARLY ONE ON TWO QUEBECERS WITH A HIGH SCHOOL EDUCATION REPORT INSUFFICIENT KNOWLEDGE ABOUT THE HOLOCAUST

The Holocaust - To what extent are you knowledgeable when it comes to the following topics? Quebec	High school, general or vocational (8 to 12 years)	College (pre-university, technical training, certificate, accreditation or advanced diploma (13- 15 years))	University certificates and diplomas
Very knowledgeable	16.7%	20.4%	22.7%
Somewhat knowledgeable	34.4%	40.8%	59.1%
Not sufficiently knowledgeable	48.9%	38.7%	18.2%
<b>Total</b>	<b>100.0%</b>	<b>100.0%</b>	<b>100.0%</b>

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