

Evolving Relations and Sources of Discrimination in Canada

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Introduction

Living together, reconciliation and cohesion have become an important part of policy and academic discourse over the course of the twenty-first century as regards preoccupations around intergroup relations, polarization and national unity. For the last few decades of the twentieth century, relations between Quebec and the rest of Canada appeared to be the dominant concern of Canadians with respect to reconciliation. But in 2023 that no longer appears to be the case and while many Quebecers still believe that relations with the rest of Canada are a primary concern, outside of Quebec relatively few see that relationship as a key challenge for Canada going forward. Outside Quebec the bigger concerns looking ahead are about ideological and economic/class conflict.

We also asked about sources of discrimination that need the most protection and for the most part, Canadians felt that it was mental and physical disability that were the most vulnerable though in Quebec, language was viewed as near equal when inquiring into vulnerability.

On both the issues of relations and discrimination when looking only at Quebec we observe important differences on the basis of age cohort.

The web based survey was conducted between March 10th and 12th, 2023 with 1544 Canadians. A margin of error cannot be associated with a non-probability sample in a panel survey for comparative purposes a probability sample of 1,544 respondents would have a margin of error of $\pm 2.5\%$, 19 times out of 20

Please rank the following challenges from biggest to smallest challenge for Canada in the forthcoming decades	Canada	British Columbia	Alberta	Prairies	Ontario	Quebec	Atlantic Canada
	Ideological Conflict (ie Right vs Left)	21.8%	27.0%	30.3%	20.2%	23.5%	12.8%
Rich and Poor	20.2%	25.0%	19.4%	16.7%	21.2%	17.1%	20.2%
Indigenous and Non-Indigenous	14.2%	13.2%	13.2%	27.1%	14.9%	8.3%	21.8%
Quebec and the Rest of Canada	12.1%	5.4%	4.8%	5.9%	6.2%	32.2%	9.7%
Visible Minorities/Racialized Groups and White Persons	11.6%	12.9%	14.0%	13.3%	12.8%	6.7%	12.1%
Men and Women	9.6%	2.7%	10.3%	8.4%	9.8%	14.7%	4.8%
Immigrants and Non-Immigrants	6.7%	9.7%	3.9%	4.2%	7.1%	6.4%	5.6%
Religious and Secular	3.9%	4.3%	3.9%	4.2%	4.5%	1.7%	6.4%

Mental and Physical disability is regarded by a plurality of Canadians as requiring the most protection from discrimination

Rank in order which of the following sources of possible discrimination require the most protection	Total	British Columbia	Alberta	Prairies	Ontario	Quebec	Atlantic Canada
Visible Minority Status	18.1%	16.3%	16.6%	14.3%	19.7%	16.1%	25.0%
Language	9.4%	7.3%	3.4%	5.8%	4.5%	23.0%	9.7%
Ethnic Origin	15.5%	17.9%	14.6%	16.7%	15.1%	14.7%	16.7%
Religion	7.5%	5.8%	12.1%	9.2%	7.7%	5.2%	8.0%
Gender	9.4%	9.3%	9.7%	10.8%	10.2%	7.8%	8.1%
Age	8.4%	7.4%	11.1%	11.8%	9.1%	6.2%	6.4%
Mental or Physical Disability	31.7%	35.8%	32.5%	31.9%	33.7%	27.0%	25.8%

Quebec: Relations and Discrimination



Quebecers aged 18-24 are much less likely than others to see relations between Quebec and the rest of Canada as a

Quebec Please rank the following challenges from biggest to smallest challenge for Canada in the forthcoming decades	18-24	25-34	35-44	45-54	55-64	65-74	>= 75	Total
Rich and Poor	22.5%	24.6%	29.2%	19.7%	11.1%	7.7%	3.6%	17.6%
Visible Minorities/Racialized Groups and White Persons	17.9%	13.2%	4.3%	6.8%	2.7%	3.8%		6.7%
Ideological Conflict (ie Right vs Left)	15.4%	10.3%	5.9%	13.6%	14.7%	20.3%	3.6%	12.7%
Indigenous and Non- Indigenous	15.4%	7.5%	7.0%	6.6%	6.7%	7.8%	10.3%	8.1%
Quebec and the Rest of Canada	10.5%	23.9%	33.3%	32.3%	32.4%	39.2%	63.0%	32.5%

Big Divide amongst Quebecers over and under 55 on the importance of language as a source of discrimination that needs protection

Quebecers by age cohort	18-24	25-34	35-44	45-54	55-64	65-74	>= 75	Total
Rank in order which of the following sources of possible discrimination require the most protection								
Visible Minority Status	30.8%	12.1%	12.7%	13.3%	13.2%	21.5%	13.8%	16.2%
Mental or Physical Disability	18.4%	31.8%	28.6%	32.8%	24.3%	29.6%	10.7%	27.0%
Ethnic Origin	17.5%	21.2%	18.8%	13.3%	11.8%	7.6%	13.3%	14.5%
Language	12.5%	18.2%	16.9%	16.4%	30.3%	25.0%	51.7%	22.9%
Sex	10.0%	10.1%	7.1%	6.0%	6.0%	7.5%	7.0%	7.0%

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