
US VS 'IT': ARTIFICIAL INTELLIGENCE IS STILL NOT AS SMART AS US...OR SO WE ASSUME

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INTRODUCTION AND METHODOLOGY

ChatGPT has been hailed as a game-changer and recently the talk of the 'proverbial' town. It can write songs, give you investment advice and define complex physics. Observers are increasingly asking whether AI is outsmarting its creators? Other important questions regarding AI are being raised as there appears to be a good deal of uncertainty about where AI is taking humans. Amongst things being asked is the extent to which we are becoming dependent on AI to do much of our thinking for us? Also the ways in which AI creates and/or is a threat to our jobs? As we shall see there are important generational differences in views as to the opportunities and concerns associated with AI. That which follows is the beginning of a track that will follow the evolution in the evolving views of Canadians around artificial intelligence.

The web based survey was conducted by Leger in partnership with the Association for Canadian Studies 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

MOST CANADIANS DISAGREE THAT AI IS BETTER AT MAKING IMPORTANT LIFE DECISIONS FOR PEOPLE

Artificial intelligence is better at making important life decisions for people - Do you strongly agree, somewhat agree, somewhat disagree or strongly disagree with the following:

	Total	18-34	35-54	55+
TOTAL AGREE	17%	24%	16%	12%
Strongly agree	4%	6%	2%	4%
Somewhat agree	13%	18%	13%	9%
TOTAL DISAGREE	67%	62%	70%	69%
Somewhat disagree	27%	33%	29%	22%
Strongly disagree	40%	29%	40%	47%
I don't know / Not applicable	16%	14%	15%	19%

A MAJORITY OF CANADIANS THINK THAT WE'RE MORE INTELLIGENT THAN AI BUT THOSE UNDER 35 ARE DIVIDED OVER THE QUESTION

Artificial intelligence is more intelligent than humans - Do you strongly agree, somewhat agree, somewhat disagree or strongly disagree with the following

	Total	18-34	35-54	55+
TOTAL AGREE	31%	43%	34%	21%
Strongly agree	7%	12%	6%	4%
Somewhat agree	24%	31%	27%	17%
TOTAL DISAGREE	52%	43%	50%	60%
Somewhat disagree	30%	28%	30%	31%
Strongly disagree	22%	15%	20%	29%
I don't know / Not applicable	17%	14%	17%	19%

GENERATIONAL DIVIDE AMONGST CANADIANS ON THE BENEFITS OF AI HAS UNDER 35 SEEING IT MORE POSITIVELY WHILE OVER 35 ARE MORE CONCERNED

Artificial intelligence has a mostly positive effect on our society - Do you strongly agree, somewhat agree, somewhat disagree or strongly disagree with the following

	Total	18-34	35-54	55+
TOTAL AGREE	33%	50%	32%	22%
Strongly agree	4%	10%	2%	1%
Somewhat agree	29%	40%	30%	21%
TOTAL DISAGREE	50%	36%	50%	60%
Somewhat disagree	34%	27%	31%	42%
Strongly disagree	16%	9%	19%	18%
I don't know / Not applicable	17%	14%	18%	18%

A MAJORITY OF CANADIANS DO NOT BELIEVE THAT AI IS GOOD AT PREDICTING PEOPLE'S THOUGHTS AND BEHAVIOURS THOUGH THOSE UNDER THE AGE OF 35 ARE MORE DIVIDED OVER THE QUESTION

Artificial intelligence is good at predicting people's thoughts and behaviours				
Column %	Total	18-34	35-54	55+
TOTAL AGREE	27%	37%	28%	19%
Strongly agree	4%	7%	3%	4%
Somewhat agree	22%	30%	25%	16%
TOTAL DISAGREE	51%	42%	53%	54%
Somewhat disagree	26%	26%	32%	23%
Strongly disagree	24%	16%	22%	31%
I don't know / Not applicable	23%	21%	19%	26%



AI: RELIANCE AND CONCERN

A MAJORITY OF CANADIANS AGREE THAT AI'S INCREASED DAILY USE IS A SOURCE OF CONCERN

I am worried about the increased use of artificial intelligence in daily life - Do you strongly agree, somewhat agree, somewhat disagree or strongly disagree with the following:

	Total	18-34	35-54	55+
TOTAL AGREE	62%	55%	64%	65%
Strongly agree	22%	16%	21%	26%
Somewhat agree	40%	39%	43%	39%
TOTAL DISAGREE	28%	36%	25%	24%
Somewhat disagree	19%	24%	18%	18%
Strongly disagree	8%	12%	6%	7%
I don't know / Not applicable	10%	9%	11%	10%

MOST CANADIANS DO NOT THINK THEY ARE VERY RELIANT ON AI IN THEIR DAILY LIVES, THOUGH THREE IN TEN UNDER 35 THINK OTHERWISE

I am very reliant on artificial intelligence in daily life				
Column %	Total	18-34	35-54	55+
TOTAL AGREE	17%	29%	20%	7%
Strongly agree	3%	7%	2%	1%
Somewhat agree	14%	22%	18%	6%
TOTAL DISAGREE	71%	59%	70%	80%
Somewhat disagree	29%	32%	31%	24%
Strongly disagree	43%	28%	39%	55%
I don't know / Not applicable	12%	11%	10%	13%

MOST CANADIANS DO NOT THINK THAT AI THREATENS THEIR JOB SECURITY, THOUGH MANY DON'T KNOW

Artificial intelligence threatens my job security -	Total	18-34	35-54	55+
TOTAL AGREE	26%	32%	33%	17%
Strongly agree	9%	9%	11%	6%
Somewhat agree	18%	23%	22%	11%
TOTAL DISAGREE	46%	54%	51%	38%
Somewhat disagree	22%	31%	25%	14%
Strongly disagree	24%	23%	26%	23%
I don't know / Not applicable	27%	14%	16%	45%

CANADIANS ARE DIVIDED AROUND WHETHER AI IS UNFAIR OR BIAS, BUT MANY DON'T KNOW

Artificial intelligence is inherently unfair or biased - Do you strongly agree, somewhat agree, somewhat disagree or strongly disagree with the following:				
	Total	18-34	35-54	55+
TOTAL AGREE	35%	35%	38%	31%
Strongly agree	9%	8%	8%	9%
Somewhat agree	26%	27%	30%	22%
TOTAL DISAGREE	33%	39%	32%	30%
Somewhat disagree	25%	28%	25%	23%
Strongly disagree	8%	11%	8%	7%
I don't know / Not applicable	33%	26%	30%	39%

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