

# **Citizenship: The question is not why immigrants are less likely to take up citizenship but who is less likely**

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# Introduction

Data collected during the 2021 Census reveal that just 45.7% of permanent residents became citizens within 10 years, down from 60% in 2016 and 75.1% in 2001. This represents a 40% decline in citizenship uptake over 20 years (These numbers were shared by Statistics Canada with the Institute for Canadian Citizenship as part of ongoing research into declining citizenship rates). <https://inclusion.ca/article/newcomers-falling-out-of-love-with-canadian-citizenship/#:~:text=Data%20collected%20during%20the%202021,citizenship%20uptake%20over%2020%20years>.

India and China retained their top spots as the most important sources of new permanent residents to Canada in 2022 with India provided 118,095 new permanent residents to Canada last year, more than a quarter of the total 437,120 new permanent residents for 2022 with China seeing 31 815 in 2022

In India there have been record numbers of persons renouncing their citizenship as in 2018, the number was 134,561, while 144,017 renounced their citizenship in 2019, 85,256 in 2020 and 163,370 in 2021. The number in 2022 was 225,620, according to the Minister. Please note that neither China nor India recognize dual citizenship. Local authorities may consider a child born in China as a Chinese citizen if one parent is a Chinese citizen, or if both parents are Canadian citizens residing in China with Chinese identification

“A successful, prosperous, and influential diaspora is an asset for India. India stands to gain a lot from tapping its diaspora networks and productive utilisation of the soft power that comes from having such a flourishing diaspora,” according to minister of state for external affairs V Muraleedharan

**Data from an Association for Canadian Studies and the Metropolis Institute Leger Marketing survey reveal that while some 80% of Canadians agree that they would rather be a citizen of Canada than any other country, some 20% disagree or say they don't know. That percentage is higher amongst immigrants and Canadians identifying as visible minorities with one in four saying they disagree or don't know if they would rather be a citizen of Canada than any other country. The ACS-Leger survey also looked at whether Canadians thought the country was better than most other countries and on that question immigrants were most likely to agree.**

## Methodology

The web based survey was conducted between February 20<sup>th</sup> to March 3<sup>rd</sup>, 2023 with 1843 Canadians. A margin of error cannot be associated with a non-probability sample in a panel survey for comparative purposes a probability sample of 1 843 respondents would have a margin of error of  $\pm 2.5\%$ , 19 times out of 20 and for the Quebec sample  $\pm 4.08\%$ , 19 times out of 20

# Visible minority Arab, Latin American and West Asian have highest rates of dual citizenship with Japanese, Chinese and Filipino lowest

Immigrant Arrived between 2001 to 2010 Source: Census of Canada 2021	Total - Citizenship	Canadian citizens	Canadian citizens by naturalization	Canadian citizens by naturalization only	Canadian citizens, by naturalization, and at least one other country	Not Canadian citizens	Canadian citizens, by naturalization, and at least one other country percentage	% that are not Canadian Citizens
Total - Visible minority	1930525	1612330	1612330	792575	819760	318190	42	16.4
Total visible minority population	1528670	1279960	1279960	725190	554770	248710	36	16.3
South Asian	427780	362955	362955	226510	136440	64820	32	15.1
Chinese	285975	205605	205605	171840	33765	80365	12	28
Black	175990	154530	154530	72510	82025	21460	46	12.2
Filipino	178255	155530	155530	126905	28630	22720	16	12.7
Arab	124855	117025	117025	17200	99830	7830	80	6.3
Latin American	109180	93240	93240	9995	83245	15935	76	14.6
Southeast Asian	41220	33245	33245	21180	12065	7970	29	19.3
West Asian	79965	74455	74455	20900	53555	5510	67	6.9
Korean	47535	38455	38455	35585	2865	9085	60	19.1
Japanese	8410	1630	1630	780	850	6780	10	8.0
Not a visible minority	401850	332375	332375	67380	264995	69475	66	17.3

**One in four immigrants and Canadians identifying as visible minorities disagree or don't know if they would rather be a citizen of Canada than any other country.**

I would rather be a citizen of Canada than of any other country in the world.	Total	Born in Canada	Born outside of Canada	White	Vizmin
<b>NET AGREE</b>	81%	83%	74%	84%	74%
Strongly agree	44%	47%	36%	47%	38%
Somewhat agree	36%	36%	38%	37%	36%
<b>NET DISAGREE</b>	13%	11%	16%	11%	16%
Somewhat disagree	10%	9%	13%	9%	14%
Strongly disagree	2%	2%	3%	2%	2%
I don't know / I prefer not to answer	7%	6%	10%	5%	10%

# Eight in ten Canadians would rather be a citizen of Canada than any other country in the world (Albertans are somewhat more likely than Quebecers to disagree)

I would rather be a citizen of Canada than of any other country in the world.	Total	QC	ON	BC+Ter ritories	AB	ATL	MB+SK
NET AGREE	81%	79%	80%	83%	77%	84%	84%
Strongly agree	44%	30%	48%	46%	46%	59%	50%
Somewhat agree	36%	49%	32%	37%	31%	25%	34%
NET DISAGREE	13%	14%	12%	12%	16%	11%	11%
Somewhat disagree	10%	12%	9%	9%	14%	8%	10%
Strongly disagree	2%	2%	3%	3%	2%	3%	1%
I don't know / I prefer not to answer	7%	7%	8%	5%	7%	5%	4%



# Prairie residents are most likely to disagree or not know whether Canada is a better country than most other countries

Generally speaking, Canada is a better country than most other countries. - To what extent do you agree or disagree with the following statements?	Total	QC	ON	BC+Territories	AB	ATL	MB+SK
NET AGREE	83%	81%	84%	83%	86%	85%	76%
Strongly agree	36%	27%	40%	41%	37%	34%	35%
Somewhat agree	47%	53%	44%	42%	49%	51%	41%
NET DISAGREE	11%	13%	11%	12%	8%	7%	16%
Somewhat disagree	9%	10%	8%	9%	7%	5%	12%
Strongly disagree	3%	3%	3%	3%	1%	2%	4%
I don't know / I prefer not to answer	6%	6%	5%	5%	6%	8%	8%

# More than 8 in 10 Canadians agree that Canada is a better country than most, immigrants are most likely to feel that way

Generally speaking, Canada is a better country than most other countries. - To what extent do you agree or disagree with the following statements?	Total	Born in Canada	Born Outside of Canada	White	Vizmin
NET AGREE	83%	82%	87%	84%	81%
Strongly agree	36%	35%	40%	37%	34%
Somewhat agree	47%	47%	47%	47%	47%
NET DISAGREE	11%	12%	10%	11%	12%
Somewhat disagree	9%	9%	7%	9%	8%
Strongly disagree	3%	2%	3%	2%	4%
I don't know / I prefer not to answer	6%	7%	3%	5%	7%



**It is those Canadians that strongly disagree that they would rather be a citizen of Canada than any other country that in the majority also disagree that Canada is a better country than most others**

Generally speaking, Canada is a better country than most other countries. -	I would rather be a citizen of Canada than of any other country in the world. - To what extent do you agree or disagree with the following statements?			
	Strongly agree	Somewhat agree	Somewhat disagree	Strongly disagree
Strongly agree	65.4%	15.4%	11.4%	4.5%
Somewhat agree	30.3%	71.0%	44.9%	27.3%
Somewhat disagree	1.6%	9.3%	35.1%	20.5%
Strongly disagree	.2%	.7%	5.4%	45.5%
I don't know / I prefer not to answer	2.5%	3.6%	3.2%	2.3%
	100.0%	100.0%	100.0%	100.0%

# More than one in three permanent residents disagree or are unsure if they would rather be a citizen of Canada than of any other country in the world

I would rather be a citizen of Canada than of any other country in the world. -	IMMIGRATION STATUS		
	Canadian Citizen	Permanent resident	Student visa
Strongly agree	38.7%	24.8%	41.2%
Somewhat agree	39.4%	38.5%	29.4%
Somewhat disagree	9.7%	22.0%	17.6%
Strongly disagree	2.2%	3.7%	5.9%
I don't know / I prefer not to answer	10.0%	11.0%	5.9%
	100.0%	100.0%	100.0%

# Low income, Unemployed and Students are the most likely to disagree or not know if they'd rather be a citizen of Canada than any other country

I would rather be a citizen of Canada than of any other country in the world.	<40K\$	40K\$ à 79K\$	80K\$ et +	Workers	Student	Homemaker	Unemployed
Net Agree	77%	82%	82%	79%	66%	85%	74%
Strongly agree	43%	44%	45%	41%	25%	49%	34%
Somewhat agree	34%	38%	37%	38%	41%	36%	39%
Net Disagree	14%	12%	13%	14%	22%	7%	14%
Somewhat disagree	11%	10%	10%	12%	15%	3%	9%
Strongly disagree	3%	2%	2%	3%	6%	4%	5%
I don't know / I prefer not to answer	9%	6%	5%	6%	12%	7%	12%

# Canadians aged 25-44 most likely to disagree or not know whether they would rather be a citizen of Canada than any other country

	I would rather be a citizen of Canada than of any other country in the world.						
	18-24	25-34	35-44	45-54	55-64	65-74	>= 75
Strongly agree	30.2%	29.4%	35.7%	47.0%	54.2%	56.7%	59.1%
Somewhat agree	45.3%	44.7%	38.4%	32.1%	34.0%	31.1%	25.8%
Somewhat disagree	11.7%	15.7%	13.4%	7.7%	7.2%	7.5%	4.5%
Strongly disagree	3.4%	3.5%	3.9%	3.5%	1.2%	.7%	
I don't know / I prefer not to answer	9.5%	6.7%	8.5%	9.8%	3.4%	3.9%	10.6%
	100.0%	100.0%	100.0%	100.0%	100.0%	100.0%	100.0%

Please note that neither China nor India recognize dual citizenship. Local authorities may consider a child born in China as a Chinese citizen if one parent is a Chinese citizen, or if both parents are Canadian citizens residing in China with Chinese identification <https://timesofindia.indiatimes.com/business/india-business/decoded-why-are-indians-giving-up-their-citizenship/articleshow/88067791.cms>

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