

Canadian Opinion of Intergroup Relations, Selected Groups and Viewing Expressions of Hate in the Midst of Unprecedented International Tension

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Introduction and Methodology

As we world witnesses unprecedented international tensions with the ongoing war between Israel and Hamas what changes have arisen in the state of intergroup relations, positive and negative opinion of selected groups and which groups are the most likely to be the object of hate. To answer these questions, a Leger marketing survey was conducted for the Association for Canadian Studies during the week of October 27-29, 2023.

The survey reveals that a majority of Canadians are worried about relations between Muslims and Jews, Muslims and non-Muslims and immigrants and non-immigrants.

The survey was conducted via web panel with 1632 Canadians. A margin of error cannot be associated with a non-probability sample in a panel survey for comparison purposes. A probability sample of 1632 respondents would have a margin of error of $\pm 2.5\%$, 19 times out of 20

A majority of Canadians are worried about relations between Jews and Muslims as well as Muslims and non-Muslims

Net Worried about relations between....	Total	Male	Female	18-34	35-54	55+	Atl.	QC	ON	MB/SK	AB	BC
Jews and Muslims	55%	57%	52%	43%	49%	67%	54%	54%	54%	54%	56%	58%
Muslims and non-Muslims	50%	51%	48%	43%	45%	58%	48%	49%	51%	47%	47%	53%
Immigrants and non-immigrants	45%	45%	45%	50%	40%	46%	48%	40%	46%	48%	45%	49%
Jews and non-Jews	39%	39%	39%	32%	37%	45%	37%	33%	41%	36%	43%	40%
Indigenous and non-Indigenous	36%	33%	39%	36%	31%	40%	35%	29%	37%	42%	37%	42%
Black Canadians and others	31%	30%	31%	32%	25%	34%	25%	25%	35%	24%	29%	34%
Asian and non Asian	27%	27%	27%	25%	22%	32%	33%	20%	27%	19%	29%	39%
Christians and non-Christians	25%	24%	26%	25%	23%	27%	26%	15%	27%	25%	27%	35%

Muslims are the object of negative opinion on the part of one in four Canadians and such negative views are highest in Quebec, Islam is the object of higher negative opinion amongst religious opinion

Net Negative Opinion	Total	Atl.	QC	ON	MB/SK	AB	BC
Islam	40%	31%	57%	32%	49%	36%	38%
Christians	27%	21%	28%	25%	23%	27%	38%
Canadian Muslims	26%	18%	34%	24%	31%	26%	21%
Refugees	25%	17%	24%	29%	29%	26%	21%
Canadian Arabs	25%	23%	29%	24%	26%	28%	22%
Immigrants	23%	17%	22%	24%	30%	25%	22%
Judaism	20%	14%	30%	16%	20%	16%	19%
Indigenous Peoples in Canada	19%	9%	15%	17%	32%	27%	24%
Chinese Canadians	15%	11%	15%	15%	13%	16%	14%
Canadian Jews	12%	10%	19%	11%	11%	8%	10%
Black Canadians	12%	5%	15%	12%	18%	14%	6%

Men hold more negative opinions of selected groups than women

Net Negative Opinion of...	Total	Male	Female	18-34	35-54	55+
Islam	40%	45%	35%	33%	38%	46%
Christians	27%	30%	25%	34%	27%	24%
Canadian Muslims	26%	31%	21%	26%	25%	27%
Refugees	25%	31%	20%	24%	28%	25%
Canadian Arabs	25%	31%	20%	25%	24%	27%
Immigrants	23%	27%	20%	27%	24%	21%
Judaism	20%	25%	15%	22%	21%	17%
Indigenous Peoples in Canada	19%	21%	17%	19%	18%	20%
Chinese Canadians	15%	16%	13%	17%	15%	13%
Canadian Jews	12%	16%	9%	16%	13%	9%
Black Canadians	12%	16%	8%	13%	12%	11%

Over the past four years there has been little change in negative opinion directed at various identifiable minorities but rising negative views of immigrants

Net Negative Opinion	October 2023	Sept 2021	May 2019
Canadian Muslims	26%	27%	26%
Immigrants	23%	13%	17%
Indigenous Peoples in Canada	19%	13%	25%
Chinese Canadians	15%	10%	NA
Canadian Jews	12%	14%	11%
Black Canadians	12%	NA	11%

Black Canadians, Chinese Canadians and Canadian Jews are seen most positively across selected groups, a majority of Canadians have positive views of immigrants

Net Positive Opinion	Total	Male	Female	18-34	35-54	55+
Black Canadians	74%	73%	75%	70%	70%	78%
Chinese Canadians	68%	70%	65%	61%	66%	74%
Canadian Jews	67%	68%	67%	60%	62%	76%
Indigenous Peoples in Canada	67%	67%	67%	65%	66%	69%
Immigrants	61%	61%	62%	56%	58%	67%
Christianity	57%	58%	56%	49%	54%	64%
Refugees	56%	56%	55%	55%	50%	60%
Canadian Muslims	53%	54%	53%	50%	54%	55%
Judaism	53%	54%	53%	50%	48%	60%
Canadian Arabs	51%	53%	50%	50%	51%	52%
Islam	38%	40%	37%	41%	38%	36%

Indigenous Peoples in Canada get less positive views in Manitoba and Saskatchewan

Positive Opinion	Total	Atl.	QC	ON	MB/SK	AB	BC
Black Canadians	74%	79%	73%	72%	69%	71%	82%
Chinese Canadians	68%	69%	68%	66%	65%	69%	72%
Canadian Jews	67%	67%	61%	68%	66%	73%	74%
Indigenous Peoples in Canada	67%	77%	73%	66%	52%	57%	69%
Immigrants	61%	65%	65%	59%	51%	58%	67%
Christianity	57%	63%	55%	58%	61%	56%	52%
Refugees	56%	62%	58%	51%	52%	57%	62%
Canadian Muslims	53%	61%	47%	53%	47%	56%	62%
Judaism	53%	59%	44%	58%	52%	52%	57%
Canadian Arabs	51%	53%	51%	50%	46%	50%	58%
Islam	38%	46%	26%	43%	30%	41%	41%

An important percentage of Canadians have witnessed a spike in hate expression over the past few weeks and that is especially the case for persons over the age of 55

Over the past few weeks, have you witnessed an increase, decrease, or no change in the expressions of hate/hateful comments in the media (TV, radio, print and/or social media)?

Column %	Total	Male	Female	18-34	35-54	55+	Atl.	QC	ON	MB/SK	AB	BC
Increase	45%	45%	46%	39%	42%	52%	39%	39%	50%	48%	42%	49%
Decrease	4%	6%	2%	11%	4%	0%	3%	5%	5%	5%	1%	3%
No change	35%	36%	33%	30%	40%	34%	47%	39%	32%	33%	37%	28%
I don't know	16%	13%	19%	20%	15%	14%	11%	17%	13%	14%	19%	20%

Jews, Palestinians/Palestine and Israelis/Israel are being seen most often as the objects of hate in media; hate expression towards Indigenous, Immigrants and LGBTQ+ is currently not being seen by many Canadians as the object of hate expression

Please name one or two groups that have, in particular, been the subject of expressions of hate/hateful comments in the media: (open ended)

	Total	Male	Female	18-34	35-54	55+
Jewish / Jews	27%	30%	25%	17%	30%	31%
Palestinians / Palestine	25%	25%	24%	31%	24%	22%
Israelis / Israel	23%	20%	26%	27%	28%	18%
Muslims / Islam	9%	9%	9%	8%	12%	8%
Blacks	3%	3%	3%	6%	3%	1%
LGBTQ+	3%	3%	2%	6%	1%	2%
Arabs	3%	2%	3%	2%	2%	3%
Indigenous	2%	3%	1%	2%	2%	2%
Immigrants / refugee	1%	2%	1%	3%	2%	1%
Christians	1%	1%	2%	0%	3%	1%
Pro-Palestinians	1%	2%	0%	1%	2%	2%

Results strongly suggests that activation of 'negative views' is especially high towards Canadian Jews though some caution needs to be exercised in data interpretation

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October 2023	Net Negative Opinion of selected groups	Percentage that have seen hate expression and the groups they see being targeted
Canadian Muslims and Arabs	26%	12%
Immigrants	23%	1%
Indigenous Peoples in Canada	19%	2%
Chinese Canadians	15%	No Mentions
Canadian Jews	12%	27%
Black Canadians	12%	3%

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