

# Canadian opinion of Americans and trust of Trump and Biden

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# Introduction and Methodology

On November 5<sup>th</sup>. Americans will go to the polls to elect their next President. The two choices are the same as they were in the 2020 election as President Joe Biden will face off against former President Donald Trump. The results of the election will undoubtedly have a profound impact well beyond America's borders and much of the world will surely be paying close attention to the outcome.

On Thursday May 30<sup>th</sup>, Donald Trump was found guilty on 34 counts of falsifying business records during his criminal trial and his sentencing will occur on July 11<sup>th</sup>. Not surprisingly a vast majority of Canadians distrust the former President as revealed in a May 17-20 2024 Leger survey for the Association for Canadian Studies. But the survey also reveals that current President Joe Biden also faces a trust deficit with Canadians with some 51% of Canadians saying they distrust the President (compared with 81% that distrust Trump). The survey further reveals that Canadians are quite divided when asked whether they hold positive views of the United States and whether they trust Americans. Finally the survey reveals that Americans view Canadians far more favorably than Canadians view Americans

The surveys were conducted from May 17-20, 2024 with a samples of 1519 Canadians. While a margin of error cannot be associated with a non-probability sample in a panel survey for comparison purposes. A probability sample of 1519 respondents would have a margin of error of  $\pm 2.5\%$ , 19 times out of 20

# Canadians Divided in their views of the United States and such division is most evident amongst the 35-54 cohort

United States	Total	Male	Female	Between 18 and 24	Between 25 and 34	Between 35 and 44	Between 45 and 54	Between 55 and 64	65+
<b>NET POSITIVE</b>	52%	57%	48%	53%	54%	44%	46%	57%	57%
Very positive	11%	11%	11%	13%	10%	8%	13%	8%	13%
Somewhat positive	41%	46%	37%	40%	43%	36%	34%	48%	44%
<b>NET NEGATIVE</b>	39%	37%	41%	35%	36%	44%	45%	33%	39%
Somewhat negative	29%	27%	32%	26%	25%	33%	34%	23%	33%
Very negative	10%	10%	9%	10%	11%	10%	11%	10%	6%
I prefer not to answer	9%	7%	11%	11%	10%	12%	9%	11%	4%

# Trust of Americans on the part of Canadians also reflects important divisions with women and Canadians aged 25 -34 least likely to say they trust Americans

Americans - Do you trust each of the following a lot, somewhat, not a lot, or not at all?	Total	Male	Female	Between 18 and 24	Between 25 and 34	Between 35 and 44	Between 45 and 54	Between 55 and 64	65+
<b>NET YES</b>	50%	54%	45%	49%	43%	47%	50%	54%	54%
<b>A lot</b>	6%	6%	5%	8%	7%	3%	4%	5%	7%
<b>Somewhat</b>	44%	48%	41%	41%	36%	44%	45%	50%	47%
<b>NET NO</b>	46%	42%	49%	44%	52%	46%	46%	42%	44%
<b>Not a lot</b>	34%	30%	38%	29%	40%	33%	35%	31%	36%
<b>Not at all</b>	11%	12%	11%	15%	12%	13%	11%	11%	9%
<b>I prefer not to answer</b>	5%	4%	6%	8%	6%	6%	5%	4%	2%

The trust deficit between Canadians and Americans is incredibly wide on the left of the ideological spectrum with far more Americans view Canadians/Canada far more positively than the inverse while there is much less of a gap on the right when it comes to the gap in positive views between the two countries

Positive view....	In thinking about where you would situate yourself on the ideological spectrum would you say that you are ...?					
	Total	Left	Left of center	Center	Right of center	Right
Canadians on United States	52.0%	32.0%	48.0%	57.7%	62.2%	68.6%
Americans on Canadians	78.7%	87.6%	90.4%	80.3%	86.8%	77.2%
<b>Difference</b>	<b>26.7</b>	<b>55.6</b>	<b>42.4</b>	<b>22.6</b>	<b>24.6</b>	<b>8.6</b>

# A large majority of Canadians don't trust Donald Trump and a narrow majority distrust Joe Biden

Do you trust each of the following a lot, somewhat, not a lot, or not at all?	Donald Trump	Joe Biden
<b>Total Trust</b>	<b>14.7%</b>	<b>43%</b>
A lot	3.8%	7.4%
Somewhat	10.9%	35.6%
<b>Total Distrust</b>	<b>81.1%</b>	<b>50.9%</b>
Not a lot	14.7%	27.3%
Not at all	66.4%	23.6%
I prefer not to answer	4.1%	6.0%
Total	100.0%	100.0%

# Eastern Canadians show widest gap in trust of Trump and Biden while Albertans show narrowest gap between the two

Net Distrust	Total	Atl.	QC	ON	MB/SK	AB	BC
Joe Biden	51%	39%	43%	53%	58%	59%	56%
Donald Trump	81%	79%	86%	83%	78%	71%	79%
Net Difference	30	40	43	30	20	12	23

# The gap in trust between Trump and Biden is much lower amongst Canadians under 45

Net Distrust	Total	Male	Female	Between 18 and 24	Between 25 and 34	Between 35 and 44	Between 45 and 54	Between 55 and 64	65+
Joe Biden	51%	51%	51%	62%	63%	62%	53%	46%	33%
Donald Trump	81%	77%	85%	71%	73%	78%	84%	82%	92%
<b>Net Difference</b>	<b>30</b>	<b>26</b>	<b>34</b>	<b>10</b>	<b>10</b>	<b>16</b>	<b>31</b>	<b>36</b>	<b>59</b>

Trust of Biden and Trump widest on the left, narrows to the right as Biden becomes less trusted than Trump at the end of that spectrum

	In thinking about where you would situate yourself on the ideological spectrum would you say that you are...?				
	Left	Left of center	Center	Right of center	Right
Net Distrust (not a lot, or not at all)					
Joe Biden	9%	10%	13%	22%	35%
Donald Trump	51%	69%	48%	38%	13%
<b>Net Difference</b>	<b>42</b>	<b>49</b>	<b>35</b>	<b>16</b>	<b>-22</b>