



THE INTERESTS OF MY STATE/ REGION SHOULD TAKE PRIORITY OVER THE INTERESTS OF THE COUNTRY –

JACK JEDWAB, PRESIDENT AND CEO
ASSOCIATION FOR CANADIAN STUDIES AND THE METROPOLIS INSTITUTE
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INTRODUCTION AND METHODOLOGY

It is difficult to compare federalism/federalist governance in Canada and the United States. The two countries systems of government have been shaped by diverging processes of nation-building, differences in their demographic composition, the respective number of States in the US versus the number of provinces in Canada and over time the varying constitutional debates and imperatives. Conflict and collaboration between States and provinces and their respective federal governments reveal that the relationship is not static and there has been change over time in how the systems of government operate. Yet it is widely believed that Canada is the far more decentralized model of federalism when compared with the United States. To test this view we asked Americans and Canadians whether the “...interests of my state/province/region (Canada) should take priority over the interests of the country.” Indeed Canadians are somewhat more likely to say prioritize the province/region over the country than are Americans

The survey was conducted by Leger for the Association for Canadian Studies with 1539 respondents in Canada over the period November 22 to 24, 2024. A margin of error cannot be associated with a non-probability sample in a panel survey for comparison purposes. A probability sample of 1539 respondents would have a margin of error of $\pm 2.5\%$, 19 times out of 20. In the United States, the survey was conducted by Leger with 1009 respondents over the period November 22-24, 2024 and has a probabilistic margin of error of $\pm 3.9\%$, 19 times out of 20

CANADIANS ARE MORE LIKELY THAN AMERICANS TO SAY THAT THE INTERESTS OF MY STATE/REGION TAKE PRIORITY OVER THE INTERESTS OF THE COUNTRY WITH QUEBECERS, ATLANTIC CANADIANS AND ALBERTANS MOST LIKELY TO PRIORITIZE THE REGION

The interests of my state (US)/province/region (Canada) should take priority over the interests of the country -

	United States					Canada							
	US	NE	MW	South	West	Canada	Atl.	QC	ON	MB/S	K	AB	BC
Yes	34%	31%	33%	35%	37%	39%	48%	53%	32%	29%	45%	34%	
No	41%	39%	42%	42%	43%	40%	32%	28%	45%	48%	42%	46%	
I don't know	24%	29%	25%	24%	20%	20%	20%	19%	23%	23%	14%	20%	

YOUNGER AMERICANS ARE MORE LIKELY PRIORITIZE THE STATE OVER COUNTRY THAN ARE YOUNGER CANADIANS TO PRIORITIZE PROVINCE/REGION OVER COUNTRY

The interests of my state (US)/province/region (Canada) should take priority over the interests of the country -

	United States					Canada					
	18-29	30-39	40-49	50-64	65 +	Between 18 and 24	Between 25 and 34	Between 35 and 44	Between 45 and 54	Between 55 and 64	65 plus
Yes	44%	36%	26%	36%	29%	37%	42%	40%	38%	41%	38%
No	35%	41%	43%	42%	46%	32%	36%	40%	41%	40%	47%
I don't know	21%	23%	31%	22%	25%	31%	22%	20%	21%	20%	15%

IN CANADA PRIORITIZING THE INTEREST OF PROVINCE/REGION OVER COUNTRY HAS LITTLE IMPACT ON PRIDE IN BEING CANADIAN

The interests of my State should take priority over the interests of the country		
I am proud to be Canadian	Yes	No
Yes	78%	83%
No	13%	12%
I don't know	9%	5%
Total	100.0%	100.0%

IN THE PRIORITIZING THE INTEREST OF THE STATE OVER THOSE OF THE COUNTRY HAS SOME IMPACT ON PRIDE IN BEING AMERICAN

The interests of my State should take priority over the interests of the country			
		Yes	No
I am proud to be American	Yes	64%	87%
	No	22%	6%
	I don't know	14%	7%
Total		100.0%	100.0%

A MAJORITY OF CANADA'S FRANCOPHONES BELIEVE REGIONAL INTERESTS SHOULD TAKE PRIORITY OVER NATIONAL ONES WHILE ANGLOPHONES PUT COUNTRY'S INTERESTS FIRST

The interests of my state / region should take priority over the interests of the country -

Canada	French	English	Other
Yes	57%	35%	38%
No	24%	47%	31%
I don't know	20%	19%	32%

The interests of my state / region should take priority over the interests of the country -

Quebec	French	English	Other
Yes	61%	29%	35%
No	21%	56%	35%
I don't know	19%	15%	30%

WHETHER THEY PRIORITIZE PROVINCE/REGION OVER COUNTRY OR NOT QUEBECERS DEGREE OF PRIDE IN CANADA IS ROUGHLY SIMILAR

The interests of my province / region should take priority over the interests of the country			
Quebec		Yes	No
I am proud to be Canadian	Yes	72%	76%
	No	19%	15%
	I don't know	9%	9%
Total		100.0%	100.0%