



Polling Research

Between Us: Regional and Partisan Divides in Canada

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Introduction

The 2025 elections have witnessed rising concern over the state of relations between Alberta and the rest of Canada. Underlying the tension are partisan/ideological differences within Canada that will most certainly be reflected in the results of the April 28 election with Alberta voting massively for the Conservatives relative to the Eastern Canadian voting pattern. Though the sentiment isn't new, persistent feelings of disempowerment and alienation amongst Albertans may contribute to less desire for engagement with the federal government. How is the state of relations between Albertans and other Canadians seen across the country? By comparison what is the view of the relationship between Quebec and the ROC? Finally, how do Canadians see relations between Liberals and Conservatives in Canada? The Association for Canadian Studies commissioned Leger Marketing to ask Canadians these questions in providing insight into the extent to which the divide is viewed as partisan and/or regional and what it might imply for cooperation going forward.

These findings emerge from a survey conducted by Leger Marketing for the Association for Canadian Studies over the period April 17-19, 2025 with 1603 respondents in Canada. A margin of error cannot be associated with a non-probability sample in a panel survey for comparison purposes. A probability sample of 1603 respondents would have a margin of error of $\pm 2.5\%$, 19 times out of 20.

A narrow majority of Canadians think that relations between Quebecers and other Canadians and Albertans and other Canadians are good; with Quebecers more positive about relations between QC and ROC than others; Albertans also somewhat more likely than others to think relations between Alta-ROC are good; Few agree however that relations between Liberals and Conservatives are good

Would you say the relationships between the following are good (very good and somewhat good combined)	Total	Atl.	QC	ON	MB/SK	AB	BC	West	East	Quebec	ROC
Quebecers and other Canadians	53%	53%	65%	49%	45%	43%	53%	48%	55%	65%	49%
Albertans and other Canadians	51%	56%	49%	49%	50%	56%	54%	54%	50%	49%	52%
Liberals and Conservatives	19%	18%	20%	21%	20%	17%	15%	16%	20%	20%	19%

Under 35 less likely to view regional relations favorably

Would you say the relationships between the following are good (very good and somewhat good combined)	18-34	35-54	55+
Quebecers and other Canadians	44%	52%	59%
Albertans and other Canadians	45%	55%	53%
Liberals and Conservatives	23%	17%	18%

One quarter of Canadians view relations between Albertans and other Canadians as bad

Would you say the relationships between Albertans and other Canadians are good (very good and somewhat good combined)	Atl.	QC	ON	MB/SK	AB	BC
NET GOOD	56%	49%	49%	50%	56%	54%
Very good	20%	9%	13%	11%	15%	10%
Somewhat good	36%	41%	36%	40%	41%	44%
NET BAD	25%	29%	33%	36%	35%	31%
Somewhat bad	22%	24%	28%	29%	30%	30%
Very bad	3%	5%	5%	6%	5%	1%
I don't know / I prefer not to answer	19%	21%	18%	14%	10%	15%

In effect, the youngest cohort seems much less likely to assess the relationship between Alberta and the rest of Canada

Would you say the relationships between Albertans and other Canadians are good (very good and somewhat good combined)	Total	18-34	35-54	55+
NET GOOD	51%	45%	55%	53%
Very good	12%	11%	13%	12%
Somewhat good	39%	34%	42%	41%
NET BAD	32%	31%	28%	35%
Somewhat bad	27%	25%	25%	30%
Very bad	4%	5%	3%	5%
I don't know / I prefer not to answer	17%	24%	17%	13%

Albertans and Prairie residents are more likely to see relations between Quebecers and other Canadians as very bad than they do relations between Albertans and other Canadians

Would you say the relationships between Quebecers and other Canadians are good (very good and somewhat good combined)	Atl.	QC	ON	MB/SK	AB	BC
NET GOOD	53%	65%	49%	45%	43%	53%
Very good	15%	9%	8%	7%	7%	7%
Somewhat good	38%	55%	41%	38%	36%	47%
NET BAD	28%	26%	33%	41%	41%	32%
Somewhat bad	16%	20%	29%	36%	32%	28%
Very bad	12%	6%	5%	6%	10%	4%
I don't know / I prefer not to answer	19%	9%	17%	14%	15%	15%

Younger Canadians are somewhat more likely to see relations between Quebecers and other Canadians as very bad than they do relations between Albertans and other Canadians

(Would you say the relationships between Quebecers and other Canadians are good (very good and somewhat good combined)	Total	18-34	35-54	55+
NET GOOD	53%	44%	52%	59%
Very good	9%	8%	8%	9%
Somewhat good	44%	36%	43%	50%
NET BAD	33%	36%	32%	30%
Somewhat bad	27%	30%	27%	25%
Very bad	6%	7%	6%	6%
I don't know / I prefer not to answer	15%	20%	16%	11%

Two-thirds of Canadians view relations between Liberals and Conservatives as bad with Atlantic Canadians and Albertans more likely than others to see them as very bad

Would you say the relationships between Liberals and Conservatives are good (very good and somewhat good combined)	Atl.	QC	ON	MB/SK	AB	BC
NET GOOD	18%	20%	21%	20%	17%	15%
Very good	1%	2%	3%	5%	1%	3%
Somewhat good	17%	18%	17%	15%	15%	12%
NET BAD	67%	64%	64%	63%	69%	67%
Somewhat bad	34%	46%	40%	39%	41%	50%
Very bad	33%	19%	24%	24%	28%	18%
I don't know / I prefer not to answer	15%	15%	15%	17%	14%	18%

Canadians over 55 are most likely to see relations between Liberals and Conservatives as bad

Would you say the relationships between Liberals and Conservatives are good (very good and somewhat good combined)	Total	18-34	35-54	55+
NET GOOD	19%	23%	17%	18%
Very good	3%	5%	2%	2%
Somewhat good	16%	18%	15%	17%
NET BAD	65%	59%	63%	71%
Somewhat bad	42%	38%	38%	48%
Very bad	23%	21%	25%	23%
I don't know / I prefer not to answer	16%	19%	19%	11%

Amongst those Canadians who see the relationship between Liberals and Conservatives as very bad, the majority see relations between Albertans and other Canadians as bad

Albertans and other Canadians	Liberals and Conservatives -			
	Very good	Somewhat good	Somewhat bad	Very bad
Good	77%	79%	54%	38%
Bad	21%	13%	37%	53%
I don't know / I prefer not to answer	2%	8%	9%	9%
Total	100.0%	100.0%	100.0%	100.0%

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