Polling Research

The Two Amigos: Canadians give high marks to relations between Canada and Mexico while seeing the current state of relations with the United States as bad as it is between Canada and Russia

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Introduction

Whoever wins the federal election on April 28th will have their work cut out for them when it comes to international relations and notably key bilateral relationships. Canadians have seen the relationship with the United States sour with no immediate end in sight to the decline. A survey conducted by Leger for the Association for Canadian Studies reveals that three out of four Canadians describe the relationship as bad which is higher than the negative assessment given to relations between Canada and Russia!

Canadians give the most positive relationship ratings to Canada and Mexico, Canada and the UK and Canada and the EU. It would seem as though that Canadians may seem common cause with the other 'amigo' far more so than with the United States.

As regards relations between Canada and China which have been quite strained in recent years while more Canadians currently see them as 'bad' than they do 'good', the gap is not insurmountable. It is worth noting that Liberal leader Mark Carney has described China as the country's biggest security threat.

Recently, China's ambassador to Canada said Beijing is offering to form a partnership with Canada to push back against American "bullying," suggesting the two countries could rally other nations to stop Washington from undermining global rules (https://www.ctvnews.ca/world/trumps-tariffs/article/china-says-it-wants-to-partner-with-canada-to-push-back-against-american-bullying/)

These findings emerge from a survey conducted by Leger Marketing for the Association for Canadian Studies over the period April 17-19, 2025.with1603 respondents in Canada over the period January 17 and 19, 2025 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 ±2.5%, 19 times out of 20.

Relations between Canada and Mexico soar to the top while those between Canada and the US hit bottom

Would you say the relationships between the following....are good	Total	Atl.	QC	ON	MB/SK	AB	BC
Canada and Mexico	78%	78%	80%	75%	82%	82%	77%
Canada and the United Kingdom	78%	79%	75%	78%	87%	80%	78%
Canada and the European Union	77%	75%	82%	77%	76%	76%	76%
Canada and China	36%	43%	38%	35%	35%	35%	36%
Canada and the United States	16%	20%	12%	18%	16%	17%	15%
Canada and Russia	15%	17%	15%	15%	16%	16%	13%

Canadians see relations between Canada and the United States as worse than relations between Canada and Russia

Would you say the relationships between the following….are bad	Total	Atl.	QC	ON	MB/SK	AB	BC
Canada and the United Kingdom	5%	2%	6%	5%	1%	6%	8%
Canada and the European Union	5%	4%	5%	5%	3%	7%	4%
Canada and Mexico	6%	6%	6%	6%	4%	7%	7%
Canada and China	45%	36%	43%	45%	43%	49%	50%
Canada and Russia	63%	59%	67%	61%	66%	64%	63%
Canada and the United States	75%	74%	79%	71%	78%	75%	73%

Bloc and Liberal voters most likely to see the relationship between Canada and the United States as bad; also see relationship between Canada and Russia as bad; Conservatives see relationship between Canada and China as worse than others

Would you say the relationships between the following….are bad (net Somewhat bad and very bad)	PLC	NDP	BQ	CPC
Canada and the United Kingdom	3%	6.5%	6%	7%
Canada and the European Union	3%	2%	4%	9%
Canada and Mexico	5%	5%	4%	8%
Canada and China	48%	37%	45%	51.5%
Canada and Russia	73%	73%	76%	62%
Canada and the United States	84%	78.5%	87%	68%

Albertans and Prairie residents are most likely to think that relations between Canada and Mexico are good

Relations between Canada and Mexico	Total	Atl.	QC	ON	MB/SK	AB	BC
NET GOOD	78%	78%	80%	75%	82%	82%	77%
Very good	21%	25%	20%	20%	24%	21%	21%
Somewhat good	57%	53%	60%	55%	59%	61%	57%
NET BAD	6%	6%	6%	6%	4%	7%	7%
Somewhat bad	6%	5%	5%	6%	3%	7%	6%
Very bad	1%	1%	1%	1%	1%	0%	1%
I don't know / I prefer not to answer	16%	17%	14%	19%	14%	11%	15%

Prairie residents are most likely to describe relations between Canada and UK as good

Relations between Canada and United Kingdom	Total	Atl.	QC	ON	MB/SK	AB	BC
NET GOOD	78%	79%	75%	78%	87%	80%	78%
Very good	30%	33%	25%	32%	30%	31%	33%
Somewhat good	48%	46%	51%	46%	57%	49%	46%
NET BAD	5%	2%	6%	5%	1%	6%	8%
Somewhat bad	4%	2%	5%	4%	1%	5%	7%
Very bad	1%	0%	1%	1%	0%	1%	1%
I don't know / I prefer not to answer	16%	19%	18%	17%	12%	14%	14%

Quebecers most likely to describe relations between Canada and the European Union as good

Relations between Canada and the European Union	Total	Atl.	QC	ON	MB/SK	AB	BC
NET GOOD	77%	75%	82%	77%	76%	76%	76%
Very good	25%	23%	28%	27%	26%	21%	22%
Somewhat good	52%	52%	54%	50%	49%	55%	54%
NET BAD	5%	4%	5%	5%	3%	7%	4%
Somewhat bad	4%	4%	4%	4%	1%	7%	3%
Very bad	1%	0%	1%	1%	1%	1%	1%
I don't know / I prefer not to answer	18%	21%	13%	18%	22%	16%	20%

British Columbians and Albertans are most likely to view relations between Canada and China as bad

Relations between Canada and China	Total	Atl.	QC	ON	MB/SK	AB	BC
NET GOOD	36%	43%	38%	35%	35%	35%	36%
Very good	4%	5%	3%	6%	3%	3%	4%
Somewhat good	32%	38%	35%	30%	32%	32%	31%
NET BAD	45%	36%	43%	45%	43%	49%	50%
Somewhat bad	36%	31%	34%	35%	34%	38%	46%
Very bad	9%	5%	9%	10%	9%	11%	5%
I don't know / I prefer not to answer	19%	21%	20%	20%	22%	16%	14%

Atlantic and Western Canadians are most likely to see relations between Canada and the United States as very bad

Relations between Canada and the United States	Total	Atl.	QC	ON	MB/SK	AB	BC
NET GOOD	16%	20%	12%	18%	16%	17%	15%
Very good	3%	2%	1%	4%	3%	3%	4%
Somewhat good	13%	18%	11%	14%	12%	14%	12%
NET BAD	75%	74%	79%	71%	78%	75%	73%
Somewhat bad	40%	37%	48%	39%	41%	39%	36%
Very bad	34%	37%	32%	33%	37%	37%	37%
I don't know / I prefer not to answer	9%	6%	8%	11%	6%	8%	11%

Quebecers most likely to see relations between Canada and Russia as bad

Relations between Canada and Russia	Total	Atl.	QC	ON	MB/SK	AB	BC
NET GOOD	15%	17%	15%	15%	16%	16%	13%
Very good	2%	2%	1%	2%	2%	3%	1%
Somewhat good	13%	15%	13%	13%	14%	13%	12%
NET BAD	63%	59%	67%	61%	66%	64%	63%
Somewhat bad	36%	32%	41%	35%	34%	38%	35%
Very bad	27%	28%	26%	27%	32%	26%	28%
I don't know / I prefer not to answer	22%	24%	19%	24%	18%	21%	24%

Contact

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