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Association for Canadian Studies

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Polling Research

Canadians Divided in their opinion of the Monarchy and of the Vatican

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Introduction

King Charles will travel to Canada to deliver the speech from the throne on May 27. The last time the speech was actually read by Canada's head of state was when Queen Elizabeth delivered it in 1977. The Monarchy has played an important role in the history of the country but it's one that evokes very mixed feelings. Along with the Monarchy, the Vatican has also played a key role in the country's history and it as well gives rise to mixed sentiment on the part of Canadians. Recently, the Vatican elected a new Pope.

To find out the Association for Canadian Studies commissioned the firm Leger to ask How do Canadians feel about these institutions and their leaders. While Canadians are divided in their opinions of these institutions, they value the Pope over the Vatican and the Monarchy over King Charles For their part Quebecers have lesser appreciation for the Monarchy and King Charles than do other Canadians. But if their divided in their views of these institutions they are somewhat less so when asked about whether these institutions play a useful role in the world. A clear majority of Canadians don't believe the Monarchy plays a useful role in the world nor do most Canadians believe that the Vatican plays a useful role in that regard

These findings emerge from a survey conducted by Leger Marketing for the Association for Canadian Studies over the period May 16-18, 2025. with 1537 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 1537 respondents would have a margin of error of $\pm 2.5\%$, 19 times out of 20.

Canadians value the Pope over the Vatican and the Monarchy over King Charles; Quebecers have lesser appreciation for the Monarchy and King Charles than do other Canadians

| - Do you have a positive, (very and somewhat positive) view of the following? | Total | Atl. | QC | ON | MB/SK | AB | BC |
|---|-------|------|-----|-----|-------|-----|-----|
| The Monarchy | 50% | 57% | 37% | 56% | 56% | 51% | 47% |
| The Vatican | 51% | 40% | 46% | 58% | 49% | 46% | 48% |
| The Pope | 62% | 56% | 58% | 67% | 69% | 59% | 61% |
| King Charles | 48% | 51% | 39% | 51% | 57% | 49% | 50% |

Slight majority of Canadians hold a negative view of King Charles while most hold a positive view of the Pope

| | The Monarchy | The Vatican | The Pope | King Charles |
|-------------------|--------------|-------------|----------|--------------|
| (NET) POSITIVE | 50% | 51% | 62% | 48% |
| Very positive | 11% | 10% | 16% | 9% |
| Somewhat positive | 39% | 40% | 46% | 40% |
| (NET) NEGATIVE | 50% | 49% | 38% | 52% |
| Somewhat negative | 33% | 33% | 25% | 35% |
| Very negative | 17% | 17% | 12% | 17% |

Indigenous Peoples and Immigrants hold slightly negative view of the Monarchy

| The Monarchy | Total | Indigenous | Immigrant | Visible Minority | White |
|-------------------|-------|------------|-----------|------------------|-------|
| (NET) POSITIVE | 50% | 47% | 48 | 48 | 51 |
| Very positive | 11% | 18 | 11 | 12 | 11 |
| Somewhat positive | 39% | 29 | 37 | 36 | 40 |
| (NET) NEGATIVE | 50% | 53% | 52 | 52 | 49 |
| Somewhat negative | 33% | 31 | 37 | 38 | 32 |
| Very negative | 17% | 22 | 15 | 14 | 17 |

Indigenous peoples are most negative towards the Vatican

| The Vatican | Total | Indigenous | Immigrant | Visible Minority | White |
|-------------------|-------|------------|-----------|------------------|-------|
| (NET) POSITIVE | 51% | 40 | 55 | 57 | 50 |
| Very positive | 10% | 13 | 14 | 14 | 10 |
| Somewhat positive | 40% | 27 | 41 | 43 | 40 |
| (NET) NEGATIVE | 49% | 60 | 45 | 43 | 50 |
| Somewhat negative | 33% | 36 | 31 | 30 | 33 |
| Very negative | 17% | 24 | 14 | 13 | 17 |

A clear majority of Canadians don't believe the Monarchy plays a useful role in the world nor do most Canadians believe that the Vatican plays a useful role in that regard

| | The Monarchy plays a useful role in the world | The Vatican plays a useful role in world |
|---------------------------------------|---|--|
| Yes | 24% | 33% |
| No | 56% | 42% |
| I don't know / I prefer not to answer | 19% | 25% |

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