



# Polling Research

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## Immigration and Trust of newcomers in Canada

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# Introduction and Methodology

Continued tracking of the view over the numbers of immigrants currently admitted to Canada reveals that in June 20-22, 2025 a majority still feel that there are too many. This despite the 25% reduction in the numbers of immigrants that were announced in the fall of 2025. While most observers attribute the persistent concern with the numbers of refugees to economic concerns and housing challenges, the survey looks at the extent to which Canadians trust immigrants and refugees and finds that amongst those Canadians who feel that there are too many immigrants, the level of trust in refugees is especially low. This may imply that concerns over domestic intergroup tensions may be a more important factor in concern with levels than has been previously acknowledged. Data from a second Leger survey included here point to concerns about levels of temporary workers and foreign students

The survey was conducted by Leger for the Association for Canadian Studies with 1580 respondents in Canada over the period June 20 and 22, 2025. A margin of error cannot be associated with a non-probability sample in a panel survey for comparison purposes. A probability sample of 1580 respondents would have a margin of error of  $\pm 2.5\%$ , 19 times out of 20.

**Too many Canadians still believe that there are too many immigrants coming to Canada .There has been some change in the extent to which Canadians think that there are too many immigrants but clear majority still believe there are too many**

“My country is currently admitting too many immigrants?” (Yes,No or I don’t know)  Do you feel that there are (currently) too many, too few or about the right number of immigrants coming to Canada?									
		June 20-22, 2025	March 2025	Nov 22-24, 2024	Sept 2024	July 2024	Feb 2024	Sept 2023	March 2019
Too many/Yes		62%	58%	65%	65%	60%	50%	49%	35%
About the right number	No	20%	29%	19%	22%	28%	37%	35%	49%
Too few			3%		2%	3%	7%	5%	12%
I don't know / I prefer not to answer		19%	9%	16%	11%	9%	6%	10%	3%
NET		100%	100%	100%	100%	100%	100%	100%	100%
		(1)The June 2025 and November 2024 question asked respondents to answer yes or no to whether “my country is currently admitting too many immigrants?” whereas previous questions offered the list of options in the column							

Youngest cohort somewhat less likely to feel that there are too many immigrants coming to Canada but majority still feel there are too many

There are currently too many immigrants coming to Canada - Please answer Yes, No or I don't know to the following.	Total	18-34	35-54	55+
Yes	62%	55%	65%	63%
No	20%	26%	15%	19%
I don't know	18%	19%	20%	18%
Total	100%	100%	100%	100%

# Feeling that there are too many immigrants is most strongly felt in the atlantic and least so in British Columbia

There are currently too many immigrants coming to Canada - Please answer Yes, No or I don't know to the following.	Atl.	QC	ON	MB/SK	AB	BC
Yes	71%	63%	63%	54%	65%	52%
No	18%	19%	20%	21%	17%	22%
I don't know	12%	18%	17%	25%	18%	25%
Total	100%	100%	100%	100%	100%	100%

# Immigrants and non-immigrants, visible minority and not continue to believe that there are currently too many immigrants coming to Canada

There are currently too many immigrants coming to Canada - Please answer Yes, No or I don't know to the following.					
	Immigrant	Non-Immigrant	White	Non-White	
	Yes	57%	60%	58%	61%
	No	22%	23%	21%	23%
	I don't know	21%	17%	21%	16%
Total	100%	100%	100%	100%	

decrease in the numbers of temporary workers while a slightly larger plurality favor decreases to foreign students over status quo. Relatively few Canadians favor increases to either category

Each year, the Government of Canada may decide to issue temporary visas to different categories of citizens who want to come to Canada. In your view, should the number of visas granted by Canada be increased, decreased or remain the same		
Leger Survey Data collection from June 6 to June 8, 2025.	Temporary workers	Foreign Students
Net Increase	12%	12%
Net Decrease	34%	39%
Remain the same	41%	37%
Don't know	13%	11%
Total	100%	100%

# **Trust in Immigrants and Refugees**



# Immigrants are somewhat more trusted than refugees

Canadians	Immigrants	Refugees
Can be trusted	42%	36%
Cannot be trusted	20%	23%
I don't know / I prefer not to answer	37%	42%
Total	100%	100%

Canadians between the age of 18 and 34 are more likely to trust immigrants and refugees than are other cohorts; Atlantic Canadians and british Columbians are more likely to trust immigrants and refugees

Can Be trusted	Total	18-34	35-54	55+	Atl.	QC	ON	MB/SK	AB	BC
Immigrants	42%	51%	38%	40%	46%	40%	44%	35%	37%	47%
Refugees	36%	42%	32%	35%	41%	35%	37%	31%	30%	39%

**Immigrants are more likely to trust other immigrants than are non-immigrants as are non-white more so than white Canadians; however immigrants and non-white are somewhat less likely to trust refugees than are non-immigrants and those identifying as white**

Trust of Immigrants	Immigrants	Non-Immigrants	White	Non-White	Trust of Refugees	Immigrants	Non-Immigrants	White	Non-White
Can Be trusted	53%	40%	40%	53%	Can Be trusted	33%	38%	37%	33%
Cannot be trusted	14%	22%	22%	13%	Cannot be trusted	22%	23%	22%	28%
Don't Know	33%	38%	38%	34%	Don't Know	45%	41%	41%	39%

# Amongst those who agree that there are currently too many immigrants coming to Canada trust is lowest of refugees

Agree that there are currently too many immigrants coming to Canada -	Can be trusted	Cannot be Trusted	Don't Know	Total
Immigrants	32%	28%	40%	100%
Refugees	24%	32%	44%	100%



Few differences regionally in the extent to which Canadians feel we're being fair on trade while americans aren't

	Immigrants Cannot Be Trusted	Immigrants Can Be Trusted	Don't Know if Immigrants can be trusted
Refugees Can Be Trusted	9%	75%	6%

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