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'Dual-ing' Citizenship: views on Canadian Citizenship

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Introduction & Methodology

Although not all countries allow dual citizenship permits one to hold two nationalities at the same time without losing any rights. However, not all countries allow dual citizenship. By becoming a dual citizen or dual national, you can benefit from access to both countries' social and healthcare services, living in the two countries without any visa restrictions, and holding two passports for global mobility. However, at the same time, you might face legal and tax obligations in both countries. While exact global rankings are difficult to obtain the United States, Canada, Switzerland, and many EU nations have high rates of dual citizenship with Canada reporting 11.2% (3.7M) dual citizens, a high percentage of naturalized citizens (44.7%) having multiple citizenships, and Switzerland around 19% of its population, reflecting strong acceptance.

Debates on dual citizenship are rising globally generated by an increase in country acceptance and some recent high-profile legislative pushback in the US and elsewhere. A survey conducted by Leger for the Association for Canadian Studies reveals that younger Canadians and newcomers like the idea of holding dual citizenship. And a plurality of Canadians disagree that dual citizenship results in dual loyalties. The survey also finds that a majority of Canadian born and immigrant would prefer to be citizens of Canada than any other country. Yet on each of the questions regarding citizenship there are some important differences in opinion which to some extent reflect on debates over national identity. Unlike the US where some legislators want to revisit the issue of dual citizenship, thankfully there is no legislator driving such a conversation in Canada.

The survey was conducted by Leger for the Association for Canadian Studies with 1723 respondents in Canada over the period December 19-21, 2025. A margin of error cannot be associated with a non-probability sample in a panel survey for comparison purposes. A probability sample of 1723 respondents would have a margin of error of $\pm 2.5\%$, 19 times out of 20.

Two-thirds or more of persons born in Bulgaria, Romania, Taiwan, Poland and Switzerland hold dual citizenship and have the percentage of such citizenship holders

Canada...Countries with highest percentage of dual citizens by place of birth 2021	Total - Citizenship	Canadian citizens, by birth, and at least one other country	Canadian citizens, by naturalization, and at least one other country	Canadian citizens, by birth, and at least one other country %	Canadian citizens, by naturalization, and at least one other country %	Dual Citizens %
Total – Place of birth	36328475	1000070	2724605	0.027529	0.074999	10
Bulgaria	19700	125	15820	0.006345	0.803046	81
Romania	88650	285	65645	0.003215	0.740496	74
Taiwan	72075	2150	48700	0.02983	0.675685	70
Poland	137605	550	91155	0.003997	0.66244	66
Switzerland	21795	1365	12860	0.062629	0.590044	65
Algeria	87835	370	56450	0.004212	0.642682	65
Lebanon	103405	3295	63455	0.031865	0.613655	64
Moldova	20470	15	12680	0.000733	0.619443	62
Morocco	90395	690	55135	0.007633	0.609934	62
Uruguay	6890	95	4105	0.013788	0.595791	61
Pakistan	245525	2765	146860	0.011262	0.598147	61
Argentina	21520	400	12435	0.018587	0.577835	59
Israel	33840	1740	18305	0.051418	0.540928	59
Colombia	99165	930	56435	0.009378	0.569102	58
Peru	34650	535	19370	0.01544	0.559019	57

Persons born in UK hold highest number of dual citizens followed by the American born, Pakistani and Iranian Born

Total – Place of birth Top 20 numbers of dual citizens by country of birth 2021	3724675
United Kingdom	229900
United States of America	179540
Pakistan	149625
Iran	114825
Hong Kong	107760
Poland	91705
Philippines	87780
France	73050
Lebanon	66750
Romania	65930
India	65795
Portugal	65600
Colombia	57365
Algeria	56820
Italy	56410
Morocco	55825
Jamaica	55515
Taiwan	50850
Mexico	49100
China	49025
Russian Federation	45635

Value of Citizenship on the decline?

Has there been a decline since march 2023 in the degree to which Canadians say that they would rather be a citizen of Canada than of another country?

I would rather be a citizen of Canada than of any other country in the world (Feb-March 2023)	Total	Born in Canada	Born outside of Canada
NET AGREE	81%	83%	74%
NET DISAGREE	13%	11%	16%
I don't know / I prefer not to answer	7%	6%	10%

I would rather be a citizen of Canada than any other country in the world (December 2025)	Total	Non – Immigrant	Immigrant
Yes	67%	68%	62%
No	19%	19%	21%
I don't know / I prefer not to answer	14%	13%	17%

Quebecers less likely to have seen decline in preference to be citizen of Canada over other country; gap widens on the basis of age as regards preference for Canadian citizenship over other country

I would rather be a citizen of Canada than of any other country in the world	ATL	QC	ON	MB/SK	AB	BC
NET AGREE Febr-March 2023	84%	79%	80%	84%	77%	83%
YES December 2025	66%	71%	66%	67%	61%	67%

I would rather be a citizen of Canada than any other country in the world	Between 18 and 24	Between 25 and 34	Between 35 and 44	Between 45 and 54	Between 55 and 64	65+
NET AGREE Febr-March 2023	75%	75%	74%	79%	88%	88%
YES December 2025	40%	57%	54%	71%	74%	85%

Citizenship: December 2025

Two in three Canadians say that they would rather be citizens of Canada than any other country in the world

I would rather be a citizen of Canada than any other country in the world (December 2025)	Total	Between 18 and 24	Between 25 and 34	Between 35 and 44	Between 45 and 54	Between 55 and 64	65+
Yes	67%	40%	57%	54%	71%	74%	85%
No	19%	35%	24%	30%	14%	15%	7%
I don't know / I prefer not to answer	14%	24%	19%	16%	15%	11%	7%

Quebecers most likely to say they would rather be citizens of Canada than any other country in the world

	Total	Atl.	QC	ON	MB/SK	AB	BC
I would rather be a citizen of Canada than any other country in the world							
Yes	67%	66%	71%	66%	67%	61%	67%
No	19%	19%	18%	21%	16%	24%	14%
I don't know / I prefer not to answer	14%	15%	11%	14%	17%	15%	18%

Over 60% of immigrants would rather be citizens of Canada than any other country in the world

I would rather be a citizen of Canada than any other country in the world	Non –Immigrant	Immigrant	White	Visible Minority	South Asian	Chinese	Middle Eastern
Yes	68%	62%	70%	57%	50%	63%	50%
No	19%	21%	17%	26%	29%	25%	38%
I don't know / I prefer not to answer	13%	17%	13%	17%	21%	12%	12%

More than one in three Canadians say they would like to hold citizenship in more than one country

I would like to hold citizenship in more than one country	Total	18- 24	25 and 34	35 and 44	45 and 54	55 and 64	65+
Yes	37%	43%	42%	51%	37%	38%	22%
No	47%	37%	38%	34%	44%	49%	65%
I don't know / I prefer not to answer	16%	20%	20%	14%	19%	13%	13%

British Columbians most likely to say they would like to hold citizenship in more than one country

	Total	Atl.	QC	ON	MB/SK	AB	BC
I would like to hold citizenship in more than one country							
Yes	37%	28%	32%	40%	35%	35%	46%
No	47%	59%	52%	45%	46%	50%	34%
I don't know / I prefer not to answer	16%	13%	16%	15%	19%	16%	20%

Nearly half of Canada's immigrants would like to hold citizenship in more than one country

I would like to hold citizenship in more than one country	Non –Immigrant	Immigrant	White	Visible Minority	South Asian	Chinese	Middle Eastern
Yes	35%	48%	35%	44%	44%	46%	52%
No	50%	35%	50%	35%	24%	42%	34%
I don't know / I prefer not to answer	15%	17%	15%	21%	32%	12%	14%

Nearly one in three Canadians agree that people who are citizens of Canada and another country are less loyal to Canada

People who are citizens of Canada and another country (dual citizens) are less loyal to Canada than those who are citizens of Canada only	Total	Male	Female	Between 18 and 24	Between 25 and 34	Between 35 and 44	Between 45 and 54	Between 55 and 64	65+
Yes	31%	37%	25%	22%	30%	34%	27%	35%	31%
No	41%	39%	43%	51%	49%	42%	41%	35%	35%
I don't know / I prefer not to answer	28%	24%	32%	27%	21%	24%	31%	30%	34%

Albertans are more likely to agree than other Canadians that dual citizens are less loyal to Canada

People who are citizens of Canada and another country (dual citizens) are less loyal to Canada than those who are citizens of Canada only	Total	Atl.	QC	ON	MB/SK	AB	BC
Yes	31%	29%	28%	33%	26%	39%	25%
No	41%	39%	40%	42%	43%	37%	44%
I don't know / I prefer not to answer	28%	32%	32%	25%	31%	25%	31%

A majority of immigrants disagree that people holding dual citizenship are less loyal to Canada

People who are citizens of Canada and another country (dual citizens) are less loyal to Canada than those who are citizens of Canada only	Non –Immigrant	Immigrant	White	Visible Minority	South Asian	Chinese
Yes	32%	26%	32%	24%	22%	29%
No	38%	53%	39%	50%	56%	46%
I don't know / I prefer not to answer	30%	21%	29%	26%	22%	25%

A majority of Canadians saying no to preferring Canadian citizenship over others would like to hold citizenship in more than one country; one in three Canadians saying they would rather be citizens of Canada would like to have dual citizenship

<p>I would like to hold citizenship in more than one country - Please answer Yes No or I don't know / I prefer not to respond to the following:</p>	<p>I would rather be a citizen of Canada than any other country in the world - Please answer Yes No or I don't know / I prefer not to respond to the following:</p>	
	<p>Yes</p>	<p>No</p>
<p>Yes</p>	<p>31%</p>	<p>57%</p>
<p>No</p>	<p>56%</p>	<p>35%</p>
<p>I don't know / I prefer not to answer</p>	<p>12%</p>	<p>7%</p>
<p>Total</p>	<p>100.0%</p>	<p>100.0%</p>

A majority of those saying that they would like to hold citizenship in more than one country don't agree that people who have dual citizenship are less loyal to Canada

People who are citizens of Canada and another country (dual citizens) are less loyal to Canada than those who are citizens of Canada only -	I would like to hold citizenship in more than one country - Please answer Yes No or I don't know / I prefer not to respond to the following:	
	Yes	No
Yes	29%	38%
No	54%	36%
I don't know / I prefer not to answer	17%	26%
Total	100%	100%

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