

Canada & the EU

Do Canadians want to be an
“Associate Member”?

September 21, 2026



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Methodology

Methodology

This week, we conducted a survey of Canadians to explore their views related to the relationship between Canada and the European Union.

Method

Online survey among Canadian respondents 18 years of age or older. (**n=1,533**)

Respondents had the option of completing the survey in French and English and were randomly recruited using LEO's online panel.

Weighting

Results were weighted according to **age, gender, mother tongue, region, education and presence of children in the household** in order to ensure a representative sample of the Canadian population.

When

Data collection from **September 19th to 21th, 2026**.

Margin of error

For comparison purposes, a probability sample of this size yields a margin of error no greater than **±2.5%**, (19 times out of 20).

Significant differences

Data in bold **red** characters indicate a significantly lower proportion than that of other respondents. Conversely, data in bold **green** characters indicate a significantly higher proportion than that of other respondents.

Rounded data

The numbers presented have been rounded up. However, the numbers before rounding were used to calculate the sums presented and might therefore not correspond to the manual addition of these numbers.

Questions

Have questions about the data presented in this report? Please contact one of the following people:

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➔ Notes

A more detailed sample breakdown is presented in the Appendix.

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CANADA 2025

	LEGER POLL Published on April 26, 2025	OFFICIALS RESULTS 2025 Canada Federal Election
	43%	43.7%
	39%	41.3%
	8%	6.3%
	6%	6.3%
	2%	1.2%

BRITISH COLUMBIA 2024

	LEGER POLL Published on October 18, 2024	OFFICIALS RESULTS 2024 British Columbia Provincial Election
	46%	45%
	42%	43%
	9%	8%
Others	3%	4%

UNITED STATES 2024

	LEGER POLL Published on November 4, 2024	OFFICIALS RESULTS 2024 United States Presidential Election
	49%	50%
	49%	48%
Others	2%	2%

Key Highlights

Key Highlights

Some of **the key highlights** of this survey...

Canada & EU Relationship

- **Seven in ten Canadians (70%) support Canada becoming an Associate Member of the EU, while 13% oppose and 18% are unsure.** Support is more common among Quebecers (75%), men (74%) and those aged 55+ (79%), while it is lower in Manitoba/Saskatchewan (49%), among women (65%) and those under 55. Uncertainty is more prevalent among women (23%) and 18–34-year-olds (25%).
- **Greater market access is the integration measure most likely to increase support for closer Canada–EU relations (63%).** This response is more prevalent among those aged 55+ (72%) and less common in Manitoba/Saskatchewan (44%) and among 18–34-year-olds (50%). Alignment of Canadian laws and standards with the EU has the lowest positive impact (25%).
- **Nearly three-quarters (72%) support closer Canada–EU relations even if this results in a less close relationship with the U.S.; 14% oppose and 15% are unsure.** Support is strongest among those aged 55+ (76%) and notably lower in Manitoba/Saskatchewan (54%), where opposition is comparatively higher (29%).

Private-Sector Management of Major Canadian Airports

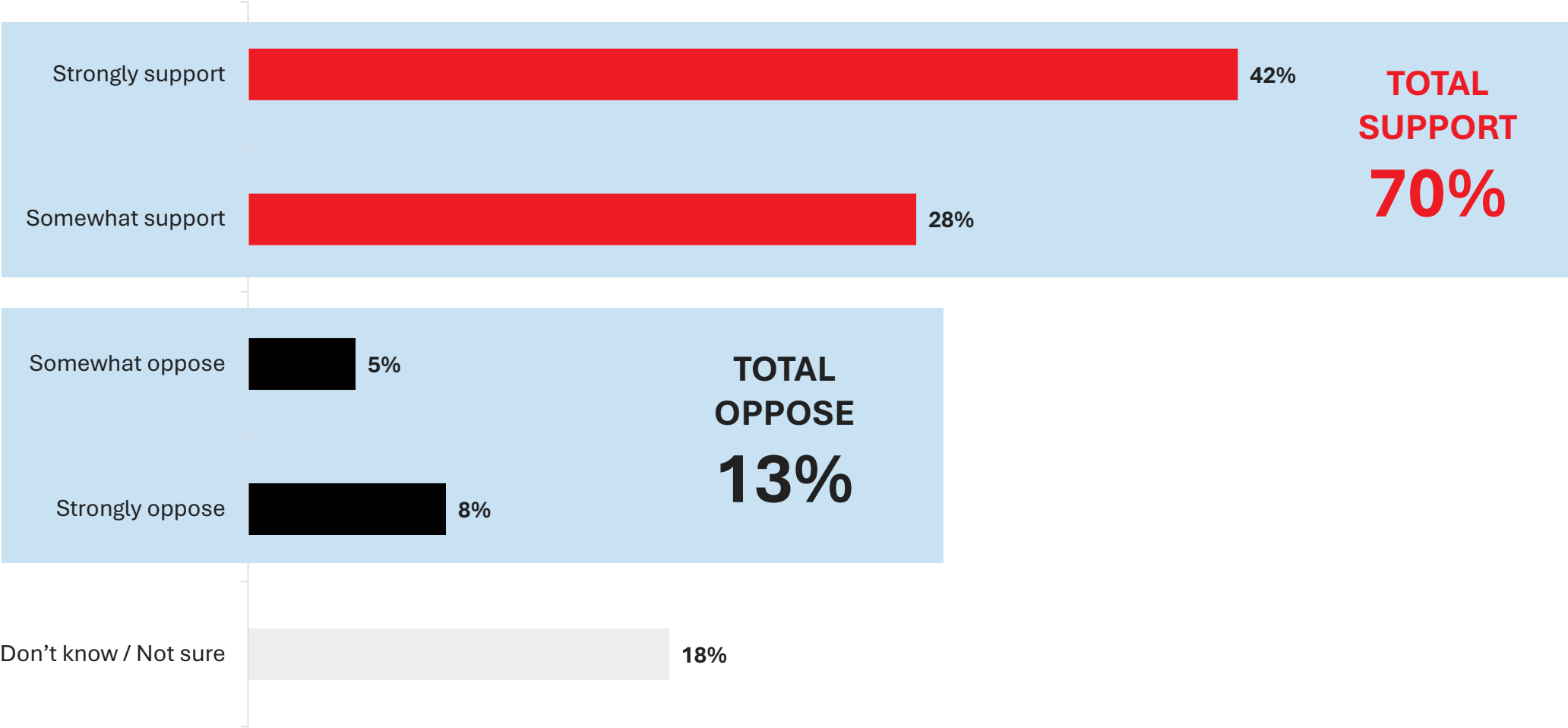
- **Canadians are more likely to support than oppose the proposed shift to private-sector management of four major Canadian airports, although more than one-quarter remain unsure.** Overall, 43% support the proposal, 31% oppose it and 27% are unsure. Support is higher among men (48%) and lower among women (38%) and residents of Manitoba/Saskatchewan (32%).

Canada-E.U. Relationship

Support for Canada Becoming an Associate Member of the European Union (1/2)

Q1. To what extent do you support or oppose Prime Minister Mark Carney formalizing a closer relation with Europe by becoming an Associate Member of the European Union (EU)?

Base: All respondents (n=1,533)



Support for Canada Becoming an Associate Member of the European Union (2/2)

Q1. To what extent do you support or oppose Prime Minister Mark Carney formalizing a closer relation with Europe by becoming an Associate Member of the European Union (EU)?

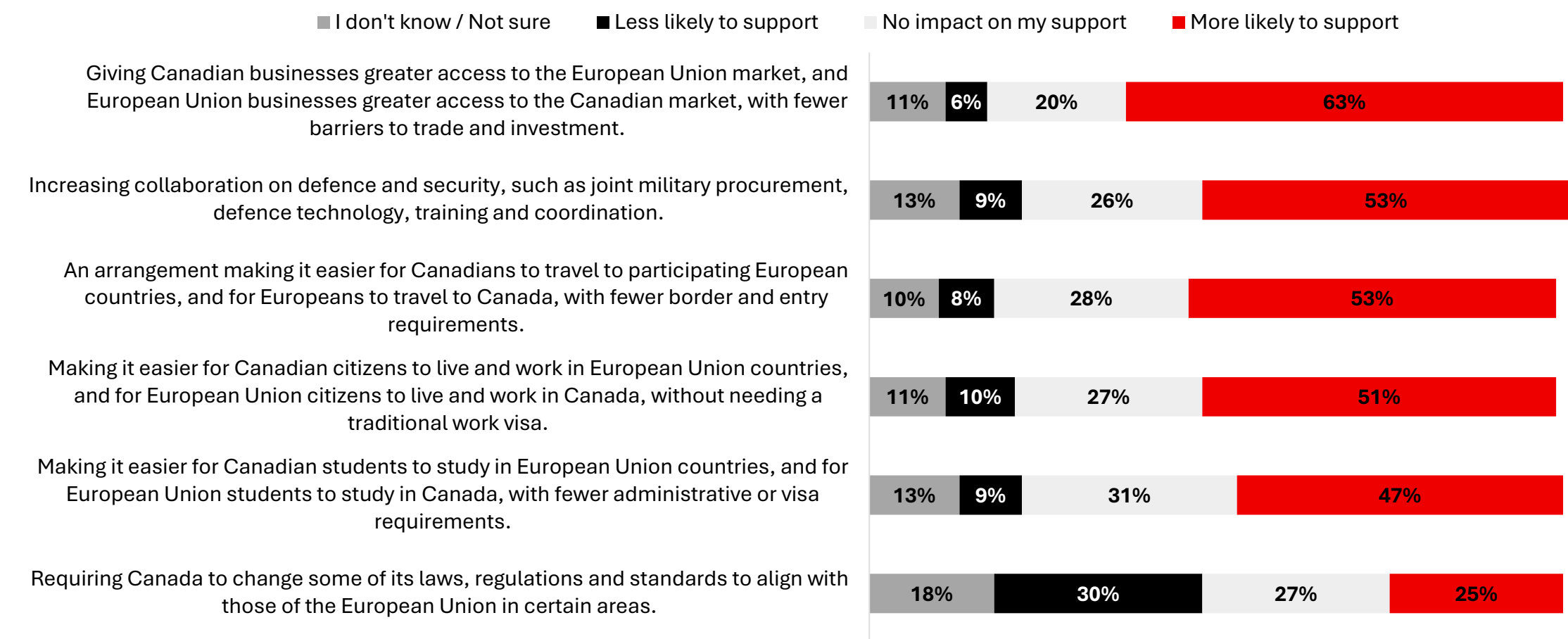
Base: All respondents (n=1,533)

	Total	ATL	QC	ON	MB/SK	AB	BC	Male	Female	18-34	35-54	55+
Weighted n=	1,533	104	356	596	99	165	214	744	789	411	488	634
Unweighted n=	1,533	101	415	608	126	126	157	742	791	348	438	747
NET SUPPORT	70%	65%	75%	71%	49%	64%	73%	74%	65%	62%	64%	79%
Strongly support	42%	40%	41%	43%	26%	42%	45%	45%	38%	28%	37%	54%
Somewhat support	28%	25%	33%	28%	23%	22%	28%	30%	27%	34%	27%	25%
NET DO NOT SUPPORT	13%	15%	8%	12%	26%	13%	15%	13%	12%	13%	17%	10%
Somewhat oppose	5%	7%	2%	5%	8%	3%	6%	4%	5%	7%	6%	2%
Strongly oppose	8%	9%	6%	7%	18%	10%	9%	9%	8%	6%	11%	8%
Don't know / Not sure	18%	20%	17%	17%	25%	23%	12%	12%	23%	25%	20%	11%

Impact of Canada–EU Integration Measures on Support for Closer Relations (1/2)

Q2. If closer integration between Canada and the European Union included each of the following, would it make you more or less likely to support Canada developing a closer association with the European Union?

Base: All respondents (n=1,533)



Impact of Canada–EU Integration Measures on Support for Closer Relations (2/2)

Q2. If closer integration between Canada and the European Union included each of the following, would it make you more or less likely to support Canada developing a closer association with the European Union?

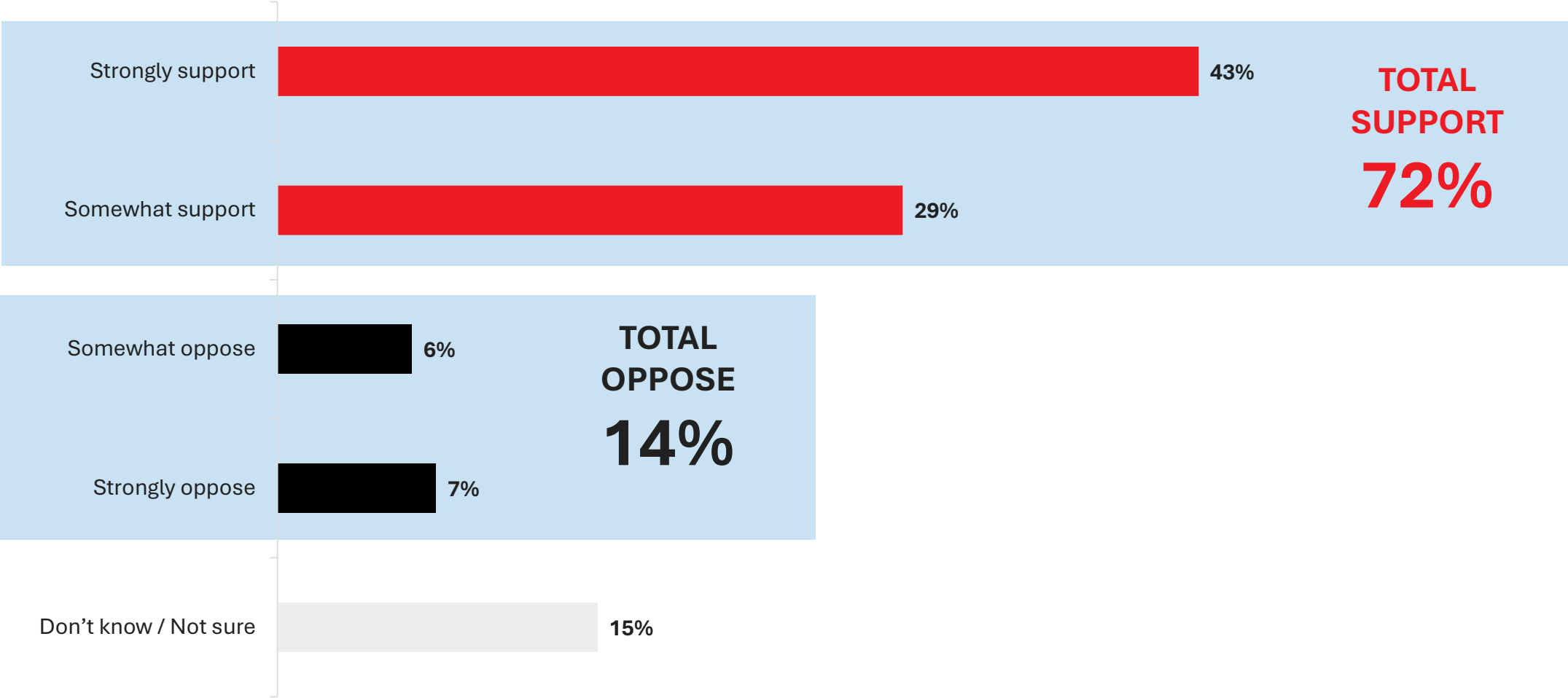
Base: All respondents (n=1,533)

% <i>MORE LIKELY TO SUPPORT</i>	Total	ATL	QC	ON	MB/SK	AB	BC	Male	Female	18-34	35-54	55+
Weighted n=	1,533	104	356	596	99	165	214	744	789	411	488	634
Unweighted n=	1,533	101	415	608	126	126	157	742	791	348	438	747
Giving Canadian businesses greater access to the European Union market, and European Union businesses greater access to the Canadian market, with fewer barriers to trade and investment.	63%	68%	64%	63%	44%	66%	68%	66%	61%	50%	63%	72%
Increasing collaboration on defence and security, such as joint military procurement, defence technology, training and coordination.	53%	60%	52%	55%	37%	52%	57%	57%	50%	48%	56%	55%
An arrangement making it easier for Canadians to travel to participating European countries, and for Europeans to travel to Canada, with fewer border and entry requirements.	53%	55%	52%	54%	43%	45%	58%	56%	49%	41%	50%	62%
Making it easier for Canadian citizens to live and work in European Union countries, and for European Union citizens to live and work in Canada, without needing a traditional work visa.	51%	52%	49%	54%	30%	45%	59%	53%	50%	48%	53%	52%
Making it easier for Canadian students to study in European Union countries, and for European Union students to study in Canada, with fewer administrative or visa requirements.	47%	47%	51%	49%	28%	41%	49%	50%	45%	45%	46%	50%
Requiring Canada to change some of its laws, regulations and standards to align with those of the European Union in certain areas.	25%	19%	26%	28%	11%	19%	33%	30%	21%	27%	28%	22%

Support for Closer Canada–EU Relations at the Expense of Canada–U.S. Relations (1/2)

Q3. Would you support or oppose Canada developing a closer relationship with the European Union if doing so resulted in a less close relationship between Canada and the United States?

Base: All respondents (n=1,533)



Support for Canada Becoming an Associate Member of the European Union (2/2)

Q3. Would you support or oppose Canada developing a closer relationship with the European Union if doing so resulted in a less close relationship between Canada and the United States?

Base: All respondents (n=1,533)

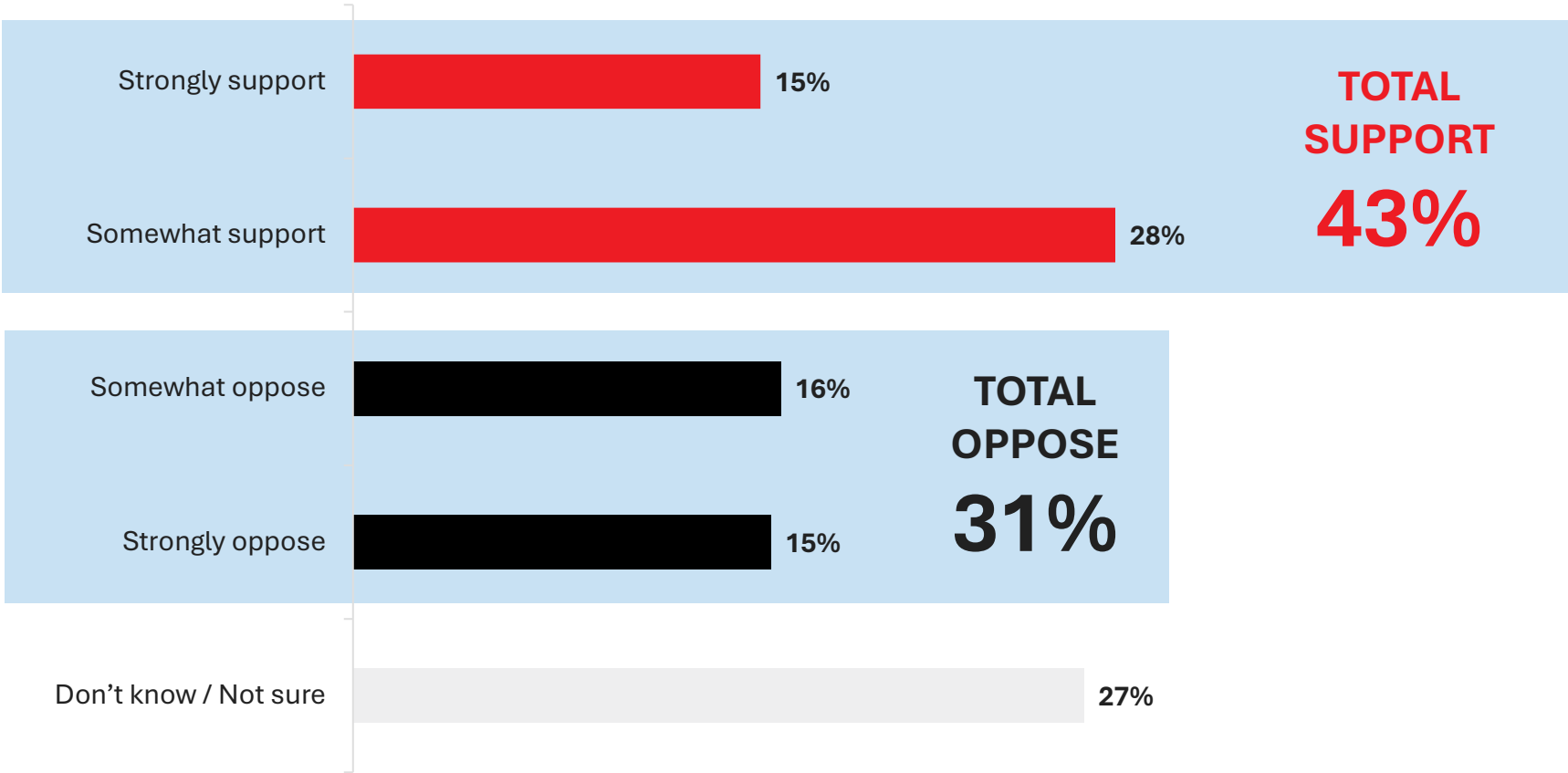
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NET SUPPORT	72%	67%	75%	73%	54%	72%	74%	73%	70%	67%	69%	76%
Strongly support	43%	41%	41%	43%	31%	41%	50%	45%	41%	28%	44%	51%
Somewhat support	29%	26%	34%	29%	23%	30%	24%	28%	30%	39%	25%	25%
NET DO NOT SUPPORT	14%	17%	11%	11%	29%	13%	17%	15%	13%	14%	15%	12%
Somewhat oppose	6%	10%	6%	5%	12%	4%	8%	6%	6%	9%	5%	5%
Strongly oppose	7%	6%	6%	6%	17%	9%	9%	9%	6%	5%	10%	7%
Don't know / Not sure	15%	16%	14%	17%	17%	15%	10%	12%	17%	18%	16%	12%

Privatizing Airports

Support for Private-Sector Management of Major Canadian Airports (1/2)

Q1. Prime Minister Carney is proposing a plan to change how four large Canadian airports (Toronto, Montreal, Calgary and Vancouver) are managed and maintained. Instead of being run by not-for-profit public authorities, he is looking for private investors to take over the operation, maintenance and infrastructure requirements for these four airports. The Canadian government would still own the airport land and assets but the responsibility for running them would shift to the private sector. Do you support or oppose this proposed policy?

Base: All respondents (n=1,533)



Support for Private-Sector Management of Major Canadian Airports (2/2)

Q1. Prime Minister Carney is proposing a plan to change how four large Canadian airports (Toronto, Montreal, Calgary and Vancouver) are managed and maintained. Instead of being run by not-for-profit public authorities, he is looking for private investors to take over the operation, maintenance and infrastructure requirements for these four airports. The Canadian government would still own the airport land and assets but the responsibility for running them would shift to the private sector. Do you support or oppose this proposed policy?

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Strongly support	15%	14%	14%	19%	5%	11%	13%	19%	11%	15%	15%	15%
Somewhat support	28%	30%	33%	25%	26%	22%	31%	29%	27%	25%	27%	30%
NET DO NOT SUPPORT	31%	31%	28%	30%	35%	35%	33%	32%	30%	32%	31%	30%
Somewhat oppose	16%	13%	17%	15%	11%	22%	14%	17%	15%	19%	14%	14%
Strongly oppose	15%	18%	11%	15%	25%	13%	20%	15%	15%	13%	16%	16%
Don't know / Not sure	27%	26%	25%	27%	33%	32%	22%	21%	32%	29%	27%	25%

Respondent Profile

Respondent profiles

(Base n=1,533)

The table below presents the Canadian distribution of respondents before weighting.

Gender		
	Unweighted	Weighted
Male	742	744
Female	791	789

Language (Mother Tongue)		
	Unweighted	Weighted
French	375	304
English	1,018	1,102
Other	140	127

Age		
	Unweighted	Weighted
18 to 34	348	411
35 to 54	438	488
55+	747	634

Province		
	Unweighted	Weighted
British Columbia	157	214
Alberta	126	165
Manitoba/Saskatchewan	126	99
Ontario	608	596
Quebec	415	356
Atlantic	101	104

Our Credentials



Canada

Leger is a member of the [Canadian Research Insights Council \(CRIC\)](#), the industry association for the market/survey/insights research industry.



Europe

Leger is a member of [ESOMAR](#) (European Society for Opinion and Market Research), the global association of opinion polls and marketing research professionals.



America

Leger is also a member of the [Insights Association](#), the American Association of Marketing Research Analytics.



International

Leger is a member of the [Worldwide Independent Network of Market Research \(WIN\)](#), a global alliance of leading independent market research and polling firms that collaborate to share expertise, methodologies, and insights across diverse markets.

Our services

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Marketing research and polling

Customer Experience (CX)

Strategic and operational customer experience consulting services

Leger Analytics (LEA)

Data modelling and analysis

Leger Opinion (LEO)

Panel management

Leger Communities

Online community management

Leger Digital

Digital strategy and user experience

International Research

Worldwide Independent Network (WIN)

300
employees

185
consultants

8
offices

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EDMONTON | CALGARY |
VANCOUVER | NEW YORK

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