

Methodology:

Results are based on an online study conducted on September 18 and September 19, 2021, among 1,000 adults in Canada. The data has been statistically weighted according to Canadian census figures for age, gender and region. The margin of error—which measures sample variability—is +/- 3.1 percentage points, nineteen times out of twenty.

All things considered, are you satisfied with the way these levels of governments have dealt with the COVID-19 outbreak?

The federal government – 55% (-6)
Your provincial government – 56% (-6)
Your municipal government – 60% (+3)

Again thinking about the COVID-19 outbreak, which of these statements comes closest to your own point of view?

The worst is behind us – 48% (-24)
The worst is ahead of us – 36% (+21)
Not sure – 16% (+3)

Fewer Canadians Believe the Worst of COVID-19 is Behind Us

Only 26% of Albertans are satisfied with how their provincial government is handling the pandemic.

Vancouver, BC [September 23, 2021] – The proportion of Canadians who envision a quick end to the COVID-19 pandemic has reduced drastically since the middle of the summer, a new Research Co. poll has found.

In the online survey of a representative national sample, just under half of Canadians (48%) believe the worst of the pandemic is behind us, down 24 points since a similar Research Co. survey [conducted in July](#).

Conversely, more than a third of Canadians (36%, +21) think that the worst of COVID-19 is ahead of us.

“Almost two thirds of Canadians aged 18-to-34 (64%) believe that the COVID-19 situation will not worsen,” says Mario Canseco, President of Research Co. “Significantly smaller proportions of Canadians aged 35-to-54 (50%) and aged 55 and over (39%) hold the same view.”

More than four-in-five Canadians (84%) consider the COVID-19 pandemic as a real threat, while 12% disagree and 4% are undecided.

Fewer than one-in-five Canadians who voted for the Liberal Party (5%), the New Democratic Party (NDP) (6%) and the Conservative Party (16%) in this month's federal election suggest that COVID-19 is not a real threat.

The proportion of “pandemic skeptics” reaches 22% among Canadians who cast ballots for the Green Party and 58% among those who supported the People's Party.

More than half of Canadians (55%, -6) are satisfied with the way the federal government in Ottawa has dealt with COVID-19—including majorities of those who reside in Atlantic Canada (60%), Quebec (60%), Ontario (56%) and British Columbia (51%).

Satisfaction is slightly lower this month for the way in which municipal governments (60%, -3) and provincial governments (56%, -6) have performed during the pandemic.

At least two thirds of residents of Quebec (67%, -4) and British Columbia (66%, -5) are satisfied with the way their provincial administrations have managed COVID-19, along with half of those in Ontario (50%, -1).



The situation is extremely different in Alberta, where only 26% of residents are satisfied with the provincial administration on this file. This represents a 20-point decrease since July and the lowest level recorded for a government of any level since Research Co. started asking this question in March 2020.

Seven-in-ten Canadians (71%) agree with allowing K-12 students to go back to in-class learning in their province. Support for this measure is highest in Saskatchewan and Manitoba (79%), followed by Ontario (72%), Quebec (71%), British Columbia (69%), Atlantic Canada (65%) and Alberta (61%).

More than four-in-five Canadians (84%) are in favour of requiring all customers or visitors entering an indoor premise to wear a mask or face covering while inside.

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About Research Co.

Simply put, we are curious about what people think and the decisions they will make. Some call it public opinion, others call it polling or public affairs. We never compromise facts for profit. Our agenda is the truth.

We have a global network of partners in the qualitative, data collection and data visualization specialities.

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