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Report

SecondStreet.org Education Omni Report

May 2023



DATE 2023-05-10

PROJECT NUMBER 83192-002





METHODOLOGY

Methodology

QUANTITATIVE RESEARCH INSTRUMENT

An online survey of 1523 Canadians aged 18+ was completed between May 5 and 7, 2023 using Leger's online panel.

No margin of error can be associated with a non-probability sample (i.e., a web panel in this case). For comparative purposes, though, a probability sample of 1523 respondents would have a margin of error of $\pm 2.5\%$, 19 times out of 20.

ABOUT LEGER'S ONLINE PANEL

Leger's online panel has approximately 400,000 members nationally and has a retention rate of 90%.

QUALITY CONTROL

Stringent quality assurance measures allow Leger to achieve the high-quality standards set by the company. As a result, its methods of data collection and storage outperform the norms set by WAPOR (The World Association for Public Opinion Research). These measures are applied at every stage of the project: from data collection to processing, through to analysis. We aim to answer our clients' needs with honesty, total confidentiality, and integrity.

Leger is the largest Canadian-owned market research and analytics company, with more than 600 employees in eight Canadian and US offices. Leger has been working with prestigious clients since 1986.



FINDINGS

HALF (51%) FEEL IT IS MOVING IN THE WRONG DIRECTION – HALF AS MANY (25%) FEEL THE PUBLIC SCHOOL SYSTEM IS MOVING IN THE RIGHT DIRECTION.

Men are more likely than women to be among the quarter who feel the public school system is moving in the right direction, as are residents of Quebec (31%) more so than MB/SK (21%) or BC (20%). A quarter (24%) aren't sure if the public school system is moving in the right or wrong direction.



IS THE PUBLIC SCHOOL SYSTEM MOVING IN THE **RIGHT** DIRECTION OR **WRONG** DIRECTION?

	n=	REGION						AGE			Gender		Kids in Household	
		BC	AB	MB/SK	ON	QC	ATL	18-34	35-54	55+	Male	Female	Yes	No
Right direction	25%	20%	22%	21%	25%	31%	22%	27%	24%	24%	27%	22%	29%	23%
Wrong direction	51%	51%	49%	54%	52%	47%	64%	52%	52%	51%	50%	53%	53%	51%
I don't know	24%	29%	28%	26%	23%	22%	14%	21%	24%	25%	22%	25%	18%	26%

Significantly higher.

Q1 Thinking about the public school system over the last 20 years, curricula and teaching methods have changed, as have some of the content in the lessons. In your opinion, is the public school system moving in the **right direction** or **wrong direction** to equip students with the skills they need to succeed and compete in life, work and post-secondary education? Base: All (n=1523)

ALMOST THREE IN FIVE (57%) AGREE SCHOOLS SHOULD HAVE TO TELL PARENTS ABOUT THEIR CHILD’S DESIRE TO CHANGE THEIR GENDERS OR PRONOUNS – LESS THAN A THIRD (18%) FEEL SCHOOLS SHOULD NOT HAVE TO TELL PARENTS.

Those 55+ years of age (62% vs. 53%, <55) and those who have kids at home are more likely to agree that the school needs to inform their parents if they are changing their gender or gender pronouns. One in five (18%) feel schools should not have to let parents know, and are more often <55 years of age (23% vs. 11%, 55+) and women.



SHOULD SCHOOLS HAVE TO LET PARENTS KNOW ABOUT THEIR CHILD’S DESIRE TO CHANGE GENDER OR HAVE NEW GENDER PRONOUNS?

	n=	REGION						AGE			Gender		Kids in Household	
		BC	AB	MB/SK	ON	QC	ATL	18-34	35-54	55+	Male	Female	Yes	No
(YES) When a student in a public school tells a teacher (or another school official) that they want to change their gender or have new gender pronouns, schools should have to let the child’s parents know to ensure they are aware of what’s happening.	57%	49%	54%	54%	56%	61%	69%	53%	54%	62%	58%	56%	62%	55%
(NO) When a student in a public school tells a teacher (or another school official) that they want to change their gender or have new gender pronouns, schools should not have to let the child’s parents know.	18%	17%	25%	20%	19%	15%	13%	26%	20%	11%	15%	21%	20%	17%
I don't know	25%	35%	22%	26%	25%	23%	18%	22%	26%	27%	26%	24%	18%	28%

Significantly higher.

Q2 Over the past few years, gender issues have received more attention in Canada, including in public schools. With this in mind, which statement best represents your views? Base: All (n=1523)

ALMOST HALF (47%) AGREE SCHOOLS SHOULD HAVE TO MAKE MATERIALS FOR TOPICS ON GENDER AND RACE-RELATED TOPICS AVAILABLE AHEAD OF TIME FOR PARENTS TO VIEW. A THIRD (31%) FEEL SCHOOLS SHOULD NOT HAVE TO DO SO.

Residents <55 years of age are more often against schools being required to post such materials to school websites ahead of time for parents (34% vs. 27%, 55+). One in five (22%) were unsure, and were more often BC residents compared to all other provinces except Atlantic (32% vs. 20%), and those without kids at home (24% vs. 16%, kids at home).



SHOULD SCHOOLS HAVE TO PLACE CLASSROOM MATERIALS FOR LESSONS ABOUT GENDER IDENTITY AND SENSITIVE RACE-RELATED TOPICS ON THEIR WEBSITES AHEAD OF TIME SO THAT PARENTS CAN VIEW THEM?

	n=	REGION						AGE			Gender		Kids in Household	
		BC	AB	MB/SK	ON	QC	ATL	18-34	35-54	55+	Male	Female	Yes	No
(YES) Schools should have to place classroom materials for lessons about gender identity and sensitive race-related topics on their websites ahead of time so that parents can view them.	47%	37%	56%	45%	51%	44%	43%	47%	45%	49%	48%	47%	50%	47%
(NO) Schools should not have to place classroom materials for lessons about gender identity and sensitive race-related topics on their websites ahead of time.	31%	31%	24%	36%	30%	34%	36%	34%	34%	27%	31%	31%	35%	30%
I don't know	22%	32%	19%	19%	19%	22%	21%	19%	21%	24%	21%	22%	16%	24%

Significantly higher.

Leger

We know Canadians

