



National Electors Study for the 45th Canadian Federal Election

Report on Voter Experience

Prepared for Elections Canada

Supplier Name: Phoenix SPI / Advanis

Contract Number: 05005-2023-2467

Award Date: February 1, 2024

Contract Value: \$638,922.51 (including HST)

Delivery Date: November 25, 2025

For more information on this report, contact Elections Canada at: rop-por@elections.ca.

Ce rapport est aussi disponible en français.

**National Electors Study for the 45th Canadian Federal Election
Report on Voter Experience
Final Report**

Prepared for Elections Canada

Supplier name: Phoenix Strategic Perspectives Inc. / Advanis

This public opinion research report presents the results of research conducted to help evaluate the April 28, 2025, federal election.

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Catalogue number:

SE3-114/2-2026E-PDF

International Standard Book Number (ISBN):

978-0-660-98693-7

Related publications:

Catalogue number: SE3-114/2-2026F-PDF (Final report, French)

Numéro international normalisé du livre (ISBN): 978-0-660-98694-4

Cette publication est aussi disponible en français sous le titre :

Étude nationale auprès des électeurs pour la 45^e élection fédérale canadienne : Rapport sur l'expérience des électeurs.

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Executive Summary

Elections Canada is the independent, non-partisan agency responsible for conducting Canadian federal elections. In the context of the 45th federal general election, held on April 28, 2025, Elections Canada conducted the 2025 National Electors Study. This study measures electors' attitudes toward and experiences of the election to inform evaluation and development of the agency's policy as well as its programs and services to electors.

The National Electors Study consisted of two components: 1) a national longitudinal survey of electors conducted in two waves during the election period and after the election, and 2) a discrete post-election survey. The target population of the surveys was eligible electors (i.e., Canadian citizens who were at least 18 years of age on election day). These surveys were conducted online between March and June 2025 and included both probability and non-probability sampling techniques. In total, 38,247 electors responded to the election period survey, and 30,357 eligible electors responded to the post-election survey.

This report presents the results of electors' perspectives on the administration of the 45th general election, their experiences of the voting process, and their views on election-related policy issues.

Other findings from the National Electors Study for the 45th general election, as well as the details of the methodology, are presented in separate reports.

1. The "Report on the Voter Information Campaign and Elector Awareness" presents findings related to electors' recall and evaluation of Elections Canada's voter information campaign for the 45th general election.
2. The "Methodology Report" describes the methodology used to conduct the research and produce the data and includes the research instruments.

Presented below is a summary of the results found in the detailed findings, organized by theme.

Political and Civic Engagement

- In the election period survey:
 - A majority of electors grew up sometimes (36%) or often (19%) talking about politics or government at home, and approximately half (49%) said they took high school courses where they learned about government, politics, and democracy.
 - Seven in 10 (71%) see voting first and foremost as a duty, while a little over one-quarter (27%) see it as a choice.
 - Most respondents are somewhat (41%) or very (40%) interested in politics, and just over half (54%) feel somewhat (39%) or very (16%) close to a federal political party.
 - Majorities of electors feel Canada has meaningful political choices and that politics is understandable: nearly two-thirds (63%) disagreed somewhat (32%) or strongly (31%) with the idea that all federal political parties are basically the same; a smaller majority (53%) disagreed somewhat (30%) or strongly (23%) that politics and government are too complicated to understand. However, more than half (59%) of electors view government as unresponsive, with

39% agreeing somewhat and 20% agreeing strongly that government does not care much about what people like them think.

Voter Registration

- Post-election, nine in 10 (91%) reported receiving a voter information card in the mail that told them where and when to vote in the 2025 federal election. Virtually everyone who received a voter information card said both their name (98%) and address (98%) were correct on the card.
- Almost a third (31%) of those aware of the 2025 federal election said they checked to confirm they were registered to vote, 10% updated their registration, and 10% registered for the first time. Those who took action to make sure they were registered most often did so by making sure their voter information card was correct (42%) or by using Elections Canada's online voter registration system (31%).
- More than nine in 10 (94%) electors who made sure they were registered said it was somewhat (25%) or very (68%) easy to do so.

Voter Participation

- Intention to vote was consistently high across the election period survey, with approximately four in five electors in each survey phase indicating they were certain to vote or they had already voted. Among post-election survey respondents, most (88%) of those aware of the election said they voted. Voters were therefore overrepresented in the survey as the official turnout rate for the 45th general election was 69%.¹
- Respondents who were aware of the election but did not vote were most likely to point to political reasons (36%) as the main reason why they did not vote. This was followed by reasons related to the electoral process (24%) and everyday life or health reasons (23%).
- Nearly five in 10 respondents (46%) reported voting at an advance polling station, while almost as many (44%) voted on election day. Relatively few used other methods to vote: 6% voted at a local Elections Canada office, 3% voted by mail, and less than 1% voted on a post-secondary campus.
- Convenience, habit, and proximity were the top reasons voters had for choosing their voting method: 34% chose it because the date and time worked well with their schedule, 29% said they usually vote that way, and 28% attributed their choice to the voting location being nearby.
- Most respondents (85%) who said they voted in the federal election likely would have voted some other way if it had not been possible to vote using their chosen method. One in 10 (10%) felt it would have been too difficult to vote another way.

Going to Vote

- Among election day voters, one-third (33%) cast their ballot in the morning before noon, 31% in the afternoon between noon and 4 p.m., and 35% in the evening between 4 p.m. and the close of the polls. Among advance poll voters, slightly more than one-third (36%) voted in the morning, 39% in the afternoon, and 21% in the evening.
- More than eight in 10 (86%) voters said they went to the polling station from home. Relatively few travelled from work (10%), school (1%), or another location (2%). The majority (68%) used a private

¹ See [3. Notes to the Reader](#) for a discussion on historical overreporting of voter turnout in public opinion surveys.

vehicle to get to their polling place, while just over one-quarter (28%) walked. Few used other methods to get to their polling place.

- Almost half (49%) of those who voted in person said it took five minutes or less to travel to the polling place, while nearly three in 10 (29%) reported that it took six to 10 minutes. Virtually everyone (98%) found the distance to the polling place reasonable, including 85% who said it was very reasonable.
- Nearly all (97%) those with a disability who voted in person found their polling place easy to access, including 84% who said it was very easy.
- Virtually everyone (98%) who voted in person described the building as suitable for holding an election, with most (80%) saying it was very suitable.
- On average, respondents reported taking 12 minutes to vote in person: 8 minutes on election day and 16 minutes at advance polls. Most (90%) said the amount of time it took for them to vote was reasonable.

Voter Identification

- Nine in 10 electors (91%) who received a voter information card and voted in person said they brought it with them to the polling place.
- The vast majority (95%) presented one piece of government-issued photo ID to prove their identity and address in order to vote: 89% said they used their driver's licence, while 5% used a provincial or territorial photo ID, and 1% used a BC Services Card.
- During the election period survey, 80% of electors expected it would be very easy for them to meet voter identification requirements, and another 16% thought it would be somewhat easy. Electors' expectations were exceeded, with 93% of voters saying it was very easy, and an additional 6% saying it was somewhat easy, to meet the identification requirements.

Vote by Mail Experience

- Nearly nine in 10 respondents who voted by mail (87%) said they applied by submitting an online application. Most found it very (78%) or somewhat (19%) easy to apply for a vote by mail kit, and two-thirds received their kit within three days (33%) or within four to five days (34%). Eighty-nine percent considered the amount of time it took to receive their kit reasonable.
- Three-quarters of those who voted by mail (74%) said it was very easy to complete their ballot using the voting kit. An additional 22% said completing their ballot was somewhat easy.

Accessible Voting Services

- Approximately half (51%) of electors with a disability were aware of Elections Canada's services and tools for electors with disabilities: 15% were very aware, and 37% were somewhat aware. Conversely, three in 10 (29%) were not very aware, and 14% were not at all aware.
- Few electors with a disability said they required information on accessibility during the election. Specifically, 15% needed information on the accessibility of their polling place, while 12% needed information on accessible voting tools and services. Seventy-eight percent found it very (41%) or somewhat (37%) easy to find the information they needed.

- Eight percent of voters with a disability said someone assisted them with marking their ballot. Among those who received assistance, most (85%) were helped by Elections Canada staff, and nearly all (96%) were satisfied with the assistance they received.
- Few electors with a disability reported using voting assistance tools. The most frequently used tools were the large-print list of candidates and a braille list of candidates, used by 10% and 9% of their intended users.
- Among electors with a disability who voted in person, eight in 10 said Elections Canada staff were somewhat (25%) or very (55%) sensitive to their needs when voting.

Voting Services

- Voters in an official language minority community (OLMC) were less likely than non-OLMC voters to say they received service in their primary official language. Specifically, 67% of English OLMC voters reported receiving service in English or in both English and French, and 64% of French OLMC voters were served at least in part in French.
- Nearly all voters (99%) said they were satisfied with the official language in which they were served. Satisfaction levels were lower among official language minority community (OLMC) voters: 95% of English OLMC voters and 91% of French OLMC voters said they were satisfied with the official language in which they were served by Elections Canada.
- The vast majority (97%) of voters were satisfied with the services provided by Elections Canada staff when they voted, including 83% who were very satisfied and 14% who were somewhat satisfied.
- Virtually everyone who voted found voting to be easy (98%, including 87% who found it very easy) and were satisfied with their voting experience (96%, including 80% who were very satisfied).

Electoral Integrity

- Most respondents (86%) said Elections Canada ran the April 28, 2025, federal election fairly, including 66% who said Elections Canada ran it very fairly and 20% who said somewhat fairly.
- Among the 7% of respondents who felt the election was run unfairly, the most common reasons for thinking this included concerns about the accuracy and integrity of vote counting (12%), complaints about the number of candidates² on the ballot in the Carleton electoral riding (11%), and broad allegations that cheating occurred or that the election was “rigged” (10%).
- Electors’ trust in the accuracy of the election results in their riding was strong overall, with 86% expressing a high level of trust, including 61% who said they have a very high level of trust.
- Nine in 10 (89%) electors had a fair amount or a great deal of trust that their ballot is kept secret in a federal election, while over eight in 10 (82%) trust that Elections Canada is impartial and non-partisan in how it runs elections. Smaller majorities expressed confidence in other aspects of the electoral process: 72% trust that cases of fraud and violations of federal election laws are properly investigated, and 64% trust that party and candidate fundraising and spending is effectively controlled and audited.
- Confidence in Elections Canada was higher among post-election survey respondents than it was among election period respondents. During the election period, 83% of electors expressed confidence in Elections Canada (38% a great deal, 45% a fair amount). Post-election, that proportion

² The ballot in the Carleton riding listed 91 candidates.

increased to 86%, with 58% saying they had a great deal of confidence in Elections Canada and 28% a fair amount of confidence.

- Three-quarters of respondents (75%) during both the election period and the post-election surveys reported being at least somewhat satisfied with the way democracy works in Canada. However, those who said they were very satisfied was higher during the post-election survey (41%, compared to 32% during the election period survey).
- Nearly three-quarters of respondents (73%) during both the election period and the post-election surveys said voting in Canada is secure and reliable. When it comes to voting by mail, 41% of election period survey respondents and 39% of post-election survey respondents reported that this method is secure and reliable.
- In the post-election survey, slightly over six in 10 respondents (62%) thought the spread of false information online was a problem in the 2025 election based on what they had seen or heard recently. Just over half (52%) thought foreign interference by countries or groups seeking to influence the political opinions of Canadians had been a problem. More than four in 10 identified foreign interference with candidate selection (46%), artificial intelligence-generated content such as deepfakes (45%), and the use of foreign money to influence Canadian politics (45%) as problems in this election. Fewer respondents (24%) considered the hacking of Canadian election-related computer systems to have been an issue.
- Despite seeing some types of interference as a problem, most post-election respondents did not think problems of electoral interference had a significant impact on the outcome of the election. Over a third (36%) of respondents thought that problems of false information had a major (12%) or moderate (23%) impact on the outcome of the 2025 election, followed by 29% who thought problems of foreign influence had a major (11%) or moderate (19%) impact. A quarter each thought that problems of interference in candidate nominations (26%), misleading artificial intelligence-generated content (25%), and foreign funding (25%) had a moderate impact or more on the election outcome, while only 15% thought problems of foreign hacking had a moderate impact or more.
- When asked whether electors thought there is a problem in their community with foreign governments or groups trying to intimidate Canadians to vote a certain way, or not to vote, over a third (35%) said this is a major (12%) or moderate (23%) problem. A quarter (25%) felt it is a minor problem, 23% said it is not a problem, and 16% did not know.

Voting Technology and Political Communications

- Electors had mixed views on the preferred methods for counting ballots: 38% preferred hand counting, 30% favoured machine counting, and 26% had no preference. When it comes to the lists of electors that poll workers use to keep track of who has voted, 41% of electors preferred the use of paper lists, 23% preferred computer lists, and 31% had no preference.
- The majority of respondents (55%) view Internet voting as risky, while two in 10 (20%) said it is safe, and a similar share (22%) were unsure. Opinion was divided on whether Internet voting should be an option in federal elections: 43% agreed that it should be an option, while closer to half (47%) disagreed.
- Thirty-nine percent of respondents said they were contacted by a political party or candidate during the 2025 election. Electors who were directly contacted by a political party or candidate reported being reached through a variety of means, most often through in-person contact such as door-to-door campaigning, mentioned by 43% of those contacted.

Introduction

Elections Canada (EC) commissioned Phoenix Strategic Perspectives Inc. (Phoenix SPI) and Advanis to conduct research to help evaluate the 45th federal general election (GE).

1. Background and Objectives

EC is an independent, non-partisan agency that reports directly to Parliament. The agency is mandated to conduct federal general elections, by-elections, and referendums; administer the political financing provisions of the *Canada Elections Act*; monitor compliance; and conduct public information campaigns on the electoral process.

In the context of a federal GE, EC conducts studies of electors, which are used as part of the evaluation and development of EC's programs and services and to inform the Chief Electoral Officer's reports to Parliament.

The 2025 National Electors Study (NES) is one of EC's public opinion research studies conducted for the 45th GE, held on April 28, 2025. The NES measures electors' values, opinions, and attitudes toward various election-related issues; their knowledge of, expectations of, and experiences with the electoral process; and their satisfaction with the agency's communications, services, and programs.

The NES consisted of a national longitudinal survey conducted in two waves during the election period and after the election as well as a discrete post-election survey. The target population of the surveys was eligible electors (i.e., Canadian citizens who were at least 18 years of age on election day).

This report presents the survey results on electors' perspectives on the administration of the 45th GE, including their experiences with the voting process and their views on election-related policy issues. These perspectives include:

- Views on political and civic engagement
- Expectations and experiences with registering and voting
- Experiences and satisfaction with EC's services
- Overall confidence in EC and trust in the fair administration of the election
- Concerns with issues of electoral integrity, including interference and disinformation
- Views on voting technology and political communications

Other findings from the NES for the 45th GE, as well as the details of the methodology, are presented in separate reports.

1. The "Report on the Voter Information Campaign and Elector Awareness" presents findings related to electors' recall and evaluation of EC's voter information campaign for the 45th GE.
2. The "Methodology Report" describes the methodology used to conduct the research and produce the data and includes the research instruments.

2. Methodology

Two online surveys were conducted between March and June 2025: one during the election period and the other immediately following the 45th GE. The surveys included longitudinal, top-up, and discrete samples as well as probability and non-probability sampling techniques. The table below presents technical information about each wave of surveying.

Wave	Sample	Source and Type	Field Period	Sample Size	Survey Length (minutes)
W1	S1 Longitudinal	Leger Opinion (Non-probability)	Election period: March 25 to April 27	38,247	10
W2a	S1 Longitudinal	Leger Opinion (Non-probability)	Post-election: April 29 to May 22	19,256	10
W2b	S2 Top-up	Leger Opinion (Non-probability) Rep Data (Non-probability) Social Media (Non-probability) GPRS ³ (Oversample)	Post-election: April 30 to June 5	333	16
W2b	S3 Discrete	GPRS (Probability)	Post-election: April 30 to June 5	10,769	16

The W1 election period survey was conducted as a rolling cross-section and divided into five distinct phases. Questions changed based on the survey date to correspond with milestones in the election period and advertising phases in the voter information campaign. The phases were as follows:

- March 25⁴ to March 31: Early election phase (W1a)
- April 1 to April 7: Registration phase (W1b)
- April 8 to April 14: Voter information card phase (W1c)
- April 15 to April 21: Early voting phase (W1d)
- April 22 to April 27: Election day phase (W1e)

The survey data have been weighted to correspond to the demographic composition of the population of electors. Weighting was done in two stages. First, adjustments were applied to account for the study design, in-scope rates, and non-response. Then, the results were post-stratified to match the known population distributions for age, gender, province/territory, and Indigeneity.

Since the methodology included samples generated through probability and non-probability sampling techniques, no estimate of sampling error can be calculated for the entire survey sample, and the overall survey results are not statistically projectable to the entire population of electors. However, a margin of sampling error can be obtained for the discrete probability sample. A probability sample of

³ Advanis' proprietary General Population Random Sample (GPRS).

⁴ The election writs were issued on Sunday, March 23, 2025. The first day of surveying was March 25, 2025. On this day, the W1 survey was pretested, with full fieldwork starting the next day, March 26, 2025.

this size yields a maximum margin of sampling error of less than 1%. Margins of error for sub-samples would be larger.

A detailed description of the methodology, including the research instruments and the campaign materials tested, can be found in separate reports.

3. Notes to the Reader

- The survey research relies on self-reported voter turnout, which historically is over-reported in public opinion surveys: in this survey, self-reported turnout was 88%, while the turnout rate for the 45th GE among registered electors was 69%.⁵ A limitation of this current research, therefore, is that it overrepresents voters in the survey sample. Two factors may be responsible for the overrepresentation of voters: 1) people who vote may be more likely than non-voters to participate in a study about voting, particularly across multiple survey waves (response bias), and 2) people who did not vote may report that they voted in order to present themselves in a more positive light (social desirability bias).
- Throughout the report, the term “elector” is used to refer to research participants who were eligible to vote in the 45th GE (all survey respondents). The term “voter” is used to refer to research participants who reported that they voted in the 45th GE.
- The report draws on data from both the election period survey (“Wave 1”) and the post-election surveys (“Wave 2”).
- All results are expressed as percentages unless otherwise noted. Percentages may not always add up to 100% due to rounding or multiple mentions.
- The number of respondents varies where questions were asked of sub-samples of the survey population and during different survey waves.
- Subgroup reporting includes a variety of demographic, behavioural, and attitudinal variables. Particular subgroups were defined as follows:
 - Electors with a disability: Respondents were identified using a functional disability approach based on reported difficulty with various activities, combined to a single measure of overall level of disability, on a scale ranging from no disability to mild to very severe disability.
 - Indigenous electors: Electors who self-identified as First Nations, Inuit, or Métis.
 - New Canadians: Immigrants to Canada who became Canadian citizens after the 44th GE, held in 2021. Established immigrant electors are those who became citizens before the 44th GE.
 - Student youth: Youth between the ages of 18 and 34 years attending school during the field work.
 - NEET youth: Youth between the ages of 18 and 34 years who were Not Employed, in Education, or in Training during the fieldwork.

⁵ See [Official Voting Results for the 45th General Election: Number of ballots cast and voter turnout](#).

- Members of a racialized group: Individuals who reported their ethnicity as being different than white or Indigenous. Non-racialized electors are individuals who identified their ethnicity as white.⁶
- Subgroup differences are only reported when they are statistically significant at the 95% confidence level and based on a sample size greater than n=30. If one or more categories in a subgroup are not mentioned in a discussion of subgroup differences, it means no significant differences were found among these categories of respondent.
- Comparisons to results from previous studies are included when possible. This includes the 2021 “[National Electors Study following the 44th Canadian Federal Election](#)” and the 2019 “[National Electors Study on the 43rd Canadian Federal General Election](#).”

⁶ The definition of members of a racialized group is derived from the definition of members of visible minorities found in the *Employment Equity Act*.

Detailed Findings

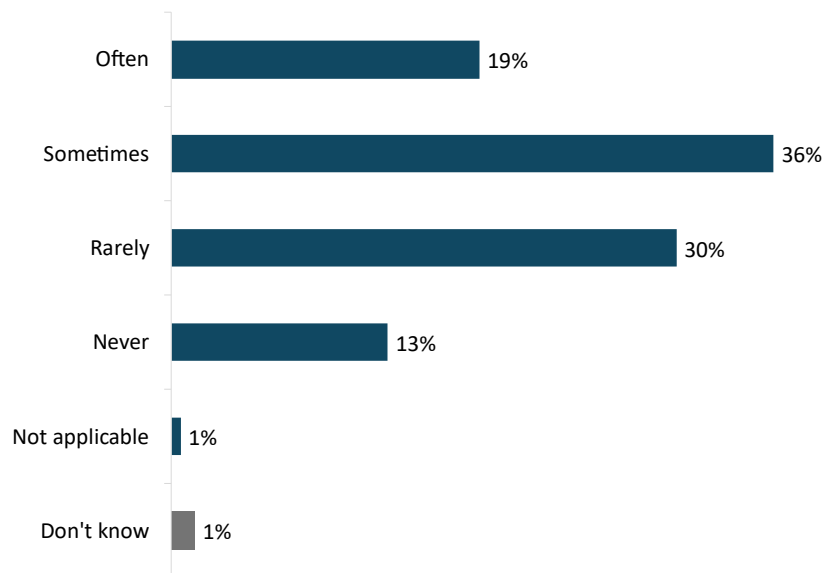
1. Political and Civic Engagement

This section of the report presents findings that relate to election period respondents' existing views on politics and voting along with their past voting behaviour.

A majority of electors grew up sometimes or often talking about politics at home

In the election period survey, 55% of respondents said they either often (19%) or sometimes (36%) talked about politics or government at home when they were growing up. Conversely, 43% reported rarely (30%) or never (13%) having these discussions.

Figure 1: Political socialization



Q. When you were growing up, how often did you talk about politics or government at home? Base: n= 38,247; all respondents. [Wave 1]

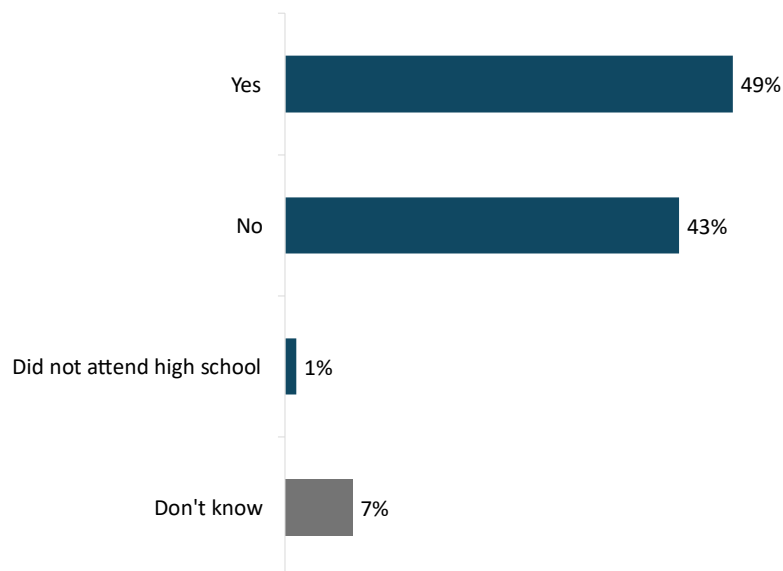
The following subgroups of electors were *less* likely to report having often or sometimes discussed politics or government at home while growing up:

- electors living in Quebec (47%) and the Atlantic provinces (51%) compared to those living in other regions of Canada (results range from 55% to 60%)
- women (50%, compared to 66% of non-binary and transgender persons and 61% of men)
- those with a high school education or less (41%) or some post-secondary or college (50%) compared with those who have completed university (65%).

Nearly half took civic education courses in high school

Among respondents to the election period survey, nearly half (49%) said they took high school courses where they learned about government, politics, and democracy. In contrast, just over four in 10 (43%) did not take such courses, while 7% were unsure, and 1% did not attend high school.

Figure 2: Civic education



Q. When you were in high school, did you take any courses where you learned about government, politics and democracy? Base: n=38,247; all respondents. [Wave 1]

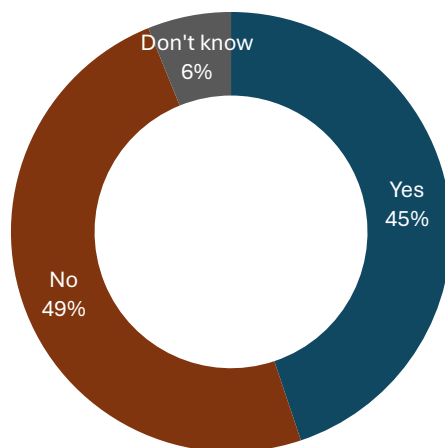
The following were *less* likely to have taken civic education courses in high school:

- electors in Quebec (29%) and the Atlantic provinces (45%) compared with electors in other regions of Canada (results range from 53% to 65%)
- women (46%, compared to 71% of non-binary and transgender persons and 52% of men)
- those aged 55+ (39%, compared to 60% of those aged 18–34 and 54% of those aged 35–54).

Many young electors have participated in a mock election program

In the election period survey, 45% of youth aged 18 to 34 reported having participated in a mock election program when in primary or high school, such as Student Vote. Nearly half (49%) said they had not participated, while 6% were unsure.

Figure 3: Mock election participation



Q. Did you ever participate in a mock election program in primary school or high school, for example Student Vote?
Base: n=7,381; respondents aged 18 to 34. [Wave 1]

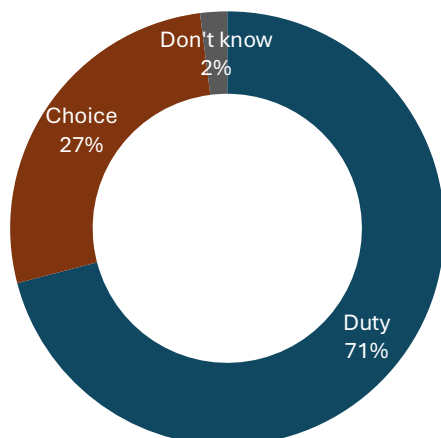
The following were *more* likely to have participated in a mock election program:

- young electors in Alberta (53%) compared with those in other regions of Canada (range of 40% to 46%)
- those who took civic education courses in high school (57% compared to 29% of those who did not).

Most see voting as a duty

Seven in 10 (71%) respondents to the election period survey said voting is first and foremost a duty, while a little over one-quarter (27%) saw it as a choice. This represents a decline from the 44th GE in 2021, when 79% viewed voting as a duty.

Figure 4: View voting as a choice or duty



Q. For you personally, is voting first and foremost a duty or a choice? Base: n=38,247; all respondents. [Wave 1]

The following were *less* likely to view voting as a duty:

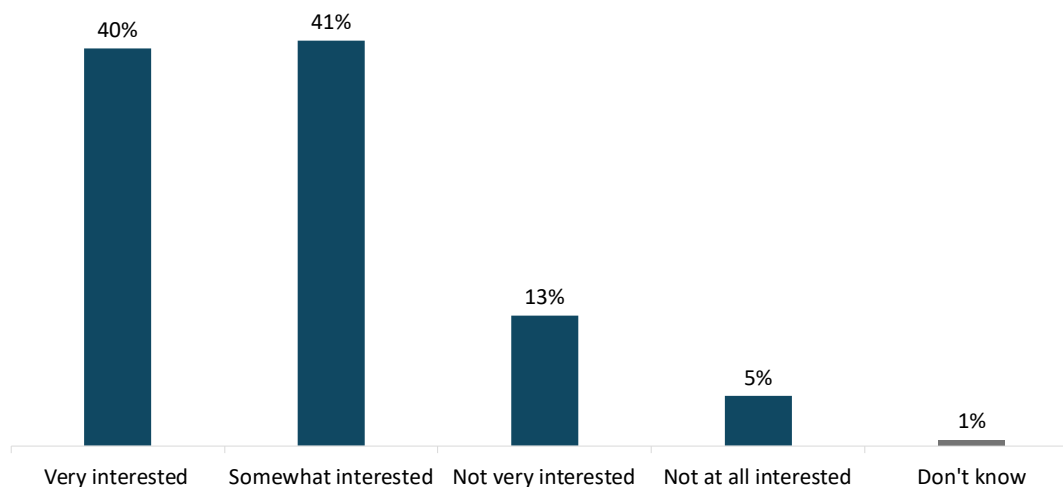
- those with high school education or less (55%, compared to 71% of those with some post-secondary or a college education and 78% of university graduates)
- electors aged 18 to 34 (62%) and 35 to 54 (67%) compared to 78% of those aged 55+
- NEET youth (46%) compared with student youth (64%) and youth working full-time (67%)
- electors with a severe or very severe disability (60%) compared with those with a mild or moderate disability (70%) or no disability (73%)
- Indigenous electors (56%, compared to 71% of non-Indigenous electors).

Quebec electors were *more* likely to view voting as a duty (77%) compared with those in the rest of Canada (range of 66% to 71%).

Eight in 10 are interested in politics to some extent

Among respondents to the election period survey, a large majority overall said they are somewhat (41%) or very (40%) interested in politics. Relatively few are not very (13%) or not at all (5%) interested.

Figure 5: Interest in politics



Q. In general, how interested are you in politics? Base: n=38,247; all respondents. [Wave 1]

Those *less* likely to be very interested in politics included:

- women (32%, versus 46% of non-binary and transgender persons and 49% of men)
- those aged 18 to 34 (29%, compared to 36% of those aged 35 to 54 and 50% of those 55 and older)
- NEET youth (19%) and student youth (24%) compared with youth working full-time (35%)
- those with a severe or very severe disability (34%), compared to 43% of those with no disability and 38% of those with a mild or moderate disability
- those with a high school education or less (28%) or some post-secondary or college (37%) compared with those who have completed university (48%).

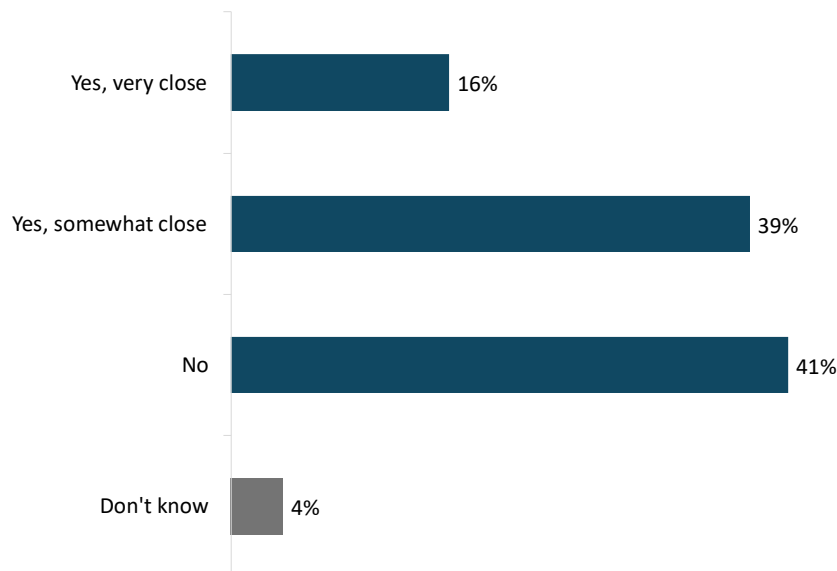
The following were *more* likely to be very interested in politics:

- those who took civic education courses in high school (47%) versus those who did not (35%)
- those who view voting as more of a duty (47%) compared to those who view it more as a choice (26%).

Small majority feel at least somewhat close to a political party

Just over half of respondents to the election period survey said they feel somewhat (39%) or very (16%) close to a federal political party. Four in 10 (41%) said they do not feel close to any party, while 4% were unsure.

Figure 6: Party affinity



Q. Do you think of yourself as very or somewhat close to a particular federal political party? Base: n=38,247; all respondents. [Wave 1]

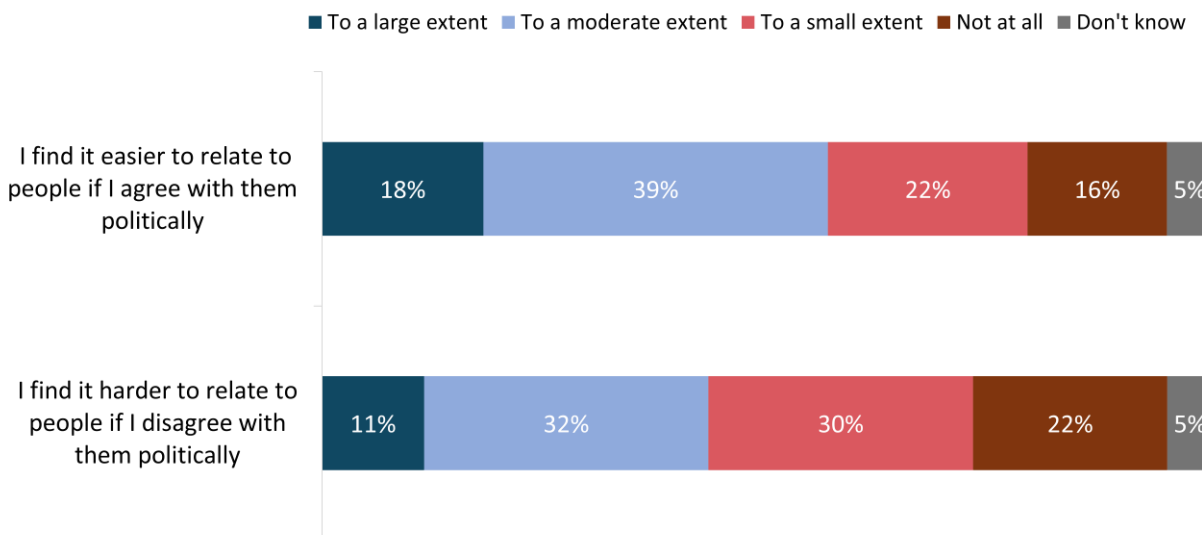
The following were *more* likely to say they do not feel close to a political party:

- electors in Quebec (52%) and the Atlantic provinces (44%) compared with those in other regions of Canada (range of 36% to 39%)
- 35-to-54-year-olds (46%, compared to those 38% of those aged 55+)
- women (44%, compared to 38% of non-binary/transgender persons and 38% of men)
- those who did not take civic education courses in high school (48%, compared to 36% of those who did).

Electors more often find it easier to relate to people they agree with politically than find it harder to relate to those with whom they disagree

In the election period survey, nearly six in 10 (57%) respondents agreed that they find it easier to relate to people if they agree with them politically, either to a moderate extent (39%) or a large extent (18%). By contrast, just over four in 10 agreed that they find it harder to relate to those they disagree with politically, including 32% to a moderate extent and 11% to a large extent.

Figure 7: Affective polarization



Q. Thinking about Canadians you might agree or disagree with politically, to what extent do you agree with the following statement? a) I find it easier to relate to people if I agree with them politically. / b) I find it harder to relate to people if I disagree with them politically. Base: n=38,247; all respondents. [Wave 1]

The responses to these two statements were added together into a scale of affective political polarization, where, on one end, those who considerably agreed⁷ with both statements were considered to feel strongly polarized in how they relate to others politically; on the other end, those who agreed to a small extent or not at all with both statements were considered to not feel polarized. Those whose responses fell in between these two categories were considered as feeling somewhat polarized.

Based on this definition, the plurality (42%) of election period survey respondents did not feel polarized in how they relate to others politically, while 39% felt somewhat polarized, and 18% felt strongly polarized.

The following were *more* likely to feel strongly polarized in how they relate to others politically:

- 18-to-34-year-olds (27%, compared to 18% of 35-to-54-year-olds and 14% of those aged 55 and older)
- Indigenous electors (26%) compared with non-Indigenous electors (18%)
- those who are interested in politics (21%) versus those who are not interested (9%)
- those who were certain they would vote (20%) or who had already voted early in the election period (20%) compared with those unlikely or certain not to vote (8%)
- those who feel very close to a particular political party (37%) versus those who feel somewhat close (20%) or do not feel close to a party (11%).

⁷ This means they agreed to a large extent with at least one of the statements and to a moderate extent or more with the other statement.

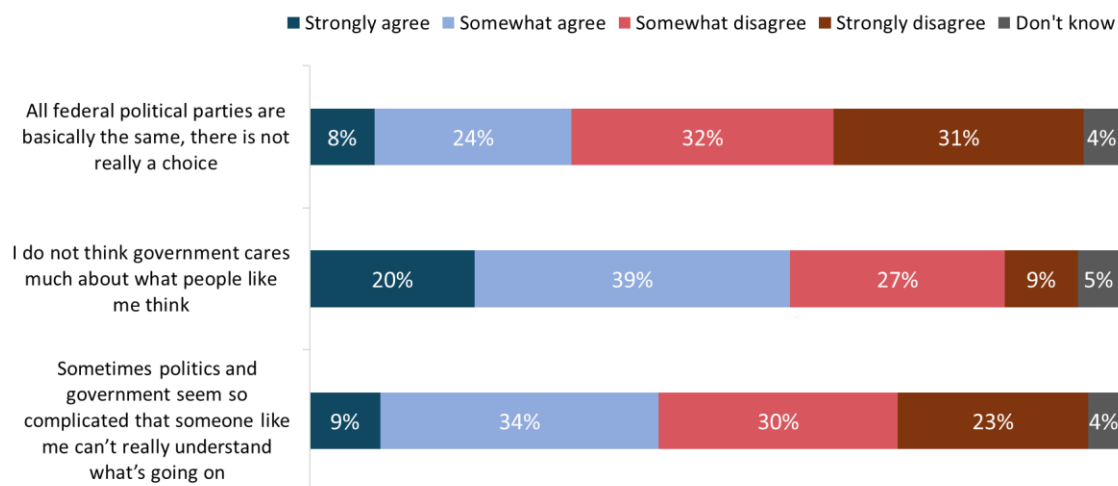
The following were *more* likely to not feel polarized in how they relate to others politically:

- electors in the Atlantic provinces (49%) compared with those in other regions of Canada (results range from 39% to 42%)
- electors in rural areas (46%) compared with those in urban areas (41%)
- those with a high school education or less (51%) or some post-secondary or college (46%) compared with those who have completed university (34%)
- those who are not interested in politics (64%) versus those who are interested (37%)
- those who do not feel close to a particular political party (55%) versus those who feel somewhat (33%) or very close (22%) to a party.

Mixed views on the ability to understand and influence politics

Among respondents to the election period survey, majorities indicated that they feel Canada has meaningful political choices and that politics is not too complicated to understand. Nearly two-thirds (63%) disagreed somewhat (32%) or strongly (31%) with the idea that all federal political parties are basically the same; a smaller majority (53%) disagreed somewhat (30%) or strongly (23%) that politics and government are too complicated to understand. However, nearly six in 10 (59%) respondents indicated that they view government as unresponsive by agreeing somewhat (39%) or strongly (20%) that government does not care much about what people like them think.

Figure 8: Political efficacy



Q. Thinking about government and politics in Canada, how strongly do you agree or disagree with the following statements? a) All federal political parties are basically the same, there is not really a choice. / b) I do not think government cares much about what people like me think. / c) Sometimes politics and government seem so complicated that someone like me can't really understand what's going on. Base: n=38,247; all respondents. [Wave 1]

The following subgroup differences are noteworthy:

- The likelihood of agreeing that all political parties are the same increased as the severity of one's disability increased, from 30% of those with no disability to 51% of those with a very

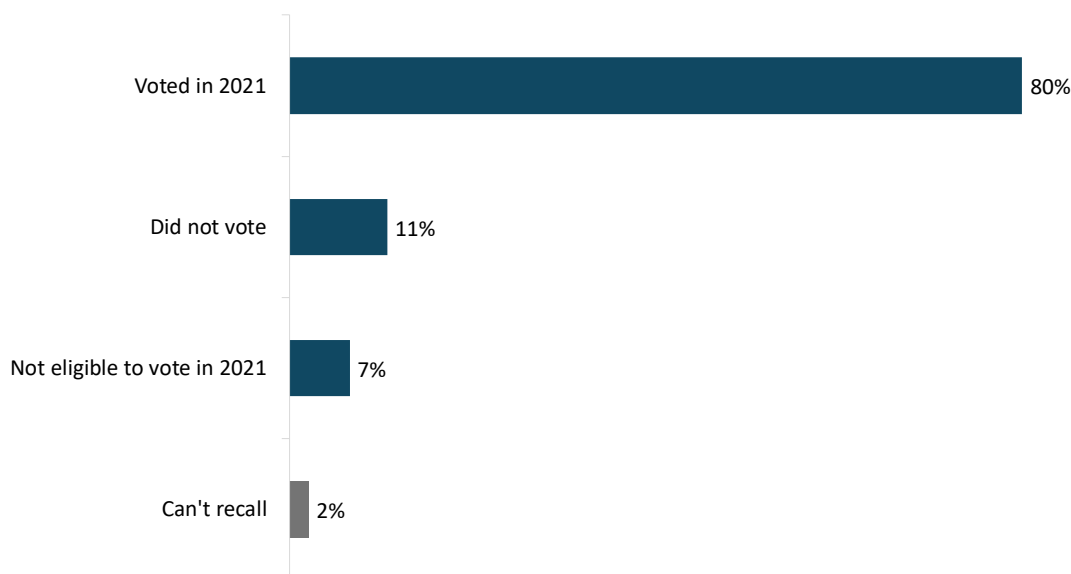
severe disability; and the likelihood of agreeing was higher among Indigenous electors (42%) and members of a racialized group (42%) compared to non-racialized electors (31%).

- The likelihood of agreeing that government does not care much about people like them was higher among:
 - electors in Alberta (66%) and Manitoba and Saskatchewan (64%) compared with those in other regions of Canada (range of 57% to 58%)
 - non-binary and transgender persons (79%) compared to men (60%) and women (59%)
 - Indigenous electors (68%) compared to non-Indigenous electors (59%).
- The likelihood of agreeing that politics and government seem too complicated to understand was higher among:
 - new Canadians (62%) compared with established immigrant electors (47%) and Canadians by birth (42%)
 - youth aged 18 to 24 (60%) and 25 to 34 (52%) compared with those 35 and older (39%)
 - Indigenous electors (54%) and members of a racialized group (56%) compared with non-racialized electors (40%)
 - those with a severe or very severe disability (54%) compared to those with a mild or moderate (46%) or no (39%) disability
 - women (49%) compared to men (38%).

Most said they voted in the 2021 federal election

When asked in the election period survey, eight in 10 respondents (80%) reported voting in the previous federal election, held in 2021. Among the rest, 11% said they did not vote in the previous federal election, 7% were not eligible to vote in 2021, and 2% could not recall whether they voted.

Figure 9: Voting in the previous federal election



Q. Did you vote in the previous federal election held on September 20, 2021? Base: n=38,247; all respondents who would have been eligible to vote based on year of birth and citizenship. [Wave 1]

The following were *less* likely to say they voted in the 2021 federal general election:

- youth aged 18 to 24 (34%) and 25 to 34 (75%) compared to 87% of those aged 35 and older⁸
- Indigenous electors (68%) compared with non-Indigenous electors (81%)
- electors with high school education or less (66%, compared to 80% of those with some post-secondary or a college education and 87% of university graduates)
- those who view voting as a choice (61%) compared with those who view voting as a duty (90%)
- electors not interested in politics (60%, compared to 85% of those who are interested).

⁸ Notably, 46% of respondents aged 18 to 24 reported that they were not eligible to vote in 2021, compared with 6% of those aged 25 to 34 and 2% of those 35 and older.

2. Voter Registration

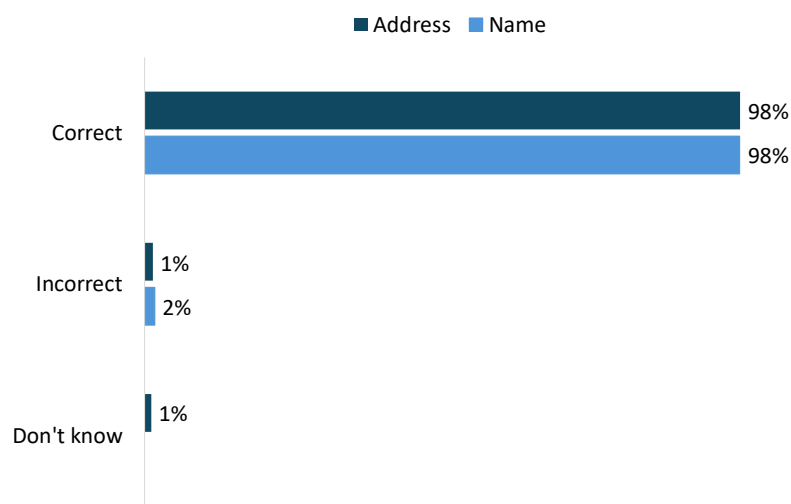
This section details electors' experience and knowledge with voter registration during and after the 2025 federal election.

Vast majority reported receiving a voter information card, and nearly everyone said it was accurate

Post-election, nine in 10 electors (91%) reported receiving a voter information card (VIC) in the mail that was addressed to them personally; the VIC serves to notify electors of their registration.⁹

The vast majority of respondents (98%) said both their name and address were correct on the VIC they received in the mail during the campaign.

Figure 10: Accuracy of personal information on voter information card



Q. Was the following information correct on the card you received? a) Your name; b) Your address.
Base: n=27,875; those who received a VIC. [Wave 1 + Wave 2]

Among those who received a VIC, youth aged 18 to 34 were less likely to have received a VIC with their correct name and address (96% each) compared with those 35 and older (99% each). Non-binary and transgender electors were less likely to have received a VIC with their correct address (94%, compared to 98% for both women and men), as were electors who had moved in the previous 12 months (95%) compared with those who had not (99%).

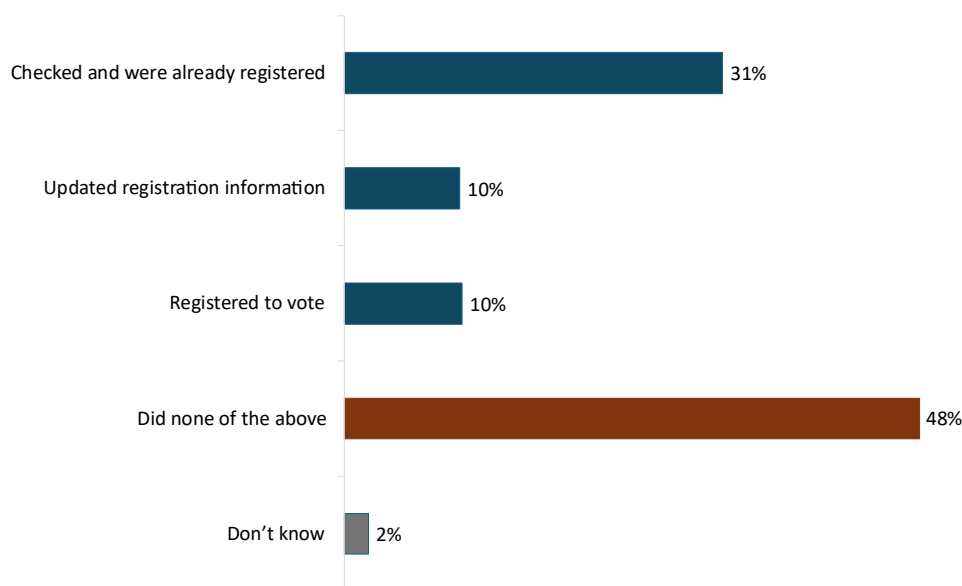
Half of surveyed electors did something to make sure they were registered to vote

To make sure they were registered to vote in the federal election, almost a third of respondents said they checked and were already registered to vote (31%, down from 36% following the 2021 election). One in 10 electors reported that they updated their registration information (10%, similar to 8% in

⁹ Electors' recall of receiving the VIC and its use informing electors of where and when to vote are reported in detail in the National Electors Study "Report on the Voter Information Campaign and Elector Awareness."

2021), and the same proportion reported that they had registered to vote (10%, up from 6% in 2021). The single largest proportion did not register, check, or update their voter registration (48%, the same as in 2021).

Figure 11: Actions taken to confirm voter registration



Q. What, if anything, did you do to make sure you were registered to vote in this federal election? Did you...?
Base: n=30,290; all respondents aware of the general election. [Wave 1 + Wave 2]

The following groups were *more* likely to have **updated their registration information**:

- 18-to-34-year-olds (14%, compared to 10% of 35-to-54-year-olds and 6% of those aged 55+)
- Indigenous electors (17%, compared to 9% of non-Indigenous ones)
- electors with a severe or very severe disability (14%) compared to those with a mild or moderate (9%) or no disability (9%)
- electors who had moved in the previous 12 months (28%) compared with those who had not moved (7%).

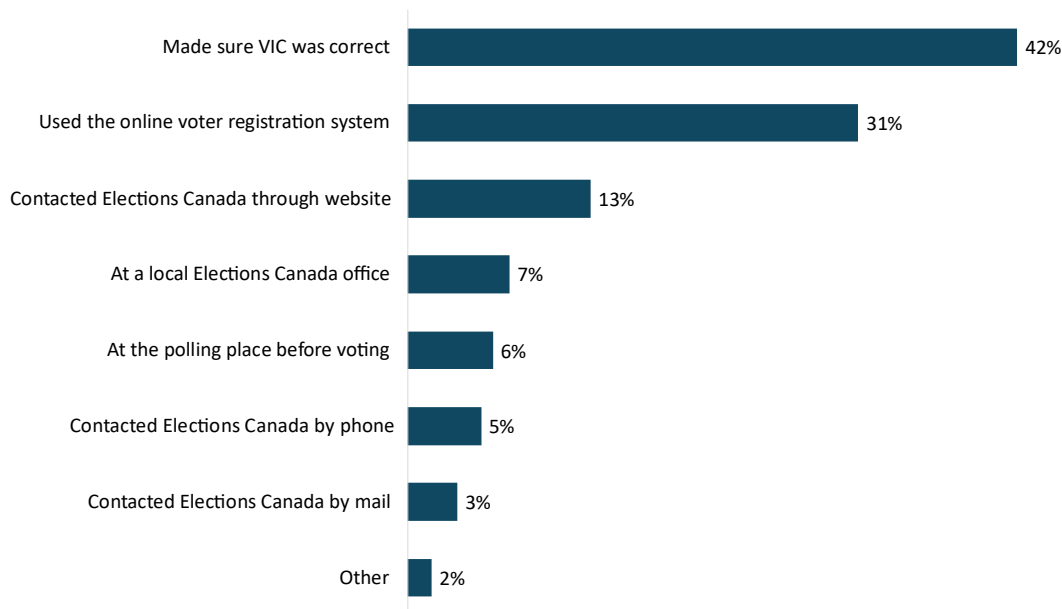
The following groups were *more* likely to have **registered to vote**:

- 18-to-24-year-olds (20%) and 25-to-34-year-olds (13%, compared to 7% of those aged 35 and older)
- new Canadians (31%, compared to 12% of immigrants who became citizens before the 2021 election and 9% of those born in Canada)
- electors who had moved in the previous 12 months (16%, compared to 9% of those who had not).

Four in 10 used the VIC to make sure they were registered correctly, while some used online or website tools

Among respondents who registered, checked, or updated their voter registration, 42% made sure their VIC was correct (down from 51% in 2021). Three in 10 (31%) used the online voter registration system. Thirteen percent contacted EC through its website, while fewer than one in 10 used other service channels to contact EC: 7% used a local EC office, 5% telephone, and 3% mail. Six percent said they checked their registration at the polling place before voting.

Figure 12: Method used to check/update voter registration



Q. How did you make sure you were registered? [Multiple responses accepted]. Base: n=14,918; respondents who registered, checked or updated their voter registration. [DK/NR¹⁰: 4%]. [Wave 1 + Wave 2]

The following were *more* likely to have verified they were registered by making sure their VIC was correct:

- electors aged 55 and older (54%, compared to 30% of those aged 18 to 34 and 41% of those aged 35 to 54)
- electors who had not moved in the previous 12 months (45%, compared to 28% of those who had moved)
- those born in Canada (44%, compared to 21% of new Canadians and 38% of immigrants who became citizens before the 2021 election).

The following were *more* likely to have used EC's online voter registration system:

- new Canadians (43%) compared with immigrants who became citizens before the 2021 election (33%) and Canadians by birth (30%)

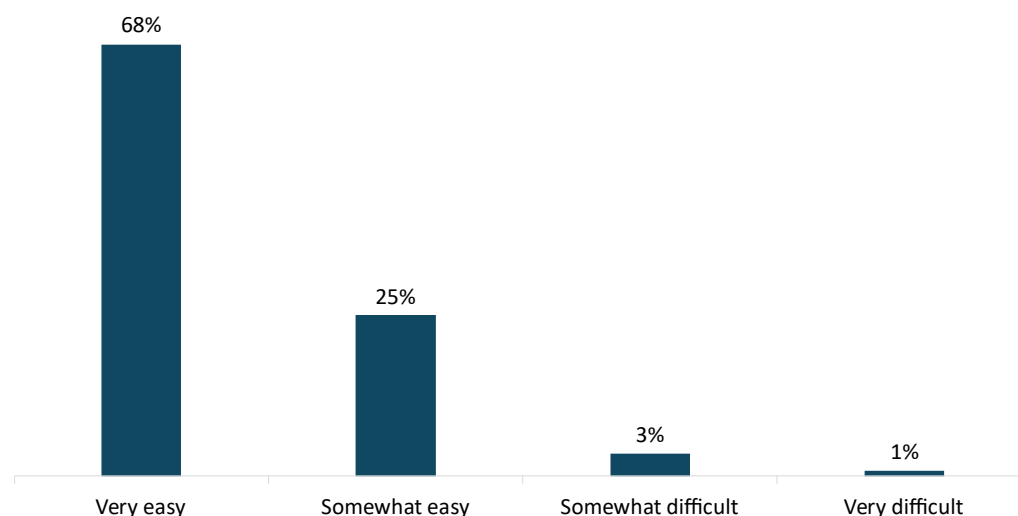
¹⁰ The acronyms "DK" and "NR" used here and in other graph descriptions, refer to "Don't Know" and "No Response," respectively.

- youth aged 18 to 34 (42%) compared with those aged 35 to 54 (29%) and 55 and older (23%)
- those who moved in the previous 12 months (39%) versus those who did not (30%).

Vast majority found it at least somewhat easy to make sure they were registered

Among those who made sure they were registered to vote, more than nine in 10 (94%) said it was somewhat (25%) or very (68%) easy to do so. Few found it somewhat (3%) or very (1%) difficult. The 68% of electors who found it very easy to make sure they were registered is a decrease from 77% in 2019 and 76% in 2021.

Figure 13: Ease of registration



Q. How easy or difficult was it to make sure you are registered? Base: n=14,918; respondents who made sure they were registered. [DK/NR: 2%]. [Wave 1 + Wave 2]

Electors who had to update their registration information were less likely to say it was very easy to make sure they were registered (53%) than those who registered (70%) or only had to check that they were already registered (73%).

The following groups also were less likely to say it was very easy to make sure they were registered for the election:

- electors with a very severe disability (47%, compared with a range of 65% to 68% among those with a mild to severe level of disability and 71% of those with no disability)
- new Canadians (53%) compared with immigrants who became citizens before the 2021 election (67%) and Canadians by birth (69%)
- youth aged 18 to 24 (53%) and 25 to 34 (60%) compared with those aged 35 and older (74%)
- Indigenous electors (63%, compared to 69% of non-Indigenous electors)
- electors who had moved in the previous 12 months (62%) versus those who had not (69%)
- those who did not receive a VIC for the election (45%) compared with those who had (71%).

3. Voter Participation

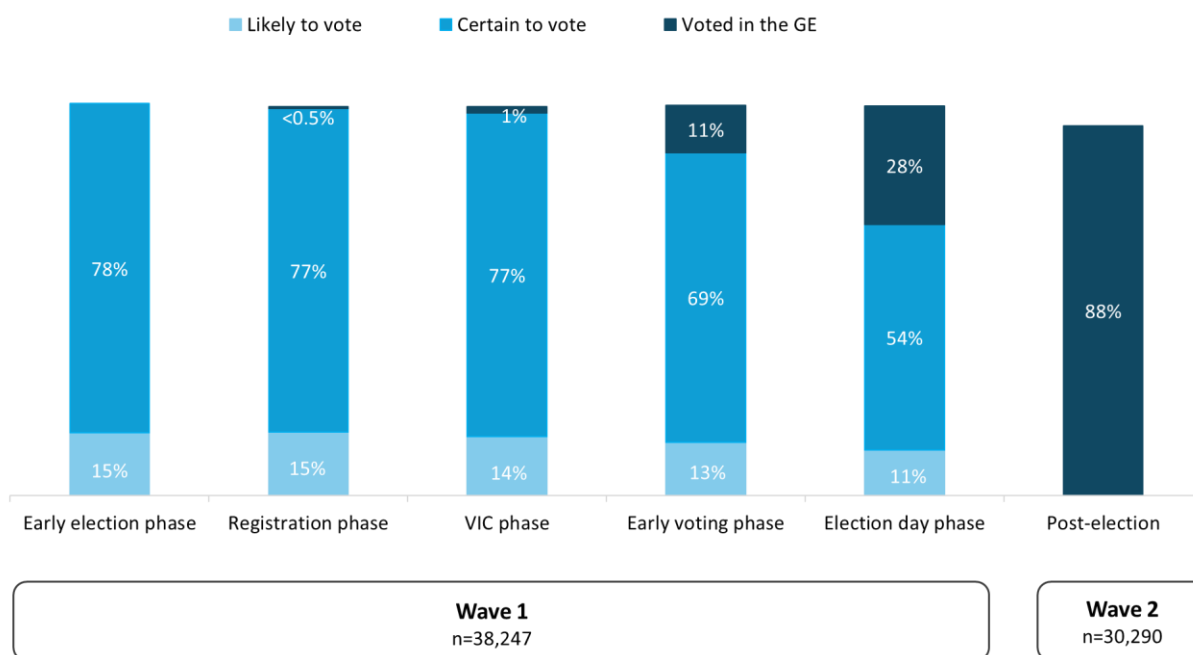
This section reports on issues related to voter participation.

Most are sure they voted in the 2025 federal election

Intention to vote was consistently high across the election period survey, with approximately four in five electors in each phase indicating they were certain to vote or they had already voted at the time of the survey. By the final week of the election period leading up to election day, 82% of electors said they had either already voted (28%) or were certain to vote (54%).

Among post-election survey respondents, most (88%) of those aware of the 2025 election said they are sure they voted in the election.¹¹

Figure 14: Vote intention and participation



Q. How likely or unlikely is it that you will vote in the federal election? Base: all respondents. [DK/NR: 2%] [Wave 1]

Q. Many people don't or can't vote for a variety of reasons. Which of the following statements describes you?

Base: all respondents aware of the general election. [DK/NR: 2%]. [Wave 2]

Among election period respondents, the following groups were *less* likely to be certain that they would vote (or to have already voted):

- 18-to-34-year-olds (66%, compared to 78% of 35-to-54-year-olds and 88% of those aged 55+)
- parents or guardians living with a child under 18 (77%, compared to 81% of those who are not parents or guardians)

¹¹ Self-reported voter turnout is historically over-reported in public opinion surveys: in this survey, self-reported turnout, post-election, was 88%, while the official turnout rate for the 45th GE among registered electors was 69%. A limitation of this current research, therefore, is that it over-represents voters in the survey sample.

- NEET youth (46%) and student youth (66%) compared with youth working full-time (73%)
- electors who had moved in the previous 12 months (69%, compared to 81% of those who had not)
- those with a severe or very severe disability (66%, compared to 79% of those with a mild or moderate disability and 83% of those with no disability)
- Métis (73%) and First Nations electors (60%) compared to 80% of non-Indigenous electors
- First Nations electors who live on a reserve (47%) versus those who do not (65%)
- new Canadians (65%, compared to 77% of established immigrants and 80% of Canadian-born electors)
- those with a high school education or less (66%) compared with those with some post-secondary or college (80%) or a university degree (85%)
- those who were eligible but did not vote in 2021 (30%) compared with those who did (89%)
- those who are not interested in politics (50%) versus those who are (86%)
- those who view voting as a choice (56%) versus those who view it as a duty (90%)
- those who do not feel politically polarized (73%) compared with those who feel somewhat (83%) or strongly (86%) polarized.

Among post-election respondents, the following groups of electors were *less* likely to have said they voted in the election:

- 18-to-34-year-olds (81%, compared to 87% of 35-to-54-year-olds and 93% of those aged 55+)
- NEET youth (71%) compared with student youth (83%) and youth working full-time (82%)
- electors who had moved in the previous 12 months (80%, compared to 89% of those who had not)
- those with a severe or very severe disability (76%, compared to 88% of those with a mild or moderate disability and 90% of those with no disability)
- First Nations electors (73%) compared to 87% of Métis and 89% of non-Indigenous electors
- First Nations electors who live on a reserve (55%) versus those who do not (81%)
- new Canadians (73%, compared to 87% of established immigrants and 88% of Canadian-born electors)
- those with a high school education or less (77%) compared with those with some post-secondary or college (88%) or a university degree (92%)
- those who were eligible but did not vote in 2021 (47%) compared with those who did (93%)
- those who expected voting would be difficult (47%) compared with those who expected voting would be easy (86%)
- those who are not interested in politics (69%) versus those who are (91%)
- those who view voting as a choice (72%) versus those who view it as a duty (94%)

- those who do not feel politically polarized (85%) compared with those who feel somewhat (90%) or strongly (90%) polarized.

Political reasons most cited reason for not voting

Respondents aware of the election but who did not vote were most likely to point to political reasons (36%) as the main reason why they did not vote. This was followed by reasons related to the electoral process (24%) and everyday life or health reasons (23%). A further 17% mentioned some other reason.

Figure 15 provides a detailed breakdown of the reasons why respondents did not vote during the 2025 GE, alongside reasons given in the 2021 NES. Mentions of reasons related to the electoral process increased to 24% from 19% in 2021. This was mainly due to slightly higher proportions reporting transportation problems or the polling station being too far away (4% versus 2%) and issues with not receiving a mail-in ballot in time (4% versus 2%).¹²

Figure 15: Main reason for not voting

Reason for not voting	2025 (%) (n=2,807)	2021 (%) (n=2,576)
Political reasons	36%	35%
Felt voting would not make a difference	9%	12%
Did not like candidates, parties, or campaign	8%	13%
Not interested in politics	8%	4%
Did not know who to vote for	7%	3%
Lack of information about campaign issues and parties' positions	4%	3%
Electoral process–related reasons	24%	19%
Transportation problem/polling station too far	4%	2%
Tried to vote by mail but did not receive ballot in time	4%	2%
Lack of information about voting process (e.g., when/where to vote)	3%	2%
Lineups were too long	3%	5%
Issues with the voter information card	2%	1%
Not on voters list	2%	1%
Polling place was not accessible	2%	1%
Could not prove identity or address	2%	2%

¹² Changes to the survey question's list of response options may also have had an impact on increasing the relative size of the electoral process–related reasons measured in 2025 compared with in 2021: in the 2021 NES, the options included two reasons related to the COVID 19 pandemic, which were selected by 6% of non-voters in 2021, and were removed without replacement from the 2025 NES.

Reason for not voting	2025 (%) (n=2,807)	2021 (%) (n=2,576)
Missed the mail-in ballot deadline	2%	2%
Voting process was not accessible	1%	1%
Everyday life or health reasons	23%	24%
Too busy	9%	8%
Out of town/away from home	8%	10%
Illness or disability	7%	7%
Other reasons	17%	16%
Religious or other beliefs	4%	2%
Forgot to vote	4%	3%
Other reasons	3%	9%
No particular reason	5%	1%
Don't know	2%	1%

Q. What is the main reason you did not vote? Base: n=2,807; respondents aware of the election but did not vote.
[Wave 2]

The following subgroups of non-voters were more likely to mention political reasons for not voting:

- non-voters in Quebec (41%) versus in other regions of Canada (a range of 33% to 36%)
- non-voters aged 35 to 54 (39%) and 55 and older (39%) versus 32% of those aged 18 to 34
- Canadians by birth (38%, versus 25% of new Canadians and 31% of immigrants who became citizens before the 2021 GE)
- non-voters who do not feel politically polarized (44%, versus 26% of those who feel strongly polarized and 31% of those who feel somewhat polarized)
- those who see voting as a choice (45%, versus 23% of those who see it as a duty)
- those who are not interested in politics (49%) versus those who are (28%)
- those who were eligible but did not vote in the 2021 election (46%) versus those who voted in 2021 (31%).

Everyday life reasons were mentioned more often by non-voters who view voting as a duty (30%, versus 18% who see it as a choice).

The following were more likely to mention electoral process–related reasons for not voting:

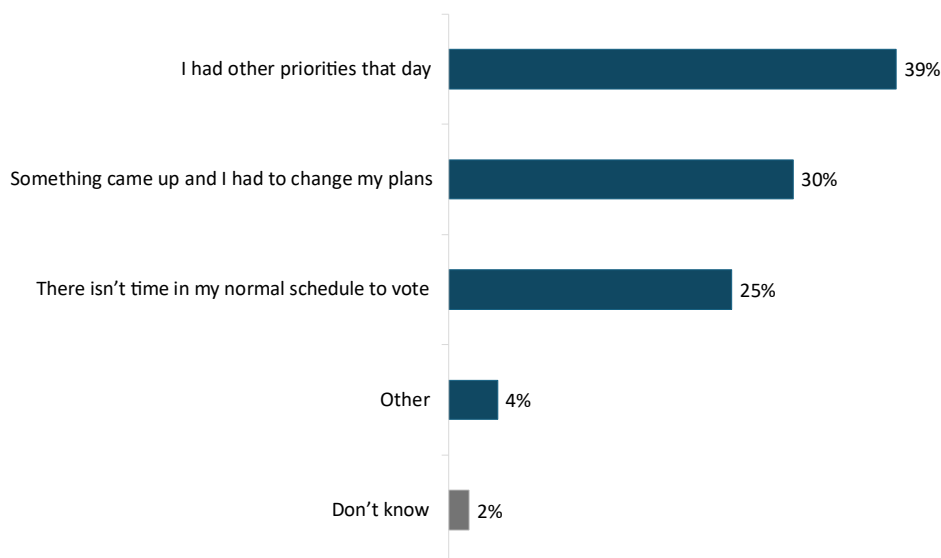
- non-voters aged 18 to 34 (30%, versus 22% of 35-to-54-year-olds and 16% of those 55 and older)

- new Canadians (36%) compared with established immigrants (23%) and Canadians by birth (23%)
- those with a very severe disability (48%, versus 23% with a severe disability, 20% of those with a mild or moderate disability, and 22% of those with no disability)
- non-voters who had moved in the previous 12 months (31%) compared with those who had not moved (22%).

Having other priorities was the most common reason for being too busy to vote

Among those who indicated they were too busy to vote, four in 10 (39%) attributed this to having other priorities that day. Three in 10 (30%) said something came up that required them to change their plans, and one-quarter (25%) said they do not have time in their normal schedule to vote. Four percent mentioned some other reason for being too busy to vote, while 2% did not know.

Figure 16: Reason for not voting – too busy



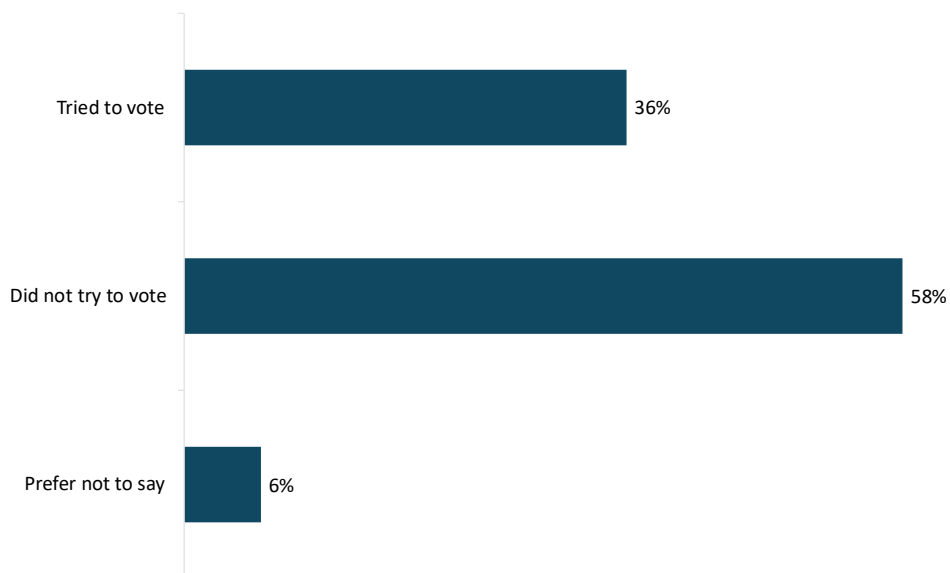
Q. You indicated that you were too busy to vote. If you had to choose, which of the following most closely reflects your situation? Base: n=252; respondents who indicated they were “too busy” to vote. [Wave 2]

Many who cited an electoral process–related reason for not voting did not attempt to vote

The majority of respondents (58%) who did not vote due to a reason related to the in-person electoral process¹³ said they did not go to a polling place and try to vote. Conversely, a little over one-third (36%) tried to vote at a polling place, while the rest (6%) preferred not to say.

¹³ For the purposes of this question, reasons related to the in-person electoral process included the following: not being able to prove their identity or address, not being on the voters list, having transportation problems, the polling station being too far away, lack of information about the voting process, long lineups to vote, issues with their VIC, and lack of accessibility of the polling place and/or voting process. The question excluded those whose reason for not voting related exclusively to voting by mail (having tried to vote by mail but not receiving the ballot in time, having missed the mail-in-ballot deadline).

Figure 17: Tried to vote at a polling place



Q. Did you go to a polling place and try to vote? Base: n=508; those who did not vote and offered a reason related to the electoral process to explain why not. [Wave 2]

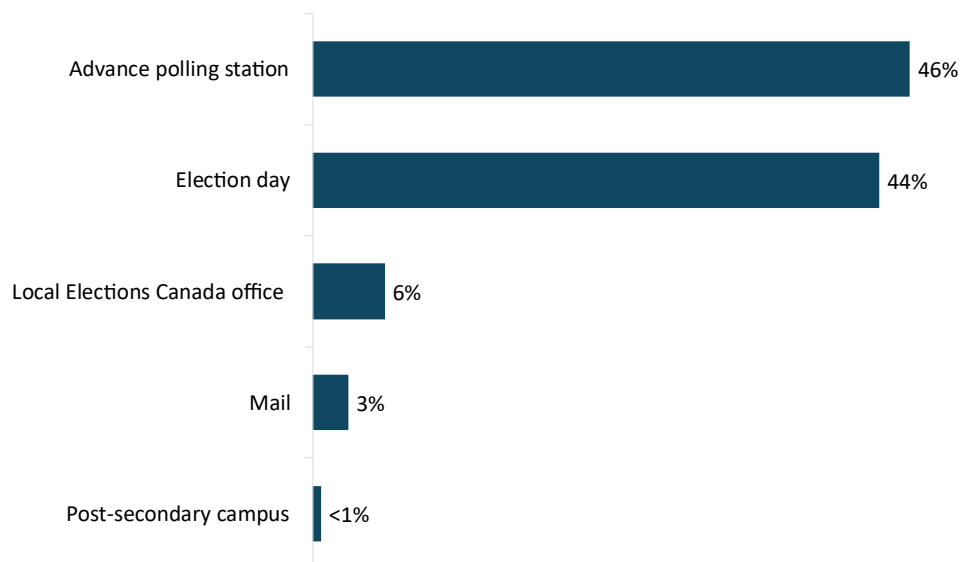
Most voted at advance polling stations or on election day

Nearly five in 10 respondents (46%) reported voting at an advance polling station, while almost as many (44%) voted on election day. Relatively few used other methods to vote: 6% voted at a local EC office, 3% voted by mail, and less than 1% voted on a post-secondary campus.

As was the case following the 2019 and 2021 elections, self-reported voting at advance polls in the post-election survey is over-reported at the expense of voting on election day: the Official Voting Results indicate that 38% of valid votes for the 2025 election were cast at advance polls compared with 56% that were cast on election day.¹⁴ Still, the higher levels of self-reported advance voting are consistent with the growth that has been observed across all recent previous elections: the share of electors who reported voting at advance polls increased from 37% in 2019 to 42% in 2021 and to 46% in 2025; this compares with 27%, 34%, and 38% of actual ballots cast, respectively.

¹⁴ See [Official Voting Results for the 45th General Election: Distribution of valid votes by voting method](#).

Figure 18: Method used to vote



Q. Which method did you use to vote? Base: n=26,900; respondents who voted in the federal election. [DK/NR: <0.5%]. [Wave 1 + Wave 2]

Voters *more* likely to say they voted at a **polling station on election day** included:

- those in Quebec (49%) compared to those in other regions of Canada (results range from 37% to 46%)
- electors in rural areas (49%) compared with in urban areas (43%)
- electors aged 18 to 34 (51%, compared to 48% of 35-to-54-year-olds and 37% of those 55+)
- parents or guardians living with a child under 18 (53%, versus 41% of non-parents)
- those with a severe or very severe disability (48%, compared to 44% of those with a moderate, mild, or no disability)
- new Canadians (55%, compared to 45% of immigrants who became citizens before the 2021 GE and 44% of those born in Canada)
- Indigenous electors (51%) and electors who are members of a racialized group (50%) compared to 43% of non-racialized electors
- those who were eligible but did not vote in 2021 (56%) compared with those who did vote (42%).

Those *more* likely to report voting at an **advance polling station** included:

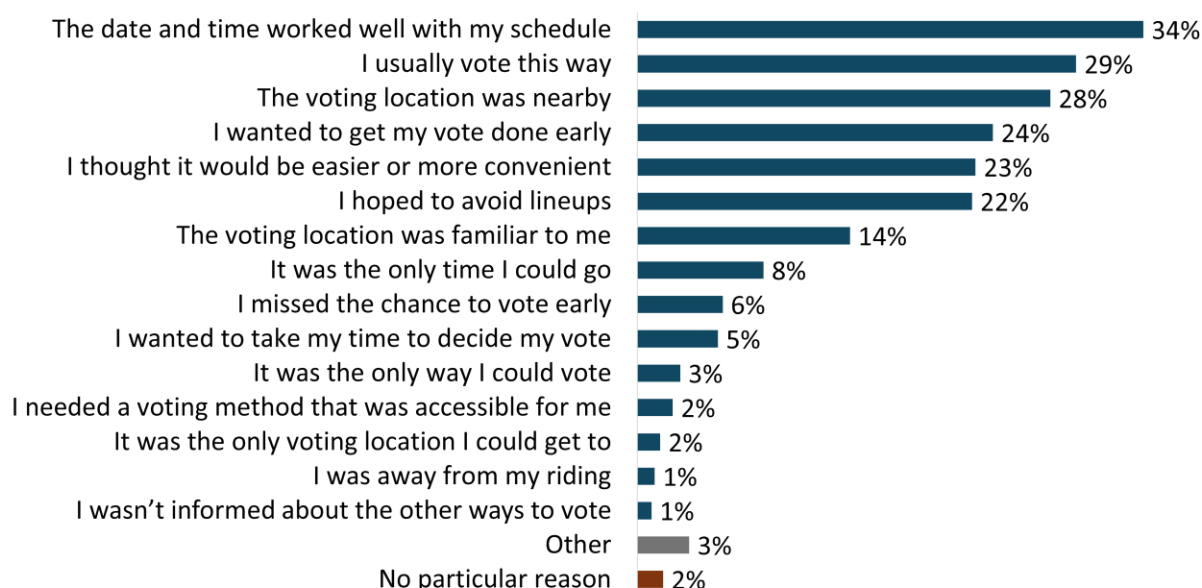
- those aged 55+ (52%, compared to 45% of 35-to-45-year-olds and 39% of 18-to-34-year-olds)
- electors who do not have a disability (48%, versus 45% of those with a disability)
- non-racialized electors (48%, compared to 41% of Indigenous and racialized electors apiece)
- those who received a VIC (48%) versus those who did not (29%)
- those who voted in 2021 (48%) versus those who were eligible but did not vote (39%).

Convenience, habit, and proximity are the reasons for choosing their voting method

Respondents who said they voted in the 45th federal election were asked for up to three reasons why they chose their voting method. One-third (34%) chose it because the date and time worked well with their schedule. Twenty-nine percent reported that they usually vote this way, and 28% selected their method because the voting location was nearby. Approximately one-quarter each chose to vote the way they did to get it done early (24%), because they thought it would be easier or more convenient (23%), and to avoid potential lineups (22%). Fourteen percent chose their voting method because the location was familiar.

Fewer than one in 10 respondents used their voting method out of necessity due to difficulties accessing other voting methods: the most common necessity voters had for choosing a voting method was that it was the only time they could go (8% of voters). Other reasons were mentioned by smaller proportions, as detailed in Figure 19.

Figure 19: Reasons for choosing their voting method



Q. Why did you choose to vote this way, as opposed to another way? [Up to 3 responses accepted]

Base: n=26,803; respondents who voted in the federal election. [DK/NR: <0.5%]. [Wave 2]

Those who voted at an advance poll or a local EC office were *more* likely to say that they wanted to get their vote done early (44% and 41%, respectively, versus 30% of those who voted by mail).

Those who voted at an advance poll also were *more* likely to say that the date and time worked well with their schedule (41%, compared with 31% of local EC office voters and 29% of election day voters) as well as to mention wanting to avoid lineups (39%, compared to 4% of those who voted on election day, 26% who voted at a local EC office, and 31% who voted by mail).

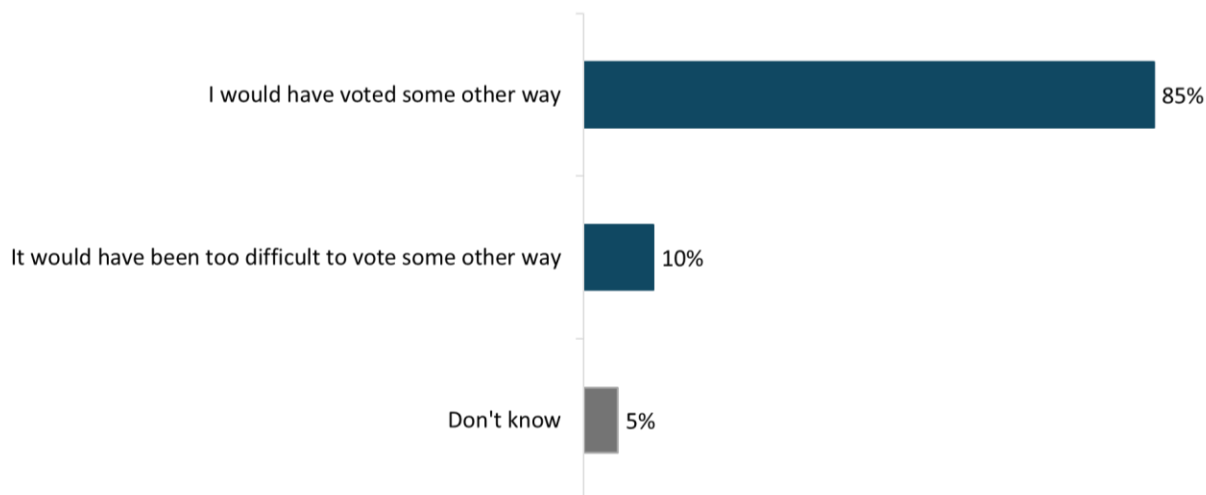
Those who voted on election day were *more* likely to say that they usually vote this way (43%, compared to 20% each of those who voted at an advance poll or by mail and 6% of those who voted at a local EC office).

Those who voted by mail were *more* likely to say they thought it would be easier or more convenient (43%, compared to 13% of those who voted on election day, 30% of those who voted at an advance poll, and 25% who voted at a local EC office), and they needed a voting method that was accessible (16%, compared to 1% of those who voted at an advance poll, 2% who voted on election day, and 3% who voted at a local EC office). Moreover, those who voted by mail were more likely to say that this was the only way they could vote (11%) compared with those who voted at a local EC office (6%), on election day (3%), or at an advance poll (2%).

Most would have voted another way, if needed

Most respondents (85%) who said they voted in the federal election would have voted some other way if it had not been possible to vote using their chosen method. Conversely, one in 10 (10%) felt it would have been too difficult to vote another way, and 5% did not know.

Figure 20: Likelihood of voting if needing to use a different method



Q. If it had not been possible to vote [on election day/at advance polls/at a local Elections Canada office/by mail/at home/on campus], do you think you would have voted some other way? Base: n=26,803; respondents who voted in the federal election. [Wave 2]

Voters *less* likely to think they would have voted some other way included:

- those who voted by mail (72%) or on election day (81%) compared with those who voted at an advance poll (89%) or local EC office (84%)
- those with a severe or very severe disability (79%, compared to 85% of electors with a moderate, mild, or no disability)
- electors who are members of a racialized group (78%, compared to 82% of Indigenous electors and 86% of non-racialized electors)
- First Nations electors who live on reserve (68%) compared with First Nations electors who do not live on reserve (85%)
- 18-to-34-year-olds (80%, compared to 83% of 35-to-54-year-olds and 89% of those 55+)

- those who were eligible but did not vote in 2021 (65%) versus those who did vote (86%).

4. Going to Vote

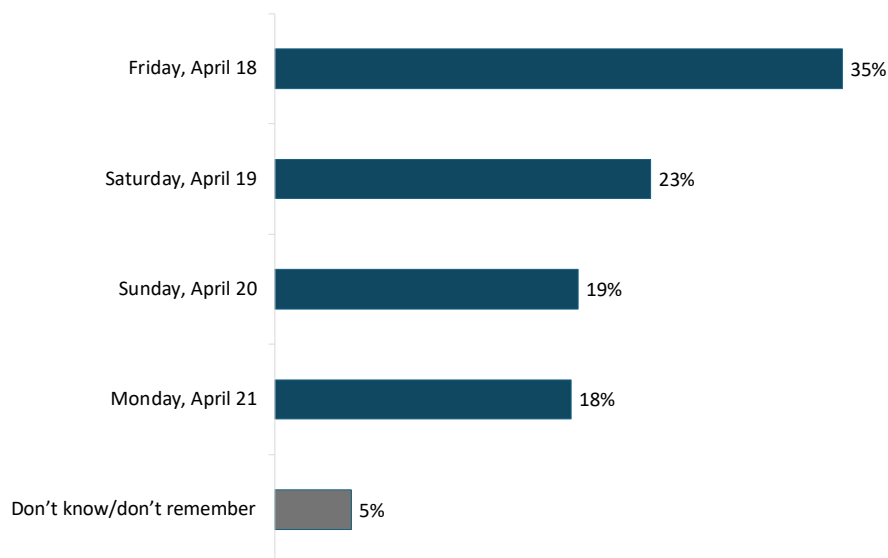
This section discusses issues relating to the experience of voters getting to and accessing the polling place.

April 18 was the most reported advance voting day

Advance voting days for the 2025 election coincided with the Easter weekend; as a result, the first day of advance voting was held on Good Friday, April 18, and the final day of advance voting was held on Easter Monday, April 21.

Just over one-third of respondents who voted in advance (35%) reported that they cast their ballot on Friday, April 18, 2025. Nearly one-quarter (23%) voted on Saturday, 19% on Sunday, and 18% on Monday. The remaining 5% did not know or could not recall which day they voted. According to EC's preliminary estimates of advance voter turnout by day, the largest proportion of ballots cast at advance polls was on Monday, April 21 (29%); followed closely by Friday, April 18 (28%); then Saturday, April 19 (23%); and Sunday, April 20 (19%).¹⁵ Accordingly, the survey over-reports voting on the first day and under-reports voting on the final day of advance voting.

Figure 21: Advance voting day



Q. On which day did you vote at the advance polling station? Base: n=12,647; those who voted at an advance poll. [Wave 2]

Advance voters aged 65 and older (42%, versus 32% of those aged 18 to 64) and those born in Canada (36%, versus 32% of established immigrant electors and 22% of new Canadians) were *more* likely to have voted on Friday, April 18, as opposed to other advance voting days.

¹⁵ Estimates are based on preliminary data as of April 23, 2025 (see [Data on polling – 45th General Election – Elections Canada](#)).

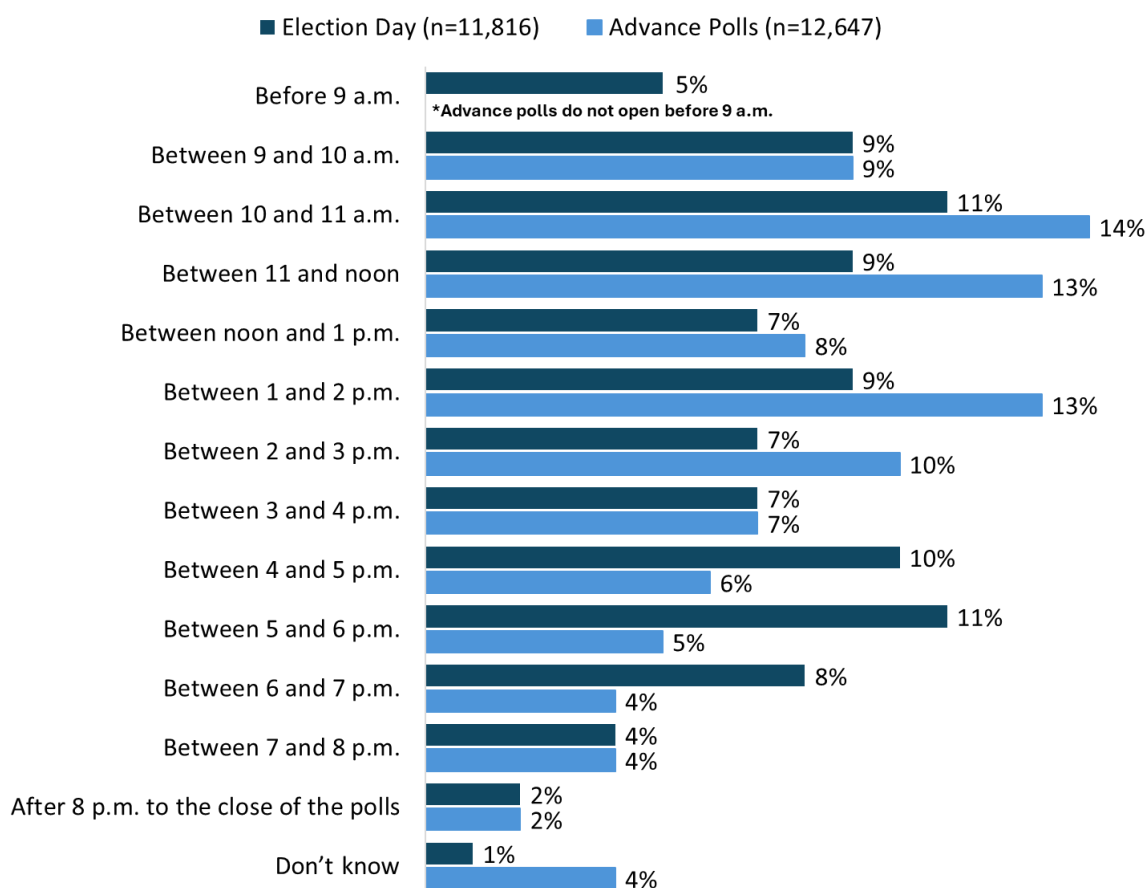
Advance voters went to vote earlier in the day

On election day, polling stations were open for 12 hours, with opening times varying by time zone from as early as 7:00 a.m. Pacific Time to as late as 9:30 a.m. Eastern Time. Advance polls were open from 9:00 a.m. to 9:00 p.m. (local time) over a period of four days.

Among election day voters, one-third (33%) cast their ballot in the morning before noon, 31% in the afternoon between noon and 4:00 p.m. and 35% in the evening between 4:00 p.m. and the close of polls. Among advance voters, slightly more than one-third (36%) voted in the morning, nearly two-fifths (39%) in the afternoon, and one in five (21%) in the evening, while 4% did not recall the time they voted.

The distribution of voter traffic on election day in 2025 was similar to the 2021 election, when 33% of election day voters voted in the morning, 30% in the afternoon, and 36% in the evening. Advance voting in 2025 overall shifted to earlier in the day compared with the 2021 election, when 33% voted in the morning, 35% in the afternoon, and 30% in the evening.

Figure 22: Time of the day when went to vote



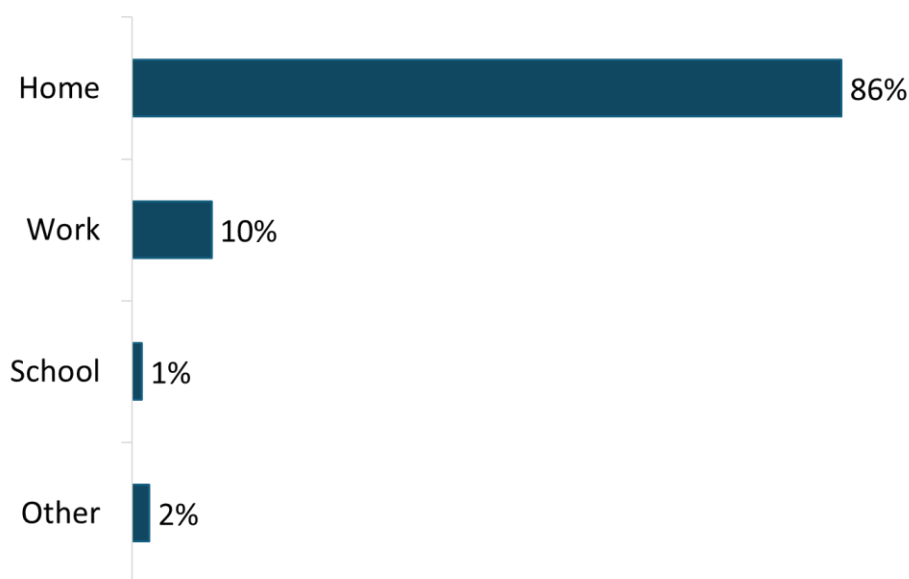
Q. Do you remember approximately what time it was when you went to the [polling station/advance polling station/local Elections Canada office]? Base: n=25,919; those who voted in person. [Wave 1 + Wave 2]

Those who voted in advance on Friday, April 18 were more likely to report having gone to vote in the morning before noon (46%) compared with those who voted on the Saturday (38%), Sunday (29%), and Monday (26%) of advance voting.

Most who voted travelled from home to vote

More than eight in 10 (86%) voters said they went to the polling station from home. Relatively few travelled from work (10%), school (1%), or another location (2%). The proportion who went to vote from home was higher compared with the 77% who went to vote from home in the 2019 election, when this question was last measured. Conversely, the proportion who went to vote from work was lower than in 2019 (16%).

Figure 23: Origin of travel to the polling place



Q. Did you go to the [polling station/advance polling station/local Elections Canada office/campus voting office] from home, work, school, or another location? Base: n=26,069; those who voted in person. [DK/NR: <0.5%]. [Wave 2]

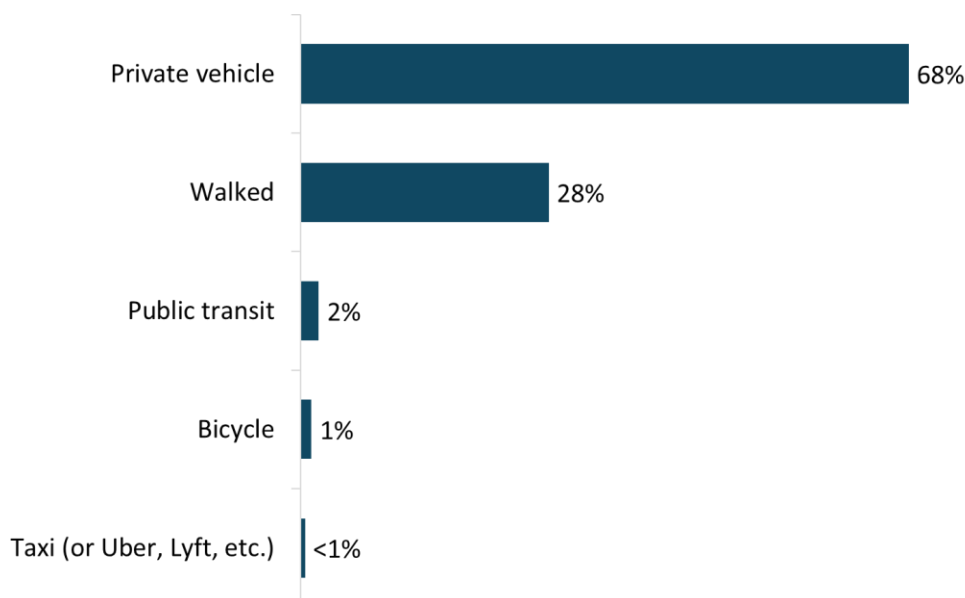
The following were *less* likely to have gone to vote from their home:

- those who voted on election day (82%) or at a local EC office (81%) compared with at advance polls (92%)
- voters aged 18 to 34 (81%) and 35 to 54 (82%) compared with those aged 55 and older (92%)
- youth working full-time (79%, compared to 90% of NEET youth and 84% of students).

The majority who voted used a private vehicle to get to the polling place

Over two-thirds of voters (68%) used a private vehicle to get to their polling place. Among the rest, 28% reported walking, while few used public transit (2%), a bicycle (1%), or a taxi or rideshare, such as Uber or Lyft (<1%). These proportions are similar to those in the 2021 and 2019 elections.

Figure 24: Method of transportation



Q. What kind of transportation did you take to get to the [polling station/advance polling station/local Elections Canada office/campus voting office]? Base: n=26,069; those who voted in person. [DK/NR: <0.5%]. [Wave 2]

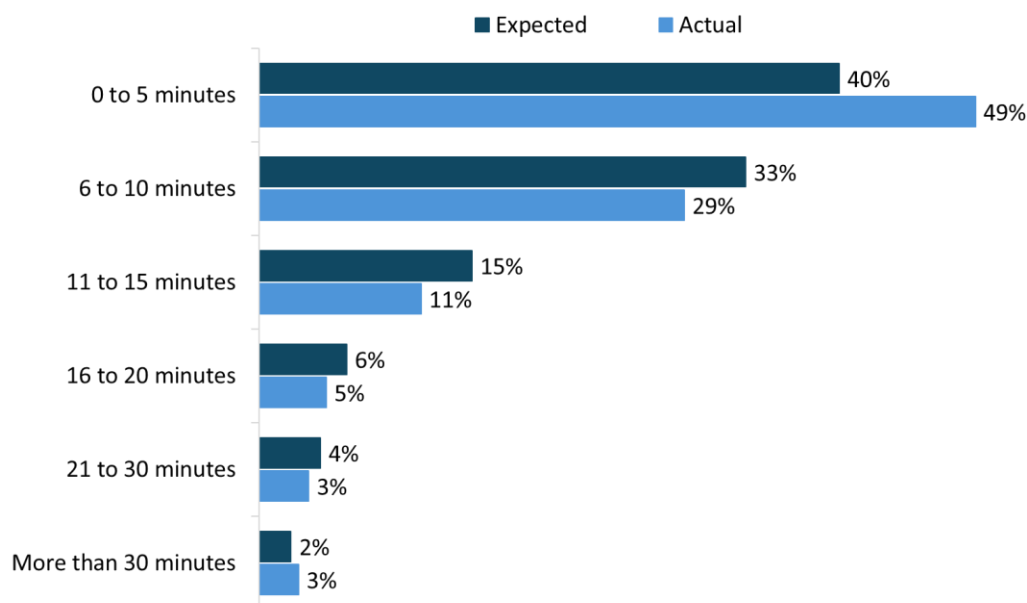
Voters *more* likely to say they **walked to the polling place** included:

- urban voters (30%, compared to 10% of those who reside in rural areas)
- electors in Ontario (33%), British Columbia (30%), and Quebec (29%) compared with other regions of Canada (results range from 12% to 22%)
- those aged 18 to 34 (32%, compared to 30% of 35-to-54-year-olds and 24% of those aged 55+)
- university graduates (32%, compared to 24% of those who completed high school or less and 23% of those with some post-secondary education or college)
- new Canadians (37%) and immigrants who became citizens before the 2021 GE (35%) compared to those born in Canada (27%)
- those who voted on election day (35%, compared to 22% of those who voted at an advance poll and 13% who voted at a local EC office).

About half said it took no more than five minutes to get to the polling place

During the initial phases of the election period survey, four in 10 electors (40%) expected their trip to the polling place would take five minutes or less, while one-third (33%) anticipated the trip taking six to 10 minutes. Electors had higher expectations in 2025 than in 2021, when 28% expected travel to the polls would take five minutes or less and another 29% expected six to 10 minutes. Regardless, post-election survey respondents who voted in 2025 took less time to travel to the polling place than expected. Nearly half (49%) said it took five minutes or less to travel to the polling place, while three in 10 (29%) reported that it took six to 10 minutes. These proportions are similar to the 2021 election, when 51% said travel to the polls took five minutes or less and 29% said it took six to 10 minutes.

Figure 25: Time to get to the polls: expected versus actual



Q. How much time do you think it would take you to go to the polling place? Base: n=13,338. [Wave 1]

Q. To the best of your knowledge, how long did it take you to travel to the [polling station/advance polling station/local Elections Canada office]? Base: n=25,538; voters. [Wave 1 + Wave 2]

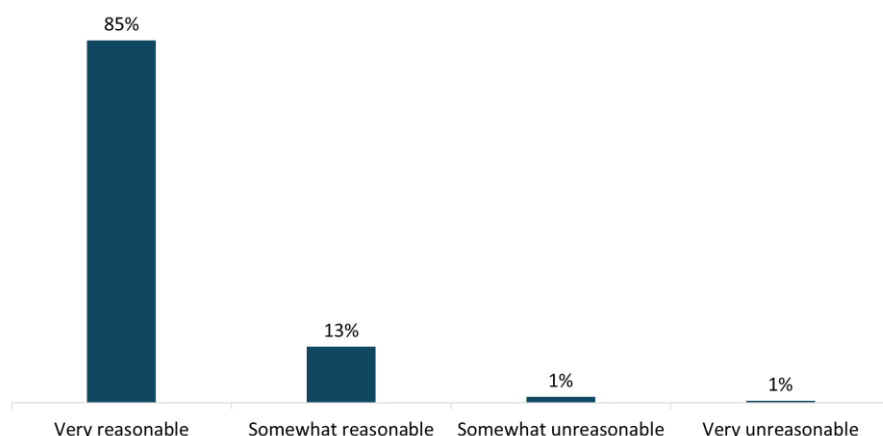
Voters *less* likely to report that travel to their voting location took five minutes or less included:

- those who voted at a local EC office (28%) or advance polls (46%) compared with those who voted on election day (55%)
- voters in British Columbia (43%) compared with other regions of Canada (range of 49% to 54%)
- 18-to-34-year-olds (46%, compared to 52% of 35-to-54-year-olds and 49% of those aged 55+)
- Indigenous voters (46%) and those who are a member of a racialized group (44%) compared to 50% of voters who are not racialized
- First Nations electors who live on reserve (27%) compared with First Nations electors who do not live on reserve (51%).

Virtually everyone found the distance to the polling place reasonable

Eighty-five percent of respondents who voted said the distance from their polling place to their home was very reasonable. A further 13% said the distance was somewhat reasonable. In total, therefore, 98% of voters found the distance to the polling place at least somewhat reasonable. Very few (2%) said it was unreasonable. These proportions are similar to the 2021 election, when 97% said that the voting place was located at a reasonable distance from their home, including 86% who said it was very reasonable.

Figure 26: Reasonableness of distance to polling location



Q. How reasonable was the distance from the [polling station/advance polling station/local Elections Canada office/campus voting office] to your home? Base: n=26,069; respondents who voted in person. [DK/NR: <0.5%]. [Wave 2]

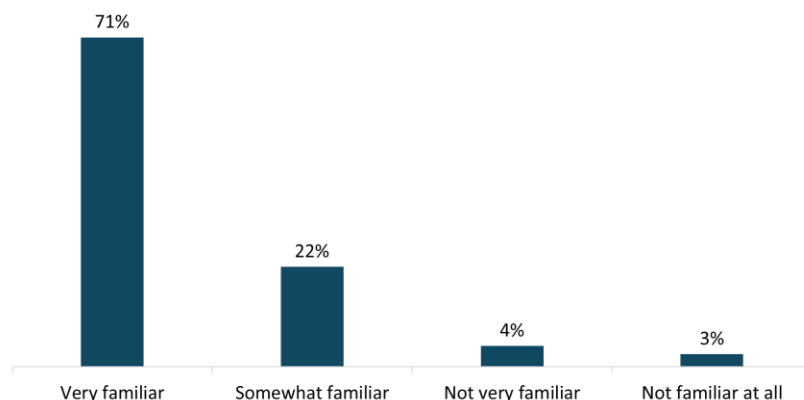
Those *less* likely to say that the travel time was very reasonable included:

- those who voted at a local EC office (75%) compared with those who voted on election day (87%) and at advance polls (84%)
- voters from rural areas (82%, compared to 85% of voters from urban areas)
- 18-to-34-year-olds (80%, compared to 84% of 35-to-54-year-olds and 88% of those aged 55+)
- those with a severe or very severe disability (81%, compared to 84% of those with a mild or moderate disability and 86% of voters with no disability)
- First Nations electors living on a reserve (54%, compared to 82% of First Nations electors not living on a reserve).

A majority were very familiar with their voting location

Seven in 10 (71%) of those who voted said their voting location was very familiar (similar to 70% in 2021). An additional 22% reported that it was somewhat familiar. In total, therefore, 93% of voters found the polling station or office at least somewhat familiar (slightly up from 90% in 2021). Comparatively few said it was not very familiar (4%) or not familiar at all (3%).

Figure 27: Familiarity of voting location



Q. Was the [polling station/advance polling station/local Elections Canada office/campus voting office] in a location that was familiar to you? Base: n=26,069; respondents who voted in person. [DK/NR: <0.5%]. [Wave 2]

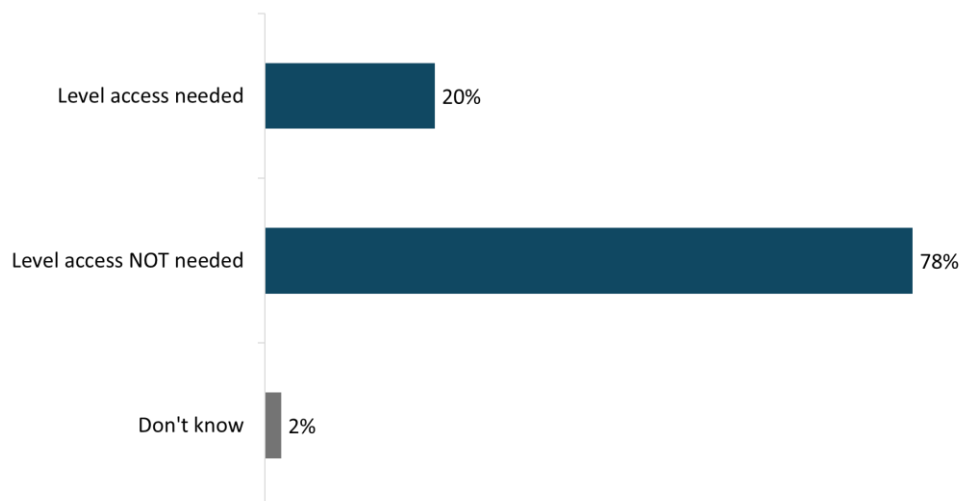
Voters *less* likely to say that the voting location was very familiar included:

- electors in Quebec (62%) versus other regions of Canada (range of 70% to 78%)
- urban electors (71%) compared with rural electors (78%)
- 18-to-34-year-olds (61%, compared to 70% of 35-to-54-year-olds and 77% of those aged 55+)
- new Canadians (62%) compared with established immigrant electors (72%) and Canadians by birth (71%)
- non-binary and transgender voters (60%, compared to 72% of women and 71% of men)
- those with a severe or very severe disability (67%, compared to 70% of those with a mild or moderate disability and 72% of voters with no disability)
- those who voted at their local EC office (59%, compared to 70% of those who voted at an advance poll, 73% on election day, and 76% on campus).

Two in 10 with a mobility or vision limitation needed level access to enter their voting location

Voters who reported having at least some difficulty seeing, using stairs, and/or recurring pain were asked whether they needed level access to enter their voting location. In response, two in 10 (20%, up from 10% in 2021) said they did require level access. The majority (78%) did not need level access.

Figure 28: Need for level access at voting location



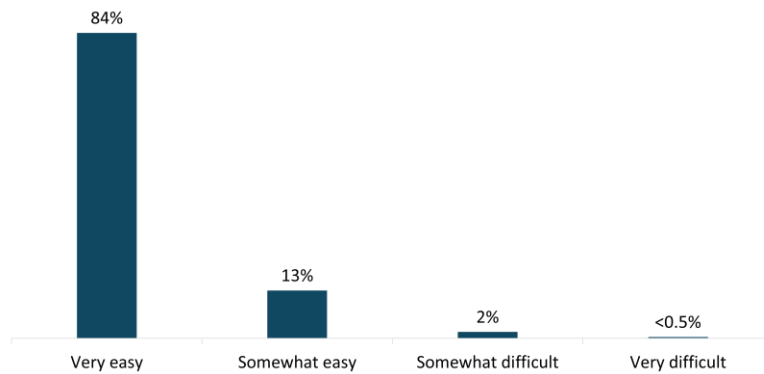
Q. Did you need level access to enter the [polling station/advance polling station/local Elections Canada office/campus voting office]? Base: n=12,349; voters who reported having at least some difficulty seeing, using stairs and/or recurring pain. [Wave 2]

Women (22%, compared to 19% of men), voters aged 55 and older (24%, compared to 17% of 18-to-34-year-olds and 16% of 35-to-54-year-olds), and voters with a severe (30%) or very severe (45%) level of disability overall compared to those with a mild or moderate disability (17%) were *more* likely to report needing level access.

Most voters with a disability found it very easy to access their polling place

Those with a disability who voted in person were asked how easy or difficult it was to enter and access their polling place. Nearly all (97%) found their polling place easy to access, including 84% who said it was very easy and 13% who said it was somewhat easy. Very few reported difficulty: 2% found it somewhat difficult, and fewer than 1% said it was very difficult. These results are comparable to the 2021 and 2019 elections, when 86% and 85%, respectively, said accessing the polling place was very easy.

Figure 29: Ease of accessing the polling place



Q. How easy or difficult was it for you to enter and access the [polling station/advance polling station/local Elections Canada office/campus voting office]? Base: n=10,464; voters with a disability who voted in person. [DK/NR: <0.5%]. [Wave 2]

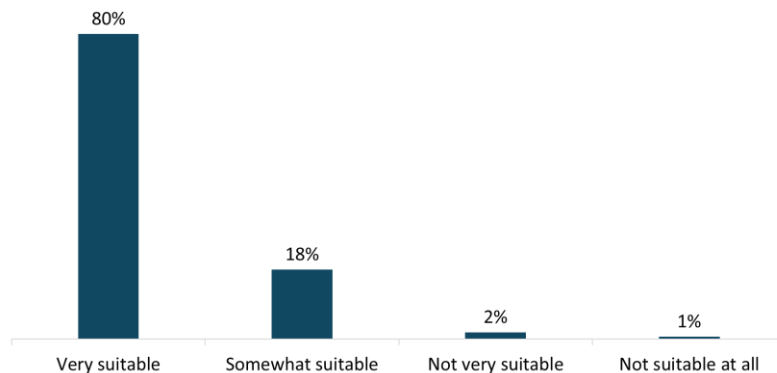
The following voters with a disability were *less* likely to say the polling place was very easy to access:

- 18-to-34-year-olds (79%, compared to 85% of 35-to-54-year-olds and 87% of those aged 55+)
- those with a very severe disability (75%) or severe disability (80%) compared to 87% of those with a mild disability and 84% with a moderate disability
- Métis (75%) and First Nations (79%) voters compared to 85% of non-Indigenous voters
- First Nations voters living on a reserve (67%, compared to 83% of First Nations voters not living on a reserve)
- those who voted at their local EC office (80%, compared to 85% of those who voted at an advance poll and 84% who voted on election day).

Nearly all said the building where they voted was suitable for holding an election

Ninety-eight percent of voters described the building where they voted as suitable for holding an election, with most (80%) saying it was very suitable and close to two in 10 (18%) saying it was somewhat suitable for this purpose. Very few said the building was not very suitable (2%) or not suitable at all (1%). These proportions are similar to the 2021 and 2019 elections.

Figure 30: Suitability of polling site



Q. Overall, would you say that the building where you voted was...? Base: n=26,069; respondents who voted in person. [DK/NR: <0.5%]. [Wave 2]

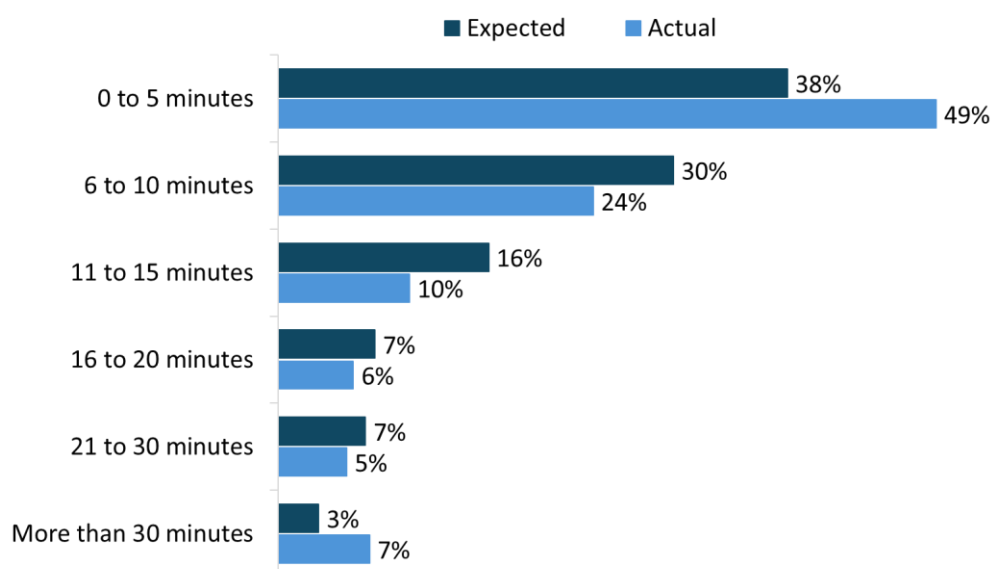
Voters *less* likely to say the polling place was very suitable included:

- voters in urban areas (79%) compared with in rural areas (85%)
- those with a severe or very severe disability (75%, compared to 80% of those with a mild, moderate, or no disability)
- 18-to-34-year-olds (71%, compared to 79% of 35-to-54-year-olds and 85% of those aged 55+)
- members of a racialized group (73%) and Indigenous voters (77%) compared with non-racialized voters (81%)
- those who voted at a local EC office (73%, compared to 79% of those who voted at an advance poll and 81% of election day voters).

It generally took less time to vote than anticipated by most electors

Electors generally anticipated that it would take more time to vote once they arrived at the polling place than it actually did on the day that they voted. During the initial phases of the election period, nearly four in 10 electors (38%) estimated that it would take five minutes or less to vote; post-election, nearly half (49%) of those who voted reported that it actually took them five minutes or less. As depicted in Figure 31, more electors expected voting would take over five minutes than reported that it actually took that long. An exception was for times of more than 30 minutes: only 3% of electors expected to face voting times of more than 30 minutes, but 7% of voters reported that this was their experience when voting.

Figure 31: Time it took to vote: expected versus actual



Q. How much time do you think it would take you to vote once you arrive at the polling place? Base: n=13,251.
[Wave 1]

Q. To the best of your knowledge, how long did it take you to vote once you arrived at the [polling station/advance polling station/local Elections Canada office]? Base: n=25,548; respondents who voted in person.
[Wave 1 + Wave 2]

Voting on the first day of advance polls took longer

Among those who voted on election day, nearly six in 10 voters (57%) said it took no more than five minutes, and 82% said it took no more than 10 minutes, to cast their ballot once they arrived at the polling place. This was lower among advance voters, where 41% said it took five minutes or less, and 63% said it took ten minutes or less. Notably, 12% of those who voted at an advance poll said it took them more than 30 minutes to vote compared to only 2% of those who voted on election day.

On average, respondents reported taking 12 minutes to vote in person, one minute less than the 13-minute average from the 2021 election. The average time it took to vote on election day improved by a larger margin, down to eight minutes in 2025 from 12 minutes in 2021. Average times to vote at local EC offices (nine minutes) and campus voting offices (eight minutes) were similar to the average for election day.

The average time it took to vote at advance polls increased in 2025 to 16 minutes compared with 14 minutes in 2021. This is due to a considerably higher average voting time on the first day of advance polls compared with all other days: those who voted on Friday, April 18 reported an average time of 23 minutes, roughly double the averages reported for Saturday, April 19 (12 minutes), Sunday, April 20 (10 minutes), and Monday, April 21 (12 minutes).

Figure 32: Average time it took to vote by voting method and day

	All in-person voting methods	Advance polls				Election day	Local EC offices	Campus voting offices
		Friday, April 18	Saturday, April 19	Sunday, April 20	Monday, April 21			
Average time it took to vote (in minutes)	12	23	12	10	12	8	9	8

Q. To the best of your knowledge, how long did it take you to vote once you arrived at the [polling station/advance polling station/local Elections Canada office/campus voting office]? Base: n=25,548; those who voted in person.
[Wave 1 + Wave 2]

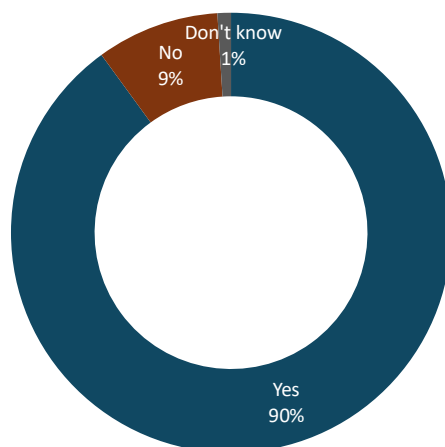
In addition, the following reported longer voting times, on average:

- voters in urban areas (12 minutes) compared to those in rural areas (nine minutes)
- voters in British Columbia (15 minutes, compared to all other regions, with averages ranging from 13 minutes in Alberta to 10 minutes in Quebec).

Nine in 10 voters said the time it took to vote was reasonable

Most (90%) who voted in person said the amount of time it took them to vote was reasonable, the same proportion as the 2021 election. One in 10 (9%) said it was not reasonable.

Figure 33: Time it took to vote was reasonable



Q. Would you say that this was a reasonable amount of time? Base: n=25,548; respondents who voted in person.
[Wave 1 + Wave 2]

Those who voted at advance polls were *less* likely to say the time they took to vote was reasonable (84%, compared to 95% of those who voted on election day or at a local EC office).

Those who voted in advance on Friday, April 18 were *less* likely to say the time it took to vote was reasonable (73%) than those who voted on Saturday, April 19 (90%), Sunday, April 20 (92%), or Monday, April 21 (89%).

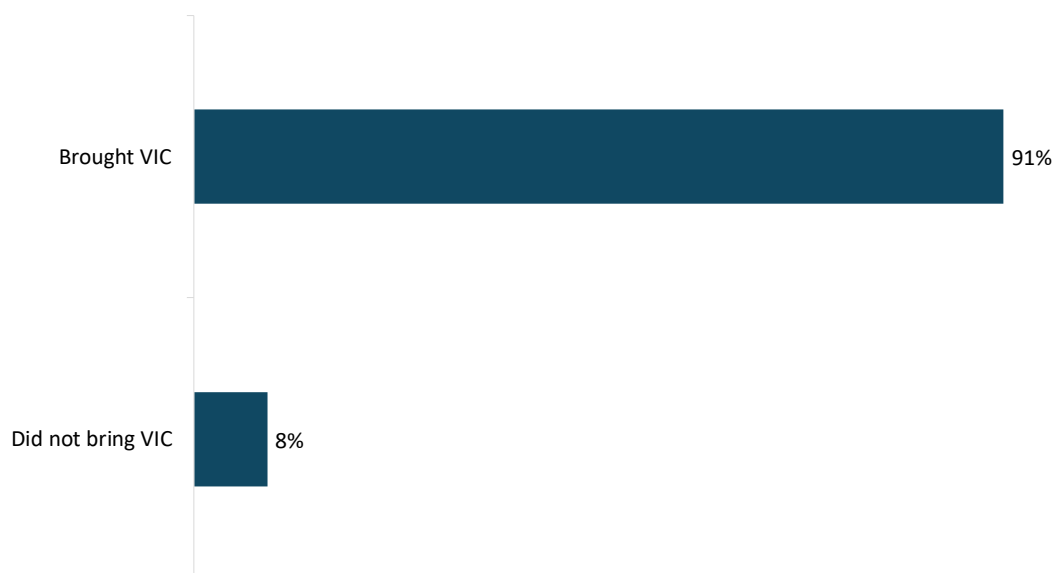
5. Voter Identification

This section discusses voters' experience at the polling place.

Vast majority brought their VIC to vote

Nine in 10 electors (91%) who received a VIC and voted in person said they brought it with them to the polling place. This proportion has remained stable since 2019 (91%) and 2021 (92%). Few (8%) reported not bringing their VIC.

Figure 34: Brought VIC to the polls



Q. Did you bring your voter information card with you to the [polling station/advance polling station/local Elections Canada office]? Base: n=24,755; respondents who voted in person and recalled receiving a VIC. [DK/NR: <0.5%]. [Wave 1 + Wave 2]

Non-binary and transgender voters (78%, compared to 92% of women and 91% of men) and those aged 18 to 24 (84%, compared to 89% of those aged 25 to 34 and 93% of those 35 and older) were *less* likely to have brought their VIC to the polling place.

Vast majority used one piece of ID to vote

Most voters (95%, similar to 94% in 2021) said they used one piece of government-issued photo ID to prove their identity and address in order to vote: 89% said they used their driver's licence, while 5% used a provincial or territorial photo ID, and 1% used a BC Services Card.

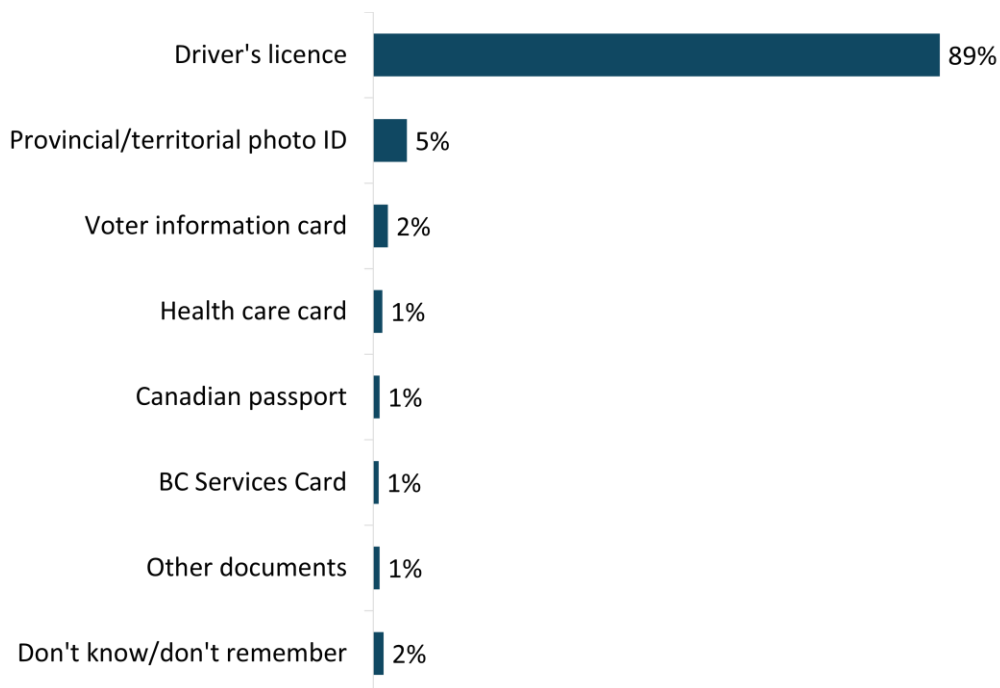
Few voters (3%, similar to 4% in 2021) reported using two pieces of ID that, together, could establish identity and address for the purpose of voting. The main documents used for this purpose were the VIC (2% of voters), which can be used to establish address only, and a health care card or Canadian passport (1% each), which can be used only to establish identity, in most circumstances.¹⁶

¹⁶ Manitoba and Yukon health care cards can be used to establish address.

One percent of respondents reported using other forms of identification in order to vote using two pieces – for example, utility bills, financial or insurance documents, other government-issued licences, government benefit statements, income or property tax assessments, birth certificates or citizenship cards, or residential leases.

Only 0.3% of voters mentioned having someone vouch for them or providing an affidavit to meet the voter ID requirements.

Figure 35: Type of ID used to meet voter identification requirements



Computed variable. Type of ID used to vote; up to 2 responses accepted. Base: n=26,803; all voters that provided a valid response. [Wave 1 + Wave 2]

Quebec voters (8%, compared to 1% to 3% of voters in other regions) were *more* likely to have used two pieces of ID. This is notable because Quebec is the only jurisdiction in Canada that does not issue a general photo identification card containing address information for non-drivers.

Other groups *more* likely to have used two pieces of ID include:

- electors with a severe or very severe (5%) or mild or moderate (4%) disability compared with those with no disability (3%)
- NEET youth (6%) and student youth (5%) compared with youth working full-time (3%)
- those who voted by mail (5%) and on election day (4%) compared with those who voted at an advance poll (3%) or a local EC office (2%).

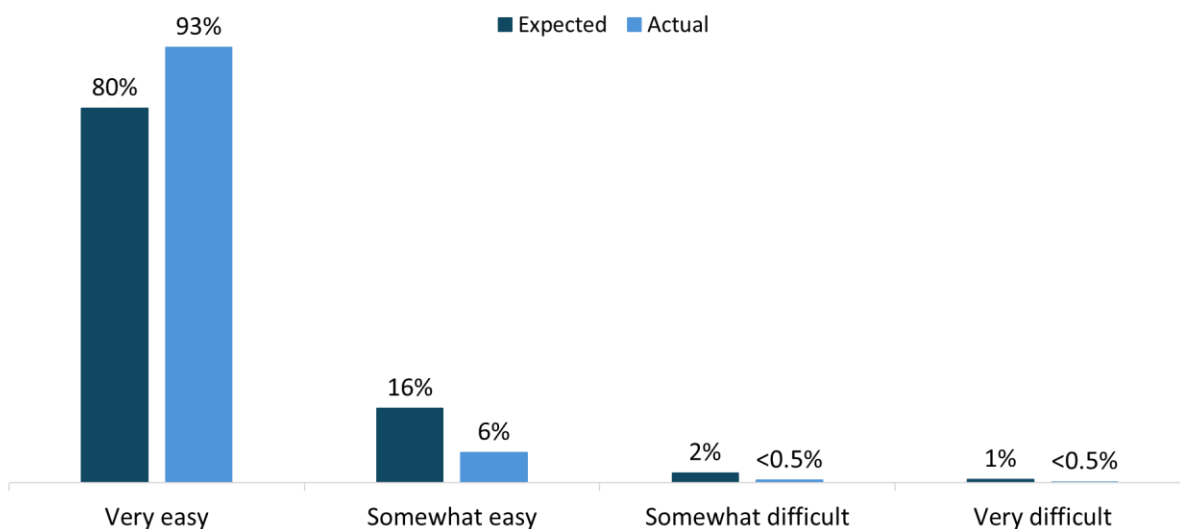
Vast majority found it very easy to meet ID requirements, exceeding expectations

During the election period survey, 80% of electors expected it would be very easy for them to meet voter identification requirements, and another 16% thought it would be somewhat easy. This is lower

than 2021, when 88% expected it would be very easy for them to prove their identity and address if they were to vote.

Electors' expectations were exceeded, with 93% of voters in the 2025 election saying it was very easy, and an additional 6% saying it was somewhat easy, to meet the identification requirements when they voted. This is similar to the experience of voters in the 2021 and 2019 general elections, when 94% and 95%, respectively, said that meeting the voter identification requirements was very easy.

Figure 36: Ease of meeting voter identification requirements



Q. If you do vote, how easy or difficult do you think it would be to prove your identity or address? Base: n=34,996; all respondents. [DK/NR: 2%]. [Wave 1]

Q. Overall, how easy or difficult was it to meet the identification requirements? Base: n=26,424; those who voted in person. [DK/NR: <0.5%]. [Wave 1 + Wave 2]

Voters *less* likely to say it was very easy to meet the ID requirements included:

- those with a severe or very severe disability (89%) compared to those with a mild or moderate disability (93%) and no disability (94%)
- First Nations voters (86%, compared to 93% of non-Indigenous voters)
- First Nations voters living on reserve (75%) compared with First Nations voters who do not live on reserve (89%)
- new Canadians (89%, compared to 92% of established immigrant electors and 93% of those born in Canada)
- residents of Quebec (90%, compared to 94% to 95% of Canadians in other regions)
- electors aged 18 to 34 (88%, compared to 93% of 35-to-54-year-olds and 96% of those aged 55+)
- those who moved in the previous 12 months (89%, compared to 93% of those who did not)
- voters who did not receive a VIC (84%, compared to 94% of those who did)

- those who voted by mail (80%) and at a campus voting office (84%) compared with those who voted on election day (92%), at a local EC office (94%), or advance poll (94%).

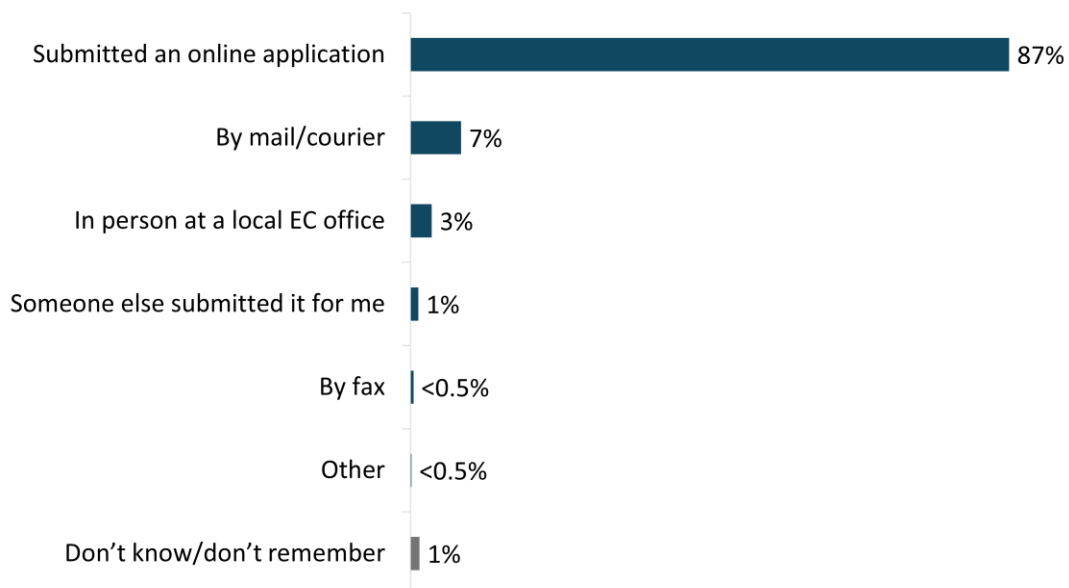
6. Vote by Mail Experience

This section reports on the experience of voting by mail.

Most who voted by mail applied online

Nearly nine in 10 respondents who voted by mail (87%) said they applied by submitting an online application. Seven percent applied by mail or courier, 3% applied in person at a local EC office, and 1% said someone submitted an application for them.

Figure 37: Method used to apply to vote by mail

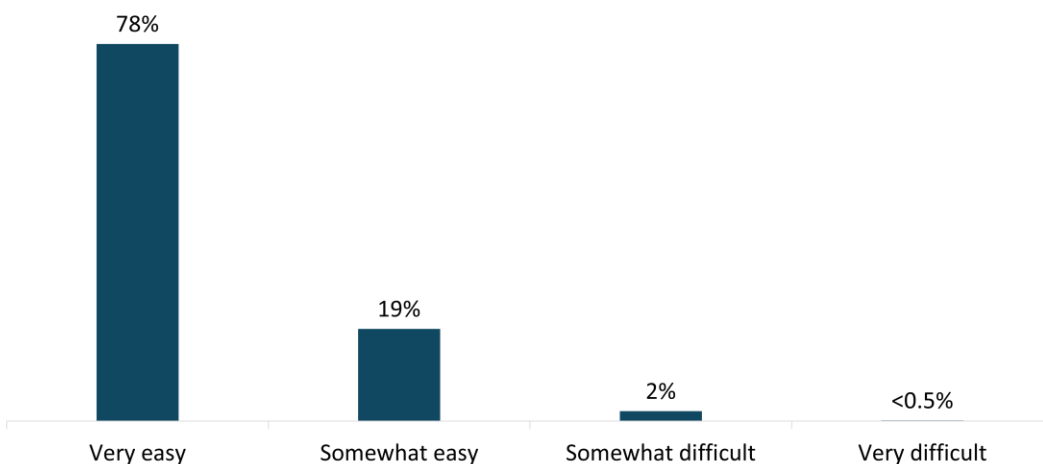


Q. How did you apply for your vote by mail kit? Base: n=714; those who voted by mail. [Wave 1 + Wave 2]

Most who voted by mail found it very easy to apply

More than three-quarters (78%) of those who voted by mail said it was very easy to apply for their vote by mail kit, and a further two in 10 (19%) said it was somewhat easy. Very few (2%) found the process somewhat or very difficult. More voters reported that it was easy to apply in 2025 (97%) than in 2021 (94%).

Figure 38: Ease of applying for a vote by mail kit



Q. How easy or difficult was it to apply for your vote by mail kit? Base: n=702; those who applied for their own vote by mail kit. [DK/NR: 1%]. [Wave 1 + Wave 2]

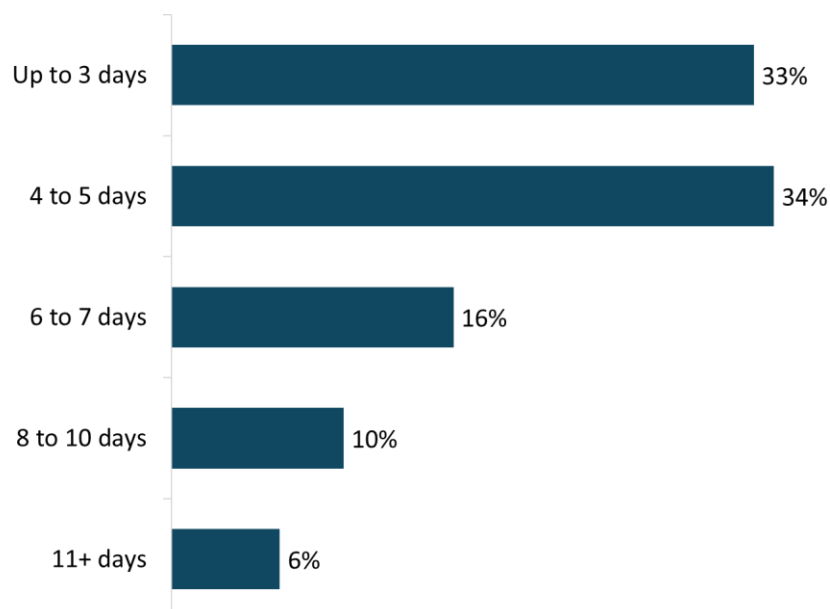
The following were *more* likely to say it was very easy to apply for a vote by mail kit:

- electors aged 55 and older (83%) compared to those aged 18 to 34 and 35 to 54 (74% each)
- those who submitted an online application (82%) versus those who applied by other methods (48%).

Two-thirds who voted by mail received their voting kit within five days

Two-thirds of those who voted by mail said they received their vote by mail kit within three days (33%) or within four to five days (34%). For the rest, it took six to seven days (16%), eight to 10 days (10%), or 11 or more days (6%). The average reported time it took to receive the vote by mail kit was five days compared with the six days reported in 2021.

Figure 39: Time it took to receive voting kit in the mail

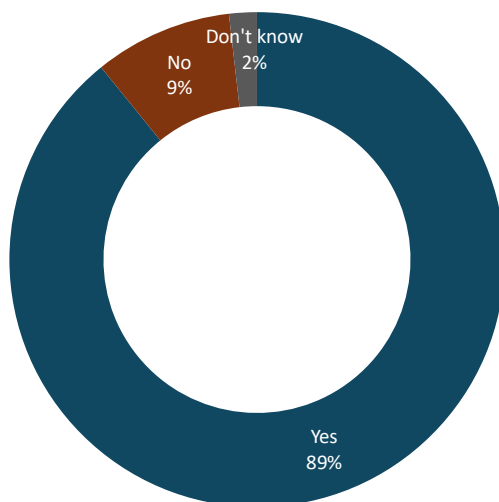


Q. How long did it take to receive your vote by mail kit after applying? Base: n=562; those [who] voted by mail and provided a valid response. [Wave 1 + Wave 2]

Most who voted by mail said they received the voting kit in a reasonable amount of time

Nearly nine in 10 respondents who voted by mail (89%) said the amount of time it took to receive their voting kit was reasonable. Nine percent said it was not reasonable.

Figure 40: Time it took to receive the voting kit in the mail was reasonable



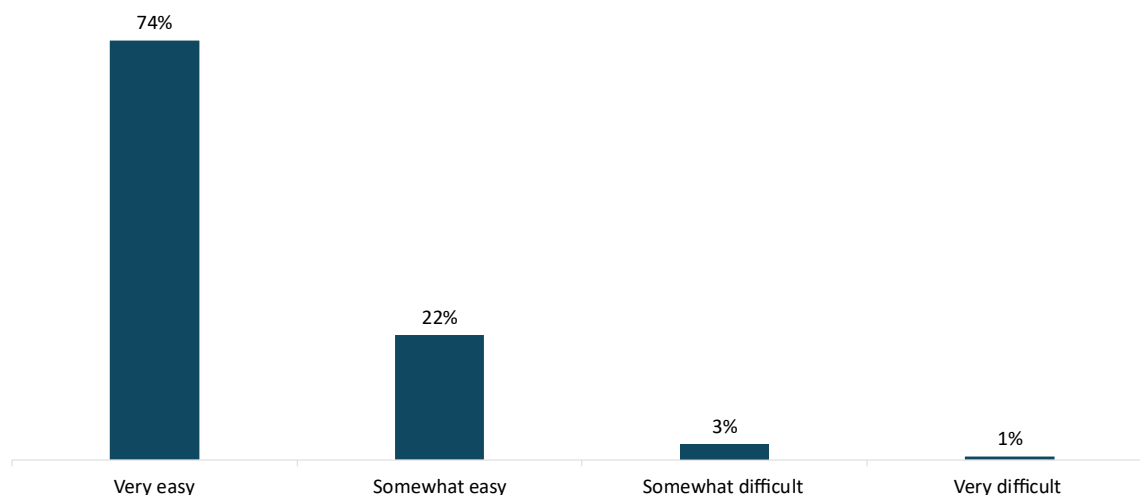
Q. Would you say that this was a reasonable amount of time? Base: n=562; those who voted by mail and recalled the wait time to receive the voting kit. [DK/NR: <0.5%]. [Wave 1 + Wave 2]

Those who said it took more than a week to receive their vote by mail kit were less likely to say the time was reasonable (57%) than those who said it took seven days or less (95%).

A majority found it very easy to complete the ballot with the voting kit

Three-quarters of respondents who voted by mail (74%, up from 70% in 2021) said it was very easy to complete their ballot using the voting kit. An additional 22% said completing their ballot was somewhat easy. Very few found it somewhat (3%) or very (1%) difficult.

Figure 41: Ease of completing ballot with voting kit



Q. How easy or difficult was it to complete your ballot using the voting kit? Base: n=715; those who voted by mail. [DK/NR: <0.5%] [Wave 1 + Wave 2]

Electors *less* likely to say it was very easy to complete their special ballot included:

- 18-to-34 and 35-to-54-year-olds (67% and 69%, respectively, compared to 80% of those aged 55+)
- those with a disability (70%, compared to 77% of those without a disability)
- men (70%, compared to 78% of women).

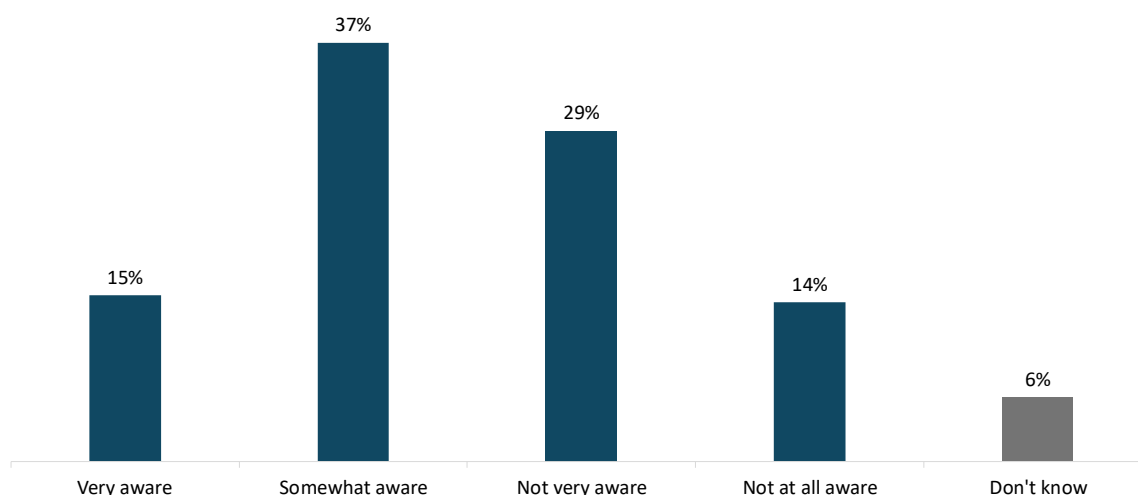
7. Accessible Voting Services

This section reports on awareness and use of EC's accessible voting services among electors with a disability.

Many electors were aware of services and tools for electors with disabilities

Approximately half (51%) of electors with a disability were aware of EC's services and tools for electors with disabilities: 15% were very aware, and 37% were somewhat aware. Conversely, three in 10 (29%) were not very aware, and 14% were not at all aware. Awareness of accessible voting tools and services among electors with a disability has held steady over time, with 50% in 2019 and 51% in 2021 having been very or somewhat aware.

Figure 42: Awareness of services and tools for electors with disabilities



Q. Elections Canada offers a number of voting tools and services to make voting more accessible, for example, for Canadians with disabilities. How aware are you of the tools and services that are available? Base: n=12,698; electors with a disability. [Wave 2]

The following groups of electors with a disability were *more* likely to be very aware of the voting tools and services:

- those with a severe or very severe disability (18%, versus 13% with a mild or moderate disability)
- Indigenous electors (21%, versus 14% of non-Indigenous electors)
- electors with a disability who recalled EC's ads and communications (17%, versus 8% of those who did not)
- those who voted in the 2021 GE (15%, versus 11% of eligible non-voters).

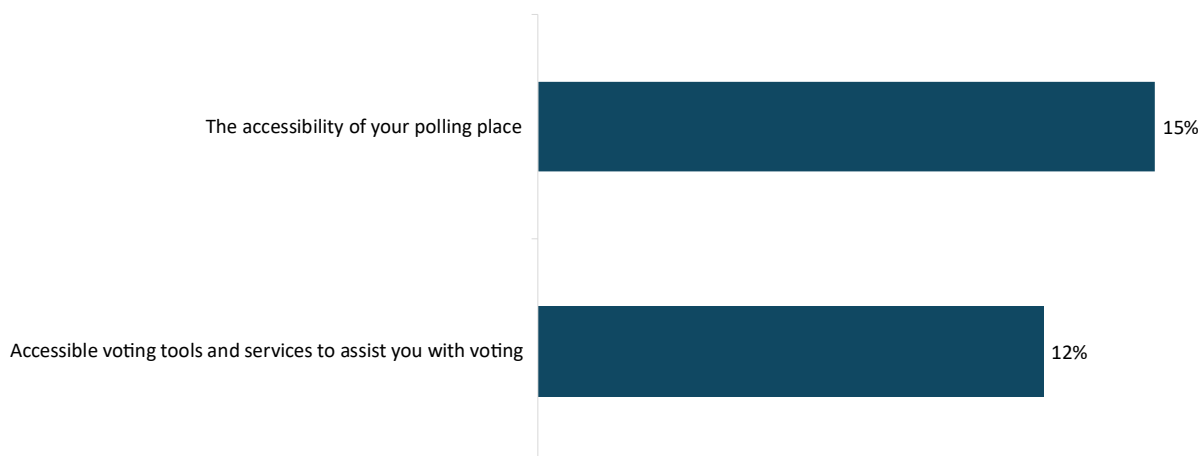
Electors with a disability living in Quebec were *less* likely to be very aware of accessible voting tools and services (9%, compared with a range of 13% to 17% across other provinces and territories).

Few electors with disabilities needed information on accessibility

Few electors with a disability said they required information on accessibility during the 45th GE. Specifically, 15% needed information on the accessibility of their polling place, while 12% needed information on accessible voting tools and services. Demand has perhaps increased slightly since 2021, when 13% needed information on polling place accessibility and 10% needed information on accessible tools and services.

Figure 43: Accessibility information needs

For this election, did you need information on...



Q. For this election, did you need information on... a) The accessibility of your polling place? / b) Accessible voting tools and services to assist you with voting? Base: n=12,655; electors with a disability. [Wave 2]

The following electors with a disability were *more* likely to need information on the **accessibility of their polling place**:

- 18-to-34 and 35-to-54-year-olds (20% and 15%, respectively, compared to 11% of those aged 55 and older)
- electors with high school or less education (20%, compared to 13% of those with some post-secondary or college and 14% of those who completed university)
- electors with severe or very severe disability (24%, compared to 12% of those with a mild or moderate disability)
- Indigenous electors (20%, versus 14% of non-Indigenous electors)
- new Canadians (34%, versus 19% of established immigrants and 14% of those born in Canada)
- electors who did not receive a VIC (21%, compared to 14% who received a VIC)
- electors who were eligible to vote in 2021 but did not (21%, versus 13% of 2021 voters).

The following were *more* likely to need information on **accessible voting tools and services** to assist with voting:

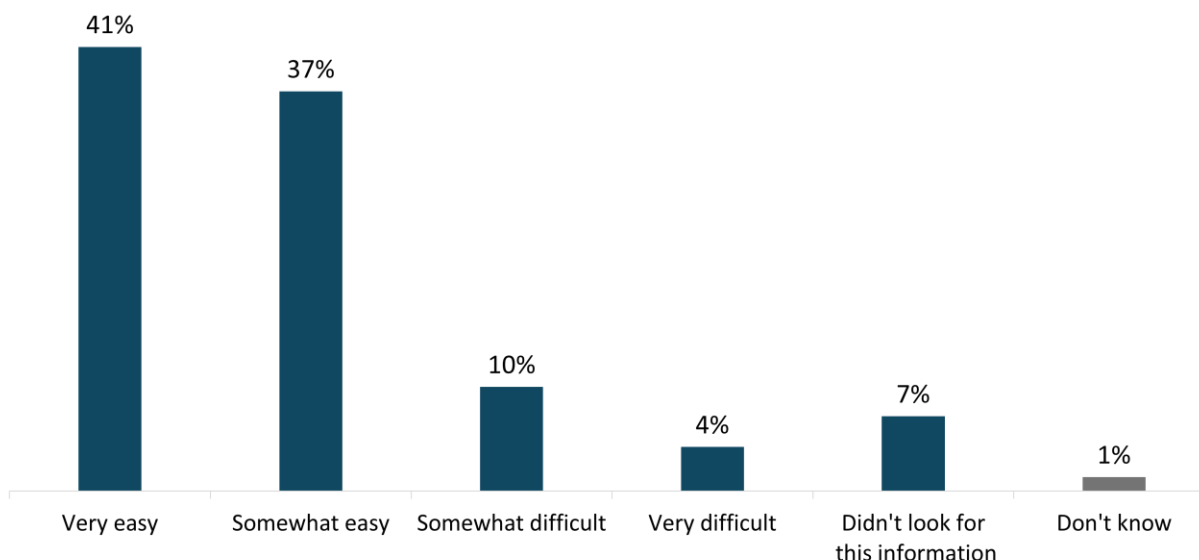
- 18-to-34 and 35-to-54-year-olds (19% and 13%, respectively, compared to 7% of those age 55+)

- electors with high school or less education (17%, versus 11% of those with some post-secondary or college and 12% of those who completed university)
- electors with a severe or very severe disability (20%, compared to 9% of those with a mild or moderate disability)
- Indigenous electors (18%, versus 12% of non-Indigenous electors)
- new Canadians (37%, compared to 11% of electors born in Canada)
- electors who did not receive a VIC (19%, versus 11% of those who did)
- electors who were eligible to vote in 2021 but did not (17%, versus 10% of 2021 voters).

Most electors who needed information on accessibility found it easy to find

Nearly eight in 10 (78%, up from 74% in 2021) electors with a disability said it was very (41%) or somewhat (37%) easy to find the information they needed on accessibility for the election. Fourteen percent found it difficult, either somewhat (10%) or very (4%) difficult. Among the rest, 7% indicated they did not look for this information, and 1% were unsure.

Figure 44: Ease of finding accessibility information



Q. How easy or difficult was it to find the information you needed on accessibility for the election? Base: n=2,234; those with a disability who accessed information on the accessibility of their polling place and/or accessible voting tools and services. [Wave 2]

The following were *less* likely to say it was easy to find the information they needed on accessibility for the election:

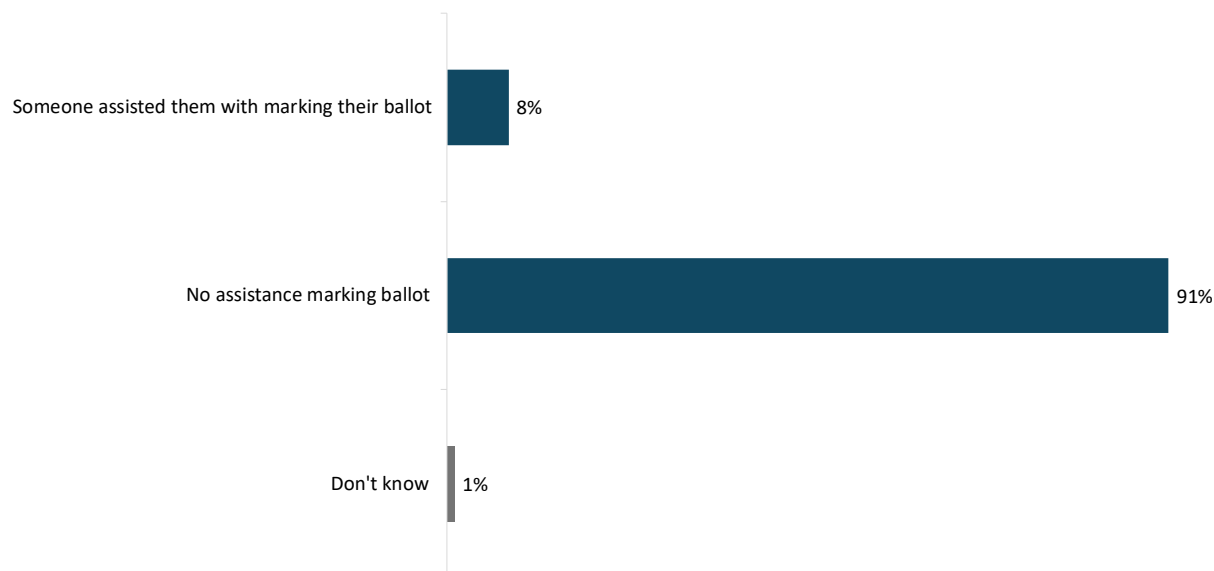
- electors with a severe or very severe disability (74%, versus 81% of electors with a mild or moderate disability)
- electors who did not recall EC's ads and communications (65%, versus 85% of those who did)

- those who did not receive a VIC (59%, versus 82% of those who did)
- those who did not vote in 2025 (63%, versus 84% of voters).

Nine in 10 electors with a disability marked their own ballot without assistance

Nine in 10 electors with a disability (91%) said they did not receive assistance marking their ballot when they voted. Conversely, 8% said someone assisted them with marking their ballot, up from 4% in 2021, and more in line with 2019, when 7% had assistance.

Figure 45: Assistance with marking ballots – voters with a disability



Q. When you voted, did someone assist you with marking your ballot? Base: n=10,483; those with a disability who voted in person. [Wave 2]

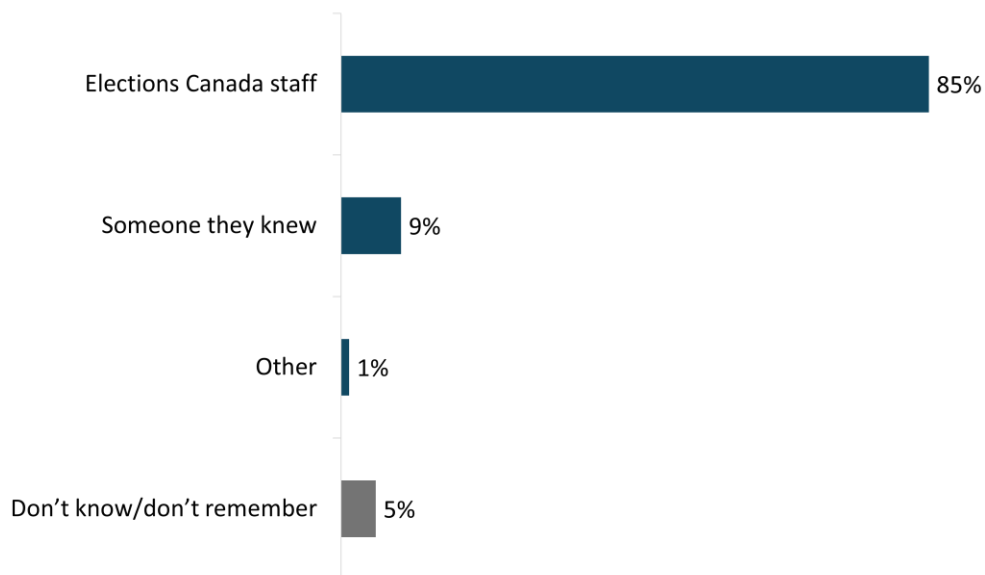
The following groups of electors with a disability were *more* likely to have had someone assist them with marking their ballot:

- 18-to-34-year-olds (12%) versus 35-to-54-year-olds (8%) and those aged 55 and older (5%)
- electors with a very severe disability (16%, versus 8% of those with a severe disability and 7% of those with a mild or moderate disability)
- new Canadians (21%) and immigrants who became citizens before the 2021 GE (13%) versus 7% of Canadian-born electors.

Most assistance in marking ballots was provided by EC staff

Among electors with a disability who received assistance marking their ballot, most (85%) said the help came from EC staff. One in 10 (9%) reported receiving assistance from someone they knew, such as a family member, friend, or personal support worker. Five percent did not know or could not remember who provided the assistance. Sources of assistance are consistent with those reported in 2019 and 2021, when 85% and 87%, respectively, were assisted by EC staff.

Figure 46: Source of assistance with marking ballots – voters with a disability



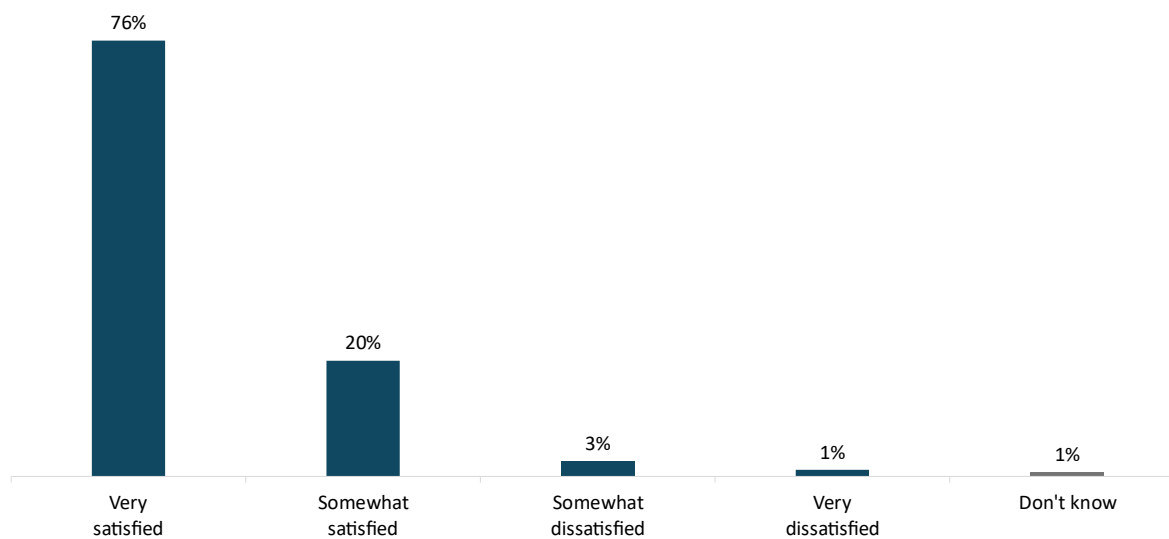
Q. Who gave you assistance marking your ballot? Base: n=778; those with a disability who voted in person and had someone assist them marking their ballot. [Wave 2]

Voters between the ages of 18 and 34 as well as 35 and 54 were *more* likely to say someone they knew helped them with marking their ballot (11% each, versus 4% of those 55 and older). So too were electors with a severe or very severe disability (14%, versus 7% of electors with a mild or moderate disability).

Nearly all electors with a disability who received assistance were satisfied with the assistance received in marking their ballot

Among electors with a disability who received assistance marking their ballot, nearly all (96%) said they were satisfied with the help they received, including 76% who were very satisfied and 20% who were somewhat satisfied. Few (4%) expressed any level of dissatisfaction. Compared to 2021, fewer voters were very satisfied (81%, versus 76% in 2025).

Figure 47: Satisfaction with assistance marking ballot



Q. How satisfied were you with the assistance you received marking your ballot? Base: n=778; those with a disability who voted in person and had someone assist them marking their ballot. [Wave 2]

The following groups of electors with a disability were *more* likely to be very satisfied with the assistance they received:

- those aged 55+ (87%, compared to 67% of 18-to-34-year-olds and 74% of 35-to-54-year-olds)
- people who are not members of a racialized group (80%, compared to 66% who are racialized).

Few electors with a disability used voting assistance tools

Among electors with a hearing, seeing, dexterity, cognitive, or developmental disability, few reported using the voting assistance tools and services that EC offers. This is consistent with the 2021 GE, when use of such tools was relatively limited.

The most frequently used tools relative to their intended users were the large-print list of candidates, used by 10% of voters who have difficulty with seeing, cognition, and/or a developmental disability (n=7,770), and a braille list of candidates, used by 9% of those who have a lot of difficulty seeing or are unable to see (n=310). Among those who have a lot of difficulty hearing or are unable to hear (n=1,124), 6% used language or sign language interpretation. The signature guide, tactile and braille template, magnifier, and personal smartphone to read the ballot were used by only 2% to 3% of their intended users.

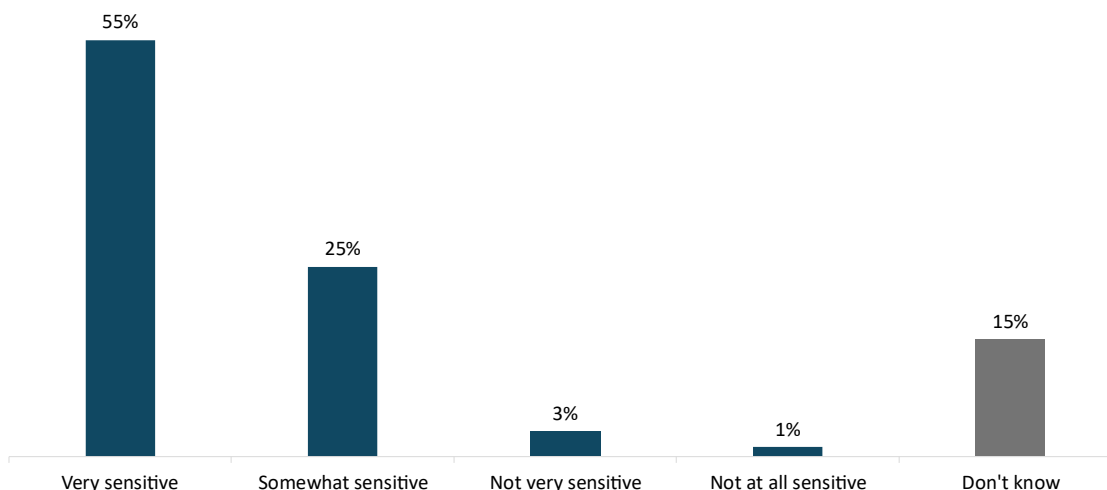
Two percent of respondents (n=8,198) said they used other personal devices or supports, such as reading glasses, a wheelchair, a walking cane, a personal pen or pencil, or a flashlight.

A majority of electors with a disability said poll staff were sensitive to their needs

Among electors with a disability who voted in person, eight in 10 (80%) said EC staff were somewhat (25%) or very (55%) sensitive to their needs when voting. Few reported that staff were not very sensitive (3%) or not at all sensitive (1%). The rest (15%) were unsure.

Compared to 2021, fewer electors said that EC staff were very sensitive to their voting needs (59%, versus 55% in 2025).

Figure 48: Sensitivity of poll staff to needs of voters with disabilities



Q. Overall, how sensitive were Elections Canada staff to your needs when voting? Base: n=10,483; electors with a disability who voted in person. [Wave 2]

8. Voting Services

This section reports on satisfaction with voting services.

French voters in an official language minority community (OLMC) received service in French more often than in 2021

Three-quarters (75%) of respondents who voted in person (n=26,088) said they were served in English by EC staff. Among the rest, two in 10 (21%) were served in French, while few (4%) were served in both of Canada's official languages.

OLMC voters (n=1,104)¹⁷ were less likely than non-OLMC voters to say they had received service in their primary official language. Specifically, 67% of English OLMC voters reported receiving service in English or in both English and French; this is lower than the proportion for the 2021 election (73%). French OLMC voters were more likely to have been served, at least in part, in French in 2025 (64%) than in 2021 (53%), but were still slightly less likely to have been served in their primary official language than English OLMC voters.

Near unanimous satisfaction with the language of service but with gaps for OLMC voters

Consistent with the 2019 and 2021 elections, nearly all voters (99%) were satisfied with the official language in which they were served by EC staff. Satisfaction levels were lower among OLMC voters: 95% of English OLMC voters and 91% of French OLMC voters said they were satisfied with the official language in which they were served by EC. Specifically, OLMC voters who were not served in their primary official language were less likely to be satisfied (84%) than OLMC voters who were served in their primary official language (98%), who had a level of satisfaction similar to non-OLMC voters. These proportions are similar to those in 2021.

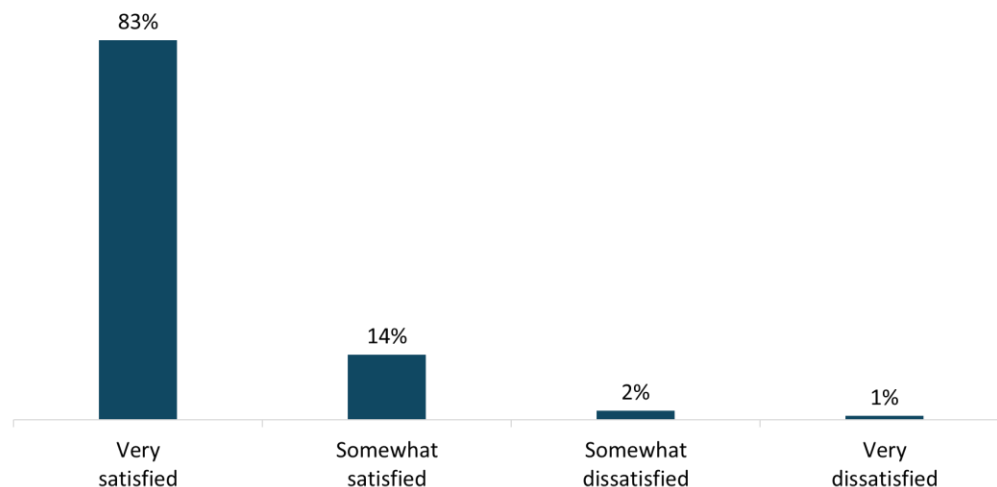
Among the few who were not satisfied with language services (n=164), reasons for not being satisfied included complaints about EC staff not being fluent in one of the official languages, only some staff at polling stations being fluent in both official languages, and staff not greeting them in their preferred official language.

Strong and widespread satisfaction with the services provided by EC staff

Ninety-seven percent of voters were satisfied with the services provided by EC staff when they voted, including 83% who were very satisfied and 14% who were somewhat satisfied. Very few (3%) were dissatisfied. These proportions are similar to 2021 (97% satisfied, 85% very satisfied) and 2019 (98% satisfied, 85% very satisfied).

¹⁷ Respondents were considered members of an OLMC based on the province or territory they reside in and the language they speak most often at home. Those who speak primarily French and live outside Quebec are considered French OLMCs, and those who speak primarily English and live inside Quebec are considered English OLMCs.

Figure 49: Satisfaction with EC staff when voting



Q. Overall, how satisfied were you with the services provided by Elections Canada staff when you voted?

Base: n=26,088; those who said they voted in the federal election. [DK/NR: <0.5%]. [Wave 2]

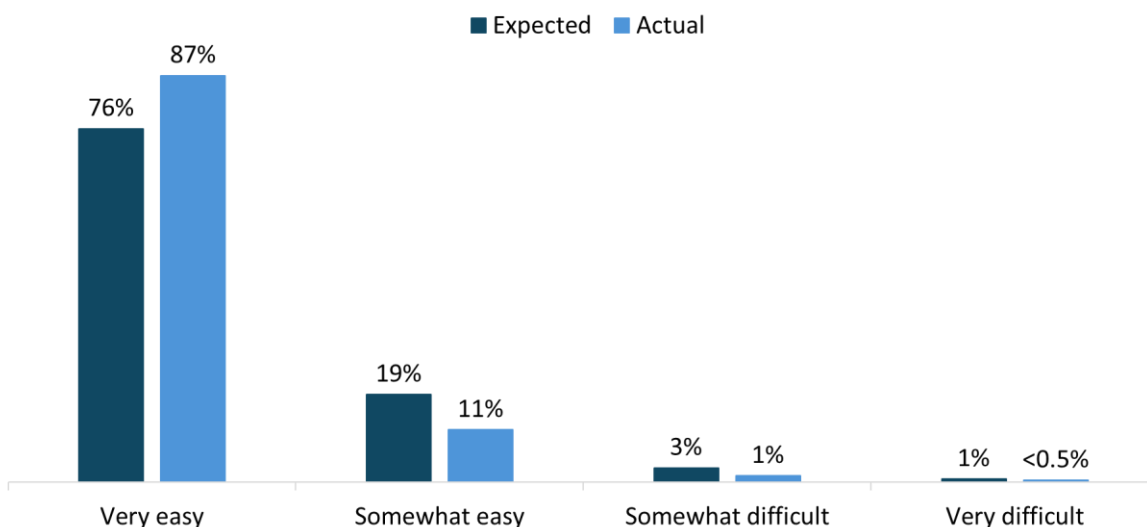
The following groups were *less* likely to have been very satisfied with the services provided by EC staff:

- electors in Quebec (79%) versus other regions of Canada (results range from 83% to 88%)
- electors with a very severe disability (74%) versus electors with a lower severity of disability or no disability (ranging from 83% of those with a severe disability to 84% of those with no disability)
- electors aged 18 to 34 (78%) and 35 to 54 (81%) compared with those 55 and older (87%)
- Indigenous (77%) and racialized electors (79%) compared with non-racialized electors (84%)
- those who voted at an advance poll (82%) compared with those who voted on election day (84%) or at a local EC office (87%).

Most voters found voting very easy, exceeding expectations

Among respondents to the election period survey, 76% anticipated it would be very easy to vote, and 19% expected it to be somewhat easy. Post-election, 87% of voters found it very easy to vote, and 11% said it was somewhat easy. This is consistent with previous elections: in 2021, 88% of voters found it was very easy to vote, and in 2019, 85% of voters found it very easy.

Figure 50: Ease of voting



Q. If you do vote, how easy or difficult do you think it would be to vote at the polling place? Base: n=34,996; those who intend to vote in the federal election. [DK/NR: 2%]. [Wave 1]

Q. Overall, how easy or difficult was it to vote? Base: n=26,870; those who said they voted in the federal election. [DK/NR: <0.5%]. [Wave 2]

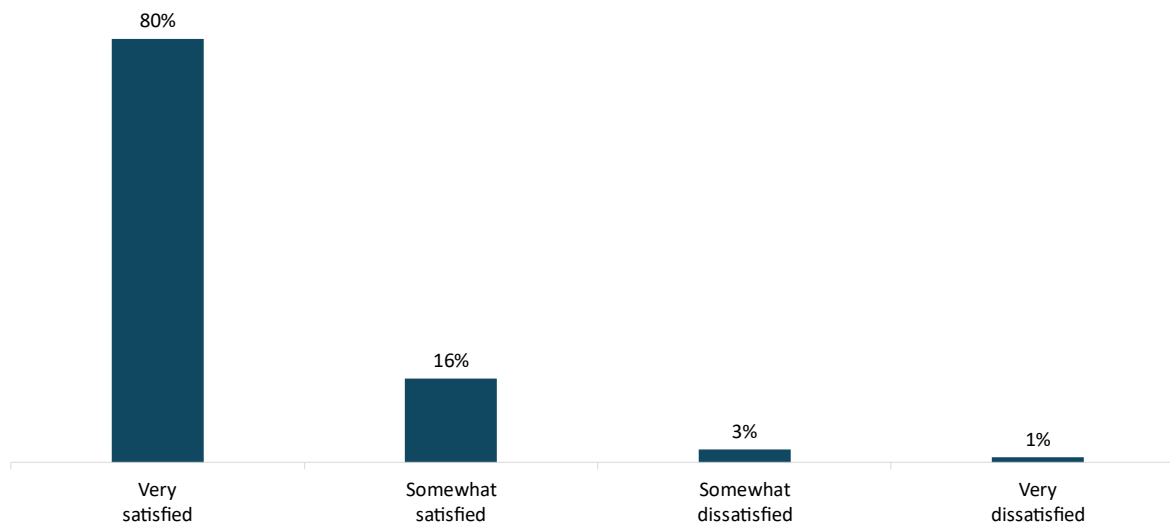
The following were *less* likely to find it very easy to vote:

- electors aged 18 to 34 (83%) compared with those aged 35 to 54 (87%) and 55 and older (90%)
- electors with a very severe disability (74%, versus 83% to 86% of those with a severe to mild disability and 89% of those with no disability)
- Indigenous (83%) and racialized electors (82%) compared with non-racialized electors (88%)
- new Canadians (83%) compared with immigrants who became citizens before the 2021 election (87%) and Canadians by birth (87%)
- those who voted by mail (75%) and on campus (78%) compared with those who voted at a local EC office (87%), an advance poll (87%), or on election day (88%)
- electors who expected voting would be difficult (54%) compared with those who expected it would be easy (86%)
- electors who did not recall EC's ads and communications (77%, versus 87% of those who did)
- those who did not receive a VIC (75%, versus 88% of those who did).

Vast majority were satisfied with their voting experience

More than nine in 10 voters (96%) were satisfied with their voting experience, including 80% who were very satisfied and 16% who were somewhat satisfied. Only 4% reported any level of dissatisfaction. These proportions are virtually identical to those in 2021 (96% satisfied, 80% very satisfied) and 2019 (97% satisfied, 80% very satisfied).

Figure 51: Satisfaction with voting experience



Q. Overall, how satisfied were you with your voting experience? Base: n=26,870; those who said they voted in the federal election. [DK/NR: <0.5%]. [Wave 2]

The following were *less* likely to be very satisfied with their voting experience:

- electors aged 18 to 34 (75%) and 35 to 54 (78%) compared with those 55 and older (84%)
- electors with a very severe or severe disability (75%) versus those with a mild or moderate disability (79%) or no disability (82%)
- Indigenous (75%) and racialized electors (76%) compared with 82% of non-racialized electors
- those who did not receive a VIC (69%, compared to 81% of those who did)
- those who voted by mail (74%) compared with those who voted at an advance poll (78%), on election day (82%), or at a local EC office (86%).

9. Electoral Integrity

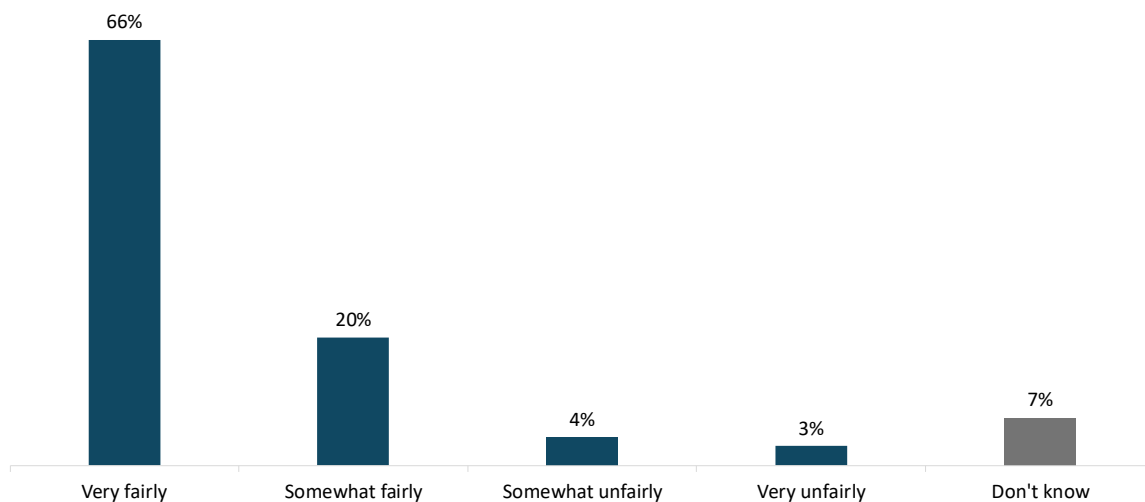
This section covers issues related to satisfaction with the administration of the democratic process in Canada.

9.1 Trust in the Integrity of the Election

Widespread impression that EC ran the election fairly

Most respondents (85%) said EC ran the April 28, 2025, federal election fairly, including 66% who believe EC ran it very fairly. Few (7%) said the election was run unfairly. The proportion who said EC ran the election very fairly declined compared with 70% in both 2019 and 2021.

Figure 52: Views on the fairness of the election



Q. Thinking about the April 28, 2025 federal election, how fairly would you say Elections Canada ran the election?
Base: n=30,358; all respondents. [Wave 2]

The following were *less* likely to say that the election was run very fairly:

- electors in Quebec (60%) compared with those in other regions of Canada (a range of 63% to 74%)
- electors with a very severe disability (44%, versus 60% to 67% of those with a severe to mild disability and 68% of those with no disability)
- Indigenous electors (56%, compared to 66% of non-Indigenous electors)
- First Nations electors living on reserve (45%) compared with First Nations electors not living on reserve (59%)
- new Canadians (59%, compared to 66% of Canadian-born electors and 67% of established immigrant electors)
- non-voters (28%, versus 71% of those who voted in 2025)

- NEET youth (50%, compared to 58% of youth working full-time and 62% of youth attending school).

The likelihood of saying the election was run very fairly was *higher* among:

- urban electors (67%, versus 62% of rural electors)
- those aged 55+ (75%, compared to 57% of 18-to-34-year-olds and 61% of 35-to-54-year-olds)
- university graduates (73%, versus 55% of those with high school or less education and 62% of those with some post-secondary or college education)
- those who recalled EC's ads and communications (69%, versus 43% of those who did not)
- those who received a VIC (68%, versus 47% of those who did not)
- electors interested in politics (69%, versus 45% of those not interested in politics).

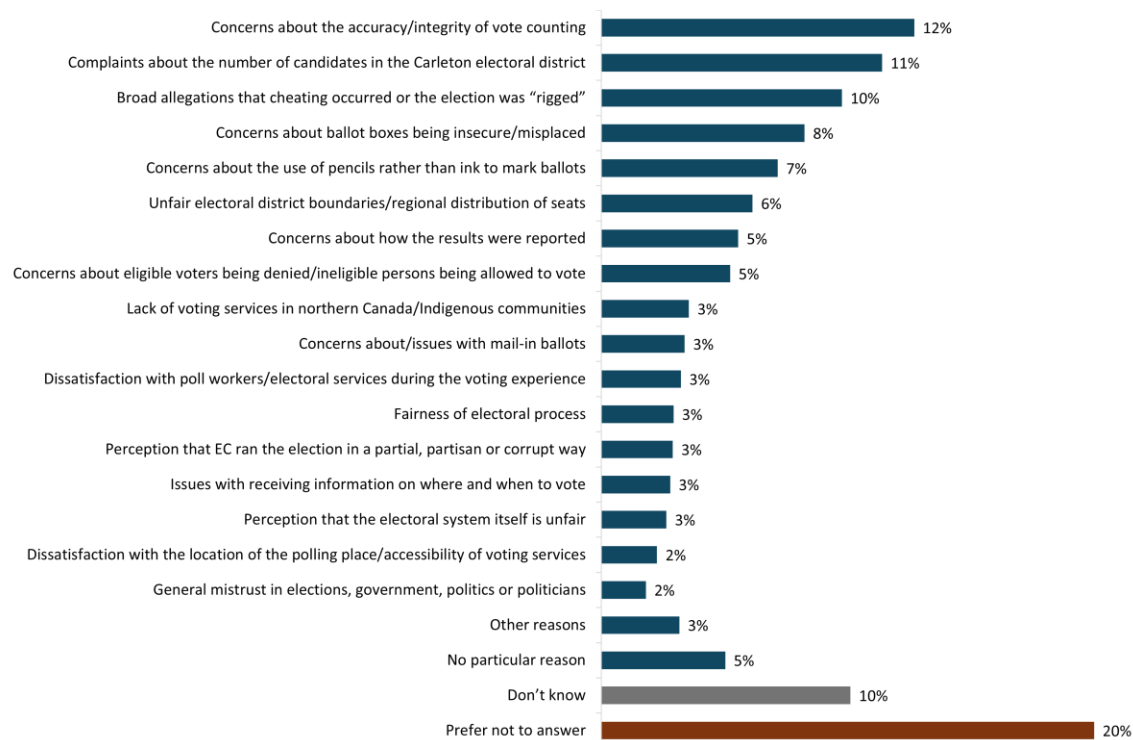
Concerns about vote counting and the “longest ballot” were the most common reasons why some thought the election was run unfairly

Among the 7% of respondents who thought the election was run unfairly, various reasons were mentioned for thinking this, though none with notable frequency. At the top of the list were concerns about the accuracy and integrity of vote counting (12%), complaints about the number of candidates¹⁸ on the ballot in the Carleton electoral district (11%), and broad allegations that cheating occurred or that the election was “rigged” (10%). In addition, 8% expressed concerns about ballot boxes being insecure, 7% about the use of pencils rather than ink to mark ballots, and 6% about the redistribution of electoral district boundaries or the distribution of seats across the country.

Other reasons were offered by 5% or fewer and can be found in Figure 53. Notably, just over a third offered no reason to explain why they think EC ran the election unfairly: 5% said they had no particular reason, 10% said they didn't know, and 20% preferred not to answer.

¹⁸ The ballot in the Carleton riding listed 91 candidates.

Figure 53: Reasons for thinking EC ran the election unfairly



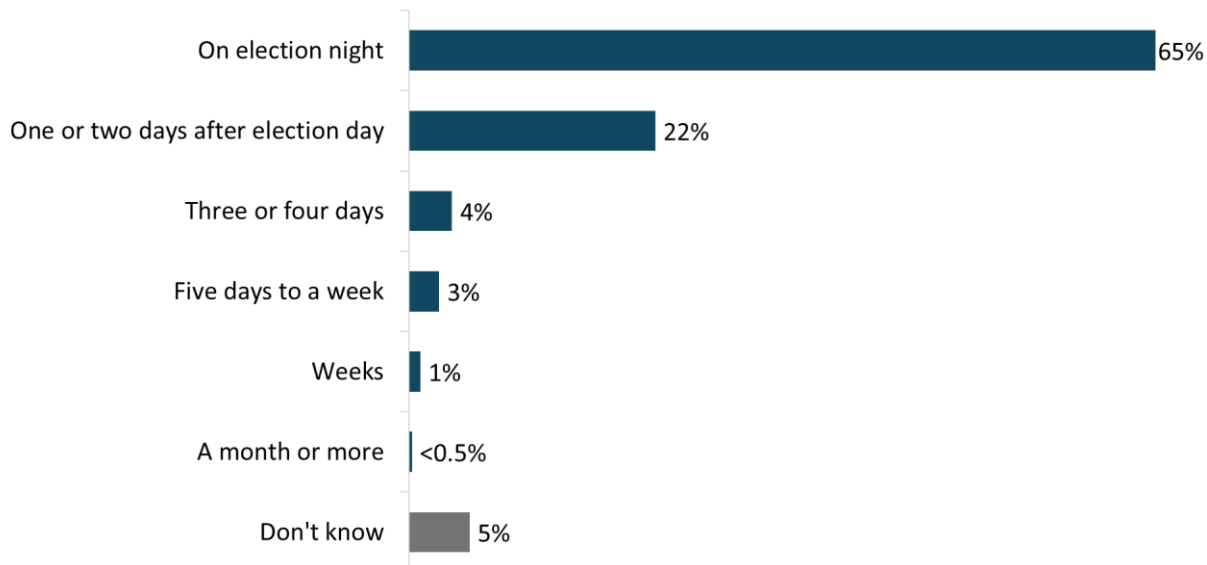
Q. Is there a specific reason why you think Elections Canada ran the election unfairly? [Multiple responses accepted]. Base: n=2,210; those who thought EC ran the election unfairly. [Wave 2].

Most expected ballots to be counted and results known on election night

In the election period survey, two-thirds of respondents (65%) expected all ballots would be counted and the results would be known on election night. Just over two in 10 (22%) expected results one or two days after election day, while fewer expected longer waits: 4% said three to four days, 3% said five days to a week, and 1% said several weeks. Almost no-one (<0.5%) thought it would take a month or more for the election results to be known, and 5% were unsure.

Expectations that the results would be known on election night were higher in 2025 (65%) than in 2021 (54%), when EC communicated that counting the ballots could take longer due to the COVID-19 pandemic.

Figure 54: Expectations for when election results would be known



Q. After the polls close on election day, when do you expect all the ballots will be counted and the election results will be known? Base: n=38,247; all respondents. [Wave 1]

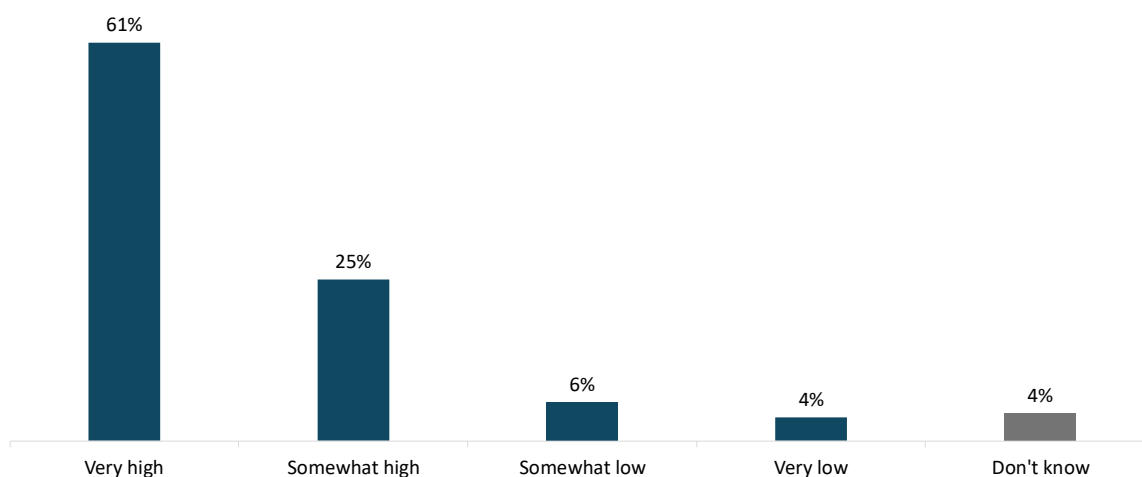
The following were *less* likely to expect the election results would be known on election night:

- those who were eligible but did not vote in 2021 (46%) compared with those who voted in 2021 (71%)
- electors in British Columbia (49%) compared with other regions of Canada (ranging from 60% in Alberta to 80% in Quebec)
- those aged 18 to 34 (47%, compared to 67% of those aged 35 to 54 and 75% of those aged 55 and older)
- those with a high school education or less (58%, compared to 66% of those with some post-secondary or college education and 69% of those who completed university)
- Indigenous electors (50%, compared to 66% of non-Indigenous electors).

Trust in the accuracy of the election results in their riding was widespread

Post-election, electors' confidence in the accuracy of the election results in their riding was strong, with 86% expressing a high level of trust, including 61% who had a very high level of trust. This marks a decline from 2021, when 72% reported a very high level of trust, but a return to the level from 2019 (61%).

Figure 55: Trust in accuracy of election results



Q. What level of trust do you have in the accuracy of the election results in your riding? Base: n=30,358; all respondents. [Wave 2]

The following were *less* likely to report a very high level of trust in the accuracy of results:

- electors from Quebec (55%, compared to all other regions, with a range of 61% in Alberta to 68% in the Atlantic provinces)
- 18-to-34-year-olds (53%) and 35-to-54-year-olds (57%) compared with 70% of those aged 55 and older
- electors with high school or less education (46%) and some post-secondary or college (57%) compared with 71% of those who completed university
- electors with a severe or very severe disability (50%, compared to 61% of those with a mild or moderate disability and 64% of those with no disability)
- Indigenous electors (51%, versus 62% of non-Indigenous electors)
- First Nations electors living on a reserve (38%, compared to 53% of First Nations electors not living on a reserve)
- new Canadians (52%, compared to 63% of established immigrant electors and 61% of electors born in Canada).

In addition, the likelihood of expressing a very high level of trust in the accuracy of results was *higher* among:

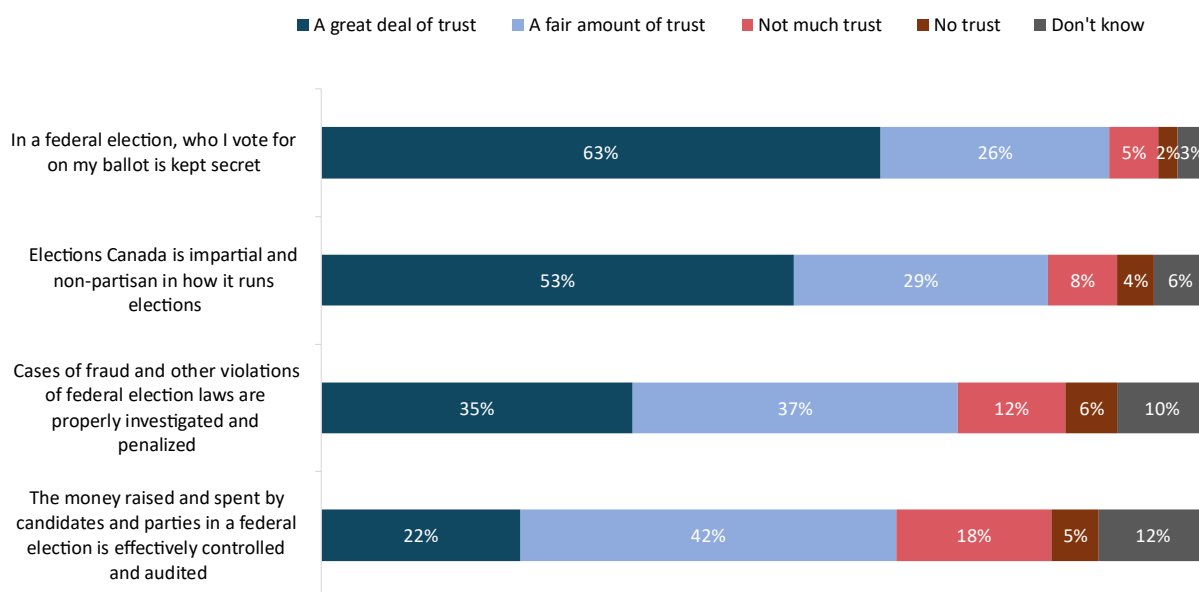
- those who expected the results to be known on election night (62%) or one or two days after (60%) compared with those who expected it would take longer (results range from 40% to 31%)
- those who voted in the 2025 GE (66%, versus 28% of non-voters)
- those interested in politics (66%, compared to 36% of those not interested in politics)
- those who view voting as a duty (67%, versus 44% of those who view it as a choice).

High trust in the secrecy of the ballot and EC's impartiality

Nearly nine in 10 electors (89%) had some amount of trust that their ballot is kept secret in a federal election, including more than six in 10 electors (63%) who said they have a great deal of trust and one-quarter (26%) who said they have a fair amount of trust. A large majority (82%) also trust that EC is impartial and non-partisan in how it runs elections, with 53% saying they have a great deal of trust and 29% saying they have a fair amount of trust.

Smaller majorities expressed confidence in other aspects of the electoral process. Under three-quarters (72%) said they trust that cases of fraud and violations of federal election laws are properly investigated (with 35% having a great deal of trust and 37% having a fair amount). Nearly two-thirds (65%) trust that party and candidate fundraising and spending are effectively controlled and audited (with 22% having a great deal of trust and 42% having a fair amount of trust). Nearly one-quarter (23%) have not much or no trust that party and candidate fundraising and spending are effectively controlled and audited.

Figure 56: Trust in election safeguards



Q. How much trust do you have that the following statements are true?... Base: n=30,358; all respondents. [Wave 2]

The following were *less* likely to trust that their ballot is kept secret:

- electors aged 18 to 34 (86%) and 35 to 54 (86%) compared with those aged 55 and older (93%)
- NEET youth (81%) compared with students (90%) and youth working full-time (87%)
- those with a high school or less education (82%) than those with some post-secondary or college (87%) or a university degree (93%)
- those with a severe or very severe disability (82%) versus those with a mild or moderate (89%) or no disability (91%)
- Indigenous electors (82%) compared with non-Indigenous electors (89%)

- non-voters (70%) compared with voters (92%).

The following were *less* likely to trust that EC is impartial and non-partisan:

- electors in Alberta (77%) compared with other regions of Canada (from 80% in Manitoba and Saskatchewan to 86% in Ontario)
- electors aged 18 to 34 (78%) and 35 to 54 (78%) compared with those aged 55 and older (87%)
- NEET youth (67%) compared with students (83%) and youth working full-time (79%)
- those with a high school or less education (72%) and some post-secondary or college (79%) compared with those who have completed university (88%)
- those with a severe or very severe disability (74%) versus those with a mild or moderate (81%) or no disability (84%)
- Indigenous electors (74%) compared with non-Indigenous electors (82%)
- non-voters (65%) compared with voters (86%).

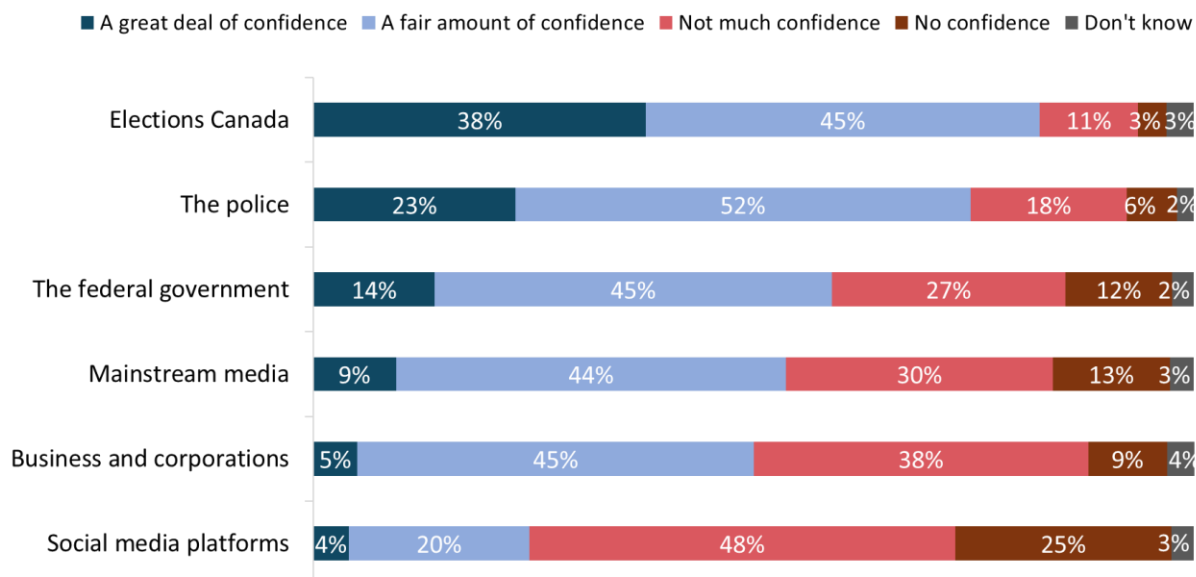
Confidence in EC was relatively high during the election period

Respondents were asked about their level of confidence in various institutions in Canada during the election period survey. Confidence was highest in EC: eight in 10 electors (83%, down from 86% during the 2021 election period) expressed confidence in EC, with 38% saying they have a great deal of confidence and 45% a fair amount. Confidence in the police was second highest (75%, similar to 74% in 2021), including 23% who have a great deal of confidence and 52% a fair amount.

Majorities expressed confidence in the federal government (59%), mainstream media (54%) and business and corporations (50%), although with diminishing proportions expressing a great deal of confidence (14%, 9%, and 5%, respectively).

Confidence was lowest in social media platforms, with only 24% expressing at least some confidence (4% a great deal, 20% a fair amount), while nearly three-quarters (73%) reported little or no confidence (48% not much, 25% none).

Figure 57: Confidence across institutions in Canada – election period



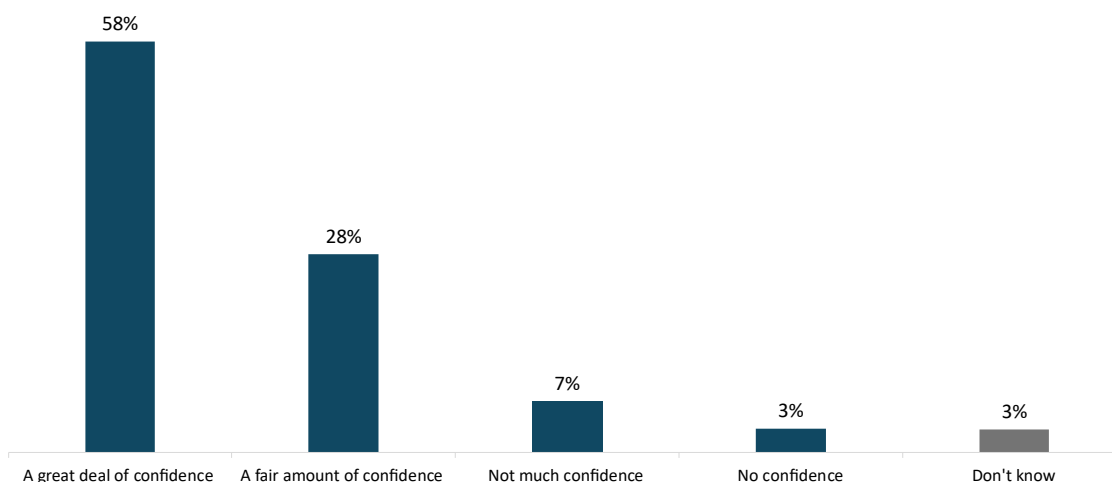
Q. How much confidence, if any, do you have in the following institutions in Canada?... Base: n=38,247; all respondents. [Wave 1]

A majority had a great deal of confidence in EC after the election

Among post-election survey respondents, nearly six in 10 (58%) said they had a great deal of confidence in EC, while just over one-quarter (28%) reported a fair amount of confidence. Few expressed lower levels, with 7% saying they did not have much confidence and 3% saying they had none. Notably, having a great deal of confidence in EC was higher among post-election survey respondents than it had been among election period respondents (38%).

Post-election confidence in EC declined compared with the 2021 election, when 66% of electors said they had a great deal of confidence, but returned to the 2019 level of 58%.

Figure 58: Confidence in Elections Canada – post-election



Q. Overall, how much confidence do you have in Elections Canada? Base: n=30,358; all respondents. [Wave 2]

Post-election, the following respondents were *less* likely to have a great deal of confidence in EC:

- electors in Quebec and Alberta (55% and 54%, respectively, compared to all other regions, with a range of 58% to 64%)
- 18-to-34-year-olds (50%, compared to 54% of 35-to-54-year-olds and 67% of those 55 and older)
- electors with high school or less education (44%) or some post-secondary or college (53%) compared with 68% of those who completed university
- electors with a disability (55%, versus 61% of those with no disability)
- Indigenous electors (47%) and racialized electors (53%) compared to 61% of non-racialized electors
- First Nations electors living on reserve (36%, compared to 51% of First Nations electors not living on reserve)
- NEET youth (42%, compared to 55% of youth attending school and 51% of youth working full-time)
- those who did not recall EC's ads (34%, versus 62% of those who did recall).

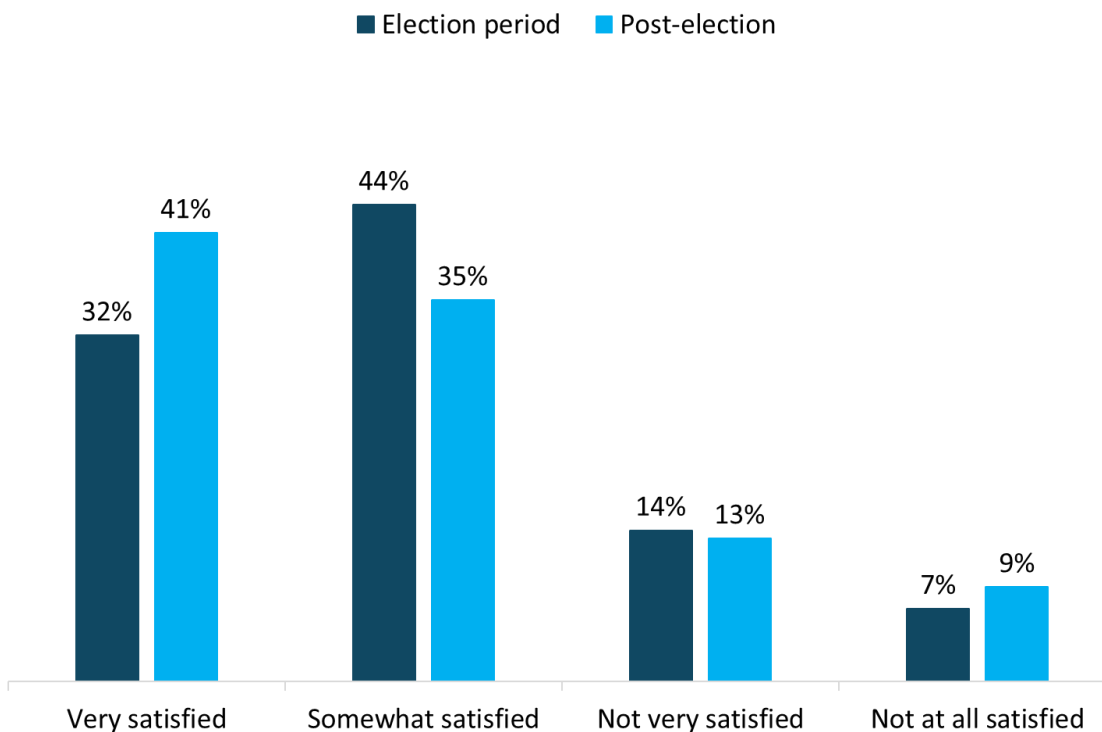
Moderate satisfaction with the way democracy works in Canada

Three-quarters of respondents (75%) during both the election period and the post-election surveys reported being at least somewhat satisfied with the way democracy works in Canada. However, those who said they were very satisfied was higher during the post-election survey (41%, compared to 32% during the election period survey).

Satisfaction with the way democracy works in Canada has increased since 2021, when 70% of post-election respondents reported being at least somewhat satisfied. The current level of satisfaction is only slightly below 2019, when 78% were somewhat or very satisfied with the way democracy works in

Canada. Notably, the proportion of electors who are very satisfied has increased steadily, from 33% in 2019 to 36% in 2021 and 41% in 2025.

Figure 59: Satisfaction with the way democracy works in Canada



Q. Overall, how satisfied are you with the way democracy works in Canada? Base: all respondents.
Base: n=38,247. [DK/NR: 4%]. [Wave 1]. Base: n=30,358. [DK/NR: 3%]. [Wave 2]

Among post-election survey respondents, those *less* likely to express satisfaction with the way democracy works in Canada include:

- electors from Alberta (65%, compared to all other regions, with a range of 73% to 81%)
- non-voters (61%) compared with voters (78%)
- non-binary and transgender electors (58%, compared to 75% of men and 77% of women)
- 18-to-54-year-olds (70%, compared to 83% of those aged 55+)
- those with high school or less education (70%, compared to 72% of those with some post-secondary or college and 80% of university graduates)
- electors with a disability (71%, versus 79% of those with no disability)
- those born in Canada (75%, compared to 82% of new Canadians and 80% of those who became citizens before the 2021 GE)
- Indigenous electors (67%, compared to 76% of non-Indigenous electors)
- NEET youth (58%, compared to 70% of youth working full-time and 75% of youth attending school).

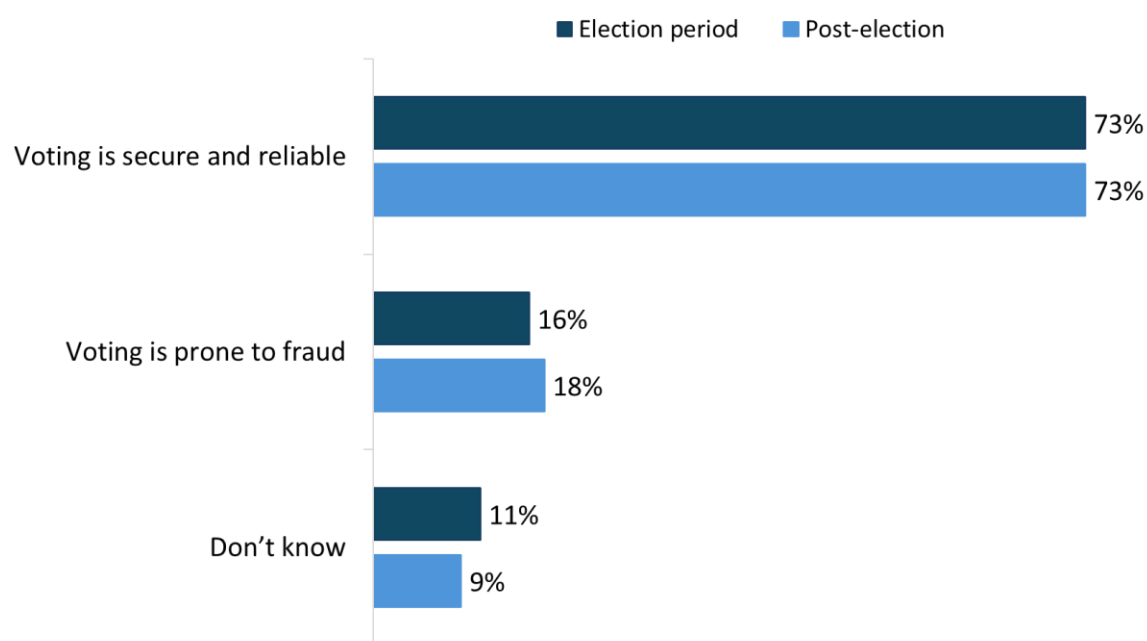
9.2 Concerns About Voter Fraud

Most believe voting in Canada is secure and reliable

Nearly three-quarters of respondents (73%) during both the election period and the post-election surveys said voting in Canada is secure and reliable. Post-election, 18% felt voting is prone to fraud, up marginally from 16% during the election period survey. The rest were unsure (9% during the post-election survey and 11% during the election period).

Compared to 2021, more post-election survey respondents saw voting as prone to fraud (18% in 2025 versus 10% in 2021), and fewer considered it secure and reliable (73% versus 84%).

Figure 60: Opinions on the integrity of the voting system



Q. Which statement is closest to your opinion about the voting system in Canada? Base: n=18,968; a split sample of respondents from the longitudinal sample. [DK/NR: 11%]. [Wave 1]

Q. Which statement is closest to your opinion about the voting system in Canada? Base: n=9,624; a split sample of respondents from the longitudinal sample. [DK/NR: 9%]. [Wave 2]

Post-election, the following were *less* likely to say voting is secure and reliable:

- electors from Alberta (69%, compared to all other regions, with a range of 72% to 76%)
- 18-to-34-year-olds (68%) and 35-to-54-year-olds (69%) compared to 80% of those aged 55 and older
- those with a high school or less education (64%, compared to 70% of those with some post-secondary or college and 80% of those who completed university)
- electors with a disability (69%, versus 76% of those with no disability).

Additionally, the following groups of post-election respondents were *more* likely to say voting is secure and reliable:

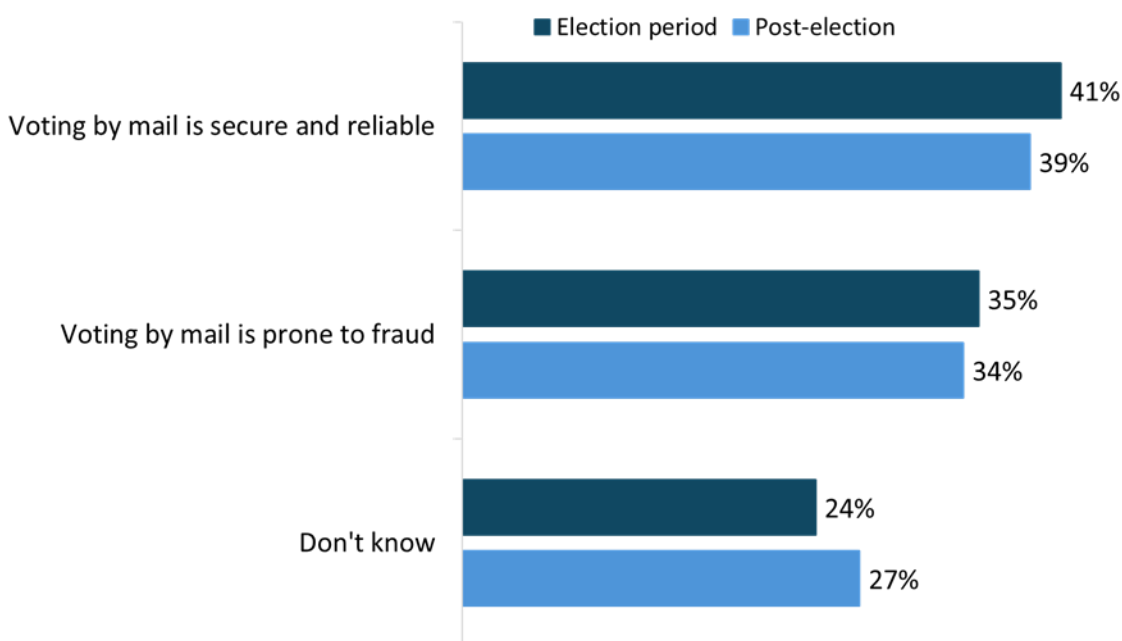
- youth attending school (73%, compared to 62% of NEET youth and 67% of youth working full-time)
- those who recalled EC's ads and communications (77%, versus 57% of those who did not)
- those who voted in the 2025 GE (77%, versus 53% of those who did not vote)
- those interested in politics (76%, versus 60% of those who are not interested).

Divided views on security of voting by mail

Respondents were divided on whether voting by mail is secure or prone to fraud. In the post-election survey, four in 10 (39%) said voting by mail is secure and reliable, while one-third (34%) believed it is prone to fraud, and over one-quarter (27%) said they did not know. These proportions are similar to the election period survey, when 41% considered it secure, 35% thought it was prone to fraud, and 24% said they did not know.

Compared with after the 2021 election, views of voting by mail are less positive. Concerns about fraud have grown (34% in 2025 versus 23% in 2021), while confidence in its security has declined (39% in 2025 versus 59% in 2021).

Figure 61: Opinions on the integrity of voting by mail



Q. Which statement is closest to your opinion about voting by mail in Canada? Base: n=19,279; a split sample of respondents from the longitudinal sample. [DK/NR: 24%]. [Wave 1]

Q. Which statement is closest to your opinion about voting by mail in Canada? Base: n=9,632; a split sample of respondents from the longitudinal sample. [DK/NR: 27%]. [Wave 2]

Among post-election survey respondents, the following were *less* likely to say voting by mail is secure and reliable:

- electors from Quebec (29% compared to all other regions, with a range of 37% in Alberta to 50% in British Columbia)
- women (35%, versus 44% of men)
- those with high school or less education (31%) and those with some post-secondary or college (35%) compared with 46% of university graduates)
- electors with a disability (37%, versus 41% of those with no disability)
- non-voters (30%, versus 41% of voters).

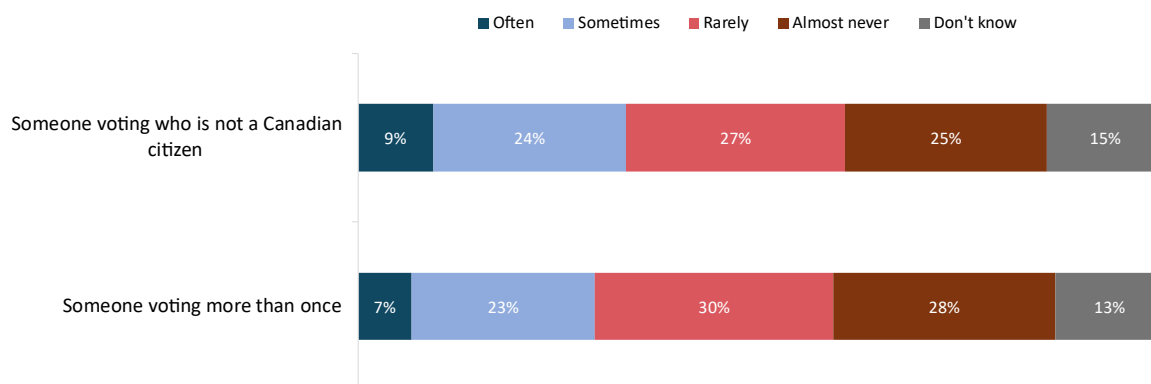
Additionally, the following groups of post-election survey respondents were *more* likely to say voting by mail is secure and reliable:

- youth attending school (43%, compared to 36% of youth working full-time)
- those who recalled EC's ads and communications (42%, versus 27% of those who did not)
- those who voted in the 2025 GE (41%, versus 30% of those who did not vote)
- those who voted by mail (84%, versus 47% of those who voted at a local EC office, 41% who voted in advance, and 37% who voted on election day)
- those who are interested in politics (43%, versus 25% of those who are not interested).

A third of electors think voter fraud occurs at least some of the time

When asked about how often they think specific types of voter fraud happen in Canadian federal elections, relatively few electors said they believe that non-citizens voting (9%) or someone voting more than once (7%) occur often. About one-quarter thought these types of fraud happen sometimes (24% and 23%, respectively). In contrast, most respondents believed that non-citizens casting a ballot or someone voting more than once happens rarely (27% and 30%, respectively) or almost never (25% and 28%, respectively).

Figure 62: Perceptions of the frequency of voter fraud



Q. How often do you think the following types of voter fraud happen in Canadian federal elections?...

Base: n=19,256; all respondents from the longitudinal sample. [Wave 2]

The following subgroup differences were noteworthy:

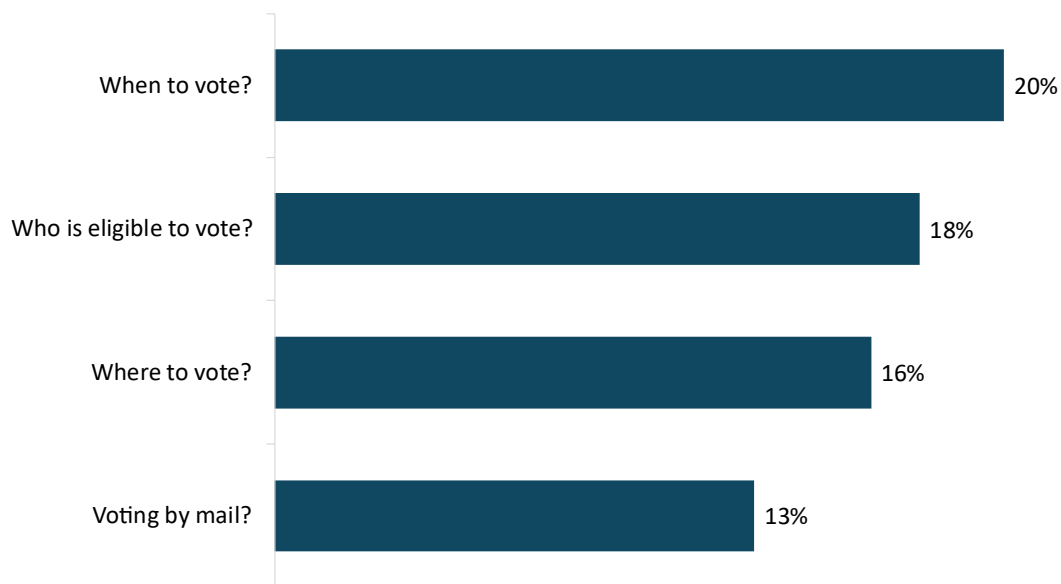
- As age increased, the likelihood of saying that voter fraud occurs often or sometimes decreased: from 37% of 18-to-34-year-olds to 29% of those 55 and older saying that non-Canadian citizens sometimes or often vote, and from 36% of 18-to-34-year-olds to 23% of electors 55 and older saying that someone voting more than once happens sometimes or often.
- Electors with a disability and Indigenous electors were *more* likely to say both types of voter fraud occur often or sometimes.
- Those who recalled EC's ads and communications were *less* likely to say either type of voter fraud occurs often or sometimes (32% versus 39%, respectively, for non-Canadians voting, and 28% versus 37%, respectively, for voting more than once).

9.3 Concerns about Electoral Interference

A quarter recalled seeing or hearing false information about voting during the election campaign

In the election period survey, one-quarter of respondents (25%) recalled seeing or hearing some kind of false information about voting since the beginning of the campaign. Most often, electors recalled seeing false information about when to vote (20%), followed by who is eligible to vote (18%) and where to vote (16%). Reported by 13% of electors, false information about voting by mail was least common.

Figure 63: Recall of false information about voting



Q. Since the beginning of the election campaign, do you recall seeing or hearing any false information about...?

Base: n=38,247; all respondents. [Wave 1]

The following groups were *more* likely to recall some kind of false information about voting during the election period:

- electors aged 18 to 34 (38%, versus 28% of 35-to-54-year-olds and 16% of those aged 55+)
- Indigenous electors (39%, versus 25% of non-Indigenous electors)
- First Nations electors living on reserve (72%) versus First Nations electors not living on reserve (36%)
- new Canadians (45%) compared with immigrants who became citizens before the 2021 election (30%) and Canadians by birth (24%)
- electors with a severe or very severe (32%) disability compared to those with a mild or moderate disability (24%) or no disability (25%)
- those who feel strongly (34%) and somewhat (27%) polarized politically compared with those who do not (20%).

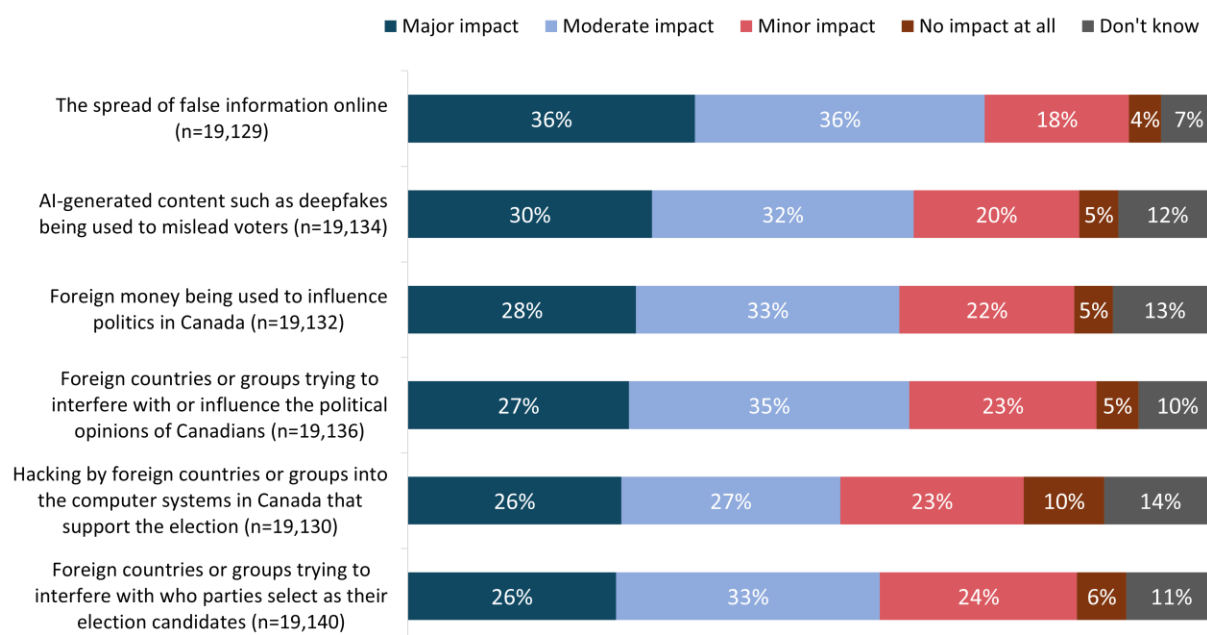
False information online was seen as having the greatest potential impact on the election, while fewer were concerned about potential hacking into election systems

In the election period survey, respondents expressed concern about a range of potential threats to the outcome of the 45th GE. Based on what they had seen or heard, over seven in 10 (72%) electors thought the spread of false information online could have a moderate (36%) or major (36%) impact on the election. This is consistent with concerns during the 2021 election period, when 71% thought false information could have a moderate or greater impact, including 37% who thought it could have a major impact.

About six in 10 thought that artificial intelligence (AI)-generated content designed to mislead voters (62%), foreign countries or groups influencing the political opinion of Canadians (62%), foreign money (61%), and foreign countries or groups interfering with candidate selection (59%) could have a moderate or major impact on the outcome of the election.

Slightly more than half the electors surveyed expressed concerns that hacking by foreign countries or groups into the computer systems in Canada that support the election could have a moderate (27%) or major (26%) impact on the outcome of the election. Among the rest, one-third thought this could have a minor impact (23%) or no impact at all (10%), while 14% were unsure.

Figure 64: Perceived potential impact of threats to election



Q. Based on what you have seen or heard recently, what impact, if any, do you think the following could have on the outcome of the election? Base: a split sample of all respondents, with each respondent presented [with] 3 of 6 items. [Wave 1]

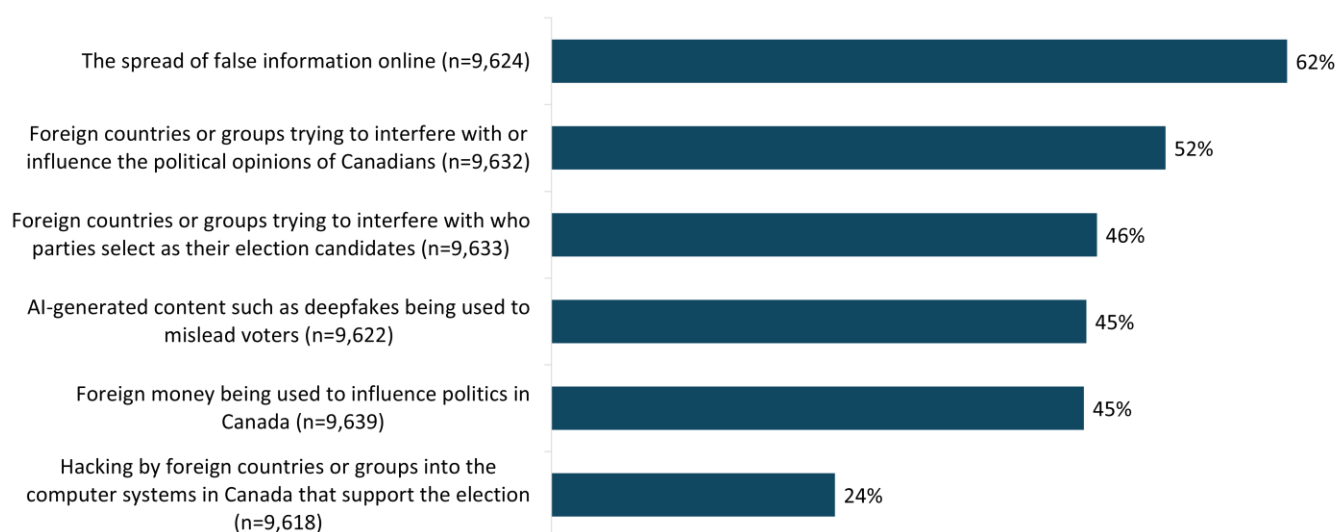
Moderate concern about different types of electoral interference

In the post-election survey, six in 10 respondents (62%) thought the spread of false information online was a problem in the 2025 election, based on what they had seen or heard recently. This represents an increase compared with the 2021 election, when 52% of respondents thought the spread of false information online had been a problem in that election.

Just over half (52%) thought foreign countries or groups trying to interfere with or influence the political opinions of Canadians had been a problem in the 2025 election, double the proportion from the 2021 election (25%).

More than four in 10 identified foreign interference with candidate selection (46%), AI-generated content such as deepfakes (45%), and the use of foreign money to influence Canadian politics (45%) as having been problems in this election. Fewer respondents (24%) considered the hacking of Canadian election-related computer systems by foreign countries or groups to have been an issue. Comparisons to the 2021 election are not available for these results.

Figure 65: Perceptions of electoral interference being a problem in the election



Q. Based on what you have seen or heard recently, do you think any of the following were a problem in this election?... Base: all respondents from the longitudinal sample; each respondent was presented [with] 3 of 6 items. [Wave 2]

The following were *less* likely to think the spread of false information online had been a problem in the election:

- electors in Quebec (53%) compared with other regions of Canada (a range of 63% to 69%)
- women (60%) compared with men (65%)
- electors aged 55 and older (58%) compared with those aged 18 to 34 (67%) and 35 to 54 (64%)
- those with a high school or less education (53%) compared with those with some post-secondary or college (62%) or those with a university degree (66%).

The following were *less* likely to think foreign countries or groups trying to interfere with the political opinions of Canadians had been a problem in the election:

- women (47%) compared with men (58%)
- those with a high school or less education (43%) compared with those with some post-secondary or college (52%) or those with a university degree (55%)
- new Canadians (48%) and established immigrant electors (44%) compared with Canadians by birth (53%)
- electors aged 18 to 24 (46%) versus those aged 25 to 34 (52%) or 35 and older (53%).

A third saw problems of false information as having a moderate impact or more on the election outcome

In the post-election survey, respondents were asked what actual impact, if any, they thought problems of electoral interference had on the outcome of the election.¹⁹

Over a third (36%) of respondents ultimately thought that problems of false information had a major (12%) or moderate (23%) impact on the outcome of the 2025 election, followed by 29% who thought problems of foreign influence had a major (11%) or moderate (19%) impact.

A quarter each thought that problems of interference in candidate nominations (26%), misleading AI-generated content (25%), and foreign funding (25%) had a moderate impact or more on the election outcome, while only 15% thought problems of foreign hacking had a moderate impact or more.

Figure 66: Perceived impact of problems of electoral interference on the election outcome

	Major impact	Moderate impact	Minor impact	No impact at all	Don't know	Did not think it was a problem
Problems of false information (n=9,624)	12%	23%	19%	4%	4%	38%
Problems of foreign influence (n=9,632)	11%	19%	17%	3%	2%	48%
Foreign interference with who parties selected as their candidates (n=9,633)	10%	17%	15%	2%	3%	54%
Misleading AI-generated content (n=9,622)	8%	17%	16%	2%	3%	55%
Problems of foreign funding (n=9,639)	9%	16%	15%	2%	3%	55%
Problems of foreign hacking (n=9,618)	6%	9%	6%	1%	1%	76%

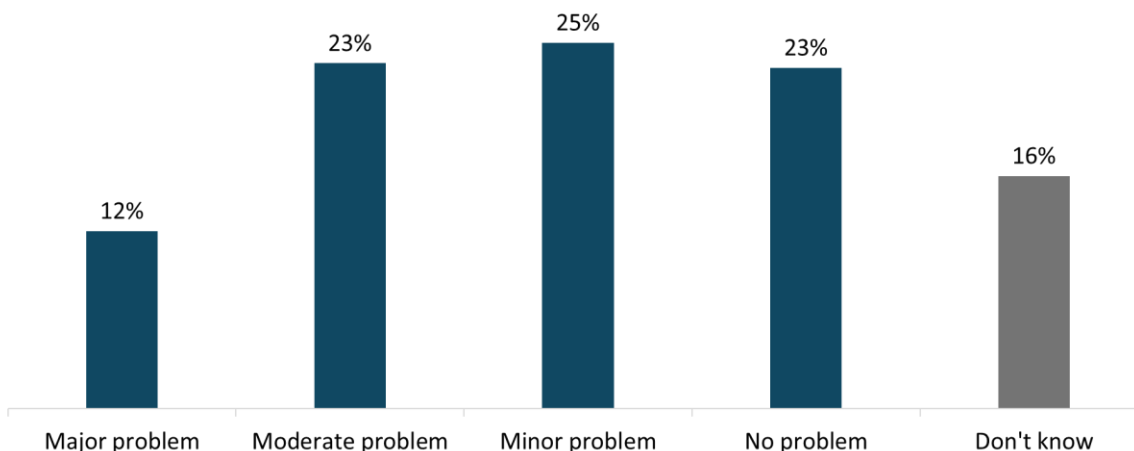
Q. What impact, if any, do you think... had on the outcome of this election?... Base: all respondents from the longitudinal sample; each respondent was presented [with] 3 of 6 items. [DK/NR: 1%]. [Wave 2]

Over a third think foreign intimidation in their community is at least a moderate problem

When asked whether electors thought there is a problem in their community with foreign governments or groups trying to intimidate Canadians to vote a certain way, or not to vote, over a third (35%) said this is a major (12%) or moderate (23%) problem. A quarter (25%) felt it is a minor problem, 23% said it is not a problem, and 16% did not know.

¹⁹ Only respondents who said they thought there had been a problem with electoral interference were asked what impact they thought that problem had on the outcome of the election. To allow for comparison of the results across the different forms of electoral interference, the results were re-based to include electors who did not think the interference had been a problem in the election.

Figure 67: Perceived voter intimidation by foreign governments or groups



Q. To what extent do you think there is a problem in your community with foreign governments or groups trying to intimidate Canadians to vote a certain way, or to not vote? Base: n=30,358; all respondents; 2% preferred not to respond. [Wave 2]

The following were *more* likely to think there is a major problem in their community with foreign governments or groups trying to intimidate Canadians to vote a certain way or to not vote:

- men (14%, versus 10% of women)
- electors with a disability (13%, versus 11% of those with no disability)
- Indigenous electors (16%, compared to 12% of non-Indigenous electors)
- those who are interested in politics (13%) versus those who are not (7%)
- those who feel strongly polarized politically (18%) versus those feel somewhat (11%) or not polarized (10%).

Conversely, the following were *less* likely to think intimidation is a major problem:

- electors from Quebec and Atlantic Canada (9% each, compared to all other regions, with a range of 13% to 14%)
- those aged 55 and older (10%, compared to 14% each of 18-to-34-year-olds and 35-to-54-year-olds)
- university graduates (11%, versus 13% each of those who have high school or less education and some post-secondary or college education).

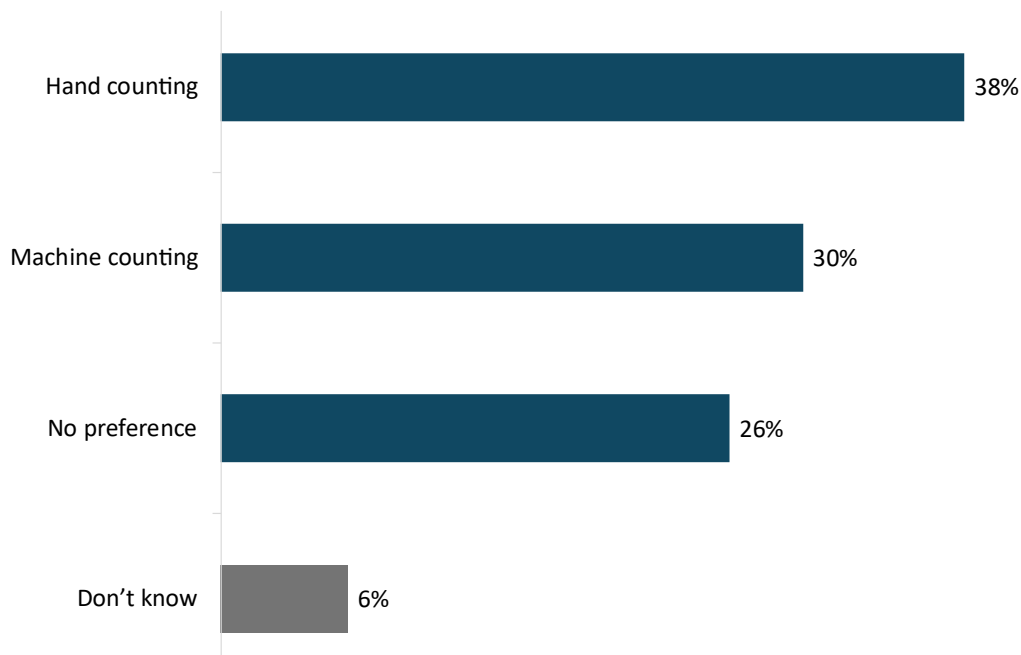
10. Voting Technology and Political Communications

This section discusses electors' views on election-related policy issues concerning the potential use of technology in elections, protection of electors' personal information, and being contacted by political parties.

Electors had mixed views on the preferred methods for counting ballots

Nearly four in 10 (38%) respondents said they preferred hand counting (up from 34% in 2021, but similar to 37% in 2019), while 30% favoured machine counting (up from 26% in 2021 and 27% in 2019). Another 26% had no preference, while 6% said they did not know. Notably, the proportion of electors with no preference is lower now than it was following the elections in 2021 (37%) and 2019 (30%).

Figure 68: Preferred ballot counting method



Q. In Canadian federal elections, each paper ballot is counted by hand. In some provincial elections, paper ballots are scanned into a machine that counts the votes. Which vote counting method do you prefer? Base: n=9,619; a split sample of respondents from the longitudinal sample. [Wave 2]

The likelihood of preferring **hand counting** was higher among:

- rural electors (48%, versus 37% of urban electors)
- men (40%, compared to 36% of women)
- electors with a disability (40%, versus 37% of those without a disability)
- Indigenous electors (45%, versus 38% of non-Indigenous electors)
- Canadian-born electors (39%, compared to 29% of new Canadians and 33% of established immigrant electors)

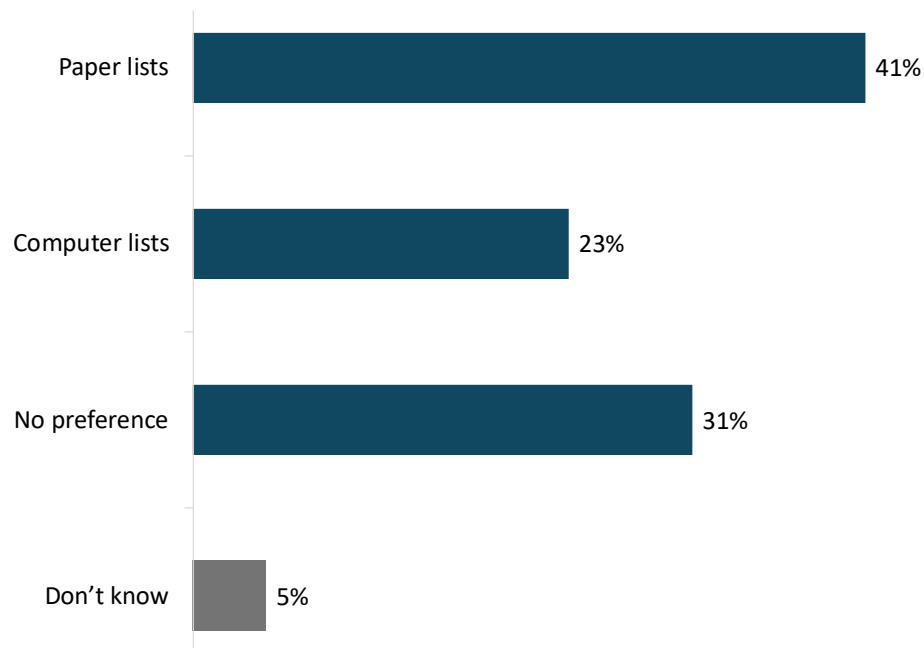
- those who feel strongly polarized politically (44%) compared with those who feel somewhat (39%) or not polarized (34%).

The likelihood of preferring **machine counting** was higher among electors from Ontario (36%, compared to all other regions, with a range of 23% to 30%), university graduates (35%, versus 25% of those with high school or less education, and 26% of those with some post-secondary or college education).

More electors favour paper lists than computer lists

Electors' views were mixed on whether they prefer paper or computer lists for keeping track of who has voted at the polls. Forty-one percent preferred paper lists for keeping track, while close to one-quarter (23%) preferred computer lists. About one-third (31%) had no preference, and 5% said they did not know. Support for paper lists increased since the 2021 election, when 35% of electors said they preferred this method, but only returning to the 2019 level (41%). Support for computer lists has remained relatively stable: 20% in 2019 and 23% in both 2021 and 2025.

Figure 69: Preferred method for keeping lists of electors at the polls



Q. In Canadian federal elections, workers at the polls use paper lists to see if an elector's name is on the list and to mark them off after they vote. In some provincial elections, poll workers use computers or tablets to electronically look up and mark off electors' names. Which method do you prefer? Base: n=9,637; a split sample of respondents from the longitudinal sample. [Wave 2]

A preference for **paper lists** was higher among the following groups of electors:

- rural electors (50%) compared with urban electors (40%)
- those with a high school or less education (47%) and some post-secondary or college education (43%) versus 38% of university graduates
- electors with a disability (44%, compared to 40% of those with no disability)

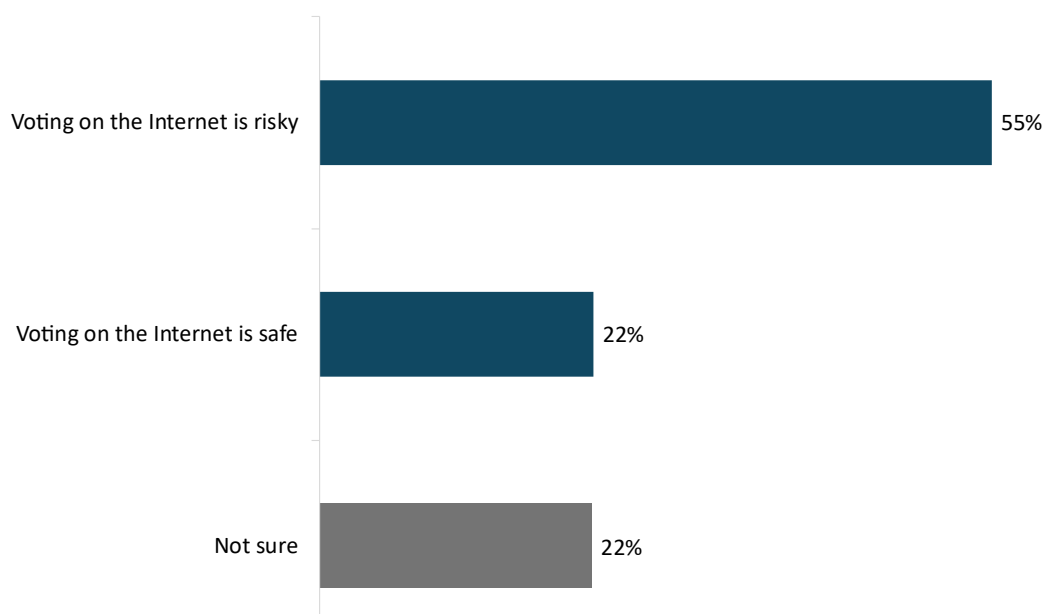
- Canadian-born electors (43%, compared to 35% of new Canadians and 34% of established immigrants).

Younger electors were more likely to prefer **computer lists**: 27% of 18-to-34-year-olds and 24% of 35-to-54-year-olds versus 19% of those 55 and older.

The majority view Internet voting as risky

Respondents were asked whether they consider voting on the Internet to be risky or safe. The majority (55%) said it is risky, up from 53% in 2021 and 49% in 2019. Two in 10 (22%) had the view that voting on the Internet is safe, while a similar share (22%) was unsure.

Figure 70: Views on voting on the Internet as risky versus safe



Q. Which statement comes closest to your own view? Base: n=9,625; a split sample of respondents from the longitudinal sample. [Wave 2]

The following were *more* likely to hold the view that **voting on the Internet is risky**:

- those from Alberta (62%, compared to all other regions, with a range of 50% to 56%)
- 18-to-34-year-olds (58%, compared to 54% of those aged 55 and older)
- electors who have a disability (57%, versus 54% of those who do not have a disability)
- voters (57%) compared with non-voters (46%).

The following were *more* likely to view **voting on the Internet as safe**:

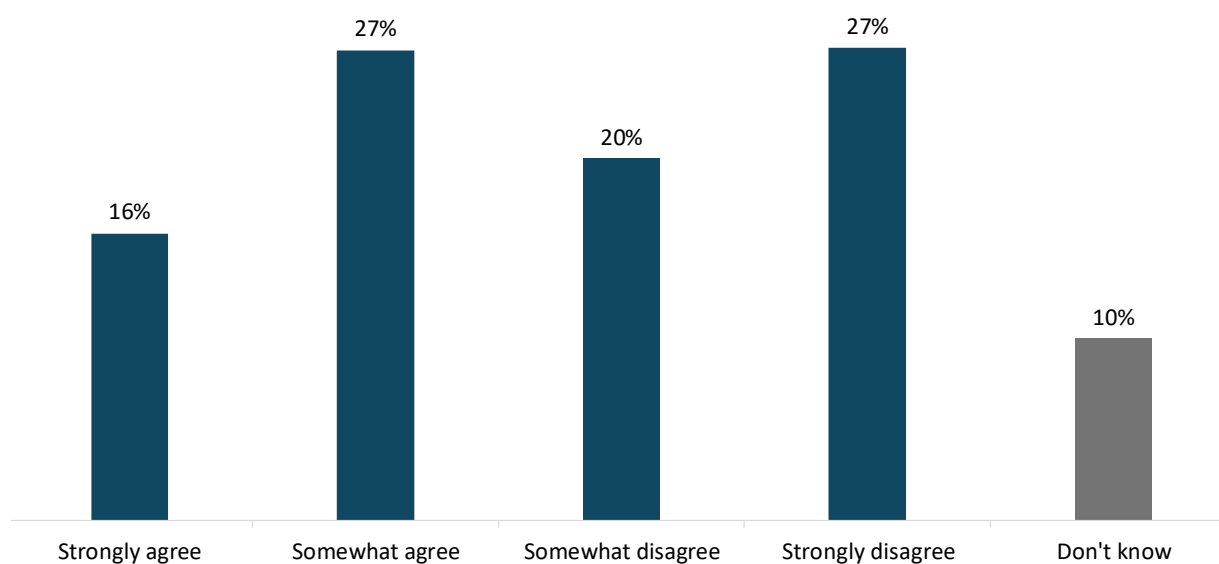
- men (25%, versus 20% of women)
- university graduates (25%, compared to 20% of those with high school or less education and 21% of those with some post-secondary or college)

- new Canadians (29%, compared to 22% of Canadian-born electors)
- youth working full-time (25%, versus 16% of NEET youth and 18% of youth attending school).

Opinion divided on Internet voting as an option

Respondents were divided on whether Canadians should have the option to vote over the Internet in federal elections. Approximately four in 10 (43%) agreed, either somewhat (27%) or strongly (16%), while closer to half (47%) disagreed somewhat (20%) or strongly (27%) that it should be an option. One in 10 (10%) said they did not know. Overall support for voting over the Internet has not changed since the 2021 election, though strong support has declined, from 20% to 16% in 2025.

Figure 71: Views on whether voting over the Internet should be an option in federal elections



Q. How strongly do you agree or disagree that Canadians should have the option to vote over the Internet in federal elections? Base: n=9,631; a split sample of respondents from the longitudinal sample. [Wave 2]

The following were *more* likely to agree that voting over the Internet should be an option in federal elections:

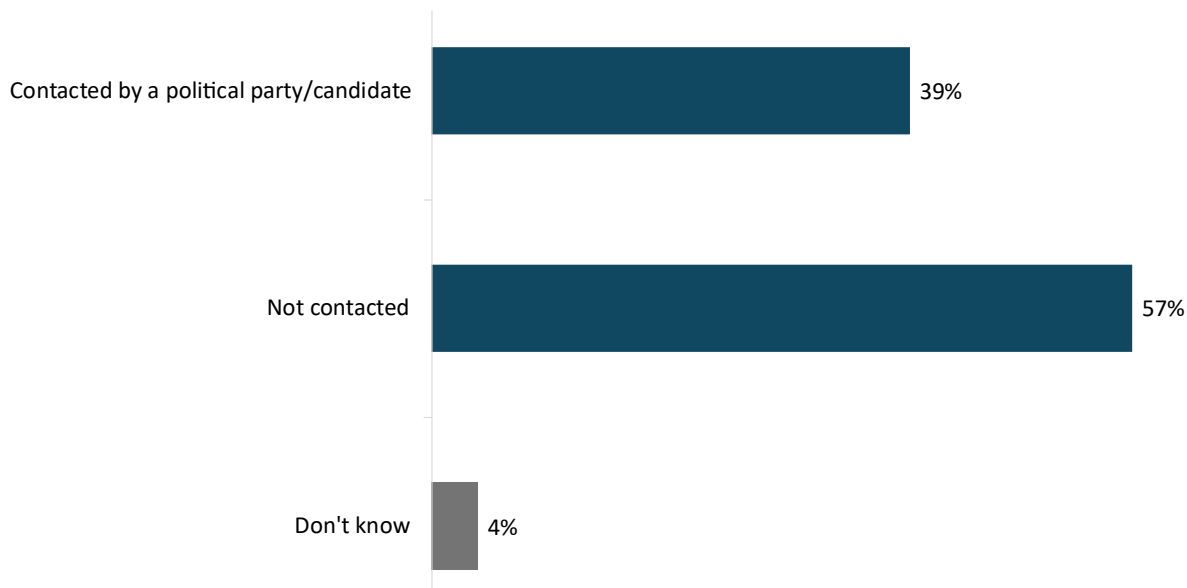
- urban electors (44%, versus 36% of rural electors)
- men (45%, versus 41% of women)
- 18-to-34-year-olds (46%) and 35-to-54-year-olds (47%) versus 37% of those 55 and older
- new Canadians (65%) and established immigrants (49%) versus 41% of Canadian-born electors
- those who voted by mail (51%) compared with those who voted on election day (43%), at an advance poll (39%), or at a local EC office (33%)
- non-voters (55%) versus voters (41%)
- those who did not vote due to everyday life reasons (63%) as opposed to political reasons (55%) or electoral process–related reasons (51%)

- those who view voting as a choice (49%) compared with those who view it as a duty (41%).

Most respondents said they were not contacted by a political party or candidate

More than half of surveyed electors (57%) said they were not contacted by a political party or candidate during the election. In contrast, 39% reported being contacted; this represents a substantial decline from previous elections: 54% in 2019 and 57% in 2021 said they were contacted by a political party or candidate.

Figure 72: Contact by political party or candidate during the election



Q. During the election, were you directly contacted by a political party or candidate? Base: n=19,256; all respondents from the longitudinal sample. [Wave 2]

The following were *less* likely to say they were contacted by a political party or candidate:

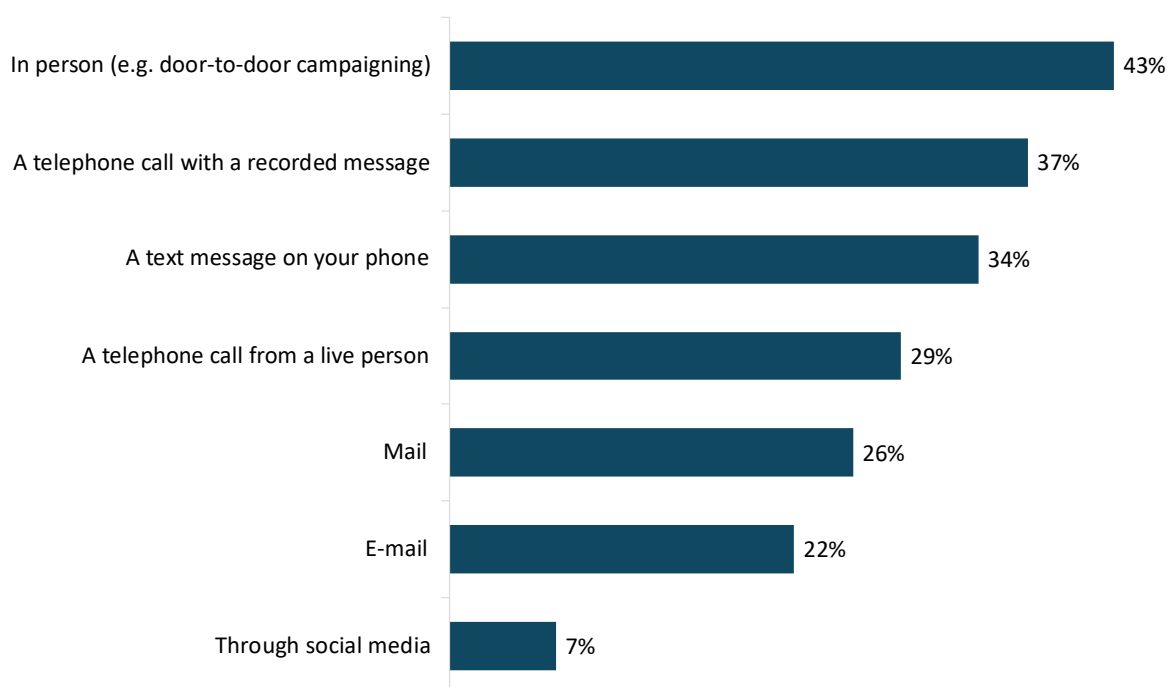
- residents of Quebec (26%, compared to all other regions of Canada, with a range of 36% to 46%)
- rural electors (33%) compared with urban electors (40%)
- 18-to-34-year-olds (29%, compared to 35% of 35-to-54-year-olds and 49% of those 55 and older)
- electors with high school or less education (32%, versus 38% of those with some post-secondary or college education and 43% of those who completed university)
- new Canadians (26%, compared to 39% of established immigrants and 40% of those born in Canada)
- non-voters in 2025 (25%, versus 42% of voters) and non-voters who were eligible to vote in 2021 (23%, versus 43% of voters in 2021).

In-person contact is again the top method used by political parties and candidates

Electors who were directly contacted by a political party or candidate reported being reached through a variety of means. Four in 10 respondents (43%) said they were contacted by a political party or candidate in person, such as door-to-door campaigning, recovering to a level similar to the 2019 election (44%) after dropping to 33% in 2021 during the COVID-19 pandemic.

Thirty-seven percent received a telephone call with a recorded message (up from 27% in 2021) and 34% a text message on their phone (compared to 32% in 2021). One in three (29%, unchanged from 2021) received a telephone call from a live person, one-quarter (26%, down from 30%) were contacted by mail, and two in 10 (22%, down from 25%) received e-mail correspondence. Fewer than one in 10 (7%, down from 11%) were contacted by a political party or candidate through social media.

Figure 73: Ways political parties or candidates contacted electors



Q. How did the political party or candidate contact you? Base: n=7,567; respondents from the longitudinal sample who were contacted by a party or candidate. [Wave 2]

The following subgroup variations were notable:

- Urban electors were more likely to have been contacted in person (45%) than rural electors (27%).
- Those from Quebec were the *most* likely to have been contacted via a recorded telephone message (54%, compared to all other regions, with a range of 27% to 40%), while those from Ontario were the *most* likely to have received a text message on their phone (42%, compared to all other regions, with a range of 11% to 38%).

- Men were *more* likely than women to have been contacted by a live person over the phone (31% versus 27%), by mail (30% versus 23%), by e-mail (27% versus 18%), or through social media (9% versus 5%).
- Electors aged 55+ were *more* likely to report receiving a recorded message on their telephone (47%, versus 23% of 18-to-34-year-olds and 32% of 35-to-54-year-olds).

Profile of Survey Respondents

The table below presents the characteristics of survey respondents using weighted data.

	Wave 1 n=38,247	Wave 2 n=30,358
Province/Territory		
Newfoundland and Labrador	1%	1%
Prince Edward Island	0.5%	<0.5%
Nova Scotia	3%	3%
New Brunswick	2%	2%
Quebec	23%	22%
Ontario	38%	38%
Manitoba	4%	4%
Saskatchewan	3%	3%
Alberta	12%	12%
British Columbia	14%	14%
Nunavut, Northwest Territories, Yukon	<0.5%	<0.5%
Indigenous		
First Nations	3%	3%
Métis	2%	2%
Inuit	<0.5%	<0.5%
Non-Indigenous	93%	93%
Prefer not to answer	2%	2%
Gender		
Woman	50%	50%
Man	48%	48%
Non-binary/transgender	<0.5%	1%
Prefer not to answer	1%	1%
Language spoken at home		
English	75%	76%
French	22%	21%
Other	2%	3%
Prefer not to say	1%	<1%
Age		
18 to 24	9%	11%
25 to 34	15%	17%
35 to 44	17%	17%
45 to 54	15%	14%
55 to 64	17%	16%
65+	27%	25%

	Wave 1 n=38,247	Wave 2 n=30,358
Education		
Some elementary	<0.5%	<0.5%
Completed elementary	0.5%	<0.5%
Some high school	3%	3%
Completed high school	13%	11%
Some community college/vocational/trade school/CEGEP	10%	10%
Completed community college/vocational/trade school/CEGEP	21%	20%
Some university	7%	8%
Completed university	29%	30%
Post-graduate university/professional school	14%	16%
Other	<0.5%	<0.5%
Don't know	<0.5%	<0.5%
Prefer not to answer	<1%	<1%
Disability		
No disability	55%	58%
Mild disability	21%	20%
Moderate disability	12%	11%
Severe disability	9%	8%
Very severe disability	3%	3%
Youth		
Youth 18 to 34 attending school	4%	5%
Youth 18 to 34 working full-time and not attending school	14%	16%
NEET youth	2%	3%
New Canadians		
Immigrants who became citizens <i>before</i> the 2021 GE	17%	12%
Immigrants who became citizens <i>after</i> the 2021 GE	2%	3%
Non-immigrants	81%	85%