Vox Pop Labs Inc.

MyDemocracy.ca

Online digital consultation and engagement platform

Final Report

Privy Council Office

VOX POP LABS

Ce rapport est aussi disponible en français.

Contents

Certificate of Political Neutrality

I hereby certify as founder and Chief Executive Officer of Vox Pop Labs that the deliverables fully comply with the Government of Canada political neutrality requirements outlined in the Communications Policy of the Government of Canada and Procedures for Planning and Contracting Public Opinion Research.

Specifically, the deliverables do not include information on electoral voting intentions, political party preferences, and standings with the electorate or ratings of the performance of a political party or its leaders.

Clifton van der Linden
Founder and Chief Executive Officer
Vox Pop Labs Inc.

1. Executive summary

MyDemocracy.ca was an innovative public engagement and consultation initiative commissioned by the Government of Canada in an effort to foster a more inclusive national dialogue on electoral reform.

An interactive online application that surveyed users about their views on how democracy should be practiced in Canada, MyDemocracy.ca analyzed responses in real time and returned to users a rendering of how their respective democratic values situated them within the discourse on electoral reform. It adopted a user experience and interface design that were intended to be both accessible and compelling to all Canadians, irrespective of their level of political interest, knowledge or civic engagement.

The objective of the initiative was to increase engagement in the dialogue both within the general population and among underrepresented groups such as youth. In addition, it was to serve as an innovative means of sampling Canadian public opinion in an effort to promote policymaking that is responsive to the views of Canadians.

MyDemocracy.ca relied on a robust research design developed by Canadian social and data scientists from Vox Pop Labs in consultation with a panel of political scientists that included recognized experts in the fields of survey methodology and electoral systems.

MyDemocracy.ca was launched on 5 December 2016, accompanied by invitations mailed to every household in Canada directly inviting Canadians to participate in the initiative. By the close of the initiative on 15 January 2017, approximately 383,074 unique users had completed MyDemocracy.ca, with 96 per cent of users originating from within Canada, making it one of the largest and most ambitious public consultations ever undertaken in Canada.

User responses to MyDemocracy.ca were weighted to the census in an effort to increase the representativeness of the findings and better reflect the views of Canadians on a number of key considerations within the electoral reform discourse.

The key findings to emerge from the analysis are as follows:

- **Canadians are generally satisfied with Canada's democracy**
  Though satisfaction does not necessarily preclude a desire for reforming the electoral system, a majority of Canadians (67%) report being somewhat or very satisfied with the way democracy works in Canada.

- **Canadians value features often associated with different electoral systems**
  Many Canadians simultaneously hold preferences for various attributes that are commonly associated with different families of electoral systems.

- **Canadians want a voting system that is easy to understand**
  Canadians are receptive to options to express their preferences with greater specificity, but not if the result is a ballot that is more difficult to interpret.

- **Canadians are divided on special measures to promote diversity in Parliament**
  Opinion in Canada is split as to whether special measures should be taken to increase the representation of groups that are currently underrepresented in Parliament.

- **Broad support for greater freedom for Members of Parliament**
  Perhaps the most consistent and clear finding from the analysis is that Canadians want to see a relaxing of party discipline and Members of Parliament exert more autonomy so as to better represent the interests of their constituents.

- **Canadians oppose mandatory voting**
  Although Canadians are divided on the principle of whether voting is an obligation or a choice, the majority of Canadians (53%) do not support mandatory voting.

- **Support for online voting turns on security**
  Canadians feel that online voting in federal elections would have a positive effect on voter turnout. They support online voting in principle, but their support is contingent on assurances that online voting would not result in increased security risks.

- **Canadians oppose lowering the voting age**
  A majority of Canadians (66%) feel that the age at which Canadians are eligible to vote should not be lowered from 18.

- **Canadians support limits on the length of election campaigns**
  An overwhelming majority of Canadians (90%) support placing limits on the terms of federal election campaigns.

2. Background

MyDemocracy.ca is an initiative commissioned by the Government of Canada as a contribution to the recent national dialogue on electoral reform. It was developed in collaboration with Vox Pop Labs, a Canadian social enterprise comprised of social and data scientists who specialize in online civic engagement applications in consultation with an academic advisory panel consisting of prominent political scientists from universities across Canada.[1]

The aim of the initiative was to engage as many Canadians as possible in a conversation about how representative democracy ought to be practiced in Canada. Recognizing that many Canadians may not participate in traditional methods of public consultation, MyDemocracy.ca was designed to provide an innovative alternative with a view to facilitating a more inclusive dialogue on electoral reform.

MyDemocracy.ca took the form of an interactive online application that surveyed users on their views about how Canadians are represented in Parliament. Upon completing the survey the application presented each user with an analysis outlining how their responses

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1   The academic advisory panel for MyDemocracy.ca included, in alphabetical order by surname, André Blais (University of Montreal), Elisabeth Gidengil (McGill University), Richard Johnston (University of British Columbia), Peter Loewen (University of Toronto), Scott Matthews (Memorial University), Jonathan Rose (Queen's University), Laura Stephenson (Western University), Melanee Thomas (University of Calgary). The membership of the panel reflects expertise in both electoral politics and survey methodology and includes advocates for each of the electoral systems under consideration in the Government of Canada's national dialogue on electoral reform.

situate them within the discourse on electoral reform. Users were associated with one of five archetypal perspectives on the practice of democracy in Canada derived from a classification model based on a sample of 4,273 Canadians aged 18 and older. Further details about the design of the initiative are available in the methodology section of this report.

The application was launched on 5 December 2016 and remained available until 15 January 2017. It was offered in both official languages and featured inclusive design principles so as to be accessible to Canadians using assistive technologies. Invitations to take part in MyDemocracy.ca were mailed to every household in Canada and Canadians without Internet access were invited to take the survey by telephone using a toll-free number. By the end of its run more than 383,074 unique users participated in the initiative, making it among the largest public consultations ever undertaken in Canada. For further details about the results of the initiative, please see the report findings.

MyDemocracy.ca served as an earnest effort to innovate the practice of public outreach by facilitating a more inclusive dialogue than traditional public consultation methods normally permit. Formal hearings with expert witnesses have explored the public and academic discourses on electoral reform; and town halls, open mic sessions, online surveys, as well as written submissions have enabled thousands of individual Canadians to articulate their views about the practice of democracy in Canada. Presumably, however, Canadians who have participated in these forms of consultation constitute a rather specific subset of the population. Public opinion research in Canada has electoral reform consistently trailing other public priorities, with recent polling indicating that two-thirds of Canadians see changing the voting system as a lower or very low priority.[2] This imbalance of interest in electoral reform is very likely reflected in the composition of participants who have been active in the dialogue through traditional outreach activities.

Robust consultation demands modes of engagement that reach beyond citizens who are keenly interested in the issue at hand or who have the means, ability or comfort to participate in traditional fora. MyDemocracy.ca sought to make the conversation on electoral reform both more engaging and more accessible, thus appealing to a broader segment

of the Canadian population and ultimately fostering a more inclusive dialogue. Its unique approach involved re-envisaging the incentives to participate in a conversation on electoral reform by appealing not only to a sense of civic duty, but also to self-curiosity. Moreover, it presented the conversation in terms of democratic values as opposed to focusing on the technical dimensions of specific electoral systems.

Associating users with an archetype emulates the viral model of online personality quizzes in that it offers the potential for self-expression in the form of shareable content designed for mass diffusion via social networks. MyDemocracy.ca was designed to leverage this dynamic by presenting users with a compelling distillation of the electoral reform discourse.

Despite their popularity, online personality quizzes offered by Internet media companies command little if any credibility. In fact, their lack of credibility has become a defining feature of such quizzes in popular culture and yet they continue to surpass most other forms of content in terms of online audience reach. MyDemocracy.ca innovates on this model by offering a user experience reminiscent of an online personality quiz so as to reproduce a viral mode of diffusion, but overcomes the lack of credibility common to such content by presenting users with valid inferences derived using a robust methodology. To this end, the format of MyDemocracy.ca is designed not only to broaden engagement but also to deepen it, especially among those who may not already be active participants in the national dialogue on electoral reform due to a variety of factors.

MyDemocracy.ca promoted broader inclusion in the first instance by providing a digital alternative to conventional modes of public consultation. Canada has one of the highest levels of Internet penetration in the world, making online communication a highly effective means of engaging and consulting Canadians.[3]

In an effort to render the electoral reform discourse itself more accessible to users of MyDemocracy.ca, the survey design was framed in terms of democratic values as opposed to explicit references to the dynamics of specific electoral systems. This follows the prevailing axiom in the academic literature on electoral reform, which is that no single

electoral system is likely to fully satisfy the democratic aspirations of its citizens. As Thomas Axworthy recently observed in his testimony to the Special Committee on Electoral Reform:

> There is no perfect electoral system. There are advantages and disadvantages to all of them, and it is really a question of values, of differing perspectives, that will inform your own debate. There's no technical solution to the issue of electoral reform. It is basically a political process of deciding your purposes and values and what you value most.[4]

This sentiment echoes a widely-held consensus among experts that trade-offs are inherent in the adoption of any electoral system and thus any decisions with respect to electoral reform must ultimately be values-based (Warren and Pearse 2008; Bowler and Farrell 2006; Norris 2004; Horowitz 2003; Bogdanor 1983). As Grofman and Bowler (1996: 47) argue:

> Once we recognise that electoral systems have multiple effects it becomes a certainty that there will be no system that is best with respect to all possible criteria of evaluation. Once this is admitted, then the field of normative debate about electoral system choice is significantly broadened and the nature of the debate should be less polemic, as we move to debate the nature of appropriate trade-offs among multiple competing criteria, all of which have something to recommend them.

The inevitability of trade-offs in the adoption or retention of any particular electoral system was one of the overarching themes to emerge from the Report of the Special Committee on Electoral Reform to the House Commons and also a 2004 Law Commission of Canada Report on electoral reform, which argued that "each electoral system attempts to balance as many different democratic values as is desirable, but there are necessarily trade-offs among them."

Accordingly, MyDemocracy.ca operates on the premise that trade-offs are inherent in considerations about electoral reform. The application endeavours to infer users' democratic

4   http://www.parl.gc.ca/HousePublications/Publication.aspx?DocId=8655791&File=21#1

values based on the decisions they make when confronted with some of the potential implications associated with various electoral systems, including how Parliament works, how Canadians vote, how Canadians are represented, and how government works. Exploring which trade-offs Canadians are willing to accept and under what circumstances has the effect of profiling tolerance thresholds for various electoral reform options, resulting in a nuanced articulation of democratic values.

Most importantly, a focus on values renders the survey more accessible—and thus more inclusive—than one that concentrates on the esoteric design parameters of specific electoral systems, and more meaningful than a consultation about first principles in isolation of the possible ramifications for the practice of democracy.

While this format does not permit Canadians to directly specify which electoral system they would prefer, MyDemocracy.ca was never intended to serve as a poll on which system Canada should adopt, but rather as a means to deduce which features of a representative democracy Canadians value most and wish to see reflected in elections, Parliament, and government.

3. Methodology

MyDemocracy.ca served as an engagement platform designed to catalyze participation among Canadians in a national dialogue on electoral reform. It also acted as a mechanism for public consultation, cataloguing user input so as to support policymaking that is responsive to the views and values of Canadians. Central to both of these endeavours was the survey element of MyDemocracy.ca. This section details the methods employed in the design of the survey as well as the analysis of the survey responses.

3.1 Survey Design

From an engagement perspective, the primary objective of the MyDemocracy.ca survey

design was to situate users within the electoral reform discourse by providing them the opportunity to express their respective views on the practice of representative democracy. This was approached empirically and involved the identification and subsequent operationalization of various dimensions that structure the electoral reform discourse.

A review of the academic literature on electoral systems resulted in the identification of tensions among competing democratic values. Approximately 70 survey items were designed with a view to operationalizing these tensions. As per the discussion related to trade-offs in the background section of this report, the design of the survey items was premised on the understanding that trade-offs are inherent to the design of any electoral system. Consequently, survey items were largely framed in terms of trade-offs, testing support for various aspects of electoral reform in a variety of scenarios.

Survey items were designed with either Likert or binary response options. The items were forced-choice so that users were compelled to make trade-offs, thus capturing the thresholds of individual tolerance for potential implications of different electoral systems. The order of survey items was randomized.

The survey items were fielded in ten iterative pilot studies, each conducted in both English and French, to samples of the Canadian population between 23 October and 22 November 2016. Response rates varied between 11 and 26 per cent. Responses to pilot studies were analyzed to control for potential response bias in the survey design as well as to test construct validity.

Confirmatory factor analysis of the pilot data surfaced eight dimensions, each with a Cronbach's alpha of between 0.54 and 0.8, indicating that the measures were reliable. These dimensions were featured directly in the MyDemocracy.ca application, with a user's position on each dimension visualized on a scale contrasting the user's position with the average positions of the archetypal views of Canadians as well as the distribution of Canadian public opinion.

Select a theme to explore [Leadership ▼]

Decisive governments are efficient at implementing their policies and at responding to new issues as they emerge. Governments that **compromise** often take additional time to negotiate with other parties before making final decisions so that outcomes are more likely to be acceptable to as many groups as possible.

DECISIVENESS   COMPROMISE

A	You		B	Cooperators

Other Groups
Click on the names below to learn more

C	Guardians		D	Pragmatists
E	Challengers		F	Innovators

FIG. A   Sample result from MyDemocracy.ca.

3.1.1 DIMENSIONS

The dimensions rendered in MyDemocracy.ca reflect critical tensions in the academic literature on electoral reform wherein the trade-offs between democratic values are made explicit. They include accountability, ballot detail, equality, leadership, mandatory voting, online voting, party discipline, and party focus. It is imperative to note that these dimensions are not mere proxies for electoral systems and it is not the case in every instance that support for one trade-off over another translates directly into support for a specific electoral system. Furthermore, each dimension is constituted as an index of multiple

survey items that tap into the same construct. This allows for a more robust representation of each dimension than if they had been measured by a single survey item.

ACCOUNTABILITY refers to the extent to which voters can hold governments responsible for their actions (Blais 1999; Katz 1997; Horowitz 2003; Norris 1997; Schmidt 2002). Lijphart (1994: 144) refers to clear government accountability as being a scenario in which "voters know that the governing party is responsible for past government performance, and they can decisively return this party to power or replace it with the other major party." The accountability dimension in MyDemocracy.ca measures affinities for shared versus concentrated accountability in government.

Accountability is concentrated when a single party is responsible for decisions. As Doorenspleet (2005: 40) explains:

> It is argued that one-party governments offer clearer responsibility for policy-making and hence better accountability of the government to the citizens. Citizens can use the elections in majoritarian systems either to renew the term of the incumbent government or to 'throw the rascals out'.

Accountability is shared when a coalition of parties is responsible for government decisions. Norris (2004: 305) notes that:

> Proponents [of one-party governments] argue, in systems with coalition governments even if the public becomes dissatisfied with particular parties they have less power to determine their fate. The process of coalition-building after the result, not the election per se, determines the allocation of seats in cabinet.

The degree of **BALLOT DETAIL** reflects the tension between simplicity—as in readily comprehensible ballots and easily interpretable election results—and precision, which can enable citizens to express their vote intention with greater specificity (Farrell 2001; Norris 1997). Blais (1999: 8) notes, however, that "precision cannot be achieved without cost. The most obvious cost is complexity."

The choice of electoral system is not necessarily the determinant of the degree of complexity of the ballot. For example, the ballot in a closed-list proportional representation system can be as simple as a ballot under a first-past-the-post voting system.

The **EQUALITY** dimension reflects the tension between the democratic principles of one person, one vote, and the liberal democratic tradition of promoting equity among all citizens in society (Blais 1997; Norris 2004; Horowitz 2003). These competing principles are represented by MyDemocracy.ca as equality of opportunity, referring to treating everyone the same in the competition to be elected, and equality of outcomes, which refers to taking actions to correct disparities to help ensure that the diversity of the Canadian population is better reflected in Parliament. Whether electoral systems are the most effective means by which to engender greater representation of groups that are currently underrepresented in Parliament is subject to debate. Farrell (2011: 165) argues that:

> If the objective is to seek to engineer a greater proportion of women or ethnic minorities in parliament, there are other ways of influencing the electoral laws [...] For instance, in 1993 the British Labour Party introduced quota rules on the nomination of women candidates, forcing certain constituency parties to have all-women short-lists in the event of a vacancy. This was found to have a significant effect on the proportion of women entering the House of Commons in 1997 (Studlar and McAllister 1998). Similar steps have been taken by parties in other countries (Norris 1994), and research by Caul (1999), Dahlerup (2006) and Krook (2009) shows how the use of quotas has become more commonplace—in itself an endorsement of the success of this route. [...] An alternative method is to provide a certain number of parliamentary seats for minorities, as in the case of the Maori seats in New Zealand (Lijphart 1986b).

LEADERSHIP operationalizes the tension between decisive governments that act unilaterality whenever possible, and governments that tend to seek compromise with other parties in Parliament before making final decisions. Blais (1997: 7) argues that there is:

> a tension between effectiveness and accommodation. A government that is effective gets out to implement the policies it had advocated during the election campaign. A government that seeks accommodation will consult widely before making final decisions and will look for compromises that will be acceptable to as many groups as possible. These objectives are partly contradictory.

Leadership style—whether decisive or accommodating—is correlated with the choice of electoral system. Majoritarian-plurality systems tend to produce majority governments, whereas proportional systems more often result in coalition governments, in which the governing arrangement requires compromise (Blais and Massicotte 2002; Blais and Carty 1987; Lijphart 1994; Lijphart and Grofman 1984; Norris 2004). As Irvine (1985: 99-100) notes:

> Under a new system, minority governments would become accepted as a fact of life—unlikely to be changed by clever manoeuvering. While a new Parliament might have a different composition from the preceding one, a new governing party would still have to find allies from among the other parties in Parliament. Knowing this, it would have every incentive to behave cooperatively from the start.

PARTY DISCIPLINE represents the tension Members of Parliament sometimes face between loyalty to their party and a duty to represent their constituents' interests. These options are not always in conflict, though as Blais (1997: 8) notes:

> Here again, there is a tension. We want strong parties and parties are meaningless if they are not cohesive. It is cohesion that allows voters to anticipate what policies will be adopted if a certain party forms the government. But we do not want parties to be too strong. We want our local representative to be sensitive to our concerns and not to always cave in to the dictates of the party.

PARTY FOCUS refers to brokerage versus the ideological model of politics, or whether parties seek to appeal to a broad but ideologically diffuse range of voters or a narrower but ideologically concentrated base. The incentives related to party focus are structured in part by the dynamics of the electoral system. Cox (1990: 903) identifies these incentives as being either centripetal or centrifugal:

> *Centripetal* incentives lead political parties (or candidates) to advocate centrist policies; *centrifugal* incentives, on the other hand, lead to the advocacy of more or less extreme positions.

Plurality/majority systems tend to produce centripetal incentives, often resulting in two-party systems that feature large parties (Lijphart 1994, 1999). Norris (1997: 305) notes that this structure "prevents fringe groups on the extreme right or left from acquiring representative legitimacy." Proportional representation, on the other hand, often promotes centrifugal incentives, generally resulting in smaller parties with more coherent ideological positions. Norris (2004: 75) observes that, "by facilitating the election of more minor parties, [proportional representation] systems also broaden electoral choice, providing voters with a wider range of alternatives."

The survey design also included dimensions that captured support for **ONLINE VOTING** and **MANDATORY VOTING**, both of which are part of the broader dialogue on electoral reform. The dimensions represented herein are not necessarily an exhaustive manifest of themes related to electoral systems, but they do capture many of the most salient themes and those that could be effectively operationalized for analysis.

3.1.2 ARCHETYPES

Having operationalized a number of critical dimensions that structure the discourse on electoral reform in Canada, response data from the pilot studies were then used to determine how the views of Canadians clustered across said dimensions.

Latent clusters were identified using a finite mixture model, where the number of components was determined through a dissimilarity-based partitioning method. The mixture model itself was defined such that all within-component covariance matrices were assumed to be diagonal, meaning that the constitutive factors were assumed to be locally independent. Cluster variances were set to have equal shape, volume, and orientation (an "EEI" model).

Five clusters emerged from the analysis of the survey data, each with distinct properties on one or more of the eight dimensions. In order to make the archetypes accessible, each was given a title (e.g. Guardians, Pragmatists, Challengers, Cooperators, Innovators) and a brief narrative that outlined the perspectives which distinguished that archetype from the others. Moreover, average socio-demographics for each archetype were made available

as well as a comparison of the user's stated priorities for electoral reform with the aggregate priorities of their associated archetype.

In order to associate a user with an archetype, the user's responses are inputted into the mixture model, which outputs the probability of the user belonging to each cluster. The user is then associated with the cluster to which they have the highest probability of belonging.

3.2 Data Analysis

Given the reach and uptake of MyDemocracy.ca, an analysis of the respondent data represents an invaluable opportunity for public consultation. What follows is an outline as to how the data were treated in order to prepare the report findings.

3.2.1 VALIDATION

In an effort to minimize limits to inclusion and ensure the privacy of participants, MyDemocracy.ca was made available as a barrier-free service, meaning that users were not required to provide any socio-demographic information in order to access the site. As a result, MyDemocracy.ca could be used multiple times by the same user.

A series of validation techniques were applied to the data to help identify and remove multiple entries by the same user, as described below. In instances where two or more records were deemed to be from the same user, the earliest record was retained and the latter records were removed from the analysis. In order to validate observations in the respondent data as being associated with a unique user, a series of screening techniques was employed including but not limited to the following:

1. *Survey timers*

The MyDemocracy.ca application tracked the timing of responses for the purpose of identifying those who advanced through the survey in a manner consistent with a human respondent.

II. *Response patterns*

Responses to MyDemocracy.ca were analyzed to identify incoherent response patterns, which were indicative of users providing the same answer to every proposition in the survey.

III. *Cookies and IP address validation*

IP addresses were used to identify repeat entries within the dataset and cookies were used to identify entries from the same device. Each case subsequent to the original entry was removed from the analysis of the data unless the socio-demographic information associated with an entry indicated a unique user from the same IP address or device.

Only participants whose IP addresses belong to Canadian Internet Service Providers were included in the findings from the data.

IV. *Socio-demographic profiles*

Observations were validated on the basis of the socio-demographic information provided by using census data to ensure that a person with that particular socio-demographic profile exists in the census within the specified geography that was provided.

3.2.2 SAMPLING

Invitations to participate in MyDemocracy.ca were mailed to every household in Canada, which presumably had the effect of reducing the sampling error associated with common sampling techniques. The mail campaign was accompanied by a social media advertising campaign and the initiative received substantial media coverage. Taken together, this constituted a robust multi-platform sampling method.

As with any conventional survey in which participation is optional, however, responses to the MyDemocracy.ca application do not, in themselves, constitute a representative sample of the Canadian population. This is primarily due to survey non-response: whether a survey is conducted conventionally by telephone or online, or, as with MyDemocracy.ca, through

an interactive application, individual participation is voluntary. The selection effects in participation in the MyDemocracy.ca application are not clearly different from those by respondents who choose to participate in surveys administered through conventional means. As per the weighting methodology, the analysis presented in this report adjusts for differential non-response through a wide variety of socio-demographic weights using the most recent Canadian census.

To help minimize non-response, particularly among those individuals who may not have dependable access to the Internet, the application was made available to Canadians by way of a toll-free telephone service.

As per the Standards for the Conduct of Government of Canada Public Opinion Research, there can be no statements made about margins of sampling error on population estimates when non-probability samples are used.

3.2.3 WEIGHTING

As with conventional surveys in which participation is not mandatory—including those that make use of probability samples—there are differences between the population of interest and the sample of individuals who opt to respond (see findings for details). As a consequence, estimates of the frequency of opinions or behaviours calculated from the sample data can differ systematically from that which one is trying to estimate in the population.

All surveys, regardless of their mode—whether online, by telephone, or through an online application such as MyDemocracy.ca—result in differential non-response. As a result, no non-mandatory survey in Canada is fully representative, and all therefore rely on statistical adjustment of the sample to the population based typically on socio-demographic, behavioural, and/or attitudinal variables for which researchers have population-level values.

User responses to MyDemocracy.ca were weighted to the census in an effort to increase the representativeness of the findings. The data were weighted by gender, age, education, occupation, mother tongue, income, and region.

Unlike conventional public opinion research studies, whose samples typically number in the thousands, the size of the sample collected through the MyDemocracy.ca application permits the use of more numerous and granular weighting variables to correct for differences between the sample and the population. That said, there may be unobserved respondent characteristics that are both imbalanced relative to the Canadian population and correlated with responses to the survey items in MyDemocracy.ca. For example, as per the Treasury Board Secretariat directive on government-commissioned public opinion research, the MyDemocracy.ca application did not capture measures of political ideology or partisanship. If the weighted sample differs in ideology or partisanship from the Canadian population and if ideology or partisanship is correlated with responses to the survey, it may limit the representativeness of the findings.

These limitations notwithstanding, the unprecedented size of the sample collected by MyDemocracy.ca as well as the variables available by which to weight observations in the data presumably improve the potential for increasing the representativeness of inferences derived from the data. Accordingly, albeit mindful of the caveats about representativeness expressed herein, the report findings refer to weighted responses as being reflective of those of Canadians at large.

3.3 Privacy

In order to ensure privacy and reduce barriers to inclusion, users participated anonymously in MyDemocracy.ca.

While users were asked to provide certain socio-demographic information for the purpose of weighting the data (see Methodology), it was made clear to users that providing socio-demographic information was optional and did not inhibit users from proceeding through MyDemocracy.ca.

Users were provided with an option to send themselves their results via e-mail. This required the collection of an e-mail address, which in certain instances could constitute a personal identifier if the user's first name and surname constituted all or part of the e-mail address. However, e-mail addresses were only used to send the user a link to their results and were not retained.

Individual users' responses to MyDemocracy.ca were at no point in time made available to the Government of Canada or to third parties. Findings from MyDemocracy.ca will only ever be provided to the Government of Canada and publicly released in aggregate format.

As per the MyDemocracy.ca privacy policy, the administration of data collected by MyDemocracy.ca was consistent with the provisions of both the Privacy Act and the Personal Information Protection and Electronic Documents Act (PIPEDA).

4. Findings

4.1 Response rates

It is worth noting that the uptake of MyDemocracy.ca is itself a result that merits due consideration. Over the course of its run, an estimated 383,074 unique users completed the survey, with approximately 96 per cent of responses originating from within Canada.

Total number of validated responses by IP address:

COUNTRY	COUNT	PERCENT
Canada	367,663	95.98
Abroad	15,411	4.02

The findings reported in this section are based on the 243,057 records in the dataset that contained sufficient socio-demographic information for weighting purposes.

Total number of profiled responses within Canada:

TYPE	COUNT	PERCENT
Sufficiently profiled	243,057	66.11
Insufficiently profiled	124,606	33.89

The data suggest that MyDemocracy.ca was effective not only in increasing participation in the national dialogue on electoral reform, but also in extending the dialogue to a diverse array of Canadians. Though there are notable disparities between the demographic distributions in the unweighted sample and those in the Canadian population, these differential response probabilities are fully compensated by the weighting methodology.

MyDemocracy.ca drew respondents from across age categories, with younger Canadians in particular overrepresented in the unweighted sample.

Age distribution among respondents to MyDemocracy.ca:

AGE GROUP	COUNT	% OF SAMPLE	% OF POPULATION*
15–19**	7,043	2.87	5.69
20–24	21,769	8.88	6.80
25–29	27,699	11.3	6.94
30–34	26,886	10.97	6.97
35–39	21,276	8.68	6.77
40–44	16,224	6.62	6.46
45–49	15,049	6.14	6.66
50–54	15,971	6.52	7.47
55–59	18,673	7.62	7.31
60–64	22,140	9.03	6.34
65–69	22,313	9.1	5.44
70–74	16,445	6.71	3.97
55–59	18,673	7.62	7.31
60–64	22,140	9.03	6.34
65–69	22,313	9.1	5.44
70–74	16,445	6.71	3.97
75–79	8,425	3.44	2.85
80–84	3,648	1.49	2.08
85–89	1,289	0.53	1.36
90+	287	0.12	0.81

 * Source: Statistics Canada
** As per Government of Canada guidelines on public opinion research, users under the
    age of 18 were excluded from the report findings

Men were notably overrepresented in the unweighted sample, comprising nearly two-thirds of respondents. While the survey sought to represent Canadians who assume a non-binary gender identity, comparable population-level estimates were not available.

Gender distribution among respondents to MyDemocracy.ca:

GENDER	COUNT	% OF SAMPLE	% OF POPULATION*
Men	154,799	63.69	49.59
Women	86,135	35.44	50.41
Other	2,123	0.87	N/A

*   Source: Statistics Canada

The regional distribution of MyDemocracy.ca users demonstrates successful engagement across Canada, albeit with fewer users in Quebec proportional to its share of the population.

Provincial/Territorial distribution among respondents to MyDemocracy.ca:

PROVINCE / TERRITORY	COUNT	% OF SAMPLE	% OF POPULATION*
AB	29,385	12.09	11.72
BC	43,245	17.79	13.09
MB	7,524	3.10	3.63
NB	4,571	1.88	2.09
NL	2,207	0.91	1.46
NS	8,081	3.32	2.62
NT	270	0.11	0.12
NU	79	0.03	0.10
ON	100,145	41.20	38.54
PE	922	0.38	0.41
QC	38,202	15.72	22.95
SK	7,951	3.27	3.17
YT	475	0.20	0.10

*   Source: Statistics Canada

Furthermore, the distribution between rural and urban users of MyDemocracy.ca is relatively consistent with the distribution within the Canadian population.

Urban/rural distribution among respondents to MyDemocracy.ca:

PLACE OF RESIDENCE	COUNT	% OF SAMPLE	% OF POPULATION*
Rural	42,675	18.51	19
Suburban	55,607	24.12	} 81
Urban	132,247	57.37	

*   Source: Statistics Canada

Anglophones were the dominant group in the unweighted sample, with a lower prevalence among both Francophones and those whose mother tongue is not one of Canada's official languages.

Language distribution among respondents to MyDemocracy.ca:

MOTHER TONGUE	COUNT	% OF SAMPLE	% OF POPULATION*
English	186,184	76.60	58.06
French	36,029	14.82	21.72
Other	20,844	8.58	20.22

*   Source: Statistics Canada. Multiple responses excluded from population figures.

The representation of visible minorities and persons with disabilities in the unweighted sample relative to the sample size was lower than in the population; however, this may to some extent reflect differences between the census and MyDemocracy.ca as to how these identities are solicited from the user. Representation of First Nations, Métis, and Inuit was consistent with or higher than within the general population. Persons who identify as LGBTQ2 were overrepresented in the sample.

Group distribution among respondents to MyDemocracy.ca:

GROUP	COUNT	% OF SAMPLE	% OF POPULATION*
Visible Minorities	25,187	10.36	23.86*
First Nations	6,087	2.50	2.60**
Métis	5,621	2.31	1.36**
Inuit	1,875	0.77	0.18**
LGBTQ2	21,695	8.93	3.00***
Persons with disabilities	16,570	6.82	13.70†

*	Source: Statistics Canada
**	Source: Statistics Canada
***	Source: Statistics Canada. Figure limited to Canadians aged 18 to 59 who reported in 2014 that they consider themselves to be lesbian, gay or bisexual.
†	Source: Statistics Canada

Moreover, 3,064 Canadians opted to complete the survey by telephone and were included in the MyDemocracy.ca dataset.

4.2 Democratic satisfaction and participation

Over the past quarter-century, Canadians have consistently expressed general satisfaction with the way their democracy works. The figure below graphs longitudinal public opinion data from the Canadian Election Study (CES) measuring general satisfaction with Canadian democracy since 1993.

SEE FIGURE B ON NEXT PAGE

LEVELS OF SATISFACTION WITH DEMOCRACY

VERY SATISFIED

FAIRLY SATISFIED

NOT VERY SATISFIED

NOT SATISFIED AT ALL

0.57   0.52   0.56   0.5   0.54   0.6   0.55   0.53   0.59

'93   '97   '00   '04   '06   '08   '11   '15   '17

○ CANADIAN ELECTION STUDY   △ MYDEMOCRACY.CA
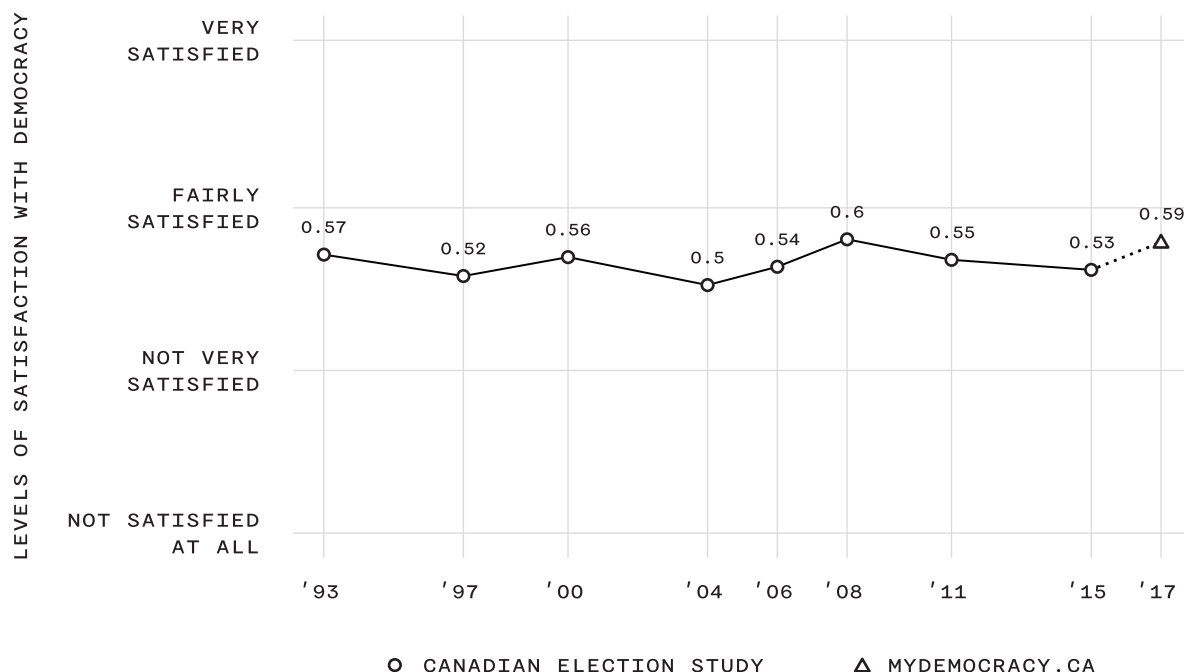
FIG. B   Source: Canadian Election Study

The trends in the CES data are consistent with the findings from MyDemocracy.ca. As seen in Figure 1.1, 67 per cent of Canadians indicated that they were somewhat or very satisfied with the way democracy works in Canada, with 32 per cent expressing general dissatisfaction.

Figure 1.2 indicates that, among Canadians who reported voting infrequently or not at all in federal elections, frustration with politics was the most cited barrier to participation (43.9%) followed by lack of time (28.3%). Dissatisfaction with Canada's current electoral system was cited by 19.6 per cent of users who indicated that they rarely or never vote in federal elections.

4.3 Priorities

MyDemocracy.ca asked users to select their priorities from a list of fifteen issues related to electoral reform. The aggregate results are visualized in Figure 2.1.

The priority for electoral reform most frequently cited by Canadians involved deliberative governance. Sixty-three per cent of Canadians deemed it a priority that governments should consider all viewpoints before making a decision.

The second-most cited priority, identified by 58.6 per cent of Canadians, centred on the ability of voters to hold governments to account.

Closely related to the theme of deliberative governance is the third-most cited priority, selected by 55.7 per cent of Canadians, which called for governments to collaborate with other parties in Parliament.

These were followed by priorities such as increasing voter turnout (52.8%) and ensuring that Members of Parliament focus on what is best for the country (51.9%).

The issues that were in aggregate the lowest priorities for Canadians in terms of electoral reform included increasing the presence of smaller parties in Parliament (25.9%), governments that can make decisions quickly (29.5%), and better representation of groups that are currently underrepresented in Parliament (30.1%).

4.4 Dimensions

The findings derived from the survey items on democratic values are organized according to the dimensions with which they are associated.

Before presenting the results of individual survey items, each dimension is first presented as a density graph that aggregates related survey items, visualizing the position of the average Canadian and the distribution of the population along the scale. The middle value on the x-axis for each density graph does not represent either the theoretical centre or a neutral position with respect to the values indicated by the labels on the low- and high-end of the graph. This is because the dimensions being represented are each constituted by survey responses to three separate questions which are measured on different response scales. Density plots should instead simply be used to give readers a sense of the distribution of opinion on the specified dimension

4.4.1 ACCOUNTABILITY

The findings from MyDemocracy.ca reflect a tension in perspectives on accountability. In general, Canadians express a clear preference for a cooperative Parliament where parties

work together to develop policy and share accountability for policy outcomes—so long as it remains clear who is ultimately accountable.

As Figure 3.1.1 demonstrates, 62 per cent of Canadians either somewhat or strongly agree that governments should have to negotiate policy decisions with other parties in Parliament, even if the result is that there is less clarity as to which party or parties are responsible for the resulting policy. This finding is complemented by the results in Figure 3.1.3, which shows that 70 per cent of Canadians prefer that several parties share accountability as opposed to one party being solely accountable for policy outcomes.

Support for shared accountability appears, however, to hinge on assurances that accountability can be duly assigned to the responsible party or parties. As indicated in Figure 3.1.2, 53 per cent of Canadians somewhat or strongly agree that it should always be clear which party is accountable for decisions made by government, even if this means that decisions are only made by one party.

4.4.2 BALLOT DETAIL

The findings with respect to ballot detail indicate that Canadians are receptive to the prospect of being able express their preferences on the ballot with greater specificity, but not if this makes the ballot difficult to understand.

As demonstrated in Figure 3.2.3, Canadians generally exhibit a slight preference for a simpler ballot as opposed to a more complex one, even if a more complex ballot provides a means for citizens to express their preferences with greater specificity. Figure 3.2 indicates that the distribution of opinion on this dimension is bimodal, which suggests a polarization of views with respect to this issue.

The polarization of opinion on ballot detail is most clearly expressed in Figure 3.2.1, which shows that 49 per cent of Canadians somewhat or strongly agree that a ballot should be easy to understand, even if it means voters have fewer options to express their preferences, whereas 35 per cent somewhat or strongly disagree. However, when the trade-off is reframed from complexity of the ballot to immediacy of the election results, the preference for

greater specificity on the ballot increases. As Figure 3.2.2 demonstrates, 62 per cent of Canadians agree that they should be able to express multiple preferences on the ballot, even if this means that it takes longer to count the ballots and announce the election result.

4.4.3 EQUALITY

The findings indicate that Canadians are divided as to how proactive the government should be in taking measures to improve the disparity between the composition of Parliament and of Canadian society in general.

As demonstrated in Figure 3.3.1, 42 per cent of Canadians think that special measures should be adopted to ensure that Parliament is more inclusive of underrepresented groups, while 45 per cent of Canadians are opposed to such measures. When forced to choose, as per Figure 3.3.3, whether further action needs to be taken to ensure that the composition of Parliament better reflects the diversity of the Canadian population, 52 per cent of Canadians indicated that they support further action.

As to whether it should be a top priority to ensure that more individuals are elected from groups that are currently underrepresented in Parliament, the results depicted in Figure 3.3.2 show that 45 per cent of Canadians somewhat or strongly agree as compared to 35 per cent who somewhat or strongly disagree.

Individuals who identify with underrepresented groups are more open to taking further action to address underrepresentation in Parliament. Women, people who identify as LGBTQ2, persons with disabilities, visible minorities, and younger Canadians are more receptive to taking further action to ensure that Parliament better reflects the diversity of the population and more likely to perceive this issue as a top priority for government.

4.4.4 LEADERSHIP

With respect to leadership style, the findings suggest that Canadians generally prefer a deliberative government over a decisive one. They express a consistent preference for parties that compromise with one another rather than those that act unilaterally.

According to Figure 3.4.3, 70 per cent of Canadians prefer a government where several parties have to collectively agree before a decision is made rather than a government where one party governs and can make decisions on its own. This finding remains robust regardless of the trade-offs presented. Figure 3.4.1 shows that 62 per cent of Canadians strongly or somewhat agree that several parties should have to govern together rather than one party make all the decisions in government, even if it takes longer for government to get things done. Similarly, as per Figure 3.4.2, 68 per cent of Canadians somewhat or strongly agree that a party that wins the most seats in an election should still have to compromise with other parties, even if it means reconsidering some of its policies.

4.4.5 PARTY DISCIPLINE

The findings are perhaps least equivocal when it comes to attitudes toward party discipline. Canadians express a clear preference for representatives in Parliament who put the interests of their constituents ahead of loyalty to their party.

As demonstrated in Figure 3.5.3, 77 per cent of Canadians prefer that Members of Parliament do what their constituents want, even if it means going against the promises made by their party. Figure 3.5.1 shows that 83 per cent of Canadians somewhat or strongly agree with the idea that Members of Parliament should always act in the interests of their constituents, even if it means going against their own party. This finding remains consistent when reverse scaled. As per Figure 3.5.2, only 9 per cent of Canadians somewhat or strongly agree that Members of Parliament should always support the position of their party, even if it means going against the wishes of their constituents.

4.4.6 PARTY FOCUS

The findings indicate that Canadians are of two minds as to whether they would prefer to have brokerage or ideological parties in Parliament.

As demonstrated in Figure 3.6.2, 65 per cent of Canadians somewhat or strongly agree that there should be greater diversity of views in Parliament. This view notwithstanding, 59 per cent of Canadians would prefer having a few large parties in Parliament that try to

appeal to a broad range of people rather than having many small parties in Parliament representing many different views.

Support among Canadians for ideological diversity in Parliament appears to be tempered somewhat by the potential emergence of parties who take extreme views. Forty-five per cent of Canadians somewhat or strongly disagree that there should be parties in Parliament that represent the views of all Canadians, even if some are radical or extreme, while 41 per cent somewhat or strongly disagree.

4.4.7 ONLINE VOTING

The findings indicate that many Canadians are receptive to online voting in principle, but support wavers if online voting is perceived to increase security risks.

Figure 4.1 shows that 72 per cent of Canadians somewhat or strongly agree that online voting in federal elections would increase voter participation.

The potential costs associated with online voting do not appear to substantially inhibit support among Canadians. As per Figure 3.7.2, 53 per cent of Canadians somewhat or strongly agree that Canadians should have the option to cast their ballot online in federal elections, even if it increases the cost of elections. Thirty-six per cent of Canadians somewhat or strongly disagree with this proposition.

According to Figure 3.7.1, only 41 per cent of Canadians support the option to cast their vote online in federal elections, even if it is less secure. Forty-nine per cent of Canadians somewhat or strongly disagree with permitting online voting if there are potential security risks.

When asked, as in Figure 3.7.3, whether Canadians should have the option to vote online even if the security or privacy of online voting cannot be guaranteed, 51 per cent of Canadians opted to continue using the paper ballot, whereas 49 per cent still supported an online complement.

4.4.8 MANDATORY VOTING

The findings indicate that opinion in Canada is evenly split on the question of whether voting in federal elections is an obligation of democratic citizenship or an option that citizens can exercise at their discretion. As illustrated in Figure 3.8.3, 50 per cent of Canadians feel that voting is a duty and 50 per cent feel that it is a choice.

Despite many Canadians seeing voting as an obligation associated with citizenship, the findings also suggest that a majority of Canadians do not feel that voting should be mandatory. As seen in Figure 3.8.2, only 36 per cent of Canadians feel that eligible voters should be forced to vote, whereas 53 per cent disagree.

Support for mandatory voting decreases further when potential punitive measures are introduced. Figure 3.8.1 shows that 59 per cent of Canadians somewhat or strongly disagree that eligible voters who do not vote in elections should be fined, compared with 30 per cent who agree.

4.5 Additional considerations

In addition to the survey items that constitute the dimensions identified in the preceding analysis, MyDemocracy.ca also included items that reflect several ministerial areas of inquiry.

Figure 4.3 indicates that 66 per cent of Canadians oppose lowering the federal voting age, with only 20 per cent of Canadians expressing support for the idea. Though there is greater support for lowering the federal voting age among younger Canadians than there is among older Canadians, the majority of Canadians aged 18 to 29 still oppose the measure.

Figure 4.4 demonstrates broad support among Canadians for placing limits on the length of federal election campaigns, with 90 per cent agreeing to the idea. Only 4 per cent of Canadians disagree with campaign term limits.

There is less consensus among Canadians as to whether the day of a federal election should be a statutory holiday. Figure 4.2 shows that 49 per cent of Canadians favour the measure as compared to 37 per cent who are opposed.

Although Canadians consistently express a clear preference for representatives who put the interests of their constituents first, this does not appear to necessarily translate to support for Members of Parliament spending more time in their constituencies. As shown in Figure 4.5, 55 per cent of Canadians would prefer that Members of Parliament spend more time on Parliament Hill rather than in their constituency.

As to whether Members of Parliament should act as delegates or trustees on behalf of their constituents, the delegate model is clearly preferred by Canadians. Figure 4.6 indicates that 72 per cent of Canadians feel that Members of Parliament should do what their constituents want even in cases when it is at odds with what a Member of Parliament feels is best for their constituency.

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Appendix A

Findings

FIG 1.1   In general, how satisfied are you with the way democracy
               works in Canada?

9%	23%	50%	17%	1%
NOT AT ALL SATISFIED	NOT VERY SATISFIED	SOMEWHAT SATISFIED	VERY SATISFIED	DON'T KNOW
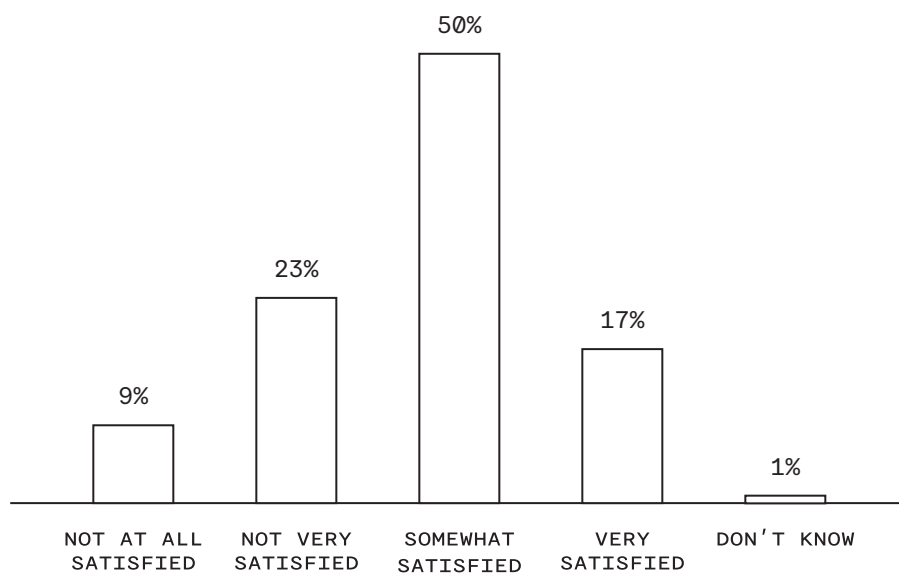
TABLE 1.1   In general, how satisfied are you with the way democracy works in Canada?

	Not at all satisfied	Not very satisfied	Somewhat satisfied	Very satisfied	Don't know
Overall (%)					
Weighted	9	23	50	17	1
Unweighted	9	23	50	18	1
Gender (%)					
Men	10	24	48	17	0
Women	7	22	53	17	1
Other	22	29	36	10	3
Age (%)					
18-29	7	24	55	12	2
30-39	9	27	50	13	1
40-49	10	23	50	17	1
50-64	10	22	49	19	1
65+	8	19	49	24	0
Region (%)					
Alberta	10	23	51	16	1
Atlantic	8	20	53	18	1
BC	9	23	51	17	1
Ontario	8	20	52	20	1
Prairies	8	20	52	18	1
Quebec	10	30	46	13	1
Territories	9	22	54	14	1
Group (%)					
First Nations	16	24	41	16	2
Inuit	24	18	39	16	3
Métis	16	25	44	13	2
Persons with disabilities	13	24	46	16	2
LGBTQ2	10	26	50	13	1
Visible minority	9	20	49	20	2
Political interest (%)					
Not interested at all	26	17	33	11	13
Not very interested	9	20	51	16	5
Somewhat interested	5	22	56	16	1
Very interested	11	24	46	19	0

FIG 1.2   What are the biggest barriers preventing you from voting?
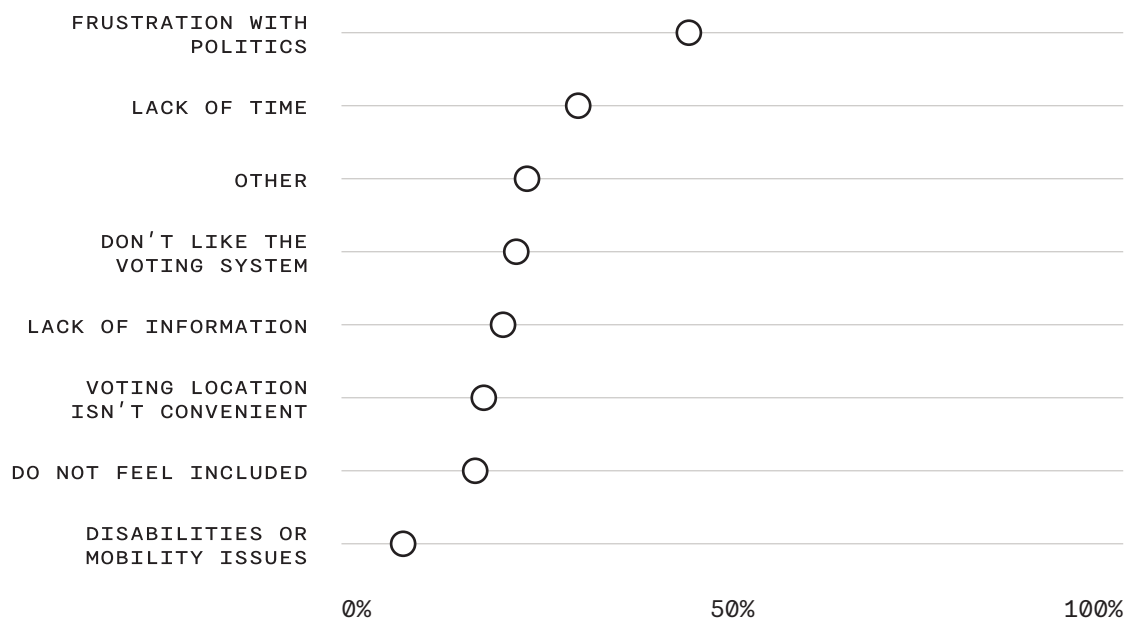
TABLE 1.2   What are the biggest barriers preventing you from voting?

Barriers to voting	Percentage
Frustration with politics	43.88
Lack of time	28.31
Don't like the voting system	19.6
Lack of information	17.74
Voting location isn't convenient	15.03
Do not feel included	13.82
Disabilities or mobility issues	3.68
Other	21.11

FIG 2.1   Please select the priorities from the list below that are
                 most important to you.

Priority	%
GOVERNMENTS THAT CONSIDER ALL VIEWPOINTS BEFORE MAKING A DECISION	
GOVERNMENTS THAT CAN BE EASILY HELD TO ACCOUNT BY VOTERS	
GOVERNMENTS THAT COLLABORATE WITH OTHER PARTIES IN PARLIAMENT	
INCREASING VOTER TURNOUT	
MPs THAT FOCUS ON WHAT IS BEST FOR THE COUNTRY	
GOVERNMENTS WITH STRONG REPRESENTATION FROM EVERY REGION	
ENSURING THE SECURITY OF THE VOTING PROCESS	
STRENGTHENING THE LINK BETWEEN VOTER INTENTION AND THE ELECTION OF REPRESENTATIVES	
MPs WHO FOCUS PRIMARILY ON THE INTERESTS OF THEIR LOCAL COMMUNITY	
ENSURING THE VOTING PROCESS IS EASY TO UNDERSTAND	
ABILITY TO VOTE ONLINE DURING ELECTIONS	
ALLOWING VOTERS TO EXPRESS A WIDE RANGE OF PREFERENCES WHEN VOTING	
BETTER REPRESENTATION OF GROUPS THAT ARE CURRENTLY UNDERREPRESENTED IN PARLIAMENT	
GOVERNMENTS THAT CAN MAKE DECISIONS QUICKLY	
INCREASING THE PRESENCE OF SMALLER PARTIES IN PARLIAMENT	

0%   50%   100%

TABLE 2.1   Please select the priorities from the list below that are
                   most important to you.

Priority	Percentage
Governments that consider all viewpoints before making a decision	62.71
Governments that can be easily held to account by voters	58.62
Governments that collaborate with other parties in Parliament	55.68
Increasing voter turnout	52.8
MPs that focus on what is best for the country	51.9
Governments with strong representation from every region	48.58
Ensuring the security of the voting process	46.42
Strengthening the link between voter intention and the election of representatives	45.02
MPs who focus primarily on the interests of their local community	42.08
Ensuring the voting process is easy to understand	38.85
Ability to vote online during elections	33.9
Allowing voters to express a wide range of preferences when voting	31.21
Better representation of groups that are currently underrepresented in Parliament	30.14
Governments that can make decisions quickly	29.5
Increasing the presence of smaller parties in Parliament	25.87

FIG 3.1   Accountability
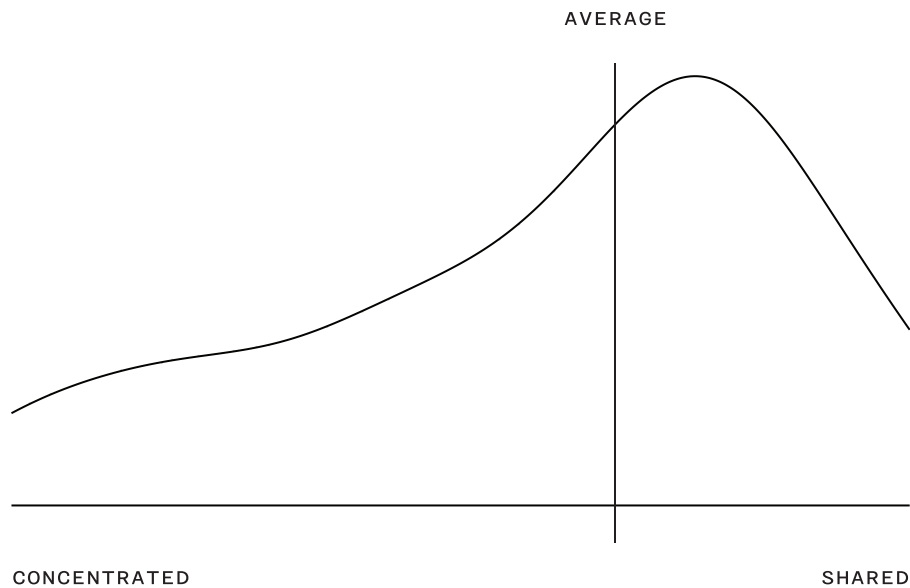
AVERAGE

CONCENTRATED   SHARED

FIG 3.1.1   Governments should have to negotiate their policy decisions
with other parties in Parliament, even if it is less clear
who is accountable for the resulting policy.

	9%	15%	15%	40%	22%
	STRONGLY DISAGREE	SOMEWHAT DISAGREE	NEUTRAL	SOMEWHAT AGREE	STRONGLY AGREE
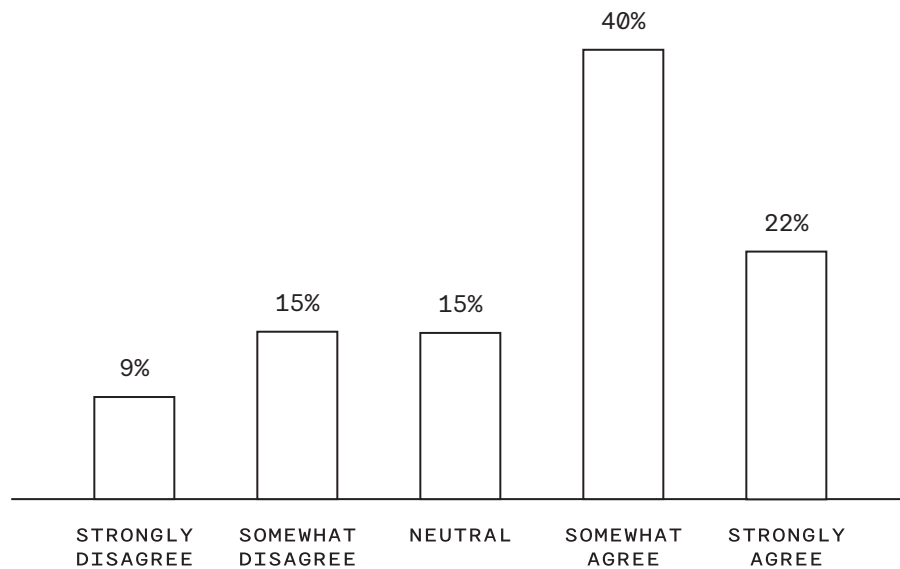
TABLE 3.1.1   Governments should have to negotiate their policy decisions with other parties in Parliament, even if it is less clear who is accountable for the resulting policy.

	Strongly disagree	Somewhat disagree	Neutral	Somewhat agree	Strongly agree
Overall (%)					
Weighted	9	15	15	40	22
Unweighted	11	15	14	38	22
Gender (%)					
Men	11	15	15	37	22
Women	7	14	15	43	22
Other	14	10	15	31	30
Age (%)					
18-29	4	12	18	43	22
30-39	6	14	17	39	24
40-49	9	16	15	39	22
50-64	12	16	13	39	20
65+	13	16	11	38	22
Region (%)					
Alberta	10	16	15	40	20
Atlantic	10	15	15	40	21
BC	10	15	15	37	23
Ontario	11	16	15	37	20
Prairies	12	17	16	37	18
Quebec	5	11	13	46	26
Territories	10	16	13	41	21
Language (%)					
English	10	16	16	38	20
French	5	11	12	46	26
Other	11	15	15	37	22
Group (%)					
First Nations	13	14	13	34	25
Inuit	18	14	11	32	26
Métis	11	13	14	37	25
Persons with disabilities	11	14	14	36	25
LGBTQ2	6	12	15	41	26
Visible minority	9	14	15	39	22
Satisfaction with Democracy (%)					
Not at all satisfied	8	7	10	28	47
Not very satisfied	5	9	13	42	31
Somewhat satisfied	7	17	16	43	17
Very satisfied	20	21	15	32	12
Don't know	9	9	29	35	18
Political interest (%)					
Not interested at all	12	8	27	28	26
Not very interested	7	15	21	40	17
Somewhat interested	7	16	17	43	18
Very interested	11	14	12	37	26

FIG 3.1.2   It should always be clear which party is accountable for decisions made by government, even if this means that decisions are only made by one party.

	11%	20%	16%	26%	27%
	STRONGLY DISAGREE	SOMEWHAT DISAGREE	NEUTRAL	SOMEWHAT AGREE	STRONGLY AGREE
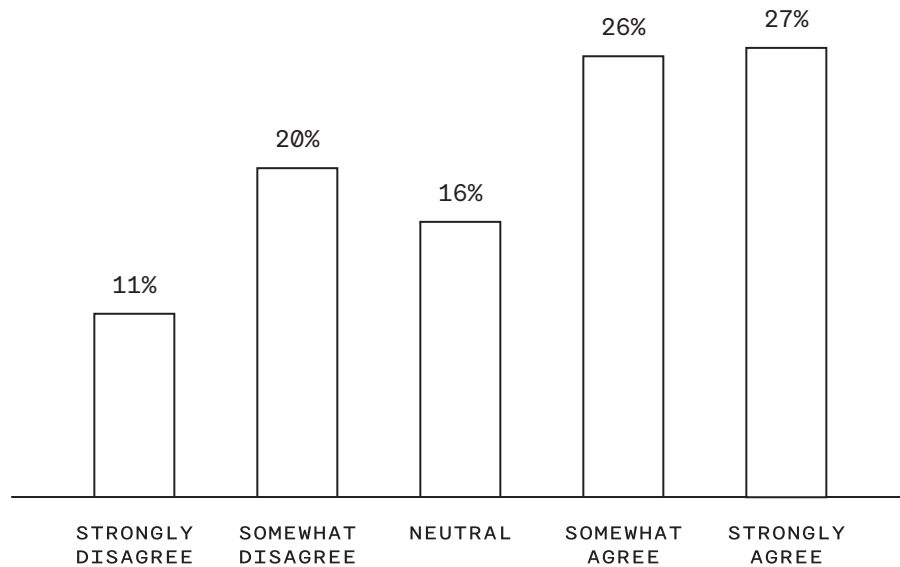
TABLE 3.1.2   It should always be clear which party is accountable for
decisions made by government, even if this means that deci-
sions are only made by one party.

	Strongly disagree	Somewhat disagree	Neutral	Somewhat agree	Strongly agree
Overall (%)					
Weighted	11	20	16	26	27
Unweighted	12	21	17	25	26
Gender (%)					
Men	11	17	16	26	29
Women	10	22	16	27	25
Other	23	22	19	16	20
Age (%)					
18-29	12	28	19	25	16
30-39	14	25	18	23	20
40-49	11	19	18	26	26
50-64	10	16	15	27	32
65+	8	12	12	30	38
Region (%)					
Alberta	9	18	14	28	31
Atlantic	9	18	16	27	30
BC	11	20	15	26	28
Ontario	10	18	15	26	32
Prairies	9	17	15	28	31
Quebec	15	25	21	25	15
Territories	13	21	20	29	18
Language (%)					
English	10	19	15	27	29
French	15	24	21	25	15
Other	10	16	14	26	33
Group (%)					
First Nations	13	13	12	24	38
Inuit	17	8	13	26	36
Métis	11	15	15	25	34
Persons with disabilities	12	17	13	24	34
LGBTQ2	15	26	18	23	19
Visible minority	9	17	14	28	31
Satisfaction with Democracy (%)					
Not at all satisfied	25	15	14	15	31
Not very satisfied	16	23	17	22	22
Somewhat satisfied	8	21	17	29	24
Very satisfied	6	13	14	29	38
Don't know	9	20	20	28	23
Political interest (%)					
Not interested at all	15	9	17	26	33
Not very interested	8	18	20	29	25
Somewhat interested	9	20	17	29	25
Very interested	13	19	15	24	29

FIG 3.1.3   One party governs and is solely accountable for policy out-
comes **OR** several parties must cooperate to govern and they
share accountability for policy outcomes?

70%

30%

ONE PARTY IS
SOLELY ACCOUNTABLE

SEVERAL PARTIES
SHARE ACCOUNTABILITY
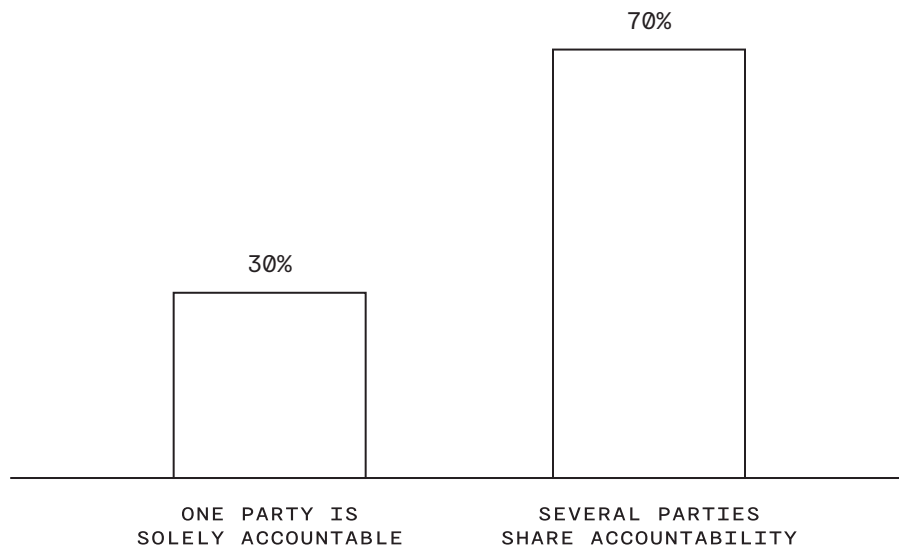
TABLE 3.1.3   One party governs and is solely accountable for policy out-
               comes OR several parties must cooperate to govern and they
               share accountability for policy outcomes?

	One party is solely accountable	Several parties share accountability
Overall (%)		
Weighted	30	70
Unweighted	33	67
Gender (%)		
Men	36	64
Women	24	76
Other	24	76
Age (%)		
18-29	22	78
30-39	24	76
40-49	31	69
50-64	34	66
65+	39	61
Region (%)		
Alberta	34	66
Atlantic	30	70
BC	30	70
Ontario	33	67
Prairies	37	63
Quebec	22	78
Territories	28	72
Language (%)		
English	33	67
French	22	78
Other	31	69
Group (%)		
First Nations	32	68
Inuit	34	66
Métis	29	71
Persons with disabilities	28	72
LGBTQ2	20	80
Visible minority	30	70
Satisfaction with Democracy (%)		
Not at all satisfied	17	83
Not very satisfied	17	83
Somewhat satisfied	30	70
Very satisfied	55	45
Don't know	23	77
Political interest (%)		
Not interested at all	27	73
Not very interested	26	74
Somewhat interested	28	72
Very interested	33	67

FIG 3.2   Ballot detail
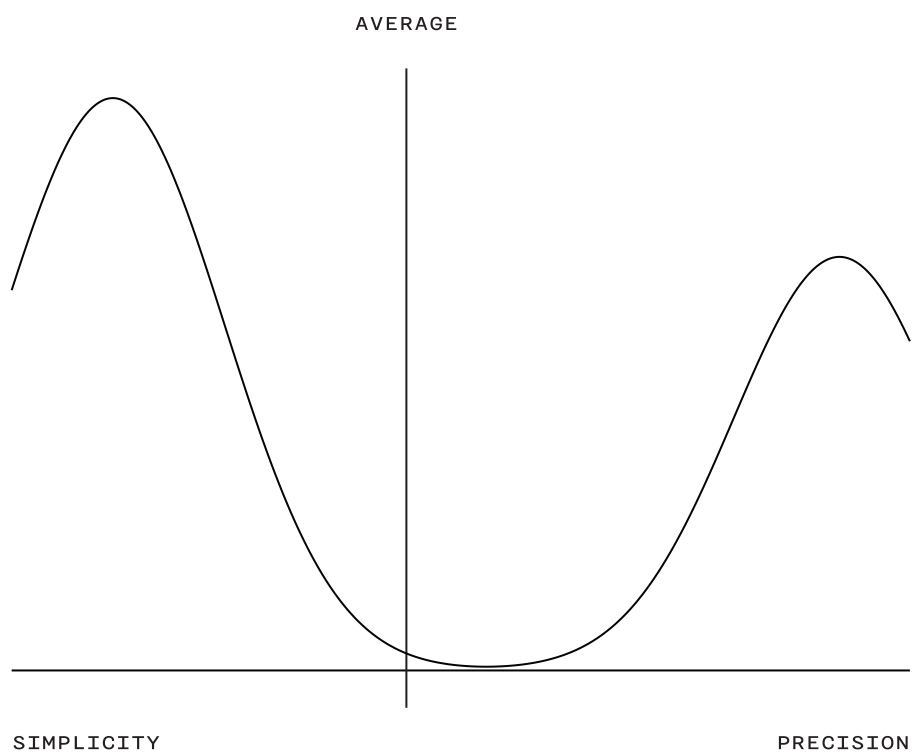
AVERAGE

SIMPLICITY   PRECISION

FIG 3.2.1   A ballot should be easy to understand, even if it means vot-
             ers have fewer options to express their preferences.

			27%	
	23%			22%
		16%		
12%				
STRONGLY DISAGREE	SOMEWHAT DISAGREE	NEUTRAL	SOMEWHAT AGREE	STRONGLY AGREE
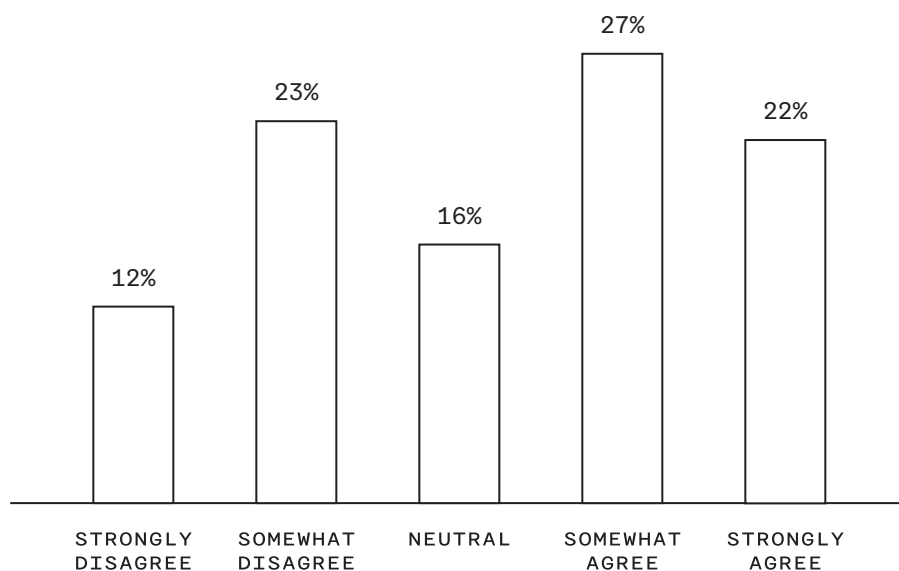
TABLE 3.2.1   A ballot should be easy to understand, even if it means vot-
                  ers have fewer options to express their preferences.

	Strongly disagree	Somewhat disagree	Neutral	Somewhat agree	Strongly agree
Overall (%)					
Weighted	12	23	16	27	22
Unweighted	13	24	16	26	21
Gender (%)					
Men	14	23	16	25	22
Women	9	23	16	30	22
Other	28	23	16	19	15
Age (%)					
18-29	15	32	20	23	10
30-39	15	29	19	24	14
40-49	12	24	16	27	20
50-64	11	19	14	30	26
65+	8	14	10	31	37
Region (%)					
Alberta	11	21	16	28	24
Atlantic	10	22	15	29	24
BC	12	22	16	27	23
Ontario	11	22	15	28	24
Prairies	11	20	15	29	25
Quebec	14	28	17	26	16
Territories	9	24	18	31	18
Language (%)					
English	11	22	15	28	23
French	14	28	17	25	15
Other	11	20	15	27	27
Group (%)					
First Nations	16	19	14	24	28
Inuit	20	17	12	23	28
Métis	16	21	17	25	21
Persons with disabilities	14	20	14	26	27
LGBTQ2	15	28	18	24	15
Visible minority	11	21	16	26	26
Satisfaction with Democracy (%)					
Not at all satisfied	29	21	14	16	20
Not very satisfied	16	29	16	23	16
Somewhat satisfied	9	24	17	31	21
Very satisfied	8	15	13	29	36
Don't know	9	20	23	27	22
Political interest (%)					
Not interested at all	14	12	22	18	33
Not very interested	7	21	18	31	23
Somewhat interested	9	23	17	30	21
Very interested	15	24	14	25	23

FIG 3.2.2   Voters should be able to express multiple preferences on the
ballot, even if this means that it takes longer to count the
ballots and announce the election result.

STRONGLY DISAGREE	SOMEWHAT DISAGREE	NEUTRAL	SOMEWHAT AGREE	STRONGLY AGREE
17%	11%	9%	29%	33%
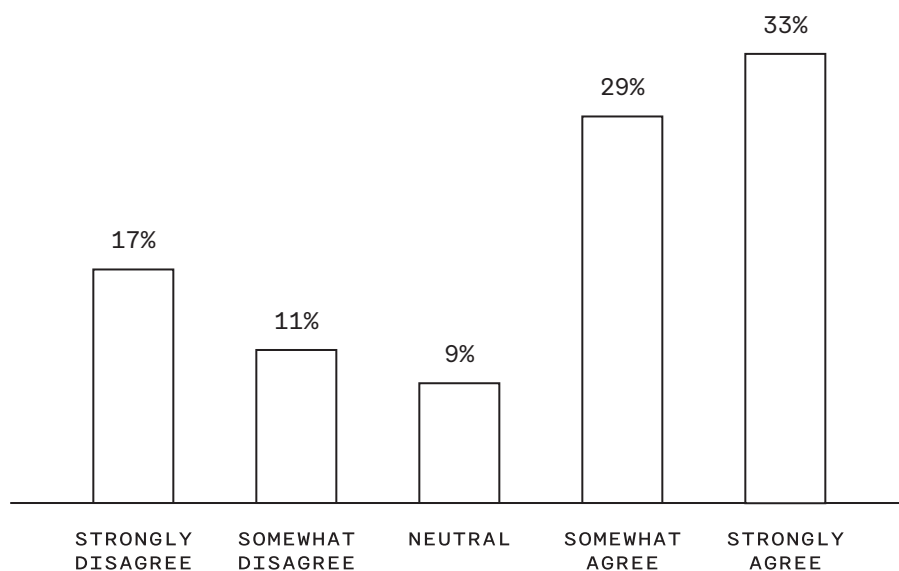
TABLE 3.2.2   Voters should be able to express multiple preferences on the ballot, even if this means that it takes longer to count the ballots and announce the election result.

	Strongly disagree	Somewhat disagree	Neutral	Somewhat agree	Strongly agree
Overall (%)					
Weighted	17	11	9	29	33
Unweighted	17	10	8	28	37
Gender (%)					
Men	18	10	8	27	36
Women	17	13	10	30	31
Other	18	7	9	18	48
Age (%)					
18-29	11	11	9	28	42
30-39	13	10	9	28	41
40-49	18	11	10	29	32
50-64	21	12	9	29	29
65+	22	13	8	30	27
Region (%)					
Alberta	25	13	10	27	25
Atlantic	15	11	9	28	36
BC	15	9	8	27	40
Ontario	18	11	9	27	35
Prairies	27	12	9	26	26
Quebec	12	13	9	33	32
Territories	14	11	12	25	38
Language (%)					
English	19	11	9	28	34
French	12	14	9	33	33
Other	19	11	10	27	34
Group (%)					
First Nations	23	11	10	24	34
Inuit	25	9	10	22	34
Métis	20	11	11	24	34
Persons with disabilities	19	10	9	24	38
LGBTQ2	11	8	8	27	45
Visible minority	17	11	10	26	35
Satisfaction with Democracy (%)					
Not at all satisfied	16	6	8	20	50
Not very satisfied	11	9	8	28	44
Somewhat satisfied	15	13	9	32	31
Very satisfied	33	14	9	25	19
Don't know	17	13	19	28	23
Political interest (%)					
Not interested at all	22	9	17	18	34
Not very interested	15	16	13	29	27
Somewhat interested	16	13	10	32	29
Very interested	19	10	7	27	38

FIG 3.2.3   Ballots should be as simple as possible so that everybody understands how to vote OR ballots should allow everybody to express their preferences in detail?

59%

41%

ALLOW EVERYBODY
TO EXPRESS THEIR
PREFERENCES

AS SIMPLE
AS POSSIBLE
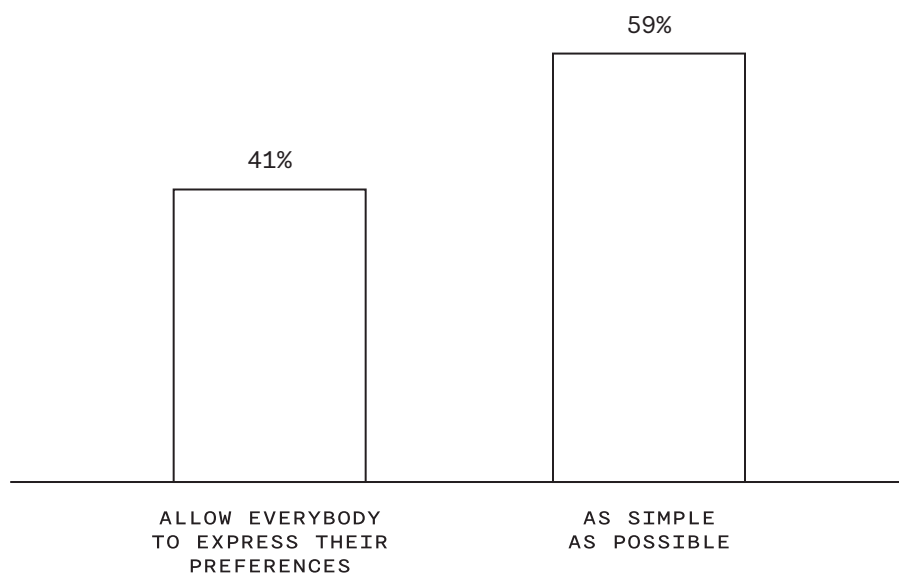
TABLE 3.2.3   Ballots should be as simple as possible so that everybody understands how to vote OR ballots should allow everybody to express their preferences in detail?

	Allow everybody to express their preferences	As simple as possible
Overall (%)		
Weighted	41	59
Unweighted	44	56
Gender (%)		
Men	44	56
Women	37	63
Other	61	39
Age (%)		
18-29	61	39
30-39	54	46
40-49	41	59
50-64	31	69
65+	21	79
Region (%)		
Alberta	34	66
Atlantic	39	61
BC	43	57
Ontario	39	61
Prairies	34	66
Quebec	47	53
Territories	42	58
Language (%)		
English	39	61
French	46	54
Other	37	63
Group (%)		
First Nations	37	63
Inuit	35	65
Métis	40	60
Persons with disabilities	39	61
LGBTQ2	56	44
Visible minority	40	60
Satisfaction with Democracy (%)		
Not at all satisfied	58	42
Not very satisfied	55	45
Somewhat satisfied	38	62
Very satisfied	20	80
Don't know	37	63
Political interest (%)		
Not interested at all	38	62
Not very interested	36	64
Somewhat interested	38	62
Very interested	43	57

FIG 3.3   Equality
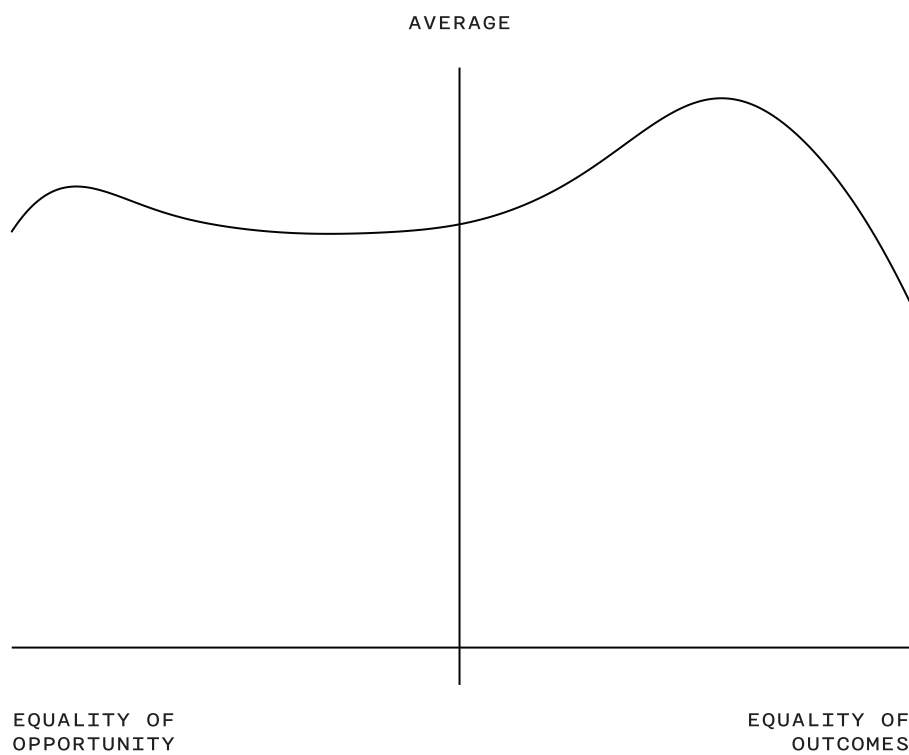
AVERAGE

EQUALITY OF
OPPORTUNITY

EQUALITY OF
OUTCOMES

FIG 3.3.1   Members of Parliament should reflect the diversity of Cana-
                dian society, even if it means putting in place special mea-
                sures to increase the representation of certain groups.

26%   25%

          19%   17%

                    13%

STRONGLY   SOMEWHAT   NEUTRAL   SOMEWHAT   STRONGLY
DISAGREE   DISAGREE   AGREE   AGREE
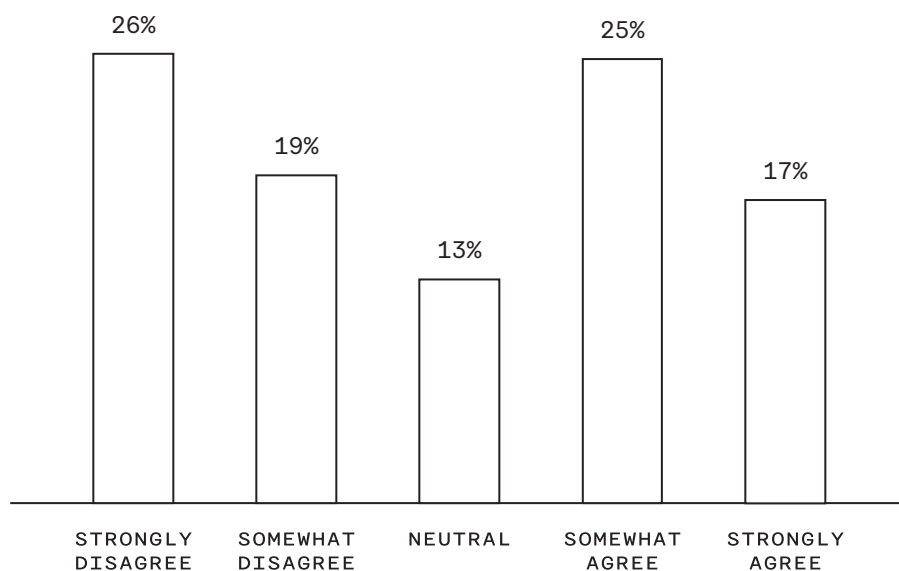
TABLE 3.3.1   Members of Parliament should reflect the diversity of Cana-
dian society, even if it means putting in place special mea-
sures to increase the representation of certain groups.

	Strongly disagree	Somewhat disagree	Neutral	Somewhat agree	Strongly agree
Overall (%)					
Weighted	26	19	13	25	17
Unweighted	28	18	12	24	17
Gender (%)					
Men	33	20	13	21	13
Women	19	18	13	30	21
Other	27	7	7	19	40
Age (%)					
18-29	18	15	13	28	25
30-39	22	17	14	27	20
40-49	28	19	13	24	16
50-64	30	20	12	24	13
65+	29	20	12	24	14
Region (%)					
Alberta	36	19	12	21	12
Atlantic	23	17	12	29	19
BC	24	18	13	27	19
Ontario	27	18	12	24	18
Prairies	35	20	11	21	13
Quebec	18	20	14	29	19
Territories	20	16	10	30	24
Language (%)					
English	29	19	12	24	16
French	19	21	14	28	17
Other	24	17	12	25	22
Group (%)					
First Nations	30	14	11	23	22
Inuit	32	14	10	20	23
Métis	30	16	13	23	19
Persons with disabilities	26	15	12	24	23
LGBTQ2	14	12	11	29	34
Visible minority	19	13	12	27	29
Satisfaction with Democracy (%)					
Not at all satisfied	35	13	11	16	25
Not very satisfied	24	18	13	25	21
Somewhat satisfied	22	21	14	28	16
Very satisfied	36	18	11	22	13
Don't know	16	18	18	26	22
Political interest (%)					
Not interested at all	33	16	17	16	18
Not very interested	21	21	17	25	16
Somewhat interested	21	21	14	28	15
Very interested	30	17	11	23	19

FIG 3.3.2   Ensuring that more individuals are elected from groups that are currently underrepresented in Parliament should be a top priority.

19%	16%	20%	27%	18%
STRONGLY DISAGREE	SOMEWHAT DISAGREE	NEUTRAL	SOMEWHAT AGREE	STRONGLY AGREE
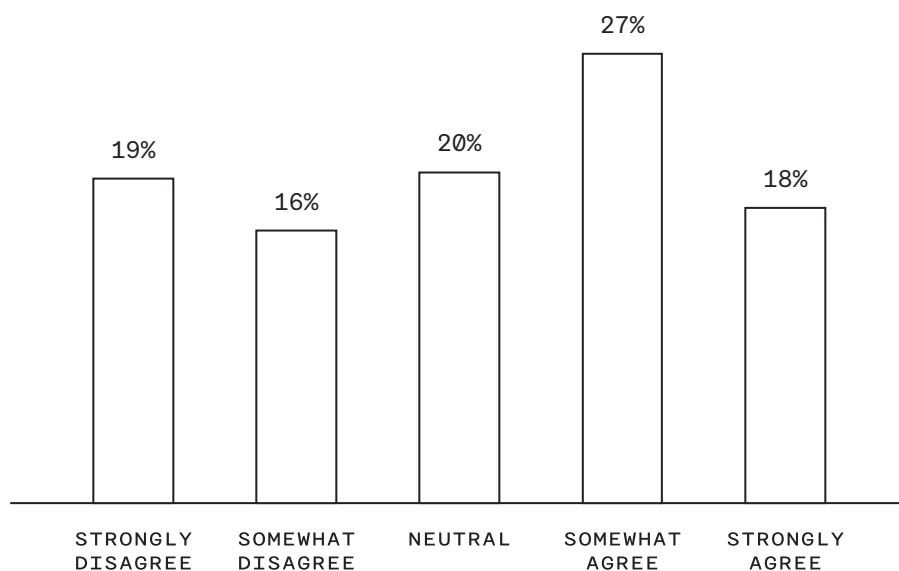
TABLE 3.3.2   Ensuring that more individuals are elected from groups that
                are currently underrepresented in Parliament should be a top
                priority.

	Strongly disagree	Somewhat disagree	Neutral	Somewhat agree	Strongly agree
Overall (%)					
Weighted	19	16	20	27	18
Unweighted	22	16	18	26	19
Gender (%)					
Men	25	17	19	23	15
Women	14	15	20	31	20
Other	22	8	11	21	37
Age (%)					
18-29	13	13	19	31	24
30-39	16	14	21	29	20
40-49	20	16	22	25	17
50-64	23	18	20	25	14
65+	23	19	17	26	15
Region (%)					
Alberta	28	18	20	22	12
Atlantic	17	16	18	30	20
BC	19	15	18	28	21
Ontario	21	16	19	26	18
Prairies	28	18	18	22	14
Quebec	12	17	24	30	17
Territories	14	16	18	29	23
Language (%)					
English	22	16	18	26	17
French	13	17	24	29	16
Other	19	15	19	26	21
Group (%)					
First Nations	24	13	16	24	23
Inuit	23	11	18	22	26
Métis	22	13	20	23	21
Persons with disabilities	20	13	17	26	23
LGBTQ2	10	10	17	32	31
Visible minority	15	12	19	29	25
Satisfaction with Democracy (%)					
Not at all satisfied	25	10	15	19	31
Not very satisfied	16	14	19	27	23
Somewhat satisfied	16	18	21	30	15
Very satisfied	31	18	19	23	10
Don't know	13	15	28	26	17
Political interest (%)					
Not interested at all	22	15	25	19	19
Not very interested	16	19	26	26	13
Somewhat interested	16	18	23	29	15
Very interested	23	15	17	26	21

FIG 3.3.3   No further action needs to be taken to ensure that those
             elected to Parliament better reflect the diversity of the
             population they represent **OR** further action needs to be tak-
             en to ensure that those elected to Parliament better reflect
             the diversity of the population they represent?

```
        52%
                              48%
    ┌──────────┐
    │          │         ┌──────────┐
    │          │         │          │
    │          │         │          │
    │          │         │          │
    │          │         │          │
    │          │         │          │
    │          │         │          │
    └──────────┴─────────┴──────────┘

    FURTHER ACTION        NO FURTHER ACTION
    NEEDS TO BE TAKEN     NEEDS TO BE TAKEN
```
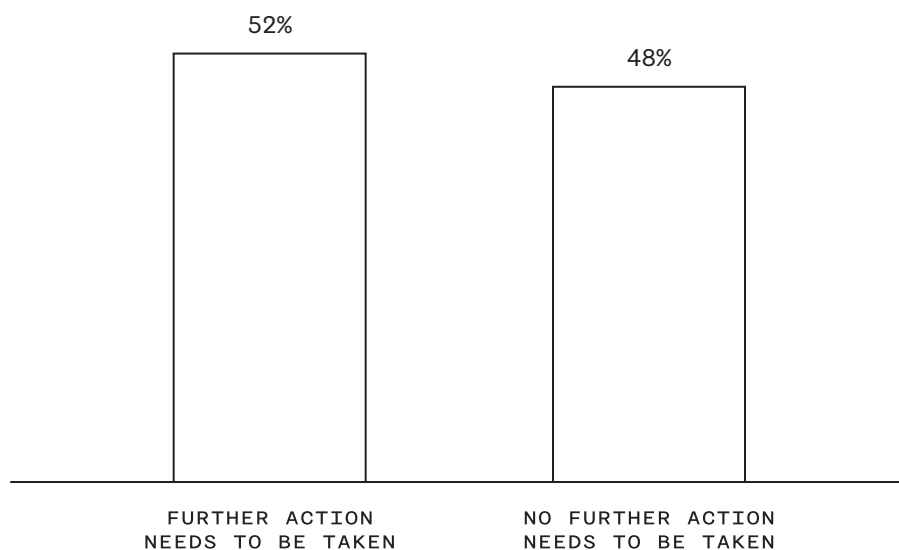
TABLE 3.3.3   No further action needs to be taken to ensure that those elected to Parliament better reflect the diversity of the population they represent OR further action needs to be taken to ensure that those elected to Parliament better reflect the diversity of the population they represent?

	Further action needs to be taken	No further action needs to be taken
Overall (%)		
Weighted	52	48
Unweighted	51	49
Gender (%)		
Men	45	55
Women	59	41
Other	65	35
Age (%)		
18-29	63	37
30-39	57	43
40-49	49	51
50-64	47	53
65+	47	53
Region (%)		
Alberta	45	55
Atlantic	55	45
BC	56	44
Ontario	50	50
Prairies	43	57
Quebec	57	43
Territories	56	44
Language (%)		
English	50	50
French	56	44
Other	54	46
Group (%)		
First Nations	56	44
Inuit	54	46
Métis	53	47
Persons with disabilities	57	43
LGBTQ2	71	29
Visible minority	64	36
Satisfaction with Democracy (%)		
Not at all satisfied	59	41
Not very satisfied	60	40
Somewhat satisfied	53	47
Very satisfied	35	65
Don't know	60	40
Political interest (%)		
Not interested at all	50	50
Not very interested	50	50
Somewhat interested	53	47
Very interested	52	48

FIG 3.4   Leadership
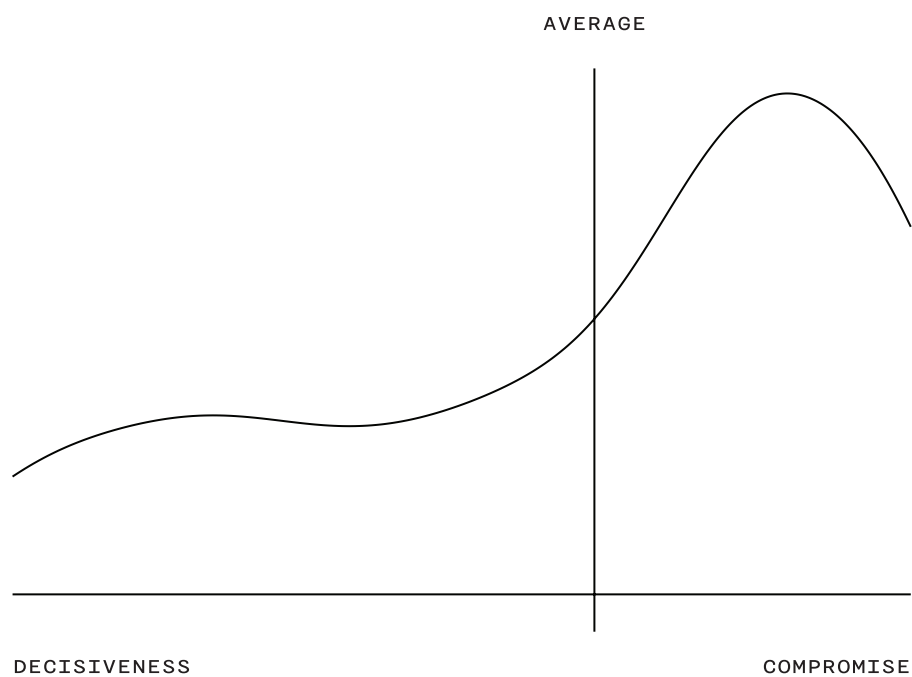
AVERAGE

DECISIVENESS   COMPROMISE

FIG 3.4.1   It is better for several parties to have to govern together
than for one party to make all the decisions in government,
even if it takes longer for government to get things done.

34%

28%

16%

13%

9%

STRONGLY   SOMEWHAT   NEUTRAL   SOMEWHAT   STRONGLY
DISAGREE   DISAGREE   AGREE   AGREE
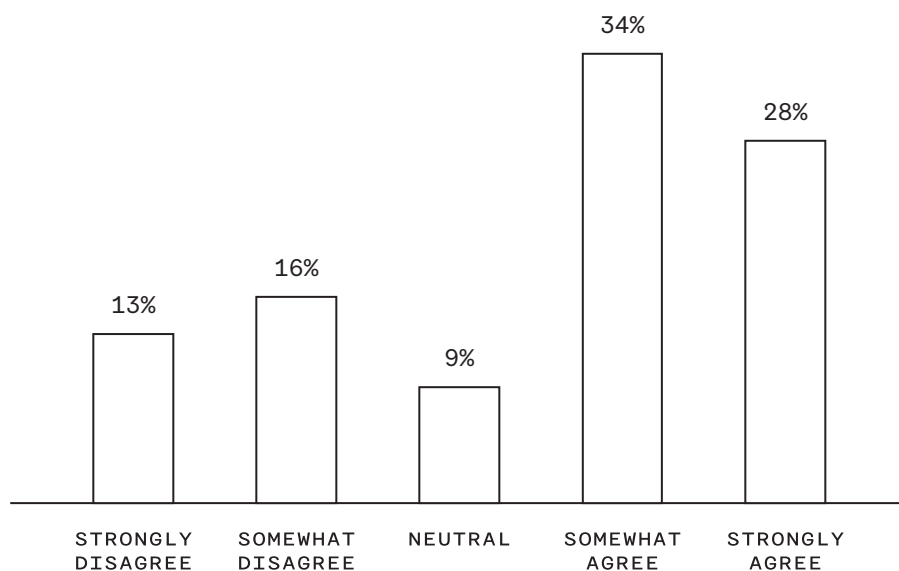
TABLE 3.4.1   It is better for several parties to have to govern together than for one party to make all the decisions in government, even if it takes longer for government to get things done.

	Strongly disagree	Somewhat disagree	Neutral	Somewhat agree	Strongly agree
Overall (%)					
Weighted	13	16	9	34	28
Unweighted	15	16	9	33	27
Gender (%)					
Men	16	16	9	31	27
Women	10	16	9	38	28
Other	14	10	11	25	40
Age (%)					
18-29	8	17	12	36	27
30-39	9	15	10	35	31
40-49	13	16	9	36	27
50-64	16	16	7	33	27
65+	18	15	6	33	28
Region (%)					
Alberta	15	18	9	34	23
Atlantic	13	16	8	36	27
BC	13	16	9	33	29
Ontario	15	17	10	33	25
Prairies	18	17	10	33	22
Quebec	7	12	7	38	35
Territories	11	14	11	36	27
Language (%)					
English	15	17	9	34	25
French	7	12	7	38	36
Other	15	16	10	32	27
Group (%)					
First Nations	16	14	8	30	32
Inuit	17	13	10	25	36
Métis	13	14	8	34	32
Persons with disabilities	13	13	8	33	32
LGBTQ2	7	13	10	36	34
Visible minority	14	17	11	32	27
Satisfaction with Democracy (%)					
Not at all satisfied	10	6	6	21	57
Not very satisfied	6	10	7	36	40
Somewhat satisfied	11	18	10	39	22
Very satisfied	30	22	8	26	14
Don't know	10	13	16	37	24
Political interest (%)					
Not interested at all	14	10	13	28	34
Not very interested	9	17	13	37	24
Somewhat interested	10	17	10	39	24
Very interested	16	15	8	31	31

FIG 3.4.2   A party that wins the most seats in an election should still
              have to compromise with other parties, even if it means re-
              considering some of its policies.

			41%	
	13%			27%
9%		10%		
STRONGLY DISAGREE	SOMEWHAT DISAGREE	NEUTRAL	SOMEWHAT AGREE	STRONGLY AGREE
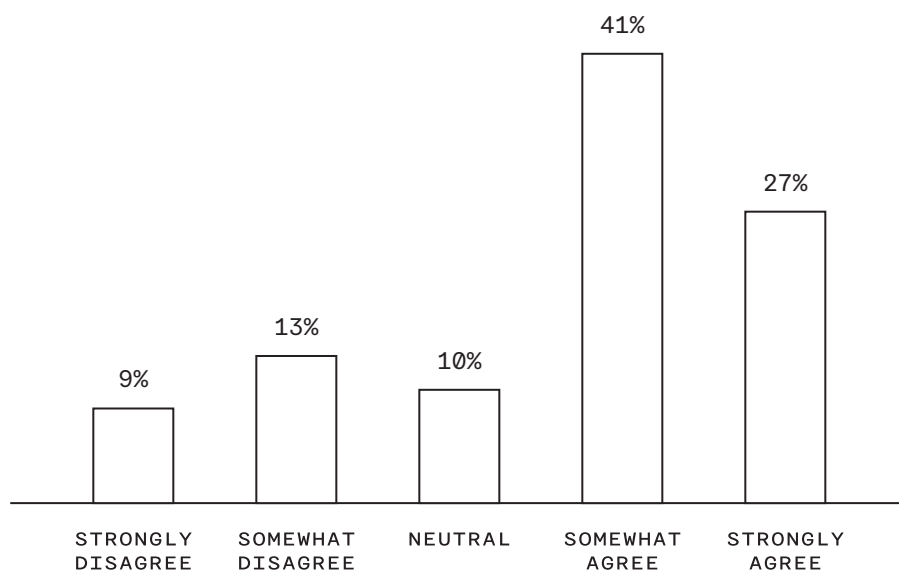
TABLE 3.4.2   A party that wins the most seats in an election should still
                have to compromise with other parties, even if it means re-
                considering some of its policies.

	Strongly disagree	Somewhat disagree	Neutral	Somewhat agree	Strongly agree
Overall (%)					
Weighted	9	13	10	41	27
Unweighted	10	14	11	40	26
Gender (%)					
Men	11	14	11	38	26
Women	6	12	10	44	27
Other	13	9	11	32	35
Age (%)					
18-29	5	12	13	44	25
30-39	6	13	12	41	28
40-49	9	14	11	40	26
50-64	11	14	9	40	26
65+	11	13	8	41	28
Region (%)					
Alberta	10	15	11	39	25
Atlantic	9	13	10	42	26
BC	9	13	10	39	29
Ontario	10	14	10	40	26
Prairies	12	15	11	40	23
Quebec	5	12	10	45	28
Territories	8	11	13	36	32
Language (%)					
English	10	14	10	40	25
French	5	11	10	45	28
Other	10	13	11	38	29
Group (%)					
First Nations	12	12	9	35	33
Inuit	13	12	9	29	37
Métis	10	12	10	37	31
Persons with disabilities	10	11	9	37	32
LGBTQ2	5	10	10	43	31
Visible minority	9	13	11	39	29
Satisfaction with Democracy (%)					
Not at all satisfied	8	6	8	26	52
Not very satisfied	5	9	9	41	37
Somewhat satisfied	7	15	12	46	21
Very satisfied	19	20	10	35	16
Don't know	7	13	16	42	22
Political interest (%)					
Not interested at all	12	9	16	31	33
Not very interested	7	13	13	43	23
Somewhat interested	7	14	12	44	23
Very interested	10	13	9	38	30

FIG 3.4.3   A government where one party governs and can make decisions
             on its own **OR** a government where several parties have to
             collectively agree before a decision is made?

                                        70%

                30%

        ONE PARTY MAKES   SEVERAL PARTIES HAVE
      DECISIONS ON ITS OWN   TO COLLECTIVELY AGREE
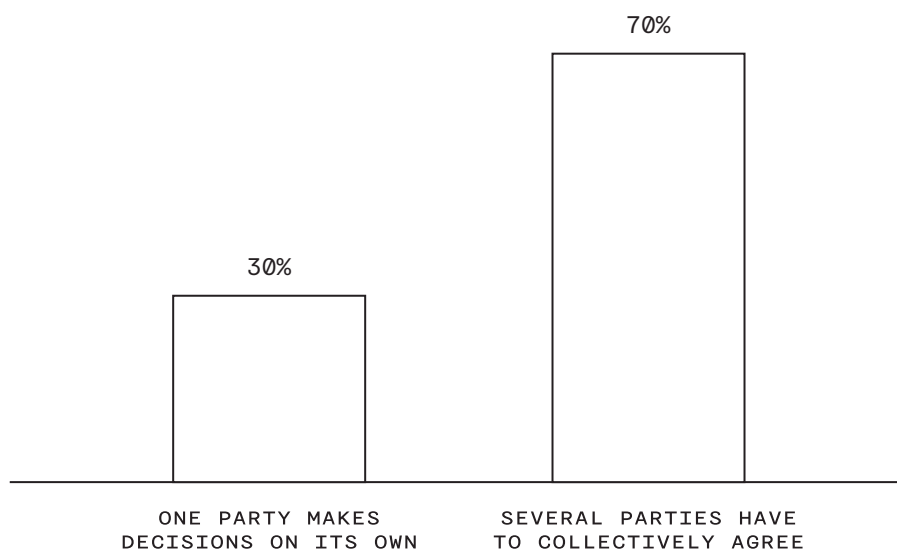
TABLE 3.4.3   A government where one party governs and can make decisions on its own OR a government where several parties have to collectively agree before a decision is made?

	One party makes decisions on its own	Several parties have to collectively agree
Overall (%)		
Weighted	30	70
Unweighted	34	66
Gender (%)		
Men	36	64
Women	25	75
Other	27	73
Age (%)		
18-29	23	77
30-39	25	75
40-49	30	70
50-64	34	66
65+	38	62
Region (%)		
Alberta	34	66
Atlantic	31	69
BC	31	69
Ontario	33	67
Prairies	37	63
Quebec	21	79
Territories	33	67
Language (%)		
English	34	66
French	21	79
Other	31	69
Group (%)		
First Nations	32	68
Inuit	34	66
Métis	30	70
Persons with disabilities	28	72
LGBTQ2	21	79
Visible minority	30	70
Satisfaction with Democracy (%)		
Not at all satisfied	16	84
Not very satisfied	16	84
Somewhat satisfied	31	69
Very satisfied	55	45
Don't know	24	76
Political interest (%)		
Not interested at all	28	72
Not very interested	26	74
Somewhat interested	28	72
Very interested	32	68

FIG 3.5   Party discipline

AVERAGE

RIGID   FLEXIBLE

FIG 3.5.1   Members of Parliament should always act in the interests of their constituents, even if it means going against their own party.

STRONGLY DISAGREE	SOMEWHAT DISAGREE	NEUTRAL	SOMEWHAT AGREE	STRONGLY AGREE
7%	7%	7%	32%	51%
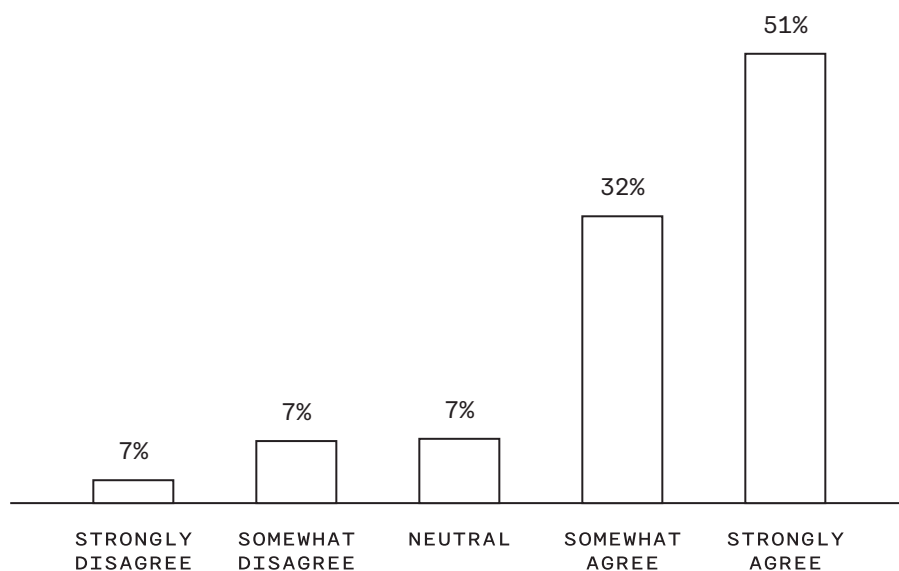
TABLE 3.5.1 Members of Parliament should always act in the interests of their constituents, even if it means going against their own party.

	Strongly disagree	Somewhat disagree	Neutral	Somewhat agree	Strongly agree
Overall (%)					
Weighted	3	7	7	32	51
Unweighted	3	9	8	33	47
Gender (%)					
Men	3	7	7	29	55
Women	2	8	8	36	47
Other	5	5	14	26	49
Age (%)					
18-29	2	8	12	36	42
30-39	2	6	8	33	51
40-49	2	6	6	32	53
50-64	3	7	6	31	54
65+	3	7	5	31	53
Region (%)					
Alberta	2	7	6	31	53
Atlantic	3	6	7	31	54
BC	3	7	7	33	50
Ontario	3	8	8	33	48
Prairies	3	7	7	33	49
Quebec	2	5	6	32	55
Territories	3	10	7	33	47
Language (%)					
English	3	8	7	33	50
French	2	5	6	32	55
Other	3	8	9	31	49
Group (%)					
First Nations	5	6	8	25	56
Inuit	8	6	11	19	55
Métis	3	6	8	28	55
Persons with disabilities	4	6	7	28	56
LGBTQ2	3	7	10	34	46
Visible minority	4	7	9	31	50
Satisfaction with Democracy (%)					
Not at all satisfied	3	3	6	16	72
Not very satisfied	2	5	6	28	60
Somewhat satisfied	2	7	8	37	46
Very satisfied	5	11	9	34	42
Don't know	4	12	18	30	35
Political interest (%)					
Not interested at all	8	6	12	22	52
Not very interested	3	8	11	35	44
Somewhat interested	2	6	8	36	48
Very interested	3	8	6	30	53

FIG 3.5.2   Members of Parliament should always support the position of their party, even if it means going against the wishes of their constituents.

54%

31%

6%   6%

3%

STRONGLY   SOMEWHAT   NEUTRAL   SOMEWHAT   STRONGLY
DISAGREE   DISAGREE   AGREE   AGREE
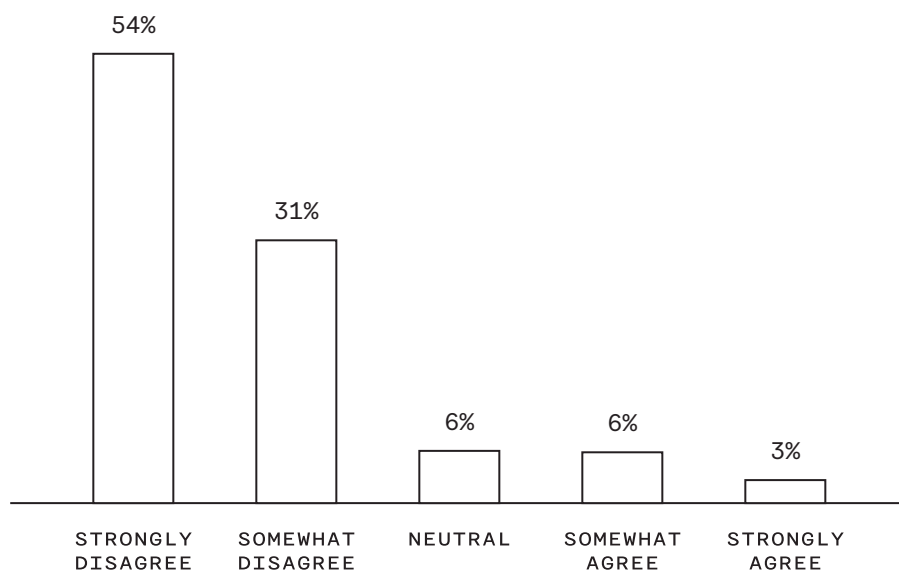
TABLE 3.5.2   Members of Parliament should always support the position of their party, even if it means going against the wishes of their constituents.

	Strongly disagree	Somewhat disagree	Neutral	Somewhat agree	Strongly agree
Overall (%)					
Weighted	54	31	6	6	3
Unweighted	53	32	6	6	2
Gender (%)					
Men	58	28	6	6	3
Women	50	35	7	6	3
Other	53	27	10	5	4
Age (%)					
18-29	46	36	10	6	2
30-39	56	30	7	5	2
40-49	56	30	6	6	3
50-64	56	30	5	6	3
65+	54	31	5	8	4
Region (%)					
Alberta	57	29	6	6	3
Atlantic	58	29	6	5	2
BC	55	31	6	5	3
Ontario	52	32	7	7	3
Prairies	54	31	7	6	3
Quebec	53	33	6	6	3
Territories	55	29	6	7	2
Language (%)					
English	54	31	6	6	2
French	54	33	5	6	3
Other	52	30	7	7	4
Group (%)					
First Nations	58	23	7	6	5
Inuit	57	20	10	7	7
Métis	58	25	7	6	4
Persons with disabilities	57	26	7	6	4
LGBTQ2	50	34	8	6	3
Visible minority	50	31	9	7	4
Satisfaction with Democracy (%)					
Not at all satisfied	73	14	5	4	4
Not very satisfied	63	26	5	4	2
Somewhat satisfied	50	36	6	6	2
Very satisfied	44	34	7	10	4
Don't know	34	36	19	7	4
Political interest (%)					
Not interested at all	49	21	14	6	10
Not very interested	44	35	10	7	3
Somewhat interested	50	34	7	6	2
Very interested	57	29	5	6	3

FIG 3.5.3   Members of Parliament that do what their party promised, even
             if it means going against what their constituents want OR
             members of Parliament that do what their constituents want,
             even if it means going against what their party promised?

77%

23%

MPs THAT DO WHAT THEIR   MPs THAT DO WHAT
CONSTITUENTS WANT   THEIR PARTY PROMISED
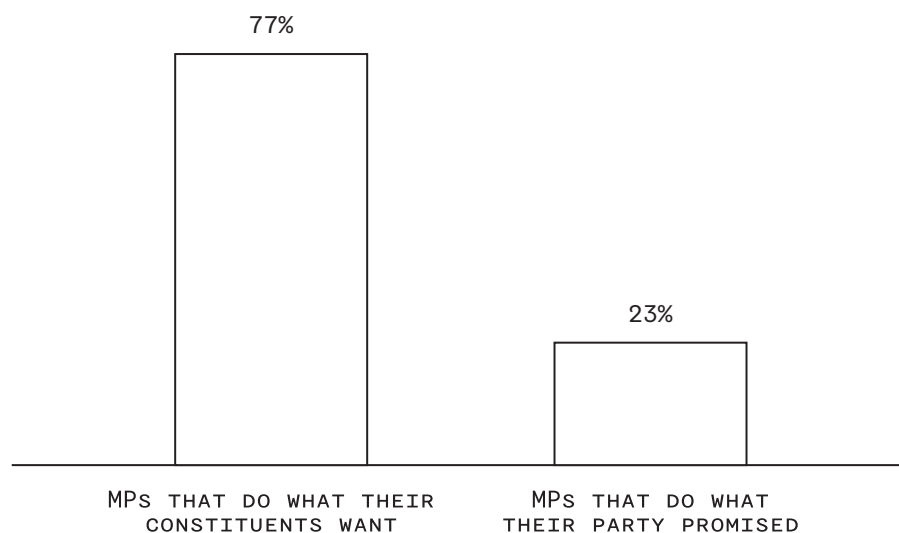
TABLE 3.5.3   Members of Parliament that do what their party promised, even
               if it means going against what their constituents want OR
               members of Parliament that do what their constituents want,
               even if it means going against what their party promised?

	MPs that do what their constituents want	MPs that do what their party promised
Overall (%)		
Weighted	77	23
Unweighted	76	24
Gender (%)		
Men	78	22
Women	76	24
Other	72	28
Age (%)		
18-29	73	27
30-39	79	21
40-49	80	20
50-64	78	22
65+	76	24
Region (%)		
Alberta	79	21
Atlantic	77	23
BC	76	24
Ontario	73	27
Prairies	76	24
Quebec	84	16
Territories	79	21
Language (%)		
English	75	25
French	84	16
Other	73	27
Group (%)		
First Nations	73	27
Inuit	71	29
Métis	75	25
Persons with disabilities	76	24
LGBTQ2	75	25
Visible minority	73	27
Satisfaction with Democracy (%)		
Not at all satisfied	83	17
Not very satisfied	83	17
Somewhat satisfied	77	23
Very satisfied	66	34
Don't know	60	40
Political interest (%)		
Not interested at all	68	32
Not very interested	73	27
Somewhat interested	78	22
Very interested	77	23

FIG 3.6   Party focus

AVERAGE

BROAD   NARROW

FIG 3.6.1   There should be parties in Parliament that represent the
views of all Canadians, even if some are radical or extreme.

			26%	
23%	22%			
		14%		15%

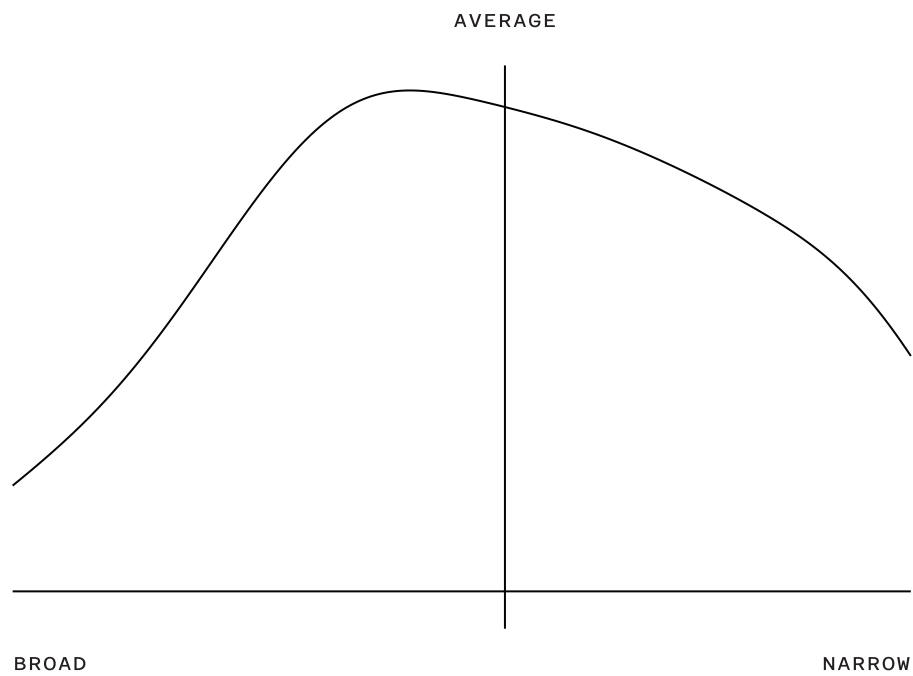STRONGLY DISAGREE | SOMEWHAT DISAGREE | NEUTRAL | SOMEWHAT AGREE | STRONGLY AGREE
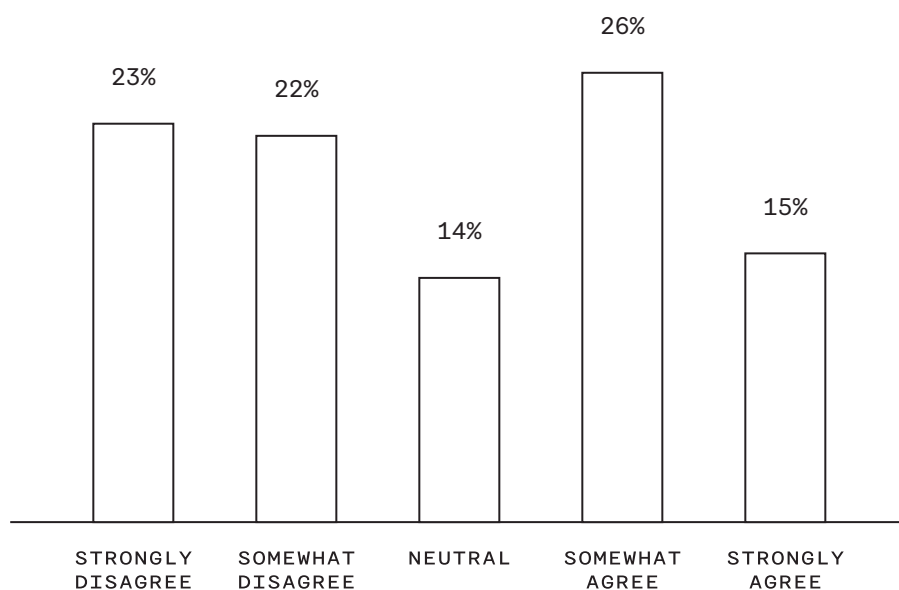
TABLE 3.6.1   There should be parties in Parliament that represent the views of all Canadians, even if some are radical or extreme.

	Strongly disagree	Somewhat disagree	Neutral	Somewhat agree	Strongly agree
Overall (%)					
Weighted	23	22	14	26	15
Unweighted	22	21	14	26	17
Gender (%)					
Men	23	20	13	25	18
Women	22	25	15	26	12
Other	16	16	15	26	27
Age (%)					
18-29	14	23	16	30	17
30-39	17	21	16	28	18
40-49	23	22	15	25	16
50-64	28	22	13	23	14
65+	29	22	11	24	14
Region (%)					
Alberta	26	23	14	24	13
Atlantic	23	21	13	27	15
BC	21	21	14	26	18
Ontario	24	22	14	25	15
Prairies	28	21	14	23	14
Quebec	19	23	14	28	16
Territories	18	23	16	27	17
Language (%)					
English	24	22	14	25	15
French	19	24	14	29	15
Other	24	21	13	24	18
Group (%)					
First Nations	24	17	14	24	21
Inuit	22	17	13	21	27
Métis	23	20	14	24	20
Persons with disabilities	23	19	13	25	20
LGBTQ2	15	22	15	30	19
Visible minority	22	20	14	25	18
Satisfaction with Democracy (%)					
Not at all satisfied	20	10	11	22	37
Not very satisfied	16	19	13	31	21
Somewhat satisfied	22	25	15	27	11
Very satisfied	37	23	13	18	9
Don't know	16	22	20	25	17
Political interest (%)					
Not interested at all	21	15	19	18	26
Not very interested	19	25	17	26	14
Somewhat interested	21	25	16	27	12
Very interested	25	20	12	25	18

FIG 3.6.2   There should be greater diversity of views in Parliament.

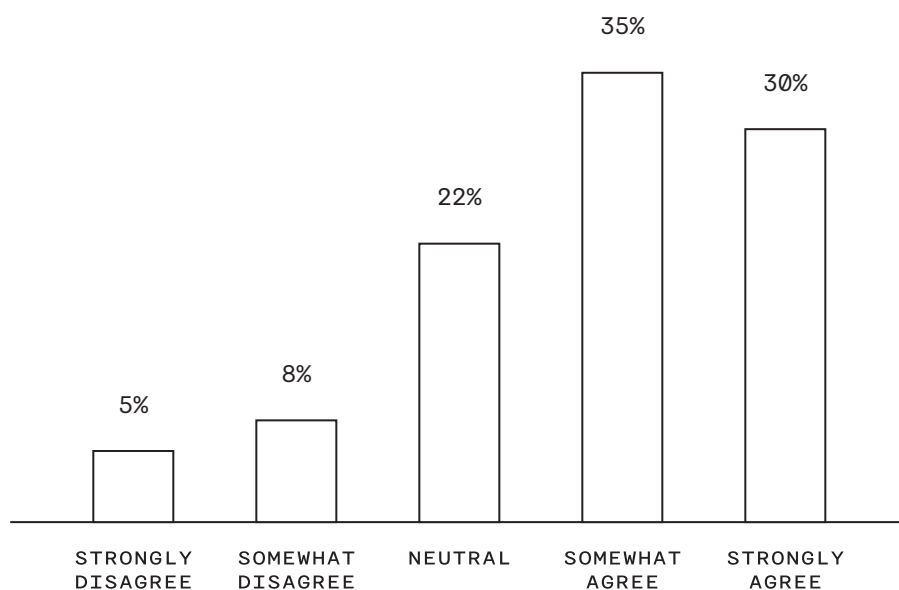|			35%	
				30%
		22%		
	8%			
5%				
STRONGLY DISAGREE	SOMEWHAT DISAGREE	NEUTRAL	SOMEWHAT AGREE	STRONGLY AGREE

TABLE 3.6.2   There should be greater diversity of views in Parliament.

	Strongly disagree	Somewhat disagree	Neutral	Somewhat agree	Strongly agree
Overall (%)					
Weighted	5	8	22	35	30
Unweighted	6	8	22	33	31
Gender (%)					
Men	7	9	23	32	29
Women	4	7	20	37	31
Other	12	5	14	20	48
Age (%)					
18-29	3	5	17	36	39
30-39	4	6	20	35	36
40-49	6	9	22	33	30
50-64	7	10	24	34	26
65+	6	10	23	36	25
Region (%)					
Alberta	8	11	25	32	24
Atlantic	5	6	20	36	33
BC	5	7	22	33	33
Ontario	7	8	23	32	30
Prairies	9	11	24	31	24
Quebec	2	6	18	41	33
Territories	4	6	22	31	37
Language (%)					
English	6	9	23	33	29
French	3	6	18	42	31
Other	6	7	21	31	35
Group (%)					
First Nations	11	7	18	29	35
Inuit	13	7	19	26	35
Métis	9	7	21	31	32
Persons with disabilities	7	7	19	31	35
LGBTQ2	4	4	14	33	46
Visible minority	6	6	15	32	41
Satisfaction with Democracy (%)					
Not at all satisfied	9	6	14	20	51
Not very satisfied	4	6	16	33	41
Somewhat satisfied	4	8	23	39	26
Very satisfied	11	12	28	31	19
Don't know	7	4	25	34	30
Political interest (%)					
Not interested at all	11	8	24	19	38
Not very interested	5	7	27	37	25
Somewhat interested	4	8	24	38	26
Very interested	7	8	19	32	34

FIG 3.6.3   Having many small parties in Parliament representing many different views OR having a few big parties that try to appeal to a broad range of people?

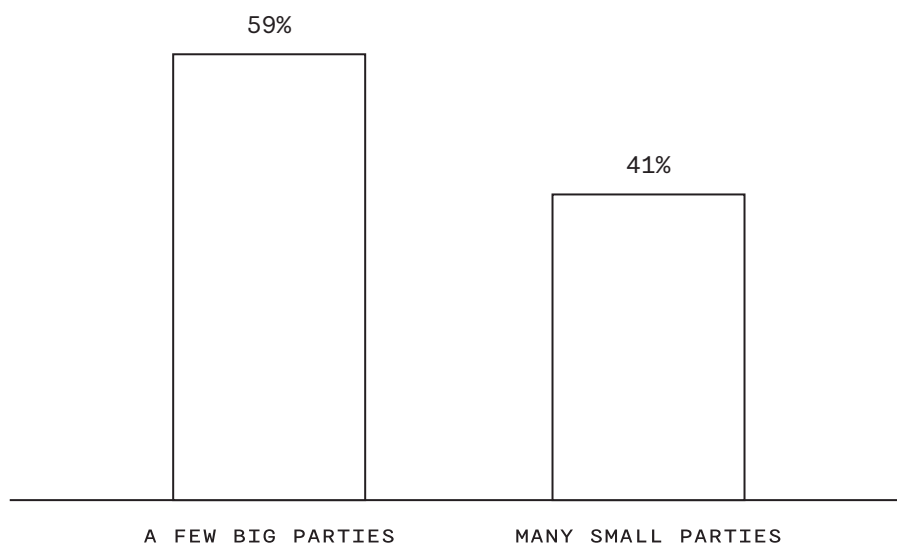
59%

41%

A FEW BIG PARTIES   MANY SMALL PARTIES

TABLE 3.6.3   Having many small parties in Parliament representing many different views OR having a few big parties that try to appeal to a broad range of people?

	A few big parties	Many small parties
Overall (%)		
Weighted	59	41
Unweighted	58	42
Gender (%)		
Men	57	43
Women	62	38
Other	35	65
Age (%)		
18-29	43	57
30-39	45	55
40-49	58	42
50-64	69	31
65+	77	23
Region (%)		
Alberta	64	36
Atlantic	58	42
BC	55	45
Ontario	62	38
Prairies	65	35
Quebec	55	45
Territories	50	50
Language (%)		
English	61	39
French	55	45
Other	61	39
Group (%)		
First Nations	56	44
Inuit	56	44
Métis	54	46
Persons with disabilities	57	43
LGBTQ2	43	57
Visible minority	59	41
Satisfaction with Democracy (%)		
Not at all satisfied	36	64
Not very satisfied	42	58
Somewhat satisfied	63	37
Very satisfied	83	17
Don't know	52	48
Political interest (%)		
Not interested at all	55	45
Not very interested	60	40
Somewhat interested	61	39
Very interested	58	42

FIG 3.7   Online voting

AVERAGE

PAPER BALLOT   ONLINE BALLOT

FIG 3.7.1   Canadians should have the option to cast their vote online
             in federal elections, even if it is less secure.

31%

18%

24%

17%

10%

STRONGLY   SOMEWHAT   NEUTRAL   SOMEWHAT   STRONGLY
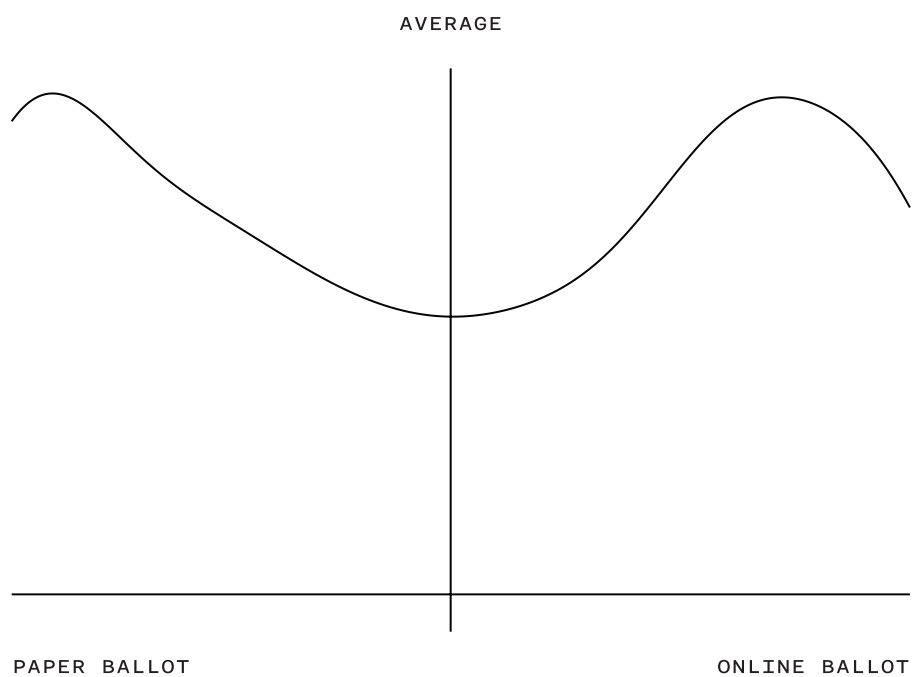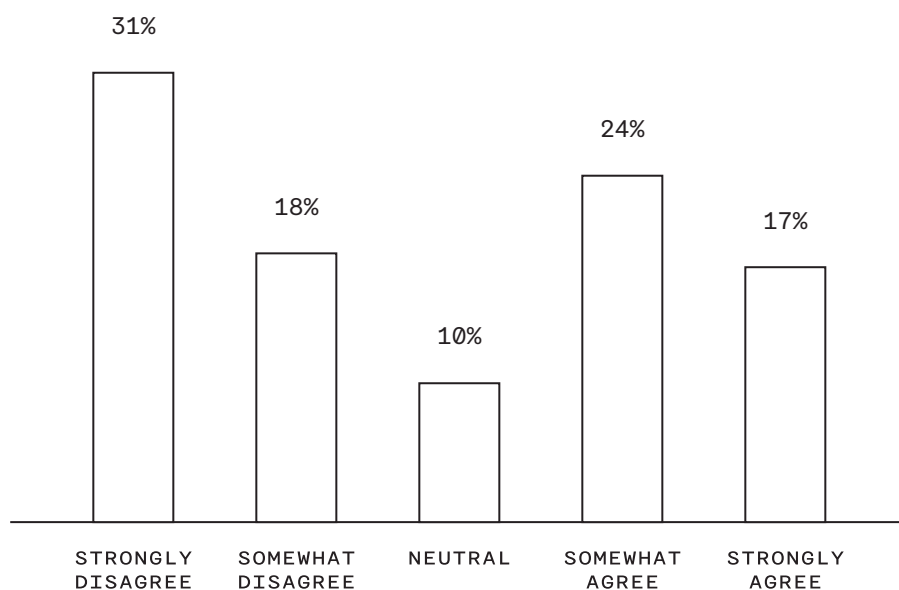DISAGREE   DISAGREE   AGREE   AGREE

TABLE 3.7.1   Canadians should have the option to cast their vote online in federal elections, even if it is less secure.

	Strongly disagree	Somewhat disagree	Neutral	Somewhat agree	Strongly agree
Overall (%)					
Weighted	31	18	10	24	17
Unweighted	31	18	10	23	17
Gender (%)					
Men	32	17	9	23	19
Women	30	20	10	25	16
Other	36	12	12	19	20
Age (%)					
18-29	24	19	12	26	19
30-39	27	18	10	24	20
40-49	32	18	9	23	18
50-64	35	18	9	22	16
65+	34	18	8	24	15
Region (%)					
Alberta	37	18	9	21	15
Atlantic	25	16	9	26	23
BC	31	17	10	24	17
Ontario	31	18	9	23	19
Prairies	40	18	9	21	13
Quebec	27	21	10	26	17
Territories	29	18	9	29	14
Language (%)					
English	32	17	9	24	18
French	26	20	9	27	17
Other	34	19	10	20	17
Group (%)					
First Nations	40	14	8	19	18
Inuit	40	15	8	18	19
Métis	35	15	9	23	17
Persons with disabilities	35	15	9	21	20
LGBTQ2	24	18	11	25	22
Visible minority	33	19	10	21	18
Satisfaction with Democracy (%)					
Not at all satisfied	37	12	10	17	24
Not very satisfied	28	18	11	24	19
Somewhat satisfied	28	20	10	26	16
Very satisfied	40	18	7	20	15
Don't know	29	21	14	21	14
Political interest (%)					
Not interested at all	28	12	12	16	31
Not very interested	24	20	11	27	19
Somewhat interested	27	20	10	26	17
Very interested	34	17	9	22	18

FIG 3.7.2   Canadians should have the option to cast their ballot online
                 in federal elections, even if this increases the cost of
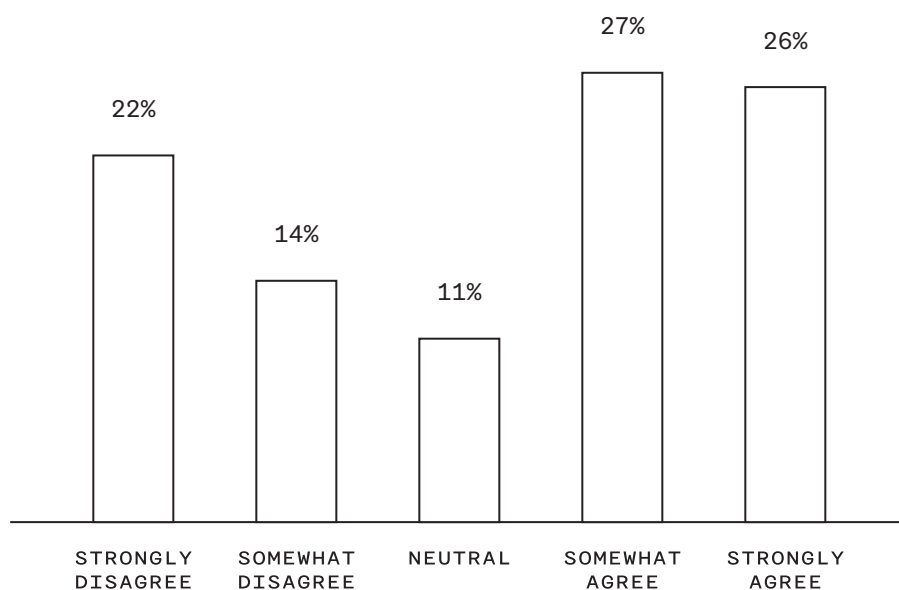   elections.

22%   14%   11%   27%   26%

STRONGLY   SOMEWHAT   NEUTRAL   SOMEWHAT   STRONGLY
DISAGREE   DISAGREE   AGREE   AGREE

TABLE 3.7.2   Canadians should have the option to cast their ballot online in federal elections, even if this increases the cost of elections.

	Strongly disagree	Somewhat disagree	Neutral	Somewhat agree	Strongly agree
Overall (%)					
Weighted	22	14	11	27	26
Unweighted	21	14	11	27	26
Gender (%)					
Men	23	13	11	26	27
Women	21	16	11	28	25
Other	28	9	10	21	31
Age (%)					
18-29	17	14	12	28	29
30-39	19	14	11	26	30
40-49	23	14	10	26	27
50-64	25	15	10	27	24
65+	25	15	10	27	22
Region (%)					
Alberta	28	15	11	25	21
Atlantic	17	12	10	28	33
BC	21	13	11	27	28
Ontario	21	13	11	27	29
Prairies	30	16	10	25	19
Quebec	20	18	11	28	22
Territories	18	10	18	31	22
Language (%)					
English	22	13	11	27	27
French	20	18	11	28	23
Other	24	15	11	24	26
Group (%)					
First Nations	31	12	10	21	26
Inuit	32	11	12	18	26
Métis	27	12	10	24	27
Persons with disabilities	25	12	11	23	30
LGBTQ2	17	12	11	27	34
Visible minority	22	15	11	24	28
Satisfaction with Democracy (%)					
Not at all satisfied	30	10	11	17	31
Not very satisfied	21	14	11	27	27
Somewhat satisfied	19	15	11	29	26
Very satisfied	28	15	9	25	23
Don't know	23	16	16	24	20
Political interest (%)					
Not interested at all	25	11	15	19	29
Not very interested	19	15	12	30	24
Somewhat interested	18	16	12	29	25
Very interested	25	13	10	25	27

FIG 3.7.3   Canadians should have the option to cast their ballots online in federal elections, even if the security or privacy of on-line voting cannot be guaranteed **OR** Canadians should continue to vote using paper ballots at a polling station, even if it is less accessible for some voters?

51%   49%

CONTINUE TO VOTE   HAVE THE OPTION TO CAST
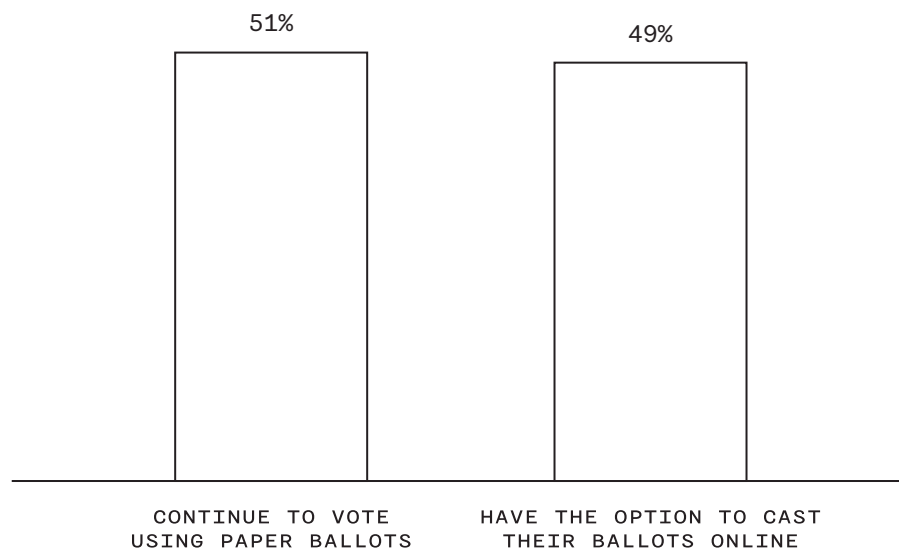USING PAPER BALLOTS   THEIR BALLOTS ONLINE

TABLE 3.7.3   Canadians should have the option to cast their ballots online in federal elections, even if the security or privacy of on-line voting cannot be guaranteed OR Canadians should continue to vote using paper ballots at a polling station, even if it is less accessible for some voters?

	Continue to vote using paper ballots	Have the option to cast their ballots online
Overall (%)		
Weighted	51	49
Unweighted	51	49
Gender (%)		
Men	51	49
Women	50	50
Other	51	49
Age (%)		
18-29	43	57
30-39	46	54
40-49	50	50
50-64	55	45
65+	56	44
Region (%)		
Alberta	56	44
Atlantic	42	58
BC	50	50
Ontario	49	51
Prairies	59	41
Quebec	52	48
Territories	46	54
Language (%)		
English	50	50
French	51	49
Other	53	47
Group (%)		
First Nations	56	44
Inuit	58	42
Métis	52	48
Persons with disabilities	51	49
LGBTQ2	42	58
Visible minority	52	48
Satisfaction with Democracy (%)		
Not at all satisfied	53	47
Not very satisfied	48	52
Somewhat satisfied	49	51
Very satisfied	58	42
Don't know	55	45
Political interest (%)		
Not interested at all	47	53
Not very interested	46	54
Somewhat interested	48	52
Very interested	53	47

FIG 3.8   Mandatory voting

AVERAGE

DISCRETIONARY   MANDATORY

FIG 3.8.1   Eligible voters who do not vote in elections should be fined.

41%

18%   18%

11%   12%
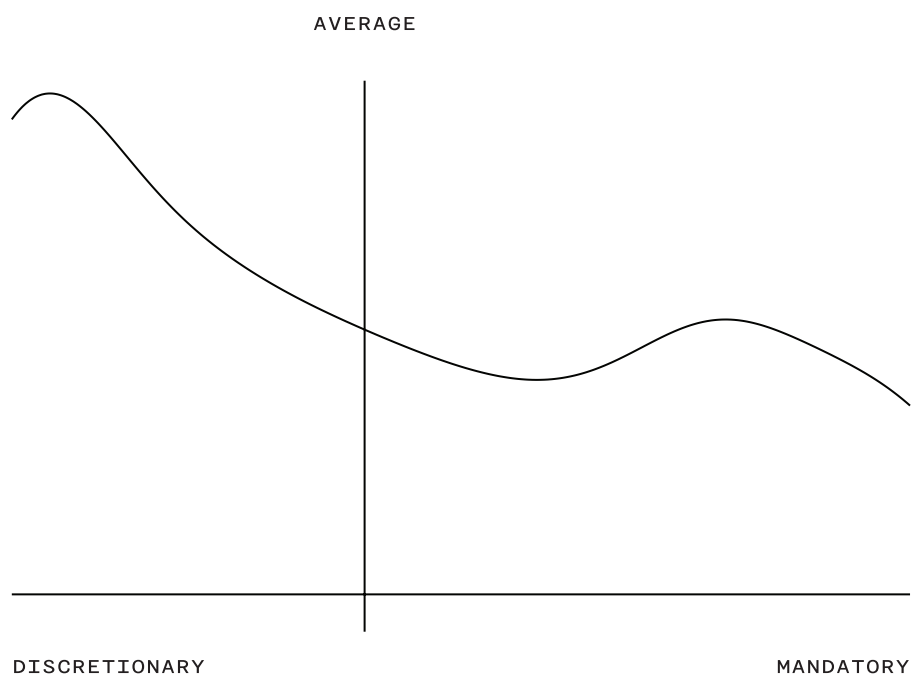
STRONGLY   SOMEWHAT   NEUTRAL   SOMEWHAT   STRONGLY
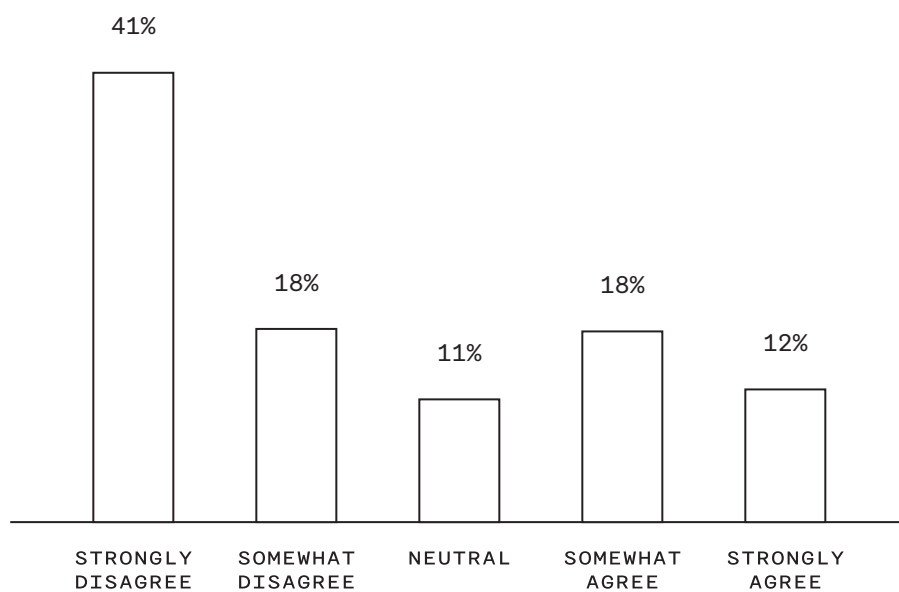DISAGREE   DISAGREE   AGREE   AGREE

TABLE 3.8.1   Eligible voters who do not vote in elections should be fined.

	Strongly disagree	Somewhat disagree	Neutral	Somewhat agree	Strongly agree
Overall (%)					
Weighted	41	18	11	18	12
Unweighted	43	17	11	17	12
Gender (%)					
Men	42	16	11	17	14
Women	40	19	12	18	11
Other	46	14	12	14	15
Age (%)					
18-29	34	21	12	20	13
30-39	38	18	11	19	14
40-49	43	17	11	17	13
50-64	46	17	11	16	10
65+	42	17	12	18	11
Region (%)					
Alberta	46	17	10	17	10
Atlantic	46	17	11	16	10
BC	40	17	12	19	13
Ontario	44	16	11	17	12
Prairies	49	17	11	15	9
Quebec	32	22	12	20	15
Territories	43	18	14	17	7
Language (%)					
English	45	17	11	17	11
French	33	22	12	19	15
Other	40	17	12	18	14
Group (%)					
First Nations	47	12	11	16	14
Inuit	48	10	11	15	16
Métis	46	14	12	16	12
Persons with disabilities	46	14	12	15	13
LGBTQ2	34	19	12	20	16
Visible minority	37	18	12	18	16
Satisfaction with Democracy (%)					
Not at all satisfied	46	12	10	13	19
Not very satisfied	38	18	12	19	13
Somewhat satisfied	39	20	12	19	11
Very satisfied	50	15	9	15	11
Don't know	48	16	13	15	8
Political interest (%)					
Not interested at all	63	9	8	9	10
Not very interested	49	19	12	13	8
Somewhat interested	41	19	12	18	10
Very interested	41	16	11	18	14

FIG 3.8.2   Eligible voters should not be forced to vote.

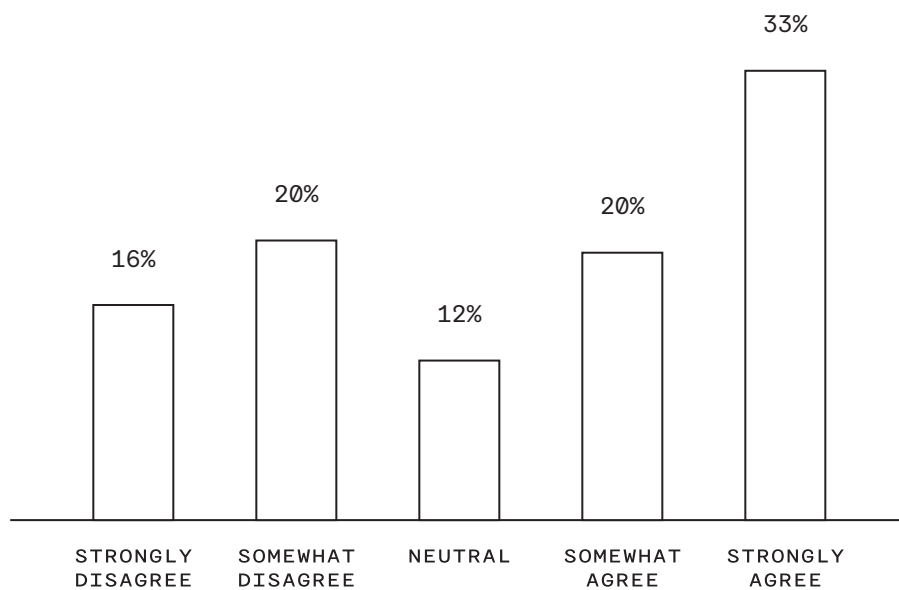|				
16%	20%	12%	20%	33%
STRONGLY DISAGREE	SOMEWHAT DISAGREE	NEUTRAL	SOMEWHAT AGREE	STRONGLY AGREE

TABLE 3.8.2   Eligible voters should not be forced to vote.

	Strongly disagree	Somewhat disagree	Neutral	Somewhat agree	Strongly agree
Overall (%)					
Weighted	16	20	12	20	33
Unweighted	15	20	11	19	35
Gender (%)					
Men	17	19	11	18	35
Women	15	22	12	21	31
Other	17	17	12	15	38
Age (%)					
18-29	16	24	14	21	26
30-39	17	22	12	19	31
40-49	16	20	11	19	34
50-64	15	18	11	19	37
65+	16	20	11	20	34
Region (%)					
Alberta	14	19	12	20	36
Atlantic	14	20	11	19	36
BC	16	22	12	18	32
Ontario	16	20	12	18	35
Prairies	13	18	11	19	39
Quebec	17	22	12	23	27
Territories	11	21	16	20	33
Language (%)					
English	15	20	11	18	35
French	17	22	11	23	27
Other	17	20	12	19	32
Group (%)					
First Nations	19	17	12	16	37
Inuit	19	17	13	15	37
Métis	16	18	13	18	35
Persons with disabilities	18	19	12	17	34
LGBTQ2	19	24	13	18	26
Visible minority	18	21	12	19	30
Satisfaction with Democracy (%)					
Not at all satisfied	23	15	11	13	39
Not very satisfied	17	22	12	20	30
Somewhat satisfied	14	22	12	21	30
Very satisfied	15	17	10	18	41
Don't know	13	14	15	20	37
Political interest (%)					
Not interested at all	13	10	10	11	55
Not very interested	12	17	12	21	37
Somewhat interested	13	21	12	22	31
Very interested	18	20	11	17	33

FIG 3.8.3   Voting in federal elections is an obligation OR voting in
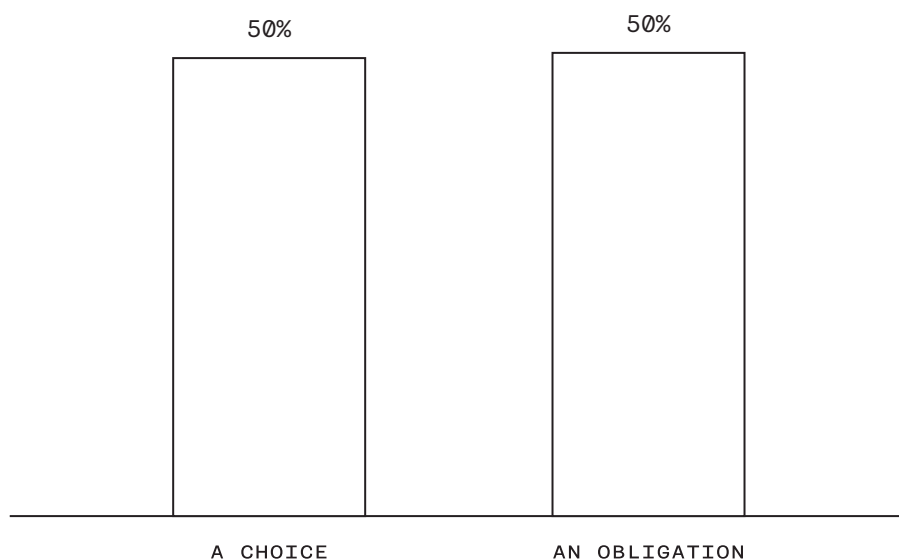   federal elections is a choice?

50%   50%

A CHOICE   AN OBLIGATION

TABLE 3.8.3   Voting in federal elections is an obligation OR voting in
federal elections is a choice?

	A choice	An obligation
Overall (%)		
Weighted	50	50
Unweighted	52	48
Gender (%)		
Men	51	49
Women	49	51
Other	57	43
Age (%)		
18-29	50	50
30-39	52	48
40-49	53	47
50-64	52	48
65+	42	58
Region (%)		
Alberta	54	46
Atlantic	52	48
BC	48	52
Ontario	50	50
Prairies	56	44
Quebec	46	54
Territories	53	47
Language (%)		
English	52	48
French	46	54
Other	47	53
Group (%)		
First Nations	52	48
Inuit	50	50
Métis	52	48
Persons with disabilities	50	50
LGBTQ2	45	55
Visible minority	46	54
Satisfaction with Democracy (%)		
Not at all satisfied	53	47
Not very satisfied	49	51
Somewhat satisfied	48	52
Very satisfied	53	47
Don't know	65	35
Political interest (%)		
Not interested at all	71	29
Not very interested	62	38
Somewhat interested	51	49
Very interested	47	53

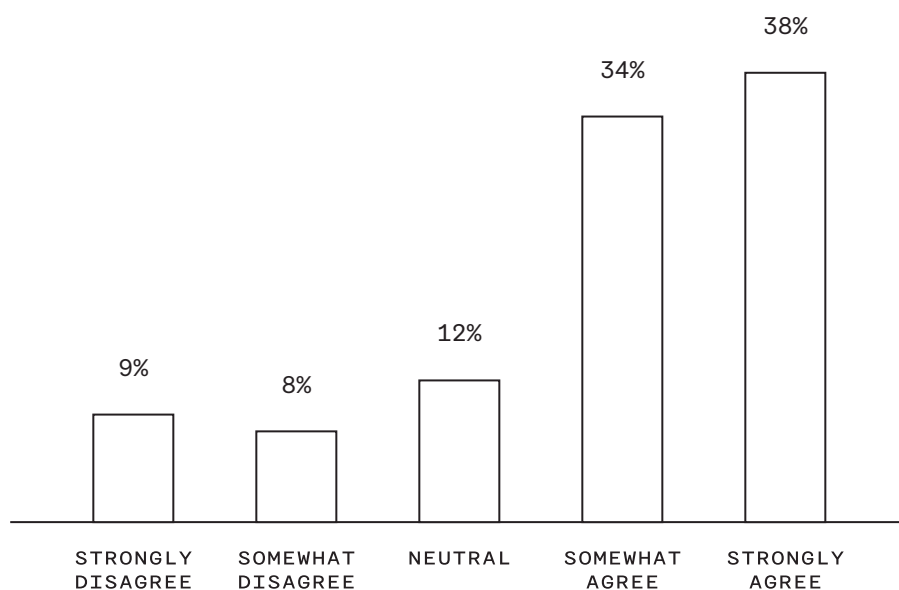FIG 4.1   Online voting in federal elections would increase voter par-
           ticipation.

	9%	8%	12%	34%	38%
	STRONGLY	SOMEWHAT	NEUTRAL	SOMEWHAT	STRONGLY
	DISAGREE	DISAGREE		AGREE	AGREE

TABLE 4.1   Online voting in federal elections would increase voter participation.

	Strongly disagree	Somewhat disagree	Neutral	Somewhat agree	Strongly agree
Overall (%)					
Weighted	9	8	12	34	38
Unweighted	9	8	13	34	36
Gender (%)					
Men	10	8	12	33	37
Women	8	8	12	35	38
Other	16	6	14	22	43
Age (%)					
18-29	5	5	9	33	47
30-39	7	6	11	31	45
40-49	9	7	12	32	40
50-64	11	9	13	36	33
65+	11	10	15	37	26
Region (%)					
Alberta	12	9	12	34	33
Atlantic	7	7	10	31	44
BC	8	7	13	32	39
Ontario	9	7	11	33	41
Prairies	13	9	13	34	30
Quebec	8	8	13	38	33
Territories	10	5	12	37	36
Language (%)					
English	9	7	11	33	39
French	8	8	12	38	33
Other	10	8	12	31	39
Group (%)					
First Nations	18	9	13	27	34
Inuit	23	7	13	25	31
Métis	15	7	12	29	37
Persons with disabilities	13	8	12	29	39
LGBTQ2	7	6	10	30	47
Visible minority	11	8	11	30	41
Satisfaction with Democracy (%)					
Not at all satisfied	17	7	14	24	38
Not very satisfied	8	8	12	34	38
Somewhat satisfied	7	7	11	36	39
Very satisfied	13	9	12	32	34
Don't know	11	7	13	29	39
Political interest (%)					
Not interested at all	15	6	13	26	40
Not very interested	7	6	10	34	42
Somewhat interested	6	7	12	36	39
Very interested	11	8	12	32	36

FIG 4.2   The day of a federal election should be a statutory holiday.

24%   31%

                                      18%
              13%   15%

STRONGLY   SOMEWHAT   NEUTRAL   SOMEWHAT   STRONGLY
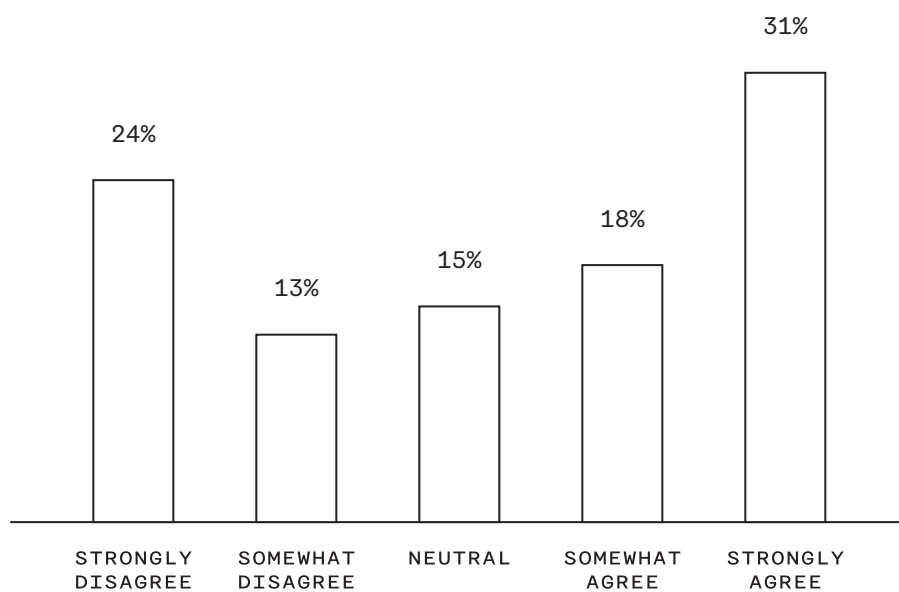DISAGREE   DISAGREE   AGREE   AGREE

FIG 4.2   The day of a federal election should be a statutory holiday.

	Strongly disagree	Somewhat disagree	Neutral	Somewhat agree	Strongly agree
Overall (%)					
Weighted	24	13	15	18	31
Unweighted	24	13	15	18	31
Gender (%)					
Men	23	12	15	17	33
Women	25	14	15	18	29
Other	19	6	10	13	51
Age (%)					
18-29	6	7	10	22	55
30-39	13	10	14	20	43
40-49	22	13	15	19	30
50-64	33	16	17	15	19
65+	38	17	18	14	13
Region (%)					
Alberta	31	12	14	16	27
Atlantic	26	12	14	16	32
BC	24	12	16	17	31
Ontario	25	12	13	17	32
Prairies	34	13	14	15	24
Quebec	14	15	17	21	33
Territories	29	16	15	13	27
Language (%)					
English	27	12	14	17	30
French	15	16	18	21	30
Other	23	11	15	17	35
Group (%)					
First Nations	26	11	15	15	33
Inuit	29	10	17	13	30
Métis	25	10	14	16	34
Persons with disabilities	26	10	14	17	34
LGBTQ2	12	8	10	19	51
Visible minority	19	10	12	18	42
Satisfaction with Democracy (%)					
Not at all satisfied	23	8	15	13	41
Not very satisfied	18	12	15	20	35
Somewhat satisfied	22	14	15	19	30
Very satisfied	35	14	13	14	24
Don't know	19	8	18	18	37
Political interest (%)					
Not interested at all	29	8	17	11	35
Not very interested	22	13	17	18	30
Somewhat interested	23	14	16	19	28
Very interested	24	12	14	17	33

FIG 4.3   The voting age for federal elections should be lowered.

45%

21%

14%

12%

8%

STRONGLY   SOMEWHAT   NEUTRAL   SOMEWHAT   STRONGLY
DISAGREE   DISAGREE   AGREE   AGREE
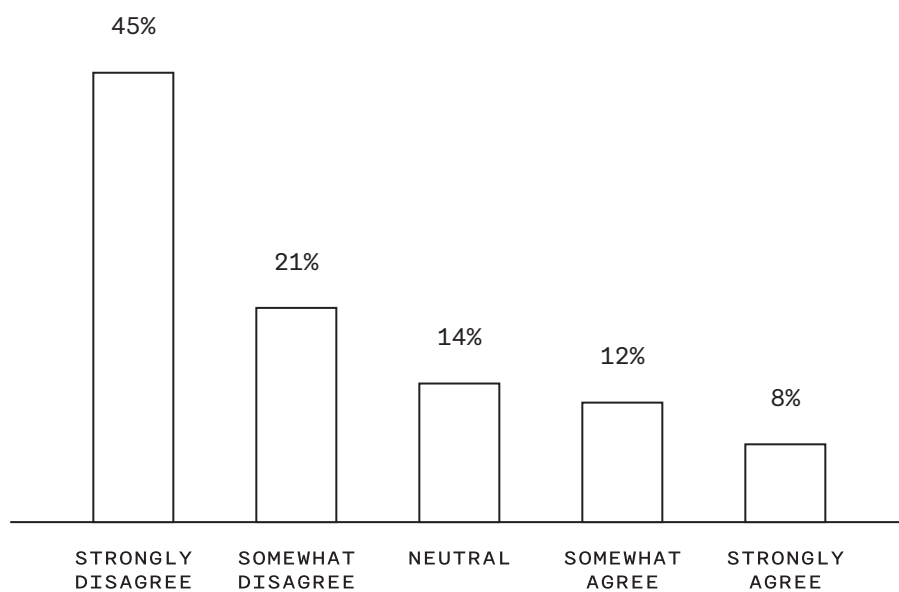
FIG 4.3   The voting age for federal elections should be lowered.

	Strongly disagree	Somewhat disagree	Neutral	Somewhat agree	Strongly agree
Overall (%)					
Weighted	45	21	14	12	8
Unweighted	42	21	15	13	9
Gender (%)					
Men	46	20	14	11	8
Women	44	23	14	12	7
Other	33	13	14	16	24
Age (%)					
18-29	30	23	16	17	14
30-39	37	22	17	14	10
40-49	46	21	14	12	8
50-64	54	21	12	8	5
65+	52	21	12	10	4
Region (%)					
Alberta	56	17	11	10	6
Atlantic	37	20	15	16	12
BC	34	21	18	16	11
Ontario	43	21	15	12	8
Prairies	54	19	11	10	6
Quebec	49	26	11	9	6
Territories	34	16	23	18	10
Language (%)					
English	44	20	14	13	9
French	49	26	11	9	6
Other	44	21	16	12	8
Group (%)					
First Nations	46	17	13	12	13
Inuit	44	17	14	10	15
Métis	45	19	13	11	12
Persons with disabilities	45	17	14	13	11
LGBTQ2	27	19	16	20	18
Visible minority	40	21	15	13	11
Satisfaction with Democracy (%)					
Not at all satisfied	47	13	14	11	15
Not very satisfied	40	21	15	14	10
Somewhat satisfied	43	24	14	12	7
Very satisfied	58	18	11	9	5
Don't know	41	24	17	11	7
Political interest (%)					
Not interested at all	47	19	13	7	13
Not very interested	42	26	15	10	6
Somewhat interested	43	25	15	11	6
Very interested	47	18	13	13	10

FIG 4.4   There should be a limit to the length of federal election
               campaign periods.

| | 2% | 2% | 7% | 25% | 65% |
| STRONGLY
DISAGREE | SOMEWHAT
DISAGREE | NEUTRAL | SOMEWHAT
AGREE | STRONGLY
AGREE |
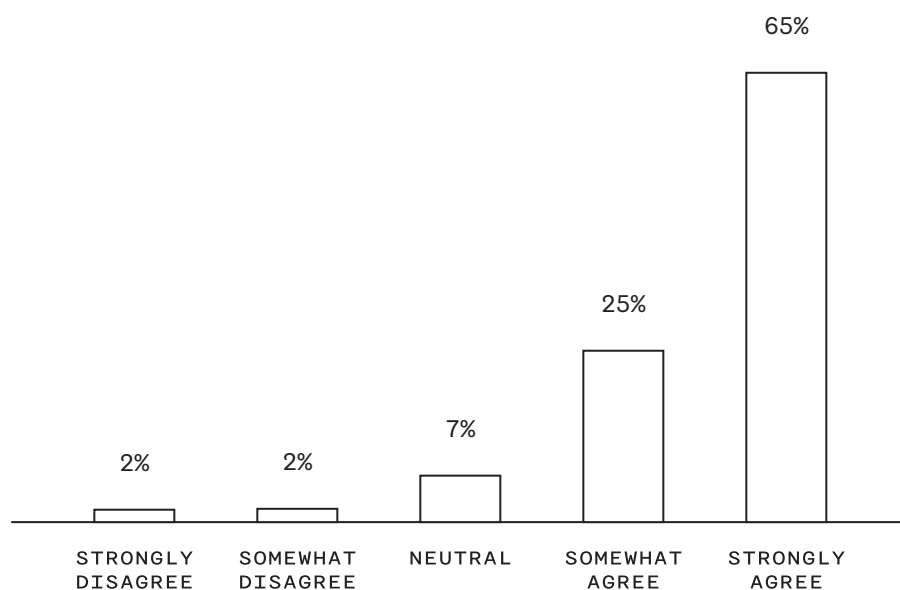
FIG 4.4   There should be a limit to the length of federal election
                 campaign periods.

	Strongly disagree	Somewhat disagree	Neutral	Somewhat agree	Strongly agree
Overall (%)					
Weighted	2	2	7	25	65
Unweighted	2	2	6	23	67
Gender (%)					
Men	2	2	7	24	64
Women	1	2	6	25	66
Other	6	3	12	22	58
Age (%)					
18-29	2	3	12	29	53
30-39	2	2	8	24	64
40-49	2	2	6	24	66
50-64	2	1	5	24	68
65+	2	1	3	22	72
Region (%)					
Alberta	2	2	8	25	63
Atlantic	1	2	6	22	69
BC	2	2	7	22	67
Ontario	2	2	7	23	67
Prairies	3	2	7	24	65
Quebec	1	2	6	30	60
Territories	1	1	10	21	67
Language (%)					
English	2	2	7	23	67
French	1	2	5	30	62
Other	3	2	9	25	62
Group (%)					
First Nations	5	2	9	22	62
Inuit	9	2	8	22	58
Métis	3	3	8	25	61
Persons with disabilities	3	2	7	22	67
LGBTQ2	2	2	7	24	64
Visible minority	3	3	9	27	59
Satisfaction with Democracy (%)					
Not at all satisfied	3	1	7	17	71
Not very satisfied	1	2	7	24	66
Somewhat satisfied	1	2	6	27	64
Very satisfied	3	3	7	23	64
Don't know	5	2	15	34	44
Political interest (%)					
Not interested at all	5	2	12	23	57
Not very interested	2	2	10	28	58
Somewhat interested	1	2	7	27	63
Very interested	2	2	6	22	67

FIG 4.5   Members of Parliaments that spend more time in their constit-
           uency working with constituents OR Members of Parliament that
           spend more time on Parliament Hill working on the issues that
           matter to their constituents?

                                                        55%

                              45%

          MPS SPEND MORE TIME   MPS SPEND MORE TIME
          IN THEIR CONSTITUENCY   ON PARLIAMENT HILL
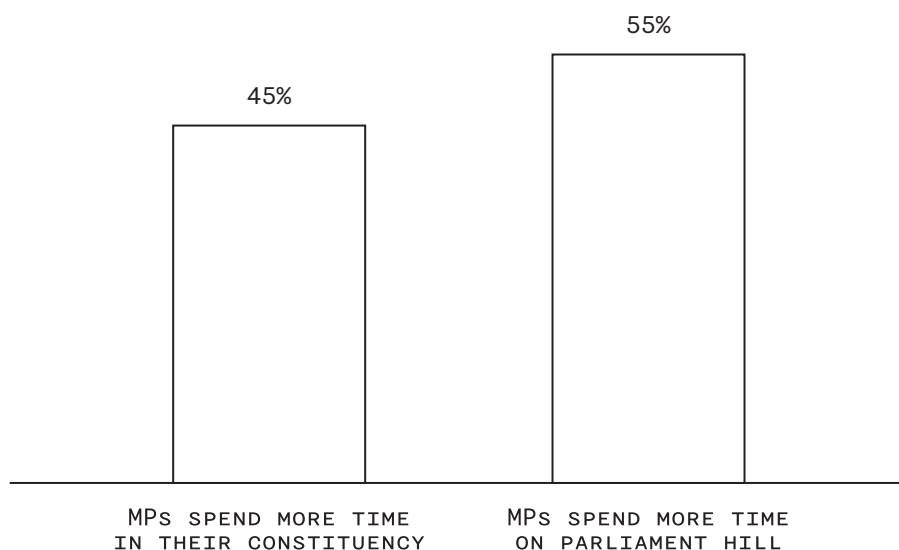
FIG 4.5   Members of Parliaments that spend more time in their constit-
                 uency working with constituents OR Members of Parliament that
                 spend more time on Parliament Hill working on the issues that
                 matter to their constituents?

	MPs spend more time in their constituency	MPs spend more time on Parliament Hill
Overall (%)		
Weighted	45	55
Unweighted	43	57
Gender (%)		
Men	45	55
Women	46	54
Other	46	54
Age (%)		
18-29	49	51
30-39	52	48
40-49	50	50
50-64	44	56
65+	34	66
Region (%)		
Alberta	46	54
Atlantic	48	52
BC	44	56
Ontario	42	58
Prairies	48	52
Quebec	51	49
Territories	48	52
Language (%)		
English	43	57
French	50	50
Other	47	53
Group (%)		
First Nations	49	51
Inuit	46	54
Métis	50	50
Persons with disabilities	45	55
LGBTQ2	48	52
Visible minority	52	48
Satisfaction with Democracy (%)		
Not at all satisfied	53	47
Not very satisfied	50	50
Somewhat satisfied	44	56
Very satisfied	39	61
Don't know	49	51
Political interest (%)		
Not interested at all	50	50
Not very interested	51	49
Somewhat interested	47	53
Very interested	43	57

FIG 4.6   Members of Parliament that always support policies that they think are best for their constituents, even if their constituents disagree OR Members of Parliament that always support policies their constituents want, even if the MPs themselves personally disagree?

72%

28%

MPS DO WHAT THEIR
CONSTITUENTS WANT

MPS DO WHAT THEY
FEEL IS BEST
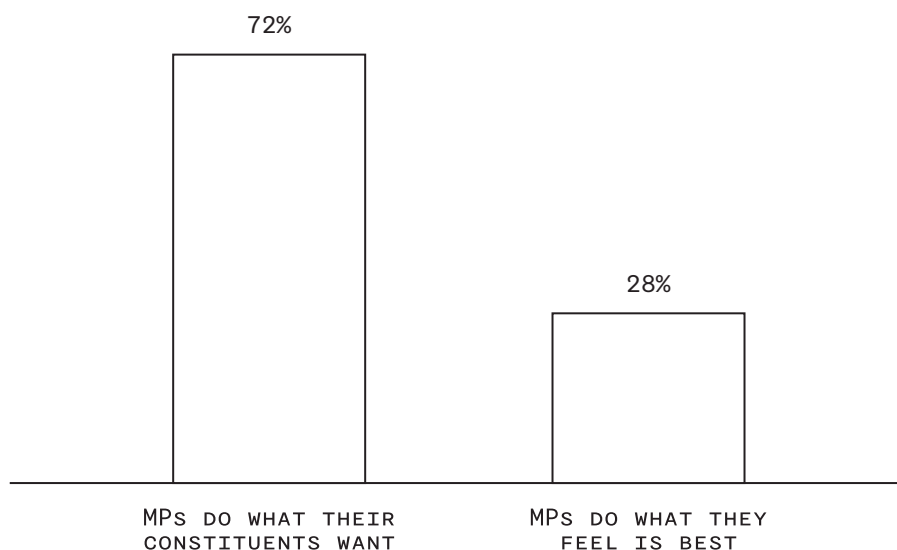
FIG 4.6   Members of Parliament that always support policies that they
            think are best for their constituents, even if their constit-
            uents disagree OR Members of Parliament that always support
            policies their constituents want, even if the MPs themselves
            personally disagree?

	MPs do what they feel is best	MPs do what their constituents want
Overall (%)		
Weighted	28	72
Unweighted	33	67
Gender (%)		
Men	30	70
Women	26	74
Other	29	71
Age (%)		
18-29	34	66
30-39	29	71
40-49	25	75
50-64	25	75
65+	30	70
Region (%)		
Alberta	21	79
Atlantic	29	71
BC	27	73
Ontario	29	71
Prairies	25	75
Quebec	32	68
Territories	26	74
Language (%)		
English	27	73
French	32	68
Other	29	71
Group (%)		
First Nations	23	77
Inuit	28	72
Métis	24	76
Persons with disabilities	23	77
LGBTQ2	31	69
Visible minority	29	71
Satisfaction with Democracy (%)		
Not at all satisfied	17	83
Not very satisfied	23	77
Somewhat satisfied	30	70
Very satisfied	36	64
Don't know	38	62
Political interest (%)		
Not interested at all	29	71
Not very interested	26	74
Somewhat interested	26	74
Very interested	30	70

Appendix B

Questionnaire

MyDemocracy.ca survey

Values

VALUES_G1_1

It is better for several parties to have to govern together than for one
party to make all the decisions in government, even if it takes longer for
government to get things done.

Answer options:
Strongly disagree (1)
Somewhat disagree (2)
Neutral (3)
Somewhat agree (4)
Strongly agree (5)

VALUES_G1_2

A party that wins the most seats in an election should still have to compro-
mise with other parties, even if it means reconsidering some of its policies.

Answer options:
Strongly disagree (1)
Somewhat disagree (2)
Neutral (3)
Somewhat agree (4)
Strongly agree (5)

VALUES_G2_1

Governments should have to negotiate their policy decisions with other
parties in Parliament, even if it is less clear who is accountable for the
resulting policy.

Answer options:
Strongly disagree (1)
Somewhat disagree (2)
Neutral (3)
Somewhat agree (4)
Strongly agree (5)

VALUES_G2_2

It should always be clear which party is accountable for decisions made by government, even if this means that decisions are only made by one party.

Answer options:
Strongly disagree (1)
Somewhat disagree (2)
Neutral (3)
Somewhat agree (4)
Strongly agree (5)

VALUES_G3_1

A ballot should be easy to understand, even if it means voters have fewer options to express their preferences.

Answer options:
Strongly disagree (1)
Somewhat disagree (2)
Neutral (3)
Somewhat agree (4)
Strongly agree (5)

VALUES_G3_2

Voters should be able to express multiple preferences on the ballot, even if this means that it takes longer to count the ballots and announce the election result.

Answer options:
Strongly disagree (1)
Somewhat disagree (2)
Neutral (3)
Somewhat agree (4)
Strongly agree (5)

VALUES_G4_1

Members of Parliament should always act in the interests of their constituents, even if it means going against their own party.

Answer options:
Strongly disagree (1)
Somewhat disagree (2)
Neutral (3)
Somewhat agree (4)
Strongly agree (5)

VALUES_G4_2

Members of Parliament should always support the position of their party, even if it means going against the wishes of their constituents.

Answer options:
Strongly disagree (1)
Somewhat disagree (2)
Neutral (3)
Somewhat agree (4)
Strongly agree (5)

VALUES_G5_1

Members of Parliament should reflect the diversity of Canadian society, even if it means putting in place special measures to increase the representation of certain groups.

Answer options:
Strongly disagree (1)
Somewhat disagree (2)
Neutral (3)
Somewhat agree (4)
Strongly agree (5)

VALUES_G5_2

Ensuring that more individuals are elected from groups that are currently underrepresented in Parliament should be a top priority.

Answer options:
Strongly disagree (1)
Somewhat disagree (2)
Neutral (3)
Somewhat agree (4)
Strongly agree (5)

VALUES_G6_1

Canadians should have the option to cast their vote online in federal elections, even if it is less secure.

Answer options:
Strongly disagree (1)
Somewhat disagree (2)
Neutral (3)
Somewhat agree (4)
Strongly agree (5)

VALUES_G6_2

Canadians should have the option to cast their ballot online in federal elections, even if this increases the cost of elections.

Answer options:
Strongly disagree (1)
Somewhat disagree (2)
Neutral (3)
Somewhat agree (4)
Strongly agree (5)

VALUES_G7_1

Eligible voters who do not vote in elections should be fined.

Answer options:
Strongly disagree (1)
Somewhat disagree (2)
Neutral (3)
Somewhat agree (4)
Strongly agree (5)

VALUES_G7_2

Eligible voters should not be forced to vote.

Answer options:
Strongly disagree (1)
Somewhat disagree (2)
Neutral (3)
Somewhat agree (4)
Strongly agree (5)

VALUES_G8_1

There should be parties in Parliament that represent the views of all Canadians, even if some are radical or extreme.

Answer options:
Strongly disagree (1)
Somewhat disagree (2)
Neutral (3)
Somewhat agree (4)
Strongly agree (5)

VALUES_G8_2

Members of Parliament should always support the position of their party, even if it means going against the wishes of their constituents.

Answer options:
Strongly disagree (1)
Somewhat disagree (2)
Neutral (3)
Somewhat agree (4)
Strongly agree (5)

Preferences

PREFERENCES_G1_1

Which would you prefer?
A government where one party governs and can make decisions on its own OR a government where several parties have to collectively agree before a decision is made?

Answer options:
One party makes decisions on its own (1)
Several parties have to collectively agree (2)

PREFERENCES_G2_1

Which would you prefer?
One party governs and is solely accountable for policy outcomes OR several parties must cooperate to govern and they share accountability for policy outcomes?

Answer options:
One party is solely accountable (1)
Several parties share accountability (2)

PREFERENCES_G3_1

Which best describes your views?
Ballots should be as simple as possible so that everybody understands how to vote OR ballots should allow everybody to express their preferences in detail?

Answer options:
As simple as possible (1)
Allow everybody to express their preferences (2)

PREFERENCES_G4_1

Which would you prefer?
Members of Parliament that do what their party promised, even if it means going against what their constituents want OR members of Parliament that do what their constituents want, even if it means going against what their party promised?

Answer options:
MPs that do what their party promised (1)
MPs that do what their constituents want (2)

PREFERENCES_G5_1

Which best describes your views?
No further action needs to be taken to ensure that those elected to Parliament better reflect the diversity of the population they represent OR further action needs to be taken to ensure that those elected to Parliament better reflect the diversity of the population they represent?

Answer options:
No further action needs to be taken (1)
Further action needs to be taken (2)

PREFERENCES_G6_1

Which best describes your views?
Canadians should have the option to cast their ballots online in federal elections, even if the security or privacy of online voting cannot be guaranteed OR Canadians should continue to vote using paper ballots at a polling station, even if it is less accessible for some voters?

Answer options:
Have the option to cast their ballots online (1)
Continue to vote using paper ballots (2)

PREFERENCES_G7_1

Which best describes your views?
Voting in federal elections is an obligation OR voting in federal elections is a choice?

Answer options:
An obligation (1)
A choice (2)

PREFERENCES_G8_1

Which would you prefer?
Having many small parties in Parliament representing many different views OR
having a few big parties that try to appeal to a broad range of people?

Answer options:
Many small parties (1)
A few big parties (2)

PREFERENCES_G9_1

Which would you prefer?
Members of Parliaments that spend more time in their constituency working
with constituents OR Members of Parliament that spend more time on Parlia-
ment Hill working on the issues that matter to their constituents.

Answer options:
MPs spend more time in their constituency (1)
MPs spend more time on Parliament Hill (2)

PREFERENCES_G10_1

Which would you prefer?
Members of Parliament that always support policies that they think are best
for their constituents, even if their constituents disagree OR Members of
Parliament that always support policies their constituents want, even if the
MPs themselves personally disagree?

Answer options:
MPs do what they feel is best (1)
MPs do what their constituents want (2)

Priorities

Please select the priorities from the list below that are most important to
you.

Answer options:
Governments that collaborate with other parties in Parliament (1)
Strengthening the link between voter intention and the election of represen-
tatives (2)
Governments that consider all viewpoints before making a decision (3)
Increasing voter turnout (4)

Governments that can be easily held to account by voters (5)
MPs that focus on what is best for the country (6)
Ensuring the security of the voting process (7)
Ensuring the voting process is easy to understand (8)
Governments with strong representation from every region (9)
Allowing voters to express a wide range of preferences when voting (10)
Governments that can make decisions quickly (11)
Ability to vote online during elections (12)
Better representation of groups that are currently underrepresented in Parliament (13)
MPs who focus primarily on the interests of their local community (14)
Increasing the presence of smaller parties in Parliament (15)

Additional questions

SURVEY_Q1

Online voting in federal elections would increase voter participation.

Answer options:
Strongly disagree (1)
Somewhat disagree (2)
Neutral (3)
Somewhat agree (4)
Strongly agree (5)

SURVEY_Q2

The day of a federal election should be a statutory holiday.

Answer options:
Strongly disagree (1)
Somewhat disagree (2)
Neutral (3)
Somewhat agree (4)
Strongly agree (5)

SURVEY_Q3

The voting age for federal elections should be lowered.

Answer options:
Strongly disagree (1)
Somewhat disagree (2)
Neutral (3)
Somewhat agree (4)
Strongly agree (5)

SURVEY_Q4

There should be a limit to the length of federal election campaign periods.

Answer options:
Strongly disagree (1)
Somewhat disagree (2)
Neutral (3)
Somewhat agree (4)
Strongly agree (5)

Profile

PROFILE_Q1

What is your gender?

Answer options:
Male (1)
Female (2)
Other (3)

PROFILE_Q2

In which year were you born?

Answer options:
1916-2016

PROFILE_Q3

What is the highest level of education that you have completed?

Answer options:
No schooling (1)
Some high school or elementary school (2)
High school (3)
Apprenticeship or trades certificate or diploma (4)
College, CEGEP, or college classique (5)
Bachelor's degree (6)
Master's degree (7)
Degree in medicine, dentistry, veterinary medicine, or optometry (8)
Doctorate (9)

PROFILE_Q4

What occupational area do you work in?

Answer options:
Retired (1)
Student (without other employment) (2)
Stay-at-home parent (3)
Art, culture, recreation and sport (4)
Business, finance and administration (5)
Education, law and social, community and government services (6)
Health (7)
Management (8)
Manufacturing and utilities (9)
Natural and applied sciences (10)
Natural resources, agriculture and related production (11)
Sales and service (12)
Trades, transport and equipment operators (13)
Unemployed (14)

PROFILE_Q5

Which of the following best describes your combined household income before taxes?

Answer options:
Less than $20,000 (1)
Between $20,000 - $29,999 (2)
Between $30,000 - $39,999 (3)
Between $40,000 - $49,999 (4)
Between $50,000 - $59,999 (5)
Between $60,000 - $69,999 (6)
Between $70,000 - $79,999 (7)
Between $80,000 - $89,999 (8)
Between $90,000 - $99,999 (9)
Between $100,000 - $109,999 (10)
Between $110,000 - $119,999 (11)
Between $120,000 - $129,000 (12)
Between $130,000 - $139,000 (13)
Between $140,000 - $149,999 (14)
Between $150,000 - $199,999 (15)
Between $200,000 - $500,000 (16)
Between $500,000 - $999,999 (17)
$1 million or more (18)

PROFILE_Q6

What is the first language that you learned?

Answer options:
English (1)
French (2)
Other (3)

PROFILE_Q10

Generally speaking, how interested are you in politics?

Answer options:
Not interested at all (1)
Not very interested (2)
Somewhat interested (3)
Very interested (4)

PROFILE_Q11

How frequently do you follow news and current affairs?

Answer options:
Never (1)
Rarely (2)
Several times each month (3)
Several times each week (4)
Daily (5)

PROFILE_Q13

Do you identify with any of the following groups?

Answer options:
Visible minority (1)
First Nations (2)
Inuit (3)
Métis (4)
Persons with disabilities (5)
LGBTQ2 (6)

PROFILE_Q14

Please provide your postal code so we can determine your region. (Open text)

INTRO_Q1

In general, how satisfied are you with the way democracy works in Canada?

Answer options:
Not at all satisfied (1)
Not very satisfied (2)
Somewhat satisfied (3)
Very satisfied (4)
Don't know (5)

INTRO_Q2

How closely have you followed the public debate on electoral reform in Canada?

Answer options:
Not closely at all (1)
Somewhat closely (2)
Very closely (3)

INTRO_Q3

How often have you discussed federal electoral reform with others?

Answer options:
Not at all (1)
Somewhat often (2)
Very often (3)

INTRO_Q4

How often do you vote in federal elections?

Answer options:
I am not eligible to vote (1)
Never (2)
Rarely (3)
Sometimes (4)
Most of the time (5)

INTRO_Q5   [ONLY APPEARS IF "NEVER (2)" OR "RARELY (3)" ARE SELECTED IN INTRO_Q4]

What are the biggest barriers preventing you from voting? (Please select all that apply.)

Answer options:
Lack of time (1)
Lack of information (2)
Disability or mobility issues (3)
Voting location isn't convenient (4)
Do not feel included (5)
Frustration with politics (6)
Don't like the voting system (7)
I was not eligible to vote (8)
Other (9)

INTRO_Q6   [ONLY APPEARS IF "OTHER (9)" IS SELECTED IN INTRO_Q5]

Please specify which other barriers prevent you from voting. (Open text)

Pilot Survey

Q2

To what extent do you agree or disagree with the following statements?

Q2.1

It is better for several parties to have to govern together than for one party to make all the decisions in government, even if it takes longer for government to get things done.

Answer options:
Strongly disagree (1)
Somewhat disagree (2)
Neutral (3)
Somewhat agree (4)
Strongly agree (5)

Q2.2

A party that wins the most seats in an election should not have to compromise on its agenda to accommodate other parties in Parliament.

Answer options:
Strongly disagree (1)
Somewhat disagree (2)
Neutral (3)
Somewhat agree (4)
Strongly agree (5)

Q2.3

A party that wins the most seats in an election should still have to compromise with other parties, even if it means reconsidering some of its policies.

Answer options:
Strongly disagree (1)
Somewhat disagree (2)
Neutral (3)
Somewhat agree (4)
Strongly agree (5)

Q2.4

Governments should have to negotiate their policy decisions with other parties in Parliament, even if it is less clear who is accountable for the resulting policy.

Answer options:
Strongly disagree (1)
Somewhat disagree (2)
Neutral (3)
Somewhat agree (4)
Strongly agree (5)

Q2.5

It should always be clear which party is accountable for decisions made by government, even if this means that decisions are only made by one party.

Answer options:
Strongly disagree (1)
Somewhat disagree (2)
Neutral (3)
Somewhat agree (4)
Strongly agree (5)

Q2.6

It should always be clear which party is responsible for a decision made in Parliament, even if it keeps parties from working together.

Answer options:
Strongly disagree (1)
Somewhat disagree (2)
Neutral (3)
Somewhat agree (4)
Strongly agree (5)

Q2.7

A ballot should be easy to understand, even if it means voters have fewer options to express their preferences.

Answer options:
Strongly disagree (1)
Somewhat disagree (2)
Neutral (3)
Somewhat agree (4)
Strongly agree (5)

Q2.8

Voters should be able to express multiple preferences on the ballot, even if this means that it takes longer to count the ballots and announce the election result.

Answer options:
Strongly disagree (1)
Somewhat disagree (2)
Neutral (3)
Somewhat agree (4)
Strongly agree (5)

Q2.9

Members of Parliament should always act in the interests of their constituents, even if it means going against their own party.

Answer options:
Strongly disagree (1)
Somewhat disagree (2)
Neutral (3)
Somewhat agree (4)
Strongly agree (5)

Q2.10

Members of Parliament should always support the position of their party, even if it means going against the wishes of their constituents.

Answer options:
Strongly disagree (1)
Somewhat disagree (2)
Neutral (3)
Somewhat agree (4)
Strongly agree (5)

Q2.11

Members of Parliament should always act according to their principles, even if their constituents disagree.

Answer options:
Strongly disagree (1)
Somewhat disagree (2)
Neutral (3)
Somewhat agree (4)
Strongly agree (5)

Q2.12

Members of Parliament should always act in the interests of their local constituents, even if they conflict with the national interest.

Answer options:
Strongly disagree (1)
Somewhat disagree (2)
Neutral (3)
Somewhat agree (4)
Strongly agree (5)

Q2.13

Members of Parliament should always act in the national interest, even if it conflicts with the interests of their local constituents.

Answer options:
Strongly disagree (1)
Somewhat disagree (2)
Neutral (3)
Somewhat agree (4)
Strongly agree (5)

Q2.14

Members of Parliament should reflect the diversity of Canadian society, even if it means putting in place special measures to increase the representation of certain groups.

Answer options:
Strongly disagree (1)
Somewhat disagree (2)
Neutral (3)
Somewhat agree (4)
Strongly agree (5)

Q2.15

Politicians should take further action to ensure that more individuals are elected from groups that are currently underrepresented in Parliament.

Answer options:
Strongly disagree (1)
Somewhat disagree (2)
Neutral (3)
Somewhat agree (4)
Strongly agree (5)

Q2.16

Ensuring that more individuals are elected from groups that are currently underrepresented in Parliament should be a top priority.

Answer options:
Strongly disagree (1)
Somewhat disagree (2)
Neutral (3)
Somewhat agree (4)
Strongly agree (5)

Q2.17

Canadians should have the option to cast their vote online in federal elections, even if it is less secure.

Answer options:
Strongly disagree (1)
Somewhat disagree (2)
Neutral (3)
Somewhat agree (4)
Strongly agree (5)

Q2.18

Canadians should have the option to cast their ballot online in federal elections, even if this increases the cost of elections.

Answer options:
Strongly disagree (1)
Somewhat disagree (2)
Neutral (3)
Somewhat agree (4)
Strongly agree (5)

Q2.19

The risks of online voting outweigh the potential benefits.

Answer options:
Strongly disagree (1)
Somewhat disagree (2)
Neutral (3)
Somewhat agree (4)
Strongly agree (5)

Q2.20

It should be mandatory for eligible voters to vote in elections.

Answer options:
Strongly disagree (1)
Somewhat disagree (2)
Neutral (3)
Somewhat agree (4)
Strongly agree (5)

Q2.21

Eligible voters who do not vote in elections should be fined.

Answer options:
Strongly disagree (1)
Somewhat disagree (2)
Neutral (3)
Somewhat agree (4)
Strongly agree (5)

Q2.22

Eligible voters should not be forced to vote.

Answer options:
Strongly disagree (1)
Somewhat disagree (2)
Neutral (3)
Somewhat agree (4)
Strongly agree (5)

Q2.23

Voting should be a personal choice, not an obligation.

Answer options:
Strongly disagree (1)
Somewhat disagree (2)
Neutral (3)
Somewhat agree (4)
Strongly agree (5)

Q2.24

There should be parties in Parliament that represent the views of all Cana-
dians, even if some are radical or extreme.

Answer options:
Strongly disagree (1)
Somewhat disagree (2)
Neutral (3)
Somewhat agree (4)
Strongly agree (5)

Q2.25

There should be greater diversity of views in Parliament.

Answer options:
Strongly disagree (1)
Somewhat disagree (2)
Neutral (3)
Somewhat agree (4)
Strongly agree (5)

Q2.26

Smaller parties should have greater influence on Parliamentary decisions.

Answer options:
Strongly disagree (1)
Somewhat disagree (2)
Neutral (3)
Somewhat agree (4)
Strongly agree (5)

Q2.27

It should be easier for small parties to gain seats in Parliament.

Answer options:
Strongly disagree (1)
Somewhat disagree (2)
Neutral (3)
Somewhat agree (4)
Strongly agree (5)

Q3.1

Which would you prefer?

Answer options:
A government that implements the policies it put forward during the election campaign (1)
A government that looks for compromises that will be acceptable to as many groups as possible (2)

Q3.2

Which would you prefer?

Answer options:
A government where one party governs and can make decisions on its own (1)
A government where several parties have to collectively agree before a decision is made (2)

Q3.3

Which would you prefer?

Answer options:
One party governs and is solely accountable for policy outcomes (1)
Several parties must cooperate to govern and they share accountability for policy outcomes (2)

Q3.4

Which would you prefer?

Answer options:
Fewer parties involved in policy decisions, but clear accountability for policy outcomes (1)
More parties involved in policy decisions, but less clear accountability for policy outcomes (2)

Q3.5

Which best describes your views?

Answer options:
Ballots should be as simple as possible so that everybody understands how to vote (1)
Ballots should allow everybody to express their preferences in detail (2)

Q3.6

Which would you prefer?

Answer options:
Members of Parliament who do what their party promised, even if it means going against what their constituents want (1)
Members of Parliament who do what their constituents want, even if it means going against what their party promised (2)

Q3.7

Which would you prefer?

Answer options:
Members of Parliaments who spend more time in their constituency working with constituents (1)
Members of Parliament who spend more time on Parliament Hill working on the issues that matter to their constituents (2)

Q3.8

Which would you prefer?

Answer options:
Members of Parliament who always support policies that they think are best for their constituents, even if their constituents disagree (1)
Members of Parliament who always support policies their constituents want, even if the MPs themselves personally disagree (2)

Q3.9

Which best describes your views?

Answer options:
No further action needs to be taken to ensure that those elected to Parliament better reflect the diversity of the population they represent (1)
Further action needs to be taken to ensure that those elected to Parliament better reflect the diversity of the population they represent (2)

Q3.10

Which best describes your views?

Answer options:
Canadians should have the option to cast their ballots online in federal elections, even if the security or privacy of online voting cannot be guaranteed (1)
Canadians should continue to vote using paper ballots at a polling station, even if it is less accessible for some voters (2)

Q3.11

Which best describes your views?

Answer options:
Voting in federal elections is an obligation (1)
Voting in federal elections is a choice (2)

Q3.12

Which would you prefer?

Answer options:
Having many small parties in Parliament representing many different views (1)
Having a few big parties that try to appeal to a broad range of people (2)

Q4.1

Select the five imperatives for government from the list below that are most important to you.

Answer options:
Better representation of groups that are currently underrepresented in Parliament (1)
Greater diversity in Parliament (2)
Governments with strong representation from every region (3)

MPs who focus primarily on the interests of their local community (4)
MPs who spend most of their time in their local community (5)
MPs that focus on what is best for the country (6)
Governments that can be easily held to account by voters (7)
A Parliament where all viewpoints are represented (8)
Governments that can make decisions quickly (9)
Governments that consider all viewpoints before making a decision (10)
Governments that collaborate with other parties in Parliament (11)
Keeping parties with extreme views out of Parliament (12)
Increasing the presence of smaller parties in Parliament (13)
Allowing voters to express a wide range of preferences when voting (14)
Strengthening the link between voter intention and the election of represen-
tatives (15)
Increasing voter turnout (16)
Ability to vote online during elections (17)
Ensuring the security of the voting process (18)
Ensuring the voting process is easy to understand (19)

Q7.1

How much do you agree or disagree with the following statements?

Propositions:
I enjoyed filling out this survey (1)
The time it took to complete the survey was reasonable (2)
I would fill out a survey like this again (3)
Overall, this survey was easy to complete (4)

Answer options:
Strongly disagree (1)
Somewhat disagree (2)
Neutral (3)
Somewhat agree (4)
Strongly agree (5)

Q7.2

Are there any comments you would like to make about the topics in the survey
or the experience you had completing this survey? (Open text)