



CANADIAN
CHARTER OF RIGHTS
AND FREEDOMS



Attitudes toward democracy

Most Canadians continue to be somewhat, if not very, satisfied with their country's democracy. Dissatisfaction is at its lowest level since 2008.

2006 - 2017

Satisfied with the way democracy works in Canada



Very satisfied
 Somewhat satisfied
 Dissatisfied
 Very dissatisfied

Very/somewhat satisfied with democracy

By region

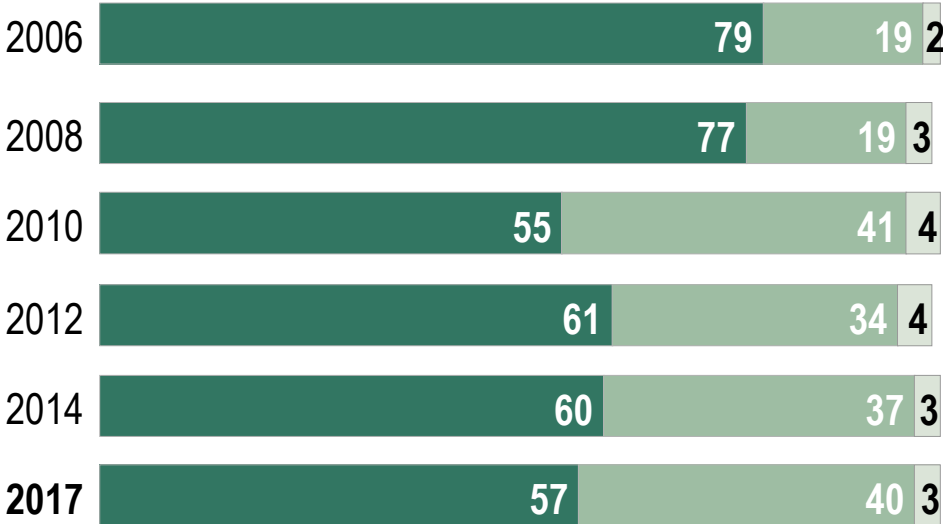
	2014	2017
Atlantic:	70%	89%
Quebec:	74%	73%
Ontario:	80%	81%
MB/SK:	79%	77%
Alberta:	78%	86%
B.C.:	70%	77%

Q.36. In general, would you say that you are very satisfied, satisfied, dissatisfied or very dissatisfied with the way democracy works in Canada?

A modest majority continue to believe democracy is the best form of government . . .

2006 - 2017

Agree – Disagree: *Democracy may have its problems but it is better than any other form of government*



Agree that democracy is best
By age cohort

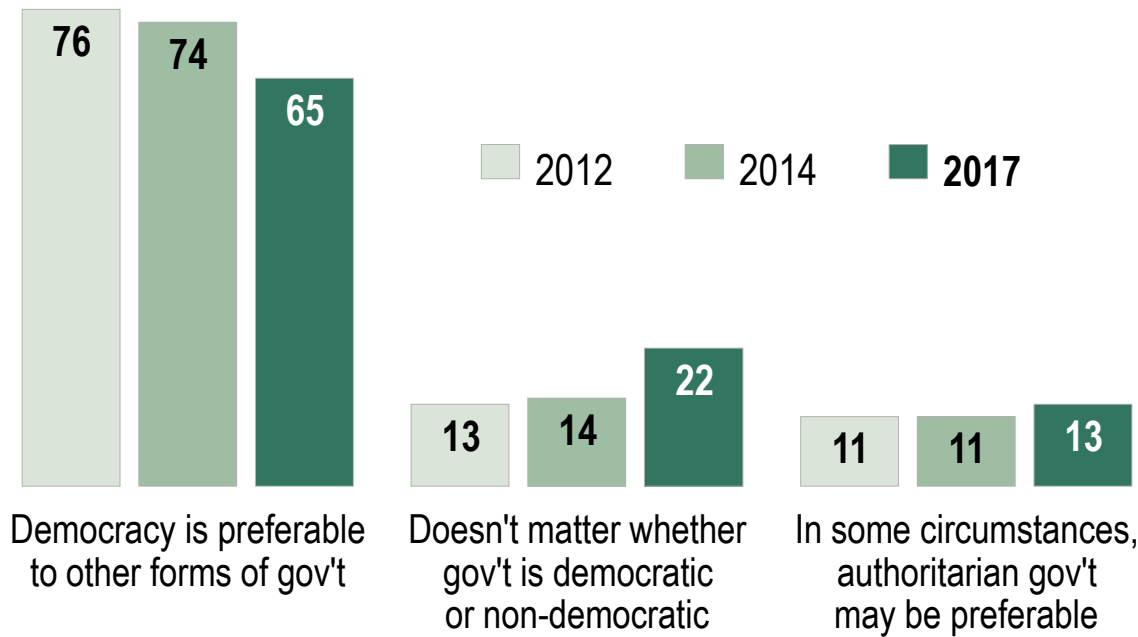
	2014	2017
18 – 29:	44%	46%
30 – 44:	46%	48%
45 – 59:	63%	59%
60 plus:	84%	70%

Agree (6-7)
 No clear opinion (3-5)
 Disagree (1-2)

Q.34d. Democracy may have problems but it is better than any other form of government (7 point-scale :1=strongly agree, 7 = strongly disagree)

. . . yet public commitment to democracy over other forms of government has weakened a bit since 2014

2012 - 2017

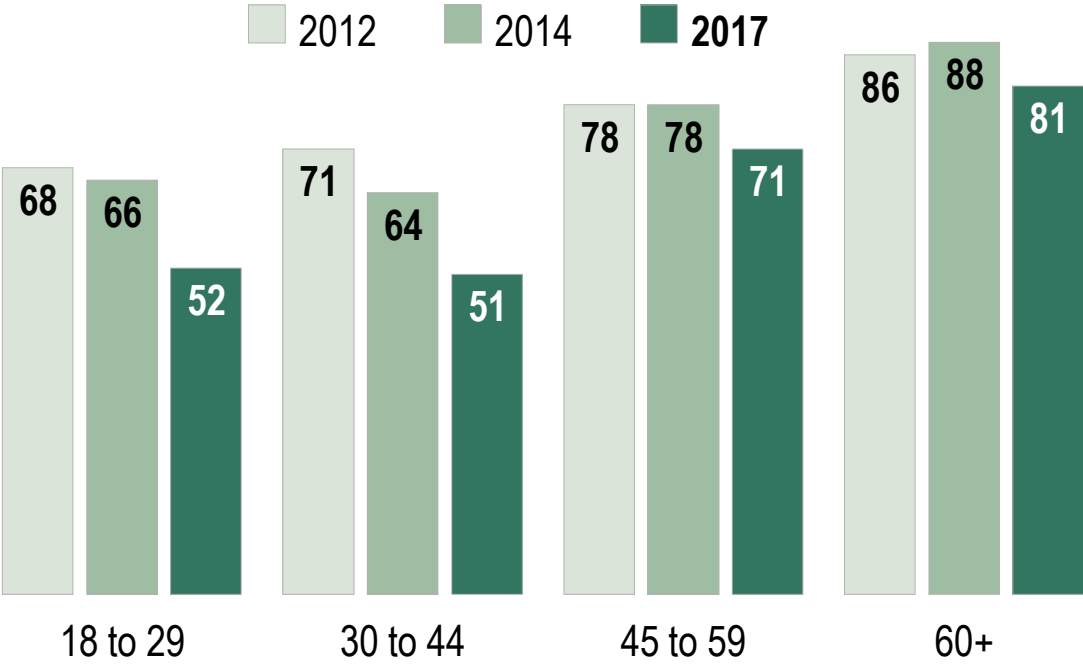


Democracy is preferable		
By region		
	2014	2017
Atlantic:	72%	68%
Quebec:	76%	59%
Ontario:	72%	68%
MB/SK:	71%	67%
Alberta:	80%	68%
B.C.:	75%	63%

Q.37. Which of the following statements do you agree with the most?

Commitment to democracy has dropped across generations, but most noticeably among Canadians under 45 years of age

2012 - 2017 By age cohort

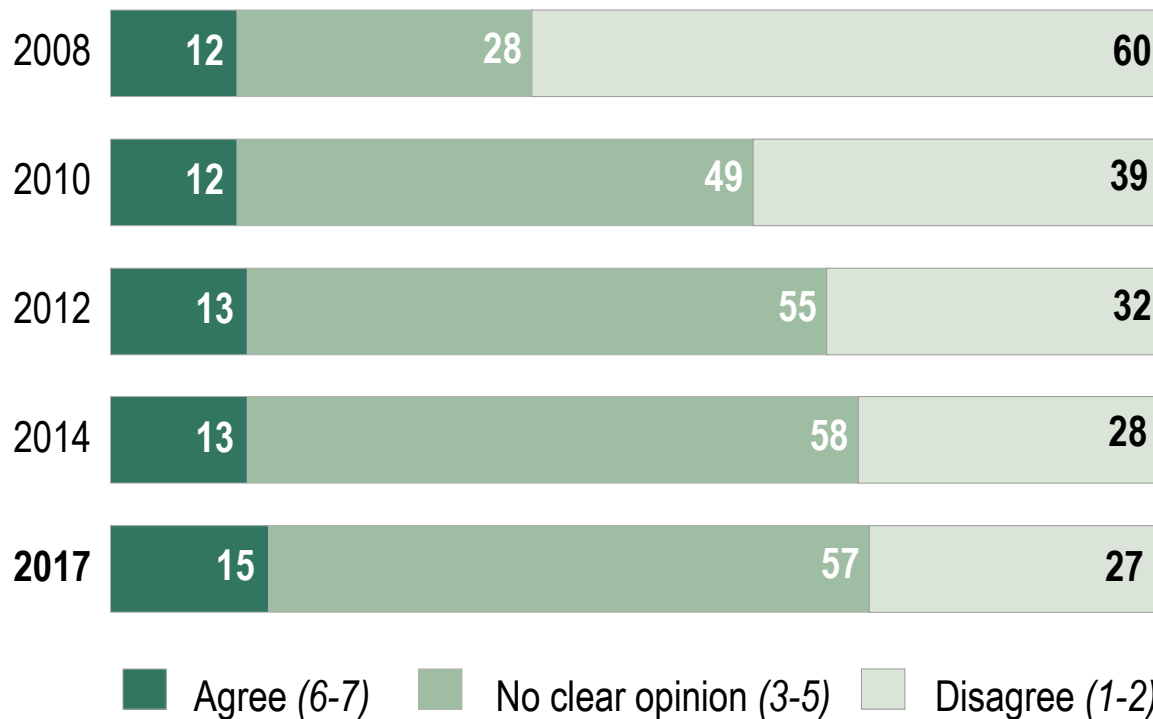


Q.37. Which of the following statements do you agree with the most?

Few Canadians embrace the populist idea of governing directly rather than through elected politicians, but is gaining ground on the political right

2008 – 2017

Agree – Disagree: *The people should govern directly rather than through elected representatives*



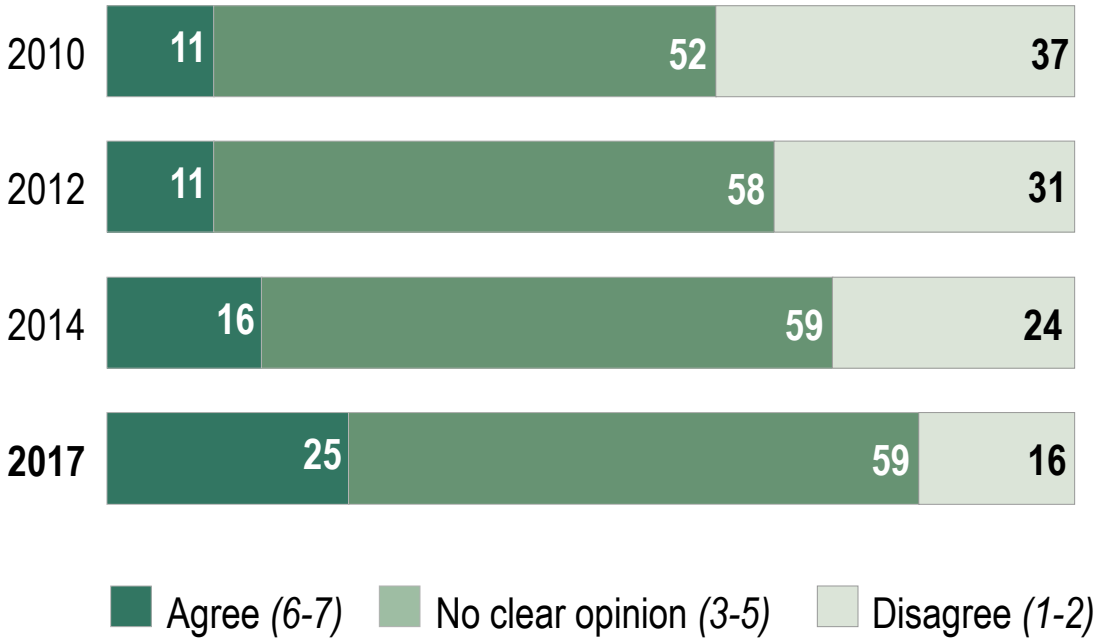
Agree on governing directly		
By political orientation		
	2014	2017
Left :	15%	13%
Middle:	10%	11%
Right:	19%	30%

Q.32b. *People should govern directly rather than through elected representatives (7 point-scale :1=strongly agree, 7 = strongly disagree)*

The public is feeling more confident than before that the country's politicians are listening to what people like them are thinking

2010 - 2017

Agree – Disagree: *Those who govern this country are interested in what people like you think*



Agree that politicians are listening
 By age cohort

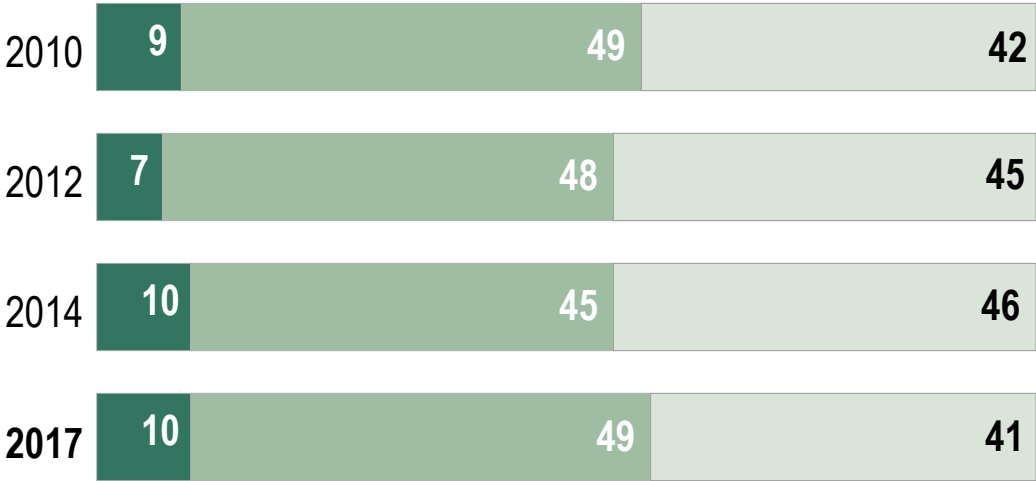
	2014	2017
18 – 29:	16%	35%
30 – 44:	15%	25%
45 – 59:	17%	20%
60 plus:	17%	23%

Q.34f. *Those who govern this country are interested in what people like you think (7 point-scale :1=strongly agree, 7 = strongly disagree)*

There remains limited public support for Prime Ministers to silence the voice of opposition parties, but this view has strengthened among Millennials

2010 - 2017

Agree – Disagree: *Prime minister should limit the voice of opposition parties*



Agree on limiting role of opposition
By age cohort

	2014	2017
18 – 29:	11%	19%
30 – 44:	12%	13%
45 – 59:	9%	7%
60 plus:	9%	5%

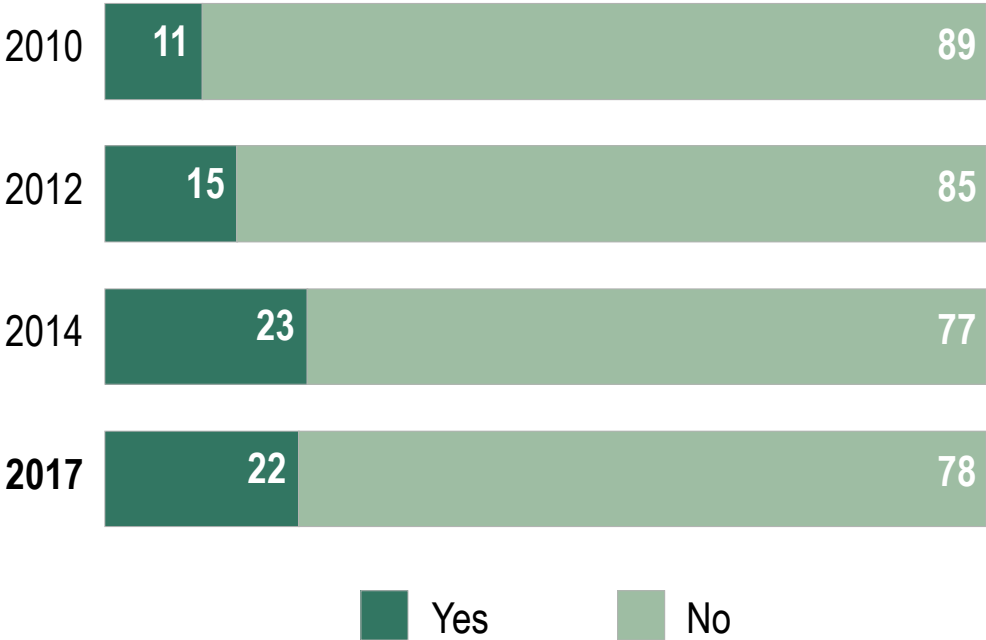
Agree (6-7)
 No clear opinion (3-5)
 Disagree (1-2)

Q.32a. It is necessary for the progress of this country that our prime ministers limit the voice and vote of opposition parties. (7 point-scale :1=strongly agree, 7 = strongly disagree)

A small but stable minority of Canadians believe circumstances could justify the Prime Minister governing without Parliament

2010 - 2017

When the country is facing very difficult times, is it justifiable for the PM to govern without Parliament?



Justifiable to shut down Parliament

By age cohort

	2014	2017
18 – 29:	31%	33%
30 – 44:	30%	31%
45 – 59:	20%	17%
60 plus:	11%	11%

By political orientation

	2014	2017
Left	8%	15%
Middle	21%	20%
Right	35%	35%

Q.40. Do you believe that when the country is facing very difficult times it is justifiable for the Prime Minister to close the Parliament and government without Parliament?