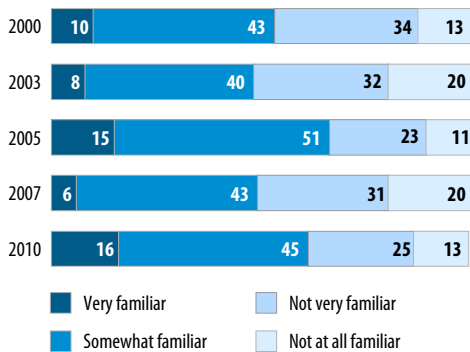


Aboriginal Peoples in Canada

FAMILIARITY WITH ABORIGINAL ISSUES. How knowledgeable does the general public feel about Aboriginal issues in Canada today? Six in ten say they are very (16%) or somewhat (45%) familiar, compared with four in ten who admit they are not very (25%) or not at all (13%) familiar. These results reflect a noticeable improvement from 2007 (when only 6% said they were very familiar), but remains below the high level recorded in 2005.

This latest trend is evident across the population, but most substantial in Manitoba and Saskatchewan, where reported knowledge is by far the strongest (31% and 37%, respectively, say very familiar). Overall familiarity continues to be lower in Quebec (39% very/somewhat familiar) than elsewhere in Canada (68%), although the positive trend since 2007 is marginally stronger in the former.

Familiarity with Aboriginal issues
2000 - 2010

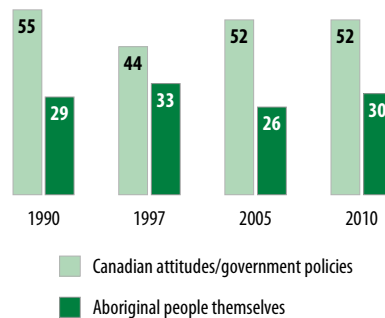


TREATMENT OF ABORIGINAL PEOPLES. In terms of who bears primary responsibility for the problems experienced by Aboriginal peoples in this country, Canadians are more likely to say it is the result of attitudes of non-Aboriginal Canadians and government policies (52%), compared with Aboriginal peoples bringing these problems on themselves (30%) (the remainder insist both are equally true or cannot offer any response).

Opinions are largely stable since 1990, and as before there is a clear regional divide between the views of Prairie province residents (who are as likely or more so to place the blame on Aboriginal peoples themselves) and those in other regions, where clear majorities/pluralities trace the problems to non-Aboriginal attitudes and government policies.

Since 2005, there has been a modest increase in placing blame on Aboriginal peoples across most of the population, but most significantly in Manitoba and Saskatchewan, as well as among rural Canadians and those without a high school diploma. Placement of responsibility on attitudes and government policy is most widespread in Toronto and Vancouver, and among Canadians aged 18 to 29.

Responsibility for Aboriginal problems
1990 - 2010

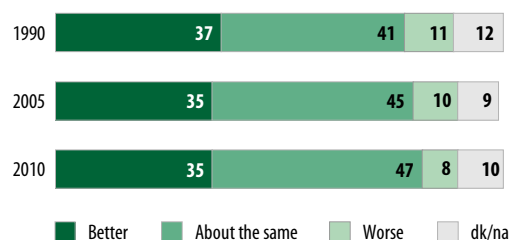


The Canadian population-at-large is generally positive about how Canada treats its native population, relative to other countries. One-third (35%) say Canada treats them better than other countries, compared with only eight percent who believe treatment here is worse. A plurality (47%) consider Canada to be about the same as other countries in this respect, while 10 percent are unable to offer an opinion.

Opinions are largely stable since 1990. Rating Canada's treatment of Aboriginal peoples as better than other countries is most prevalent in the Prairie provinces (43%). Toronto residents are most likely to say that Canada does a worse job than other countries (12%).

Canada's treatment of Aboriginal peoples compared to other countries

1990 - 2010



PRIORITY ISSUES FOR ABORIGINAL PEOPLES. What priority do Canadians place on resolving issues currently facing Aboriginal peoples in this country today? Among five areas presented, the public is most likely to place strong importance on improving the social and living conditions on reserves (57% very important), followed by achieving more economic development (44%), improving the social and living conditions of native people in cities (40%), and settling land claims (37%). One in four (25%) say it is very important to make progress in moving Aboriginal peoples towards self-government.

The relative ordering of the five areas is essentially the same since 1993, except in 1993 and 1997 when settling land claims was at the top of the list. Since 2005, the proportion identifying each of the five areas as "very important" has declined (by 4 to 10 points). Across the five areas, resolution is most widely emphasized as very important by Torontonians, and least so by residents of the Prairie provinces.

Priority on addressing Aboriginal issues

Very important 1993 - 2010

	1993	1997	2003	2005	2010
Improving living/social conditions on reserves	41	33	50	62	57
More economic development	36	31	40	54	44
Improving social conditions for native people in cities	27	20	32	47	40
Settling native land claims	44	41	29	41	37
Moving toward self-government	28	24	24	29	25