

PUBLIC PERSPECTIVES



General themes from the data are...

Canadians are lukewarm to providing citizens with a basic (universal) income

The provision of basic (or guaranteed annual) income has been dividing public opinion for years. Some countries such as Finland, and now in the province of Ontario, Canada, politicians are already experimenting with such a policy, whereas in 2016 in Switzerland people voted against it.

Current opinion in Canada toward basic income is lukewarm at best. Forty-four percent (44%) agree with the idea, 31% disagree, and 24% aren't sure.

This ranks Canada behind countries such as Germany and Italy in receptivity toward providing a basic income, but ahead of countries like the US, Great Britain and France.

Opinions for and against basic income are in the formative stage

Given that public debate to date regarding basic income has been relatively limited, it is not surprising to find Canadians are conflicted in assessing its need, value and impact.

On the positive side, a majority believe that basic income would help alleviate poverty, and allow people to spend more time with their families and communities.

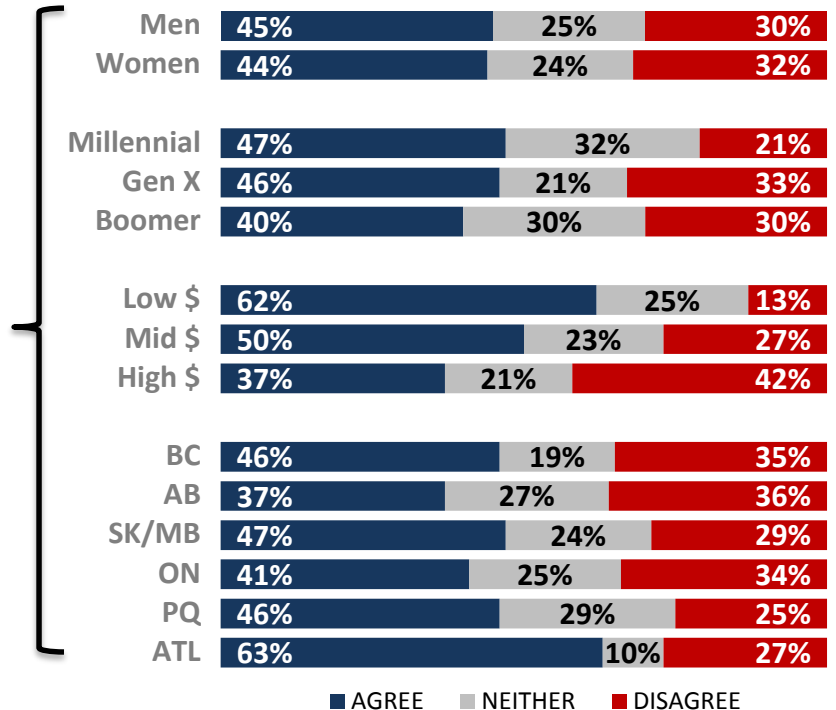
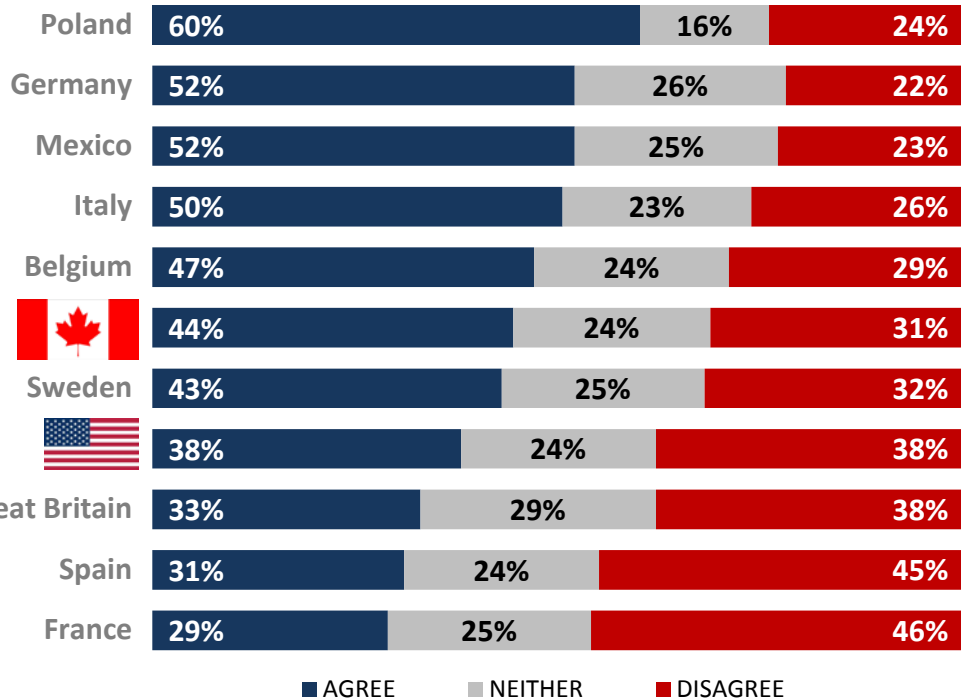
On the negative side, a majority of Canadians also believe that providing a basic income would make people reliant on the state, discourage seeking employment, and ultimately increase taxes to unaffordable levels.

Consequently, since public opinion is not yet solidly formed one way or the other, the side which can advance their cause most effectively could have a significant impact.

And, evaluated in conjunction with other data (e.g.: [the TD Financial Group Income Volatility Study](#)), which showed that income volatility is a challenge for millions of Canadians, basic income and other actions to deal with income disparities and difficulties will emerge on the public agenda in the future.

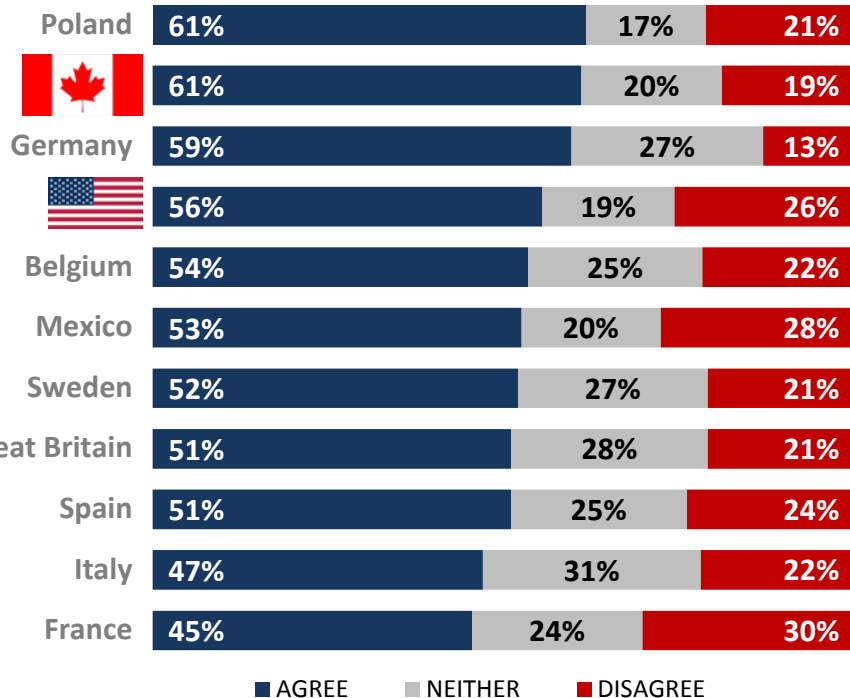
Canadians are lukewarm in their opinions on providing citizens with a basic income; Millennials, lower income and Atlantic most receptive

The government should pay all residents in [country] a basic income in form of free and unconditional money in addition to any income received from elsewhere

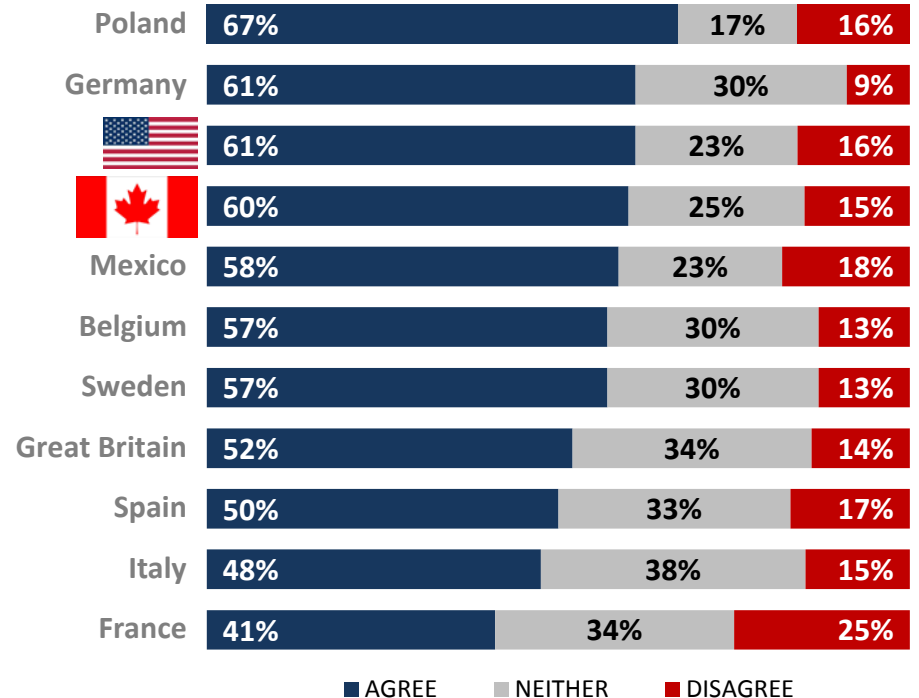


On the positive side, Canadians believe that a basic income would help alleviate poverty and free up family time

Basic income will help to alleviate poverty in [country]

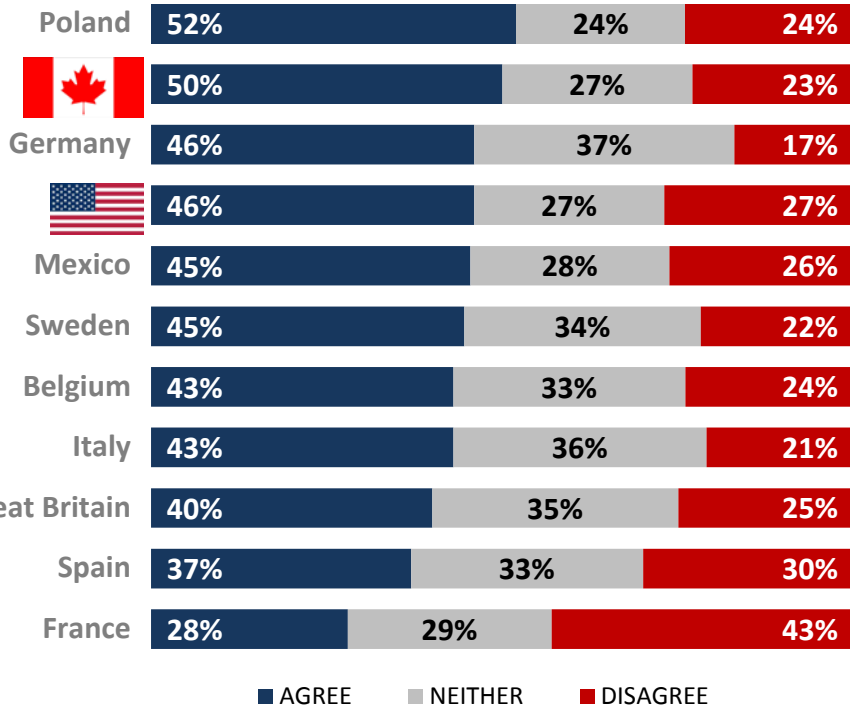


Basic income will allow people to spend more time with their families



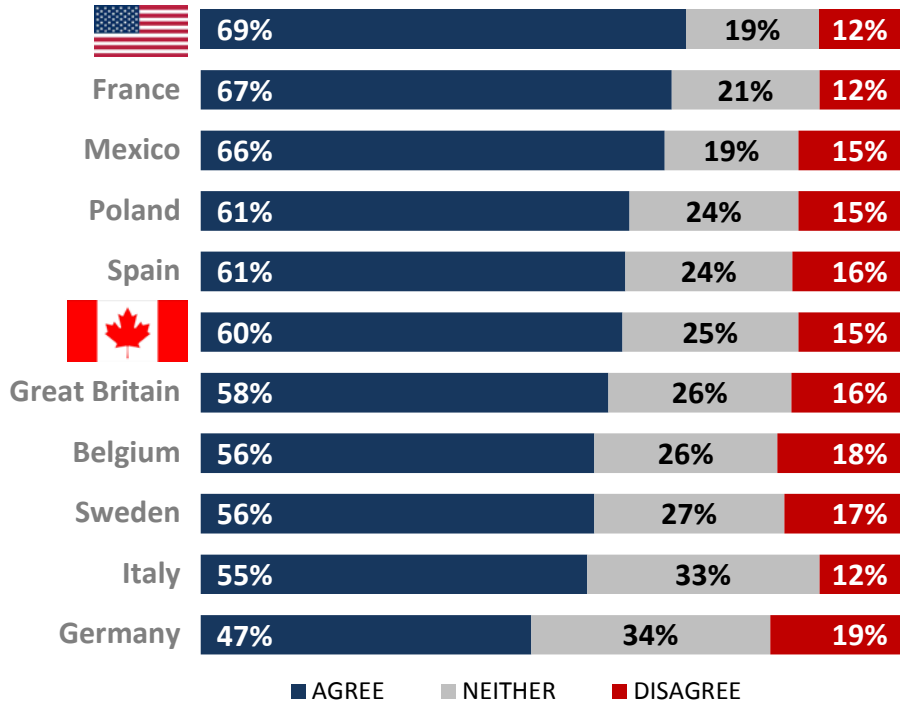
To a lesser extent, Canadians also believe that providing a basic income would allow people to be more involved in their communities

Basic income will allow people to be more involved in their local communities

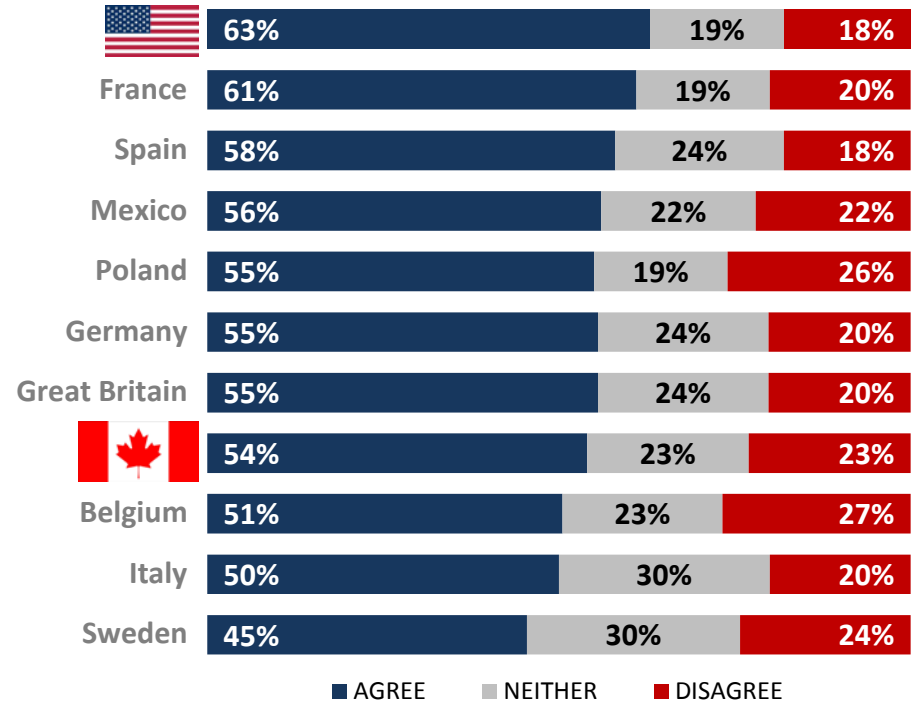


On the negative side, Canadians also believe that a basic income would make people reliant on the state and discourage seeking employment

Basic income will make people reliant on the state for income

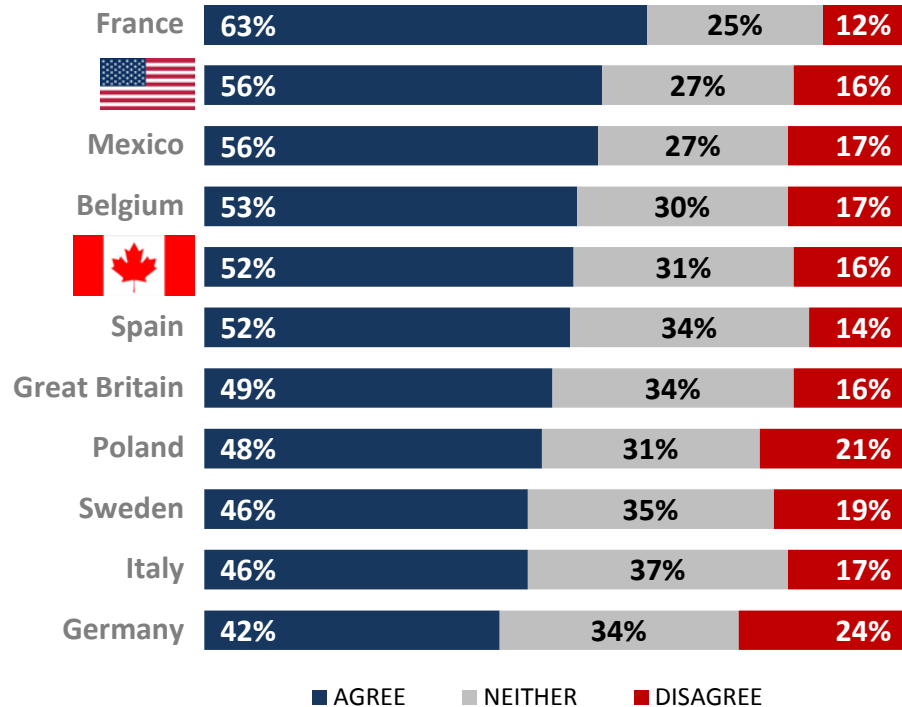


Basic income will discourage people from being in or seeking paid employment



Canadians also believe that a basic income would increase taxes to unaffordable levels

Basic income will increase taxation to unaffordable levels



Data For This Report Were Generated From Ipsos' Global @dvisor

SURVEY METHOD	COUNTRIES	SAMPLE	WEIGHTING
<p>These are the findings of a Global @dvisor survey comprising 9,500 interviews, conducted between April 21st – May 5th among adults aged 18-64 in the US and Canada, and adults aged 16-64 in all other countries.</p>	<p>The survey was conducted in 12 countries: Belgium, Canada, France, Germany, Great Britain, Italy, Mexico, Poland, Serbia, Spain, Sweden, and the United States of America.</p>	<p>Approximately 1000+ individuals were surveyed in Canada, France, Germany, Great Britain, Italy, Spain, and the United States of America.</p> <p>Approximately 500+ individuals were surveyed in Belgium, Mexico, Poland, Serbia, and Sweden.</p> <p>Of the 12 countries surveyed online, 10 yield results that are balanced to reflect the general population: Belgium, Canada, France, Germany, Great Britain, Italy, Poland, Spain, Sweden and the United States. Online samples in Mexico and Serbia are more urban/educated/income than their fellow citizens and the results should be viewed as representative of a more affluent and “connected” population.</p>	<p>The results are weighted to ensure that the sample's composition reflects that of the adult population according to the most recent country Census data, and to provide results intended to approximate the sample universe. Further, results are weighted to give each country an equal weight in the “global” sample.</p> <p>Sample surveys and polls may be subject to other sources of error, including, but not limited to coverage error, and measurement error.</p>

CONTACTS

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Mike Colledge
President, Canadian Public Affairs

✉ mike.colledge@ipsos.com

📞 613.688.8971

@MikeDColledge



Chris Martyn
Chief Research Officer, Public Affairs

✉ chris.martyn@ipsos.com

📞 416.324.2010