

# PUBLIC PERSPECTIVES

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## WORLD REFUGEE DAY

### What Do Canadians Think About Refugees?

June 2019 | Issue 93



# KEY FINDINGS OF THIS REPORT

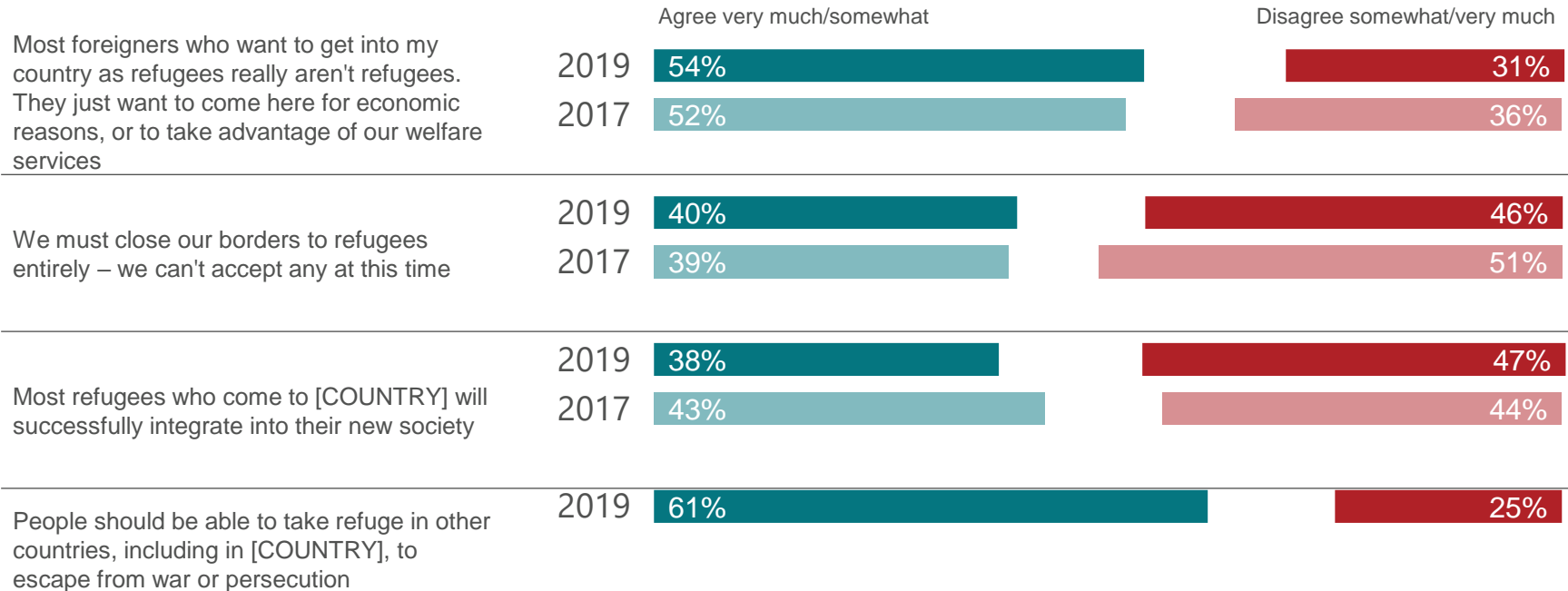
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- Worldwide, while people support the principle of those seeking refuge, concerns remain, and there are signs that attitudes are hardening since 2017.
- While Canadians are among the most pro-refugee worldwide, this is by no means overwhelming.
  - Canadians are among the top ten countries in agreeing that people should be able to take refuge in other countries to escape from war and persecution. However, while a strong majority of two-thirds of Canadians believe this, one-third don't.
  - Canadians are among the least likely to believe that we must close our border entirely, although three-in-ten do. This has increased slightly since 2017.
  - While Canada is among the least likely countries to believe that refugees are not really refugees, almost half do. This is up slightly from 2017.
  - Canadians are among the most optimistic that refugees will successfully integrate into their new society. However, only half take this position, which is a decrease since 2017.

**The bottom-line – Issues associated with refugees are not nearly settled in the minds of Canadians. We can expect significant political and public debate for some time to come.**

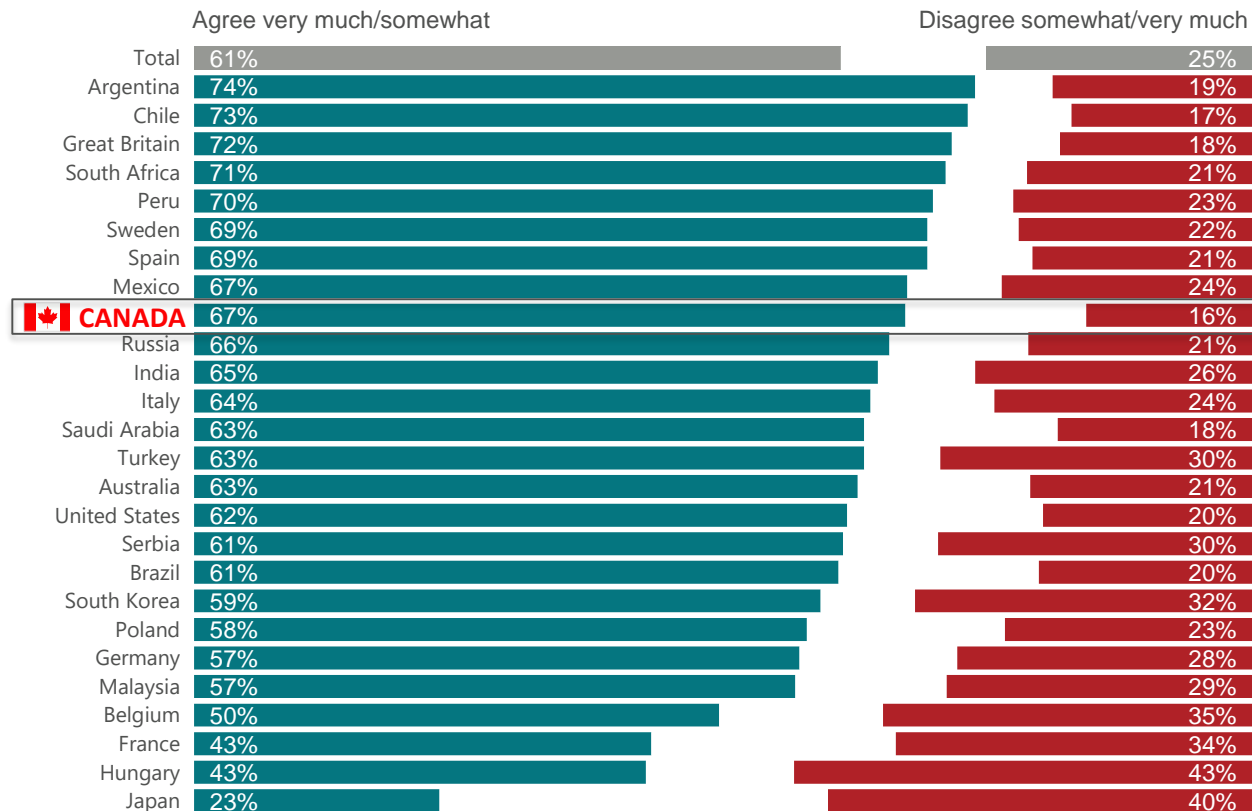
# Worldwide, while there is support for the principle of seeking refuge, concerns about refugees remain and there are signs that attitudes are hardening since 2017

## WORLDWIDE



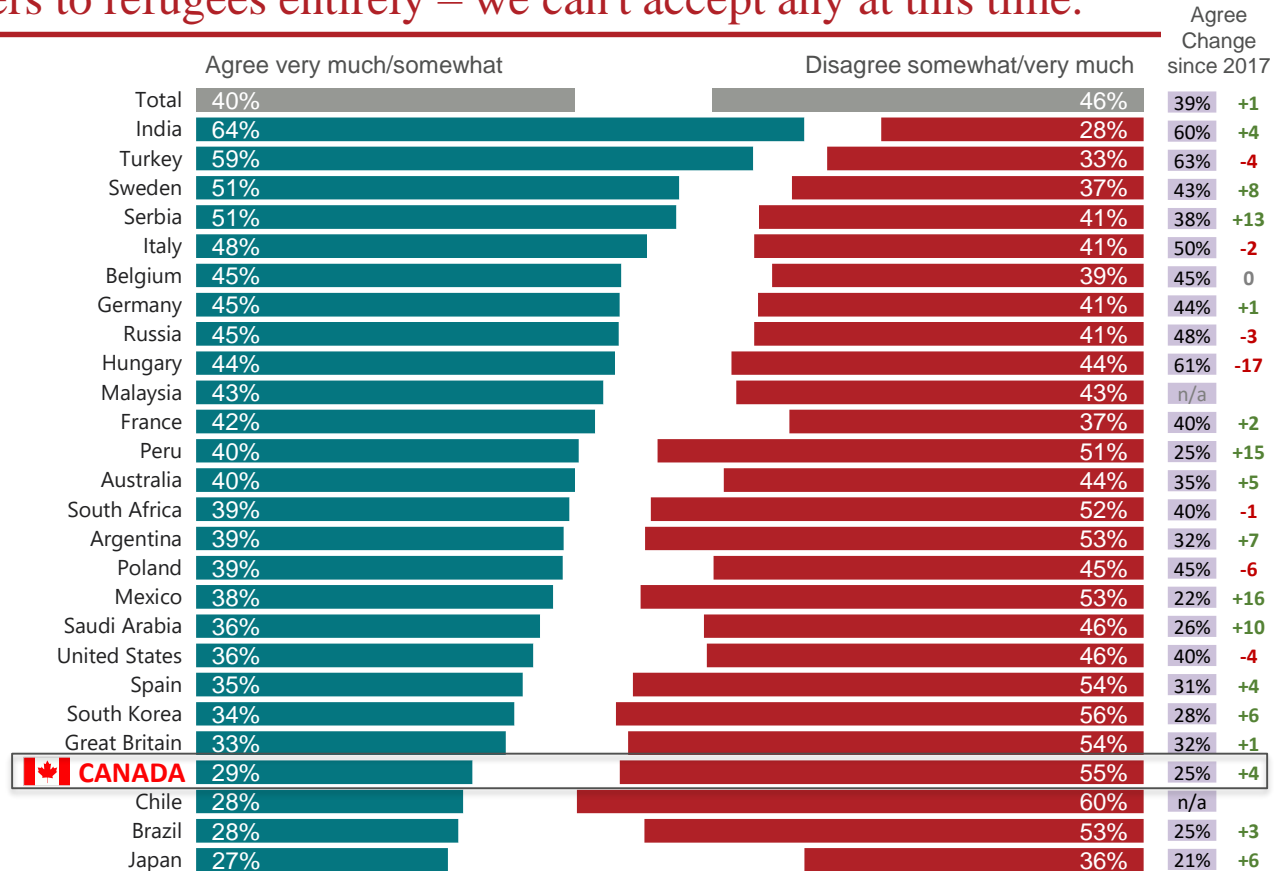
## People should be able to take refuge in other countries, including in [COUNTRY], to escape from war or persecution.

- Canadians are among the top ten countries in agreeing that people should be able to take refuge in other countries, including Canada, to escape from war and persecution.
- However, while a strong majority of two-thirds of Canadians believe this, one-third don't.



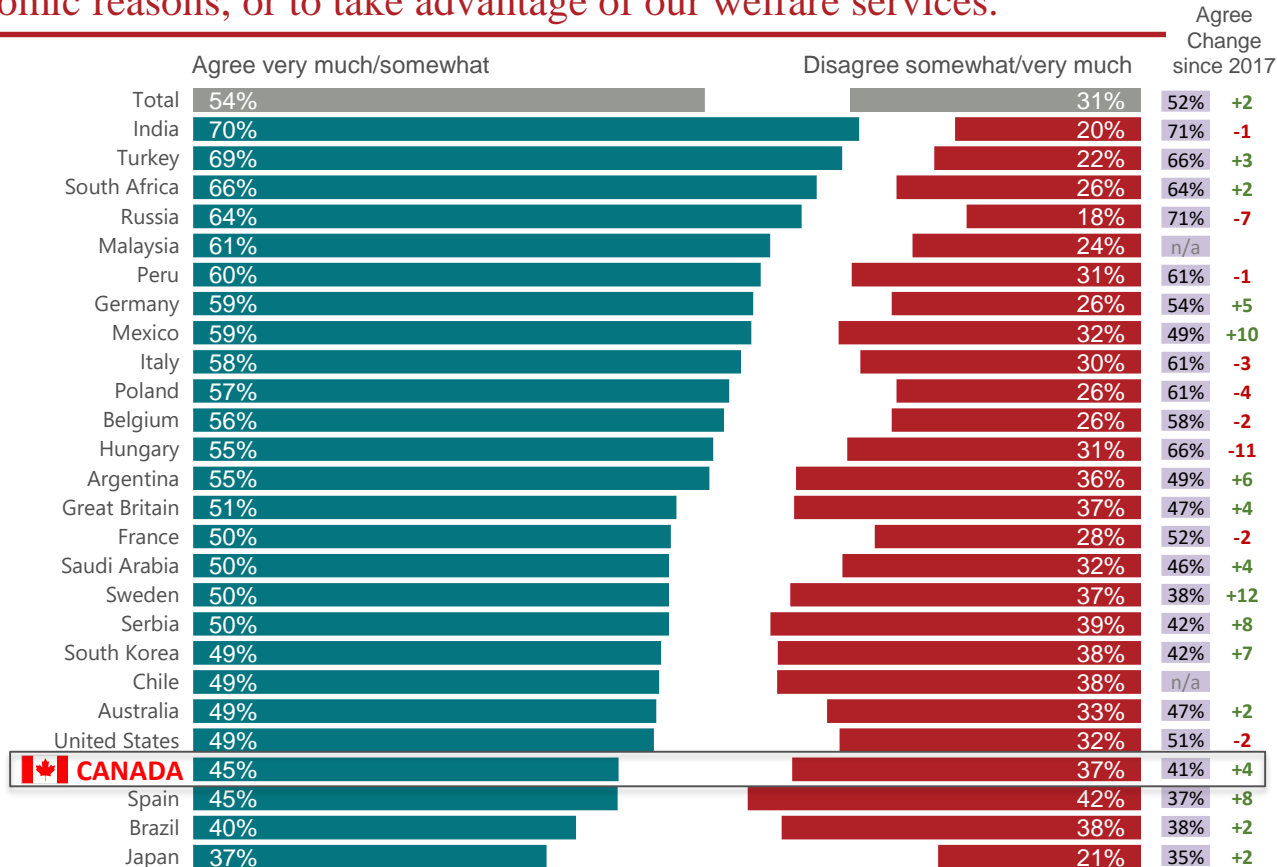
## We must close our borders to refugees entirely – we can't accept any at this time.

- Canadians are among the least likely to believe that we must close our border entirely, although three-in-ten do. Further, this has increased slightly since 2017.



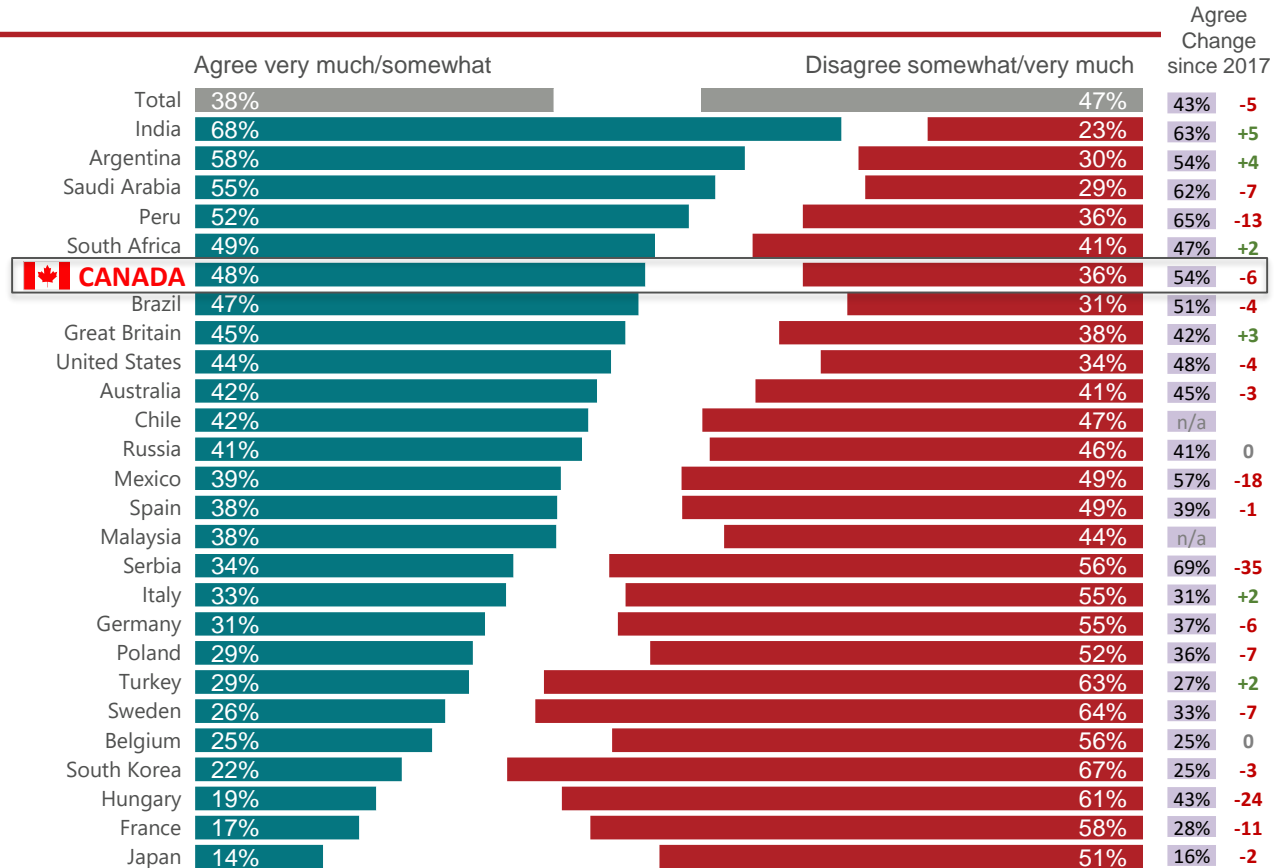
## Most foreigners who want to get into my country as refugees really aren't refugees. They just want to come here for economic reasons, or to take advantage of our welfare services.

- While Canada is among the least likely countries to believe that refugees are not really refugees, almost half do. This is up slightly from 2017.



# Most refugees who come to [COUNTRY] will successfully integrate into their new society.

- Canadians are among the most optimistic that refugees will successfully integrate into their new society.
- However, only half take this position, a decrease from 2017.



# METHODOLOGY

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- This survey is an international sample of 18,027, adults aged 18-74 in the US, South Africa, Turkey and Canada, and age 16-74 in all other countries, were interviewed. The fieldwork was conducted from 19th April – 3rd May 2019. Approximately 1000+ individuals participated on a country by country basis via the Ipsos Online Panel with the exception of Argentina, Belgium, Chile, Hungary, India, Malaysia, Mexico, Peru, Poland, Russia, South Africa, South Korea, Serbia, Sweden and Turkey, where each have a sample approximately 500+.
- 15 of the 26 countries surveyed online generate nationally representative samples in their countries (Argentina, Australia, Belgium, Canada, France, Germany, Great Britain, Hungary, Italy, Japan, Poland, South Korea, Spain, Sweden, and United States).
- Where results do not sum to 100 or the 'difference' appears to be +/- 1 more/less than the actual, this may be due to rounding, multiple responses or the exclusion of don't knows or not stated responses.
- The precision of Ipsos online polls are calculated using a credibility interval with a poll of 1,000 accurate to +/- 3.1 percentage points and of 500 accurate to +/- 4.5 percentage points. For more information on the Ipsos use of credibility intervals, please visit the Ipsos website.
- Data are weighted to match the profile of the population.

Brazil, Chile, India, Malaysia, Mexico, Peru, Russia, Saudi Arabia, Serbia, South Africa and Turkey produce a national sample that is more urban & educated, and with higher incomes than their fellow citizens. We refer to these respondents as "Upper Deck Consumer Citizens". They are not nationally representative of their country.





# CONTACTS

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