

CANANDIAN PRESS / LEGER MARKETING

Canadians and the Israeli- Palestinian Conflict

Report



1.0 Research Findings

- A majority of Canadians following the conflict opposing Israelis and Palestinians wish to see the United Nations intervene militarily in order to resolve the issue.

Question: In your opinion, should the United Nations intervene militarily in order to establish peace in this region?

n=1177 (Canadians who follow the conflict)	YES	NON	Don't know/Refusal
	52,4%	34,6%	12,9%

- Close to eight Canadians out of ten follow the conflict opposing Israel and Palestine.

Question: Do you REGULARLY, OCCASIONALLY or NEVER follow the conflict opposing Israel and Palestine?

n=1521	Regularly	Occasionally	Never	Dnk/Refusal
	35,2%	42,3%	21,2%	1,4%

- More than 45.0% of Canadians do not support either camp.

Question: In terms of the Israeli-Palestinian conflict, are you more inclined to support...?

n=1177 (Canadians who follow the conflict)	... Israelis	...Palestinian	...neither	Dnk/refusal
	20,6%	11,4%	45,6%	22,5%

- Yasser Arafat is deemed responsible for the resurgence of violence.

Question: In your opinion, who is responsible for the renewed outbreak of violence of recent weeks in this region of the Middle East? Is it...?

n=1177 (Canadians who follow the conflict)	...the President of the Palestinian Authority, YASSER ARAFAT	...the Israeli Prime Minister, ARIEL SHARON	...both are equally responsible	Dnk/Refusal
	25,6%	12,3%	24,4%	37,7%

- Peace not near, say Canadians.

Question: Do you think these two groups will live in peace within the next five years?

n=1177 (Canadians who follow the conflict)	OUI	NON	Dnk/Refusal
	24,2%	64,7%	11,1%

2.0 Results

2.1 A majority of Canadians who follow the conflict wish to see the United Nations intervene militarily in order to resolve it

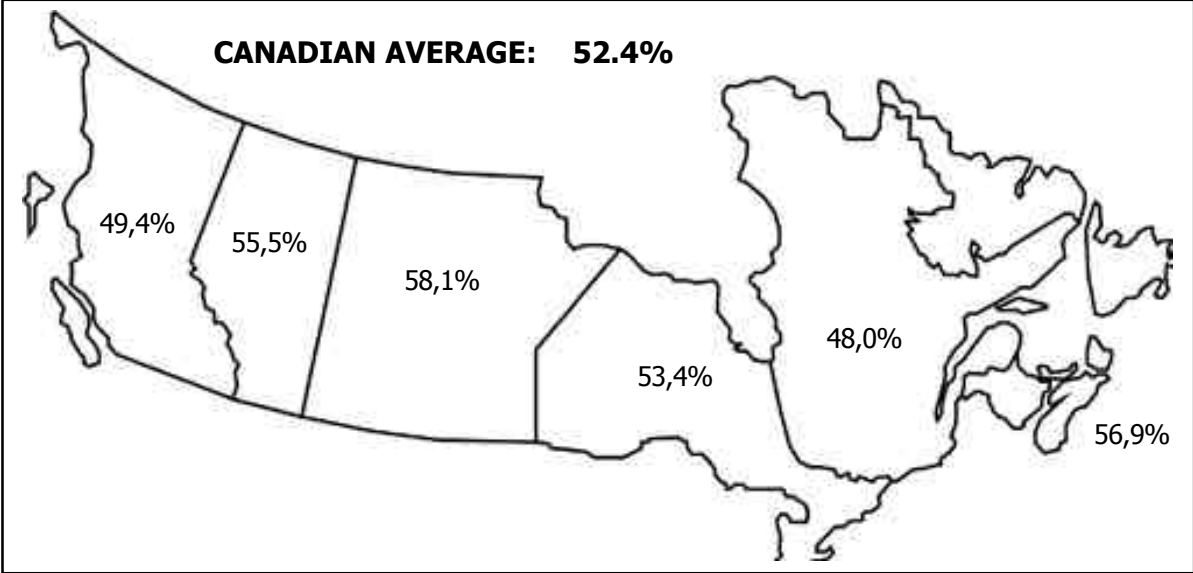
52.4% of Canadians who follow the conflict wish to see the United Nations intervene militarily to establish peace between Israel and Palestine while 34.6% do not share this opinion and 12.9% did not express their opinion in this matter.

67.8% of those 18-24, 66.2% of individuals more inclined to support Palestine, 64.4% of those who believe the Israeli Prime Minister is responsible for the resurgence of violence in this region, 59.5% of those who believe Yasser Arafat is responsible, 55.7% of those who regularly follow the conflict, 57.0% of men are more likely to favour a military intervention by the United Nations.

Question: In your opinion, should the United Nations intervene militarily in order to establish peace in this region?

n=1177 (Canadians who follow the conflict)	YES	NO	Dnk/ Refusal
Atlantic provinces	56,9%	35,7%	7,4%
Quebec	48,0%	43,4%	8,5%
Ontario	53,4%	30,9%	15,6%
Prairies	58,1%	28,5%	13,4%
Alberta	55,5%	31,5%	13,1%
British Columbia	49,4%	34,5%	16,1%
Canada	52,4%	34,6%	12,9%

Percentage of Canadians who wish to see the United Nations intervene militarily to establish peace between Israel and Palestine.



2.2 Close to eight Canadians out of ten following the conflict opposing Israel and Palestine

77.5% of the population follow the conflict opposing Israel and Palestine, 35,2% of which who follow it regularly and 42,3% occasionally and 21,2% are not interested at all.

43,9% of Canadians aged 45 years old and over, 41,9% of those with an annual income greater than \$60,000, 45,2% of retirees, 41,8% of professionals and 45,6% of those in the higher income brackets are more likely to regularly follow the conflict.

We note that 29,8% of those 18-24 years old, 31,4% of those in the lower income brackets and 42,3% of Canadians with lower levels of schooling do not follow the conflict.

Question: Do you REGULARLY, OCCASIONALLY or NEVER follow the conflict opposing Israel and Palestine?

n=1521	Regularly	Occasionally	Never	Dnk/Refusal
18-24	19,1%	50,6%	29,8%	0,5%
25-34	26,2%	48,0%	24,2%	1,6%
35-44	32,5%	49,3%	16,8%	1,4%
45-54	44,8%	36,6%	17,6%	0,9%
55-64	46,1%	31,5%	20,6%	1,8%
65 years old and over	40,9%	33,9%	23,0%	2,2%
Canada	35,2%	42,3%	21,2%	1,4%

2.3 More than 45 percent of Canadians do not support either side

45,6% of Canadians following the conflict are not more inclined to support either side involved in the conflict while 20,6% support the Israelis and 11,4% the Palestinians.

57,6% of Francophones and 54,5% of Quebeckers are more likely to support neither side. 25,9% of men, 29,4% of Prairies residents are more inclined to support the Israelis while 19,5% of those whose mother tongue is neither French nor English, 14,7% of Quebeckers and 17,2% of University-educated Canadians tend to support the Palestinians.

Question: In terms of the Israeli-Palestinian conflict, are you more inclined to support...?

n=1177 (Canadians who follow the conflict)	...Israelis	...Palestinians	Neither	Dnk/Refusal
Mother tongue: French	11,2%	12,7%	57,6%	18,5%
Mother tongue: English	23,8%	9,3%	43,0%	23,9%
Mother tongue: Other	21,2%	19,5%	37,4%	21,9%
Atlantic provinces	22,5%	8,2%	46,8%	22,5%
Quebec	14,3%	14,7%	54,5%	16,6%
Ontario	20,3%	10,7%	44,8%	24,4%
Prairies	29,4%	8,0%	42,2%	20,4%
Alberta	26,7%	11,3%	38,7%	23,3%
British Columbia	22,1%	11,3%	38,1%	28,5%
Canada	20,6%	11,4%	45,6%	22,5%

2.4 Yasser Arafat deemed responsible for the resurgence of violence

According to 25,6% of the population who follow the conflict between Israel and Palestine, Yasser Arafat is the one who is seen as responsible for the resurgence of violence in this region of the Middle East. On the other hand, 12,3% accuse Ariel Sharon and 24,4% think that both are responsible. 37,7% did not express an opinion in this matter.

In fact, we can say that 50,0% of Canadians believe that Yasser Arafat is responsible while 36,7% accuse Ariel Sharon.

37,0% of those 18-24 and 43,9% of students are more likely to direct blame towards Yasser Arafat. However, 15,9% of men, 18,4% of Quebecers and 16,3% of University-educated Canadians are more likely to blame Ariel Sharon.

Question: In your opinion, who is responsible for the renewed outbreak of violence of recent weeks in this region of the Middle East? Is it... ..

n=1177 (Canadians who follow the conflict)	... the President of the Palestinian Authority	...the Israeli Prime Minister	...both are equally responsible	Dnk/Refusal
Men	28,9%	15,9%	26,2%	28,9%
Women	22,4%	8,8%	22,7%	46,1%
Atlantic provinces	31,7%	12,7%	27,8%	27,8%
Quebec	27,9%	18,4%	19,3%	34,4%
Ontario	23,8%	10,6%	25,6%	40,0%
Prairies	20,9%	7,3%	27,2%	44,6%
Alberta	28,4%	11,3%	24,7%	35,7%
British Columbia	23,2%	9,5%	26,6%	40,6%
Canada	25,6%	12,3%	24,4%	37,7%

2.5 Peace is not near, say Canadians

The study found that 64.7% of Canadians predict that peace will not become a reality in the next five years while 24,2% mentioned being more optimistic about the prospects of peace.

70,4% of men, 69,9% of the workforce, 70,6% of University-educated Canadians and 75,4% of those in the higher income brackets make up the group that is more pessimistic about the prospects of peace.

Question: Do you think these two groups will live in peace within the next five years?

n=1177 (Canadians who follow the conflict)	YES	NO	Dnk/Refusal
Atlantic provinces	25,8%	58,0%	16,2%
Quebec	23,5%	67,1%	9,5%
Ontario	25,3%	64,2%	10,5%
Prairies	24,3%	61,7%	14,0%
Alberta	21,2%	68,5%	10,3%
British Columbia	23,9%	64,6%	11,5%
Canada	24,2%	64,7%	11,1%

3.0 Methodology

This study was conducted by Leger Marketing through telephone interviews among a representative sample of 1521 English- or French-speaking Canadians, 18 years of age or older.

The interviews were conducted from our Montreal call centre between December 4 and December 10, 2001. Up to ten recalls were made in the case of non-response.

Using data from Statistics Canada, the results were weighted according to geographic location, gender and language spoken at home to ensure a sample representative of the entire Canadian adult population. In the end, the maximum margin of error obtained for a sample of 1521 respondents is of $\pm 2.6\%$, 19 times out of 20.