



**CANADIAN
MUNICIPAL
BAROMETER**

**LE BAROMÈTRE
MUNICIPAL
DU CANADA**

Politician Survey
Year 2

Contents

Background and Programming Qs.....	2
Core Policy Attitudes.....	3
Theories of Voting Behaviour.....	5
Housing Conjoint Experiment.....	6
Neighbourhood Associations.....	8
Homelessness.....	9
Democratic Practices.....	10
Pre-political Experiences.....	11
Time Horizons - Bridge.....	12
Perceptual Accuracy.....	13
AI Conjoint Experiment.....	15
Comparative Policy Orientations.....	17
Participation in Pride Experiment.....	18
Who Does What: Policy Jurisdiction.....	19
Perceptual Accuracy - Opinions.....	20
Health and Policy Preferences.....	20
Time Horizons.....	22
Automated Delivery Regulation.....	23
Ideology, PID.....	25
Demographics.....	26

Field dates: January 12 to March 1, 2026

Background and Programming Qs

position To which of the following positions were you elected?

- Mayor / Reeve (1)
- Deputy Mayor (2)
- Councillor (3)
- Other (4)

atlarge Were you elected at-large (that is, in a municipality-wide race) or in a ward?

- At Large (1)
- Ward (2)

acclaimed In your most recent municipal election, were you elected by acclamation?

- No (0)
- Yes (1)

party In your most recent municipal election, did you run with a party or slate?

- Yes (1)
- No (0)

placetype_repr Which of the following words **best describes** the ward/municipality you represent?

- Urban (1)
- Suburban (2)
- Rural (3)

province

Piped through from the contact list and requested if it was not present there.

- Alberta (48)
- British Columbia (59)
- Manitoba (46)
- New Brunswick (13)
- Newfoundland and Labrador (10)
- Northwest Territories (61)
- Nova Scotia (12)
- Nunavut (62)
- Ontario (35)
- Prince Edward Island (11)
- Quebec (24)
- Saskatchewan (47)
- Yukon (60)

Core Policy Attitudes

Question order randomized.

To what extent do you agree or disagree with the following statements?

issue_livingwage Municipalities should require that all municipal contractors pay their employees a living wage, even if it means increased costs for the municipality.

- Strongly Disagree (1)
- Somewhat Disagree, (2)
- Somewhat Agree (3)
- Strongly Agree (4)
- Don't Know / No Opinion (-99)

issue_climatechange Municipalities should play a strong role in reducing the effects of climate change, even if it means sacrificing revenues and/or expending financial resources.

- Strongly Disagree (1)
- Somewhat Disagree, (2)
- Somewhat Agree (3)
- Strongly Agree (4)
- Don't Know / No Opinion (-99)

issue_socialservices Municipalities should prioritize keeping taxes low, even if it means low-income residents have access to fewer social services.

- Strongly Disagree (1)
- Somewhat Disagree, (2)
- Somewhat Agree (3)
- Strongly Agree (4)
- Don't Know / No Opinion (-99)
-

issue_activetrans Municipalities should make their roads accessible to active transportation (walking, cycling) even if it means sacrificing driving lanes and/or parking.

- Strongly Disagree (1)
- Somewhat Disagree, (2)
- Somewhat Agree (3)
- Strongly Agree (4)
- Don't Know / No Opinion (-99)

issue_density Municipalities should encourage increased housing density in established neighbourhoods, even if some local residents object.

- Strongly Disagree (1)
- Somewhat Disagree, (2)
- Somewhat Agree (3)
- Strongly Agree (4)
- Don't Know / No Opinion (-99)

issue_subsidies Municipalities should provide subsidized programs to low-income residents, even if doing so comes at the expense of businesses and/or wealthy residents.

- Strongly Disagree (1)
- Somewhat Disagree, (2)
- Somewhat Agree (3)
- Strongly Agree (4)
- Don't Know / No Opinion (-99)

issue_landmarks Municipalities should keep historic street names, statues, and other heritage landmarks, even if some of the historical individuals being commemorated were prejudiced or racist.

- Strongly Disagree (1)
- Somewhat Disagree, (2)
- Somewhat Agree (3)
- Strongly Agree (4)
- Don't Know / No Opinion (-99)

Theories of Voting Behaviour

A subset of three items were randomly displayed with equal probability.

elec_blame Some say that voters often blame or reward politicians for events that are totally outside the politician's control. Others say that voters are good at knowing which events politicians are and are not responsible for. Where would you position yourself in this debate?

- 0 (Unfairly Blame or Reward)
- 1
- 2
- 3
- 4
- 5
- 6
- 7
- 8
- 9
- 10 (Correctly Blame or Reward)

elec_policy Some say that voters make their decisions based on their policy preferences. Others say that voters' choices have much more to do with their deeply held partisan or other group identities. Where would you position yourself in this debate?

- 0 (Policy Preferences)
- 1
- 2
- 3
- 4

- 5
- 6
- 7
- 8
- 9
- 10 (Deeply Held Identities)

elec_pastfuture Some say that voters make decisions based on candidates' policy commitments and promises for the next term. Others say that voters base their decisions on "rewarding" or "punishing" their mayor or councillor for how well they have performed in the previous term.

Where would you position yourself in this debate?

- 0 (Look to the Past)
- 1
- 2
- 3
- 4
- 5
- 6
- 7
- 8
- 9
- 10 (Look to the Future)

elec_improvedlives Some say voters judge governments on whether they've improved everyone's lives. Others say voters judge governments on whether they've improved their own personal lives. Where would you position yourself in this debate?

- 0 (Everyone's Lives)
- 1
- 2
- 3
- 4
- 5
- 6
- 7
- 8
- 9
- 10 (Personal Lives)

elec_shortterm Some say that voters are impatient and think about the short term when they vote. Others say that voters are able to ignore short-term distractions and focus on the long term. Where would you position yourself in this debate?

- 0 (Think about the short term)
- 1
- 2
- 3

- 4
- 5
- 6
- 7
- 8
- 9
- 10 (Think about the long term)

Housing Conjoint Experiment

Alex Rivard

Each politician completes the task two times.

cj_preamble We are going to ask you about housing policy attitudes among two hypothetical constituents in your municipality. Please consider each constituent and then answer the questions below the table.

Conjoint Table

Attribute	Levels
Gender and Age	Man (Age 40), Man (Age 50), Man (Age 60)
Years lived in neighbourhood	1 Year, 5 Years, 10 Years, 25 Years
Children in Home	No, Yes
Distance from proposed development	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> ● Immediately beside his house ● On his street but not beside his house ● On his block but not on his street ● In his neighbourhood, but not on his block
Proposed housing development	Single-family house, Duplex, Multi-unit townhouse
Attitude toward proposal	Supports, Opposes

Statement about proposal	<p>If attitude = opposes</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> ● it will make traffic worse ● it will make parking more difficult ● the construction will be too loud ● it will lead to gentrification ● it will lower the value of his house ● it will be bad for the environment ● it will negatively change the character of his neighbourhood ● it will put too much strain on local services ● it will principally benefit developers ● it will create unwanted shadows <p>If attitude = supports</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> ● it will make housing more affordable ● it will provide homes for young families and professionals ● it will create new jobs for construction workers ● it will broaden the city's tax base ● it will bring investment and revitalization ● it will bring new residents to support local amenities and other services ● it will bring new residents which might lead to even more neighbourhood services ● it will create more space for newcomers and lead to more diversity ● it will make the neighbourhood more vibrant ● it will enhance public safety by creating stronger communities
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Conjoint variable coding: *housing_t{x}_attrib{y}* where *t* is the conjoint task and *attrib{y}* is the attribute, which maps to the attribute name (*housing_attrib{y}_name*). This mapping of names to attributes is necessary because the attribute order in the conjoint table was randomized (the attributes were displayed in the same random order for both tasks.) *housing_cj_attrib_order* gives the order that attributes were displayed.

housing_cj_weight{1, 2} When weighing the views of different constituents on housing development issues, how important is this constituent's perspective?

- Not at all (1)
- Very low (2)
- Low (3)
- Moderate (4)
- High (5)

- Very high (6)
- Decisive (7)

Housing_cj_consult{1, 2} During consultation on housing development, how much priority should be placed on this constituent's perspective?

- No priority (1)
- Very low priority (2)
- Low priority (3)
- Moderate priority (4)
- High priority (5)
- Very high priority (6)
- Top priority (7)

Neighbourhood Associations

Aaron Moore; Elections and Voting

na_assoc Are you aware of any active or formerly existing Neighbourhood, Residents' and/or Ratepayers' Association (or equivalent) in your municipality?

- No (0)
- Yes (1)

na_interact On average, how frequently do you interact with existing Neighbourhood, Residents' and/or Ratepayers' Association (or equivalent)? *{Only displayed if na_assoc = 1}*

- Never (1)
- A few times a year (2)
- A few times a month (3)
- A few times a week (4)
- More than a few times a week (5)

na_sig In your opinion, how significant is the influence of Neighbourhood, Residents', or Ratepayers' associations on municipal policymaking? *{Only displayed if na_assoc = 1}*

- Not at all significant (1)
- Slightly significant (2)
- Moderately significant (3)
- Highly significant (4)
- Extremely significant (5)
- Don't know/No opinion (-99)

na_exc To what extent do you agree that Neighbourhood, Residents' and/or Ratepayers' Associations exert an excessive influence on municipal decisions? *{Only displayed if na_assoc = 1}*

- Strongly disagree (1)
- Disagree (2)

- Neither agree nor disagree (3)
- Agree (4)
- Strongly agree (5)
- Don't know/No opinion (-99)

Homelessness

Alison Smith; Multilevel Governance

hmls_open In a sentence or two, please explain what comes to your mind when you think about homelessness in Canada. [OPEN]

hmls_do How much do you think should be done for people experiencing homelessness?

- Much more than now (1)
- Somewhat more than now (2)
- About the same as now (3)
- Somewhat less than now (4)
- Much less than now (5)

hmls_legis How important is it that politicians listen to public opinion when legislating on homelessness?

- Not at all important (1)
- Slightly important (2)
- Moderately important (3)
- Very important (4)
- Extremely important (5)
- Don't know (-99)

hmls_share Do you think your views regarding homelessness are shared by your constituents?

- Yes (1)
- No (0)

Democratic Practices

Beatrice Wayne, Elections and Voting

dp_support What practices, programs, and institutional features of your municipal government support civic learning and engagement? {Select multiple}

- Participatory budgeting (1)
- Youth councils/youth councillors (2)
- Advisory committees (3)
- Town halls (4)
- Plain-language bylaws (5)

- Open data dashboards (6)
- Partnerships with schools (7)
- Other (8)

dp_benefit What practices, programs, and institutional features do you believe would be beneficial for your municipal government to implement to support civic learning and engagement? {Select multiple}

- Participatory budgeting (1)
- Youth councils/youth councillors (2)
- Advisory committees (3)
- Town halls (4)
- Plain-language bylaws (5)
- Open data dashboards (6)
- Partnerships with schools (7)
- Other (8)

dp_barriers What are the barriers to implementing participatory governance practices, programs, and institutional features in your municipality? {Select multiple}

- Cost (1)
- Lack of awareness among city council (2)
- Lack of support among city council (3)
- Inconsistent/lack of participant engagement (4)
- Consultation fatigue (5)
- Other (6)

Pre-political Experiences

Beatrice Wayne, Elections and Voting

pe_exp Prior to running for office, how much experience did you have in political organizing, community advocacy, or public administration?

- 1 (No experience at all)
- 2
- 3
- 4
- 5 (A great deal of experience)

pe_run How did you first consider the possibility of running for municipal office? {Multiple selections allowed}

- Encouraged by others at work (1)
- Encouraged by others in family or social life (2)
- Self-directed (3)
- Recruited by a party (4)
- Recruited by a community group (5)
- Other (6)

pe_guide How much access did you have to mentorship or guidance from a current or former elected official when deciding to run?

- 1 (No mentorship or guidance at all)
- 2
- 3
- 4
- 5 (A great deal of mentorship or guidance)

pe_age What age were you when first elected to local office?

Dropdown menu, 18 to 99 with "Prefer not to say" (-99)

pe_factors Which of the following factors did you find to be significant challenges during your first campaign for elected office? [Multiple selections allowed]

- Financial cost (1)
- Partisanship / party politics (2)
- Public scrutiny (3)
- Balancing family and politics (4)
- Lack of name recognition (5)
- Lack of campaign knowledge (6)
- Discrimination; Time commitments (7)
- No significant challenges to running (8)
- Other (Please specify) [OPEN] (9)

pe_retro Looking back, what supports or mentorship would have made the biggest difference to you as a first-time candidate? [Multiple selections allowed]

- Training in public speaking and media engagement (1)
- Training in fundraising (2)
- Public campaign financing or expense reimbursements (3)
- A larger campaign staff / volunteer base (4)
- More polling / canvass data (5)
- Training in project and people management (6)
- Community with other candidates (7)
- Connections to partner organizations such as content creators, advocacy groups, business associations, etc. (8)
- Other (Please specify) (9)

pe_action What one action could communities take right now to make municipal politics more attractive for high-quality candidates?

- Provide free or low-cost candidate training programs (1)
- Create a mentorship network linking potential candidates with experienced elected officials (2)

- Strengthen protections against harassment and abuse of candidates and elected officials (3)
- Provide greater oversight and accountability for online harassment and hate speech (4)
- Hold more community-led forums and dialogues to connect candidates directly with residents (5)
- Other (Please specify) (6)

Time Horizons - Bridge

Sophie Borwein, Elections and Voting

text1 “is to undertake a **minimal package of emergency repairs**, which will require night-time closures and lane reductions, with **minimal effects on traffic congestion**. These repairs will be completed in **ten weeks** and will extend the service life of the bridge for **10 years**.”

text2 “is to build a **new and higher-capacity bridge** with a service life of **at least 60 years**. Under this plan the old bridge will need to be completely demolished, and traffic will be redirected to detour over a more distant bridge during construction. This detour will **substantially increase commute times** for residents and cause serious traffic congestion. During the construction period, this will likely mean **considerable frustration** for residents. The construction of the new bridge is currently estimated to take **five years**.”

*The order of “text1” and “text2” are randomly varied below. **th_planA** and **th_planB** encode this ordering in the survey results. For example, if “text1” was inserted as “Plan B” and “text2” was inserted as “Plan A” in the vignette, then **th_planA** will hold the string “text2” and **th_planB** will hold “text1”.*

Imagine that a major bridge in your municipality, which is used daily by many of your constituents, is in a state of **very poor repair**. Council will soon vote on two options.

Plan A: Plan A {randomized}

Plan B: Plan B {randomized}

Because of the poor state of the bridge, work needs to begin immediately, regardless of which plan is adopted.

th_bridge Which of the two alternatives do you vote for?

- Plan A (1)
- Plan B (2)

Perceptual Accuracy

Jack Lucas

Each politician answers this module about a random draw of THREE of the statements below.

preamble Please answer the following two questions based on the statement below:

Display **pa_proposal_text{1-3}** {randomly drawn policy statement from the list below}

percept1_pct{1-3} What percentage of residents in your municipality do you think **have an opinion** on this issue? [%, DK = NA]

percept2_pct{1-3} Of the residents in your municipality who have an opinion, **what percentage agree with this statement?** [%, DK = NA]

pa_proposal_text{1-3}

- Municipalities should establish civilian oversight boards to review police conduct, even if police leadership objects. (27)
- Municipal governments should give police more authority to remove people using drugs in public spaces, even if those individuals are not committing other crimes. (28)
- Municipal governments should avoid offering culturally specific programs for immigrants and instead focus on encouraging a shared civic identity. (29)
- Municipal governments should provide voting rights in local elections to permanent residents, even if they are not Canadian citizens. (30)
- Municipal governments should not use public funds to support cultural festivals aimed primarily at immigrant communities. (31)
- Municipal governments should avoid creating special programs for immigrants and instead treat all residents the same regardless of immigration status. (32)
- Municipal governments should expand access to affordable housing specifically for immigrant and refugee families, even if this reduces availability for others. (33)
- Municipal governments should ensure that all residents, regardless of immigration status, have equal access to emergency shelters and public health services. (34)
- Municipal governments should ban the use of gas-powered lawn equipment, even if it inconveniences some homeowners. (35)
- Municipalities should implement mandatory composting programs for all households, even if some homeowners find them inconvenient. (36)
- Municipalities should reduce traffic speed limits on residential streets to improve pedestrian safety, even if it slightly increases commute times. (37)
- Municipalities should prioritize road-widening projects over investments in pedestrian or cycling infrastructure. (38)
- Municipal governments should reduce car lanes on major roads to make room for bus-only lanes, even if it increases traffic congestion for drivers. (39)

- Municipal governments should limit high-density developments in established residential neighbourhoods, even if this restricts housing supply. (40)
- Municipalities should legalize fourplexes and small apartment buildings in all residential neighbourhoods, even if some homeowners oppose the change. (41)
- Municipalities should allow apartment buildings near single-family homes, even if existing homeowners say it will change the character of their neighbourhood. (42)
- Municipalities should give homeowners more say over nearby zoning changes, even if this slows down the construction of new housing. (43)
- Municipal governments should legalize multi-unit housing across all residential zones to expand housing supply and reduce prices. (44)
- Municipal governments should prioritize inclusive cooperatives and community-owned businesses over attracting large corporations. (45)
- Municipalities should reduce commercial property taxes to attract employers, even if it means cutting other parts of the municipal budget. (46)
- Municipal governments should rename streets and public spaces that honour historical figures with known records of colonial violence. (47)
- Municipalities should treat all residents equally and not create special policies or advisory bodies based on race or cultural background. (48)
- Municipalities should raise property taxes if needed to maintain or expand core public services, rather than cutting those services. (49)
- Municipalities should adopt tax policies that explicitly aim to reduce inequality within the community. (50)
- Municipal governments should stop spending money on renaming streets or removing historical statues, even if some residents find them offensive. (51)
- Municipal governments should not begin council meetings with Indigenous land acknowledgements. (52)

AI Conjoint Experiment

Kaylyn Jackson Schiff, Public Policy

Each participant completes two conjoint tasks

ai_conj_preamble Suppose that your municipality is planning to adopt a new artificial intelligence (AI) system.

Below are two different proposals the municipality is considering:

table

Description	Proposal A	Proposal B
AI purpose	{Use case}	{Use case}

Annual savings to taxpayers (per household)	{Economic benefit}	{Economic benefit}
Estimated government job loss	{Economic cost}	{Economic cost}
Improvement in service performance	{Service quality}	{Service quality}
Rate of Error	{accuracy}	{accuracy}
Areas impacted	{fairness}	{fairness}
Extent of human oversight	{oversight}	{oversight}
Ideology of local government	{ideology}	{ideology}

Attributes and levels for the conjoint

name	Attribute	3 Levels
Use case	AI purpose	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> - Determining where police officers should patrol - Processing zoning and housing permits - Deciding when and where garbage should be collected
Economic benefit	Annual savings to taxpayers (per household)	\$0, \$100, \$200
Economic cost	Estimated government job loss	{0, 10, 20} government employees
Service quality	Improvement in service performance	{No improvement, 15% reduction, 30% reduction} in wait times for {the police, permits, garbage collection}

accuracy	Rate of Error	No change in errors compared to a human, 10% better than humans, 10% worse than humans
fairness	Areas impacted	Used city-wide, Used only in low-income areas, Used only in high-income areas
oversight	Extent of human oversight	No human review, Human review available upon request, Human review and approval required
ideology	Ideology of local government body	Leans left-wing, Leans right-wing, Mainly centrist

Conjoint variable coding: $ai_cj_t\{x\}_c\{y\}_attrib\{z\}$ where t is the conjoint task, c is the choice profile within that task, and $attrib\{z\}$ is the attribute, which maps to the attribute name ($ai_cj_attrib\{z\}_name$). This mapping of names to attributes is necessary because the attribute order in the conjoint table was randomized (the attributes were displayed in the same random order for both tasks and “AI Purpose” was always displayed at the top of the table.) $ai_cj_attrib_order$ gives the order that attributes were displayed.

ai_cj_choice{1, 2} Which proposal would you prefer your municipality adopts?

- Proposal A (1)
- Proposal B (2)

ai_cj_choice_rating How acceptable do you find each proposal on a scale from 0 (Completely unacceptable) to 10 (Completely acceptable)? {Matrix question. 0 to 10 scale with labels from question text at each extreme}

- **ai_cj_choice_ratingA{1, 2}** Proposal A
- **ai_cj_choice_ratingB{1, 2}** Proposal B

ai_cj_consult For each proposal, which measure(s) should the municipal government take to engage members of the public before adopting the AI system? Select all that apply. {Select multiple matrix question. Response options: None (1), Public notification (2), Online survey about community preferences (3), Public town-hall meeting for discussion and debate (4)}

- **ai_cj_consultA{1, 2}** Proposal A
- **ai_cj_consultB{1, 2}** Proposal B

Comparative Policy Orientations

Martin Horak; Public Policy

preamble What is your opinion on each of the following statements?

cpo_infra When it comes to infrastructure repair and investment, municipalities should prioritize long-term gain even if it means short-term pain for residents.

- Strongly Disagree (1)
- Somewhat Disagree (2)
- Somewhat Agree (3)
- Strongly Agree (4)
- Don't Know / No Opinion (-99)

cpo_today Municipal councils should focus on solving today's problems, even if this leaves long-term challenges for later councils to address.

- Strongly Disagree (1)
- Somewhat Disagree (2)
- Somewhat Agree (3)
- Strongly Agree (4)
- Don't Know / No Opinion (-99)

cpo_upgrades Municipalities should prioritize keeping taxes low, even if it means deferring renovation and upgrades to municipal facilities until some time in the future.

- Strongly Disagree (1)
- Somewhat Disagree (2)
- Somewhat Agree (3)
- Strongly Agree (4)
- Don't Know / No Opinion (-99)

cpo_tech Municipalities should act on technical evidence from engineers and planners, even if it contradicts the preferences of local residents.

- Strongly Disagree (1)
- Somewhat Disagree (2)
- Somewhat Agree (3)
- Strongly Agree (4)
- Don't Know / No Opinion (-99)

cpo_info Municipal politicians should make decisions based on the best available information, even if it means going back on their past campaign promises.

- Strongly Disagree (1)
- Somewhat Disagree (2)
- Somewhat Agree (3)

- Strongly Agree (4)
- Don't Know / No Opinion (-99)

cpo_consult Municipal councils should follow the outcome of public consultations, even if experts believe a different approach would work better.

- Strongly Disagree (1)
- Somewhat Disagree (2)
- Somewhat Agree (3)
- Strongly Agree (4)
- Don't Know / No Opinion (-99)

cpo_tio In total, how long have you served in local elected office (in years)?

Text entry, restricted to integers >= 0

Participation in Pride Experiment

Nicole McMahon

pride_part How would you characterize your past participation in your local pride parade:

- I have attended in my role as an elected representative (1)
- I have attended in a personal capacity (2)
- I have attended in both a personal capacity and as an elective representative (3)
- I have never attended a pride parade (4)
- There has never been a pride parade in my municipality (5)

Vignette

Your council is considering renewing support for local LGBTQ+ pride events.

Suppose that a recent community survey shows {pride_survey_support} support for municipal involvement in pride initiatives. The proposal includes municipal coordination with pride organizers and a {pride_cost} grant.

You are asked to indicate your position on the grant and other pride activities before the next council meeting.

The following two attributes were randomly varied and embedded in the vignette, as indicated above:

pride_survey_support

- 37% (1)
- 76% (2)

pride_cost

- \$5,000 (1)

- \$20,000 (2)

Outcome matrix. Strongly Disagree (1), Somewhat Disagree (2), Somewhat Agree (3), Strongly Agree (4)

pride_support I support providing the grant

pride_intend I intend to participate in the pride parade this year

pride_flag Municipal buildings should display the pride flag during pride month

Who Does What: Policy Jurisdiction

Gabe Eidelman, Multilevel Governance

*Each respondent answered this question twice. In each case, a policy item was drawn from **wdw1_policy/wdw2_policy** and piped into the question. The same applies for the second iteration of the module.*

wdw1_policy, wdw2_policy Policies piped into the question.

- *housing* (1)
- *economic development* (2)
- *climate policy* (3)
- *public health* (4)
- *policing* (5)
- *transportation* (6)
- *long-term care* (7)
- *child care* (8)
- *immigration* (9)
- *mental health and addictions* (10)

In your opinion, what should be the primary role of each of the following governments **in the area of {piped text: wdw1_policy/wdw2_policy}**? For each government, please select all of the roles that you feel are appropriate.

*Matrix Question. Response options: Set policy (1), Fund services (2), Deliver services (3), Provide oversight (4), Should not be involved (5), No strong preference (6)
Should not be involved could not be combined with other responses.*

- **wdw1_fed, wdw2_fed** Federal government
- **wdw1_prov, wdw2_prov** Provincial government
- **wdw1_mun, wdw2_mun** Municipal government

Perceptual Accuracy - Opinions

Jack Lucas

To what extent do you agree or disagree with the following statements?

pa_opinion1 {pa_statement_text1}

- Strongly Disagree (1)
- Somewhat Disagree (2)
- Somewhat Agree (3)
- Strongly Agree (4)
- Don't know / No opinion (-99)

pa_opinion2 {pa_statement_text2}

- Strongly Disagree (1)
- Somewhat Disagree (2)
- Somewhat Agree (3)
- Strongly Agree (4)
- Don't know / No opinion (-99)

pa_opinion3 {pa_statement_text3}

- Strongly Disagree (1)
- Somewhat Disagree (2)
- Somewhat Agree (3)
- Strongly Agree (4)
- Don't know / No opinion (-99)

Health and Policy Preferences

Sandra Breux

hp_pre The following question is about health. By health, we mean not only the absence of disease or injury but also physical, mental and social well-being.

hp_general In general, how is your health?

- Excellent (1)
- Very good (2)
- Good (3)
- Fair (4)
- Poor (5)

hp_mental In general, how is your mental health?

- Excellent (1)
- Very good (2)

- Good (3)
- Fair (4)
- Poor (5)

hp_stress Thinking about the amount of stress in your life, how would you describe most of your days?

- Not at all stressful (1)
- Not very stressful (2)
- A bit stressful (3)
- Quite a bit stressful (4)
- Extremely stressful (5)

hp_job How would you describe most days at work as an elected official?

- Not at all stressful (1)
- Not very stressful (2)
- A bit stressful (3)
- Quite a bit stressful (4)
- Extremely stressful (5)

hp_policy Among the following areas, which do you think your municipality should prioritize? Only one choice is possible.

- Electricity and natural gas supply (1)
- Homelessness (2)
- Parks and recreation (3)
- Public health (4)
- Culture and the Arts (5)
- Economic development (6)
- Emergency planning (7)
- Housing (8)
- Immigrant settlement (9)
- Land use planning and regulation (10)
- Policing (11)
- Public Transit (12)
- Roads, Bridges, and Highways (13)
- Solid waste (collection and disposal) (14)
- Indigenous relations / Indigenous affairs (15)
- Water supply (16)
- Climate change policy (17)
- Poverty reduction (18)
- Drug use (19)

hp_commute Which of the following modes of transportation do you use most often to get to your main place of work?

- Car (1)

- Bicycle (2)
- Public transportation (3)
- Walking (4)

Time Horizons

Sophie Borwein, Elections and Voting

th_manipulation *The experimental condition: coded 1 (Control), 2 (Legacy), or 3 (Electoral).*

Condition 1: Control *No prime - proceed directly to AI policies (1)*

Condition 2 “Legacy”: Consider the following scenario. As you reflect on your time in office, you think about what you'll be remembered for after you leave politics. You recently visited a fourth-grade classroom to talk about your career before politics. Looking at the 10-year-olds in the classroom, you realize that by the time they enter the labour force in 10-15 years, they'll be living with the consequences of decisions your council makes today about artificial intelligence and the economy, as AI transforms most jobs. You wonder: are you making the right policy decisions today to best prepare your community for economic change? (2)

Condition 3 “Electoral”: Consider the following scenario. You have a large number of parents with young children in your local area. You recently attended a career event at a local school. At the event, multiple parents expressed concern that by the time their children enter the labour force in 10-15 years, artificial intelligence will have transformed most jobs in the economy. The parents emphasized that they want the council to prioritize long-term workforce preparation, even if results won't be visible immediately. Several residents told you this is a key issue for them in local elections. The parents wanted to know if you were making the right policy decisions today to best prepare your community for economic change. (3)

th_prep When do you think your municipality should begin preparing for AI's impact on local employment?

- Immediately (1)
- Within 1-3 years (2)
- Within 5 years (3)
- Can wait more than 5 years (4)
- Never (5)

Municipality-Appropriate:

th_alloc Imagine that your municipality has \$10 (representing \$10 million) in economic development funds. How would you allocate those \$10 between the following programs?

Note: you can give anything between \$0 to \$10 to each program, but the total cannot be more than \$10. *Statement order randomized.*

- **th_alloc_1** Immediate financial support for workers displaced by AI: \$_____

- **th_alloc_2** Partnerships with local colleges for long-term workforce retraining: \$_____
- **th_alloc_3** Subsidies for businesses to delay replacing workers with AI: \$_____
- **th_alloc_4** Investments in infrastructure and incentives to attract AI businesses to the region: \$_____

Automated Delivery Regulation

Zac Spicer; Multilevel Governance

dr_common How common are the following in your community? {Matrix question. Response options: Very common (1), Somewhat common (2), Not very common (3), Not common at all (4) Unsure (-99)}

- **dr_common1** Delivery food drivers (eg Uber Eats, Skip the Dishes) operating by car, bike or scooter?
- **dr_common2** Automated or robotic delivery systems (e.g. sidewalk delivery robots)

dr_concern1 Which of the following issues concern you most about human food delivery drivers (e.g. Uber Eats, Skip the Dishes etc) in your community?

- Traffic safety (1)
- Worker rights and protections (2)
- Licensing and insurance (3)
- Sidewalk and bike lane congestion (4)
- Competition with local businesses (5)
- Environmental impact (6)
- None of the above (-99)

dr_concern2 Which of the following issues concern you most about robotic or autonomous delivery systems?

- Pedestrian safety (1)
- Accessibility for people with disabilities (2)
- Data privacy or surveillance (3)
- Job displacement (4)
- Malfunctions or liability issues (5)
- Urban clutter or aesthetics (6)
- None of the above (-99)

dr_reg Do you think that the following delivery methods should be more tightly regulated than they are now? {Matrix question. Response options: Yes, much more regulated (1); Yes, somewhat more regulated (2); No, current regulations are sufficient (3); No, they should be less regulated (4); Unsure (-99)}

- **dr_reg1** Human food delivery drivers working through platforms like UberEats or Skip the Dishes
- **dr_reg2** Autonomous or Robotic delivery systems

dr_level Which level of government do you believe should be primarily responsible for regulating delivery services? {Matrix question. Response options: Local (municipal) Government (1), Provincial/territorial Government (2), Federal Government (3), Shared Responsibility (4), Unsure (-99)}

- **dr_level1** Human delivery drivers
- **dr_level2** Robotic or autonomous delivery drivers

dr_reg_report Has your municipality regulated any of the following? {Matrix question. Response options: Yes (1), No (2), Not sure (3)}

- **dr_reg_report1** Human food delivery agents (E.g. Uber Eats or Skip the Dishes)
- **dr_reg_report2** Autonomous or Robotic delivery robots

dr_barrier What do you see as the largest barrier to local regulation of robotic or autonomous food delivery services?

- Lack of staff capacity or expertise (1)
- Legal/jurisdictional uncertainty (e.g. municipal authority unclear) (2)
- Political resistance or lack of consensus (3)
- Limited funding or resources (4)
- Pressure from platform companies/lobbying (5)
- Lack of reliable data or evidence (6)
- Low public demand or salience of issue (7)
- Other (please specify) [OPEN] (8)

dr_data What types of data or information would be most valuable in guiding effective regulatory decisions about the food delivery industry?

- Traffic safety and collision data (1)
- Worker rights, pay and conditions data (2)
- Platform company operations (fleet size, locations, hours) (3)
- Sidewalk, bike lane or road usage data (4)
- Public opinion or community feedback (5)
- Business/economic impact (competition with local businesses) (6)
- Environmental impact (e.g GHG emissions) (7)
- Other (please specify) [OPEN] (8)

Ideology, PID

ideol In politics people sometimes talk of left and right. Where would you place yourself on a scale from 0 to 10, where 0 means left and 10 means right?

- 0 (Left) (0)
- (1)
- (2)
- (3)
- (4)
- (5)
- (6)

- (7)
- (8)
- (9)
- (Right) (10)
- Don't know (-99)

Using the same scale, where would you place the following people or groups?

*Matrix question. Response options the same as above in **ideol***

- **ideol_matrix_2** Your Current Provincial Premier
- **ideol_matrix_3** Conservative Party Leader Pierre Poilievre
- **ideol_matrix_4** Liberal Prime Minister Mark Carney
- **ideol_matrix_5** The average resident in your municipality
- **ideol_matrix_6** The average resident in your ward *{displayed if **atlarge**==2}*

fed_pid In federal politics, do you usually think of yourself as a:

- Bloc Québécois (1) *{displayed If **province** = Quebec (24)}*
- Conservative (2)
- Green (3)
- Liberal (4)
- NDP (5)
- Other (please specify): (6) _____
- None of the above (7)
- Don't know (-99)

fed_pid_6_TEXT Open-ended responses to **pid (6)**

fed_pid_str How strongly do you identify with the *{pipe **pid_fed** response}* Party?

- Very strongly (1)
- Fairly strongly (2)
- Not very strongly (3)
- Don't know (-99)

Demographics

Only those who did not participate in our 2024/2025 survey will be asked for their demographic information.

race Thinking about your background, do you consider yourself:

- Arab (1)
- Black (2)
- Chinese (3)
- Filipino (4)
- Indigenous (Inuit, Métis, First Nations) (5)
- Japanese (6)
- Korean (7)

- Latin American (8)
- South Asian (e.g. East Indian, Pakistani, Sri Lankan, etc.) (9)
- Southeast Asian (e.g. Vietnamese, Cambodian, Malaysian, Laotian, etc.) (10)
- West Asian (e.g. Iranian, Afghan, etc.) (11)
- White (12)
- Other (13) [OPEN]

age In what year were you born?

Dropdown menu, 1924 to 2007 with "Prefer not to say" (-99)

gender How would you describe your gender?

- Man (0)
- Woman (1)
- Non-binary/Two-Spirit (2)
- Another gender (please specify) (3) [TEXT]_____

gender_3_TEXT Open-ended responses to **gender (3)**

education What is the highest level of education that you have completed?

- Did not complete high school (1)
- Completed high school (2)
- Some postsecondary (no diploma/degree) (3)
- Completed apprenticeship / skilled trade (4)
- Completed technical/community college degree or diploma (5)
- Bachelor's degree (6)
- Master's degree (7)
- Professional degree or doctorate (8)

dur_mun How long have you lived in your current municipality?

- Less than 1 year (1)
- 1 year to less than 5 years (2)
- 5 years to less than 10 years (3)
- 10 years or more (4)
- Don't know (-99)

housing Which of the following best describes your current living situation?

- I live in a residence owned by myself or my partner/spouse (1)
- I live in a residence owned by someone else but do not pay rent (2)
- I live in a residence owned by someone else and pay rent (3)
- I am temporarily staying with relatives or friends, or living in housing provided by a school or employer (4)
- Prefer not to say (-99)

trans Are you transgender?

- Yes (1)

- No (0)
- Don't know / Prefer not to say (-99)

sexual Which of the following best represents how you think of yourself?

- Straight or heterosexual (1)
- Gay or lesbian (2)
- Bisexual (3)
- Queer (4)
- Something else: (5) [TEXT]
- I am not sure yet (6)
- I don't know what this question means (-98)
- Prefer not to answer (-99)

sexual_5_TEXT Open-ended responses to **sexual (5)**