

# Public First Poll of Canadian Businesses

**Fieldwork:** 19th Mar - 25th Mar 2021  
**Interview method:** Online Survey  
**Population represented:** Canadian Businesses  
**Sample size:** 500

## Methodology:

All results are weighted using Iterative Proportional Fitting, or 'Raking'. The results are weighted to number of employees, by employee count and subnational region

Public First is a member of the BPC and abides by its rules. For more information please contact Seb Wride ([seb@publicfirst.co.uk](mailto:seb@publicfirst.co.uk))

**List of Tables**

1	To what extent do you agree or disagree with the following statements about the Government’s handling of the Covid-19 pandemic: The Canadian government took early action like closing borders which has helped to keep the infection rate low and saved lives . . . . .	2
2	To what extent do you agree or disagree with the following statements about the Government’s handling of the Covid-19 pandemic: The Canadian government left the provinces to take too many decisions about when and how to lockdown and that cost lives . . . . .	4
3	To what extent do you agree or disagree with the following statements about the Government’s handling of the Covid-19 pandemic: The Canadian government was not fast enough in securing shipments of Covid-19 vaccines and has taken too long to approve vaccines for use . . . . .	6
4	To what extent do you agree or disagree with the following statements about the Government’s handling of the Covid-19 pandemic: The Canadian government prioritised making emergency payments to individuals at the expense of direct support for businesses . . . . .	8
5	To what extent do you agree or disagree with the following statements about the Government’s handling of the Covid-19 pandemic: The Canadian government spent too much money responding to the pandemic and the increased national debt is now going to undermine the economic recovery . . . .	10
6	To what extent do you agree or disagree with the following statements about the Government’s handling of the Covid-19 pandemic: The Canadian government handled the pandemic far more successfully than other countries . . . . .	12
7	To what extent do you agree or disagree with the following statements about the Government’s handling of the Covid-19 pandemic: The Canadian government was not well prepared for the pandemic but did an OK job in the circumstances . . . . .	14

(1.A) To what extent do you agree or disagree with the following statements about the Government’s handling of the Covid-19 pandemic: The Canadian government took early action like closing borders which has helped to keep the infection rate low and saved lives

	Total	Province									
		Alberta	British Columbia	Manitoba	New Brunswick	Newfoundland and Labrador	Nova Scotia	Ontario	Prince Edward Island	Quebec	Saskatchewan
Unweighted	500	68	74	17	7	6	14	219	1	79	15
Weighted	500	62	67	16	9	6	12	198	2	114	14
Strongly agree	19%	5%	25%	36%	25%	18%	15%	20%	0%	20%	28%
Somewhat agree	34%	39%	31%	26%	39%	49%	36%	36%	100%	32%	4%
Neither agree or disagree	18%	17%	17%	0%	36%	5%	8%	19%	0%	18%	30%
Somewhat disagree	16%	22%	16%	36%	0%	28%	17%	11%	0%	18%	7%
Strongly disagree	14%	18%	11%	3%	0%	0%	23%	14%	0%	13%	31%

*Note:*

BASE: All Respondents

Fieldwork: 19th Mar - 25th Mar 2021

Data weighted to number of employees, by employee count and subnational region

(1.B) To what extent do you agree or disagree with the following statements about the Government’s handling of the Covid-19 pandemic: The Canadian government took early action like closing borders which has helped to keep the infection rate low and saved lives

	Total	Employee Number								
		1 - Sole Trader	2-4	5-9	10-24	25-49	50-99	100-249	250-499	500+
Unweighted	500	148	81	44	38	22	23	25	26	93
Weighted	500	61	33	19	43	25	52	57	45	165
Strongly agree	19%	23%	21%	12%	19%	17%	21%	22%	11%	20%
Somewhat agree	34%	31%	27%	42%	32%	11%	42%	36%	57%	30%
Neither agree or disagree	18%	13%	18%	7%	28%	24%	19%	17%	12%	18%
Somewhat disagree	16%	17%	20%	14%	11%	29%	14%	0%	14%	20%
Strongly disagree	14%	16%	14%	25%	9%	20%	5%	24%	6%	12%

*Note:*

BASE: All Respondents

Fieldwork: 19th Mar - 25th Mar 2021

Data weighted to number of employees, by employee count and subnational region

(2.A) To what extent do you agree or disagree with the following statements about the Government’s handling of the Covid-19 pandemic: The Canadian government left the provinces to take too many decisions about when and how to lockdown and that cost lives

	Total	Province									
		Alberta	British Columbia	Manitoba	New Brunswick	Newfoundland and Labrador	Nova Scotia	Ontario	Prince Edward Island	Quebec	Saskatchewan
Unweighted	500	68	74	17	7	6	14	219	1	79	15
Weighted	500	62	67	16	9	6	12	198	2	114	14
Strongly agree	17%	9%	12%	21%	23%	0%	4%	25%	0%	11%	24%
Somewhat agree	33%	38%	34%	50%	25%	28%	52%	33%	0%	23%	50%
Neither agree or disagree	29%	29%	32%	13%	8%	18%	25%	25%	0%	41%	11%
Somewhat disagree	16%	13%	16%	16%	36%	49%	12%	12%	100%	21%	15%
Strongly disagree	5%	11%	6%	0%	8%	5%	8%	5%	0%	5%	0%

*Note:*

BASE: All Respondents

Fieldwork: 19th Mar - 25th Mar 2021

Data weighted to number of employees, by employee count and subnational region

(2.B) To what extent do you agree or disagree with the following statements about the Government’s handling of the Covid-19 pandemic: The Canadian government left the provinces to take too many decisions about when and how to lockdown and that cost lives

	Total	Employee Number								
		1 - Sole Trader	2-4	5-9	10-24	25-49	50-99	100-249	250-499	500+
Unweighted	500	148	81	44	38	22	23	25	26	93
Weighted	500	61	33	19	43	25	52	57	45	165
Strongly agree	17%	10%	12%	15%	23%	22%	12%	14%	12%	22%
Somewhat agree	33%	30%	29%	34%	17%	18%	28%	54%	56%	29%
Neither agree or disagree	29%	28%	39%	17%	37%	21%	49%	18%	25%	26%
Somewhat disagree	16%	22%	12%	28%	14%	25%	8%	10%	7%	19%
Strongly disagree	5%	10%	7%	7%	8%	15%	4%	4%	0%	4%

*Note:*

BASE: All Respondents

Fieldwork: 19th Mar - 25th Mar 2021

Data weighted to number of employees, by employee count and subnational region

(3.A) To what extent do you agree or disagree with the following statements about the Government’s handling of the Covid-19 pandemic: The Canadian government was not fast enough in securing shipments of Covid-19 vaccines and has taken too long to approve vaccines for use

	Total	Province									
		Alberta	British Columbia	Manitoba	New Brunswick	Newfoundland and Labrador	Nova Scotia	Ontario	Prince Edward Island	Quebec	Saskatchewan
Unweighted	500	68	74	17	7	6	14	219	1	79	15
Weighted	500	62	67	16	9	6	12	198	2	114	14
Strongly agree	32%	35%	29%	8%	41%	33%	43%	38%	0%	23%	28%
Somewhat agree	32%	31%	39%	66%	0%	67%	4%	27%	0%	36%	34%
Neither agree or disagree	25%	25%	25%	20%	59%	0%	46%	21%	0%	27%	28%
Somewhat disagree	9%	6%	4%	6%	0%	0%	8%	10%	100%	10%	7%
Strongly disagree	3%	3%	3%	0%	0%	0%	0%	4%	0%	4%	4%

Note:

BASE: All Respondents

Fieldwork: 19th Mar - 25th Mar 2021

Data weighted to number of employees, by employee count and subnational region

(3.B) To what extent do you agree or disagree with the following statements about the Government’s handling of the Covid-19 pandemic: The Canadian government was not fast enough in securing shipments of Covid-19 vaccines and has taken too long to approve vaccines for use

	Total	Employee Number								
		1 - Sole Trader	2-4	5-9	10-24	25-49	50-99	100-249	250-499	500+
Unweighted	500	148	81	44	38	22	23	25	26	93
Weighted	500	61	33	19	43	25	52	57	45	165
Strongly agree	32%	34%	31%	38%	22%	25%	24%	36%	34%	34%
Somewhat agree	32%	30%	24%	26%	44%	27%	30%	35%	34%	32%
Neither agree or disagree	25%	20%	23%	10%	26%	22%	42%	26%	21%	23%
Somewhat disagree	9%	10%	15%	18%	8%	12%	0%	4%	10%	9%
Strongly disagree	3%	7%	7%	8%	0%	14%	4%	0%	0%	2%

*Note:*

BASE: All Respondents

Fieldwork: 19th Mar - 25th Mar 2021

Data weighted to number of employees, by employee count and subnational region

(4.A) To what extent do you agree or disagree with the following statements about the Government’s handling of the Covid-19 pandemic: The Canadian government prioritised making emergency payments to individuals at the expense of direct support for businesses

	Total	Province									
		Alberta	British Columbia	Manitoba	New Brunswick	Newfoundland and Labrador	Nova Scotia	Ontario	Prince Edward Island	Quebec	Saskatchewan
Unweighted	500	68	74	17	7	6	14	219	1	79	15
Weighted	500	62	67	16	9	6	12	198	2	114	14
Strongly agree	15%	11%	16%	10%	8%	41%	8%	17%	0%	15%	16%
Somewhat agree	31%	20%	31%	56%	39%	28%	65%	33%	0%	24%	28%
Neither agree or disagree	35%	42%	35%	26%	0%	9%	23%	33%	0%	44%	37%
Somewhat disagree	13%	14%	13%	6%	53%	21%	0%	14%	100%	11%	4%
Strongly disagree	5%	13%	5%	3%	0%	0%	4%	3%	0%	5%	15%

*Note:*

BASE: All Respondents

Fieldwork: 19th Mar - 25th Mar 2021

Data weighted to number of employees, by employee count and subnational region

(4.B) To what extent do you agree or disagree with the following statements about the Government’s handling of the Covid-19 pandemic: The Canadian government prioritised making emergency payments to individuals at the expense of direct support for businesses

	Total	Employee Number								
		1 - Sole Trader	2-4	5-9	10-24	25-49	50-99	100-249	250-499	500+
Unweighted	500	148	81	44	38	22	23	25	26	93
Weighted	500	61	33	19	43	25	52	57	45	165
Strongly agree	15%	9%	15%	22%	17%	22%	7%	31%	6%	16%
Somewhat agree	31%	32%	24%	26%	28%	23%	32%	17%	40%	36%
Neither agree or disagree	35%	40%	43%	34%	46%	23%	50%	41%	31%	26%
Somewhat disagree	13%	12%	13%	12%	4%	16%	12%	8%	20%	17%
Strongly disagree	5%	7%	4%	6%	5%	17%	0%	4%	4%	5%

*Note:*

BASE: All Respondents

Fieldwork: 19th Mar - 25th Mar 2021

Data weighted to number of employees, by employee count and subnational region

(5.A) To what extent do you agree or disagree with the following statements about the Government’s handling of the Covid-19 pandemic: The Canadian government spent too much money responding to the pandemic and the increased national debt is now going to undermine the economic recovery

	Total	Province									
		Alberta	British Columbia	Manitoba	New Brunswick	Newfoundland and Labrador	Nova Scotia	Ontario	Prince Edward Island	Quebec	Saskatchewan
Unweighted	500	68	74	17	7	6	14	219	1	79	15
Weighted	500	62	67	16	9	6	12	198	2	114	14
Strongly agree	20%	31%	12%	18%	8%	57%	31%	19%	0%	18%	31%
Somewhat agree	25%	14%	23%	42%	31%	13%	38%	27%	0%	26%	20%
Neither agree or disagree	28%	15%	32%	34%	53%	9%	12%	24%	0%	38%	30%
Somewhat disagree	18%	17%	20%	3%	8%	0%	12%	21%	100%	16%	7%
Strongly disagree	9%	24%	13%	3%	0%	21%	8%	8%	0%	2%	11%

*Note:*

BASE: All Respondents

Fieldwork: 19th Mar - 25th Mar 2021

Data weighted to number of employees, by employee count and subnational region

(5.B) To what extent do you agree or disagree with the following statements about the Government’s handling of the Covid-19 pandemic: The Canadian government spent too much money responding to the pandemic and the increased national debt is now going to undermine the economic recovery

	Total	Employee Number								
		1 - Sole Trader	2-4	5-9	10-24	25-49	50-99	100-249	250-499	500+
Unweighted	500	148	81	44	38	22	23	25	26	93
Weighted	500	61	33	19	43	25	52	57	45	165
Strongly agree	20%	18%	10%	24%	23%	49%	12%	28%	23%	16%
Somewhat agree	25%	22%	20%	24%	28%	21%	26%	20%	20%	30%
Neither agree or disagree	28%	27%	32%	18%	26%	12%	38%	30%	35%	25%
Somewhat disagree	18%	20%	22%	21%	16%	6%	17%	15%	14%	20%
Strongly disagree	9%	13%	15%	12%	7%	12%	8%	8%	8%	9%

*Note:*

BASE: All Respondents

Fieldwork: 19th Mar - 25th Mar 2021

Data weighted to number of employees, by employee count and subnational region

(6.A) To what extent do you agree or disagree with the following statements about the Government’s handling of the Covid-19 pandemic: The Canadian government handled the pandemic far more successfully than other countries

	Total	Province									
		Alberta	British Columbia	Manitoba	New Brunswick	Newfoundland and Labrador	Nova Scotia	Ontario	Prince Edward Island	Quebec	Saskatchewan
Unweighted	500	68	74	17	7	6	14	219	1	79	15
Weighted	500	62	67	16	9	6	12	198	2	114	14
Strongly agree	10%	5%	8%	27%	8%	13%	0%	13%	0%	9%	11%
Somewhat agree	33%	23%	36%	15%	84%	59%	48%	29%	100%	37%	43%
Neither agree or disagree	27%	33%	22%	29%	8%	0%	4%	29%	0%	28%	11%
Somewhat disagree	18%	20%	25%	18%	0%	28%	48%	16%	0%	15%	4%
Strongly disagree	12%	19%	8%	10%	0%	0%	0%	13%	0%	10%	31%

*Note:*

BASE: All Respondents

Fieldwork: 19th Mar - 25th Mar 2021

Data weighted to number of employees, by employee count and subnational region

(6.B) To what extent do you agree or disagree with the following statements about the Government’s handling of the Covid-19 pandemic: The Canadian government handled the pandemic far more successfully than other countries

	Total	Employee Number								
		1 - Sole Trader	2-4	5-9	10-24	25-49	50-99	100-249	250-499	500+
Unweighted	500	148	81	44	38	22	23	25	26	93
Weighted	500	61	33	19	43	25	52	57	45	165
Strongly agree	10%	9%	11%	10%	9%	11%	8%	19%	13%	8%
Somewhat agree	33%	29%	31%	42%	31%	32%	38%	31%	38%	33%
Neither agree or disagree	27%	27%	35%	14%	42%	19%	34%	24%	19%	24%
Somewhat disagree	18%	16%	12%	11%	11%	16%	20%	17%	27%	20%
Strongly disagree	12%	19%	11%	21%	7%	23%	0%	10%	3%	15%

*Note:*

BASE: All Respondents

Fieldwork: 19th Mar - 25th Mar 2021

Data weighted to number of employees, by employee count and subnational region

(7.A) To what extent do you agree or disagree with the following statements about the Government’s handling of the Covid-19 pandemic: The Canadian government was not well prepared for the pandemic but did an OK job in the circumstances

	Total	Province									
		Alberta	British Columbia	Manitoba	New Brunswick	Newfoundland and Labrador	Nova Scotia	Ontario	Prince Edward Island	Quebec	Saskatchewan
Unweighted	500	68	74	17	7	6	14	219	1	79	15
Weighted	500	62	67	16	9	6	12	198	2	114	14
Strongly agree	14%	15%	12%	13%	0%	41%	8%	14%	0%	16%	7%
Somewhat agree	46%	33%	40%	50%	92%	54%	31%	49%	100%	51%	24%
Neither agree or disagree	20%	23%	30%	21%	8%	5%	17%	19%	0%	13%	34%
Somewhat disagree	12%	16%	11%	16%	0%	0%	44%	10%	0%	13%	4%
Strongly disagree	8%	13%	7%	0%	0%	0%	0%	7%	0%	7%	31%

*Note:*

BASE: All Respondents

Fieldwork: 19th Mar - 25th Mar 2021

Data weighted to number of employees, by employee count and subnational region

(7.B) To what extent do you agree or disagree with the following statements about the Government’s handling of the Covid-19 pandemic: The Canadian government was not well prepared for the pandemic but did an OK job in the circumstances

	Total	Employee Number								
		1 - Sole Trader	2-4	5-9	10-24	25-49	50-99	100-249	250-499	500+
Unweighted	500	148	81	44	38	22	23	25	26	93
Weighted	500	61	33	19	43	25	52	57	45	165
Strongly agree	14%	13%	12%	12%	9%	19%	12%	8%	12%	19%
Somewhat agree	46%	43%	35%	44%	49%	33%	56%	57%	56%	42%
Neither agree or disagree	20%	18%	29%	21%	24%	10%	24%	17%	19%	18%
Somewhat disagree	12%	17%	16%	11%	14%	26%	4%	5%	12%	12%
Strongly disagree	8%	10%	7%	11%	5%	12%	4%	14%	0%	9%

*Note:*

BASE: All Respondents

Fieldwork: 19th Mar - 25th Mar 2021

Data weighted to number of employees, by employee count and subnational region