

FROM AWARENESS TO ACTION: CANADIANS ON CLIMATE CHANGE AND EDUCATION

2025 Survey Results

ALBERTA REPORT



LSF

Learning for a
Sustainable Future



Learning for a Sustainable Future (LSF)



Learn more at LSF-LST.ca



- Canadian charity founded in 1991
- Bilingual (EN/FR)
- Our mission is to promote—through education—the knowledge, skills, values, perspectives and practices essential to a sustainable future
- Working at all levels of the education system: students, teachers, administrators, boards, governments, etc.

Overview

From Awareness to Action: Canadians on Climate Change and Education is the third national survey from Learning for a Sustainable Future (LSF), building on findings from 2019 and 2022 to track shifts in public attitudes and climate education across Canada in 2025. This report provides a summary of the key findings with a focus on Alberta.

SURVEY HIGHLIGHTS:

A Pan-Canadian Snapshot

This report reflects the views of 4,228 Canadians, including students, educators, parents, and the general public from every province and a subset of the Territories, offering a broad and inclusive perspective on climate change education.

Tracking Change Over Time

Using selected data from 2019, 2022, and 2025, the survey highlights evolving perceptions, priorities, and opportunities to strengthen climate learning across Canadian schools.

Expanding the Conversation

New, timely questions were added to the 2025 survey to further explore public confidence in the education system, augment student voice on their expectations for climate action in schools, highlight supports requested by teachers, and illustrate growing concerns around misinformation and disinformation.

From Awareness to Action

The report moves beyond measuring awareness. It offers insight into what's currently happening in classrooms and identifies key areas where schools can deepen their climate education efforts and empower meaningful action.

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Respondent Profile

Recruitment Procedures

An online survey in both English and French, consisting of short and long answer questions on climate change and education, was conducted for LSF through Leger's LEO panel.

Leger panelists received an email invitation to complete the survey with a unique link for each respondent

4,228 Canadians participated between October 9 and November 29, 2024. This report highlights the results from Alberta, where 506 residents took the survey.

The data are weighted by age, gender and province (based on 2021 Statistics Canada proportions) to ensure that data are representative of the Canadian public and reflective of Canadian opinion.

Population Segmentation

For this survey, the following populations were identified:

- **Educators** – includes public and private school teachers in formal *K-12 education systems, educational assistants, department heads, curriculum leads and curriculum consultants working for school boards, vice-principals, principals, district leaders/school administrators, and former educators.
- **Parents** – includes parents of students in K-12 education system
- **Students** – includes current students from grades 7 to 12 in the formal education system
- **Members of the general public** – includes members of the general public who do not identify as educators, students, or parents.

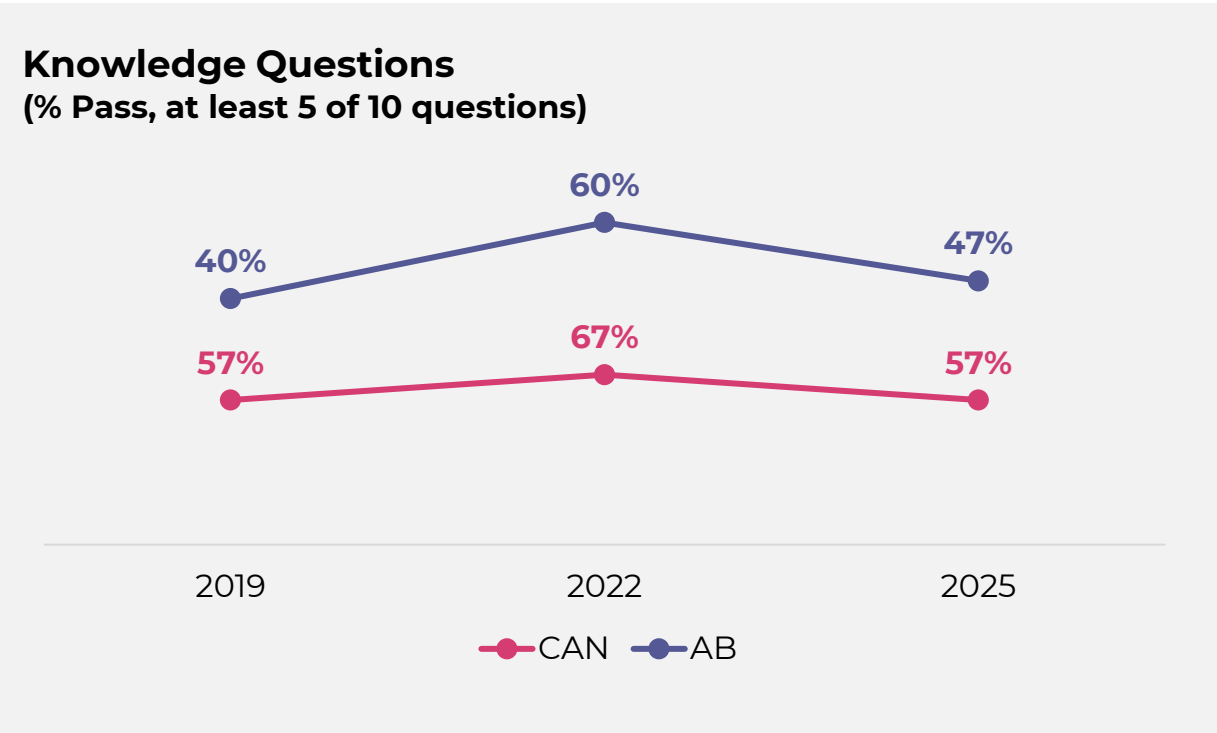
*K-12 education includes CÉGEP in Quebec

Survey Results Knowledge Questions

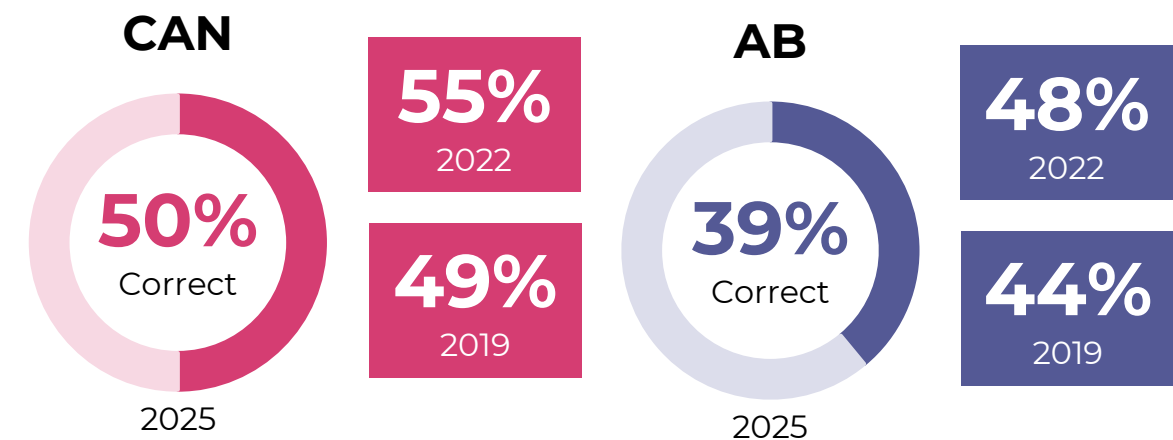
Survey Report

Alberta residents demonstrate weaker knowledge of climate change compared to the Canadian average. Notable gaps are apparent in the understanding of its causes and impacts, highlighting the need for continued education.

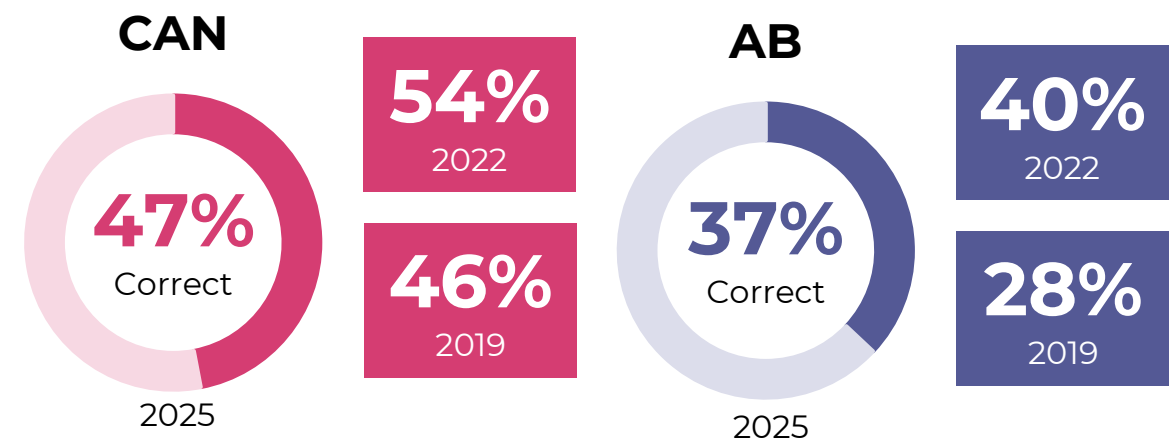
When it comes to knowledge on climate change, Alberta residents are less knowledgeable than Canadians overall. While correct responses to knowledge questions have decreased from 2022, it is higher than the average in 2019.



Percentage of correct answers to the survey question:
Climate change is caused by carbon dioxide
and other greenhouse gases.

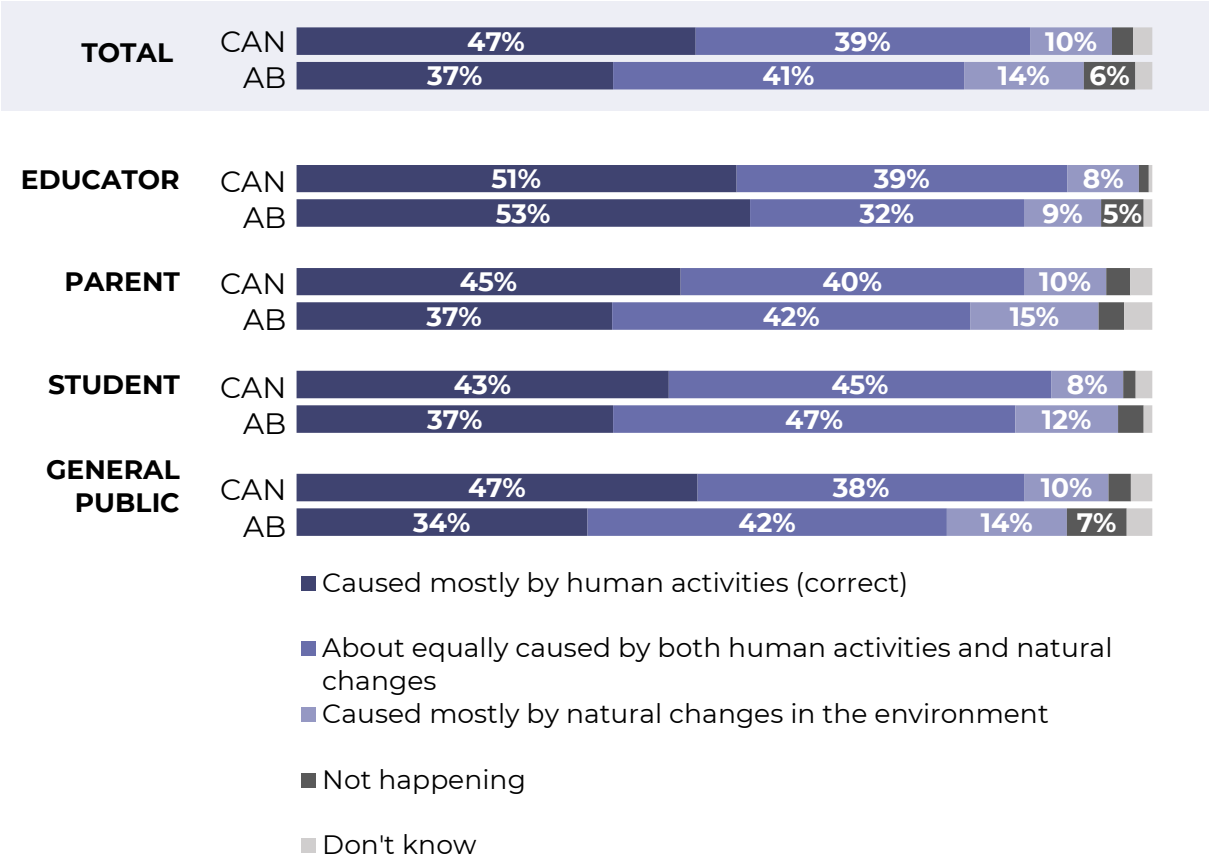


Climate change is caused mostly by human activities ...



53% of Alberta educators correctly answered that climate change is caused mostly by human activities, compared to 51% of Canadians.

Total Results by Group

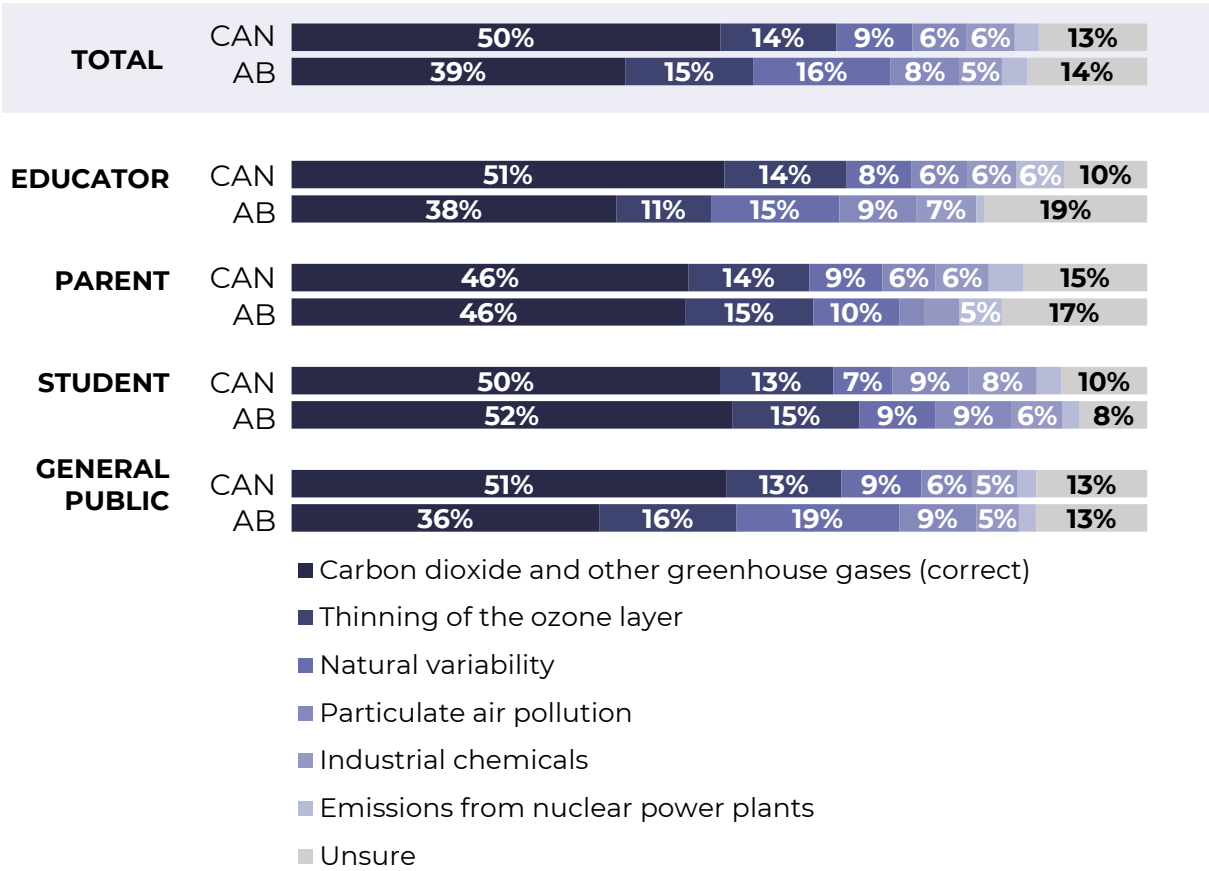


Province/Region

	CAN	BC	AB	SK	MB	ON	QC	ATL	TER
	n= 4,228	538	506	294	291	1,037	899	557	106
Caused mostly by human activities (correct)	47%	47%	37%	31%	44%	48%	54%	38%	55%
About equally caused by both human activities and natural changes	39%	36%	41%	42%	38%	41%	35%	46%	31%
Caused mostly by natural changes in the environment	10%	12%	14%	18%	10%	8%	7%	11%	9%
Not happening	2%	2%	6%	6%	4%	2%	1%	1%	1%
Don't know	2%	3%	2%	3%	4%	2%	2%	4%	3%

Almost two-in-five (39%) Alberta residents believe that climate change is caused by carbon dioxide and other greenhouse gases, 11 percentage points below Canadians overall. However, Alberta students fared better when compared to their counterparts across Canada (52% vs 50%).

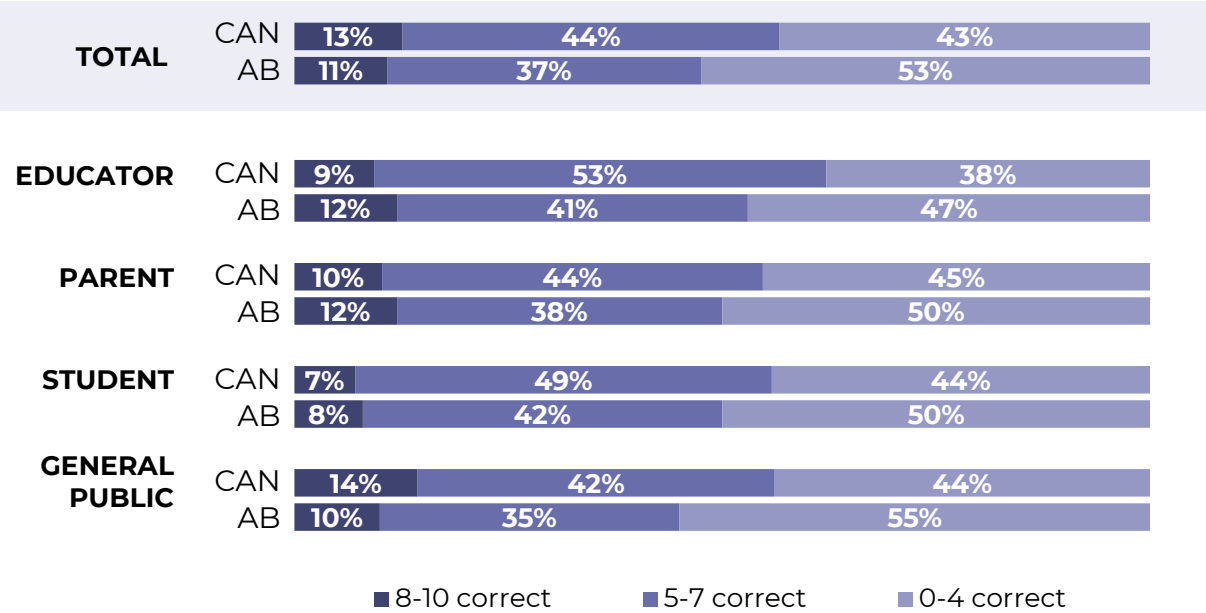
Total Results by Respondent Group



	Province/Region								
	CAN	BC	AB	SK	MB	ON	QC	ATL	TER
	n= 4,228	538	506	294	291	1,037	899	557	106
Carbon dioxide and other greenhouse gases (correct)	50%	50%	39%	38%	36%	52%	58%	44%	46%
Thinning of the ozone layer	14%	14%	15%	15%	13%	14%	12%	16%	10%
Natural variability	9%	11%	16%	20%	11%	7%	5%	13%	8%
Particulate air pollution	6%	8%	8%	8%	8%	6%	6%	5%	13%
Industrial chemicals	6%	5%	5%	5%	10%	5%	6%	5%	6%
Emissions from nuclear power plants	3%	1%	3%	1%	1%	4%	2%	4%	3%
Unsure	13%	12%	14%	14%	21%	12%	11%	13%	14%

Over half (53%) of Alberta residents failed the knowledge questions, compared to 43% of Canadians. Alberta and Saskatchewan were the provinces with the lowest scores.

Total Results by Respondent Group



Province/Region

	CAN	BC	AB	SK	MB	ON	QC	ATL	TER
	n= 4,228	538	506	294	291	1,037	899	557	106
8-10 correct	13%	10%	11%	11%	5%	14%	15%	13%	15%
5-7 correct	44%	47%	37%	22%	46%	42%	51%	44%	41%
0-4 correct	43%	43%	53%	66%	49%	44%	34%	43%	44%

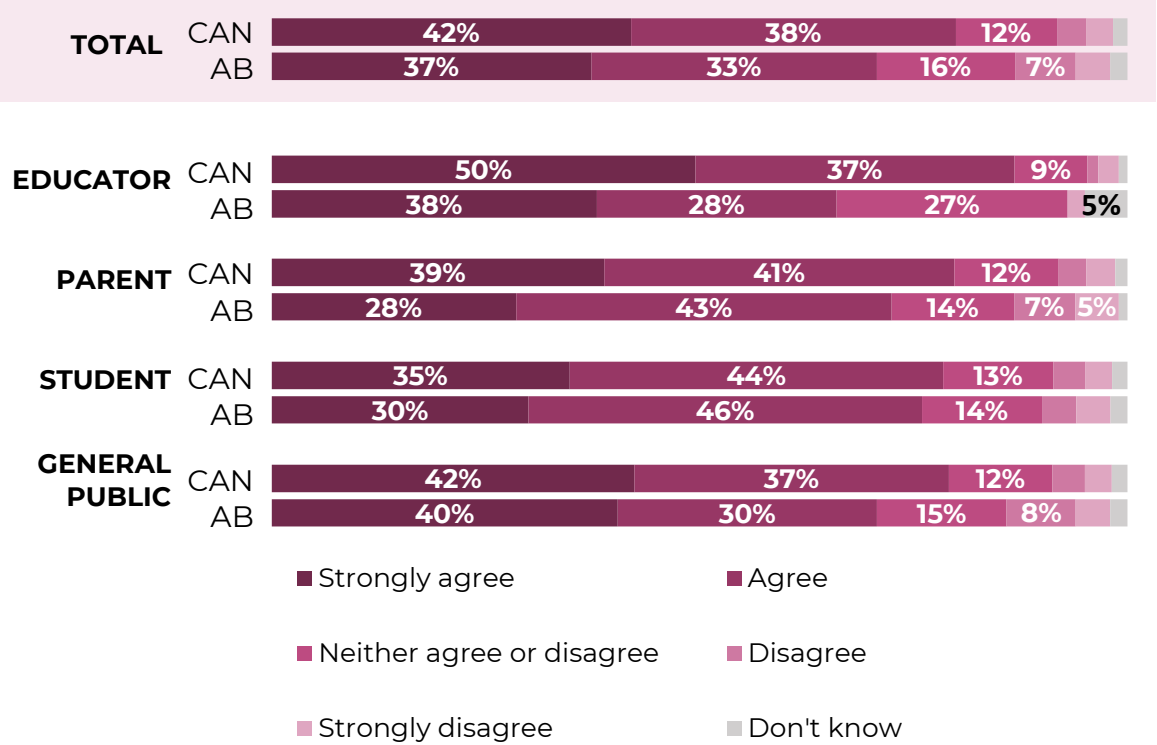
Survey Results Perceptions of Climate Change

Survey Report

Most Alberta residents believe we have not done enough to care for the planet and are willing to make lifestyle changes to address climate change. Albertans are more likely than the average Canadian to report personally experiencing the effects of climate change. Negative emotions associated with climate change are prevalent and trust in government action remains low, consistent with national trends.

70% of Alberta residents agree that people have failed to care for the planet, compared to 80% of Canadians. Only 66% of Alberta educators agree compared to 87% of Canadian educators.

Total Results by Respondent Group



Province/Region

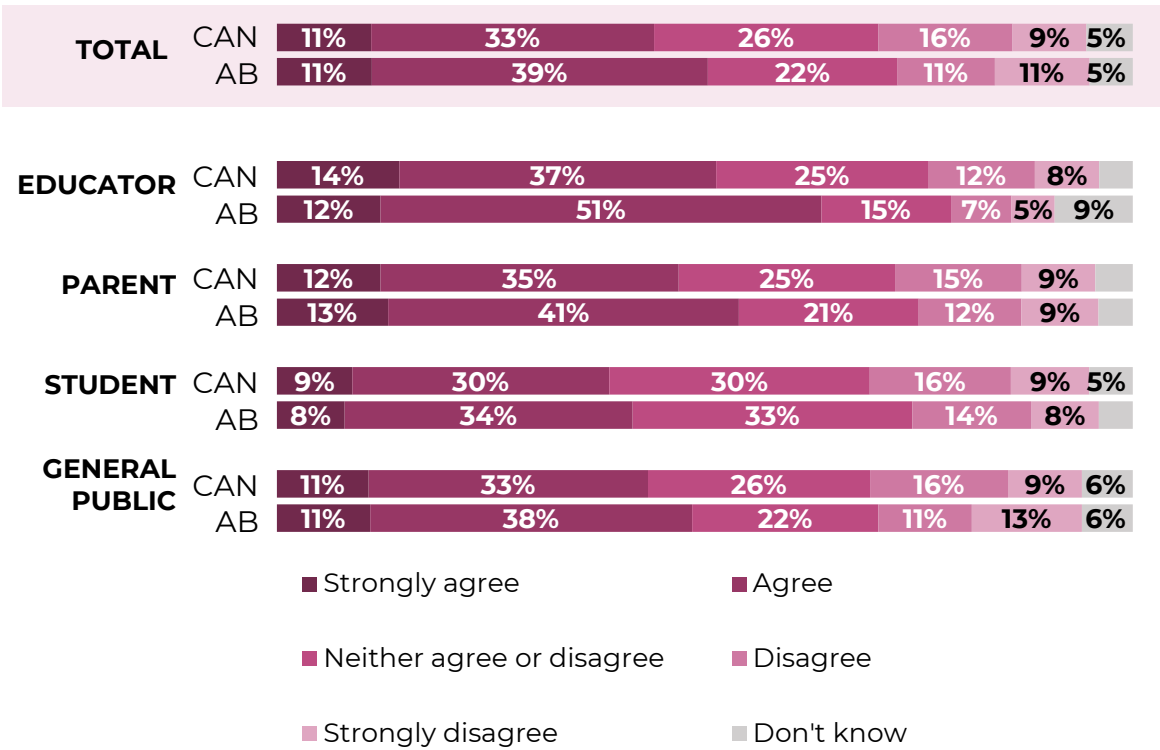
	CAN	BC	AB	SK	MB	ON	QC	ATL	TER
	n= 4,228	538	506	294	291	1,037	899	557	106
Strongly agree	42%	36%	37%	30%	32%	44%	49%	40%	39%
Agree	38%	42%	33%	34%	47%	38%	36%	40%	39%
Neither agree or disagree	12%	14%	16%	20%	12%	11%	8%	14%	7%
Disagree	3%	3%	7%	6%	5%	3%	2%	4%	4%
Strongly disagree	3%	4%	4%	8%	2%	3%	3%	1%	8%
Don't know	2%	1%	2%	3%	2%	1%	2%	1%	2%

I have personally experienced the effects of climate change.

Perceptions of Climate Change

Half (50%) of Alberta residents agree that they have personally experienced the effects of climate change, higher than Canadians overall (44%). Agreement is higher among all respondent groups than the Canadian average.

Total Results by Respondent Group



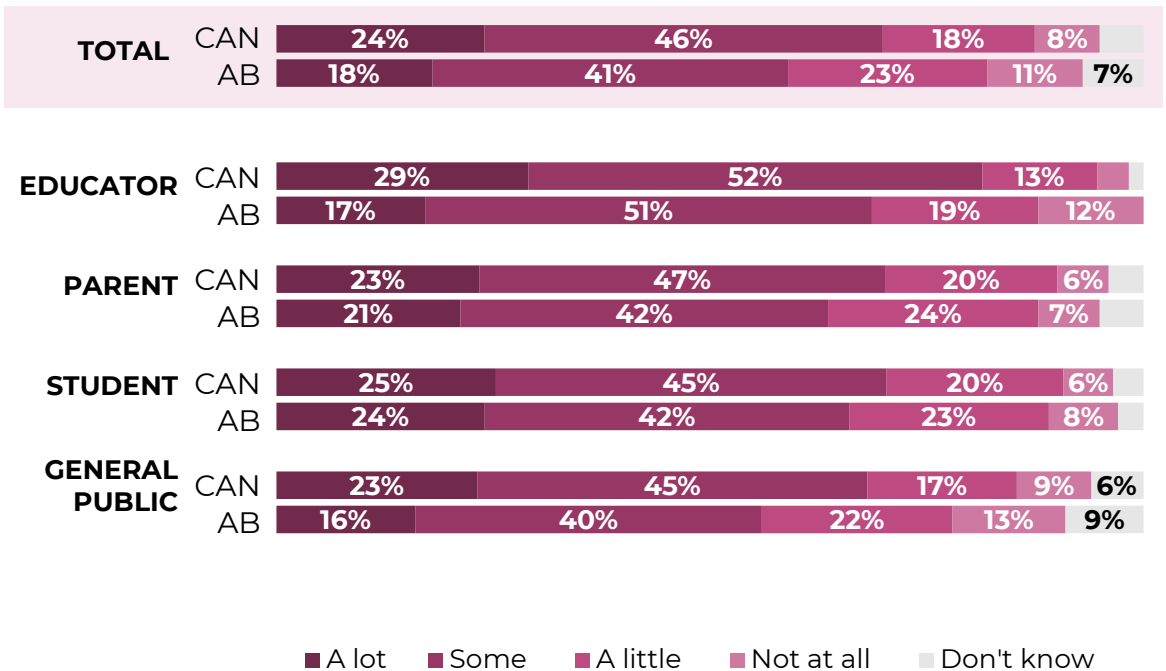
Province/Region

	CAN	BC	AB	SK	MB	ON	QC	ATL	TER
	n= 4,228	538	506	294	291	1,037	899	557	106
Strongly agree	11%	14%	11%	9%	7%	12%	9%	13%	27%
Agree	33%	35%	39%	28%	32%	33%	27%	38%	44%
Neither agree or disagree	26%	24%	22%	29%	28%	27%	27%	26%	11%
Disagree	16%	11%	11%	17%	17%	15%	23%	13%	7%
Strongly disagree	9%	9%	11%	15%	10%	8%	9%	6%	2%
Don't know	5%	7%	5%	3%	7%	5%	5%	4%	9%

In the next few years, how much would you be willing to change in your life (at school, work or home) to help reduce the effects of climate change?

A large majority (82%) of Alberta residents are willing to change their life at least a little, to help reduce the effects of climate change, slightly below Canadians overall (87%).

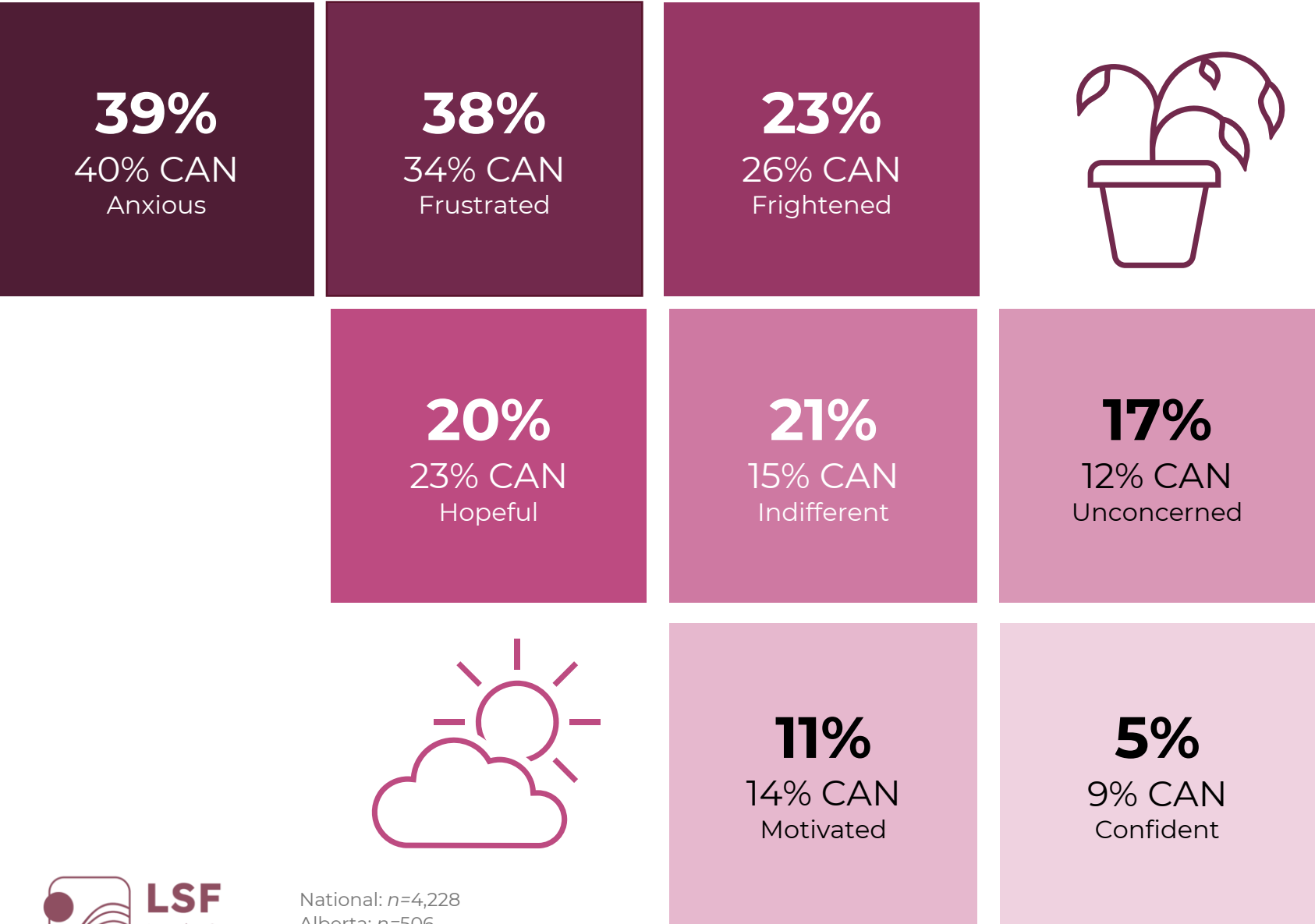
Total Results by Respondent Group



Province/Region

	CAN	BC	AB	SK	MB	ON	QC	ATL	TER
	n= 4,228	538	506	294	291	1,037	899	557	106
A lot	24%	23%	18%	18%	16%	26%	27%	25%	31%
Some	46%	42%	41%	38%	44%	46%	53%	45%	53%
A little	18%	22%	23%	28%	19%	17%	12%	18%	9%
Not at all	8%	5%	11%	7%	12%	8%	6%	9%	2%
Don't know	5%	8%	7%	9%	9%	4%	3%	4%	4%

When you think about climate change, what main emotions or feelings arise?



Alberta residents mirror the Canadian averages regarding emotions surrounding climate change. Feelings tend to be negative, including emotions such as being anxious, frustrated or frightened.

While 20% of Alberta residents are hopeful, 21% are indifferent and 17% are unconcerned.

When you think about climate change, what main emotions or feelings arise?

Perceptions of Climate Change

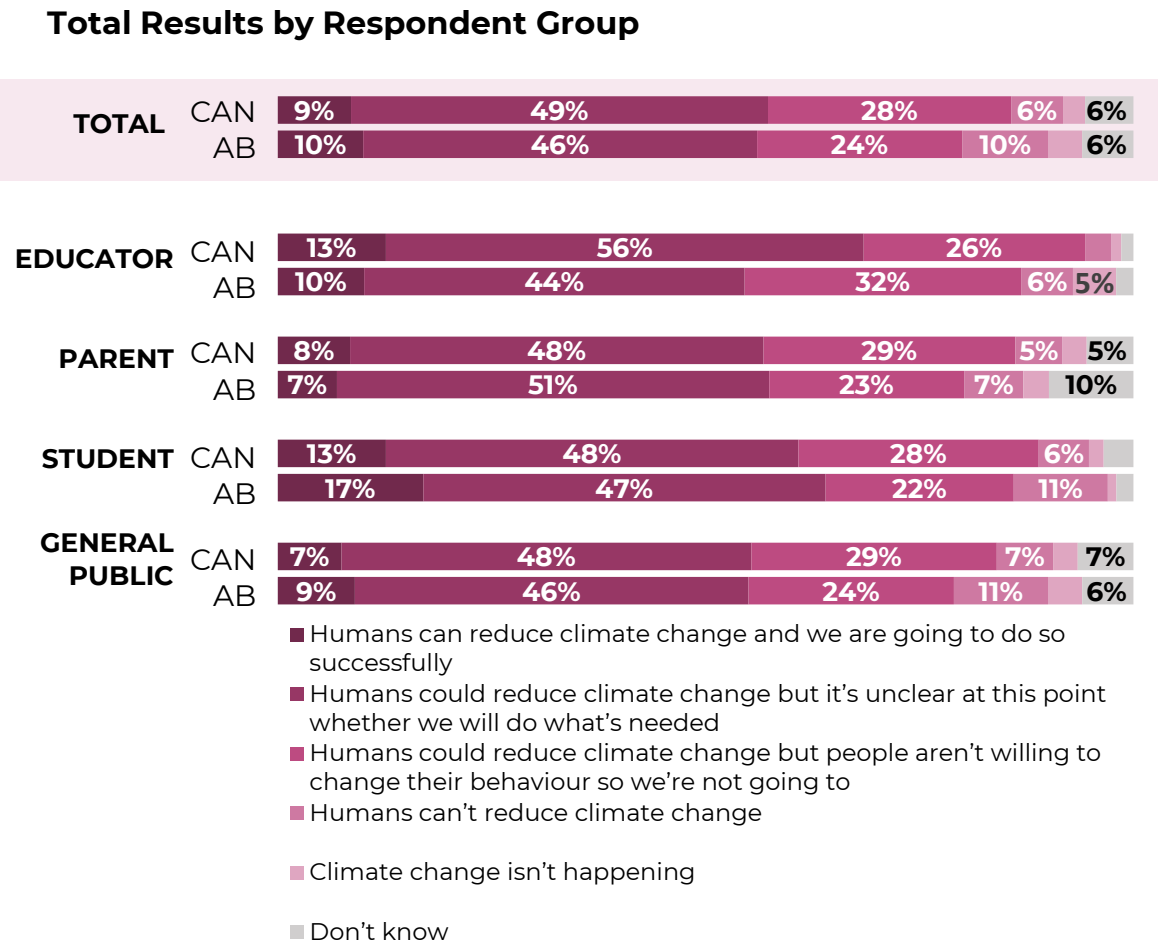
When examining climate change emotions more deeply by respondent groups, Alberta educators are more frustrated, indifferent and unconcerned than Canadians. They are also less motivated and less confident. However, Alberta students report feeling more motivated (19%) when compared to the average for Canadian students (14%).

% Selected			Respondent Group							
	Total		Educator		Parent		Student		General Public	
	CAN	AB	CAN	AB	CAN	AB	CAN	AB	CAN	AB
	n= 4,228	506	782	74	1,283	166	1,053	156	1,369	142
Anxious	40%	39%	43%	39%	39%	37%	41%	39%	39%	40%
Frustrated	34%	38%	31%	43%	33%	39%	30%	31%	36%	39%
Frightened	26%	23%	29%	19%	28%	20%	27%	24%	25%	25%
Hopeful	23%	20%	28%	23%	24%	25%	25%	26%	22%	17%
Indifferent	15%	21%	9%	22%	16%	16%	16%	20%	16%	21%
Motivated	14%	11%	19%	9%	15%	13%	14%	19%	13%	9%
Unconcerned	12%	17%	9%	26%	11%	12%	11%	8%	12%	18%
Confident	9%	5%	13%	6%	6%	6%	9%	6%	9%	4%

Which one of the following statements comes closest to your personal view?

Perceptions of Climate Change

Few (10%) Alberta residents believe that humans can and will reduce climate change, while almost half (46%) believe humans could reduce climate change, but it is unclear if we will do what is needed. Only 4% of Alberta residents believe climate change isn't happening and 10% believe that humans can't reduce climate change.



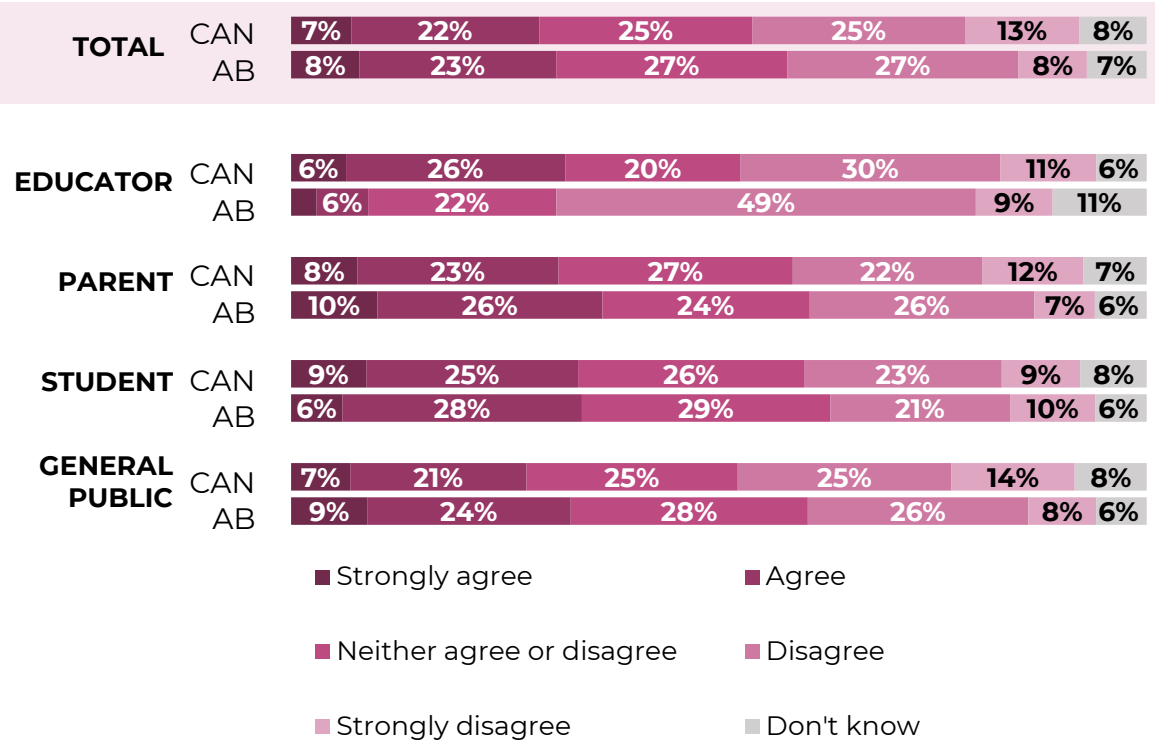
Province/Region	CAN	BC	AB	SK	MB	ON	QC	ATL	TER
	n= 4,228	538	506	294	291	1,037	899	557	106
Humans can reduce climate change and we are going to do so successfully	9%	8%	10%	7%	7%	9%	7%	11%	9%
Humans could reduce climate change but it's unclear at this point whether we will do what's needed	49%	52%	46%	48%	50%	49%	48%	47%	49%
Humans could reduce climate change but people aren't willing to change their behaviour so we're not going to	28%	25%	24%	25%	22%	29%	34%	27%	28%
Humans can't reduce climate change	6%	7%	10%	10%	5%	5%	5%	5%	6%
Climate change isn't happening	3%	2%	4%	3%	5%	2%	3%	3%	1%
Don't know	6%	6%	6%	7%	10%	6%	4%	6%	7%

New technologies can solve climate change without individuals having to make big changes in their lives.

Perceptions of Climate Change

Alberta residents have mixed views as to whether they think new technologies can solve climate change but more disagree (35%) than agree (31%). Almost half (49%) of Alberta educators disagree compared to 30% of Canadian educators.

Total Results by Respondent Group



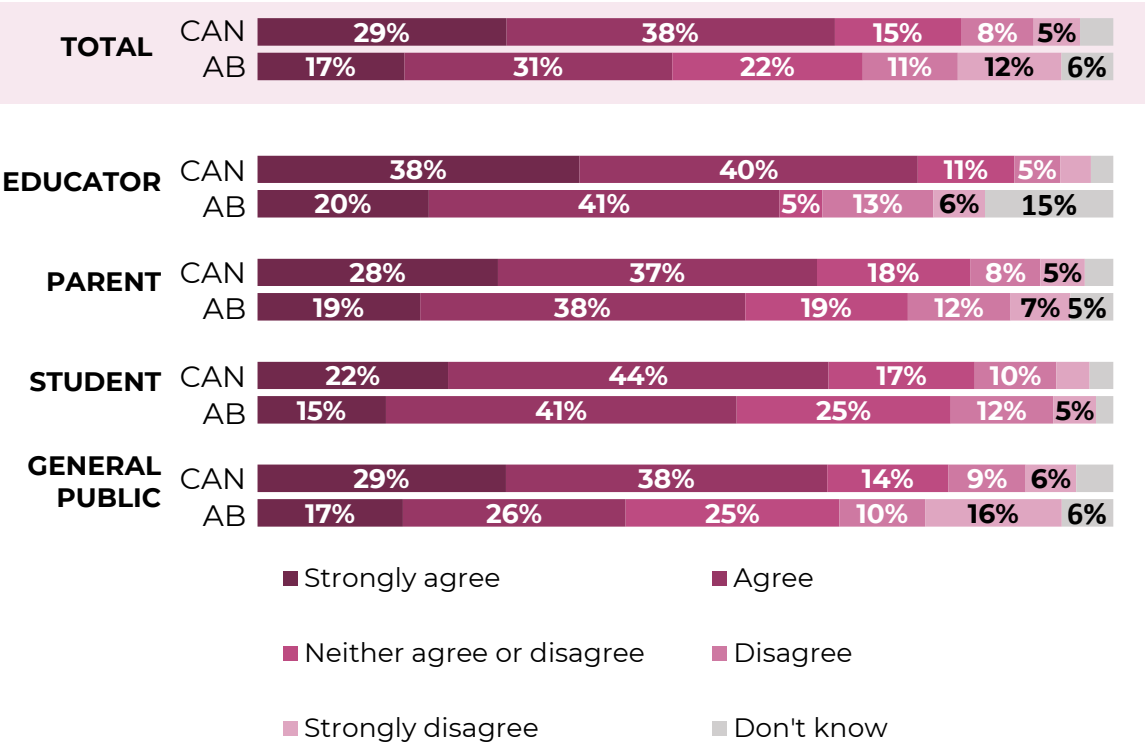
Province/Region

	CAN	BC	AB	SK	MB	ON	QC	ATL	TER
	n= 4,228	538	506	294	291	1,037	899	557	106
Strongly agree	7%	5%	8%	6%	7%	8%	6%	11%	7%
Agree	22%	23%	23%	19%	21%	25%	16%	25%	28%
Neither agree or disagree	25%	26%	27%	25%	28%	24%	24%	25%	28%
Disagree	25%	25%	27%	31%	18%	23%	27%	24%	20%
Strongly disagree	13%	12%	8%	11%	13%	12%	21%	9%	14%
Don't know	8%	9%	7%	8%	14%	9%	6%	6%	3%

To what extent do you agree or disagree with the following statement?
“We are experiencing a climate emergency.”

Nearly half (49%) of Alberta residents agree that we are experiencing a climate emergency, compared to 80% of Quebec residents and far fewer than Canadians overall (67%). 61% of Alberta educators agree compared to 78% of Canadian educators.

Total Results by Respondent Group



Province/Region

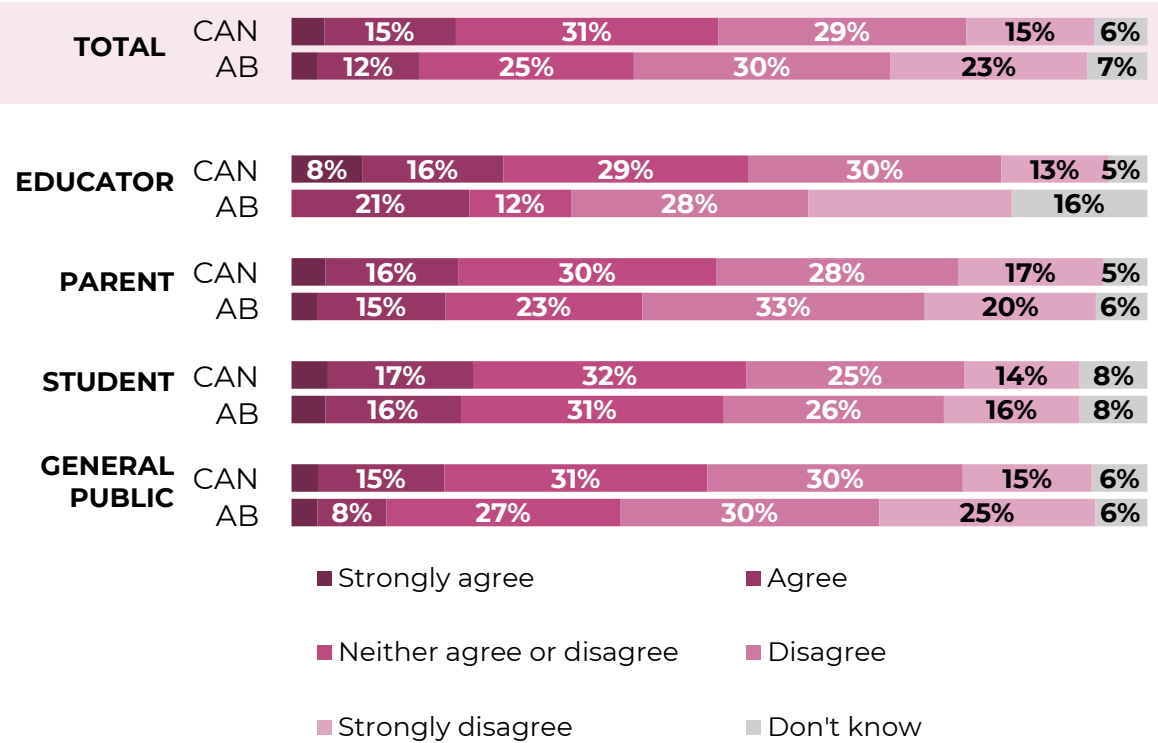
	CAN	BC	AB	SK	MB	ON	QC	ATL	TER
	n= 4,228	538	506	294	291	1,037	899	557	106
Strongly agree	29%	31%	17%	20%	17%	27%	41%	23%	38%
Agree	38%	33%	31%	32%	38%	43%	39%	37%	30%
Neither agree or disagree	15%	15%	22%	22%	13%	14%	11%	18%	24%
Disagree	8%	12%	11%	11%	12%	8%	4%	13%	3%
Strongly disagree	5%	5%	12%	11%	8%	4%	3%	5%	2%
Don't know	4%	4%	6%	4%	10%	3%	2%	5%	3%

The government is not doing a good job in their actions to address climate change.

Perceptions of Climate Change

Few Canadians (19%) and even fewer Albertans (15%) agree that the government is doing a good job in their actions to address climate change. Almost a quarter of Albertans (23%) strongly disagree with this statement compared to the Canadian average of 15%.

Total Results by Respondent Group



Province/Region

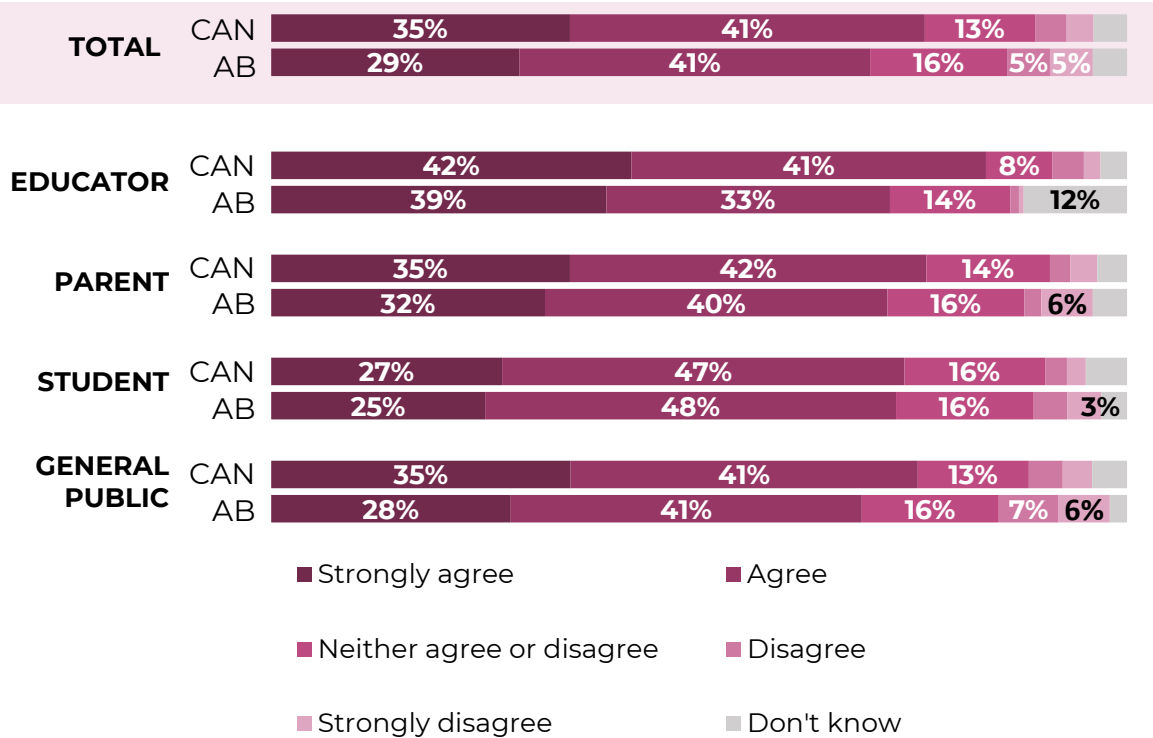
	CAN	BC	AB	SK	MB	ON	QC	ATL	TER
	n= 4,228	538	506	294	291	1,037	899	557	106
Strongly agree	4%	2%	3%	4%	3%	5%	3%	5%	6%
Agree	15%	14%	12%	13%	14%	18%	14%	18%	12%
Neither agree or disagree	31%	35%	25%	28%	34%	29%	32%	32%	25%
Disagree	29%	28%	30%	24%	23%	29%	33%	22%	18%
Strongly disagree	15%	13%	23%	22%	12%	14%	12%	16%	31%
Don't know	6%	7%	7%	8%	14%	5%	5%	7%	8%

Personal actions are important, but systemic change is required to address climate challenges.

Perceptions of Climate Change

70% of Alberta residents agree that while personal actions are important, systemic change is required to address climate challenges, lower than Canadians overall (76%).

Total Results by Respondent Group

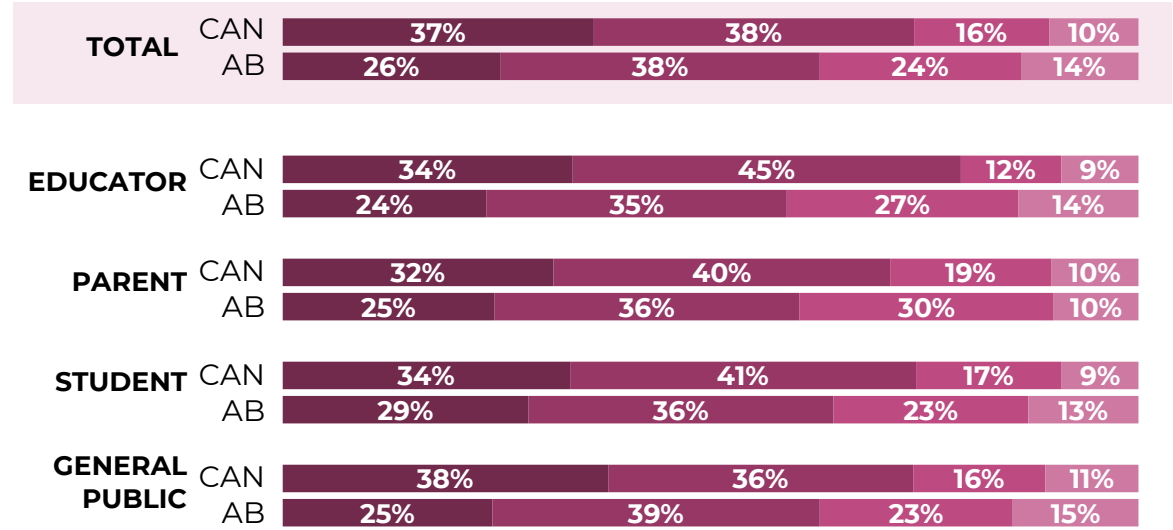


Province/Region

	CAN	BC	AB	SK	MB	ON	QC	ATL	TER
	n= 4,228	538	506	294	291	1,037	899	557	106
Strongly agree	35%	38%	29%	24%	23%	34%	41%	35%	37%
Agree	41%	37%	41%	37%	41%	46%	39%	37%	42%
Neither agree or disagree	13%	12%	16%	19%	21%	12%	11%	17%	7%
Disagree	4%	5%	5%	8%	4%	3%	3%	4%	5%
Strongly disagree	3%	4%	5%	4%	3%	3%	3%	3%	3%
Don't know	4%	5%	4%	8%	8%	3%	4%	5%	7%

Fewer Alberta residents fall in the ‘empowered’ audience than Canadians overall (26% vs. 37%) and instead are more often skeptics (24% vs. 16%) or dismissive (14% vs. 10%). Alberta residents are consistent with Canadians for the ‘aware’ audience (38%).

Total Results by Respondent Group



■ Empowered ■ Aware ■ Skeptics ■ Dismissive

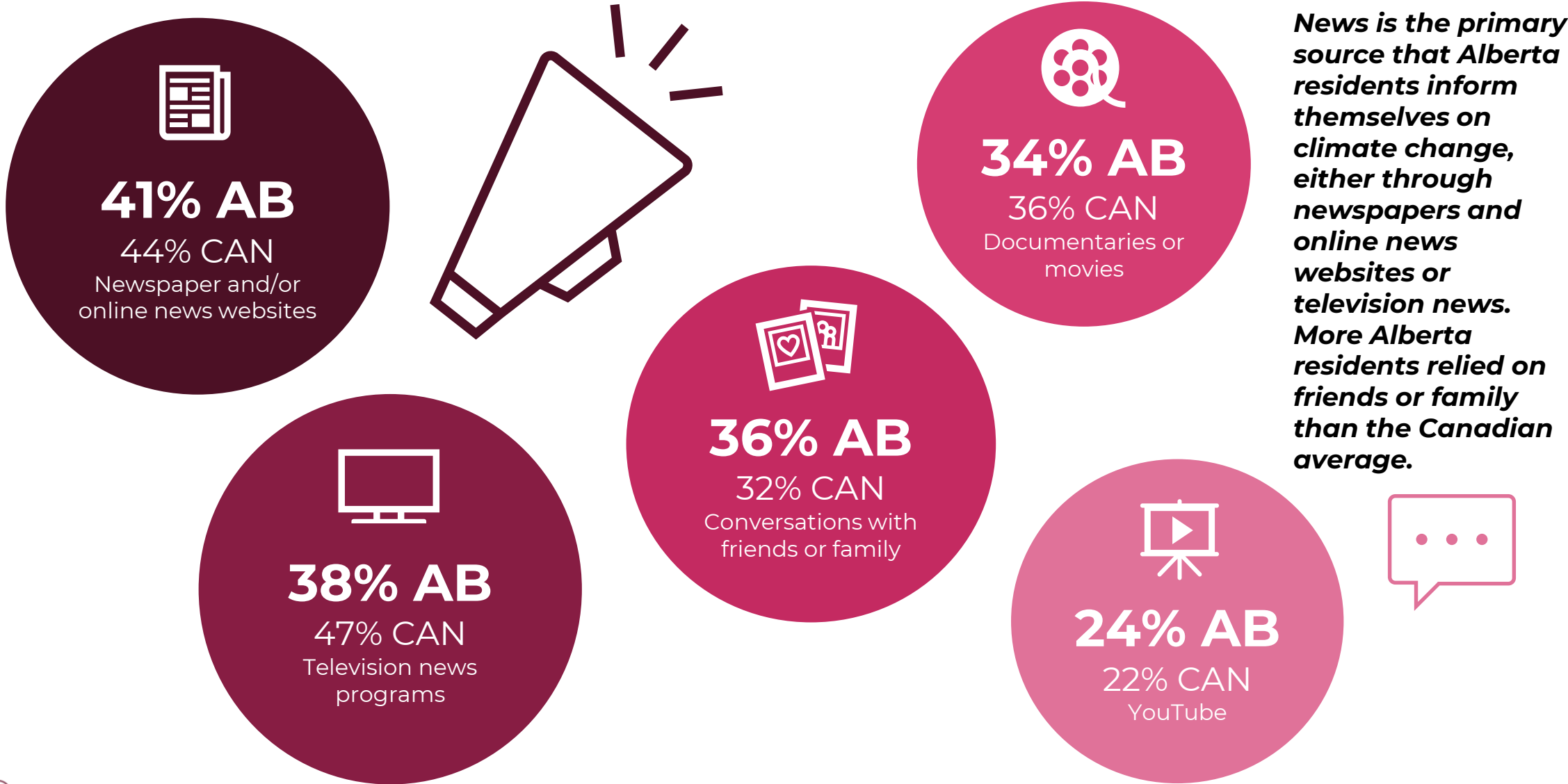
Province/Region

	CAN	BC	AB	SK	MB	ON	QC	ATL	TER
	n= 4,228	538	506	294	291	1,037	899	557	106
Empowered	37%	36%	26%	22%	37%	36%	46%	32%	27%
Aware	38%	35%	38%	33%	27%	40%	37%	42%	47%
Skeptics	16%	17%	24%	30%	21%	15%	9%	19%	16%
Dismissive	10%	13%	14%	18%	15%	9%	9%	7%	12%

Survey Results Climate Change Information

Survey Report

Understanding where Alberta residents seek climate change information is essential for developing effective communication strategies and education efforts. As misinformation continues to spread, identifying trusted messengers and preferred channels can help ensure that climate education reaches target audiences, especially young people, in ways that are both credible and relevant.



Which of the following do you use to inform yourself about climate change?

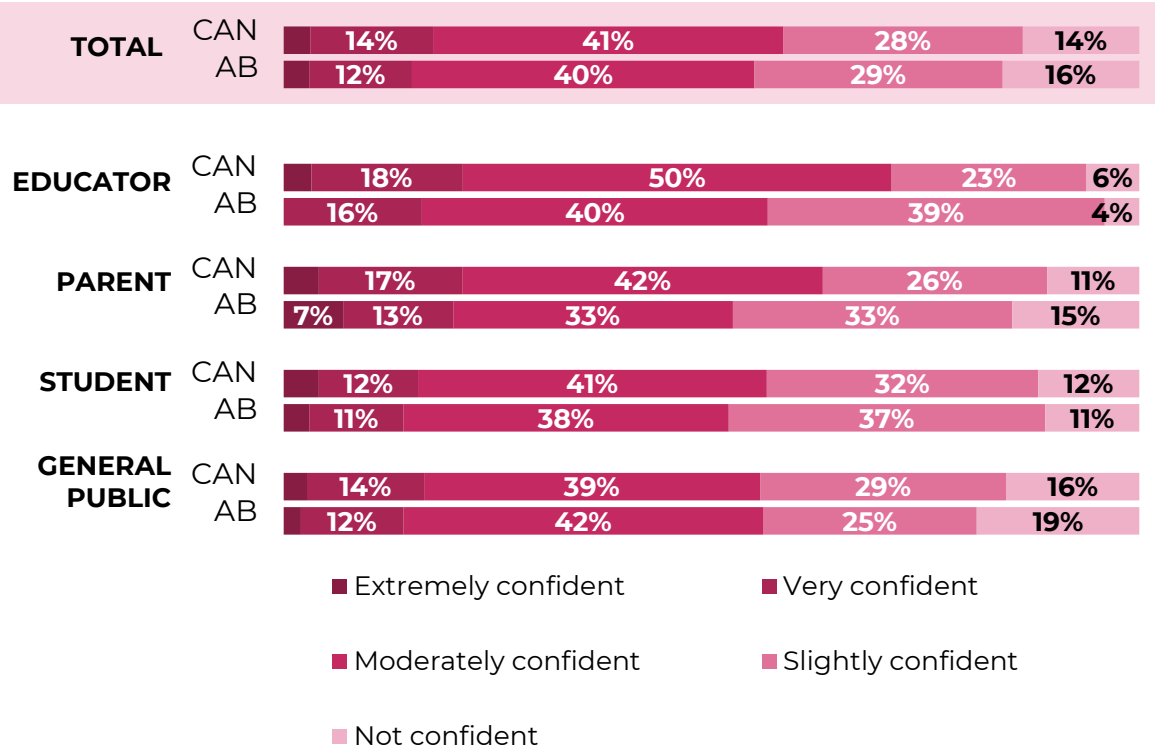
When examining sources of information more deeply by respondent groups, educators are far less likely to rely on television news. Both Alberta educators and students are more likely to rely on conversations with friends and family.

% Selected	Respondent Group									
	Total		Educator		Parent		Student		General Public	
	CAN	AB	CAN	AB	CAN	AB	CAN	AB	CAN	AB
n=	4,228	506	782	74	1,283	166	1,053	156	1,369	142
Television news programs	46%	38%	50%	22%	39%	38%	32%	28%	49%	42%
Newspaper and/or online news websites	44%	41%	49%	47%	43%	47%	22%	23%	45%	41%
Documentaries or movies	36%	34%	41%	41%	39%	43%	29%	27%	36%	32%
Conversations with friends and family	32%	36%	38%	53%	32%	31%	41%	48%	30%	35%
Radio news programs	22%	21%	29%	13%	21%	22%	10%	5%	23%	25%
YouTube	22%	24%	23%	28%	24%	24%	36%	32%	19%	23%
Academic journals	13%	15%	23%	31%	15%	23%	7%	5%	12%	13%
Facebook	13%	11%	21%	6%	18%	19%	14%	15%	11%	9%
Books	12%	18%	17%	13%	13%	18%	15%	19%	11%	18%

How confident are you that you can tell the difference between real and fake climate change information?

Only 15% of Alberta residents are extremely or very confident that they can tell the difference between real and fake climate change information, in line with Canadians overall (17%). 40% of Alberta educators are moderately confident when compared to their national counterparts (50%).

Total Results by Respondent Group



Province/Region

	CAN	BC	AB	SK	MB	ON	QC	ATL	TER
	n= 4,228	538	506	294	291	1,037	899	557	106
Extremely confident	3%	4%	3%	5%	2%	3%	2%	6%	5%
Very confident	14%	14%	12%	10%	10%	13%	20%	16%	16%
Moderately confident	41%	34%	40%	39%	33%	38%	53%	38%	41%
Slightly confident	28%	34%	29%	29%	25%	31%	20%	27%	32%
Not confident	14%	15%	16%	17%	29%	16%	5%	14%	7%

Survey Results Climate Change Education

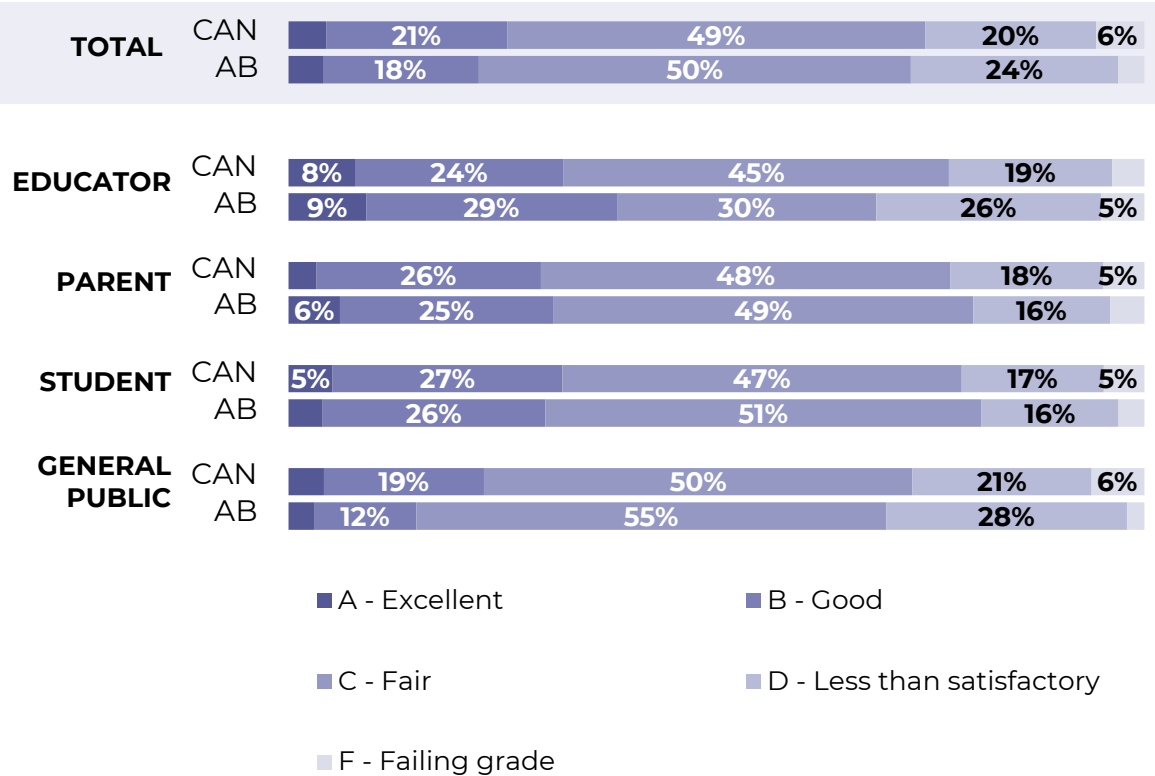
Survey Report

Climate change education in Alberta is seen as important but insufficient. There's growing recognition that schools need to do more, yet the belief is held less strongly than other provinces. There's a clear need to deepen and expand climate change education topics, focusing not only on the science, but also on solutions, taking action, and critical thinking.

What overall grade would you give schools in preparing students to understand and address climate change?

Most Alberta residents align with the rest of Canada in feeling schools are falling short in preparing students to understand and respond to climate change. Only 22% would award an A or B grade, while half offer a ‘C – Fair’. Educators in Alberta are more likely to give a D (26%) than educators in the rest of Canada (19%).

Total Results by Respondent Group



Province/Region

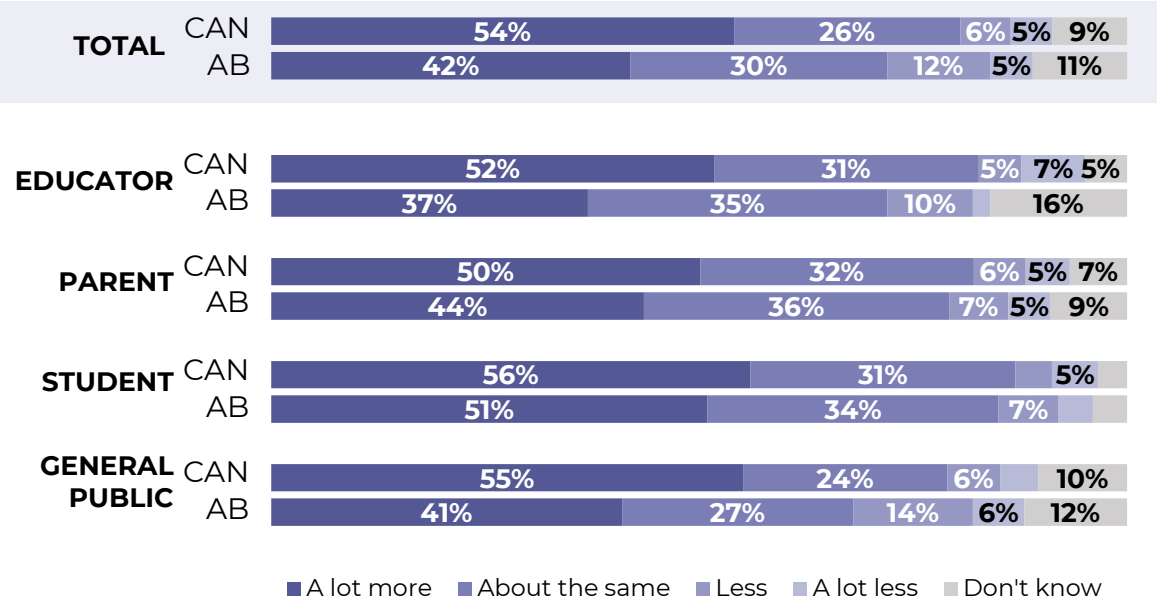
	NAT	BC	AB	SK	MB	ON	QC	ATL	TER
	n= 4,228	538	506	294	291	1,037	899	557	106
A - Excellent	4%	4%	4%	6%	7%	4%	4%	7%	5%
B - Good	21%	20%	18%	17%	16%	22%	21%	26%	30%
C - Fair	49%	47%	50%	54%	55%	48%	49%	46%	47%
D - Less than satisfactory	20%	24%	24%	17%	13%	19%	20%	17%	17%
F - Failing grade	6%	5%	3%	6%	8%	6%	6%	4%	1%

Do you think the education system should be doing more, less, or about the same as now to educate young people about climate change?

Climate Change Education

42% of Alberta residents feel the education system should be doing a lot more to educate young people about climate change, less than Canadians overall (54%) with more Alberta residents believing less education is needed (17% vs. 11%). However, 51% of Alberta students think the education system should be doing a lot more.

Total Results by Respondent Group



	CAN	BC	AB	SK	MB	ON	QC	ATL	TER
	n= 4,228	538	506	294	291	1,037	899	557	106
A lot more	54%	50%	42%	37%	45%	56%	63%	55%	59%
About the same	26%	27%	30%	38%	29%	26%	22%	28%	29%
Less	6%	7%	12%	9%	11%	4%	4%	4%	3%
A lot less	5%	6%	5%	6%	3%	5%	5%	2%	1%
Don't know	9%	10%	11%	10%	12%	9%	5%	10%	7%

Only 52% of Alberta residents think climate change education should be a high priority for schooling compared to 62% of Canadians. Only 58% of Alberta residents think it should aim to change the way people behave, compared to 70% of Canadians. 28% of Alberta educators think climate change is too complex to be taught in younger grades.

% Agree (Agree/Strongly Agree)			Respondent Group							
	Total		Educator		Parent		Student		General Public	
	CAN	AB	CAN	AB	CAN	AB	CAN	AB	CAN	AB
	n= 4,228	506	782	74	1,283	166	1,053	156	1,369	142
Climate change education needs to teach students to be critical thinkers in order to counteract misinformation found on social media and other sources.	79%	79%	86%	75%	76%	73%	77%	75%	79%	82%
Climate change education should aim to change the way people behave.	70%	58%	75%	58%	69%	62%	71%	62%	70%	56%
Climate change education should be a high priority for schooling.	62%	52%	68%	47%	59%	53%	61%	56%	61%	52%
Climate change education should be the role of all teachers.	56%	46%	66%	41%	56%	47%	59%	54%	54%	45%
The topic of climate change is too complex and should not be discussed in younger grades.	20%	29%	25%	28%	21%	21%	20%	19%	20%	33%
It is not the role of schools to teach students about climate change.	18%	16%	22%	19%	20%	19%	19%	23%	16%	13%

When compared to other provinces, Alberta residents strongly agree that climate change education needs to teach students to be critical thinkers in order to counteract misinformation (79%). Only 16% of Albertans believe it is not the role of schools to teach climate change, one of the lowest percentages of all provinces.

% Agree (Agree/Strongly Agree)	Province/Region								
	CAN Total	BC	AB	SK	MB	ON	QC	ATL	TER
n=	4,228	538	506	294	291	1,037	899	557	106
Climate change education needs to teach students to be critical thinkers in order to counteract misinformation found on social media and other sources.	79%	79%	79%	71%	73%	79%	82%	80%	71%
Climate change education should aim to change the way people behave.	70%	66%	58%	61%	60%	73%	78%	71%	70%
Climate change education should be a high priority for schooling.	62%	58%	52%	50%	46%	66%	64%	65%	64%
Climate change education should be the role of all teachers.	56%	55%	46%	48%	43%	58%	61%	56%	56%
The topic of climate change is too complex and should not be discussed in younger grades.	20%	15%	29%	29%	30%	22%	14%	21%	16%
It is not the role of schools to teach students about climate change.	18%	18%	16%	21%	26%	19%	14%	18%	19%

To what extent do you agree or disagree that climate change should be addressed in younger grades - Kindergarten to Grade 3, through the following topics?

Climate Change Education

When it comes to teaching younger (K-3) grades about climate change, Alberta educators agree that topics including over-consumption (70%), biodiversity (71%), carbon footprint (62%) and green energy (62%) are the most important. Alberta educators are much less likely than their Canadian counterparts to think K-3 education should address social justice and racial inequities (30% vs. 49%).

Educators (% Agree/Strongly Agree)	CAN	BC	AB	SK	MB	ON	QC	ATL
n=	782	65	74	41*	55	173	198	153
Green energy	77%	73%	62%	75%	66%	82%	75%	86%
Biodiversity/habitat loss	75%	67%	71%	80%	67%	79%	71%	83%
Over-consumption	75%	72%	70%	70%	66%	76%	77%	79%
Extreme weather	68%	80%	58%	76%	67%	70%	63%	75%
Carbon footprint of food/agriculture	62%	67%	62%	69%	61%	67%	51%	77%
Threats to physical health	58%	55%	53%	68%	45%	60%	54%	67%
Social justice and racial inequities	49%	56%	30%	57%	40%	53%	45%	56%
Eco-anxiety/threats to mental health	42%	43%	34%	47%	44%	48%	31%	57%
Peaceful dissent/protests	36%	27%	26%	46%	25%	41%	34%	38%

64% of Alberta students report discussing climate change 'always' (2%) 'often' (10%) and 'sometimes' (52%) compared to 58% of Canadian students.

K-12 Students (% Selected)	CAN	BC	AB	SK	MB	ON	QC	ATL
n=	1,053	151	156	100	100	210	208	122
Always	1%	1%	2%	1%	1%	1%	-	1%
Often	9%	8%	10%	10%	10%	12%	4%	10%
Sometimes	48%	55%	52%	47%	40%	47%	47%	45%
Rarely	33%	30%	27%	32%	42%	33%	36%	38%
Never	9%	7%	10%	10%	7%	7%	14%	6%

How many hours over a course/school year would you typically spend on covering topics related to climate change in your classroom?

Climate Change Education

Alberta teachers are more likely to spend up to 10 hours (62%) than more than 10 hours (15%) within a course or school year on topics related to climate change, with the highest proportion spending 1-2 hours (24%). Only 10% do not cover climate change topics at all (not covered or not applicable), much lower than Canadian educators overall (21%).

K-12 Teachers and Faculty of Education Instructors (% Selected)	CAN	BC	AB	SK	MB	ON	QC	ATL
n=	611	45*	50*	31*	52	126	159	135
1 - 2 hours	15%	16%	24%	8%	13%	8%	19%	20%
3 - 5 hours	20%	15%	15%	22%	19%	24%	17%	22%
6 – 10 hours	16%	27%	23%	18%	17%	13%	14%	12%
11 – 15 hours	6%	15%	6%	3%	5%	5%	3%	8%
16 – 20 hours	10%	2%	3%	1%	1%	20%	3%	7%
21 – 30 hours	1%	1%	-	5%	3%	<1%	1%	6%
31 – 40 hours	2%	-	4%	-	-	3%	-	2%
More than 40 hours	1%	-	2%	2%	-	1%	-	2%
Don't know	9%	5%	11%	28%	14%	6%	9%	9%
Not covered/Not applicable	21%	19%	10%	13%	29%	18%	34%	13%

Survey Results What do Educators Say?

Survey Report

In Alberta, educators face challenges in teaching climate change. Most are concerned about the lack of time, many have not received professional development, and few feel confident in their knowledge and instructional skills. Support from school leadership is lacking. A very small proportion of educators in Alberta feel well supported by their principal or school board to teach about climate change.

What degree of formal professional development on teaching climate change have you received?

What do Educators Say?

Current educators in Alberta have had a mix professional development on teaching climate change, with the majority having limited (38%), followed by a considerable amount (32%). Most Canadian educators have received no professional development (37%) compared to 24% of Alberta educators.

Current Educators (% Selected)	CAN	BC	AB	SK	MB	ON	QC	ATL
n=	681	56	61	35*	54	147	172	143
Extensive	7%	1%	1%	8%	8%	10%	7%	14%
Considerable	18%	12%	32%	32%	17%	13%	17%	25%
Moderate	17%	37%	4%	27%	18%	21%	7%	16%
Limited	21%	21%	38%	16%	28%	16%	20%	23%
None	37%	28%	24%	16%	29%	40%	49%	22%

To what extent do you agree (or disagree) with the following statements about climate change education?

What do Educators Say?

While there is interest among Alberta educators to teach climate change education, there are barriers. 86% of Alberta educators note a lack of time, and 44% sometimes feel unsure of the appropriate instructional strategies. Less than half (45%) of Alberta educators feel they have the knowledge and skills needed to teach climate change, in line with Canadian teachers (47%). 39% feel parents might not be supportive.

K-12 Teachers and Faculty of Education Instructors (% Agree/Strongly Agree)	CAN	BC	AB	SK	MB	ON	QC	ATL
n=	611	45*	50	31*	52	126	159	135
I feel that a lack of time within course/grade to teach the topic of climate change is a significant barrier.	66%	63%	86%	78%	50%	66%	58%	67%
I sometimes feel unsure that I know the appropriate instructional strategies to teach this complex topic.	50%	47%	44%	60%	51%	54%	41%	58%
I feel I have the knowledge and skills needed to teach climate change.	47%	53%	45%	55%	55%	51%	27%	64%
I would like to include climate change education but feel parents might not be supportive.	35%	40%	39%	55%	36%	31%	25%	59%

How supported by your principal and your board do you feel in teaching climate change?

What do Educators Say?

Few (12%) Alberta educators feel “extremely” or “very” supported by their principal and board in teaching climate change, less than Canadian educators overall (22%). More Alberta educators do not feel supported by their principal and board (29%) compared to Canadian teachers (25%).

K-12 Teachers (% Selected)		CAN	BC	AB	SK	MB	ON	QC	ATL
	n=	568	44*	47*	29*	50	110	152	132
Extremely Supported		5%	3%	2%	7%	1%	3%	2%	18%
Very Supported		17%	20%	10%	15%	30%	19%	8%	33%
Moderately Supported		27%	47%	22%	27%	27%	21%	26%	26%
Slightly Supported		26%	16%	38%	40%	19%	29%	27%	16%
Not Supported		25%	14%	29%	10%	23%	28%	36%	7%

Survey Results Next Steps in Supporting Climate Change Education

Survey Report

In Alberta, students show strong interest in learning about climate change, particularly solutions, and educators employ a variety of strategies to engage them. However, gaps remain in both content and support. Alberta educators see opportunities to strengthen climate education through flexible curriculum approaches and more support for student-led action projects.

Students - If you could decide what you would learn in school about climate change, what would you tell your teacher?

Next Steps

When it comes to climate change education, Alberta students are interesting in learning solutions to the problem (40%) and scientific evidence (23%).

K-12 Students (% Mentioned)		CAN	BC	AB	SK	MB	ON	QC	ATL
	n=	594	98	88	61	62	117	88	77
Offer solutions to the problem / How to reduce your carbon footprint (e.g. alternate transportation, less pollution)		35%	40%	40%	41%	39%	36%	20%	37%
Explain scientific evidence of what cause climate change / Facts		22%	21%	23%	26%	26%	23%	20%	14%
Make people aware of their actions / Consequences of actions		11%	14%	5%	11%	14%	12%	10%	7%
Educate people more / Awareness (general)		8%	9%	5%	13%	4%	6%	6%	20%
Empower individuals so they feel they can make a difference		4%	12%	1%	-	4%	3%	2%	8%
Controversial issues should be kept out of classrooms		4%	5%	8%	-	5%	2%	4%	-
Recycling programs		4%	-	1%	-	2%	2%	12%	2%
Talk more / Discussions		3%	4%	-	3%	2%	3%	3%	3%
Other		6%	6%	3%	8%	4%	7%	7%	5%
Nothing / Satisfied with things currently		3%	2%	2%	-	-	4%	4%	1%

Educators respond to each of the following statements, as they apply to their classes.

Next Steps

Alberta educators include a variety of methods in teaching climate change, such as encouraging students to take action (68%), teaching critical media literacy (61%), and including solutions to climate change (51%). All above the national percentages. Only 13% of Alberta educators include Indigenous traditional knowledge compared to 32% nationally.

K-12 Teachers and Faculty of Education Instructors (% A moderate amount/A great amount)		CAN	BC	AB	SK	MB	ON	QC	ATL
	n=	611	45*	50	31*	52	126	159	135
I encourage students to take action as part of their learning.		60%	56%	68%	68%	39%	66%	54%	57%
I include solutions to climate change.		49%	58%	51%	64%	36%	52%	45%	50%
I teach critical media literacy so students can make the distinction between fact and opinion.		48%	52%	61%	45%	34%	53%	36%	51%
I emphasize aspects of ethics and social justice within climate change impacts.		32%	31%	26%	34%	25%	36%	28%	36%
I include Indigenous traditional knowledge about climate change.		32%	16%	13%	43%	27%	51%	9%	42%

*Use caution when interpreting results due to low sample size (n<50). Groups with <30 respondents not shown due to small sample size. Territories included in total but not reported due to insufficient sample.

What changes would you suggest to improve climate change education?

Next Steps

To improve climate change education, Alberta educators would like to see more flexibility in curriculum to allow for climate change topics (52%) and support for student-led climate action projects and activities (49%). Parents in Alberta are seeking professional development for teachers (43%).

% Selected			Respondent Group								
	Total		Educator		Parent		Student		General Public		
	CAN	AB	CAN	AB	CAN	AB	CAN	AB	CAN	AB	
	<i>n=</i>	4,228	506	782	74	1,283	166	1,053	156	1,369	142
Support for student-led climate action projects and activities		45%	36%	49%	49%	41%	35%	45%	46%	46%	34%
More flexibility in curriculum to allow for climate change topics		42%	38%	40%	52%	39%	36%	41%	46%	43%	36%
Professional development for teachers on climate change		39%	37%	47%	48%	33%	43%	35%	31%	40%	36%
Mandatory climate change curriculum to be taught in all grades		38%	29%	39%	42%	34%	27%	37%	32%	39%	28%
Incorporation of climate change education in teacher preparation programs		38%	33%	44%	44%	36%	33%	35%	22%	38%	34%
Stronger collaboration between schools, parents and community organizations		36%	33%	37%	19%	34%	34%	37%	36%	36%	34%
Increased funding for climate change education programs and resources		35%	31%	42%	34%	34%	31%	37%	36%	35%	30%
Promote pathways for sustainability and climate-related careers		35%	37%	37%	50%	34%	36%	33%	30%	35%	37%

What changes would you suggest to improve climate change education?

Next Steps

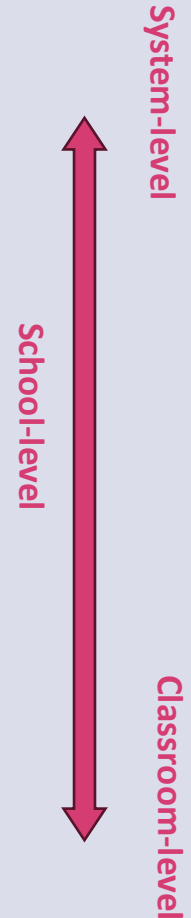
Compared to Canadians overall, Alberta residents tend to have lower support for most of the suggested ways to improve climate change education, particularly for making climate change curriculum mandatory for all grades (29% vs. 38%).

% Selected	Province/Region								
	CAN	BC	AB	SK	MB	ON	QC	ATL	TER
n=	4,228	538	506	294	291	1,037	899	557	106
Support for student-led climate action projects and activities	45%	53%	36%	29%	44%	45%	48%	44%	48%
More flexibility in curriculum to allow for climate change topics	42%	45%	38%	31%	42%	42%	42%	44%	51%
Professional development for teachers on climate change	39%	38%	37%	35%	35%	40%	39%	42%	52%
Mandatory climate change curriculum to be taught in all grades	38%	38%	29%	35%	31%	43%	35%	39%	48%
Incorporation of climate change education in teacher preparation programs	38%	43%	33%	33%	26%	37%	41%	37%	40%
Stronger collaboration between schools, parents and community organizations	36%	38%	33%	32%	33%	36%	35%	37%	48%
Increased funding for climate change education programs and resources	35%	34%	31%	31%	32%	40%	30%	42%	42%
Promote pathways for sustainability and climate-related careers	35%	37%	37%	31%	37%	37%	29%	34%	38%

From Awareness to Action

Key Action Items to Improve Climate Change Education in Schools:

- **Integrate climate change across the curriculum** and give teachers greater flexibility to integrate climate change topics into existing curriculum.
- **Expand Professional Development**, including pre-service teachers
- **Invest in more resources** for teachers, as well as **enhanced strategies to teach complex** topics such as helping students identify and address misinformation, linking climate change to social inequities and racial injustice, and effectively teaching controversial or political topics.
- **Foster a School-Wide Culture of Climate Learning** - Teachers are calling for stronger leadership that values climate change education.
- **Increase classroom time on climate change topics** and focus on **solutions and student-led climate action projects** to increase real-world learning and empowerment.
- **Teaching critical thinking and media literacy** has never been more urgent – Canadians don't feel confident identifying false climate change information, and highly support teaching students to evaluate conflicting information.



Respondent Profile

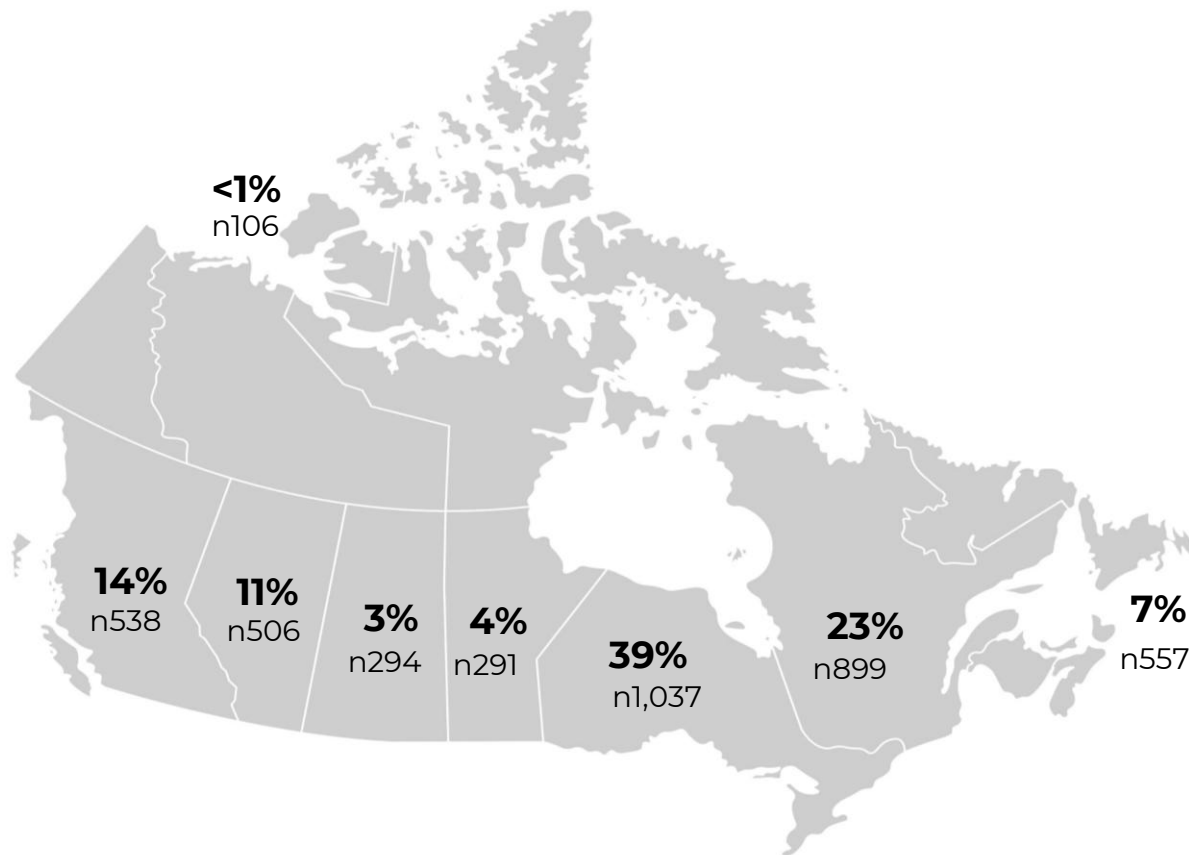
Survey Report



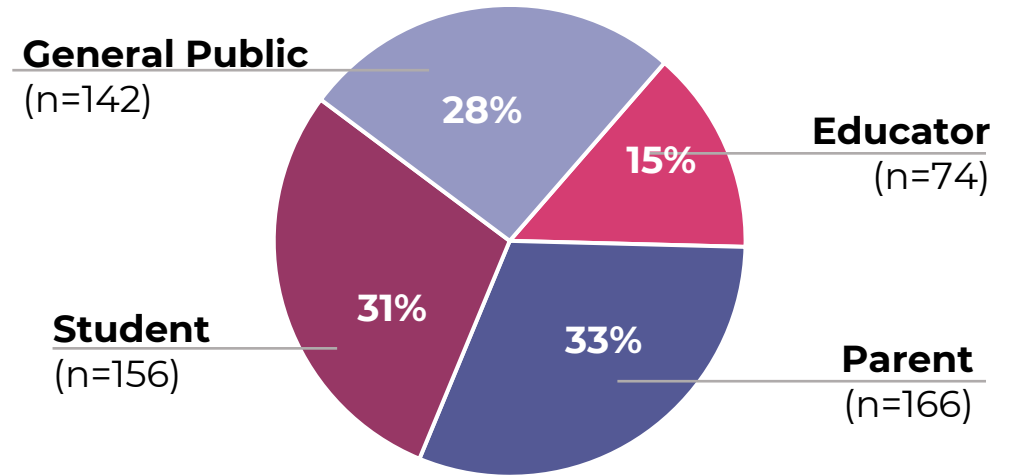
LSF
Learning for a
Sustainable Future

Respondent Profile

Province/Region



Respondent Group - Alberta



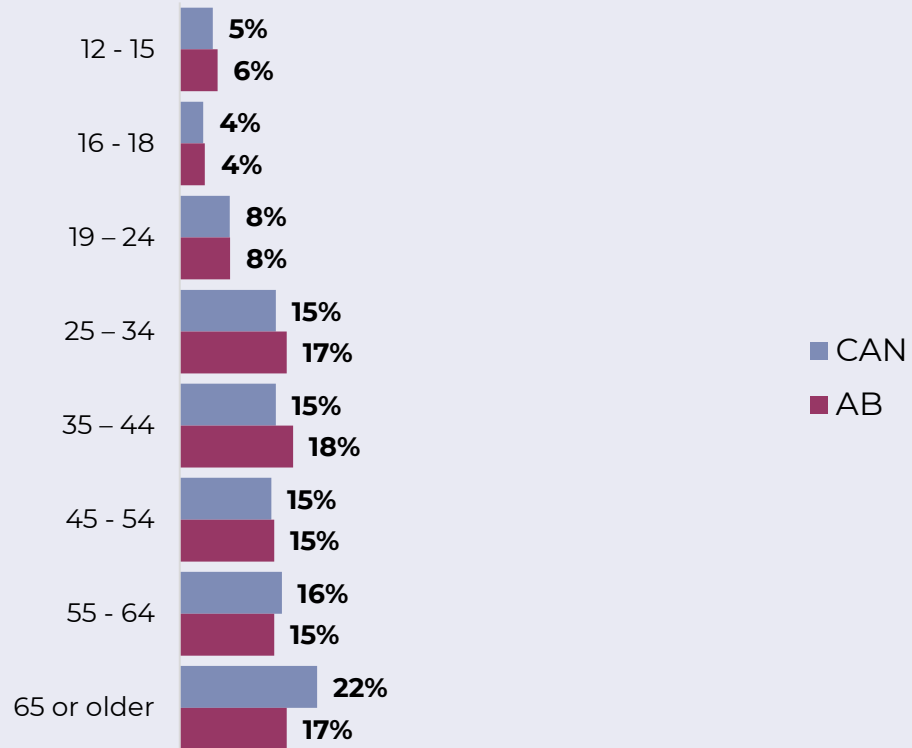
National

Educator	18% (n=782)
Parent	30% (n=1,283)
Student	25% (n=1,053)
General Public	32% (n=1,369)

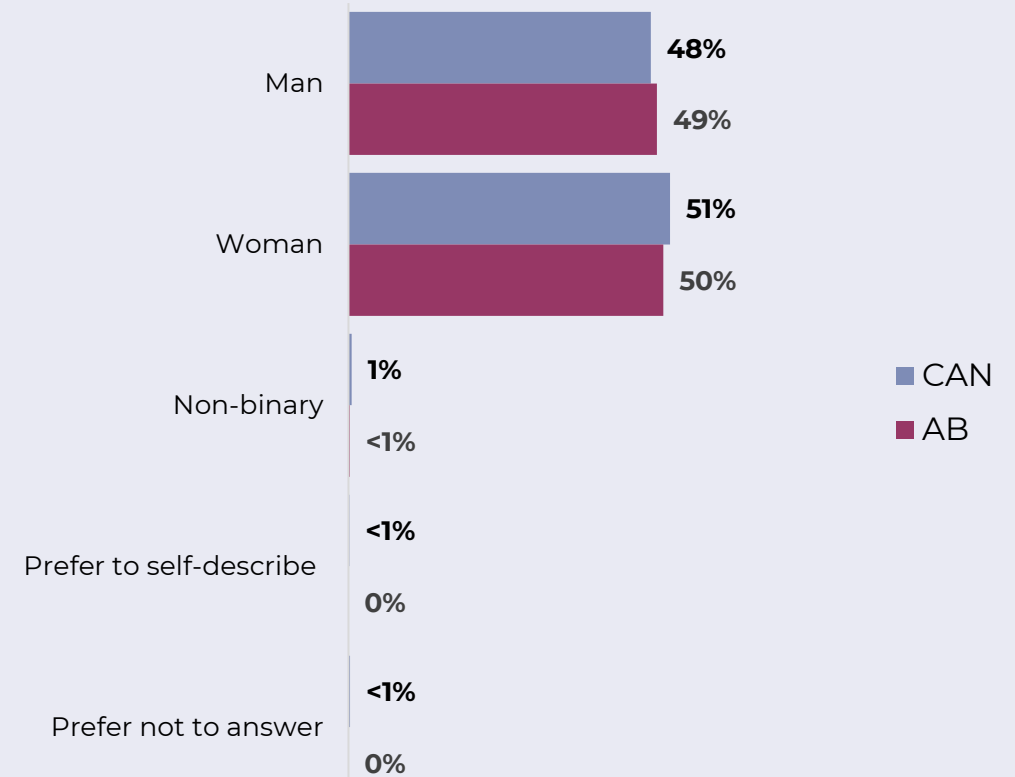


Respondent Profile

Age

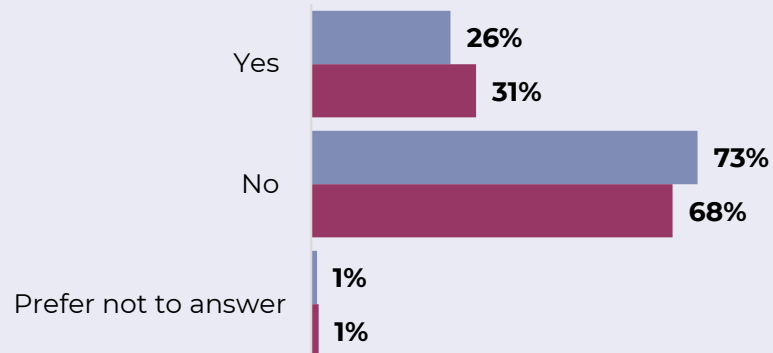


Gender

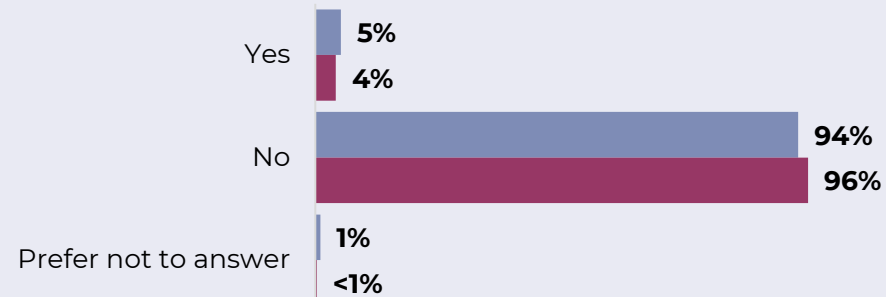


Respondent Profile

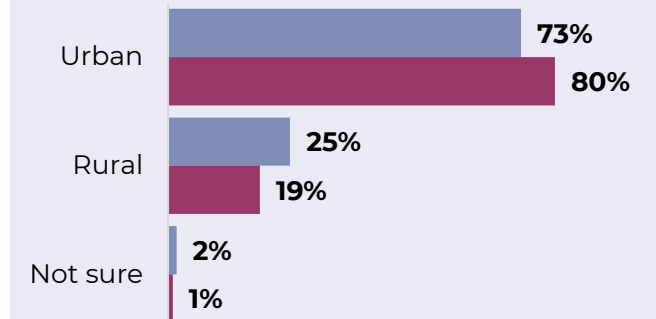
Children in Household



Identify as Indigenous



Area



■ CAN
■ AB





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