

QUEBECERS' VIEWS ON ENGLISH LANGUAGE SCHOOL BOARDS

Presented by Paul Holley
Association for Canadian Studies (ACS)

November 19, 2019

STUDY OVERVIEW

- What do Quebec English-Speakers think about the current state of English Language School Boards in their home province?
- This study is based on one of the largest surveys of public opinion conducted to-date of Quebec English-speakers.
- Conducted by Leger Marketing for the Quebec Community Groups Network, CIDEQ, QESBA and the ACS, the survey was conducted via web panel between August 29 and September 4, 2019.
- The sample consisted of 1,937 Quebecers including 1,019 English-speaking Quebecers, 773 French speaking Quebecers and 144 persons whose first language is neither English or French.

82% of English-speaking Quebecers say English Language School Boards are important to them as do **73%** of Allophones

| English language school boards are important to me | | Total | Mother tongue | | | Gender | | Age | | | Region | | |
|--|------------------------|-------|---------------|------------|------------|-----------|------------|------------|------------|------------|------------|-----|----------------|
| | | | French | English | Other | Male | Female | 18-34 | 35-54 | 55+ | MTL | QC | Autres régions |
| | Weighted totals : | 1937 | 1495 | 162 | 278 | 944 | 993 | 498 | 646 | 793 | 965 | 192 | 780 |
| | Unweighted totals : | 1937 | 773 | 1019 | 144 | 859 | 1078 | 487 | 666 | 784 | 1206 | 142 | 589 |
| | NET AGREE | 39% | 28% | 82% | 73% | 39% | 39% | 44% | 37% | 37% | 47% | 34% | 30% |
| | NET DISAGREE | 53% | 63% | 13% | 23% | 56% | 51% | 48% | 53% | 57% | 46% | 56% | 62% |
| | I prefer not to answer | 8% | 9% | 4% | 4% | 6% | 10% | 9% | 10% | 6% | 8% | 10% | 8% |

Four in five (**81%**) English-speaking Quebecers (and Allophones) **trust** English Language School Boards

| In addressing the concerns of Quebec's English-speaking communities, to what extent do you trust the following institutions? ... English Language School Boards | | Total | Mother tongue | | | Gender | | Age | | | Region | | |
|---|------------------------|-------|---------------|------------|------------|------------|------------|------------|------------|------------|------------|-----|----------------|
| | | | French | English | Other | Male | Female | 18-34 | 35-54 | 55+ | MTL | QC | Autres régions |
| | Weighted totals : | 1937 | 1495 | 162 | 278 | 944 | 993 | 498 | 646 | 793 | 965 | 192 | 780 |
| | Unweighted totals : | 1937 | 773 | 1019 | 144 | 859 | 1078 | 487 | 666 | 784 | 1206 | 142 | 589 |
| | NET TRUST | 56% | 49% | 81% | 80% | 50% | 58% | 60% | 50% | 58% | 61% | 54% | 51% |
| | NET DON'T TRUST | 30% | 35% | 13% | 12% | 32% | 32% | 24% | 32% | 32% | 27% | 36% | 31% |
| | I prefer not to answer | 14% | 16% | 6% | 8% | 17% | 10% | 16% | 17% | 10% | 12% | 10% | 18% |

70% of English-speaking Quebecers (and **71%** of Allophones) say that school boards should be elected by the population at large ... and the majority of French-speaking Quebecers agree (**55%**)

| School boards should be elected by the population at large | | Total | Mother tongue | | | Gender | | Age | | | Region | | |
|--|------------------------|-------|---------------|------------|------------|------------|------------|-------|------------|-----------|------------|-----|----------------|
| | | | French | English | Other | Male | Female | 18-34 | 35-54 | 55+ | MTL | QC | Autres régions |
| | Weighted totals : | 1937 | 1495 | 162 | 278 | 944 | 993 | 498 | 646 | 793 | 965 | 192 | 780 |
| | Unweighted totals : | 1937 | 773 | 1019 | 144 | 859 | 1078 | 487 | 666 | 784 | 1206 | 142 | 589 |
| | NET AGREE | 59% | 55% | 70% | 71% | 57% | 60% | 58% | 56% | 61% | 62% | 53% | 56% |
| | NET DISAGREE | 29% | 32% | 20% | 21% | 32% | 27% | 28% | 29% | 31% | 27% | 35% | 31% |
| | I prefer not to answer | 12% | 13% | 10% | 8% | 11% | 13% | 14% | 15% | 8% | 11% | 12% | 13% |

72% of English-speaking Quebecers (and **67%** of Allophones) agree that English Language School Boards should remain *independent* from the Government of Quebec

| English language school boards should remain independent from the Government of Quebec | | Total | Mother tongue | | | Gender | | Age | | | Region | | |
|--|------------------------|-------|---------------|------------|------------|-----------|------------|------------|------------|------------|------------|-----|----------------|
| | | | French | English | Other | Male | Female | 18-34 | 35-54 | 55+ | MTL | QC | Autres régions |
| | Weighted totals : | 1937 | 1495 | 162 | 278 | 944 | 993 | 498 | 646 | 793 | 965 | 192 | 780 |
| | Unweighted totals : | 1937 | 773 | 1019 | 144 | 859 | 1078 | 487 | 666 | 784 | 1206 | 142 | 589 |
| | NET AGREE | 39% | 30% | 72% | 67% | 39% | 38% | 38% | 41% | 37% | 43% | 34% | 34% |
| | NET DISAGREE | 53% | 61% | 23% | 28% | 54% | 52% | 51% | 48% | 58% | 49% | 57% | 56% |
| | I prefer not to answer | 9% | 10% | 5% | 6% | 7% | 10% | 12% | 11% | 5% | 7% | 9% | 10% |

84% of English-speaking Quebecers (and **81%** of Allophones) believe that eliminating English Language School Boards in Quebec will put minority language rights at risk...

| In Quebec, eliminating English language school boards will put minority language rights at risk | | | Mother tongue | | | Gender | | Age | | | Region | | |
|---|---------------------|-------|---------------|---------|-------|--------|--------|-------|-------|-----|--------|-----|-------------------|
| | | Total | French | English | Other | Male | Female | 18-34 | 35-54 | 55+ | MTL | QC | Autres régions |
| | Weighted totals : | 1937 | 1495 | 162 | 278 | 944 | 993 | 498 | 646 | 793 | 965 | 192 | 780 |
| | Unweighted totals : | 1937 | 773 | 1019 | 144 | 859 | 1078 | 487 | 666 | 784 | 1206 | 142 | 589 |
| | NET AGREE | 49% | 39% | 84% | 81% | 49% | 48% | 54% | 45% | 47% | 57% | 42% | 40% |
| | NET DISAGREE | 42% | 51% | 12% | 15% | 44% | 41% | 33% | 45% | 46% | 36% | 46% | 50% |
| I prefer not to answer | 9% | 11% | 4% | 3% | 8% | 10% | 12% | 10% | 7% | 7% | 12% | 11% | |

At least **77%** of English-speaking Quebecers (**80%** of Allophones) **do not** support the Quebec government's intention of eliminating English Language School Boards in Quebec

| I support the Gov. of Quebec's stated intention of eliminating English language school boards | | | Mother tongue | | | Gender | | Age | | | Region | | |
|--|---------------------|-------|---------------|---------|-------|--------|--------|-------|-------|-----|--------|-----|-------------------|
| | | Total | French | English | Other | Male | Female | 18-34 | 35-54 | 55+ | MTL | QC | Autres régions |
| | Weighted totals : | 1937 | 1495 | 162 | 278 | 944 | 993 | 498 | 646 | 793 | 965 | 192 | 780 |
| | Unweighted totals : | 1937 | 773 | 1019 | 144 | 859 | 1078 | 487 | 666 | 784 | 1206 | 142 | 589 |
| | NET AGREE | 38% | 44% | 18% | 16% | 43% | 32% | 32% | 37% | 42% | 32% | 40% | 44% |
| | NET DISAGREE | 55% | 48% | 77% | 80% | 52% | 58% | 61% | 53% | 53% | 62% | 52% | 46% |
| I prefer not to answer | 8% | 9% | 5% | 3% | 5% | 10% | 8% | 10% | 5% | 6% | 8% | 10% | |

Three in four respondents (**75%**) who *strongly agree* that English-speakers are a founding people of Quebec **DO NOT** support the Government of Quebec's intentions of eliminating English Language School Boards

| I support the Government of Quebec's stated intention of eliminating English language school boards | English-speaking Quebecers are a founding people of Quebec | | | | | Total |
|---|--|----------------|-------------------|-------------------|------------------------|--------------|
| | Strongly agree | Somewhat agree | Somewhat disagree | Strongly disagree | I prefer not to answer | |
| Net AGREE | 21.4% | 34.1% | 43.2% | 58.2% | 16.1% | 37.6% |
| Strongly agree | 12.5% | 10.5% | 15.0% | 36.8% | 7.3% | 16.8% |
| Somewhat agree | 8.9% | 23.5% | 28.2% | 21.4% | 8.9% | 20.8% |
| Net DISAGREE | 74.9% | 60.9% | 50.1% | 38.6% | 51.6% | 54.8% |
| Somewhat disagree | 14.8% | 32.1% | 35.5% | 20.6% | 22.4% | 27.3% |
| Strongly disagree | 60.1% | 28.9% | 14.6% | 18.0% | 29.2% | 27.5% |
| I prefer not to answer | 3.7% | 5.0% | 6.7% | 3.1% | 32.3% | 7.6% |

82% of respondents who *strongly agree* that eliminating English-speakers are a founding people of Quebec also **agree** that eliminating English Language School Boards in Quebec will put minority rights at risk

| In Quebec, eliminating English language school boards will put minority language rights at risk | English-speaking Quebecers are a founding people of Quebec | | | | | Total |
|---|--|----------------|-------------------|-------------------|------------------------|--------------|
| | Strongly agree | Somewhat agree | Somewhat disagree | Strongly disagree | I prefer not to answer | |
| Net AGREE | 81.9% | 56.7% | 42.5% | 25.3% | 37.5% | 48.5% |
| Strongly agree | 60.0% | 20.7% | 11.5% | 8.1% | 16.7% | 20.9% |
| Somewhat agree | 21.9% | 36.0% | 31.0% | 17.2% | 20.8% | 27.5% |
| Net DISAGREE | 16.7% | 35.0% | 51.2% | 70.6% | 22.9% | 42.4% |
| Somewhat disagree | 12.2% | 25.2% | 35.0% | 35.4% | 13.0% | 26.7% |
| Strongly disagree | 4.4% | 9.8% | 16.2% | 35.2% | 9.9% | 15.7% |
| I prefer not to answer | 1.5% | 8.3% | 6.3% | 4.2% | 39.6% | 9.1% |