

Wave 31

December 2024



Methodology



- These are findings of an Ipsos poll conducted on behalf of MNP.
- For this survey, a sample of **2,003 Canadians** from the Ipsos i-Say panel was interviewed from **December 6 December 17, 2024**.
- Quotas and weighting were employed to ensure that the sample's composition reflects the overall population according to the latest Canadian census information.
- The precision of online polls is measured using a credibility interval. In this case, the results are **accurate to within <u>+</u>2.5 percentage points**, 19 times out of 20, of what the results would have been had all Canadian adults been polled.
- Credibility intervals are wider among subsets of the population.
- Due to rounding, not all percentages will add up to 100%.



Executive Summary

The MNP Consumer Debt Index has declined significantly to **79 points**, **a ten point** decrease since last quarter, demonstrating the initial impact of Trump's election on Canadians and the economy. This is the second-lowest score recorded since the inception of the index, only behind December 2022 which dropped to 77 points amid high inflation.

Insolvency Risk Increases Significantly

More Canadians (50%, +8) report being \$200 or less away each month from financial insolvency. This is a result of significantly more Canadians saying they are already insolvent (35%, +9), with no money left over at the end of the month.

As more Canadians are at risk of insolvency, month-end finances are also down from the previous quarter. The average amount of money that Canadians have left over at the end of the month has decreased significantly to \$790, down \$147 from the previous quarter.

Personal Debt Rating Reaches All-Time Low

Canadians' net personal debt rating has plummeted to an all-time low of 8 points, down 12 points from last quarter. This significant decline is due to fewer Canadians rating their personal debt situation positively (31%, -7) and more rating it much worse (23%, +5).

The high cost of living continues to adversely effect Canadians as net confidence scores on coping with unexpected auto repairs or purchase (-9), coping with an illness and being unable to work for 3 months (-13), and coping with the loss of employment / change in wage or seasonal work (-17) has declined to an all time low since tracking.

Expected Debt Worsens as Optimism Diminishes

With Canadians rating their personal debt situation significantly worse this quarter, Canadians are also feeling more pessimistic of their expected debt in the near future, despite recent interest rate declines.

Looking ahead to one year from now, a quarter of Canadians expect their debt situation to improve (27%, -4), and much more than last quarter believe it will worsen (19%, +7).

Furthermore, expectations for the future has deteriorated as job anxiety has reached an all-time study high where 41% (+9) of Canadians are worried someone in their household could lose their job.



Executive Summary

Canadians Still Concerned with Debt Amid Declining Rates

The Bank of Canada had cut its key rate for the fifth consecutive time this year and is now sitting 50 basis-points lower than last quarter at 3.25 per cent. However, despite these cuts and the potential for additional cuts down the road, concern about their debt, the economy, and their ability to absorb financial shocks has deteriorated.

Canadians' ability to absorb an interest rate increase of 1 percentage point has declined overall with fewer (20%, -4) stating they are much better equipped to absorb this increase than they used to be, while more (27%, +3) say their ability to deal with this increase has worsened.

More Canadians state they desperately need interest rates to go down (67%. +2) and even if interest rates decline, they are still concerned with their ability to repay their debts (50%, +2).

Canadians Need Help With Debt but Refuse to Seek Help

Four in ten Canadians say they need help to get themselves out of debt. However, half of Canadians (53%) say they have difficulty trusting professional companies to help them get out of debt or would be embarrassed to seek help if their financial situation was bad enough to consider bankruptcy (48%).

Denial and stigma of debt are the most notable reason to avoid getting help as Canadians don't believe their situation is serious enough to seek debt help (66%) and four in ten agree there is a stigma of bankruptcy which prevents them from seeking help with their debt (40%). Additional reasons for avoiding financial help are that or they are fearful of debt-relief scams (63%).

Financial Bad Habits Building More Debt

A quarter of Canadians (26%) have only paid the minimum payment towards the balance on their credit card.

Debt is building up as one in five Canadians skipped or delayed a bill payment (22%), went into further credit card debt this year (20%, -2) or have paid the minimum payment on their line of credit in the last year (17%, -2).

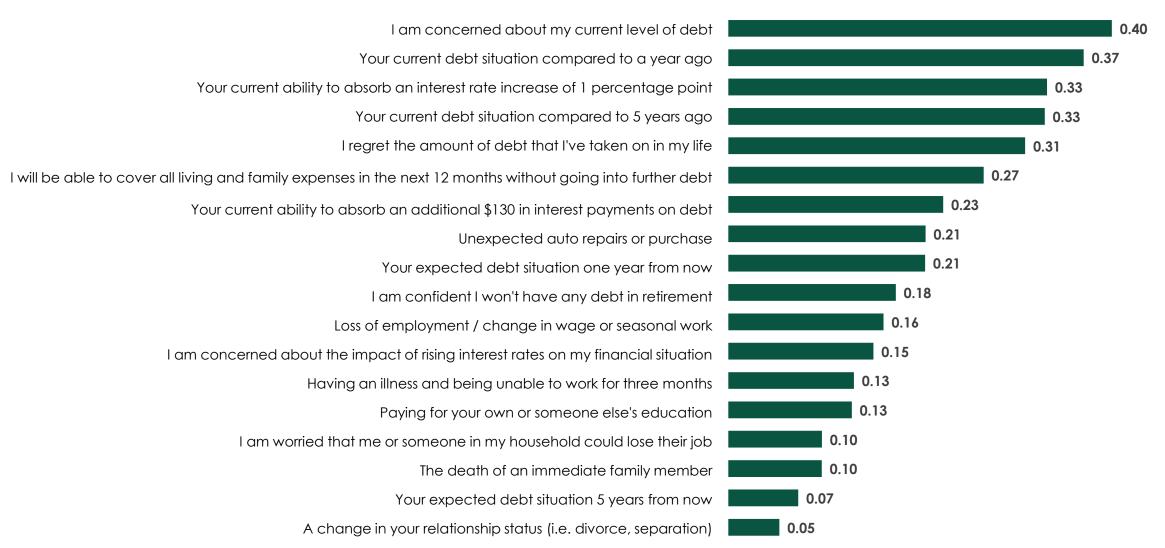
To make ends meet, 18% of Canadians reported to have sold their personal belongings and some borrowed money they can't afford to pay back quickly (16%, -2) which has put them deeper in debt.



THE DEBT INDEX



Debt-Index Inputs





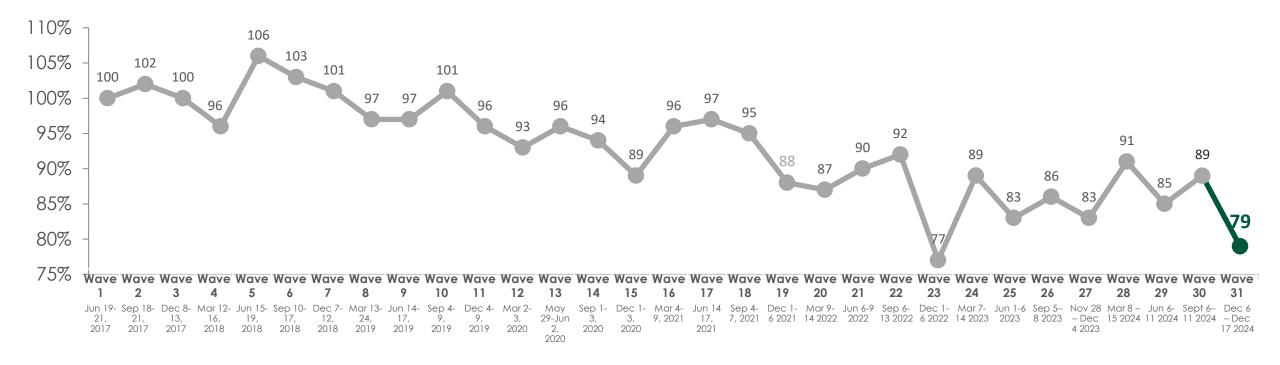
Debt-Index Inputs (Tracking)

			Δ vs. Sep
Q# Measure	Score		Sep 2024
		Sep Dec Mar Jun Sep <th></th>	
5_{-1} % Disagree of debt	my current level 0.40	39% 41% 38% 40% 38% 35% 38% 38% 38% 38% 38% 38% 31% 37% 33% 34% 36% 37% 36% 34% 33% 35% 35% 37% 30% 30% 30% 34% 30% 37% 36% 34% 30%	-4%
3_1 % Better Your current debt situat a year ago	on compared to 0.37	26% 25% 24% 27% 28% 27% 24% 24% 27% 23% 26% 27% 26% 22% 26% 25% 24% 24% 23% 22% 23% 21% 25% 24% 24% 22% 27% 23% 21%	-3%
3_3 % Better Your current ability to all rate increase of 1 percent	osorb an interest ntage point 0.33	28% 28% 27% 30% 30% 28% 26% 26% 28% 27% 26% 28% 25% 26% 28% 26% 24% 21% 22% 25% 20% 24% 22% 23% 22% 25% 21% 24% 20%	-4%
3_2 % Better Your current debt situat 5 years ago	on compared to 0.33	33% 32% 32% 35% 35% 33% 31% 33% 35% 32% 34% 35% 33% 31% 35% 33% 35% 33% 33% 31% 31% 28% 32% 29% 28% 27% 30% 29% 30% 27%	-3%
5_2 % Disagree taken on in my life	ebt that I've 0.31	38% 40% 35% 38% 34% 35% 36% 36% 37% 35% 31% 36% 32% 31% 33% 36% 33% 30% 33% 34% 35% 26% 31% 28% 34% 31% 34% 31% 31% 29%	-2%
5_6 % Agree I will be able to cover a expenses in the next 12 going into further debt	l living and family months without 0.27	38% 35% 35% 38% 37% 38% 37% 35% 37% 34% 35% 37% 34% 37% 34% 37% 36% 38% 33% 35% 36% 37% 30% 34% 33% 33% 33% 35% 32% 33% 30%	-3%
Your current ability to a additional \$130 in interedebt		25% 23% 22% 26% 28% 25% 22% 22% 24% 23% 22% 22% 20% 21% 23% 23% 19% 19% 19% 21% 16% 21% 19% 19% 19% 24% 19% 22% 17%	-5%
4_3 % Unexpected auto repair	rs or purchase 0.21	31% 31% 28% 35% 33% 31% 30% 30% 29% 29% 27% 27% 28% 28% 30% 27% 27% 24% 23% 27% 26% 22% 26% 24% 25% 24% 25% 23% 25% 24%	-1%
3_5 % Better Your expected debt situ	oation one year 0.21	35% 35% 33% 38% 39% 36% 35% 36% 39% 36% 36% 39% 36% 33% 33% 33% 30% 34% 35% 34% 32% 30% 30% 30% 28% 31% 30% 28% 28% 30% 29% 31% 27%	-4%
5_5 % Agree I am confident I won't h	ave any debt in 0.18	33% 30% 31% 34% 32% 33% 32% 32% 33% 34% 33% 34% 33% 34% 34% 34% 34% 31% 32% 32% 34% 29% 36% 32% 32% 32% 33% 33% 33% 29%	-4%
4_6 % Loss of employment/ch	ange in wage or 0.16	28% 27% 26% 29% 29% 30% 27% 27% 27% 27% 26% 24% 26% 25% 27% 27% 24% 23% 24% 26% 27% 21% 26% 23% 26% 25% 24% 23% 21%	-6%
I am concerned about 5_3 % Disagree rising interest rates on m situation		29% 28% 26% 26% 26% 25% 27% 28% 27% 27% 22% 22% 23% 22% 23% 26% 23% 21% 19% 21% 18% 16% 19% 18% 18% 18% 18% 20% 20%	0
4_2 % Having an illness and be work for three months	eing unable to 0.13	30% 29% 28% 31% 31% 33% 29% 28% 29% 27% 28% 26% 27% 28% 28% 30% 29% 25% 25% 27% 21% 26% 23% 26% 25% 25% 28% 24%	-4%
4_1 % Paying for your own or s	omeone else's 0.13	26% 25% 24% 28% 27% 29% 24% 25% 24% 24% 22% 24% 24% 23% 22% 23% 24% 21% 22% 25% 24% 20% 23% 24% 22% 21% 22% 21% 24% 20%	-4%
5_4 % Disagree household could lose the	someone in my eir job 0.10	46% 45% 44% 47% 44% 43% 44% 44% 47% 43% 41% 38% 39% 38% 38% 42% 44% 41% 42% 43% 43% 39% 40% 37% 38% 39% 41% 40% 42% 35%	-7%
4_4 % The death of an immed		27% 26% 26% 29% 30% 30% 25% 26% 26% 26% 25% 25% 26% 23% 26% 26% 25% 22% 23% 25% 26% 21% 24% 22% 23% 24% 22% 26% 22%	-4%
3_6 % Better Your expected debt situ	oation 5 years 0.07	47% 44% 47% 50% 50% 47% 45% 47% 50% 46% 48% 42% 44% 42% 46% 44% 46% 45% 42% 37% 40% 39% 40% 37% 35% 38% 37% 39% 41% 37%	-4%
4_5 % A change in your relation divorce, separation)	onship status (i.e., 0.05	33% 31% 32% 36% 32% 36% 33% 34% 31% 33% 33% 30% 32% 29% 30% 29% 28% 27% 30% 30% 30% 27% 29% 29% 28% 26% 28% 30% 26%	-4%



Debt-Index Tracking

The MNP Consumer Debt Index plummeted to 79 points, further emphasizing volatility and uncertainty, as this is the second lowest score recorded since tracking. Despite the Bank of Canada dropping key interest rates further to 3.25%, Canadians are feeling more pessimistic regarding their personal finances. This decline also demonstrates the impact of Trump's presidency on the mindset of Canadians, who appear nervous about what his threats about tariffs could mean for consumers and the economy.



Note on interpretation: A high debt index score means that Canadians feel positive towards their personal finances, as well as confident in their ability to cope with unexpected financial situations. A low index score describes the opposite – negative feelings and low confidence.

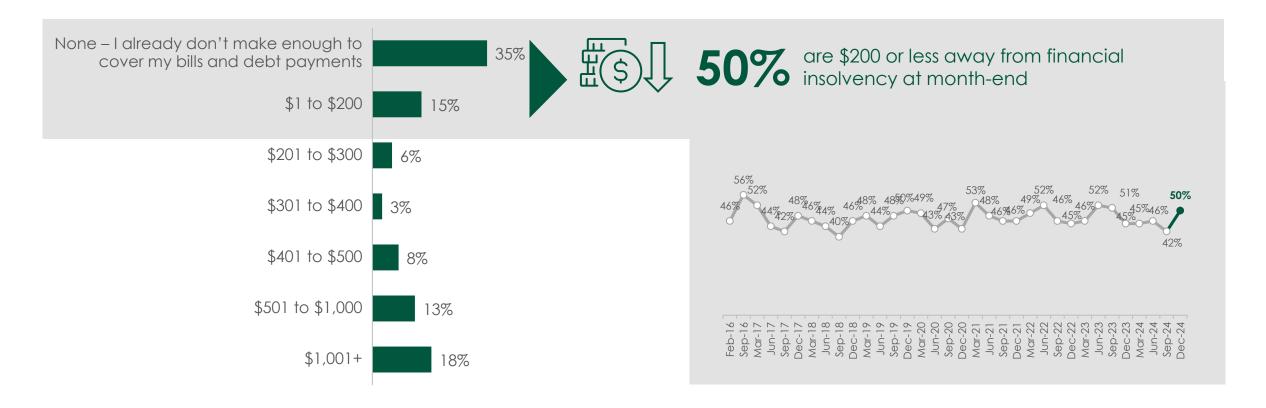


EVALUATING PERSONAL FINANCES



Finances at Month-End

Half of Canadians (50%, +8) are now \$200 or less away each month from financial insolvency. This is a result of significantly more Canadians saying they already don't make enough to cover their bills and debt payments (35%, +9).

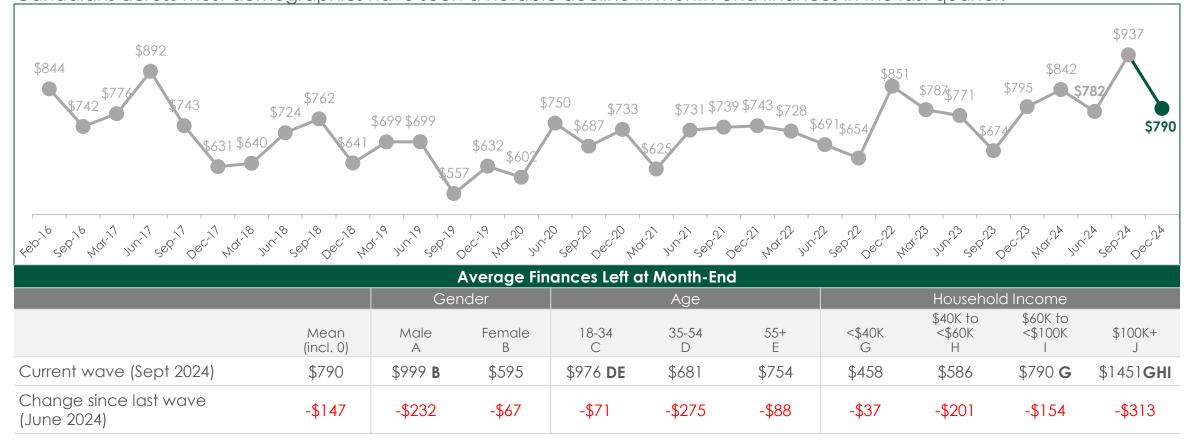


Q1. Thinking about the amount of after-tax income you make each month compared to the amount of your bills and debt obligations each month, how much is left over? In other words, how much wiggle room do you have before you wouldn't be able to pay all your bills and debt payments each month (which is called financial insolvency)?

Base: All Respondents (unweighted) n=2003

Average Finances Left at Month-End

As more Canadians are at risk of insolvency, month-end finances are also down from the previous quarter. The average amount of money that Canadians have left over at the end of the month has decreased significantly to \$790, down \$147 from the previous quarter. However, this decline followed a significant bump which has now settled to be on par with December 2023 at \$795. Canadians across most demographics have seen a notable decline in month-end finances in the last quarter.

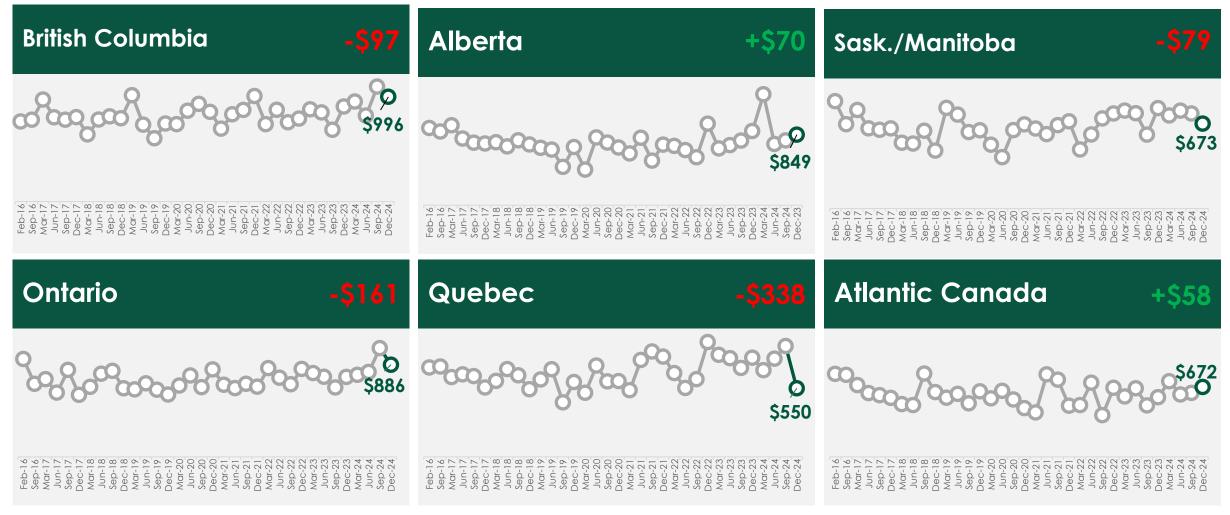


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Base: All Respondents (unweighted) n=2003



Average Finances Left at Month-End (Regional View)



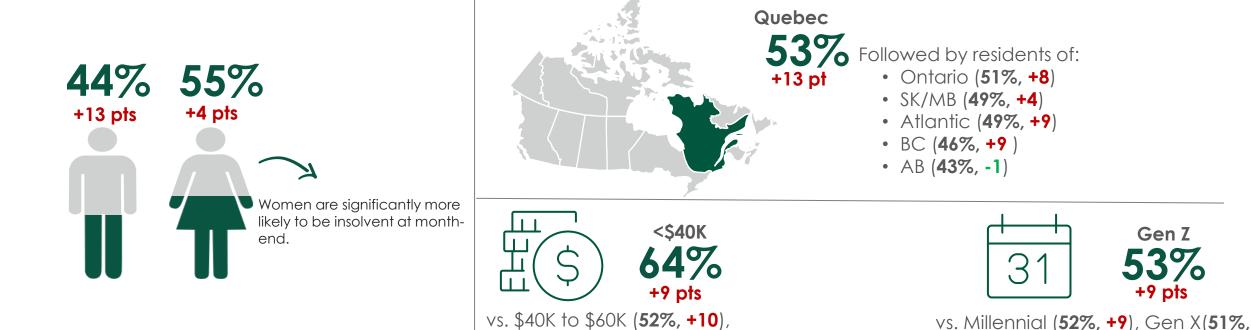
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Base: All Respondents (unweighted) n=2003, BC (n=157); AB (n=202); Sask./Manitoba(n=218); ON (n=772); QC (n=426); ATL (n=228).



Finances at Month-End – % \$200 or less from insolvency

Canadians who disproportionately report being \$200 or less away from insolvency continue to be women (55%, +4) but the proportion of men at risk has increased to 44%, up 13 points from last quarter.



base. All respondents fortweighted (1-2003, BC [11-137], Ab [11-202], Sask./Mahiloba[11-216], ON [11-772], QC [11-426], Alt [11-226], \$40k [11-441], \$40k - \$60k [11-296], \$60k - \$100k [11-320], \$100k (11-320], \$100k [11-320], \$100k [11-32

\$60K to <\$100K(**45%**, **+8**),

and \$100K+ (32%, +10).



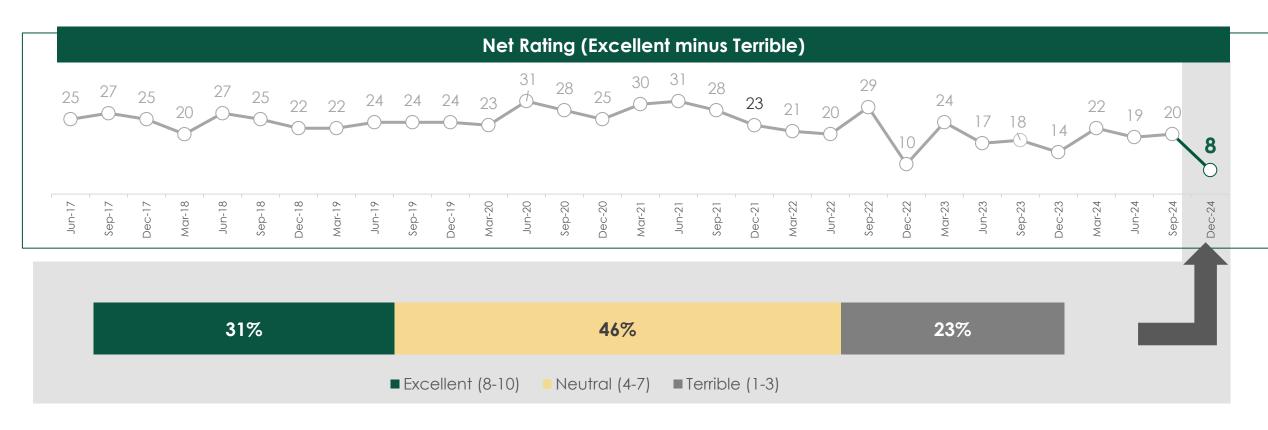
+3) and Boomer (45%,+12).

Q1. Thinking about the amount of after-tax income you make each month compared to the amount of your bills and debt obligations each month, how much is left over? In other words, how much wiggle room do you have before you wouldn't be able to pay all your bills and debt payments each month (which is called financial insolvency)?

Base: All Respondents (unweighted n=2003, BC (n=157); AB (n=202); Sask./Manitoba(n=218); ON (n=772); QC (n=426); ATL (n=228), <\$40K (n=441); \$40K - <\$60K (n=298); \$60K - <\$100K (n=520); \$100K + (n=584).

Personal Debt Rating

Canadians' net personal debt rating has plummeted to an all-time low of 8 points, down 12 points from last quarter. The only other time personal debt ratings have reached this point is in December 2022 when net ratings dipped to 10 points before rebounding the next quarter. This significant decline is due to fewer Canadians rating their personal debt situation positively (31%, -7) and more rating it much worse (23%, +5).

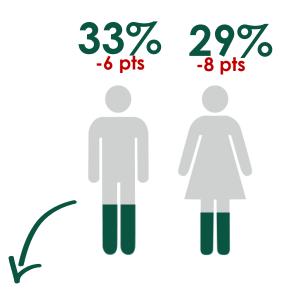


Q2. On a scale of 1 to 10, where 1 is 'terrible' and 10 is 'excellent', how would you rate your personal debt situation? Base: All Respondents (unweighted) n=2,003

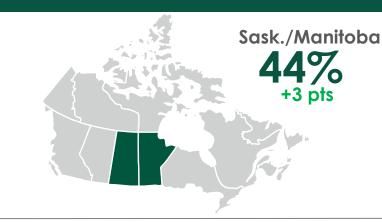


Excellent Personal Debt Self-Assessment

Who is more likely to rate their personal debt situation as 'good'? Assessments are up for those in Sask./Manitoba and Atlantic Canadians but are down among almost all other demographic segments.



Women are more likely to say that they are either already insolvent or \$200 or less away from insolvency,



Followed by residents of:

- Atlantic Canada (41%, +9)
- British Columbia (37%, Unch)
- Alberta (28%, -11)
- Ontario (28%, -13)
- Quebec (27%, -6)



vs. \$60K to <\$100K(**36%, -4**), \$40K to \$60K (**25%, -10**), and **<**\$40K (**21%, -8**).



50% -10 pts

vs. Gen X (27%, -1), Gen Z (23%, -7), and Millennial (19%, -7).

Q2. On a scale of 1 to 10, where 1 is 'terrible' and 10 is 'excellent', how would you rate your personal debt situation? Top three box responses. Base: All Respondents (unweighted) (unweighted n=2003, BC (n=157); AB (n=202); Sask./Manitoba(n=218); ON (n=772); QC (n=426); ATL (n=228)



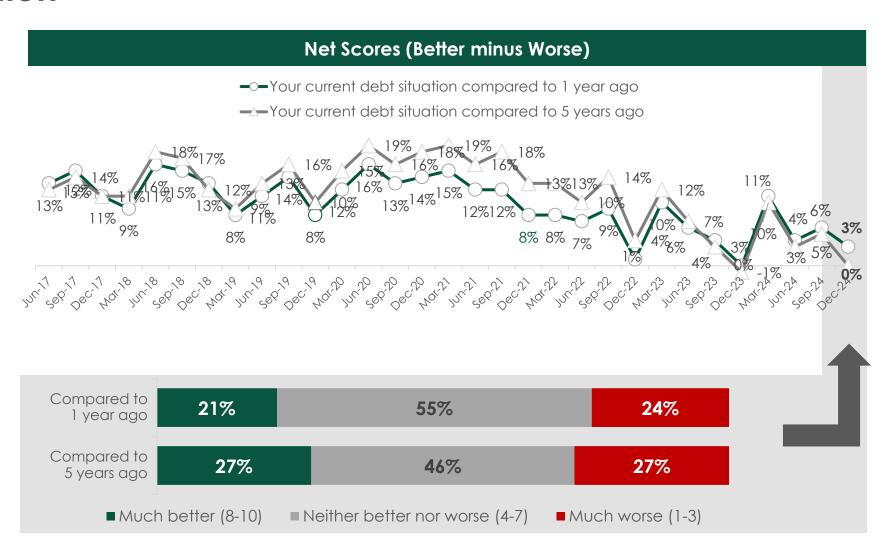
Current Debt Situation

Current debt perceptions have taken a dip from the previous quarter after rebounding slightly.

When asked to **look back to one year ago**, fewer Canadians perceive their current debt situation to be much better (21%, -3) as opposed to much worse (24%, +6).

Looking back to five years ago,

similar observations can be made as looking back to one year where the net scores have fallen 5 points to match last December.



Q3. On a scale of 1 to 10, where 1 is 'much worse' and 10 is 'much better', how would you rate ...? Base: All Respondents (unweighted) n=2,003



Current Debt Situation: Worse

Your current debt situation compared to 1 year ago

\$ 40K to <\$60K</p>
30%
+12 pts

vs. <\$40K **(27%, +4)** \$60K to <\$100K **(23%, +6)**, and \$100K+ **(18%, +4.)**.



Vs. Gen X **(27%, +3)**, Gen Z **(26%, +6)** and Baby Boomers **(15%, +6)**.

Ontario 26% +6 pts

Followed by residents of:

- Quebec (24%, +10)
- British Columbia (24%, +6)
- Atlantic Canada (22%, +5)
- AB (20%, Unch)
- Sask./Manitoba (20%, +6)

Your current debt situation compared to <u>5 years ago</u>

<\$40K Income



vs. \$40K to <\$60K **(31%, +3)** <\$60K to <\$100k **23%, +2**), and \$100K+**(22%, -1).**



Millennials
32%
+4 pts

Gen X (31%, Unch), Gen Z (26%, -2), and Baby Boomers (18%, +2).

British Columbia

29% +2 pts Followed by residents of:

- Ontario (29%, +3)
- Alberta(26%, -4)
- Sask./Manitoba (25%, +5)
- Quebec (25%, +6)
- Atlantic Canada (19%, -11)

Q3. On a scale of 1 to 10, where 1 is 'much worse' and 10 is 'much better', how would you rate ...? Bottom three box responses. Base: All Respondents (unweighted) n=2,003 BC (n=157); AB (n=202); Sask./Manitoba(n=218); ON (n=772); QC (n=426); ATL (n=228).

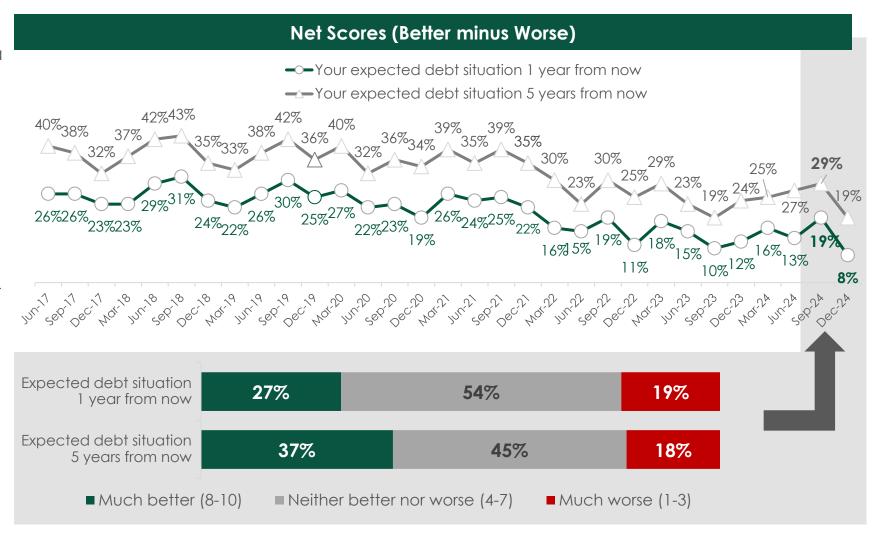


Expected Debt Situation

The expected debt situation of Canadians in the future has taken a significant hit despite interest rate reductions.

Looking ahead to **one year from now**, a quarter of Canadians expect their debt situation to improve (27%, -4), and much more believe it will worsen (19%, +7).

Looking **five years into the future**, Canadians are feeling better about their expected debt (37%, -4) but still down from last quarter. More are also feeling that their debt situation will worsen (18%, +6).



Q3. On a scale of 1 to 10, where 1 is 'much worse' and 10 is 'much better', how would you rate ...? Base: All Respondents (unweighted) n=2,003



Expected Debt Situation: Worse

Your expected debt situation 1 year from now



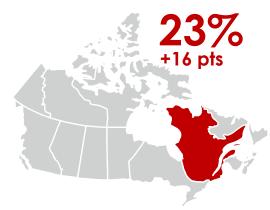
vs. \$ 40K to <\$60K (19%, +8) and \$ \$60K to <\$100K(17%, +5), and \$100K+ **(15%, +8)**.



Gen X 25% +9 pts

vs. Millennials (20%, +9) and Baby Boomers (15%, +7), Gen Z (13%, -1).

Quebec



Followed by residents of:

- Ontario (19%, +6)
- BC (18%, +2)
- Alberta (16%, +2)
- Sask./Manitoba (16%, +8)
- Atlantic Canada (15%, Unch)

Your expected debt situation 5 years from now



<\$40K Income

24% +8 pts

vs. <\$40K to <\$60K (19%,+6), \$60K to <\$100K (15%,+4),and \$100K+ **(10%, +5)**.



vs. Millennials (18%, +7), Gen Z (15%, unch.) and Baby Boomers (15%, +6).

Quebec

Followed by residents of:

- Atlantic Canada (19%, +5)
- Ontario (17%, +5)
- Sask./Manitoba (15%, +6)
- Alberta (15%, +5)
- British Columbia (12%, -4)



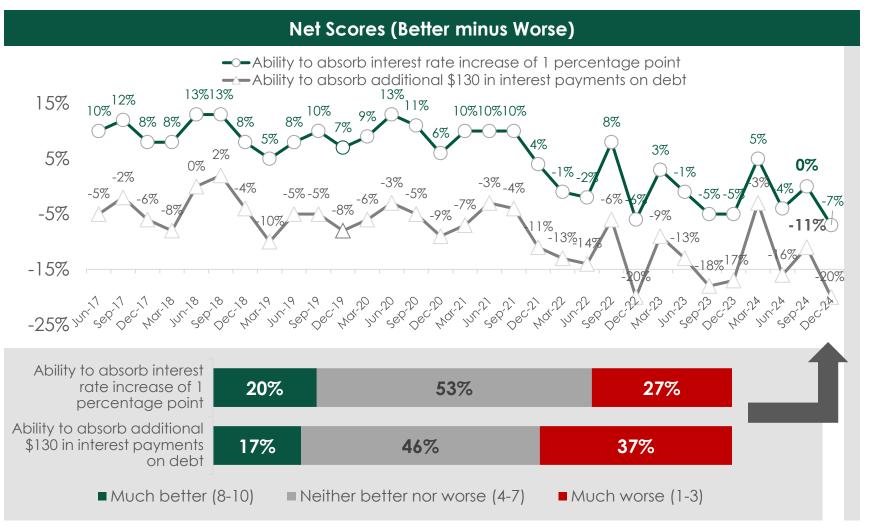
Current Ability to Absorb Interest Rate Increase

Canadians' perception of their ability to absorb additional interest rate increases has dropped significantly after rebounding last quarter.

Net score when phrased as a **one percentage point increase** has decreased by 7 points to -7.

Net ability to absorb **an extra \$130 in interest payments** decreased by 9 points to -20%.

With interest rates continuing to decline, Canadian are fearful of external economic factors affecting their personal finances.



Q3. On a scale of 1 to 10, where 1 is 'much worse' and 10 is 'much better', how would you rate ...? Base: All Respondents (unweighted) n=2,003



Current Ability to Absorb Interest Increase: Worse

Your current ability to absorb an interest rate increase of 1 percentage point

<\$40K Income 33%+2 pts

> vs. \$40K to <\$60K (31%,+9), \$60K to <\$100K (25%, unch.) and \$100K+ (19%, +2).



Gen X 35%+4 pts

vs. Millennials (31%, +2), Gen I (21%, unch.) and Boomers (19%, +3).

Your current ability to absorb an additional \$130 in interest payments on debt



<\$40K Income 46% +4 pts





Millennials 43%+ 5 pts

vs. Gen X (41%, -2), Boomers (31%, +6), and Gen Z (31%, +8).



Followed by residents of:

- Sask./Manitoba(29%,+9)
- Quebec (29%, +7)
- Atlantic (24%, 0)
- Alberta (22%, -8)
- British Columbia (21%, -2)

Atlantic Canada





Followed by residents of:

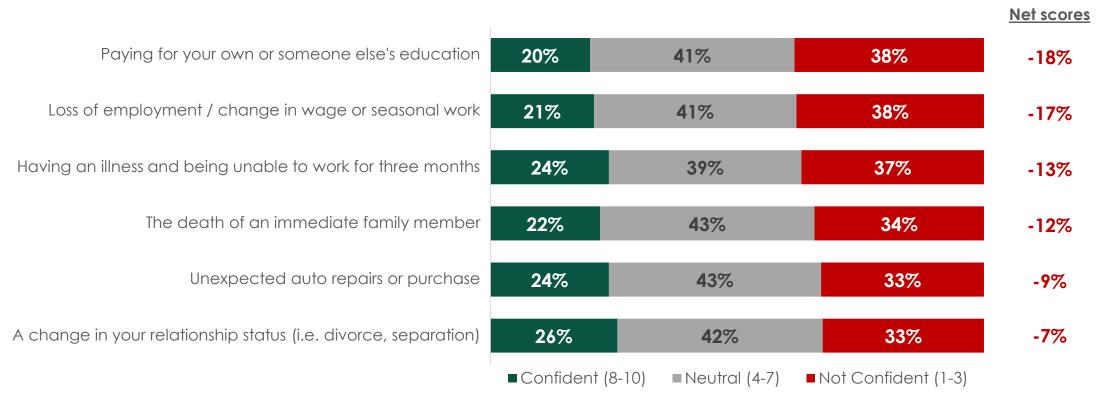
- Ontario (40%, +6)
- Sask./Manitoba (37%, +5)
- Alberta (37%, -1)
- Quebec (36%, +8)
- British Columbia (31%, -3)

Q3. On a scale of 1 to 10, where 1 is 'much worse' and 10 is 'much better', how would you rate ...? Bottom three box responses. Base: All Respondents (unweighted) n=2003 BC (n=157); AB (n=202); Sask./Manitoba(n=218); ON (n=772); QC (n=426); ATL (n=228).



Confidence in Ability to Cope

Canadians remain pessimistic about their ability to cope with life's unexpected expenses as net confidence is negative across all metrics. Canadians are least confident about paying for their own or someone else's education or coping with loss of employment / change in wage or seasonal work.

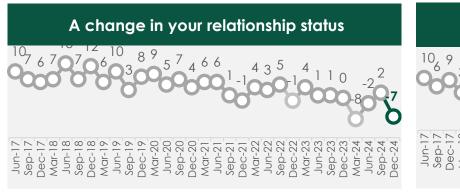


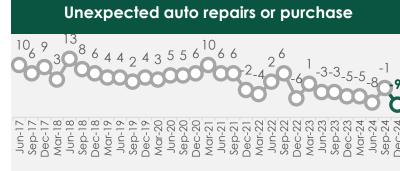
Q4. On a scale of 1 to 10, where 1 is 'not at all confident' and 10 is 'extremely confident', how confident are you in your ability to cope with the following life changes without increasing your debt? Base: All Respondents (unweighted) n=2003



Confidence in Ability to Cope – Net Scores

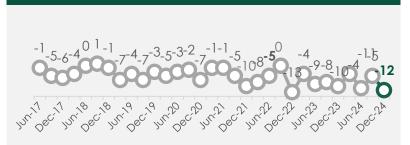
Net confidence scores on coping with unexpected auto repairs or purchase (-9), having an illness and being unable to work for 3 months (-13), and loss of employment / change in wage or season work (-17) have declined to an all time low since tracking.











The death of an immediate family member



Q4. On a scale of 1 to 10, where 1 is 'not at all confident' and 10 is 'extremely confident', how confident are you in your ability to cope with the following life changes without increasing your debt? Base: All Respondents (unweighted) n=2003



Not Confident in Ability to Cope

A change in your relationship status

\$40K to \$60K

36% +10 pts

Vs. \$40K Income (34%, +4), \$60K to <\$100K+ (33%, +2) and \$100K+ (29%, +1).



Millennials

41%+2 pts

Vs. Gen X (37%, +4), Gen I (27%, +2), and Baby Boomers (23%, +6).



35% +5 pts Followed by residents of:

- Atlantic (35%, +2)
- British Columbia (32%, +5)
- Sask./Manitoba (31%, +7)
- Quebec (30%, +4)
- Alberta (28%, -5)

Unexpected auto repairs or purchase



<\$40K Income

vs. \$40K to <\$60K (37%, +11), \$60K to <\$100K (31%, +2) and \$100K+ (22%, +7).



Millennials

vs. Gen X (34%, -1), Gen Z (33%, +12) 41% +10 pts And Boomers (23%, +6).



Followed by residents of:

- Alberta (34%, +1.)
- Sask./Manitoba (33%, +7)
- British Columbia (31%, +4)
- Atlantic (31%, unch.)
- Quebec (29%, +5)

Q4. On a scale of 1 to 10, where 1 is 'not at all confident' and 10 is 'extremely confident', how confident are you in your ability to cope with the following life changes without increasing your debt? Bottom three box responses. Base: All Respondents (unweighted) n=2003 BC (n=157); AB (n=202); Sask./Manitoba(n=218); ON (n=772); QC (n=426); ATL (n=228).

Not Confident in Ability to Cope

Having an illness and being unable to work for 3 months



Millennials

44% +2 pts

vs. Gen X **(44%, +3)**, Gen Z**(35%, -4)**, and Baby Boomers **(25%, +9)**.



<\$40K Income

44% +8 pts

vs. \$40K to <\$60K (37%, unch.), \$60K to <\$100K(35%, +2) and \$100K+ (32%, +3).

Ontario



Followed by residents of:

- Alberta (42%,+8)
- Sask./Manitoba (35%, +9)
- Atlantic (35%, -3)
- Quebec (33%, +3)
- British Columbia (28%, -9)

The death of an immediate family member



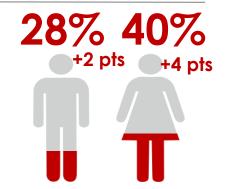
Millennial
42% +5 pts

vs. Gen Z (36%, -1), Gen X(35%, unch.) and Baby Boomers (24%, +4).

<\$40K Income
42% +4 pts



vs. \$40K to <\$60K **(33%, +4)**, \$100K+ **(30%, +6)** and \$60K to <\$100K **(28%, -4)**.



Ontario

40% +8 pts Followed by residents of:

- Alberta(35%, -2)
- Atlantic (33%,-2)
- Sask./Manitoba (31%, +3)
- Quebec (29%, +4)
- British Columbia (27%, -8)

Q4. On a scale of 1 to 10, where 1 is 'not at all confident' and 10 is 'extremely confident', how confident are you in your ability to cope with the following life changes without increasing your debt? Bottom three box responses. Base: All Respondents (unweighted) n=2003 BC (n=157); AB (n=202); Sask./Manitoba(n=218); ON (n=772); QC (n=426); ATL (n=228).



Not Confident in Ability to Cope

Loss of employment/change in wage or seasonal work



Millennial

44%

o pts

vs. Gen X **(43%, +3)**, Gen Z **(40%, +12)** and Baby Boomers **(25%, +7)**.

<\$40K Income



43% +10 pts

vs. <\$40K to <\$60K (36%, +4), \$60K to <\$100K (36%, +2), and \$100K+ (33%, +3).

Ontario



Followed by residents of:

- Alberta (42%, +8)
- Sask./Manitoba (34%, +7)
- Quebec (34%, +8)
- Atlantic (34%, -10)
- British Columbia (30%, -6)

Paying for your own or someone else's education



Millennial

44% +6 pts

vs. Gen X **(43%, -2)**, Gen Z **(34%, +10)** and Baby Boomers **(28%, -1)**.



<\$40K Income

43%_{+2 pts}

vs. \$40K to <\$60K (42%, +4), \$60K to <\$100K (36%, +2) and \$100K+ (29%, +3)



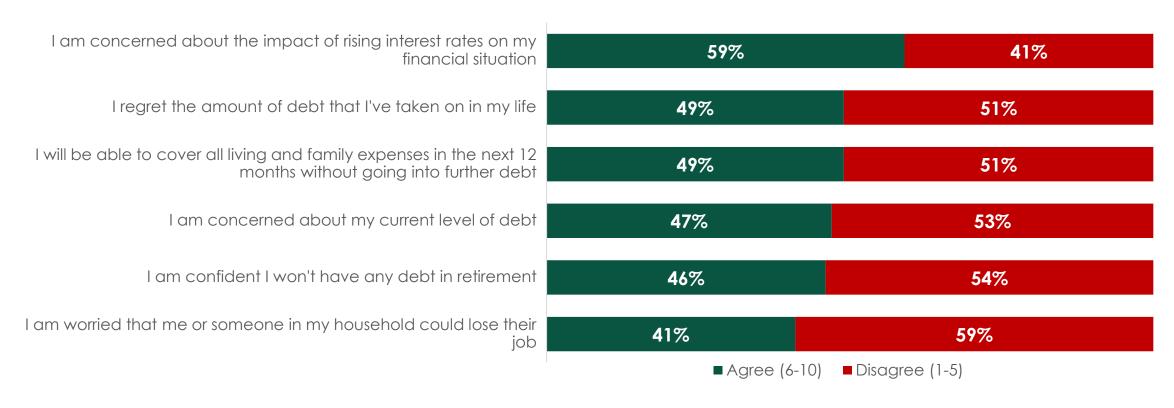
Followed by residents of:

- Alberta (40%, +2)
- Sask./Manitoba (40%, +11)
- British Columbia (39%, +1)
- Atlantic (39%, -13)
- Quebec (28%, +7)

Q4. On a scale of 1 to 10, where 1 is 'not at all confident' and 10 is 'extremely confident', how confident are you in your ability to cope with the following life changes without increasing your debt? Bottom three box responses. Base: All Respondents (unweighted) n=2003 BC (n=157); AB (n=202); Sask./Manitoba(n=218); ON (n=772); QC (n=426); ATL (n=228).

Evaluating Personal Finances

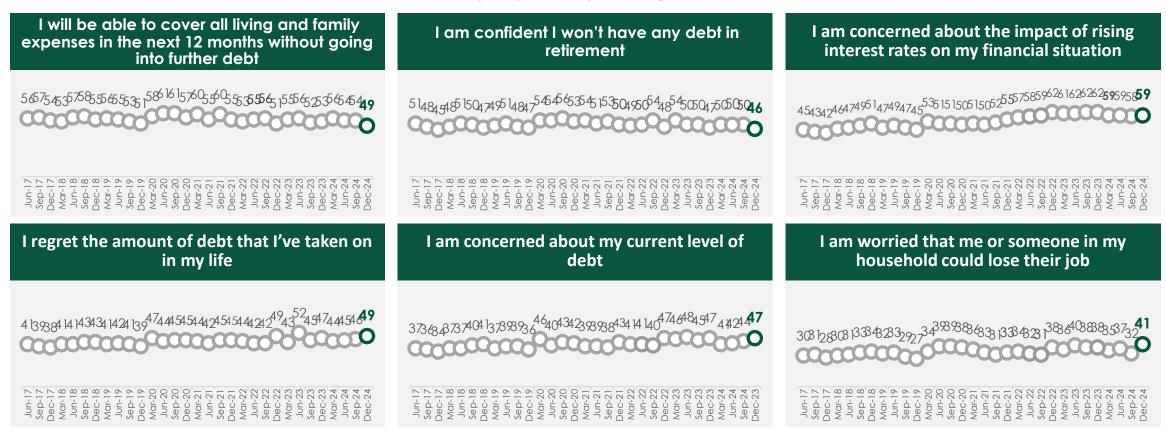
Consistent with last quarter, three in five Canadians agree they are concerned about the impact of interest rates on their financial situation (59%, unchanged). However, half of Canadians regret the amount of debt they have taken on (46%, +1) or are concerned about their current level of debt (49%, +3) and more are concerned about their current level of debt (47%, +3).



Q5. On a scale of 1 to 10, where 1 is 'strongly disagree' and 10 is 'strongly agree', how much do you agree or disagree with the following ...? Base: All Respondents (unweighted) n=2003



Canadians' evaluation of their personal finances are more negative this quarter. Fewer are confident they won't have any debt in retirement (46%, -4) and are able to cover all living and family expenses in the next 12 months without going further into debt (49%, -5). More Canadians regret the amount of debt they have taken on, are concerned about their level of debt, and are that worried someone in their household could lose their job (41%, +9), the highest point we've measured.







I am confident I won't have any debt in retirement



vs. \$60K to <\$100K **(49%, -2)** \$40K<\$60K **(46%,-1)** and <\$40K **(39%, -5)**.



Gen Z

52% -8pts

vs. Boomers **(50%, -7)**, Gen X **(46%, +5)**, and Millennials **(41%, -7)**.

I will be able to cover all living and family expenses in the next 12 months without going into further debt



Boomers 68% -4 pts Vs. Gen Z (43%, -4), Gen X (42%,-2) and Millennials (40%, -6).

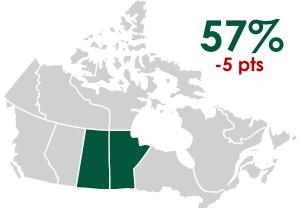


\$100K+ Income

59%

vs. \$60K to <\$100K **(52%, -3)**, \$40K to <\$60K **(49%, -4)** and <\$40K **(39%, -9)**.

Sask./Manitoba



Followed b

- Followed by residents of:
 - Alberta (53%, +6)
 - British Columbia (51%, -2)
 - Atlantic Canada (49%, -2)
 - Ontario (48%, -9)
 - Quebec (46%, -6)



51%

Followed by residents of:

- Alberta (51%, +6)
- Sask./Manitoba (50%, +1)
- Quebec (45%, -8)
- Ontario (44%, -9)
- Atlantic Canada (39%, -7)

Q5. On a scale of 1 to 10, where 1 is 'strongly disagree' and 10 is 'strongly agree', how much do you agree or disagree with the following ...? Base: All Respondents (unweighted) n=2003 BC (n=157); AB (n=202); Sask./Manitoba(n=218); ON (n=772); QC (n=426); ATL (n=228).



I am concerned about the impact of rising interest rates on my financial situation

Millennials



vs. Gen X (60%, -4), Gen Z (59%, -4) and Baby Boomers (49%, +3).

\$60K to <\$100K Income



60% vs. \$40K (**59%**, **-2**), \$40K to <\$60K (**57%**, **+1**) and \$100K+ **(57%, +1).**

Alberta



65% Followed by residents of:

+1 pts

- Ontario (64%, +5)
- Quebec(54%, -4)
- Atlantic Canada (54%, -3)
- Sask./Manitoba (53%, -5)
- British Columbia (50%, -4)

I regret the amount of debt that I've taken on in my life



Millennials

vs. Gen Z (52%, +4),

Gen X (50%, -2) and

Baby Boomers (39%, +9).



<\$40K Income



vs. \$40K to <60K (53%, +8) \$100K+ (49%, +6) and \$60K to <\$100K (46%, 0)



Followed by residents of:

- Ontario (52%, +7)
- Quebec (48%, 0)
- British Columbia (47%, 0)
- Atlantic Canada (46%, -5)
- Sask./Manitoba (41%, -2)

Q5. On a scale of 1 to 10, where 1 is 'strongly disagree' and 10 is 'strongly agree', how much do you agree or disagree with the following ...? Base: All Respondents (unweighted) n=2003 BC (n=157); AB (n=202); Sask,/Manitoba(n=218); ON (n=772); QC (n=426); ATL (n=228).



I am concerned about my current level of debt



vs. \$40K (48%, -2), \$60K to <\$100K(48%, +7) and \$100K+ (44%, +2).



Gen Z +5 pts

vs. Millennials (55%, +1), Gen X (50%, -3) and Baby Boomers (31%, +6), I am worried that me or someone in my household could lose their job



<\$40K Income

vs. \$40K to <\$60K (40%, +8) \$60K to <\$100K (40%, +5), and \$100K+ **(40%, +7)**.



Gen Z

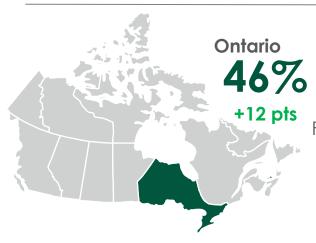
+1 pts

vs. Gen X (48%, +10), Millennials (45%, +5) and Baby Boomers (25%,+7).



Followed by residents of:

- Ontario (52%, +8)
- Quebec (44%, -2)
- Atlantic Canada (41%, -5)
- Sask./Manitoba (39%, +1)
- British Columbia (38%, +6)



Followed by residents of:

- Quebec (44%, +9)
- Alberta (42%, +9)
- Atlantic Canada (33%, +5)
- British Columbia (28%, -8)
- Sask./Manitoba (28%, -3)

Q5. On a scale of 1 to 10, where 1 is 'strongly disagree' and 10 is 'strongly agree', how much do you agree or disagree with the following ...? Base: All Respondents (unweighted) n=2003 BC (n=157); AB (n=202); Sask,/Manitoba(n=218); ON (n=772); QC (n=426); ATL (n=228).

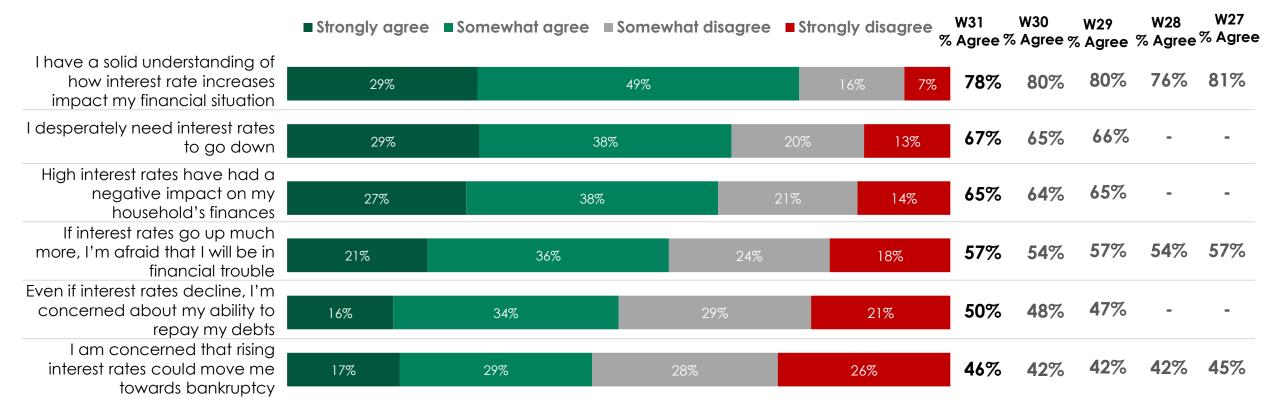


INTEREST RATES



Attitudes Towards Interest Rates

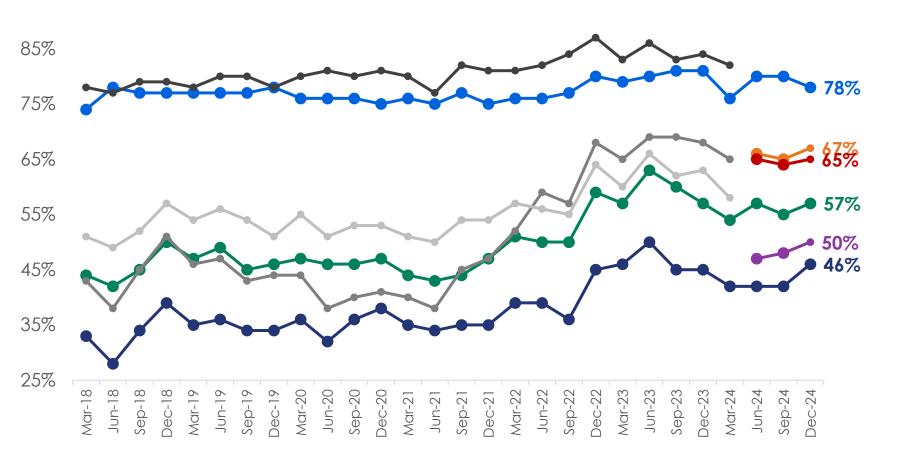
Most Canadians continue to agree they have a solid understanding of how interest rate increases impact their financial situation (78%, -2). As interest rates continue to decline, more Canadians state they desperately need interest rates to go down (67%. +2) and they are concerned that rising interest rates could move them towards bankruptcy (46%, +4). Half of Canadians agree that even if interest rates decline, they are still concerned with their ability to repay their debts (50%, +2).



Q7. To what extent do you agree or disagree with the following? Base: All Respondents (unweighted) n=(2003)



Attitudes Towards Interest Rates Tracking (T2B)



- I have a solid understanding of how interest rate increases impact my financial situation
- If interest rates go up much more, I'm afraid that I will be in financial trouble
- I am concerned that rising interest rates could move me towards bankruptcy
- I desperately need interest rates to go down
- High interest rates have had a negative impact on my household's finances
- Even if interest rates decline, I'm concerned about my ability to repay my debts
- With interest rates rising, I will be more careful with how I spend my money*
- I'm already beginning to feel the effects of interest rate increases*
- As interest rates rise, I'm more concerned about my ability to repay my debts than I used to be*

Q7. To what extent do you agree or disagree with the following? Base: All Respondents (unweighted) n=2003 *Statements removed in Jun 2024.



Attitudes Towards Interest Rates

Canadians aged 18-54 and Ontarians are most likely to agree that they desperately need interest rates to go down, that high interest rates have had a negative impact on their household's finances, that they will be in financial trouble if interest rates go up, that they're concerned about paying their bills even if rates decline, and that rising rates could make them to bankruptcy. Overall, Canadians aged 55+ are least concerned with the effects of interest rates on their personal finances.

					g	% Agree	(Top 2 l	Вох)								
		Ge	nder		Age				Re		Household Income					
	Top 2 Box	Male A	Female B	18-34 C	35-54 D	55+ E	BC A	AB B	SK/MB C	ON D	QC E	ATL F	<\$40K G	\$40K to <\$60K H	\$60K to <\$100K	\$100K+ J
I have a solid understanding of how interest rate increases impact my financial situation	78%	79%	76%	69%	81% C	81% C	71%	82%	72%	78%	82% AC	74%	75%	75%	79%	82%
I desperately need interest rates to go down	67%	62%	71% A	71% E	76% E	56%	59%	67%	58%	69% AC	71% AC	63%	74% IJ	7 1% J	63%	59%
High interest rates have had a negative impact on my household's finances	65%	61%	69% A	76% E	74% E	50%	59%	69% CF	55%	70% ACF	65% CF	54%	66%	68%	65%	64%
If interest rates go up much more, I'm afraid that I will be in financial trouble	57%	54%	61% A	67% E	70% E	40%	44%	54%	47%	63% ACF	63% ACF	50%	63% J	59% J	58% J	49%
Even if interest rates decline, I'm concerned about my ability to repay my debts	50%	50%	48%	65% DE	56% E	33%	42%	57% ACEF	36%	57% ACEF	44%	43%	57% IJ	55% J	49% J	38%
I am concerned that rising interest rates could move me towards bankruptcy	46%	45%	47%	60% E	55% E	28%	34%	51% ACF	32%	54% ACEF	43% C	39%	57% HIJ	46% J	46% J	35%

Q7. To what extent do you agree or disagree with the following?

Base: All Respondents (unweighted) n=(2003) Male (n=816); Female (n=1174); 18-34 (n=496); 35-54 N (n=795); 55+ (n=712), <\$40K (n=441), \$40K to <\$60k (n=298), \$60K to <\$100K (n=520), \$100K+ (n=584), BC (n=157), AB (n=202), \$ask./Manitoba(n=218), ON (n=772), QC (n=426), ATL (n=228)

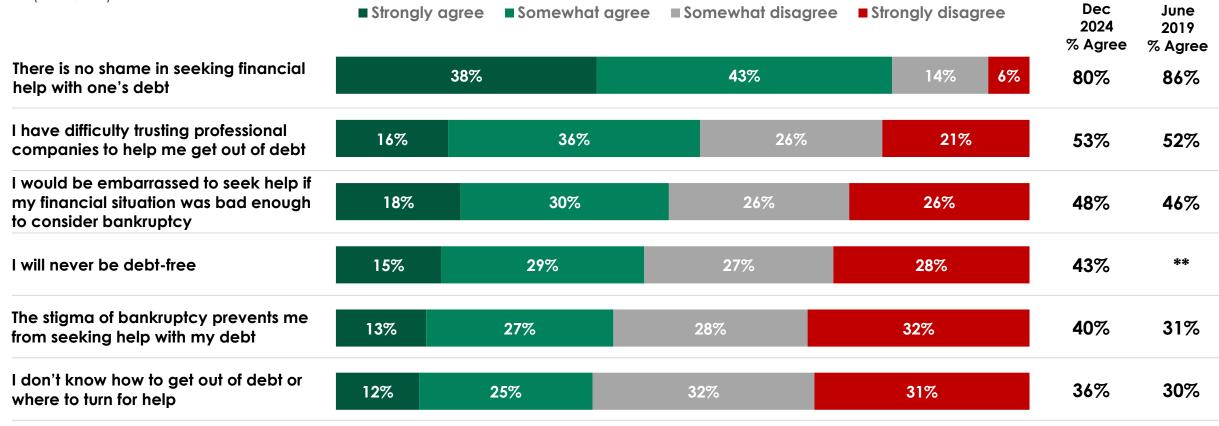


Financial Literacy



Attitudes About Bankruptcy and Debt Relief - Tracked

Majority of Canadians agree there is no shame in seeking financial help with one's debt (80%, -4), however, fewer are willing to act on their own advice as 53% (+1) say they have difficulty trusting professional companies to help them get out of debt. Furthermore, almost half say they would be embarrassed to seek help if their financial situation was bad enough to consider bankruptcy (48%, +2) and four in ten agree there is a stigma of bankruptcy which prevents them from seeking help with their debt (40%, +9).



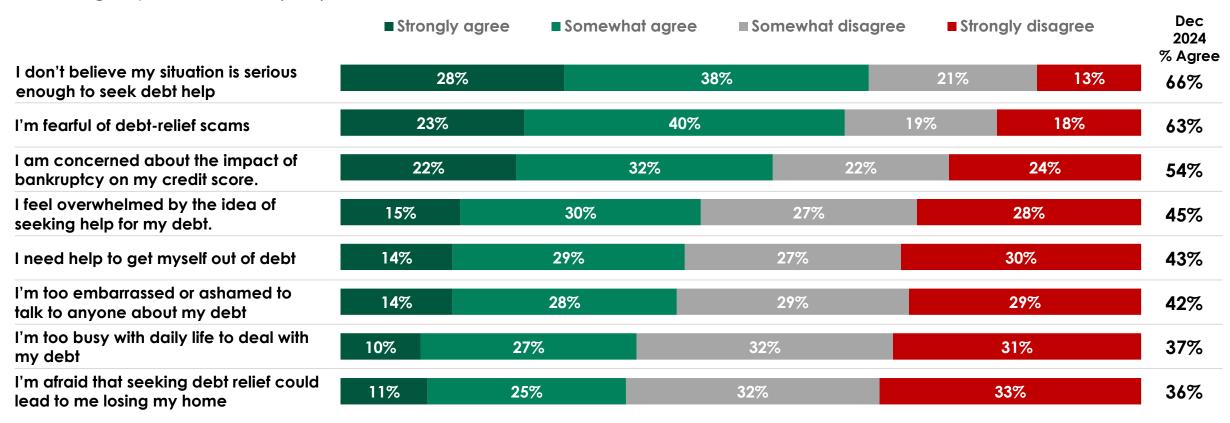
Q31.1. To what extent do you agree or disagree with the following statements about bankruptcy or debt relief? Base: All Respondents (unweighted) n=(2003)



^{**} Asked in Dec 2019 and was asked as single punch instead of a four-point agreement scale.

Attitudes About Bankruptcy and Debt Relief – New Statements

Four in ten (43%) Canadians say they need help to get themselves out of debt. However, the reasoning for avoiding financial help is that Canadians don't believe their situation is serious enough to seek debt help (66%), or they are fearful of debt-relief scams (63%). Fewer are concerned with the impact of bankruptcy on their credit score (54%), or are overwhelmed by the idea of seeking help for their debt (45%).



Q31.1. To what extent do you agree or disagree with the following statements about bankruptcy or debt relief? Base: All Respondents (unweighted) n=(2003)



Attitudes About Bankruptcy and Debt Relief Demographics

Younger Canadians and Albertans are most likely to seek help with their finances because they have difficulty trusting professional companies, embarrassment, stigma, or don't know where to turn for help.

		Ge	nder		Age				Reg	gion	Household Income					
% T2B Agree	Total	Male A	Female B	18-34 C	35-54 D	55+ E	BC A	AB B	SK/MB C	ON D	QC E	ATL F	<\$40K G	\$40K to <\$60K H	\$60K to <\$100K	\$100K+ J
There is no shame in seeking financial help with one's debt	80%	81%	80%	73%	80% C	85% CD	74%	82%	89% AEF	83% A	77%	78%	79%	76%	82%	81%
I have difficulty trusting professional companies to help me get out of debt	53%	53%	52%	62% E	60% E	40%	46%	58% CF	44%	57% ACF	52%	45%	59% IJ	56% J	51%	46%
I would be embarrassed to seek help if my financial situation was bad enough to consider bankruptcy	48%	48%	47%	61% DE	52% E	34%	46%	55% CEF	43%	52% EF	41%	42%	55% J	48%	49% J	40%
I will never be debt-free	44%	45%	44%	51% E	51% E	34%	38%	48% C	34%	47% C	45% C	42%	51% IJ	48% J	41%	38%
The stigma of bankruptcy prevents me from seeking help with my debt	40%	43% B	37%	53% DE	45% E	26%	39%	45% CF	28%	44% CF	39% CF	30%	49% IJ	41%	38%	34%
I don't know how to get out of debt or where to turn for help	36%	37%	36%	48% E	44% E	22%	36% C	40% C	24%	40% CF	34% C	29%	45% IJ	40% J	35% J	27%
I don't believe my situation is serious enough to seek debt help	66%	65%	68%	63%	64%	71% CD	73% D	71%	71%	63%	64%	69%	61%	66%	71% G	66%



Attitudes About Bankruptcy and Debt Relief Demographics cont.

Canadians aged 18-54, Albertans and Ontarians are most likely to say they need help to get themselves out of debt. However, they are also most likely to be worried of debt-relief scams, impact of bankruptcy on their credit scores, feeling overwhelmed or embarrassed about their debt.

		Ge	nder		Age				Re	gion			Household Income			
% T2B Agree	Total	Male A	Female B	18-34 C	35-54 D	55+ E	BC A	AB B	sk/mb C	ON D	QC E	ATL F	<\$40K G	\$40K to <\$60K H	\$60K to <\$100K	\$100K+ J
I'm fearful of debt-relief scams	63%	62%	64%	65% E	70% E	55%	51%	67% AF	58%	68% ACF	64% A	55%	66%	64%	60%	60%
I am concerned about the impact of bankruptcy on my credit score.	54%	54%	55%	63% E	61% E	42%	46%	57%	47%	59% ACF	55%	45%	60% J	52%	56%	51%
I feel overwhelmed by the idea of seeking help for my debt.	45%	44%	45%	57% E	53% E	29%	35%	52% ACF	28%	52% ACEF	43% C	34%	53% IJ	46%	42%	40%
I need help to get myself out of debt	43%	45%	42%	56% E	51% E	27%	38%	51% ACE	29%	49% ACE	38%	40% C	56% IJ	48% J	40% J	33%
I'm too embarrassed or ashamed to talk to anyone about my debt	42%	41%	42%	54% E	50% E	26%	37%	44% CF	32%	46% CF	42%	33%	50% IJ	43%	39%	36%
I'm too busy with daily life to deal with my debt	37%	39%	35%	54% DE	44% E	19%	29%	42% ACF	23%	43% ACF	36% CF	25%	44% IJ	36%	35%	32%
I'm afraid that seeking debt relief could lead to me losing my home	35%	38% B	32%	50% DE	40% E	21%	32%	45% ACEF	24%	38% C	32%	32%	40% J	40% J	37% J	29%



Financial 'Bad Habits'

A quarter of Canadians (26%) have only paid the minimum payment towards the balance on their credit card, consistent with the last two Decembers. In addition, debt is building up as one in five Canadians skipped or delayed a bill payment (22%), went into further credit card debt this year (20%, -2) or have paid the minimum payment on their line of credit in the last year (17%, -2). To make ends meet, 18% of Canadians reported to have sold their personal belongings and some borrowed money they can't afford to pay back quickly (16%, -2).

	2023	2022	2021
Paid only the minimum balance on my credit card	26%	26%	21%
Skipped or delayed a bill payment 22%	-	-	-
Went further in credit card debt 20%	22%	-	-
Sold personal belongings to make ends meet 18%	-	-	-
Paid only the minimum balance on my line of credit	19%	17%	11%
Borrowed money that I can't afford to pay back quickly 16%	18%	18%	11%
Increased reliance on friends or family for financial support	-	-	-
Had to make hardship withdrawal (taking money from savings, 15%	18%	-	-
Spent money I shouldn't have in order to 'keep up with the 12%	12%	11%	8%
Increased credit card limit to cover expenses 12%	-	-	-
Made a major purchase on credit, such as a vacation, without	14%	11%	7%
Bought something on credit that requires no payments for a	11%	10%	9%
Reached out for assistance with my debt 9%	-	-	-
Relied on payday loans or high-interest lenders to cover expenses 8%	-	-	-
Took on a second job to manage debt or cover expenses 8%	-	-	-
Extended the repayment terms on a debt to lower my monthly	8%	7 %	5%

Q31.2. In the past year have you...: Base: All Respondents (unweighted) n=2,003



Financial 'Bad Habits' Demographics

Canadians ages 18-54 and Ontarians are significantly more likely to engage in various financial bad habits compared to those aged 55+ or those in other provinces.

		Ge	nder		Age		Region							Household Income				
	Total	Male A	Female B	18-34 C	35-54 D	55+ E	BC A	AB B	SK/MB C	ON D	QC E	ATL F	<\$40K G	\$40K to <\$60K H	\$60K to <\$100K I	\$100K+ J		
Paid only the minimum balance on my credit card	26%	22%	29% A	31% E	32% E	16%	21%	30% F	23%	28% F	26%	18%	25%	30%	27%	23%		
Skipped or delayed a bill payment	22%	19%	24% A	27% E	28% E	12%	20%	27% CF	16%	23% F	21%	15%	27% IJ	28% IJ	17%	17%		
Went further in credit card debt	20%	19%	22%	21% E	26% E	15%	16%	17%	19%	25% AE	17%	22%	19%	25% I	18%	22%		
Sold personal belongings to make ends meet	18%	16%	21% A	23% E	24% E	10%	19%	25% CEF	13%	21% CEF	13%	12%	24% IJ	22% J	16%	12%		
Paid only the minimum balance on my line of credit	17%	16%	18%	17% E	24% CE	11%	16%	22% CE	12%	20% CE	13%	15%	12%	22% G	17%	20% G		
Borrowed money that I can't afford to pay back quickly	16%	16%	17%	20% E	22% E	9%	18%	15%	13%	21% CEF	11%	12%	19% I	18%	13%	16%		
Increased reliance on friends or family for financial support	16%	15%	18%	28% DE	19% E	6%	16%	17%	12%	20% CEF	13%	10%	22% IJ	17%	12%	14%		
Had to make hardship withdrawal	15%	13%	17% A	18% E	16% E	11%	13%	17%	15%	18% E	11%	13%	12%	19% G	14%	16%		



Financial 'Bad Habits' Demographics cont.

Canadians ages 18-54 and Ontarians, are significantly more likely to engage in various financial bad habits compared to those aged 55+ or those in other provinces.

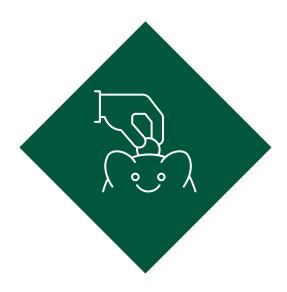
		Ge	nder		Age				Reg	Household Income						
	Total	Male A	Female B	18-34 C	35-54 D	55+ E	BC A	AB B	SK/MB C	ON D	QC E	ATL F	<\$40K G	\$40K to <\$60K H	\$60K to <\$100K	\$100K+ J
Spent money I shouldn't have in order to 'keep up with the Jones'	12%	12%	11%	20% DE	14% E	3%	15% CE	17% CEF	5%	14% CE	7%	8%	10%	19% GIJ	11%	9%
Increased credit card limit to cover expenses	12%	11%	13%	15% E	15% E	7%	13%	11%	7%	13% CF	13% F	6%	10%	18% G	12%	12%
Made a major purchase on credit, such as a vacation, without paying it off right away	11%	11%	10%	14% E	12% E	7%	11%	14% E	8%	14% EF	6%	8%	6%	8%	15% GH	15% GH
Bought something on credit that requires no payments for a while (i.e. furniture, appliances, etc.)	11%	11%	12%	17% E	13% E	5%	9%	10%	7%	15% CE	8%	9%	8%	12%	12%	15% G
Reached out for assistance with my debt	9%	9%	10%	11% E	11% E	6%	6%	8%	5%	11% C	11% CF	5%	12% J	8%	9%	6%
Relied on payday loans or high- interest lenders to cover expenses	8%	8%	8%	11% E	11% E	3%	11% CE	9% E	4%	11% CEF	4%	5%	12% IJ	10% J	6%	5%
Took on a second job to manage debt or cover expenses	8%	8%	8%	13% E	10% E	3%	7%	11% F	7%	10% F	6%	4%	8%	9%	8%	8%
Extended the repayment terms on a debt to lower my monthly payments	7%	7%	8%	11% E	9% E	4%	8%	3%	4%	8% B	10% BC	5%	6%	10%	8%	6%

Q31.2. In the past year have you... Base: All Respondents (unweighted) n=2,003 Male (n=816); Female (n=1174); 18-34 (n=496);35-54 (n=795); 55+ (n=712), <\$40K (n=441), \$40K to <\$60k (n=298), \$60K to <\$100K (n=520), \$100K+ (n=584), BC (n=157), AB (n=202), SK/MB (n=218), ON (n=772), QC (n=426), ATL (n=228).



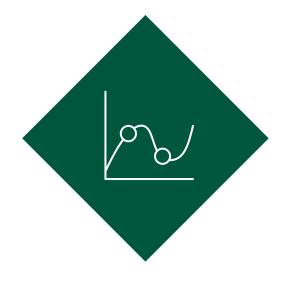
MEDIA ANGLES





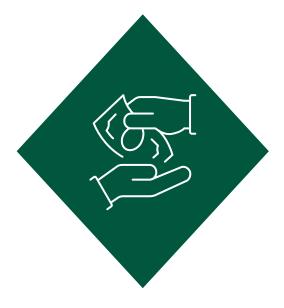
MNP Debt Index Plummets Significantly to Second Lowest Recorded Score

Almost all metrics within the Consumer Debt Index are down from the previous quarter, signaling increased anxieties in wake of Trump election.



Personal Debt Rating Reaches All-Time Low

Net scores for personal debt rating has plummeted by 12 points to 8%. As job anxiety reaches the highest recorded, (41%, +9) it causes greater concern for Canadians and their debt.



Insolvency Rates Climbs

Half of Canadians (50%, +8) are now \$200 or less away each month from not being able to make ends meet. This is a result of significantly more Canadians saying they already can't pay their bills and debts (35%, +9).



Canadians Need Help With Their Debt but Are Afraid or Don't Know Where to Turn

43% of Canadians say they need help with their debt, but stigma, embarrassment, and lack of knowledge is preventing many from seeking help.



About Ipsos

Ipsos is the third largest market research company in the world, present in 90 markets and employing more than 18,000 people.

Our research professionals, analysts and scientists have built unique multi-specialist capabilities that provide powerful insights into the actions, opinions and motivations of citizens, consumers, patients, customers or employees. Our 75 business solutions are based on primary data coming from our surveys, social media monitoring, and qualitative or observational techniques.

"Game Changers" – our tagline – summarises our ambition to help our 5,000 clients to navigate more easily our deeply changing world.

Founded in France in 1975, Ipsos is listed on the Euronext Paris since July 1st, 1999. The company is part of the SBF 120 and the Mid-60 index and is eligible for the Deferred Settlement Service (SRD).

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Game Changers

In our world of rapid change, the need for reliable information

to make confident decisions has never been greater.

At Ipsos we believe our clients need more than a data supplier, they need a partner who can produce accurate and relevant information and turn it into actionable truth.

This is why our passionately curious experts not only provide the most precise measurement, but shape it to provide True Understanding of Society, Markets and People.

To do this we use the best of science, technology and know-how and apply the principles of security, simplicity, speed and substance to everything we do.

So that our clients can act faster, smarter and bolder. Ultimately, success comes down to a simple truth: **You act better when you are sure.**

