Survey of Candidates for the 45th General Election

REPORT

Prepared for Elections Canada

Supplier: Leger Marketing Inc.
Contract Number: CW2318487
Contract Value: $68,516.69 (including HST)
Award Date: 2023-06-15
Delivery Date: December 19, 2025

Registration Number: POR 010-23
For more information on this report, please contact Elections Canada at rop-por@elections.ca.

Ce rapport est aussi disponible en français

This public opinion research report presents the results of an online survey conducted by Léger Marketing Inc. on behalf of Elections Canada. The quantitative research study was conducted with 837 candidates for the 45th general election between May 1st and July 14th, 2025.

Cette publication est aussi disponible en français sous le titre *Sondage auprès des candidats à la 45e élection générale*.

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Catalogue Number: SE3-111/2026E-PDF

International Standard Book Number (ISBN): 978-0-660-97950-2

Related publications (registration number: POR 010-23):

- Catalogue Number: SE3-111/2026F-PDF (Final report, French)
- ISBN 978-0-660-97951-9

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Executive Summary

This report on findings from a survey of candidates following the 45th federal general election was prepared by Léger Marketing Inc. who was contracted by Election Canada (contract number CW2318487 awarded June 15th 2023, contract value: $68,516.69 (including HST)).

1.1 Background and Objectives

Elections Canada (EC) commissioned this survey to gather feedback from candidates who participated in the 45th federal general election. This initiative continues a longstanding series of post-election candidate surveys, first conducted after the 40th federal general election in 2008.

The primary objective of the study is to better understand candidates' experiences with the electoral process and assess their satisfaction with the services provided by Elections Canada. Specifically, the survey explores:

- Experiences with nomination requirements and other candidate responsibilities;
- The administration of the election, both centrally by Elections Canada and locally by returning officers;
- The usefulness and accessibility of EC's services, tools, and informational products for candidates and their campaigns;
- Perceptions regarding key policy issues, as well as the role of technology and innovation in the electoral process.

By gathering this feedback, the survey supports Elections Canada's ongoing efforts to evaluate and enhance its programs and services for candidates.

Intended Use of the research

The findings from this survey will inform both internal program evaluations and public accountability reporting. Results will contribute to:

- The Chief Electoral Officer's formal reports to Parliament;
- Assessments of the effectiveness and responsiveness of EC's services to candidates;
- The identification of opportunities for service and process improvements.

Ultimately, the research ensures that Elections Canada continues to meet the evolving needs of candidates while maintaining the integrity and efficiency of the federal electoral process.

1.2 Methodology

This public opinion research was conducted via a hybrid approach, using Computer Aided Telephone Interviewing (CATI) technology and Computer Aided Web Interviewing (CAWI) technology. Fieldwork for the survey was carried out beginning shortly after the April 28, 2025 election day, between May 1st and July 14th, 2025. A total of 837 out of 1,959 invited candidates for the 45th general election completed the survey, yielding a response rate of 42.7%. The average length of interview was 13 minutes on the web, and 28 minutes on the phone.

A list of contact information of all candidates for the 45th general election provided by Elections Canada was used for the survey frame. Leger attempted to contact all candidates to participate to the study. Since all candidates from the 45th federal general election were invited to participate, there is no margin of sampling error to be estimated or reported for this study. The potential impact of non-random error due to non-response is discussed in the appendix of the report. For analytical purposes, statistically significant differences are noted in the report to help identify meaningful trends.

Weighting was done according to age, incumbency, elected status and political party affiliation to readjust the respondent sample to reflect the composition of the target population.

Leger adheres to the most stringent guidelines for quantitative research. The survey instrument was compliant with the Standards of Conduct of Government of Canada Public Opinion Research.

A complete methodological description is provided in the Appendices section of this document (please see Appendix A).

1.3 Overview of the Findings

Administration of the Election

- Candidate satisfaction with Elections Canada's administration of the 45th federal general election was high. Over eight in ten candidates (82%) expressed satisfaction, with just under half (46%) stating they were very satisfied.
- Nearly nine out of ten candidates (88%) said they were satisfied with their local returning officer's management of the election. Those who were dissatisfied most frequently mentioned a lack of support/issues with the returning officer (39%) and communication and responsiveness issues (29%).
- Over nine out of ten candidates (92%) were satisfied with their interactions with the returning officer, with a vast majority (73%) reporting they were very satisfied.

Nomination process

- Nearly nine out of ten candidates (87%) reported being informed about Elections Canada's nomination process, with slightly more than half (51%) stating that they were very informed.
- Three quarters (75%) of respondents found it was at least somewhat easy to comply with the nomination requirements, while 23% found it somewhat or very difficult to comply. Among those

who found it difficult to comply with the nomination requirements, most said it was difficult to obtain the required number of signatures (53%).

- The vast majority of respondents (94%) were satisfied with the time taken to process their nomination, with over three quarters of candidates (77%) being very satisfied.
- One in five candidates (20%) stated that they encountered difficulties in finding an official agent. Among those who had difficulties, the main reason mentioned was that it was hard to find someone willing or available (50%).
- Under one in ten candidates (9%) experienced difficulties finding an auditor. Among those who had difficulties, the main reason mentioned was that it was hard to find someone willing or available (39%).
- A little less than three in five respondents (58%) stated that collecting elector signatures for their nomination papers was easy, including 24% reporting it was very easy.

Political Entities Service Centre

- The Political Entities Service Centre web portal was used by seven in ten candidate campaigns (68%), with over four out of ten candidates having used it personally (44%), around one-third (34%) stating their agent used it, and 18% stating that their campaign delegate used it.
- The main purposes for using the Political Entities Service Centre were to download electoral materials (62%), to access post-election results or materials (38%) and to maintain candidates' account and contact profile (38%).
- Satisfaction with the Political Entities Service Centre was high. Among the candidates who reported that they or their representative used the Political Entities Service Center, nearly three-quarters (74%) expressed satisfaction with the user experience of the portal, with just over one in five (21%) stating they were very satisfied.
- Among the candidates who personally used the portal, a large majority (82%) stated that it was useful for their campaign, including one quarter (24%) reporting it was very useful and 58% indicating it was somewhat useful.
- Among candidates who used the Political Entities Service Center to submit their nomination electronically, 83% agreed that submitting through the portal was convenient, including 45% of respondents who strongly agreed that it was convenient.
- Among candidates who used the Political Entities Service Center to submit their financial returns, two thirds (67%) agreed that submitting through the portal was convenient, including nearly one quarter (24%) strongly agreeing.
- Among candidates who did not use the portal, the main reason given was that they did not need to use the portal (33%).

Elections Canada's Products

- The main Elections Canada products used by candidates during their campaigns were the list of polling stations (59%), the maps of polling place service areas (53%), the political financing handbook for candidates and official agents (52%) and lists of electors (49%). Bingo sheets were

used by around a third of candidates (32%), while training videos and Elections Canada tools to communicate with electors were used by smaller proportions (23% and 14% respectively).

- The large majority of candidates who used the lists of electors were satisfied with their format (80%) and overall quality (82%), with just under three out of ten respondents being very satisfied (28% and 29% respectively).
- Among candidates who used Elections Canada's tools to communicate with electors, candidates reported that the most useful Elections Canada communication tools were the guide to the federal election (36%), followed by infographics (33%).
- Seven out of ten candidates (70%) indicated that Elections Canada's products were useful in running their campaign, with one in five (20%) stating they were very useful.
- Over three-quarters of candidates (78%) reported that at least one member from their campaign attended the all-candidates briefing organized by the Returning Officer. Just over four in ten candidates (42%) attended the all-candidates briefing in-person, while 8% attended it via videoconference. Just over one-quarter (28%) indicated that their campaign delegate attended either in-person or remotely, and 14% said their official agent attended in-person or remotely.
- Among the candidates who personally attended the all-candidates briefing or had a member of their team attend, most candidates (79%) considered it useful, with just over one-third (34%) describing it as very useful.
- The vast majority of candidates who attended the all-candidates briefing in person reported being satisfied with the briefing (93%), including 56% who stated they were very satisfied.

Electoral Campaign

- Over six in ten candidates (63%) did not provide the returning officer with a list of names of election staff to work at the polling station, while 14% did. Among those who did not provide a list of names, the main reasons mentioned included being unable to find people who are interested/available (28%) and not knowing that they could provide a list (17%).
- Regarding the safeguarding of voters' lists, 62% of candidates reported having used the lists and took measures to protect the personal information in the lists, while 6% used them but did not take any measures. Nearly three out of ten respondents (27%) reported that they did not use the list. The main measures candidates took to protect personal information were limiting access to the lists (28%), ensuring the destruction of the lists at the end of the election (17%) and storing lists in a secure place (17%).
- Nearly four in ten candidates (39%) took measures to ensure that their campaign's materials, events, or website were accessible to electors with a disability. Among the candidates who ensured their campaign was accessible, the main measures taken were to make the website accessible with a screen reader (14%), use an accessible office or venue (12%), offer a variety of communication options (11%) and use wheelchair-accessible venues (10%).
- The main barriers that candidates faced during their campaign were personal costs (with 61% saying these were at least a moderate barrier, including 32% who said these were a major barrier), followed by fundraising and the cost of election expenses (with 53% saying these were at least a

moderate barrier, including 32% as a major barrier), travel time, distance or expense (with 44% saying these were at least a moderate barrier, including 24% as a major barrier), and the complexity of rules on campaigning and political financing (with 35% saying these were at least a moderate barrier, including 11% as a major barrier).

- Almost half of candidates (48%) indicated that they experienced online harassment while campaigning, and 41% indicated that they experienced in-person harassment.
- When deciding to run as a candidate, over six in ten (63%) candidates were aware that the Canada Elections Act allows a candidate to file for partial financial reimbursement of certain expenses for candidates who obtain at least 10% of valid votes or who are elected.

Conduct of voting

- Satisfaction with the locations of advance and election day polling sites was high, with nearly eight out of ten candidates being satisfied (78%), including 42% who were very satisfied. Among the 14% of candidates who were dissatisfied with the locations of polling sites, the main reasons they gave were that advance polling stations (37%) and ordinary polling stations (35%) were located too far away, and that there were not enough advance polling stations (20%).
- Satisfaction with the way the voting process went on advance polls and Election Day was high. More than three-quarters (77%) of candidates were satisfied, including 44% who were very satisfied, while 18% were dissatisfied. The main reasons mentioned by dissatisfied candidates were long lineups on polling day (17%), and at advance polls (10%), inconvenient scheduled voting times/dates (10%), and dissatisfaction with Elections Canada staff (10%).
- Regarding the observation of ballot counting, 38% of the candidates said that they had an observer during the counting, either themselves (5%), and/or their representative (36%).

Contact with Elections Canada

- The main method candidates used to contact Elections Canada during the election was through the local Elections Canada office (68%). To a lesser extent, respondents were in contact with Elections Canada via email (34%) and with the 1-800 support line for candidates (20%).
- Among candidates who contacted Elections Canada, either personally or through their representative, a large majority (86%) were satisfied with their contact, including half of the respondents who were very satisfied (51%).
- Overall, nearly nine out of ten candidates (88%) were satisfied with the quality of services from Elections Canada, including half of the respondents (48%) who were very satisfied.

Electoral Integrity

- Four in five candidates (80%) thought that Elections Canada ran the April 28, 2025 federal general election fairly, including 51% who thought it was run very fairly.

- Trust in the accuracy of the election results in the riding was high among candidates, with 85% indicating a high level of trust, including 58% who had a very high level of trust.
- Over half of the candidates (57%) were satisfied with the way democracy works in Canada, including a quarter (26%) who were very satisfied. On the other hand, 42% of candidates were not satisfied with the way democracy works in Canada. The main reasons mentioned by respondents for not being satisfied with the functioning of democracy were the lack of proportional representation (28%), the view that the first-past-the-post system does not reflect voters' preferences (25%), and the perception that the system is unfair or undemocratic (17%).
- When prompted on topics such as election interference and foreign influence, the main issues that candidates perceived had been a problem in the 45th federal general election were the spread of false information online (76%) and foreign countries or groups using social media and other means to interfere with or influence the political opinions of Canadians (65%). Around half of respondents thought there were problems with foreign money being used to influence politics in Canada (49%), foreign countries or groups trying to interfere with the selection of candidates by political parties (49%), and the use of Artificial Intelligence (AI) generated content such as deep fakes being used to mislead voters (48%). To a lesser extent, 16% of the candidates thought hacking by foreign countries or groups into Canadian computer systems that support the election had been a problem.
- Respondents who believed that these issues were a problem in the 45th General Election were asked to what extent they believed the problem had an impact on the outcome of the election. Based on all candidates, the largest proportion believed that problems of false information had an impact on the outcome of the election, with over half of candidates (55%) thinking that it had a major (27%) or moderate (28%) impact, ahead of the perceived impact of problems of foreign influence (38%), foreign interference in candidate nominations (30%), misleading AI-generated content (28%), foreign funding (28%) and foreign hacking (9%).

Voting Technology

- Just over four in ten candidates (42%) preferred paper lists for checking voter registration at polling stations, while 35% stated preferring computer-based lists and 19% had no preference.
- Concerning the counting of votes in elections, a larger proportion of candidates preferred the use of hand counting (51%) compared to machine counting (32%), while 14% had no preference.
- Nearly two-thirds of candidates (64%) believed that electors should not be allowed to vote via the Internet, while close to three in ten (27%) thought they should be.

1.4 Notes on Interpretation of the Research Findings

The views expressed in this document do not reflect those of Elections Canada. This report was compiled by Leger based on the research conducted specifically for this project.

As the survey was conducted among all candidates from the 45th federal general election based on a list provided by Elections Canada, there are no margins of sampling error to be calculated for the results. Although the survey was conducted as an attempted census, participation was voluntary with ultimately fewer than half of candidates responding. As such, the findings should be interpreted as the views of respondents only and not extrapolated to the full population of candidates. Nevertheless, the results offer valuable insight into the experiences and perceptions of participating candidates. The data have been weighted to reflect the demographic composition of the target population.

1.5 Political Neutrality Statement and Contact Information

Leger certifies that the final deliverables fully comply with the Government of Canada's political neutrality requirements outlined in the Policy on Communications and Federal Identity and the Directive on the Management of Communications and Federal Identity.

Specifically, the deliverables do not include information on electoral voting intentions, political party preferences, standings with the electorate, or ratings of the performance of a political party or its leaders.

Signed by:



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Introduction

Elections Canada, headed by the Chief Electoral Officer of Canada, is an independent and non-partisan agency that reports directly to Parliament. Responsible for the general direction and supervision of federal elections and referendums, Elections Canada periodically conducts public opinion research to evaluate its performance during and outside electoral events. As part of this ongoing effort, Elections Canada commissioned a survey of candidates who ran in the 45th federal general election held on April 28, 2025. This initiative continues a long-standing series of post-election candidate surveys, first undertaken following the 40th general election in 2008.

The primary objective of the study is to better understand candidates' experiences with the electoral process and assess their satisfaction with the services provided by Elections Canada. Specifically, the survey examines experiences with nomination requirements and other candidate responsibilities, the administration of the election both centrally and locally, the usefulness and accessibility of Election Canada's services and informational tools, and perceptions regarding key policy issues and innovation in the electoral process. The feedback gathered through this study supports Elections Canada's ongoing commitment to evaluating and enhancing its programs and services for candidates.

This public opinion research was conducted via a hybrid approach, using Computer Aided Telephone Interviewing (CATI) technology and Computer Aided Web Interviewing (CAWI) technology. Fieldwork for the survey was carried out between May 1st and July 14th, 2025. A total of 837 candidates out of a possible 1,959 candidates in the 45th general election completed the survey. The average length of interview was 13 minutes on the web, and 28 minutes on the phone.

Statistical tests were used to identify statistically significant differences between subgroups.

Note 1: Percentages have been rounded to the nearest whole number; therefore, totals may not always equal 100%.

Note 2: Where applicable, key results have been compared to those from the 44th general election (2021) and the 43rd general election (2019).

Note 3: The electoral districts of candidates are classified as urban (large urban center), urban/rural (large urban center and adjacent rural area(s), rural/ urban (small and medium population centers), and rural (rural areas).

Detailed Results

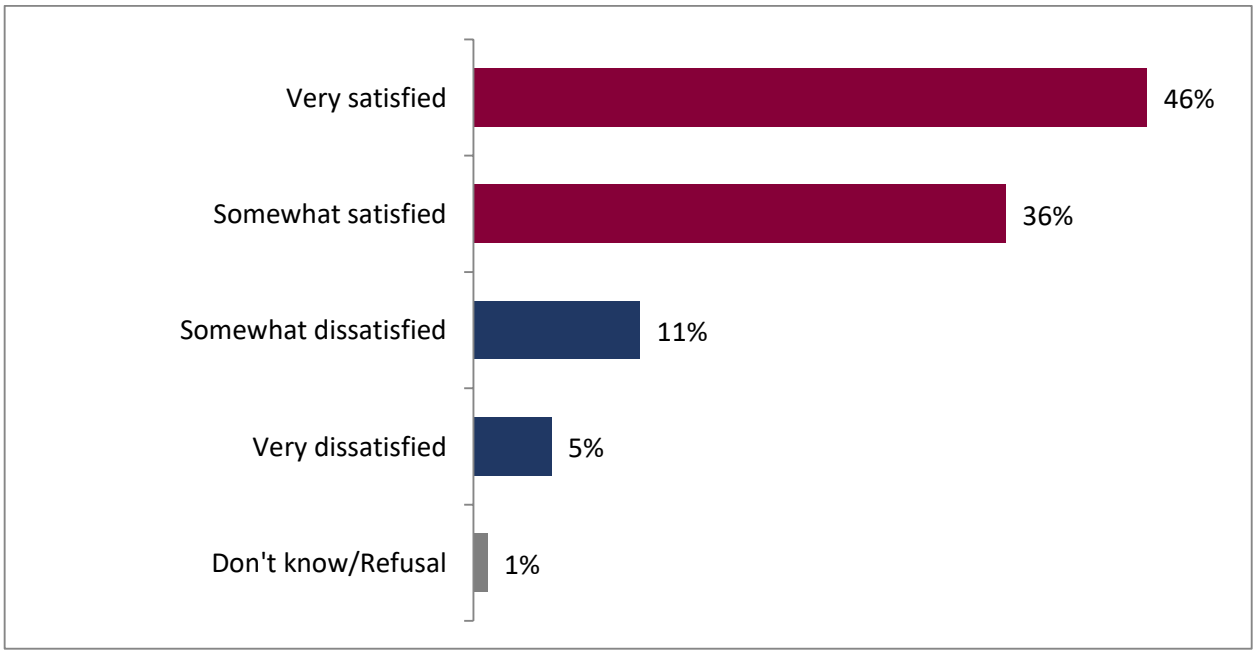
2.1 Administration of the Election

Satisfaction with the Administration of the Federal Election by Elections Canada

Results show that the large majority of candidates were satisfied with how Elections Canada administered the federal election in their riding (82%), with just under half (46%) stating they were very satisfied and slightly more than one-third (36%) indicating they were somewhat satisfied. Overall, 17% of candidates expressed dissatisfaction (11% somewhat dissatisfied and 5% very dissatisfied).

Satisfaction with Elections Canada increased compared to the 44th General Election, as a significantly higher proportion of candidates stated being very satisfied (46% compared to 38%), and a significantly lower proportion stated being somewhat (11% compared to 15%) or very dissatisfied (5% compared to 8%).

Figure 1: Satisfaction with the Administration of the Federal Election by Elections Canada



ElectionSat: Overall, how satisfied were you with the way the federal election was administered by Elections Canada in your riding? Base: All respondents (n=837)

The following subgroups of candidates were significantly more likely to express satisfaction with the way the federal election was administered by Elections Canada in their riding:

- Candidates in Ontario (88%) compared to candidates in Quebec (76%)
- Candidates from parties not represented in the House of Commons (85%) compared to candidates from a represented party (78%)

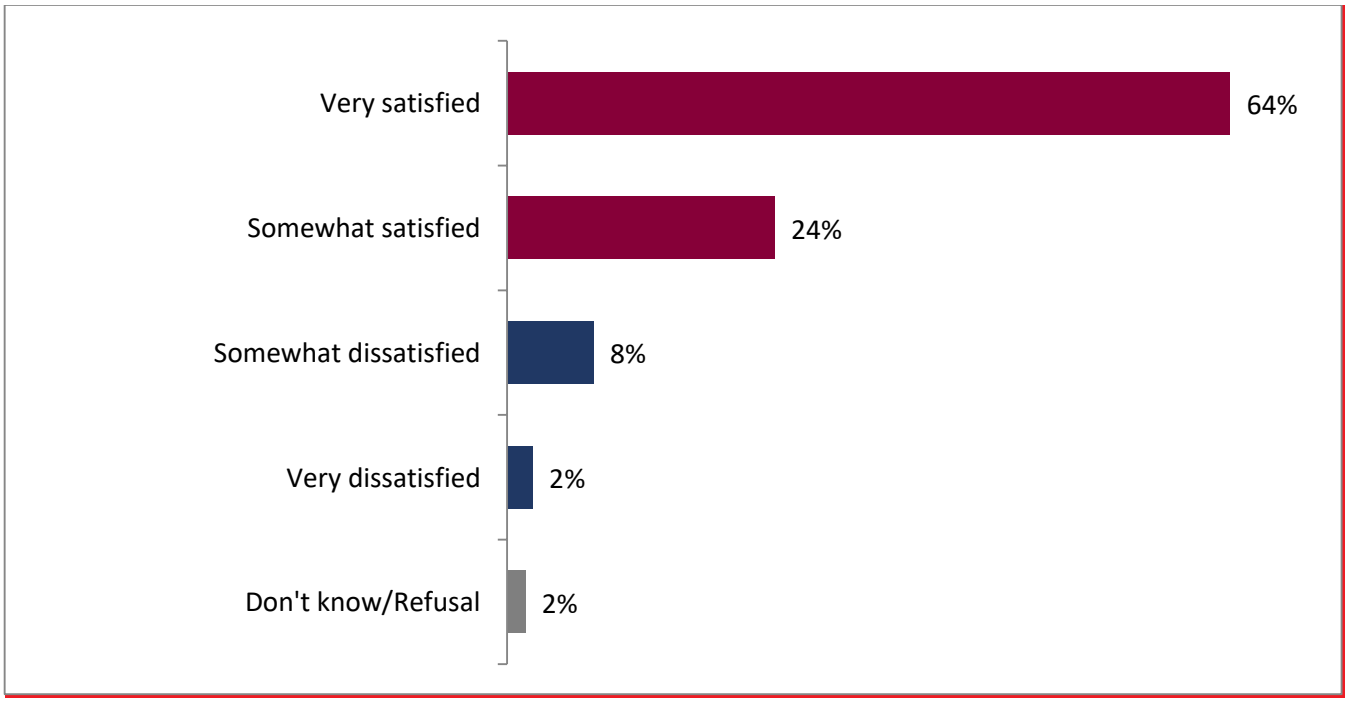
- Candidates without a disability (84%) compared to candidates with a disability (77%)
- First-time candidates (85%) compared to non-first-time candidates (79%).

Satisfaction with the Returning Officer's Management of the Election

Nearly nine out of ten candidates said they were satisfied with their local Returning Officer (RO)'s management of the election (88%), with just under two-thirds (64%) reporting they were very satisfied and slightly less than one-quarter (24%), indicating that they were somewhat satisfied. Overall, one in ten candidates (10%) expressed dissatisfaction (8% somewhat dissatisfied and 2% very dissatisfied).

Results remained stable compared to the 44th General Election, where 87% of candidates said they were satisfied with the way their local returning officer ran the election.

Figure 2: Satisfaction with the Returning Officer's Management of the Election



ROSat: How satisfied were you with the way the returning officer ran the election in your riding? Base: All respondents (n=837)

The following subgroups of candidates were significantly more likely to express satisfaction with their local Returning Officer's management of the election:

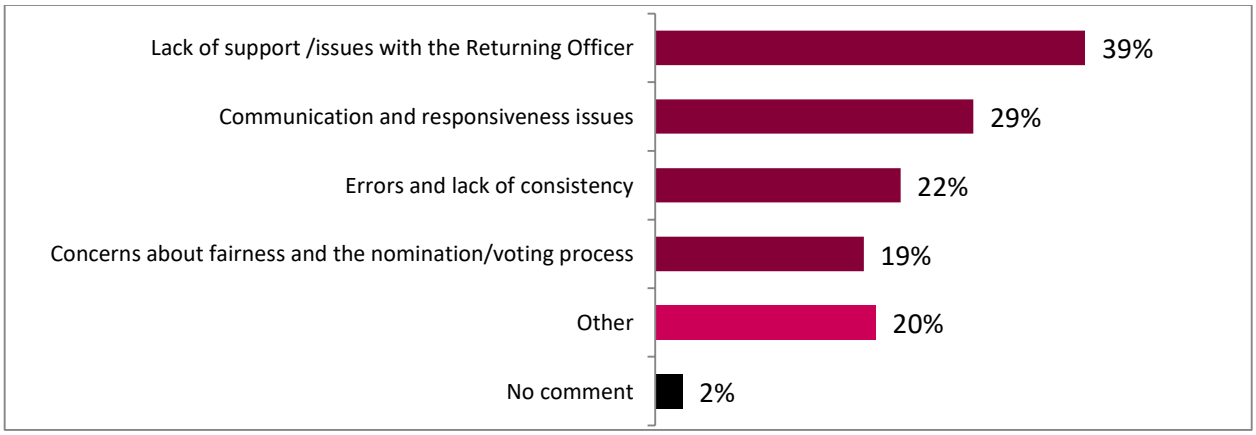
- Men (91%) compared to women (84%)
- Candidates in Ontario (92%) compared to candidates in Quebec (83%)
- Candidates with a yearly household income of between $40K to $99K (93%) compared to those with an income of less than $40K (80%)
- Candidates from an urban/rural area (93%) compared to those from a rural (84%) area.

Reasons for Dissatisfaction with the Returning Officer's Management of the Election

The candidates who expressed dissatisfaction with the way their local Returning Officer managed the election in their riding (10% of respondents, n=79) were asked to express the reasons for their dissatisfaction.

The main reasons for candidate dissatisfaction with their local RO's management of the election include lack of support/issues with the Returning Officer (39%), followed by communication and responsiveness issues (29%), errors and lack of consistency (22%), and concerns about fairness and the nomination/voting process (19%).

Figure 3: Reasons for Dissatisfaction with the Returning Officer's Management of the Election



ROSatReason: Why were you dissatisfied with the way the returning officer ran the election in your riding? Multiple responses. Base: Respondents who were dissatisfied with the way the returning officer ran the election (n=79) / Note: Categories were coded from open-ended responses. Because respondents were able to give multiple answers, total mentions may exceed 100%.

Significant differences in terms of dissatisfaction with the way the returning officer ran the election include:

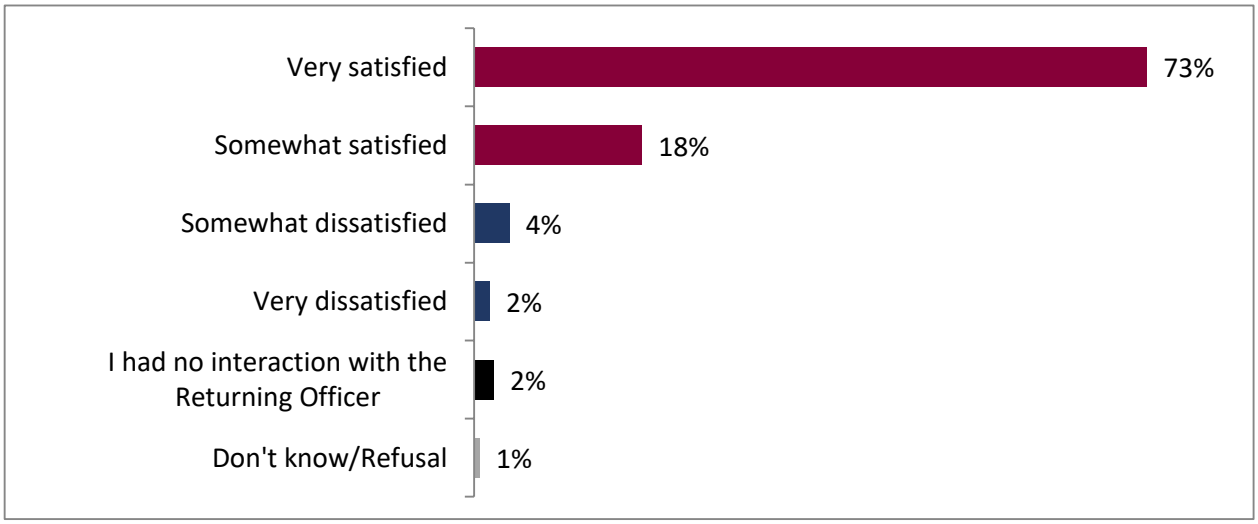
- Candidates from parties that are not represented in the House of Commons were more likely to mention concerns about fairness and the nomination/voting process (30%) compared to those from a represented party (10%).

Satisfaction with Interactions with the Returning Officer

The large majority of candidates were satisfied with their interactions with their local Returning Officer (92%), with just under three out of four respondents (73%) reporting they were very satisfied and slightly less than one in five (18%) indicating they were somewhat satisfied. Few respondents expressed dissatisfaction (6%), with 4% reporting they were somewhat dissatisfied and 2% reporting they were very dissatisfied. Additionally, 2% of candidates stated they had no interaction with the Returning Officer.

Results remained stable compared to the 44th General Election, where 90% of candidates reported they were at least somewhat satisfied with their interactions with their local returning officer.

Figure 4: Satisfaction with Interactions with the Returning Officer



GEROSat: Overall, how satisfied were you with your interactions with the returning officer? Base: All respondents (n=837)

The following subgroups of candidates were significantly more likely to express that they were *very* satisfied with their interactions with their local Returning Officer:

- English speaking candidates (78%) compared to French-speaking candidates (60%)
- First-time candidates (77%) compared to non-first-time candidates (68%).

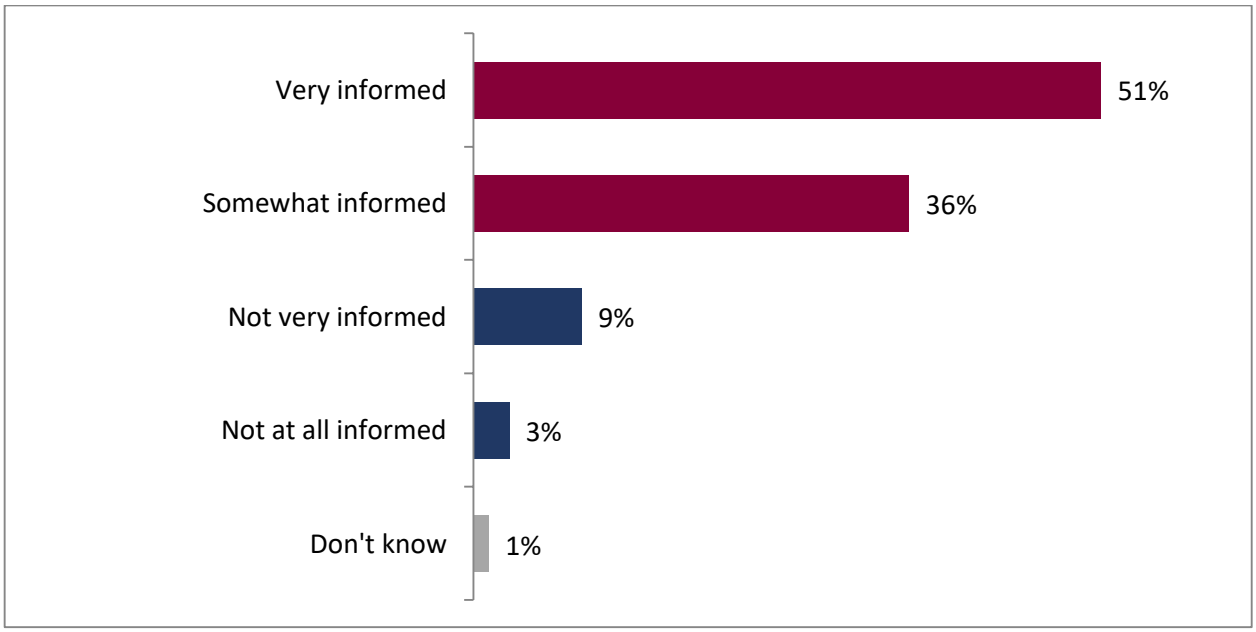
2.2 Nomination Process

Awareness of Elections Canada's Nomination Process

The large majority of candidates reported being informed about Elections Canada's nomination process (87%), with just over half (51%) stating they were very informed, and just over one in three (36%) stating they were somewhat informed. Slightly over one in ten respondents (12%) stated they were not informed, with 9% reporting they were not very informed and 3% reporting they were not at all informed.

Compared to the 44th General Election, the proportion of candidates that stated they were informed about Elections Canada's nomination process remained stable (87% compared to 89%). However, the proportion of candidates that stated they were very well informed increased (51% compared to 41% in 2021), while the proportion of candidates that stated they were somewhat well informed decreased (36% compared to 48% in 2021).

Figure 5: Awareness of Elections Canada's Nomination Process



NominationInformed: Overall, how well informed were you about Elections Canada's nomination process?
Base: All respondents (n=837)

The following subgroup of candidates were significantly more likely to express that they were *not informed* about Elections Canada's nomination process:

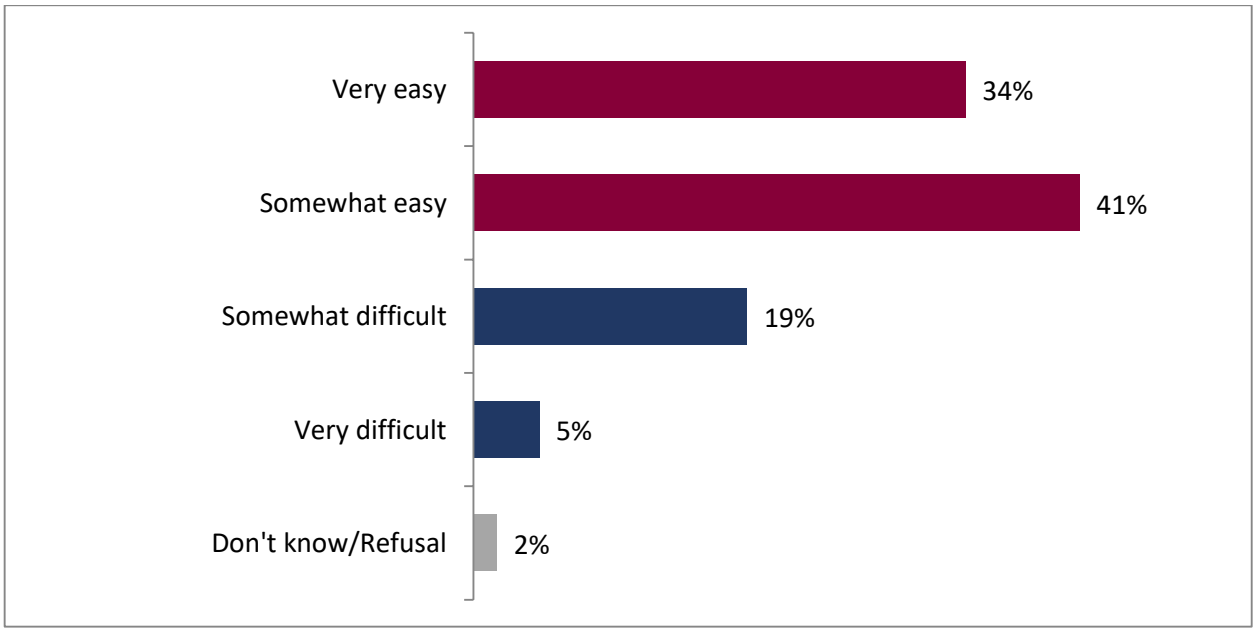
- First-time candidates (15%) compared to non-first-time candidates (6%).

Perceived Difficulty of Complying with Nomination Requirements

Three out of four candidates (75%) found it easy to comply with the nomination requirements, with just over one in three (34%) stating it was very easy and slightly more than two in five (41%) stating it was somewhat easy. Nearly one-quarter of candidates (23%) found it difficult to comply, with just under one in five stating it was somewhat difficult (19%) and 5% indicating it was very difficult.

Results remained stable compared to the 44th General Election, where 77% of candidates found that complying with the nomination requirements was at least somewhat easy.

Figure 6: Perceived Difficulty of Complying with Nomination Requirements



NominationEase: How easy or difficult was it to comply with the nomination requirements? Base: All respondents (n=837)

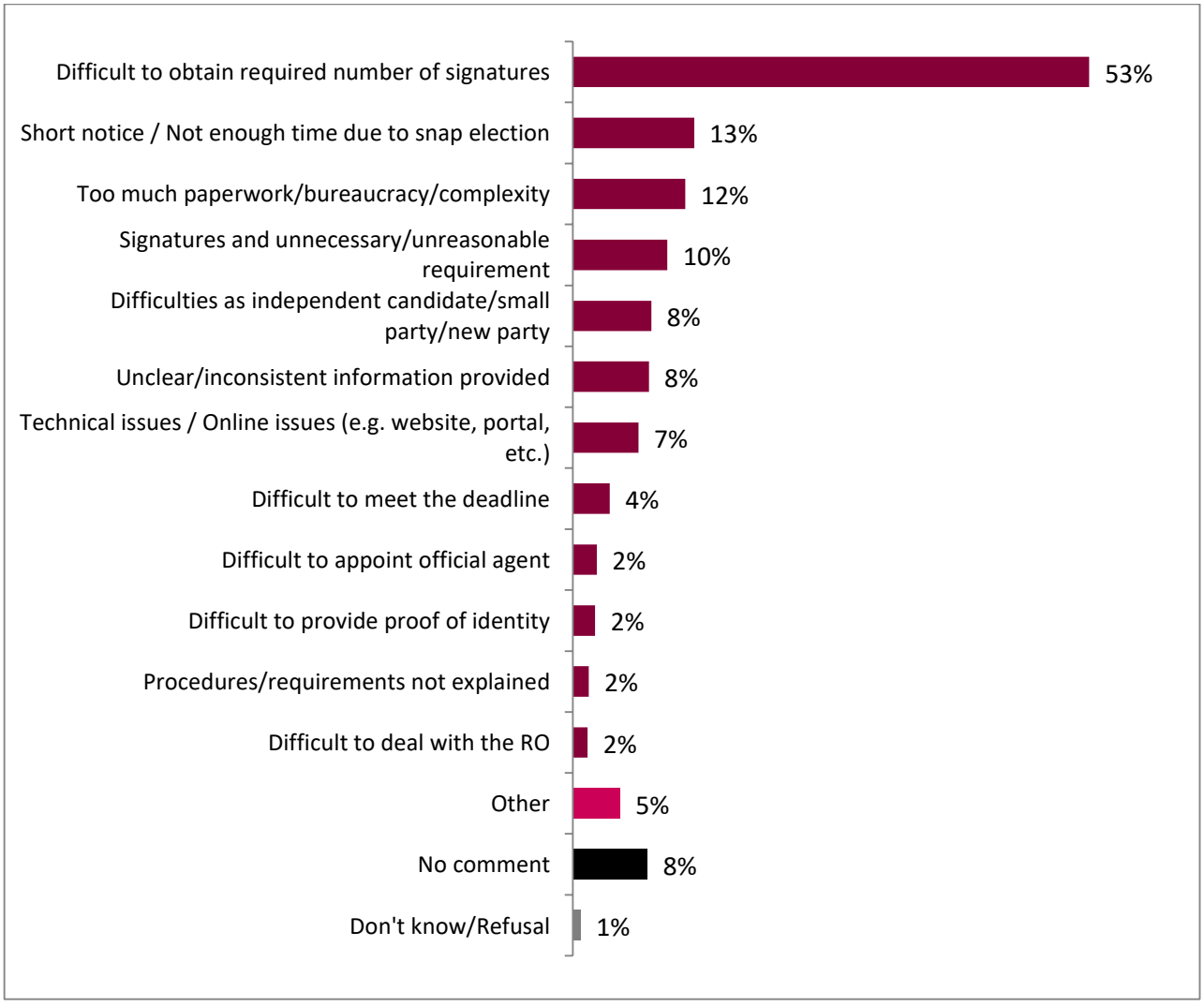
The following subgroups were significantly more likely to find it difficult to comply with the nomination requirements:

- Candidates with a disability (31%) compared to candidates without a disability (20%)
- Candidates with a household income lower than $40K (36%) or between $40K to$99K (31%) compared to those with a household income of between $100K to $199K (20%) and over $200K (15%)
- First-time candidates (27%) compared to non-first-time candidates (17%)
- Non-incumbent candidates (27%) compared to incumbent candidates (3%)
- Candidates from parties not represented in the House of Commons (32%) compared to candidates from represented parties (10%)
- Independent candidates (31%) compared to candidates affiliated with a party (20%).

Reasons for Difficulty in Complying with Nomination Requirements

Among those who found it difficult to comply with the nomination requirements (23% of respondents, n=210), more than half (53%) said that obtaining the required number of signatures was difficult, identifying it as the main challenge in meeting nomination requirements. This was also the most frequently cited response in 2021 (67%) and 2019 (39%). Over one in ten (13%) stated that they did not have enough time to prepare due to the snap election, and that there was too much paperwork, bureaucracy, or complexity (12%). The signatures and unnecessary/unreasonable requirements were also mentioned by around one-in-ten respondents (10%). Other responses ranged from 2% to 8% (see Figure 7). It is worth noting that just under one in ten respondents (8%) had no comment on this question.

Figure 7: Reasons for Difficulty in Complying with Nomination Requirements



NominationEaseReason: Why was it difficult to comply with the nomination requirements? Multiple responses. Base: Respondents who indicated that it was difficult to comply with the nomination requirements (n=210) / Note: Categories were coded from open-ended responses. Because respondents were able to give multiple answers, total mentions may exceed 100%.

Significant differences among subgroups include:

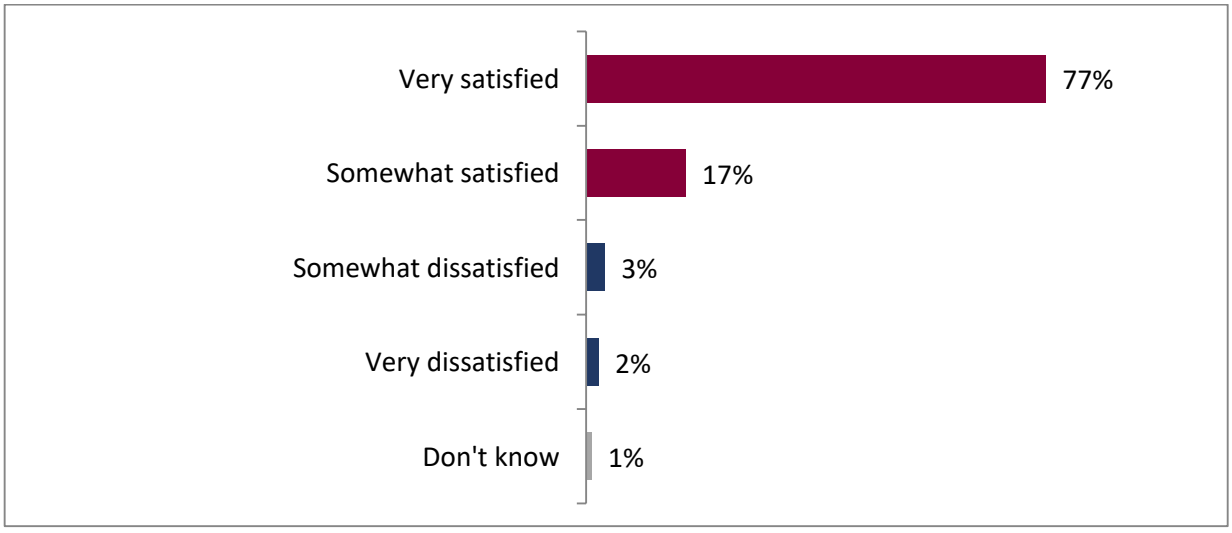
- Candidates from a predominantly rural area (16%) were more likely than those in a predominantly urban area (2%), to mention technical or online issues.

Satisfaction with the Time Taken to Process the Nomination

The vast majority of candidates (94%) were satisfied with the time taken to process the nomination, with slightly over three quarters of candidates (77%) stating they were very satisfied and just under one in five (17%) stating they were somewhat satisfied. A smaller proportion of candidates (5%) expressed dissatisfaction with the processing time, with 3% saying they were somewhat dissatisfied and 2% saying they were very dissatisfied.

Results remained stable compared to the 44th General Election, where 94% of candidates were at least somewhat satisfied.

Figure 8: Satisfaction with the Time Taken to Process the Nomination



NominationSat: How satisfied were you with the time it took the returning officer to process your nomination? Base: All respondents (n=837)

There were no significant differences between subgroups in terms of overall satisfaction.

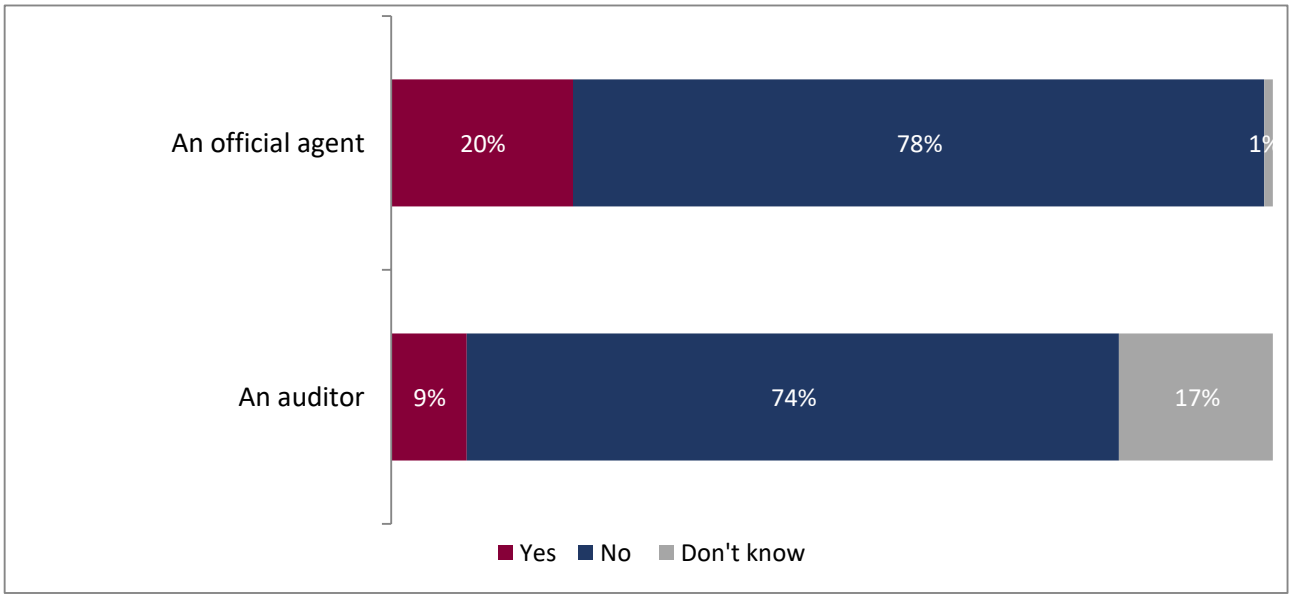
Difficulties Encountered in Finding an Official Agent and an Auditor

One in five candidates (20%) stated that they encountered difficulties in finding an official agent. Close to eight in ten respondents (78%) reported no difficulty.

In addition, just under one in ten respondents (9%) stated they had difficulties finding an auditor, while slightly less than three-quarters (74%) reported no difficulty.

Results remained stable compared to the 44th General Election, where 20% of candidates had difficulties finding an official agent, and 13% had difficulties finding an auditor.

Figure 9: Difficulties Encountered Finding an Official Agent and an Auditor



Difficulties: Did you encounter any difficulties finding… Base: All respondents (n=837)

The following subgroups were significantly more likely to encounter difficulties finding an official agent:

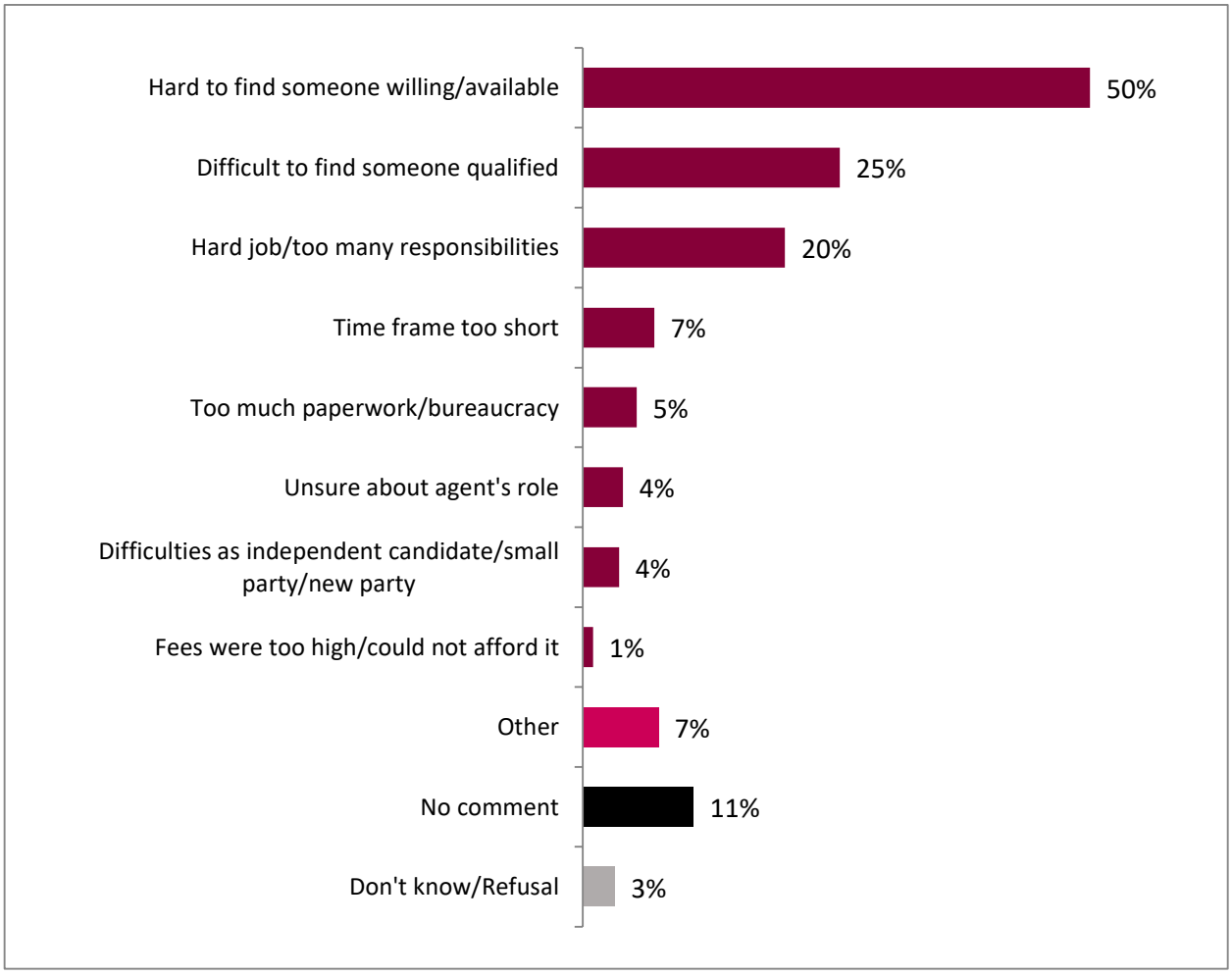
- Non-incumbent candidates (21%) compared to incumbent candidates (13%).

There were no significant differences among subgroups in terms of difficulty finding an auditor.

Difficulties Encountered in Finding an Official Agent

Among the candidates who faced difficulties in finding an official agent (20% of respondents, n=179), half of the respondents (50%) reported that it was hard to find someone willing or available to be an official agent. This also was the most frequently cited response in 2021 (55%) and 2019 (67%). One quarter of candidates who had difficulties finding an official agent stated that it was difficult to find someone qualified (25%), while one fifth noted that being an official agent is a hard job with too many responsibilities (20%). Other responses ranged from 1% to 7% (see figure 10). Notably, close to one in ten candidates had no comments on the matter (11%).

Figure 10: Difficulties Encountered in Finding an Official Agent



DifficultiesNatureOA: What difficulties finding an official agent did you encounter? Multiple responses. Base: Respondents who reported difficulties finding an official agent (n=179) / Note: Categories were coded from open-ended responses. Because respondents were able to give multiple answers, total mentions may exceed 100%.

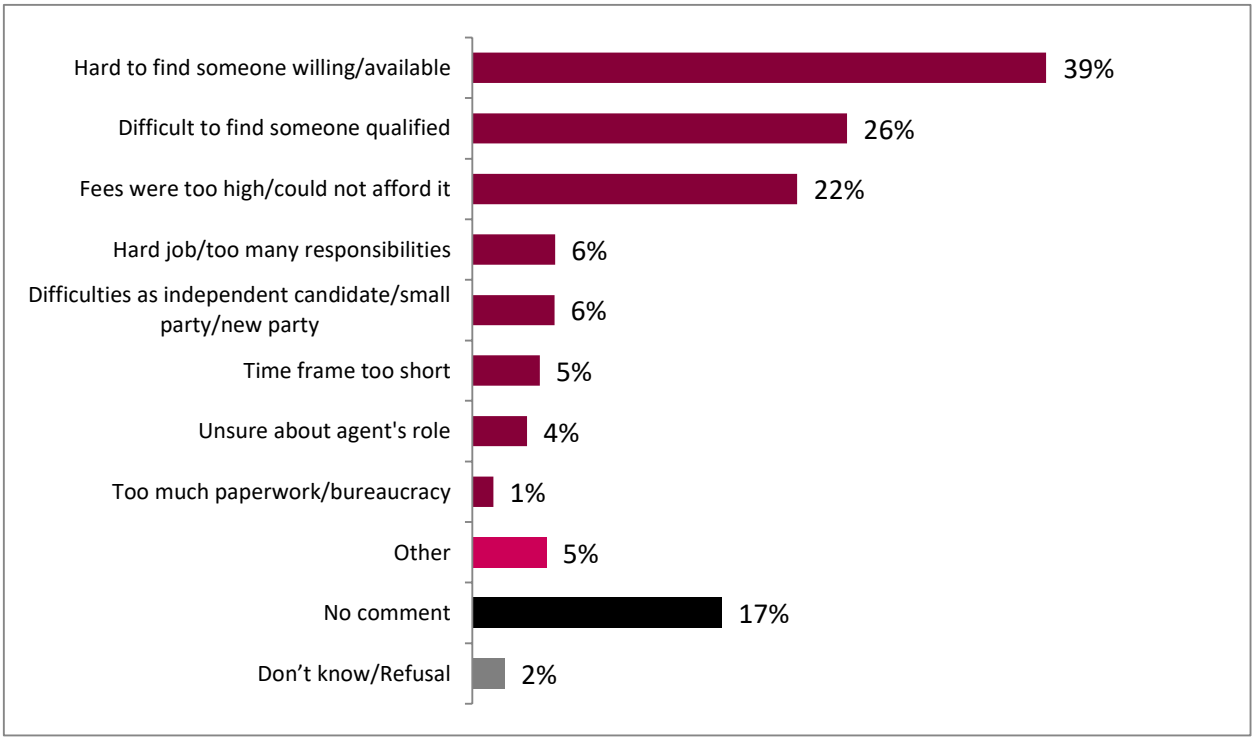
Significant differences in terms of difficulties finding an official agent include:

- Female candidates were more likely than male candidates to mention difficulties finding someone qualified (36% compared to 18%).

Difficulties Encountered in Finding an Auditor

Among the candidates who experienced difficulties in finding an auditor (9% of respondents, n=75), nearly four in ten reported that it was hard to find someone willing or available to be an auditor (39%). This was also the most frequently cited response in 2021 (55%) and 2019 (47%). Over a quarter of candidates indicated that it was difficult to find someone qualified (26%), while just over one in five (22%) stated that auditor fees were too high or unaffordable. Other responses ranged from 1% to 6% (see Figure 11). Notably, 17% of respondents had no comments on the matter.

Figure 11: Difficulties Encountered in Finding an Auditor



DifficultiesNatureAudit: What difficulties finding an auditor did you encounter? Multiple responses. Base: Respondents who reported difficulties finding an auditor (n=75) / Note: Categories were coded from open-ended responses. Because respondents were able to give multiple answers, total mentions may exceed 100%.

Significant differences in terms of difficulties finding an auditor include:

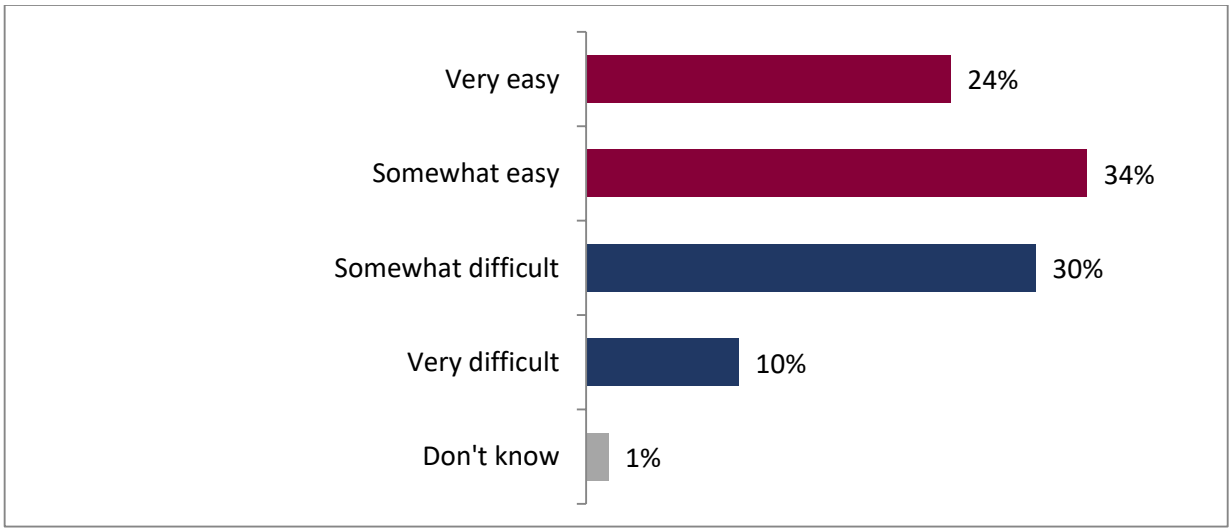
- Candidates from a party represented in the House of Commons (59%) were more likely to mention it was hard to find someone willing and/or available to be an auditor compared to candidates from unrepresented parties (20%).

Perceived Difficulty of Collecting Elector Signatures for Candidate Nomination Papers

Close to three in five candidates (58%) stated that collecting the required elector signatures for their nomination papers was easy, with nearly a quarter reporting it was very easy (24%) and 34% indicating it was somewhat easy. For four in ten candidates (40%), collecting elector signatures for nomination papers was difficult, with three in ten stating it was somewhat difficult (30%) and one in ten reporting it was very difficult (10%).

Results remained stable compared to the 44th General Election, where 54% of candidates stated it was at least somewhat easy to collect the required elector signatures for their nomination papers.

Figure 12: Perceived Difficulty of Collecting Elector Signatures for Nomination Papers



SignatureEase: How easy or difficult was it to collect the elector signatures needed for your nomination papers? Base: All respondents (n=837)

The following subgroups were more likely to find it *difficult* to collect the elector signatures needed for their nomination papers:

- Candidates in Ontario (44%) compared to candidates in Quebec (32%)
- Candidates with a disability (53%) compared to candidates without a disability (35%)
    - Candidates with a disability were also more likely to report it was *very difficult* to obtain the elector signatures (19%) compared to candidates without a disability (6%)
- First-time candidates (47%) compared to non-first-time candidates (30%)
- Non-incumbent candidates (46%) compared to incumbent candidates (7%)
- Candidates from a party not represented in the House of Commons (53%) compared to candidates from a represented party (21%)
- Independent candidates (51%) compared to those affiliated with a party (35%).

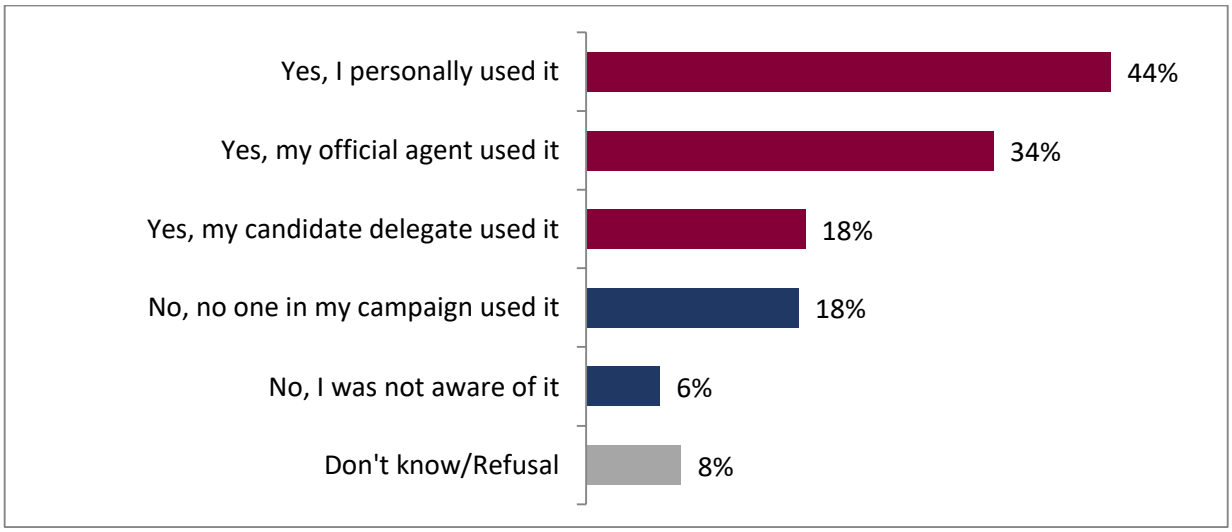
2.3 Political Entities Service Centre

Use of the Political Entities Service Centre Web Portal

Close to seven in ten candidates (68%) reported using the Political Entities Service Centre web portal, with just over four out of ten (44%) using it personally, around one-third (34%) stating their agent used it, and 18% stating that their campaign delegate used it. Almost a quarter of respondents (24%) stated that they did not use the Political Entities Service Centre web portal, with 18% indicating that no one on their campaign used it, and 6% stating they were not aware of it.

Results remained stable compared to the 44th General Election, where 65% of candidates reported that either themselves or a member of their campaign used the portal, with 41% of candidates personally having used the portal.

Figure 13: Use of the Political Entities Service Centre Web Portal



PortalUse: Elections Canada offers a secure web portal called the Political Entities Service Centre that candidates can use to access electoral products and services. Did you, or any of your representatives, use the portal? Multiple responses. Base: All respondents (n=837)

The following subgroups of candidates were significantly more likely to have personally used the portal:

- First-time candidates (48%) compared to non-first-time candidates (38%)
- Non-incumbent candidates (47%) compared to incumbent candidates (26%)
- Candidates from parties not represented in the House of Commons (52%) compared to candidates from represented parties (31%)
- Independent candidates (58%) compared to candidates affiliated with a party (37%).

The following subgroups were significantly more likely to have reported that their official agent used the portal:

- Candidates from parties represented in the House of Commons (43%) compared to candidates from non-represented parties (28%).

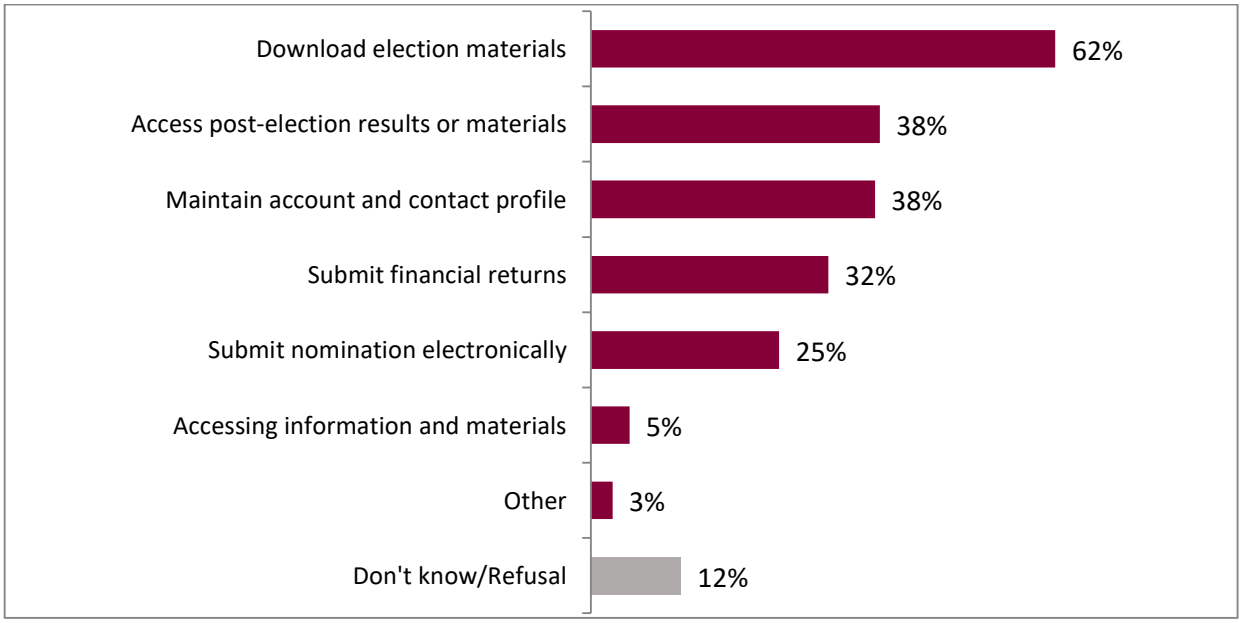
The following subgroups were significantly more likely to have reported that their candidate delegate used the portal:

- Non-first-time candidates (26%) compared to first-time candidates (14%)
- Incumbent candidates (46%) compared to non-incumbent candidates (14%)
- Candidates from parties represented in the House of Commons (33%) compared to candidates from unrepresented parties (9%)
- Candidates affiliated with a party (24%) compared to independent candidates (6%).

Purposes for Using the Political Entities Service Centre

Among the candidates who reported that their campaign used the Political Entities Service Centre (68% of respondents, n=568), over six in ten (62%) stated that they used it to download election materials, making this the primary use of this service. This was also the most cited reason in 2021 (60%). Just under four in ten candidates reported using the portal to access post-election results or materials (38%) or to maintain their account and contact profile (38%). Three in ten candidates (32%) used the portal to submit their financial returns[1], and a quarter used it to submit their nomination information electronically (25%). A small proportion of respondents used the portal to access information and materials (5%).

Figure 14: Purposes for Using the Political Entities Service Centre



PortalUseNature: *What have you, or your representative, used the portal for? Base: Respondents who reported that they or their representative used the portal (n=568) / Note: Because respondents were able to give multiple answers, total mentions may exceed 100%.*

Significant differences in terms of the nature of the portal use include:

- Candidates in Ontario were more likely to have used the portal to download election materials (68%) and maintain their account and contact profile (47%) compared to those from Quebec (53% and 25% respectively)
- Non-incumbent candidates were more likely to have used the portal to submit their nomination electronically (27%) compared to incumbent candidates (15%)

[1] Three in ten candidates reporting having used the portal to file their financial returns at the time of responding to the survey. It is important to note that the survey was conducted between May 1 to July 14, 2025, and the filing deadline for candidates' financial returns was August 28, 2025. Thus, this number is not intended to be indicative of the comprehensive proportion of candidates that filed their returns using the portal but rather, provides insight into the convenience of using the portal to submit financial returns.

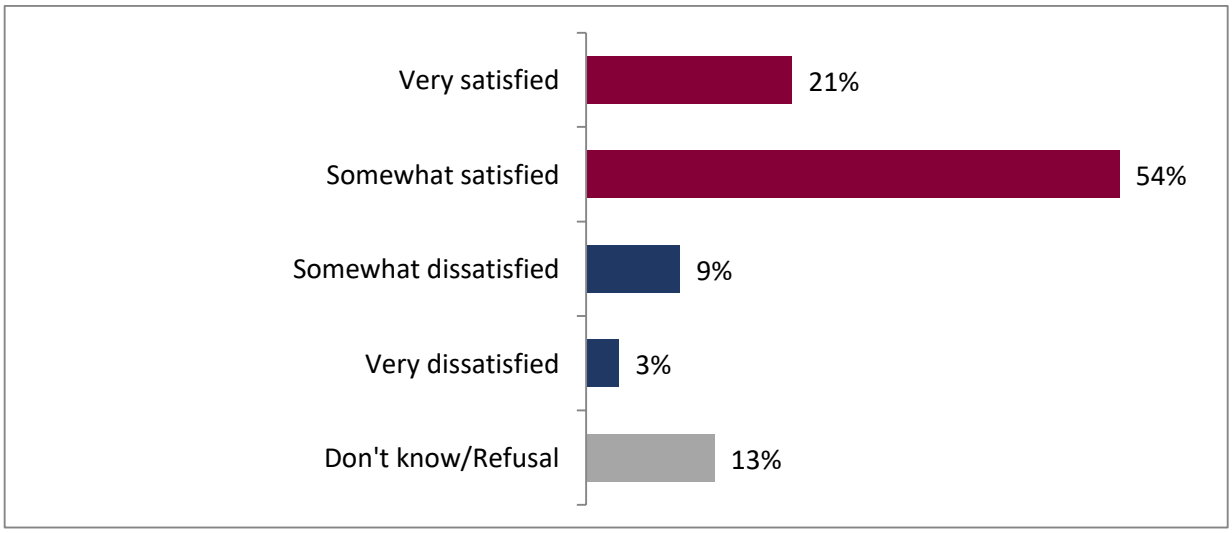
- Candidates from a party not represented in the House of Commons were more likely to have used the portal to submit their nomination electronically (31%) compared to candidates from a represented party (16%)
- Candidates affiliated with a party were more likely to use the portal to access information and materials (7%) compared to independent candidates (2%).

Satisfaction with the Overall User Experience of the Portal (Candidate and Representative)

Among candidates who reported that they or their representative used the Political Entities Service Centre (68% of respondents, n=568), nearly three-quarters (74%) reported being satisfied with the user experience of the portal, with just over one in five (21%) stating they were very satisfied and more than half (54%) indicating they were somewhat satisfied. A little over one in ten candidates (13%) reported being dissatisfied with the service, with 9% stating they were somewhat dissatisfied and 3% being very dissatisfied.

Results remained stable compared to the 44th General Election, where 76% of candidates reported being at least somewhat satisfied with the user experience of the portal.

Figure 15: Satisfaction with the Overall User Experience of the Portal (Candidate and Representative)



PortalSat: *How satisfied were you [was your representative] with the overall user experience of the portal?*
Base: Respondents who reported that they or their representative used the portal (n=568)

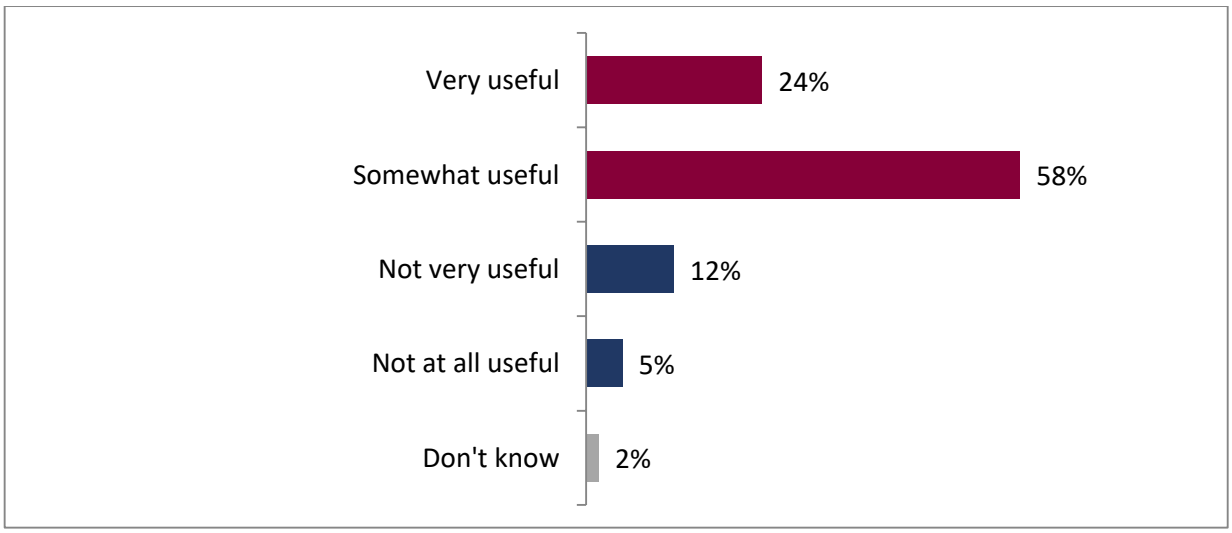
Significant differences in terms of candidate satisfaction with the user experience of the portal include:

- Respondents born outside of Canada (84%) were significantly more likely than those born in Canada (72%) to express satisfaction with the overall user experience of the portal.

Usefulness of the Political Entities Service Centre for the Campaign (Candidate)

Of the candidates who personally used the Political Entities Service Centre for their campaign (44% of respondents, n=374), the large majority (82%) stated that it was useful for their campaign, including nearly one quarter (24%) reporting it was very useful and 58% stating it was somewhat useful. 17% of respondents indicated that the service was not useful, with 12% reporting it was not very useful and 5% stating it was not useful at all.

Figure 16: Usefulness of the Political Entities Service Centre for the Campaign



PortalHelpful: How useful was the portal for your campaign? Base: Respondents who personally used the portal (n=374)

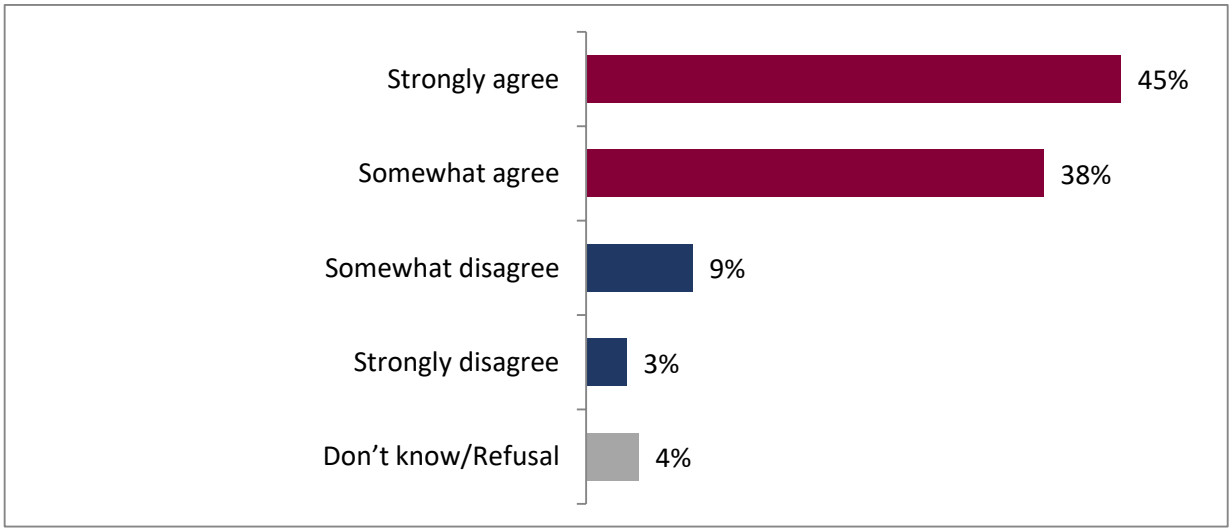
There were no significant subgroup differences in terms of the perceived overall usefulness of the portal for the campaign.

Perceived Convenience of Submitting Nomination via the Portal

Of the candidates who used the portal to submit their nomination electronically (25% of respondents, n=135), the large majority (83%) agreed that submitting their nomination via the portal was convenient, with 45% of respondents strongly agreeing and 38% of respondents somewhat agreeing. A little over one in ten respondents (12%) disagreed that submitting their nomination via the portal was convenient, with 9% somewhat disagreeing and 3% disagreeing strongly with the statement.

Results remained stable compared to the 44th General Election, where 75% of candidates who submitted their nomination through the portal (15% of respondents in 2021, n=166), at least somewhat agreed that it was convenient to submit their nomination electronically through the portal.

Figure 17a: Perceived Convenience of Submitting Nomination via the Portal



PortalFeatures: *How strongly do you agree or disagree with the following statements about the portal? a. It made submitting my nomination convenient. Base: Respondents who submitted their nomination electronically (n=135)*

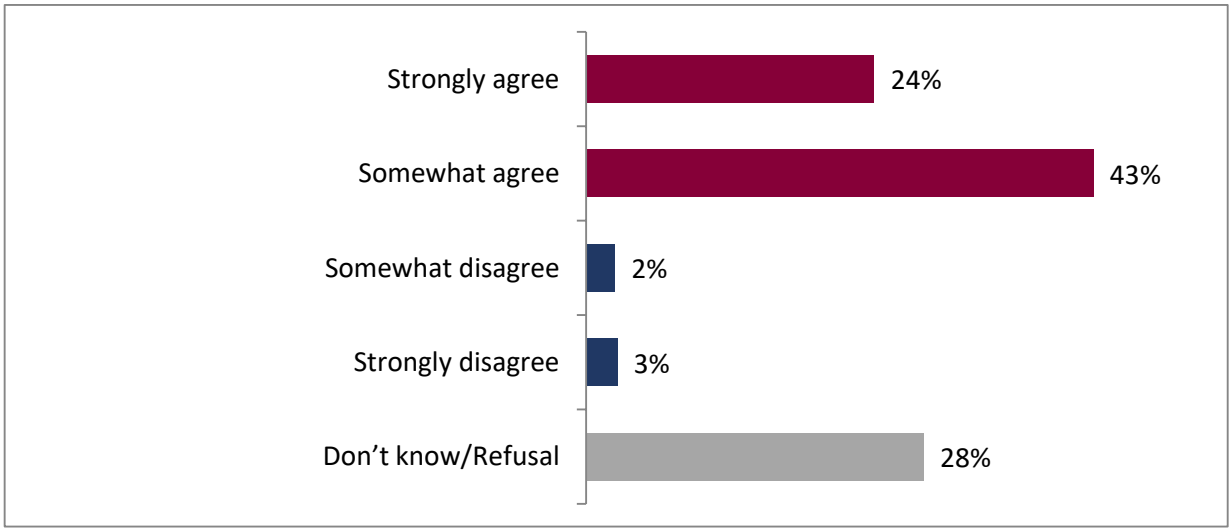
There were no significant differences in agreement with the statement "*It made submitting my nomination convenient"* among subgroups.

Perceived Convenience of Submitting Financial Returns via the Portal

Among candidates who submitted their financial returns through the portal (32% of respondents, n=176), two-thirds (67%) agreed that it was convenient, with nearly one quarter (24%) strongly agreeing and over four in ten (43%) somewhat agreeing. Few candidates disagreed that submitting financial returns via the portal was convenient (5%), with 2% somewhat disagreeing and 3% strongly disagreeing. It is important to note that almost three in ten candidates (28%) either did not know how to respond or chose not to answer.

Results remained stable compared to the 44th General Election, where 70% of candidates who submitted their financial returns through the portal (16% of respondents in 2021, n=167) at least somewhat agreed that submitting their financial return with the portal was convenient.

Figure 17b: Perceived Convenience of Submitting Financial Returns via the Portal



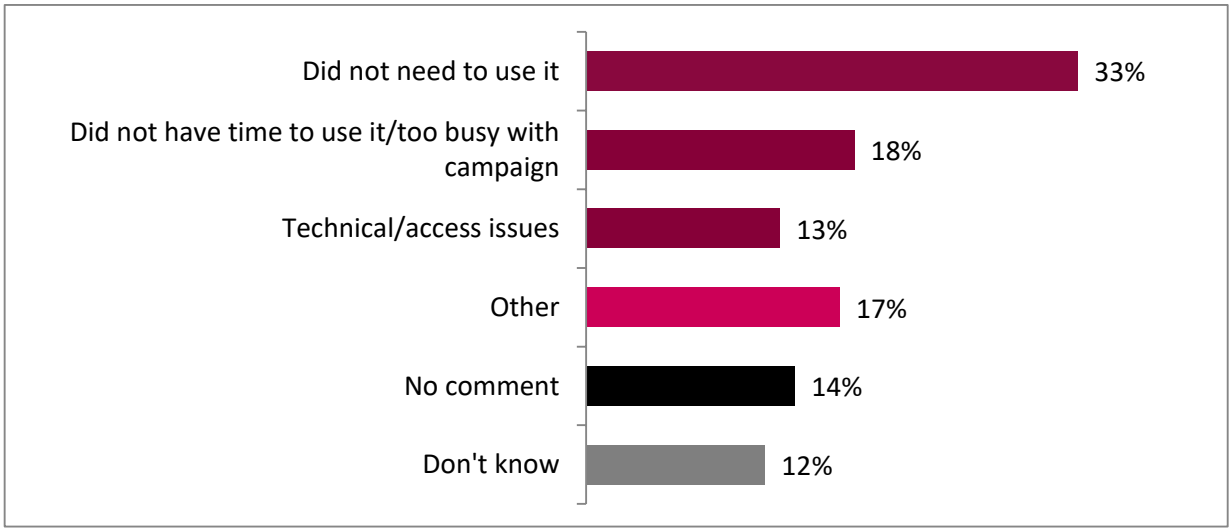
PortalFeatures: *How strongly do you agree or disagree with the following statements about the portal? b. It made submitting my financial returns convenient. Base: Respondents who submitted their financial returns through the portal (n=176)*

There were no significant subgroup differences in agreement with the statement *"It made submitting my financial returns convenient"* among subgroups.

Reasons for Not Using the Political Entities Service Centre Portal

Among candidates who did not use the portal (24% of respondents, n=150), one-third (33%) stated that they did not need to use it, making this the main reason for not using the Political Entities Service Centre portal. This was also the most commonly cited reason in 2021 (34%). Just under two in ten (18%) reported that they did not use it because they were too busy with the campaign, and over one-in-ten mentioned technical or access issues (13%).

Figure 18: Reasons for Not Using the Political Entities Service Centre Portal



PortalNonUse: *Why did you not use the portal? Open Question; Multiple responses. Base: Respondents who did not use the portal (n=150) / Note: Categories were coded from open-ended responses. Because respondents were able to give multiple answers, total mentions may exceed 100%.*

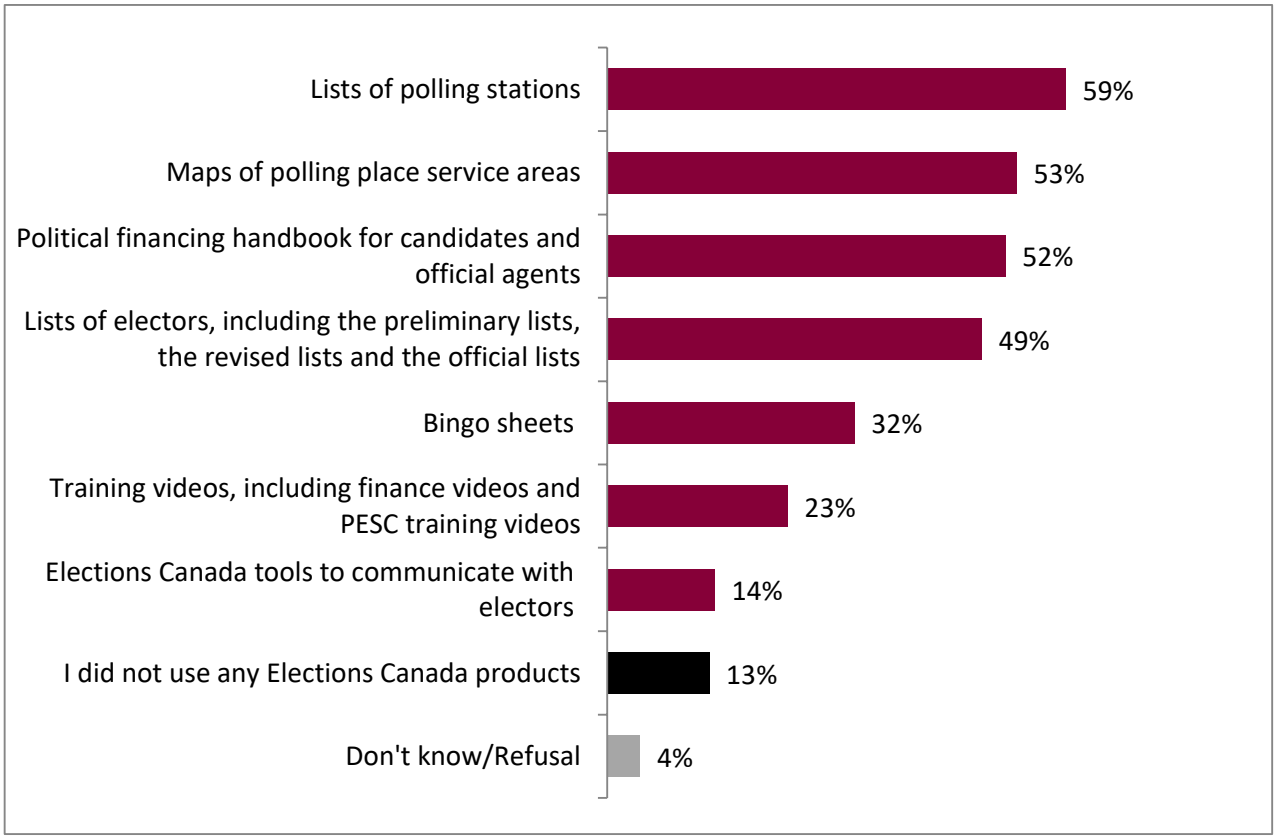
There were no significant subgroup differences in terms of not using the portal.

2.4 Elections Canada's Products

Elections Canada Products Used During the Campaign

Almost six in ten candidates (59%) used the list of polling stations, over half (53%) used maps of polling place service areas, and a similar proportion (52%) used the political financing handbook for candidates and official agents. Nearly half (49%) reported using the list of electors. Over three in ten respondents (32%) reported using bingo sheets, which represents a significant increase from 24% during the 44th General Election. Nearly a quarter (23%) stated that they used training videos, including finance videos and PESC training videos. Over one in ten candidates (14%) reported using Elections Canada tools to communicate with electors. In contrast, over one in ten candidates (13%) reported not using any Elections Canada products.

Figure 19: Elections Canada Products Used During the Campaign



ECProducts: Which of the following Elections Canada products did your campaign use? Base: All respondents (n=837) / Note: Because respondents were able to give multiple answers, total mentions may exceed 100%.

Significant subgroup differences in terms of Elections Canada products usage include:

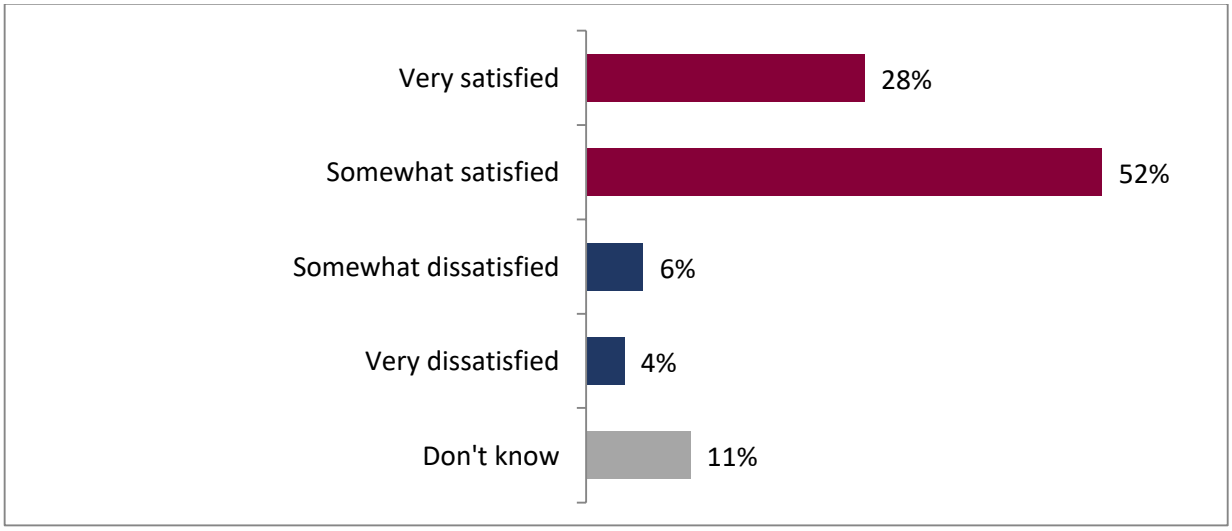
- Female candidates were more likely than male candidates to have used the list of polling stations (68% compared to 56%), the list of electors (56% compared to 45%), and bingo sheets (39% compared to 30%)
- English-speaking candidates were more likely than French-speaking candidates to have used the political financing handbook for candidates and official agents (54% compared to 44%)
- Candidates without a disability were more likely than candidates with a disability to have used the bingo sheets (34% compared to 25%)
- Candidates born outside of Canada were more likely than candidates born in Canada to have used the list of electors (59% compared to 47%)
- Racialized candidates were more likely than non-racialized candidates to have used the list of electors (65% compared to 46%)
- Non-first-time candidates were more likely than first-time candidates to have used the lists of polling stations (66% compared to 55%), the lists of electors (55% compared to 46%) and the bingo sheets (42% compared to 26%). Meanwhile, first-time candidates were more likely than non-first-time candidates to have used the training videos (28% compared to 16%).

- Incumbent candidates were more likely than non-incumbent candidates to have used the lists of polling stations (91% compared to 54%), the maps of polling place service areas (77% compared to 49%), the lists of electors (76% compared to 44%), and the bingo sheets (79% compared to 24%). Meanwhile non-incumbent candidates were more likely than incumbent candidates to have used the training videos (26% compared to 9%).
- Candidates affiliated with a party were more likely than independent candidates to have used the lists of polling stations (72% compared to 31%), the maps of polling place service areas (62% compared to 35%), the lists of electors (58% compared to 27%), the bingo sheets (45% compared to 5%), and the Elections Canada tools to communicate with electors (16% compared to 9%). Meanwhile independent candidates were more likely than candidates affiliated with a party to use training videos (29% compared to 21%), and to not have used any Elections Canada products (25% compared to 8%).
- Candidates from an urban area were more likely than those in a rural area to use the maps of polling place service areas (61% compared to 42%).

Satisfaction with the Format of the List of Electors

Among candidates who used the list of electors (49% of respondents, n=390), the large majority (80%) were satisfied with its format, with over a quarter of respondents being very satisfied (28%) and just over half (52%) being somewhat satisfied. One in ten candidates (10%) reported being dissatisfied with the format, with 6% being somewhat dissatisfied and 4% very dissatisfied.

Figure 20: Satisfaction with the Format of the List of Electors



ListSatFormat: How satisfied were you with the format of the list of electors? Base: Respondents who used the list of electors (n=390)

The following subgroups were more likely to be *very satisfied* with the format of the list of electors:

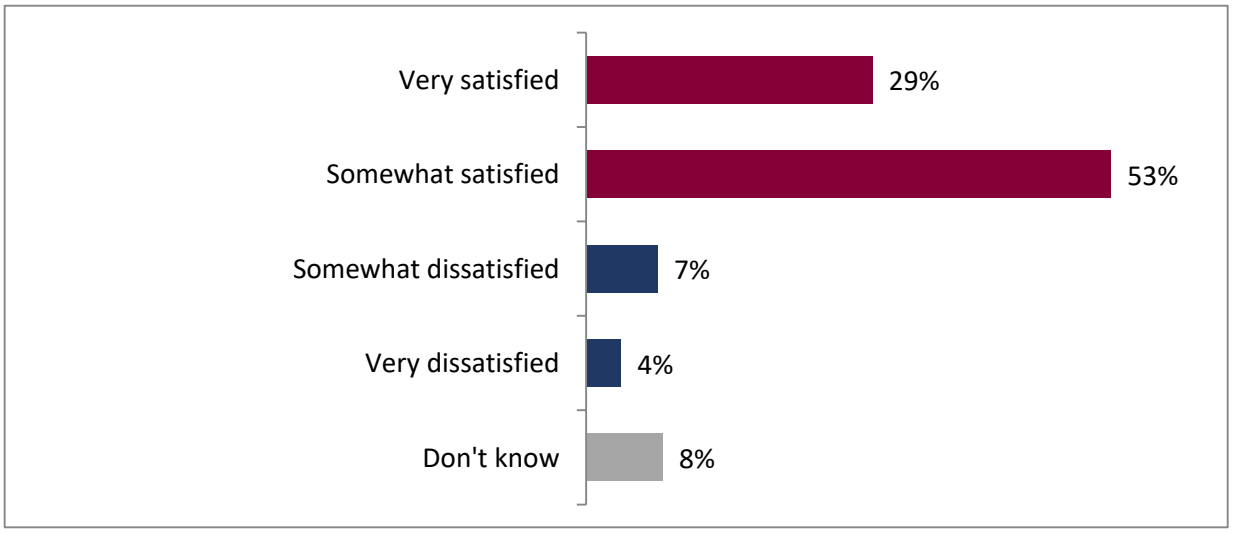
- Candidates in Ontario (33%) compared to candidates in Quebec (16%).

Satisfaction with the Overall Quality of the Lists of Electors

Among candidates who used the lists of electors (49% of respondents, n=390), over eight in ten (82%) were satisfied with the overall quality of the lists of electors, with nearly three in ten (29%) reporting they were very satisfied and over half (53%) stated they were somewhat satisfied. A little more than one out of ten (11%) reported being dissatisfied with the overall quality, where 7% were somewhat dissatisfied and 4% very dissatisfied.

Results remained stable compared to the 44th General Election, where 82% of candidates who used the list of electors (50% of respondents in 2021, n=531) were at least somewhat satisfied with the quality of the lists.

Figure 21: Satisfaction with the Overall Quality of the Lists of Electors



ListSat: How satisfied were you with the overall quality of the lists of electors? Base: Respondents who used the list of electors (n=390)

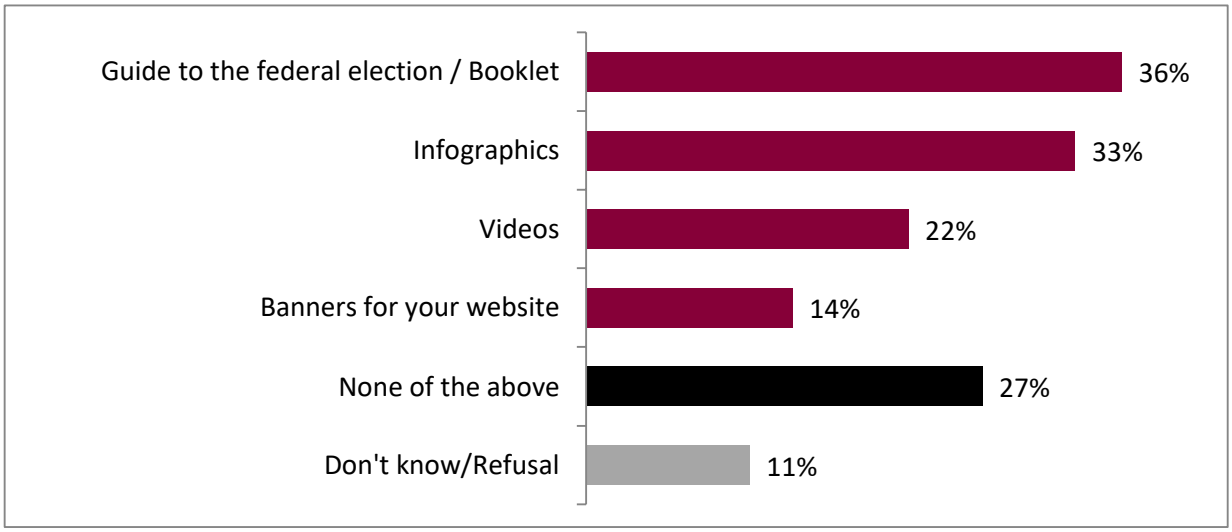
There were no significant differences in terms of overall satisfaction levels towards the quality of the list of electors.

Most Useful Elections Canada Tools for Candidates to Communicate with Electors

Among candidates who reported having used the tools provided by Elections Canada to facilitate candidate communication with electors (14% of respondents, n=118), nearly two-thirds (63%) believed at least one such tool was useful. Candidates most commonly cited the guide to the federal election (36%) as useful, followed by infographics (33%), videos (22%), and the banners for candidates' websites (14%). Slightly over a quarter of respondents (27%) did not find any of the provided Elections Canada communication tools to be useful in reaching electors.

Results remained stable compared to the 44th General Election, where candidates that used Elections Canada's communications tools (12% of respondents in 2021, n=133) identified the following tools as most useful: the guide to the federal election (37%), infographics (36%), videos (22%), and website banners (16%).

Figure 22: Most Useful Elections Canada Tools for Communicating with Electors



ECTools: Which of the following Elections Canada tools to communicate with electors were the most useful for your campaign? Base: Respondents who used Elections Canada tools to communicate with electors (n=118) / Note: Because respondents were able to give multiple answers, total mentions may exceed 100%.

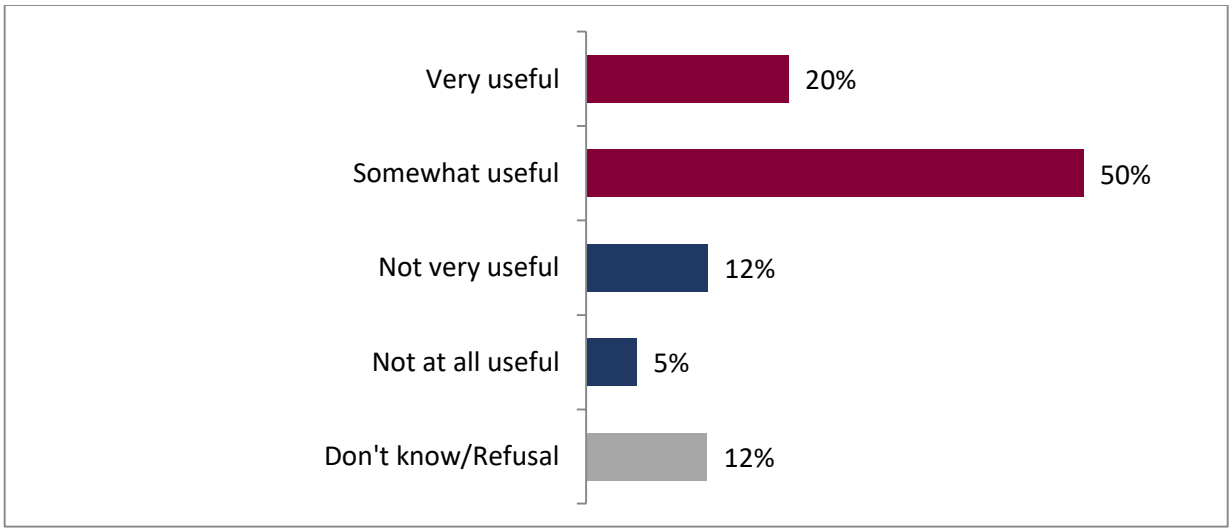
There were no significant differences among subgroups.

Usefulness of Elections Canada's Products for Running the Campaign

Seven in ten candidates (70%) indicated that Elections Canada's products were useful for running their campaign, with two in ten (20%) stating they were very useful and half (50%) describing them as somewhat useful. Fewer candidates (17%) found the products not useful, with 12% stating they were not very useful and 5% not useful at all.

Compared to candidates in the 44th General Election, candidates in the 45th General Election were significantly less likely to state that Elections Canada's products were useful for running their campaign (70% compared to 85%), very useful (20% compared to 30%) and somewhat useful (50% compared to 55%).

Figure 23: Usefulness of Elections Canada's Products for Running the Campaign



ECProductsUse: Thinking about what you needed to run your campaign, how useful were Elections Canada's products? Base: All respondents (n=837)

The following subgroups were significantly more likely to report that Elections Canada's products were useful:

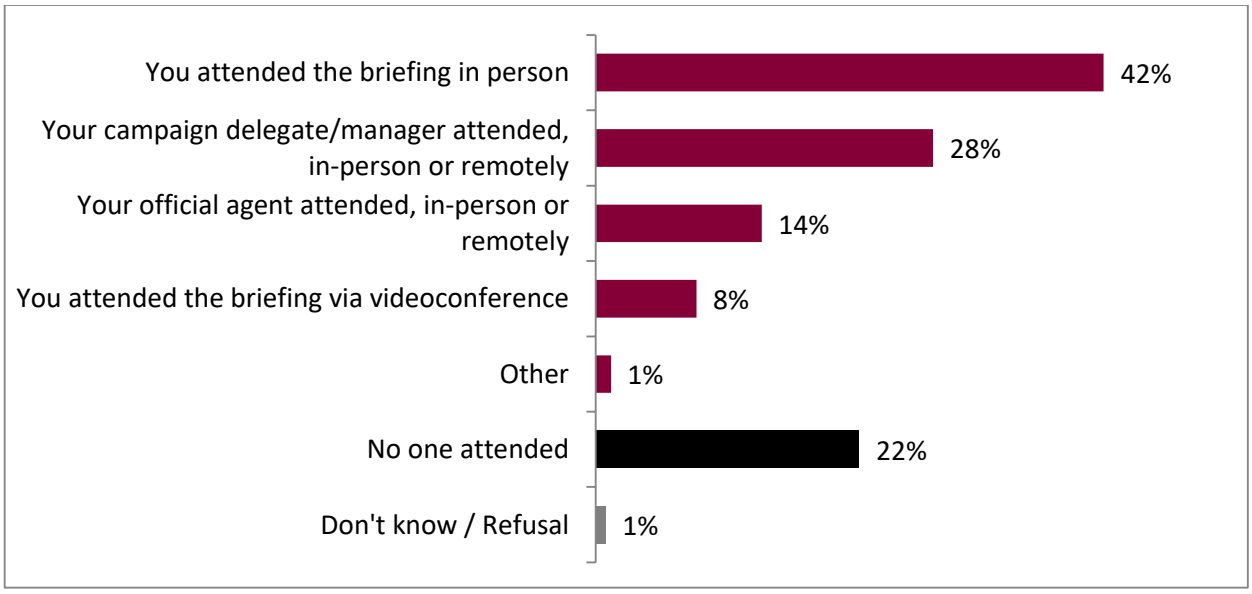
- Candidates with a household income of between $200K to 250K (83%) compared to those with a household income of under $40K (63%) and between $40K-$99K (65%)
- Candidates from Ontario (75%) compared to candidates from Quebec (64%)
- Candidates from a party represented in the House of Commons (77%) compared to candidates from a non-represented party (66%)
- Candidates affiliated with a party (75%) compared to independent candidates (61%).

Attendance to the All-Candidates Briefing

Three-quarters of candidates (78%) reported that at least one member from their campaign attended the all-candidates briefing organized by the Returning Officer. Just over four in ten (42%) stated they attended the briefing in person, while over a quarter (28%) indicated that their campaign delegate attended either in person or remotely. Over one in ten (14%) stated that their official agent attended in person or remotely, and less than one in ten (8%) personally attended the briefing via videoconference. Just over two in ten respondents (22%) did not attend the briefing.

Compared to the 44th General Election, the proportion of candidates who had at least one member from their campaign attend the briefing significantly increased (78% compared to 74%). However, the proportion of candidates who personally attended the briefing, either in person or via videoconference, remained stable (50% compared to 47%). That said, the proportion of candidates who attended the briefing in person significantly increased (42% compared to 31%) while the proportion who attended via videoconference significantly decreased (8% compared to 17%).

Figure 24: Attendance to the All-Candidates Briefing



BriefindAttend: The returning officer in your riding organized an "all-candidates briefing" for the general election. Please indicate which of the following applies. Base: Respondents who used Elections Canada tools to communicate with electors (n=837) / Note: Because respondents were able to give multiple answers, total mentions may exceed 100%.

Significant differences in terms of attendance to the all-candidates briefing include:

- Candidates with a disability were more likely than candidates without a disability to state that their campaign delegate/manager attended (31% compared to 19%)
- Candidates born outside of Canada were more likely than candidates born in Canada to have attended the briefing in-person (54% compared to 40%)
- Racialized candidates were more likely than non-racialized candidates to have attended the briefing in-person (51% compared to 40%)
- Candidates with a yearly household income of $200K or more were more likely to state that their official agent attended the briefing (19%) compared to candidates with a household income under $40K (7%). Candidates with a yearly household income of $200K or more were also more likely to state their campaign delegate/manager (51%) attended compared to candidates with a household income of under $40K (12%), between $40K to $99K (14%), and between $100K to $199K (28%).
- First-time candidates were more likely than non-first-time candidates to have attended the briefing in-person (46% compared to 36%)
- Incumbent candidates were more likely than non-incumbent candidates to state that their official agent (23% compared to 12%) or that their campaign delegate/manager (60% compared to 23%) attended
- Candidates affiliated with a party were more likely than independent candidates to state that their official agent (16% compared to 10%) or campaign delegate/manager (38% compared to 7%) attended

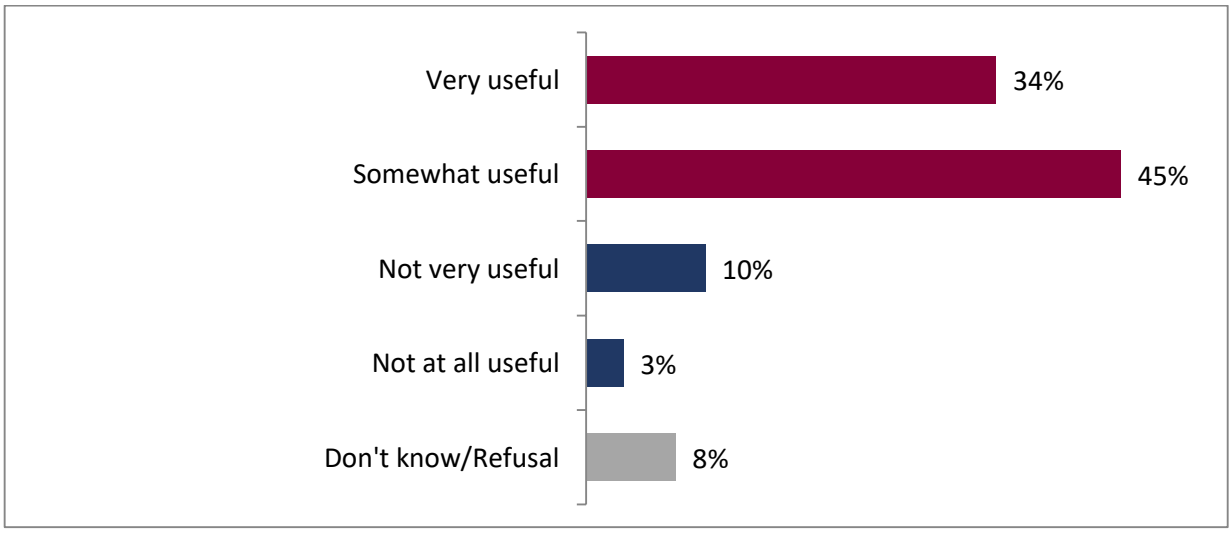
- Candidates in urban ridings were more likely than those in rural ridings to attend the briefing in-person (49% compared to 32%).

Usefulness of the All-Candidates Briefing

Out of the candidates who personally attended or had a member of their campaign attend the all-candidates briefing (76% of respondents, n=627), the majority (79%) stated that the briefing was useful, with just over one-third (34%) describing it as very useful and just over four in ten (45%) describing it as somewhat useful. Over one in ten candidates (13%) who attended or had a team member attend said the briefing was not useful, with 10% stating it was not very useful and 3% not useful at all.

Results remained stable compared to the 44th General Election, where 79% of candidates who personally attended, or had a member of their campaign attend, the all-candidates briefing stated that the briefing was at least somewhat useful (74% of respondents in 2021, n=788).

Figure 25: Usefulness of the All-Candidates Briefing



BriefingUse: How useful was the all-candidates briefing? Base: Respondents who attended the all-candidates briefing or had a member of their team attend (n=627)

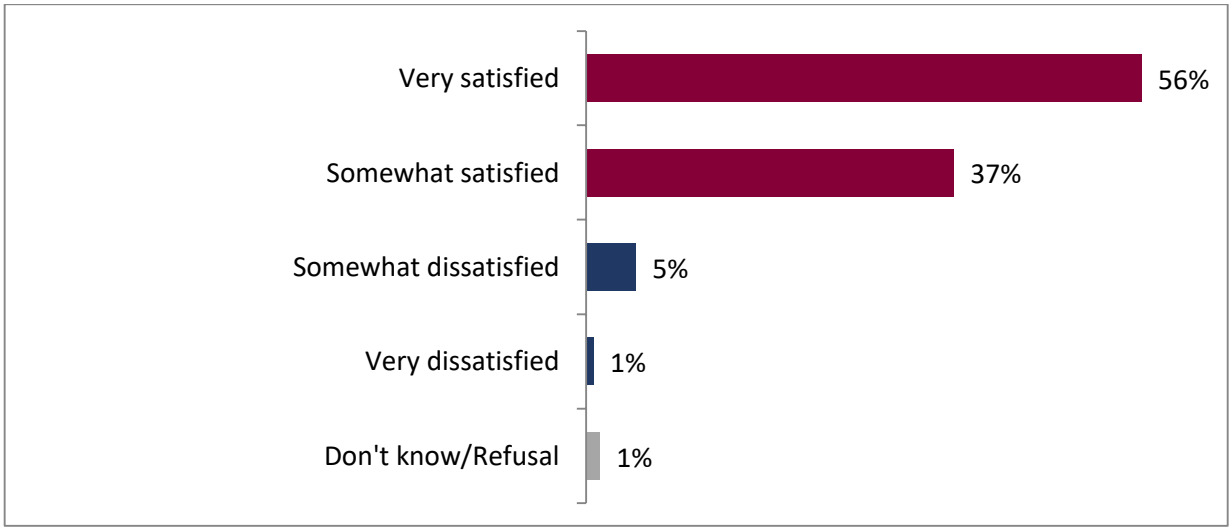
The following subgroups were significantly more likely to find the all-candidates briefing useful:

- Candidates born outside of Canada (90%) compared to candidates born in Canada (77%)
- Racialized candidates (90%) compared to non-racialized candidates (78%)
- Non-incumbent candidates (81%) compared to incumbent candidates (68%)
- Candidates from a non-represented party (83%) compared to candidates from a party represented in the House of Commons (75%).
- Candidates with a household income of $40K to 99K (84%) compared to those with a household income of between $200K to 250k (71%)
- Candidates in urban ridings (82%) compared to candidates in rural ridings (69%).

Satisfaction with the All-Candidates Briefing

Among the candidates who attended the briefing in person (42% of respondents, n=363), the vast majority (93%) reported being satisfied with the briefing, with over half (56%) stating they were very satisfied and over one-third (37%) being somewhat satisfied. Fewer than one in ten respondents (6%) expressed dissatisfaction, with 5% being somewhat dissatisfied and 1% very dissatisfied.

Figure 26: Satisfaction with the All-Candidates Briefing



BriefingSat: How satisfied were you with the all-candidates briefing? Base: Respondents who attended the all-candidates briefing in person (n=363)

There were no significant subgroup differences in terms of overall satisfaction level.

Reasons for Dissatisfaction with the All-Candidates Briefing

Respondents who stated they were somewhat or very dissatisfied (6% of respondents, n=16) were then asked about the reasons for their dissatisfaction. The exact wording of the question is provided below. Comments most often pointed to information that was too general and lacking in practical detail, particularly regarding nomination requirements, voting procedures, and campaign tools. Some respondents also noted issues with the clarity and organization of the session, mentioning the use of technical jargon, rushed delivery, or confusing documentation. A few respondents criticized the timing of the briefing as inconvenient for those with full-time jobs, while others highlighted limited engagement, low attendance, and minimal opportunity for discussion. Overall, a few participants felt the session offered little new or useful information and did not represent a worthwhile use of their time.

*BriefingSatNon: Why were you dissatisfied with the all-candidates briefing? *Open question Base: Respondents who attended the all-candidates briefing in person and expressed dissatisfaction with the experience (n=16)*

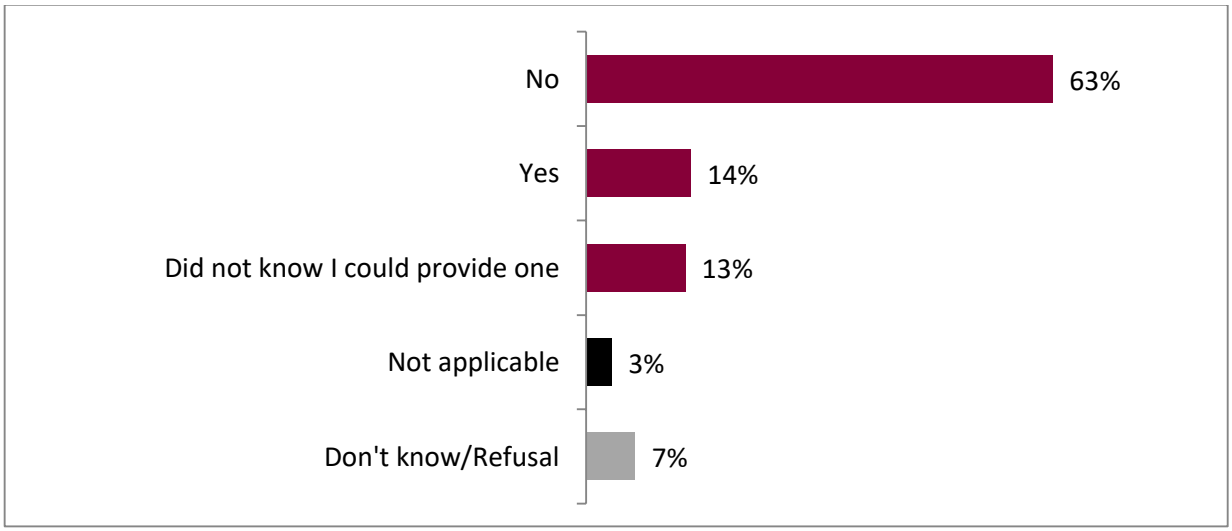
2.5 Electoral Campaign

Provision of Election Staff Names to the Returning Officer

Over six in ten candidates (63%) did not provide the Returning Officer with a list of names of election staff to work at the polling station, while over one in ten (14%) provided a list of names. Over one in ten candidates (13%) were not aware that they could submit a list of names.

Compared to the 44th General Elections, the proportion of candidates who provided a list of names significantly deceased (14% compared to 24% in 2021), while the proportion of candidates who were not aware they could submit a list of names significantly increased (13% compared to 10% in 2021).

Figure 27: Provision of Election Staff Names to the Returning Officer



GENames: Did you provide the returning officer with a list of names of election staff to work at the polling station? Base: All respondents (n=837)

The following subgroups were significantly more likely to provide the returning officer with a list of names of election staff:

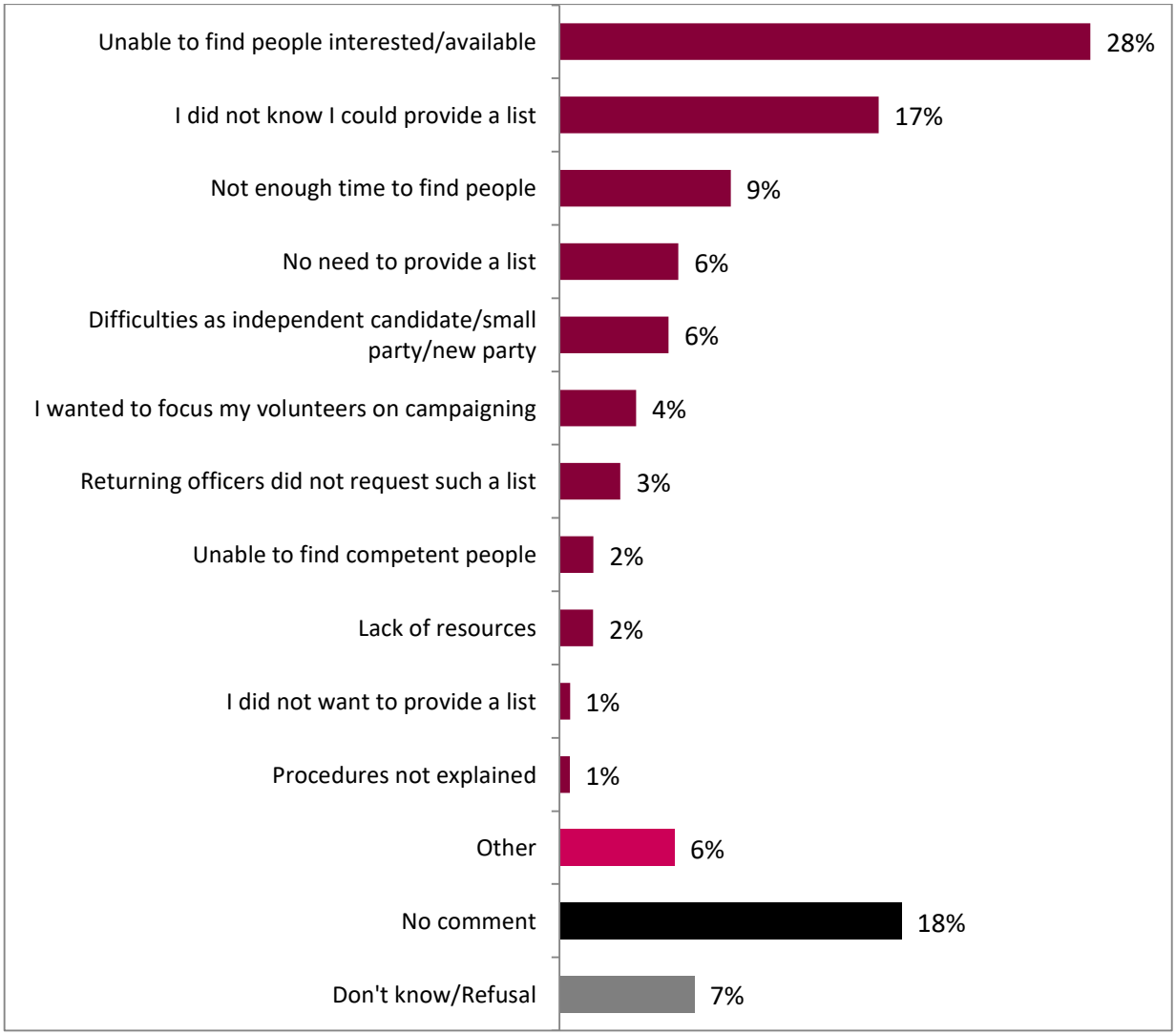
- Candidates in Ontario (16%) and Atlantic provinces (22%) compared to candidates in Alberta (6%)
- Candidates with a yearly household income of $200K and more (26%) compared to candidates with an income of less than $40K (5%) or between $40K to $99K (6%) or $100K to 199K (11%)
- Non-first-time candidates (21%) compared to first-time candidates (10%)
- Incumbent candidates (39%) compared to non-incumbent candidates (10%)
- Candidates affiliated with a party (18%) compared to independent candidates (6%).

Reasons for Not Providing a List of Election Staff Names

Candidates who knew that they could provide the RO with a list of names, but didn't (63% of respondents, n=534) were asked the reasons why. Among those who did not provide a list of names, the main reasons mentioned were being unable to find people who are interested/available (28%) and not knowing they could provide a list (17%). Around one-in-ten (9%) mention not having enough time to find people. Other responses ranged from 1% to 6%. Almost one respondent out of five did not provide an answer (18%).

Compared to the 44th General Election, the most frequently cited reason for not providing a list of election staff names remained: being unable to find people interested/available (26% in 2021).

Figure 28: Reasons for Not Providing a List of Election Staff Names



GENamesNon: Why did you not provide a list of names? Base: Respondents who did not provide a list of names of election staff (n=534) / Note: Categories were coded from open-ended responses.Because respondents were able to give multiple answers, total mentions may exceed 100%.

Significant differences in terms of reasons for not providing a list of names include:

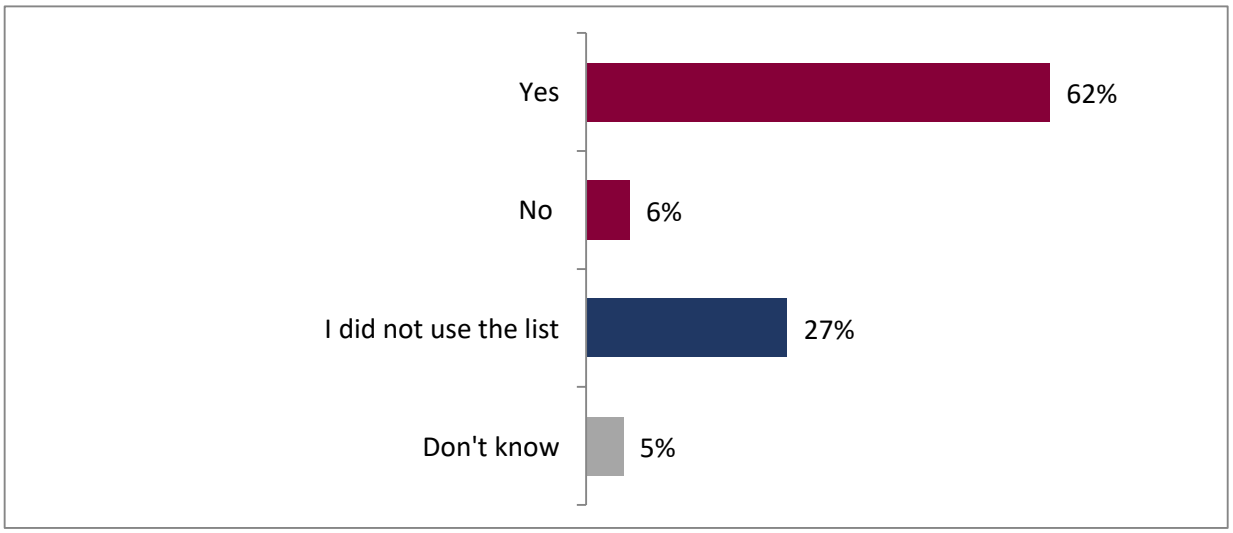
- English-speaking candidates were more likely than French-speaking candidates to mention that they did not know they could provide a list (19% compared 10%)
- Non-incumbent candidates were more likely to than incumbent candidates to mention not having enough time to find people (10% compared to 2%)
- Candidates from parties that are not represented in the House of Commons were more likely than candidates from represented parties to mention not having anyone/being unable to find people interested/available (31% compared to 20%), and difficulties as independent candidate/small party/new party (7% compared to 2%). Meanwhile candidates from represented parties were more likely than candidates from non-represented parties to mention they did not know they could provide a list (23% compared to 14%).

Measures Taken to Protect Personal Information from Voters' Lists

Over six in ten candidates (62%) reported having used the voters' lists and that they took measures to protect the protection of personal information in the lists. A small proportion (6%) used the lists but did not take any privacy measures, and a quarter did not use the list (27%).

Results remained stable compared to the 44th General Election, where 65% of candidates reported having used the voters' lists and took measures to protect the personal information from the lists.

Figure 29: Measures Taken to Protect Personal Information from Voters' Lists



PrivProtect: Did you take any measures to ensure the protection of personal information from the voters' lists that you received? Base: All respondents (n=837)

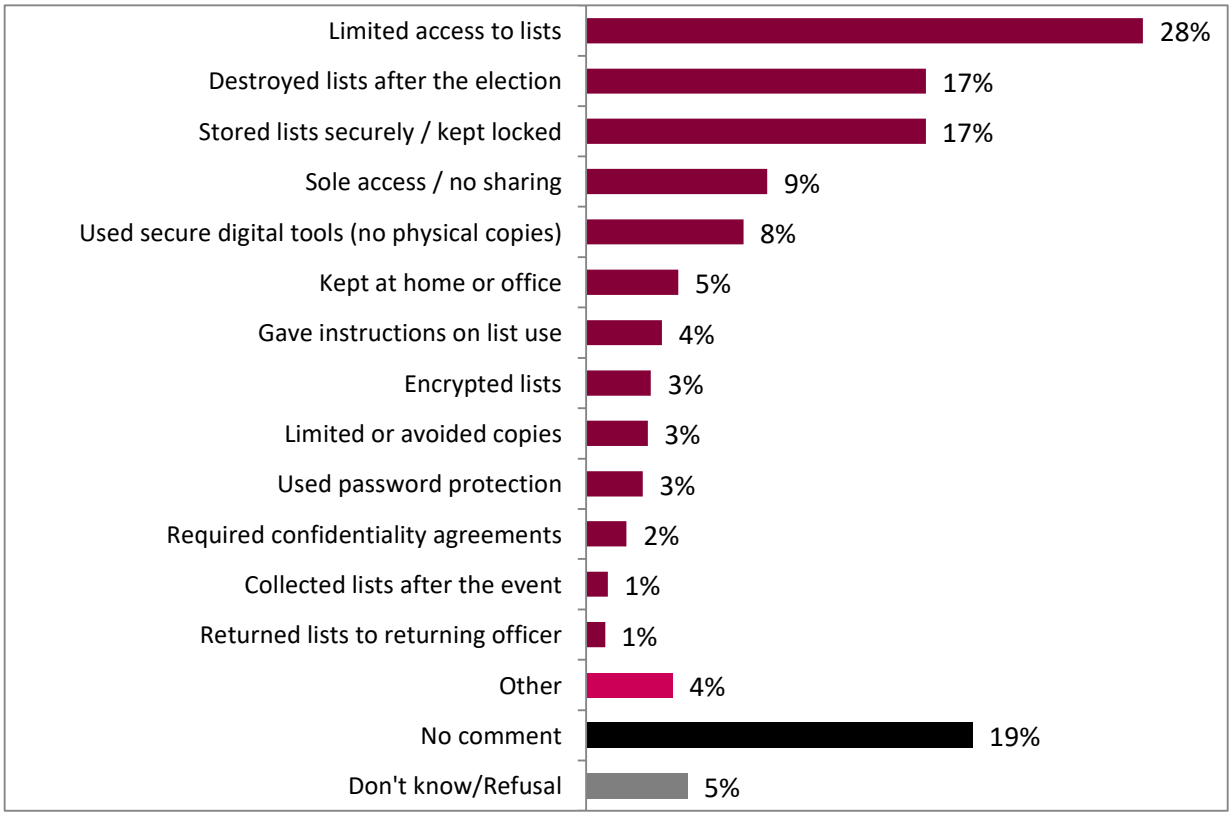
The following subgroups were more likely to have taken measures to ensure the protection of personal information from the voters' lists:

- Candidates born outside of Canada (73%) compared to candidates born in Canada (60%)
- Racialized candidates (71%) compared to non-racialized candidates (60%)
- Candidates with a yearly household income of $200K or more (76%), compared to those with an income of less than $40K (49%) or between $40K to $99K (49%)
- Incumbent candidates (82%) compared to non-incumbent candidates (59%)
- Candidates from a party represented in the House of Commons (75%) compared to those from a non-represented party (54%)
- Candidates affiliated with a party (69%) compared to independent candidates (47%).

Specific Measures Taken to Protect Personal Information from Voters' Lists

Out of those who took measures to protect personal information from voters' lists (62% of respondents, n=507), over a quarter mentioned having ensured limited access to lists (28%), along with ensuring the destruction of the lists at the end of the election (17%) and having stored the lists in a secure place / locked away (17%). Other responses ranged from 1% to 9% (see Figure 30). Around one respondent out of five did not comment (19%).

Figure 30: Specific Measures Taken to Protect Personal Information from Voters' Lists



PrivProtectMeasures: What measures did you take to ensure the protection of personal information from the voter's lists? Base: Respondents who reported taking measures to protect personal information (n=507) / Note: Categories were coded from open-ended responses. Because respondents were able to give multiple answers, total mentions may exceed 100%.

Significant subgroup differences in terms of measures taken to ensure the protection of personal information from the voters list include:

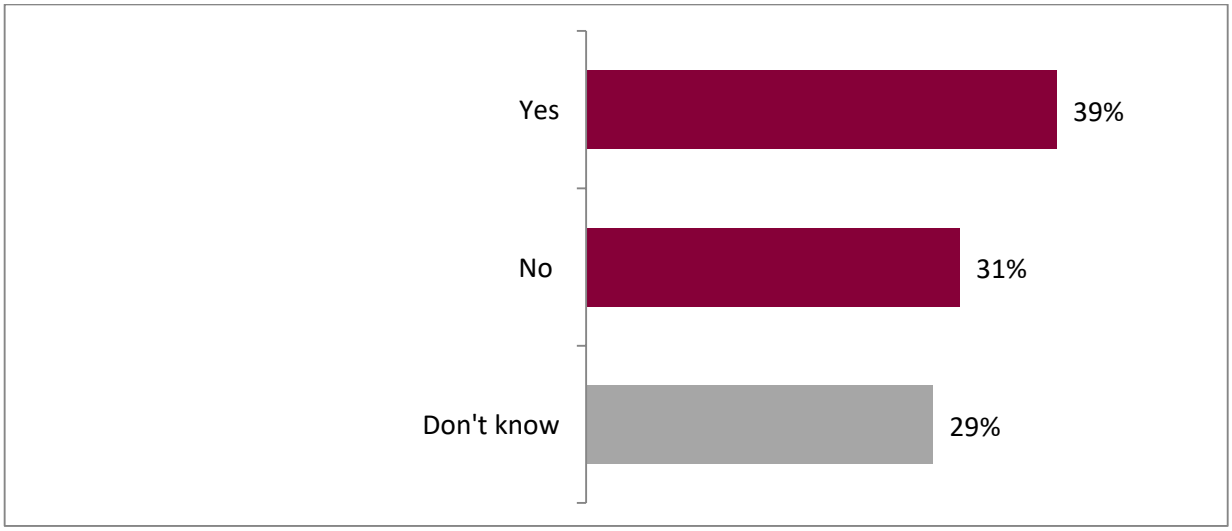
- Female candidates were more likely than male candidates to mention using secure digital tools to manage the lists (11% compared to 6%)
- Candidates in Ontario were more likely than candidates in Quebec to mention ensuring limited access to lists (34% compared to 19%)
- Candidates from parties that are not represented in the House of Commons were more likely than candidates from represented parties to mention keeping lists in a secure place / kept locked away (21% compared to 13%) and having sole access / not disclosing information to anyone else (13% compared to 5%).
- Candidates in an urban area were more likely than those in an urban/rural area to mention ensuring limited access to lists (34% compared to 18%).

Measures Taken to Ensure Accessibility for Electors with a Disability

Nearly four in ten candidates (39%) took measures to ensure that their campaign's materials, events or website were accessible to electors with a disability, while three in ten did not take any measures (31%) and nearly three out of ten were not sure (29%).

Compared to the 44th General Election, the proportion of candidates that reported that they did not take measures to ensure their campaign's materials, events or website were accessible to electors with a disability significantly increased (31% compared to 26%).

Figure 31: Measures Taken to Ensure Accessibility for Electors with a Disability



CampaignAccessible: Did you take any measures to ensure that your campaign's materials, events or website were accessible to electors with a disability? Base: All respondents (n=837)

The following subgroups were significantly more likely to take measures to ensure accessibility for electors with a disability:

- English-speaking candidates (42%) compared to French-speaking candidates (30%)
- Candidates with a disability (47%) compared to candidates without a disability (37%)
- Candidates affiliated with a party (44%) compared to independent candidates (30%).

Specific Measures Taken to Make the Campaign Accessible

Respondents who indicated they took measures to make their campaign accessible (39% of respondents, n=324) were asked to indicate what measures they took. The most commonly cited measures taken by candidates to ensure that their campaign was accessible were: making the website accessible to electors with a screen reader (14%), using an accessible office/venue (12%), offering a variety of communication options (11%), and ensuring that venues were wheelchair-accessible (10%). Other measures ranged between 1%-6% (See Figure 32).

Figure 32: Specific Measures Taken to Make the Campaign Accessible

	Total
Website was accessible to electors with a screen reader	**14%**
Accessible office/venue used (general)	**12%**
Offered variety of communication options (mail, email, phone)	**11%**
Venues were wheelchair-accessible	**10%**
Videos/audio with closed captioning	**6%**
Use of various communication channels	**6%**
Provided in-person options (e.g. door-to-door visits, vote from home, etc.)	**5%**
Use of different colour/contrast options	**5%**
Offered transport to the polling station	**5%**
Social media content was accessible to electors with a screen reader	**5%**
Use of social media (e.g. Facebook, etc.)	**4%**
Use of accessible online/virtual options/websites (unspecified)	**3%**
Use of signage/billboards/etc.	**3%**
Asking electors with a disability about accessibility needs	**3%**
Large print materials were available	**2%**
Use of described video	**2%**
Use of alternate text formats/fonts	**2%**
Compliance with various accessibility standards (e.g. AODA, WAI-ARIA, etc.)	**1%**
Use of plain language	**1%**
Offered multi-language options	**1%**
Sign language translation was provided during local events	**1%**
Other	**4%**
No comment	**25%**
Don't know	**7%**

CampaignAccessibleMeasures: Which measures did you take to make your campaign accessible? Base: Respondents who reported taking measures to make the campaign accessible (n=324) / Note: Categories

were coded from open-ended responses. Because respondents were able to give multiple answers, total mentions may exceed 100%.

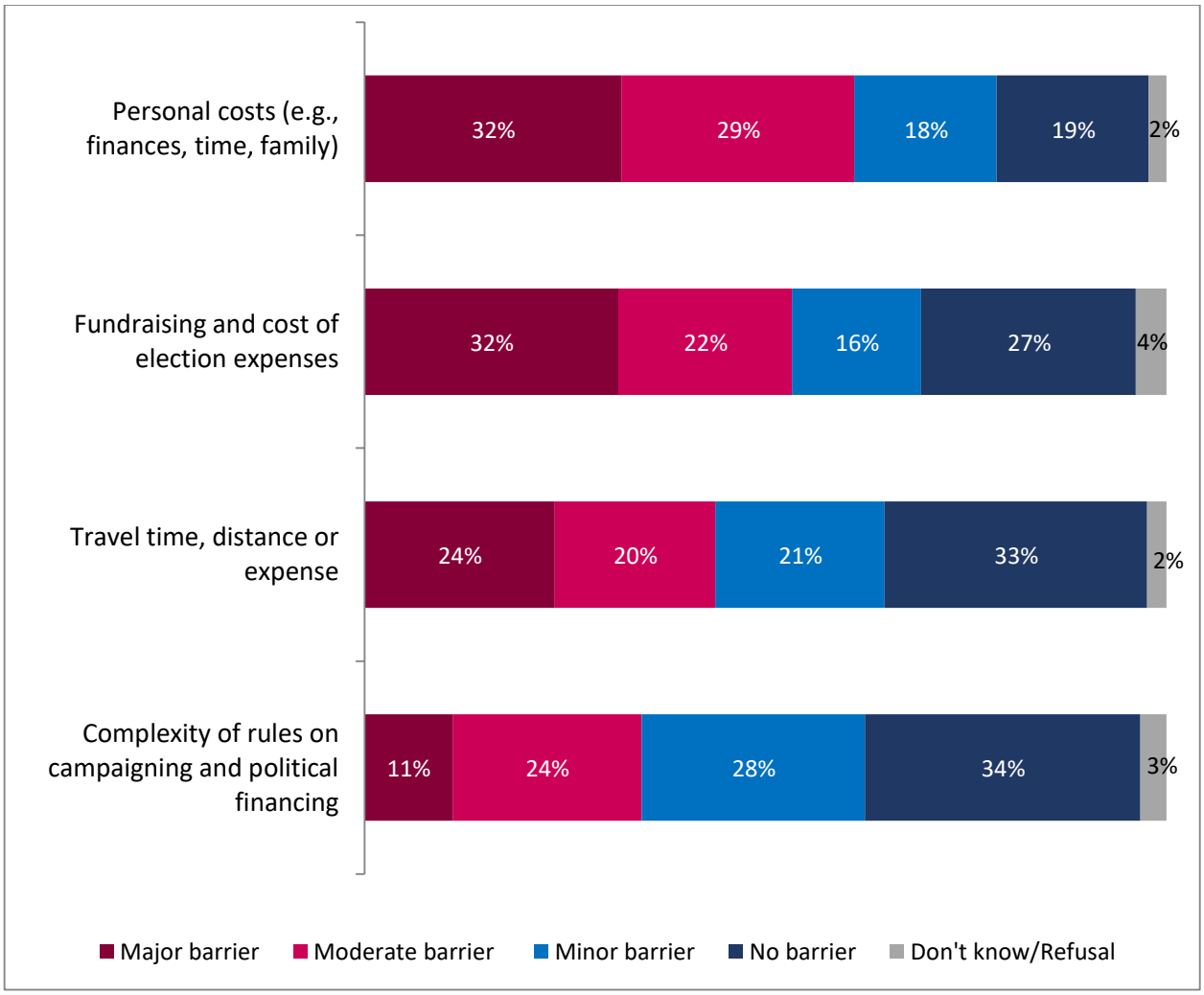
Significant subgroup differences in terms of accessibility measures put in place include:

- Female candidates were more likely than male candidates to mention offering transport to the polling station (12% compared to 1%)
- English-speaking candidates were more likely than French-speaking candidates to mention videos/audio with closed captioning (8% compared to 1%)
- Non-first-time candidates were more likely than first-time candidates to mention using an accessible office/venue (18% compared to 9%)
- Incumbent candidates were more likely than non-incumbent candidates to mention using an accessible office/venue (27% compared to 10%)
- Candidates from a party represented in the House of Commons were more likely than candidates from non-represented parties to mention using an accessible office/venue (18% compared to 8%), having wheelchair-accessible venues (17% compared to 6%), and using various communication channels (9% compared to 3%). Meanwhile, candidates from non-represented parties were more likely than those from represented parties to mention having an accessible website with a screen reader (17% compared to 10%) and using social media (6% compared to 1%).

Perceived Barriers Faced During the Campaign

Personal costs, including finances, time, and family were identified to be the biggest barrier faced with 61% of candidates considering it at least a moderate barrier (with 32% considering it a major barrier and 29% considering it a moderate barrier). Half of candidates (53%) identified fundraising and cost of election expenses to be at least a moderate barrier (with 32% considering it a major barrier and 22% considering a moderate barrier). Four in ten (44%) of candidates cited travel time, distance or related expenses to be at least a moderate barrier (with 24% considering it major barrier and 20% considering it a moderate barrier), while 35% of candidates cited the complexity of rules on campaigning and political financing as at least a moderate barrier (11% considering it a major barrier, and 24% considering it a moderate barrier).

Figure 33: Perceived Barriers Faced During the Campaign



Barrier: Based on your experience in the federal election, to what extent did the following issues present a barrier for you during your campaign?
a._fund: Fundraising and cost of election expenses
b._travel: Travel time, distance or expense
c._personal: Personal costs (e.g., finances, time, family)
d._rules: Complexity of rules on campaigning and political financing
Base: All respondents (n=837)

The following subgroups were more likely to report personal costs (e.g., finances, time, family) as at least a moderate barrier (major + moderate barrier) during their campaign:

- Candidates with a disability (73%) compared to candidates without a disability (57%)
- Candidates born outside of Canada (72%) compared to candidates born in Canada (59%)
- Candidates with a yearly household income of between $40K to $99K (68%) compared to candidates with an income of $200K or more (52%)
- First-time candidates (65%) compared to non-first-time candidates (56%)
- Non-incumbent candidates (65%) compared to incumbent candidates (38%)

- Candidates from a party that is not represented in the House of Commons (67%) compared to those from a represented party (51%).

The following subgroups were significantly more likely to report fundraising and the cost of election expenses as at least a moderate barrier (major + moderate barrier) during their campaign:

- Candidates with a disability (64%) compared to candidates without a disability (50%)
- Candidates born outside of Canada (66%) compared to candidates born in Canada (51%)
- Racialized candidates (66%) compared to non-racialized candidates (50%)
- First-time candidates (61%) compared to non-first-time candidates (41%)
- Non-incumbent candidates (59%) compared to incumbent candidates (15%)
- Candidates from a party that is not represented in the House of Commons (61%) compared to those from a represented party (40%).

The following subgroups were significantly more likely to report travel time, distance, or expense as at least a moderate barrier (major + moderate barrier) during their campaign:

- Female candidates (49%) compared to male candidates (41%)
- Candidates from the Atlantic provinces (62%) compared to candidates from Ontario (35%)
- Candidates with a disability (53%) compared to candidates without a disability (40%)
- Indigenous candidates (66%) compared to non-Indigenous candidates (43%)
- Candidates with a yearly household income of less than $40K (63%) and between $40K to $99K (55%) compared to candidates with a household income of between $100K to $199K (41%) and $200K or more (32%)
- Non-incumbent candidates (47%) compared to incumbent candidates (24%)
- Candidates from a party that is not represented in the House of Commons (49%) compared to candidates from a represented party (35%)
- Candidates from a rural area (76%) or a rural/urban area (57%) compared to those from an urban area (26%) or an urban/rural area (30%).

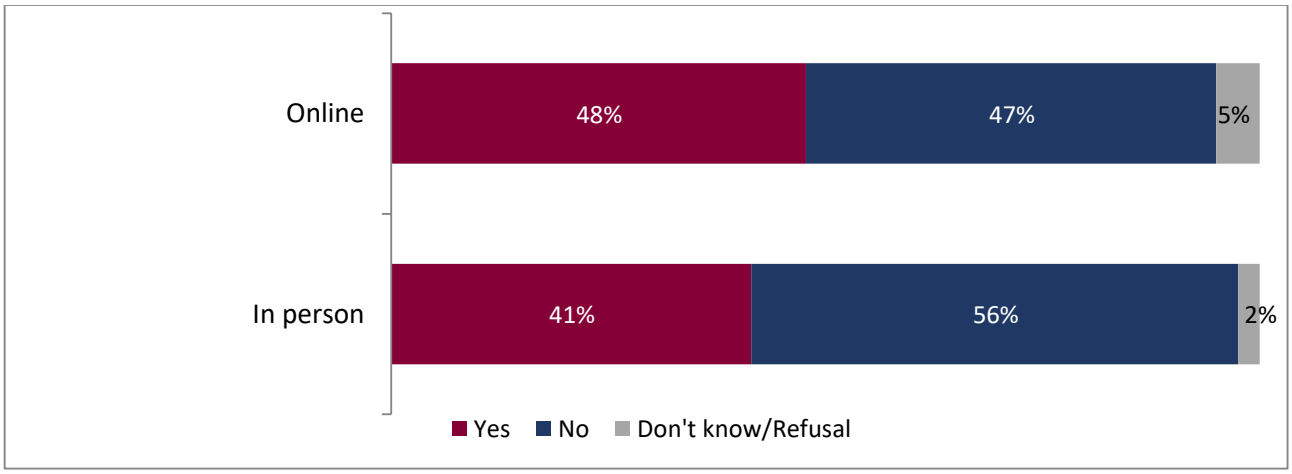
The following subgroups were significantly more likely to report the complexity of rules on campaigning and political financing as at least a moderate barrier (major + moderate barrier) during their campaign:

- Candidates from British Columbia (48%) compared to candidates from the Atlantic provinces (22%)
- Independent candidates (40%) compared to candidates that are affiliated with a party (32%).

Experience of Harassment During the Campaign

Almost half of candidates (48%) mentioned experiencing online harassment while campaigning, and around four in ten experienced in-person harassment (41%).

Figure 34: Experience of Harassment During the Campaign



CampaignHarassment: Did you experience harassment while campaigning, which may consist of verbal threats, threatening behaviour, intimidation, or violence?
a._person: In person?
b._online: Online?
Base: All respondents (n=837)

The following subgroups were significantly more likely to report experiencing online harassment while campaigning:

- Candidates from Atlantic provinces (61%), British Columbia (61%) and Ontario (48%), compared to candidates from Quebec (36%)
- Candidates with a post-graduate level education (58%) compared to candidates with a high school or less (29%) or college (40%) level education
- Racialized candidates (59%) compared to non-racialized candidates (45%)
- Candidates with a yearly household income of $200K and more (65%) compared to candidates with a household income of less than $40K (35%) and between $40K to $99K (38%) and between $100K to $199K (46%)
- Incumbent candidates (70%) compared to non-incumbent candidates (44%)
- Candidates from a party represented in the House of Commons (67%) compared to candidates from a non-represented party (35%)
- Candidates affiliated with a party (57%) compared to independent candidates (29%).

The following subgroups were significantly more likely to report experiencing in-person harassment while campaigning:

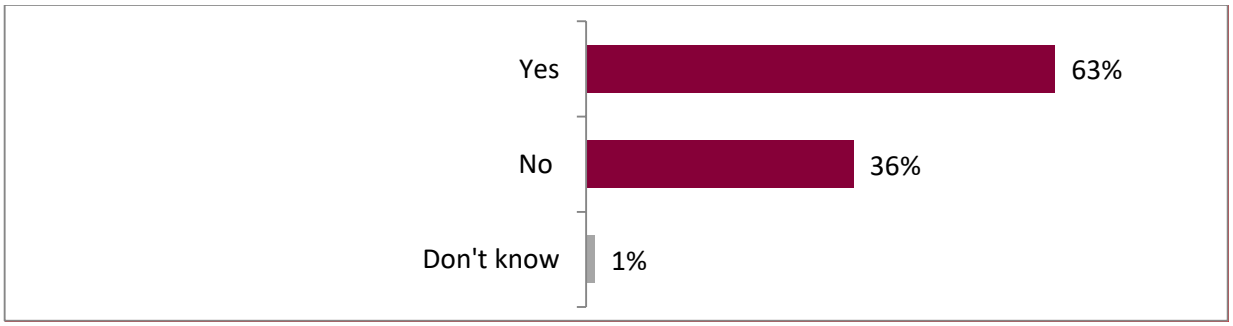
- Candidates from British Columbia (56%), Ontario (44%), the Atlantic provinces (48%), and Alberta (45%) compared to those from Quebec (26%)
- Candidates with a post-graduate level education (53%) compared to those with a university-level education (36%), and a high-school level education (32%)

- Candidates with a yearly household income of $200K and more (54%) compared to candidates with a household income of less than $40K (40%) and between $40K to $99K (34%) and between $100K to $199K (35%)
- Incumbent candidates (56%) compared to non-incumbent candidates (39%)
- Candidates from a party represented in the House of Commons (59%) compared to candidates from a non-represented party (30%)
- Candidates affiliated with a party (47%) compared to independent candidates (29%).

Awareness of Conditional Partial Reimbursement for Candidates Under the Canada Elections Act

When deciding to run as a candidate, over six in ten candidates (63%) were aware of the partial financial reimbursement of certain expenses for candidates that receive over 10% of the vote, or who are elected under the Canada Elections Act, while over a third (36%) were not aware.

Figure 35: Awareness of Partial Reimbursement for Candidates Under the Canada Elections Act



CampaignReim: The Canada Elections Act allows a candidate to file for partial reimbursement of elections expenses as well as some personal expenses if the candidate is elected or receives at least 10% of the valid votes. When deciding to run as a candidate, were you aware of these financial incentives? Base: All respondents (n=837)

The following subgroups were less likely to be aware of the partial reimbursement outlined in the Canada Elections Act:

- Candidates in Ontario (58%) compared to candidates from Quebec (69%)
- Candidates with a disability (50%) compared to candidates without a disability (67%)
- Racialized candidates (54%) compared to non-racialized candidates (66%)
- First-time candidates (51%) compared to non-first-time candidates (84%)
- Non-incumbent candidates (58%) compared to incumbent candidates (94%)
- Candidates from a non-represented party (58%) compared to candidates from a party represented in the House of Commons (71%)
- Independent candidates (54%) compared to candidates affiliated with a party (67%)
- Candidates with a household income of under $40K (56%), between $40K to 99K (55%), and between $100K to 199K (62%) compared to candidates with a household income of over $200K (75%).

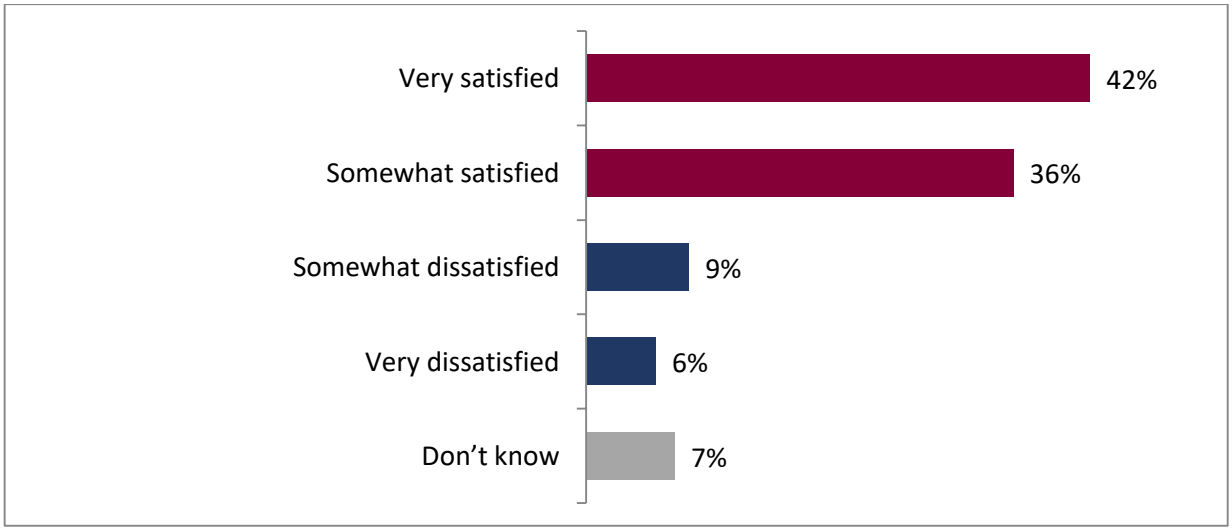
2.6 Conduct of Voting

Satisfaction with the Locations of Advance and Election Day Polling Sites

Nearly eight in ten candidates (78%) were satisfied with the locations chosen as polling sites for advance polls and on Election Day, including 42% who were very satisfied and 36% who were somewhat satisfied. On the other hand, 14% of candidates were dissatisfied, including almost one-in-ten (9%) who were somewhat dissatisfied, and a smaller proportion (6%) who were very dissatisfied. Around 7% of candidates were unsure.

Compared to the 44th General Election, satisfaction with the locations chosen as polling sites for advance polls and on Election Day increased, as a significantly higher proportion of candidates stated being very satisfied (42% compared to 33%), and significantly lower proportions stated being somewhat dissatisfied (9% compared to 14%) or very dissatisfied (6% compared to 11%).

Figure 36: Satisfaction with the Locations of Advance and Election Day Polling Sites



PollLocSat: *How satisfied were you with the locations chosen as polling sites for advance polls and on Election Day? Base: All respondents (n=837)*

The following subgroups were less likely to express they were *very* satisfied with the locations chosen as polling sites:

- Indigenous candidates (19%) compared to non-Indigenous candidates (44%)
- Candidates in British Columbia (34%) and Quebec (31%) compared to candidates in Ontario (49%), Atlantic (51%), and Alberta (54%).

Reasons for Dissatisfaction with the Location of Polling Sites

Respondents who were dissatisfied with the polling station locations (14% of respondents, n=112) were asked their reasons for dissatisfaction. The main reasons cited by candidates dissatisfied with the location of polling sites were that advance polling stations (37%) and ordinary polling stations (35%) were located

too far away, and that there were not enough advance polling stations (20%). Just over one in ten (13%) mentioned issues related to the accessibility of polling stations on Election Day, and around one in ten mentioned electors unsure which polling station to go to (10%). Other responses ranged from 1% to 9% (see Figure 37).

Figure 37: Reasons for Dissatisfaction with the Location of Polling Sites

	Total
Advance polling stations located too far	**37%**
Polling stations on Election Day located too far	**35%**
Not enough advance polling stations	**20%**
Problems related to accessibility of polling stations on Election Day	**13%**
Electors unsure which polling station to go to	**10%**
Not enough polling stations on polling day	**9%**
Problems related to accessibility of advance polling stations	**8%**
Advance polling stations hard to find/in an unfamiliar building	**6%**
Inappropriate polling stations	**6%**
Problems related to space in advance polling stations	**5%**
Advance polling stations were far from a public transit stop	**4%**
Polling stations on Election Day were far from a public transit stop	**2%**
Problems related to space in polling stations on Election Day	**2%**
Not enough polling stations on post secondary campuses	**1%**
Lack of/not enough parking spaces at advance polling stations	**1%**
Other	**8%**
No comment	**5%**
DK/Refusal	**7%**

PollLocSatNon: Why were you dissatisfied with the location of the polling sites? Base: Respondents who reported dissatisfaction with the location of polling sites (n=112) / Note: Categories were coded from open-ended responses. Because respondents were able to give multiple answers, total mentions may exceed 100%.

Significant subgroup differences in terms of dissatisfaction with the location of the polling sites include:

- Non-first-time candidates were more likely than first-time candidates to report that advance polling stations were located too far (54% compared to 26%)
- Respondents from a party represented in the House of Commons were more likely than those from a non-represented party to report that polling stations were located too far, both for advance voting (45% compared to 26%) and regular voting (43% compared to 25%).

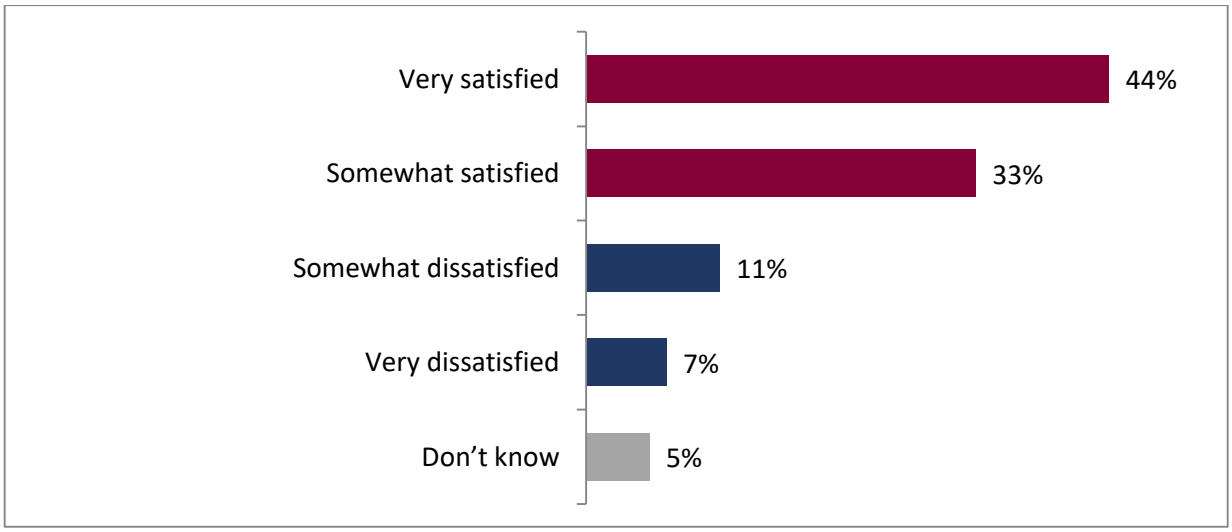
Satisfaction with the Voting Process on Advance Polls and Election Day

Over three-quarters of candidates (77%) were satisfied with the way the voting process went on advance polls and Election Day, with 44% who were very satisfied and 33% who were somewhat satisfied. On the

other hand, over one in ten candidates (18%) were dissatisfied, including 11% that were somewhat dissatisfied and 7% that were very dissatisfied.

Compared to the 44th General Election, a significantly higher proportion of candidates stated being very satisfied (44% compared to 38%) with the way the voting process went on advance polls and Election Day, while a significantly smaller proportion stated being somewhat satisfied (33% compared to 40%).

Figure 38: Satisfaction with the Voting Process on Advance Polls and Election Day



VotingSat: *How satisfied were you with the way the voting process went on advance polls and Election Day? Base: All respondents (n=837)*

The following subgroups were significantly more likely to express satisfaction with the voting process:

- Candidates affiliated with a party (79%) compared to independent candidates (71%).

Reasons for Dissatisfaction with the Voting Process

The candidates who were dissatisfied (18% of respondents, n=142) were asked their reason for dissatisfaction with the voting process. The main reasons cited by candidates dissatisfied with the voting process include long lineups on ordinary polling day (17%), and at advance polls (10%), scheduled voting dates/times were inconvenient (10%), and dissatisfaction with Elections Canada staff (10%). Other responses ranged from 1% to 9% (see Figure 39).

Figure 39: Reasons for Dissatisfaction with the Voting Process

	Total
Long lineups on polling day	**17%**
Long lineups at advance polls	**10%**
Scheduled voting dates/times were inconvenient	**10%**
Dissatisfied with Elections Canada staff	**10%**
Voting started before candidates were nominated/registered	**9%**

Lack of info/transparency regarding voting process, rules, etc.	**9%**
Lack of staff	**7%**
Too disorganized	**6%**
Lack secure voting / Lack of proper ID verification / Voting subject to fraud/manipulation (e.g. using pencil instead	**6%**
Problems related to size of polling stations	**5%**
Problems with vote count processes (e.g. too many errors, too slow, etc.)	**4%**
Too few polling locations on polling day	**4%**
Problems with the "Statement of the electors who voted on polling day" (also called the "bingo sheet")	**3%**
Electors were not aware of the voter ID requirements	**3%**
Polling stations not properly equipped	**3%**
Advance voting should not be allowed	**3%**
Electors did not know where to vote	**2%**
Problems related to the use of the Voter Information Card as identification	**2%**
Dissatisfied with mail-in ballots	**1%**
Bias due to presence of candidates/rallies/candidate signs at polling locations	**1%**
No online/email voting methods used	**1%**
Inconvenient location of polling stations	**1%**
Too few polling locations on advance polling days	**1%**
Other	**12%**
No comment	**4%**

VotingSatNon: Why were you dissatisfied with the voting process? Base: Respondents who reported dissatisfaction with the voting process (n=142) / Note: Categories were coded from open-ended responses. Because respondents were able to give multiple answers, total mentions may exceed 100%.

Significant subgroup differences in terms of dissatisfaction with the voting process include:

- Male candidates were more likely than female candidates to mention dissatisfaction with Elections Canada staff (14% compared to 2%), while female candidates were more likely than male candidates to mention that the scheduled voting dates/times were inconvenient (19% compared to 6%)
- Non–first-time candidates were more likely than first-time candidates to report long lineups at advance polls (19% compared to 5%) and dissatisfaction with Elections Canada staff (17% compared to 2%)
- Respondents from a party represented in the House of Commons were more likely than candidates from non-represented parties to report long lineups on polling day (23% compared to 9%), dissatisfaction with Elections Canada staff (15% compared to 4%). Meanwhile, respondents from non-represented parties were more likely than candidates from represented parties to mention a lack of info/transparency regarding the voting process (14% compared to 4%) and that voting started before candidates were nominated/registered (18% compared to 1%).
- Candidates affiliated with a party were more likely than independent candidates to report long lineups at advance polls (14% compared to 3%) and a lack of staff (10% compared to 2%).

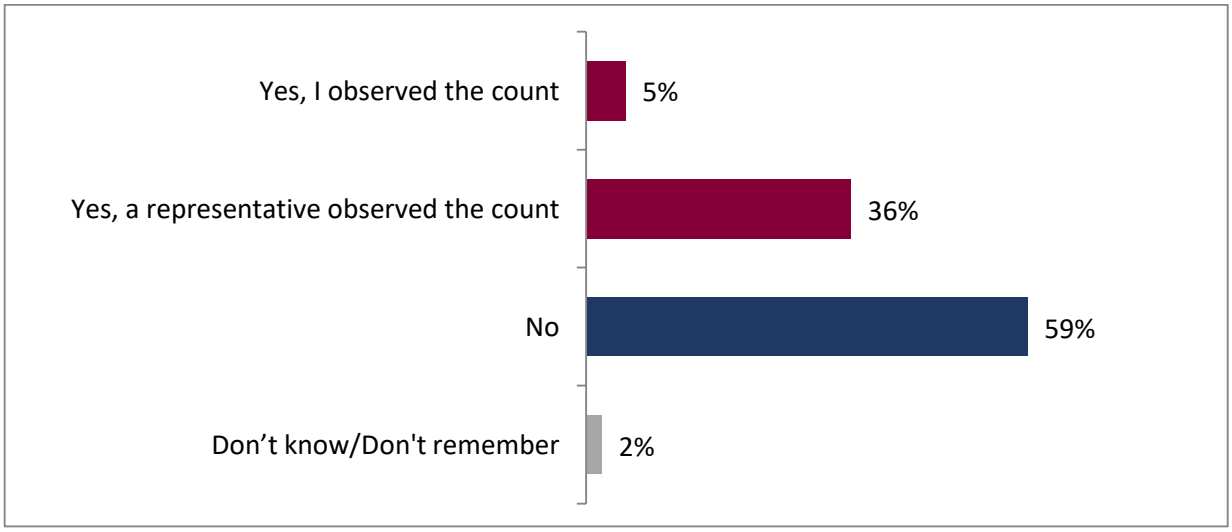
Meanwhile, independent candidates were more likely than candidates affiliated with a party to mention lack of info/transparency regarding voting process, rules (17% compared to 4%) and that voting starting before candidates were nominated/registered (25% compared to 1%).

- Candidates in rural areas were more likely than those in urban areas to mention scheduled voting dates/times being inconvenient (23% compared to 3%). Meanwhile, candidates in urban areas were more likely than those in rural areas to mention long lineups on polling day (28% compared to 6%).

Observation of Ballot Counting by Candidate or Representative

Nearly four in ten candidates (38%) said that they had an observer during the counting of ballots, either themselves (5%), and/or their representative (36%). On the other hand, nearly six-in-ten (59%) did not observe the counting of ballots.

Figure 40: Observation of Ballot Counting by Candidate or Representative



CountObserve: Did you or a representative observe the counting of ballots? Base: All respondents (n=837)

The following subgroups were significantly more likely to report that they or a representative observed the counting of ballots:

- English-speaking candidates (42%) compared to French-speaking candidates (27%)
- Candidates with a post-graduate level education (48%) compared to those with a college (30%) or high school or lower (24%) education level
- Candidates without a disability (42%) compared to candidates with a disability (28%)
- Non-first-time candidates (48%) compared to first-time candidates (33%)
- Incumbent candidates (87%) compared to non-incumbent candidates (31%)
- Candidates from a party represented in the House of Commons (73%) compared to candidates from a non-represented party (16%)
- Candidates affiliated with a party (50%) compared to independent candidates (14%)

- Candidates with a yearly household income of $200K and more (67%) or between $100K to $199K (35%) compared to candidates with an income of between $40K to $99K (18%) and under $40K (14%).

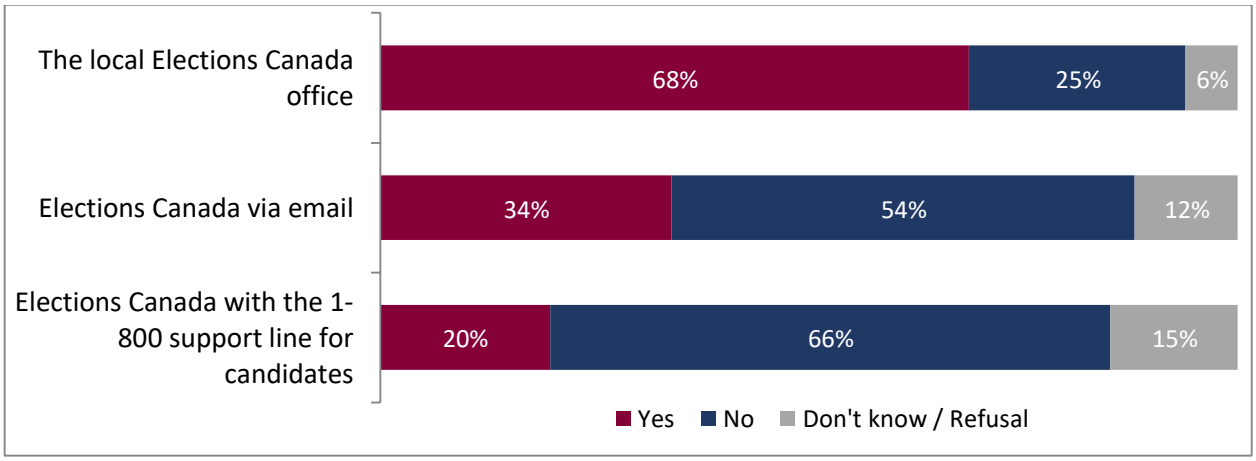
2.7 Contact with Elections Canada

Methods of Contact with Elections Canada During the Election

Nearly seven in ten respondents (68%) were in contact with Elections Canada through their local Elections Canada office, while 34% of respondents communicated with Elections Canada via email, and one in five (20%) used the 1-800 support line for candidates.

Compared to the 44th General Election, a significantly lower proportion of candidates stated that they contacted the local Elections Canada office (68% compared to 86%), Elections Canada by email (34% compared to 47%), and the 1-800 support line (20% compared to 32%).

Figure 41: Methods of Contact with Elections Canada During the Election



ECContact: During the election, did you, or any of your representatives, contact…
a. The local Elections Canada office?
b. Elections Canada with the 1-800 support line for candidates?
c. Elections Canada via email?
Base: All respondents (n=837)

The following subgroups were more likely to report that they or a representative contacted the local Elections Canada office:

- Candidates born in Canada (71%) compared to candidates born outside of Canada (57%)
- Non-first-time candidates (75%) compared to first-time candidates (66%)
- Incumbent candidates (95%) compared to non-incumbent candidates (64%)
- Candidates from a party that is represented in the House of Commons (83%) compared to candidates from a non-represented party (59%)
- Candidates affiliated with a party (75%) compared to independent candidates (55%)

- Candidates with a household income of over $200K (85%) compared to candidates with an income of between $40K to $99K (54%)
- Candidates from an urban area (75%) compared to candidates from an urban/rural area (55%).

The following subgroups were significantly more likely to report that they or a representative contacted Elections Canada via email:

- Female candidates (40%) compared to male candidates (31%)
- Candidates with a post-graduate level education (41%) compared to those with a university-level education (29%)
- English-speaking candidates (36%) compared to French-speaking candidates (24%)
- Candidates with a disability (41%) compared to candidates without a disability (32%)
- Candidates born outside of Canada (43%) compared to candidates born in Canada (33%).

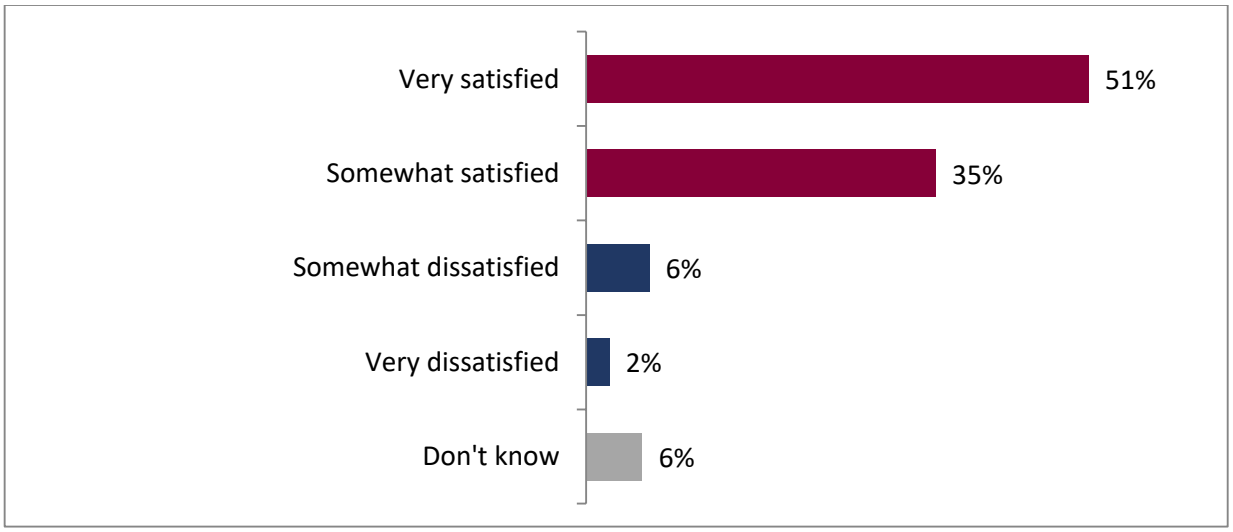
The following subgroups were significantly more likely to report that they or a representative contacted Elections Canada with the 1-800 support line for candidates:

- English-speaking candidates (21%) compared to French-speaking candidates (14%)
- Non-incumbent candidates (21%) compared to incumbent candidates (12%)
- Candidates from a party that is not represented in the House of Commons (23%) compared to candidates from a represented party (14%)
- Independent candidates (28%) compared to candidates affiliated with a party (16%).

Candidate Satisfaction with their Contact with Elections Canada

Among the respondents who contacted Elections Canada, either personally or through their representative (68% of respondents, n=650), over eight in ten respondents (86%) were satisfied with their contact with Elections Canada. Half of the respondents (51%) were very satisfied with their contact with Elections Canada, while over one in three (35%) were somewhat satisfied. In contrast, less than one-in-ten (8%) were dissatisfied, including 6% who were somewhat dissatisfied and 2% who were very dissatisfied.

Figure 42: Satisfaction with Contact with Elections Canada



ECContactSat: *How satisfied were you, or your representative, with your contact with Elections Canada? Base: Respondents who contacted Elections Canada (n=650)*

The following subgroups were less likely to express they were *very* satisfied with their contact with Elections Canada:

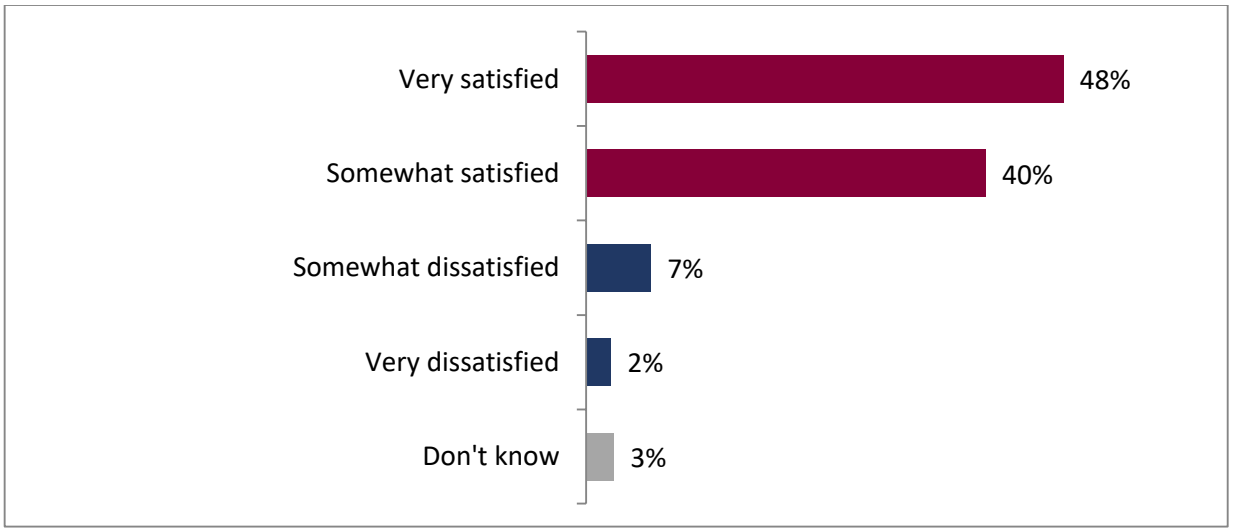
- Candidates who speak French (36%) compared to those who speak English (55%).

Satisfaction with the Overall Quality of Service from Elections Canada

Nearly nine out of ten (88%) candidates were satisfied to some degree with the overall quality of service received from Elections Canada. Almost half of the respondents were very satisfied (48%), while four in ten (40%) were somewhat satisfied. In contrast, 9% were dissatisfied, including 7% who were somewhat dissatisfied and 2% who were very dissatisfied. A small proportion of candidates (3%) did not provide an answer.

Results remained stable compared to the 44th General Election, with the proportions of candidates who were satisfied (88%) and *very* satisfied (48%) remaining similar to those in 2021 (86% and 47% respectively).

Figure 43: Satisfaction with the Overall Quality of Service from Elections Canada



ECServiceSat: *How satisfied were you with the overall quality of service you received from Elections Canada in the most recent federal election? Base: All respondents (n=837)*

The following subgroups were less likely to express satisfaction with the overall quality of service they received from Elections Canada:

- Women candidates (84%) compared with men candidates (90%)
- Candidates from a represented party (84%) compared to candidates from a party that is not represented in the House of Commons (91%).

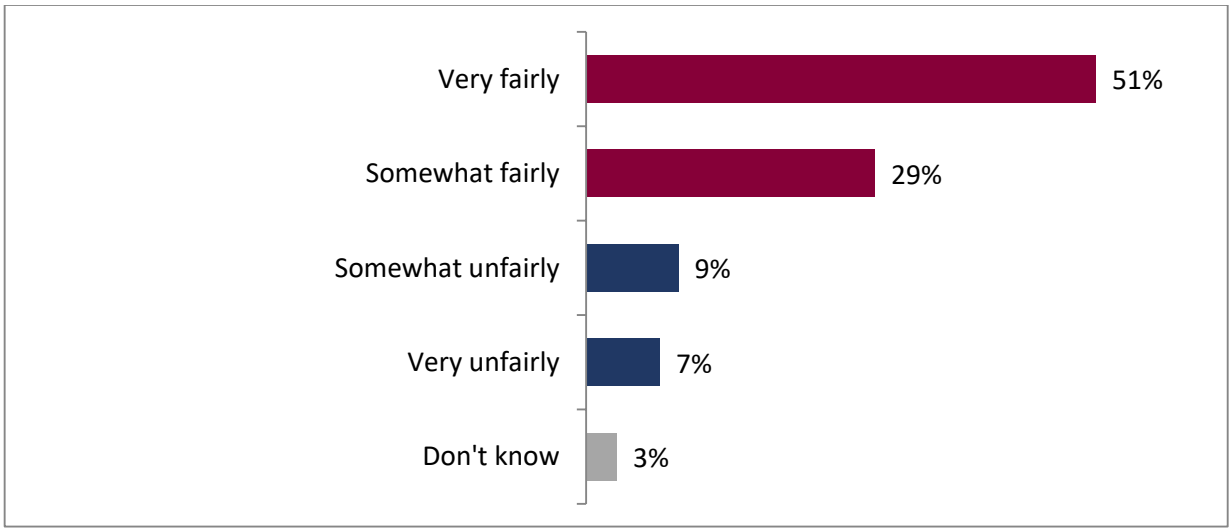
2.8 Electoral Integrity

Perceptions of How Elections Canada Ran the April 28th, 2025 Federal Election

Four in five candidates (80%) thought that Elections Canada ran the April 28th 2025 federal general election fairly. Half of the respondents (51%) said that Elections Canada ran the 2025 federal election very fairly, while nearly three in ten (29%) said was ran somewhat fairly. In contrast, 17% believed the federal election was run unfairly, including 9% who said it was somewhat unfairly and 7% who said it was very unfairly. A small proportion of respondents (3%) did not provide an answer.

The proportion of respondents who thought that Elections Canada ran the election fairly (80%) significantly increased compared to the 44th General Election (76%) but remained stable compared to the 43rd General Election (81%). Likewise, the proportion of respondents who responded that Elections Canada ran the election *very* fairly (51%) significantly increased compared to the 44th General Election (42%) but remained stable compared to the 43rd General Election (52%). Meanwhile, the proportions of those who responded *somewhat* fairly (29%) or *somewhat* unfairly (9%) significantly decreased compared to the 44th General Election (34% and 12% respectively) but also remained stable compared to the 43rd General Election (29% and 7% respectively).

Figure 44: Perceptions of How Elections Canada Ran the April 28th, 2025 Federal Election



GEFairness: *Thinking about the April 28th 2025 federal election, would you say that Elections Canada ran the election…? Base: All respondents (n=837)*

The following subgroups were significantly more likely to say that Elections Canada ran the election fairly:

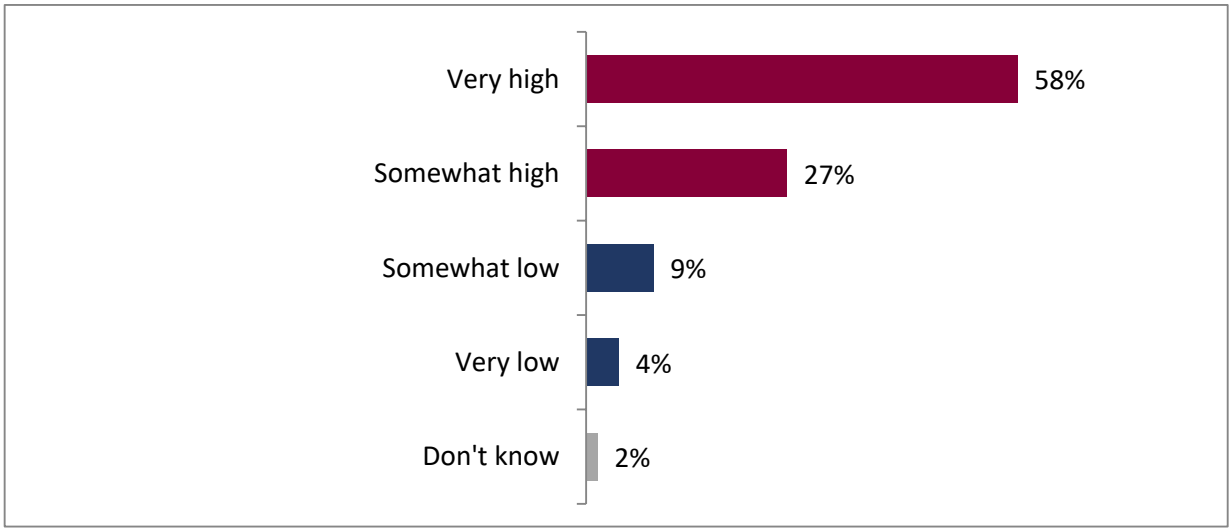
- Candidates in Ontario (85%) compared to candidates in Quebec (73%)
- Candidates with a post-graduate level education (87%) compared to candidates with a university-level education (80%) and candidates with a college-level education (71%)
- Candidates with a yearly household income of between $40K to $99K (81%), between $100K to $199K (85%) and $200K and above (89%) compared to candidates with a yearly household income of $40K or less (67%)
- Candidates affiliated with a party (87%) compared to independent candidates (66%).

Level of Trust in the Accuracy of the Election Results in the Riding

Over eight in ten candidates (85%) had a high level of trust in the accuracy of the election results in their riding. Nearly six in ten respondents (58%) said they had a very high level of trust in the accuracy of the election results in their riding, while 27% said they had a somewhat high level of trust. In contrast, 14% expressed low trust, including 9% who had somewhat low trust in accuracy of the election results and 4% who had very low trust. A small proportion of respondents (2%) did not provide an answer.

Results remained stable compared to the 44th General Election, where 83% of candidates reported a high level of trust in the accuracy of the election results in their riding.

Figure 45: Level of Trust in the Accuracy of the Election Results in the Riding



GETrust: *What level of trust do you have in the accuracy of the election results in your riding? Base: All respondents (n=837)*

The following subgroups were significantly less likely to express a *very* high level of trust in the accuracy of the election results in their riding:

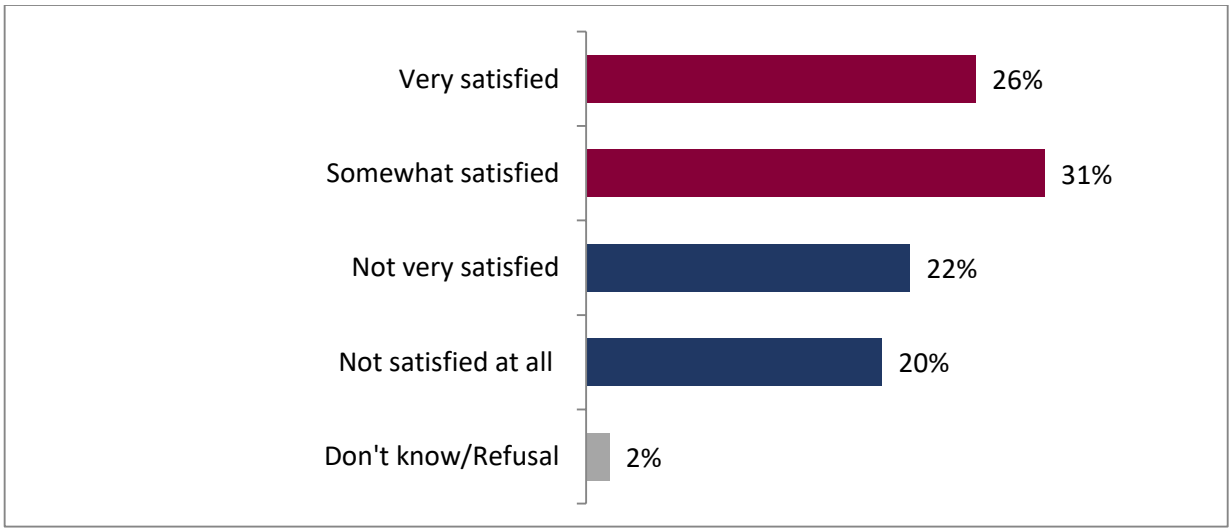
- Indigenous candidates (40%) compared to non-Indigenous candidates (59%)
- French speaking candidates (43%) compared to English speaking candidates (63%)
- Candidates in Quebec (40%) compared to candidates in Ontario (64%), Alberta (68%) and the Atlantic (65%)
- Candidates with a college-level education (49%), compared to those with a post-graduate level education (65%)
- Independent candidates (44%) compared to candidates affiliated with a party (64%).

Satisfaction with the Functioning of Democracy in Canada

Over half of the candidates (57%) reported being satisfied with the way democracy works in Canada, including 26% who were very satisfied and 31% who were somewhat satisfied. On the other hand, just over four in ten candidates (42%) were not satisfied, including 22% who were not very satisfied and 20% who were not at all satisfied.

Results remained stable compared to the 44th General Election, where 55% of candidates reported being satisfied with the functioning of democracy in Canada.

Figure 46: Satisfaction with the Functioning of Democracy in Canada



DemSat: *Overall, how satisfied are you with the way democracy works in Canada? Base: All respondents (n=837)*

The following subgroups were significantly less likely to express satisfaction with how the democracy works in Canada:

- Candidates with a university-level education (53%) or a college-level education (48%) compared to candidates with a post-graduate level education (67%)
- Candidates with a disability (40%) compared to candidates without a disability (63%)
- Candidates with a yearly household income of under $40K (36%) compared to candidates with a yearly household income of between $100K to $199K (58%) and $200K or more (78%)
- First-time candidates (54%) compared to non-first-time candidates (63%)
- Non-incumbent candidates (52%) compared to incumbent candidates (89%)
- Independent candidates (30%) compared to candidates affiliated with a political party (69%).

Reasons for Dissatisfaction with the Functioning of Democracy in Canada

Among the by candidates who were dissatisfied with the functioning of democracy in Canada (42% of respondents, n=358), the main reasons for dissatisfaction include the lack of proportional representation (28%), the view that the first-past-the-post system does not reflect voters' preferences (25%), and the perception that the system is unfair or undemocratic (17%). Other reasons were mentioned less frequently, ranging from 1% to 12% (See Figure 47T).

Compared to the 44th General Election, the most commonly cited reasons remained: lack of proportional representation (28% compared to 29%), first-past-the-post does not reflect voters' preferences (25% compared to 21%), and the system is unfair/not democratic (17% compared to 17%).

Figure 47T: Reasons for Dissatisfaction with the Functioning of Democracy in Canada

	Total
Lack of proportional representation	**28%**
First-past-the-post does not reflect voters' preferences	**25%**
System is unfair/not democratic	**17%**
Too much media bias/censorship	**12%**
Need electoral reform	**9%**
Difficulties as independent candidate/small party/new party	**7%**
Too much corruption in the system	**7%**
The role of money in politics is increasing	**7%**
Not all party leaders are eligible to participate in debates	**3%**
Electoral interference	**3%**
Snap elections are problematic/unfair (e.g. shorter timeframes, voting cards received late, etc.)	**3%**
Electors' disengagement / Low turnout	**3%**
Antiquated voting system / Need to update the voting method	**2%**
Need more secure polling (e.g. proof of citizenship, secure venues, etc.)	**2%**
Nomination process/signature collection needs improvement	**2%**
Polarization of Canadians as a result of the division between political parties	**1%**
Electors lack/need more political education	**1%**
Lack of political elites' accountability towards electors	**1%**
Too many political financing requirements	**1%**
Lack of representation of minority groups	**1%**
Other	**10%**
No comment	**7%**
DK / Refusal	**2%**

DemSatNon: Is there a specific reason why you are dissatisfied with the way democracy works in Canada? Base: Respondents who reported dissatisfaction with the way democracy works in Canada (n=358) / Note: Categories were coded from open-ended responses. Because respondents were able to give multiple answers, total mentions may exceed 100%.

Significant subgroup differences in terms of dissatisfaction with the functioning of democracy in Canada include:

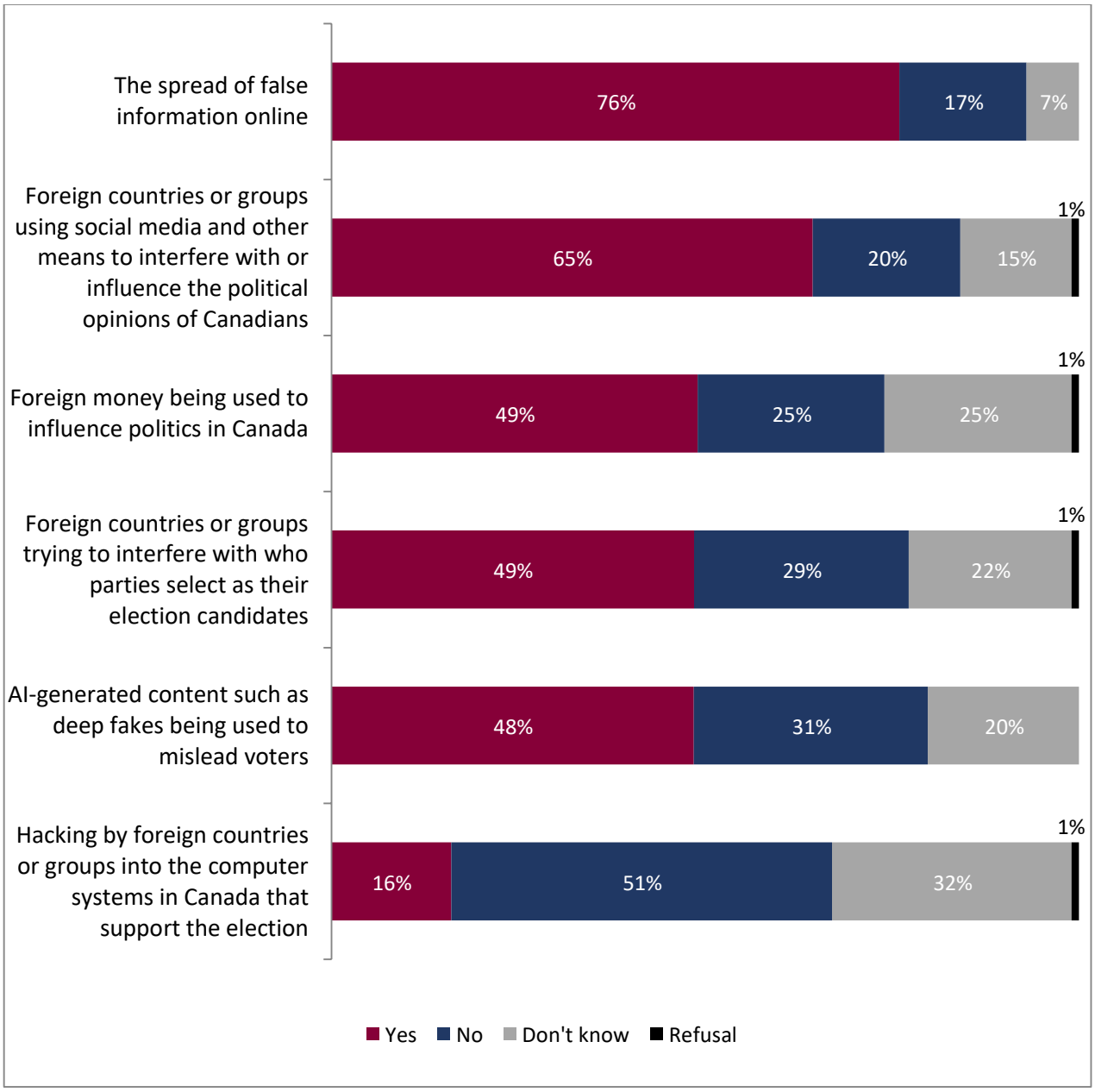
- Candidates in Ontario were more likely than candidates in Quebec to state that the first-past-the-post system does not reflect voters' preferences (32% compared to 9%)
- French-speaking candidates were more likely than English-speaking candidates to mention media bias or censorship (23% compared to 9%)
- First-time candidates were more likely to than non-first-time candidates to mention the need for electoral reform (12% compared to 5%)
- Respondents from non-represented parties were more likely than respondents from parties represented in the House of Commons to mention that the first-past-the-post system does not reflect voters' preferences (29% compared to 2%) and a lack of proportional representation (31% compared to 11%)

- Candidates affiliated with a party were more likely than independent candidates to report the need for electoral reform (15% compared to 4%). Meanwhile independent candidates were more likely than candidates affiliated with a party to mention that the system is unfair or undemocratic (23% compared to 10%), too much media bias/censorship (15% compared to 8%), and too much corruption in the system (11% compared to 4%).

Foreign Influence and Interference

When prompted on topics such as election interference and foreign influence, the most common issue that candidates perceived had been a problem in the 45th federal general election was the spread of false information online (76%), representing an increase in concern from the 44th General Election (56%) and the 43rd General Election (64%). In addition, over six in ten candidates (65%) believed that foreign countries or groups used social media and other means to interfere with or influence the political opinions of Canadians. This is significantly higher than reported during the 44th General Election (38%), however is similar to that reported during the 43rd General Election (64%). Almost half of the candidates expressed concern about foreign money being used to influence politics in Canada (49%), foreign interference in the selection of election candidates by political parties (49%), and the use of AI-generated content such as deep fakes to mislead voters (48%). Additionally, a smaller proportion of candidates (16%) thought that hacking by foreign countries or groups into Canadian computer systems that support the electoral process had been a problem, which is significantly higher than reported in the 44th General Election (10%) and the 43rd General Election (8%).

Figure 48: Perceived Problems in the Most Recent Federal Election



Interference: Based on what you have seen or heard recently, do you think any of the following were a problem in this election?

a._Cyber: Hacking by foreign countries or groups into the computer systems in Canada that support the election.

b._Influence: Foreign countries or groups using social media and other means to interfere with or influence the political opinions of Canadians.

c._Disinfo: The spread of false information online.

d. _Funding: Foreign money being used to influence politics in Canada

e. _Nomination: Foreign countries or groups trying to interfere with who parties select as their election candidates.

f. _AIcontent: AI-generated content such as deep fakes being used to mislead voters.

Base: All respondents (n=837)

The following subgroups were significantly more likely to think that the spread of false information online was a problem in this election:

- Women candidates (84%) compared to men candidates (72%)
- English-speaking candidates (79%) compared to French-speaking candidates (65%)
- Candidates with a yearly household income over $200K (84%), compared to candidates earning $40K or less (66%)
- Respondents from a party represented in the House of Commons (80%) compared to candidates from non-represented parties (73%)
- Candidates affiliated with a party (82%) compared to independent candidates (63%).

The following subgroups were significantly more likely to think that foreign countries or groups using social media and other means to interfere with or influence the political opinions of Canadians was a problem in this election:

- English-speaking candidates (69%) compared to French-speaking candidates (53%)
- Candidates with a disability (72%) compared to candidates without a disability (62%)
- Candidates born in Canada (67%) compared to candidates born outside of Canada (55%).

The following subgroups were significantly more likely to think that the use of foreign money to influence politics in Canada was a problem in this election:

- English-speaking candidates (53%) compared to French-speaking candidates (39%)
- Respondents from non-represented parties (55%) compared to candidates from a party represented in the House of Commons (41%)
- Independent candidates (60%) compared to candidates affiliated with a party (44%).

The following subgroups were significantly more likely to think that foreign countries or groups attempting to interfere with party candidate selection was a problem in this election:

- Men candidates (53%) compared to women candidates (41%)
- Candidates with a college-level education (59%) compared to candidates with a post-graduate level education (43%) and a university-level education (47%)
- English-speaking candidates (51%) compared to French-speaking candidates (41%)
- Indigenous candidates (68%) compared to non-Indigenous candidates (47%)
- Respondents from non-represented parties (52%) compared to candidates from a party represented in the House of Commons (43%)
- Independent candidates (63%) compared to candidates affiliated with a party (42%).

The following subgroups were significantly more likely to think that the use of AI-generated content, such as deepfakes, to mislead voters was a problem in this election:

- Women candidates (54%) compared to men candidates (45%)
- Candidates with a disability (56%) compared to candidates without a disability (45%)
- Candidates affiliated with a party (52%) compared to independent candidates (40%).

There were no relevant significant subgroup differences regarding the statement "Hacking by foreign countries or groups into the computer systems in Canada that support the election."

Perceived Impact of Foreign Influence and Interference

For each type of foreign influence or interference evaluated, candidates who believed it was a problem during the 45th General Election were asked to indicate to what extent they thought the problem had impacted the outcome of the election.[2]

Based on all candidates, the largest proportion believed that problems of false information had at least a moderate impact on the outcome of the election, with over half of candidates (55%) thinking it had a major (27%) or moderate (28%) impact on the outcome of the 2025 election. This represented an increase from 2021 (21% and 22% respectively). Additionally, 16% said it had a minor impact, while 3% believed it had no impact at all. 2% of candidates responded that they did not know.

Nearly four in ten candidates (38%) thought that problems of foreign influence had a major (19%) or moderate (19%) impact on the outcome of the election (a significant increase from 14% and 14% respectively in 2021). Additionally, 19% said it had a minor impact (a significant increase from 7% in 2021), while 5% believed it had no impact at all. 3% of candidates responded that they did not know.

In regard to candidate nominations, three in ten candidates (30%) thought that foreign countries or groups trying to interfere with who parties select as their election candidates had a major (14%) or moderate (16%) impact on the results of the election.

Over a quarter of candidates (28%) thought that AI-generated content such as deepfakes being used to mislead voters had a major (9%) or moderate (19%) impact on the results of the election. Additionally, 17% said it had a minor impact, while 1% believed it had no impact at all, and 2% of candidates responded that they did not know.

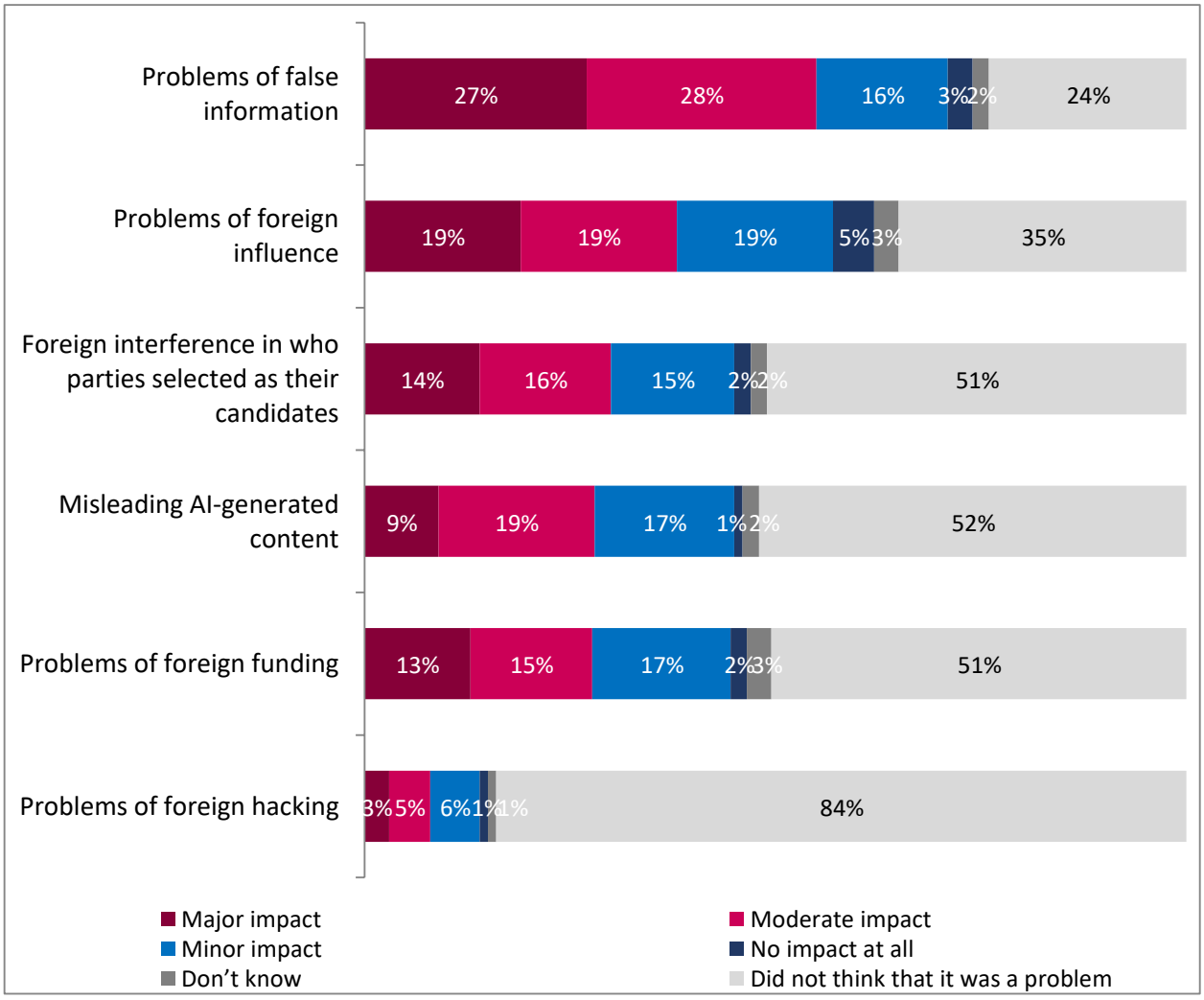
When it comes to foreign funding, over a quarter of candidates (28%) thought that foreign money being used to influence politics in Canada had a major (13%) or moderate (15%) impact on the election results.

[2] Only respondents who thought there was a problem of electoral interference were asked what impact they thought that specific type of interference had on the outcome of the election. To allow for comparison of the results across the different forms of electoral interference, the results were rebased to include candidates who did not think the interference had been a problem in the election.

Additionally, 17% said it had a minor impact, while 2% believed it had no impact at all. 3% of candidates responded that they did not know.

Under one in ten candidates (8%) thought that hacking by foreign countries into the computer systems in Canada had a major (3%) (similar to 4% in 2021), or moderate (5%) impact on the election results. Additionally, 6% said it had a minor impact (significant increase from 2% in 2021), while 1% believed it had no impact at all. 1% of candidates responded that they did not know.

Figure 49: Perceived Impact of Each Type of Foreign Influence and Interference



Q. What impact, if any, do you think […] had on the outcome of this election?

Base: All respondents (n=837)

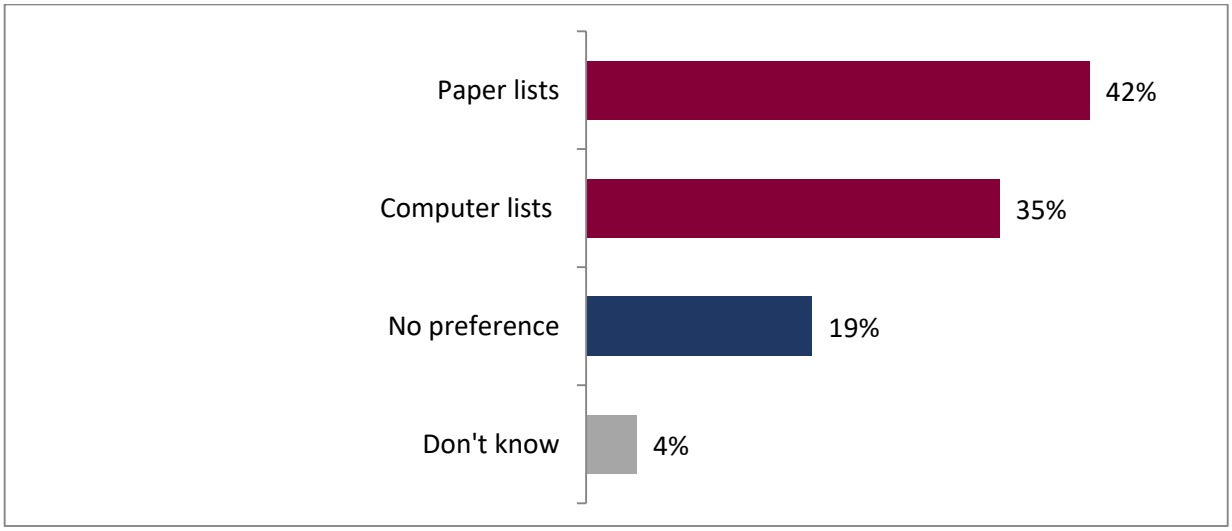
2.9 Voting Technology

Preferred Method for Checking Voter Registration at Polling Stations

Just over four in ten candidates (42%) preferred paper lists for checking voter registration at polling stations, while 35% preferred computer-based lists. Nearly two in ten candidates reported having no preference (19%), and 4% were unsure.

Compared to the 44th General Election, the proportion of candidates that stated a preference for computer lists significantly increased (35% compared to 28%), and the proportion of candidates that reported that they don't know significantly decreased (4% compared to 7%).

Figure 50: Preferred Method for Checking Voter Registration at Polling Stations



ListTechPref: *In a Canadian federal election, poll workers use paper lists to check if an elector's name is on the list and to mark them off after they vote. In some provincial elections, poll workers use computers or tablets to do this electronically. Which method do you prefer? Base: All respondents (n=837)*

The following subgroups were significantly more likely to prefer paper lists:

- Men candidates (45%) compared to women candidates (37%)
- Non-racialized candidates (45%) compared to racialized candidates (32%)
- Independent candidates (52%), compared to candidates affiliated with a party (38%).

The following subgroups were significantly more likely to prefer computer lists:

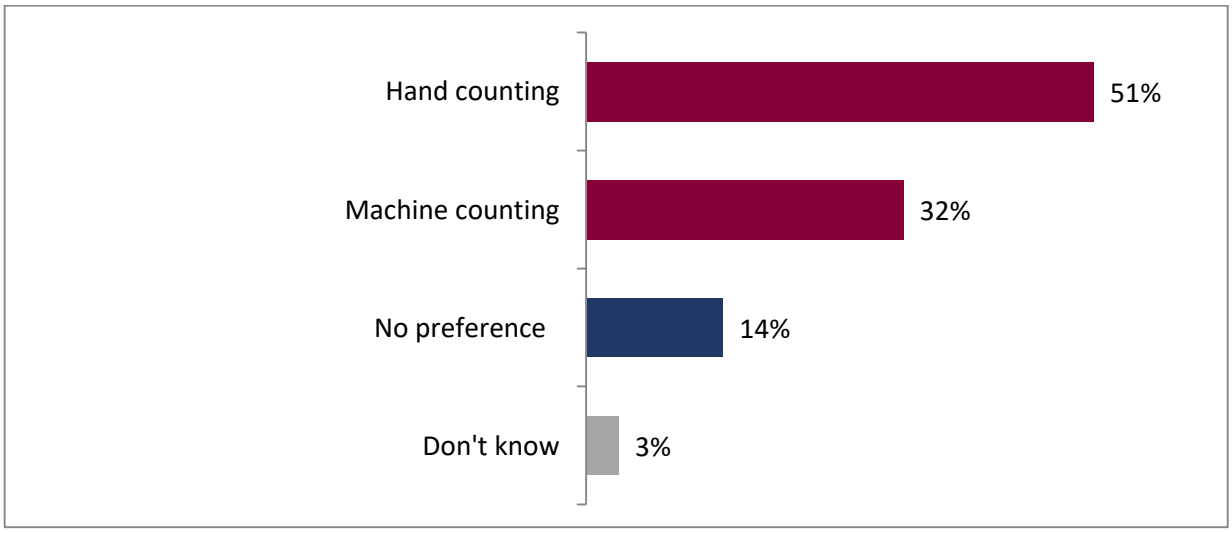
- Women candidates (43%) compared to men candidates (31%)
- Candidates from Ontario (40%) compared to candidates from British Colombia (24%) and Quebec (30%)
- Racialized candidates (48%) compared to non-racialized candidates (32%)
- Incumbent candidates (47%) compared to non-incumbent candidates (33%)
- Candidates from parties represented in the House of Commons (41%) compared to those from non-represented parties (30%)
- Candidates affiliated with a party (41%) compared to independent candidates (22%).

Preferred Method for Counting Votes in Elections

Concerning the counting of votes in elections, a larger proportion of candidates preferred the use of hand counting (51%) compared to machine counting (32%). Additionally, 14% had no preference and 3% were unsure.

Compared to the 44th General Election, the proportion of candidates that indicated a preference for hand counting significantly decreased (51% compared to 62%), while the proportion of candidates who indicated a preference for machine counting significantly increased (32% compared to 17%).

Figure 51: Preferred Method for Counting Votes in Elections



CountTechPref: *In Canadian federal elections, each paper ballot is counted by hand. In some provincial elections, paper ballots are scanned into a machine that counts the votes. Which vote counting method do you prefer? Base: All respondents (n=837)*

The following subgroups were significantly more likely to prefer hand-counting method:

- Men (56%) compared with women (41%)
- Candidates from Alberta (64%) and Quebec (56%) compared to those from Ontario (43%)
- Non-first-time candidates (59%) compared to first-time candidates (48%)
- Independent candidates (67%) compared to candidates affiliated with a party (44%).

The following subgroups were significantly more likely to prefer machine-counting method:

- Women (39%) compared with men (29%)
- Candidates from Ontario (41%) compared to those from British Columbia (22%) and Alberta (20%) and Quebec (28%)
- Candidates born outside of Canada (45%) compared to those born in Canada (30%)
- Racialized candidates (43%) compared to non-racialized candidates (30%)

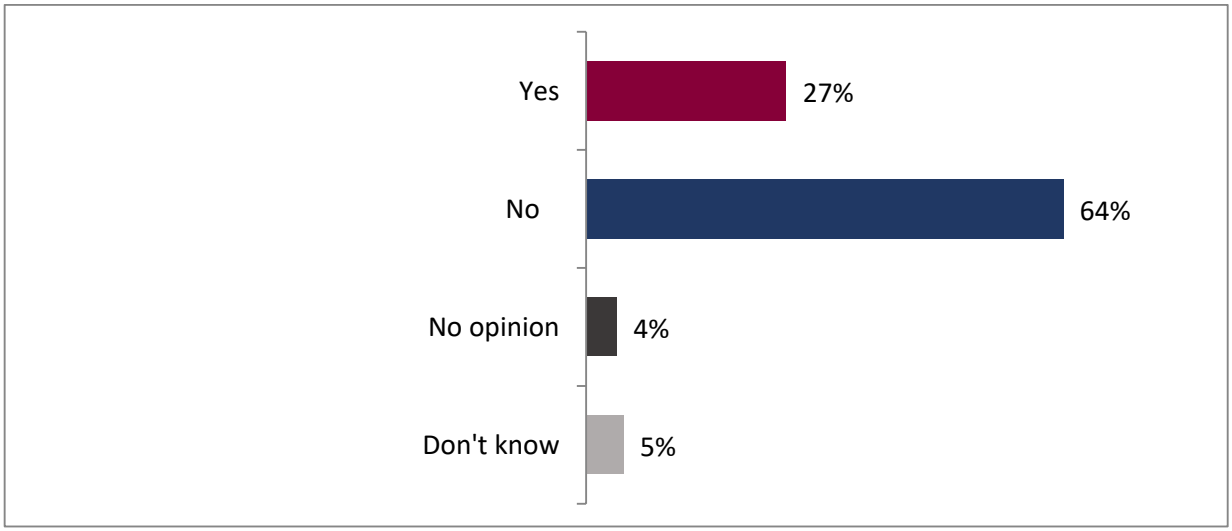
- First-time candidates (35%) compared to non-first-time candidates (26%)
- Candidates from parties represented in the House of Commons (38%) compared to those from non-represented parties (28%)
- Candidates affiliated with a party (40%) compared to independent candidates (14%).

Opinion on Allowing Voting via the Internet

Nearly two-thirds of candidates (64%) believed that electors should not be allowed to vote via the Internet, while 27% thought they should be. An additional 4% had no opinion, and 5% were unsure.

Compared to the 44th General Election, the proportion of candidates who thought that electors should be able to vote using the internet decreased significantly (27% compared to 38%), while the proportion of candidates who thought that electors should not be able to vote using the internet increased significantly (64% compared to 51%). Additionally, the proportion of candidates who answered that they were not sure significantly decreased (4% compared to 11%).

Figure 52: Opinion on Allowing Voting via the Internet



InternetVoting: *Do you think that electors should be able to vote by using the Internet? Base: All respondents (n=837)*

The following subgroups were significantly more likely to believe that electors should be able to vote by using the Internet:

- Women candidates (36%) compared to men candidates (22%)
- Candidates from Atlantic provinces (40%) compared to candidates from Alberta (18%) and British Columbia (21%)
- French-speaking candidates (33%) compared to English speaking candidates (25%)
- Non-incumbent candidates (29%) compared to incumbent candidates (16%)

- Candidates from non-represented parties (30%) compared to candidates from parties represented in the House of Commons (22%)
- Candidates affiliated with a party (30%) compared to independent candidates (20%).

Appendix A

A.1 Quantitative Methodology

Quantitative research was conducted through a hybrid phone and web approach, using Computer Aided Telephone Interviewing (CATI) and Computer Aided Web Interviewing (CAWI) technology.

As a Canadian Research Insights Council Member, Leger adheres to the most stringent guidelines for quantitative research. The survey was conducted in accordance with Government of Canada requirements for quantitative research, including the Standards of the Conduct of Government of Canada Public Opinion Research—Series D—Quantitative Research.

Respondents were assured of the voluntary, confidential and anonymous nature of this research. As with all research conducted by Leger, all information that could allow for the identification of participants was removed from the data, in accordance with the Privacy Act.

The questionnaire is available in Appendix A.2.

A.1.1 Survey Distribution

The survey frame for this study consisted of the complete list of candidates who ran in the 45th federal general election, as provided by Elections Canada. This list included contact information that candidates provided in their nomination papers for the election and was used to invite all candidates to participate in the survey, following a census-style approach rather than selecting a sample subset.

Data collection was carried out using a hybrid methodology combining CAWI (Computer-Assisted Web Interviewing) and CATI (Computer-Assisted Telephone Interviewing). All candidates were initially invited by email to complete the survey online at their convenience via a secure web link (CAWI). Following this initial web outreach, telephone follow-ups (CATI) were conducted with candidates who had not yet responded, in order to boost participation. This was followed by other rounds of alternating email invites and telephone outreach. The web survey remained open throughout the entire field period.

This phased approach (web, then phone, followed by additional waves of web and phone outreach) was designed to maximize response rates while preventing duplicate completions and ensuring efficient tracking of participation. The sequencing also allowed the research team to identify and avoid recontacting candidates who had already completed the survey.

A.1.2 Data Collection

Fieldwork for the survey was conducted from May 1st to July 14th, 2025. The response rate for the survey was 42.7%. A pre-test of 38 interviews was completed between May 1st and May 9th, 2025.

A total of 837 candidates from the 45th federal general election completed the survey. Respondents represented all regions of the country and a range of political affiliations and candidate profiles.

As the survey was conducted among all candidates from the 45th federal general election based on a list provided by Elections Canada, there are no margins of sampling error to be calculated or reported for this study. However, since participation was voluntary and the survey achieved a response rate below 50%,

the findings should be interpreted as the opinions of respondents only rather than representative of the full population of candidates. That said, the results offer valuable insight into the experiences and perceptions of participating candidates.

The survey results were weighted to align with the known distribution of candidates by age, incumbency, elected status, and political affiliation. The results were weighted based on the data provided by Elections Canada on the full population of candidates in the 45th general election.

The following table details the regional distribution of respondents.

Table A.1 Regional Distribution of Respondents

Region	Number of respondents
Atlantic	74
Quebec	210
Ontario	302
Manitoba	27
Saskatchewan	27
Alberta	99
British Columbia	92
Total	**837**

A.1.3 Response Rate

A total of 837 respondents completed the survey out of 1,960 invitations, yielding a response rate of 42.7%. Of these, 530 participated online and 307 by telephone, representing 63% and 37% of the sample, respectively.

A.1.4 Unweighted and Weighted Samples

A basic comparison of the unweighted and weighted sample sizes was conducted to identify any potential non-response bias that could have resulted from uneven response rates among specific demographic subgroups (see tables below).

The table below shows the distribution of respondents according to political affiliation, both before and after weighting. Overall, the main corrections were to increase the weight of candidates from the Conservative Party while reducing the weight of candidates from the Green Party and slightly reducing the weights of those from the Liberal Party and the "Others" category, with candidates from the New Democratic Party, the Bloc Québécois, and independent candidates requiring almost no adjustment.

Table A.2 Unweighted and Weighted Sample Distribution by Political Affiliation

Region	Unweighted	Weighted
Liberal Party of Canada	156	146
Conservative Party of Canada	106	148
New Democratic Party	144	148
Green Party of Canada	129	100
Bloc Québécois	35	34
Independent	64	69

Others	202	192
Total	**837**	**837**

The weighting process also corrected some minor discrepancies in the age distribution. The actual distribution of the sample generally follows the distribution of age groups in the actual population. The weighting slightly reduced the weight of candidates aged 65 and over and slightly increased the weight of those aged under 35. In this case, it is unlikely that the observed distributions introduce a non-response bias for a particular age group.

Table A.3 Unweighted and Weighted Sample Distribution by Age Group

Age	Unweighted	Weighted
18-34	111	144
35-44	152	156
45-54	206	214
55-64	203	197
65+	165	126
Total	**837**	**837**

The following tables present the demographic distribution of respondents according to incumbency and elected status. First, regarding incumbency, we can see that weighting slightly adjusted the counts of incumbents and non-incumbents, since the achieved sample contained a smaller share of incumbents compared to the overall population.

Table A.4 Unweighted and Weighted Sample Distribution by Incumbency

Incumbency	Unweighted	Weighted
Yes	84	116
No	753	721
Total	**837**	**837**

Similar adjustments were made for elected status, as the achieved sample included a smaller proportion of elected candidates than the overall population.

Table A.5 Unweighted and Weighted Sample Distribution by Elected Status

Elected	Unweighted	Weighted
Yes	107	147
No	730	690
Total	**837**	**837**

Overall, the adjustments made by weighting are minor, and there is no evidence from the data that having achieved a slightly different distribution prior to weighting would have significantly changed the results for this study. The relatively small weight factors (see section below) and differences in responses between various subgroups suggest that data quality was not affected.

The following tables present the weighting factors applied to the database according to the different respondent profiles.

Table A.5 Weight factors by political affiliation

Label	Weight
Liberal Party of Canada	17.4578867
Conservative Party of Canada	17.4578867
New Democratic Party	17.4578867
Green Party of Canada	11.8427769
Bloc Québécois	3.98162328
Independent	8.11638591
Others	23.6855538

Table A.6 Weight factors by age

Label	Weight
<35	17.2026544
35-44	18.6830015
45-54	25.5742726
55-64	23.481368
65+	15.0587034

Table A.7 Weight factors by incumbency

Label	Weight
No	86.115365
Yes	13.884635

Table A.8 Weight factors by elected status

Label	Weight
No	82.4910669
Yes	17.5089331

A.2 Survey Questionnaire

Survey of Candidates for the 45th General Election

Programming Notes

- The questions have been designed for online self-administration and phone.
- Questions and programming instructions use variable names in lieu of question numbers. Use of these variable names will facilitate the use of questions and programming in subsequent survey waves as well as the integration of data from all waves in the final dataset.
- Grid questions indicate the suffix that should be appended to the variable name for each row.
- The various headings (e.g. section titles) and question numbers should not appear on screen for respondents.
- All questions are mandatory unless otherwise stated.
- Allow one response per question unless otherwise stated.
- Choice codes may not always be sequential, but rather chosen to indicate score values or to allow for variable merges.
- Where logic includes codes separated by commas, it indicates an OR condition for the specified values (e.g. 01,03 means 01 or 03]. Codes separated by a dash indicates an OR condition for the range of codes, inclusive (e.g. 01-03 means 01,02, or 03).

Introduction

Thank you for agreeing to take part in the survey being conducted on behalf of Elections Canada by Léger Marketing. Click here (opens in a new window) if you wish to go to the Elections Canada website to verify the authenticity of this survey. The survey should take no more than 25 minutes to complete and is voluntary and completely confidential.

By taking part in this survey, you consent to the use of your answers for research and statistical purposes. Any personal information collected is subject to the federal *Privacy Act* and will be held in strict confidence. Elections Canada will not use your responses to identify you, and none of your opinions will be attributed to you personally in any way. The anonymous database of all responses may be shared with external researchers under the strict condition that no personal information is ever distributed or made public.

Section 1: Administration of the Election

ElectionSat

Overall, how satisfied were you with the way the federal election was administered by Elections Canada in your riding?

TELEPHONE: Were you… ?

01. Very satisfied
02. Somewhat satisfied
03. Somewhat dissatisfied
04. Very dissatisfied

[DO NOT READ]

98. Don't know
99. Refusal [DO NOT SHOW]

ROSat

How satisfied were you with the way the returning officer ran the election in your riding?
TELEPHONE: Would you say that you were…?

01. Very satisfied
02. Somewhat satisfied
03. Somewhat dissatisfied
04. Very dissatisfied

[DO NOT READ]

98. Don't know
99. Refusal [DO NOT SHOW]

If ROSat = 03,04 ASK ROSatreason

ROSatReason

Why were you dissatisfied with the way the returning officer ran the election in your riding?
[Do not read; accept up to three responses; do not probe for more responses]

98. Don't know

PRE-CODED RESPONSES

01. I had difficulties getting in touch with the Returning Officer
02. I had difficulties getting election materials or information from the Returning Officer
03. I had difficulties getting answers to my questions
04. The nomination paper wasn't processed in time/took too long to process
05. I felt that the Returning Officer/election staff was partisan
06. I had difficulties getting in touch with ECHQ
07. I felt the nomination process was not fair
08. I felt the voting process was not fair
09. I didn't feel supported by Elections Canada or the Returning Officer

10. Difficulties as independent candidate/small party/new party
11. Polling stations/locations weren't accessible
96. Other, specify: [TEXT]
97. No comment
98. Don't know
99. Refusal [DO NOT SHOW]

GEROSat

Overall, how satisfied were you with your interactions with the returning officer?
TELEPHONE: Were you…?
TELEPHONE: READ 1-4
TELEPHONE: ACCEPT 'DOES NOT APPLY' IF CANDIDATE HAD NO INTERACTIONS WITH RETURNING OFFICER

01. Very satisfied
02. Somewhat satisfied
03. Somewhat dissatisfied
04. Very dissatisfied

[DO NOT READ]

05. I had no interaction with the returning officer
98. Don't know
99. Refusal [DO NOT SHOW]

Section 2: Nomination Process

TELEPHONE ONLY: I'd now like to ask you some questions about your experience with the nomination process with Elections Canada during the recent federal election.

The next questions refer to the Elections Canada nomination process with the returning officer (RO) for any eligible candidate wishing to run in the 45th general election, either as an independent candidate or as a candidate endorsed by a political party.

NominationInformed

Overall, how well informed were you about Elections Canada's nomination process?
TELEPHONE: Would you say that you were... ?
TELEPHONE - READ 01-04

01. Very informed
02. Somewhat informed
03. Not very informed
04. Not at all informed

[DO NOT READ]

98. Don’t know
99. Refusal [DO NOT SHOW]

NominationEase

How easy or difficult was it to comply with the nomination requirements?
TELEPHONE: Would you say this was…?

01. Very easy
02. Somewhat easy
03. Somewhat difficult
04. Very difficult

[DO NOT READ]

98. Don’t know
99. Refusal [DO NOT SHOW]

NominationEaseReason

IF EaseNomination = 03, 04, ask NominationEaseReason
Why was it difficult to comply with the nomination requirements?
[Do not read; accept up to three responses; do not probe for more responses]

98. Don’t know

PRE-CODED ANSWERS

01. Difficult to obtain required number of signatures
02. Difficult to provide proof of identity
03. Difficult to meet the deadline
04. Difficult to appoint official agent
05. Difficult to deal with the RO
06. Too much paperwork/bureaucracy/complexity
07. Procedures/requirements not explained
08. Difficulties as independent candidate/small party/new party
09. Unclear/inconsistent information provided
10. Signatures and unnecessary/unreasonable requirement
96. Other, specify: [TEXT]
97. No comment
98. Don’t know
99. Refusal

NominationSat

How satisfied were you with the time it took the returning officer to process your nomination?

TELEPHONE: Would you say that you were… ?

01. Very satisfied
02. Somewhat satisfied
03. Somewhat dissatisfied
04. Very dissatisfied

[DO NOT READ]

98. Don't know
99. Refusal [DO NOT SHOW]

Difficulties

Did you encounter any difficulties finding:

[Grid]
[Rows]

_Agent **An official agent?**
_Auditor **An auditor?**

[Columns]

01. Yes
02. No
97. No comment
98. Don't know [DO NOT READ]

IF Difficulties_Agent = 01 ASK DifficultiesNatureOA

DifficultiesNatureOA

What difficulties finding an official agent did you encounter?

[Do not read; accept up to three responses; do not probe for more responses]

98. Don't know

PRE-CODED ANSWERS

01. Difficult to find someone qualified
02. Time frame too short
03. Hard to find someone willing/available
04. Hard job/too many responsibilities
05. Unsure about agent's role
06. Too much paperwork/bureaucracy
07. Difficulties as independent candidate/small party/new party
08. Fees were too high/could not afford it
96. Other, specify: [TEXT]

97. No comment
99. Refusal

IF Difficulties_Auditor = 01 ASK DifficultiesNatureAudit

DifficultiesNatureAudit

What difficulties finding an auditor did you encounter?

[Do not read; accept up to three responses; do not probe for more responses]

98. Don't know

PRE-CODED ANSWERS

01. Difficult to find someone qualified
02. Time frame too short
03. Hard to find someone willing/available
04. Hard job/too many responsibilities
05. Unsure about agent's role
06. Too much paperwork/bureaucracy
07. Difficulties as independent candidate/small party/new party
08. Fees were too high/could not afford it
96. Other, specify: [TEXT]
99. Refusal

SignatureEase

How easy or difficult was it to collect the elector signatures needed for your nomination papers?

01. Very easy
02. Somewhat easy
03. Somewhat difficult
04. Very difficult

[DO NOT READ]

98. Don't know
99. Refusal [DO NOT SHOW]

Section 3: Political Entities Service Centre

PortalUse

Elections Canada offers a secure web portal called the Political Entities Service Centre that candidates can use to access electoral products and services.

Did you, or any of your representatives, use the portal?

MULTIPLE RESPONSES 01-03 ACCEPTED, OTHERS SINGLE PUNCH
Select all that apply

01. Yes, I personally used it
02. Yes, my official agent used it
03. Yes, my candidate delegate used it
04. No, no one in my campaign used it SINGLE PUNCH SKIP TO PortalNonUse
05. No, I was not aware of it SINGLE PUNCH SKIP TO SECTION: ELECTION CANADA'S PRODUCTS

[DO NOT READ]

98. Don't know SINGLE PUNCH SKIP TO SECTION: ELECTION CANADA's PRODUCTS
99. Refusal [DO NOT SHOW] SINGLE PUNCH SKIP TO SECTION: ELECTION CANADA'S PRODUCTS

IF PortalUse = 01, 02, 03 ASK PortalUseNature

PortalUseNature

What have you, or your representative, used the portal for?

MULTIPLE RESPONSES 01-96 ACCEPTED, OTHERS SINGLE PUNCH
Select all that apply.
RANDOMIZE 01-05

01. Submit nomination electronically
02. Download election materials
03. Access post-election results or materials
04. Maintain account and contact profile
05. Submit financial returns
96. Other, specify: [TEXT]

[DO NOT READ]

98. Don't know
99. Refusal [DO NOT SHOW]

IF PortalUse = 01, ASK PortalHelpful

PortalHelpful

How useful was the portal for your campaign?

01. Very useful
02. Somewhat useful
03. Not very useful

04. Not at all useful

[DO NOT READ]

98. Don't know
99. Refusal [DO NOT SHOW]

IF PortalUse = 01, 02, 03 ASK PortalSat

PortalSat

[IF PortalUse=01**: How satisfied were you with the overall user experience of the portal?**
TELEPHONE: Were you… ?
IF PortalUse = 02 or 03**: How satisfied was your representative with the overall user experience of the portal? TELEPHONE: Were they…?**
TELEPHONE - READ 01-04

100. Very satisfied
101. Somewhat satisfied
102. Somewhat dissatisfied
103. Very dissatisfied

[DO NOT READ]

98. Don't know
99. Refusal [DO NOT SHOW]

IF PortalUseNature = 01 OR PortalUseNature=05 ASK PortalFeatures

PortalFeatures

[TELEPHONE] Do you strongly agree, somewhat agree, somewhat disagree or strongly disagree with the following statements about the portal?
TELEPHONE: DO NOT READ RESPONSE CATEGORIES; ONLY IF NEEDED
[WEB] **How strongly do you agree or disagree with the following statements about the portal?**

a. (IF PortalUseNature= 01) It made submitting my nomination convenient
b. (IF PortalUseNature = 05) It made submitting my financial returns convenient

01. Strongly agree
02. Somewhat agree
03. Somewhat disagree
04. Strongly disagree

[DO NOT READ]

98. Don't know
99. Refusal [DO NOT SHOW]

IF PortalUse = 04 ASK PortalNonUse

PortalNonUse

Why did you not use the portal?

[TELEPHONE] (DO NOT READ. ACCEPT UP TO THREE RESPONSES. DO NOT PROBE FOR MORE RESPONSES.)

[WEB] (OPEN QUESTION)

97. No comment
98. Don't know

PRE-CODED RESPONSES

01. Difficulties in opening an account
02. Uncomfortable using computers/mobile devices
03. Prefer working with paper
04. Not easy to use/complex
05. Issues with Internet connectivity
06. Prefer dealing face to face with Elections Canada
07. Did not need to use it
08. Did not have time to use it/too busy with campaign
96. Other, specify: [TEXT]
98. Don't know
99. Refusal

Section 4: Election Canada's Products

TELEPHONE ONLY: I'd now like to ask you some questions about the products and services provided by Elections Canada during the election.

ECProducts

Which of the following Elections Canada products did your campaign use?

TELEPHONE: Did you use… ?

TELEPHONE - READ 01-07

RANDOMIZE

MULTIPLE RESPONSES 01-07 ACCEPTED, OTHERS SINGLE PUNCH

(Select all that apply)

TELEPHONE: IF ASKED, SHOW ONLINE UNDER 03: A Statement of the electors who voted on polling day, also called the ""bingo sheet"", was made available to candidates and their representatives. This form was used to record the identifier number of electors who came to vote. It was provided on a regular basis on Election Day and at the end of advance voting days.)
TELEPHONE: IF ASKED, SHOW ONLINE UNDER 04: Elections Canada's "Spread the Word" initiative offered a wide array of tools like infographics, videos, digital resources (some available in various accessible formats and multiple languages) and social media templates. Individuals and organizations were able to download, print and share these carefully designed resources that were compiled to inform their respective network and communities, including youth and electors with disabilities, and encourage all Canadians to register and participate in elections.
TELEPHONE: IF ASKED, SHOW ONLINE UNDER 07: Maps of Polling Place Service Areas included maps of the polling sites, the advance polling districts, and electoral geography documents.)
TELEPHONE: IF ASKED, SHOW ONLINE UNDER 06: PESC videos cover topics such as creating an account, and submitting a nomination form. Finance videos included topics such as fulfilling a specific role (e.g., official agent, campaign delegate), or information on what qualifies as an expense.

01. Lists of polling stations
02. Lists of electors, including the preliminary lists, the revised lists and the official lists
03. Bingo sheets (Statement of electors who voted on election day)
04. Elections Canada tools to communicate with electors (e.g. guides, infographics, videos, digital resources, etc.)
05. Political financing handbook for candidates and official agents
06. Training videos, including finance videos and PESC training videos
07. Maps of polling place service areas

[SINGLE PUNCH, DO NOT READ]

95. I did not use any Elections Canada products
98. Don't know
99. Refusal [DO NOT SHOW]

IF ECProducts = 02, ASK ListSatFormat

ListSatFormat

How satisfied were you with the format of the list of electors?

TELEPHONE: Would you say that you were…?

TELEPHONE - READ 01-04

01. Very satisfied
02. Somewhat satisfied
03. Somewhat dissatisfied
04. Very dissatisfied

[DO NOT READ]

98. Don't know
99. Refusal [DO NOT SHOW]

IF ECProducts = 02 ASK LIstSat

LIstSat

How satisfied were you with the overall quality of the lists of electors?

TELEPHONE: Would you say that you were…?

TELEPHONE - READ 01-04

01. Very satisfied
02. Somewhat satisfied
03. Somewhat dissatisfied
04. Very dissatisfied

[DO NOT READ]

98. Don't know
99. Refusal [DO NOT SHOW]

IF ECProducts = 04 ASK ECTools

ECTools

Which of the following Elections Canada tools to communicate with electors were the most useful for your campaign?

RANDOMIZE 1-4

TELEPHONE: READ 1-4

MULTIPLE RESPONSES 01-04 ACCEPTED, OTHERS SINGLE PUNCH

Select all that apply

01. Infographics
02. Guide to the federal election / Booklet
03. Banners for your website
04. Videos

[SINGLE PUNCH, DO NOT READ]

05. I did not find any of these helpful
06. Don't know
07. Refusal [DO NOT SHOW]

ECProductsUse

Thinking about what you needed to run your campaign, how useful were Elections Canada's products?
TELEPHONE: **Were they…?**
TELEPHONE - READ 01-04

01. Very useful
02. Somewhat useful
03. Not very useful
04. Not useful at all

[DO NOT READ]

98. Don't know
99. Refusal [DO NOT SHOW]

BriefingAttend

The returning officer in your riding organized an "all-candidates briefing" for the general election.
Select all that apply

TELEPHONE: **Could you tell us if…:**
TELEPHONE - READ 01-04

01. You attended the briefing in person
02. You attended the briefing via videoconference
03. Your official agent attended, in-person or remotely
04. Your campaign delegate/manager attended, in-person or remotely

[DO NOT READ]

96. Other, specify: [TEXT]
97. No one attended [SINGLE PUNCH]

"IF BriefingAttend = 01, 02, 03, OR 04 ASK BriefingUse
BriefingUse

How useful was the all-candidates briefing?
TELEPHONE: Was it… ?
TELEPHONE: READ 1-4

01. Very useful
02. Somewhat useful
03. Not very useful
04. Not useful at all

[DO NOT READ]

98. Don't know

99. Refusal [DO NOT SHOW]

"IF BriefingAttend = 01 ASK BriefingSat
BriefingSat

How satisfied were you with the all-candidates briefing?
TELEPHONE: READ 1-4

01. Very satisfied
02. Somewhat satisfied
03. Somewhat dissatisfied
04. Very dissatisfied

[DO NOT READ]

98. Don't know
99. Refusal [DO NOT SHOW]

IF BriefingSat = 03, 04 ASK BriefingSatNon
BriefingSatNon

Why were you dissatisfied with the all-candidates briefing?

[TELEPHONE] (OPEN QUESTION)

[WEB] (OPEN QUESTION)

97. No comment
99. (PHONE: DO NOT READ) Don't know

Section 5: Electoral Campaign

TELEPHONE ONLY: I'd now like to ask you some questions about some dimensions of your electoral campaign.
GENames

Did you provide the returning officer with a list of names of election staff to work at the polling station?
[SHOW ONLINE, TELEPHONE IF ASKED: After the issue of the writ, a candidate of a registered party that endorsed candidates in the last election can propose names of persons suitable to work at advance polling stations and at polling stations on Election Day. This does not include candidates' campaign staff members.]

01. Yes
02. No

[DO NOT READ]

03. Did not know I could provide one
97. Not applicable
98. Don't know
99. Refusal [DO NOT SHOW]

IF GENames = 02 ASK GENamesNon

GENamesNon

Why did you not provide a list of names?

[TELEPHONE] [DO NOT READ. ACCEPT UP TO THREE 01-96. DO NOT PROBE FOR MORE RESPONSES.]
[WEB] (OPEN QUESTION)

97. No comment
98. Don't know

PRE-CODED RESPONSES

01. Not enough time to find people
02. Did not have anyone/ unable to find people interested/available
03. Did not have anyone/unable to find competent people
04. No need to provide a list
05. Difficulties as independent candidate/small party/new party
06. Procedures not explained
07. Returning officers did not request such a list
08. I wanted to focus my volunteers on campaigning
09. I did not want to provide a list
10. I did not know I could provide a list
96. Other, specify: [TEXT]
99. Refusal

PrivProtect

Did you take any measures to ensure the protection of personal information from the voters' lists that you received?

01. Yes
02. No

[DO NOT READ]

03. I did not use the list
98. Don't know
99. Refusal [DO NOT SHOW]

IF PrivProtect = 01 ASK PrivProtectMeasures

PrivProtectMeasures

What measures did you take to ensure the protection of personal information from the voters lists?
[TELEPHONE] [DO NOT READ. ACCEPT ALL THAT APPLY. DO NOT PROBE FOR MORE RESPONSES.]
[WEB] (OPEN QUESTION)
97. No comment
98. Don't know

PRE-CODED RESPONSES

01. Issued instructions regarding use of voters lists
02. Issued procedures to re-collect copies of voters lists after event
03. Ensured the destruction of voters lists at end of the election
04. Brought voters lists back to returning officer
05. Kept lists in secure place / Kept locked away
06. Ensured limited access to lists
07. Encrypted the lists
08. Kept at home/office
97. I did not take any measures SINGLE PUNCH
96. Other, specify: [TEXT]
99. Refusal

CampaignAccessible

Did you take any measures to ensure that your campaign's materials, events or website were accessible to electors with a disability?

01. Yes
02. No

[DO NOT READ]

98. Don't know
99. Refusal [DO NOT SHOW]

IF CampaignAccessible = 01 ASK CampaignAccessibleMeasures
CampaignAccessibleMeasures

Which measures did you take to make your campaign accessible?
[TELEPHONE] (DO NOT READ. ACCEPT ALL THAT APPLY. DO NOT PROBE FOR MORE RESPONSES.)
[WEB] (OPEN QUESTION)
97. No comment
98. Don't know

PRE-CODED RESPONSES

01. Website was accessible to electors with a screen reader

02. Social media content was accessible to electors with a screen reader
03. Braille materials were available
04. Large print materials were available
05. Use of plain language
06. Sign language translation was provided during local events
07. Asking electors with a disability about accessibility needs
08. Venues were wheelchair-accessible
09. Videos/audio with closed captioning
10. Use of various communication channels
11. Offered transport to the polling station
96. Other, specify: [TEXT]
99. Refusal

BarrierPreamble

To ensure that Canadians can exercise their right to be a candidate, it is important to understand the barriers candidates may face when running in an election.

The following questions will ask about barriers you may have faced including personal matters such as harassment. You can decline to answer any question.

If you choose to respond, be assured that your responses will be used only for research and statistical purposes. Elections Canada will not use your responses to identify you, and none of your opinions will be attributed to you personally in any way.

Barrier

Based on your experience in the federal election, to what extent did the following issues present a barrier for <u>you</u> during your campaign?

[Grid]
[Randomize rows]

a. **_fund** Fundraising and cost of election expenses
b. **_travel** Travel time, distance or expense
c. **_personal** Personal costs (e.g., finances, time, family)
d. **_rules** Complexity of rules on campaigning and political financing

[Columns]

01. Major barrier
02. Moderate barrier
03. Minor barrier
04. No barrier
98. Don’t know
99. Prefer not to say

HarrassmentPreamble

[TELEPHONE] Now I will ask you some questions about harassment while campaigning.

CampaignHarassment

This next question is about harassment while campaigning.

Harassment includes act(s), comment(s) or display(s) that demean, belittle, offend, or cause personal embarrassment, and any act of intimidation or threat. Harassment can be a series of incidents or one severe incident that has a lasting impact on an individual.

Did you experience harassment while campaigning, which may consist of verbal threats, threatening behaviour, intimidation, or violence?

GRID for both Phone and Web ***

TELEPHONE: While campaigning, did you experience any harassment…

a. **_person** In person?
b. **_online** Online?

01. Yes
02. No

[DO NOT READ]

98. Don't know
99. Prefer not to say

CampaignReim

The Canada Elections Act allows a candidate to file for partial reimbursement of elections expenses as well as some personal expenses if the candidate is elected or receives at least 10% of the valid votes.

When deciding to run as a candidate, were you aware of these financial incentives?

01. Yes
02. No

[DO NOT READ]

98. Don't know
99. Refusal [DO NOT SHOW]

Section 6: Election Day

Telephone only: I'd now like to ask you some questions about your experience with the voting process during the 45th general election.

PollLocSat

How satisfied were you with the locations chosen as polling sites for advance polls and on Election Day?
TELEPHONE: Were you…?
TELEPHONE: READ 1-4

01. Very satisfied
02. Somewhat satisfied
03. Somewhat dissatisfied
04. Very dissatisfied

[DO NOT READ]

98. Don't know
99. Refusal [DO NOT SHOW]

IF PollLocSat = 03,04 ASK PollLocSatNon

PollLocSatNon

Why were you dissatisfied with the location of the polling sites?
[PHONE] (DO NOT READ. ACCEPT UP TO THREE. DO NOT PROBE FOR MORE RESPONSES.)
[WEB] (OPEN QUESTION)
97. No comment
98. Don't know

PRE-CODED RESPONSES

01. Advance polling stations hard to find/in an unfamiliar building
02. Polling stations on Election Day hard to find/in an unfamiliar building
03. Problems related to space in advance polling stations
04. Problems related to space in polling stations on Election Day
05. Not enough advance polling stations
06. Not enough polling station on polling day
07. Problems related to accessibility of advance polling stations
08. Problems related to accessibility of polling stations on Election Day
09. Inappropriate polling stations
10. Electors unsure which polling station to go to
11. Advance polling stations located too far
12. Polling stations on Election Day located too far
13. Advance polling stations were far from a public transit stop
14. Polling stations on Election Day were far from a public transit stop
15. Lack of/not enough parking spaces at advance polling stations
16. Lack of/not enough parking spaces at polling stations on Election Day

17. Lack of security (polling station felt unsafe)
18. Not enough polling stations on post secondary campuses
96. Other, specify: [TEXT]
99. Refusal

VotingSat

How satisfied were you with the way the voting process went on advance polls and Election Day?
TELEPHONE: Were you…?
TELEPHONE: READ 1-4

01. Very satisfied
02. Somewhat satisfied
03. Somewhat dissatisfied
04. Very dissatisfied

[DO NOT READ]

98. Don't know
99. Refusal [DO NOT SHOW]

IF VotingSat= 03,04 ASK VotingSatNon
VotingSatNon

Why were you dissatisfied with the voting process?
[TELEPHONE] (DO NOT READ. ACCEPT UP TO THREE. DO NOT PROBE FOR MORE RESPONSES.)
[WEB] (OPEN QUESTION)
97. No comment
98. Don't know

PRE-CODED RESPONSES

01. Electors were not aware of the voter ID requirements
02. Problems with the ""Statement of the electors who voted on polling day" (also called the ""bingo sheet"")
03. Was not able to take a photo of bingo sheets on advance polling day
04. Too few polling locations on advance polling days
05. Too few polling locations on polling day
06. Electors did not know where to vote
07. No online/email voting methods used
08. Long lineups at advance polls
09. Long lineups on polling day
10. Dissatisfied with Elections Canada staff
11. Dissatisfied with mail-in ballots
12. Scrutineers were not allowed to examine elector's identification

13. Problems related to the use of the Voter Information Card as identification
96. Other, specify: [TEXT]
99. Refusal

CountObserve

Did you or a representative observe the counting of ballots?
MULTIPLE RESPONSES 01-02 ACCEPTED, OTHERS SINGLE PUNCH

01. Yes, I observed the count
02. Yes, a representative observed the count
03. No

[DO NOT READ]
98. I don't know/Don't remember
99. Refusal [DO NOT SHOW]

Section 7: Contact with Elections Canada

ECContact

During the election, did you, or any of your representatives, contact…:
a. the local Elections Canada office?
b. Elections Canada with the 1-800 support line for candidates?
c. Elections Canada via email?
01. Yes
02. No

[DO NOT READ]
98. Don't know
99. Refusal [DO NOT SHOW]

if ECContact = 02 for all (a,b,c i.e., they did not contact EC) do not ask ECContactSat
ECContactSat

How satisfied were you, or your representative, with your contact with Elections Canada?
TELEPHONE: Were you…?
TELEPHONE: READ 1-4
01. Very satisfied
02. Somewhat satisfied
03. Somewhat dissatisfied
04. Very dissatisfied

[DO NOT READ]

98. Don’t know
99. Refusal [DO NOT SHOW]

ECServiceSat

How satisfied were you with the overall quality of service you received from Elections Canada in the most recent federal election?

TELEPHONE: Were you…?

TELEPHONE: READ 1-4

01. Very satisfied
02. Somewhat satisfied
03. Somewhat dissatisfied
04. Very dissatisfied

[DO NOT READ]

98. Don’t know
99. Refusal [DO NOT SHOW]

Section 8: Electoral Integrity

GEFairness

Thinking about the April 28th 2025 federal election, would you say that Elections Canada ran the election...?

[TELEPHONE: EMPHASIZE “ELECTIONS CANADA”]

TELEPHONE: READ 1-4

01. Very fairly
02. Somewhat fairly
03. Somewhat unfairly
04. Very unfairly

[DO NOT READ]

98. Don’t know
99. Refusal [DO NOT SHOW]

GETrust

What level of trust do you have in the accuracy of the election results in your riding?

TELEPHONE: Is it…?

TELEPHONE: READ 1-4

01. Very high

02. Somewhat high
03. Somewhat low
04. Very low

[DO NOT READ]
98. Don't know
99. Refusal [DO NOT SHOW]

DemSat

Overall, how satisfied are you with the way democracy works in Canada?
TELEPHONE: Are you...
TELEPHONE: READ 1-4
01. Very satisfied
02. Somewhat satisfied
03. Not very satisfied
04. Not satisfied at all

[DO NOT READ]
98. Don't know
99. Refusal [DO NOT SHOW]

IF DemSat = 03, 04 ASK DemSatNon
DemSatNon

Is there a specific reason why you are dissatisfied with the way democracy works in Canada?
[TELEPHONE] (DO NOT READ. ACCEPT UP TO THREE 01-96. DO NOT PROBE FOR MORE RESPONSES.)
[WEB] (OPEN QUESTION)
97. No comment
98. Don't know

PRE-CODED RESPONSES
01. First-past-the-post does not reflect voters' preferences
02. Lack of proportional representation
03. The role of money in politics is increasing
04. Too many political financing requirements
05. Too little political financing requirements
06. Electors' disengagement / Low turnout
07. Difficulties as independent candidate/small party/new party
08. Lack of representation of minority groups
09. Lack of representation of women
10. I did not get elected

11. Concern about the constitution
12. Polarization of Canadians as a result of the division between political parties
13. Lack of contact between political elites and electors
14. Lack of political elites' accountability towards electors
15. Too much media bias/censorship
16. System is unfair/not democratic
17. Too much corruption involved in the system
18. Electoral interference
96. Other, specify: [TEXT]
98. Don't know

Interference

TELEPHONE Based on what you have seen or heard recently, do you think [insert statement] was a problem in this election?
[TELEPHONE] ASK FOR EACH STATEMENT A-F/ROTATE STATEMENT ORDER
ONLINE: Based on what you have seen or heard recently, do you think any of the following were a problem in this election?

[ONLINE] GRID. ROWS/ROTATE A-F.

a. **_cyber** Hacking by foreign countries or groups into the computer systems in Canada that support the election.
b. **_Influence** Foreign countries or groups using social media and other means to interfere with or influence the political opinions of Canadians.
c. **_Disinfo** The spread of false information online.
d. **_Funding** Foreign money being used to influence politics in Canada
e. **_Nomination** Foreign countries or groups trying to interfere with who parties select as their election candidates.
f. **_AIcontent** AI-generated content such as deep fakes being used to mislead voters.

[COLUMNS]

01. Yes
02. No

[DO NOT READ]

98. Don't know
100. Refusal [DO NOT SHOW]

SHOW IN ORDER Interference WAS ASKED
Show/Ask if Interference_Cyber = 01
Impact_Cyber

What impact, if any, do you think problems of foreign hacking had on the outcome of this election?

01. Major impact
02. Moderate impact
03. Minor impact
04. No impact at all

[DO NOT READ]

98. Don't know
99. Refusal [DO NOT SHOW]

Show/Ask if Interference_Influence = 01

Impact_Influence

What impact, if any, do you think problems of foreign influence had on the outcome of this election?

01. Major impact
02. Moderate impact
03. Minor impact
04. No impact at all

[DO NOT READ]

98. Don't know
99. Refusal [DO NOT SHOW]

Show/ask if Interference_Disinfo = 01

Impact_Disinfo

TELEPHONE: What impact, if any, do you think problems of false information had on the outcome of this election?

01. Major impact
02. Moderate impact
03. Minor impact
04. No impact at all

[DO NOT READ]

98. Don't know
99. Refusal [DO NOT SHOW]

Show/Ask if Interference_Funding = 01

Impact_Funding

What impact, if any, do you think problems of foreign funding had on the outcome of this election?

01. Major impact
02. Moderate impact
03. Minor impact
04. No impact at all

[DO NOT READ]

98. Don't know
99. Refusal [DO NOT SHOW]

Show/Ask if Interference_Nomination = 01

Impact_Nomination

What impact, if any, do you think foreign interference had on who parties selected as their candidates for this election?

01. Major impact
02. Moderate impact
03. Minor impact
04. No impact at all

[DO NOT READ]

98. Don't know
99. Refusal [DO NOT SHOW]

Show/Ask if Interference_AIContent = 01

Impact_AIcontent

What impact, if any, do you think misleading AI-generated content had on the outcome of this election?

01. Major impact
02. Moderate impact
03. Minor impact
04. No impact at all

[DO NOT READ]

98. Don't know
99. Refusal [DO NOT SHOW]

Section 9: Voting Technology

The last few questions ask about your views on the use of technology in elections.

ListTechPref

In a Canadian federal election, poll workers use paper lists to check if an elector's name is on the list and to mark them off after they vote. In some provincial elections, poll workers use computers or tablets to do this electronically. **Which method do you prefer?**
[SHOW ONLINE, TELEPHONE IF ASKED: This refers to lists used by poll staff during the voter identification process, not the lists of electors that are provided to candidates.]

01. Paper lists
02. Computer lists

[DO NOT READ]

95. No preference
98. Don't know
99. Refusal [DO NOT SHOW]

CountTechPref

In Canadian federal elections, each paper ballot is counted by hand. In some provincial elections, paper ballots are scanned into a machine that counts the votes. Which vote counting method do you prefer?

01. Hand counting
02. Machine counting
03. SHOW ONLINE, TELEPHONE VOLUNTEERED: No preference

[DO NOT READ]

95. No opinion
98. Don't know
99. Refusal [DO NOT SHOW]

InternetVoting

Do you think that electors should be able to vote by using the Internet?

01. Yes
02. No

[DO NOT READ]

97. No opinion
98. Don't know
99. Refusal [DO NOT SHOW]

Section 10: Sociodemographics

These last questions will only be used for analyses purposes. Rest assured that your responses will remain completely confidential.

NumRanAsCandidate

Including the April 28, 2025 election, how many times have you run as a candidate at the federal level?
[MINIMUM 1; MAXIMUM 20]
ACCEPT ABSOLUTE NUMBER ONLY; NOT A RANGE
SHOW ONLINE, TELEPHONE IF ASKED: This would include federal general elections and by-elections.
[Number]

[DO NOT READ]
98. Don't know
99. Prefer not to say

LangAtHome

What language do you speak most often at home?
01. English
02. French
96. Other, please specify: [TEXT]

[DO NOT READ]
97. Prefer not to say

Disability

Do you have a long-term condition or disability? Please select all that apply.
01 Blind or visual impairment
02 Impaired coordination or dexterity
03 Deaf or hard of hearing
04 Impaired mobility
05 Speech impairment
06 Developmental or intellectual disability
07 Emotional, psychological or mental health condition
08 Chronic or recurring pain
96 Other condition, please specify: [Text]
97 No long-term condition or disability
99 Prefer not to answer

Canadian born
63. CanBorn

Were you born in Canada?
01. Yes

02. No

[DO NOT READ]

98. Don't know
99. Prefer not to say

IF CanBorn = 02 ASK CitizenYear

64. CitizenYear

In what year did you become a citizen of Canada?

(Please specify year): [NUMBER] [4- digit number; validate that CitizenYear<=2025 or CitizenYear=97,98]

[DO NOT READ]

97. I was born a Canadian citizen
98. Don't know/Do not remember
99. Prefer not to say

65. Indigenous

Are you First Nations, Métis or Inuk (Inuit)?

[DO NOT READ]

01. Not First Nations, Métis or Inuk (Inuit) SINGLE PUNCH ONLY
02. First Nations
03. Métis
04. Inuk (Inuit)
99. Prefer not to say

IF Indigenous = 01 OR 99 (NOT INDIGENOUS) ASK Ethnicity

66. Ethnicity

What is your ethnic background?

Select any that apply

[DO NOT READ]

01. White
02. South Asian (e.g., East Indian, Pakistani, Sri Lankan)
03. Chinese
04. Black
05. Filipino
06. Arab
07. Latin American

08. Southeast Asian (e.g., Vietnamese, Cambodian, Laotian, Thai)
09. West Asian (e.g., Iranian, Afghan)
10. Korean
11. Japanese
95. Mixed background SINGLE PUNCH ONLY
96. Other group, please specify: [TEXT]
99. Prefer not to say SINGLE PUNCH ONLY

Note:

- If respondent says, for example, “English Canadian”, “Québécois”, “German” or “Italian”, ect. Then classify them as 01.

67. Education

What is the highest level of education that you have reached?
[DO NOT READ]

01. Some elementary
02. Completed elementary
03. Some high school
04. Completed high school
05. Some college/vocational/trade school/commercial/CEGEP
06. Completed college/vocational/trade school/ commercial/CEGEP
07. Some university (No degree or diploma obtained)
08. Completed university (Diploma or bachelor degree)
09. Post-graduate university/professional school (Master’s, PhD, or any professional degree)
96. Other, please specify): [TEXT]
98. Don’t know
99. Prefer not to say

68. HHIncome

What was the total annual income of all members of your household combined, before taxes, last year?
[DO NOT READ]

01. Under $20,000
02. $20,000 to just under $40,000
03. $40,000 to just under $60,000
04. $60,000 to just under $80,000
05. $80,000 to just under $100,000
06. $100,000 to just under $150,000
07. $150,000 to just under $200,000
08. $200,000 to just under $250,000

09. $250,000 and above
98. Don't know
99. Prefer not to say

Conclusion

That concludes the survey. This survey was conducted on behalf of Elections Canada. Thank you very much for your thoughtful feedback. It is much appreciated.

If you have any questions about this survey, you can contact Elections Canada: Contact Elections Canada – Elections Canada

If you have any reason to believe that your personal information is not being handled in accordance with the *Privacy Act*, you have a right to complain to the Privacy Commissioner of Canada:

Toll-free: 1-800-282-1376
TTY: (819) 994-6591

Web: Go to www.priv.gc.ca and click "Report a concern"