

# Canadians are divided on the use of Notwithstanding Clause for transgender issues.

National survey released October 2025  
Field: September 29<sup>th</sup> to October 1<sup>st</sup>, 2025  
Submission 2025-2917

**THE GLOBE AND MAIL** 





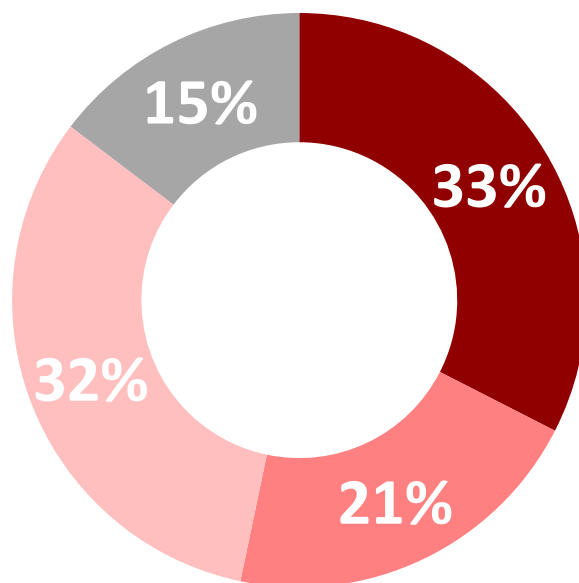
This research gauge the views of Canadians on the notwithstanding clause and their agreement with it use to prevent transgender people from taking part in organized sports, individuals under 16 years of age who identify as transgender to have hormone therapy and requiring schools to notify parents when their child wants to go by a preferred name or pronoun.

Nanos conducted an RDD dual frame (land- and cell-lines) hybrid telephone and online random survey of 1052 Canadians, 18 years of age or older, between September 29<sup>th</sup> and October 1<sup>st</sup>, 2025, as part of an omnibus survey.

The margin of error for this survey is  $\pm 3.0$  percentage points, 19 times out of 20.

The statistical tabulations including the unweighted and weighted number of interviews can be accessed [here](#).

The research was commissioned by the Globe and Mail and was conducted by Nanos Research.



- Governments should only be allowed to use the notwithstanding clause once to override a right for a five year period
- Government should be allowed to use the notwithstanding clause and renew it as many times as they want
- Governments should not be allowed to use the notwithstanding clause at all
- Unsure

\*Weighted to the true population proportion.

\*Charts may not add up to 100 due to rounding.

## Preferred path forward for the notwithstanding clause

**1 in 3** Canadians

say that their preferred path forward for the notwithstanding clause is that governments should only be allowed to use the notwithstanding clause once to override a right for a five-year period (33%). Another one in ten say governments should not be allowed to use the notwithstanding clause at all (32%). Meanwhile, only about one in five think governments should be allowed to use the notwithstanding clause and renew it as many times as they want (21%).

Q – Which of the following paths forward for the notwithstanding clause do you most agree with:

Source: Nanos Research, RDD dual frame hybrid telephone and online random survey, September 29<sup>th</sup> to October 1<sup>st</sup>, 2025, n=1052, accurate 3.0 percentage points plus or minus, 19 times out of 20.

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# Preferred path forward for the notwithstanding clause – by demographics

Q – Which of the following paths forward for the notwithstanding clause do you most agree with:

Governments should only be allowed to use the notwithstanding clause once to override a right for a five-year period				
Atlantic (n=106)	Quebec (n=206)	Ontario (n=360)	Prairies (n=218)	BC (n=162)
<b>40.3%</b>	<b>29.6%</b>	<b>32.8%</b>	<b>27.7%</b>	<b>38.9%</b>
Men (n=557)	Women (n=495)	18 to 34 (n=154)	35 to 54 (n=416)	55 plus (n=482)
<b>31.6%</b>	<b>33.4%</b>	<b>30.3%</b>	<b>36.0%</b>	<b>31.2%</b>
Government should be allowed to use the notwithstanding clause and renew it as many times as they want				
Atlantic (n=106)	Quebec (n=206)	Ontario (n=360)	Prairies (n=218)	BC (n=162)
<b>12.8%</b>	<b>33.5%</b>	<b>14.6%</b>	<b>21.0%</b>	<b>20.3%</b>
Men (n=557)	Women (n=495)	18 to 34 (n=154)	35 to 54 (n=416)	55 plus (n=482)
<b>28.2%</b>	<b>13.7%</b>	<b>13.2%</b>	<b>21.9%</b>	<b>24.8%</b>

Source: Nanos Research, RDD dual frame hybrid telephone and online random survey, September 29<sup>th</sup> to October 1<sup>st</sup>, 2025, n=1052, accurate 3.0 percentage points plus or minus, 19 times out of 20.

# Preferred path forward for the notwithstanding clause – by demographics - Continued

Q – Which of the following paths forward for the notwithstanding clause do you most agree with:

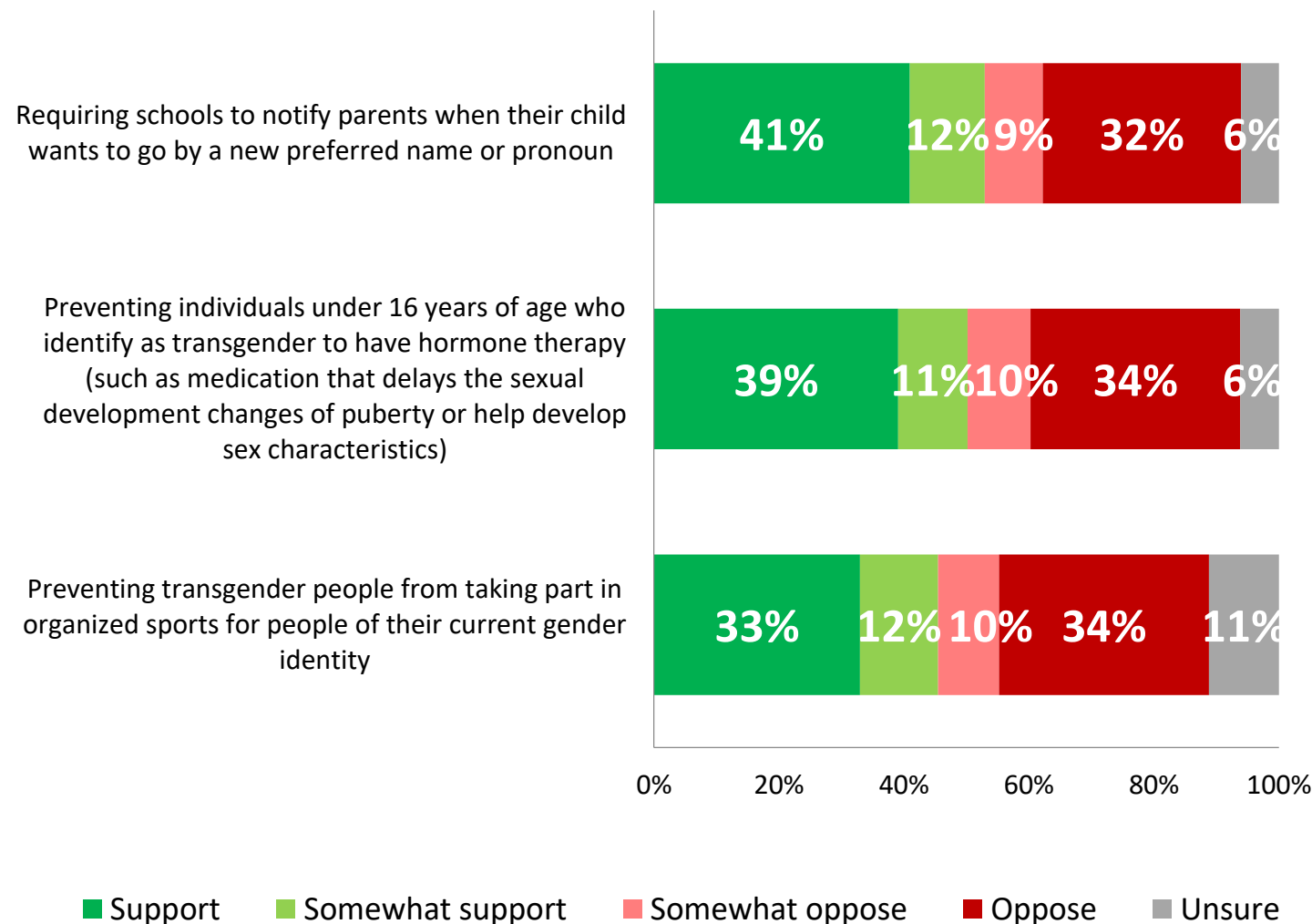
Governments should not be allowed to use the notwithstanding clause at all				
Atlantic (n=106)	Quebec (n=206)	Ontario (n=360)	Prairies (n=218)	BC (n=162)
<b>35.0%</b>	<b>25.6%</b>	<b>36.5%</b>	<b>33.9%</b>	<b>26.7%</b>
Men (n=557)	Women (n=495)	18 to 34 (n=154)	35 to 54 (n=416)	55 plus (n=482)
<b>30.2%</b>	<b>33.8%</b>	<b>36.8%</b>	<b>27.9%</b>	<b>32.2%</b>
Unsure				
Atlantic (n=106)	Quebec (n=206)	Ontario (n=360)	Prairies (n=218)	BC (n=162)
<b>11.9%</b>	<b>11.3%</b>	<b>16.1%</b>	<b>17.4%</b>	<b>14.2%</b>
Men (n=557)	Women (n=495)	18 to 34 (n=154)	35 to 54 (n=416)	55 plus (n=482)
<b>10.0%</b>	<b>19.1%</b>	<b>19.7%</b>	<b>14.1%</b>	<b>11.8%</b>

Source: Nanos Research, RDD dual frame hybrid telephone and online random survey, September 29<sup>th</sup> to October 1<sup>st</sup>, 2025, n=1052, accurate 3.0 percentage points plus or minus, 19 times out of 20.

One in two Canadians support or somewhat support the use of the notwithstanding clause to require schools to notify parents when children want to go by new preferred names or pronouns (41% support; 12% somewhat support) and to prevent individuals under 16 years of age who identify as transgender to have hormone therapy (39% support; 11% somewhat support).

Q – Do you support, somewhat support, somewhat oppose or oppose your provincial/territorial government using the Notwithstanding Clause in the Charter of Rights and Freedoms for the following scenarios [RANDOMIZE]

## Support for uses of notwithstanding clause



\*Weighted to the true population proportion.

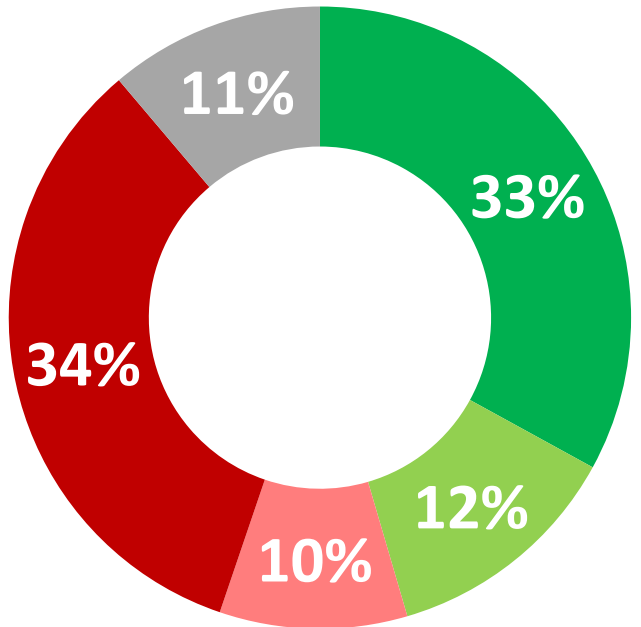
\*Charts may not add up to 100 due to rounding.

Source: Nanos Research, RDD dual frame hybrid telephone and online random survey, September 29<sup>th</sup> to October 1<sup>st</sup>, 2025, n=1052, accurate 3.0 percentage points plus or minus, 19 times out of 20.

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# Support for notwithstanding clause to prevent transgender people from taking part in organized sports with people of their current gender identity



■ Support  
■ Somewhat support  
■ Somewhat oppose  
■ Oppose  
■ Unsure

\*Weighted to the true population proportion.  
\*Charts may not add up to 100 due to rounding.

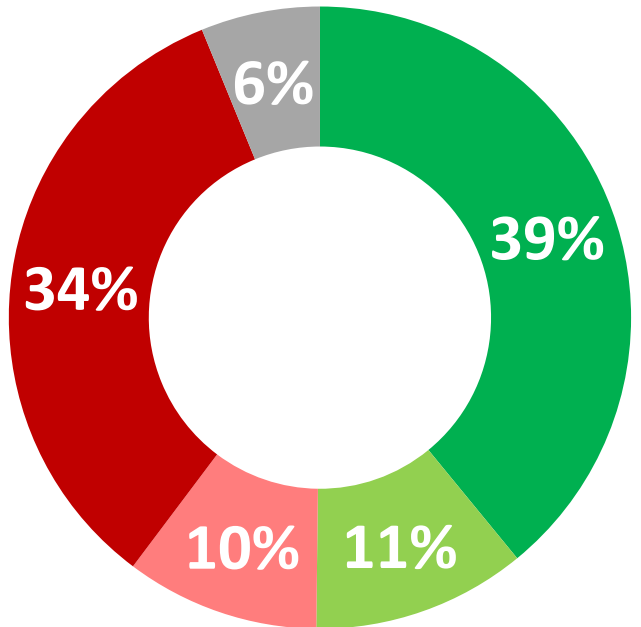
Support/Somewhat support	Atlantic (n=106)	Quebec (n=206)	Ontario (n=360)	Prairies (n=218)	BC (n=162)
	36.5%	46.3%	45.5%	51.0%	41.4%
	Men (n=557)	Women (n=495)	18 to 34 (n=154)	35 to 54 (n=416)	55 plus (n=482)
Oppose/Somewhat oppose	Atlantic (n=106)	Quebec (n=206)	Ontario (n=360)	Prairies (n=218)	BC (n=162)
	57.9%	37.1%	45.8%	36.6%	48.4%
	Men (n=557)	Women (n=495)	18 to 34 (n=154)	35 to 54 (n=416)	55 plus (n=482)
	41.6%	45.1%	48.4%	38.0%	44.2%

Q – Do you support, somewhat support, somewhat oppose or oppose your provincial/territorial government using the Notwithstanding Clause in the Charter of Rights and Freedoms for the following scenarios [RANDOMIZE]  
**Preventing transgender people from taking part in organized sports for people of their current gender identity**

Source: Nanos Research, RDD dual frame hybrid telephone and online random survey, September 29<sup>th</sup> to October 1<sup>st</sup>, 2025, n=1052, accurate 3.0 percentage points plus or minus, 19 times out of 20.



# Support for notwithstanding clause to prevent transgender people under 16 years old from having hormone therapy



■ Support                      ■ Somewhat support  
■ Somewhat oppose        ■ Oppose  
■ Unsure

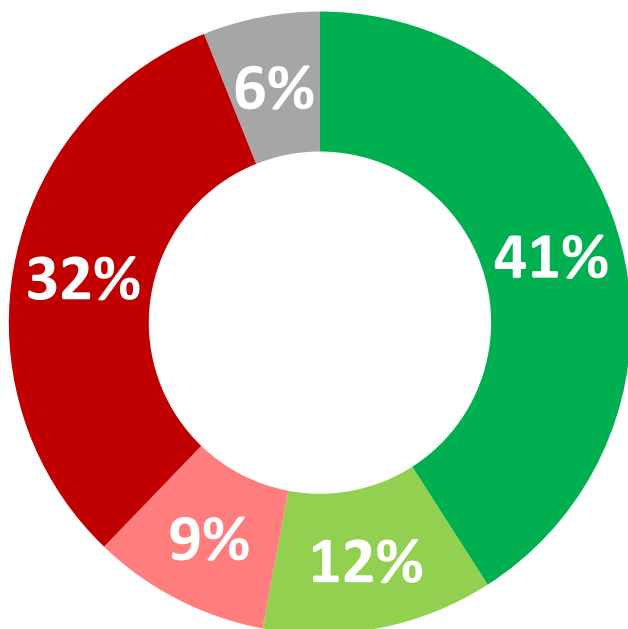
\*Weighted to the true population proportion.  
\*Charts may not add up to 100 due to rounding.

Support/Somewhat support	Atlantic (n=106)	Quebec (n=206)	Ontario (n=360)	Prairies (n=218)	BC (n=162)
	43.4%	58.5%	46.7%	53.2%	46.7%
	Men (n=557)	Women (n=495)	18 to 34 (n=154)	35 to 54 (n=416)	55 plus (n=482)
53.5%	47.0%	39.7%	57.3%	51.4%	
Oppose/Somewhat oppose	Atlantic (n=106)	Quebec (n=206)	Ontario (n=360)	Prairies (n=218)	BC (n=162)
	49.6%	37.4%	45.3%	43.9%	46.0%
	Men (n=557)	Women (n=495)	18 to 34 (n=154)	35 to 54 (n=416)	55 plus (n=482)
40.8%	46.3%	54.7%	35.9%	42.5%	

Q – Do you support, somewhat support, somewhat oppose or oppose your provincial/territorial government using the Notwithstanding Clause in the Charter of Rights and Freedoms for the following scenarios [RANDOMIZE]  
**Preventing individuals under 16 years of age who identify as transgender to have hormone therapy (such as medication that delays the sexual development changes of puberty or help develop sex characteristics)**

Source: Nanos Research, RDD dual frame hybrid telephone and online random survey, September 29<sup>th</sup> to October 1<sup>st</sup>, 2025, n=1052, accurate 3.0 percentage points plus or minus, 19 times out of 20.





■ Support  
■ Somewhat support  
■ Somewhat oppose  
■ Oppose  
■ Unsure

\*Weighted to the true population proportion.

\*Charts may not add up to 100 due to rounding.

## Support for notwithstanding clause to require schools to notify parents when children want to go by preferred names or pronouns

Support/Somewhat support	Atlantic (n=106)	Quebec (n=206)	Ontario (n=360)	Prairies (n=218)	BC (n=162)
	46.0%	59.1%	51.6%	51.4%	51.9%
	Men (n=557)	Women (n=495)	18 to 34 (n=154)	35 to 54 (n=416)	55 plus (n=482)
	57.5%	48.6%	41.4%	54.2%	59.5%
Oppose/Somewhat oppose	Atlantic (n=106)	Quebec (n=206)	Ontario (n=360)	Prairies (n=218)	BC (n=162)
	52.7%	34.3%	41.6%	44.5%	40.4%
	Men (n=557)	Women (n=495)	18 to 34 (n=154)	35 to 54 (n=416)	55 plus (n=482)
	36.5%	45.3%	48.6%	40.3%	36.6%

Q – Do you support, somewhat support, somewhat oppose or oppose your provincial/territorial government using the Notwithstanding Clause in the Charter of Rights and Freedoms for the following scenarios [RANDOMIZE]  
**Requiring schools to notify parents when their child wants to go by a new preferred name or pronoun**

Source: Nanos Research, RDD dual frame hybrid telephone and online random survey, September 29<sup>th</sup> to October 1<sup>st</sup>, 2025, n=1052, accurate 3.0 percentage points plus or minus, 19 times out of 20.

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# METHODOLOGY

Nanos conducted an RDD dual frame (land- and cell-lines) hybrid telephone and online random survey of 1,052 Canadians, 18 years of age or older, between September 29<sup>th</sup> and October 1<sup>st</sup>, 2025 as part of an omnibus survey. Participants were randomly recruited by telephone using live agents and administered a survey online. The sample included both land- and cell-lines across Canada. The results were statistically checked and weighted by age and gender using the latest Census information and the sample is geographically stratified to be representative of Canada.

Individuals randomly called using random digit dialling with a maximum of five call backs.

The margin of error for this survey is  $\pm 3.0$  percentage points, 19 times out of 20.

This study was commissioned by the Globe and Mail and the research was conducted by Nanos Research.

**Full data tables with weighted and unweighted number of interviews are [here](#).**

Note: Charts may not add up to 100 due to rounding



Element	Description	Element	Description
Research sponsor	The Globe and Mail	Weighting of Data	The results were weighted by age and gender using the latest Census information (2021) and the sample is geographically stratified to ensure a distribution across all regions of Canada. See tables for full weighting disclosure
Population and Final Sample Size	1052 Randomly selected individuals.	Screening	Screening ensured potential respondents did not work in the market research industry, in the advertising industry, in the media or a political party prior to administering the survey to ensure the integrity of the data.
Source of Sample	Nanos Insights Lab	Excluded Demographics	Individuals younger than 18 years old; individuals without land or cell lines, and individuals without internet access could not participate.
Type of Sample	Probability	Stratification	By age and gender using the latest Census information (2021) and the sample is geographically stratified to be representative of Canada. Smaller areas such as Atlantic Canada were marginally oversampled to allow for a minimum regional sample.
Margin of Error	±3.0 percentage points, 19 times out of 20.	Estimated Response Rate	12 percent, consistent with industry norms.
Mode of Survey	RDD dual frame (land- and cell-lines) hybrid telephone and online omnibus survey	Question Order	Question order in the preceding report reflects the order in which they appeared in the original questionnaire.
Sampling Method Base	The sample included both land- and cell-lines RDD (Random Digit Dialed) across Canada.	Question Content	Topics on the omnibus ahead of the survey content included: views on political issues, views on economic issues, views on relationship with the US, COVID-19 vaccines, homeless encampments, and public servants.
Demographics (Captured)	Atlantic Canada, Quebec, Ontario, Prairies, British Columbia; Men and Women; 18 years and older. Six-digit postal code was used to validate geography.	Question Wording	The questions in the preceding report are written exactly as they were asked to individuals.
Fieldwork/Validation	Individuals were recruited using live interviews with live supervision to validate work, the research questions were administered online	Research/Data Collection Supplier	Nanos Research
Number of Calls	Maximum of five call backs to those recruited.	Contact	Contact Nanos Research for more information or with any concerns or questions. <a href="http://www.nanos.co">http://www.nanos.co</a> Telephone:(613) 234-4666 ext. 237 Email: info@nanosresearch.com.
Time of Calls	Individuals recruited were called between 12-5:30 pm and 6:30-9:30pm local time for the respondent.	Tabulations	<a href="#">By region, age and gender</a>
Field Dates	September 29 <sup>th</sup> to October 1 <sup>st</sup> , 2025		
Language of Survey	The survey was conducted in both English and French.		
Standards	Nanos Research is a member of the Canadian Research Insights Council (CRIC) and confirms that this research fully complies with all CRIC Standards including the CRIC Public Opinion Research Standards and Disclosure Requirements. <a href="https://canadianresearchinsightscouncil.ca/standards/">https://canadianresearchinsightscouncil.ca/standards/</a>		



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# Any questions?

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