

F-35 vs Gripen-E: Mission more important than jobs or defence cooperation when choosing the best jet fighter solution for the Royal Canadian Air Force.

National survey released April 2026
Field: March 31st to April 4th, 2026
Submission 2026-3031

THE GLOBE AND MAIL*



This survey gauged the views of Canadians on the procurement of fighter jets.

Nanos conducted an RDD dual frame (land- and cell-lines) hybrid telephone and online random survey of 1,099 Canadians, 18 years of age or older, between March 31st to April 4th, 2026, as part of an omnibus survey. The margin of error for this survey is ± 3.0 percentage points, 19 times out of 20.

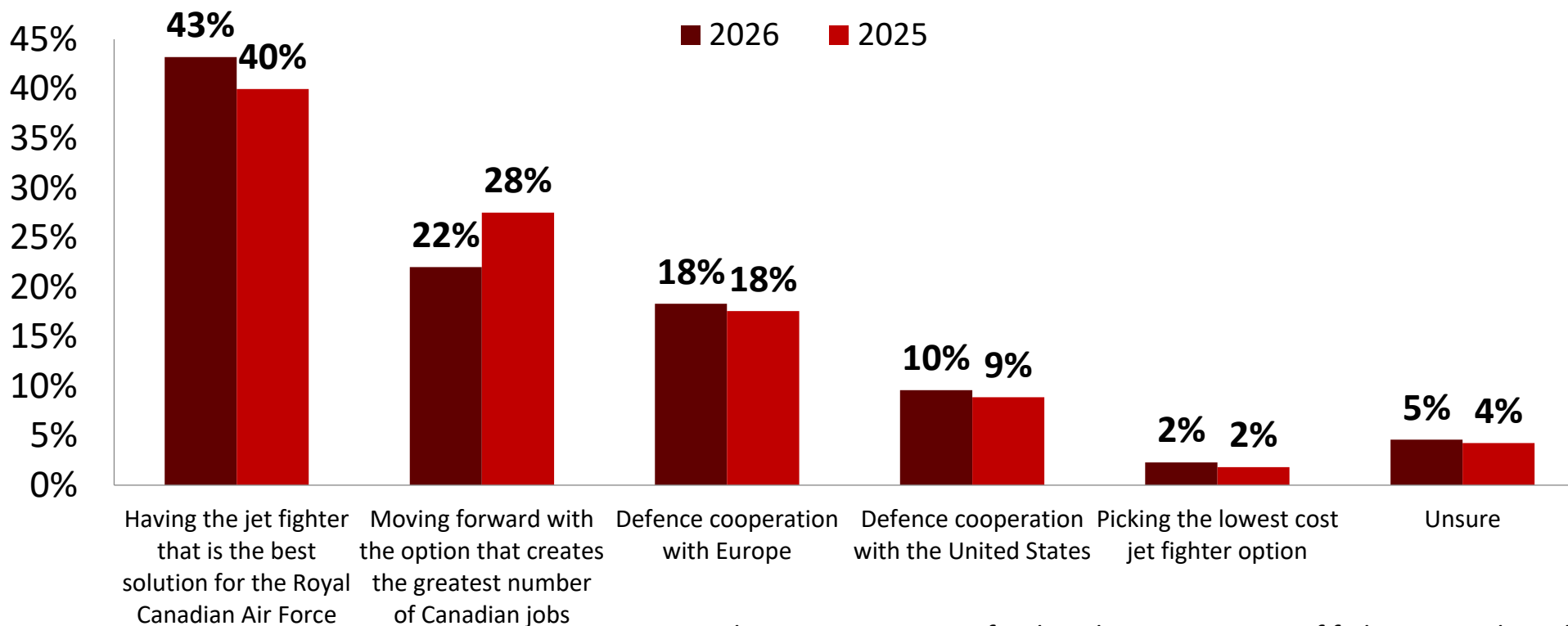
This study was commissioned by Globe and Mail, and the research was conducted by Nanos Research.

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

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

Priorities in terms of Canadian fighter jet procurement

Q – In 2023, the federal government agreed to purchase 88 F-35 fighter jets from the U.S. manufacturer Lockheed Martin. The first batch of 16 are already in production. Another company, Saab, from Sweden, has proposed selling Canada its Gripen-E fighter jets. What is more important to you: [RANDOMIZE]



Canadians continue to prefer that the procurement of fighter jets is based on the best solution for the Royal Canadian Air Force. There has been a marginal decrease in those who prefer moving forward with the option that creates the greatest number of Canadian jobs.

*Weighted to the true population proportion.

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

Priorities in terms of Canadian fighter jet procurement – By demographics

Q – In 2023, the federal government agreed to purchase 88 F-35 fighter jets from the U.S. manufacturer Lockheed Martin. The first batch of 16 are already in production. Another company, Saab, from Sweden, has proposed selling Canada its Gripen-E fighter jets. What is more important to you:

	Canada 2026-04 (n=1099)	Atlantic (n=120)	Quebec (n=206)	Ontario (n=362)	Prairies (n=246)	British Columbia (n=165)	Male (n=578)	Female (n=521)	18 to 34 (n=183)	35 to 54 (n=412)	55 plus (n=504)
Having the jet fighter that is the best solution for the Royal Canadian Air Force	43.2%	45.7%	41.9%	44.7%	41.6%	41.7%	42.8%	43.6%	33.1%	45.0%	48.3%
Moving forward with the option that creates the greatest number of Canadian jobs	22.0%	30.8%	22.5%	23.2%	18.3%	18.1%	21.3%	22.7%	26.9%	19.5%	20.7%
Defence cooperation with Europe	18.3%	8.7%	21.4%	16.1%	14.4%	28.5%	18.9%	17.7%	18.8%	20.4%	16.3%
Defence cooperation with the United States	9.6%	7.5%	5.5%	10.1%	17.3%	6.4%	10.8%	8.4%	10.8%	10.4%	8.2%
Picking the lowest cost jet fighter option	2.3%	1.1%	2.8%	2.3%	1.5%	3.6%	3.0%	1.7%	3.7%	1.5%	2.2%
Unsure	4.6%	6.2%	6.0%	3.5%	6.9%	1.6%	3.2%	6.0%	6.7%	3.2%	4.3%

Source: Nanos Research, RDD dual frame hybrid telephone and online random survey, March 31st to April 4th, 2026, n=1099, accurate 3.0 percentage points plus or minus, 19 times out of 20.

Element	Description
Research sponsor	Globe and Mail
Population and Final Sample Size	1099 Randomly selected individuals.
Source of Sample	Nanos Probability Panel
Type of Sample	Probability
Margin of Error	±3.0 percentage points, 19 times out of 20.
Mode of Survey	RDD dual frame (land- and cell-lines) hybrid telephone and online omnibus survey
Sampling Method Base	The sample included both land- and cell-lines RDD (Random Digit Dialed) across Canada.
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.
Fieldwork/Validation	Individuals were recruited using live interviews with live supervision to validate work, the research questions were administered online
Number of Calls	Maximum of five call backs to those recruited.
Time of Calls	Individuals recruited were called between 12-5:30 pm and 6:30-9:30pm local time for the respondent.
Field Dates	March 31 st to April 4 th , 2026.
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. https://canadianresearchinsightscouncil.ca/standards/

Element	Description
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
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.
Excluded Demographics	Individuals younger than 18 years old; individuals without land or cell lines, and individuals without internet access could not participate.
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.
Estimated Response Rate	13 percent, consistent with industry norms.
Question Order	Question order in the preceding report reflects the order in which they appeared in the original questionnaire.
Question Content	Topics on the omnibus ahead of the survey content included: views on political issues, views on economic issues, defence spending, Cuba, oil prices, air travel and the NDP.
Question Wording	The questions in the preceding report are written exactly as they were asked to individuals.
Research/Data Collection Supplier	Nanos Research
Contact	Contact Nanos Research for more information or with any concerns or questions. http://www.nanos.co Telephone:(613) 234-4666 ext. 237 Email: info@nanosresearch.com .
Tabulations	By region, age and gender



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EthicStratēgies

Ethic Strategies was created by the founding partners of [PAA Advisory](http://www.paaadvisory.com) and the [Nanos Research Corporation](http://www.nanos.co), both recognized leaders in research, advocacy, and advisory. Ethic provides bespoke strategic counsel, advice, and communications strategies to organizations facing serious issues. www.ethicstrategies.com

Any questions?



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