Climate Action Seen as Urgent: Canadians Ready for Water Infrastructure Investment.

National survey released July, 2026
Field: February 28 to March 19, 2026
Submission 2026-2901

IISD International Institute for Sustainable Development

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METHODOLOGY

The research gauged the opinions among Canadians on climate change, the state of Canada's water infrastructure and natural infrastructure.

Nanos conducted an RDD dual frame (land- and cell-lines) hybrid telephone and online random survey of 2219 Canadians, 18 years of age or older, from February 28 to March 19, 2026. 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 were randomly called using random digit dialling with a maximum of five call backs.

The margin of error for a random survey of 2219 Canadians is ±2.1 percentage points, 19 times out of 20.

The research was commissioned by International Institute for Sustainable Development and 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.

UPSHOT

1. **Climate Urgency Nationwide is Significant -** A majority of Canadians (60.8%) rate climate action as urgent (7-10 on a 0-10 scale), with a national mean urgency score of 6.6. British Columbia (65.8%) and Quebec (68.4%) show significantly higher urgency than the Prairies (45.6%), which demonstrates notably lower concern than the national average. Women (68.3%) are significantly more likely than men (52.7%) to rate climate action as urgent.
2. **Experience with Water-Related Problems Widespread** - Only 36.2% of Canadians report experiencing no water-related issues in the past 5 years. The most commonly experienced problems are street/yard flooding (25.7%), seasonal water shortages (22.0%), and water main breaks (17.1%).
3. **Water Problems Cause Significant Financial and Personal Impact** - Among those experiencing water problems, 43.4% report property damage or repair costs, 25.8% faced extra water or plumbing bills, and 14.0% missed work or school.

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UPSHOT continued

4. **Water Problems Seen as Happening More Often** - A majority of Canadians (53.6%) believe water problems are happening more often compared to 10 years ago. Only 3.5% think problems have decreased. Women (60.3%) are significantly more likely than men (46.7%) to perceive problems as increasing.

5. **Water Infrastructure Investment an Urgent Priority** - Nearly three-quarters of Canadians (72.5%) rate government action on water infrastructure as urgent (7-10 scale), with a national mean urgency of 7.5. Women (78.1%) show significantly higher urgency than men (66.5%) on this issue.

6. **Comfortable Majority Want Action Natural Infrastructure** - A majority (71.1%) rate natural infrastructure as an urgent priority (7-10 scale). Support for elected officials backing natural infrastructure is high at 67.6%. Among funding approaches, applying for provincial/federal grants (53.5%) and reallocating existing municipal spending (41.6%) receive the strongest support.

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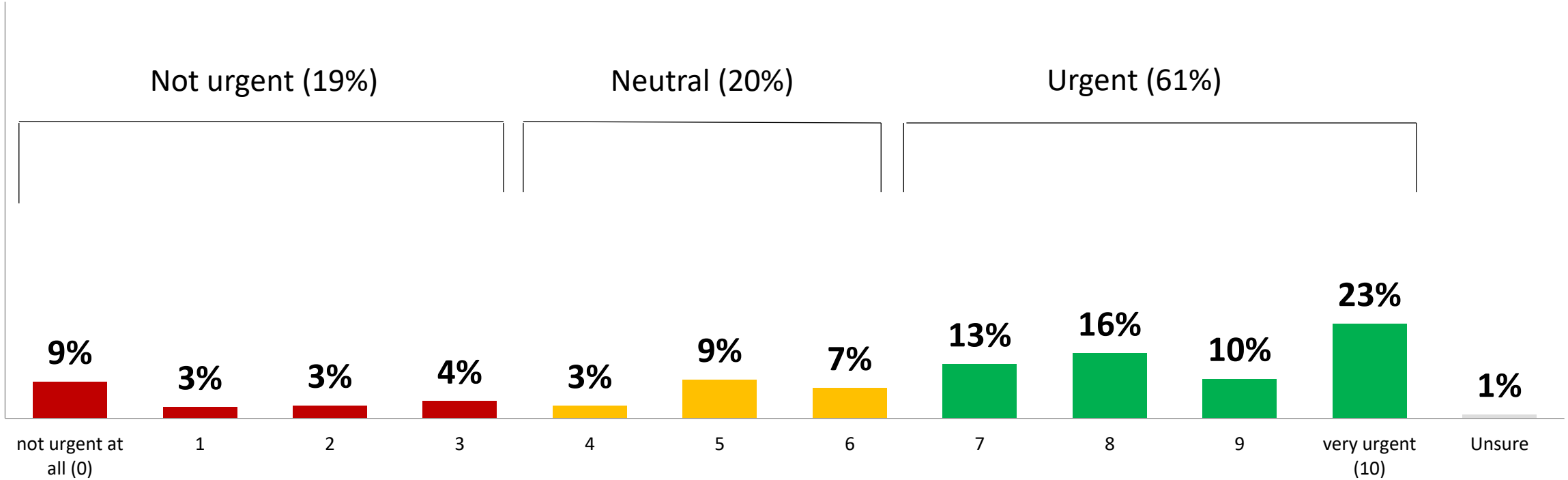
Urgency to take action to respond to climate change

Q – How would you describe the urgency to take action to respond to climate change where 0 is not at all urgent and 10 is very urgent.



Three in five Canadians (61%) describe the urgency to take action to respond to climate change as important (score 7-10 out of 10). In contrast, one in five describe it as being not important (score 0-3 out of 10) and are neutral (score 4-6 out of 10). Women (68%) rate the need to take action to respond as urgent (score of 7-10 out of ten) more often than men (53%).

*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, February 28 to March 19, 2026, n=2219, accurate 2.1 percentage points plus or minus, 19 times out of 20.

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Urgency to take action to respond to climate change – By demographics

Q – How would you describe the urgency to take action to respond to climate change where 0 is not at all urgent and 10 is very urgent.

	Canada 2026-03 (n=2219)	Atlantic (n=251)	Quebec (n=358)	Ontario (n=468)	Prairies (n=927)	British Columbia (n=215)	Male (n=1154)	Female (n=1060)	18 to 34 (n=339)	35 to 54 (n=856)	55 plus (n=1024)
Mean	**6.6**	**6.8**	**7.0**	**6.7**	**5.4**	**6.9**	**5.9**	**7.2**	**6.4**	**6.2**	**6.9**
Net - Urgent (7-10)	60.8%	63.9%	68.4%	60.7%	45.6%	65.8%	52.7%	68.3%	56.5%	58.2%	64.5%
Net - Neutral (4-6)	19.6%	19.0%	17.2%	21.1%	21.2%	17.7%	20.8%	18.5%	22.1%	18.1%	19.4%
Net - Not Urgent (0-3)	18.7%	16.6%	13.9%	17.2%	31.7%	15.7%	25.6%	12.3%	20.9%	22.9%	14.9%
Unsure	0.9%	0.5%	0.5%	1.0%	1.5%	0.8%	0.9%	0.9%	0.5%	0.8%	1.2%

Source: Nanos Research, RDD dual frame hybrid telephone and online random survey, February 28 to March 19, 2026, n=2219, accurate 2.1 percentage points plus or minus, 19 times out of 20.

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Urgency to take action to respond to climate change – By member of an Indigenous community

Q – How would you describe the urgency to take action to respond to climate change where 0 is not at all urgent and 10 is very urgent.

	Canada 2026-03 (n=2219)	Yes (n=98)	No (n=2110)
Mean	**6.6**	**5.5**	**6.6**
Net - Urgent (7-10)	60.8%	48.2%	61.2%
Net - Neutral (4-6)	19.6%	19.1%	19.7%
Net - Not Urgent (0-3)	18.7%	30.0%	18.3%
Unsure	0.9%	2.7%	0.8%

*11 respondents preferred not to answer the Indigenous identity question

Source: Nanos Research, RDD dual frame hybrid telephone and online random survey, February 28 to March 19, 2026, n=2219, accurate 2.1 percentage points plus or minus, 19 times out of 20.

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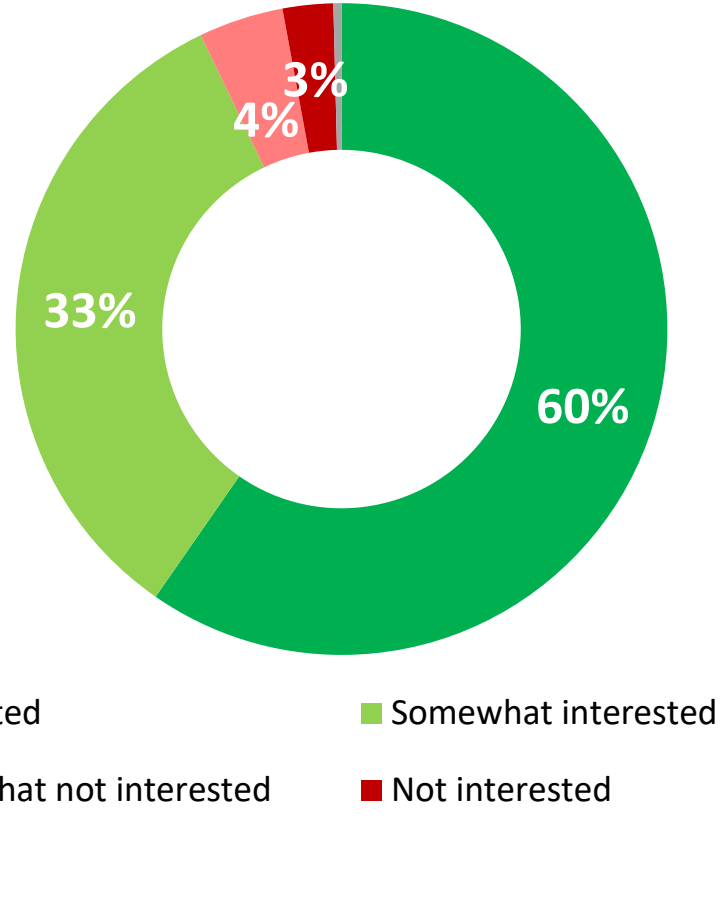
Interest in following news about policy issues and politics

9 in 10 Canadians

are interested (60%) or somewhat interested (33%) in following news about policy issues and politics. Less than one in ten are not interested (three percent) or somewhat not interested (four percent) and less than one percent are unsure. Canadians aged 55 plus (68%) are more likely to say they are outright interested in following news about policy issues and politics than Canadians aged 18 to 34 (43%).

Q - Are you interested, somewhat interested, somewhat not interested or not interested in following news about policy issues and politics?



*Weighted to the true population proportion.
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Source: Nanos Research, RDD dual frame hybrid telephone and online random survey, February 28 to March 19, 2026, n=2219, accurate 2.1 percentage points plus or minus, 19 times out of 20.

Interest in following news about policy issues and politics – By demographics

Q – Are you interested, somewhat interested, somewhat not interested or not interested in following news about policy issues and politics?

	Canada 2026-03 (n=2219)	Atlantic (n=251)	Quebec (n=358)	Ontario (n=468)	Prairies (n=927)	British Columbia (n=215)	Male (n=1154)	Female (n=1060)	18 to 34 (n=339)	35 to 54 (n=856)	55 plus (n=1024)
Interested	59.6%	50.7%	55.2%	61.6%	59.6%	65.9%	64.2%	55.2%	43.2%	58.8%	68.3%
Somewhat interested	33.2%	39.9%	37.3%	32.1%	33.0%	26.6%	30.1%	36.2%	44.2%	33.7%	27.4%
Somewhat not interested	4.2%	4.7%	5.2%	3.3%	4.2%	4.8%	3.6%	4.8%	6.6%	4.9%	2.6%
Not interested	2.5%	4.6%	2.0%	2.3%	3.0%	2.7%	2.1%	3.0%	5.2%	2.4%	1.3%
Unsure	0.4%	-	0.3%	0.6%	0.3%	-	-	0.7%	0.7%	0.2%	0.4%

Source: Nanos Research, RDD dual frame hybrid telephone and online random survey, February 28 to March 19, 2026, n=2219, accurate 2.1 percentage points plus or minus, 19 times out of 20.

Interest in following news about policy issues and politics – By member of an Indigenous community

Q – Are you interested, somewhat interested, somewhat not interested or not interested in following news about policy issues and politics?

	Canada 2026-03 (n=2219)	Yes (n=98)	No (n=2110)
Interested	59.6%	67.1%	59.3%
Somewhat interested	33.2%	27.5%	33.5%
Somewhat not interested	4.2%	4.0%	4.3%
Not interested	2.5%	0.5%	2.6%
Unsure	0.4%	1.0%	0.4%

*11 respondents preferred not to answer the Indigenous identity question

Source: Nanos Research, RDD dual frame hybrid telephone and online random survey, February 28 to March 19, 2026, n=2219, accurate 2.1 percentage points plus or minus, 19 times out of 20.

Frequency of sharing opinions on social media in the past month

Q – In the past month, on how many occasions have you shared your personal opinions on social media (for example, Facebook, Instagram or X)? [OPEN] ___ occasions

Three in five Canadians (61%) have not shared their personal opinions on social media in the past month. Twenty-two percent of Canadians shared their opinions between one and five times in the past month. Those who identify as a member of an Indigenous community (33%) were more likely to share their views on social media between one and five times compared to the Canadian average.

	Canada 2026-03 (n=2112)
Mean	**5.3**
Zero times	61.1%
1 to 5 times	22.3%
6 to 10 times	5.6%
11 and more times	10.9%

Source: Nanos Research, RDD dual frame hybrid telephone and online random survey, February 28 to March 19, 2026, n=2112, accurate 2.1 percentage points plus or minus, 19 times out of 20.

Frequency of sharing opinions on social media in the past month – By demographics

Q – In the past month, on how many occasions have you shared your personal opinions on social media (for example, Facebook, Instagram or X)? [OPEN] ___ occasions

	Canada 2026-03 (n=2112)	Atlantic (n=235)	Quebec (n=340)	Ontario (n=446)	Prairies (n=882)	British Columbia (n=209)	Male (n=1099)	Female (n=1008)	18 to 34 (n=319)	35 to 54 (n=815)	55 plus (n=978)
Mean	**5.3**	**5.1**	**4.3**	**5.8**	**5.0**	**6.3**	**5.5**	**5.2**	**4.7**	**6.0**	**5.2**
Zero times	61.1%	58.0%	65.3%	60.8%	60.0%	58.2%	61.0%	61.3%	67.2%	58.3%	60.0%
1 to 5 times	22.3%	22.7%	20.0%	22.9%	23.0%	23.8%	22.6%	22.1%	21.6%	21.9%	23.0%
6 to 10 times	5.6%	9.2%	4.9%	5.6%	6.1%	4.7%	5.1%	6.2%	2.1%	7.6%	6.1%
11 and more times	10.9%	10.1%	9.8%	10.7%	10.9%	13.2%	11.3%	10.4%	9.1%	12.2%	10.9%

Source: Nanos Research, RDD dual frame hybrid telephone and online random survey, February 28 to March 19, 2026, n=2112, accurate 2.1 percentage points plus or minus, 19 times out of 20.

Frequency of sharing opinions on social media in the past month – By member of an Indigenous community

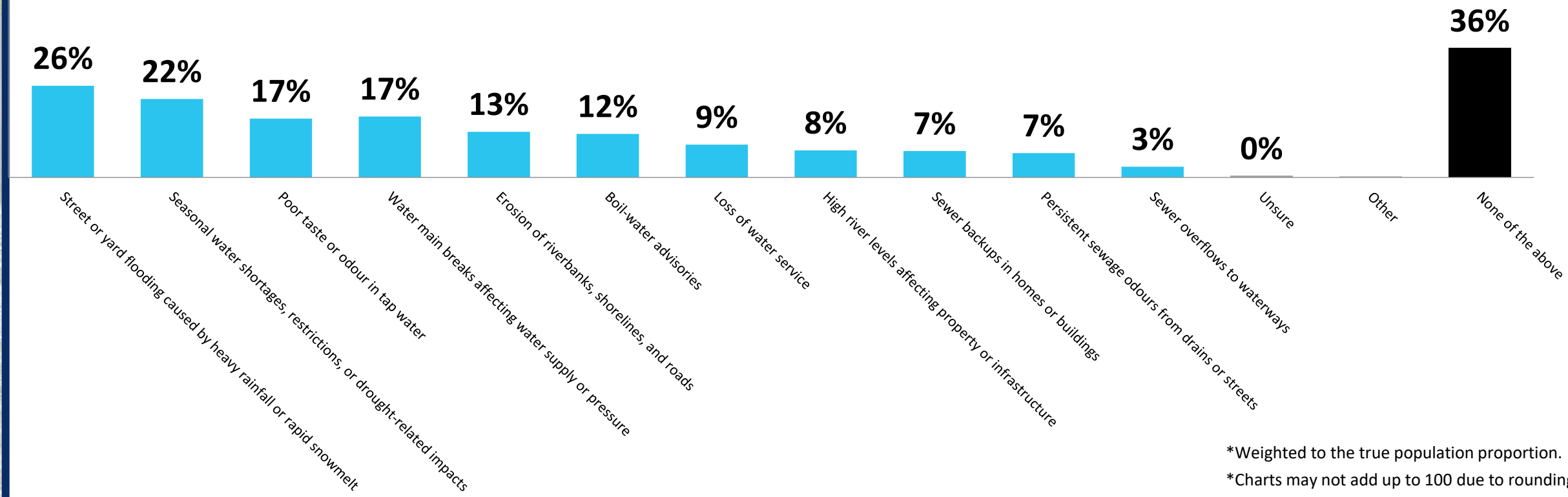
Q – In the past month, on how many occasions have you shared your personal opinions on social media (for example, Facebook, Instagram or X)? [OPEN] ___ occasions

	Canada 2026-03 (n=2112)	Yes (n=92)	No (n=2010)
Mean	**5.3**	**4.8**	**5.4**
Zero times	61.1%	49.6%	61.8%
1 to 5 times	22.3%	33.2%	21.9%
6 to 10 times	5.6%	8.4%	5.4%
11 and more times	10.9%	8.8%	11.0%

*10 respondents preferred not to answer the Indigenous identity question

Following issues experienced by yourself or your immediate family related to water in the past 5 years

Q – Have you or your immediate family experienced any of the following issues related to water in the past 5 years? [RANDOMIZE AND SELECT AS MANY AS APPLY]



*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, February 28 to March 19, 2026, n=2209, accurate 2.1 percentage points plus or minus, 19 times out of 20.

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Following issues experienced by yourself or your immediate family related to water in the past 5 years – By demographics

Q – Have you or your immediate family experienced any of the following issues related to water in the past 5 years? [RANDOMIZE AND SELECT AS MANY AS APPLY]

	Canada 2026-03 (n=2209)	Atlantic (n=250)	Quebec (n=354)	Ontario (n=466)	Prairies (n=924)	British Columbia (n=215)	Male (n=1149)	Female (n=1055)	18 to 34 (n=334)	35 to 54 (n=853)	55 plus (n=1022)
Street or yard flooding caused by heavy rainfall or rapid snowmelt	25.7%	22.6%	26.3%	28.6%	22.7%	21.6%	23.1%	27.8%	31.4%	30.0%	20.1%
Seasonal water shortages, restrictions, or drought-related impacts	22.0%	38.1%	12.6%	13.1%	24.4%	51.7%	18.3%	25.3%	25.7%	22.9%	19.7%
Water main breaks affecting water supply or pressure	17.1%	15.9%	10.5%	15.8%	33.2%	11.9%	16.0%	18.2%	22.6%	20.2%	12.4%
Poor taste or odour in tap water	16.5%	16.5%	14.6%	17.0%	19.6%	14.0%	15.9%	16.9%	21.5%	17.4%	13.3%
Erosion of riverbanks, shorelines, and roads	12.8%	23.1%	8.2%	14.3%	9.7%	15.0%	10.6%	14.8%	15.5%	12.0%	11.9%

*Multifrequency tabs based on multiple responses.

Residents of BC (52%) and Atlantic Canada (38%) list Seasonal water shortages, restrictions, or drought-related impacts as their top water related issue, more than double the Canadian average of 22 percent. The regions of Quebec (24%) and Atlantic Canada (22%) are five times more likely to have had immediate family experience a boil-water advisories than those from Ontario (4%). Over a third of all Canadians (36%) say their immediate family has not experience any of the listed water related issues.

Following issues experienced by yourself or your immediate family related to water in the past 5 years cont'd – By demographics

Q – Have you or your immediate family experienced any of the following issues related to water in the past 5 years? [RANDOMIZE AND SELECT AS MANY AS APPLY]

	Canada 2026-03 (n=2209)	Atlantic (n=250)	Quebec (n=354)	Ontario (n=466)	Prairies (n=924)	British Columbia (n=215)	Male (n=1149)	Female (n=1055)	18 to 34 (n=334)	35 to 54 (n=853)	55 plus (n=1022)
Boil-water advisories	12.2%	21.5%	24.2%	4.4%	9.6%	12.7%	12.4%	11.8%	15.1%	14.1%	9.5%
Loss of water service	9.2%	10.1%	10.5%	7.5%	13.2%	6.1%	10.2%	8.2%	10.0%	12.0%	6.9%
High river levels affecting property or infrastructure	7.6%	3.9%	7.6%	9.2%	5.2%	8.0%	6.7%	8.3%	12.8%	6.6%	5.7%
Sewer backups in homes or buildings	7.4%	4.9%	9.8%	7.1%	7.3%	5.4%	7.1%	7.6%	8.8%	8.7%	5.8%
Persistent sewage odours from drains or streets	6.8%	6.3%	7.3%	7.4%	8.3%	2.9%	6.1%	7.6%	12.1%	8.8%	3.0%
Sewer overflows to waterways	3.0%	0.9%	4.8%	2.9%	3.0%	1.5%	2.7%	3.3%	4.4%	3.2%	2.2%
None of the above	36.2%	25.7%	36.6%	42.4%	32.2%	28.3%	39.2%	33.5%	30.4%	30.9%	42.5%
Unsure	0.4%	-	0.9%	0.4%	0.2%	-	0.4%	0.3%	1.0%	-	0.3%
Other	0.3%	0.5%	0.6%	0.2%	0.3%	0.4%	0.3%	0.4%	-	0.5%	0.4%

*Multifrequency tabs based on multiple responses.

Following issues experienced by yourself or your immediate family related to water in the past 5 years – By member of an Indigenous community

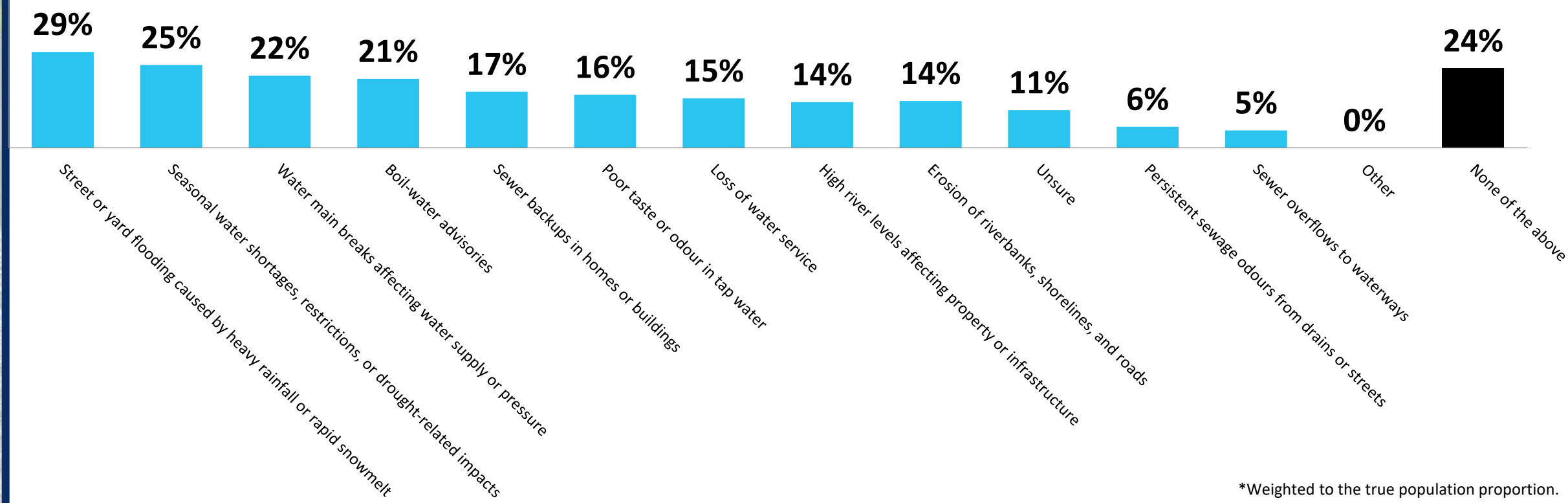
Q – Have you or your immediate family experienced any of the following issues related to water in the past 5 years? [RANDOMIZE AND SELECT AS MANY AS APPLY]

	Canada 2026-03 (n=2209)	Yes (n=96)	No (n=2102)
Street or yard flooding caused by heavy rainfall or rapid snowmelt	25.7%	26.3%	25.8%
Seasonal water shortages, restrictions, or drought-related impacts	22.0%	30.0%	21.8%
Water main breaks affecting water supply or pressure	17.1%	21.0%	17.1%
Poor taste or odour in tap water	16.5%	19.9%	16.4%
Erosion of riverbanks, shorelines, and roads	12.8%	8.3%	12.9%
Boil-water advisories	12.2%	21.0%	11.9%
Loss of water service	9.2%	8.2%	9.3%
High river levels affecting property or infrastructure	7.6%	7.5%	7.6%
Sewer backups in homes or buildings	7.4%	1.8%	7.6%
Persistent sewage odours from drains or streets	6.8%	14.0%	6.6%
Sewer overflows to waterways	3.0%	4.7%	3.0%
Unsure	0.4%	-	0.4%
Other	0.3%	-	0.4%
None of the above	36.2%	38.8%	35.9%

*Multifrequency tabs based on multiple responses.
*11 respondents preferred not to answer the Indigenous identity question

Water related issues experienced by a friend or a close acquaintance in the past 5 years

Q – Has a friend or close acquaintance experienced any of the following issues related to water in the past 5 years? [RANDOMIZE AND SELECT AS MANY AS APPLY]



*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, February 28 to March 19, 2026, n=2203, accurate 2.1 percentage points plus or minus, 19 times out of 20.

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Water related issues experienced by a friend or a close acquaintance in the past 5 years – By demographics

Q – Has a friend or close acquaintance experienced any of the following issues related to water in the past 5 years? [RANDOMIZE AND SELECT AS MANY AS APPLY]

	Canada 2026-03 (n=2203)	Atlantic (n=251)	Quebec (n=354)	Ontario (n=465)	Prairies (n=920)	British Columbia (n=213)	Male (n=1149)	Female (n=1050)	18 to 34 (n=333)	35 to 54 (n=854)	55 plus (n=1016)
Street or yard flooding caused by heavy rainfall or rapid snowmelt	29.1%	29.2%	30.5%	31.7%	21.6%	28.7%	27.5%	30.5%	35.2%	33.4%	23.2%
Seasonal water shortages, restrictions, or drought-related impacts	25.1%	43.8%	14.1%	18.4%	26.8%	50.8%	20.6%	29.4%	28.2%	26.3%	22.8%
None of the above	24.1%	19.0%	26.7%	26.7%	22.8%	16.2%	26.7%	21.6%	17.5%	19.5%	30.2%
Water main breaks affecting water supply or pressure	21.9%	23.0%	13.9%	17.9%	39.2%	23.6%	19.9%	23.7%	28.8%	25.5%	16.0%
Boil-water advisories	20.9%	34.5%	29.9%	13.7%	18.1%	23.1%	18.5%	23.1%	29.5%	24.3%	14.4%

*Multifrequency tabs based on multiple responses.

Residents of the Prairies (39%) are almost three times as likely to have had a friend or close acquaintance experience a water main break affecting water supply or pressure than residents of Quebec (14%). Those from British Columbia (51%) and Atlantic Canada (44%) are more than twice as likely to have a friend or close acquaintance experience Seasonal water shortages, restrictions, or drought-related impacts than those from Ontario (18%) or Quebec (14%).

Source: Nanos Research, RDD dual frame hybrid telephone and online random survey, February 28 to March 19, 2026, n=2203, accurate 2.1 percentage points plus or minus, 19 times out of 20.

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Water related issues experienced by a friend or a close acquaintance in the past 5 years cont'd – By demographics

Q - Has a friend or close acquaintance experienced any of the following issues related to water in the past 5 years? [RANDOMIZE AND SELECT AS MANY AS APPLY]

	Canada 2026-03 (n=2203)	Atlantic (n=251)	Quebec (n=354)	Ontario (n=465)	Prairies (n=920)	British Columbia (n=213)	Male (n=1149)	Female (n=1050)	18 to 34 (n=333)	35 to 54 (n=854)	55 plus (n=1016)
Sewer backups in homes or buildings	17.0%	8.1%	20.1%	19.2%	14.4%	13.6%	14.5%	19.5%	22.8%	19.9%	12.2%
Poor taste or odour in tap water	16.1%	22.3%	13.8%	16.1%	17.1%	15.2%	14.2%	17.8%	24.1%	17.0%	11.4%
Loss of water service	15.0%	19.4%	12.8%	14.2%	19.4%	13.0%	15.7%	14.3%	21.6%	17.4%	10.2%
Erosion of riverbanks, shorelines, and roads	14.2%	24.3%	10.3%	14.7%	11.4%	18.1%	11.4%	16.9%	15.2%	14.6%	13.5%
High river levels affecting property or infrastructure	13.9%	16.6%	11.8%	14.7%	9.2%	19.5%	12.2%	15.4%	18.7%	14.4%	11.1%
Unsure	11.4%	7.9%	10.8%	13.0%	13.6%	7.1%	11.8%	11.0%	12.0%	10.2%	12.0%
Persistent sewage odours from drains or streets	6.4%	6.6%	5.9%	6.8%	6.8%	5.5%	5.0%	7.8%	11.3%	8.0%	2.9%
Sewer overflows to waterways	5.3%	2.2%	5.2%	6.9%	4.0%	4.2%	5.0%	5.7%	7.4%	7.8%	2.6%
Other	-	-	-	-	0.1%	-	-	-	-	-	-

*Multifrequency tabs based on multiple responses.

Source: Nanos Research, RDD dual frame hybrid telephone and online random survey, February 28 to March 19, 2026, n=2203, accurate 2.1 percentage points plus or minus, 19 times out of 20.

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Water related issues experienced by a friend or a close acquaintance in the past 5 years – By member of an Indigenous community

Q – Has a friend or close acquaintance experienced any of the following issues related to water in the past 5 years? [RANDOMIZE AND SELECT AS MANY AS APPLY]

	Canada 2026-03 (n=2203)	Yes (n=97)	No (n=2095)
Street or yard flooding caused by heavy rainfall or rapid snowmelt	29.1%	25.5%	29.4%
Seasonal water shortages, restrictions, or drought-related impacts	25.1%	26.4%	25.1%
None of the above	24.1%	26.0%	23.6%
Water main breaks affecting water supply or pressure	21.9%	24.8%	21.7%
Boil-water advisories	20.9%	26.8%	20.8%
Sewer backups in homes or buildings	17.0%	16.5%	17.1%
Poor taste or odour in tap water	16.1%	21.5%	16.0%
Loss of water service	15.0%	25.3%	14.6%
Erosion of riverbanks, shorelines, and roads	14.2%	14.2%	14.2%
High river levels affecting property or infrastructure	13.9%	12.6%	13.9%
Unsure	11.4%	17.1%	11.3%
Persistent sewage odours from drains or streets	6.4%	10.2%	6.3%
Sewer overflows to waterways	5.3%	8.6%	5.2%
Other	-	-	-

*Multifrequency tabs based on multiple responses.
*11 respondents preferred not to answer the Indigenous identity question

Source: Nanos Research, RDD dual frame hybrid telephone and online random survey, February 28 to March 19, 2026, n=2203, accurate 2.1 percentage points plus or minus, 19 times out of 20.

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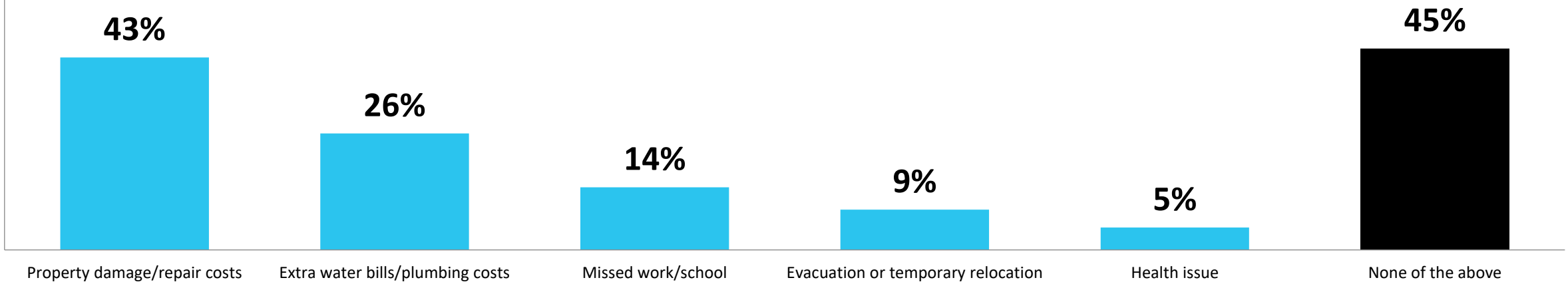
NANOS

Water problems yourself, someone in your household, a friend or a close acquaintance experienced cause any of the following

Q – Have any of the water problems you, someone in your household, a friend or a close acquaintance experienced caused any of the following? [RANDOMIZE] (Select all that apply)



Two in five Canadians (43%) say that any of the water problems they have personally, someone in their household, a friend or a close acquaintance experienced caused property damage/repair costs. This is followed by over one in four (26%) who say it has caused extra water bills/plumbing costs. Residents of Atlantic Canada (32%) and the Prairies (31%) are less likely to have had their household, a friend, or a close acquaintance experience property damage/ repair costs than those from Ontario (53%). Additionally, 45 percent of Canadians say they or the people close to them have not experienced any of the listed problems.

*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, February 28 to March 19, 2026, n=2203, accurate 2.1 percentage points plus or minus, 19 times out of 20.

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NANOS

Water problems yourself, someone in your household, a friend or a close acquaintance experienced cause any of the following – By demographics

Q – Have any of the water problems you, someone in your household, a friend or a close acquaintance experienced caused any of the following? [RANDOMIZE] (Select all that apply)

	Canada 2026-03 (n=1689)	Atlantic (n=210)	Quebec (n=263)	Ontario (n=319)	Prairies (n=714)	British Columbia (n=183)	Male (n=848)	Female (n=836)	18 to 34 (n=276)	35 to 54 (n=691)	55 plus (n=722)
Property damage/repair costs	43.4%	31.8%	43.4%	52.5%	31.5%	42.0%	41.4%	45.2%	49.3%	45.4%	38.7%
Extra water bills/plumbing costs	25.8%	22.3%	23.8%	31.4%	22.0%	21.7%	24.3%	26.9%	28.3%	27.7%	22.9%
Missed work/school	14.0%	10.4%	13.3%	16.1%	12.1%	14.2%	12.4%	15.3%	23.9%	15.6%	7.1%
Evacuation or temporary relocation	8.9%	9.7%	9.5%	8.0%	5.8%	13.4%	6.8%	10.6%	10.2%	11.6%	6.2%
Health issue	4.6%	6.8%	2.9%	5.0%	5.1%	4.4%	5.1%	4.2%	4.2%	6.2%	3.7%
None of the above	45.3%	56.0%	44.7%	37.6%	56.3%	45.9%	47.7%	43.3%	37.8%	41.7%	52.2%

*Multifrequency tabs based on multiple responses.

Water problems yourself, someone in your household, a friend or a close acquaintance experienced cause any of the following – By member of an Indigenous community

Q – Have any of the water problems you, someone in your household, a friend or a close acquaintance experienced caused any of the following? [RANDOMIZE] (Select all that apply)

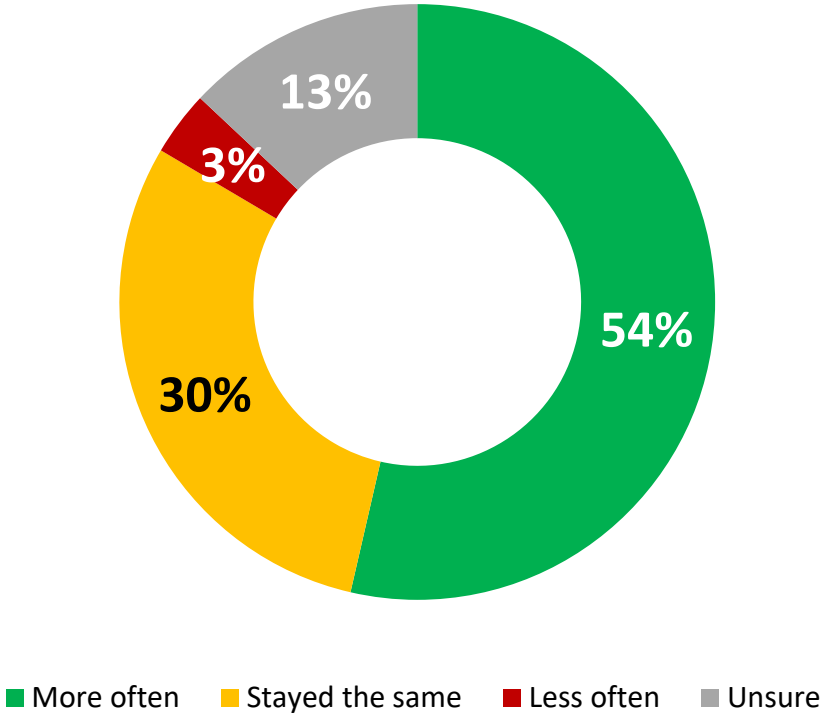
	Canada 2026-03 (n=1689)	Yes (n=71)	No (n=1613)
Property damage/repair costs	43.4%	38.1%	43.6%
Extra water bills/plumbing costs	25.8%	27.2%	25.8%
Missed work/school	14.0%	20.1%	13.7%
Evacuation or temporary relocation	8.9%	8.8%	8.9%
Health issue	4.6%	10.4%	4.4%
None of the above	45.3%	45.8%	45.3%

*5 respondents preferred not to answer the Indigenous identity question

*Multifrequency tabs based on multiple responses.

Frequency of water problems compared to 10 years ago

Q – Do you think these water problems are happening more often, less often or have stayed the same compared to 10 years ago?



1 in 2 Canadians

think these water problems are happening more often (54%) compared to 10 years ago. Just below one in three Canadians (30%) say they have stayed the same and three percent say it happens less often. Thirteen percent are unsure. Women (60%) are more likely to say these water issues are happening more often than ten years ago than men (47%).

*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, February 28 to March 19, 2026, n=2219, accurate 2.1 percentage points plus or minus, 19 times out of 20.

Frequency of water problems compared to 10 years ago – By demographics

Q – Do you think these water problems are happening more often, less often or have stayed the same compared to 10 years ago?

	Canada 2026-03 (n=2219)	Atlantic (n=251)	Quebec (n=358)	Ontario (n=468)	Prairies (n=927)	British Columbia (n=215)	Male (n=1154)	Female (n=1060)	18 to 34 (n=339)	35 to 54 (n=856)	55 plus (n=1024)
More often	53.6%	60.1%	57.4%	51.6%	48.7%	56.0%	46.7%	60.3%	54.9%	54.7%	52.4%
Stayed the same	29.9%	27.0%	28.7%	29.1%	34.5%	29.8%	35.4%	24.7%	24.4%	32.8%	30.7%
Less often	3.5%	3.2%	2.2%	3.9%	4.6%	3.3%	5.1%	1.9%	4.3%	3.3%	3.2%
Unsure	13.0%	9.6%	11.6%	15.4%	12.2%	10.9%	12.8%	13.0%	16.3%	9.2%	13.7%

Source: Nanos Research, RDD dual frame hybrid telephone and online random survey, February 28 to March 19, 2026, n=2219, accurate 2.1 percentage points plus or minus, 19 times out of 20.

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NANOS

Frequency of water problems compared to 10 years ago – By member of an Indigenous community

Q – Do you think these water problems are happening more often, less often or have stayed the same compared to 10 years ago?

	Canada 2026-03 (n=2219)	Yes (n=98)	No (n=2110)
More often	53.6%	49.7%	53.9%
Stayed the same	29.9%	36.4%	29.7%
Less often	3.5%	8.7%	3.3%
Unsure	13.0%	5.2%	13.0%

*11 respondents preferred not to answer the Indigenous identity question

Source: Nanos Research, RDD dual frame hybrid telephone and online random survey, February 28 to March 19, 2026, n=2219, accurate 2.1 percentage points plus or minus, 19 times out of 20.

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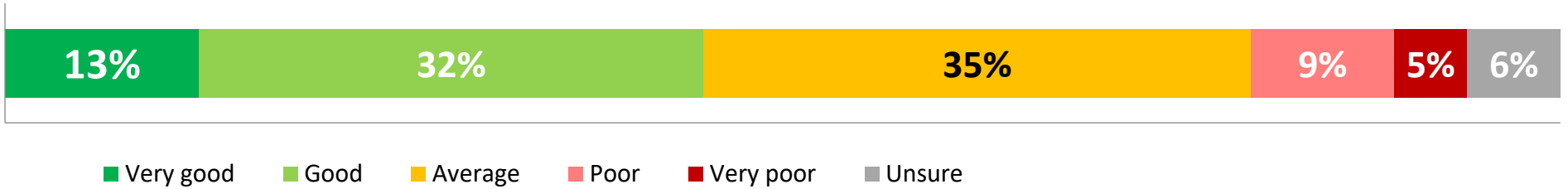
NANOS

Opinion towards the authorities in charge of water infrastructure in your community maintaining the water infrastructure

Q – Would you say that the authorities in charge of water infrastructure in your community do a very good, good, average, poor or very poor job at maintaining the water infrastructure?



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

2 in 5 Canadians say the authorities in charge of water infrastructure in their community does a very good (13%) or good (32%) job at maintaining the water infrastructure. Just below one in six say it does a very poor (5%) or poor (9%) job and six percent are unsure. Respondents from the Prairies (24%) are twice as likely to say that the job done by the authorities in charge of water in their communities are doing a poor/very poor job compared to those in Quebec (12%), BC (12%), and Ontario (10%).

Source: Nanos Research, RDD dual frame hybrid telephone and online random survey, February 28 to March 19, 2026, n=2219, accurate 2.1 percentage points plus or minus, 19 times out of 20.

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NANOS

Views towards the authorities in charge of water infrastructure in your community at maintaining the water infrastructure – By demographics

Q – Would you say that the authorities in charge of water infrastructure in your community do a very good, good, average, poor or very poor job at maintaining the water infrastructure?

	Canada 2026-03 (n=2219)	Atlantic (n=251)	Quebec (n=358)	Ontario (n=468)	Prairies (n=927)	British Columbia (n=215)	Male (n=1154)	Female (n=1060)	18 to 34 (n=339)	35 to 54 (n=856)	55 plus (n=1024)
Very good	12.5%	9.8%	11.1%	14.0%	11.6%	13.2%	14.8%	10.3%	8.4%	10.5%	15.8%
Good	32.4%	26.9%	35.8%	32.3%	30.7%	31.9%	35.4%	29.7%	30.0%	30.6%	34.7%
Average	35.2%	34.2%	33.6%	38.0%	28.9%	38.6%	33.5%	36.7%	39.5%	36.4%	32.4%
Poor	9.2%	9.8%	8.0%	7.2%	14.4%	9.8%	8.4%	9.9%	9.2%	9.2%	9.2%
Very poor	4.7%	7.0%	4.4%	3.2%	9.4%	2.2%	3.6%	5.6%	5.8%	5.9%	3.3%
Unsure	6.0%	12.3%	7.0%	5.4%	5.0%	4.3%	4.2%	7.8%	7.0%	7.5%	4.6%

Source: Nanos Research, RDD dual frame hybrid telephone and online random survey, February 28 to March 19, 2026, n=2219, accurate 2.1 percentage points plus or minus, 19 times out of 20.

Views towards the authorities in charge of water infrastructure in your community at maintaining the water infrastructure – By member of an Indigenous community

Q – Would you say that the authorities in charge of water infrastructure in your community do a very good, good, average, poor or very poor job at maintaining the water infrastructure?

	Canada 2026-03 (n=2219)	Yes (n=98)	No (n=2110)
Very good	12.5%	11.2%	12.4%
Good	32.4%	24.1%	32.8%
Average	35.2%	31.8%	35.4%
Poor	9.2%	15.3%	8.9%
Very poor	4.7%	3.1%	4.8%
Unsure	6.0%	14.6%	5.7%

*11 respondents preferred not to answer the Indigenous identity question

Source: Nanos Research, RDD dual frame hybrid telephone and online random survey, February 28 to March 19, 2026, n=2219, accurate 2.1 percentage points plus or minus, 19 times out of 20.

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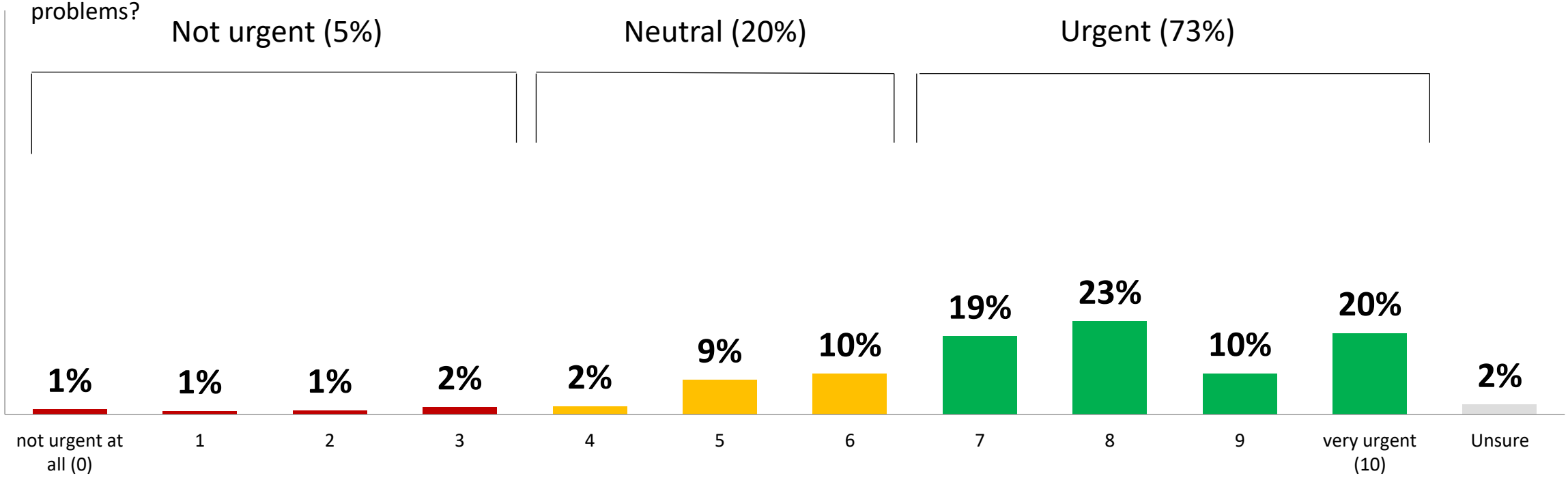
NANOS

Urgency for governments to take action to improve Canada's water infrastructure

Q –On a scale from 0 to 10 where 0 is not at all urgent and 10 is very urgent, how urgent do you think it is for governments to take action to improve Canada's water infrastructure — such as drinking water, wastewater, stormwater, and flood protection systems — to prevent future problems?



Almost four out of five (78%) of women say it is urgent (score of 7-10 out of 10) that governments take action to improve Canada's water infrastructure, comparatively two thirds (66%) of men say it is urgent.

*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, February 28 to March 19, 2026, n=2219, accurate 2.1 percentage points plus or minus, 19 times out of 20.

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NANOS

Urgency for governments to take action to improve Canada's water infrastructure - By demographics

Q – On a scale from 0 to 10 where 0 is not at all urgent and 10 is very urgent, how urgent do you think it is for governments to take action to improve Canada's water infrastructure — such as drinking water, wastewater, stormwater, and flood protection systems — to prevent future problems?

	Canada 2026-03 (n=2219)	Atlantic (n=251)	Quebec (n=358)	Ontario (n=468)	Prairies (n=927)	British Columbia (n=215)	Male (n=1154)	Female (n=1060)	18 to 34 (n=339)	35 to 54 (n=856)	55 plus (n=1024)
Mean	**7.5**	**7.6**	**7.7**	**7.4**	**7.2**	**7.6**	**7.1**	**7.8**	**7.2**	**7.5**	**7.6**
Net - Urgent (7-10)	72.5%	77.3%	74.3%	72.1%	69.6%	71.9%	66.5%	78.1%	66.8%	73.5%	74.7%
Net - Neutral (4-6)	20.5%	18.1%	19.3%	20.8%	21.5%	21.3%	25.1%	16.2%	26.2%	19.1%	18.5%
Net - Not Urgent (0-3)	4.7%	2.6%	2.9%	5.1%	6.5%	5.2%	6.2%	3.3%	4.8%	5.1%	4.3%
Unsure	2.4%	2.0%	3.6%	2.0%	2.4%	1.5%	2.3%	2.4%	2.2%	2.3%	2.5%

Source: Nanos Research, RDD dual frame hybrid telephone and online random survey, February 28 to March 19, 2026, n=2219, accurate 2.1 percentage points plus or minus, 19 times out of 20.

Urgency for governments to take action to improve Canada's water infrastructure - By member of an Indigenous community

Q – On a scale from 0 to 10 where 0 is not at all urgent and 10 is very urgent, how urgent do you think it is for governments to take action to improve Canada's water infrastructure — such as drinking water, wastewater, stormwater, and flood protection systems — to prevent future problems?

	Canada 2026-03 (n=2219)	Yes (n=98)	No (n=2110)
Mean	**7.5**	**7.0**	**7.5**
Net - Urgent (7-10)	72.5%	60.9%	72.9%
Net - Neutral (4-6)	20.5%	27.3%	20.3%
Net - Not Urgent (0-3)	4.7%	7.6%	4.6%
Unsure	2.4%	4.3%	2.1%

*11 respondents preferred not to answer the Indigenous identity question

Source: Nanos Research, RDD dual frame hybrid telephone and online random survey, February 28 to March 19, 2026, n=2219, accurate 2.1 percentage points plus or minus, 19 times out of 20.

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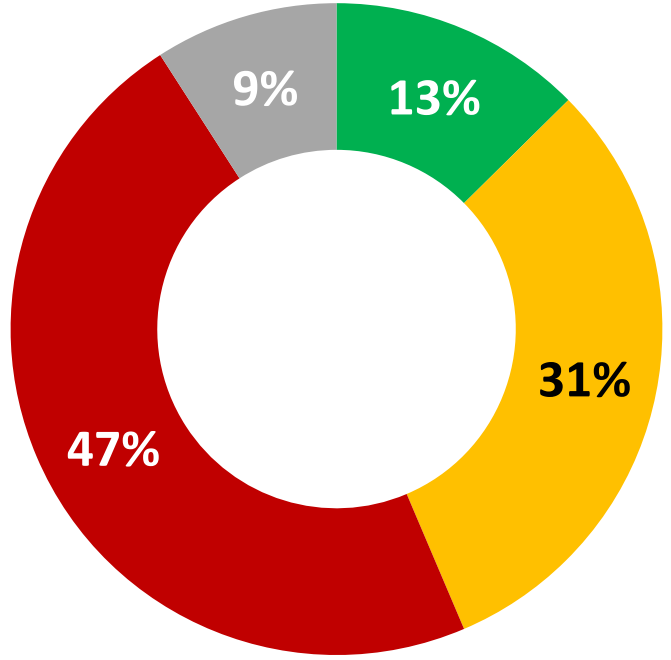
NANOS

Awareness of natural infrastructure

47% of Canadians

have not heard of natural infrastructure, 31 percent say they think they have heard of it and 13 percent say they definitely have. Younger Canadians (19% of 18 to 34) have definitely heard of natural infrastructure, almost double older age groups (11% of 35 to 54; 11% of 55 plus).

Q - Have you ever heard of natural infrastructure?



*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, February 28 to March 19, 2026, n=2219, accurate 2.1 percentage points plus or minus, 19 times out of 20.

Awareness of natural infrastructure – By demographics

Q – Have you ever heard of natural infrastructure?

	Canada 2026-03 (n=2219)	Atlantic (n=251)	Quebec (n=358)	Ontario (n=468)	Prairies (n=927)	British Columbia (n=215)	Male (n=1154)	Female (n=1060)	18 to 34 (n=339)	35 to 54 (n=856)	55 plus (n=1024)
Yes, definitely	12.6%	9.8%	12.6%	13.0%	10.2%	15.7%	14.6%	10.5%	18.9%	10.9%	10.5%
Yes, I think so	31.0%	31.1%	31.0%	34.4%	29.2%	23.6%	30.0%	32.0%	37.1%	32.2%	27.2%
No, I haven't heard	47.3%	45.0%	48.5%	44.6%	49.5%	51.2%	46.7%	48.0%	39.7%	46.0%	52.0%
Unsure	9.1%	14.1%	7.8%	8.0%	11.1%	9.4%	8.7%	9.5%	4.4%	10.9%	10.3%

Source: Nanos Research, RDD dual frame hybrid telephone and online random survey, February 28 to March 19, 2026, n=2219, accurate 2.1 percentage points plus or minus, 19 times out of 20.

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NANOS

Awareness of natural infrastructure – By member of an Indigenous community

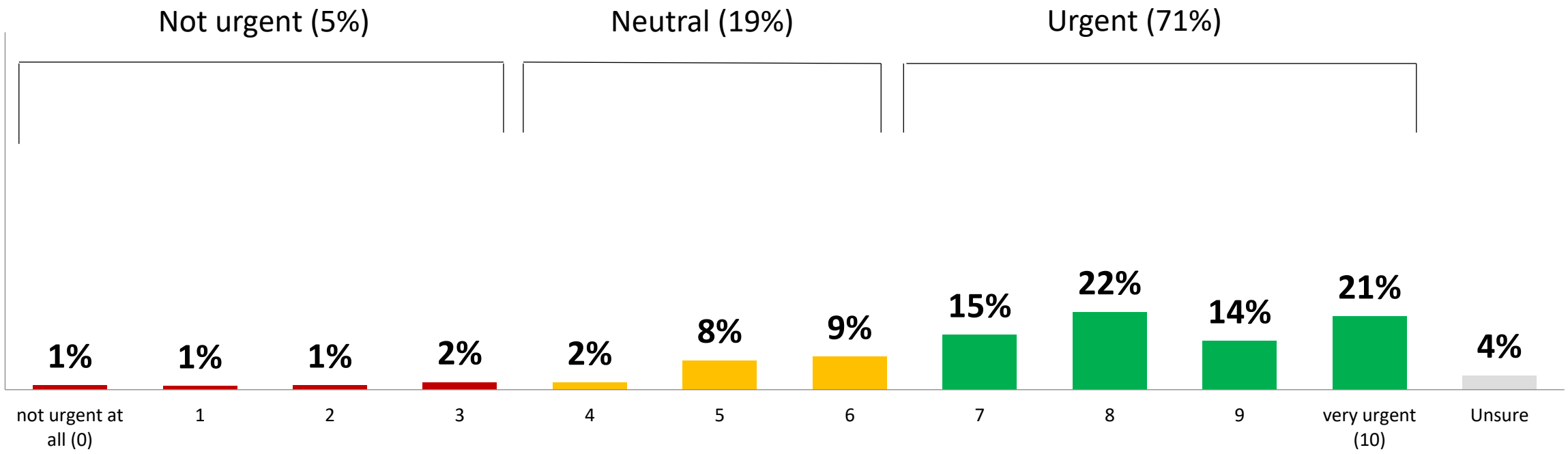
Q – Have you ever heard of natural infrastructure?

	Canada 2026-03 (n=2219)	Yes (n=98)	No (n=2110)
Yes, definitely	12.6%	12.0%	12.6%
Yes, I think so	31.0%	35.4%	30.8%
No, I haven't heard	47.3%	44.7%	47.4%
Unsure	9.1%	8.0%	9.2%

*11 respondents preferred not to answer the Indigenous identity question

Urgency planning and implementing natural infrastructure in communities

Q – On a scale from 0 to 10 where 0 is not at all urgent and 10 is very urgent, how urgent of a priority is planning for and implementing natural infrastructure to manage water services in your community?



Almost four out of five (77%) women say that planning for and implementing natural infrastructure to manage water services in their community is urgent (score of 7-10 out of 10), comparatively 64 percent of men say that it is urgent.

*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, February 28 to March 19, 2026, n=2219, accurate 2.1 percentage points plus or minus, 19 times out of 20.

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NANOS

Urgency planning and implementing natural infrastructure in communities – By demographics

Q – On a scale from 0 to 10 where 0 is not at all urgent and 10 is very urgent, how urgent of a priority is planning for and implementing natural infrastructure to manage water services in your community?

	Canada 2026-03 (n=2219)	Atlantic (n=251)	Quebec (n=358)	Ontario (n=468)	Prairies (n=927)	British Columbia (n=215)	Male (n=1154)	Female (n=1060)	18 to 34 (n=339)	35 to 54 (n=856)	55 plus (n=1024)
Mean	**7.5**	**7.5**	**7.6**	**7.6**	**7.1**	**7.7**	**7.1**	**7.9**	**7.3**	**7.5**	**7.7**
Net - Urgent (7-10)	71.1%	70.3%	71.4%	72.3%	66.6%	73.2%	64.3%	77.4%	64.8%	70.1%	74.9%
Net - Neutral (4-6)	19.4%	19.4%	20.0%	17.3%	22.3%	20.4%	23.5%	15.6%	23.7%	20.8%	16.3%
Net - Not Urgent (0-3)	5.5%	4.8%	3.7%	6.3%	7.7%	3.8%	7.9%	3.3%	5.5%	5.3%	5.7%
Unsure	4.0%	5.5%	4.9%	4.1%	3.4%	2.6%	4.4%	3.7%	6.0%	3.8%	3.1%

Source: Nanos Research, RDD dual frame hybrid telephone and online random survey, February 28 to March 19, 2026, n=2219, accurate 2.1 percentage points plus or minus, 19 times out of 20.

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NANOS

Urgency planning and implementing natural infrastructure in communities - By member of an Indigenous community

Q – On a scale from 0 to 10 where 0 is not at all urgent and 10 is very urgent, how urgent of a priority is planning for and implementing natural infrastructure to manage water services in your community?

	Canada 2026-03 (n=2219)	Yes (n=98)	No (n=2110)
Mean	**7.5**	**7.0**	**7.5**
Net - Urgent (7-10)	71.1%	62.0%	71.3%
Net - Neutral (4-6)	19.4%	21.6%	19.4%
Net - Not Urgent (0-3)	5.5%	8.2%	5.4%
Unsure	4.0%	8.2%	3.9%

*11 respondents preferred not to answer the Indigenous identity question

Source: Nanos Research, RDD dual frame hybrid telephone and online random survey, February 28 to March 19, 2026, n=2219, accurate 2.1 percentage points plus or minus, 19 times out of 20.

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NANOS

Benefits of using natural infrastructure solutions

Q – What do you think is the main benefit, if any, of using natural infrastructure solutions as buffers to help clean water and protect communities from floods and droughts? [OPEN]

Top responses when asked what the main benefits of using natural infrastructure, almost a quarter of Canadians (23%) reported that lower costs and savings were the main benefit. Other top responses were environmental protection and lower ecological harm (13%), natural approach works better (11%) and flood mitigation and water damage prevention (10%).

TOP RESPONSES

	Canada 2026-03 (n=1977)
Lower Costs and Savings	23.4%
Environmental Protection and Lower Ecological Harm	12.8%
Natural Approach Works Better	10.9%
Flood Mitigation and Water Damage Prevention	10.4%
Cleaner Water With Fewer Chemicals	8.6%
Long-Term Sustainability and Durability	6.1%
Other	5.9%
Not Sure	3.2%

Source: Nanos Research, RDD dual frame hybrid telephone and online random survey, February 28 to March 19, 2026, n=1977, accurate 2.2 percentage points plus or minus, 19 times out of 20.

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NANOS

Benefits of using natural infrastructure solutions – By demographics

Q – What do you think is the main benefit, if any, of using natural infrastructure solutions as buffers to help clean water and protect communities from floods and droughts? [OPEN]

	Canada 2026-03 (n=1977)	Atlantic (n=222)	Quebec (n=319)	Ontario (n=419)	Prairies (n=827)	British Columbia (n=190)	Male (n=1013)	Female (n=959)	18 to 34 (n=291)	35 to 54 (n=749)	55 plus (n=937)
Lower Costs and Savings	23.4%	17.6%	22.8%	26.2%	22.2%	20.4%	26.2%	20.7%	17.4%	23.5%	26.1%
Environmental Protection and Lower Ecological Harm	12.8%	16.7%	13.8%	12.2%	9.3%	15.7%	10.3%	15.1%	13.4%	14.2%	11.7%
Natural Approach Works Better	10.9%	16.4%	8.7%	11.0%	11.1%	11.0%	9.5%	12.2%	11.4%	12.2%	9.8%
Flood Mitigation and Water Damage Prevention	10.4%	8.6%	13.0%	9.7%	10.1%	9.5%	10.5%	10.4%	8.7%	10.9%	11.0%
Cleaner Water With Fewer Chemicals	8.6%	8.9%	6.1%	9.4%	8.3%	10.6%	8.8%	8.4%	7.7%	6.6%	10.2%
Long-Term Sustainability and Durability	6.1%	4.3%	9.0%	4.9%	6.5%	4.7%	6.3%	5.8%	4.9%	5.5%	7.0%
More Attractive Green and Recreational Spaces	4.5%	2.8%	5.2%	4.0%	5.4%	4.3%	5.5%	3.6%	9.1%	4.7%	2.1%

Source: Nanos Research, RDD dual frame hybrid telephone and online random survey, February 28 to March 19, 2026, n=1977, accurate 2.2 percentage points plus or minus, 19 times out of 20.

Benefits of using natural infrastructure solutions – cont'd – By demographics

Q – What do you think is the main benefit, if any, of using natural infrastructure solutions as buffers to help clean water and protect communities from floods and droughts? [OPEN]

	Canada 2026-03 (n=1977)	Atlantic (n=222)	Quebec (n=319)	Ontario (n=419)	Prairies (n=827)	British Columbia (n=190)	Male (n=1013)	Female (n=959)	18 to 34 (n=291)	35 to 54 (n=749)	55 plus (n=937)
Lower Maintenance and Less Human Intervention	3.9%	6.0%	3.2%	4.4%	3.5%	3.4%	4.6%	3.2%	7.3%	3.5%	2.5%
Wildlife Habitat and Biodiversity Support	3.5%	1.5%	2.6%	3.8%	5.1%	3.1%	2.3%	4.7%	5.9%	2.2%	3.3%
Drought Relief and Water Supply Storage	2.4%	3.6%	1.6%	1.7%	4.5%	2.7%	3.3%	1.7%	0.6%	2.0%	3.6%
Protecting Natural Landscapes From Development	2.4%	1.2%	2.2%	3.0%	1.6%	2.6%	2.9%	2.0%	3.3%	2.0%	2.2%
Climate and Air Quality Benefits	2.0%	2.2%	2.2%	1.8%	1.4%	3.4%	1.4%	2.6%	2.1%	2.1%	2.0%
Not Sure	3.2%	4.5%	3.3%	2.3%	5.1%	2.3%	2.3%	4.0%	4.7%	2.6%	2.9%
Other	5.9%	5.5%	6.5%	5.4%	5.8%	6.3%	6.1%	5.7%	3.7%	8.0%	5.6%

Source: Nanos Research, RDD dual frame hybrid telephone and online random survey, February 28 to March 19, 2026, n=1977, accurate 2.2 percentage points plus or minus, 19 times out of 20.

Benefits of using natural infrastructure solutions – By member of an Indigenous community

Q – What do you think is the main benefit, if any, of using natural infrastructure solutions as buffers to help clean water and protect communities from floods and droughts? [OPEN]

	Canada 2026-03 (n=1977)	Yes (n=84)	No (n=1884)
Lower Costs and Savings	23.4%	14.6%	23.6%
Environmental Protection and Lower Ecological Harm	12.8%	13.9%	12.8%
Natural Approach Works Better	10.9%	10.0%	11.0%
Flood Mitigation and Water Damage Prevention	10.4%	8.2%	10.5%
Cleaner Water With Fewer Chemicals	8.6%	6.2%	8.6%
Long-Term Sustainability and Durability	6.1%	3.4%	6.2%
More Attractive Green and Recreational Spaces	4.5%	8.8%	4.3%
Lower Maintenance and Less Human Intervention	3.9%	2.1%	4.0%
Wildlife Habitat and Biodiversity Support	3.5%	8.2%	3.4%
Drought Relief and Water Supply Storage	2.4%	2.5%	2.5%
Protecting Natural Landscapes From Development	2.4%	3.8%	2.4%
Climate and Air Quality Benefits	2.0%	6.9%	1.9%
Not Sure	3.2%	3.9%	3.2%
Other	5.9%	7.6%	5.9%

*9 respondents preferred not to answer the Indigenous identity question

Drawbacks to the use of natural infrastructure solutions

Q – What do you think is the main drawback, if any, of using natural infrastructure solutions as buffers to help clean water and protect communities from floods and droughts? [OPEN]

The two top responses Canadians gave when asked what the main drawback to the use of natural infrastructure solutions were no real drawbacks (17%) and high costs and funding gaps (16%).

TOP RESPONSES

	Canada 2026-03 (n=1878)
No Real Drawbacks	17.3%
High Costs and Funding Gaps	15.5%
Insufficient Performance in Extreme or High-Demand Conditions	7.1%
Implementation and Management Challenges	7.1%
Competes With Other Land Uses	6.2%
Large Land Requirements	5.5%
Slow Implementation and Delayed Benefits	5.6%
Weak Public Understanding and Buy-In	5.4%
Other	3.2%
Not Sure	7.5%

Drawbacks to the use of natural infrastructure solutions – By demographics

Q –What do you think is the main drawback, if any, of using natural infrastructure solutions as buffers to help clean water and protect communities from floods and droughts? [OPEN]

	Canada 2026-03 (n=1878)	Atlantic (n=210)	Quebec (n=304)	Ontario (n=393)	Prairies (n=788)	British Columbia (n=183)	Male (n=977)	Female (n=898)	18 to 34 (n=267)	35 to 54 (n=707)	55 plus (n=904)
No Real Drawbacks	17.3%	19.9%	19.1%	17.6%	13.2%	17.8%	15.6%	19.0%	13.6%	14.9%	20.4%
High Costs and Funding Gaps	15.5%	9.8%	16.3%	14.9%	16.1%	18.1%	15.1%	15.9%	20.9%	15.9%	12.9%
Insufficient Performance in Extreme or High-Demand Conditions	7.1%	9.6%	6.4%	6.4%	8.6%	7.4%	6.6%	7.6%	5.9%	6.9%	7.8%
Implementation and Management Challenges	7.1%	8.1%	9.2%	6.5%	5.4%	7.3%	6.6%	7.6%	7.6%	9.1%	5.8%
Competes With Other Land Uses	6.2%	6.2%	2.9%	8.9%	6.8%	3.3%	9.5%	3.1%	5.4%	5.1%	7.2%
Slow Implementation and Delayed Benefits	5.6%	6.6%	3.8%	7.4%	5.4%	3.8%	5.2%	6.1%	6.8%	5.9%	5.0%
Large Land Requirements	5.5%	2.5%	6.3%	5.1%	6.5%	5.1%	6.7%	4.3%	4.9%	6.5%	5.1%
Weak Public Understanding and Buy-In	5.4%	5.3%	4.3%	5.7%	4.2%	8.0%	4.9%	6.0%	6.1%	3.1%	6.5%

Source: Nanos Research, RDD dual frame hybrid telephone and online random survey, February 28 to March 19, 2026, n=1878, accurate 2.3 percentage points plus or minus, 19 times out of 20.

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Drawbacks to the use of natural infrastructure solutions – cont'd – By demographics

Q – What do you think is the main drawback, if any, of using natural infrastructure solutions as buffers to help clean water and protect communities from floods and droughts? [OPEN]

	Canada 2026-03 (n=1878)	Atlantic (n=210)	Quebec (n=304)	Ontario (n=393)	Prairies (n=788)	British Columbia (n=183)	Male (n=977)	Female (n=898)	18 to 34 (n=267)	35 to 54 (n=707)	55 plus (n=904)
Unpredictable Natural Performance	4.2%	4.0%	4.6%	3.8%	3.8%	5.2%	4.2%	4.1%	5.6%	4.2%	3.5%
Political and Regulatory Barriers	4.1%	3.3%	4.5%	4.3%	3.8%	4.0%	4.4%	3.9%	3.1%	3.3%	5.1%
Conflicts With Landowners and Users	2.8%	5.7%	2.2%	2.6%	3.2%	2.0%	3.1%	2.5%	2.5%	2.7%	2.9%
Development Pressure on Natural Areas	2.7%	3.2%	3.3%	2.2%	2.6%	2.7%	2.6%	2.7%	1.3%	2.8%	3.3%
Urban Density Limits Feasibility	1.8%	1.2%	1.7%	2.0%	1.4%	2.1%	2.0%	1.6%	0.9%	2.6%	1.6%
Pollution and Environmental Stressors	1.5%	1.7%	0.5%	2.2%	1.2%	1.1%	1.7%	1.3%	1.5%	2.2%	1.0%
Can Damage or Disturb Ecosystems	1.4%	2.0%	1.6%	1.4%	1.8%	0.5%	1.0%	1.8%	2.2%	1.7%	0.9%
Pests and Sanitation Problems	1.1%	0.9%	0.6%	1.2%	1.4%	1.3%	1.2%	1.0%	-	1.4%	1.4%
Not Sure	7.5%	8.4%	8.7%	5.4%	9.7%	8.0%	5.7%	9.1%	9.2%	7.5%	6.8%
Other	3.2%	1.5%	4.2%	2.4%	5.1%	2.3%	4.0%	2.5%	2.6%	4.5%	2.7%

Source: Nanos Research, RDD dual frame hybrid telephone and online random survey, February 28 to March 19, 2026, n=1878, accurate 2.3 percentage points plus or minus, 19 times out of 20.

Drawbacks to the use of natural infrastructure solutions – By member of an Indigenous community

Q – What do you think is the main drawback, if any, of using natural infrastructure solutions as buffers to help clean water and protect communities from floods and droughts? [OPEN]

	Canada 2026-03 (n=1878)	Yes (n=81)	No (n=1789)
No Real Drawbacks	17.3%	15.2%	17.5%
High Costs and Funding Gaps	15.5%	14.9%	15.5%
Insufficient Performance in Extreme or High-Demand Conditions	7.1%	5.0%	7.2%
Implementation and Management Challenges	7.1%	6.8%	6.9%
Competes With Other Land Uses	6.2%	9.2%	6.1%
Slow Implementation and Delayed Benefits	5.6%	2.9%	5.8%
Large Land Requirements	5.5%	3.8%	5.6%
Weak Public Understanding and Buy-In	5.4%	5.8%	5.3%

*8 respondents preferred not to answer the Indigenous identity question

Drawbacks to the use of natural infrastructure solutions –cont'd – By member of an Indigenous community

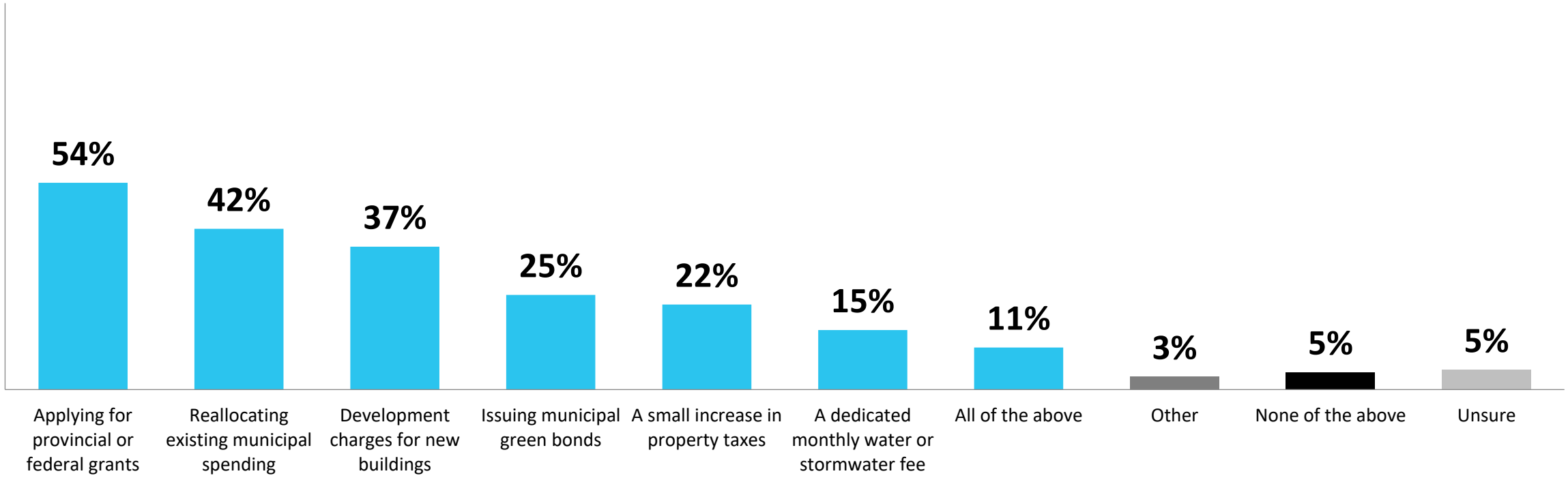
Q –What do you think is the main drawback, if any, of using natural infrastructure solutions as buffers to help clean water and protect communities from floods and droughts? [OPEN]

	Canada 2026-03 (n=1878)	Yes (n=81)	No (n=1789)
Unpredictable Natural Performance	4.2%	5.4%	4.2%
Political and Regulatory Barriers	4.1%	0.6%	4.3%
Conflicts With Landowners and Users	2.8%	-	2.8%
Development Pressure on Natural Areas	2.7%	6.5%	2.5%
Urban Density Limits Feasibility	1.8%	0.6%	1.8%
Pollution and Environmental Stressors	1.5%	1.0%	1.5%
Can Damage or Disturb Ecosystems	1.4%	1.9%	1.4%
Pests and Sanitation Problems	1.1%	-	1.1%
Not Sure	7.5%	11.4%	7.4%
Other	3.2%	9.1%	3.0%

*8 respondents preferred not to answer the Indigenous identity question

Preferred funding approaches for natural infrastructure projects – Top responses

Q – If your local government were considering different ways to fund natural infrastructure projects (such as wetlands, green spaces, or flood-protection landscapes), which of the following approaches would you support? (Check all that apply)



Three in five women (60%) support their local government funding natural infrastructure projects through applying for provincial or federal grants, comparatively 47 percent of men support funding natural infrastructure projects through provincial or federal grants. Residents of Quebec (30%) and the Prairies (30%) report lower support for funding natural infrastructure projects through development charges for new buildings than those from Ontario (42%), Atlantic Canada (42%) and British Columbia (41%).

*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, February 28 to March 19, 2026, n=2212, accurate 2.1 percentage points plus or minus, 19 times out of 20.

Preferred funding approaches for natural infrastructure projects – By demographics

Q – If your local government were considering different ways to fund natural infrastructure projects (such as wetlands, green spaces, or flood-protection landscapes), which of the following approaches would you support? (Check all that apply)

	Canada 2026-03 (n=2212)	Atlantic (n=251)	Quebec (n=356)	Ontario (n=467)	Prairies (n=923)	British Columbia (n=215)	Male (n=1151)	Female (n=1056)	18 to 34 (n=335)	35 to 54 (n=855)	55 plus (n=1022)
Applying for provincial or federal grants	53.5%	59.6%	50.8%	53.6%	52.6%	56.2%	46.9%	59.8%	56.8%	53.9%	51.7%
Reallocating existing municipal spending	41.6%	49.1%	47.1%	38.3%	39.4%	40.5%	41.7%	41.3%	47.4%	44.3%	36.9%
Development charges for new buildings	37.0%	41.8%	30.4%	42.0%	29.6%	40.8%	32.0%	41.7%	38.1%	38.3%	35.6%
Issuing municipal green bonds	24.5%	19.8%	28.2%	25.9%	21.2%	20.9%	24.1%	24.9%	30.7%	24.4%	21.5%
A small increase in property taxes	22.0%	15.2%	20.8%	22.0%	21.7%	27.7%	20.8%	23.0%	16.9%	20.3%	25.6%
A dedicated monthly water or stormwater fee	15.4%	15.0%	9.2%	18.5%	15.6%	16.9%	15.8%	14.9%	15.8%	14.5%	15.8%
All of the above	10.9%	6.5%	10.6%	11.3%	9.9%	13.4%	10.9%	10.8%	10.2%	8.5%	12.8%
Other	3.3%	4.6%	1.9%	3.2%	4.9%	3.4%	2.5%	4.1%	2.0%	3.7%	3.7%
Unsure	5.1%	4.8%	6.5%	4.1%	6.0%	4.8%	5.6%	4.7%	4.6%	5.5%	5.2%
None of the above	4.5%	3.8%	4.0%	4.0%	7.4%	3.1%	5.7%	3.3%	5.0%	5.0%	3.8%

Source: Nanos Research, RDD dual frame hybrid telephone and online random survey, February 28 to March 19, 2026, n=2212, accurate 2.1 percentage points plus or minus, 19 times out of 20.

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Preferred funding approaches for natural infrastructure projects - By member of an Indigenous community

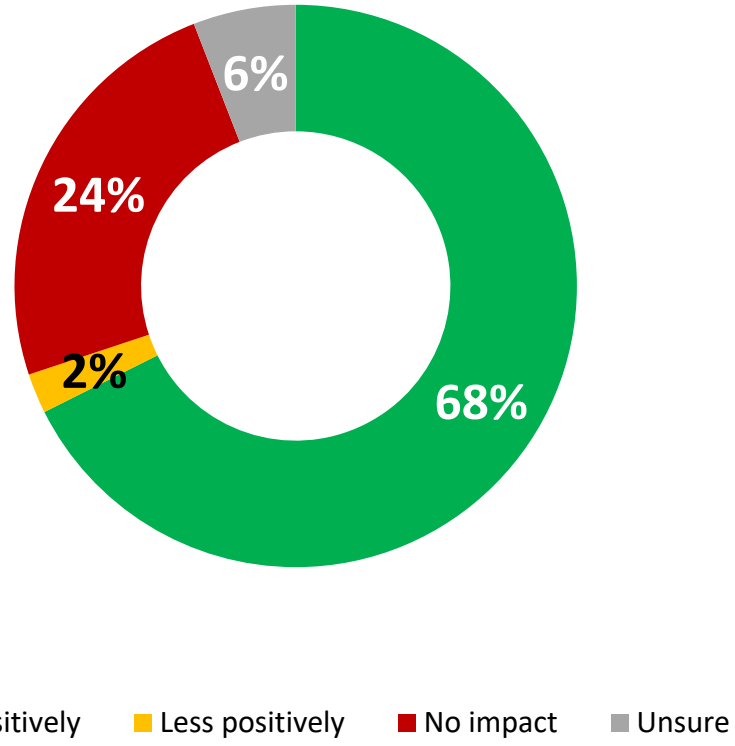
Q – If your local government were considering different ways to fund natural infrastructure projects (such as wetlands, green spaces, or flood-protection landscapes), which of the following approaches would you support? (Check all that apply)

	Canada 2026-03 (n=2212)	Yes (n=97)	No (n=2104)
Applying for provincial or federal grants	53.5%	41.7%	54.0%
Reallocating existing municipal spending	41.6%	34.3%	41.6%
Development charges for new buildings	37.0%	33.5%	37.3%
Issuing municipal green bonds	24.5%	18.1%	24.8%
A small increase in property taxes	22.0%	7.2%	22.5%
A dedicated monthly water or stormwater fee	15.4%	14.5%	15.5%
All of the above	10.9%	12.9%	10.8%
Other	3.3%	5.5%	3.2%
Unsure	5.1%	4.2%	5.2%
None of the above	4.5%	14.6%	4.1%

*11 respondents preferred not to answer the Indigenous identity question

Impact on the favourability of elected officials who support natural infrastructure

Q – If an elected official supported natural infrastructure, would you view this individual more positively, less positively or would it have no impact on how you view that individual?



Over **2 in 3** Canadians

say they would view an elected official more positively if they supported natural infrastructure. Canadians aged 55 and over (72%) are more likely to hold positive views of elected officials who support natural infrastructure than those aged 18 to 34 (61%).

*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, February 28 to March 19, 2026, n=2219, accurate 2.1 percentage points plus or minus, 19 times out of 20.

Impact on the favourability of elected officials who support natural infrastructure – By demographics

Q – If an elected official supported natural infrastructure, would you view this individual more positively, less positively or would it have no impact on how you view that individual?

	Canada 2026-03 (n=2219)	Atlantic (n=251)	Quebec (n=358)	Ontario (n=468)	Prairies (n=927)	British Columbia (n=215)	Male (n=1154)	Female (n=1060)	18 to 34 (n=339)	35 to 54 (n=856)	55 plus (n=1024)
More positively	67.6%	66.0%	70.8%	68.0%	58.7%	72.9%	63.0%	71.8%	61.0%	65.2%	72.4%
Less positively	2.3%	2.8%	1.6%	2.1%	4.0%	2.0%	3.3%	1.5%	4.3%	1.9%	1.6%
No impact	24.2%	24.2%	22.3%	24.5%	30.0%	19.4%	28.3%	20.4%	27.8%	26.9%	20.6%
Unsure	5.9%	6.9%	5.2%	5.4%	7.3%	5.7%	5.4%	6.3%	6.8%	6.0%	5.3%

Source: Nanos Research, RDD dual frame hybrid telephone and online random survey, February 28 to March 19, 2026, n=2219, accurate 2.1 percentage points plus or minus, 19 times out of 20.

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Impact on the favourability of elected officials who support natural infrastructure – By member of an Indigenous community

Q – If an elected official supported natural infrastructure, would you view this individual more positively, less positively or would it have no impact on how you view that individual?

	Canada 2026-03 (n=2219)	Yes (n=98)	No (n=2110)
More positively	67.6%	50.4%	68.3%
Less positively	2.3%	6.0%	2.2%
No impact	24.2%	33.0%	23.9%
Unsure	5.9%	10.6%	5.7%

*11 respondents preferred not to answer the Indigenous identity question

Source: Nanos Research, RDD dual frame hybrid telephone and online random survey, February 28 to March 19, 2026, n=2219, accurate 2.1 percentage points plus or minus, 19 times out of 20.

Element	Description
Research sponsor	International Institute for Sustainable Development
Population and Final Sample Size	2219 Randomly selected individuals.
Source of Sample	Nanos Probability Panel
Type of Sample	Probability
Margin of Error	±2.1 percentage points, 19 times out of 20.
Mode of Survey	RDD dual frame (land- and cell-lines) hybrid telephone and online 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 (including Prairie sample of 600 and 100 Indigenous respondents nationally); 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	February 28 to March 19, 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	15 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 include urgency to respond to climate change, friends and family affected by water related issues and natural infrastructure.
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.
Data Tables	By region, age and gender and by member of an Indigenous community

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Any questions?

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