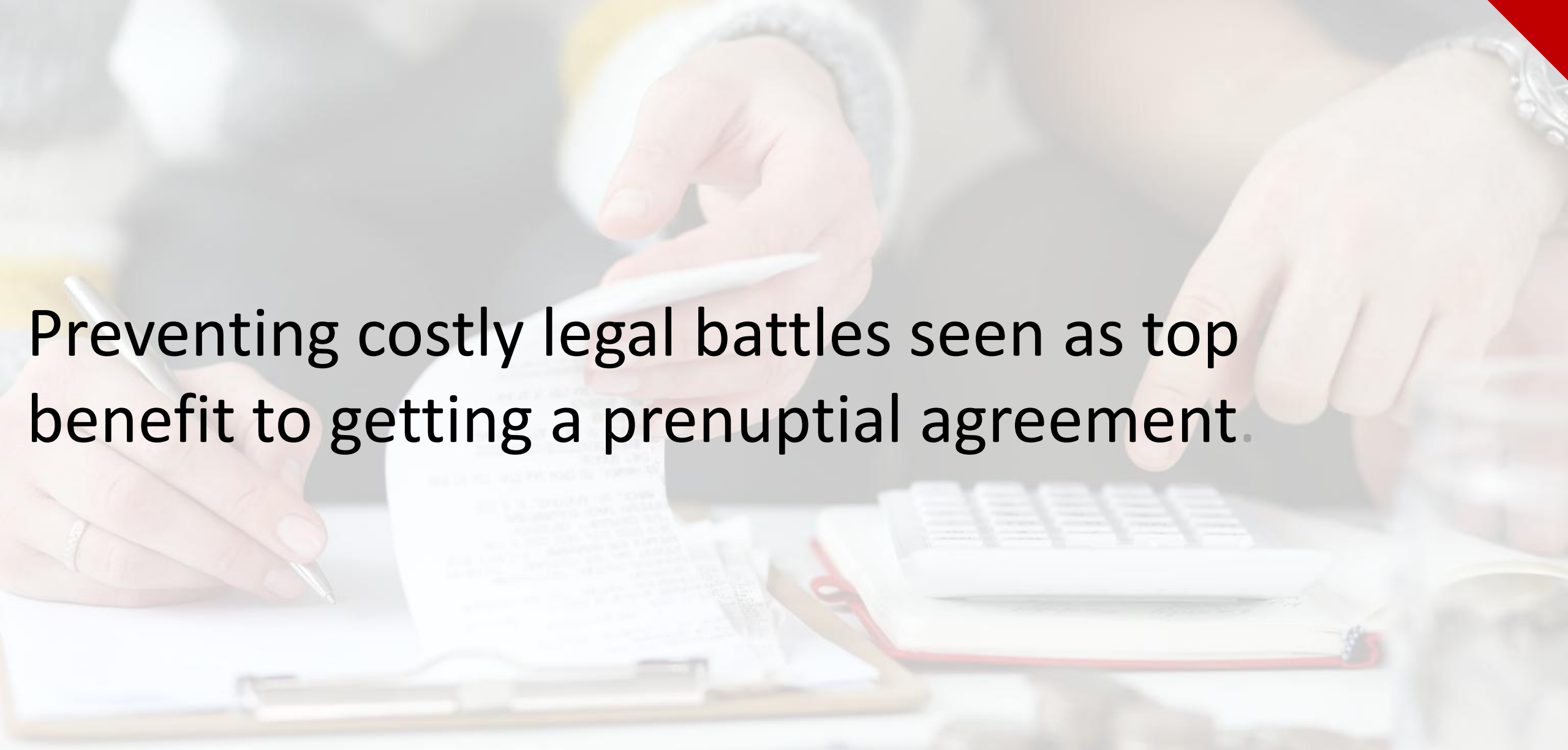




Preventing costly legal battles seen as top benefit to getting a prenuptial agreement.

National survey released May 2026
Field: May 3 to 6, 2026
Submission 2026-3047

THE GLOBE AND MAIL*



This survey gauges the views of Canadians on prenuptial agreements.

Nanos conducted an RDD dual frame (land- and cell-lines) hybrid telephone and online random survey of 1003 Canadians, 18 years of age or older, from May 3 to 6, 2026 as part of an omnibus survey. 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 dialing with a maximum of five call backs.

The margin of error for this survey is ± 3.1 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 is here.](#)

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

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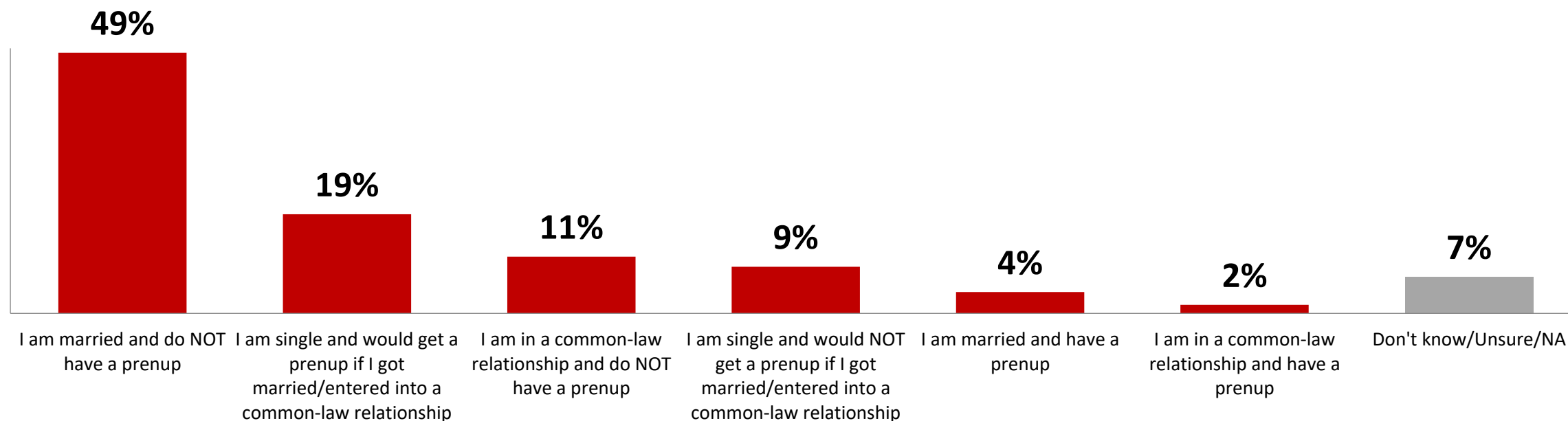
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Views on whether people have a prenup or would get one

Q – Do you have a prenuptial agreement (prenup) or, if you are not married, would you get one before getting married or entering into a common-law relationship?



One in four Canadians either would get a prenup if they got married or entered into a common-law relationship (19%) or already have a prenup, whether they are married (four per cent) or in a common-law relationship (two per cent). Single Canadians are more likely to report that they would get a prenup if they got married or entered into a common-law relationship than they are to report they would not get a prenup in this instance (nine per cent).

*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, May 3 to 6, 2026, n=1003, accurate 3.1 percentage points plus or minus, 19 times out of 20.

Views on whether people have a prenup or would get one – by demographics

Q – Do you have a prenuptial agreement (prenup) or, if you are not married, would you get one before getting married or entering into a common-law relationship?

	Canada 2026-05 (n=1003)	Atlantic (n=100)	Quebec (n=213)	Ontario (n=319)	Prairies (n=217)	British Columbia (n=154)	Male (n=516)	Female (n=487)	18 to 34 (n=159)	35 to 54 (n=332)	55 plus (n=512)
I am married and do NOT have a prenup	49.2%	53.6%	34.4%	56.9%	54.9%	43.4%	51.5%	47.1%	42.7%	57.6%	47.0%
I am single and would get a prenup if I got married/ entered into a common-law relationship	18.7%	12.6%	13.9%	19.0%	21.1%	25.8%	14.9%	22.3%	19.8%	15.6%	20.5%
I am in a common-law relationship and do NOT have a prenup	10.7%	7.1%	20.2%	5.7%	5.6%	17.4%	10.1%	11.4%	12.0%	10.5%	10.1%

*Differences beyond the margin of error are shaded in yellow.

Respondents in Quebec are less likely than the national average to report being married and not having a prenup and are more likely than Canadians on average to report being in a common-law relationship and not having a prenup.

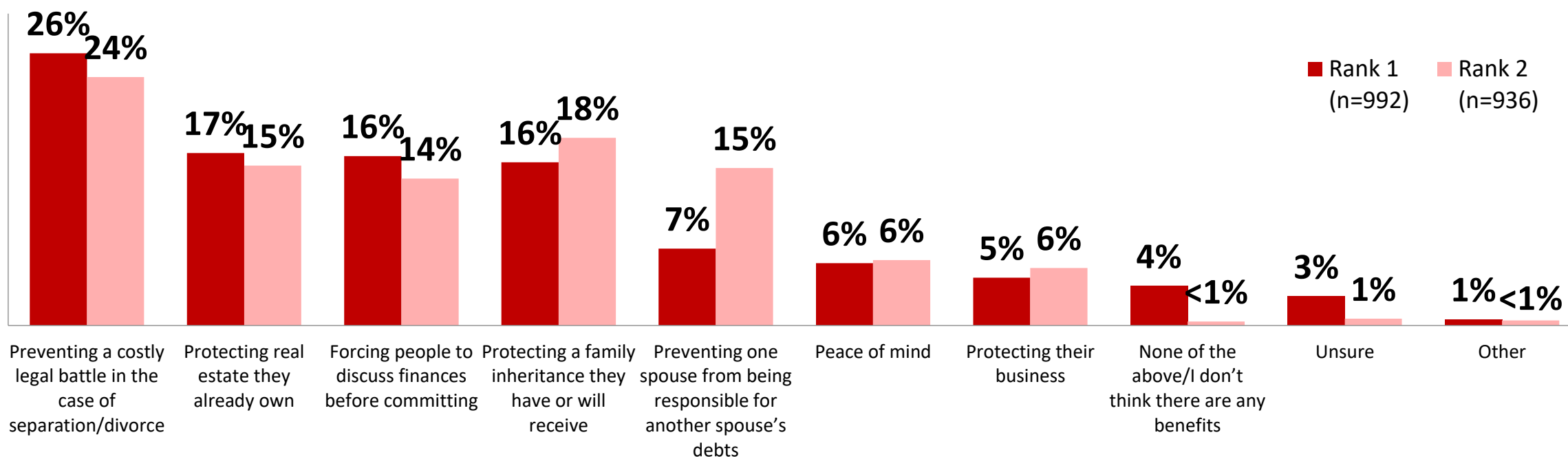
Views on whether people have a prenup or would get one – by demographics cont'd

Q – Do you have a prenuptial agreement (prenup) or, if you are not married, would you get one before getting married or entering into a common-law relationship?

	Canada 2026-05 (n=1003)	Atlantic (n=100)	Quebec (n=213)	Ontario (n=319)	Prairies (n=217)	British Columbia (n=154)	Male (n=516)	Female (n=487)	18 to 34 (n=159)	35 to 54 (n=332)	55 plus (n=512)
I am single and would NOT get a prenup if I got married/entered into a common-law relationship	8.8%	12.3%	9.4%	9.1%	10.0%	4.0%	10.3%	7.4%	14.2%	7.6%	6.3%
I am married and have a prenup	4.0%	3.0%	9.9%	2.4%	2.1%	1.3%	3.8%	4.1%	2.7%	2.7%	5.8%
I am in a common-law relationship and have a prenup	1.6%	-	3.6%	0.9%	0.3%	2.1%	1.8%	1.4%	2.0%	0.6%	2.1%
Don't know/Unsure/NA	6.9%	11.3%	8.6%	6.0%	6.0%	6.0%	7.6%	6.3%	6.7%	5.4%	8.3%

Benefits for people getting a prenap

Q – What do you think the top three benefits are for people getting a prenuptial agreement? Please rank them in order of importance where 1 is the most important benefit, 2 is the 2nd most important and 3 the third most important. [RANDOMIZE]



One in four Canadians say preventing a costly legal battle in the case of separation or divorce is the top benefit to getting a prenuptial agreement. This is followed by protecting real estate, forcing people to discuss finances, and protecting a family inheritance. Only four per cent of Canadians believe there are no benefits to getting a prenap.

*Weighted to the true population proportion.

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

Benefits for people getting a preup – by demographics

Q – What do you think the top three benefits are for people getting a prenuptial agreement? Please rank them in order of importance where 1 is the most important benefit, 2 is the 2nd most important and 3 the third most important. [RANDOMIZE] [RANK 1]

	Canada 2026-05 (n=992)	Atlantic (n=100)	Quebec (n=212)	Ontario (n=316)	Prairies (n=212)	British Columbia (n=152)	Male (n=511)	Female (n=481)	18 to 34 (n=157)	35 to 54 (n=330)	55 plus (n=505)
Preventing a costly legal battle in the case of separation/divorce	26.2%	22.2%	27.7%	24.3%	32.2%	23.1%	26.2%	26.1%	25.3%	23.9%	28.5%
Protecting real estate they already own	16.6%	16.7%	20.2%	17.9%	10.5%	14.7%	16.1%	17.1%	19.3%	13.6%	17.3%
Forcing people to discuss finances before committing	16.3%	19.2%	11.9%	16.6%	15.2%	22.7%	14.8%	17.8%	15.7%	17.6%	15.7%
Protecting a family inheritance they have or will receive	15.7%	16.7%	13.2%	15.4%	18.9%	15.9%	15.4%	16.0%	10.8%	17.9%	17.0%

Source: Nanos Research, RDD dual frame hybrid telephone and online random survey, May 3 to 6, 2026, n=992, accurate 3.1 percentage points plus or minus, 19 times out of 20.

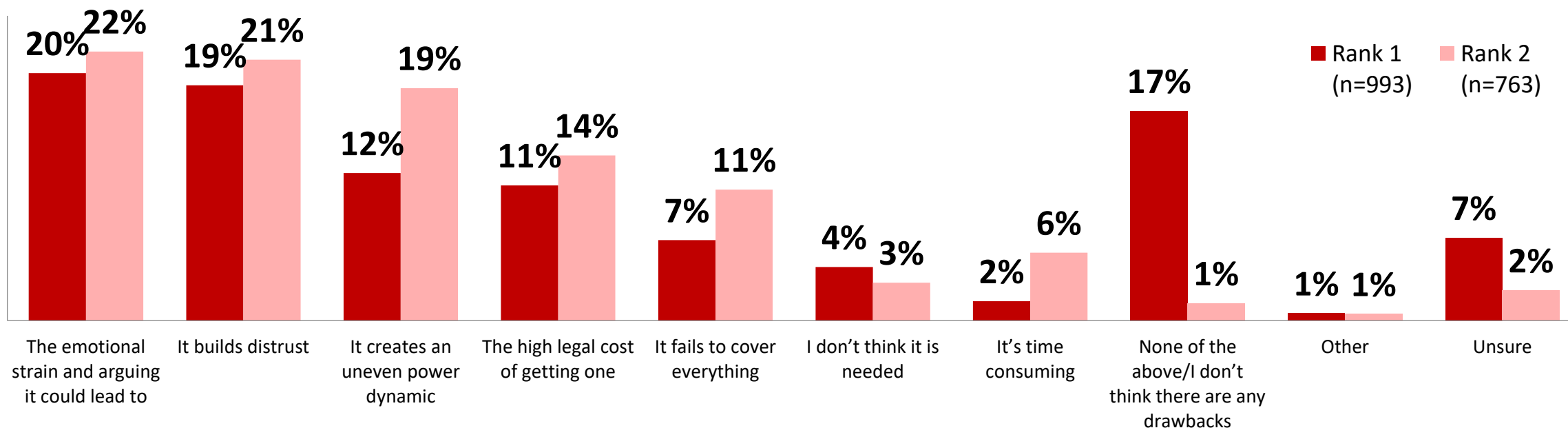
Benefits for people getting a preup – by demographics cont'd

Q – What do you think the top three benefits are for people getting a prenuptial agreement? Please rank them in order of importance where 1 is the most important benefit, 2 is the 2nd most important and 3 the third most important. [RANDOMIZE] [RANK 1]

	Canada 2026-05 (n=992)	Atlantic (n=100)	Quebec (n=212)	Ontario (n=316)	Prairies (n=212)	British Columbia (n=152)	Male (n=511)	Female (n=481)	18 to 34 (n=157)	35 to 54 (n=330)	55 plus (n=505)
Preventing one spouse from being responsible for another spouse's debts	7.4%	3.9%	6.2%	7.3%	7.8%	11.0%	6.4%	8.4%	6.1%	10.1%	6.2%
Peace of mind	6.0%	5.5%	7.6%	7.8%	2.1%	3.6%	5.2%	6.8%	8.2%	4.6%	5.8%
Protecting their business	4.6%	8.3%	3.6%	5.5%	4.1%	2.5%	6.6%	2.7%	6.7%	5.5%	2.5%
None of the above/I don't think there are any benefits	3.8%	2.7%	4.9%	3.6%	4.1%	2.7%	5.4%	2.2%	3.5%	3.4%	4.3%
Other	0.6%	-	-	0.2%	1.7%	1.5%	0.5%	0.7%	1.7%	0.1%	0.2%
Unsure	2.8%	4.8%	4.6%	1.3%	3.4%	2.1%	3.4%	2.2%	2.5%	3.3%	2.6%

Drawbacks for people getting a prenap

Q – What do you think the top three drawbacks are for people getting a prenuptial agreement? Please rank them in order of importance where 1 is the most important drawback, 2 is the 2nd most important and 3 the third most important. [RANDOMIZE]



Canadians cite the emotional strain and arguing prenups could lead to, along with prenups building distrust as main drawbacks to getting a prenup. Of note, 17 per cent of Canadians do not think there are any drawbacks to getting a prenup.

*Weighted to the true population proportion.

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

Drawbacks for people getting a prenup – by demographics

Q – What do you think the top three drawbacks are for people getting a prenuptial agreement? Please rank them in order of importance where 1 is the most important drawback, 2 is the 2nd most important and 3 the third most important. [RANDOMIZE] [RANK 1]

	Canada 2026-05 (n=993)	Atlantic (n=100)	Quebec (n=212)	Ontario (n=315)	Prairies (n=213)	British Columbia (n=153)	Male (n=512)	Female (n=481)	18 to 34 (n=158)	35 to 54 (n=330)	55 plus (n=505)
The emotional strain and arguing it could lead to	20.3%	22.2%	17.1%	23.7%	16.8%	19.4%	21.7%	18.8%	25.6%	16.9%	19.4%
It builds distrust	19.3%	20.7%	13.9%	22.1%	21.2%	17.0%	24.3%	14.4%	17.5%	22.9%	17.5%
None of the above/I don't think there are any drawbacks	17.2%	19.3%	19.7%	15.1%	18.1%	16.9%	12.9%	21.4%	5.5%	20.4%	22.5%
It creates an uneven power dynamic	12.1%	11.4%	5.9%	12.4%	17.0%	16.2%	10.7%	13.5%	16.6%	10.8%	10.3%
The high legal cost of getting one	11.1%	11.3%	17.8%	7.8%	7.8%	13.2%	7.9%	14.3%	16.3%	9.7%	8.8%

Younger Canadians are less likely than the Canadian average to report thinking there are no drawbacks to getting a prenup.

Drawbacks for people getting a prenup – by demographics cont'd

Q – What do you think the top three drawbacks are for people getting a prenuptial agreement? Please rank them in order of importance where 1 is the most important drawback, 2 is the 2nd most important and 3 the third most important. [RANDOMIZE] [RANK 1]

	Canada 2026-05 (n=993)	Atlantic (n=100)	Quebec (n=212)	Ontario (n=315)	Prairies (n=213)	British Columbia (n=153)	Male (n=512)	Female (n=481)	18 to 34 (n=158)	35 to 54 (n=330)	55 plus (n=505)
It fails to cover everything	6.6%	5.6%	8.1%	6.2%	6.2%	6.3%	6.2%	7.0%	3.7%	7.3%	8.0%
I don't think it is needed	4.4%	2.8%	6.9%	4.1%	5.3%	0.8%	5.7%	3.2%	4.4%	2.8%	5.7%
It's time consuming	1.6%	1.3%	2.7%	1.1%	0.6%	2.5%	1.6%	1.6%	2.7%	1.7%	0.8%
Other	0.6%	-	-	0.6%	0.5%	2.0%	0.3%	0.9%	0.5%	0.7%	0.6%
Unsure	6.8%	5.4%	7.9%	6.9%	6.3%	5.7%	8.7%	4.8%	7.3%	6.7%	6.4%

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	1003 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	±3.1 percentage points, 19 times out of 20.	Estimated Response Rate	11 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, US trade relations, NATO, cost of living, MPs changing parties and the impact of the Liberal majority government.
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. http://www.nanos.co 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	By region, age and gender
Field Dates	May 3 to 6, 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/		

TECHNICAL NOTE



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ABOUT NANOS

Any questions?



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