

A FOUR COUNTRY SURVEY OF OPINION ON RACISM AND PREJUDICE IN 2010: CANADA, THE UNITED STATES, GERMANY AND SPAIN

**Canadian Race Relations Foundation
Association for Canadian Studies**

January 21, 2011

METHODOLOGY

- Two polls conducted by Leger Marketing for the Association for Canadian Studies, one on the week ending **2010-01-29** and the other on the week ending **2010-09-07**, asked respondents across Canada if they "strongly agree", "somewhat agree", "somewhat disagree" or "strongly disagree" with a number of statements pertinent to **values, racial prejudice, workplace equality and different manifestations of racism across Canada.**
- In addition, the ACS contracted reputable polling companies in the United States, Spain and Germany to run the same battery of questions with a similar, representative sample size in order to run cross-national comparisons on the issues at hand.
- This report presents the findings of the survey conducted among a sample of an average of 1,707 adults comprising 825 men and 882 women 18 years of age and older and is a demographically representative national sample.
- The results were broken down by the main demographics, such as gender, age, language spoken, region, income, occupation and education. In addition, a longitudinal comparison was possible based on prior data collected by the ACS (January 2010 with a sample size of 1505 respondents).



FIVE THEMES

- **Are visible minorities and whites are treated equally in their place of work?**
- **Have you witnessed a racist incident?**
- **Is Racism on the Rise?**
- **Openness to Interracial Marriage**
- **Who Should Take the Lead in Combating Discrimination**





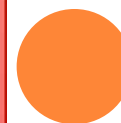
Visible Minorities and Whites in the Workplace

TWO IN THREE CANADIANS AGREE THAT VISIBLE MINORITIES AND WHITES ARE TREATED EQUALLY IN THEIR PLACE OF WORK. PERCENTAGE IS HIGHER FOR THOSE OF WORKING AGE

| Visible minority and whites are treated equally at my place of work (September 2010) | Age | | | | | | |
|--|------------|------------|------------|------------|------------|------------|------------|
| | Total | 18-24 | 25-34 | 35-44 | 45-54 | 55-64 | 65 + |
| TOTAL YES | 65% | 61% | 70% | 73% | 70% | 59% | 51% |
| Strongly agree | 37% | 39% | 38% | 44% | 41% | 35% | 24% |
| Somewhat agree | 28% | 23% | 32% | 29% | 29% | 24% | 27% |
| TOTAL NO | 18% | 22% | 20% | 15% | 17% | 17% | 17% |
| Somewhat disagree | 11% | 17% | 11% | 9% | 9% | 11% | 11% |
| Strongly disagree | 6% | 5% | 9% | 5% | 8% | 6% | 5% |
| I don't know/I prefer not to answer | 18% | 16% | 11% | 12% | 13% | 24% | 32% |

QUEBECERS MOST LIKELY TO BELIEVE TREATMENT IS EQUAL AT THEIR PLACE OF WORK

| Visible minority and whites are treated equally at my place of work (September 2010) | Region | | | | | | |
|--|--------|-----------|-----|-----|-------|-----|-----|
| | Total | Maritimes | QC | ON | MB/SK | AB | BC |
| TOTAL YES | 65% | 62% | 70% | 62% | 64% | 65% | 65% |
| Strongly agree | 37% | 31% | 35% | 34% | 37% | 48% | 44% |
| Somewhat agree | 28% | 30% | 35% | 28% | 27% | 17% | 21% |
| TOTAL NO | 18% | 18% | 19% | 19% | 19% | 16% | 11% |
| Somewhat disagree | 11% | 15% | 13% | 12% | 14% | 7% | 6% |
| Strongly disagree | 6% | 3% | 6% | 7% | 5% | 9% | 5% |
| I don't know/I prefer not to answer | 18% | 20% | 11% | 19% | 17% | 18% | 25% |



BLACK AMERICANS AND HISPANICS MOST LIKELY TO THINK WORK TREATMENT BETWEEN WHITE AND NON-WHITE IS UNEQUAL

| | United States | | | Canada | | |
|--|---------------|---------------------------|---------------------------------|--------|---------|-----------|
| Visible minority and whites are treated equally at my place of work | White | Black or African-American | Hispanic/Spanish/Latino descent | French | English | Allophone |
| Strongly agree | 34.6% | 20.5% | 28.8% | 35.5% | 38.5% | 34.1% |
| Somewhat agree | 25.6% | 25.6% | 22.7% | 35.8% | 23.7% | 30.7% |
| Somewhat disagree | 9.0% | 20.5% | 19.7% | 11.3% | 9.7% | 16.0% |
| Strongly disagree | 4.0% | 11.5% | 10.6% | 5.1% | 7.4% | 4.0% |
| Don't know/Prefer not to answer | 26.8% | 21.8% | 18.2% | 12.4% | 20.7% | 15.2% |

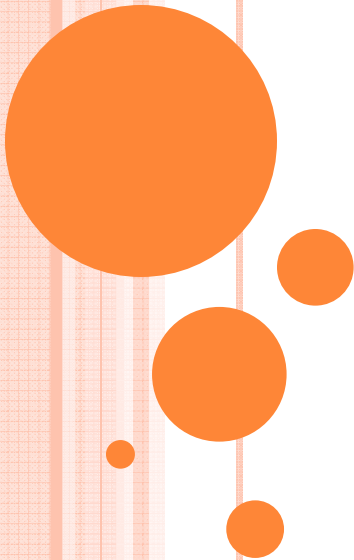


GERMANS MOST LIKELY TO THINK THAT VISIBLE MINORITIES AND WHITES ARE TREATED EQUALLY AT PLACE OF WORK

| Visible minority and whites are treated equally at my place of work | USA | Canada | Spain | Germany |
|---|-----|--------|-------|---------|
| TOTAL YES | 57% | 62% | 57% | 66% |
| Strongly agree | 31% | 37% | 30% | 40% |
| Somewhat agree | 26% | 25% | 27% | 26% |
| TOTAL NO | 17% | 18% | 26% | 13% |
| Somewhat disagree | 11% | 11% | 17% | 9% |
| Strongly disagree | 6% | 7% | 9% | 4% |
| I don't know/prefer not to answer | 26% | 20% | 17% | 21% |



WITNESSED A RACIST INCIDENT



NEARLY 40% OF CANADIANS SAY THAT THEY WITNESSED A RACIST INCIDENT IN THE PAST YEAR. YOUNGEST CANADIANS MOST LIKELY TO SAY SO

| I have witnessed a racist incident in the past year (Sept. 2010) | Age | | | | | | |
|--|-------|-------|-------|-------|-------|-------|-----|
| | Total | 18-24 | 25-34 | 35-44 | 45-54 | 55-64 | 65+ |
| TOTAL YES | 38% | 58% | 49% | 46% | 34% | 25% | 19% |
| Strongly agree | 16% | 28% | 18% | 20% | 15% | 8% | 8% |
| Somewhat agree | 22% | 30% | 31% | 26% | 19% | 17% | 11% |
| TOTAL NO | 53% | 33% | 44% | 46% | 56% | 64% | 69% |
| Somewhat disagree | 18% | 14% | 15% | 19% | 20% | 23% | 18% |
| Strongly disagree | 35% | 19% | 29% | 27% | 36% | 41% | 51% |
| I don't know/I prefer not to answer | 9% | 9% | 7% | 7% | 9% | 11% | 12% |



ON A REGIONAL IT WAS ALBERTANS THAT WERE MOST LIKELY TO SAY THAT THEY WITNESSED A RACIST INCIDENT IN THE PAST YEAR

| I have witnessed a racist incident in the past year (Sept. 2010) | Region | | | | | |
|--|-----------|-----|-----|-------|-----|-----|
| | Maritimes | QC | ON | MB/SK | AB | BC |
| TOTAL YES | 33% | 38% | 36% | 40% | 45% | 37% |
| Strongly agree | 10% | 19% | 15% | 10% | 22% | 13% |
| Somewhat agree | 23% | 19% | 21% | 30% | 22% | 24% |
| TOTAL NO | 51% | 51% | 54% | 55% | 49% | 55% |
| Somewhat disagree | 21% | 16% | 19% | 22% | 13% | 21% |
| Strongly disagree | 30% | 36% | 35% | 33% | 36% | 34% |
| I don't know/I prefer not to answer | 16% | 10% | 10% | 5% | 6% | 8% |



BLACK OR AFRICAN AMERICANS IN THE UNITED STATES MOST LIKELY TO ACKNOWLEDGE HAVING WITNESSED A RACIST INCIDENT

| | United States | | | Canada | | |
|--|---------------|---------------------------|---------------------------------|--------|---------|-----------|
| I have witnessed a racist incident in the past year | White | Black or African-American | Hispanic/Spanish/Latino descent | French | English | Allophone |
| Strongly agree | 13.3% | 26.9% | 21.2% | 13.9% | 15.4% | 19.5% |
| Somewhat agree | 16.4% | 21.8% | 28.8% | 18.7% | 24.1% | 19.3% |
| Somewhat disagree | 17.2% | 20.5% | 19.7% | 17.4% | 18.1% | 19.5% |
| Strongly disagree | 43.2% | 15.4% | 22.7% | 37.2% | 34.9% | 30.5% |
| Don't know/Prefer not to answer | 9.9% | 15.4% | 7.6% | 12.8% | 7.5% | 11.2% |



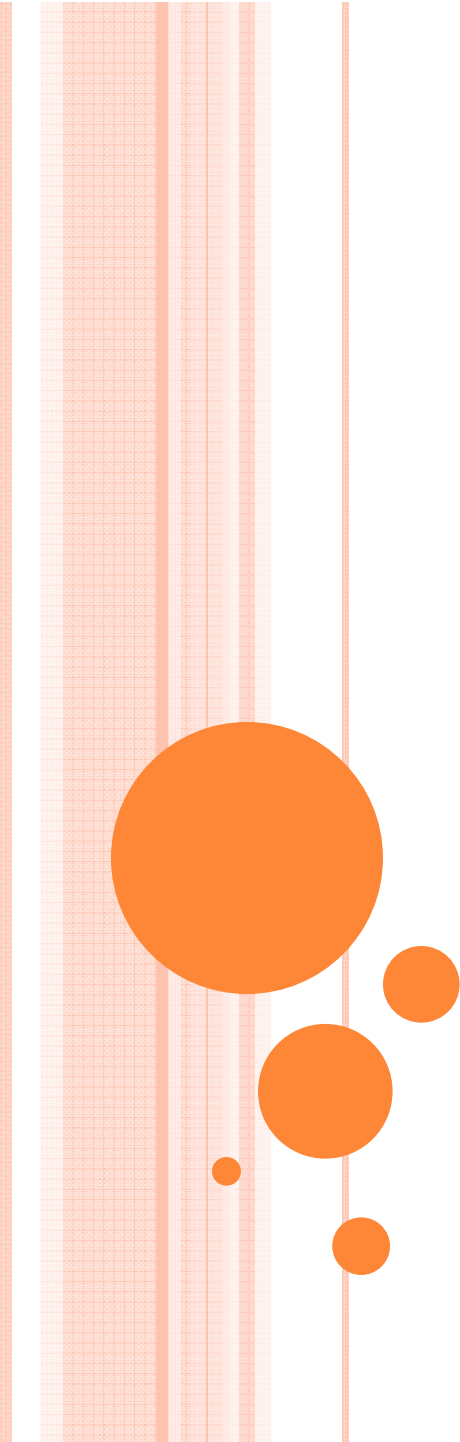
GERMANS LEAST LIKELY TO HAVE WITNESSED A RACIST INCIDENT IN THE PAST YEAR

| I have witnessed a racist incident in the past year | USA | Canada | Spain | Germany |
|---|-----|--------|-------|---------|
| TOTAL YES | 34% | 31% | 31% | 10% |
| Strongly agree | 16% | 15% | 14% | 4% |
| Somewhat agree | 18% | 16% | 17% | 6% |
| TOTAL NO | 55% | 56% | 56% | 83% |
| Somewhat disagree | 18% | 19% | 14% | 12% |
| Strongly disagree | 37% | 37% | 42% | 71% |
| I don't know/prefer not answering | 11% | 13% | 13% | 8% |





RACISM IS ON THE RISE



MAJORITIES OF CANADIANS AND AMERICANS AGREE THAT THERE IS EQUAL TREATMENT OF WHITES AND VISIBLE MINORITIES IN THE WORKPLACE.

EQUAL SHARES OF CANADIANS (46%) AND AMERICANS (46%) THINK THAT RACISM IS ON THE RISE.

THE CONCLUSION IS THAT HEIGHTENED CONCERNS OVER RACISM DO NOT NECESSARILY TRANSLATE INTO INDIVIDUAL PERCEPTIONS OF DISCRIMINATION IN THE WORKPLACE

CANADIANS EVENLY DIVIDED OVER WHETHER RACISM IS ON THE RISE. UNDER 35 ARE LEAST LIKELY TO THINK SO

| Racism is on the rise | Total | Age | | | | | |
|-------------------------------------|-------|-------|-------|-------|-------|-------|------|
| | | 18-24 | 25-34 | 35-44 | 45-54 | 55-64 | 65 + |
| TOTAL YES | 46% | 38% | 37% | 49% | 44% | 51% | 53% |
| Strongly agree | 14% | 18% | 6% | 18% | 16% | 14% | 11% |
| Somewhat agree | 32% | 20% | 31% | 31% | 28% | 37% | 41% |
| TOTAL NO | 45% | 48% | 54% | 48% | 44% | 42% | 37% |
| Somewhat disagree | 38% | 38% | 50% | 40% | 35% | 36% | 29% |
| Strongly disagree | 7% | 10% | 4% | 8% | 9% | 7% | 7% |
| I don't know/I prefer not to answer | 9% | 14% | 9% | 3% | 12% | 7% | 10% |



ALBERTANS AND ONTARIANS MOST LIKELY TO THINK THAT RACISM IS ON THE RISE

| Racism is on the rise | Region | | | | | |
|-------------------------------------|-----------|-----|-----|-------|-----|-----|
| | Maritimes | QC | ON | MB/SK | AB | BC |
| TOTAL YES | 44% | 43% | 48% | 42% | 54% | 42% |
| Strongly agree | 9% | 12% | 16% | 7% | 18% | 12% |
| Somewhat agree | 35% | 31% | 31% | 35% | 35% | 30% |
| TOTAL NO | 43% | 51% | 45% | 48% | 29% | 46% |
| Somewhat disagree | 36% | 43% | 37% | 41% | 23% | 41% |
| Strongly disagree | 7% | 8% | 8% | 7% | 7% | 5% |
| I don't know/I prefer not to answer | 13% | 6% | 7% | 10% | 17% | 11% |

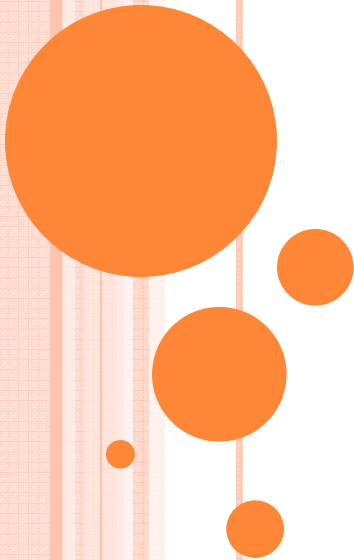


US VISIBLE MINORITIES MORE LIKELY THAN CANADIANS TO THINK THAT RACISM IS ON THE RISE

| | United States | | | Canada | | |
|--|---------------|---------------------------|---------------------------------|--------|---------|-----------|
| Racism is on the rise | White | Black or African-American | Hispanic/Spanish/Latino descent | French | English | Allophone |
| Strongly agree | 16.4% | 23.1% | 18.2% | 9.9% | 15.6% | 13.4% |
| Somewhat agree | 28.0% | 32.1% | 39.4% | 30.6% | 34.4% | 26.6% |
| Somewhat disagree | 30.4% | 25.6% | 27.3% | 44.8% | 34.2% | 40.0% |
| Strongly disagree | 15.0% | 5.1% | 6.1% | 8.0% | 7.2% | 7.7% |
| Don't know/Prefer not to answer | 10.2% | 14.1% | 9.1% | 6.7% | 8.6% | 12.3% |



INTERRACIAL MARRIAGE



VAST MAJORITY OF CANADIANS DO NOT OPPOSE INTERRACIAL MARRIAGE

| I would not want my child to marry someone of a different race (Sept. 2010) | Age | | | | | | |
|---|-------|-------|-------|-------|-------|-------|------|
| | Total | 18-24 | 25-34 | 35-44 | 45-54 | 55-64 | 65 + |
| TOTAL YES | 20% | 11% | 22% | 21% | 18% | 17% | 27% |
| Strongly agree | 6% | 3% | 6% | 7% | 6% | 6% | 6% |
| Somewhat agree | 14% | 8% | 16% | 14% | 12% | 11% | 20% |
| TOTAL NO | 72% | 80% | 74% | 70% | 73% | 73% | 67% |
| Somewhat disagree | 26% | 22% | 19% | 28% | 28% | 27% | 30% |
| Strongly disagree | 46% | 59% | 55% | 42% | 45% | 45% | 38% |
| I don't know/I prefer not to answer | 8% | 9% | 4% | 9% | 9% | 10% | 6% |



OPPOSITION SOMEWHAT HIGHER IN ALBERTA

| I would not want my child to marry someone of a different race (Sept. 2010) | Region | | | | | | |
|---|--------|-----------|-----|-----|-------|-----|-----|
| | Total | Maritimes | QC | ON | MB/SK | AB | BC |
| TOTAL YES | 20% | 11% | 22% | 23% | 18% | 25% | 10% |
| Strongly agree | 6% | 1% | 6% | 8% | 5% | 7% | 3% |
| Somewhat agree | 14% | 10% | 16% | 15% | 13% | 18% | 6% |
| TOTAL NO | 72% | 76% | 72% | 70% | 73% | 66% | 82% |
| Somewhat disagree | 26% | 22% | 37% | 23% | 32% | 22% | 18% |
| Strongly disagree | 46% | 54% | 35% | 47% | 41% | 44% | 64% |
| I don't know/I prefer not to answer | 8% | 13% | 6% | 7% | 9% | 9% | 8% |



OPPOSITION TO INTERRACIAL MARRIAGE HIGHEST AMONGST WHITE AMERICANS

| | United States | | | Canada | | |
|--|---------------|---------------------------|---------------------------------|--------|---------|-----------|
| I do not want my child to marry someone of a different race | White | Black or African-American | Hispanic/Spanish/Latino descent | French | English | Allophone |
| Strongly agree | 13.4% | 5.1% | 7.6% | 6.2% | 5.7% | 6.3% |
| Somewhat agree | 18.7% | 23.1% | 22.7% | 14.2% | 10.9% | 22.2% |
| Somewhat disagree | 23.2% | 9.0% | 21.2% | 38.9% | 24.9% | 15.6% |
| Strongly disagree | 30.1% | 50.0% | 36.4% | 34.6% | 51.4% | 44.1% |
| Don't know/Prefer not to answer | 14.6% | 12.8% | 12.1% | 6.2% | 7.1% | 11.8% |



OPPOSITION TO INTERRACIAL MARRIAGE LOWEST IN CANADA, HIGHEST IN SPAIN

| I would not want my child to marry someone of a different race | USA | Canada | Spain | Germany |
|--|-----|--------|-------|---------|
| TOTAL YES | 32% | 14% | 33% | 20% |
| Strongly agree | 13% | 6% | 13% | 8% |
| Somewhat agree | 20% | 8% | 20% | 12% |
| TOTAL NO | 53% | 74% | 54% | 71% |
| Somewhat disagree | 22% | 25% | 23% | 23% |
| Strongly disagree | 32% | 49% | 31% | 48% |
| I don't know/prefer not answering | 14% | 12% | 13% | 9% |



WHO SHOULD TAKE THE LEAD IN
COMBATING DISCRIMINATION



**QUEBECERS AGREE THAT PROVINCE IS BEST SUITED TO COMBAT DISCRIMINATION,
REST OF CANADA THINK FEDS BEST SUITED**

| Which do you think is best suited to combating discrimination? | Canada | Quebec | Rest of Canada |
|---|---------------|---------------|-----------------------|
| Federal | 45.0 | 33.3 | 48.6 |
| Provincial | 19.6 | 35.8 | 14.4 |
| Municipalities | 12.5 | 12.8 | 12.5 |
| Private Sector/NGO | 9.5 | 8.4 | 9.9 |
| Don't Know | 13.3 | 9.6 | 14.5 |



CANADIANS AND AMERICANS SOMEWHAT LESS LIKELY THAN SPANISH AND GERMANS TO AGREE THAT FEDS SHOULD TAKE LEAD IN COMBATING DISCRIMINATION AND US SEES MORE OF A ROLE FOR NGO'S AND PRIVATE SECTOR THAN DO OTHERS IN THAT REGARD

| Which do you think is best suited to combating discrimination? | Canada | United States | Spain | Germany |
|---|---------------|----------------------|--------------|----------------|
| Federal | 45.0 | 44.6 | 67.7 | 54.5 |
| Provincial/State/ Lander/region | 19.6 | 22.7 | 7.4 | 16.2 |
| Municipalities | 12.5 | 8.8 | 10.6 | 13.2 |
| Private Sector/NGO | 9.5 | 24.0 | 6.0 | 15.7 |
| Don't Know | 13.3 | - | 8.4 | - |

