

## Most Canadians say we won the War of 1812; But Quebecers uncertain

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2012 will mark the 200<sup>th</sup> anniversary of the war of 1812. Preparations are already underway on both sides of the border to commemorate the event. Undoubtedly there will be several reenactments of the battles of the period. This past year the Friends of Crysler's Farm were honoured to have hosted the largest war of 1812 re-enactment in North America. Other reenactments will follow. But the real question is whether they will result in a clear victor. Some argue that because Canada was not conquered, the Americans were defeated in 1812. Others contend that the territorial gains made by the US at that time meant that it was the victor. In the final analysis the two countries can also mark two years of piece since 1812. The Association for Canadian Studies intends to mark the anniversary with a Canada-US history conference, designed to be the largest continental gathering of historians in some time. To open the dialogue, the Association for Canadian Studies asked the firm Leger Marketing to poll 1500 Canadians via web panel during the week of November 30<sup>th</sup> so as to determine who they think won the War of 1812.

As observed below some 37% of Canadians think that Canada won, some 9% think that the US won, some 15% think it was a tie and 39% know too little about the event. Younger cohorts report less knowledge of the event and those over the age of 35 report greater knowledge and for the most part are more likely to think that Canada won.

Who won the War of 1812?	The United States of America	Canada	It was a tie between the two	I know too little about the event	Total
Canada	8,7%	37,5%	14,7%	39,0%	100,0%
18-24 years of age	8,0%	26,1%	22,7%	43,2%	100,0%
25-34 years of age	6,6%	30,9%	11,5%	51,0%	100,0%
35-44 years of age	6,8%	40,3%	16,4%	36,5%	100,0%
45-54 years of age	10,3%	34,8%	16,6%	38,4%	100,0%
55-64 years of age	7,6%	44,4%	11,7%	36,3%	100,0%
65-74 years of age	12,8%	45,9%	10,1%	31,2%	100,0%

75 years of age or older	10,9%	43,5%	15,2%	30,4%	100,0%
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On the basis of province of residence, Ontarians, PEI, British Columbians and Manitobans are most likely to believe that Canada won. Quebecers, Newfoundlanders and New Brunswickers are the most likely to admit they know too little about the event. Quebecers purportedly in the know think are relatively split in declaring a victor but opt mostly for the draw.

Who won the War of 1812?	The United States of America	Canada	It was a tie between the two	I know too little about the event	Total
Alberta	10,9%	36,5%	11,5%	41,0%	100,0%
British Columbia	3,5%	47,8%	12,4%	36,3%	100,0%
Manitoba	14,8%	46,3%	14,8%	24,1%	100,0%
New Brunswick	2,9%	31,4%	5,7%	60,0%	100,0%
Newfoundland	5,9%	23,5%	17,6%	52,9%	100,0%
Nova Scotia	15,6%	35,6%	8,9%	40,0%	100,0%
Ontario	7,9%	50,3%	15,9%	25,9%	100,0%
Prince Edward Island	,0%	50,0%	7,1%	42,9%	100,0%
Quebec	11,2%	10,6%	15,7%	62,5%	100,0%
Saskatchewan	8,9%	35,6%	28,9%	26,7%	100,0%
Total	8,7%	37,4%	14,8%	39,2%	100,0%

On the basis of language, Francophones report the lowest knowledge of the event and are less likely to think that Canada won and more likely to say it was a tie or that the Americans won. Nearly half of the country's allophones know too little about the event.

	The United States of America	Canada	It was a tie between the two	I know too little about the event	Total
French	11,3%	9,1%	13,7%	65,9%	100,0%

English	7,2%	48,5%	15,5%	28,8%	100,0%
Other	5,2%	37,1%	8,8%	49,0%	100,0%

More educated Canadians are more likely to think that Canada won the war of 1812.

	The United States of America	Canada	It was a tie between the two	I know too little about the event	Total
... High school, general or professional (8 to 12 years)	9,1%	32,5%	13,7%	44,7%	100,0%
... College pre-university, technical training, certificate	7,8%	34,2%	14,4%	43,6%	100,0%
... University certificates and diplomas	14,7%	44,1%	10,3%	30,9%	100,0%
... University Bachelor (including classical studies)	10,0%	40,4%	15,6%	33,9%	100,0%
... University Master's	1,6%	49,6%	18,6%	30,2%	100,0%
... University Doctorate (PhD)	6,7%	60,0%	13,3%	20,0%	100,0%