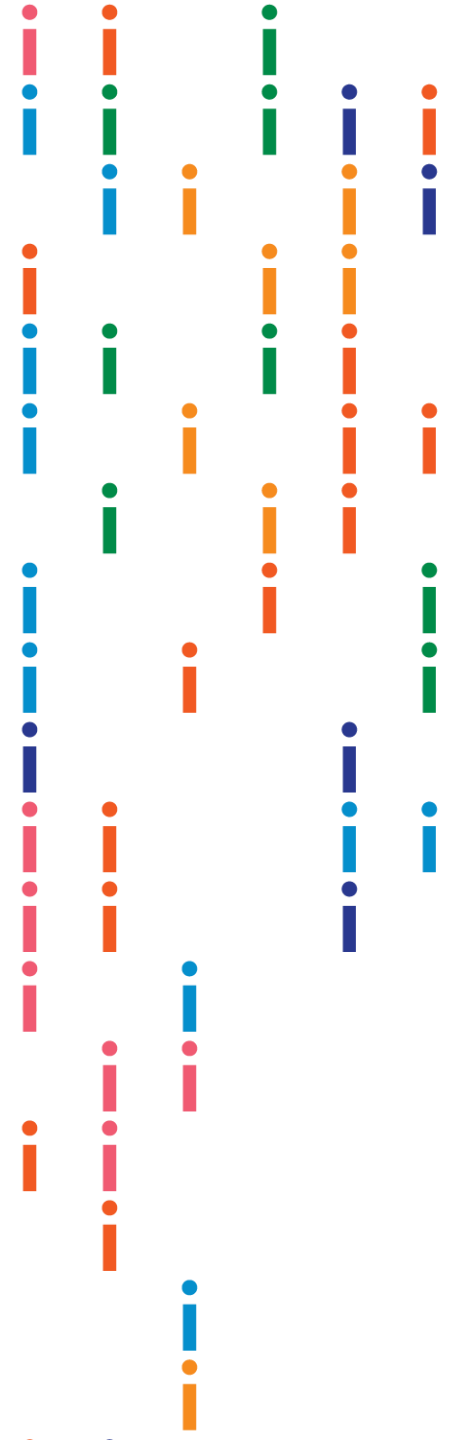


How inclusive are Canadians @150?
How anxious are we about immigration?

Keith Neuman
Environics Institute for Survey Research

Fifth Annual Pathways to Prosperity Conference
November 17, 2017



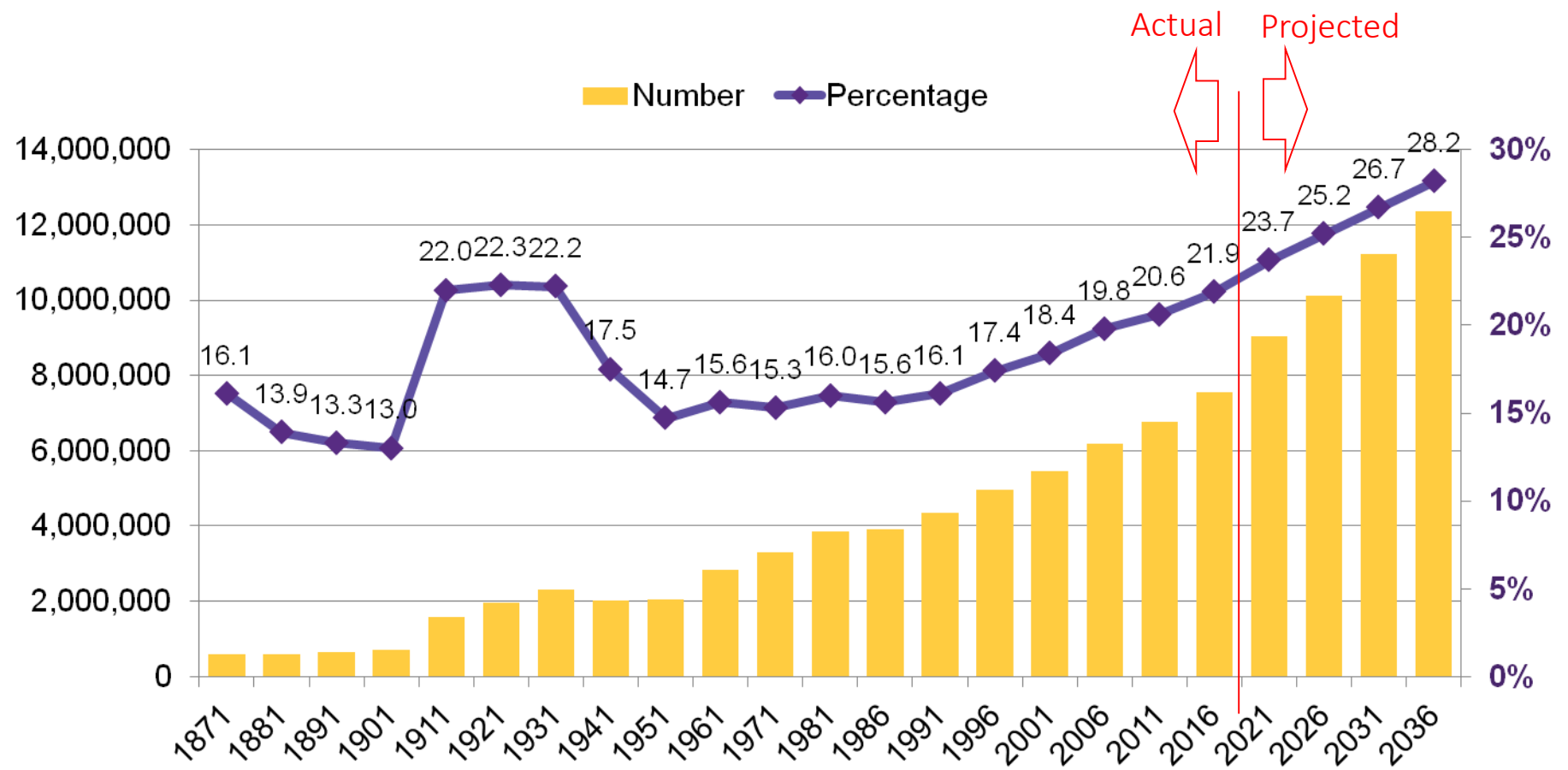


A red maple leaf is painted on a light-colored, textured surface. The leaf is oriented diagonally, with its stem pointing towards the bottom left. The paint is a vibrant red color and has a slightly grainy texture. The background is a light, off-white or cream color with some subtle variations in tone and texture, suggesting a wall or a piece of paper.

Demographic landscape

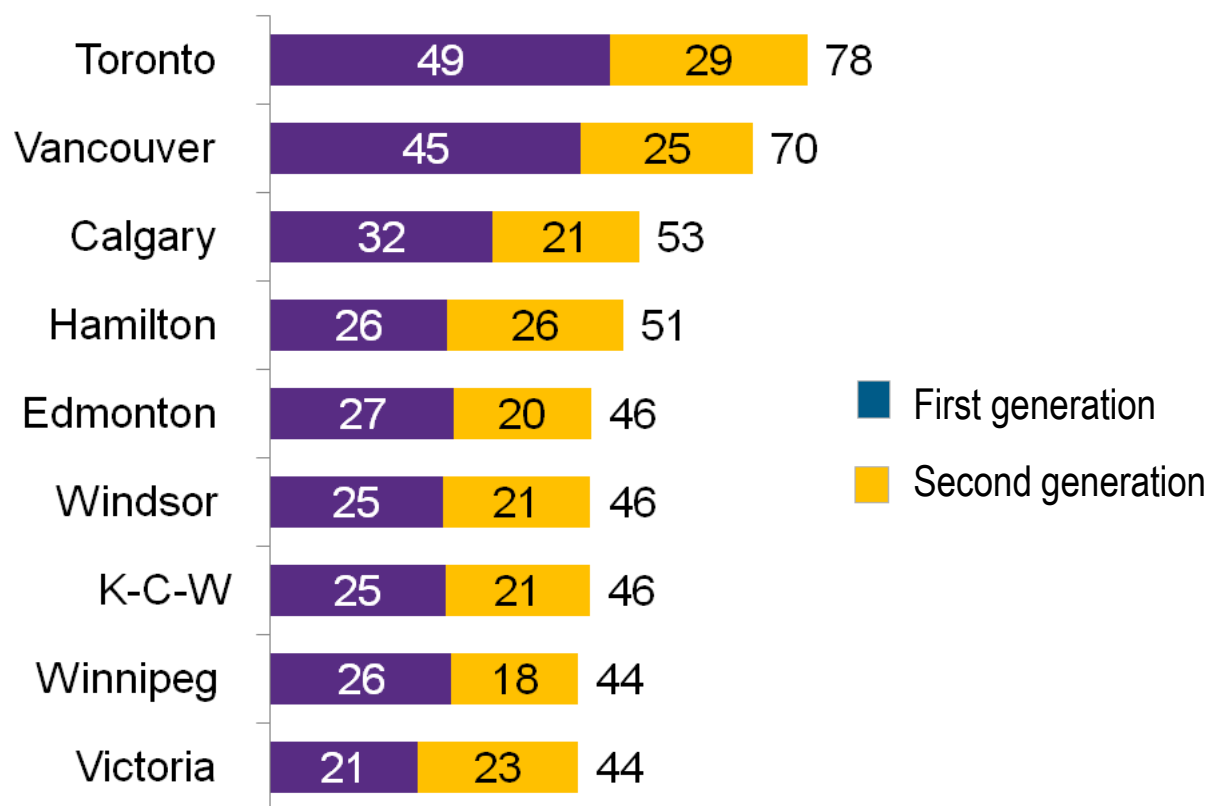
More than one in five Canadians is now foreign-born

1871 - 2036



In Toronto almost eight in ten are either first or second generation

2016

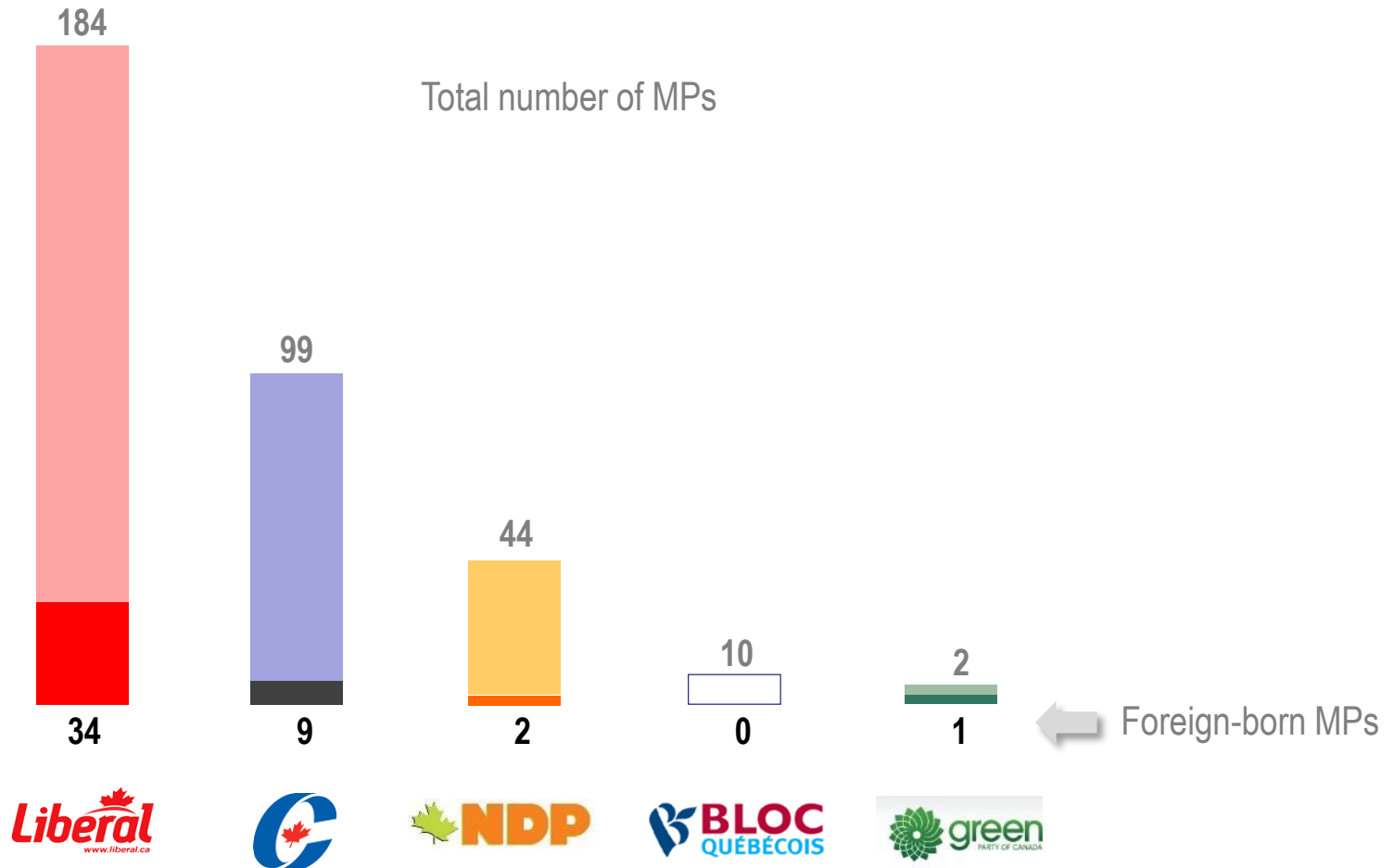


A red maple leaf is painted on a light-colored, textured concrete sidewalk. The leaf is oriented diagonally, with its stem pointing towards the bottom left. The paint is a vibrant red color. The text "Political landscape" is superimposed over the center of the leaf.

Political landscape

Parliament now includes 46 foreign-born MPs, up from 42 in 2011

2015 Parliament – number of foreign-born and Native born elected MPs, by party



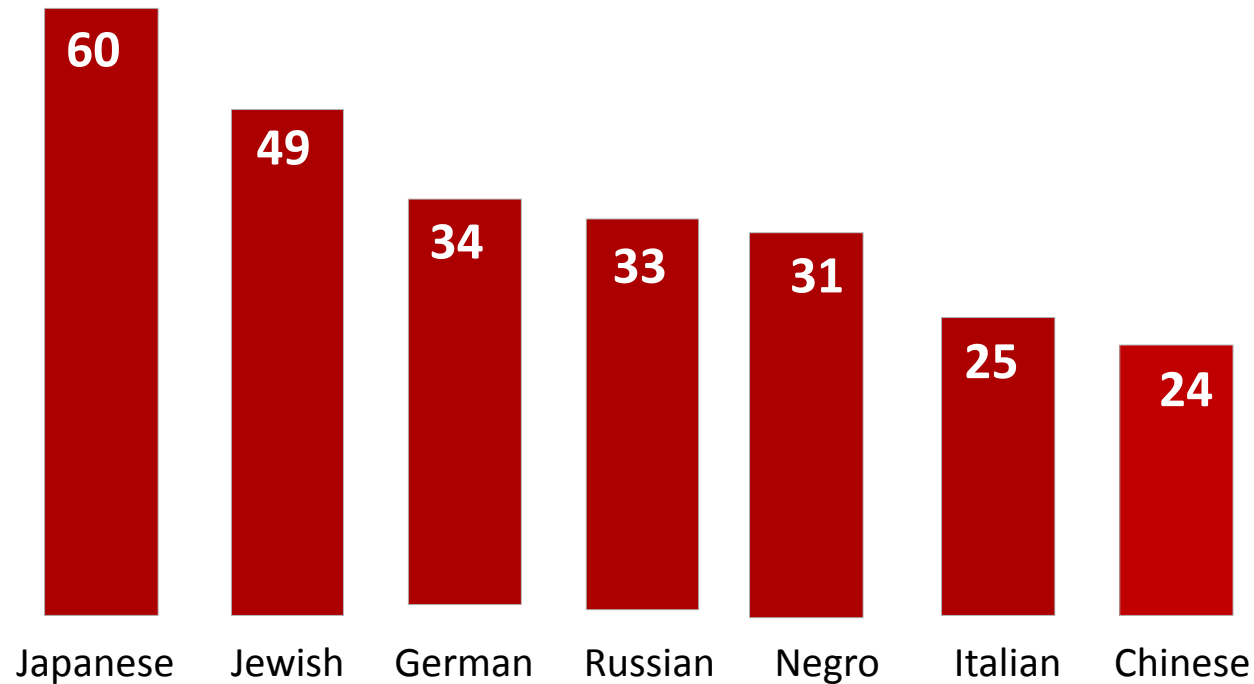
A red maple leaf is painted on a light-colored, textured concrete sidewalk. The leaf is oriented diagonally, with its stem pointing towards the bottom left. The paint is a vibrant red color and appears to be applied in a somewhat thick, textured manner, with some areas showing more saturation than others. The background is a light gray concrete surface with visible grain and some minor debris.

Public opinion landscape

Canadians' views about immigrants in 1946 . . .

1946

If Canada does allow more immigration, are there any of these nationalities which you would like to keep out?



. . . and continuing into the early 1960s

1961

*As you know, Canada restricts the admission of non-whites to this country.
Do you think this should continue, or do you think there should be fewer
restrictions on non-whites?*

Restrictions should continue

53

Should be fewer restrictions

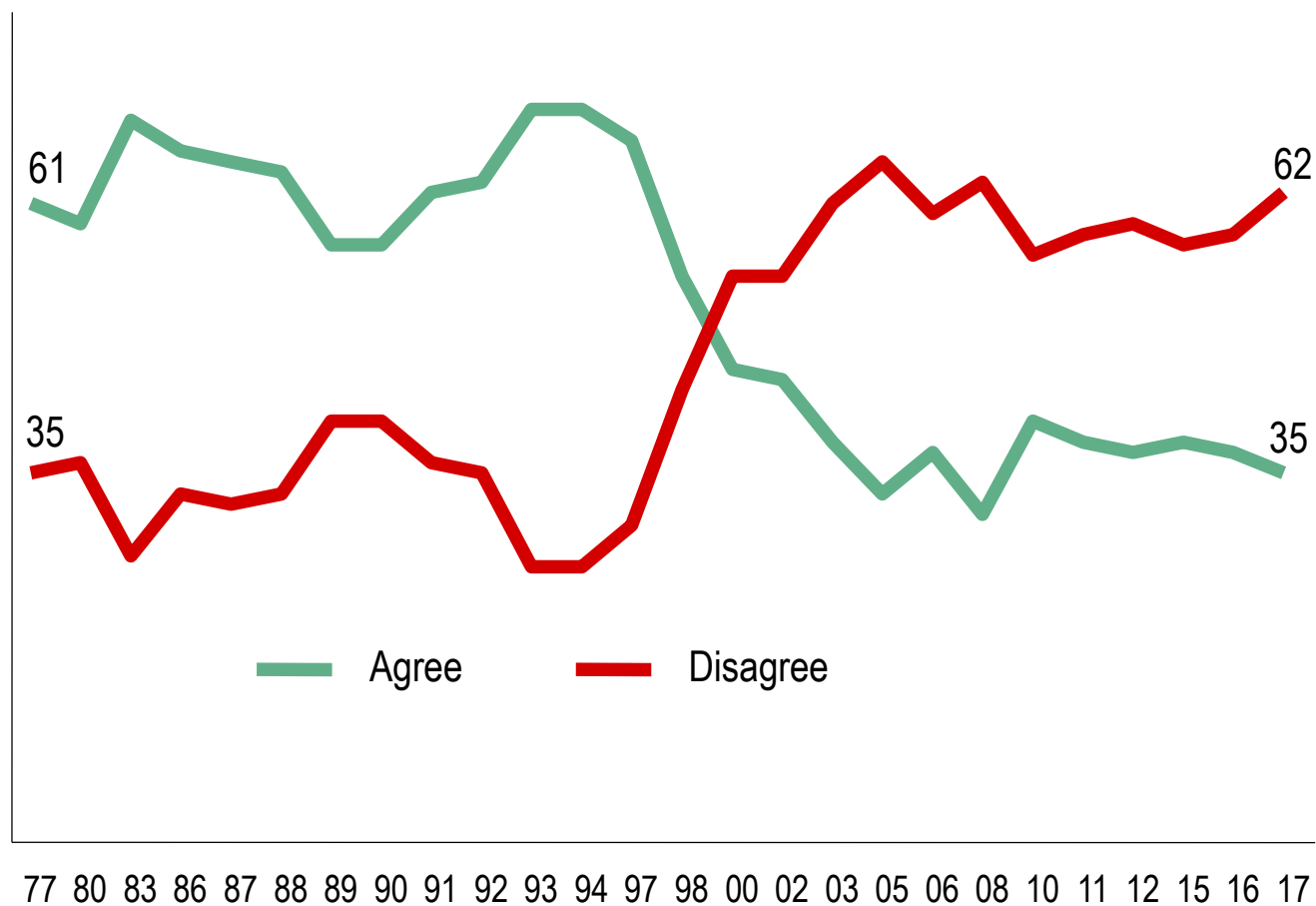
36

Qualified / No opinion

11

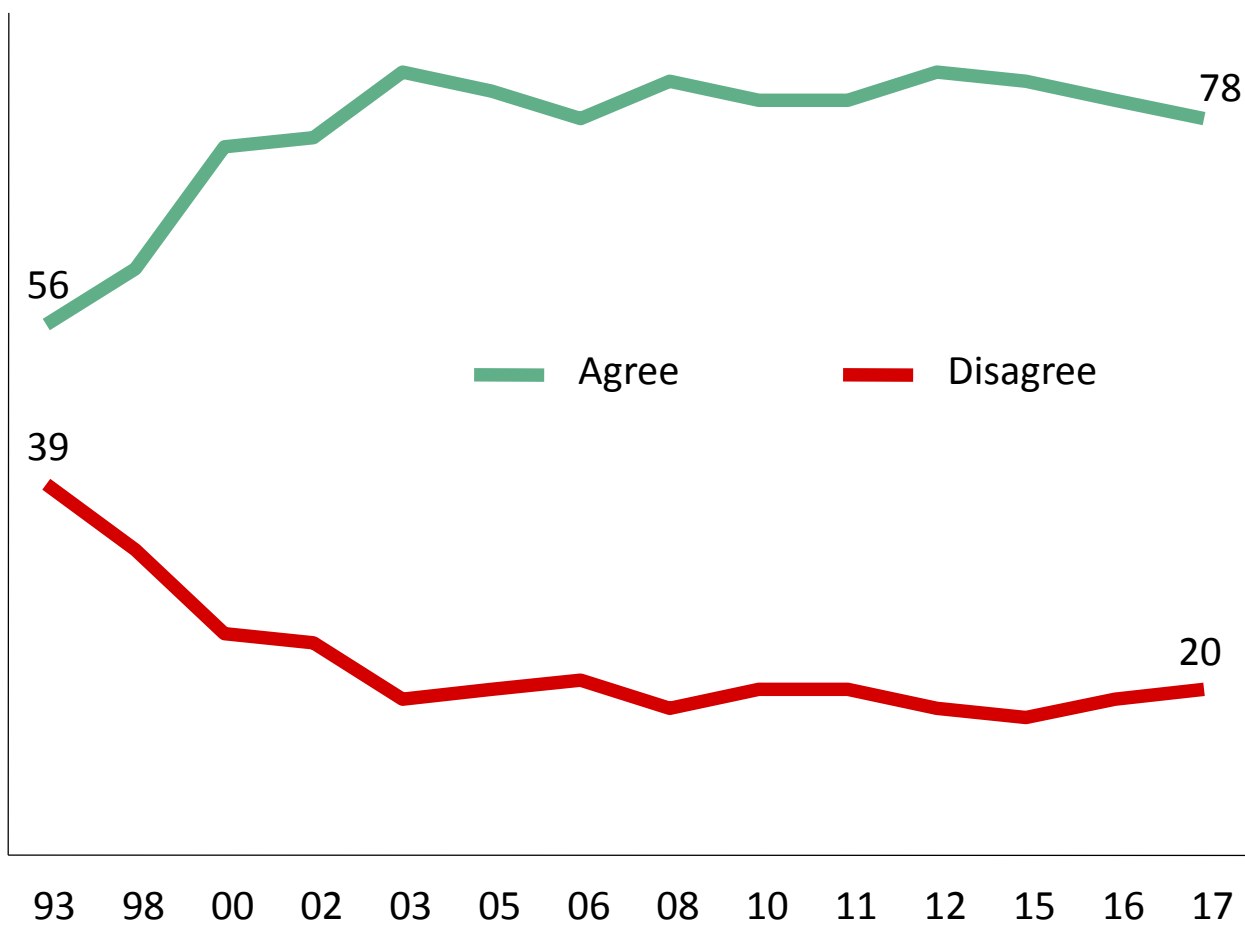
"Immigration levels are too high"

1977 - 2017



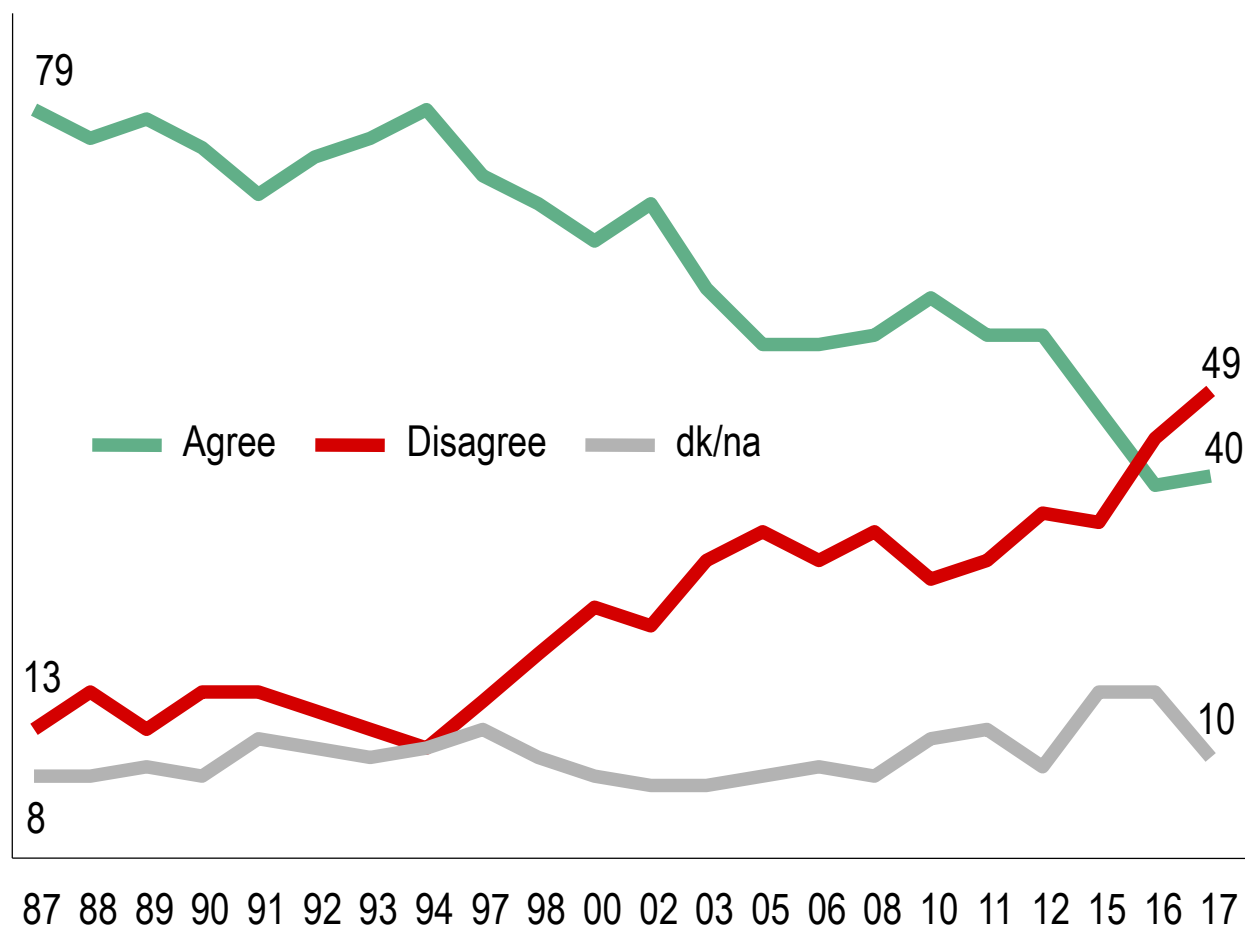
“The economic impact of immigrants is positive”

1993 - 2017



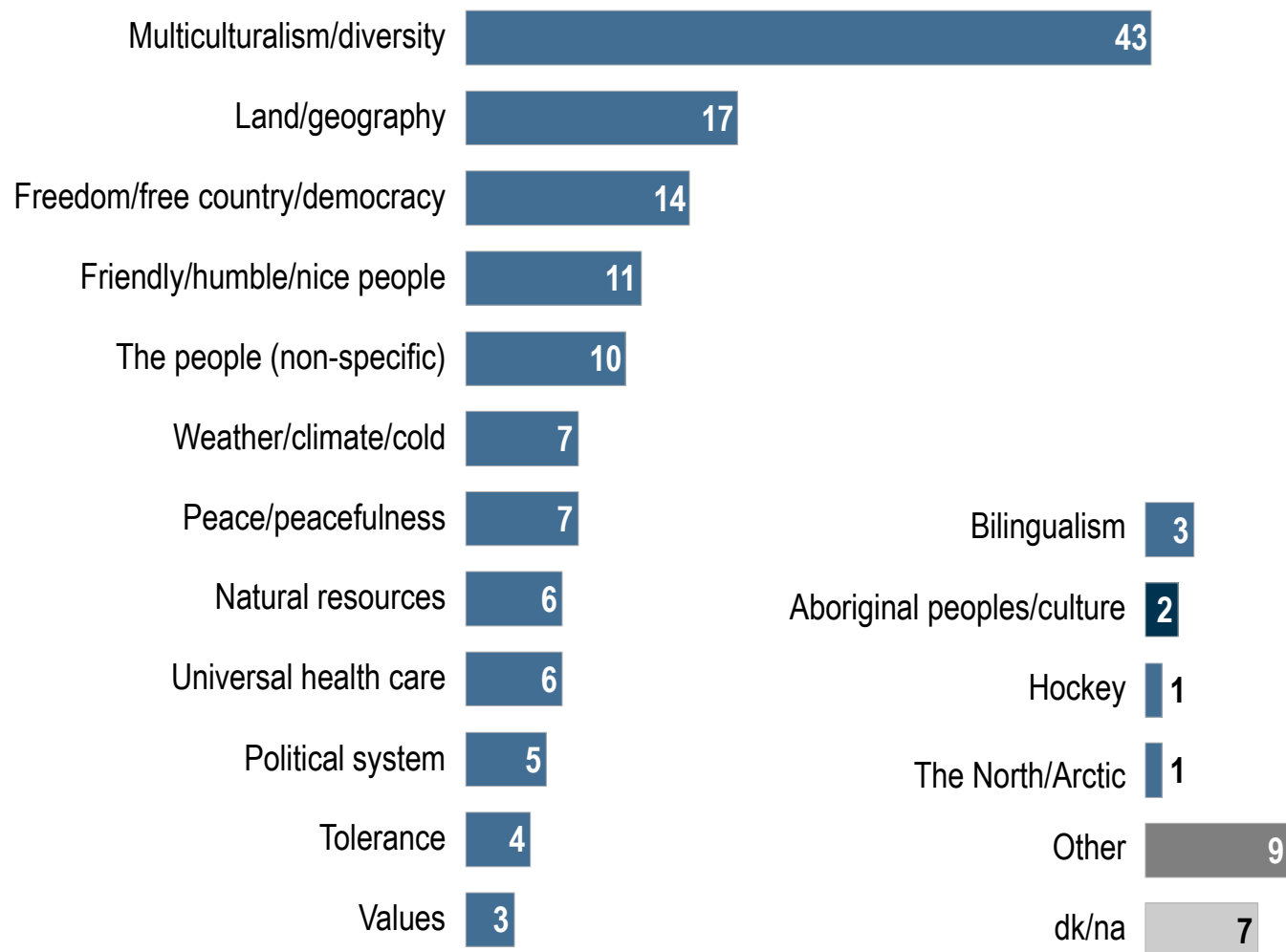
“Too many refugee claimants are not legitimate”

1987 - 2017



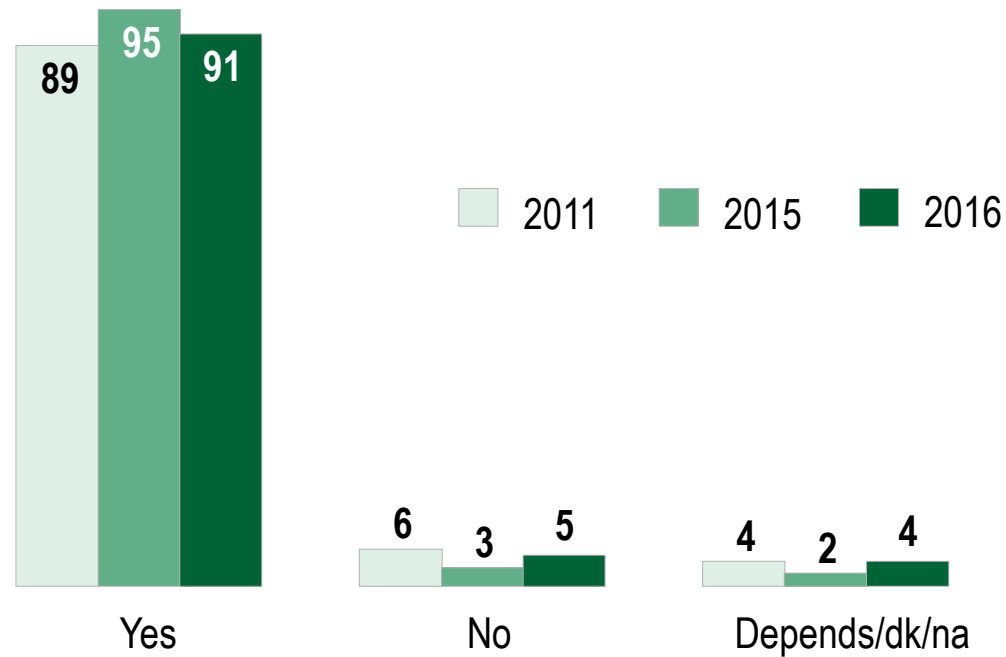
“What makes Canada unique?”

2016 Unprompted mentions



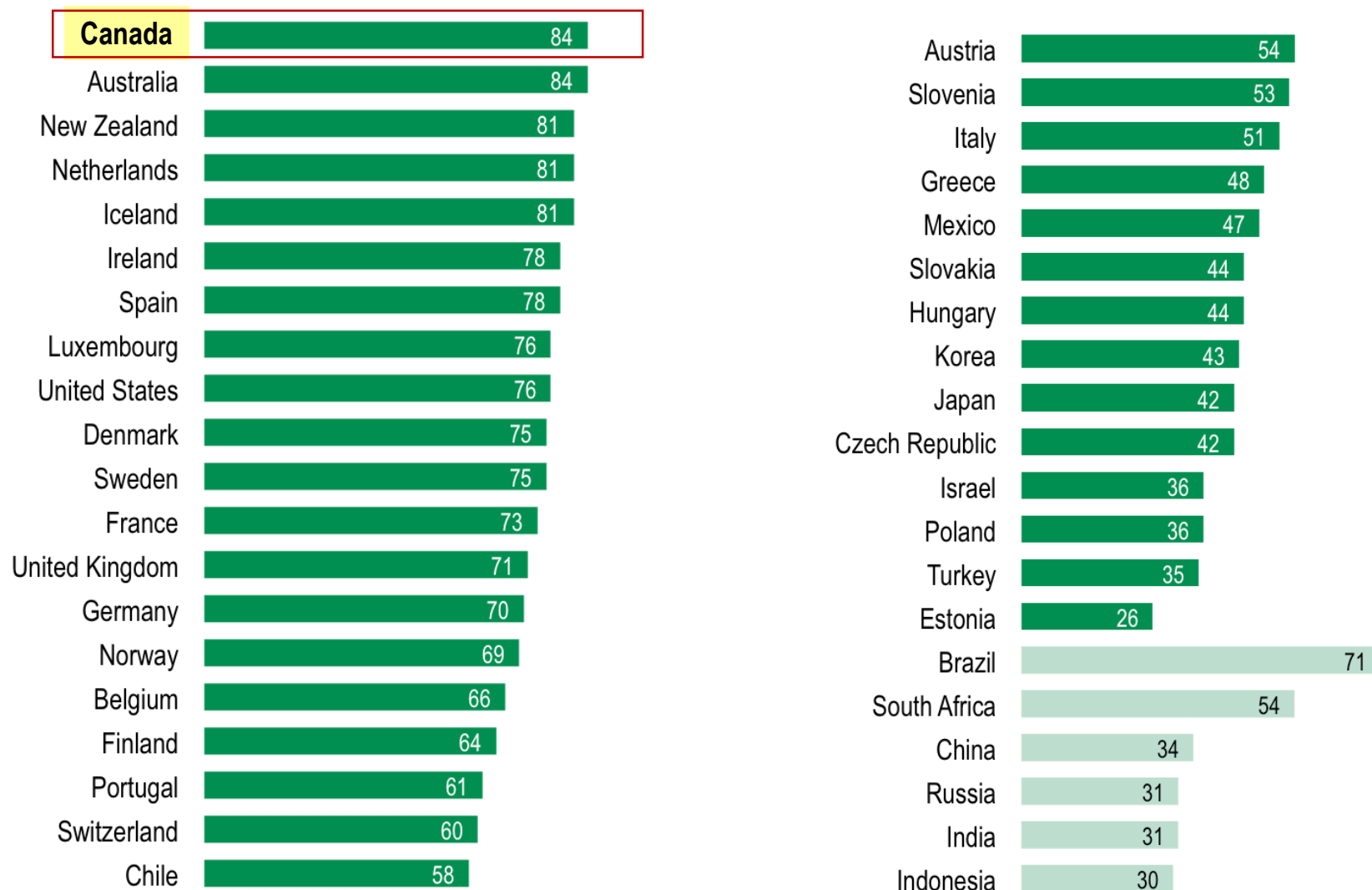
“Can someone born outside Canada be just as likely to be a good citizen as someone born here?”

2011 - 2016



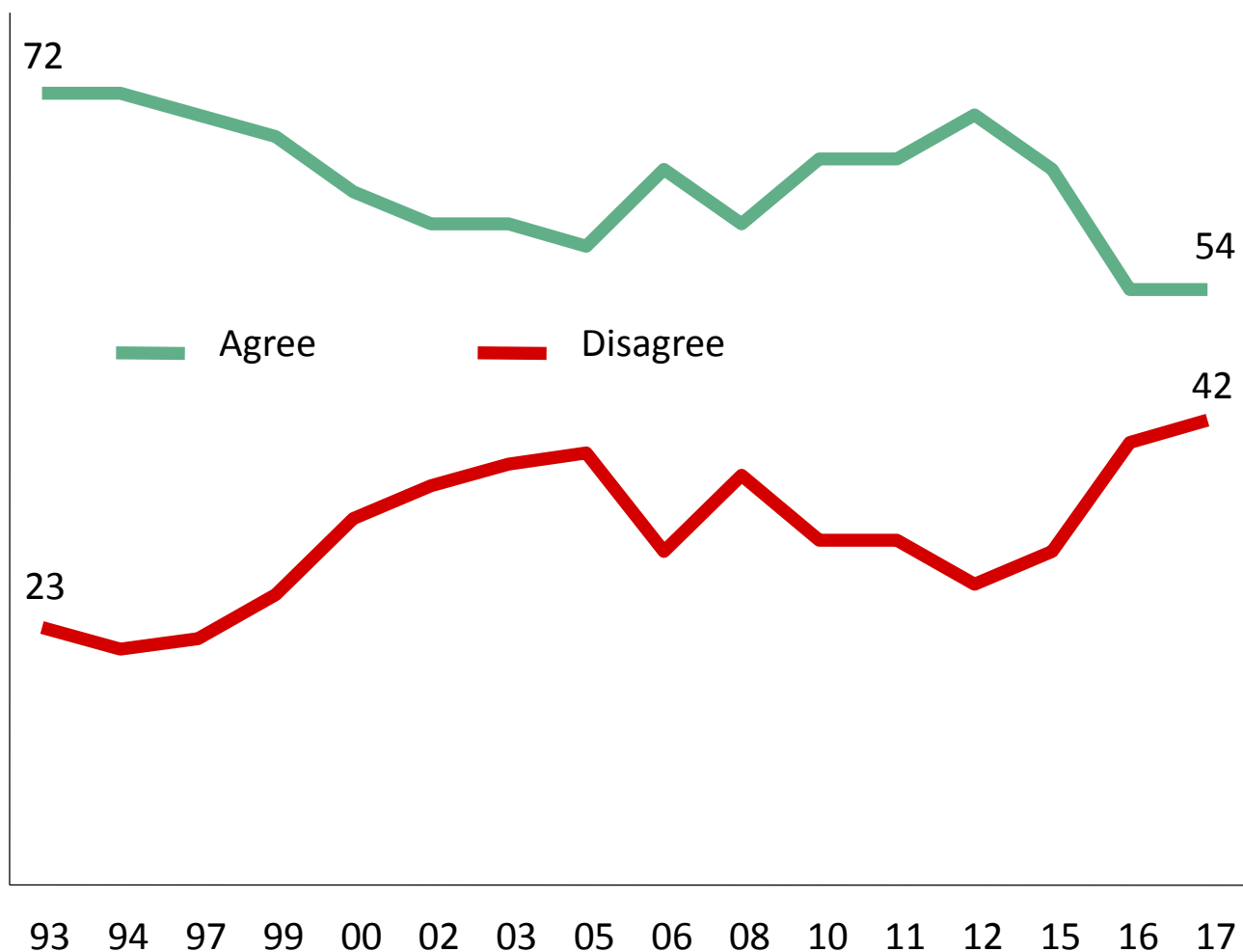
Tolerance of others who are different

2010 OECD + other countries



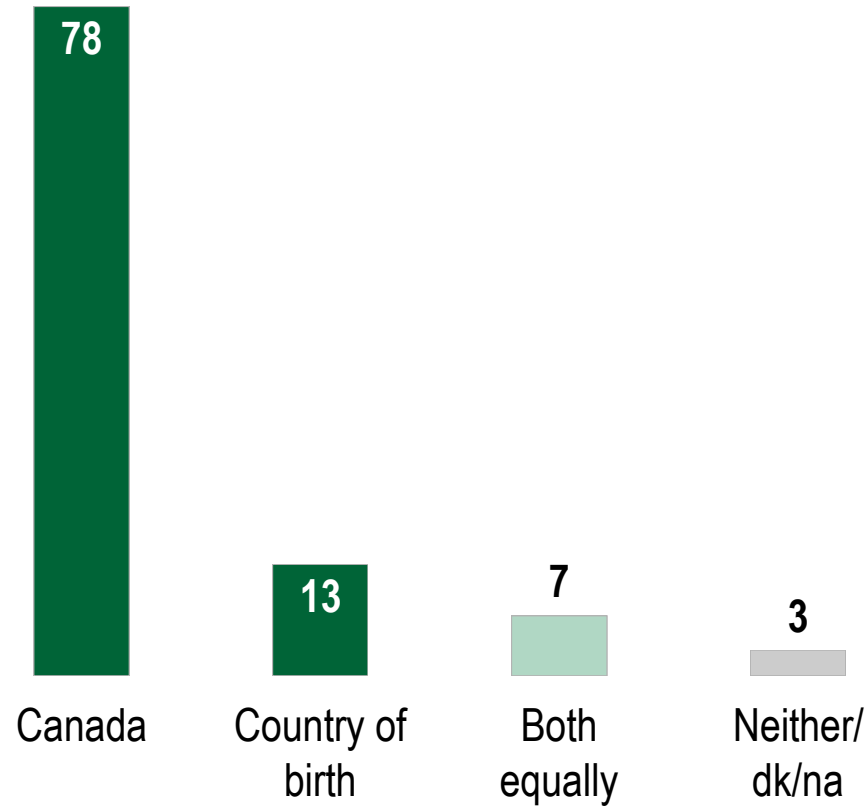
“Too many immigrants do not adopt Canadian values”

1993 - 2017



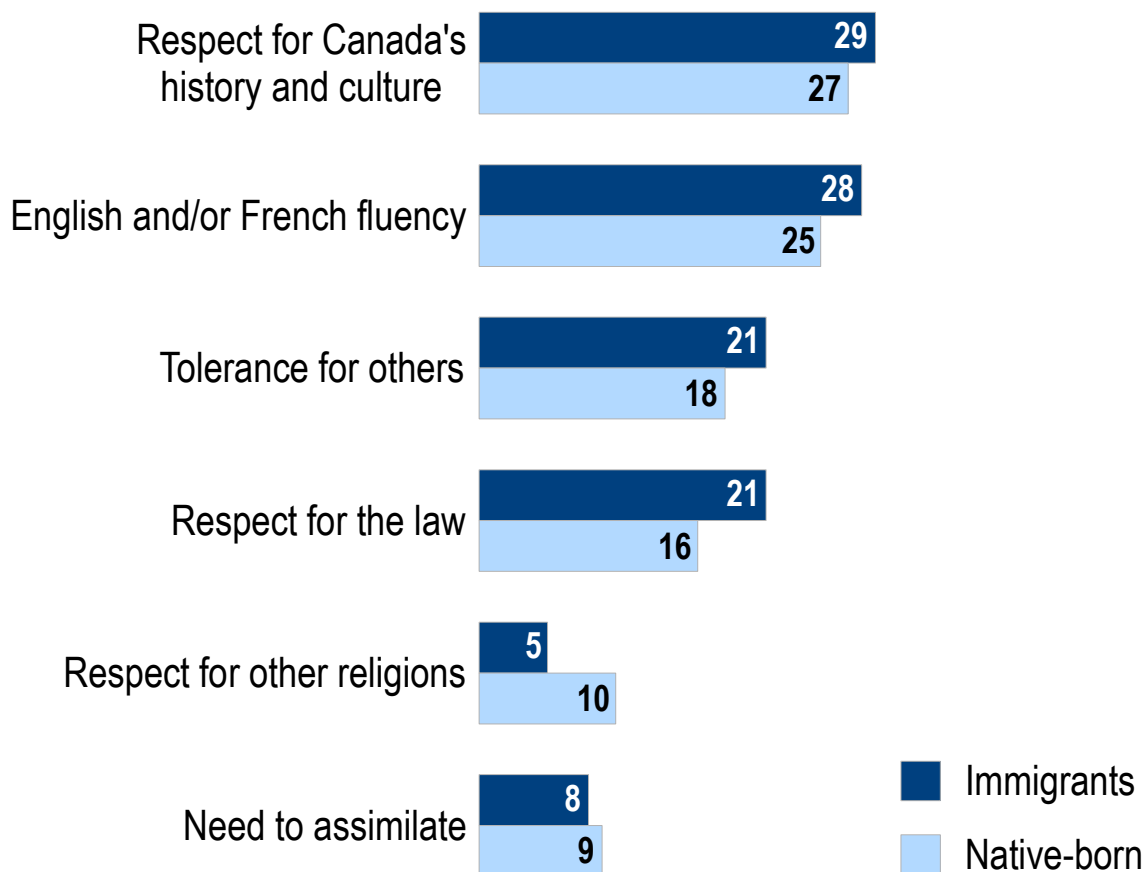
Immigrants' identification with Canada versus country of birth

2012 Canadians born abroad



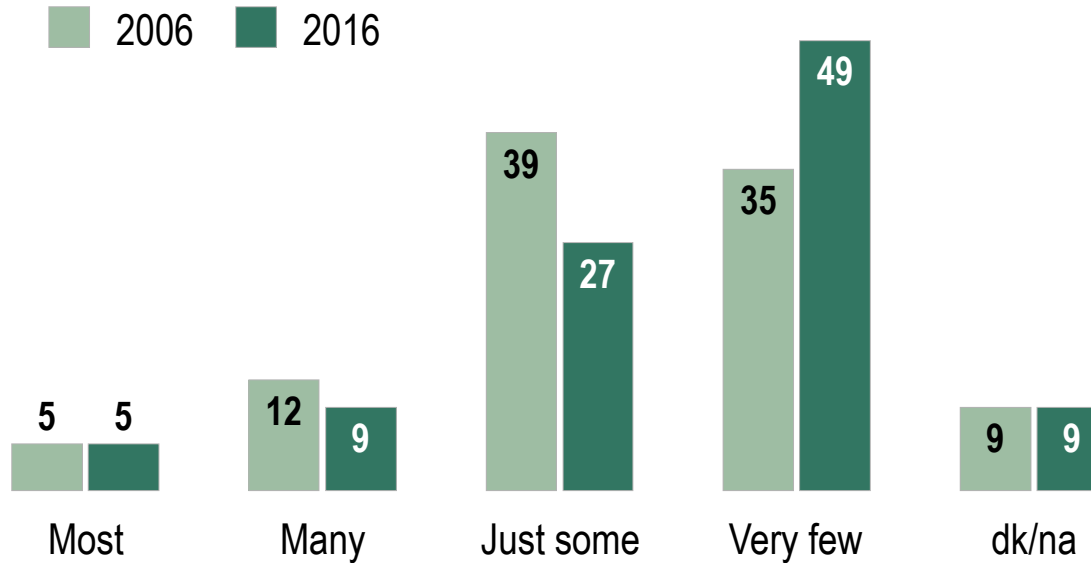
“What values are most important for immigrants to adopt?”

2011 Top mentions (unprompted) By immigrants and native-born



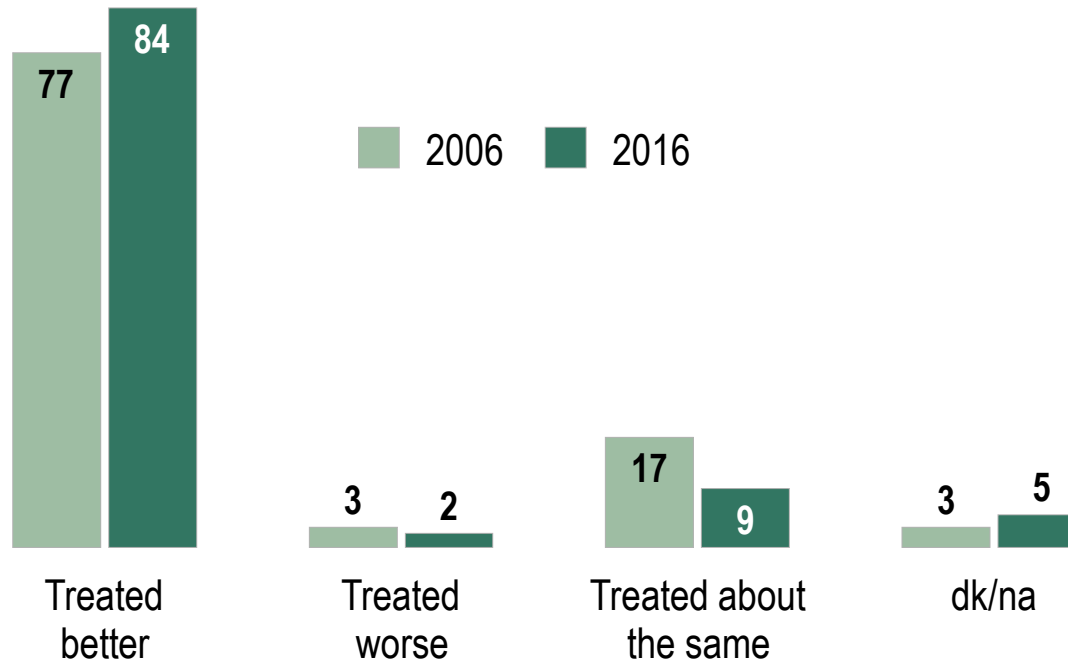
Estimated number of Canadians hostile to Muslims

2006 - 2016 Muslims



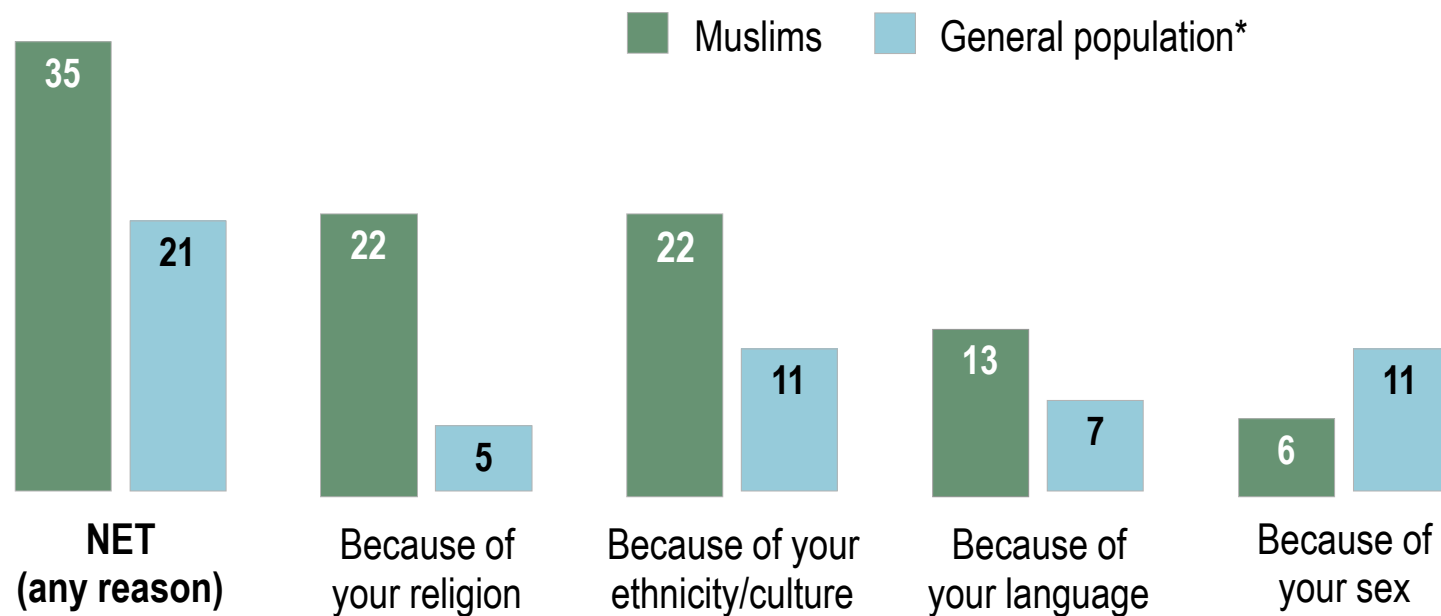
Treatment of Muslims in Canada compared to in other western countries

2006 - 2016 Muslims



Muslims' experience of discrimination or unfair treatment – past 5 years

2016 Muslims in Canada



* Source: Statistics Canada (2013 General Social Survey)

A red maple leaf is painted on a concrete sidewalk. The leaf is a stylized representation of the Canadian flag's maple leaf, rendered in a vibrant red color. It is positioned in the center of the frame, with its stem pointing towards the bottom left. The concrete surface is light gray and shows some texture and minor wear. The text "So how inclusive are Canadians?" is superimposed over the leaf in a bold, black, sans-serif font.

So how inclusive are Canadians?

The positive story

- The majority of Canadians are accepting if not supportive of immigrants – in aspiration if not in action
- This has held steady, despite recent trends and events in other countries
- We have come a long way in just a couple of generations – for the better
- Most immigrants are doing their part once they arrive, and feel good about their place in Canadian society

The negative story

- Many of us sometimes struggle with the reality of those who look or act differently
- Some differences are more comfortable than others – Some are more comfortable than others with difference
- For a minority, it goes beyond discomfort to prejudice, anger and hate – and some have been emboldened to act it out

This conclusion isn't simple – and isn't satisfying for most

- We long for a single story and a clear narrative (are we “good” or “bad”?)
- The absence of a single story divides us – some insist Canada is exceptionally tolerant; others argue we are colonial racists
- Our central challenge is to recognize and acknowledge these different parts of our society, and ourselves
- And to determine what standard we want to hold ourselves to – and what is possible to achieve

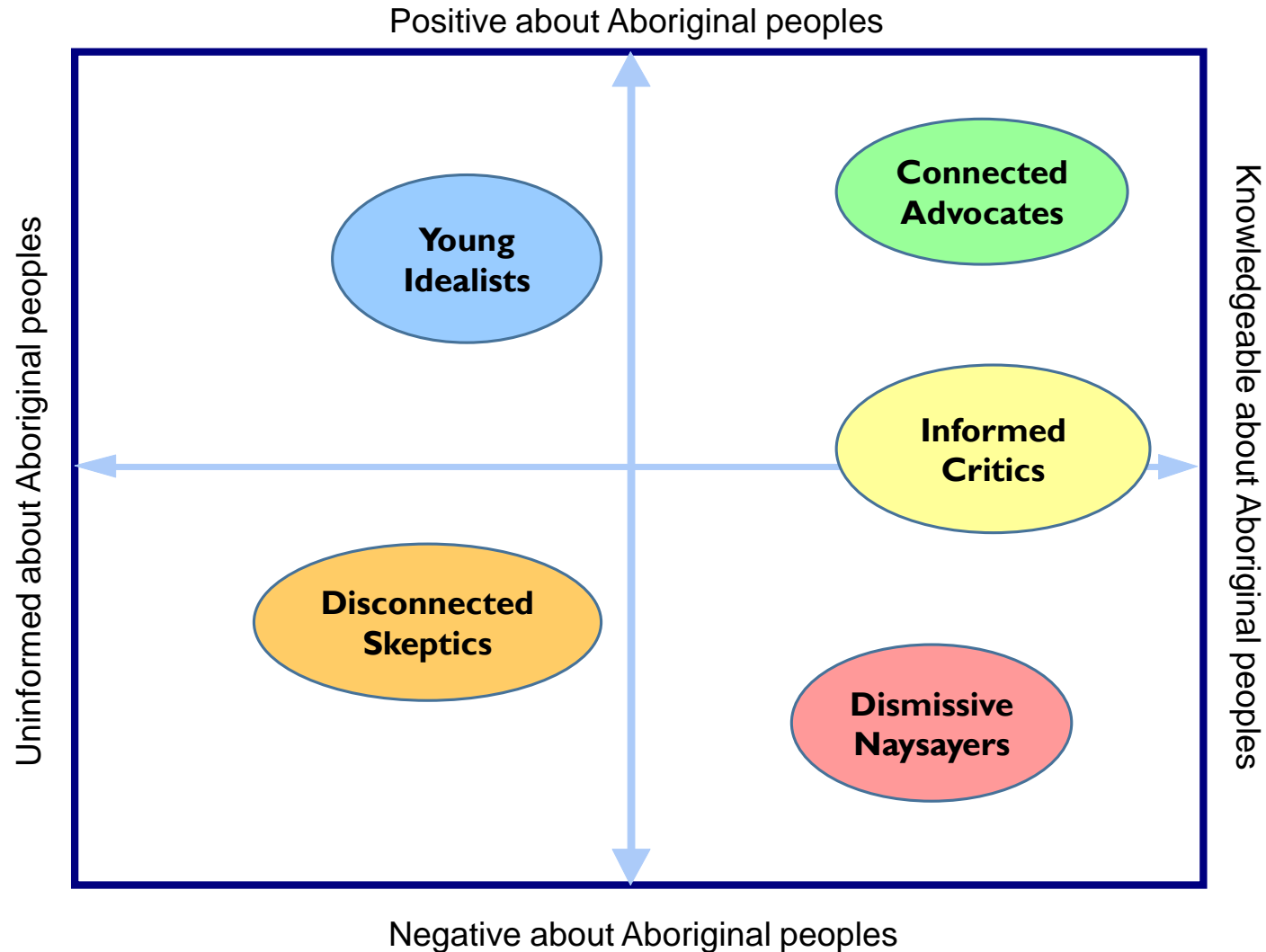
A red handprint is visible on a light-colored, textured surface. The handprint is oriented with the fingers pointing towards the upper right. The text "Three concluding insights" is overlaid on the handprint.

Three concluding insights

1. The “public” is not one thing

- Public opinion almost always consists of different and divergent perspectives – the overall picture is only the starting point
- Essential to go deeper to understand how opinions and values are similar and different across the population
- What can be done: Collect and disseminate more nuanced evidence about public opinion and the immigrant experience – to counter distorting narratives

Canadians' worldviews about Indigenous Peoples

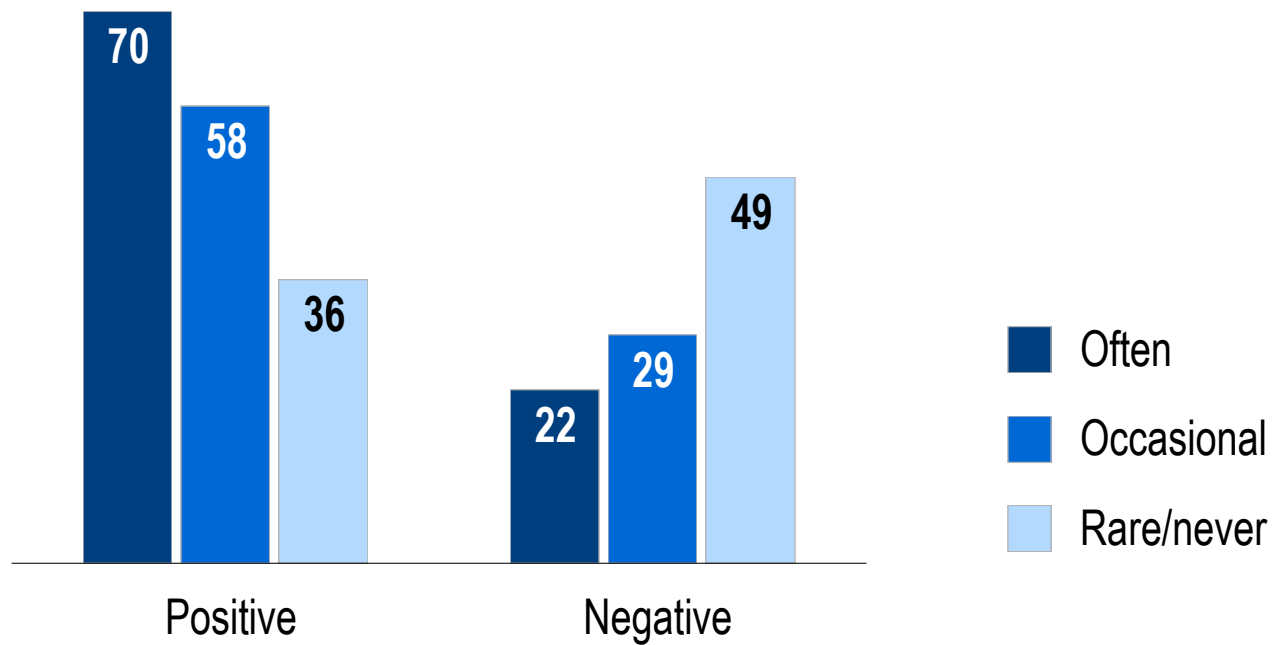


2. Personal contact makes a difference

- Prejudice and rejection is grounded in viewing the “other” as alien and unlike oneself in important ways
- Personal contact makes it possible to recognize what we may have in common – as people with similar aspirations and experiences
- What can be done: Promote opportunities to make meaningful personal connections across diverse groups

Impression of the religion of Islam among non-Muslim Canadians

2006 By frequency of contact with Muslims

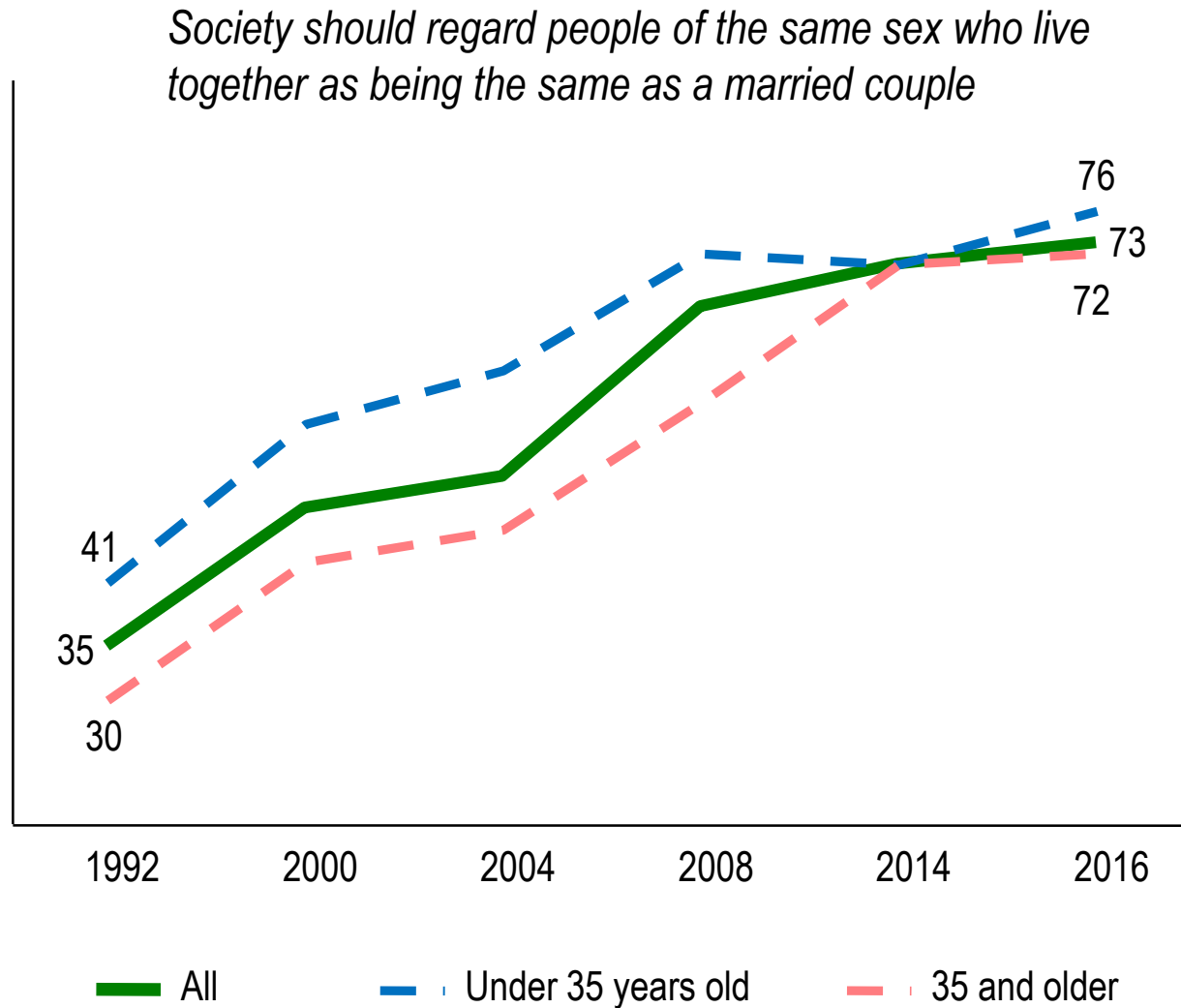


3. Social norms matter

- What individuals think and believe is important – but how they behave matters more
- Core values and attitudes are resistant to change – normative behaviour can be influenced
- In Canada, social norms on controversial issues remain largely intact
- What can be done: Reinforce social norms against inhospitable behaviour toward others different from oneself

Canadian public acceptance of LGBT rights over time

1992 - 2016





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