



STUDENT BUDGET CONSULTATION

2024

PRELIMINARY RESULTS HIGHLIGHTS

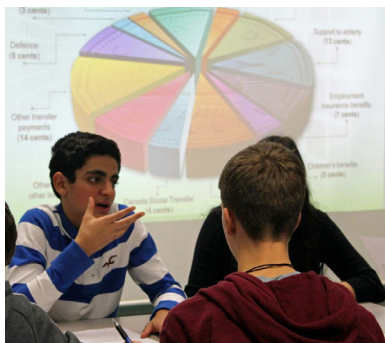
Giving youth a voice on national priorities

The Student Budget Consultation is a project of



This project is supported by **Canada**

BACKGROUND & METHODOLOGY



ABOUT THE STUDENT BUDGET CONSULTATION

The Student Budget Consultation provides youth with an opportunity to explore how government affects our lives, discuss important issues facing the country, and offer their insights on the priorities of the upcoming federal budget. The opinions of students are collected through a survey and the results are shared with the Department of Finance and with all federal political parties so that they can see what matters to young Canadians.

The 2021 Canadian census was used to weight the data collected in order to reflect the distribution of males and females, aged 12 to 18, in Canada. Survey responses included incomplete responses, meaning that sample sizes will vary from question to question. Due to rounding, percentages may not add up to 100% and precisely reflect the absolute figures.

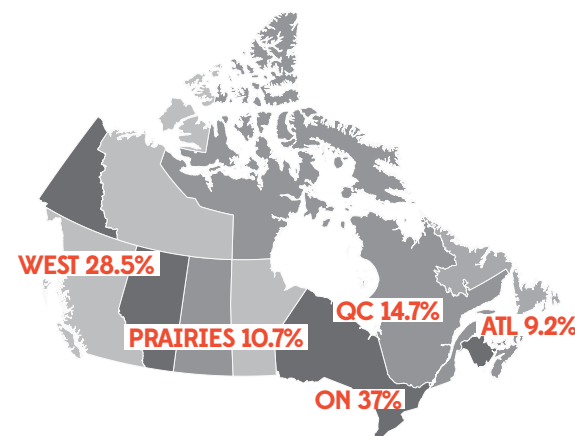
The 2024 Student Budget Consultation was organized by CIVIX, with the support of the Government of Canada. The Student Budget Consultation survey is conducted in partnership with Vox Pop Labs. These results represent the sample of the first 1,900 participants. In total, more than 5,000 Canadian students have completed the 2024 Student Budget Consultation online survey so far.



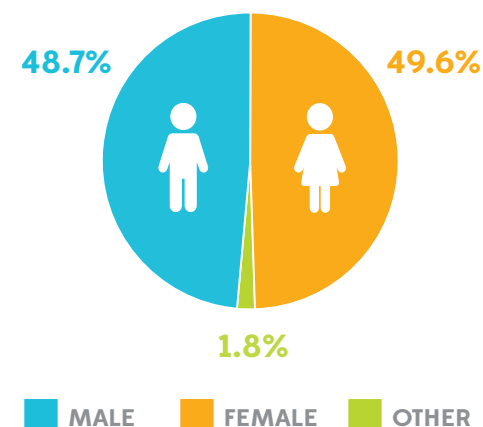
CIVIX is a charitable organization dedicated to strengthening democracy through civic education. CIVIX provides experiential learning opportunities to help young Canadians practice the habits of active and informed citizenship, and connect with their democratic institutions. www.civix.ca



REGIONAL BREAKDOWN:



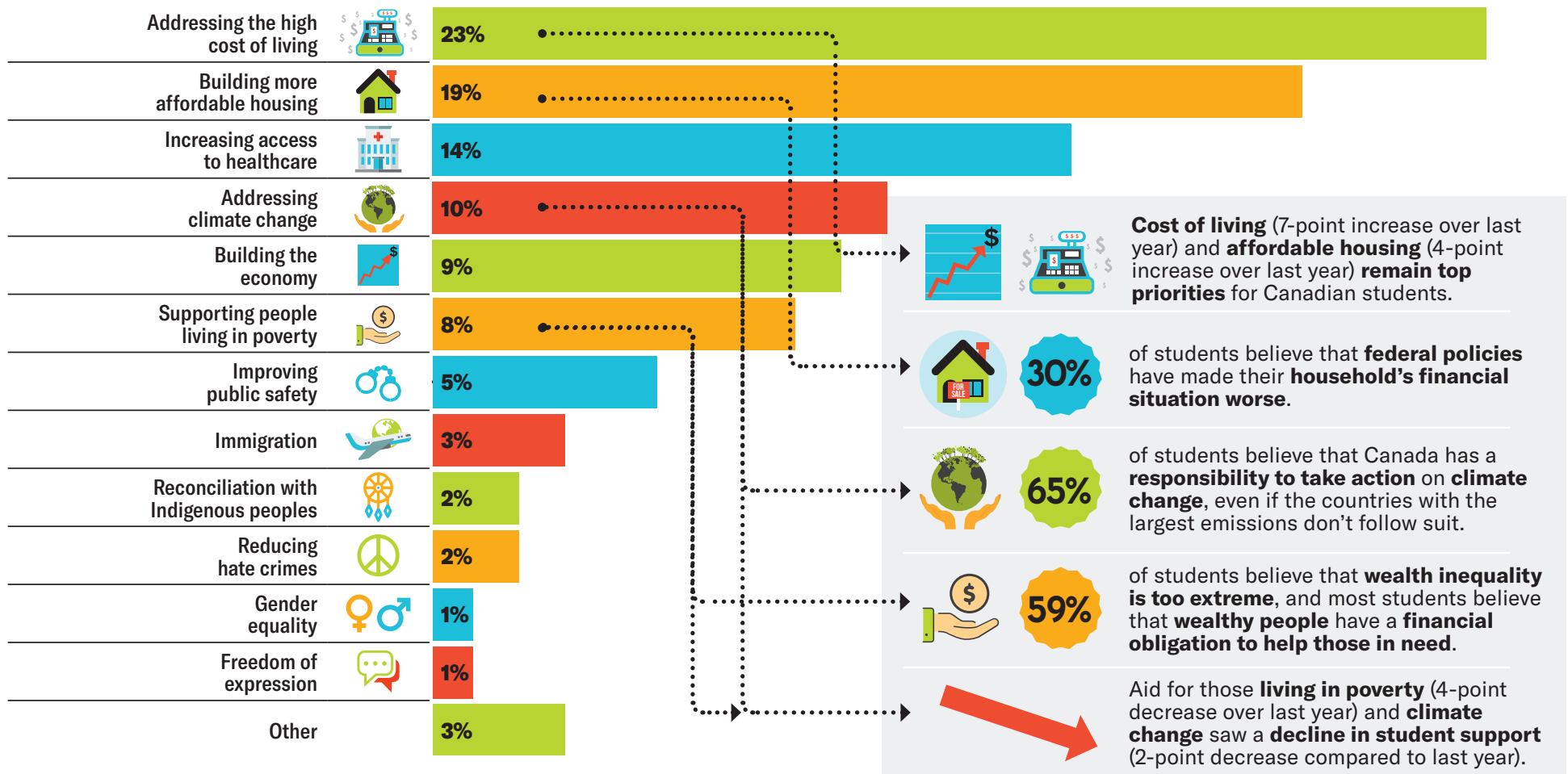
GENDER BREAKDOWN:



TOP PRIORITIES

Which of the following should be the main priorities of Budget 2024?

STUDENTS WERE ASKED TO CHOOSE THEIR **TOP THREE PRIORITIES**.



MAKING THE BUDGET WORK FOR YOUTH

What is the most important step the federal government can take to **support young Canadians** over the next five years?



47%

of students would like to see housing made more affordable (11-point increase over last year)

2



13%

of students would like to see improved access to affordable post-secondary education

TIED FOR **3**



11%

of students would like to see student debt made more manageable



11%

of students would like to see increased employment opportunities

5



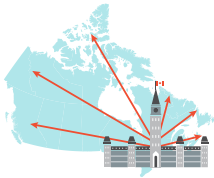
9%

of students would like to see improved access to mental health support

Youth opinions on health care funding and coverage.

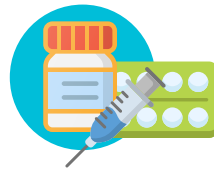
67%

of students agree with the federal government **increasing the money it gives to provinces and territories** to pay for health care.



66%

of students believe that all Canadians should have access to government-funded **prescription drugs**.



63%

of students believe **dental care** should be covered for those who do not have insurance of their own.



2023 HIGHLIGHTS

65% of 2023 respondents supported the idea of a **school meal program** for all students.



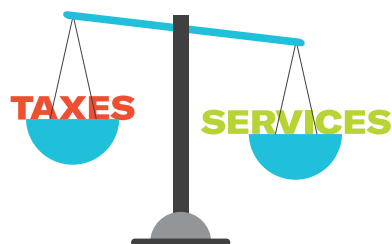
CURRENT & FUTURE OUTLOOKS

Q: How is your **mental health** compared to a year ago?



67% of students believe that the government should **invest more in mental health services**.

59% of respondents prefer **lower taxes** and **fewer government services**, versus **41%** who prefer **higher taxes** and **more government spending**.



LAST YEAR:

- **53%** supported lower taxes/fewer services
- **47%** supported higher taxes/more services

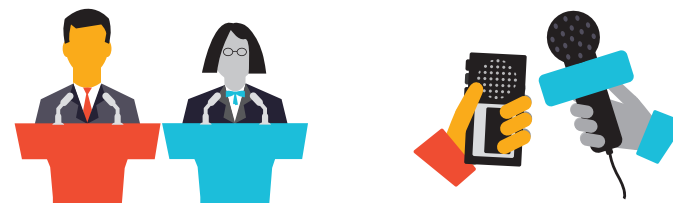
74% of students are **optimistic** about their own future but **67%** are **pessimistic** about the future of the world.



46% of students believe they will be **worse off than their parents**.

TRUST LEVELS:

Students expressed a high degree of trust in **nurses (89%)**, **teachers (79%)**, **military personnel (77%)**, **public health officials (73%)** and **law enforcement (70%)**.



Students expressed low trust in **elected officials (27%)** and **news media (36%)**.

OVERVIEW OF CIVIX PROGRAMMING



Student Vote is an experiential civic literacy program that provides students under the voting age with the opportunity to learn about democracy, government and the electoral process, and cast ballots for the official candidates in a parallel election.



Students learn about budgeting, examine the government's revenues and expenditures and explore political perspectives and current issues facing the country. In the culminating activity, youth offer their own opinions on the priorities of the upcoming federal budget.



Rep Day connects students with their elected representatives for a virtual or in-person meeting. The program aims to help students develop a better understanding of, and sense of trust in, the people and institutions within our democracy.



The CTRL-F verification skills module was developed to address mis- and disinformation by providing quick strategies students can use to evaluate information online and better understand our digital ecosystem.



PoliTalks aims to cultivate the knowledge, attitudes and skills to participate constructively in political discussions. The activities help students practice active listening, perspective-taking, and respectful self-expression skills, and build relevant contextual awareness.



Democracy Bootcamp is a professional development conference for teachers designed to improve their democratic engagement, instructional capacity and delivery of CIVIX programming.

