

The State of Canadians' Financial Confidence in 2024



Methodology



WHAT?

Online survey via Ipsos' iSay panel



WHO?

2,001 Canadians*



WHEN?

September 20th - October 1st, 2024

2024 brings stability back to Canadians, after a rocky couple of years.

Canadians' trust in the economy remains fragile, though recession fears ease.

Navigating economic pressures: Canadians continue cutting back on non-essentials but remain hopeful for stabilizing inflation.



While the housing market remains tough, especially for renters, there are signs of optimism amid softening rates.

Uncertain job market: Canadians face insecurities related to job stability.

Partnering with a financial professional empowers Canadians with greater confidence towards their financial future.

A need for more financial advice in Quebec?

Top Stories

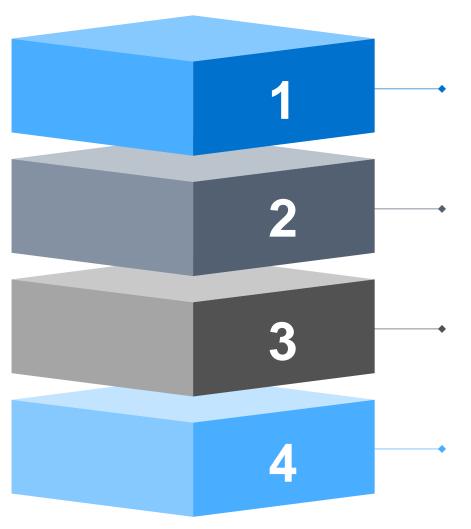
Distinct community trends: Indigenous face persistent financial challenges, while New Canadians' optimism increases.

2024 brings stability back to Canadians, after a rocky couple of years.





4 PILLARS OF FINANCIAL CONFIDENCE INDEX



FINANCIAL OUTLOOK

- Confidence in short-term financial situation
- Confidence in longer-term financial situation

PLANNING & LITERACY

- Enjoying life because of the way I'm managing my money
- Feeling prepared and on track to meet financial goals

TRUST IN ECONOMY

- Economic conditions in your community
- Economic conditions in Canada

CURRENT FINANCES

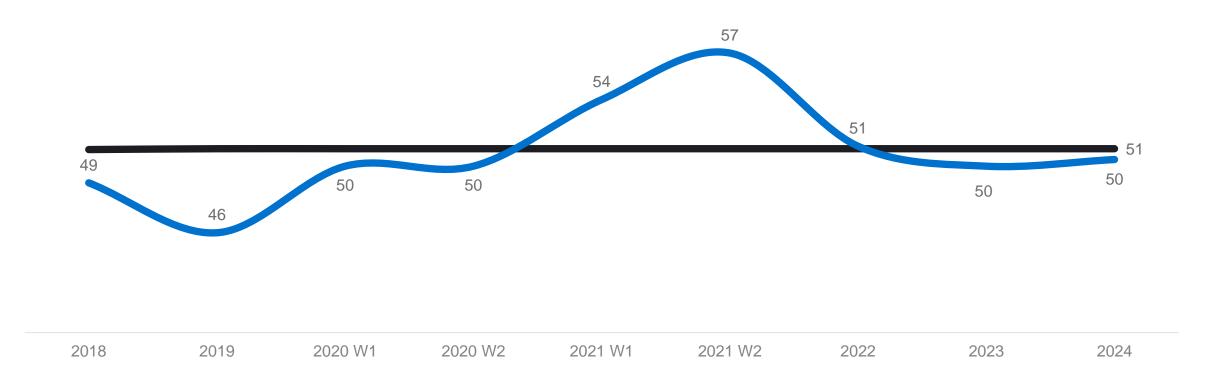
- Need to borrow money to pay for regular living expenses
- More satisfied with my financial situation vs. 6 months ago
- Comfort making a major purchase
- Change in personal income

Canadian's Financial Confidence Index - Historical

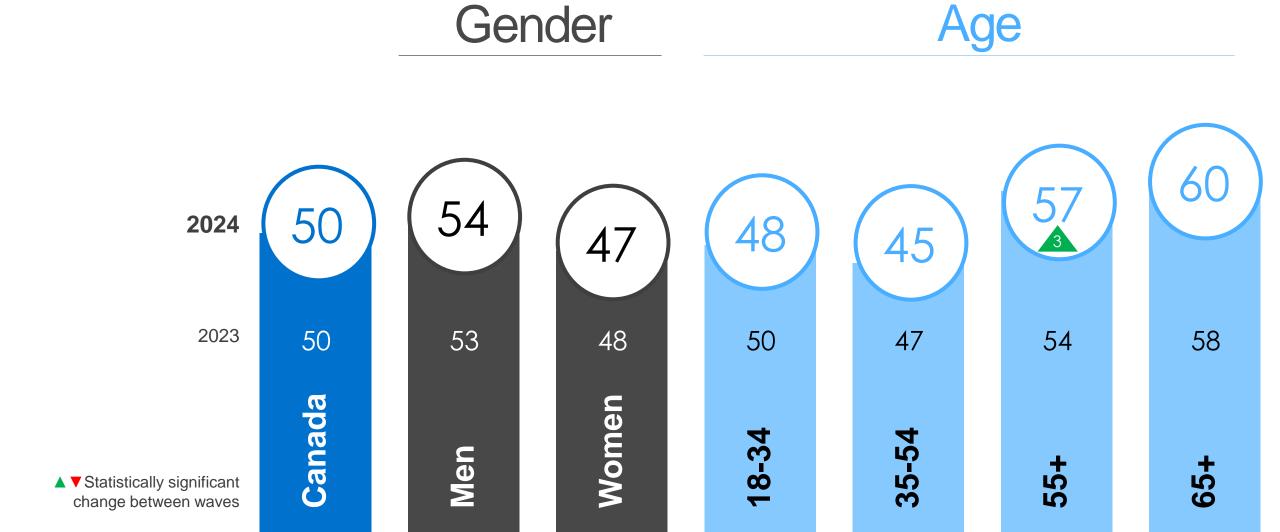
After a downward trend since 2021, the index stabilizes in 2024, indicating a steadying financial outlook for Canadians following a period of uncertainty.









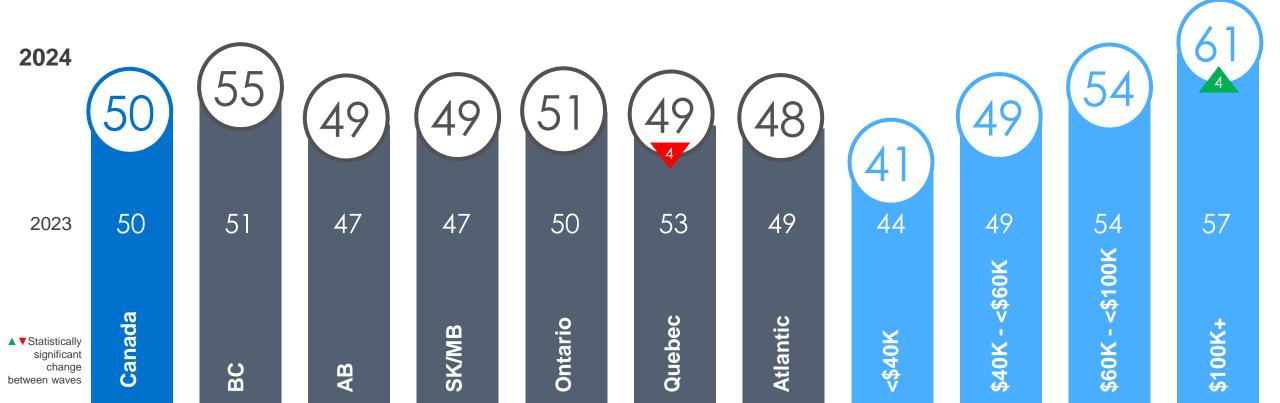




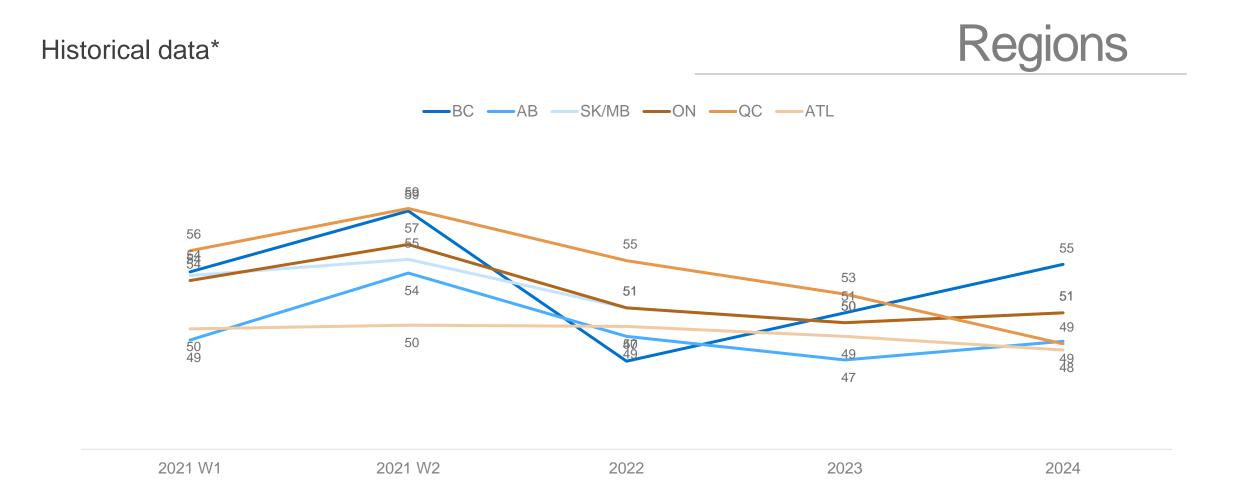
Results suggest a standardization trend across regions, as most provinces are now within 1-2 points of the National average.

Province

HH Income

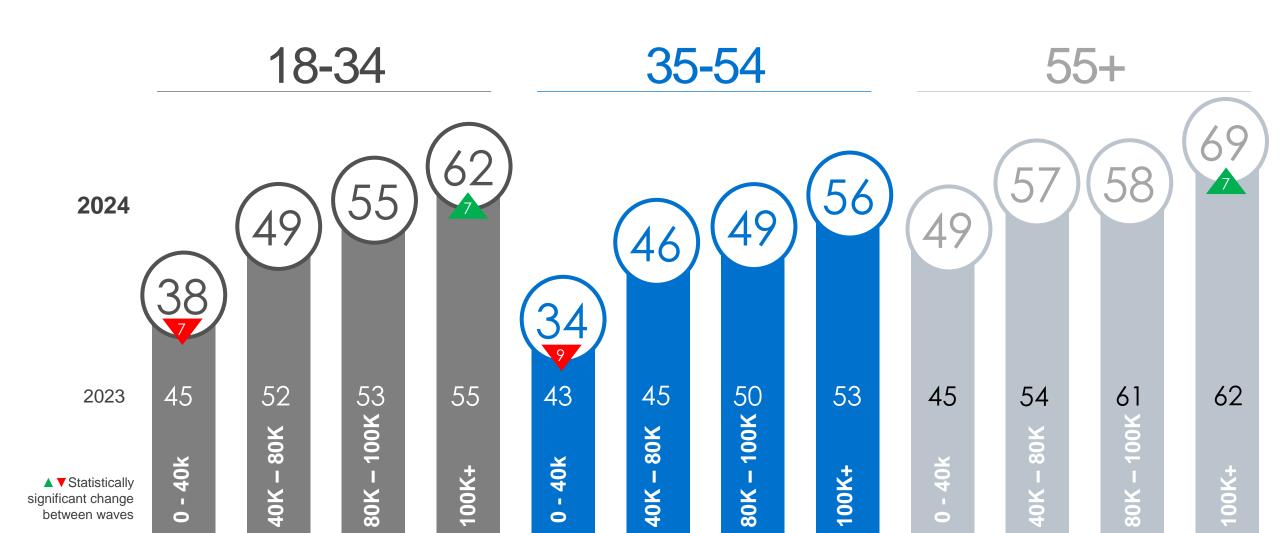






^{*}Region-level index not available prior to 2021





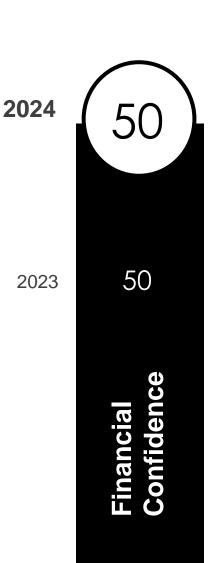
Canadians' trust in the economy remains fragile, though recession fears ease.





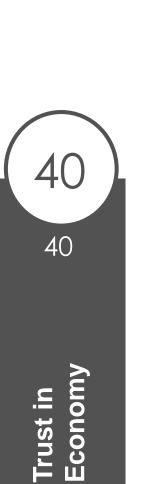
4 PILLARS OF FINANCIAL CONFIDENCE INDEX

'Trust in the Economy' remains the weakest pillar in 2024, on which Canadians still don't have much control.







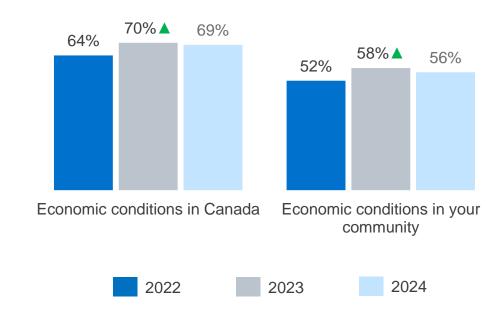




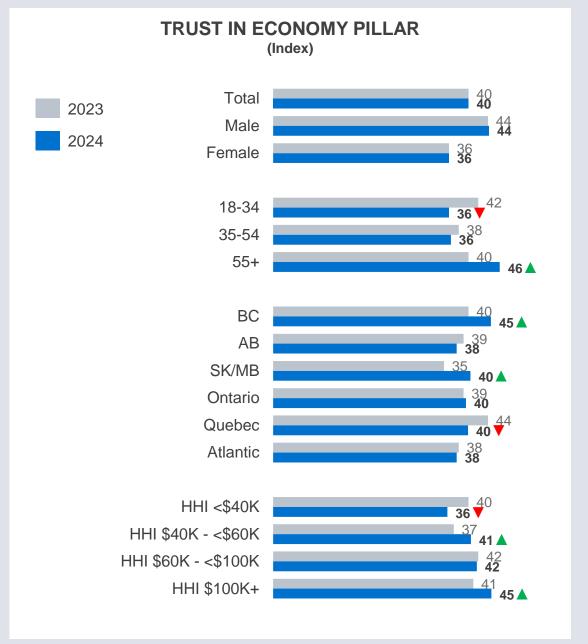
Economic conditions remain poor, according to most Canadians.

TRUST IN ECONOMY

(% Very Poor/Poor)



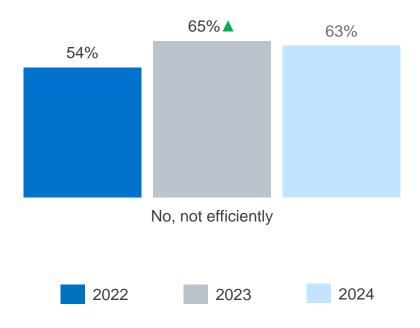
While trust in the economy is stable nationally, it is trending downward in Quebec and among younger and lower income Canadians.



Canadians still feel that financial authorities don't have the situation under control.

MANAGEMENT OF THE ECONOMY BY THE CANADIAN GOVERNMENT AND FINANCIAL AUTHORITIES

(% Not very/Not at all efficiently)



While Canadians remain on their toes, fear of a recession is easing up.

RECESSION IN CANADA

2022

2023

2024

49%

vs 60%▲

vs 55%

Believe that Canada is currently in a recession

54%

vs 68%

vs 68%

Believe that Canada is heading into a recession in 2025

personal financial situation?

36%

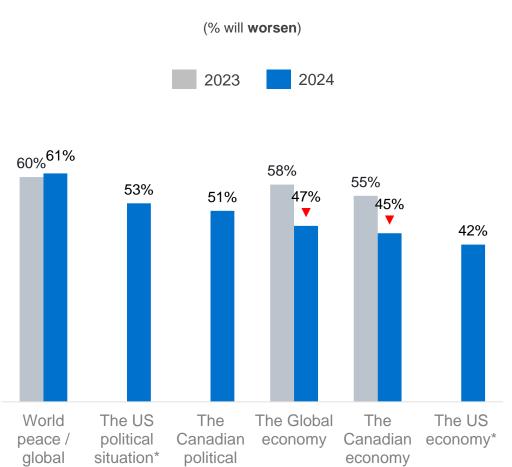
vs 44%▲

vs 38%

Believe the recession would have an impact on their own personal financial situation

And a shrinking number of Canadians expect the Global and Canadian economy to further worsen in 2025.





situation*

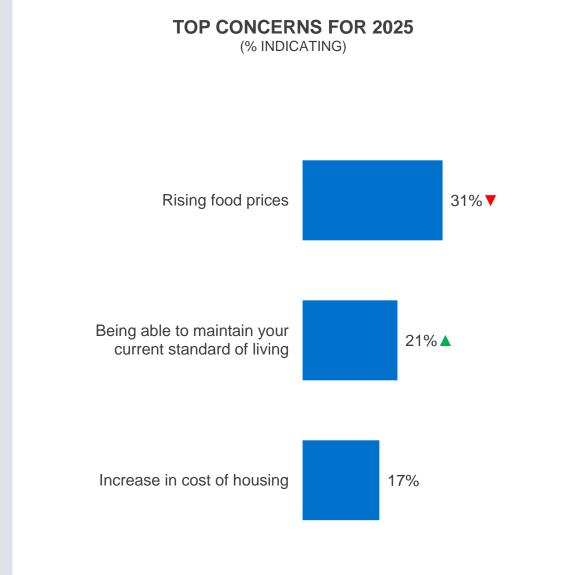
stability

Navigating economic pressures:

Canadians continue cutting back on nonessentials but remain hopeful for stabilizing inflation.

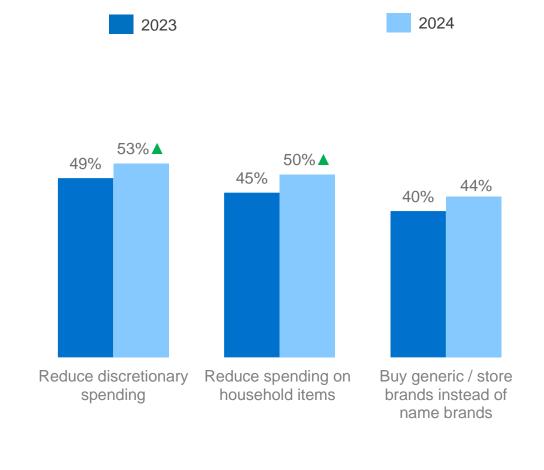


Concerns have shifted from rising food prices to the ability of maintaining current standard of living.



As a result, more Canadians have reduced non-essential expenses, including household items and brands.

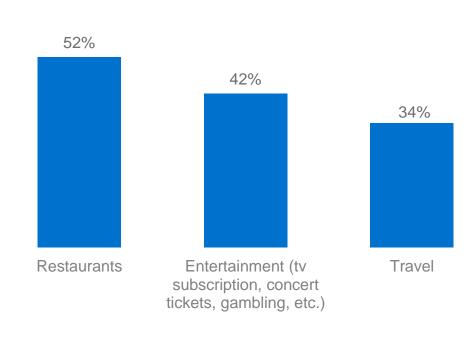




Canadians intend to reduce discretionary spending, reflecting a cautious approach amid economic uncertainties.

EXPECTED SPEND CHANGE ON SPENDING ITEMS OVER THE NEXT YEAR

(% Less)



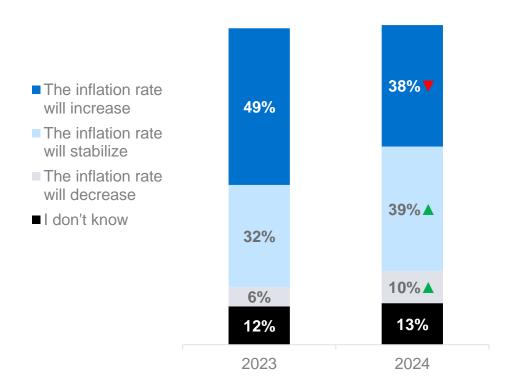
NEW IN 2024

CONTEXTUAL QUESTION

HF18B. Over the next year, do you plan on spending more, the same or less on the following items?

On the other hand, there is growing optimism about inflation, with more believing it will stabilize or decrease in the next year.

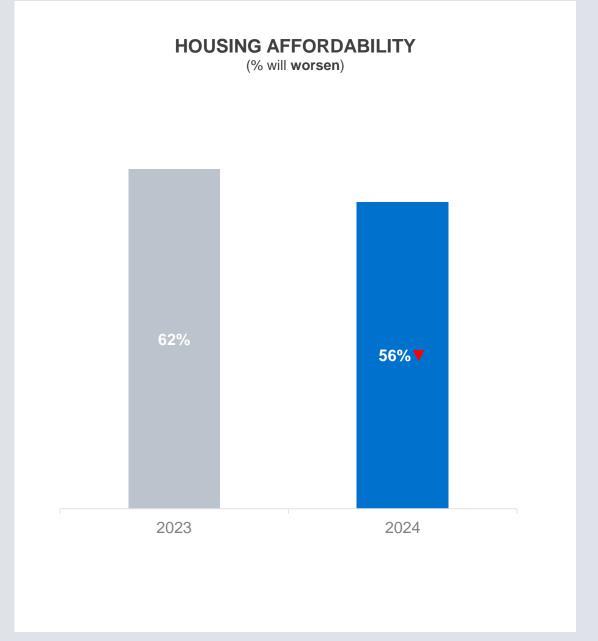
INFLATION OUTLOOK IN 2025



While the housing market remains tough, especially for renters, there are signs of optimism amid softening rates.

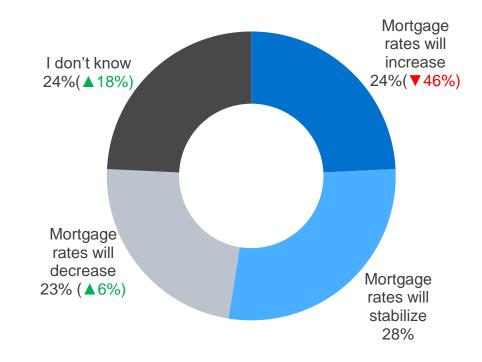


A shrinking majority of Canadians believe that housing affordability will worsen in 2025.



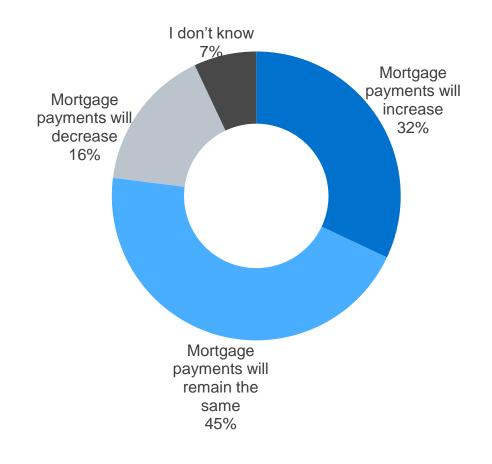
The perception of mortgage rates fluctuations in 2025 suggests growing confusion, which may lead to inertia in home buyers.

PERCEPTION OF MORTGAGE RATES EVOLUTION



Despite this uncertainty, a significant share of owners expect their mortgage payments to remain steady in 2025.

EXPECTED CHANGE IN MORTGAGE PAYMENTS AMONG OWNERS



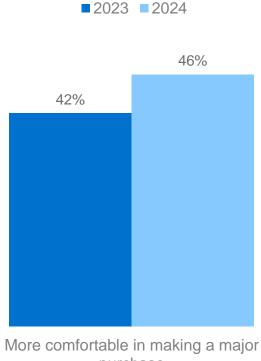
NEW IN 2024

CONTEXTUAL QUESTION

Canadians are gaining confidence in making a major purchase.

CONFIDENCE IN MAKING A MAJOR PURCHASE (CAR, **HOME) COMPARED TO A YEAR AGO**

(% Somewhat/Much more comfortable)



purchase



However, results show a great disparity between owners and renters, the latter being much less comfortable in making a major purchase.

CONFIDENCE IN MAKING A MAJOR PURCHASE (CAR, HOME) COMPARED TO A YEAR AGO

(% Somewhat/Much more comfortable)

54%

38%

Owners

Are more comfortable making a major purchase than a year ago

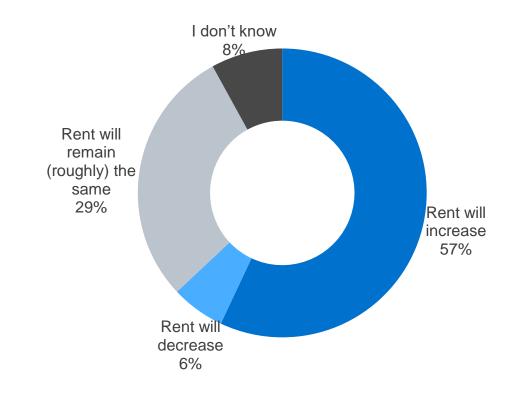
Renters

Are more comfortable making a major purchase than a year ago



Most renters expect their rent to increase over the next year.

EXPECTED CHANGE IN RENT AMONG RENTERS



NEW IN 2024

CONTEXTUAL QUESTION

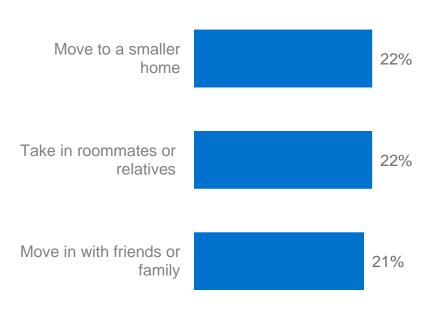
As a result, 4 renters out of 10 are expecting to downsize or share living spaces with others.

EXPECTED CHANGES IN LIVING SITUATION AMONG RENTERS

(% Very/Somewhat Likely)

37%

of renters are likely to make changes to their living situation



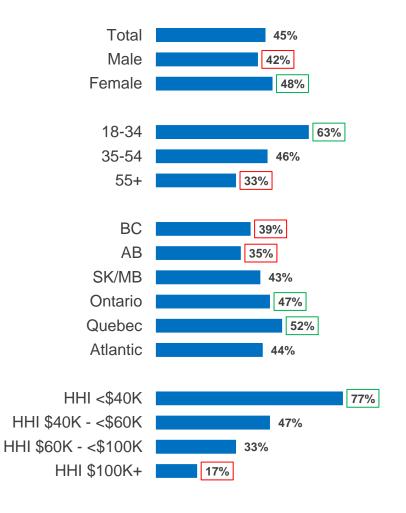
NEW IN 2024

CONTEXTUAL QUESTION

HF26F. Over the next 12 months, how likely are you to make the following changes to your living situation?

Renters are overrepresented among younger, lower income households, and in Eastern Canada.

% OF RENTERS



Quebec, with a higher share of renters than the national average, is taking a bigger hit.

HOUSING AFFORDABILITY

(% indicating)

Canada



23%

vs 17%

Consider increase in cost of housing to be their biggest concern for 2025

75%

vs 57%

Of **renters** expect their rent to increase over the next year

Uncertain job market: Canadians face insecurities related to job stability.



Canadians express concerns about the job market and job security, highlighting uncertainties for 2025.

JOB MARKET OUTLOOK FOR 2025

(% indicating)

38% 30%

Believe the job market will worsen in 2025

Are concerned about the possibility of losing job or facing reduced working hours in next 12 months

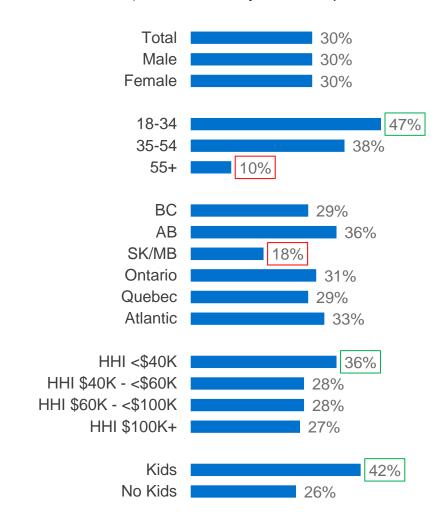
NEW IN 2024

CONTEXTUAL QUESTION

Job security worries are higher among younger Canadians, lower-income individuals and families.



(% Somewhat/Very Concerned)



NEW IN 2024

CONTEXTUAL QUESTION

Partnering with a financial professional empowers Canadians with greater confidence towards their financial future.

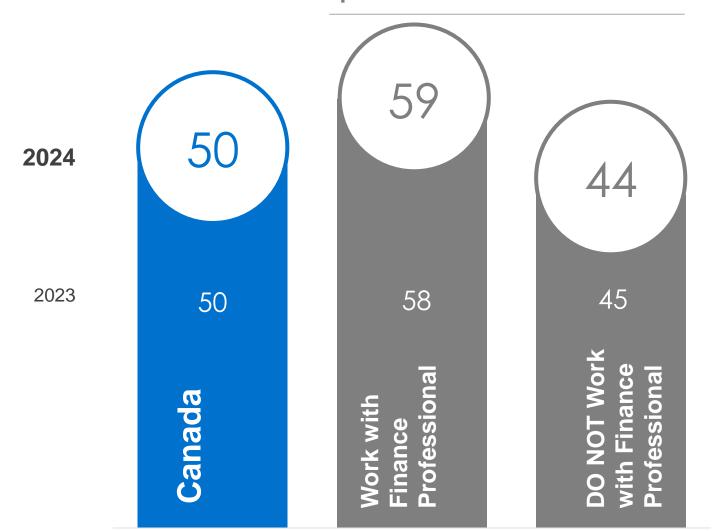




FINANCIAL CONFIDENCE INDEX

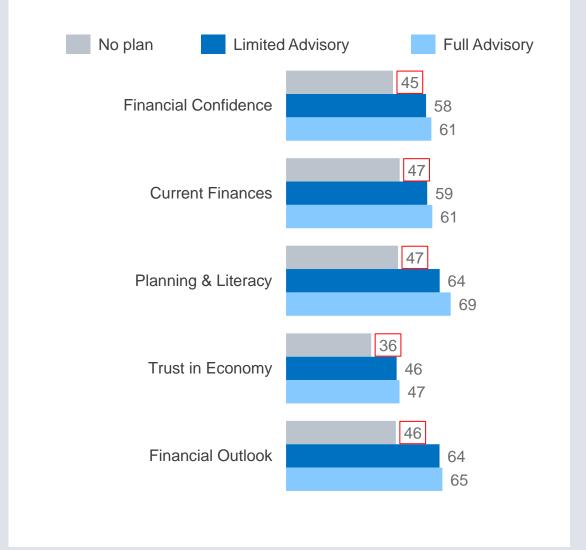
Exposure to Financial Advice

Working with a financial professional continues to drive financial confidence.



Receiving financial advice strongly enhances confidence in all financial pillars.

CONFIDENCE INDEX AND THE 4 PILLARS



Less than half of Canadians have consulted a professional for financial advice.

DEGREE OF FINANCIAL ADVISORY

No Advice

Limited **Advisory**

Full **Advisory**

57% 32% 11%

Never consulted a financial planner

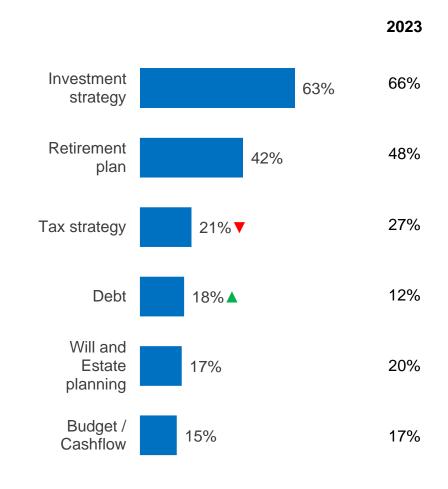
Consulted a financial planner on

1 or 2 financial topics

3 or more financial topics Investment strategy and retirement remain the main areas where Canadians seek professional advice.

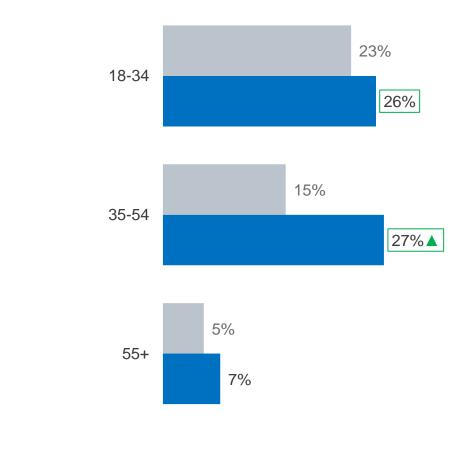
Debt is becoming more important.

AREAS OF PROFESSIONAL FINANCIAL ADVICE

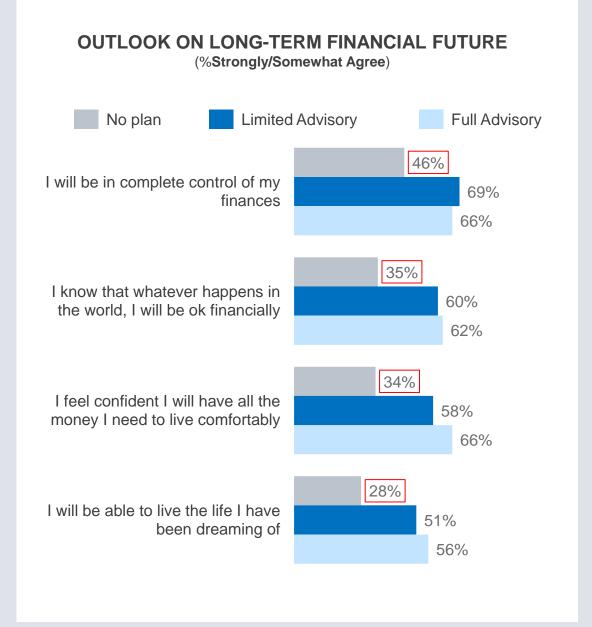


Debt is becoming an even more important topic for Canadians under 55.

AREAS OF PROFESSIONAL FINANCIAL ADVICE



Financial advice is also linked to better confidence in their own long-term financial future.

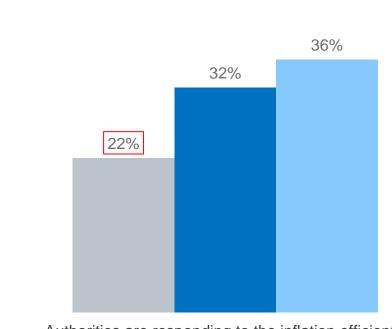


Canadians with a financial plan also exhibit a higher level of confidence in the authorities to manage the economy.

PERCEPTION OF THE WAY CANADIAN GOV AND AUTHORITIES ARE MANAGING THE ECONOMY (% Very/Somewhat Efficiently)

Limited Advisory

No plan



*Reworded in 2024

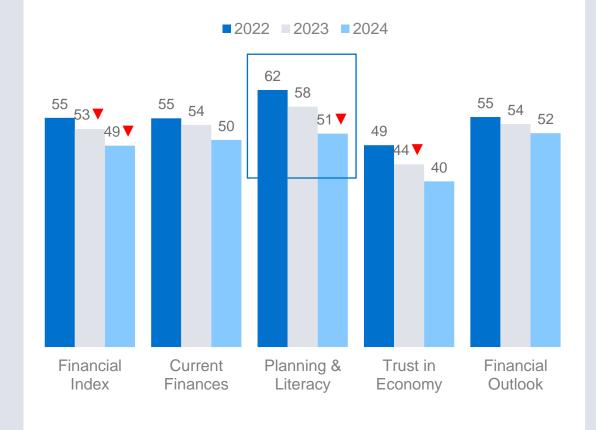
Full Advisory

A need for more financial advice in Quebec?

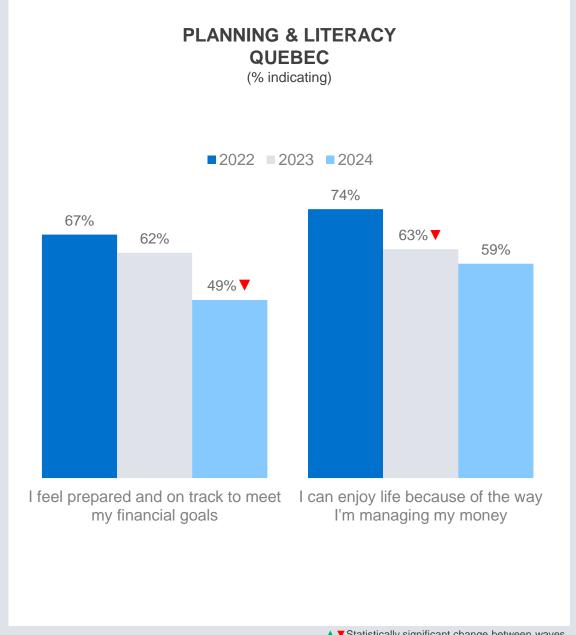


Confidence index scores show a decline on the 'Planning & Literacy' pillar in Quebec, suggesting a gap in financial education and support.

CONFIDENCE INDEX AND THE 4 PILLARS QUEBEC

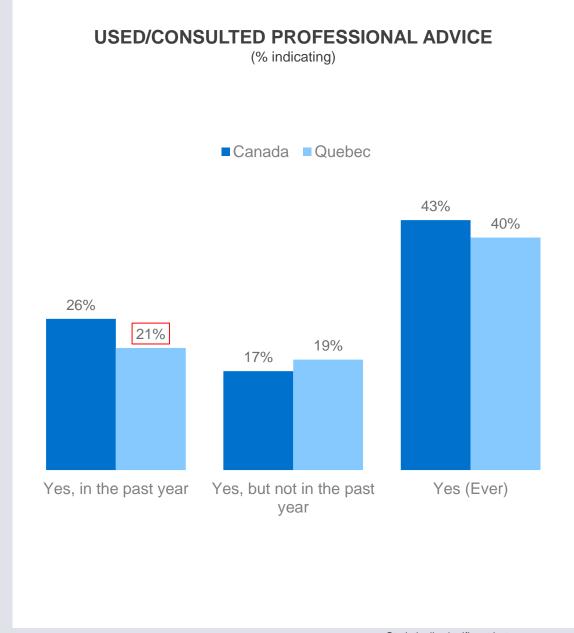


Quebecers are feeling less prepared to meet their financial goals than in the past years.





Fewer Quebecers have met with a financial advisor recently, compared to the national average.



Quebec is also lagging on breadth of financial advice received, relative to the national average.

DEGREE OF FINANCIAL ADVISORY QUEBEC

Canada



No Advice

Limited **Advisory**

Full **Advisory**

59% 34%

vs 57%

vs 32%

vs 11%

Never consulted a financial planner

Consulted a financial planner on

1 or 2 financial topics

3 or more financial topics

Western Promises:

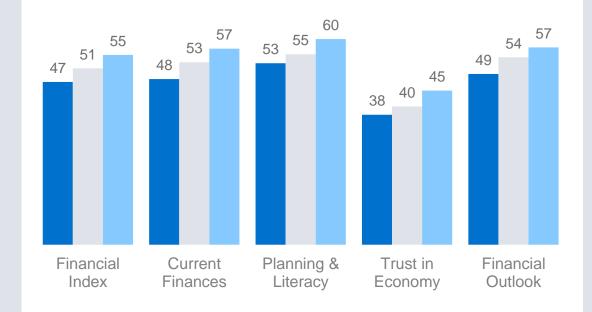
Did the election build high hopes in British Columbia?



In BC, all 4 pillars of the Financial Confidence Index are trending upwards*.

CONFIDENCE INDEX AND THE 4 PILLARS BRITISH COLUMBIA





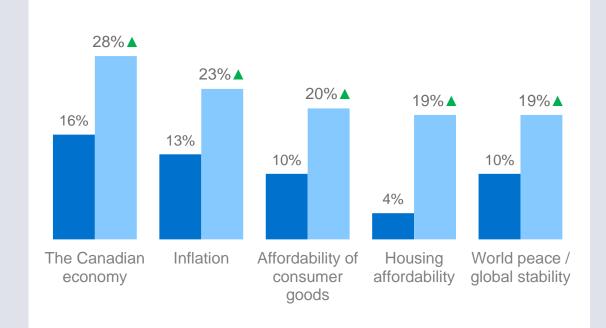
^{*} Directional trend – within margin of error

Results suggest a rise in optimism, including on housing affordability, which has been at the forefront of the 2024 campaign.

ECONOMIC OUTLOOK FOR 2025 BRITISH COLUMBIA

(% Will improve significantly/somewhat)

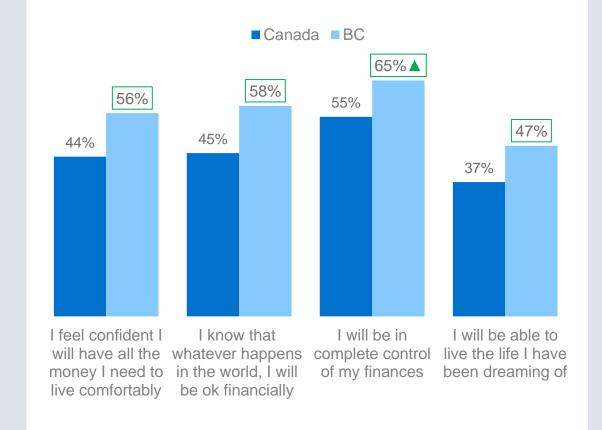




British Columbians also exhibit stronger long-term confidence, relative to the national average.

CONFIDENCE IN LONG-TERM FINANCIAL FUTURE BRITISH COLUMBIA

(% Strongly/Somewhat agree)



Their confidence could be linked to a more proactive financial approach.

FINANCIAL MANAGEMENT **BRITISH COLUMBIA**

Canada

BC

51%

vs 43%

Have used/consulted financial advice (Ever)

92%

vs 86%

Review their accounts regularly

Indigenous Canadians face ongoing financial challenges, weakening their economic optimism.

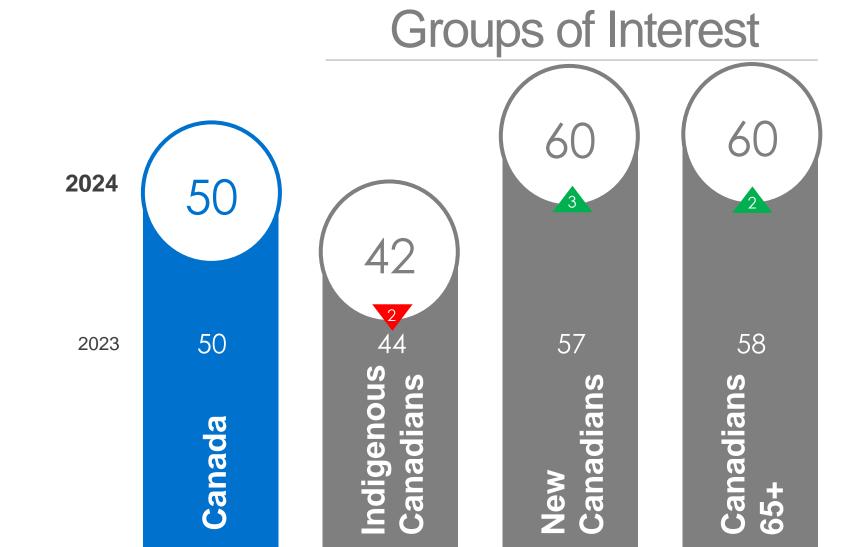




FINANCIAL CONFIDENCE INDEX

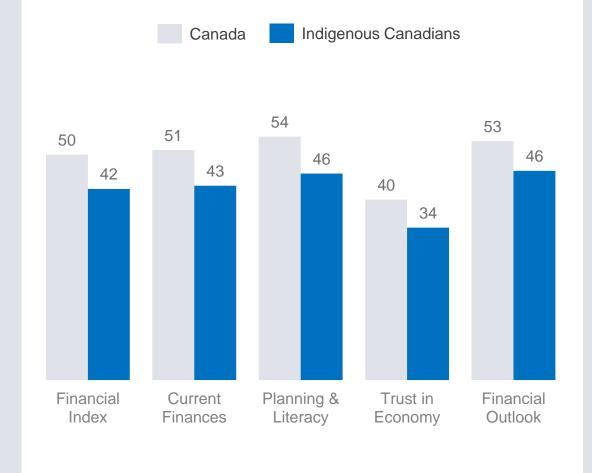
Indigenous Canadians continue to face more economic challenges relative to the overall population.

New Canadians continue to maintain a more positive outlook than other Canadians, with a growing confidence compared to last year.

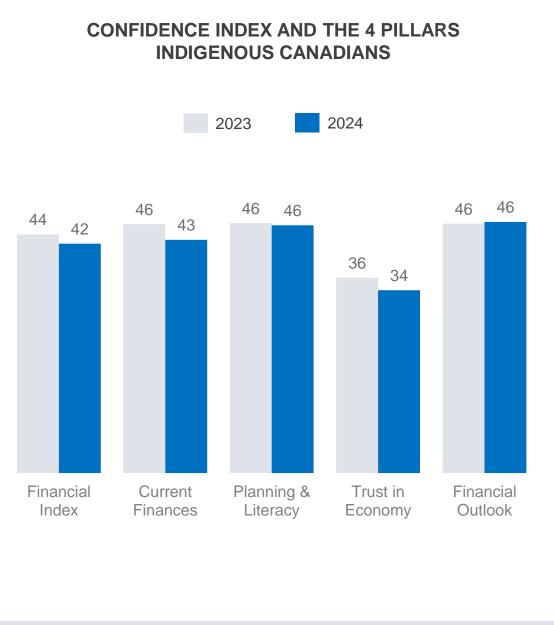


Indigenous Canadians score below the national average across all four financial pillars.

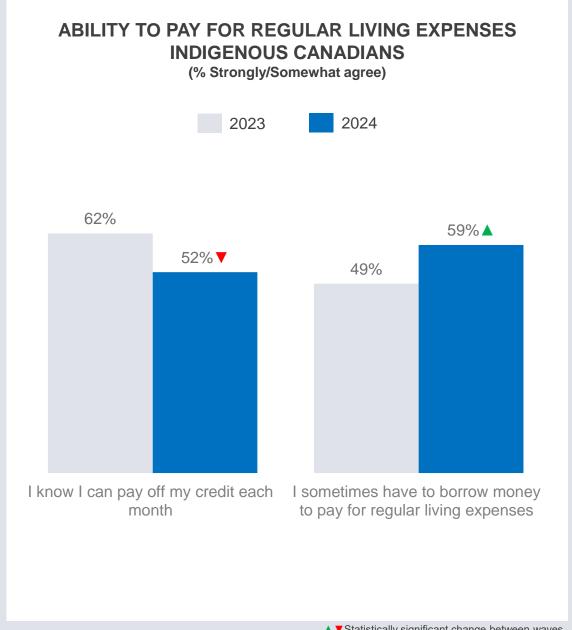
CONFIDENCE INDEX AND THE 4 PILLARS



And the confidence is not showing signs of improvement among Indigenous Canadians.

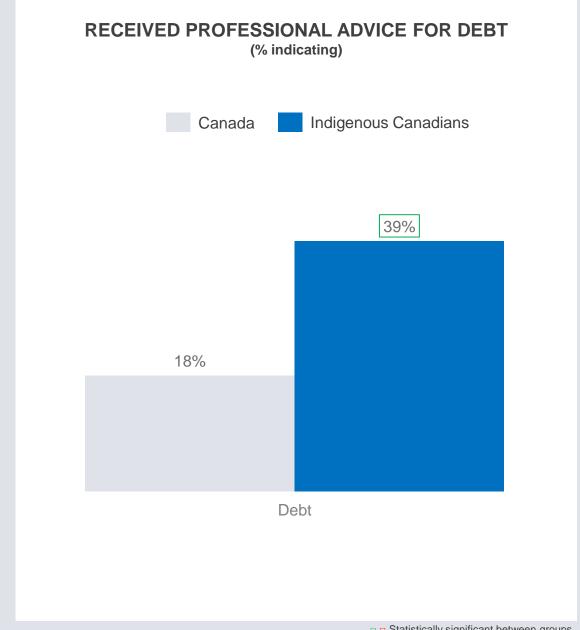


Financial strains among Indigenous Canadians continue to grow, leading to increased reliance on debt to pay living expenses.

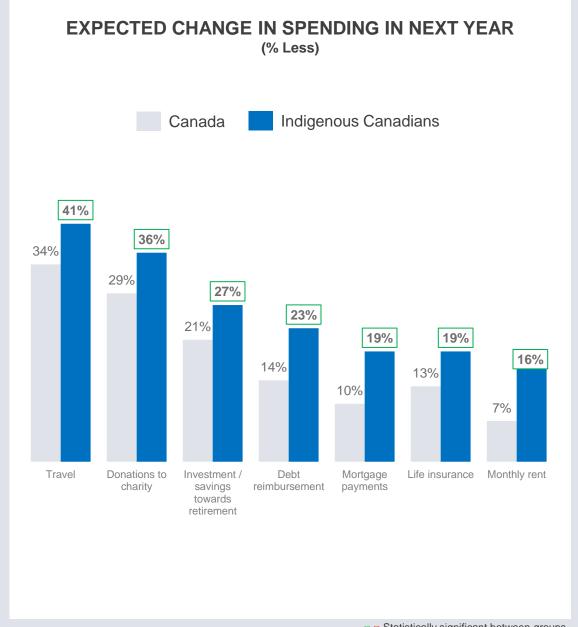




As a result, Indigenous Canadians are seeking professional advice on debt management twice as much as the Canadian population.



In response to rising living costs, Indigenous Canadians reflect a more cautious financial strategy than the population by reducing spending across various categories.

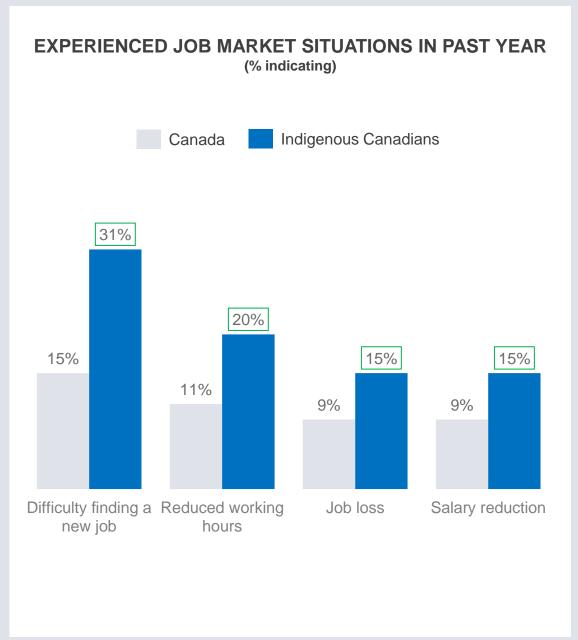


Indigenous Canadians

face greater job market challenges than the Canadian population, experiencing higher rates of employment instability.



CONTEXTUAL QUESTION



Therefore, the Indigenous Canadians express greater pessimism about the job market and job stability situation in 2025.

JOB MARKET OUTLOOK FOR 2025

(% indicating)

53%

39%

vs 38%

vs 30%

Believe the job market will worsen in 2025

Are concerned about the possibility of losing job or facing reduced working hours in next 12 months





Indigenous Canadians

NEW IN 2024

CONTEXTUAL QUESTION

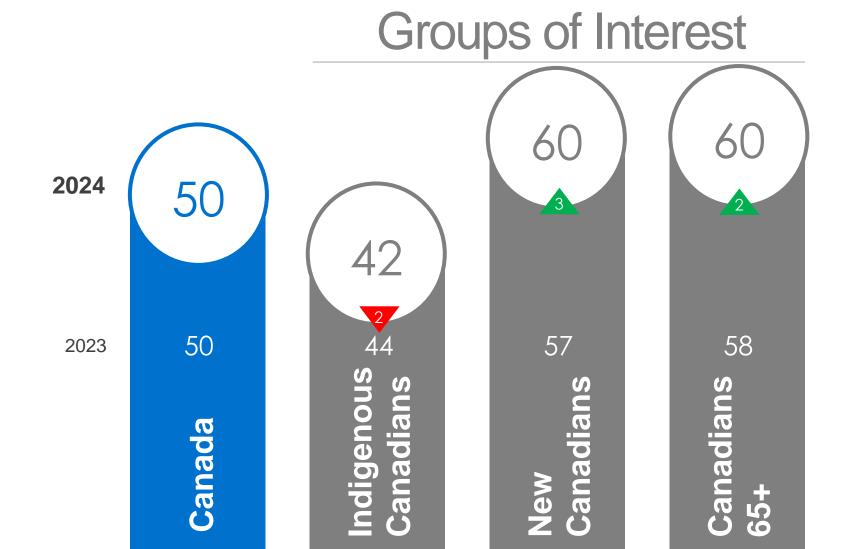
New Canadians remain optimistic, with rising confidence in their financial future.





FINANCIAL CONFIDENCE INDEX

New Canadians continue to maintain a more positive outlook than other Canadians, with a growing confidence compared to last year.

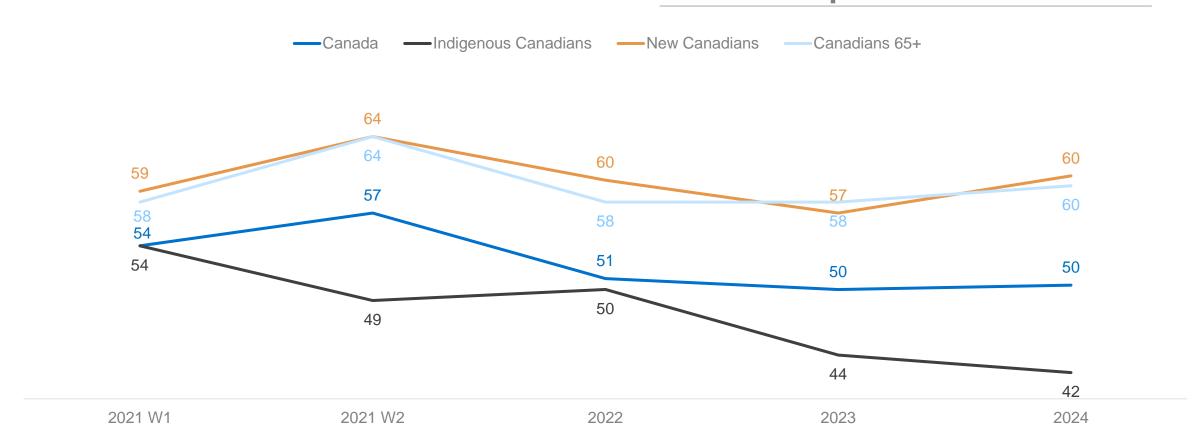




FINANCIAL CONFIDENCE INDEX

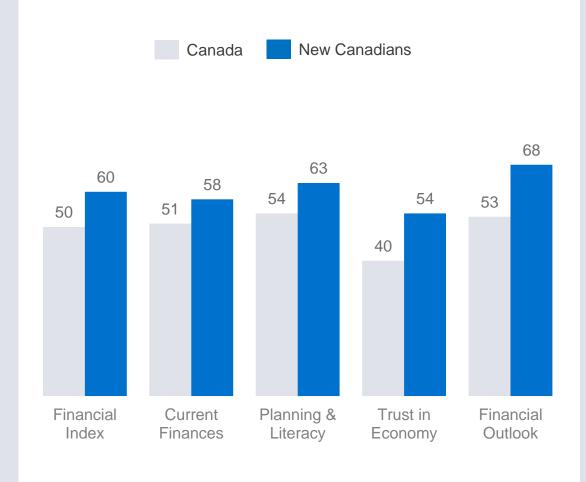


Groups of Interest



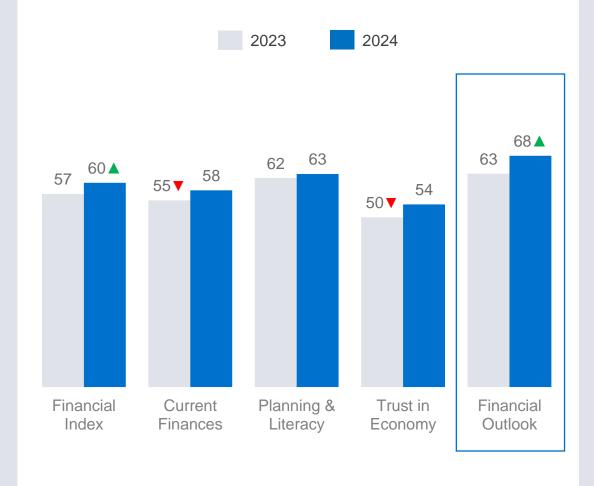
New Canadians continue to exhibit greater confidence compared to the overall population.

CONFIDENCE INDEX AND THE 4 PILLARS



And this growing confidence is driven by an improved financial outlook.

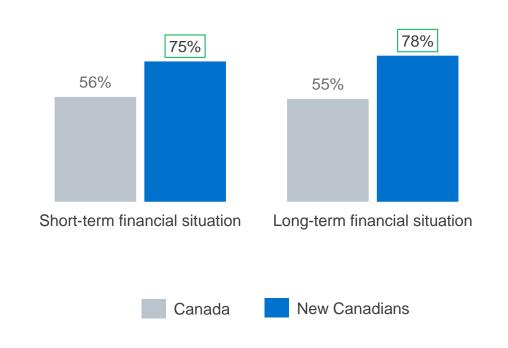
CONFIDENCE INDEX AND THE 4 PILLARS NEW CANADIANS



Both the short-term and long-term financial situation hold a positive outlook in the eyes of New Canadians.

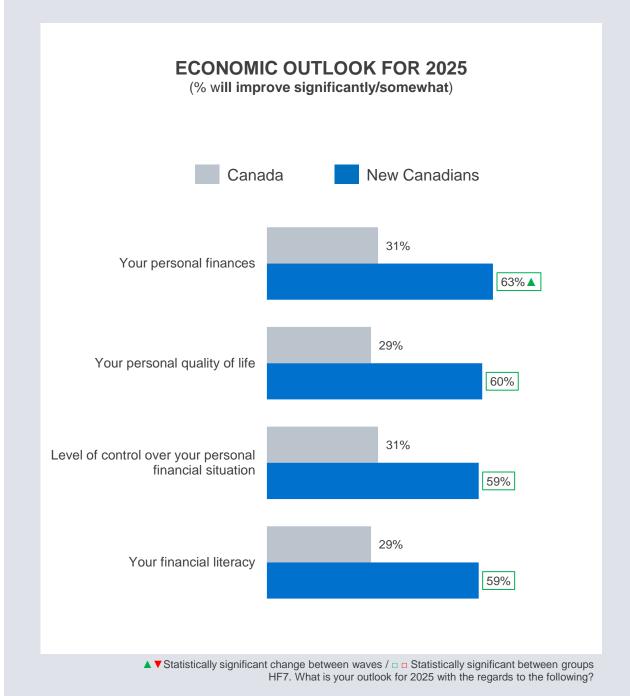
FINANCIAL OUTLOOK – CONFIDENCE IN FINANCIAL SITUATION

(% Very/Somewhat High)





New Canadians are particularly optimistic about their personal financial health compared to the broader Canadian population.



2024 brings stability back to Canadians, after a rocky couple of years.

Canadians' trust in the economy remains fragile, though recession fears ease.

Navigating economic pressures: Canadians continue cutting back on non-essentials but remain hopeful for stabilizing inflation.



While the housing market remains tough, especially for renters, there is growing optimism amid softening rates.

Uncertain job market: Canadians face insecurities related to job stability.

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Partnering with a financial professional empowers Canadians with greater confidence towards their financial future.

Distinct community trends: Indigenous face persistent financial challenges, while New Canadians' optimism increases.

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