

The Governance Monitor

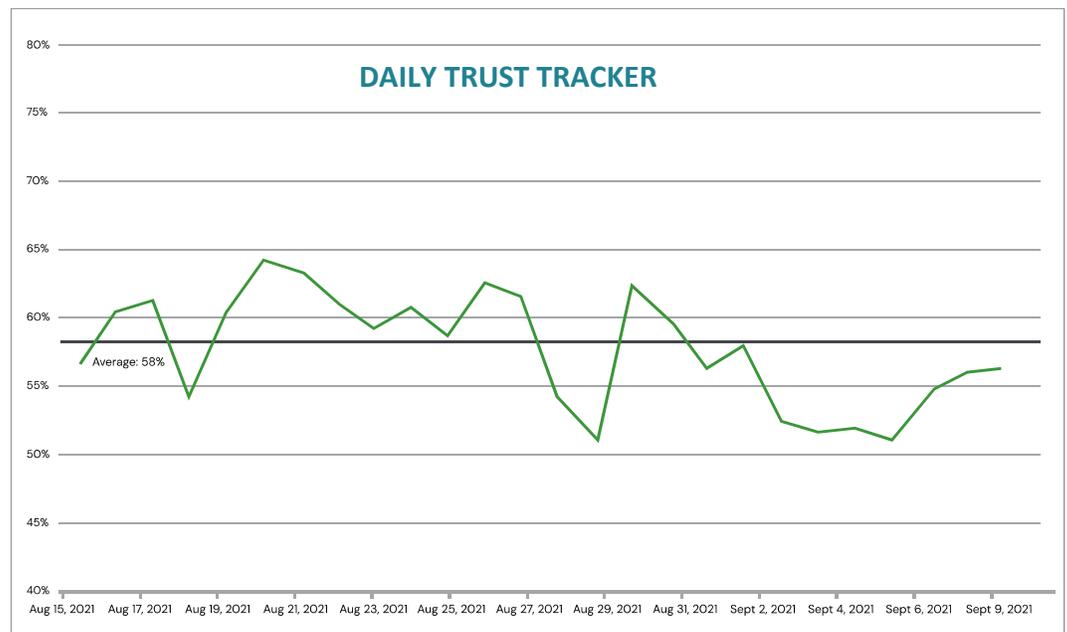
The Governance Monitor tracks the impact of the election campaign on Canadians' trust in government.

The Governance Monitor focuses on what the Organisation for Economic Co-operation and Development has identified as “strong predictors of public trust”: responsiveness, reliability, integrity, openness, and fairness.

DATA TRENDS

- Our Daily Trust Tracker shows an increase in trust in government since Labour Day. On September 9, trust in government was at 56 per cent up from 51 per cent on September 6.

- Since the start of Election 2021 on August 15, trust in government's ability to get the job done has averaged 58 per cent, the same level as seen during the 2019 federal election.

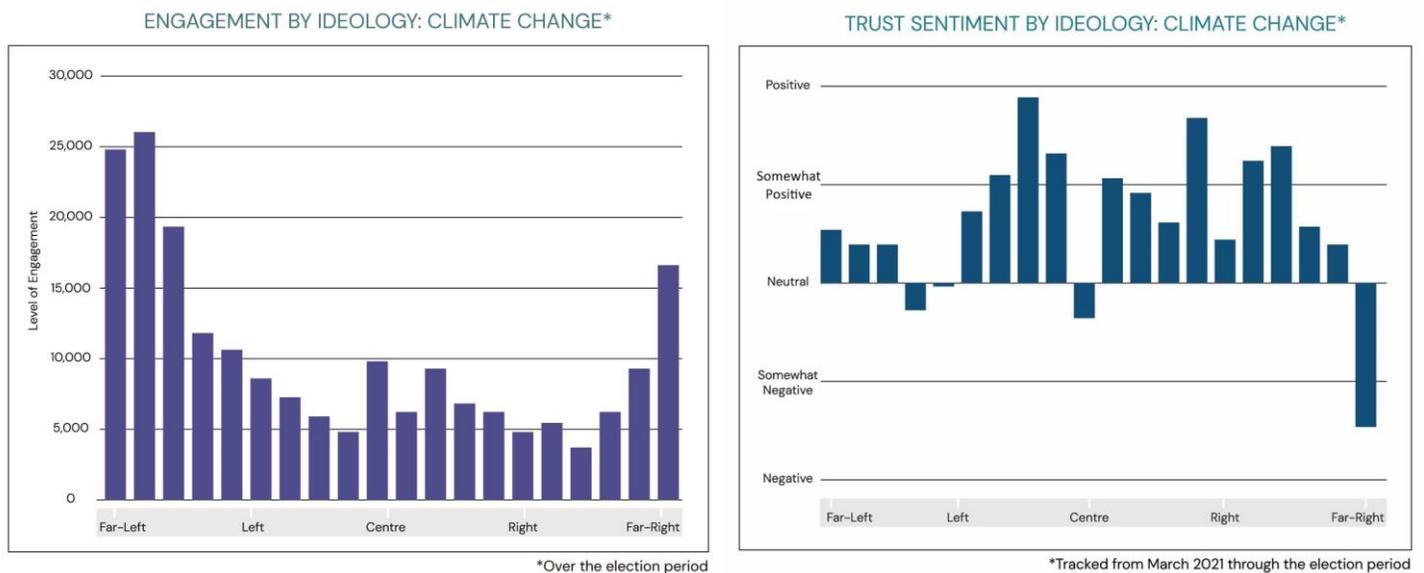


- The IOG/ASI Governance Monitor tracks social media activity across five ideological cohorts (far left, left, centre, right, far right). Social media engagement is highest at the far ends of the ideological spectrum.
- Since August 15, social media engagement on the issue of climate change has been high.
- Eighty per cent of Canadians show positive trust in government's ability to tackle climate change.
- When considering government's role in most policy areas, including climate change, the far right exhibits the lowest level of trust and is consistently negative.

WHAT IT MEANS

Even though most Canadians show positive trust in government's ability to tackle climate change, the level is moderate and is most positive in the centre-left and centre-right ideological cohorts.

While still positive, trust in government is weaker for the left and right cohorts - but for different reasons. The left has less trust that government will deliver on climate change commitments. The right worries about the economic impact of government action on climate change. The 5 per cent on the far right is the most negative and questions the very premise and motives for governments to address climate change.

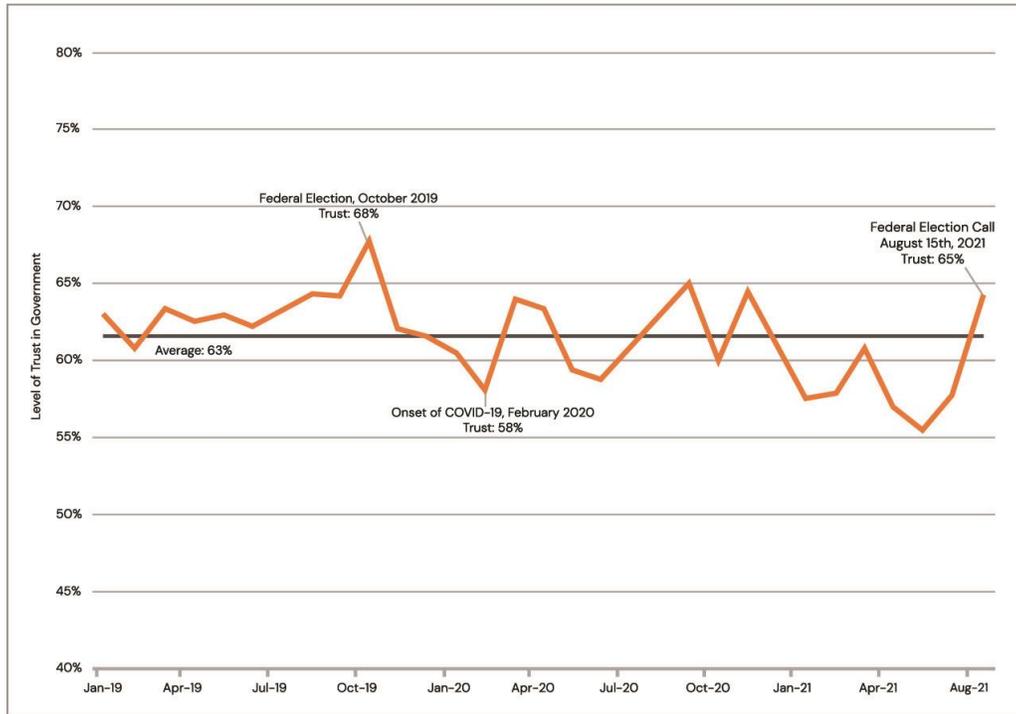


WHY IT MATTERS

For climate change, the overall level of trust in government is important if a new government is to effectively meet its objectives. A new government will need to understand the impact of its actions on trust across all ideological cohorts so that it can influence behaviours that will lead to its desired policy outcomes (reducing fossil fuel use, choosing greener alternatives, or accepting increased carbon taxation).

It is important to note that the five per cent on the far right remain distinctly and consistently negative regarding trust in government action on climate change. A new government will need to remember that this fringe is unique and not exaggerate its influence on public discourse across the ideological cohorts. Tailoring policies to satisfy this extreme will accelerate further declines of trust among the majority, undermine policy objectives, and – if there is a minority Parliament – potentially trigger another election.

CANADIANS' TRUST IN GOVERNMENT (2019-2021)



PROJECT OVERVIEW

The Governance Monitor looks beyond the electoral horse race to produce informed insights and expert analysis on how #Elxn44 is affecting Canadians' faith and trust in our government and its institutions.

FOR FURTHER INFORMATION

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Very
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