

Marriage Questionnaire

Marriage

[T – PEW] QM1. Changing topics now, which of the following is closer to your own view, even if neither is exactly right?

[ROTATE]

Society is better off if people make marriage and having children a priority

Society is just as well off if people have other priorities other than marriage and children

[T – PEW/GALLUP] QM2. When two people plan to spend the rest of their lives together, how important is it to you that they legally marry (that is, exchange vows in a public ceremony, whether civil or religious)?

Very important

Somewhat important

Not that important

Not at all important

[T – PEW/GALLUP] QM3. And, when an unmarried man and woman have a child together, how important is it to you that they legally marry (again, meaning exchange vows in a public ceremony, whether civil or religious)?

Very important

Somewhat important

Not that important

Not at all important

QM4. Canada's federal tax code treats legally married couples and common-law partners in the same way. Whether a couple is legally married or not, if they have lived together for a fixed period of time (which varies by province), they can share certain tax credits and deductions. What are your views on this? Would you say:

[ROTATE]

Couples who legally marry should get extra tax benefits not available to those in common-law relationships

Couples who legally marry should NOT get extra tax benefits

QM5. In British Columbia, common-law spouses can legally claim half of their partners' assets after a relationship ends. In other provinces, common-law spouses do not have this right (note, this is in absence of any other individual contracts that may have been signed, such as a prenuptial agreement). Regardless of the province in which you yourself live, would you say:

[ROTATE]

Common-law relationships should be treated the same as marriage when it comes to assets – when the relationship ends, assets should be divided equally

Common-law relationships should NOT be treated the same as marriage when it comes to assets – when the relationship ends, assets should NOT be divided equally

QM6. Do you agree or disagree with each of the following statements?

[ROWS – RANDOMIZE]

Children whose parents are not legally married won't be as well-adjusted than those whose parents are married

Marriage is simply not necessary

Couples should live together before getting married

Marriage is as relevant today as it's ever been

Marriage is a more genuine form of commitment than a common-law relationship

More people would get married if weddings weren't so expensive and stressful

A religious wedding ceremony is more legitimate than a civil wedding ceremony

[COLUMNS]

Disagree strongly

Disagree moderately

Agree moderately

Agree strongly

Don't know/can't say

QM7. Have you ever been married (that is, exchanged vows in a public ceremony, whether civil or religious)?

Currently married

Have been married but currently divorced/separated

Have been married but have been widowed

Never married

[ASK THOSE WHO HAVE BEEN MARRIED]

QM8. You indicated that you are currently married or have been in the past. Did your marriage take place in a religious or civil ceremony? (Note: If you have been married more than once, please respond based on your most recent marriage.)

Religious ceremony

Civil ceremony

[ASK ALL WHO ARE NOT CURRENTLY MARRIED]

QM9. You indicated that you are not currently married. Are you currently in a common-law relationship (that is, you live with a romantic partner and have done so for at least a year)?

Yes, currently in a common-law relationship
No, not currently in a common-law relationship

[ASK ONLY THOSE WHO HAVE NEVER BEEN MARRIED]
[T – PEW] QM10. Thinking about the future, would you say you ...

Want to get married someday
Do NOT want to get married
Are not sure if you want to get married

[ASK THOSE WHO SAY THEY WANT TO GET MARRIED OR ARE UNSURE AT QM10]
[T – PEW] QM11. Here are some things people have mentioned as reasons why they are not currently married. For each of the following, please indicate whether it is a major reason, a minor reason, or not a reason why you are not currently married.

[ROWS – RANDOMIZE]
I'm not ready to settle down
I'm not financially stable
I haven't found the right person
I don't fully believe in the idea of marriage

[COLUMNS]
Not a reason
Minor Reason
Major reason