

[Text] Today's survey is about some aspects of healthcare. Just a quick reminder that your responses are anonymous and only ever looked at in aggregate. Thanks for your time today. Let's get started.

Q1.

Base=All

Single choice

Do you have a family doctor?

Yes

No

Q2.

Base=Have family doctor

Single choice

If a health issue comes up, how easy or difficult is it to get an appointment to see your family doctor (other than booking ahead for an annual check-up or something similar)?

Easy — I can get in within a day or two

Usually have to wait at least a few days but could be sooner if I need to

Difficult — usually takes at least a week or more to get an appointment

Q3.

Base=All

Single choice

Have you ever worked in the healthcare industry, either currently or in the past?

Yes, currently

Yes, in the past

No

Prefer not to say

Q4.

Base=All

Single choice

How much do you feel you know about the laws, policies and ongoing debates, surrounding Medical Assistance in Dying (MAID) in Canada?

A great deal

A fair amount

Just a little

Nothing at all

Not sure / Can't say

[TEXT]

As you may know, Canada passed legislation in 2016 allowing adults to request medical assistance in dying. Most often this means a doctor or nurse practitioner administers drugs that cause death (the most common method), or the person self-administers drugs prescribed by a clinician. MAID takes place in a hospital, hospice, long-term care facility, or in the person's own home.

Q5.

Base=All

Single choice

To be eligible at that time in 2016, a Canadian adult had to:

- be capable of making decisions about their own health
- have a medical condition where death was reasonably foreseeable
- not be pressured by anyone else into asking for MAID
- give consent only after being informed of all other options available

Thinking about the legislation that was passed in 2016, under the criteria outlined above, would you say you support or oppose it?

Strongly support

Support

Oppose

Strongly oppose

Not sure / Can't say

[TEXT]

In 2021, Canada's MAID laws changed. The biggest difference was that MAID became available to people with a serious, incurable illness or disability whose death is NOT reasonably foreseeable. Some refer to this as "Track 2". People seeking MAID under this track would now need to wait at least 90 days (with exceptions if they lose the ability to consent) before they can receive it and must be assessed by two doctors.

Q6.

Base=All

Single choice

Two competing perspectives are central to the Track 2 debate. We'd like to know how you feel about these:

ROTATE ARGUMENTS

Personal Autonomy/Courts Perspective:

Denying a suffering person access to MAID solely because their natural death is not imminent is an overreach. The lower courts have signalled that this restriction is unconstitutional, and individuals, not the government, should decide when their suffering is unbearable.

Disability Rights Perspective:

Major Canadian disability-rights organizations have criticized Track 2 MAID, arguing that it makes people with disabilities eligible for assisted dying in a society that has not adequately funded the economic, health, and social supports needed for people with disabilities to ensure quality of life and independent living.

Which view comes closer to your own?

Closer to the autonomy and courts perspective

Closer to the disability advocates perspective

Both have real merit

Neither

Not sure/Can't say

Q7.

Base=All

Single choice

Thinking about this updated legislation that was passed in 2021, would you say you support or oppose it?

Strongly support

Support

Oppose

Strongly oppose

Not sure / Can't say

Q8.

Base=All

Single choice

Please indicate your level of agreement with the following statement:

Before MAID is offered to a person with a disability, the government should be required to demonstrate that adequate housing, income supports, and disability-related care are available to that person.

Strongly agree

Agree

Disagree

Strongly disagree

Not sure / Can't say

Q9.

Base=All

Single choice

MAID is currently NOT available where mental illness is the sole underlying condition. Parliament has scheduled this expansion to take effect in March 2027, though the federal government is awaiting a committee report before deciding whether to continue with this plan.

Before this survey, were you aware of the planned 2027 expansion to mental illness?

Yes

No

Not sure/Can't say

Q10.

Base=All

Single choice

There are debates about this expansion as well. We'd like to get your views on this. Please read each argument below:

Argument 1: People with severe, treatment-resistant mental illness can suffer just as profoundly as people with physical illness. Excluding them is discriminatory. Autonomy applies to the mind as well as the body, and a long-suffering patient should not be forced to keep living because their illness is psychiatric.

Argument 2: Many mental health conditions can improve over time with treatment. Plus, many people with mental health conditions may lack the ability to make informed decisions about MAID. The emphasis in mental health should be about preventing suicide. If this law passes people will simply doctor shop to find Physicians who promote MAID.

Which view comes closer to your own?

Closer to Argument 1 – supporting expansion

Closer to Argument 2 – opposing expansion

Both have real merit

Neither

Unsure

Q11.

Base=All

Single choice

Putting this another way. Opening access to MAID for individuals whose sole condition is mental illness, how do you feel about this? Would you say you support or oppose it?

Strongly support

Support

Oppose

Strongly oppose

Not sure / Can't say

Q12.

Base=All

Single choice

Some have recommended that MAID be extended to “mature minors”, i.e. people younger than 18 who are deemed capable of consent and have a terminal disease or illness. Do you support or oppose extending MAID to include teenagers under 18?

- Strongly support
- Support
- Oppose
- Strongly oppose
- Not sure / Can't say

Q13.

Base=All

Single choice

Though currently not allowed under federal law, in Quebec since 2024 a person may request MAID in advance, while they still have capacity to make decisions. This is called an “advance request” and it is fulfilled if certain health conditions are met — for example, in late-stage Alzheimer’s — even if the person has lost the capacity to consent at that point.

Do you support or oppose allowing advance requests for MAID?

- Strongly support
- Support
- Oppose
- Strongly oppose
- Not sure / Can't say

Q14.

Base=All

Single choice

If advance requests for MAID are allowed, what should happen if, on the day of the planned procedure, the person resists or appears distressed — even if they cannot understand why?

- The procedure should proceed as directed in the advance request
- The procedure should be paused and reassessed
- The procedure should be cancelled
- Unsure

Q15.

Base=All

Grid

Since 2016, do you have any close friends or family members that have used this procedure to end their life?

Rows:

- Close friend
- Family member

Columns:

They requested it but were denied

Requested and received

Requested but died of natural causes before receiving

No request — it was raised unsolicited

None of the above

Prefer not to say

Q16.

Base=Raised unsolicited at Q15

Single choice

And did this person accept or reject the offer for MAID?

Accepted it

Rejected it

Not sure / Can't say

Q17.

Base=All

Single choice

When MAID was legalized in Canada in 2016, many supporters and critics viewed it as a procedure that would apply to a relatively limited number of cases involving severe and irremediable suffering. In 2025, approximately five per cent of all deaths in Canada involved MAID. This number has been growing year over year.

Some critics of MAID express concern about the growing prevalence and normalization of the procedure, while supporters are less concerned, saying this simply reflects the choices people make about their own lives.

Overall, are you concerned or not concerned about the number of deaths involving MAID in Canada today?

Very concerned

Concerned

Not that concerned

Not concerned at all

Not sure/Can't say

Q18.

Base=All

Single choice

MAID was originally introduced in Canada as a result of the Supreme Court's 2015 decision in *Carter v. Canada*, which struck down the Criminal Code's ban on assisted dying.

Some argue this was the courts properly defending Charter rights when Parliament had not acted. Others argue a question this profound — the state participating in ending a life — should be resolved by elected legislators after public debate, not by judges.

Which view comes closer to your own?

The Supreme Court was right to act. Charter rights had to be protected.

This was judicial overreach. A decision of this magnitude should have come from Parliament.

Not sure/Can't say

Q19.

Base=All

Single choice

Some people say that more access to MAID will mean less emphasis on improving palliative care at home, in hospital, or hospice. Others feel that these changes will have little to no effect on the availability of palliative care. What do you think?

There will be less emphasis on improving palliative care

There will be little to no impact on palliative care

Not sure / Can't say

Q20.

Base=All

Single choice

Please indicate your level of agreement with the following statement:

Hospitals and long-term care facilities and long-term care facilities that are religiously affiliated should not be forced by law to have MAID performed on their premises.

Strongly agree

Agree

Disagree

Strongly disagree

Not sure

Q21.

Base=All

Single choice

Based on what you've seen, read, or heard, including this survey, which of the following best describes your overall view on the regulations Canada should have governing MAID?

No regulations — any adult should have the right to MAID

Only limited regulations allowing access to most adults who want it

Strict regulations severely restricting access to assisted death

Regulations prohibiting the practice altogether

Q22.

Base=All

Single choice

What is your religious affiliation, if any?

Catholic

Other Christian

Jewish

Muslim

Hindu

Sikh

Buddhist

Other

None

Prefer not to say