



Annual
China Institute
Survey

2016

Albertans'
Views on
China

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University of Alberta

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FOREWORD

This is the sixth consecutive year that the China Institute at the University of Alberta (CIUA) has polled Albertans for their views on issues related to the People's Republic of China. An important role of the CIUA is to foster a better understanding of China and its relevance to Canada's economy and society.

In carrying out the Survey, the CIUA continues to work with the more extensive "Alberta Survey," conducted by the Population Research Laboratory of the University of Alberta. The set of questions applied in the 2016 Alberta Survey corresponds to the set used in 2012 and 2014. This repetition allows year-by-year comparisons. In addition, the CIUA examined two new and increasingly topical questions emerging as themes in the development of Canada-China relations. The first question involves collaboration with China in developing new technologies, and the second one is on a free trade agreement between Canada and China.

The 2016 survey reveals that more Albertans (70%, compared to 64% in 2014) acknowledge that Chinese investment contributes to the province's economy. In specific areas, a growing number of Albertans (66%) support energy exports to China; this compares to 60% in 2014 and 59% in 2012. A large majority of Albertans also agree (77%) that Alberta should collaborate with China in developing new technologies, and more Albertans are in favour of a free trade agreement with China than are opposed (44% agree, while 28% are neutral and 28% disagree). Perhaps connected to the foregoing, there is a gradually growing proportion of Albertans who agree (37%, compared to 36% in 2014 and 32% in 2012) that the ability to speak Chinese will become more important to Albertans.

Despite the considerable support for expanded trade with China, the 2016 survey also indicates that a majority of Albertans still have concerns regarding Chinese investment in Alberta. For instance, almost two-thirds of respondents are against full ownership by Chinese investors. Moreover, less than one-third of Albertans welcome Chinese investment in the energy sector by Chinese state owned enterprises; while the perception of China as a stable trading partner decreased by 4 percentage points in the past two years (49%, compared to 53% in 2014).

Considering, on the one hand, the difficult economic conditions in Alberta, the huge capital costs in growing the provincial economy and, on the other hand, the fact that China has the largest pool of available capital, Albertans' attitudes toward China may have certain policy implications. Chinese investment could have a significant role in the creation of job opportunities for Albertans, and innovation and technology-based partnership could contribute to Alberta's economic diversification, notably the development of the Alberta's high-technology sectors.

Overall and despite the challenges that exist, the Survey reveals Albertans remain among the most positive in Canada on the importance of ties with China. Against this backdrop, the CIUA will continue to chart the evolving views of Albertans regarding China. Our view remains that Alberta will be best served by strong engagement with the leading world economies, including China.



Gordon Houlden
Director
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EXECUTIVE SUMMARY

Key Findings of the 2016 Alberta Survey

1. Over three quarters of Albertans think technology collaboration with China is desirable.
2. There is a growing recognition among Albertans that Chinese investment in Alberta benefits the province's economy. A large number of supporters of all major political parties (federal and provincial) share that perception.
3. More than two in five Albertans want a free trade agreement (FTA) with China, and over a quarter of Albertans are undecided.
 - When asked whether the Canadian government should negotiate a free trade agreement with China, 44% agreed, and another 28% selected the "neither" option. Opposition to FTA negotiations stems from the 28% of Albertans who disagreed.
4. The broad support for energy exports to China ranges between 65 and 68% across the province.
5. 37% of Albertans agree that the ability to speak Chinese will become more important. This is up by 1 percentage point since 2014 and by 5 percentage points since 2012.
6. Over one in five Albertans are in favour of investment leading to full Chinese ownership.
 - Although still a minority, Albertans in favour of full ownership by Chinese investors increased by 6% since 2014.
7. 44% of Albertans consider Chinese investment in the form of partial ownership to be acceptable.
 - The percentage of acceptance is trending upward (up from 37% in 2012).
 - Calgary and Edmonton residents are more welcoming of Chinese investment than the rest of the province.
8. Over two-fifths of respondents (42%) disagree with the idea that there should be more controls on Chinese investments compared to other foreign investments.
9. Over three quarters of Albertans see China's human rights record as an issue in doing business in China.
 - When asked whether Alberta should take China's human rights record into consideration when conducting business in China, 77% agreed.
 - Those with post-secondary education or higher are the most concerned about China's human rights record.
10. Albertans who have a post-secondary education level and are in the age group "18-34 years old" are more likely to have positive opinions about China. Meanwhile, the age group "55-64 years old" is the least favourable to China. Respondents of this group are most likely to perceive China's economic strength as a threat to Canada.

DATA AT A GLANCE

Note: Agree represents strongly agree and agree; disagree represents strongly disagree and disagree. Percentages are rounded values.

Statements	2016			Changes from 2014	
	Agree	Neutral	Disagree	Agree	Disagree
I. Alberta can learn from China's economic success	40%	31%	29%	-1%	+2%
2. The ability to speak Chinese will become more important to Albertans	37%	19%	44%	+1%	+2%
3. China is a stable trading partner for Alberta	49%	29%	22%	-4%	+2%
4. Alberta should promote energy exports to China	66%	20%	14%	+6%	-6%
5. Chinese investment in Alberta in the form of partial ownership is acceptable	44%	22%	34%	+4%	-6%
6. Chinese investment in Alberta in the form of full ownership is acceptable	21%	16%	63%	+6%	-6%
7. Investment in Alberta's energy sector by a company owned and operated by the Chinese government (state) is acceptable	27%	18%	55%	+5%	-5%
8. Alberta should take China's human rights record into consideration when conducting business in China	77%	12%	11%	-2%	+2%
9. China will overtake the United States as the leading global power in the 21st century	40%	31%	29%	-9%	+3%
10. China's growing economic strength poses a threat to Canada	29%	27%	44%	+2%	-2%
11. Investment from China in Alberta should be more regulated than foreign investment from elsewhere	36%	22%	42%	+4%	-2%
12. Increased Chinese investment in Alberta contributes to the provincial economy	70%	19%	11%	+6%	-3%
13. Alberta should collaborate with China in developing new technologies	77%	12%	11%	-	-
14. The Canadian government should negotiate a Free trade agreement with China	44%	28%	28%	-	-

The 2016 Survey's key findings show that Albertans have mixed, and even somewhat paradoxical perceptions regarding China.

A large majority of respondents (70%) acknowledge that increased Chinese trade and investment contributes to the provincial economy, up by 6 percentage points compared to 64% in 2014. They also agree that the province should promote energy exports to China, and 77% welcome collaboration with China in developing new technologies. More than two-fifths of respondents agree that Canada should negotiate a free trade agreement with China.

Although Albertans are in general open to Chinese investment, they remain very skeptical of the idea of full ownership by Chinese investors, and investments in Alberta by Chinese state owned enterprises. Moreover, only half of the respondents consider China a stable trading partner, a decrease of 4% in comparison to the 2014 survey.

Nearly one third of Albertans are unsure if China will continue to rise as a global power. When asked whether or not China will overtake the United States as the leading global power in the 21st century, 31% responded with "neither," the highest response rate out of all questions, reflecting ambiguity and/or uncertainty among respondents. This question also saw some of the largest movement in opinions between years: the portion of those who agree China will overtake the US dropped by 9% between 2012 and 2016.

As in previous years, human rights in China is a concern for Albertans, and a large majority (77%) believe that it should be taken into consideration when conducting business in China.

AVERAGE RESPONSE RATING COMPARISON

These graphs present the average values. The higher the average, the closer Albertans' views are to "strongly agree;" and the lower the value, the closer those views are to "strongly disagree."

Similar to the previous findings, the average values show that Albertans welcome the idea of collaboration with China in developing new technologies, and view China as an important export market for Alberta energy resources. They also recognize the contribution of Chinese investment to the provincial economy, as the average value substantially increased compared to 2014.

In general, according to the 2016 survey, the highest averages are on questions related to trade and partnership with China, implying that a large majority of respondents agree with those statements. In contrast, the lowest average values are on Chinese investment in Alberta in the form of full ownership and investment in Alberta's energy sector by a company owned by the Chinese government, suggesting that Albertans still hold mixed views regarding China.

Note: 5 is Strongly Agree, 4 is Agree, 3 is Neutral, 2 Disagree, and 1 is Strongly Disagree

1. Alberta can learn from China's economic success.



2. The ability to speak Chinese will become more important to Albertans.



3. China is a stable trading partner for Alberta.



Note: 5 is Strongly Agree, 4 is Agree, 3 is Neutral, 2 Disagree, and 1 is Strongly Disagree

4. Alberta should promote energy exports to China.



5. Chinese investment in Alberta in the form of partial ownership is acceptable.



6. Chinese investment in Alberta in the form of full ownership is acceptable.



7. Investment in Alberta's energy sector by a company owned and operated by the Chinese government (state) is acceptable.



8. Alberta should take China's human rights record into consideration when conducting business in China.



Note: 5 is Strongly Agree, 4 is Agree, 3 is Neutral, 2 Disagree, and 1 is Strongly Disagree

9. China will overtake the United States as the leading global power in the 21st century.



10. China's growing economic strength poses a threat to Canada.



11. Investment from China in Alberta should be more regulated than foreign investment from elsewhere.



12. Increased Chinese investment in Alberta contributes to the provincial economy.



13. Alberta should collaborate with China in developing new technologies.



14. The Canadian government should negotiate a Free Trade Agreement with China.



— RESULTS —

1: China and Alberta's Economy

KEY FINDING

Most Albertans believe that China positively impacts the province's economy.

70%

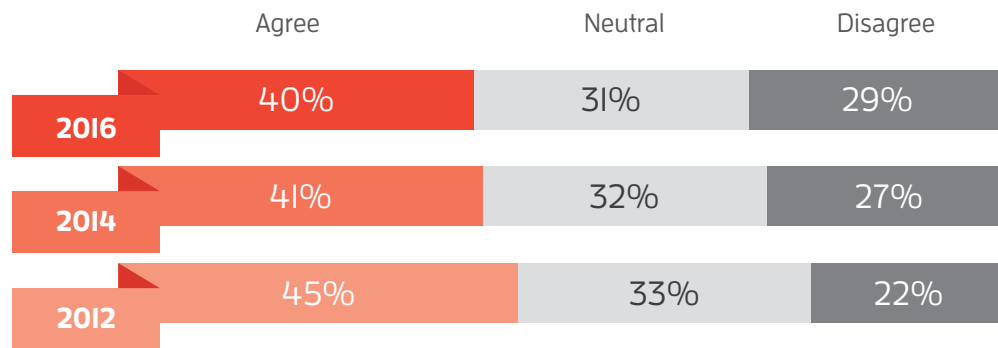
Agree that increased Chinese investment in Alberta contributes to the province's economy.

40%

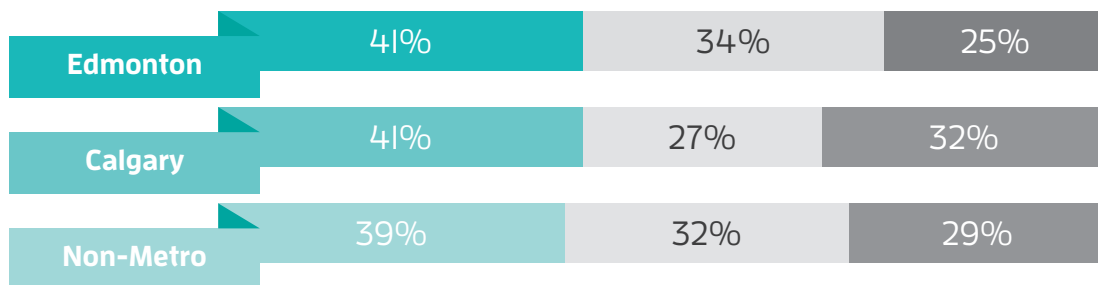
Agree with the idea that Alberta can learn from China's economic success.

Question 1: Alberta can learn from China's economic success.

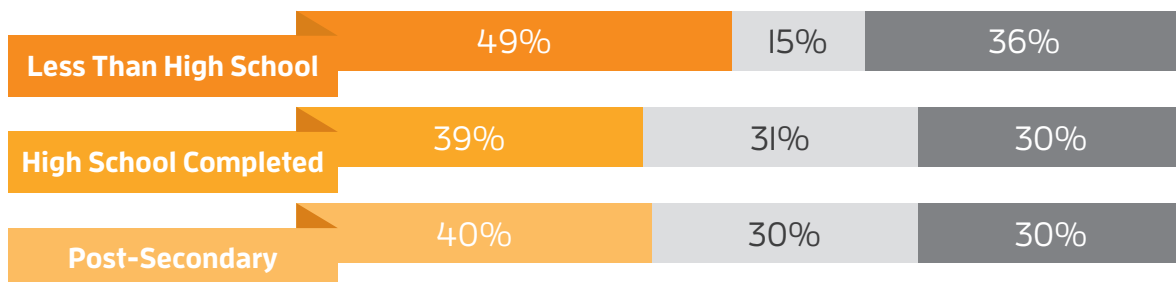
Despite a decrease of 5 percentage points in the past four years (40% agree, as compared to 45% in 2012), a sizable number of respondents believe that Alberta can learn from China's economic success.



Residents of Edmonton and Calgary are slightly more supportive of the statement.

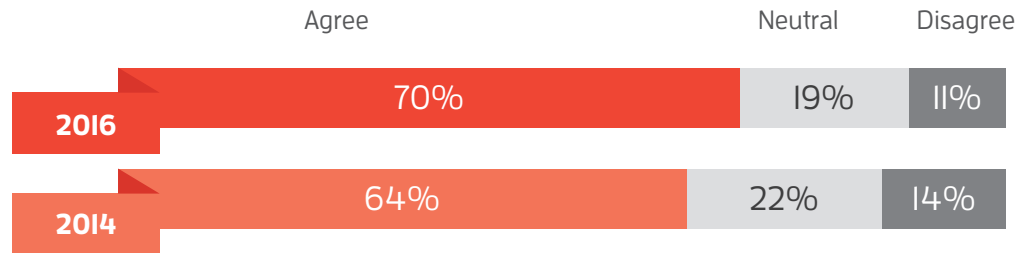


When breaking down the sample by education group, respondents who have not completed high school agree more than those who have completed high school or acquired a post-secondary education.

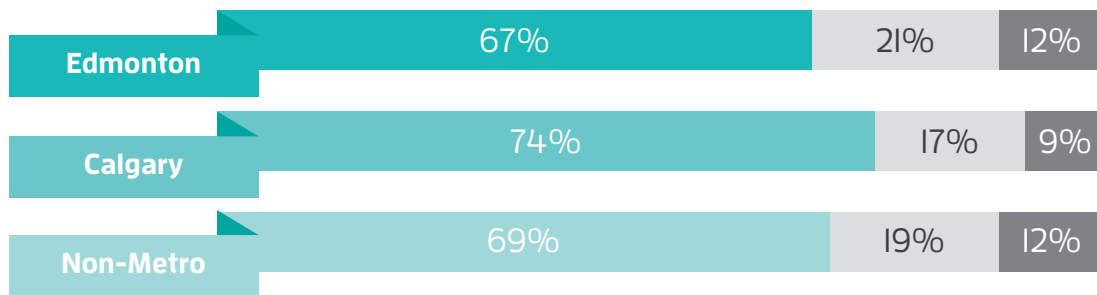


Question 12: Increased Chinese investment in Alberta contributes to the provincial economy.

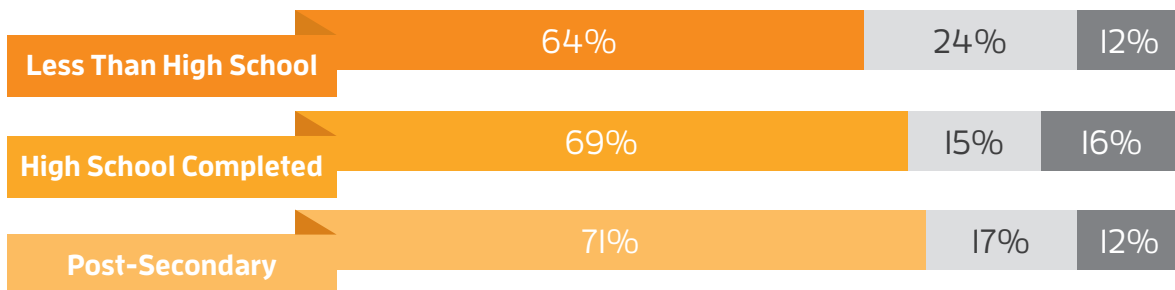
70% of respondents agree that Chinese investment contributes to the Albertan economy, up from 64% in 2014.



A plurality of respondents in Edmonton, Calgary and the non-metropolitan areas agree that increased Chinese investment in Alberta contributes to the provincial economy. That perception is highest in Calgary (74% agree, 9% disagree).



Based on education groups, there is broad agreement that increased Chinese investment in Alberta contributes to the provincial economy. However, the support is stronger with an increasing level of education.



— RESULTS —

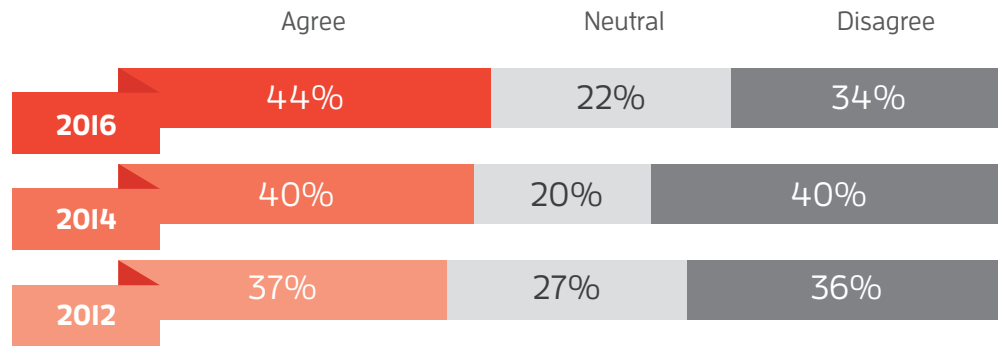
2: Views Toward China's Investment in Alberta

KEY FINDING

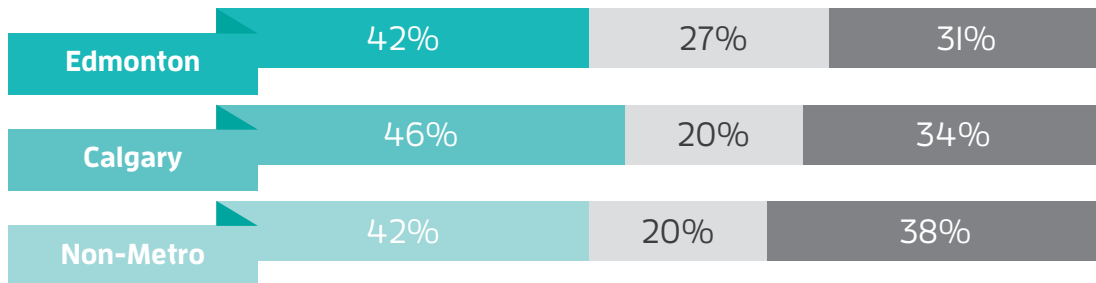
A large percentage of Albertans consider Chinese investment with partial ownership to be acceptable. However, they remain distrustful of full ownership and investment in the energy sector by Chinese state-owned enterprises.

Question 5: Chinese investment in Alberta in the form of partial ownership is acceptable.

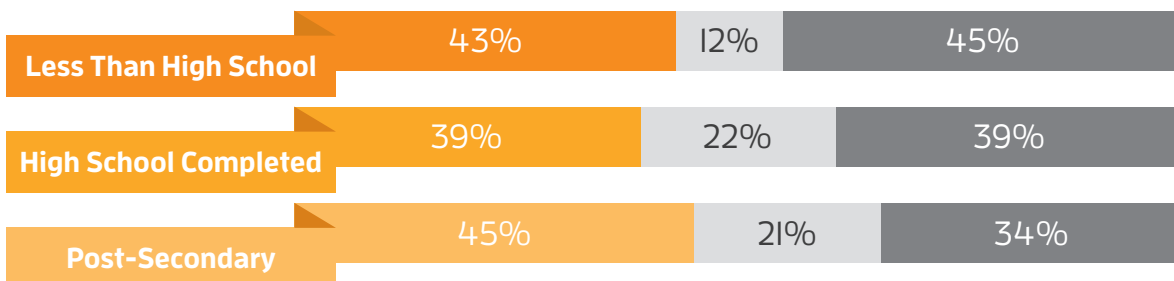
44% of Albertans are positively inclined toward Chinese investment in the form of partial ownership. The percentage of acceptance is trending upward (up from 37% in 2012).



Calgarians are more open to partial ownership than residents of Edmonton and the non-metropolitan areas.

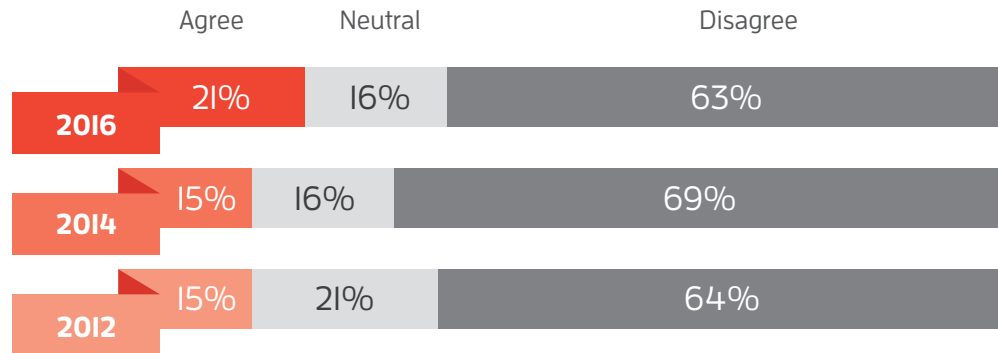


Respondents who have a post-secondary education are more welcoming of Chinese investment in the form of partial ownership, as they have the highest percentage of agreement (45%) and the lowest percentage of disagreement (34%).

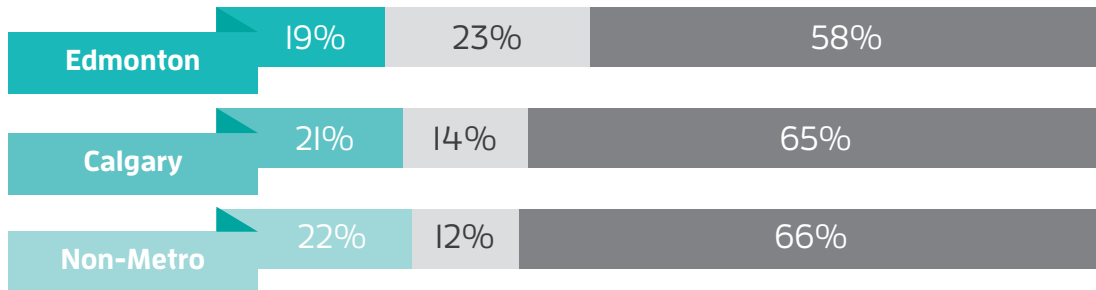


Question 6: Chinese investment in Alberta in the form of full ownership is acceptable.

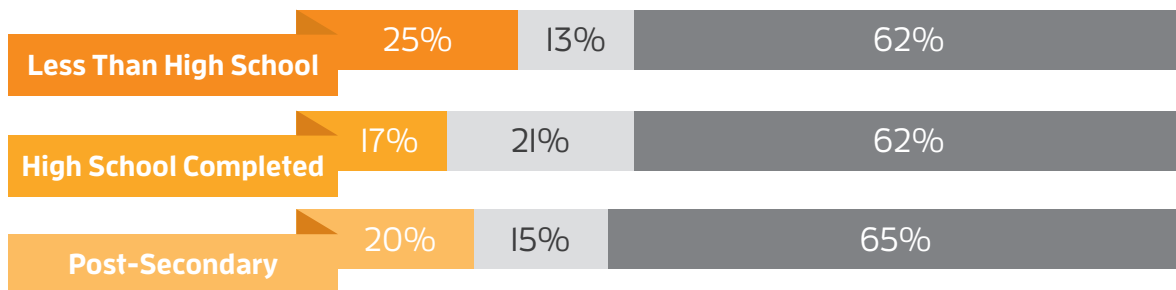
Less than one-fifth of respondents support Chinese investment in the form of full ownership. However, support increased by 6% compared to 2012 and 2014, despite the large majority of skeptics (63%).



The percentage of reluctance toward full ownership is high in Edmonton, Calgary and the non-metropolitan areas.

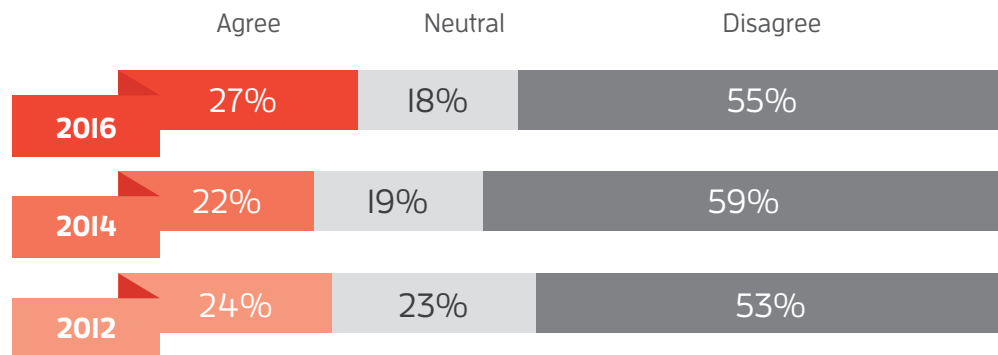


Approximately 62-65% of the three education groupings is against full ownership. However, the percentage of those who agree is slightly higher for those with less than high school education than the two other groups.

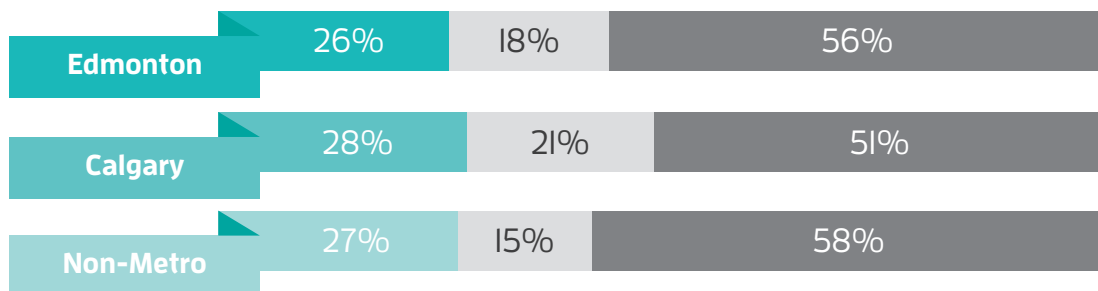


Question 7: Investment in Alberta's energy sector by a company owned and operated by the Chinese government (state) is acceptable.

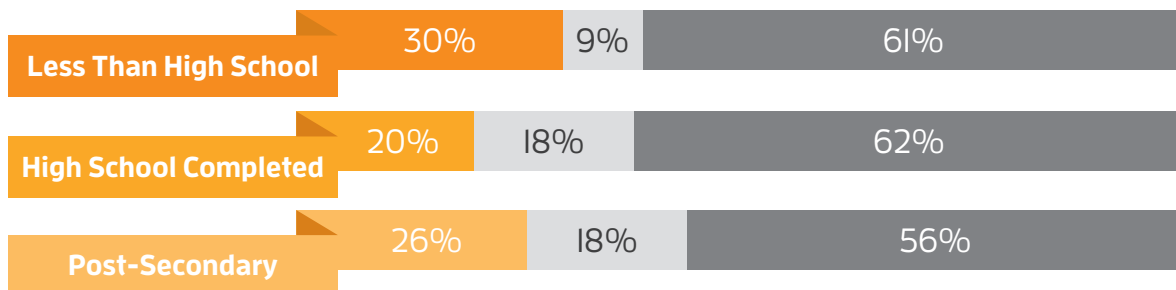
Over a quarter of Albertans are accepting of investment by Chinese state-owned companies. This support has grown to 27%, while opposition has fallen to 55%.



The non-metropolitan residents of Alberta are the most likely to disagree with investment by a company owned and operated by the Chinese government.

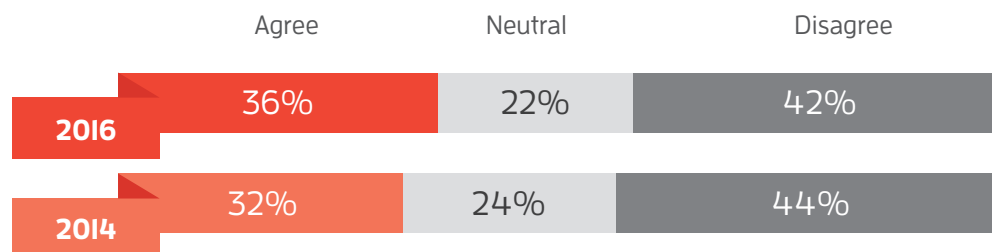


Respondents who completed high school and those who have less than a high school education have the most reluctance toward this type of investment ownership.

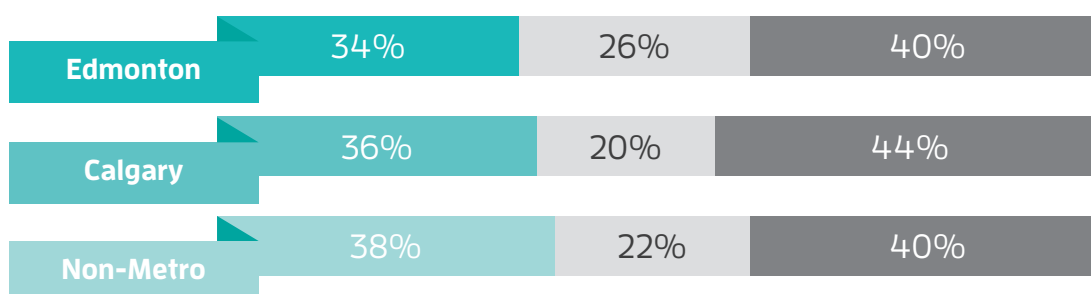


Question II: Investment from China in Alberta should be more regulated than foreign investment from elsewhere.

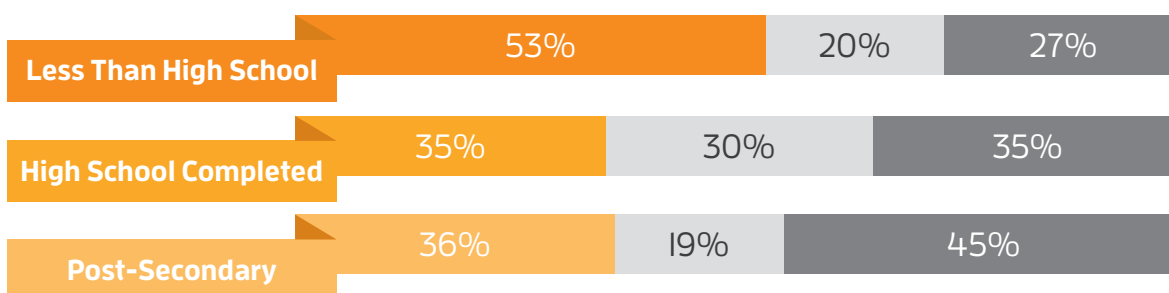
Over two-fifths (42%) of Albertans disagree that more regulation of investment from China is required. However, the percentage of those calling for more regulation (36% agree) increased by 4 points in the past two years.



The support for more regulation is slightly higher in non-metropolitan areas than in Edmonton or Calgary.



Respondents having less than a high school education are more likely to favour more regulation on Chinese investment than investment from other foreign countries.



— RESULTS —

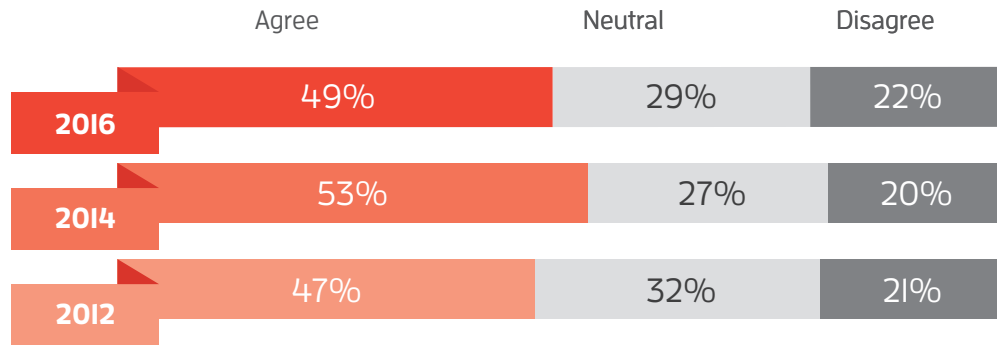
3: The Alberta–China Trade Relationship

KEY FINDING

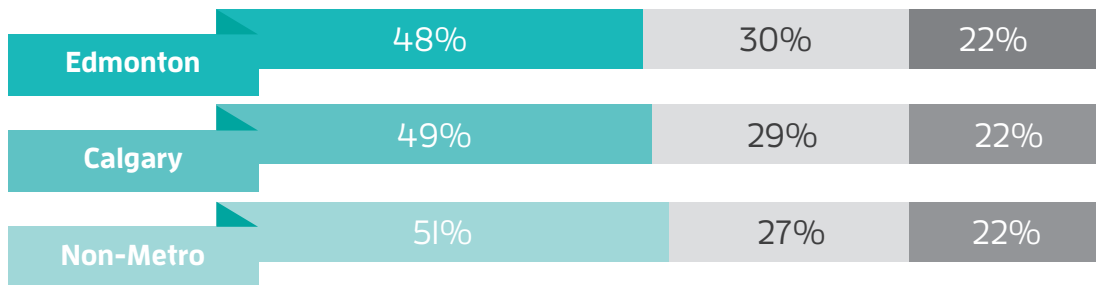
More than two in five Albertans support the idea of a free trade agreement with China. A majority sees China as a good market for energy exports.

Question 3: China is a stable trading partner for Alberta.

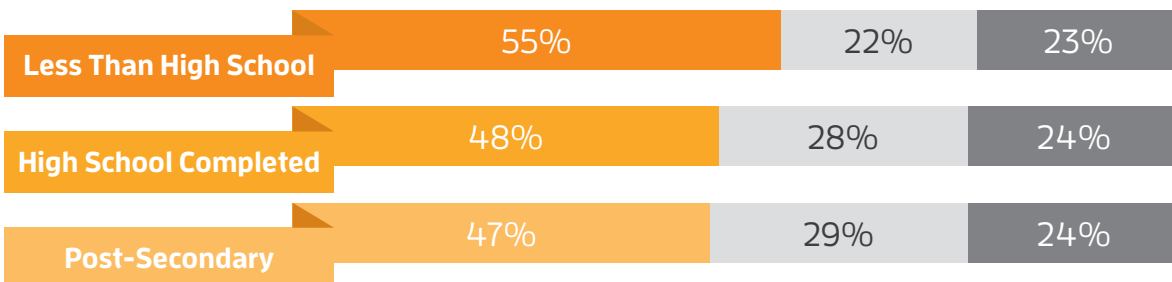
Nearly half of Albertans (49%) see China as a stable trading partner. This is a decrease of 4% since 2014.



The percentage of Albertans who agree is relatively similar across different regions in the province (ranging between 48-51%), while 22% disagree province-wide.

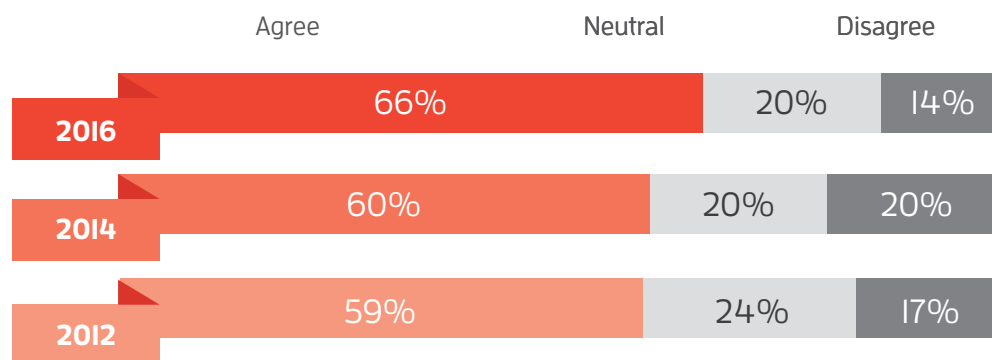


When breaking down the sample by education group, respondents who have post-secondary education or completed high school are the least likely to believe in China as a stable trading partner.

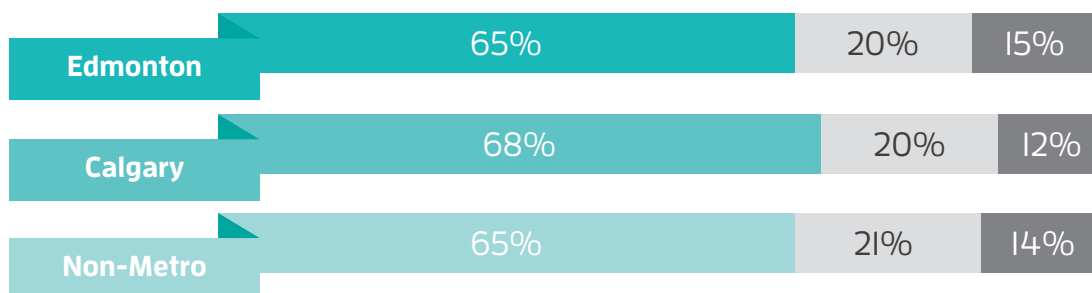


Question 4: Alberta should promote energy exports to China.

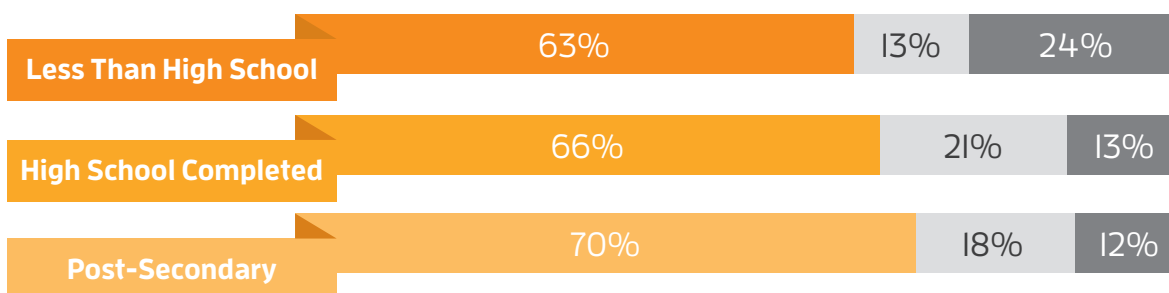
A large majority (66%) of Albertans see China as an important market for energy exports. This is up by 6% and 7% since 2014 and 2012 respectively.



The broad support for promoting energy exports to China ranges between 65% and 68% across the province. Calgary appears to be slightly more open to the idea.



Respondents who have acquired a higher education are more supportive of the idea of promoting energy exports to China.

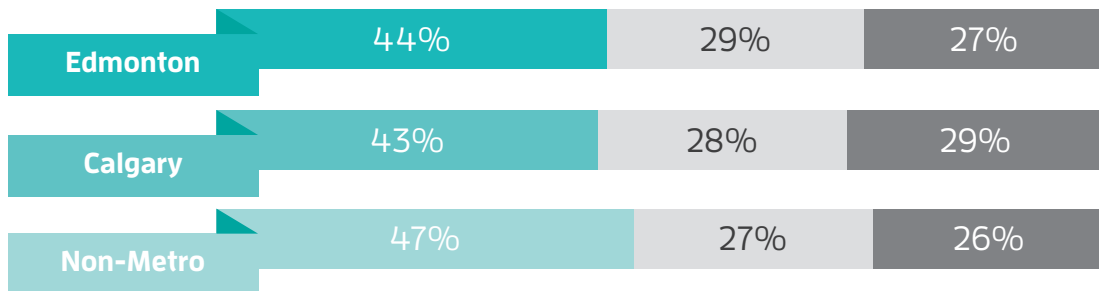


Question 14: The Canadian government should negotiate a free trade agreement with China.

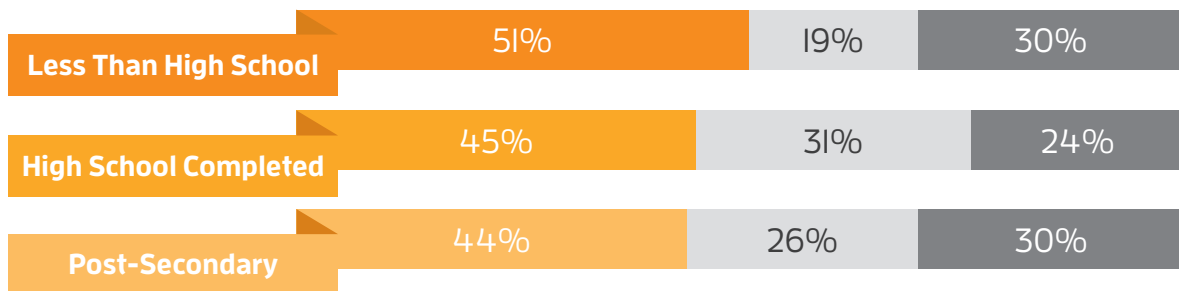
72% of Albertans agree with or are neutral about a free trade agreement with China.



The support for a free trade agreement ranges between 43-47% across Calgary, Edmonton and the non-metropolitan areas.



Respondents who have not completed high school are the most in favour of a free trade agreement.



— RESULTS —

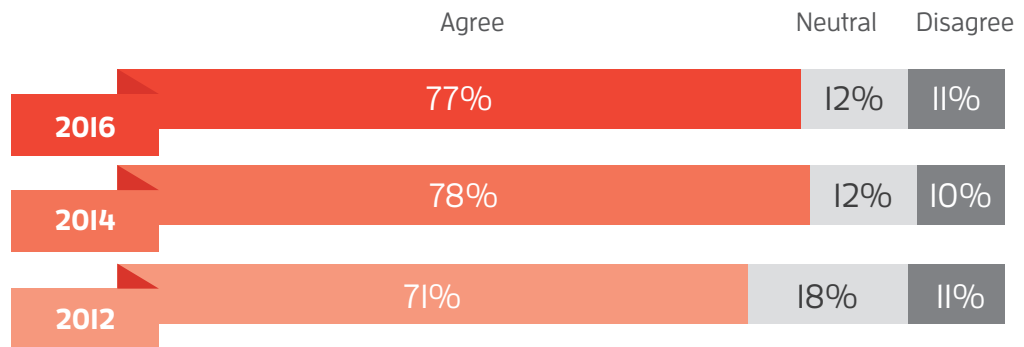
4: Human Rights Concerns

KEY FINDING

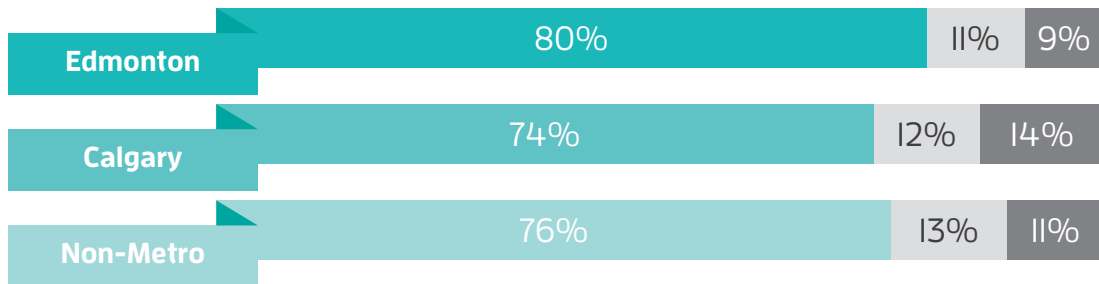
More than three-quarters of Albertans have concerns about human rights in China.

Question 8: Alberta should take China’s human rights record into consideration when conducting business in China.

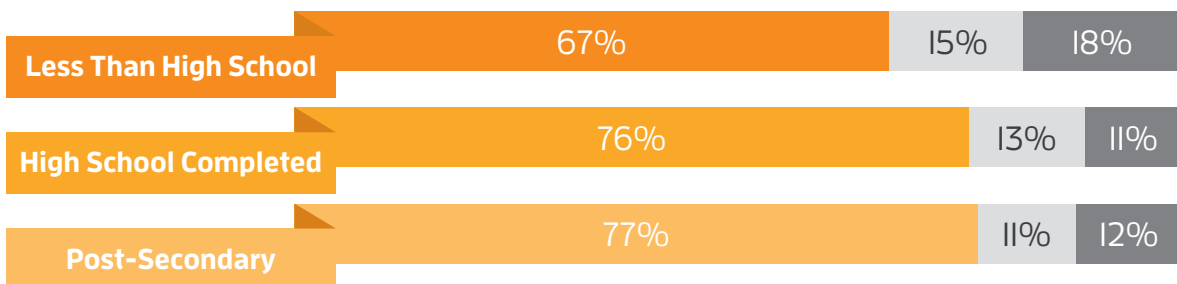
The importance of human rights has been consistently voiced by Albertans. 77% of respondents believe that China’s human rights record should be considered when conducting business, up by 6% since 2012.



When breaking down the sample by location, 74-80% in Calgary, Edmonton and the non-metropolitan areas agree with that statement.



A break down by education levels reveals that those who have completed high school or have a post-secondary education are the most in favour of considering the human rights record of China when conducting business.



— RESULTS —

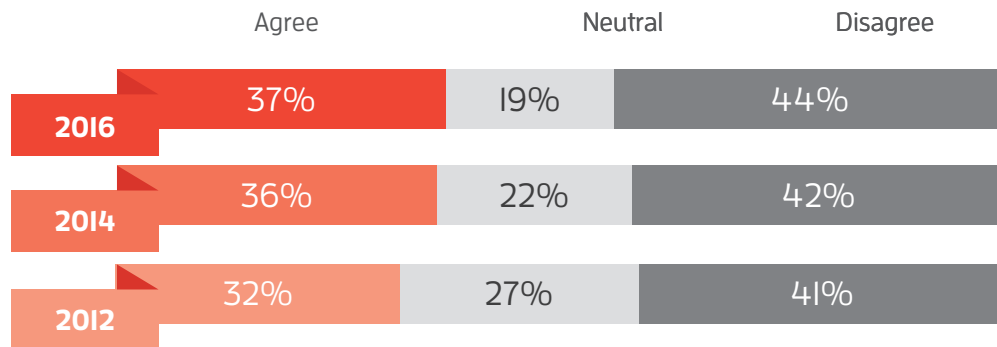
5: China as a Global Power

KEY FINDING

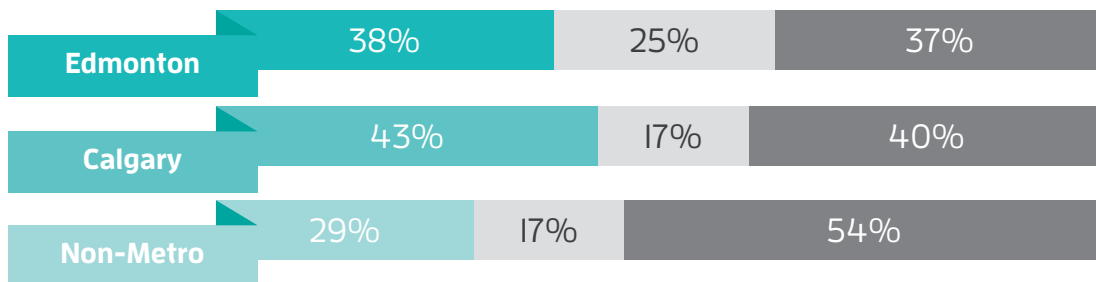
Nearly a third of Albertans are unsure if China will continue to rise as a global power, and there is a growing minority who sees China's growing economy as a threat to Canada.

Question 2: The ability to speak Chinese will become more important to Albertans.

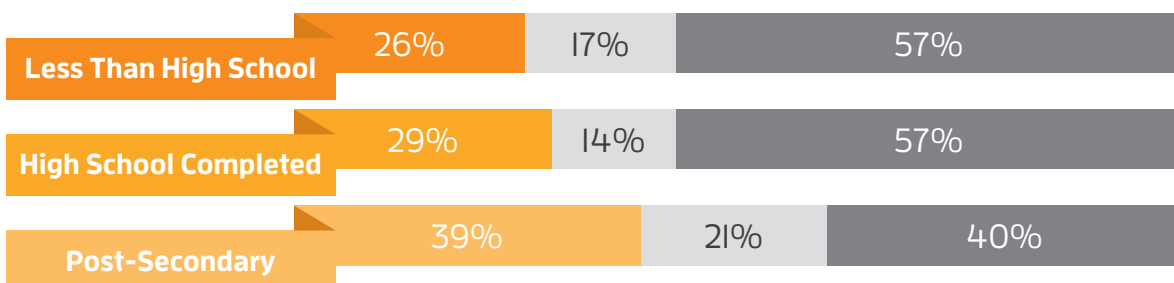
Over a third of Albertans agree that the ability to speak Chinese will become important. This percentage of those who agree (37%) is up from 32% in 2012.



Residents of Calgary are the most supportive regarding the importance of speaking the Chinese language, while 29% of non-metropolitan residents agree and more than half (54%) disagree.

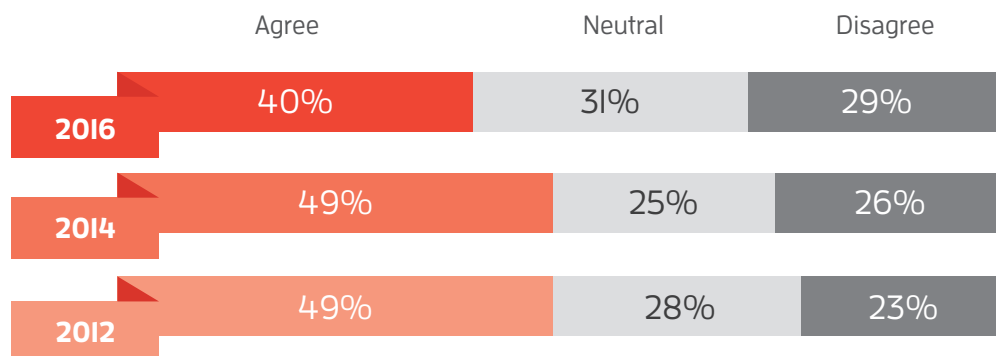


A large percentage (57%) of those with less than high school and high school education levels do not believe it will be important to speak Chinese, while the highest support (39%) is among those with the post-secondary education.

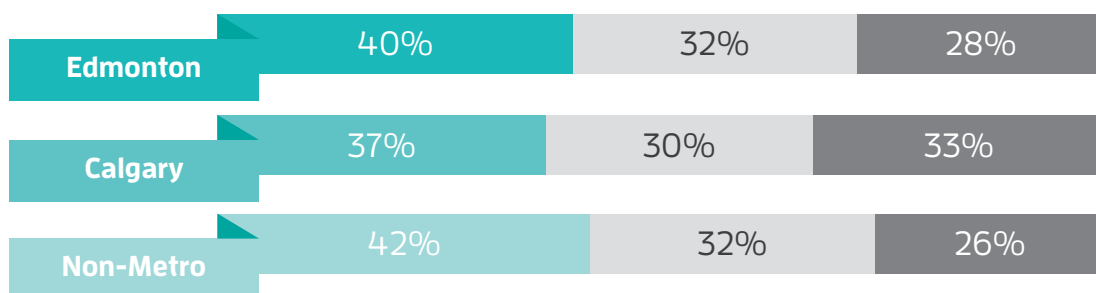


Question 9: China will overtake the United States as the leading global power in the 21st century.

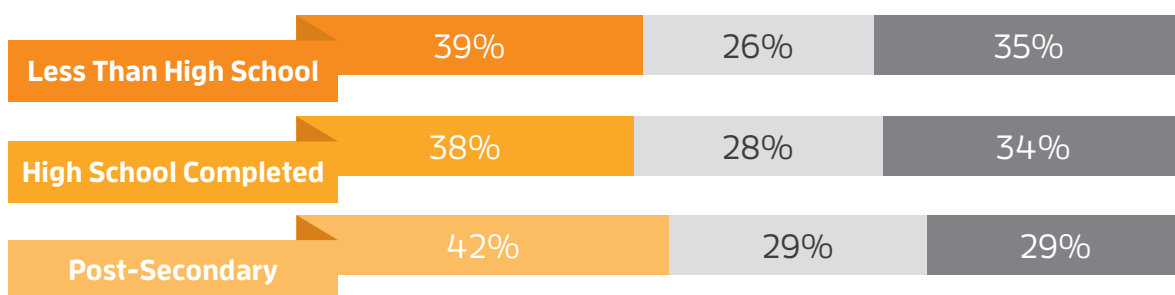
The percentage of respondents believing that China will overtake the United States as the leading global power decreased from 49% in 2012 and 2014 to 40% in 2016. This may be because many people might have been exposed to the extensive media coverage of China's economic slowdown and to a lesser degree, the US rebound.



Residents of Calgary are the least likely to agree that China will overtake the US as leading global power, with the rate of disagreement at 33%.

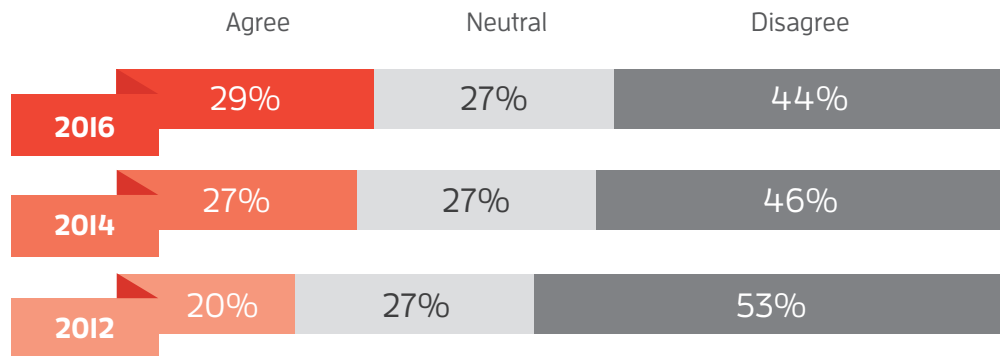


Respondents in the "less than high school" and "high school completed" education groups are the most likely to disagree (39% and 38% respectively), while those in the "post-secondary" education group are the most supportive (42% agree).

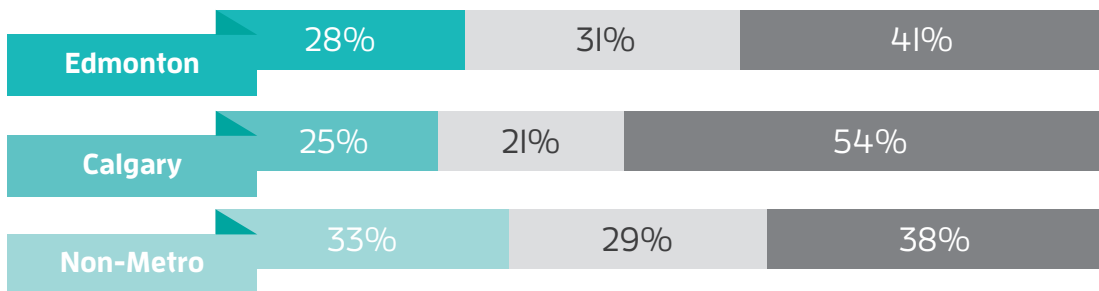


Question 10: China's growing economic strength poses a threat to Canada.

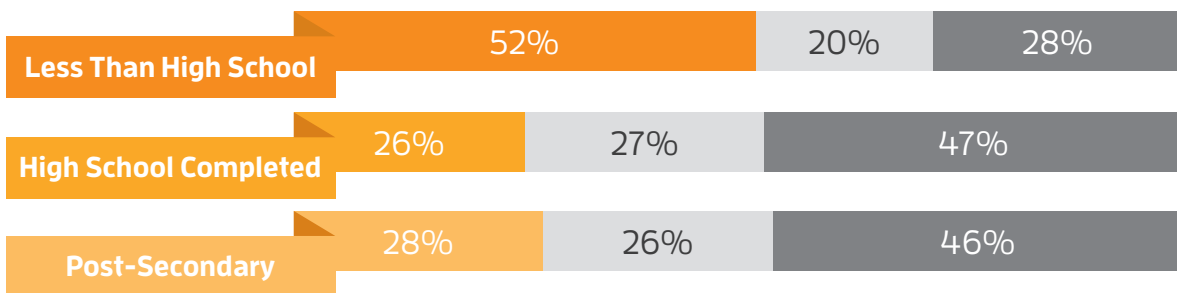
The perception of China's expanding economy as a threat has been growing among Albertans. Though still a minority, the percentage of those who agree with that statement increased by 9 percentage points in the past four years.



This perception is the highest among residents of the non-metropolitan areas.



More than half of Albertans with less than high school education believe that China's growing economic strength is a threat to Canada. Those in the "high school completed" and "post-secondary" categories are considerably less likely to support the idea (26% and 28% respectively).



— RESULTS —

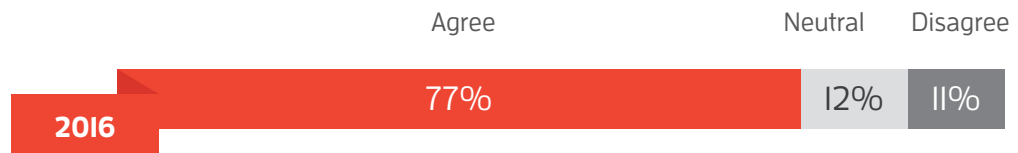
6: Views on a Technology-Based Collaboration with China

KEY FINDING

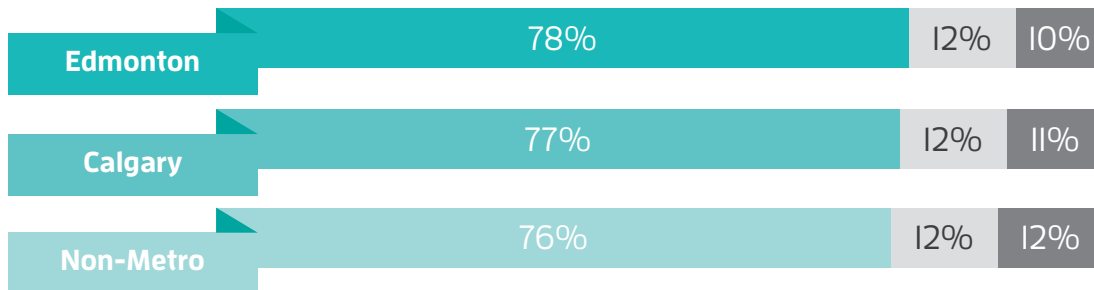
Results from this newly added question reveal that Albertans strongly support the idea of innovation and technology-based collaboration with China.

Question 13: Alberta should collaborate with China in developing new technologies.

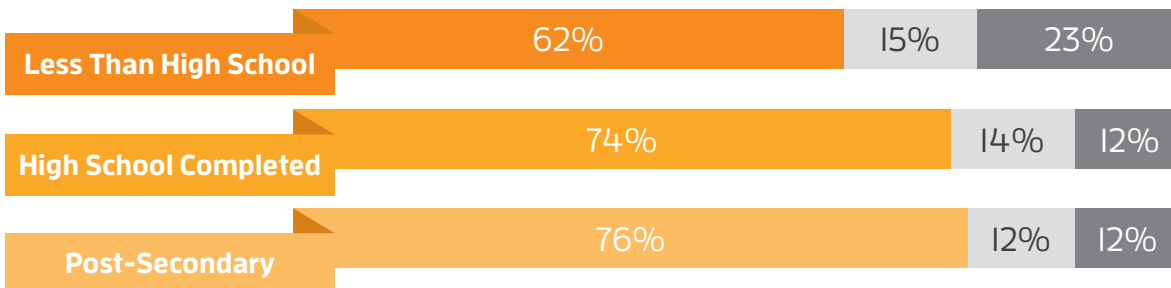
A large majority (77%) of Albertans positively perceive collaboration with China in developing new technologies.



There is a strong support base among residents province wide.



The percentage of support for collaboration in new technologies with China increases as the level of education increases.



— RESULTS —

7: Regional Differences

Note: 5 is Strongly Agree, 4 is Agree, 3 is Neutral, 2 Disagree, and 1 is Strongly Disagree

Statements	Edmonton	Calgary	Non-Metropolitan
1. Alberta can learn from China's economic success.	3.17	3.08	3.08
2. The ability to speak Chinese will become more important to Albertans.	2.95	3.02	2.65
3. China is a stable trading partner for Alberta.	3.28	3.3	3.32
4. Alberta should promote energy exports to China.	3.64	3.77	3.66
5. Chinese investment in Alberta in the form of partial ownership is acceptable.	3.09	3.12	2.97
6. Chinese investment in Alberta in the form of full ownership is acceptable.	2.41	2.29	2.32
7. Investment in Alberta's energy sector by a company owned and operated by the Chinese government (state) is acceptable.	2.53	2.59	2.46
8. Alberta should take China's human rights record into consideration when conducting business in China.	4.03	3.96	3.96
9. China will overtake the United States as the leading global power in the 21st century.	3.16	3.07	3.16
10. China's growing economic strength poses a threat to Canada.	2.85	2.69	2.98
11. Investment from China in Alberta should be more regulated than foreign investment from elsewhere.	2.94	2.91	3.03
12. Increased Chinese investment in Alberta contributes to the provincial economy.	3.61	3.75	3.64
13. Alberta should collaborate with China in developing new technologies.	3.84	3.81	3.77
14. The Canadian government should negotiate a free trade agreement with China.	3.16	3.16	3.21







A comparison of the average responses by location shows that Calgary residents have a more positive perception towards China than the rest of the province. They gave positive responses regarding most of the statements on trade, investment, the contribution of China to Alberta's economy and the importance of speaking the Chinese language.

Albertans largely support the idea of collaboration with China in developing new technologies. Even though they are open to Chinese investment, Albertans remain skeptical of investment in the form of full ownership and investment by Chinese state-owned enterprises.







— RESULTS —

8: Differences due to provincial political affiliation

Note: 5 is Strongly Agree, 4 is Agree, 3 is Neutral, 2 Disagree, and 1 is Strongly Disagree

Statements						
1. Alberta can learn from China's economic success.	3.47	3.08	3.4	3.02	3.12	2.8
2. The ability to speak Chinese will become more important to Albertans.	3.2	3.21	4.7	3.31	2.72	2.66
3. China is a stable trading partner for Alberta.	3.59	3.28	4	2.56	3.34	3.01
4. Alberta should promote energy exports to China.	3.74	3.53	4.3	2.33	3.97	3.86
5. Chinese investment in Alberta in the form of partial ownership is acceptable.	3.27	3.03	3.4	3.23	3.03	2.86
6. Chinese investment in Alberta in the form of full ownership is acceptable.	2.52	2.26	3.1	2.06	2.26	1.98
7. Investment in Alberta's energy sector by a company owned and operated by the Chinese government (state) is acceptable.	2.72	2.39	3.1	2.89	2.54	2.43
8. Alberta should take China's human rights record into consideration when conducting business in China.	4.42	4.14	4.7	3.93	3.75	4.15
9. China will overtake the United States as the leading global power in the 21st century.	3.22	3.21	4.1	3.13	2.97	3.33
10. China's growing economic strength poses a threat to Canada.	2.67	2.68	3.4	2.24	2.79	3.2
11. Investment from China in Alberta should be more regulated than foreign investment from elsewhere.	3.03	2.77	3.7	2.54	2.95	3.1



Statements						
12. Increased Chinese investment in Alberta contributes to the provincial economy.	3.56	3.79	4	4.06	3.63	3.66
13. Alberta should collaborate with China in developing new technologies.	3.99	3.94	4	3.74	3.74	3.62
14. The Canadian government should negotiate a free trade agreement with China.	3.41	2.91	3.4	2.41	3.31	3.02

Note: 5 is Strongly Agree, 4 is Agree, 3 is Neutral, 2 Disagree, and 1 is Strongly Disagree



Respondents, regardless of provincial party affiliation, think that Alberta should take China's human rights record into consideration when conducting business in China, and acknowledge that increased Chinese investment in Alberta contributes to the provincial economy. The average value for those questions is around 4, meaning that respondents largely agree. Alberta Party supporters have the highest average value (4.7) when it comes to taking China's human rights into consideration.

Respondents, regardless of their political preferences, are largely against full ownership investment by Chinese companies and investment in Alberta's energy sector by Chinese state-owned enterprises.

Wildrose, PC/Tory and Liberal voters are the most in favour of promoting energy exports to China, while respondents who would vote for NDP and Liberal parties have the highest rate of approval toward collaboration with China in developing new technologies.

— RESULTS —

9: Differences in Education Level

Note: 5 is Strongly Agree, 4 is Agree, 3 is Neutral, 2 Disagree, and 1 is Strongly Disagree

Statements	Less Than High School	High School Completed	Received Post Secondary Education
1. Alberta can learn from China's economic success.	3.07	3.08	3.12
2. The ability to speak Chinese will become more important to Albertans.	2.61	2.63	2.96
3. China is a stable trading partner for Alberta.	3.36	3.29	3.3
4. Alberta should promote energy exports to China.	3.51	3.68	3.7
5. Chinese investment in Alberta in the form of partial ownership is acceptable.	2.99	2.91	3.09
6. Chinese investment in Alberta in the form of full ownership is acceptable.	2.54	2.32	2.33
7. Investment in Alberta's energy sector by a company owned and operated by the Chinese government (state) is acceptable.	2.54	2.35	2.57
8. Alberta should take China's human rights record into consideration when conducting business in China.	3.75	3.93	4.01
9. China will overtake the United States as the leading global power in the 21st century.	3.03	3.02	3.16
10. China's growing economic strength poses a threat to Canada.	3.3	2.76	2.81
11. Investment from China in Alberta should be more regulated than foreign investment from elsewhere.	3.41	3.04	2.91
12. Increased Chinese investment in Alberta contributes to the provincial economy.	3.57	3.63	3.69
13. Alberta should collaborate with China in developing new technologies.	3.54	3.71	3.85
14. The Canadian government should negotiate a free trade agreement with China.	3.17	3.23	3.17

Respondents who have a post-secondary education level tend to have more positive opinions about China. Those in the “less than high school” and “high school” education groups are less supportive with regards to most of the statements. According to the results, openness towards China changes with the education level.

— RESULTS —

10: Age Groups

Note: 5 is Strongly Agree, 4 is Agree, 3 is Neutral, 2 Disagree, and 1 is Strongly Disagree

Statements	18-34 years old	35-54 years old	55-64 years old	65+ years old	All (Average)
1. Alberta can learn from China's economic success.	3.15	3.18	2.95	3.02	3.11
2. The ability to speak Chinese will become more important to Albertans.	2.95	2.88	2.72	2.89	2.88
3. China is a stable trading partner for Alberta.	3.49	3.30	3.02	3.13	3.3
4. Alberta should promote energy exports to China.	3.51	3.78	3.76	3.82	3.7
5. Chinese investment in Alberta in the form of partial ownership is acceptable.	3.11	3.11	2.92	3.01	3.06
6. Chinese investment in Alberta in the form of full ownership is acceptable.	2.53	2.33	2.11	2.20	2.34
7. Investment in Alberta's energy sector by a company owned and operated by the Chinese government (state) is acceptable.	2.76	2.53	2.22	2.32	2.53
8. Alberta should take China's human rights record into consideration when conducting business in China.	4.02	3.95	4.14	3.84	3.98
9. China will overtake the United States as the leading global power in the 21st century.	3.22	3.12	3.09	3.02	3.13
10. China's growing economic strength poses a threat to Canada.	2.79	2.86	2.91	2.77	2.83
11. Investment from China in Alberta should be more regulated than foreign investment from elsewhere.	2.94	2.94	2.96	3.04	2.96
12. Increased Chinese investment in Alberta contributes to the provincial economy.	3.69	3.70	3.65	3.57	3.67
13. Alberta should collaborate with China in developing new technologies.	4.04	3.74	3.60	3.65	3.81
14. The Canadian government should negotiate a free trade agreement with China.	3.31	3.16	3.00	3.08	3.18

Respondents in the age group "18-34 years old" tend to have the most positive feelings about China. In contrast, the age group "55-64 years old" is the least favourable to China. Respondents in the latter group are most likely to perceive China's economic strength as a threat to Canada, and are skeptical about certain types of Chinese investments in Canada and the trade relationship.

— RESULTS —

11: Income Level Affects People's View

Note: 5 is Strongly Agree, 4 is Agree, 3 is Neutral, 2 Disagree, and 1 is Strongly Disagree

Statements	\$29,999 and less	\$30,000– \$59,999	\$60,000– \$99,999	\$100,000– \$149,999	\$150,000 and more
I. Alberta can learn from China's economic success.	3.11	3.3	3.07	3.02	3.09
2. The ability to speak Chinese will become more important to Albertans.	3.11	3.3	3.07	3.02	3.09
3. China is a stable trading partner for Alberta.	3.32	3.31	3.28	3.19	3.35
4. Alberta should promote energy exports to China.	3.65	3.67	3.57	3.71	3.86
5. Chinese investment in Alberta in the form of partial ownership is acceptable.	3.08	2.94	3.04	3.04	3.15
6. Chinese investment in Alberta in the form of full ownership is acceptable.	2.44	2.29	2.39	2.19	2.3
7. Investment in Alberta's energy sector by a company owned and operated by the Chinese government (state) is acceptable.	2.57	2.58	2.44	2.41	2.59
8. Alberta should take China's human rights record into consideration when conducting business in China.	3.88	3.93	4.11	4.11	3.97
9. China will overtake the United States as the leading global power in the 21st century.	3.04	3	3.11	3.32	3.19
10. China's growing economic strength poses a threat to Canada.	2.85	2.92	2.91	2.77	2.74
11. Investment from China in Alberta should be more regulated than foreign investment from elsewhere.	2.97	3.11	3.14	2.89	2.77
12. Increased Chinese investment in Alberta contributes to the provincial economy.	3.58	3.6	3.68	3.7	3.8
13. Alberta should collaborate with China in developing new technologies.	3.77	3.72	3.81	3.82	3.9
14. The Canadian government should negotiate a free trade agreement with China.	3.24	3.16	3.05	3.15	3.22

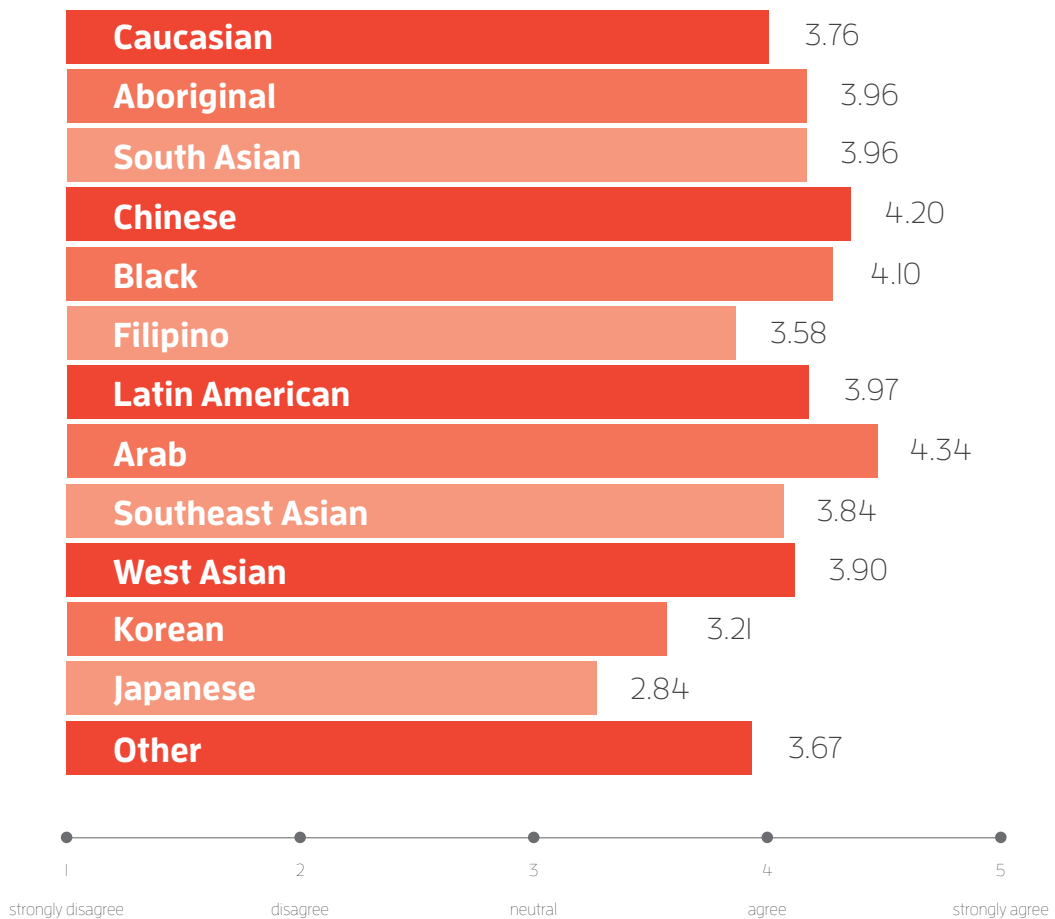
The average values based on the annual household income show that all groups tend to agree on promoting energy exports to China, and are supportive of a technology-based collaboration. Respondents in the household income groups "\$30,000-\$59,999" and "\$60,000-\$99,999" are the most likely to think that there should be more regulation of Chinese investment in Alberta.

— RESULTS —

12: People's Views Based on Ethnic Background

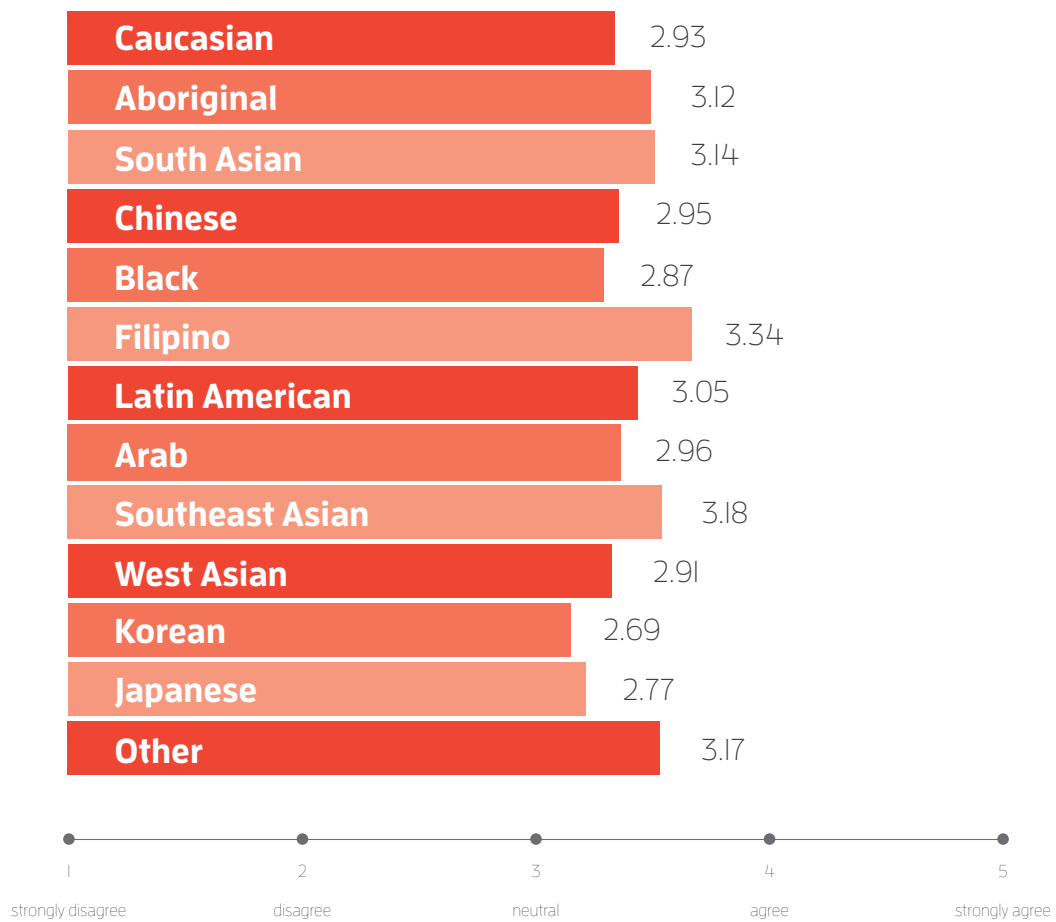
Question 13: Alberta should collaborate with China in developing new technologies.

Responding to the question about collaboration with China in developing new technologies, Albertans who self-identify their ethnic backgrounds as Arab, Chinese, Black and Latin American are the most welcoming and supportive of such a partnership. Meanwhile, those self-identifying as Japanese, Korean and Filipino are largely opposed.



Question II: Investment from China in Alberta should be more regulated than foreign investment from elsewhere.

Albertans who self-identify as Filipino, Southeast Asian and South Asian tend to be more distrustful of Chinese investment in Alberta, and are the most likely to ask for more regulation. Those of Korean, Black and Chinese ethnic background are open to Chinese investment in general, and are the least in favour of more regulation than foreign investment in Alberta from elsewhere.



— RESULTS —

13: Profile Analysis - Average Response Ratings

Question 9: China will overtake the United States as the leading global power in the 21st century.

Albertans who agree that China will overtake the United States as the leading global power in the 21st century are typically from Edmonton or rural and smaller town Alberta and supporters of the federal Liberal Party and NDP, and the provincial Alberta Party. They are more educated (with a post-secondary education), younger (18-34 years old), and in the upper middle class (in a household making \$100,000-\$150,000 a year). Whether born in Canada or elsewhere was statistically insignificant, but they self-identify as ethnically Arab, Black, Latin American, Chinese, Aboriginal, or Caucasian.

Albertans who disagree that China will pass the United States in terms of global power this century are mostly Calgarians and supporters of the federal Green Party and the provincial PC/Tory Party. They are high school educated, older (55+), and in the lower middle class (in a household making \$30,000-\$60,000 a year). Again place of birth was of no significance, but they self-identify as ethnically Korean, Filipino, West Asian, Southeast Asian, or Japanese.

Note: 5 is Strongly Agree, 4 is Agree, 3 is Neutral, 2 Disagree, and 1 is Strongly Disagree



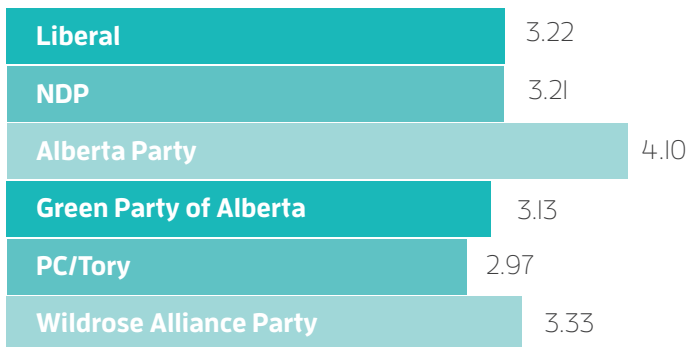
Area of the Province

Residents of Edmonton and non-metropolitan areas tend to believe that China will overtake the United States as a leading global power.



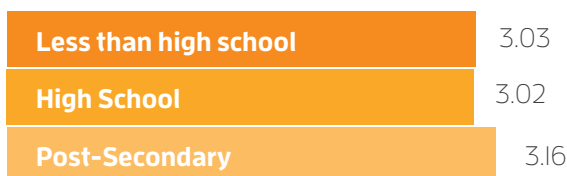
Federal Political Preferences

Respondents who prefer the federal Liberals and NDP are the most supportive of the idea that China will overtake the United States, while those who prefer the federal Green Party are less supportive.



Provincial Political Preferences

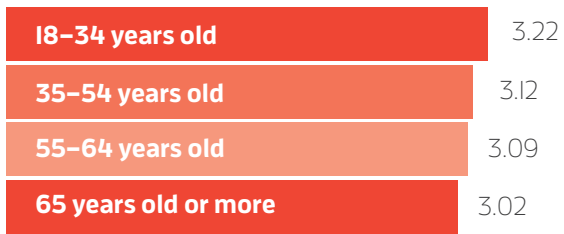
At the provincial level, respondents who prefer the Alberta Party are the most supportive, while those who prefer the provincial PC/Tory typically do not agree with the statement.



Education

Respondents who have completed or partially completed a post-secondary education are the most likely to believe that China will overtake the United States as the leading global power.

Note: 5 is Strongly Agree, 4 is Agree, 3 is Neutral, 2 Disagree, and 1 is Strongly Disagree



Age Groups

Respondents who are between 18-34 years old generally agree that China will become the leading global power.



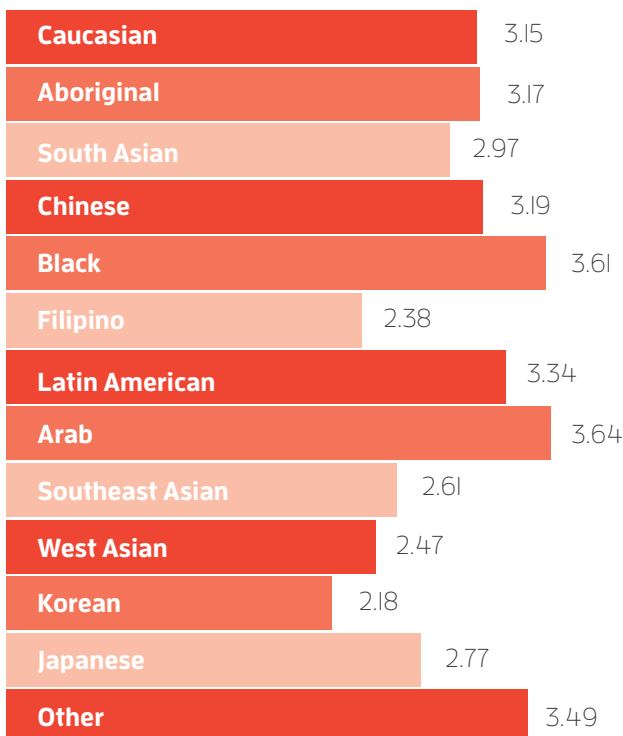
Household Income

Respondents whose income ranges between \$100,000 - \$149,999 are more favorable to the idea that China will play a leading global role.



Birthplace

There is no difference in the perception that China will overcome the US, regardless of whether the respondents are born outside of Canada or in Canada.



Ethnic Background

Albertans who self-identify as of Arab, Black or Latin American origin are the most supportive of the idea that China will overcome the United States as the leading global power.

Question 14: The Canadian government should negotiate a free trade agreement with China.

Albertans who agree that the Canadian government should negotiate a free trade agreement with China are largely Edmontonians or Calgarians and supporters of the federal Liberal Party and the provincial Liberal, Alberta, or PC/Tory Parties. They are high school educated (high school completed), younger (18-34 years old), and make less than \$60,000 a year. Further, these people were typically born in Canada, and identify ethnically as Chinese, Arab, Korean, Latin American, Southeast Asian, South Asian, Aboriginal, or Black.

Albertans who disagree with free trade with China are largely supporters of the federal and provincial Green Party. They are either more educated (with a post-secondary education) or less educated (having not completed high school), older (55 years old and more), and middle class (in a household making \$60,000-\$100,000 a year). Further, these people are typically immigrants, and identify as ethnically Japanese or Filipino.

Note: 5 is Strongly Agree, 4 is Agree, 3 is Neutral, 2 Disagree, and 1 is Strongly Disagree



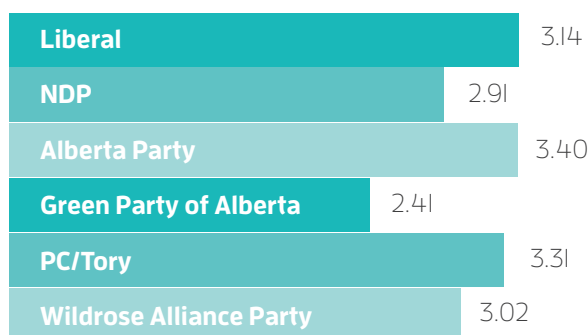
Area of the Province

Albertans living in non-metropolitan areas are more opposed to a free trade agreement with China, while Edmontonians and Calgarians have a higher level of acceptance.



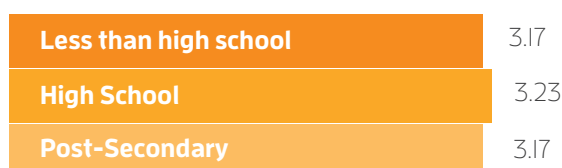
Federal Political Preferences

Respondents who prefer the federal Liberal and the federal Conservative parties are the most supportive of a free trade agreement with China.



Provincial Political Preferences

Respondents who prefer the provincial Liberal and Alberta parties are the most favorable of a free trade agreement with China, while those who prefer the provincial Green Party are more reluctant.



Education

Respondents who have completed a high school education but did not attend post-secondary are more open to a free trade agreement with China.

Note: 5 is Strongly Agree, 4 is Agree, 3 is Neutral, 2 Disagree, and 1 is Strongly Disagree



Age Groups

Younger adults (between 18 and 34 years old) are more receptive to the idea of a free trade agreement with China.



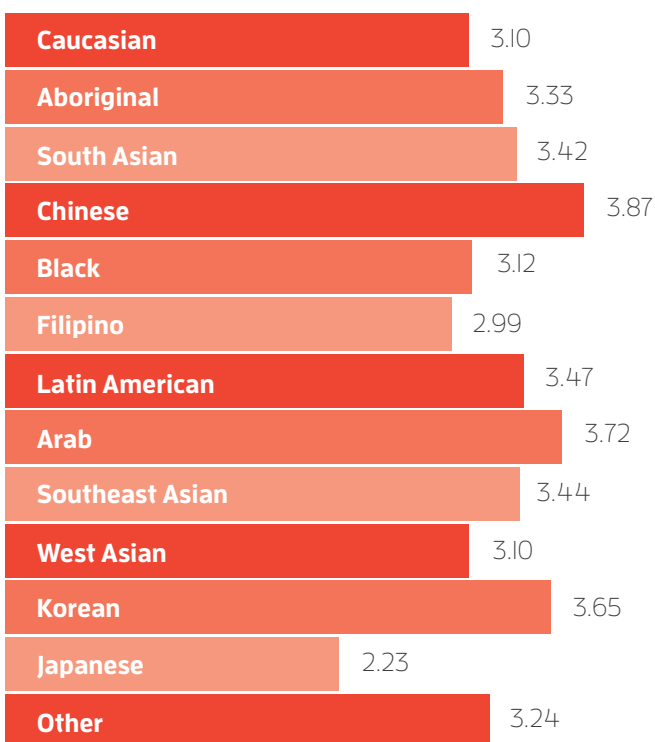
Household Income

Respondents with lower incomes (a household making less than \$30,000 a year) and those within the highest income bracket (a household making more than \$150,000 a year) are the most in favour of a free trade agreement with China.



Birthplace

Albertans born outside Canada are more open to a trade agreement with China than those born in Canada.



Ethnic Background

Albertans self-identifying as Chinese, Arab or Korean are the most supportive; those self-identifying as Japanese and Filipino are the least supportive, perhaps in part due to the South China Sea dispute.

— RESULTS —

14: Subset Analysis

Subset: The importance of the ability to speak Chinese

Agreeing that the ability to speak Chinese will become more important to Albertans.

Statements	Agree	Neutral	Disagree
I. Alberta can learn from China's economic success.	50	28	22
2. The ability to speak Chinese will become more important to Albertans.	-	-	-
3. China is a stable trading partner for Alberta.	58	27	15
4. Alberta should promote energy exports to China.	71	17	12
5. Chinese investment in Alberta in the form of partial ownership is acceptable.	59	17	24
6. Chinese investment in Alberta in the form of full ownership is acceptable.	28	15	57
7. Investment in Alberta's energy sector by a company owned and operated by the Chinese government (state) is acceptable.	34	20	46
8. Alberta should take China's human rights record into consideration when conducting business in China.	81	9	10
9. China will overtake the United States as the leading global power in the 21st century.	53	27	20
10. China's growing economic strength poses a threat to Canada.	26	23	51
II. Investment from China in Alberta should be more regulated than foreign investment from elsewhere.	33	18	49
12. Increased Chinese investment in Alberta contributes to the provincial economy.	84	11	5
13. Alberta should collaborate with China in developing new technologies.	87	6	7
14. The Canadian government should negotiate a free trade agreement with China.	50	24	26

The group of respondents agreeing that the ability to speak Chinese will become more important to Albertans are in general supporters of the NDP or PC/Tory Party, have a postsecondary education, and were born in Canada. These respondents largely hold a positive view of China in other areas. 59% accept partial Chinese ownership of investments in Alberta, 53% think China will overtake the US as a global power this century, 51% do not find China's economic strength a threat, 49% do not think Chinese investment needs more regulation than that of other countries, 84% think China's investment contributes to the provincial economy, and 87% want to see Alberta collaborate with China on developing new technologies.

Disagreeing that the ability to speak Chinese will become more important to Albertans.

Statements	Agree	Neutral	Disagree
1. Alberta can learn from China's economic success.	31	29	40
2. The ability to speak Chinese will become more important to Albertans.	-	-	-
3. China is a stable trading partner for Alberta.	43	27	30
4. Alberta should promote energy exports to China.	63	20	17
5. Chinese investment in Alberta in the form of partial ownership is acceptable.	34	20	46
6. Chinese investment in Alberta in the form of full ownership is acceptable.	16	12	72
7. Investment in Alberta's energy sector by a company owned and operated by the Chinese government (state) is acceptable.	22	12	66
8. Alberta should take China's human rights record into consideration when conducting business in China.	73	12	15
9. China will overtake the United States as the leading global power in the 21st century.	32	25	43
10. China's growing economic strength poses a threat to Canada.	34	25	41
11. Investment from China in Alberta should be more regulated than foreign investment from elsewhere.	42	20	38
12. Increased Chinese investment in Alberta contributes to the provincial economy.	62	20	18
13. Alberta should collaborate with China in developing new technologies.	69	13	18
14. The Canadian government should negotiate a free trade agreement with China.	41	26	33

The 44% of respondents who disagreed that the ability to speak Chinese will become more important to Albertans hold a more negative view of China in other areas, relatively speaking. 46% and 72% disagree with partial and full Chinese ownership of investments in Alberta, respectively, while 73% think Alberta should take China's human rights record into account when doing business with the country. Further only 43% think China could overtake the US as a global power this century, and 41% see China's economic strength as a threat, while 42% want to see more regulation for Chinese investment relative to other countries. These respondents are generally Albertans with a post-secondary education, and are PC/Tory and Wildrose Party supporters.

Subset: China's Growing Economic Strength as a Threat to Canada

Agreeing that China's growing economic strength poses a threat to Canada.

Statements	Agree	Neutral	Disagree
I. Alberta can learn from China's economic success.	45	18	37
2. The ability to speak Chinese will become more important to Albertans.	34	15	51
3. China is a stable trading partner for Alberta.	47	20	33
4. Alberta should promote energy exports to China.	67	13	20
5. Chinese investment in Alberta in the form of partial ownership is acceptable.	37	13	50
6. Chinese investment in Alberta in the form of full ownership is acceptable.	19	7	74
7. Investment in Alberta's energy sector by a company owned and operated by the Chinese government (state) is acceptable.	21	9	70
8. Alberta should take China's human rights record into consideration when conducting business in China.	76	9	16
9. China will overtake the United States as the leading global power in the 21st century.	50	23	27
10. China's growing economic strength poses a threat to Canada.	-	-	-
II. Investment from China in Alberta should be more regulated than foreign investment from elsewhere.	61	15	23
12. Increased Chinese investment in Alberta contributes to the provincial economy.	68	13	19
13. Alberta should collaborate with China in developing new technologies.	70	10	20
14. The Canadian government should negotiate a free trade agreement with China.	41	20	39

The 29% of respondents who agree that China's growing economic strength poses a threat to Canada are largely skeptical of China in other areas, too. 50% of this cohort is opposed to partial Chinese ownership of investments in the province, a number that rises to 74% for full ownership, while 70% are opposed to Chinese state-owned investment in Alberta's energy sector, 76% want Alberta to take China's human rights record into account when doing business with the country, and 61% want more regulation for Chinese investment relative to that from other countries. A majority of these respondents declared support for the PC/Tory and Wildrose parties.

Disagreeing that China's growing economic strength poses a threat to Canada.

Statements	Agree	Neutral	Disagree
1. Alberta can learn from China's economic success.	44	27	29
2. The ability to speak Chinese will become more important to Albertans.	43	17	40
3. China is a stable trading partner for Alberta.	57	24	19
4. Alberta should promote energy exports to China.	73	16	11
5. Chinese investment in Alberta in the form of partial ownership is acceptable.	54	18	28
6. Chinese investment in Alberta in the form of full ownership is acceptable.	28	14	58
7. Investment in Alberta's energy sector by a company owned and operated by the Chinese government (state) is acceptable.	36	17	47
8. Alberta should take China's human rights record into consideration when conducting business in China.	74	11	15
9. China will overtake the United States as the leading global power in the 21st century.	34	27	39
10. China's growing economic strength poses a threat to Canada.	-	-	-
11. Investment from China in Alberta should be more regulated than foreign investment from elsewhere.	25	17	58
12. Increased Chinese investment in Alberta contributes to the provincial economy.	79	12	9
13. Alberta should collaborate with China in developing new technologies.	84	8	8
14. The Canadian government should negotiate a free trade agreement with China.	52	25	23

The 45% of respondents who disagree that China's growing economic strength poses a threat to Canada are relatively more positive towards China in other areas. 54% are fine with partial Chinese ownership of investments in the province, while just 47% disagreed with Chinese state-owned investments in Alberta's energy sector. 58% are opposed to the idea of more regulations for Chinese investment relative to other countries, and 84% like the idea of Alberta-China collaboration in developing new technologies. A majority of this cohort resides in the Calgary area, 80% have a postsecondary education, and a plurality supports the PC/Tory Party.

ALBERTA IN THE NATIONAL CONTEXT

Similar to the previous years, the “2016 National Opinion Poll: Canadian Views on Asia” by the Asia Pacific Foundation of Canada (APFC) is of relevance to the CIUA Alberta Survey. The APFC Survey assesses Canadians’ attitudes and perceptions toward Asia, while the CIUA Alberta Survey focuses on the evolving views of Albertans regarding China, including investment and trade relations.

The 2016 APFC Survey reveals that Canadians have increasingly positive views about trade and collaboration with partners in Asia. For example, the perception that Asia is increasingly important for economic prosperity in Canada’s provinces increased by 14% over two years, now at 60%, up from 46% in 2014.

Canadians are also open to a closer economic relationship with China, even though half of the respondents (50%) said that they would be open to being persuaded to support closer co-operation if they had more information. There is also a positive view about trade with Asia, with a majority (56%) of respondents supportive of selling natural gas to Asia, while the percentage of those who oppose it is around 28%.

Although Canadians have positive opinions about private investment from Asia, they remain skeptical regarding foreign state-owned enterprises (SOEs) investing in Canada, particularly from China. Only 11% of Canadians are in favour of investment by Chinese state-owned enterprises in Canada, and almost half (46%) of the respondents consider China’s increasing presence in Canada as a threat to the country’s values and way of life. Regarding Chinese investment in the Canadian real estate sector, 62% of respondents believe that the Canadian government is “allowing too much investment”; while only two per cent think that the Canadian government is “not allowing enough investment” (APFC 2016).

The APFC Survey also indicates that 46% of respondents’ express support for a free trade agreement between Canada and China. The percentage of those who agree is substantially in line with the 2016 CIUA Survey findings (44% agree in Alberta). Even though 46% of Canadians are also opposed, views on a possible FTA with China are more positive compared to two years ago, when 50% of Canadians opposed and 36% agreed. The support for a FTA is even higher for Japan (72%), India (55%), and the Association of Southeast Asian Nations (54%). The skepticism of those against a free trade agreement with China may be, at least in part, due to a lack of information about China.

Other than trade and investment, the APFC Survey also reveals strong support by Canadians (69%) for efforts made by universities in their home provinces to increase exchanges and education ties to Asian schools.

In terms of China’s importance, 40% of respondents believe that China is very important to Canada’s economic prosperity, an increase of 5 percent in two years. At the provincial level, British Columbia (43%) is the most welcoming, followed by Alberta (42%, as compared to 38% in 2014).

The APFC survey revealed strong concerns by Canadians about human rights. Respondents believe that supporting human rights in Asia is more important than economic gains, with a majority (59%) of respondents agreeing that promoting democracy in Asia should be a major priority for the Government of Canada. Similarly, the CIUA survey found that a high portion of Albertans (77%) believe that China’s human rights record should be taken into consideration when conducting business in China.

THE ALBERTA SURVEY

METHODOLOGY

The Population Research Laboratory (PRL) administered the 2016 Alberta Survey. This invaluable survey of households across the province of Alberta continues to enable academic researchers, government departments, and non-profit organizations to explore a wide range of topics in a structured research framework and environment. Sponsors' research questions are asked together with demographic questions in a telephone interview of Alberta households. The main data collection began on July 5, 2016 and was completed on August 9, 2016.

The PRL used a Random-Digit Dialling (RDD) approach to ensure that respondents had an equal chance to be contacted whether or not their household was listed in a telephone directory. The PRL has developed a database of eight-digit telephone banks covering the Edmonton and Calgary metropolitan areas, as well as the remainder of the province.

A respondent within each household was selected on the basis of gender using the following selection guidelines to ensure an equal selection of male and female participants. The final sample of 1,208 respondents consisted of 604 females and 604 males.

The estimated sampling error, at the 95% confidence level, for an area sample of 1,208 households assuming a 50/50 binomial percentage distribution is plus or minus 2.8 percentage points. Survey estimates for the subsample of 400 are estimated to be within plus or minus 5.0 percentage points, at the 95% confidence level.

The sample sizes of completed interviews obtained for Metropolitan Edmonton, Metropolitan Calgary, and Other Alberta are not always proportional to the current Alberta population they are meant to represent. Therefore, statistical weights were calculated for the 2016 Alberta Survey sample data using population estimates for 2015.

The basic weight that PRL has applied to Alberta Survey data sets since 1987 is based on age. Since the population 18 and over is not equally distributed among the three areas of Edmonton, Calgary and Other Alberta, PRL makes a small adjustment to each area but the overall sample size remains at 1,208.

The weight used in this report is constructed from age group (5 categories) and gender by each area from Census estimates. Gender is usually very close to 50-50 in PRL quotas that PRL has setup. However, it has been noticed that an older population exists in the three areas in recent studies where PRL has collected data by phone. Once again, PRL has redistributed the 1,208 respondents. Younger ages have more weight (over 1.00) while older ages typically oversampled are weighted at less than 1.00. Where PRL does not have age recorded but respondents have confirmed that they are over 18 - the weight is 1.00.

The PRL accumulated data on a regular basis using the features of the CATI system (Computer-Assisted Telephone Interviewing) and then imported into the IBM SPSS Statistics (Version 23) in order to run frequency distributions and cross-tabulations. The data were checked regularly for missing values and inconsistencies. The data cleaning process included wild code, discrepant value, and consistency checks. Each variable was reviewed and evaluated.

APPENDIX

2016 Questionnaire

Introduction I

"Hello, my name is _____. I'm calling (long distance) from the Population Research Laboratory at the University of Alberta. Have I dialed XXX-XXXX? Your phone number was randomly selected."

PRESS 'I' TO CONTINUE

"Hello, I am calling back from the Population Research Laboratory to continue an interview that we started previously."

Introduction 2

"The Population Research Laboratory is conducting a public opinion survey on behalf of university and policy researchers on various topics, such as: social media and volunteerism, mentoring, China's role in Alberta's economy, and common law relationships and property law. Your opinions are very important and valuable to us and the information will be used to help with decision-making in developing public policies to improve programs and services in Alberta.

The study sponsors are the Population Research Laboratory, MacEwan University, Mount Royal University, Alberta Mentoring Partnership, China Institute, and Alberta Law Reform Institute.

Your information is confidential and only completed interview will be used for the indicated purposes in conformity with the Alberta Freedom of Information and Protection of Privacy Act (FOIPP)."

Questionnaire

China's Role in Alberta Economy

The following questions are about your opinion regarding China's role in Alberta's economy. In order to understand your views, please indicate whether you 'strongly disagree', 'disagree', 'neither agree nor disagree', 'agree', or 'strongly agree' with each of the following statements.

(To be read as further information if participant asks:

"This information will be used to write a report that will be shared with provincial and federal policy makers, as well as stakeholders in industries of significance to the Alberta economy.")

(The China Institute at the University of Alberta is interested in understanding how Albertans feel about China and our province's relationship to China.)

1. Alberta can learn from China's economic success.

- 1 Strongly disagree
- 2 Disagree
- 3 Neither disagree nor agree
- 4 Agree
- 5 Strongly agree
- 8 Don't know (volunteered)
- 0 No response (volunteered)

2. The ability to speak Chinese will become more important to Albertans.

- 1 Strongly disagree
- 2 Disagree
- 3 Neither disagree nor agree
- 4 Agree
- 5 Strongly agree
- 8 Don't know (volunteered)
- 0 No response (volunteered)

3. China is a stable trading partner for Alberta.

- 1 Strongly disagree
- 2 Disagree
- 3 Neither disagree nor agree
- 4 Agree
- 5 Strongly agree
- 8 Don't know (volunteered)
- 0 No response (volunteered)

4. Alberta should promote energy exports to China.

- 1 Strongly disagree
- 2 Disagree
- 3 Neither disagree nor agree
- 4 Agree
- 5 Strongly agree
- 8 Don't know (volunteered)
- 0 No response (volunteered)

5. Chinese investment in Alberta in the form of partial ownership is acceptable.

- 1 Strongly disagree
- 2 Disagree
- 3 Neither disagree nor agree
- 4 Agree
- 5 Strongly agree
- 8 Don't know (volunteered)
- 0 No response (volunteered)

[INTERVIEWER: Investment: Some examples: technology, service, oil and gas sectors.]

[INTERVIEWER: IF NEEDED: "Partial" means owning just a part of a company.]

6. Chinese investment in Alberta in the form of full ownership is acceptable.

- 1 Strongly disagree
- 2 Disagree
- 3 Neither disagree nor agree
- 4 Agree
- 5 Strongly agree
- 8 Don't know (volunteered)
- 0 No response (volunteered)

7. Investment in Alberta's energy sector by a company owned and operated by the Chinese government (state) is acceptable.

- 1 Strongly disagree
- 2 Disagree
- 3 Neither disagree nor agree
- 4 Agree
- 5 Strongly agree
- 8 Don't know (volunteered)
- 0 No response (volunteered)

8. Alberta should take China's human rights record into consideration when conducting business in China.

- 1 Strongly disagree
- 2 Disagree
- 3 Neither disagree nor agree
- 4 Agree
- 5 Strongly agree
- 8 Don't know (volunteered)
- 0 No response (volunteered)

9. China will overtake the United States as the leading global power in the 21st century.

- 1 Strongly disagree
- 2 Disagree
- 3 Neither disagree nor agree
- 4 Agree
- 5 Strongly agree
- 8 Don't know (volunteered)
- 0 No response (volunteered)

10. China's growing economic strength poses a threat to Canada.

- 1 Strongly disagree
- 2 Disagree
- 3 Neither disagree nor agree
- 4 Agree
- 5 Strongly agree
- 8 Don't know (volunteered)
- 0 No response (volunteered)

[INTERVIEWER: 'Threat' – some examples: competition, taking jobs away,..etc]

11. Investment from China in Alberta should be more regulated than foreign investment from elsewhere.

- 1 Strongly disagree
- 2 Disagree
- 3 Neither disagree nor agree
- 4 Agree
- 5 Strongly agree
- 8 Don't know (volunteered)
- 0 No response (volunteered)

[INTERVIEWER: "Elsewhere" means from other countries except China.]

12. Increased Chinese investment in Alberta contributes to the provincial economy.

- 1 Strongly disagree
- 2 Disagree
- 3 Neither disagree nor agree
- 4 Agree
- 5 Strongly agree
- 8 Don't know (volunteered)
- 0 No response (volunteered)

13. Alberta should collaborate with China in developing new technologies.

- 1 Strongly disagree
- 2 Disagree
- 3 Neither disagree nor agree
- 4 Agree
- 5 Strongly agree
- 8 Don't know (volunteered)
- 0 No response (volunteered)

14. The Canadian government should negotiate a Free Trade Agreement with China.

- 1 Strongly disagree
- 2 Disagree
- 3 Neither disagree nor agree
- 4 Agree
- 5 Strongly agree
- 8 Don't know (volunteered)
- 0 No response (volunteered)

ABOUT THE CHINA INSTITUTE

The China Institute at the University of Alberta (CIUA) was established in the fall of 2005 and is dedicated to the study of China and to enhancing understanding between Canada and China. The CIUA aims to foster China related initiatives and scholarship at the University of Alberta, and to enhance and support teaching and research activities that are focused on China.

The Director of the CIUA is Professor Gordon Houlden, a specialist of Chinese and Asia Pacific affairs, and former Canadian diplomat with five postings in Greater China, with 30 years of experience working on Canada-China issues.

The China Institute currently focuses its research on the growing economic linkages between Canada and China with particular emphasis on China's energy profile and its increasing investment in Canada and in Alberta. The China Institute has a growing interest in the future course of China and how changes in the People's Republic of China may affect Canada. The CIUA has been conducting annual surveys on the views of Albertans on China since 2011.

The CIUA participated in the 2016 Alberta Survey with 14 questions (12 questions are the same as in 2014, and there are 2 new questions) to assess Albertans' views on economic and cultural affairs involving China and Alberta. This 2016 survey provides insights regarding the evolution of Albertans' perceptions in comparison with previous years, particularly with the 2014 and 2012 surveys.

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ABOUT THE POPULATION RESEARCH LABORATORY

The Population Research Laboratory (PRL), a member of the Association of Academic Survey Research Organizations (AASRO), seeks to advance the research, education and service goals of the University of Alberta by helping academic researchers and policy makers design and implement applied social science research projects. The PRL specializes in the gathering, analysis, and presentation of data about demographic, social and public issues.

The PRL research team provides expert consultation and implementation of quantitative and qualitative research methods, project design, sample design, web-based, paper-based and telephone surveys, field site testing, data analysis and report writing. The PRL follows scientifically rigorous and transparent methods in each phase of a research project. Research Coordinators are members of the American Association for Public Opinion Research (AAPOR) and use best practices when conducting all types of research.

The PRL has particular expertise in conducting computer-assisted telephone interviews (referred to as CATI surveys). When conducting telephone surveys, all calls are displayed as being from the “U of A PRL,” a procedure that assures recipients that the call is not from a telemarketer, and thus helps increase response rates. The PRL maintains a complement of highly skilled telephone interviewers and supervisors who are thoroughly trained in FOIPP requirements, respondent selection procedures, questionnaire instructions, and neutral probing. A subset of interviewers are specially trained to convince otherwise reluctant respondents to participate in the study, a practice that increases response rates and lowers selection bias. PRL staff monitors data collection on a daily basis to allow any necessary adjustments to the volume and timing of calls and respondent selection criteria.

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