YUKON ELECTORAL REFORM SURVEY REPORT

Prepared for the Special Committee on Electoral Reform of the 35th Yukon Legislative Assembly by Yukon Bureau of Statistics

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Yukon Electoral Reform Survey Report

Introduction and Methodology

The Yukon Electoral Reform Survey was conducted by Yukon Bureau of Statistics (YBS) on behalf of the Special Committee on Electoral Reform of the 35th Yukon Legislative Assembly. The purpose of this survey was to collect input from Yukoners on electoral reform including their perceptions of various voting systems and outcomes.

The survey was a census of all Yukon residents aged 16 years and over. YBS started sending invitations to all eligible individuals in the Bureau's Household Survey Frame on February 15, 2022, and the process was completed in a week. Each eligible person received either an email invitation with a unique and non-shareable link or a letter invitation with a unique PIN and a simplified URL. Individuals in the 65 years and older age group, whose email addresses were not available in the survey frame, received a letter invitation along with a printed copy of the questionnaire. The initial invitation was followed by reminders and the survey was closed on April 10, 2022.

Out of 35,858 eligible individuals, 6,129 completed the survey with a response rate of 17.1%. The percentage distribution of responses by stratum (i.e., geography, age group, and gender) was compared with that of the eligible population. The difference between the two distributions by stratum ranged from -2.4 to +4.7 percentage points. Calibration factors were derived for each stratum to minimize the distributional differences and to better represent the geographies and demographics. The distribution of the calibration factors was compared with the distributions of the population and responses to validate their alignments, and then the calibration factors were applied to responses.

In most surveys of the general population without any non-response follow-up, older adults and women tend to respond in a relatively higher proportion than other demographic groups, and this survey was no exception. Therefore, calibration of responses was necessary to minimize any participation bias and to improve the distributional balance of responses. The results presented in this report reflect the responses of the survey participants without under- or over-representing any groups based on geography, age group, or gender. The application of the calibration factors helped reduce the participation bias and improve the survey results. However, the results may not be representative of the eligible population.

Results

The survey questionnaire included 28 Likert-scale statements, 1 ranking question, and 6 other questions organized in 10 sections (A to J). The other questions provided binary ('yes' or 'no'), 'select one', or 'check all that apply' response options.

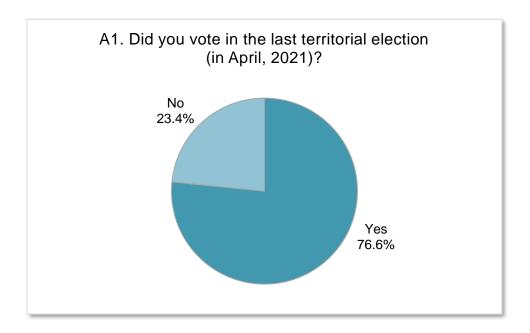
The questionnaire included seven paired statements — one about the majority or a minority government as an electoral outcome, and two each about electoral systems, voting age and residency requirement. For example, in section C, respondents were asked to share their level of agreement with the following consecutive statements: "The current electoral system should be maintained", and "The current electoral system should be changed." As the statements are essentially opposites, it is logical that a respondent would agree or disagree with only one of them. However, a respondent could remain neutral to both statements. Respondents' levels of agreement to paired opposing statements were checked for response consistency, and the extent of inconsistency is noted with the relevant results.

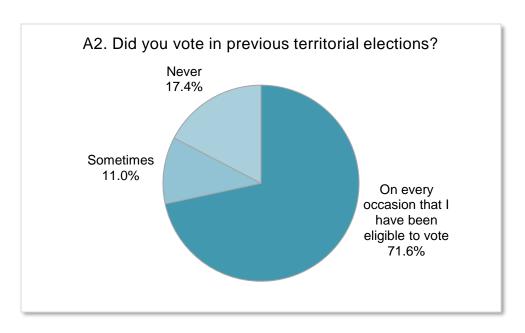
The survey results are presented below by section (A to J).

A. Your vote

The first section of the survey asked respondents if they voted in territorial elections.

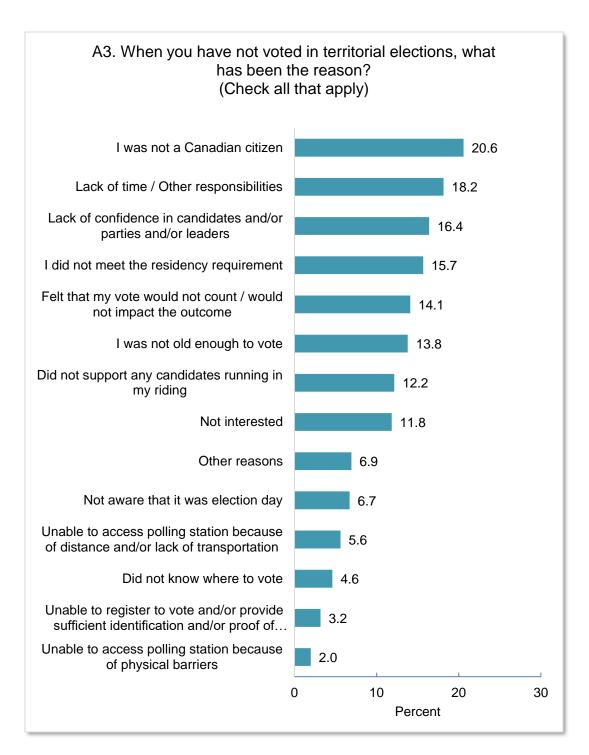
- 76.6% of respondents said they voted in the last territorial election (Figure A1);
- 71.6% of respondents said they voted in previous territorial elections, on every occasion when they were eligible to vote (Figure A2).





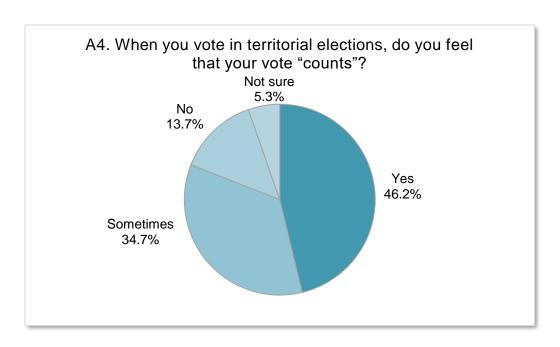
The survey asked respondents, who indicated that they did not always vote, to share their reasons for not voting (Figure A3). The top eight reasons given were:

- Not a Canadian citizen (20.6% of those who have not always voted; 6.6% of all respondents);
- Lack of time or other responsibilities (18.2% of those who have not always voted; 5.8% of all respondents);
- Lack of confidence in candidates and/or parties and/or leaders (16.4% of those who have not always voted; 5.3% of all respondents);
- Did not meet the residency requirement (15.7% of those who have not always voted; 5.0% of all respondents);
- Felt that their vote would not count or would not impact the outcome (14.1% of those who have not always voted; 4.5% of all respondents);
- Was not old enough to vote (13.8% of those who have not always voted; 4.4% of all respondents);
- Did not support any candidate (12.2% of those who have not always voted; 3.9% of all respondents); and
- Was not interested (11.8% of those who have not always voted; 3.8% of all respondents).



Note: question A3 was only asked of those respondents who did not always vote in territorial elections (n=1,974).

The survey asked those who said they voted in a territorial election whether they felt that their vote mattered. Less than half of the respondents (46.2%) answered 'yes', while 34.7% said 'sometimes', and 13.7% said 'no' (Figure A4).

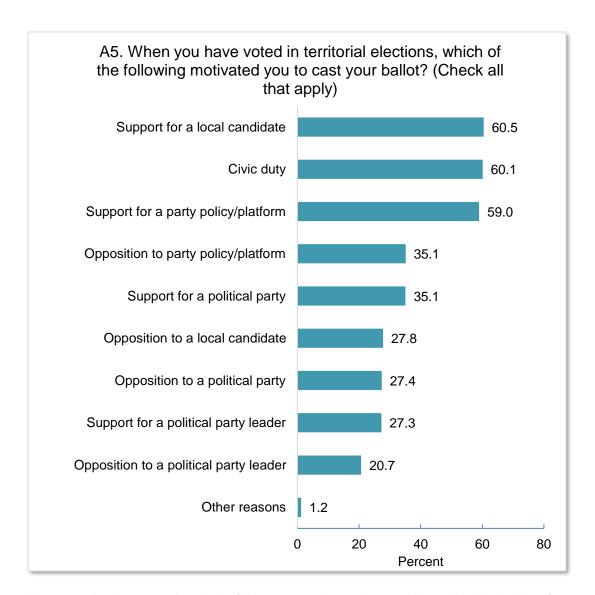


Note: question A4 was only asked of those respondents who voted in territorial elections (n=5,200).

For those who have voted in territorial elections, there were a few motivating factors (Figure A5). Most often, respondents said they voted:

- to **support a local candidate** (60.5% of those who voted in territorial elections);
- because of their civic duty (60.1% of those who voted in territorial elections); or
- to **support a party policy or platform** (59.0% of those who voted in territorial elections).

Respondents were more likely to say they voted to support a local candidate, a party policy or platform (around 60%), and less likely to say they voted to support a political party (35.1%) or a party leader (27.3%). Similarly, respondents were less likely to have been motivated to vote by their opposition to a party policy or platform (35.1%), a local candidate (27.8%), or a political party or party leader (20.7%).

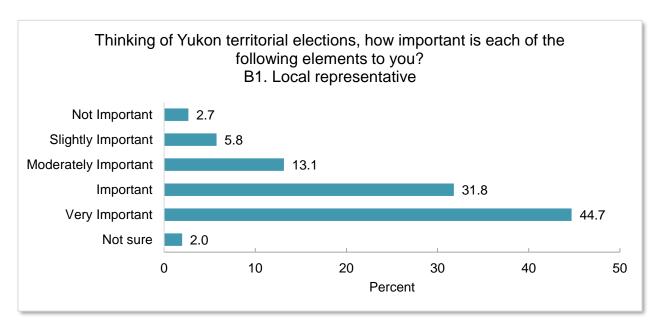


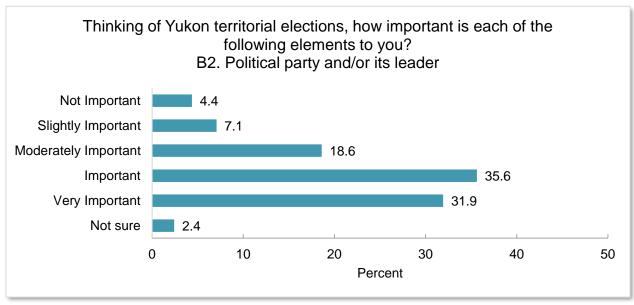
Note: question A5 was only asked of those respondents who voted in territorial elections (n=5,200).

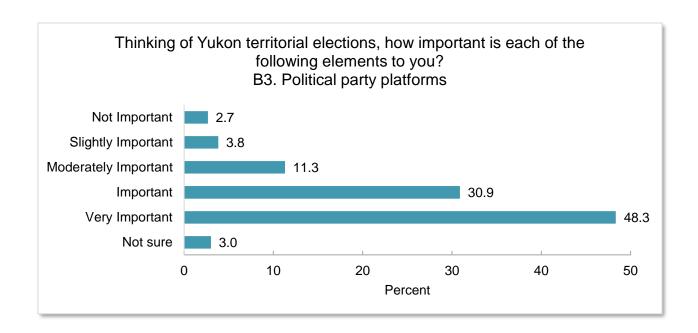
B. Goals of a voting system

The first three questions in this section asked respondents about the importance of the following elements of Yukon territorial elections: local representation, a political party and/or its leader, and political party platforms. The majority of respondents rated all three elements as important or very important —

- 76.5% said having a **local representative** was important or very important (Figure B1);
- 67.5% said political party and/or its leader were important or very important (Figure B2); and
- 79.2% said **political party platforms** were important or very important (Figure B3).





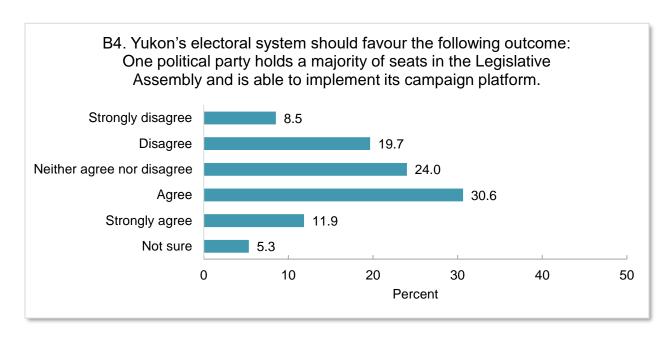


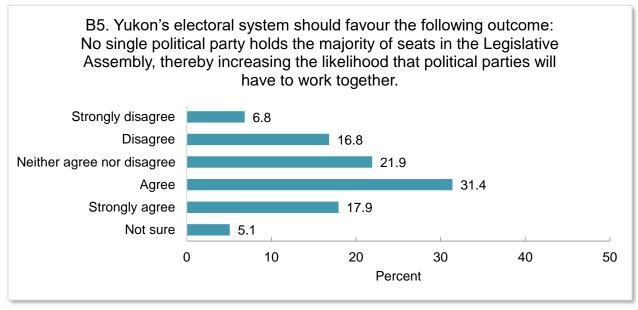
The next four questions in this section asked respondents to indicate their level of agreement to electoral system's outcomes. While respondents were divided in their level of agreement with a majority or a minority government as an electoral outcome, the majority agreed that Yukon's electoral system should ensure local representation and proportional representation. The results are as follows:

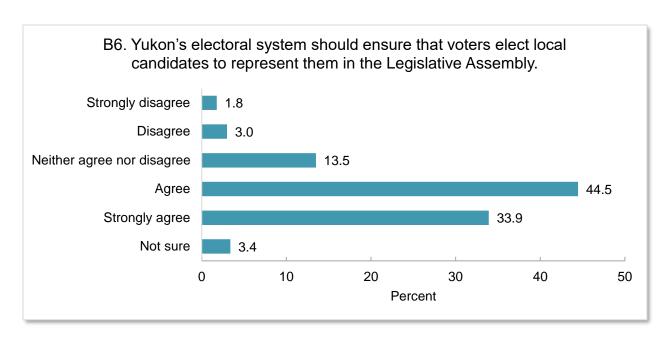
- 42.5% agreed or strongly agreed that Yukon's electoral system should favour the
 outcome that one political party holds a majority of seats in the Legislative Assembly
 and is able to implement its campaign platform, while 28.2% disagreed or strongly
 disagreed (Figure B4);
- 49.3% agreed or strongly agreed that Yukon's electoral system should favour the outcome that **no single political party holds the majority of seats** in the Legislative Assembly, thereby increasing the likelihood that political parties will have to work together, and 23.6% disagreed or strongly disagreed (Figure B5);
- 78.4% agreed or strongly agreed that Yukon's electoral system should ensure that
 voters elect local candidates to represent them in the Legislative Assembly, while
 4.8% disagreed or strongly disagreed (Figure B6); and
- 71.6% agreed or strongly agreed that Yukon's electoral system should ensure that the number of seats held by a party in the Legislative Assembly reflects the proportion of votes it received across the territory, and 10.1% disagreed or strongly disagreed with this outcome (Figure B7).

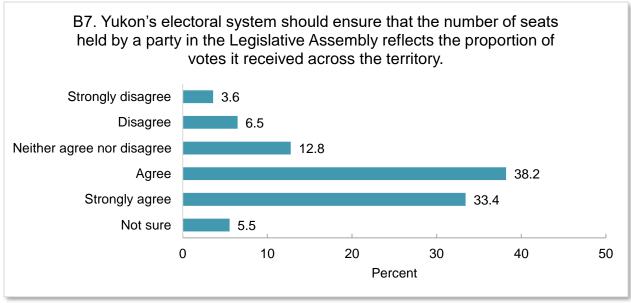
Response consistency was checked for respondents' level of agreement with a majority or a minority government as an electoral outcome (questions B4 and B5). Since a third option (e.g., a consensus government) was not provided, a respondent could disagree or strongly disagree with both outcomes. Also, a respondent could prefer one outcome over the other, or remain neutral to, or agree with (i.e., a *soft* agreement) both considering the pros and cons of both outcomes. However, it is logical that a respondent would strongly agree with only one of them.

An analysis of responses shows that about 98% of the responses to these two questions were consistent as only 1.6% respondents strongly agreed with both outcomes.





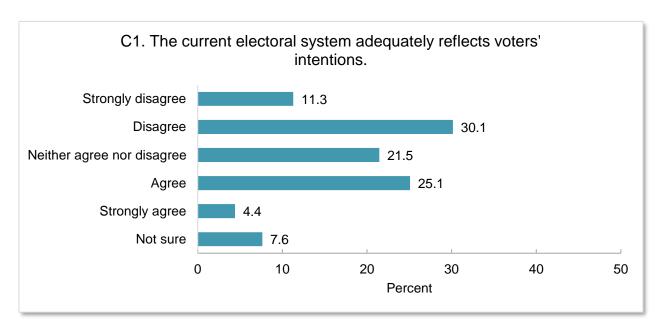


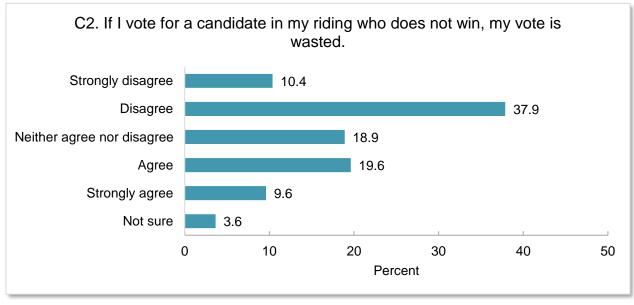


C. Current electoral system

This section of the survey assessed respondents' perception of the current electoral system. Questions C1 and C2 asked respondents to indicate their level of agreement to the statements that the current electoral system adequately reflects voters' intentions, and that their vote is wasted if the candidate they vote for does not win. In response —

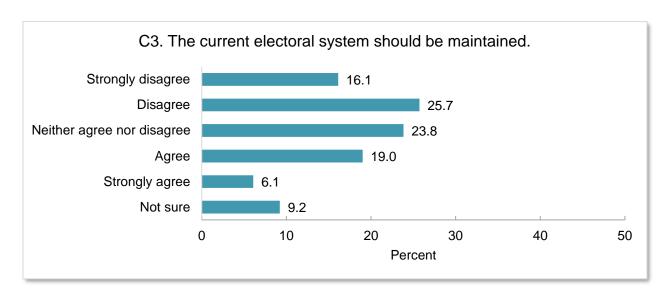
- 29.5% of respondents agreed or strongly agreed that the current electoral system adequately reflects voters' intentions, while 41.4% disagreed or strongly disagreed (Figure C1); and
- 29.2% of respondents agreed or strongly agreed that their vote is wasted if the
 candidate they vote for does not win in their riding, while 48.3% disagreed or strongly
 disagreed (Figure C2).

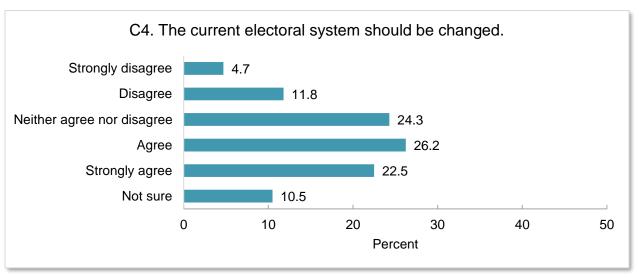




Questions C3 and C4 asked respondents to indicate their level of agreement with two opposing statements that the current electoral system should be maintained, and that the current electoral system should be changed. In response —

- 25.1% of respondents agreed or strongly agreed that **the current electoral system should be maintained**, while 41.8% disagreed or strongly disagreed (Figure C3); and
- 48.7% of respondents agreed or strongly agreed that **the current electoral system should be changed**, while 16.5% disagreed or strongly disagreed (Figure C4).





Consistency was checked for individual responses to questions C3 and C4, since they are mutually exclusive at both ends of the response scale. A respondent could prefer one option over the other or remain neutral to both options. However, it is logical that a respondent would agree or disagree at the same scale with only one option. About 97% of the responses to these two questions were consistent; only 0.6% of respondents disagreed or strongly disagreed, and 2.5% agreed or strongly agreed with both options.

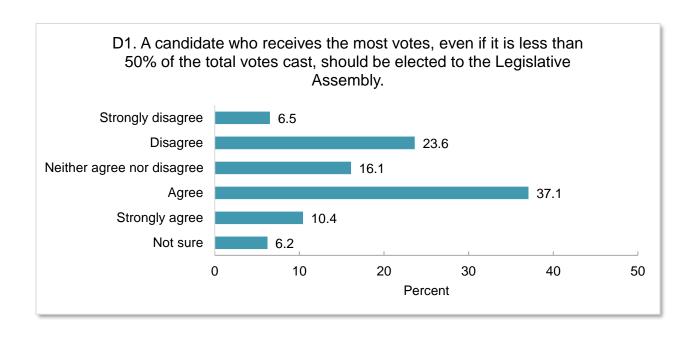
D. Plurality or majority systems

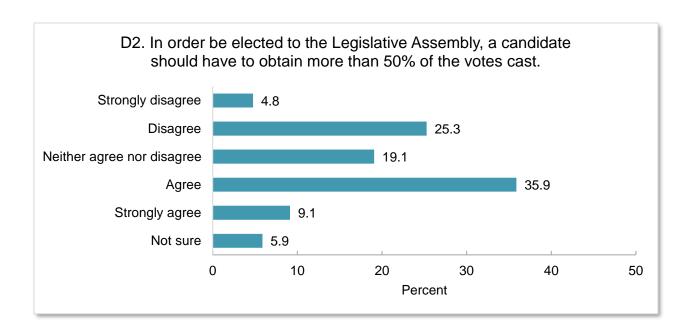
In a plurality system (commonly known as first-past-the-post system), the candidate who receives more votes than any other candidate is elected. Our current electoral system is a plurality system.

In a majority system, the party or candidate winning more than 50% of the vote cast in a riding is awarded the contested seat. This can involve a ranked ballot or a second round of voting.

Questions D1 and D2 asked respondents to indicate their level of agreement with the plurality and the majority systems. In response —

- 47.5% of respondents agreed or strongly agreed that a candidate who receives the most votes, even if it is less than 50% of the total votes cast, should be elected to the Legislative Assembly, while 30.1% disagreed or strongly disagreed (Figure D1); and
- 45.0% of respondents agreed that a candidate should have to obtain more than 50% of the votes cast in order to be elected, while 30.1% disagreed or strongly disagreed (Figure D2).

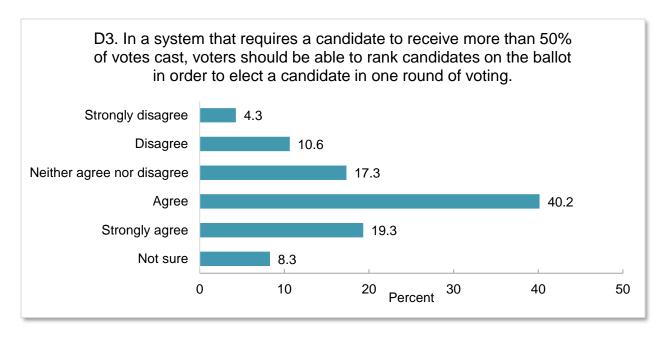


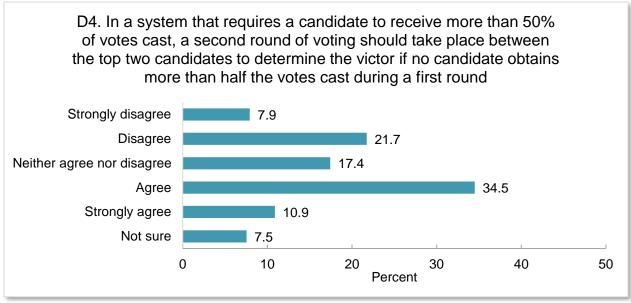


Respondents' levels of agreement to statements in questions D1 and D2 were checked for **consistency**. Since the statements provided options only for two systems (i.e., the plurality and majority systems), a respondent could disagree or strongly disagree with both options. Also, a respondent could prefer one option over the other, or remain neutral to, or agree with (i.e., a *soft* agreement) both considering the merits and demerits of both options. However, it is logical that a respondent would strongly agree with only one of them. About 99% of the responses were consistent; less than 1.0% respondents strongly agreed with both options, showing no preference for one option over the other.

The next two questions assessed respondents' level of agreement with two different approaches to a majority system: ranked ballots and a second round of voting. The results are as follows:

- 59.5% of respondents agreed or strongly agreed that in a system that requires a candidate to receive more than 50% of votes cast, voters should be able to rank candidates on the ballot in order to elect a candidate in one round of voting; 14.9% disagreed or strongly disagreed with that approach (Figure D3); and
- 45.4% of respondents agreed or strongly agreed that in a system that requires a
 candidate to receive more than 50% of votes cast, a second round of voting should
 take place between the top two candidates to determine the victor if no candidate
 obtains more than half the votes cast during a first round; 29.6% of respondents
 disagreed or strongly disagreed with that approach (Figure D4).





Respondents' levels of agreement to statements in questions D3 and D4 were checked for **consistency**. As in D1 and D2, a respondent could disagree or strongly disagree with both options, prefer one option over the other, or remain neutral to, or agree with (i.e., a *soft* agreement) both considering the pros and cons of both options. However, it is logical that a respondent would strongly agree with only one of them. About 94% of the responses were consistent as 5.8% respondents strongly agreed with both options, showing no preference for one option over the other.

E. Proportional representation systems

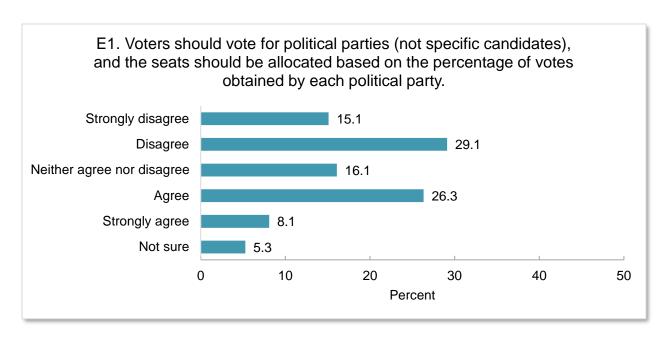
In a proportional representation system, the distribution of seats is broadly proportional to the distribution of the popular vote among political parties. This section of the survey asked respondents to share their level of agreement with four statements relating to a proportional representation system.

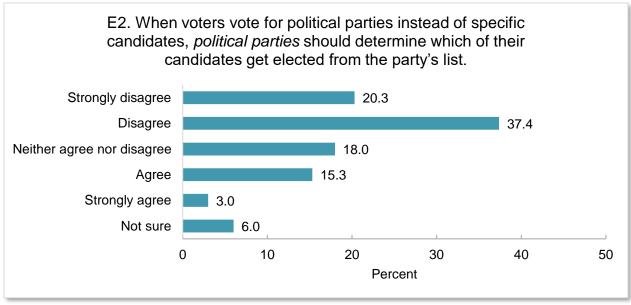
The first question asked respondents to indicate their level of agreement to the statement that voters should vote for political parties (not specific candidates), and the seats should be allocated based on the percentage of votes obtained by each political party. Overall, 34.4% of respondents agreed or strongly agreed, and 44.2% of respondents disagreed or strongly disagreed with this statement (Figure E1).

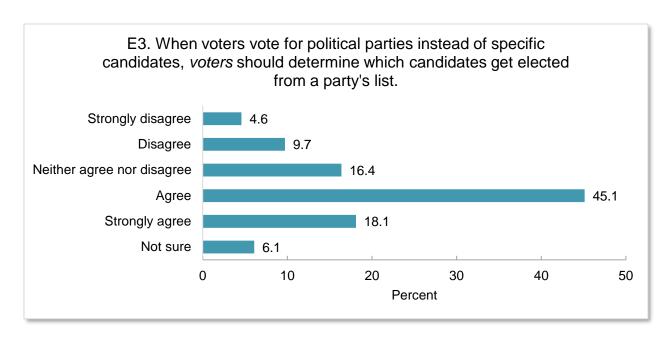
The next two questions asked respondents to indicate their level of agreement to the statement that when voters vote for political parties, instead of specific candidates, *political parties* should determine which of their candidates get elected from the party's list, or voters should determine which candidates get elected. In response —

- 18.3% of respondents agreed or strongly agreed that political parties should determine
 which candidates get elected, while 57.7% disagreed or strongly disagreed (Figure E2);
 and
- 63.2% of respondents agreed or strongly agreed that **voters** should determine which candidates get elected, while 14.3% disagreed or strongly disagreed (Figure E3).

Response consistency was checked for respondents' level of agreement to statements in questions E2 and E3. The statements provided two options for the election of candidates specifically in a proportional representation system. Therefore, a respondent could disagree or strongly disagree with both options, prefer one option over the other, or remain neutral to both options. A respondent could also agree with (i.e., a *soft* agreement) both considering the merits and demerits of both options. However, it is logical that a respondent would strongly agree with only one of them. About 99% of the responses were consistent as only 1.4% respondents strongly agreed with both options.



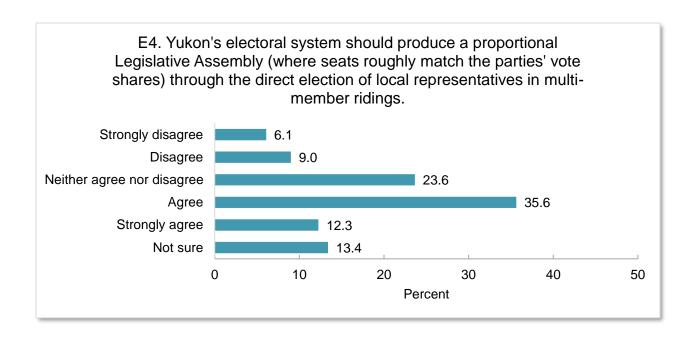




Question E4 asked respondents to indicate their level of agreement to the statement that Yukon's electoral system should produce a **proportional Legislative Assembly** (where seats roughly match the parties' vote shares) through the **direct election of local representatives in multi-member ridings**.

The survey questionnaire informed respondents that "a multi-member riding is an electoral district that has more than one member in the Legislative Assembly. Voters in a multi-member riding mark off as many names on their ballots as there are seats to be filled, and candidates with the most votes are declared elected".

Overall, 47.9% of respondents agreed or strongly agreed with the **multi-member riding** approach, and 15.1% disagreed or strongly disagreed with that approach (Figure E4).

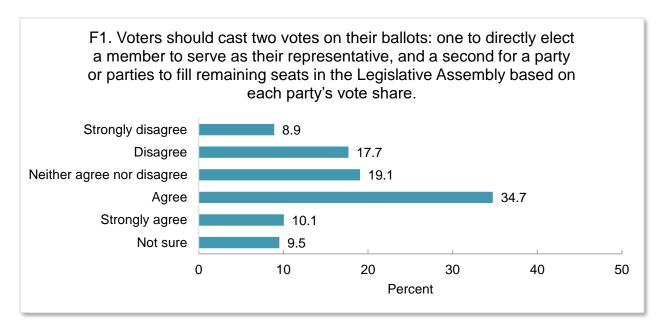


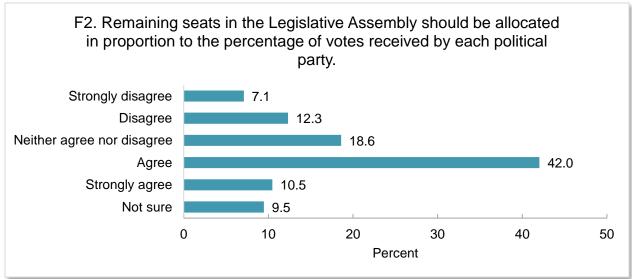
F. Mixed electoral systems

A mixed electoral system blends different voting systems. Members in some ridings are elected directly (the candidate who receives more votes than any other candidate) and members in the remaining ridings are elected from party lists based on each party's vote share.

Respondents were asked to share their level of agreement with two statements relating to the mixed electoral system. In response —

- 44.8% of respondents agreed or strongly agreed that voters should cast two votes on their ballots: one to directly elect a member to serve as their representative, and a second for a party or parties to fill remaining seats in the Legislative Assembly based on each party's vote share; 26.6% disagreed or strongly disagreed with this option (Figure F1); and
- 52.5% of respondents agreed or strongly agreed that remaining seats in the
 Legislative Assembly should be allocated in proportion to the percentage of votes
 received by each political party, while 19.4% of respondents disagreed or strongly
 disagreed (Figure F2).





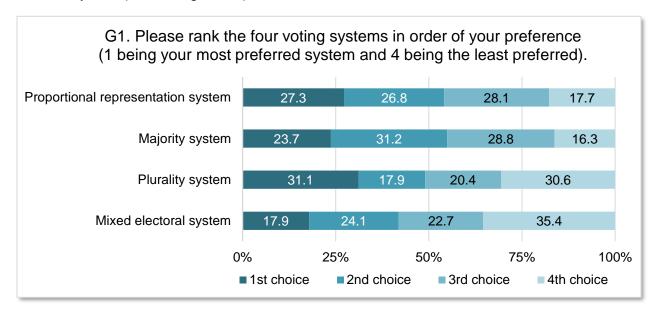
G. Voting system preference

The survey considered four voting systems. In section G, respondents were provided with the following summary of the voting systems, then they were asked to rank the systems in order of their preference.

- In a **plurality system**, the candidate who receives more votes than any other candidate is elected. Our current electoral system is a plurality system.
- In a **majority system**, the party or candidate winning more than 50% of the votes cast in a riding is awarded the contested seat.
- In a **proportional representation system**, the distribution of seats is broadly proportional to the distribution of the popular vote among political parties.

A mixed electoral system blends different voting systems. Members in some ridings
are elected directly (the candidate who receives more votes than any other candidate)
and members in the remaining ridings are elected from party lists based on each party's
vote share.

As the first preference, respondents were slightly more likely to select the current plurality system (31.1%) than the proportional representation system (27.3%), followed by the majority system (23.7%) and the mixed electoral system (17.9%). However, when first and second preferences are combined, 54.9% of respondents preferred the majority system, followed by the proportional representation system (54.1%), the plurality system (49.0%), and the mixed electoral system (42.0%; Figure G1).



To determine the overall ranks of respondents' preferences, further analysis of the preferences was done using **Rank Sum weighting**¹ and **Centroid weighting**² methods. Rank weights were derived using both methods and applied to respondents' preferences. The order of overall preference of the respondents for each of the options was derived from these weighted preferences.

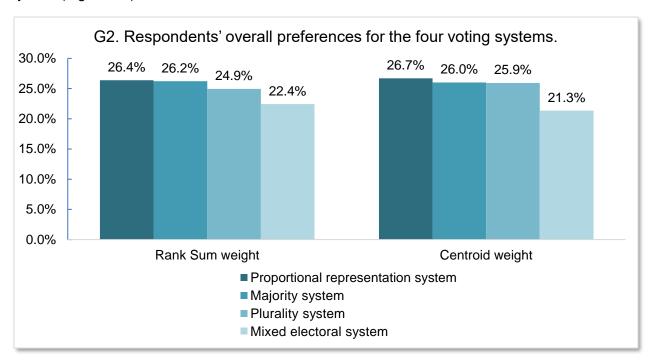
The order of preference for the four voting system options was consistent between the two weighting methods. In both methods, the **proportional representation** system received the

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¹ Ranking question responses are most often interpreted through Rank Sum method of weighting. In this method, a weight is assigned to each preference in a reverse order of the preference. The first preference receives the highest weight, and the last preference receives the lowest with the sum of weights being 1.0. The following Rank Sum weights were calculated and applied to responses to question G1: a weight of 0.4 was applied to respondents' first preference, 0.3 to the second preference, 0.2 to the third preference, and 0.1 to their last preference.

² Another commonly used weighting method is the Centroid method. This method produces weights that minimizes the error of each weight by identifying the centroid of all possible weights and maintaining the rank order of objective importance. The following Centroid weights were calculated and applied to responses to question G1: a weight of 0.52 was applied to respondents' first preference, 0.27 to the second preference, 0.15 to the third preference, and 0.06 to their last preference.

highest score, followed by the majority system, the plurality system, and the mixed electoral system (Figure G2).



H. Size of the legislative assembly

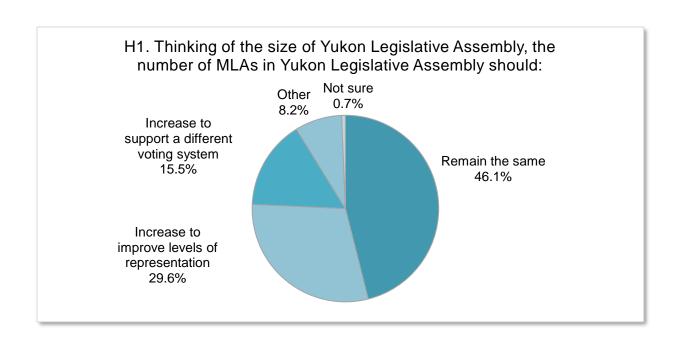
Yukon has 19 Members of the Legislative Assembly (MLAs) for a population of about 43,000 and an area of 482,443 km². In comparison, the Northwest Territories (area 1,346,106 km²) has 19 MLAs for 45,500 population, Nunavut (area 2,093,190 km²) has 22 MLAs for 39,400 population, and Prince Edward Island (area 5,660 km²) has 27 MLAs for 164,300 population.

In this section, respondents were asked whether they thought the number of MLAs in the Yukon Legislative Assembly should remain the same, increase to improve levels of representation, increase to support a different voting system, or something else ("Other").

While 46.1% of respondents said they felt the Yukon Legislative Assembly should remain the same size, 45.1% said they thought it should increase, either to improve levels of representation (29.6%), or to support a different voting system (15.5%; Figure H1).

Two popular "Other" responses included:

- different representation, e.g., First Nations or rural (37.0% of "Other" responses; 3.0% of all responses); and
- the size should decrease (30.6% of "Other" responses; 2.5% of all responses).



I. Voting age and residency requirements

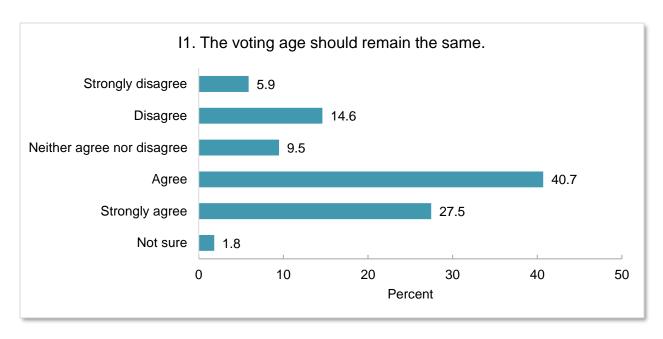
Currently, to vote in Yukon territorial elections, one must be at least 18 years of age, a Canadian citizen, and a resident of Yukon for at least 12 months prior to the polling day.

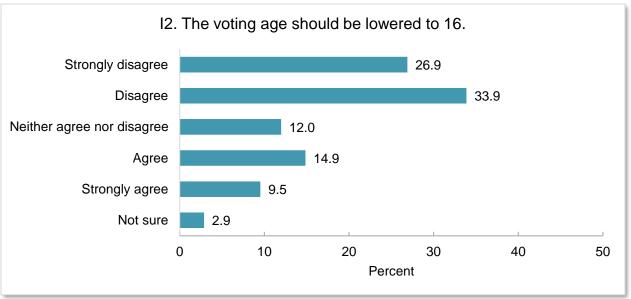
Questions I1 and I2 asked respondents whether they thought the voting age should remain the same, or whether they thought it should be lowered to 16. In response —

- 68.2% agreed or strongly agreed that the **voting age should remain the same**, while 20.5% disagreed or strongly disagreed (Figure I1); and
- 24.4% agreed or strongly agreed that the **voting age should be lowered to 16**, while 60.8% disagreed or strongly disagreed (Figure I2).

Respondents' levels of agreement with these two statements on voting age were further analyzed for two age groups (Appendix 1, Tables I1 1 and I2 1). The results are as follows:

- respondents aged 16–17 years (46.9%) were *less* likely to agree or strongly agree with the statement that the **voting age should remain the same** compared to all other respondents (68.7%); and
- respondents aged 16–17 years (38.9%) were *more* likely to agree or strongly agree with the statement that the **voting age should be lowered to 16** compared to all other respondents (24.0%).

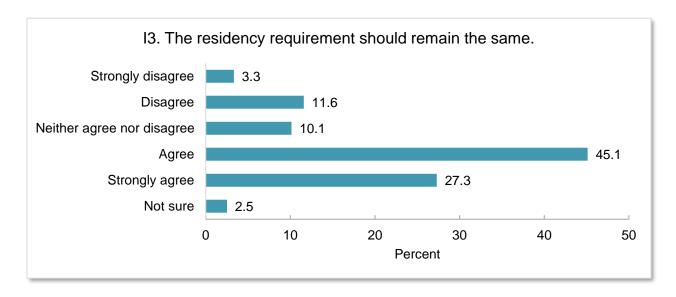


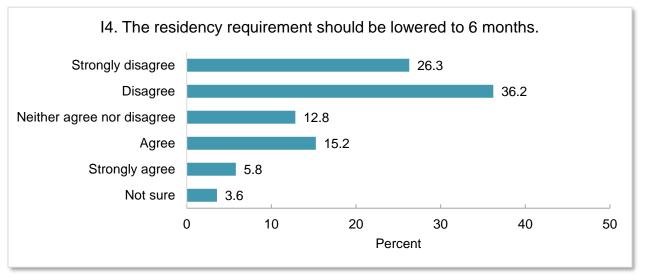


Response consistency was checked for respondents' level of agreement to statements in questions I1 and I2. Since a third option (e.g., raising the voting age) was not provided, a respondent could disagree or strongly disagree with both options. Also, a respondent could prefer one option over the other, or remain neutral to both options. However, it is logical that a respondent would agree or strongly agree with only one of them. An analysis of responses shows that about 98% of the responses to these two questions were consistent as only 1.9% agreed or strongly agreed with both options.

Questions I3 and I4 asked respondents whether they thought the residency requirement should remain the same, or it should be lowered to 6 months. In response —

- 72.4% agreed or strongly agreed that the residency requirement should remain the same, while 14.9% disagreed or strongly disagreed (Figure I3); and
- 21.0% agreed or strongly agreed that the **residency requirement should be lowered to 6 months**, while 62.5% disagreed or strongly disagreed (Figure I4).



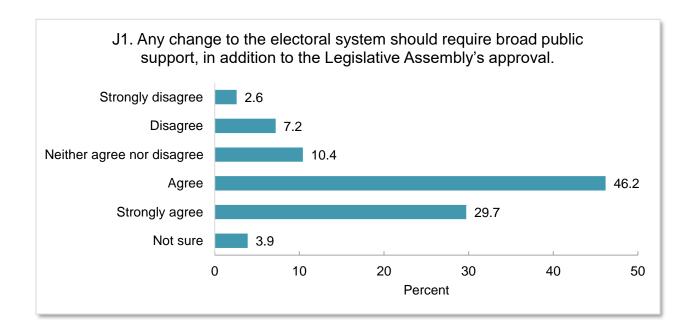


Response consistency was checked for respondents' level of agreement to statements in questions I3 and I4. Similar to the questions on voting age, a third option (e.g., increasing the residency requirement) was not provided. Therefore, a respondent could disagree or strongly disagree with both options, prefer one option over the other, or remain neutral to both options. However, it is logical that a respondent would agree or strongly agree with only one of them. About 96% of the responses to these two questions were consistent as 3.9% agreed or strongly agreed with both options.

J. Moving forward on electoral system reform

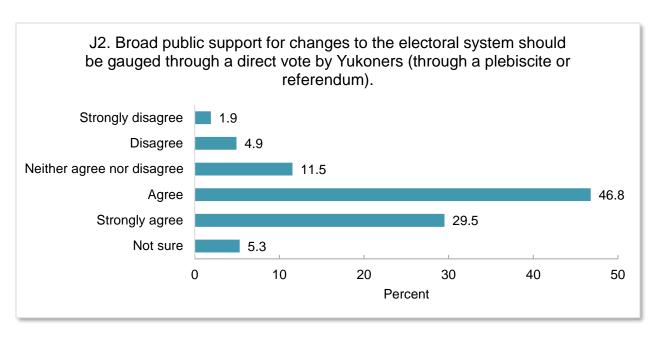
Section J asked respondents to indicate their level of agreement on the requirement of broad public support for any change to the electoral system, and how that level of support should be gauged. The results are as follows:

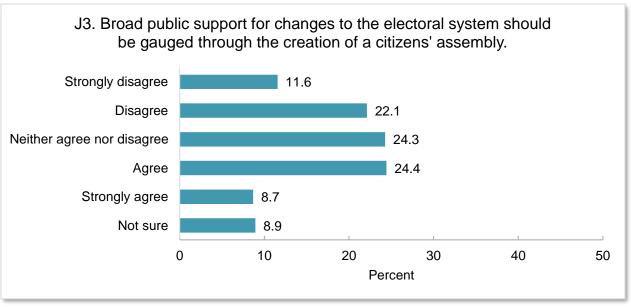
- 75.9% of respondents agreed or strongly agreed that any change to the electoral system should **require broad public support**, in addition to the Legislative Assembly's approval; 9.8% disagreed or strongly disagreed (Figure J1).
- 76.3% agreed or strongly agreed that broad public support for changes to the electoral system should be gauged through a **direct vote by Yukoners**, through a plebiscite or referendum; 6.8% disagreed or strongly disagreed (Figure J2).
- 33.1% agreed or strongly agreed that broad public support for changes to the electoral system should be gauged through the creation of a citizen's assembly³; 33.7% disagreed or strongly disagreed (Figure J3).



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³ A citizens' assembly is a body formed from a cross-section of the public, randomly selected and representative, to study the options available on issues of importance.





Appendix 1. Data tables

Note: data provided in the "Percent" column may not add up to 100.0 due to rounding.

A. Your vote

A1 Did you vote in the last territorial election (in April 2021)?

	Frequency	Percent
Yes	4694	76.6
No	1435	23.4
Total	6129	100.0

A2 Did you vote in previous territorial elections?

	Frequency	Percent
On every occasion that I have been eligible to vote	4389	71.6
Sometimes	676	11.0
Never	1064	17.4
Total	6129	100.0

A3 When you have not voted in territorial elections, what has been the reason? Check all that apply:

[Skip if A1 = Yes **and** A2 = On every occasion]

	Frequency	Percent
I was not a Canadian citizen	406	20.6
Lack of time / Other responsibilities	358	18.2
Lack of confidence in candidates and/or parties and/or leaders	324	16.4
I did not meet the residency requirement Felt that my vote would not count / would not impact the	309	15.7
outcome	278	14.1
I was not old enough to vote	272	13.8
Did not support any candidates running in my riding	240	12.2
Not interested	234	11.8
Other reasons	137	6.9
Not aware that it was election day Unable to access polling station because of distance and/or	133	6.7
lack of transportation	111	5.6
Did not know where to vote Unable to register to vote and/or provide sufficient	91	4.6
identification and/or proof of address	63	3.2
Unable to access polling station because of physical barriers	39	2.0
Total	1974	

A4 When you vote in territorial elections, do you feel that your vote "counts"?

[Skip if A1 = No and A2 =Never]

	Frequency	Percent
Yes	2404	46.2
Sometimes	1806	34.7
No	712	13.7
Not sure	278	5.3
Total	5200	100.0

A5 When you have voted in territorial elections, which of the following motivated you to cast your ballot? Check all that apply:

[Skip if A1 = No and A2 = Never]

	Frequency	Percent
Support for a local candidate	3144	60.5
Civic duty	3127	60.1
Support for a party policy/platform	3066	59.0
Opposition to party policy/platform	1827	35.1
Support for a political party	1824	35.1
Opposition to a local candidate	1443	27.8
Opposition to a political party	1423	27.4
Support for a political party leader	1417	27.3
Opposition to a political party leader	1075	20.7
Other reasons	63	1.2
Total	5200	_

B. Goals of a voting system

Thinking of Yukon territorial elections, how important is each of the following elements to you?

B1 Local representative

	Frequency	Percent
Not Important	163	2.7
Slightly Important	352	5.8
Moderately Important	806	13.1
Important	1948	31.8
Very Important	2739	44.7
Not sure	121	2.0
Total	6129	100.0

B2 Political party and/or its leader

DE : Cittical party arrayor ito locato.		
	Frequency	Percent
Not Important	267	4.4
Slightly Important	433	7.1
Moderately Important	1140	18.6
Important	2183	35.6
Very Important	1957	31.9
Not sure	149	2.4
Total	6129	100.0

B3 Political party platforms

	Frequency	Percent
Not Important	163	2.7
Slightly Important	234	3.8
Moderately Important	692	11.3
Important	1893	30.9
Very Important	2963	48.3
Not sure	184	3.0
Total	6129	100.0

Please indicate your level of agreement or disagreement to each of the following statements:

B4 Yukon's electoral system should favour the following outcome: One political party holds a majority of seats in the Legislative Assembly and is able to implement its campaign platform.

	Frequency	Percent
Strongly disagree	522	8.5
Disagree	1205	19.7
Neither agree nor disagree	1471	24.0
Agree	1878	30.6
Strongly agree	727	11.9
Not sure	327	5.3
Total	6129	100.0

B5 Yukon's electoral system should favour the following outcome: No single political party holds the majority of seats in the Legislative Assembly, thereby increasing the likelihood that political parties will have to work together.

	Frequency	Percent
Strongly disagree	420	6.8
Disagree	1031	16.8
Neither agree nor disagree	1343	21.9
Agree	1924	31.4
Strongly agree	1099	17.9
Not sure	312	5.1
Total	6129	100.0

B6 Yukon's electoral system should ensure that voters elect local candidates to represent them in the Legislative Assembly.

	Frequency	Percent
Strongly disagree	109	1.8
Disagree	183	3.0
Neither agree nor disagree	827	13.5
Agree	2725	44.5
Strongly agree	2079	33.9
Not sure	207	3.4
Total	6129	100.0

B7 Yukon's electoral system should ensure that the number of seats held by a party in the Legislative Assembly reflects the proportion of votes it received across the territory.

	Frequency	Percent
Strongly disagree	220	3.6
Disagree	397	6.5
Neither agree nor disagree	782	12.8
Agree	2342	38.2
Strongly agree	2048	33.4
Not sure	339	5.5
Total	6129	100.0

C. Current electoral system

Thinking of Yukon territorial elections, please indicate your level of agreement or disagreement to each of the following statements:

C1 The current electoral system adequately reflects voters' intentions.

	Frequency	Percent
Strongly disagree	692	11.3
Disagree	1848	30.1
Neither agree nor disagree	1315	21.5
Agree	1537	25.1
Strongly agree	270	4.4
Not sure	468	7.6
Total	6129	100.0

C2 If I vote for a candidate in my riding who does not win, my vote is wasted.

	Frequency	Percent
Strongly disagree	636	10.4
Disagree	2321	37.9
Neither agree nor disagree	1158	18.9
Agree	1202	19.6
Strongly agree	588	9.6
Not sure	223	3.6
Total	6129	100.0

C3 The current electoral system should be maintained.

	Frequency	Percent
Strongly disagree	988	16.1
Disagree	1577	25.7
Neither agree nor disagree	1461	23.8
Agree	1165	19.0
Strongly agree	373	6.1
Not sure	565	9.2
Total	6129	100.0

C4 The current electoral system should be changed.

	Frequency	Percent
Strongly disagree	288	4.7
Disagree	723	11.8
Neither agree nor disagree	1489	24.3
Agree	1608	26.2
Strongly agree	1378	22.5
Not sure	643	10.5
Total	6129	100.0

D. Plurality or majority systems

Thinking of Yukon territorial elections, please indicate your level of agreement or disagreement to each of the following statements:

D1 A candidate who receives the most votes, even if it is less than 50% of the total votes cast, should be elected to the Legislative Assembly.

	Frequency	Percent
Strongly disagree	400	6.5
Disagree	1449	23.6
Neither agree nor disagree	987	16.1
Agree	2272	37.1
Strongly agree	640	10.4
Not sure	382	6.2
Total	6129	100.0

D2 In order be elected to the Legislative Assembly, a candidate should have to obtain more than 50% of the votes cast.

	Frequency	Percent
Strongly disagree	291	4.8
Disagree	1549	25.3
Neither agree nor disagree	1170	19.1
Agree	2200	35.9
Strongly agree	559	9.1
Not sure	360	5.9
Total	6129	100.0

D3 In a system that requires a candidate to receive more than 50% of votes cast, voters should be able to rank candidates on the ballot in order to elect a candidate in one round of voting.

	Frequency	Percent
Strongly disagree	262	4.3
Disagree	652	10.6
Neither agree nor disagree	1062	17.3
Agree	2461	40.2
Strongly agree	1184	19.3
Not sure	508	8.3
Total	6129	100.0

D4 In a system that requires a candidate to receive more than 50% of votes cast, a second round of voting should take place between the top two candidates to determine the victor if no candidate obtains more than half the votes cast during a first round of voting.

	Frequency	Percent
Strongly disagree	486	7.9
Disagree	1332	21.7
Neither agree nor disagree	1068	17.4
Agree	2114	34.5
Strongly agree	667	10.9
Not sure	462	7.5
Total	6129	100.0

E. Proportional representation systems

Thinking of Yukon territorial elections, please indicate your level of agreement or disagreement to each of the following statements:

E1 Voters should vote for political parties (not specific candidates), and the seats should be allocated based on the percentage of votes obtained by each political party.

	Frequency	Percent
Strongly disagree	926	15.1
Disagree	1784	29.1
Neither agree nor disagree	986	16.1
Agree	1614	26.3
Strongly agree	496	8.1
Not sure	323	5.3
Total	6129	100.0

E2 When voters vote for political parties instead of specific candidates, political parties should determine which of their candidates get elected from the party's list.

	Frequency	Percent
Strongly disagree	1245	20.3
Disagree	2291	37.4
Neither agree nor disagree	1103	18.0
Agree	939	15.3
Strongly agree	184	3.0
Not sure	368	6.0
Total	6129	100.0

E3 When voters vote for political parties instead of specific candidates, voters should determine which candidates get elected from a party's list.

	Frequency	Percent
Strongly disagree	281	4.6
Disagree	596	9.7
Neither agree nor disagree	1005	16.4
Agree	2765	45.1
Strongly agree	1109	18.1
Not sure	373	6.1
Total	6129	100.0

E4 Yukon's electoral system should produce a proportional Legislative Assembly (where seats roughly match the parties' vote shares) through the direct election of local representatives in multimember ridings.

	Frequency	Percent
Strongly disagree	373	6.1
Disagree	552	9.0
Neither agree nor disagree	1449	23.6
Agree	2184	35.6
Strongly agree	751	12.3
Not sure	820	13.4
Total	6129	100.0

F. Mixed electoral systems

Thinking of Yukon territorial elections, please indicate your level of agreement or disagreement to each of the following statements:

F1 Voters should cast two votes on their ballots: one to directly elect a member to serve as their representative, and a second for a party or parties to fill remaining seats in the Legislative Assembly based on each party's vote share.

	Frequency	Percent
Strongly disagree	547	8.9
Disagree	1084	17.7
Neither agree nor disagree	1168	19.1
Agree	2129	34.7
Strongly agree	616	10.1
Not sure	584	9.5
Total	6129	100.0

F2 Remaining seats in the Legislative Assembly should be allocated in proportion to the percentage of votes received by each political party.

	Frequency	Percent
Strongly disagree	435	7.1
Disagree	755	12.3
Neither agree nor disagree	1140	18.6
Agree	2576	42.0
Strongly agree	642	10.5
Not sure	581	9.5
Total	6129	100.0

G. Voting system preference

G1 Please rank the four voting systems in order of your preference (1 being your most preferred system and 4 being the least preferred).

	Rank							
	1		2		3		4	
	Frequency	Percent	Frequency	Percent	Frequency	Percent	Frequency	Percent
Plurality system	1907	31.1	1096	17.9	1249	20.4	1878	30.6
Majority system Proportional representation	1453	23.7	1914	31.2	1765	28.8	997	16.3
system	1674	27.3	1644	26.8	1725	28.1	1086	17.7
Mixed electoral system	1095	17.9	1475	24.1	1391	22.7	2168	35.4
Total	6129	100	6129	100	6129	100	6129	100

	Rank Sum weight	Rank Sum weight		d weight
	Score	Rank	Score	Rank
Plurality system	1529	3	1589	3
Majority system	1608	2	1595	2
Proportional representation system	1617	1	1637	1
Mixed electoral system	1375	4	1308	4
	6129		6129	

H. Size of the legislative assembly

H1 Thinking of the size of Yukon Legislative Assembly, the number of MLAs in Yukon Legislative Assembly should: Frequency Percent

Remain the same	2823	46.1
Increase to improve levels of representation	1817	29.6
Increase to support a different voting system	949	15.5
Other (please specify)	500	8.2
Not sure	40	0.7
Total	6129	100.0
Other responses:		
Decrease	153	30.6
Not informed	96	19.2
Different representation: FN, Old Crow, rural, other	185	37.0
Request to change system to NWT's	10	2.0
Other	56	11.3
Total	500	100.0

I. Voting age and residency requirements

I1 The voting age should remain the same.

	Frequency	Percent
Strongly disagree	361	5.9
Disagree	896	14.6
Neither agree nor disagree	582	9.5
Agree	2495	40.7
Strongly agree	1684	27.5
Not sure	112	1.8
Total	6129	100.0

I1_1 The voting age should remain the same, by age group

	Age 16-17		Age 1	8+
	Frequency	Percent	Frequency	Percent
Strongly disagree	22	13.7%	339	5.7%
Disagree	39	24.0%	857	14.4%
Neither agree nor disagree	21	12.8%	561	9.4%
Agree	42	25.7%	2453	41.1%
Strongly agree	34	21.2%	1649	27.6%
Not sure	4	2.6%	108	1.8%
Total	162	100.0%	5967	100.0%

I2 The voting age should be lowered to 16.

	Frequency	Percent
Strongly disagree	1648	26.9
Disagree	2076	33.9
Neither agree nor disagree	734	12.0
Agree	911	14.9
Strongly agree	584	9.5
Not sure	176	2.9
Total	6129	100.0

I2_1 The voting age should be lowered to 16, by age group

	Age 16-17		Age 1	8+
	Frequency	Percent	Frequency	Percent
Strongly disagree	45	28.0%	1603	26.9%
Disagree	32	19.7%	2045	34.3%
Neither agree nor disagree	17	10.8%	717	12.0%
Agree	32	19.7%	879	14.7%
Strongly agree	31	19.2%	553	9.3%
Not sure	4	2.6%	171	2.9%
Total	162	100.0%	5967	100.0%

13 The residency requirement should remain the same.

	Frequency	Percent
Strongly disagree	204	3.3
Disagree	710	11.6
Neither agree nor disagree	621	10.1
Agree	2766	45.1
Strongly agree	1674	27.3
Not sure	154	2.5
Total	6129	100.0

14 The residency requirement should be lowered to 6 months.

	Frequency	Percent
Strongly disagree	1612	26.3
Disagree	2220	36.2
Neither agree nor disagree	787	12.8
Agree	935	15.2
Strongly agree	356	5.8
Not sure	219	3.6
Total	6129	100.0

J. Moving forward on electoral system reform

Please indicate your level of agreement or disagreement to each of the following statements: J1 Any change to the electoral system should require broad public support, in addition to the Legislative Assembly's approval.

	Frequency	Percent
Strongly disagree	159	2.6
Disagree	441	7.2
Neither agree nor disagree	639	10.4
Agree	2830	46.2
Strongly agree	1821	29.7
Not sure	239	3.9
Total	6129	100.0

J2 Broad public support for changes to the electoral system should be gauged through a direct vote by Yukoners (through a plebiscite or referendum).

	Frequency	Percent
Strongly disagree	117	1.9
Disagree	303	4.9
Neither agree nor disagree	708	11.5
Agree	2867	46.8
Strongly agree	1809	29.5
Not sure	326	5.3
Total	6129	100.0

J3 Broad public support for changes to the electoral system should be gauged through the creation of a citizens' assembly.

	Frequency	Percent
Strongly disagree	709	11.6
Disagree	1356	22.1
Neither agree nor disagree	1488	24.3
Agree	1497	24.4
Strongly agree	532	8.7
Not sure	548	8.9
Total	6129	100.0

Appendix 2. Yukon Electoral Reform Survey Questionnaire

A. YOUR VOTE

A1.	Did you vote in the last territorial elect	tion (in April 2021)?
☐ Yes	□ No	
A2.	Did you vote in previous territorial ele	ctions?
☐ On € ☐ Som ☐ Neve		vote
A3. electio	[Skip if A1 = Yes and A2 = On every occ ns, what has been the reason? Check a	asion] When you have not voted in territorial all that apply:
☐ Did I☐ Unal☐ Unal☐ Not i☐ Not i☐ Felt☐ Did I☐ Lack☐ Unal☐ I did☐ I was☐ I wa	of time / Other responsibilities not know where to vote ple to access polling station because of ple ple to access polling station because of di aware that it was election day interested that my vote would not count / would not i not support any candidates running in my a of confidence in candidates and/or partie ple to register to vote and/or provide suffice not meet the residency requirement as not a Canadian citizen as not old enough to vote er (please specify):	stance and/or lack of transportation mpact the outcome riding s and/or leaders cient identification and/or proof of address
A4. vote "d	[Skip if A1 = No and A2 =Never] When younts"?	ou vote in territorial elections, do you feel that your
☐ Yes ☐ Som	☐ No etimes ☐ Not sure	
A5. followi	[Skip if A1 = No and A2 =Never] When y ng motivated you to cast your ballot?	you have voted in territorial elections, which of the Check all that apply:
	Support for a local candidate Opposition to a local candidate Support for a party's policy/platform Opposition to a party's policy/platform Support for a political party	 □ Opposition to a political party □ Support for a political party leader □ Opposition to a political party leader □ Civic duty □ Other (please specify):

B. GOALS OF A VOTING SYSTEM

Thinking of Yukon territorial elections, how important is each of the following elements to you	Thinking of Yukon territorial elections	how important is each of the	following elements to vo	u?
---	---	------------------------------	--------------------------	----

	Thinking of Yukon territorial elections, how important is each of the following elements to you?									
		in	Not portant	Slightly importai		Moderately important	Important	im	Very portant	No sur
B1.	Local represei	ntative								
B2.	Political party its leader	and/or								
В3.	Political party platforms									
Please indicate your level of agreement or disagreement to each of the following statements: 34. Yukon's electoral system should favour the following outcome: One political party holds a majority of seats in the Legislative Assembly and is able to implement its campaign platform.										
najo	-	he Legislative			ole to	implement	its campaigi	n pla	ttorm.	
-	Strongly disagree	Disagree		ner agree disagree		Agree	Strongly agi	ree	Not sur	e
holds the majority of seats in the Legislative Assembly, thereby increasing the likelihood that political parties will have to work together. Strongly Neither agree Strongly agree Not sure										
	cal parties will h		ogether. Neith	e Assembly			_	lihod		е
	cal parties will h Strongly	nave to work to	ogether. Neith	e Assembly		ereby increa	sing the like	lihod	od that	e
ooliti [B6.	Strongly disagree Yukon's election the Legislative Strongly	Disagree Disagree toral system see Assembly.	Neith nor o	e Assembly her agree disagree under that value agree	y, the	Agree	Strongly agr	ree co rep	Not sur	
ooliti [B6.	Strongly disagree Yukon's elect in the Legislativ Strongly disagree	Disagree toral system see Assembly. Disagree	Neith nor o	e Assembly her agree disagree sure that v her agree disagree	y, the	Agree s elect local Agree	Strongly agr	ree co rep	Not sur present Not sur	
ooliti [B6.	Yukon's election the Legislative Strongly disagree	Disagree Disagree toral system see Assembly.	hould ens	e Assembly her agree disagree sure that v her agree disagree	y, the	Agree Select local Agree	sing the like Strongly agr candidates t Strongly agr	ree to rep	Not sur	
B6. them	Yukon's election the Legislative Strongly disagree	Disagree toral system serve Assembly. Disagree Disagree Disagree	hould ens	e Assembly her agree disagree sure that v her agree disagree	oters	Agree Agree Agree umber of sea	sing the like Strongly agr candidates t Strongly agr	ree to represent part	Not sur	
B6. them	Yukon's election of the Strongly disagree Yukon's election the Legislative Strongly disagree Tukon's election of the Strongly disagree	Disagree toral system serve Assembly. Disagree Disagree Disagree	hould ens	e Assembly her agree disagree sure that v her agree disagree	oters	Agree Agree Agree umber of sea	sing the like Strongly agr candidates t Strongly agr	to represent	Not sur	re

C. CURRENT ELECTORAL SYSTEM

Thinking of Yukon territorial elections, please indicate your level of agreement or disagreement to each of the following statements:

			Strongly disagree	Disagree	Neither agree nor disagree		Strongly agree	No sui
C1.	The current ele adequately refleintentions.							
C2.	If I vote for a cariding who doe vote is wasted.	s not win, my						
C3.	The current ele							
C4.	The current ele							
D1.		vho receives the		s, even if it i	s less than 50	% of the tota	l votes cas	t,
	A candidate valid be elected to Strongly					% of the tota	l votes cas	t,
	uld be elected to		Assembly.	gree			Not sure	
shou	Strongly disagree	Disagree Disagree cetted to the Legs cast.	Assembly. Neither a	gree gree sembly, a ca	Si Agree undidate shoul	rongly agree	Not sure)
shou	In order be elected stouch to strongly disagree In order be elected to Strongly	the Legislative A Disagree □ ceted to the Leg	Neither a nor disag	gree gree sembly, a ca	Sindidate shoul	trongly agree	Not sure □ tain more)
D2. than	In a system that	Disagree Contact to the Legan cast. Disagree Disagree Disagree Disagree	Neither a nor disag	gree gree gree gree gree gree gree gree	Agree Indidate shoul Agree Gree Gree	d have to ob	Not sure	;

D4. In a system that requires a candidate to receive more than 50% of votes cast, a second round of voting should take place between the top two candidates to determine the victor if no candidate obtains more than half the votes cast during a first round of voting.								
	Strongly disagree	Disagraa	Neither agree nor disagree	Agroo	Strongly agree	Not sure		
		Disagree	nor disagree	Agree				
E. PROPORTIONAL REPRESENTATION SYSTEMS In a proportional representation system, the distribution of seats is broadly proportional to the distribution of the popular vote among political parties.								
Thinking of Yukon territorial elections, please indicate your level of agreement or disagreement to each of the following statements: E1. Voters should vote for political parties (not specific candidates), and the seats should be allocated based on the percentage of votes obtained by each political party.								
	Strongly disagree	Disagree	Neither agree nor disagree	Agree	Strongly agree	Not sure		
E2. shou	When voters uld determine wh Strongly disagree		parties instead of idates get electe Neither agree nor disagree			Arties Not sure		
E3. dete	E3. When voters vote for political parties instead of specific candidates, voters should determine which candidates get elected from a party's list. Strongly disagree Neither agree nor disagree Agree Not sure							
E4. Yukon's electoral system should produce a proportional Legislative Assembly (where seats roughly match the parties' vote shares) through the direct election of local representatives in multi-member ridings. (A multi-member riding is an electoral district that has more than one member in the Legislative Assembly. Voters in a multi-member riding mark off as many names on their ballots as there are seats to be filled, and candidates with the most votes are declared elected.)								
	Strongly disagree	Disagree	Neither agree nor disagree	Agree	Strongly agree	Not sure		

F. MIXED ELECTORAL SYSTEMS

A <u>mixed electoral system</u> blends different voting systems. Members in some ridings are elected directly (the candidate who receives more votes than any other candidate) and members in the remaining ridings are elected from party lists based on each party's vote share.

Thinking of Yukon territorial elections, please indicate your level of agreement or disagreement to each of the following statements:

F1. Voters should cast two votes on their ballots: One to directly elect a member to serve as their representative, and a second for a party or parties to fill remaining seats in the Legislative Assembly based on each party's vote share.

Strongly disagree	Disagree	Neither agree nor disagree	Agree	Strongly agree	Not sure

F2. Remaining seats in the Legislative Assembly should be allocated in proportion to the percentage of votes received by each political party.

Strongly disagree	Disagree	Neither agree nor disagree	Agree	Strongly agree	Not sure

G. VOTING SYSTEM PREFERENCE

This survey considers four voting systems.

- In a <u>plurality system</u>, the candidate who receives more votes than any other candidate is elected. Our current electoral system is a plurality system.
- In a <u>majority system</u>, the party or candidate winning more than 50% of the votes cast in a riding is awarded the contested seat.
- In a <u>proportional representation system</u>, the distribution of seats is broadly proportional to the distribution of the popular vote among political parties.
- A <u>mixed electoral system</u> blends different voting systems. Members in some ridings are elected
 directly (the candidate who receives more votes than any other candidate) and members in the
 remaining ridings are elected from party lists based on each party's vote share.

G1. Please rank the four voting systems in order of your preference (1 being your most preferred system and 4 being the least preferred).

Rank Order	<u>System</u>
	Plurality system
	Majority system
	Proportional representation system
	Mixed electoral system

H. SIZE OF THE LEGISLATIVE ASSEMBLY

Yukon has 19 Members of the Legislative Assembly (MLAs) for a population of about 43.0 thousand and an area of 482,443 km².

The Northwest Territories also have 19 MLAs (population 45.5 thousand; area 1,346,106 km²). Nunavut has 22 MLAs (population 39.4 thousand; area 2,093,190 km²), and

Prince Edward Island has 27 MLAs (population 164.3 thousand; area 5,660 km²).

H1. Thinking of the size of Yukon Legislative Assembly, the number of MLAs in Yukon Legislative Assembly should:										
☐ Remain the same										
☐ Increase to improve levels of representation										
□ Ind	☐ Increase to support a different voting system									
□ Ot	☐ Other (please specify):									
I. '	VOTING AGE	AND RESIDE	NCY REQUIRE	MENTS						
		ukon territorial elec on for at least 12 m			s of age, a Canad	ian citizen,				
	king of Yukon te of the following		s, please indicate	your level of ag	reement or disag	reement to				
I1.	The voting ag	je should remain	the same.							
	Strongly		Neither agree		Strongly agree					
-	disagree	Disagree	nor disagree	Agree	,	Not sure				
I2.	The voting ag	je should be low	ered to 16.							
	Strongly	5.	Neither agree		Strongly agree					
г	disagree	Disagree	nor disagree	Agree		Not sure				
I3.	The residency	y requirement sh	ould remain the	same.						
	Strongly		Neither agree		Strongly agree					
-	disagree	Disagree	nor disagree	Agree	,	Not sure				
14 .	The residency	y requirement sh	ould be lowered	to 6 months.						
	Strongly	Diagram	Neither agree	A	Strongly agree	NI=(
Г	disagree	<i>Disagree</i>	nor disagree	Agree		Not sure				

J. MOVING FORWARD ON ELECTORAL SYSTEM REFORM Please indicate your level of agreement or disagreement to each of the following statements: Any change to the electoral system should require broad public support, in addition to the Legislative Assembly's approval. Stronalv Neither agree Strongly agree disagree nor disagree Not sure Disagree Agree J2. Broad public support for changes to the electoral system should be gauged through a direct vote by Yukoners (through a plebiscite or referendum). Strongly Neither agree Strongly agree disagree Disagree nor disagree Not sure Agree J3. Broad public support for changes to the electoral system should be gauged through the creation of a citizens' assembly. (A citizens' assembly is a body formed from a cross-section of the public, randomly selected and representative, to study the options available on issues of importance.) Strongly Neither agree Strongly agree disagree Disagree nor disagree Not sure Agree K. GIFT CARD DRAW - YOUR CONTACT INFORMATION Thank you for taking part in this survey, your participation is greatly appreciated. To be entered into the draw for one of three \$500 Local Gift Cards, which can be used at any of the participating businesses, please confirm your name and contact information. Name:

Thank you for your participation.

Contact information (at least one contact information is required):

Email:

Phone 1:

Phone 2:

If you have any questions or comments, please contact: YBS.Operations@yukon.ca or at (866) 527-8266 (Toll Free) and (867) 667-8029 (Local).