



Opinion on Backyard Chickens







Lethbridge Public Opinion Study – Winter 2012

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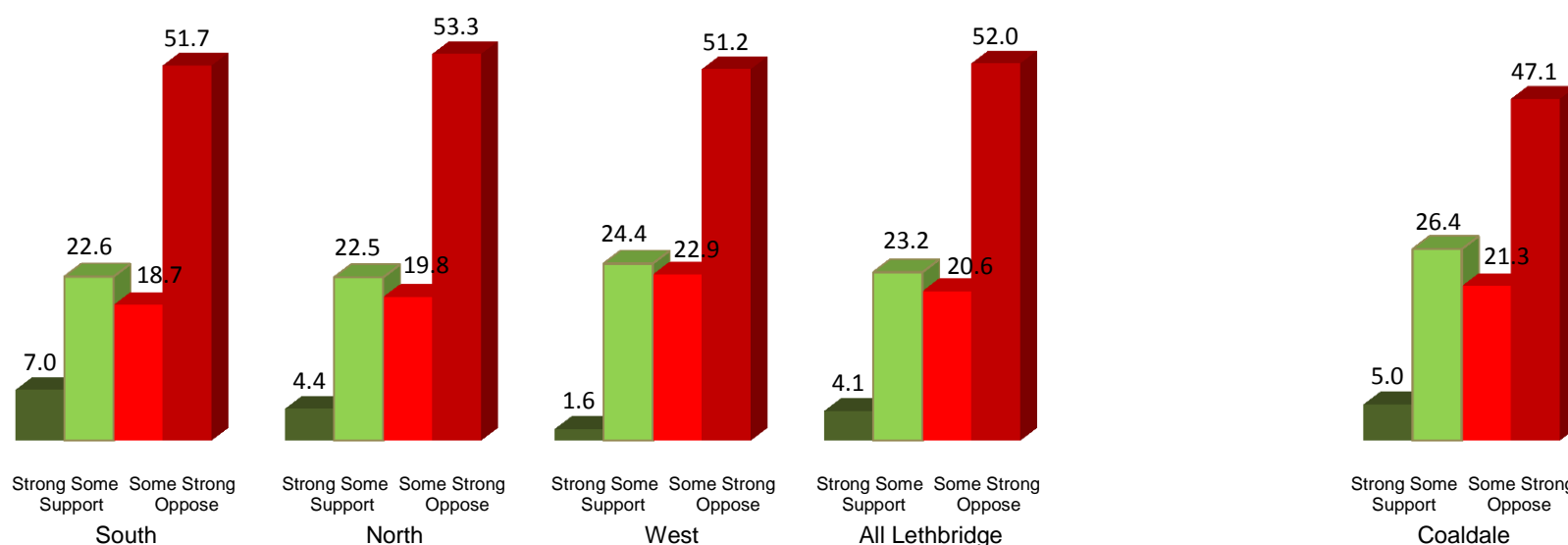
Methodology

-  **Population** The city of Lethbridge has a total population of 87,882 residents (2011 census) approximately 80% of which are 18 years of age or older (70,305). A total of 43,011 Lethbridge residents are male (48.9%) while 44,871 are female (51.1%). South Lethbridge is home to 30,504 residents (34.7%) while the rapidly expanding west side is now home to 32,063 residents (36.5%). There are 25,315 north Lethbridge residents (28.8%). Coaldale has a total population of 6,943 residents (2009 census).
-  **Sample Data** Collected by Lethbridge College and Athabasca University students enrolled in STS270 – Social Science Research Methods in the winter of 2012. Students interviewed 738 randomly selected, adult Lethbridge and Coaldale residents by telephone on February 11–12, 2012 under the supervision of School of Liberal Arts faculty member Faron Ellis. Telephone numbers were selected from a sample drawn from InfoCanada directories. We sincerely appreciate and thank all those who took time to respond to our survey. Full methodological notes for samples from previous Lethbridge and Alberta Public Opinion Studies can be obtained by visiting the CSRL web pages at:
www.lethbridgecollege.ab.ca/go/csrl
-  **Representativeness** Analysis of the demographic data indicates that, within acceptable limits, the sample accurately represents the demographic distribution of the adult population within the city of Lethbridge. The sample has been statistically weighted where necessary to even better reflect that of the population (gender, age and area of the city of Lethbridge).
-  **Confidence** The weighted sample yields a margin of error of ± 3.6 percentage points, 19 times out of 20. The margin of error increases when analyzing sub-samples of the data. For example, the Lethbridge subsample margin of error is ± 3.9 percentage points, 19 times out of 20, while the Coaldale subsample has a margin of error of ± 9.5 percentage points 19 times out of 20.
-  **IB Commons Call Centre** Students conducted interviews using the facilities of the Lethbridge College IB Commons Call Centre and applications developed by the Open Source Learning Lab. We thank Dr. James Manis and the OSLL for their efforts in working with us to establish and maintain the IB Commons Call Centre.
-  **Sponsorship** These data are part of a larger study of the opinions and attitudes of Lethbridge residents conducted by the Citizen Society Research Lab at Lethbridge College. This particular question was derived from student and faculty interest in the topic.

Backyard Chickens in Lethbridge (February 2012)

- A clear majority of Lethbridge (72.6%) are opposed to allowing their neighbors to raise chickens in their backyards. Fully half of all Lethbridge residents (52.0%) are strongly opposed with a further one in five somewhat opposed (20.6%). Just under one-quarter of Lethbridge residents are somewhat supportive of backyard chickens (23.2%) while only 4.1% are strongly supportive. Coaldale residents are also mostly opposed although slightly less so than are Lethbridge residents.
- Although relatively few Lethbridge residents are supportive, West Lethbridge residents distinguish themselves as the least supportive overall and least likely to strongly support (only 1.6% support backyard chickens).
- Lower income residents are slightly more opposed (75.2%) than are residents with more income.
- Support diminishes with age. The youth are most supportive (43.4%), but support drops to only 20.5% amongst boomers and 19.0% amongst seniors.
- NDP partisan distinguish themselves as the only group of provincial party voters who are more supportive (58.5%) than opposed (41.5%)

	Lethbridge	Coaldale	All Residents		Lethbridge	Coaldale	All Residents
Strongly support	4.1	5.0	4.2	Support	27.4	31.5	27.7
Somewhat support	23.2	26.4	23.4	Oppose	72.6	68.5	72.3
Somewhat oppose	20.6	21.3	20.7				
Strongly oppose	52.0	47.1	51.7				



Backyard Chickens in Lethbridge (February 2012)

Area of City	South	North	West	All Lethbridge
Support	29.3	26.8	26.0	27.4
Oppose	70.7	73.2	74.0	72.6

Gender	Male	Female
Support	27.2	27.5
Oppose	72.8	72.5

Household Income	Under \$40,000	\$40-\$80,000	Over \$80,000
Support	24.8	31.5	29.6
Oppose	75.2	68.5	70.4

Education*	High School or less	Some Post-secondary	College-Tech-Trade	University Grad
Support	18.6	26.5	20.0	37.5
Oppose	81.4	73.5	80.0	62.5

Age*	18-29	30-44	45-64	65 and older
Support	43.4	32.8	20.5	19.0
Oppose	56.6	67.2	79.5	81.0

Provincial Vote Intention*	PC	Wildrose	Liberal	NDP	Undecided
Support	18.3	23.6	27.8	58.5	20.9
Oppose	81.7	76.4	72.2	41.5	79.1

Notes: Due to rounding, proportions may not total exactly 100%; * sig < 0.05

Backyard Chickens in Lethbridge (February 2012)

Area of City	South	North	West	All Lethbridge
Strongly Support	7.0	4.4	1.6	4.1
Somewhat Support	22.6	22.5	24.4	23.2
Somewhat Oppose	18.7	19.8	22.9	20.6
Strongly Oppose	51.7	53.3	51.2	52.0

Gender	Male	Female
Strongly Support	4.0	4.0
Somewhat Support	23.2	23.4
Somewhat Oppose	18.0	23.1
Strongly Oppose	54.8	49.4

Household Income	Under \$40,000	\$40-\$80,000	Over \$80,000
Strongly Support	5.1	5.5	3.9
Somewhat Support	20.3	26.4	25.6
Somewhat Oppose	21.2	17.3	25.1
Strongly Oppose	53.4	50.9	45.3

Education*	High School or less	Some Post-secondary	College-Tech-Trade	University Grad
Strongly Support	1.9	3.3	5.0	5.8
Somewhat Support	16.7	23.2	15.1	31.7
Somewhat Oppose	17.3	21.2	23.5	20.8
Strongly Oppose	64.1	52.3	56.3	41.7

Age*	18-29	30-44	45-64	65 and older
Strongly Support	2.1	7.6	3.3	4.3
Somewhat Support	41.4	25.2	17.1	14.7
Somewhat Oppose	24.1	27.5	19.5	14.1
Strongly Oppose	32.4	39.7	60.0	66.8

Provincial Vote Intention*	PC	Wildrose	Liberal	NDP	Undecided
Strongly Support	3.1	3.8	4.7	8.5	3.5
Somewhat Support	15.3	20.8	23.4	50.0	16.5
Somewhat Oppose	19.2	17.0	26.2	19.1	21.2
Strongly Oppose	62.4	58.5	45.8	22.3	58.8

Notes: Due to rounding, proportions may not total exactly 100%; * sig < 0.05

Demographics

Gender (%)		Area of City (%)		Income (%)		Education (%)		Age (%)	
Male	48.0	South	34.3	Under \$40,000	20.7	H-School/less	23.4	18-29	21.3
Female	52.0	North	27.3	\$40-\$80,000	42.2	Some P-Sec.	22.9	30-44	20.2
		West	38.4	Over \$80,000	37.0	Col-Tech-Grad	18.0	45-64	31.6
						University Grad	35.7	65 or older	26.9

Church Attendance (%)	
2-3/month +	31.3
Several/year	21.3
Rarely/never	47.4

Provincial Vote (%)	
PC	41.7
Wildrose	18.8
Liberal	18.8
NDP	17.2
Alberta Party	1.1

Note: Due to rounding, proportions may not total exactly 100%

Questions

Some people who live in cities would like to be allowed to raise chickens in their backyards. Please tell me how much you support or oppose people being allowed to raise backyard chickens in your neighborhood.

- Strongly support
- Somewhat support
- Somewhat oppose
- Strongly oppose
- Don't know (unprompted)
- Refused (unprompted)