

2005 Lethbridge Public Opinion Study (Winter)

Removal of Downtown Parking Meters

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City of Lethbridge

Located in southwestern Alberta, the city of Lethbridge is home to 72,717 residents, 57,674 of which are 18 years of age or older.



The city is divided into six census areas, two each for its South, North and West geographic areas. It is divided north and south by Alberta highway 3, and east west by the Oldman River.

South Lethbridge's 27,941 residents represent 38.4 of the city's total population. West Lethbridge (22,429) and north Lethbridge (22,347) represent 30.8 and 30.7 respectively.

Methodology

This report is based on data collected by Lethbridge Community College and Athabasca University students enrolled in STS270 – Social Science Research Methods at Lethbridge Community College in the winter of 2005. Students interviewed 551 adult residents of the city of Lethbridge on February 12th and 13th, 2005 by telephone using the Western Wats Lethbridge call center facility. Telephone numbers were selected using random predictive dialing. We sincerely thank Western Wats for their hospitality.

The weighted sample yields a margin of error of $\pm 4.15\%$, 19 times out of 20. The margin of error increases when analyzing sub-samples of the data.

Analysis of the demographic data indicates that, within acceptable limits, the sample accurately represents the demographic distribution of the voting age population within the city of Lethbridge. The sample has been statistically weighted where necessary to even better reflect the demographic distribution of the population.

These data are part of a larger study of the opinions and attitudes of Lethbridge residents conducted by the Citizen Society Research Lab at LCC. This question arose out of student interest.

What follows is a selection of our findings based on the question below.

Q. The city of Lethbridge should remove all parking meters from the downtown area.

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Removal of All Downtown Parking Meters

Strong majorities of Lethbridge residents in all demographic categories support the removal of all parking meters from downtown Lethbridge.

Over half of all residents (53%) agree with parking meter removal while a further 19.3% strongly agree. Slightly over one-quarter of all residents (26.6%) disagree while only 1.1% strongly disagree.

Women (74.8%), north Lethbridge residents (73.8%) and lower income residents (76.3%) are among the most supportive.

Remove Downtown Parking Meters (%)

Strongly Agree	19.3
Agree	53.0
Disagree	26.6
Strongly Disagree	1.1

Tabular Data (%)

Q. The city of Lethbridge should remove all parking meters from the downtown area.

Remove Downtown Parking Meters by Gender (%)

	Male	Female	Total
Agree	69.7	74.8	72.3
Disagree	30.3	25.2	27.7

Remove Downtown Parking Meters by Area of City (%)

	South	North	West
Agree	70.7	73.8	71.5
Disagree	29.3	26.2	28.5

Remove Downtown Parking Meters by Income (%)

	Under \$30,000	\$30,000 to \$60,000	Over \$60,000
Agree	76.3	73.2	65.9
Disagree	23.7	26.8	34.1

Remove Downtown Parking Meters by Education (%)

	H-School or less	Some Post-Secondary	Col-Tech-Trade Grad	University Grad
Agree	76.2	75.2	73.2	65.9
Disagree	23.8	24.8	26.8	34.1

Remove Downtown Parking Meters by Age (%)

	18-29	30-44	45-64	65 or older
Agree	73.8	73.8	71.2	74.3
Disagree	26.2	26.2	28.8	25.7