

ORIGIN OF HUMANS

# Americans are Creationists; Britons and Canadians Side with Evolution

*Half of Americans in the Midwest and South say God created human beings in their present form.*

[NEW YORK – Jul. 15, 2010] – While a majority of people in Britain and Canada agree with the theory of evolution, almost half of Americans are in tune with creationism, a new Angus Reid Public Opinion poll has found.

The online survey of representative samples of 1,002 Americans, 1,009 Canadians and 2,011 Britons asked respondents whether their own point of view is closest to the notion that human beings evolved from less advanced life forms over millions of years, or the idea that God created human beings in their present form within the last 10,000 years.

## Country-by-Country

In Britain, two-thirds of respondents (68%) side with evolution while less than one-in-five (16%) choose creationism.

At least seven-in-ten respondents in the South of England (70%) and Scotland (75%) believe human beings evolved from less advanced life forms over millions of years.

In Canada, three-in-five respondents (61%) select evolution from the two options provided, while one-in-four (24%) pick creationism. Quebec (66%) and British Columbia (64%) hold the highest proportion of respondents who believe human beings evolved, while three-in-ten Albertans (31%) think God created human beings in their present form.

## KEY FINDINGS

- **68% of Britons and 61% of Canadians believe human beings evolved from less advanced life forms over millions of years**
- **47% of Americans believe God created human beings in their present form within the last 10,000 years**

Full topline results are at the end of this release.

*From July 1 to July 9, 2010, Angus Reid Public Opinion conducted an online survey among 1,009 Canadian adults who are Angus Reid Forum panellists, 1,002 American adults who are Springboard America panellists, and 2,011 British adults who are Springboard UK panellists. The margin of error—which measures sampling variability—is +/- 3.1% for Canada and the United States, and 2.2 per cent for Great Britain. The results have been statistically weighted according to the most current education, age, gender and region Census data to ensure samples representative of the entire adult population of Canada, the US and Great Britain. Discrepancies in or between totals are due to rounding.*

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In the United States, almost half of respondents (47%) believe that God created human beings in their present form within the last 10,000 years, while one-third (35%) think human beings evolved from less advanced life forms over millions of years.

Half of people in the Midwest (49%) and the South (51%) agree with creationism, while those in the Northeast are more likely to side with evolution (43%).

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**Origin of Humans**

Which of these statements comes closest to your own point of view regarding the origin and development of human beings on earth?

	<b>CANADA</b> 	<b>UNITED STATES</b> 	<b>GREAT BRITAIN</b> 
<b>Human beings evolved from less advanced life forms over millions of years</b>	<b>61%</b>	<b>35%</b>	<b>68%</b>
<b>God created human beings in their present form within the last 10,000 years</b>	<b>24%</b>	<b>47%</b>	<b>16%</b>
<b>Not sure</b>	<b>15%</b>	<b>18%</b>	<b>15%</b>

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**Origin of Humans**

**CANADA**



Which of these statements comes closest to your own point of view regarding the origin and development of human beings on earth?

	Region						
	Canada	BC	AB	MB/SK	ON	PQ	ATL
<b>Human beings evolved from less advanced life forms over millions of years</b>	61%	64%	51%	50%	60%	66%	64%
<b>God created human beings in their present form within the last 10,000 years</b>	24%	21%	31%	39%	25%	17%	28%
<b>Not sure</b>	15%	16%	18%	11%	15%	17%	8%

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**Origin of Humans**

**CANADA**



Which of these statements comes closest to your own point of view regarding the origin and development of human beings on earth?

	Canada	Male	Female	Age 18-34	Age 35-54	Age 55+
<b>Human beings evolved from less advanced life forms over millions of years</b>	61%	69%	54%	68%	61%	54%
<b>God created human beings in their present form within the last 10,000 years</b>	24%	19%	29%	18%	23%	32%
<b>Not sure</b>	15%	12%	17%	14%	16%	14%

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**Origin of Humans**

**UNITED STATES**



Which of these statements comes closest to your own point of view regarding the origin and development of human beings on earth?

	Region				
	U.S.	Northeast	Midwest	South	West
<b>Human beings evolved from less advanced life forms over millions of years</b>	35%	43%	37%	27%	38%
<b>God created human beings in their present form within the last 10,000 years</b>	47%	38%	49%	51%	45%
<b>Not sure</b>	18%	19%	13%	21%	16%

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**Origin of Humans**

**UNITED STATES**



Which of these statements comes closest to your own point of view regarding the origin and development of human beings on earth?

	<b>U.S.</b>	<b>Male</b>	<b>Female</b>	<b>Age 18-34</b>	<b>Age 35-54</b>	<b>Age 55+</b>
<b>Human beings evolved from less advanced life forms over millions of years</b>	35%	43%	28%	41%	33%	32%
<b>God created human beings in their present form within the last 10,000 years</b>	47%	42%	52%	41%	49%	51%
<b>Not sure</b>	18%	15%	20%	18%	18%	17%

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**Origin of Humans**

**GREAT BRITAIN**



Which of these statements comes closest to your own point of view regarding the origin and development of human beings on earth?

	Region					
	Great Britain	London	South of England	Midlands and Wales	North	Scotland
<b>Human beings evolved from less advanced life forms over millions of years</b>	68%	58%	70%	68%	69%	75%
<b>God created human beings in their present form within the last 10,000 years</b>	16%	25%	15%	15%	16%	12%
<b>Not sure</b>	15%	17%	15%	17%	15%	13%

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**Origin of Humans**

**GREAT BRITAIN**



Which of these statements comes closest to your own point of view regarding the origin and development of human beings on earth?

	Great Britain	Male	Female	Age 18-34	Age 35-54	Age 55+
<b>Human beings evolved from less advanced life forms over millions of years</b>	68%	72%	65%	65%	71%	68%
<b>God created human beings in their present form within the last 10,000 years</b>	16%	16%	16%	18%	15%	16%
<b>Not sure</b>	15%	12%	19%	18%	14%	15%

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*Angus Reid Public Opinion is the public affairs practice of Vision Critical—a global research and technology company specializing in custom online panels, private communities, and innovative online methods. Vision Critical is a leader in the use of the Internet and rich media technology to collect high-quality, in-depth insights for a wide array of clients. Dr. Angus Reid and the Angus Reid Public Opinion team are pioneers in online research methodologies, and have been conducting online surveys since 1995*

*Vision Critical is now one of the largest market research enterprises in the world. In addition to its five offices in Canada—located in Vancouver, Calgary, Regina, Toronto, and Montreal—the firm also has offices in San Francisco, Chicago, New York, London, Paris and Sydney. Its team of specialists provides solutions across every type and sector of research, and currently serves over 200 international clients.*

*Angus Reid Public Opinion polls are conducted using the Angus Reid Forum ([www.angusreidforum.com](http://www.angusreidforum.com)), Springboard America ([www.springboardamerica.com](http://www.springboardamerica.com)) and Springboard UK ([www.springboarduk.com](http://www.springboarduk.com)) online panels, which are carefully recruited to ensure representation across all demographic and psychographic segments of these populations. Panel members pass through rigorous screening and a double opt-in process ensuring highly motivated and responsive members. These premier online survey platforms present respondents with highly visual, interactive, and engaging surveys, ensuring that panel members provide thoughtful and reliable responses. Each survey is actively sampled and weighted to model that characteristics of the universe required and employs the latest in quality control techniques to ensure data validity.*

*Angus Reid, the only public opinion firm to exclusively use online methods to follow the views of the electorate during the 2008 federal campaign, offered the most accurate prediction of the results of Canada's 40th election.*

<http://bit.ly/4zxf1S>

*Since 2006, Angus Reid has covered eight provincial elections in Canada—more than any other pollster in the country—and the results have accurately predicted the outcome of each of these democratic processes.*

*More information on the way Angus Reid conducts public opinion research can be found at*

<http://bit.ly/3z0u1l>

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**For more information, please contact  
our spokesperson listed in the footnote.**

**Copies of this poll are available on our website:**

**<http://www.visioncritical.com/category/global-opinions-and-trends>**

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