

# Faculty Hopes and Anxieties About the Near-Future of Higher Education in Canada

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# A tiny bit of context

- In 2019, nearly 75% of institutions reported having/developing an online learning strategy (Canadian Digital Learning Association)
- By and large, the pandemic has been incredibly challenging for the higher education sector at multiple levels
- Challenges have been uneven and unequal



# A tiny bit of context

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ORIGINAL MANUSCRIPT

British Journal of  
Educational Technology

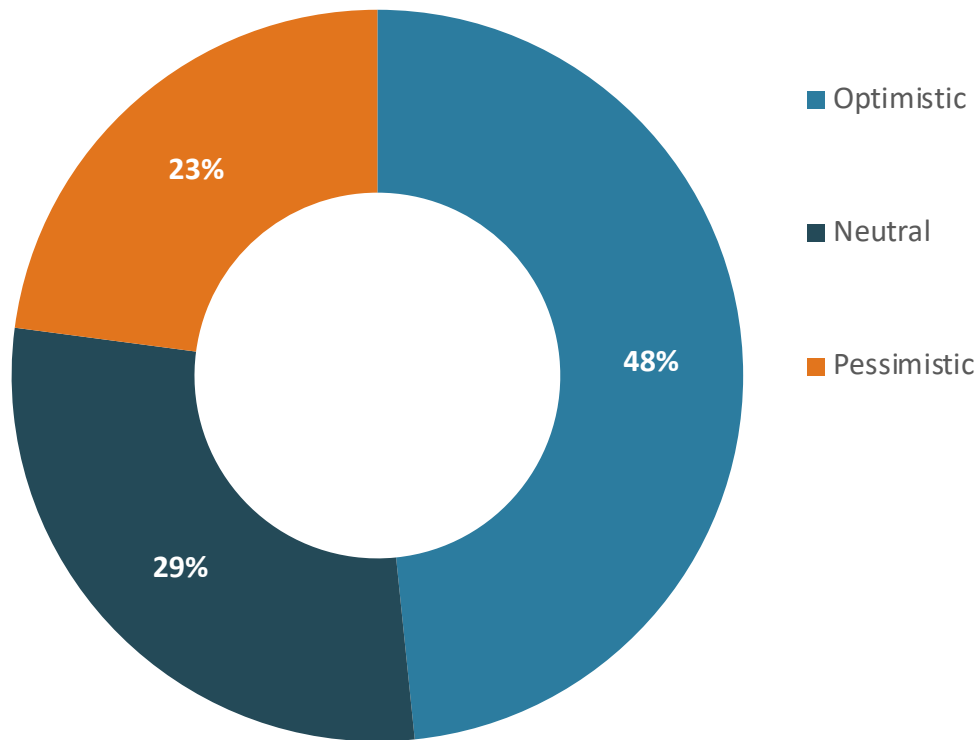


## **Never-ending repetitiveness, sadness, loss, and “juggling with a blindfold on:” Lived experiences of Canadian college and university faculty members during the COVID-19 pandemic**

**Charlene A. VanLeeuwen** | **George Veletsianos** |  
**Nicole Johnson** | **Olga Belikov**

# A tiny bit of context

Higher Education in 5 Years



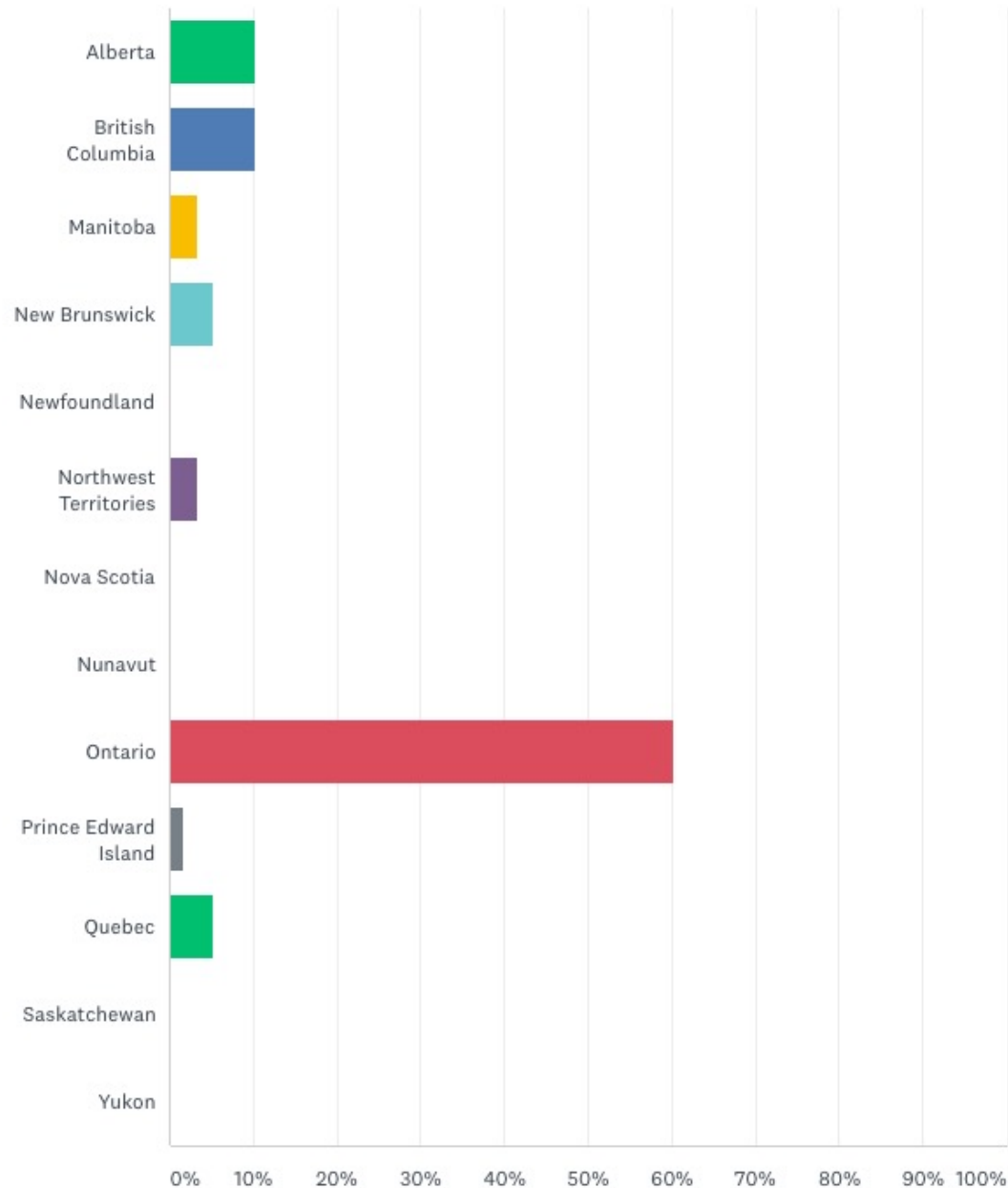
Futures – guided by individual actions and systemic forces shaping us and our responses



# Interview Study

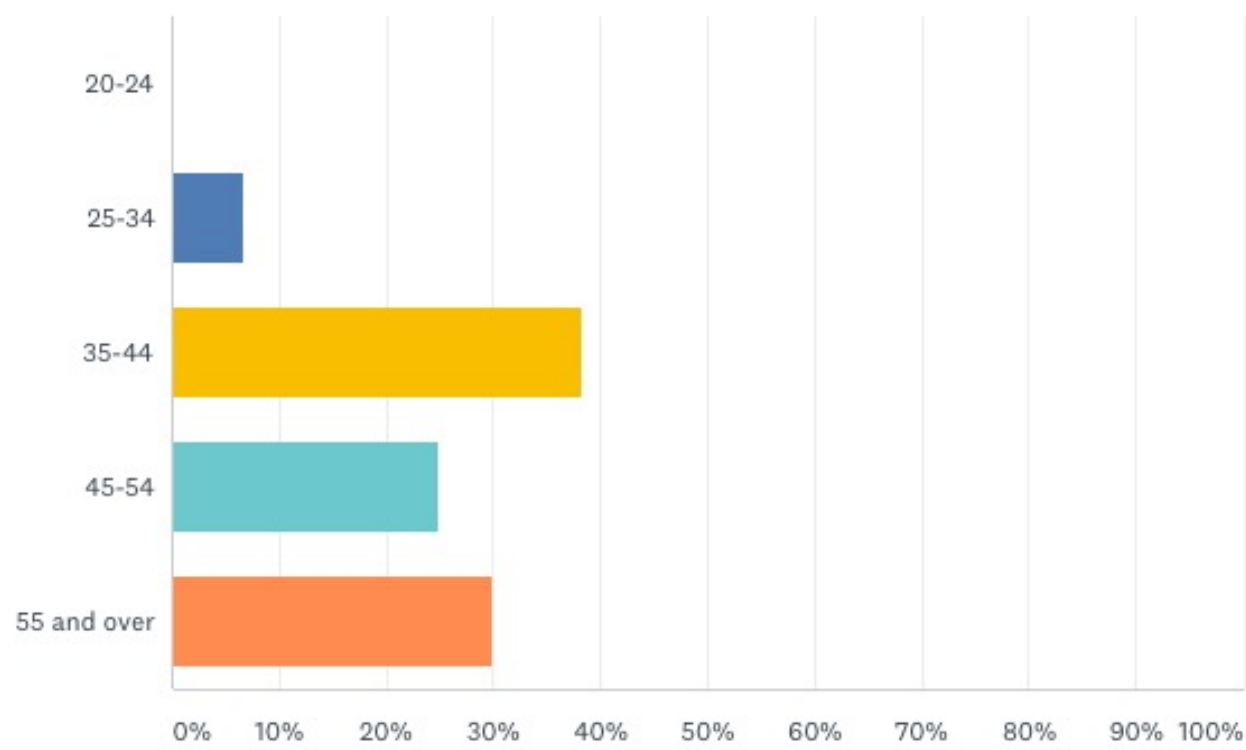
- Recruitment (Academica and social media)
- ~80 respondents to a pre-interview survey
- ~50 interviews (purposeful sampling)
- ~45-minute semi-structured interviews

# In which province or territory do you live?

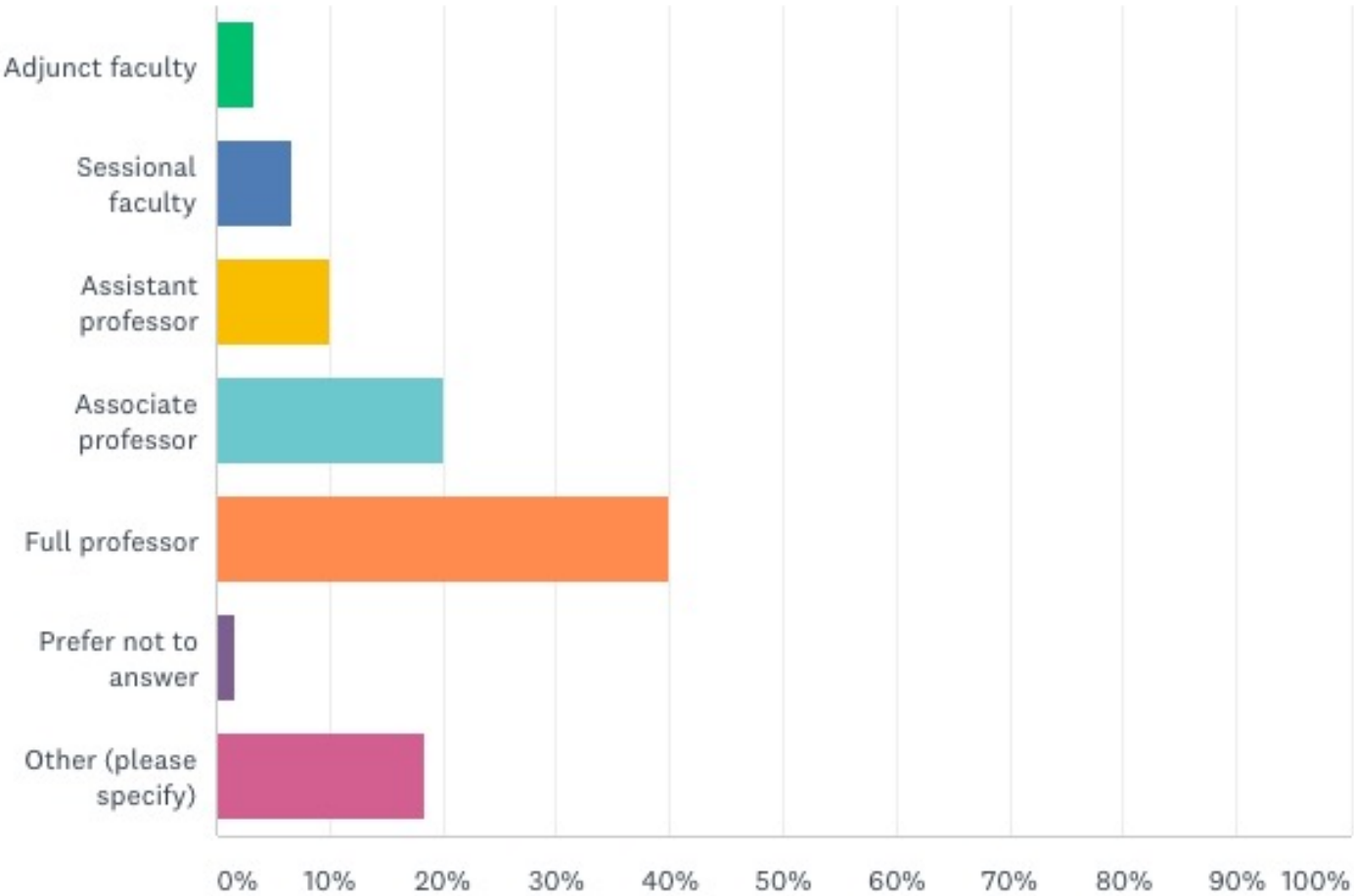




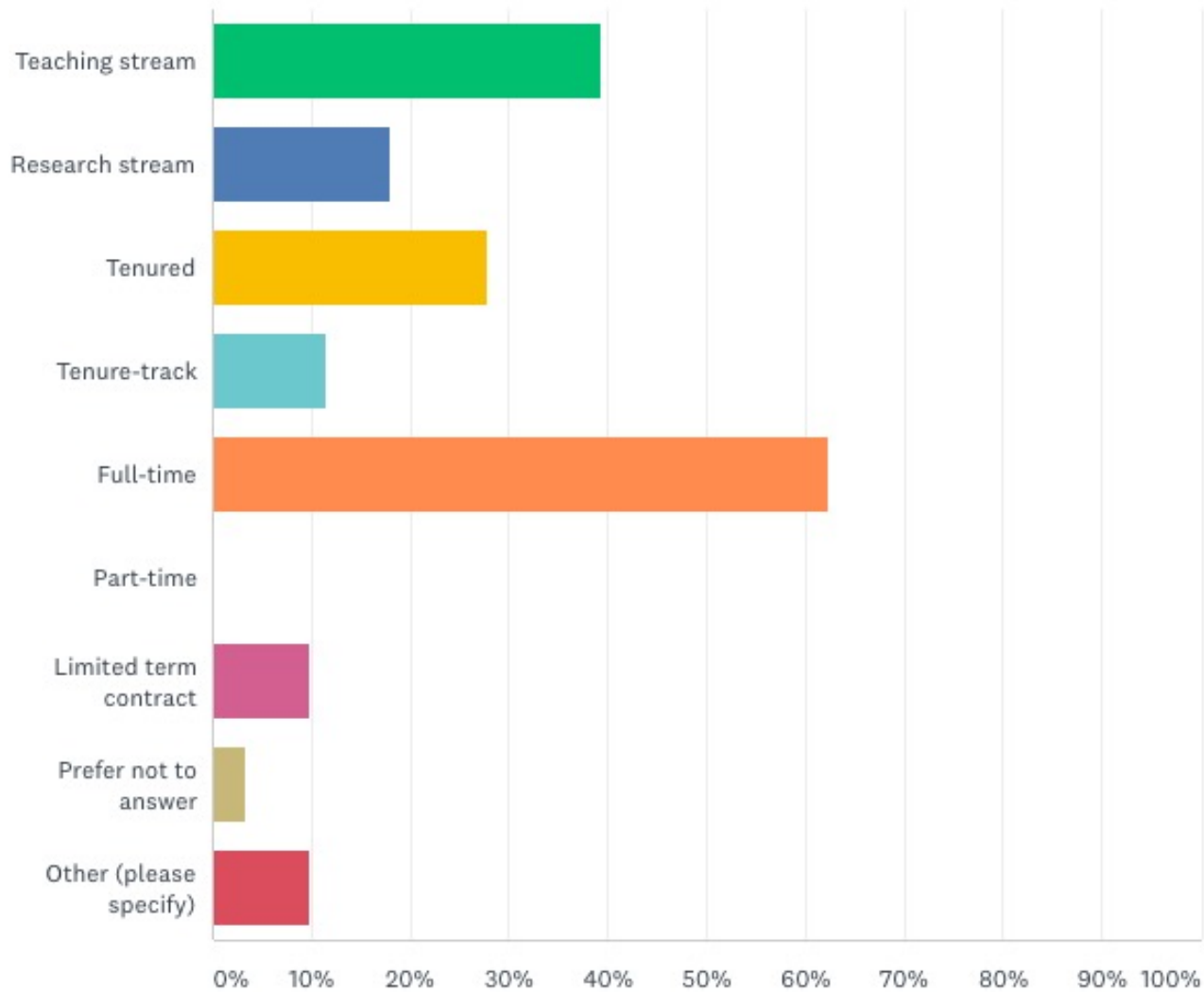
# What age group are you in?



# What is your current position?



Which category/categories best apply to your position? (Please select all that apply.)




# Faculty Hopes





**Poll #1: What is your greatest hope about higher education over the next five years?**

Visit [www.menti.com](https://www.menti.com)  
Code: 90 76 62 17



# Mentimeter

Please enter the code

[Submit](#)

# Emerging findings

- Return to “normalcy” and stability
- Carry forward what was learned
- Flexibility
- Online learning
- Accessibility and equity (less costly, more student-focused, less divides eg urban-rural)
- Moving away from running universities as businesses
- Pedagogical innovations


# Faculty Anxieties





# Poll #2: What is your greatest fear about higher education over the next five years?

Visit [www.menti.com](https://www.menti.com)  
Code: 91 32 59 24



## Mentimeter

Please enter the code

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# Emerging findings

- Alienation
- Online learning
- Job security, austerity, enrolment declines, financial concerns, Laurentian
- Nostalgia impacting the realities of the past
- Individual fears, fears about the system/structure of Higher Ed

# To conclude

- The status quo prior to COVID-19 was problematic
- Faculty have some really good ideas about the future of higher education in this country.
- Students do too... and should also be consulted.

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