

# Historical Awareness Comparison Document

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## Overview

This document presents estimated awareness levels of two major historical subjects: 1. The Expulsion of the Acadians 2. Black slavery and the Transatlantic Slave Trade

Because direct survey data is limited—particularly for Acadian history—the percentages below are informed estimates based on educational exposure, regional awareness, and broader historical research trends.

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## Section 1: Awareness of the Expulsion of the Acadians

A majority of Americans are likely unaware of this event.

### United States

- Clear understanding: <5–10%

### Global

- Clear understanding: <1–2%

### Among People with Acadian Ancestry

#### **Group A: Culturally connected (Cajun/Acadian communities)**

- Awareness: **70–90%**

#### **Group B: Distant or DNA-discovered ancestry (including many U.S. descendants)**

- Awareness: <10–30%

#### **Overall estimated awareness among Acadian descendants:**

- Clear understanding: <15–30%

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## Section 2: Awareness of Black Slavery and the Transatlantic Slave Trade

### United States

- Awareness: **90–98%**

### Global

- Awareness: **70–90%**
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## Section 3: Key Comparative Insight

- Awareness of Black slavery is **nearly universal in the United States** and widely recognized globally.
  - Awareness of the Expulsion of the Acadians is **low in the United States** and **extremely limited globally**.
  - Even among descendants, awareness of Acadian history varies significantly depending on cultural connection and continuity.
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## Section 4: Interpretation

These estimates highlight a significant imbalance in historical awareness:

- Some events become central to education, identity, and public discourse.
- Others, even when involving large-scale displacement and loss of life, remain under-recognized.

This gap is influenced by several factors: - Educational systems - Cultural continuity - Media representation - Political and national narratives

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## Conclusion

Awareness is not evenly distributed across history. While Black slavery is broadly recognized and institutionally taught, the Expulsion of the Acadians remains a largely underrepresented historical event. This disparity demonstrates how collective memory is shaped not only by the scale of events, but by how societies choose to preserve, prioritize, and teach them.

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**Note:** All percentages are informed estimates based on available research, educational patterns, and historical analysis. No comprehensive global survey currently exists to directly measure these awareness levels.