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PART OF THE **SECURITY MONITOR** STUDY



EKOS

Wave 1:

**Five Years after 9/11 –
Canadians Rethinking Security?**

Five Years after 9/11 – Canadians Rethinking Security?

Wave 1 of the **Security Monitor** 2006-7 Study



October 2006

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Introduction

In the immediate aftermath of the September 11th terrorist attacks, EKOS launched its Security Monitor study. Now in its sixth year, the study continues to demonstrate how dynamic the safety and security landscape is in Canada. These shifts are sometimes unexpected and can alter the public context in terms of policy and the delivery of security services.

The salience of security and threat is much higher today than it was at the close of the last decade and issues related to public security are increasingly critical to the evaluation of broad government performance. Security issues are also becoming crucial yardsticks by which citizens measure the performance of governments.

Today, the Security Monitor study is one of the most important examinations of the public's perceptions of issues of safety and security in Canada. Findings from the past year's Monitor reinforced the need for ongoing monitoring of the public's continually evolving outlook. Pertinent events such as the London transit bombings, rising chaos in Iraq, gun violence in Toronto, Hurricane Katrina, the changing role of the Canadian Forces, and the global focus on a potential influenza pandemic have all had an impact on the public's outlook. Likewise, the continued, intense, and rising concerns about threats linked to climate and the environment demonstrated the breadth of concerns about the nature of threats today. Events such as these have reinforced the dominance of what we have labelled the "security ethic" which has implications for the public's expectations of the state to act as a guardian of risk or risk manager.

The 2006-7 study continues to focus on the evolving safety and security landscape in Canada. The results of the first wave are based on a survey with a national random sample of 1,008 Canadians undertaken in October 2006. The methodological details are shown in the appendix to this report.

Overview

The Public Security Landscape: Recent Shifts & Longer-Term Trends

Overall confidence in the federal management of security and threat remains fairly strong. There are, however, some significant trends and shifts which bear further attention.

Confidence in Federal Management of Security

There has been a slight and recent weakening in confidence in broad federal direction in this area. This has been accompanied by an even more significant shift in the erstwhile consensus that the federal government has been striking an appropriate equilibrium of urgency and threat. The near public agreement evident in late 2001 that pace was balanced appropriately with threat has broken down. Five years from September 11, there is little apparent public consensus on whether to hold steady, accelerate, or relax efforts. Although most fall into the right balance / move more quickly camps, there has been a clear and steady rise in concerns that security measures are being implemented "too quickly". While still only 15 per cent, it has trebled over the past year and now rivals or equals the "too slowly" group among key cohorts (e.g., Canadians of upper socioeconomic status).

This fragmentation of the previous consensus on pace and resources is also expressed in highly polarized attitudes to granting police and security agencies further powers which might conflict with civil rights and privacy concerns. The once near universal agreement that this is an inevitable and necessary evil in the search for societal security has fractured. While the socioeconomic effect is very strong here as well, we also see Quebeckers and younger Canadians increasingly less receptive to a one-dimensional focus on security.

Threat Perception

In broad terms, concerns about an increasingly more dangerous world are ubiquitous. Although terror is seen as the principal cause, most discount their personal imminent risk of experiencing a terror threat; it is imagery rather than the reality which is more potent. There is also a growing tendency to associate a more threatening world with U.S. foreign policy (now cited as the second leading cause) and to increasingly downplay domestic sources such as crime and violence. Curiously, the more pedestrian risks are

seen as likelier threats, but more remote terror images are what seems to underpin generalized fears.

The underlying social dynamics are also quite notable. "Security" is clearly sought more strenuously by the economically and socially vulnerable members of society. Those who feel least confident about their position in the economy and society have the most elevated fears and the strongest desires for unrestricted government security focus. Interestingly, privacy shows a reverse pattern to this broader tendency for the poorer and less-educated to seek and approve of a greater focus on security. In this case, it is the relatively more affluent and powerful who are most alarmed and allergic to threats to privacy, which are seen as both pervasive and growing.

Fallout from Arar

Awareness of the Arar incident is quite high and about 1 in 5 also know about of the results of the O'Connor inquiry. Most awareness is still, however, dominated by the original story of deportation and torture. There has been a slight but significant movement to the dominant view that this sort of outcome is never justified by a larger security imperative. However, a little over 1 in 3 still see it as an inevitable downside, or "lesser evil" in the fight against terror. Regardless of the split in views, there is virtually universal sympathy for Arar's travails and most believe he merits both an apology and financial compensation.

If Arar and other forces are causing second thoughts, it must be stressed that "security shocks" (e.g., the arrest of alleged terrorist plotters in Canada) work in the opposite direction and serve to sharpen the public appetite for security. The latest evidence may show an emerging public mood which favours taking stock and potentially rebalancing security and other social goals.

Against this backdrop it is notable that there have been mounting negatives associated with public perception of the cost / benefit ratio of the Anti-Terrorism Act. This has evolved from a clear sense that overall public good outweighed negatives to a much more evenly balanced mixture of positive and negative effects. It remains the case that the public are convinced that the net impact on visible minorities has been negative.

Despite growing concerns and public ambiguities, the public still believe that security trumps civil liberties (by a margin of 2 to 1) as a blunt trade-off of principles (highest ever score). Moreover, there is meagre evidence that these controversies have had a

corrosive impact on the reputation of national security agencies such as the RCMP and CSIS.

Attitudes to Afghanistan in the Broader Context of Security, Defence, and Canada-U.S. Relations

Public awareness of federal efforts in the security area is relatively modest. Awareness, however, has risen recently and, in particular, clear awareness of Public Safety and Emergency Preparedness Canada has moved up significantly. It remains the case that by far the most visible face of national security efforts, indeed of overall federal presence, is in the area of defence in general and Afghanistan in particular.

Despite the conflicting media reports on what appear to be whiplash like shifts in public support / opposition to Afghanistan, our research shows a more stable pattern. In fact, over the past several months, support stabilized following a long period of steady decline. Some of the key features of evolving public attitudes to defence and Afghanistan follow:

- (i) Over the past several years, attitudes to defence have evolved rapidly. Awareness and approval of defence is up dramatically and there is a sense that defence capabilities have strengthened and shifted from traditional peacekeeping to a more aggressive, combat-oriented role. In the past, Canadians have acknowledged and supported the need for defence renewal and a more muscular military. These views were rooted in earlier perceptions of the military as being in decline coupled with a newly more challenging and dangerous external view of the world. Investment, however, is no longer seen as an urgent priority (perhaps because the public recognize the increased emphasis it has received).
- (ii) Although there are remarkably positive attitudes towards the Canadian Forces and its personnel, long-term patterns show a steady erosion of support for the Forces' current primary focus: the Afghanistan mission. While most Canadians, particularly outside of Quebec, continue to support the mission, this is more tepid and polarized than in the past. In recent months our evidence shows that the process of erosion in support has halted and public attitudes have stabilized. It should also be noted, however, that there has been a doubling of strong opposition since September 2005 (from eight per cent to 19 per cent). This is particularly noteworthy because the propensity for attitude change is inversely proportional to the intensity with which the attitude is held.

- (iii) In thinking of the motives behind Canada's role in Afghanistan (and whether we should remain committed), Canadian attitudes are highly conflicted. While most are convinced of the need to improve the lives of the Afghanis and to meet previous moral-legal responsibilities, mounting opposition is based on a growing sense of futility. Canada-U.S. relations also play an important role. On the surface American foreign policy and federal administration are seen as dangerous. Yet, despite surface concerns that indicate growing American antipathy, the deeper analysis shows recognition and support for the linkage to improved Canada-U.S. relations.

- (iv) Despite high levels of awareness of the Afghanistan mission in general, there is extremely scant recognition of any non-military effort in Afghanistan. Given the sources of public support for the mission, efforts to increase the communication (and arguably the actual levels of parallel developmental and reconstructive efforts) would undoubtedly have a positive impact on public attitudes to the mission.



Government Responses

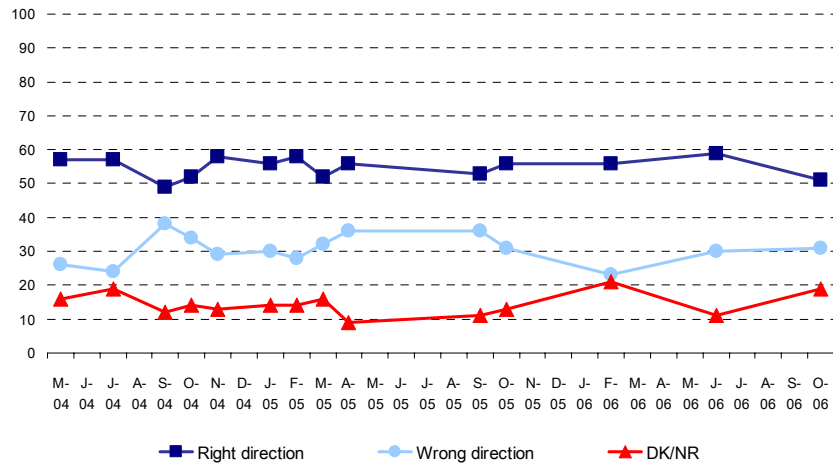
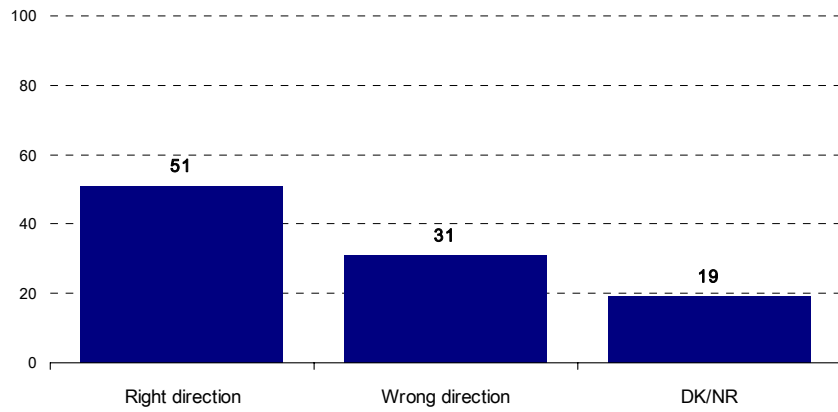
PART OF THE **SECURITY MONITOR** STUDY

It has been a turbulent start to the fall session in Parliament. On the security front, the shootings at Dawson college and the rising death toll in Afghanistan continue to challenge the federal government. While **support for government direction on national security remains in majority territory** (51 per cent), this has declined eight points since the summer. Interestingly, this has not been replaced by greater opposition (which has remained stable at 31 per cent), but by more uncertainty (at 19 per cent up from 11 per cent). It is worth noting that, in general, **greater awareness of government action is linked to higher support of the security agenda** (59 per cent who are aware say “right direction” compared to 41 per cent who are not aware).

At the same time, **certain positions** the federal government has taken are also **associated with higher levels of opposition**. For example, while nearly half (47 per cent) of those who oppose the **mission in Afghanistan** consider the government to be moving in the wrong direction on national security, only 20 per cent who support the mission disapprove. Likewise, Canadians who feel that what happened to **Maher Arar** is unacceptable are also more inclined to oppose the direction the government is taking on security (40 per cent).

Direction of Government on national security

Q: All things considered, would you say that the Government of Canada is moving in the right direction or the wrong direction in terms of national security?

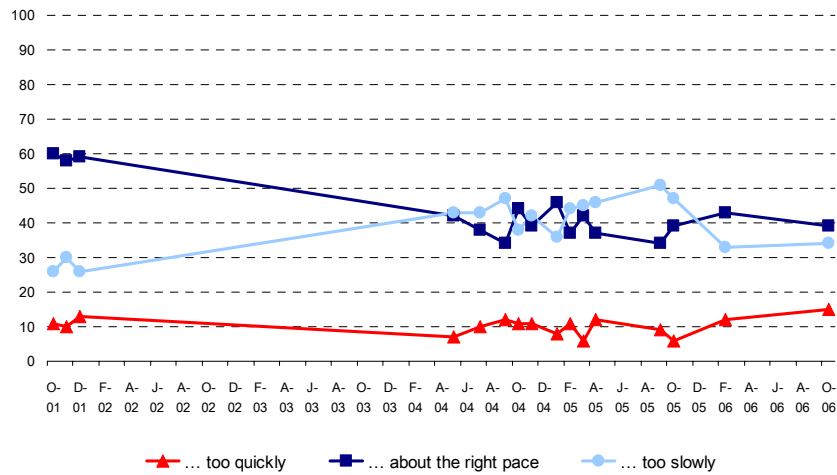
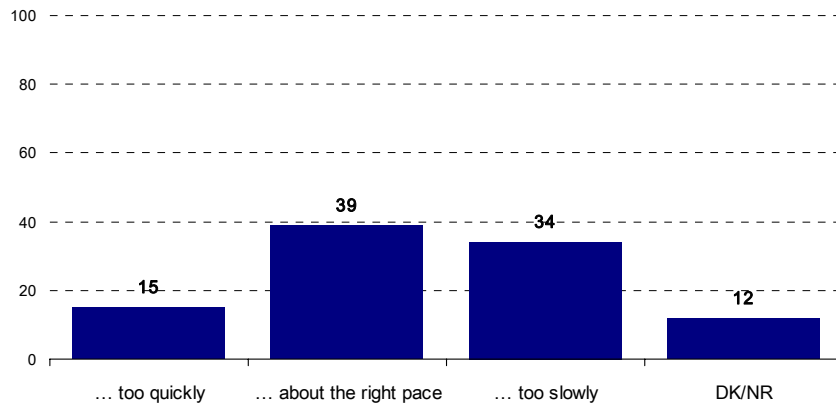


Base: All Canadians; most recent data point Oct. 06 n=1008

We find a similar trend when asking about the pace of changes the Government of Canada has announced to deal with security issues. Overall, the **pace is approved of by a slight plurality** (39 per cent). This approval rises to 56 per cent for those who also support the government direction on security and 43 per cent who report being aware of changes the government has introduced. For those who do not approve of the pace of security changes, the **lean continues to be towards seeing the response as too slow** (34 per cent) rather than too fast (15 per cent). It is worth noting, however, that despite being a small minority, the 15 per cent saying “too quickly” is the highest level we have recorded since tracking began in 2001.

Attitudes towards the amount/pace of changes on security

Q: Thinking about the amount and pace of changes the Government of Canada has announced to deal with security issues, do you think they are moving ...



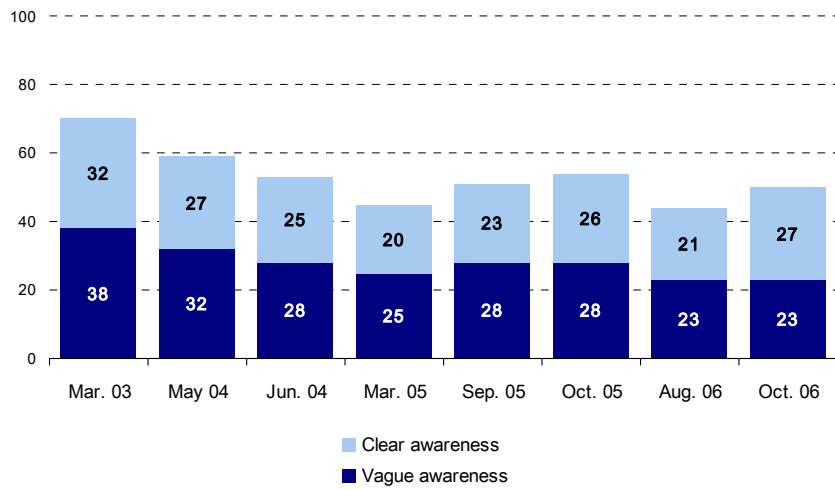
Base: All Canadians; most recent data point Oct. 06 n=1008

Linked to these attitudes is a somewhat **higher awareness of actions the government has taken to improve public safety and security** (overall 50 per cent “aware” up from 44 per cent in August 2006). Importantly, clear awareness has risen to the highest its been in more than two years (27 per cent). That said, this remains one of the lowest awareness scores recorded since this question was first asked in March 2003.

After an alleged terrorist plot involving the use of liquid explosives on airplanes was uncovered in the United Kingdom this past August, new rules for carry-on luggage were introduced. These events clearly had an impact on the psyche of Canadians, **as concerns about air security once again top the list of security measures** (recalled by 34 per cent). Border concerns, the previous top-of-mind leader in recall of specific security measures, are now secondary, mentioned by just over 1 in 4 respondents (26 per cent). The government’s announcement of new legislation/laws this fall also appears to be resonating as 1 in 5 mention this (up from 14 per cent in August 2005).

Awareness of security measures

Q: Do you recall hearing about any actions that the Government of Canada has taken to improve public safety and security in the past year?



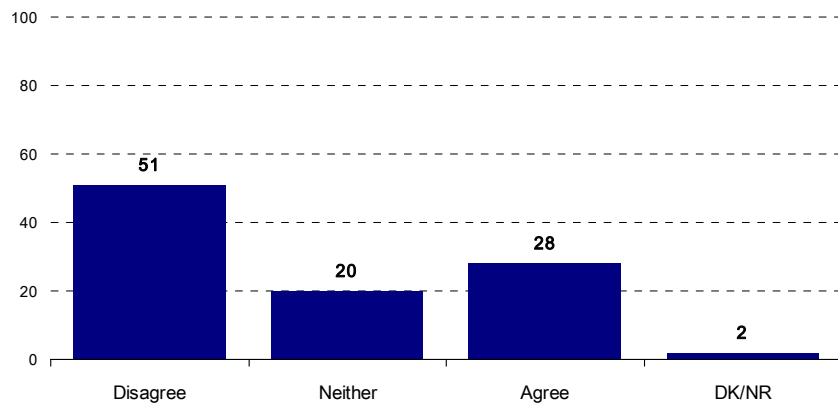
Q: What activities do you recall hearing about?*

	Mar. 03	May 04	Mar. 05	Aug. 06	Oct. 06
Airport / air security	75	50	29	25	34
Border security	45	35	30	31	26
Legislation/government laws	--	4	4	14	21
Increased policing/intelligence	6	4	4	15	7
Investigating terrorism in Canada	5	2	5	14	7
Immigration/deportation	9	6	5	9	6
National identity card	4	4	2	13	5
War / investing in military	--	6	8	4	3
Canada's ports	--	4	3	8	2
Passport requirements	--	--	--	1	1
Other	4	2	7	1	9
DK/NR	11	18	20	16	19

Base: All Canadians; Oct. 06 n=1008; *only asked of those with prior awareness (n=527)

Transparency in explaining security measures

Q: The Government of Canada has done a good job explaining to Canadians the measures it uses to fight terrorism.



Base: All Canadians; Oct. 06 n=1008

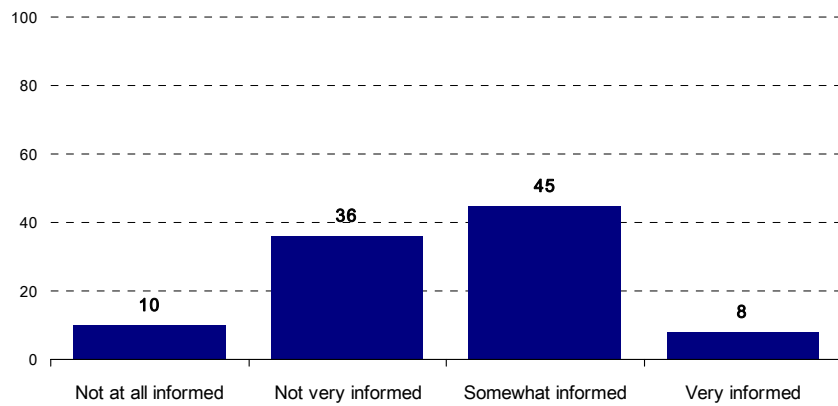
Regardless of their awareness of government action taken to improve security / safety, **few believe that the Government of Canada has done a good job explaining the measures it uses to fight terrorism:** 51 per cent disagree with this sentiment and only 28 per cent agree. Even those who say they are aware of actions the government has taken to improve security are only somewhat more likely to agree that the government has done a good job explaining these measures (30 per cent compared to 25 per cent who are not aware).

Although Canadians may be critical of the government's track record in explaining the measures used to fight terrorism, few are willing to say that they feel completely uninformed (only 10 per cent). In fact, a majority (53 per cent) of **Canadians lean towards being at least somewhat informed of the government's legislative response to combat terrorism**. Television and newspapers are the most commonly cited sources for information on this matter. Irrespective of their current level of knowledge, **most would like to know more** about the government's legislative response to terrorism (77 per cent say they are "somewhat" to "very interested" in learning more).

This high level of interest in knowing more about what government is doing to fight terrorism on the legislative front should be interpreted carefully, as citizens typically tend to significantly exaggerate their appetite for government information. Past evidence has shown that, when government does try to inform, actual take-up is often quite low.

Knowledge of Canada's legislative response to terrorism

Q: Overall, how informed would you say you are about the Canadian government's legislative response to combat terrorism? Would you say you are...



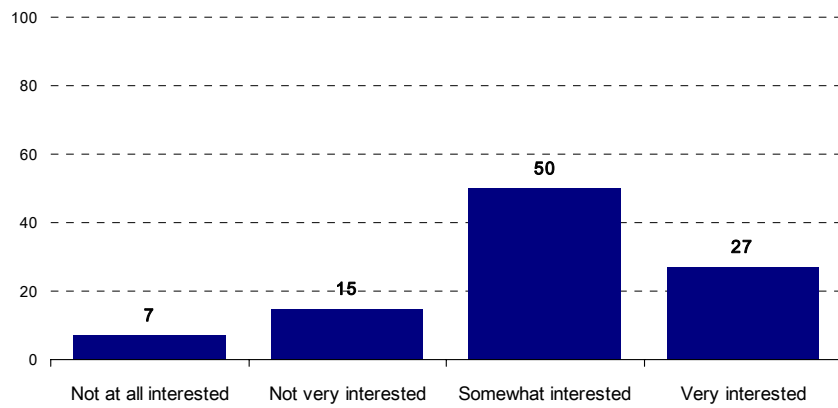
Q: And where did you get your information on the Canadian government's legislative response to combat terrorism?*

	Oct. 06
Television	69
Newspapers	58
Internet	24
Radio	22
Magazines	7
Government website	5
Friends / family	4
School / university	2
Work	1
Department of Justice	1
Other	3
DK/NR	1

Base: All Canadians; Oct. 06 n=1008; *only asked of those who are "somewhat/very" informed (n=559)

Interest in knowing more about legislative response to terrorism

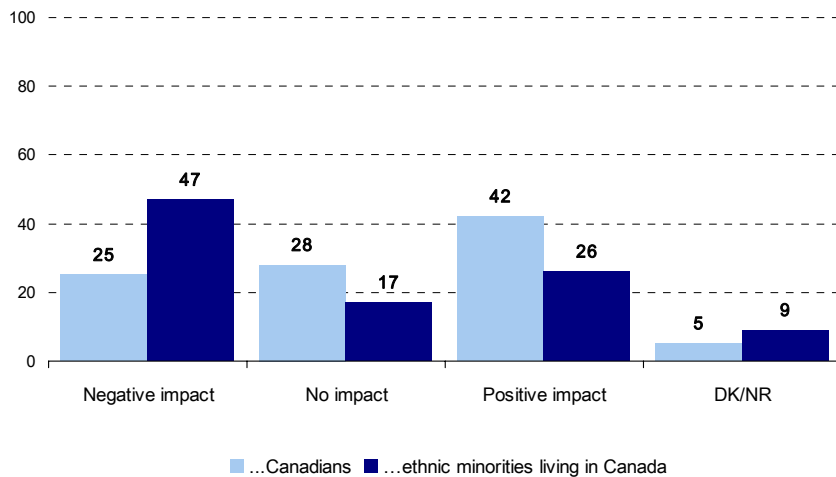
Q: And how interested would you be in learning more about the Canadian Government's legislative response to terrorism? Would you be...



Base: All Canadians; Oct. 06 n=1008

The Anti-Terrorism Act

Q: The Anti-Terrorism Act "includes measures to identify, prosecute, convict and punish terrorist groups. It also provides investigative tools to law enforcement and national security agencies." Overall do you think the Canadian government's legislative response to terrorism is having a positive or negative impact on ...?

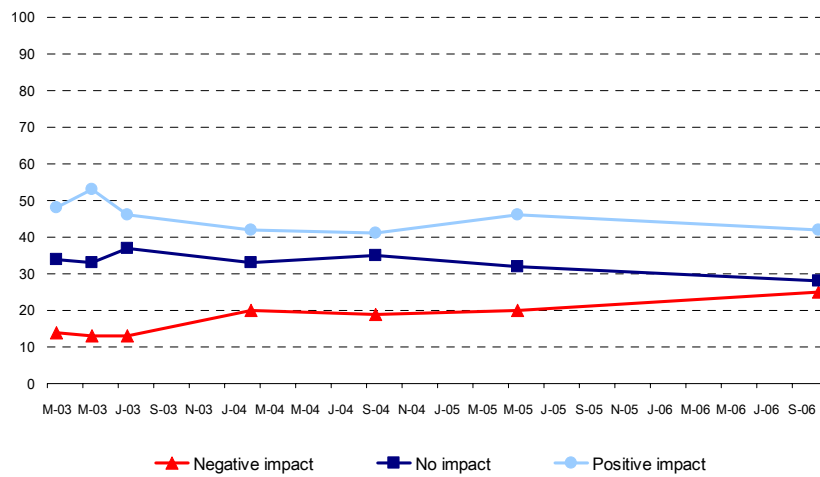
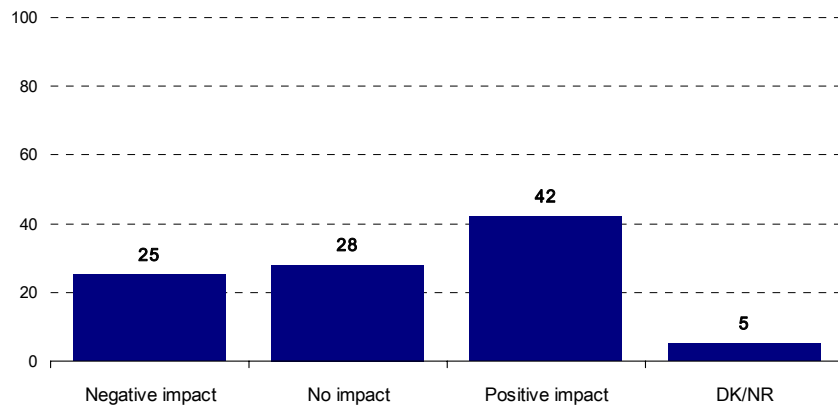


Base: All Canadians; Oct. 06 n=1008

With the lowest ever recorded scores for “no impact”, we see that the **Anti-Terrorism Legislation is increasingly seen as having an effect on Canadians.** Further, there is more inclination than in the past to **characterize the impacts as being negative.** For example, although a plurality (42 per cent) continues believes the impact on Canadians has generally been positive, the proportion saying “negative” has grown from 14 per cent in March 2003 to 25 per cent in October 2006. When it comes to the impact on visible minorities, only 1 in 4 (26 per cent) perceives it to be “positive”, and a growing plurality (47 per cent) believes the impact has been negative. Interestingly, visible minority Canadians are not any more likely than non-visible minorities to think the legislation has had a negative impact on minorities.

Tracking the perceived impact of the ATA on Canadians

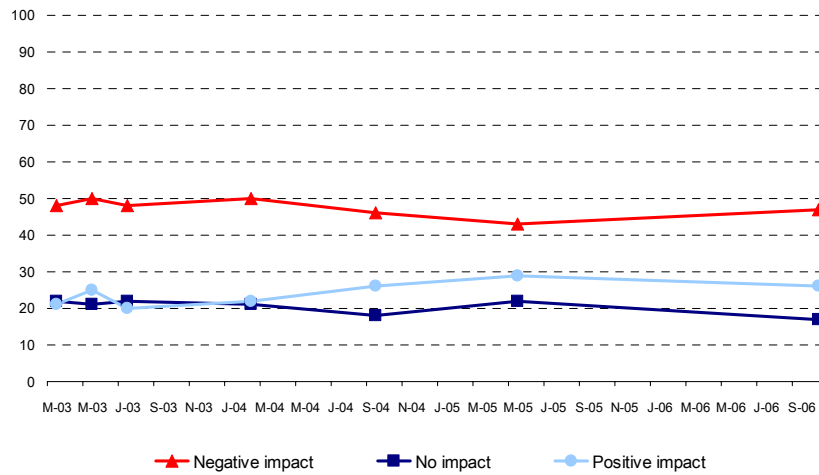
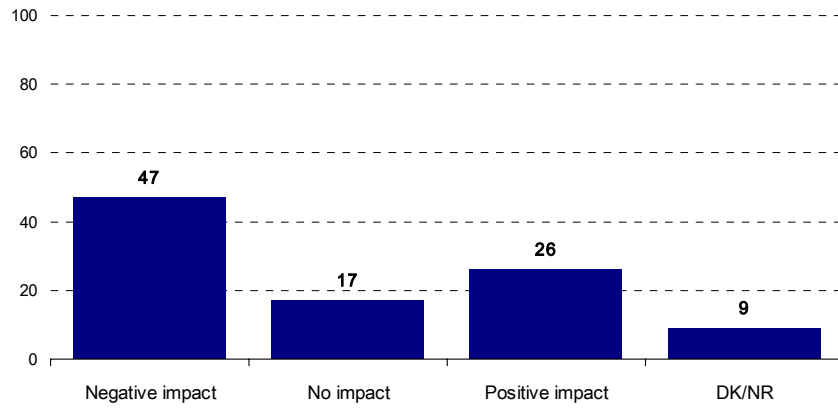
Q: Do you think the Canadian government's legislative response to terrorism is having a positive or negative impact on Canadians?



Base: All Canadians; most recent data point Oct. 06 n=1008

Tracking the perceived impact of the ATA on ethnic minorities

Q: Do you think the Canadian government's legislative response to terrorism is having a positive or negative impact on ethnic minorities living in Canada?



Base: All Canadians; most recent data point Oct. 06 n=1008



Security & Civil Liberties

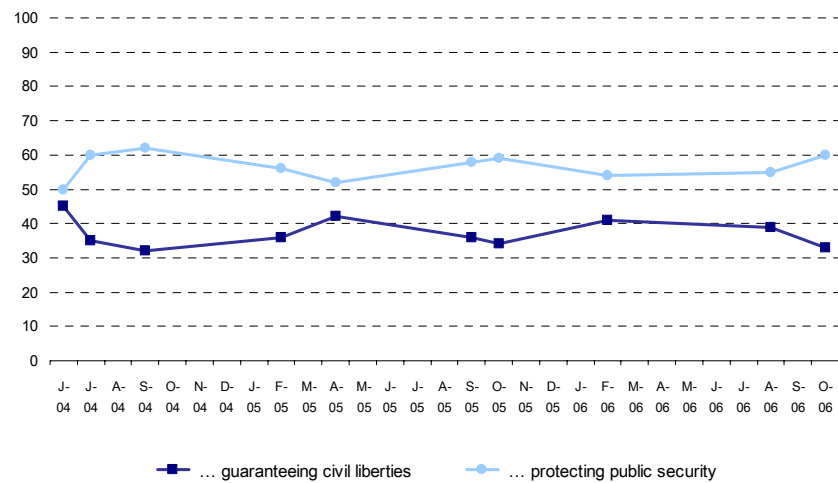
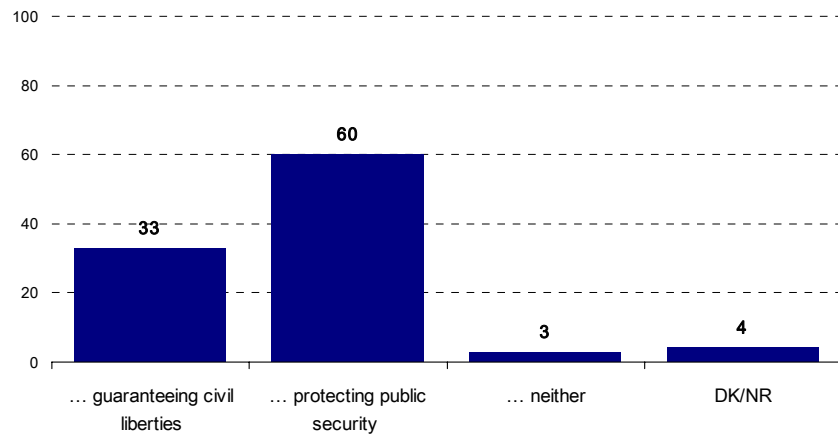
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If forced to choose between the government guaranteeing civil liberties or protecting public security, **Canadians consistently indicate a preference for the security side of this equation** (60 per cent compared to 33 per cent who choose civil liberties). Moreover, this is the largest gap between these two positions that we have ever observed.

However, we see from a follow up question that they believe this to be an **artificial choice**. When asked whether the government should find a balance between these two goals or if they must choose to focus on just one, a clear majority (79 per cent) believes a balance is achievable.

Civil liberties vs. security

Q: Recognizing that both are important in today's world, which of the following do you feel the Government of Canada should place the most emphasis on . . . or . . . ?



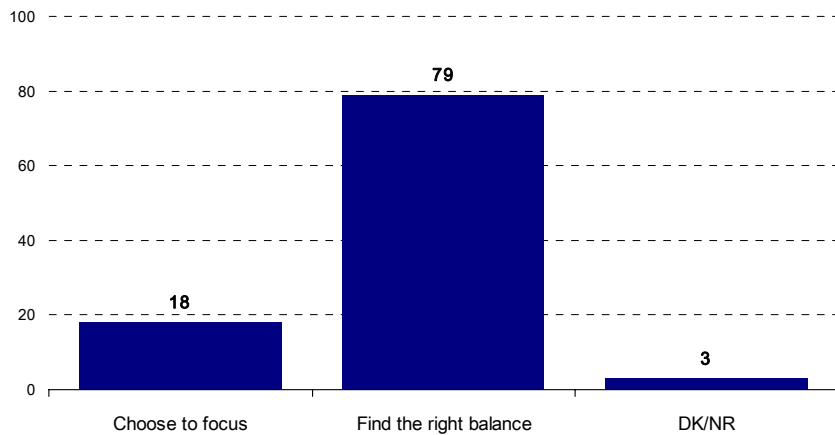
Base: All Canadians; most recent data point Oct. 06 n=1008

Are civil liberties and security mutually exclusive goals?

Q: Which of the following two statements is closest to your own point of view?

The government must **choose to focus** on either protecting security or guaranteeing civil liberties because you cannot achieve both at the same time.

The government needs to **find the right balance** between guaranteeing civil liberties and protecting public security because both are equally important



Base: All Canadians; Oct. 06 n=1008

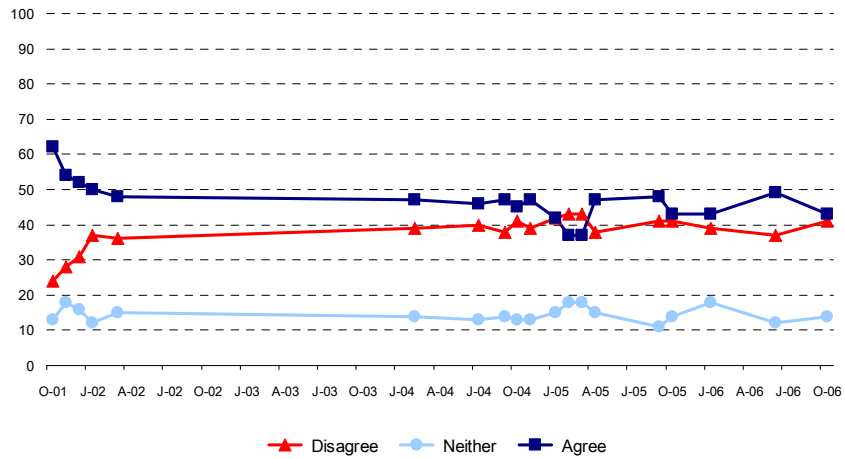
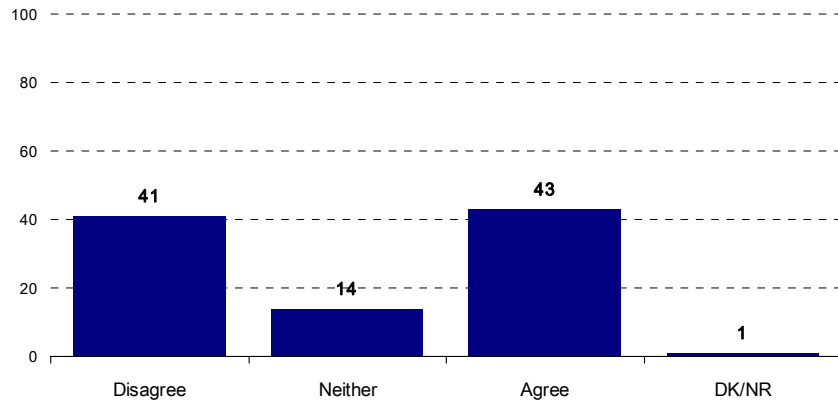
There is an notable **educational affect** on these questions. Overall, the impetus for placing an emphasis on security declines with level of educational attainment: 70 per cent with a high school education or less want the government to focus on security compared to 64 per cent with a college education and 48 per cent with a university education. The perception that the government must choose to focus on one goal instead of finding a balance also wanes with increased education: 25 per cent of the high school educated think the government must have a sole focus compared to 17 per cent of the college educated and 14 per cent of the university educated.

Despite their lean towards security, Canadians continue to be divided on the issue of **granting police and intelligence agencies more powers** to ensure security when it comes **at a cost to their personal privacy**. While a slight plurality support (43 per cent), almost as many oppose (41 per cent). Those more in favour of expanding police powers include women (47 per cent) and seniors (53 per cent compared to 32 per cent of youth). Individuals who support the government's direction on national security are also more likely to be comfortable with this concept (52 per cent compared to 32 per cent who think the government is moving in the "wrong direction").

This wariness may be at least partially rooted in the fact that **1 in 2** Canadians (53 per cent) report having **less personal privacy than they did ten years ago**. Contrary to most threat patterns, the perception of privacy loss is more common among individuals of higher socioeconomic standing: 59 per cent of the university educated and 60 per cent of the most affluent. Individuals who are unhappy with government direction on security are also more likely to report having less privacy than in the past (62 per cent).

Perceived necessity of granting additional security powers

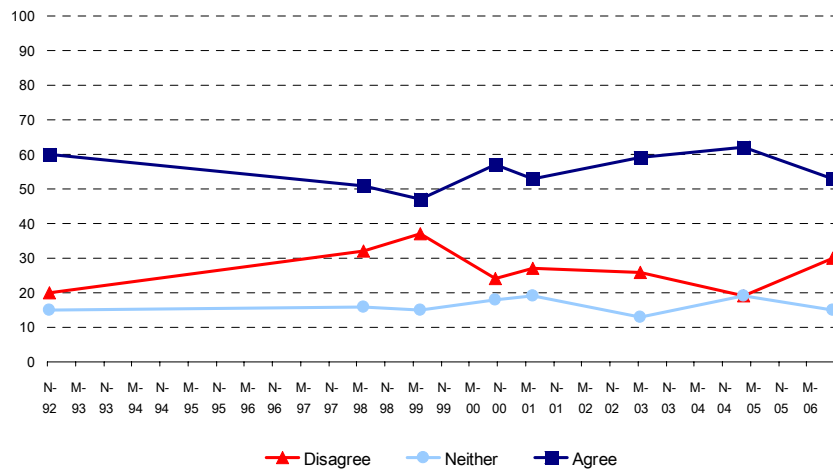
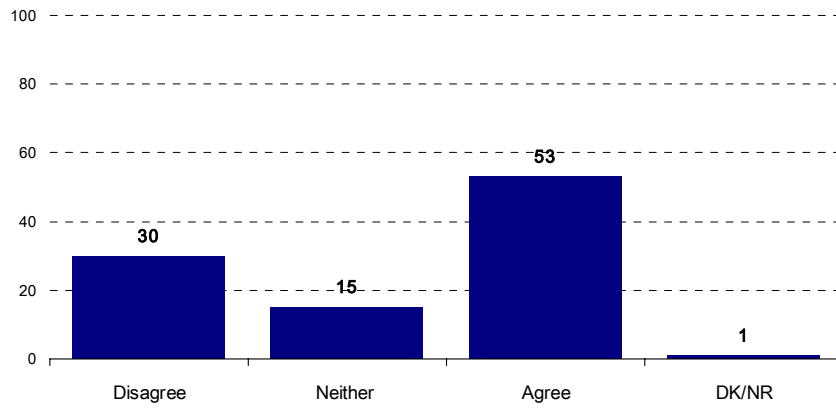
Q: Police and intelligence agencies should have more powers to ensure security even if it means Canadians have to give up some personal privacy safeguards.



Base: All Canadians; most recent data point Oct. 06 n=1008

Erosion of personal privacy

Q: I feel I have less personal privacy in my daily life than I did 10 years ago.



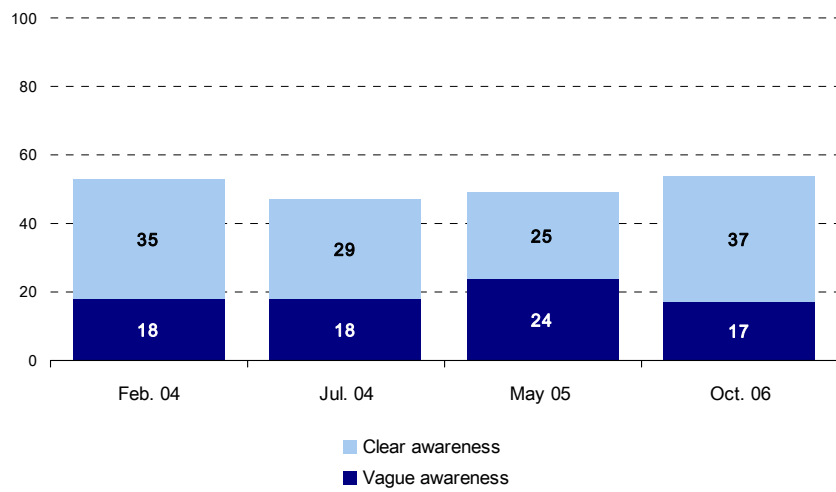
Base: All Canadians; most recent data point Oct. 06 n=1008

Following the release of the first report of the Commission of Inquiry into the Maher Arar case this September, it is clear that there is still a great deal of uncertainty regarding this case. At 54 per cent, **awareness remains moderate**, especially when compared to the 85 per cent awareness of the Afghanistan mission or changes to passport requirements under the Western Hemisphere Travel Initiative. Further, only about a third (38 per cent) of those who are aware recall hearing about the **not guilty finding in the inquiry** and about a quarter (26 per cent) the reason for the finding (i.e. **lack of evidence**). Instead, reports of the **deportation and torture in Syria** remain top-of-mind (48 per cent recall) by a sizable margin.

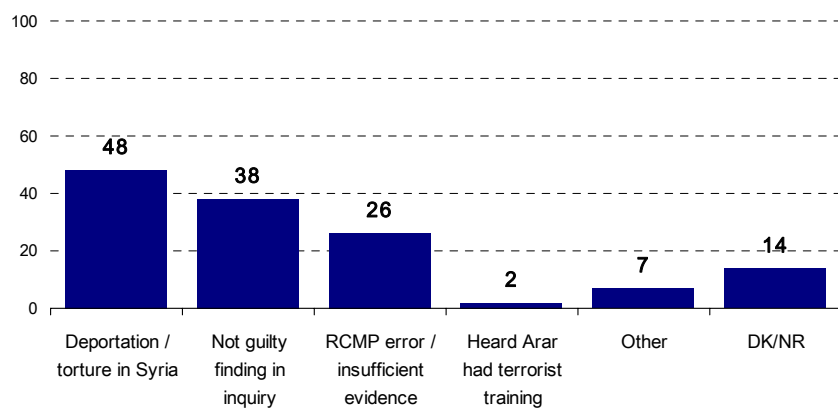
Even more surprising is the fact that, despite the finding of innocence, Canadians' views on the case have remained almost unchanged over time. While more than half (54 per cent) now say that **what happened to Mr. Arar can never be justified**, this perception is only up six percentage points from the pre-inquiry result of 48 per cent. Moreover, at least 1 in 3 Canadians (36 per cent) continue to believe that, however unfortunate, this is just an **unavoidable downside to protecting national security** (although this perception has receded somewhat from the 44 per cent who held this view in 2004).

Awareness of the Maher Arar case

Q: Do you recall hearing or seeing anything about the Maher Arar case?



Q: What do you recall hearing about?*



Base: All Canadians; Oct. 06 n=1008 *those who have some awareness (n=584)

Perceptions of the treatment of Arar – pre and post-inquiry

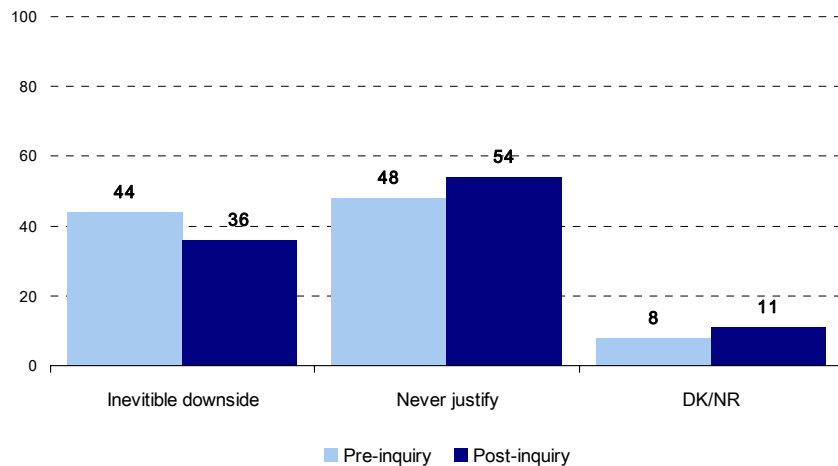
Pre-inquiry preamble: Maher Arar is the Syrian-born Canadian who spent a year detained in Syria after American security agencies deported him on suspicion of having ties to terrorist organizations.

Post-inquiry preamble: Maher Arar is a Canadian citizen who was suspected of having ties to terrorist organizations. He was deported to Syria from the United States where he was tortured and imprisoned for close to a year after Canadian intelligence agencies provided inaccurate information to American officials.

Q: Which of the following statements is closer to your own point of view?

Although it is unfortunate that Maher Arar suffered unnecessary abuse, this is an **inevitable downside** of protecting national security

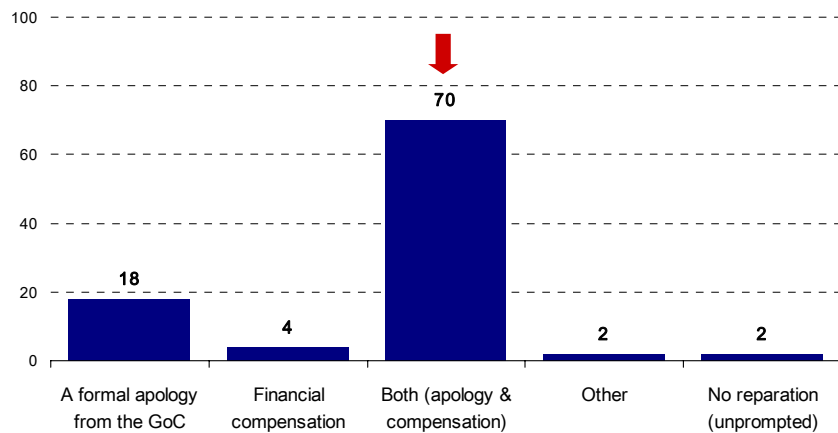
Considerations of security and terrorism can **never justify** the human rights violations inflicted on Maher Arar.



Base: All Canadians; Post-inquiry figures from Oct. 06 n=1008; Pre-inquiry figures from Feb. 04 n=1122

Compensation for Arar?

Q: As you may have heard, there was a Commission of Inquiry into the Maher Arar case. The Commissioner of the Inquiry, Justice Dennis O'Connor, recently cleared Maher Arar of any terrorist allegations and suggested that Mr. Arar be compensated for what happened to him. Which of the following forms of compensation do you think Mr. Arar should be given?

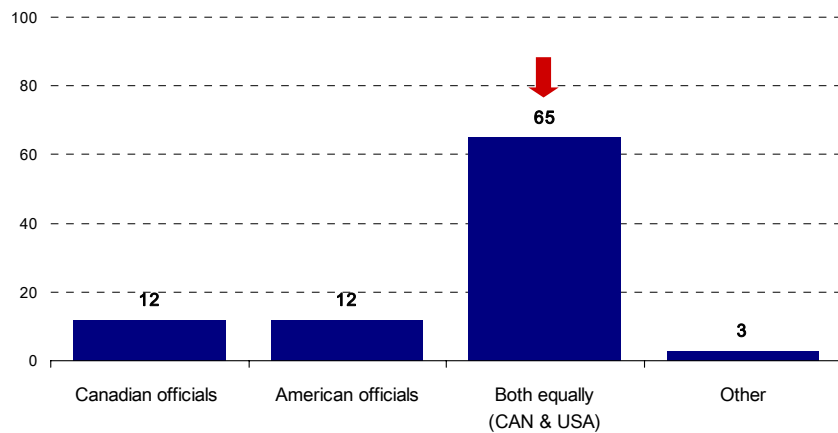


Base: All Canadians; Oct. 06 n=1008

Despite their somewhat ambiguous notions of what happened to Maher Arar, there is consensus among Canadians that some form of reparation must be made. Overall, a majority (70 per cent) believe he should be **given both a formal apology from the federal government and financial compensation**. Those who feel that what happened to Mr. Arar is a predictable side-effect of national security are more likely to feel that an apology would suffice (29 per cent compared to 11 per cent who consider what happened to be unacceptable under any circumstances).

Who is at fault in Arar case?

Q: Who do you think is more to blame for what happened to Maher Arar?

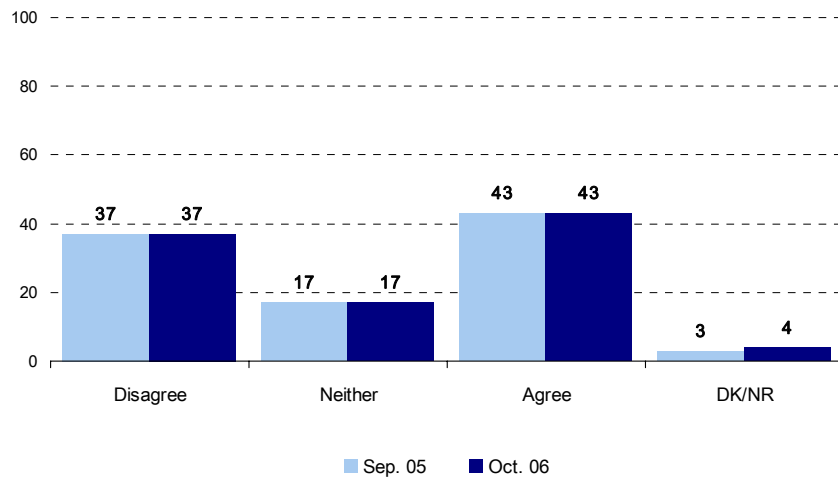


Base: All Canadians; Oct. 06 n=1008

As for **who is more to blame** for what happened in this case, about 1 in 10 (12 per cent) cite Canadian officials and the same proportion cite American officials. Overall, two-thirds (65 per cent) say that **Canadian and American officials are equally to blame**. Interestingly, those who feel that what happened was an inevitable result of national security pursuits are more likely to place the blame on Americans (16 per cent compared to 10 per cent who feel that what happened is never justifiable).

Perceptions of Canada's information sharing practices

Q: Law enforcement and security agencies would never share information on a Canadian citizen with a foreign government if they knew that this information would lead to their human rights being violated.



Base: All Canadians; Oct. 06 n=1008

Findings in the Arar inquiry aside, Canadians continue to be divided on the issue of whether or not **law enforcement or security agencies would willingly share information** on a citizen if they knew this would lead to a human rights violation: 43 per cent do not think this would happen whereas 37 per cent do. Individuals who are aware of the Arar case are more likely to think that this would happen (46 per cent compared to 26 per cent who are not aware of this case). These individuals, however, are not convinced that what happened to Arar was intentional on the part of Canadian security officials.

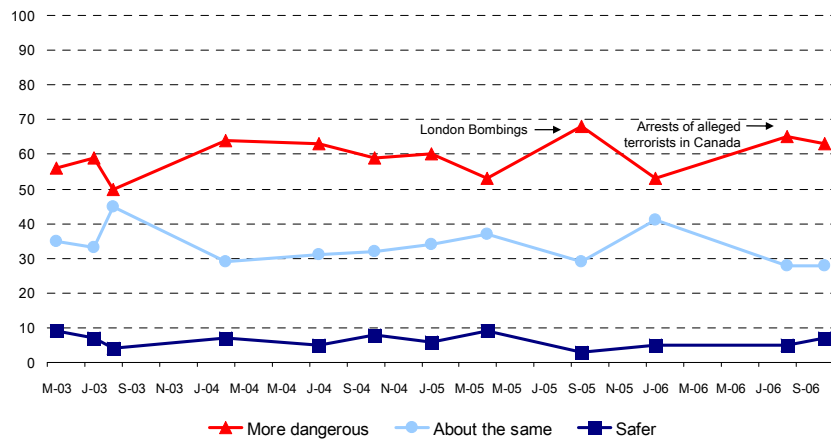
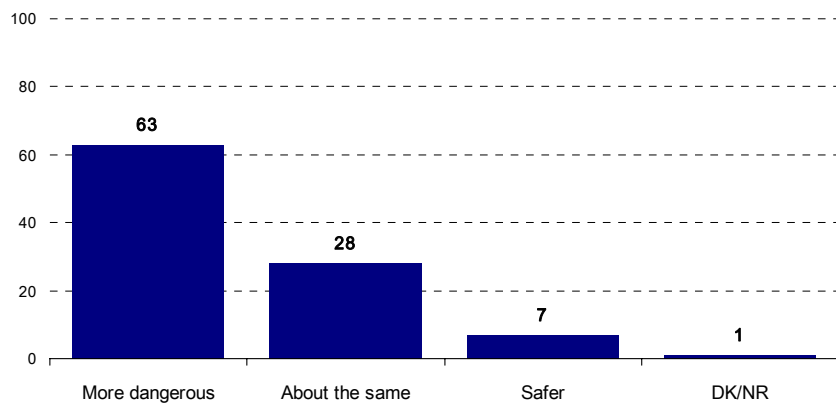


Perception of Threat

PART OF THE **SECURITY MONITOR** STUDY

Perceptions of the safety/danger of the world

Q: From your own point of view, do you feel that, overall, the world is safer, more dangerous, or about the same as it was five years ago?



Base: All Canadians; most recent data point Oct. 06 n=1008

Reasons for why the world is “more dangerous”

Q: What is the MAIN reason why you believe the world is more dangerous today?

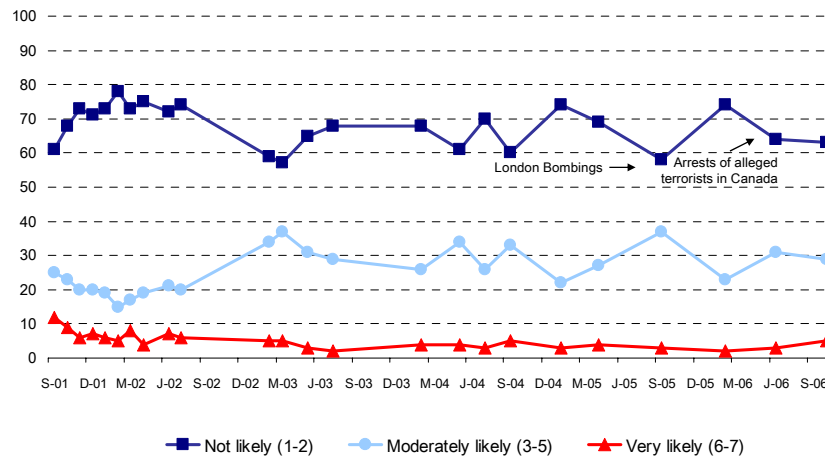
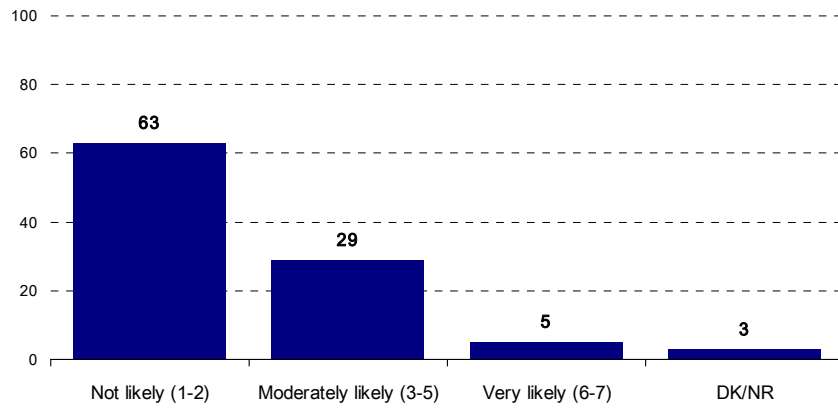
	Sep. 05	Oct. 06
Terrorism	44	38
U.S. foreign policy	11	18
Crime and violence on the rise	20	12
Military aggression / war	--	9
Politics / power struggle between countries	--	7
Tolerance levels in decline	4	6
Proliferation of nuclear weapons/plants	4	2
Lack of proper screening of immigrants	1	1
Other	1	3
DK/NR	13	3

Base: Those who think the world is “more dangerous” (n=637)

Following the arrests of 17 alleged terrorist suspects in Canada this past summer, concerns about the perceived danger of the world remain elevated. Overall, 63 per cent of Canadians believe the **world is a scarier place than it was before the 9/11 terrorist attacks**, and 1 in 3 (28 per cent) say it is “about the same”. Fewer than 1 in 10 consider the world “safer”. **Anxiety over terrorism** (38 per cent) continues to be the **primary source of these concerns**. Increasingly, however, Canadians also name U.S. foreign policy (18 per cent) and related issues such as war and military aggression (nine per cent) and power struggles between countries (seven per cent). Very few mention domestic concerns such as crime and violence (12 per cent).

Likelihood of personally being affected by terrorism

Q: How likely do you think it is that you and your family will suffer from a terrorist attack in the next two years?

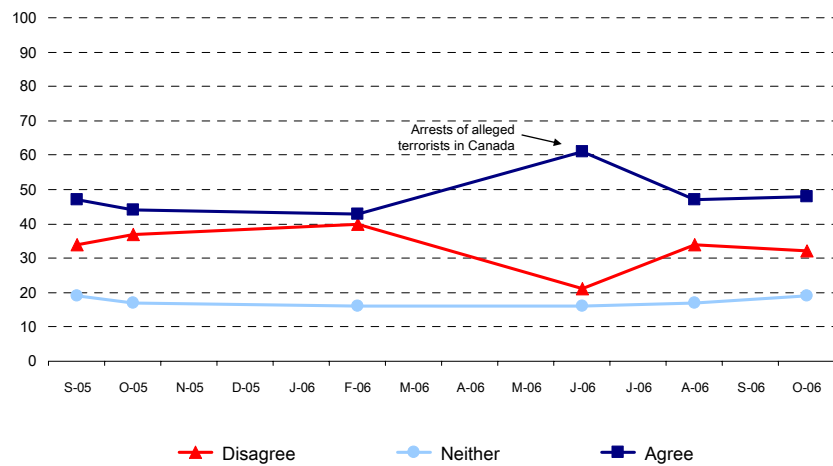
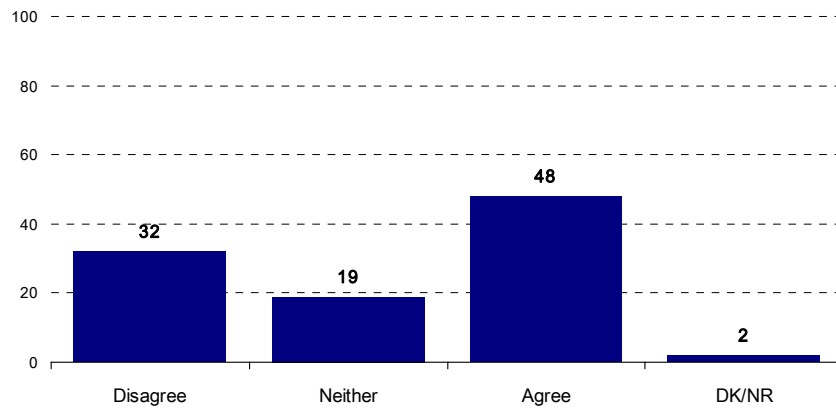


Base: All Canadians; most recent data point Oct. 06 n=1008

Although they see terrorism as the root cause of why the world is more dangerous, Canadians concerns about the likelihood of being **personally affected by a terror event** have remained relatively low and stable with a majority (63 per cent) saying that it is **unlikely that they or a family member will be affected in the next 2 years**. That said, it is a consistent plurality (48 per cent) who believes that a terrorist event in Canada is inevitable. Those who approve of the government’s approach to security are even more likely to agree that it is “only a matter of time before there is a major terrorist attack on Canadian soil” (51 per cent compared to 43 per cent who do not approve).

Is a terrorist attack in Canada inevitable?

Q: It's just a matter of time before there is a major terrorist attack on Canadian soil.



Base: All Canadians; most recent data point Oct. 06 n=1008



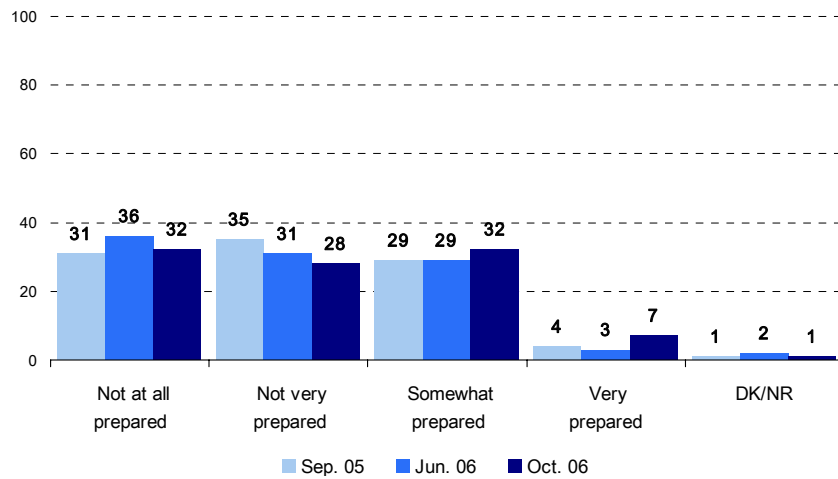
Emergency Preparedness

PART OF THE **SECURITY MONITOR** STUDY

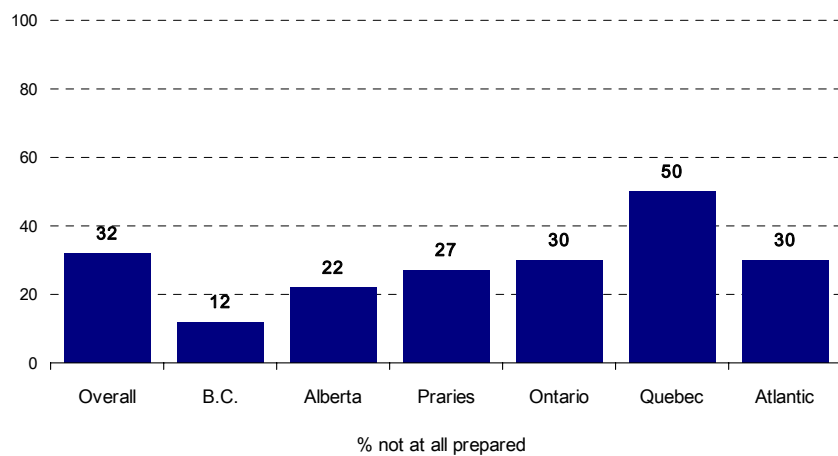
When asked to assess their own **level of preparedness** to deal with catastrophic disaster, Canadians continue to lean towards classifying themselves as **less rather than more prepared**: 60 per cent “not at all / not very prepared” and 39 per cent “somewhat / very prepared”. There has, however, been a **notable rise in individual preparedness** since June 2006, with marks for “somewhat / very prepared” rising seven percentage points. Once again, residents of Quebec are the least prepared (50 per cent “not at all prepared”).

Level of preparedness for a disaster

Q: How prepared would you say you and your family are to deal with a catastrophic disaster such as an earthquake, hurricane, or terrorist attack in your community? Would you say ..*



Q: How prepared would you say you and your family are to deal with a catastrophic disaster such as an earthquake, hurricane, or terrorist attack in your community? Would you say ..*



Base: All Canadians; Oct. 06 n=1008

Specific preparations

Q: What, if anything, have you or your family done to prepare for the possibility of a catastrophic disaster such as an earthquake, hurricane, or terrorist attack?

	Sep. 05	Jun. 06	Oct. 06
Stocked up on emergency supplies	15	15	25
Have had family discussion (e.g., made plans of places to meet)	5	3	7
Have received training / seen educational information	--	--	2
Other	1	3	2
Have done nothing	76	77	64
DK/NR	3	3	3

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Base: All Canadians; most recent data point Oct. 06 n=1008

The proportion of Canadians who report having done nothing to **prepare for the possibility of a catastrophic disaster** has declined in recent months (from 77 per cent in June 2006 to 64 per cent in October). **Stocking up on emergency supplies** (25 per cent) tops the list of specific things that people have done to prepare. There is some evidence that government messaging about emergency preparedness may be having an affect. Indeed, **Canadians who report being aware of actions** the government has taken to improve public safety and security are much **more likely to have taken steps to prepare for a disaster** (59 per cent “have done nothing” compared to 70 per cent who are not aware).



Defence

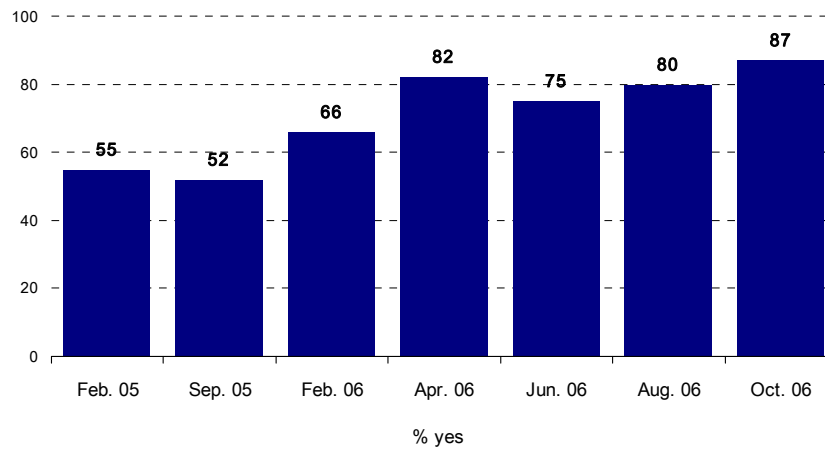
PART OF THE **SECURITY MONITOR** STUDY

Awareness of issues affecting the Canadian Forces **continues to surge upwards**. Outstripping the previous high of 82 per cent awareness, nearly 9 out of 10 Canadians (87 per cent) currently report having read, seen or heard something recently. **Activities in Afghanistan persist as the dominate top-of-mind response** (66 per cent), and for the first time since Canada entered the conflict, reports of the rising death toll / injuries also make the list (31 per cent). Even more obscure items, such as the relaxed training and standards for new recruits, no longer go unnoticed.

Awareness of these issues remains highest amongst the elderly (93 per cent recall compared to 76 per cent of youth), and Canadians of higher socioeconomic standing (93 per cent of the university educated and 95 per cent of the most affluent).

Awareness of issues affecting the Canadian Forces

Q: Have you recently read, seen or heard anything about the Canadian Forces?



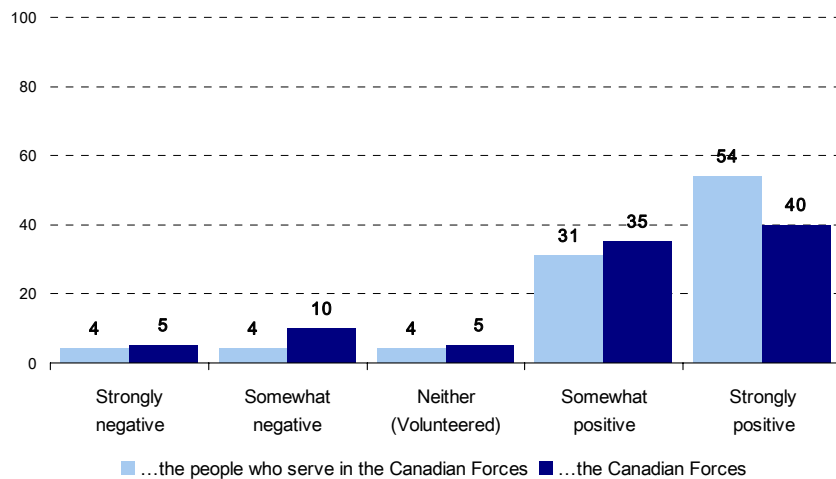
Q: What did you see, read or hear?

	Sep. 05	Feb. 06	Oct. 06
Activities in Afghanistan (e.g., navy role, low morale, details withheld)	33	48	66
Rising death toll / injuries in Afghanistan	--	--	31
Need for more troops	11	8	13
Peacekeeping	13	8	5
Relaxed training / standards for new recruits	--	--	4
Under funding	18	10	4
Advertising/recruiting	1	1	3
Media coverage (unspecified)	2	2	2
Troops returning from Afghanistan	--	2	2
Given more funding	4	8	1
Equipment problems	--	7	1
Possibility of sending troops to Iraq	1	2	1
Ships sent to U.S.	36*	1	1
Other	4	3	3
DK/NR	13	13	4

Base: All Canadians; most recent data point Oct. 06 n=1008; *only asked of those with awareness (n=895)

Overall impression of the Canadian Forces and personnel

Q: What is your overall impression of ...? Would you say it is positive or negative?

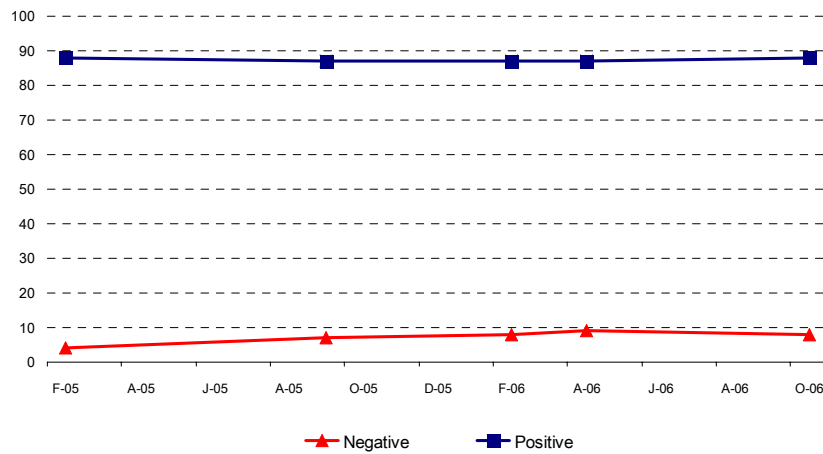
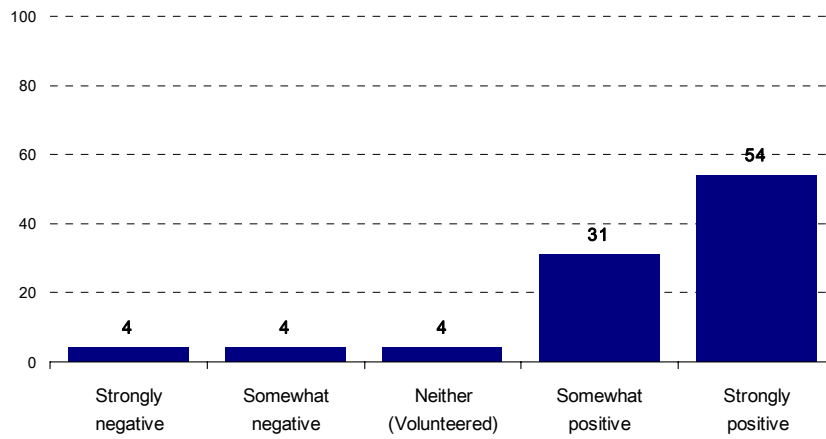


Base: All Canadians; Oct. 06 n=half sample

Perceptions of the Canadian Forces and its personnel are **overwhelmingly positive**. In total, 85 per cent characterize their impression of the people who serve in the Canadian Forces as “positive”. This is a **trend that has remained stable for nearly a year**. Slightly fewer, but still a large majority (75 per cent), has similar feelings about the CF in general. Canada’s most affluent tend to have more positive views of both the institution (84 per cent) and its personnel (93 per cent). Conversely, visible minority Canadians are more likely have a negative impression of the CF (24 per cent compared to 14 per cent of non-visible minorities) and the people who serve (13 per cent compared to seven per cent of non-visible minorities).

Tracking overall impressions of Canadian Forces personnel

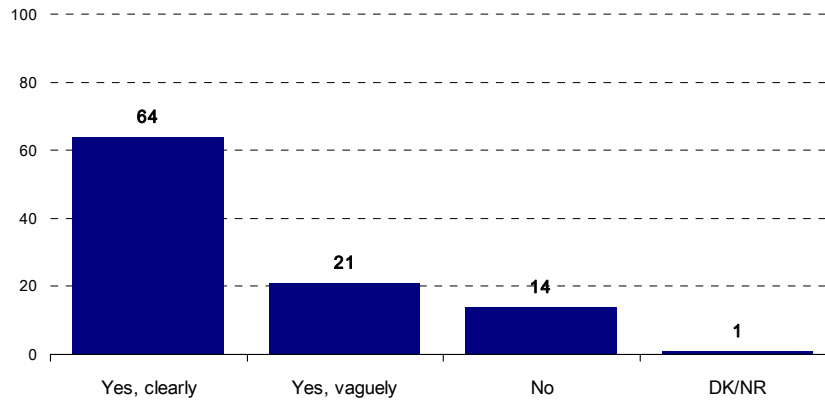
Q: What is your overall impression of the people who serve in the Canadian Forces? Would you say it is positive or negative?



Base: All Canadians; most recent data point Oct. 06 n=half sample

Awareness of military operations in Afghanistan

Q: Over the past few weeks, do you recall hearing, reading, or seeing anything about Canada's military operations in Afghanistan?



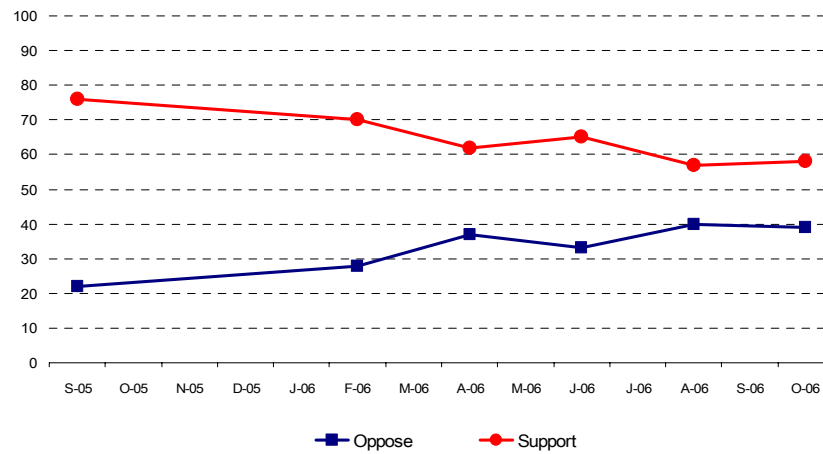
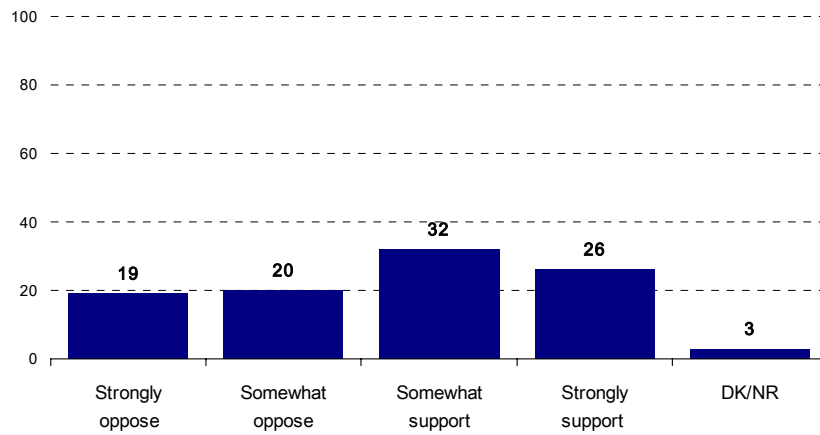
Base: All Canadians; Oct. 06 n=1008

Canadians are becoming better informed about the Afghanistan mission (85 per cent “aware”) and, after more than a year of decline, **support for Canada’s military role in Afghanistan has stabilized.**

Currently, more than 1 in 2 Canadians (58 per cent) support the mission (compared with 57 per cent in August). The nearly identical levels of support in these two time periods represents a **change from a trend of gradually diminishing support** from a high of 76 per cent over the last 14 months. Strong support for the mission is fairly entrenched at 26 per cent, as is strong opposition at 19 per cent. In the past, movement has been from those who “somewhat support” into the “somewhat oppose” category, but that now seems to be stabilizing.

Attitudes towards a peace-support role in Afghanistan

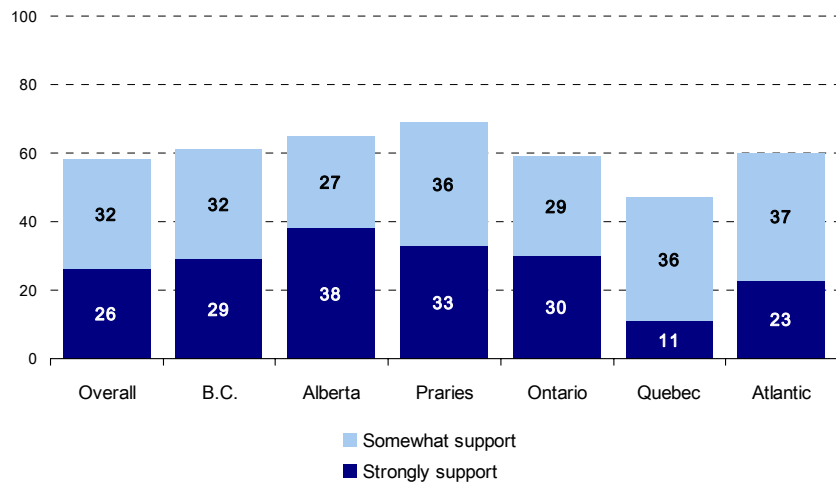
Q: Right now, the Canadian Forces are involved in a broader peace-SUPPORT operation in Afghanistan, helping to rebuild the country and maintain security with our troops fighting on the frontline if necessary. Would you say you strongly support, somewhat support, somewhat oppose or strongly oppose these contributions?



Base: All Canadians; most recent data point Oct. 06 n=1008

Regional attitudes towards peace-support role

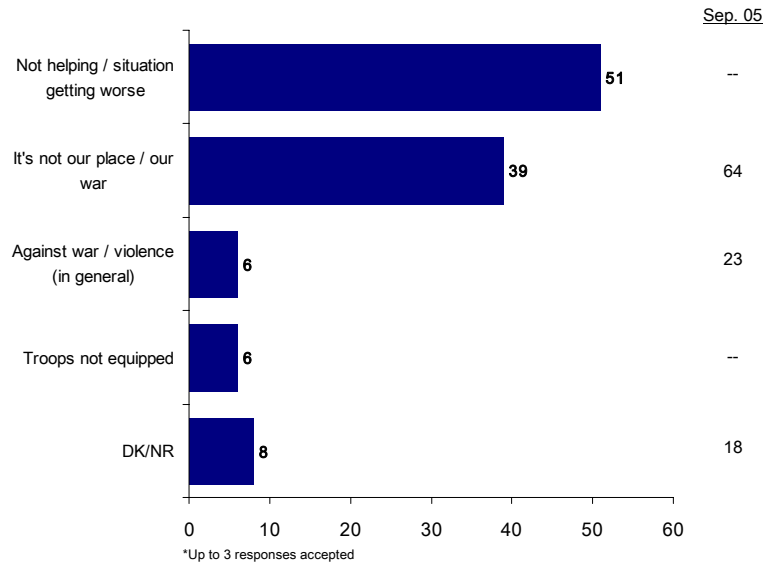
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Base: All Canadians; Oct. 06 n=1008

Reasons for opposing the peace-support role in Afghanistan

Q: Why do you OPPOSE the Canadian Forces' broader peace-support operation in Afghanistan?

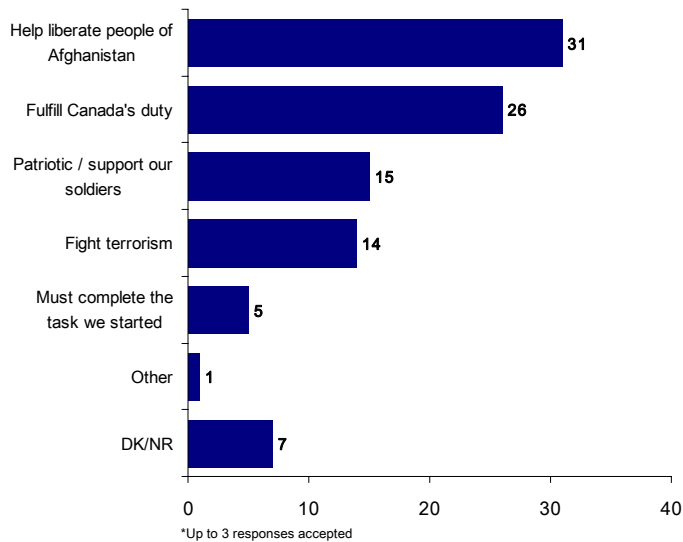


Base: Those who oppose the peace-support role n=375

Those who **do not support** the Canadian Forces mission in Afghanistan were given the opportunity to explain the reasons for their position. The most common response is that they do not believe that Canada is helping, and that the **situation is getting worse** (mentioned 51 per cent of the time). When this question was first asked just over a year ago, this response did not even come up. The most common response at that time was that **"it is not our place / not our war"**, a view that continues to be mentioned 39 per cent of the time. Others justify their opposition to the peace-support role by saying they are **opposed to war in general** and that they do not believe that our soldiers are properly equipped (each mentioned six per cent of the time).

Reasons for supporting the peace-support role in Afghanistan

Q: Why do you SUPPORT the Canadian Forces' broader peace-support operation in Afghanistan?

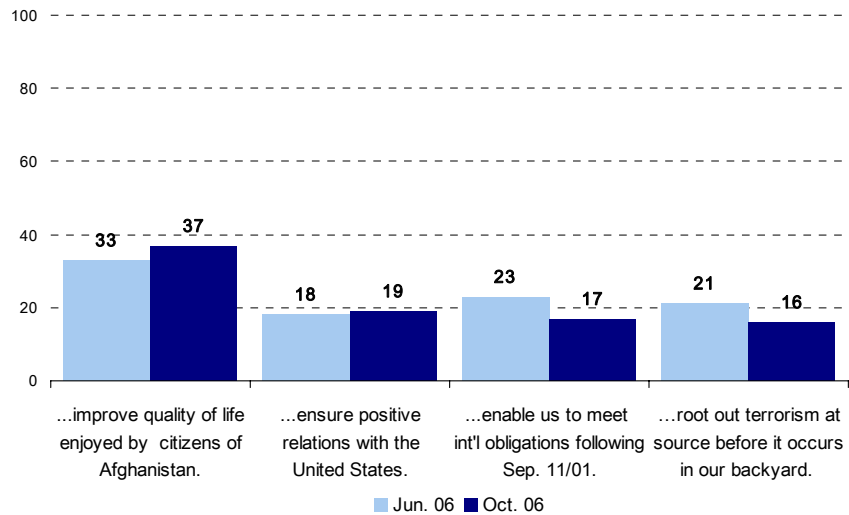


Base: Those who support the peace-support role n=599

For those who **support the mission**, the top-of-mind reasons include **helping liberate the people of Afghanistan** (31 per cent), **fulfilling Canada's duty** (26 per cent), **supporting our soldiers** (15 per cent) and **fighting terrorism** (14 per cent). Canadians who support the direction the government is taking on national security are more inclined to cite the need to fulfill Canada's duty as the reason for their support of the mission (27 per cent compared to 19 per cent who do not approve of the government's direction). This argument also resonates with Canada's seniors (33 per cent mention Canada's duty compared to just 15 per cent of youth).

Justification for Canada's role in Afghanistan

Q: Even if you do not support the current mission, which of the following do you think is the strongest reason for Canada to have a military role in Afghanistan? Is it because it will...

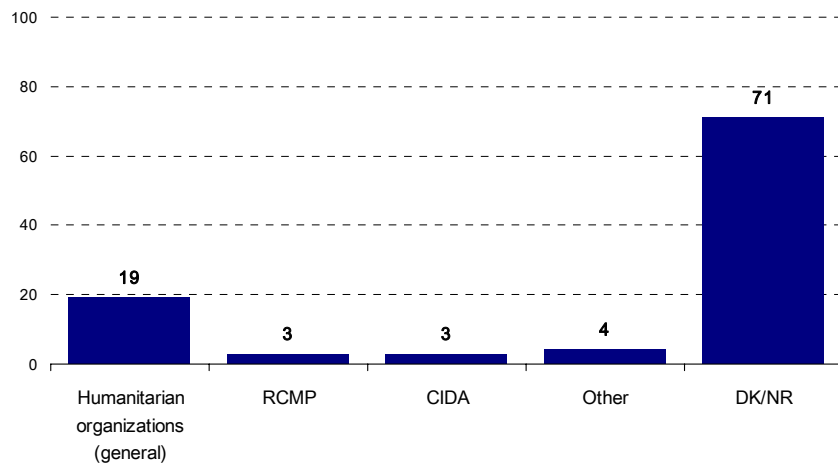


Base: All Canadians; most recent data point Oct. 06 n=1008

Interestingly, the top-of-mind reasons mentioned by those who support the mission are very similar in substance to the prompted responses provided as options in a follow-up question (with the exception of one looking at Canada-U.S. relations). When all Canadians (regardless of support) are asked what they believe is the most compelling reason for Canada to have a military role in Afghanistan, improving the quality of life for the Afghani people leads at 37 per cent, followed by ensuring positive relations with the U.S. (19 per cent), meeting our international obligations (17 per cent) and fighting terrorism (16 per cent).

Awareness of other Canadian agencies operating in Afghanistan

Q: Other than our military personnel, can you name any other Canadian agencies that are currently helping out with the reconstruction and stabilization efforts in Afghanistan?



Base: All Canadians; Oct. 06 n=1008

Very few Canadians are aware of (or able to name without prompting) agencies other than our military personnel that are currently helping with the reconstruction and stabilization efforts in Afghanistan (71 per cent did not mention a single agency). For those with some awareness of the other agencies operating in Afghanistan, the most common response was humanitarian organizations (mentioned 19 per cent of the time). The RCMP and CIDA were also correctly mentioned by a few respondents (three per cent each).

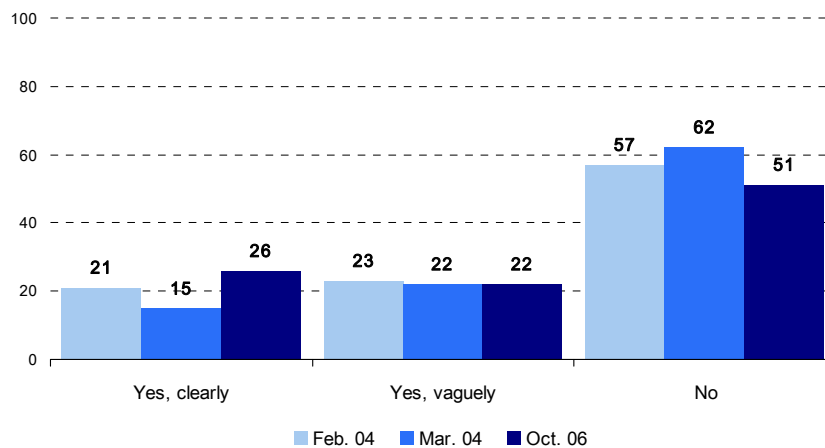


Security Agencies

PART OF THE **SECURITY MONITOR** STUDY

Awareness of Public Safety and Emergency Preparedness Canada

Q: Were you aware that the federal government has a ministry of Public Safety and Emergency Preparedness that is responsible for policing, intelligence, emergency management, and management of the U.S.-Canada border?*



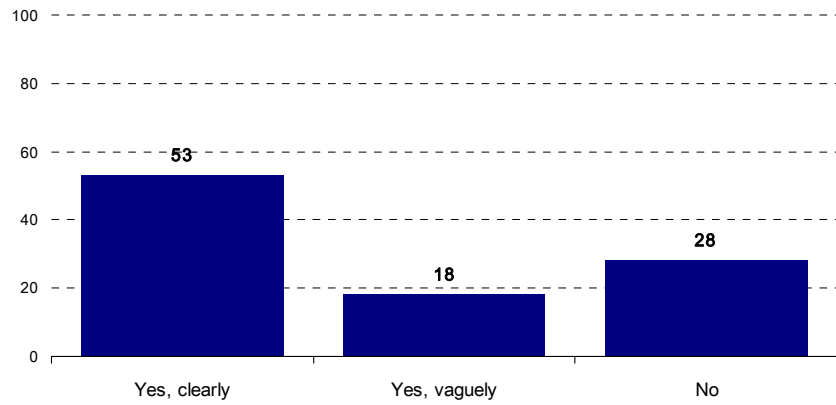
*note that "emergency management" added to 2006 version of question

Base: All Canadians; Oct. 06 n=1008

It is still a relatively **small proportion** of Canadians that is clearly **aware of Public Safety and Emergency Preparedness Canada**, the organization responsible for managing and implementing the government's security agenda. Although clear awareness has grown over the past two years, fewer than 1 in 2 (48 per cent) say that they are either clearly or vaguely aware of the agency responsible for policing, intelligence, emergency management, and management of the Canada-U.S. border. On the contrary, a **sizable majority** (71 per cent) report being **aware of the RCMP's mandate** to protect against drug traffickers, smugglers, and other criminal organizations that threaten public security.

Awareness of the RCMP's mandate

Q: Part of the mandate of the RCMP is to protect Canadians against drug traffickers, smugglers, financial criminals and other criminal organizations that threaten national security. Before this survey, were you aware that the RCMP has this kind of mandate?



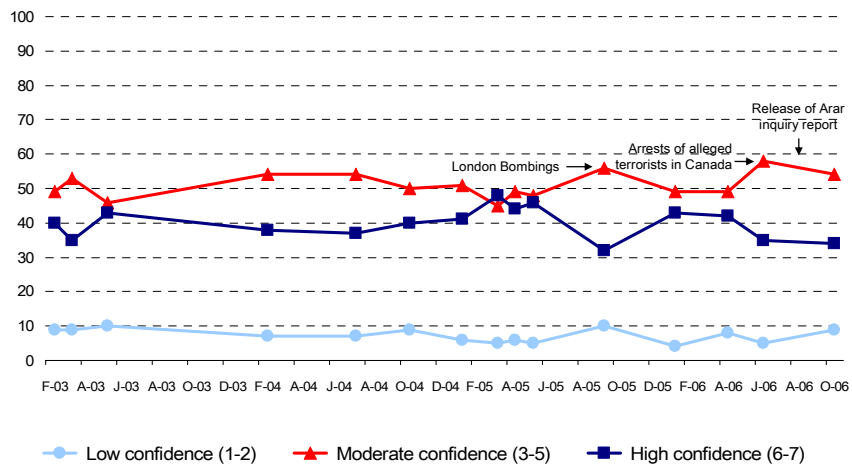
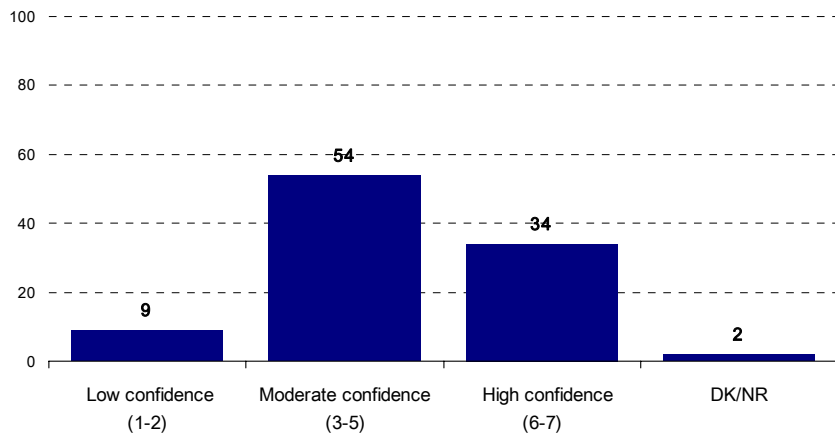
Base: All Canadians; Oct. 06 n=1008

It appears that reputation damage from the O'Connor inquiry has been surprisingly slight. Although the **RCMP** has been heavily criticized for providing inaccurate information that led to the deportation of Maher Arar to Syria, **Canadians continue to exude a great deal of confidence in this police agency** (fewer than 1 in 10 report "low confidence").

Likewise, CSIS does not appear to be paying much of a price in terms of public confidence for their link to the Maher Arar case.

Confidence in the RCMP

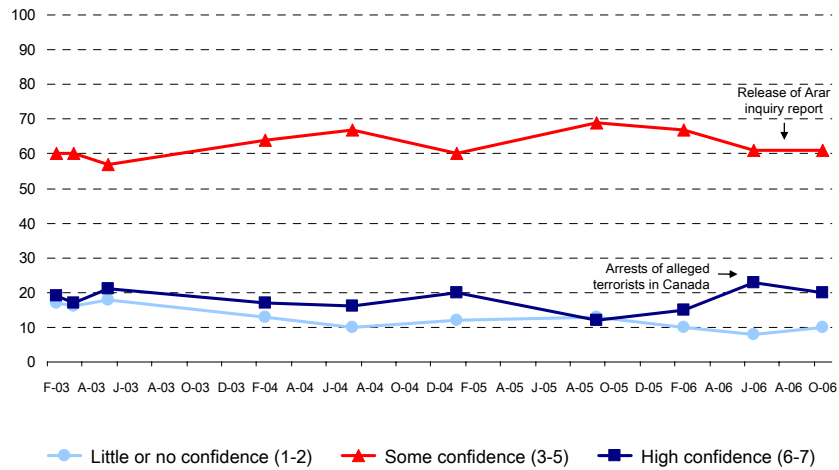
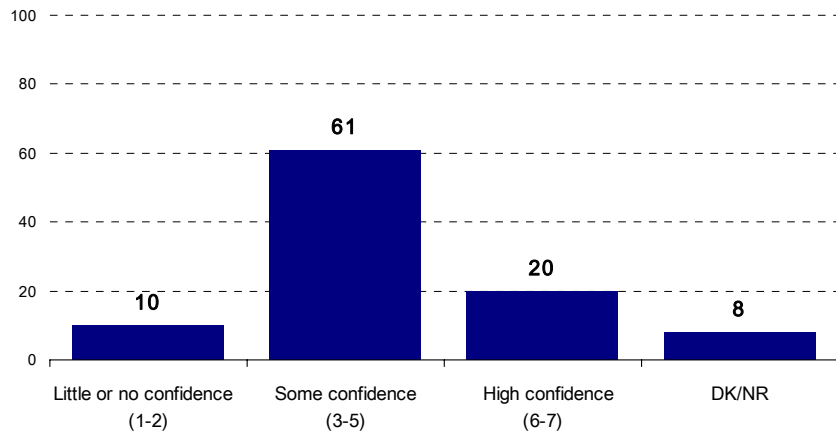
Q: How much confidence do you have in the RCMP?



Base: All Canadians; most recent data point Oct. 06 n=1008

Confidence in the Canadian Security Intelligence Service (CSIS)

Q: How much confidence do you have in the Canadian Security Intelligence Service?



Base: All Canadians; most recent data point Oct. 06 n=1008



Appendix: Research Methodology

PART OF THE **SECURITY MONITOR** STUDY

Research Methodology

The methodology planned for the 2006-7 Security Monitor study involves a total of nine waves of research to be conducted over the course of the study.

- Six regular waves involving a telephone survey with a national random sample of 1,000 Canadians.
- One benchmarking wave (near the beginning of the study). This wave focuses on core issues and designed to develop a better profile of Canadians in the safety/security space. This survey involves a sample of 2,000 Canadians.
- One survey with a national random sample of 1,000 Americans.
- One survey with Canadian public and private sector decision-makers.

The results from the final wave are based on the following:

- A telephone survey completed with a stratified national random sample of 1,008 Canadians, aged 18 and over undertaken between October 20 and October 30, 2006.
- The findings were statistically weighted by age, gender and region to ensure that the findings are representative of the Canadian public aged 18 and over.
- In areas, the survey was designed to randomize questions in order to test differences in attitudes across various indicators as well as to minimize response burden.
- Findings from questions posed on the full sample may be considered accurate within +/- 3.1 percentage points, 19 times out of 20. The margin of error for questions posed on a half sample is +/- 4.4 percentage points, 19 times out of 20.

	Field Dates	Surveys	Margin of error
Wave 1	Oct. 20-30, 2006	1,008	+/-3.1 percentage points