

**Report on Select Key Findings** 

September 11, 2020





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### **Key Findings**

THE ECONOMY MATTERS, PEOPLE ARE CONCERNED ABOUT IT, AND NATURAL RESOURCES OUGHT TO BE PART OF THE SOLUTON

61%

Pick economic issues as the most important issues facing the country

69%

Believe the national
economy
is performing somewhat or
very badly, and this is
higher in
Alberta and Atlantic
Canada

75%

Believe recovery from COVID-19 should support our natural resource industries while protecting the environment



## **Key Findings Continued**

THE ECONOMY AND THE ENVIRONMENT ARE BOTH PRIORITIES IN THE RECOVERY FROM COVID-19, AND GETTING OUR EXISTING INDUSTRIES BACK ON THEIR FEET IS THE PRIORITY FOR A MAJORITY

52%

Say the recovery should prioritize the economy and the environment equally

54%

Say getting existing businesses/ industries back on their feet is the main priority

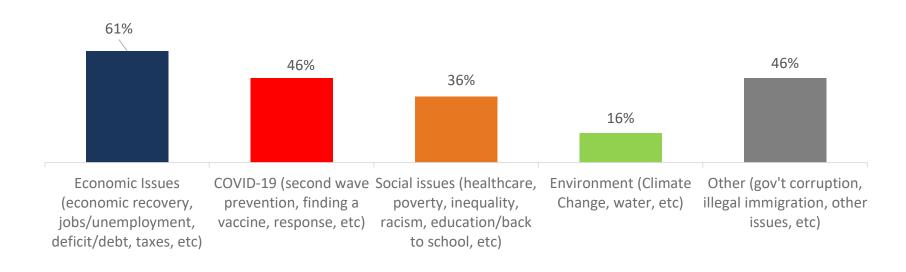
71%

Say Canada's natural resource sectors should be part of our economic recovery strategy from COVID-19



### **Economic issues are a top concern of over six in 10 Canadians**

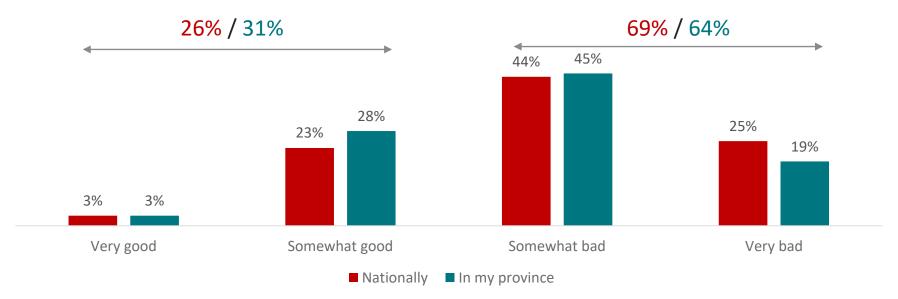
#### MOST IMPORTANT ISSUES FACING CANADA [ACCEPT UP TO THREE]





## Economic confidence remains fragile, and is slightly higher at the provincial than the national level

#### **ECONOMIC CONFIDENCE NATIONAL AND "IN YOUR PROVINCE"**



In terms of the current economic conditions in Canada as a whole, how would you describe the overall state of the economy right now? Base – All Respondents (n=1003)



# Economic confidence in provinces varies, with Albertans and Atlantic Canadians feeling the least optimistic

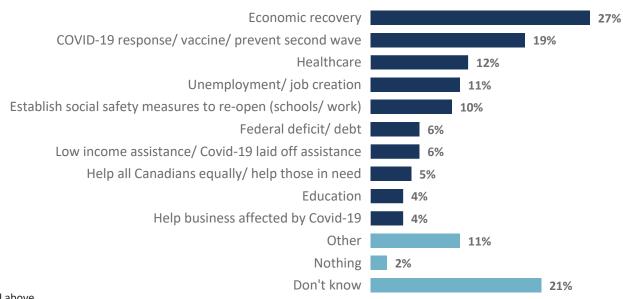
ECONOMIC CONFIDENCE "IN YOUR PROVINCE" BY PROVINCE/REGION

Net Good / Poor 43% / 55% BC 8% 35% 38% 17% Alberta 6% 9% 44% 38% 15% / 82% 45% / 46% SK/MB 43% 35% 11% 32% / 64% Quebec 31% 48% 16% 31% / 61% Ontario 4% 27% 45% 16% Atlantic 18% 51% 28% 18% / 79% Somewhat good ■ Somewhat poor ■ Very poor ■ Don't know enough to say ■ Very good In terms of the current economic conditions in Canada as a whole, how would you describe the overall state of the



# Canadians want the Speech from the Throne to focus on economic recovery most, and responding to COVID second, but two in 10 don't know enough to say

#### MAIN PRIORITIES FOR THE SPEECH FROM THE THRONE [ACCEPT UP TO THREE]



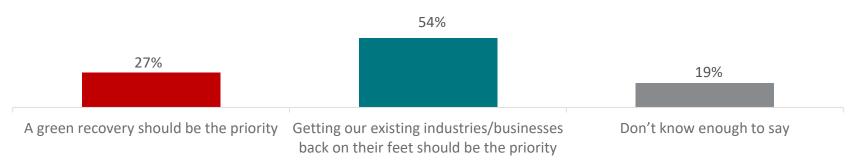
Cut off 4% and above

Recently, the government announced it would be presenting a new plan for Canada's COVID-19 recovery in September through a "Speech from the Throne." The Speech from the Thone outlines the broad priorities for the federal government in Ottawa. What should be the main priority in the Speech from the Throne? [OPEN-ENDED. ACCEPT UP TO THREE RESPONSES]. Base – All Respondents (n=1003)



# On a green recovery, close to double the number of Canadians feel getting existing businesses back on their feet should be the priority over a "green recovery"

#### USE RECOVERY TO MAKE GREEN INVESTMENTS VS GETTING OUR EXISTING BUSINESSES BACK ON THEIR FEET



There has been some talk of what Canada's governments should prioritize in the COVID-19 recovery. Some people say that Canada should use the recovery to make significant investments aimed at creating a greener country. These people believe that we need to prioritize a "green recovery" even if it means the recovery takes a bit longer.

Other people say that economic recovery should be our highest priority and that we should focus on getting our existing industries/businesses back on their feet and employing people as quickly as possible, without worrying about other things. These people believe that we need to prioritize the economy above all else, even if it means less focus on other things.

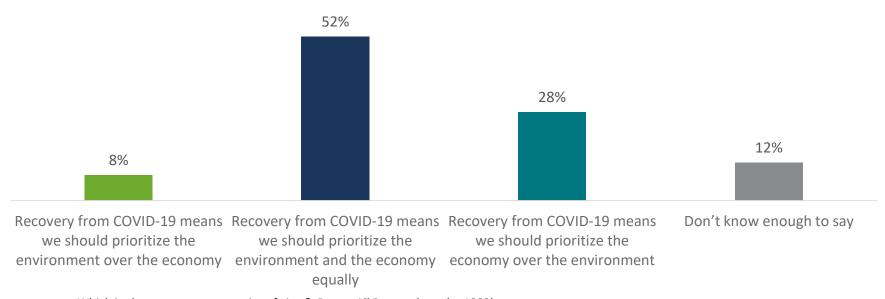
Which is closer to your own point of view?

Base – All Respondents (n=1003)



# There is majority support for a recovery to prioritize both the economy and the environment equally, while less than one in 10 want to prioritize the environment alone, and three in 10 want to prioritize the economy alone

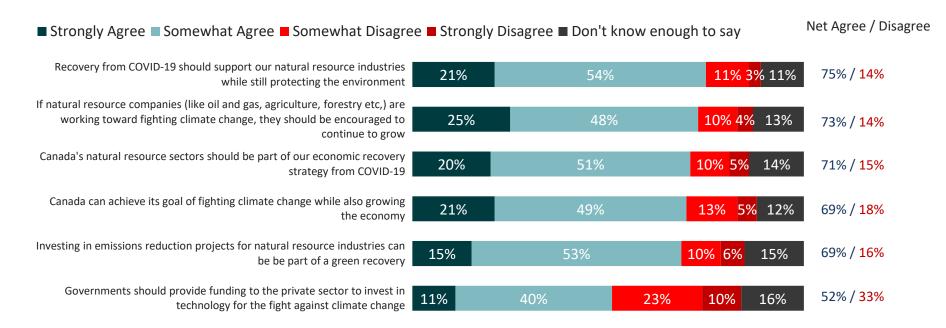
PRIORITIZE THE ENVIRONMENT, THE ECONOMY OR BOTH EQUALLY





# Support for natural resources being part of the recovery is strong, and seven in 10 believe that if resource companies are working on fighting climate change, they should be allowed to continue to grow

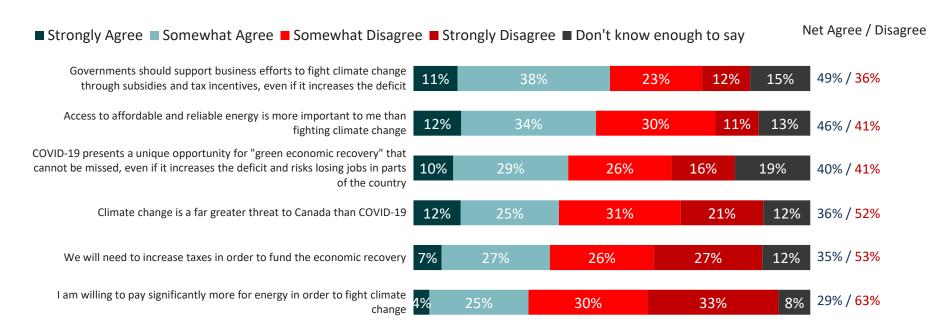
#### AGREEMENT OR DISAGREEMENT WITH STATEMENTS ABOUT RECOVERY





# Half of Canadians believe governments should support business efforts to fight climate change, while three in ten say they will pay significantly more themselves in the fight against climate change

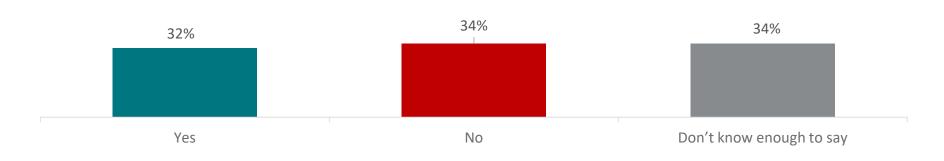
#### AGREEMENT OR DISAGREEMENT WITH STATEMENTS ABOUT RECOVERY





# Canadians are split on whether it is possible to achieve "net zero" by 2050, with a significant number saying they don't know enough to say

#### IS IT POSSIBLE TO ACHIEVE "NET ZERO" BY 2050



To fight climate change, the federal government has set a goal of achieving "net zero" emissions by 2050. Net zero means that some greenhouse gas emissions would still happen, but they would be cancelled out by reductions in other areas.

Do you believe it is possible to achieve "net zero" by 2050?

Base – All Respondents (n=1003)



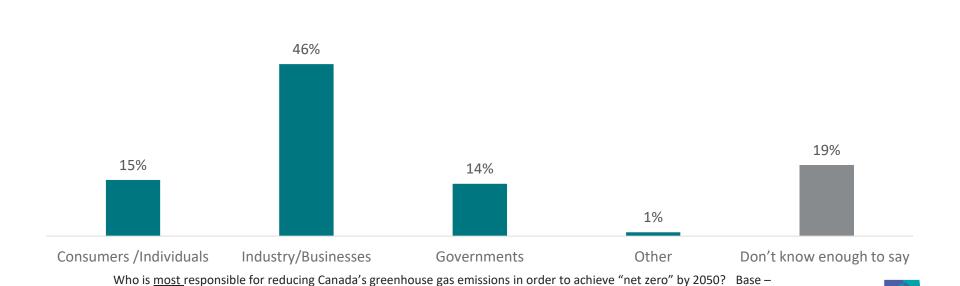
# Close to one in two Canadians believe industry and business are the most responsible for reducing emissions in order for Canada to achieve "net zero" by 2050

#### WHO IS MOST RESPONSIBLE FOR REDUCING EMISSIONS TO ACHIEVE NET ZERO

13

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All Respondents (n=1003)



## Methodology

This Ipsos poll was conducted on behalf of the Business Council of Alberta between August 24 and 27, 2020, using a sample of 1,003 Canadians aged 18+ from the Ipsos online panel, who were interviewed online. Weighting was then employed to balance demographics to ensure that the sample's composition reflects that of the adult population according to Census data and to provide results intended to approximate the sample universe. In this case, the poll is accurate to within +/-3.5 percentage points, 19 times out of 20, had all Canadian adults been polled.

Where totals do not sum to 100%, this is due to rounding or multiple choices being accepted.

This summary includes select key findings. Complete findings can be found in the data tables included in this release. Demographic data are not included in the release.



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