

TRENDS - ISSUES WATCH

1a/b. Thinking of the issues presently facing Canada, which one do you feel should receive the greatest attention from Canada's leaders ?

Proportions/Mean: Columns Tested (5% risk level) - A/B/C/D/E/F - G/H/I - J/K

* small base

| | | REGION | | | | | | AGE | | | GENDER | |
|--------------------------------------------------------------------------|------------|-----------|-----------|-----------|------------|-----------|-----------|-----------|------------|-----------|------------|------------|
| | TOTAL | BC | ALB | SK/MN | ONT | QUE | ATL | 18-34 | 35-54 | 55+ | Male | Female |
| | | A | B | C | D | E | F | G | H | I | J | K |
| TOTAL MENTIONS | | | | | | | | | | | | |
| Base: All Respondents | | | | | | | | | | | | |
| Unweighted Base | 1000 | 131 | 104 | 65 | 380 | 250 | 70 | 223 | 432 | 342 | 480 | 520 |
| Weighted Base | 1000 | 132 | 102* | 65* | 383 | 244 | 74* | 279 | 392 | 324 | 484 | 516 |
| Economy (general) | 248 25% | 29 22% | 27 26% | 17 26% | 120 31% | 46 19% | 10 13% | 53 19% | 97 25% | 98 30% | 156 32% | 92 18% |
| NET: Environment | 216 22% | 26 20% | 22 21% | 9 13% | 75 20% | 75 31% | 10 14% | 75 27% | 83 21% | 58 18% | 107 22% | 109 21% |
| - Environment/Pollution | 202 20% | 24 18% | 22 21% | 7 11% | 71 19% | 70 29% | 8 11% | 71 26% | 79 20% | 52 16% | 99 21% | 103 20% |
| - Global warming/ climate change | 12 1% | 5 4% | 0 - | 1 2% | 3 1% | 0 - | 2 3% | 2 1% | 3 1% | 7 2% | 5 1% | 6 1% |
| - Kyoto Accord | 5 0 | 0 - | 0 - | 0 - | 0 - | 5 2% | 0 - | 4 1% | 1 0 | 0 - | 2 0 | 3 1% |
| Healthcare/Medicare | 204 20% | 34 26% | 22 22% | 10 16% | 67 18% | 51 21% | 20 27% | 42 15% | 103 26% | 59 18% | 68 14% | 136 26% |
| Oil/ gas prices | 125 12% | 14 10% | 10 10% | 7 11% | 60 16% | 17 7% | 16 22% | 30 11% | 54 14% | 41 13% | 70 14% | 55 11% |
| Armed forces/Military/Defence | 99 10% | 20 15% | 5 5% | 11 16% | 34 9% | 22 9% | 8 10% | 29 10% | 38 10% | 32 10% | 48 10% | 51 10% |
| Education/Schools/Universities | 87 9% | 8 6% | 10 9% | 4 6% | 26 7% | 29 12% | 10 14% | 28 10% | 48 12% | 11 3% | 27 6% | 59 11% |
| NET: National Unity | 5 0 | 1 1% | 1 1% | 0 - | 0 - | 3 1% | 0 - | 0 - | 2 1% | 3 1% | 1 0 | 4 1% |
| - National unity/Quebec's future | 4 0 | 1 1% | 0 - | 0 - | 0 - | 3 1% | 0 - | 0 - | 1 0 | 3 1% | 1 0 | 3 1% |
| - More recognition for Western Canada/ Western alienation/ separation | 1 0 | 0 - | 1 1% | 0 - | 0 - | 0 - | 0 - | 0 - | 1 0 | 0 - | 0 - | 1 0 |

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|--------------------------------------------------------------------------------|-------|---------|----------|---------|---------|---------|----------|-------|-------|----------|---------|---------|
| | | BC | ALB | SK/MN | ONT | QUE | ATL | 18-34 | 35-54 | 55+ | Male | Female |
| | | A | B | C | D | E | F | G | H | I | J | K |
| Poverty/The poor/Welfare/Homeless/Gap between rich and poor/ social inequality | 59 | 12 | 7 | 2 | 21 | 13 | 3 | 12 | 17 | 30 | 12 | 47 |
| | 6% | 9% | 7% | 3% | 6% | 5% | 4% | 4% | 4% | 9% GH | 2% | 9% J |
| NET: Terrorism | 58 | 5 | 6 | 4 | 28 | 12 | 2 | 18 | 20 | 19 | 34 | 24 |
| | 6% | 4% | 6% | 6% | 7% | 5% | 2% | 7% | 5% | 6% | 7% | 5% |
| - Terrorist attack on US/War on terrorism/Canada's role | 49 | 4 | 5 | 4 | 27 | 8 | 2 | 17 | 16 | 16 | 29 | 20 |
| | 5% | 3% | 5% | 6% | 7% | 3% | 2% | 6% | 4% | 5% | 6% | 4% |
| - National security/Safety of Canadians | 7 | 0 | 1 | 0 | 2 | 4 | 0 | 1 | 2 | 4 | 4 | 3 |
| | 1% | - | 1% | - | 0 | 2% | - | 0 | 1% | 1% | 1% | 1% |
| - Biological or chemical terrorism/Anthrax | 2 | 2 | 0 | 0 | 0 | 0 | 0 | 0 | 2 | 0 | 2 | 0 |
| | 0 | 1% | - | - | - | - | - | - | 0 | - | 0 | - |
| NET: International affairs | 51 | 7 | 2 | 2 | 28 | 10 | 3 | 11 | 15 | 25 | 34 | 18 |
| | 5% | 6% | 2% | 3% | 7% | 4% | 3% | 4% | 4% | 8% H | 7% K | 3% |
| - Foreign affairs/Foreign policy/International issues | 51 | 7 | 2 | 2 | 28 | 10 | 3 | 11 | 15 | 25 | 34 | 18 |
| | 5% | 6% | 2% | 3% | 7% | 4% | 3% | 4% | 4% | 8% H | 7% K | 3% |
| Jobs/Unemployment | 45 | 4 | 0 | 0 | 26 | 13 | 2 | 10 | 17 | 18 | 22 | 23 |
| | 4% | 3% | 0 | - | 7% B | 5% | 3% | 4% | 4% | 5% | 5% | 4% |
| NET: Crime/Justice | 39 | 7 | 8 | 3 | 17 | 4 | 0 | 10 | 14 | 16 | 16 | 23 |
| | 4% | 5% | 8% EF | 5% | 5% | 2% | - | 4% | 3% | 5% | 3% | 4% |
| - Crime/Violence/Gangs | 25 | 5 | 5 | 3 | 12 | 0 | 0 | 6 | 9 | 10 | 13 | 13 |
| | 3% | 4% E | 5% E | 5% E | 3% E | - | - | 2% | 2% | 3% | 3% | 2% |
| - Justice system - Young Offenders Act, death penalty | 14 | 1 | 3 | 0 | 6 | 4 | 0 | 4 | 4 | 6 | 4 | 10 |
| | 1% | 1% | 3% | - | 2% | 2% | - | 1% | 1% | 2% | 1% | 2% |
| NET: International War/conflict | 36 | 4 | 1 | 2 | 7 | 15 | 6 | 11 | 12 | 14 | 21 | 15 |
| | 4% | 3% | 1% | 4% | 2% | 6% D | 8% BD | 4% | 3% | 4% | 4% | 3% |
| - War in Afghanistan | 24 | 4 | 0 | 1 | 6 | 10 | 3 | 4 | 8 | 12 | 16 | 7 |
| | 2% | 3% | - | 1% | 2% | 4% | 4% | 1% | 2% | 4% | 3% | 1% |
| - War/ conflict (general) | 7 | 0 | 0 | 1 | 0 | 2 | 3 | 3 | 3 | 1 | 4 | 3 |
| | 1% | - | - | 2% D | 0 | 1% | 4% AD | 1% | 1% | 0 | 1% | 1% |
| - Iraq conflict/ Saddam Hussein | 7 | 0 | 1 | 0 | 1 | 4 | 0 | 4 | 1 | 1 | 1 | 6 |
| | 1% | 0 | 1% | - | 0 | 2% | - | 2% | 0 | 0 | 0 | 1% |

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| | | A | B | C | D | E | F | G | H | I | J | K |
| Immigration/Refugees | 34 3% | 5 4% | 3 3% | 0 1% | 15 4% | 11 4% | 1 1% | 5 2% | 15 4% | 15 5% | 17 4% | 17 3% |
| Taxes/Tax reform/GST | 34 3% | 6 4% | 4 4% | 0 1% | 14 4% | 5 2% | 5 7% | 9 3% | 11 3% | 13 4% | 27 6% K | 7 1% |
| Government/Politics/Political leadership | 26 3% | 1 1% | 3 3% | 4 7% AEF | 15 4% E | 2 1% | 0 - | 6 2% | 3 1% | 17 5% H | 16 3% | 10 2% |
| Energy concerns (alternative forms, cost) | 23 2% | 7 5% | 0 0 | 2 3% | 8 2% | 5 2% | 0 1% | 6 2% | 7 2% | 10 3% | 19 4% K | 4 1% |
| Food shortages/ increase in the cost of food | 19 2% | 0 - | 0 - | 1 2% | 2 1% | 13 5% ABD | 2 3% | 8 3% | 5 1% | 7 2% | 11 2% | 8 1% |
| NET: Business Issues | 18 2% | 2 1% | 2 2% | 6 9% ADEF | 6 2% | 3 1% | 0 - | 3 1% | 9 2% | 7 2% | 13 3% | 5 1% |
| - Canadian dollar | 15 1% | 2 1% | 2 2% | 4 6% DEF | 4 1% | 3 1% | 0 - | 3 1% | 8 2% | 4 1% | 12 2% K | 3 1% |
| - Issues concerning business/ industry | 4 0 | 0 - | 0 - | 1 2% E | 3 1% | 0 - | 0 - | 1 0 | 1 0 | 3 1% | 2 0 | 2 0 |
| Agriculture/Farming | 16 2% | 0 - | 4 4% A | 2 4% A | 5 1% | 4 2% | 0 - | 1 0 | 9 2% | 5 2% | 6 1% | 9 2% |
| Trade/Free trade/NAFTA/Global trade | 13 1% | 0 0 | 3 3% | 1 2% | 4 1% | 3 1% | 2 3% | 3 1% | 6 2% | 4 1% | 6 1% | 7 1% |
| Aboriginals/Native issues | 12 1% | 1 1% | 0 - | 1 2% E | 9 2% E | 0 - | 0 - | 5 2% | 4 1% | 3 1% | 6 1% | 7 1% |
| Moral issues - Abortion, drugs, gambling, pornography, religion, euthanasia | 12 1% | 1 1% | 3 3% D | 1 2% D | 0 0 | 5 2% D | 1 1% | 6 2% | 3 1% | 3 1% | 3 1% | 9 2% |
| Natural resources - fisheries, forestry, mining, water exports | 11 1% | 4 3% DE | 3 3% DE | 1 1% | 1 0 | 0 - | 2 3% DE | 3 1% | 5 1% | 3 1% | 2 0 | 10 2% J |
| Gun control | 9 1% | 1 1% | 1 1% | 0 - | 6 2% | 0 - | 0 - | 3 1% | 4 1% | 3 1% | 5 1% | 4 1% |
| Seniors/Aging population | 9 1% | 1 1% | 2 2% | 0 - | 2 1% | 4 1% | 0 - | 3 1% | 4 1% | 3 1% | 5 1% | 4 1% |

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|----------------------------------------------|------------|--------------|-----------|----------------|------------|------------------|------------------|-----------------|------------|------------|------------|--------------|
| | | BC A | ALB B | SK/MN C | ONT D | QUE E | ATL F | 18-34 G | 35-54 H | 55+ I | Male J | Female K |
| Youth issues/Child poverty, abuse | 9 1% | 1 1% | 1 1% | 0 - | 2 0 | 3 1% | 2 3% | 3 1% | 2 1% | 4 1% | 0 - | 9 2% J |
| Deficit/Debt/Government spending | 7 1% | 2 1% | 0 - | 1 2% D | 0 0 | 4 2% | 0 1% | 0 - | 6 1% | 2 1% | 5 1% | 3 1% |
| Highways/Roads/Infrastructure | 7 1% | 0 - | 0 - | 0 - | 3 1% | 2 1% | 2 3% | 1 0 | 1 0 | 5 2% | 2 0 | 4 1% |
| Family issues | 6 1% | 0 - | 0 - | 0 - | 2 0 | 4 2% | 0 - | 4 1% | 2 0 | 0 - | 1 0 | 5 1% |
| Social services - pensions, daycare, housing | 3 0 | 0 0 | 0 - | 0 - | 3 1% | 0 - | 0 - | 0 - | 2 1% | 1 0 | 1 0 | 2 0 |
| Canada-U.S. relations | 1 0 | 0 - | 1 1% | 0 - | 0 - | 0 - | 0 - | 0 - | 1 0 | 0 - | 0 - | 1 0 |
| Other | 64 6% | 10 7% | 7 7% | 3 5% | 17 4% | 19 8% | 8 11% D | 18 6% | 23 6% | 21 7% | 35 7% | 29 6% |
| None are important | 17 2% | 4 3% D | 2 2% | 3 5% D | 1 0 | 6 2% D | 1 2% | 5 2% | 7 2% | 5 2% | 6 1% | 12 2% |
| Other (specify) | 350 35% | 55 42% | 31 31% | 20 31% | 129 34% | 79 32% | 36 48% BDE | 91 33% | 142 36% | 114 35% | 185 38% | 165 32% |
| Don't know/Refused | 114 11% | 8 6% | 5 5% | 10 15% B | 38 10% | 46 19% ABD | 9 12% | 52 19% HI | 37 9% | 24 7% | 53 11% | 61 12% |