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A National Dialogue on the Future of Health Care



August 2010



Methodology

- For this study, a series of questions were fielded on the Canadian Ipsos Reid Online Omnibus from the 16th to the 17th of August, 2010.
- The Canadian Ipsos Reid Online Omnibus conducts 1,000 online interviews among a representative cross-section of Canadian adults each week, providing an overall margin of error of ± 3.1 percentage points at the 95% confidence interval. In this case, 1,015 interviews were conducted, yielding a margin of error of ± 3.08 percentage points.
- The following table sets out the margin of error for each region in this wave of the Canadian Ipsos Reid Online Omnibus :

Regions		Margin of Error
British Columbia	n= 129	± 8.63
Alberta	n=68	± 11.88
Saskatchewan/Manitoba	n=53	± 13.46
Ontario	n=428	± 4.74
Quebec	n=242	± 6.3
Atlantic Canada	n=95	± 10.05
Total Canada	n=1,015	± 3.08



Vast majority believe that government efforts have done little to improve health care

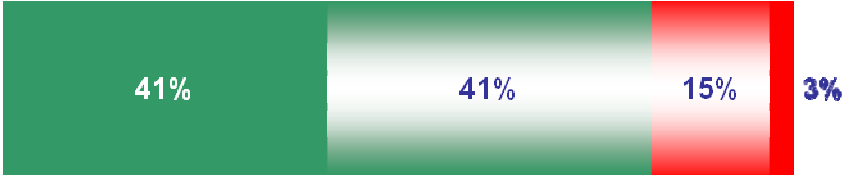
To what extent do you agree or disagree with the following statements?



Governments' attempts at fixing the health care system have had little impact on ensuring that all Canadians have timely access to advanced diagnostic tests and surgical procedures.



Governments' attempts at fixing the health care system have had little impact on ensuring that all Canadians have access to a family physician.



Key Demographics

- Respondents most likely to *strongly agree* that *Governments' attempts at fixing the health care system have had little impact on ensuring that all Canadians have timely access to advanced diagnostic tests and surgical procedures* are:
 - Residents of Alberta (48%), and of British Columbia (47%)
 - Those earning less than \$30K annually (46%),
 - Older Canadians (peaking at 47% among those 55 years of age and older), and
 - Those with a high school education (46%).

- And those most likely to *strongly agree* that *Governments' attempts at fixing the health care system have had little impact on ensuring that all Canadians have access to a family physician* are:
 - Residents of Alberta (48%), and Quebec (46%)
 - Those earning lower annual incomes (peaking at 44% among those earning less than \$30K),
 - Older respondents (peaking at 45% among those 55 years of age or older), and
 - Those with a high school education (46%).

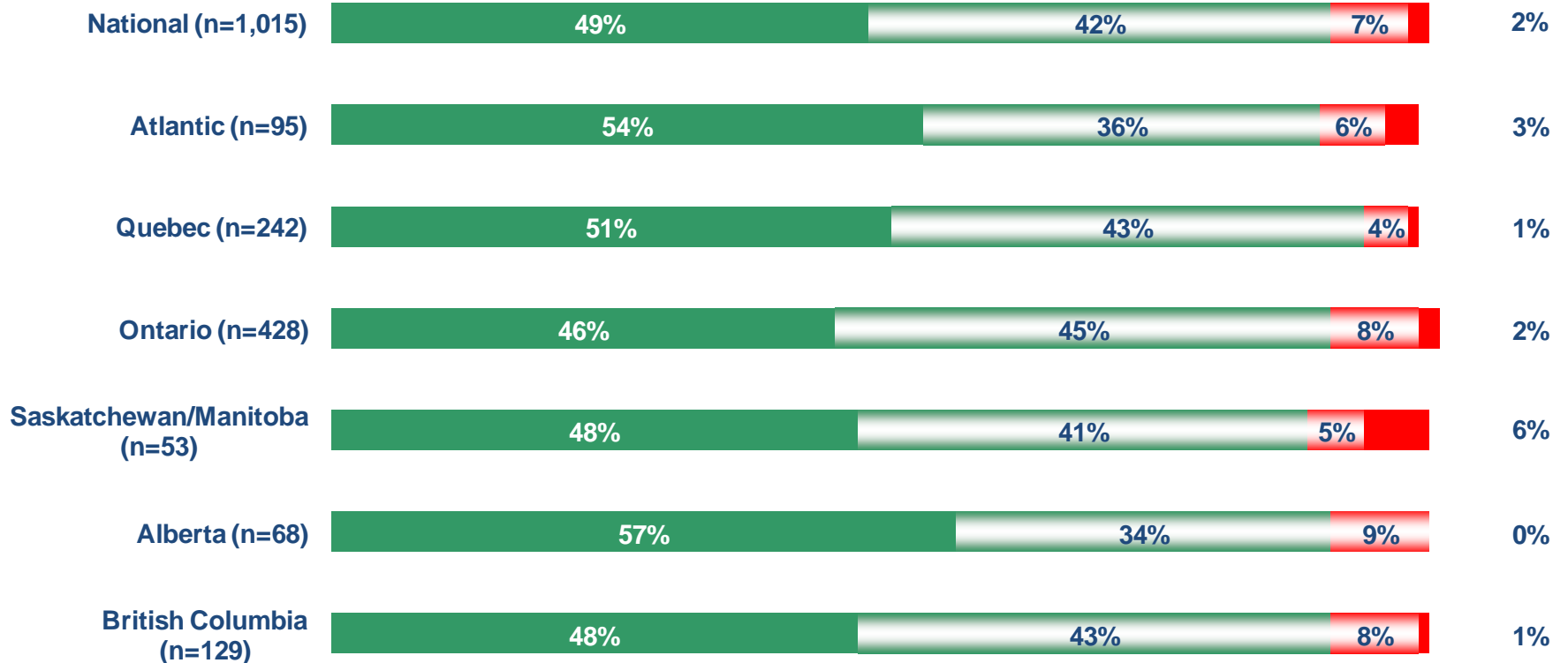


Canadians from across the country want to see citizens involved in finding health care solutions

To what extent do you agree or disagree with the following statements?

Decision makers in Canada have spent a lot of time talking about the health care system but no one seems to be able to fix it. It is time to involve Canadians in the process in order to put forward some practical solutions for real change.

■ Strongly agree ■ Somewhat agree ■ Somewhat disagree ■ Strongly disagree





Key Demographics

- Respondents most likely to *strongly agree* with the statement “*Decision makers in Canada have spent a lot of time talking about the health care system but no one seems to be able to fix it. It is time to involve Canadians in the process in order to put forward some practical solutions for real change*” are:
 - Those earning lower annual incomes (peaking at 52% among those earning less than \$30K),
 - Older Canadians (peaking at 59% among those 55 years of age and older), and
 - Those with a post secondary education (52%).



Canadians want their voices heard when it comes to changing the health care system

To what extent do you agree or disagree with the following statements?



The best way to find solutions for fixing health care is to engage Canadians in a national dialogue about what they want from the health care system



Governments should not make any significant changes to our health care system without first holding in-depth consultations with Canadians



Key Demographics

- Respondents most likely to *strongly agree* that *the best way to find solutions for fixing health care is to engage Canadians in a national dialogue about what they want from the health care system* are:
 - Residents of British Columbia (47%), and the Atlantic Provinces (44%)
 - Those earning a lower annual income (peaking at 48% among those earning less than \$30K annually),
 - Older Canadians (peaking at 41% among those 55 years of age and older), and
 - Those with lower educational attainment (peaking at 51% among those with less than a high school education).

- Respondents most likely to *strongly agree* that *governments should not make any significant changes to our health care system without first holding in-depth consultations with Canadians* are:
 - Residents of British Columbia (42%) and the Atlantic Provinces (40%),
 - Those earning a lower annual income (peaking at 37% among those earning less than \$30K annually),
 - Older Canadians (peaking at 38% among those 55 years of age and older), and
 - Those with less than a high school education (46%).



Seven in ten Canadians want the federal government to focus equally on health and the economy

Prime Minister Harper recently indicated to a reporter questioning him on the renewal of the Health Accord with the provinces that, for the time being, the priority of his government is the economy. Which one of the following statements best represents your personal point of view?

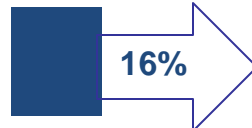
I believe that the federal government should be equally focused on health care and the economy



Respondents most likely to want the federal government to focus equally on health and the economy are:

- Between 35 and 54 years of age (77%),
- Those with less educational attainment (peaking at 74% for both those with a high school or less than high school education), and
- Women (74%) vs. men (68%),

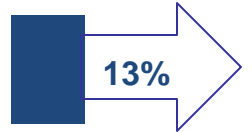
I believe the federal government's priority should be health care



Those most likely to believe that the federal government's priority should be health care are:

- Residents of Quebec (22%) and to a certain extent residents of the Atlantic Provinces (20%),
- Those earning between \$30k and less than \$60K (19%),
- Those with kids (25% vs. 14% for those without), and
- Younger respondents (peaking at 27% among those 18 to 34 years of age).

I believe that the federal government's priority should be the economy



Respondents most likely to believe that the federal government's priority should be the economy are:

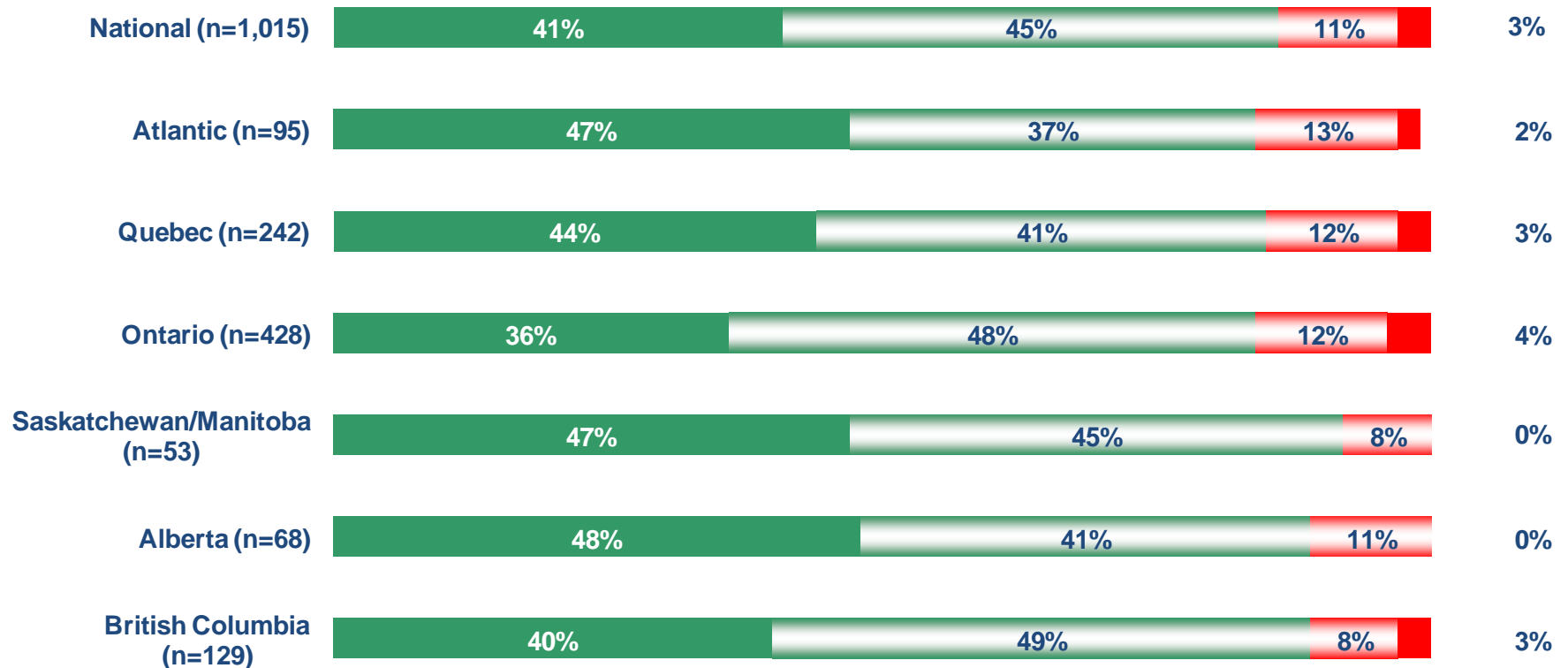
- Residents of Alberta (21%),
- Those earning a higher annual income (peaking at 16% among those earning \$60K or more),
- Men (18%) vs. women (8%),
- Those 55 years of age or older (17%), and
- Those with a university education (18%).



Majority of Canadians agree that it is possible for provincial governments to work together to manage health care dollars more effectively

Some people have suggested that the provinces needed to be innovative in managing the costs of health care. For example, all provinces could work together and use their collective purchasing power to buy medicines from pharmaceutical companies which would provide economies of scale and lower costs. To what extent do you agree or disagree that the provincial governments can work together to manage health care dollars more effectively?

■ Strongly agree ■ Somewhat agree ■ Somewhat disagree ■ Strongly disagree



Key Demographics

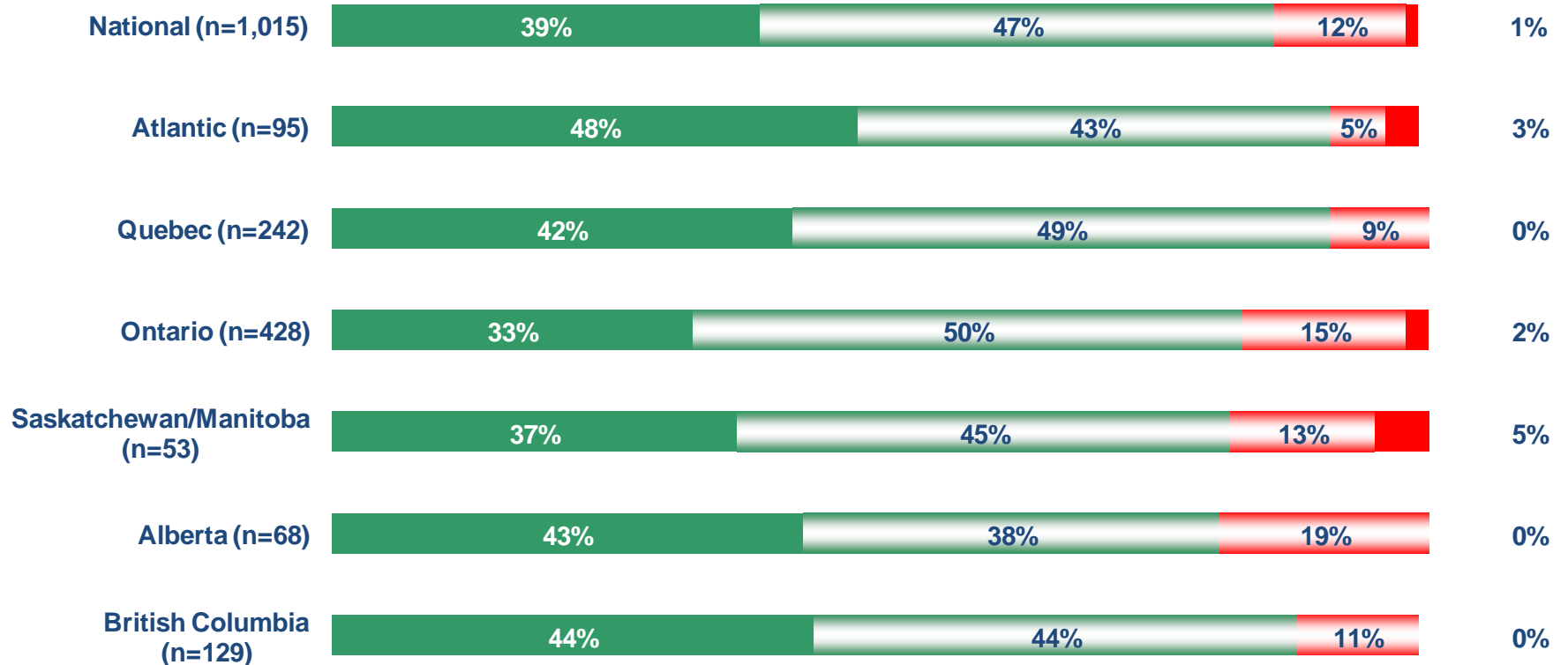
- The following respondents are most likely to *strongly agree* with the statement “Some people have suggested that the provinces needed to be innovative in managing the costs of health care. For example, all provinces could work together and use their collective purchasing power to buy medicines from pharmaceutical companies which would provide economies of scale and lower costs. To what extent do you agree or disagree that the provincial governments can work together to manage health care dollars more effectively?”:
 - Residents of Alberta (48%), as well as those from Saskatchewan/Manitoba (47%), Atlantic Provinces (47%) and to a certain extent, Quebec (44%),
 - Those earning higher annual incomes (peaking at 45% among those earning \$60K or more),
 - Men (49%) vs. women (34%),
 - Those 55 years of age or more (52%), and
 - Those with a university education (45%).



Majority agree that they have not seen any “real solutions” for the health care system

To what extent do you agree or disagree with the following statements?

Despite the fact that governments say that they have been working to fix the health care system, I do not see any real solutions being put forward





Key Demographics

- The following respondents are most likely to *strongly agree* with the statement “*Despite the fact that governments say that they have been working to fix the health care system, I do not see any real solutions being put forward*”:
 - Older Canadians (peaking at 46% among those 55 years of age or more), and
 - Those with less than a high school education (49%)

- Interestingly, residents of Quebec and the Atlantic Provinces are most likely to strongly/somewhat agree with this statement (91% for both vs. 86% total). See regional details in previous slide.

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