With Many Displaced Due to Typhoon Haiyan, Canadians Split on Whether Canada Should Open Its Doors to Victims of Natural Disasters in Other Countries

Public Release Date: Friday, December 27th, 2013, 9:00 AM EST





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Toronto, ON – In November 2013, the Philippines was hit with the most damaging typhoon in the country's history, killing over 6,000 people, displacing many more while destroying much of the nation's infrastructure. The damaging results of this storm have led CTV, Ipsos's media partner, to name the Typhoon Haiyan the 6th largest news story of the year.

Although Canada is known as one of the world's most welcoming nations and many have been displaced by the strong winds and cyclones of this sizeable tropical storm, Canadians are split on whether or not Canada should open its doors to victims of natural disasters in other countries throughout the world, according to the results of a new survey conducted by Ipsos Reid on behalf of CTV.

Half (49%) of Canadians 'agree' (9% strongly/40% somewhat) that Canada should open its doors to these victims, while the remaining half (51%) 'disagree' (16% strongly/35% somewhat) that it should.

British Columbians (58%) most agree that Canada should open its doors, followed by Quebecers (52%) and Ontarians (49%), while more than half in Albertan (64%), Saskatchewan and Manitoba (57%), and Atlantic Canada (51%) disagree with this sentiment.

Younger Canadians (56%), aged 18-34, are most likely to agree that Canada should welcome victims of natural disasters, ahead of seniors (50%, aged 55+) and middle-aged (44%, aged 35-54) Canadians.

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These are some of the findings of an Ipsos Reid poll conducted between December 9th to 13th, 2013, on behalf of CTV News. For this survey, a sample of 2,535 Canadians from Ipsos' Canadian online panel was 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. The precision of Ipsos online polls is measured using a credibility interval. In this case the poll is accurate to +/- 2.2 percentage points of the entire Canadian adult population. All sample surveys and polls may be subject to other sources of error, including, but not limited to coverage error, and measurement error.

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