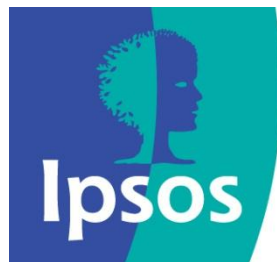


Half (50%) of Canadians Expect the Canadian Economy to Grow Before the End of the Year, But See Growth as Modest

Slim Majority (52%) of Canadians are Optimistic about their Own Financial Future Over the Next Five Years, More Than are Optimistic (33%) about the Canadian Economy over Next 5 Years

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Ipsos Reid

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Toronto, ON – Half (50%) of Canadians expect the Canadian economy to grow before the end of the year, but two in ten (21%) expect the economy to shrink, according to a new Ipsos poll conducted on behalf of Sun Life Global Investments. Growth is expected to be modest, with most believing it will be either 1% (27%) or 2% growth (19%), with few (4%) believing it will be 3% or greater. Two in ten (16%) believe the economy will be flat; 13% don't know where the economy is headed.

A slim majority (52%) are optimistic (14% very/38% somewhat) about their own financial future over the next five years compared to 21% who are pessimistic (4% very/ 18% somewhat). One quarter (26%) hold a neutral position.

Interestingly, despite half of Canadians being optimistic about their own financial future over the next five years, only one third (33%) are optimistic (3% very/30% somewhat) about the Canadian economy over the next five years. In contrast, four in ten (40%) Canadians (5% very/35% somewhat) say they are pessimistic about the Canadian domestic economy over the next five years, and three in ten (27%) hold a neutral position on the matter. On balance, more are pessimistic (40%) than optimistic (33%) about the Canadian economy.

Even though only one third of Canadians are optimistic about the Canadian economy over the next five years, six in ten (57%) of Canadians say they don't plan to invest more in foreign investments in the next 12 months. In contrast, only 16% of Canadians say they plan to invest more in foreign investments while 26% of Canadians are unsure.

The average investment composition that Canadians invest across the following broad categories is:

- Canadian stocks and stock mutual funds – 34%
- Cash (including bank accounts, money market funds, CDs, etc.) – 25%
- Canadian bonds and bond mutual funds (including corporate and government bonds) – 14%
- Foreign stocks, bonds and mutual funds) – 12%
- ETFs (Exchange Traded Funds) – 5%
- Other (any financial investments not included above) – 11%

These are some of the findings of an Ipsos Reid poll conducted between July 20 to August 8, 2015, on behalf of Sun Life Global Investments. For this survey, a sample of 1,502 Canadians between the ages of 25 to 80 years of age from Ipsos' 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 within +/- 2.9 percentage points, 19 times out of 20, had all Canadian adults been polled. The credibility interval will be wider among subsets of the population. All sample surveys and polls

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may be subject to other sources of error, including, but not limited to coverage error, and measurement error.

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