

CANADIAN PRESS / LEGER MARKETING

# Safety in Canada According to Canadians

Report



## 1.0 Study Highlights

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- The majority of Canadians feel that Canada is a safe country.

Question: *Do you think Canada is a country that is VERY, SOMEWHAT, NOT VERY or NOT AT ALL SAFE?*

n=1508	Very safe	Somewhat safe	Not very safe	Not at all safe	Don't know/ Refusal
Canada	62%	32%	4%	1%	1%

- One-third of Canadians would like the government to invest more money in safety.

Question: *Following the events of September 11, certain measures were taken to increase safety standards in Canada, for example control by customs officials, airport safety, etc. Six months later, do you think the Government of Canada should invest MORE, THE SAME AMOUNT or LESS MONEY in safety?*

n=1508	More money	The same amount of money	Less money	Don't know / Refusal
Canada	36%	46%	10%	8%

- According to Canadians, it would be easier to foil Canadian safety measures than American safety measures.

Question: *In your personal view, compared to the pre-September 11 period, do you think it would be VERY EASY, EASY, DIFFICULT or VERY DIFFICULT today for an international terrorist organization to foil safety measures... in Canada? ...in the UNITED STATES?*

n=1508	Easy or very easy	Difficult or very difficult	Don't know / Refusal
... in Canada	56%	35%	9%
... in the United States	38%	51%	11%

- The claims made by the United States that many international terrorists have passed through Canada were grounded.

Question: *Some American authorities have claimed that many international terrorists passed through Canada since its safety measures are not as strict. In your opinion, are these claims founded or not?*

n=1508	Yes, founded	No, not founded	Don't know/ Refusal
Canada	56%	31%	13%

Question: *In your opinion, has the Government of Canada taken the necessary measures to insure that this problem does not occur again?*

n=1508	Yes	No	Don't know
Canada	43%	46%	12%

- The best way for Canada to protect itself from terrorism is to work side by side with the United States.

Question : *In your opinion, what is the best way for Canada to protect itself against terrorism? Is it...*

n=1508	
... to work side by side with the United States in various conflicts throughout the world	63%
... to take diplomatic distance from the United States in the area of foreign policy	25%
Don't know / Refusal	12%

## 2. Detailed Findings

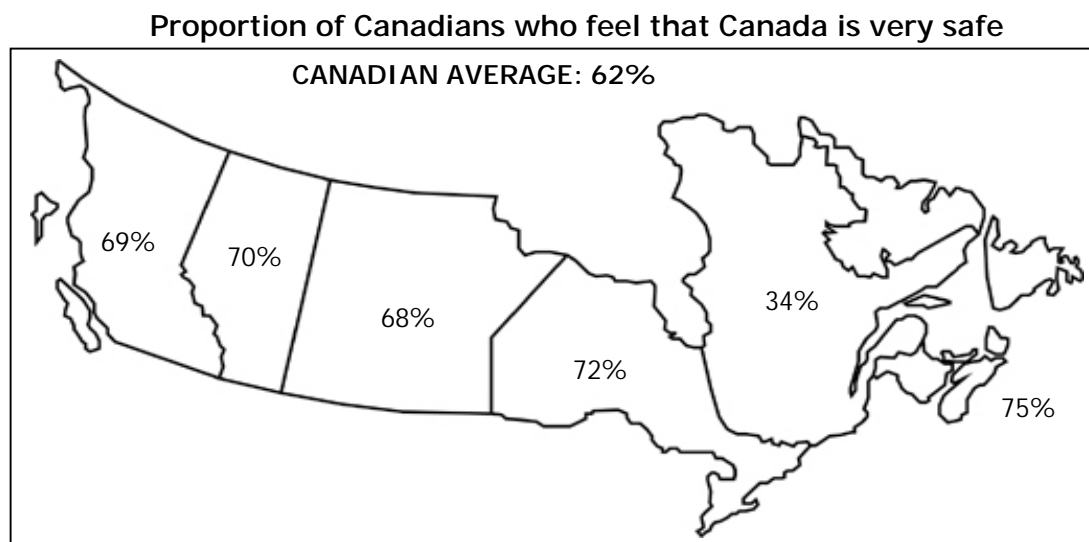
### 2.1 The Vast Majority of Canadians Feel that Canada is Safe

According to 94% of Canadians, Canada is a safe country. This percentage is composed of 62% of people who deem the country very safe and 32% who find it somewhat safe. Only 4% of citizens do not find Canada very safe and 1% do not find it safe at all.

Moreover, while 72% of Ontarians mentioned finding Canada very safe, only 34% of Quebecers shared this view.

Question: *Do you think Canada is a country that is VERY, SOMEWHAT, NOT VERY or NOT AT ALL SAFE?*

n=1508	Very or somewhat safe	Not very or not at all safe	Don't know / Refusal
Atlantic provinces	97%	2%	1%
Quebec	86%	13%	1%
Ontario	96%	2%	1%
Prairies	96%	3%	2%
Alberta	95%	3%	2%
British Columbia	96%	2%	2%
Canada	94%	5%	1%



## 2.2 One-Third of Canadians Would Like the Government to Invest More Money in Safety

Following the events of September 11, the Canadian Government has taken certain measures to increase the level of safety in Canada. Today, 36% of Canadians feel that the Government of Canada should invest more in safety while 46% would like the government to spend the same amount and 10% would like less money to be spent in this area.

Ontarians (40%) are more favourable to an increase in spending compared to other Canadians, while 52% and 15% of Quebecers mentioned being more favourable to maintaining the same level of spending and a decrease in spending respectively.

Question: *Following the events of September 11, certain measures were taken to increase safety standards in Canada, for example control by customs officials, airport safety, etc. Six months later, do you think the Government of Canada should invest MORE, THE SAME AMOUNT or LESS MONEY in safety?*

n=1508	More money	The same amount of money	Less money	Don't know / Refusal
Atlantic provinces	48%	38%	9%	5%
Quebec	30%	52%	15%	2%
Ontario	40%	44%	7%	9%
Prairies	26%	52%	8%	15%
Alberta	37%	45%	10%	8%
British Columbia	32%	43%	14%	11%
Canada	36%	46%	10%	8%

### 2.3 According to Canadians, it Would be Easier to Foil Canadian Safety Measures than those in the United States

According to 56% of Canadians, it would be easier for an international terrorist organization to foil safety measures in Canada than those in the United States. However, 38% of Canadians think that it would be easier to foil American safety measures.

Moreover, 35% think that it would be more difficult to foil Canadian safety measures compared to 51% who think it would be more difficult to foil those of the United States.

Question: *In your personal view, compared to the pre-September 11 period, do you think it would be VERY EASY, EASY, DIFFICULT or VERY DIFFICULT today for an international terrorist organization to foil safety measures... in Canada? ...in the United States?*

n=1508	... in Canada			... in the United States		
	Easy or very easy	Difficult or very difficult	Don't know / Refusal	Easy or very easy	Difficult or very difficult	Don't know / Refusal
Atlantic provinces	43%	48%	9%	37%	54%	9%
Quebec	60%	38%	2%	35%	60%	5%
Ontario	53%	34%	13%	39%	46%	15%
Prairies	56%	31%	13%	45%	41%	14%
Alberta	60%	27%	13%	36%	50%	14%
British Columbia	58%	31%	11%	35%	52%	12%
Canada	56%	35%	9%	38%	51%	11%

## 2.4 Claims Made by the United States that Many International Terrorists Passed Through Canada Were Grounded

According to 56% of Canadians, American authorities were right to say that many terrorists had passed through Canada given the existence of more lax security measures there. 31% of citizens think the opposite and 13% did not share their view in this respect.

68% of Francophones and 68% of Quebecers were more likely to believe that Americans were right in making that claim. Conversely, those 18-34 years of age (36%), Allophones (37%), British Columbians (39%), those whose income is greater than \$60,000 (37%), professionals (38%) and university graduates (39%) mentioned that these claims were not grounded.

However, despite the measures taken by the Canadian Government and the investments made to improve the safety measures against terrorism, 46% of Canadians mentioned that their government has not taken the necessary measures to ensure that international terrorists do not pass through Canada. However, this opinion is contested by 43% of Canadians with 12% not sharing their view in this respect.

Question: *Some American authorities have claimed that many international terrorists passed through Canada since its safety measures are not as strict. In your opinion, are these claims founded or not?*

n=1508	Yes, founded	No, not founded	Don't know / Refusal
Atlantic provinces	48%	36%	16%
Quebec	68%	24%	7%
Ontario	53%	33%	15%
Prairies	54%	30%	17%
Alberta	57%	31%	12%
British Columbia	44%	39%	16%
Canada	56%	31%	13%

Question: *In your opinion, has the Government of Canada taken the necessary measures to ensure that this problem does not occur again?*

n=1508	Yes	No	Don't know
Atlantic provinces	46%	52%	2%
Quebec	55%	37%	7%
Ontario	37%	48%	15%
Prairies	43%	35%	22%
Alberta	34%	55%	11%
British Columbia	32%	56%	12%
Canada	43%	46%	12%

## 2.5 Working Side by Side with the United States to Foil Terrorism

63% of Canadians think that the best way for Canada to protect itself from terrorism is to work side by side with the United States in the various conflicts throughout the world. However, 25% think that the best way to ensure our safety is for Canada to distance itself from American foreign policy.

It was noted that 38% of Quebecers favour creating more distance between Canada and the United States to protect the country from terrorism.

Question: *In your opinion, what is the best way for Canada to protect itself against terrorism? Is it...*

n=1508	... to work side by side with the United States in various conflicts throughout the world	...take diplomatic distance from the United States in the area of foreign policy	Don't know / Refusal
Atlantic provinces	76%	14%	10%
Quebec	50%	38%	11%
Ontario	66%	22%	11%
Prairies	68%	17%	14%
Alberta	71%	18%	11%
British Columbia	60%	25%	15%
Canada	63%	25%	12%

### 3.0 Methodology

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This study was conducted by Leger Marketing through telephone interviews among a representative sample of 1508 English- or French-speaking Canadians, 18 years of age or older.

The interviews were conducted from our Montreal and Winnipeg call centres between April 16 and April 21, 2002. Up to ten call-backs were made in the case of non-response.

Using data from Statistics Canada, the results were weighted according to geographic location, gender and language spoken at home to ensure a sample representative of the entire Canadian adult population. In the end, the maximum margin of error obtained for a sample of 1508 respondents is of  $\pm 2.6\%$ , 19 times out of 20.