

Majority (68%) of Canadians Want Their Elected Officials Focused on Those Who Are Crossing Canada's Borders at Unofficial Points and Claiming Asylum

*Equal majority (68%) give Trudeau government **bad** marks for handling this file*

Deeper dive shows national ideological battle: mosaic (62%) versus melting pot (38%)

October 23, 2018 – A full majority (68%) of Canadians across the country want Canada's elected officials to be focused on those who are crossing Canada's borders at unofficial points and claiming asylum – compared with any concerns about those who apply for and receive lawful immigration (18%) or those who claim and attain refugee status (14%).

And make no doubt about it – the demand for focus on this particular component of Canada's immigration policies cuts a wide and majority swath across each and every element of Canada's strata, including majorities of those who identify themselves as voters for each political party. In fact, **both 72%** of Progressive Conservatives and Liberal voters feel the same way, followed by those who support the NDP (65%), the Bloc Québécois (61%) and the Green Party (61%).

As such, it would appear that when members of the Trudeau government call Canadians "racists" for raising concern about those who are crossing Canada's borders at unofficial points and claiming asylum, they are labelling a full majority of Canadians by this term, including almost three quarters of their own voter constituency.

*These are some of the findings of a National Post/**DART Insight** poll. The survey was conducted on a **total split sample** of 5,769 (n=2,902/n=2,867 balanced) randomly selected Canadian adults who are members of the National **Maru/Blue** Online panel between September 13-19, 2018. The precision of this **DART Insight** Online poll is measured using a Bayesian Credibility Interval. In this case, a weighted **split sample** size of 2,902/2,867 is accurate to +/- 2.1% 19 times out of 20, had all Canadian adults been polled.*

When it comes to evaluating how the government has handled this particular component of Canada's immigration policies, an equal majority (68%) of Canadians give the government a **bad** mark compared with just 32% who give it a **good** mark.

And it doesn't stop there: a majority (53%) of Canadians give the government a *bad* mark (versus 47% a *good* mark) on how they handle those who claim and attain refugee status legally.

As for processing those who apply for and receive lawful immigration into Canada, a full two thirds (65%) give the government a *good* mark versus the other third (35%) who give the government a *bad* mark.

In the greater scheme of things, Canadians are completely split in terms of whether the government is admitting to many (39%), just the right number (38%), or not enough (12%) lawful immigrants into the country – with another 12% who also “don't know.”

In the analysis that follows below, there is enough variation among the categorical views of respondents to demonstrate that no political party or socioeconomic, demographic, or geographic group wholly “owns” any position. This is all the more concerning as Canada slides into a demographic problem that has now become acute in the Atlantic Canada and will soon visit other parts of the country: Canada needs immigrants as Boomers leave the work force and the growing and aging population descends upon the land. Compounding this, like a pincer, is a low birth rate that has produced the decreasing pool of young people to take up the gap in the population. If anything, this government – and the ones that follow – should probably be educating Canadians what lies ahead tomorrow rather than just fighting about the politics of today. By doing so, informed attitudes among the public might emerge in a different way than is currently being shaped by political over border sovereignty.

But while the analysis suggests that waves of debate can be either ripples or waves on a daily basis of how, whether or how many immigrants should be allowed to enter Canada, there is a tide below the surface which is causing a greater conflict: while a majority (62%) believe that Canadians should be a celebrated cultural mosaic there is another four in 10 (38%) who disagree with this perspective and you're for a melting pot into culture. If there are stereotypes to be found in the current of the immigration and border sovereignty debate, they have strikingly great depth here and polarize many parts of the country and the electorate. If you look into the analysis of this particular ideological

confrontation, it's easy to see how the nation is fighting another battle well below the surface of the day today sound and fury.

What follows, is an analysis of the findings. The description of the methodology at the end of the analysis has links to download all of the materials used for this survey – including the questions asked and the detailed tables.

When It Comes to Immigration, What Our Elected Officials Should be Focused On...

Of the immigration categories that Canada's elected officials should focused on nowadays, seven in 10 (**68%**) indicate that **those who are crossing Canada's borders at unofficial points and claiming asylum** should be front and centre versus **those who apply for and receive lawful immigration into Canada (18%)** versus **those who claim and attain refugee status (14%)**.

- **68% – those who are crossing Canada's borders at unofficial points and claiming asylum:**
 - Saskatchewan/Manitoba **79%**, Atlantic Canada **77%**, Alberta **75%**, British Columbia **70%**, Ontario **65%**, and Québec **62%**
 - *Vote Intention:* PC **72%**, Lib **72%**, NDP **65%**, Bloc **61%**, Green **61%**
 - *Gender:* Men **71%**, Women **65%**; *Age:* 55+ **74%**, 35 – 54 **69%**, 18 – 34 **56%**
 - *Annual Household Income:* less than \$50,000 **69%**, \$50,000 – \$99,000 **68%**, \$100,000 + **66%**
 - *Education:* high school or less **72%**, tech school/college **68%**, University + **61%**

- **18% – those who apply for and receive lawful immigration into Canada:** Québec **25%**, Ontario **17%**, Atlantic Canada **14%**, British Columbia **14%**, Alberta **14%**, and Saskatchewan/Manitoba **12%**
 - *Vote Intention:* Bloc **26%**, Green **23%**, NDP **18%**, Lib **17%**, PC **16%**
 - *Gender:* Women **20%**, Men **16%**
 - *Age:* 18 – 34 **20%**, 35 – 54 **18%**, 55 + **60%**
 - *Annual Household Income:* less than \$50,000 **20%**, \$100,000 + **18%**, \$50,000 – \$99,000 **17%**
 - *Education:* University + **19%**, technical school/college **18%**, high school or less **17%**

- **14%** – *those who claim and attain refugee status*: Ontario **17%**, British Columbia **16%**, Québec **12%**, Alberta **11%**, Atlantic Canada **10%**, and Saskatchewan/Manitoba **8%**
- *Vote Intention*: NDP **17%**, Green **16%**, Bloc **12%**, PC **12%**, Lib **12%**
- *Gender*: Women **15%**, Men **13%**
- *Age*: 18 – 34 **24%**, 35 – 54 **13%**, 55+ **10%**
- *Annual Household Income*: \$100,000 + **16%**, \$50,000 – \$99,000 **15%**, less than \$50,000 **12%**
- *Education*: University + **20%**, technical school/college **13%**, high school or less **11%**

Federal Government Gets Worst Marks for Handling Those Crossing Canada's Borders at Unofficial Points and Claiming Asylum (68% **bad**), less so for those who claim and attain refugee status (53% **bad**), and lowest for those who apply for and receive lawful immigration into Canada (35% **bad**) ...

Those who are crossing Canada's borders at unofficial points and claiming asylum:

- **Bad 68%** (very 39%/somewhat 30%) – Saskatchewan/Manitoba **77%**, Alberta **76%**, Québec **74%**, British Columbia **65%**, Ontario **64%**, Atlantic Canada **60%**
 - *Vote Intention*: Bloc **90%**, PC **89%**, Green **56%**, NDP **55%**, Lib **47%**
 - *Gender*: Men **71%**, Women **66%**
 - *Age*: 55+ **75%**, 35 – 54 **68%**, 18 – 34 **55%**
 - *Annual Household Income*: less than \$50,000 **68%**, \$50,000 – \$99,000 **68%**, \$100,000 + **67%**
 - *Education*: high school or less **74%**, technical school/college **68%**, University + **59%**
- **Good 32%** (very 5%/somewhat 27%) – Atlantic Canada **40%**, British Columbia **35%**, Ontario **36%**, Québec **26%**, Alberta **24%**, and Saskatchewan/Manitoba **23%**
 - *Vote Intention*: Lib **53%**, NDP **45%**, Green **44%**, PC **11%**, Bloc **10%**
 - *Gender*: Women **34%**, Men **29%**
 - *Age*: 18 – 34 **45%**, 35 – 54 **32%**, 55+ **25%**
 - *Annual Household Income*: \$100,000 + **33%**, \$50,000 – \$99,000 **32%**, less than \$50,000 **32%**
 - *Education*: University + **41%**, technical school/college **32%**, high school or less **26%**

Those who claim and attain refugee status:

- **Bad 53%** (very 24%/somewhat 29%) – Alberta **61%**, Saskatchewan/Manitoba **58%**, Québec **55%**, Ontario **52%**, British Columbia **51%**, and Atlantic Canada **45%**
 - *Vote Intention:* PC 77%, Bloc 71%, NDP 39%, Green 33%, Lib 24%
 - *Gender:* Women **55%**, Men **52%**
 - *Age:* 55+ **58%**, 35 – 54 **55%**, 18 – 34 **40%**
 - *Annual Household Income:* less than \$50,000 **53%**, \$100,000 + **52%**, \$50,000 – \$99,000 **50%**
 - *Education:* high school or less **60%**, technical school/college **54%**, University + **40%**
- **Good 47%** (very 8%/somewhat 39%) –Atlantic Canada **55%**, British Colombia **49%**, Ontario **48%**, Saskatchewan/Manitoba **42%**, and Alberta **39%**.
 - *Vote Intention:* Lib **76%**, Green **67%**, NDP **61%**, Bloc **29%**, PC **23%**
 - *Gender:* Men **48%**, Women 45%
 - *Age:* 18 – 34 **60%**, 35 – 54 45%, 55+ 42%
 - *Annual Household Income:* \$50,000 – \$99,000 **50%**, \$100,000 + 48%, less than \$50,000 47%
 - *Education:* University + **60%**, technical school/college 46%, high school or less 40%

Those who apply for and receive lawful immigration into Canada:

- **Bad 35%** (very 15%/20% somewhat) – Alberta **41%**, Québec **39%**, British Columbia **34%**, Saskatchewan/Manitoba **34%**, Ontario **33%**, and Atlantic **31%**
 - *Vote Intention:* Bloc **62%**, PC **50%**, NDP **27%**, Green **23%**, Lib **16%**
 - *Gender:* Women **37%**, Men **34%**
 - *Age:* 35 – 54 **39%**, 55+ **38%**, 18 – 34 **23%**
 - *Annual Household Income:* less than \$50,000 37%, \$100,000 + 34%, \$50,000 – \$99,000 **33%**
 - *Education:* high school or less **42%**, technical school/college **36%**, University + **24%**
- **Good 65%** (very 16%/somewhat 48%) –Atlantic Canada 69%, Ontario 67%, British Columbia 66%, Saskatchewan/Manitoba 66%, Québec 61%, and Alberta 59%
 - *Vote Intention:* Lib **84%**, Green **77%**, NDP **73%**, PC **50%**, Bloc **38%**
 - *Gender:* Men **66%**, Women **63%**

- Age: 18 – 34 **77%**, 55+ **62%**, 35 – 54 **61%**
- Annual Household Income: \$50,000 – \$99,000 **67%**, \$100,000 + **66%**, less than \$50,000 **63%**
- Education: University + **76%**, technical school/college **64%**, high school or less **58%**

Four In 10 (39%) Believe Canada is Admitting in Too Many Lawful Immigrants, But as Many (38%) Say Just the Right Number, and One In 10 (12%) Indicate Not Enough...

Canadians believe that for those who apply for and receive lawful immigration into Canada, their government is admitting...

- **Too many (39%)** – Alberta **44%**, Québec **42%**, British Columbia **39%**, Saskatchewan/Manitoba **38%**, Ontario **36%**, and Atlantic Canada **35%**
 - Vote Intention: PC **48%**, Bloc **46%**, NDP **34%**, Green **28%**, Lib **26%**
 - Gender: Women **42%**, Men **35%**
 - Age: 55+ **41%**, 35 – 54 **41%**, 18 – 34 **28%**
 - Annual Household Income: less than \$50,000 **43%**, \$50,000 – \$99,000 **36%**, \$100,000 + **31%**
 - Education: high school or less **48%**, tech school/college **39%**, University + **23%**
- **Just the right number (38%)** – Québec **40%**, Saskatchewan/Manitoba **39%**, Ontario **38%**, Atlantic Canada **37%**, British Columbia **37%**, and Alberta **34%**
 - Vote Intention: Lib **47%**, Bloc **42%**, NDP **39%**, Green **38%**, PC **35%**
 - Gender: Men **43%**, Women **33%**
 - Age: 18 – 34 **41%**, 55+ **39%**, 35 – 54 **36%**
 - Annual Household Income: \$100,000 + **46%**, \$50,000 – \$99,000 **39%**, less than \$50,000 **37%**
 - Education: University + **49%**, technical school/college **38%**, high school or less **31%**
- **Not enough (12%)** – Atlantic Canada **17%**, British Columbia **13%**, Ontario **12%**, Saskatchewan/Manitoba **11%**, Alberta **10%**, and Québec **9%**
 - Vote Intention: Green **22%**, Lib **16%**, NDP **13%**, PC **9%**, Bloc **9%**
 - Gender: Men **14%**/Women **9%**
 - Age: 18 – 34 **15%**, 35 – 54 **11%**, 55+ **10%**

- *Annual Household Income*: \$50,000 – \$99,000 **15%**, \$100,000 + **12%**, less than \$50,000 **9%**
- *Education*: University + **19%**, technical school/college **11%**, high school or less **8%**
- **Don't know (12%)** – Québec **14%**, Ontario **13%**, Alberta **13%**, British Columbia **12%**, Atlantic Canada **11%**, and Québec **8%**
- *Vote Intention*: NDP **14%**, Green **13%**, Lib **11%**, PC **8%**, Bloc **3%**
- *Gender*: Female **15%**, Male **8%**
- *Age*: 18 – 34 **16%**, 35 – 54 **12%**, 55+ **9%**
- *Annual Household Income*: less than \$50,000 **11%**, \$100,000 + **11%**, \$50,000 – \$99,000 **13%**
- *Education*: high school or less **13%**, technical school/college **12%**, University + **10%**

Majority (62%) believe Canadian should be a cultural mosaic versus 38% who prefer a melting pot ...

Canadians should celebrate the multicultural diversity of the people who live here because that's what makes the country great as a cultural mosaic:

- **62%** – Ontario **70%**, Atlantic Canada **65%**, British Colombia **65%**, Saskatchewan/Manitoba **62%**, Alberta **61%**, and Québec **47%**
- *Vote Intention*: Lib **83%**, NDP **74%**, Green **74%**, Bloc **46%**, PC **42%**
- *Gender*: Women **66%**, Men **58%**
- *Age*: 18 – 34 **77%**, 35 – 54 **64%**, 55+ **54%**
- *Annual Household Income*: \$100,000 + **64%**, \$50,000 – \$99,000 **61%**, less than \$50,000 **60%**
- *Education*: University + **76%**, technical school/college **62%**, high school or less **54%**

Canadians should not celebrate the multicultural diversity of the people who live here because it just creates differences between citizens, but we should be a melting pot into one Canadian culture

- **38%** – Québec **53%**, Alberta **39%**, Saskatchewan/Manitoba **38%**, British, **35%**, Atlantic Canada **35%**, and Ontario **30%**
- *Vote Intention*: PC **58%**, Bloc **54%**, NDP **26%**, Green **26%**, Lib **17%**

- Gender: Men **42%**, Women **34%**
- Age: 55+ **46%**, 35 – 54 **36%**, 18 – 34 **23%**
- Annual Household Income: less than \$50,000 **40%**, \$50,000 – \$99,000 **39%**, \$100,000 + **36%**
- Education: high school or less **46%**, technical school/college **38%**, University + **24%**

Methodology...

*These are some of the findings of a **Postmedia/DART Insight** poll created and analyzed exclusively for Postmedia in full consultation and under the direction of veteran pollster John Wright, CEO of **DART Insight**, a division of **DART Insight and Communications** Inc. The data was collected in partnership with Canada's national survey sample research provider **Maru/Blue** that curates a vast Online Panel and provides data collection services.*

All questions herein were placed carefully on the questionnaire and then randomized to ensure that there was no inter-item contamination.

*The survey was conducted on a **total split sample of 5,769 (n=2,902/n=2,867 balanced)** randomly selected Canadian adults who are members of **Maru/Blue's** Online panel between September 13-19, 2018. Respondents could opt in for either official language. The results have been weighted by education, age, gender, and region to match the population, according to Census data. This is to ensure the sample is representative of the entire adult population of Canada. Discrepancies in or between totals are due to rounding. **All The credibility interval will be wider among subsets of the population and individual provinces. Minor discrepancies in the data may occur due to rounding.***

*Paired/Overlap T-Test for Means, Paired/Overlap Z-Test for Percentages
Uppercase letters indicate significance at the 95% level.
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Visit <http://www.dartincom.ca/polls/> for the written release and detailed tables. For further information or commentary please contact:

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About **DART** Insight and **Maru/Blue**...

DART Insight is the market and public affairs opinion research services division of Canadian based consultancy **DART Insight and Communications Inc.** The other half of the company is **DART Communications** and provides communications strategy and execution, media training, event deployment and corporate services. The company serves clients in private, public, association and not-for-profit organizations, is independent, and is not tied to any political organization. Founded by veteran pollster and commentator **John Wright (CEO DART Insight)** and communications specialist **Victoria Ollers (CEO DART Communications)**, the company is comprised of highly experienced, recognized and awarded senior practitioners in many related disciplines who have gathered together under one banner to serve clients in North America and beyond.

Public releases of polling results, including detailed tables (weighted/unweighted), questions used and analysis, are provided freely at <http://www.dartincom.ca/polls/>

DART Insight and Communications is a member in good standing with the Marketing Intelligence and Research Association (MIRA) of Canada. Accuracy of any Online polling results are measured using a Bayesian Credibility Interval which is endorsed by MIRA and the American Association of Public Opinion Research (AAPOR).

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