

# Ranking Pandemic Priorities for Canada's Armed Forces

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**DART** & **maru** / **BLUE**

## Voice Canada Poll

*This public opinion survey is branded as the **DART&maru/BLUE Voice Canada Poll**. Both firms are non-partisan and comprised of well-known national veteran survey/research professionals who have worked together for decades.*

*Once released into the public domain, findings contained herein may be used with source attribution given to the **DART&maru/BLUE Voice Canada Poll**. Descriptions of the findings, methodology and contact persons are provided in this release – with a full set of detailed tables with questions found for easy download at <http://www.dartincom.ca/polls/>. A description of **DART&maru/BLUE Voice Canada Poll** can also be found in this release.*

## Ranking Pandemic Priorities for Canada's Armed Forces

*Of sixteen tasks evaluated, Canadians rank deployment of personnel to assist at long-term care homes or other retirement residences (64%) as top priority*

**May 11, 2020**— A new survey released by the polling group of **DART&maru/BLUE** finds that out of sixteen (16) potential tasks for Canada's Armed Forces (CAF) during the COVID-19 pandemic, Canadians want the deploying of personnel to assist at long-term care homes or other retirement residences (64%) as their top priority.

Support for that priority was highest in Quebec (77%) and Ontario (67%) where CAF personnel are currently performing those duties. The second highest priority selected by Canadians is to use the CAF to support transport response teams, medical equipment, supplies, diagnostic devices, pharmaceuticals, and blood products (61%) to communities where needed.

At the bottom of the priority list are to make the CAF to patrol the streets in communities to enforce stay-at-home and physical distancing orders (17%), and to have a visible presence on the streets of communities to make people living there feel better (15%).

The **DART&maru/BLUE Voice Canada Poll** was conducted among 1,528 randomly selected Canadian adults who are members of **maru/BLUE's** Online panel on April 23, 2020 and is considered accurate to within +/- 2.9 percentage points. Data is collected daily by Kyle Davies at <https://marureports.com/>. Portions of the written findings and data may be used by anyone in the public domain with appropriate attribution to the **DART&maru/BLUE**. Inaccuracies in reporting may be subjected to correction.

### ***Canadians Choose the Priorities for Canadian Armed Forces...***

Respondents had an important preamble before prioritizing sixteen (16) potential tasks for the CAF to perform during the pandemic: *Now, let us assume that you lead the Canadian Armed Forces and can mobilize and direct them to assist in the efforts to help deal with the pandemic. You know you have limited resources and have to make some very tough decisions as to where you spread your priorities for engagement. Remembering that you are meant to fill in the gaps that exist that local and public officials may not be able to address. Given that, what level of priority would you assign each of the following to be deployed or utilized right now.*

Respondents then assigned one of the following levels of priority to each task:

- Critical/severe Priority
- Major/high Priority
- Medium Priority
- Minor/low Priority
- No Priority at this time

The following are the ranked tasks by priority from combining the two choices of ***Critical/severe Priority*** and ***Major/high Priority***.

1. **Deploy personnel to assist at long-term care homes or other retirement residences **64%****
  - Québec (77%), Ontario (67%), Atlantic Canada (66%), Alberta (52%),  
Manitoba/Saskatchewan (52%), British Columbia (51%),
2. **Support transporting response teams, medical equipment, supplies, diagnostic devices, pharmaceuticals, and blood products **61%****
  - Atlantic Canada (64%), Ontario (62%), Manitoba/Saskatchewan (61%), Québec (60%),  
British Columbia (59%), Alberta (56%)
3. **Use to monitor and control those entering Canada through international airports **56%****
  - Québec (64%), British Columbia (57%), Atlantic Canada (56%), Alberta (53%),  
Manitoba/Saskatchewan (52%), Ontario (51%)

4. **Have military aircraft used to transport health equipment from across Canada and around the world 53%**
  - Québec (55%), British Columbia (53%), Alberta (53%), Ontario (53%), Atlantic Canada (53%) Manitoba/Saskatchewan (52%)
5. **Control movement into and out of areas, or across borders, with affected populations 48%**
  - Québec (57%), Atlantic Canada (48%), Ontario (46%), Alberta (43%), Manitoba/Saskatchewan (43%), British Columbia (40%)
6. **Put military medical corps in our community to assist in the needs of our local hospitals 48%**
  - Québec (61%), Ontario (49%), Atlantic Canada (44%), British Columbia (40%), Alberta (38%), Manitoba/Saskatchewan (30%),
7. **Transport food, medical supplies, and other necessities to my community 44%**
  - Québec (50%), Atlantic Canada (48%), Ontario (45%), Alberta (40%), British Columbia (38%), Manitoba/Saskatchewan (35%)
8. **Deploy military medical corps to northern Canada and throughout indigenous communities to assist in protecting the health and wellbeing of its residents 44%**
  - Québec (50%), Ontario (45%), Atlantic Canada (44%), British Columbia (38%), Alberta (37%), Manitoba/Saskatchewan (36%)
9. **Provide disease surveillance and laboratory diagnostics 42%**
  - Atlantic Canada (45%), Ontario (44%), British Columbia (43%), Alberta (39%), Manitoba/Saskatchewan (39%), Québec (30%),
10. **Make the facilities on Canadian military bases and community reserve regiment halls across Canada to be used as testing centres for the Coronavirus 38%**

- Ontario (39%), Québec (39%), British Columbia (38%), Manitoba/Saskatchewan (38%), Alberta (37%), Atlantic Canada (36%)

**11. Of the two hospital ships of the Royal Canadian Navy, assign one for each coast to add extra capacity in emergencies to our health care system 34%**

- Québec (38%), Ontario (35%), Atlantic Canada (34%), British Columbia (32%), Manitoba/Saskatchewan (30%), Alberta (29%)

**12. Restore damaged public utilities and assets such as cellular transmission towers 34%**

- Atlantic Canada (39%), Alberta (38%), British Columbia (34%), Ontario (34%), Manitoba/Saskatchewan (32%), Québec (28%)

**13. Provide mortuary services for those who have died and need to be moved 30%**

- Atlantic Canada (35%), Québec (32%), Ontario (30%), Alberta (30%), British Columbia (26%), Manitoba/Saskatchewan (25%)

**14. Patrol the streets of my community with local police to protect against looting and other related crimes 20%**

- Québec (24%), British Columbia (23%), Atlantic Canada (22%), Ontario (18%), Manitoba/Saskatchewan (17%), Alberta (16%)

**15. Patrol the streets in our community to enforce stay-at-home and physical distancing orders 17%**

- Québec (22%), Atlantic Canada (20%), Ontario (16%), Manitoba/Saskatchewan (15%), Alberta (14%), British Columbia (13%),

**16. Make their presence visible on the streets of my community to make me feel better 15%**

- Québec (25%), Ontario (13%), Atlantic Canada (13%), British Columbia (12%), Manitoba/Saskatchewan (12%), Alberta (11%)

## **Methodology**

*These are some of the findings of a **DART&maru/BLUE Voice Canada Poll** conducted as part of a regular sounding of Canadians on various issues and matters that affect their lives as citizens, consumers, and voters. The research is created and analyzed under the direction of veteran pollster John Wright, who is a Partner of **DART C-Suite Communicators**. This data was collected by Canada's national survey sample research provider **maru/BLUE** using their **Voice Canada** Omni Online curated panel. The precision of this **DART&maru/BLUE Voice Canada Poll** is measured using a Bayesian Credibility Interval. The survey was conducted among 1,528 randomly selected Canadian adults who are members of **maru/BLUE**'s Online panel April 23, 2020 and is considered accurate to within +/- 2.9 percentage points. The credibility interval will be wider among subsets of the population and individual provinces/regions. 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. Reporting of results from Prince Edward Island, Nunavut and both the Yukon and Northwest Territories is excluded because of extremely small sample sizes. Respondents could choose between an English and French questionnaire. Discrepancies in or between totals are due to rounding.*

**For further information or commentary please contact:**

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## **About**

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