

## The NEWSTALK 1010 *Pulse of Toronto* Poll

*Six in 10 (59%) Canadians believe only a fraction of their local police force is adequately trained to deal with people who are having a mental health crisis*

*But only one in six (18%) believe members of their local police force are too quick to use a gun instead of using other means to de-escalate a situation*

Release Date: June 22, 2020

# DART & maru / BLUE

*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.*

## **The NEWSTALK 1010 *Pulse of Toronto* Poll**

*Six in 10 (59%) Canadians believe only a fraction of their local police force is adequately trained to deal with people who are having a mental health crisis*

*But only one in six (18%) believe members of their local police force are too quick to use a gun instead of using other means to de-escalate a situation*

**June 22, 2020** – The following are the topline results of a survey undertaken by the polling group of **DART&maru/BLUE** and released today by Toronto’s NEWSTALK 1010.

Taking the *Pulse of Toronto* is an ongoing inquiry of Torontonians about various matters and issues that affect their lives, particularly with respect to the impact of the COVID-19 pandemic. The results of the findings have been weighted and are representative of those adults living in the Greater Toronto Area (GTA), Ontario, and Canada.

***Are local police forces adequately trained to deal with people who are having a mental health crisis?***

Six in 10 (59%) Canadians believe that only a fraction of the members of the police force that serves their local community are adequately trained to deal with people who are having a mental health crisis. The national survey indicates just under half (45%) believe that only a few members of their local police force are trained to deal with people who are having a mental health crisis and one in seven (14%) believe that none of the officers have training. In contrast, four in 10 (41% - many 23%/most 15%/all 3%) believe that a significant number of local police officers are adequately trained.

Those who are least likely to believe that their local community police force are adequately trained to deal with people who are having a mental health crisis reside in Manitoba/Saskatchewan (65%), followed by those in Alberta (63%) and Ontario (63%), British Columbia (57%), and Québec (53%) and Atlantic Canada (53%). Those who also hold this view are more likely to be women (64%), those aged 18 – 34 (63%), those with the lowest level of income (62%) sees and with the least amount of education (61%).

### *Are local police forces too quick to use a gun instead of using other means to de-escalate a situation?*

The survey also found that only one in six Canadians (18%--many 12%/most 4%/all 2%) believe that members of their local police force are *too quick* to use a gun instead of using other means to de-escalate a situation (not just specific to a mental health crisis). Those most likely to believe this reside in Manitoba/Saskatchewan (24%), followed by those in Québec (22%), Ontario (19%), Alberta (18%), and British Columbia (15%) and Atlantic Canada (50%).

Those who are the youngest Canadians (18 – 34 29%) are most likely to believe this is the case, followed by those earning in excess of \$100,000 per annum (21%) and those who are both the least and most educated in our society (20%).

### *Methodology*

*These are some of the findings of a DART&maru/BLUE Voice Canada Poll. The research is created and analyzed under the direction of veteran pollster John Wright, who is a Partner of DART C-Suite Communicator and leads the DART&maru/BLUE polling group. 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 1,524 (+/- 2.9) randomly selected Canadian adults (18+). The credibility interval will be wider among subset answers. Data was collected by Kyle Davies at [Kyle.Davies@marunatchbox.com](mailto:Kyle.Davies@marunatchbox.com) via <https://marureports.com/>. The results have been weighted by education, age, gender, and region to match the population, according to Census data. Discrepancies in or between totals are due to rounding.*

For further information or commentary please contact:

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## Findings

### Questions and Weighted Data

Please indicate the scope of how many members of the police force that serves your local community that you think do the following things: **are adequately trained to deal with people who are having a mental health crisis**

	Region						
	Total	BC	AB	MB/SK	ON	PQ	ATL
	A	B	C	D	G	H	I
BASE: All Respondents	1524	209	175	110	599	308	123
BASE: WEIGHTED	1524	199	171	101*	575	367	111*
None	219	36	23	16	90	32	22
	14%	18%	14%	16%	16%	9%	20%
		H			H		H
A few	687	79	80	49	272	163	44
	45%	39%	47%	49%	47%	44%	39%
Many	341	45	36	22	128	83	27
	22%	23%	21%	21%	22%	23%	24%
Most	227	31	23	12	70	77	13
	15%	16%	13%	12%	12%	21%	12%
						GI	
All	50	9	9	2	14	11	5
	3%	4%	5%	2%	2%	3%	4%

	Gender			Age			Income			Education		
	Total	Male	Female	18-34	35-54	55+	<\$50K	\$50-99K	\$100K+	HS or less	College/ Tech school	Univ+
	A	J	K	L	M	N	O	P	Q	R	S	T
BASE: All Respondents	1524	783	741	383	568	573	442	511	353	502	468	554
BASE: WEIGHTED	1524	745	779	430	527	567	471	520	313	631	481	412
None	219	100	119	75	66	78	83	74	27	104	59	57
	14%	13%	15%	18%	12%	14%	18%	14%	9%	16%	12%	14%
				M				Q	Q			
A few	687	309	378	192	240	255	206	245	134	282	216	189
	45%	41%	49%	45%	46%	45%	44%	47%	43%	45%	45%	46%
			J									
Many	341	175	166	93	128	120	100	97	85	122	119	100
	22%	23%	21%	22%	24%	21%	21%	19%	27%	19%	25%	24%
								P				
Most	227	128	99	52	78	97	69	88	48	105	66	55
	15%	17%	13%	12%	15%	17%	15%	17%	15%	17%	14%	13%
		K										
All	50	34	16	17	16	17	12	16	18	17	21	12
	3%	5%	2%	4%	3%	3%	3%	3%	6%	3%	4%	3%
		K						O				

Please indicate the scope of how many members of the police force that serves your local community that you think do the following things: **are too quick to use a gun instead of using other means to de-escalate a situation**

	Region						
	Total	BC	AB	MB/SK	ON	PQ	ATL
	A	B	C	D	G	H	I
BASE: All Respondents	1524	209	175	110	599	308	123
BASE: WEIGHTED	1524	199	171	101*	575	367	111*
None	520	75	63	36	182	104	59
	34%	38%	37%	36%	32%	28%	53%
		H					BCDFGH
A few	717	95	78	41	283	183	36
	47%	48%	45%	41%	49%	50%	32%
		I	I		I	I	
Many	190	22	19	16	69	51	13
	12%	11%	11%	16%	12%	14%	12%
Most	64	6	8	4	28	18	1
	4%	3%	5%	4%	5%	5%	1%
All	33	2	3	4	13	11	2
	2%	1%	2%	4%	2%	3%	2%

	Gender			Age			Income			Education		
	Total	Male	Female	18-34	35-54	55+	<\$50K	\$50-99K	\$100K+	HS or less	College/ Tech school	Univ+
	A	J	K	L	M	N	O	P	Q	R	S	T
BASE: All Respondents	1524	783	741	383	568	573	442	511	353	502	468	554
BASE: WEIGHTED	1524	745	779	430	527	567	471	520	313	631	481	412
None	520	279	240	114	168	237	161	179	109	223	167	129
	34%	37%	31%	27%	32%	42%	34%	34%	35%	35%	35%	31%
A few			K			LM						
	717	323	394	193	269	255	213	261	142	286	231	199
	47%	43%	51%	45%	51%	45%	45%	50%	45%	45%	48%	48%
Many			J									
	190	86	104	81	58	51	67	53	33	79	48	63
	12%	12%	13%	19%	11%	9%	14%	10%	11%	13%	10%	15%
Most			MN									S
	64	40	25	20	26	18	22	20	14	29	22	13
	4%	5%	3%	5%	5%	3%	5%	4%	5%	5%	5%	3%
All												
	33	18	16	22	6	6	8	7	15	13	12	8
	2%	2%	2%	5%	1%	1%	2%	1%	5%	2%	3%	2%
			MN						OP			

## About

**DART C-Suite Communicators** is a team of high-level insight specialists and seasoned communicators who partner with the C-Suite, Executive leadership, or the Board to advance and protect crucial interests, brands, assets, and reputations requiring vital intelligence and pivotal communication strategies. Differentiated by our C-Suite peer-level bench strength, **DART C-Suite Communicators** consultants are smart, strategic thinkers who bring experienced fresh-eyes to tough communications assignments knowing the right questions to ask, the internal and external audiences to heed, and the tools and tempo to deliver actionable solutions and accountability. Together, the **DART C-Suite Communicators** team discreetly and seamlessly fills the gaps in existing resources by either doing the work needed or by providing advice and counsel. We are C-Suite confidants who bring integrity, honesty, ideation, and trustworthy sound-boarding to every assignment. **DART C-Suite Communicators** is independent and not tied to any political organization. It is a partnership founded by veteran pollster John Wright and communications executive Victoria Ollers.

**DART C-Suite Communicators** abides by the Canadian Research and Intelligence Council (“CRIC”) Public Opinion Research Standards and Disclosure Requirements found at: <https://canadianresearchinsightscouncil.ca/standards/por/>. **DART C-Suite Communicators** public releases of polling results, including detailed tables (weighted/ unweighted), questions used and analysis, are provided freely at <http://www.dartincom.ca/polls/>. **maru/BLUE** is a premium quality data services firm that provides reliable global data connections for brands, agencies, and market research. We create value for our clients by connecting them with expertly profiled known respondents for reliable, reproducible insights. We deliver instant access to the general population, specific markets, and your or your competitor’s customers began disrupting the market community industry in 2000. Our market communities’ broke new ground, adding depth and richness to clients’ understanding of what motivates their customers and shapes their markets. Now, as part of the **maru/GROUP**, we continue to provide reliable global data connections for agencies, brands, and market research firms. **maru/Springboard America**, and **maru/Voice Canada**, established more than a decade ago, are a testament to our commitment and depth of engagement. More recently we developed the **maru/Voice Business Canada** and **Springboard America Business Forum**, both an excellent source for business to business research.

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