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Many believe *a large number of their local community police* unfairly, discriminately, racially profile black and dark-skinned citizens (27%), rough up suspects, especially if they are black/dark skinned or from certain neighbourhoods, during arrests (22%), and, unfairly, discriminately, treat indigenous people (30%)

Release Date: June 8, 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.

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June 8, 2020 – A survey released today by the polling group of DART&maru/BLUE indicates that only three in 10 (30%) Canadians think Canada's criminal justice system treats people who are black or dark skinned equally compared to others in our Canadian society.

And while a vast majority (86%) of Canadians indicate their police are superior (27%) or better (59%) in handling their job and interacting with citizens compared to US police officers, there are troubling signs for many below the surface:

- three in 10 (27%) believe *a large number* of their local community police unfairly, discriminately, racially profile black and dark-skinned citizens
- almost one quarter (22%) believe *a large number* of their local community police rough up

suspects, especially if they are black/dark skinned or from certain neighbourhoods, during arrests

- three in 10 (30%) believe *a large number* of their local community police unfairly, discriminately, treat indigenous people

The **DART&maru/BLUE Voice Canada Poll** was conducted among 1,515 randomly selected Canadian adults who are members of **maru/BLUE's** Online panel on June 3, 2020 and is considered accurate to within +/- 3.9 percentage points. Portions of the written findings and data may be used by anyone in the public domain with appropriate attribution to **DART&maru/BLUE**. Inaccuracies in reporting may be subjected to correction. Any discrepancies between the data tables and the reporting herein is due to rounding.

Only three in 10 (30%) Canadians think Canada's criminal justice system treats people who are black or dark skinned equally compared to others in our Canadian society...

Just three in 10 (30%) Canadians think Canada's criminal justice system treats people who are black or dark skinned equally compared to others in our Canadian society – with half (52%) believing this happens only *some* of the time, with another one in six (18%) believing it happens *rarely if at all* (15% not often/3% not ever).

- **30% all of the time** – Québec (39%), followed by **British Columbia** (33%), **Alberta** (31%), Manitoba/Saskatchewan (30%), **Atlantic Canada** (25%), and **Ontario** (23%).
- **52% some of the time** – **Atlantic Canada** (64%), followed by those from **Ontario** (55%), **Manitoba/Saskatchewan** (53%), **British Columbia** (51%), **Québec** (47%), and **Alberta** (45%).
- **15% not often** – **Alberta** (21%) followed by those in **Ontario** (19%), **British Columbia** (14%), **Québec** (12%), **Manitoba/Saskatchewan** (11%), and **Atlantic Canada** (6%).
- **3% not ever** – **Manitoba/Saskatchewan** (5%) and **Atlantic Canada** (5%), followed by both **Alberta** (4%) and **Ontario** (4%), then **British Columbia** (2%), and finally **Québec** (1%).

Almost 9 in 10 (86%) Canadians say their police officers are superior (27%) or better (59%) in handling job, interacting with citizens, compared to US police officers...

A vast majority (86%) of Canadians indicate that their police are superior (27%) or better (59%) in handling their job and interacting with citizens *compared to US police officers*.

Those most likely to give Canadian police the highest marks are from **Atlantic Canada** (91% – 28% superior/63% better), followed by those from **Québec** (87% – 30% superior/57% better), **Ontario** (86% – 28% superior/58% better), Alberta (85% – 21% superior/64% better), **British Columbia** (84% – 28% superior/56% better), and **Manitoba/Saskatchewan** (78% – 21% superior/56% better).

Just one in 10 (13%) proffered that our Canadian police officers were about the same as US police officers – with those living in Manitoba/Saskatchewan (18%) are most likely to share this perspective, followed by those from **British Columbia** (15%), Alberta (14%), equally in **Ontario** (12%) and **Québec** (12%), and **Atlantic Canada** (8%).

Only 1% ventured that our Canadian police officers were worse than police officers in United States – with those from **Manitoba/Saskatchewan** (2%) giving this sentiment some weight, followed by those equally in **Alberta/Ontario/Québec/Atlantic Canada** (1%). No residents in British Columbia felt this way. Further, only one region of the country believes that our Canadian police are far worse than US police officers: **Manitoba/Saskatchewan** (2%).

As such, of all Canadians, those in **Manitoba/Saskatchewan** (4%) are most likely to believe that **Canadian police officers are worse/far worse than police officers south of the border**.

Three in 10 (27%) believe a large number of their local community police unfairly, discriminately, racially profile black and dark-skinned citizens...

Three in 10 (27%) Canadians believe that a large number of their local community police (19% many/7% most/2% all) unfairly, discriminately, racially profile black and dark-skinned citizens compared with half (53%) who believe that there are only a few that carry out this practice, and just one in five (20%) who say no police do such a thing.

- **27% a large number** (19% many/7% most/2% all). Those most likely to share this view reside in **Ontario** (31% – 22% many/7% most/2% all), followed by those in **Québec** (28% – 19% many/8% most/1% all), **Alberta** (26% – 17% many/7% most/2% all), **Atlantic Canada** (23% – 17% many/3% most/3% all), **Manitoba/Saskatchewan** (24% – 13% many/10% most/1% all), and **British Columbia** (20% – 14% many/4% most/2% all).
- **53% a few**. This view is most likely to be held by citizens of **British Columbia** (53%), followed by those in **Ontario** (52%), **Manitoba/Saskatchewan** (50%) and **Alberta** (50%), **Atlantic Canada** (46%) and **Québec** (46%).
- **20% none**. This view is most likely to be held by citizens of **Atlantic Canada** (31%) and **Québec** (31%), followed by those in **British Columbia** (27%), **Alberta** (23%), **Manitoba/Saskatchewan** (19%), and **Ontario** (17%).

Almost one quarter (22%) believe a large number of their local community police rough up suspects, especially if they are black/dark skinned or from certain neighbourhoods, during arrests...

Almost one quarter (22%) believe a large number of their local community police rough up suspects, especially if they are black/dark skinned or from certain neighbourhoods during arrests (16% many/5% most/2% all) compared with half (53%) who believe that there are only a few that carry out this practice, and just one quarter (25%) who say no police do such a thing.

- **22% a large number** (16% many/5% most/2% all). Those most likely to believe this are from **Québec** (25% – 17% many/7% most/1% all), followed by those from **Ontario** (23% – 18% many/4% most/1% all): **Alberta** (22% – 16% many/2% most/4% all), **Atlantic Canada** (18% – 13% many/3% most/2% all), **British Columbia** (16% – 12% many/3% most/1% all), and **Manitoba/Saskatchewan** (15% – 9% many/6% most/0% all).
- **53% a few**. The citizens most likely to feel this way are from **Manitoba/Saskatchewan** (63%), followed by those from **Ontario** (56%), **Québec** (52%), **British Columbia** (51%), **Alberta** (50%), and **Atlantic Canada** (45%).

- **25% none.** The citizens are most likely to feel this way are from **Atlantic Canada** (37%), followed by those from **British Columbia** (32%), **Alberta** (28%), **Manitoba/Saskatchewan** (23%), **Québec** (22%), and **Ontario** (20%).

Three in 10 (30%) believe a large number of their local community police unfairly, discriminately treat indigenous people...

Three in 10 (22%) believe a large number of their local community police unfairly, discriminately, treat indigenous people rough up suspects, especially if they are black/dark skinned or from certain neighbourhoods during arrests (16% many/5% most/2% all) compared with half (53%) who believe that there are only a few that carry out this practice, and just one quarter (25%) who say no police do such a thing.

- **30% a large number** (2% all/8% most/20% many). Those most likely to feel this way hail from **Alberta** (35% - 19% many/12% most/4% all), followed by those equally from **Ontario** (30% - 20% many/8% most/2% all), **Québec** (30% - 18% many/9% most/3% all), and **Atlantic Canada** (30% - 24% many/1% most/5% all), then **Manitoba/Saskatchewan** (29% - 18% many/10% most/1% all), and **British Columbia** (26% - 20% many/4% most/2% all).
- **51% a few.** This view is most likely to be found in **British Columbia** (51%), followed by those from and then equally from **Ontario** (53%) and **Québec** (53%), then **Alberta** (45%), and **Atlantic Canada** (41%).
- **19% none.** This view is most likely to be found in **Atlantic Canada** (29%), followed by those from **British Columbia** (22%), **Alberta** (20%), equally from **Ontario** (17%) and **Québec** (17%), and lastly by those living in **Manitoba/Saskatchewan** (14%).

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 1,515 randomly selected Canadian adults who are members of **maru/BLUE**'s Online panel June 3, 2020 and is considered accurate to within +/- 3.9 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 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. Respondents had the choice to complete the interview in either English or French.*

For further information or commentary please contact:

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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

<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/>

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