

Just over half of Canadians not confident in ability of security services to prevent home-grown acts of terror

Two-thirds say priority on ISIS threat should be securing borders, dealing with radicalized Canadians

October 24, 2014- Just over half (55%) of Canadians say they aren't confident in the ability of domestic security services to prevent homegrown radicals from carrying out terrorist attacks in Canada.

These are among the findings of an Angus Reid Institute (ARI) online survey of Canadian adults on global and national threats to security and safety.

Key Findings:

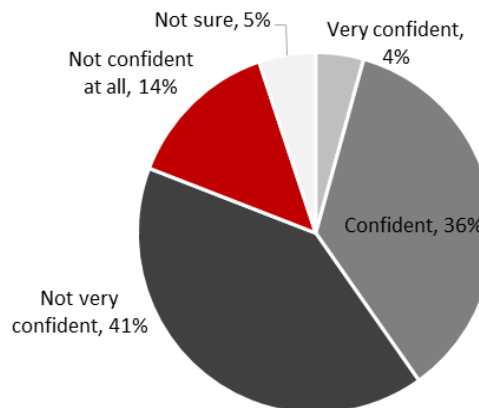
1. Global safety and security:

Almost three quarters of Canadians feel that the world has become a more dangerous place than a decade ago. This level of concern is about equal across all regions and demographic groups.

2. The source of danger:

Terrorism and ISIL far outweigh other concerns with fifty percent of Canadians choosing this option from a list of possible concerns including the Ebola outbreak, Russian/Ukrainian conflict, climate change, the global economy, Israel- Palestine conflict and Poverty/ hunger. Global warming was distant second on this list chosen as most important by sixteen percent, followed by poverty/hunger (11%) and the Ebola outbreak (9%).

How confident are you in Canada's security services (CSIS, RCMP and local police) to prevent homegrown radicals from carrying out terrorist attacks in Canada?



METHODOLOGY:

Angus Reid Institute (ARI) conducted an online survey of 1491 randomly selected Canadian adults who are Angus Reid Forum panelists from October 21- 23, 2014. A probability sample of this size carries a margin of error of +/- 2.5%, 19 times out of 20. Discrepancies in or between totals are due to rounding.

This survey was self-commissioned and paid for by ARI.

Detailed charts, tables and regional results are found at the end of this release.

3. How Canada should respond to the ISIS threat:

On the question of what Canada's priority should be in regards to the threat posed by ISIS, two-thirds (66%) say precedence should be given to securing national borders and dealing with Canadians involved in terrorism domestically or overseas. This represents twice as many as those who would put priority on contributing humanitarian and/or military aid to assist the international community (34%).

4. Confidence in Canada's security services

Confidence in institutions such as the RCMP, CSIS and local police to stop radicalized Canadians from carrying out acts of violence is split. Slightly more than half (55%) of respondents say they aren't confident, with 41% saying they're "not very confident" and 14% saying they're "not confident at all".

By contrast, two-in-five (40%) profess confidence in security services, with 36% saying "confident" and 4% saying "very confident". There are no significant differences in this sentiment based on region or other demographic markers.

Timing in Context:

These findings come on the heels of two violent attacks this week on Canadian military personnel by individuals described in initial reports as suspected radicalized Canadians. The first, in Quebec where one soldier was killed and another injured after being hit by a car driven by a suspected radical. The second, a brazen attack on Parliament in Ottawa that saw a Canadian Forces reservist shot to death as he guarded the National War Memorial.

While the issue of domestic terror at the hands of such people has been a top-of-mind issue for months, the exact timing of these events were unforeseen by Canadians and by ARI. This survey was not developed in reaction to the attacks. This survey was conducted over a period of three days which coincided with the terrorist act in Quebec.

Detailed tables are found on the following pages.

MEDIA CONTACT:

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ARI was founded in October 2014 by pollster and sociologist, Dr. Angus Reid. It has the status of a registered charity in Canada. ARI is a national, not-for-profit, non-partisan public opinion research organization established to enhance and encourage better understanding of issues and trends affecting economic, social, governance, philanthropy, public administration, domestic, and foreign policy in Canada and its world.

All things considered, would you say the world is becoming a safer place or a more dangerous place than a decade ago?								
	Total (1491)	Region						
		BC (201)	AB (144)	SK (95)	MB (100)	ON (501)	PQ (350)	ATL (100)
Much safer today	1%	1%	2%	1%	0%	1%	2%	2%
Safer	5%	7%	4%	7%	5%	4%	5%	3%
About the same	20%	18%	18%	15%	24%	19%	22%	25%
More dangerous	52%	56%	49%	49%	44%	54%	55%	41%
Much more dangerous today	22%	19%	27%	27%	27%	23%	17%	29%

All things considered, would you say the world is becoming a safer place or a more dangerous place than a decade ago?						
	Total (1491)	Gender		Age		
		Men	Women	18 - 34	35 - 54	55+
Much safer today	1%	2%	1%	2%	1%	0%
Safer	5%	6%	3%	9%	3%	3%
About the same	20%	23%	17%	25%	21%	14%
More dangerous	52%	48%	56%	49%	54%	53%
Much more dangerous today	22%	22%	23%	15%	21%	30%

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Which of the following international issues do you yourself consider to be the most serious threats for the world today? Top Issue								
	Total (1491)	Region						
		BC (201)	AB (144)	SK (95)	MB (100)	ON (501)	PQ (350)	ATL (100)
Islamic State/ISIS/ISIL/Terrorism	50%	40%	51%	50%	47%	53%	51%	48%
Ebola outbreak	9%	15%	7%	12%	14%	8%	9%	4%
Ukraine/Russia	2%	0%	4%	3%	3%	3%	2%	2%
Climate change/Global warming	16%	18%	14%	9%	16%	17%	13%	24%
The state of the world economy	9%	13%	14%	14%	10%	7%	10%	6%
Israel-Palestine conflict	3%	1%	0%	1%	2%	2%	8%	3%
Poverty/Hunger	11%	13%	11%	11%	9%	11%	8%	13%

Which of the following international issues do you yourself consider to be the most serious threats for the world today? Top Issue						
	Total (1491)	Gender		Age		
		Men	Women	18 - 34	35 - 54	55+
Islamic State/ISIS/ISIL/Terrorism	50%	50%	50%	33%	51%	62%
Ebola outbreak	9%	7%	11%	11%	8%	8%
Ukraine/Russia	2%	3%	1%	3%	2%	2%
Climate change/Global warming	16%	16%	16%	21%	15%	12%
The state of the world economy	9%	12%	7%	13%	11%	5%
Israel-Palestine conflict	3%	3%	3%	5%	3%	2%
Poverty/Hunger	11%	9%	13%	14%	10%	9%

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Thinking about the threat posed by ISIS/ISIL or the Islamic State, overall do you think Canada's priority should be:								
	Total (1491)	Region						
		BC (201)	AB (144)	SK (95)	MB (100)	ON (501)	PQ (350)	ATL (100)
Securing our borders and taking steps to deal with radical Canadians who are involved in terrorism at home or abroad	66%	61%	67%	70%	64%	66%	68%	61%
Contributing humanitarian and/or military aid to assist the international community	34%	39%	33%	30%	36%	34%	32%	39%

Thinking about the threat posed by ISIS/ISIL or the Islamic State, overall do you think Canada's priority should be:						
	Total (1491)	Gender		Age		
		Men	Women	18 - 34	35 - 54	55+
Securing our borders and taking steps to deal with radical Canadians who are involved in terrorism at home or abroad	66%	63%	68%	62%	68%	66%
Contributing humanitarian and/or military aid to assist the international community	34%	37%	32%	38%	32%	34%

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How confident are you in Canada's security services (CSIS, RCMP and local police) to prevent homegrown radicals from carrying out terrorist attacks in Canada?								
	Total (1491)	Region						
		BC (201)	AB (144)	SK (95)	MB (100)	ON (501)	PQ (350)	ATL (100)
Very confident	4%	3%	5%	1%	2%	5%	5%	4%
Confident	36%	37%	36%	29%	42%	35%	40%	23%
Not very confident	41%	41%	38%	37%	40%	41%	40%	49%
Not confident at all	14%	17%	17%	20%	10%	14%	11%	14%
Not sure	5%	3%	4%	13%	5%	6%	4%	10%

How confident are you in Canada's security services (CSIS, RCMP and local police) to prevent homegrown radicals from carrying out terrorist attacks in Canada?						
	Total (1491)	Gender		Age		
		Men	Women	18 - 34	35 - 54	55+
Very confident	4%	5%	4%	5%	5%	3%
Confident	36%	39%	33%	42%	33%	33%
Not very confident	41%	38%	43%	34%	41%	46%
Not confident at all	14%	14%	14%	12%	15%	15%
Not sure	5%	4%	6%	7%	6%	3%

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