

The view that the NAFTA deal is not superior to the FTA already in place is held by a plurality of respondents from all parts of the country and from all socio-demographic segments of the population. That the NAFTA is an improvement over the FTA is a perception most evident among men (32% compared to 22% of women), and one which becomes more apparent with higher levels of education and income (rising to about one-third of respondents who have completed university and those from the most financially well-off households).

Nearly sixty percent of the Enthusiastic Advocates (59%) felt the NAFTA is an improvement over the current Free Trade Agreement, while nearly three-quarters of the Resolute Antagonists (74%) said the NAFTA is not improvement [table 12].

Table 12: the NAFTA an Improvement Over the Current Free Trade Agreement						
	Total	EA	DS	CP	OO	RA
Yes	27	59	42	17	12	7
No	43	14	22	47	57	74
Dk/Ns	30	28	35	37	30	19

As the table shows, there was a relatively high percentage of no opinion among the segments.

6.2 Overall Support for the NAFTA and the Idea of North American Free Trade

The Canadian public is split on the trilateral North American free trade arrangement. Respondents were just as likely to declare that, generally speaking, they are supportive of Canada entering into a three-way free trade agreement with the United States and Mexico as they were to indicate opposition (46% and 48% respectively). Importantly, however, the proportion indicating they "strongly oppose" a trilateral arrangement was more than double