

Pully two-thirds (68%) of prime voters favor the treaty, as do large majorities of better-read, college-educated, and Americans with professional or managerial responsibilities.

Trade and industrial unionists are somewhat less favorably (59%) inclined toward the treaty than organized public sector employees (71%). And skilled labor (61%) is more favorable ~~than~~ toward it than semi or unskilled workers (43%), both organized and unorganized.

Taken as a whole, blacks and women are less likely to favor the treaty than whites and males. Westerners and Southerners are less likely than people in the Northeast and Midwest (among whose numbers include the vast majority of Americans living in states bordering Canada) to favor this treaty. Democrats, too, are less likely (58%) to support the F.T.A. than Republicans (67%).

CANADA AS A CUSTOMER OF THE UNITED STATES

Most Americans do not know Canada buys more U.S. goods than any other country. They either do not offer an opinion on the matter (48%) or they say another country (22%) buys more of our goods and services.

While most Americans in every demographic sub-group do not know how important Canada is as a market for U.S. exports, awareness of its importance is greater among treaty supporters (37%), professionals, and Northeasters (34%).

FAIR TRADE WITH CANADA VS. ALL FOREIGN COUNTRIES NEED TO BE PENALIZED

Better six in four Americans think our history of fair and friendly trading with Canada is a sufficient reason to support the F.T.A., while less than one in five say our trade deficit is a sufficient reason to oppose it as a way to punish Canada and other foreign countries. Majorities of every major demographic sub-group, save blacks and manual workers, favor the treaty based on the fair and friendly argument.

The special relationship ("fair and friendly") argument even has a certain appeal to those who say they are opposed to Congress granting approval to the free trade agreement. Among the sixteen percent who say they are opposed to the treaty, twenty-nine percent switch sides when presented this argument, while 58% of the anti-treaty public (or only about nine percent of all Americans) say Canada and other foreign countries should be penalized, and the treaty rejected, because of our trade deficit.