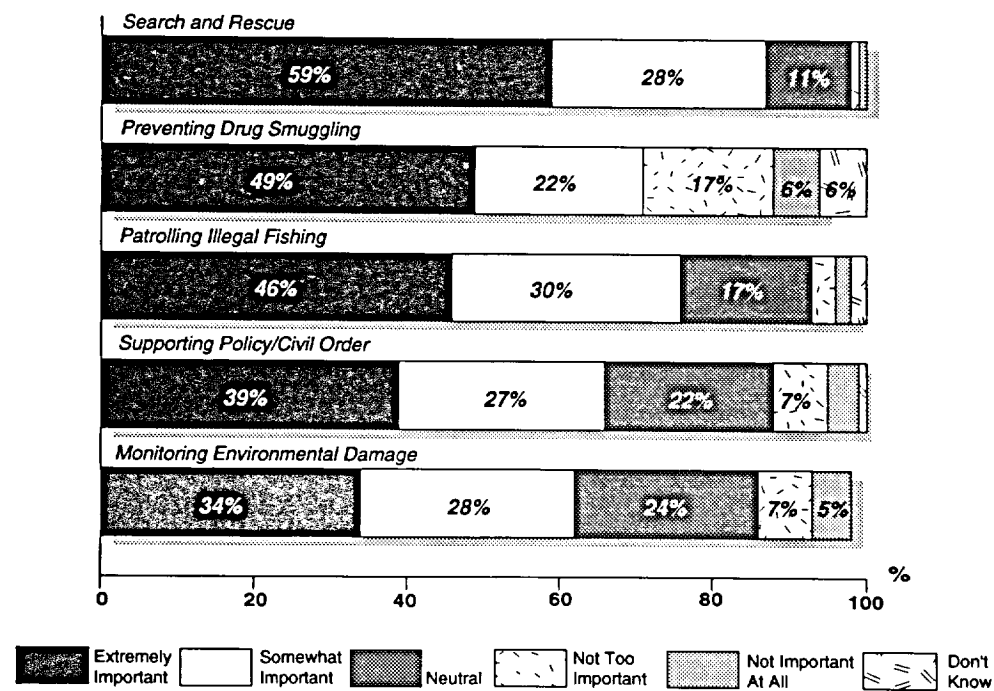


As with the perceived importance of various threats discussed earlier (see Figure 3), fisheries patrols and drug interdiction are very important to Canadians. A comparison with the results shown in Figure 10 leaves little doubt that these roles are not currently associated with the Canadian Forces. The same is true of search and rescue, which is seen to be the most important of the five areas tested.

Figure 11  
Importance of CF Domestic Roles



The only tenable explanation for the contrasts between Figures 10 and 11 is the suggestion that Canadians do not associate the Canadian Forces with a number of important domestic roles. Instead, they see the Canadian military as an enforcement agency - protecting Canadian sovereignty and acting as an aid to the civil power.

Atlantic Canadians (69%) and British Columbians (64%) are more likely than other Canadians to say that search and rescue is a very important role for the Armed Forces. Quebeckers (47%) are correspondingly less likely to hold this view. Similarly, Atlantic Canadians (60%) are more inclined to see fisheries patrols as a very important role, as compared to Quebeckers (37%) and residents of the Prairie Provinces (40%).