

The statement that the NAFTA improves the FTA particularly in the area of dispute settlement enjoys a fair degree of credibility among the NAFTA opponents - 39 percent of those polled indicated they find this statement very (only 3%) or somewhat (36%) believable, although almost six in ten do not believe this claim.

- *The new three-way trade agreement is good for Canada because it clarifies and improves the rules of the existing free trade agreement between Canada and the United States. (D)*

Of the seven information statements examined, that concerning the NAFTA's improvements of the existing FTA is the least persuasive to the NAFTA opponents. Just less than one-half of those responding indicated that the NAFTA's improvements on the FTA make them much (9%) or somewhat (40%) more likely to support the trilateral trade agreement. Forty-seven percent indicated this argument is not persuasive. The research results indicate that this information statement enjoys the most "pull" among the NAFTA opponents living in the Atlantic regions (64% said it made them more likely to support a three-way deal). Also consistent with many of the other findings, younger opponents tend to find the NAFTA's improvements of the existing bilateral arrangement a compelling reason to support the North American package.

This information statement falls in the mid-range in terms of its credibility - just better than one in three (36%) of those surveyed indicated they find the statement describing the NAFTA as an improvement over the FTA as very (only 3%) or somewhat (33%) believable whereas fully six in ten do not believe this is true.

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