tives for domestic than for foreign firms. In addition, assistance for firms that innovate is also widely supported. This can take the form of direct funding support, tax incentives, or funding for Partnership Programs. Finally, government investment in infrastructure, electronic border clearing with the U.S. or transportation infrastructure, is also supported by 71.4% of firms.

The next policy area receives a full 10% less support and even 15% less if we only count strong supporters. Even more striking is that the next priority is tax policy. An area of government policy that is likely to differ only in implementation from the more pro-active forms of investment support in the first three areas. The remaining policy areas, industrial, trade, labor market, or environmental policy all carry much lower levels of support. The only popular trade policy (Provision of capital to facilitate new international joint ventures) is again a form of investment support. Restricting import competition by facilitating the use of antidumping measures as well as more active government support to facilitate Canadian exports in rapidly developing markets do not gather much enthusiasm.

The overall picture that emerges is that the only interventions that carry widespread support are government investments or support for private investments. With respect to trade policy, these sentiments from the industry are reinforced by much of the analysis in the preceding chapters. Current tariff levels are sufficiently low that they are not viewed as very important policy tools. In the analysis, consumer gains from lowering tariff levels counteract producer losses with minimal net effect on Canada as a whole. In addition, the dominance of the U.S. as trading partner for the industry further reduces any effect of trade policy.