

Only 2% of Canadians believe that Canada does not need an armed forces.

Once again, Atlantic Canadians are the most enthusiastic and Quebeckers are the least enthusiastic with regard to the need for a military in Canada. Sixty percent of Atlantic Canadians say we need the Canadian Forces a *great deal*. Only 25% of Quebeckers hold this view. Older Canadians are also more convinced of the need for a Canadian Forces - only 32% of adult Canadians under 25 say we need the CF a *great deal*, as compared to 49% of Canadians over 55.

Interestingly, women (49%) are much more likely than men (30%) to say Canada needs its armed forces a *great deal*.

A. The Domestic Roles of the Canadian Forces

Despite the relatively low priority placed on territorial threats to Canada (see Figure 3), the Canadian public nonetheless believes that territorial protection is the most important domestic role of the Armed Forces.⁵ As Figure 10 shows, 24% say this is the CF's most important role, while 13% mention the importance of providing aid to the civil power.

The interdiction of drug smuggling - deemed a serious threat to Canada by 78% of Canadians - is not mentioned as an important role for the armed forces. (Drug interdiction was a pre-coded response category for the question depicted in Figure 10, but was chosen by less than 1% of respondents.)

⁵ Respondents were asked to rate the importance of each domestic role using a scale of zero to ten, where ten means extremely important and zero means not important at all. Responses were then recoded to *extremely important* (9, 10), *somewhat important* (7, 8), *neutral* (4, 5, 6), *not too important* (2, 3) and *not important at all* (0, 1).