These two areas of concern -- war and peace, and hunger/poverty -- were also the first and second most frequently mentioned concerns in the 1985 wave of this study, indicating these are areas of enduring importance to Canadians. Moreover, relative to the 1985 wave, the level of concern over war and peace issues has intensified: from being mentioned by 36% of respondents in 1985, to 46% in 1987.

Environmental issues were mentioned by 6% of the respondents. This is in contrast to only 3% in the 1985 study, suggesting that this continues to be an area of growing concern to Canadians. And, in particular, acid rain was mentioned by two-thirds of those mentioning environmental issues.

One totally new concern that emerged for the first time in the present study is AIDS (mentioned by 3% of Canadians), indicating that the publicity around this disease has had a dramatic effect on some Canadians, to the extent it is the one world issue of greatest personal concern to them.