

The view that Canada has lost more trade disputes than it won was less likely to be expressed among Quebec residents (70%) and among those living in Atlantic Canada (70%). Those living in Manitoba and Saskatchewan (75%), Ontario (76%), British Columbia (76%) and Alberta (77%) were slightly more likely to hold the opinion that Canada has lost more trade disputes with the U.S. than it has won.

The percentage who felt that Canada has lost more disputes than it has won was lower among males (71%) than females (77%), and lower among younger respondents, aged 18-34 (71%), than among those aged 35-54 (77%) or 55 and older (78%).

Opinions on trade dispute resolution were not linked to income measures. There was virtually no variation across income levels on this question. By education, university graduates were slightly less likely to think that Canada has lost most of its trade disputes (70%) than were those who had undertaken other post-secondary training (75%), high school graduates (74%) or those who did not complete high school (76%).

The Resolute Antagonists were more likely to believe that Canada has lost more trade disputes since the Free Trade Agreement went into effect (84%). Over 80 percent of the Concerned Pragmatists (82%) and the Old-fashioned Opponents said Canada has lost more disputes. Sixty-eight percent of the Dispassionate Supporters agreed with this opinion, followed by only a slight majority (51%) of the Enthusiastic Advocates.

5.3 Believability and Impact of Selected Information Statements Regarding the Canada-U.S. FTA

A series of 11 information statements were compiled regarding the impact of the Free Trade Agreement. Survey respondents who had indicated strong or moderate opposition to the Free Trade Agreement were asked to indicate, first of all, whether the information contained in that statement would make them more likely to support the Canada-U.S. Free Trade Agreement, and secondly, the extent to which they found the statement to be believable.