

Perceptions of Canada's Ability to Compete

- o Rank closer to the Antagonists with only 44% feeling we are better able than others to sell our wares internationally
- o Worried that when the government talks about becoming competitive they really mean that many Canadians will lose their jobs (36%)
- o Are generally less sure about our ability to compete, and feel that the government should take action to protect business and industry by limiting the amount of foreign goods sold here (even if it means higher prices as a result)
- o Less optimistic about the future with only 37% convinced we will become more competitive in world markets
- o Report average scores on the "quality" factor and the "aggressive sales" factor, but are relatively more likely to agree with the claim that our prices are competitive on world markets (25% score a "6" or a "7")
- o Are distinguished in their considerably stronger support of import quotas Fully 41% advocate limiting the amount of foreign goods sold here in order to protect Canadian business and industry (even if it means we will pay more for our products as a result)
- o On other structural issues i.e., expectations for a cleaner environment, Canadian companies accepting lower profits, etc. their views are similar to the overall average, although like the Antagonists and the Apprehensive, are slightly stronger in their call for cutting the exporting of natural resources (57%)
- o 25% strongly agree that there is no need to learn foreign languages or learn about foreign cultures
- o On issues of work ethics and wages, Protectionists have only slightly lower levels of agreement compared to the general population
- o 44% support subsidies for business to successfully sell their goods and services