Preferred Federal Government Policy On Foreign Investment

Canadians were read a list of four potential government policy statements pertaining directly to the issue of foreign investment in Canada. They were than asked to indicate which of the four would be the most appealing course for the government to follow.

For two in three Canadians, the preferred policy is for the government to be allowing foreign investment, but regulating it to ensure it continues to benefit Canada. People have clearly accepted foreign investment as part of the Canadian economy. They simply want assurances that it will not get out of control.

As a result, neither a closed shop nor a completely open shop are viewed as viable alternatives by the vast majority of Canadians.

Federal Government Should	Total	% of Respondents				
		British Columbia	Prairies	Ontario	Quebec	Maritimes
Attempt to buy back foreign owned businesses in Canada	7	8	10	6	8	4
Allow foreign investment, but screen, regulate and control it to ensure that it benefits Canada	66	62	70	67	62	77
Stipulate minimum Canadian ownership requirements for any foreign owned company	19	20	13	20	22	17
Allow foreign investment, without restrictions	6	9	7	6	6	2
No opinion	2	. 1	-	, 1	2	-
Total	100	100	100	100	100	100
Base:	(1000)	(116)	(171)	(358)	(268)	(87)