

Effect on Canadian Business or Industry Sectors

- o Those sectors which Canadians expect to be better off under free trade are the wood and paper products sector and the oil and gas industry. Sectors seen as likely to be worse off under free trade are agriculture and farming, the wine industry, cars and car parts, and films, books and magazines.

Economic and Independence Issues

- o A majority of Canadians consistently believe that the jobs created by increased U.S. investment in Canada are more important than limiting American influence in the Canadian economy. Atlantic Canadians are disproportionately among those Canadians expressing this view.
- o A majority (56%) also feel that Canadians should be confident "because Canada's identity is now strong enough that it no longer needs as much protection through government measures," whereas 44% believe we "should not have free trade because it could mean the end of those government measures which protect Canada's identity and make us different from the U.S."
- o Results for the independence question show a similar 60/40 split in opinion, but in a different direction. In this case the majority (56%) think that the free trade agreement will "tie Canada so closely to the United States that it will weaken our ability to play an independent role in the world."

Federal Government Management

- o Close to two-thirds of the population regard the trade deal as in some sense "part of a general effort to improve Canada's trade situation around the world." Opinion is split as to whether people think the federal government has a good idea of how to deal with the changes a free trade agreement will bring to Canada.