

- o Reasons cited by those opposing the free trade agreement include both anticipated negative economic consequences of free trade for Canada and, most importantly, fears that "Canada will lose" and that Canada risks loss of control and independence.
- o Canadians are strongly of the view that the Americans "got a better deal than Canada," with 61% holding this view. Canadians, however, may not necessarily think that any other outcome would have been achievable in light of the relative strengths of the two countries.
- o In terms of bilateral relations, the predominate view among Canadians is that the agreement will either have a positive, or at worst, a neutral effect on Canada's relations with the Americans.

Anticipated Effects of Free Trade

- o Seven-in-ten Canadians (71%) expect that consumer prices will be lower as a result of the free trade agreement, yet only 26% expect higher incomes.
- o Expectations are positive for the wood and paper products industry, whereas two-thirds continue to be of the view that "the Canadian automobile industry will lose jobs to the United States."
- o Evidence that many Canadians do not really know what will happen under the free trade agreement with the United States is apparent in the fact that while two-thirds fear loss of control of decision-making, 72% think that "we will be able to maintain current government programs such as unemployment insurance and health insurance."
- o Seventy-one percent (71%) believe that "American influence on our books, magazines, films and other parts of our culture will increase" and 79% think it likely that the free trade agreement will lead to Canada and the United States becoming similar in many ways.