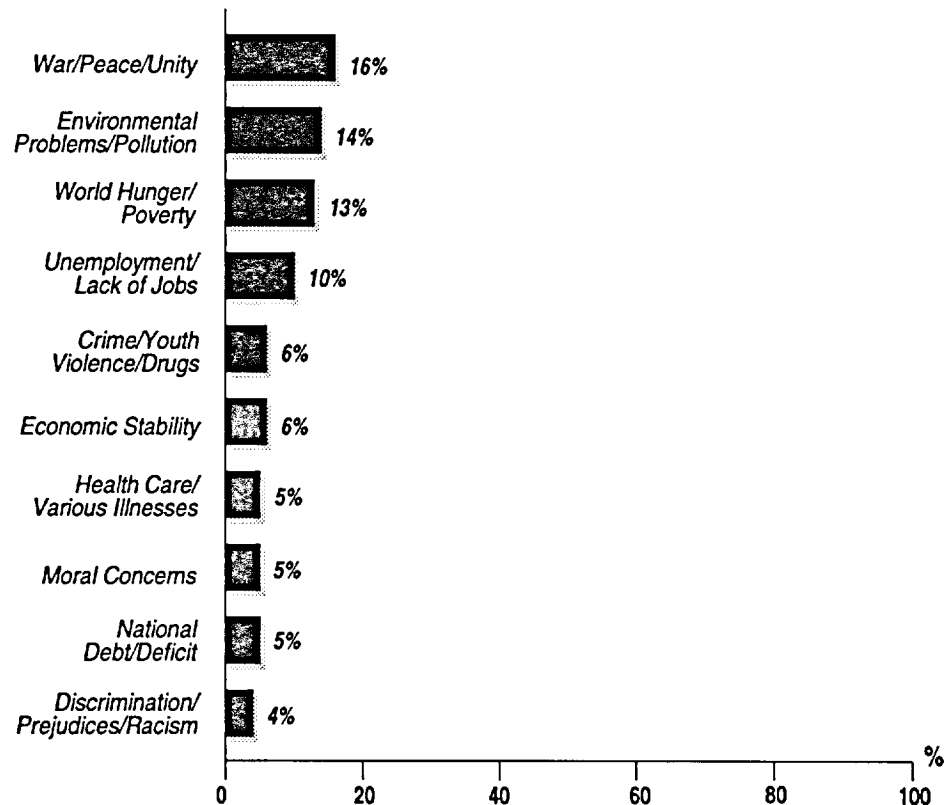


### III. Canada and the World

Canadians hold a wide divergence of opinions about what constitutes the most serious problem facing the world. In contrast with the late 1980s, when world peace and the threat of war dominated the international focus of Canadians, the public identifies a great range of issues including world peace, the environment, hunger and poverty. Concern about world peace and the threat of war - which approached 50% in the late 1980s - now stands at less than 20%.

Figure 1  
Most Important World Issues



Nonetheless, concern about world peace (16%) still tops the list of Canadians' international concerns, followed by concern about the environment (14%), hunger (13%) and unemployment (10%).

It should be noted, however, that the threat of nuclear war, so commonly mentioned in the 1980s, is virtually absent from public concerns today. When Canadians speak of world peace in 1995, they speak of disunity and conflict in