

## V. PROTECTIONISM

While expectations about the likelihood of the American government taking further protectionist actions have not changed since June, there is evidence in the August results of increased concern over the seriousness of the potential effects of such actions on the Canadian economy (Table 7). A total of 90% in August (versus 83% in June) say that they expect that if the American government did take such action, the effect on the Canadian economy would be serious, and more people (41% in August versus 34% in June) now think that the effect will be "very serious."

Table 7

### ATTITUDES ABOUT U.S. PROTECTIONISM

|  | JUNE<br>1987<br>% | AUGUST<br>1987<br>% |
|--|-------------------|---------------------|
| <u>LIKELIHOOD OF FUTURE U.S. PROTECTIONIST ACTIONS</u>                       |                   |                     |
| Very likely  | 41                | 48                  |
| Somewhat likely  | 42                | 37                  |
| Not too likely   | 13                | 11                  |
| Not at all likely  | 4                 | 4                   |
| <u>EFFECT OF U.S. PROTECTIONISM ON CANADIAN ECONOMY</u>                      |                   |                     |
| Very serious   | 34                | 41                  |
| Serious  | 49                | 49                  |
| Not too serious  | 15                | 9                   |
| Not serious at all   | 2                 | 1                   |
| <u>EFFECTIVENESS OF FREE TRADE DEAL IN PREVENTING AMERICAN PROTECTIONISM</u> |                   |                     |
| Very effective   | --                | 21                  |
| Effective  | --                | 46                  |
| Not too effective  | --                | 23                  |
| Not at all effective   | --                | 9                   |