

Not only do Canadians believe a trade agreement involving Mexico will threaten Canadian jobs, they also have doubts about whether Canada can compete with Mexico. Table 27 presents aggregate responses to the following forced choice question:

"Some people have said that Canadian businesses cannot compete with Mexican businesses in a free trade agreement because wages, environmental and safety standards are much lower in Mexico.

Others have said that Canadian businesses can compete with Mexican businesses because Canadian workers are better trained and Canada has better facilities like roads, airports and communications. Which viewpoint would be closer to your own"?

A majority (55%) indicate they believe that Canada cannot compete with Mexico. This opinion is most strongly held in B.C. (66%), and is weakest in Québec (49%). Demographic subgroups that are most sceptical about Canada's ability to compete with Mexico include those with a technical education, blue collar workers, and those with incomes between \$30,000 to \$59,000.

