



The Strategic Counsel

Gregg, Kelly, Sullivan & Woolstencroft:
The Strategic Counsel

www.thestrategiccounsel.com

21 St. Clair Avenue East
Suite 1100
Toronto, Ontario
M4T 1L9
Tel 416 975-4465
Fax 416 975-1883

440 Laurier Avenue West
Suite 200
Ottawa, Ontario
K1R 7X6
Tel 613 751-2855
Fax 613 751-2852



August Survey for the Globe and Mail and CTV

August 2005

Introduction and Methodology

- ◆ Gregg, Kelly, Sullivan & Woolstencroft: *The Strategic Counsel* is pleased to present August findings of The Globe and Mail/CTV Polling Program.
- ◆ The findings are based on interviews conducted by telephone among a national sample of 1,000 adult Canadians 18 years of age or older.
- ◆ The interviews were conducted between August 3rd and 7th, 2005.
- ◆ A sample of 1,000 yields a margin of error of +/- 3.1 percentage points, 19 times out of 20.
- ◆ Note: Due to rounding, proportions may not total exactly 100%.

Key Conclusions – Top Issue

- ◆ The spring and early summer focus on scandal (#1 issue in May) and government instability (#1 issue in June) is receding. In this regard, the public opinion agenda is returning to pre-Gomery concerns.
- ◆ Health care (16%) and other social issues (12%) now dominate public concerns. As well, infrastructure and environment issues also appear on the ascent (9%), especially in the province of Quebec (13%).
- ◆ Concerns about the economy (7%) and unemployment (3%) continue to be low, especially compared to historic patterns.
- ◆ Overall the single biggest change over the last 4 months is the way the sponsorship scandal and government instability have faded from (top-of-mind) public consciousness.

Key Conclusions – Immigration

- ◆ The plurality of the population believes that Canada accepts the right number of immigrants (46%). By a ratio of 2.5:1 however, the remainder hold that Canada accepts too many rather than too few immigrants.
- ◆ While a solid majority of the public believes that we should not be making a distinction in our policies and instead accept immigrants from all countries (71%), the population is far more divided over whether immigrants from some countries make a bigger and better contribution to Canada than others (41% vs 50%). Among those who believe that contribution is linked to country of origin, a majority feel that European immigrants (76%) and to a somewhat lesser extent Asians (59%), make a positive contribution to the country. Less than half feel the same way about Indian (45%) and West Indian (33%) arrivals. Quebecers hold a significantly more positive assessment of the contribution made by Caribbean and West Indian immigrants (46% vs 28% in the ROC).

Key Conclusions – Immigration

- ◆ Canadians everywhere but especially in the province of Quebec (85%) are of the view that immigrants should be encouraged to integrate and become part of the broader society (69%) rather than maintain their ethnic identity and culture.
- ◆ Taken together, these findings suggest that immigration continues to be a “sub-surface” issue. It has very low tip-of-mind saliency, and generally speaking, Canadians believe our policies are tipped in the right balance – both in terms of the number of new arrivals accepted and an approach that does not target immigrants from select countries. Under this surface of acceptance however, there are solid minorities who believe we are accepting too many immigrants; that immigrants from different origins make different contributions to the nation; or who are reluctant to concede that certain visible minority groups are having a positive impact on Canada. Binding these conflicting impulses together, Canadians are overwhelmed of the mind that we should be abandoning our traditional “mosaic” approach to multiculturalism for a more assimilationist one.

Key Conclusions – Terrorism and National Security

- ◆ Perhaps because so few Canadians give a passing grade when it comes to our preparedness to deal with a terrorist threat within our borders (only 24% believe we are very well or well prepared), so many (62%) believe it is at least somewhat likely that an act of terror will take place in Canada within the next few years.
- ◆ Canadians are somewhat uncertain whether our refusal to join in the War on Iraq has insulated us from attack and whether our participation in Afghanistan makes us more vulnerable.
- ◆ Unlike the U.S., the War on Terror does not appear to spark a huge debate or hue and cry over civil liberties. A solid majority either “don’t know (14%)” or believe we have struck the right balance between measures to fight the war on terror and protecting civil liberties, (51%). Of the remainder, decidedly more hold the view that if we have erred, it is on the side of doing too much to protect civil liberties at the expense of measure to fight the war on terror, rather than the other way around (25% vs 10%).

Key Conclusions – Terrorism and National Security

- ◆ In the same vein, solid majorities support deporting or jailing public supporters of terrorists (81%), installing video cameras in all public spaces (72%) and giving the U.S. any information they request about Canadians suspected of being terrorists (62%). Opposition grows when it comes to allowing detention without trial (especially in Quebec) (48% oppose), infiltrating the Muslim community (45%) or restricting the number of immigrants from Muslim countries (53%).
- ◆ While Canadians appear to discriminate between different weapons that might be used in the War on Terror, overall they seem quite unconcerned about the threat to their rights and even less concerned about the rights of those who may be suspected terrorists or sympathizers.

Key Conclusions – Marc Emory

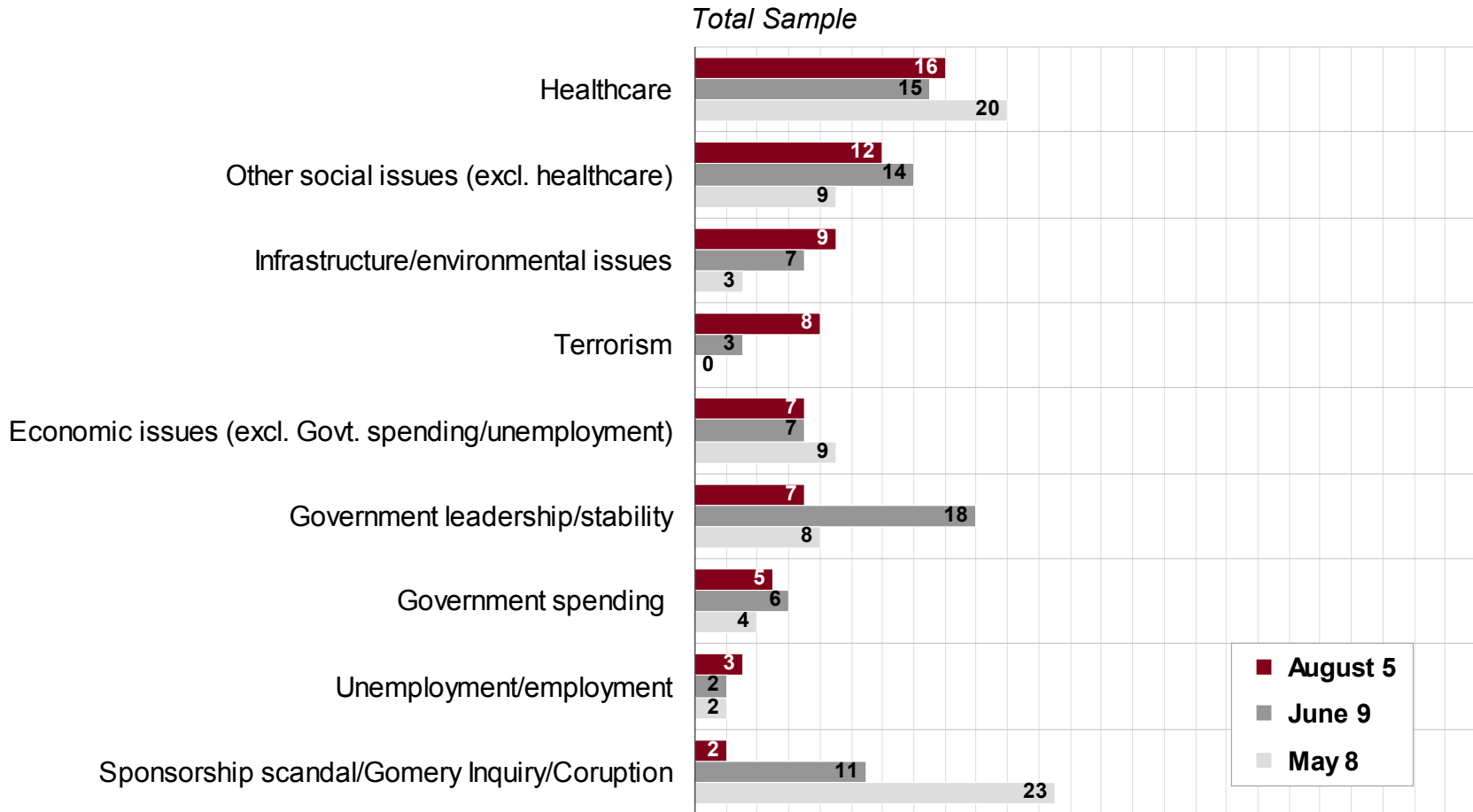
- ◆ A majority (58%) oppose the extradition of Marc Emory to the U.S. About a third (36%) have no such qualms.

Key Conclusions – Federal Voting Intention

- ◆ There has been virtually no change in federal voting intention since our July poll. The Liberals continue to lead with 36% of popular support (up one point), followed by the Conservatives with 28% (up 2 points), the NDP at 17% (down 2 points), the Bloc at 11% (down 2 points) and Green Party at 8% (up one point).
- ◆ Regional analysis however reveals that the Liberals in Quebec, while still trailing badly, continue their long but steady climb back to respectability. Perhaps reflecting the much lower salience of the sponsorship scandal, the Liberals now stand at 31% (up 3 points from July and 9 points from June) and trail the BQ by 15 points (as opposed to 23 in July and 29 in June). While still not enough to change the political landscape dramatically, it does suggest that the Liberals are not as dead in Quebec as some predicted four months ago.

Detailed Tables

What is the most important issue facing Canada?



Q.1 In your view what is the most important issue facing Canada today – that is the one about which you are most concerned?
 Base: Total Sample

What is the most important issue facing Canada?

	Total	Region		
	08/07 (n=1000) %	Rest of Canada (n=753) %	Ontario (n=380) %	Quebec (n=247) %
Healthcare	16	19	17	9
Other social issues (excl. healthcare)	12	13	18	8
Infrastructure/environmental issues	9	8	8	13
Terrorism	8	8	9	8
Economic issues (excl. Govt. spending/unemployment)	7	7	5	7
Government leadership/stability	7	5	3	13
Government spending	5	5	4	5
Unemployment/employment	3	3	4	4
Taxes	3	4	4	1
Education	2	2	2	1
Sponsorship scandal/Gomery Inquiry/Corruption	2	2	2	4

Q.1 In your view what is the most important issue facing Canada today – that is the one about which you are most concerned?

Base: Total Sample

Immigration

Does Canada accept the right number of immigrants per year?

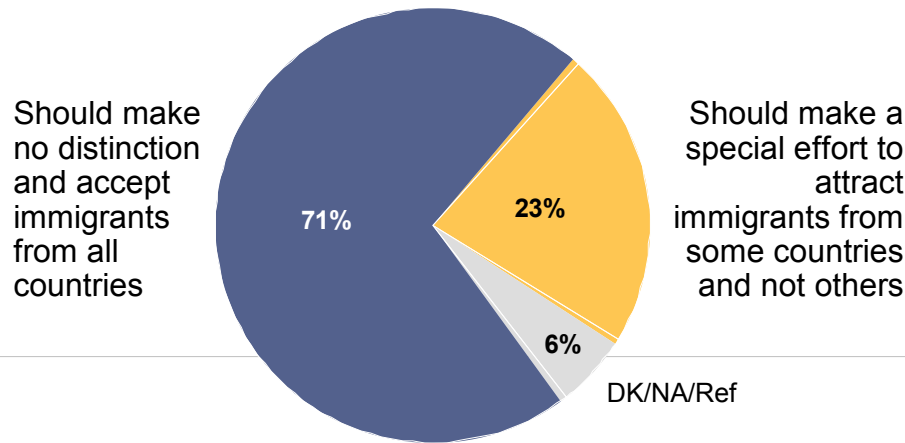
	Total	Region		
	08/07 (n=1000) %	Rest of Canada (n=753) %	Ontario (n=380) %	Quebec (n=247) %
Too many	32	33	38	30
About the right amount	46	45	42	48
Too few	10	9	7	14
DK/NA/Ref	12	13	13	8

Q.2 From what you can tell, do you think Canada accepts too many, too few or about the right number of immigrants per year?

Base: Total Sample

Should Canada attract immigrants from some countries or make no distinction and accept immigrants from all countries?

Total Sample



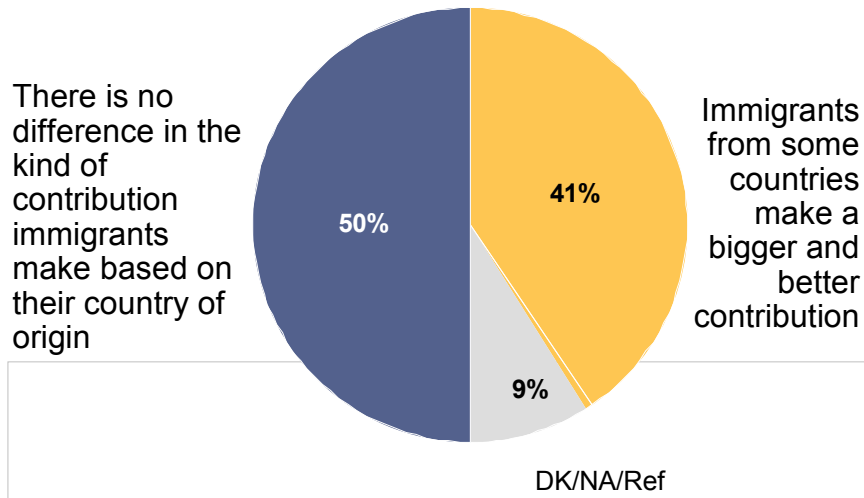
	Total	Region		
	08/07 (n=1000) %	Rest of Canada (n=753) %	Ontario (n=380) %	Quebec (n=247) %
Should make no distinction and accept immigrants from all countries	71	73	72	61
Should make a special effort to attract immigrants from some countries and not others	23	20	20	35
DK/NA/Ref	6	7	8	4

Q.3 Do you think we should be making a special effort to attract immigrants from some countries and not others or should we make no distinction and accept immigrants from all countries?

Base: Total Sample

Do Canadians think immigrants from some countries make bigger and better contributions than other countries?

Total Sample

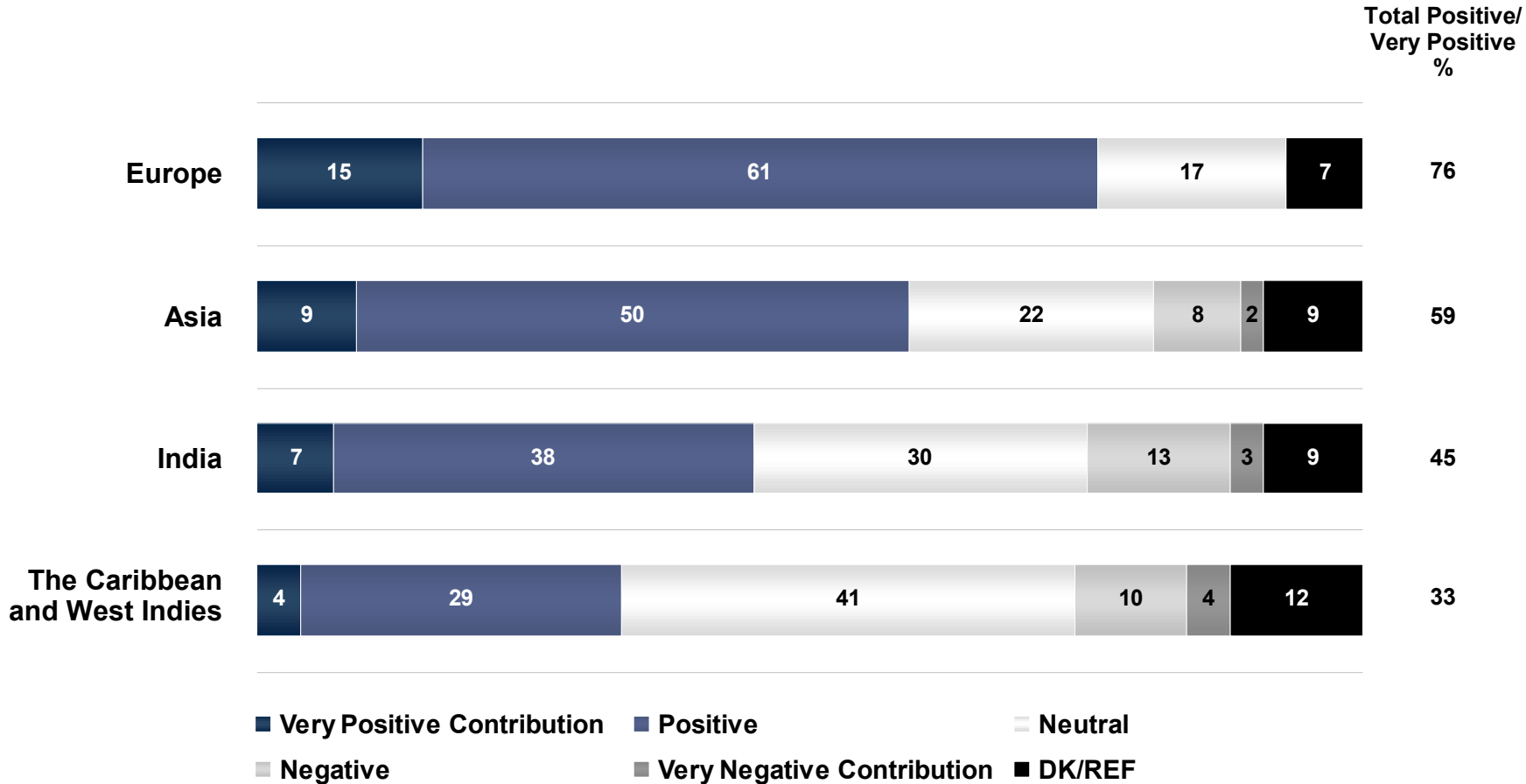


	Total	Region		
	08/07 (n=1000) %	Rest of Canada (n=753) %	Ontario (n=380) %	Quebec (n=247) %
There is no difference in the kind of contribution immigrants make based on their country of origin	50	50	47	49
Immigrants from some countries make a bigger and better contribution	41	40	41	44
DK/NA/Ref	9	10	12	7

Q.4 And do you think immigrants that come from some countries make a bigger and better contribution when they arrive here than others or do you think there is no difference in the kind of contribution immigrants make to Canada based on the country where they came from?

Base: Total Sample

What kind of contributions do immigrants from countries make?



Q.5 And do you think immigrants who come from (READ AND ROTATE) make a very positive, positive, neutral, negative or very negative contribution to Canada?

Base: Among those who think that immigrants that come from certain countries make a bigger and better contribution (n=417)

What kind of contributions do immigrants from countries make? (% Positive/Very Positive Contribution)

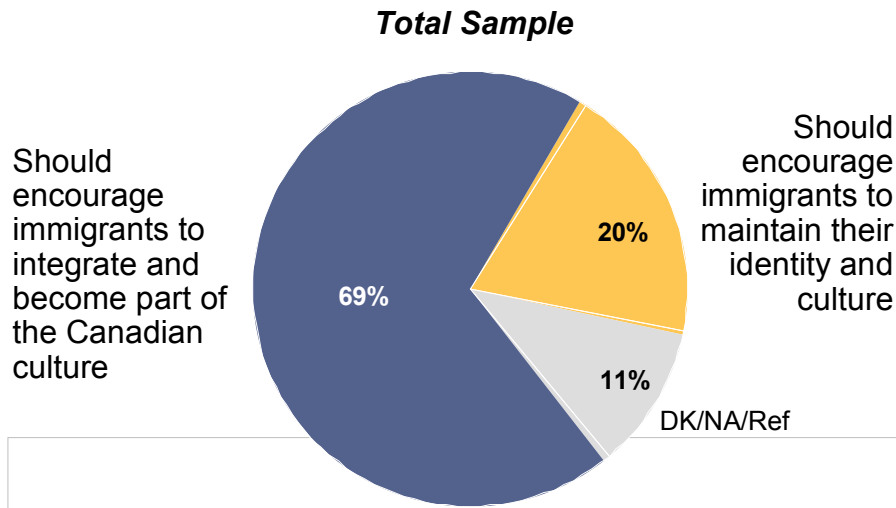
% Saying Positive/Very Positive Contribution

	Total	Region		
	08/07 (n=417) %	Rest of Canada (n=309) %	Ontario (n=159) %	Quebec (n=108) %
Europe	76	74	76	82
Asia	59	57	60	65
India	45	45	49	43
The Caribbean and West Indies	33	28	28	46

Q.5 And do you think immigrants who come from (READ AND ROTATE) make a very positive, positive, neutral, negative or very negative contribution to Canada?

Base: Among those who think that immigrants that come from certain countries make a bigger and better contribution

What approach should Canada take with new immigrants?



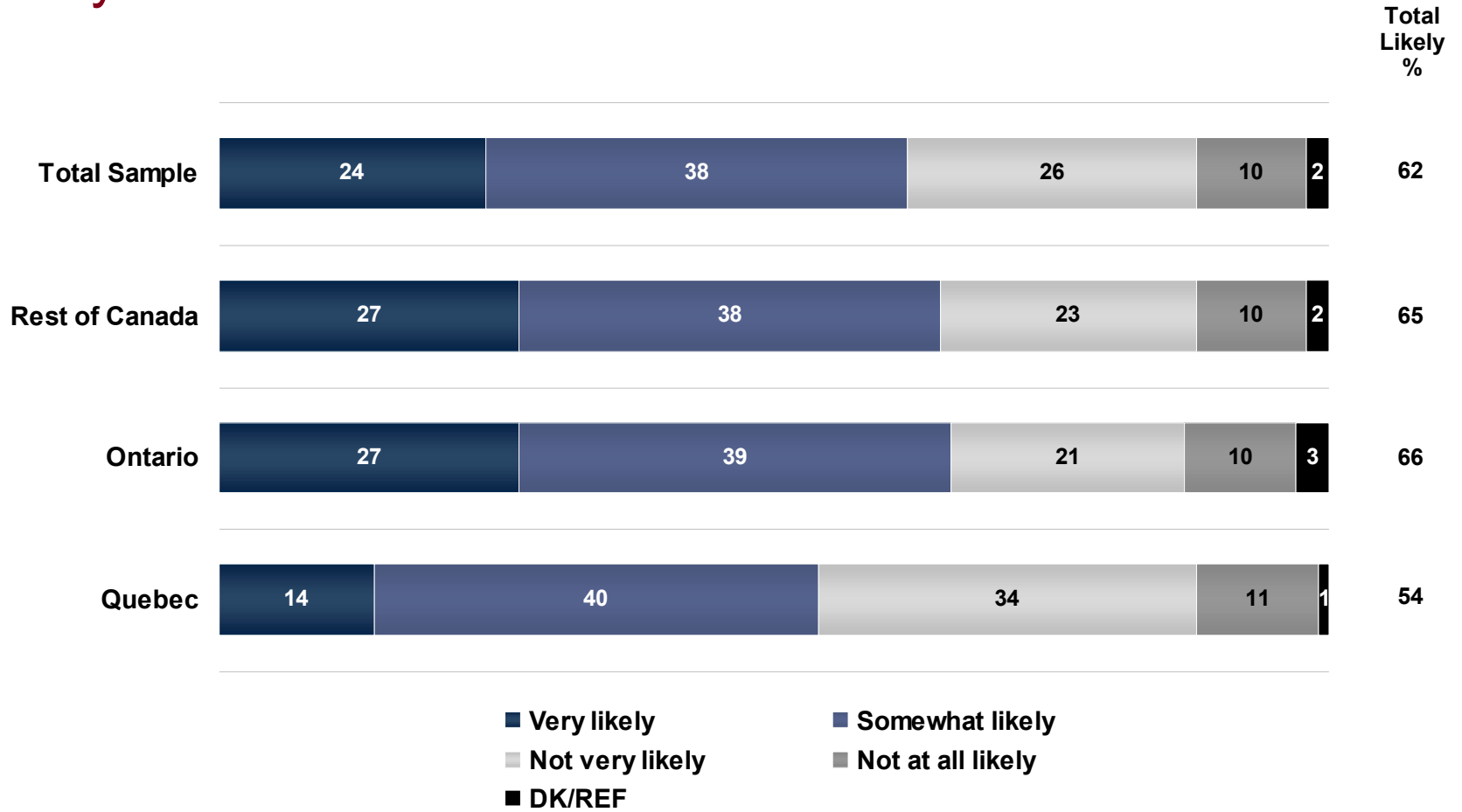
	Total	Region		
	08/07 (n=1000) %	Rest of Canada (n=753) %	Ontario (n=380) %	Quebec (n=247) %
Should encourage immigrants to integrate and become part of the Canadian culture	69	64	68	85
Should encourage immigrants to maintain their identity and culture	20	24	19	9
DK/NA/Ref	11	12	13	6

Q.6 Once immigrants arrive here, what do you think should be Canada's main aim? Do you think we should be encouraging immigrants to maintain their identity and culture or do you think we should be encouraging immigrants to integrate and become part of the Canadian culture?

Base: Total Sample

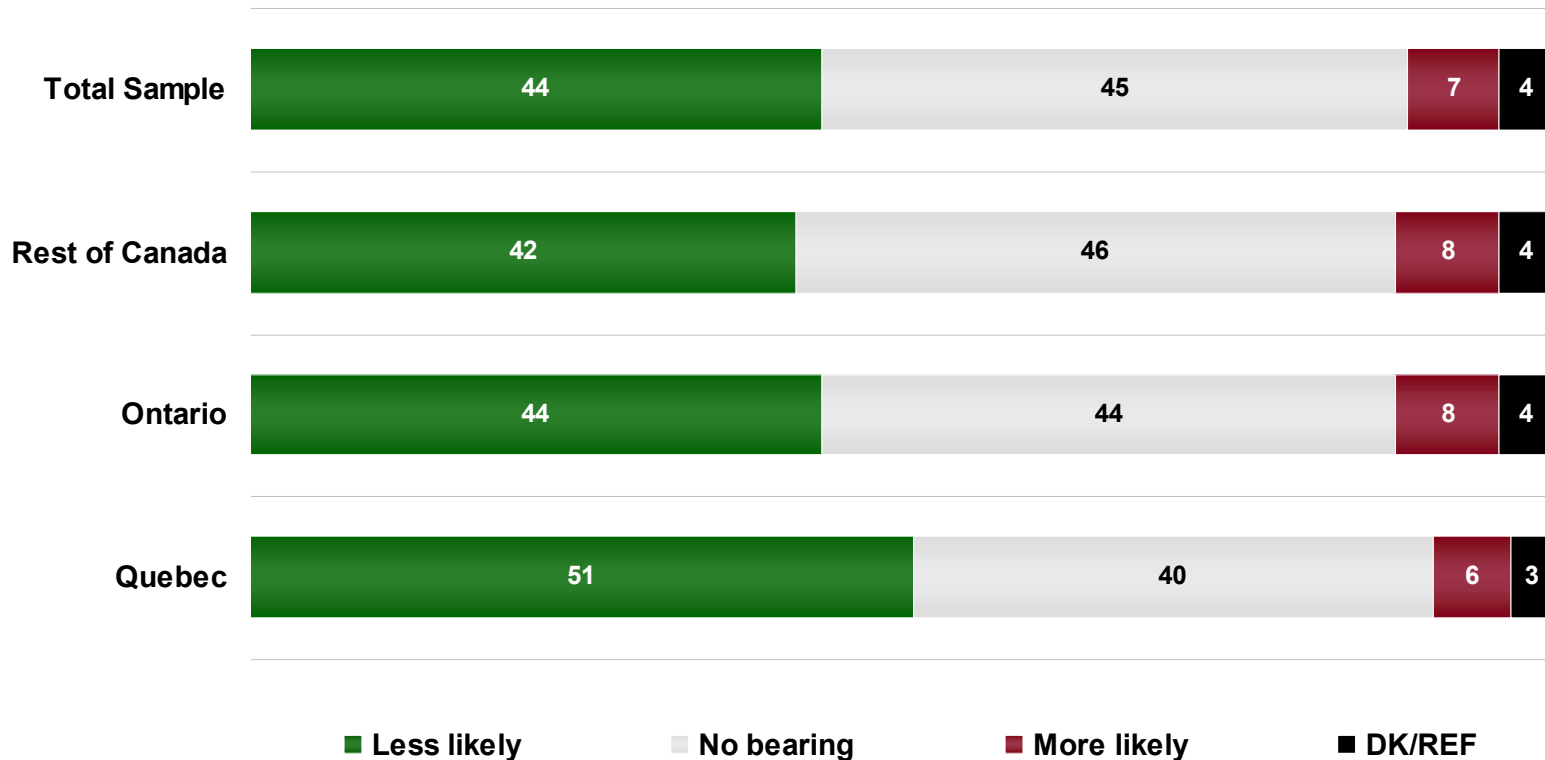
Terrorism/National Security

How likely will an act of terrorism take place in Canada within the next few years?



Q.7 How likely do you think it is that an act of terrorism will take place in Canada within the next few years?
 Base: Total Sample (n=1000)

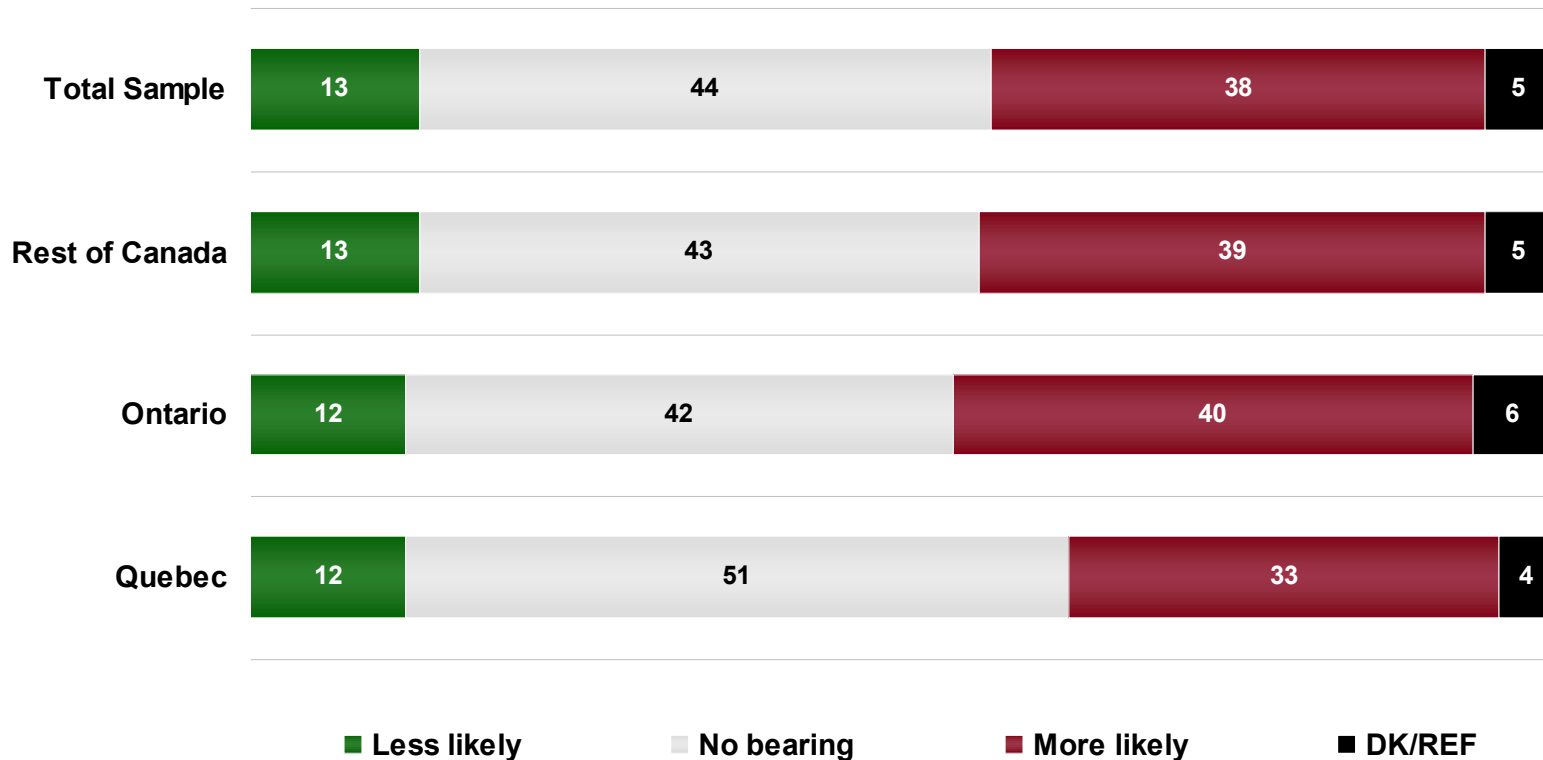
How likely is it that Canada will be a target for terrorism because it did not participate in the Iraq War?



Q.8 Do you think the fact that Canada did not participate in the Iraq War makes it less likely, more likely or has no bearing on whether or not Canada will become a target for an act of terrorism?

Base: Total Sample (n=1000)

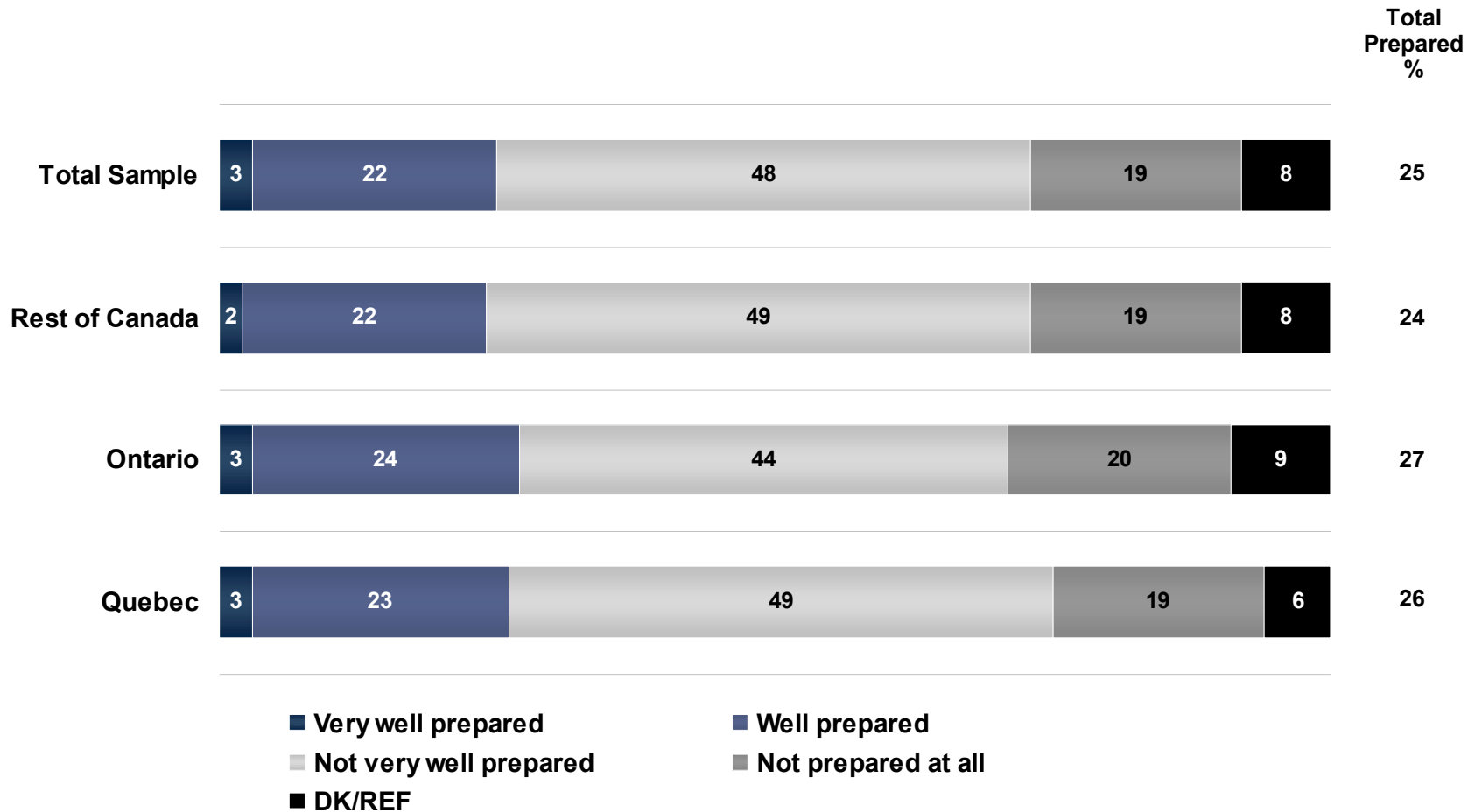
How likely is it that Canada will be a target of terrorism because it has troops in Afghanistan?



Q.9 And do you think the fact that Canada has troops in Afghanistan makes it less likely, more likely or has no bearing on whether or not Canada will become a target for an act of terrorism?

Base: Total Sample (n=1000)

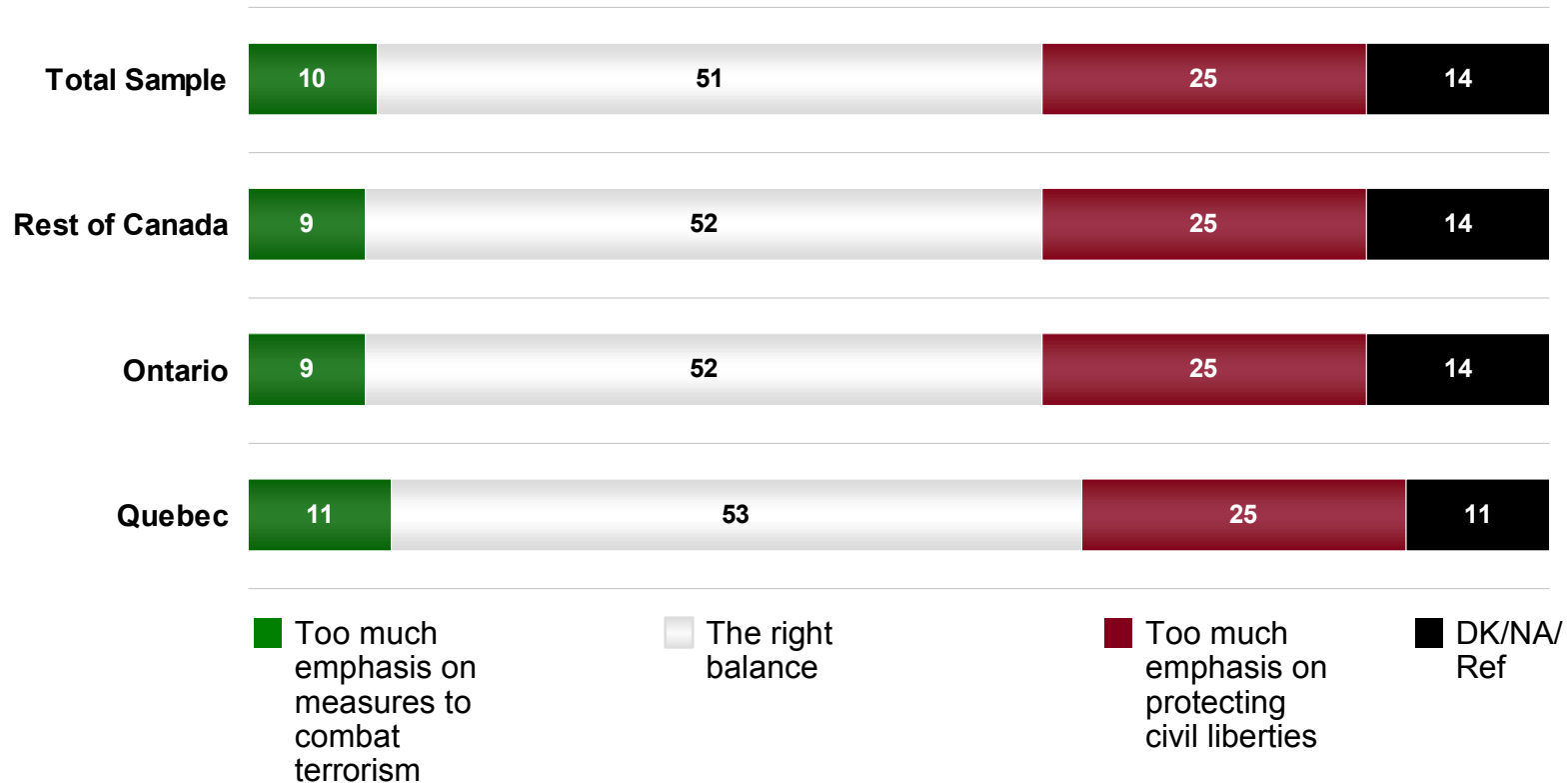
How well is Canada prepared to deal with a terrorist threat?



Q.10 Do you think Canada is very well prepared, well prepared, not very well prepared or not prepared at all to deal with a terrorist threat within our borders?

Base: Total Sample (n=1000)

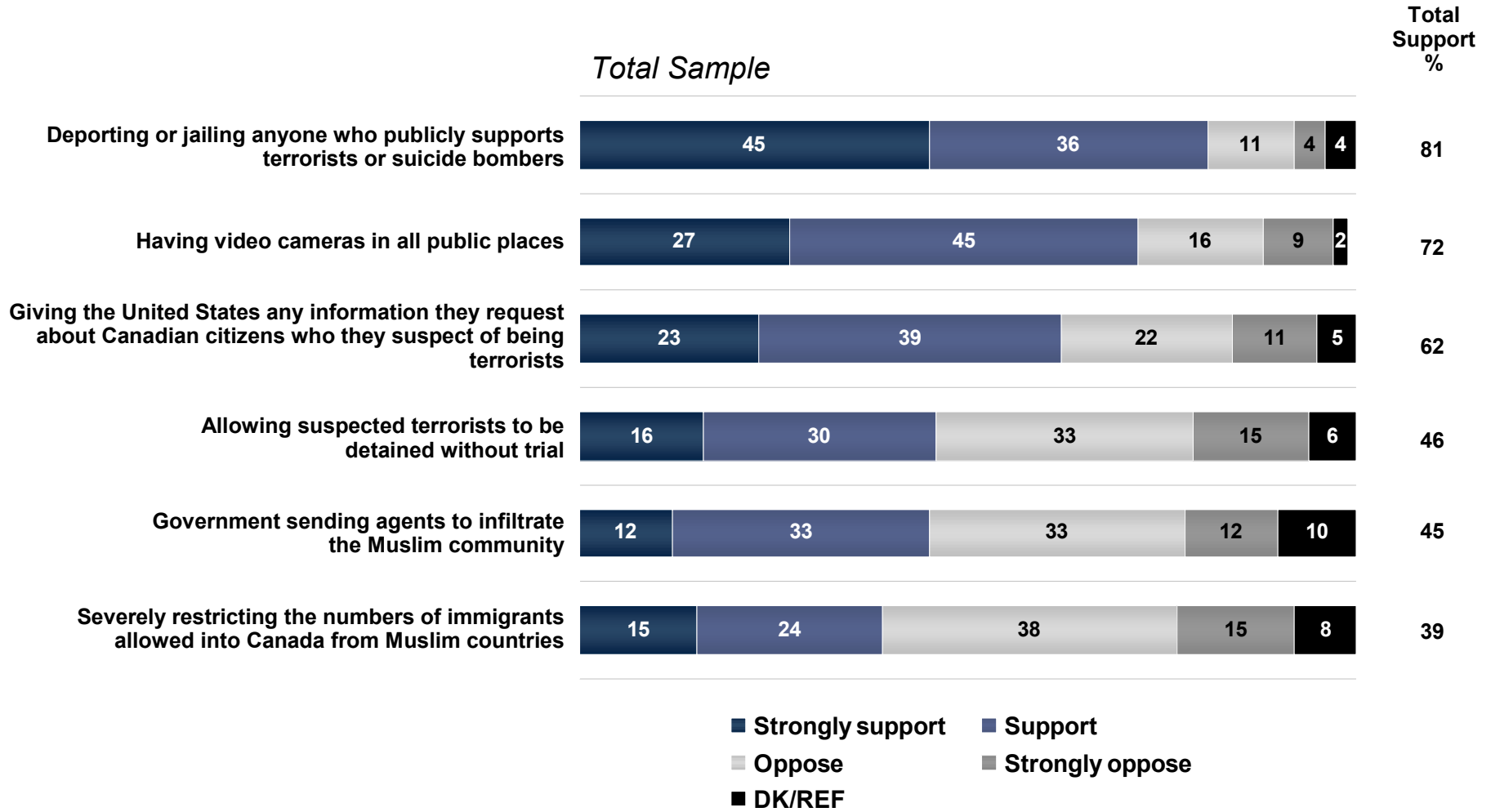
Has the debate on the war on terrorism been focused more on measures to combat terrorism or protecting civil liberties?



Q.11 During the debate on the war on terrorism, concerns have been raised about both the threat to our personal security and safety as well as the threat to civil liberties and freedoms that may result from measures that are put in place to deal with terrorism. Overall, do you think Canada has put too much emphasis on measures to combat terrorism at the expense of civil liberties, struck the right balance between the measures we have to put in place to combat terrorism and the protection of civil liberties, or put too much emphasis on protecting civil liberties at the expense of measures to combat terrorism?

Base: Total Sample (n=1000)

What measures for the war on terrorism do Canadians support?



Q.12-17 As part of the war on terrorism, would you strongly support, support, oppose or strongly oppose the following measures?
 Base: Total Sample (n=1000)

What measures for the war on terrorism do Canadians support? (% Strongly/Somewhat Support)

% Saying Strongly/Somewhat Support

	Total	Region		
	08/07 (n=1000) %	Rest of Canada (n=753) %	Ontario (n=380) %	Quebec (n=247) %
Deporting or jailing anyone who publicly supports terrorists or suicide bombers	81	80	83	85
Having video cameras in all public places	72	71	73	77
Giving the United States any information they request about Canadian citizens who they suspect of being terrorists	62	60	65	68
Allowing suspected terrorists to be detained without trial	46	49	51	34
Government sending agents to infiltrate the Muslim community	45	44	44	50
Severely restricting the numbers of immigrants allowed into Canada from Muslim countries	39	35	38	50

Q.12-17 As part of the war on terrorism, would you strongly support, support, oppose or strongly oppose the following measures?

Base: Total Sample

Do Canadians support the request of U.S. police to extradite a Canadian for exporting marijuana seeds to the U.S.?

	Total	Region		
	08/07 (n=1000) %	Rest of Canada (n=753) %	Ontario (n=380) %	Quebec (n=247) %
Total Support	36	37	36	32
Strongly support	13	14	15	9
Support	23	23	21	23
Oppose	30	28	31	33
Strongly oppose	28	28	25	30
Total Oppose	58	56	56	63
DK/NA/Ref	6	7	8	5

Q.17B You may be aware that a Canadian was recently arrested in Canada at the request of US police on the charge of illegally exporting marijuana seeds to the US via the internet. While this is a crime in the US, Canadian police are not currently enforcing similar laws on marijuana. Do you strongly support, support, oppose or strongly oppose this Canadian to be extradited to the United States?

Base: Total Sample

Federal Vote

How would Canadians vote if an election were held today?

	Total Sample					
	04/27 (n=1000) %	05/08 (n=1000) %	05/15 (n=1500) %	06/09 (n=1000) %	07/06 (n=1000) %	08/07 (n=1000) %
Liberal	30	27	33	34	35	36
Conservative	28	31	30	26	26	28
NDP	18	20	19	19	19	17
Green Party	10	7	6	9	7	8
Bloc Quebecois	14	14	12	13	13	11

Q.18A If the federal election was being held tomorrow, do you think you'd be supporting the Liberal candidate in your area, Conservative candidate in your area, the NDP candidate in your area, or the Green Party candidate in your area or (Quebec only) Bloc Quebecois candidate in your area?

Q.18B In that case, which party's candidate in your local area would you be leaning towards at this time? Would it be the Liberal candidate in your area, Conservative candidate in your area, the NDP candidate in your area, or the Green Party candidate in your area or (Quebec only) Bloc Quebecois candidate in your area?

Base: Excludes "other, don't know, refused, undecided, won't vote" responses

How would Canadians vote if an election were held today?

Regional Distribution

	Region																	
	Rest of Canada						Ontario						Quebec					
	04/27 (n=687) %	05/08 (n=776) %	05/15 (n=1002) %	06/09 (n=777) %	07/06 (n=753) %	08/07 (n=753) %	04/27 (n=329) %	05/08 (n=338) %	05/15 (n=509) %	06/09 (n=304) %	07/06 (n=379) %	08/07 (n=380) %	04/27 (n=219) %	05/08 (n=224) %	05/15 (n=337) %	06/09 (n=203) %	07/06 (n=247) %	08/07 (n=247) %
Liberal	35	31	36	37	37	34	38	34	43	41	41	41	16	16	25	22	28	31
Conservative	34	39	36	32	34	37	30	35	30	31	31	33	9	8	14	8	6	7
NDP	21	23	22	21	22	21	23	25	21	19	22	17	8	11	9	12	11	10
Green Party	10	7	6	9	8	8	9	7	6	10	6	9	12	8	4	8	5	6
Bloc Quebecois	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	55	56	48	51	51	46

Q.18A If the federal election was being held tomorrow, do you think you'd be supporting the Liberal candidate in your area, Conservative candidate in your area, the NDP candidate in your area, or the Green Party candidate in your area or (Quebec only) Bloc Quebecois candidate in your area?

Q.18B In that case, which party's candidate in your local area would you be leaning towards at this time? Would it be the Liberal candidate in your area, Conservative candidate in your area, the NDP candidate in your area, or the Green Party candidate in your area or (Quebec only) Bloc Quebecois candidate in your area?

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