

The Nepal Disaster - Stranded Canadians

-- Questionnaire --

Nepal Disaster:

As you may have heard, on April 25th a major (7.8 magnitude) earthquake hit the Himalayan country of Nepal. The official death count is already several thousand, with hundreds of thousands more Nepalese affected by the disaster. The Canadian government has donated \$5 million to the relief efforts and is matching donations made by Canadians until May 25. Canada is also preparing to dispatch its 'DART' team, the military unit that deals with natural disasters and humanitarian emergencies.

1. Based on what you have seen, read or heard about this -- overall, how would you describe the Canadian government's response so far to this earthquake disaster in Nepal? Would you say Canada's overall response has been too much, too little, or about right?

Way too much
Too much
About right
Too little
Way too little

2. Thinking more generally, when there is a natural disaster like this somewhere in the world, what kind of factors do you think should influence the Canadian government's response?
(Please select from the following list the factors you think should influence Canada's response.)

[Randomize first ones -- multi-mention]

Canada's own economic and fiscal health at the time
Whether the affected country is an ally of Canada's
Whether the affected country is developing and has infrastructure and related challenges

[These last two stay in this order and both are exclusive single mention]

Or,
Canada should always respond, regardless of the circumstances
Canada should not be responding to foreign disasters

Stranded Canadians:

3. When a major natural disaster strikes in another country -- such as this earthquake in Nepal, there are often Canadians in the affected area and the possible need for their evacuation out of the region or back home to Canada. What is your overall feeling about the responsibility for evacuation of Canadians who are in a disaster-struck region like this? Would you say it is:

Government's responsibility -- Canadians should not be abandoned abroad

Mostly government
Mostly individual
Individual's responsibility -- you travel at your own risk
(Not sure/Depends)

4) And what about the following situations in which Canadians could find themselves and need evacuation? Who would you say is responsible for evacuating Canadians in each of these scenarios?

[Column]

Government's responsibility -- Canadians should not be abandoned abroad

Mostly government

Mostly individual

Individual's responsibility -- you travel at your own risk

(Not sure/Depends)

[Rows]

Canadians who have travelled to a known conflict zone that then heats up

Canadians who have travelled to a country considered to be high risk

Canadians who are travelling in Europe when a serious terrorist incident occurs

Canadians who travel to a very remote place (such as Antarctica or the Maldives)

5. Some Canadian citizens live in other countries for many years. There is sometimes discussion about whether, in case of a disaster of some kind, they should be entitled to the same type of assistance from the Canadian government as Canadians who live here in Canada. What best represents how you view this:

[Randomize options:]

Any Canadian citizen should get the same help whether they live in Canada or not

If you aren't living in Canada, you can't expect the same help from the Canadian government

Not sure/Can't

6. Suppose the Canadian government does help Canadians get home after being stranded abroad during a crisis. As an overall rule, should these stranded Canadians have to cover all or a portion of the cost of their rescue?

Should have to cover all

Should have to cover a portion

Should not have to cover any costs

(Depends -- Can't say)

7. Have you yourself travelled outside of Canada or the United States, in the past 5 years?

Yes, for an extended period of time (more than a month)

Yes, for a shorter period of time

No, have not

8. Has someone else in your household travelled outside of Canada or the United States, in the past 5 years?

Yes, for an extended period of time (more than a month)

Yes, for a shorter period of time

No, no one has

9. Overall, thinking about these natural disasters and Canada's response to them -- what do you think should be the Canadian government's overall number one priority?

Getting Canadians out of the affected region

Contributing to overall relief efforts

Neither