

## Justice System

January 2018

### Introduction text:

Today, we would like to ask you about a few issues affecting Canada today. The first concerns your experience with crime and safety in your community.

### Justice System

QJ1. [T] Over the past five years or so, would you say there has been an increase, decrease, or no change in the amount of crime in your community?

Increase

No change

Decrease

Not sure/Can't say

QJ2. [T] In the past two years, have you yourself been a victim of crime which involved the police, such as an assault, a break-in or some other type of crime?

Yes

No

QJ3. [T] How much confidence do you have in each of these elements of the Canadian justice system?

[ROWS – RANDOMIZE]

The RCMP

Your provincial police force [ONTARIO AND QC ONLY]

Your local municipal police (or local RCMP detachment)

Criminal courts in your province

The Supreme Court of Canada

[COLUMNS]

A complete lack of confidence

Not a lot of confidence

A lot of confidence

Complete confidence

Not sure/Can't say

QJ4. [T] Thinking about the courts and the justice system in this country, all things considered, do you think the justice system is too harsh in dealing with people who have broken the law, is it too soft on them or does the justice system strike the right balance overall?

Too harsh

Strikes the right balance overall

Too soft

Not sure/Can't say

QJ5. Here are some of the reasons often cited for sending people to prison. In your opinion, which of these is the **primary** purpose of prison? Is it:

[RANDOMIZE]

To protect the public from dangerous criminals

To punish people who break the law

To discourage people from committing crimes

To rehabilitate criminals so they can re-enter society

[ANCHOR] Other: [Specify] \_\_\_\_\_

QJ6. Do you agree or disagree with each of the following statements regarding the criminal justice system in your province?

[ROWS – RANDOMIZE]

Criminal courts do a good job in determining whether or not an accused person is guilty

The justice system treats every person fairly

Judges do a good job handing out punishments and sentences to people who commit crimes

The justice system has enough resources to efficiently process cases

The prison system does a good job of helping prisoners become law abiding citizens

[COLUMNS]

Disagree strongly

Disagree moderately

Agree moderately

Agree strongly

Not sure/Can't say