

Airport Privatization – April 2017

Q8. As you may be aware, in recent months, the federal government has considered selling Canada's eight largest airports to private investors. Currently these airports are run by non-profit airport authorities, owned by the federal government. It's estimated that privatizing them – or, selling them to the private sector – could generate anywhere from \$9 billion to \$40 billion for the federal government to spend as it wishes.

How closely would you say you have been following the news about this issue, if at all? Would you say you are:

Following it in the news and discussing it with friends and family
Seeing some media coverage and having the odd conversation about it
Just scanning the headlines
Haven't heard anything about it

Q9. Some say selling Canada's airports to the private sector is a good idea that would make the air travel industry more competitive and provide government with a large sum of money it could use elsewhere. Others say selling Canada's airports is a bad idea that would lead to cuts in services or increased fees as private investors seek to maximize profits.

Which of these perspectives is closer to your own? Would privatizing – or selling Canada's eight largest airports to the private sector – be:

A very good idea – Canada should definitely do it
A good idea
A bad idea
A very bad idea – Canada should definitely NOT do it
Don't know/Can't say

Q10. Suppose Canada's eight largest airports were sold to the private sector. If this were the case, what effect, if any, do you think it would have on the overall experience of traveling from Canadian airports? Would the experience:

Improve
Stay the same
Worsen
Don't know/Can't say

Q11. And, if Canada's airports were privatized, what effect, if any, do you think that would have on the security of these airports and air travel in Canada? Would airport privatization result in:

Improved security
No difference in security
Worsened security

Don't know/Can't say

Q12. And, again, if Canada's airports were privatized, what effect, if any, do you think that would have on the cost of air travel in Canada? Would it be:

More expensive to fly
About the same as now
Less expensive to fly
Don't know/Can't say

Q13. How often do you travel by airplane from a Canadian airport? Do you do this:

Frequently, more than 5 times a year
Sometimes, 2-5 times a year
Occasionally, once a year or less
Never, I don't fly