

Refugees questionnaire – Aug. 18, 2017

Refugees

QR1. As you may be aware, more than 3,800 people seeking refugee status have illegally crossed the border from the United States into Quebec since August 1. Nearly 7,000 such individuals have entered Quebec since the start of July. The RCMP says this level of border-crossing activity outside of designated points of entry is “unprecedented.”

How much attention have you been paying to this story? Are you paying:

- A lot of attention
- Some attention
- A little bit of attention
- No attention at all

[T] QR2. Let's think for a minute about the Canadian border – both the official crossings and the unguarded areas too, and the priorities for Canada's resources and attention.

How much priority do you yourself think should be given to each of the following:

[ROTATE ITEMS]

- Getting these new arrivals safely into Canada and providing medical, housing and other needed assistance
- Assigning police, immigration officers and technology (such as drones) to monitor and secure the unguarded areas of our border

[COLUMNS]

- Not a priority at all
- A lower priority
- Important
- Major priority

[T] QR3. Putting this another way – if you were in charge of the Canadian border, how would you focus available resources? Would you focus:

- Exclusively on assisting the arrivals
- Mostly on assisting the arrivals
- Mostly on border monitoring and security
- Exclusively on border monitoring and security

[NOT QUITE TRACKING] QR4. As mentioned, the number of people walking across unguarded sections of the Quebec border has increased significantly since spring. In May, 576 people crossed illegally, and in June 781 did so, before the number spiked into the thousands in July.

Thinking ahead to the rest of this year, do you expect the number of these arrivals to:

- Decrease to just a trickle
- Stay at the same levels as now
- Increase slightly
- Increase quite a bit
- Become a flood of refugee seekers

QR5. When people cross the border illegally, they are arrested, given a security screening, and turned over to the Canada Border Services Agency, so they can make their asylum claim. There is no guarantee their claim will be approved. For example, last year, more than half of the Haitians who sought asylum in Canada had their claims rejected, and were subject to deportation. The majority of asylum seekers crossing into Quebec recently are Haitian citizens who had been living in the United States.

Based on whatever you have seen, read, or heard about this issue, would you say Canada is too generous, about right, or not generous enough toward these people?

- Too generous
- About right
- Not generous enough
- Don't know/Can't say

QR6. Prime Minister Justin Trudeau has consistently said Canada is a country that welcomes everyone. In January, after the Trump administration implemented a travel ban on citizens from seven majority-Muslim countries, Trudeau tweeted:



The image shows a screenshot of a tweet from Justin Trudeau. At the top left is his profile picture and name 'Justin Trudeau' with a verified account icon and handle '@JustinTrudeau'. To the right is a red 'Follow' button and a dropdown arrow. The tweet text reads: 'To those fleeing persecution, terror & war, Canadians will welcome you, regardless of your faith. Diversity is our strength #WelcomeToCanada'. Below the text is the timestamp '3:20 PM - 28 Jan 2017'. A horizontal line separates the tweet content from the engagement metrics: '422,625 Retweets' and '774,380 Likes'. Below the metrics is a row of ten circular profile pictures of users who interacted with the tweet. At the bottom are icons for replies (26K), retweets (423K), likes (774K), and a direct message icon.



Justin Trudeau ✓

@JustinTrudeau

Follow

À ceux qui fuient la persécution, la terreur et la guerre, sachez que le Canada vous accueillera...

Translate from French

3:19 PM - 28 Jan 2017

20,096 Retweets 25,826 Likes



735 20K 26K



Justin Trudeau ✓ @JustinTrudeau · Jan 28

Replying to @JustinTrudeau

...indépendamment de votre foi. La diversité fait notre force. #BienvenueAuCanada

Translate from French

308 9.8K 14K

Many asylum seekers have cited Trudeau's statements as their reason for coming to Canada.

In contrast however, the Prime Minister has also stated that while "Canada is an open and welcoming society... entering Canada irregularly is not an advantage. There are rigorous immigration and customs rules that will be followed. Make no mistake."

Some say Trudeau's message has been unclear for those who may wish to find asylum in Canada, misleading them about the process they must undertake to gain refugee status.

Others say that Trudeau's message has been clear: that Canada is open to everyone, provided they follow the appropriate process.

Would you say, overall, the Prime Minister's messaging on this issue has been:

[ROTATE]

Clear

Unclear

QR7 Overall, do you approve or disapprove of the Trudeau government's handling of this surge in the number of people crossing the border illegally?

Strongly approve
Moderately approve
Moderately disapprove
Strongly disapprove

Trade Questions

Changing topics one more time ...

[T] QT1. Thinking about Canada's international competitiveness, which of the following is closest to your opinion?

[ROTATE]

We are keeping up with other countries and competing as well as we should be
We are falling behind other countries and not competing as well as we should be

[T] QT2. As we look to the future, with which of the following countries or regions do you think Canada should try to develop closer trade ties?

[RANDOMIZE – CHOOSE UP TO 2]

Continue to focus on the U.S.
The United Kingdom
The European Union
China
Southeast Asia
India
South and Central America
[ANCHORED]Other (specify)

[T] QT3. There are two Asian countries with populations of more than one billion: India and China. When you think about Canada's overall relationships with these countries – including things such as trade, culture, diplomacy, etc., which country do you think Canada should put more effort into?

[ROTATE]

India
China

QT4. The Canadian government is reportedly interested in entering into a free trade agreement with China.

Some say such an agreement would decrease taxes and tariffs on goods we import from and export to China, saving Canadian consumers money and opening up new markets for Canadian businesses.

Others say a Canada-China free trade agreement would endanger Canadian jobs, and wouldn't necessarily deal with the rules and regulations that hurt trade.

Thinking about the overall concept of a free trade agreement with China, would you say you support or oppose Canada pursuing such a deal?

Support

Oppose

Can't say/Don't know