

NAFTA Objectives

Questionnaire – September 8, 2017

NAFTA Questions (USA questions to be fielded on a US omni)

[BOTH COUNTRIES]

Q1. Recently, representatives from Canada, The United States and Mexico met in Washington, DC, to begin the renegotiation of the North American Free Trade Agreement, or NAFTA. The original NAFTA agreement has been in place since 1994, and was designed to more easily integrate the trade between the three nations.

First, how much attention have you been paying to these negotiations? Are you paying:

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

[BOTH COUNTRIES]

Q2. Since its ratification more than 20 years ago, how would you say NAFTA has affected each of the following?

[ROWS – THIS ORDER]

- Your career or work opportunities (the jobs you perceive to be available to you)
- Your household income
- The economy of your community or region
- The economy of your [province/state]
- The economy of [Canada/the United States]

[COLUMNS]

- Hurt
- No real impact one way or the other
- Benefitted
- Not sure/Don't know

[CANADA ONLY]

Q3 And, if you had to estimate, what percentage of total Canadian exports (goods and services) would you say go to the United States?

- 0-20%
- 21-40%
- 41-60%
- 61-80%
- 81-100%

[CORRECT ANSWER is about 76 per cent]

[USA ONLY]

Q3 And, if you had to estimate, what percentage of total US exports (goods and services) would you say go to Canada?

- 0-20%
- 21-40%
- 41-60%
- 61-80%
- 81-100%

In fact, the percentage of total Canadian exports that go to the US is about 76 per cent.

[BOTH COUNTRIES]

Q4 Thinking about the relationship between the United States and Canada for a minute. Of the 50 states, how many do you think have Canada as their top international trading partner?

- 0-10
- 11-20
- 21-30
- 31-40
- 41-50

In fact, the number of states that have Canada as their top trading partner is 35.

[CANADA ONLY]

Q5. Canada released its objectives for the negotiations before they began on August 16th. These include several broad objectives. Trade representatives, including Foreign Affairs Minister Chrystia Freeland, say they hope to achieve a more progressive and modern agreement, while protecting Canada's interests.

For each of the following objectives, please indicate whether you think achieving each should be a major priority, a minor priority, or not a priority at all.

[ROWS, PRESENT IN GROUPS OF TWO, RANDOMIZE – ROTATE RESPONSES]

The inclusion of a Chapter in NAFTA that focuses on gender equality, which would promote equal rights, treatment, and opportunity between men and women

The inclusion of a Chapter in NAFTA that focuses on Indigenous rights, ensuring that the concerns of these groups from each of the three countries are a part of a new agreement

Making it easier for professionals to move more freely to work across the border

The protection of Canada's policy regulating poultry, dairy, and egg farmers. Americans would like more access to these markets, while Canada would like to maintain its quotas and tariffs

The protection of Canadian content rules for publishing and broadcasting

Establishing tougher labour standards to protect workers in each country – Canada is concerned that lower labour standards in Mexico allow that country an advantage in their producing costs

Reforms to the investor-state dispute settlement process – this involves companies suing governments over the regulations they apply. Canada would like to ensure that governments maintain the right to regulate in their populations' interests

Enhanced environmental provisions to ensure no NAFTA country weakens environmental protection to gain a comparative advantage

Ensure anti-dumping and countervailing duties are only applied when warranted – this is the source of much of the conflict over Canada's softwood lumber industry, where the US claims that Canada's lumber industry is unfairly subsidized by our governments, and seeks to add a duty to raise the price

Expand procurement – meaning, Canada would like the US to soften "Buy American" rules at the state and local levels. The United States is seeking to expand these rules.

[COLUMNS]

Not a priority at all

Minor priority

Major priority

[CANADA ONLY]

Q6 Suppose you could only choose one objective of these two. If that were the case, which one would you prefer to see Canadian negotiators give preference to during renegotiations:

Getting a better deal on softwood lumber

Maintaining a high tariff on Canada's dairy, poultry and eggs

[CANADA ONLY]

Q7 Now that you have seen the negotiating objectives, what would you say is your opinion of the overall approach Canada's trade representatives are taking in these negotiations? Is it:

A strong approach with the right objectives

Some of it is good, some of it is bad

Disappointing, they're focusing on the wrong objectives

[BOTH COUNTRIES]

Q8 How do you think [Canada/the US] will come out of renegotiations, would you say the negotiating team will...?

Get most or all of what they want

Get some of what they want

Get one or two of their objectives
Get none of what they want

[BOTH COUNTRIES]

Q9 And, suppose negotiators were unable to come to an agreement, and NAFTA was ended. If this were the case, what impact do you believe this would have on each of the following?

[ROWS – THIS ORDER]

Your career or work opportunities (the jobs you perceive to be available to you)

Your household income

The economy of your community or region

The economy of your province/state

The economy of Canada/US

[COLUMNS]

Hurt

No real impact one way or the other

Benefit

Not sure/Don't know

[BOTH COUNTRIES]

Q10. Finally, how confident are you in the ability of the [Canadian/American] government to effectively represent [Canada's/America's] national interests in these trade negotiations? Would you say you are:

Very confident

Moderately confident

Not that confident

Not confident at all