

January 27, 2010

Canadians Appreciate Government Response to Haiti

The latest Canadian Press/Harris Decima survey asked about the government's response to the earthquake in Haiti

According to Senior Vice-President Doug Anderson "A majority Canadians from all walks of life – and political stripe – tend to feel good about the federal government's response to the disaster in Haiti. While there is fairly broad approval of the efforts to date, there remains some debate over the notion of making allowance on immigration policies to accommodate more of those in distress to immigrate to Canada."

- **A strong majority of Canadians believe the response to the Haitian earthquake on the part of the federal government has been at least good.** Fully 30% of respondents described the government's response as excellent, while a further 41% felt the response has been good. Another 19% felt the government's response has been fair, while just 5% said the government response has been poor.
- Residents of Ontario, Manitoba and Saskatchewan, and Alberta, were the most likely to say the government response to the earthquake in Haiti has been excellent, while those in Quebec were least likely to do so. In BC and Quebec, the sense the response has been 'fair' is more prevalent than elsewhere in the country.
- Across voting intention lines, Conservatives are more likely than other voting blocks to describe the government response as excellent, but across all parties, very few characterize the performance as anything less than fair.

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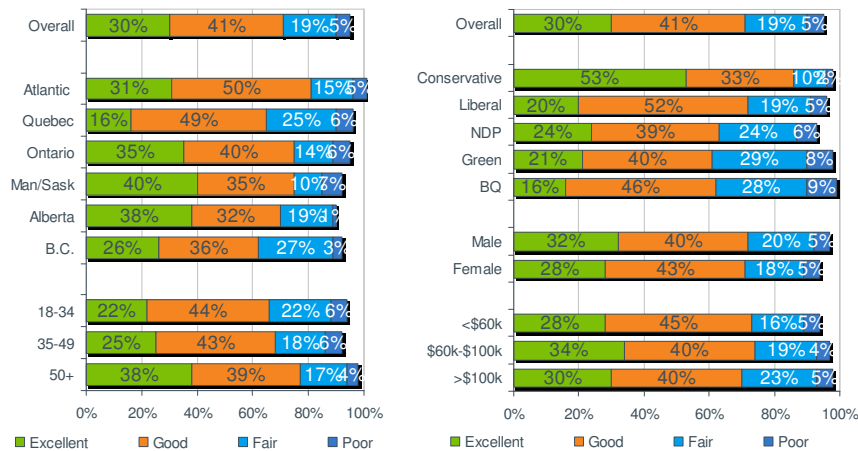
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Government Response to Haiti

How would you describe the federal government response to the earth quake in Haiti?



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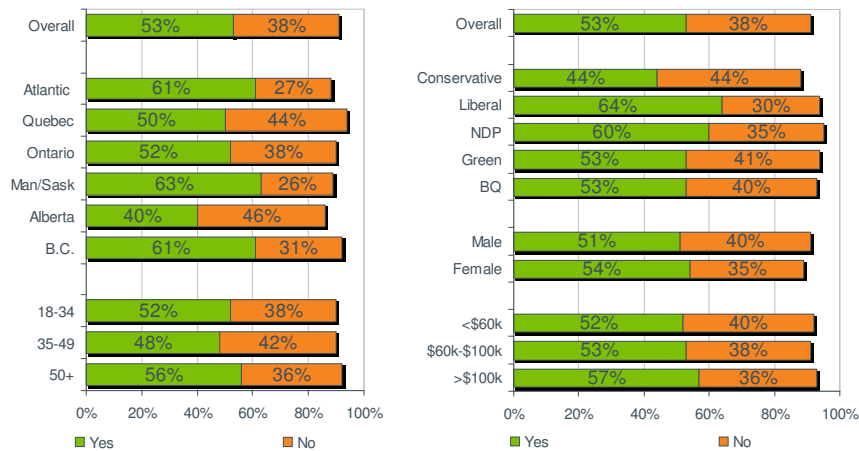
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- **A slim majority (53%) believe that Canada should make allowances in its immigration policies to allow more distressed people from Haiti to immigrate here.** There is clearly some debate on this issue, with 38% indicating this is not a step they feel the government should take. Opinions vary by region, with Atlantic Canada, Manitoba / Saskatchewan and B.C. more decidedly supportive of making these allowances. Quebecers are nearly evenly divided as are Albertans. Alberta is the only province where more prefer not making allowances than prefer making such allowances.
- Liberal and NDP supporters are more inclined to want allowances made, while Conservatives were evenly split on the matter with 44% saying Canada should make such allowances, and 44% saying Canada should not.

Government Response to Haiti

Do you think Canada should make allowance in its immigration policies to allow more distressed people from earthquake-hit Haiti to immigrate to this country?



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Each week, Harris/Decima interviews just over 1000 Canadians through teleVox, the company's national telephone omnibus survey. These data were gathered between January 21 and January 24 2010. A sample of the same size has a margin of error of 3.1%, 19 times out of 20.

