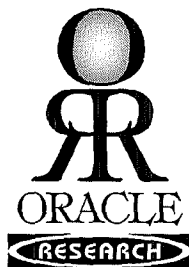


CIELAP Shelf:
Oracle Research
Role Of The Federal Government in Protecting
The Environment

RN 27211



**“ROLE OF THE
FEDERAL GOVERNMENT IN
PROTECTING THE
ENVIRONMENT”**

Prepared for

**CANADIAN INSTITUTE FOR
ENVIRONMENTAL LAW AND POLICY**

May 23, 1997

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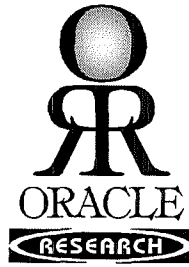


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I. OBJECTIVE:

The following report was prepared by the staff of Oracle Research and contains the results of a public opinion survey of 1,050 eligible voting age residents of Metropolitan Toronto and the Greater Toronto Area (GTA). The questions subscribed to by the Canadian Institute for Environmental Law and policy were included in the May 1997 Oracle Research omnibus survey of 1,050 residents of Metropolitan Toronto and the Greater Toronto Area.

The survey was conducted between the days of May 13 and May 19, 1997.

This report contains a methodology and logistics section, the results by question and the questionnaire. The report includes only that question subscribed to by Oracle Research. All other information gathered in the survey remain the proprietary data of Oracle Research and its clients.

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II. METHODOLOGY AND LOGISTICS:

Study Sample:

- A total of 1,050 residents from Metropolitan Toronto and the Greater Toronto area who were 18 years of age and over (as well as eligible voters) were interviewed in the survey
- The sample breakdown is as follows: a total of 525 residents from Metropolitan Toronto and 525 residents from the Greater Toronto Area.
- The study sample was drawn using a modified method of "Random Digit Dialing."

Survey Method:

- The survey was conducted using computer-assisted techniques of telephone interviewing (CATI) and random number selection. No pre-imposed demographic quotas (other than the requirement that respondents be 18 years of age and older) were set, so the survey method ensured a representative sample of the general population.
- Oracle Research adheres to and exceeds the strict standards of practice as outlined by the Professional Marketing Research Society (PMRS) and the Political Methodology Section of the American Political Science Association (APSA).
- A total of 30% of all interviews were monitored and 100% were supervised by the management of Oracle Research.

Logistics:

- The survey was conducted between the days of May 13 and May 19, 1997. Follow-up calls of "busy numbers" and "no answers" were subsequently made on a rotating daily basis between the hours of 10 a.m. and 10 p.m. up to four times until contacts were made.

Confidence

- The margin of error for the total 1,050 survey sample is $\pm 3\%$, 19/20 times. The margin of error for each of the 525 person GTA and Metro samples is $\pm 4.3\%$ 19/20 times.
- The margin of error will vary for separate sub-groups of the population.

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III. EXECUTIVE SUMMARY:

A high 75% of all survey respondents stated that the federal government should play a stronger role in protecting the environment, 17% stated they should play the same role and only 5% stated a weaker role.

There was a marginal difference in the separate results from Metropolitan Toronto where 74% feel the government should play a stronger role and the Greater Toronto Area where 76% are of the same opinion.

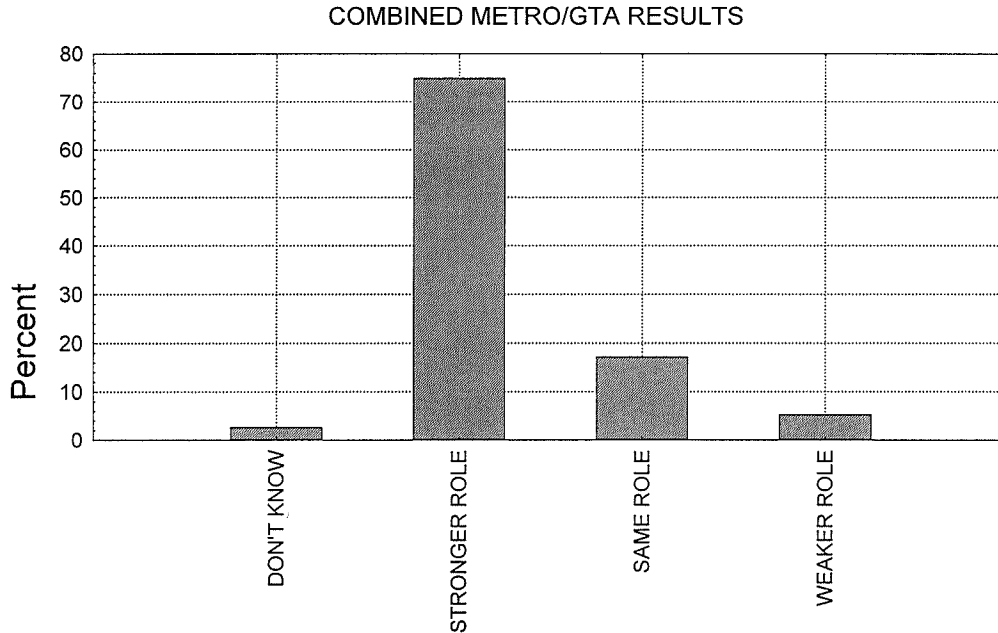
There is a slight variance in the split between male and female respondents. A higher percentage of female respondents (82%) feel the federal government should play a stronger role in protecting the environment as compared to males (71%) who hold the same opinion. In addition, 7% of males feel the government should play a weaker role while 1% of females are of this view. A total of 16% of females believe the government should play the same role compared to 18% of males.

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IV. RESULTS:

The following question was asked to all survey respondents.

“Over the past year, proposals have been presented for the federal government to give the provinces more control over the protection of the environment. In your opinion, should the Federal Government play a stronger role, the same role or a weaker role in protecting the environment?”



TOTAL METROPOLITAN TORONTO/GREATER TORONTO AREA

Stronger role	75%
Same role	17%
Weaker role	05%
Do not know	03%

METROPOLITAN TORONTO

Stronger role	74%
Same role	15%
Weaker role	06%
Do not know	05%

GREATER TORONTO AREA

Stronger role	76%
Same role	19%
Weaker role	04%
Do not know	01%

- A high 75% of all survey respondents stated that the federal government should play a stronger role in protecting the environment, 17% stated they should play the same role and only 5% stated a weaker role.
- There was a marginal difference in the separate results from Metropolitan Toronto where 74% feel the government should play a stronger role and the Greater Toronto Area where 76% are of the same opinion.

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IV. CROSSTABULATION RESULTS:

BREAKDOWN OF QUESTION RESULTS BY GENDER

	Don't know	Stronger role	Same role	Weaker role
Female	01%	82%	16%	01%
Male	04%	71%	18%	07%

- There is a slight variance in the split between male and female respondents. A higher percentage of female respondents (82%) feel the federal government should play a stronger role in protecting the environment as compared to males (71%) who hold the same opinion. In addition, 7% of males feel the government should play a weaker role while 1% of females are of this view. A total of 16% of females believe the government should play the same role compared to 18% of males.

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BREAKDOWN OF QUESTION RESULTS BY INCOME

	Don't know	Stronger role	Same role	Weaker role
Under \$15m	13%	87%	--	--
Under \$20m	08%	75%	17%	--
Under \$35m	02%	76%	19%	03%
Under \$50m	02%	77%	14%	07%
Under \$75m	--	81%	16%	03%
Under \$100m	--	72%	18%	10%
Over \$100m	--	94%	06%	--

BREAKDOWN OF QUESTION RESULTS BY AGE

	Don't know	Stronger role	Same role	Weaker role
18-24	--	86%	14%	--
25-34	02%	68%	26%	04%
35-44	04%	78%	14%	04%
45-54	--	85%	11%	04%
55-64	10%	67%	09%	14%
65-74	--	82%	09%	09%
Over 75	20%	80%	--	--

