



G8 FALLOUT

BONO VS HARPER – CANADIANS SIDE WITH BONO TWO-TO-ONE

48% of Canadians side with U2 singer's accusation that Harper blocked progress on global poverty at the G8; 28% believe Harper when he says Bono's charge is false

Three-in-five (60%) also agree with Bono's assertion that Stephen Harper is out of sync with the Canadian people

Conservatives largely side with Bono over Harper

Canadians split over whether Canada should increase humanitarian aid, and whether unelected activists should participate at G8 meetings

Over half (55%) think G8 summits are a waste of time and money

From June 12 to 13, 2007, Angus Reid Strategies conducted an online survey among a randomly selected, representative sample of 1,088 adult Canadians. The margin of error for the total sample is +3.0%, 19 times out of 20. The results have been statistically weighted according to the most current education, age, gender and region Census data to ensure a sample representative of the entire adult population of Canada. Discrepancies in or between totals are due to rounding.

**Public Release:
National Public Opinion Poll**

[VANCOUVER - June 14, 2007] – Prime Minister Stephen Harper denies rock singer Bono’s accusations that he blocked progress on an African aid deal at the G8—but Canadians side with the singer over Harper two-to-one, a new Angus Reid Strategies poll has found.

U2 lead singer and activist Bono was criticizing the aid package committed by the G8 to Africa when he made the widely-quoted accusation: “We know who’s causing the trouble and who isn’t. And we know that Canada blocked progress. We know that Harper blocked it.”

But even with Harper publicly denying Bono’s accusation at a news conference (“It’s completely false and the people saying this have no proof to their allegations”), 48 per cent of Canadians feel Bono was telling the truth, while only 28 per cent believe Harper. Three-in-five Canadians (60%) also believe that Harper is out of sync with the people of Canada, in tune with another charge Bono levelled at the Prime Minister.

Even among Tory voters, more side with Bono than Harper. More Conservatives felt Bono was telling the truth on the African aid deal (43%) than Harper (31%). And over half of Conservatives (52%) feel Harper is out of sync with the Canadian people.

Only Albertans were uniformly supportive of Harper, with more believing Harper, not Bono, was telling the truth about the African aid deal. Many Albertans also express disagreement that Harper is out of sync with Canadians. But Quebec and Atlantic Canada are particularly in favour of Bono’s views.

However, on the actual issue of humanitarian aid, Canadians are split over whether Canada should commit more resources to help needy countries. Forty-five per cent are in favour of increasing humanitarian aid even if it affects domestic spending, while 49 per cent are not.

Canadians are also divided over whether unelected activists should participate in G8 meetings, with 44 per cent believing they should and 44 per cent believing they shouldn’t.

But most Canadians do agree that the G8 summit is of questionable value. Over half (55%) believe that the G8 summits rarely achieve anything, and are a waste of time and money.

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Bono vs Harper – Canadians side with Bono, two-to-one
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Canadians side with Bono two-to-one over Harper

Q. At the recent G8 summit in Germany, singer and activist Bono accused Canadian Prime Minister Stephen Harper of "blocking progress" in the fight against global poverty. Harper has said the allegations are "completely false." Which one of them do you think is telling the truth?

	Region							Vote in next federal election		
	Total	BC	AB	MB/SK	ONT	PQ	ATL	Cons	Lib	NDP
Bono is definitely telling the truth	13%	16%	21%	12%	11%	12%	20%	11%	11%	13%
Bono is probably telling the truth	34%	33%	13%	31%	34%	39%	47%	32%	32%	45%
Harper is probably telling the truth	19%	18%	26%	22%	18%	18%	15%	22%	18%	15%
Harper is definitely telling the truth	9%	8%	19%	11%	10%	5%	3%	10%	10%	7%
Not sure	25%	25%	21%	24%	26%	27%	15%	26%	29%	19%
(net) Bono is telling the truth	48%	49%	34%	43%	45%	51%	66%	43%	43%	58%
(net) Harper is telling the truth	28%	25%	46%	33%	28%	23%	19%	31%	28%	22%

Three-in-five agree with Bono's assertion that Stephen Harper is out of sync with the Canadian people

Q. Do you agree or disagree with these statements? Stephen Harper is "out of sync" with the Canadian people

	Region							Vote in next federal election		
	Total	BC	AB	MB/SK	ONT	PQ	ATL	Cons	Lib	NDP
Strongly agree	31%	30%	25%	37%	31%	28%	44%	25%	33%	35%
Moderately agree	29%	34%	19%	20%	26%	34%	34%	28%	33%	41%
Moderately disagree	18%	14%	19%	20%	20%	20%	10%	21%	13%	14%
Strongly disagree	14%	10%	27%	16%	14%	13%	8%	16%	15%	11%
Not sure	8%	13%	10%	7%	9%	5%	4%	11%	7%	0%
(net) Agree	60%	63%	44%	57%	57%	62%	78%	52%	66%	75%
(net) Disagree	32%	24%	46%	36%	34%	33%	18%	37%	28%	25%

Canadians split over whether Canada should increase humanitarian aid

Q. Do you agree or disagree with these statements?

Canada should increase its humanitarian aid to poor countries, even if it affects domestic spending

	Region							Vote in next federal election		
	Total	BC	AB	MB/SK	ONT	PQ	ATL	Cons	Lib	NDP
Strongly agree	13%	8%	15%	14%	11%	15%	15%	10%	11%	8%
Moderately agree	32%	29%	26%	33%	31%	39%	31%	31%	32%	46%
Moderately disagree	26%	24%	24%	31%	27%	21%	36%	26%	30%	22%
Strongly disagree	23%	30%	35%	15%	24%	20%	14%	27%	20%	23%
Not sure	6%	9%	2%	7%	7%	4%	3%	7%	6%	1%
(net) Agree	45%	36%	40%	47%	42%	55%	46%	40%	43%	54%
(net) Disagree	49%	55%	58%	46%	51%	41%	51%	53%	50%	45%

Canadians also divided on whether unelected activists should participate in G8 meetings

Q. Do you agree or disagree with these statements?

Unelected activists should not participate in G8 meetings

	Region							Vote in next federal election		
	Total	BC	AB	MB/SK	ONT	PQ	ATL	Cons	Lib	NDP
Strongly agree	23%	23%	28%	19%	26%	19%	18%	26%	22%	15%
Moderately agree	20%	26%	20%	22%	18%	22%	16%	18%	25%	26%
Moderately disagree	26%	19%	22%	37%	26%	25%	38%	27%	22%	31%
Strongly disagree	18%	16%	24%	11%	16%	19%	19%	14%	18%	20%
Not sure	12%	15%	5%	11%	13%	14%	9%	14%	13%	7%
(net) Agree	44%	50%	48%	41%	45%	41%	34%	44%	47%	41%
(net) Disagree	44%	35%	47%	49%	42%	45%	57%	42%	40%	51%

Over half think G8 summits are a waste of time and money

Q. Do you agree or disagree with these statements?

The G8 summits rarely achieve anything and are a waste of time and money

	Region							Vote in next federal election		
	Total	BC	AB	MB/SK	ONT	PQ	ATL	Cons	Lib	NDP
Strongly agree	17%	15%	21%	14%	18%	21%	7%	15%	16%	26%
Moderately agree	37%	35%	34%	40%	33%	41%	49%	39%	38%	33%
Moderately disagree	27%	30%	31%	27%	29%	23%	31%	28%	28%	26%
Strongly disagree	7%	4%	4%	5%	8%	8%	4%	5%	7%	9%
Not sure	11%	16%	10%	14%	12%	7%	10%	13%	11%	5%
(net) Agree	55%	50%	55%	54%	51%	62%	55%	54%	54%	59%
(net) Disagree	34%	33%	35%	32%	36%	31%	35%	33%	35%	36%

Angus Reid Strategies is a North American full-service polling and market research firm which is a leader in the use of the Internet and rich media technology to collect high-quality, in-depth insights for a wide array of clients. Dr. Angus Reid and the Angus Reid Strategies team are pioneers in online research methodologies, and have been conducting online surveys since 1995. Located in Vancouver, Calgary, Toronto, and Montreal, our team of specialists provides solutions across every type and sector of research.

Angus Reid Strategies polls are conducted using the Angus Reid Forum online panel (www.angusreidforum.com), which is recruited via an industry-leading process that incorporates a randomized, widespread invitation approach and a triple opt-in screening procedure. The panel is maintained through state-of-the-art sampling techniques and frequent verifications of personal identity, contact information, and demographic characteristics. This premier online survey platform presents respondents with highly visual, interactive, and engaging surveys, ensuring that panel members provide thoughtful and reliable responses.

Angus Reid Strategies has been successful in predicting the outcome of this year's provincial elections:

In Quebec: <http://www.angusreidstrategies.com/index.cfm?fuseaction=news&newsid=37>

In Manitoba: <http://www.angusreidstrategies.com/index.cfm?fuseaction=news&newsid=56>

More information on the way Angus Reid Strategies conducts public opinion research can be found at http://www.angusreidstrategies.com/uploads/pages/pdfs/ARS.ARF_WHITE_PAPER.pdf

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**For more information, please contact
our spokesperson listed in the footnote.**

**Copies of this poll are available on our website:
www.angusreidstrategies.com**