



VACATION TIME

ADJUST LABOUR LAWS TO GIVE WORKERS MORE TIME OFF, SAY CANADIANS

**75% think labour laws should change to give
Canadians a longer minimum vacation time**

**69% usually come back from vacation
feeling relaxed and recharged**

**But 50% find it hard to take time off work, and
42% usually end up working a little while on holiday**

From September 12 to 13, 2007, Angus Reid Strategies conducted an online survey among a randomly selected, representative sample of 1,165 adult Canadians. The margin of error for the total sample is +/- 2.9 %, 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.

[VANCOUVER – Sept. 26, 2007] – Three-in-four Canadians want a longer minimum vacation time, and though most return from holidays feeling recharged, many struggle with getting away from work in the first place, a new Angus Reid Strategies poll has found.

In the online survey of a representative national sample, 75 per cent of Canadians say they think federal and provincial labour laws should change to give Canadians a longer minimum vacation time.

Under current labour laws, full-time employees in most provinces are entitled to two weeks of vacation time after twelve months of work, plus an average of eight statutory holidays. The exception is Saskatchewan, where employees get three weeks vacation after working for a year, plus 10 statutory holidays.

And while the majority (69%) say they return from vacation relaxed and recharged, there are still many who find it a challenge to get into vacation mode in the first place. Half of Canadians (50%) say that they find it hard to take time off from work, and 42 per cent say they usually end up working at least a little during their vacations.

But it is clear that Canadians value the vacation time they do get. Forty-six per cent of respondents say they would not prefer to get a raise instead of getting more vacation time, an indication that money is not necessarily considered a credible replacement for time off.

Quebec respondents seem to highly value their vacation time and have the least trouble leaving work behind to go on holiday. Four-in-five Quebecers (83%) say they want labour laws to be changed to provide more minimum vacation time to Canadians, and 53 per cent would not prefer a raise to more vacation time. As well, over half of Quebecers (51%) say they find it hard to take time off work, and 56 per cent say they do not end up doing work during their vacation time.

And possibly due to their longer minimum vacation times, Manitoba and Saskatchewan has the lowest proportion of support (56%) for extending the minimum holiday period through labour law changes. As well, over half from this region (55%) finds it hard to leave work and go on vacation, and they are also evenly split over whether they do some work while on holiday (47% do and 47% do not).

Canadians aged 18-34 and those in households earning less than \$50,000 a year are more likely to want labour laws to change to provide more vacation time. Canadians aged 55 or older are less likely to find it hard to take time off work.

Canadians aged 18-34 are also more likely to prefer getting a raise instead of more vacation time, while those in households earning \$100,000 or more are much less

likely to want this. Those in this earning bracket and the university educated are also much more likely to work at least a little bit while they are on holiday.

By political affiliation, Conservative voters are less likely to support changing labour laws to provide workers with longer minimum vacation time. Liberals are more likely to find it hard to take time off work, and NDP supporters are much more likely to not prefer to get a raise instead of more vacation time.

As well, women (39%) are less likely than men (46%) to say they do at least a little work while they are on vacation.

75% think labour laws should change to give Canadians longer minimum vacation time

*Q. Do you agree or disagree with the following statements?
Federal and provincial labour laws should change to give Canadians a longer minimum vacation time*

| | Region | | | | | | | Gender | |
|-----------------------|------------|------------|------------|------------|------------|------------|------------|------------|------------|
| | Total | BC | AB | MB/SK | ONT | PQ | ATL | Male | Female |
| Strongly agree | 45% | 32% | 40% | 34% | 47% | 57% | 31% | 50% | 41% |
| Moderately agree | 30% | 42% | 26% | 22% | 30% | 26% | 38% | 27% | 33% |
| Moderately disagree | 10% | 10% | 17% | 29% | 6% | 7% | 12% | 9% | 11% |
| Strongly disagree | 7% | 9% | 10% | 11% | 5% | 6% | 7% | 9% | 5% |
| Not sure | 8% | 6% | 7% | 4% | 11% | 4% | 13% | 5% | 11% |
| Total Agree | 75% | 75% | 66% | 56% | 77% | 83% | 69% | 76% | 74% |
| Total Disagree | 17% | 19% | 27% | 40% | 12% | 13% | 19% | 18% | 16% |

| | Age | | | | Household Income | | | Education | | |
|-----------------------|------------|------------|------------|------------|------------------|------------|------------|------------|-------------------|------------|
| | Total | 18-34 | 35-54 | 55+ | <\$50K | \$50-99K | \$100K+ | HS or less | College/tech schl | Univ+ |
| Strongly agree | 45% | 50% | 49% | 35% | 43% | 45% | 44% | 40% | 48% | 48% |
| Moderately agree | 30% | 30% | 30% | 30% | 34% | 30% | 25% | 32% | 31% | 27% |
| Moderately disagree | 10% | 10% | 9% | 12% | 11% | 10% | 13% | 11% | 9% | 11% |
| Strongly disagree | 7% | 8% | 4% | 10% | 6% | 8% | 9% | 7% | 7% | 8% |
| Not sure | 8% | 4% | 8% | 12% | 8% | 7% | 9% | 11% | 6% | 7% |
| Total Agree | 75% | 79% | 79% | 65% | 76% | 75% | 69% | 72% | 79% | 75% |
| Total Disagree | 17% | 17% | 13% | 22% | 16% | 18% | 22% | 17% | 15% | 18% |

| | Vote in next federal election | | | |
|-----------------------|-------------------------------|------------|------------|------------|
| | Total | Con | Lib | NDP |
| Strongly agree | 45% | 31% | 50% | 52% |
| Moderately agree | 30% | 33% | 28% | 31% |
| Moderately disagree | 10% | 18% | 9% | 5% |
| Strongly disagree | 7% | 10% | 7% | 5% |
| Not sure | 8% | 8% | 7% | 8% |
| Total Agree | 75% | 64% | 78% | 83% |
| Total Disagree | 17% | 28% | 15% | 10% |

Vacation time
Contact: Craig Worden, Vice-President Public Affairs
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50% find it hard to take time off from work

Q. Do you agree or disagree with the following statements?
I find it hard to take time off from work

| | Total | Region | | | | | | Gender | |
|-----------------------|------------|------------|------------|------------|------------|------------|------------|------------|------------|
| | | BC | AB | MB/SK | ONT | PQ | ATL | Male | Female |
| Strongly agree | 22% | 16% | 22% | 37% | 25% | 18% | 19% | 23% | 22% |
| Moderately agree | 28% | 32% | 34% | 18% | 28% | 25% | 28% | 29% | 27% |
| Moderately disagree | 18% | 20% | 23% | 24% | 15% | 19% | 15% | 20% | 17% |
| Strongly disagree | 24% | 24% | 17% | 15% | 21% | 32% | 31% | 24% | 24% |
| Not sure | 8% | 7% | 3% | 6% | 11% | 6% | 7% | 5% | 10% |
| Total Agree | 50% | 48% | 57% | 55% | 53% | 43% | 47% | 51% | 49% |
| Total Disagree | 42% | 45% | 41% | 39% | 36% | 51% | 46% | 44% | 41% |

| | Total | Age | | | Household Income | | | Education | | |
|-----------------------|------------|------------|------------|------------|------------------|------------|------------|------------|-------------------|------------|
| | | 18-34 | 35-54 | 55+ | <\$50K | \$50-99K | \$100K+ | HS or less | College/tech schl | Univ+ |
| Strongly agree | 22% | 26% | 24% | 15% | 25% | 21% | 19% | 23% | 25% | 19% |
| Moderately agree | 28% | 31% | 26% | 27% | 23% | 29% | 34% | 24% | 29% | 32% |
| Moderately disagree | 18% | 21% | 17% | 17% | 18% | 18% | 22% | 19% | 17% | 19% |
| Strongly disagree | 24% | 18% | 26% | 28% | 24% | 28% | 19% | 24% | 24% | 25% |
| Not sure | 8% | 4% | 6% | 13% | 10% | 5% | 5% | 11% | 6% | 6% |
| Total Agree | 50% | 57% | 51% | 43% | 48% | 50% | 54% | 46% | 54% | 51% |
| Total Disagree | 42% | 39% | 43% | 45% | 42% | 45% | 42% | 43% | 41% | 44% |

| | Total | Vote in next federal election | | |
|-----------------------|------------|-------------------------------|------------|------------|
| | | Con | Lib | NDP |
| Strongly agree | 22% | 22% | 26% | 23% |
| Moderately agree | 28% | 25% | 32% | 25% |
| Moderately disagree | 18% | 20% | 14% | 20% |
| Strongly disagree | 24% | 24% | 23% | 27% |
| Not sure | 8% | 10% | 6% | 5% |
| Total Agree | 50% | 47% | 58% | 47% |
| Total Disagree | 42% | 44% | 37% | 47% |

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69% usually come back from vacation feeling relaxed and recharged

Q. Do you agree or disagree with the following statements?
I usually come back from vacation feeling relaxed and recharged

| | Region | | | | | | | Gender | |
|-----------------------|------------|------------|------------|------------|------------|------------|------------|------------|------------|
| | Total | BC | AB | MB/SK | ONT | PQ | ATL | Male | Female |
| Strongly agree | 29% | 37% | 29% | 32% | 28% | 28% | 20% | 27% | 30% |
| Moderately agree | 40% | 41% | 31% | 29% | 42% | 41% | 46% | 41% | 39% |
| Moderately disagree | 14% | 10% | 26% | 15% | 12% | 15% | 13% | 14% | 15% |
| Strongly disagree | 9% | 6% | 9% | 20% | 7% | 10% | 7% | 12% | 6% |
| Not sure | 8% | 7% | 5% | 4% | 11% | 5% | 13% | 6% | 10% |
| Total Agree | 69% | 78% | 60% | 61% | 70% | 69% | 67% | 68% | 69% |
| Total Disagree | 23% | 15% | 35% | 35% | 19% | 25% | 20% | 26% | 20% |

| | Age | | | Household Income | | | Education | | | |
|-----------------------|------------|------------|------------|------------------|------------|------------|------------|------------|-------------------|------------|
| | Total | 18-34 | 35-54 | 55+ | <\$50K | \$50-99K | \$100K+ | HS or less | College/tech schl | Univ+ |
| Strongly agree | 29% | 37% | 24% | 28% | 28% | 33% | 26% | 24% | 29% | 34% |
| Moderately agree | 40% | 36% | 43% | 40% | 39% | 37% | 50% | 37% | 43% | 40% |
| Moderately disagree | 14% | 14% | 17% | 10% | 15% | 14% | 10% | 15% | 16% | 11% |
| Strongly disagree | 9% | 7% | 8% | 11% | 8% | 9% | 8% | 10% | 6% | 10% |
| Not sure | 8% | 6% | 8% | 11% | 9% | 8% | 5% | 14% | 5% | 5% |
| Total Agree | 69% | 73% | 67% | 68% | 68% | 70% | 76% | 61% | 73% | 74% |
| Total Disagree | 23% | 21% | 26% | 21% | 23% | 23% | 19% | 25% | 22% | 22% |

| | Vote in next federal election | | | |
|-----------------------|-------------------------------|------------|------------|------------|
| | Total | Con | Lib | NDP |
| Strongly agree | 29% | 29% | 29% | 29% |
| Moderately agree | 40% | 38% | 48% | 41% |
| Moderately disagree | 14% | 15% | 7% | 16% |
| Strongly disagree | 9% | 9% | 9% | 8% |
| Not sure | 8% | 8% | 7% | 7% |
| Total Agree | 69% | 67% | 76% | 69% |
| Total Disagree | 23% | 24% | 17% | 24% |

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46% would not prefer getting a raise to getting more vacation time

Q. Do you agree or disagree with the following statements?
I would prefer to get a raise instead of having more vacation time

| | Region | | | | | | | Gender | |
|---------------------|--------|-----|-----|-------|-----|-----|-----|--------|--------|
| | Total | BC | AB | MB/SK | ONT | PQ | ATL | Male | Female |
| Strongly agree | 21% | 14% | 17% | 28% | 24% | 16% | 28% | 21% | 20% |
| Moderately agree | 24% | 23% | 27% | 30% | 20% | 24% | 31% | 20% | 27% |
| Moderately disagree | 23% | 34% | 32% | 20% | 20% | 22% | 19% | 24% | 22% |
| Strongly disagree | 23% | 14% | 19% | 17% | 23% | 32% | 18% | 26% | 20% |
| Not sure | 10% | 15% | 4% | 5% | 13% | 6% | 5% | 8% | 11% |
| Total Agree | 44% | 37% | 45% | 58% | 44% | 41% | 59% | 42% | 47% |
| Total Disagree | 46% | 48% | 51% | 37% | 43% | 53% | 36% | 50% | 42% |

| | Age | | | Household Income | | | Education | | | |
|---------------------|-------|-------|-------|------------------|--------|----------|-----------|------------|-------------------|-------|
| | Total | 18-34 | 35-54 | 55+ | <\$50K | \$50-99K | \$100K+ | HS or less | College/tech schl | Univ+ |
| Strongly agree | 21% | 25% | 18% | 21% | 24% | 19% | 13% | 25% | 20% | 16% |
| Moderately agree | 24% | 27% | 24% | 20% | 25% | 25% | 17% | 22% | 25% | 24% |
| Moderately disagree | 23% | 26% | 24% | 19% | 23% | 23% | 27% | 20% | 28% | 22% |
| Strongly disagree | 23% | 17% | 25% | 26% | 19% | 24% | 33% | 21% | 21% | 28% |
| Not sure | 10% | 4% | 10% | 14% | 9% | 9% | 10% | 13% | 7% | 9% |
| Total Agree | 44% | 52% | 42% | 41% | 49% | 45% | 30% | 47% | 45% | 41% |
| Total Disagree | 46% | 43% | 49% | 45% | 42% | 46% | 61% | 41% | 49% | 50% |

| | Vote in next federal election | | | |
|---------------------|-------------------------------|-----|-----|-----|
| | Total | Con | Lib | NDP |
| Strongly agree | 21% | 24% | 22% | 17% |
| Moderately agree | 24% | 23% | 22% | 22% |
| Moderately disagree | 23% | 23% | 21% | 31% |
| Strongly disagree | 23% | 20% | 28% | 20% |
| Not sure | 10% | 10% | 7% | 10% |
| Total Agree | 44% | 47% | 44% | 39% |
| Total Disagree | 46% | 43% | 49% | 51% |

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42% work at least a little bit during their vacation time

Q. Do you agree or disagree with the following statements?
I usually end up working at least a little during my vacation time

| | Region | | | | | | | Gender | |
|---------------------|--------|-----|-----|-------|-----|-----|-----|--------|--------|
| | Total | BC | AB | MB/SK | ONT | PQ | ATL | Male | Female |
| Strongly agree | 18% | 14% | 27% | 30% | 16% | 16% | 12% | 21% | 15% |
| Moderately agree | 25% | 26% | 14% | 17% | 30% | 23% | 24% | 25% | 24% |
| Moderately disagree | 16% | 16% | 20% | 11% | 15% | 17% | 15% | 14% | 18% |
| Strongly disagree | 32% | 34% | 34% | 36% | 24% | 39% | 33% | 31% | 32% |
| Not sure | 10% | 10% | 4% | 6% | 14% | 5% | 16% | 9% | 11% |
| Total Agree | 42% | 40% | 42% | 47% | 46% | 38% | 36% | 46% | 39% |
| Total Disagree | 48% | 49% | 54% | 47% | 39% | 56% | 48% | 45% | 50% |

| | Age | | | | Household Income | | | Education | | |
|---------------------|-------|-------|-------|-----|------------------|----------|---------|------------|-------------------|-------|
| | Total | 18-34 | 35-54 | 55+ | <\$50K | \$50-99K | \$100K+ | HS or less | College/tech schl | Univ+ |
| Strongly agree | 18% | 16% | 19% | 17% | 15% | 19% | 27% | 17% | 16% | 20% |
| Moderately agree | 25% | 26% | 26% | 22% | 25% | 22% | 32% | 23% | 22% | 29% |
| Moderately disagree | 16% | 18% | 15% | 15% | 18% | 16% | 9% | 20% | 16% | 10% |
| Strongly disagree | 32% | 32% | 30% | 34% | 30% | 35% | 28% | 27% | 37% | 32% |
| Not sure | 10% | 8% | 10% | 12% | 12% | 8% | 5% | 13% | 9% | 8% |
| Total Agree | 42% | 41% | 45% | 39% | 40% | 41% | 59% | 40% | 39% | 50% |
| Total Disagree | 48% | 51% | 45% | 49% | 48% | 52% | 37% | 47% | 53% | 42% |

| | Vote in next federal election | | | |
|---------------------|-------------------------------|-----|-----|-----|
| | Total | Con | Lib | NDP |
| Strongly agree | 18% | 21% | 22% | 14% |
| Moderately agree | 25% | 24% | 29% | 31% |
| Moderately disagree | 16% | 12% | 11% | 17% |
| Strongly disagree | 32% | 35% | 28% | 29% |
| Not sure | 10% | 8% | 9% | 8% |
| Total Agree | 42% | 45% | 51% | 45% |
| Total Disagree | 48% | 47% | 40% | 46% |

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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**

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