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Study on union negotiations in the Quebec Public Service

Survey report

Projet 13026-018
March 3rd 2010

Methodology

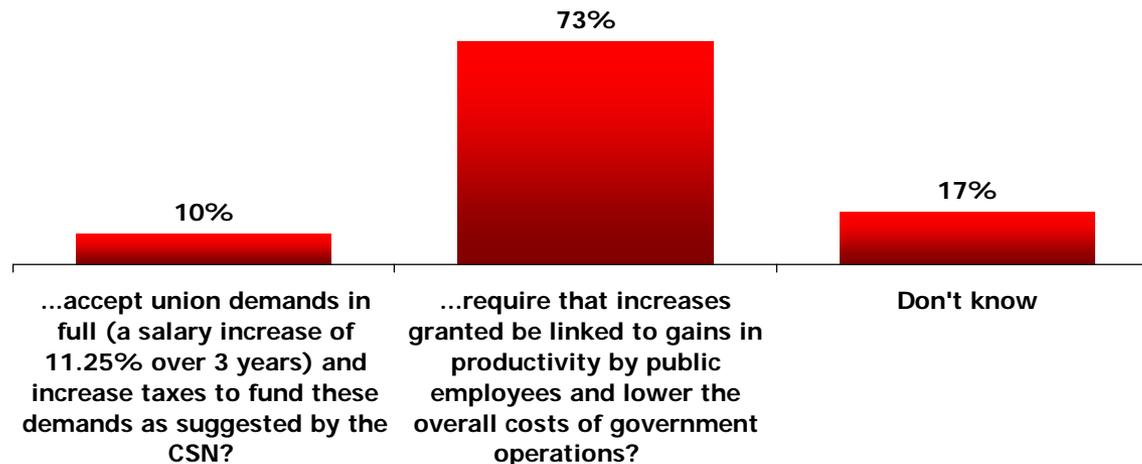
- Léger Marketing has been commissioned by the Economic Institute of Montreal in order to conduct a survey with Quebecers in order to evaluate:
 - The support for the position of the Charest government and the unions in negotiations between unions of the employees of the public service and the Government of Quebec.
 - The support for a major demonstration organized by the *Front commun syndical de la fonction publique et parapublique* scheduled for March 20th 2010.
 - The views of Quebecers with respect to the position that the Charest government should adopt regarding job security of public servants.
- This study was conducted over the Internet, between February 22nd and 24th, 2010 from a representative sample of 1,000 Quebecers, 18 years of age and older. A probability sample of this size has a margin of error of $\pm 3\%$, 19 times out of 20.
- Using census data from l'Institut de la statistique du Québec, the results were weighted by sex, age, region, language, education level and the presence of minor children in the household in order to make the sample representative of the entire adult population of the province of Quebec.

The vast majority of Quebecers support the Charest's government position in negotiations with the Public Service Employee's unions

- Seven out of 10 (73%) believe that in negotiations with the Public Service Employee's unions, the Charest government should require that the increases granted be linked to public servants productivity gains and a general decrease of the government's operating costs.
- One in 10 (10%) is of the view that the Charest government should fully accept union demands and raise taxes to fund these demands as suggested by the CSN. Finally, 17% expressed no opinion on this issue.

Q1. In its negotiations with employee unions of the civil service, should the Charest government...

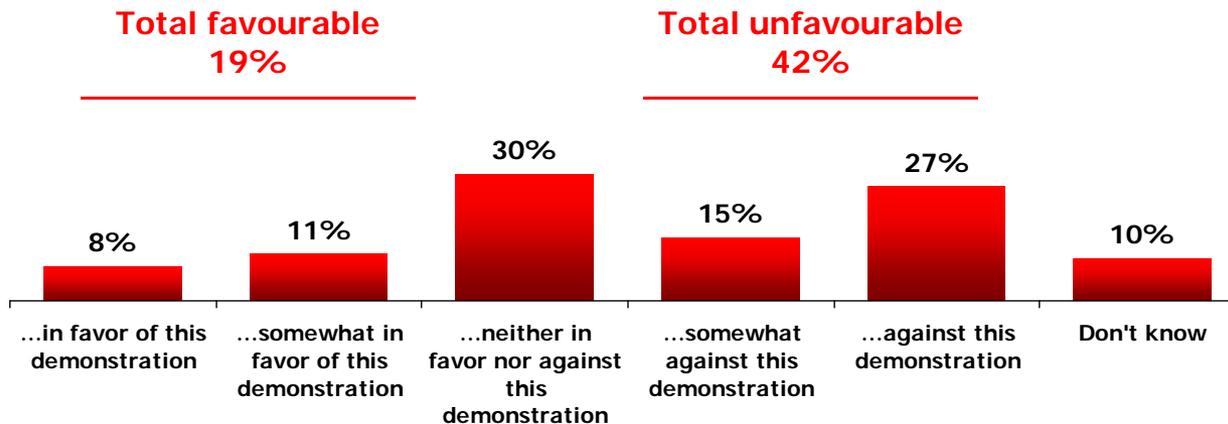
Base: n= 1 000



The major demonstration organized by the *Front commun syndical* of the public and para-public sectors collects little support from the Quebec population

- In total, 42% of Quebecers say they are unfavorable to the demonstration organized by *le Front commun syndical* of the public and para-public sectors scheduled for March 20th, 2010, while 2 out of 10 were in favor. Furthermore, 30% say they are neither in favor or against, while 10% did not express an opinion on this issue.
- The support for this demonstration is significantly higher among professionals (27%), but this proportion remains lower than that of professionals who are opposed (40%).

Q2. The Front commun syndical of the public and para-public sectors intends to organize a major demonstration on March 20. Personally, would you say you are...
Base: n= 1 000

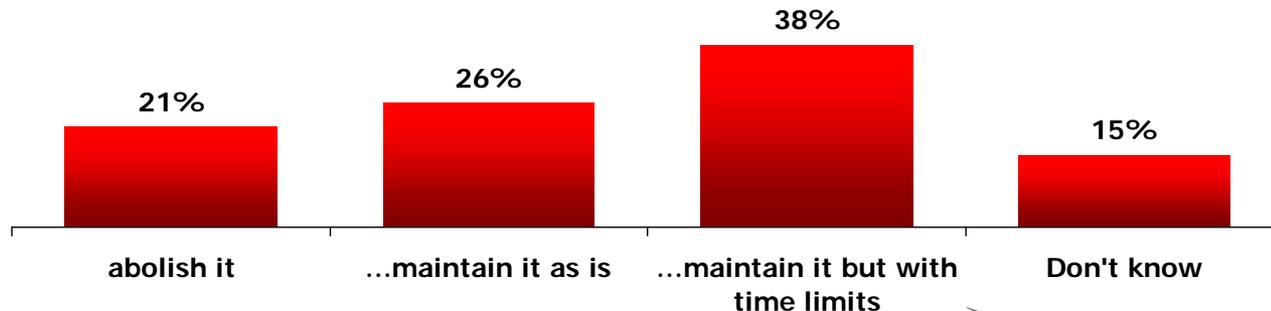


A majority of Quebecers believe that the Charest government should maintain public employee job security but many believe it should be limited in time.

- In total, nearly two-thirds of Quebecers (64%) believe that the Charest government should maintain public employee job security. However, only 26% believe that job security of public employees should be kept unchanged, but limited in time.
- Just over two in ten Quebecers (21%) believe that public employee job security should be abolished, while 15% have no opinion on this issue.

Q3. Concerning public employee job security, do you think the Charest government should...

Base: n= 1 000



Manual workers:
42%
Active Population:
27%

Professionals:
32%
Québec RMR:
33%

Retired: **46%**
Non active
Population: **45%**