

Montreal Economic Institute

Research study

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**Opinion of Quebecers
on Social Assistance Payments**

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MARKETING

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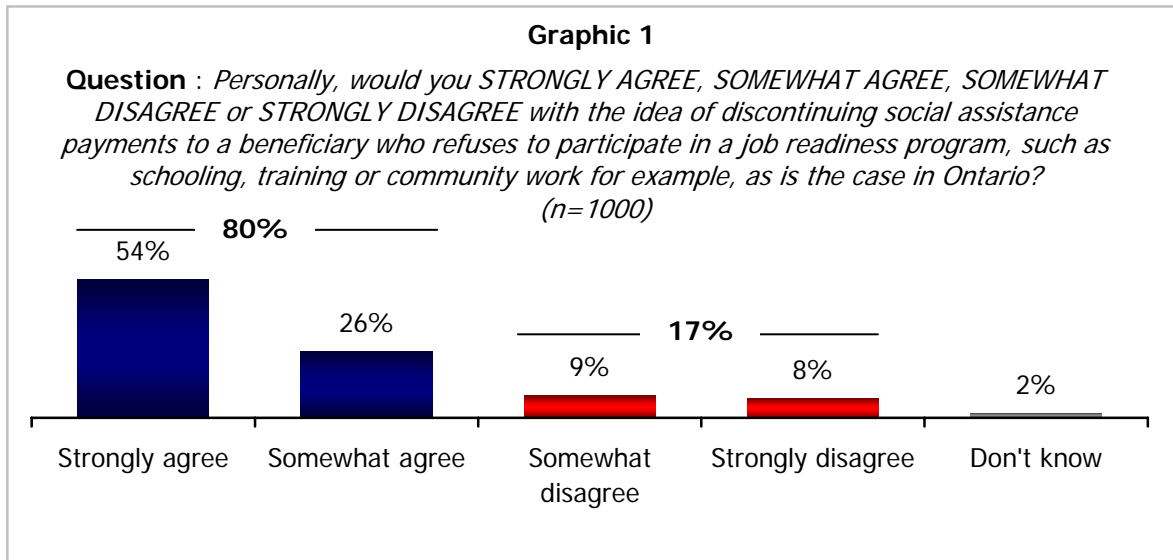
Methodology

This research study was conducted by Leger Marketing by means of a telephone interview among 1000 Quebecers 18 years of age or older, able to express themselves either in English or in French. The maximum margin of error is $\pm 3.1\%$, 19 times out of 20.

Interviews were conducted from our call centre in Montreal from January 17 to 21, 2007. Results were weighted by age, gender, region, and mother tongue according to the latest figures available from Statistics Canada in order to obtain a representative sample of the Quebec adult population.

1. Social assistance conditional to a participation in a job readiness program

- In general, eight Quebecers out of ten (80%) agree with the idea of discontinuing social assistance payments to a beneficiary who refuses to participate in a job readiness program. Nearly one out of five respondents (17%) stated that they disagree with this idea.



Note : Total results may vary from 100% due to rounding-off to the nearest figure.

Among respondents who **agree** with the idea of discontinuing social assistance payments to a beneficiary who refuses to participate in a job readiness program, we can observe a **greater proportion** among groups with the following profile:

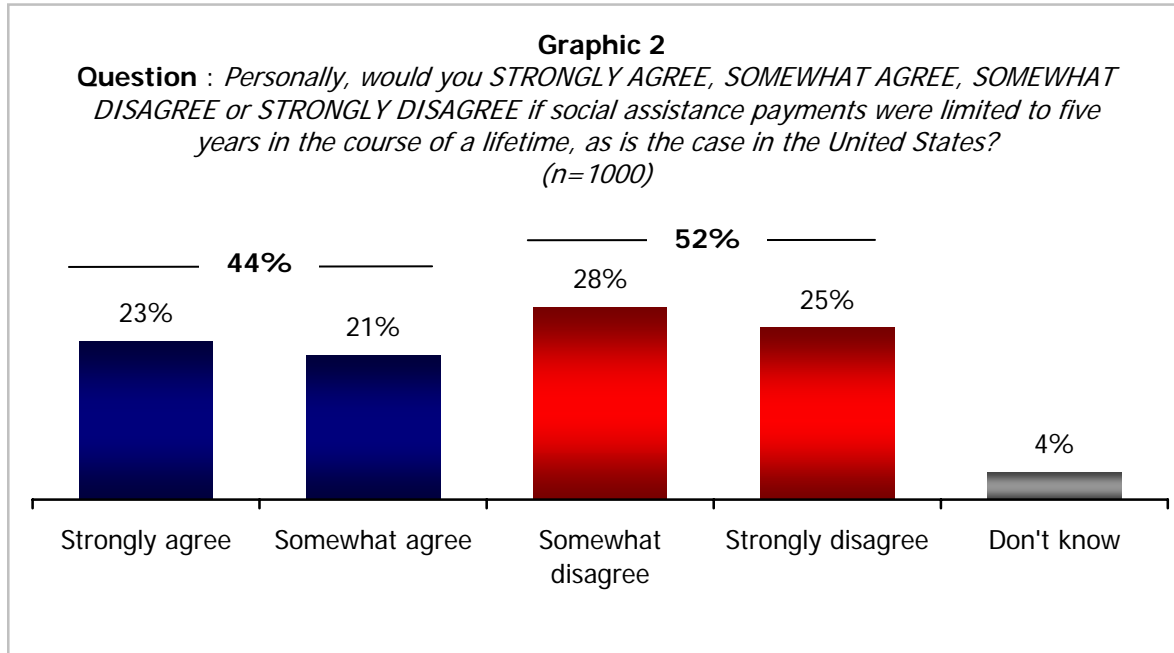
- People between 25 and 34 years of age (86%) and those between 35 and 44 (87%)
- Francophones (83%)
- Households for which the annual income is greater than \$80,000 (89%)
- People working in sales or the service industry (87%)
- Manual workers (89%)
- Professionals (85%)

Respondents who **disagree** with the idea of discontinuing social assistance payments to a beneficiary who refuses to participate in a job readiness program are significantly **more numerous** among the following groups:

- People between the ages of 18 and 24 (30%)
- Non-Francophones (29%)
- Households for which the annual income is under \$20,000 (27%)
- Students (30%)

2. Limiting social assistance payments to a period of five years

- In total, 44% of Quebecers agree with the idea of limiting social assistance payments to five years in the course of a lifetime. More than half of those surveyed (52%) disagree with such a proposition.



Note : Total results may vary from 100% due to rounding-off to the nearest figure.

Respondents with the following profile are significantly **more likely** to say that they **disagree** with the idea of limiting social assistance payments to five years during the course of a lifetime:

- People between the ages of 55 and 64 (59%)
- University graduates (63%)

And respondents who **agree** are, proportionally speaking, **more numerous** among those with the following profile:

- Manual workers (55%)
- People with a high school education (50%)