



## **Iran greatest threat to peace among recent headline grabbers**

### **Israel and North Korea battle it out for second-largest threat to world peace**

#### **More Canadians feel Israel's attacks are not justified than justified**

When given a list of countries and organizations in the news, Iran tops the list as the greatest threat to world peace (26%), 6 per cent more than second place Israel (at 20%) with North Korea close behind (19%).

One of the instigators behind the current crisis in the Middle East (Hezbollah), is considered by 15 per cent of Canadians to be the biggest threat to world peace.

This dynamic is most likely due to the fact that Canadians place partial blame for the current fighting in the Middle East on Iran (57%) while 42 per cent feel that Israel's attacks are not justified by the attacks Hezbollah is waging against them.

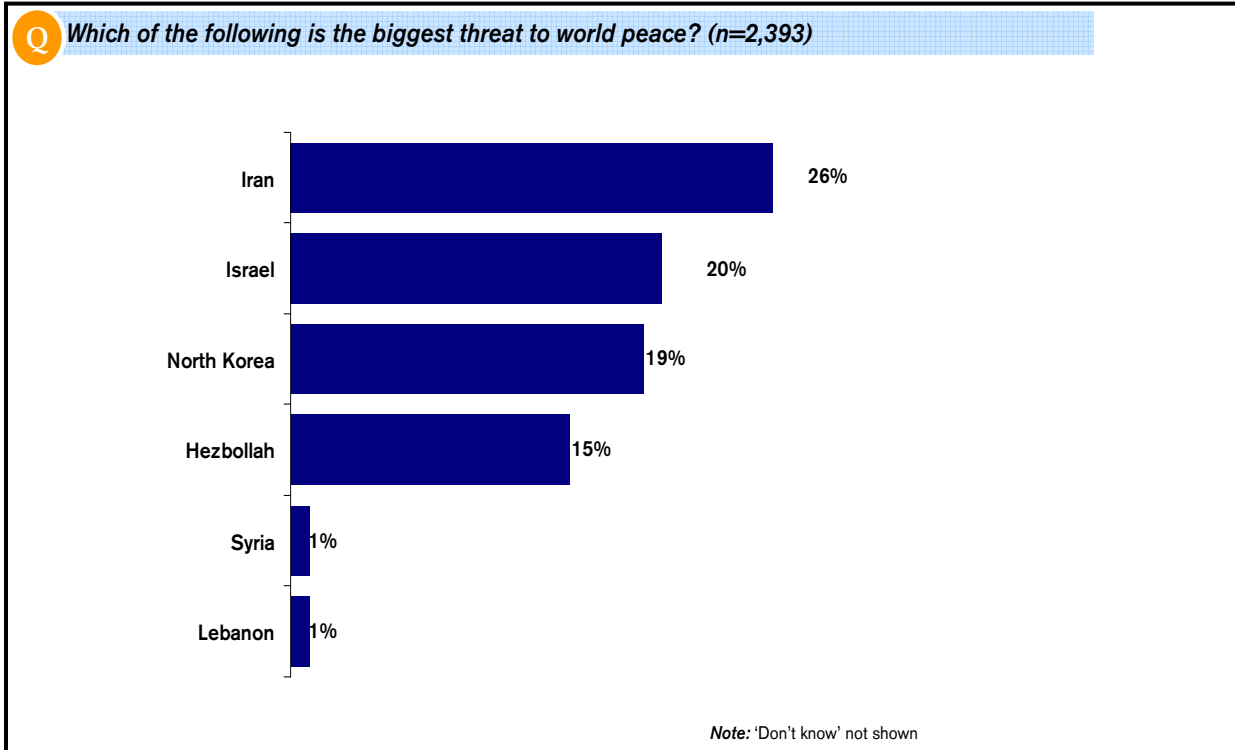
INNOVATIVE released a number of questions from surveys conducted on its Canada 20/20 panel from July 26 to July 28, 2006. Canada 20/20 was one of the most accurate polls in the last federal election, topping most major telephone polls in predicting the final outcome.

The INNOVATIVE results included the following:

#### **Iran tops list of recent newsmakers as threat to world peace:**

- In all regions of the country except Quebec, Iran is considered to be the biggest threat to world peace, when compared to Israel, Syria, Lebanon, Hezbollah, and North Korea.
- Quebeckers are split, and feel that both Israel (27%) and Iran (26%) are the biggest threats to world peace.
- Although recently overshadowed in the news by the crisis in the Middle East, North Korea is considered to be the biggest threat to world peace by many Canadians.
- Residents of British Columbia (23%), Manitoba and Saskatchewan (20%), and Alberta (19%) all consider North Korea to be second in danger level to Iran.

- Men (35%) are much more likely than women (18%) to say that Iran is the biggest threat to world peace. On the other hand, women (26%) as compared to men (11%) are more likely to say they don't know enough to say.



**Lebanon is not considered dangerous to world peace:**

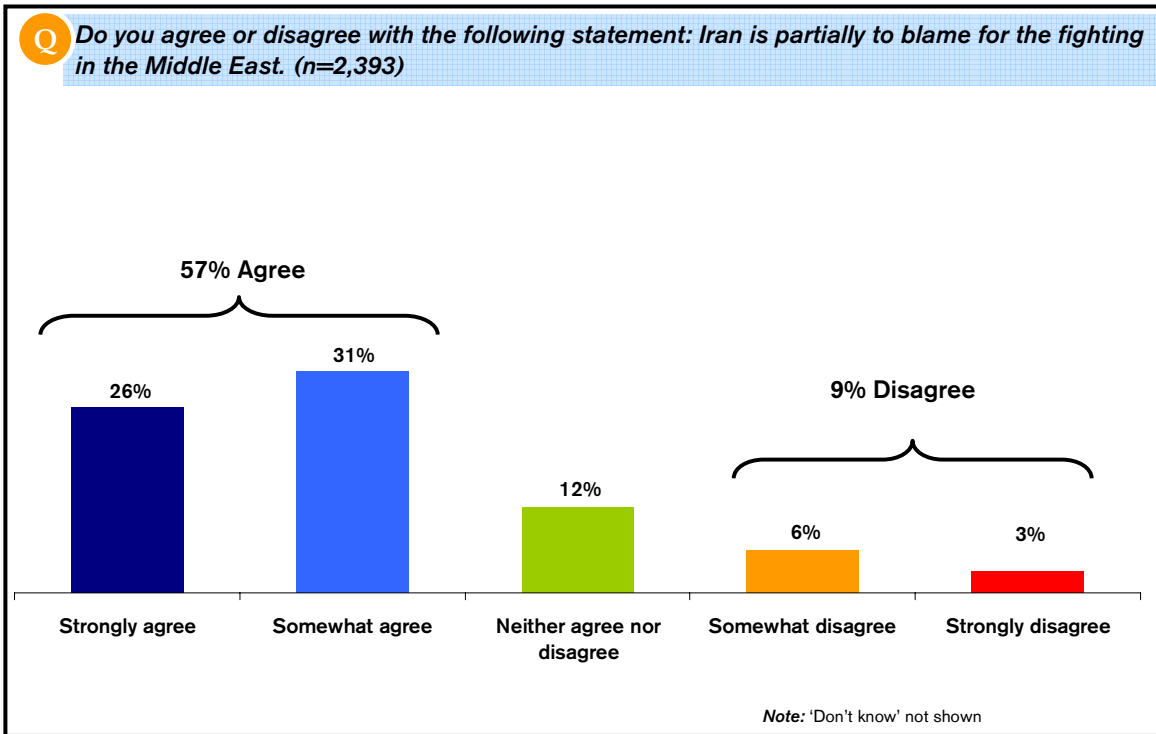
- With the constant bombardment of Lebanon in the news, only one per cent of Canadians feel that this country is the greatest threat to world peace.

**Gender differences emerge on opinion of Israel's justification for attacks:**

- Men (48%) are more likely than women (28%) to feel that Israel's attacks are a justified response to the attacks by Hezbollah.
- While there is only a four point difference between men and women who feel Israel's attacks are not justified, women (28%) are more likely than men (13%) to feel that they do not know enough to say.

**Majority agree: Iran is partially to blame for current crisis in the Middle East:**

- A majority of Canadians feel that Iran is partially to blame for the current fighting in the Middle East (57%).
- Men (68%) are more likely than women (48%) to place partial blame on Iran.
- Residents of Alberta (68%) are the most likely to place partial blame on Iran, followed by residents of the Atlantic Provinces (63%), Ontario (62%), and British Columbia (59%).
- Residents of Manitoba and Saskatchewan (34%) and Quebec (26%) are more likely than residents of the other provinces to say that they simply don't know enough to say.
- Knowledge of the situation is directly related to age, as is agreement: The older someone is the more likely they are to agree that Iran is partially to blame. Accordingly Canadians 65 years of age and older are the most likely to agree (73%), on the other hand, the youngest Canadians surveyed (18 to 34), are the most likely to say they don't know enough to say.



## About This Survey

**Innovative Research Group**, Inc. ([www.innovativeresearch.ca](http://www.innovativeresearch.ca)), a research and strategy firm with offices in Toronto and Vancouver, surveyed 2,393 Canadians from its online Canada 20/20 panel. The survey was conducted between Wednesday, July 26<sup>th</sup>, and Friday, July 28<sup>th</sup>, 2006 and has a margin of error of  $\pm 2.00\%$ , 19 times out of 20. The data was weighted in accordance to the 2001 census. The portions of the survey mentioned above were commissioned by the Canadian Defence & Foreign Affairs Institute.

## Attribution

In the first instance of mentioning the poll results the survey should be identified as a "Canadian Defence & Foreign Affairs Institute survey conducted by Innovative Research Group using their Canada 20/20 online panel".

All subsequent mentions can use the convention "CDFAI/INNOVATIVE poll" or "the CDFAI poll" but not just "the INNOVATIVE poll".

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## Questions Asked:

Q1. Which of the following is a bigger threat to world peace? [RANDOMISE, DO NOT KNOW ENOUGH IS ALWAYS LAST]

Israel	1
Syria	2
Lebanon	3
Hezbollah	4
Iran	5
North Korea	6
Don't know enough to say	8

Q4. The fighting in the Middle East started after Hezbollah's sudden attack on Israeli soil, killing eight and capturing two. Given this information which of the following statements comes closest to your view?

Israel's attacks are a justified response to the attacks by Hezbollah

Or

Israel's attacks are not justified by the attacks Hezbollah is waging against Israel.

Do you agree or disagree with the following statement:

Strongly agree	1
Somewhat agree	2
Neither agree nor disagree	3
Somewhat disagree	4
Strongly disagree	5

Q5. Iran is partially to blame for the fighting in the Middle East.