

BC residents most likely to want MORE immigrants: Poll

By [Douglas Todd](#) 5 Jul 2010 [COMMENTS\(35\)](#) [The Search](#)

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British Columbians appear polarized on immigration. Residents of the West Coast of Canada seem the least likely in the country to accept the status quo on immigration levels, which currently run at 247,000 new immigrants per year.



A recent poll by Nanos Research suggests British Columbians are the most likely in Canada to want an increase in the number of immigrants, with 29 per cent wanting more compared to a national average of just 21 per cent.

However, the poll also suggests British Columbians are slightly more likely than other Canadians to want a decrease in the current immigration levels.

There doesn't seem to be many B.C. residents satisfied with the way things are. Only 31 per cent want immigrant levels to stay the same, compared to a national average of 39 per cent.

Why do more British Columbians want more immigrants? Is it because Metro Vancouver, especially, already has a high proportion of the country's immigrants? And recent immigrants want to see more of their relatives and friends make the trek to Canada?

The Nanos poll is based on a survey of 1,008 Canadians. The B.C. sample is 145, which is relatively small.

These results should be greeted with caution. My Sun colleague, Chad Skelton, says the margin of error for the B.C. figure is plus or minus eight percentage points.

That doesn't make the B.C. Data statistically irrelevant, however. Further research may confirm this trendline.

[Go here to see a complete summary of the Nanos report](#)

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