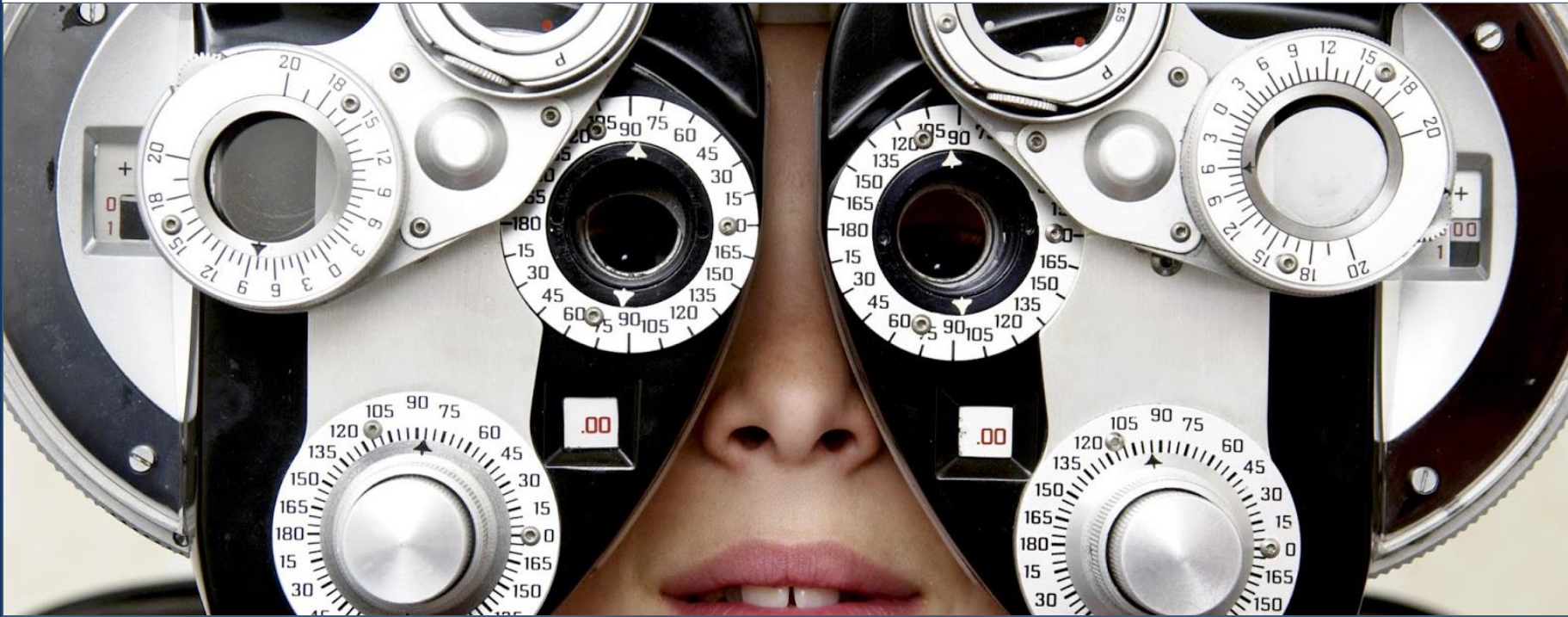


Impressions of eye care in Canada

Canadian Association of Optometrists Survey Summary

submitted by Nanos to the Canadian Association of Optometrists, April 2017
(Submission 2017-981)



CANADIAN ASSOCIATION OF OPTOMETRISTS
ASSOCIATION CANADIENNE DES OPTOMÉTRISTES



Majority of Canadians believe the federal government should have a major role in funding new research on eye health

Canadians placed the highest level of priority on the eye care of Canadians when compared to dental and hearing care, and a majority believe that both the federal and provincial governments should have a role in eye health. More than half of Canadians feel the federal government should play a major role in creating a national eye health strategy and funding new research on eye health, while one in three say the same of funding a public education campaign to encourage Canadians to take care of their eyes.

- **A majority of Canadians place a high level of priority on the dental care of Canadians** – When asked to rate the level of priority they associate with dental care in terms of the health of Canadians, they give it an average priority rating of 8.0.
- **Canadians place a high level of priority on the hearing care of Canadians** – When asked to rate the level of priority they associate with hearing care in terms of the health of Canadians, they give it an average priority rating of 7.7.
- **Canadians placed the highest average level of priority on the eye care of Canadians** – When asked to rate the level of priority they associate with eye care in terms of the health of Canadians, they give it an average priority rating of 8.3.
- **Close to seven in ten Canadians say that both federal and provincial governments should have a role in eye health** – When asked whether only provincial government, only the federal government, both, or neither should have a role in eye health, more than two in three Canadians say that both should have a role (68%), followed by those who say only the provincial governments should have a role (23%), only the federal government (three per cent), and neither should have a role (three per cent). Four per cent are unsure.

- **Over half of Canadians say the federal government should have a major role in creating a national eye health strategy** – Fifty-two per cent of Canadians say the federal government should have a major role in creating a national eye health strategy inclusive of all Canadians. Slightly more than one in four say the federal government should have a minor role (26%), and 12 per cent of Canadians say the federal government should have no role. Ten per cent are unsure.
- **Canadians are split with regards to the role of the federal government in funding a public education campaign** – When asked what role the federal government should have in funding a public education campaign to encourage Canadians to take care of their eyes, Canadians were split with just over one in three saying each that the federal government should have a major role (36%) and a minor role (36%), followed by those who say no role (20%). Eight per cent of Canadians are unsure.
- **Three in five Canadians believe the federal government should have a major role in funding new research on eye health** – Canadians are most likely to say the federal government should play a major role in funding new research on eye health (60%), followed by those who say a minor role (26%). Six per cent of Canadians feel the federal government should play no role, and eight per cent are unsure.

These observations are based on an RDD dual frame (land- and cell-lines) hybrid telephone and online random survey of 1,000 Canadians, 18 years of age or older, between April 1st and 4th, 2017 as part of an omnibus survey. The margin of error for a random survey of 1,000 Canadians is ± 3.1 percentage points, 19 times out of 20.

This study was commissioned by the Canadian Association of Optometrists.