#### July 2019

# **MNP Consumer Debt Index**

**Canadians Wary and Embarrassed About Seeking Debt Relief** Survey finds a mix of social pressures, mistrust and lack of information is preventing many from seeking professional debt help – especially among those who could benefit from it most.



#### STIGMA



Almost half of Canadians say they would be embarrassed to get help if their financial situation was bad enough to consider Bankruptcy.

**One-third** of survey respondents say the stigma surrounding Bankruptcy prevents them from seeking help.

#### LACK OF DEBT AWARENESS

**Three in ten** Canadians say they don't know how to get out of debt or where to turn for help.

3/10

**That figure jumps** to nearly half for Canadians who are most likely to need help – particularly those who are insolvent at month end.

### (MIS)TRUST



More than half of Canadians have a hard time trusting professional companies to help them get out of debt.

Lack of trust is most prominent among 18-34 year-olds – an age group which is also the least likely to seek Bankruptcy help.

#### PERSONAL FINANCE OUTLOOK IMPROVING

The latest insights indicate Canadians' overall attitudes towards their personal financial situation have improved slightly since March.

The number of Canadians \$200 or less from financial insolvency has decreased in almost every province.

\$200 or less 44% Nationwide (-4%)

44% Alberta (-4%)

**40%** Saskatchewan and Manitoba (-6%)

44% Ontario (-4%)

43% Quebec (-8%)

46% Atlantic Canada (-9%)

**44%** B.C. (+5%)

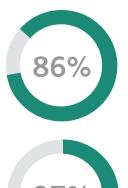
#### SUSPENDING JUDGEMENT

An overwhelming majority of

**Canadians** believe there is no shame in seeking financial help with one's debt.

Fewer than 4 in 10 Canadians

believe those who declare Bankruptcy are looking for the easy way out of their financial problems.





#### GET A FREE CHECKUP FOR YOUR DEBT HEALTH AT MNPDEBT.CA/DEBTSCALE

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Licensed Insolvency Trustees \*Source: Ipsos/MNP Survey, July, 2019