The results of a recent national public opinion poll indicate 69 per cent of Canadians read the label on everyday household cleaning products, with 47 percent of respondents saying they “always” read the label and 22 per cent stating they “often” read the label.

The poll, released earlier this year by the Canadian Consumer Specialty Products Association (CCSPA), also shows over 30 per cent of Canadians don’t read the instruction labels on household cleaning products.

CCSPA’s Executive Director, Shannon Coombs, says she is pleased the majority of Canadians read product label instructions, but points out that consumers who do not “are missing out on essential information to help them use cleaning products and care for apparel effectively and safely.”

“The directions specify how to use the product for optimum results. For example,” Coombs says, “the information on a detergent label tells us how much of the product should be used, what soils and stains it removes, the fabrics on which it should or should not be used, and appropriate water temperature and wash cycles.”

Garment care labels also provide a wealth of useful information and the manufacturer’s cleaning instructions, Coombs adds.

More information about product and garment label instructions can be found at www.healthycleaning101.org.