

THREE-WAY TIE AS VOTERS TRY AND SORT OUT WHO CAN SOLVE THE ECONOMY:

BALANCED BUDGET ISSUE MAY BE SORTING LIBERAL AND NDP FORTUNES IN REVERSE DIRECTIONS

[Ottawa – September 4, 2015] There have been some movements in an electorate that is becoming reluctantly engaged in a now month-old campaign that they are loosely acknowledging. If there was a sense that the Duffy scandal was beginning to awaken voters and weigh down on the Conservative fortunes, that sense has pretty well evaporated over the past couple of weeks. Attention deficit disordered voters appear to have at least temporarily moved on and the Conservatives now find themselves in a three-way tie with the NDP and Liberals.

Federal vote intention

Q. If a federal election were held tomorrow, which party would you vote for?

National Results
(Change over August 19-25 poll below)

27.7
+1.0

29.5
+1.4

30.2
-3.4

6.4 4.21.9
+0.6 +0.1

Note: These figures are based on decided and leaning voters only; 6.2% of respondents say they are undecided and 7.9% are ineligible to vote / skipped the question.

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BASE: Canadians; August 26-September 1, 2015 (n=3,243), MOE +/- 1.7%, 19 times out of 20

May-15

- Greenwative - NDP - green - SBLOC - Other

Jun-15

Jul-15

Mar-15

Dec-14

Jan-15



In what has been a familiar dance, promiscuous progressive voters have been shifting again. This time, the movements clearly favour the rejuvenated Liberals who have moved up by about as much as the NDP has moved down.

These movements reflect the most fluid group in the electorate but they also leave Stephen Harper's constituency intact. Ironically, this is probably increasing Harper's prospects of reelection, precisely the opposite of the goal of those voters casting back and forth across the NDP and the Liberal Party in search of an antidote to Harper rule. This dynamic is no more vividly evident than in Ontario where Conservatives will be direct beneficiaries of a futile split of NDP and Liberal voters who share a higher order goal of displacing the incumbent.

NDP losing ground everywhere outside Quebec, Liberals improving standing in Ontario and Atlantic Canada

In recent weeks, the NDP has fallen back just about everywhere except Quebec, where they remain the dominant party by a huge margin. The Bloc Québécois has lost whatever momentum they briefly picked up upon the return of Gilles Duceppe, but they are still hanging around and are not out of the game yet. The Liberals now find themselves on the winning end of what is a tight, three-way race in Ontario and Atlantic Canada is looking increasingly positive for them. Alberta and Saskatchewan remain safely in the hands of the Conservative Party.

The NDP seems to be losing traction with seniors, while the Liberals are clawing back some of the university vote they lost to the NDP. The numbers on direction of country and government are largely unchanged, although the gap between NDP supporters and other constituencies in terms of federal direction has disappeared. In short, the NDP is no longer a rallying point¹ for disgruntled voters.

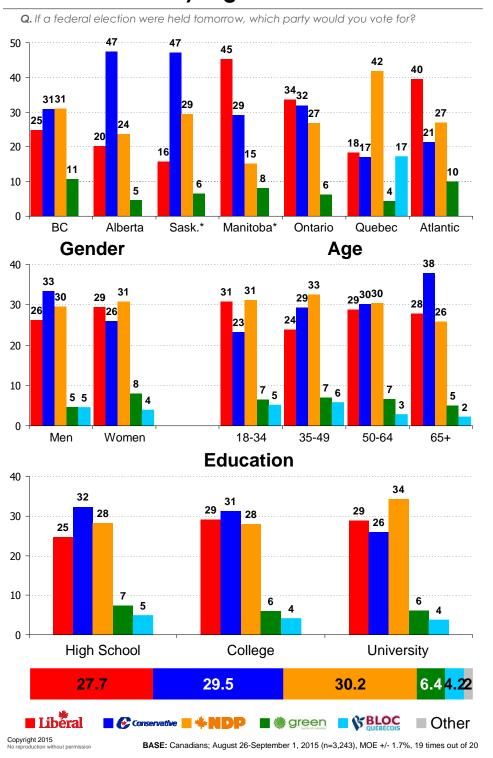
So why are some progressive voters shifting back to the Liberals? Before we answer this question, it is important to understand where Canadians stand in terms of their most important issue.

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¹ EKOS Research Associates, "Fractured Country Produces Tight and Unpredictable Race", Available online at: http://goo.gl/Or5Cbr



Vote intention by region





The role of the economy and middle class progress

First, we will try and refine what we think is on the minds of Canadians when they think about the economy; it's really quite different than the media narrative and none of the parties have provided a convincing answer, yet.

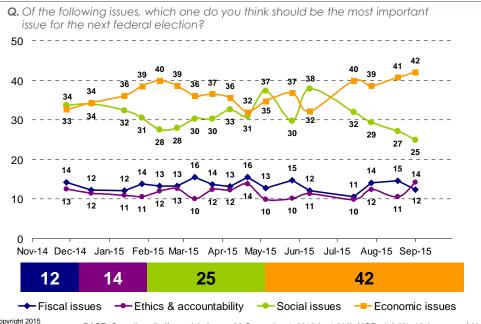
It is important to note the radical disconnect across the relatively sanguine and mirthful account of the economy coming from Mr. Harper ('envy of the G7') and the jarringly different world that voters, consumers, and workers live in. For some time, a huge majority of Canadians have felt that we are in recession. As the official statistics catch up to the wisdom of crowds we also note that arid discussions of what type, how serious and whether we are in recession at all may be grist for the media and punditocracy, the positive economy is risibly preposterous to what most Canadians are experiencing and feeling. It is also not simply whether we have entered a recession, but rather a deeper concern that it comes on the heels of an unusual and protracted period of very tepid growth where most of the meagre pie has been going to a small sliver at the top of the heap.

Moreover, this sense of stagnation – and, for many, decline – is less troubling than the even darker future Canadians see for themselves and their children. Granted, this dark picture is much brighter for the Conservative base, but the overall economic mood is very bleak indeed. The concerns do not simply or even mostly concern the immediate issue of the R-word. The broader concerns are a deep anxiety that progress and the middle class bargain are broken. It is these daunting issues that Canadians want dealt with and for most available progressive voters, a balanced budget is a much lower priority than investments in new measures to grow the economy.

Clearly, the economy and restoring middle class progress are the dominant issues (by far). While no party has ownership of these issues, it is notable that public favour is shifting from NDP to the Liberals. The NDP still retains a commanding lead on social issues, but these issues have waned in importance amid growing economic uncertainty and unless the NDP can link these issues to economic well-being, their advantage in this area will do them little good on Election Day.

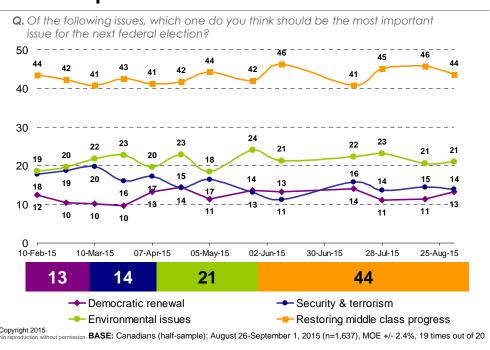


Most important issue



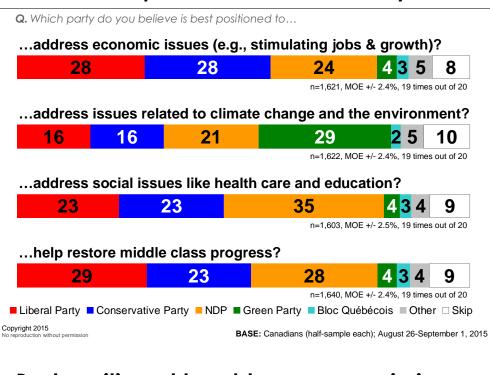
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Most important issue

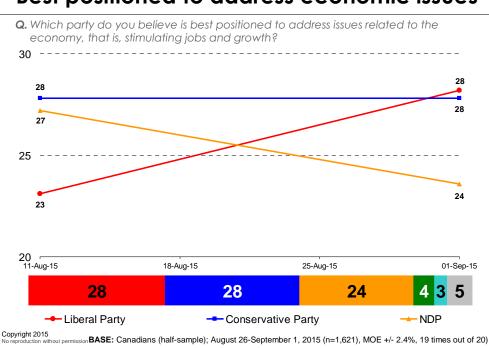




Leader best positioned to address key issues



Best positioned to address economic issues



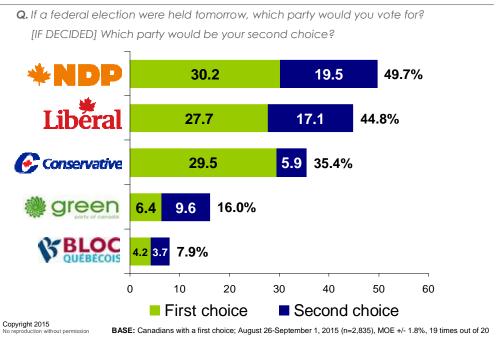


These movements – along with his improved standing on both approval and vote intention – suggest that Justin Trudeau has helped himself with his proposed deficit-funded infrastructure spending program. Thomas Mulcair, meanwhile, seems to be hurting himself with his promise of a balanced budget, suggesting that Canadians are leery of focusing on fiscal rectitude – rather than kick-starting the economy – when middle class workers have not seen a real wage increase in years. Furthermore, concerns with fiscal discipline are largely concentrated in the Conservative camp, which is largely unavailable to the NDP. At best, Mr. Mulcair may be making himself mildly less objectionable to those who won't vote for him and ignoring the preferences of his available constituency. While we understand the importance of signalling fiscal prudence, the NDP may want to consider the potential fall-out more carefully.

Some NDP supporters shift Liberal, but no net change in vote ceiling

As we mentioned earlier, virtually all of this week's movements have occurred with the 'promiscuous progressive' segment of the electorate or, rather, those voters who express ambivalence between the Liberals and NDP and are predominantly focused on a change in government. Looking at second choice, we see that Liberal gains have led to a corresponding rise in the percentage of Canadians choosing the NDP as their second choice. In the end, neither party has seen a net shift in their potential vote ceiling. These results once again underline the challenge of the centre-left continuously cannibalizing its own vote in search of gains.

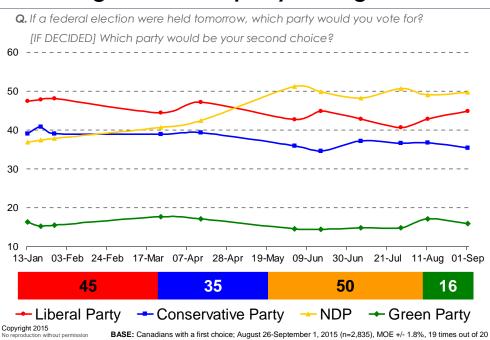
Theoretical party ceilings





While voting splitting among the centre-left certainly benefits the Conservative Party, these results also highlight the challenges faced by the current government. While the party is the first choice of nearly 30 per cent of eligible voters, they have almost no room to grow. Indeed, just six per cent of non-Conservative voters would consider casting a ballot for Stephen Harper, giving the party a potential vote ceiling of 35 points – well short of what is generally considered the minimum threshold for a majority government.

Tracking theoretical party ceilings

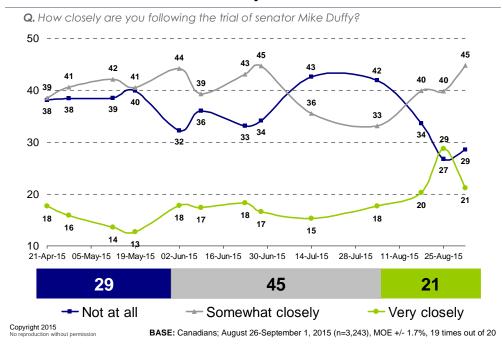




Duffy affair fades

With the trial on break until November, the Duffy effects that seemed to be weighing down Conservative fortunes² have largely dissipated. It is the economy that now looms as the master issue for a public who saw this recession clearly some time before the 'official economy' has anointed it with the R-word. At this point, the economy is largely eclipsing all of the other major concerns that Canadians hold.

Attention to Mike Duffy trial

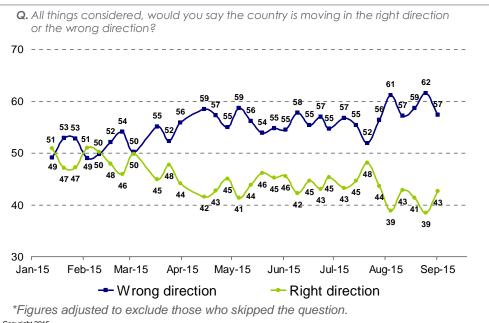


² EKOS Research Associates, "Duffy Awakening Slumbering Electorate", August 28, 2015. Available online at: http://goo.gl/515v1i



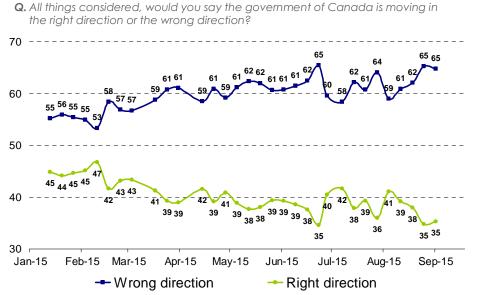
Direction of country/government:

Direction of country (adjusted*)



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Direction of government (adjusted*)



^{*}Figures adjusted to exclude those who skipped the question.

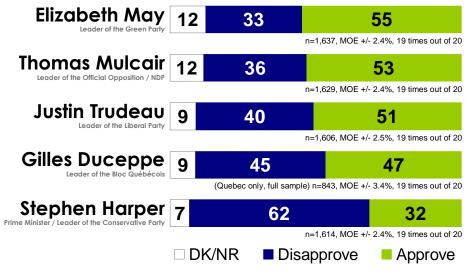
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Approval ratings:

Job approval ratings

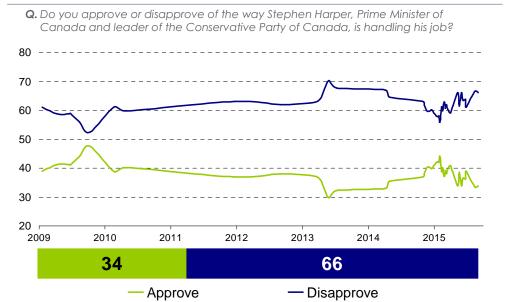
Q. Do you approve or disapprove of the way the following individuals are handling their jobs?



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BASE: Canadians (half-sample each); August 26-September 1, 2015

Approval: Stephen Harper (adjusted*)

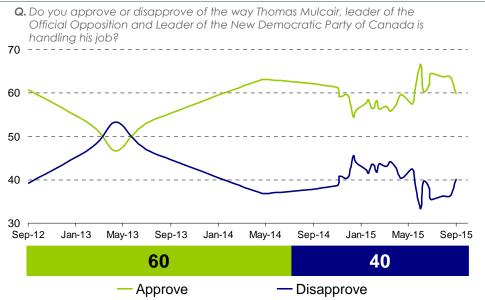


*Figures adjusted to exclude those who skipped the question.

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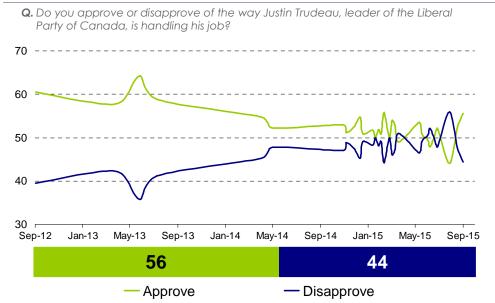
Approval: Thomas Mulcair (adjusted*)



^{*}Figures adjusted to exclude those who skipped the question.

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Approval: Justin Trudeau (adjusted*)



^{*}Figures adjusted to exclude those who skipped the question.

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Detailed Tables:

National Federal Vote Intention (decided and leaning voters only)

Q. If a federal election were held tomorrow, which party would you vote for?
[If undecided] Even if you do not have a firm idea, are you leaning towards a party?
[If yes] As it stands, towards which party are you leaning?

	Liberal Party	Conser- vative Party	NDP	Green Party	Bloc Québécois	Other	Sample Size	Margin of Error (+/-)
NATIONALLY	27.7%	29.5%	30.2%	6.4%	4.2%	1.9%	2835	1.8
REGION								
British Columbia	24.8%	30.9%	31.1%	10.8%	_	2.4%	368	5.1
Alberta	20.2%	47.4%	23.6%	4.6%	_	4.2%	309	5.6
Saskatchewan	15.7%	47.1%	29.3%	6.4%	_	1.5%	126	8.7
Manitoba	45.3%	29.1%	15.2%	8.1%	_	2.3%	108	9.4
Ontario	33.6%	32.0%	26.8%	6.1%	_	1.5%	976	3.1
Quebec	18.3%	17.0%	41.8%	4.4%	17.2%	1.2%	750	3.6
Atlantic Canada	39.5%	21.4%	26.9%	10.1%	_	2.2%	184	7.2
GENDER								
Male	26.2%	33.3%	29.6%	4.7%	4.5%	1.7%	1361	2.7
Female	29.4%	26.0%	30.8%	8.0%	3.9%	1.9%	1440	2.6
AGE								
<35	30.8%	23.3%	31.2%	6.5%	5.2%	2.9%	260	6.1
35-49	23.9%	29.3%	32.5%	7.0%	5.8%	1.5%	593	4.0
50-64	28.8%	30.1%	30.4%	6.7%	2.8%	1.2%	985	3.1
65+	27.8%	37.9%	25.8%	5.0%	2.2%	1.4%	959	3.2
EDUCATION								
High school or less	24.7%	32.3%	28.2%	7.4%	4.9%	2.5%	575	4.1
College or CEGEP	29.1%	31.2%	27.9%	6.0%	4.2%	1.7%	892	3.3
University or higher	28.9%	25.9%	34.2%	6.1%	3.7%	1.3%	1322	2.7



Second Choice

Q. [Decided Voters Only] Talking again in terms of a federal election, which party would be your second choice?

	LPC	CPC	NDP	GP	BQ	Other	None	DK/ NR	Sampl e Size	MOE (+/-)
NATIONALLY	17.1%	5.9%	19.5%	9.6%	3.7%	2.7%	40.3%	1.0%	2835	1.8
REGION										
British Columbia	22.6%	6.2%	13.6%	17.8%	_	0.8%	38.2%	0.8%	368	5.1
Alberta	13.8%	6.5%	14.9%	8.9%	_	2.8%	52.0%	1.2%	309	5.6
Saskatchewan	14.5%	7.5%	12.3%	7.9%	_	3.1%	54.8%	0.0%	126	8.7
Manitoba	11.4%	8.1%	26.6%	6.7%	_	0.0%	46.8%	0.4%	108	9.4
Ontario	17.7%	4.8%	23.8%	8.6%	_	3.4%	40.4%	1.2%	976	3.1
Quebec	17.3%	7.3%	16.2%	8.5%	15.4%	3.1%	31.1%	1.1%	750	3.6
Atlantic Canada	14.7%	3.5%	23.4%	7.6%	_	2.4%	47.9%	0.5%	184	7.2
GENDER										
Male	18.2%	5.6%	19.1%	10.7%	3.9%	2.9%	38.8%	0.7%	1361	2.7
Female	16.2%	6.2%	19.8%	8.8%	3.4%	2.5%	42.1%	1.0%	1440	2.6
AGE										
<35	18.2%	6.4%	19.7%	10.4%	4.2%	2.8%	37.8%	0.6%	260	6.1
35-49	18.9%	6.3%	18.6%	10.5%	4.3%	3.2%	37.2%	0.9%	593	4.0
50-64	16.8%	6.0%	19.9%	9.2%	4.0%	2.9%	40.4%	0.9%	985	3.1
65+	14.1%	4.6%	20.3%	8.5%	2.0%	1.4%	48.0%	1.1%	959	3.2
EDUCATION										
High school or less	14.6%	6.2%	14.1%	7.8%	3.1%	2.5%	51.5%	0.3%	575	4.1
College or CEGEP	16.3%	7.7%	20.1%	9.9%	3.4%	2.7%	39.3%	0.6%	892	3.3
University or higher	20.0%	4.2%	23.0%	11.1%	4.5%	2.7%	33.0%	1.6%	1322	2.7
CURRENT VOTE INTENTION										
Liberal Party	0.0%	8.9%	49.3%	8.7%	1.7%	0.7%	30.1%	0.7%	760	3.6
Conservative Party	14.9%	0.0%	9.5%	4.1%	1.1%	3.6%	65.5%	1.3%	866	3.3
NDP	37.6%	7.5%	0.0%	18.0%	8.9%	1.2%	26.2%	0.6%	846	3.4
Green Party	16.1%	10.2%	25.9%	0.0%	2.5%	10.3%	32.6%	2.4%	169	7.5
Bloc Québécois	5.5%	8.0%	29.5%	10.5%	0.0%	2.8%	41.4%	2.4%	115	9.1



Most Important Issue (Version 1)

Q. Of the following issues, which one do you think should be the most important issue for the next federal election? 1) Issues like ethics and accountability; 2) The economy, jobs, and growth; 3) Fiscal issues like taxes and debt; or 4) Social issues like health and education.

	Ethics and accountability	Economic issues	Fiscal issues	Social issues	DK/NR	Sample Size	Margin of Error (+/-)
NATIONALLY	14.2%	42.0%	12.4%	25.0%	6.4%	1606	2.5
REGION							
British Columbia	18.5%	36.6%	12.0%	25.2%	7.8%	220	6.6
Alberta	12.3%	45.0%	16.3%	20.0%	6.5%	162	7.7
Saskatchewan	19.9%	39.5%	17.2%	16.6%	6.8%	80	11.0
Manitoba	14.7%	37.0%	16.6%	26.0%	5.6%	59	12.8
Ontario	15.7%	45.6%	14.0%	18.9%	5.8%	560	4.1
Quebec	8.1%	38.6%	7.0%	39.4%	7.0%	401	4.9
Atlantic Canada	16.8%	42.8%	12.0%	23.2%	5.2%	114	9.2
GENDER							
Male	16.9%	41.8%	16.7%	21.8%	2.8%	737	3.6
Female	12.5%	45.2%	9.4%	30.0%	3.0%	799	3.5
AGE							
<35	13.1%	36.2%	14.4%	31.2%	5.1%	152	8.0
35-49	14.8%	45.5%	11.9%	25.2%	2.5%	320	5.5
50-64	14.0%	48.4%	12.5%	22.9%	2.3%	544	4.2
65+	17.3%	44.5%	12.5%	22.9%	2.8%	521	4.3
EDUCATION							
High school or less	16.0%	41.9%	12.6%	25.7%	3.8%	316	5.5
College or CEGEP	12.7%	49.4%	13.0%	22.5%	2.4%	510	4.3
University or higher	15.3%	39.9%	12.7%	29.5%	2.6%	694	3.7
CURRENT VOTE INTENTION							
Liberal Party	14.8%	52.2%	10.7%	21.8%	0.5%	383	5.0
Conservative Party	9.2%	53.2%	27.0%	8.5%	2.0%	439	4.7
NDP	19.4%	31.5%	5.6%	40.7%	2.8%	399	4.9
Green Party	25.0%	36.9%	6.7%	28.8%	2.6%	92	10.2
Bloc Québécois	7.6%	34.1%	1.5%	46.9%	10.0%	58	12.9



Most Important Issue (Version 2)

Q. Of the following issues, which one do you think should be the most important issue for the next federal election? 1) Restoring middle class progress; 2) Issues related to the environment and climate change; 3) Issues related to security and terrorism; or 4) Democratic renewal.

	Restoring middle class progress	The environment	Security and terrorism	Demo- cratic renewal	DK/ NR	Sample Size	Margin of Error (+/-)
NATIONALLY	43.6%	21.0%	13.9%	13.2%	8.3%	1637	2.4
REGION							
British Columbia	29.2%	31.3%	15.2%	19.7%	4.7%	206	6.8
Alberta	41.8%	11.7%	23.1%	13.7%	9.8%	193	7.1
Saskatchewan	38.8%	18.7%	14.9%	12.5%	15.1%	59	12.8
Manitoba	35.5%	23.0%	19.4%	13.7%	8.4%	61	12.6
Ontario	46.1%	18.9%	12.0%	13.1%	9.9%	556	4.2
Quebec	52.4%	22.6%	9.1%	10.5%	5.3%	442	4.7
Atlantic Canada	39.9%	19.3%	19.8%	11.4%	9.5%	114	9.2
GENDER							
Male	46.1%	20.2%	13.2%	15.2%	5.2%	742	3.6
Female	44.6%	22.4%	15.4%	12.1%	5.6%	821	3.4
AGE							
<35	38.1%	23.6%	16.3%	16.2%	5.8%	151	8.0
35-49	51.2%	22.0%	10.5%	9.9%	6.4%	334	5.4
50-64	54.5%	17.5%	10.2%	13.4%	4.3%	549	4.2
65+	34.9%	22.8%	22.7%	15.0%	4.7%	533	4.2
EDUCATION							
High school or less	48.5%	15.2%	18.6%	11.3%	6.5%	337	5.3
College or CEGEP	52.7%	19.9%	11.8%	13.0%	2.6%	480	4.5
University or higher	37.0%	28.1%	13.0%	15.7%	6.1%	744	3.6
CURRENT VOTE INTENTION							
Liberal Party	54.5%	20.7%	6.2%	14.7%	3.9%	377	5.1
Conservative Party	42.4%	9.3%	39.3%	4.7%	4.3%	427	4.7
NDP	43.3%	32.3%	2.7%	19.8%	1.9%	447	4.6
Green Party	33.3%	45.9%	7.2%	9.8%	3.7%	77	11.2
Bloc Québécois	56.2%	27.0%	4.8%	12.0%	0.0%	57	13.0



<u>Leader Best Positioned to Address Economic Issues</u>

Q. Which party do you believe is best positioned to address issues related to the economy, that is, stimulating jobs and growth?

	LPC	CPC	NDP	GP	BQ	Other	DK/NR	Sample Size	Margin of Error (+/-)
NATIONALLY	28.2%	27.8%	23.6%	4.3%	2.6%	5.2%	8.3%	1621	2.4
REGION									
British Columbia	29.7%	22.6%	20.0%	8.0%	_	8.3%	11.4%	211	6.8
Alberta	20.8%	47.0%	16.5%	2.6%	_	4.6%	8.5%	171	7.5
Saskatchewan	12.8%	49.7%	20.7%	0.5%	_	6.7%	9.5%	63	12.4
Manitoba	33.7%	24.7%	27.3%	3.2%	_	1.0%	10.1%	57	13.0
Ontario	32.1%	28.9%	20.7%	5.0%	_	5.2%	8.2%	561	4.1
Quebec	21.5%	18.7%	35.3%	3.2%	10.7%	4.3%	6.4%	439	4.7
Atlantic Canada	42.0%	27.4%	14.6%	2.1%	-	6.0%	7.8%	113	9.2
GENDER									
Male	28.1%	31.6%	24.6%	5.1%	2.5%	4.7%	3.4%	740	3.6
Female	30.5%	26.1%	23.9%	4.0%	2.7%	6.1%	6.7%	809	3.5
AGE									
<35	34.4%	24.2%	20.9%	6.6%	3.3%	4.1%	6.6%	164	7.7
35-49	25.7%	29.2%	26.3%	5.4%	2.6%	5.6%	5.2%	320	5.5
50-64	27.7%	29.2%	26.4%	2.8%	2.7%	7.0%	4.2%	521	4.3
65+	27.8%	35.1%	24.8%	2.4%	1.4%	5.3%	3.2%	544	4.2
EDUCATION									
High school or less	25.3%	29.4%	24.4%	4.5%	3.8%	6.4%	6.1%	329	5.4
College or CEGEP	30.1%	31.3%	22.5%	5.5%	2.0%	4.8%	3.8%	475	4.5
University or higher	31.9%	26.1%	25.4%	3.8%	2.4%	5.1%	5.3%	744	3.6
CURRENT VOTE INTENTION									
Liberal Party	80.1%	2.6%	7.5%	4.2%	0.5%	2.7%	2.4%	393	4.9
Conservative Party	1.8%	92.2%	2.7%	0.6%	0.1%	1.4%	1.3%	415	4.8
NDP	13.7%	6.2%	71.5%	1.8%	1.4%	3.8%	1.6%	429	4.7
Green Party	31.0%	8.6%	10.9%	32.6%	1.2%	9.4%	6.4%	81	10.9
Bloc Québécois	13.6%	9.6%	14.0%	1.5%	50.3%	4.4%	6.5%	60	12.7



<u>Leader Best Positioned to Address Environmental Issues</u>

Q. Which party do you believe is best positioned to address issues related to climate change and the environment?

	LPC	CPC	NDP	GP	BQ	Other	DK/NR	Sample Size	Margin of Error (+/-)
NATIONALLY	16.2%	16.3%	20.9%	29.3%	2.2%	5.0%	10.2%	1622	2.4
REGION									
British Columbia	18.4%	18.1%	15.3%	39.1%	_	3.5%	5.6%	215	6.7
Alberta	9.0%	31.0%	22.7%	20.2%	_	7.3%	9.7%	184	7.2
Saskatchewan	14.0%	26.5%	16.1%	20.9%	_	4.8%	17.7%	76	11.2
Manitoba	26.3%	9.4%	10.1%	42.7%	_	5.3%	6.2%	63	12.4
Ontario	17.6%	17.2%	17.7%	29.7%	_	5.6%	12.2%	555	4.2
Quebec	12.7%	8.6%	32.3%	26.6%	9.4%	2.8%	7.5%	404	4.9
Atlantic Canada	22.3%	6.8%	18.4%	29.3%	-	8.6%	14.7%	115	9.1
GENDER									
Male	16.6%	19.7%	22.6%	29.5%	1.9%	5.6%	4.1%	739	3.6
Female	17.3%	14.6%	21.0%	31.0%	2.5%	4.7%	8.9%	811	3.4
AGE									
<35	14.0%	10.9%	26.6%	35.6%	3.2%	2.5%	7.2%	139	8.3
35-49	14.8%	16.5%	20.9%	31.8%	2.7%	4.9%	8.4%	334	5.4
50-64	20.8%	16.6%	20.4%	26.4%	1.4%	7.1%	7.4%	572	4.1
65+	17.8%	26.3%	18.4%	26.4%	1.2%	5.8%	4.2%	510	4.3
EDUCATION									
High school or less	17.9%	19.9%	22.4%	24.7%	2.2%	7.7%	5.3%	324	5.4
College or CEGEP	18.5%	17.9%	19.9%	30.3%	2.3%	4.3%	6.9%	515	4.3
University or higher	14.5%	14.0%	23.5%	35.1%	2.2%	4.1%	6.6%	694	3.7
CURRENT VOTE INTENTION									
Liberal Party	54.3%	2.9%	9.9%	25.2%	0.0%	2.1%	5.6%	367	5.1
Conservative Party	5.1%	55.5%	7.2%	19.7%	0.2%	6.4%	5.7%	451	4.6
NDP	5.0%	1.3%	53.9%	34.6%	1.2%	2.8%	1.3%	417	4.8
Green Party	6.4%	2.4%	9.5%	78.2%	0.0%	1.0%	2.6%	88	10.5
Bloc Québécois	1.5%	0.0%	19.3%	31.8%	42.3%	0.0%	5.1%	55	13.2



<u>Leader Best Positioned to Address Social Issues</u>

Q. Which party do you believe is best positioned to address social issues like health and education?

	LPC	CPC	NDP	GP	BQ	Other	DK/NR	Sample Size	Margin of Error (+/-)
NATIONALLY	22.6%	23.1%	35.4%	3.5%	2.5%	4.0%	8.9%	1603	2.5
REGION									
British Columbia	16.6%	22.0%	33.8%	9.0%	_	8.8%	9.8%	205	6.8
Alberta	12.5%	44.3%	30.5%	0.4%	_	3.3%	9.0%	186	7.2
Saskatchewan	12.7%	44.5%	28.4%	0.0%	_	0.0%	14.4%	65	12.2
Manitoba	32.5%	29.1%	24.7%	4.7%	_	0.8%	8.2%	69	11.8
Ontario	27.4%	22.2%	32.6%	4.2%	_	3.9%	9.6%	556	4.2
Quebec	19.9%	11.9%	47.5%	1.2%	11.3%	1.7%	6.6%	400	4.9
Atlantic Canada	28.3%	16.3%	32.8%	3.5%	-	9.3%	9.8%	113	9.2
GENDER									
Male	21.0%	28.8%	39.1%	2.4%	1.7%	3.8%	3.3%	724	3.6
Female	25.7%	19.7%	34.2%	4.6%	3.5%	4.6%	7.7%	808	3.5
AGE									
<35	21.0%	16.9%	43.5%	4.4%	4.2%	4.4%	5.7%	156	7.9
35-49	21.5%	24.8%	35.2%	3.7%	2.6%	5.1%	7.2%	309	5.6
50-64	26.0%	25.7%	34.7%	3.7%	2.5%	2.3%	5.2%	548	4.2
65+	25.9%	31.3%	30.8%	2.4%	0.5%	5.3%	3.8%	524	4.3
EDUCATION									
High school or less	22.8%	26.7%	32.3%	2.6%	2.4%	7.0%	6.2%	321	5.5
College or CEGEP	24.0%	26.0%	33.6%	4.9%	2.8%	3.7%	5.1%	480	4.5
University or higher	23.4%	20.6%	42.6%	3.2%	2.8%	2.4%	5.0%	723	3.6
CURRENT VOTE INTENTION									
Liberal Party	68.4%	2.5%	22.1%	1.5%	0.2%	1.7%	3.4%	369	5.1
Conservative Party	8.2%	76.6%	8.8%	0.6%	0.1%	3.3%	2.4%	437	4.7
NDP	5.9%	2.6%	85.5%	1.3%	1.6%	1.2%	1.9%	435	4.7
Green Party	17.2%	6.8%	27.0%	42.2%	0.0%	3.9%	2.9%	74	11.4
Bloc Québécois	10.1%	2.2%	13.1%	2.4%	61.9%	0.6%	9.6%	46	14.5



<u>Leader Best Positioned to Restore Middle Class Progress</u>

Q. Which party do you believe is best positioned to help restore middle class progress?

	LPC	CPC	NDP	GP	BQ	Other	DK/NR	Sample Size	Margin of Error (+/-)
NATIONALLY	28.7%	23.0%	28.0%	4.2%	2.9%	4.2%	9.0%	1640	2.4
REGION									
British Columbia	29.3%	20.2%	32.6%	5.9%	_	6.1%	5.8%	221	6.6
Alberta	23.7%	38.9%	17.5%	4.6%	_	8.9%	6.4%	169	7.5
Saskatchewan	14.4%	34.4%	21.5%	1.9%	_	14.3%	13.5%	74	11.4
Manitoba	31.5%	20.7%	24.9%	13.4%	_	1.9%	7.6%	51	13.7
Ontario	34.5%	26.4%	22.4%	3.9%	_	2.7%	10.1%	560	4.1
Quebec	19.7%	17.5%	38.3%	1.5%	11.8%	2.8%	8.4%	443	4.7
Atlantic Canada	40.8%	8.4%	30.0%	8.6%	-	1.6%	10.5%	115	9.1
GENDER									
Male	31.4%	25.2%	29.4%	4.3%	3.0%	3.4%	3.3%	755	3.6
Female	28.4%	22.8%	28.5%	4.3%	3.2%	5.2%	7.4%	812	3.4
AGE									
<35	33.2%	17.9%	27.1%	5.9%	2.7%	3.7%	9.6%	147	8.1
35-49	24.5%	23.0%	32.4%	5.1%	5.2%	4.1%	5.6%	345	5.3
50-64	31.7%	23.0%	30.9%	2.6%	2.0%	5.6%	4.2%	545	4.2
65+	30.1%	34.6%	22.7%	3.3%	1.9%	3.4%	3.9%	530	4.3
EDUCATION									
High school or less	28.2%	25.1%	28.1%	5.3%	3.3%	5.7%	4.3%	332	5.4
College or CEGEP	32.0%	25.0%	24.3%	4.9%	2.8%	4.1%	6.7%	510	4.3
University or higher	29.6%	21.4%	34.1%	2.8%	3.0%	3.3%	5.8%	715	3.7
CURRENT VOTE INTENTION									
Liberal Party	83.5%	3.0%	6.7%	0.9%	0.0%	1.7%	4.2%	391	5.0
Conservative Party	5.9%	80.2%	6.3%	1.0%	0.1%	3.5%	3.1%	429	4.7
NDP	10.6%	3.5%	82.4%	0.8%	0.1%	1.0%	1.6%	411	4.8
Green Party	18.1%	6.0%	25.6%	35.0%	2.4%	9.4%	3.6%	95	10.1
Bloc Québécois	10.0%	2.6%	24.8%	0.8%	55.0%	2.1%	4.7%	69	11.8



Attention to Mike Duffy Trial

Q. How closely are you following the trial of senator Mike Duffy?

	Not at all	Somewhat closely	Very closely	Don't know / No response	Sample Size	Margin of Error (+/-)
NATIONALLY	28.6%	44.8%	21.2%	5.4%	3243	1.7
REGION						
British Columbia	27.1%	40.5%	26.0%	6.4%	426	4.8
Alberta	28.7%	46.5%	20.5%	4.3%	355	5.2
Saskatchewan	28.8%	49.1%	16.9%	5.2%	139	8.3
Manitoba	25.9%	49.5%	20.7%	3.9%	120	9.0
Ontario	24.9%	45.3%	24.7%	5.1%	1116	2.9
Quebec	36.4%	43.9%	13.9%	5.7%	843	3.4
Atlantic Canada	28.0%	45.2%	21.1%	5.7%	228	6.5
GENDER						
Male	28.0%	46.6%	24.3%	1.1%	1479	2.6
Female	31.1%	46.4%	19.6%	2.9%	1620	2.4
AGE						
<35	44.3%	40.0%	12.1%	3.6%	303	5.6
35-49	30.5%	48.4%	17.9%	3.2%	654	3.8
50-64	22.5%	48.4%	27.6%	1.4%	1093	3.0
65+	16.9%	49.8%	32.7%	0.6%	1054	3.0
EDUCATION						
High school or less	42.7%	39.3%	15.8%	2.3%	653	3.8
College or CEGEP	29.2%	49.6%	18.7%	2.5%	990	3.1
University or higher	20.0%	49.0%	29.3%	1.8%	1438	2.6
CURRENT VOTE INTENTION						
Liberal Party	22.0%	43.3%	33.0%	1.7%	760	3.6
Conservative Party	34.4%	50.3%	13.8%	1.5%	866	3.3
NDP	21.9%	52.3%	24.9%	1.0%	846	3.4
Green Party	41.1%	38.0%	18.8%	2.1%	169	7.5
Bloc Québécois	28.7%	44.0%	20.0%	7.2%	115	9.1



<u>Approval Rating – Stephen Harper</u>

Q. [Third-sample only] Do you approve or disapprove of the way Stephen Harper, Prime Minister and leader of Conservative Party of Canada is handling his job?

	Approve	Disapprove	Don't know / No response	Sample Size	Margin of Error (+/-)
NATIONALLY	31.5%	61.7%	6.7%	1614	2.4
REGION					
British Columbia	30.6%	62.6%	6.9%	185	7.2
Alberta	50.9%	42.7%	6.4%	180	7.3
Saskatchewan	43.1%	51.6%	5.3%	69	11.8
Manitoba	35.6%	53.4%	11.0%	64	12.3
Ontario	31.9%	61.9%	6.2%	564	4.1
Quebec	24.5%	69.6%	5.9%	434	4.7
Atlantic Canada	20.5%	71.6%	7.8%	109	9.4
GENDER					
Male	36.8%	59.7%	3.5%	709	3.7
Female	29.2%	67.6%	3.2%	833	3.4
AGE					
<35	23.9%	69.1%	7.0%	149	8.0
35-49	34.8%	62.1%	3.1%	323	5.5
50-64	33.4%	64.5%	2.0%	560	4.1
65+	40.9%	56.9%	2.2%	516	4.3
EDUCATION					
High school or less	35.4%	59.5%	5.1%	331	5.4
College or CEGEP	36.1%	61.2%	2.7%	495	4.4
University or higher	27.7%	69.8%	2.6%	708	3.7
CURRENT VOTE INTENTION					
Liberal Party	6.1%	93.1%	0.8%	381	5.0
Conservative Party	89.4%	9.6%	1.0%	443	4.7
NDP	10.2%	88.0%	1.8%	409	4.9
Green Party	12.2%	86.7%	1.1%	89	10.4
Bloc Québécois	20.8%	77.4%	1.8%	57	13.0



Approval Rating - Thomas Mulcair

Q. [Half-sample only] Do you approve or disapprove of the way Thomas Mulcair, leader of the Official Opposition and Leader of the New Democratic Party of Canada is handling his job?

	Approve	Disapprove	Don't know / No response	Sample Size	Margin of Error (+/-)
NATIONALLY	53.0%	35.5%	11.5%	1629	2.4
REGION					
British Columbia	49.9%	36.0%	14.1%	241	6.3
Alberta	43.5%	47.9%	8.6%	175	7.4
Saskatchewan	36.8%	49.2%	14.0%	70	11.7
Manitoba	56.7%	38.7%	4.5%	56	13.1
Ontario	53.9%	33.9%	12.2%	552	4.2
Quebec	58.2%	30.2%	11.6%	409	4.9
Atlantic Canada	56.1%	35.3%	8.6%	119	9.0
GENDER					
Male	59.4%	35.1%	5.5%	770	3.5
Female	50.5%	38.5%	11.0%	787	3.5
AGE					
<35	57.4%	31.0%	11.6%	154	7.9
35-49	51.3%	40.2%	8.6%	331	5.4
50-64	57.6%	36.9%	5.5%	533	4.2
65+	53.7%	40.4%	5.9%	538	4.2
EDUCATION					
High school or less	49.5%	45.3%	5.2%	322	5.5
College or CEGEP	51.3%	38.3%	10.4%	495	4.4
University or higher	63.5%	29.0%	7.5%	730	3.6
CURRENT VOTE INTENTION					
Liberal Party	55.6%	36.6%	7.8%	379	5.0
Conservative Party	28.7%	68.0%	3.4%	423	4.8
NDP	87.7%	7.5%	4.8%	437	4.7
Green Party	49.5%	40.7%	9.7%	80	11.0
Bloc Québécois	50.7%	37.3%	12.0%	58	12.9



<u>Approval Rating – Justin Trudeau</u>

Q. [Half-sample only] Do you approve or disapprove of the way Justin Trudeau, leader of the Liberal Party of Canada, is handling his job?

	Approve	Disapprove	Don't know / No response	Sample Size	Margin of Error (+/-)
NATIONALLY	50.6%	40.4%	9.0%	1606	2.5
REGION					
British Columbia	49.9%	40.6%	9.5%	210	6.8
Alberta	37.8%	55.2%	7.0%	168	7.6
Saskatchewan	35.6%	51.9%	12.5%	66	12.1
Manitoba	50.6%	39.6%	9.8%	65	12.2
Ontario	53.6%	36.8%	9.6%	549	4.2
Quebec	49.2%	42.8%	8.0%	430	4.7
Atlantic Canada	61.4%	30.3%	8.4%	110	9.3
GENDER					
Male	52.9%	44.3%	2.8%	698	3.7
Female	52.7%	39.7%	7.6%	832	3.4
AGE					
<35	58.9%	33.0%	8.1%	133	8.5
35-49	48.9%	45.8%	5.3%	329	5.4
50-64	51.3%	45.2%	3.5%	541	4.2
65+	51.2%	43.1%	5.7%	531	4.3
EDUCATION					
High school or less	48.6%	47.5%	3.9%	335	5.4
College or CEGEP	54.4%	40.0%	5.6%	471	4.5
University or higher	54.5%	39.1%	6.4%	721	3.7
CURRENT VOTE INTENTION					
Liberal Party	89.7%	8.1%	2.2%	389	5.0
Conservative Party	20.8%	76.0%	3.2%	412	4.8
NDP	57.9%	39.4%	2.7%	411	4.8
Green Party	52.5%	43.7%	3.7%	79	11.0
Bloc Québécois	45.4%	46.8%	7.7%	62	12.5



Approval Rating - Elizabeth May

Q. [Half-sample only] Do you approve or disapprove of the way Elizabeth May, leader of the Green Party of Canada, is handling her job?

	Approve	Disapprove	Don't know / No response	Sample Size	Margin of Error (+/-)
NATIONALLY	54.7%	33.1%	12.3%	1637	2.4
REGION					
British Columbia	56.7%	29.1%	14.2%	216	6.7
Alberta	48.2%	42.3%	9.5%	187	7.2
Saskatchewan	31.7%	48.7%	19.6%	73	11.5
Manitoba	75.1%	21.7%	3.2%	55	13.2
Ontario	55.1%	32.1%	12.8%	567	4.1
Quebec	53.0%	34.7%	12.3%	413	4.8
Atlantic Canada	63.6%	26.4%	10.0%	118	9.0
GENDER					
Male	58.6%	34.0%	7.4%	781	3.5
Female	54.3%	34.9%	10.8%	788	3.5
AGE					
<35	53.8%	34.7%	11.5%	170	7.5
35-49	56.0%	35.4%	8.6%	325	5.4
50-64	57.9%	33.0%	9.1%	552	4.2
65+	59.2%	34.5%	6.4%	523	4.3
EDUCATION					
High school or less	48.1%	43.1%	8.8%	318	5.5
College or CEGEP	57.0%	33.8%	9.1%	519	4.3
University or higher	62.9%	28.7%	8.3%	717	3.7
CURRENT VOTE INTENTION					
Liberal Party	64.1%	28.3%	7.6%	371	5.1
Conservative Party	41.4%	52.5%	6.0%	454	4.6
NDP	68.3%	25.0%	6.7%	435	4.7
Green Party	80.6%	14.2%	5.1%	90	10.3
Bloc Québécois	48.3%	35.4%	16.3%	53	13.5



<u>Approval Rating – Gilles Duceppe</u>

Q. [Quebec only] Do you approve or disapprove of the way Gilles Duceppe, leader of the Bloc Québécois, is handling his job?

	Approve	Disapprove	Don't know / No response	Sample Size	Margin of Error (+/-)
NATIONALLY	46.6%	44.6%	8.8%	843	3.4
REGION					
British Columbia	_	_	_	_	_
Alberta	-	_	_	_	_
Saskatchewan	-	_	_	_	_
Manitoba	_	_	_	_	_
Ontario	-	_	_	_	_
Quebec	46.6%	44.6%	8.8%	843	3.4
Atlantic Canada	_	_	_	_	_
GENDER					
Male	52.3%	45.3%	2.4%	414	4.8
Female	44.2%	48.0%	7.8%	396	4.9
AGE					
<35	53.8%	38.7%	7.5%	97	10.0
35-49	49.8%	45.8%	4.3%	221	6.6
50-64	45.9%	49.5%	4.6%	283	5.8
65+	35.3%	60.0%	4.6%	212	6.7
EDUCATION					
High school or less	47.6%	51.3%	1.1%	170	7.5
College or CEGEP	48.7%	43.9%	7.3%	256	6.1
University or higher	48.7%	44.1%	7.3%	384	5.0
CURRENT VOTE INTENTION					
Liberal Party	26.3%	67.6%	6.0%	136	8.4
Conservative Party	27.7%	68.5%	3.9%	131	8.6
NDP	52.7%	43.0%	4.3%	319	5.5
Green Party	50.0%	41.0%	9.0%	29	18.2
Bloc Québécois	86.5%	8.2%	5.2%	115	9.1



Direction of Country

Q. [Half-sample only] All things considered, would you say the country is moving in the right direction or the wrong direction?

	Right Direction	Wrong Direction	DK/NR	Sample Size	Margin of Error (+/-)
NATIONALLY	39.7%	53.4%	6.9%	1617	2.4
REGION					
British Columbia	35.0%	55.8%	9.1%	206	6.8
Alberta	48.4%	44.3%	7.3%	192	7.1
Saskatchewan	46.2%	43.5%	10.2%	63	12.4
Manitoba	52.0%	44.9%	3.1%	52	13.6
Ontario	39.1%	53.8%	7.2%	554	4.2
Quebec	34.3%	60.8%	4.9%	429	4.7
Atlantic Canada	48.4%	45.5%	6.1%	115	9.1
GENDER					
Male	39.6%	56.7%	3.7%	748	3.6
Female	42.3%	53.9%	3.8%	795	3.5
AGE					
<35	35.4%	60.1%	4.5%	150	8.0
35-49	39.2%	56.0%	4.8%	311	5.6
50-64	42.9%	54.1%	3.0%	560	4.1
65+	49.2%	47.9%	2.9%	525	4.3
EDUCATION					
High school or less	50.8%	45.5%	3.7%	326	5.4
College or CEGEP	37.6%	58.5%	3.9%	504	4.4
University or higher	36.7%	59.5%	3.8%	707	3.7
CURRENT VOTE INTENTION					
Liberal Party	24.9%	72.8%	2.3%	365	5.1
Conservative Party	88.9%	9.9%	1.2%	413	4.8
NDP	22.3%	75.7%	2.0%	452	4.6
Green Party	19.9%	78.6%	1.5%	70	11.7
Bloc Québécois	19.8%	78.5%	1.7%	60	12.7



Direction of Government

Q. [Half-sample only] All things considered, would you say the Government of Canada is moving in the right direction or the wrong direction?

	Right Direction	Wrong Direction	DK/NR	Sample Size	Margin of Error (+/-)
NATIONALLY	33.1%	60.8%	6.1%	1626	2.4
REGION					
British Columbia	32.4%	62.0%	5.6%	220	6.6
Alberta	52.7%	43.3%	4.0%	163	7.7
Saskatchewan	45.5%	47.9%	6.6%	76	11.2
Manitoba	32.9%	62.1%	5.0%	68	11.9
Ontario	33.8%	59.2%	7.0%	562	4.1
Quebec	26.5%	68.3%	5.2%	414	4.8
Atlantic Canada	20.4%	71.4%	8.2%	113	9.2
GENDER					
Male	37.6%	59.4%	3.0%	731	3.6
Female	30.9%	66.1%	3.1%	825	3.4
AGE					
<35	26.9%	68.6%	4.5%	153	7.9
35-49	36.1%	60.6%	3.3%	343	5.3
50-64	32.0%	65.0%	3.0%	533	4.2
65+	43.8%	53.5%	2.7%	529	4.3
EDUCATION					
High school or less	36.9%	57.5%	5.6%	327	5.4
College or CEGEP	35.5%	62.5%	2.0%	486	4.5
University or higher	30.3%	67.5%	2.2%	731	3.6
CURRENT VOTE INTENTION					
Liberal Party	10.8%	87.5%	1.8%	395	4.9
Conservative Party	89.5%	9.1%	1.4%	453	4.6
NDP	8.3%	91.0%	0.7%	394	4.9
Green Party	15.7%	82.6%	1.6%	99	9.9
Bloc Québécois	23.8%	74.5%	1.7%	55	13.2



Methodology:

This study was conducted using High Definition Interactive Voice Response (HD-IVR™) technology, which allows respondents to enter their preferences by punching the keypad on their phone, rather than telling them to an operator. In an effort to reduce the coverage bias of landline only RDD, we created a dual landline/cell phone RDD sampling frame for this research. As a result, we are able to reach those with a landline and cell phone, as well as cell phone only households and landline only households.

The field dates for this survey are August 26-September 1, 2015. In total, a random sample of 3,243 Canadian adults aged 18 and over responded to the survey. The margin of error associated with the total sample is \pm 1.7 percentage points, 19 times out of 20.

Please note that the margin of error increases when the results are sub-divided (i.e., error margins for sub-groups such as region, sex, age, education). All the data have been statistically weighted by **age, gender, region, and educational attainment** to ensure the sample's composition reflects that of the actual population of Canada according to Census data.