



PRESS RELEASE

Top Issues for British Columbians

Top Three Issues in BC are Cost of Living (56%), Health Care (40%) and Housing (34%)

Land Use, Property Rights and DRIPA is a Top Issue for 6% of BC Residents Including Only 9% of BC Conservatives voters and 3% of BC NDP voters

Vancouver, BC September 18, 2026 – As British Columbia appears to be on the verge of an early provincial election, an Ipsos poll released earlier this week shows there are three clear top issues in British Columbia – cost of living, health care and housing. The much discussed issue of land use, property rights and DRIPA is much lower down on the list of general public priorities.

Top Issues

There are three dominant issues for voters in British Columbia – cost of living/inflation (56%), health care (40%) and housing affordability and availability (34%).

Secondary issues include jobs and the economy (19%), crime and public safety (19%), US trade and tariff issues (19%), social issues like poverty and homelessness (18%), taxes (17%), drug use/addiction and the opioid crisis (15%) and climate change and the environment (12%).

- Top issues for current **BC NDP** supporters include cost of living/inflation (54%), health care (46%), housing affordability and availability (36%) and US trade and tariff issues (26%).
- Top issues for current **BC Conservative** supporters include cost of living/inflation (63%), housing affordability and availability (32%), health care (31%), crime and public safety (30%), jobs and the economy (27%) and taxes (25%).
- Top issues for **undecided voters** include cost of living/inflation (49%), health care (40%) and housing affordability and availability (30%).

Both the NDP and Conservatives have spent much time over the last 12 months discussing the issue of **land use, property rights and DRIPA**. This issue, however, is selected as a top issue by only 6% of BC residents, including 3% of NDP supporters and 9% of Conservative supporters.





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The full list of issues British Columbians would most like to see provincial leaders address is listed below. Survey respondents could select up to three issues.

Top Issues	Cost of living/inflation	56%
	Health care	40%
	Housing affordability and availability	34%
Secondary Issues	Jobs and the economy	19%
	Crime and public safety	19%
	US trade and tariff issues	19%
	Social issues like poverty and homelessness	18%
	Taxes	17%
	Drug use/addiction and the opioid crisis	15%
	Climate change and the environment	12%
Tertiary Issues	Government deficits and debt	9%
	Education	6%
	Infrastructure and transportation issues	6%
	Land use, property rights and DRIPA	6%
	Reconciliation with Indigenous peoples	3%
	Energy issues	2%
	Other	3%
	No opinion	2%





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About the Study

These are the findings of an Ipsos poll conducted September 8 to 14, 2026. For this survey, a sample of 800 adult British Columbians were surveyed online with sample sourced through the Ipsos panel. Data was weighted by BC region, age, gender and education, in accordance with Census proportions. The precision of Ipsos online polls is measured using a credibility interval. In this case, the poll is accurate to within ± 4.0 percentage points, 19 times out of 20. The credibility interval will be wider among subsets of the population. The credibility interval will be wider among subsets of the population. All sample surveys and polls may be subject to other sources of error, including, but not limited to coverage error, and measurement error.

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