

AS LIBERAL CAUCUS MEETS IN REGINA, NATIONAL POLITICAL LANDSCAPE REMAINS STATIC, BUT “UNDECIDED” HITS RARE HIGH (19%) - HIGHEST SINCE APRIL 2003

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(17%, -1 Point), And Green Party (6%, Unchanged) Remain
Steady In The Polls – In Quebec: Bloc Quebecois (47%, -4 Points)
Holds 21-Point Lead Over Liberals (26%, -1 Point)*



Ipsos Reid

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Toronto, ON – As the minority governing federal Liberal Party caucus starts their national summer meeting Monday in Regina it would appear that the national political landscape has stabilized over the last few months. According to the latest Ipsos Reid national survey, provided exclusively to CanWest/Global, Paul Martin and the Liberals (36%, +1 point from a June 21-23, 2005 survey) continue to hold an 8-point lead over the Stephen Harper led Conservatives (28%, +1 point), while Jack Layton and the NDP (17%, -1 point) and Jim Harris and the Green Party (6%, unchanged) have stable levels of support.

In Quebec, support for the Bloc Quebecois (47%, -4 points) has dipped very slightly while Liberal support (26%, -1 point) remains steady.

But the poll also indicates that this summer has a rare occurrence – a substantial rise in the proportion of “undecided voters”: currently, 19% of voters in Canada are undecided, refused to say whom they would vote for, or would not vote if a Federal election were held tomorrow (up 6 points from the last national political survey).¹ Further, with the Gomery Commission having concluded its hearings in Quebec and out of the news, and with a newly appointed Governor General designate from that province, voters there –with the undecided

¹ According to Ipsos-Reid polling, undecided vote normally trends at approximately 11%.



rate now at almost one-quarter of all voters (22%, +9 points) -- may prove to be fallow ground for the Liberals to plough.

These are the findings of an Ipsos-Reid poll provided exclusively to CanWest/Global and fielded from August 16th to August 18th 2005. For the survey, a representative randomly selected sample of 2000 adult Canadians were interviewed by telephone. With a sample of this size, the aggregate results are considered accurate to within ± 2.2 percentage points, 19 times out of 20, of what they would have been had the entire adult Canadian population been polled. The margin of error will be larger within each sub-grouping of the survey population. These data were weighted to ensure the sample's regional and age/sex composition reflects that of the actual Canadian population according to the 2001 Census data.

The National Vote...

According to the most recent Ipsos-Reid survey, if a Federal election were held today, 36% of decided voters would cast their ballot for the Liberals (+1 point), 28% for the Conservatives (+1 point), 17% for the NDP (-1 point), and 6% for the Green Party (unchanged).

In Quebec, the Bloc Quebecois sits at 47% support (-4 points) and now hold a 21-point lead over the Liberals (26%, -1 point).

Among all Canadians, 19% are undecided, refused to say whom they would vote for, or would not vote if a Federal election were held tomorrow – up 6 points from the last survey.

Parties	Election Results June 28, 2004	May 10- 12, 2005	May 16- 18, 2005	June 14- 16, 2005	June 21- 23, 2005	August 16-18, 2005	Movement From Last Poll	Since 2004 Election
The Conservative Party	30%	31%	28%	29%	27%	28%	+1%	-2%
The Liberals	37%	27%	34%	34%	35%	36%	+1%	-1%
The New Democratic Party	16%	19%	17%	16%	18%	17%	-1%	+1%
The Bloc Quebecois	12%	13%	14%	12%	13%	11%	-2%	-1%
The Green Party	4%	6%	6%	6%	6%	6%	0%	2%



The largest increase in undecided vote from the last survey has occurred in Quebec (22%, + 9 points), among those over the age of 55 (23%, +11 points), and among women (24%, +7 points).

Regional Vote Highlights...

- In Ontario, the Liberals (45%, +3 points) lead, followed by the Conservatives (29%, -1 point), the NDP (19%, -2 points), and the Green Party (6%, +1 point).
- In Quebec, the Bloc Quebecois holds steady (47%, -4 points) and have a 21-point lead over the Liberals (26%, -1 point) – the Conservatives (12%, +5 points), the NDP (9%, -1 point), and the Green Party (5%, unchanged) register lowly on the Federal radar screen.
- In British Columbia, the Liberals (38%, +3 points) are in first place, while the Conservative Party (25%, - 2 points) and the NDP (25%, -1 point) are tied for second – the Green Party trails with 10% support (unchanged).
- In Alberta, the Conservative Party (56%, -7 points) has an impressive lead, but the Liberals (24%, +8 points) have made some gains. The NDP (13%, +1 point), and the Green Party (7%, - 1 point) battle for the bottom rungs in this province.
- In Saskatchewan/Manitoba, the Conservative Party (34%, -1 point) and the NDP (32%, +6 points) are essentially tied, and are followed closely by the Liberals (29%, -4 points)– the Green Party has 2% of decided votes (-2 points).
- In Atlantic Canada, the Liberals (46%, -6 points) are leading, as the Conservatives (31%, +6 points), the NDP (17%, -1 point) and the Green Party (5%, +3 points) trail.



Please Refer To The Tables Below To Review Vote Support By Region:

Parties	Ontario		
	June 21-23, 2005	August 16-18, 2005	Change
The Conservative Party	30%	29%	-1
The Liberals	42%	45%	+3
The NDP	21%	19%	-2
The Green Party	5%	6%	+1

Parties	Quebec		
	June 21-23, 2005	August 16-18, 2005	Change
The Conservative Party	7%	12%	+5
The Liberals	27%	26%	-1
The NDP	10%	9%	-1
The Bloc Quebecois	51%	47%	-4
The Green Party	5%	5%	0

Parties	British Columbia		
	June 21-23, 2005	August 16-18, 2005	Change
The Conservative Party	27%	25%	-2
The Liberals	35%	38%	+3
The NDP	26%	25%	-1
The Green Party	10%	10%	0



Parties	Alberta		
	June 21-23, 2005	August 16-18, 2005	Change
The Conservative Party	63%	56%	-7
The Liberals	16%	24%	+8
The NDP	12%	13%	+1
The Green Party	8%	7%	-1

Parties	Saskatchewan/Manitoba		
	June 21-23, 2005	August 16-18, 2005	Change
The Conservative Party	35%	34%	-1
The Liberals	33%	29%	-4
The NDP	26%	32%	+6
The Green Party	4%	2%	-2

Parties	Atlantic Canada		
	June 21-23, 2005	August 16-18, 2005	Change
The Conservative Party	25%	31%	+6
The Liberals	52%	46%	-6
The NDP	18%	17%	-1
The Green Party	2%	5%	+3

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