

LIBERALS (36%, +2 POINTS) AHEAD OF CONSERVATIVES (27%, -3 POINTS) BY 9 POINTS NATIONALLY

*NDP (17%, +1 Point) And Green Party (5%, Unchanged) Trail
Front-runners – In Quebec, Bloc Quebecois Dominates (56% vs.
25% For Liberals)*

*Grits Open Up Big Lead In Ontario (19 Points) Over Tories As
Canadians Offer Tepid Reviews Of Tory Ads*



Ipsos Reid

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Grits Open Up Big Lead In Ontario (19 Points) Over Tories As Canadians Offer Tepid Reviews Of Tory Ads

Toronto, ON – The latest Ipsos Reid poll conducted for CanWest News Service/Global News gives the Liberals (36%, +2 points from last week) a 9-point lead over the Conservatives (27%, -3 points) in the national polls -- a lead which apparently has been fuelled by a substantial shift in voter opinion in the crucial province of Ontario where the Liberals (47%, +6 points) have sprung out to an impressive 19-point lead on the Conservatives (28%, -6 points).

Meanwhile, 17% of voters say they would cast their ballot for the NDP (+1 point), and 5% would vote for the Green Party (unchanged). In Quebec, the Bloc Quebecois has 56% of federal support (+1 point) versus 25% for the federal Liberals (-1 point).

Further, Canadians offer rather tepid reviews of the Conservatives recent election television advertising campaign. Among those who have seen the Conservative Party TV ads, most (58%) say that the ads have had no impact on them as to whether or not they are going to vote Conservative, a further 25% say the ads have made them “less likely” to vote Conservative. However, one in seven (15%) feel the ads will make them “more likely” to vote Conservative.

When those who say they do not plan to vote for Stephen Harper and the Conservatives (those who plan to vote for Liberals, NDP, Bloc Quebecois, or Green Party) are asked why:



- 26% say “because they don’t like Stephen Harper the Conservative leader”;
- 48% say “because of the policies of the Conservative Party”; while
- 22% have some other reason for not voting for the Conservative Party.

These are the findings of an Ipsos Reid poll conducted for CanWest News Service/Global News and fielded from December 9th to December 11th 2005. For the survey, a representative randomly selected sample of 1,000 adult Canadians were interviewed by telephone. With a sample of this size, the aggregate results are considered accurate to within ± 3.1 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.

Liberals (36%, +2 Points) Gain Slightly While Conservatives (27%, -3 Points) Slip...

If a federal election were held tomorrow, 36% of decided voters would cast their ballot for the federal Liberals (+2 points from a December 8th poll), 27% would vote Conservative (-3 points), 17% would vote NDP (+1 point), and 5% would vote for the Green Party (unchanged).

In Quebec, the Bloc Quebecois has 56% of federal support (+1 point) versus 25% for the federal Liberals (-1 point).

Among all Canadians, 14% are undecided, refused to say whom they would vote for, or don’t know (unchanged).



Parties	Election Results						Movement From Last Poll	Since 2004 Election
	June 28, 2004	Nov 22-24, 2005	Nov 28-29, 2005	Nov 28-Dec 1, 2005	Dec 6-8, 2005	Dec 9-11, 2005		
The Conservative Party	30%	30%	31%	31%	30%	27%	-3%	-3%
The Liberals	37%	34%	31%	33%	34%	36%	2%	-1%
The New Democratic Party	16%	16%	18%	17%	16%	17%	1%	1%
The Bloc Quebecois	12%	15%	14%	14%	14%	14%	0%	2%
The Green Party	4%	5%	5%	5%	5%	5%	0%	1%

For regional break-outs please refer to the tables at the end of the report.

Regional Highlights:

- In Ontario, the Liberals (47%) are up 6 points, while the Conservatives (28%) are down 6 points – the Liberals now have a 19-point lead on the Conservatives in this key province.
- In British Columbia, the Conservatives (33%, +6 points) have gained while both the Liberals (33%, -2 points) and the NDP (25%, -5 points) have slipped.
- The Conservatives (31%, -11 points) are down in Saskatchewan/Manitoba, as the NDP (34%, +12 points) have come on strong.

Half Of Canadians (51%) Have Watched Recent Conservative Party Ads...

Half of Canadians (51%) answer “yes” when asked if they have seen any of the recent TV ads for the Conservative Party that feature Stephen Harper answering questions about accountability, GST reform, daycare and other Conservative platforms – the other half (48%) say they have not.



Of Those Who Have Seen The Conservative Ads, Most (58%) Say These Ads Will Not Effect Their Vote, 25% Say It Makes Them Less Likely To Vote Conservative...

Among those who have seen the recent Conservative Party TV ads, most (58%) say that the ads have had no impact as to whether or not they are going to vote Conservative -- a further 25% say the ads made them “less likely” to vote Conservative. However, one in seven (15%) feel the ads will make them “more likely” to vote Conservative.

- The ads seem to have had the least positive effect on the Conservative Party in the regions of Saskatchewan/Manitoba (9%) and Quebec (5%).
- One in ten NDP supporters (12%) say the ads will make them more likely to vote Conservative.

	Region								Vote Intention			
	TOTAL	BC	ALB	SK/MN	ONT	QUE	ATL	CP	LIB	NDP	BQ	Green
More likely	15%	19%	15%	9%	18%	5%	18%	35%	6%	12%	7%	4%
Less likely	25%	27%	12%	31%	26%	22%	25%	6%	38%	35%	25%	32%
Neither	58%	51%	73%	57%	53%	71%	54%	59%	53%	50%	65%	59%

One-Quarter (26%) Of Those Who Plan To Not Vote For The Conservative Party Will Do So Because They Don't Like Stephen Harper...

When those who say they do not plan to vote for Stephen Harper and the Conservatives (those who plan to vote for Liberals, NDP, Bloc Quebecois, or Green Party) are asked why:

- 26% say “because they don’t like Stephen Harper the Conservative leader; while
- 48% say “because of the policies of the Conservative Party”.

One in five (22%) have some other reason for not voting for the Conservative Party.

Among those who say they are not voting for the Conservative Party:



- Those in Alberta (41%) and Atlantic Canada (40%) are the most likely to not vote Conservative because of Stephen Harper.
- Those in British Columbia (58%) and Quebec (53%) are the most likely to not vote Conservative because of the party's policies.

Said they would vote for the Liberals / NDP/ the Bloc Quebecois / Green Party	Region							Vote Intention			
	TOTAL	BC	ALB	SK/MN	ONT	QUE	ATL	LIB	NDP	BQ	Green
Because of the policies of the Conservative party	48%	58%	40%	41%	46%	53%	36%	42%	57%	56%	45%
Because you don't like Stephen Harper the Conservative leader	26%	28%	41%	30%	30%	16%	40%	34%	23%	13%	19%
Neither	22%	14%	16%	20%	20%	28%	21%	21%	15%	27%	34%

Regional Tables...

Parties	Ontario		
	Dec 6-8, 2005	Dec 9-11, 2005	Change
The Conservative Party	34%	28%	-6%
The Liberals	41%	47%	6%
The NDP	17%	18%	1%
The Green Party	6%	6%	0%

Parties	Quebec		
	Dec 6-8, 2005	Dec 9-11, 2005	Change
The Conservative Party	7%	4%	-3%
The Liberals	26%	25%	-1%
The NDP	8%	11%	3%
The Bloc Quebecois	55%	56%	1%
The Green Party	4%	4%	0%



Parties	British Columbia		
	Dec 6-8, 2005	Dec 9-11, 2005	Change
The Conservative Party	27%	33%	6%
The Liberals	35%	33%	-2%
The NDP	30%	25%	-5%
The Green Party	8%	8%	0%

Parties	Alberta		
	Dec 6-8, 2005	Dec 9-11, 2005	Change
The Conservative Party	56%	64%	8%
The Liberals	29%	25%	-4%
The NDP	11%	7%	-4%
The Green Party	4%	4%	0%

Parties	Saskatchewan/Manitoba		
	Dec 6-8, 2005	Dec 9-11, 2005	Change
The Conservative Party	42%	31%	-11%
The Liberals	30%	29%	-1%
The NDP	22%	34%	12%
The Green Party	5%	5%	0%

Parties	Atlantic Canada		
	Dec 6-8, 2005	Dec 9-11, 2005	Change
The Conservative Party	36%	38%	2%
The Liberals	40%	43%	3%
The NDP	18%	15%	-3%
The Green Party	4%	4%	0%



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