

# While Recession Fears Grow, Job Anxiety Remains Low

*Canadians Believe Harper (43%), Not Dion (25%),  
Best at Managing Economy*

Public Release Date: Saturday, May 10, 2008, 6:00 AM EST



**Ipsos Reid**

*Ipsos Reid is Canada's market intelligence leader and the country's leading provider of public opinion research. With operations in eight cities, Ipsos Reid employs more than 300 research professionals and support staff in Canada. The company has the biggest network of telephone call centres in Canada, as well as the largest pre-recruited household and on-line panels. Ipsos Reid's Canadian marketing research and public affairs practices are staffed with seasoned research consultants with extensive industry-specific backgrounds, offering the premier suite of research vehicles in Canada—including the Ipsos Trend Report, the leading source of public opinion in the country—all of which provide clients with actionable and relevant information. Ipsos Reid is an Ipsos company, a leading global survey-based market research group. To learn more, visit [www.ipsos.ca](http://www.ipsos.ca)*

***For copies of other news releases, please visit  
<http://www.ipsos-na.com/news/>***

---

© Ipsos Reid

*Washington λ New York λ Chicago λ Minneapolis λ Seattle λ San Francisco  
Vancouver λ Edmonton λ Calgary λ Winnipeg λ Toronto λ Ottawa λ Montreal*

# **While Recession Fears Grow, Job Anxiety Remains Low**

## ***Canadians Believe Harper (43%), Not Dion (25%), Best at Managing Economy***

**Ottawa, ON** – Increased media speculation of a recession appears to be fuelling Canadians' fears of a looming recession, with a new Ipsos Reid poll conducted exclusively on behalf of CanWest News Service and Global Television revealing that nearly one in four Canadians (22%, up 9 points since February) believe the Canadian economy is headed for recession. Recession fears are greatest in Ontario (30%) and Quebec (22%).

Seven in ten (71%) Canadians label the state of the Canadian economy as 'good' (5% 'very good/66% 'good'), down 7 points over the last four weeks. Three in ten (28%) believe the economy is 'poor' (6% 'very poor' /21% 'poor'), an increase of 7 points.

Still, the majority of Canadians (59%, down 5 points) agree that the economy will likely slow down but continue to show some growth, effectively avoiding a recession. Nearly two in ten (16%, down 6 points) believe that it will continue to grow as strongly as it has in recent years.

While the data reveal that Canadians assessment of the state of the economy is worsening, job anxiety remains low. Fifteen percent (15%) of Canadians report that they, or someone in their household, are worried about losing their job or being laid off, down 1 point over the last four weeks. Job anxiety is the highest in Ontario (22%), with the next highest jurisdiction being Saskatchewan and Manitoba (12%).



Thinking about the political party in which they have the most confidence to manage the economy, 43% (down 2 points since February) of Canadians indicated that Stephen Harper and the Conservatives hold this position for them. One quarter (25%, unchanged) chose Stephane Dion and the Liberals, while just 16% (unchanged) said they had the most confidence in Jack Layton and the NDP to manage the economy. Sixteen percent (16%) don't know in whom they've got the most confidence.

*These are the findings of an Ipsos Reid poll conducted on behalf of CanWest News Service and Global Television from May 6 to May 8, 2008. For the survey, a representative randomly selected sample of 1000 adult Canadians was interviewed by telephone. With a sample of this size, the results are considered accurate to within  $\pm 3.1$  percentage points, 19 times out of 20, of what they would have been had the entire adult population of Canada been polled. The margin of error will be larger within regions and for other sub-groupings of the survey population. These data were weighted to ensure that the sample's regional and age/sex composition reflects that of the actual Canadian population according to Census data.*

***For more information on this news release, please contact:***

***Dr. Darrell Bricker  
President and CEO  
Ipsos Reid  
Public Affairs  
(416) 324-2001***

***For full tabular results, please visit our website at [www.ipsos.ca](http://www.ipsos.ca). News Releases are available at: <http://www.ipsos-na.com/news/>***