

# **Ignatieff Liberals (33%) Continue to Edge Closer to Harper Conservatives (37%)**

***Grits (42%) Open a 5-Point Lead in Ontario over Tories (37%)***

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## **Ignatieff Liberals (33%) Continue to Edge Closer to Harper Conservatives (37%)**

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**Toronto, ON** – As politicians in Ottawa focus on how best to spend budgeted stimulus funds to help steer Canada out of an economic recession by creating jobs, a new Ipsos Reid poll of over 2,000 Canadians conducted on behalf of Canwest News Service and Global Television has revealed that Michael Ignatieff and his Liberal Party continue to make gains on Prime Minister Harper's Conservative Government.

If an election were held tomorrow, the Conservatives would receive support from 37% of decided voters (unchanged from early February), while the Liberals would receive 33% support, up 2 points nationally. While the Liberals continue to make steady gains since Mr. Ignatieff took over the helm of the party, Conservative support has flat-lined as they failed to receive a post Obama-visit gain in the polls just weeks after the American President's first official state-visit abroad.

The NDP would receive support from 12% of Canadians (down 2 points), while the Green Party would receive 8% of the vote (up 1 point). The Bloc is enjoying support from 10% of decided voters nationally (unchanged), or 41% in Quebec. Six percent (6%) remain undecided.

Support for the major parties varies by region, and it appears that gains in Ontario are driving the increase in support for the Liberals:

- In seat-rich **Ontario**, the Liberals (42%) have opened up a 5-point lead over the Conservatives (37%), while the NDP (12%) and Greens (8%) are far behind.
- In **Quebec**, the Bloc (41%) maintains a healthy lead over the Liberals (27%), while the Conservatives continue to trail off (16%). The NDP (10%) and Green Party (6%) lag.
- In **British Columbia**, the Tories (50%) have a wide lead over the Grits (26%), NDP (14%), and Green Party (9%).
- In **Alberta**, the Conservatives (70%) continue to paint the province blue, while the Liberals (15%), NDP (10%) and Green Party (6%) are well behind.
- In **Saskatchewan and Manitoba**, the Conservatives have 49% support, followed by the Liberals (28%), NDP (16%) and Green Party (6%).
- In **Atlantic Canada**, the Liberals (41%) are on top, followed by the Tories (29%), the NDP (17%) and the Green Party (12%).

*These are the findings of an Ipsos Reid poll conducted February 24 to March 5, 2009 for Canwest News Service and Global Television. For the survey, a representative randomly selected sample of 2,002 adult Canadians was interviewed by telephone. With a sample of this size, the results are considered accurate to within  $\pm 2.2$  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.*



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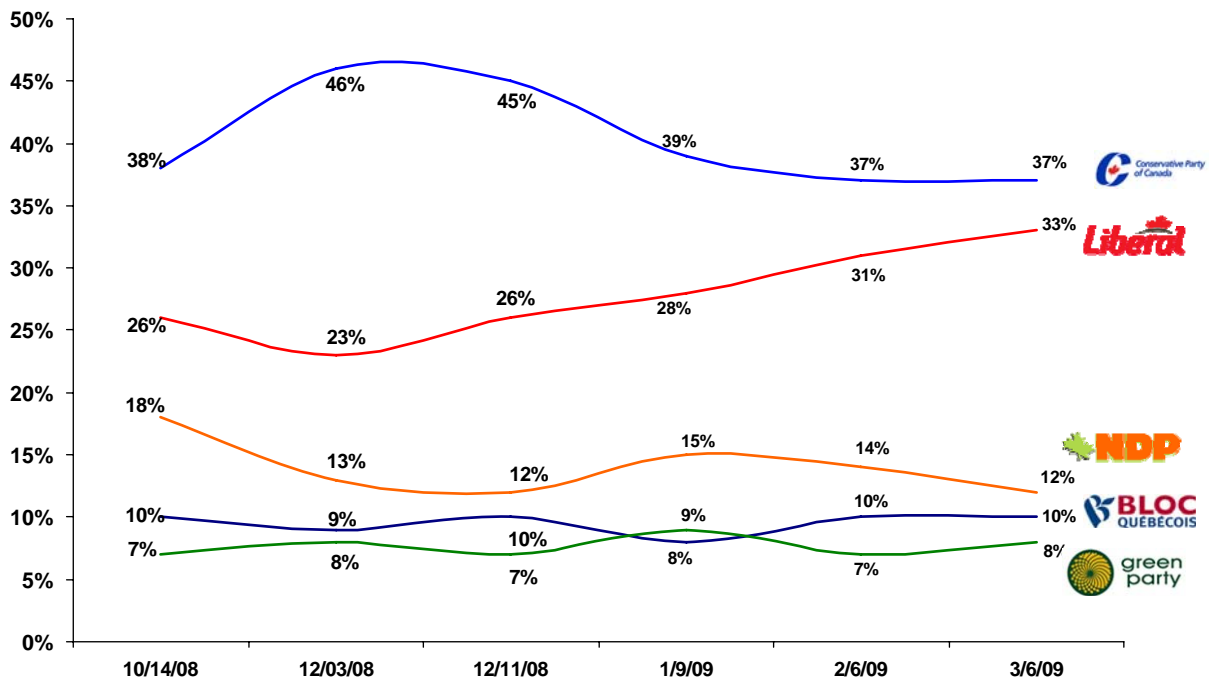
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## Federal Vote Support

March 6, 2009, percentage of decided voters.



Canwest /Global News Ipsos Reid Survey, February 24- March 5, 2009. Decided voters including leaners (n=1735).

6% of all Canadian adults (n=2002) are undecided

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