

Pre-Election Budget Sabre Rattling Masks

Stagnant Party Vote Strength

Conservatives (34%), Liberals (29%) Return to Familiar Ground

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Toronto, ON – With Canada's federal opposition parties throwing down the gauntlet ahead of the March budget which could see the government fall if it doesn't convince at least one other party to lend its support, a new Ipsos Reid poll conducted on behalf of Postmedia News and Global Television has revealed that Canadian voting intentions have returned to very familiar ground. With most Canadians not wanting to go to the polls and attack ads filling the airways, support for Canada's two leading parties has returned to previous levels that have remained virtually stagnant throughout 2010.

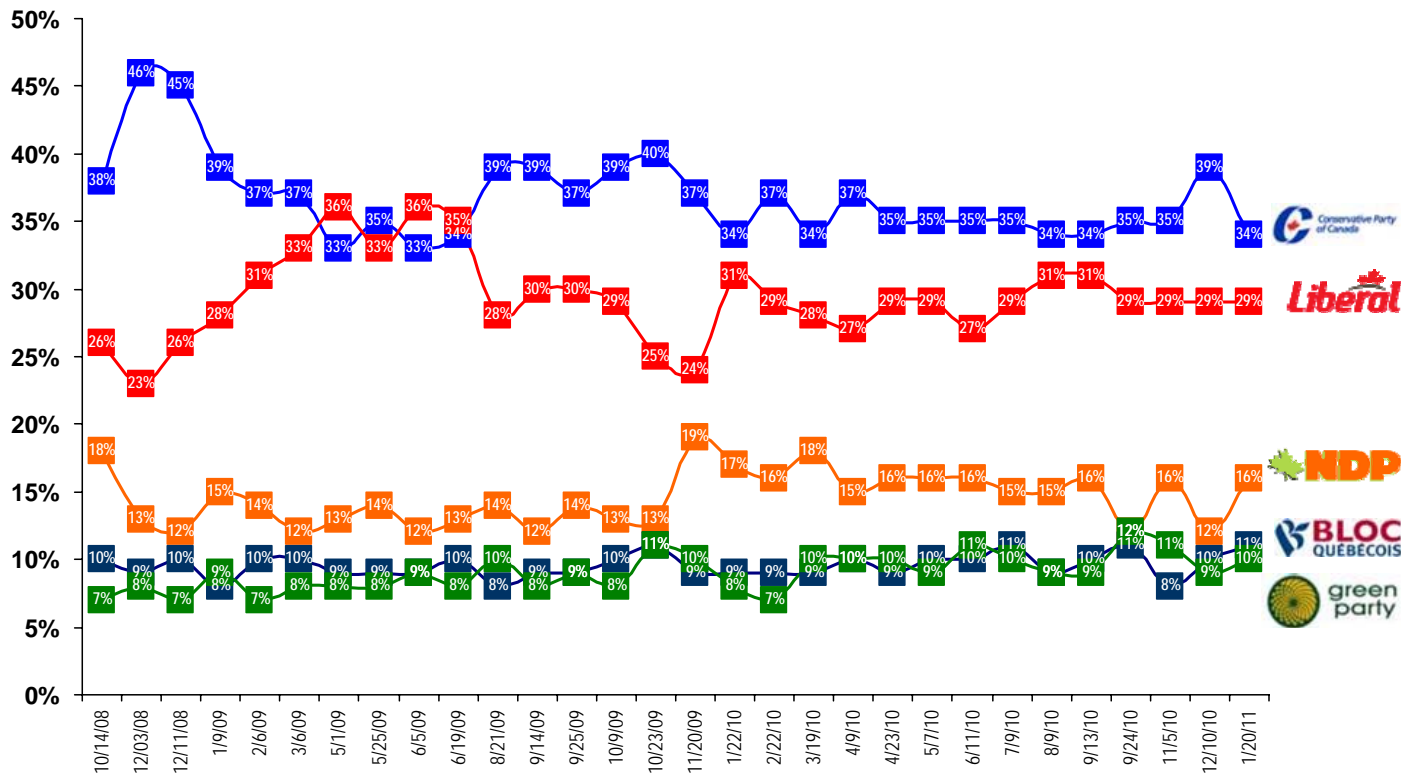
If an election were to be held tomorrow, the Conservatives under Prime Minister Stephen Harper would receive 34% of the vote among decided voters (down 5 points since Ipsos' last poll in December, 2010), while the Liberals led by Michael Ignatieff would receive 29% of the vote (unchanged). Jack Layton and the NDP would receive 16% of the vote (up 4 points), while the Green Party and Elizabeth May would garner 10% of the vote (up 1 point). The Bloc would receive 11% of the vote, nationally (up 1 point), while 7% of Canadians are undecided. One percent (1%) of Canadians would vote for some other party.

In the key battleground of Ontario, the Grits (40%) have edged ahead of the Tories (36%), while the NDP (15%) and Green Party (8%) lag.

In Quebec, the Bloc (42%) continues to hold a commanding lead, while the Liberals (16%), Conservatives (15%), NDP (14%) and Green Party (12%) are all well behind.

Federal Vote Support

February 2, 2011, percentage of decided voters.



Postmedia News /Global TV Ipsos Reid Survey, Jan 20 – Feb 2, 2011. Decided voters including leaners (n=866).

7% of all Canadian adults (n=1,008) are undecided

These are the findings of an Ipsos Reid poll conducted on behalf of Postmedia News and Global Television from January 20 to February 2, 2011. For the survey, a representative randomly-selected sample of 1,008 adult Canadians was interviewed by telephone. With a sample of this size, the 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 population of Canada been polled. The margin of error will be larger within



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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. 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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