

NEWS RELEASE



MEDIA INQUIRIES:

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FOR IMMEDIATE RELEASE

NDP maintains strong lead

Liberals tied with Conservatives in second

TORONTO September 10th, 2015 - In a random sampling of public opinion taken by the Forum Poll™ among 1308 Canadian voters in the days immediately after the Labour Day weekend, when increased attention is paid to the federal election campaign, the NDP maintains its lead of well more than a third of voters (36% this week and last), while the Liberals (29%) and Conservatives (28%) are tied in second place. Very few will vote Green or Bloc Quebecois (3% each) or for other parties (1%). These findings represent a rebound for the Conservatives from last week (24%) and the week before (23%). In the same time frame, the Liberals have lost vote share (from 32% last week).

NDP lead in Quebec, Ontario and BC; tied in prairies

In Atlantic Canada, the Liberals have regained their dominance (53%) while the NDP is in second (26%) and the Conservatives lag (18%). In Quebec, the NDP lead (45%), the Conservatives and Liberals are tied (22% and 21%, respectively) and the Bloc lags (10%). In the crucial battleground of Ontario, the NDP has a slight lead (34%) over the Conservatives and Liberals (31% each). In the prairies, the Conservatives (35%) and the NDP (34%) are tied, and the Liberals lag (27%). In Fortress Alberta, the federal Conservatives still lead (43%) and the NDP (28%) and Liberals (25%) vie for second place. The NDP leads comfortably in BC (37%) while the Conservatives (28%) and Liberals (27%) are tied.

Each party's voters in flux

Each party stands to lose between a quarter and a third of its 2011 vote, as one sixth of past Conservative voters will support the Liberals this time (16%) and one tenth will support the NDP (12%). In turn, one fifth of 2011 Liberals are voting NDP this time (20%) and one sixth of past New Democrats will vote Liberal this time (15%). Very few voters will switch to the Conservative Party.

Conservative support is firmest

Seven-in-ten Conservative voters say they are strong party supporters (70%), whereas just more than half of Liberals (55%) and New Democrats (56%) say it this

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HIGHLIGHTS:

- NDP maintains its lead of well more than a third of voters (36% this week and last), while the Liberals (29%) and Conservatives (28%) are tied in second place.
- In Atlantic Canada, the Liberals have regained their dominance (53%) while the NDP is in second (26%) and the Conservatives lag (18%).
- Each party stands to lose between a quarter and a third of its 2011 vote, as one sixth of past Conservative voters will support the Liberals this time and one tenth will support the NDP (12%).
- Seven-in-ten Conservative voters say they are strong party supporters (70%), whereas just more than half of Liberals (55%) and New Democrats (56%) say it.

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HIGHLIGHTS:

- Males are more likely to vote Conservative (32%) than are females (25%), whereas the opposite applies to Liberals (31% female, 26% male).
- If these results are projected up to seats in the newly allocated 338 seat House, the NDP would take a minority of 139, 31 fewer than required for a majority.
- One third of voters expect the NDP to win the election (33%) and this is just fewer than the proportion who will vote for them.
- Tom Mulcair is seen to make the best Prime Minister (31%).
- Tom Mulcair has the approval of half the voters (48%) and his net favourable rating (approve minus disapprove) is a very positive +19.

Gender imbalance in both Conservative and Liberal vote

Males are more likely to vote Conservative (32%) than are females (25%), whereas the opposite applies to Liberals (31% female, 26% male). There is little imbalance in the NDP vote. The Conservative vote is common to older males, the Liberal vote is characteristic of mid aged females and the NDP vote is common to the youngest in the lowest income brackets.

NDP minority government in the cards

If these results are projected up to seats in the newly allocated 338 seat House, the NDP would take a minority of 139 seats, 31 fewer than required for a majority. The Conservatives would capture 113 seats, the Liberals 85, the Greens would seat their leader and no other party would be represented.

NDP expected to win

In this predictive measure, one third of voters expect the NDP to win the election (33%) and this is just fewer than the proportion who will vote for them. In turn, about one quarter expect the Conservatives (26%) or Liberals (24%) to be triumphant.

Mulcair seen as best Prime Minister

Tom Mulcair is seen to make the best Prime Minister (31%), but Stephen Harper has recovered ground on this measure and is not far behind (25%). Justin Trudeau lags (22%).

Leader approvals stable

Tom Mulcair has the approval of half the voters (48%) and his net favourable rating (approve minus disapprove) is a very positive +19. Justin Trudeau's approval is just lower (45%) and his net is a respectable +9. Stephen Harper continues to have the approval of about 3-in-10 voters (29%), and his net score is a very negative -36. These findings have not changed significantly since last week.

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Conservative, NDP majorities are desired outcomes

One fifth of voters would like to see either a Conservative or an NDP majority (20% each), while just fewer would like to see an NDP-Liberal coalition (15%) or a Liberal majority (14%). Half these proportions will entertain Conservative or NDP minorities (8% each) or a Liberal minority (7%).

"After a surge of enthusiasm for the two opposition parties last week, and a bad week for the government, it appears voters are reconsidering their options. It may be that underlying opposition to accepting Syrian refugees has led to increased support for the Conservatives. This is a very volatile electorate, as we have seen, and there is more than a normal election's worth of campaigning left to go, so any number of things could happen," said Forum Research President, Dr. Lorne Bozinoff.

Lorne Bozinoff, Ph.D. is the president and founder of Forum Research. He can be reached at lbozinoff@forumresearch.com or at (416) 960-9603.

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HIGHLIGHTS:

- One fifth of voters would like to see either a Conservative or an NDP majority (20% each).
- "After a surge of enthusiasm for the two opposition parties last week, and a bad week for the government, it appears voters are reconsidering their options. This is a very volatile electorate, as we have seen, and there is more than a normal election's worth of campaigning left to go, so any number of things could happen," said Forum Research President, Dr. Lorne Bozinoff.

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Methodology

The Forum Poll™ was conducted by Forum Research with the results based on an interactive voice response telephone survey of 1308 randomly selected Canadians 18 years of age or older. The poll was conducted from September 9th to 10th, 2015.

Results based on the total sample are considered accurate +/- 3%, 19 times out of 20. Subsample results will be less accurate. Margins of error for subsample (such as age, gender) results are available at www.forumresearch.com/samplestim.asp

Where appropriate, the data has been statistically weighted by age, region, and other variables to ensure that the sample reflects the actual population according to the latest Census data.

This research is not necessarily predictive of future outcomes, but rather, captures opinion at one point in time. Electoral success is dependant on the parties' skill at getting out the vote. Forum Research conducted this poll as a public service and to demonstrate our survey research capabilities. Forum houses its poll results in the Data Library of the Department of Political Science at the University of Toronto.

With offices across Canada and around the world, 100% Canadian-owned Forum Research is one of the country's leading survey research firms. This Forum Poll™ and other polls may be found at Forum's poll archive at www.forumresearch.com/polls.asp

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Federal Party Preference Trending

[Decided/Leaning]

%	Sample	Cons	Lib	NDP	Green	Bloc	Other
September 9-10 th , 2015	1308	28	29	36	3	3	1
August 30-September 1 st , 2015	1384	24	32	36	4	4	1
August 23-24 th , 2015	1440	23	30	40	3	3	1
August 17-19 th , 2015	1473	29	28	34	4	4	1
August 10-11 th , 2015	1392	28	27	34	4	6	1
August 2 nd , 2015	1399	28	25	39	3	5	1
July 29 th , 2015	1397	33	25	33	4	4	1
July 21 st , 2015	1208	28	29	34	4	5	1
July 14 th , 2015	1251	27	27	34	5	7	1
July 8 th , 2015	1200	32	26	32	3	5	1
June 29 th , 2015	1221	27	29	32	4	6	1
June 23 rd , 2015	1268	28	28	36	2	5	1
June 16 th , 2015	1281	26	28	34	5	7	1
June 5 th , 2015	1156	31	32	28	5	3	1
May 14 th , 2015	1286	31	31	30	4	3	1
April 23 rd , 2015	977	35	31	23	6	5	1
April 16 th , 2015	1365	33	35	22	6	3	1
March 31 st , 2015	1239	31	34	23	5	5	1
March 14 th , 2015	1370	32	36	21	6	4	1
February 11 th , 2015	1018	32	39	17	5	4	1
January 27-28 th , 2015	1309	35	34	20	6	5	1
January 5-6 th , 2015	1650	33	37	20	5	4	1
Dec. 10-11 th , 2014	1560	33	41	17	5	3	1
Nov. 19-20 th , 2014	1442	33	36	18	8	4	1
Oct. 5-8 th , 2014	1504	34	38	19	4	4	1
Sept. 5 th , 2014	1267	34	40	18	3	4	1
August 18-19 th , 2014	1798	32	41	17	5	5	1
July 18 th , 2014	1624	28	44	18	3	5	1
June 16-17 th , 2014	1683	31	39	19	5	4	1
May 22 nd , 2014	1694	30	36	23	5	6	1
Apr 29 th , 2014	1572	30	39	20	4	6	1
Mar 25-28 th , 2014	1764	29	39	22	3	5	1
Feb. 18-19 th , 2014	1824	29	39	21	4	6	1
Jan. 23-24 th , 2014	1228	28	38	24	4	5	1
Jan. 17 th , 2014	1779	28	37	25	4	5	1
Dec. 12-13 th , 2013	1634	32	38	21	3	5	1
Nov. 12-13 th , 2013	1834	29	38	22	4	6	1

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Seat Distribution Projection Trending

%	Cons	Lib	NDP	Green	Bloc	Other
September 9-10 th , 2015	113	85	139	1	0	0
August 30-September 1 st , 2015	73	123	141	1	0	0
August 23-24 th , 2015	87	76	174	1	0	0
August 17-19 th , 2015	123	79	133	1	2	0
August 10-11 th , 2015	120	89	125	1	3	0
August 2 nd , 2015	118	58	160	1	1	0
July 29 th , 2015	156	58	122	1	1	0
July 21 st , 2015	121	78	134	1	4	0
July 14 th , 2015	107	79	132	1	19	0
July 8 th , 2015	155	59	120	1	2	1
June 29 th , 2015	104	106	119	1	8	0
June 23 rd , 2015	116	65	149	1	3	0
June 16 th , 2015	112	86	120	1	18	1
June 5 th , 2015	151	101	83	1	1	1
May 14 th , 2015	131	95	111	1	0	0
April 23 rd , 2015	146	101	77	1	12	1
April 16 th , 2015	142	137	58	1	0	0
March 31 st , 2015	129	125	65	1	17	1
March 14 th , 2015	130	138	65	1	4	0
February 10 th , 2015	112	194	30	1	1	0
January 27-28 th , 2015	145	125	61	1	5	1
January 5-6 th , 2015	137	126	70	1	0	1

Switch from 308 to 338 seat distribution

Dec. 10-11 th , 2014	109	164	34	1	0	0
Nov. 19-20 th , 2014	125	124	52	1	6	0
Oct. 5-8 th , 2014	132	130	44	1	1	0
Sept. 5 th , 2014	113	162	30	1	2	0
August 18-19 th , 2014	110	142	51	1	4	0
July 18 th , 2014	84	192	30	1	1	0
June 16-17 th , 2014	109	142	53	1	3	0
May 22 nd , 2014	111	110	75	1	11	0
Apr 29 th , 2014	100	158	39	1	10	0
Mar 25-28 th , 2014	99	159	40	1	9	0
Feb. 18-19 th , 2014	100	134	51	1	22	0
Jan. 23-24 th , 2014	104	132	65	1	6	0
Jan. 17 th , 2013	111	130	61	1	5	0
Dec. 12-13 th , 2013	110	147	48	1	2	0
Nov. 12-13 th , 2013	108	134	53	1	12	0
Oct. 23 rd , 2013	104	146	47	1	10	0
Oct. 21-22 nd , 2013	106	147	33	1	21	0
Sept 16-17 th , 2013	121	102	45	1	39	0
August 24 th , 2013	107	127	63	1	10	0

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Expected Federal Election Party Winner

%	Sample	Cons	Lib	NDP	Green	Bloc	Other
September 9-10 th , 2015	1308	26	24	33	1	1	1
August 30-September 1 st , 2015	1384	24	22	36	2	1	1
August 23-24 th , 2015	1440	25	17	36	2	2	1
August 17-19 th , 2015	1473	28	22	32	2	3	1
August 10-11 th , 2015	1392	30	22	30	3	3	1
August 2 nd , 2015	1399	31	18	31	2	2	1
July 29 th , 2015	1397	34	18	29	3	2	1
July 21 st , 2015	1208	30	24	29	2	2	2
July 14 th , 2015	1251	27	24	28	3	3	3
July 8 th , 2015	1200	30	24	28	3	3	1
June 29 th , 2015	1221	30	27	26	3	3	1
June 23 rd , 2015	1268	29	25	27	2	3	-
June 16 th , 2015	1281	30	26	25	2	3	-
June 5 th , 2015	1156	31	31	18	3	2	-
May 14 th , 2015	1286	32	30	20	2	2	-
April 16 th , 2015	1365	36	37	10	3	3	-

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Federal Vote Preference

'A federal election has been called for October 19. Which party are you most likely to vote for in this election?'+'Even though you may not have made up your mind, which party are you leaning towards at this time?'

[Decided/Leaning]

Age / Gender

%	Total	18-34	35-44	45-54	55-64	65+	Male	Female
Sample	1245	185	186	186	310	378	687	558
Conservative	28	21	28	31	28	32	32	25
Liberal	29	18	33	34	28	30	26	31
New Democratic	36	53	32	30	36	31	35	38
Green	3	4	4	2	4	3	4	3
Bloc Quebecois	3	3	2	3	4	3	3	3
Other	1	2	1	0	1	1	1	1

Region

%	Total	Atl	Que	ON	Man/Sask	AB	BC	English	French
Sample	1245	156	342	286	127	163	168	913	332
Conservative	28	18	22	31	35	43	28	31	21
Liberal	29	53	21	31	27	25	27	32	20
New Democratic	36	26	45	34	34	28	37	32	47
Green	3	2	2	4	2	2	7	3	2
Bloc Quebecois	3	0	10	0	0	0	0	0	10
Other	1	1	0	1	2	2	1	1	0

Past Federal Vote

%	Total	Conservative	Liberal	New Democratic	Green	Bloc Quebecois	Other Parties
Sample	1245	438	240	310	70	63	34
Conservative	28	70	7	6	11	2	12
Liberal	29	16	70	15	23	5	45
New Democratic	36	12	20	74	40	55	25
Green	3	1	2	3	24	2	7
Bloc Quebecois	3	0	1	3	1	36	0
Other	1	2	0	0	1	0	11

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Strong Supporter

'Are you a strong supporter of that party?'

[Has chosen party]

Age / Gender

%	Total	18-34	35-44	45-54	55-64	65+	Male	Female
Sample	1238	184	183	185	310	376	685	553
Yes	61	57	48	61	66	75	58	63
No	39	43	52	39	34	25	42	37

Region

%	Total	Atl	Que	ON	Man/Sask	AB	BC	English	French
Sample	1238	154	342	285	126	161	167	906	332
Yes	61	56	48	66	68	67	63	65	46
No	39	44	52	34	32	33	37	35	54

Federal Vote Preference

%	Total	Conservative	Liberal	New Democratic	Green	Bloc Quebecois	Other Parties
Sample	1238	328	332	391	71	38	78
Yes	61	70	55	56	52	68	78
No	39	30	45	44	48	32	22

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Stephen Harper Approval

'Do you approve or disapprove of the job Stephen Harper is doing as Prime Minister?'

[All Respondents]

Age / Gender

%	Total	18-34	35-44	45-54	55-64	65+	Male	Female
Sample	1308	200	193	198	324	393	707	601
Approve	29	25	28	31	30	33	30	28
Disapprove	65	67	67	65	65	58	64	65
Don't know	6	8	5	4	5	8	6	7

Region

%	Total	Atl	Que	ON	Man/Sask	AB	BC	English	French
Sample	1308	164	359	304	131	173	174	959	349
Approve	29	15	26	29	30	42	31	30	25
Disapprove	65	79	67	65	64	51	62	64	68
Don't know	6	6	7	6	5	7	6	6	7

Federal Vote Preference

%	Total	Conservative	Liberal	New Democratic	Green	Bloc Quebecois	Other Parties
Sample	1308	328	332	391	71	38	85
Approve	29	84	12	5	7	5	57
Disapprove	65	8	84	94	90	82	38
Don't know	6	8	4	2	3	13	5

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Tom Mulcair Approval

‘Do you approve or disapprove of the job Tom Mulcair is doing as Leader of the Opposition?’

[All Respondents]

Age / Gender

%	Total	18-34	35-44	45-54	55-64	65+	Male	Female
Sample	1308	200	193	198	324	393	707	601
Approve	48	45	49	51	50	48	49	47
Disapprove	29	27	27	31	31	33	34	25
Don't know	22	28	24	18	19	19	17	28

Region

%	Total	Atl	Que	ON	Man/Sask	AB	BC	English	French
Sample	1308	164	359	304	131	173	174	959	349
Approve	48	46	57	45	46	41	49	45	57
Disapprove	29	24	24	29	36	41	31	31	24
Don't know	22	30	19	26	18	17	20	24	18

Federal Vote Preference

%	Total	Conservative	Liberal	New Democratic	Green	Bloc Quebecois	Other Parties
Sample	1308	328	332	391	71	38	85
Approve	48	23	46	82	51	49	16
Disapprove	29	54	31	6	32	36	56
Don't know	22	24	23	12	18	16	28

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Justin Trudeau Approval

‘Do you approve or disapprove of the job Justin Trudeau is doing as leader of the Liberal Party?’

[All Respondents]

Age / Gender

%	Total	18-34	35-44	45-54	55-64	65+	Male	Female
Sample	1308	200	193	198	324	393	707	601
Approve	45	43	45	49	47	42	48	43
Disapprove	37	35	36	38	37	37	37	36
Don't know	18	22	19	12	15	21	15	21

Region

%	Total	Atl	Que	ON	Man/Sask	AB	BC	English	French
Sample	1308	164	359	304	131	173	174	959	349
Approve	45	55	38	46	41	48	50	47	38
Disapprove	37	27	44	36	33	37	32	35	43
Don't know	18	19	18	19	26	15	18	18	19

Federal Vote Preference

%	Total	Conservative	Liberal	New Democratic	Green	Bloc Quebecois	Other Parties
Sample	1308	328	332	391	71	38	85
Approve	45	19	85	46	44	31	14
Disapprove	37	70	7	32	35	61	59
Don't know	18	12	9	22	21	8	27

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Next Federal Election Winner

'Which party do you expect to win the federal election?'

[All Respondents]

Age / Gender

%	Total	18-34	35-44	45-54	55-64	65+	Male	Female
Sample	1308	200	193	198	324	393	707	601
Conservative	26	23	25	25	29	30	27	24
Liberal	24	23	26	26	21	22	22	26
New Democratic	33	34	37	34	30	29	36	30
Green	1	3	0	1	2	2	1	2
Bloc Quebecois	1	2	1	0	1	0	1	1
Another Party	1	3	1	0	1	1	2	0
Don't know	14	13	10	14	17	17	11	16

Region

%	Total	Atl	Que	ON	Man/Sask	AB	BC	English	French
Sample	1308	164	359	304	131	173	174	959	349
Conservative	26	14	23	26	28	36	27	27	22
Liberal	24	34	17	28	21	13	28	26	17
New Democratic	33	30	47	28	33	26	30	29	47
Green	1	4	0	2	2	2	1	2	0
Bloc Quebecois	1	0	1	2	0	0	0	1	1
Another Party	1	1	1	0	1	6	1	1	1
Don't know	14	16	10	15	14	17	12	15	11

Federal Vote Preference

%	Total	Conservative	Liberal	New Democratic	Green	Bloc Quebecois	Other Parties
Sample	1308	328	332	391	71	38	85
Conservative	26	75	4	7	11	17	51
Liberal	24	6	65	10	26	14	6
New Democratic	33	8	19	69	36	55	6
Green	1	2	0	1	7	0	4
Bloc Quebecois	1	0	0	0	2	7	8
Another Party	1	0	0	0	0	0	13
Don't know	14	9	11	13	18	7	12

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Best Prime Minister

'Regardless of which party you plan to vote for, who do you think would make the best Prime Minister?'

[All Respondents]

Age / Gender

%	Total	18-34	35-44	45-54	55-64	65+	Male	Female
Sample	1308	200	193	198	324	393	707	601
Stephen Harper	25	18	25	27	28	32	28	23
Justin Trudeau	22	20	24	25	21	21	20	24
Tom Mulcair	31	34	28	31	30	30	32	30
Elizabeth May	7	10	6	3	9	5	8	6
Gilles Duceppe	2	2	4	1	2	1	3	1
None of these	8	12	8	6	7	5	7	9
Don't know	4	3	4	7	4	5	2	7

Region

%	Total	Atl	Que	ON	Man/Sask	AB	BC	English	French
Sample	1308	164	359	304	131	173	174	959	349
Stephen Harper	25	16	18	27	29	42	25	28	17
Justin Trudeau	22	33	19	23	21	21	23	24	18
Tom Mulcair	31	26	41	30	30	22	26	27	43
Elizabeth May	7	11	4	6	6	5	15	8	3
Gilles Duceppe	2	1	7	0	1	1	0	0	7
None of these	8	5	8	8	12	7	7	8	7
Don't know	4	7	4	6	2	3	3	5	4

Federal Vote Preference

%	Total	Conservative	Liberal	New Democratic	Green	Bloc Quebecois	Other Parties
Sample	1308	328	332	391	71	38	85
Stephen Harper	25	82	5	2	5	5	52
Justin Trudeau	22	7	63	9	14	19	6
Tom Mulcair	31	3	19	72	27	23	6
Elizabeth May	7	1	6	7	38	9	5
Gilles Duceppe	2	0	1	2	2	39	0
None of these	8	2	4	5	10	4	31
Don't know	4	4	2	4	4	1	1

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TORONTO

September 10th, 2015

Best Electoral Outcome

'Which of the following would be the best electoral outcome to this election?'

[All Respondents]

Age / Gender

%	Total	18-34	35-44	45-54	55-64	65+	Male	Female
Sample	1308	200	193	198	324	393	707	601
Conservative majority	20	15	19	22	22	27	21	19
NDP majority	20	24	20	17	16	17	20	19
Liberal majority	14	7	16	17	15	18	14	14
Conservative minority	8	9	9	5	9	9	9	7
NDP minority	8	9	8	6	9	7	10	5
Liberal minority	7	6	7	8	9	4	7	6
NDP-Liberal coalition	15	18	14	17	14	10	13	17
Don't know	9	14	7	8	6	6	6	11

Region

%	Total	Atl	Que	ON	Man/Sask	AB	BC	English	French
Sample	1308	164	359	304	131	173	174	959	349
Conservative majority	20	12	13	23	25	28	24	23	12
NDP majority	20	14	30	15	19	14	20	16	31
Liberal majority	14	34	11	15	12	3	13	15	11
Conservative minority	8	7	7	8	10	13	5	9	6
NDP minority	8	8	12	8	5	3	4	6	13
Liberal minority	7	3	7	5	5	11	8	7	7
NDP-Liberal coalition	15	15	10	15	18	20	20	17	9
Don't know	9	7	10	10	5	9	5	8	11

Federal Vote Preference

%	Total	Conservative	Liberal	New Democratic	Green	Bloc Quebecois	Other Parties
Sample	1308	328	332	391	71	38	85
Conservative majority	20	68	0	2	7	4	45
NDP majority	20	1	3	53	9	19	6
Liberal majority	14	1	50	2	2	12	3
Conservative minority	8	21	4	2	3	5	15
NDP minority	8	1	5	12	22	32	3
Liberal minority	7	1	18	4	6	3	0
NDP-Liberal coalition	15	3	16	23	23	9	10
Don't know	9	3	3	2	28	17	17

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