

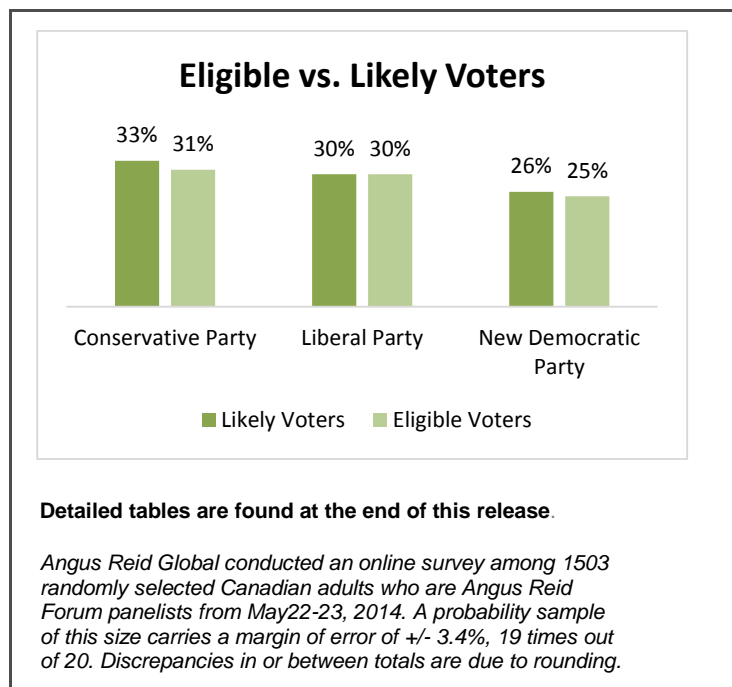
Federal party standings virtually unchanged in May: Conservatives hold slight lead among likely voters

Federal Conservatives, Liberals in statistical tie among eligible voters

May 28, 2014 – A late spring has brought virtually no change to Canada’s federal political landscape. While the Conservative Party of Canada (CPC) maintains its lead in support among **likely voters** over the federal New Democrats and Liberals, the gap has narrowed slightly, according to the latest poll from Angus Reid Global (ARG).

The monthly survey measuring support for Canadian political parties shows a minor rebound for the Liberal Party of Canada in vote-rich Ontario over April. Nationally the party trails the CPC among **likely voters**, but pulls into a statistical tie among **eligible voters** in May.

The Conservatives now hold a one-point lead over the Liberals among **eligible voters**. Their advantage increases to three points when voting turnout factors are applied.



May standings:

This month’s ARG poll shows 31 per cent of **eligible voters** say they would choose a CPC candidate in their riding if an election were held tomorrow, compared to 30 per cent who would choose a Liberal candidate. 25 per cent say they would vote NDP. These results are effectively unchanged from April.

Among those who are **likely voters**, the Conservative lead narrows very slightly from last month, with the CPC at 33 per cent, the Liberals at 30 per cent and the NDP at 26 per cent. For more information about the differences between eligible voter and likely voter analysis, see the methodological note at the end of this news release.

The Ontario story:

While ARG’s [April results](#) raised eyebrows over a 17-point lead for the CPC over the Liberals in Ontario, support for the Conservatives in Canada’s most populous province appears to be mostly holding. This month, CPC support is at 41 per cent in that province, down two points from April (43%). The Liberals have rebounded a little, up five points (31%) from April (26%). The party appears to be stealing from both the CPC and the NDP – which is down three points from April to 23 per cent.

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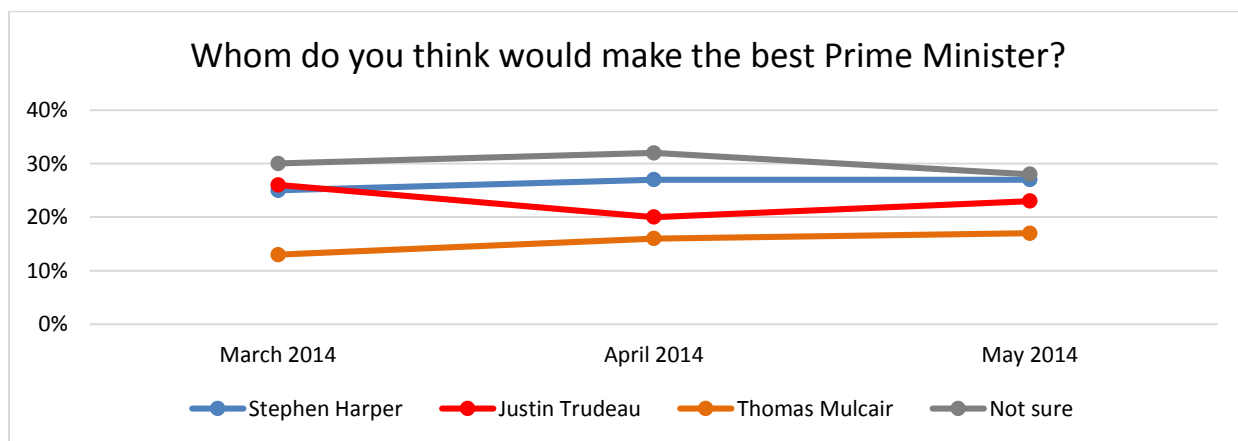
Leadership:

Consistency in public opinion on the federal politics front also extends to views of individual party leaders, although they do point to a minor worsening for CPC leader Stephen Harper. In May, 58 per cent of **eligible voters** said it was time for a change in government, up two points from April (56%).

On the issue of approval, all three major party leaders have faced small declines. Liberal Party leader Justin Trudeau and NDP Leader Thomas Mulcair now carry the same approval levels (44%). This represents statistically insignificant dips of one point for Trudeau and two points for Mulcair. Harper's approval levels have also declined slightly to 36 per cent (38% in April).

Of the three major parties leaders, Harper carries a modest advantage over Trudeau and Mulcair on the question of who would make best Prime Minister (Harper 27%, Trudeau 23%, Mulcair 17%). Still, most respondents - 28 per cent of **eligible voters** – say they're not sure of their choice for best PM.

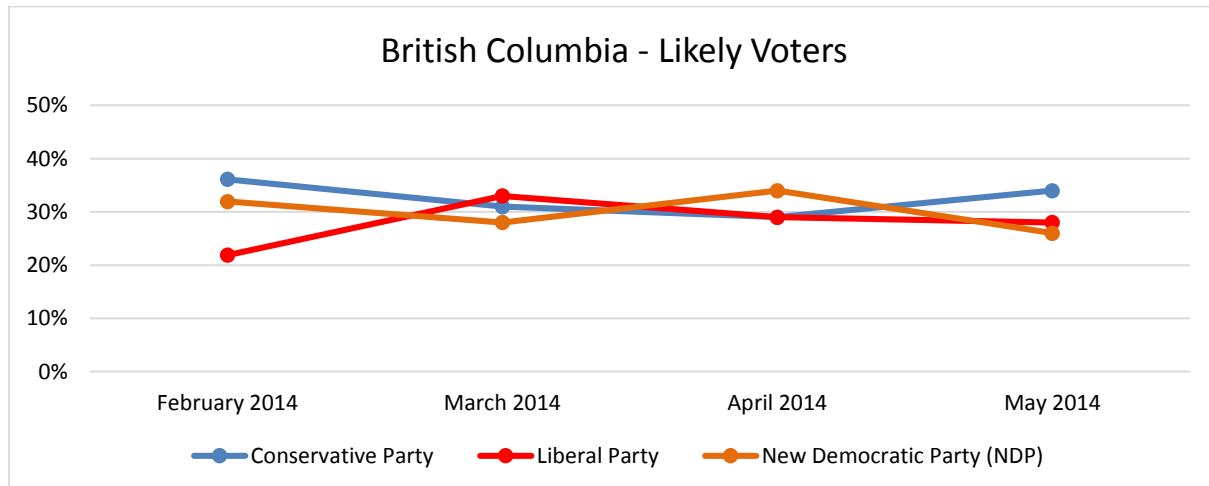
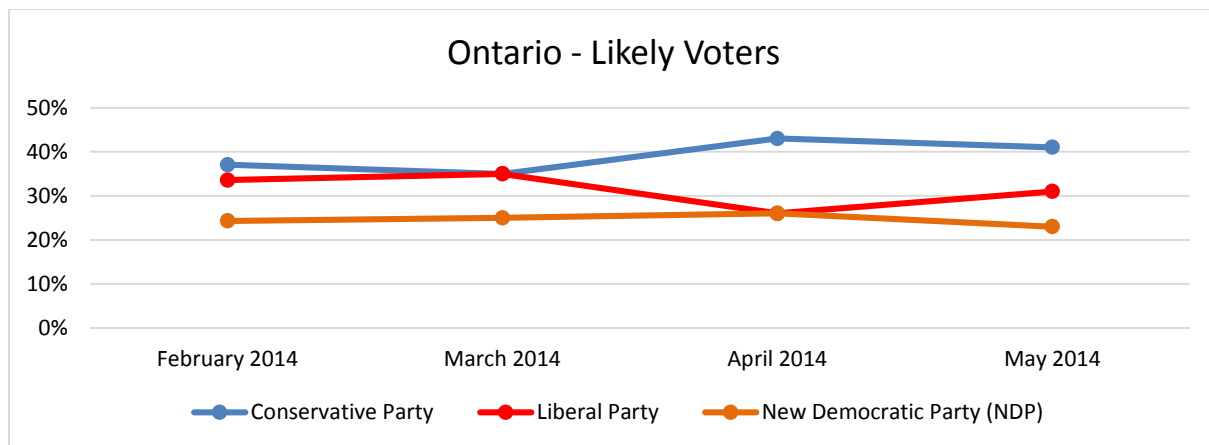
None of the three major party leaders carry any significant positive momentum with eligible voters. Mulcair fares best with an even rating, as 15 per cent of respondents said their opinion of him improved in the last three months versus 14 per cent who said their opinions worsened. Harper achieves a net negative rating on this question (42% worsened, 8% improved); as does Trudeau (33% worsened, 21% improved).

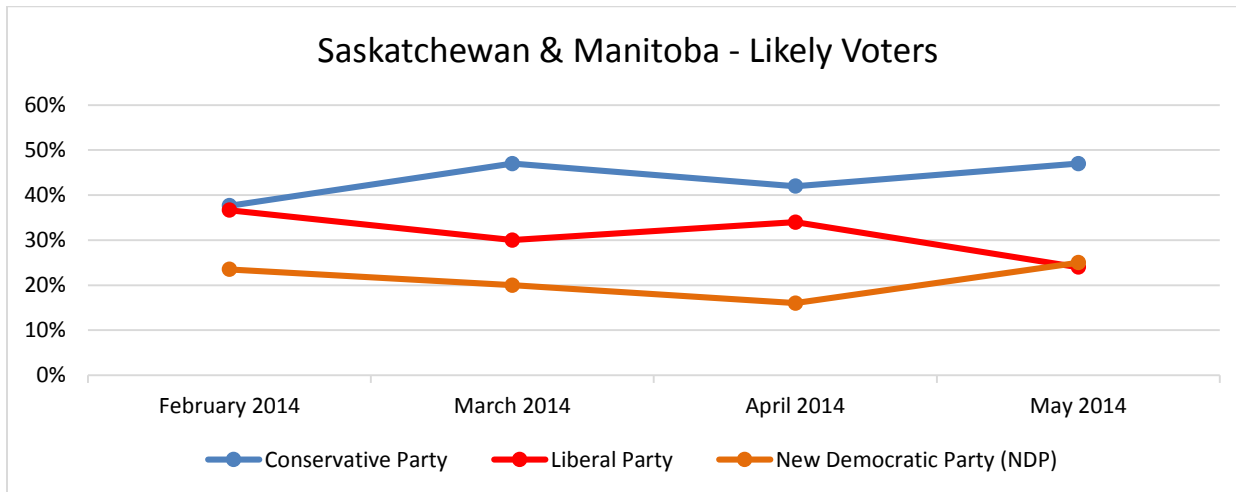
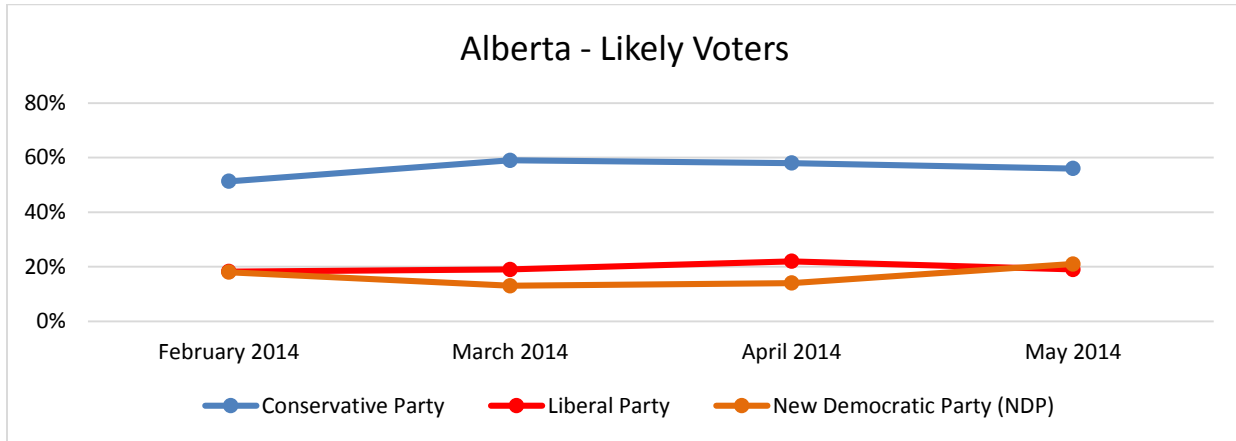


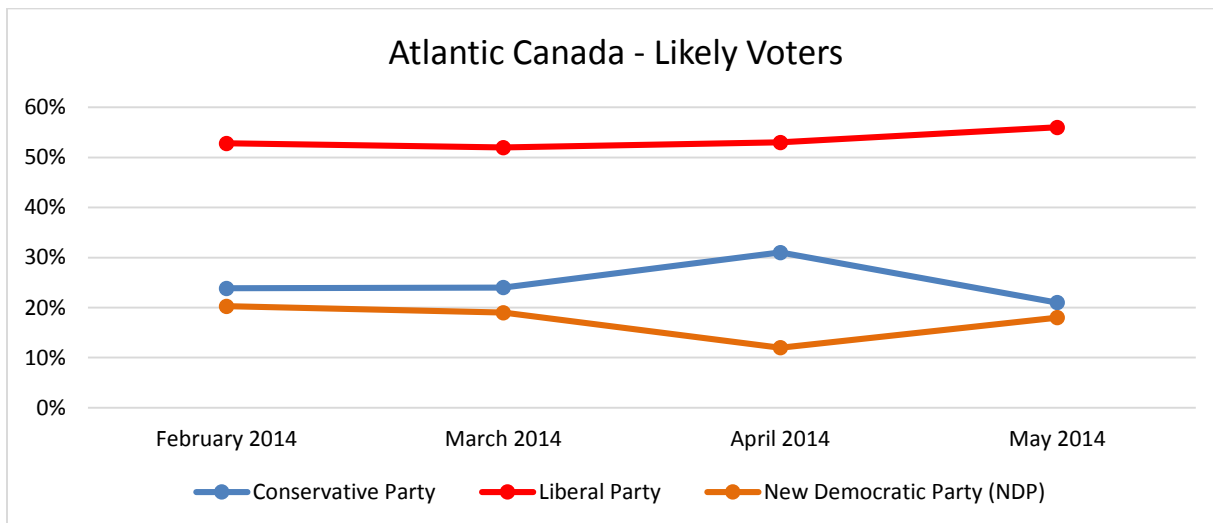
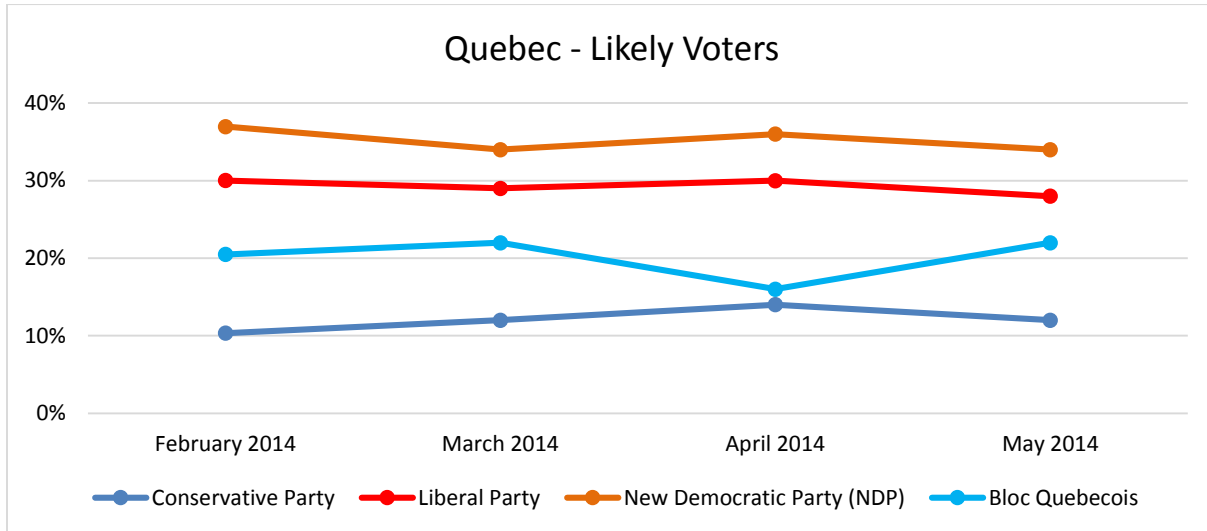
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Charts – The Regional Picture:







Notes on Methodology

This polling program represents the first time Angus Reid Global is reporting two perspectives on the Canadian electorate. The first, as has been our practice for almost 40 years, involves examination of the intentions and attitudes of eligible Canadian voters.

The second, in light of declining electoral turnout rates, particularly among younger voters, includes a separate commentary in our analysis on the intentions of Canadians most likely to vote.

Our data has been analyzed through two sets of filters: those of **all respondents who are eligible Canadian voters** and those of survey respondents who are **most likely to vote**.

The data from **all respondents** uses standard census-based targets to ensure a national sample that is representative of the adult Canadian population as a whole by key demographics such as gender, age and education and region.

Data from **likely voters** applies a weighting structure that further adjusts our sample to reflect known variations in voter turnout – specifically across age groups – while also filtering based on respondents' own identified reported past voting patterns and habits.

We have developed this approach because we feel strongly that it is the responsible thing to do when reporting on electoral projections.

With declining voter turnout, there exists an increasingly important divergence between general public opinion – which still includes the still valid views of the almost 40 per cent of Canadian adults who don't vote -- and the political orientation of the 60 per cent of likely voters whose choices actually decide electoral outcomes.

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Detailed tables are on the following pages.

| Which party's candidate would you be most likely to support in your own riding if a federal election were held tomorrow? | Likely Voters | | Eligible Voters | |
|--|---------------|----------|-----------------|----------|
| | April 2014 | May 2014 | April 2014 | May 2014 |
| CPC | 34% | 33% | 32% | 31% |
| Liberals | 29% | 30% | 30% | 30% |
| NDP | 27% | 26% | 26% | 25% |
| BQ | 4% | 6% | 5% | 5% |
| Green | 4% | 4% | 6% | 7% |
| Other | 1% | 1% | 2% | 1% |

| Which party's candidate would you be most likely to support in your own riding if a federal election were held tomorrow? | Likely Voters: Canada | Likely Voters by Region | | | | | |
|--|-----------------------|-------------------------|-----|-------|-----|-----|-----|
| | | BC | AB | MB/SK | ON | PQ | ATL |
| Sample size | 1503 | 207 | 149 | 96 | 600 | 331 | 120 |
| Conservative Party | 33% | 34% | 56% | 47% | 41% | 12% | 21% |
| Liberal Party | 30% | 28% | 19% | 24% | 31% | 28% | 56% |
| New Democratic Party | 26% | 26% | 21% | 25% | 23% | 34% | 18% |
| Bloc Quebecois | 6% | N/A | N/A | N/A | N/A | 22% | N/A |
| Green Party | 4% | 11% | 3% | 4% | 4% | 2% | 5% |
| Other Party | 1% | 0% | 1% | 0% | 1% | 2% | 0% |

| Which party's candidate would you be most likely to support in your own riding if a federal election were held tomorrow? | Eligible Voters: Canada | Eligible Voters by Region | | | | | |
|--|-------------------------|---------------------------|-----|-------|-----|-----|-----|
| | | BC | AB | MB/SK | ON | PQ | ATL |
| Sample size | 1503 | 207 | 149 | 96 | 600 | 331 | 120 |
| Conservative Party | 31% | 30% | 51% | 38% | 39% | 12% | 18% |
| Liberal Party | 30% | 33% | 18% | 25% | 33% | 25% | 57% |
| New Democratic Party | 25% | 23% | 21% | 30% | 21% | 34% | 18% |
| Bloc Quebecois | 5% | N/A | N/A | N/A | N/A | 22% | N/A |
| Green Party | 7% | 13% | 9% | 7% | 6% | 4% | 7% |
| Other Party | 1% | 1% | 1% | 0% | 1% | 2% | 0% |

| Which party's candidate would you be most likely to support in your own riding if a federal election were held tomorrow? | Likely Voters: Canada | Likely Voters by Age | | |
|--|-----------------------|----------------------|---------|-----|
| | | 18 - 34 | 35 - 54 | 55+ |
| Conservative Party | 33% | 24% | 32% | 36% |
| Liberal Party | 30% | 32% | 28% | 30% |
| New Democratic Party | 26% | 32% | 28% | 23% |
| Bloc Quebecois | 6% | 4% | 5% | 7% |
| Green Party | 4% | 8% | 5% | 3% |
| Other Party | 1% | 0% | 2% | 1% |

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| Whom do you think would make the best Prime Minister of Canada? | Eligible Voters: Canada | Eligible Voters | | | | | |
|---|-------------------------|-----------------|-----|-------|-----|-----|-----|
| | | BC | AB | MB/SK | ON | PQ | ATL |
| Sample size | 1503 | 207 | 149 | 96 | 600 | 331 | 120 |
| Stephen Harper | 27% | 24% | 45% | 38% | 34% | 12% | 13% |
| Justin Trudeau | 23% | 27% | 13% | 19% | 25% | 19% | 34% |
| Thomas Mulcair | 17% | 9% | 9% | 13% | 10% | 36% | 13% |
| André Bellavance | 1% | N/A | N/A | N/A | N/A | 3% | N/A |
| Elizabeth May | 4% | 7% | 2% | 7% | 4% | 2% | 7% |
| Not sure | 28% | 32% | 32% | 24% | 26% | 28% | 33% |

| Thinking about Canada, which one of these two statements comes closest to your own point of view? | Eligible Voters | | | | | | |
|---|-----------------|-----|-----|-------|-----|-----|-----|
| | Canada | BC | AB | MB/SK | ON | PQ | ATL |
| Sample size | 1503 | 207 | 149 | 96 | 600 | 331 | 120 |
| It is time for a change in government in Canada – a different federal party | 58% | 62% | 42% | 51% | 51% | 70% | 69% |
| It is not time for a change in government in Canada – the Conservative Party should be re-elected | 25% | 20% | 38% | 29% | 31% | 14% | 16% |
| Not sure | 18% | 18% | 20% | 20% | 18% | 16% | 15% |

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| Overall, do you approve or disapprove of each leader's performance? | Eligible Voters: Canada | | | | |
|---|-------------------------|----------------|----------------|----------------------------|---------------|
| | Stephen Harper | Justin Trudeau | Thomas Mulcair | André Bellavance (QC Only) | Elizabeth May |
| Approve | 36% | 44% | 44% | 28% | 35% |
| Disapprove | 58% | 45% | 37% | 40% | 38% |
| Don't Know | 7% | 10% | 20% | 32% | 27% |

| Over the course of the past three months would you say your opinion of each of the following people has: | Eligible Voters: Canada | | | | |
|--|-------------------------|----------------|----------------|----------------------------|---------------|
| | Stephen Harper | Justin Trudeau | Thomas Mulcair | André Bellavance (QC Only) | Elizabeth May |
| Improved | 8% | 21% | 15% | 5% | 8% |
| Stayed the same | 51% | 46% | 71% | 79% | 85% |
| Worsened | 42% | 33% | 14% | 16% | 7% |

Angus Reid Global is a public affairs practice of Vision Critical, headed by Dr. Angus Reid, Canada's best known and longest practicing pollster. He's spent more than four decades asking questions about what people feel, how they think and who they will vote for. He is supported by a team of practitioners conducting high quality research for corporations, governments and non-profit organizations.

Visit the website: <http://www.angusreidglobal.com>

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