

CANADIAN POLITICAL PULSE

Conservatives and New Democrats Remain Practically Even in Canada

With Justin Trudeau as leader, the Liberal Party would become the top choice for Canadian decided voters.

[VANCOUVER – Jan. 4, 2013] – The governing Conservative Party and the opposition New Democratic Party (NDP) remain virtually tied in Canada, a new Angus Reid Public Opinion poll has found.

The online survey of a representative national sample of 1,012 Canadian adults also found that, with Justin Trudeau as leader, the federal Liberal Party stands to become the top-ranked political force in the country.

Voting Intention

Across Canada, 35 per cent of decided voters and leaners (+1 since June) would cast a ballot for the Conservative candidate in their riding if a federal election were held tomorrow. The New Democrats are a close second (33%, -2), followed by the Liberal Party (19%, =), the Green Party (6%, +1) and the Bloc Québécois (6%, =).

The Tories have their best showing in Alberta (55%) and Manitoba and Saskatchewan (57%), while the NDP remains dominant in Quebec (40%, with the Bloc a distant second at 23%). In British Columbia, the Conservatives are ahead with 43 per cent, followed by the New Democrats with 30 per cent and a surging Green Party at 16 per cent. The Grits get their best numbers in Atlantic Canada (29%) and Ontario (23%).

The Conservatives have a four-point lead over the NDP among male voters (36% to 32%), and the two main parties are even among female voters (33% each). The Tories are ahead among respondents aged

KEY FINDINGS

- **Voting Intention in Canada: Con. 35% (+1), NDP 33% (-2), Lib. 19% (=), Grn. 6% (+1), BQ 6% (=),**
- **Approval Rating: Mulcair 44% (-1), Harper 37% (-1), Rae 32% (-6), May 35% (=)**
- **With Justin Trudeau as leader, Liberals get to 42% among decided voters.**

Full topline results are at the end of this release.

From January 2 to January 3, 2013, Angus Reid Public Opinion conducted an online survey among 1,012 randomly selected Canadian adults who are Angus Reid Forum panellists. The margin of error—which measures sampling variability—is +/- 3.1%, 19 times out of 20. The results have been statistically weighted according to the most current education, age, gender and region Census data to ensure a sample representative of the entire adult population of Canada. Discrepancies in or between totals are due to rounding.

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55 and over (36%) and those aged 35-to-54 (38%), while the NDP is the top choice for voters aged 18-to-34 (37%).

Both the Conservatives and the NDP are holding on to four-in-five voters who supported them in the May 2011 federal election, with retention rates of 82 per cent and 80 per cent respectively. The Liberals keep two thirds of their supporters (65%), with one-in-five (21%) now saying they would vote for the NDP.

Approval and Momentum

Once again, New Democratic Party (NDP) and Official Opposition leader Thomas Mulcair posted the highest approval rating at 44 per cent, followed by Prime Minister and Conservative Party leader Stephen Harper (37%), Green Party leader Elizabeth May (35%) and interim Liberal Party leader Bob Rae (32%).

Harper's approval rating is highest in the Western Provinces, while Mulcair gets a positive review from three-in-five Quebecers (61%). Almost half of British Columbians (47%) approve of the way May is handling her duties—her best rating across the country.

Liberal Party Leadership

Seven of the Liberal Party leadership hopefuls currently have a low level of recognition among the public, with more than four-in-five Canadians saying they are not sure if they would be good choices to command the Grits. Justin Trudeau is seen as a positive option by 45 per cent of respondents. The only other contenders in double digits on this question are Marc Garneau (31%) and Martha Hall Findlay (12%).

Respondents were asked how they would vote in a federal election under three different Liberal leaders. Hall Findlay does not raise the fortunes of the Grits among decided voters (19%, trailing the NDP at 29% and the Tories at 33%). Garneau fares better, taking the Liberals to 24 per cent (three points behind the New Democrats, and eight points behind the Conservatives).

With Trudeau as Leader, the Liberals garner the backing of 42 per cent of decided voters, pushing the Tories to a distant second place (26%) and the NDP to third (19%).

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About Angus Reid Public Opinion

Angus Reid Public Opinion is a public affairs practice headed by Dr. Angus Reid: an industry visionary who has spent more than four decades asking questions to figure out what people feel, how they think and who they will vote for. A team of talented and experienced practitioners with a unique and profound understanding of global issues conduct high quality research throughout the world on a daily basis for corporations, governments, academic researchers, and non-profit organizations.

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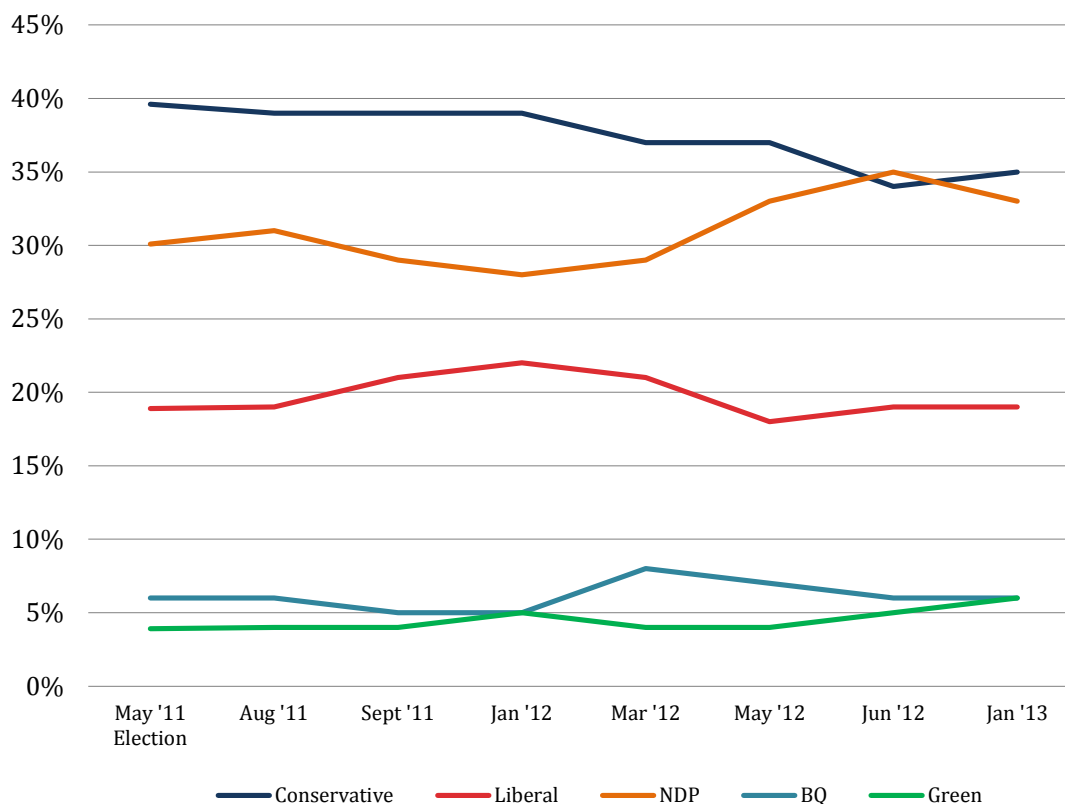
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**For more information, please contact
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If a federal election were held tomorrow, which one of the following parties would you be most likely to support in your constituency?



Canadian Political Pulse

If a federal election were held tomorrow, which one of the following parties would you be most likely to support in your constituency?

	Total	Region						2011 Election
		BC	AB	MB/SK	ON	PQ	ATL	
Conservative Party	35%	43%	55%	57%	36%	13%	38%	39.6%
New Democratic Party	33%	30%	18%	23%	35%	40%	31%	30.1%
Liberal Party	19%	11%	13%	11%	23%	20%	29%	18.9%
Green Party	6%	16%	6%	9%	5%	3%	2%	3.9%
Bloc Québécois	6%	--	--	--	--	23%	--	6.0%
Other party	2%	0%	8%	0%	2%	1%	0%	1.2%

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Canadian Political Pulse

If a federal election were held tomorrow, which one of the following parties would you be most likely to support in your constituency?

	Total	Gender	
		Male	Female
Conservative Party	35%	36%	33%
New Democratic Party	33%	32%	33%
Liberal Party	19%	18%	20%
Green Party	6%	6%	7%
Bloc Québécois	6%	6%	5%
Other party	2%	1%	2%

Canadian Political Pulse

If a federal election were held tomorrow, which one of the following parties would you be most likely to support in your constituency?

	Total	Age		
		18-34	35-54	55+
Conservative Party	35%	28%	38%	36%
New Democratic Party	33%	37%	31%	31%
Liberal Party	19%	17%	18%	22%
Green Party	6%	9%	6%	4%
Bloc Québécois	6%	6%	5%	6%
Other party	2%	3%	2%	1%

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If a federal election were held tomorrow, which one of the following parties would you be most likely to support in your constituency?

Vote in the 2011 Federal Election			
	Con.	NDP	Lib.
Conservative Party	82%	5%	8%
New Democratic Party	6%	80%	21%
Liberal Party	10%	8%	65%
Bloc Québécois	0%	3%	0%
Green Party	1%	4%	5%
Other party	1%	0%	1%

Canadian Political Pulse

Over the course of the past month, would you say your opinion of each of the following people has improved, stayed the same or worsened?

Total Canada				
	Prime Minister and Conservative Party leader Stephen Harper	Interim Liberal Party leader Bob Rae	New Democratic Party (NDP) and Official Opposition leader Thomas Mulcair	Green Party leader Elizabeth May
Improved	6%	5%	9%	1%
Stayed the same	53%	69%	63%	54%
Worsened	34%	11%	14%	19%
Not sure	8%	15%	14%	25%
<i>Momentum Score</i>	-28	-6	-5	-18

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Canadian Political Pulse

Do you approve or disapprove of the performance of each of the following people?

Total Canada				
	Prime Minister and Conservative Party leader Stephen Harper	New Democratic Party (NDP) and Official Opposition leader Thomas Mulcair	Interim Liberal Party leader Bob Rae	Green Party leader Elizabeth May
Approve	37%	44%	32%	35%
Disapprove	54%	34%	43%	33%
Not sure	9%	22%	24%	32%

Canadian Political Pulse

Do you approve or disapprove of the performance of each of the following people? –
“Approve” listed

	Total	Region					
		BC	AB	MB/SK	ON	PQ	ATL
Prime Minister and Conservative Party leader Stephen Harper	37%	46%	51%	56%	39%	22%	32%
New Democratic Party (NDP) and Official Opposition leader Thomas Mulcair	44%	41%	23%	34%	42%	61%	41%
Interim Liberal Party leader Bob Rae	32%	30%	22%	23%	33%	39%	34%
Green Party leader Elizabeth May	35%	47%	24%	27%	38%	32%	29%

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Do you think each of the following politicians would make a good choice or a bad choice to lead the federal Liberal Party in the future?

	Good choice	Bad choice	Not sure
Justin Trudeau	45%	26%	29%
Marc Garneau	31%	13%	56%
Martha Hall Findlay	12%	14%	74%
Joyce Murray	6%	10%	84%
Deborah Coyne	5%	12%	82%
Karen McCrimmon	3%	12%	85%
David Merner	2%	11%	86%
David Bertschi	2%	11%	87%
George Takach	2%	11%	87%
Jonathan Mousley	2%	11%	88%

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Suppose that each one of the candidates listed below was already the federal Liberal Party leader. If a federal election were held tomorrow, which one of the following parties would you be most likely to support in your constituency under each scenario?

- All Canadians

	Justin Trudeau	Marc Garneau	Martha Hall Findlay
Liberal Party	31%	16%	12%
Conservative Party	19%	21%	21%
New Democratic Party (NDP)	14%	18%	18%
Green Party	3%	3%	4%
Bloc Québécois	4%	4%	3%
Other party	2%	4%	5%
<i>Undecided / Would not vote</i>	27%	34%	37%

Canadian Political Pulse

Suppose that each one of the candidates listed below was already the federal Liberal Party leader. If a federal election were held tomorrow, which one of the following parties would you be most likely to support in your constituency under each scenario?

- Decided Voters

	Justin Trudeau	Marc Garneau	Martha Hall Findlay
Liberal Party	42%	24%	19%
Conservative Party	26%	32%	33%
New Democratic Party (NDP)	19%	27%	29%
Green Party	4%	5%	6%
Bloc Québécois	5%	6%	5%
Other party	3%	6%	8%

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