



[www.ekospolitics.ca](http://www.ekospolitics.ca)

## ***TIGHTER RACE AS BALLOT QUESTION COMES INTO SHARPER RELIEF***

*A CHECK-UP AND PRELIMINARY DISCUSSION OF OUR TRACKING SYSTEM*

[Ottawa – April 6, 2011] – While we are completing the calibration and analysis of our new election tracking system, we thought we would offer up a preliminary picture of how the campaign is evolving. Beginning very early Friday, we will be rolling out the results of our new tracking system with our partners at iPolitics. There are some interesting findings which we will share today and we want to signal some of the more interesting diagnostic analysis that we are preparing for week end. We are also sharing a specific test we have been conducting on whether Elizabeth May should be included in the national election television debates, contrary to the current decision of the broadcast consortium.

The focus of our tracking system is to give readers the best possible understanding of how the parties stand, how things are evolving, and a sense of what this might mean in terms of the ultimate decision on May 2nd. In order to do so, we are going beyond the tracking of simple vote intention to look at how that looks among those voters who are most likely to actually vote. We are also looking at how fundamental confidence in the country and the current government are coalescing with the dominant issues of the day to produce shifting voting patterns. This will entail looking at things such as voter "loyalty" and mobility since the 2008 election as well as the firmness of one's vote and the leaning tendencies in the case of those who would consider other choices. We also consider "certainty" of voting and the level of "enthusiasm" one has for one's current choice. We will be releasing a first cut at this approach early Friday but today we will be offering up some initial ingredients and a sense of what we will be focusing on at the end of the week.

Contrary to the erratic impression from reading the welter of various polling reports out there, the race appears to be evolving in a relatively orderly pattern with a clear logic. Immediately after the government fell it saw a boost from its roughly 7-point advantage to a formidable 11-point

### HIGHLIGHTS

- **National federal vote intention:**
  - ☒ 37.0% CPC
  - ☒ 27.8% LPC
  - ☒ 16.1% NDP
  - ☒ 9.3% Green
  - ☒ 6.9% BQ
  - ☒ 2.9% other
- **Direction of country:**
  - ☒ 52.5% right direction
  - ☒ 36.4% wrong direction
  - ☒ 11.0% DK/NR
- **Direction of government:**
  - ☒ 40.1% right direction
  - ☒ 51.3% wrong direction
  - ☒ 8.5% DK/NR
- **Second choice:**
  - ☒ 8.2% CPC
  - ☒ 15.1% LPC
  - ☒ 23.3% NDP
  - ☒ 12.1% Green
  - ☒ 4.8% BQ
  - ☒ 2.8% other
  - ☒ 33.7% no second choice

*Please note that the methodology is provided at the end of this document.*



advantage. This lead remained relatively flat throughout the first week of the campaign with the Conservative Party ending the week with a sizable advantage with important strengths in Ontario and more-likely-to-vote older voters. So where have things evolved since?

Currently, the Conservatives have a somewhat less decisive lead of around 9 points but a number of factors suggest that this is a much less comfortable position than at the end of last week. Notably, their fairly stable and significant lead in Ontario has largely dissipated with major implications for their overall seat outcome. While they haven't changed much in Quebec, the Liberals may be seeing something of a spurt in Quebec (possibly at the expense of the Bloc). This bears careful watching as the federalist forces have been ineffectually scattered across federalist options in earlier polling. This leads to the other key preliminary finding.

Canadians are showing an almost paradoxical strengthening of confidence in the country (probably driven by economic confidence ) at precisely the same time as they are showing an erosion of confidence in the current federal government. This gap is particularly pronounced in Quebec.

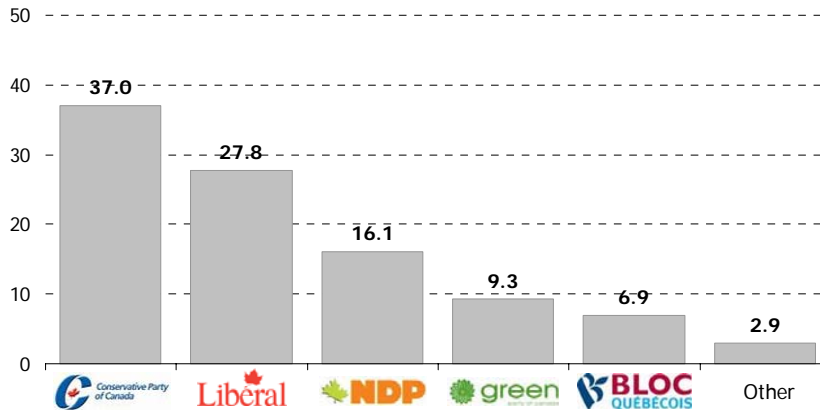
We also see a dramatic shift in the dominant issues of Canadians as issues of ethics and accountability have leapt from a dormant last place position to most important issue. Putting these findings together with other trends, we may be seeing the master ballot question of this election coming into sharper relief. The country is fine, economy good (particularly for Conservative supporters): but the federal government is not and this rising concern with the managerial style of the current government is particularly acute outside of the Conservative base. So increasingly two powerful sentiments are clashing: "everything is fine and why risk the adventure of rocking the boat with a new government" versus "things may be fine but the government isn't and it's time for a change of management". We need to look no further than the burgeoning concern with "ethics and accountability" to understand why this issue is becoming a central focus and why the Conservatives appear to be backing up from majority to what would now be a diminished minority, which, according to the Conservative Party's own election gambit, would produce a change of government. In terms of the prospects of a majority it seems that is looking more elusive. Not only has the race narrowed somewhat but the Conservatives have fallen back badly on second choice, which the NDP lead on and the Liberals have risen as a second choice.

There is good news in the poll for the Conservatives as well. They have clear and formidable advantages on "commitment". Their supporters are by far the most loyal from the last election, the most likely to have no other choice, the most like to be certain to vote, the least likely to change their mind and the most enthusiastic about their choice. All of these are important and clear advantages. It may, however, be that what makes the Conservatives so strong also makes them so limited in their ability to grow. Consequently, if Canadians take Stephen Harper at his word that anything short of a minority will mean a change in government, the current forces may well be coalescing to produce that very result. At this stage it appears that the ballot question is becoming increasingly clear to voters. The final result is extremely uncertain at this point but the majority outcome is looking increasingly unlikely.

## Top Line Results:

### Federal vote intention

Q. If a federal election were held tomorrow, which party would you vote for?



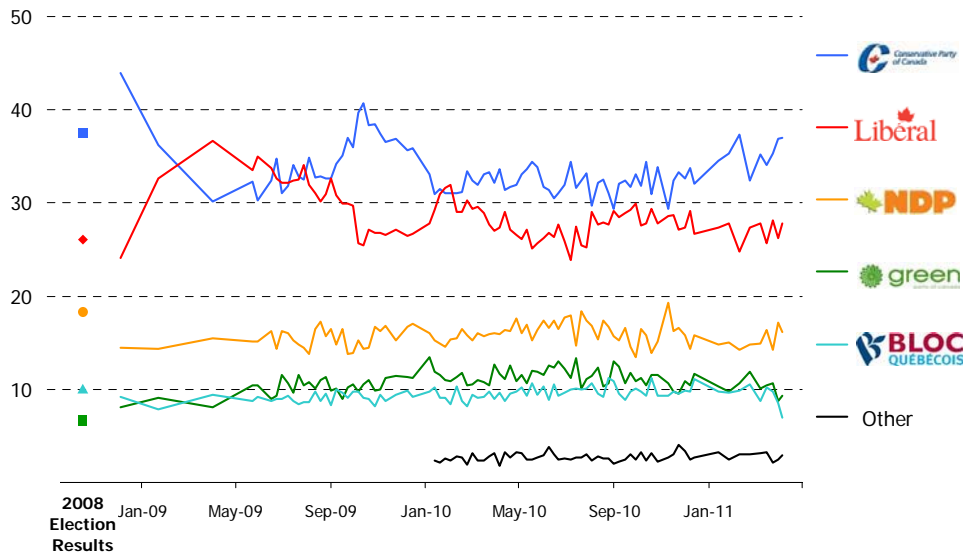
Note: The data on federal vote intention are based on decided and leaning voters only. Our survey also finds that 9.3% of Canadians are undecided/ineligible to vote.

Copyright 2011. No reproduction without permission

BASE: Decided voters; April 4-5, 2011 (1,068)

### Weekly tracking of federal vote intention

Q. If a federal election were held tomorrow, which party would you vote for?



Note: The data on federal vote intention are based on decided and leaning voters only. Our survey also finds that 9.3% of Canadians are undecided/ineligible to vote.

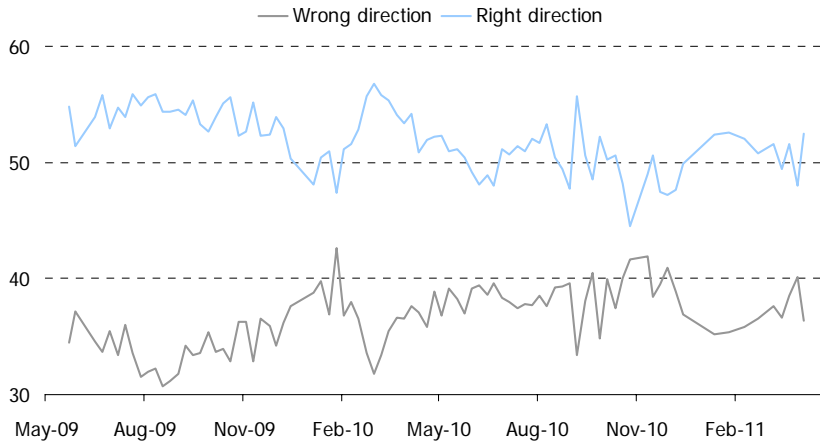
Copyright 2011. No reproduction without permission

BASE: Decided voters; most recent data point April 4-5, 2011 (n=1,068)



### Direction of country

*Q. All things considered, would you say the country is moving in the right direction or the wrong direction?*

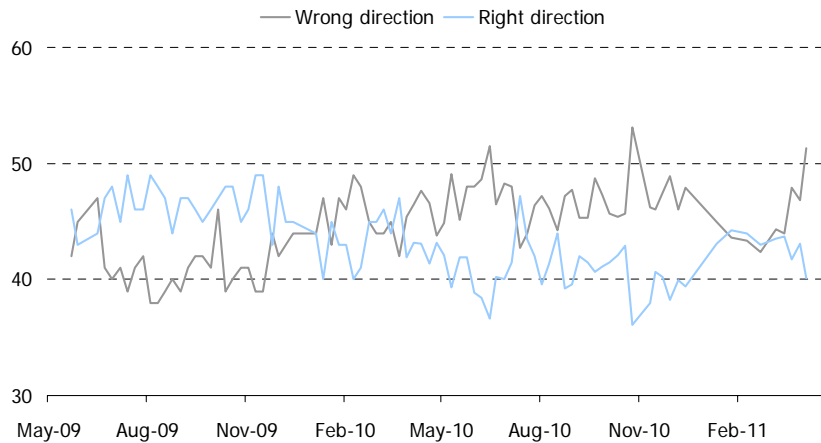


Copyright 2011. No reproduction without permission

**BASE:** Canadians; most recent data point April 4-5, 2011 (n=half sample)

### Direction of government

*Q. All things considered, would you say the Government of Canada is moving in the right direction or the wrong direction?*



Copyright 2011. No reproduction without permission

**BASE:** Canadians; most recent data point April 4-5, 2011 (n=half sample)



## Second choice

Q. Which party would be your second choice?

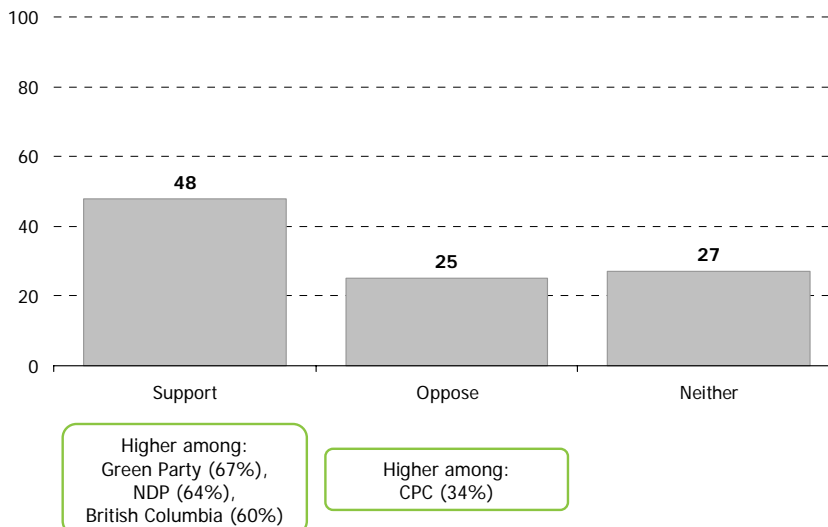
SECOND CHOICE	Second Choice (overall)	FIRST CHOICE					
		CPC	LPC	NDP	GP	BQ	Other
Conservative Party of Canada	8.2	--	14.7	8.5	19.8	8.7	16.3
Liberal	15.1	17.3	--	34.8	25.2	12.2	8.8
NDP	23.3	20.1	41.0	--	24.4	44.9	14.0
green party of canada	12.1	9.8	13.6	24.8	--	8.5	5.6
BLOCC QUÉBÉCOIS	4.8	2.1	7.4	11.4	1.3	--	5.3
Other	2.8	2.3	1.5	1.7	3.4	1.5	--
No second choice	33.7	48.4	21.7	18.7	26.0	24.2	50.0

Copyright 2011. No reproduction without permission

BASE: Eligible voters; April 4-5, 2011 (n=1,146)

## Support for including Elizabeth May in the leaders' debate

Q. As you may have heard, Elizabeth May, leader of the Green Party of Canada, has been excluded from the televised leaders' debates. Would you support or oppose Elizabeth May being allowed to participate in the debates?

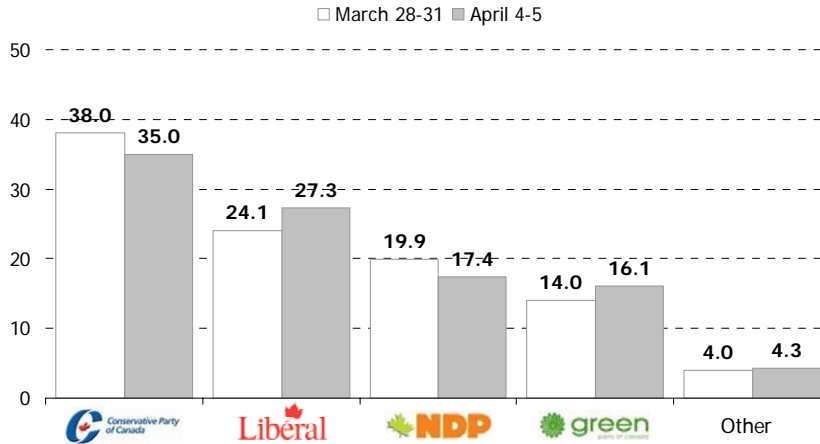


Copyright 2011. No reproduction without permission

BASE: Canadians; April 4-5, 2011 (n=1,146)

## Federal vote intention: British Columbia

Q. If a federal election were held tomorrow, which party would you vote for?

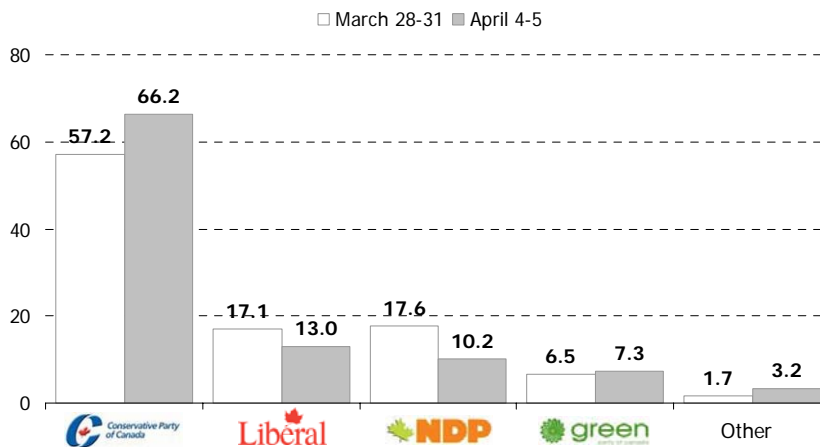


Copyright 2011. No reproduction without permission

BASE: Decided voters in British Columbia; March 28-31: n=302 / April 4-5: n=156

## Federal vote intention: Alberta

Q. If a federal election were held tomorrow, which party would you vote for?

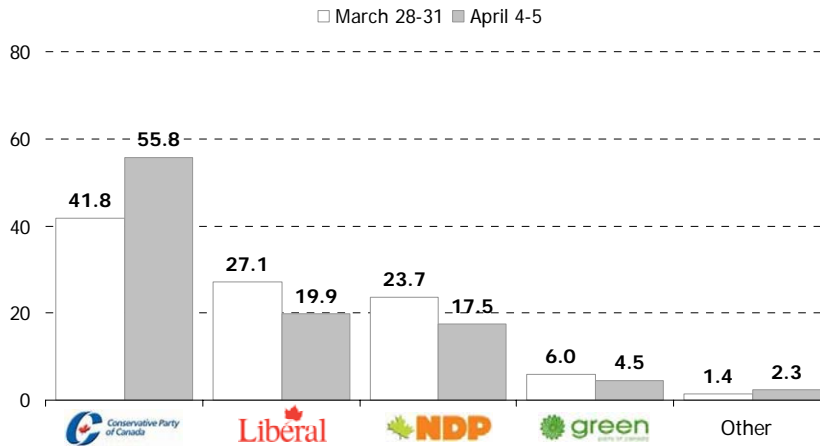


Copyright 2011. No reproduction without permission

BASE: Decided voters in Alberta; March 28-31: n=236 / April 4-5: n=152

## Federal vote intention: Saskatchewan/Manitoba

Q. If a federal election were held tomorrow, which party would you vote for?

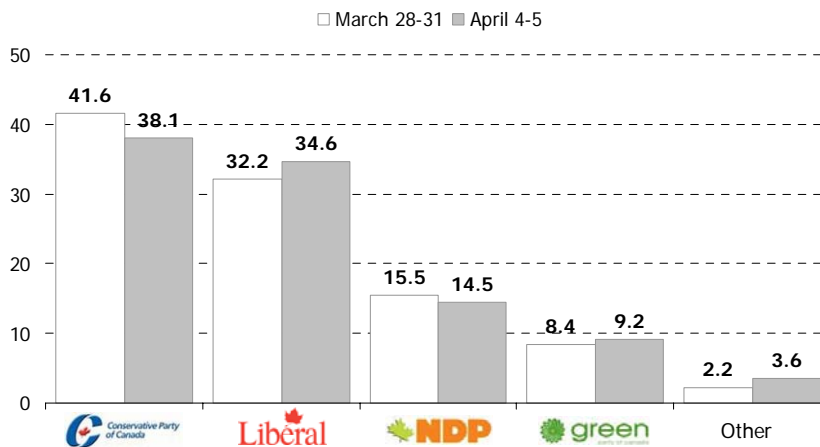


Copyright 2011. No reproduction without permission

BASE: Decided voters in Saskatchewan/Manitoba; March 28-31: n=162 / April 4-5: n=83

## Federal vote intention: Ontario

Q. If a federal election were held tomorrow, which party would you vote for?

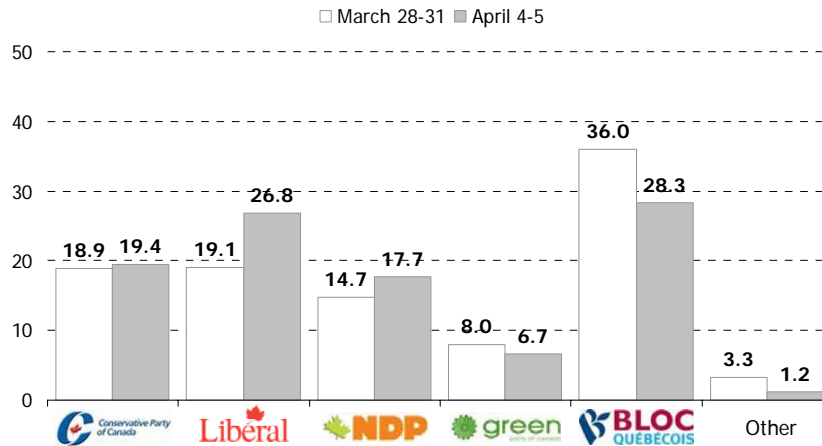


Copyright 2011. No reproduction without permission

BASE: Decided voters in Ontario; March 28-31: n=970 / April 4-5: n=331

## Federal vote intention: Quebec

Q. If a federal election were held tomorrow, which party would you vote for?

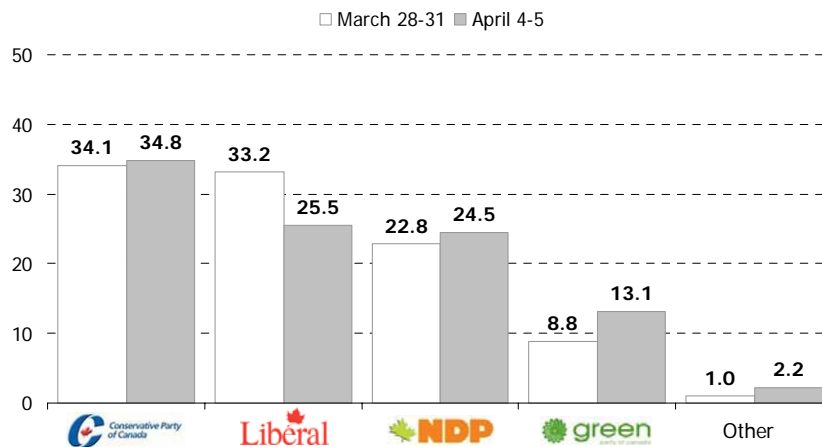


Copyright 2011. No reproduction without permission

BASE: Decided voters in Quebec; March 28-31: n=717 / April 4-5: n=270

## Federal vote intention: Atlantic Canada

Q. If a federal election were held tomorrow, which party would you vote for?








Copyright 2011. No reproduction without permission

BASE: Decided voters in Alberta; March 28-31: n=178 / April 4-5: n=76









## Detailed Tables:

<b><u>National Federal Vote Intention</u></b>								
<i>Q. If a federal election were held tomorrow, which party would you vote for?</i>								
						Other	Sample Size	Margin of Error (+/-)
<b>NATIONALLY</b>	<b>37.0%</b>	<b>27.8%</b>	<b>16.1%</b>	<b>9.3%</b>	<b>6.9%</b>	<b>2.9%</b>	<b>1068</b>	<b>3.0</b>
<b>REGION</b>								
British Columbia	35.0%	27.3%	17.4%	16.1%	0.0%	4.3%	156	7.9
Alberta	66.2%	13.0%	10.2%	7.3%	0.0%	3.2%	152	8.0
Saskatchewan/Manitoba	55.8%	19.9%	17.5%	4.5%	0.0%	2.3%	83	10.8
Ontario	38.1%	34.6%	14.5%	9.2%	0.0%	3.6%	331	5.4
Quebec	19.4%	26.8%	17.7%	6.7%	28.3%	1.2%	270	6.0
Atlantic Canada	34.8%	25.5%	24.5%	13.1%	0.0%	2.2%	76	11.2
<b>GENDER</b>								
Male	37.4%	29.5%	14.3%	9.4%	5.2%	4.2%	567	4.1
Female	36.7%	26.2%	17.8%	9.1%	8.5%	1.6%	501	4.4
<b>AGE</b>								
<25	19.5%	42.2%	9.9%	19.1%	4.7%	4.5%	75	11.3
25-44	32.9%	22.0%	22.8%	8.6%	10.3%	3.4%	284	5.8
45-64	41.0%	29.3%	13.9%	8.0%	6.0%	1.8%	453	4.6
65+	48.3%	26.8%	11.7%	6.8%	3.7%	2.8%	256	6.1
<b>EDUCATION</b>								
High school or less	37.8%	23.7%	14.3%	13.4%	5.3%	5.4%	258	6.1
College or CEGEP	41.3%	20.7%	17.8%	7.3%	10.3%	2.6%	345	5.3
University or higher	33.2%	35.9%	15.8%	8.5%	5.1%	1.6%	465	4.5
<b>METROPOLITAN CANADA</b>								
Vancouver	41.6%	24.9%	16.2%	13.0%	0.0%	4.4%	52	13.6
Calgary	58.9%	20.4%	8.1%	10.3%	0.0%	2.4%	59	12.8
Toronto	35.0%	44.1%	9.8%	8.5%	0.0%	2.6%	111	9.3
Ottawa	27.9%	54.4%	11.1%	6.6%	0.0%	0.0%	47	14.3
Montreal	8.8%	26.4%	23.1%	6.8%	34.2%	0.8%	115	9.1







### Federal Vote Intention – British Columbia

*Q. If a federal election were held tomorrow, which party would you vote for?*

					Other	Sample Size	Margin of Error (+/-)
<b>OVERALL</b>	<b>35.0%</b>	<b>27.3%</b>	<b>17.4%</b>	<b>16.1%</b>	<b>4.3%</b>	<b>156</b>	<b>7.9</b>
<b>GENDER</b>							
Male	43.4%	20.2%	17.7%	13.9%	4.7%	87	10.5
Female	25.1%	33.5%	17.6%	19.4%	4.4%	69	11.8
<b>AGE</b>							
<25	24.3%	0.0%	28.8%	32.5%	14.3%	10	31.0
25-44	20.1%	32.1%	27.0%	16.9%	3.9%	44	14.8
45-64	43.7%	27.9%	12.2%	13.2%	3.0%	66	12.1
65+	47.5%	32.2%	4.0%	13.4%	2.8%	36	16.3
<b>EDUCATION</b>							
High school or less	37.2%	2.0%	22.0%	20.0%	18.8%	31	17.6
College or CEGEP	44.4%	30.9%	17.1%	5.9%	1.7%	54	13.3
University or higher	24.6%	35.8%	15.9%	23.7%	0.0%	71	11.6

### Federal Vote Intention – Alberta





*Q. If a federal election were held tomorrow, which party would you vote for?*

					Other	Sample Size	Margin of Error (+/-)
<b>OVERALL</b>	<b>66.2%</b>	<b>13.0%</b>	<b>10.2%</b>	<b>7.3%</b>	<b>3.2%</b>	<b>152</b>	<b>8.0</b>
<b>GENDER</b>							
Male	71.9%	15.0%	7.0%	5.0%	1.1%	86	10.6
Female	61.2%	9.4%	12.7%	9.8%	6.8%	66	12.1
<b>AGE</b>							
<25	66.5%	0.0%	0.0%	10.8%	22.7%	6	40.0
25-44	64.4%	16.7%	9.6%	7.8%	1.4%	50	13.9
45-64	67.8%	12.6%	12.9%	6.7%	0.0%	58	12.9
65+	67.1%	9.0%	10.8%	6.6%	6.5%	38	15.9
<b>EDUCATION</b>							
High school or less	72.1%	5.1%	2.3%	6.9%	13.7%	27	18.9
College or CEGEP	78.1%	1.3%	11.6%	5.8%	3.2%	48	14.1
University or higher	54.7%	23.5%	12.6%	9.2%	0.0%	77	11.2







### **Federal Vote Intention – Saskatchewan/Manitoba**

*Q. If a federal election were held tomorrow, which party would you vote for?*

					Other	Sample Size	Margin of Error (+/-)
<b>OVERALL</b>	<b>55.8%</b>	<b>19.9%</b>	<b>17.5%</b>	<b>4.5%</b>	<b>2.3%</b>	<b>83</b>	<b>10.8</b>
<b>GENDER</b>							
Male	66.1%	13.0%	14.9%	3.5%	2.6%	49	14.0
Female	55.6%	20.0%	16.1%	5.2%	3.1%	34	16.8
<b>AGE</b>							
<25	100.0%	0.0%	0.0%	0.0%	0.0%	2	69.3
25-44	51.6%	12.4%	31.5%	4.5%	0.0%	22	20.9
45-64	65.8%	18.8%	2.7%	5.5%	7.2%	31	17.6
65+	43.1%	29.4%	20.4%	4.8%	2.3%	28	18.5
<b>EDUCATION</b>							
High school or less	62.7%	14.4%	18.2%	3.2%	1.5%	24	20.0
College or CEGEP	54.8%	11.1%	24.7%	0.0%	9.3%	24	20.0
University or higher	63.7%	20.6%	8.2%	7.5%	0.0%	35	16.6






### **Federal Vote Intention – Ontario**

*Q. If a federal election were held tomorrow, which party would you vote for?*

					Other	Sample Size	Margin of Error (+/-)
<b>OVERALL</b>	<b>38.1%</b>	<b>34.6%</b>	<b>14.5%</b>	<b>9.2%</b>	<b>3.6%</b>	<b>331</b>	<b>5.4</b>
<b>GENDER</b>							
Male	33.9%	38.0%	13.6%	8.0%	6.6%	189	7.1
Female	42.4%	30.3%	16.1%	10.7%	0.5%	142	8.2
<b>AGE</b>							
<25	10.0%	62.2%	9.9%	13.8%	4.1%	26	19.2
25-44	38.0%	24.0%	22.0%	9.9%	6.1%	70	11.7
45-64	43.1%	34.9%	11.9%	9.3%	0.8%	149	8.0
65+	49.0%	30.7%	11.4%	5.4%	3.5%	86	10.6
<b>EDUCATION</b>							
High school or less	35.0%	32.0%	9.5%	19.6%	3.9%	71	11.6
College or CEGEP	48.5%	23.8%	16.6%	7.8%	3.4%	101	9.8
University or higher	32.8%	42.2%	16.3%	5.5%	3.2%	159	7.8





### Federal Vote Intention – Quebec

*Q. If a federal election were held tomorrow, which party would you vote for?*

						Other	Sample Size	Margin of Error (+/-)
<b>OVERALL</b>	<b>19.4%</b>	<b>26.8%</b>	<b>17.7%</b>	<b>6.7%</b>	<b>28.3%</b>	<b>1.2%</b>	<b>270</b>	<b>6.0</b>
<b>GENDER</b>								
Male	20.5%	25.4%	17.5%	9.5%	25.1%	2.0%	124	8.8
Female	19.4%	28.7%	18.0%	3.5%	29.9%	0.5%	146	8.1
<b>AGE</b>								
<25	16.5%	35.9%	10.7%	22.3%	14.6%	0.0%	21	21.4
25-44	18.1%	19.1%	18.4%	6.6%	35.9%	2.0%	80	11.0
45-64	19.8%	30.1%	20.2%	2.2%	26.2%	1.4%	117	9.1
65+	25.6%	31.4%	15.7%	5.2%	22.1%	0.0%	52	13.6
<b>EDUCATION</b>								
High school or less	28.5%	24.9%	21.1%	4.5%	19.2%	1.9%	83	10.8
College or CEGEP	17.6%	22.5%	16.1%	8.3%	34.7%	0.9%	97	10.0
University or higher	15.6%	34.5%	17.0%	5.7%	26.2%	1.0%	90	10.3

### Federal Vote Intention – Atlantic Canada

*Q. If a federal election were held tomorrow, which party would you vote for?*

					Other	Sample Size	Margin of Error (+/-)
<b>OVERALL</b>	<b>34.8%</b>	<b>25.5%</b>	<b>24.5%</b>	<b>13.1%</b>	<b>2.2%</b>	<b>76</b>	<b>11.2</b>
<b>GENDER</b>							
Male	27.1%	37.4%	14.0%	18.8%	2.8%	32	17.3
Female	39.2%	16.4%	35.6%	7.0%	1.8%	44	14.8
<b>AGE</b>							
<25	27.8%	40.5%	0.0%	31.7%	0.0%	10	31.0
25-44	24.5%	19.3%	50.0%	6.2%	0.0%	18	23.1
45-64	28.5%	34.1%	17.5%	13.3%	6.6%	32	17.3
65+	65.8%	19.9%	0.0%	14.3%	0.0%	16	24.5
<b>EDUCATION</b>							
High school or less	26.6%	31.2%	15.7%	23.3%	3.2%	22	20.9
College or CEGEP	24.9%	20.2%	39.5%	10.7%	4.7%	21	21.4
University or higher	43.1%	29.0%	20.2%	7.7%	0.0%	33	17.1


**Direction of Country**

*Q. All things considered, would you say the country is moving in the right direction or the wrong direction?*

	Right Direction	Wrong Direction	DK/NR	Sample Size	Margin of Error (+/-)
<b>NATIONALLY</b>	<b>52.5%</b>	<b>36.4%</b>	<b>11.1%</b>	<b>575</b>	<b>4.1</b>
<b>REGION</b>					
British Columbia	61.3%	31.0%	7.7%	71	11.6
Alberta	69.0%	20.6%	10.4%	85	10.6
Saskatchewan/Manitoba	52.6%	34.6%	12.8%	48	14.1
Ontario	48.9%	41.5%	9.7%	186	7.2
Quebec	49.2%	39.2%	11.5%	142	8.2
Atlantic Canada	46.0%	33.3%	20.7%	43	14.9
<b>GENDER</b>					
Male	54.4%	38.3%	7.3%	306	5.6
Female	50.6%	34.6%	14.8%	269	6.0
<b>AGE</b>					
<25	64.2%	27.4%	8.4%	44	14.8
25-44	44.3%	49.7%	6.0%	148	8.1
45-64	57.5%	32.2%	10.3%	241	6.3
65+	49.2%	28.0%	22.8%	142	8.2
<b>EDUCATION</b>					
High school or less	49.0%	36.8%	14.3%	161	7.7
College or CEGEP	56.5%	33.6%	9.8%	176	7.4
University or higher	51.6%	38.5%	9.9%	238	6.4
<b>CURRENT VOTE INTENTION</b>					
Conservative Party of Canada	86.2%	7.8%	6.0%	216	6.7
Liberal Party of Canada	33.8%	51.9%	14.3%	149	8.0
NDP	27.6%	62.2%	10.3%	75	11.3
Green Party	33.5%	54.0%	12.6%	43	14.9
Bloc Quebecois	28.0%	57.3%	14.7%	34	16.8
Undecided	53.2%	19.3%	27.4%	13	27.2

### **Direction of Government**






*Q. All things considered, would you say the Government of Canada is moving in the right direction or the wrong direction?*

	Right Direction	Wrong Direction	DK/NR	Sample Size	Margin of Error (+/-)
<b>NATIONALLY</b>	<b>40.1%</b>	<b>51.3%</b>	<b>8.5%</b>	<b>596</b>	<b>4.0</b>
<b>REGION</b>					
British Columbia	41.4%	49.4%	9.2%	105	9.6
Alberta	64.4%	23.5%	12.1%	73	11.5
Saskatchewan/Manitoba	63.8%	32.4%	3.8%	45	14.6
Ontario	44.7%	46.7%	8.6%	172	7.5
Quebec	20.1%	73.3%	6.6%	159	7.8
Atlantic Canada	36.2%	49.8%	14.0%	42	15.1
<b>GENDER</b>					
Male	44.2%	48.5%	7.4%	308	5.6
Female	36.6%	53.8%	9.6%	288	5.8
<b>AGE</b>					
<25	26.9%	66.9%	6.2%	42	15.1
25-44	34.1%	58.2%	7.7%	179	7.3
45-64	46.4%	44.5%	9.0%	248	6.2
65+	50.1%	38.8%	11.1%	127	8.7
<b>EDUCATION</b>					
High school or less	34.3%	56.3%	9.4%	139	8.3
College or CEGEP	44.7%	49.0%	6.3%	199	7.0
University or higher	39.5%	50.6%	9.9%	258	6.1
<b>CURRENT VOTE INTENTION</b>					
Conservative Party of Canada	88.4%	8.5%	3.1%	198	7.0
Liberal Party of Canada	23.5%	69.6%	6.9%	138	8.3
NDP	13.3%	74.3%	12.4%	94	10.1
Green Party	17.1%	74.8%	8.2%	49	14.0
Bloc Quebecois	6.9%	87.0%	6.1%	43	14.9
Undecided	8.7%	85.6%	5.7%	16	24.5



**Second Choice**

*Q. Talking again in terms of a federal election, which party would be your second choice?*

						Other	No 2 <sup>nd</sup> choice	Sample Size	Margin of Error (+/-)
<b>NATIONALLY</b>	<b>8%</b>	<b>15%</b>	<b>23%</b>	<b>12%</b>	<b>5%</b>	<b>3%</b>	<b>34%</b>	<b>1146</b>	<b>2.9</b>
<b>REGION</b>									
British Columbia	11%	18%	22%	14%	0%	3%	33%	170	7.5
Alberta	8%	16%	14%	11%	0%	4%	47%	156	7.9
Saskatchewan/Manitoba	8%	14%	24%	9%	0%	2%	44%	93	10.2
Ontario	8%	16%	23%	16%	0%	4%	34%	355	5.2
Quebec	7%	12%	29%	7%	20%	1%	24%	288	5.8
Atlantic Canada	12%	17%	18%	12%	0%	3%	37%	84	10.7
<b>GENDER</b>									
Male	9%	14%	21%	14%	4%	3%	35%	598	4.0
Female	8%	16%	26%	10%	5%	2%	32%	548	4.2
<b>AGE</b>									
<25	5%	13%	35%	12%	4%	4%	27%	78	11.1
25-44	9%	16%	18%	13%	7%	3%	34%	313	5.5
45-64	10%	15%	22%	11%	4%	3%	35%	488	4.4
65+	6%	15%	29%	12%	1%	1%	36%	267	6.0
<b>EDUCATION</b>									
High school or less	8%	14%	20%	11%	5%	2%	40%	290	5.8
College or CEGEP	10%	14%	20%	10%	5%	3%	39%	368	5.1
University or higher	7%	17%	28%	15%	5%	3%	26%	488	4.4
<b>VOTE INTENTION</b>									
Conservative Party of Canada	0%	17%	20%	10%	2%	2%	48%	414	4.8
Liberal Party of Canada	15%	0%	41%	14%	7%	1%	22%	287	5.8
NDP	9%	35%	0%	25%	11%	2%	19%	169	7.5
Green Party	20%	25%	24%	0%	1%	3%	26%	92	10.2
Bloc Quebecois	9%	12%	45%	8%	0%	2%	24%	77	11.2
Undecided	16%	9%	14%	6%	5%	0%	50%	29	18.2



### **Support for Including Elizabeth May in the Leaders' Debate**

*Q. As you may have heard, Elizabeth May, leader of the Green Party of Canada, has been excluded from the televised leaders' debates. Would you support or oppose Elizabeth May being allowed to participate in the debates?*

	Oppose (1-3)	Neither support nor oppose (4)	Support (5-7)	Sample Size	Margin of Error (+/-)
<b>NATIONALLY</b>	<b>25%</b>	<b>27%</b>	<b>48%</b>	<b>1146</b>	<b>2.9</b>
<b>REGION</b>					
British Columbia	17%	23%	60%	170	7.5
Alberta	32%	21%	47%	156	7.9
Saskatchewan/Manitoba	20%	36%	44%	93	10.2
Ontario	25%	24%	51%	355	5.2
Quebec	30%	34%	35%	288	5.8
Atlantic Canada	20%	25%	54%	84	10.7
<b>GENDER</b>					
Male	29%	22%	48%	598	4.0
Female	21%	31%	47%	548	4.2
<b>AGE</b>					
<25	32%	29%	39%	78	11.1
25-44	23%	24%	53%	313	5.5
45-64	24%	27%	49%	488	4.4
65+	27%	32%	41%	267	6.0
<b>EDUCATION</b>					
High school or less	26%	33%	41%	290	5.8
College or CEGEP	24%	28%	48%	368	5.1
University or higher	26%	22%	52%	488	4.4
<b>CURRENT VOTE INTENTION</b>					
Conservative Party of Canada	34%	31%	35%	414	4.8
Liberal Party of Canada	24%	25%	51%	287	5.8
NDP	13%	23%	64%	169	7.5
Green Party	18%	15%	66%	92	10.2
Bloc Quebecois	32%	40%	28%	77	11.2
Undecided	28%	14%	58%	29	18.2



## Methodology:

EKOS' weekly tracking polls are conducted using Interactive Voice Response (IVR) technology, which allows respondents to enter their preferences by punching the keypad on their phone, rather than telling them to an operator.

In an effort to reduce the coverage bias of landline only RDD, we created a dual landline/cell phone RDD sampling frame for this research. As a result, we are able to reach those with both a landline and cell phone, as well as cell phone only households and landline only households. This dual frame yields a near perfect unweighted distribution on age group and gender, something almost never seen with traditional landline RDD sample or interviewer-administered surveys.

The field dates for this survey are April 4-5, 2011. In total, a random sample of 1,171 Canadians aged 18 and over responded to the survey (including a sub-sample of 1,068 decided voters). The margin of error associated with the total sample is +/-2.9 percentage points, 19 times out of 20.

Please note that the margin of error increases when the results are sub-divided (i.e., error margins for sub-groups such as region, sex, age, education). All the data have been statistically weighted to ensure the samples composition reflects that of the actual population of Canada according to Census data.