

DEADLOCKED NATIONAL RACE OBSCURES SEAT ADVANTAGE FOR LIBERALS:

BLOC AND NDP FORTUNES ON RISE AS GREEN FORTUNES DECLINE

[Ottawa – October 16, 2019] The national numbers could not be tighter with the Liberals and Conservatives at 31.2 and 31.8 points, respectively. The NDP has risen, but that rise seems to have plateaued and they now standing at 18.4 points. The Green Party is now at 6.8 per cent and they have seen a lot of their vote cannibalized by the rise in the NDP. At 3.4 per cent, the People's Party has fallen back somewhat, while the Bloc Québécois is 6.4 per cent nationally, which translates into a statistical tie in Quebec (29 per cent, compared to 28 per cent for the Liberals).

Regionally, the main story remains Ontario. The polling was conducted in the aftermath of the Conservative release of its platform calling for \$53 billion in cuts with assurances of no cuts to jobs. In Ontario, where voters are leery from their experiences with similar messaging from Doug Ford, the Liberals have once again opened up a 10-point lead (40 per cent, compared to 30 per cent for the second-place Conservatives). The NDP is also rising significantly in the province at 21 points.

The Atlantic has been looking quite favorable for the Liberals some time. The party stands at 44 points here, with the Conservatives well back at 18 points. It is also notable that the Conservatives have largely fallen out of the picture in Quebec. Indeed, save for Ontario where they continue to have some prospects (though they are well behind the Liberals), the Conservative position in Eastern Canada is not particularly strong. British Columbia remains an unpredictable tight race between the Liberals, Conservatives, NDP, and a waning Green Party. Alberta and Saskatchewan remain solidly locked in with the Conservatives, with the party well over 60 points in both provinces. The Conservatives are also doing very well in Manitoba.

The Conservatives do better with men, while the Liberals do better with women. The age patterns are not terribly clear, although NDP support is disproportionately concentrated among youth. However, it remains to see whether those voters will actually show up on Election Day. The other major gap we see is across university-educated versus non-university-educated voters, with university graduates favouring the Liberals and other educational cohorts favouring the Conservatives by a fairly large margin.

Bottom line:

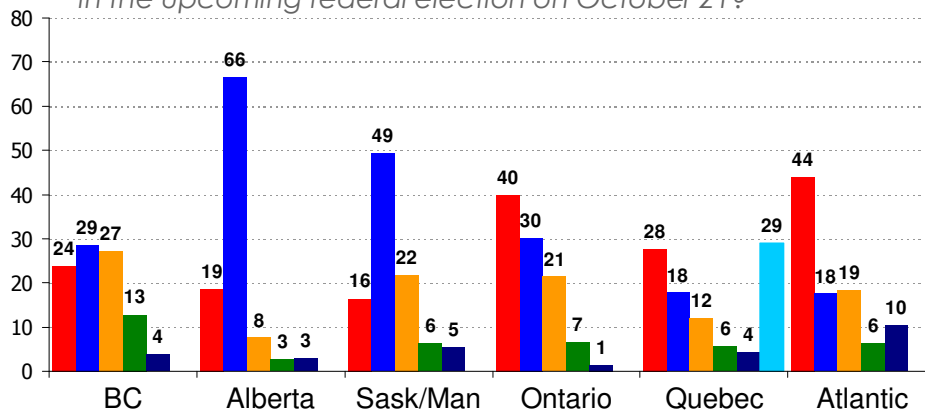
There is still room for further movement, but it applies largely to non-Conservative parts of the vote. The Conservative vote is fairly locked in which is good news for them. On the bad news side, there is very little room for growth with a scant six per cent identifying them as second choice. The Liberals score 12 per cent on second choice so can aspire to grow. The NDP, however, have the greatest growth potential at 22 per cent, followed by the Green Party at 14 per cent and the Bloc Québécois at 11.9 in Quebec. If further movement were to occur for the

NDP, it would come from the Liberals and Greens. In fact, the greatest potential circulations are final shifting among promiscuous progressive voters across the three centre-left national parties. The Conservatives are pretty well stuck and must count on a large turnout advantage to win this election.

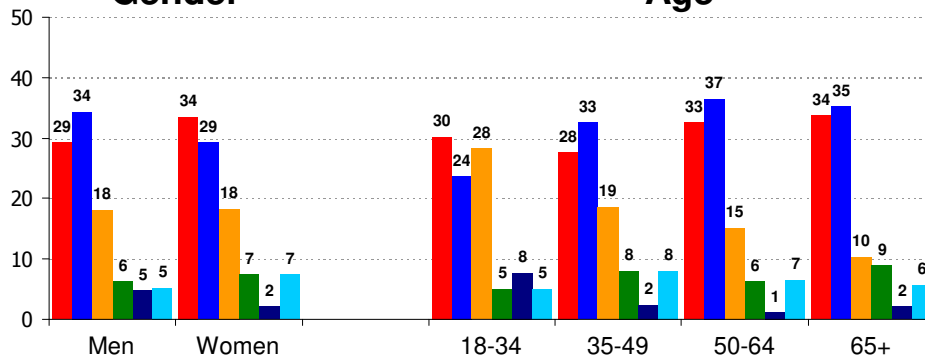
These findings leave open the question of alliances – formal or otherwise – between the parties in a hung parliament. We will be testing this in the next few days, but the most plausible options right now are a Liberal-NDP or a Conservative-Bloc, with the former being somewhat more likely at the moment. How voters react to these new realities will shape the final outcome of Election 43.

Vote intention by region/demos CIVIS2.0

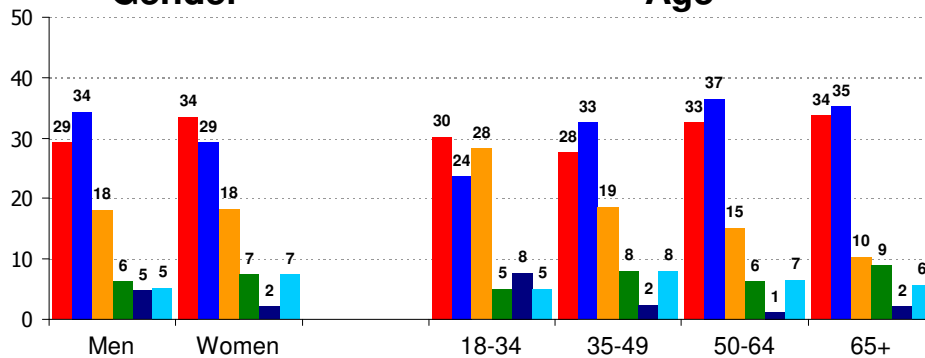
Q. How did you vote in this election? / How do you plan to vote in the upcoming federal election on October 21?



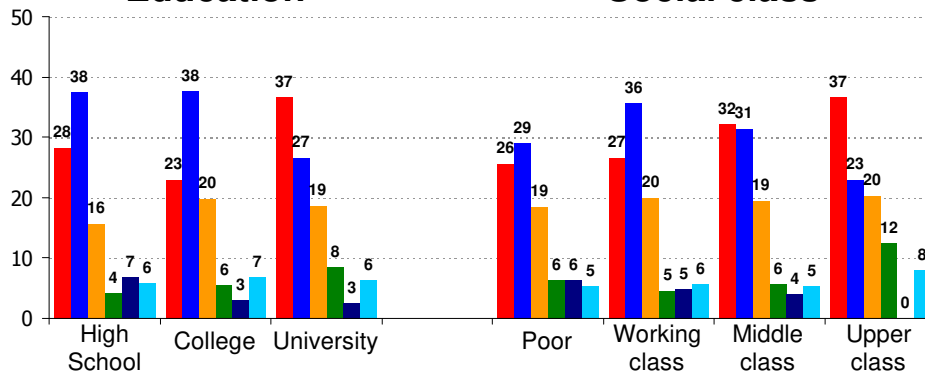
Gender



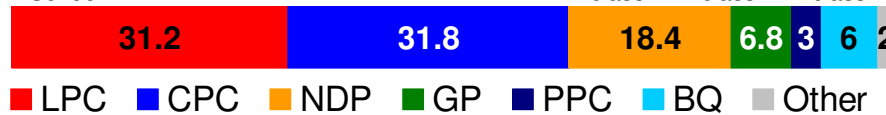
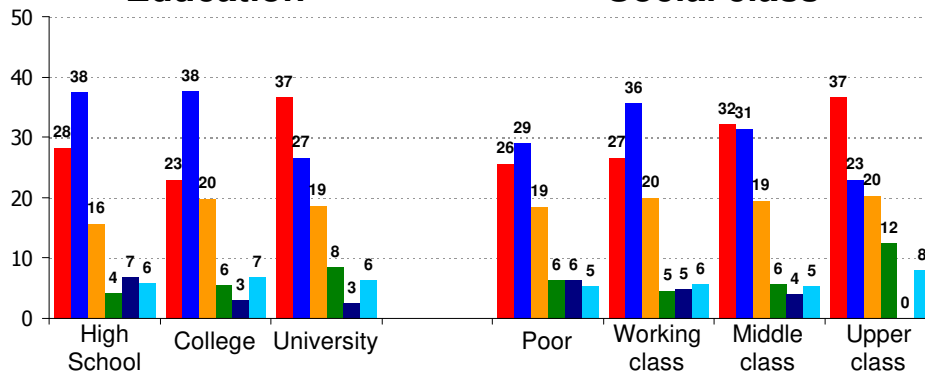
Age



Education



Social class



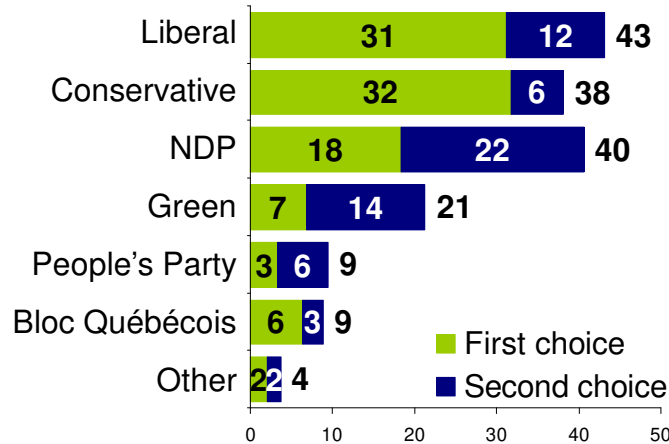
BASE: Canadians; October 11-15, 2019, n=1,904, MOE +/- 2.3%, 19 times out of 20

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Theoretical vote ceilings



Q. How did you vote in this election? / How do you plan to vote in the upcoming federal election on October 21? / Talking again in terms of a federal election, which party would be your second choice?



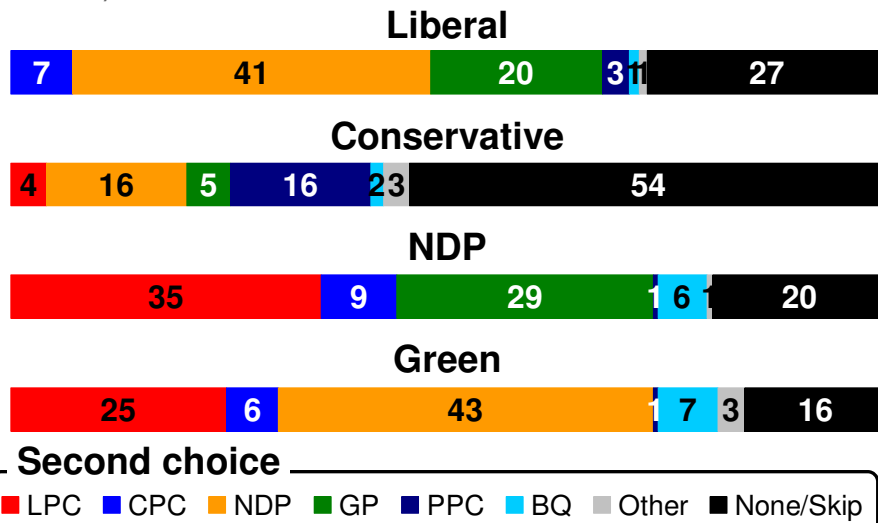
BASE: Decided voters; October 11-15, 2019, n=1,089, MOE +/- 3.0%, 19 times out of 20

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Anatomy of second choice



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



BASE: Decided voters; October 11-15, 2019, n=1,089, MOE +/- 3.0%, 19 times out of 20

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Detailed Results:

National Federal Vote Intention (already voted/decided voters/leaning voters only)										
<i>Q. Thinking about the upcoming federal election on October 21, have you already voted either at an advance poll or by special ballot?</i>										
<i>[If yes] How did you vote in this election?</i>										
<i>[If no] How do you plan to vote in the upcoming federal election on October 21?</i>										
<i>[If undecided] Even if you do not have a firm idea, are you leaning towards a party?</i>										
<i>[If yes] As it stands, towards which party are you leaning?</i>										
	LPC	CPC	NDP	GP	PPC	BQ	Other	Sample Size		Margin of Error (+/-)
								Weighted	Un-weighted	
NATIONALLY	31.2%	31.8%	18.4%	6.8%	3.4%	6.4%	2.0%	1516	1509	2.5
REGION										
British Columbia	23.9%	28.7%	27.3%	12.9%	3.9%	–	3.3%	223	220	6.6
Alberta	18.6%	66.4%	7.7%	2.8%	3.0%	–	1.5%	171	219	6.6
Sask./Man.*	16.4%	49.3%	21.9%	6.2%	5.3%	–	1.0%	102	111	9.3
Ontario	40.0%	30.1%	21.3%	6.5%	1.4%	–	0.7%	589	544	4.2
Quebec	27.8%	17.7%	11.9%	5.6%	4.3%	29.0%	3.7%	332	305	5.6
Atlantic Canada*	43.9%	17.6%	18.5%	6.3%	10.3%	–	3.5%	98	110	9.3
GENDER										
Male	29.3%	34.4%	18.1%	6.3%	4.8%	5.3%	1.8%	746	740	3.6
Female	33.6%	29.3%	18.3%	7.4%	2.2%	7.4%	1.9%	748	747	3.6
AGE										
<35	30.2%	23.7%	28.3%	5.1%	7.7%	5.1%	0.0%	413	101	9.8
35-49	27.6%	32.5%	18.6%	8.0%	2.4%	8.1%	2.9%	359	233	6.4
50-64	32.5%	36.5%	15.2%	6.2%	1.1%	6.6%	1.8%	406	457	4.6
65+	33.7%	35.2%	10.4%	8.8%	2.1%	5.8%	4.1%	320	701	3.7
EDUCATION										
High school or less	28.3%	37.5%	15.6%	4.2%	6.7%	5.7%	2.0%	282	318	5.5
College or CEGEP	23.0%	37.7%	19.8%	5.5%	3.0%	6.8%	4.1%	437	439	4.7
University or higher	36.7%	26.5%	18.7%	8.4%	2.5%	6.3%	0.9%	791	744	3.6
SOCIAL CLASS										
Poor	25.6%	29.0%	18.5%	6.2%	6.2%	5.2%	9.3%	66	90	10.3
Working class	26.5%	35.7%	20.0%	4.6%	4.8%	5.6%	2.7%	328	276	5.9
Middle class	32.1%	31.4%	19.4%	5.6%	4.0%	5.3%	2.2%	677	677	3.8
Upper class	36.6%	22.9%	20.3%	12.3%	0.0%	8.0%	0.0%	98	82	10.8

**Note that due to the small sample sizes, results for these regions should be interpreted with caution*

Second Choice

Q. [DECIDED/LEANING VOTERS ONLY] Talking again in terms of a federal election, which party would be your second choice?

	No second choice	LPC	CPC	NDP	GP	PPC	BQ	Other	Skip	Sample Size		Margin of Error (+/-)
										Weighted	Un-weighted	
NATIONALLY	33.9%	12.0%	6.3%	22.3%	14.4%	6.1%	2.5%	1.7%	0.9%	1162	1089	3.0
REGION												
British Columbia	25.2%	13.6%	4.8%	20.7%	27.8%	5.3%	0.0%	2.4%	0.3%	163	141	8.3
Alberta	47.6%	10.6%	5.1%	16.1%	3.0%	14.7%	0.0%	2.3%	0.6%	124	157	7.8
Sask./Man.*	41.9%	18.0%	9.7%	17.4%	6.7%	3.5%	0.0%	1.0%	1.8%	85	87	10.5
Ontario	33.2%	10.5%	4.1%	25.6%	17.2%	6.9%	0.0%	2.0%	0.4%	468	407	4.9
Quebec	29.2%	11.7%	12.7%	22.4%	6.2%	3.5%	11.9%	0.0%	2.4%	242	213	6.7
Atlantic Canada*	39.4%	13.4%	1.3%	20.5%	22.4%	0.4%	0.0%	2.7%	0.0%	80	84	10.7
GENDER												
Male	32.1%	10.3%	7.1%	19.3%	15.8%	9.8%	2.8%	2.4%	0.4%	560	516	4.3
Female	35.3%	13.4%	5.6%	25.8%	13.2%	2.6%	2.2%	0.6%	1.3%	585	556	4.2
AGE												
<35	24.4%	14.1%	7.0%	24.5%	16.8%	9.6%	2.1%	1.2%	0.3%	357	86	10.6
35-49	30.5%	13.1%	5.7%	25.1%	13.2%	5.0%	4.2%	2.2%	1.1%	280	186	7.2
50-64	39.7%	10.5%	7.0%	18.8%	14.1%	5.2%	2.5%	1.6%	0.6%	297	331	5.4
65+	45.9%	9.7%	5.0%	19.6%	13.1%	3.0%	0.6%	1.9%	1.2%	213	472	4.5
EDUCATION												
High school or less	42.6%	4.2%	4.2%	22.1%	12.0%	8.8%	1.6%	2.2%	2.3%	223	239	6.3
College or CEGEP	38.0%	11.2%	6.7%	17.0%	15.3%	5.8%	3.3%	1.9%	0.7%	330	314	5.5
University or higher	28.3%	15.2%	6.8%	25.2%	15.0%	5.3%	2.4%	1.3%	0.4%	602	528	4.3
VOTE INTENTION												
Liberal	25.4%	–	7.0%	40.8%	19.7%	3.0%	1.2%	0.9%	1.9%	369	356	5.2
Conservative	54.0%	4.1%	–	16.0%	5.0%	15.9%	1.5%	3.0%	0.4%	350	377	5.1
NDP	19.2%	35.4%	8.6%	–	29.2%	0.6%	5.6%	0.7%	0.6%	237	165	7.6
Green	15.7%	24.7%	5.9%	42.8%	–	0.6%	6.8%	3.1%	0.5%	85	86	10.6
People's Party	53.3%	2.7%	33.4%	10.6%	0.0%	–	0.0%	0.0%	0.0%	41	29	18.2
Bloc Québécois	34.5%	26.8%	12.6%	14.4%	10.1%	1.7%	–	0.0%	0.0%	69	70	11.7
Other	52.3%	0.0%	0.0%	13.1%	15.9%	10.3%	0.0%	8.3%	0.0%	12	6	40.0

**Note that due to the small sample sizes, results for these regions should be interpreted with caution*

This study involved a blended sample collected using two separate methodologies: Computer Assisted Live Interviews (CATI) and EKOS' proprietary High Definition Interactive Voice Response (HD-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 a landline and cell phone, as well as cell phone only households and landline only households.

The field dates for this survey are October 11-15, 2019. In total, a random sample of 1,904 Canadian adults aged 18 and over responded to the survey. The margin of error associated with the total sample is +/- 2.3 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 by **age, gender, and region** to ensure the sample's composition reflects that of the actual population of Canada according to Census data.