

DAILY TRACKING

ARE THE GREENS SET TO BREAK THROUGH?

[OTTAWA – September 19, 2008] In our latest EKOS tracking poll, the Green Party has achieved its highest level of support ever, at 13% -- very close to triple the level of support it garnered in the last election.

Even more important to the Greens, it seems they are on the threshold of transforming the contest in British Columbia into a four-way race. They are now just one percentage point behind the Liberals in B.C. according to our poll, and they are the strongest of all the parties in terms of "second-choice" options in that province.

"The Green Party has always faced the challenge that, come election day, supporters might be inclined to think that a vote for the Greens was 'wasted' because they couldn't win a seat," said EKOS President Frank Graves. "That could be about to change, particularly in British Columbia." In terms of the overall party dynamics, the Tories have now settled back into the mid-30s, while the Liberals have steadied themselves in the mid-20s and have somewhat narrowed the gap with the Conservatives. In fact, the regional analysis shows that the Liberals are now highly competitive East of Sault Ste Marie; they have managed to close the gap, and are now running neck and neck in Ontario and Atlantic Canada.

The NDP seem stuck in the high teens in terms of support. So, the Greens are the party with momentum.

The NDP now faces a substantial challenge in its quest to displace the Liberals as the obvious alternative to the Conservative government. Not only is the gap with the Liberals no longer closing as it was in the first week of the campaign, the New Democrats may soon feel the Greens breathing down their necks nationally, and already should be feeling some of that pressure in B.C.

HIGHLIGHTS

- **Daily national federal vote intention numbers: CPC 36%, Liberal 25%, NDP 18%, Green Party 13%, and the BQ 8%.**

Please note that the methodology and detailed tables of these and other results discussed in this release are provided at the end of this document.

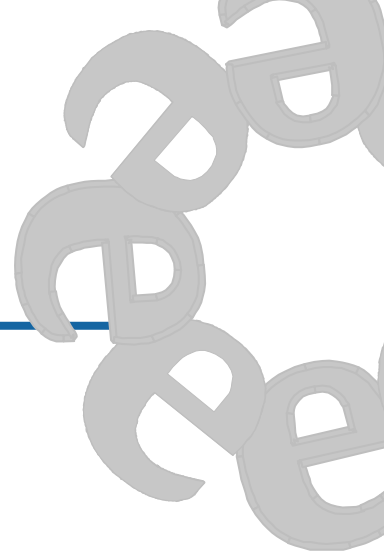
"Nationally, the NDP has sometimes been at or below the 13% level in the last five years, so the Greens have to be taken seriously now," said Graves. "In fact, the old Canadian Alliance sometimes polled below the 13% level."

On the other hand, NDP supporters will be encouraged to note that they now lead as the party of second choice.

Of course, the Green Party continues to suffer from the fact that their support is "less efficient", in the sense that it is relatively evenly spread across the country. That's why the Bloc Québécois, whose support is geographically concentrated, would win more seats than the NDP or the Greens if an election were held today, even though the BQ is now the fifth party in terms of national support.

Another challenge is that the Greens draw much of their support from younger voters, who traditionally have had low turn-out at election time. At the moment the Greens are close to leading among voters under-25. The Greens are not so much a party of the left as they are a party of the frustrated younger generations that have felt left out of baby-boomer dominated politics.






"There are two crucial questions for the Greens," said Graves. "Can they convince their supporters that a Green vote is not wasted; and can they motivate younger voters to get involved and turn out to vote in the way Barack Obama appears to have succeeded in doing south of the border."



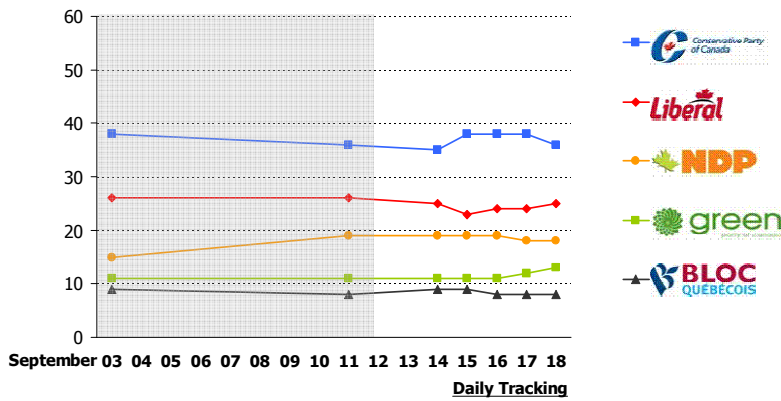
Detailed Tables:

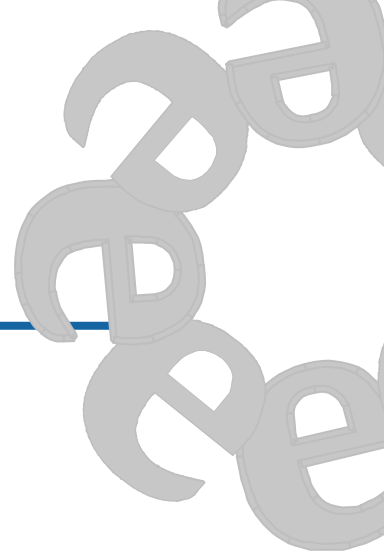
National Federal Vote Intention

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

BASE: Decided Voters	CANADA	BC	AB	SK/MB	ON	QC	ATL
n=	3992	686	257	209	1330	1219	291
Margin of error (+/-)=	1.6	3.7	6.1	6.8	2.7	2.8	5.7
	36	39	61	47	35	25	33
	25	19	14	18	32	21	33
	18	24	12	26	19	13	21
	13	18	13	9	14	8	14
	8	0	0	0	0	33	0






Tracking Federal Vote Intention

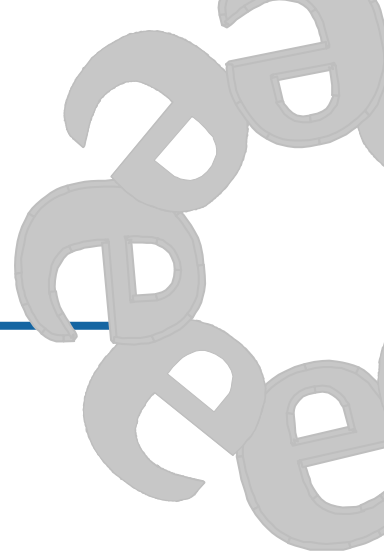




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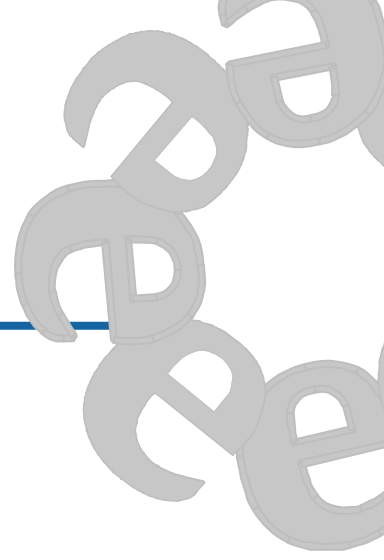
BASE: Decided Voters	CANADA	Sex		Age				Income		
		M	F	<25	25-44	45-64	65+	<\$40 K	\$40-80K	+\$80 K
n=	3992	1859	2133	260	1311	1617	804	1375	1439	1178
Margin of error=	1.6	2.3	2.1	6.1	2.7	2.4	3.5	2.6	2.6	2.7
	36	40	32	24	36	38	41	34	37	38
	25	24	25	26	21	25	33	23	25	27
	18	15	21	21	19	18	14	19	19	17
	13	13	12	20	15	11	7	13	11	14
	8	8	9	9	10	8	4	11	9	4



Second Choice (by current vote intention)


Q. Which Party would be your second choice?

BASE: Decided Voters	CANADA	Current Vote Intention					
		CPC	LPC	NDP	GP	BQ	Undecided
	19	18	33	0	27	28	11
	17	21	0	31	28	11	9
	15	10	24	26	0	19	9
	10	0	16	13	16	16	11
	4	4	3	5	6	0	3
No second choice	34	47	23	24	24	26	57



Second Choice (by demographics)

Q. Which Party would be your second choice?

BASE: Decided Voters	CANADA	Sex		Age				Income		
		M	F	<25	25-44	45-64	65+	<\$40 K	\$40-80K	+\$80 K
	19	21	18	19	18	21	18	18	20	20
	17	15	19	18	20	15	13	14	17	19
	15	15	15	17	14	16	16	12	16	19
	10	9	11	12	10	10	8	12	10	8
	4	5	4	6	5	4	3	6	4	3
No second choice	34	35	34	28	33	34	42	38	33	32

Methodology:

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

Each weekday evening, a nationally representative sample of approximately 1,000 Canadians, 18 years of age and older is surveyed. The daily tracking number presented in this report is based on a three-day rolling average of surveys collected September 16, 17, and 18.

The margin of error associated with this three-day rolling sample of 3,992 decided voters (including leaning) is +/-1.6 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, income). All the data have been statistically weighted to ensure the samples composition reflects that of the actual population of Canada according to Census data.