

# Federal Voting Intentions



**For immediate release**

## Report

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## Results

### 1. Despite the Gomery Report, Liberals Lead by 8 Points

If federal elections were held today, 34% of Canadians would have supported the Liberals versus 26% who would have favoured the Conservative Party. The NDP garners 18% and the Bloc Québécois 11%. When compared to our survey conducted in September, Liberal support has dropped 6 points while Conservative support has risen by 2.

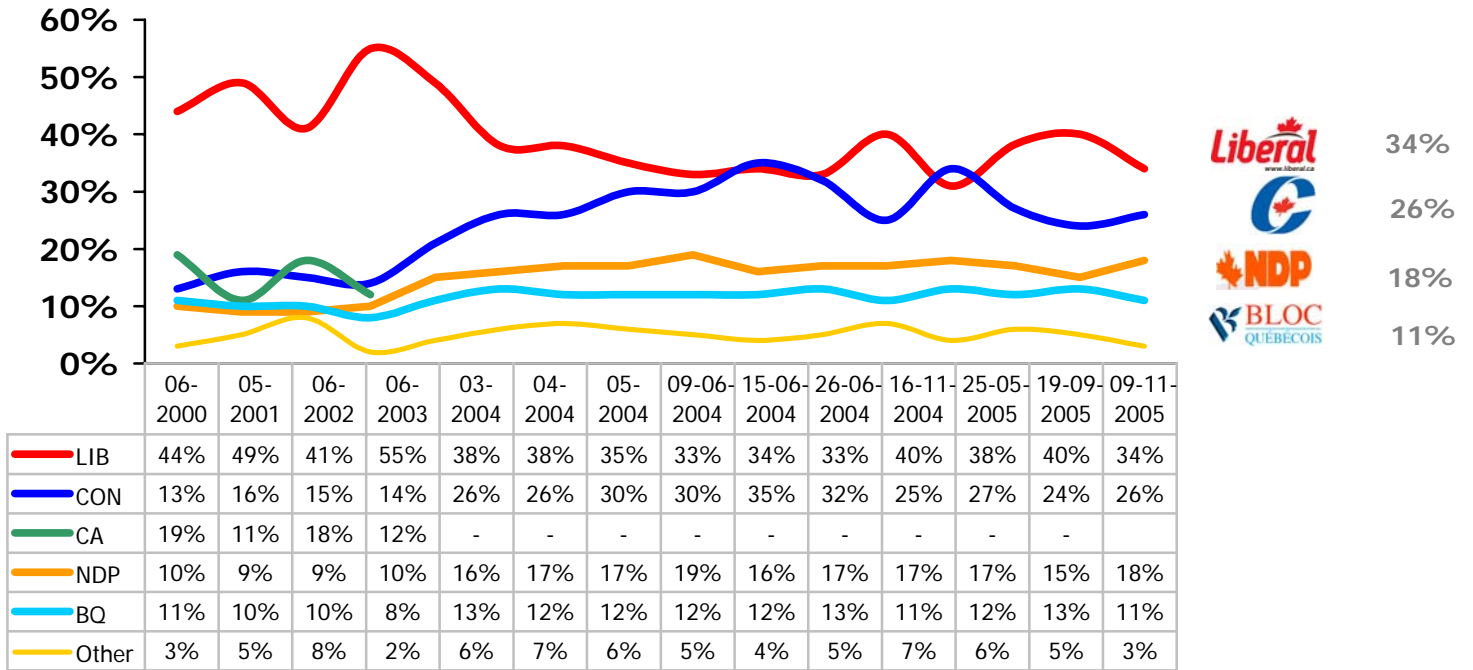
**Table 1 – FEDERAL VOTING INTENTIONS**





*Question: If federal elections were held today, for which of the following political parties would you be most likely to vote for, would it be for...? (If the respondent did not have an opinion the following question was asked): Even if you have not yet made up your mind, which political party would you be most likely to vote for?*

	Before Distribution n=1500	After Distribution n=1197	AP n=82	QC n=319	ONT n=496	PR n=89	AB n=96	BC n=115
	27%	34%	43%	29%	<b>40%</b>	31%	18%	30%
	21%	26%	24%	6%	28%	32%	<b>60%</b>	30%
	15%	18%	23%	9%	19%	<b>27%</b>	14%	<b>28%</b>
	9%	11%	-	<b>48%</b>	-	-	-	-
	6%	7%	5%	5%	<b>9%</b>	9%	4%	8%
<b>Other</b>	2%	3%	4%	2%	3%	1%	3%	4%
<b>Abstain/Spoil ballot</b>	9%							
<b>Don't know</b>	7%							
<b>Refusal</b>	4%							

- Distribution of undecided is proportional.

### Evolution of Voting Intentions in Canada June 2000 - 9 November 2005



 34%  
 26%  
 18%  
 11%

## 2. Dissatisfaction on the Rise

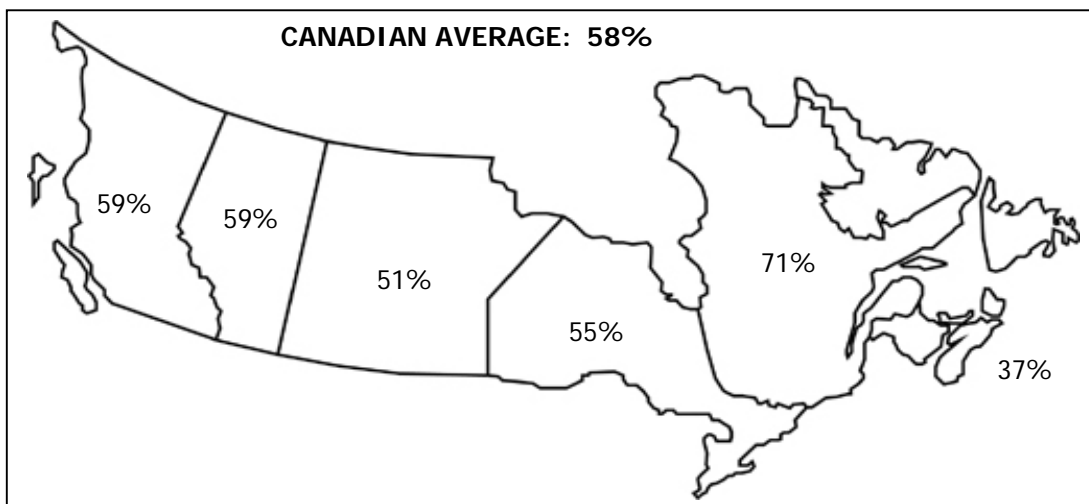
From 53% of Canadians dissatisfied with Paul Martin's Liberal government back in September, 58% of Canadians now claim to be dissatisfied. Dissatisfaction is at its highest in Québec, reaching 71%, a result that has been stable since last September. Inversely, it is in the Atlantic Provinces (37%) and in Ontario (41%) that dissatisfaction is lowest.

**Table 2 – SATISFIED WITH GOVERNMENT**

**Question:** *Are you VERY SATISFIED, SOMEWHAT SATISFIED, SOMEWHAT DISSATISFIED or VERY DISSATISFIED with the Liberal government led by Prime Minister Paul Martin?*

(n=1500)	Total Population	AP	OC	ON	PR	AB	BC
Very satisfied	4%	6%	2%	5%	2%	4%	6%
Satisfied	31%	<b>50%</b>	24%	<b>36%</b>	33%	24%	26%
Dissatisfied	30%	20%	32%	32%	26%	26%	30%
Very dissatisfied	28%	17%	<b>39%</b>	23%	25%	33%	29%
Don't know/Refusal	4%	3%	2%	3%	<b>9%</b>	<b>8%</b>	4%
<b>TOTAL SATISFIED</b>	35%	<b>56%</b>	26%	<b>41%</b>	35%	28%	32%
<b>TOTAL DISSATISFIED</b>	58%	37%	<b>71%</b>	55%	51%	59%	59%

Rates of Dissatisfaction per Canadian Region



### 3. Three-Quarters of Canadians Do Not Want An Early Election

Following the publication of the first Gomery report, fewer than one Canadian in five (17%) would want elections to be held right away, whereas 37% are of the opinion that they should be held, as promised by Paul Martin, 30 days after publication of the second report in February 2005. Moreover, 36% would want elections to be held at a later date.

Respondents from Quebec (23%) and Alberta (27%) are significantly more likely to wish for an early election call. Moreover, supporters of the three main opposition parties are more likely to want elections right away, i.e., 36% of Bloc Québécois supporters, 32% of Conservatives and 32% of Neo-democrats, nonetheless a minority.

**Table 3 – HOLDING AN ELECTION**

**Question:** *On November 1st, judge Gomery made public the first of two reports that present the conclusions on the inquiry into the sponsorship scandal. Following publication of this report, which of the following three options would you want?*

(n=1500)	Total Population	AP	QC	ON	PR	AB	BC
... that Paul Martin call general elections immediately	17%	8%	<b>23%</b>	14%	15%	<b>27%</b>	15%
... that Paul Martin call general elections 30 days following the publication of the second report in February	37%	37%	40%	36%	28%	29%	42%
... that elections be held later	36%	<b>47%</b>	29%	<b>43%</b>	42%	28%	29%
Don't know / Refusal	10%	8%	8%	8%	<b>16%</b>	<b>15%</b>	13%

	Voting Intentions			
	LPC	BQ	CP	NDP
... that Paul Martin call general elections immediately	6%	<b>36%</b>	<b>32%</b>	<b>12%</b>
... that Paul Martin call general elections 30 days following the publication of the second report in February	34%	<b>44%</b>	<b>42%</b>	<b>42%</b>
... that elections be held later	<b>55%</b>	17%	21%	42%
Don't know / Refusal	4%	3%	5%	4%

#### 4. Three-Quarters of Canadians Believe It Could Happen Again

More than three Canadians out of four (76%) believe that Canada could experience a comparable scandal in the future. This tends to reinforce the perception that Canadians are very cynical about politics. It should be noted that proportions are similar from coast to coast. Respondents between 35 and 44 (82%), between 55 and 64 (82%), those with a family income above \$80,000 (83%), office workers (81%), manual workers (84%) and respondents with a university education (82%) are more likely to believe that this type of scandal could happen again.

**Table 4 – LIKELIHOOD OF ANOTHER SCANDAL**

**Question:** *In the future, do you believe that it is possible that Canada would once again experience a scandal of this magnitude?*

(n=1500)	Total Population	AP	QC	ON	PR	AB	BC
<b>Yes</b>	76%	71%	72%	79%	72%	80%	80%
<b>No</b>	18%	17%	<b>25%</b>	17%	18%	13%	9%
<b>Don't know / Refusal</b>	6%	<b>11%</b>	3%	4%	10%	7%	<b>11%</b>

#### 5. Canadians Divided on Paul Martin's Handling of the Scandal

Exactly 43% of Canadians are satisfied with the way Prime Minister Paul Martin managed the crisis around the sponsorship scandal... and exactly 43% are dissatisfied. Opinions on this subject are clearly divided. Among Liberal voters, 68% believe that Paul Martin gave a satisfactory performance versus 36% among those who support an opposition party.

Satisfaction with the Prime Minister's handling of the sponsorship scandal is higher among people 65 and older (52%), Ontario respondents (48%), respondents with a family income above \$80,000 (51%) and those with a university education (51%). Dissatisfaction is higher in Québec (52%) and in Alberta (55%)

**Table 5 – SATISFACTION WITH HOW PAUL MARTIN MANAGED THE SPONSORSHIP SCANDAL**

(n=1500)	Total Population	AP	QC	ON	PR	AB	BC
<b>Satisfied</b>	43%	47%	39%	<b>48%</b>	51%	26%	44%
<b>Dissatisfied</b>	43%	35%	<b>52%</b>	42%	30%	<b>55%</b>	37%
<b>Don't know / Refusal</b>	13%	18%	9%	10%	<b>19%</b>	<b>19%</b>	<b>19%</b>

## Methodology

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This study was conducted by Leger Marketing through telephone interviews among a representative sample of 1,500 English- or French-speaking Canadians, 18 years of age or older. The interviews were conducted from November 2 to November 8, 2005.

Using data from Statistics Canada, the results were weighted according to region, gender and language spoken at home to ensure a sample representative of the entire Canadian adult population. In the end, the maximum margin of error obtained for a sample of 1,500 respondents is  $\pm 2.5\%$ , 19 times out of 20.

## Questionnaire

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### FED1

FED1. If FEDERAL elections were held today, for which of the following political parties would you be most likely to vote for, would it be for ...?

READ - ONE MENTION POSSIBLE

Rotation => 5		
...Paul Martin's Liberal Party .....	01	=> +2
...Gilles Duceppe's Bloc Québécois .....	02	=> +2
...Stephan Harper's Conservative Party.....	03	=> +2
...Jack Layton's NDP .....	04	=> +2
...Jim Harris' Green Party .....	05	=> +2
Other party.....	96	=> +2
Would not vote/would spoil ballot .....	97	=> +2
Don't know .....	98	
Refusal.....	99	=> +2

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### FED1R

FED1R. Even if you have not yet made up your mind, which political party would you be most likely to vote for? Would it be for...

READ - ONE MENTION POSSIBLE

Rotation => 5		
...Paul Martin's Liberal Party .....	01	
...Gilles Duceppe's Bloc Québécois(DO NOT READ OUTSIDE OF QUEBEC).....	02	
...Stephan Harper's Conservative Party.....	03	
...Jack Layton's NDP .....	04	
...Jim Harris' Green Party .....	05	
Other party.....	96	
Would not vote/would spoil ballot .....	97	
Don't know .....	98	
Refusal.....	99	

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### FED2

FED2. Are you VERY SATISFIED, SOMEWHAT SATISFIED, SOMEWHAT DISSATISFIED, or VERY DISSATISFIED with the Liberal government led by Prime Minister Paul Martin?

Very satisfied .....	1
Somewhat satisfied .....	2
Somewhat dissatisfied .....	3
Very dissatisfied .....	4
Don't know .....	8
Refusal.....	9

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**FED3A**

FED3A. On November 1st, judge John Gomery made public the first of two reports that present the conclusions on the inquiry into the sponsorship scandal. Following publication of this report, which of the following three options would you want?

- READ
- ... that Paul Martin call general elections immediately ..... 1
  - ... that Paul Martin call general elections 30 days following the publication of the second report in February..... 2
  - ... that elections be held later ..... 3
  - DNK/ Refusal ..... 9

**FED4A**

FED4A. In the future, do you believe that it is possible that Canada would once again experience a scandal of this magnitude?

- Yes ..... 1
- No ..... 2
- DNK/ Refusal ..... 9

**FED5**

FED5. Generally, are you SATISFIED or DISSATISFIED with the way Paul Martin managed the sponsorship scandal?

- Satisfied ..... 1
- Dissatisfied ..... 2
- DNK/ Refusal ..... 9