NS FEDERAL HIGHLIGHTS

Introduction

MQO Research spoke with 600 residents of Nova Scotia to gauge the political temperature in the province for the Spring edition of our quarterly political poll: Atlantic Matters.

Federal Politics

According to the latest polling numbers, the gap between the federal Liberals and Conservatives narrowed in Nova Scotia this quarter. Among decided and leaning voters:

- Support for the Liberal Party decreased 8 percentage points to 42%.
- Conservative support increased 5 percentage points to 35%.
- NDP support was relatively unchanged at 11%.
- Support for the Green Party edged up 3 percentage points to 10%.
- Support for the People’s Party held relatively steady at less than 1%.

The undecided / no vote group increased 5 percentage points to 39%.

Government Performance

The mean rating for the leadership of Prime Minister Justin Trudeau dropped from 5.0 last quarter to 4.4 in May (on a 10-point scale).

Leader Preference

After seeing a big drop in his personal support numbers, Prime Minister Justin Trudeau now has a slim lead over Conservative Party Leader Andrew Scheer as the top choice for Prime Minister. Among decided respondents:

- Prime Minister Justin Trudeau was the top choice of 37% of voters, down 14 percentage points from February.
- Support for Conservative Leader Andrew Scheer jumped 6 percentage points to 31%.
- Green Leader Elizabeth May garnered the support of 23% of voters (up 8 percentage points).
- Support for NDP Leader Jagmeet Singh was unchanged at 6%.
- Support for People’s Party Leader Maxime Bernier also held steady at 3%.

The Atlantic Matters poll was conducted by telephone from May 3rd to May 13th, 2019 and included 600 randomly selected eligible voters from across the province. The margin of error for the total sample is ± 4.0 percentage points, 19 times out of 20.

For more information on Atlantic Matters or MQO Research, contact:

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“If a federal election were held today, which party would you most likely vote for?”

Decided and Leaning Voters

- **Liberal**: 42% (down 8 points from February 2019)
- **Conservative Party of Canada**: 35% (up 5 points from February 2019)
- **NDP**: 11% (down 1 point from February 2019)
- **Green Party of Canada**: 10% (up 3 points from February 2019)
- **People’s Party of Canada**: 0% (down 1 point from February 2019)
- **Undecided / No Vote**: 39% (up 5 points from February 2019)

May 2019 (n=365): Margin of error is ± 5.1 percentage points at 95% CI
“If a federal election were held today, which party would you most likely vote for?”

Decided and Leaning Voters

April 2017: Liberal 59%, Conservative 22%, NDP 14%, Green 4%

May 2019 (n=365): Margin of error is ± 5.1 percentage points at 95% CI
“If a federal election were held today, which party would you most likely vote for?”

Decided and Leaning Voters

<table>
<thead>
<tr>
<th>Party</th>
<th>April 2017</th>
<th>October 2017</th>
<th>May 2018</th>
<th>October 2018</th>
<th>February 2019</th>
<th>May 2019</th>
</tr>
</thead>
<tbody>
<tr>
<td>Liberal</td>
<td>59%</td>
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<td>53%</td>
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<td>50%</td>
<td>42%</td>
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<tr>
<td>Conservative</td>
<td>22%</td>
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</table>

May 2019 (n=365): Margin of error is ± 5.1 percentage points at 95% CI
“In your opinion, which of the following leaders would make the best Prime Minister?”

- Justin Trudeau: 37% (↓ -14)
- Andrew Scheer: 31% (↑ +6)
- Elizabeth May: 23% (↑ +8)
- Jagmeet Singh: 6% (No change)
- Maxime Bernier: 3% (No change)

May 2019 (n=410): Margin of error is ±4.8 percentage points at 95% CI
“How would you rate the overall leadership of Prime Minister Justin Trudeau?”

Mean Rating 4.4

Mean rating change vs. February 2019 - 0.6

1 to 5 6 to 7 8 to 10

66% 21% 13%

(1 – very weak / 10 – very strong)

* Don’t know / refusals removed (n=585)