Trudeau Midterm Questionnaire
October 2017

Part 1 Intro and vote intention

Q1. Today's survey looks at some different issues in Canada today. As always, there are no right or wrong answers; we're really just interested in everyone's opinions.

As far as you are concerned, what would you say are the most important issues facing Canada today? (If your main issue isn’t on this list, please type it in at the space below.)

[MULTIPLE RESPONSE -- ALLOW UP TO 3 SELECTIONS]
[KEEP ISSUES WITHIN THE “BLOCKS” BELOW. RANDOMIZE PRESENTATION OF BLOCKS AND RANDOMIZE ISSUES LISTED WITHIN EACH BLOCK.]

The economy
Jobs/Unemployment
Energy sector/Oil Prices
Deficit/Debt/Government spending
Taxes
Cost of living/Inflation

Health Care
Environment/Climate change
Crime/Justice issues
Education/Post-secondary
Poverty/Social services

Foreign/International Issues
Terrorism/Security
Refugees/Immigration/Border Crossing
Relationship with the US under Trump
Trade/NAFTA/Softwood lumber

First Nations issues/Aboriginals/Indigenous affairs
National Unity (Quebec and Quebec sovereignty)

The Senate
Leadership/Politics
Integrity/Ethics

[FIXED] Other Issue [Specify:]

Q2. Overall, how satisfied are you with the way things are going in Canada today?

Very Satisfied
Moderately Satisfied
Q3. And, overall, would you say you are optimistic or pessimistic about:

[ROWS – This order]
Your own future
The future of your province
The future of Canada

[COLUMNS]
Very Pessimistic
Moderately Pessimistic
Moderately Optimistic
Very Optimistic

Q4. Do you have a favourable or unfavourable opinion of each of the following leaders?

[ROWS – RANDOMIZE ]
Prime Minister and Liberal Party leader Justin Trudeau
Opposition and Conservative Party leader Andrew Scheer
New Democratic Party leader Jagmeet Singh
Bloc Quebecois leader Martine Ouellet
Green Party leader Elizabeth May

[COLUMNS]
Very unfavourable
Moderately unfavourable
Moderately favourable
Very favourable
Don’t know/Can’t say

Q5. If a federal election were held tomorrow, how certain are you about which party’s candidate you would support?

Very Certain – I know exactly who I would support
Somewhat Certain – I know who I am leaning towards but I could change my mind
Uncertain – I really don’t know who I would support

Q6. If a federal election were held tomorrow, which one of the following parties would you be most likely to support in your constituency?

[RANDOMIZE TOP 3 (TOP 4 IN QUEBEC)]
Conservative Party
Liberal Party
New Democratic Party (NDP)
[QC ONLY] Bloc Quebecois
Green Party
Other party
Undecided/Would not vote
Not sure/Can’t say

[ASK THOSE WHO DON’T SELECT A PARTY AT Q6]
Q7. Is there a party you’re currently leaning towards?

[RANDOMIZE TOP 3 (TOP 4 IN QUEBEC) – KEEP SAME RANDOMIZATION FROM Q6]
Conservative Party
Liberal Party
New Democratic Party (NDP)
[QC ONLY] Bloc Quebecois
Green Party
Other party
Undecided/Would not vote

Part 2 – Appraisal of Trudeau government performance in areas broad and specific

It has been almost two years since the Trudeau Liberals won the 2015 election on October 19. We want to find out what Canadians think about this federal government and how it has been handling different issues so far.

Q8. [TRACKING FROM POST-ELECTION 2015 SURVEY] Overall, would you say the Liberal government under Justin Trudeau has had a positive or negative impact on each of the following?

[ROWS – RANDOMIZE]
The economy
Canada’s reputation on the world stage
Jobs/Employment
The relationship between the federal government and the provinces
Health Care
Climate change/The environment
Infrastructure – i.e. roads, ports, etc.
Democracy
Trade opportunities
Relations with the US
National Unity
Energy/Oil sector
[NEW] First Nations issues/Indigenous affairs
[NEW] The Canadian tax system
[NEW] The Canadian middle class
Q9. And, here are some more specific measures the Liberal government under Justin Trudeau has taken since taking office. Would you say you approve or disapprove of each one?

Setting immigration targets at 300,000 new immigrants, including 40,000 refugees, per year
Introducing legislation to legalise marijuana for recreational use by summer 2018
Requiring every province to put a price on carbon emissions by next year in order to meet commitments under the Paris agreement
Naming a cabinet in which half of the ministers are women
Approving the TransMountain Pipeline between Alberta and British Columbia
Rejecting the Northern Gateway Pipeline between Alberta and British Columbia
Limiting annual increases in federal health transfer payments to 3 per cent
Adding gender identity and expression to the Canadian Human Rights Code
Settling Omar Khadr’s lawsuit against the Canadian government for $10.5 million

Q10. During the 2015 election, the Trudeau Liberals promised to run what they described as modest budget deficits of $10 billion or less, with a goal of funding infrastructure investment and creating growth. However, they have since introduced budgets that exceeded this total.

Each of the first two budgets projected a deficit of roughly $29 billion, though projections were later revised to be lower because of a growing economy. Each year’s deficit will still end up being significantly higher than $10 billion.

Overall, would you say:

[ROTATE]
The Liberal government was right to run deficits larger than $10 billion, even though it broke a promise.
The Liberal government was wrong to run deficits larger than $10 billion – it should have kept its promise.

Q11. The Liberals also promised electoral reform, saying that the 2015 election would be the last one held with the current, first-past-the-post (FPTP) voting system. After appointing an all-party committee to study the issue, the Liberal government announced it would not proceed with electoral reform.

Which of the following statements best reflects your opinion on electoral reform and the Trudeau Liberals’ handling of it?

The Liberal government was right to not pursue electoral reform, even though it broke a promise.
The Liberal government was wrong to not pursue electoral reform – it should have kept its promise.

Q12. Since taking office, the Trudeau Liberals have either made or proposed some changes to the tax code. For each one listed below, please indicate whether you support or oppose it.

[ROWS – RANDOMIZE]
Lowering the tax rate on the middle bracket (earnings between $44,700 and $89,400) from 22% to 20.5%
Creating a new tax bracket for income above $200,000 with a rate of 33%
[ANCHORED]Proposing new rules limiting “income sprinkling” (small business owners paying salaries to their family members in order to take advantage of lower tax brackets)
[ANCHORED]Proposing an extra tax on “passive investment income” held by small businesses that would be applied when that money leaves the business as personal income

[COLUMNS]
Strongly oppose
Moderately oppose
Moderately support
Strongly support
Don’t know/Can’t say

Q13. [TRACKING FROM 2016 HOUSE RISING QUESTIONNAIRE] There has been some discussion about the Liberal government’s overall accomplishments since they were elected in October 2015. All things considered, would you say they have been …

Making real progress and getting things done
Putting too much emphasis on ‘PR’ and photo-ops
Both
Neither
Not sure
Part 3 – The Trudeau Brand

Now, a few questions about Justin Trudeau himself.

Q14. First, please select up to six words from the following list that you would use to describe Justin Trudeau. You can, of course, select fewer than six.

[RANDOMIZE]

Influential
Charismatic
Compassionate
Sophisticated
Inspiring
Credible
Strong
Trustworthy
Strategic
Ethical
Modern
Transparent

Traditional
Secretive
Weak
Arrogant
Liar
Bumbling
Corrupt
Boring
Cowardly
Uncaring
Flaky
Irrelevant
Other, specify:

Q15. Trudeau often makes headlines around the world, and is featured in magazines and on talk shows, etc. How do you, personally, feel about this? Would you say:

I love it – it’s one of my favourite things about Trudeau
I like it
I’m neutral
I dislike it
I hate it – it’s one of my least favourite things about Trudeau
Q16. And, regardless of how you, personally, feel about Trudeau’s high-profile personality, do you think it is ultimately good or bad for Canada? Is it:

Great for Canada
Good
Neither good nor bad
Bad
Terrible for Canada

**Part 4 – Overall performance questions**

We’ve looked at a lot of specifics, now let’s consider the overall picture.

Q17. All things considered, do you approve or disapprove of the Trudeau Liberal government’s performance over its two years in office?

Strongly approve
Moderately approve
Moderately disapprove
Strongly disapprove
Don’t know/Can’t say

Q18. Over the last two years that they have been in power, would you say the Trudeau Liberal government’s accomplishments have outweighed their failures or would you say their failures have outweighed their accomplishments?

[ROTATE]
Accomplishments outweigh failures
Failures outweigh accomplishments
Don’t know/Can’t say

Q19. Now, let’s set aside what you think of the Liberal Party under Justin Trudeau or whether you voted for them. Compared to what you expected when they were first elected, would you say each of the following has been better or worse than you expected?

[ROWS – THIS ORDER]
Justin Trudeau as Prime Minister
The Liberal government overall

[COLUMNS]
Worse than I expected
About what I expected
Better than I expected
Don’t know/Can’t say

Q20. Finally, which party’s candidate did you support in the most recent federal election in October 2015? (standard vote last question)