

14. Thinking of the 2000 federal election in the country as a whole, did you find the political parties to be very competitive, somewhat competitive, not very competitive or not at all competitive?
- Very competitive
 - Somewhat competitive
 - Not very competitive
 - Not at all competitive
- VOLUNTEERED
- Don't know/No answer
15. And how about the 2000 federal election in your electoral district, did you find the political parties to be very competitive, somewhat competitive, not very competitive or not at all competitive?
- Very competitive
 - Somewhat competitive
 - Not very competitive
 - Not at all competitive
- VOLUNTEERED
- Don't know/No answer
16. In the 2000 federal election, how much chance was there that your vote would make a difference in the country as a whole, a lot, some, a little, or none?
- A lot
 - Some
 - A little
 - None
- VOLUNTEERED
- Don't know/No answer
17. And how much chance was there that your vote would make a difference in your electoral district, a lot, some, a little, or none?
- A lot
 - Some
 - A little
 - None
- VOLUNTEERED
- Don't know/No answer
18. During the 2000 federal election campaign, were you personally contacted by any of the local candidates or political party workers here in your electoral district?
- Yes
 - No
- VOLUNTEERED
- Don't know/No answer
19. Were you contacted in other ways by the political parties during the campaign, for example by telephone or by having a pamphlet left in your mailbox?
- Yes
 - No
- VOLUNTEERED
- Don't know/No answer

I would now like to ask you a few questions about past elections.

20. Try to think about the federal election held in 1993; that is when Brian Mulroney resigned, Kim Campbell and the Conservative Party were defeated and Jean Chretien was elected as Prime Minister. Do you remember whether you voted in that election?

- Yes, voted
- No, did not vote
- Don't remember
- VOLUNTEERED
- Was not eligible
- Don't know/No answer

21. And how about the federal election following that, in 1997, when the Liberal Party won for a second consecutive time, do you remember whether you voted in that election?

- Yes, voted
- No, did not vote
- Don't remember
- VOLUNTEERED
- Was not eligible
- Don't know/No answer

22. (IF Q2A IS 1974 OR EARLIER) Try to picture yourself ten years ago. Would you say you are:
READ IN SEQUENCE – CODE ONE ONLY

- | | |
|---|---------------|
| - A lot more interested in politics now than you were ten years ago? | ASK Q. 23a |
| - A little more interested in politics now than you were ten years ago? | ASK Q. 23a |
| - About the same level of interest? | SKIP TO Q. 24 |
| - A little less interested now than ten years ago? | ASK Q. 23b |
| - A lot less interested now than you were ten years ago? | ASK Q. 23b |

23a. (IF MORE INTERESTED IN Q. 22) What do you think is the main reason you are more interested now?

23b. (IF LESS INTERESTED IN Q. 22) What do you think is the main reason you are less interested now?

ENTER VERBATIM RESPONSE

- VOLUNTEERED
- Don't know/No answer

24. (ASK EVERYONE) What might happen in the next few years to make you more interested in politics?

ENTER VERBATIM RESPONSE

- VOLUNTEERED
- Don't know/No answer

And now, turning to future elections.

25. How likely are you to vote in the next general election at the federal level: very likely, somewhat likely, not very likely or not likely at all?"

- Very likely
- Somewhat likely
- Not very likely
- Not at all likely
- VOLUNTEERED
- Don't know/No answer

26. (IF NOT VERY LIKELY OR NOT AT ALL LIKELY AT Q.25) Is there anything that would make you more likely to vote in the next election?

ENTER VERBATIM RESPONSE

- VOLUNTEERED
- Don't know/No answer

27. On the whole, are you very satisfied, somewhat satisfied, not very satisfied or not at all satisfied with the way federal elections work in Canada, or do you not have an opinion on this?

- Very satisfied
- Somewhat satisfied
- Not very satisfied
- Not at all satisfied
- No opinion

28. Between federal, provincial or municipal elections, which level are you the most interested in?

- Federal
- Provincial
- Municipal
- VOLUNTEERED
- None
- Don't know/No answer

Now turning to some more general questions...

29. Here are some things that elections mean to different people. As I read each one, please tell me whether it has a lot, something, or not much to do with what elections mean to **YOU**.
READ ITEMS IN SEQUENCE

- a) Elections are a way to choose among particular policies
- b) Elections are a way to hold governments accountable for their past actions
- c) Elections are a way to advance the interests of a social class
- d) Elections are a way to advance the interests of an ethnic, national or religious group
- e) Elections are a way to gain particular things for myself and my family
- f) Elections are a way to comment on the state of the country
- g) Elections are a way to keep politicians honest
- h) Elections are a way to choose among leaders' personalities
- i) Elections are a way to deceive the people

- A lot
 - Something
 - Not much
- VOLUNTEERED
- Don't know/No answer

30. Please tell me whether you strongly agree, agree, disagree or strongly disagree with the following statements.
READ AND ROTATE ITEMS

- a) Generally, those elected to Parliament soon lose touch with the people.
- b) Those elected to Parliament reflect the diversity of Canadian society.
- c) People like me don't have any say about what the government does.
- d) Sometimes politics and government seem so complicated that a person like me can't really understand what's going on.
- e) I don't think that the government cares much what people like me think.
- f) Most of the time we can trust people in government to do what is right.

- Strongly agree
 - Agree
 - Disagree
 - Strongly disagree
- VOLUNTEERED
- Don't know/No answer

31. Please tell me whether you strongly agree, agree, disagree or strongly disagree with the following statements.

READ AND ROTATE ITEMS

- a) All political parties are basically the same; there really isn't a choice.
- b) Political parties are the best way of representing people's interests.
- c) The political parties confuse the issues rather than provide clear choices between them.
- d) Political parties provide good plans for new policies.
- e) During electoral campaign periods, political parties and candidates discuss issues that really are of interest to voters.
- f) Political parties are too influenced by people with lots of money.
- g) Too many political parties represent a small part of the country, rather than the country as a whole.

- Strongly agree
- Agree
- Disagree
- Strongly disagree

VOLUNTEERED

- Don't know/No answer

Moving on...

32. In your view, how important is it that people vote in elections? Is it essential, very important, somewhat important or not at all important?

- Essential
- Very important
- Somewhat important
- Not at all important

VOLUNTEERED

- Don't know/No answer

33. It has often been observed that young people are less likely to vote than older people. Why do you think this is?

ENTER VERBATIM RESPONSE

VOLUNTEERED

- Don't know/No answer

34. What do you think should be done to get young people to be more interested in politics?

ENTER VERBATIM RESPONSE

VOLUNTEERED

- Don't know/No answer

35. Now a question about electoral systems, the way in which votes are cast and counted. As you know, for Canadian federal elections people vote in an electoral district, and the candidate with the most votes wins. In general, how satisfied are you with the present Canadian electoral system? Are you?
READ IN SEQUENCE - CODE ONLY ONE

- Very satisfied
- Somewhat satisfied
- Somewhat dissatisfied
- Very dissatisfied
- VOLUNTEERED
- Neither/depends
- Don't know/No answer

36. And what about a different system in which the seats would be divided among the political parties according to the percentage of votes they got, a system known as "proportional representation"? How supportive would you be of introducing this system for federal elections in Canada? Are you:

- Very supportive
- Somewhat supportive
- Somewhat opposed
- Very opposed
- VOLUNTEERED
- Neither/depends
- Don't know/No answer

37. In Australia, Belgium, Brazil and a number of other countries, people are required by law to vote. How supportive would you be of a law like this for federal elections in Canada? Would you be...
READ IN SEQUENCE – CODE ONLY ONE

- Very supportive
- Somewhat supportive
- Somewhat opposed
- Very opposed
- VOLUNTEERED
- Neither/depends
- Don't know/No answer

38. Do you strongly agree, agree, disagree or strongly disagree with the following statements?

- a) Schools should do more to educate children in the benefits of voting and political participation
- b) The voting age should be lowered to 16 to encourage young people to participate

- Strongly agree
- Agree
- Disagree
- Strongly disagree
- VOLUNTEERED
- Don't know/No answer

39. If technology allowed enough safety and secrecy, would you likely use the Internet to:
READ AND ROTATE ITEMS

- a) Check or modify your personal information or register on the list of Electors?
- b) Vote on-line rather than to go cast a ballot at the polling station?

Would you be...

- Very likely
 - Somewhat likely
 - Not very likely
 - Not at all likely
- VOLUNTEERED
- Don't know/No answer

Now a few questions about your background and community involvement...

40. When you were growing up, did your family talk about politics and current events often, sometimes, seldom or never?

- Often
 - Sometimes
 - Seldom
 - Never
- VOLUNTEERED
- Don't know/No answer

41. And how about now? Do you talk to your family or friends about politics and current events often, sometimes, seldom or never?

- Often
 - Sometimes
 - Seldom
 - Never
- VOLUNTEERED
- Don't know/No answer

42. Which of these two statements comes closer to your own opinion?
READ AND ROTATE STATEMENTS

- a) I find that both freedom and equality are important. But if I were to choose one or the other, I would consider personal freedom more important.

OR

- b) I find that both freedom and equality are important. But if I were to choose one or the other, I would consider equality of people more important.

- Agree with statement A
 - Agree with statement B
- VOLUNTEERED
- Agree with Neither/depends
 - Don't know

43. People sometimes belong to different kinds of groups or associations. For each type of group, please tell me whether you actively participate, belong but don't actively participate, or do not belong to it.

READ AND ROTATE ITEMS

- a) A political party or association
- b) A trade union or professional association
- c) A church or other religious organization
- d) A sports group, hobby or leisure club
- e) A charitable organization or Service Club
- f) A neighbourhood association or group
- g) Artistic, musical or cultural groups
- h) Environmental or human rights group

- Active member
- Belong (not active)
- Do not belong

VOLUNTEERED

- Don't know/No answer

44. Now I'm going to read out some different forms of political and civic action that people can take, and I'd like you to tell me, for each one, whether you have actually done any of these things in the past year, whether you have actually done it in the more distant past, whether you might do it, or would never, under any circumstances, do it.

READ AND ROTATE ITEMS

- a) Sign a petition
- b) Join in a boycott
- c) Attend a demonstration
- d) Write a letter to a newspaper
- e) Call-in to a talk show
- f) Attend a political meeting or rally
- g) Join in a political-related Internet discussion or chat group

- Done in past year
- Done in more distant past
- Might do it
- Never do it

VOLUNTEERED

- Don't know/No answer

45. Can you tell me if you feel very close, somewhat close, not very close or not at all close to:

READ IN SEQUENCE

- a) Your neighbourhood?
- b) Your town/city?
- c) Your province?
- d) Canada?
- e) North America?
- f) The country your ancestors came from?

- Very close
- Somewhat close
- Not very close
- Not at all close

VOLUNTEERED

- Don't know/No answer

46. There has been a lot of talk lately about whether people in general feel a sense of community with others, or whether they are just out for themselves. Which value do you believe is more prevalent in Canada today, community or individuality?

- Community
- Individuality
- VOLUNTEERED
 - Agree with Neither/depends
 - Don't know

47. Do you currently have access to the Internet at work, at home, or both?

- Work only
- Home only
- Both home & work
- VOLUNTEERED
 - Neither
 - Don't know/No answer

48. How often do you do the following things, every day, a couple of times a week, a couple of times a month or less than that?

READ AND ROTATE ITEMS

- a) Surf the Internet for information
- b) Watch the news on television
- c) Listen to news or current events shows on the radio
- d) Read newspapers

- Every day
- A couple of times a week
- A couple of times a month
- Less than that
- VOLUNTEERED
 - Don't know/No answer

Demographics

To conclude the interview I would like to ask a few questions that will help us to group the information we receive. Your answers will be treated in confidence and used for statistical purposes only.

IF SHORT DEMOGRAPHIC SECTION (FROM QUESTION 6) ASK ONLY QUESTIONS 51, AND 55 TO 57 -- OTHERS COMPLETE ENTIRE SECTION

49. How many children under 18 years old live in your household?

ENTER NUMBER

- VOLUNTEERED
 - Don't know/No answer

50. Are you currently married, living with a partner, divorced, separated, widowed, or have you never been married?

- Married
- Living with a partner
- Divorced
- Separated
- Widowed
- Never married
- VOLUNTEERED
- Don't know/No answer

51. Would you say that you live in a large city of over half a million, a smaller city, a town, a village, or a rural area?

- Large city centre over half a million ASK 52a
- Smaller city ASK 52a
- Town ASK 52a
- Village ASK 52b
- Rural (outside a city, town or village). ASK 52b
- VOLUNTEERED
- Don't know/No answer

52a. How long have you lived in your current neighbourhood, that is, the area of the city or town you currently live in?

52b. How long have you lived in the community where you currently live?

- Up to 6 months
- 7 to 12 months
- 13 months to 3 years
- 4 or 5 years
- 6 to 10 years
- 11 years or more
- VOLUNTEERED
- Don't know/No answer

53. What is your mother tongue, that is, the language you first learned at home and still understand?
DO NOT READ – CODE ONE ONLY

- English
- French
- English and French
- Other (specify _____)
- VOLUNTEERED
- Don't know/No answer

54. To which ethnic or cultural group would you say that you belong?
DO NOT READ - CODE UP TO TWO RESPONSES

- English
- French/Quebecois
- American
- Irish
- Scottish
- Chinese
- Czech/Slovak
- Finnish/Baltic
- German/Austrian
- Greek/Macedonian
- Hungarian
- Indian/Pakistani/Sikh/Bengali/Sri Lankan/Tamil/Bangladesh
- Italian
- Japanese
- Jewish
- Native Indian/Inuit
- Black
- Dutch/Netherlands
- Polish
- Portuguese
- Russian/Ukrainian
- Scandinavian
- Welsh
- West Indian
- Oceanic (Australian, New Zealander)
- Other (SPECIFY _____)
- No Answer/Refuse

55. Were you born in Canada or outside Canada?

- Born in Canada
- Born outside Canada
- VOLUNTEERED
- Don't know/No answer

56. What is the highest level of formal education you have received?

READ LIST IF NECESSARY – CODE ONE ONLY

- Primary/elementary school
- Some high school
- High school graduate
- Some college including CÉGEP and trades training
- Some university
- College graduate including CÉGEP and trades training
- University graduate
- Post graduate
- VOLUNTEERED
- No answer/Refuse

57. For statistical purposes only, we need information about your household income. Please tell me which of the following categories applies to your total household income for the year 2001?

READ - CODE ONE ONLY

- Less than \$25,000
- \$25,000 to \$34,000
- \$35,000 to \$44,000
- \$45,000 to \$54,000
- \$55,000 to \$64,000
- \$65,000 to \$74,000
- \$75,000 to \$100,000
- More than \$100,000

This completes the survey. Thank you very much for your time and cooperation.

RECORD:

58. Gender

- Male
- Female

59. Language of interview

- English
- French

60. Province/Territory

- Alberta
- British Columbia
- Manitoba
- New Brunswick
- Newfoundland
- Nova Scotia
- Ontario
- Prince Edward Island
- Quebec
- Saskatchewan
- NWT
- Yukon
- Nunavut