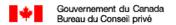


TRENDS the Public Environment

September 2003

Volume III, No 45



Canada

PCO's Communications and Consultation Secretariat is pleased to present the latest edition of *Trends in the Public Environment*.

We are grateful to Communication Canada for providing valuable support and content to this document.

For more information, to make comments and suggestions or to obtain a .PDF version of this document, call the Research and Analysis Group at 957-5486.

This document is also available on the Publiservice site of the Communications and Consultation Secretariat at publiservice.pco-bcp.gc.ca/comcon

Look for the next issue of **TRENDS IN THE PUBLIC ENVIRONMENT** in November, 2003.

TABLE OF CONTENTS

PUBLIC OPINION

The Economy

Same-sex Marriage

Health Care

National ID Card

World Opinion on the United States

Other Publicly-released Polls

THE MEDIA ENVIRONMENT

May - August, 2003

UPCOMING EVENTS

October - December 2003



OVERVIEW OF PUBLIC OPINION

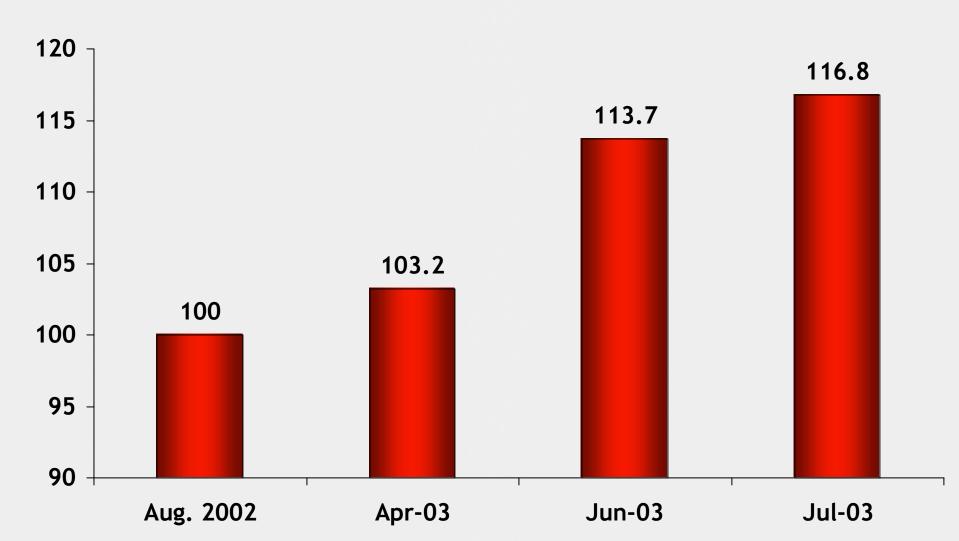




THE ECONOMY



Consumer Confidence

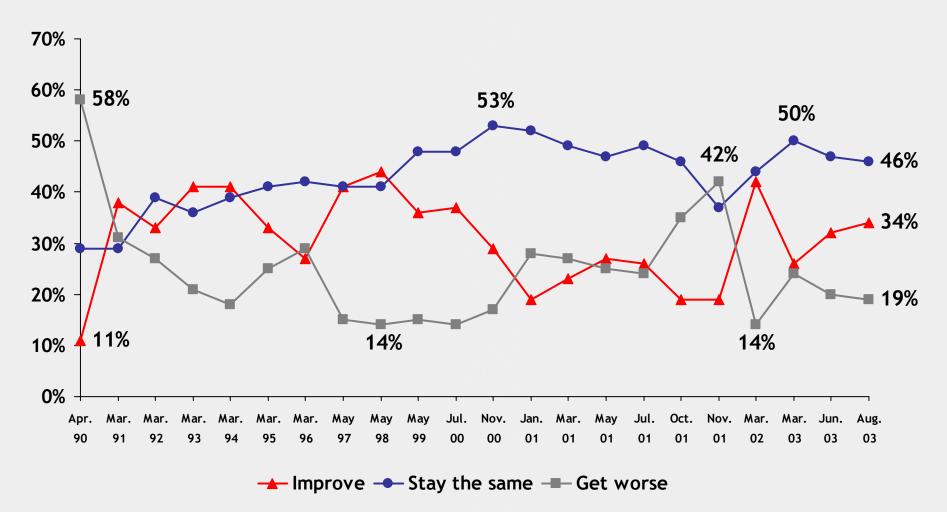


Source: Ipsos-Reid



One-Year Outlook

"Thinking about the next year or so, do <u>you</u>, <u>yourself</u>, generally feel that the Canadian economy will improve, stay the same or get worse?"



Source: Ipsos-Reid

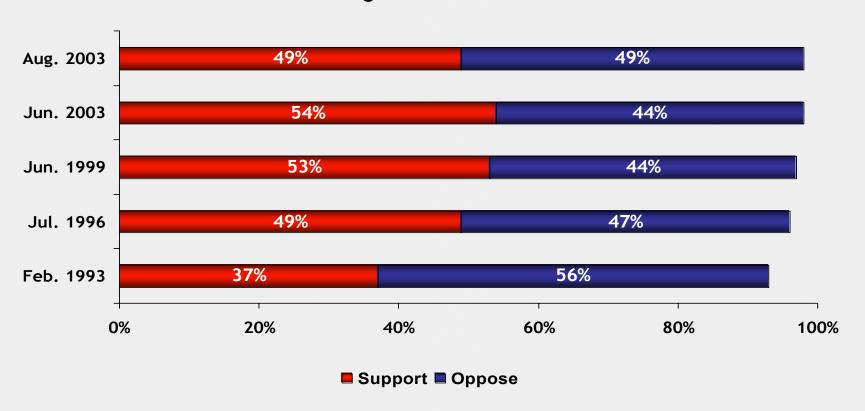


SAME-SEX MARRIAGE



Same-Sex Marriage

"In general, do you support or oppose same-sex couples being allowed to marry and register their marriage with their provincial government?"



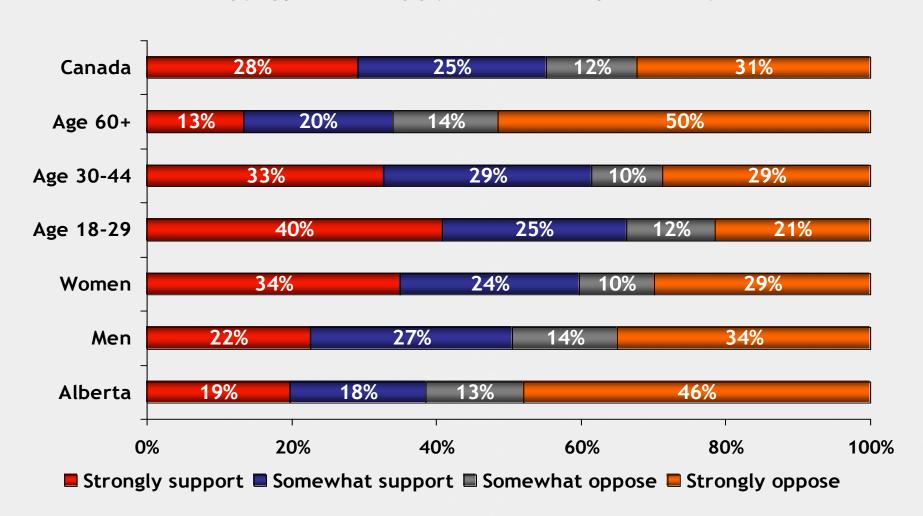
Question used from 1993 to 1999: "Do you think homosexual couples who wish to marry should or should not qualify for legal recognition of the marriage?"

Source: Ipsos-Reid 6



Same-Sex Marriage

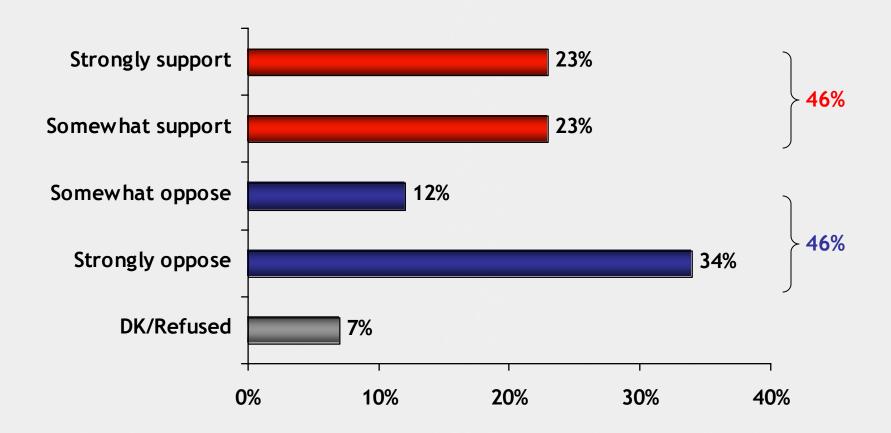
"[...] Would you strongly support, somewhat support, somewhat oppose or strongly oppose allowing gay and lesbian couples to marry?"





New Definition of Marriage

"A number of courts in Canada have ruled that the federal law that restricts marriage to opposite-sex unions is unconstitutional. The federal government has responded by proposing a new definition of marriage that would include same-sex unions."

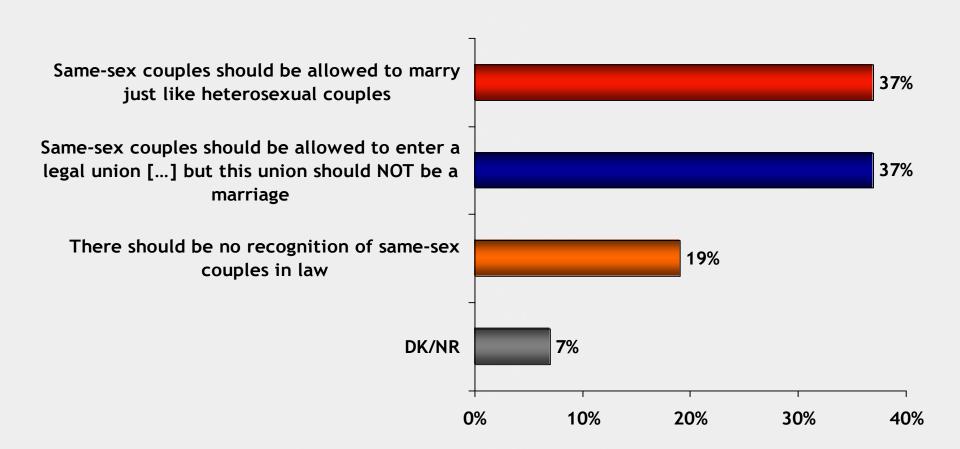


Source: NFOCF Group (Aug. 25-30, 2003)



Preferred Course of Action

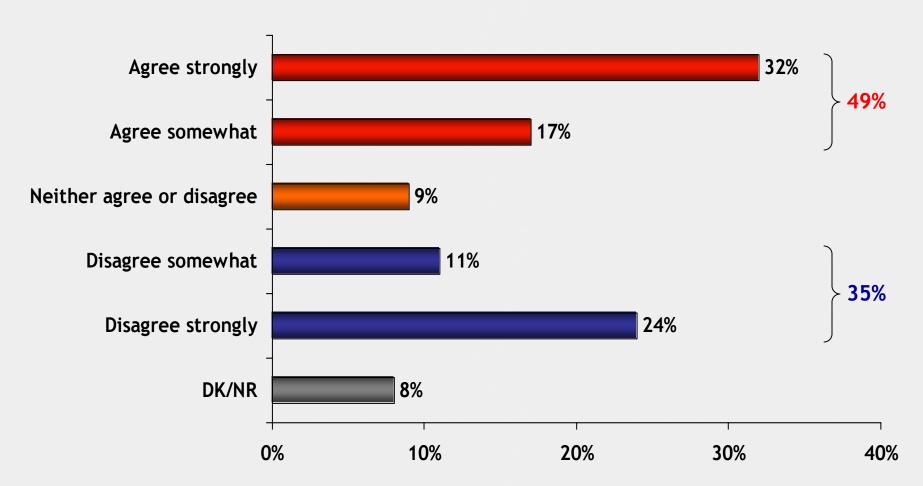
"Which of the following views is closer to your own?"





Notwithstanding Clause

"[...] Do you agree or disagree that the notwithstanding clause should be used to maintain the current definition of marriage as one man and one woman?"

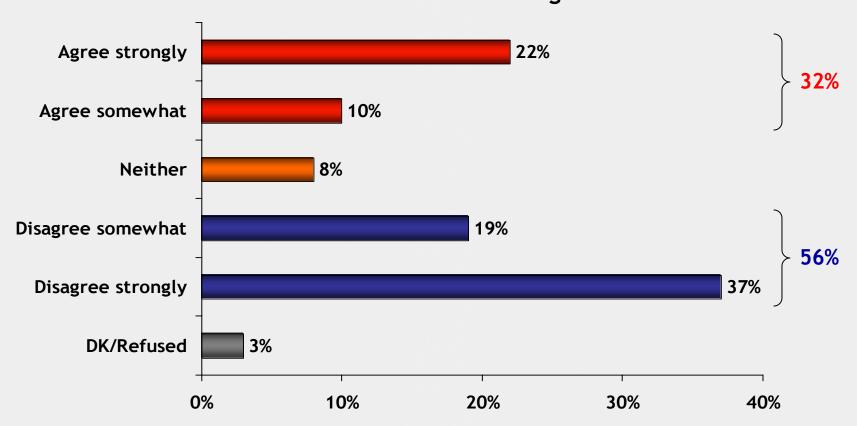


Source: NFOCF Group (Aug. 25-30, 2003)



Gay Marriage: A Threat?

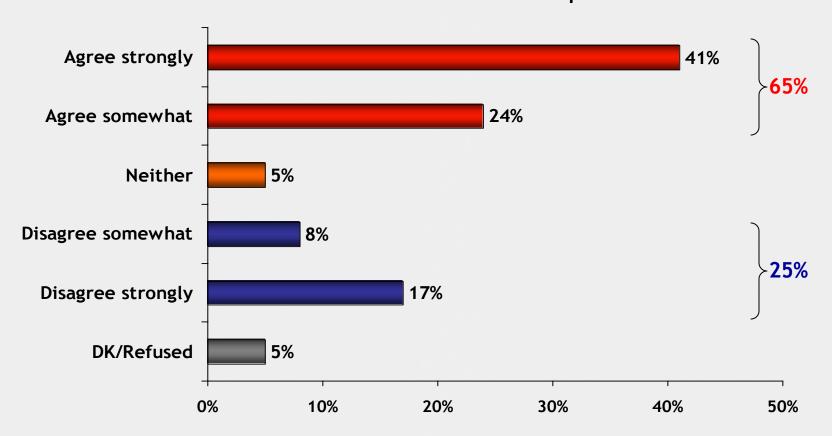
"... Allowing gays and lesbians to marry is a threat to the institution of marriage?"





Same Treatment for Gay and Heterosexual Couples

"... Gay or lesbian couples who enter into committed relationships should be treated the same as heterosexual couples who do so."



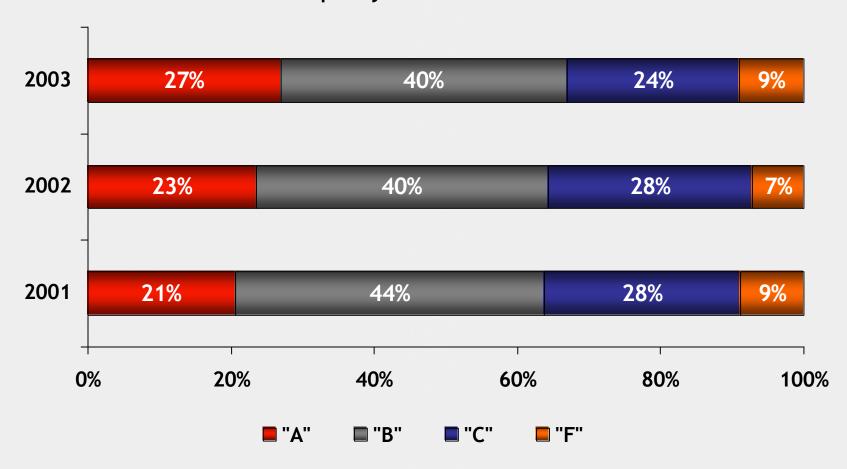


HEALTH CARE



Overall Quality of Services

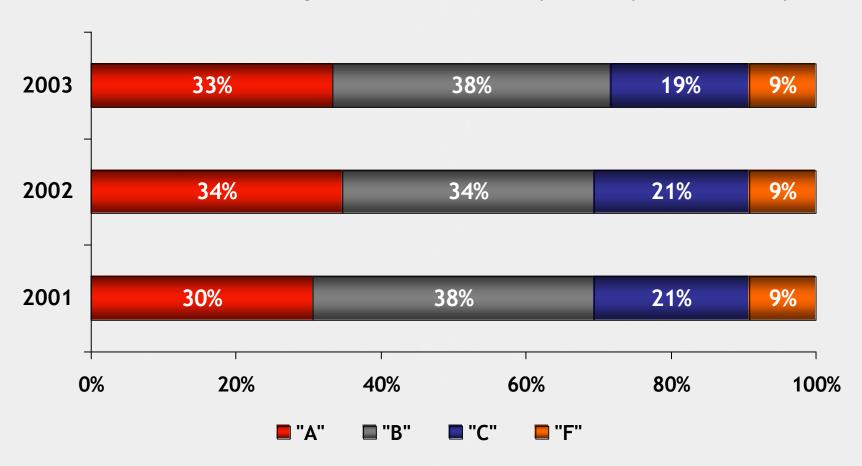
"What grade would you give to: The overall quality of health care services?"





Recent Experience

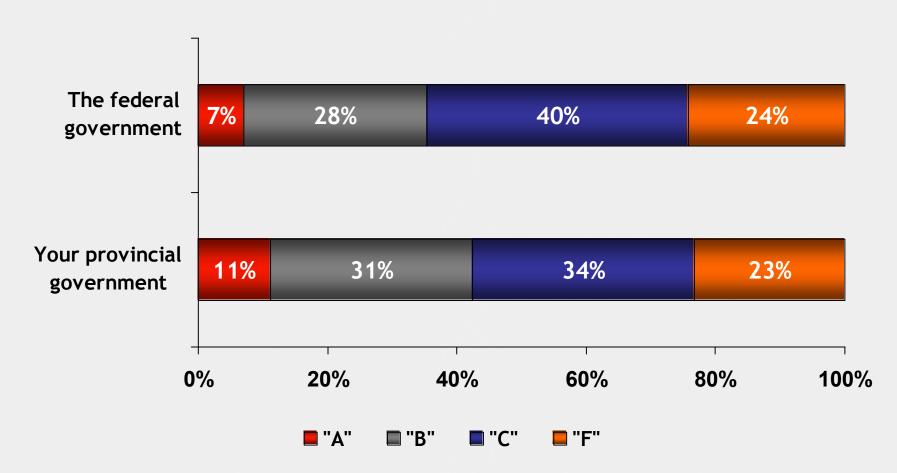
"What grade would you give to:
Your most recent dealing with the health care system in your community?"





Performance

"What grade would you give to: Governments' performance in dealing with health care in Canada?"

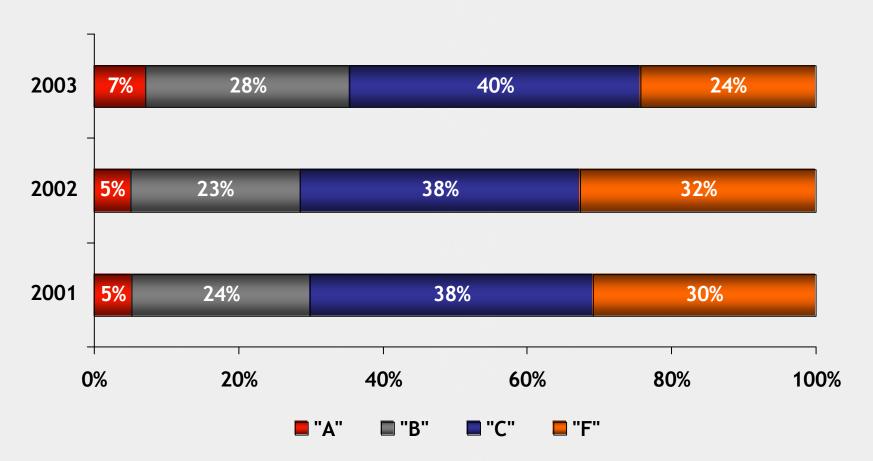




Federal Performance

"What grade would you give to:

The federal government's performance in dealing with health care in Canada?"

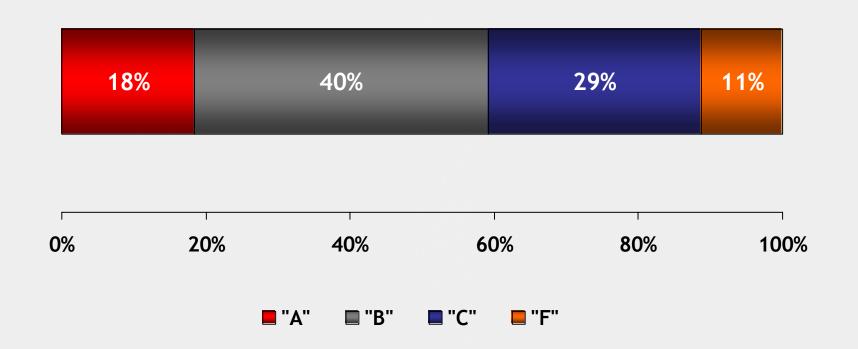




Disease Control

"What grade would you give to:

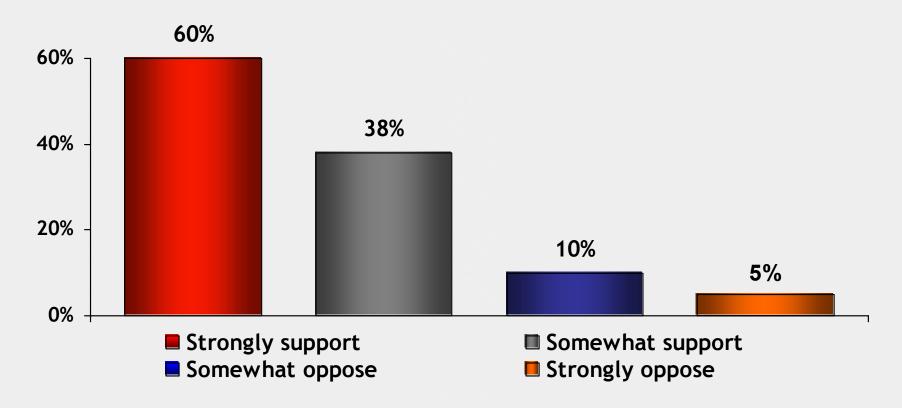
Government performance in preventing and controlling the spread of infectious diseases in Canada?"





Health Care Guarantee

"Some people have suggested that Canadiands should be given a CARE GUARANTEE which would guarantee limits on waiting times for medical services. Do you strongly support, somewhat support, somewhat oppose or strongly oppose this proposal?"



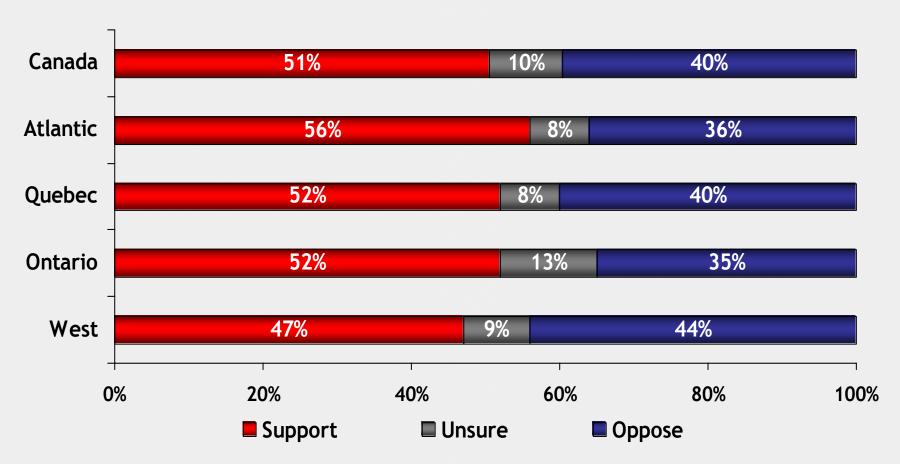


NATIONAL ID CARD



National ID Card

"[...] Some people believe a national ID card would prevent racial profiling at the Canada-US border. Others believe that it would further erode personal privacy and create a "big brother" data base. Do you ...?"

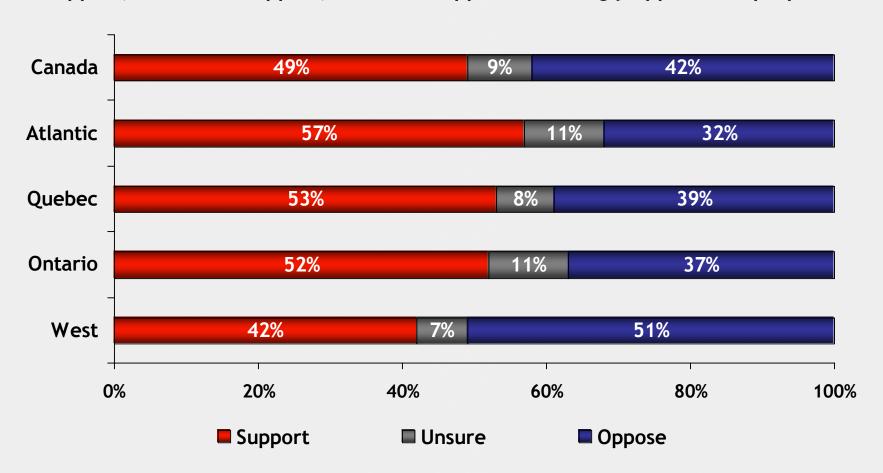


Source: SES (May 13-23, 2003)



National ID Card

"If I told you that this new national ID card was mandatory, would you strongly support, somewhat support, somewhat oppose or strongly oppose this proposal?"



Source: SES (May 13-23, 2003)



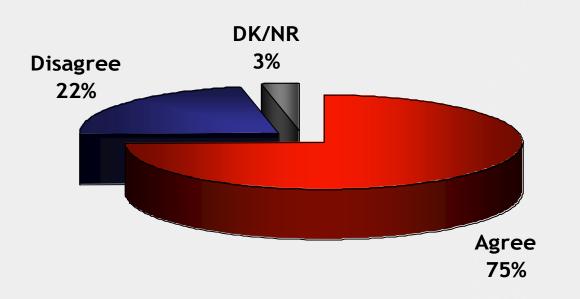
WORLD OPINION ON THE UNITED STATES



U.S. Involvement in Iraq

"American involement in Iraq is turning into another Vietnam where Iraqis are becoming more and more resistant to American occupation and will result in increasing numbers of American casualties."

[CANADIANS]



	Agree/Disagree
ВС	75% / 24%
Ontario	74% / 24%
Atlantic	73% / 27%
Sask/Man	67% / 27%
Quebec	66% / 29%
Alberta	65% / 33%



Feelings towards America

"In general how would you say you feel towards America?"

	Favourable	Unfavourable	Neither
USA	93	5	0
Canada	81	16	2
U.K.	75	19	2
Israel	72	25	2
Australia	64	25	2
Korea	50	28	22
Russia	48	28	21
France	41	51	2
Indonesia	31	58	9
Brazil	24	66	5
Jordan	19	79	1



The President

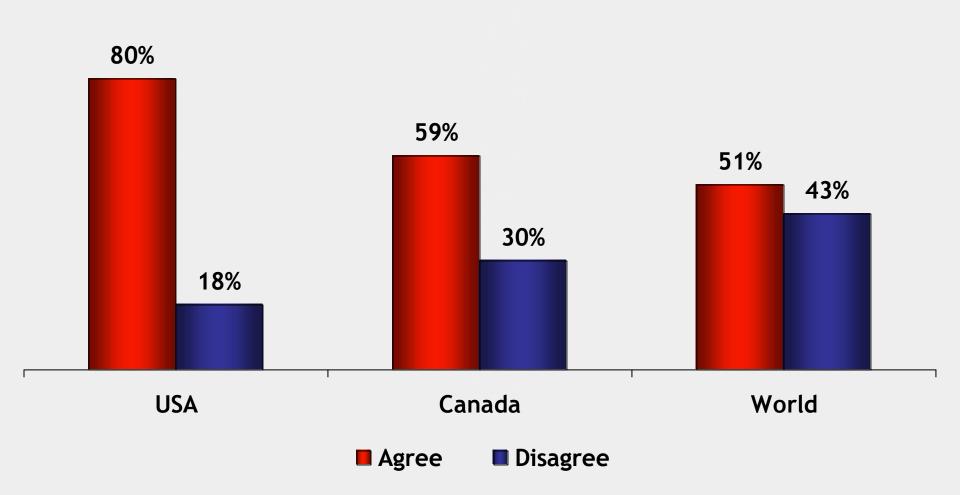
"Thinking specifically about President George Bush of America, would you say your attitude towards President George Bush is...?"

	Favourable	Unfavourable	Neither
USA	70	27	2
Israel	62	33	3
Canada	48	48	2
Australia	45	49	5
U.K.	41	53	4
Korea	32	52	16
Russia	25	21	49
Indonesia	20	68	9
Brazil	17	78	3
France	17	79	1
Jordan	9	91	0



American Policies

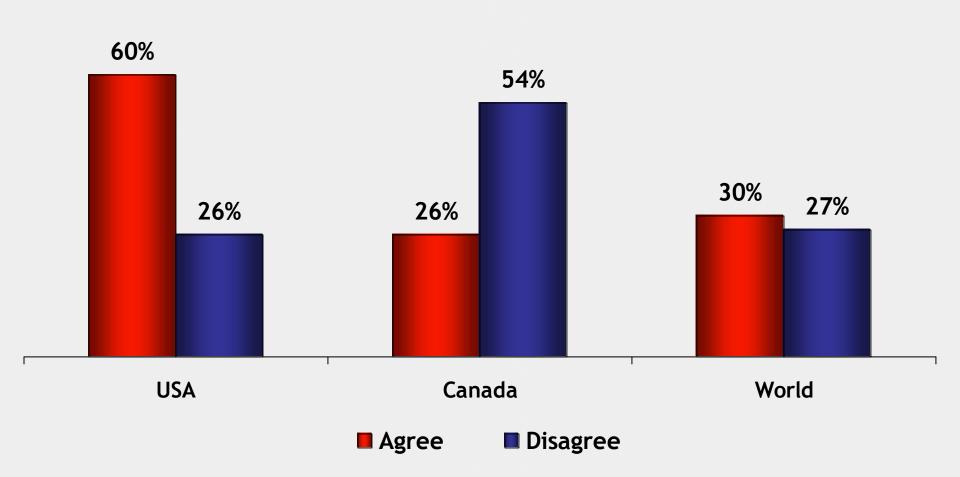
"Agreement with American policies on TERRORISM."





American Policies

"Agreement with American policies on NUCLEAR PROLIFERATION."





OTHER PUBLICLY RELEASED POLLS



The Blackout (Ipsos-Reid, released August 22)

- 71% of Canadians believe the blackout was due to a technical, not a supply, problem; 58% of Ontarians agree
- 34% nationally are willing to pay more for electricity compared to 42% in Ontario

www.ipsos-reid.com

Comparative Federalism (CRIC, released on August 13)

- 56% of Canadians believe the federal government has too much power and 45% would like local governments to have more influence
- Support for local power is highest in larger cities: Toronto (60%), Vancouver (56%), Calgary and Edmonton (52%); for Montrealers, provincial (39%), not local (29%), government needs more power

www.cric.ca



THE MEDIA ENVIRONMENT

May - August 2003







- Data on newspaper headlines and editorial content were collected from May to August, and coded according to pre-determined categories.
- A list of the sources that make up the sample and a list of the categories can be found at the end of this section.

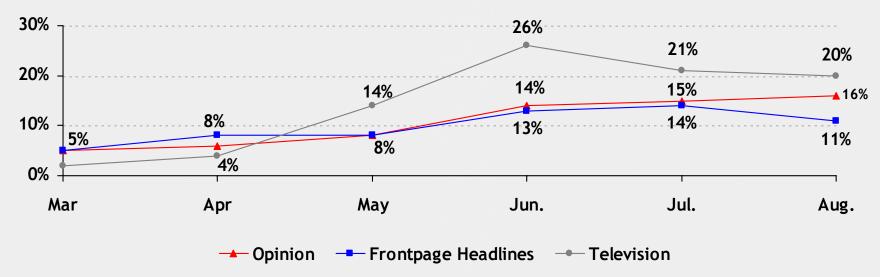


Total Coverage May to August

	Editorials	Headline	TV News
Aboriginals	2%	1%	0%
Economy	9%	8%	11%
Foreign Policy	8%	6%	5%
Global Security	9%	8%	6%
Governance	5%	2%	2%
Health	5%	7 %	6%
International Affairs	4%	2%	17%
Miscellaneous	3%	26%	14%
Natural Resources	9%	10%	4%
Party Politics	7%	2%	2%
Provincial and Municipal Affairs	18%	9%	7%
Public Safety	6%	8%	4%
Social Issues	13%	12%	20%
Unity	2%	0%	1%



Social Issues



Notable Headlines

Jul 17: Draft same-sex marriage bill referred to SCC

Jul 28: Pope calls on MPs to stop gay marriage

Jul 29: Bishop tells PM: You've lost your way

Aug 8: 48 Liberal MPs against same-sex marriage

Aug 13: Say goodbye to \$5 day care in Quebec

Aug 18: Minister Cauchon says gays must have equal rights

Aug 19: Liberal caucus debates same-sex marriage

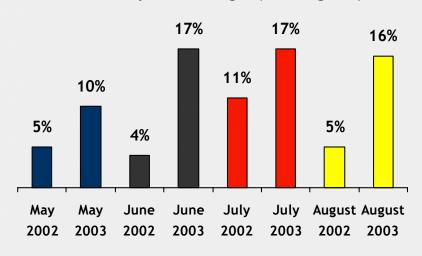
Aug 20: "Civil union" is an option, Martin says

Aug 21: PM rejects referendum on same-sex marriage

Aug 22: Martin urges PM to rush same-sex bill

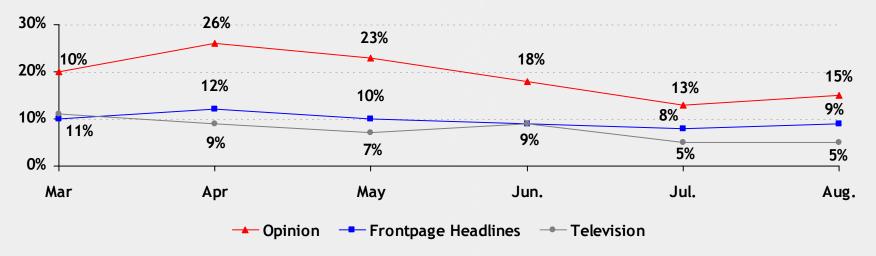
Aug 23: 1,000's rally against same-sex marriage

Aug 26: Premier Eves speaks against same-sex marriage





Provincial and Municipal Issues



Notable Headlines

Jul 9: Premiers Conference in Charlottetown

Jul 22: NS election leaders' debate

Aug 5: NS voters hand PC a minority mandate

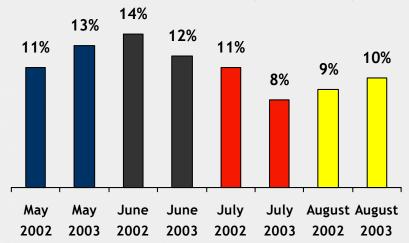
Aug 15: Premier Hamm announces new cabinet

Aug 18: Toronto mayoral race heats up

Aug 21: Ontario demands aid to cover power

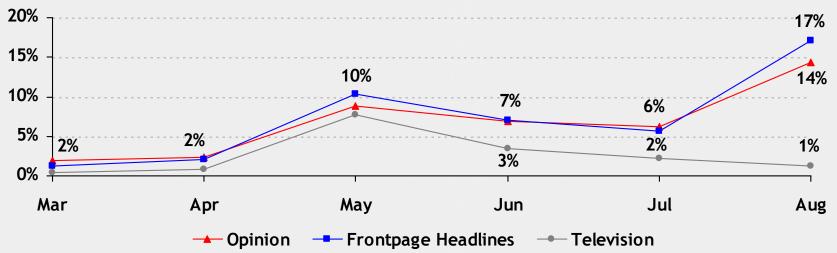
outage

Aug 29: High powered coalition urges help for Toronto





Natural Resources



Notable Headlines

Jul 18: Ottawa adopts strict measures in bid to end beef embargo

Aug 3: BC asks Ottawa for disaster relief cash re. fires

Aug 8: US begins to lift beef ban

Aug 14: Mad Cow tests projected to increase 25-fold

Aug 12: Ottawa issues Kyoto plan

Aug 14: Power blackout in Ontario and US Northeast

Aug 19: Glitch kept Ontario nuclear plants off line

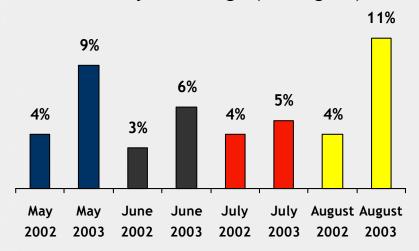
Aug 21: Forest fires threaten Kelowna

Aug 22: Dhaliwal says Ottawa must focus on BC fires

Aug 24: Blackouts still a threat

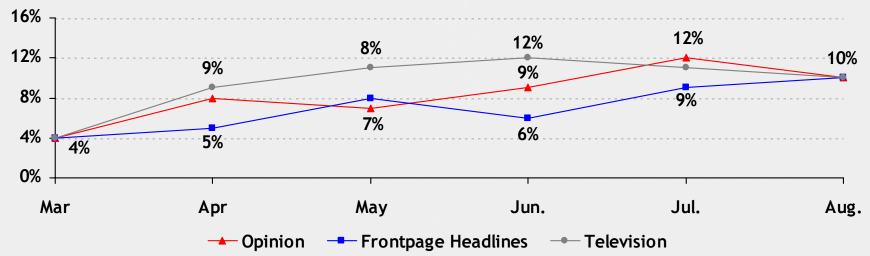
Aug 25: PM promises aid to BC fire victims in Kelowna

Aug 27: Beef recall: shutdown at Aylmer abattoir





The Economy



Notable Headlines

Jul 16: The Economist ranks Canada #1 place to do business

Jul 18: BoC cuts growth forecasts

Jul 30: 450,000 get together at Toronto Stones concert

Aug 11: Layoffs stall Air Canada restructuring

Aug 21: Motorists fume over high gas prices/ Tourism begins to rebound after SARS

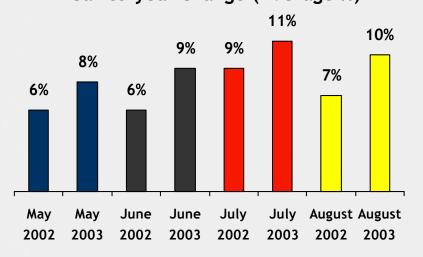
Aug 22: JDS moves head office to US

Aug 23: Gasoline reaches 89.9¢ a litre

Aug 28: Bombardier family bids to keep skidoo division

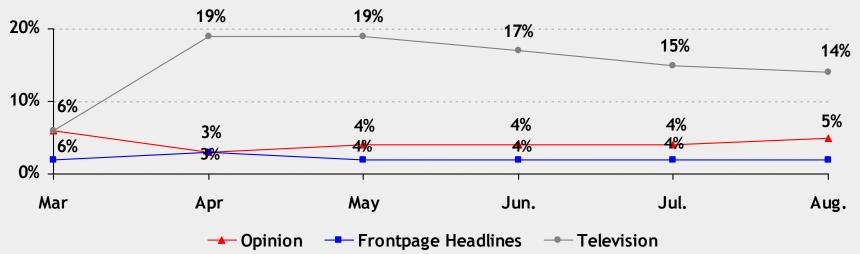
Aug 29: Statistics show that the Canadian economy shrank 0.3% in 2nd Qtr

Aug 30: Ontario drivers face auto insurance premium hikes





International Affairs



Notable Headlines

Jul 18: French President Chirac plans vacation in Quebec Jul 30: President Bush may move to block gay marriage

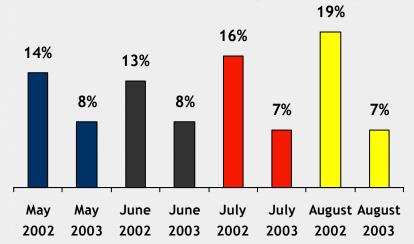
Aug 1: Vatican warns politicians to oppose gay marriage

Aug 3: Vatican says GM food will end world hunger

Aug 7: Schwarzenegger enters the California recall race

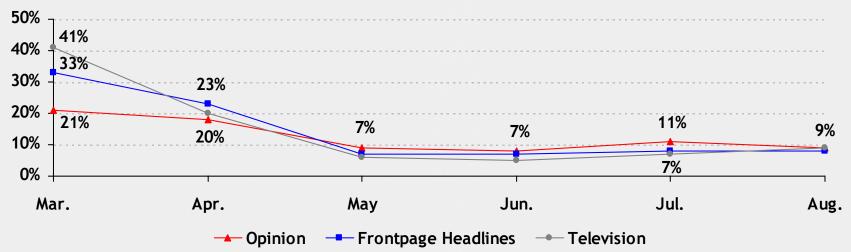
Aug 11: Charles Taylor delivers his farewell speech

Aug 27: US report on Columbia crash criticizes NASA





Global Security



Notable Headlines

Jul 20: British arms expert David Kelly commits suicide

Jul 22: Saddam Hussein's sons killed in Iraq

Jul 24: Congress criticizes FBI and CIA over Sept. 11th

Aug 7: Israel starts freeing Palestinian prisoners

Aug 8: Indonesia bomber Juan Hirst sentenced to death

Aug 18: Saboteurs in Iraq blow up oil, water pipelines

Aug 19:Terrorists joining Iraqi resistance forces

Aug 20: Massive blast rips UN HQ in Iraq / Israeli blast kills 18

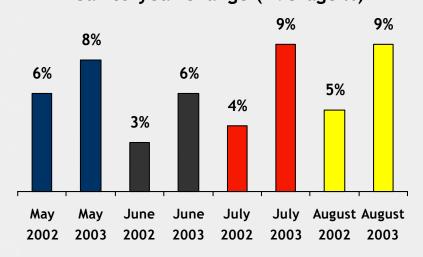
Aug 22: Israel strikes back at Palestinian militants

Aug 25: 1,000 civilians reportedly massacred in Liberia

Aug 26: Explosion in Bombay kills 50 people

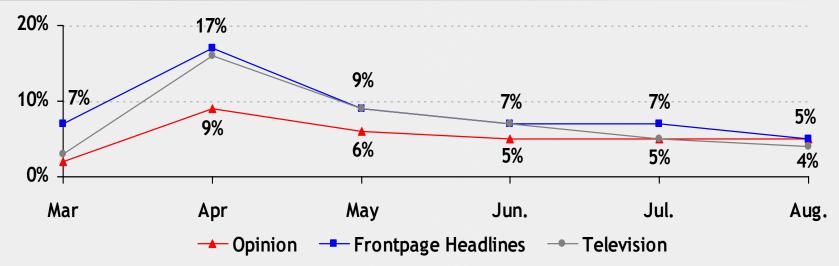
Aug 27: Al-Qaeda network eyed CN Tower: RCMP

Aug 29: Blair testifies in Kelly probe/North Korea threatens to test Nukes



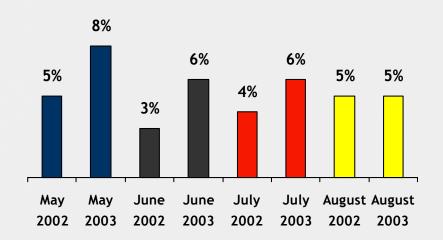


Health Care



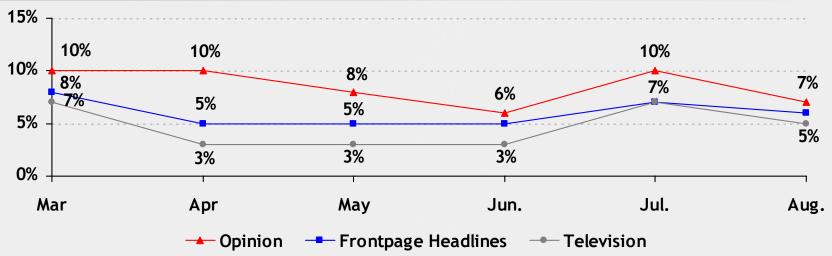
Notable Headlines

- Jul 19: Second health care worker dies of SARS
- Aug 8: Tobacco advertising: Grand Prix cancelled from F1 circuit
- Aug 13: Ottawa sues tobacco giants for \$1.5 billion/ New West Nile case found in Regina
- Aug 14: Minister McLellan calls for Health Council deal within weeks
- Aug 18: Poll shows Canadians support a National Health Council
- Aug 19: Saskatchewan reports six new West Nile cases
- Aug 23: West Nile cases in Saskatchewan nearly double



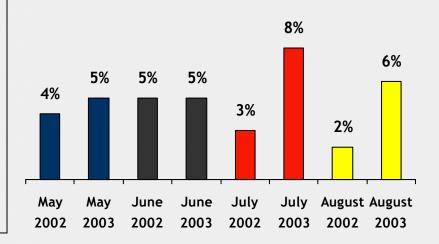


Foreign Policy



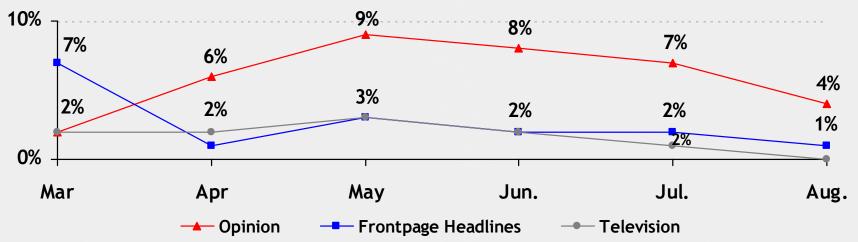
Notable Headlines

- Jul 20: Canadian troops leave for Afghanistan
- Jul 22: Kazemi to be burried in Iran
- Jul 23: Ottawa recalls it envoy to Iran
- Aug 8: Sampson freed / Manley running for NATO
- Aug 10: Mr. Sampson reports that Saudis tortured captives
- Aug 11: Immigration poll shows that Canadians support ID card
- Aug 17: Canadian troops expand Kabul duties in Afghanistan
- Aug 21: Elite JTF2 join Canadian troops in Kabul
- Aug 25: CIDA bosses admit ignoring rules in untendered contracts
- Aug 26: Kazemi Affair: Iran arrests two officials
- Aug 27: Ottawa scolds Iran for secrecy in Kazemi Affair / No more smiling, passport office decrees





Party Politics



Notable Headlines

Jul 7: Liberals sign up 450,000 in leadership race

Jul 11: Leadership candidate Martin discloses \$2.3-million in campaign contributions

Jul 22: Manley drops out of Liberal leadership race / Copps vows to continue

Aug 1: Pressure mounts on Martin to release policy plan

Aug 15: Ex-New Brunswick Premier McKenna being courted by Martin

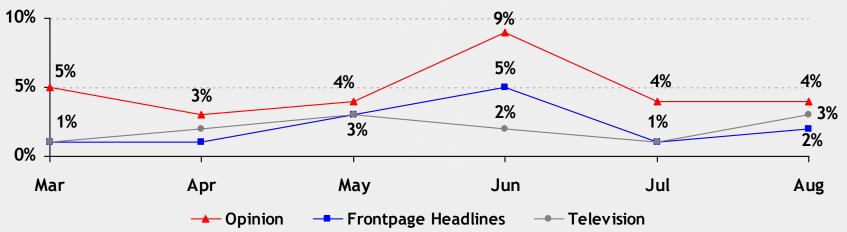
Aug 26: Bloc convention

Aug 27: Alliance and PC's to plan joint Commons strategy

Year-to-year change (Average %) 11% 10% 6% 5% 4% 4% 3% 2% July **August August** May May June June July 2002 2003 2002 2003 2002 2003 2002 2003



Governance



Notable Headlines

Jul 28: Ethics Counsellor says Martin in clear on CSL conflict

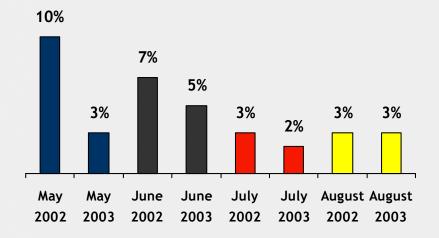
Aug 1: Judge Morris Fish nominated to the Supreme Cour of Canada

Aug 13: New Privacy Commissioner will be first to undergo scrutiny by MP's

Aug 16: Acadian poet Chiasson appointed Lieutenant Governor of N.B.

Aug 22: Dorval Airport to be renamed Pierre Elliot Trudeau International Airport

Aug 27:ElectoraL redistribution to be ready for spring election





Frontpage Coverage by Region May to August

	Atlantic	Québec	Ontario	Prairies	ВС
Aboriginals	0%	0%	1%	1%	1%
Economy	9%	8%	8%	7%	10%
Foreign Policy	4%	5%	5%	5%	5%
Global Security	2%	13%	8%	5%	4%
Governance	2%	2%	4%	1%	2%
Health	6%	5%	9%	8%	6%
International Affairs	0%	4%	2%	1%	2%
Miscellaneous	30%	28%	25%	27%	27%
Natural Resources	9%	5%	10%	17%	11%
Party Politics	2%	1%	2%	2%	2%
Provincial and Municipal Affairs	18%	7 %	8%	7%	5%
Public Safety	6%	4%	10%	6%	11%
Social Issues	11%	19%	8%	12%	13%
Unity	0%	0%	0%	1%	0%

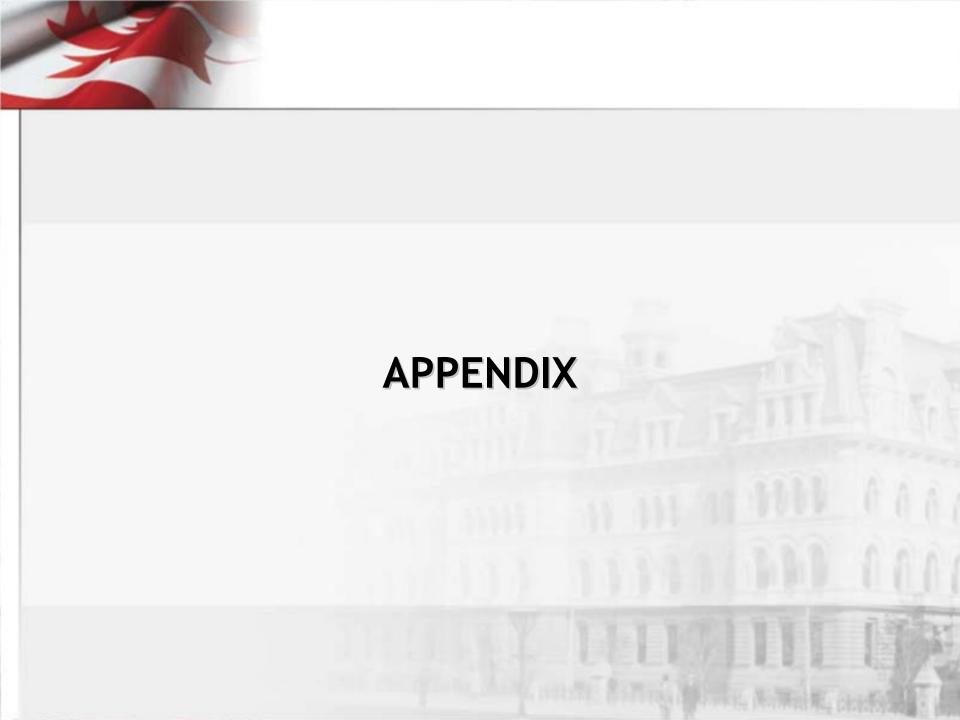
Note: Totals exclude Globe & Mail and National Post



Editorial Coverage by Region May to August

	Atlantic	Québec	Ontario	Prairies	ВС
Aboriginals	0%	0%	1%	3%	4%
Economy	11%	9 %	7 %	7 %	13%
Foreign Policy	4%	6 %	10%	9 %	6%
Global Security	1%	7 %	13%	2%	3%
Governance	7%	4%	6 %	7 %	5%
Health	4%	6 %	7 %	6 %	5%
International Affairs	1%	6 %	4%	1%	2%
Miscellaneous	1%	5%	3%	1%	1%
Natural Resources	17%	5%	8%	16%	10%
Party Politics	6%	5%	8%	10%	5%
Provincial and Municipal Affairs	35%	25%	14%	15%	19%
Public Safety	3%	4%	6%	7 %	10%
Social Issues	10%	15%	12%	10%	17%
Unity	1%	3%	1%	4%	1%

Note: Totals exclude Globe & Mail and National Post





Sources and Sample Details

National	Ontario	Television News
Globe and Mail	The London Free Press	CBC News
National Post	The Ottawa Citizen	CTV News
	The Toronto Star	SRC - Le Téléjournal
Atlantic Canada	The Toronto Sun	TVA Réseau
Charlottetown Guardian		
Halifax Chronicle Herald	Prairies	
New Brunswick Telegraph Journal	The Calgary Herald	
St. John's Telegram	The Edmonton Journal	
	The Regina Leader-Post	
Québec	The Winnipeg Free Press	
La Presse		
Le Devoir	British Columbia	
Le Journal de Montréal	The Vancouver Province	
Le Soleil	The Vancouver Sun	
The Montreal Gazette	The Victoria Times Colonist	

Sample Sizes

	May	June	July	August
Frontpage Headlines	2511	2492	2685	2519
Editorial/Opinion	1984	2263	6461	1861
Television	1302	1263	1478	989



Media Categories

Aboriginals First Nations politics / Governance / Land Claims / Residential Schools

Economics Economy / Jobs / Fiscal issues / Taxes / Innovation & Skills / R&D / Industry /

Transportation and Infrastructure

Foreign Policy Foreign Policy / International Assistance / Immigration / Defence (including

preparedness)

Global Security Terrorism / War in Iraq / Canada -US border

Governance Governance / Parliament / Ethics / Appointments / ATIP

Health Health care services / Renewal / SARS / West Nile

International Affairs International events that are political in nature or that have public policy implications

(other than Terrorism and Iraq)

Miscellaneous Miscellaneous

Natural Resources / Environment / Energy / Fisheries / Agriculture

Party Politics Partisan politics at federal level

Prov. & Munic Provincial and municipal affairs / politics

Public Safety Public safety / Justice / Organized crime / Security

Social issues / Education / Culture / Same-Sex marriage

Unity / Federal-provincial relations / Fiscal federalism



UPCOMING EVENTSOctober-December 2003



Monday / Lundi	Tuesday / Mardi	Wednesday / Mercredi	Thursday / Jeudi	Friday / Vendredi	Saturday-Sunday / Samedi-Dimanche
October / octob	ore 2003				
 TBC F/P/T Ministers responsible for Internal Trade - Fredericton, NB F/P/T Ministers for Aboriginal Affairs & National Aboriginal Leaders - Ottawa GoC response to SCFAIT Report: A contribution to the Foreign Policy Dialogue in Ottawa (Before Oct. 8) 		 Tobacco sponsorship ban comes into force First International Conference on Sustainable Planning and Development - Greece (1-3) TB President's annual report on Official Languages Great-Lakes Commission semi-annual meeting - Chicago 	2. @ PM to sign MOU with BC for the creation of 2 Marine Conservation Areas & 1 new National Park @ Provincial election - Ontario	 3. @ Manley to meet with US Homeland Security Director Tom Ridge - TO • Alcohol & Illicit Drugs conference - Kanata • Canadian Ethnic Studies Ass. Biennial Conference - Banff • Canadian Resources & Environmental Economics Conference - Victoria (3-5) 	 4/5. World Forum on Energy Regulation in Rome, Italy (5-9) XI World Water Congress in Spain EDAC National Conference in St. John's, NFLD&L World Teachers Day
 6. @ Release of Naylor Report on SARS Canada-EU ministerial - Italy (6-7) GoC consultations with OL stakeholders Launch public consultation for Bank Street Building - Ottawa 2003 Aboriginal Strategies Conference - Edmonton (6-8) World Road Cycling Championships - Hamilton (6-12) Yom Kippur (Judaism) (6-7) 	 7. @ Minister's Forum on Immigration and Biometrics in Ottawa (7-8) @ Tabling of the annual report of the Commissioner of the Environment @ Tabling of the annual report of the Commissioner of Official languages NAFTA Commission meeting - Montreal (7-8) 	8. ② Informal meeting of NATO Defense Ministers (8-9) - Colorado, US • Hydrogen & Fuel Cell Day on the Hill (T)	Release of 2002-03 Public Accounts of Canada (T)	 10. ② F/P/T Finance Ministers meeting - Ottawa • Conférence sur les menaces chimiques et biologiques et la prolifération des armes de destruction de masse - UK (10-12) 	 11/12. Knutson to lead a trade mission to Slovenia, Croatia & Slovakia
 Semaine nationale de la citoyenneté (13-17) 6th annual meeting of the International Network for Cultural Policy - Croatia (13-15) Thanksgiving 	14.	 15. @ F/P/T Immigration Ministers' meeting - Winnipeg (15-16) @ Interim report of the Joint Power System Outage Task Force (T) • Meeting of Spouses of Heads of Gvt of the Americas - Dominican Republic (12-13) • Bank of Canada release its decision on interest rate • CBC-Big Picture Day on Power 	 16. ② APEC ministerial meeting, Bangkok (16-19) • World Food Day • Canadian Aboriginal AIDS Network AGM (16-19) • 6th annual ministerial meeting of the International Network on Cultural Policy - Croatia (16-19) • International Atlantic Economic Conference - Quebec City (16-19) 	International Day for Eradication of Poverty	 Canadian Medical Association Leaders Forum - Ottawa (19-20) Institute of Agricultural & Environmental Health's conference - Saskatoon (19-22)
 20. Inuit Tapiriit Kanatami AGM (20-24) Occupational Health & Safety Seminar Ottawa (20-24) 	 21. @ Provincial elections - Newfoundland and Labrador • World Road Congress - Durban, South Africa (Oct 21-24) • Forum on Hydropower 2003 conference - Ottawa 	22.	23. @ Iraq Donors Conference - Madrid, Spain (23-27)	 24. @ Conseil de la Fédération, Québec @ Deadline for creation of Health Council World Development Information Day Disarmament Week (24-30) United Nations Day 	 25/26. International conference for People Living with HIV/AIDS in Uganda (26-30) Meeting of G-20 Finance Ministers & Central Bank Governors - Morelia, Mexico (26-27) Diwali (Hinduism)
 27. 10th Canadian Conference on International Health - Ottawa Special Conference on Security - Mexico City (27-28) Ramadan begins (Islam) 	28.	 29. @ Tabling of 2004 report on immigration levels Inter-American Conference of Labour Ministers - Brazil (29-31) Canadian Conference on Counter-Terrorism & Public Health - Toronto (Oct 29 - Nov 1) US Maritime Security Conference - New York (29-30) 	Mining Ministers of the America's conference - Quito, Ecuador (30-31)	31. • Atlantic Energy Roundtable	

	Monday / Lundi	Tuesday / Mardi	Wednesday / Mercredi	Thursday / Jeudi	Friday / Vendredi	Saturday-Sunday / Samedi-Dimanche
,	November / nov	vembre 2003			 TBC @ Report of Finance Committee re. pre-budget consultations Canada & Nova Scotia to sign Immigration Agreement Global Health Research Initiative SC on Health to table report on First Nations & Inuit Mental Health 	 1/2. F/P/T Tourism Ministers meeting - Quebec City Team Canada Atlantic Trade Mission to travel to Washington, DC (2-6) 19th World Mining Congress in India (1-5) Air Transport Association of Canada annual meeting - Quebec City (2-4) World Summit on Ethanol Transportation - Québec City
•	National Victims Conference - Ottawa (3-5) President of South Africa to visit Canada (3-5) Canada Career Week 2003 (3-8) 5 th Global Forum on Re-inventing Gvt: Innovation & Quality in the Gvt of the 21 st Century - Mexico City (3-4) Veterans Week	4.	5. @ Deadline for tabling of GoC response to Standing Committee report on broadcasting **Temperature** *	F/P/T meeting of Consumers Ministers - Winnipeg (6-7)	 7. CFI to host 2003 International Conference on Technology Clusters - Montreal (7-8) Sts Cda to release its Labour Force Survey (Oct 2003) 	8/9
	10. ① Ontario Municipal Elections Canadian Urban Transit Association Conference - Toronto	 11. @ Remembrance Day Commonwealth Games Federation General Assembly - Jamaica (11-15) 	 12. Liberal Party of Canada to hold its leadership convention - Toronto (12-15) 	13.	Tabling of the annual report on Employment Equity - Ottawa (T)	15/16.
•	17. GoC Results Summit - Ottawa (17-19) (T) Business Case for Sustainability conference - Vancouver (17-18)	18.	 17th ACSUS Biennial Conference - Oregon, US (19-23) 	 20. © FTAA Ministerial meeting in Miami (20-21) • Universal Children Day • World Anti-Doping Agency Executive meeting - Montreal 	21.	 22/23. Canadian Manufacturers and Exporters Trade Conference in Toronto (23-24) National Injury Prevention conference - Ottawa (Nov 23-25)
•	Integration Forum in Europe F/P/T Council of Ministers for the Environment - Victoria, BC (24-25) Sts Cda, CIC, HRDC & PCH to hold a joint conference on "The Opportunity and Challenge of Diversity: A Role for Social Capital ?" - Montreal (24-25)	 25. @ Auditor General to table Vol III of her 2003 annual report International Day for the Elimination of Violence Against Women CCME meeting 	 26. F/P/T Ministers responsible for Seniors - Halifax (26-27) Sommet ministériel de la Francophonie - Burkina-Faso (26-27) Forum of Federations to hold a conference on Decentralization of Health Care Delivery - New Delhi, India (26-28) 	27.	Canadian Medical Association to host the Leadership Workshop for Medical Women - Toronto (28-29)	 29/30. Deadline for report of the Wise Person's Committee on securities regulation (30) 13th Annual Canadian Home Care Association Conference (30-2) - Toronto

Monday / Lundi	Tuesday / Mardi	Wednesday / Mercredi	Thursday / Jeudi	Friday / Vendredi	Saturday-Sunday / Samedi-Dimanche
December / décembre 2003				 TBC Opening of the New Canadian Patient Safety Institute (deliverable from 2003 Health Accord) Assemblée traditionnelle afghane to be in place 	TBC • Tabling of report on Performance Management Program for Executives: 2002-03 exercise - Ottawa
1. (a) NATO Defense Ministers meeting in Brussels - Belgium (1-2) (b) OSCE ministerial meeting - Netherlands (1-2) (c) 9th Conference of Parties to the UN Framework Convention on Climate Change (CoP-9) - Milan, Italy	 Bank of Canada to release its decision on interest rate Congrès annuel de l'Union des producteurs agricoles (2-5) - Québec Conférence sur le renouvellement des fonctions publiques - Montréal 	 International Day of Disabled Persons Forum international sur l'Amérique latine - Montréal (3-4) 	 4. (a) NATO Foreign Ministers meeting - Brussels, Belgium (4-5) • Conference Board of Canada to hold a conference on "Canada's Competitiveness in a Global Financial Marketplace" - Toronto (4-5) 	 5. @ Commonwealth Heads of Government meeting - Abuja, Nigeria (5-8) • UN World Summit on Information Society - Geneva, Switzerland (5-6) 	6/7.
Union for African Population Studies conference - Tunisia (8-12)	9.	 10. @ OECD-DAC Senior Level meeting in Paris • Human Rights Day 	11.	12.	13/14.
 15. @ Release of the final report of the Joint Power System Outage Task Force (T) Conférence sur la non-prolifération des armes de destruction de masse - Royaume uni (15-18) 	16.	17. @ Canada-EU summit - Ottawa (T)	18. • International Migrants Day	19. @ First anniversary of ratification of Kyoto Protocol by Canada	20/21.
22.	23.	24.	25. • Christmas	26.	27/28.
29.	30.	 Permanent Resident Card now mandatory Deadline for public comments on bank mergers 			