

**VIEWPOINTS RESEARCH**  
**(Weighted N = 812 / Margin of Error ±3.4%)**  
**Conducted November 13 to 19, 2008**

INTERVIEWER: \_\_\_\_\_ PHONE: \_\_\_\_\_ - \_\_\_\_\_

GENDER: Male ..... 49.1% Female..... 50.9%

REGION: Regina ..... 18.5% Saskatoon ..... 20.9% Other ..... 60.6%

Hello, my name is \_\_\_\_\_ and I'm calling from Viewpoints Research. We're a public opinion research company and today we're calling Saskatchewan residents to do a short survey on current events.

For the purposes of this survey I need to speak to the person living in your household who is 18 or over, and is a Canadian citizen. Would that be you?

**IF NO, ASK TO SPEAK TO THE PERSON WHO DOES MEET THE REQUIREMENTS. IF THE PERSON WHO MEETS THE REQUIREMENTS IS NOT AT HOME, ASK FOR ANY PERSON WHO IS. IF NO ONE PRESENTLY AT HOME QUALIFIES, ARRANGE A TIME TO CALL BACK.**

Q1 What would you say is the single most important issue that the Saskatchewan government should be dealing with now? **DO NOT READ, CIRCLE ONE RESPONSE**

Health care .....	24.8%
Education / college / university / training .....	3.8%
Market problems / pensions / decline of investment .....	13.9%
Jobs / Lay - offs.....	2.9%
Environment.....	3.0%
Taxes .....	3.2%
Federal issues / Harper government / equalization .....	0.7%
Farm / rural issues .....	2.9%
Aboriginal / First Nations .....	1.2%
Housing prices .....	2.4%
Affordability / making ends meet / cost of living .....	6.2%
Crime.....	3.6%
Highways / transportation .....	5.3%
Debt / deficit .....	5.9%
Poverty / homelessness .....	4.0%
Managing natural resources/energy .....	1.6%
Gas prices.....	1.2%
Other (Specify below).....	4.5%
Nothing .....	1.7%
Don't know / Refused.....	7.0%

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I'm going to read you a list of issues that some people believe the Wall government should be addressing. Using a scale from 1 to 5, where 1 means not at all important and 5 means extremely important, please rate how important it is to you personally that the government addresses each of them. **ROTATE**

		Not at all important				Extremely Important	DK/REF
Q2	Reducing homelessness and poverty.	3.3%	8.4%	19.6%	23.1%	44.8%	0.9%
Q3	Creating more affordable housing.	3.9%	10.7%	22.0%	23.6%	39.3%	0.5%
Q4	Increasing the minimum wage.	8.6%	13.7%	33.3%	20.4%	23.2%	0.9%
Q5	Reducing hospital wait times.	1.4%	2.4%	12.6%	23.2%	59.0%	1.3%
Q6	Creating more affordable child care spaces.	10.2%	12.4%	28.0%	22.6%	24.4%	2.4%
Q7	Improving Saskatchewan highways.	1.9%	5.2%	24.7%	27.3%	40.5%	0.4%
Q8	Negotiating a fair equalization formula with the federal government.	5.7%	8.3%	24.4%	27.9%	28.8%	4.9%
Q9	Reducing greenhouse gas emissions.	6.8%	11.2%	26.9%	24.1%	29.4%	1.6%

Q10 The provincial government's new review of our health care system – the Patient First Review – is considering privatizing support services such as hospital labs, cleaning and food services to private companies. On the whole, would you say you support or oppose the idea of privatizing these health services? **THEN ASK:** Would that be strongly or moderately support /oppose?

Strongly support.....	15.9%
Moderately support.....	23.4%
Moderately oppose.....	15.3%
Strongly oppose .....	38.3%
Don't know / Refused.....	7.1%

Q11 How familiar are you with the term public, private partnership or P Three? Would you say you are....**READ LIST**.....?

Very familiar.....	6.7%
Somewhat familiar.....	26.1%
Not very familiar.....	26.6%
Not at all familiar.....	40.3%
Don't know / Refused.....	0.3%

Q12 A public, private partnership known as a P Three is an arrangement where a private company finances, builds and operates a public facility like a school and leases it back to the public over a 20 to 30 year contract. Generally speaking, do you support or oppose using public-private partnerships or P3s for the purpose of providing public infrastructure like bridges or public facilities like schools and hospitals? **THEN ASK:** Would that be strongly or moderately support /oppose?

Strongly support.....	9.9%
Moderately support.....	25.8%
Moderately oppose.....	18.2%
Strongly oppose .....	31.9%
Don't know / Refused.....	14.2%

Please tell me if you agree each of the following is a **good reason** for you to **support** using private companies to finance and operate public facilities like schools, instead of the government, or if it makes no difference to your opinion. **IF APPROPRIATE** Would that be strongly or moderately agree. **ROTATE**

	Strongly agree	Moderately agree	No difference	Oppose P 3s	DK/REF
Q13 Private companies can build and operate facilities more efficiently so tax payers save money.	19.0%	27.0%	15.3%	32.7%	6.0%
Q14 P threes reduce government debt which saves tax payers money.	16.1%	27.6%	15.1%	32.4%	8.8%
Q15 School boards can get approval to build a P3 school faster than if they wait for funding from the provincial government.	14.2%	25.3%	18.5%	31.2%	10.8%

Now please tell me whether each of the following is a **good reason** for you to **oppose** the government using P threes, or if it makes no difference to your opinion. **IF APPROPRIATE** Would that be strongly or moderately agree? **ROTATE**

	Strongly Agree	Moderately Agree	No difference	Support P 3s	DK/REF
Q16 P threes are more expensive for taxpayers because private companies have to charge more to make a profit.	33.0%	26.9%	19.4%	11.0%	9.8%
Q17 Since the government has a huge budget surplus, it should be providing more money to build schools, instead of relying on private companies.	37.2%	28.6%	15.8%	10.2%	8.3%
Q18 Since government guarantees the debt of private companies building these public facilities taxpayers take the risk but lose control.	34.4%	29.9%	19.2%	7.2%	9.3%

		Strongly Agree	Moderately Agree	No difference	Support P 3s	DK/REF
Q19	Public facilities, like hospitals and schools should be owned and controlled by the public, not private companies.	51.9%	21.1%	11.4%	9.7%	6.0%
Q20	P3s cost taxpayers more, because it costs private companies more to borrow money to finance projects than it costs the government.	24.7%	26.2%	23.2%	10.6%	15.2%
Q21	Some people say that even if it costs more to build a P3 school it's worth it because it means not waiting for the government to build it. Do you agree or disagree with this statement. <b>THEN ASK:</b> Would that be strongly or somewhat agree/disagree?					
	Strongly agree .....	10.3%				
	Somewhat agree .....	26.0%				
	Somewhat disagree .....	24.4%				
	Strongly disagree .....	30.3%				
	Don't know / Refused.....	9.0%				

Please tell me whether or not you would like to see each of the following financed, built and operated by private companies using P threes (public private partnerships)? **ROTATE**

		Yes	No	DK/REF
Q22	Hospitals and health care facilities	29.1%	65.6%	5.3%
Q23	Schools	31.3%	63.7%	4.9%
Q24	Highways	43.1%	52.5%	4.4%
Q25	Electric power generation facilities	36.4%	57.7%	5.9%

I am now going to read you a number of statements which others have made about labour relations in Saskatchewan. For each one, please tell me whether you strongly agree, agree, disagree, or strongly disagree. **ROTATE**

		STR AGREE	AGREE	DIS-AGREE	STR DIS-AGREE	DK/REF
Q26	Employees should have the right to choose to join a union without any interference from the employer.	34.5%	48.1%	11.4%	4.2%	1.8%
Q27	Overall, unions are beneficial for working people.	20.9%	47.0%	20.6%	7.4%	4.2%
Q28	Joining a union is an effective way for most workers to improve their wages and working conditions.	23.6%	45.5%	20.9%	7.4%	2.7%
Q29	With the SaskParty government in power, I want Saskatchewan unions to play a bigger role protecting health care, education and other public services.	21.0%	36.4%	26.5%	11.4%	4.6%

I now want to ask you about how you stay in touch with the news and current events. Please tell me if you normally do each of the following every day, a few times a week, a few times a month or if you rarely or never do them. **ROTATE**

	Every day	Few times / week	Few times / month	Rarely/ Never	DK/REF
Q30 Surf the Internet for information.	27.8%	22.1%	8.5%	40.9%	0.7%
Q31 Watch the news on TV.	66.5%	21.9%	3.5%	8.2%	0.0%
Q32 Listen to news and current events shows on radio.	49.8%	20.1%	7.7%	22.3%	0.1%
Q33 Read newspapers.	46.8%	31.3%	7.8%	14.0%	0.1%
Q34 Listen to call in shows on the radio.	16.3%	19.4%	11.4%	52.4%	0.5%

Now I just have a few questions for our statistical tabulations...

**Z1 RECORD GENDER (DO NOT READ)**

Male ..... 49.1%  
 Female..... 50.9%

**Z2 What age category are you in?**

18 to 24 ..... 5.6%  
 25 to 29 ..... 5.2%  
 30 to 34 ..... 7.4%  
 35 to 39 ..... 7.6%  
 40 to 49 ..... 20.1%  
 50 to 54 ..... 12.8%  
 55 to 59 ..... 11.0%  
 60 to 64 ..... 8.5%  
 65 or over ..... 21.2%  
 Don't know / Refused..... 0.5%

**Z3 Would you say that your total household income before taxes is...?**

Less than \$20,000 ..... 10.3%  
 Less than \$30,000 ..... 8.1%  
 Less than \$40,000 ..... 8.5%  
 Less than \$60,000 ..... 16.8%  
 Less than \$80,000 ..... 13.2%  
 Less than \$100,000 ..... 10.6%  
 \$100,000 or more ..... 18.6%  
 Don't know / Refused..... 13.9%

Z4 Are you or is any one in your household a union member?

- Yes, respondent..... 16.5%
- Another household member is ..... 11.5%
- Both/more than one..... 6.5%
- None ..... 64.4%
- Don't know / Refused..... 1.1%

Z5 May I just confirm that your phone number is **(READ NUMBER DIALED)**

**( 306 )** \_ \_ \_ - \_ \_ \_ \_

Z6 And finally may I please confirm that the first three digits of your postal code are \_\_\_\_\_?

I'd like to thank-you for taking the time to participate in this survey and to advise you that my supervisor may be calling you later to verify your participation.