



Public Interest Alberta

#35, 9912 – 106 Street, Edmonton, AB T5K 1C5 P 780.420.0471 F 780.420.0435
E pialta@telus.net W www.pialberta.org

Invest in Albertans – Public Opinion Poll

Poll conducted by Environics on March 20-24, 2009.

The margin of error is plus or minus 4.5%, 19 times out of twenty.

1. Given the current financial and economic problems facing Alberta, which one of the following approaches should our provincial government take?
 - Stay out of the economy and let markets deal with the economy - 28%
 - **Play an more active role in dealing with economic problems - 67%**
 - Neither/ don't Know - 5%
2. As you may know, the Alberta government will table its budget on April 7th. Considering the current economic situation, which ONE of the following do you think is the most important thing for the Alberta government?
 - **Investing in healthcare, education, other public services – 69%**
 - Cutting royalties and measures to support energy industry – 27%
 - Neither/ don't Know - 4%
3. Which of the following do you think is more important for the Alberta government?
 - **Investing in healthcare, education ,other public services – 73%**
 - Cutting taxes – 24%
 - Neither/ don't Know - 3%
4. Sometimes revenues shrink due to an economic slowdown and governments have deficits not because the government is spending more, but because revenues have dropped. Which view is closer to your own?
 - No deficit even if it means program cuts and tax increases – 21%
 - **Maintain program and tax levels even if there is a deficit - 72%**
 - Neither/ don't Know - 7%
5. Agree/Disagree: Expanding access to post-secondary education at the same time as improving the quality and reducing the cost is one of the best ways to diversify the economy and plan for Alberta's future.

• Strongly agree	40	
• Somewhat agree	42	Agree – 82%
• Somewhat disagree	8	
• Strongly disagree	5	Disagree – 13%
• No Answer/ DK	5	

6. Agree/Disagree: The government should respond to the economic downturn by CUTTING services to seniors, people with disabilities and supports for low-income people.

- Strongly agree 3
- Somewhat agree 6 Agree – 9%
- Somewhat disagree 19
- Strongly disagree 72 **Disagree – 91%**
- No Answer/ DK 1

7. Agree/Disagree: Middle income seniors who require medications or extensive care in continuing care facilities should pay MORE of the cost to save the government money.

- Strongly agree 3
- Somewhat agree 15 Agree – 18%
- Somewhat disagree 30
- Strongly disagree 50 **Disagree – 80%**
- No Answer/ DK 2

8. Agree/Disagree: The provincial government should increase funding to municipalities to improve local public services and programs.

- Strongly agree 30
- Somewhat agree 44 **Agree – 77%**
- Somewhat disagree 17
- Strongly disagree 5 Disagree – 22%
- No Answer/ DK 4

9. Agree/ Disagree: The Alberta government should have a strategy to use the revenue from the oil sands to help the province transition to a greener economy with sustainable industries and jobs that do less damage to the environment. (This question was asked by the Alberta Federation of Labour, January 21 – 25th, 2009)

- Strongly agree 66
- Somewhat agree 28 **Agree – 94%%**
- Somewhat disagree 3
- Strongly disagree 3 Disagree – 6%
- No Answer/ DK 1