

As the figure shows, approval of the federal government's economic performance was highest in Atlantic Canada (34%) followed by Quebec (30%). Results in Atlantic Canada represent a significant increase in approval from March of 1992 (22%) and from September of 1991 (29%). In Quebec, which showed the second highest rating, approval of the government's economic performance was up substantially from March of 1992 (22%), but represented a decrease from figures recorded a year ago (36%). Approval ratings were relatively stable in Ontario, increasing from 17 percent in March of 1992 to 22 percent in the current (August, 1992) findings, which are similar to the 21 percent approval recorded in September of 1991. In Manitoba and Saskatchewan, the 22 percent approval of the federal government's economic performance represented an increase from 16 percent in March of 1992 and 15 percent in September of 1991.

Approval of the federal government's economic performance was lowest in Alberta (13%) and British Columbia (17%). In Alberta, the current results represent a decrease from 20 percent in March of 1992 and 15 percent in September of 1991. In British Columbia, approval of the federal government's performance increased to 17 percent from a low of 11 percent in March of 1992, but represents a decrease from 20 percent approval measured in September of 1991.

Younger respondents, age 18-34 were more supportive of the government's economic performance (28%) than those aged 35-54 (20%) or 55 and older (21%). The findings showed very little variation by education on this question. By income, middle income earners were less likely to express approval of the federal government's performance in managing the economy (20%) than were those earning less than \$30,000/year (26%) or more than \$50,000/year (24%).

The results of the segmentation showed that the majority of the Enthusiastic Advocates rate the federal government's performance as very good or good (52%), followed by the Dispassionate Supporters (31%), and the Concerned Pragmatists (28%). Only 3 percent of the Resolute Antagonists rate the government's job managing the economy as good or very good.