



# Premier Stelmach Performance Evaluations

## Lethbridge Public Opinion Study – Winter 2009







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# Methodology

-  **Population** The city of Lethbridge has a total population of 83,960 residents (2008 municipal census) approximately 80% of which are 18 years of age or older (67,168). A total of 41,160 Lethbridge residents are male (49.0%) while 42,800 are female (51.0%). South Lethbridge is home to 29,773 residents (35.5%) while the rapidly expanding west side is now home to 29,673 residents (35.3%). There are 24,514 north Lethbridge residents (29.2%).
-  **Sample** Data were collected by Lethbridge College and Athabasca University students enrolled in STS270 – Social Science Research Methods in the winter of 2008. Students interviewed 637 adult city of Lethbridge residents by telephone on February 4, 7 and 8, 2009 under the supervision of School of Liberal Arts faculty members Faron Ellis, PhD and Marda Schindeler, MA. Telephone numbers were selected from a sample drawn from InfoCanada directories. We sincerely appreciate and thank all those who took time out of their day to respond to our survey. Full methodological notes for samples from previous Lethbridge Public Opinion Studies can be obtained by visiting the CSRL web pages at: [www.lethbridgecollege.ab.ca/go/csrl](http://www.lethbridgecollege.ab.ca/go/csrl)
-  **Representativeness** Analysis of the demographic data indicates that, within acceptable limits, the sample accurately represents the demographic distribution of the adult population within the city of Lethbridge. The sample has been statistically weighted where necessary to even better reflect the demographic distribution of the population (gender, age and area of the city of Lethbridge).
-  **Confidence** The weighted sample yields a margin of error of  $\pm 3.9$  percentage points, 19 times out of 20. The margin of error increases when analyzing sub-samples of the data.
-  **IB Commons Call Centre** Students conducted interviews using the facilities of the Lethbridge College IB Commons Call Centre and applications developed by the Open Source Learning Lab. We thank Dr. James Manis and the OSL for their efforts in working with us to establish and maintain the IB Commons Call Centre.
-  **Sponsorship** These data are part of a larger study of the opinions and attitudes of Lethbridge residents conducted by the Citizen Society Research Lab at Lethbridge College. This particular set of question was derived from the research interests of College students and faculty.

# Premier Stelmach Performance Evaluations

- Alberta Premier Ed Stelmach continues to receive more positive evaluations from city of Lethbridge residents than negative evaluations. Over one-third of all Lethbridge residents think the premier is doing a good job (34.5%), while just over one-fifth (21.3%) think the premier is performing poorly. Almost half of all residents (44.2%) believe the premier is performing adequately. The premier's evaluations are generally more positive than they were one year ago, and stable compared to what was measured last fall.
- Middle income earners are among those most likely to state that the premier is performing well (39.9%), as are the youth (43.0%) and seniors (38.8%).
- University graduates (28.5%) and upper income earners (24.8%) are most critical.

Premier Stelmach Performance

	October '07	February '08	October '08	February '09
Good	31.6	29.1	36.8	34.5
Adequate	50.0	42.5	39.2	44.2
Poor	18.4	28.3	24.0	21.3

February 2009

Very good	4.2
Good	30.3
Adequate	44.2
Poor	17.7
Very poor	3.5

Note: Due to rounding, proportions may not total exactly 100%

## Premier Stelmach performance by demographic group (February 2009) (%)

Gender	Male	Female	All Lethbridge
Good	36.8	32.4	34.5
Adequate	40.5	47.7	44.2
Poor	22.6	19.9	21.3

Area	South Lethbridge	North Lethbridge	West Lethbridge
Good	34.0	34.5	35.0
Adequate	44.5	48.5	40.4
Poor	21.5	17.0	24.7

Household Income	Under \$40,000	\$40,000 to \$80,000	Over \$80,000
Good	32.9	39.9	28.6
Adequate	44.5	43.2	46.6
Poor	22.5	16.9	24.8

Religious Attendance	2-3 times/month-more	Several times/year	Rarely-never
Good	41.5	34.4	31.3
Adequate	41.5	45.9	45.2
Poor	17.0	19.7	23.5

Education	High School or less	Some Post Secondary	College-Tech-Trade	University Grad
Good	34.6	38.7	37.0	28.5
Adequate	40.2	47.9	46.1	43.0
Poor	25.2	13.4	16.9	28.5

Age	18-29	30-44	45-64	65 and older
Good	43.0	32.6	27.9	38.8
Adequate	34.7	52.8	48.8	37.3
Poor	22.3	14.6	23.4	23.9

Note: Due to rounding, proportions may not total exactly 100%

## Premier Stelmach performance by demographic group (February 2009) (%)

Gender	Male	Female	All Lethbridge
Very good	5.4	2.9	4.2
Good	31.1	29.4	30.3
Adequate	40.5	47.7	44.2
Poor	19.6	16.0	17.7
Very poor	3.4	3.9	3.5

Area	South Lethbridge	North Lethbridge	West Lethbridge
Very good	5.2	2.4	4.5
Good	29.0	31.8	30.5
Adequate	44.3	48.8	40.4
Poor	16.7	13.5	22.0
Very poor	4.8	3.5	2.7

Household Income	Under \$40,000	\$40,000 to \$80,000	Over \$80,000
Very good	3.5	4.7	4.3
Good	29.5	35.5	24.2
Adequate	44.5	43.0	46.6
Poor	17.3	13.6	21.7
Very poor	5.2	3.3	3.1

Religious Attendance	2-3 times/month-more	Several times/year	Rarely-never
Very good	3.5	2.5	4.4
Good	37.6	32.0	26.9
Adequate	41.8	45.9	45.2
Poor	15.3	12.3	20.7
Very poor	1.8	7.4	2.7

Note: Due to rounding, proportions may not total exactly 100

## Premier Stelmach performance by demographic group (February 2009) ()

Education	High School or less	Some Post Secondary	College-Tech-Trade	University Grad
Very good	3.2	4.2	5.2	3.9
Good	31.7	35.0	32.3	24.2
Adequate	40.5	47.6	45.8	43.3
Poor	19.8	11.9	15.5	22.5
Very poor	4.8	1.4	1.3	6.2

Age	18-29	30-44	45-64	65 and older
Very good	2.5	2.1	4.9	6.7
Good	40.2	30.6	23.2	31.9
Adequate	34.4	52.8	48.3	37.0
Poor	20.5	13.2	19.2	18.5
Very poor	2.5	1.4	4.4	5.9

Note: Due to rounding, proportions may not total exactly 100%

# Demographics

## Gender (%)

Male	48.6
Female	51.4

## Area of City (%)

South	35.0
North	29.2
West	35.8

## Income (%)

Under \$40,000	32.4
\$40-\$80,000	39.5
Over \$80,000	28.1

## Education (%)

H-School/less	21.8
Some P-Sec.	23.2
Col-Tech-Grad	25.1
University Grad	29.8

## Age (%)

18-29	21.0
30-44	24.1
45-64	32.5
65 or older	22.4

## Religious Participation (%)

2-3/month-more	29.6
Several/year	20.4
Rarely-never	49.9

## Question

How would you rate the overall performance of Alberta Premier Ed Stelmach?