

NEWS RELEASE



MEDIA INQUIRIES:

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FOR IMMEDIATE RELEASE

Two thirds approve of murder charges for Forcillo

Despite this, trust in police is high

TORONTO January 20th - In a random sampling of public opinion taken by the Forum Poll™ among 546 Toronto adults, as many as two thirds approve of charging Constable James Forcillo with murder in the shooting death of Sammy Yatim (66%). Fewer than one fifth disapprove (18%) and a similar proportion don't share their views (16%). Approval of the charges is most common to younger respondents (35 to 44 - 75%), mid income groups (\$60K to \$80K - 72%), Olivia Chow voters from the last Mayoral election (88%), residents of the downtown (73%), those who do not trust Toronto police and those who disagree Toronto weeds out "bad cops" (81%).

Three quarters trust Toronto police

Three quarters of Toronto adults say they have trust in Toronto's police (78%) and as many as one third say they have a "great deal of trust" (33%). Those with the highest levels of trust include the younger respondents (35 to 45 - 45%) and the oldest (44%), those in upper income groups (\$60K to \$80K - 42%), Doug Ford voters (42%), those who think Toronto's police recruiting and training weeds out unfit police officers (43%) and those who disapprove of the murder charges against Forcillo (56%).

One quarter think Toronto police do not weed out unfit officers

Just less than one quarter of Torontonians believe the system for recruiting and training new police officers is not able to screen out those who shouldn't serve in the role (23%), while more than a third think it can do this (36%). The plurality, 4-in-10, doesn't know (41%).

Few think trial outcome would have changed with locale

In total, just one third of Torontonians think changing the venue of the trial would have made a difference to the outcome (37%), about one quarter thinking it would have benefitted Forcillo (23%) and about half this proportion thinking it wouldn't (14%). Close to one half believe the trial outcome would have been no different after a venue change (45%) and as many as one fifth don't have an opinion (19%).

TORONTO

January 20th, 2016

HIGHLIGHTS:

- Two thirds approve of charging Constable James Forcillo with murder in the shooting death of Sammy Yatim (66%).
- Three quarters of Toronto adults say they have trust in Toronto's police (78%) and as many as one third say they have a "great deal of trust" (33%).
- Just less than one quarter of Torontonians believe the system for recruiting and training new police officers is not able to screen out those who shouldn't serve in the role (23%).
- In total, just one third of Torontonians think changing the venue of the trial would have made a difference to the outcome (37%).

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“Torontonians are very familiar with the Forcillo case, and most see it as appropriate that he was charged with murder. Despite this, most trust their police force, and expect it to protect them from rogue officers,” said Forum Research President, Dr. Lorne Bozinoff.

Lorne Bozinoff, Ph.D. is the president and founder of Forum Research. He can be reached at lbozinoff@forumresearch.com or at (416) 960-9603.

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HIGHLIGHTS:

- “Torontonians are very familiar with the Forcillo case, and most see it as appropriate that he was charged with murder. Despite this, most trust their police force, and expect it to protect them from rogue officers,” said Forum Research President, Dr. Lorne Bozinoff.

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Methodology

The Forum Poll™ was conducted by Forum Research with the results based on an interactive voice response telephone survey of 546 randomly selected voters in Toronto, Ontario. The poll was conducted on January 18th, 2016.

Results based on the total sample are considered accurate +/- 4%, 19 times out of 20. Subsample results will be less accurate. Margins of error for subsample (such as age, gender) results are available at www.forumresearch.com/samplestim.asp

Where appropriate, the data has been statistically weighted by age, region, and other variables to ensure that the sample reflects the actual population according to the latest Census data.

This research is not necessarily predictive of future outcomes, but rather, captures opinion at one point in time. Forum Research conducted this poll as a public service and to demonstrate our survey research capabilities. Forum houses its poll results in the Data Library of the Department of Political Science at the University of Toronto.

With offices across Canada and around the world, 100% Canadian-owned Forum Research is one of the country's leading survey research firms. This Forum Poll™ and other polls may be found at Forum's poll archive at www.forumresearch.com/polls.asp

Approval for charging Forcillo - Trending

%	January 20th, 2016	Nov 16th, 2015	August 29th, 2013
Sample	546	812	848
Approve	66	68	64
Disapprove	18	19	17
Don't know	16	12	19

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Trust in TO Police

'How much trust do you have in Toronto's police officers?'

[All Respondents]

Age / Gender

%	Total	18-34	35-44	45-54	55-64	65+	Male	Female
Sample	546	122	75	98	112	139	296	250
A great deal of trust	33	23	28	44	35	44	35	31
Some trust	45	53	45	39	41	41	41	48
Not very much trust	14	14	17	10	15	11	14	13
No trust at all	5	5	6	5	2	3	7	2
Don't know	4	5	4	3	8	1	3	6

Region

%	Total	The former City of Toronto + East York	- North York	Etobicoke + York	Scarborough
Sample	546	215	116	131	84
A great deal of trust	33	26	39	33	36
Some trust	45	47	42	41	49
Not very much trust	14	17	11	15	9
No trust at all	5	4	5	6	3
Don't know	4	6	3	5	3

Last Mayoral Vote

%	Total	Doug Ford	John Tory	Olivia Chow	Someone else
Sample	546	84	239	74	38
A great deal of trust	33	42	40	13	24
Some trust	45	31	45	58	46
Not very much trust	14	16	10	18	22
No trust at all	5	11	1	8	8
Don't know	4	1	3	4	0

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TORONTO
January 20th, 2016

Recruiting and Training Police

'Do you agree or disagree the system for recruiting and training police in Toronto can screen out candidates who should not be police officers?'

[All Respondents]

Age / Gender

%	Total	18-34	35-44	45-54	55-64	65+	Male	Female
Sample	546	122	75	98	112	139	296	250
Agree	36	33	32	39	40	39	39	33
Disagree	23	26	25	22	16	22	23	23
Don't know	41	42	43	39	44	39	38	44

Region

%	Total	The former City of Toronto + East York	- North York	Etobicoke + York	Scarborough
Sample	546	215	116	131	84
Agree	36	30	34	37	44
Disagree	23	22	26	26	18
Don't know	41	48	39	37	38

Last Mayoral Vote

%	Total	Doug Ford	John Tory	Olivia Chow	Someone else
Sample	546	84	239	74	38
Agree	36	49	32	21	37
Disagree	23	22	21	31	14
Don't know	41	29	47	47	49

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Approval for charging Forcillo

'Constable James Forcillo has been charged with second-degree murder and attempted murder in the death of Sammy Yatim in the streetcar shooting in 2013. Do you approve or disapprove of charging Constable Forcillo with murder?'

[All Respondents]

Age / Gender

%	Total	18-34	35-44	45-54	55-64	65+	Male	Female
Sample	546	122	75	98	112	139	296	250
Approve	66	68	74	56	60	66	63	68
Disapprove	18	14	14	26	22	20	23	14
Don't know	16	19	12	18	17	13	14	18

Region

%	Total	The former City of Toronto + East York	- North York	Etobicoke + York	Scarborough
Sample	546	215	116	131	84
Approve	66	73	62	62	64
Disapprove	18	13	24	20	16
Don't know	16	13	14	18	20

Last Mayoral Vote

%	Total	Doug Ford	John Tory	Olivia Chow	Someone else
Sample	546	84	239	74	38
Approve	66	62	63	88	73
Disapprove	18	26	19	6	10
Don't know	16	13	18	6	17

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Trial Outcome

'As far as you know, would it have made any difference to the trial outcome if it had been held somewhere outside Toronto?'

[All Respondents]

Age / Gender

%	Total	18-34	35-44	45-54	55-64	65+	Male	Female
Sample	546	122	75	98	112	139	296	250
Trial outcome would have been more favourable to Forcillo	23	24	21	27	24	14	23	22
Trial outcome would have been less favourable to Forcillo	14	16	12	12	10	17	13	14
Trial outcome would have been no different	45	39	41	51	46	55	46	45
Don't know	19	21	27	10	19	14	19	19

Region

%	Total	The former City of Toronto + East York	- North York	Etobicoke + York	Scarborough
Sample	546	215	116	131	84
Trial outcome would have been more favourable to Forcillo	23	21	21	29	18
Trial outcome would have been less favourable to Forcillo	14	15	12	12	15
Trial outcome would have been no different	45	43	53	39	44
Don't know	19	20	13	20	22

Last Mayoral Vote

%	Total	Doug Ford	John Tory	Olivia Chow	Someone else
Sample	546	84	239	74	38
Trial outcome would have been more favourable to Forcillo	23	27	23	16	23
Trial outcome would have been less favourable to Forcillo	14	15	16	10	12
Trial outcome would have been no different	45	48	44	55	44
Don't know	19	10	18	18	22

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