

NEWS RELEASE



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FOR IMMEDIATE RELEASE

Two-Thirds Support Move To Fixed Elections in Nova Scotia

More than half agree with the decision to call an election

Toronto, May 8th – In a random sampling of public opinion taken by The Forum Poll™ among 1042 Nova Scotia voters, two-thirds (65%) say the new government of Nova Scotia should develop fixed election dates for future campaigns. Just over 2-in-10 (21%) say no, the new government should not develop fixed election dates, with (14%) saying they do not know.

Respondents most likely to say that the new government should develop fixed dates for future elections include the most wealthy (72%), those with a post-graduate degree (70%), living in Halifax (65%), on the South Shore (66%), or North End (65%), and supporting the PCs (73%) or NDP (70%).

Respondents most likely to say that the new government should not develop fixed dates for future elections include those aged 34 and younger (25%), 45-54 (22%), 55-64 (23%), the least wealthy (23%), or earning \$40,000-\$60,000 (26%), \$60,000-\$80,000 (25%), \$80,000-\$100,000 (24%), with some college/university (25%) or a college/university degree (23%), and supporting the Liberals (29%).

Now is the right time for an election: more than half of voters

More than 5-in-10 (54%) of voters say now is the right time for an election. A third (31%) say no, it isn't the right time, with (15%) saying they do not know.

Respondents most likely to say that now is the right time for an election include those aged 34 and younger (58%) or 45-54 (56%), earning \$20,000-\$40,000 (58%), \$40,000-\$60,000 (58%), and the most wealthy (59%), with some college/university (58%) or a post-graduate degree (57%), and supporting the PCs (65%).

Respondents most likely to say that now is not the right time for an election include those aged 35-44 (38%), the least wealthy (41%), with a college/university degree (37%), living on South Shore (35%) and supporting the Liberals (39%).

"The appetite for an election was strong, with the majority supporting the election call. Perhaps more interesting is that almost two-thirds of voters think it's time for Nova Scotia to get fixed elections dates, as currently it's the only province that doesn't have them," said Dr. Lorne Bozinoff, President of Forum Research.

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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"The appetite for an election was strong, with the majority supporting the election call. Perhaps more interesting is that almost two-thirds of voters think it's time for Nova Scotia to get fixed elections dates, as currently it's the only province that doesn't have them," said Dr. Lorne Bozinoff, President of Forum Research.



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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 1042 randomly selected Nova Scotia Voters. The poll was conducted May 2nd-3rd, 2017.

The following numbers of households were contacted for this poll:

May 2nd: 20980

May 3rd: 34243

Results based on the total sample are considered accurate +/- 3%, 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



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Fixed election dates

Nova Scotia is currently the only province without fixed election dates. In your opinion, should the new government develop fixed dates for future elections?

Age/Gender

%	Total	18-34	35-44	45-54	55-64	65+	Male	Female
Sample	1042	134	136	194	246	332	499	519
Yes	65	65	65	68	64	63	67	64
No	21	25	18	22	23	19	21	22
Don't know	14	10	17	10	13	18	12	14

Income

%	Total	<\$20K	\$20-\$40K	\$40-\$60K	\$60-\$80K	\$80-\$100K	\$100-\$250K
Sample	1042	106	179	161	138	96	175
Yes	65	59	63	65	69	68	72
No	21	23	18	26	25	24	17
Don't know	14	18	19	9	6	7	11

Region

%	Total	Secondary school or less	Some college or university	Completed college or university	Post graduate studies
Sample	1042	211	254	348	229
Yes	65	64	62	64	70
No	21	15	25	23	21
Don't know	14	20	13	13	9

Education

%	Total	Halifax	Cape Breton	South Shore	North End
Sample	1042	436	146	298	162
Yes	65	65	62	66	65
No	21	23	22	20	22
Don't know	14	12	16	14	13



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Current Provincial Vote Preference

%	Total	Progressive Conservative	Liberal	New Democratic	Other
Sample	1042	281	348	231	67
Yes	65	73	55	70	68
No	21	16	29	20	25
Don't know	14	10	15	10	8

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Support for Election Call

In your opinion, is now the right time for an election?

Age/Gender

%	Total	18-34	35-44	45-54	55-64	65+	Male	Female
Sample	1042	134	136	194	246	332	499	519
Yes	54	58	53	56	52	50	55	53
No	31	30	38	29	31	30	32	31
Don't know	15	13	9	15	17	21	13	16

Income

%	Total	<\$20K	\$20-\$40K	\$40-\$60K	\$60-\$80K	\$80-\$100K	\$100-\$250K
Sample	1042	106	179	161	138	96	175
Yes	54	44	58	58	52	54	59
No	31	41	26	31	28	35	29
Don't know	15	16	16	11	19	11	12

Region

%	Total	Halifax	Cape Breton	South Shore	North End
Sample	1042	436	146	298	162
Yes	54	55	58	50	55
No	31	30	25	35	30
Don't know	15	15	17	15	14

Education

%	Total	Secondary school or less	Some college or university	Completed college or university	Post graduate studies
Sample	1042	211	254	348	229
Yes	54	52	58	50	57
No	31	28	25	37	31
Don't know	15	20	17	12	12



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%	Total	Progressive Conservative	Liberal	New Democratic	Other
Sample	1042	281	348	231	67
Yes	54	65	48	59	50
No	31	26	39	29	36
Don't know	15	9	13	12	14

For more information:

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