

NEWS RELEASE



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FOR IMMEDIATE RELEASE

7-in-10 Say Housing Costs Will Have At Least Some Influence on Their Vote

Most believe the government has the power to affect change on housing

Toronto, May 4th – In a random sampling of public opinion taken by The Forum Poll™ among 1067 British Columbia voters, 7-in-10 (70%) say that the issue of housing costs will have at least some influence on their vote. Of this proportion, more than forty-percent (41%) say it will have a large amount of influence on their vote, and almost a third (29%) say it will have some influence on their vote, with just under a quarter (24%) saying it will have no influence. (7%) say they do not know.

Respondents most likely to say it will have a large amount of influence on their vote include those aged 34 and younger (49%) or 35-44 (48%), the least wealthy (54%), with some college/university (44%), living on Vancouver Island (44%) or Vancouver/Lower Mainland (42%), and supporting the NDP (55%).

Respondents most likely to say it will have some influence include those aged 65+ (32%), earning \$40,000-\$60,000 (33%), \$80,000-\$100,000 (31%), or the most wealthy (32%), with a post graduate degree (36%), and supporting the Green Party (35%).

Respondents most likely to say housing costs will have no influence on their vote include those aged 65+ (32%), earning \$80,000-\$100,000 (27%) or the most wealthy (28%), with some college/university (24%) or a college/university degree (26%), living in BC Interior North (34%) and supporting the Liberals (42%).

More than a third think the government has a lot of power to affect the cost of housing

(34%) say that the government has a lot of power to impact the cost of housing in BC. More than 4-in-10 (42%) say the government has some power, with (14%) saying the government has little power to impact housing costs, and (3%) saying it has no power at all. (7%) say they do not know how much the government can impact housing costs.

Almost two-thirds would support Green proposal to double foreign buyer's tax

More than 6-in-10 (62%) say they would support the doubling of the foreign buyer's tax on real estate from 15% to 30%. Under a quarter (21%) would oppose such a measure, while (16%) say they do not know.

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"Housing costs are still at the top of mind for many voters, and most believe that the government has at least some power to affect housing rates in the province, which means if costs don't come down, the governing party is likely to get the blame," said Dr. Lorne Bozinoff, President of Forum Research.



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Respondents most likely to say they support a doubling of the foreign buyer's tax include those aged 34 and younger (68%), 35-44 (66%), females (65%), earning \$40,000-\$60,000 (74%) or \$60,000-\$80,000 (76%), with a college/university degree (66%), living in BC Interior North (72%), and supporting the NDP (71%) or Green Party (68%).

Respondents most likely to say they oppose a doubling of the foreign buyer's tax include those aged 45-54 (26%), 55-64 (23%), or 65+ (24%), earning \$80,000-\$100,000 (27%) or the most wealthy (27%), with some college/university (23%) or a post-graduate degree (25%), living in Vancouver/Lower Mainland (22%) or on Vancouver Island (21%), and Liberal supporters (34%).

"Housing costs are still at the top of mind for many voters, and most believe that the government has at least some power to affect housing rates in the province, which means if costs don't come down, the governing party is likely to get the blame," 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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Methodology

The Forum Poll™ was conducted by Forum Research with the results based on an interactive voice response telephone survey of 1067 randomly selected British Columbia Voters. The poll was conducted April 28-29, 2017.

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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BC Housing on Voter Intention

How much influence will the issue of housing costs in BC have on the way you will vote?

Age/Gender

%	Total	18-34	35-44	45-54	55-64	65+	Male	Female
Sample	1067	163	117	184	236	367	522	523
It will have a large amount of influence	41	49	48	38	38	27	38	44
It will have some influence	29	28	28	26	28	32	29	29
It will have no influence	24	17	15	28	28	32	28	19
Don't know	7	5	8	8	6	8	5	8

Income

%	Total	<\$20K	\$20-\$40K	\$40-\$60K	\$60-\$80K	\$80-\$100K	\$100-\$250K
Sample	1067	114	187	154	114	124	198
It will have a large amount of influence	41	54	42	47	45	39	37
It will have some influence	29	19	26	33	26	31	32
It will have no influence	24	14	21	14	25	27	28
Don't know	7	13	12	6	4	3	3

Region

%	Total	Vancouver Lower Mainland	Vancouver Island	Interior North
Sample	1067	731	253	83
It will have a large amount of influence	41	42	44	29
It will have some influence	29	28	28	30
It will have no influence	24	22	22	34
Don't know	7	8	5	6



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Education

%	Total	Secondary school or less	Some college or university	Completed college or university	Post graduate studies
Sample	1067	153	322	389	203
It will have a large amount of influence	41	39	44	40	39
It will have some influence	29	24	27	28	36
It will have no influence	24	21	24	26	21
Don't know	7	17	5	6	4

Current Provincial Vote Preference

%	Total	Liberal	New Democratic	Conservative	Green	Another Party
Sample	1067	317	357	82	234	20
It will have a large amount of influence	41	27	55	32	42	17
It will have some influence	29	25	29	26	35	47
It will have no influence	24	42	12	35	18	21
Don't know	7	6	3	6	6	15



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Increasing Foreign Buyer's Tax

Would you support or oppose increasing BC's foreign buyer's tax on real estate to 30%?

Age/Gender

%	Total	18-34	35-44	45-54	55-64	65+	Male	Female
Sample	1067	163	117	184	236	367	522	523
Support	62	68	66	61	60	55	61	65
Oppose	21	17	19	26	23	24	24	18
Don't know	16	15	15	14	17	21	15	17

Income

%	Total	<\$20K	\$20-\$40K	\$40-\$60K	\$60-\$80K	\$80-\$100K	\$100-\$250K
Sample	1067	114	187	154	114	124	198
Support	62	60	65	74	76	53	63
Oppose	21	18	18	16	13	27	27
Don't know	16	23	17	10	12	21	9

Region

%	Total	Vancouver Lower Mainland	Vancouver Island	Interior North
Sample	1067	731	253	83
Support	62	61	58	72
Oppose	21	22	21	17
Don't know	16	16	20	10

Education

%	Total	Secondary school or less	Some college or university	Completed college or university	Post graduate studies
Sample	1067	153	322	389	203
Support	62	62	61	66	57
Oppose	21	18	23	20	25
Don't know	16	21	16	14	18



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Current Provincial Vote Preference

%	Total	Liberal	New Democratic	Conservative	Green	Another Party
Sample	1067	317	357	82	234	20
Support	62	50	71	51	68	69
Oppose	21	34	15	32	15	19
Don't know	16	16	14	17	17	12



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Government impact on housing

In your opinion, how much power does the government have to impact the cost of housing in BC?

Age/Gender

%	Total	18-34	35-44	45-54	55-64	65+	Male	Female
Sample	1067	163	117	184	236	367	522	523
A lot of power	34	33	43	38	33	27	33	36
Some power	42	51	33	35	40	41	40	44
Little power	14	10	15	15	15	18	18	10
No power	3	2	2	4	3	3	4	2
Don't know	7	4	7	8	9	10	6	8

Income

%	Total	<\$20K	\$20-\$40K	\$40-\$60K	\$60-\$80K	\$80-\$100K	\$100-\$250K
Sample	1067	114	187	154	114	124	198
A lot of power	34	41	35	34	41	32	35
Some power	42	34	39	40	40	52	44
Little power	14	8	13	13	13	9	17
No power	3	1	5	4	1	1	3
Don't know	7	16	9	9	5	5	1

Region

%	Total	Vancouver Lower Mainland	Vancouver Island	Interior North
Sample	1067	731	253	83
A lot of power	34	33	34	39
Some power	42	44	40	28
Little power	14	12	18	22
No power	3	3	3	1
Don't know	7	7	5	10



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Education

%	Total	Secondary school or less	Some college or university	Completed college or university	Post graduate studies
Sample	1067	153	322	389	203
A lot of power	34	41	37	32	29
Some power	42	34	37	47	43
Little power	14	7	14	13	23
No power	3	2	3	3	2
Don't know	7	16	9	4	3

Current Provincial Vote Preference

%	Total	Liberal	New Democratic	Conservative	Green	Another Party
Sample	1067	317	357	82	234	20
A lot of power	34	21	45	36	33	37
Some power	42	45	41	32	50	24
Little power	14	24	7	20	11	17
No power	3	4	1	7	1	9
Don't know	7	6	6	6	5	13

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