

# NEWS RELEASE



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**FOR IMMEDIATE RELEASE**

## **Almost 9-in-10 think Housing Prices in BC High**

### **More than half think the government hasn't done enough**

Toronto, April 11<sup>th</sup> – In a random sampling of public opinion taken by The Forum Poll™ among 1040 British Columbia voters, almost 9-in-10 (88% TOP2) think the cost of housing in British Columbia is high. Only (2% BTM2) say the cost of housing is low, with (6%) saying it is neither high, nor low.

Respondents most likely to say that the cost of housing is too high include those aged 34 and younger (90%), 35-44 (89%), 45-54 (87%), 55-64 (89%), with a college/university degree (92%), supporting the NDP (93%) or Greens (94%).

Respondents most likely to say the cost of housing is neither high, nor low, include males (8%), the least wealthy (9%), those earning \$40,000-\$60,000 (7%) or \$60,000-\$80,000 (7%) and supporting the Liberals (12%) or Conservatives (9%).

### **More than 5-in-10 say the government hasn't done enough**

(51%) say that the government hasn't done enough to fight rising housing prices in BC. (27%) say the government has done some, but not enough, with (14%) responding that the government has done enough. (8%) say they don't know.

Respondents most likely to say the government hasn't done enough include those aged 35-44 (56%), females (53%), earning \$60,000-\$80,000 (56%), \$80,000-\$100,000 (59%), with a college/university degree (56%), living on Vancouver Island (58%), and supporting the NDP (65%).

Respondents most likely to say the government has done some to combat the problem, but not enough, include those aged 34 and younger (35%), the least wealthy (32%), and the most wealthy (33%), with some college/university (33%), living in BC Interior North (33%), and supporting the Liberals (35%).

Respondents most likely to say the government has done enough include males (18%), the most wealthy (18%), or those earning \$60,000-\$80,000 (16%) or \$80,000-\$100,000 (15%), and supporting the Liberals (27%).

"Housing may be the defining issue on May 9th. The Liberals should be concerned that more than half of voters respond that they haven't done enough to combat this issue, particularly given the overwhelming number of those that say the cost of housing is high," 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](mailto:lbozinoff@forumresearch.com) or at (416) 960-9603.

### **MEDIA INQUIRIES:**

Lorne Bozinoff, President  
[lbozinoff@forumresearch.com](mailto:lbozinoff@forumresearch.com)  
416.960.9603

"Housing may be the defining issue on May 9th. The Liberals should be concerned that more than half of voters respond that they haven't done enough to combat this issue, particularly given the overwhelming number of those that say the cost of housing is high," said Dr. Lorne Bozinoff, President of Forum Research.



**FORUM  
RESEARCH**

180 Bloor Street W., #1400  
Toronto, ON M5S 2V6  
T 416.960.9600  
F 416.960.9602  
[forumresearch.com](http://forumresearch.com)

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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 1040 randomly selected British Columbia Voters. The poll was conducted on April 5-8, 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](http://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](http://www.forumresearch.com/polls.asp)

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Lorne Bozinoff, President  
lbozinoff@forumresearch.com  
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**Costs**

Overall, what is your opinion on the cost of housing in BC?

**Age/Gender**

%	Total	18-34	35-44	45-54	55-64	65+	Male	Female
Sample	1040	148	135	172	239	346	546	470
NET: TOP2	88	90	89	87	89	86	87	89
NET: BTM2	2	3	2	1	1	1	1	3
Very high	74	75	76	75	72	69	71	76
Somewhat high	15	15	13	12	16	17	16	13
Neither high nor low	6	5	4	6	8	7	8	4
Somewhat low	1	2	0	1	0	1	1	2
Very low	1	1	2	0	1	0	1	1
Don't know	4	1	4	6	2	6	3	4

**Income**

%	Total	<\$20K	\$20-\$40K	\$40-\$60K	\$60-\$80K	\$80-\$100K	\$100-\$250K
Sample	1040	125	178	159	125	102	189
NET: TOP2	88	85	90	88	90	93	91
NET: BTM2	2	0	3	1	1	1	2
Very high	74	69	75	75	80	79	76
Somewhat high	15	16	15	14	11	15	15
Neither high nor low	6	9	4	7	7	3	5
Somewhat low	1	0	2	0	1	1	1
Very low	1	0	1	1	0	0	1
Don't know	4	5	2	4	2	2	3

**Region**

%	Total	Vancouver	Lower Mainland	Vancouver Island	Interior North
Sample	1040		719	246	75
NET: TOP2	88		90	92	76
NET: BTM2	2		2	1	4
Very high	74		76	78	55
Somewhat high	15		14	14	22
Neither high nor low	6		5	5	12
Somewhat low	1		1	0	3
Very low	1		1	1	2
Don't know	4		3	2	7



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 416.960.9603

**Education**

%	Total	Secondary school or less	Some college or university	Completed college or university	Post graduate studies
Sample	1040	172	319	349	200
NET: TOP2	88	87	85	92	88
NET: BTM2	2	2	3	1	2
Very high	74	75	67	77	77
Somewhat high	15	12	18	15	11
Neither high nor low	6	6	7	5	6
Somewhat low	1	0	1	1	2
Very low	1	2	2	0	0
Don't know	4	6	5	2	3

**Current Provincial Vote Preference**

%	Total	Liberal	Conservative	New Democratic	Green	Another Party
Sample	1040	282	124	364	174	21
NET: TOP2	88	83	83	93	94	80
NET: BTM2	2	1	5	2	1	0
Very high	74	62	63	85	78	67
Somewhat high	15	21	20	8	16	13
Neither high nor low	6	12	9	2	4	6
Somewhat low	1	1	1	1	1	0
Very low	1	0	4	1	0	0
Don't know	4	3	3	3	1	14



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## Government doing enough

*In your opinion, has the government done enough to fight rising housing prices in BC?*

### Age/Gender

%	Total	18-34	35-44	45-54	55-64	65+	Male	Female
Sample	1040	148	135	172	239	346	546	470
Done enough	14	8	10	16	19	18	18	9
Done some, but not enough	27	35	26	21	24	27	28	28
Not done enough	51	51	56	52	50	48	48	53
Don't know	8	6	8	11	7	8	6	9

### Income

%	Total	<\$20K	\$20-\$40K	\$40-\$60K	\$60-\$80K	\$80-\$100K	\$100-\$250K
Sample	1040	125	178	159	125	102	189
Done enough	14	12	8	9	16	15	18
Done some, but not enough	27	32	28	25	22	24	33
Not done enough	51	50	54	53	56	59	46
Don't know	8	6	9	13	7	2	4

### Region

%	Total	Vancouver Lower Mainland	Vancouver Island	Interior North
Sample	1040	719	246	75
Done enough	14	14	13	14
Done some, but not enough	27	27	25	33
Not done enough	51	52	58	41
Don't know	8	7	5	13

### Education

%	Total	Secondary school or less	Some college or university	Completed college or university	Post graduate studies
Sample	1040	172	319	349	200
Done enough	14	16	12	13	15
Done some, but not enough	27	26	33	22	28
Not done enough	51	51	47	56	50
Don't know	8	8	8	8	7



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### ***Current Provincial Vote Preference***

<b>%</b>	<b>Total</b>	<b>Liberal</b>	<b>Conservative</b>	<b>New Democratic</b>	<b>Green</b>	<b>Another Party</b>
<b>Sample</b>	<b>1040</b>	<b>282</b>	<b>124</b>	<b>364</b>	<b>174</b>	<b>21</b>
<b>Done enough</b>	14	27	14	7	7	13
<b>Done some, but not enough</b>	27	35	30	23	32	3
<b>Not done enough</b>	51	29	49	65	54	70
<b>Don't know</b>	8	9	7	5	7	14

For more information:

Lorne Bozinoff, Ph.D.

President

Forum Research Inc.

Tel: (416) 960-9603

Fax: (416) 960-9602

E-mail: [lbozinoff@forumresearch.com](mailto:lbozinoff@forumresearch.com)



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