

NEWS RELEASE



FOR IMMEDIATE RELEASE

Majority wants Canada to do more for refugees

Conservatives, Albertans opposed

TORONTO September 10th, 2015 - In a random sampling of public opinion taken by the Forum Poll™ among 1308 Canadian voters, the majority say Canada can do more for Syrian refugees than settling the 10,000 who have been promised refuge over the next two years (52%). More than one third disagree Canada should do more to help (38%) and one tenth don't have an opinion (10%). Approval of more help for refugees is common to mid income groups (\$40K to \$100K - 58%), in Atlantic Canada (60%), among Liberals (60%) and, especially, New Democrats (70%) and among the best educated (post grad - 67%). Opposition to taking in more than the 10,000 refugees promised is characteristic of males (42%), in Quebec (44%) and Alberta (50%), among Conservatives (67%) and among those with some college or university (44%).

On average, Canadians think about 28,000 refugees can be settled

On average, Canadians think about 28,000 refugees ideally can be settled in Canada. The largest single group, 3-in-10, opts for the 10,000 already promised (30%), while 4-in-10 think more than this is possible (41%). One twentieth think over 100,000 refugees should be settled in Canada. Average numbers are higher among younger voters and in BC.

Bombing, humanitarian aid and negotiations all mentioned as solutions to crisis

The leading suggestions for resolving the refugee crisis are to continue bombing ISIS targets (19%), followed by sending humanitarian aid to refugee camps and working towards a negotiated settlement to the conflict (16% each). Other suggestions are airlifting refugees out now (12%), increasing visa issuing staff (11%) and relaxing the rules regarding refugees (7%). Continuing to bomb ISIS targets is a strongly held Conservative position (41%), while Liberals are strongly in favour of airlifts (19%).

Conservatives seen to have best plan for resolving crisis

One quarter of voters say the Conservatives have the best plan for dealing with the refugee crisis (24%) while the NDP (19%) and the Liberals (18%) are not far behind. One sixth say none of the parties has a solution (16%) while one quarter doesn't share an opinion (23%). Conservatives are most convinced their party's approach is best (69%) compared to Liberals (48%) or New Democrats (43%), both of who are more likely to say either that no party has a solution or that they don't know.

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TORONTO

September 10th, 2015

HIGHLIGHTS:

- The majority say Canada can do more for Syrian refugees than settling the 10,000 who have been promised over the next two years (52%).
- On average, Canadians think about 28,000 refugees ideally can be settled in Canada.
- The leading suggestions for resolving the refugee crisis are to continue bombing ISIS targets (19%), followed by sending humanitarian aid to refugee camps and working towards a negotiated settlement to the conflict (16% each).
- One quarter of voters say the Conservatives have the best plan for dealing with the refugee crisis (24%) while the NDP (19%) and the Liberals (18%) are not far behind.

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"It's unfortunate that a critical humanitarian issue like the Syrian refugee crisis has become a partisan conflict, and that the polarizing effect of party allegiances is colouring the genuine warmth and generosity of Canadians to those in peril," 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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Methodology

The Forum Poll™ was conducted by Forum Research with the results based on an interactive voice response telephone survey of 1308 randomly selected Canadians 18 years of age or older. The poll was conducted from September 9th to September 10th, 2015.

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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Canada to do More for Syrian Refugees Agreement

'Canada has taken in about 2300 refugees from the Syrian civil war. The government has promised to take in a total of 10,000 in the next 2 years. Do you agree or disagree Canada can do more than this for Syrian refugees?'

[All Respondents]

Age / Gender

%	Total	18-34	35-44	45-54	55-64	65+	Male	Female
Sample	1308	200	193	198	324	393	707	601
Agree	52	54	52	50	52	51	51	53
Disagree	38	38	40	41	38	34	42	35
Don't know	10	8	8	9	9	15	7	12

Region

%	Total	Atl	Que	ON	Man/Sask	AB	BC	English	French
Sample	1308	164	359	304	131	173	174	959	349
Agree	52	60	50	53	51	43	56	53	51
Disagree	38	27	44	35	36	50	34	37	42
Don't know	10	13	6	12	13	7	10	11	7

Federal Vote Preference

%	Total	Conservative	Liberal	New Democratic	Green	Bloc Quebecois	Other Parties
Sample	1308	328	332	391	71	38	85
Agree	52	23	60	71	60	69	39
Disagree	38	67	31	20	29	28	51
Don't know	10	10	9	9	11	3	9

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Syrian Refugees Amount

'How many Syrian refugees should Canada take in?'

[All Respondents]

Age / Gender

%	Total	18-34	35-44	45-54	55-64	65+	Male	Female
Sample	1308	200	193	198	324	393	707	601
None	11	16	11	11	10	6	13	9
Just the 2300 who are already here	11	11	9	11	13	13	12	11
The 10,000 already promised	30	23	31	31	29	37	29	30
Up to 25,000	20	19	13	23	22	24	18	22
Up to 50,000	11	13	12	9	11	10	12	10
Up to 100,000	5	4	8	5	5	4	4	6
More than 100,000	5	8	6	4	4	2	7	4
Don't know	6	5	9	5	5	5	4	7
Mean	28428	31924	32901	26672	26027	22102	29862	27044

Region

%	Total	Atl	Que	ON	Man/Sask	AB	BC	English	French
Sample	1308	164	359	304	131	173	174	959	349
None	11	8	11	11	13	17	10	11	11
Just the 2300 who are already here	11	9	18	8	11	13	10	10	17
The 10,000 already promised	30	25	33	30	23	30	29	28	35
Up to 25,000	20	29	17	23	26	11	17	21	18
Up to 50,000	11	13	10	11	8	11	14	12	10
Up to 100,000	5	5	3	5	4	5	9	6	3
More than 100,000	5	6	2	6	7	4	8	6	1
Don't know	6	5	5	6	7	9	4	6	5
Mean	28428	32964	20511	30451	29927	24421	35756	31295	19638

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Sample	1308	328	332	391	71	38	85
None	11	17	8	6	9	5	30
Just the 2300 who are already here	11	14	12	7	21	13	9
The 10,000 already promised	30	51	23	21	14	25	31
Up to 25,000	20	9	31	25	18	14	10
Up to 50,000	11	2	12	19	17	22	2
Up to 100,000	5	0	6	7	12	3	11
More than 100,000	5	2	4	8	5	9	5
Don't know	6	5	4	7	4	9	2
Mean	28428	13342	30094	39318	35634	36701	26353

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Refugee Crisis Best Course of Action

‘What do you think is the best course of action the government could take to address the refugee crisis in Syria?’

[All Respondents]

Age / Gender

%	Total	18-34	35-44	45-54	55-64	65+	Male	Female
Sample	1308	200	193	198	324	393	707	601
Relax refugee rules	7	7	7	8	9	6	6	8
Hire more visa processing staff	11	11	11	10	13	12	9	13
Continue bombing ISIS targets in Syria and Iraq	19	16	15	20	27	21	24	14
Send humanitarian aid to refugee camps	16	17	19	18	10	14	16	16
Airlift refugees out now	12	14	13	10	11	14	11	14
Work towards a negotiated settlement to the conflict	16	15	16	19	14	16	18	14
Something else	9	9	9	8	13	6	10	8
Don't know	9	12	10	8	5	11	6	13

Region

%	Total	Atl	Que	ON	Man/Sask	AB	BC	English	French
Sample	1308	164	359	304	131	173	174	959	349
Relax refugee rules	7	13	8	5	10	8	7	7	7
Hire more visa processing staff	11	10	13	11	12	10	11	10	14
Continue bombing ISIS targets in Syria and Iraq	19	9	15	22	19	30	15	20	16
Send humanitarian aid to refugee camps	16	10	19	16	15	12	18	15	17
Airlift refugees out now	12	20	11	13	11	8	12	13	10
Work towards a negotiated settlement to the conflict	16	20	24	12	11	9	17	13	25
Something else	9	10	3	9	13	12	11	10	3
Don't know	9	8	7	12	9	10	9	10	7

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Federal Vote Preference

%	Total	Conservative	Liberal	New Democratic	Green	Bloc Quebecois	Other Parties
Sample	1308	328	332	391	71	38	85
Relax refugee rules	7	2	9	11	5	9	9
Hire more visa processing staff	11	8	12	14	7	18	8
Continue bombing ISIS targets in Syria and Iraq	19	41	11	9	17	5	30
Send humanitarian aid to refugee camps	16	12	17	16	22	33	10
Airlift refugees out now	12	4	19	15	9	16	12
Work towards a negotiated settlement to the conflict	16	16	15	17	21	16	10
Something else	9	9	7	8	12	3	15
Don't know	9	8	8	11	7	1	8

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Refugee Crisis: Party with best plan

'Which of the three leading parties has the best plan for relieving the Syrian refugee crisis?'

[All Respondents]

Age / Gender

%	Total	18-34	35-44	45-54	55-64	65+	Male	Female
Sample	1308	200	193	198	324	393	707	601
Conservatives	24	19	20	26	28	32	30	19
Liberals	19	15	21	19	18	21	18	19
New Democrats	18	23	19	12	18	15	19	17
None of these	16	15	14	20	16	15	16	16
Don't know	23	28	26	23	19	17	17	29

Region

%	Total	Atl	Que	ON	Man/Sask	AB	BC	English	French
Sample	1308	164	359	304	131	173	174	959	349
Conservatives	24	10	23	25	27	35	23	24	23
Liberals	19	29	15	21	9	19	15	20	14
New Democrats	18	19	23	14	21	14	22	16	24
None of these	16	13	18	12	19	18	20	15	17
Don't know	23	29	21	28	24	14	19	24	21

Federal Vote Preference

%	Total	Conservative	Liberal	New Democratic	Green	Bloc Quebecois	Other Parties
Sample	1308	328	332	391	71	38	85
Conservatives	24	69	7	6	9	11	45
Liberals	19	3	48	9	15	27	9
New Democrats	18	2	8	43	24	27	4
None of these	16	11	15	14	28	23	27
Don't know	23	16	22	28	24	12	15

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