

NEWS RELEASE



FORUM RESEARCH INC.

FOR IMMEDIATE RELEASE

Support for assisted suicide increases across four years

Opposition down sharply

TORONTO August 25th, 2015 - In a random sampling of public opinion taken by the Forum Poll™ among 1440 Canadian voters, more than three quarters, a new high in our four years of tracking, now support physician-assisted suicide for the terminally ill (77%), up from just less than three quarters in June last year (74%) and well up from October 2013 (65%), or indeed, the first time we asked, in December 2011 (67%). Opposition has declined from more than 1-in-6 last year (16%), to about a tenth now (12%). Then as now, about one tenth don't venture an opinion (11%).

Approval is common to the youngest (81%) and boomers (55 to 64 - 81%) but not to the oldest (65+ - 69%), among the wealthy (\$80K to \$100K - 80%), in Quebec (83%), but not in Alberta so much (69%), among New Democrats (84%), but not so much among Conservatives (67%) and among Francophones (85%).

"There has been a great deal of focus on this issue since the Supreme Court struck down Canada's laws against assisted dying in Carter vs Canada. The government has been reluctant to fill the vacuum, but Canadians have spoken out loudly and clearly. They want to control the means and the timing of their own passing," 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:

- More than three quarters, a new high in our four years of tracking, now support physician-assisted suicide for the terminally ill (77%).
- Approval is common to the youngest (81%) and boomers (55 to 64 - 81%) but not to the oldest (65+ - 69%).
- "There has been a great deal of focus on this issue since the Supreme Court struck down Canada's laws against assisted dying in Carter vs Canada. The government has been reluctant to fill the vacuum, but Canadians have spoken out loudly and clearly. They want to control the means and the timing of their own passing," 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 1440 randomly selected Canadians 18 years of age or older. The poll was conducted from August 23rd to 24th, 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

Assisted Suicide Approval - Trending

%	In Favor	Opposed	Don't Know
August 23-24 th , 2015 (n=1440)	77	12	11
June 13-14 th , 2014 (n=1433)	74	16	10
Oct. 23 rd , 2013 (n=1859)	65	22	13
June 27 th , 2012 (n=1165)	68	20	12
Dec. 13 th , 2011 (n=1160)	67	21	12

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Assisted Suicide Approval

'Are you in favour or opposed to making physician-assisted suicide legal in Canada for the terminally ill?'

[All Respondents]

Age / Gender

%	Total	18-34	35-44	45-54	55-64	65+	Male	Female
Sample	1440	259	188	221	340	432	780	660
In favour	77	81	78	72	81	69	78	76
Opposed	12	9	9	16	10	18	13	12
Don't know	11	10	12	12	9	13	9	13

Region

%	Total	Atl	Que	ON	Man/Sask	AB	BC	English	French
Sample	1440	175	304	361	173	181	246	1154	286
In favour	77	77	83	75	71	69	77	74	85
Opposed	12	9	8	13	21	20	10	13	8
Don't know	11	14	9	12	8	10	14	12	8

Federal Vote Preference

%	Total	Conservative	Liberal	New Democratic	Green	Bloc Quebecois	Other Parties
Sample	1440	309	379	494	80	46	74
In favour	77	67	75	84	88	88	60
Opposed	12	22	9	9	8	6	23
Don't know	11	12	16	7	4	7	17

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