

NEWS RELEASE



MEDIA INQUIRIES:

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FOR IMMEDIATE RELEASE

Most aware of F-35 controversy

Most don't think we need stealth jets

TORONTO September 30th, 2015 -In a random sampling of public opinion taken by the Forum Poll™ among 1499 Canadian voters, three quarters are aware of the controversy surrounding the proposed purchase of the advanced F-35 stealth fighter jet (74%), and these are the oldest (86%), males (84%), the wealthiest (\$100K to \$250K - 81%), in Alberta (85%), Conservatives (81%) and the best educated (85%).

Half disagree we need stealth jets

Close to one half of voters disagree Canada needs advanced stealth fighter jets to meet its national defense goals (47%), while just fewer than 4-in-10 think they are necessary (38%). One seventh don't have an opinion (14%). Believing these planes are necessary is common to the oldest (43%), males (46%), mid income groups (\$40K to \$60K - 44%), in the prairies (48%) and Alberta (57%) but not Quebec (30%), among Conservatives (74%), but much less so among Liberals (27%) or New Democrats (19%), among Anglophones (42%) more than Francophones (26%) and among the least educated (secondary school or less - 45%).

Close to half approve Trudeau promise to kill F-35

Close to one half of voters approve of Justin Trudeau's plan to cancel the purchase of the F-35 (46%), and this view is especially common to the youngest (53%), the least wealthy (less than \$20K - 50%) and mid income groups (\$60K to \$80K - 51%), in Quebec (52%) and BC (51%) but not in Alberta (30%), among Liberals, unsurprisingly (70%), among fewer New Democrats (61%) and almost no Conservatives (9%), but among the best educated (53%) and more so among those with no children (48%) than mothers of children under 18 (38%). Four-in-ten disapprove of Trudeau's promise (40%), and one seventh are unsure (14%). Those who oppose the cancellation of the F-35 are the oldest, males, Conservatives in the prairies and Alberta and among the least educated.

TORONTO

September 30th, 2015

HIGHLIGHTS:

- Three quarters are aware of the controversy surrounding the proposed purchase of the advanced F-35 stealth fighter jet (74%).
- Close to one half of voters disagree Canada needs advanced stealth fighter jets to meet its national defence goals (47%), while just fewer than 4-in-10 think they are necessary (38%).
- Close to one half of voters approve of Justin Trudeau's plan to cancel the purchase of the F-35 (46%).

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Jet promise moves New Democrat votes both ways

In total, one fifth of voters say they are more likely to vote Liberal because of this promise (21%), while one third say they are less likely to vote for the Liberals (33%). The plurality (43%) say this promise will have no effect on their vote, and these are most likely to be NDP voters (56%). One fifth of New Democrat voters say they are more likely to vote Liberal because of the promise to cancel the F-35 (22%), while an identical proportion are more likely to vote Conservative as a result (22%). Meanwhile, one fifth of Liberal voters are less likely to vote for their party because of this promise (18%). Thus, it appears this policy announcement may prove inconclusive in terms of votes.

"It's a very close result, but it appears Canadians don't see the need for these expensive, top-of-the-line jets, and Trudeau's unequivocal promise to scrap the program has struck a chord in the taxpayer. It is an ideological decision, this approval, though, and as few as one tenth of Conservative voters don't agree we need the hardware, compared to as many as two thirds of New Democrats and more than one half of Liberals," 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:

- One fifth of voters say they are more likely to vote Liberal because of this promise (21%), while one third say they are less likely to vote for the Liberals (33%).
- "It's a very close result, but it appears Canadians don't see the need for these expensive, top-of-the-line jets, and Trudeau's unequivocal promise to scrap the program has struck a chord in the taxpayer. It is an ideological decision, this approval, though, and as few as one tenth of Conservative voters don't agree we need the hardware, compared to as many as two thirds of New Democrats and more than one half of Liberals," 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 1499 randomly selected Canadians 18 years of age or older. The poll was conducted from September 28th to September 29th, 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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F-35: Awareness

'Are you aware or not aware of the controversy over Canada's planned purchase of the F-35 stealth fighter jet?'

[All Respondents]

Age / Gender

%	Total	18-34	35-44	45-54	55-64	65+	Male	Female
Sample	1499	266	204	305	354	370	803	696
Aware	74	69	68	74	77	86	84	64
Not aware	26	31	32	26	23	14	16	36

Region

%	Total	Atl	Que	ON	Man/Sask	AB	BC	English	French
Sample	1499	201	336	340	228	163	231	1179	320
Aware	74	70	75	70	75	85	77	74	74
Not aware	26	30	25	30	25	15	23	26	26

Federal Vote Preference

%	Total	Cons	Lib	NDP	Green	Bloc	Other Parties
Sample	1499	483	375	377	103	60	36
Aware	74	81	72	75	64	68	70
Not aware	26	19	28	25	36	32	30

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F-35: National Defense Goals

'Do you agree or disagree Canada needs to purchase stealth fighter jets in order to meet our national defense goals?'

[All Respondents]

Age / Gender

%	Total	18-34	35-44	45-54	55-64	65+	Male	Female
Sample	1499	266	204	305	354	370	803	696
Agree	38	32	42	38	41	43	46	32
Disagree	47	56	40	49	43	43	47	48
Don't know	14	12	18	13	16	14	8	20

Region

%	Total	Atl	Que	ON	Man/Sask	AB	BC	English	French
Sample	1499	201	336	340	228	163	231	1179	320
Agree	38	35	30	41	48	57	31	42	26
Disagree	47	42	58	44	38	32	55	43	60
Don't know	14	23	12	15	15	11	14	14	14

Federal Vote Preference

%	Total	Cons	Lib	NDP	Green	Bloc	Other Parties
Sample	1499	483	375	377	103	60	36
Agree	38	74	27	19	22	25	31
Disagree	47	11	59	68	61	62	62
Don't know	14	15	14	13	16	13	7

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F-35: Trudeau Promise

'Liberal leader Justin Trudeau has promised to cancel the purchase of the F-35 stealth fighter jet if the Liberals are elected. Do you approve or disapprove of this promise?'

[All Respondents]

Age / Gender

%	Total	18-34	35-44	45-54	55-64	65+	Male	Female
Sample	1499	266	204	305	354	370	803	696
Approve	46	53	38	48	44	41	47	44
Disapprove	40	36	42	38	40	48	45	36
Don't know	14	11	20	15	16	11	8	20

Region

%	Total	Atl	Que	ON	Man/Sask	AB	BC	English	French
Sample	1499	201	336	340	228	163	231	1179	320
Approve	46	44	52	46	37	30	51	44	52
Disapprove	40	33	34	42	47	61	34	43	31
Don't know	14	23	14	13	16	9	15	13	16

Federal Vote Preference

%	Total	Cons	Lib	NDP	Green	Bloc	Other Parties
Sample	1499	483	375	377	103	60	36
Approve	46	9	70	61	52	65	40
Disapprove	40	80	18	23	34	23	39
Don't know	14	11	11	16	14	13	21

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F-35: Voting Liberal

'Are you more or less likely to vote Liberal because of this promise?'

[All Respondents]

Age / Gender

%	Total	18-34	35-44	45-54	55-64	65+	Male	Female
Sample	1499	266	204	305	354	370	803	696
More likely	21	23	20	19	22	20	23	19
Less likely	33	27	31	36	35	40	36	31
Neither more nor less likely	43	48	48	41	40	37	39	47
Don't know	3	2	1	4	3	3	3	3

Region

%	Total	Atl	Que	ON	Man/Sask	AB	BC	English	French
Sample	1499	201	336	340	228	163	231	1179	320
More likely	21	23	19	23	17	18	19	21	20
Less likely	33	24	33	31	41	47	32	33	33
Neither more nor less likely	43	51	46	43	39	33	47	43	44
Don't know	3	2	3	3	3	2	2	3	3

Federal Vote Preference

%	Total	Cons	Lib	NDP	Green	Bloc	Other Parties
Sample	1499	483	375	377	103	60	36
More likely	21	8	39	22	27	9	18
Less likely	33	58	18	22	31	38	29
Neither more nor less likely	43	32	42	56	36	53	44
Don't know	3	2	1	0	6	1	8

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