

FOR IMMEDIATE RELEASE

NDP lead slips slightly

Parties approach parity

TORONTO June 30th, 2015 - In a random sampling of public opinion taken by the Forum Poll[™] among 1221 Canadian voters, just fewer than one third will vote NDP if the federal election were held today (32%) and this represents a drop from their high of more than a third noted last week (June 23 - 36%). At the same time, the Liberals attract the votes of just fewer than 3-in-10 (29%) and the Conservatives have the votes of just fewer (27%), and this hasn't changed (June 23 - 28% each). The Greens (4%) and the Bloc Quebecois (6%) each attract about one twentieth of the vote, and very few will vote other parties (1%).

In Ontario, the Liberals are tied (35%) with the Conservatives (32%) and ahead of the NDP (27%). In Quebec, the NDP have the lead with a third of the vote (33%) while the Liberals (22%) and Bloc (23%) strive for second. In BC, the NDP are firmly in first (43%), in Alberta, the Conservatives (41%) are increasingly challenged by the NDP (37%), and in Atlantic Canada, the Liberals (39%) are being challenged by the NDP as well (34%). Conservatives (32%) and Liberals (35%) are tied in the Prairies, and the NDP is slightly behind (29%). These findings represent a setback for the NDP in Ontario, and an increase in Alberta and the Atlantic provinces.

One quarter of those who voted Liberal in 2011 will vote NDP this time (27%), which is a reversal of the usual situation, where about one quarter of past NDP voters would vote Liberal this time. One fifth of past NDP voters will vote Liberal this time around (19%). Fewer past Conservatives will vote Liberal (14%) or NDP (15%).

Deadlock seen in the House

If these results are projected up to a 338 seat House of Commons, the parties would be close to deadlock, with the NDP taking a minority of 119 (31 less than needed for a majority), the Liberals capturing 106 and the Conservatives occupying 104. The Green Party would keep their leader's seat, and the Bloquistes would seat 8 members.

NDP has second choice advantage

While one half of NDP voters pick the Liberals as their second choice (49%), close to two thirds of Liberal voters select the New Democrats as their second choice party (60%). Just less than a quarter of Conservative voters would pick either the Liberals or the NDP second (22% each). The Green Party is the second choice of one fifth of New Democrats (21%), but this is not the case with other partisans.

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TORONTO June 30th, 2015 HIGHLIGHTS:

- Just fewer than one third will vote NDP if the federal election were held today (32%) and this represents a drop from their high of more than a third noted last week (June 23 - 36%).
- In Ontario, the Liberals are tied (35%) with the Conservatives (32%) and ahead of the NDP (27%).
- One quarter of those who voted Liberal in 2011 will vote NDP this time (27%).
- If these results are projected up to a 338 seat House of Commons, the parties would be close to deadlock, with the NDP taking a minority of 119.
- While one half of NDP voters pick the Liberals as their second choice (49%), close to two thirds of Liberal voters select the New Democrats as their second choice party (60%).



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Mulcair's favourables up, others steady

More than on half of the electorate approve of Tom Mulcair (53%), up from one half last week (June 23 - 50%), and his net favourable rating (approve minus disapprove) has increased from a very positive +25 to an even better +32. Justin Trudeau's approval is steady at close to 4-in-10 (38% this week and last) and his net has fallen slightly from -3 to -6. Stephen Harper has the steady approval of 3-in-10 (31% this week, 30% last week) and his net score is an abysmal -30.

Conservatives still expected to win

Voters are still slightly more likely to expect the Conservatives to win the federal election (30%) than they are the NDP (26%) or the Liberals (27%), despite their stated preference for the NDP. Conservatives are far more certain of their party's victory (81%), than are Liberals (66%) or New Democrats (58%) of theirs.

Mulcair seen as best PM

Close to 3-in-10 voters see Tom Mulcair as the best choice for Prime Minister (29%), compared to about one quarter who think this of Stephen Harper (25%) and a fifth who pick Justin Trudeau (21%). Few pick Elizabeth May (7%) or Gilles Duceppe (3%), and some say none is up to the task (10%). Mulcair dominates this measure in Quebec (41%) and leads strongly in BC (36%). Harper is slightly preferred in Ontario (30%) and more strongly in Alberta (39%) and Justin Trudeau leads only in Atlantic Canada (32%), although not by much. As many as one fifth of Liberal voters think Tom Mulcair would make the best Prime Minister (18%).

"It appears the parties have begun to converge in the polling, and they're seeking parity among the electorate. The NDP lead is not quite so clear now, the Liberals aren't really trailing so much and the Conservatives are still holding on to their core support. The Liberals appear to be thriving in Ontario, while the NDP centre of gravity is shifting westward, to Alberta and BC, especially, where they're now dominant. We have to look also at the seat projections, which hold the promise of something close to a hung parliament. This is going to be a very interesting election," said Forum Research President, Dr. Lorne Bozinoff.

Lorne Bozinoff, Ph.D. is the president and founder of Forum Research. He can be reached at <u>lbozinoff@forumresearch.com</u> or at (416) 960-9603.

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TORONTO June 30th, 2015 HIGHLIGHTS:

- More than on half of the electorate approve of Tom Mulcair (53%).
- Voters are still slightly more likely to expect the Conservatives to win the federal election (30%) than they are the NDP (26%) or the Liberals (27%).
- "It appears the parties have begun to converge in the polling, and they're seeking parity among the electorate. The NDP lead is not quite so clear now, the Liberals aren't really trailing so much and the Conservatives are still holding on to their core support. The Liberals appear to be thriving in Ontario, while the NDP centre of gravity is shifting inexorable westward, to Alberta and BC, especially, where they're now dominant. We have to look also at the seat projections, which hold the promise of something close to a hung parliament. This is going to be a very interesting election," said Forum Research President, Dr. Lorne Bozinoff. 180 Bloor Street W., #1400

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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 1221 randomly selected Canadians 18 years of age or older. The poll was conducted on June 28-29th, 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 <u>www.forumresearch.com/samplestim.asp</u>

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 <u>www.forumresearch.com/polls.asp</u>

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TORONTO June 30th, 2015

Federal Party Preference Trending

[Decided/Leaning]

%	Sample	Cons	Lib	NDP	Green	Bloc	Other
June 29 th , 2015	1221	27	29	32	4	6	1
June 23 rd , 2015	1268	28	28	36	2	5	1
June 16 th , 2015	1281	26	28	34	5	7	1
June 5 th , 2015	1156	31	32	28	5	3	1
May 14 th , 2015	1286	31	31	30	4	3	1
April 23 rd , 2015	977	35	31	23	6	5	1
April 16 th , 2015	1365	33	35	22	6	3	1
March 31 st , 2015	1239	31	34	23	5	5	1
March 14 th , 2015	1370	32	36	21	6	4	1
February 11 th , 2015	1018	32	39	17	5	4	1
January 27-28 th , 2015	1309	35	34	20	6	5	1
January 5-6 th , 2015	1650	33	37	20	5	4	1
Dec. 10-11 th , 2014	1560	33	41	17	5	3	1
Nov. 19-20 th , 2014	1442	33	36	18	8	4	1
Oct. 5-8 th , 2014	1504	34	38	19	4	4	1
Sept. 5 th , 2014	1267	34	40	18	3	4	1
August 18-19 th , 2014	1798	32	41	17	5	5	1
July 18 th , 2014	1624	28	44	18	3	5	1
June 16-17 th , 2014	1683	31	39	19	5	4	1
May 22 nd , 2014	1694	30	36	23	5	6	1
Apr 29 th , 2014	1572	30	39	20	4	6	1
Mar 25-28 th , 2014	1764	29	39	22	3	5	1
Feb. 18-19 th , 2014	1824	29	39	21	4	6	1
Jan. 23-24 th , 2014	1228	28	38	24	4	5	1
Jan. 17 th , 2014	1779	28	37	25	4	5	1
Dec. 12-13 th , 2013	1634	32	38	21	3	5	1
Nov. 12-13 th , 2013	1834	29	38	22	4	6	1
Oct. 23 rd , 2013	1007	28	40	20	5	6	1
Oct. 21-22 nd , 2013	1859	30	39	19	5	7	1
Sept 16-17 th , 2013	1527	31	36	21	4	7	1
August 24 th , 2013	1145	29	38	22	4	6	1
July 23 rd , 2013	1501	31	35	22	4	7	1
June 19 th . 2013	1420	30	38	20	4	6	0
May 21 st – 22 nd , 2013	1709	27	44	20	3	4	1
April 15 th , 2013	1764	30	43	19	2	5	1
April 2 nd , 2013	1269	29	33	25	6	5	1
March 6 th -7 th , 2013	1663	31	30	27	5	6	1
Feb 6 th , 2013	1051	32	30	26	4	6	1
Jan 16 th -17 th , 2013	1555	36	25	28	4	7	1

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TORONTO June 30th, 2015

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Seat Distribution Projection Trending

Seat Distribution Projection Trending												
%	Cons	Lib	NDP	Green	Bloc	Other						
June 29 th , 2015	104	106	119	1	8	0						
June 23 rd , 2015	116	65	149	1	3	0						
June 16 th , 2015	112	86	120	1	18	1						
June 5 th , 2015	151	101	83	1	1	1						
May 14 th , 2015	131	95	111	1	0	0						
April 23 rd , 2015	146	101	77	1	12	1						
April 16 th , 2015	142	137	58	1	0	0						
March 31 st , 2015	129	125	65	1	17	1						
March 14 th , 2015	130	138	65	1	4	0						
February 10 th , 2015	112	194	30	1	1	0						
January 27-28 th , 2015	145	125	61	1	5	1						
January 5-6 th , 2015	137	126	70	1	0	1						
Switc	h from 308	to 338 sea	t distributi	on								
Dec. 10-11 th , 2014	109	164	34	1	0	0						
Nov. 19-20 th , 2014	125	124	52	1	6	0						
Oct. 5-8 th , 2014	132	130	44	1	1	0						
Sept. 5 th , 2014	113	162	30	1	2	0						
August 18-19 th , 2014	110	142	51	1	4	0						
July 18 th , 2014	84	192	30	1	1	0						
June 16-17 th , 2014	109	142	53	1	3	0						
May 22 nd , 2014	111	110	75	1	11	0						
Apr 29 th , 2014	100	158	39	1	10	0						
Mar 25-28 th , 2014	99	159	40	1	9	0						
Feb. 18-19 th , 2014	100	134	51	1	22	0						
Jan. 23-24 th , 2014	104	132	65	1	6	0						
Jan. 17 th , 2013	111	130	61	1	5	0						
Dec. 12-13 th , 2013	110	147	48	1	2	0						
Nov. 12-13 th , 2013	108	134	53	1	12	0						
Oct. 23 rd , 2013	104	146	47	1	10	0						
Oct. 21-22 nd , 2013	106	147	33	1	21	0						
Sept 16-17 th , 2013	121	102	45	1	39	0						
August 24 th , 2013	107	127	63	1	10	0						
July 23 rd , 2013	129	120	44	1	14	0						
June 19 th . 2013	113	150	39	1	5	0						
May 21 st , 2013	77	192	37	1	1	0						
April 15 th , 2013	99	170	35	1	3	0						
April 2 nd , 2013	119	117	65	1	6	0						
March 6 th -7 th , 2013	125	88	76	1	18	0						
Feb 6 ^{th,} 2013	129	86	81	1	11	0						
Jan 16 th -17 th , 2013	144	68	73	1	22	0						
Dec 18 th , 2012	129	77	77	1	24	0						
Nov 19 th , 2012	138	83	76	1	10	0						

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TORONTO June 30th, 2015

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Federal Vote Preference

'If a federal election were held today, which party are you most likely to vote for?' + 'Even though you may not have made up your mind, which party are you leaning towards at this time?'

[Decided/Leaning]

Age / Gender

Total	18-34	35-44	45-54	55-64	65+	Male	Female
1177	230	171	195	273	308	658	519
27	24	24	32	24	31	26	28
29	20	37	31	31	27	30	28
32	42	27	27	34	31	34	31
4	7	5	4	3	3	3	5
6	6	6	6	7	6	5	7
1	1	1	1	1	1	1	1
	1177 27 29 32 4 6	11772302724292032424766	1177 230 171 27 24 24 29 20 37 32 42 27 4 7 5 6 6 6	1177 230 171 195 27 24 24 32 29 20 37 31 32 42 27 27 4 7 5 4 6 6 6 6	11772301711952732724243224292037313132422727344754366667	1177 230 171 195 273 308 27 24 24 32 24 31 29 20 37 31 31 27 32 42 27 27 34 31 4 7 5 4 3 3 6 6 6 6 7 6	1177 230 171 195 273 308 658 27 24 24 32 24 31 26 29 20 37 31 31 27 30 32 42 27 27 34 31 34 4 7 5 4 3 3 3 6 6 6 6 7 6 5

Region

%	Total	Atl	Que	ON	Man/Sask	AB	BC	English	French
Sample	1177	101	300	338	106	160	172	892	285
Conservative	27	21	18	32	32	41	26	30	19
Liberal	29	39	22	35	35	20	23	32	20
New Democratic	32	34	33	27	29	37	43	32	33
Green	4	6	3	5	4	2	7	5	3
Bloc Quebecois	6	0	23	0	0	0	0	0	24
Other	1	1	1	1	0	1	1	1	1

Past Federal Vote

%	Total	Conservative	Liberal	NDP	Green	Bloc	Other Parties
Sample	1177	358	260	237	62	57	43
Conservative	27	69	6	5	8	5	25
Liberal	29	14	65	19	20	3	24
New Democratic	32	15	27	66	35	21	39
Green	4	1	2	2	35	4	3
Bloc Quebecois	6	1	0	7	2	66	5
Other	1	1	0	1	1	0	4

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TORONTO June 30th, 2015

Second Choice

'Which party would be your second choice?'

[Has First Choice]

Age / Gender

%	Total	18-34	35-44	45-54	55-64	65+	Male	Female
Sample	1177	230	171	195	273	308	658	519
Conservative	8	5	9	8	7	10	7	8
Liberal	24	26	21	22	25	26	26	23
New Democratic	27	21	29	29	33	28	28	26
Green	13	18	12	11	10	9	12	13
Bloc Quebecois	4	6	6	3	2	2	3	4
Other Parties	8	8	9	10	4	6	9	6
Undecided	17	16	13	16	20	20	14	19

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Region

%	Total	Atl	Que	ON	Man/Sask	AB	BC	English	French
Sample	1177	101	300	338	106	160	172	892	285
Conservative	8	9	8	8	10	6	4	8	7
Liberal	24	27	18	27	23	25	26	26	20
New Democratic	27	33	29	29	25	13	26	27	29
Green	13	13	9	11	21	14	20	14	9
Bloc Quebecois	4	0	16	0	0	0	0	0	15
Other Parties	8	6	9	6	5	15	6	7	10
Undecided	17	13	10	19	16	27	18	19	10

Federal Vote Preference

%	Total	Conservative	Liberal	NDP	Green	Bloc	Other Parties
Sample	1177	315	317	374	75	65	31
Conservative	8	0	14	8	8	8	7
Liberal	24	22	0	49	25	19	15
New Democratic	27	22	60	0	25	49	8
Green	13	9	11	21	0	11	15
Bloc Quebecois	4	3	2	8	7	0	0
Other Parties	8	12	2	4	17	5	45
Undecided	17	32	11	11	19	9	9

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TORONTO June 30th, 2015



Stephen Harper Approval

'Do you approve or disapprove of the job Stephen Harper is doing as Prime Minister?'

[All Respondents]

Age / Gender

%	Total	18-34	35-44	45-54	55-64	65+	Male	Female
Sample	1221	241	178	204	283	315	685	536
Approve	31	29	32	34	26	35	32	31
Disapprove	61	64	64	55	64	56	63	59
Don't know	8	7	4	11	10	10	6	10

Region

%	Total	Atl	Que	ON	Man/Sask	AB	BC	English	French
Sample	1221	106	301	352	114	165	183	935	286
Approve	31	20	27	34	43	42	24	32	27
Disapprove	61	73	64	59	47	53	66	60	64
Don't know	8	7	10	7	9	5	11	8	10

Federal Vote Preference

%	Total	Conservative	Liberal	NDP	Green	Bloc	Other Parties
Sample	1221	315	317	374	75	65	31
Approve	31	84	14	9	19	12	11
Disapprove	61	12	80	82	64	83	73
Don't know	8	3	5	9	17	4	16

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TORONTO June 30th, 2015

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Tom Mulcair Approval

'Do you approve or disapprove of the job Tom Mulcair is doing as Leader of the Opposition?'

[All Respondents]

Age / Gender

%	Total	18-34	35-44	45-54	55-64	65+	Male	Female
Sample	1221	241	178	204	283	315	685	536
Approve	53	45	55	52	58	59	58	48
Disapprove	20	21	19	21	23	18	23	18
Don't know	27	35	26	27	19	23	19	34

Region

%	Total	Atl	Que	ON	Man/Sask	AB	BC	English	French
Sample	1221	106	301	352	114	165	183	935	286
Approve	53	59	67	49	47	36	50	48	67
Disapprove	20	16	14	21	25	36	16	22	15
Don't know	27	24	19	30	28	28	34	30	18

Federal Vote Preference

%	Total	Conservative	Liberal	NDP	Green	Bloc	Other Parties
Sample	1221	315	317	374	75	65	31
Approve	53	32	56	78	35	58	29
Disapprove	20	39	18	7	17	19	34
Don't know	27	29	27	15	48	23	37

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TORONTO June 30th, 2015

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Justin Trudeau Approval

'Do you approve or disapprove of the job Justin Trudeau is doing as leader of the Liberal Party?'

[All Respondents]

Age / Gender

%	Total	18-34	35-44	45-54	55-64	65+	Male	Female
Sample	1221	241	178	204	283	315	685	536
Approve	38	33	40	40	45	33	40	35
Disapprove	43	45	42	43	43	43	45	41
Don't know	19	22	18	17	11	24	14	24

Region

%	Total	Atl	Que	ON	Man/Sask	AB	BC	English	French
Sample	1221	106	301	352	114	165	183	935	286
Approve	38	53	35	39	38	32	35	38	36
Disapprove	43	33	44	43	42	53	40	43	45
Don't know	19	14	21	18	20	16	25	19	20

Federal Vote Preference

%	Total	Conservative	Liberal	NDP	Green	Bloc	Other Parties
Sample	1221	315	317	374	75	65	31
Approve	38	12	80	31	31	25	17
Disapprove	43	75	10	48	31	49	67
Don't know	19	13	9	21	38	26	16

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TORONTO June 30th, 2015

Expected Federal Election Party Winner

'Which party do you expect to win the next federal election?'

[All Respondents]

Age / Gender

%	Total	18-34	35-44	45-54	55-64	65+	Male	Female
Sample	1221	241	178	204	283	315	685	536
Conservative	30	29	32	33	25	29	32	27
Liberal	27	23	29	32	28	23	26	28
New Democratic	26	24	26	20	32	30	28	24
Green	3	6	1	1	2	1	2	3
Bloc Quebecois	3	4	1	3	3	2	2	3
Another Party	1	1	0	0	1	1	1	0
Don't know	12	14	11	10	10	14	9	15

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Region

%	Total	Atl	Que	ON	Man/Sask	AB	BC	English	French
Sample	1221	106	301	352	114	165	183	935	286
Conservative	30	20	27	33	37	32	26	30	28
Liberal	27	44	26	31	16	18	18	27	25
New Democratic	26	21	30	19	26	32	35	25	30
Green	3	3	3	1	3	3	4	2	4
Bloc Quebecois	3	0	5	1	5	2	3	2	4
Another Party	1	2	1	0	0	0	1	1	1
Don't know	12	11	8	14	13	12	13	13	8

Federal Vote Preference

%	Total	Conservative	Liberal	NDP	Green	Bloc	Other Parties
Sample	1221	315	317	374	75	65	31
Conservative	30	81	10	11	16	19	31
Liberal	27	7	66	13	32	14	2
New Democratic	26	4	13	58	17	43	25
Green	3	0	1	2	22	0	0
Bloc Quebecois	3	3	0	2	0	15	6
Another Party	1	0	0	0	1	0	15
Don't know	12	5	9	14	13	9	21

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Best Prime Minister

'Regardless of which party you plan to vote for, who do you think would make the best Prime Minister?'

[All Respondents]

Age / Gender

%	Total	18-34	35-44	45-54	55-64	65+	Male	Female
Sample	1221	241	178	204	283	315	685	536
Stephen Harper	25	26	22	30	20	28	27	24
Justin Trudeau	21	15	26	22	27	21	23	20
Tom Mulcair	29	28	28	27	35	33	33	26
Elizabeth May	7	12	7	4	4	4	4	9
Gilles Duceppe	3	4	2	2	3	2	3	3
None of these	10	12	14	9	8	7	9	11
Don't know	4	4	2	6	3	6	2	6

Region

%	Total	Atl	Que	ON	Man/Sask	AB	BC	English	French
Sample	1221	106	301	352	114	165	183	935	286
Stephen Harper	25	15	16	30	34	39	22	28	17
Justin Trudeau	21	32	16	26	19	20	13	23	16
Tom Mulcair	29	27	41	24	23	24	36	26	40
Elizabeth May	7	7	5	7	6	2	14	7	4
Gilles Duceppe	3	2	9	0	2	1	1	1	9
None of these	10	13	11	10	11	9	7	10	12
Don't know	4	5	2	3	5	5	8	4	3

Federal Vote Preference

%	Total	Conservative	Liberal	NDP	Green	Bloc	Other Parties
Sample	1221	315	317	374	75	65	31
Stephen Harper	25	80	7	4	13	6	2
Justin Trudeau	21	4	60	9	11	9	17
Tom Mulcair	29	5	18	66	17	40	20
Elizabeth May	7	2	5	7	28	6	4
Gilles Duceppe	3	1	1	3	3	21	3
None of these	10	5	5	7	24	17	49
Don't know	4	2	5	4	4	1	4

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