

NEWS RELEASE



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FOR IMMEDIATE RELEASE

Liberals lead across GTA, Toronto

Conservatives second, NDP third

TORONTO September 18th, 2015- In a random sampling of public opinion taken by the Forum Poll™ among 1183 voters in Toronto and the surrounding GTA (Durham, York, Peel and Halton Regions), more than 4-in-10 in total will vote Liberal in the coming federal election (41%), while just more than 3-in-10 will vote Conservative (31%). Just one quarter will vote NDP (24%) and very few will vote Green (4%) or for other parties (1%).

NDP lags in GTA

Both the Liberals (43%) and Conservatives (33%) do better in the surrounding GTA than in Toronto (38% and 26%, respectively), while the NDP is more popular in Toronto (31%) than in the suburb (20%).

Liberals ahead in Peel, Halton

In Peel and Halton regions, the Liberals score close to one half the votes (45% and 44%, respectively), while the Conservatives post their best result in York Region (39%). The NDP does relatively poorly across the GTA (Durham - 23%, York - 14%, Halton - 16%, Peel - 24%) and posts their best score in downtown Toronto (40%). The Conservative Party leads only in the former city of North York (50%).

Liberals vote common to oldest females

The Liberal vote is characteristic of the oldest (47%), females (46%), in lower income brackets (\$20K to \$40K - 48%). The Conservative vote is common to boomers (55 to 64 - 36%), males (35%), in higher income brackets (\$80K to \$100K - 40%). The NDP vote is strongest among the youngest (37%), males (26%), the least wealthy (33%) and the best educated (post grad - 31%).

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HIGHLIGHTS:

- More than 4-in-10 in total will vote Liberal in the coming federal election (41%), while just more than 3-in-10 will vote Conservative (31%).
- Both the Liberals (43%) and Conservatives (33%) do better in the surrounding GTA than in Toronto (38% and 26%, respectively).
- In Peel and Halton regions, the Liberals score close to one half the votes (45% and 44%, respectively), while the Conservatives post their best result in York Region (39%).
- The Liberal vote is characteristic of the oldest (47%), females (46%), in lower income brackets (\$20K to \$40K - 48%).

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Most switchers move to Liberals

Among those who voted Conservative in 2011, a fifth will vote Liberal this time around (18%), while one quarter of past New Democrats will as well (26%). In turn, one fifth of past Liberals are voting NDP this time (22%), but very few voters are switching to the Conservative Party.

New Democrats least committed voters

Whereas two thirds of Conservatives (63%) and Liberals (65%) are strong supporters of their parties, only about one half of those planning to vote NDP say this (49%).

Trudeau with highest favourables

Justin Trudeau has the approval of one half of voters (48%), and his net favourable score (approve minus disapprove) is a very positive +16. Tom Mulcair has the approval of just fewer (45%) and his net is also +16. Stephen Harper has approval from 3-in-10 (31%), and his net rating is a very negative -30.

Plurality worse off now than 4 years ago

The largest single group, close to 4-in-10, say they are worse off now than they were four years ago, in 2011 (37%), while one third say they are better off (32%). Three-in-ten say their circumstances haven't changed (29%). Conservatives are much more likely to say they are better off (61%) than are Liberals (21%) or New Democrats (17%), and they are much less likely to say they are worse off (13%) than are supporters of the other two parties (Liberals - 45%, NDP - 50%).

"While it is known that Toronto is Liberal heartland, it is surprising to see this poll dispel the myth of the monolithic Conservative vote in the 905 area code. In fact, the outlying areas of the GTA are more Liberal than Conservative. This turn to the Liberals in the 905 may be ascribed to increasing dissatisfaction from ethnic communities on the Conservative views on immigration and, now, the niqab," 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:

- Among those who voted Conservative in 2011, a fifth will vote Liberal this time around (18%).
- Two thirds of Conservatives (63%) and Liberals (65%) are strong supporters of their parties.
- Justin Trudeau has the approval of one half of voters (48%).
- Close to 4-in-10, say they are worse off now than they were four years ago.
- "While it is known that Toronto is Liberal heartland, it is surprising to see this poll dispel the myth of the monolithic Conservative vote in the 905 area code. In fact, the outlying areas of the GTA are more Liberal than Conservative. This turn to the Liberals in the 905 may be ascribed to increasing dissatisfaction from ethnic communities on the Conservative views on immigration and, now, the niqab," 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 1183 randomly selected voters in Toronto and the surrounding GTA. The poll was conducted on September 16th and 17th, 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. Electoral success is dependant on the parties' skill at getting out the vote. 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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Federal Vote Preference

'Which party are you most likely to vote for in the federal election on October 19?'+ '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
Sample	1122	215	189	213	249	256	611	511
Conservative	31	21	29	34	36	32	35	27
Liberal	41	37	40	39	41	47	35	46
NDP	24	37	24	21	22	15	26	21
Green	4	5	6	4	1	4	3	5
Another party	1	1	1	1	0	1	1	1

Region

%	Total	TO	GTA	Durham	York	Halton	Peel
Sample	1122	430	692	231	173	93	195
Conservative	31	26	33	32	39	37	27
Liberal	41	38	43	37	42	44	45
NDP	24	31	20	23	14	16	24
Green	4	4	4	6	4	4	3
Another party	1	1	1	1	0	0	1

Past Federal Vote

%	Total	Conservative	Liberal	New Democratic	Green	Bloc Quebecois	Some other party
Sample	1122	372	366	159	43	8	17
Conservative	31	71	8	6	6	32	26
Liberal	41	18	69	26	43	29	27
NDP	24	9	22	66	11	0	15
Green	4	2	1	2	40	30	16
Another party	1	0	0	1	0	9	16

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Strong Supporter

'Are you a strong supporter of that party?'

[Has chosen party]

Age / Gender

%	Total	18-34	35-44	45-54	55-64	65+	Male	Female
Sample	1122	215	189	213	249	256	611	511
Yes	60	52	61	63	67	63	58	62
No	40	48	39	37	33	37	42	38

Region

%	Total	TO	GTA	Durham	York	Halton	Peel
Sample	1122	430	692	231	173	93	195
Yes	60	59	60	60	64	54	60
No	40	41	40	40	36	46	40

Federal Vote Preference

%	Total	Conservative	Liberal	NDP	Green	Another party
Sample	1122	339	427	267	60	29
Yes	60	63	65	49	61	47
No	40	37	35	51	39	51

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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	1183	233	198	224	260	268	643	540
Approve	31	22	33	39	36	30	33	29
Disapprove	61	68	62	51	55	63	59	62
Don't know	9	10	5	10	9	7	8	9

Region

%	Total	TO	GTA	Durham	York	Halton	Peel
Sample	1183	455	728	243	181	95	209
Approve	31	26	34	31	37	40	30
Disapprove	61	67	57	63	53	54	59
Don't know	9	8	9	5	10	6	11

Federal Vote Preference

%	Total	Conservative	Liberal	NDP	Green	Another party
Sample	1183	339	427	267	60	29
Approve	31	84	10	6	25	39
Disapprove	61	10	82	91	72	30
Don't know	9	6	8	3	2	32

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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	1183	233	198	224	260	268	643	540
Approve	45	46	43	44	46	46	49	42
Disapprove	29	22	29	30	32	35	31	26
Don't know	26	32	29	26	22	19	20	32

Region

%	Total	TO	GTA	Durham	York	Halton	Peel
Sample	1183	455	728	243	181	95	209
Approve	45	52	41	44	39	31	46
Disapprove	29	25	31	29	35	37	25
Don't know	26	23	28	27	26	32	29

Federal Vote Preference

%	Total	Conservative	Liberal	NDP	Green	Another party
Sample	1183	339	427	267	60	29
Approve	45	25	45	78	37	27
Disapprove	29	53	27	6	32	28
Don't know	26	21	28	16	32	45

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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	1183	233	198	224	260	268	643	540
Approve	48	47	47	49	47	52	45	52
Disapprove	32	31	30	31	37	34	39	26
Don't know	19	22	22	20	15	14	16	23

Region

%	Total	TO	GTA	Durham	York	Halton	Peel
Sample	1183	455	728	243	181	95	209
Approve	48	47	49	45	51	46	49
Disapprove	32	32	32	36	35	36	28
Don't know	19	20	19	20	14	18	23

Federal Vote Preference

%	Total	Conservative	Liberal	NDP	Green	Another party
Sample	1183	339	427	267	60	29
Approve	48	11	84	44	46	26
Disapprove	32	74	5	32	28	32
Don't know	19	15	11	24	26	42

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Better or Worse

'Are you better or worse off now than you were four years ago?'

[All Respondents]

Age / Gender

%	Total	18-34	35-44	45-54	55-64	65+	Male	Female
Sample	1183	233	198	224	260	268	643	540
Better off	32	33	35	34	31	24	36	28
Worse off	37	35	36	36	39	38	35	39
Neither better nor worse off	29	29	26	25	26	37	26	31
Don't know	3	3	3	5	3	1	4	3

Region

%	Total	TO	GTA	Durham	York	Halton	Peel
Sample	1183	455	728	243	181	95	209
Better off	32	27	34	26	44	34	30
Worse off	37	40	35	42	32	24	39
Neither better nor worse off	29	29	28	31	23	38	27
Don't know	3	4	3	1	2	4	4

Federal Vote Preference

%	Total	Conservative	Liberal	NDP	Green	Another party
Sample	1183	339	427	267	60	29
Better off	32	61	21	17	31	35
Worse off	37	13	45	50	46	44
Neither better nor worse off	29	25	30	29	22	19
Don't know	3	2	4	3	2	3

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