

# NEWS RELEASE



**FORUM RESEARCH INC.**

**FOR IMMEDIATE RELEASE**

## **PCs Lead, Despite Perceived Controversies**

### **Liberals and NDP tied for second, well behind**

Toronto, August 29<sup>th</sup> – In a random sampling of public opinion taken by The Forum Poll™ among 981 Ontario voters, four in ten (40%) say that if an election were held today, they would support the Ontario PCs. Just over a quarter (27%) say they would support the NDP, and a quarter (25%) say they would support the Liberals. Few (6%) say they would support the Green party, while (2%) say they would support another party.

Respondents most likely to support the PCs include those aged 45-54 (47%) or 55-64 (49%), males (49%), earning \$40,000-\$60,000 (47%) or the most wealthy (47%), the least educated (44%) and those with some college/university (45%), living in Eastern Ontario (48%) or the 905 (45%).

Respondents most likely to support the Liberals include those 34 and younger (33%), females (32%), with a post-graduate degree, and living in Toronto (28%) or Eastern Ontario (29%).

Respondents most likely to support the NDP include those aged 35-44 (32%), females (31%), earning \$20,000-\$40,000 (36%) or \$80,000-\$100,000 (34%), living in Toronto (34%) or North-eastern Ontario (32%).

### **Horwath sees highest approval**

Kathleen Wynne sees approval from fewer than two in ten (18%) and the disapproval of almost three-quarters (73%). Only (9%) say they do not know. The premier's net favourable score is -55.

Patrick Brown sees the approval of a quarter of Ontarians (25%) and the disapproval of more than a third (34%). Critically for Brown, more than four in ten (41%) say they do not know. Brown's net favourable score is -9.

Andrea Horwath is the most popular provincial leader with approval of more than a third (35%). Just under a third say they disapprove. However, more than a third (36%) also say they do not know how they feel about Horwath. Her net favourable score is +5.

### **Best premier: Brown tied with none of the above**

More than a quarter (27%) say Patrick Brown would make the best premier of Ontario, while the same proportion (27%) say that none of Horwath, Wynne, or Brown, would make the best premier.

Andrea Horwath (21%) is supported by just over two in ten and Kathleen Wynne is supported by about one sixth (15%). One in ten (10%) say they do not know.

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“While Patrick Brown’s PCs see a slight dip in support in August, for the most part his support remains steady, despite perceived controversies.” said Dr. Lorne Bozinoff, President of Forum Research. “Of primary concern for the premier should be her declining support in Toronto, as she now sits third behind both the Tories and the NDP. Without the same massive support in Toronto she received in 2014, her re-election prospects look dim, at best.”



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“While Patrick Brown’s PCs see a slight dip in support in August, for the most part his support remains steady, despite perceived controversies.” said Dr. Lorne Bozinoff, President of Forum Research. “Of primary concern for the premier should be her declining support in Toronto, as she now sits third behind both the Tories and the NDP. Without the same massive support in Toronto she received in 2014, her re-election prospects look dim, at best.”

Lorne Bozinoff, Ph.D. is the president and founder of Forum Research. He can be reached at [lbozinoff@forumresearch.com](mailto: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 981 randomly selected Ontario Voters. The poll was conducted August 23-24, 2017.

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](http://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. Actual results depend on the parties' ability to get their voters out. 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](http://www.forumresearch.com/polls.asp)



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**Provincial Election Voting Preference Trending**  
 [Decided / Leaning]

%	Sample	Con	Lib	NDP	Green	Other
Aug 23-24, 2017	981	40	25	27	6	2
June 12-14, 2017	1003	44	23	24	7	2
May 9-10, 2017	1103	41	28	23	6	3
March 28-30, 2017	844	43	19	28	8	2
February 15-16, 2017	1026	44	24	25	6	2
November 21 <sup>st</sup> , 2016	1104	43	24	24	8	2
October 17-18 <sup>th</sup> , 2016	1078	43	24	23	8	2
September 12-13 <sup>th</sup> , 2016	1154	45	25	23	6	2
August 15 <sup>th</sup> , 2016	1097	41	28	23	6	2
July 12 <sup>th</sup> , 2016	1183	42	35	17	5	2
June 21 <sup>st</sup> , 2016	1173	40	30	21	8	2
May 31 <sup>st</sup> , 2016	1172	40	30	21	7	2
April 28 <sup>th</sup> , 2016	1157	39	34	21	5	2
March 23 <sup>rd</sup> , 2016	1225	40	30	24	5	2
February 26 <sup>th</sup> -29 <sup>th</sup> , 2016	1148	44	27	22	6	2
December 20 <sup>th</sup> , 2015	1003	34	31	26	7	2
November 2 <sup>nd</sup> -4 <sup>th</sup> , 2015	1158	36	30	26	6	2
August 11 <sup>th</sup> -12 <sup>th</sup> , 2015	1001	35	26	33	4	2
July 8 <sup>th</sup> , 2015	678	32	26	35	5	2
May 11 <sup>th</sup> , 2015	1001	33	24	36	5	2
May 1 <sup>st</sup> , 2015	912	36	29	24	9	2
March 26 <sup>th</sup> , 2015	881	34	29	27	8	2
February 28 <sup>th</sup> , 2015	996	39	32	21	6	2
January 30 <sup>th</sup> , 2015	1028	36	37	19	6	2
December 20 <sup>th</sup> , 2014	1058	36	35	20	7	2
November 29 <sup>th</sup> , 2014	1054	37	37	17	7	2
November 1 <sup>st</sup> , 2014	1104	35	40	19	4	2
October 1 <sup>st</sup> , 2014	1013	34	36	23	6	1
August 20-21 <sup>st</sup> , 2014	1229	32	39	19	8	2
Popular Vote – June 7 <sup>th</sup> , 2014 Provincial Election Results	-	<b>31</b>	<b>39</b>	<b>24</b>	<b>5</b>	<b>2</b>
June 11 <sup>th</sup> , 2014	1054	35	41	20	3	1
June 5 <sup>th</sup> , 2014	974	37	39	17	6	1
May 27 <sup>th</sup> , 2014	882	36	36	20	7	1
May 20 <sup>th</sup> , 2014	1136	34	41	20	4	1
May 12 <sup>th</sup> , 2014	996	35	38	21	5	1
May 2-3 <sup>rd</sup> , 2014	1845	38	33	22	6	1
April 7 <sup>th</sup> , 2014	928	38	31	23	7	1
Mar 24 <sup>th</sup> , 2014	908	32	35	25	7	1
Feb. 25 <sup>th</sup> , 2014	1014	35	32	26	6	1
Jan. 24-25 <sup>th</sup> , 2014	1222	36	33	26	4	1
Dec. 17-18 <sup>th</sup> , 2013	1044	38	31	24	5	1



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**Horserace**

*If a provincial 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?*

**Age/Gender**

%	Total	18-34	35-44	45-54	55-64	65+	Male	Female
Sample	915	97	115	170	219	314	478	415
Progressive Conservative	40	30	34	47	49	41	49	32
Liberal	25	33	26	21	21	26	19	32
New Democratic	27	28	32	25	23	27	22	31
Green	6	6	7	6	5	6	7	5
Another Party	2	3	1	2	1	0	3	0

**Income**

%	Total	<\$20K	\$20-\$40K	\$40-\$60K	\$60-\$80K	\$80-\$100K	\$100-\$250K
Sample	915	82	140	117	106	93	191
Progressive Conservative	40	28	29	47	41	36	47
Liberal	25	29	27	22	21	25	27
New Democratic	27	31	36	25	31	34	20
Green	6	11	6	6	5	4	5
Another Party	2	1	2	1	2	1	1

**Region**

%	Total	Eastern Ontario	Toronto 416	905	South-western Ontario	North-eastern Ontario	North-western Ontario
Sample	915	145	179	224	224	129	14
Progressive Conservative	40	48	33	45	41	36	20
Liberal	25	29	28	23	20	25	59
New Democratic	27	16	34	25	28	32	13
Green	6	7	4	5	10	3	5
Another Party	2	1	1	1	1	4	2



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## Education

%	Total	Secondary school or less	Some college or university	Completed college or university	Post graduate studies
Sample	915	150	221	359	185
Progressive	40	44	45	40	34
Conservative	25	14	23	28	32
Liberal	27	31	24	27	27
New Democratic	6	10	7	5	4
Green	2	1	2	1	3
Another Party					



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**Kathleen Wynne**

*Do you approve or disapprove of the job Kathleen Wynne is doing as premier?*

**Age/Gender**

%	Total	18-34	35-44	45-54	55-64	65+	Male	Female
Sample	981	102	124	178	238	339	499	458
Approve	18	25	19	12	14	18	16	18
Disapprove	73	64	71	80	77	72	77	69
Don't know	9	10	9	8	9	10	6	13

**Income**

%	Total	<\$20K	\$20-\$40K	\$40-\$60K	\$60-\$80K	\$80-\$100K	\$100-\$250K
Sample	981	89	145	120	116	98	199
Approve	18	17	22	12	17	8	22
Disapprove	73	66	61	78	76	79	75
Don't know	9	17	17	10	7	13	3

**Region**

%	Total	Eastern Ontario	Toronto 416	905	South-western Ontario	North-eastern Ontario	North-western Ontario
Sample	981	159	185	242	245	135	15
Approve	18	18	20	17	17	14	31
Disapprove	73	68	70	77	71	78	58
Don't know	9	14	9	6	12	8	12

**Education**

%	Total	Secondary school or less	Some college or university	Completed college or university	Post graduate studies
Sample	981	170	237	380	194
Approve	18	8	14	18	29
Disapprove	73	84	74	72	66
Don't know	9	8	12	10	5

**Voter Ballot Intention**

%	Total	Progressive Conservative	Liberal	New Democratic	Green	Other Parties
Sample	981	401	230	189	62	33
Approve	18	3	48	15	12	21
Disapprove	73	94	38	76	77	72
Don't know	9	3	14	9	11	7



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**Patrick Brown**

*Do you approve or disapprove of the job Patrick Brown is doing as leader of the Opposition?*

**Age/Gender**

%	Total	18-34	35-44	45-54	55-64	65+	Male	Female
Sample	981	102	124	178	238	339	499	458
Approve	25	17	29	24	31	30	31	19
Disapprove	34	35	39	31	30	34	37	31
Don't know	41	49	32	45	39	36	32	50

**Income**

%	Total	<\$20K	\$20-\$40K	\$40-\$60K	\$60-\$80K	\$80-\$100K	\$100-\$250K
Sample	981	89	145	120	116	98	199
Approve	25	27	20	31	30	23	21
Disapprove	34	34	34	26	28	30	44
Don't know	41	39	46	43	42	47	35

**Region**

%	Total	Eastern Ontario	Toronto 416	905	South-western Ontario	North-eastern Ontario	North-western Ontario
Sample	981	159	185	242	245	135	15
Approve	25	33	19	29	19	30	17
Disapprove	34	25	38	37	37	28	30
Don't know	41	43	44	34	44	43	53

**Education**

%	Total	Secondary school or less	Some college or university	Completed college or university	Post graduate studies
Sample	981	170	237	380	194
Approve	25	31	26	26	17
Disapprove	34	33	29	29	51
Don't know	41	36	44	45	33

**Voter Ballot Intention**

%	Total	Progressive Conservative	Liberal	New Democratic	Green	Other Parties
Sample	981	401	230	189	62	33
Approve	25	50	10	7	22	12
Disapprove	34	14	41	52	48	66
Don't know	41	35	49	42	29	22



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**Andrea Horwath**

*Do you approve or disapprove of the job Andrea Horwath (HOR-vath) is doing as Leader of the NDP?*

**Age/Gender**

%	Total	18-34	35-44	45-54	55-64	65+	Male	Female
Sample	981	102	124	178	238	339	499	458
Approve	35	27	32	36	41	42	32	37
Disapprove	30	27	39	30	25	26	37	21
Don't know	36	45	29	35	34	32	31	42

**Income**

%	Total	<\$20K	\$20-\$40K	\$40-\$60K	\$60-\$80K	\$80-\$100K	\$100-\$250K
Sample	981	89	145	120	116	98	199
Approve	35	36	27	40	31	34	40
Disapprove	30	31	20	32	32	26	35
Don't know	36	33	54	28	37	40	25

**Region**

%	Total	Eastern Ontario	Toronto 416	905	South-western Ontario	North-eastern Ontario	North-western Ontario
Sample	981	159	185	242	245	135	15
Approve	35	26	29	40	36	35	47
Disapprove	30	24	36	32	28	22	17
Don't know	36	50	34	28	36	43	37

**Education**

%	Total	Secondary school or less	Some college or university	Completed college or university	Post graduate studies
Sample	981	170	237	380	194
Approve	35	36	33	34	36
Disapprove	30	27	30	27	36
Don't know	36	37	37	39	28

**Voter Ballot Intention**

%	Total	Progressive Conservative	Liberal	New Democratic	Green	Other Parties
Sample	981	401	230	189	62	33
Approve	35	33	27	60	27	12
Disapprove	30	33	32	15	35	62
Don't know	36	34	41	24	38	26

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**Best premier**

Regardless of which party you would vote for, who do you think would make the best Premier of Ontario?

**Age/Gender**

%	Total	18-34	35-44	45-54	55-64	65+	Male	Female
Sample	981	102	124	178	238	339	499	458
Kathleen Wynne	15	17	16	11	13	16	13	17
Patrick Brown	27	23	26	30	32	28	33	21
Andrea Horwath	21	17	25	22	21	20	18	24
None of these	27	30	28	27	22	23	27	26
Don't know	10	13	6	9	11	13	9	12

**Income**

%	Total	<\$20K	\$20-\$40K	\$40-\$60K	\$60-\$80K	\$80-\$100K	\$100-\$250K
Sample	981	89	145	120	116	98	199
Kathleen Wynne	15	12	16	11	13	10	18
Patrick Brown	27	21	19	34	37	28	26
Andrea Horwath	21	30	23	22	14	29	18
None of these	27	18	33	22	23	27	30
Don't know	10	18	8	11	12	7	7

**Region**

%	Total	Eastern Ontario	Toronto 416	905	South-western Ontario	North-eastern Ontario	North-western Ontario
Sample	981	159	185	242	245	135	15
Kathleen Wynne	15	15	19	14	12	12	39
Patrick Brown	27	32	23	28	21	36	26
Andrea Horwath	21	16	23	21	25	17	7
None of these	27	21	27	27	29	29	17
Don't know	10	17	8	9	12	6	11



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### Education

%	Total	Secondary school or less	Some college or university	Completed college or university	Post graduate studies
Sample	981	170	237	380	194
Kathleen Wynne	15	5	11	15	26
Patrick Brown	27	28	33	28	18
Andrea Horwath	21	22	20	22	18
None of these	27	26	24	25	33
Don't know	10	19	12	9	5

### Voter Ballot Intention

%	Total	Progressive Conservative	Liberal	New Democratic	Green	Other Parties
Sample	981	401	230	189	62	33
Kathleen Wynne	15	0	49	4	6	11
Patrick Brown	27	62	7	5	18	5
Andrea Horwath	21	12	11	59	18	0
None of these	27	19	23	24	43	82
Don't know	10	7	9	8	15	2

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