

NEWS RELEASE



Majority of Canadians do not Approve of Québec Religious Symbols Law

Toronto, July 31st, 2019 – In a random sampling of public opinion taken by The Forum Poll™ among 1733 Canadian voters, the majority (BTM2: 59%) disapprove of Québec’s government introducing a law that prevents provincial employees from wearing religious symbols, with 4 in 10 (41%) saying they strongly disapprove.

4 in 10 (TOP2: 41%) respondents say they approve of the Québec government introducing such a law, with a quarter (26%) saying they strongly approve.

Respondents most likely disapprove include those 18 to 34 years old (67%), females (64%), earning \$60k-\$80k (62%) or the most wealthy (64%), with a college/university (62%) or post graduate degree (63%), from Atlantic Canada (76%), and voting NDP (81%) in the upcoming election.

Those who approves of Québec’s government introducing a law that prevents provincial employees from wearing religious symbols include those over 45 years old (46% of those 45 to 54, 44% of 55 to 64, 45% of 65 and over), males (45%), earning \$40k-\$60k (43%) or \$80k-\$100k (45%), with some college or university education (46%) or secondary school or less (44%), from Québec (64%), and voting BQ (87%).

“The majority of Canadians disapprove of Québec’s government introducing a law that prevents provincial employees from wearing religious symbols,” said Dr. Lorne Bozinoff, President of Forum Research. “But in Québec? The majority approves. The provincial government gets elected by Québec voters, so given voters’ overwhelming support for the policy, it’s unlikely to be amended any time soon.”

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“The majority of Canadians across the country disapproves of Québec’s government introducing a law that prevents provincial employees from wearing religious symbols,” said Dr. Lorne Bozinoff, President of Forum Research. “However, Québec is the only province where the majority approve.”



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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 1733 randomly selected Canadians across the country. The poll was conducted from July 26th-28th, 2019.

Results based on the total sample are considered accurate +/- 3%, 19 times out of 20, measured as the average deviation across all response categories. 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 forumpoll.com.

Top2/Btm2 (or 3 or 4 where applicable) refers to the combined results of the most answered positive and negative responses:

%	Total	18-34	35-44	45-54	55-64	65+	Male	Female
Sample	631	112	91	133	119	176	303	315
NET: TOP3	66	57	60	68	78	86	67	64
NET: BTM3	34	43	39	32	21	14	32	36
Very satisfied	9	9	6	6	13	20	11	8
Satisfied	28	17	29	35	32	45	25	31
Somewhat satisfied	28	31	26	28	32	20	31	25
Somewhat dissatisfied	12	11	16	14	11	8	13	12
Dissatisfied	11	15	15	9	5	3	9	13
Very dissatisfied	11	18	9	8	5	3	9	12
Don't know	0	0	1	0	1	0	1	0

Top 3 here collects very satisfied, satisfied, and somewhat satisfied into one category, and Btm 3 collects very dissatisfied, dissatisfied, and somewhat dissatisfied. TABLE IS AN EXAMPLE ONLY.

Due to rounding some numbers may not add up to 100



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Approve/Disapprove Québec Law Preventing the Wearing of Religious Symbols

Do you approve or disapprove of Quebec’s government introducing a law that prevents provincial employees from wearing religious symbols, such as headscarves, turbans, or kippah while working?

Age/gender

%	Total	18 to 34	35 to 44	45 to 54	55 to 64	65 and over	Male	Female	Non-binary
Sample	1733	231	199	281	389	633	893	802	38
NET: TOP2	41	33	38	46	44	45	45	36	37
NET: BTM2	59	67	62	54	56	55	55	64	63
Strongly approve	26	22	25	30	27	26	29	23	26
Somewhat approve	15	12	13	15	17	20	16	13	11
Somewhat disapprove	18	19	13	19	21	18	18	18	18
Strongly disapprove	41	47	49	35	34	37	36	46	45



Income

%	Total	Less than \$20k	\$20k to \$40k	\$40k to \$60k	\$60k to \$80k	\$80k to \$100k	\$100k to \$250k
Sample	1733	162	270	266	216	199	344
NET: TOP2	41	40	41	43	38	45	36
NET: BTM2	59	60	59	57	62	55	64
Strongly approve	26	28	29	29	25	22	23
Somewhat approve	15	12	13	14	14	23	13
Somewhat disapprove	18	14	20	18	13	22	20
Strongly disapprove	41	46	39	39	48	34	44

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Education

%	Total	Secondary school or less	Some college or university	Completed college or university	Post graduate degree
Sample	1733	298	484	599	352
NET: TOP2	41	44	46	38	37
NET: BTM2	59	56	54	62	63
Strongly approve	26	28	30	23	23
Somewhat approve	15	16	16	14	14
Somewhat disapprove	18	20	20	17	16
Strongly disapprove	41	35	34	45	48

Region

%	Total	ATL	QC	ON	MB/SK	AB	BC
Sample	1733	178	369	593	148	189	256
NET: TOP2	41	24	64	33	31	40	32
NET: BTM2	59	76	36	67	69	60	68
Strongly approve	26	13	48	20	16	19	20
Somewhat approve	15	11	17	14	15	21	12
Somewhat disapprove	18	19	14	20	21	18	18
Strongly disapprove	41	57	21	47	48	42	49



Voter intention

%	Total	CON	LIB	NDP	Green	BQ	PPC	Other
Sample	1733	579	536	156	188	73	78	45
NET: TOP2	41	57	25	19	30	87	63	60
NET: BTM2	59	43	75	81	70	13	37	40
Strongly approve	26	37	13	7	18	75	46	37
Somewhat approve	15	20	12	12	12	12	17	23
Somewhat disapprove	18	20	20	12	17	5	19	14
Strongly disapprove	41	23	56	69	53	8	18	26

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