

NEWS RELEASE



FOR IMMEDIATE RELEASE

PCs lead voter preference in Ontario

Small PC majority if election held today

TORONTO November 5th, 2015 -In a random sampling of public opinion taken by the Forum Poll™ among 1158 Ontario voters, well more than one third would support the Progressive Conservatives if an election were held today (36%), while just 3-in-10 would vote Liberal (30%). Just more than a quarter will vote NDP (26%). Few will vote Green (6%) or for any other party (1%).

This represents stasis for the PCs , who had the same share of the vote the last time we polled (August 11 - 35%). However, the Liberals (26% in August) have increased their share at the expense of the NDP (33% in August).

The PC vote is common to the oldest (43%), males (46%) rather than females (28%), in Eastern (39%), Southwestern Ontario (41%) and the 905 ring of ridings around Toronto (40%), as well as among those with some college (43%). The Liberal vote is characteristic of females (35%), the less wealthy (38%), in the Toronto 416 area code (36%), among mothers with children under 18 (37%) and among the best educated (post grad - 37%). The NDP vote is common to the youngest (37%), females (30%), the least wealthy (less than \$20K - 33%), in Northern Ontario (31%) and among mothers of children (30%).

Of note, more than a fifth of those who voted Liberal in the last election in June, 2014, will vote NDP if the election were held today (21%). A similar proportion of those who voted NDP then will vote Liberal now (19%).

Slim PC majority seen

If these results are projected up to seats in the Legislature, the PCs would capture 54, exactly the number needed for a majority. The NDP would form the opposition with 34 seats and the Liberals, because of their concentrated support in Toronto, would take just 19 seats in the 107 seat Legislature. Oddly, this is exactly the same seat distribution which was projected in August when we polled last.

PCs, Liberals strong partisans; NDP less so

Two thirds of PC voters and Liberals are especially likely to say they are strong supporters of their party (65% and 66%, respectively), while just one half of those intending to vote NDP say they are strong party supporters (49%). This indicates that half the NDP vote is soft, and is likely parked by Liberals.

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TORONTO

November 5th, 2015

HIGHLIGHTS:

- Well more than one third would support the Progressive Conservatives if an election were held today (36%), while just 3-in-10 would vote Liberal (30%).
- If these results are projected up to seats in the Legislature, the PCs would capture 54, exactly the number needed for a majority.
- Two thirds of PC voters and Liberals are especially likely to say they are strong supporters of their party (65% and 66%, respectively), while just one half of those intending to vote NDP say they are strong party supporters (49%).

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Wynne's favourables down sharply, Brown's and Horwath's up

Just more than one fifth of Ontario voters approve of Kathleen Wynne (21%) and this is the lowest score we have recorded since she became Premier. Her net favourable score (approve minus disapprove) is a truly abysmal -47. Patrick Brown's approval is up (from 21% to 27%) since August, and his net score is up from a mildly negative -9 to a neutral 0. Andrea Horwath has seen her approval increase from close to 4-in-10 (38%) to more than that (41%) now, and her net score has also increased since August (from +5 to +11).

Patrick Brown seen to be best Premier; Horwath, Wynne tied for second

Voters see Patrick Brown making the best Premier (24%), followed very closely by Andrea Horwath (20%) and Kathleen Wynne (19%). However, an equal proportion say none of these three are the best for the job (22%). These are very similar findings to those noted in August (Brown - 23%, Wynne - 22%, Horwath- 20%, none - 19%).

"The decline in popularity for Kathleen Wynne's Liberal government now appears to be a lasting phenomenon, not a bump in the road. These are rather drastic swings in voter approval we see, even if the Liberals appear to be doing better now than this summer. Because of the concentration of Liberal support in the Toronto 416 area code, it makes it harder for them to win seats elsewhere,"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:

- Just more than one fifth of Ontario voters approve of Kathleen Wynne (21%) and this is the lowest score we have recorded since she became Premier.
- Voters see Patrick Brown making the best Premier (24%), followed very closely by Andrea Horwath (20%) and Kathleen Wynne (19%).
- "The decline in popularity for Kathleen Wynne's Liberal government now appears to be a lasting phenomenon, not a bump in the road. These are rather drastic swings in voter approval we see, even if the Liberals appear to be doing better now than this summer. Because of the concentration of Liberal support in the Toronto 416 area code, it makes it harder for them to win seats elsewhere,"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 1158 randomly selected Ontarians 18 years of age and older. The poll was conducted from November 2nd to November 4th, 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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Provincial Election Voting Preference Trending

[Decided / Leaning]

%	Sample	Con	Lib	NDP	Green	Other
November 2 nd -4 th , 2015	1158	36	30	26	6	2
August 11 th -12 th , 2015	1001	35	26	33	4	2
July 8 th , 2015	678	32	26	35	5	2
May 11 th , 2015	1001	33	24	36	5	2
May 1 st , 2015	912	36	29	24	9	2
March 26 th , 2015	881	34	29	27	8	2
February 28 th , 2015	996	39	32	21	6	2
January 30 th , 2015	1028	36	37	19	6	2
December 20 th , 2014	1058	36	35	20	7	2
November 29 th , 2014	1054	37	37	17	7	2
November 1 st , 2014	1104	35	40	19	4	2
October 1 st , 2014	1013	34	36	23	6	1
August 20-21 st , 2014	1229	32	39	19	8	2
Popular Vote – June 7 th , 2014 Provincial Election Results	-	31	39	24	5	2
June 11 th , 2014	1054	35	41	20	3	1
June 5 th , 2014	974	37	39	17	6	1
May 27 th , 2014	882	36	36	20	7	1
May 20 th , 2014	1136	34	41	20	4	1
May 12 th , 2014	996	35	38	21	5	1
May 2-3 rd , 2014	1845	38	33	22	6	1
April 7 th , 2014	928	38	31	23	7	1
Mar 24 th , 2014	908	32	35	25	7	1
Feb. 25 th , 2014	1014	35	32	26	6	1
Jan. 24-25 th , 2014	1222	36	33	26	4	1
Dec. 17-18 th , 2013	1044	38	31	24	5	1
Nov. 26 th , 2013	1126	38	32	23	6	1
Oct. 25 th , 2013	1049	34	31	27	7	1
Oct. 2 nd , 2013	1093	36	33	23	7	1
Aug 29 th , 2013	1019	35	32	26	6	1
Jul 22 nd , 2013	861	36	31	27	5	1
Jun 26 th , 2013	977	35	33	24	8	1
May 28 th , 2013	881	34	38	21	6	0
May 3 rd , 2013	832	35	35	25	4	1
April 26 th , 2013	1133	36	36	24	4	1
Mar 26 th to 27 th 2013	1156	35	32	26	5	1
Feb. 26 th to Mar 1 st , 2013	2773	32	32	29	5	1
Feb. 20 th , 2013	1053	36	29	28	5	1
Jan. 23 to 24 th , 2013	1052	32	27	35	5	1
Dec. 17 th , 2012	925	33	27	31	8	1
Nov. 27 th to 28 th , 2012	1064	35	29	27	8	1
Oct. 30 th to 31 st , 2012	1047	37	22	32	7	1

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Overall Seat Distribution

%	Con	Lib	NDP
November 2 nd -4 th , 2015	54	19	34
August 11 th -12 th , 2015	54	19	34
July 8 th , 2015	35	27	45
May 11 th , 2015	49	18	40
May 1 st , 2015	48	33	26
March 26 th , 2015	52	23	32
February 28 th , 2015	49	39	19
January 30 th , 2015	34	56	17
December 20 th , 2014	37	52	18
November 29 th , 2014	38	52	17
November 1 st , 2014	37	56	14
October 1 st , 2014	35	51	21
August 20-21 st , 2014	31	61	15
Election – June 12 th , 2014	28	58	21
June 5 th , 2014	39	57	11
May 27 th , 2014	42	50	15
May 20 th , 2014	31	63	13
May 12 th , 2014	26	68	13
May 2-3 rd , 2014	45	49	13
April 7 th , 2014	49	45	13
Mar 24 th , 2014	29	66	12
Feb. 25 th , 2014	48	42	17
Jan. 24-25 th , 2014	47	46	14
Dec. 17-18 th , 2013	43	51	13
Nov. 26 th , 2013	47	44	16
Oct. 25 th , 2013	41	48	18
Oct. 2 nd , 2013	47	44	16
Aug 29 th , 2013	36	53	18
Jul 22 nd , 2013	45	46	16
Jun 26 th , 2013	42	54	11
May 28 th , 2013	37	60	10
May 3 rd , 2013	36	59	12
April 26 th , 2013	38	59	10
Mar 26 th to 27 th 2013	43	50	14
Feb. 26 th to Mar 1 st , 2013	36	53	18
Feb. 20 th , 2013	52	39	16
Jan. 23 to 24 th , 2013	40	40	27
Dec. 17 th , 2012	44	38	25
Nov. 27 th to 28 th , 2012	47	41	19
Oct. 30 th to 31 st , 2012	58	26	23
Sep. 25 th , 2012	60	23	24

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Ontario Provincial Party Leader Approval Rating Trending (% Approve)

[All Respondents]

	Sample	Wynne	Brown	Horwath
November 2 nd -4 th , 2015	1158	21	27	41
August 11 th -12 th , 2015	1001	30	21	38
July 8 th , 2015	678	29	19	38
May 11 th , 2015	1001	26	17	41
	Sample	Wynne	Wilson	Horwath
May 1 st , 2015	912	29	22	39
March 26 th , 2015	881	33	22	40
February 28 th , 2015	996	36	24	37
January 30 th , 2015	1028	40	22	36
December 20 th , 2014	1058	37	22	35
November 29 th , 2014	1054	42	22	33
November 1 st , 2014	1104	46	23	31
October 1 st , 2014	1079	41	18	31
August 20-21 st , 2014	1229	46	27	35
July 3 rd , 2014	810	41	-	28
		Wynne	Hudak	Horwath
May 27 th , 2014	882	34	27	34
May 20 th , 2014	1136	38	25	35
May 12 th , 2014	996	38	23	35
May 2-3 rd , 2014	1845	34	26	36
April 7 th , 2014	928	34	27	40
Mar 24 th , 2014	908	34	23	38
Feb. 25 th , 2014	1014	32	24	40
Jan. 24-25 th , 2014	1222	40	21	40
Dec. 17-18 th , 2013	1044	35	28	41
Nov. 26 th , 2013	1126	35	26	44
Oct. 25 th , 2013	1049	33	26	46
Oct. 2 nd , 2013	1093	39	25	41
Aug 29 th , 2013	1063	36	24	50
Jul 22 nd , 2013	914	35	27	43
Jun 26 th , 2013	1037	37	26	43
May 28 th , 2013	918	41	26	43
May 3 rd , 2013	869	42	27	49
April 26 th , 2013	1133	38	27	43
Mar 26 th to 27 th 2013	1156	40	27	44
Feb. 26 th to Mar 1 st , 2013	2773	34	24	44
Feb. 20 th , 2013	1053	36	27	49

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Current Provincial Party Preference

'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?'

[Decided/Leaning]

Age / Gender

%	Total	18-34	35-44	45-54	55-64	65+	Male	Female
Sample	1123	192	172	196	263	300	619	504
Progressive Conservative	36	25	31	41	41	43	46	28
Liberal	30	31	27	32	27	30	24	35
New Democratic	26	37	31	19	26	19	22	30
Green	6	7	9	6	4	6	7	6
Another Party	2	1	2	1	2	2	2	1

Region

%	Total	E. Ont	416	905	GTA	SW. Ont	N. Ont
Sample	1123	164	171	342	513	258	188
Progressive Conservative	36	39	29	40	36	41	28
Liberal	30	29	36	28	31	26	31
New Democratic	26	27	26	26	26	23	31
Green	6	5	8	5	6	7	8
Another Party	2	0	2	2	2	2	2

Past Provincial Party Preference

%	Total	Progressive Conservative	Liberal	NDP	Green	Other parties
Sample	1123	388	303	204	59	47
Progressive Conservative	36	84	10	8	26	31
Liberal	30	7	64	19	9	34
New Democratic	26	6	21	68	20	12
Green	6	2	4	4	43	15
Another Party	2	1	1	1	2	8

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Strong Supporter

'Are you a strong supporter of that party?'

[Has preferred party]

Age / Gender

%	Total	18-34	35-44	45-54	55-64	65+	Male	Female
Sample	1122	192	172	195	263	300	618	504
Yes	60	61	51	61	60	65	58	61
No	40	39	49	39	40	35	42	39

Region

%	Total	E. Ont	416	905	GTA	SW. Ont	N. Ont
Sample	1122	164	171	342	513	258	187
Yes	60	57	58	64	62	56	58
No	40	43	42	36	38	44	42

Provincial Party Preference

%	Total	Progressive Conservative	Liberal	NDP	Green	Other parties
Sample	1122	447	336	235	81	23
Yes	60	65	66	49	47	26
No	40	35	34	51	53	74

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November 5th, 2015

Kathleen Wynne Approval

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

[All Respondents]

Age / Gender

%	Total	18-34	35-44	45-54	55-64	65+	Male	Female
Sample	1158	198	179	202	270	309	641	517
Approve	21	22	21	21	17	21	16	25
Disapprove	68	62	70	67	74	70	73	62
Don't know	12	16	9	12	9	10	11	13

Region

%	Total	E. Ont	416	905	GTA	SW. Ont	N. Ont
Sample	1158	165	176	356	532	266	195
Approve	21	18	27	23	24	18	16
Disapprove	68	69	62	67	65	71	68
Don't know	12	14	11	10	11	11	16

Provincial Party Preference

%	Total	Progressive Conservative	Liberal	NDP	Green	Other parties
Sample	1158	447	336	235	81	24
Approve	21	4	48	12	21	0
Disapprove	68	92	32	77	67	93
Don't know	12	4	20	12	12	7

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Patrick Brown Approval

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

[All Respondents]

Age / Gender

%	Total	18-34	35-44	45-54	55-64	65+	Male	Female
Sample	1158	198	179	202	270	309	641	517
Approve	27	24	28	28	29	26	30	23
Disapprove	26	32	30	23	22	20	26	27
Don't know	47	44	42	49	49	54	43	50

Region

%	Total	E. Ont	416	905	GTA	SW. Ont	N. Ont
Sample	1158	165	176	356	532	266	195
Approve	27	26	22	32	29	24	24
Disapprove	26	28	30	23	26	26	28
Don't know	47	46	48	44	46	50	48

Provincial Party Preference

%	Total	Progressive Conservative	Liberal	NDP	Green	Other parties
Sample	1158	447	336	235	81	24
Approve	27	50	13	14	14	21
Disapprove	26	13	33	41	31	20
Don't know	47	37	54	45	54	59

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Andrea Horwath Approval

‘Do you approve or disapprove of the job Andrea Horwath is doing as Leader of the NDP?’

[All Respondents]

Age / Gender

%	Total	18-34	35-44	45-54	55-64	65+	Male	Female
Sample	1158	198	179	202	270	309	641	517
Approve	41	39	45	38	42	41	36	45
Disapprove	30	29	28	35	27	29	36	24
Don't know	30	33	27	27	31	30	28	31

Region

%	Total	E. Ont	416	905	GTA	SW. Ont	N. Ont
Sample	1158	165	176	356	532	266	195
Approve	41	37	40	41	41	43	40
Disapprove	30	26	29	33	31	30	27
Don't know	30	37	31	26	28	27	33

Provincial Party Preference

%	Total	Progressive Conservative	Liberal	NDP	Green	Other parties
Sample	1158	447	336	235	81	24
Approve	41	34	33	66	32	36
Disapprove	30	38	30	14	38	34
Don't know	30	27	36	19	31	31

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Best Premier of ON

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

[All Respondents]

Age / Gender

%	Total	18-34	35-44	45-54	55-64	65+	Male	Female
Sample	1158	198	179	202	270	309	641	517
Kathleen Wynne	19	16	18	23	18	22	17	20
Patrick Brown	24	21	23	27	25	28	31	18
Andrea Horwath	20	24	22	16	23	14	18	22
None of these	22	23	24	24	20	21	21	23
Don't know	14	17	13	10	15	16	13	16

Region

%	Total	E. Ont	416	905	GTA	SW. Ont	N. Ont
Sample	1158	165	176	356	532	266	195
Kathleen Wynne	19	20	28	18	21	15	13
Patrick Brown	24	23	16	30	25	27	19
Andrea Horwath	20	17	20	18	19	21	26
None of these	22	23	19	22	21	22	28
Don't know	14	16	18	12	14	15	14

Provincial Party Preference

%	Total	Progressive Conservative	Liberal	NDP	Green	Other parties
Sample	1158	447	336	235	81	24
Kathleen Wynne	19	3	47	6	24	3
Patrick Brown	24	57	7	4	10	12
Andrea Horwath	20	10	11	55	12	18
None of these	22	19	19	20	42	60
Don't know	14	11	16	15	12	7

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