

NEWS RELEASE



MEDIA INQUIRIES:

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FOR IMMEDIATE RELEASE

Canadians split on support for Israel, Palestine

Balance has shifted back after pro-Israeli surge

TORONTO MAY 26th, 2014 - In a random sampling of public opinion taken by the Forum Poll™ among 1692 Canadians 18 years of age and older, there is an even split of opinion on whether respondents lean towards the Israeli side (17%) or the Palestinian side (16%) in the current Mid-East controversy. Fully two thirds lean to neither side (64%), while very few have no opinion on this contentious issue (3%). These findings represent a decrease in those leaning towards Israel since the last time we polled the question at the time of Canada's vote against recognizing Palestine at the United Nations (December 2012 - lean to Israel - 22%, lean to Palestine - 15%). The levels of support noted now, however, match those recorded earlier (July 2012, Lean to Israel - 16%, lean to Palestine - 17%).

Support for Israel is especially common to older Canadians (55 to 64 - 23%, 65+ - 24%), males (21%), mid income groups (\$60K to %80K - 21%), in Alberta and BC (20%) and among Conservative voters (37%). Protestant (30%) and Evangelical Christians (40%) are supporters but not Catholics so much (14%) nor those who are not religious (7%).

Support for the Palestinian side is common to the youngest (20%), males (19%), lower income groups (\$40K to \$60K - 21%) and among the wealthiest (\$80K to \$100K - 24%). Support is high in Quebec (22%) and Alberta (19%), among New Democrats (27%), Bloquistes (24%), the best educated (post grad - 23%), non-Christians (20%) and those with no religion (27%), and among Francophones (23%).

"While most Canadians prefer a balanced approach in the mid-east, this difficult issue splits along the usual lines in Canada - political and geographical," 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.

TORONTO

May 26th, 2014

HIGHLIGHTS:

- There is an even split of opinion on whether respondents lean towards the Israeli side (17%) or the Palestinian side (16%) in the current Mid-East controversy.
- "While most Canadians prefer a balanced approach in the mid-east, this difficult issue splits along the usual lines in Canada - political and geographical," said Forum Research President, Dr. Lorne Bozinoff.

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TORONTO**May 26th, 2014****Methodology**

The Forum Poll™ was conducted by Forum Research with the results based on an interactive voice response telephone survey of 1694 randomly selected Canadians 18 years of age and older. The poll was conducted on May 22-23rd, 2014.

Results based on the total sample are considered accurate +/- 2%, 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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Direction of Mid-East Support: Trending

%	Sample	Lean to the Israeli side	Lean to the Palestinian side	Lean to neither side	Don't know
May 22-23 rd , 2014	1694	17	16	64	3
Dec. 18 th , 2012	1355	22	15	60	3
July 25-26 th , 2012	1639	16	17	66	n/a

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Direction of Mid-East Support

'In the conflict in the mid-east, would you say you lean to the Israeli side, lean to the Palestinian side or lean to neither side?'

[All Respondents]

Age / Gender

%	Total	18-34	35-44	45-54	55-64	65+	Male	Female
Sample	1694	120	170	292	481	631	773	921
Lean to the Israeli side	17	12	14	16	23	24	21	13
Lean to the Palestinian side	16	20	18	15	13	13	19	14
Lean to neither side	64	66	63	67	59	61	58	69
Don't know	3	3	5	2	5	2	2	4

Region / Language

%	Total	Atl	Que	ON	Man/Sask	AB	BC	English	French
Sample	1694	128	397	643	122	190	214	1326	368
Lean to the Israeli side	17	17	12	18	19	20	20	19	9
Lean to the Palestinian side	16	11	22	16	8	19	13	14	23
Lean to neither side	64	70	63	63	72	58	64	63	66
Don't know	3	2	3	4	1	4	3	4	2

Household Income

%	Total	<\$20K	\$20-\$40K	\$40-\$60K	\$60-\$80K	\$80-\$100K	\$100-\$250K
Sample	1694	166	303	268	194	140	252
Lean to the Israeli side	17	11	15	16	21	16	18
Lean to the Palestinian side	16	15	14	21	18	24	14
Lean to neither side	64	71	69	59	58	54	67
Don't know	3	3	3	4	2	6	1

Federal Party Preference

%	Total	Cons	Lib	NDP	Green	Bloc	Other Parties
Sample	1694	496	562	342	102	74	61
Lean to the Israeli side	17	37	9	9	11	2	11
Lean to the Palestinian side	16	8	16	27	19	24	20
Lean to neither side	64	52	71	61	68	73	69
Don't know	3	3	4	3	2	1	1

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Have Children / Mothers

%	Total	Yes	No	Moms
Sample	1694	323	1371	155
Lean to the Israeli side	17	16	17	11
Lean to the Palestinian side	16	17	16	14
Lean to neither side	64	64	64	70
Don't know	3	4	3	5

Education

%	Total	Secondary school or less	Some college or university	Completed college or university	Post graduate studies
Sample	1694	355	496	556	287
Lean to the Israeli side	17	17	18	15	18
Lean to the Palestinian side	16	6	17	17	23
Lean to neither side	64	72	61	65	58
Don't know	3	5	4	3	1

Religion

%	Total	Christian	Protestant Christian	Evangelical Christian	Catholic	Other Christian	Non-Christian	None
Sample	1694	1237	449	71	591	126	75	382
Lean to the Israeli side	17	22	30	40	14	21	18	7
Lean to the Palestinian side	16	10	10	13	10	13	20	27
Lean to neither side	64	65	58	44	74	62	59	62
Don't know	3	3	3	3	2	5	2	4

For more information:

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