

NEWS RELEASE



MEDIA INQUIRIES:

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FOR IMMEDIATE RELEASE

Majority approve of Ontario pension plan

Less popular among small business owners

TORONTO November 1st, 2014 – In a random sampling of public opinion taken by the Forum Poll™ among 1104 Ontario voters, the majority (52%) approve of the Ontario Retirement Pension Plan, or ORPP, when it is briefly described to them (including the 1.9% payroll contribution from employees and employers). Approval is strongest among Gen X (45 to 54 - 58%) and Boomers (55 to 64 - 59%), the least wealthy (58%) and the wealthiest (57%), in Toronto 416 (64%), among Liberals (70%), but not New Democrats (48%) or, especially, PC voters (31%). Green voters like it (75% - caution: small base size) as do the best educated (post grad - 63%). Small business owners are less enthusiastic about this plan (46%), but having a pension or not having one has no effect on results.

One sixth claim to be small business owners

One sixth of Ontarians claim to be small business owners, defined as 2 to 99 employees and up to \$5 million in annual revenues (15%). This is common among the young (19%), Gen X (45 to 54 - 18%), lower income groups (\$20K to \$40K - 19%) and the wealthy (\$80K to \$100K - 20%, \$100K to \$250K - 19%), in Toronto 905 and southwestern Ontario (18%), Green voters (33% - caution: small sample size), mothers of children under 18 (19%) and the best educated (post grad - 20%).

Majority have pensions

In our sample, a majority claim to have pensions (58%), primarily public sector pensions (usually defined benefit plans - 38%), but also private sector pensions, which are usually defined contribution plans (20%). Four-in-ten don't have pensions (42%). Not having a pension is most common to younger groups (35 to 44 - 52%), the least wealthy (less than \$20K - 58%), in the Toronto 905 (48%) and among PC voters (48%).

"The ORPP is popular across almost all socio-economic groups, with the exception of small business owners, who will feel the sting of the additional payroll contribution the most keenly. The unpensioned, young males and the less wealthy, like it though," 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

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HIGHLIGHTS:

- The majority (52%) approve of the Ontario Retirement Pension Plan, or ORPP.
- One sixth of Ontarians claim to be small business owners, defined as 2 to 99 employees and up to \$5 million in annual revenues (15%).
- A majority claim to have pensions (58%), primarily public sector pensions (usually defined benefit plans - 38%), but also private sector pensions, which are usually defined contribution plans (20%).
- "The ORPP is popular across almost all socio-economic groups, with the exception of small business owners, who will feel the sting of the additional payroll contribution the most keenly. The unpensioned, young males and the less wealthy, like it though," 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 1104 randomly selected Ontarians 18 years of age and older. The poll was conducted on October 31st and November 1st, 2014.

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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ORPP Approval

'The province will introduce the Ontario Retirement Pension Plan, or ORPP, in 2017. Employees without pensions will contribute 1.9% of their income, which will be matched by employers. On retirement, the plan will provide an amount equal to about 15% of the employee's pre-retirement income. Do you approve or disapprove of the ORPP?'

[All Respondents]

Age / Gender

%	Total	18-34	35-44	45-54	55-64	65+	Male	Female
Sample	1104	49	88	209	297	461	517	587
Approve	52	49	50	58	59	48	50	54
Disapprove	28	22	33	27	28	29	33	23
Don't know	20	28	17	15	13	23	17	23

Region

%	Total	E. Ont	416	905	GTA	SW. Ont	N. Ont
Sample	1104	158	196	309	505	249	192
Approve	52	43	64	48	55	51	53
Disapprove	28	32	20	31	26	26	29
Don't know	20	25	16	20	18	22	18

Income

%	Total	<\$20K	\$20-\$40K	\$40-\$60K	\$60-\$80K	\$80-\$100K	\$100-\$250K
Sample	1104	101	200	174	114	122	208
Approve	52	58	42	53	53	52	57
Disapprove	28	18	32	31	18	34	34
Don't know	20	23	27	16	29	14	9

Provincial Party Preference

%	Total	Progressive Conservative	Liberal	New Democratic	Green	Other parties
Sample	1104	418	426	156	51	21
Approve	52	31	70	48	75	9
Disapprove	28	51	12	23	11	60
Don't know	20	18	18	29	14	30

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Owner of Small Business

'Are you the owner of a small business or not, that is, a business which employs between 2 and 99 people and which has revenues of \$5 million or less?'

[All Respondents]

Age / Gender

%	Total	18-34	35-44	45-54	55-64	65+	Male	Female
Sample	1104	49	88	209	297	461	517	587
Yes	15	19	16	18	13	7	16	15
No	85	81	84	82	87	93	84	85

Region

%	Total	E. Ont	416	905	GTA	SW. Ont	N. Ont
Sample	1104	158	196	309	505	249	192
Yes	15	10	16	18	17	18	8
No	85	90	84	82	83	82	92

Income

%	Total	<\$20K	\$20-\$40K	\$40-\$60K	\$60-\$80K	\$80-\$100K	\$100-\$250K
Sample	1104	101	200	174	114	122	208
Yes	15	2	19	15	3	20	19
No	85	98	81	85	97	80	81

Provincial Party Preference

%	Total	Progressive Conservative	Liberal	New Democratic	Green	Other parties
Sample	1104	418	426	156	51	21
Yes	15	16	13	13	33	6
No	85	84	87	87	67	94

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Pension

'Do you have a pension or not?'

[All Respondents]

Age / Gender

%	Total	18-34	35-44	45-54	55-64	65+	Male	Female
Sample	1104	49	88	209	297	461	517	587
Have a public sector pension	38	39	33	34	37	51	31	45
Have a private sector pension	20	14	16	24	23	25	23	17
Do not have a pension	42	47	52	42	41	24	46	38

Region

%	Total	E. Ont	416	905	GTA	SW. Ont	N. Ont
Sample	1104	158	196	309	505	249	192
Have a public sector pension	38	41	45	33	38	38	36
Have a private sector pension	20	17	16	18	17	26	21
Do not have a pension	42	43	39	48	44	35	43

Income

%	Total	<\$20K	\$20-\$40K	\$40-\$60K	\$60-\$80K	\$80-\$100K	\$100-\$250K
Sample	1104	101	200	174	114	122	208
Have a public sector pension	38	21	34	33	46	43	37
Have a private sector pension	20	21	23	19	25	14	19
Do not have a pension	42	58	44	48	29	42	44

Provincial Party Preference

%	Total	Progressive Conservative	Liberal	New Democratic	Green	Other parties
Sample	1104	418	426	156	51	21
Have a public sector pension	38	32	46	24	45	56
Have a private sector pension	20	20	17	30	15	20
Do not have a pension	42	48	37	47	40	24

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