

# NEWS RELEASE



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**FOR IMMEDIATE RELEASE**

## **Liberal Budget Gains Disappear**

### **Progressive Conservative Majority, Liberals lose party status if an election held today**

Toronto, April 19<sup>th</sup> - In a random sampling of public opinion taken by The Forum Poll™ among 1126 Ontario voters, the gap between the Progressive Conservatives and their provincial challengers has widened once again, with almost half (46%) saying they would vote PC if an election were held today.

One-quarter (27%) say they would support the NDP, while one-fifth (21%) say they would support the Liberals.

Few (4%) would support the Green Party or another party (2%).

Respondents most likely to say they are supporting the PCs include those aged 45-54 (52%) or 55-64 (50%), male (59%), and anyone earning more than \$40,000 including: \$40,000-\$60,000 (47%), \$60,000-\$80,000 (47%), \$80,000-\$100,000 (49%), and the most wealthy (50%), parents (51%), the least educated (56%), living in Eastern (50%) or Southwestern Ontario (48%), or the 905 (49%).

Respondents most likely to say they are supporting the NDP include those aged 34 and younger (33%), females (33%), earning \$20,000-\$40,000 (29%) or \$40,000-\$60,000 (32%), with a college/university degree (30%) or post-graduate degree (29%), and living in Toronto (30%), Southwestern Ontario (28%), or Northern Ontario (29%).

Respondents most likely to say they are supporting the Liberals include those aged 55-64 (24%) or 65+ (27%), female (26%), the least wealthy (29%), with a post-graduate degree (30%), and living in Toronto (28%).

### **PC Super-majority on the Horizon**

If an election were held today, we project a PC majority government with 94 seats.

The NDP would serve as official opposition with 23 seats, while the Liberals would secure only 7 seats, one too few for party status in Ontario's legislature.

#### **MEDIA INQUIRIES:**

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"The bump in support following the Liberal budget is gone," said Dr. Lorne Bozinoff, President of Forum Research. "The Progressive Conservatives are back where we've seen them for the past year, and Doug Ford looks on track to be Premier in a few months. While campaigns matter, and it's hard to count out an effective campaigner like Kathleen Wynne, the fact that the shine from the Liberals' billions of dollars of promises has already diminished, must be a blow to their chances."

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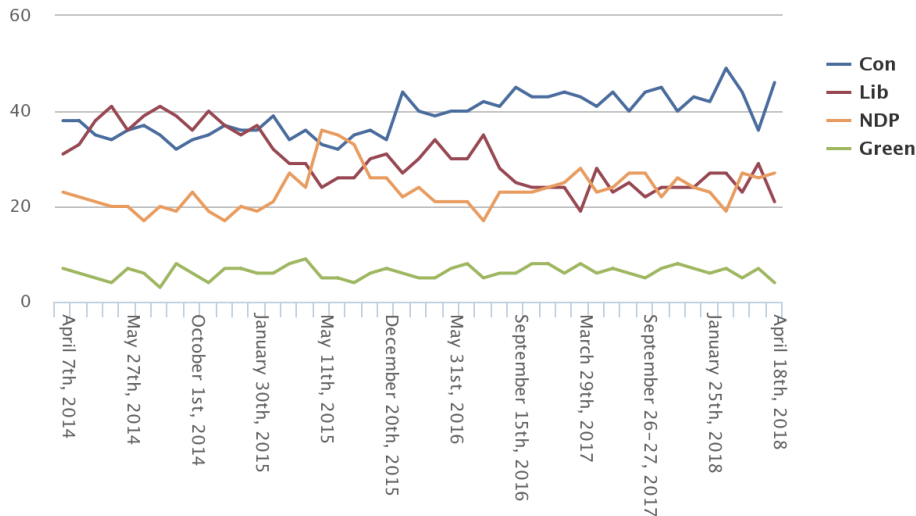


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Provincial Trend in Ontario, April 2018



### **More than half of Ontarians think the PCs will win**

More than half (54%) say that the PCs will win the provincial election. One-fifth (19%), about the same as current Liberal support, say it will be the Liberals. 1 in 10 (10%) say it will be the NDP.

A hopeful few (1%) say it will be the Green Party, while one-sixth (16%) don't know who will win.

Almost 9 in 10 (87%) of PC supporters think the PCs will win.

Contrast that support with (54%) of Liberal supporters who think the Liberals will win, and the quarter (27%) of NDP supporters who say they NDP will win.

### **Ford approval and disapproval even, Wynne still low**

Kathleen Wynne see's approval from one-fifth (18%), and disapproval from three-quarters (73%). Only 1 in 10 (9%) say they do not know. Her net favourable score (Approve-Disapprove) is -54.

Doug Ford's approval and disapproval are even, with (37%) saying they approve and (40%) saying they disapprove. One-quarter (23%) say they do not know.

Doug Ford's net favourable score is -3.

Andrea Horwath sees the best net favourable score, with approval of (37%) and disapproval of (32%). A third (31%) say they do not know about Andrea Horwath.

Her net favourable score is +5



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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 1126 randomly selected Ontario Voters. The poll was conducted April 18, 2018.

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
April 18, 2018	1126	46	21	27	4	2
March 28-29, 2018	728	36	29	26	7	2
March 11, 2018	923	44	23	27	5	2
Feb 17, 2018	949	49	24	19	7	2
Jan 25, 2018	751	42	27	23	6	2
Jan 11-13, 2018	1022	43	24	24	7	2
Nov 29-30, 2017	861	40	24	26	8	2
Oct 24-25, 2017	946	45	27	22	7	2
Sept 26-27, 2017	801	44	22	27	5	2
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



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**Overall Seat Distribution**

%	Con	Lib	NDP
April 18, 2018	94	7	23
March 29, 2018	57	36	31
March 11, 2018	84	11	29
Feb 17, 2018	93	10	21
Jan 11-13, 2018 (124)	88	12	24
November 29-30, 2017	80	11	31
October 24-25, 2017	89	10	23
September 26-27, 2017	84	12	26
August 22-23, 2017	79	13	30
June 12-14, 2017	87	9	26
May 9-10, 2017	72	25	25
March 28-30, 2017	86	7	29
February 15-16, 2017	84	11	27
November 21 <sup>st</sup> , 2016	70	11	26
October 17-18 <sup>th</sup> , 2016	72	11	24
September 12-13 <sup>th</sup> , 2016	75	8	24
August 15 <sup>th</sup> , 2016	69	15	23
July 12 <sup>th</sup> , 2016	48	44	15
June 21 <sup>st</sup> , 2016	51	36	20
May 31 <sup>st</sup> , 2016	57	26	24
April 28 <sup>th</sup> , 2016	53	33	21
March 23 <sup>rd</sup> , 2016	57	26	24
February 26 <sup>th</sup> -29 <sup>th</sup> , 2016	67	16	24
December 20 <sup>th</sup> , 2015	44	35	28
November 2 <sup>nd</sup> -4 <sup>th</sup> , 2015	54	19	34
August 11 <sup>th</sup> -12 <sup>th</sup> , 2015	54	19	34
July 8 <sup>th</sup> , 2015	35	27	45
May 11 <sup>th</sup> , 2015	49	18	40
May 1 <sup>st</sup> , 2015	48	33	26
March 26 <sup>th</sup> , 2015	52	23	32
February 28 <sup>th</sup> , 2015	49	39	19
January 30 <sup>th</sup> , 2015	34	56	17
December 20 <sup>th</sup> , 2014	37	52	18
November 29 <sup>th</sup> , 2014	38	52	17
November 1 <sup>st</sup> , 2014	37	56	14
October 1 <sup>st</sup> , 2014	35	51	21
August 20-21 <sup>st</sup> , 2014	31	61	15
Election – June 12 <sup>th</sup> , 2014	28	58	21
June 5 <sup>th</sup> , 2014	39	57	11
May 27 <sup>th</sup> , 2014	42	50	15
May 20 <sup>th</sup> , 2014	31	63	13
May 12 <sup>th</sup> , 2014	26	68	13
May 2-3 <sup>rd</sup> , 2014	45	49	13



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**Voter intent**

*If a provincial election were held today in Ontario, 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?*

*[Base=decided and leaning]*

**Age/Gender**

%	Total	18-34	35-44	45-54	55-64	65+	Male	Female
Sample	1069	171	150	181	246	321	587	460
Progressive Conservative	46	38	44	52	50	46	59	35
Liberal	21	21	19	15	24	27	16	26
New Democratic	27	33	30	27	21	23	21	33
Green	4	5	6	5	3	3	3	5
Another Party	2	2	1	1	3	1	2	1

**Income**

%	Total	<\$20K	\$20-\$40K	\$40-\$60K	\$60-\$80K	\$80-\$100K	\$100-\$250K
Sample	1069	69	140	122	140	153	236
Progressive Conservative	46	33	39	47	47	49	50
Liberal	21	29	22	16	22	19	25
New Democratic	27	25	29	32	26	28	21
Green	4	9	9	4	2	3	3
Another Party	2	3	1	1	2	2	1

**Parents**

%	Total	Yes	No	Moms
Sample	1069	264	805	95
Progressive Conservative	46	51	44	37
Liberal	21	15	24	19
New Democratic	27	26	27	32
Green	4	7	3	11
Another Party	2	2	1	1



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**Education**

%	Total	Secondary school or less	Some college or university	Completed college or university	Post graduate studies
<b>Sample</b>	<b>1069</b>	<b>166</b>	<b>254</b>	<b>444</b>	<b>205</b>
Progressive Conservative	46	56	51	45	35
Liberal	21	16	19	21	30
New Democratic	27	19	24	30	29
Green	4	6	5	4	3
Another Party	2	3	1	1	3

**Region**

%	Total	Eastern Ontario	416	905	South-western Ontario	Northern Ontario
<b>Sample</b>	<b>1069</b>	<b>173</b>	<b>236</b>	<b>277</b>	<b>237</b>	<b>146</b>
Progressive Conservative	46	50	36	49	48	45
Liberal	21	19	28	22	17	20
New Democratic	27	24	30	24	28	29
Green	4	5	5	4	5	4
Another Party	2	2	1	1	2	2



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### Wynne Approval

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	1126	175	162	186	265	338	611	491
Approve	18	20	15	15	19	22	14	22
Disapprove	73	69	71	79	75	68	79	67
Don't know	9	11	14	6	6	9	6	11

#### Income

%	Total	<\$20K	\$20-\$40K	\$40-\$60K	\$60-\$80K	\$80-\$100K	\$100-\$250K
Sample	1126	76	152	131	144	157	245
Approve	18	31	22	10	20	16	20
Disapprove	73	58	63	84	71	75	74
Don't know	9	11	15	6	8	9	6

#### Education

%	Total	Secondary school or less	Some college or university	Completed college or university	Post graduate studies
Sample	1126	184	261	464	217
Approve	18	15	17	17	25
Disapprove	73	77	72	74	67
Don't know	9	8	11	9	9

#### Region

%	Total	Eastern Ontario	416	905	South-western Ontario	Northern Ontario
Sample	1126	178	244	292	255	157
Approve	18	22	24	15	17	17
Disapprove	73	70	65	75	77	76
Don't know	9	9	11	11	6	8



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**Ballot intention**

%	Total	Progressive Conservative	Liberal	New Democratic	Green	Other Parties
Sample	1126	528	245	219	54	23
Approve	18	2	56	19	16	11
Disapprove	73	95	32	68	71	77
Don't know	9	3	12	13	14	11



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### Ford Approval

*Do you approve or disapprove of the job Doug Ford is doing as leader of the Progressive Conservatives?*

### Age/Gender

%	Total	18-34	35-44	45-54	55-64	65+	Male	Female
Sample	1126	175	162	186	265	338	611	491
Approve	37	34	35	44	38	35	45	30
Disapprove	40	42	40	36	40	41	32	46
Don't know	23	24	25	21	22	25	23	24

### Income

%	Total	<\$20K	\$20-\$40K	\$40-\$60K	\$60-\$80K	\$80-\$100K	\$100-\$250K
Sample	1126	76	152	131	144	157	245
Approve	37	27	37	38	30	41	34
Disapprove	40	42	38	44	40	34	47
Don't know	23	31	26	18	29	25	19

### Education

%	Total	Secondary school or less	Some college or university	Completed college or university	Post graduate studies
Sample	1126	184	261	464	217
Approve	37	46	41	36	27
Disapprove	40	24	33	42	57
Don't know	23	30	26	22	17

### Region

%	Total	Eastern Ontario	416	905	South-western Ontario	Northern Ontario
Sample	1126	178	244	292	255	157
Approve	37	35	28	44	37	34
Disapprove	40	36	53	36	37	39
Don't know	23	29	18	21	26	26



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### Ballot intention

%	Total	Progressive Conservative	Liberal	New Democratic	Green	Other Parties
Sample	1126	528	245	219	54	23
Approve	37	69	7	15	12	16
Disapprove	40	9	69	68	53	65
Don't know	23	22	23	17	34	20



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**Horwath Approval**

*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	1126	175	162	186	265	338	611	491
Approve	37	32	39	38	36	41	33	40
Disapprove	32	33	32	34	33	28	37	27
Don't know	31	35	29	29	31	31	29	33

**Income**

%	Total	<\$20K	\$20-\$40K	\$40-\$60K	\$60-\$80K	\$80-\$100K	\$100-\$250K
Sample	1126	76	152	131	144	157	245
Approve	37	18	38	36	36	38	42
Disapprove	32	30	28	35	35	37	32
Don't know	31	52	34	29	30	24	25

**Education**

%	Total	Secondary school or less	Some college or university	Completed college or university	Post graduate studies
Sample	1126	184	261	464	217
Approve	37	18	31	42	46
Disapprove	32	38	37	27	31
Don't know	31	44	32	31	23

**Region**

%	Total	Eastern Ontario	416	905	South-western Ontario	Northern Ontario
Sample	1126	178	244	292	255	157
Approve	37	37	37	38	36	33
Disapprove	32	28	35	35	31	25
Don't know	31	35	28	27	33	42



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**Ballot intention**

%	Total	Progressive Conservative	Liberal	New Democratic	Green	Other Parties
Sample	1126	528	245	219	54	23
Approve	37	24	34	70	31	24
Disapprove	32	46	28	10	30	45
Don't know	31	30	37	21	39	31



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### Expectation of winner

Regardless of which party you will vote for, in your opinion, who will win the Ontario provincial election?

### Age/Gender

%	Total	18-34	35-44	45-54	55-64	65+	Male	Female
Sample	1126	175	162	186	265	338	611	491
Progressive Conservative	54	52	53	62	54	49	65	45
Liberal	19	25	17	16	16	19	13	25
New Democratic	10	12	10	12	7	7	9	10
Green	1	1	2	0	1	1	1	1
Don't know	16	10	18	10	22	23	12	19

### Income

%	Total	<\$20K	\$20-\$40K	\$40-\$60K	\$60-\$80K	\$80-\$100K	\$100-\$250K
Sample	1126	76	152	131	144	157	245
Progressive Conservative	54	26	46	54	59	56	64
Liberal	19	27	26	15	23	15	20
New Democratic	10	23	10	14	5	12	4
Green	1	2	3	1	1	0	1
Don't know	16	22	14	16	13	17	11

### Education

%	Total	Secondary school or less	Some college or university	Completed college or university	Post graduate studies
Sample	1126	184	261	464	217
Progressive Conservative	54	50	57	54	55
Liberal	19	15	20	19	23
New Democratic	10	13	9	10	8
Green	1	2	1	1	1
Don't know	16	20	13	17	13



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### Region

%	Total	Eastern Ontario	416	905	South-western Ontario	Northern Ontario
Sample	1126	178	244	292	255	157
Progressive Conservative	54	65	46	55	53	54
Liberal	19	18	25	16	19	18
New Democratic	10	7	10	11	9	10
Green	1	1	0	1	2	3
Don't know	16	10	18	17	17	15

### Ballot intention

%	Total	Progressive Conservative	Liberal	New Democratic	Green	Other Parties
Sample	1126	528	245	219	54	23
Progressive Conservative	54	87	20	34	29	54
Liberal	19	4	54	19	21	5
New Democratic	10	4	6	27	8	10
Green	1	0	0	1	15	5
Don't know	16	5	19	20	27	26

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