

# NEWS RELEASE



## MEDIA INQUIRIES:

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## FOR IMMEDIATE RELEASE

### **Two thirds concerned refugees will burden health, social system**

#### **Not seen to have positive effect on economy**

TORONTO December 8<sup>th</sup>, 2015 - In a random sampling of public opinion taken by the Forum Poll™ among 1369 Canadian voters, two thirds are concerned Syrian refugees settled in Canada will create a strain on our health care and social services (63%), and as many as 4-in-10 are “very concerned” (42%). One third in total are not concerned (35%).

#### **Majority not concerned about job loss to refugees**

Just 4-in-10 are concerned refugees will take jobs from Canadians (42%) and just one quarter are “very concerned” (26%). The majority are not concerned about this (56%).

#### **Refugees not seen to have positive effect on economy**

Just one third of Canadians think the Syrian refugees will have a positive effect on Canada’s economy (32%), while the plurality, 4-in-10, think there will be no positive impact (41%). More than a quarter do not espouse a position on this measure (27%).

“These are not encouraging indicators. Canadians think these new citizens will prove a burden on our already overtaxed public services and that they will do nothing to enhance the economy. That may be in part why they are not afraid of losing their jobs to the newcomers,” 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](mailto:lbozinoff@forumresearch.com) or at (416) 960-9603.

## TORONTO

December 8<sup>th</sup>, 2015

## HIGHLIGHTS:

- Two thirds are concerned Syrian refugees settled in Canada will create a strain on our health care and social services (63%).
- Just 4-in-10 are concerned refugees will take jobs from Canadians (42%) and just one quarter are “very concerned” (26%).
- Just one third of Canadians think the Syrian refugees will have a positive effect on Canada’s economy (32%), while the plurality, 2-in-10, think there will be no positive impact (41%).
- “These are not encouraging indicators. Canadians think these new citizens will prove a burden on our already overtaxed public services and that they will do nothing to enhance the economy. That may be in part why they are not afraid of losing their jobs to the newcomers,” 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 1369 randomly selected Canadians 18 years of age or older. The poll was conducted between December 6<sup>th</sup> and 8<sup>th</sup>, 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](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. 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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**December 8<sup>th</sup>, 2015**

**Syrian Refugees: Health Care System & Social Services**

*'How concerned are you Syrian refugees will create a strain on our health care system and social services?'*

[All Respondents]

**Age / Gender**

%	Total	18-34	35-44	45-54	55-64	65+	Male	Female
<b>Sample</b>	<b>1369</b>	<b>311</b>	<b>186</b>	<b>242</b>	<b>309</b>	<b>321</b>	<b>733</b>	<b>636</b>
Very concerned	42	38	47	45	46	35	40	44
Somewhat concerned	21	15	17	25	22	29	21	21
Not very concerned	24	27	21	19	25	26	24	23
Not at all concerned	12	17	12	10	5	9	12	11
Don't know	2	3	2	1	3	1	3	2

**Region**

%	Total	Atl	Que	ON	Man/Sask	AB	BC	English	French
<b>Sample</b>	<b>1369</b>	<b>116</b>	<b>319</b>	<b>494</b>	<b>100</b>	<b>148</b>	<b>192</b>	<b>1064</b>	<b>305</b>
Very concerned	42	38	36	45	51	51	32	44	35
Somewhat concerned	21	26	19	22	16	21	21	22	17
Not very concerned	24	26	28	20	20	17	31	22	30
Not at all concerned	12	9	14	11	7	9	15	11	15
Don't know	2	1	2	2	5	2	1	2	3

**Education**

%	Total	Secondary school or less	Some college or university	Completed college or university	Post graduate studies
<b>Sample</b>	<b>1369</b>	<b>288</b>	<b>366</b>	<b>500</b>	<b>215</b>
Very concerned	42	56	46	37	26
Somewhat concerned	21	20	21	23	16
Not very concerned	24	15	20	26	35
Not at all concerned	12	7	11	11	21
Don't know	2	2	2	2	2

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## TORONTO

December 8<sup>th</sup>, 2015

### *Federal Vote Preference*

%	Total	Cons	Lib	NDP	Green	Bloc	Other Parties
Sample	1369	418	561	188	93	54	24
Very concerned	42	65	28	34	33	45	54
Somewhat concerned	21	21	21	21	22	27	11
Not very concerned	24	10	34	26	23	15	21
Not at all concerned	12	1	16	16	18	9	10
Don't know	2	2	1	2	3	3	4

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**December 8<sup>th</sup>, 2015**

**Syrian Refugees: Jobs**

*'How concerned are you Syrian refugees will take jobs from Canadian citizens?'*

*[All Respondents]*

**Age / Gender**

%	Total	18-34	35-44	45-54	55-64	65+	Male	Female
Sample	1369	311	186	242	309	321	733	636
Very concerned	26	24	27	30	29	22	25	27
Somewhat concerned	15	15	14	16	16	18	16	15
Not very concerned	36	35	35	34	39	41	35	38
Not at all concerned	20	23	23	20	14	17	21	18
Don't know	2	3	1	1	3	2	2	2

**Region**

%	Total	Atl	Que	ON	Man/Sask	AB	BC	English	French
Sample	1369	116	319	494	100	148	192	1064	305
Very concerned	26	26	16	30	35	39	20	29	17
Somewhat concerned	15	18	14	18	11	13	14	16	13
Not very concerned	36	39	38	36	30	31	42	36	38
Not at all concerned	20	15	30	15	21	14	20	17	29
Don't know	2	1	3	1	3	2	4	2	3

**Education**

%	Total	Secondary school or less	Some college or university	Completed college or university	Post graduate studies
Sample	1369	288	366	500	215
Very concerned	26	42	30	22	9
Somewhat concerned	15	20	15	16	8
Not very concerned	36	24	37	38	48
Not at all concerned	20	11	16	22	34
Don't know	2	3	3	2	1

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### *Federal Vote Preference*

%	Total	Cons	Lib	NDP	Green	Bloc	Other Parties
Sample	1369	418	561	188	93	54	24
Very concerned	26	41	17	23	22	25	30
Somewhat concerned	15	20	13	13	12	22	18
Not very concerned	36	27	45	35	38	27	36
Not at all concerned	20	11	24	26	24	24	11
Don't know	2	1	1	3	4	2	4

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**Positive Impact on the Economy**

*'Will the Syrian refugees have a positive impact on Canada's economy or not?'*

[All Respondents]

**Age / Gender**

%	Total	18-34	35-44	45-54	55-64	65+	Male	Female
Sample	1369	311	186	242	309	321	733	636
They will have a positive impact	32	36	27	25	31	40	33	31
They will not have a positive impact	41	38	46	45	43	34	43	39
Don't know	27	26	27	31	26	26	24	30

**Region**

%	Total	Atl	Que	ON	Man/Sask	AB	BC	English	French
Sample	1369	116	319	494	100	148	192	1064	305
They will have a positive impact	32	38	34	28	24	27	40	31	34
They will not have a positive impact	41	34	35	42	49	55	38	43	36
Don't know	27	28	30	30	27	17	22	26	30

**Education**

%	Total	Secondary school or less	Some college or university	Completed college or university	Post graduate studies
Sample	1369	288	366	500	215
They will have a positive impact	32	25	31	30	47
They will not have a positive impact	41	47	42	42	29
Don't know	27	28	27	28	24

**Federal Vote Preference**

%	Total	Cons	Lib	NDP	Green	Bloc	Other Parties
Sample	1369	418	561	188	93	54	24
They will have a positive impact	32	12	46	38	32	19	23
They will not have a positive impact	41	67	25	35	31	57	42
Don't know	27	22	29	27	37	24	35

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