

FORUM RESEARCH INC.

FOR IMMEDIATE RELEASE

Federal Liberals tied with Conservatives, NDP behind

Trudeau-led Liberals with a strong lead

Toronto, March 8th, 2013 – In a random sampling of public opinion taken by the Forum Poll[™] among 1,755 Canadians 18 years of age and older, 3-in-10 would vote either for the Liberals (30%) or the Conservatives (31%), while just more than a quarter would vote NDP (27%). About one fifth would vote Bloc Quebecois (6%) or Green (5%). These standings have not changed materially since we last polled in February. The Conservatives are especially likely to find support among those aged 35 to 44 (38%), among the wealthiest (\$80K to \$100K - 37%, \$100K+ - 41%), in Ontario (37%), the prairies (47%) and Alberta (51%). Liberals find more support among the oldest voters (65+ - 36%) and those in Atlantic Canada (40%). New Democrats are supported by the youngest group (<35 - 37%), lower income groups (\$20K to \$40K - 32%), in the Atlantic (32%) and in BC (35%).

Conservatives headed for slim minority

These results would see the Conservatives take a minority of 125 seats in the current 308 seat house, similar to the 129 they were projected to win last month, and well down from the 166 seats they won in the election of 2011. The Liberals would take 88 seats to become the official opposition again, and the NDP would take 76 seats. The Bloc Quebecois would win a surprisingly robust 18 seats and the Green Party would keep leader Elizabeth May's seat.

Trudeau-led Liberals to win strong minority government

If an election were held today with Justin Trudeau at the head of the Liberal Party, they would take 4-in-10 votes (39%), compared to one third for the Conservatives (32%) and just one fifth for the NDP (20%). Few would vote Bloc (5%) or Green (3%). Under this scenario, the Liberals would win a strong minority of 149 seats in the current 308 seat house, compared to 115 for the Conservatives and just 41 for the NDP. With Trudeau as leader, the Bloc's seat count evaporates, and they take just 2, while the Greens keep their one seat. Under Trudeau, the Liberals are especially popular among older Canadians (55 to 64 - 43%, 65+ - 42%), the least wealthy (<\$20K - 44%) and mid income groups (\$60K to \$80K - 46%), in Atlantic Canada (50%), among voters with an ethnicity other than Canadian, European, British, Irish, Scottish, or Welsh (47%) and those whose first language is neither French nor English (46%).

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TORONTO March 8th, 2013

HIGHLIGHTS:

- 3-in-10 would vote either for the Liberals (30%) or the Conservatives (31%), while just more than a quarter would vote NDP (27%). These results would see the Conservatives take a minority of 125 seats in the current 308 seat house, similar to the 129 they were projected to win last month.
- If an election were held today with Justin Trudeau at the head of the Liberal Party, they would take 4-in-10 votes (39%), compared to one third for the Conservatives (32%) and just one fifth for the NDP (20%). Under this scenario, the Liberals would win a strong minority of 149 seats in the current 308 seat house, compared to 115 for the Conservatives and just 41 for the NDP.
- Prime Minister Harper has the approval of one third of voters (34%).



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Mulcair favourables down, others steady

Prime Minister Harper has the approval of one third of voters (34%), but his net favourable (approve minus disapprove) is just -23. Bob Rae has identical approval (34%), but his net is a much more favourable +1. Tom Mulcair's approval rating has dropped from 38% to 35%, and his favourable is +2, comparable to Bob Rae's.

"Justin Trudeau continues to solidify his position at the top of the leaderboard. We stopped polling the Liberal leadership months ago, as it's all over bar the shouting; Trudeau and his team are organizing (and recruiting) for the general election now. Don't expect to see them let up after April 14," said Forum Research President, Dr. Lorne Bozinoff.

Lorne Bozinoff, Ph.D. is the president and founder of Forum Research. He can be reached at <u>lbozinoff@forumresearch.com</u> or at (416) 960-9603.

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HIGHLIGHTS:

• "Justin Trudeau continues to solidify his position at the top of the leaderboard. We stopped polling the Liberal leadership months ago, as it's all over bar the shouting; Trudeau and his team are organizing (and recruiting) for the general election now. Don't expect to see them let up after April 14," said Forum Research President, Dr. Lorne Bozinoff.

Methodology

The Forum PollTM was conducted by Forum Research with the results based on an interactive voice response telephone survey of 1,755 randomly selected Canadians 18 years of age and older. The poll was conducted from March 6th to 7th, 2013.

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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 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.

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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Party Preference Trending

[Decided/Leaning]

%	Sample	Cons	Lib	NDP	Green	Bloc	Other
March 6 th -7 th , 2013	1663	31	30	27	5	6	1
Feb 6 th , 2013	1051	32	30	26	4	6	1
Jan 16 th -17 th , 2013	1555	36	25	28	4	7	1
Dec 18 th , 2012	1296	31	27	28	6	6	1
Nov 19 th , 2012	1776	33	28	28	4	6	1
Oct 27 th , 2012	1680	31	27	32	4	6	1
Sep 27 th , 2012	1692	35	25	30	3	6	1
Aug 22 nd , 2012	1640	34	22	34	4	6	1
Jul 25 th -26 th , 2012	1545	31	22	35	5	6	1
Jun 27 th , 2012	1114	35	19	35	3	6	1
Jun 14 th , 2012	1482	30	22	37	5	6	1
May 23 rd , 2012	1756	32	20	36	6	5	1
Apr 24 th , 2012	1669	33	22	36	2	6	1
Mar 30 th , 2012	1591	36	19	34	5	5	1
Mar 26 th -27 th , 2012	1565	35	19	35	3	7	1
Mar 2 nd -3 rd , 2012	1603	37	25	28	4	5	1
Feb 6 th , 2012	1148	36	26	28	3	6	1
Jan 13 th , 2012	1140	35	25	28	4	6	1
Dec 13 th , 2011	1160	33	21	27	8	6	5
Federal Election May 2 nd , 2011	n/a	40	19	31	4	6	0

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Seat Distribution Projection Trending

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%	Cons	Lib	NDP	Green	Bloc	Other
March 6 th -7 th , 2013	125	88	76	1	18	0
Feb 6 ^{th,} 2013	129	86	81	1	11	0
Jan 16 th -17 th , 2013	144	68	73	1	22	0
Dec 18 th , 2012	129	77	77	1	24	0
Nov 19 th , 2012	138	83	76	1	10	0
Oct 27 th , 2012	122	76	101	1	8	0
Sep 27 th , 2012	142	66	87	1	12	0
Aug 22 nd , 2012	140	46	114	1	7	0
July 25 th -26 th , 2012	114	58	128	1	7	0
June 27 th , 2012	144	32	127	1	4	0
June 14 th , 2012	114	53	136	1	4	0
May 23 rd , 2012	123	42	138	1	4	0
Apr 24 th , 2012	118	54	133	1	2	0
Mar 30 th , 2012	142	36	126	1	3	0
Mar 26 th -27 th , 2012	151	25	120	1	11	0
Mar 2 nd -3 rd , 2012	145	69	78	1	15	0
Feb 6 th , 2012	151	60	88	1	8	0
Federal Election May 2 nd , 2011	166	34	103	1	4	0

Party Preference with Trudeau as Liberal Leader Trending

[Decided/Leaning]

%	Sample	Cons	Lib	NDP	Green	Bloc	Other
March 6 th -7 th , 2013	1684	32	39	20	3	5	1
Feb 6 ^{th,} 2013	1055	30	41	20	2	6	1
Jan 16 th -17 th , 2013	1553	33	35	21	3	7	1
Dec 18 th , 2012	1311	30	39	22	4	5	1
Nov 19 th , 2012	1775	30	39	23	2	6	1
Oct 27 th , 2012	1694	29	39	24	2	5	1
Sep 27 th , 2012	1707	32	39	20	2	6	1

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Seat Distribution Projection with Trudeau as Liberal Leader Trending

%	Cons	Lib	NDP	Green	Bloc	Other
March 6 th -7 th , 2013	115	149	41	1	2	0
Feb 6 ^{th,} 2013	93	164	45	1	5	0
Jan 16 th -17 th , 2013	120	112	50	1	25	0
Dec 18 th , 2012	109	154	41	1	3	0
Nov 19 th , 2012	107	150	44	1	6	0
Oct 27 th , 2012	104	160	42	1	1	0
Sep 27 th , 2012	115	149	38	1	5	0

Federal Leader Approval Rating Trending (% Approve)

[All Respondents]

%	Sample	Rae	Harper	Mulcair
March 6 th -7 th , 2013	1755	34	34	35
Feb 6 ^{th,} 2013	1091	34	33	38
Jan 16 th -17 th , 2013	1626	32	38	37
Dec 18 th , 2012	1355	39	35	39
Nov 19 th , 2012	1849	35	36	33
Oct 27 th , 2012	1735	34	36	38
Sep 27 th , 2012	1758	31	39	37
Aug 22 nd , 2012	1720	32	36	41
July 25 th -26 th , 2012	1639	34	32	36
June 27 th , 2012	1165	36	35	39
June 14 th , 2012	1529	40	31	39
May 23 rd , 2012	1836	33	33	41
Apr 24 th , 2012	1669	35	34	41
Mar 30th, 2012	1675	36	34	32
Mar 26th-27th, 2012	1638	32	34	32

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Current Federal Party Preference

'If a federal 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	1663	171	214	363	444	471	793	870
Conservative	31	26	38	34	29	31	34	29
Liberal	30	24	25	32	30	36	28	31
New Democratic	27	37	26	20	29	23	26	27
Green	5	6	5	6	5	3	4	6
Bloc Quebecois	6	6	5	7	6	6	6	6
Other	1	1	1	1	1	1	1	1

Region

%	Total	Atl	Que	ON	Man/Sask	AB	BC
Sample	1663	155	384	601	131	181	211
Conservative	31	22	15	37	47	51	32
Liberal	30	40	31	33	26	21	21
New Democratic	27	32	27	25	20	22	35
Green	5	5	4	4	6	5	11
Bloc Quebecois	6	0	22	0	0	0	0
Other	1	1	1	1	1	2	1

Household Income

%	Total	<\$20K	\$20-40K	\$40-60K	\$60-80K	\$80-100K	\$100K+
Sample	1663	178	300	248	239	169	290
Conservative	31	21	31	27	28	37	41
Liberal	30	32	26	27	34	31	28
New Democratic	27	30	32	29	26	25	23
Green	5	8	6	5	4	3	5
Bloc Quebecois	6	9	4	12	7	3	3
Other	1	1	1	1	1	0	0

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Past Vote (2011 Federal Election)

%	Total	Cons	Lib	NDP	Green	Bloc	Other Parties
Sample	1663	591	380	374	76	88	53
Conservative	31	73	5	4	10	7	26
Liberal	30	16	77	15	16	13	13
New Democratic	27	9	14	73	13	18	24
Green	5	1	3	3	55	4	22
Bloc Quebecois	6	1	1	4	3	58	3
Other	1	1	0	1	3	0	11

Education

%	Total	Elementary school	Secondary school	Some college / university	Completed college / university	Post grad studies
Sample	1663	47	372	465	515	264
Conservative	31	32	34	29	33	29
Liberal	30	21	28	33	28	32
New Democratic	27	36	26	25	28	27
Green	5	7	3	6	4	7
Bloc Quebecois	6	2	8	6	5	4
Other	1	2	1	1	1	1

Ethnic Background

%	Total	Canadian	European	British, Irish, Scottish or Welsh	Other
Sample	1663	904	273	255	231
Conservative	31	30	38	36	25
Liberal	30	30	24	26	40
New Democratic	27	28	24	29	24
Green	5	5	7	5	4
Bloc Quebecois	6	7	5	3	6
Other	1	1	1	0	1

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Born in Canada / First Language

%	Total	Yes	No	English	French	Some other language
Sample	1663	1372	291	1034	387	242
Conservative	31	31	36	37	16	38
Liberal	30	28	38	29	29	35
New Democratic	27	29	17	28	28	18
Green	5	5	7	5	4	7
Bloc Quebecois	6	7	1	0	22	0
Other	1	1	1	1	1	1

Religion

%	Total	NET: Christian	NET: Other	Protestant Christian	Evangelical Christian	Catholic	Other Christian	None
Sample	1663	1221	124	451	65	596	109	318
Conservativ e	31	35	21	42	55	28	37	23
Liberal	30	31	32	29	27	32	30	26
New Democratic	27	23	35	24	12	23	27	36
Green	5	4	9	3	4	3	5	9
Bloc Quebecois	6	7	2	0	0	12	1	5
Other	1	1	1	1	1	1	1	1

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Current Federal Party Preference if Justin Trudeau were Liberal Leader

'If a federal election were held today, which party would you be most likely to vote for if Justin Trudeau were the Liberal leader?' + 'Even though you may not have made up your mind, which party would you be leaning towards if Justin Trudeau were Liberal leader?'

[Decided/Leaning]

Age / Gender

%	Total	18-34	35-44	45-54	55-64	65+	Male	Female
Sample	1684	172	223	365	442	482	802	882
Conservative	32	28	38	34	27	32	36	28
Liberal	39	33	33	42	43	42	34	43
New Democratic	20	30	21	13	21	17	21	20
Green	3	4	3	4	2	2	2	3
Bloc Quebecois	5	4	4	7	6	5	6	5
Other	1	1	1	1	1	1	1	1

Region

%	Total	Atl	Que	ON	Man/Sask	AB	BC
Sample	1684	156	392	605	134	182	215
Conservative	32	25	15	36	49	54	32
Liberal	39	50	41	42	32	26	31
New Democratic	20	21	21	19	14	16	31
Green	3	3	2	2	4	3	6
Bloc Quebecois	5	0	20	0	0	0	0
Other	1	1	1	1	1	2	1

Household Income

%	Total	<\$20K	\$20-40K	\$40-60K	\$60-80K	\$80-100K	\$100K+
Sample	1684	184	305	251	237	171	292
Conservative	32	20	29	28	28	34	41
Liberal	39	44	42	37	46	37	31
New Democratic	20	22	22	22	19	22	20
Green	3	4	3	3	2	2	3
Bloc Quebecois	5	9	4	10	5	4	3
Other	1	1	1	1	1	0	1

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Current Federal Party Preference

%	Total	Cons	Lib	NDP	Green	Bloc	Other Parties
Sample	1684	500	475	389	116	81	80
Conservative	32	91	6	2	11	1	32
Liberal	39	8	91	22	32	13	29
New Democratic	20	1	3	75	5	0	11
Green	3	0	0	0	49	0	2
Bloc Quebecois	5	0	0	1	3	86	1
Other	1	0	0	0	0	0	25

Education

%	Total	Elementary school	Secondary school	Some college / university	Completed college / university	Post grad studies
Sample	1684	49	382	468	520	265
Conservative	32	33	33	29	33	32
Liberal	39	34	39	44	36	37
New Democratic	20	27	18	17	23	22
Green	3	2	2	3	3	4
Bloc Quebecois	5	2	6	6	5	4
Other	1	2	1	1	1	1

Ethnic Background

%	Total	Canadian	European	British, Irish, Scottish or Welsh	Other
Sample	1684	916	275	261	232
Conservative	32	31	38	33	27
Liberal	39	38	34	39	47
New Democratic	20	22	19	20	17
Green	3	2	4	3	3
Bloc Quebecois	5	6	4	4	5
Other	1	1	1	1	1

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Born in Canada / First Language

%	Total	Yes	No	English	French	Some other language
Sample	1684	1388	296	1049	392	243
Conservative	32	31	33	37	17	35
Liberal	39	38	46	37	38	46
New Democratic	20	21	15	22	21	13
Green	3	3	4	3	2	4
Bloc Quebecois	5	6	1	0	20	0
Other	1	1	1	1	1	1

Religion

%	Total	NET: Christian	NET: Other	Protestant Christian	Evangelical Christian	Catholic	Other Christian	None
Sample	1684	1241	125	460	65	602	114	318
Conservative	32	35	23	42	55	27	42	23
Liberal	39	40	37	37	29	43	38	38
New Democratic	20	17	32	18	12	17	15	29
Green	3	2	5	2	3	2	2	5
Bloc Quebecois	5	6	3	0	0	11	2	5
Other	1	1	0	1	1	1	1	1

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Approval of Leaders:

Conservative

'Do you approve or disapprove of the job Stephen Harper is doing as Prime Minister?'

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[All Respondents]

Age / Gender

%	Total	18-34	35-44	45-54	55-64	65+	Male	Female
Sample	1755	177	233	384	466	495	824	931
Approve	34	28	42	36	32	33	37	31
Disapprove	57	63	50	56	59	56	57	57
Don't know	9	9	8	8	9	11	6	12

Region

%	Total	Atl	Que	ON	Man/Sask	AB	BC
Sample	1755	162	406	636	138	193	220
Approve	34	24	22	39	46	43	34
Disapprove	57	70	69	51	45	48	56
Don't know	9	7	8	10	9	9	10

Household Income

%	Total	<\$20K	\$20-40K	\$40-60K	\$60-80K	\$80-100K	\$100K+
Sample	1755	190	317	263	247	175	299
Approve	34	25	27	34	34	36	45
Disapprove	57	65	58	57	57	61	50
Don't know	9	10	15	9	9	3	5

Current Federal Party Preference

%	Total	Cons	Lib	NDP	Green	Bloc	Other Parties
Sample	1755	504	482	397	117	81	82
Approve	34	83	18	9	25	10	19
Disapprove	57	11	74	85	69	89	55
Don't know	9	6	8	6	6	2	26

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Education

%	Total	Elementary school	Secondary school	Some college / university	Completed college / university	Post grad studies
Sample	1755	50	400	485	548	272
Approve	34	38	33	31	37	32
Disapprove	57	53	54	60	54	61
Don't know	9	9	12	8	9	6

Ethnic Background

%	Total	Canadian	Canadian European		Other
Sample	1755	950	284	270	251
Approve	34	33	40	37	27
Disapprove	57	59	54	58	54
Don't know	9	8	6	6	19

Born in Canada / First Language

%	Total	Yes	No	English	French	Some other language
Sample	1755	1446	309	1090	405	260
Approve	34	33	40	36	23	42
Disapprove	57	59	48	56	69	41
Don't know	9	8	13	7	9	17

Religion

%	Total	NET: Christian	NET: Other	Protestant Christian	Evangelical Christian	Catholic	Other Christian	None
Sample	1755	1293	133	476	66	635	116	329
Approve	34	37	38	41	50	32	49	22
Disapprove	57	53	55	51	46	57	42	70
Don't know	9	10	7	8	4	11	9	8

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NDP

'Do you approve or disapprove of the job Thomas Mulcair is doing as Leader of the Opposition?'

[All Respondents]

Age / Gender

%	Total	18-34	35-44	45-54	55-64	65+	Male	Female
Sample	1755	177	233	384	466	495	824	931
Approve	35	33	38	30	36	41	40	30
Disapprove	33	27	33	39	37	32	40	27
Don't know	32	40	29	31	28	27	20	43

Region

%	Total	Atl	Que	ON	Man/Sask	AB	BC
Sample	1755	162	406	636	138	193	220
Approve	35	40	49	29	37	20	36
Disapprove	33	33	25	34	38	45	33
Don't know	32	27	27	37	25	35	31

Household Income

%	Total	<\$20K	\$20-40K	\$40-60K	\$60-80K	\$80-100K	\$100K+
Sample	1755	190	317	263	247	175	299
Approve	35	34	33	31	40	39	36
Disapprove	33	30	29	33	33	38	38
Don't know	32	36	38	36	27	23	26

Current Federal Party Preference

%	Total	Cons	Lib	NDP	Green	Bloc	Other Parties
Sample	1755	504	482	397	117	81	82
Approve	35	21	35	58	33	49	13
Disapprove	33	50	34	16	26	34	30
Don't know	32	30	30	26	40	17	57

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Education

%	Total	Elementary school	Secondary school	Some college / university	Completed college / university	Post grad studies
Sample	1755	50	400	485	548	272
Approve	35	31	24	38	37	41
Disapprove	33	30	35	32	33	33
Don't know	32	40	41	30	30	26

Ethnic Background

%	Total	Canadian	Canadian European		Other
Sample	1755	950	284	270	251
Approve	35	35	34	40	32
Disapprove	33	33	41	32	25
Don't know	32	32	24	28	43

Born in Canada / First Language

%	Total	Yes	No	English	French	Some other language
Sample	1755	1446	309	1090	405	260
Approve	35	36	28	31	51	26
Disapprove	33	33	32	38	24	29
Don't know	32	30	39	31	25	45

Religion

%	Total	NET: Christian	NET: Other	Protestant Christian	Evangelical Christian	Catholic	Other Christian	None
Sample	1755	1293	133	476	66	635	116	329
Approve	35	33	29	33	18	35	27	44
Disapprove	33	35	34	36	48	34	33	26
Don't know	32	32	37	31	34	31	40	30

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Liberal

'Do you approve or disapprove of the job Bob Rae is doing as interim leader of the Liberal Party?'

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[All Respondents]

Age / Gender

%	Total	18-34	35-44	45-54	55-64	65+	Male	Female
Sample	1755	177	233	384	466	495	824	931
Approve	34	24	35	32	41	49	38	31
Disapprove	33	35	34	40	31	24	38	29
Don't know	32	42	31	29	28	27	24	40

Region

%	Total	Atl	Que	ON	Man/Sask	AB	BC
Sample	1755	162	406	636	138	193	220
Approve	34	38	36	36	40	26	30
Disapprove	33	34	30	36	29	35	33
Don't know	32	28	35	28	31	40	37

Household Income

%	Total	<\$20K	\$20-40K	\$40-60K	\$60-80K	\$80-100K	\$100K+
Sample	1755	190	317	263	247	175	299
Approve	34	27	27	35	38	37	38
Disapprove	33	38	32	26	35	40	35
Don't know	32	35	41	39	28	23	27

Current Federal Party Preference

%	Total	Cons	Lib	NDP	Green	Bloc	Other Parties
Sample	1755	504	482	397	117	81	82
Approve	34	23	59	33	32	18	22
Disapprove	33	43	19	36	29	46	38
Don't know	32	34	22	31	39	36	40

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Education

%	Total	Elementary school	Secondary school	Some college / university	Completed college / university	Post grad studies
Sample	1755	50	400	485	548	272
Approve	34	26	23	35	33	54
Disapprove	33	52	38	35	30	28
Don't know	32	22	39	30	37	19

Ethnic Background

%	Total	Canadian	Canadian European		Other
Sample	1755	950	284	270	251
Approve	34	34	27	36	41
Disapprove	33	32	47	30	26
Don't know	32	34	26	34	34

Born in Canada / First Language

%	Total Yes I		No	English	French	Some other language
Sample	1755	1446	309	1090	405	260
Approve	34	34	39	34	35	37
Disapprove	33	35	25	35	32	26
Don't know	32	31	37	31	33	37

Religion

%	Total	NET: Christian	NET: Other	Protestant Christian	Evangelical Christian	Catholic	Other Christian	None
Sample	1755	1293	133	476	66	635	116	329
Approve	34	34	34	40	38	32	27	35
Disapprove	33	33	28	30	34	35	33	36
Don't know	32	33	38	31	28	33	39	29

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