

NEWS RELEASE



MEDIA INQUIRIES:

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TORONTO

Sep 27th, 2012

HIGHLIGHTS:

- More than one third would vote Conservative if an election were held today (35%), compared to just 3-in-10 who would vote NDP (30%) and one quarter who would vote Liberal (25%).
- If, on the other hand, Justin Trudeau were leader of the Liberal Party, they would win an election today handily with close to 4-in-10 votes (39%).
- These voting intention results—if they hold on Election Day – would see the Conservatives claim 142 seats in the 308 seat house, down from the 166 taken in the election, but enough for a solid minority.
- NDP leader Tom Mulcair enjoys the highest favourability, however, with a score of 37% and a net of +2.
- Liberal voters are less enthusiastic about voting their party (38% very enthusiastic) than are Conservative voters (43%) or the NDP (42% very enthusiastic).

FOR IMMEDIATE RELEASE

Conservatives with healthy lead over NDP

Liberals win with Trudeau as leader

Toronto, September 27th, 2012 – In a random sampling of public opinion taken by the Forum Poll™ among Canadians 18 years of age and older, more than one third would vote Conservative if an election were held today (35%), compared to just 3-in-10 who would vote NDP (30%) and one quarter who would vote Liberal (25%). Fewer than one tenth would vote Bloc Quebecois (6%) or Green (3%).

Conservative support was highest among participants 65 and older, males, and Canadians living outside of Quebec. On the other hand, favour for the Liberals was strongest among females, those with annual household incomes exceeding \$100K, and residents of Quebec, the Atlantic region, and Ontario. Females were also more likely to back the NDP, while Albertans showed the least favour for this party.

If, on the other hand, Justin Trudeau were leader of the Liberal Party, they would win an election today handily with close to 4-in-10 votes (39%) to the Conservatives 3-in-10 (32%). The New Democrats would claim just one fifth of the vote (20% and 3-in-10 of their current supporters would vote for the Liberals - 31%).

Conservatives to form minority government

These voting intention results—if they hold on Election Day – would see the Conservatives claim 142 seats in the 308 seat house, down from the 166 taken in the election, but enough for a solid minority. The NDP would claim 87 seats, the Liberals 66, the Bloc 12 seats and the Green Party would retain leader Elizabeth May's seat.

Party leader favourables steady

Prime Minister Stephen Harper draws approval from 4-in-10 (39%) and his net favourable rating (approve minus disapprove) is -15. Interim Liberal leader Bob Rae has an approval rating of 31% and a net of -9. NDP leader Tom Mulcair enjoys the highest net favourability, however, with a score of 37% and a net of +2.

Harper had the firmest approval among older participants, males, higher annual household income earners, and those living outside of Quebec. Mulcair also had high levels of approval with those 65 and older; however, he had support in Quebec almost twice as strong as in other regions. Older participants were more

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likely to favour Rae as well, as were males, and those with annual household incomes above \$100K.

Liberals at a voter enthusiasm disadvantage

Liberal voters are less enthusiastic about voting their party (38% very enthusiastic) than are Conservative voters (43%) or the NDP (42% very enthusiastic).

"It appears the NDP surge we were tracking has subsided somewhat, and voters are more comfortable with the Prime Minister than they have been in the past. The real news here is that Justin Trudeau as Liberal leader has the effect of taking all the wind out of the NDP's sails," 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.

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HIGHLIGHTS:

- "It appears the NDP surge we were tracking has subsided somewhat, and voters are more comfortable with the Prime Minister than they have been in the past. The real news here is that Justin Trudeau as Liberal leader has the effect of taking all the wind out of the NDP's sails," 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 1,707 randomly selected residents of Canada aged 18 or older. The poll was conducted on September 26th, 2012.

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

Party Preference Trending

[Decided/Leaning]

%	Sample	Cons	Lib	NDP	Green	Bloc	Other
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

%	Cons	Lib	NDP	Green	Bloc	Other
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

TORONTO

Sep 27th, 2012

Federal Leader Approval Rating Trending (% Approve)

[All Respondents]

%	Sample	Rae	Harper	Mulcair
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 30 th , 2012	1675	36	34	32
Mar 26 th -27 th , 2012	1638	32	34	32

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Current Federal Party Preference

'If the 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	1692	179	240	363	423	487	835	857
Conservative	35	28	32	37	34	43	42	29
Liberal	25	28	20	27	24	26	23	28
New Democratic	30	26	36	29	35	25	26	33
Green	3	6	3	2	2	2	3	3
Bloc Quebecois	6	10	7	5	4	4	5	6
Other	1	1	1	0	1	1	1	1

Region

%	Total	Atl	Que	ON	Man/Sask	AB	BC
Sample	1692	135	445	628	117	160	207
Conservative	35	34	17	37	47	60	43
Liberal	25	29	30	28	13	16	20
New Democratic	30	34	29	30	33	20	33
Green	3	2	1	4	6	4	2
Bloc Quebecois	6	0	22	0	0	0	0
Other	1	1	1	1	1	1	1

Household Income

%	Total	<\$20K	\$20-40K	\$40-60K	\$60-80K	\$80-100K	\$100K+
Sample	1692	190	305	255	217	161	312
Conservative	35	34	30	35	30	41	37
Liberal	25	19	28	20	24	21	31
New Democratic	30	26	31	34	37	32	25
Green	3	7	2	5	3	1	3
Bloc Quebecois	6	13	9	6	5	4	3
Other	1	2	0	0	1	1	1

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Past Vote (2011 Federal Election)

%	Total	PAST - Cons	PAST - Lib	PAST - NDP	PAST - Green	PAST - Bloc	PAST - Other Parties
Sample	1692	605	387	386	79	93	57
Conservative	35	80	5	6	19	14	15
Liberal	25	10	70	13	13	3	24
New Democratic	30	8	21	77	20	14	32
Green	3	1	2	1	43	3	7
Bloc Quebecois	6	1	1	3	2	66	5
Other	1	0	0	0	2	0	17

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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 are you leaning towards at this time?'

[Decided/Leaning]

Age / Gender

%	Total	18-34	35-44	45-54	55-64	65+	Male	Female
Sample	1707	179	241	365	432	490	843	864
Conservative	32	25	29	34	31	40	38	26
Liberal	39	41	39	41	39	36	36	42
New Democratic	20	19	22	19	23	19	17	23
Green	2	4	2	2	2	1	2	2
Bloc Quebecois	6	11	7	4	4	3	5	6
Other	1	1	2	0	1	1	1	1

Region

%	Total	Atl	Que	ON	Man/Sask	AB	BC
Sample	1707	135	450	632	116	164	210
Conservative	32	25	15	36	45	55	38
Liberal	39	53	43	40	27	28	33
New Democratic	20	19	19	20	25	14	25
Green	2	2	1	3	3	3	2
Bloc Quebecois	6	0	22	0	0	0	0
Other	1	1	0	1	0	1	2

Household Income

%	Total	<\$20K	\$20-40K	\$40-60K	\$60-80K	\$80-100K	\$100K+
Sample	1707	192	304	259	222	162	313
Conservative	32	30	29	31	29	37	34
Liberal	39	34	40	34	43	33	44
New Democratic	20	18	21	24	21	23	17
Green	2	3	1	4	2	1	3
Bloc Quebecois	6	13	9	6	5	5	2
Other	1	2	0	0	1	1	1

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Current Federal Party Preference

%	Total	Cons	Lib	NDP	Green	Bloc	Other Parties
Sample	1707	572	404	476	87	91	52
Conservative	32	89	2	2	8	2	18
Liberal	39	10	93	31	31	5	38
New Democratic	20	0	4	66	7	1	10
Green	2	0	0	0	50	0	2
Bloc Quebecois	6	1	0	1	4	92	0
Other	1	0	0	0	0	0	31

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Approval of Leaders:

Conservative

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

[All Respondents]

Age / Gender

%	Total	18-34	35-44	45-54	55-64	65+	Male	Female
Sample	1758	185	253	376	441	503	857	901
Approve	39	36	35	42	42	43	44	34
Disapprove	54	59	56	51	51	47	51	56
Don't know	7	5	8	7	8	9	6	9

Region

%	Total	Atl	Que	ON	Man/Sask	AB	BC
Sample	1758	139	462	656	119	167	215
Approve	39	31	26	41	48	64	39
Disapprove	54	61	67	51	48	31	53
Don't know	7	7	8	8	4	6	8

Household Income

%	Total	<\$20K	\$20-40K	\$40-60K	\$60-80K	\$80-100K	\$100K+
Sample	1758	201	314	265	226	163	318
Approve	39	33	33	40	34	48	44
Disapprove	54	57	56	52	60	46	53
Don't know	7	10	11	8	6	6	3

Current Federal Party Preference

%	Total	Cons	Lib	NDP	Green	Bloc	Other Parties
Sample	1758	575	407	478	88	92	52
Approve	39	88	19	14	17	15	28
Disapprove	54	8	71	80	79	78	56
Don't know	7	3	9	6	5	7	16

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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	1758	185	253	376	441	503	857	901
Approve	37	36	35	35	40	42	37	37
Disapprove	35	37	37	35	30	35	42	29
Don't know	28	27	29	30	30	23	20	35

Region

%	Total	Atl	Que	ON	Man/Sask	AB	BC
Sample	1758	139	462	656	119	167	215
Approve	37	31	58	31	29	20	35
Disapprove	35	32	20	38	46	57	34
Don't know	28	36	21	31	26	23	30

Household Income

%	Total	<\$20K	\$20-40K	\$40-60K	\$60-80K	\$80-100K	\$100K+
Sample	1758	201	314	265	226	163	318
Approve	37	33	45	33	41	37	37
Disapprove	35	36	27	39	36	36	40
Don't know	28	31	28	28	23	27	23

Current Federal Party Preference

%	Total	Cons	Lib	NDP	Green	Bloc	Other Parties
Sample	1758	575	407	478	88	92	52
Approve	37	16	39	66	22	47	26
Disapprove	35	55	32	14	52	27	38
Don't know	28	29	29	20	26	26	36

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Liberal

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

[All Respondents]

Age / Gender

%	Total	18-34	35-44	45-54	55-64	65+	Male	Female
Sample	1758	185	253	376	441	503	857	901
Approve	31	21	27	33	37	41	35	27
Disapprove	40	44	42	38	38	32	42	37
Don't know	30	35	30	29	25	26	23	36

Region

%	Total	Atl	Que	ON	Man/Sask	AB	BC
Sample	1758	139	462	656	119	167	215
Approve	31	29	33	32	24	29	29
Disapprove	40	45	33	41	46	44	40
Don't know	30	27	34	27	30	28	31

Household Income

%	Total	<\$20K	\$20-40K	\$40-60K	\$60-80K	\$80-100K	\$100K+
Sample	1758	201	314	265	226	163	318
Approve	31	24	34	24	32	29	39
Disapprove	40	45	34	46	43	43	37
Don't know	30	31	33	30	25	29	24

Current Federal Party Preference

%	Total	Cons	Lib	NDP	Green	Bloc	Other Parties
Sample	1758	575	407	478	88	92	52
Approve	31	22	52	32	24	15	19
Disapprove	40	51	23	38	43	47	56
Don't know	30	27	24	30	33	38	24

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Voting for Party Enthusiasm

'How enthusiastic would you be about voting for your party if an election were held today?'

[All Respondents]

Age / Gender

%	Total	18-34	35-44	45-54	55-64	65+	Male	Female
Sample	1758	185	253	376	441	503	857	901
Very enthusiastic	39	44	34	35	40	41	43	36
Somewhat enthusiastic	29	25	33	32	26	33	27	32
Not very enthusiastic	18	14	20	19	21	17	15	20
Not enthusiastic at all	9	10	7	9	10	6	11	7
Don't know	5	6	5	5	3	4	4	6

Region

%	Total	Atl	Que	ON	Man/Sask	AB	BC
Sample	1758	139	462	656	119	167	215
Very enthusiastic	39	36	32	41	42	45	43
Somewhat enthusiastic	29	33	32	27	25	27	33
Not very enthusiastic	18	17	23	17	22	12	12
Not enthusiastic at all	9	10	7	9	6	10	10
Don't know	5	4	6	5	5	5	2

Household Income

%	Total	<\$20K	\$20-40K	\$40-60K	\$60-80K	\$80-100K	\$100K+
Sample	1758	201	314	265	226	163	318
Very enthusiastic	39	41	39	46	40	32	40
Somewhat enthusiastic	29	20	31	25	28	39	31
Not very enthusiastic	18	18	15	19	22	18	18
Not enthusiastic at all	9	13	7	7	7	9	7
Don't know	5	8	8	3	4	1	4

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%	Total	Cons	Lib	NDP	Green	Bloc	Other Parties
Sample	1758	575	407	478	88	92	52
Very enthusiastic	39	43	38	42	41	36	27
Somewhat enthusiastic	29	30	35	30	21	29	18
Not very enthusiastic	18	14	20	19	20	26	18
Not enthusiastic at all	9	10	4	5	12	7	32
Don't know	5	3	3	3	7	2	5

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-30-

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