

NEWS RELEASE



FOR IMMEDIATE RELEASE

PQ close gap with provincial Liberals in Quebec

PQ to capture one-seat majority

TORONTO, OCTOBER 22, 2013 - In a random sampling of public opinion taken by the Forum Poll™ among 1094 Quebecers 18 years of age and older, close to 4-in-10 will vote for the provincial Liberals if an election were held today (38%), just slightly more than would vote for the Parti Quebecois (36%). Just more than one tenth will vote CAQ (13%) and fewer than this will support QS (8%) or, especially ON or the Green Party (2% each) or any other party (1%). These findings represent a significant tightening of the race since last month, when more than 4-in-10 supported the Liberals (42%) compared to a third for the PQ (35%), and the gap between the parties has shrunk from 8 points to 2. Support for the Liberals is strongest among the oldest (56%), those in lower income brackets (\$20K to \$40K - 45%), Anglophones (78%) and in Montreal (42%). PQ support is characteristic of the mid-aged (35 to 44 - 47%), the wealthier (\$80K to \$100K - 42%) and on the south shore (42%).

Slim majority for PQ

If these results were projected to seats in a 125 seat National Assembly, the PQ would capture a one seat majority of 63 seats, to 56 for the Liberals, 4 for the CAQ and 2 for QS. This represents a reversal from last month, when the Liberals were on track to claim 64 seats to 55 for the PQ.

Couillard and Marois tied for best Premier

Relatively equal proportions of Quebecers, about one quarter, think either that Philippe Couillard (27%) or Pauline Marois (28%) would make the best Premeir. Francois Legault is the choice of about one tenth (13%) and a quarter say none of these three is suited for the job (24%).

Marois favourables up, Couillard's down

Pauline Marois draws the approval of more than a third (36%), up from less than a third last month (32%), but her net (approve minus disapprove) is a negative -17. Philippe Couillard has seen his approval drop from more than 4-in-10 last month (42%) to just more than a third now (35%). His net has changed from a positive +4 last month to a negative -9 this month. Francois Legault draws approval from 3-in-10 (30%) and his net is a very negative -19.

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TORONTO

October 22nd, 2013

HIGHLIGHTS:

- Close to 4-in-10 will vote for the provincial Liberals if an election were held today (38%), just slightly more than would vote for the Parti Quebecois (36%).
- If these results were projected to seats in a 125 seat National Assembly, the PQ would capture a one seat majority of 63 seats, to 56 for the Liberals, 4 for the CAQ and 2 for QS.
- Relatively equal proportions of Quebecers, about one quarter, think either that Philippe Couillard (27%) or Pauline Marois (28%) would make the best Premeir.
- Pauline Marois draws the approval of more than a third (36%), up from less than a third last month (32%), but her net (approve minus disapprove) is a negative -17.

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HIGHLIGHTS:

- Close to 6-in-10 do not want an election now (58%), compared to one third who do (34%). One tenth don't have an opinion (8%).
- "It appears all the Quebec-bashing that followed the unveiling of the veil ban has done more to firm up PQ support than anything Mme Marois has done on her own, and M. Couillard is apparently the victim of drive-by xenophobia," said Forum Research President, Dr. Lorne Bozinoff.

Majority do not want an election now

Close to 6-in-10 do not want an election now (58%), compared to one third who do (34%). One tenth don't have an opinion (8%). Desire for an election is much higher among Anglophones (50%) than Francophones (31%) and is especially characteristic of provincial Liberal Party supporters (48%), federal Conservative supporters (48%) and federal Liberals (43%).

"It appears all the Quebec-bashing that followed the unveiling of the veil ban has done more to firm up PQ support than anything Mme Marois has done on her own, and M. Couillard is apparently the victim of drive-by xenophobia," 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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Methodology

The Forum Poll™ was conducted by Forum Research with the results based on an interactive voice response telephone survey of 1094 randomly selected Quebecois 18 years of age and older. The poll was conducted on October 21, 2013.

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 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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Provincial Election Voting Preference Trending

%	Liberal	PQ	CAQ	QS	Green	ON	Other
Oct. 21 st , 2013 (n=1094)	38	36	13	8	2	2	1
Sept. 13 th , 2013 (n=1179)	42	35	12	7	2	1	1
2012 Election	31	32	27	6	1	2	1

Seat Distribution

%	Liberal	PQ	CAQ	QS
Oct. 21 st , 2013 (n=1094)	56	63	4	2
Sept. 13 th , 2013 (n=1179)	64	55	4	2
2012 Election	50	54	19	2

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Provincial Party Preference

'If a provincial 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	1051	134	135	183	290	309	453	598
Liberal	38	30	27	38	35	56	38	38
Parti Quebecois, or PQ	36	26	47	39	40	29	36	36
Coalition Avenir Quebec, or CAQ	13	20	14	12	15	6	15	12
Quebec Solidaire, or QS	8	14	9	8	5	5	7	9
Green Party, or PVQ	2	4	1	1	2	1	1	2
Option Nationale, or ON	2	6	1	2	1	1	2	3
Other	1	1	0	1	1	0	1	1

Region / Language Spoken

%	Total	Mon	QC	ROQ	N Shore	S Shore	Francophone	Anglophone
Sample	1051	478	139	434	212	222	888	163
Liberal	38	42	35	35	39	31	35	78
Parti Quebecois, or PQ	36	32	32	41	40	42	38	8
Coalition Avenir Quebec, or CAQ	13	12	16	14	12	16	14	3
Quebec Solidaire, or QS	8	11	11	4	3	5	8	5
Green Party, or PVQ	2	1	1	3	3	2	2	4
Option Nationale, or ON	2	2	3	2	1	2	2	1
Other	1	1	1	1	1	1	1	1

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Income

%	Total	<\$20K	\$20-\$40K	\$40-\$60K	\$60-\$80K	\$80-\$100K	\$100-\$250K	\$250K+
Sample	1051	151	245	167	127	102	133	16
Liberal	38	37	45	36	29	30	35	70
Parti Quebecois, or PQ	36	38	34	33	41	42	34	9
Coalition Avenir Quebec, or CAQ	13	7	10	18	16	15	21	10
Quebec Solidaire, or QS	8	10	6	10	10	9	6	8
Green Party, or PVQ	2	4	1	1	2	1	2	2
Option Nationale, or ON	2	3	3	2	0	2	2	1
Other	1	1	1	1	1	1	0	0

Previous Provincial Party Preference

%	Total	Lib	PLQ	CAQ	QS	PVQ	ON	Other	Didn't Vote
Sample	1051	321	374	163	68	27	22	25	51
Liberal	38	90	11	33	13	19	15	48	46
Parti Quebecois, or PQ	36	2	73	14	17	32	30	4	30
Coalition Avenir Quebec, or CAQ	13	3	7	49	5	17	6	15	6
Quebec Solidaire, or QS	8	1	6	2	60	3	0	9	10
Green Party, or PVQ	2	2	1	0	3	23	1	7	4
Option Nationale, or ON	2	1	2	1	2	4	46	0	4
Other	1	0	1	1	0	2	2	17	1

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Best Premier

'Who do you think would make the best Premier?'

[All Respondents]

Age / Gender

%	Total	18-34	35-44	45-54	55-64	65+	Male	Female
Sample	1094	141	139	192	301	321	468	626
Pauline Marois	28	22	29	34	33	25	28	28
PhilippeCouillard	27	20	26	23	26	44	30	24
Francois Legault	13	15	13	13	15	7	16	10
None of these	24	32	28	23	20	14	20	28
Don't know	8	11	6	7	7	10	6	10

Region / Language Spoken

%	Total	Mon	QC	RO Q	N Shore	S Shore	Francophone	Anglophone
Sample	1094	499	143	452	220	232	925	169
Pauline Marois	28	26	25	31	29	33	31	9
PhilippeCouillard	27	27	29	26	29	23	25	40
Francois Legault	13	12	11	14	11	17	14	5
None of these	24	27	32	19	20	18	22	34
Don't know	8	8	3	10	11	9	7	13

Income

%	Total	<\$20K	\$20- \$40K	\$40- \$60K	\$60- \$80K	\$80- \$100K	\$100- \$250K	\$250K+
Sample	1094	159	258	173	130	102	135	17
Pauline Marois	28	30	29	25	36	29	26	10
PhilippeCouillard	27	24	32	24	22	23	30	44
Francois Legault	13	10	9	16	13	14	20	4
None of these	24	26	18	27	24	27	17	41
Don't know	8	10	11	9	4	6	7	0

Provincial Party Preference

%	Total	Lib	PLQ	CAQ	QS	PVQ	ON	Other
Sample	1094	419	330	124	77	35	29	37
Pauline Marois	28	4	76	6	15	14	9	26
PhilippeCouillard	27	61	4	14	6	14	24	9
Francois Legault	13	6	6	63	6	3	7	5
None of these	24	20	12	13	66	41	55	39
Don't know	8	9	3	3	7	27	5	21

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Approval of Marois

'Do you approve or disapprove of the job Pauline Marois is doing as Premier?'

[All Respondents]

Age / Gender

%	Total	18-34	35-44	45-54	55-64	65+	Male	Female
Sample	1094	141	139	192	301	321	468	626
Approve	36	31	43	38	41	30	38	34
Disapprove	53	53	48	54	49	61	54	52
Don't know	11	16	10	8	9	9	8	14

Region / Language Spoken

%	Total	Mon	QC	ROQ	N Shore	S Shore	Francophone	Anglophone
Sample	1094	499	143	452	220	232	925	169
Approve	36	36	36	36	34	38	41	11
Disapprove	53	57	51	49	54	45	48	82
Don't know	11	7	13	15	13	17	12	8

Income

%	Total	<\$20K	\$20-\$40K	\$40-\$60K	\$60-\$80K	\$80-\$100K	\$100-\$250K	\$250K+
Sample	1094	159	258	173	130	102	135	17
Approve	36	40	36	37	41	37	35	15
Disapprove	53	48	52	54	51	54	55	55
Don't know	11	12	11	9	8	8	9	30

Provincial Party Preference

%	Total	Lib	PLQ	CAQ	QS	PVQ	ON	Other
Sample	1094	419	330	124	77	35	29	37
Approve	36	7	84	17	41	20	22	39
Disapprove	53	86	7	74	48	48	61	50
Don't know	11	7	9	8	11	31	18	12

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Approval of Couillard

‘Do you approve or disapprove of the job Philippe Couillard is doing as Leader of the Opposition?’

[All Respondents]

Age / Gender

%	Total	18-34	35-44	45-54	55-64	65+	Male	Female
Sample	1094	141	139	192	301	321	468	626
Approve	35	32	29	33	35	48	37	33
Disapprove	44	41	51	47	45	35	48	40
Don't know	21	27	20	21	20	17	16	27

Region / Language Spoken

%	Total	Mon	QC	ROQ	N Shore	S Shore	Francophone	Anglophone
Sample	1094	499	143	452	220	232	925	169
Approve	35	36	35	34	36	32	33	45
Disapprove	44	46	49	40	36	43	47	25
Don't know	21	18	16	26	28	25	20	30

Income

%	Total	<\$20K	\$20-\$40K	\$40-\$60K	\$60-\$80K	\$80-\$100K	\$100-\$250K	\$250K+
Sample	1094	159	258	173	130	102	135	17
Approve	35	41	35	36	24	28	40	70
Disapprove	44	35	41	44	55	54	47	13
Don't know	21	24	24	20	21	19	13	17

Provincial Party Preference

%	Total	Lib	PLQ	CAQ	QS	PVQ	ON	Other
Sample	1094	419	330	124	77	35	29	37
Approve	35	63	14	34	16	18	18	31
Disapprove	44	17	71	54	58	32	61	33
Don't know	21	20	15	12	27	50	21	35

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Approval of Legault

‘Do you approve or disapprove of the job Francois Legault is doing as Leader of the CAQ?’

[All Respondents]

Age / Gender

%	Total	18-34	35-44	45-54	55-64	65+	Male	Female
Sample	1094	141	139	192	301	321	468	626
Approve	30	26	26	35	34	31	37	24
Disapprove	49	42	55	51	49	48	49	48
Don't know	21	32	19	14	17	21	14	28

Region / Language Spoken

%	Total	Mon	QC	ROQ	N Shore	S Shore	Francophone	Anglophone
Sample	1094	499	143	452	220	232	925	169
Approve	30	30	31	30	28	31	31	24
Disapprove	49	49	52	48	50	45	49	47
Don't know	21	21	17	23	22	23	20	29

Income

%	Total	<\$20K	\$20-\$40K	\$40-\$60K	\$60-\$80K	\$80-\$100K	\$100-\$250K	\$250K+
Sample	1094	159	258	173	130	102	135	17
Approve	30	25	25	34	27	34	37	32
Disapprove	49	45	47	47	61	52	51	59
Don't know	21	30	28	19	11	14	12	9

Provincial Party Preference

%	Total	Lib	PLQ	CAQ	QS	PVQ	ON	Other
Sample	1094	419	330	124	77	35	29	37
Approve	30	29	22	72	14	22	28	25
Disapprove	49	48	63	24	56	40	41	42
Don't know	21	23	14	4	29	38	31	33

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Want an Election

'Do you think a provincial election should be held in Quebec now or not?'

[All Respondents]

Age / Gender

%	Total	18-34	35-44	45-54	55-64	65+	Male	Female
Sample	1094	141	139	192	301	321	468	626
Think an election should be held now	34	38	36	30	32	32	37	31
Think an election should not be held now	58	51	54	66	61	59	56	59
Don't know	8	11	9	4	8	10	8	9

Region / Language Spoken

%	Total	Mon	QC	ROQ	N Shore	S Shore	Francophone	Anglophone
Sample	1094	499	143	452	220	232	925	169
Think an election should be held now	34	34	37	33	37	29	31	49
Think an election should not be held now	58	58	55	58	54	62	61	42
Don't know	8	8	8	9	9	9	8	9

Income

%	Total	<\$20K	\$20-\$40K	\$40-\$60K	\$60-\$80K	\$80-\$100K	\$100-\$250K	\$250K+
Sample	1094	159	258	173	130	102	135	17
Think an election should be held now	34	32	38	32	27	34	36	35
Think an election should not be held now	58	52	52	61	67	62	56	58
Don't know	8	16	9	7	6	4	8	7

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Provincial Party Preference

%	Total	Lib	PLQ	CAQ	QS	PVQ	ON	Other
Sample	1094	419	330	124	77	35	29	37
Think an election should be held now	34	48	22	36	17	41	33	30
Think an election should not be held now	58	44	69	61	78	53	66	50
Don't know	8	8	9	3	6	6	1	19

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