

Despite Criticism on Handling of Syrian Refugee Crisis, Tories Lead on Issue

*Voters Say Harper's Tories (38%) Would Make Best Decisions for Canada,
ahead of Mulcair's NDP (32%) or Trudeau's Liberals (30%)*

Public Release Date: Tuesday, September 15, 2015, 12:00 pm EDT



Ipsos is Canada's market intelligence leader and the country's leading provider of public opinion research. With operations in eight cities, Ipsos employs more than 600 research professionals and support staff in Canada. The company has the biggest network of telephone call centres in Canada, as well as the largest pre-recruited household and on-line panels. Ipsos' Canadian marketing research and public affairs practices are staffed with seasoned research consultants with extensive industry-specific backgrounds, offering the premier suite of research vehicles in Canada—all of which provide clients with actionable and relevant information. Ipsos is a leading global survey-based market research group. To learn more, visit www.ipsos.ca

***For copies of other news releases, please visit
<http://www.ipsos-na.com/news-polls/>***

© Ipsos

***Washington • New York • Los Angeles • Austin • Chicago • St. Louis • Cincinnati
Minneapolis • Seattle • San Francisco • Vancouver • Calgary • Winnipeg • Toronto
Guelph • Ottawa • Montreal • St. John***



Despite Criticism on Handling of Syrian Refugee Crisis, Tories Lead on Issue

*Voters Say Harper's Tories (38%) Would Make Best Decisions for Canada,
ahead of Mulcair's NDP (32%) or Trudeau's Liberals (30%)*

Toronto, ON – Despite a concentrated attack by the Liberals and NDP, amplified by media, pundits and others over the Syrian refugee crisis and the Canadian government's perceived slow response, a new Ipsos poll has revealed that, of the three party leaders, Prime Minister Stephen Harper has the most support to deal with the issue and that many eligible Canadian voters appear reluctant to take in a significant number of refugees or to fast-track the process given security concerns.

Four in ten (38%) Canadians believe that Stephen Harper and the Conservatives would 'make the best decision for Canada on the Syrian refugee situation', placing the Tories significantly ahead of the one in three who believe that Thomas Mulcair and the NDP (32%) or Justin Trudeau and the Liberals (30%) would be best to manage this file. Interestingly, even two in ten Liberal (18%) and NDP (15%) voters believe that the Conservatives would make the best decision for Canada.

The decision about how many refugees Canada should take in and through what process has largely been centred on the idea of security and whether the process of accepting refugees should be fast-tracked despite security concerns. On this debate, seven in ten (71%) voters more closely believe that 'we can't compromise Canada's security, and individual Syrian refugees should go through proper screening to make sure they aren't terrorists even if this slows down their admission to Canada', including a majority of Tory (87%), Liberal (66%)

© Ipsos

- 1 -

*Washington • New York • Los Angeles • Austin • Chicago • St. Louis • Cincinnati
Minneapolis • Seattle • San Francisco • Vancouver • Calgary • Winnipeg • Toronto
• Guelph • Ottawa • Montreal • St. John*



and NDP voters (61%). On the other hand, three in ten (29%) more closely believe that ‘the Syrian refugee issue is a humanitarian emergency and Canada should be admitting Syrian refugees as quickly as possible even if this means we have to suspend our normal security screening provisions to make sure that individual refugees aren’t terrorists’.

The poll tested various ideas that have been presented by the parties to deal with the Syrian refugee crisis. Support for taking in refugees is divided (and declines given the number of refugees proposed), although more voters support measures ranging from increased diplomatic presence in the region to increasing military support to fight ISIL.

Potential Response by Canada	% Support (strongly/somewhat)	% oppose (strongly/somewhat)
Increase aid to humanitarian-assistance agencies that are helping Syrian refugees	78% (32%/47%)	22% (9%/12%)
Boost Canadian diplomatic and immigration officials to accelerate the processing of refugee applications	63% (26%/37%)	37% (17%/20%)
Increase Canada’s military support in the region to fight the Islamic State in Iraq and Syria which has helped cause the refugee crisis	57% (21%/36%)	43% (18%/25%)
Immediately accept up to 10,000 government-sponsored refugees in 2015	49% (18%/31%)	51% (26%/26%)
Fast-track private sponsorship of refugees, with no cap or limit as to how many can be sponsored by Canadians privately	47% (16%/32%)	53% (26%/26%)
Accept up to 46,000 government-sponsored refugees by 2019	47% (17%/31%)	53% (26%/27%)
Immediately accept up to 25,000 government-sponsored refugees in 2015	39% (13%/26%)	61% (31%/31%)

*Discrepancies due to rounding

© Ipsos

- 2 -

*Washington • New York • Los Angeles • Austin • Chicago • St. Louis • Cincinnati
Minneapolis • Seattle • San Francisco • Vancouver • Calgary • Winnipeg • Toronto
• Guelph • Ottawa • Montreal • St. John*



These are some of the findings of an Ipsos poll conducted between September 11 to 13, 2015. For this survey, a sample of 980 Canadians eligible to vote was interviewed online via the Ipsos I-Say Panel. Weighting was then employed to balance demographics to ensure that the sample's composition reflects that of the adult population according to Census data and to provide results intended to approximate the sample universe. The precision of Ipsos online polls is measured using a credibility interval. In this case, the poll is accurate to within +/- 3.6 percentage points, 19 times out of 20, had all eligible voters been polled. The credibility interval will be wider among subsets of the population. All sample surveys and polls may be subject to other sources of error, including, but not limited to coverage error, and measurement error.

-30-

For more information on this news release, please contact:

***Darrell Bricker, PhD
CEO
Ipsos Global Public Affairs
(416) 324-2001***

For full tabular results, please visit our website at www.ipsos-na.com. News Releases are available at: <http://www.ipsos-na.com/news-polls/>

© Ipsos

- 3 -

***Washington • New York • Los Angeles • Austin • Chicago • St. Louis • Cincinnati
Minneapolis • Seattle • San Francisco • Vancouver • Calgary • Winnipeg • Toronto
• Guelph • Ottawa • Montreal • St. John***