



Survey Report

Canadian **Tax**payers Federation

Provincial Debt Ontario Omnibus

Date: 10 / 06 / 2026
Project: 10018894



Methodology



Method

Online survey via Leger's LEO panel, with n=1000 Ontario residents aged 18+.

When

The weekly online omnibus was in field from the 2nd to the 4th of October 2026, inclusive, using Leger's online panel, LEO.

Margin of error

For comparison purposes, a probability sample of this size (n=1000) yields a margin of error no greater than $\pm 3.1\%$, (19 times out of 20).

Detailed Results



Two-thirds of Ontarians (68%) would prefer the Ontario government to cut spending rather than raise taxes to address provincial debt and rising interest costs.

Only one-in-ten (13%) would prefer the government to raise taxes instead. Demographically, men (vs women) and those born in Canada (vs outside of Canada) are more likely to prefer raising taxes.

PREFERED APPROACH FOR ADDRESSING PROVINCIAL DEBT		GENDER		AGE			Born in Canada	
		Men	Women	18-34	35-54	55+	Yes	No
Cut government spending	68%	69%	67%	64%	71%	69%	68%	71%
Raise taxes	13%	15%	10%	16%	12%	11%	14%	8%
Unsure	19%	16%	23%	20%	17%	20%	18%	21%

Among those with an opinion, three-quarters (78%) would prefer the provincial government to cut spending rather than raise taxes to address provincial debt and rising interest costs.

Only one-in-five (22%) would prefer the Ontario government to raise taxes. These results are largely consistent across various demographics, although those born outside of Canada (vs those born in Canada) are more likely to prefer cutting government spending.

PREFERED APPROACH FOR ADDRESSING PROVINCIAL DEBT		GENDER		AGE			Born in Canada	
		Men	Women	18-34	35-54	55+	Yes	No
Cut government spending	78%	82%	87%	80%	86%	86%	83%	90%
Raise taxes	22%	18%	13%	20%	14%	14%	17%	10%

OCTAX1. Ontario’s provincial debt is \$485 billion. Interest payments on the provincial debt will cost \$17 billion this year and it’s projected to reach \$24 billion by 2030-31. If the Ontario government had to choose between the following two approaches to address provincial debt and rising interest costs, which would you prefer? Base: Base: All, except those who said “unsure” (n=821)

Significantly higher

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