

Ontarians show strong support for increasing funding and staff in hospitals – Most believe there isn't currently enough staff in Ontario hospitals.



The research gauged the opinions among Ontarians on their opinions about the Ontario provincial government's current management of the healthcare system, hospital staffing and funding.

Nanos conducted an RDD dual frame (land- and cell-lines) hybrid telephone and online random survey of 513 Ontarians, 18 years of age or older, between December 27th and December 29th, 2025, as part of an omnibus survey.

The margin of error for this survey is ± 4.4 percentage points, 19 times out of 20.

[The statistical tabulations including the unweighted and weighted number of interviews can be accessed here.](#)

The research was commissioned by CUPE and conducted by Nanos Research.

Note: Charts may not add up to 100 due to rounding.

KEY FINDINGS

1

ONTARIANS SHOW STRONG SUPPORT FOR THE PROVINCIAL GOVERNMENT INCREASING FUNDING TO HOSPITALS AND INCREASING THE NUMBER OF STAFF IN HOSPITALS

Over nine in ten Ontarians support (79%) or somewhat support (15%) the provincial government increasing funding to hospitals, so they do not have to cut staff or reduce surgeries. A similar proportion support (79%) or somewhat support (18%) increasing the number of hospital staff to treat more patients in a timely way. Support is also strong for the government releasing the details of their funding for for-profit surgical centres (69% support, 16% somewhat support).

2

VAST MAJORITY OF ONTARIANS DO NOT BELIEVE THERE IS ENOUGH STAFF IN ONTARIO HOSPITALS

Four in five Ontarians believe there is not enough staff in Ontario hospitals (81%). This is consistent with findings from the June 2025 wave (84%). An additional 11 per cent are unsure, while seven per cent believe there is enough staff and one per cent believes there is too much. Women (86%) are marginally more likely than men (77%) to believe there isn't enough staff in hospitals in Ontario.

3

CURRENT PROVINCIAL GOVERNMENT SCORED POORLY AMONG ONTARIANS WHEN IT COMES TO MANAGING PUBLIC HOSPITALS

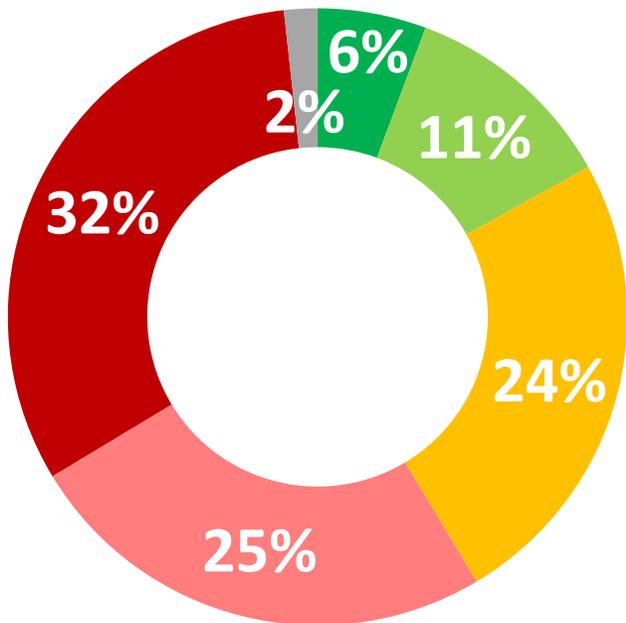
Regarding the management of public hospitals, nearly three in five Ontarians rate the performance of the current provincial government led by Premier Doug Ford as very poor (32%) or poor (25%). An additional one in four (24%) believe the provincial government is going an average job managing public hospitals. Under one in five say the provincial government is doing a very good (six per cent) or good (11%) job at this. Women (66%) and younger Ontarians (69%) are more likely than men (47%) and older Ontarians (48%), respectively, to rate the provincial government's job at managing public hospital as poor or very poor.

4

ONTARIANS ARE MORE LIKELY TO FIND IT AT LEAST SOMEWHAT ACCEPTABLE TO CONTRACT OUT HOSPITAL SURGERIES TO PRIVATE FOR-PROFIT CLINICS THAN TO SAY IT IS NOT OR SOMEWHAT NOT ACCEPTABLE

Ontarians are more likely to believe it is acceptable to one extent or another (53%) than to believe it is not acceptable to one extent or another (44%) for the government of Ontario to contract out hospital surgeries to private for-profit clinics even if the services remain covered under OHIP. Men (64%) are more likely than women (42%) to find this acceptable to one extent or another.

Ontario provincial government's management of public hospitals



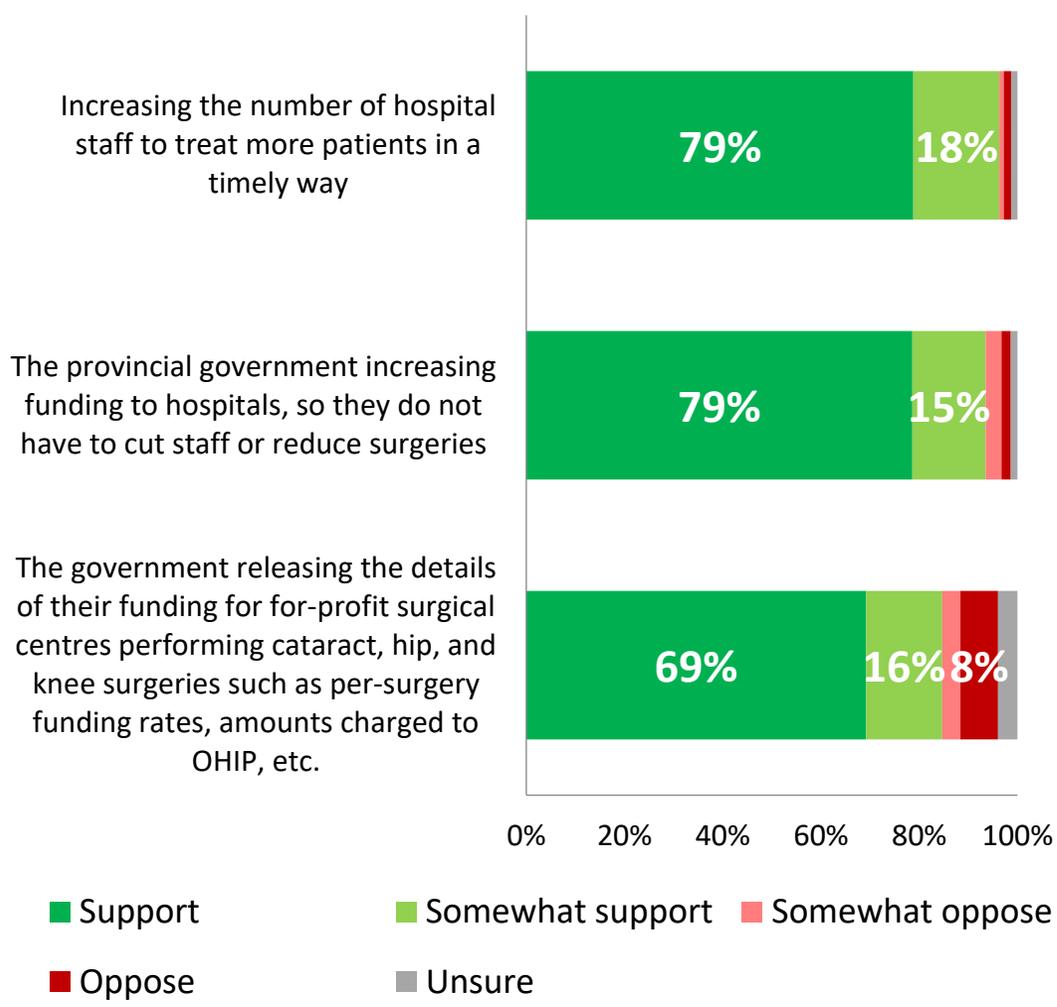
■ Very good ■ Good ■ Average
■ Poor ■ Very poor ■ Unsure

	GTA (n=246)	Rest of Ontario (n=267)	Men (n=274)	Women (n=239)
Very poor/poor	58.0%	55.8%	46.8%	66.4%
	18 to 34 (n=88)	35 to 54 (n=205)	55 plus (n=220)	
	69.1%	56.9%	47.7%	
Average	23.9%	25.0%	32.5%	16.8%
	18 to 34 (n=88)	35 to 54 (n=205)	55 plus (n=220)	
	19.4%	22.5%	30.1%	
Very good/good	16.2%	17.6%	19.3%	14.7%
	18 to 34 (n=88)	35 to 54 (n=205)	55 plus (n=220)	
	10.3%	18.0%	20.8%	

*Weighted to the true population proportion.
 *Charts may not add up to 100 due to rounding.

Q – Do you believe that the current provincial government headed by Premier Doug Ford is doing a very good, good, average, poor or very poor job of managing our public hospitals?

Source: Nanos Research, RDD dual frame hybrid telephone and online random survey, December 27th to 29th, 2025, n=513, accurate 4.4 percentage points plus or minus, 19 times out of 20.



Views on increasing funding for hospitals, increasing staff and transparency of funding

Over **3 in 4** Ontarians

support increasing the number of hospital staff to treat more patients in a timely way. An additional one in five somewhat support this. Additionally, similar proportions of Ontarians support (79%) or somewhat support (15%) the provincial government increasing funding to hospitals, so they do not have to cut staff or reduce surgeries.



*Weighted to the true population proportion.
 *Charts may not add up to 100 due to rounding.
 **Data labels under 5% have been removed for clarity.

Q – Do you support, somewhat support, somewhat oppose or oppose the following: [RANDOMIZE]

Source: Nanos Research, RDD dual frame hybrid telephone and online random survey, December 27th to 29th, 2025, n=513, accurate 4.4 percentage points plus or minus, 19 times out of 20.

Views on increasing funding for hospitals, increasing staff and transparency of funding – By demographics

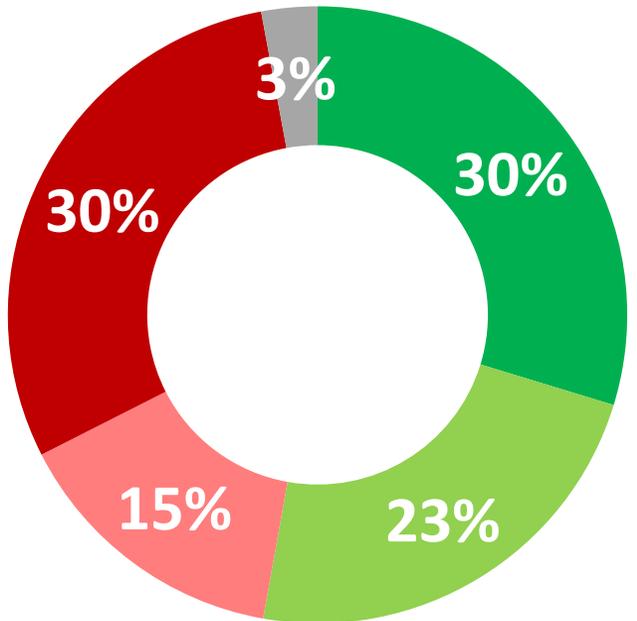
Q – Do you support, somewhat support, somewhat oppose or oppose the following: [RANDOMIZE]

Support/somewhat support

	Ontario (n=513)	GTA (n=246)	Rest of Ontario (n=267)	Men (n=274)	Women (n=239)	18 to 34 (n=88)	35 to 54 (n=205)	55 plus (n=220)
Increasing the number of hospital staff to treat more patients in a timely way	96.3%	95.7%	96.9%	95.3%	97.3%	98.8%	94.6%	96.2%
The provincial government increasing funding to hospitals, so they do not have to cut staff or reduce surgeries.	93.5%	93.7%	93.3%	91.5%	95.4%	94.1%	92.6%	93.9%
The government releasing the details of their funding for for-profit surgical centres performing cataract, hip, and knee surgeries such as per-surgery funding rates, amounts charged to OHIP, etc.	84.7%	82.7%	86.5%	87.7%	81.8%	85.0%	86.0%	83.2%

Source: Nanos Research, RDD dual frame hybrid telephone and online random survey, December 27th to 29th, 2025, n=513, accurate 4.4 percentage points plus or minus, 19 times out of 20.

Level of acceptance for the government of Ontario to contract surgeries to private clinics



■ Acceptable ■ Somewhat acceptable
■ Somewhat not acceptable ■ Not acceptable
■ Unsure

*Weighted to the true population proportion.
 *Charts may not add up to 100 due to rounding.

	GTA (n=246)	Rest of Ontario (n=267)	Men (n=274)	Women (n=239)
Acceptable/Somewhat acceptable	55.3%	50.6%	63.8%	42.3%
	18 to 34 (n=88)	35 to 54 (n=205)	55 plus (n=220)	
	50.4%	55.1%	52.4%	
Unacceptable/Somewhat unacceptable	42.1%	46.2%	34.8%	53.4%
	18 to 34 (n=88)	35 to 54 (n=205)	55 plus (n=220)	
	46.4%	41.3%	45.6%	

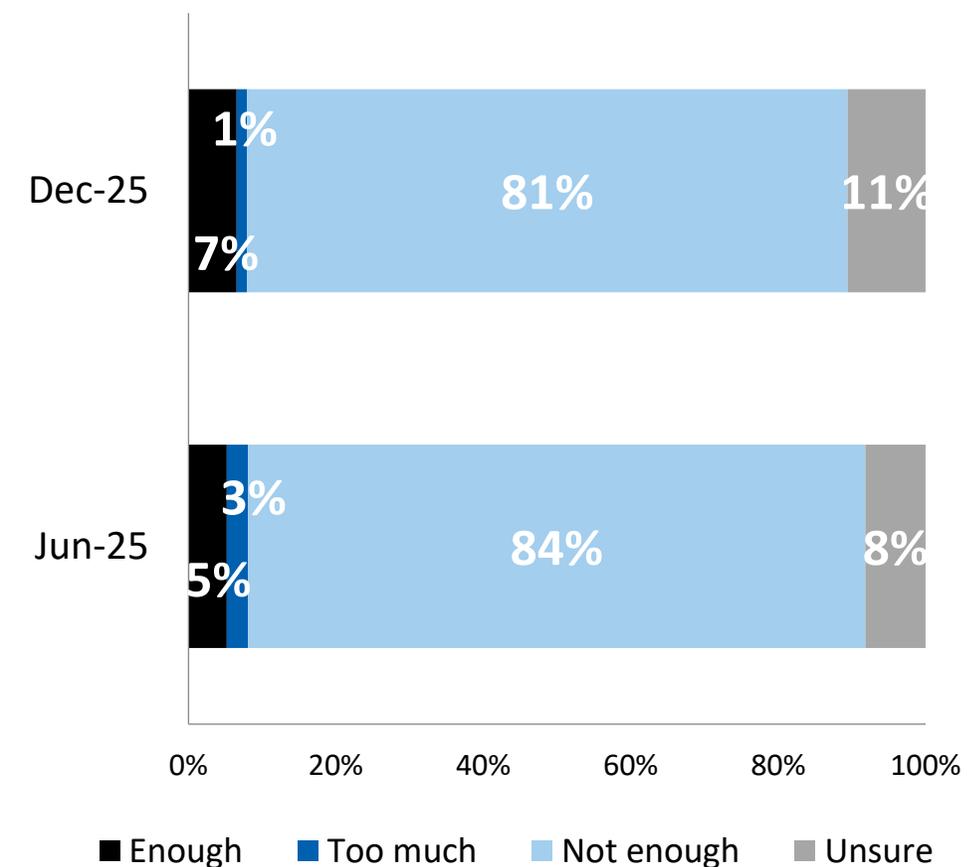
Q – Do you think it is acceptable, somewhat acceptable, somewhat not acceptable, or not acceptable for the government of Ontario to contract out hospital surgeries to private for-profit clinics even if the services remain covered under OHIP?

Source: Nanos Research, RDD dual frame hybrid telephone and online random survey, December 27th to 29th, 2025, n=513, accurate 4.4 percentage points plus or minus, 19 times out of 20.

Satisfaction with level of staffing in Ontario's hospitals

4 in 5 Ontarians

believe there aren't enough staff in hospitals in Ontario (81%), consistent with the June 2025 wave (84%). An additional one in ten are unsure (11%).



*Weighted to the true population proportion.

*Charts may not add up to 100 due to rounding.

Q – Do you think there is currently enough, too much, or not enough staff in hospitals in Ontario?

Source: Nanos Research, RDD dual frame hybrid telephone and online random survey, December 27th to 29th, 2025, n=513, accurate 4.4 percentage points plus or minus, 19 times out of 20.

Satisfaction with level of staffing in Ontario's hospitals by demographics

Q – Do you think there is currently enough, too much, or not enough staff in hospitals in Ontario?

Not enough			
GTA (n=246)	Rest of Ontario (n=267)	Men (n=274)	Women (n=239)
80.3%	82.5%	76.7%	86.0%
18 to 34 (n=88)	35 to 54 (n=205)	55 plus (n=220)	
86.2%	80.9%	78.5%	
Unsure			
GTA (n=246)	Rest of Ontario (n=267)	Men (n=274)	Women (n=239)
11.9%	9.4%	12.0%	9.3%
18 to 34 (n=88)	35 to 54 (n=205)	55 plus (n=220)	
12.9%	9.2%	10.3%	

Source: Nanos Research, RDD dual frame hybrid telephone and online random survey, December 27th to 29th, 2025, n=513, accurate 4.4 percentage points plus or minus, 19 times out of 20.

Satisfaction with level of staffing in Ontario's hospitals by demographics – Continued

Q – Do you think there is currently enough, too much, or not enough staff in hospitals in Ontario?

Enough			
GTA (n=246)	Rest of Ontario (n=267)	Men (n=274)	Women (n=239)
5.4%	7.5%	8.7%	4.4%
18 to 34 (n=88)	35 to 54 (n=205)	55 plus (n=220)	
0.9%	8.5%	8.8%	
Too much			
GTA (n=246)	Rest of Ontario (n=267)	Men (n=274)	Women (n=239)
2.3%	0.6%	2.6%	0.3%
18 to 34 (n=88)	35 to 54 (n=205)	55 plus (n=220)	
-	1.5%	2.4%	

Source: Nanos Research, RDD dual frame hybrid telephone and online random survey, December 27th to 29th, 2025, n=513, accurate 4.4 percentage points plus or minus, 19 times out of 20.

Element	Description	Element	Description
Research sponsor	CUPE	Weighting of Data	The results were weighted by age and gender using the latest Census information (2021) and the sample is geographically stratified to ensure a distribution across all regions of Ontario. See tables for full weighting disclosure.
Population and Final Sample Size	513 Randomly selected individuals.	Screening	Screening ensured potential respondents did not work in the market research industry, in the advertising industry or in the media to administering the survey to ensure the integrity of the data.
Source of Sample	Nanos Probability Panel	Excluded Demographics	Individuals younger than 18 years old; individuals without land or cell lines, and individuals without internet access could not participate.
Type of Sample	Probability	Stratification	By age and gender using the latest Census information (2021) and the sample is geographically stratified to be representative of Ontario.
Margin of Error	±4.4 percentage points, 19 times out of 20.	Estimated Response Rate	13 percent, consistent with industry norms.
Mode of Survey	RDD dual frame (land- and cell-lines) hybrid telephone and online omnibus survey	Question Order	Question order in the preceding report reflects the order in which they appeared in the original questionnaire.
Sampling Method Base	The sample included both land- and cell-lines RDD (Random Digit Dialed) across Ontario.	Question Content	Topics on the omnibus ahead of the survey content included: views on political issues, views on economic issues, and views on dating.
Demographics (Captured)	Men and Women; 18 years and older. Six-digit postal code was used to validate geography.	Question Wording	The questions in the preceding report are written exactly as they were asked to individuals.
Fieldwork/Validation	Individuals were recruited using live interviews with live supervision to validate work, the research questions were administered online	Research/Data Collection Supplier	Nanos Research
Number of Calls	Maximum of five call backs to those recruited.	Contact	Contact Nanos Research for more information or with any concerns or questions. http://www.nanos.co Telephone:(613) 234-4666 ext. 237 Email: info@nanosresearch.com .
Time of Calls	Individuals recruited were called between 12-5:30 pm and 6:30-9:30pm local time for the respondent.	Data Tables	By region, age and gender
Field Dates	December 27 th to 29 th , 2025.		
Language of Survey	The survey was conducted in English.		
Standards	Nanos Research is a member of the Canadian Research Insights Council (CRIC) and confirms that this research fully complies with all CRIC Standards including the CRIC Public Opinion Research Standards and Disclosure Requirements. https://canadianresearchinsightscouncil.ca/standards/		



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ABOUT NANOS

Any questions?



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