

# ELECTION WOW FACTOR ACROSS DURHAM

With Canada's 45th election behind us, some of the results have left many wondering what happened?

To many surprise 68 per cent of the population did their civic duty and cast a ballot. Canadian voter turnout was the highest in more than 35 years. The percentage of voters is not anywhere near a record turnout though.

Looking back through the years, the 2021 federal election saw 62.6 per cent of eligible voters turn up at the polls. In 2019, 67 per cent of electors made their mark on a ballot.

Historically, the highest voter turnout was for the 1958 election, when Prime Minister John Diefenbaker was re-elected with the largest majority government in Canadian history and the second-largest percentage of the popular vote.

555 Liberals were elected with a minority government of 168 seats or about 8.37 million votes, followed closely by the Conservatives with 144 seats or 7.95 million votes.

Breaking that down, the Liberals earned 49 per cent of the popular vote, with Conservatives earning 42 per cent.

Many experts were predicting record turnout after an all-time high 7.3-million Canadians voted in advance polls on Easter weekend.

The highest voter turnout for a federal election was in 1958 when 79.4 per cent of eligible voters cast a ballot.

The last election in 2021 saw only 62.6 per cent vote.

The Durham, Oshawa ridings showed the lowest turnout at 63.38 per cent.

Whitby appears to have the highest turnout at 72.05 per cent.

The other Durham ridings are as follows;  
 York-Durham – 71.08 per cent  
 Northumberland-Clarke – 69.27 per cent  
 Bowmanville-Oshawa North – 69.11 per cent  
 Pickering-Brooklin – 67.68 per cent  
 Ajax – 66.81 per cent

How party leaders have performed in their home ridings

The party leaders' home ridings have had intriguing races as well in some cases. NDP Leader Jagmeet Singh conceded defeat in Burnaby Central and said he would be stepping down as NDP leader once an interim leader is chosen. The NDP is at risk of losing official party status.

Singh placed third place in Burnaby Central, with 9,104 votes (18.1 per cent). The Liberal candidate Wade Chang won with 21,136 votes (42.1 per cent). Conservative candidate James Yan was second at 19,436 votes (38.7 per cent). That was with 198 out of 200 polls reporting.

Green Party co-leader Jonathan Pedneault lost the Montreal riding of Outremont, having received just 9.7 per cent of the vote. Liberal cabinet minister Rachel Bendayan won that seat for the fourth time, having received 55 per cent of the vote.

Green Party co-leader Elizabeth May, meanwhile, won her Vancouver Island seat of Saanich — Gulf Islands. She received 38.8 per cent of the vote.

Bloc Québécois Leader Yves-François Blanchet won his Quebec riding of Beloeil-Chambly, with 33,342 of 68,837 votes (48.44 per cent).

Liberal Leader Mark Carney won the Ottawa riding of

Nepean, giving him a seat in the House of Commons for the first time. With 228 of 229 polls reporting, Carney had 44,980 votes (63.7 per cent). The Conservative candidate Barbara Bal was in second with 23,600 (33.4 per cent).

Conservative Leader Pierre Poilievre, has lost his seat to Liberal candidate Bruce Fanjoy in the riding of Carleton. Poilievre had 38,581 (46.1 per cent), with Fanjoy at 42,374 votes (50.6 per cent). That was with 264 out of 266 polls reporting.

And People's Party leader Maxime Bernier is in fourth place in the Quebec riding of Beauce with 5.76 per cent. Overall it was an embarrassment for many including Pierre Poilievre and Jagmeet Singh.

They could not even win their riding. This sends a serious message across the political spectrum... As no one truly predicted for the Liberals to win again.

The pressure from the U.S. had direct impact on the outcome of the Canadian 2025 elections.

Where are we today. We are led by a minority government. A government that has a steep road ahead.

The U.S. Canada relations is on the table and something that just won't go away. With a minority government. Canadians will see more political strife when it comes to making key important decisions.

Difference between majority and minority governments: According to the Parliament of Canada Information Service, the government must maintain the support of a majority of members of Parliament (MPs) to stay in power. A majority government is formed when one party has more than half of the seats in the House of Commons. A

minority government has fewer than half the seats and requires support from opposition Members of Parliament (MPs).

Canada has a single-member plurality electoral system, also known as "first-past-the post." That means the candidate with the most votes in each electoral district wins the seat and becomes MP for that area.

The party that wins the most seats typically forms the government, as it is most likely to win the support of a majority of MPs and hold the confidence of the House of Commons.

Past minority governments Canadians don't have to look far back to find the last minority government.

The country already had a minority Liberal government based on the last vote in 2021, when the Liberals won 160 seats to the Conservatives' 119. Despite earning the most seats in 2021, the Liberals fell 10 short of a majority in the former

338-seat House of Commons.

The NDP held the balance of power with 25 seats, giving it the ability to support or block Liberal policy objectives.

When Liberal Prime Minister Paul Martin won a majority government in 2004, Canada did not see another majority government until Stephen Harper's Conservatives captured a firm mandate in 2011.

How the Liberals could govern in a minority

On March 22, 2022, NDP leader Jagmeet Singh announced a supply and confidence agreement with the Liberal government, with an objective to identify "key policy areas" of consensus between the parties, including growing the economy with green jobs and climate action, more housing and child-care affordability, and stronger health care.

The NDP agreed to support Liberal policies — and ensure the Liberals could pass key legislation — while the agreement was in place. Singh ended the agreement last

September.

In December, then-Prime Minister Justin Trudeau prorogued Parliament, announcing his intention to resign, and the Liberals selected Mark Carney to lead the party into a snap April 28 election.

While the NDP saw its seat count reduced from 25 in 2021 down to seven seats in 2025, the party is once again poised to offer the balance of power to the Liberals for any hotly contested votes in the House of Commons.

If all Liberals and NDP Members of Parliament vote in unison, the voting block would amount to 175, surpassing the 172 needed to pass legislation.

As of April 29, it's unclear whether the NDP will enter into a new agreement to support shared priorities with the Liberals, especially after Singh announced he is stepping down as NDP leader.

Below are the Durham results across the political boundaries.

<b>Ajax</b>			
Party	Candidate	Votes	Percent of Votes
<b>Liberal</b>	<b>Jennifer McKelvie</b>	<b>36,583</b>	<b>56.2 %</b>
Conservative	Greg Brady	25,502	39.2 %
NDP-	Kyle Forster	1,742	2.7 %
Centrist	Faisal Ali	645	1.0 %
Green Party	Leigh Paulseth	609	0.9 %
Total number of valid votes: 65,081			
Polls Reporting: 225 of 226 (99.56 %)			
Voter Turnout: 65,081 of 97,407 registered electors (66.81 %) -- does not include electors who registered on election day.			
Population: 126,666			
Number of electors on list: 97,407			
<b>York—Durham</b>			
Party	Candidate	Votes	Percent of Votes
<b>Conservative</b>	<b>Jacob Mantle</b>	<b>39,422</b>	<b>55.6 %</b>
Liberal	Robert Grossi	27,970	39.5 %
NDP -	Justin Graham	1,803	2.5 %
PPC -	Patricia Conlin	896	1.3 %
Green Party	Matt Pearce	783	1.1 %
Total number of valid votes: 70,874			
Polls Reporting: 225 of 226 (99.56 %)			
Voter Turnout: 70,874 of 99,713 registered electors (71.08 %) -- does not include electors who registered on election day.			
Population: 116,560			
Number of electors on list: 99,713			
<b>Oshawa</b>			
Party	Candidate	Votes	Percent of Votes
<b>Conservative</b>	<b>Rhonda Kirkland</b>	<b>32,053</b>	<b>48.5 %</b>
Liberal	Isaac Ransom	28,160	42.6 %
NDP-	Sara Labelle	5,070	7.7 %
Green Party	Katherine Mathewson	795	1.2 %
Total number of valid votes: 66,078			
Polls Reporting: 198 of 199 (99.5 %)			
Voter Turnout: 66,078 of 104,260 registered electors (63.38 %) -- does not include electors who registered on election day.			
Population: 131,067			
Number of electors on list: 104,260			
<b>Pickering—Brooklin</b>			
Party	Candidate	Votes	Percent of Votes
<b>Liberal</b>	<b>Juanita Nathan</b>	<b>37,896</b>	<b>54.1 %</b>
Conservative	Alicia Vianga	28,915	41.3 %
NDP-	Jamie Nye	1,809	2.6 %
PPC -	Lisa Robinson	627	0.9 %
Green Party	Andrea Wood	526	0.8 %
Centrist	Zainab Rana	314	0.4 %
Total number of valid votes: 70,087			
Polls Reporting: 260 of 263 (98.86 %)			
Voter Turnout: 70,087 of 100,681 registered electors (69.61 %) -- does not include electors who registered on election day.			
Population: 122,430			
Number of electors on list: 100,681			
<b>Whitby</b>			
Party	Candidate	Votes	Percent of Votes
<b>Liberal</b>	<b>Ryan Turnbull</b>	<b>35,536</b>	<b>52.5 %</b>
Conservative	Steve Yamada	29,796	44.0 %
NDP-	Party Kevin Goswell	1,655	2.4 %
Green Party	Andrew Di Lullo	509	0.8 %
Centrist	Nouman Mian	209	0.3 %
Total number of valid votes: 67,705			
Polls Reporting: 235 of 237 (99.16 %)			
Voter Turnout: 67,705 of 93,969 registered electors (72.05 %) -- does not include electors who registered on election day.			
Population: 115,257			
Number of electors on list: 93,969			

## Alert Ready is testing its Emergency Alerting System

There will be a routine test of the Alert Ready emergency alerting system on Wednesday, May 7, 2025.

The test message will be distributed over TV, radio, and wireless devices, and will occur at 12:55 pm.

Alert Ready is Canada's emergency alerting system, and delivers critical and potentially life-saving alerts to Canadians. Testing provides an opportunity to raise awareness about the system, and validate it works as intended in case of emergency.

Alert Ready is Canada's emergency alerting system. Alert Ready delivers critical and potentially life-saving alerts to Canadians through television, radio and LTE-connected and compatible wireless devices. The Alert Ready system was developed with many partners, including federal, provincial and territorial emergency management officials, Environment and Climate Change Canada, Pelmorex, the broadcasting industry and wireless service providers. Together, these partners work to ensure Canadians receive alerts

immediately and know when to take action to stay safe. Operated by Pelmorex Corp., the National Alert Aggregation and Dissemination (NAAD) System takes the alert information from the Government Issuer and pushes it to Alert Distributors.

The NAAD System provides quick, efficient, and secure delivery of alert messages, as provided from the Government Issuer, to Alert Distributors (television/radio/cable/satellite companies), as well as wireless providers. This is done via satellite and internet data feeds.

If you hear this distinctive tone on television, radio or on your wireless device, please pay attention and take action right away.

Notice for people who are deaf, hard of hearing, blind, or partially sighted: Alternate formats of the alerts may be issued, however, not every alerting authority or device has the capability to produce or receive these formats. Broadcasters may use text-to-speech software to create an audio version of an alert message. Emergency alerts

may be read to the recipient if your device supports this feature. The vibration feature that accompanies emergency alerts is available to alert Canadians. Please contact your wireless provider for more services which may be available to you.

Alert Distributors include television, radio, cable/satellite and wireless service providers.

Responsible for delivering alert messages directly to Canadians over their broadcast and wireless communications platforms (television, radio and LTE-connected wireless devices).

Wireless Alert Distributors broadcast a message once to each compatible wireless device that is in, or enters, the alert area while the alert is valid.

Television and radio Alert Distributors may use Text to Speech (TTS) to transcribe the text into speech for broadcast. When an alert is heard, it is the responsibility of the public to stop, listen and respond as directed by the Government Issuer.