

# NEWS RELEASE

## 80% of Ontario parents of kids in K-12 schools support standardized testing

January 27, 2022

For immediate release

**TORONTO**—Eight-in-10 parents of school-aged children in Ontario support standardized testing to understand how their child and their child’s school are performing in reading, writing and mathematics, according to a new Leger poll commissioned for the Fraser Institute, an independent, non-partisan Canadian public policy think-tank.

“Parents in Ontario overwhelmingly support standardized testing as a way of fairly and objectively measuring their child’s academic progress and the education their child is receiving, despite ongoing efforts by some groups to diminish or even eliminate testing,” said Paige MacPherson, associate director of education policy at the Fraser Institute and author of *Strong Parental Support for Standardized Testing across Canada*.

The poll surveyed 1,204 parents of school-aged children (ages 5-17) enrolled in public and independent schools across Canada. It finds that in Ontario overall support for standardized testing amongst parents was 80 per cent, with 41 per cent of parents strongly supporting standardized testing. Only 6 per cent strongly opposed it.

Nationwide, 84 per cent of parents surveyed support standardized testing, with support being highest among parents who were new to Canada, with 92 per cent of immigrant parents supporting testing.

“Advocacy opposing standardized testing long pre-dates the COVID-19 pandemic, especially in provinces such as Ontario,” said MacPherson.

“It is important for government policymakers and educators to understand how strongly parents value and support standardized testing for their children and their children’s schools, so that the province’s testing is prioritized and improved moving forward.”

(30)

### **MEDIA CONTACTS:**

Paige MacPherson, Associate Director, Education Policy  
Fraser Institute

*To arrange media interviews or for more information, please contact:*

Drue MacPherson, Media Relations Coordinator, Fraser Institute  
(604) 688-0221 ext. 721

[drue.macpherson@fraserinstitute.org](mailto:drue.macpherson@fraserinstitute.org)

[Follow the Fraser Institute on Twitter](#) | [Like us on Facebook](#)

network of think-tanks in 87 countries. Its mission is to improve the quality of life for Canadians, their families and future generations by studying, measuring and broadly communicating the effects of government policies, entrepreneurship and choice on their well-being. To protect the Institute's independence, it does not accept grants from governments or contracts for research. Visit [www.fraserinstitute.org](http://www.fraserinstitute.org)