CANADA PULSE INSIGHTS

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Toronto Police Chief Demkiw's Job Approval Rises to 65%

Residents elsewhere in the GTA give their local police chiefs and front-line officers higher ratings than Torontonians do

Toronto, Canada, October 14, 2026 – A new Canada Pulse Insights poll for Rogers CityNews finds that nearly two-thirds of Torontonians (65%) say Toronto Police Chief Myron Demkiw is doing a good job, up from 62% in October 2025 and 60% in 2024.

His approval rating has risen despite a series of controversies involving the Toronto Police Service (TPS) over the past year. These include Project South, a York Regional Police investigation into organized crime and police corruption that led to charges against seven serving Toronto police officers and one retired officer. Further, just six in ten (59%) Torontonians agree the police have handled extortion cases in the city well.

At the same time, more than one-quarter of Torontonians (27%) say decisions by TPS leadership have reduced their trust in the service, compared with 11% who say those decisions have increased their trust—a net trust score of –16 percentage points. The remaining 62% say their trust has not changed.

Although Chief Demkiw's job approval has improved, residents elsewhere in the GTA give their local police chiefs higher ratings on a generic assessment. Across Mississauga, Durham, York, Halton and the rest of Peel, 73% say their local chief is doing a good job—up smartly from 67% a year ago.

Residents elsewhere in the GTA also give their front-line officers higher marks than Torontonians do. Nearly four in five (79%) say their officers are doing a good job, compared with 73% in Toronto. They are also more likely to say they trust and respect their local police (84% versus 81%) and would not hesitate to ask an officer for help (86% versus 83%).

In Toronto, the rating of front-line officers is little changed from a year ago (73%, compared with 72%), while eight in ten trust and respect the local police (81%) and wouldn't hesitate to ask an officer for help (83%).

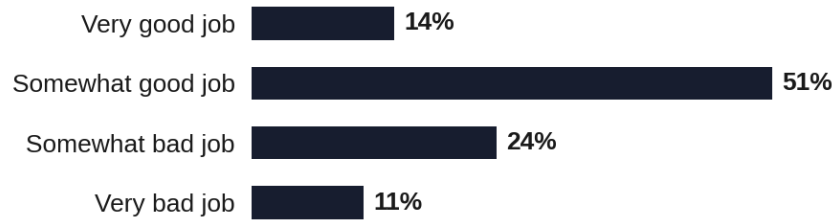
Key findings

- **65%** of Torontonians say Toronto Police Chief Myron Demkiw is doing a good job, up from 62% in October 2025 and 60% in 2024.
- **27%** say decisions by Toronto Police Service leadership over the past year have made them trust the service less; 11% trust it more and 62% about the same — a net of –16.
- **73%** say front-line police officers are doing a good job, about the same as last year (72%); 81% trust and respect the local police and 83% wouldn't hesitate to ask an officer for help.
- **59%** agree the police have handled extortion cases in the city well; 41% disagree.
- **73%** of GTA residents outside Toronto say their local police chief is doing a good job (Toronto 65%); front-line officers 79% (Toronto 73%), trust and respect 84% (81%), extortion handled well 65% (59%).

Nearly two-thirds (65%) say Chief Demkiw is doing a good job, up from 62% in October 2025 and 60% in 2024

Asked whether Toronto Police Chief Myron Demkiw is doing a good job or a bad job for the city, 65% of Torontonians say a good job (14% very good) and 35% a bad job (11% very bad) — up from 62% in a similar Canada Pulse Insights poll for CityNews in October 2025 and from 60% in 2024.

Q. For each of the following, please indicate if they are doing either a good job or a bad job for your municipality: Toronto Police Chief Myron Demkiw. Toronto residents.

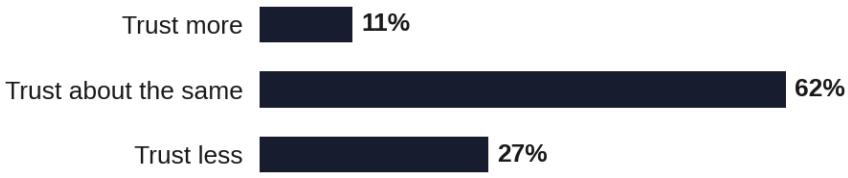


Source: Canada Pulse Insights for Rogers CityNews, September 14–25, 2026 (Toronto n=510; GTA n=825). Online sample and data management by Sago. Base: Toronto residents n=510.

More than one in four (27%) say TPS leadership's decisions have made them trust the service less; 11% trust it more, 62% about the same

Asked whether the leadership of the Toronto Police Service has caused them to trust its decisions more, less or about the same as a year ago, 62% of Toronto residents say about the same, 27% say less and 11% say more — a net of –16. The question was asked in Toronto only.

Q. Thinking about the past year, has the leadership of the Toronto Police Service caused you to trust its decisions more, less, or about the same as you did a year ago? Toronto residents.



Source: Canada Pulse Insights for Rogers CityNews, September 14–25, 2026 (Toronto n=510; GTA n=825). Online sample and data management by Sago. Base: Toronto residents n=510.

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Three-quarters (73%) say front-line TPS officers are doing a good job, about the same as last year (72%); 81% trust and respect the local police

Front-line police officers get a good-job rating from 73% of Torontonians (24% very good) and a bad-job rating from 27% (8% very bad), little changed from 72% in October 2025. Eight in ten (81%) agree they trust and respect the local police (34% strongly); 19% disagree. Eight in ten (83%) agree they wouldn't hesitate to ask a police officer for assistance in their neighbourhood (46% strongly); 17% disagree.

Q. Percent who say front-line police officers are doing a good job, and percent who agree with each statement. Toronto residents.

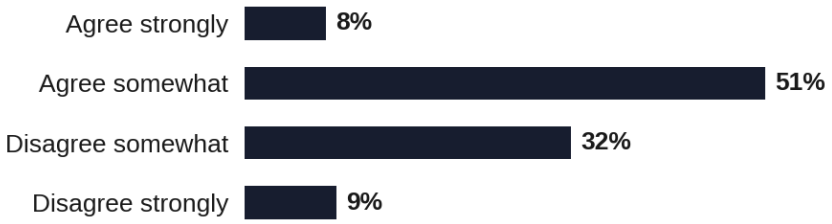


Source: Canada Pulse Insights for Rogers CityNews, September 14–25, 2026 (Toronto n=510; GTA n=825). Online sample and data management by Sago. Base: Toronto residents n=510.

Six in ten (59%) agree the police have handled extortion cases well; 41% disagree

Six in ten (59%) Torontonians agree the police have handled extortion cases in the city well (8% strongly); 41% disagree (9% strongly).

Q. The police have handled extortion cases in the city well. Agree or disagree? Toronto residents.



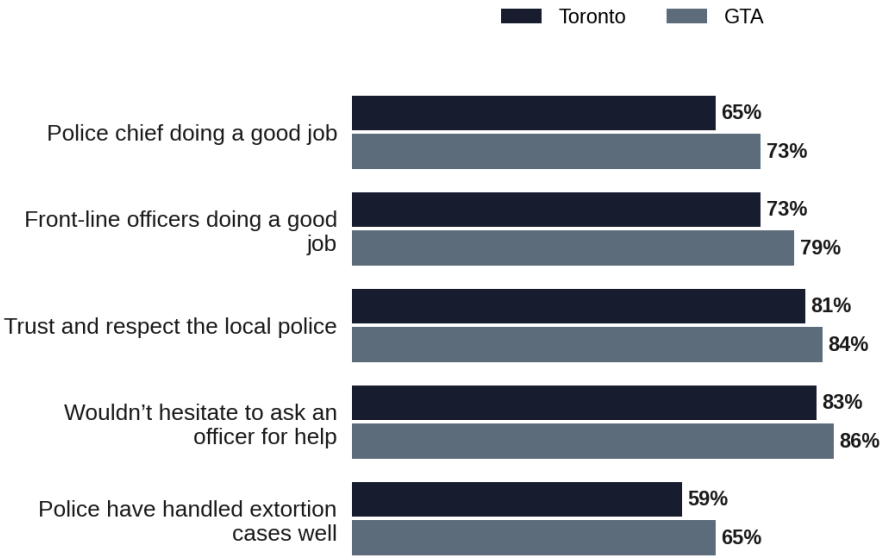
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The GTA rates its police chiefs (73%) and front-line officers (79%) higher than Toronto does (65% and 73%); trust and respect 84% vs 81%

The survey asked the same questions of residents of the GTA outside Toronto — Mississauga, Durham, York, Halton and the rest of Peel. There, 73% say their local police chief is doing a good job (16% very good), against 65% in Toronto; a year ago the GTA figure was 67%. Front-line officers get a good-job rating from 79% of GTA residents (73% in Toronto; 75% in the GTA a year ago). Eight in ten (84%) GTA residents agree they trust and respect the local police (81% in Toronto), and almost nine in ten (86%) say they wouldn't hesitate to ask an officer for help (83%). On extortion, 65% of GTA residents agree the police have handled cases well and 35% disagree, against 59% and 41% in Toronto. The question on Toronto Police Service leadership was not asked outside the city. GTA residents are more likely than Torontonians to say their police chief is doing a good job (73% vs 65%) and say front-line officers are doing a good job (79% vs 73%).

Q. Job ratings (percent good job) and agreement with statements about the police (percent agree), Toronto and the GTA outside Toronto (Mississauga, Durham, York, Halton, rest of Peel).



Source: Canada Pulse Insights for Rogers CityNews, September 14–25, 2026 (Toronto n=510; GTA n=825). Online sample and data management by Sago. Base: Toronto n=510; GTA (Mississauga, Durham, York, Halton, rest of Peel) n=825.

About the Survey

This survey was conducted among adult (18+) residents of the City of Toronto (n=510) and of the Greater Toronto Area outside Toronto — the City of Mississauga and the regional municipalities of Durham, York, Halton and Peel (n=825) — by Canada Pulse Insights between September 14 and 25, 2026. A random sample of adult respondents was invited to complete the survey through an online panel platform managed by Sago, one of the world's largest and most respected sample and panel suppliers. The data were weighted to 2021 Census benchmarks by age and gender within each market, and the GTA markets were combined in proportion to their adult populations. The margin of error for a probability-based sample of this size is ±4.3 percentage points for Toronto and ±3.4 for the GTA, 19 times out of 20. Any discrepancies between the detailed tables and published results are due to rounding.

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Both Canada Pulse Insights and Sago are accredited members of the Canadian Research Insights Council (CRIC) and adhere to its Canadian Code of Market, Opinion, and Social Research and Data Analytics, which incorporates international ESOMAR standards and Canadian public opinion disclosure requirements. The detailed tables and full question wording for this survey are posted on the Canada Pulse Insights website as a companion to this release, consistent with CRIC's transparency standards for research released into the public domain.

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For further information:

John Wright, CEO, Canada Pulse Insights
Email: johnwright@canadapulseinsights.com
Phone: 416-700-4218
Website: CanadaPulseInsights.com

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