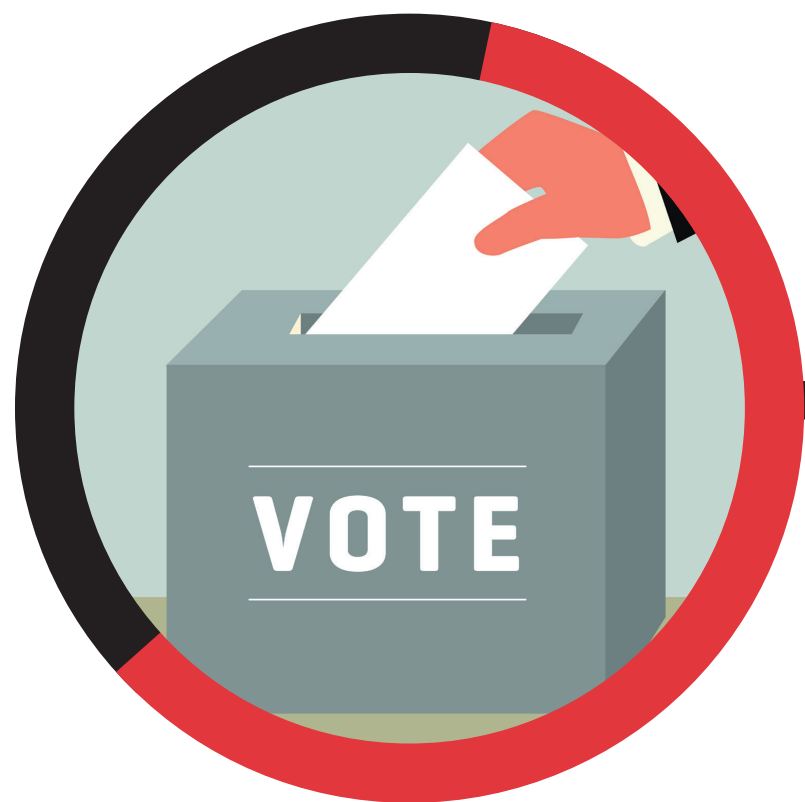


# HOW ELECTIONS WORK IN CANADA

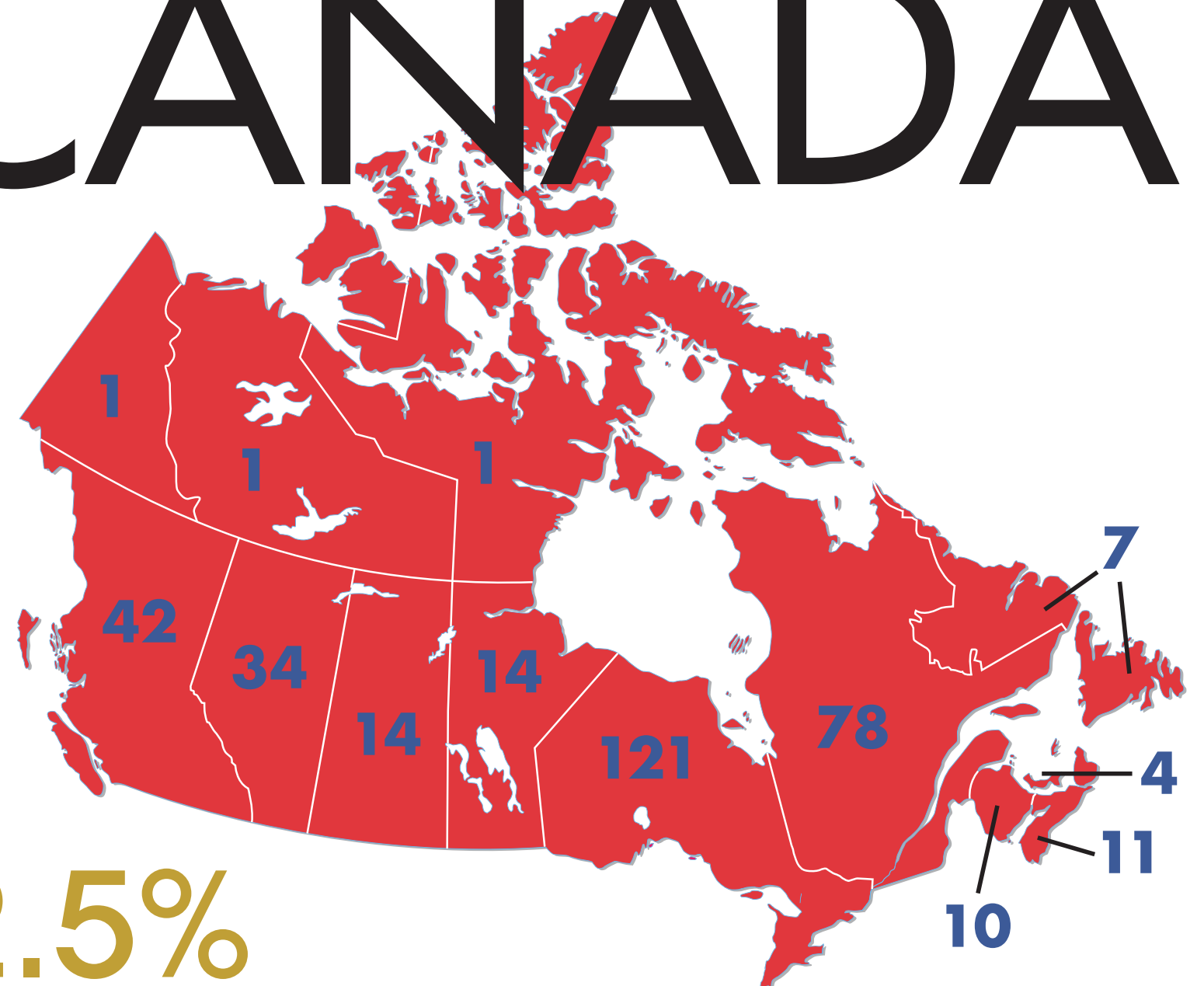
**NEXT ELECTION**  
October 20, 2025

There are  
**338** electoral districts in Canada. One representative from each riding is elected to sit in the House of Commons as a Member of Parliament.



**62.5%**

of Canadians voted in the 2021 federal general election. The highest turnout was in 1958, when 79.4% voted.



**Majority Government**

**170 ridings**

**Minority Government**

**The constitution states** that elections must be held every five years, but traditionally they are held approximately every four.



Photo by Yousuf Karsh, c. 1934.

Agnes Macphail became the first woman Member of the House of Commons in 1921. A record of 102 women were elected to the House of Commons in the general election held September 20, 2021. In total, 762 women ran in the election.

## MEET THE LEADERS

### JUSTIN TRUDEAU, LIBERAL

Born Dec. 25, 1971 in Ottawa, ON. Educated at McGill Univ. (B.A.); Univ. British Columbia (B.Ed.). Married to Sophie Grégoire. Three children (two sons & one daughter). Leader of Liberal Party since 2013 and Prime Minister since 2015. Private career: Teacher. Eldest son of the late Pierre E. Trudeau, Prime Minister from 1968 to 1979; 1980 to 1984.



### PIERRE POILIEVRE, CONSERVATIVE

Born June 3, 1979 in Calgary, AB. Educated at the University of Calgary (B.A., International Relations). Leader, Conservative Party of Canada and Leader of the Opposition since 2022. Minister of Employment and Social Development, 2015. Minister of State (Democratic Reform), 2013-2015. Private career: Businessman.



### JAGMEET SINGH, NDP

Born Jan. 2, 1979 in Scarborough, ON. Educated at Western Univ. (B.Sc., Biology) and Osgoode Hall Law School. Leader of the New Democratic Party since 2017. Member of Ontario Provincial Parliament, 2011-2017. First elected to the House of Commons in a by-election held Feb. 25, 2019. Private career: A criminal defence lawyer.



### YVES-FRANÇOIS BLANCHET, BLOC QUÉBÉCOIS

Born April 16, 1965 in Drummondville, QC. Educated at Cégep de Drummondville (Diploma, Social Science) and Univ. de Montréal (B.A., History and Anthropology). Leader of the Bloc Québécois since 2019. Member of the Québec National Assembly, 2008-2014. Private career: Teacher and founder of entertainment management firm YFB Inc.



### ELIZABETH MAY, GREEN

Born Jun. 9, 1954 in Hartford, CT, USA. Educated at Dalhousie Law School (LL.B.). One daughter. Leader of the Green Party, 2006-2019, and since 2022; first elected to the House of Commons in 2011. Private career: A lawyer & environmentalist. Became Officer of the Order of Canada in 2005 for conservation work, including creating Gwaii Haanas National Park.



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