Need for speed? Half in Ontario say it was 'wrong move' to ban speed cameras, but PC voters in support

Three-in-five in downtown Toronto say they're against the speed camera ban

December 22, 2025 – Ontario drivers won't have to fear the Grinch dropping off a hefty fine from automated speed enforcement cameras into their stocking this holiday season.

However, new data from the non-profit Angus Reid Institute finds Ontarians are more likely to believe it was the wrong move (49%) to disassemble the province's speed cameras than the right one (38%).
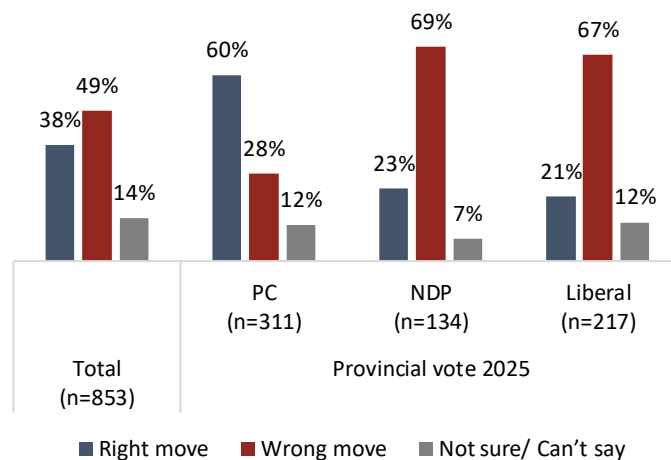
Politics is evidently a driving factor. Premier Doug Ford spoke out against the cameras for months before his government passed legislation to ban them, calling them a "tax grab" for cities. Three-in-five (60%) of those who supported Ford's PCs in the February election believe it was the right move to remove the cameras.

The legislation is less popular in downtown Toronto (58% wrong move) and Ottawa (54% wrong move), but does not receive a ringing endorsement elsewhere in the province either. In the outer lying 905 region of Toronto, and elsewhere in the province, respondents were split as to whether they supported or opposed the speed camera ban.

About ARI

*The **Angus Reid Institute (ARI)** was founded in October 2014 by pollster and sociologist, Dr. Angus Reid. ARI is a national, not-for-profit, non-partisan public opinion research foundation established to advance education by commissioning, conducting and disseminating to the public accessible and impartial statistical data, research and policy analysis on economics, political science, philanthropy, public administration, domestic and international affairs and other socio-economic issues of importance to Canada and its world.*

Do you believe banning speed enforcement cameras is the right move or the wrong move?

	Total (n=853)	PC (n=311)	NDP (n=134)	Liberal (n=217)
Right move	38%	60%	23%	21%
Wrong move	49%	28%	69%	67%
Not sure/ Can't say	14%	12%	7%	12%

Provincial vote 2025

■ Right move ■ Wrong move ■ Not sure/ Can't say

METHODOLOGY:

The Angus Reid Institute conducted an online survey from Nov. 26 to Dec. 1 2025, among a randomized sample of 853 Canadian adults who live in Ontario and are members of Angus Reid Forum. The sample was weighted to be representative of adults nationwide according to region, gender, age, household income, and education, based on the Canadian census. For comparison purposes only, a probability sample of this size would carry a margin of error of +/- 3 percentage points, 19 times out of 20. Discrepancies in or between totals are due to rounding. The survey was self-commissioned and paid for by ARI. Detailed tables are found at the end of this release.

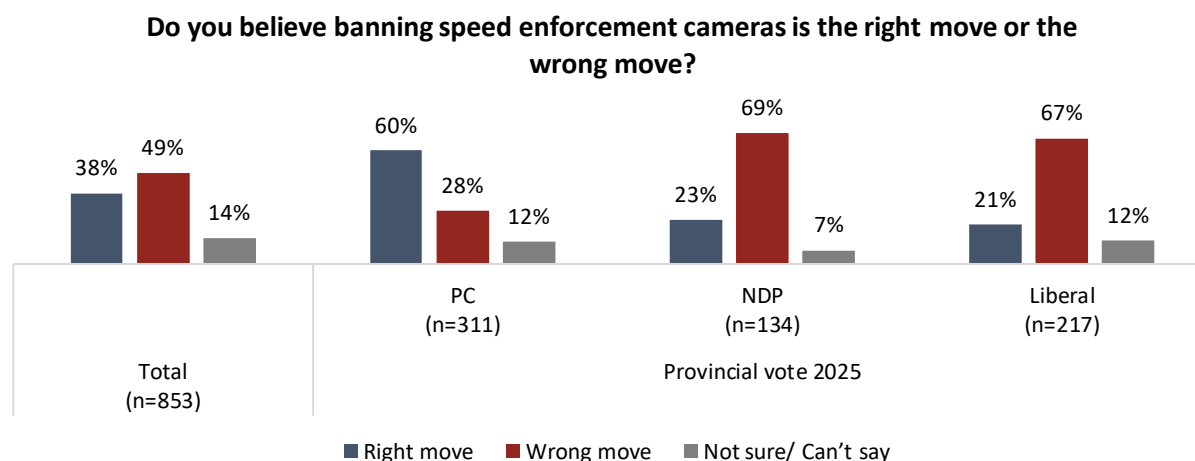***For more information on our polling methods, click here.***

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Right move or wrong move to ban speed cameras?

As of Nov. 14, automated speed enforcement cameras are banned in the province of Ontario. Premier Doug Ford described the cameras as a "tax grab" that didn't work to slow down speeding drivers. However, a study from Toronto's SickKids hospital found that speeding in urban school zones was reduced by 45 per cent in areas where the cameras were deployed. The cameras were the targets of vandals, who were cutting them down and dismantling them under the cover of night. A Global News investigation also found that vehicles registered to Ford government cabinet ministers had been caught by speed cameras more than 20 times over the course of three years.

Half (49%) of Ontarians believe removing the cameras province-wide was the wrong move; two-in-five (38%) support the ban. Those who voted for Ford and the PCs in the February provincial election believe it was the right move to ban automated cameras by a two-to-one margin (60% to 28%). Ontarians who voted for the rival NDP (69%) and Liberal (67%) parties are more likely to believe the cameras should have stayed:
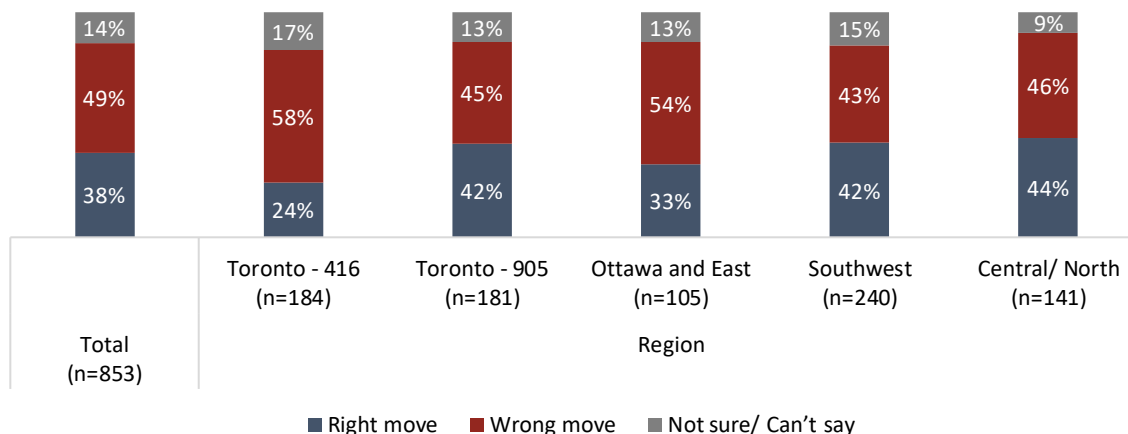
Do you believe banning speed enforcement cameras is the right move or the wrong move?

In Toronto, Mayor Olivia Chow was one of 20 Ontario mayors who were against the plan to remove speed cameras. Chow called the cameras "our best tool for protecting kids". After the ban took effect, Chow said the city might have to lay off as many as 1,000 people, including crossing guards and traffic safety police officers, due to the millions lost from the city's budget after the cameras were shuttered.

Most (58%) in the downtown 416 area code of Toronto believe it was the wrong move to remove the automated speed cameras. Those in the more outer 905 area code, in the province's southwest and centre and north are more divided:
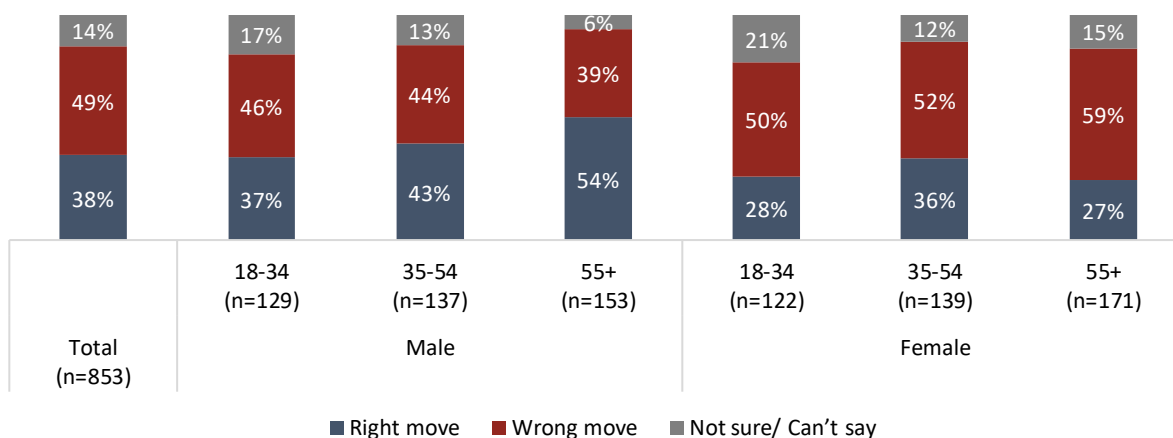
Do you believe banning speed enforcement cameras is the right move or the wrong move?

The measure to ban speed cameras is most popular among men older than 54, a majority of whom believe it was the right move. Women in general are more likely than men to believe it was the wrong move:

Do you believe banning speed enforcement cameras is the right move or the wrong move?

Traffic calming, more police enforcement popular alternatives

The Ford government preceded the speed camera ban with the announcement of $210-million worth of funding for cities to install traffic calming measures such as speed bumps, roundabouts and flashing signs. Chow said the money was not enough to offset the lost revenue from the speed cameras.

But among Ontarians, speed bumps and other traffic calming measures are supported by half (53%) as an alternative to improve road safety. Half (47%) also call for more police enforcement of traffic violations. Lower speed limits (16%) and public awareness campaigns (13%) are less popular:

If speed cameras are restricted or banned, which of these alternatives should be prioritized to improve road safety?				
	Total (n=853)	**Provincial vote 2025**		
		PC (n=311)	**NDP (n=134)**	**Liberal (n=217)**
Road redesign / traffic calming (speed bumps, narrower lanes)	53%	53%	69%	54%
More police traffic enforcement	47%	50%	42%	50%
Lower speed limits	16%	11%	23%	21%
Public awareness campaigns	13%	15%	13%	11%
None of the above	9%	10%	6%	5%

For detailed results by age, gender, region, education, and other demographics, click here.