

Public Opinion Research

# Ontario Election: May Polling Wave 4

## **Vote, Leadership and Final Debate**

**Field Dates:** May 27<sup>th</sup> (immediately following the final debate) to May 30<sup>th</sup>, 2018

**Sample Size:** n=1,000

# Methodology

- These are the findings of a special Innovative Research Group (INNOVATIVE) online poll conducted from May 27<sup>th</sup> (immediately following the final debate) to May 30<sup>th</sup>, 2018 with tracking drawn from our monthly Canada This Month surveys.
- This online survey of 1,112 adult Ontarians was conducted on INNOVATIVE's Canada 20/20 national research panel with additional respondents from Léger, a leading provider of online sample. The sample is weighted to n=1,000 based on Census data from Statistics Canada.
  - The vote, leader and debate analysis, as well as segmentations and cluster analysis herein is based on the 958 completed surveys as of May 29<sup>th</sup>, (weighted n=800). The survey ran for an additional day to bring the final sample size up to 1,000. Thus, sample sizes noted on some slides will vary.
- The panels are recruited from a wide variety of sources to reflect the age, gender, region and language characteristics of the country as a whole. Each survey is administered to a series of randomly selected samples from the panel and weighted to ensure that the overall sample's composition reflects that of the actual Canadian population according to Census data to provide results that are intended to approximate a probability sample. INNOVATIVE provides each panellist with a unique URL via an email invitation so that only invited panel members are able to complete the survey, and panel members can only complete a particular survey once.
- This is a representative sample. However, since the online survey was not a random probability based sample, a margin of error can not be calculated. The Marketing Research and Intelligence Association prohibits statements about margins of sampling error or population estimates with regard to most online panels.
- **NOTE:** References to May 2018 Wave 1 refer to our May 2018 Canada this Month survey in field from May 7<sup>th</sup> to May 9<sup>th</sup>, with a weighted sample of n=915 respondents. References to May 2018 Wave 2 refer to our first special online poll in field from May 9<sup>th</sup> to May 12<sup>th</sup>, with a weighted sample of n=1,500 respondents. References to May 2018 Wave 3 refer to our online poll from May 18<sup>th</sup> to May 23<sup>rd</sup> with a weighted sample of n=1,050. The current wave of results is referred to as May 2018 Wave 4.

**Note:** Graphs and tables may not always total 100% due to rounding values rather than error in data. Sums are added before rounding numbers.

## Ontario Weights: Age, gender, and region

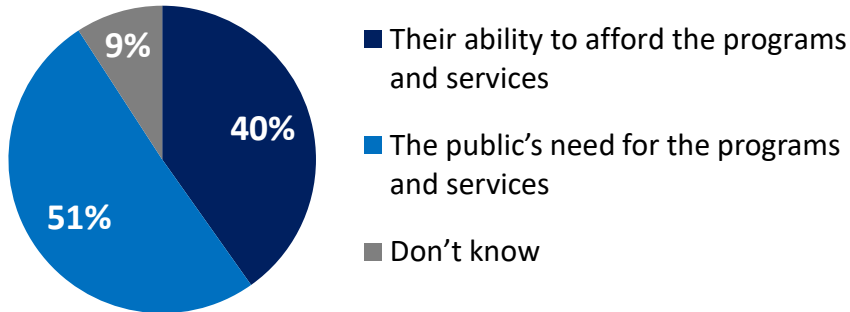
Results for Ontario are weighted by age, gender, and region to ensure that the overall sample's composition reflects that of the actual population according to Census data; in order to provide results that are intended to approximate a probability sample. Weighted and unweighted frequencies are reported below.

	Unweighted (n)	Unweighted (%)	Weighted (n)	Weighted (%)
Males 18-34	99	8.9%	137	13.7%
Males 35-54	168	15.1%	183	18.3%
Males 55+	290	26.1%	160	16.0%
Females 18-34	148	13.3%	140	14.0%
Females 35-54	144	12.9%	194	19.4%
Females 55+	263	23.7%	186	18.6%
Toronto	274	24.6%	209	20.9%
Rest of GTA	238	21.4%	253	25.3%
South/West	297	26.7%	262	26.2%
North/East	303	27.2%	276	27.6%

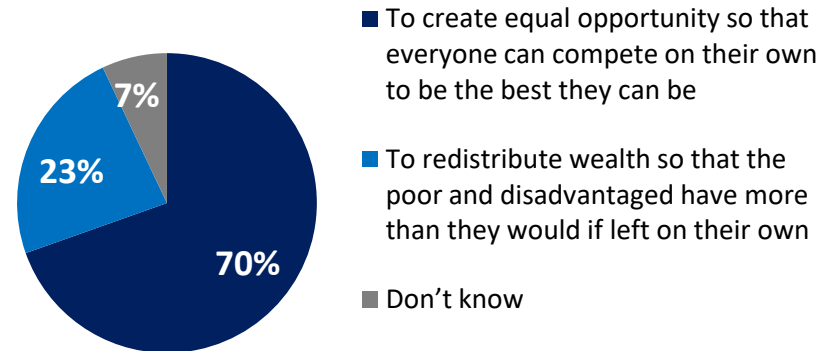
# Value Clusters

# Core Political Values: These four value statements define value cluster analysis that we can compare directly to 2014

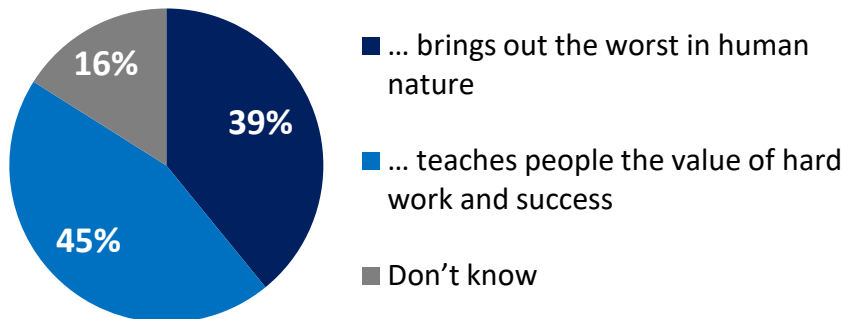
**Q** When governments make major decisions concerning spending on programs and services, do you think they should be based on ...?



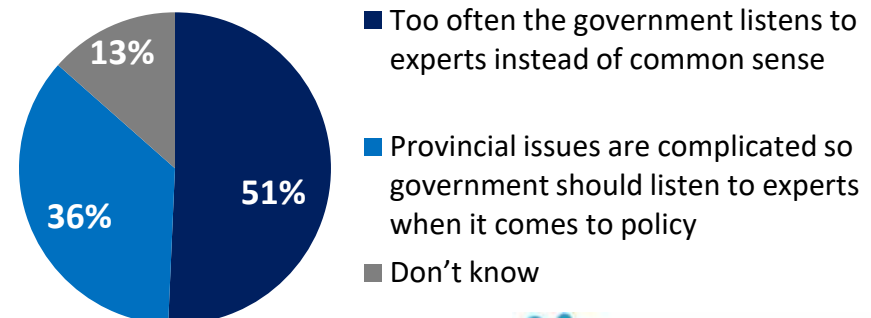
**Q** Is the main role of government ...?



**Q** Which of the following statements best describes your personal point of view? The profit system ...



**Q** When it comes to government decision making, which of the following statements is closest to your view?

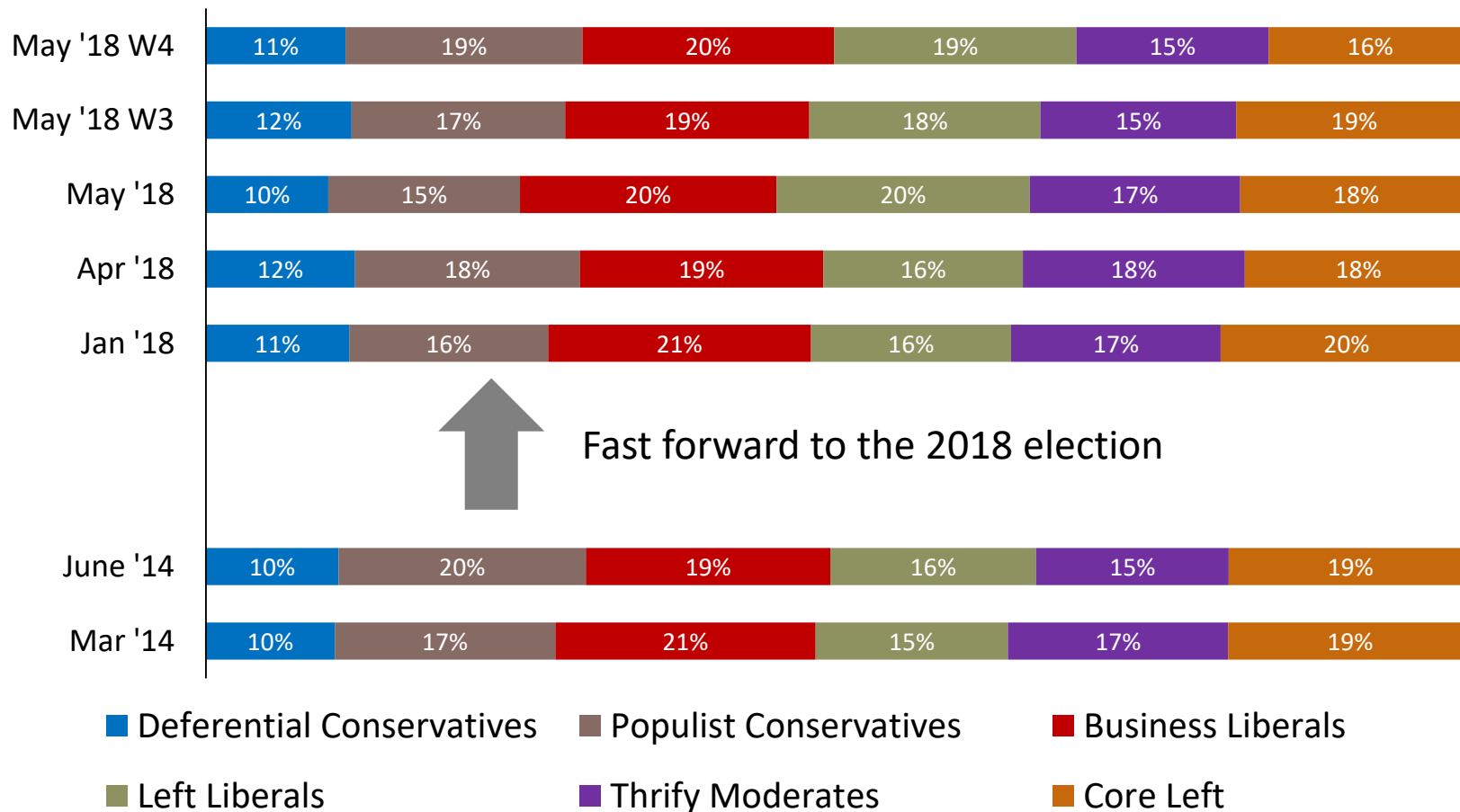


# Defining Value Clusters

		Deferential Conser- vatives	Populist Conser- vatives	Business Liberals	Left Liberals	Thrifty Moderates	Core Left
Is the main role of government to ...?	<b>Create equal opportunity</b>	91%	100%	76%	96%	48%	0%
	<b>Redistribute wealth</b>	7%	0%	15%	0%	27%	97%
The profit system ...	<b>Brings out worst in human nature</b>	0%	0%	0%	80%	67%	85%
	<b>Teaches value of hard work and success</b>	88%	91%	87%	0%	5%	0%
When gov'ts make decisions on spending on programs, do you think they should base their decisions on...	<b>Ability to afford</b>	93%	96%	0%	0%	80%	0%
	<b>Public need</b>	0%	0%	95%	87%	0%	94%
When it comes to government decision making...	<b>Listen to experts</b>	91%	0%	45%	21%	21%	60%
	<b>Rely on common sense</b>	0%	100%	44%	57%	49%	31%

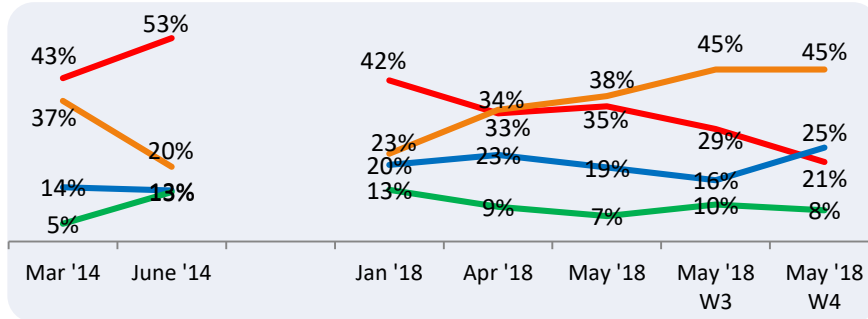
# Value Clusters: Tracking clusters over time

These clusters tracking back to the 2014 election are based on 4 basic values: equal opportunity versus redistribution; trust in the profit system; whether spending should be based on ability to afford or public need; and whether government should listen to experts or common sense.

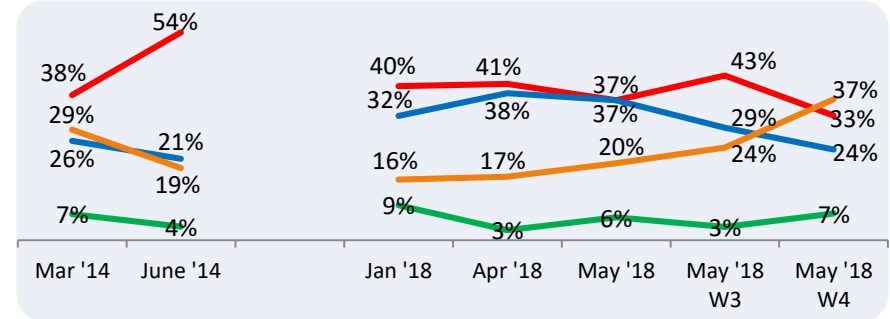


# Tracking Decided Vote by Value Cluster

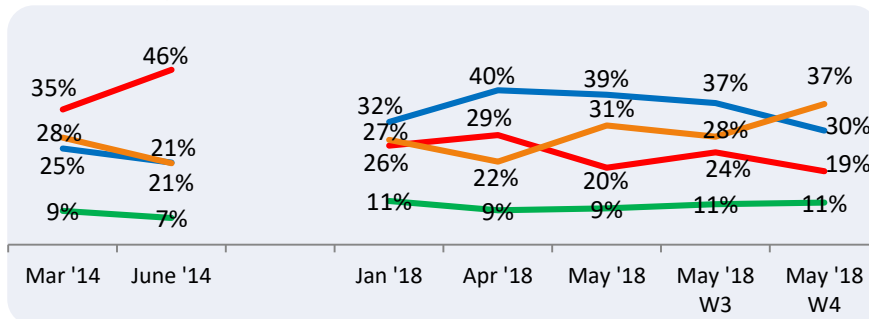
## Left Liberals



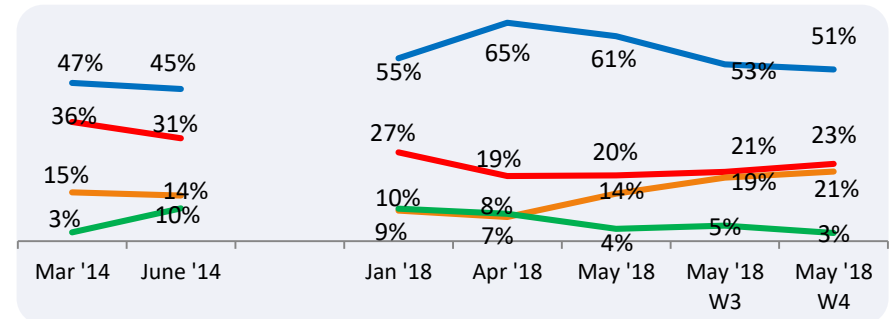
## Business Liberals



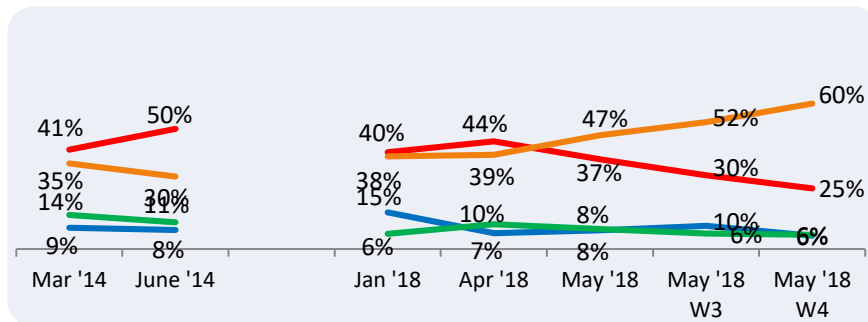
## Thrifty Moderates



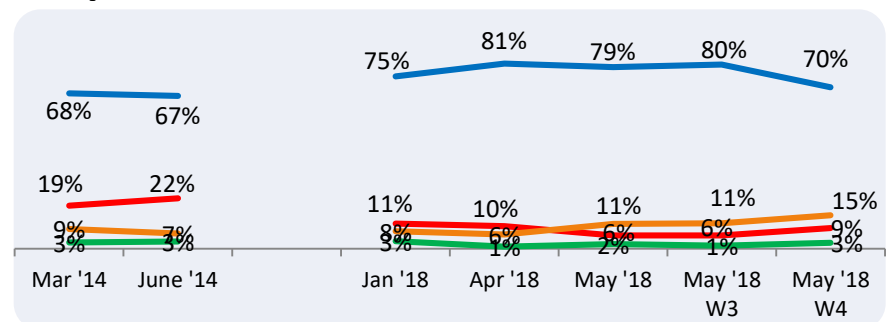
## Deferential Conservatives



## Core Left



## Populist Conservatives



Decided vote: Liberal PC NDP Green



# Time-for-Change

# Time for Change Tracking: Time for change sentiment steady<sup>10</sup> since wave 3 (70%); Liberals still best party down 3 points

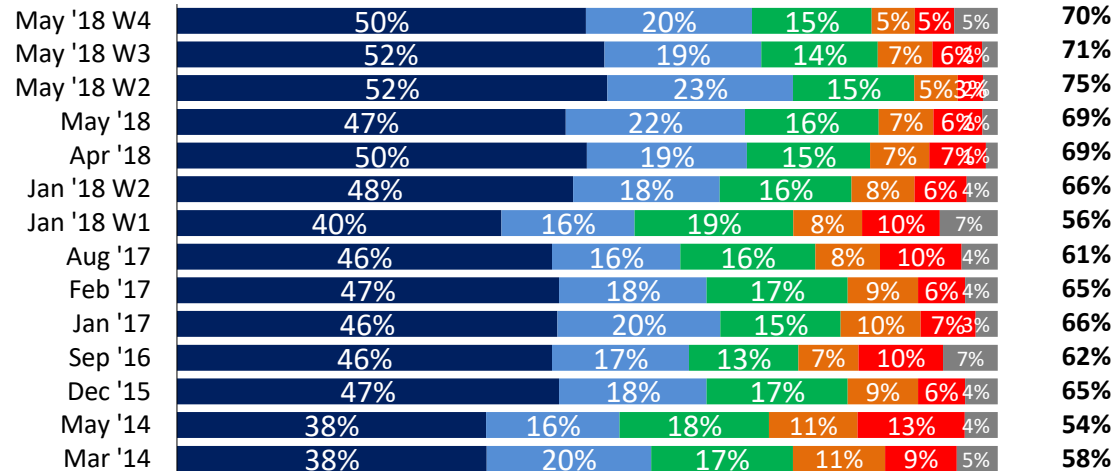
Q

For each of the following statements please indicate if you agree or disagree?

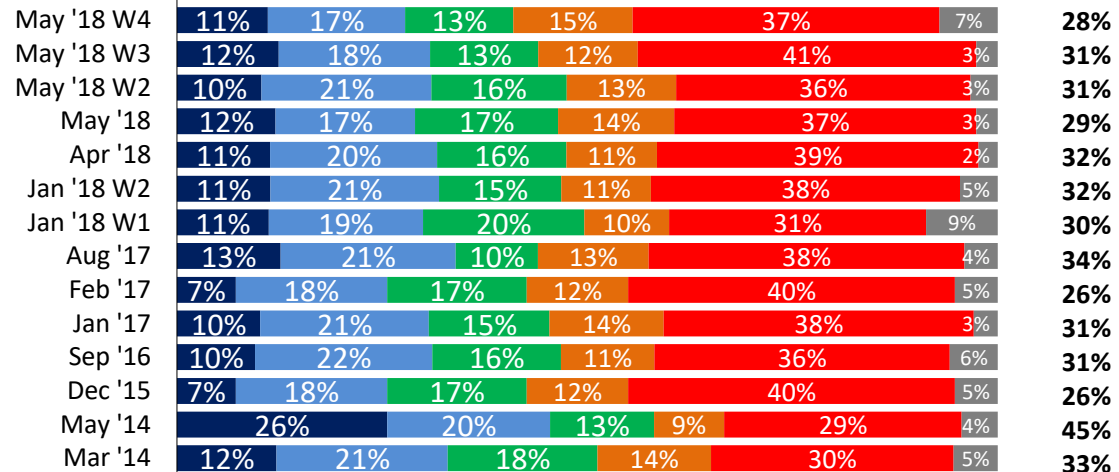
[asked of all respondents; n=1,000]

Total agree  
(Strongly + Somewhat)

It's time for a change in  
government here in Ontario



The Ontario Liberals have their  
problems, but they are still the  
best party to form government



Strongly agree  
Somewhat agree

Somewhat agree  
Strongly disagree

Neither agree nor disagree  
Don't know

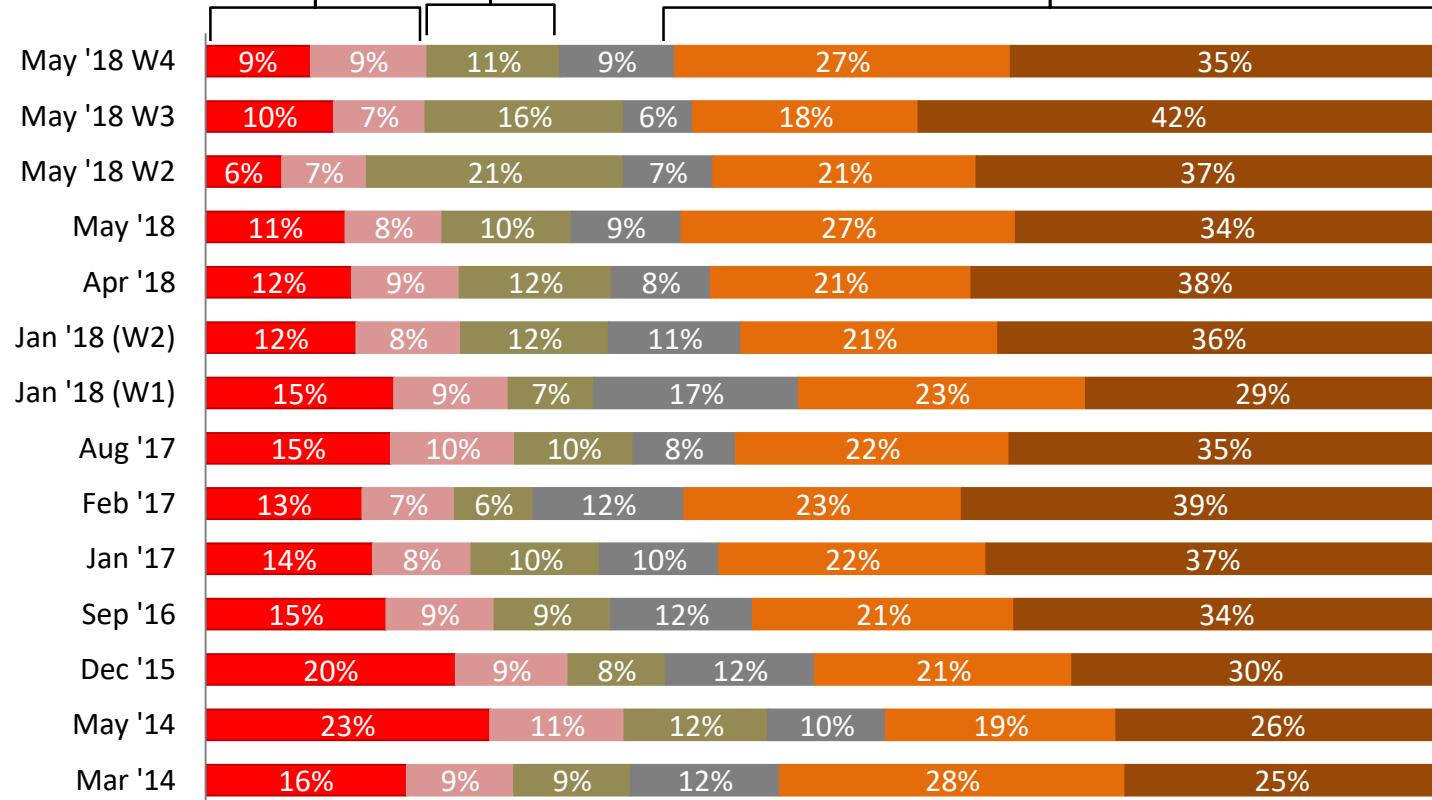
# Time for Change Tracking: Hostile group down 7 points to 35%; soft-anti group up 9 points to 27%

Based on the two time-for-change questions, we group respondents who share common sets of values to better understand the motivations and needs of voters.

Don't feel it is time for a change and think Liberals best to form government

Key conflicted voters. Feel it is time for change, but also think Liberals are still the best option.

Feel both that it is time for a change, and disagree that Liberals are the best option to form government.



■ Core ON Liberals

■ Soft ON Liberals

■ Time for change ON Liberals

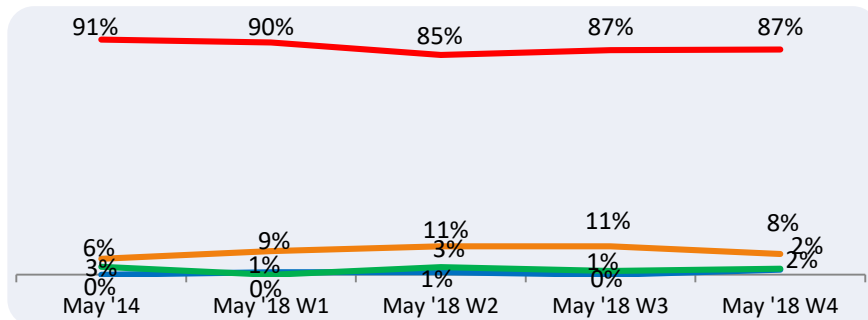
■ Uncertain

■ Soft anti-ON Liberals

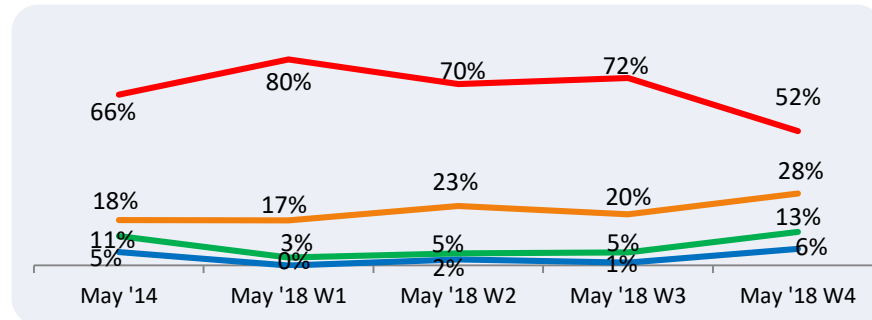
■ Hostile

# Tracking Decided Vote by Time-for-Change Segmentation

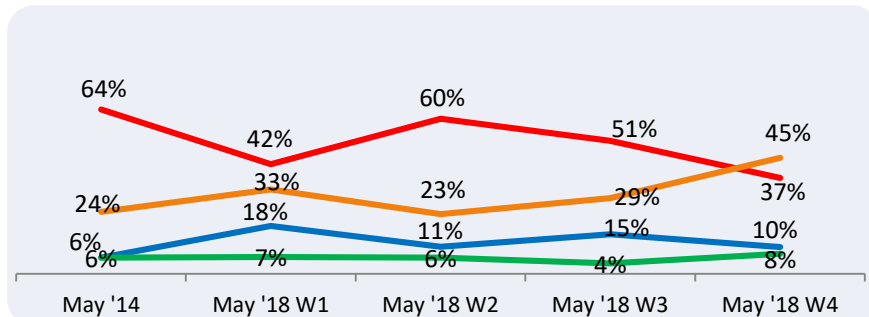
## Core ON Liberals



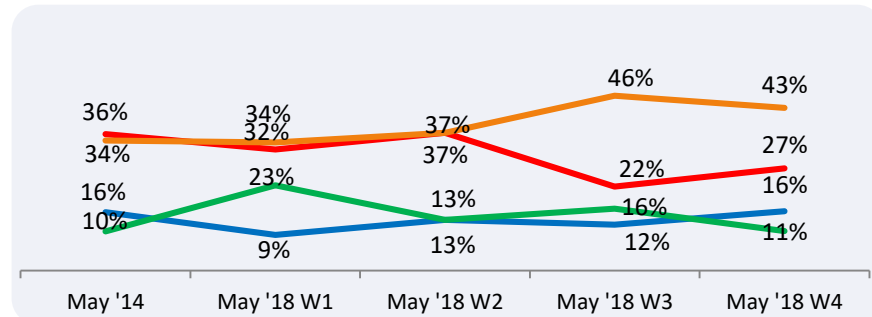
## Soft ON Liberals



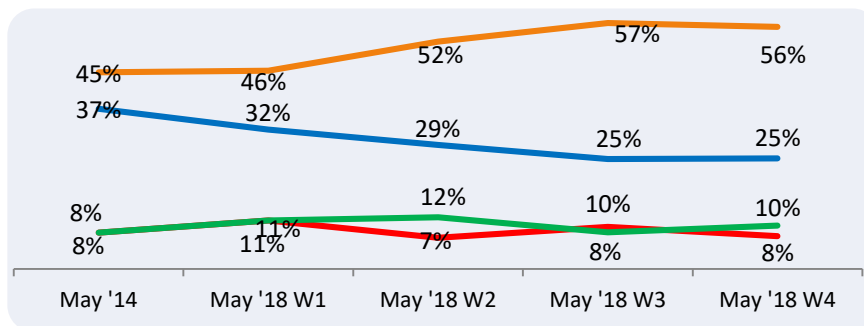
## Time-for-Change ON Liberals



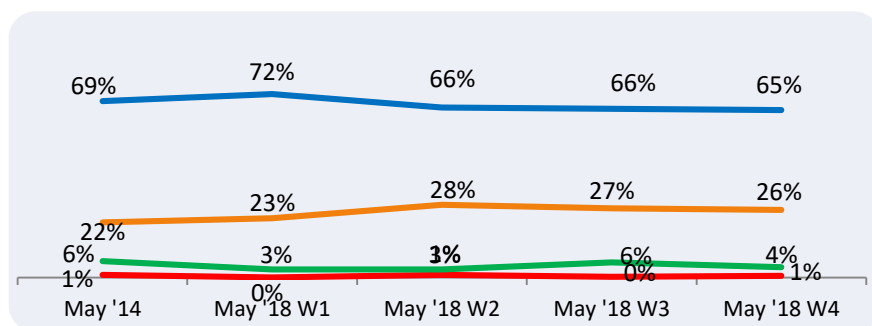
## Uncertain



## Soft anti-ON Liberals



## Hostile



Decided vote: Liberal PC NDP Green

# Political Attitudes

# Two-Horse Race: Strongly disagree up 18 points since wave 3; majority (59%) now disagree <sup>14</sup>

## 3; majority (59%) now disagree

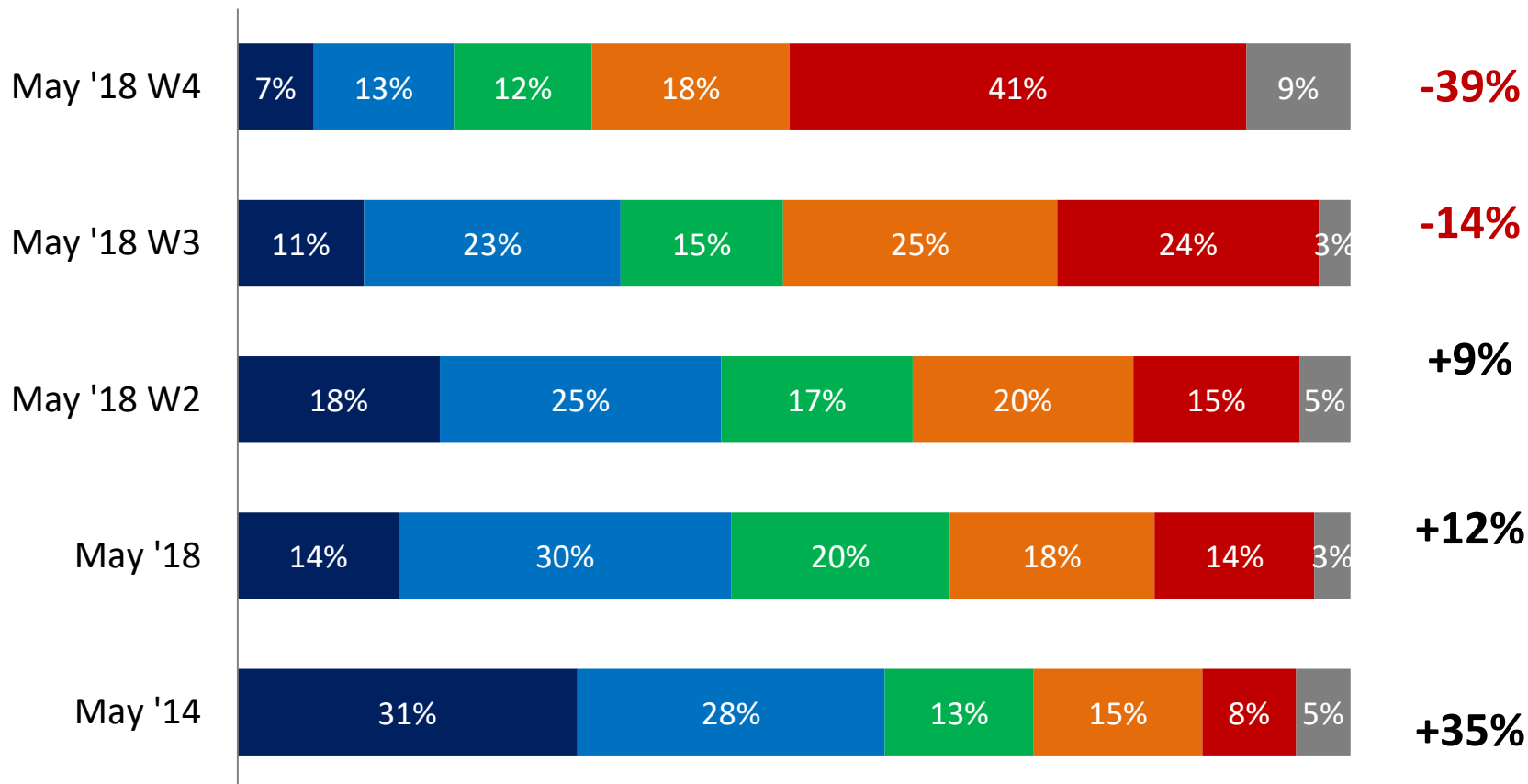
Q

For each of the following statements please indicate if you agree or disagree?

This election is really a two-horse race, only the Liberal and the Conservatives have a real chance of forming government.

[asked of all respondents; n=1,000]

**Net agree  
(Agree - Disagree)**



Strongly agree

Somewhat agree

Neither agree nor disagree

Somewhat disagree

Strongly disagree

Don't know

# Two-Horse Race: PC vote share highest among those who strongly agree; NDP vote highest among strongly disagree

Q

Combined Vote **BY** For each of the following statements please indicate if you agree or disagree? This election is really a two-horse race, only the Liberal and the Conservatives have a real chance of forming government

[asked of all respondents; n=1,000]


## Two-horse race – May 2018 Tracking by Wave

Combined Vote	Column % shown	Strongly agree				Somewhat agree				Neither agree nor disagree				Somewhat disagree				Strongly disagree			
		W4*	W3	W2	W1	W4	W3	W2	W1	W4	W3	W2	W1	W4	W3	W2	W1	W4	W3	W2	W1
Liberal		25%	30%	36%	31%	21%	33%	29%	25%	29%	32%	22%	22%	26%	24%	25%	30%	13%	9%	10%	11%
Progressive Conservative		51%	48%	42%	48%	39%	37%	35%	40%	37%	31%	32%	29%	31%	29%	25%	23%	26%	30%	25%	25%
NDP		12%	11%	15%	13%	21%	17%	21%	18%	14%	20%	18%	19%	29%	33%	40%	33%	50%	50%	53%	54%
Green		9%	8%	2%	5%	12%	5%	7%	7%	6%	5%	5%	5%	5%	6%	6%	3%	5%	6%	5%	5%
Other		2%	0%	0%	1%	0%	0%	0%	0%	2%	2%	0%	1%	1%	1%	0%	1%	2%	1%	0%	0%
Undecided/Don't know		0%	3%	3%	3%	5%	6%	7%	10%	11%	8%	19%	21%	6%	7%	3%	10%	3%	4%	5%	5%
Would not vote/none		2%	1%	1%	0%	2%	1%	1%	1%	0%	2%	4%	4%	2%	0%	0%	1%	0%	0%	2%	0%

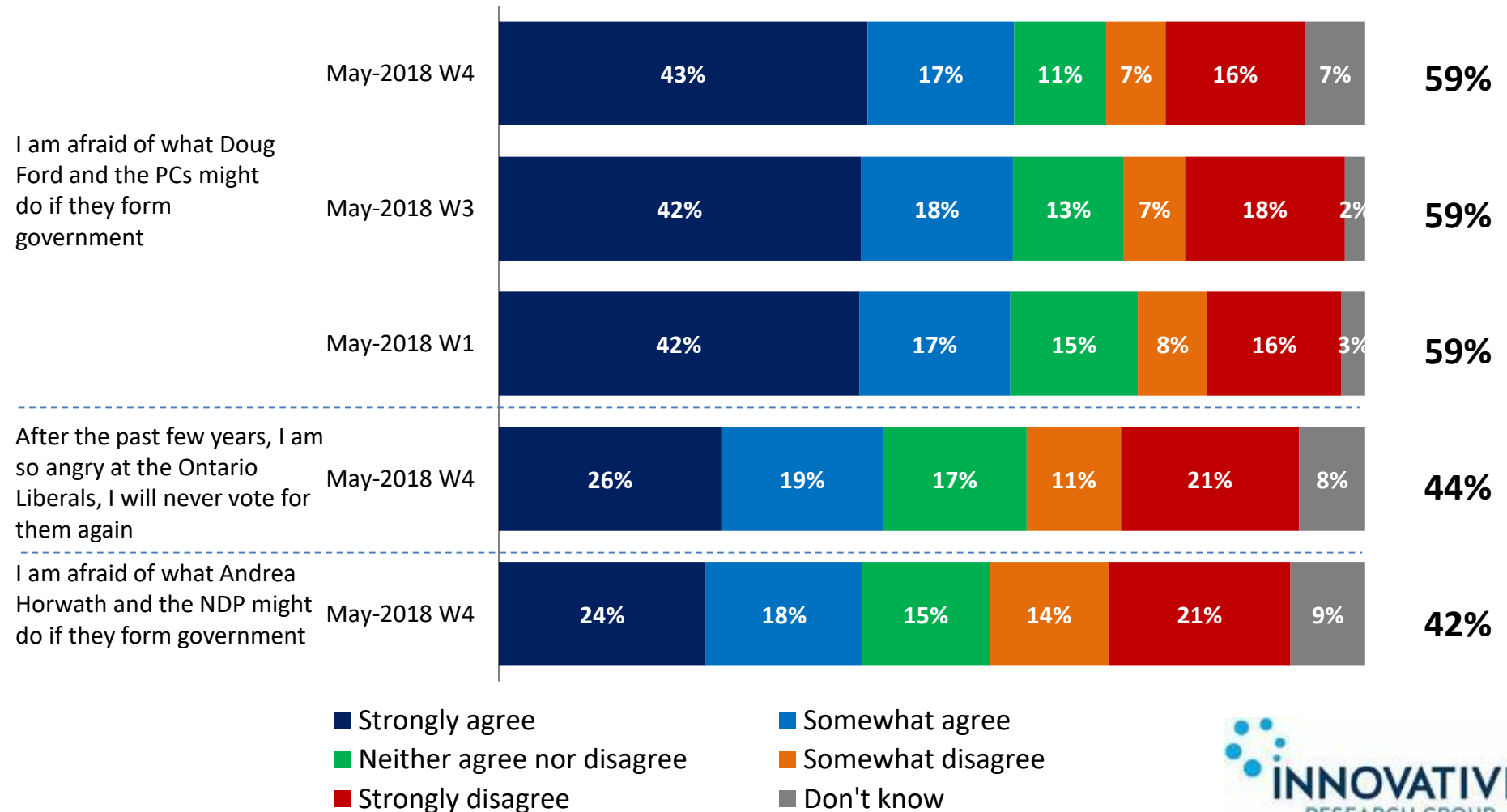
Note: "Don't know" not shown.

\*Treat results with caution due to small sample size (n=68)

# Leader Attitudes: 44% of respondents agree that they are so<sup>16</sup> angry at the Ontario Liberals they will never vote for them

 For each of the following statements please indicate if you agree or disagree?  
[asked of all respondents; n=1,000]

Total agree  
(Strongly +  
Somewhat)





# Leader Attitudes by Party ID: Liberal partisans split on if they are scared of what NDP might do in gov. (net -1%)

Attitudes by Party ID

Party ID

Net agreement (Total % agree minus total % disagree)	Liberal	PC	NDP	Green/Other	Unaligned
I am afraid of what Doug Ford and the PCs might do if they form government	+76%	-32%	+71%	+28%	+34%
After the past few years, I am so angry at the Ontario Liberals, I will never vote for them again	-35%	+73%	+6%	+26%	+22%
I am afraid of what Andrea Horwath and the NDP might do if they form government	-1%	+64%	-68%	+7%	+1%

# Leader Attitudes by Region: Net fear of PCs in government higher than fear of NDP in every region

18

## Attitudes by Region

Net agreement (Total % agree minus total % disagree)	Region			
	Toronto	Rest of GTA	South/West	North/East
I am afraid of what Doug Ford and the PCs might do if they form government	+44%	+30%	+34%	+39%
After the past few years, I am so angry at the Ontario Liberals, I will never vote for them again	-8%	+13%	+21%	+21%
I am afraid of what Andrea Horwath and the NDP might do if they form government	-5%	+17%	+7%	+9%

# Leader Attitudes by Value Cluster: Conservative groups inconsistent on fear of Doug Ford and PCs

Attitudes BY Value Cluster

Value Cluster

Net agreement (Total % agree minus total % disagree)	Deferential Conservatives	Populist Conservatives	Business Liberals	Left Liberals	Thrifty Moderates	Core Left
I am afraid of what Doug Ford and the PCs might do if they form government	+30%	-29%	+54%	+46%	+35%	+84%
After the past few years, I am so angry at the Ontario Liberals, I will never vote for them again	+28%	+59%	-1%	+10%	+25%	-36%
I am afraid of what Andrea Horwath and the NDP might do if they form government	+51%	+60%	-1%	-5%	+6%	-54%

# Leader Attitudes by Econ. Alienation: Alienated respondents<sup>20</sup> are afraid of a PC government; much more confident in NDP

Attitudes BY Economic Alienation

## Alienation Segmentation

<b>Net agreement</b> (Total % agree minus total % disagree)	<b>Achievers</b>	<b>Hopefuls</b>	<b>Moderate Strugglers</b>	<b>Heavy Strugglers</b>	<b>Ambivalent</b>	<b>Alienated</b>
I am afraid of what Doug Ford and the PCs might do if they form government	<b>+49%</b>	<b>+45%</b>	<b>+21%</b>	<b>+17%</b>	<b>+34%</b>	<b>+49%</b>
After the past few years, I am so angry at the Ontario Liberals, I will never vote for them again	<b>-18%</b>	<b>+11%</b>	<b>+17%</b>	<b>+48%</b>	<b>+12%</b>	<b>+11%</b>
I am afraid of what Andrea Horwath and the NDP might do if they form government	<b>+12%</b>	<b>+16%</b>	<b>+10%</b>	<b>+34%</b>	<b>+4%</b>	<b>-16%</b>

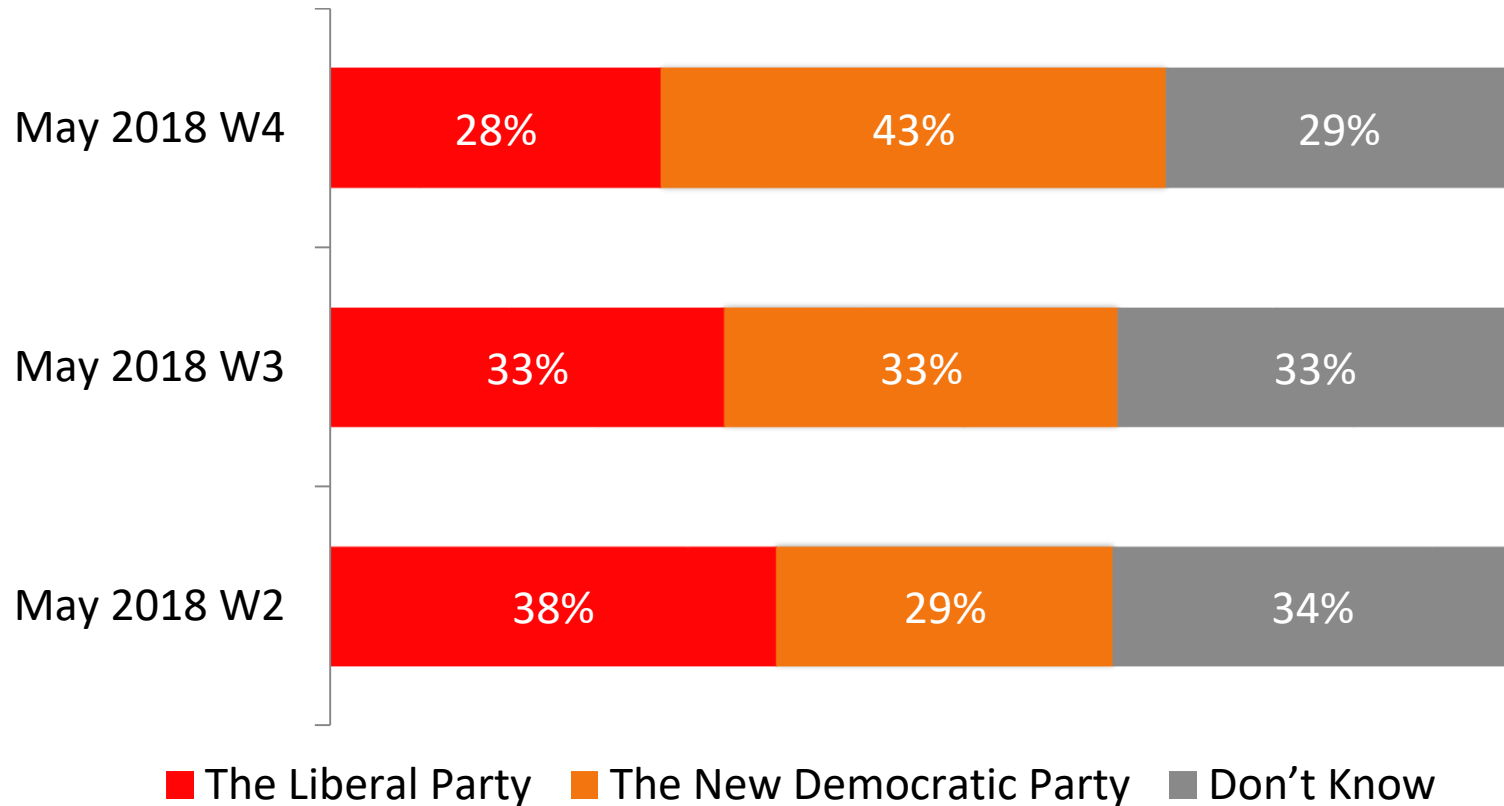
# Beating the PCs: 43% (up 10pts) say the NDP has a better chance of beating the PCs than the Liberals

21

Q

Thinking about the area where you live, which party do you think has the best chance of beating the Progressive Conservatives in the upcoming provincial election?

[asked of all respondents; n=1,000]



# Beating the PCs: Undecided battleground voters are concentrated among those unsure who would beat the PCs

Vote among **Liberal and NDP battleground voters (n=344)** BY who they think will beat the PCs

## Who would beat the PCs?

Combined Vote	Column % shown	TOTAL	Liberals	NDP	Don't know
	Liberal	20%	43%	12%	7%
	PC	16%	15%	20%	14%
	NDP	21%	23%	30%	14%
	Green/other	19%	14%	23%	20%
	Undecided/would not vote	24%	5%	15%	45%



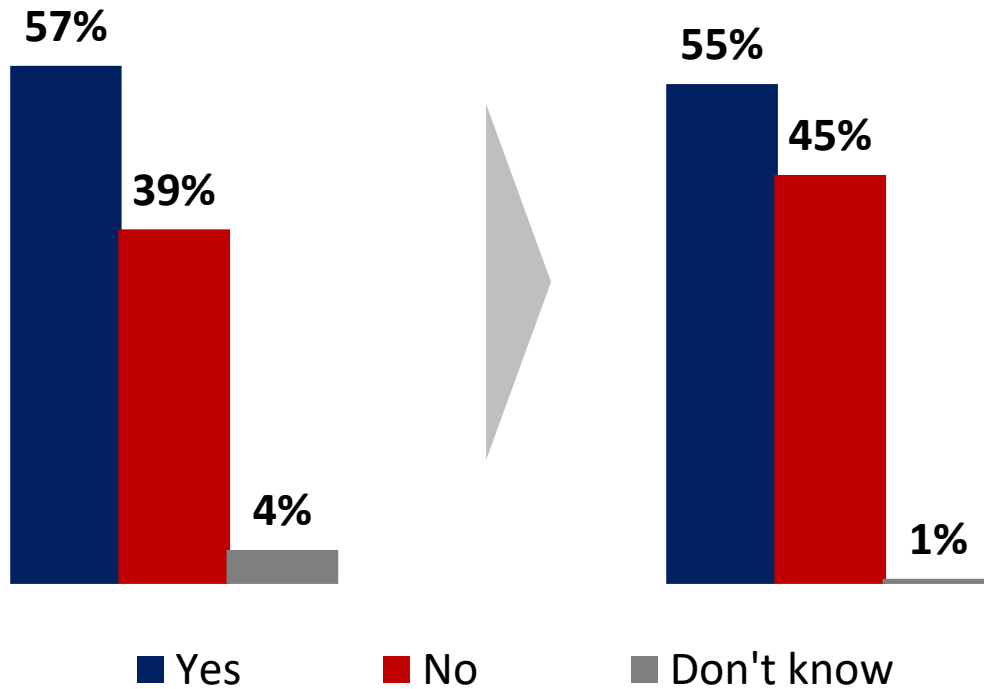
# May 27<sup>th</sup> Leadership Debate

# Leadership Debate: More than half of those aware of the debate watched it; three quarters watched at least most of it

Q

Have you read, seen or heard anything about the Ontario leader's TV debate that was held on Sunday, May 27<sup>th</sup>?

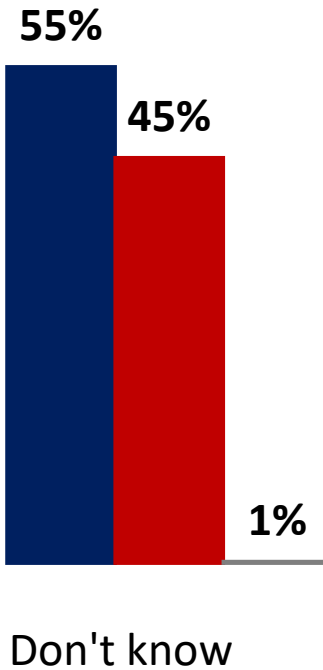
[asked of all respondents, n=800]



Q

Did you happen to watch the leader's debate yourself?

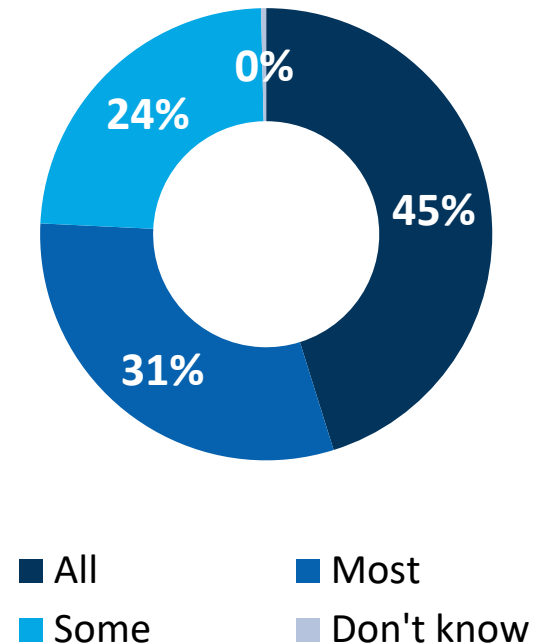
[asked of those who RSH; n=459]



Q

Did you watch all of the debate or just some of it?

[asked of those who watched; n=252]



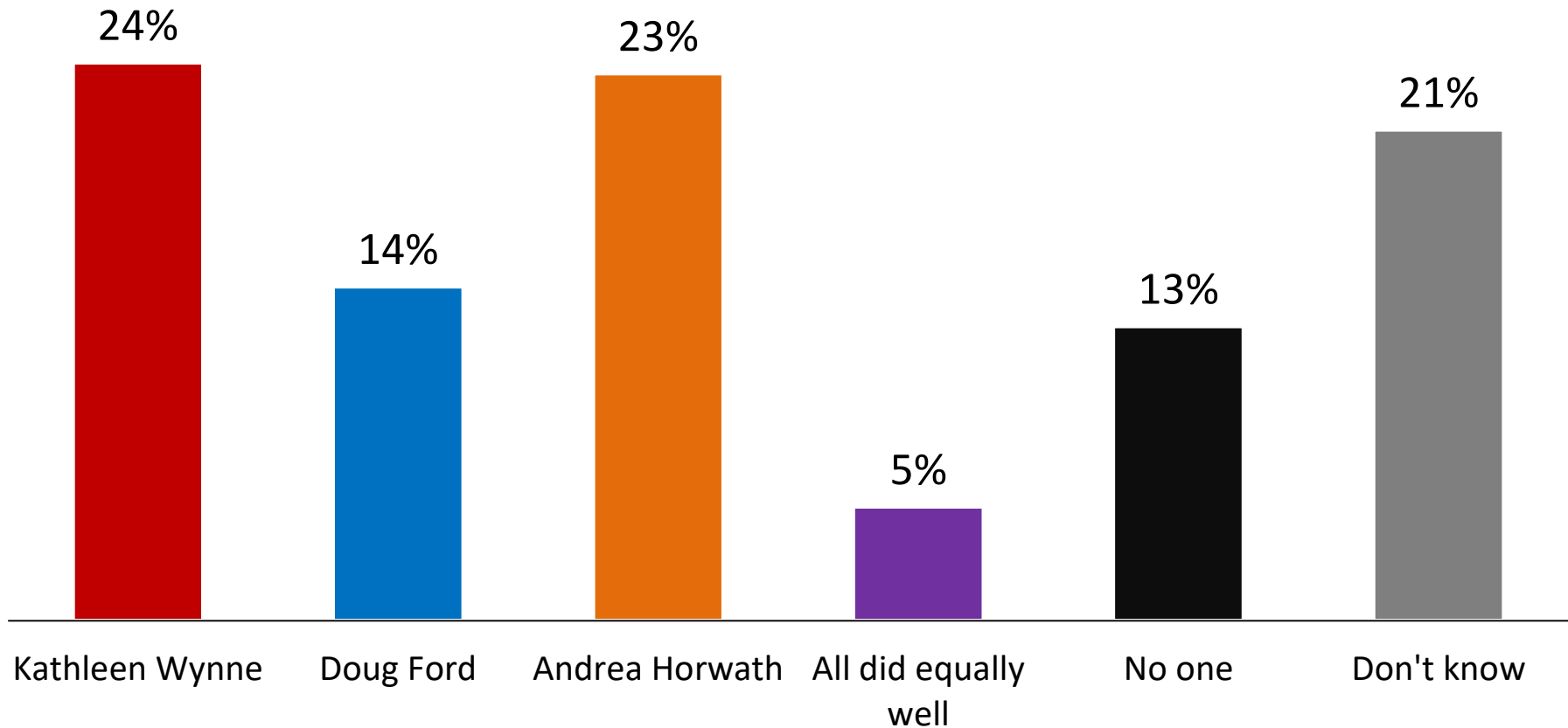


# Who Won the Debate? Wynne and Horwath bested Ford, but one-in-five (21%) not sure who won

25

Q

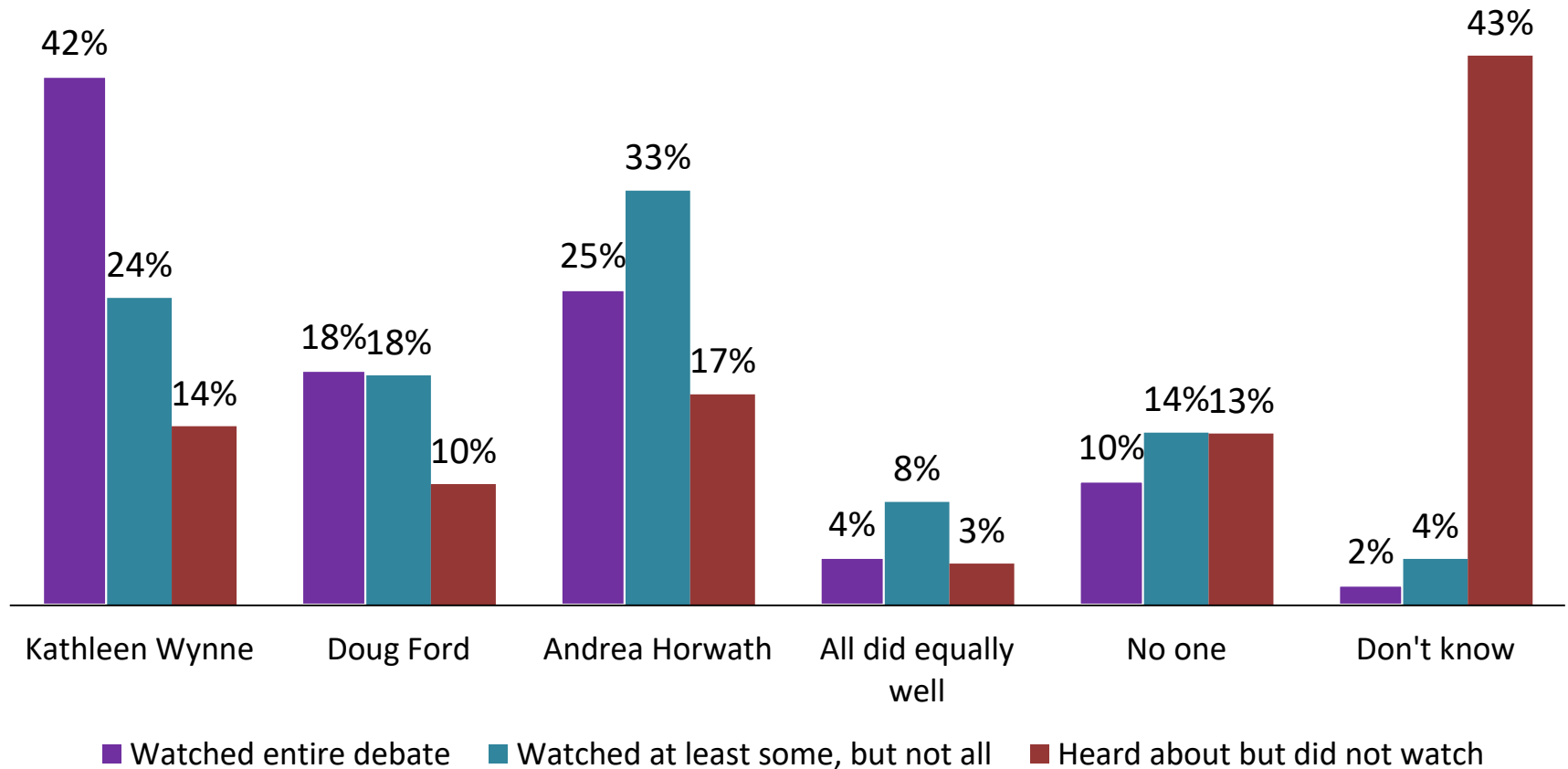
In your opinion, which leader did the best in that debate?  
[asked of those who RSH; n=459]



# Winner by Attention: Those who watched the entire debate<sup>26</sup> favoured Wynne's performance over the other leaders

Q

In your opinion, which leader did the best in that debate? By RSH about debate

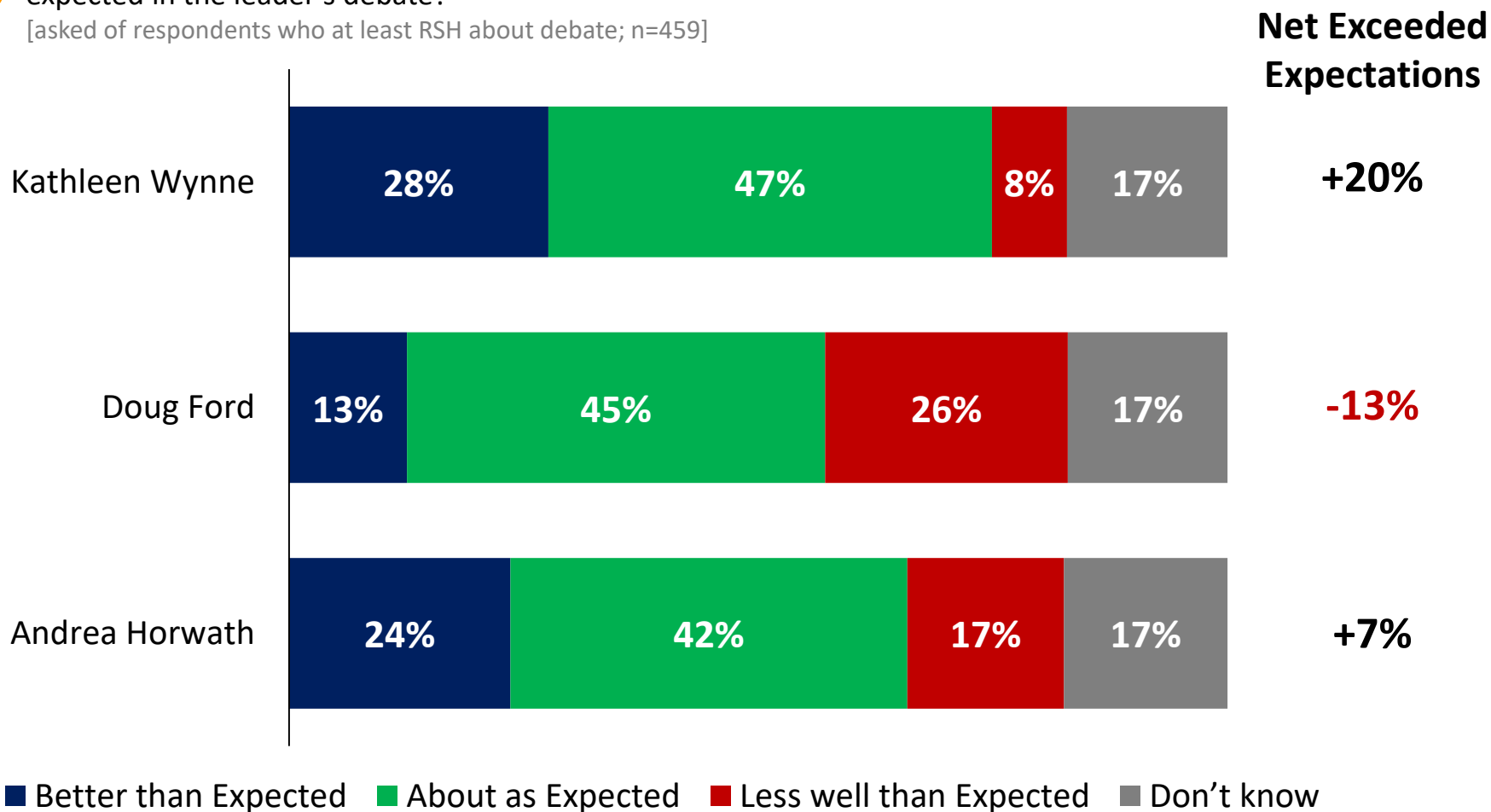


# Debate Performance: Wynne did better than expected, while Ford underperformed

Q

For each leader, did they perform better than you expected, less well than you expected, or about as you expected in the leader's debate?

[asked of respondents who at least RSH about debate; n=459]



# Debate Performance by Party ID: Leader performance reflects partisanship; unaligned undecided on winner

Debate Performance by Party ID – Due to small sample sizes, treat results with caution

		Party ID			
		Liberal	PC	NDP	Unaligned
		n=177	n=122	n=57	n=78
Did the best...	Wynne	42%	8%	17%	12%
	Ford	4%	35%	4%	11%
	Horwath	23%	12%	49%	23%
	Equal/None/Don't know	31%	44%	30%	54%
Net exceeded expectations	Wynne	+33%	+4%	+29%	+9%
	Ford	-25%	+16%	-34%	-18%
	Horwath	+14%	-13%	+31%	+8%

# Debate Performance by Value Cluster: Mixed reviews on Horwath's performance; Wynne exceeded across the board

Debate Performance by Value Cluster – Due to small sample sizes, treat results with caution

		Value Cluster					
		Deferential Conser- vatives	Populist Conser- vatives	Business Liberals	Left Liberals	Thrifty Moderates	Core Left
		n=58	n=86	n=86	n=80	n=60	n=90
Did the best...	Wynne	22%	13%	33%	21%	15%	35%
	Ford	18%	36%	11%	7%	10%	4%
	Horwath	15%	10%	22%	32%	27%	33%
	Equal/None/Don't know	45%	41%	34%	40%	48%	28%
Net exceeded expectations	Wynne	+15%	+6%	+23%	+29%	+11%	+29%
	Ford	-11%	+17%	-21%	-18%	-19%	-28%
	Horwath	-12%	-20%	+11%	+19%	+16%	+24%

# Debate Performance by Alienation: Wynne exceeded expectations across all segments

Debate Performance by Economic Alienation – Due to small sample sizes, treat results with caution

		Economic Alienation					
		CD Achievers	CD Hopefuls	CD Moderate Strugglers	CD Heavy Strugglers	Ambivalent	Alienated
		n=77	n=67	n=81	n=52	n=70	n=112
Did the best...	Wynne	40%	32%	14%	22%	18%	20%
	Ford	11%	11%	23%	24%	17%	6%
	Horwath	17%	16%	28%	20%	23%	31%
	Equal/None/Don't know	32%	41%	35%	35%	42%	43%
Net exceeded expectations	Wynne	+31%	+19%	+12%	+20%	+19%	+18%
	Ford	-25%	-14%	-6%	+5%	-17%	-16%
	Horwath	+9%	+7%	+5%	+13%	-5%	+12%



# Building Understanding.

*Personalized research to connect you and your audiences.*

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