



# Ontario Politics

**Public Opinion Research**  
**Field Dates: January 6, 2022 to January 11, 2022**  
**Release Date: January 13, 2022**

# **Government Approval**

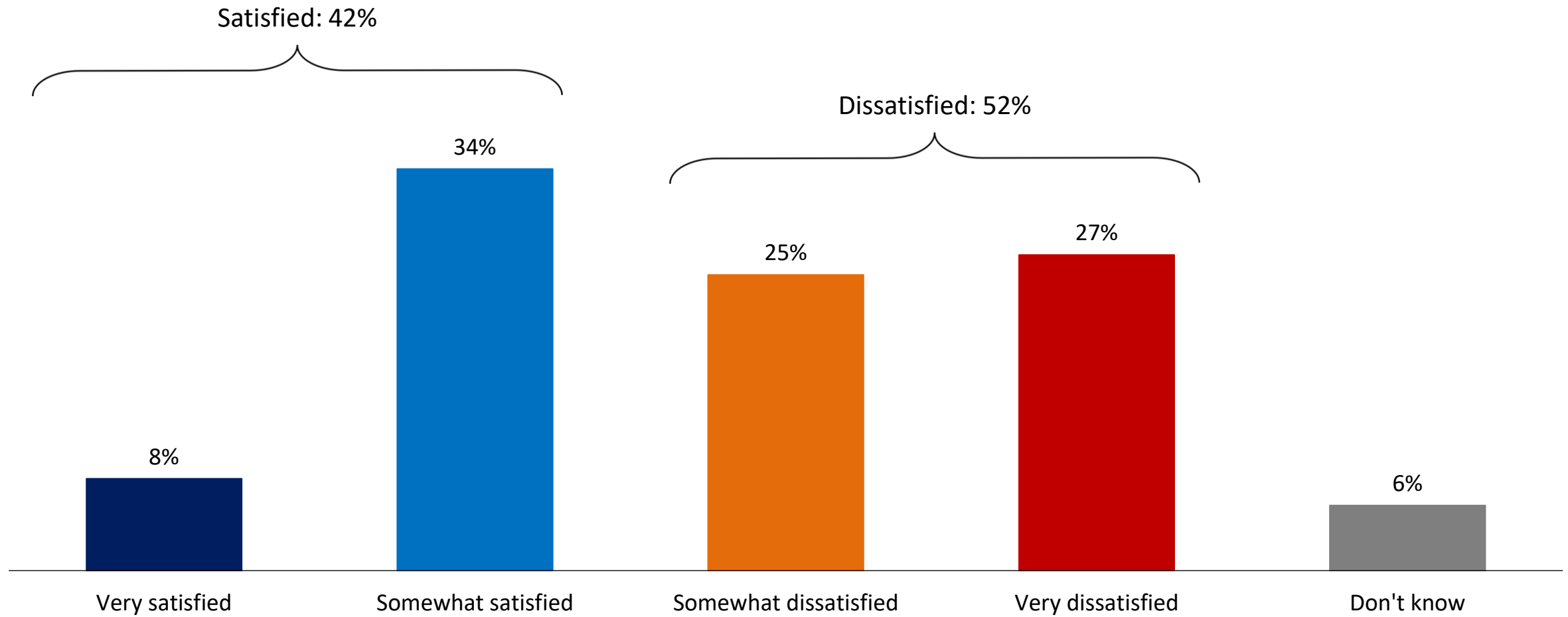


# Ontario Government Approval: Around half (52%) of Ontarians are not satisfied with their provincial government



Generally speaking, how satisfied are you with the performance of the PROVINCIAL government in Ontario? Would you say you are...?

[asked of all respondents; n=500]

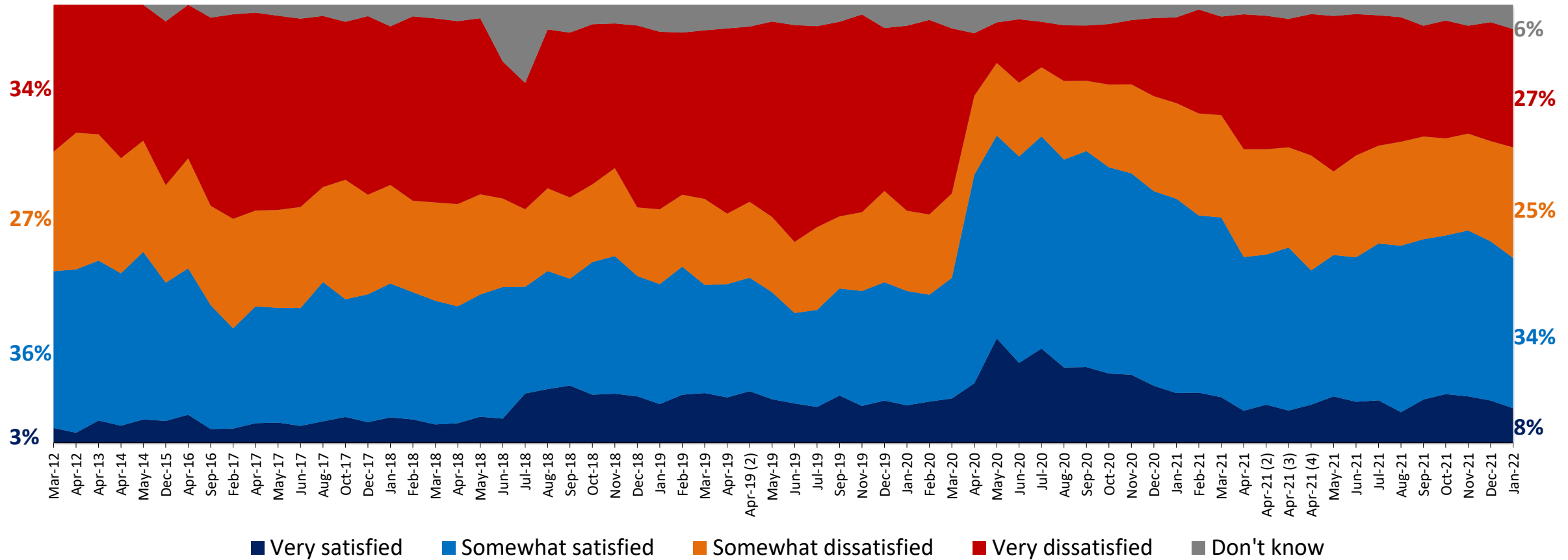


# Government Approval Tracking: Satisfaction with the provincial government has decreased slightly since the last wave of tracking



Generally speaking, how satisfied are you with the performance of the PROVINCIAL government in Ontario? Would you say you are...?

[asked of all respondents; n=500]

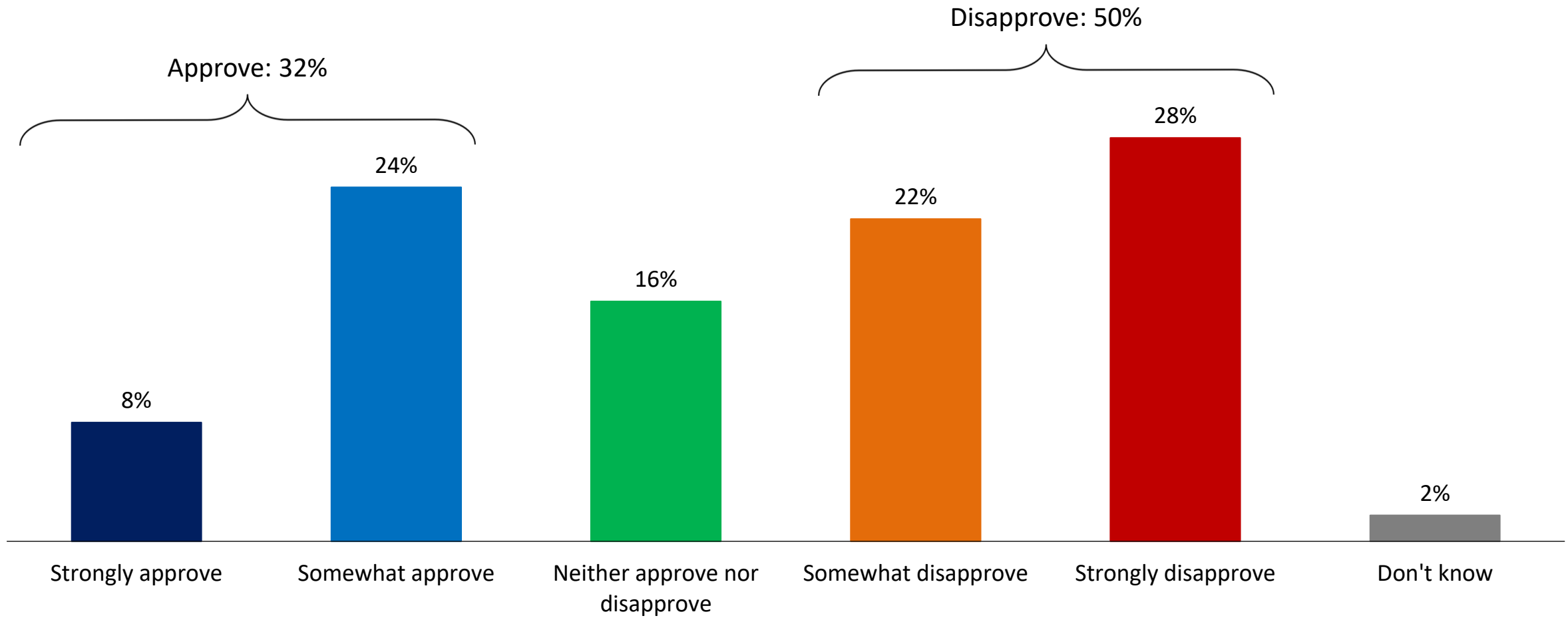


# COVID-19 Handling: Ontarians are more likely to disapprove of how the Ontario government is handling the COVID-19 outbreak



Do you approve or disapprove of the way the Ontario Government has handled the outbreak of COVID-19?

[asked of all respondents; n=500]

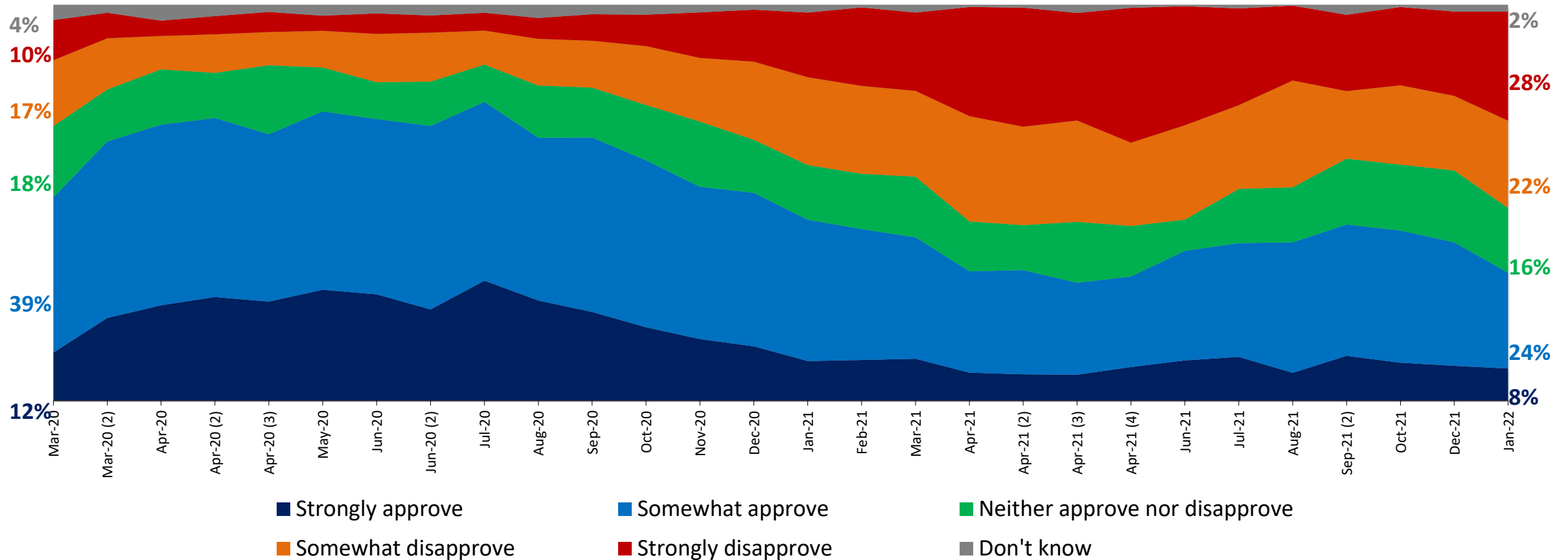


# COVID-19 Handling Tracking: Approval of the Ontario government's handling of the pandemic dropped to a low since October '21



Do you approve or disapprove of the way the Ontario Government has handled the outbreak of COVID-19?

[asked of all respondents; n=500]



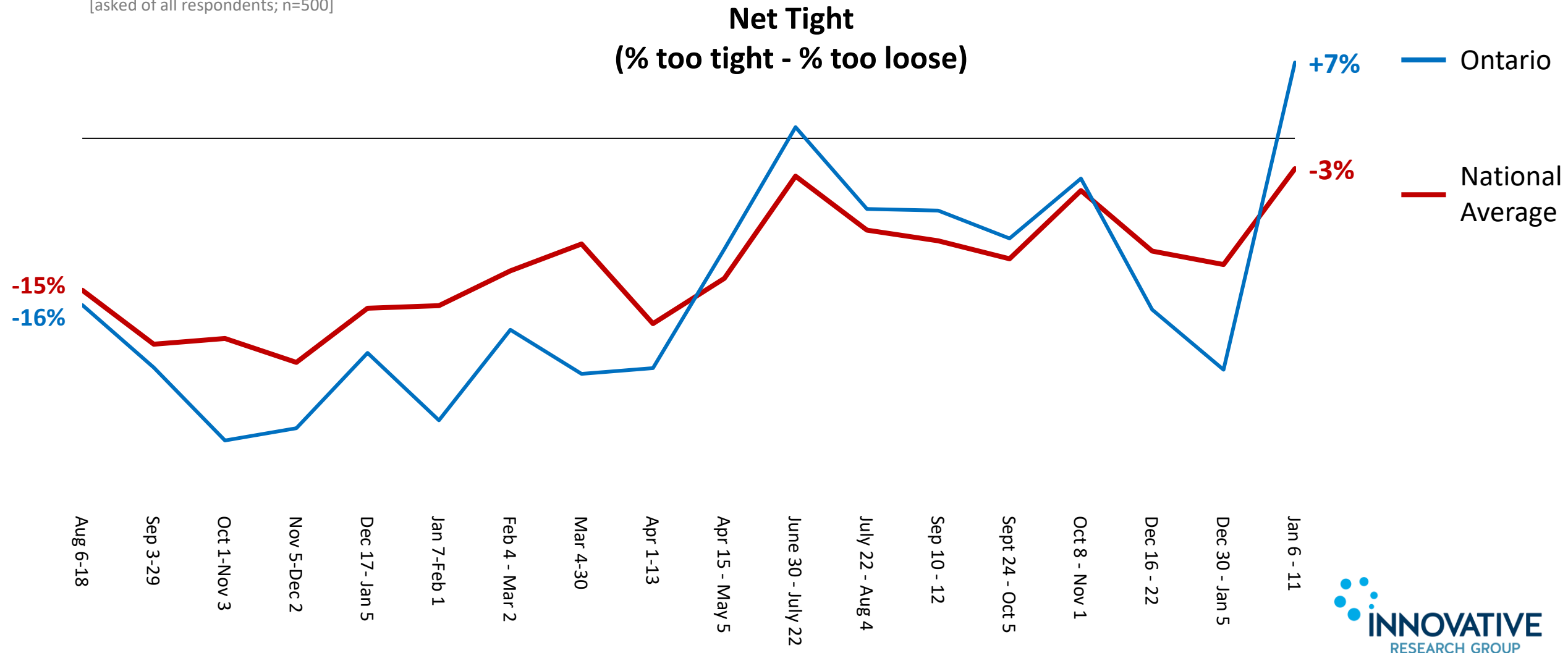
# Lockdown

# COVID-19 Provincial Restrictions: After the latest round of restrictions, Ontarians are far more likely to say restrictions are too tight



Now, thinking about the restrictions the provincial government in [PROV] currently has in place to reduce social contacts and combat the spread of COVID-19, do you think the restrictions are too tight, too loose, or are they about right?

[asked of all respondents; n=500]

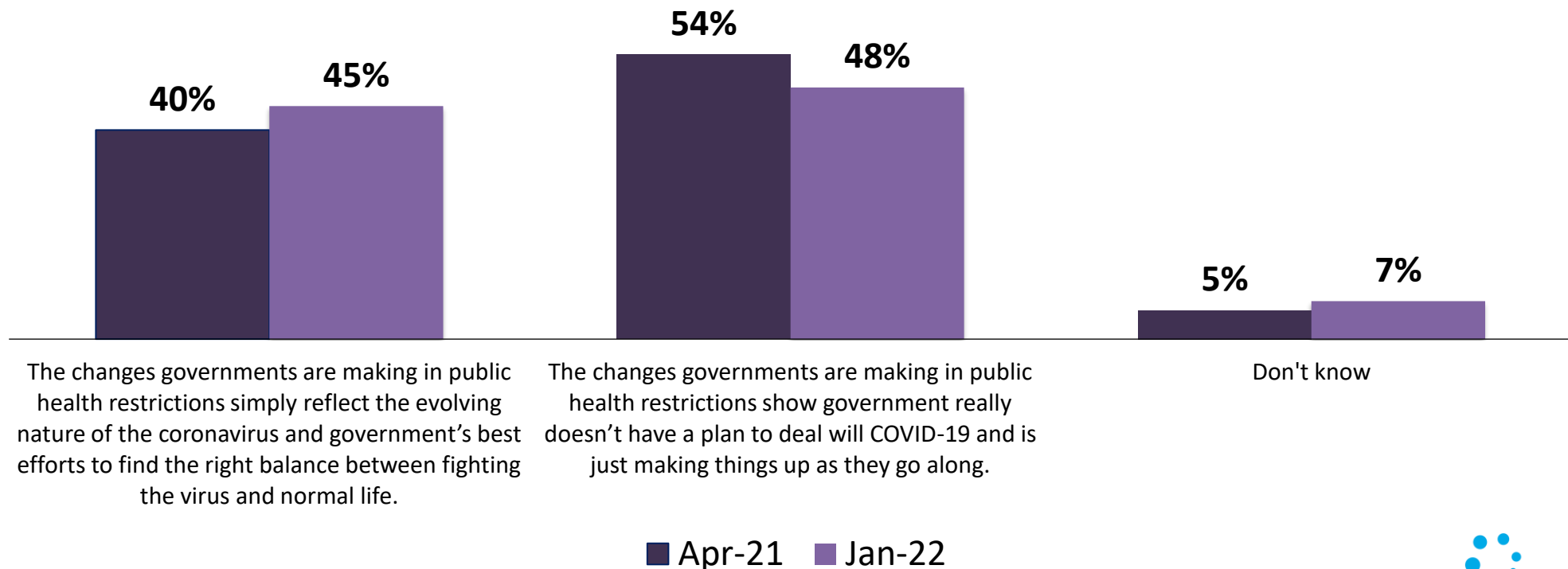




# Public Health Restrictions: The share of Ontarians who say that governments don't have a plan is down since April 2021



There have been a number of changes in the public health restrictions in many places in Canada. Which of the following points of view is closest to your own?  
[asked of all respondents; n=500]



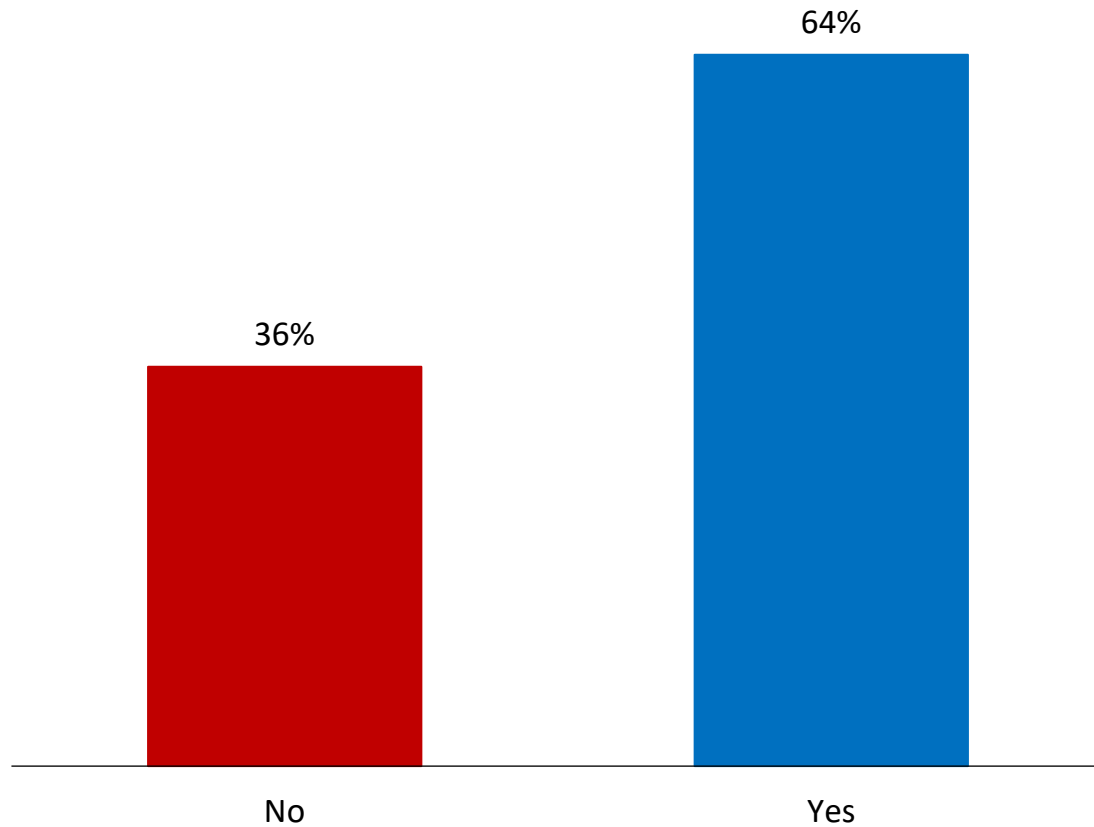
**Read, Seen, Heard**

# Ontario Read, Seen, Heard: The majority (64%) have RSH about Doug Ford in the last few days; 53% say it left them less favourable

11

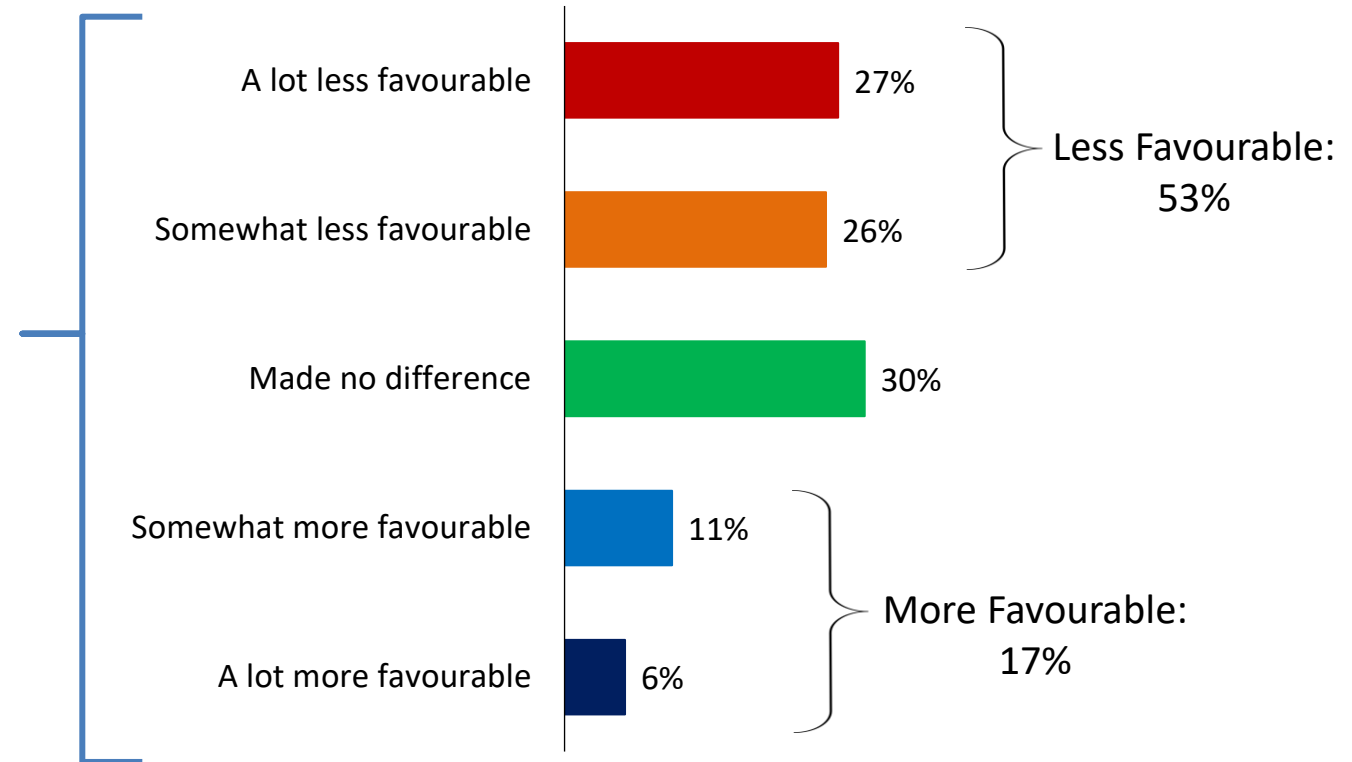
**Q** Have you read, seen or heard anything about Doug Ford in the last few days?

[Asked of those who have RSH; n=500]



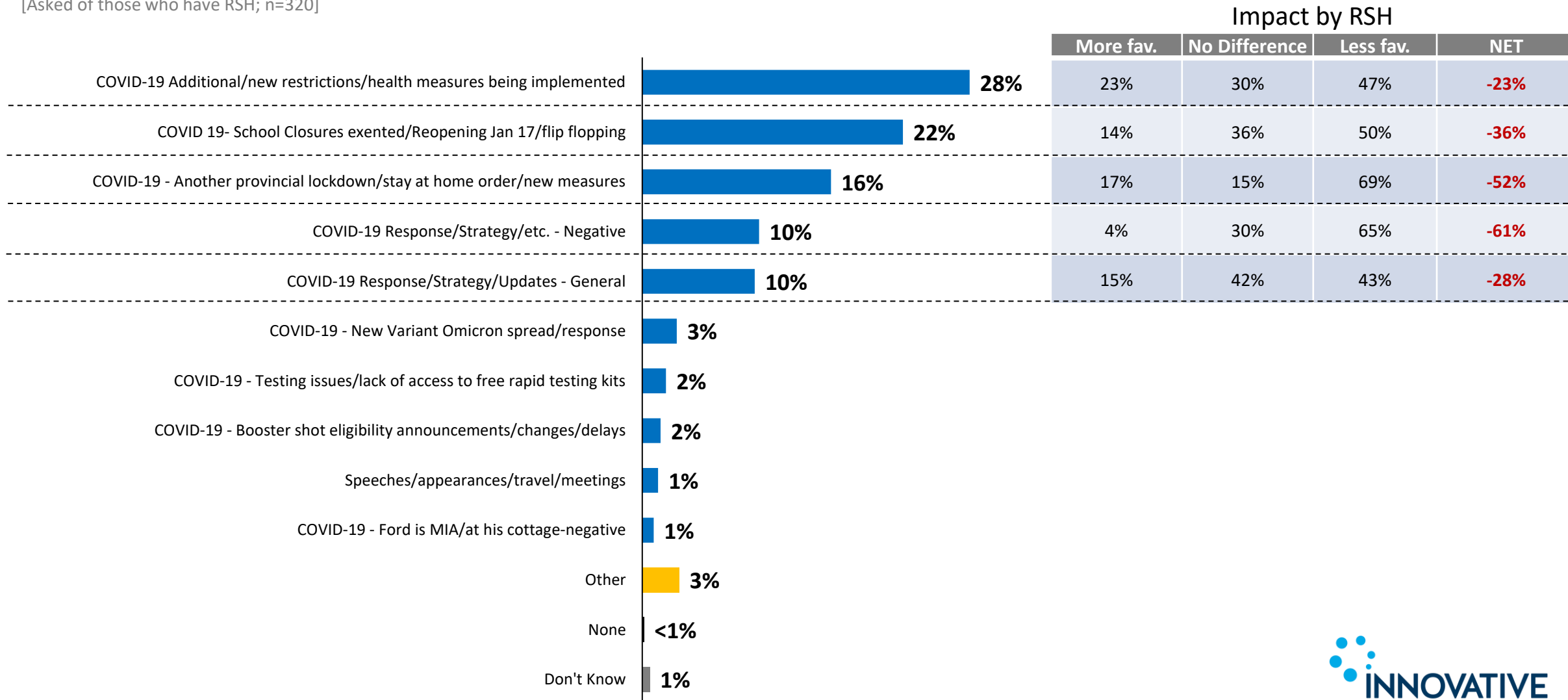
**Q** Did what you read, see or hear leave you feeling a lot more favourable, somewhat more favourable, somewhat less favourable or a lot less favourable towards Doug Ford, or did it make no difference?

[Asked of those who have RSH; n=320]



# RSH Ford: The top mention this wave are the additional restrictions and the school closure/re-openings, which all have negative net impacts<sup>12</sup>

**Q** And what have you read, seen or hear about Doug Ford? [OPEN END]  
[Asked of those who have RSH; n=320]

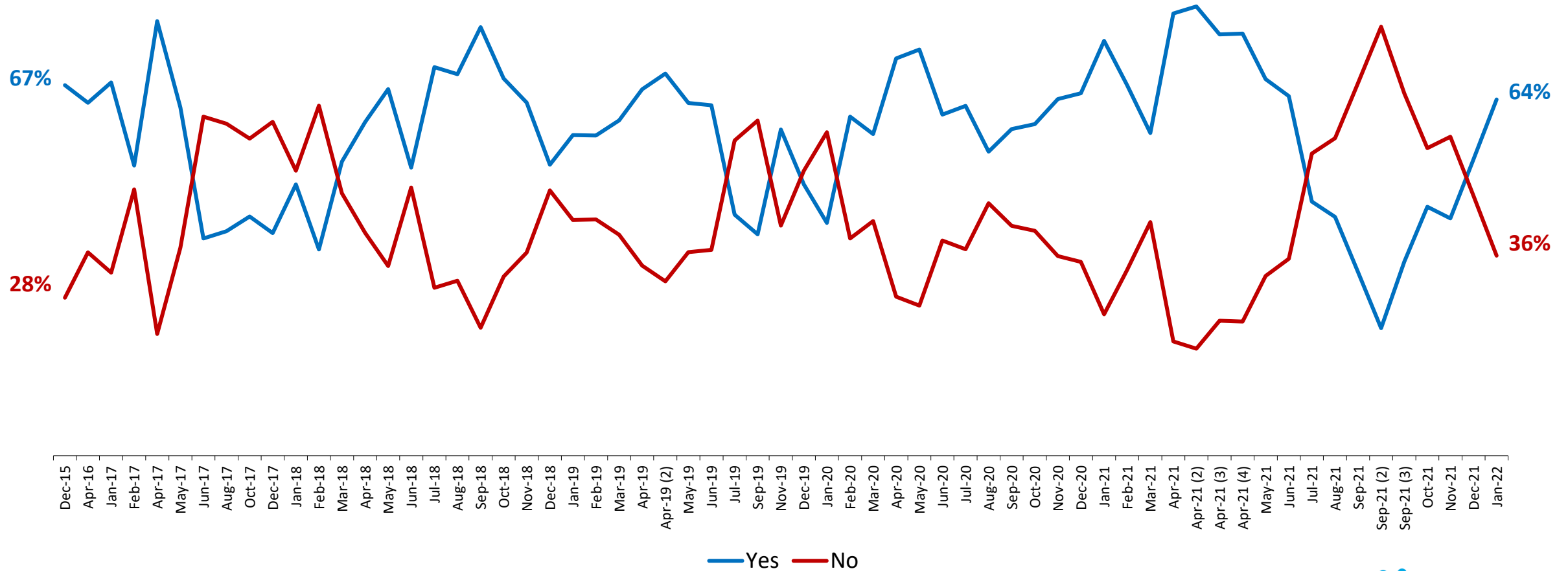


# Read, Seen, Heard Tracking: The share of those who have RSH is up 11-points since the last wave of tracking



Have you read, seen or heard anything about Doug Ford in the last few days?

[asked of all respondents; n=500]



**Note:** Don't know not shown.

Current data: January 2022

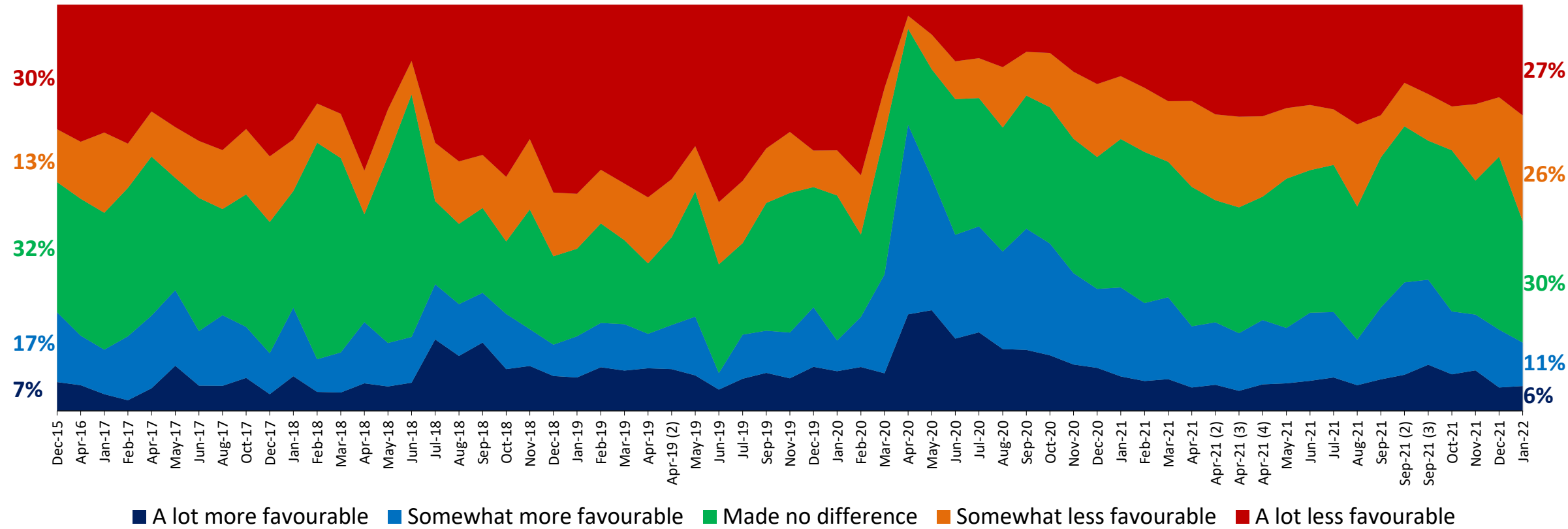


# Ontario Read, Seen, Heard, Impact Tracking: The share who say what they RSH left them less favourable is up 16-points since December



Did what you read, see or hear leave you feeling a lot more favourable, somewhat more favourable, somewhat less favourable or a lot less favourable towards Doug Ford, or did it make no difference?

[asked of those who have RSH; n=320]



**Note:** Don't know not shown.  
Current data: January 2022

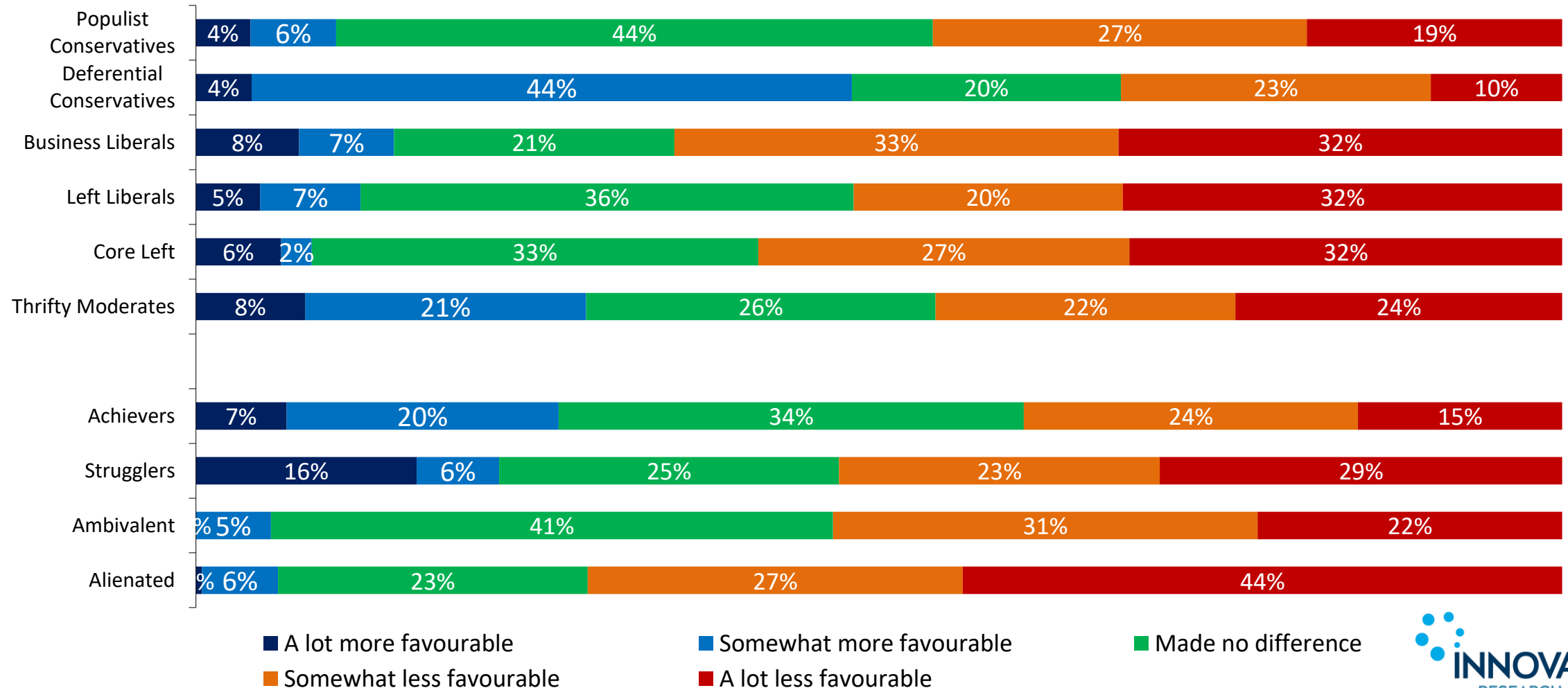
# Read, Seen, Heard, Impact: Impact is most negative among Alienated and Business Liberals

15

Q

Did what you read, see or hear leave you feeling a lot more favourable, somewhat more favourable, somewhat less favourable or a lot less favourable towards Doug Ford, or did it make no difference?

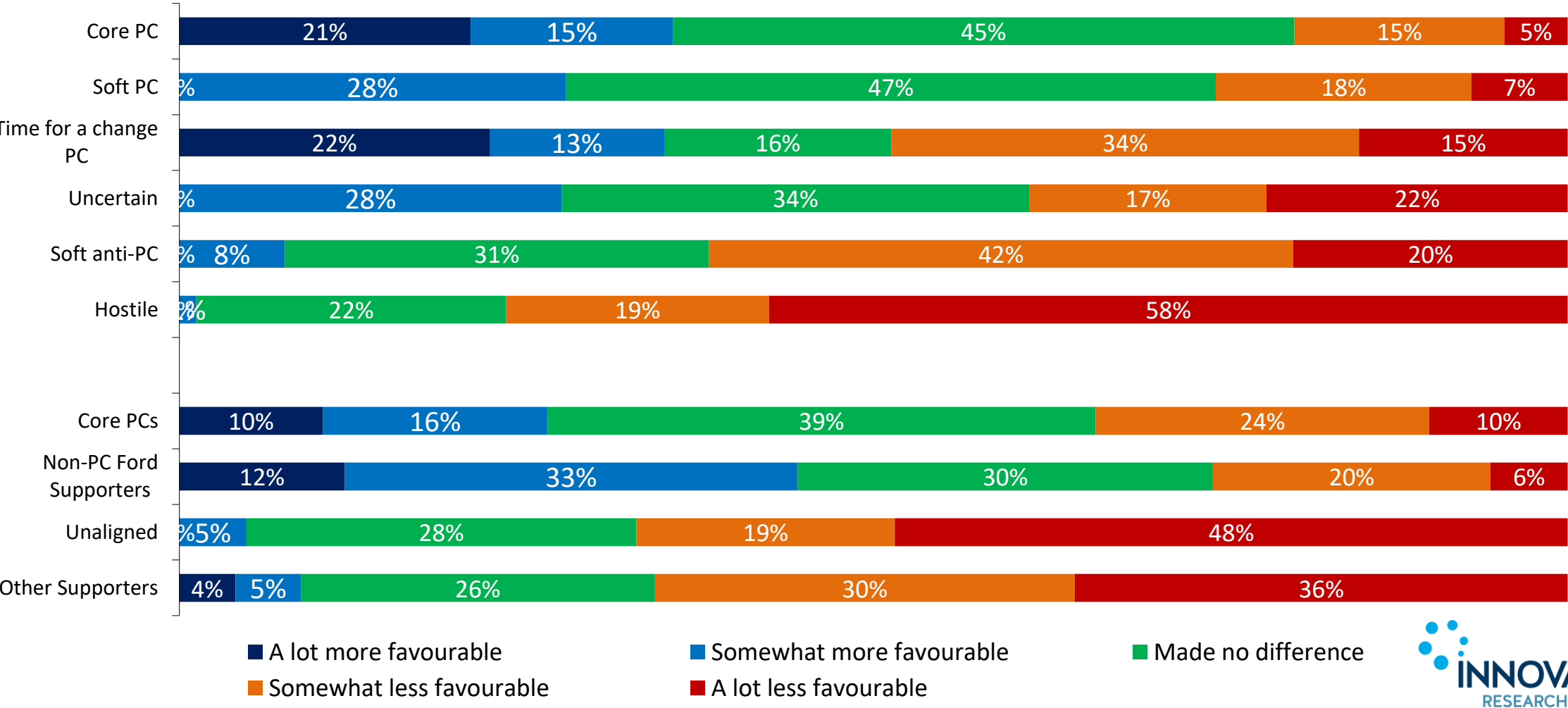
[asked of those who have RSH; n=320]



# Read, Seen, Heard, Impact: Impact is least negative among Core and Soft PCs



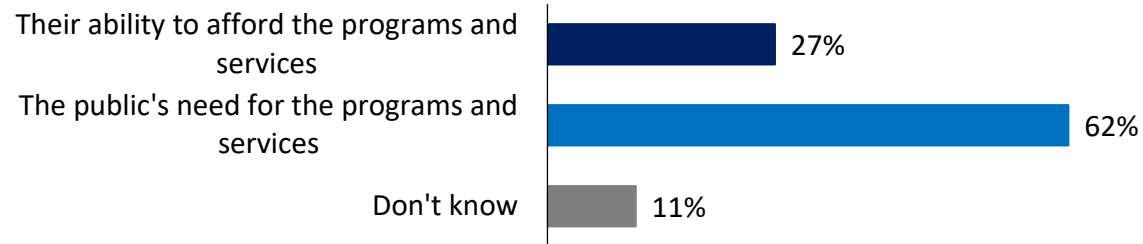
Did what you read, see or hear leave you feeling a lot more favourable, somewhat more favourable, somewhat less favourable or a lot less favourable towards Doug Ford, or did it make no difference?  
[asked of those who have RSH; n=320]



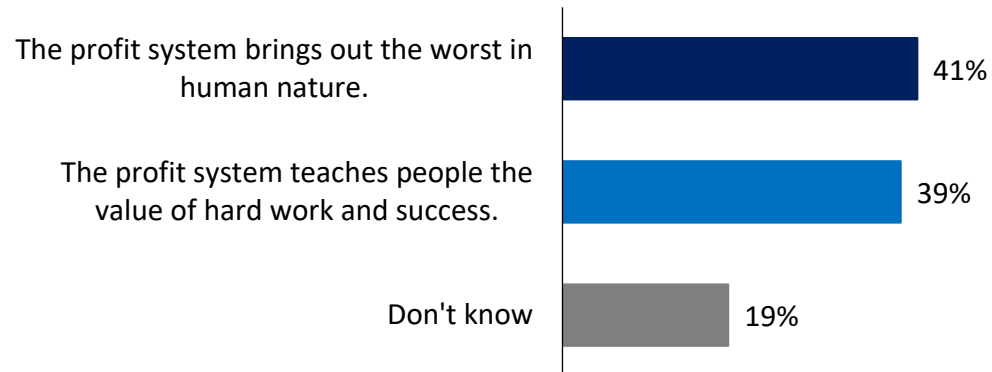
# Value Clusters

# Core Political Values

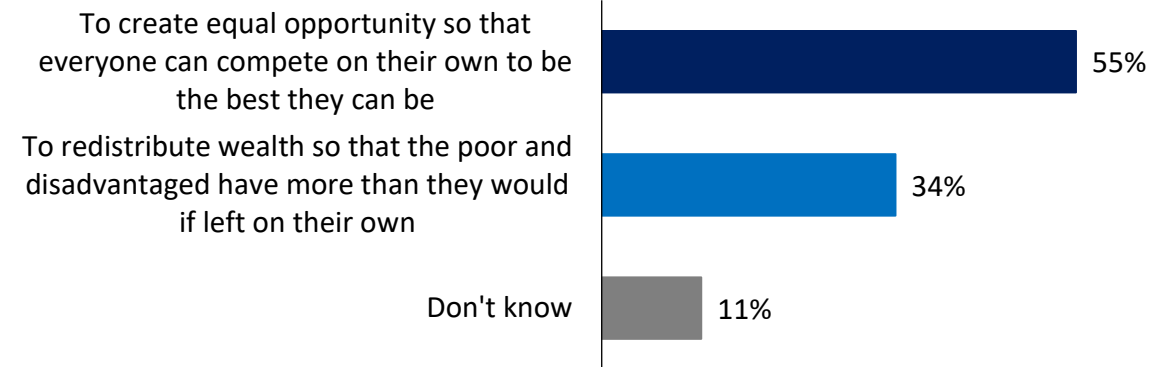
**Q** When governments make major decisions concerning spending on programs and services, do you think they should be basing their decisions mainly on...?  
[asked of all respondents; n=500]



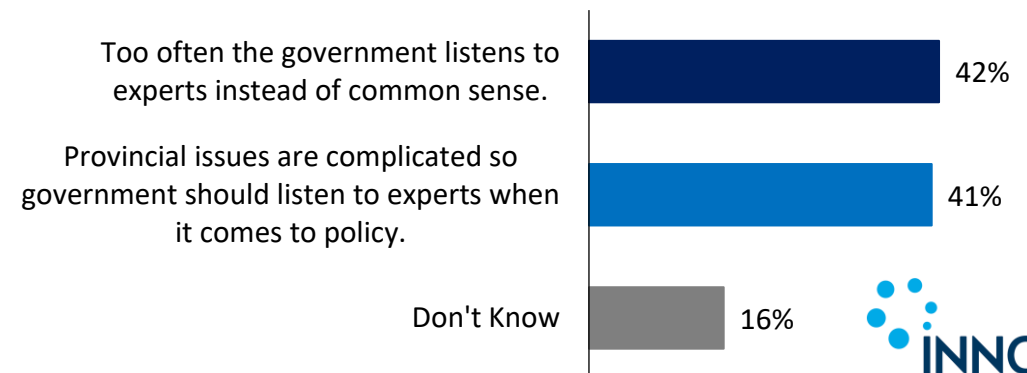
**Q** Which of the following statements comes closest to your view?  
[asked of all respondents; n=500]



**Q** Is the main role of government to...?  
[asked of all respondents; n=500]



**Q** When it comes to government decision making, which of the following statements is closest to your view?  
[asked of all respondents; n=500]



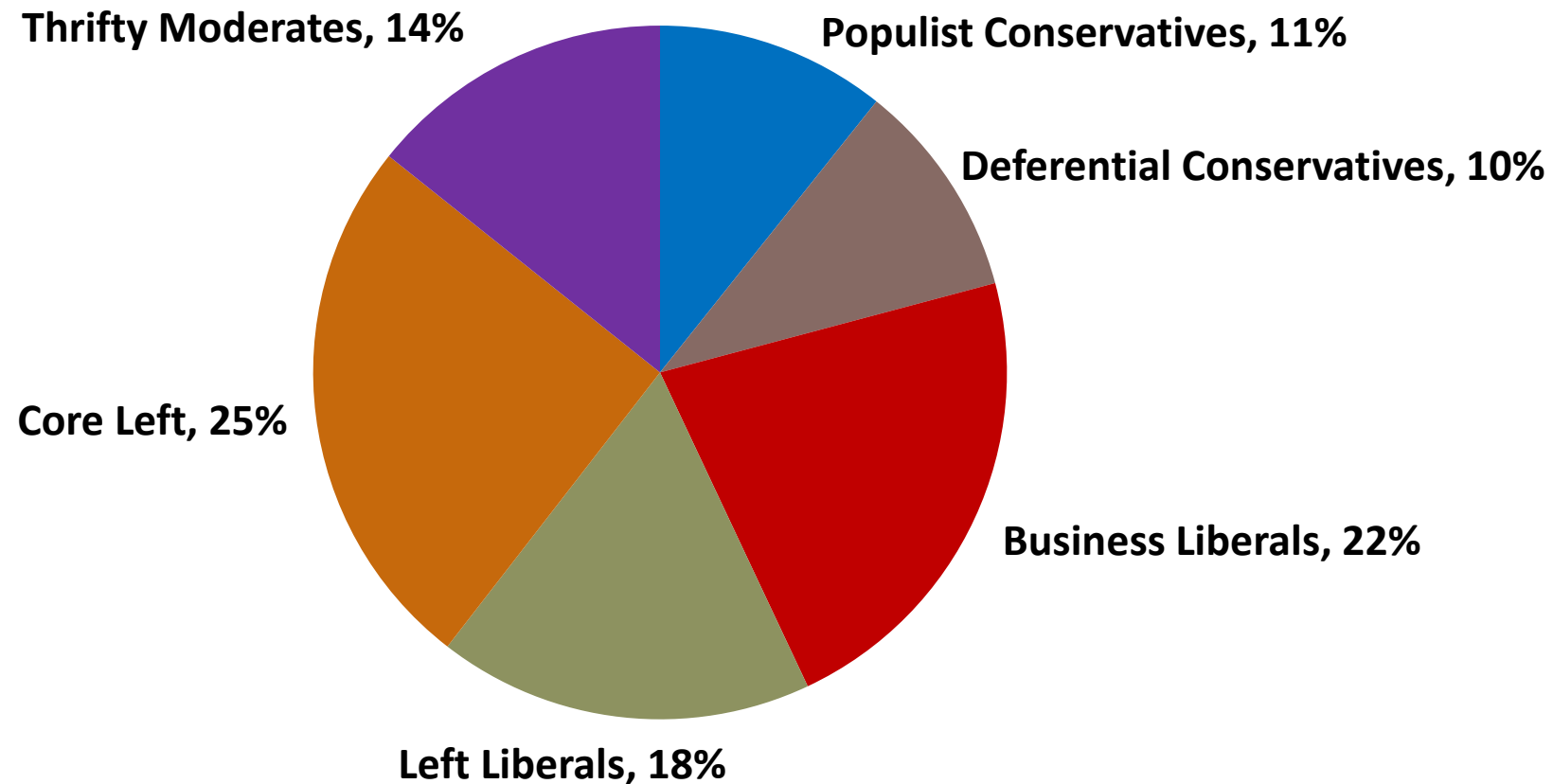


# Value Clusters:



Clusters 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.

[asked of all respondents; n=500]



# Defining Value Clusters

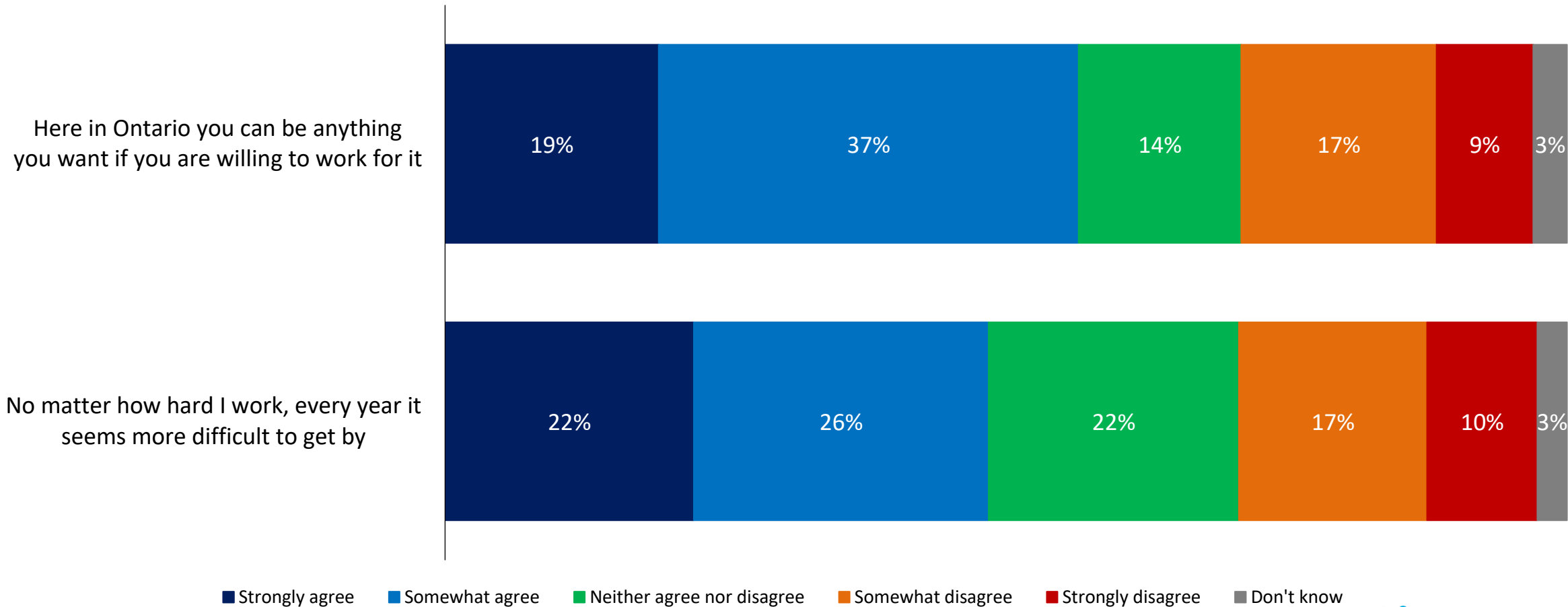
Core Political Values by Value Clusters

Column %		Populist Conservatives	Deferential Conservatives	Business Liberals	Left Liberals	Core Left	Thrifty Moderates
Governments should base decisions on...	Ability to afford	83%	88%	0%	0%	0%	66%
	Public Need	0%	0%	99%	92%	96%	0%
Is the main role of government to .?	Create equal Opportunity	100%	84%	66%	98%	0%	26%
	Redistribute wealth	0%	13%	25%	0%	89%	33%
When it comes to government decision making...	Rely on common sense	100%	0%	31%	53%	32%	53%
	Listen to experts	0%	88%	61%	34%	44%	14%
The profit system...	Brings out the worst in human nature	0%	0%	0%	83%	78%	50%
	Teaches value of hard work and success	85%	97%	87%	0%	0%	8%

**Note:** Current data: January 2022

# Segmentation Attitudes: Agreement on you can be anything in ON if you work for it is higher among the Ontarians than the other sentiment

Q Do you agree or disagree with the following statements? -  
[asked of all respondents; n=500]

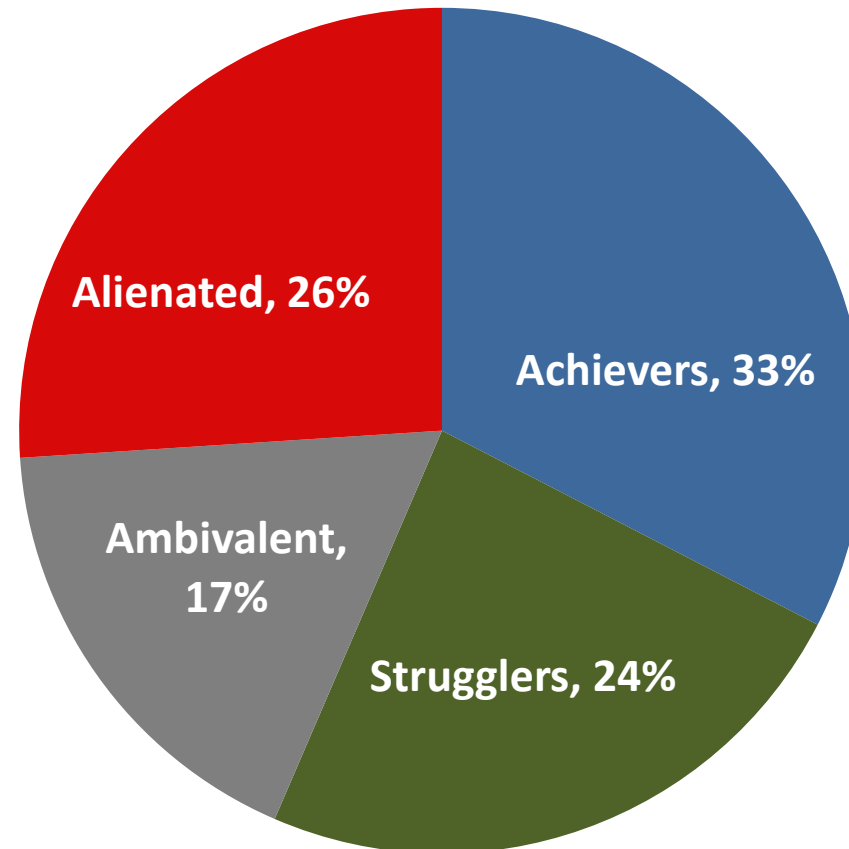


# Economic Gap Segmentation: A plurality of Ontarians are Achievers (33%) followed by Alienated (26%) & Strugglers (24%)



Gap segmentation: Agree with 'Here in Ontario you can be anything you want if you are willing to work for it' BY Agree with 'No matter how hard I work, every year it seems more difficult to get by'.

[asked of all respondents; n=500]

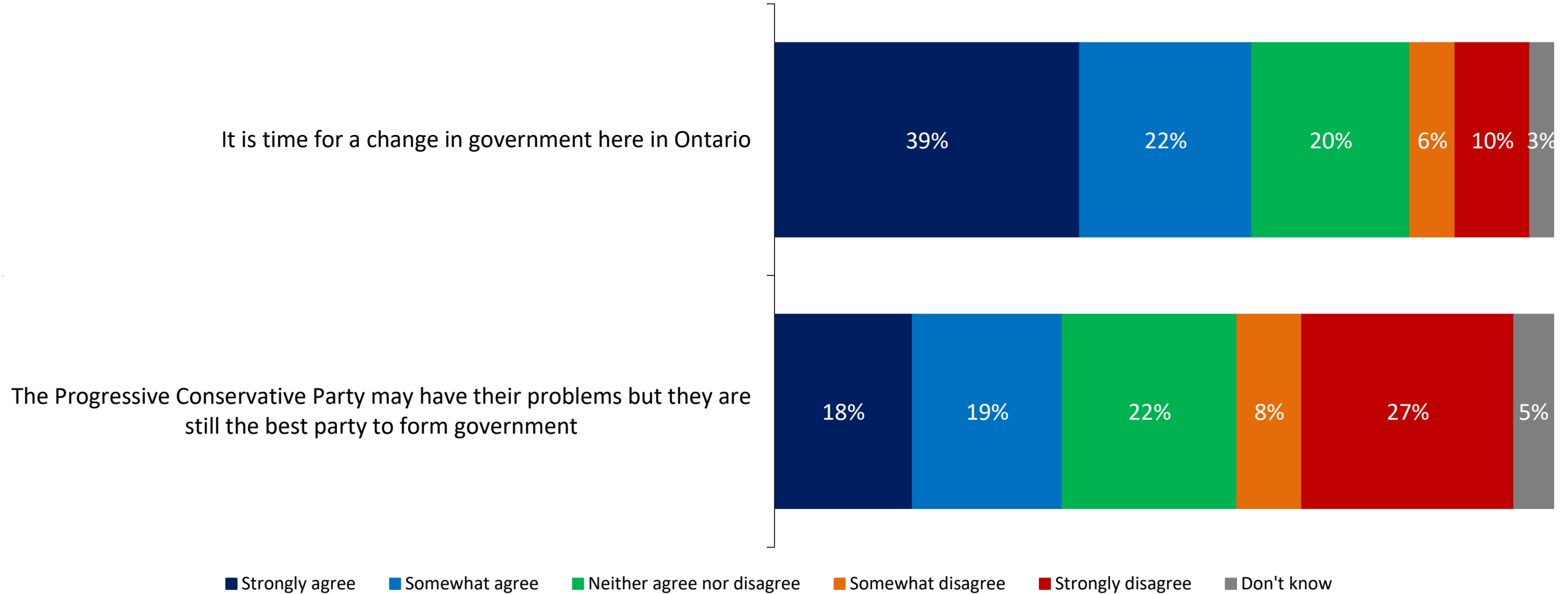


# Time for Change Attitudes: 3-in-5 (61%) agree that it is time for a change in government in Ontario



Do you agree or disagree with the following statements? -

[asked of all respondents; n=500]



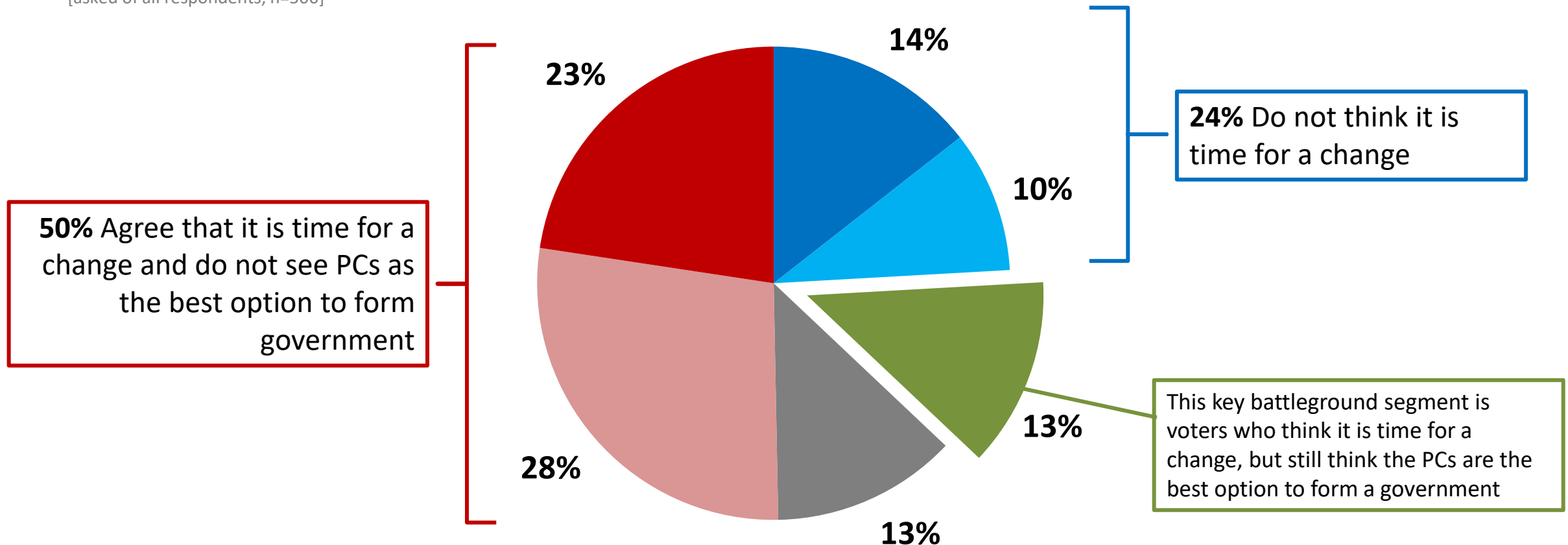


# Time for Change Segmentation: Half agree that it's time for a change of gov't and don't see that the PCs as the best option to form gov't



Time for Change segmentation: Agree with 'The PCs may have their problems but they are still the best party to form government' BY Agree with 'It is time for a change in government here in Ontario'.

[asked of all respondents; n=500]



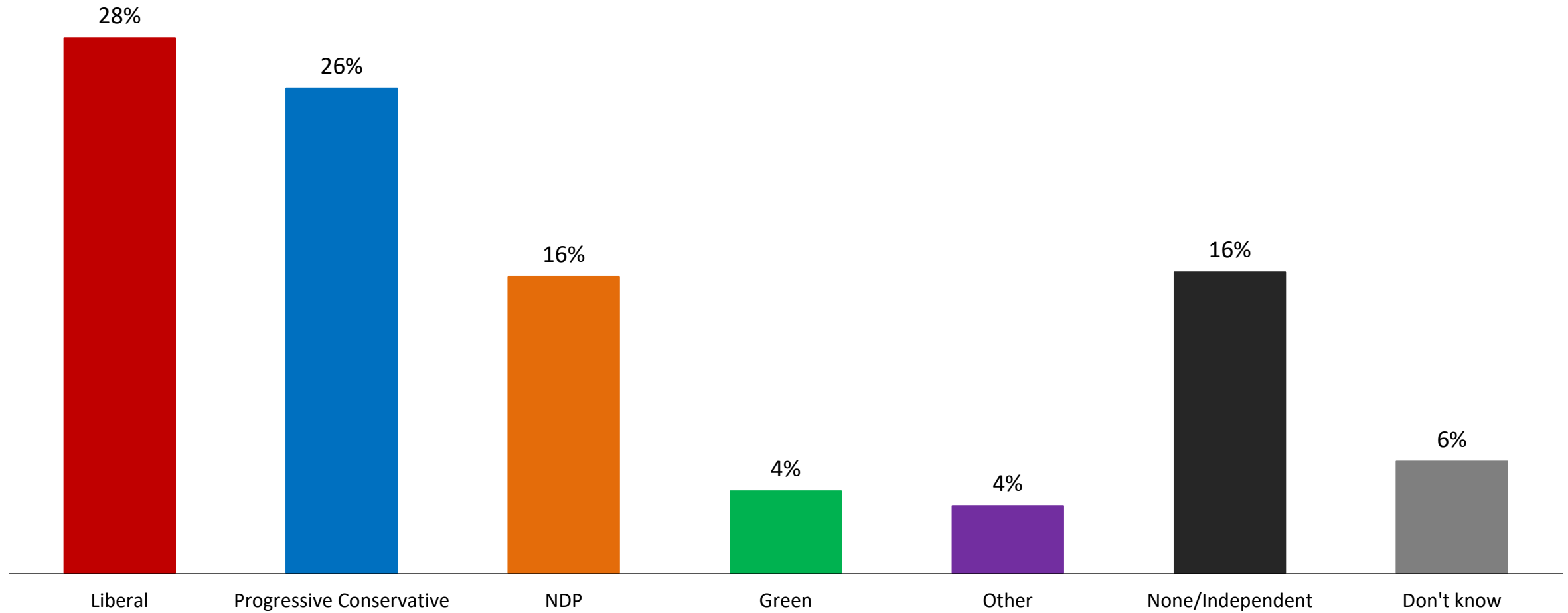
■ Core PC ■ Soft PC ■ Time for change ■ Uncertain ■ Soft anti-PC ■ Hostile

# Provincial Party ID: Liberals (28%) are on par with the PC (26%) when it comes to partisans; NDP trailing behind at 16%



Thinking about politics in Ontario, generally speaking, do you usually think of yourself as a...

[asked of all respondents; n=500]

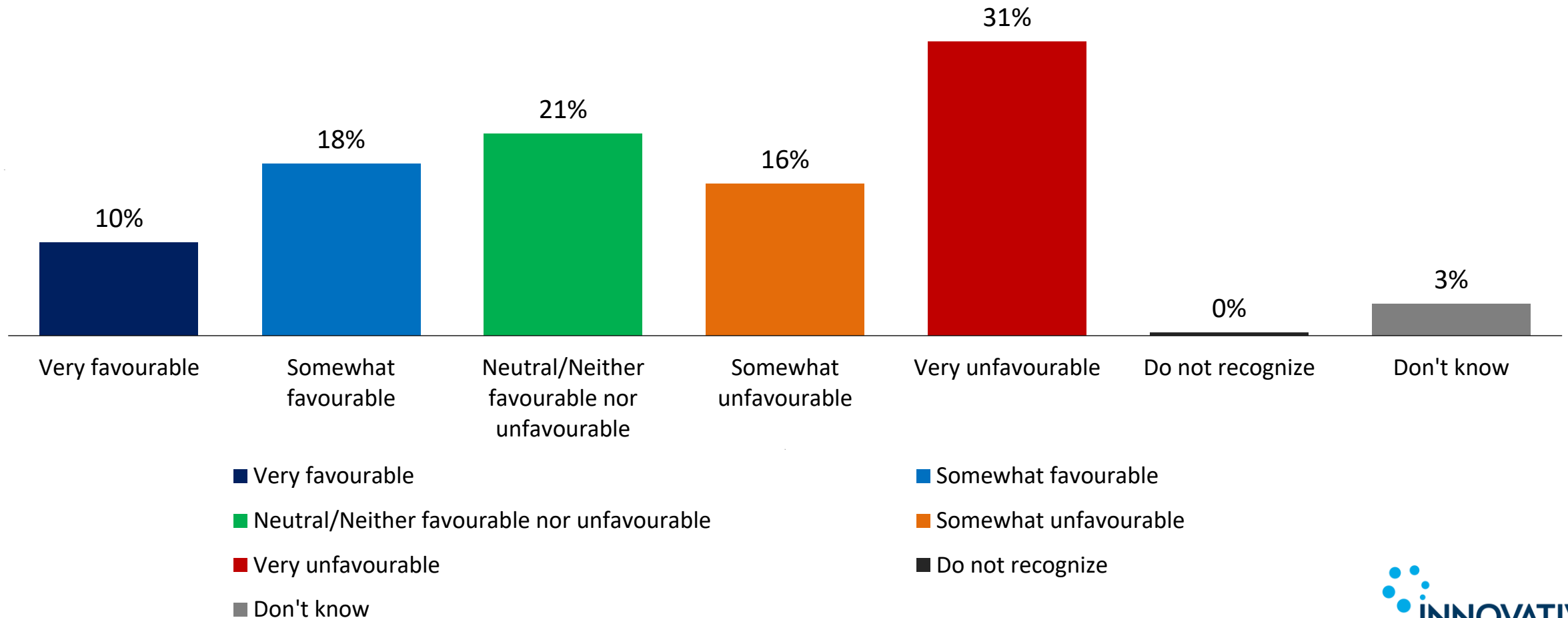


# Leader Favours: More than 3-in-10 have a very unfavourable impression of Doug Ford



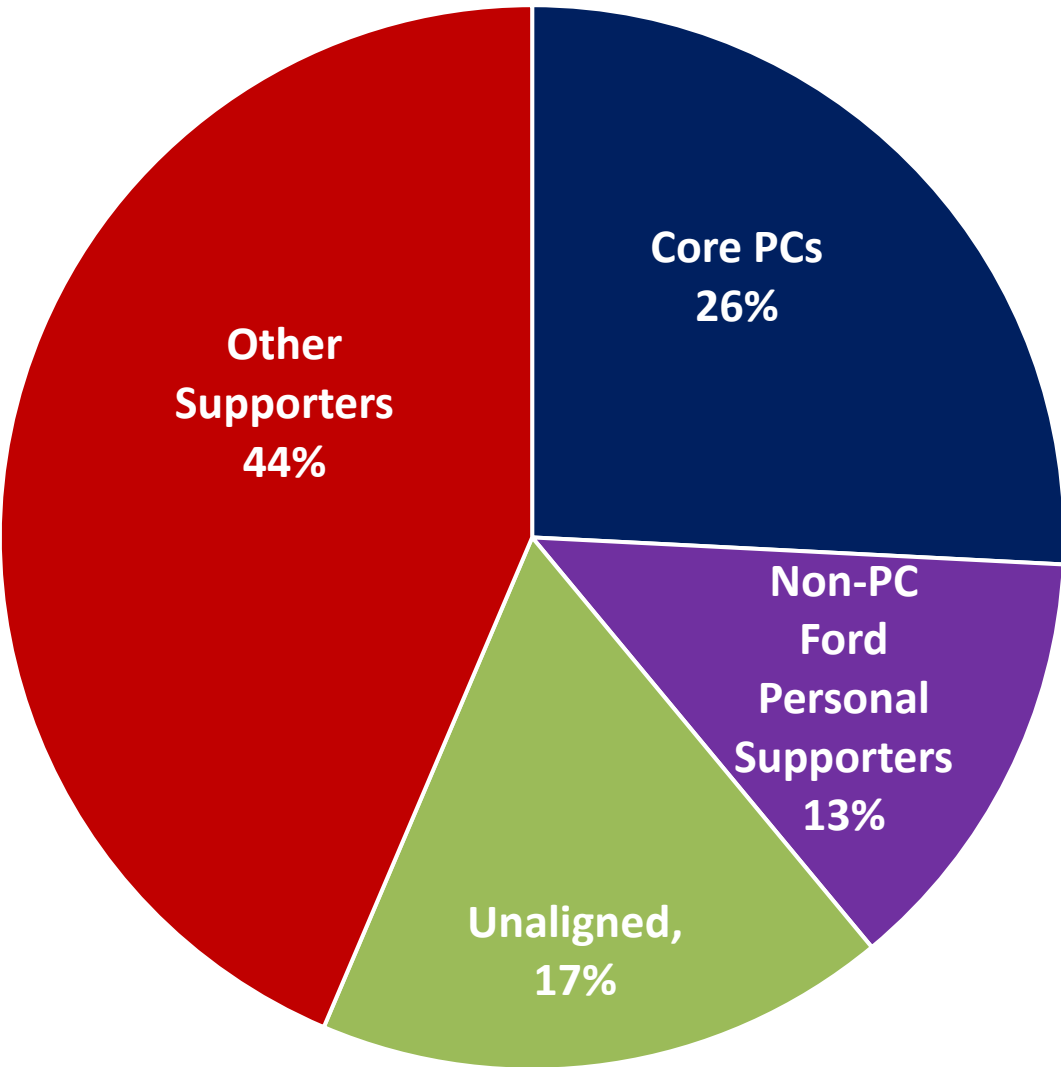
Below are the names of several individuals who have been mentioned in the news recently. For each one, please indicate whether you have heard of that person and, if so, whether you have a very favourable, somewhat favourable, neither favourable or unfavourable, somewhat unfavourable or very unfavourable impression of that person. If you do not recognize the name, just indicate. **Doug Ford**

[asked of all respondents; n=500]



# Ford Political Segmentation: Just over 1-in-4 are core PCs while 13% are Non-PC Ford Supporters

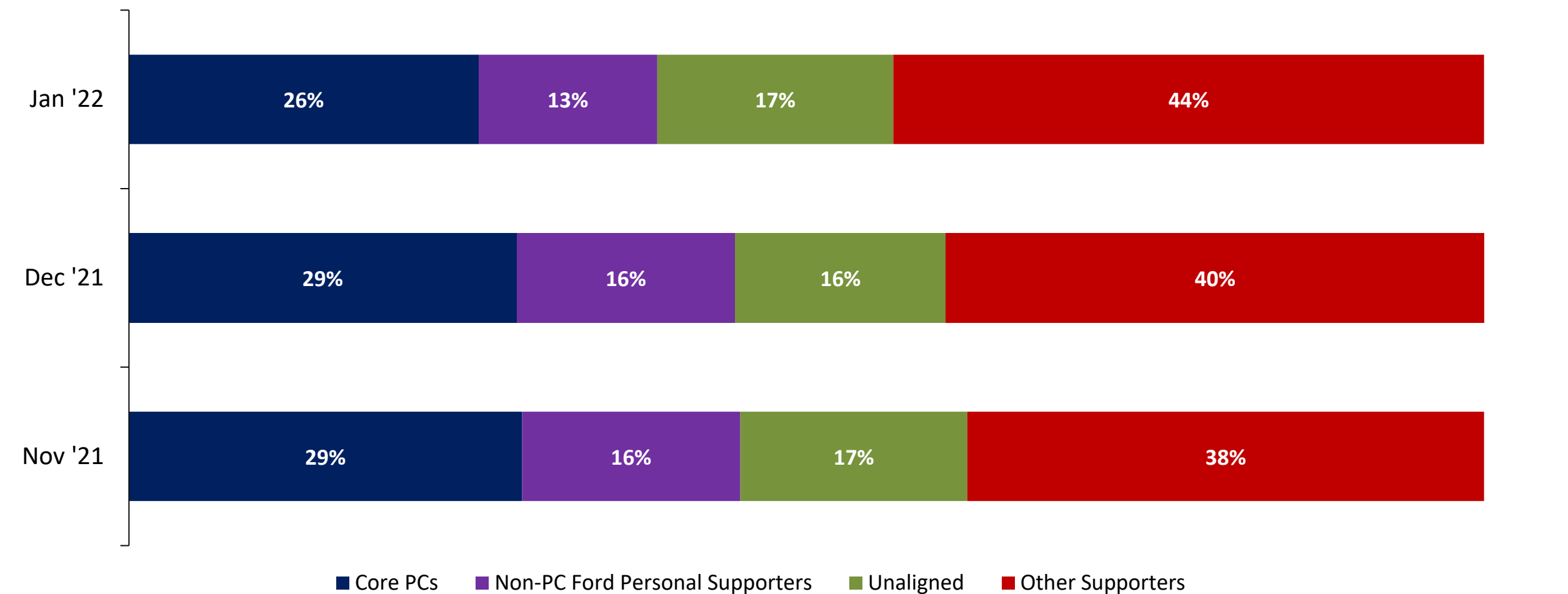
Impression of Doug Ford BY Party ID



Segment	Description
Core PCs	Positive impression of Doug Ford and identify as a PC
Non-PC Ford Personal Supporters	Positive impression of Doug Ford and DO NOT identify as a PC
Unaligned	Unaligned and neutral or negative impression of Doug Ford
Other Supporters	Neutral or negative impression of Doug Ford and identify as a partisan for another party

# Ford Segment Tracking: The share of both Core PCs and Non-PC Ford Supporters is down since December

Impression of Doug Ford BY Party ID





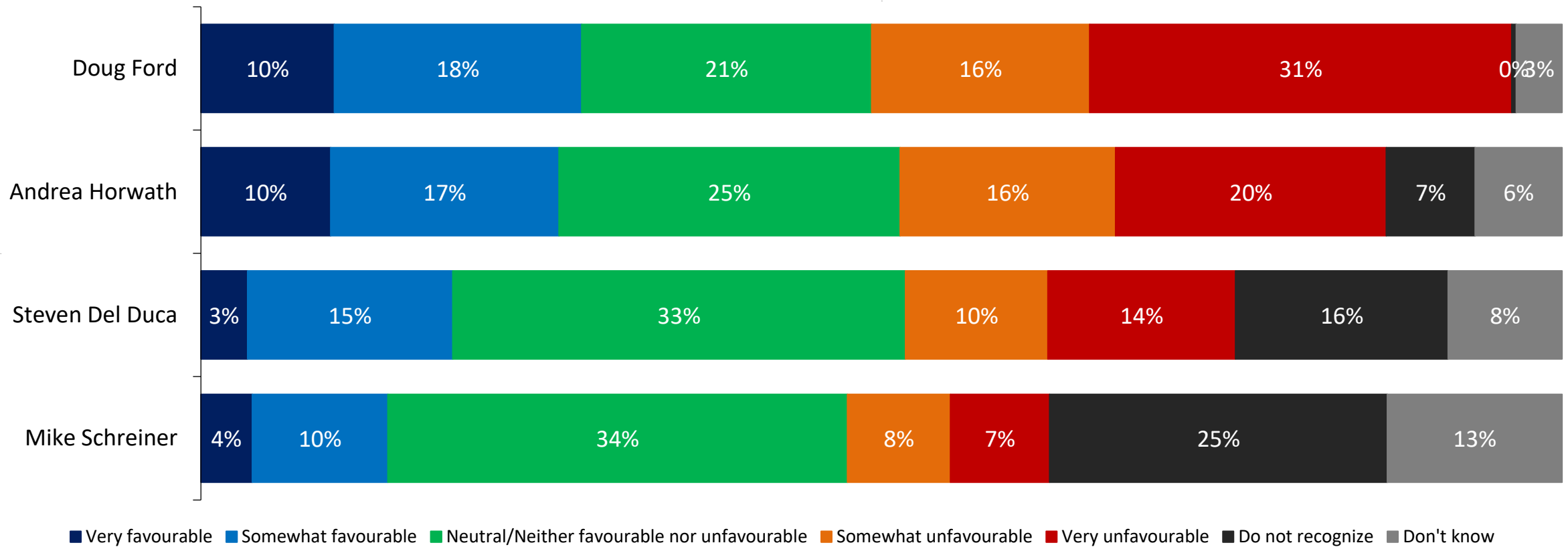
# Leadership

# Leader Favourables: Doug Ford has both the highest favourable and unfavourable impression among the party leaders



Below are the names of several individuals who have been mentioned in the news recently. For each one, please indicate whether you have heard of that person and, if so, whether you have a very favourable, somewhat favourable, neither favourable or unfavourable, somewhat unfavourable or very unfavourable impression of that person. If you do not recognize the name, just indicate.

[asked of all respondents; n=500]

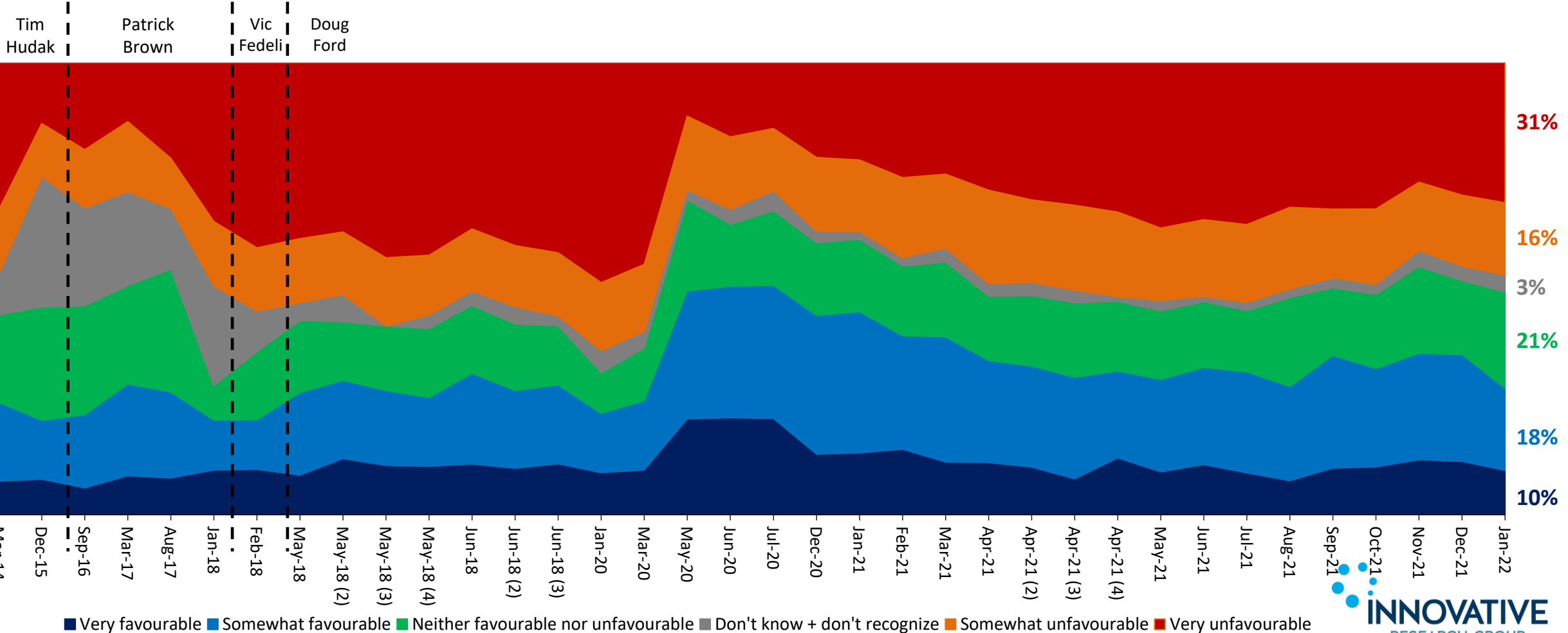


# Doug Ford Favourability: Ford's favourability has dropped 7 points since December '21, while unfavourable view of Ford is steady



Below are the names of several individuals who have been mentioned in the news recently. For each one, please indicate whether you have heard of that person and, if so, whether you have a very favourable, somewhat favourable, neither favourable or unfavourable, somewhat unfavourable or very unfavourable impression of that person. If you do not recognize the name, just indicate.

[asked of all respondents; n=500]

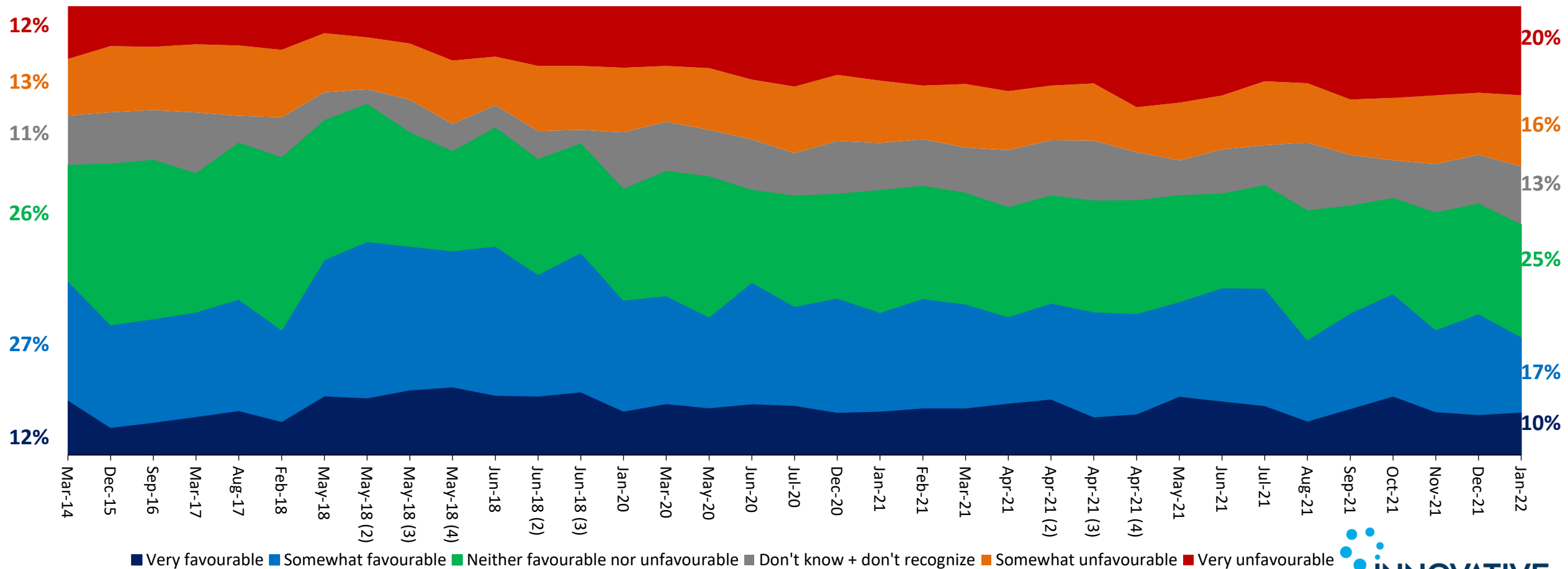


# Andrea Horwath Favourability: Horwath's favourability is down 5-points since December '21



Below are the names of several individuals who have been mentioned in the news recently. For each one, please indicate whether you have heard of that person and, if so, whether you have a very favourable, somewhat favourable, neither favourable or unfavourable, somewhat unfavourable or very unfavourable impression of that person. If you do not recognize the name, just indicate.

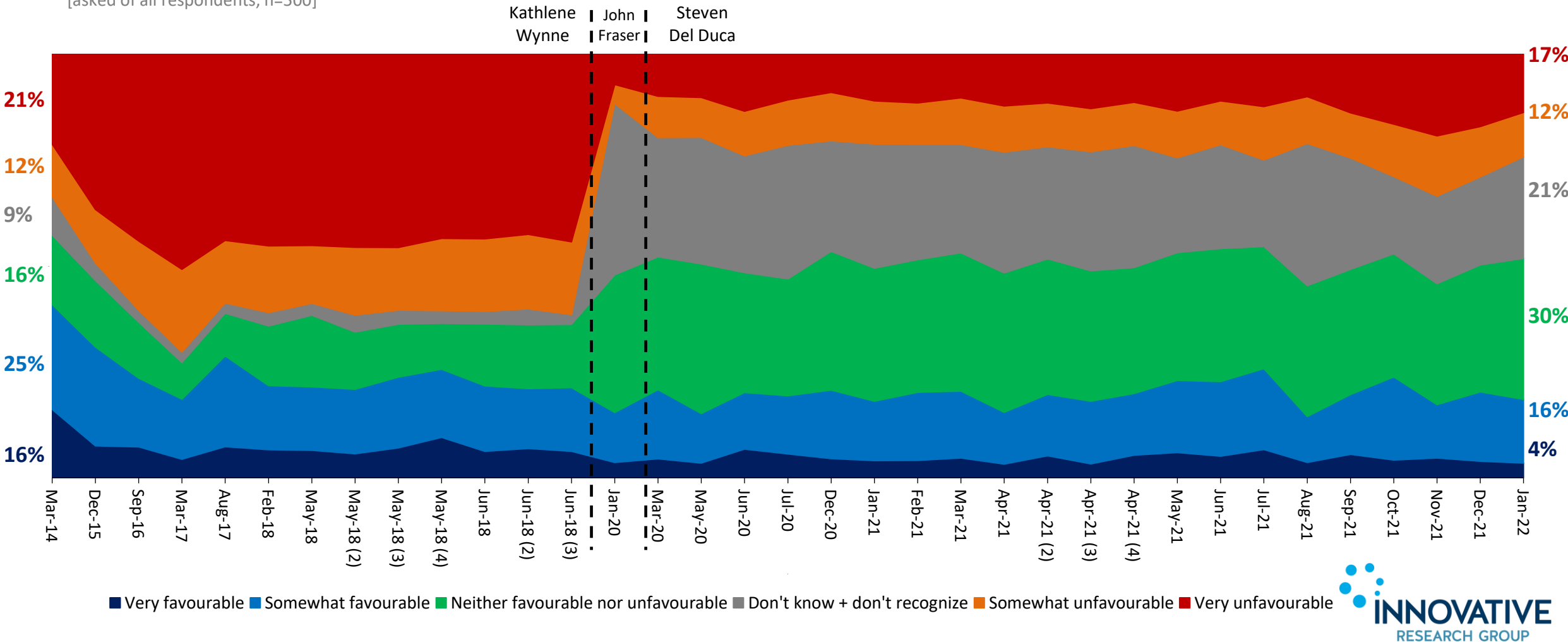
[asked of all respondents; n=500]



# Steven Del Duca Favourability: Del Duca's favourability is steady, while his unfavourability is down 5-points since December '21

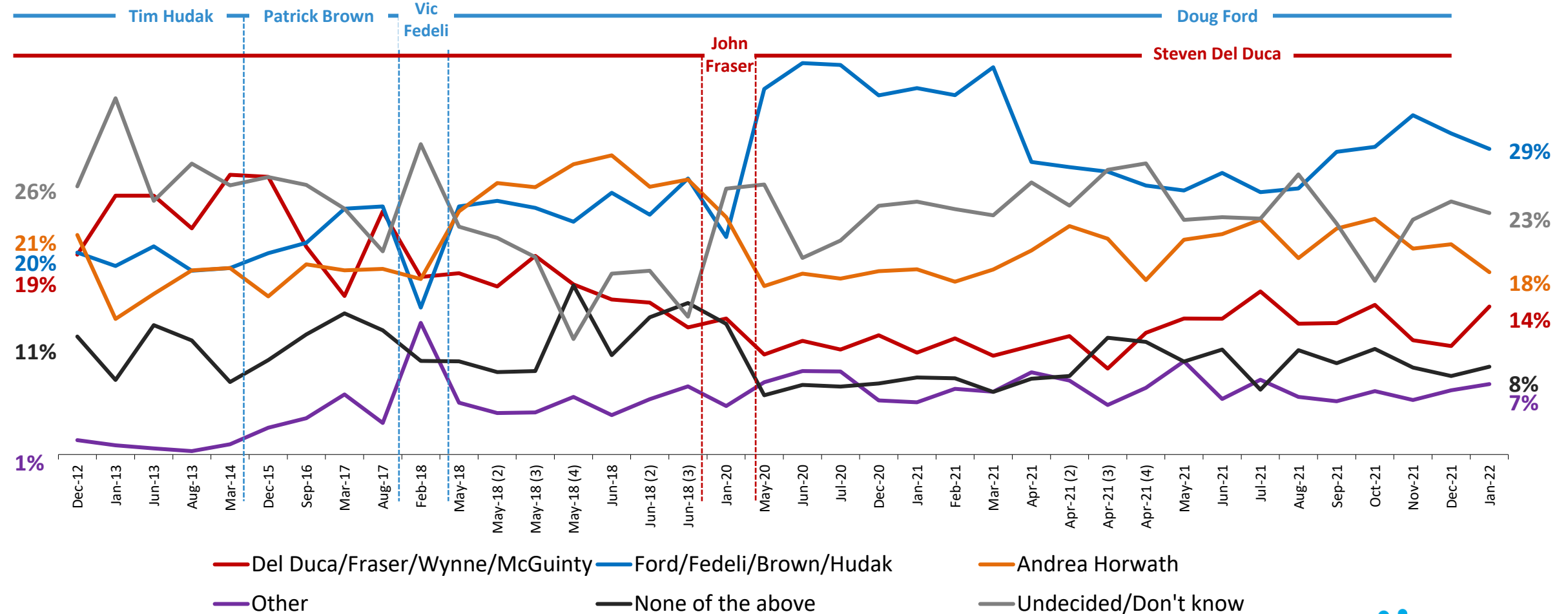
Below are the names of several individuals who have been mentioned in the news recently. For each one, please indicate whether you have heard of that person and, if so, whether you have a very favourable, somewhat favourable, neither favourable or unfavourable, somewhat unfavourable or very unfavourable impression of that person. If you do not recognize the name, just indicate.

[asked of all respondents; n=500]



# Best Premier Tracking: Ford remains at the top choice for the best Premier, followed by Horwath at a distant second

Q Which of the following leaders would make the best Premier of Ontario?  
[asked of all respondents; n=500]



# Best Premier by Value Cluster: Ford is the top choice for Premier among Business Liberals and Thrifty Moderates

	Value Clusters					
	Populist Conservatives	Deferential Conservatives	Business Liberals	Left Liberals	Core Left	Thrifty Moderates
	(N=54)	(N=51)	(N=111)	(N=88)	(N=126)	(N=71)
Best Premier						
Del Duca	2%	12%	19%	17%	15%	12%
Ford	61%	53%	23%	23%	14%	34%
Horwath	5%	15%	14%	23%	30%	5%
Other	12%	5%	7%	4%	8%	6%
None of the Above	8%	9%	9%	7%	7%	12%
Undecided	12%	6%	28%	25%	26%	31%

Note: Current data: January 2022

# Best Premier by Economic Gap: Horwath is the top choice for Premier among Alienated voters <sup>36</sup>

	Economic Gap			
	Achievers	Strugglers	Ambivalent	Alienated
	(N=163)	(N=119)	(N=87)	(N=130)
Best Premier				
Del Duca	13%	14%	14%	16%
Ford	43%	35%	21%	13%
Horwath	12%	11%	17%	31%
Other	7%	10%	6%	5%
None of the Above	6%	9%	8%	11%
Undecided	20%	20%	34%	23%

**Note:** Current data: January 2022



# Best Premier by Time for Change: Nearly half of time for a change PCs say Ford is the best premier <sup>37</sup>

	Time for Change					
	Core PC	Soft PC	Time for a change PC	Uncertain	Soft anti-PC	Hostile
	(N=72)	(N=48)	(N=65)	(N=63)	(N=138)	(N=113)
Del Duca	1%	9%	25%	3%	17%	22%
Ford	92%	68%	44%	15%	7%	0%
Horwath	4%	0%	12%	6%	22%	38%
Other	0%	3%	9%	3%	9%	11%
None of the Above	3%	8%	3%	11%	10%	12%
Undecided	0%	11%	6%	62%	36%	16%

Note: Current data: January 2022

# Best Premier by Ford Segment: Half of all non-PC Ford supporters say he is the best choice for Premier

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		Ford Segment			
		Core PCs	Non-PC Ford Supporters	Unaligned	Other Supporters
		(N=129)	(N=66)	(N=86)	(N=111)
Best Premier	Del Duca	4%	10%	5%	26%
	Ford	72%	53%	5%	7%
	Horwath	6%	7%	3%	33%
	Other	3%	12%	4%	8%
	None of the Above	8%	0%	21%	7%
	Undecided	7%	17%	62%	20%

Note: Current data: January 2022

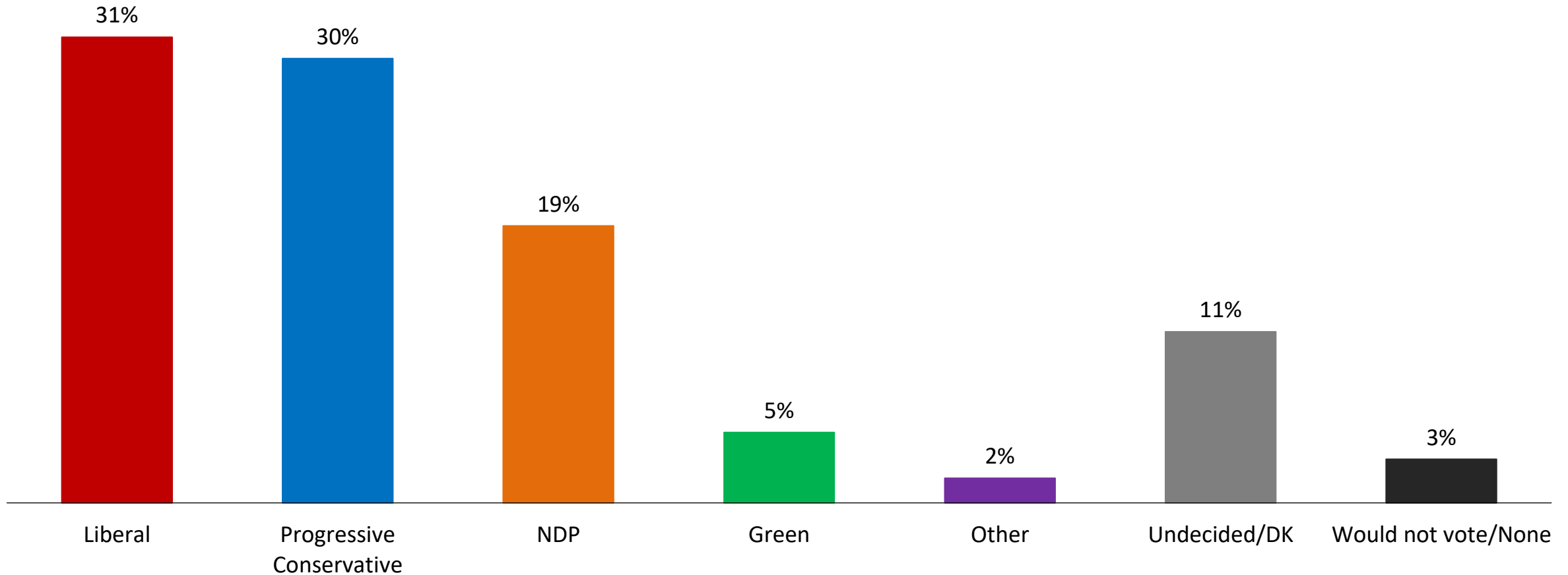
# Provincial Vote

# Provincial Combined Vote: The PCs (30%) are on par with Liberals (31%) with the NDP trailing at 19%



If a provincial election were held today, which party would you vote for? In that case, which party do you lean toward slightly? **[Vote + Lean]**

[asked of all respondents; n=500]

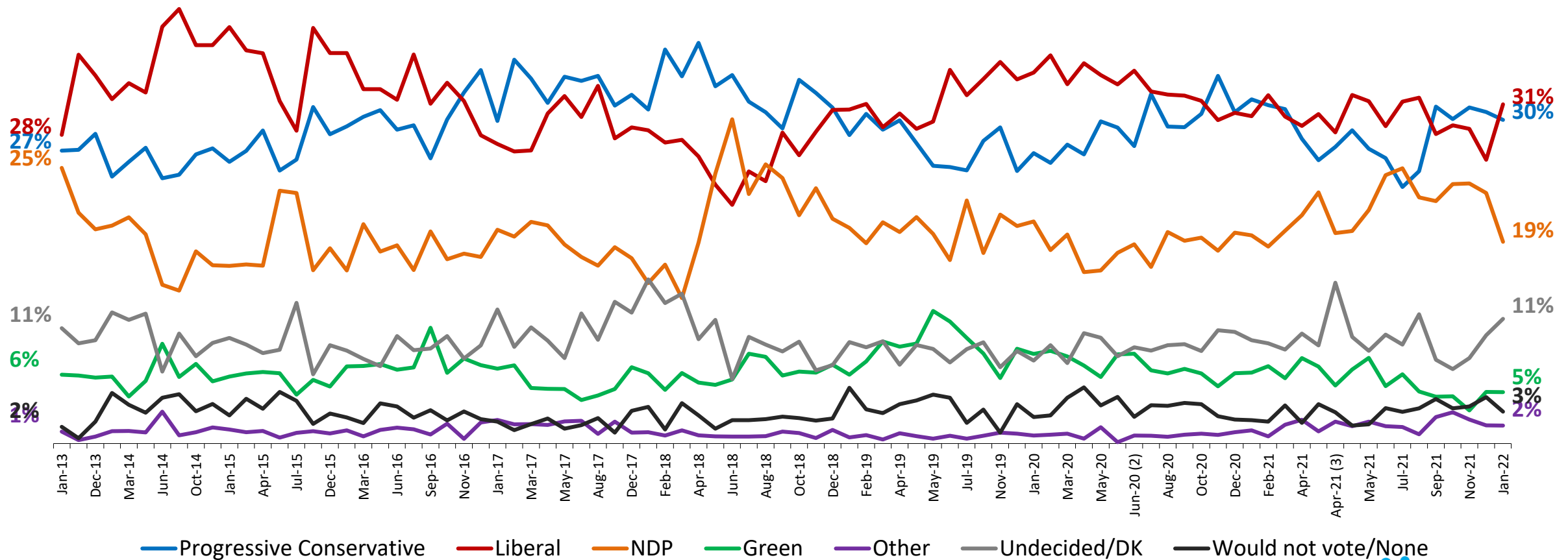


# Provincial Vote Tracking: The PCs continue to lead the Liberals by a decent margin, with the NDP trailing in third



If a provincial election were held today, which party would you vote for? In that case, which party do you lean toward slightly? **[Vote + Lean]**

[asked of all respondents; n=500]

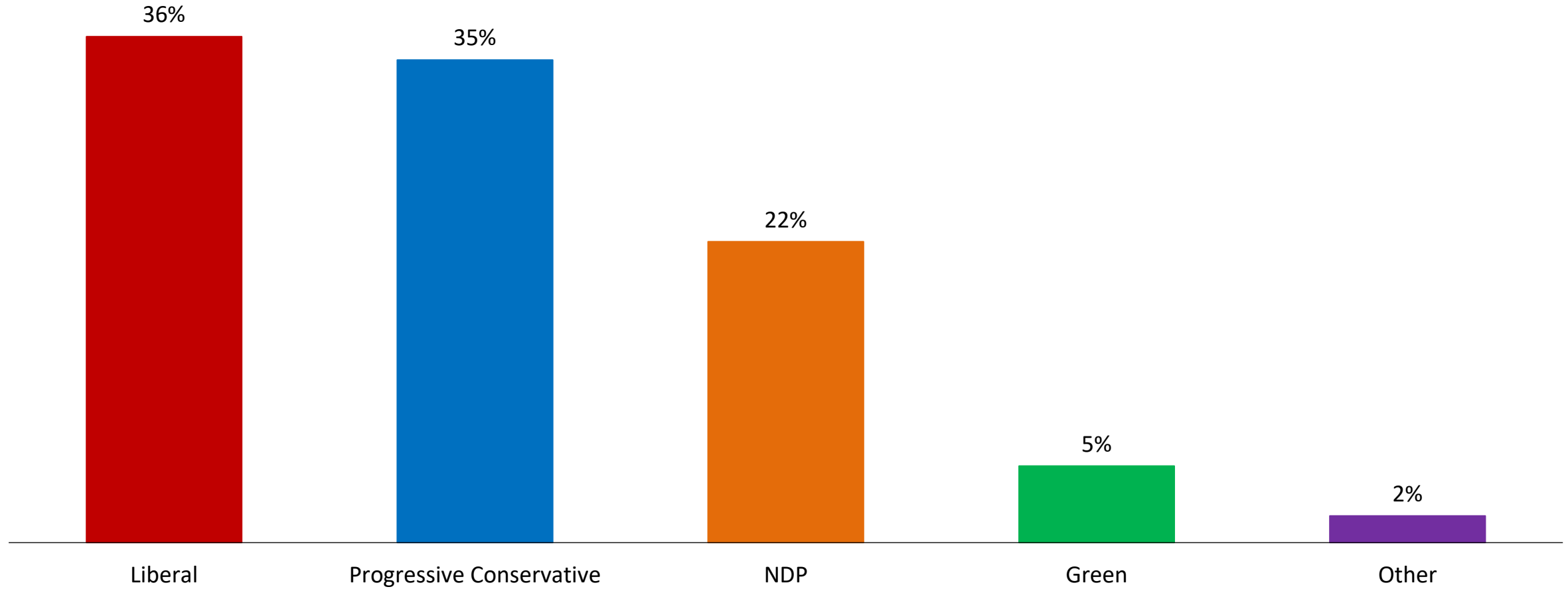


# Provincial Decided Vote: Among the decided voters, 35% say they would vote PC on par with 36% saying they would vote Liberal



If a provincial election were held today, which party would you vote for? In that case, which party do you lean toward slightly? **[DECIDED]**

[decided voters only; n=428]



If a provincial election were held today, which party would you vote for? In that case, which party do you lean toward slightly? **[DECIDED]**

The chart displays the following data points for the percentage of Canadians identifying with each party:

Party	Jan-13	Dec-21
Progressive Conservative	32%	35%
Liberal	29%	36%
NDP	29%	22%
Green	7%	5%
Other	1%	2%

# Decided Vote by Value Cluster: The PCs lead among all value clusters except for the Business Liberals, Left Liberals and the Core Left

Decided Vote	Value Clusters					
	Deferential Conservatives	Populist Conservatives	Business Liberals	Left Liberals	Thrifty Moderates	Core Left
	(N=50)	(N=46)	(N=99)	(N=70)	(N=52)	(N=111)
Liberal	24%	16%	55%	43%	30%	32%
Progressive Conservative	59%	70%	24%	28%	45%	18%
NDP	12%	3%	15%	25%	14%	41%
Green	5%	6%	5%	4%	7%	6%
Other	0%	4%	1%	0%	3%	3%

Note: Current data: January 2022



# Decided Vote by Economic Gap: The PCs lead among the Achievers while the Liberals lead among the Strugglers, Ambivalent & Alienated

Decided Vote	Economic Gap			
	Achievers	Strugglers	Ambivalent	Alienated
	(N=151)	(N=104)	(N=59)	(N=114)
Liberal	37%	42%	33%	32%
Progressive Conservative	47%	37%	25%	22%
NDP	11%	14%	27%	40%
Green	4%	4%	11%	5%
Other	1%	3%	5%	1%

**Note:** Current data: January 2022

# Decided Vote by Time for Change: Nearly half of Time for a Change PC voters would vote for the PCs <sup>46</sup>

Decided Vote	Time for Change					
	Core PC	Soft PC	Time for a change PC	Uncertain	Soft anti-PC	Hostile
	(N=214)	(N=79)	(N=164)	(N=71)	(N=236)	(N=267)
Liberal	1%	27%	43%	57%	46%	41%
Progressive Conservative	96%	72%	48%	26%	10%	0%
NDP	1%	2%	2%	9%	30%	49%
Green	1%	0%	6%	7%	9%	6%
Other	0%	0%	0%	0%	5%	3%

Note: Current data: January 2022

# Decided Vote by Ford Segment: The Liberals lead by 13-points among Non-PC Ford Supporters

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		Ford Segment			
		Core PCs	Non-PC Ford Supporters	Unaligned	Other Supporters
		(N=124)	(N=54)	(N=39)	(N=210)
Decided Vote	Liberal	7%	45%	30%	52%
	Progressive Conservative	87%	40%	30%	3%
	NDP	3%	6%	18%	37%
	Green	1%	8%	13%	6%
	Other	2%	0%	9%	1%

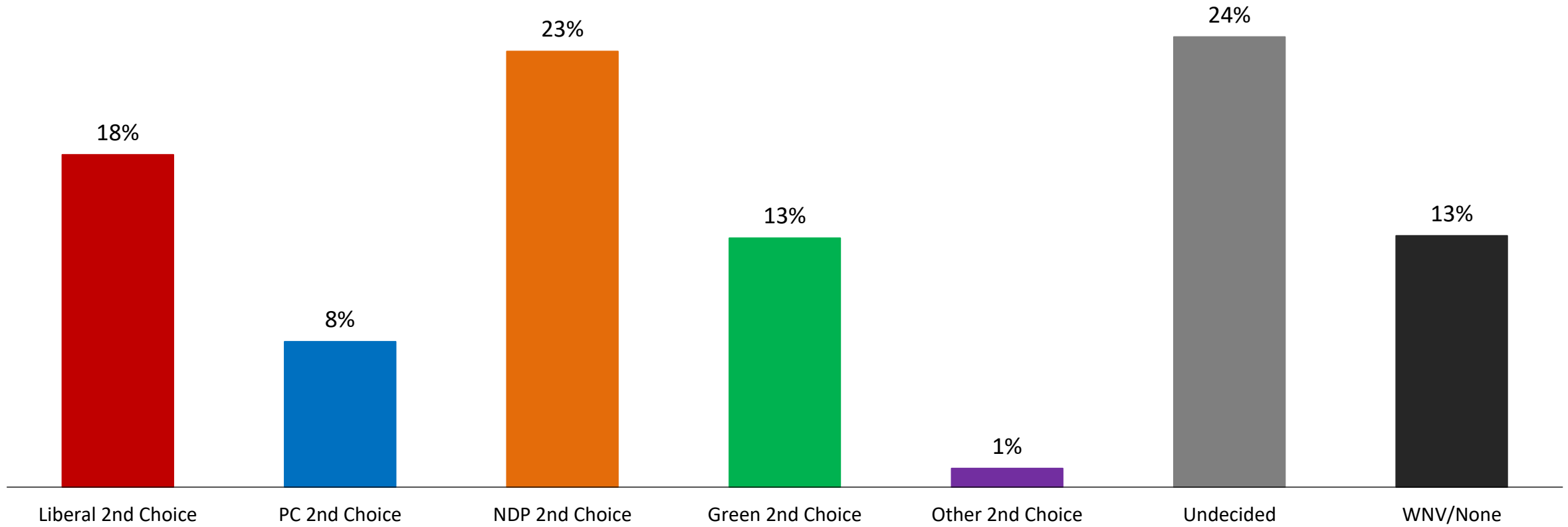
Note: Current data: January 2022

# Provincial 2nd Choice: The NDP are the top 2<sup>nd</sup> choice in Ontario, while 37% are undecided or do not have a 2<sup>nd</sup> choice



And which party would be your second choice?

[only decided voters; n=428]



# Provincial 2nd Choice: 2-in-5 (38%) of the NDP have the Liberals as their 2<sup>nd</sup> choice while 39% of Liberals have the NDP as their 2<sup>nd</sup> choice

And which party would be your second choice? BY [Vote+Lean]

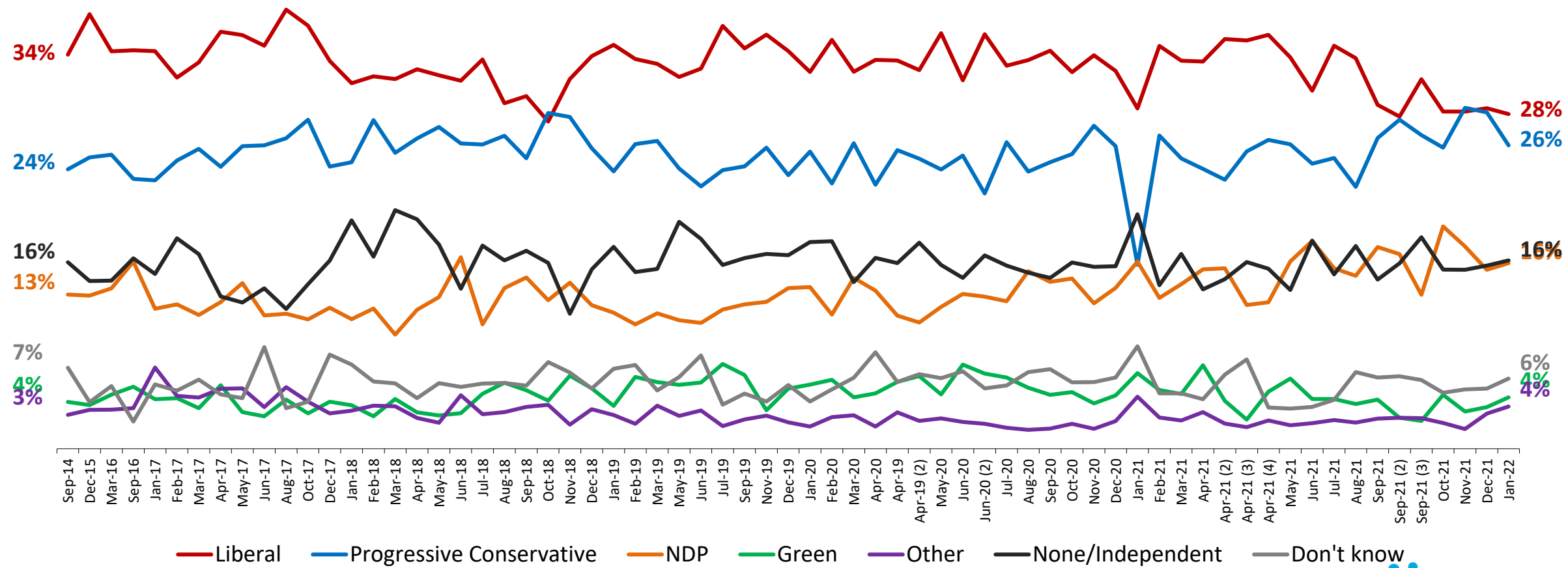
		First Choice			
		Liberal 1st Choice	PC 1st Choice	NDP 1st Choice	Green 1st Choice
		(N=156)	(N=148)	(N=93)	(N=24)
Second Choice	Liberal 2nd Choice		24%	38%	17%
	PC 2nd Choice	11%		9%	11%
	NDP 2nd Choice	39%	21%		30%
	Green 2nd Choice	16%	6%	25%	
	Other 2nd Choice	0%	3%	0%	0%
	Undecided	23%	25%	24%	21%
	WNV/None	11%	20%	3%	21%

**Note:** 'Other' in Combined Vote not shown due to insufficient sample size.  
Current data: January 2022

# Provincial Party ID Tracking: The Liberals & NDPs remain steady when it comes to provincial party ID, while the PCs are down 3-points this wave



Thinking about politics in [PROV], generally speaking, do you usually think of yourself as a...  
[asked of all respondents; n=500]



# Combined Vote by Party ID: The PC, Liberal and NDP partisans have similar loyalty; the PCs lead the other parties among unaligned voters

		Provincial Party Identification					
		Liberal	Progressive Conservative	NDP	Green	Other	Unaligned
		(N=142)	(N=129)	(N=79)	(N=22)	(N=18)	(N=110)
Provincial Combined Vote	Liberal	82%	7%	9%	16%	25%	13%
	Progressive Conservative	5%	84%	7%	2%	31%	19%
	NDP	10%	3%	79%	20%	3%	7%
	Green	1%	1%	4%	62%	0%	5%
	Other	0%	2%	0%	0%	14%	3%
	Undecided/DK	1%	3%	1%	0%	8%	44%
	Would not vote/None	0%	1%	0%	0%	18%	9%

Note: Current data: January 2022

# Methodology



# Survey Methodology

**These are the results of an online survey conducted between January 6<sup>th</sup>, 2022 and January 11<sup>th</sup>, 2022.**

**Method:** This online survey was conducted using INNOVATIVE's Canada 20/20 national research panel with additional respondents from Dynata, a leading provider of online sample. 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 Ontario population according to Census data to provide results that are intended to approximate a probability sample. Where national figures are shown, they come from an online survey in field on the same dates with a weighted n-size of 1,200 Canadians.

**Sample Size:** n=516 Ontario residents, 18 years or older. The results are weighted to n=500 based on Census data from Statistics Canada.

**Field Dates:** January 6<sup>th</sup>, 2022 to January 11<sup>th</sup>, 2022.

**Weighting:** 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 in the table.

**Margin of Error:** This is a representative sample. However, since the online survey was not a random probability based sample, a margin of error cannot be calculated. Statements about margins of sampling error or population estimates do not apply to most online panels.

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

	Unweighted (n)	Unweighted (%)	Weighted (n)	Weighted (%)
<b>Men 18-34</b>	52	10.1%	73	14.7%
<b>Men 35-54</b>	72	14%	81	16.3%
<b>Men 55+</b>	104	20.2%	86	17.3%
<b>Women 18-34</b>	72	14%	72	14.6%
<b>Women 35-54</b>	97	18.9%	87	17.4%
<b>Women 55+</b>	117	22.8%	98	19.7%
<b>Toronto</b>	143	27.7%	104	20.9%
<b>Rest of GTA</b>	136	26.4%	132	26.3%
<b>South/West</b>	122	23.6%	128	25.6%
<b>North/East</b>	115	22.3%	136	27.2%

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**Building Understanding.**

