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RESEARCH GROUP

Ontario Leaders' Debate

Public Opinion Research
Field Dates: May 17 to 19, 2022
Release Date: May 19, 2022

Provincial Decided Vote: Among decided voters, 36% would vote for the Progressive Conservative party, while 28% would vote Liberal
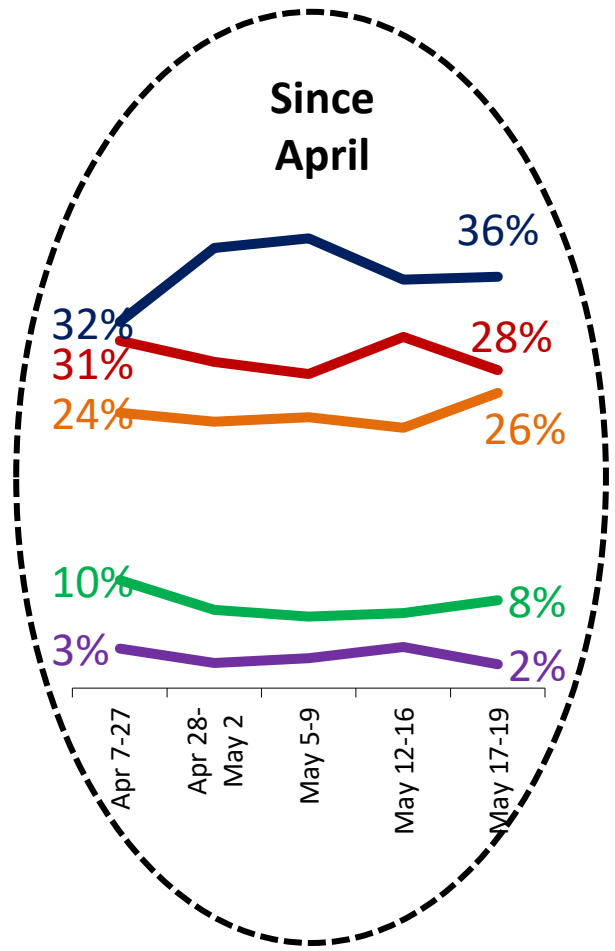
Q If a provincial election were held today, which party would you vote for? In that case, which party do you lean toward slightly? **[DECIDED]**
[decided voters only; n=606]

Liberal	Progressive Conservative	NDP	Green	Other
28%	36%	26%	8%	2%

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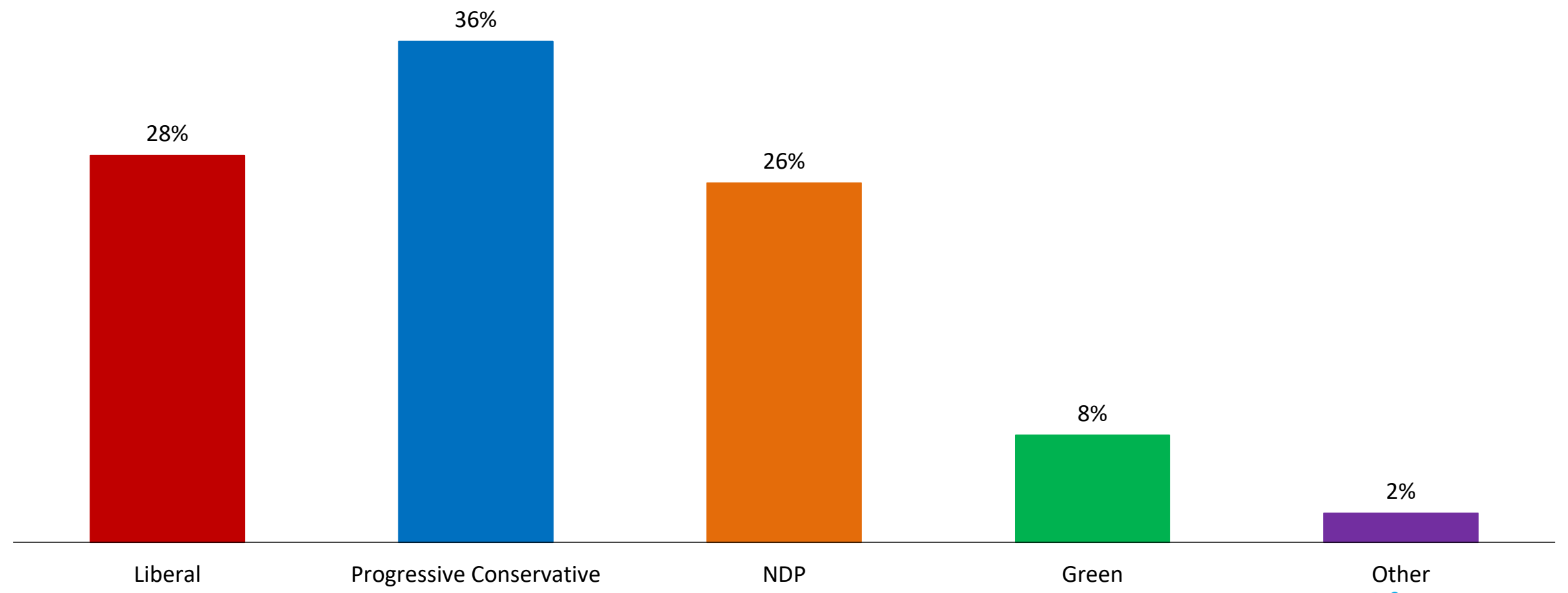
Provincial Decided Vote Tracking: The NDP and Liberals remain in a tight race for 2nd while the PCs hold a comfortable lead
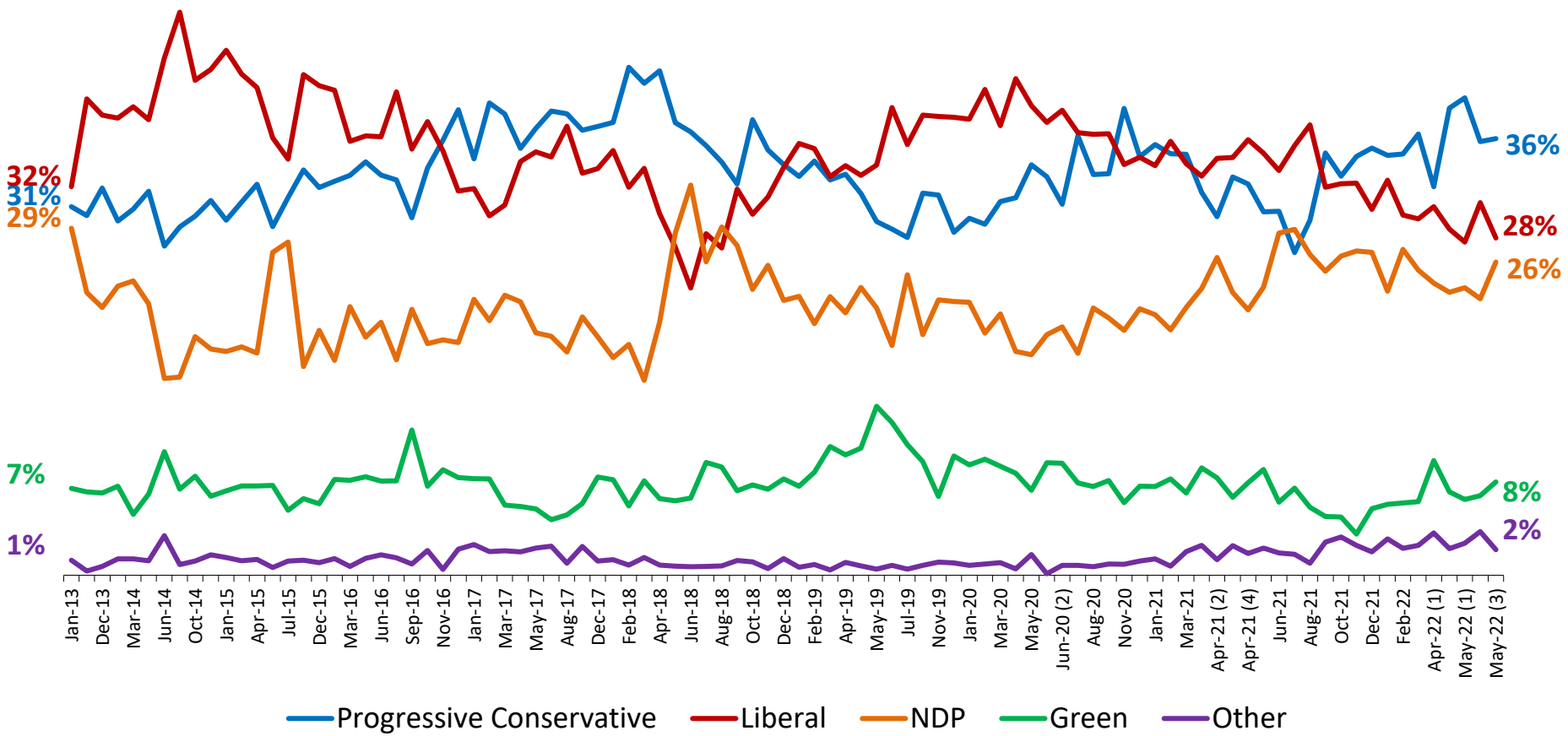
Q If a provincial election were held today, which party would you vote for? In that case, which party do you lean toward slightly? **[DECIDED]**
[only decided voters; n=606]

Since April

Progressive Conservative — Liberal — NDP — Green — Other

Current data: May 2022

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Attention: Less than half of Ontarians have heard anything about the leaders' debate

Q Have you read, seen or heard anything about the Ontario leader's TV debate that was held on Monday, May 16th?
[asked of all respondents, n=700]
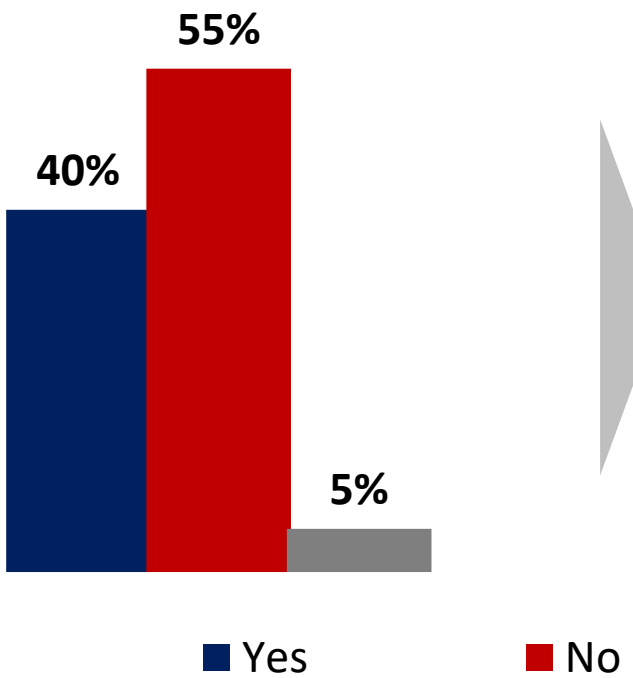
Q Did you happen to watch the leader's debate yourself?
[asked of those who RSH; n=279]
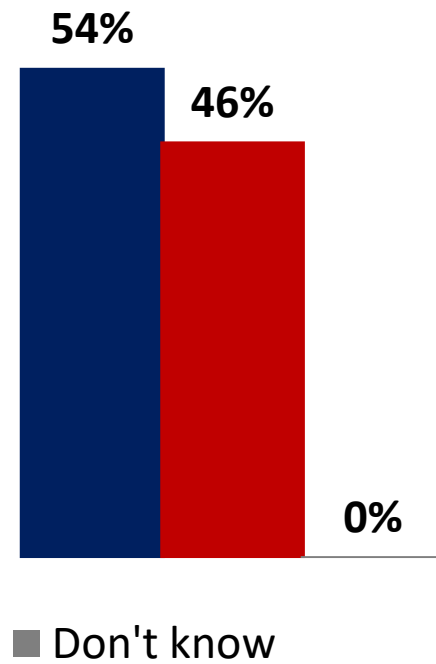
Q Did you watch all of the debate or just some of it?
[asked of those who watched; n=150]

- 40% Yes / 55% No / 5% Don't know
- 54% / 46% / 0%
- 38% All / 32% Most / 30% Some / 0% Don't know

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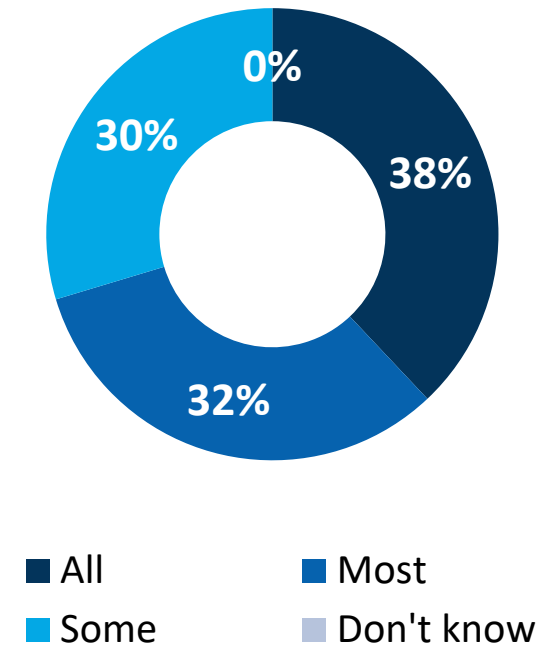
Expectations: More than a third say Mike Schreiner exceeded their expectations while 24% say Horwath did less well than expected

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=279]

Net Exceeded Expectations

Leader	Better than Expected	About as Expected	Less well than Expected	Don't know	Net Exceeded Expectations
Mike Schreiner	36%	31%	11%	22%	+25%
Steven Del Duca	18%	47%	17%	18%	+1%
Doug Ford	17%	48%	20%	16%	-3%
Andrea Horwath	11%	46%	24%	19%	-13%

■ Better than Expected ■ About as Expected ■ Less well than Expected ■ Don't know

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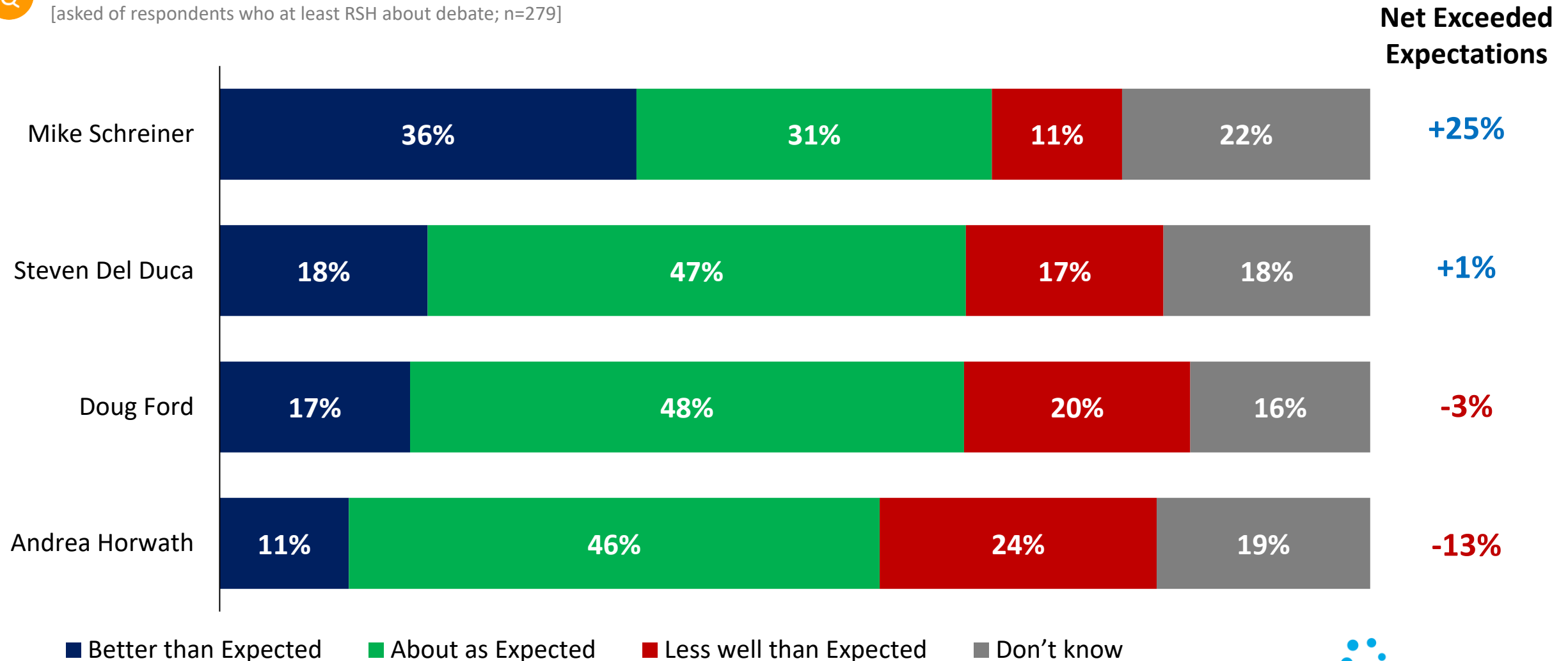
Steven Del Duca: Del Duca did better than expected among Liberals, NDP, and other partisans but worse than expected among unaligned

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?
Steven Del Duca
[asked of respondents who at least RSH about debate; n=279]

Net Exceeded Expectations

	Better than Expected	About as Expected	Less well than Expected	Don't know	Net Exceeded Expectations
Liberals	33%	41%	15%	11%	+19%
PCs	5%	51%	22%	22%	-18%
NDP	19%	60%	10%	10%	+9%
Other*	28%	37%	11%	23%	+18%
Unaligned	13%	44%	19%	24%	-6%

■ Better than Expected ■ About as Expected ■ Less well than Expected ■ Don't know

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Note: * indicates a small sample size. Treat results with caution.

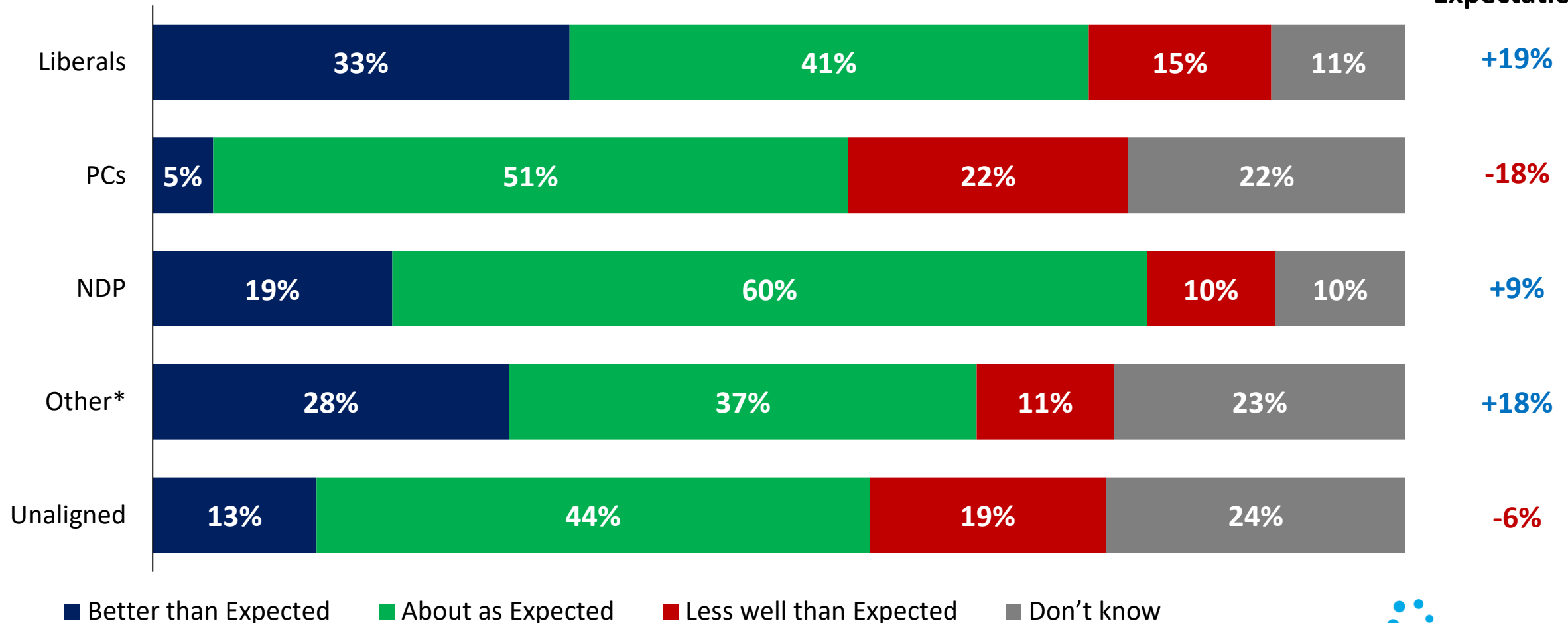# Doug Ford: Doug Ford only outperformed expectations for his own partisan supporters, worse than expected among other groups

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?
Doug Ford
[asked of respondents who at least RSH about debate; n=279]

Net Exceeded Expectations

Group	Better than Expected	About as Expected	Less well than Expected	Don't know	Net Exceeded Expectations
Liberals	12%	48%	28%	12%	-16%
PCs	25%	55%	3%	17%	+21%
NDP	15%	33%	42%	10%	-26%
Other*	8%	44%	25%	23%	-17%
Unaligned	14%	47%	21%	19%	-7%

■ Better than Expected ■ About as Expected ■ Less well than Expected ■ Don't know

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Andrea Horwath: Both Liberals and unaligned voters say Horwath did worse than expected on net

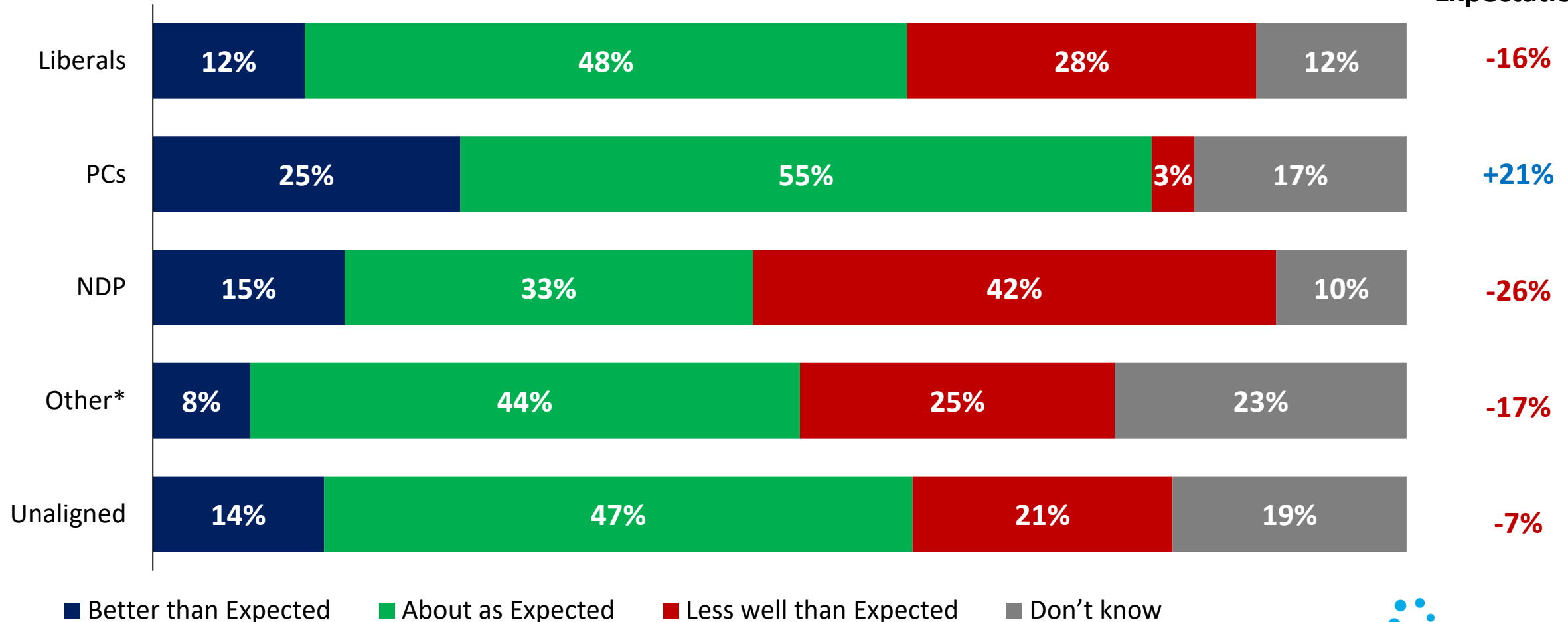**Q** For each leader, did they perform better than you expected, less well than you expected, or about as you expected in the leader's debate?
Andrea Horwath
[asked of respondents who at least RSH about debate; n=279]

Net Exceeded Expectations

	Better than Expected	About as Expected	Less well than Expected	Don't know	Net Exceeded Expectations
Liberals	13%	49%	26%	12%	-13%
PCs	4%	51%	27%	19%	-23%
NDP	35%	33%	22%	10%	+13%
Other*	9%	45%	23%	23%	-14%
Unaligned	8%	42%	17%	32%	-9%

■ Better than Expected　■ About as Expected　■ Less well than Expected　■ Don't know

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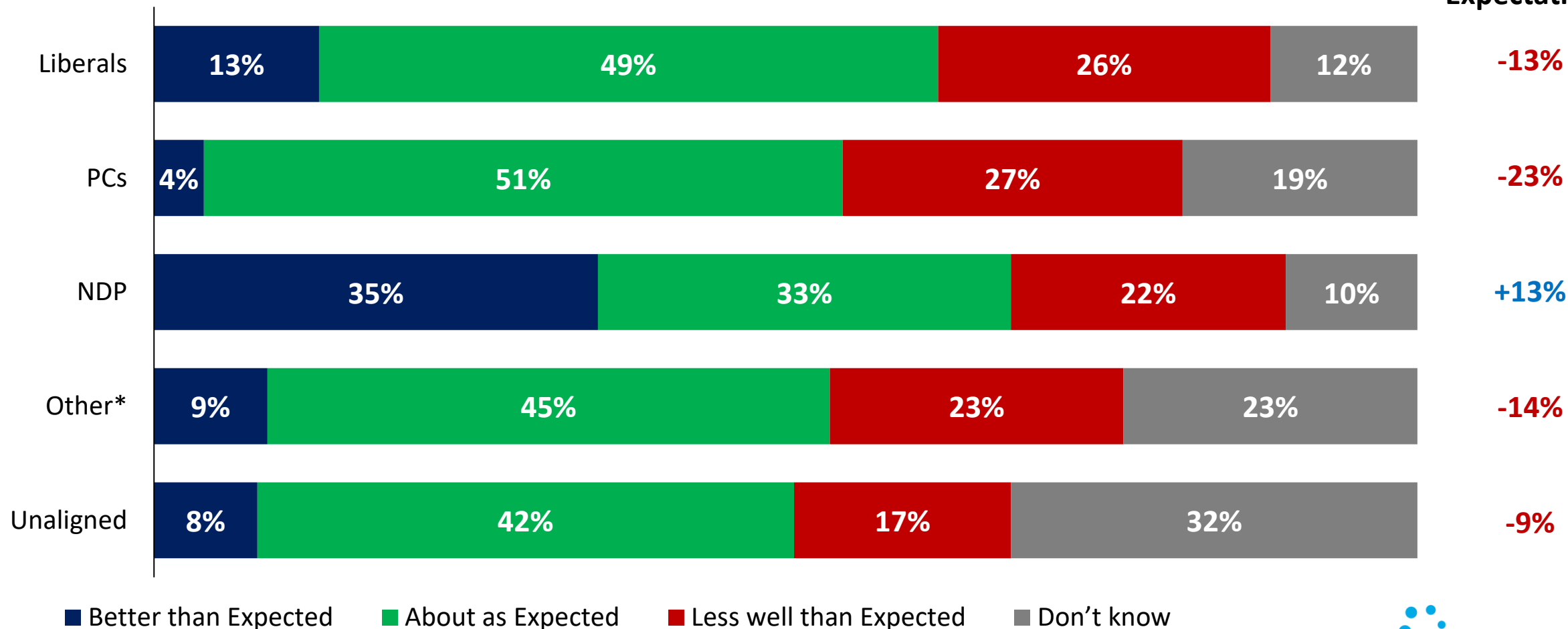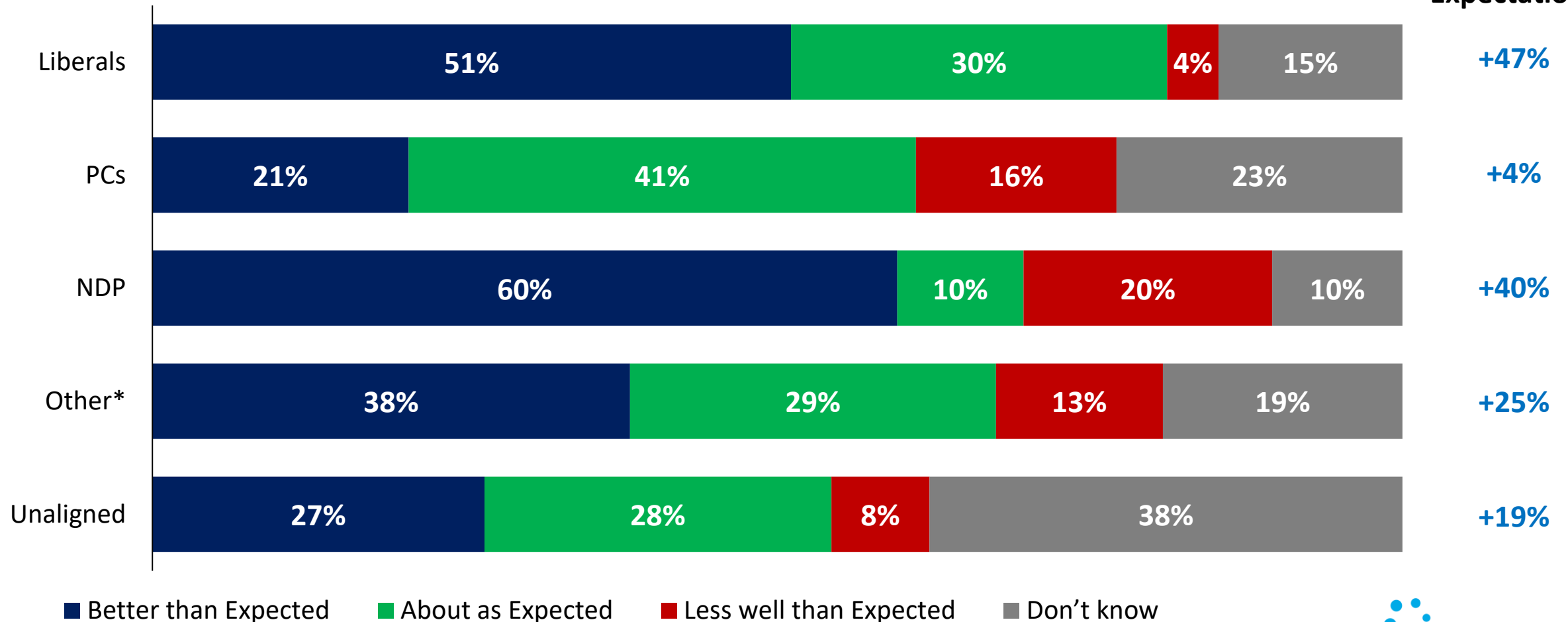# Mike Schreiner: Among all partisan groups, more say Schreiner did better than expected than worse

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?
Mike Schreiner
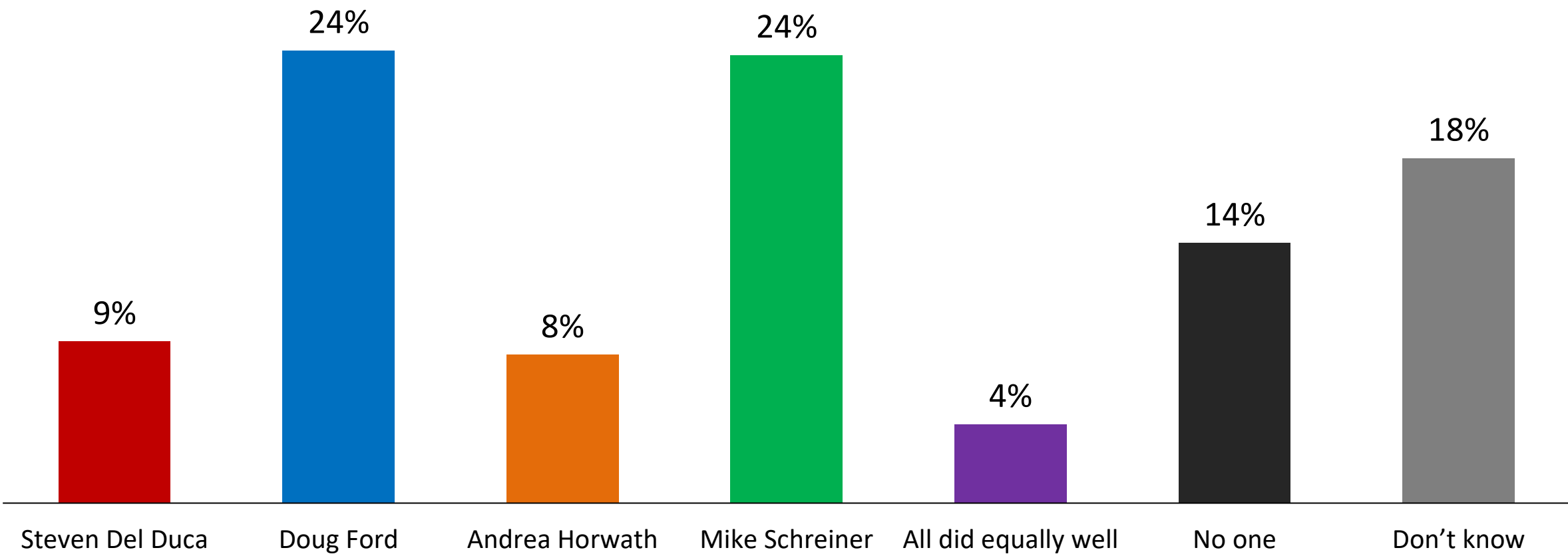[asked of respondents who at least RSH about debate; n=279]

Net Exceeded Expectations

Group	Better than Expected	About as Expected	Less well than Expected	Don't know	Net Exceeded Expectations
Liberals	51%	30%	4%	15%	+47%
PCs	21%	41%	16%	23%	+4%
NDP	60%	10%	20%	10%	+40%
Other*	38%	29%	13%	19%	+25%
Unaligned	27%	28%	8%	38%	+19%

■ Better than Expected ■ About as Expected ■ Less well than Expected ■ Don't know

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Note: * indicates a small sample size. Treat results with caution.

Winning: 1-in-4 say Schreiner (24%) and Ford (24%) did the best in the debate; only 9% say Del Duca and 8% say Horwath

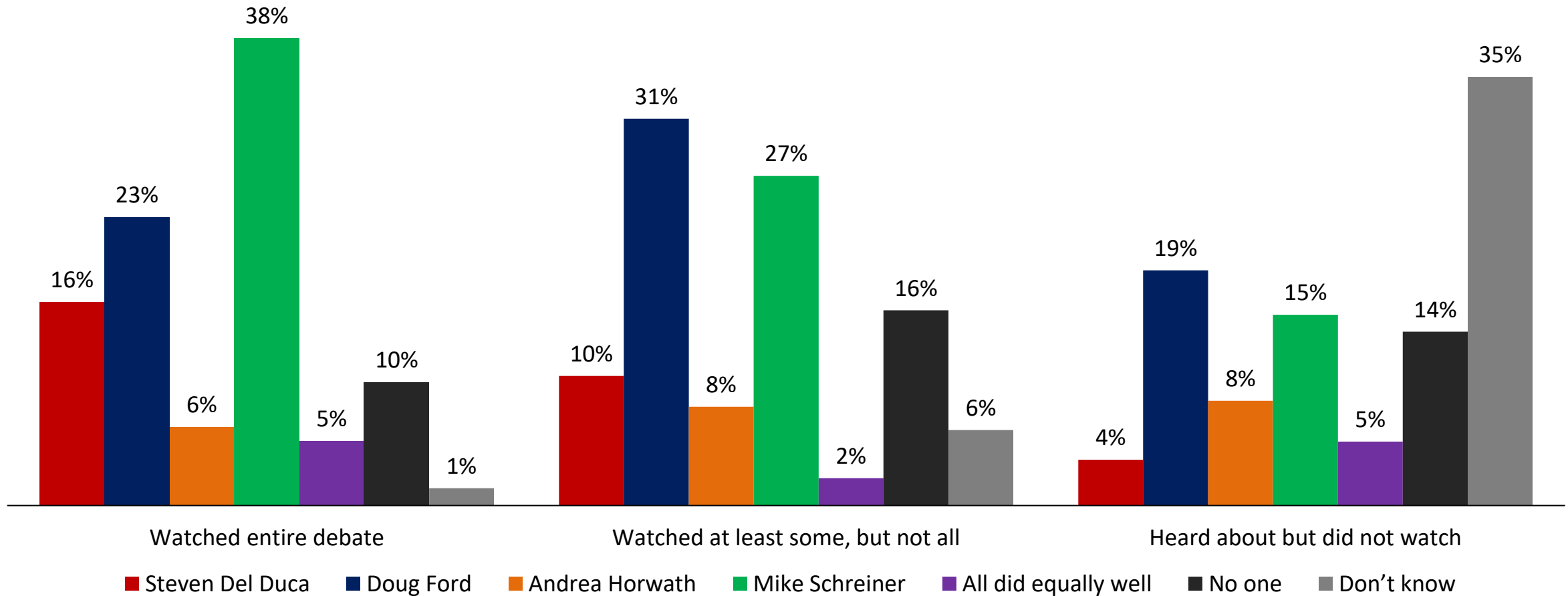**Q** In your opinion, which leader did the best in that debate?
[asked of those who RSH; n=279]

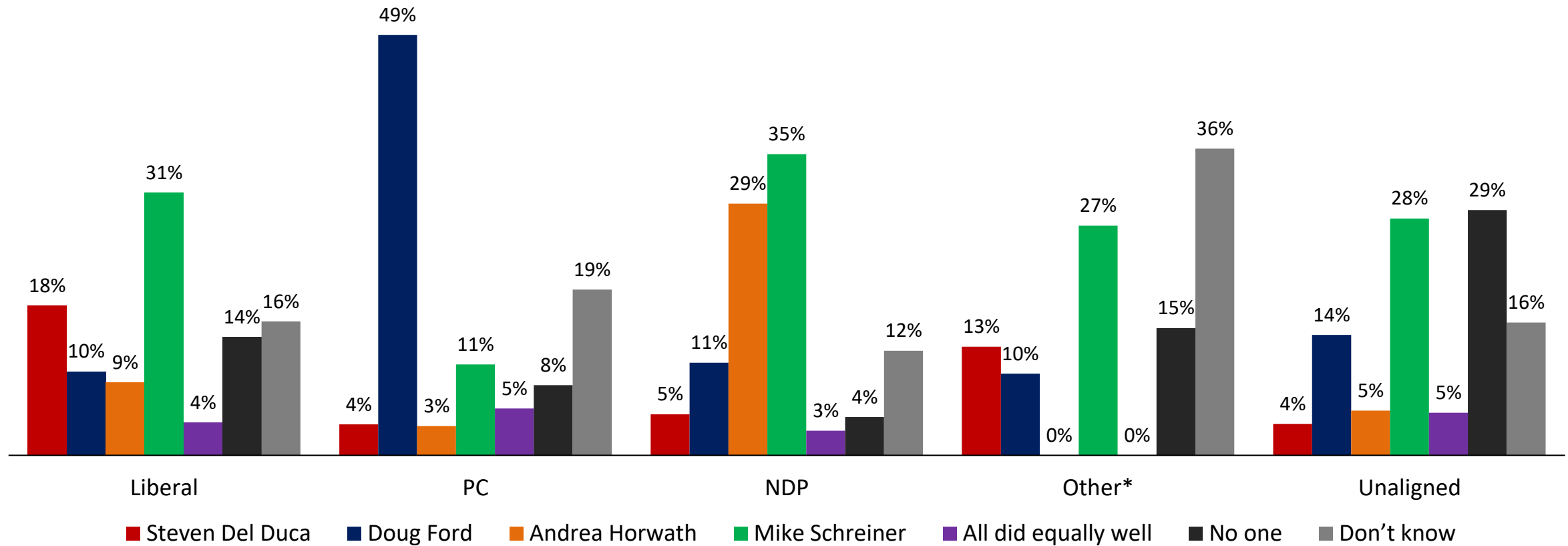| Steven Del Duca	Doug Ford	Andrea Horwath	Mike Schreiner	All did equally well	No one	Don't know
9%	24%	8%	24%	4%	14%	18%

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Winning: Among those who watched the entire debate, 38% say Mike Schreiner did the best

Q In your opinion, which leader did the best in that debate? By RSH about debate
[asked of those who RSH; n=279]

Watched entire debate
- Steven Del Duca: 16%
- Doug Ford: 23%
- Andrea Horwath: 6%
- Mike Schreiner: 38%
- All did equally well: 5%
- No one: 10%
- Don't know: 1%

Watched at least some, but not all
- Steven Del Duca: 10%
- Doug Ford: 31%
- Andrea Horwath: 8%
- Mike Schreiner: 27%
- All did equally well: 2%
- No one: 16%
- Don't know: 6%

Heard about but did not watch
- Steven Del Duca: 4%
- Doug Ford: 19%
- Andrea Horwath: 8%
- Mike Schreiner: 15%
- All did equally well: 5%
- No one: 14%
- Don't know: 35%

Legend: Steven Del Duca, Doug Ford, Andrea Horwath, Mike Schreiner, All did equally well, No one, Don't know

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Winning: Mike Schreiner won the debate among Liberal, NDP, other partisans, and unaligned voters

Q In your opinion, which leader did the best in that debate? **By Partisanship**

Legend: Steven Del Duca, Doug Ford, Andrea Horwath, Mike Schreiner, All did equally well, No one, Don't know

Liberal: 18%, 10%, 9%, 31%, 4%, 14%, 16%
PC: 4%, 49%, 3%, 11%, 5%, 8%, 19%
NDP: 5%, 11%, 29%, 35%, 3%, 4%, 12%
Other*: 13%, 10%, 0%, 27%, 0%, 15%, 36%
Unaligned: 4%, 14%, 5%, 28%, 5%, 29%, 16%

Note: * indicates a small sample size. Treat results with caution.

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Appendix:
Methodology

Survey Methodology

These are the results of an online survey conducted between May 17ᵗʰ and May 17ᵗʰ, 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. More details about Dynata can be found here.

Sample Size: n=833 Ontario residents, 18 years or older. The results are weighted to n=700 based on Census data from Statistics Canada.

Field Dates: May 17ᵗʰ to May 19ᵗʰ, 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. Results are additionally weighted by party ID to match a six-month rolling average from live caller telephone surveys (both landline and cellphone). Weighted and unweighted frequencies are reported in the table. The design effect from this weighting procedure is 1.14. The design effect is an estimate of the effect of the weighting procedure on the sampling error.

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.

Full disclosure standards can be found here.

	Unweighted (n)	Unweighted (%)	Weighted (n)	Weighted (%)
Men 18-34	117	14.1%	96	13.8%
Men 35-54	129	15.5%	116	16.6%
Men 55+	148	17.8%	123	17.7%
Women 18-34	143	17.2%	96	13.8%
Women 35-54	126	15.2%	124	17.8%
Women 55+	167	20.1%	141	20.3%
Toronto	207	24.8%	147	20.9%
Rest of GTA	211	25.3%	183	26.1%
South/West	208	25.0%	181	25.9%
North/East	207	24.8%	189	27.1%

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

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