



# Ontario Election

Online Public Opinion Research  
Field Dates: Feb 5 to Feb 6, 2025  
Release Date: February 10, 2025

Sponsored and Conducted by Innovative Research Group Inc.

# Survey Methodology

The findings in this survey report are based on an online survey conducted by INNOVATIVE.

## WHO?



Adults (18+) in Ontario

## HOW MANY?



A survey of 838 adults. The final sample is weighted to n=800 among all adults.

## WHEN?



February 5<sup>th</sup> to  
February 6<sup>th</sup>, 2025

## HOW?



Online survey using online sample from INNOVATIVE's Canada 20/20 national research panel with additional respondents from Lucid, a leading provider of online sample.

# Key Findings

1. The Ontario PCs continue to maintain a huge lead with 49% in the decided vote.
2. The Ontario PC lead is built on a firm foundation. The Ontario PC's and Doug Ford enjoy significant leads on every issue and performance attribute asked in this survey.
3. While 49% of the electorate is open to hearing more before they make their final choice, the Liberals and NDP have been unable to gain attention given the tariff drama unfolding.
4. The PC lead is built on a firm foundation. More than half (57%) approve the provincial government's response to Donald Trump. Almost half (45%) say Doug Ford is the leader best suited to respond to the tariff threat. Crombie is at 15% and Stiles sits at 9%
5. Doug Ford beats the other leaders on all other positive attributes, even on delivering positive change!
6. The PC party leads on every issue. It even edges out the Green party on environment!

# Most Important Issue

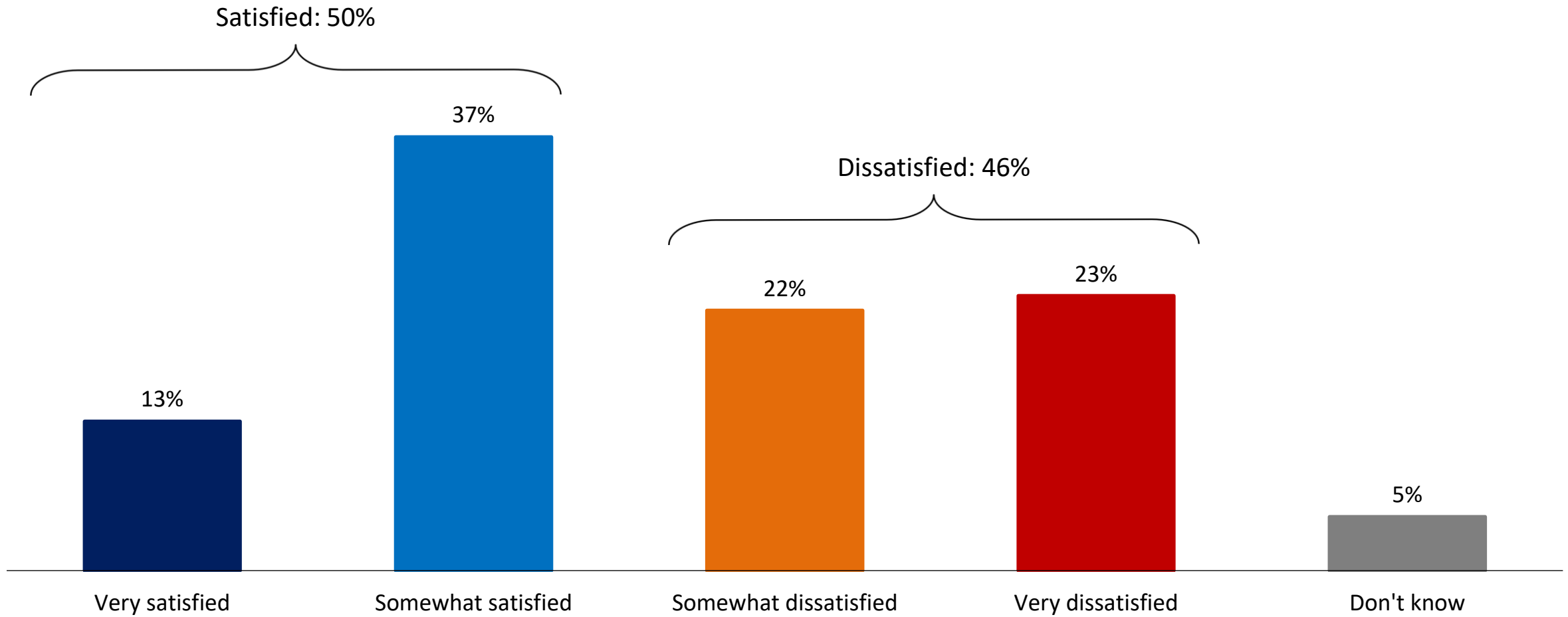


# Government Approval

# Ontario Government Approval: At 50%, slightly more respondents are satisfied with the Ontario government than unsatisfied



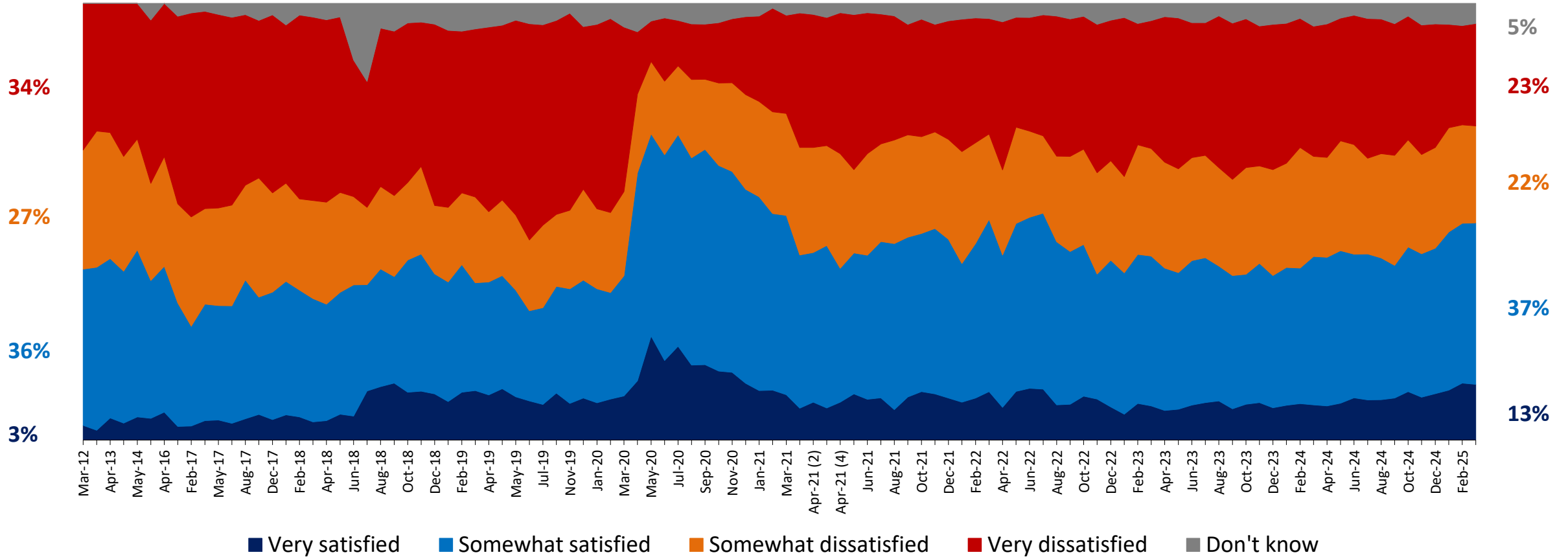
Generally speaking, how satisfied are you with the performance of the PROVINCIAL government in [PROV]? Would you say you are...?  
[asked of all respondents; n=800]



# Government Approval Tracking: Government satisfaction similar to previous election



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=800]



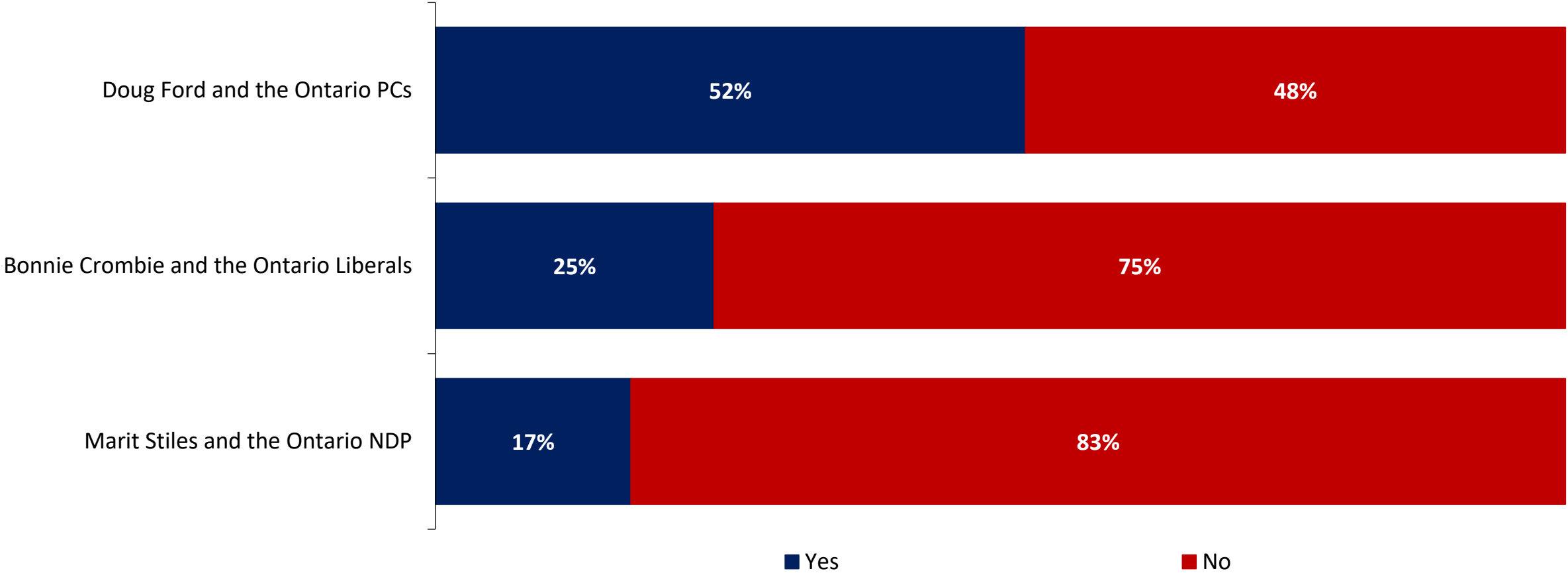


**Read, Seen, Heard**

# Campaign Attention: More than half (52%) have read, seen, or heard about Ford and the PCs, 25% have R/S/H about Crombie and the Liberals



Have you read, seen or heard anything about [LEADER] and the [PARTY] in the last few days?  
[asked of all respondents; n=800]

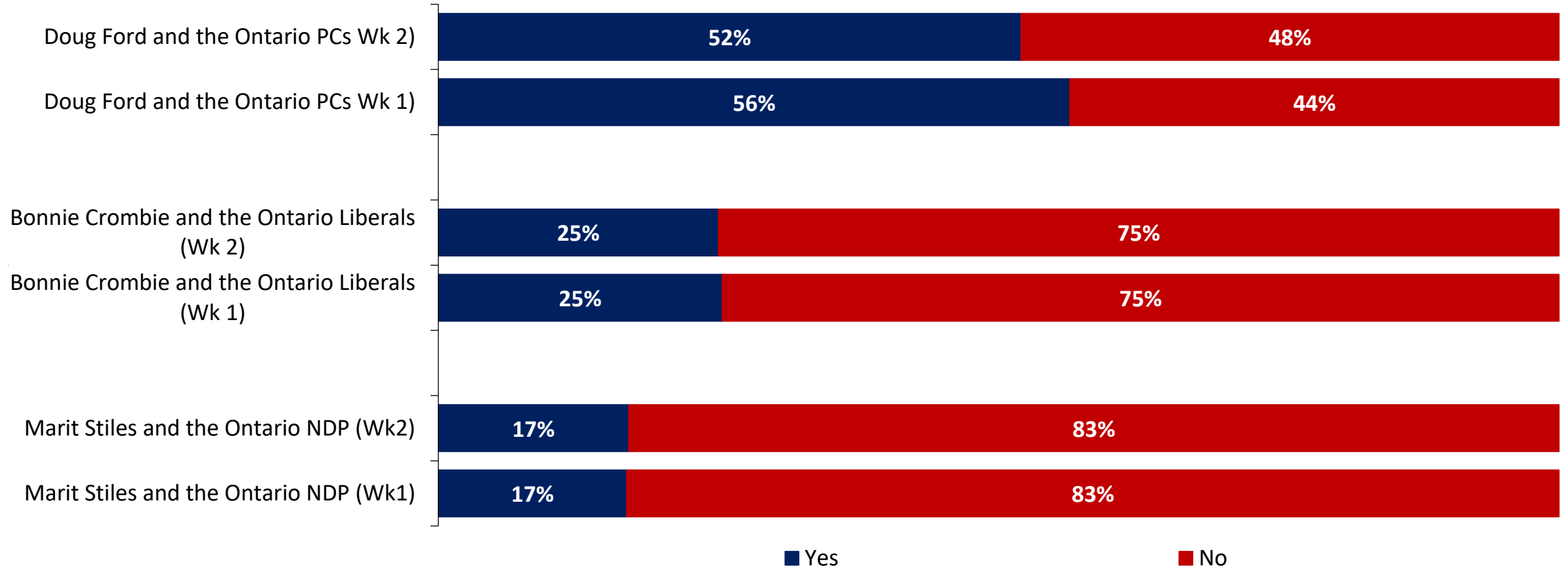


# Campaign Attention: Just over half have read, seen, or heard about Ford and the PCs, 25% have R/S/H about Crombie and the Liberals



Have you read, seen or heard anything about [LEADER] and the [PARTY] in the last few days?

[asked of all respondents; n=800]

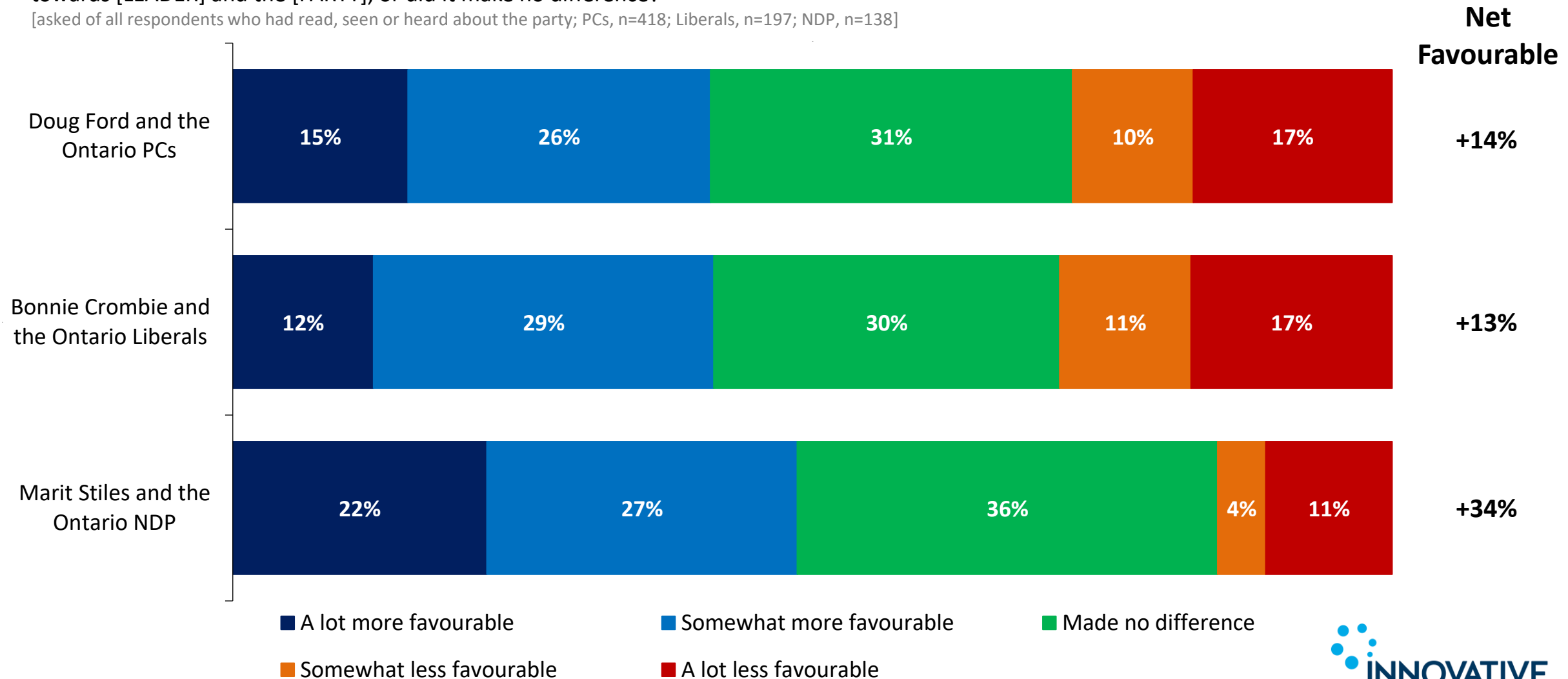


# RSH Impact: Those who R/S/H about Ford and the PCs or Crombie and the Liberals were left with divided impressions <sup>12</sup>



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 [LEADER] and the [PARTY], or did it make no difference?

[asked of all respondents who had read, seen or heard about the party; PCs, n=418; Liberals, n=197; NDP, n=138]

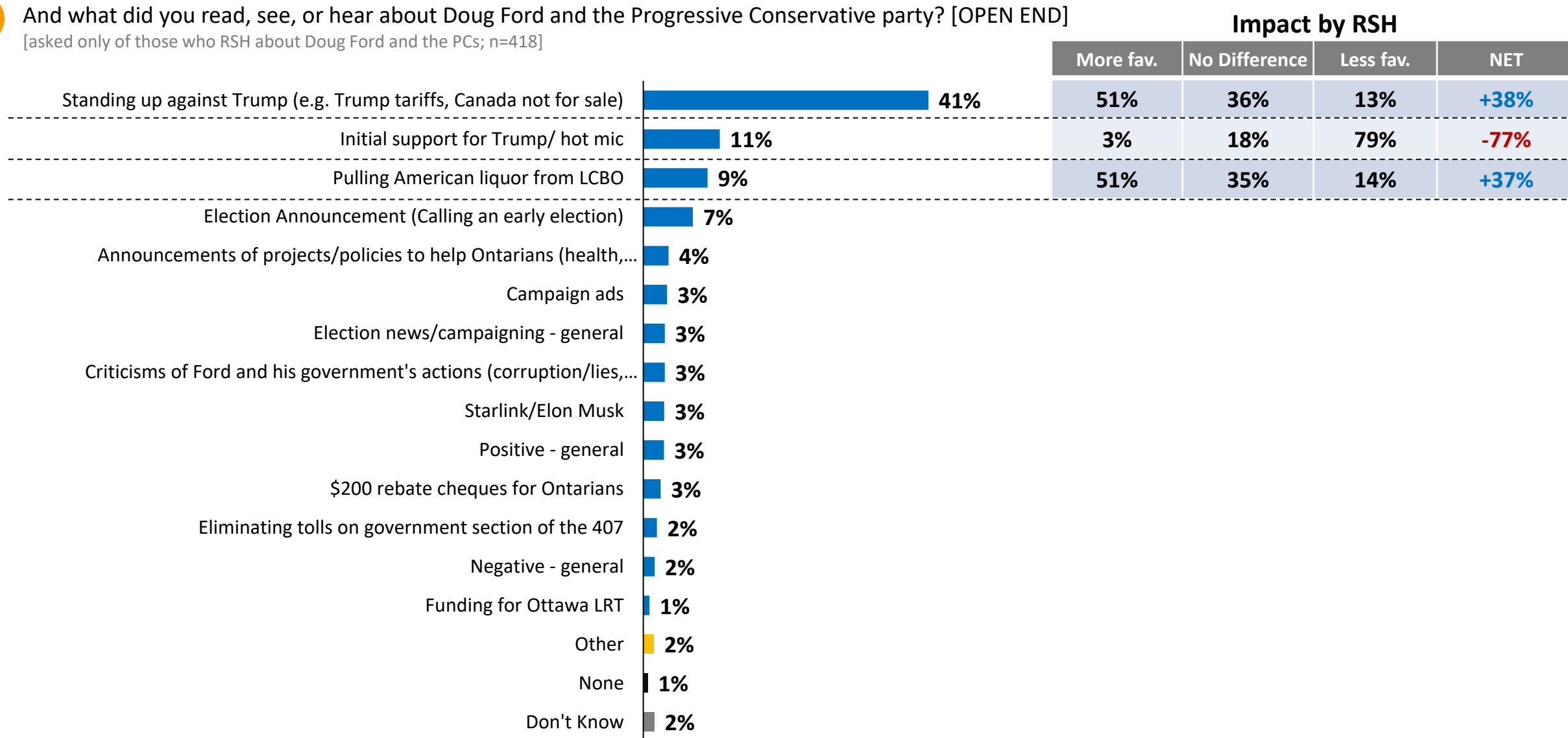


# RSH PCs: Ford standing up to Trump is most mentioned and is viewed favourably, while his initial support for him is not



And what did you read, see, or hear about Doug Ford and the Progressive Conservative party? [OPEN END]

[asked only of those who RSH about Doug Ford and the PCs; n=418]



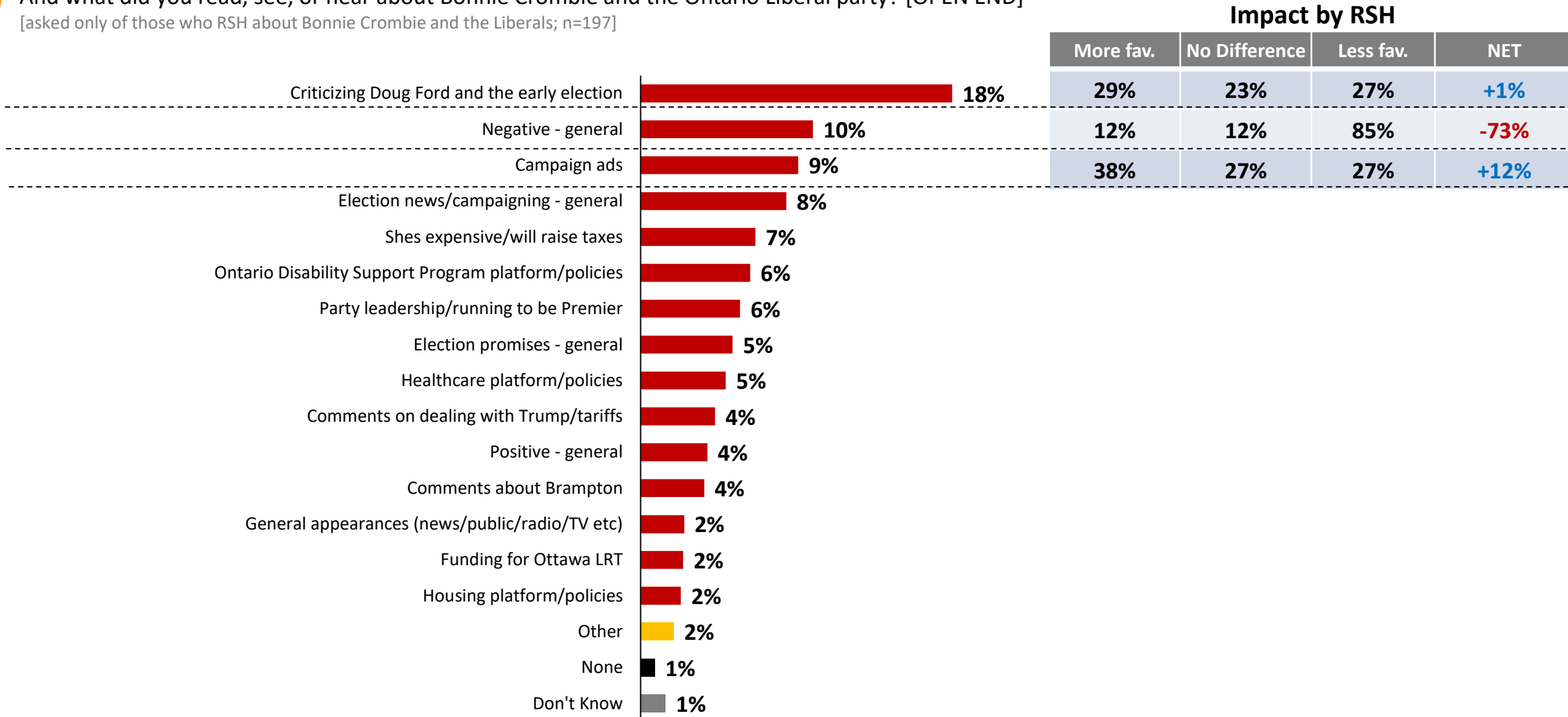
Note: 'No response' (2%) not shown.

# RSH Liberals: Top mention are Crombie's criticisms of Ford and the call for an early election, which leave respondents with divided impressions



And what did you read, see, or hear about Bonnie Crombie and the Ontario Liberal party? [OPEN END]

[asked only of those who RSH about Bonnie Crombie and the Liberals; n=197]



Note: 'No response' (3%) not shown.

# RSH New Democrats: Top mention for Stiles is election promises, which nets very favourable impressions <sup>15</sup>

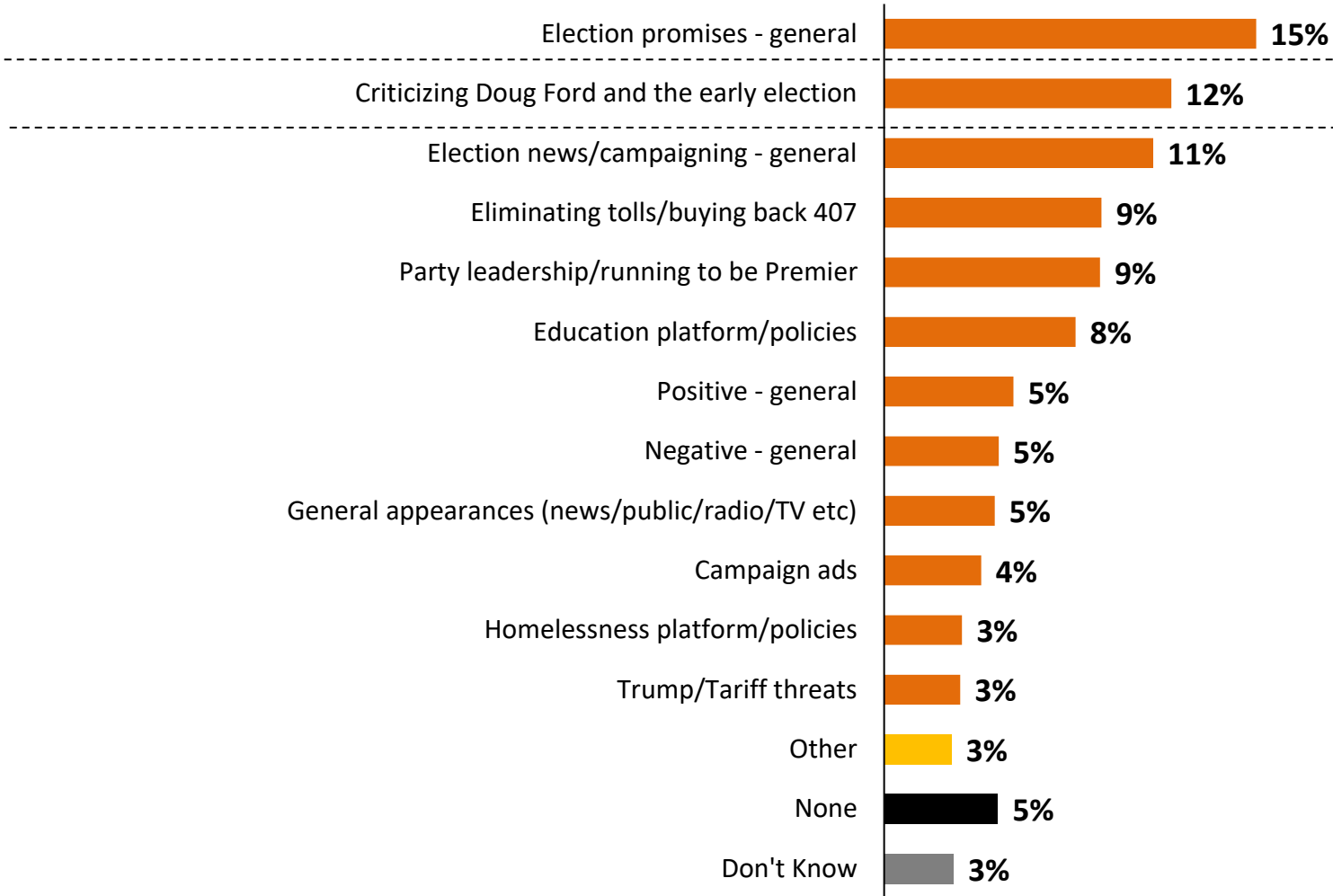


And what did you read, see, or hear about Marit Stiles and the New Democratic Party? [OPEN END]

[asked only of those who RSH about Marit Stiles and the NDP; n=138]

### Impact by RSH

	More fav.	No Difference	Less fav.	NET
Election promises - general	78%	19%	3%	+75%
Criticizing Doug Ford and the early election	47%	44%	10%	+37%



Note: 'No response' (<1%) not shown. Impact only shown for top 2 mentions due to small n-size.

# Provincial Vote

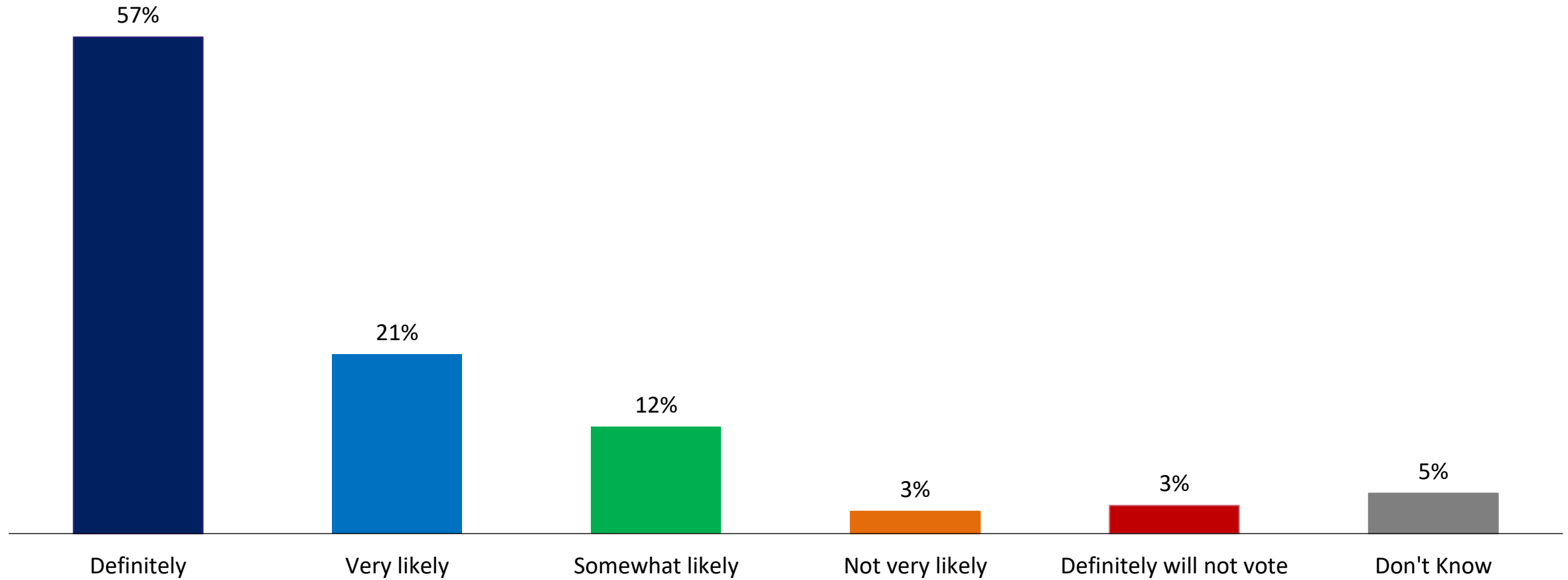


# Likelihood to Vote: Majority of respondents say they will definitely vote in the upcoming election



As you may have heard there is going to be a provincial election on February 27<sup>th</sup> of this year. How likely are you to vote in the upcoming Ontario provincial election?

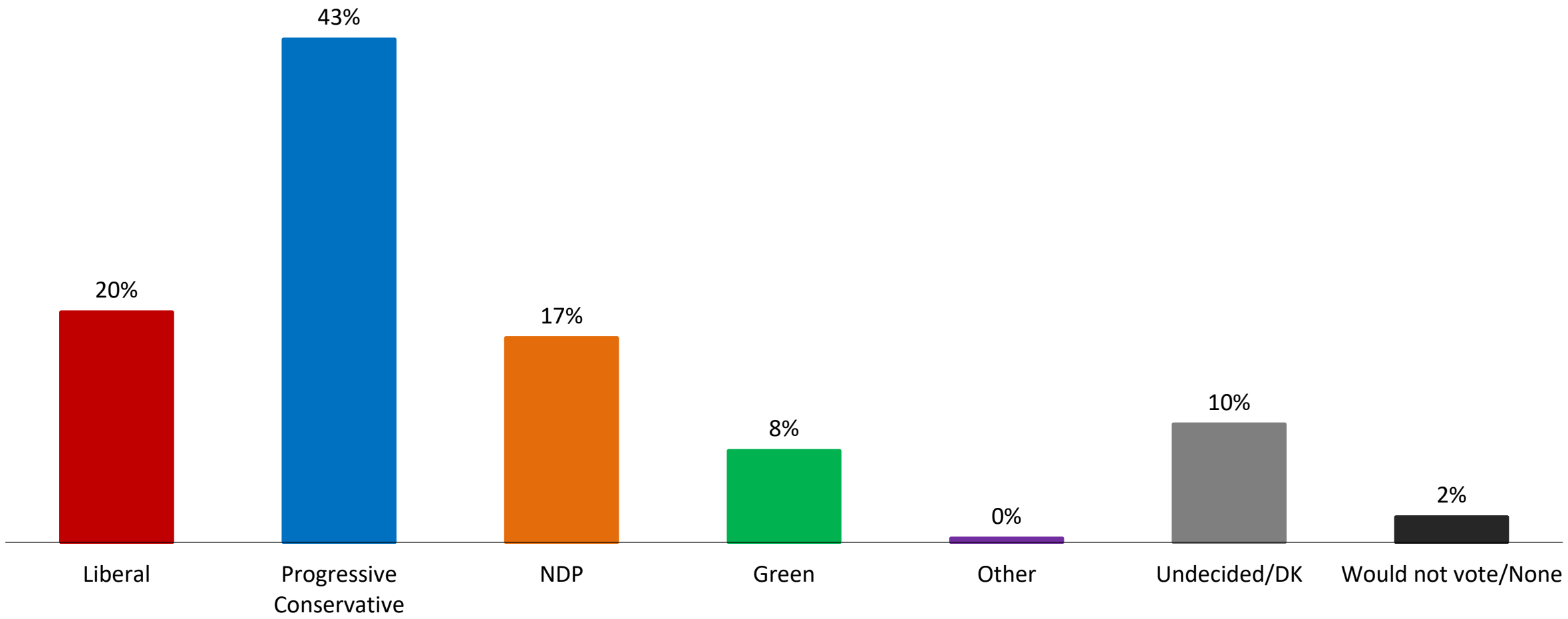
[asked of all respondents; n=800]



# Provincial Combined Vote: At 43%, the Progressive Conservatives lead the Liberals by 23 points



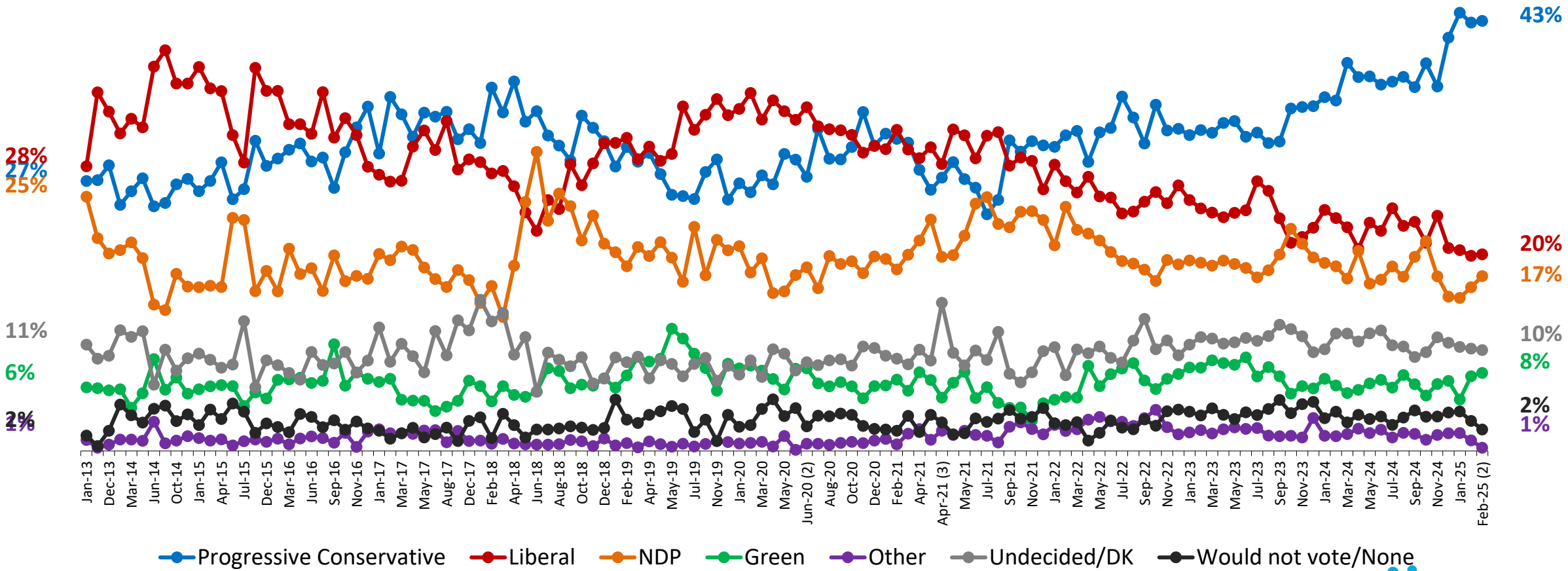
If a provincial election were held today, which party would you vote for? In that case, which party do you lean toward slightly? [Vote + Lean]  
[asked of all respondents; n=800]



# Provincial Vote Tracking: The Progressive Conservatives continue to hold a comfortable lead over the other parties



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=800]



● Progressive Conservative 
 ● Liberal 
 ● NDP 
 ● Green 
 ● Other 
 ● Undecided/DK 
 ● Would not vote/None



# Combined Vote by Value Cluster: Progressive Conservatives lead in all value clusters except Core Left where the NDP lead

		Value Clusters					
		Populist Conservatives	Deferential Conservatives	Business Liberals	Left Liberals	Core Left	Pay-as-you-go Moderates
		(N=87)	(N=65)	(N=181)	(N=154)	(N=122)	(N=191)
Provincial Combined Vote	Liberal	4%	19%	24%	18%	29%	18%
	Progressive Conservative	77%	52%	47%	41%	19%	37%
	NDP	8%	14%	15%	24%	28%	13%
	Green	3%	7%	5%	9%	13%	9%
	Other	2%	0%	0%	0%	0%	1%
	Undecided/DK	7%	8%	10%	7%	7%	17%
	Would not vote/None	0%	0%	0%	1%	4%	5%



# Combined Vote by Economic Gap: PCs lead in all economic segments; Liberals perform best among Strugglers, NDP among Alienated

		Economic Gap			
		Achievers (N=189)	Strugglers (N=254)	Ambivalent (N=174)	Alienated (N=183)
Provincial Combined Vote	Liberal	21%	22%	15%	19%
	Progressive Conservative	53%	50%	35%	30%
	NDP	11%	18%	18%	22%
	Green	7%	5%	8%	12%
	Other	1%	0%	0%	0%
	Undecided/DK	6%	5%	16%	15%
	Would not vote/None	0%	0%	7%	1%

# Combined Vote by Time for Change: 6-in-10 of the 'Time for a change government' segment would still vote Progressive Conservatives

Time for Change

Provincial Combined Vote

	Core Government (N=140)	Soft Government (N=66)	Time for a change Government (N=172)	Uncertain (N=65)	Soft anti- Government (N=215)	Hostile (N=142)
Liberal	0%	5%	17%	14%	25%	43%
Progressive Conservative	99%	78%	58%	28%	14%	3%
NDP	0%	1%	12%	11%	28%	36%
Green	0%	3%	10%	5%	12%	10%
Other	0%	0%	1%	0%	0%	1%
Undecided/DK	0%	13%	3%	29%	19%	6%
Would not vote/None	0%	0%	1%	13%	2%	2%

# Combined Vote by Ford Segment: PCs have nearly half (49%) of the Non-PC Ford personal supporter vote, Liberals have 22%

Ford Segment

	Core PCs	Non-PC Ford Personal Supporters	Unaligned	Other Supporters
	(n=274)	(n=130)	(n=124)	(n=271)
<b>Liberal</b>	4%	18%	10%	40%
<b>Progressive Conservative</b>	87%	56%	10%	7%
<b>NDP</b>	3%	14%	15%	34%
<b>Green</b>	3%	7%	7%	13%
<b>Other</b>	1%	0%	0%	0%
<b>Undecided/DK</b>	2%	4%	46%	5%
<b>Would not vote/None</b>	0%	1%	12%	0%

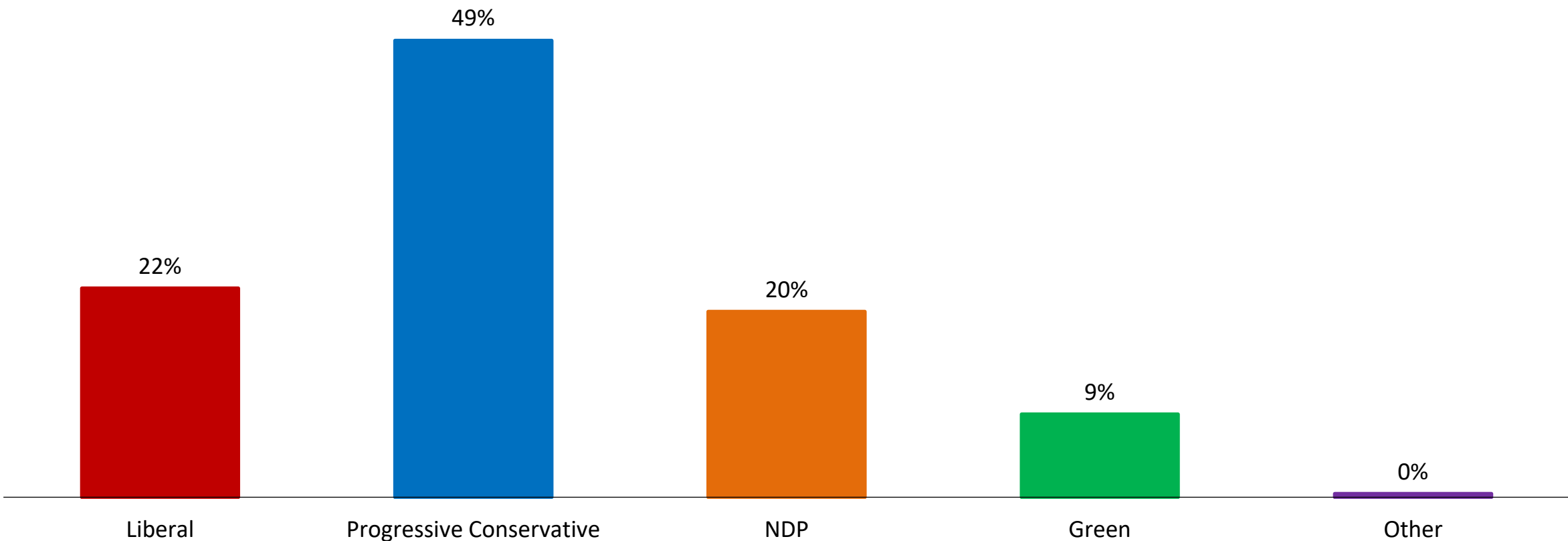
Provincial Combined Vote



# Provincial Decided Vote: Nearly half are decided on voting for the Progressive Conservatives, Liberals at 22%, NDP at 20%



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=703]

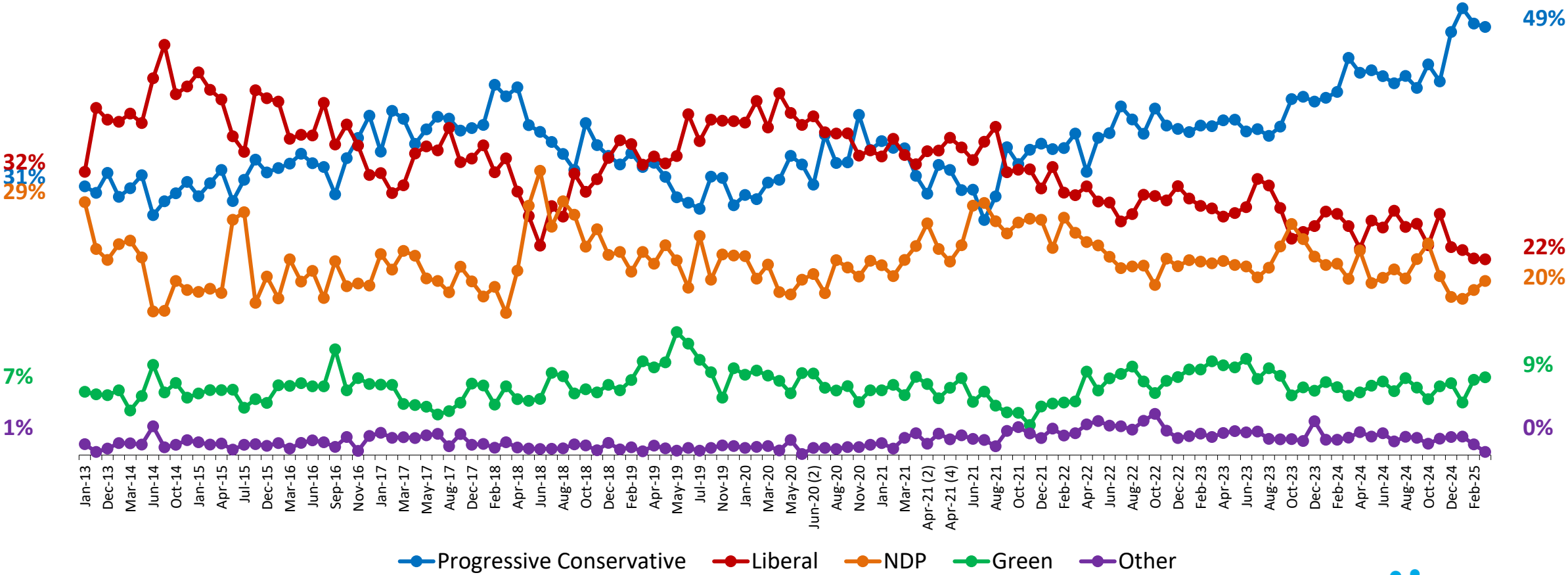




# Provincial Decided Vote Tracking: Progressive Conservatives maintain their strong lead over the other parties on decided vote



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=703]



# Decided Vote by Likelihood to Vote: PCs lead both definite and probable voters, with half, or close to half, the vote

Decided Vote by Likelihood to Vote

		Likelihood to Vote	
		Definite Voters (N=434)	Probable Voters (N=235)
Decided Vote	Liberal	25%	17%
	Progressive Conservative	50%	48%
	NDP	18%	23%
	Green	6%	12%
	Other	0%	0%

# Satisficing: Just under half (49%) of respondents would like to hear more before they make up their mind in this election

Q Which statement is closest to your view about the upcoming election?  
[asked of all respondents; n=800]



- I have heard all I need to make up my mind in this election
- I would like to hear more before I finally make up my mind in this election
- Don't Know

# Firmness of Vote: PC voters appear most firm in their vote choice, followed by the Liberals

Which statement is closest to your view about the upcoming election BY Combined Vote [Vote+Lean]

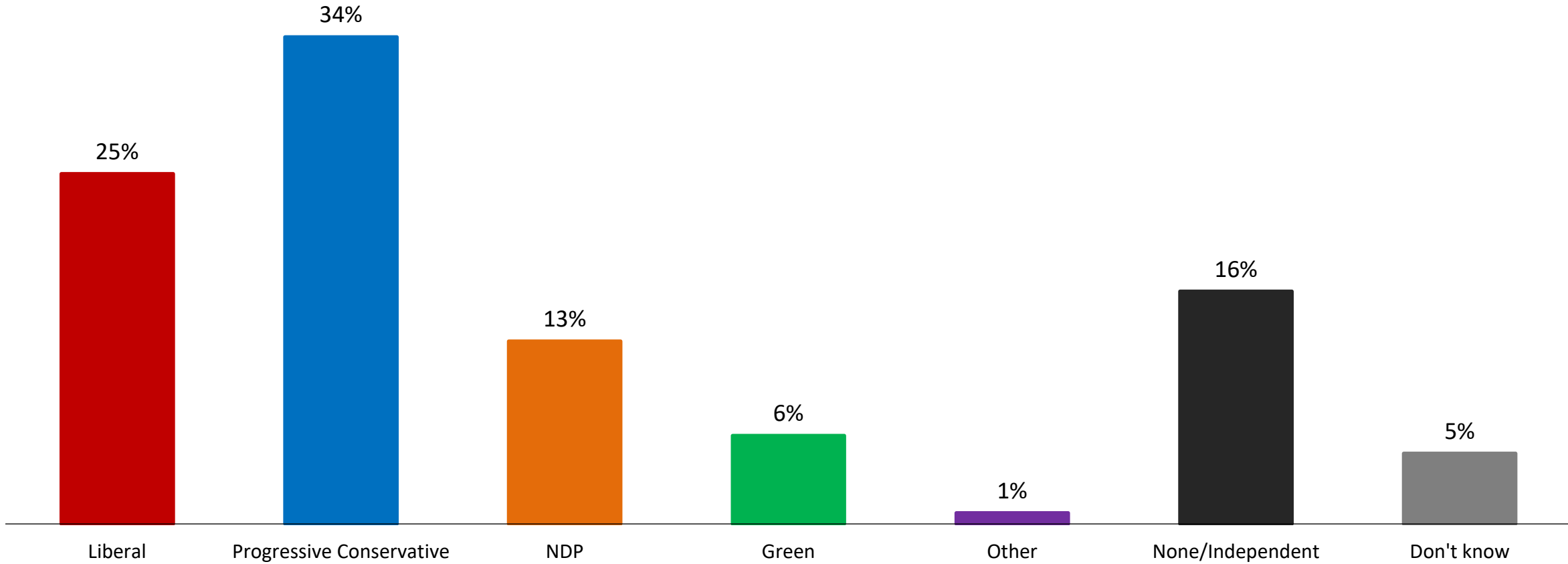
		Combined Vote			
		Liberal (N=157)	Progressive Conservative (N=342)	NDP (N=139)	Green (N=62)
Satisficing	I have heard all I need to make up my mind in this election	45%	57%	35%	38%
	I would like to hear more before I finally make up my mind in this election	54%	39%	63%	59%
	Don't know	2%	4%	2%	2%

**Note:** 'Other' in Combined Vote not shown due to insufficient sample size.  
Current data: February 2025

# Provincial Party ID: A plurality of respondents identify as a Progressive Conservative (34%), while 1-in-4 (25%) identify as a Liberal



Thinking about politics in Ontario, generally speaking, do you usually think of yourself as a...  
[asked of all respondents; n=800]



# Combined Vote by Party ID: The PCs and NDP are more successfully rallying their base than the Liberals

Provincial Party Identification

Provincial Combined Vote

	<b>Liberal</b>	<b>Progressive Conservative</b>	<b>NDP</b>	<b>Green</b>	<b>Other</b>	<b>Unaligned</b>
	(N=197)	(N=274)	(N=103)	(N=50)	(N=6)	(N=170)
<b>Liberal</b>	60%	4%	7%	12%	22%	7%
<b>Progressive Conservative</b>	17%	87%	9%	18%	54%	29%
<b>NDP</b>	10%	3%	80%	9%	8%	14%
<b>Green</b>	6%	3%	3%	58%	9%	6%
<b>Other</b>	0%	1%	0%	0%	7%	0%
<b>Undecided/DK</b>	7%	2%	1%	1%	0%	35%
<b>Would not vote/None</b>	0%	0%	0%	2%	0%	9%

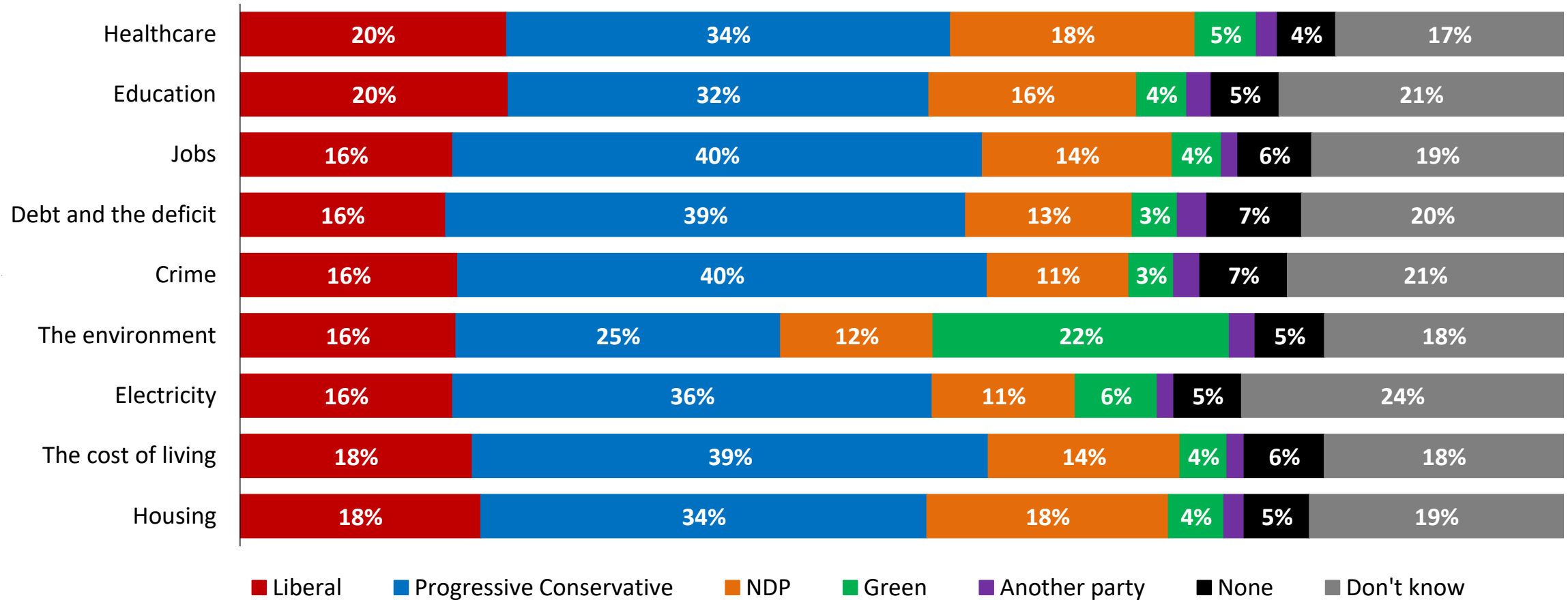
Note: Current data: February 2025

# Party Attributes: PCs lead in all issues



For each of the following issues, please indicate which party you think would do the best job of dealing with that issue or if you think none of the parties would do a good job on that issue.

[asked of all respondents; n=800]



# Leadership Favouables

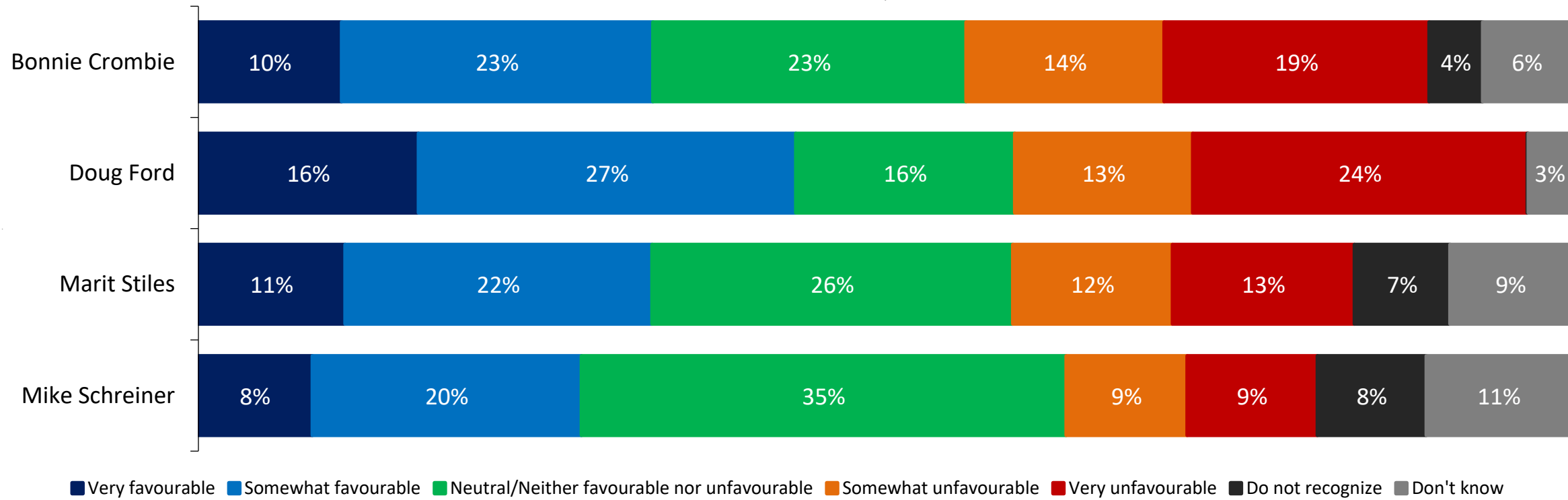


# Leader Favourables: Ford leads favourables at 43%; 16% have a very favourable impression of Ford



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.

[asked of all respondents; n=800]

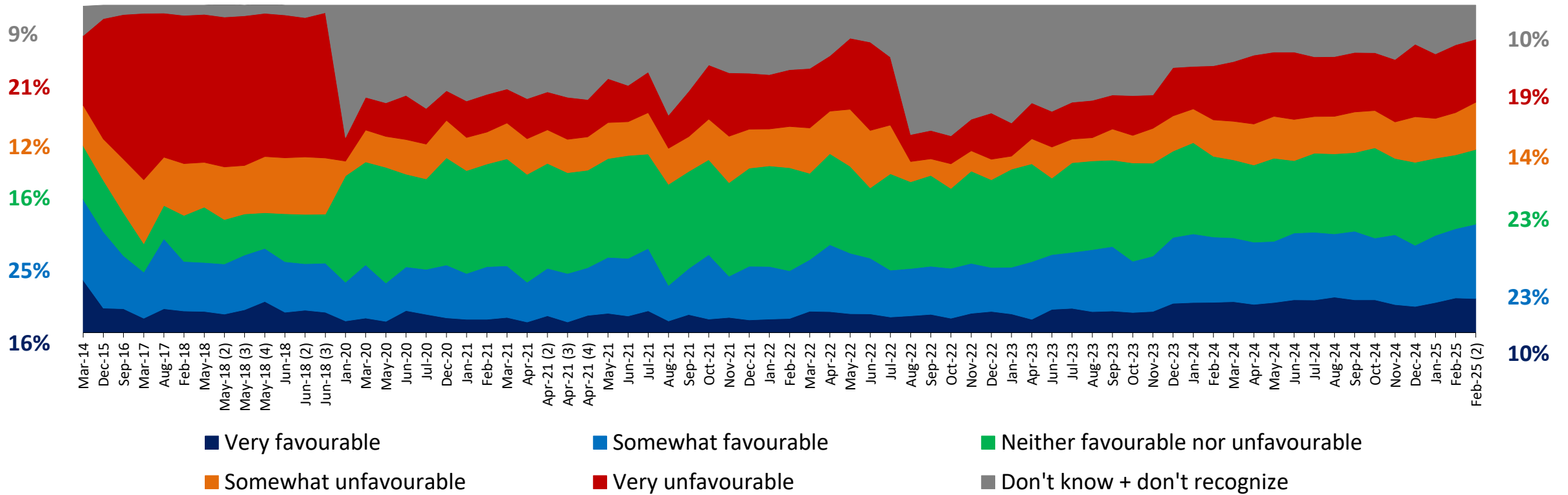


# Ontario Liberal Leader Favourability: Bonnie Crombie sees slight increase in favourability



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=800]

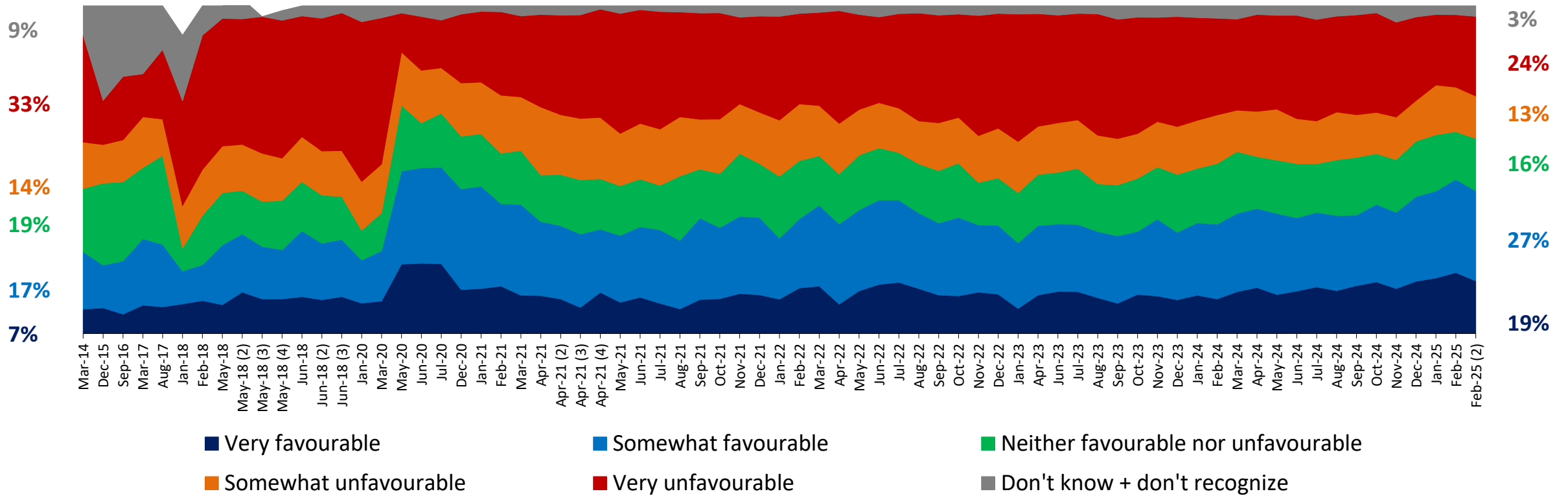


# Ontario PC Leader Favourability: Doug Ford's favourability is down slightly since the first week of February



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=800]

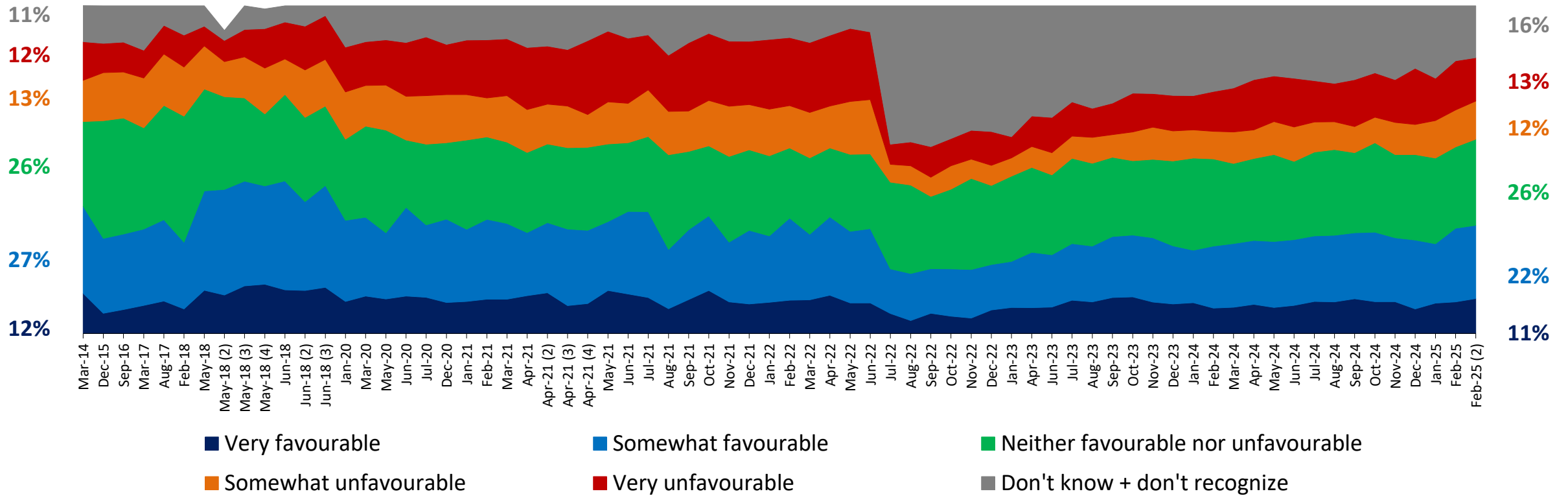


# Ontario NDP Leader Favourability: While more respondents recognize the leader than in recent years, favourability remains largely stagnant



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=800]

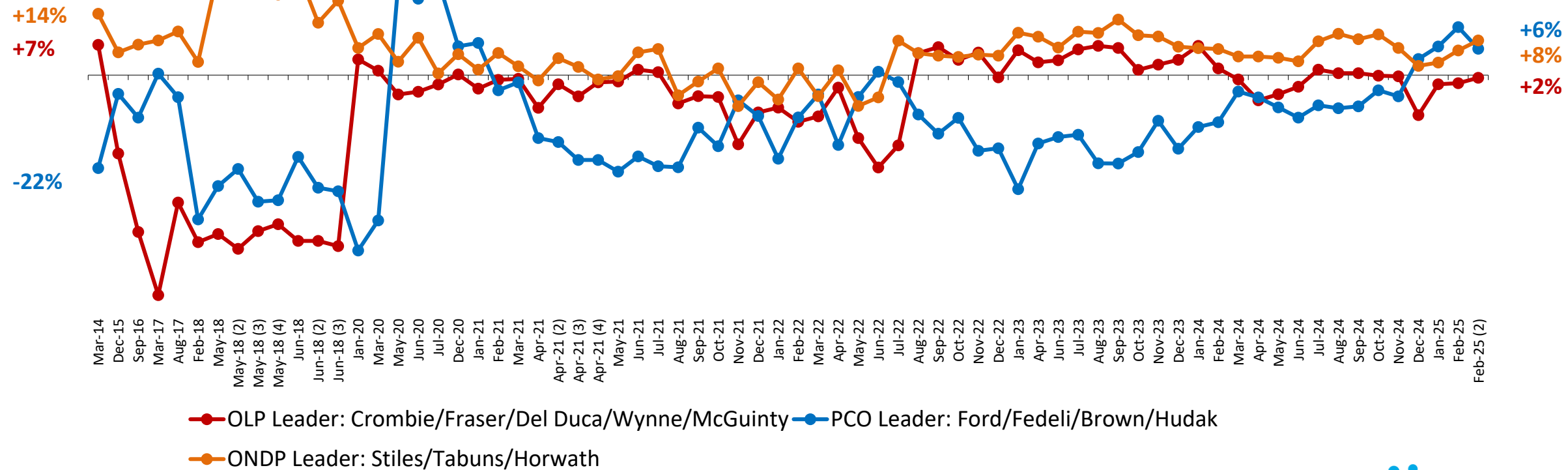


# Ontario Party Leader NET Favourables Tracking: Ford sees a decline in net favourability, down 5 points



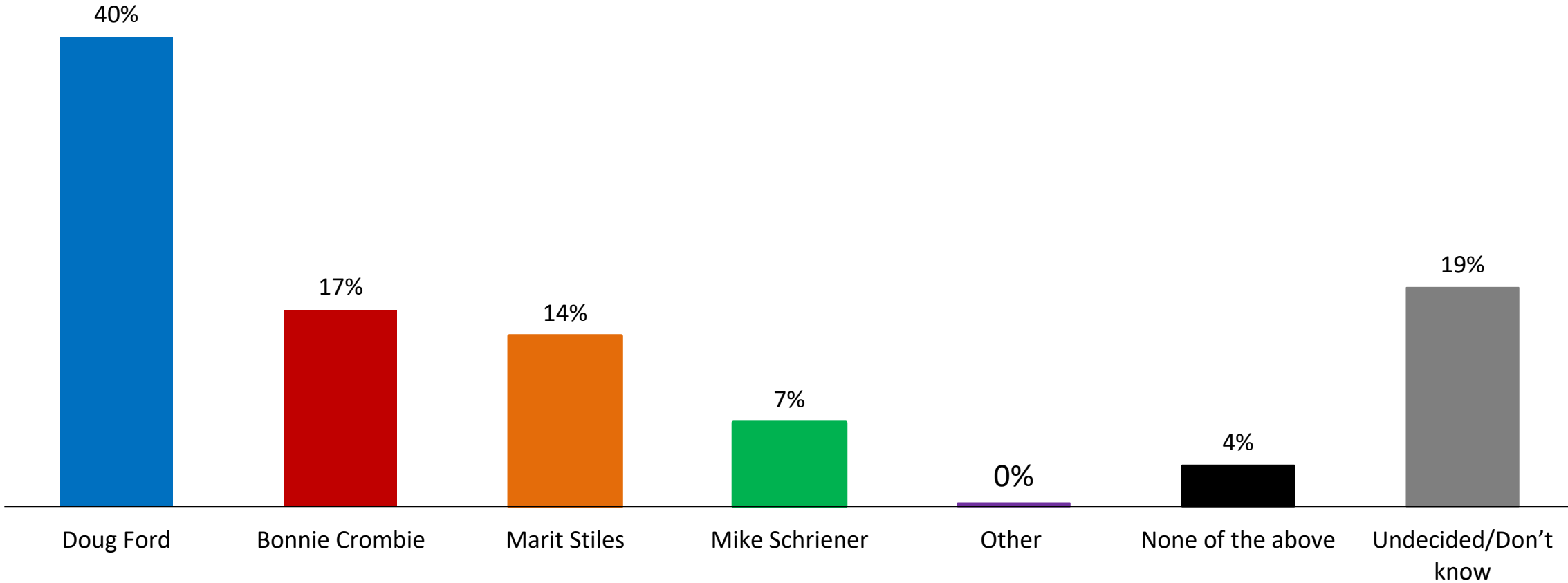
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[asked of all respondents; n=800]



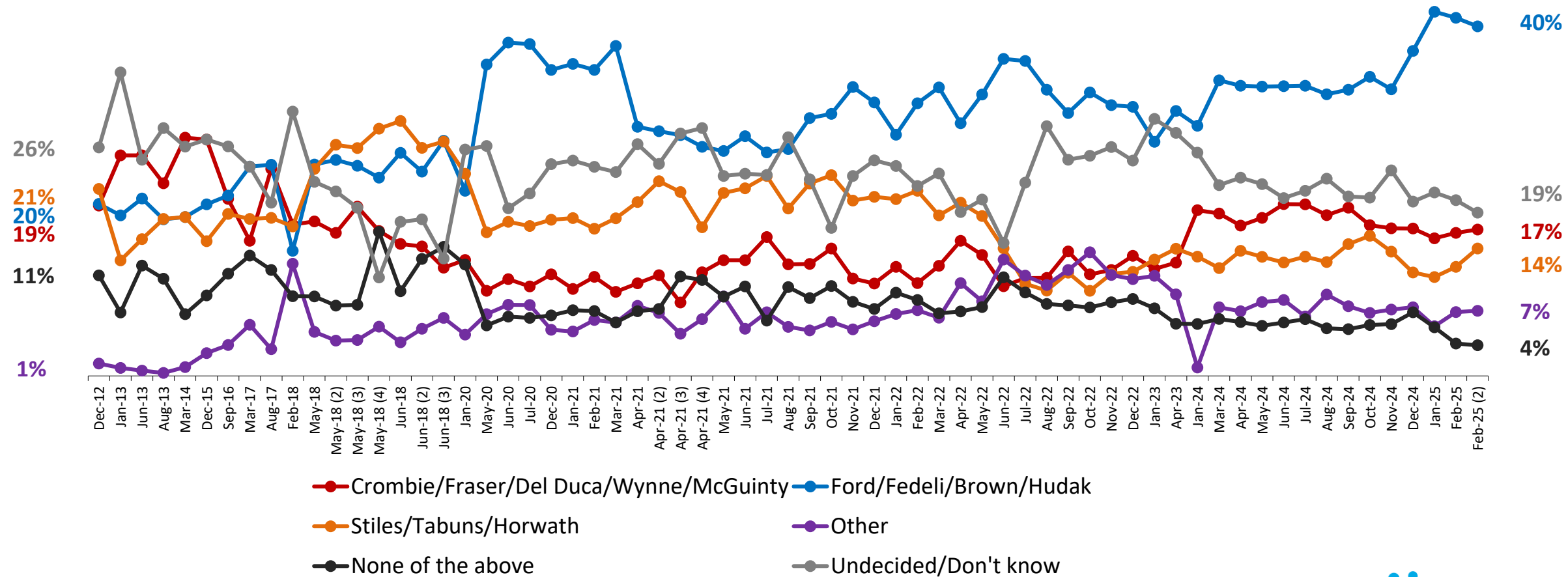
# Best Premier: 40% think Doug Ford would make the best premier, compared to 17% for Crombie and 14% for Stiles; 19% don't know

Q Which of the following leaders would make the best Premier of Ontario?  
[decided voters only; n=800]



# Best Premier Tracking: Ford has built his strong lead as best premier since undecided peaked in January 2023

Q Which of the following leaders would make the best Premier of [PROV]?  
 [asked of all respondents; n=800]

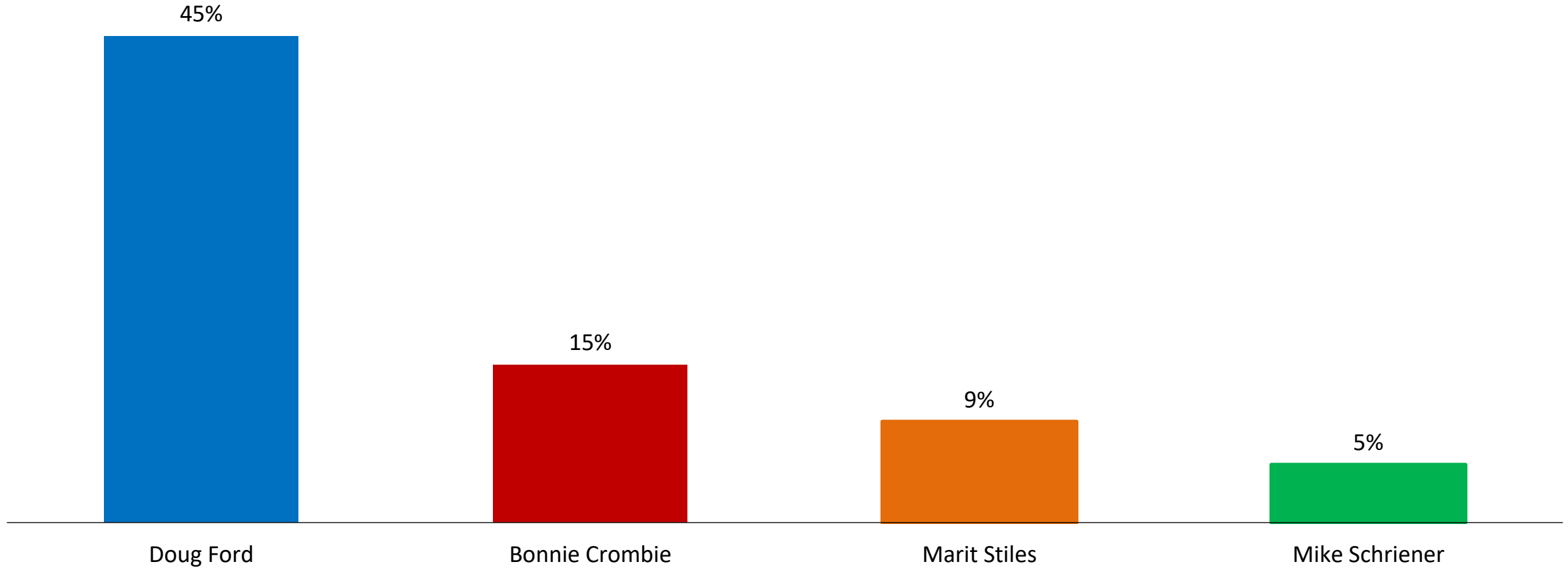


# Best Leader to Deal With Trump: At 45%, Ford is considered the best leader to respond to the tariff threats



Which of the following leaders would be best suited to respond to the tariff threats posed by US President Donald Trump?

[decided voters only; n=800]



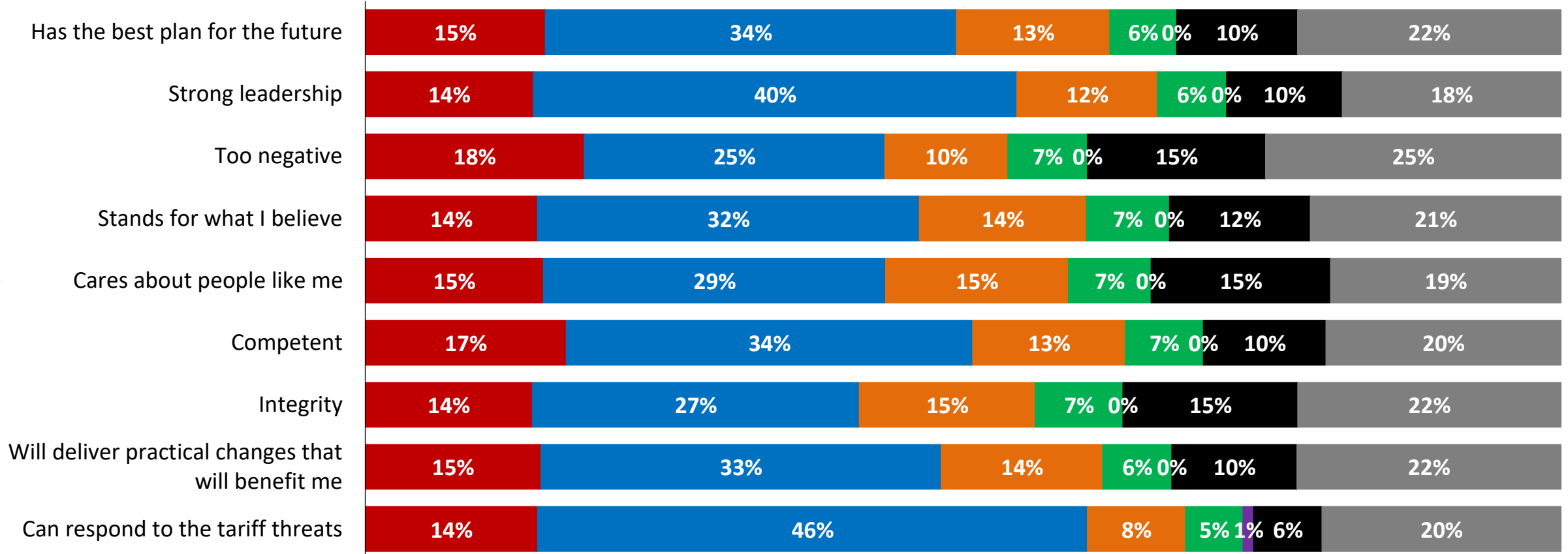


# Leader Attributes: Ford outperforms opponents in all attributes, particularly on 'strong leadership' and 'can respond to tariffs'



Now we would like you to read a list of different words or phrases that describe some political leaders. For each word or phrase, please indicate who it BEST describes.

[asked of all respondents; n=800]



■ Bonnie Crombie, leader of the Ontario Liberal Party
 ■ Doug Ford, leader of the Ontario PC Party
 ■ Marit Stiles, leader of the Ontario NDP
 ■ Mike Schreiner, leader of the Ontario Green Party
 ■ Other
 ■ None
 ■ Undecided

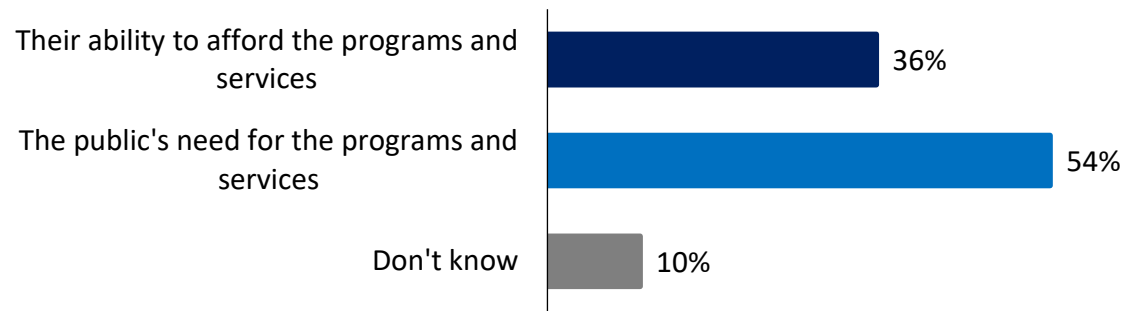
Current data: February 2025

Note: 'Other' only provided as an option for the question "Which of the following leaders would be best suited to respond to the tariff threats posed by US President Donald Trump?"

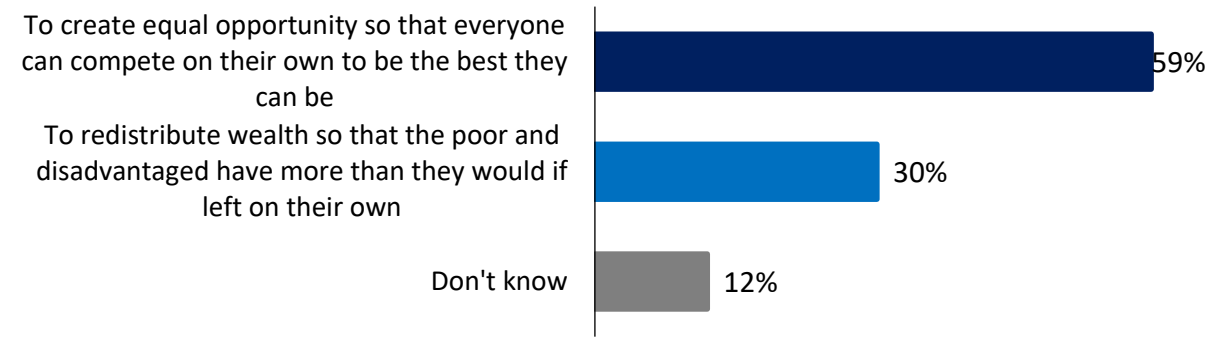
# Segmentations

# Core Political Values: 3-in-5 think the main role of govt is creating equal opportunity, half (53%) think govt listens to experts too often

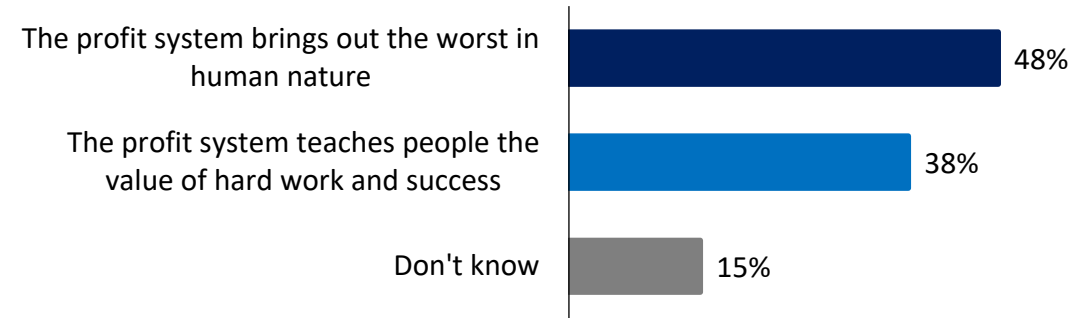
**Q** When governments make major decisions concerning spending on programs and services, do you think they should be basing their decisions mainly on...?  
[asked of all respondents; n=800]



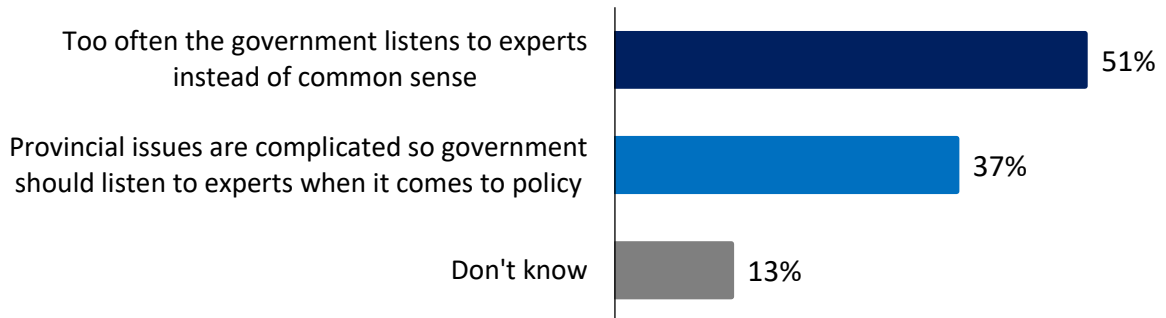
**Q** Is the main role of government to...?  
[asked of all respondents; n=800]



**Q** Which of the following statements comes closest to your view?  
[asked of all respondents; n=800]



**Q** When it comes to government decision making, which of the following statements is closest to your view?  
[asked of all respondents; n=800]

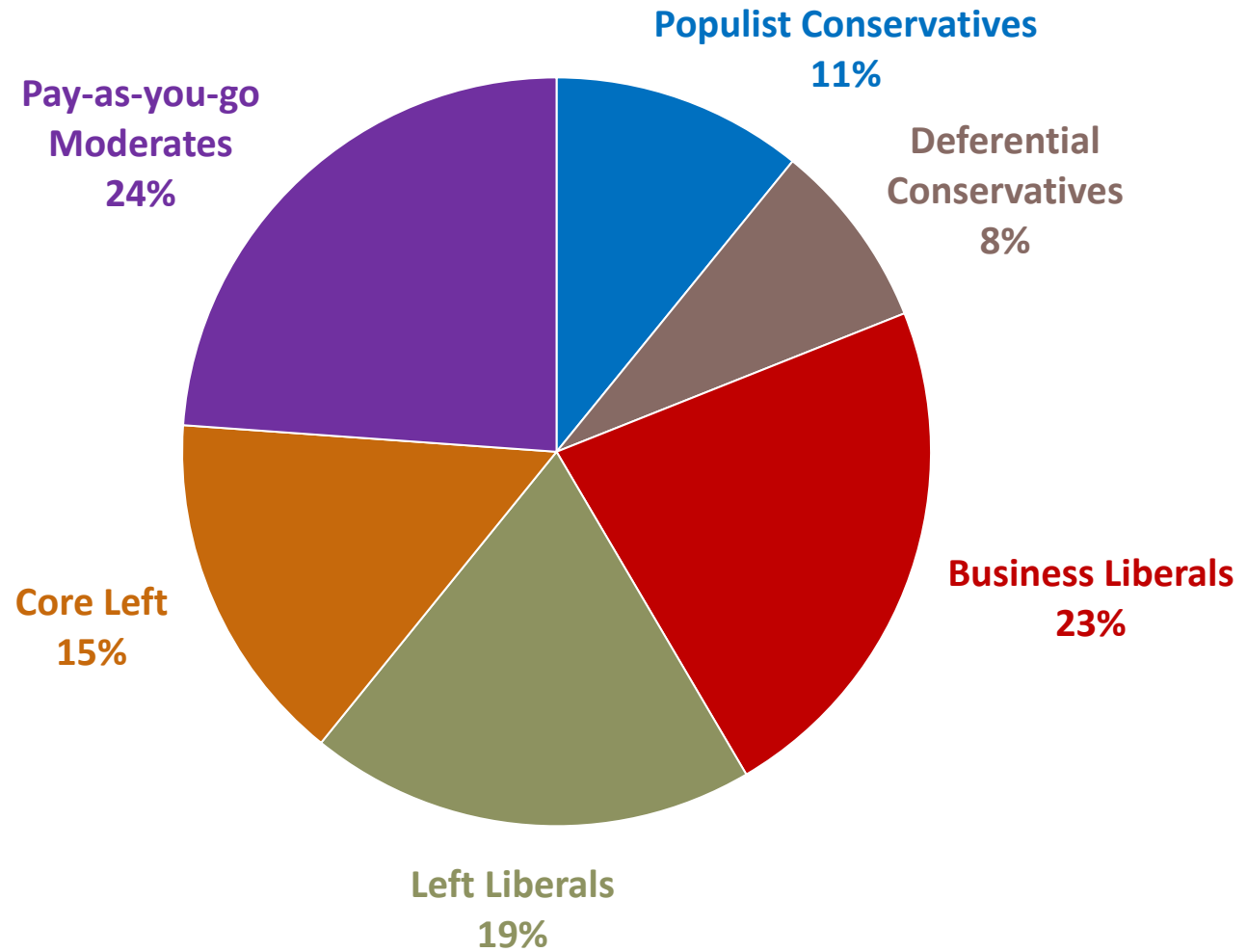


# Value Clusters: 23% of Ontarians are Business Liberals and 24% are Pay-as-you-go Moderates



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=800]



# Defining Value Clusters: Business Liberals think govt decisions should be needs-based, while Pay-as-you-go Moderates prioritize affordability

Core Political Values by Value Clusters

Column %		Populist Conservatives	Deferential Conservatives	Business Liberals	Left Liberals	Core Left	Pay-as-you-go Moderates
Governments should base decisions on...	Ability to afford	86%	90%	0%	0%	0%	79%
	Public Need	0%	0%	96%	94%	96%	0%
Is the main role of government to...?	Create equal opportunity	98%	75%	64%	94%	0%	38%
	Redistribute wealth	0%	18%	24%	0%	94%	35%
When it comes to government decision making...	Rely on common sense	100%	0%	37%	62%	42%	55%
	Listen to experts	0%	87%	53%	32%	47%	18%
The profit system...	Brings out the worst in human nature	0%	0%	0%	90%	90%	69%
	Teaches value of hard work and success	84%	88%	86%	0%	0%	9%

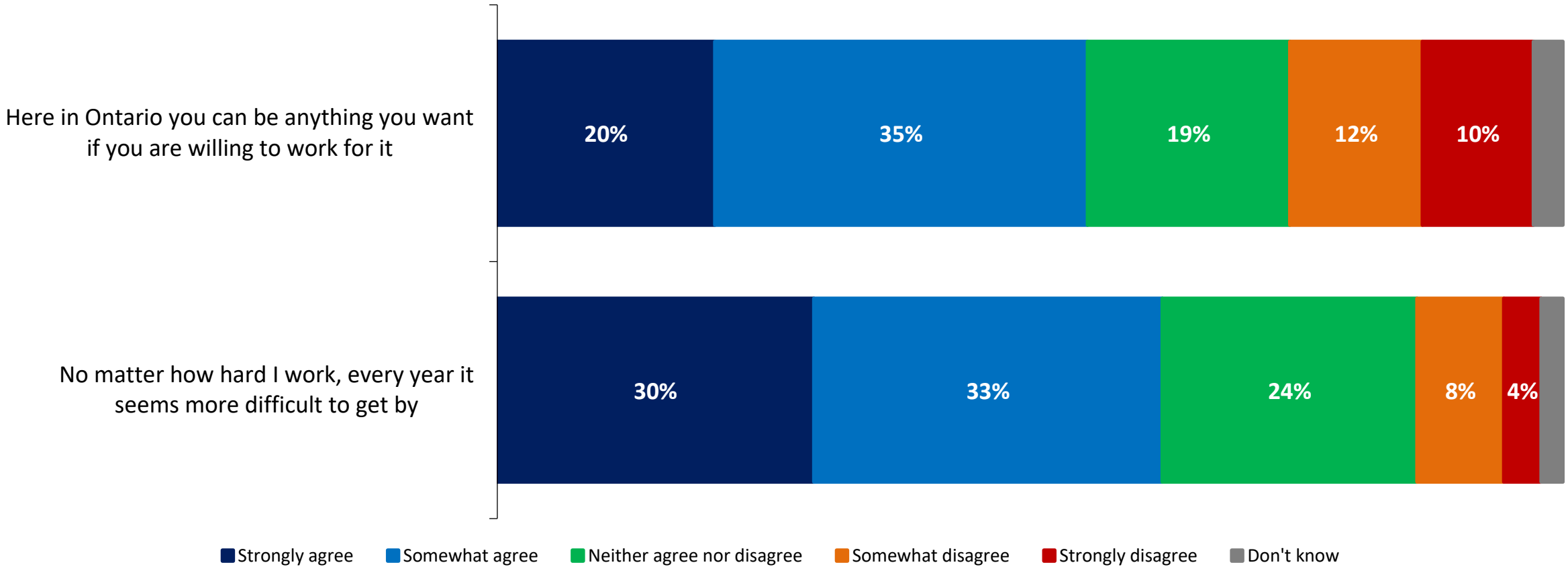
Current data: February 2025

# Economic Gap Segmentation: 63% agree that getting by seems more difficult every year, while 55% agree that you can anything with work



Do you agree or disagree with the following statements?

[asked of all respondents; n=800]

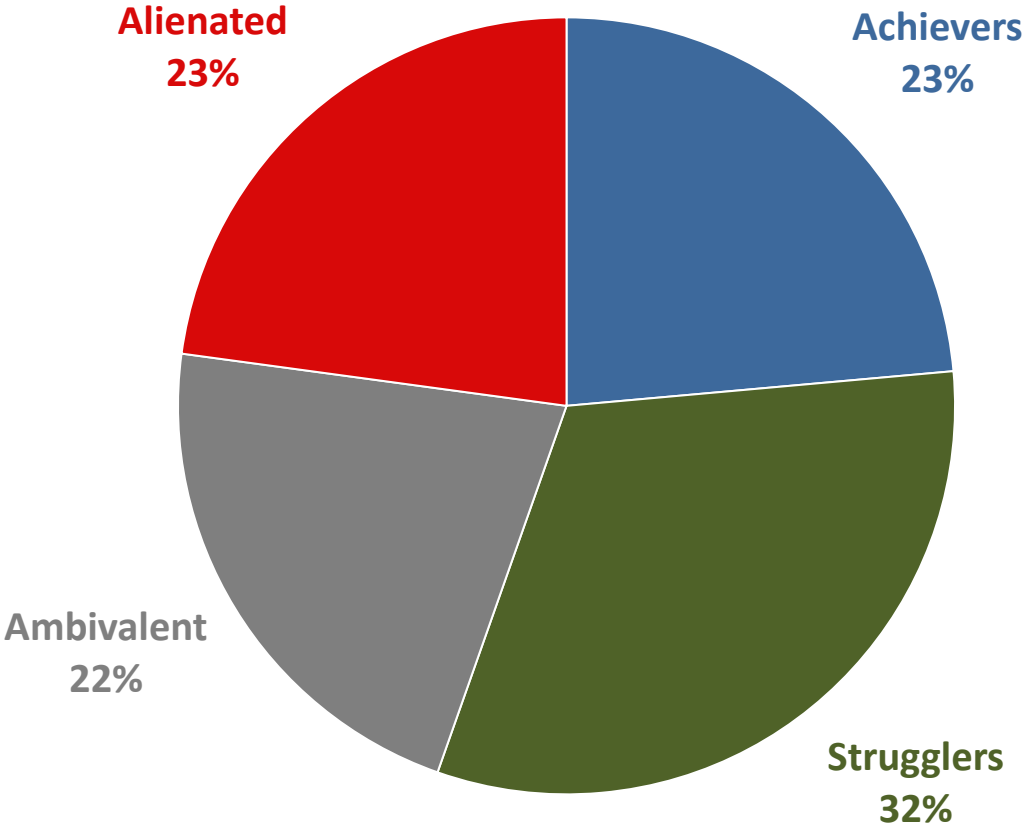


# Economic Gap Segmentation: About 1-in-3 (32%) Ontarians are Strugglers; Achievers (23%) and Alienated (23%) are nearly equal



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=800]

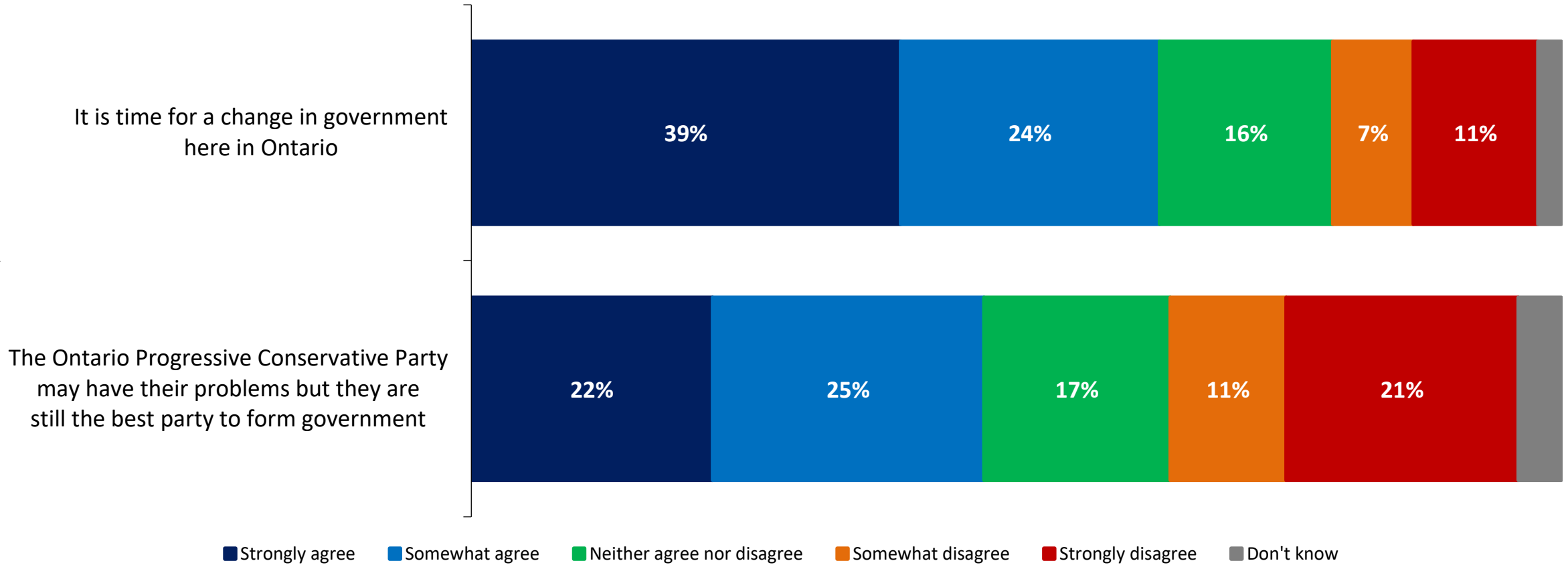


# Time for Change Attitudes: 3-in-5 (63%) think it is time for a change in govt, while 47% think the PCs are still the best party to form govt



Do you agree or disagree with the following statements?

[asked of all respondents; n=800]



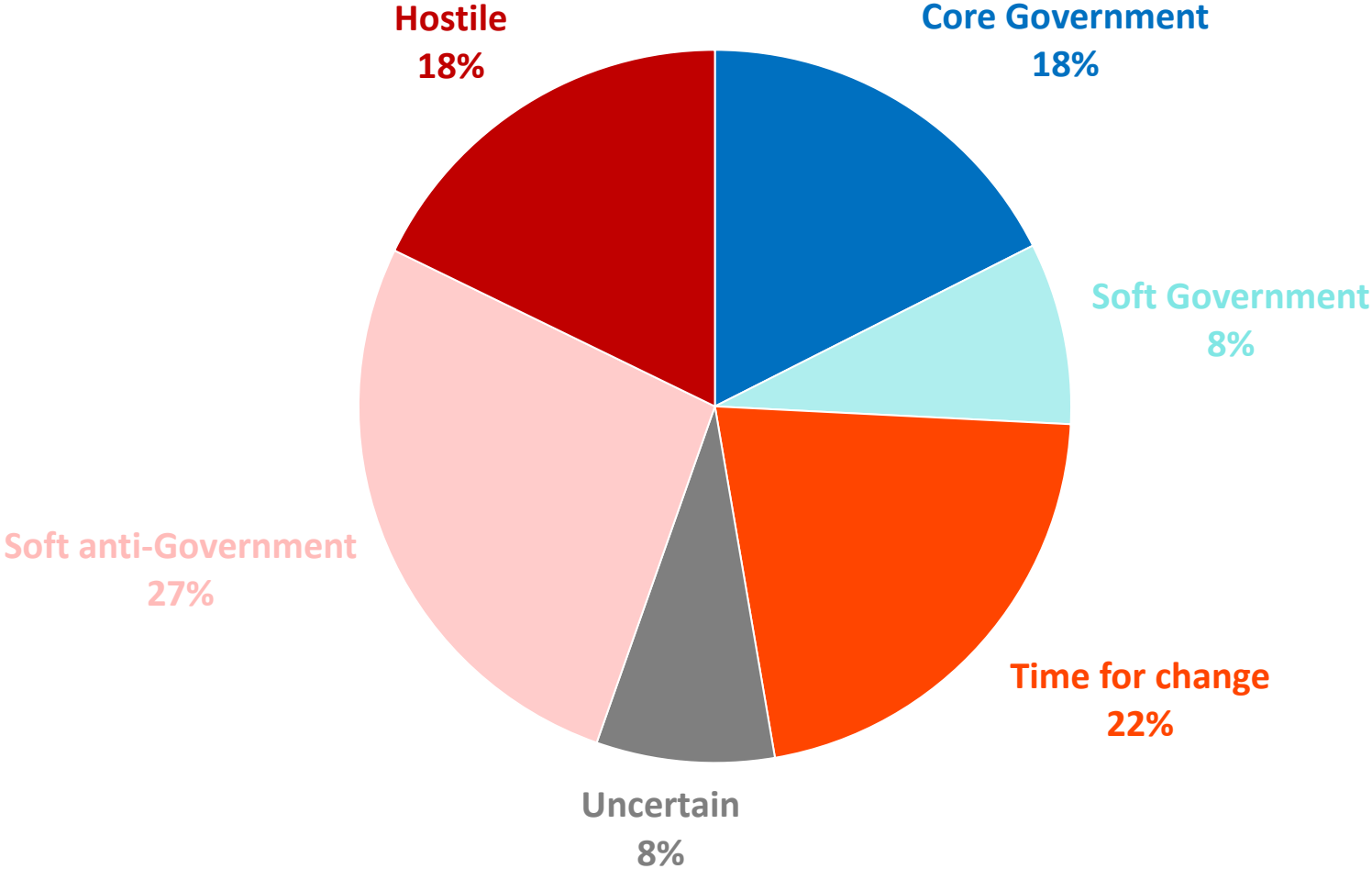


# Time for Change Segmentation: The share of those who are Core Government (19%) and Hostile (18%) are nearly equal



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=800]



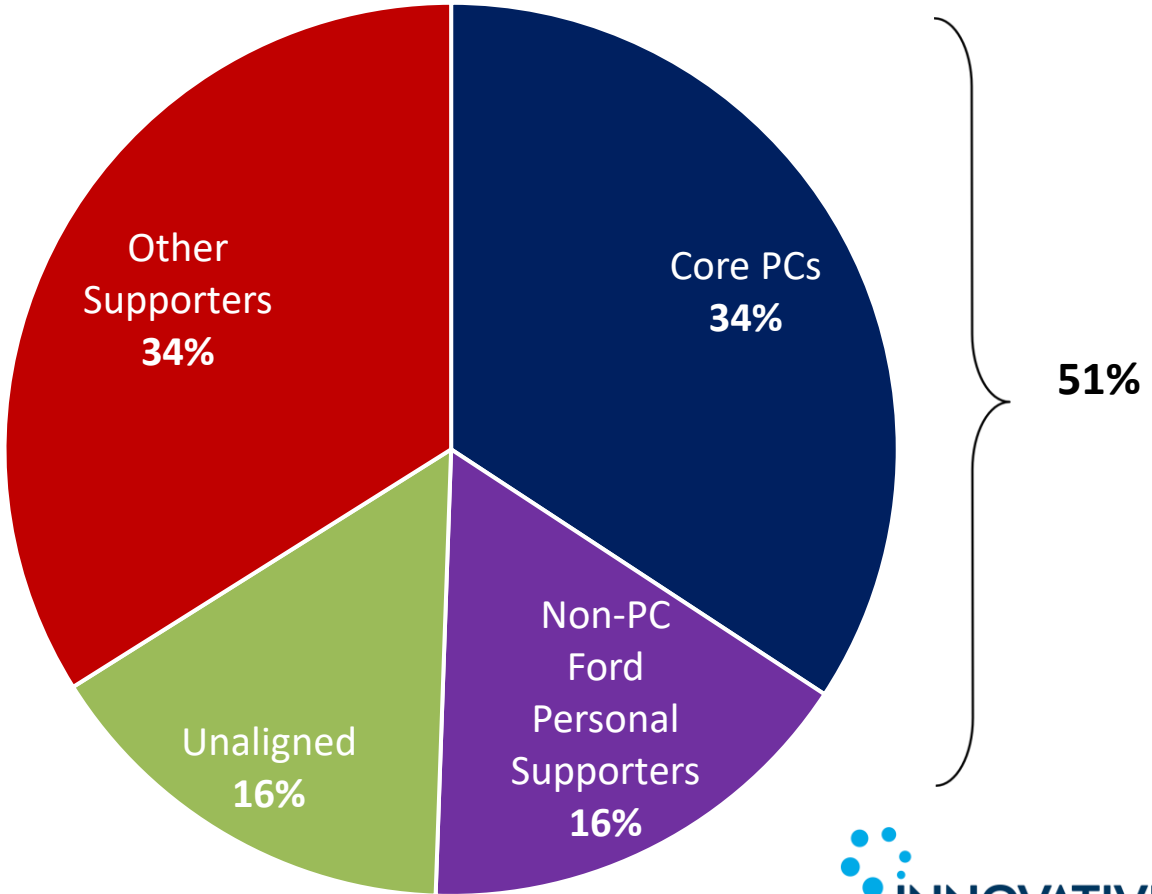
# Ford Personal Vote: More than half are Ford supporters, including 16% who have a positive impression of Ford, but are not PC identifiers



Respondents are grouped according to their impression of Doug Ford **BY Provincial Party ID** and **Doug Ford Impression**  
 [asked of all respondents; n=800]

*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



# Methodology

# Ontario Weights: Age, gender, and region

Results for Ontario are weighted by age, gender, region, education, and self-reported federal past vote 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 (%)
M 18-34	82	9.8%	110	13.9%
M 35-54	122	14.6%	122	15.3%
M 55+	190	22.8%	152	19.1%
W 18-34	100	12.0%	107	13.4%
W 35-54	141	16.9%	131	16.4%
W 55+	200	24.0%	175	21.9%
Toronto	177	21.1%	162	20.3%
Rest of GTA	214	25.5%	205	25.7%
South/West	227	27.1%	214	26.7%
North/East	220	26.3%	219	27.4%

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