



Roads to Victory: The Ontario Political Landscape



Prepared for:



March 28, 2014

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Overview

This presentation combines results from two surveys:

Ontario This Month

- An RDD sample of 600 households with listed telephone numbers, conducted March 15th to 25th, 2014
- Can be generalised using sampling theory
- Allows us to identify ridings from sample
- Weakness: No coverage of cell only households
- We also created a combined database of 4,800 telephone interviews completed since Premier Wynne took office to look at regional results.

Canada 20/20

- A representative online sample of 1,017 conducted March 21st to 26th, 2014
- Weakness: Margin of error not applicable, not a random sample
- More cost effective, allows for deeper insight

We use telephone data for incidence and online data for insights.

Margins of Error

Ontario This Month

- Total sample: n=600, margin of error ± 4.0 percentage points, 19 times out of 20.
- Regional sample sizes from combined database of 4800 telephone interviews completed since Premier Wynne took office in February 2013:
 - Toronto Centre: n=538, margin of error $\pm 4.2\%$
 - Outer Toronto: n=491, margin of error $\pm 4.4\%$
 - West Metro Belt: n=617, margin of error $\pm 4.0\%$
 - North/East Metro Belt: n=590, margin of error $\pm 4.0\%$
 - South West Ontario: n=547, margin of error $\pm 4.2\%$
 - South Central Ontario: n=724, margin of error $\pm 3.6\%$
 - Eastern Ontario: n=631, margin of error $\pm 3.9\%$
 - Central Ontario: n=362, margin of error $\pm 5.2\%$
 - Northern Ontario: n=320, margin of error $\pm 5.5\%$

Canada 20/20

- Margin of error not applicable, not a random sample

The Key Question for Campaign Strategy

Who will vote for you and why?

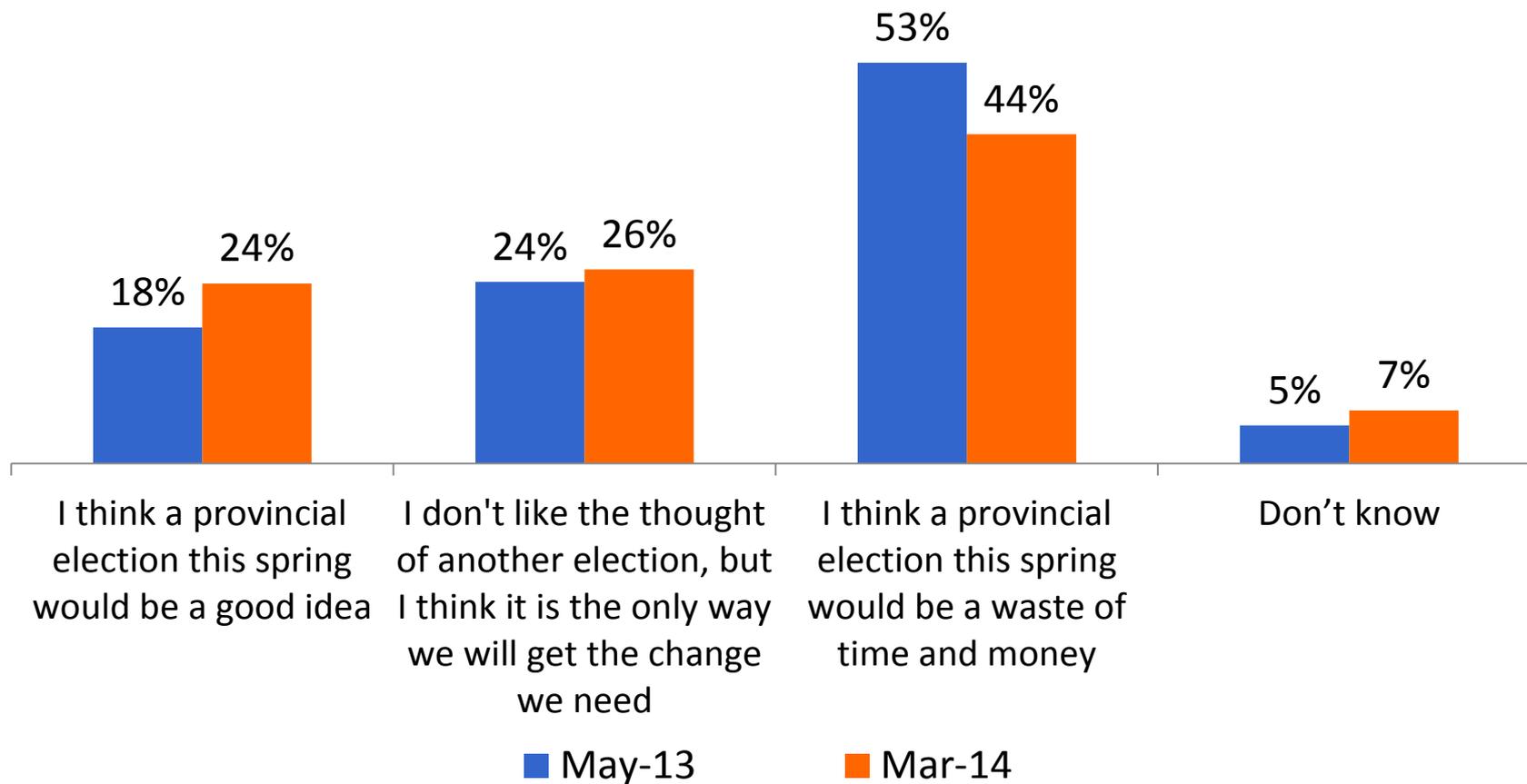
Should your focus be on:

- Your party?
- Your leader?
- Your problems?
- Your solutions?
- Your character?

The Horse Race

A 6 point increase over last year in the proportion who feel a spring election would be a good idea

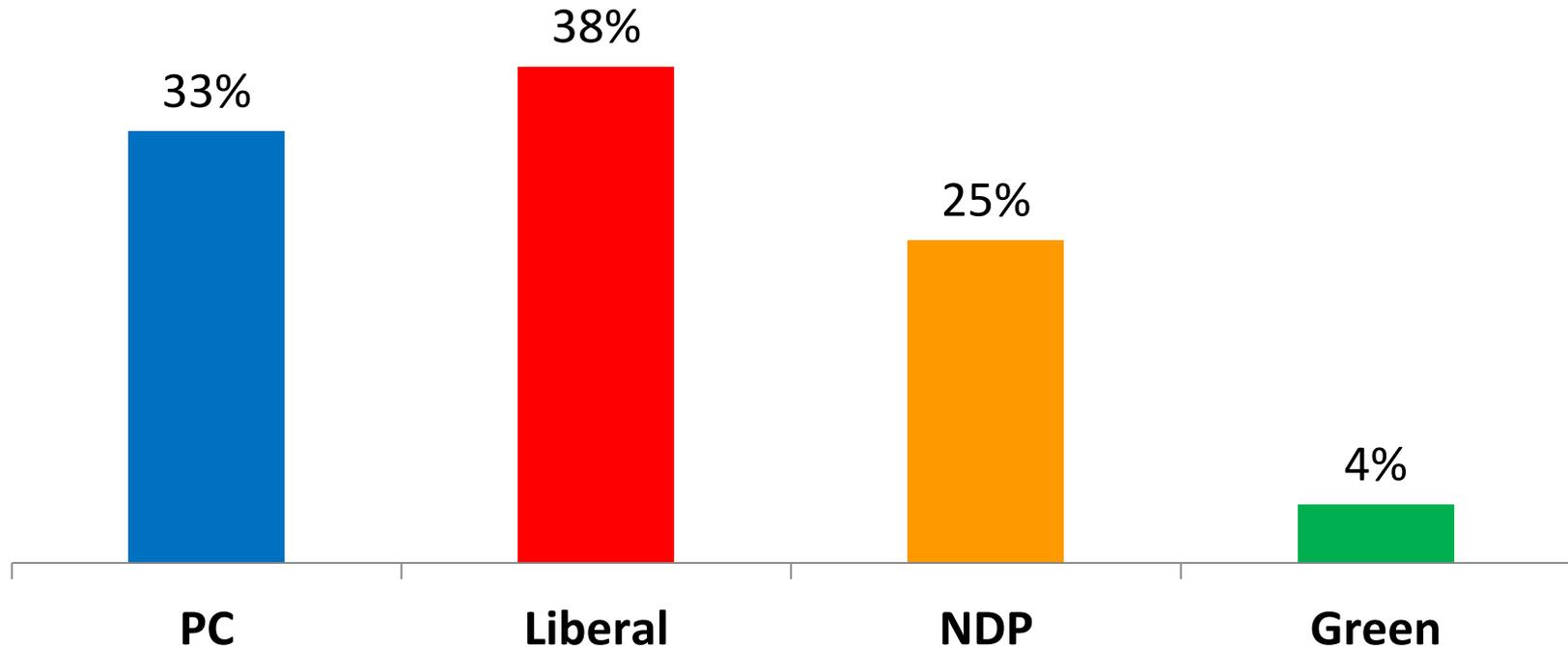
Q There has been some talk about the opposition parties voting against the minority government in Ontario and causing an election this spring. Which of the following statements is closest to your point of view about a possible provincial election?



Liberals 5 points ahead of PC, followed by NDP

Q If a provincial election were held today, which party would you vote for: the Progressive Conservative Party, the Liberal Party, the New Democratic Party, the Green Party or another party?

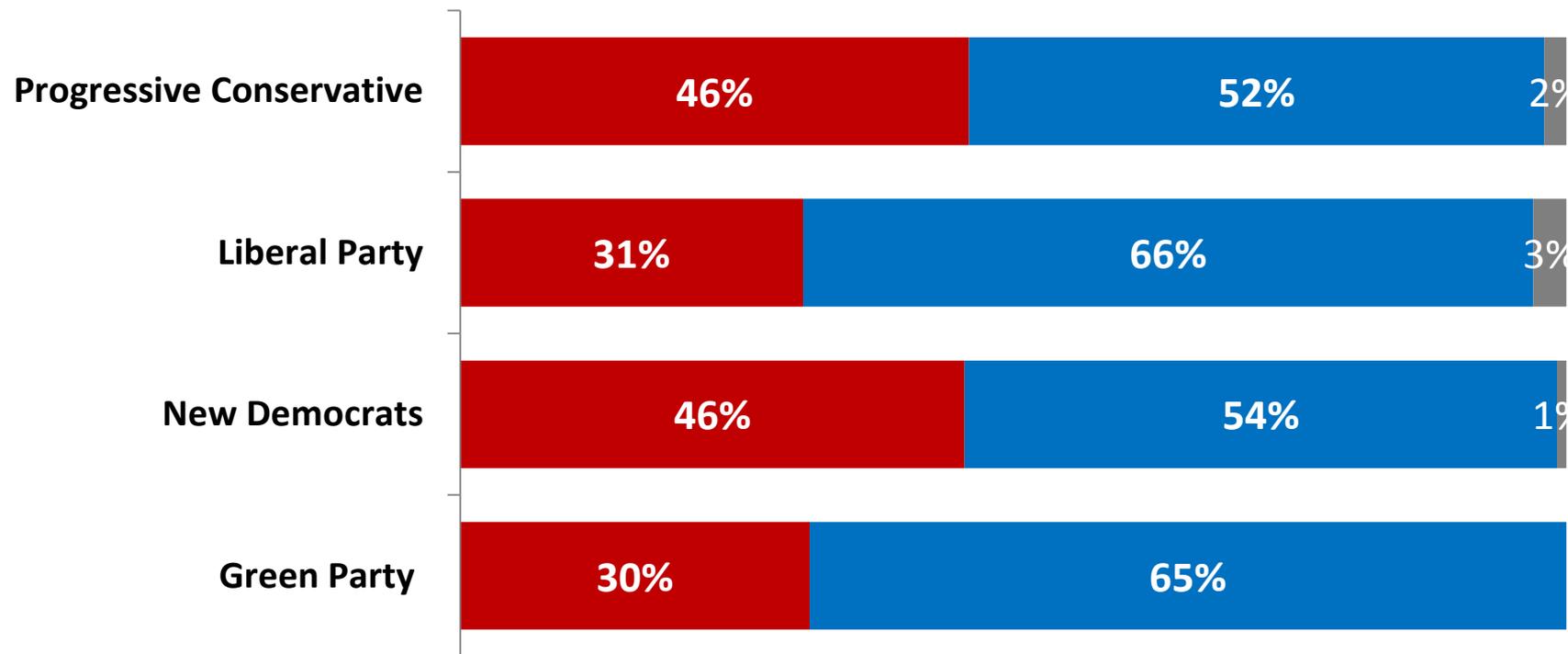
[Provincial Decided Vote]



Most voters would like to hear more before making up their mind, Liberals most open to change

Q Which point of view is closest to your own?

(by Decided Vote)

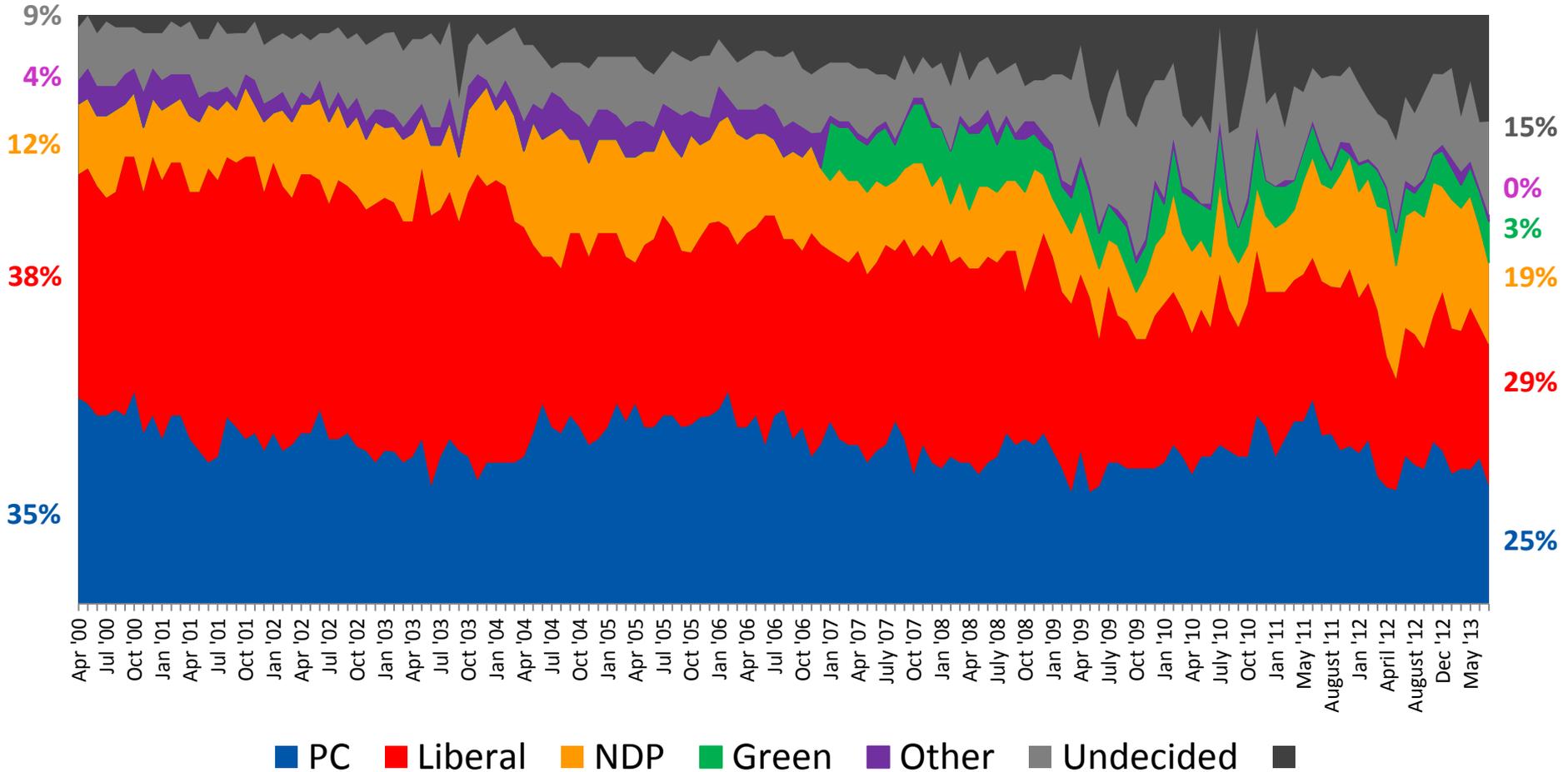


- I have heard all I need to make up my mind in this election
- I would like to hear more before I finally make up my mind in this election
- Don't know

Note: 'Refused/None/Would not vote' (5%) not shown

All parties eye the increasing size of the unaligned vote

Q If a provincial election were held today, which party would you vote for: the Progressive Conservative Party, the Liberal Party, the New Democratic Party, the Green Party or another party?... In that case, which party's candidate do you lean toward slightly? **[Vote + Lean]**



Counting Seats, Not Votes

Winners count seats, not votes

2011 Federal Results

Party	Vote Share	Seats	Seat Share
Conservatvies	44.4	73	69%
Liberals	25.3	11	10%
NDP	25.6	22	21%

2011 Provincial Results

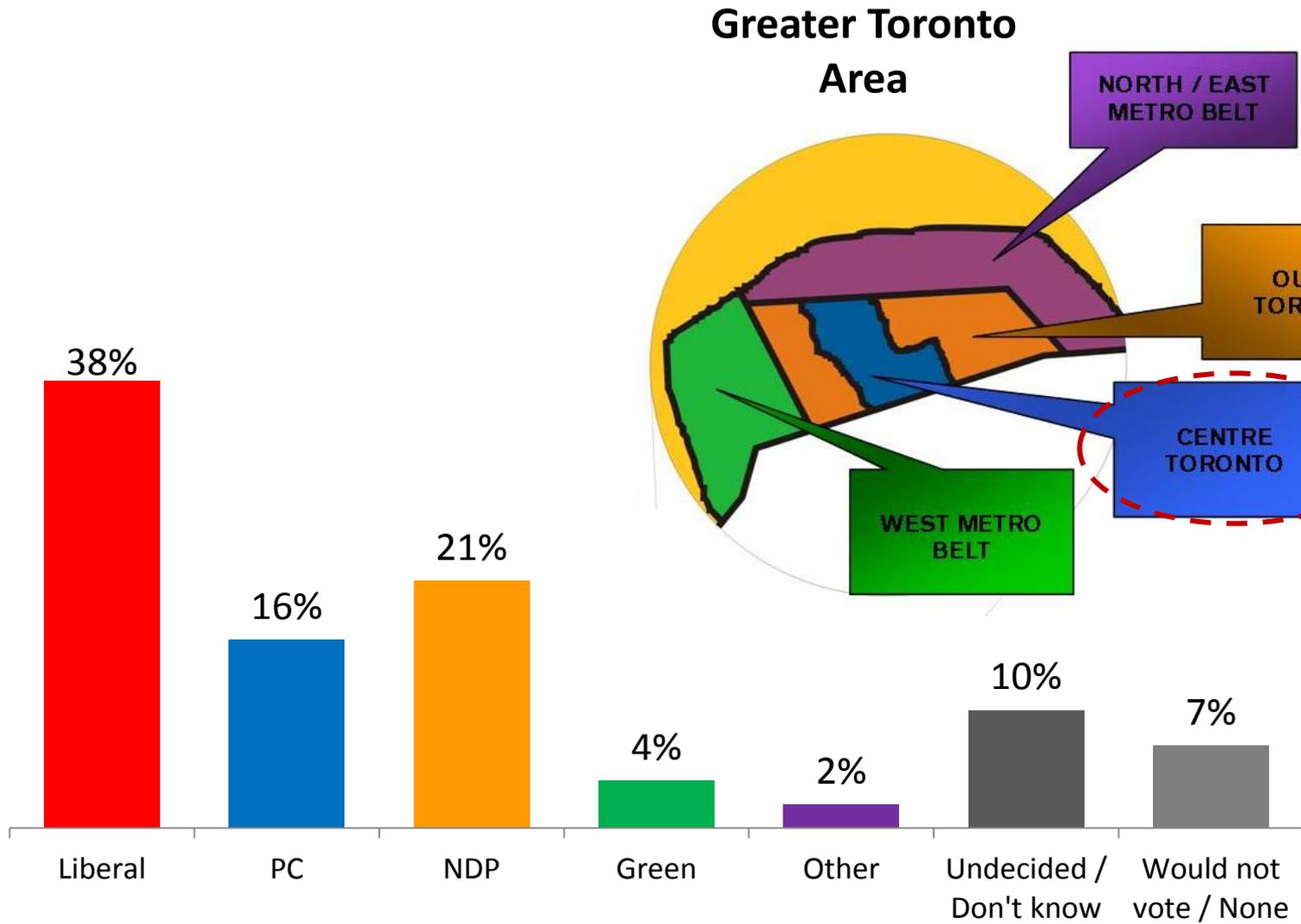
Party	Vote Share	Seats	Seat Share
PC	35.4	37	35%
Liberal	37.5	53	50%
NDP	22.8	17	16%

The PCs and NDP need big local turn-arounds to surpass the Liberals in seats

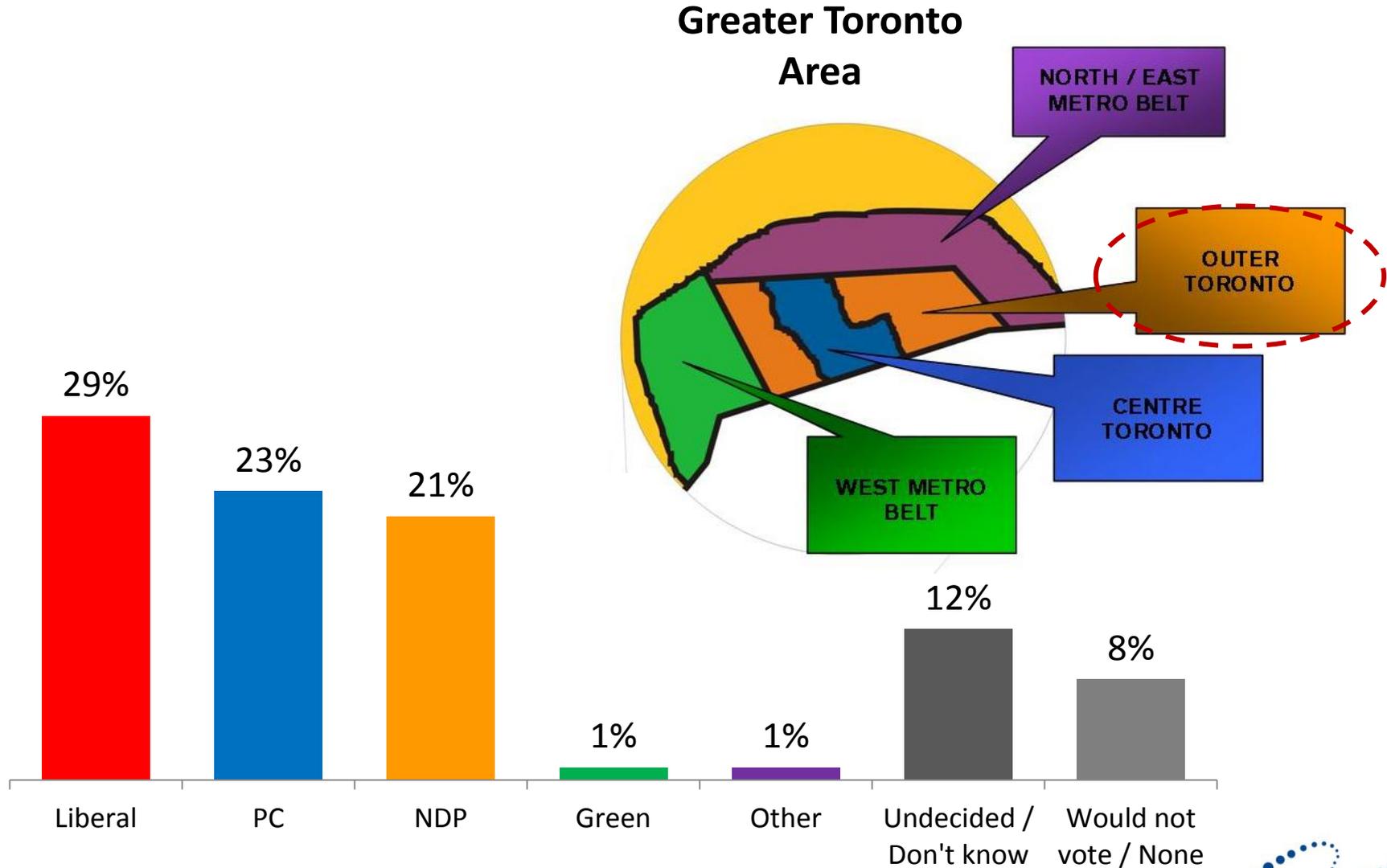
Swing Seats < 10%

Potential Gains	Party	Potential Losses
14	PC	12
15	Liberal	17
5	NDP	5

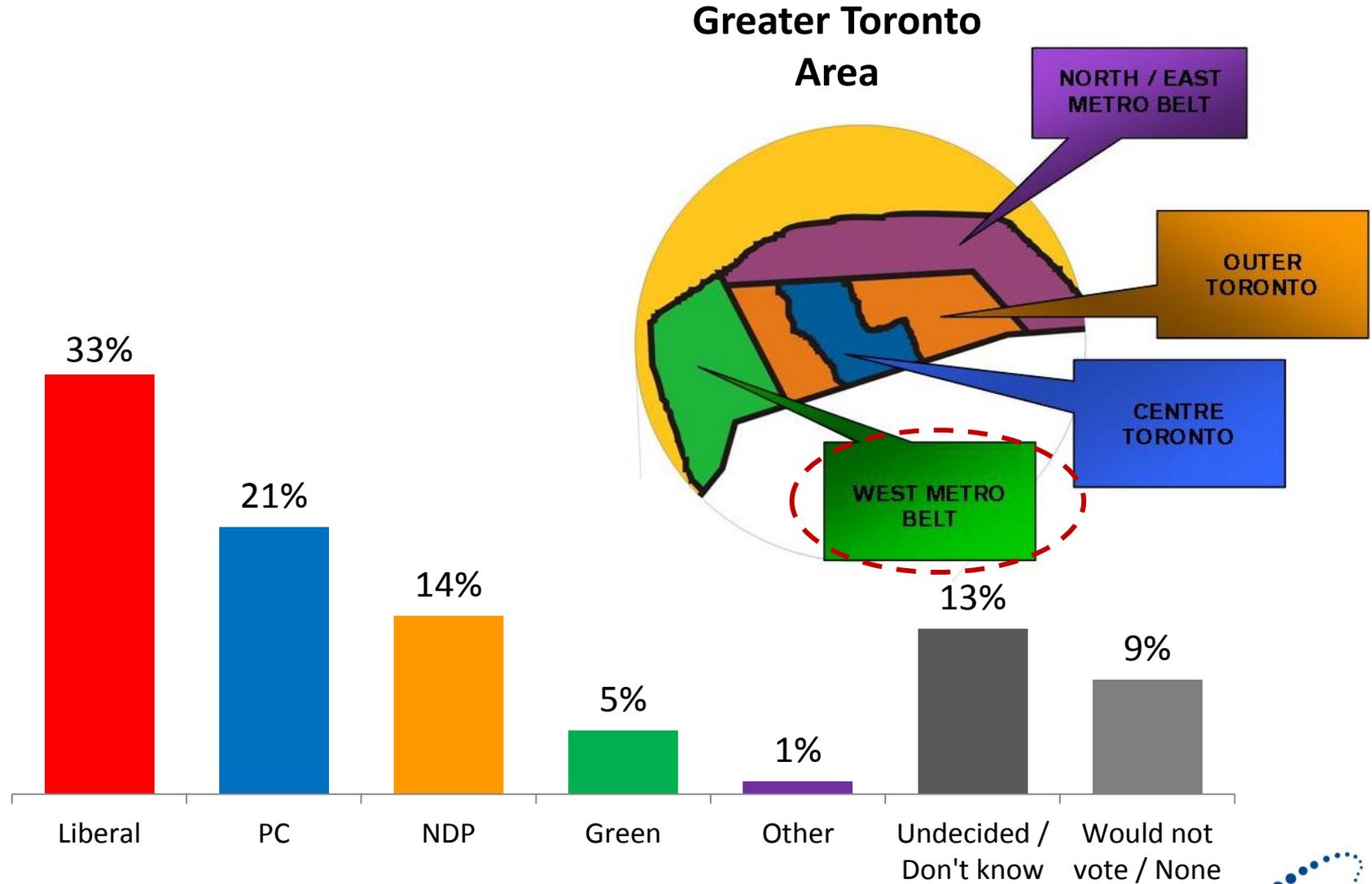
Vote Intent by Region: Centre Toronto



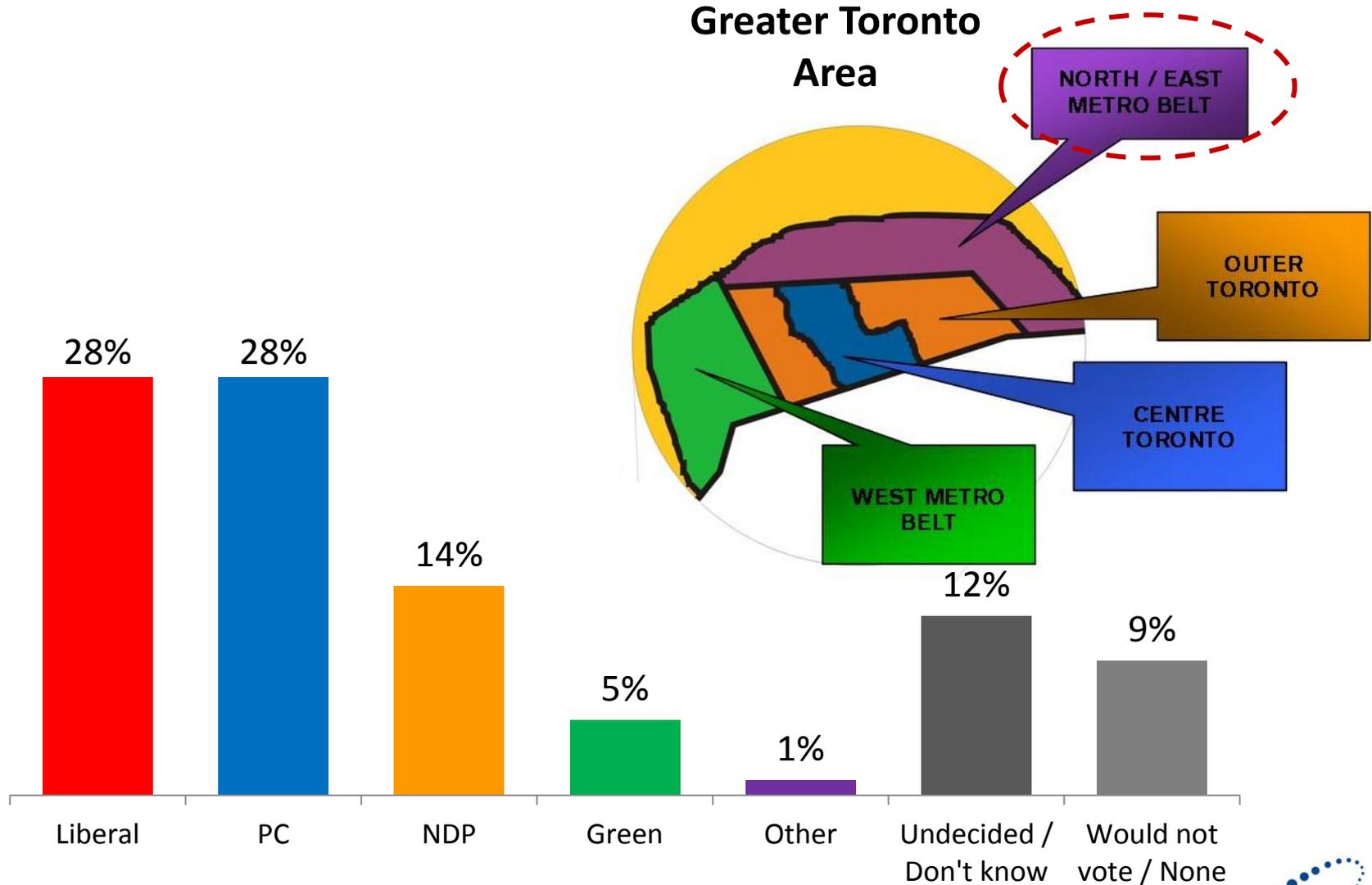
Vote Intent by Region: Outer Toronto



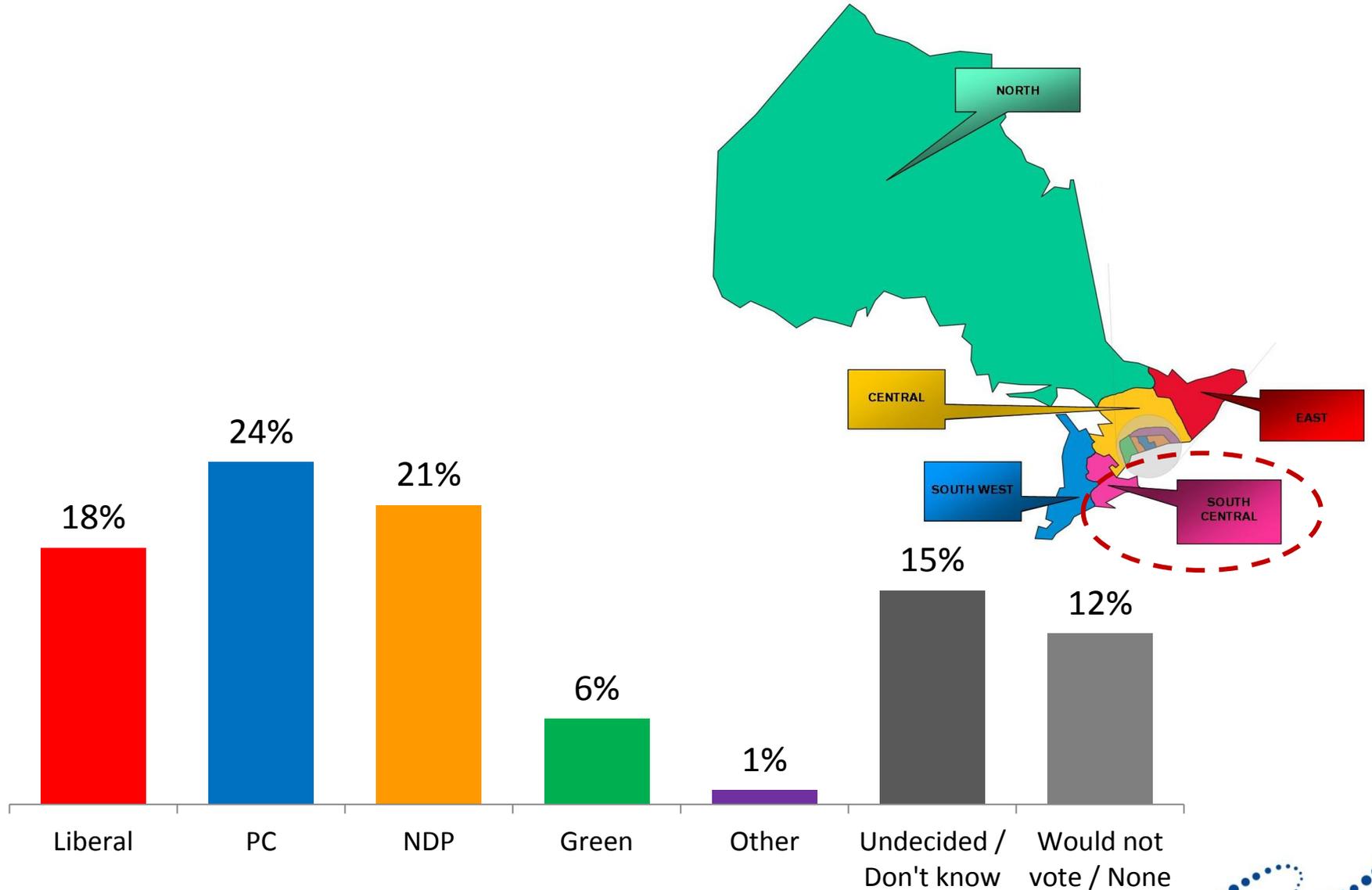
Vote Intent by Region: West Metro Belt



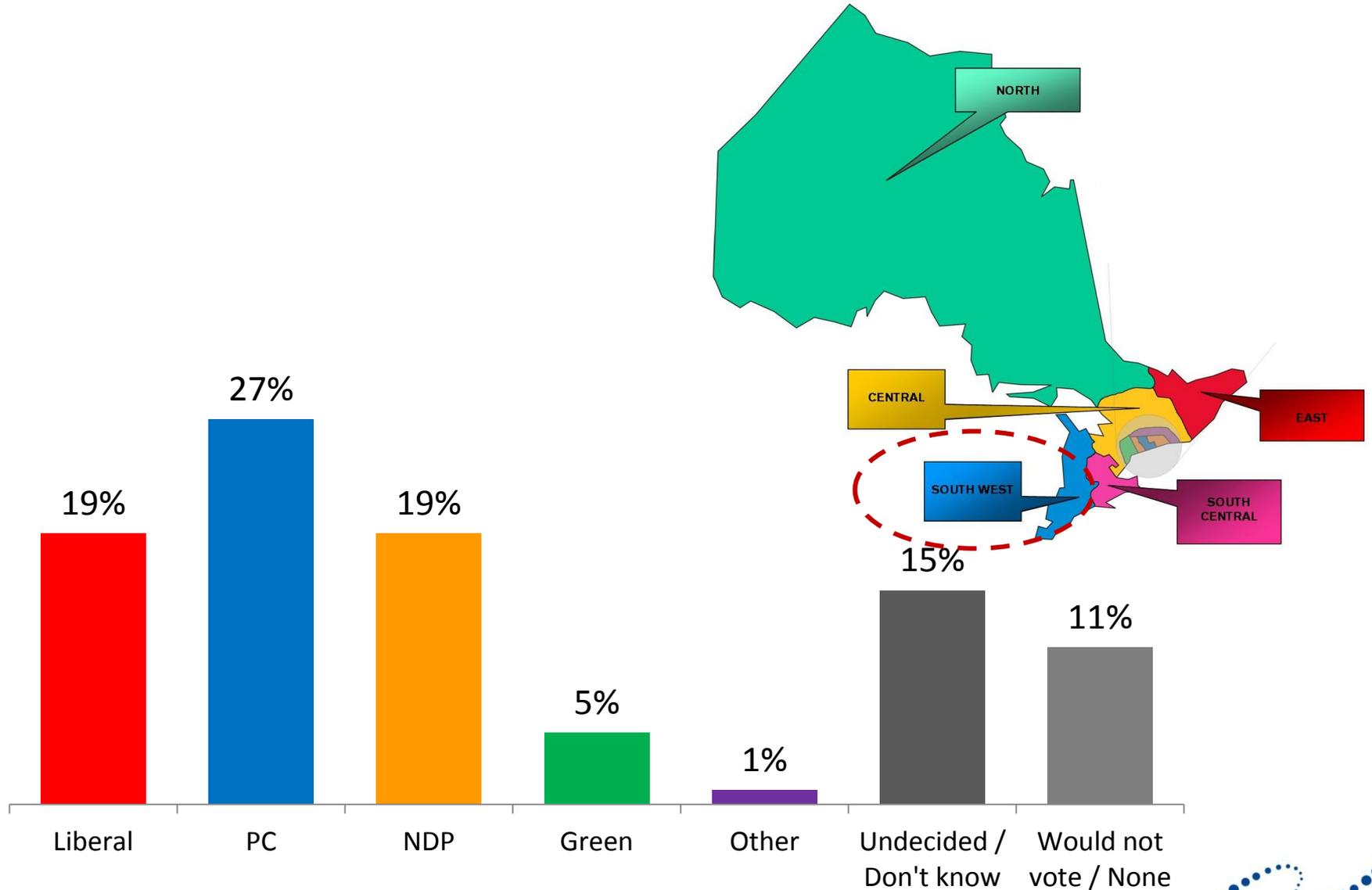
Vote Intent by Region: North/East Metro Belt



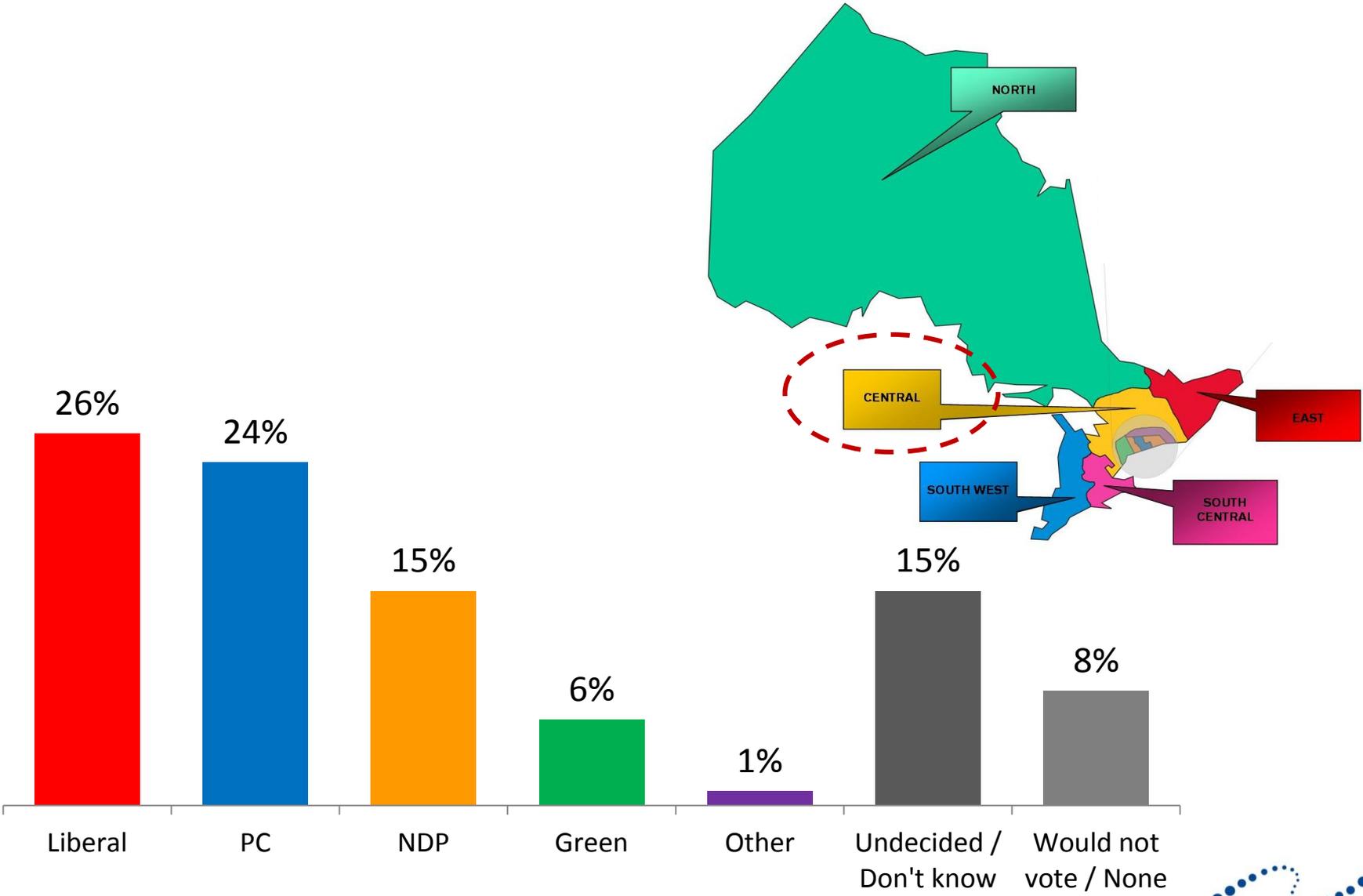
Vote Intent by Region: Ontario South Central



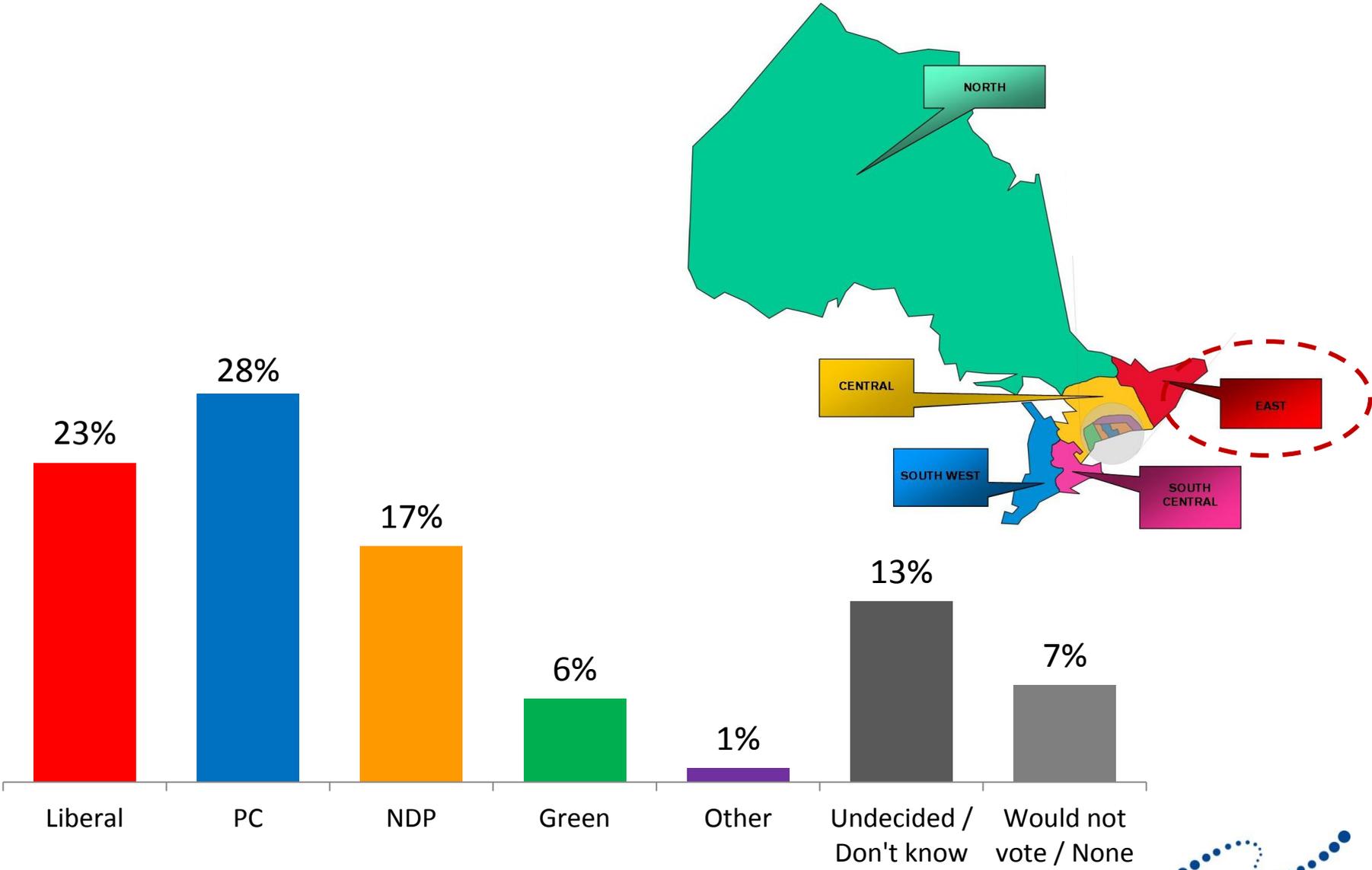
Vote Intent by Region: Ontario South West



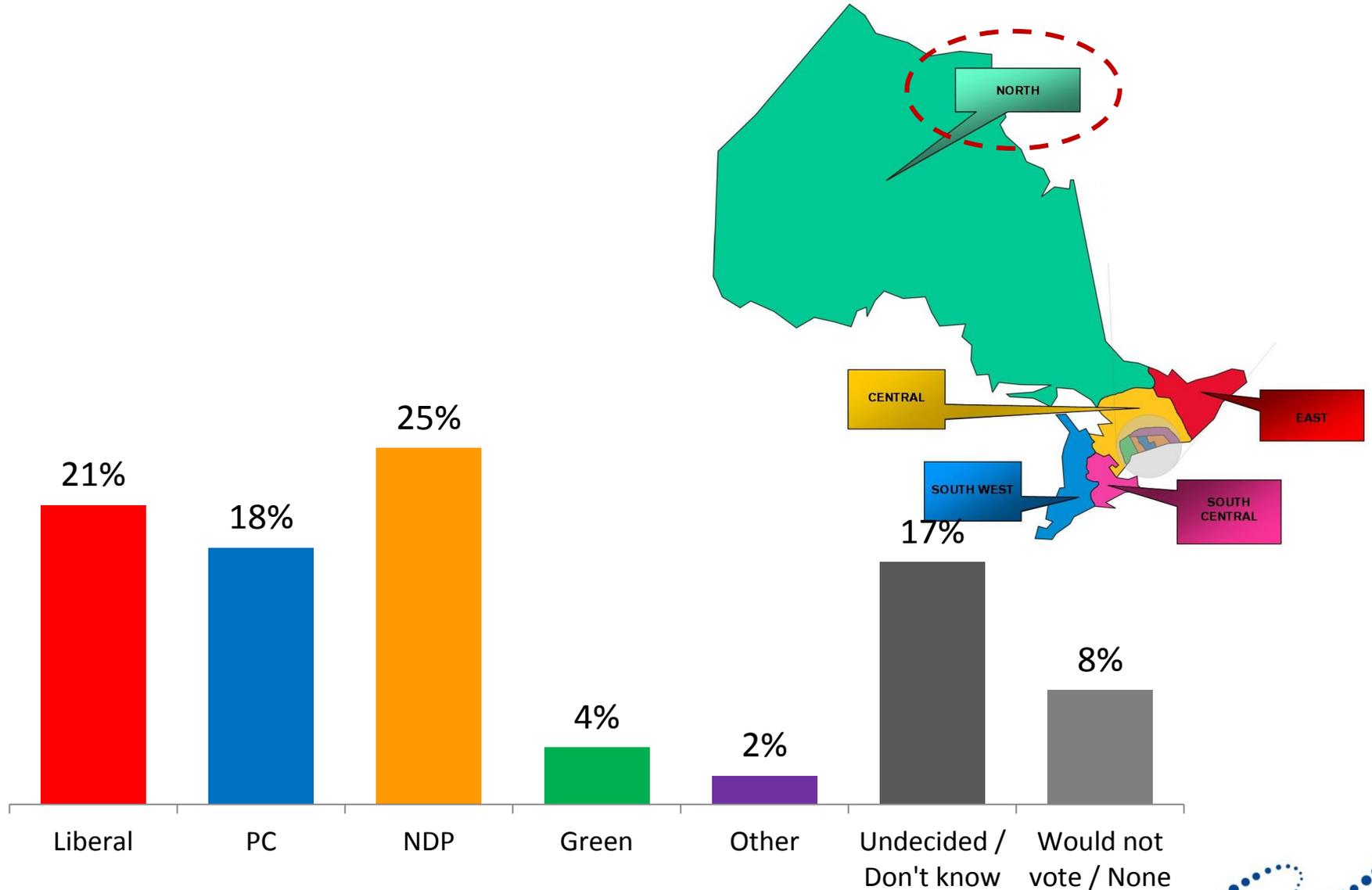
Vote Intent by Region: Central Ontario



Vote Intent by Region: Eastern Ontario



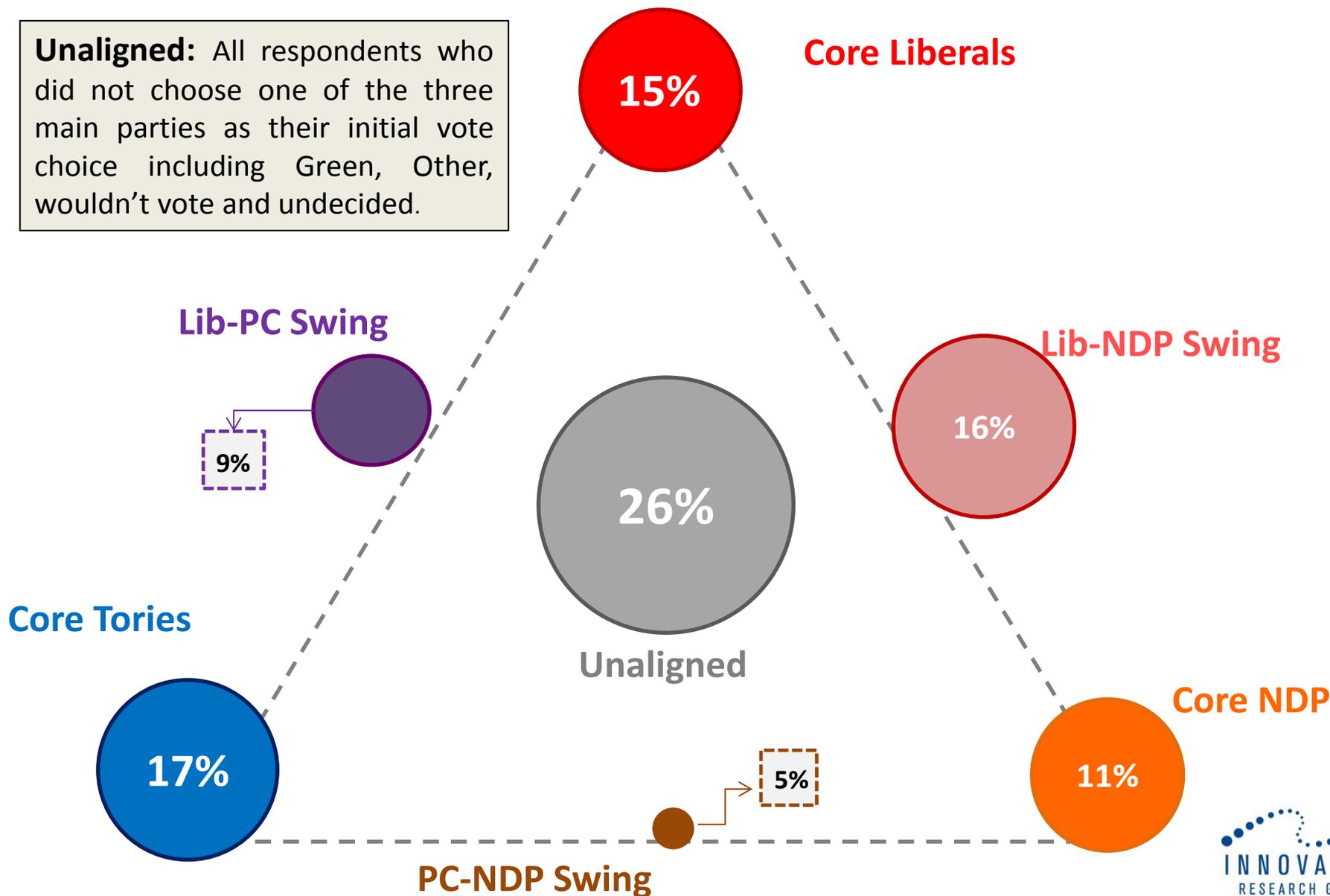
Vote Intent by Region: Northern Ontario



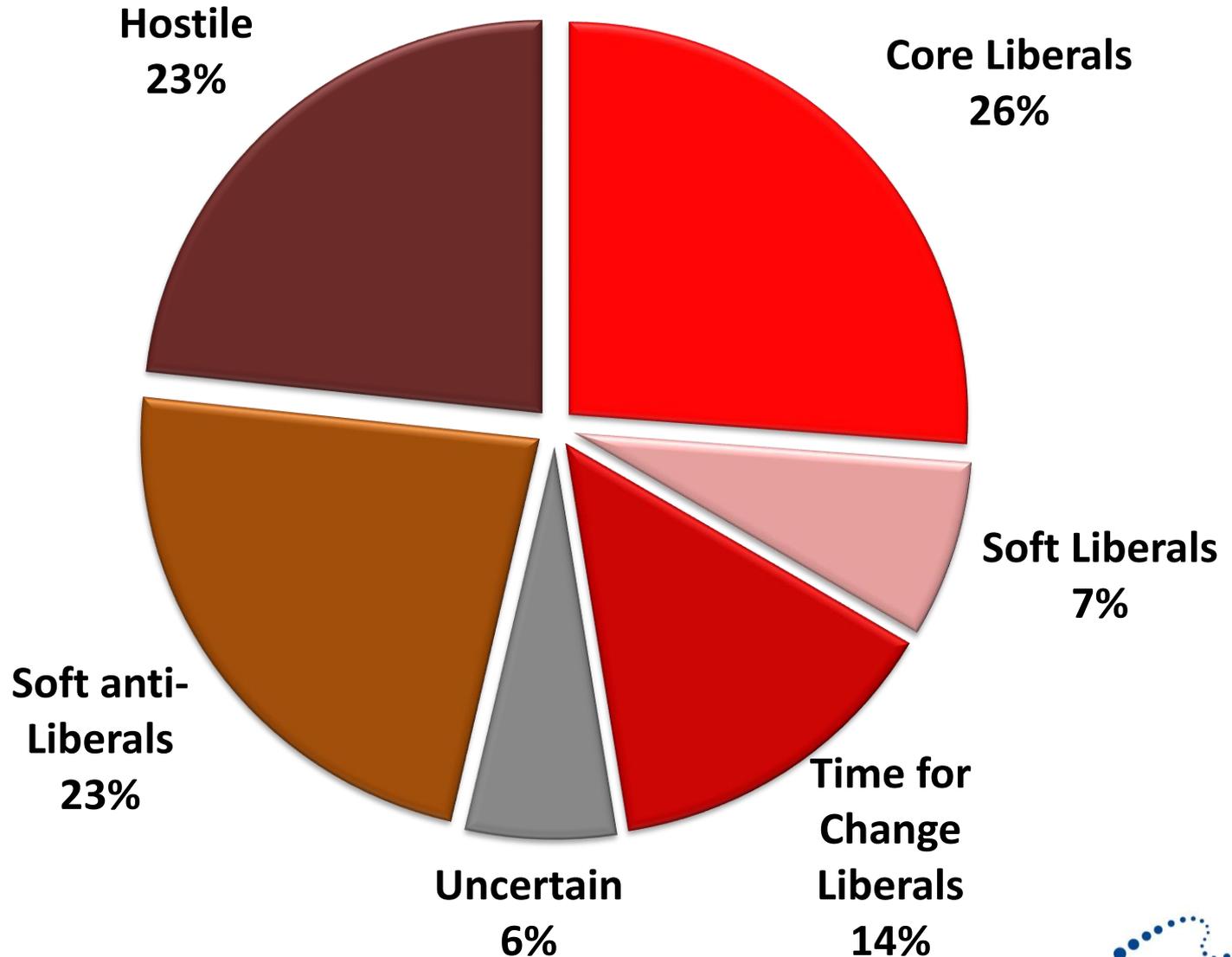
Target Audiences

Battleground Segments

Unaligned: All respondents who did not choose one of the three main parties as their initial vote choice including Green, Other, wouldn't vote and undecided.



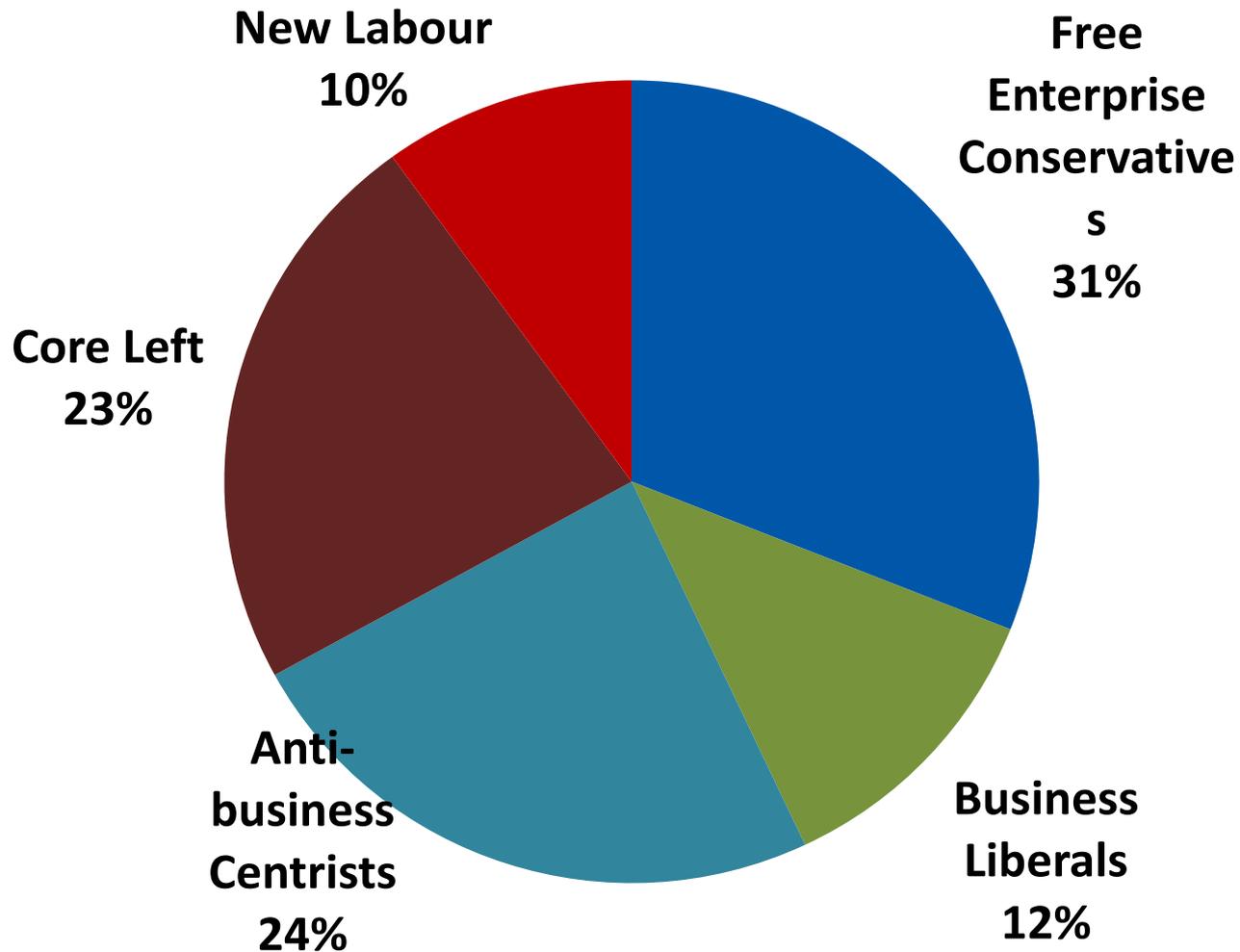
Voter Conflict Segments



Vote by Voter Conflict Segments

	Core Libs	Soft Libs	Time4Ch Libs	Uncertain	Soft anti-Libs	Hostile
Liberal	70%	52%	38%	10%	4%	1%
PC	8%	5%	17%	11%	26%	60%
NDP	12%	8%	27%	7%	29%	19%
Green	2%	2%	4%	0%	6%	3%
Would Not Vote	0%	11%	1%	14%	7%	9%
Undecided	8%	22%	14%	54%	19%	6%

Value Clusters



Attitudinal Table

	Free Enterprise Conservatives	Business Liberals	Anti-business Centrists	Core Left	New Labour
Role of government when it comes to economy: Gov't needs to be an active partner	28%	88%	38%	67%	43%
It is important for the government to: Create opportunities so everyone can compete	95%	96%	72%	0%	0%
Do you think the profit system: Brings out the worst in human nature	0%	0%	74%	90%	0%
When gov'ts make decisions on spending on programs, do you think they should base their decisions on: Their ability to afford the programs	81%	0%	24%	18%	34%
When it comes to government decision making...: Too often the gov't listens to experts instead of common sense	65%	57%	55%	53%	64%
Be open to ideas from all viewpoints (vs focus ideas based on fundamental truths)	62%	81%	62%	74%	64%

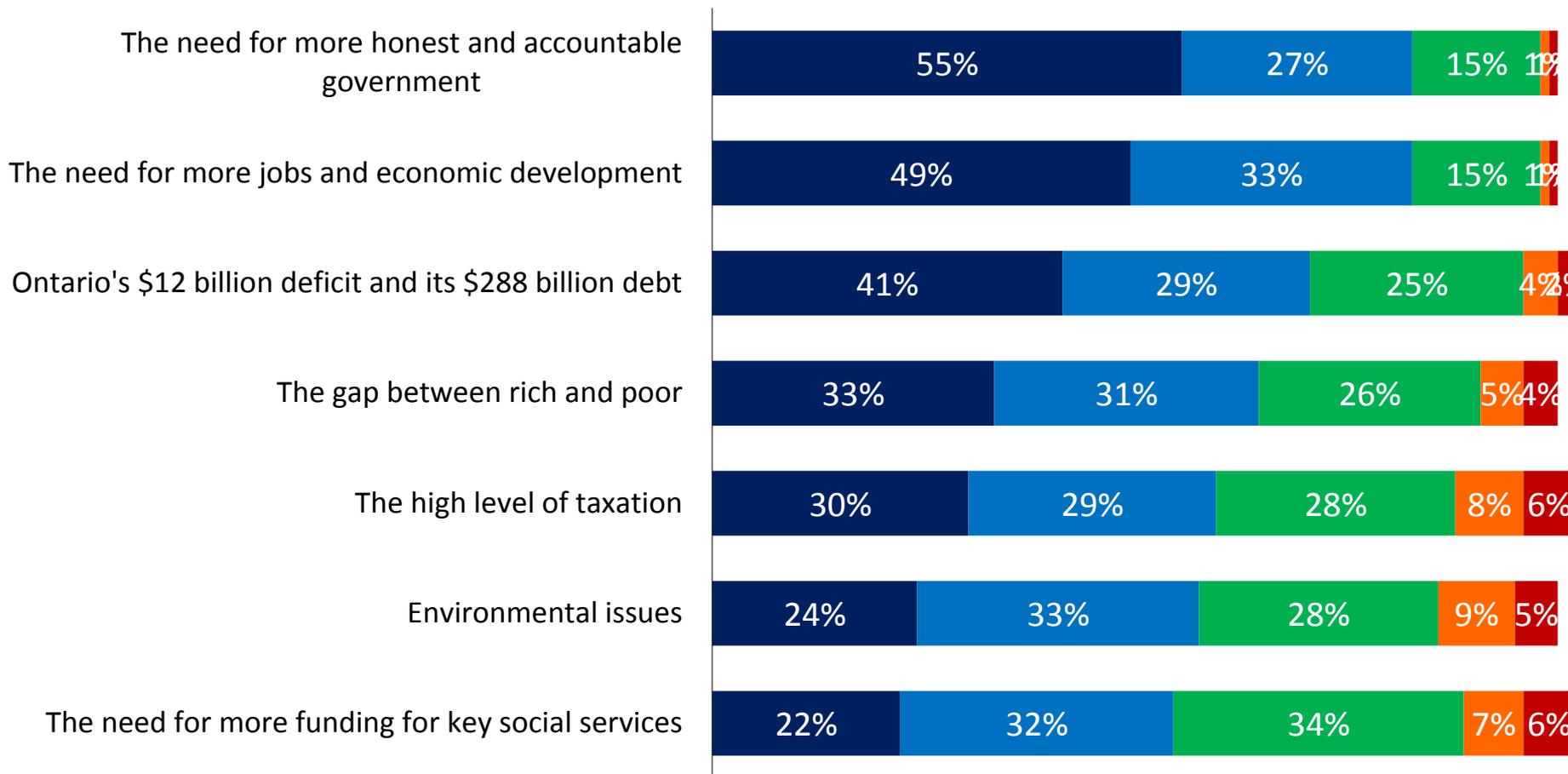
Vote by Cluster

	Free Enterprise Conservatives	Business Liberals	Anti-business Centrists	Core Left	New Labour
PC	57%	13%	17%	9%	19%
Liberal	21%	45%	29%	38%	32%
NDP	10%	26%	25%	34%	27%
Other	3%	7%	6%	13%	8%
Undecided/WNV	9%	10%	23%	6%	14%

What Issues Matter to Whom?

Honest and accountable government 'absolutely critical' to more half of Ontarians

Q There are a number of issues people have said could be important in the next election. Using a scale of 0 to 10 where **0 is not important at all** and **10 is absolutely critical**, how important would you say each of the following issues is to you?



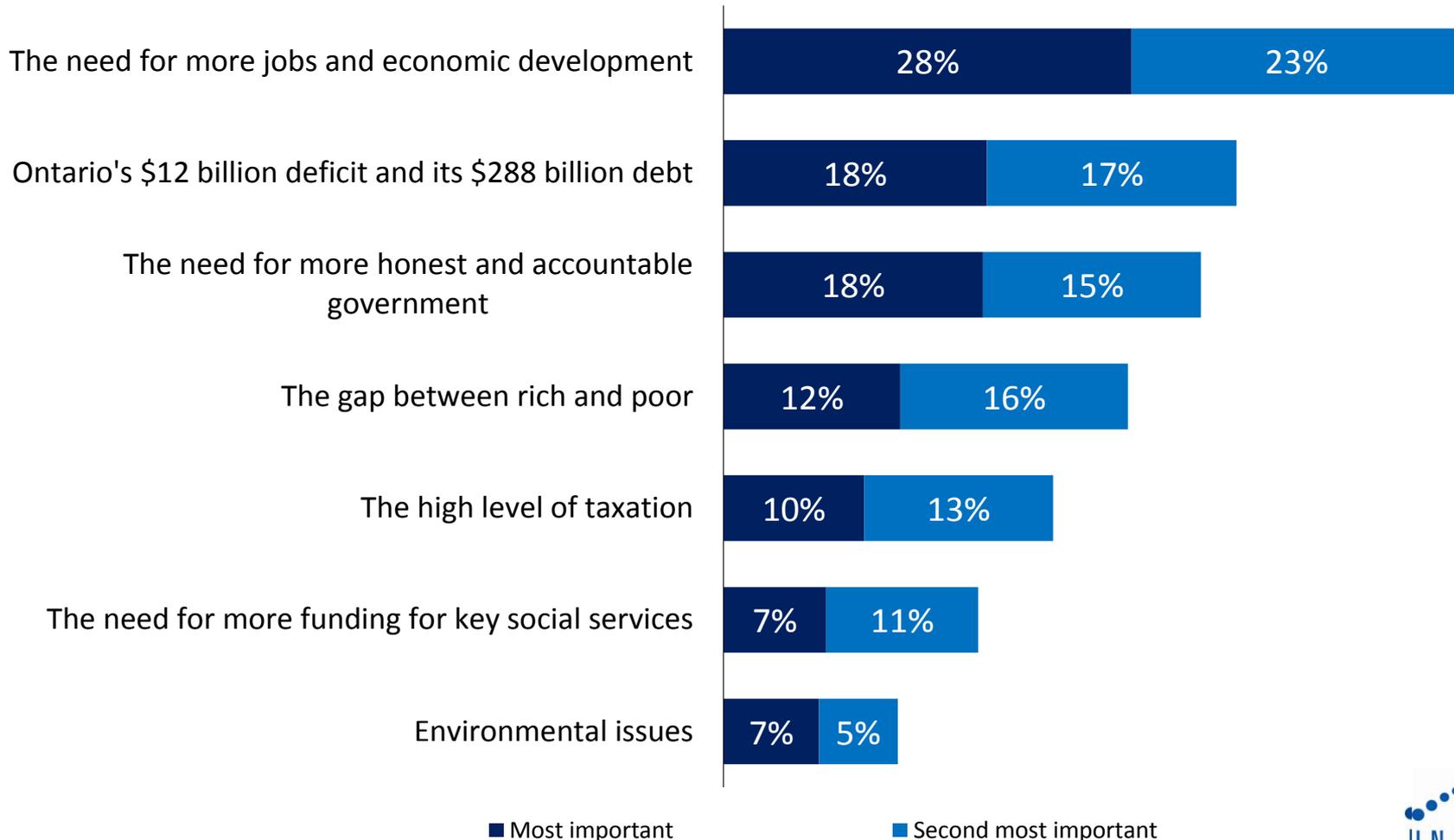
■ Absolutely Critical (9 to 10)
 ■ Somewhat critical (7 to 8)
 ■ Somewhat important (4 to 6)
■ Not very important (2 to 3)
 ■ Not important at all (0 to 1)



Note: 'Don't Know' not shown

Jobs and economic development outranks the need for honest and accountable government

Q Looking again at these issues, which is the most important issue to you in this election? And which is the next most important?



Who Cares: Priority Issues by Value Cluster

% ranking each issue “Most Important”

	Free Enterprise Conservatives	Business Liberals	Anti-business Centrists	Core Left	New Labour
Ontario’s \$12 billion deficit and its \$288 billion debt	34%	15%	13%	6%	14%
The need for more jobs and economic development	23%	37%	35%	25%	25%
The gap between rich and poor	2%	7%	10%	29%	16%
The need for more funding for key social services	3%	5%	8%	13%	5%
The high level of taxation	16%	7%	9%	3%	11%
Environmental issues	3%	11%	7%	10%	6%
The need for more honest and accountable government	19%	18%	17%	14%	22%

What is the Impact: Vote by Issue Priority

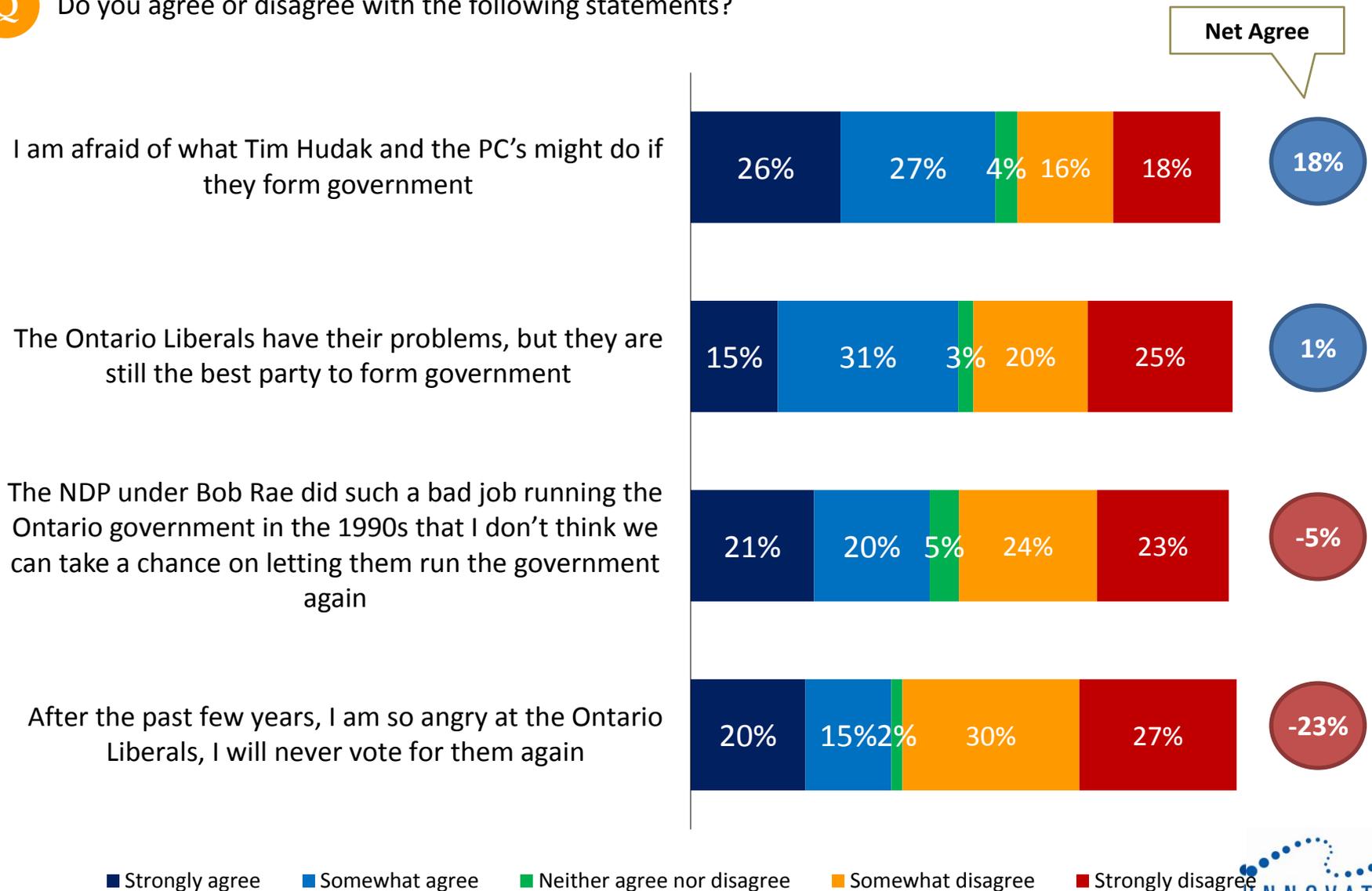
% vote among those who ranked each issue as “Most Important”

	Liberal	PC	NDP	Green	Unaligned
Ontario’s \$12 billion deficit and its \$288 billion debt	27%	46%	13%	2%	12%
The need for more jobs and economic development	42%	20%	19%	4%	16%
The gap between rich and poor	37%	12%	25%	7%	19%
The need for more funding for key social services	36%	6%	32%	4%	22%
The high level of taxation	25%	41%	14%	2%	18%
Environmental issues	42%	9%	22%	16%	11%
The need for more honest and accountable government	21%	29%	28%	4%	17%

The Parties

More than half fear a PC government led by Tim Hudak, while 1-in-3 would never vote Liberal again

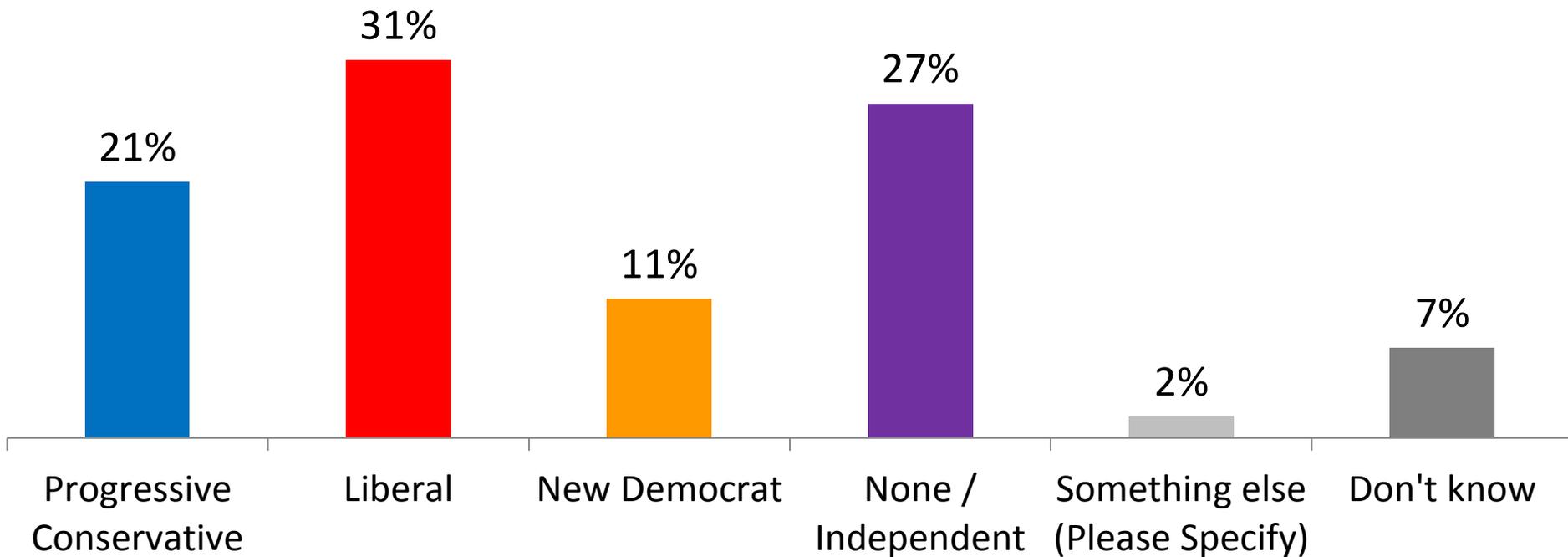
Q Do you agree or disagree with the following statements?



Party Identification



Thinking about politics in Ontario, generally speaking, do you usually think of yourself as [RANDOMIZE PARTIES]: a Progressive Conservative, a Liberal, a New Democrat, or something else or none of these?



NDP and PC retaining over 80% of their traditional vote, but Liberals have just 65%

Q Vote by Party ID

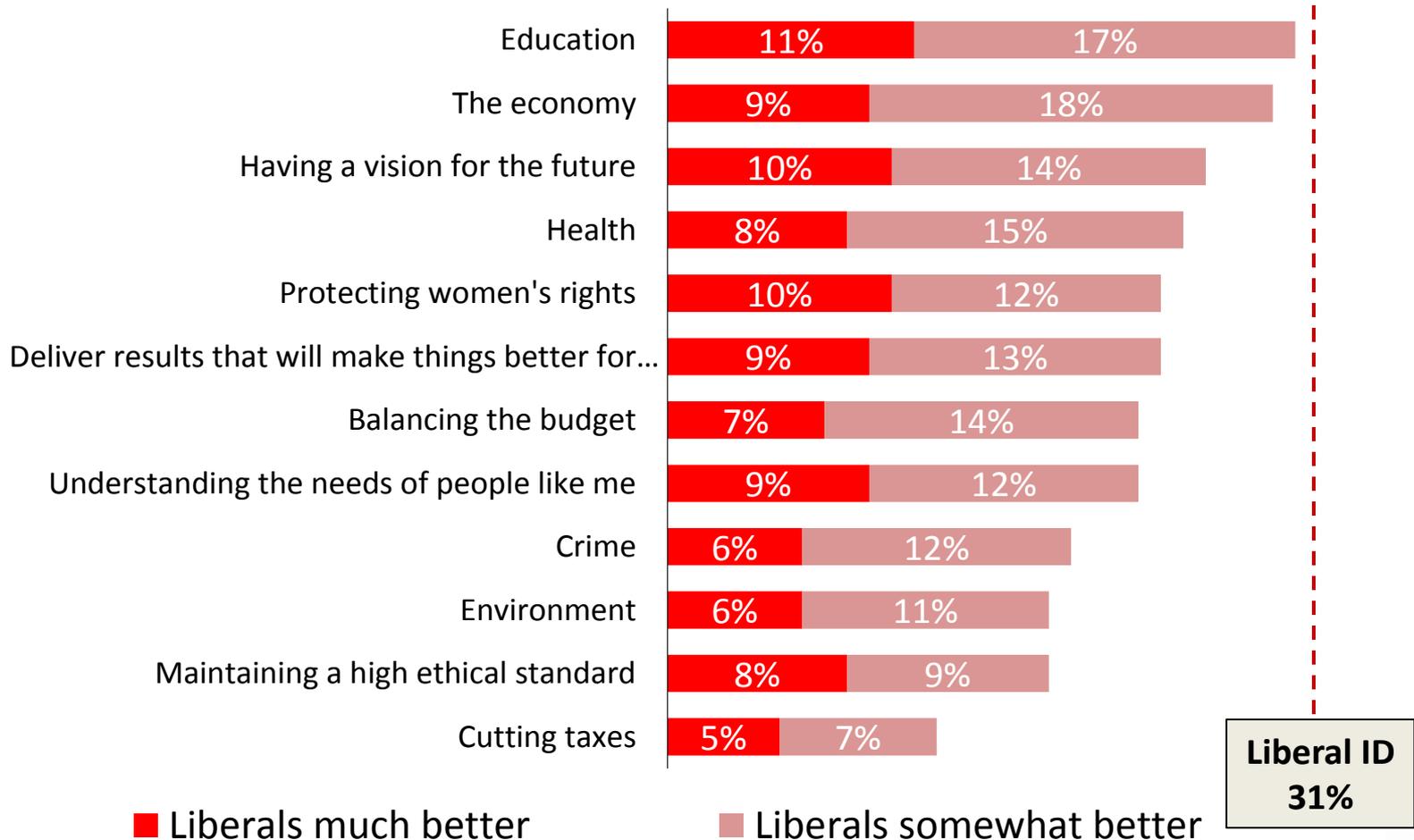
	Party ID – PC	Party ID – Liberal	Party ID – NDP	Party ID- Other	Independent /Undecided
PC	80%	8%	3%	30%	16%
Liberal	8%	65%	7%	10%	20%
NDP	4%	10%	80%	10%	19%
Other	2%	1%	6%	20%	7%
Independent/ Undecided/WNV	7%	14%	4%	10%	35%

Note: 'Refused' not shown

Liberals have no issues to pull their vote up but education and economy their strongest suits

Q

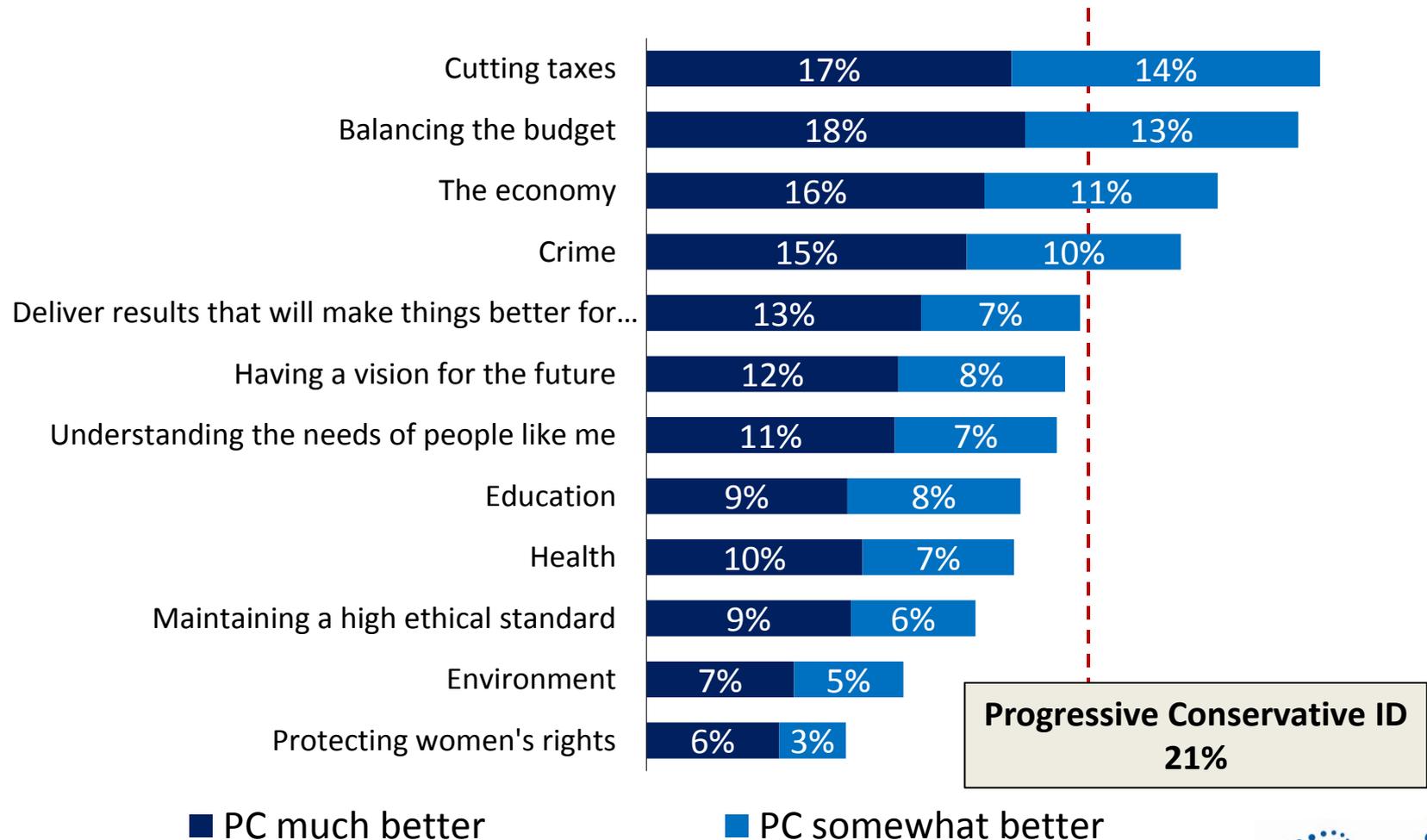
Now we are going to provide you with a list of issues. For each of these issues, please tell me which party you think would do a much better job or a somewhat better job of dealing with that issue or if you think none of the parties would do a good job on that issue. How about...?



PCs gain support on fiscal issues, the economy and crime



Now we are going to provide you with a list of issues. For each of these issues, please tell me which party you think would do a much better job or a somewhat better job of dealing with that issue or if you think none of the parties would do a good job on that issue. How about...?

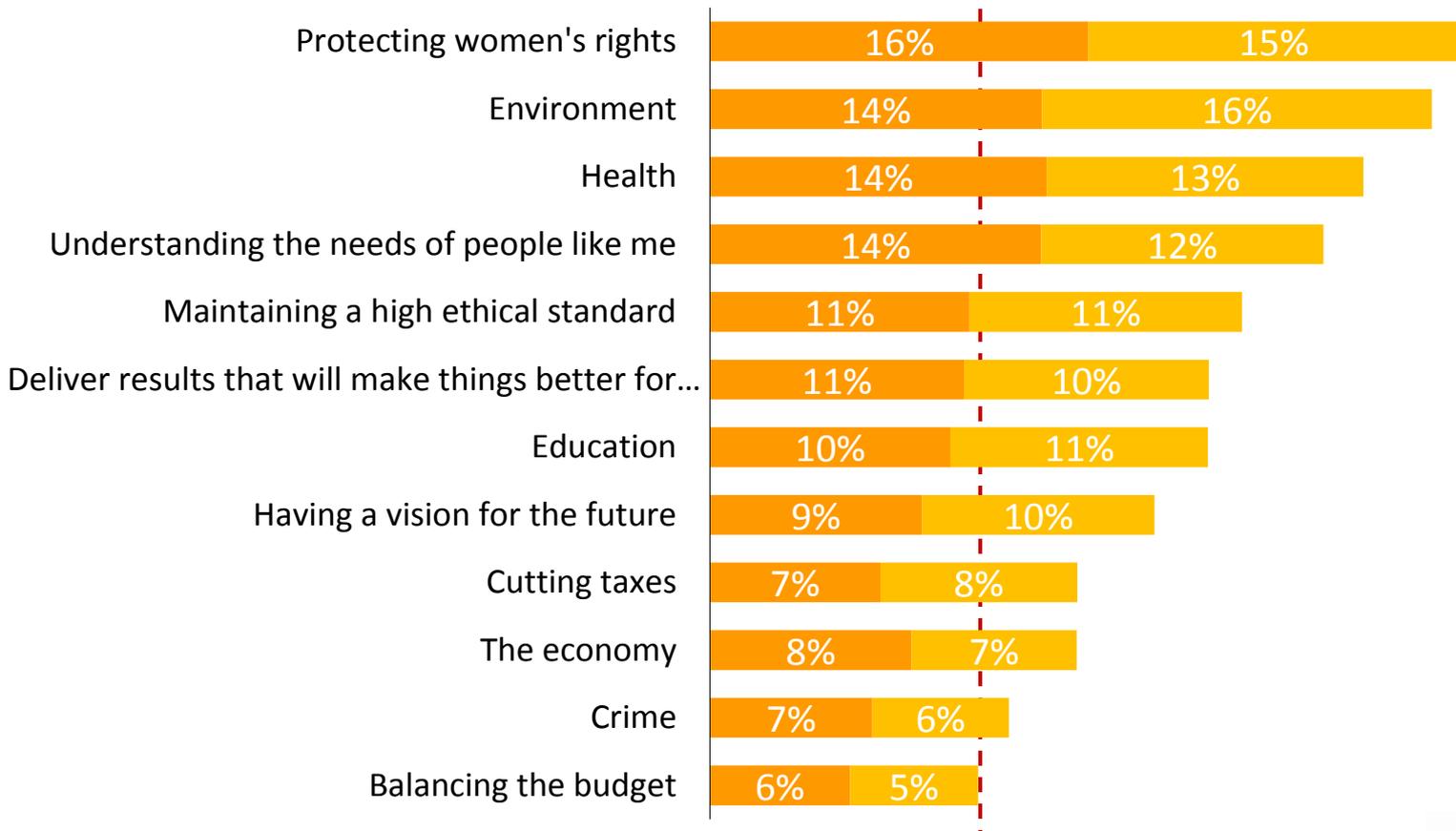


NDP are ahead of Party ID on almost all issues. Weakest on fiscal issues, the economy and crime.



Now we are going to provide you with a list of issues. For each of these issues, please tell me which party you think would do a much better job or a somewhat better job of dealing with that issue or if you think none of the parties would do a good job on that issue. How about...?

NDP ID
11%



■ NDP much better

■ NDP somewhat better

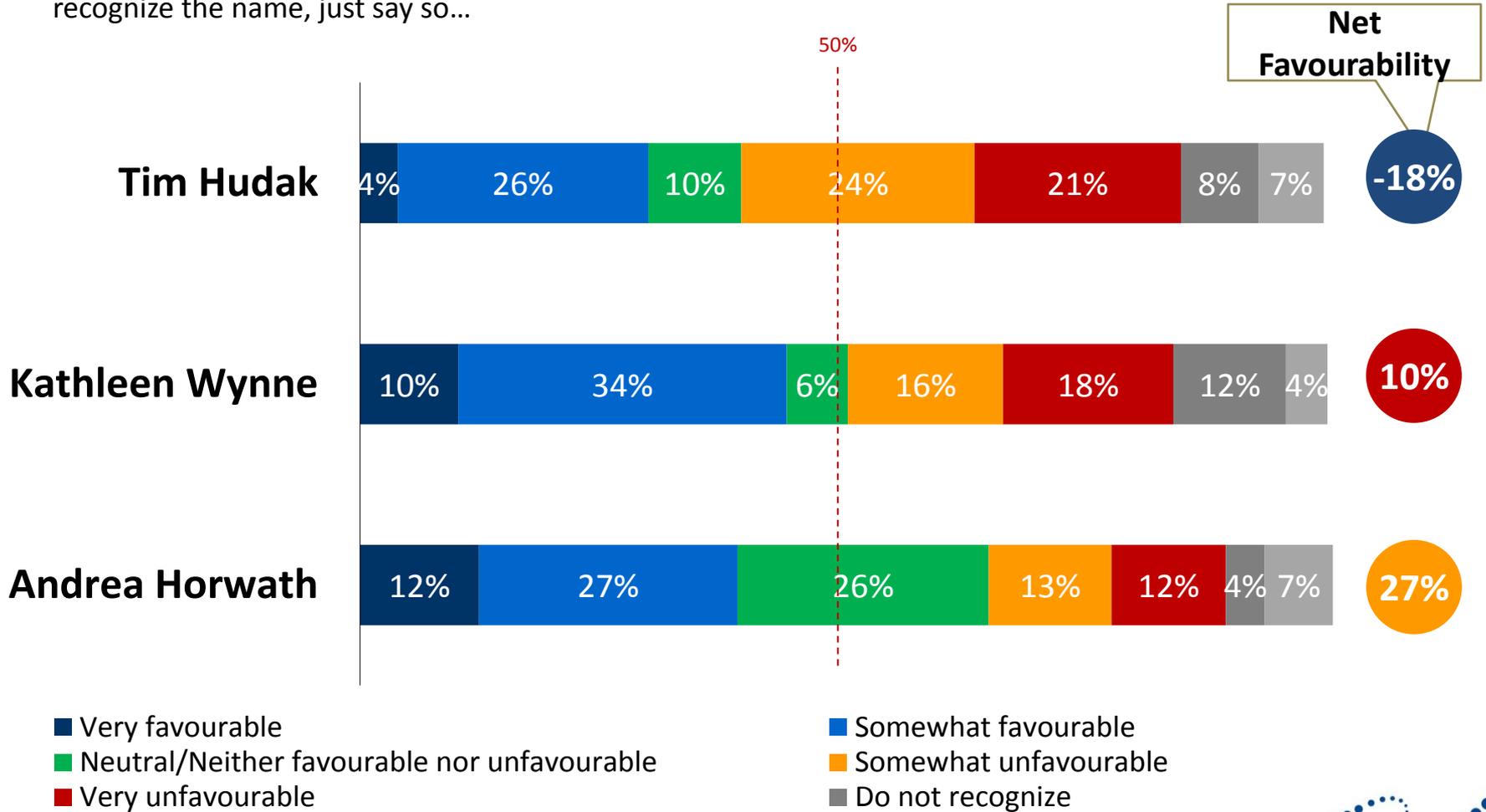


Leader Image

Hudak seen as unfavourable by almost a majority; Wynne as higher favourables and unfavourables than Horwath



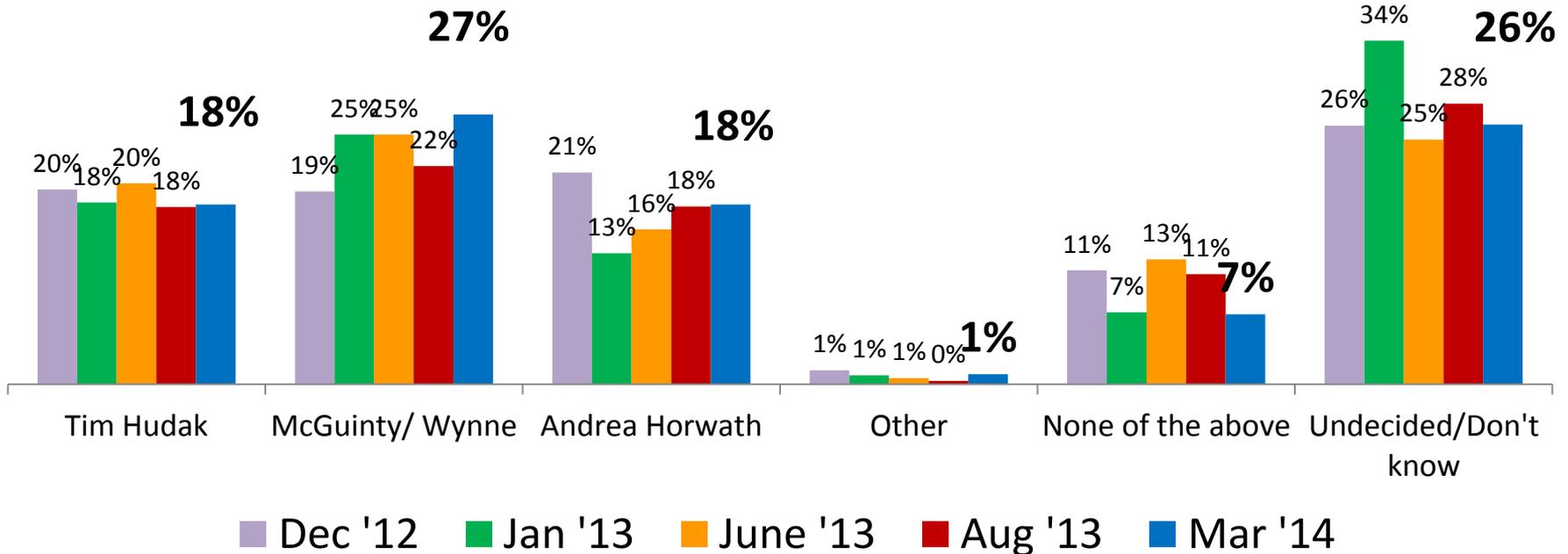
Now, I would like to read you the names of several individuals who have been mentioned in the news recently. For each one, please tell me whether you have heard of that person and, if so, whether you have a very favourable, somewhat favourable, somewhat unfavourable or very unfavourable impression of that person. If you do not recognize the name, just say so...



Note: 'Refused' not shown

Wynne leads others by 9 points as best Premier, but over one quarter are undecided

Q Which of the following leaders would make the best Premier of Ontario?



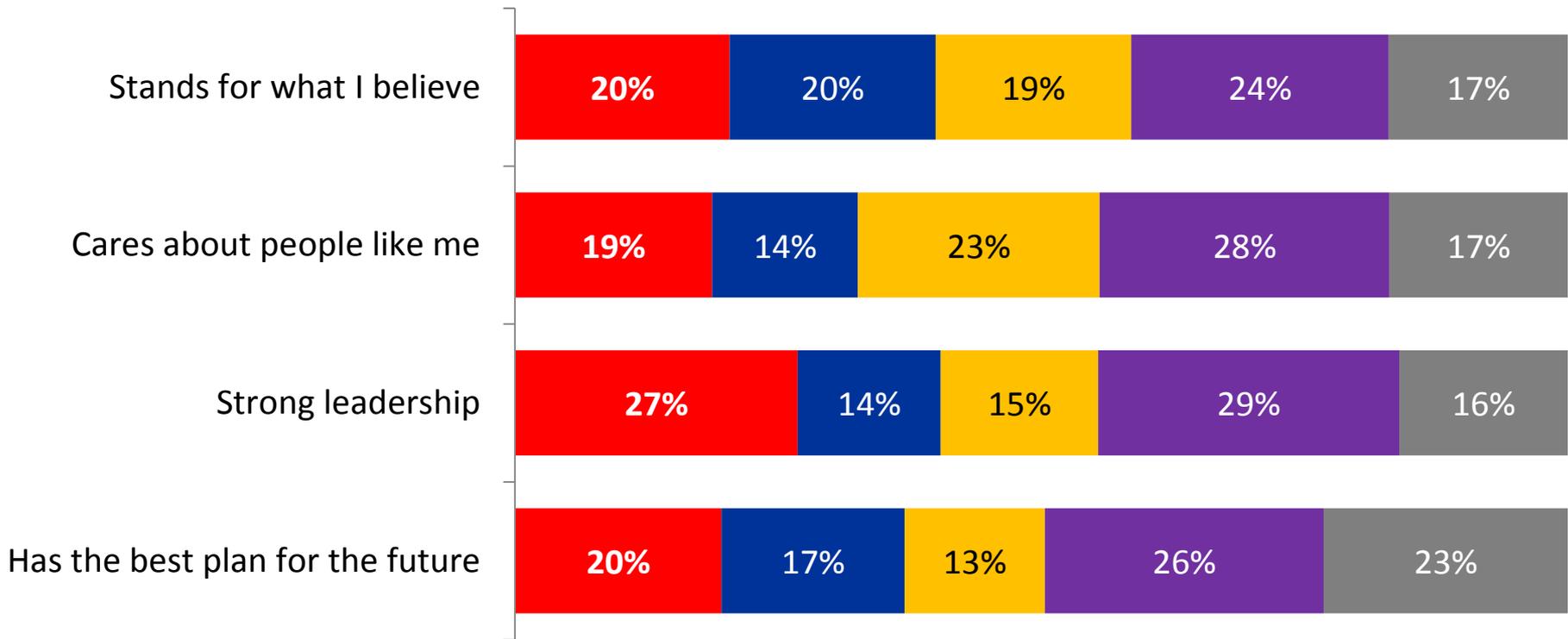
Note: 'Refused' / "would not vote" not shown

Wynne leads on 'strong leadership', Horwath strongest on 'cares about people like me'



Does "[insert item]" best describe...

Traits



■ Kathleen Wynne, Liberal

■ Tim Hudak, PC

■ Andrea Horwath, NDP

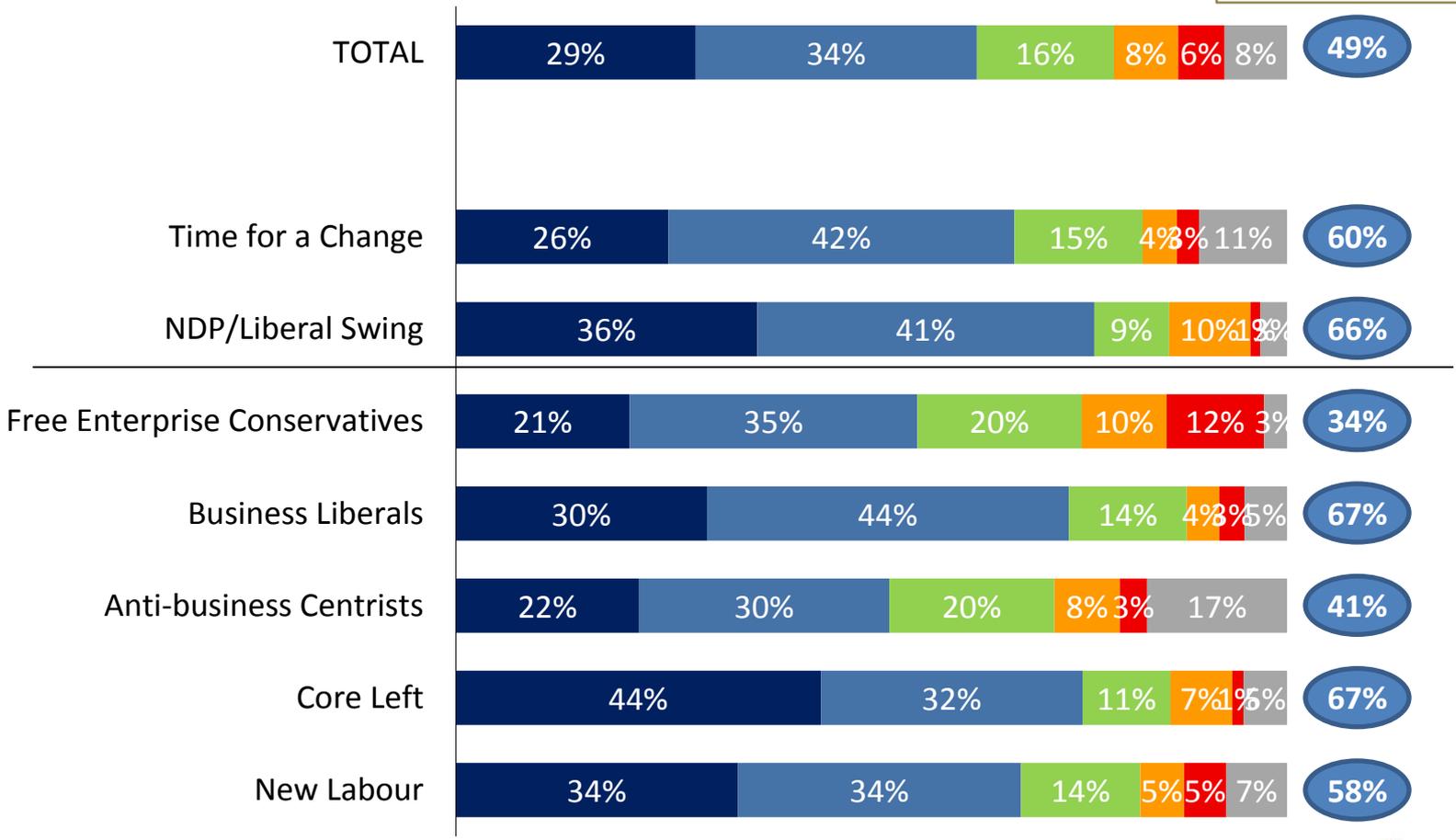
■ None of them stand out

■ Don't Know

Campaign Positions

(Aging Population and Transportation Infrastructure) “Ontario has fared reasonable well despite challenges like the financial downturn, but there are some key gaps we need to address. With our aging population, government must takes step now to ensure people have the income they need in retirement. With our aging transportation infrastructure, government needs to make investments now to improve public transit and our roads and highways.”

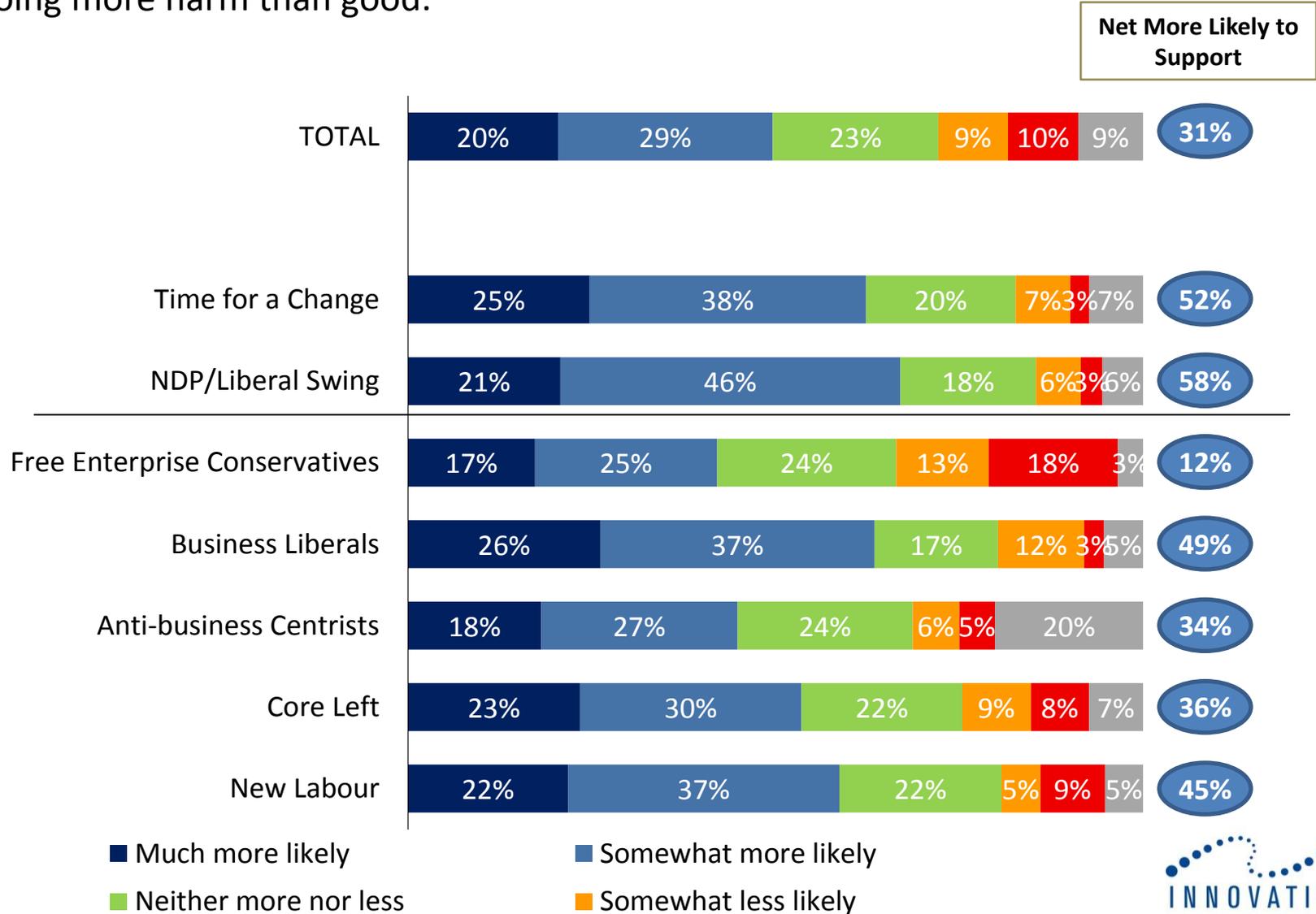
Net More Likely to Support



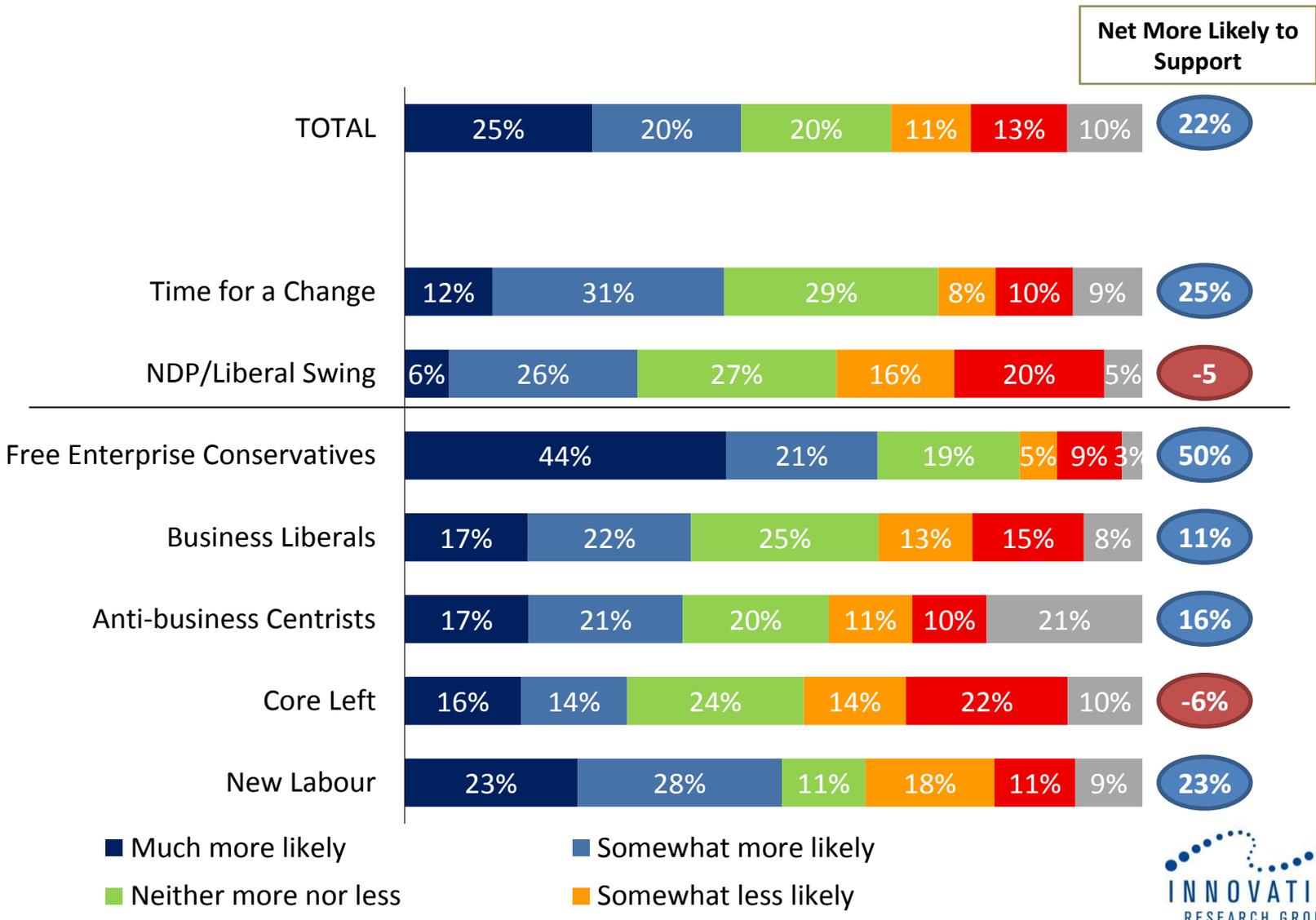
■ Much more likely ■ Somewhat more likely
■ Neither more nor less ■ Somewhat less likely



(We Need Steady, Experienced Leadership) “Ontario is facing many challenges in these turbulent times but things are better here than in many other places. What we need now is steady, experienced leadership that will make incremental improvements without jeopardizing the things that are going right. We can not afford to pursue dramatic changes that may well end up doing more harm than good.”

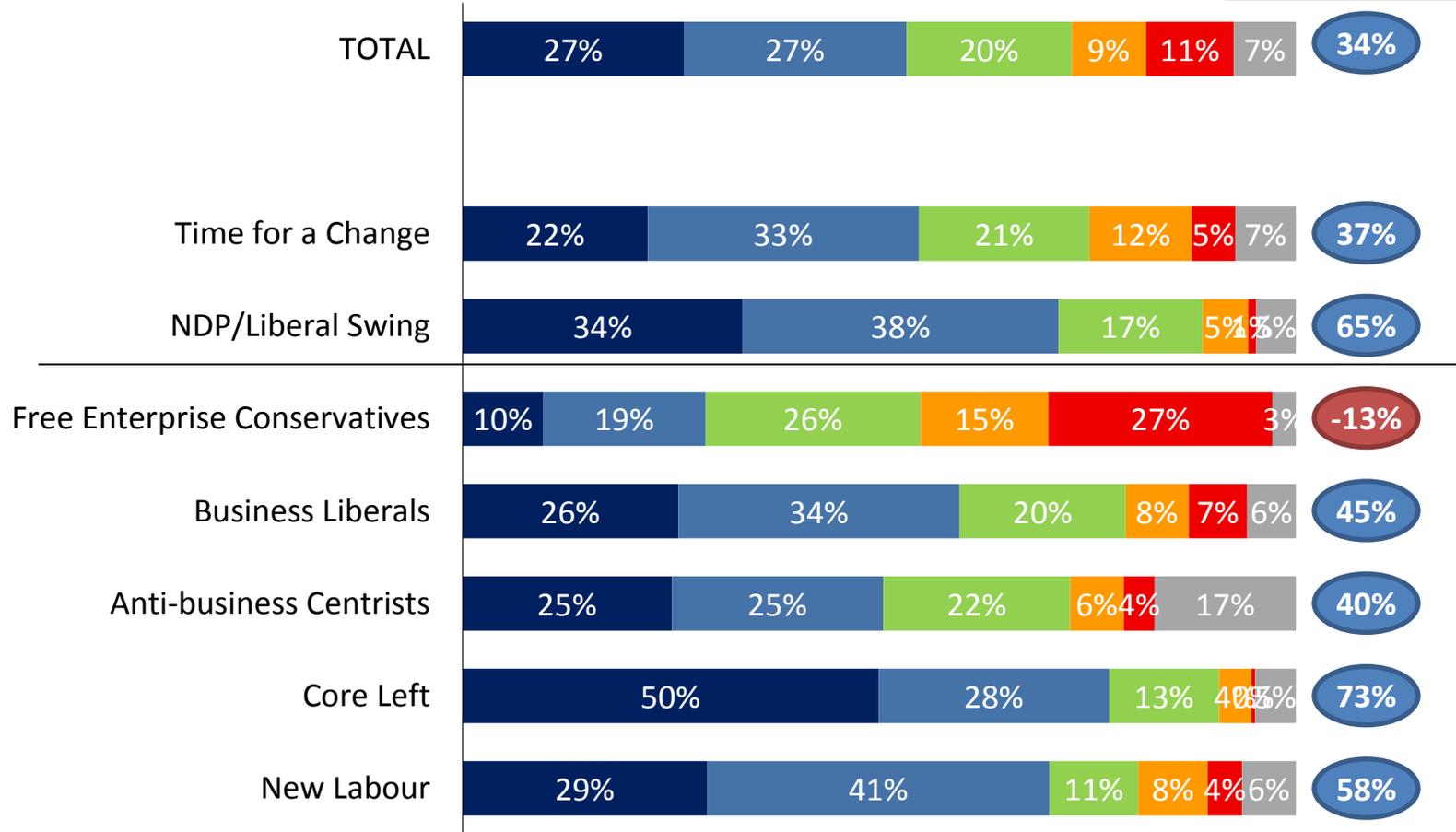


(Government is Tired and Has Run Out of Ideas) “The Ontario government is tired and has run out of ideas. High perks and pay to government insiders and scandals such as the gas plant controversy, eHealth, and the **ORNGE** air ambulance mismanagement show the Liberal government has lost touch with the public and needs to be replaced.”



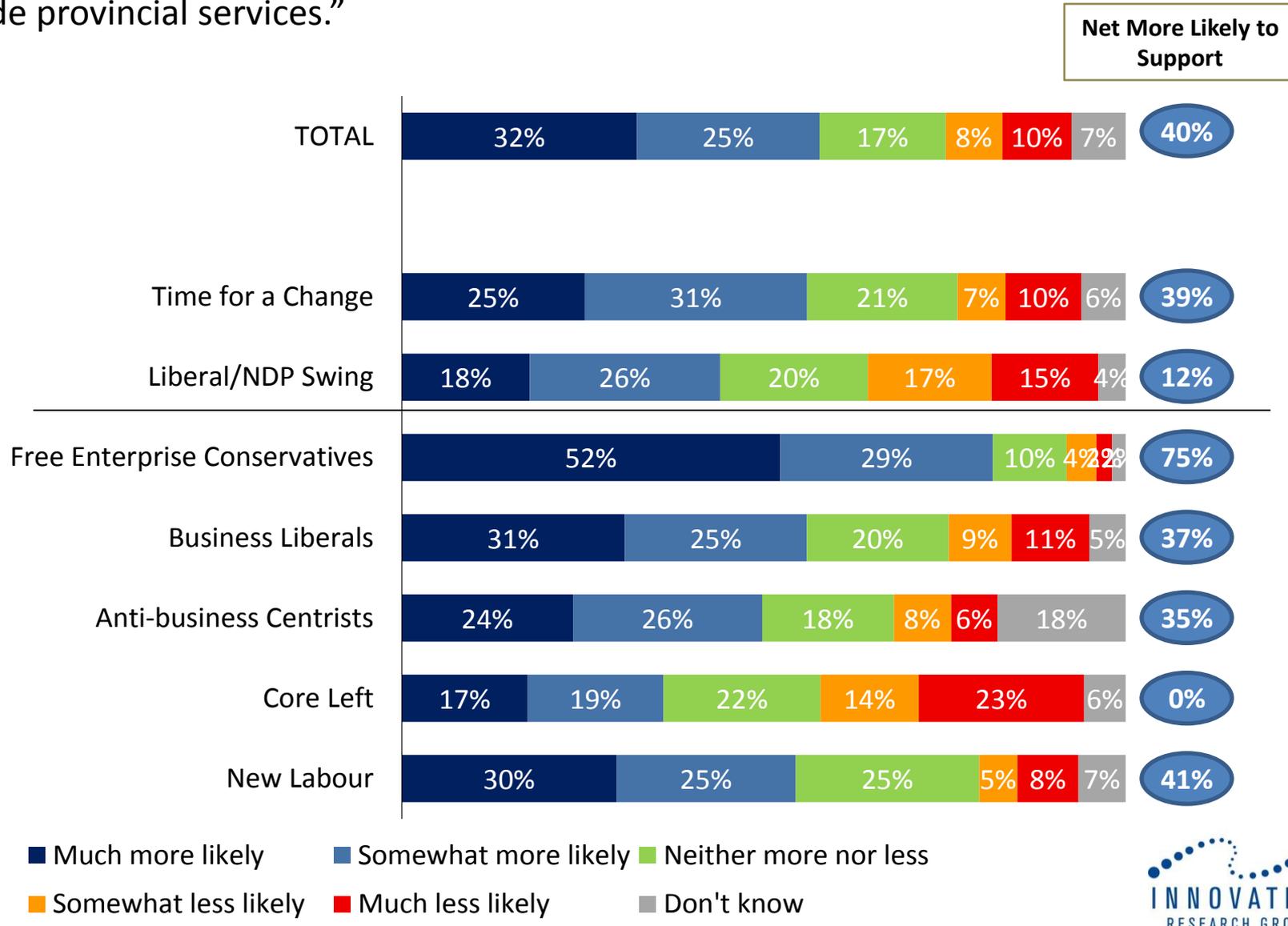
(Reduce the Growing Gap Between Rich and Poor) “The Ontario government needs to take immediate action to reduce the growing gap between rich and poor. Businesses and people with higher incomes have not been paying their fair share. We need to increase their taxes so government can do more to help the disadvantaged get ahead in life. Those new taxes should also be used to increase funding to education and training so young people can get the education and skills they need without piling up a mountain of debt.”

Net More Likely to Support

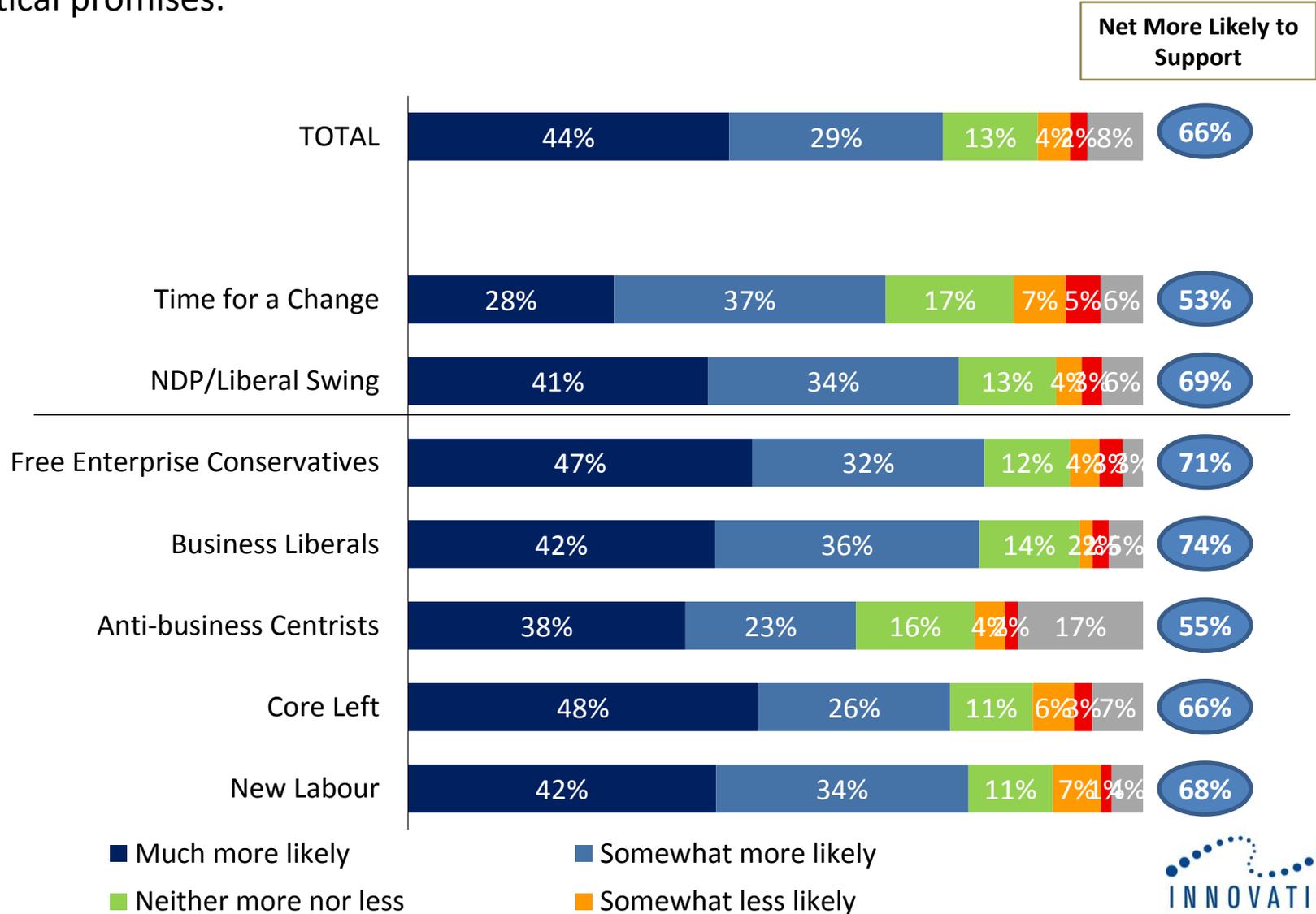


■ Much more likely ■ Somewhat more likely
■ Neither more nor less ■ Somewhat less likely

(Get Provincial Spending Under Control) “Ontario urgently needs to get provincial spending under control to reduce the burden on Ontario taxpayers and the economy. That means reducing the size of government, making public sector wages and benefits more comparable to the private sector, creating more opportunities for private and public organizations to compete to provide provincial services.” 52



(We Need Leaders Who Will Tell Us the Truth) “We have had enough of politicians to try to say every problem is simple and every answer is easy. We need leaders who will tell us the truth, even when we don’t like to hear it. We have complicated problems and often the solutions are difficult, but the only way we can move this province forward is with honesty, not with old-style political promises.”



Campaign Narratives by Value Cluster

(Net “more likely to support a party that adopted these approaches)

	Free Enterprise Conservatives	Business Liberals	Anti-business Centrists	Core Left	New Labour
Get provincial spending under control	75%	37%	35%	0%	41%
Reduce gap between rich and poor	-13%	45%	40%	73%	58%
Aging population and infrastructure	34%	67%	41%	67%	58%
Gov’t is tired and run out of ideas	50%	11%	16%	-6%	23%
Need leaders who will tell us the truth	71%	74%	55%	66%	68%
Need steady, experienced leadership	12%	49%	34%	36%	45%

Campaign Narratives by Vote Battleground Segment

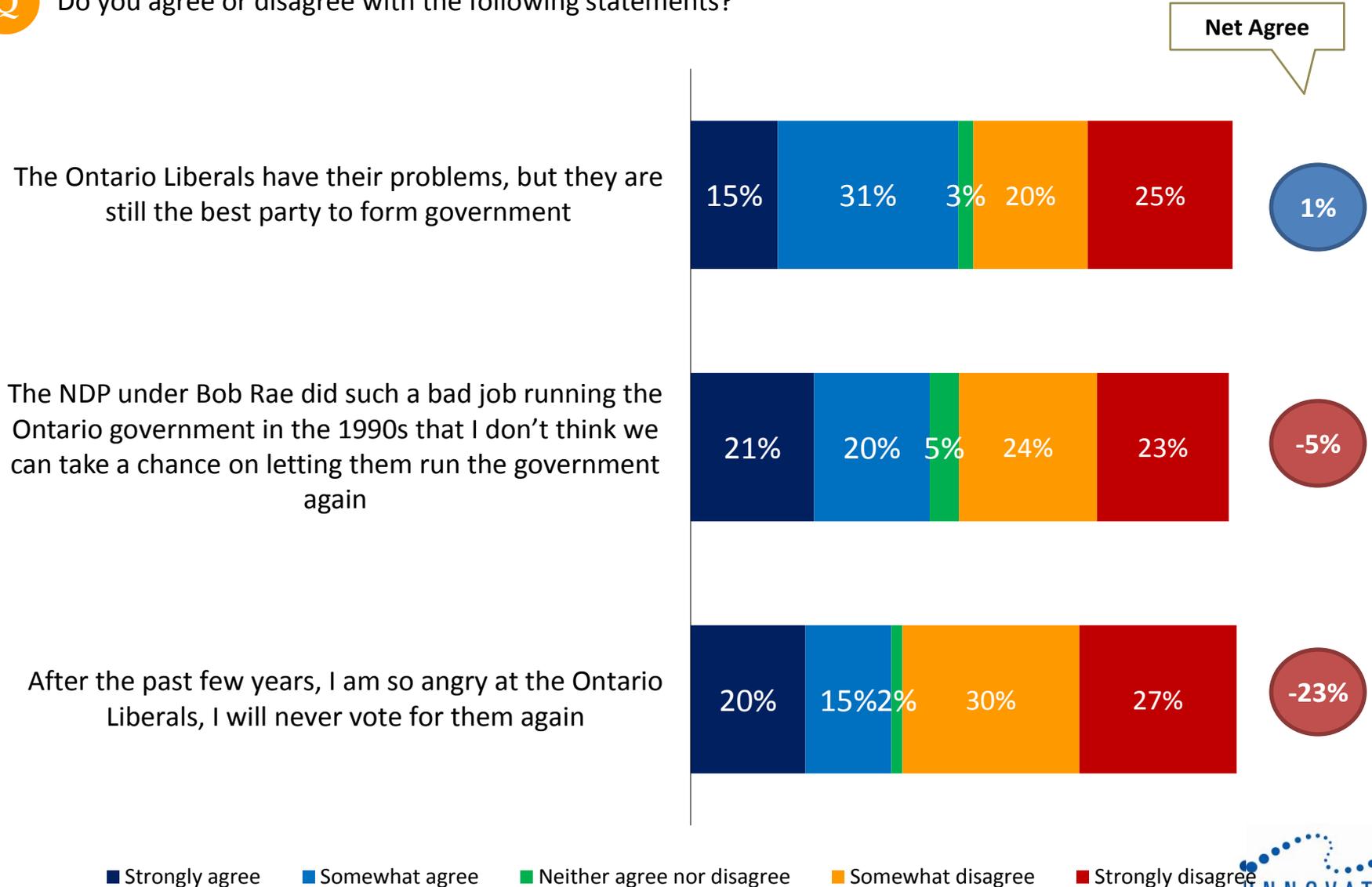
(Net “more likely to support a party that adopted these approaches)

	Core Libs	Liberal/ NDP Swing	Core NDP	Tory/NDP Swing	Core Tories	Liberal/ Tory Swing	Unaligned
Get provincial spending under control	24%	12%	19%	64%	82%	87%	28%
Reduce gap between rich and poor	49%	65%	70%	31%	-18%	16%	30%
Aging population and infrastructure	74%	66%	65%	38%	15%	64%	37%
Gov’t is tired and run out of ideas	-34%	-5%	33%	48%	73%	50%	21%
Need leaders who will tell us the truth	70%	69%	62%	56%	79%	60%	54%
Need steady, experienced leadership	63%	58%	16%	23%	-5%	57%	18%

What does the NDP road to victory look like?

The core NDP challenge is the lack of anger

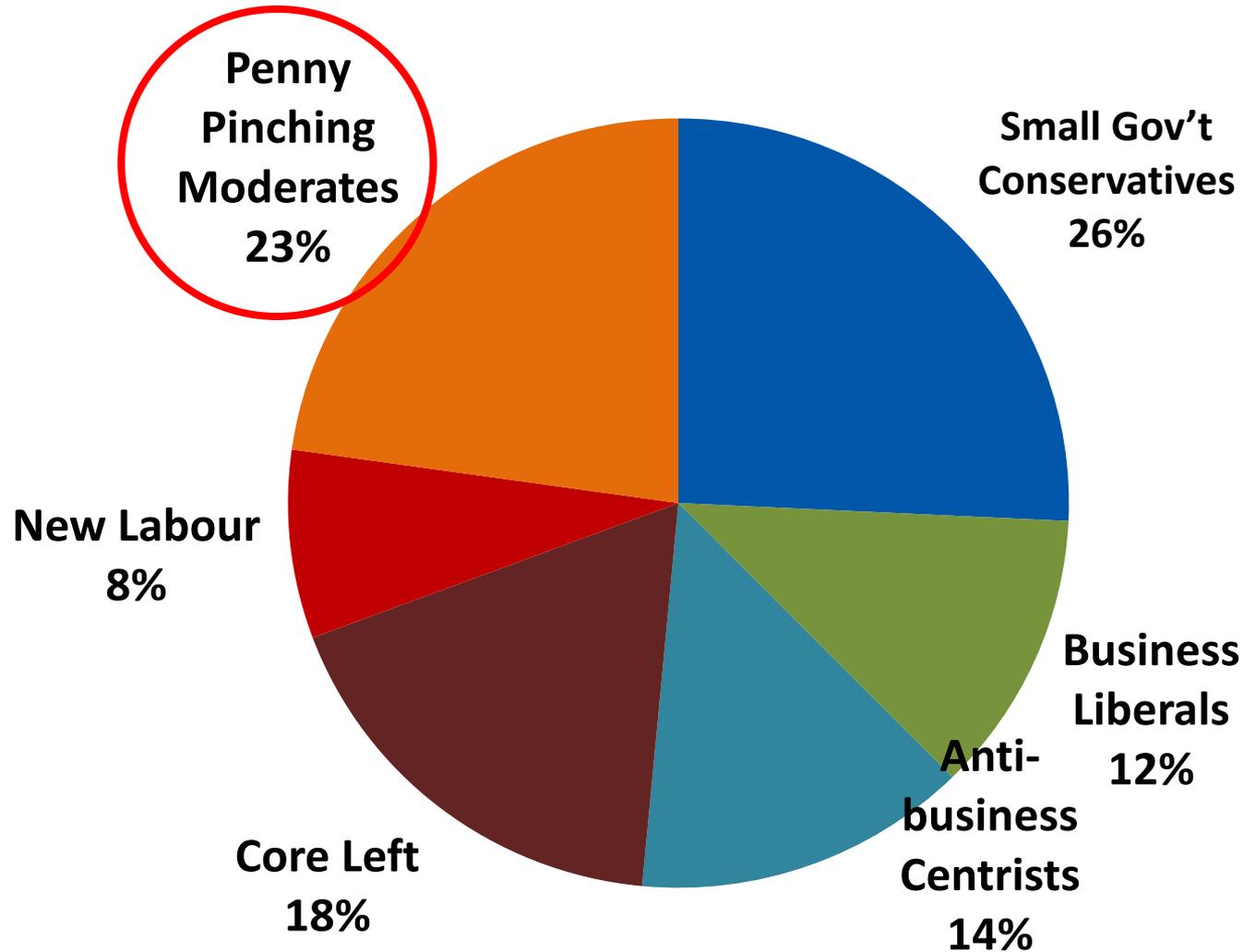
Q Do you agree or disagree with the following statements?



The NDP Road Forward

- 1. The NDP should have one primary goal** – to drive up anger, *time for a change*.
 - Many of the natural NDP voters are supporting the Liberals and must be shaken loose.
 - Key parts of the NDP's natural base remain excited about Kathleen Wynne personally. Attacks must drag Wynne into the Liberal mud.
 - This will take time. Wait for the election.
- 2. The NDP's best attack comes from the perspective of fairness.** The NDP cannot beat the Liberals with a frontal attack on the economy, they need to focus on issues they do best on – *social justice* and *entitlement to social services*.
- 3. Horwath is a great asset, but she is at best simply competitive with Wynne.** The NDP party is dwarfed by the Liberal brand. The NDP need an agenda with issues that are too far left for the Liberals to embrace as tests for *who really cares about fairness*.

The biggest Tory opportunity lies in polarizing the electorate on the fiscal issues

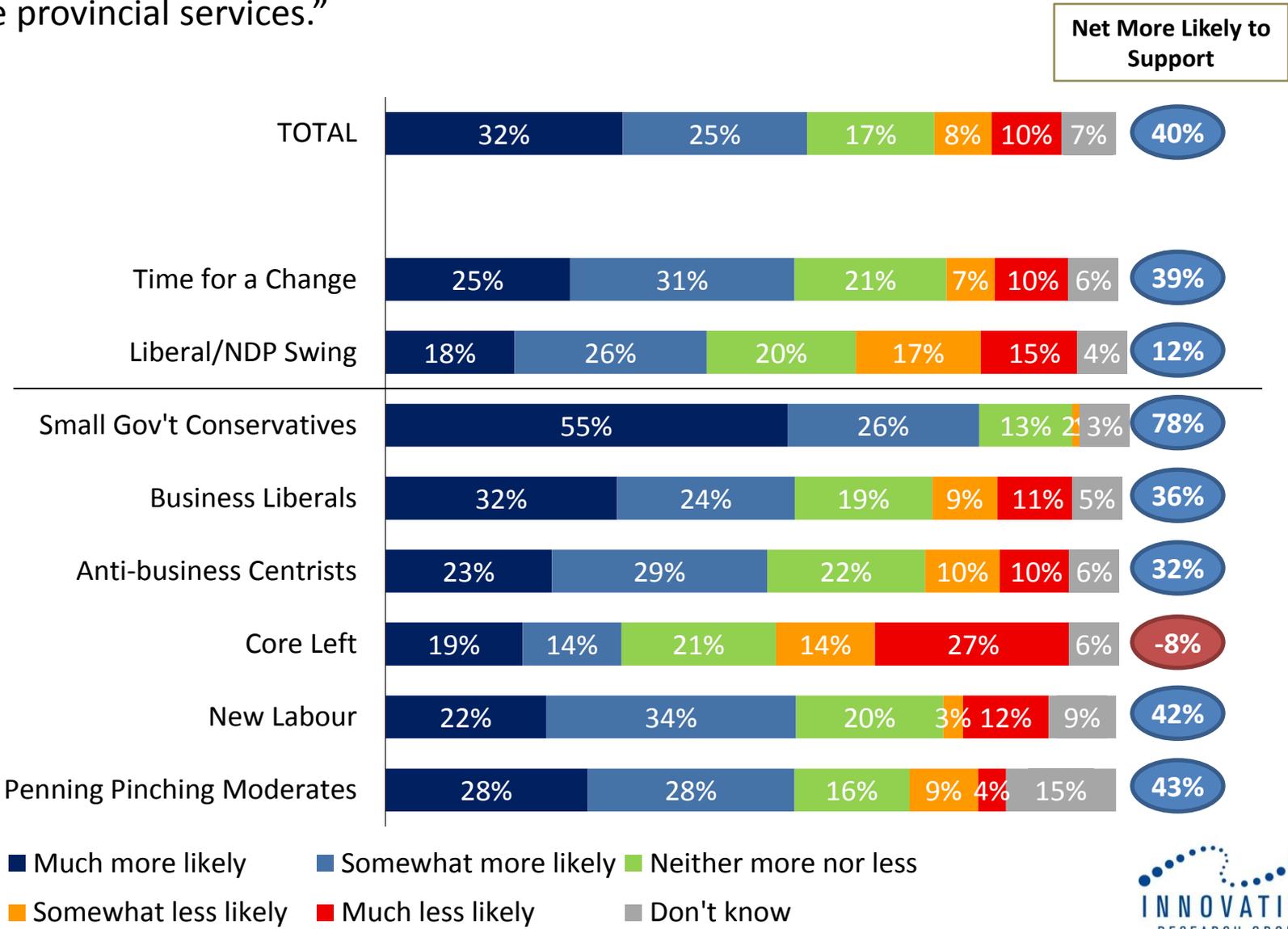


What does the PC road to victory look like?

Attitudinal Table

	Small Gov't Conservatives	Business Liberals	Anti-business Centrists	Core Left	New Labour	Penny Pinching Moderates
Role of government when it comes to economy: Gov't needs to be an active partner	0%	91%	41%	71%	37%	70%
It is important for the government to: Create opportunities so everyone can compete	88%	96%	86%	0%	0%	55%
Do you think the profit system: Brings out the worst in human nature	7%	0%	89%	88%	0%	36%
When gov'ts make decisions on spending on programs, do you think they should base their decisions on: Their ability to afford the programs	72%	0%	0%	0%	0%	85%
When it comes to government decision making...: Too often the gov't listens to experts instead of common sense	67%	58%	61%	52%	62%	53%
Be open to ideas from all viewpoints (vs focus ideas based on fundamental truths)	57%	81%	70%	75%	62%	65%

(Get Provincial Spending Under Control) “Ontario urgently needs to get provincial spending under control to reduce the burden on Ontario taxpayers and the economy. That means reducing the size of government, making public sector wages and benefits more comparable to the private sector, creating more opportunities for private and public organizations to compete to provide provincial services.” 62



The Tory Road Forward

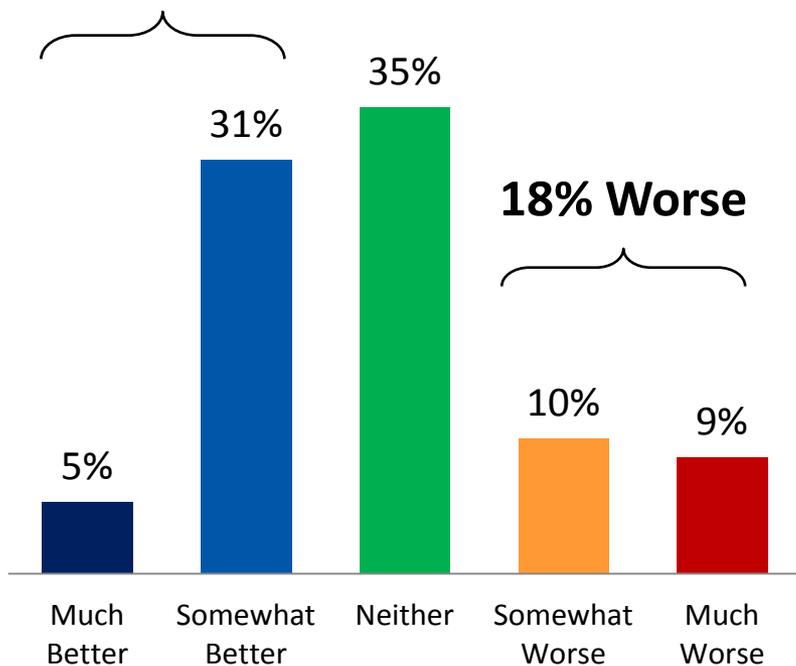
1. The Tory's are limited by both their brand and their leader.
2. They must find an agenda that can reach into the moderate and progressive side of the spectrum and pull votes in their direction.
3. *Controlling government costs* has strong potential to be that issue. The Liberals are too competitive on the economy for *jobs* to work and nothing else shares the same salience.
4. It also has the potential to provide a “shield” narrative to help deflect “Working Families” ads.
5. The challenge is to prevent that issue from becoming a proof point of “Tory meanness”. They need to build a narrative around Tim Hudak’s competitiveness on “*shares my values*” and focus on the “*why*” of the policy rather than the “*what*”.
6. They also need to drive urgency. Its tough. Can't we wait?

What does the Liberal road to victory look like?

Wynne has not met expectations but stills holds promise

Q A year ago, **Kathleen Wynne** became Premier of Ontario after winning the leadership of the Liberal Party of Ontario. When she became Premier, did you think she was going to make things better or worse for Ontario?

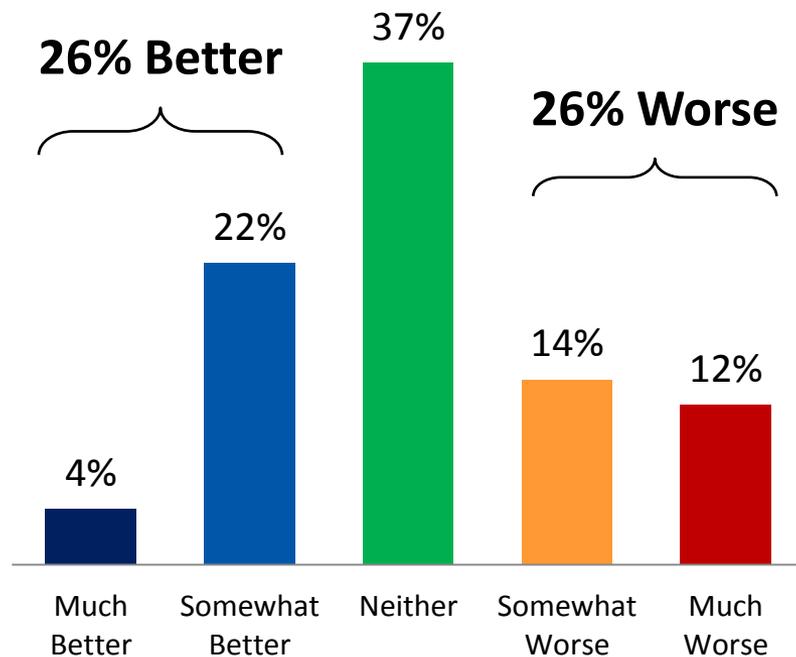
36% Better



Note: 'Don't know' (11%) not shown

Q Now that **Kathleen Wynne** has been Premier for a year, do you think her leadership has made things better or worse for Ontario??

26% Better



Note: 'Don't know' (11%) not shown

Wynne Expectations by Value Cluster Segments:

Hard Left had greatest expectations for Wynne

	Conservatives	Business Liberals	Left Liberals	Pocketbook Populous	Deferential Levelers	Hard Left
Much Better	2%	6%	8%	4%	9%	7%
Somewhat Better	23%	36%	29%	25%	28%	44%
Neither	37%	34%	40%	32%	30%	32%
Somewhat Worse	15%	8%	5%	16%	6%	5%
Much Worse	18%	4%	6%	8%	5%	3%
Don't Know	5%	12%	13%	16%	22%	9%

Wynne Performance by Value Cluster Segments: Hard Left still supports Wynne but 14 point drop from expectations

	Conservatives	Business Liberals	Left Liberals	Pocketbook Populous	Deferential Levelers	Hard Left
Much Better	1%	4%	6%	4%	13%	3%
Somewhat Better	19%	22%	24%	15%	18%	34%
Neither	30%	44%	41%	36%	40%	39%
Somewhat Worse	21%	12%	10%	19%	5%	10%
Much Worse	25%	7%	5%	14%	6%	5%
Don't Know	5%	11%	14%	14%	20%	9%

The Liberal Road Forward

- 1. The Liberals are well positioned to hold onto a minority government.**
 - They have the biggest voter pool and the strongest party brand.
 - Their leader has the most favourable a core advantage in strong leadership.
 - Despite 10 years in power with all the scandals that come with it, there is no passion in any desire for change.
- 2. The Liberals need to rally the center and left vote.** That vote is looking for the 2003 Liberals creating greenbelts and rebuilding public services. They need to be those Liberals.
- 3. They need to stop only meeting and start doing.** They are the government. They don't need to promise. They can just do.
- 4. They should make their promises before the writ and focus the election on the Tory threat.** This will mobilize their base, rally potential NDP voters and limit potential Tory defections.



Research-based strategic advice.

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