

ONTARIO LEADERSHIP

EMBARGOED UNTIL: 6 AM EST - SEPTEMBER 22, 2016 PRINT EXCLUSIVE: POSTMEDIA NETWORK

Mainstreet surveyed a random sample of 2,562 Ontario residents by Smart IVR™ on September 17-18, 2016. A mixture of landlines and cell phones were surveyed. Margin of error: +/- 1.94%, 19 times out of 20. Results were weighed by age and gender based on the 2011 Canadian Census.

MAINSTREET

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LIBERAL SWEEP POSSIBLE - JUST NOT WITH WYNNE

September 22, 2016 (Ottawa, ON) – A new Mainstreet/Postmedia poll finds the Ontario Liberals could win a majority government - with a different leader. The Mainstreet/Postmedia Poll was conducted September 17-18, 2016, with 2,562 respondents it has a margin of error of +/- 1.94%, 19 times out of 20.

"If an election were held today, the Ontario Liberals could return to power with a majority government," said Quito Maggi, President of Mainstreet Research. "When asked to consider an Ontario Liberal party led by someone other than Kathleen Wynne, the Liberals lead Patrick Brown's PCs by 4% including a staggering 22% lead in the 416 where a sweep is possible. The bad news for current Premier and party leader Kathleen Wynne is that it is all but impossible right now with her at the helm. With the current Premier as leader, the Liberals trail by 15% and would be hard pressed to win a majority of seats even in the 416 where they are leading by just 10%."

"As we approach the mid-term of Kathleen Wynne's mandate, it appears her own popularity lags the Liberal brand drastically. This reversal of fortunes for the once popular Wynne who outpaced her party brand in June 2014 to lead them to an unexpected Majority is quite astounding but not unprecedented in Canadian politics."

"It is reminiscent of other first term Premiers including Jim Prentice and Alison Redford in Alberta & Greg Selinger in Manitoba."

"Like Prentice, Redford & Selinger before her, Wynne's brand rejuvenated a long serving, tired administration with significant baggage. Her push of the Liberal brand to the left in 2014 outflanked a hapless Andrea Horwath led NDP - but that was then."

"Her personal credibility on the left end of the political spectrum is now gone. With a widely unpopular Hydro One privatization, her accomplishments in Education, Healthcare, Environment and Transit go unnoticed."

"With twenty months till the next election it may be possible to right the ship. An expected contest in the Liberal bastion of Ottawa-Vanier will be an opportunity for the Wynne Liberals to prove the results of Scarborough-Rouge River were a meaningless blip much like the Etobicoke-Lakeshore loss in 2013. A loss in Vanier would begin a long, slow march towards a campaign in the spring of 2018 that can't come soon enough for PC leader Patrick Brown. His personal awareness and approvals have increased and now sit at 44%, 12% back of NDP leader Andrea Horwath who sits at 56% and outpaces the current Premier almost 3 to 1."

"Whether Wynne can recast herself successfully in the months ahead is hard to say. Many believe the Province isn't going far enough to reduce Hydro costs (46%)," finished Maggi.

About Mainstreet Research

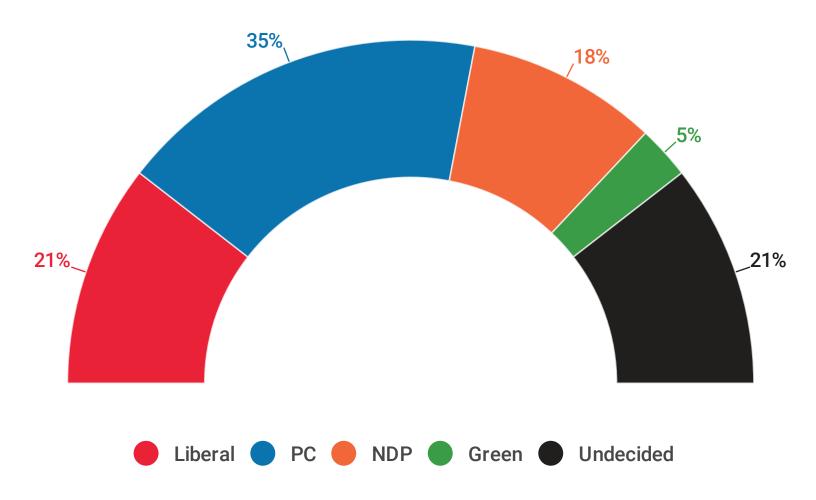
Mainstreet is a national public research firm. With years of political experience at all three levels of government, President and CEO Quito Maggi is a respected commentator on Canadian public affairs.

Differentiated by its large sample sizes, Mainstreet Research has provided accurate snapshots of public opinion, having predicted a majority NDP government in Alberta, a majority Liberal government in British Columbia and a majority Liberal government in Ontario. Mainstreet has been the most accurate polling firm in several by elections and the most recent Toronto mayoral election. Most recently, Mainstreet was the only polling firm to correctly predict a Liberal majority government in the 2015 federal election.

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Available from Ottawa: Quito Maggi, quito@mainstreetresearch.ca For More Information: David Valentin, david@mainstreetresearch.ca, 514-913-5524

If a provincial election were held today, which party would you support?

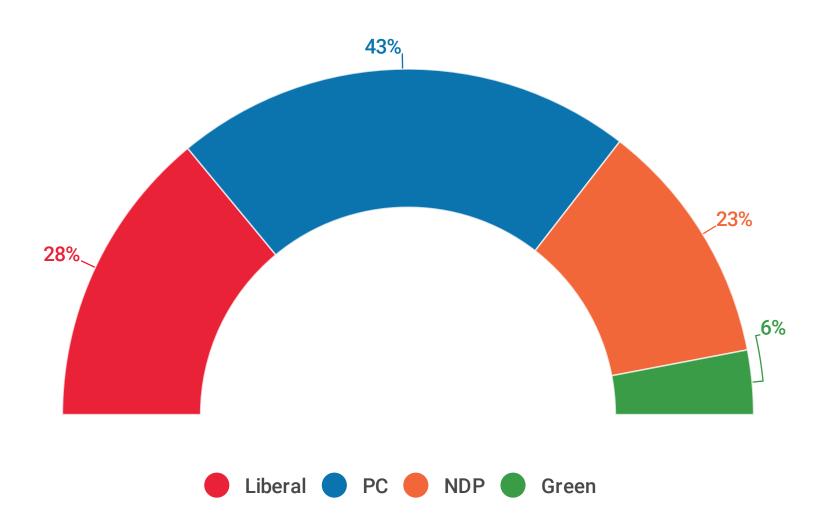


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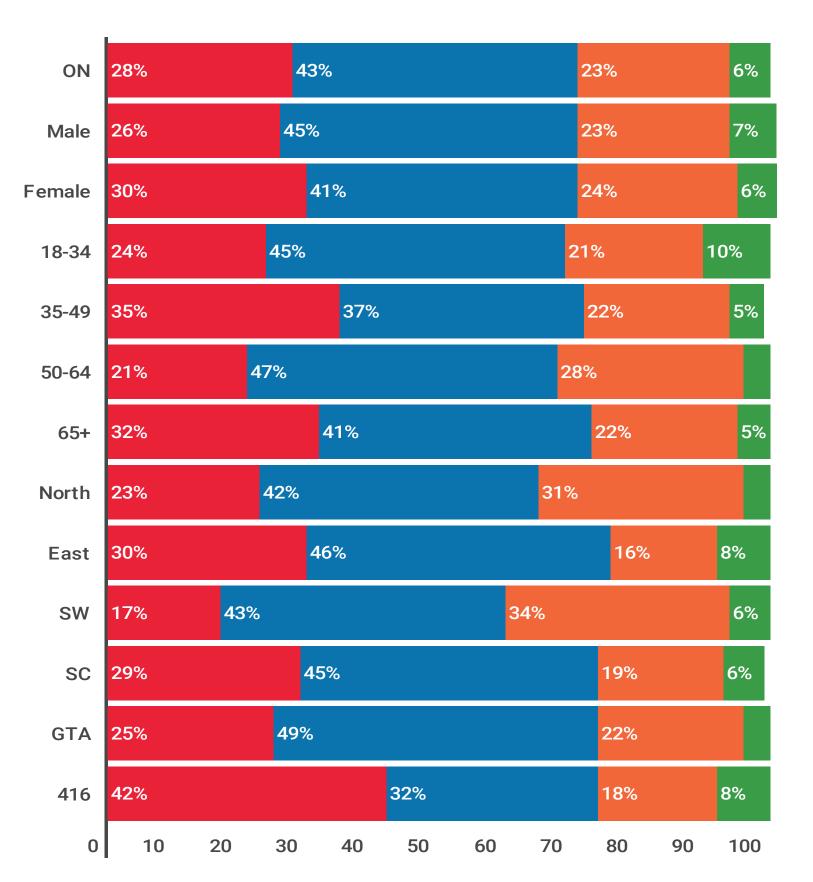
	18-34	35-49	50-64	65+	Male	Female
Liberal	18%	27%	14%	24%	20%	21%
PC	36%	33%	39%	34%	37%	34%
NDP	18%	16%	22%	16%	18%	18%
Green	8%	5%	3%	4%	5%	5%
Undecided	20%	20%	22%	23%	20%	22%
Sample	332	617	814	799	1,235	1,327

	ON	SW	SC	416	905	North	East
Liberal	21%	14%	16%	19%	34%	12%	18%
PC	35%	39%	37%	37%	27%	36%	41%
NDP	18%	30%	12%	15%	14%	23%	13%
Green	5%	6%	5%	3%	6%	3%	7%
Undecided	21%	11%	30%	26%	20%	26%	20%
Sample	2,562	412	417	486	454	349	444

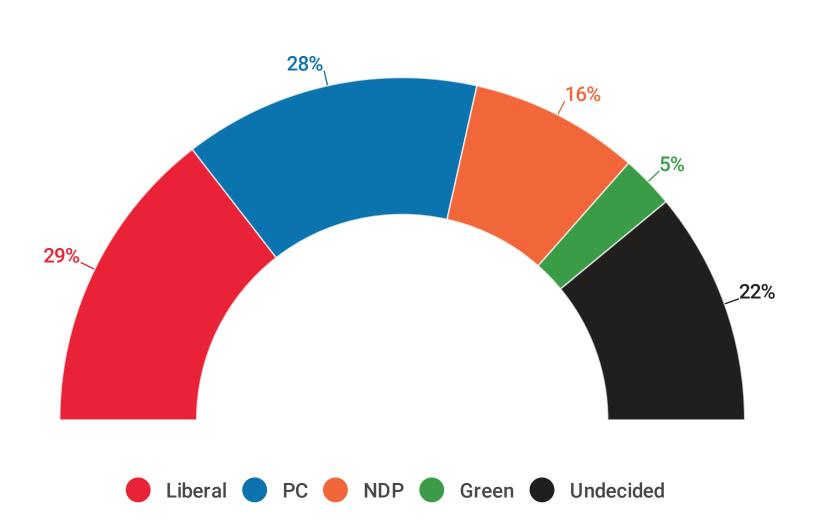
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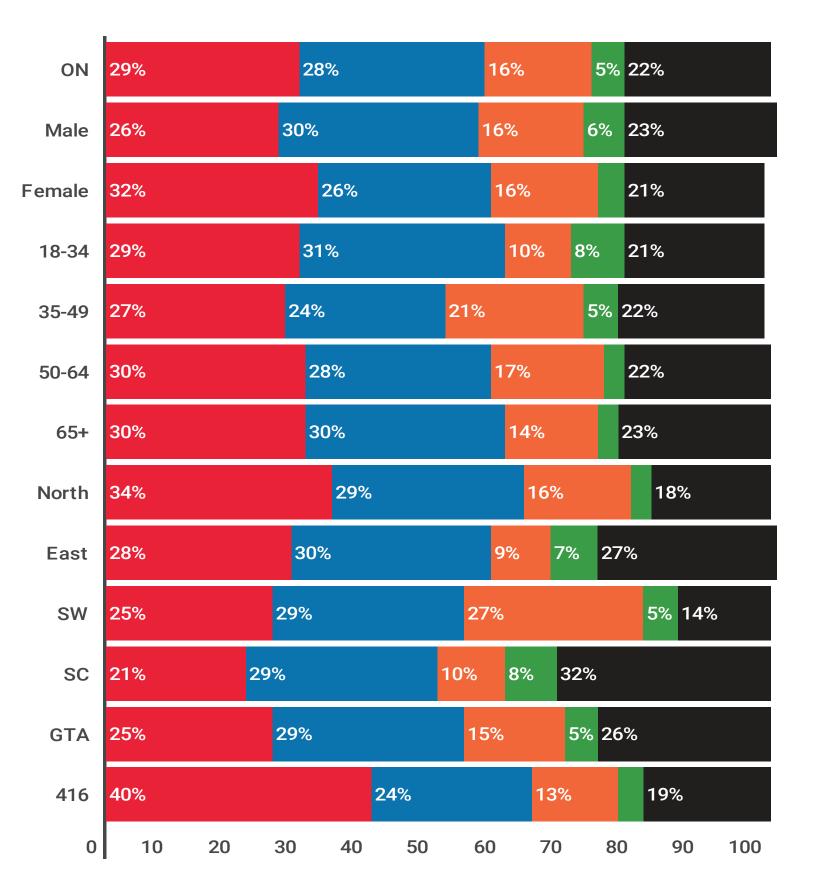
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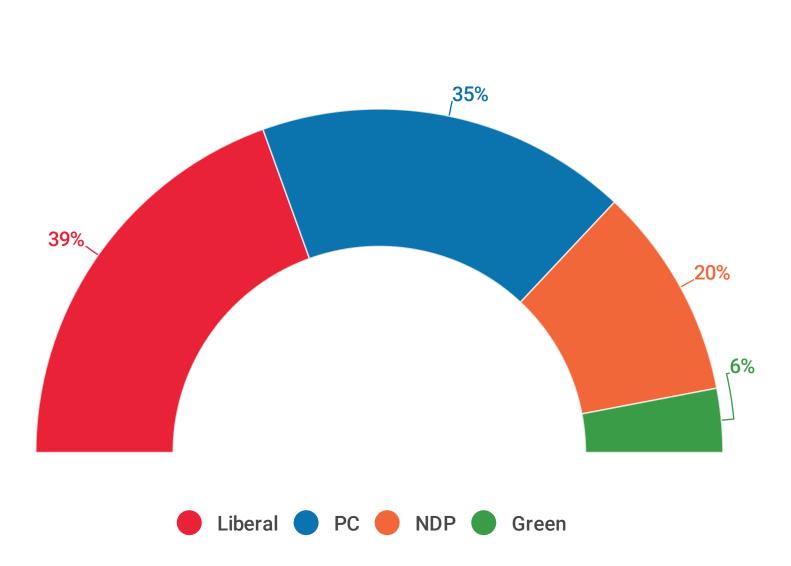
And if the Ontario Liberal Party had a different leader – which party would you support?



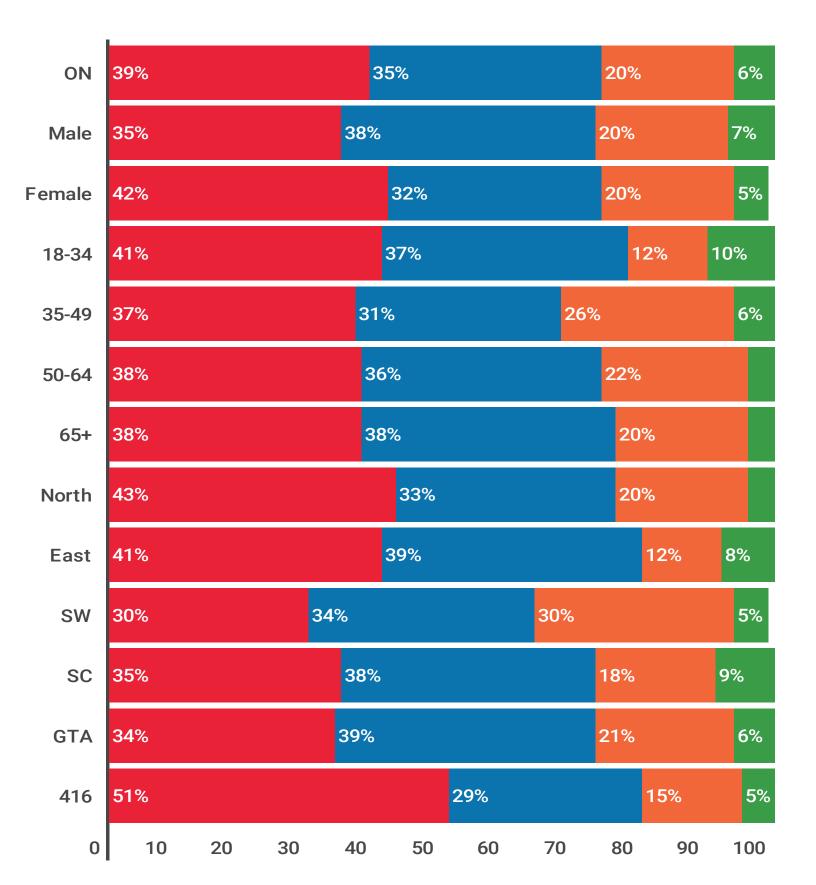
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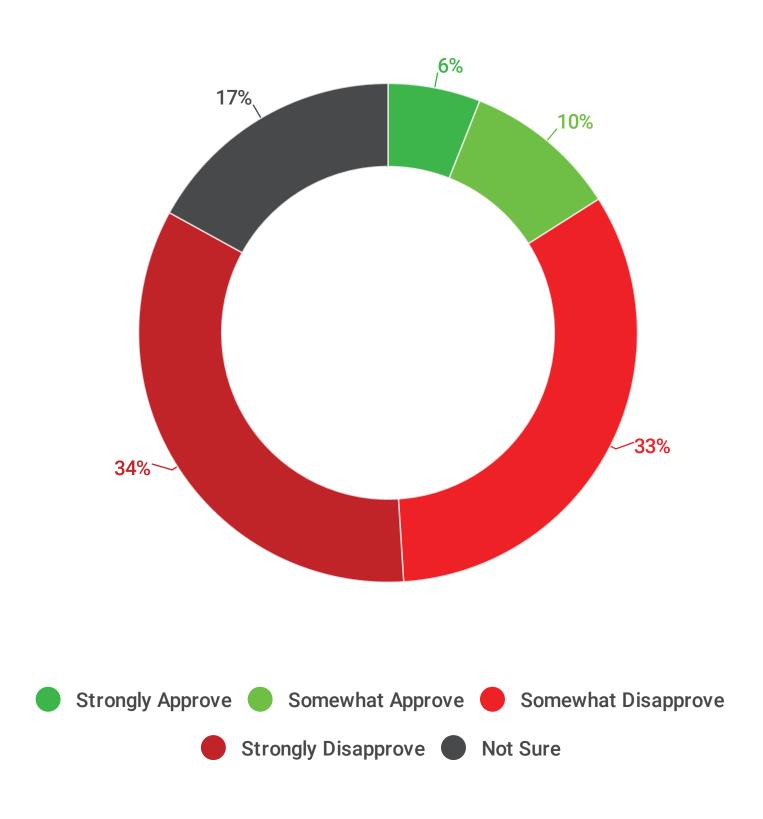
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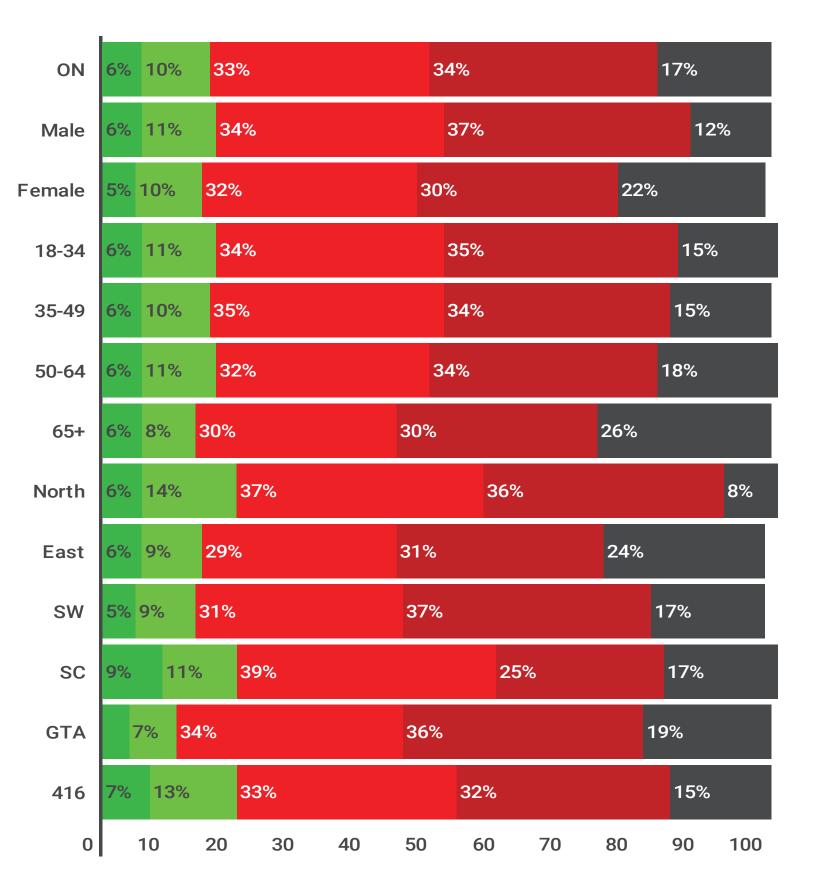
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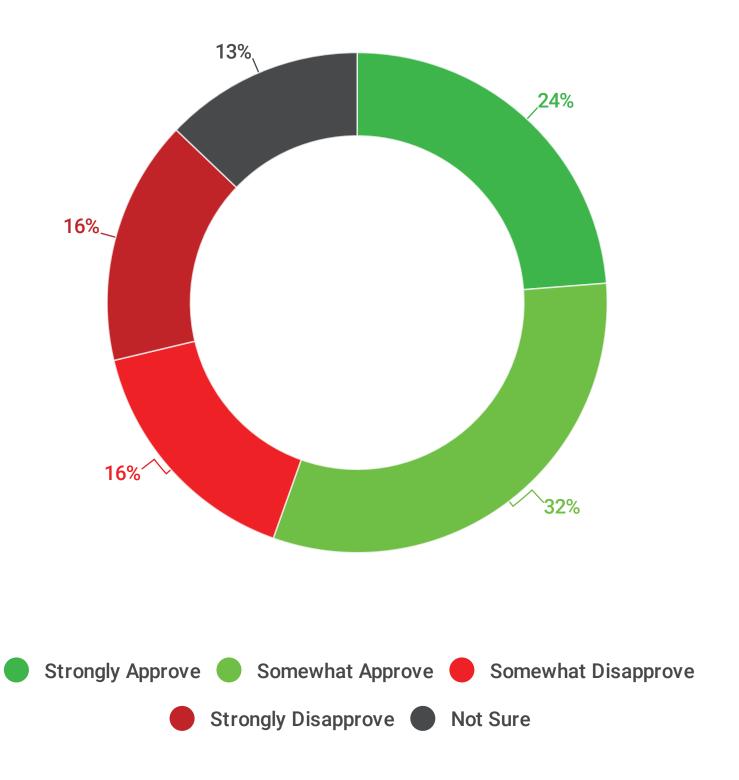
Do you approve or disapprove of the way Kathleen Wynne is handling her job as Premier of Ontario?



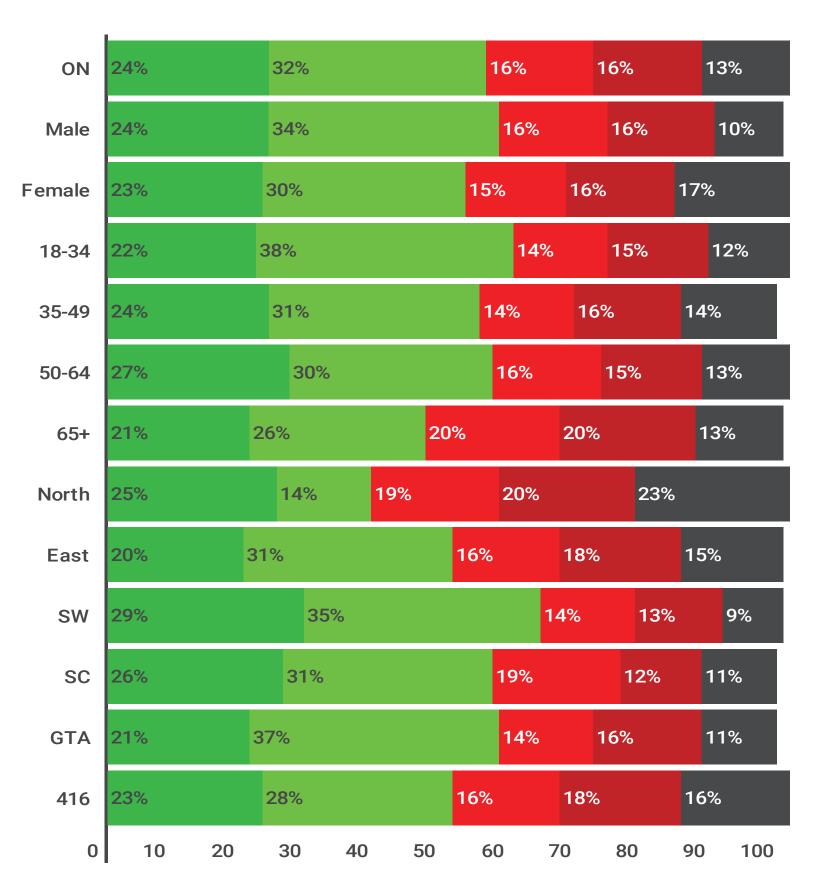
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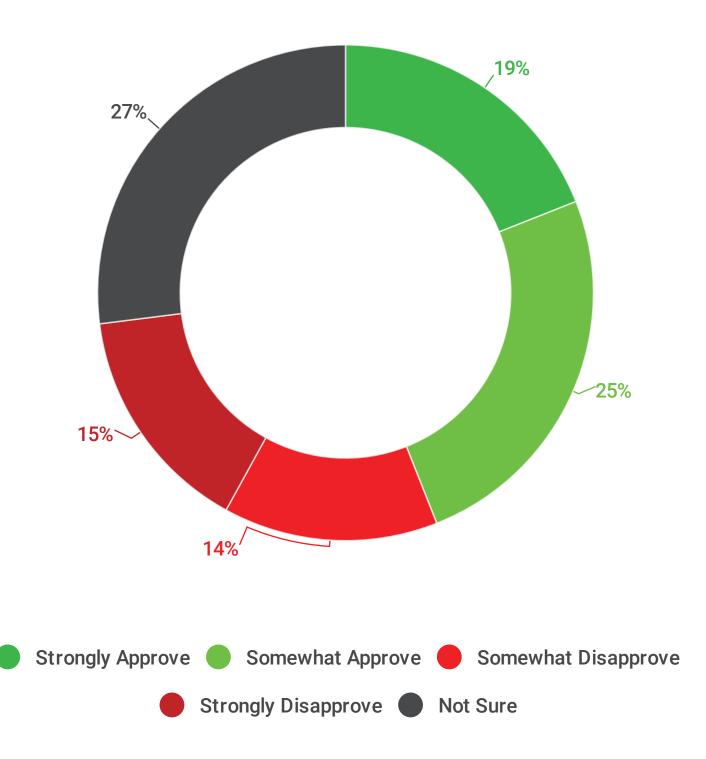
Do you approve or disapprove of the way Andrea Horwath is handling her job as NDP Leader?



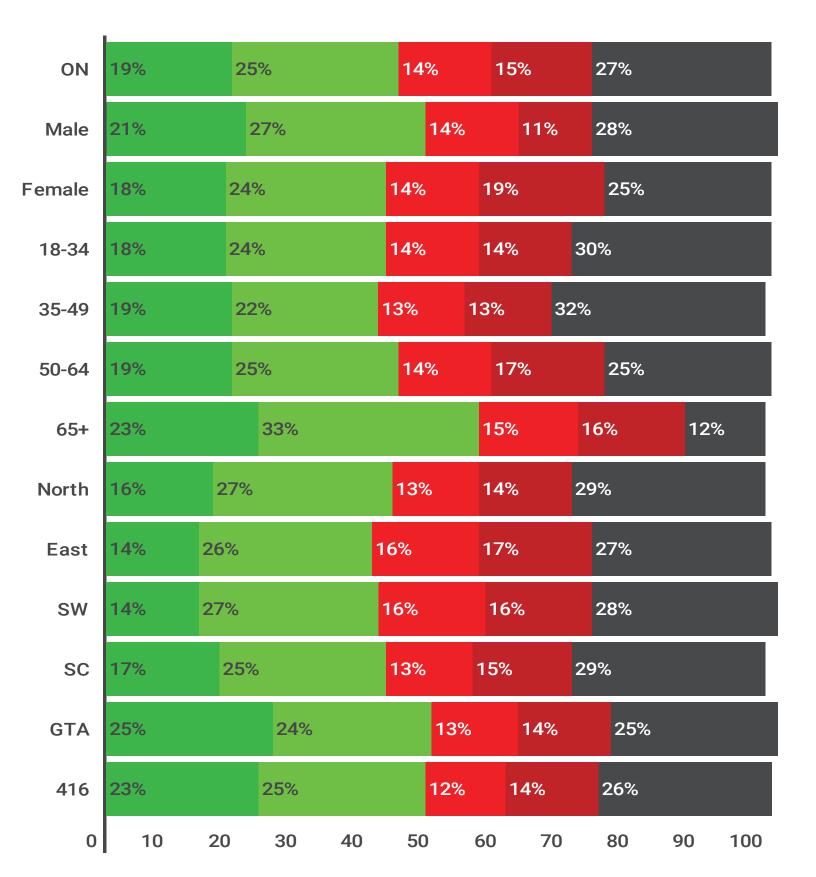
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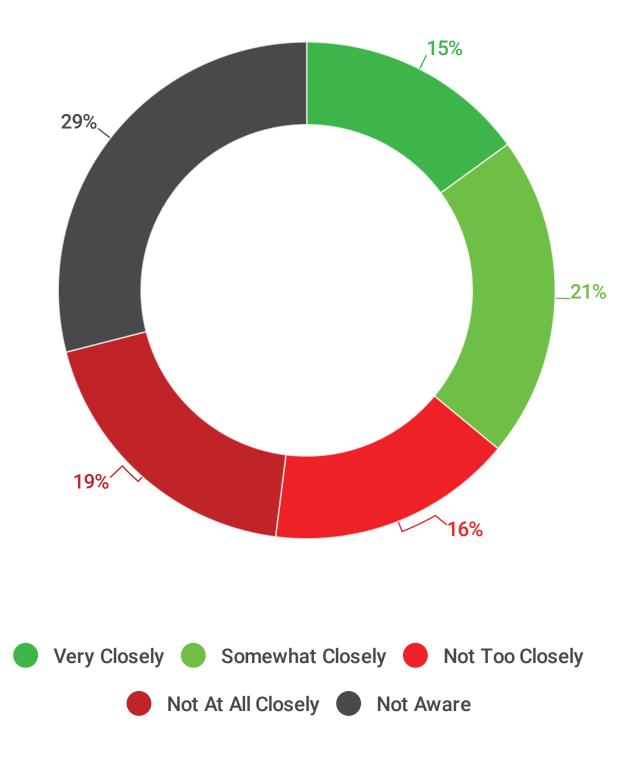
Do you approve or disapprove of the way Patrick Brown is handling his job as Progressive Conservative Leader?



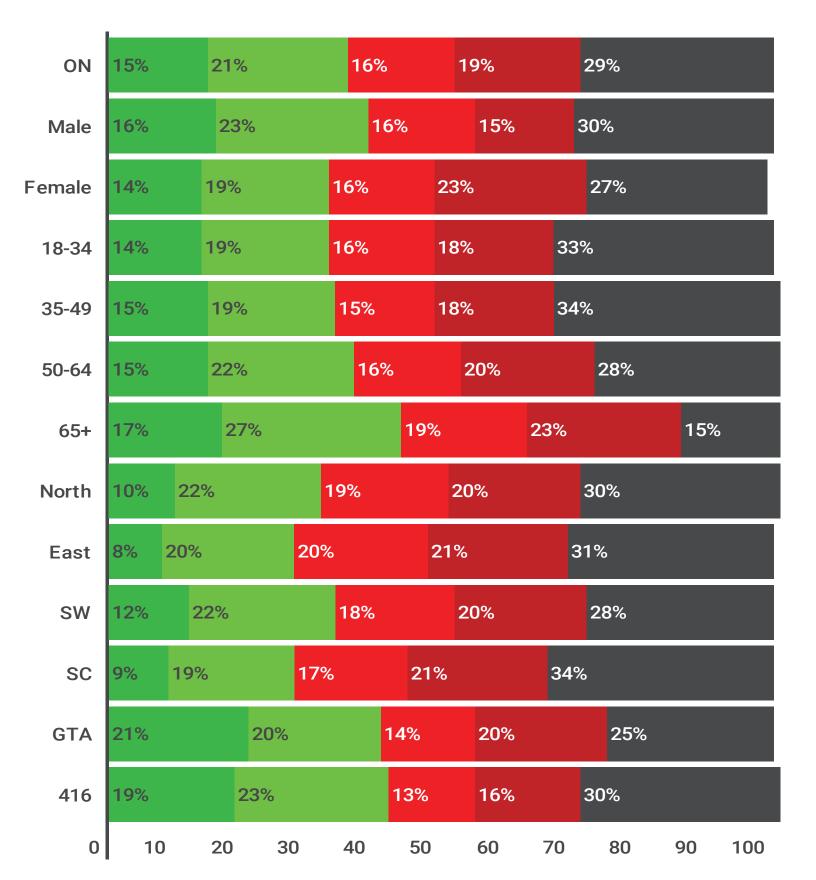
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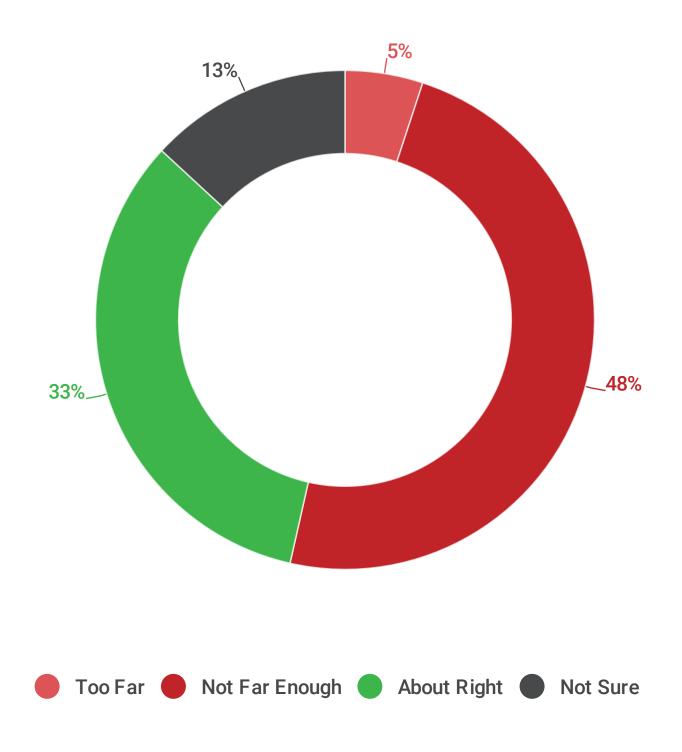
Recently the government of Ontario announced it will introduce a rebate for the cost of electricity that amounts to \$130 a year for the average household with a larger rebate for residents in rural communities. How closely have you been following this story?



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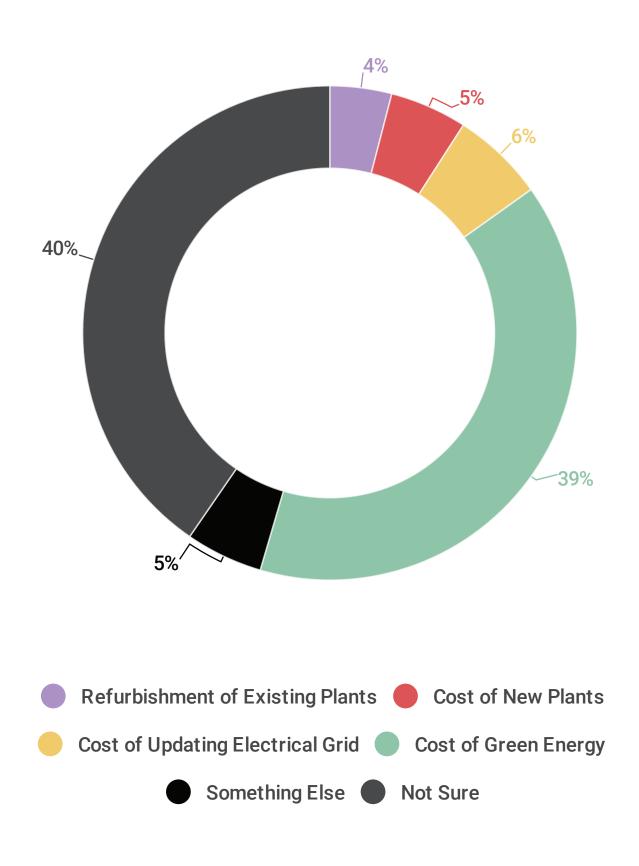
Do you think the Ontario government is going too far to reduce the cost of electricity, not far enough or is it about right?



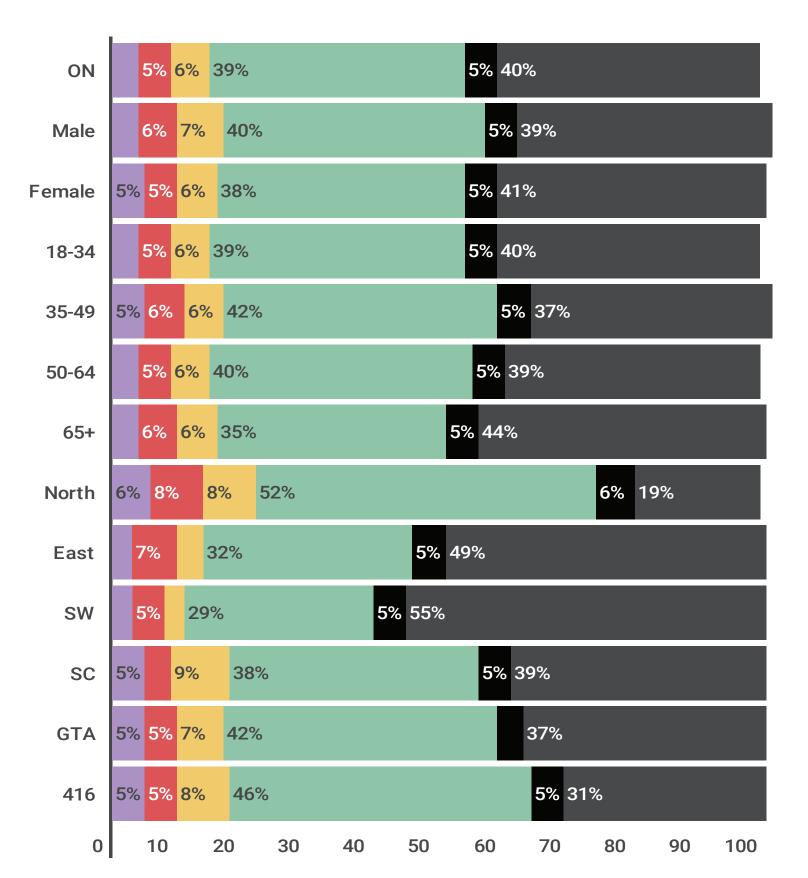
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ON	5%	48%				33%			1	3%
Male	5%	50%				33%				12%
Female	6%	46%				33%			1	5%
18-34	6%	45%				36%				13%
35-49	6%	46%				34%			1	15%
50-64	6%	47%				34%				13%
65+		58%					27%			11%
							21 /0			11/0
North	9%		2%				15%	24%	%	
North East	9% 9%	52	2% 5%					249	% 19%	
		52	5%					249	19%	4%
East	9%	52 46	5% %			26%	15%	249	19%	
East SW	9% 7% 7%	52 40 48%	5% %		43	26% 31% 35%	15%	249	19%	4%
East SW SC	9% 7% 7%	52 46 48% 49%	5% %		43	26% 31% 35%	15%	249	19%	4%

In your opinion what has contributed the most to an increase in the cost of electricity? Is it the refurbishment of existing power plants, the cost of building new power plants, the cost of updating the electrical grid, the cost of green energy or something else?



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SCRIPT

1.If a provincial election were held today, which party would you support?

Ontario Liberal Party led by Kathleen Wynne Progressive Conservatives led by Patrick Brown NDP led by Andrea Horwath Green Party led by Mike Schreiner Undecided

And which party are you leaning towards voting for?

Ontario Liberal Party led by Kathleen Wynne Progressive Conservatives led by Patrick Brown NDP led by Andrea Horwath Green Party led by Mike Schreiner Undecided

And if the Ontario Liberal Party had a different leader - which party would you support?

Ontario Liberal Party Progressive Conservatives led by Patrick Brown NDP led by Andrea Horwath Green Party led by Mike Schreiner Undecided

And which party would you lean towards?

Ontario Liberal Party Progressive Conservatives led by Patrick Brown NDP led by Andrea Horwath Green Party led by Mike Schreiner Undecided

Do you approve or disapprove of the way Kathleen Wynne is handling her job as Premier of Ontario? Do you approve or disapprove of the way Andrea Horwath is handling her job as NDP Leader? Do you approve or disapprove of the way Patrick Brown is handling his job as Progressive Conservative Leader?

> Strongly Approve Somewhat Approve Somewhat Disapprove Strongly Disapprove Not Sure

Recently the government of Ontario announced it will introduce a rebate for the cost of electricity that amounts to \$130 a year for the average household with a larger rebate for residents in rural communities. How closely have you been following this story?

Very Closely Somewhat Closely Not Too Closely Not At All Closely Not Aware

Do you think the Ontario government is going too far to reduce the cost of electricity, not far enough or is it about right?

Going Too Far Not Far Enough About Right Not Sure

In your opinion what has contributed the most to an increase in the cost of electricity? Is it the refurbishment of existing power plants, the cost of building new power plants, the cost of updating the electrical grid, the cost of green energy or something else?

Refurbishment of Existing Power Plants Cost of Building New Power Plants Cost of Updating the Electrical Grid Cost of Green Energy Something Else Not Sure

OUR RECORD IN 2016 ...so far!



CALGARY GREENWAY



Most Accurate Pollster of the Calgary Greenway by election.

WHITBY

TARIO



Most Accurate Pollster of the Whitby by election.

MANITOBA

SASKATCHEWAN



Most Active Pollster of Saskatchewan's general election, top results within MoE.



Most Active Pollster of Manitoba's general election, top results within MoE.

DIECTS: LIBERAL MAJORITY GOVERNMENT 187 DN 102 NP 38 G 10 GN

ONLY WE CALLED THE LIBERAL MAJORITY.





Ready for Change Ensemble pour le change

"I recommend "Raiders of the Lost Campaign Arc," released Oct. 18, because it's an interview with a pollster that everyone who follows politics should hear. Quito Maggi, of Mainstreet Public Research, was the only pollster I saw call the Liberal majority with such confidence, a week before we voted.

Maggi also has the distinction of being the guy who predicted the BC Liberals would win in 2013, in defiance of the majority of the polls.

His technique involves picking a true bellwether riding and polling it thoroughly. His explanation for how he does it is well worth a listen and should be required research for anyone running a political campaign." - Shannon Rupp, The Tyee, November 4th, 2015

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ABOUT MAINSTREET 🔛

Mainstreet is a national public research firm. With 20 years of political experience at all three levels of government, President and CEO Quito Maggi is a respected commentator on Canadian public affairs.

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