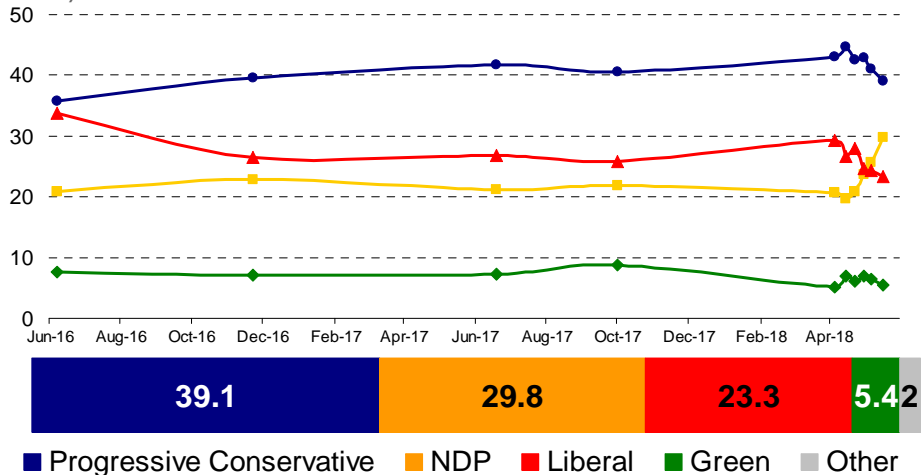


PCs HOLD SOLID LEAD, BUT MOMENTUM FAVOURS NDP

[Ottawa – May 22, 2018] With barely two weeks to go until Ontarians hit the polls, the NDP are picking up momentum with both the Progressive Conservatives and Liberals falling back modestly. If these numbers were to apply to the election, they would almost certainly produce a PC majority. However, the upward momentum for the NDP and the decline of the Liberals bring in the clear possibility of other outcomes.

Ontario vote intention

Q. If a provincial election were held tomorrow, which party would you vote for?



Note: These figures are based on decided and leaning voters only; 9.5% of respondents say they are undecided, are ineligible to vote, or skipped the question.

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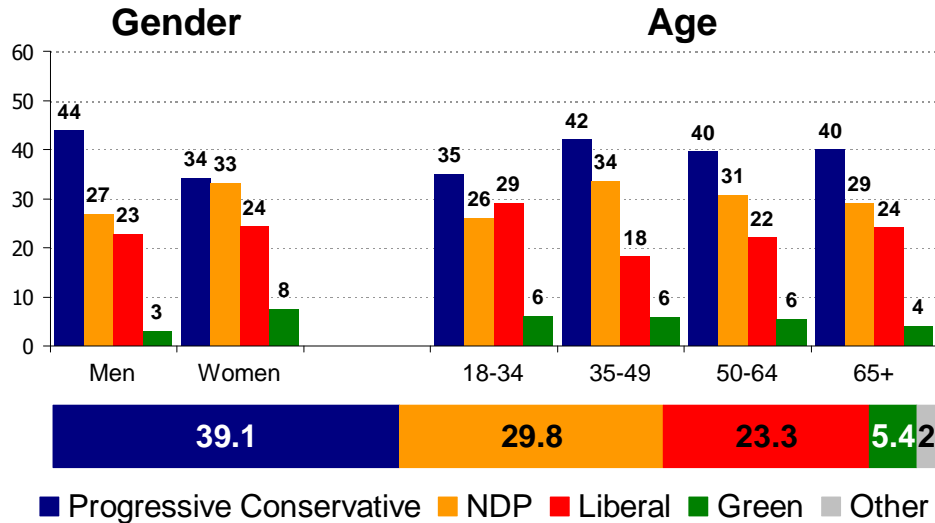
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BASE: Residents of Ontario; May 15-17, 2018, n=1,124, MOE +/- 2.9%, 19 times out of 20

The PCs have a commanding lead with men and they continue to do well with Gen Xers (i.e., those ages 35-49), as well as high school and college educated. The party also has a huge lead with working class voters. This strength reflects some of the key sources for new populist support (for example, the last U.S. presidential election).

Vote intention by gender and age

Q. If a provincial election were held tomorrow, which party would you vote for?

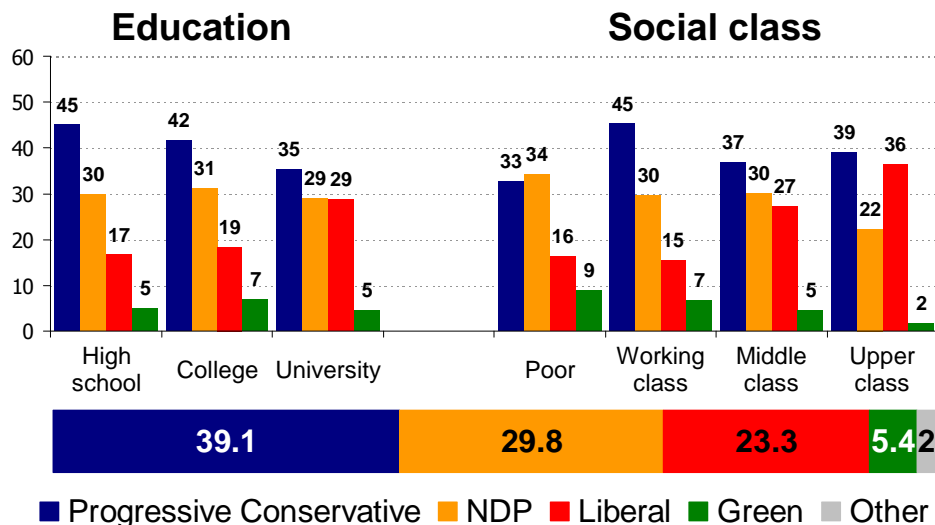


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BASE: Residents of Ontario; May 15-17, 2018, n=1,124, MOE +/- 2.9%, 19 times out of 20

Vote intention by socioeconomic status

Q. If a provincial election were held tomorrow, which party would you vote for?



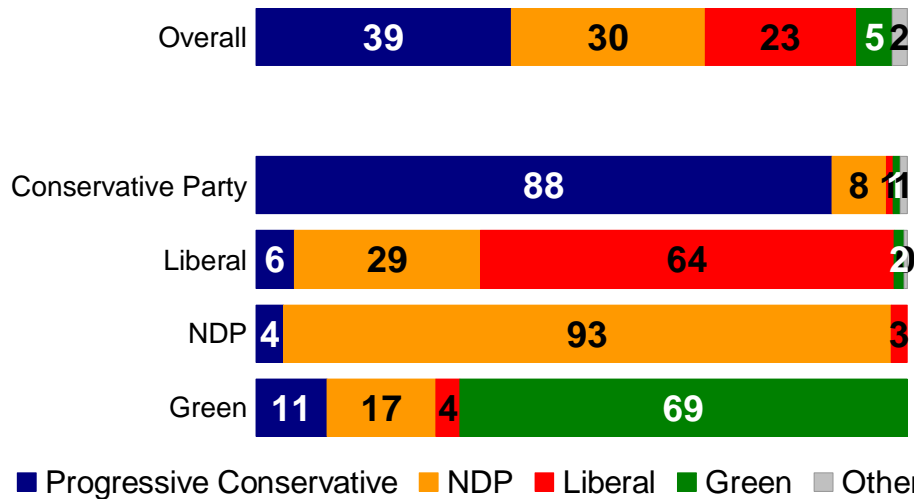
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BASE: Residents of Ontario; May 15-17, 2018, n=1,124, MOE +/- 2.9%, 19 times out of 20

Analyzing the results by vote intention at the federal level reveals that the Ontario NDP and the PCs are capturing the vast majority of federal NDP and Conservative support, respectively. The Liberals, on the other hand, are capturing only two-thirds of the votes of their federal counterparts.

Ontario vote intention by federal party support

Q. If a provincial election were held tomorrow, which party would you vote for?

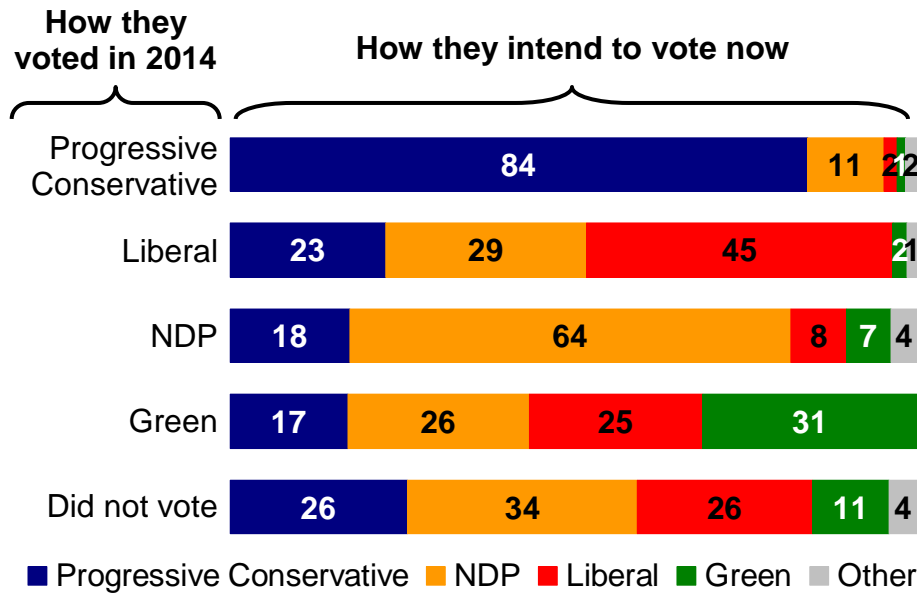


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BASE: Residents of Ontario; May 15-17, 2018, n=1,124, MOE +/- 2.9%, 19 times out of 20

Further evidence of the serious plight of the Liberals is the fact that they are capturing less than half of their 2014 vote (compared to an 84 per cent retention rate for the PCs and 64 per cent the NDP). Liberals defections appear to be going equally to the PCs and the NDP.

Voter mobility



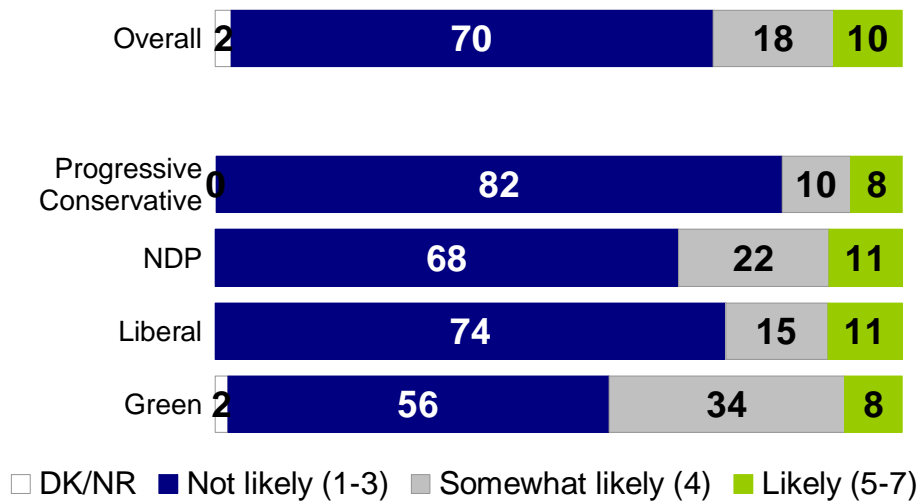
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BASE: Residents of Ontario; May 15-17, 2018, n=1,124, MOE +/- 2.9%, 19 times out of 20

Even though the PCs hold a nearly 10-point lead, there's lots of room for this election to produce a different outcome than the current polling. Indeed, nearly 30 per cent of voters are at least somewhat likely to change their mind. The PCs hold an advantage in this area, with only 18 per cent expressing openness to changing their minds. There is also some evidence that the Liberal decline is bottoming out, as they are less likely to change their minds than NDP voters.

Likelihood of changing mind

Q. How likely it is that you will change your mind between now and the next provincial election?



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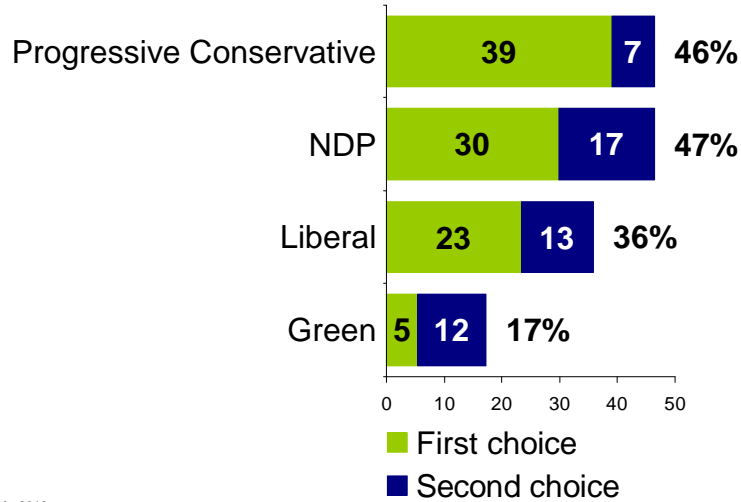
BASE: Eligible voters; May 15-17, 2018, n=1,117, MOE +/- 2.9%, 19 times out of 20

Another factor that could alter the results is the undecided vote. Making up nearly 10 per cent of all voters, they are a force to be considered. They will likely serve as nothing more than a source of non-voting, but this somewhat lower socioeconomic cohort could make a difference if they become engaged.

Turning to second choice, both the PCs and NDP have theoretical ceilings in the majority range. Even if the Liberals were to convert all of their second choices, however, they would fall short of a majority. PC voters are much less likely to have a second choice (another indicator of the strength of their commitment). NDP voters, meanwhile, lean to the Liberals as their leading second choice, while Liberal voters lean overwhelmingly to the NDP. It is interesting that the Green vote, which is least likely to turn out, is equally likely to turn to each of the three other parties, meaning it will not be much of a factor.

Theoretical vote ceilings

Q. If a provincial election were held tomorrow, which party would you vote for? / Talking again in terms of a provincial election, which party would be your second choice?

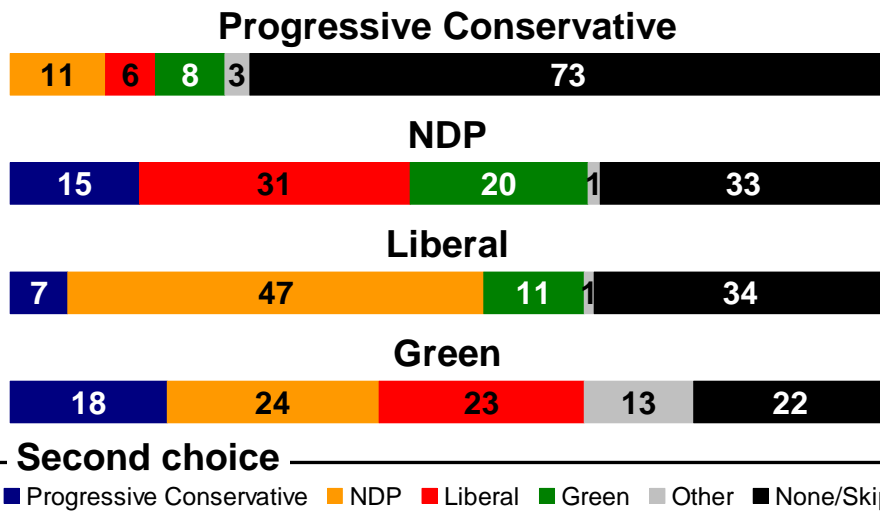


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BASE: Decided voters; May 15-17, 2018, n=1,036, MOE +/- 3.0%, 19 times out of 20

Anatomy of second choice

Q. Talking again in terms of a provincial election, which party would be your second choice?



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BASE: Decided voters; May 15-17, 2018, n=1,036, MOE +/- 3.0%, 19 times out of 20

Detailed Results:

Ontario Vote Intention (decided and leaning voters only)							
<i>Q. If a provincial election were held tomorrow, which party would you vote for? [If undecided] Even if you do not have a firm idea, are you leaning towards a party? [If yes] As it stands, towards which party are you leaning?</i>							
	Progressive Conservative	NDP	Liberal	Green	Other	Sample Size	Margin of Error (+/-)
NATIONALLY	39.1%	29.8%	23.3%	5.4%	2.3%	1036	3.0
GENDER							
Male	43.9%	26.9%	22.9%	3.0%	3.3%	515	4.3
Female	34.1%	33.2%	24.2%	7.5%	0.9%	489	4.4
AGE							
<35	34.9%	26.0%	29.1%	6.0%	4.0%	72	11.6
35-49	42.0%	33.6%	18.2%	5.8%	0.5%	162	7.7
50-64	39.6%	30.7%	22.0%	5.5%	2.3%	320	5.5
65+	40.1%	29.1%	24.0%	4.1%	2.7%	467	4.5
EDUCATION							
High school or less	45.0%	30.0%	16.7%	4.9%	3.3%	224	6.6
College or CEGEP	41.5%	31.1%	18.5%	7.0%	2.0%	292	5.7
University or higher	35.3%	29.0%	28.8%	4.6%	2.2%	510	4.3
Social class							
Poor	32.8%	34.3%	16.3%	8.9%	7.7%	110	9.3
Working class	45.3%	29.7%	15.4%	6.8%	2.8%	268	6.0
Middle class	36.8%	30.2%	27.2%	4.5%	1.4%	578	4.1
Upper class	39.0%	22.4%	36.3%	1.7%	0.6%	69	11.8
VOTE IN THE 2014 ELECTION							
Did not vote	25.8%	33.5%	25.5%	11.1%	4.1%	131	8.6
Liberal	22.6%	29.3%	44.5%	2.1%	1.4%	381	5.0
Progressive Conservative	84.0%	11.2%	1.8%	1.3%	1.6%	330	5.4
NDP	17.5%	64.1%	8.0%	6.6%	3.7%	116	9.1
Green	17.2%	26.4%	25.3%	31.2%	0.0%	38	15.9
Other	22.4%	40.9%	0.0%	14.9%	21.8%	14	26.2
FEDERAL VOTE INTENTION							
Liberal Party of Canada	6.0%	28.5%	63.5%	1.6%	0.4%	357	5.2
Conservative Party of Canada	88.4%	8.4%	1.1%	1.0%	1.1%	413	4.8
New Democratic Party of Canada	4.2%	93.3%	2.5%	0.0%	0.0%	146	8.1
Green Party of Canada	11.0%	16.7%	3.6%	68.7%	0.0%	58	12.9
Other	15.4%	26.3%	0.0%	4.5%	53.8%	32	17.3

Second Choice

Q. [IF DECIDED] Talking again in terms of a provincial election, which party would be your second choice?

	None/ Skip	PC	NDP	Liberal	Green	Other	Sample Size	Margin of Error (+/-)
NATIONALLY	48.7%	7.3%	16.7%	12.6%	11.9%	2.8%	1036	3.0
GENDER								
Male	51.6%	5.9%	17.0%	13.2%	9.0%	3.4%	515	4.3
Female	45.2%	8.9%	16.4%	12.5%	15.2%	1.7%	489	4.4
AGE								
<35	42.1%	11.3%	14.2%	12.1%	19.9%	0.4%	72	11.6
35-49	51.2%	5.0%	14.6%	15.0%	9.6%	4.6%	162	7.7
50-64	47.9%	6.5%	19.6%	11.7%	10.2%	4.1%	320	5.5
65+	54.2%	6.5%	18.6%	11.8%	7.1%	1.9%	467	4.5
EDUCATION								
High school or less	57.8%	12.5%	8.9%	9.7%	6.9%	4.3%	224	6.6
College or CEGEP	51.8%	10.0%	15.1%	12.7%	9.5%	1.0%	292	5.7
University or higher	43.0%	3.7%	20.9%	13.8%	15.3%	3.4%	510	4.3
ONTARIO VOTE INTENTION								
Liberal	33.5%	6.6%	47.4%	–	11.4%	1.1%	233	6.4
Progressive Conservative	72.7%	–	10.9%	5.6%	8.0%	2.8%	416	4.8
NDP	32.8%	14.7%	–	30.9%	20.3%	1.3%	310	5.6
Green	22.1%	17.9%	24.1%	23.3%	–	12.5%	52	13.6
Other	62.2%	17.1%	1.6%	0.0%	1.6%	17.4%	25	19.6

Likelihood of Changing Mind

Q. [IF] How likely it is that you will change your mind between now and the next provincial election? Please use a 7-point scale where 1 means not at all likely, 7 means extremely likely, and the midpoint, 4, means somewhat likely.

	Not likely (1-3)	Somewhat likely (4)	Likely (5-7)	Skip	Sample Size	Margin of Error (+/-)
OVERALL	70.2%	17.5%	10.0%	2.3%	1117	2.9
GENDER						
Male	75.1%	14.1%	10.7%	0.1%	535	4.2
Female	66.9%	21.8%	9.0%	2.3%	533	4.2
AGE						
<35	65.9%	23.6%	7.5%	3.0%	80	11.0
35-49	70.3%	13.3%	16.4%	0.0%	176	7.4
50-64	78.0%	14.9%	6.1%	1.1%	337	5.3
65+	69.3%	19.4%	10.4%	0.9%	496	4.4
EDUCATION						
High school or less	71.0%	16.0%	11.2%	1.8%	244	6.3
College or CEGEP	66.7%	20.9%	10.2%	2.2%	313	5.5
University or higher	74.0%	16.1%	9.6%	0.3%	536	4.2
ONTARIO VOTE INTENTION						
Liberal	74.3%	14.9%	10.8%	0.0%	233	6.4
Progressive Conservative	82.3%	9.9%	7.5%	0.2%	416	4.8
NDP	67.5%	21.8%	10.7%	0.0%	310	5.6
Green	55.5%	34.3%	8.3%	1.8%	52	13.6
Other	70.0%	24.5%	5.5%	0.0%	25	19.6

Methodology:

This survey was conducted using High Definition Interactive Voice Response (HD-IVR™) technology, which allows respondents to enter their preferences by punching the keypad on their phone, rather than telling them to an operator. In an effort to reduce the coverage bias of landline only RDD, we created a dual landline/cell phone RDD sampling frame for this research. As a result, we are able to reach those with a landline and cell phone, as well as cell phone only households and landline only households.

The field dates for this survey are May 15-17, 2018. In total, a random sub-sample of 1,124 residents of Ontario aged 18 and over responded to the survey. The margin of error associated with the total sample is +/- 2.9 percentage points, 19 times out of 20.

Please note that the margin of error increases when the results are sub-divided (i.e., error margins for sub-groups such as region, sex, age, education). All the data have been statistically weighted by **age, gender, region, and educational attainment** to ensure the sample's composition reflects that of the actual population of Canada according to Census data.