

CUPE

ONTARIO PRE-BUDGET SURVEY

May 14, 2025



Methodology

The survey was conducted with 1,000 Canadian adults living in Ontario from May 13 – 14, 2025. A random sample of panelists were invited to complete the survey from a set of partner panels based on the Lucid exchange platform. These partners are typically double opt-in survey panels, blended to manage out potential skews in the data from a single source.

The margin of error for a comparable probability-based random sample of the same size is +/- 3.09%, 19 times out of 20.

The data were weighted according to census data to ensure that the sample matched Ontario's population according to age, gender, and region. Totals may not add up to 100 due to rounding.





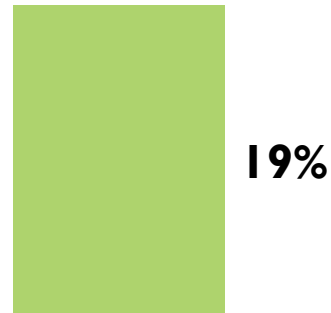
Ontario's unemployment rate is higher than it has been in ten years (outside of the pandemic) and the U.S. tariffs could bring in further job losses. However, nearly one in five workers in the province are employed delivering public services that benefit everyone. Given this situation, and knowing the provincial government has choices in how it spends money: Which approach should the Ford government take?

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Invest in public services by ensuring funding keeps pace with inflation and population growth, thereby protecting or improving service quality and the jobs of those who deliver them



Impose spending cuts on public services, risking the quality of services Ontarians rely on and continuing to worsen the province's unemployment situation through public sector layoffs

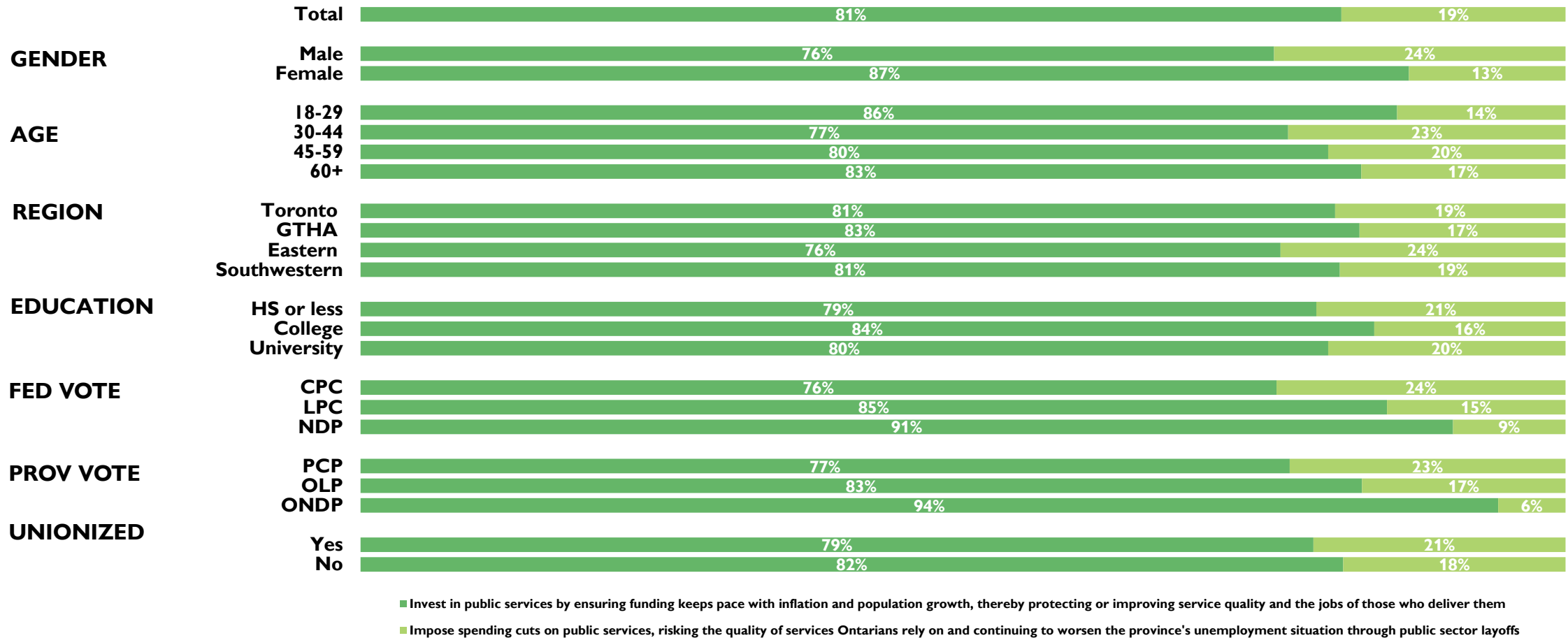


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Currently, corporate income tax rates in Ontario are the lowest on record and lower than in most other provinces. A 1% decrease in the corporate tax rate would reduce provincial revenue by nearly \$2 billion per year, impacting funds available for public services. Thinking about this trade-off, which approach do you prefer the government take?

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**Decrease corporate taxes further,
accepting the reduction in funds
available for services like healthcare and
education**

20%

**Prioritize maintaining or increasing
funding for public services like
healthcare and education, even if it
means increasing corporate taxes**

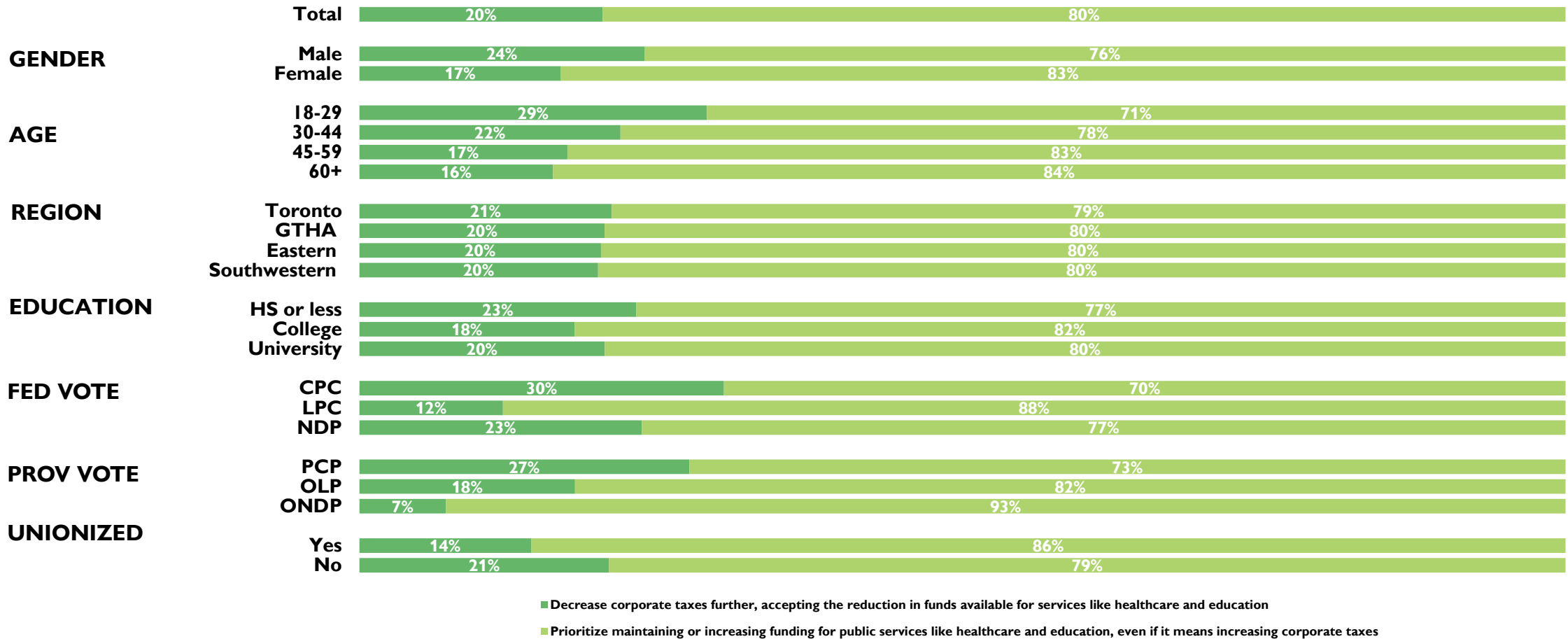
80%

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In Ontario, the top 1% of individual income earners make over \$300,000 per year. Proposals sometimes suggest increasing income tax rates specifically on very high incomes like these to generate more revenue for public services. Considering the need to fund services like healthcare and education, which statement is closer to your view?

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The government should increase income taxes on individual earnings over \$300,000 per year to help ensure adequate funding for essential public services



76%

The government should avoid increasing income taxes on high income earners, even if it limits the potential for new funding for public services



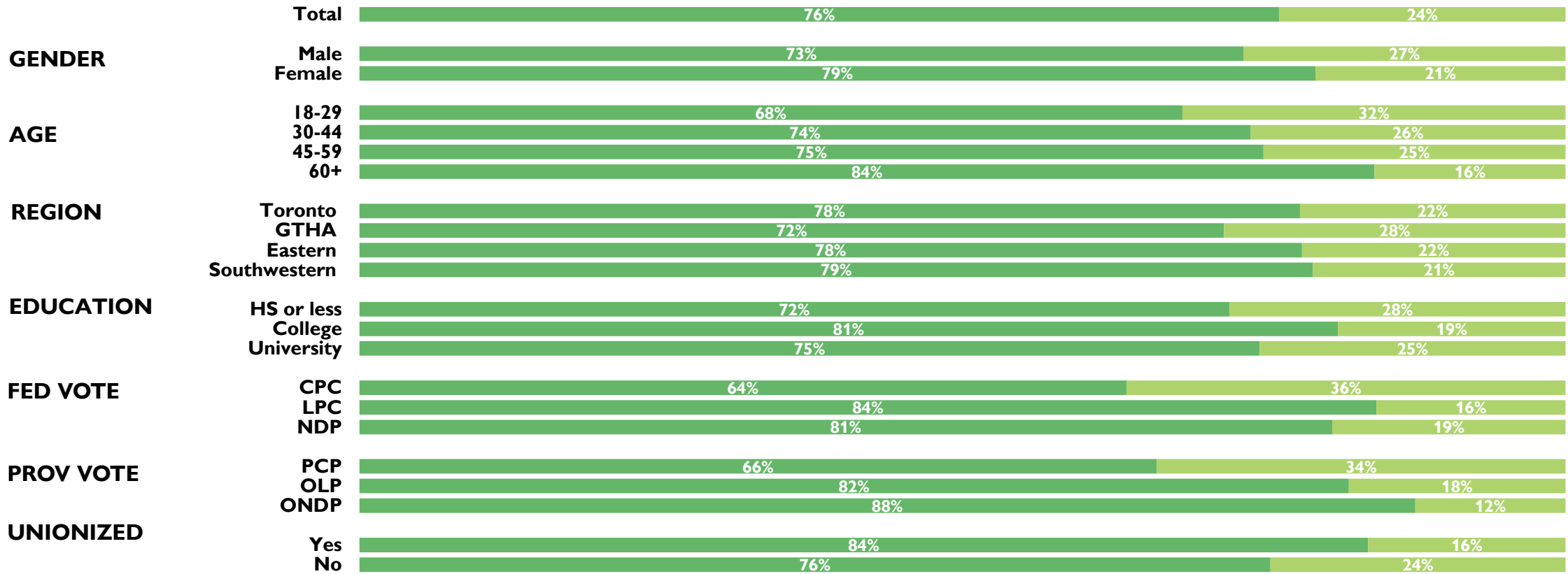
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The Ford government's Bill 5 would allow them to create 'special economic zones' and exempt any chosen business or project from any provincial law or local bylaw, with rules to be made up later by provincial cabinet ministers. Which statement is closer to your view?

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The Ford government needs sweeping powers to override existing laws and local decisions for businesses they select, even if the rules aren't clear



20%

Provincial laws and local bylaws should apply consistently to all businesses, and the Ford government should not create special zones where businesses or selected projects can be exempt from existing laws



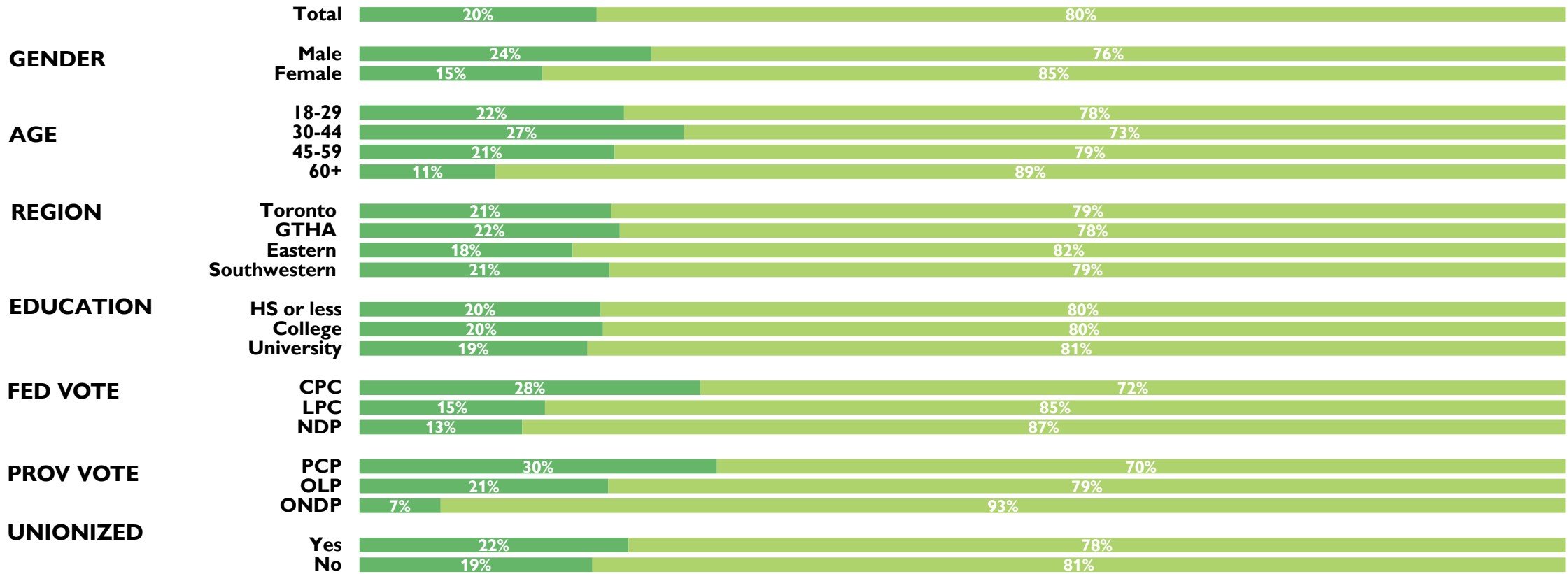
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There is discussion about whether governments in Canada should contract out the provision of more or less of your health care to for-profit companies like Shoppers Drug Mart, staffing agencies, private nursing homes, or private clinics that specialize in only certain medical procedures. Which is closer to your own view?

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Doug Ford and his Conservative government should keep contracting out parts of our health care to companies that take some of my health-care tax dollars to pay profits to owners of businesses, meaning less money is available to hire or pay frontline workers to provide the services that are needed. I want the privatization to continue



21%

Doug Ford and his Conservative government should stop contracting out parts of our health care to for-profit companies and invest all my health-care tax dollars in publicly owned and operated hospitals, long-term care homes, and community health centres so there is more money available to hire or pay frontline workers to provide the services that are needed. I want the privatization to be undone



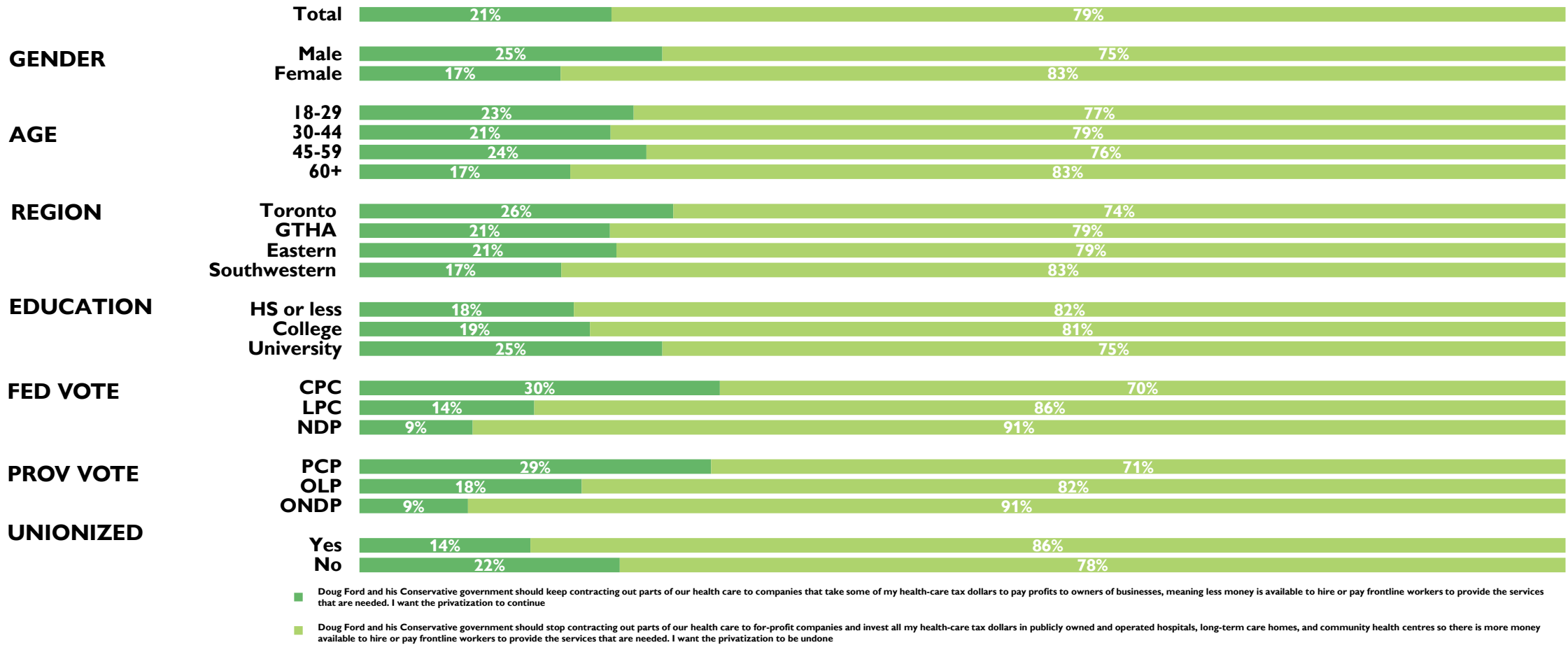
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The Ontario government raises less revenue than almost all provinces on a per capita basis. Every year, it raises \$2,400 less in revenue per person than British Columbia and \$4,100 less than Quebec. This means all other provinces, except Alberta, reinvest a larger share of their resources into infrastructure, services, and people. With the threat of uncertainty and job losses because of U.S. president Donald Trump's trade war, there has been lots of talk about protecting and creating jobs here in Ontario. Which is closer to your own view?

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Some people say that reducing the amount of taxes paid by profitable corporations creates jobs because it stimulates economic growth. The Ontario government collecting less money from companies so that jobs in the private sector might be created here is okay even if it means less money to fund public services, like health care and education, for my community and me



30%

Other people say that reducing taxes for profitable corporations does not come with any guarantee that jobs must be created here or anywhere. The Ontario government has only one sure way to create jobs: by providing my tax money to public sector employers and requiring that the money be used to hire more workers to provide the public services that my community and I rely on



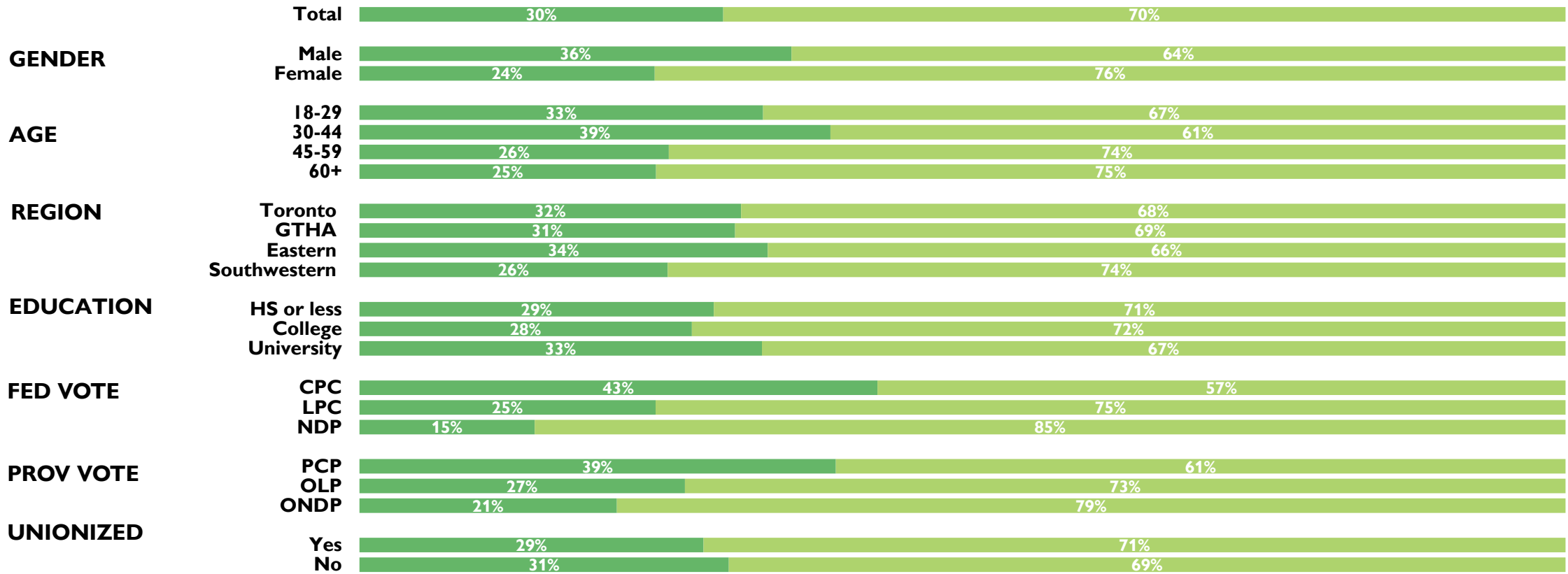
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**Good decisions
require good data.**

Good data drives success.

CONTACT:

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