

ONTARIO POLITICAL LANDSCAPE: PROVINCIAL VOTE INTENT & GOVERNMENT ASSESSMENT

**Ontario Grits (40%; -3) Maintain Lead over Tories (30%; -1),
Lead Drops from 12 Points to 10 Points since October.**

NDP (20%) Post 5-Point Gain.

**Public Split on whether McGuinty Government
has Ontario on Right Track (39%) or Wrong Track (39%).**

**Notably, Two Years into Mandate, 22% of Ontarians
are Unsure of their Assessment of Government's Direction**

From November 8 to 13, 2005, Leger Marketing – the Canadian representative of the Gallup International Association – conducted telephone interviews among a randomly selected, representative sample of 1,000 adult Ontarians. The margin of error for the total sample is $\pm 3.1\%$, 19 times out of 20. The results have been statistically weighted according to the most current regional, gender, and age Census data to ensure a sample representative of the entire adult population of the province.

The total Decided Voters sample (n=746) has an associated margin of error of $\pm 3.6\%$, 19 times out of 20. Across the regions, Decided Voters sub-samples are as follows: Toronto (n=195; $\pm 7.0\%$), 905 Belt (n=181; $\pm 7.3\%$), Hamilton-Niagara (n=97; $\pm 10.0\%$), Southwest (n=104; $\pm 9.6\%$), East (n=107; ± 9.5 and North (n=62 $\pm 12.4\%$). Discrepancies between totals due to rounding.

Founded in 1986, Leger Marketing is the largest independent full-service research firm in Canada, with more than 350 employees spread over its offices in Toronto, Montreal, Edmonton, Winnipeg, Quebec City, New York City, and Shanghai. Leger conducts quantitative and qualitative research on behalf of an extensive array of public and private sector clients on a local, national, and global scale. Leger is the Canadian representative of the Gallup International Association, and is the polling Agency of Record for Sun Media, Marketing Magazine, and the Canadian Press news service.



Grits (40%) Keep Lead Over Tories (30%)

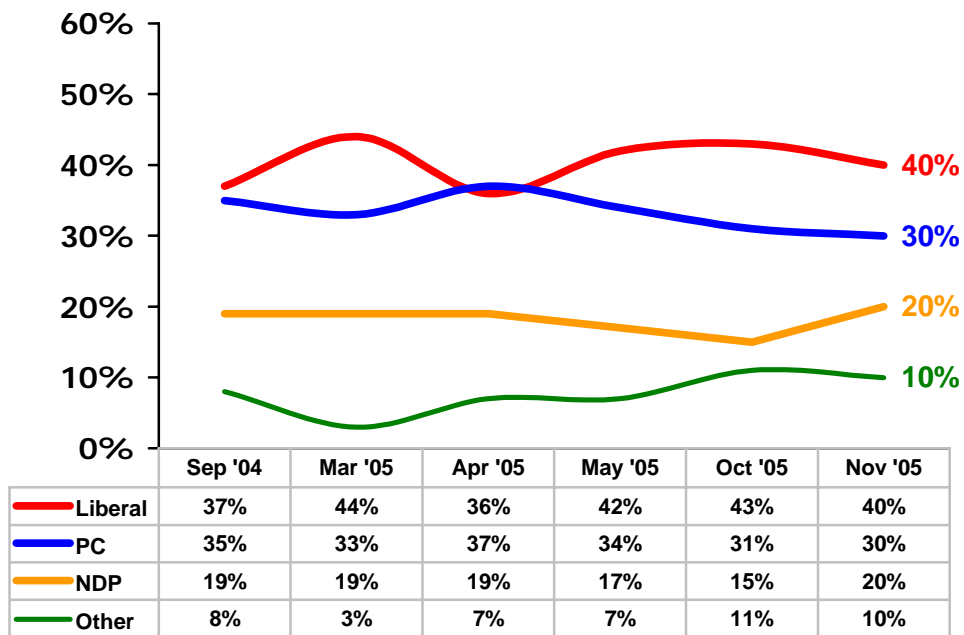
- The provincial Liberals hold a comfortable 10-point lead over the Progressive Conservatives. The NDP post a relatively strong showing amidst Grit and Tory losses.

Q1A. Thinking about how you feel right now, if a provincial election were held tomorrow, which of the following parties would you, yourself, be most likely to vote for?

Q1B. Well, which party would you say you are leaning towards?

Decided Voters (n=746 Decided Voters (Q1A) + Leanners (Q1B), comprising 75% of electorate.
Undecided Voters = 20%. Abstain/Spoil Ballot = 5%. Refuse to Say=6%

Provincial Voting Intentions in Ontario





Provincial Vote Intent Across Ontario’s Regions

- The Liberals maintain strong voter support in Toronto (43%) and the 905 Belt (45%). However, they are statistically tied with the PCs for the lead in Hamilton-Niagara, the SouthWest, and the East. They are also statistically tied with the NDP in the North.

Provincial Vote Intentions in Ontario: Regional Results							
<i>Q1. Thinking about how you feel right now, if a PROVINCIAL election were held tomorrow, which of the following parties would you, yourself, be most likely to vote for? IF UNDECIDED, ASK: Well, which party are you leaning towards?</i>							
Region \ Party	ONTARIO	Toronto	905 Belt (Suburbs)	Hamilton-Niagara	SouthWest	East	North
Liberals	40%	43%	45%	34%	37%	38%	36%
PCs	30%	21%	33%	35%	36%	34%	15%
NDP	20%	26%	15%	25%	13%	21%	37%
Some Other Party	10%	10%	7%	6%	14%	7%	12%



Opinion Split on McGuinty Government’s Direction for Ontario

- However, the proportion of Ontarians who feel the government is *strongly* on the wrong track (20%) is more than double the proportion who feel the government is *strongly* on the right track (8%).
- Notably, a full two years into the government’s mandate, two-in-ten (22%) are unsure of their assessment of the government’s direction.

McGuinty on the Right Track?							
<i>Q2. Overall, would you say that the provincial Liberal government of Premier Dalton McGuinty has Ontario on the right track or wrong track?</i>							
Region	ONTARIO	Toronto	905 Belt (Suburbs)	Hamilton-Niagara	Southwest	East	North
RIGHT TRACK	39%	49%	34%	34%	39%	41%	25%
Strongly right track	8%	12%	7%	5%	8%	7%	2%
Somewhat right track	31%	37%	27%	29%	31%	34%	22%
Somewhat wrong track	19%	17%	18%	18%	22%	17%	22%
Strongly wrong track	20%	14%	24%	24%	18%	23%	24%
WRONG TRACK	39%	31%	42%	42%	40%	40%	46%
Don't Know/Refused	22%	20%	24%	24%	21%	19%	30%

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For more information, please contact our spokesperson:

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www.legermarketing.com