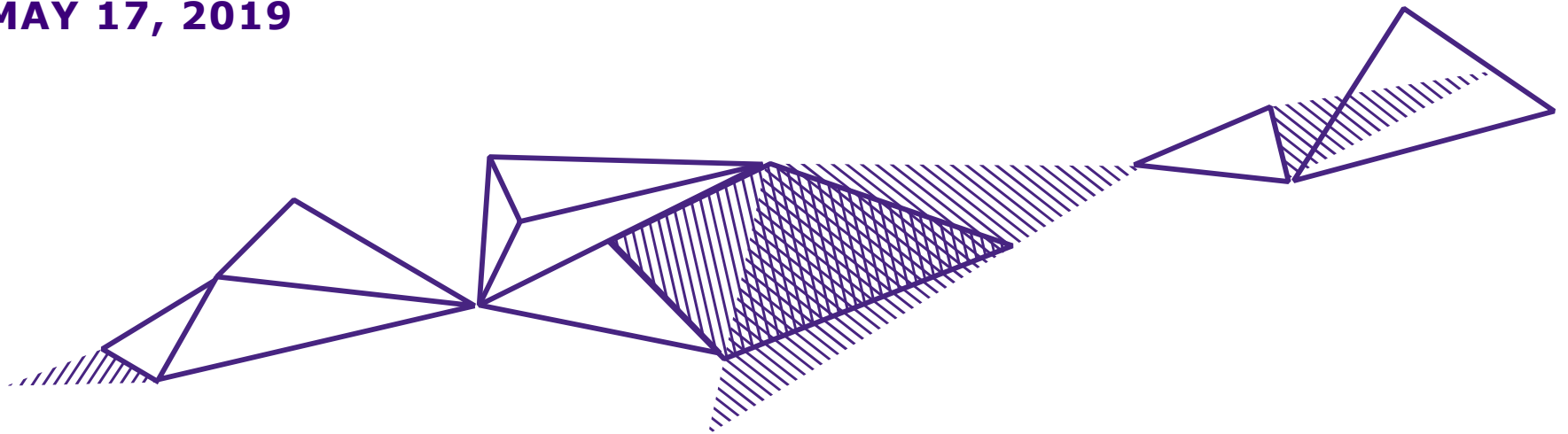


ENVIRONICS
RESEARCH

Ontarians' Attitudes towards Cuts to Public Health Units

MAY 17, 2019



RESEARCH OVERVIEW AND METHODOLOGY

Overview. Environics was commissioned by CUPE Ontario and CUPE Local 79 to conduct a survey to determine the attitudes of Ontario residents towards recently announced cuts to public health units.

Methodology. A total of **1,332** surveys were conducted across Ontario. The surveys were conducted by telephone using an interactive voice response (IVR) methodology.

- The margin of error is **±2.7** percentage points, 19 times out of 20. The margin of error is larger for smaller sub-segments of the total sample.
- The survey data are weighted by age, gender and region.

Field dates. May 14 to May 16, 2019.

Notes: In this report, results are expressed as percentages unless otherwise noted. Results may not add to 100% due to rounding or multiple responses.

Region	Unweighted	Weighted
City of Toronto	280	280
905 suburban belt	330	360
Northern Ontario	110	80
Eastern/central Ontario	369	253
Southwestern Ontario	243	360
Total sample	1,332	1,332

EXECUTIVE SUMMARY

The vast majority of Ontarians oppose the cuts to Public Health Units. A substantial proportion of PC voters also oppose these cuts.

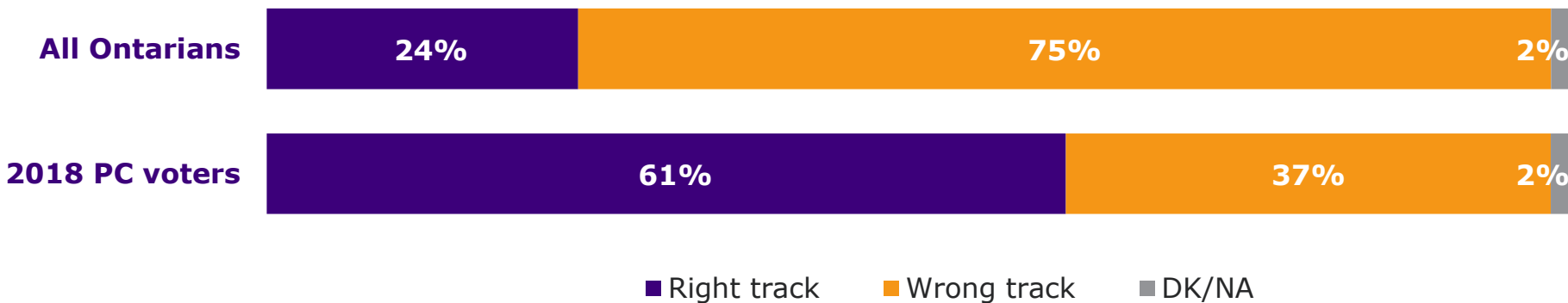
Ford Government - Right/Wrong Track. Three-quarters of Ontarians feel the Ford PC government is on the wrong track. It is notable that even among those who voted for the Ontario PCs in June 2018, four in ten now think the Ford government is going in the wrong direction.

Cuts to Public Health Units. Eight in ten Ontarians say that Public Health Units are very important to the province of Ontario. Awareness of proposed cuts to public health is also high, with eight in ten being at least somewhat aware. Over eight in ten Ontarians oppose proposed cuts to Public Health Units.

Notably, over half of PC voters oppose these cuts and four in ten 2018 PC voters say that the cuts will make them less likely to vote PC in the next election.

FORD ONTARIO PC GOVERNMENT – RIGHT TRACK OR WRONG TRACK?

Three-quarters of Ontarians say the PC government under Doug Ford is on the wrong track, including over one third of Ontario PC voters.



Most likely to say:

Wrong track

Women (83%)

Younger than 45 (80%)

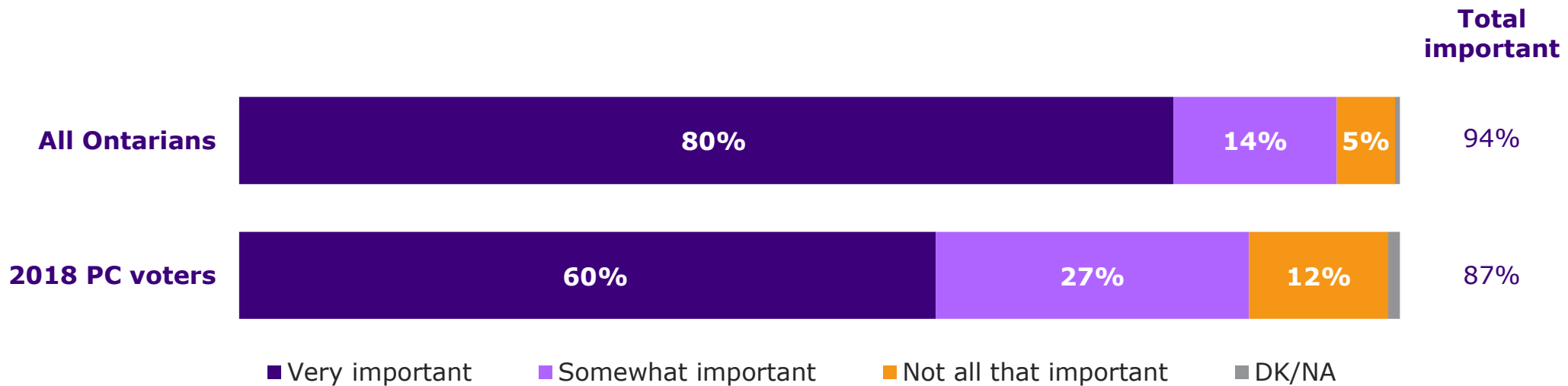
City of Toronto (80%)

Q4. Now some questions about Ontario. Thinking about the way things are going these days here in Ontario would you say that the Ontario PC provincial government under Doug Ford is on the right track or the wrong track?

Base: full sample (n=1332)

IMPORTANCE OF PUBLIC HEALTH UNITS

Eight in ten say that Public Health Units are very important to Ontario, including six in ten of those who voted PC in 2018.



Most likely to say:

Very important

Women (86%)

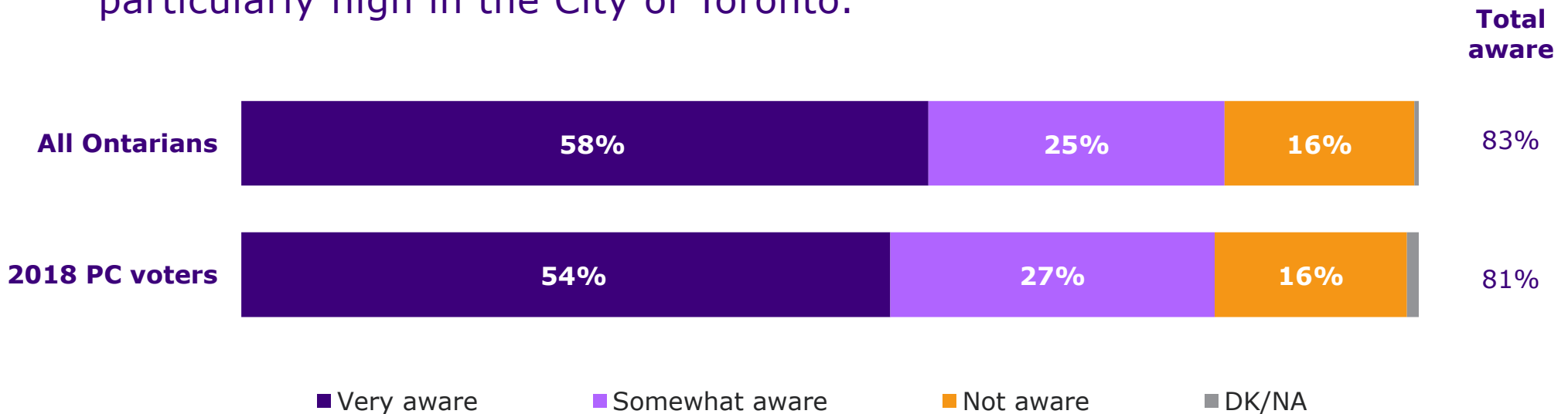
45 and younger (84%)

Q6. Public Health Units across Ontario are funded jointly by the province and by municipalities. These units provide preventive health care programs such as, vaccinations in schools, water quality testing, restaurant inspections, childcare inspection, pre-natal programs and student breakfast programs. How important do you think these public health programs are to Ontario?

Base: full sample (n= 1332)

AWARENESS OF CUTS TO PUBLIC HEALTH UNITS

Almost six in ten Ontarians are very aware of the PC government's plans for major funding cuts to Public Health Units. Awareness is particularly high in the City of Toronto.



Most likely to say:

Very aware

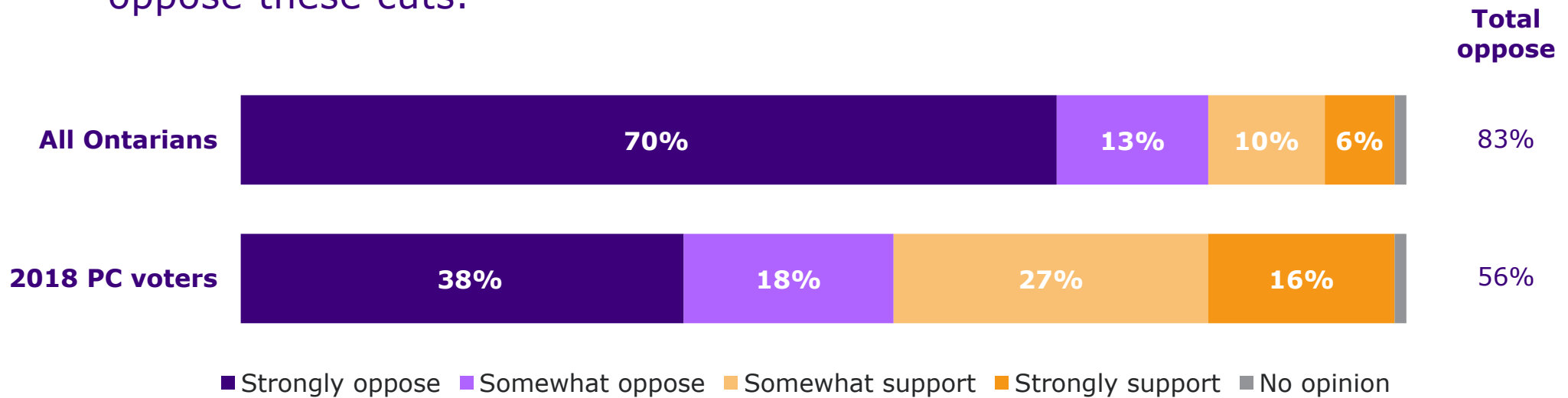
City of Toronto (68%)

Q7. Doug Ford's Ontario PC government recently announced plans to make major cuts to its funding for Public Health Units across Ontario. How aware were you of this?

Base: full sample (n= 1332)

OPINION OF CUTS TO PUBLIC HEALTH

Over eight in ten Ontarians oppose cuts to Public Health Units and seven in ten *strongly* oppose this. Over half of 2018 PC voters also oppose these cuts.



Most likely to be:

Opposed

Women (90%)

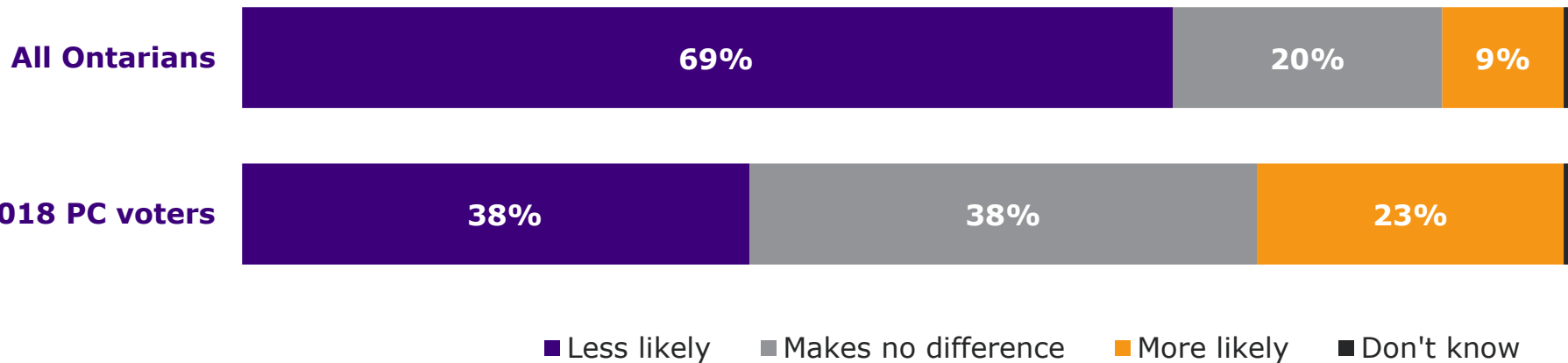
City of Toronto (86%)

Q8. The Ford PC government will be cutting the number of Public Health Units in Ontario from 35 to 10. They will also be cutting about \$1 billion in funding to Toronto Public Health over the next ten years and there will be similar cuts in funding to Public Health Units in other parts of Ontario. How do you feel about these cuts to public health programs?

Base: full sample (n= 1332)

IMPACT OF PUBLIC HEALTH CUTS ON LIKELIHOOD TO VOTE PC

Seven in ten Ontarians say the cuts to public health make them less likely to vote PC in the next Ontario election. Notably this includes almost four in ten of those who voted PC in 2018.



Q9. If these cuts to public health are carried out, what impact would it have on your likelihood of voting for the PCs led by Doug Ford in the next Ontario election?

Base: full sample (n= 1332)

FOR FURTHER INFORMATION OR QUESTIONS CONTACT:



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