

Table 1

**ONTARIO PARTIES' SUPPORT ACROSS THE ELECTORATE
- February 1998 -**

	Total	REGION		GENDER		AGE			INCOME		
		GTA	Other Ontario	Men	Women	18-34	35-54	55+	<\$30K	\$30-60K	\$60K+
(Weighted Bases – Total Sample)	(1001) (%)	(380) (%)	(621) (%)	(484) (%0)	(517) (%)	(372) (%)	(349) (%0)	(276) (%)	(205) (%0)	(361) (%)	(338) (%)
Progressive Conservative	33	36	32	43	24	33	34	33	16	37	40
Liberal	46	46	46	41	51	45	45	49	49	44	45
New Democrat	14	14	14	11	17	12	16	14	21	14	11
Other	7	4	8	5	8	9	5	5	14	5	4

Decided Voters Only: Undecided and Refused Excluded.

Table 2

**ONTARIO PROVINCIAL PARTIES' POPULAR SUPPORT
- June 1995 Election to February 1998 -**

	June '95*	July '95	Jan. '96	June '96	Jan. '97	June '97	Dec. '97	Feb. '98
(Sample Size)	(-) (%)	(525) (%)	(528) (%)	(526) (%)	(523) (%)	(1011) (%)	(1000) (%)	(1001) (%)
Progressive Conservative	45	53	44	48	47	38	38	33
Liberal	31	25	36	37	34	36	43	46
New Democrat	21	18	16	14	14	16	14	14
Other	3	4	4	1	5	10	5	7

* Actual popular vote in the June 1995 election.

Decided Voters Only: Undecided and Refused excluded.

Table 3

PARTY SUPPORT BY REGION**February 1998**

	Total Hamilton/ Niagara	Southwest	Eastern	Northern	Ont (ex GTA)	GTA
Weighted Base	920	158	159	138	93	548
	%	%	%	%	%	%
PC	33	34	36	29	24	32
Liberal	46	45	44	48	50	46
NDP	14	14	12	16	16	14
Other	7	7	8	8	9	8

Decided Voters Only: Undecided and Refused excluded.

Table 4

MOST IMPORTANT ISSUES FACING ONTARIO RIGHT NOW**(total mentions)****June 1997 – February 1998**

	Jun-97	Aug-97	Oct-97	Dec-97	Feb-98
Medicare/Healthcare	47%	50%	43%	28%	49%
Education/Schools	30	26	61	55	40
Jobs/Unemployment	54	44	38	32	33
Poverty/The Poor/Welfare/Homeless	9	9	8	11	13
Deficit /Government Spending	17	14	12	14	12
Social Services – Pensions/Daycare/Housing	11	10	7	10	10
Taxes/Tax Reform/GST – General	8	9	10	8	10
Economy-General/Recession	9	9	8	9	9
Environment/Pollution	5	8	6	5	6
Crime/Violence	7	5	3	4	4
National Unity/Quebec's Future	4	4	2	1	2
Immigration/Refugees	1	1	1	*	1
Other	18	24	21	30	14
Don't know	6	6	4	6	7

Table 5

***Most important issues facing Ontario right now
(multiple mentions)***

February 1998

	Total	Age			Education			Gender		Income		
		18-34	35-54	55+	<=HS	Post Sec	Uni v	Male	Female	<30K	\$30-60K	\$60K
Weighted Base	1001	372	349	276	336	369	297	484	517	205	361	338
	%	%	%	%	%	%	%	%	%	%	%	%
Medicare/Healthcare	49	41	49	59	45	47	55	44	54	44	53	49
Education/Schools	40	44	40	33	32	38	52	35	44	32	43	42
Jobs/Unemployment	33	36	36	24	31	35	31	34	31	29	37	31
Poverty/The poor/Welfare/Homeless	13	17	9	12	15	12	11	11	14	18	10	9
Deficit /Government spending	12	12	13	13	9	13	15	16	9	9	14	13
Social Services - pensions/Daycare/Housing	10	7	12	10	7	11	11	10	10	12	10	9
Taxes/Tax reform/GST - general	10	10	8	11	10	10	9	11	9	10	9	11
Economy-general/Recession	9	8	10	10	6	13	8	11	7	6	6	13
Environment/Pollution	6	5	6	8	5	6	8	6	7	5	6	7
Crime/Violence	4	4	3	5	6	4	1	3	4	2	6	2
National unity/Quebec's future	2	2	2	3	2	3	1	2	2	1	2	2
Immigration/Refugees	1	1	1	1	3	*	*	1	1	2	1	1
Don't Know	7	8	5	7	13	6	1	6	7	14	6	4
Other	14	18	21	11	13	20	19	16	14	17	15	21

Table 6

Approval/disapproval of the Ontario Progressive Conservative government's overall performance

February 1998

	Total	Age			Education			Gender		Income		
		18-34	35-54	55+	<=HS	Post Sec	Univ	Male	Female	<30K	\$30-60K	\$60K
Weighted Base	1001	372	349	276	336	369	297	484	517	205	361	338
	%	%	%	%	%	%	%	%	%	%	%	%
Approve	51	56	47	51	46	58	49	59	44	31	56	58
Disapprove	45	39	51	47	48	40	49	39	51	62	42	40

Table 7

Why Ontarians approve of the provincial Progressive Conservative government

February 1998

	Total	Age			Education			Gender		Income		
		18-34	35-54	55+	<=HS	Post Sec	Univ	Male	Female	<30K	\$30-60K	\$60K
Weighted Base	1001	372	349	276	336	369	297	484	517	205	361	338
	%	%	%	%	%	%	%	%	%	%	%	%
Reducing debt/deficit/controlling spending	26	24	26	27	21	24	34	29	22	16	25	30
Sticking to election mandate/promises	25	22	27	26	18	29	26	29	20	27	21	28

Why Ontarians disapprove of the provincial Progressive Conservative government

February 1998

Cuts to healthcare/poor policy on healthcare	28	29	22	34	22	37	25	24	31	29	26	28
Cuts to education/poor policy/teachers strike	23	32	21	17	20	28	23	20	25	24	17	30

Table 8

Ontario rates provincial party leaders
February 1998

		Age				Education		Gender		Income		
	Total	18-34	35-54	55+	<=HS	Post Sec	Univ	Male	Female	<30K	\$30-60K	\$60K
Weighted Base	1001	372	349	276	336	369	297	484	517	205	361	338
	%	%	%	%	%	%	%	%	%	%	%	%
Mike Harris as Premier												
approve	49	50	48	48	46	53	46	59	39	30	53	54
disapprove	49	47	51	51	50	47	51	40	58	67	44	45
Dalton McGuinty as leader of the Ontario Liberal Party												
approve	39	39	38	40	35	40	41	37	40	40	38	39
disapprove	21	20	21	23	21	19	23	28	15	18	20	24
Howard Hampton as leader of the Ontario NDP												
approve	25	26	23	27	24	24	28	25	25	28	27	24
disapprove	23	21	22	26	23	22	22	30	16	19	22	25