



The 2018 OCUFA Poll: Public Perceptions of Precarious Academic Work Focus: Southwestern Ontario

Key Results Presentation
April 3, 2018



Overview

1. Methodology
 2. University Education in Ontario: Public Perceptions
 3. Precarious Employment: Perspectives Of Fairness Measures For Contract Faculty and the Impact of Precarious Work On Quality
 4. Young Ontarians (15-17 Year Olds): Expectations From A University Education
 5. Charting The Way Forward: Strategic Implications
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Methodology

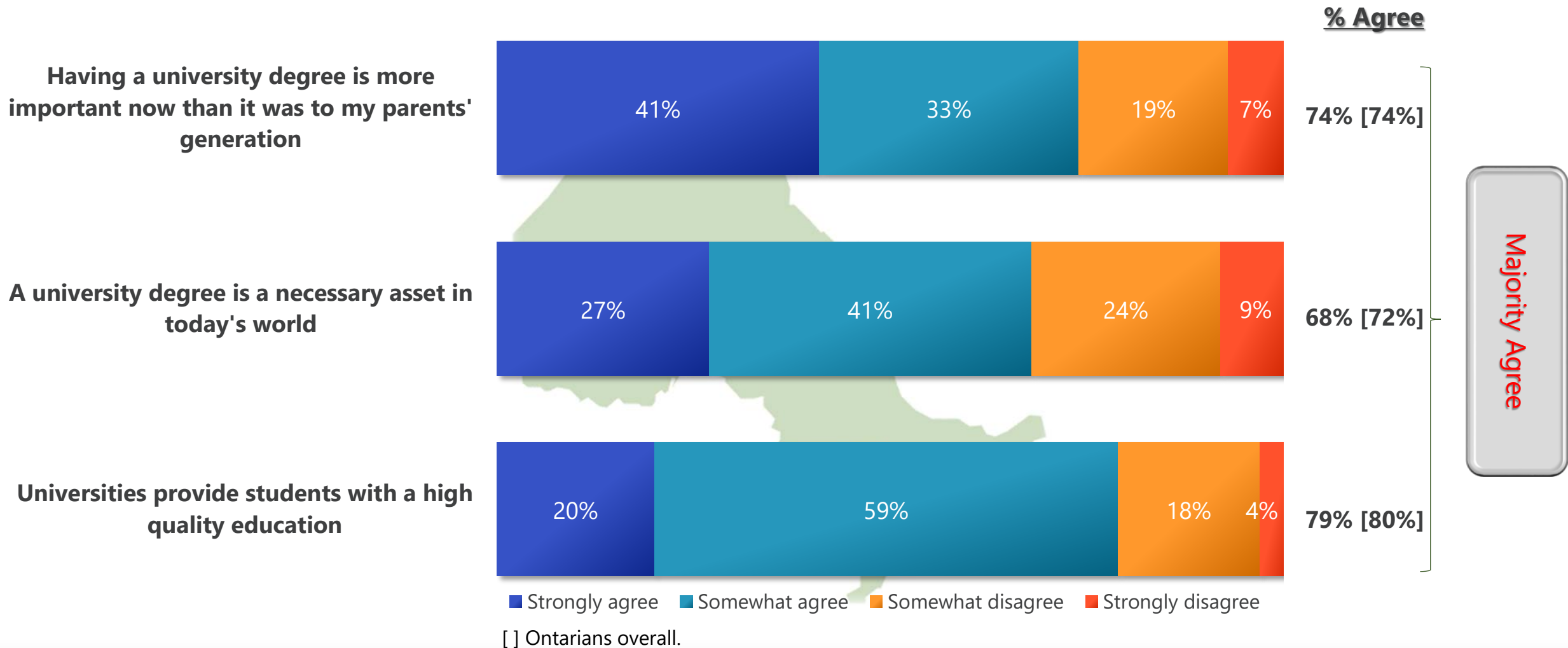
- The 2018 OCUFA Poll was undertaken by Mission Research on behalf of OCUFA.
- Findings were derived from a total of **2,001** online interviews drawn from a random sample of Ontarians 15 years of age and over. Data was collected between January 22nd and February 4th, 2018.
- A corresponding random sample of this size would yield results accurate to within **±2.2** percentage points, 19 times out of 20; the margin of error for sub-populations including regional breakdowns is higher due to smaller sample sizes.
- All data has been weighted by region, gender and age group using the latest Census figures from Statistics Canada. In turn, results are representative of all English-speaking Ontarians aged 15 and older.
- Detailed findings from the report can be found at: www.OCUFA.on.ca

University Education in Ontario

Public Perceptions

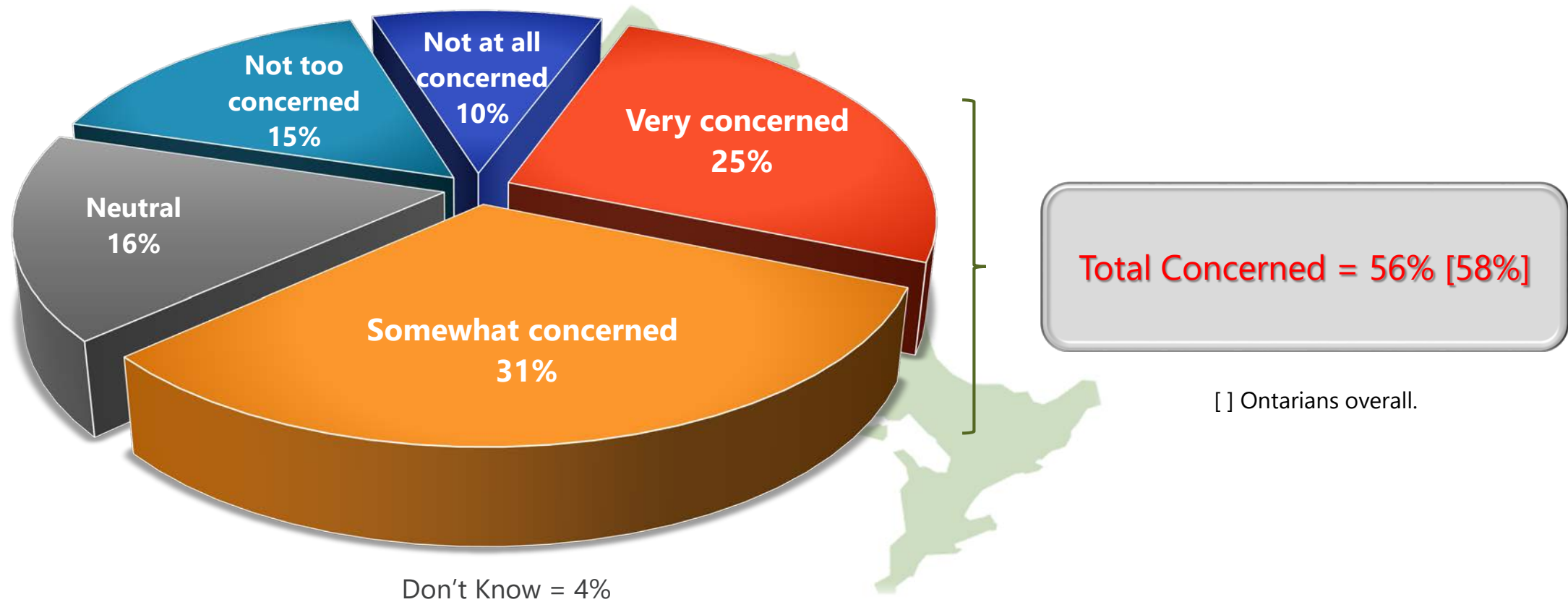
Ontario Universities, Contributions To Students:

Four In Five Agree That Universities Provide Students With A "High Quality Education"



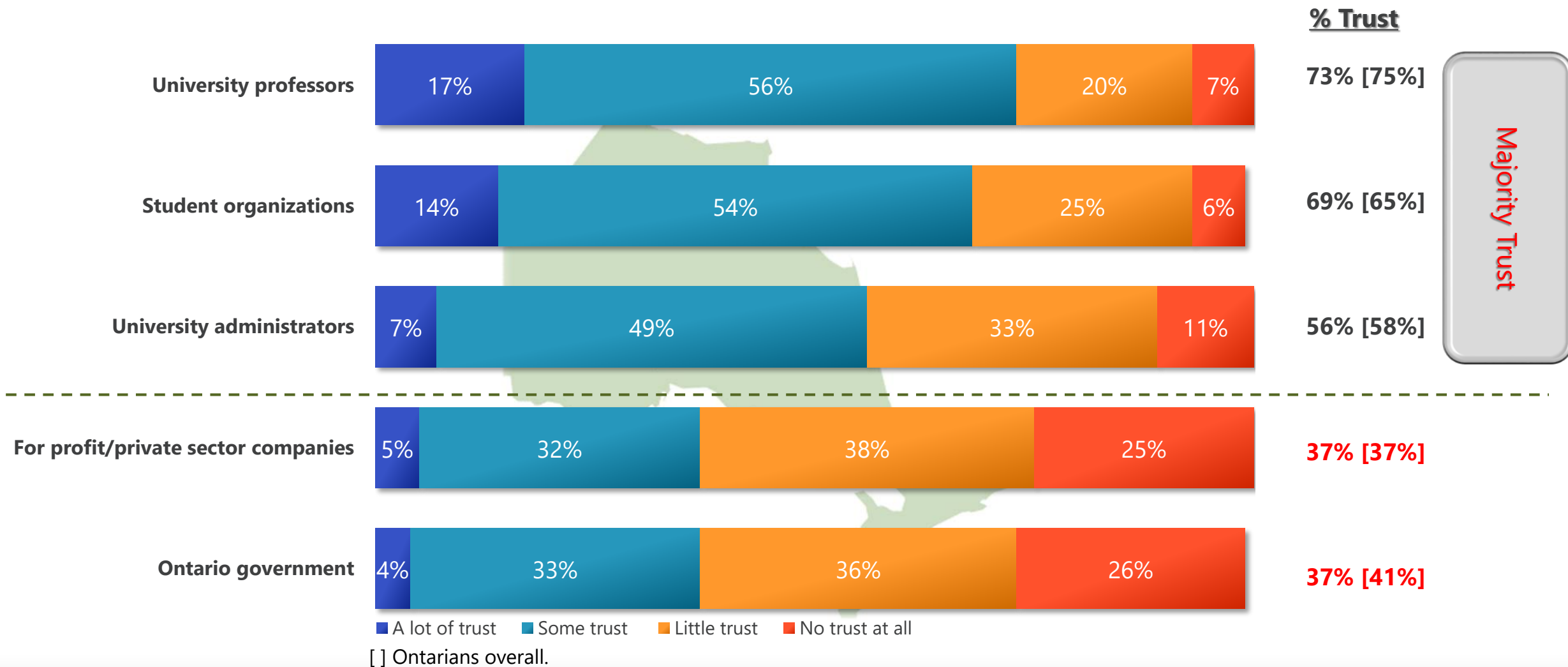
Major Issue Of Concern: University Education Quality

Over Half of Southwesterners Report At Least "Some Concern" Toward Education Quality



Trust in Stakeholders:

Nearly Three In Four Trust Professors To Make Decisions About Education Quality



Majority Trust

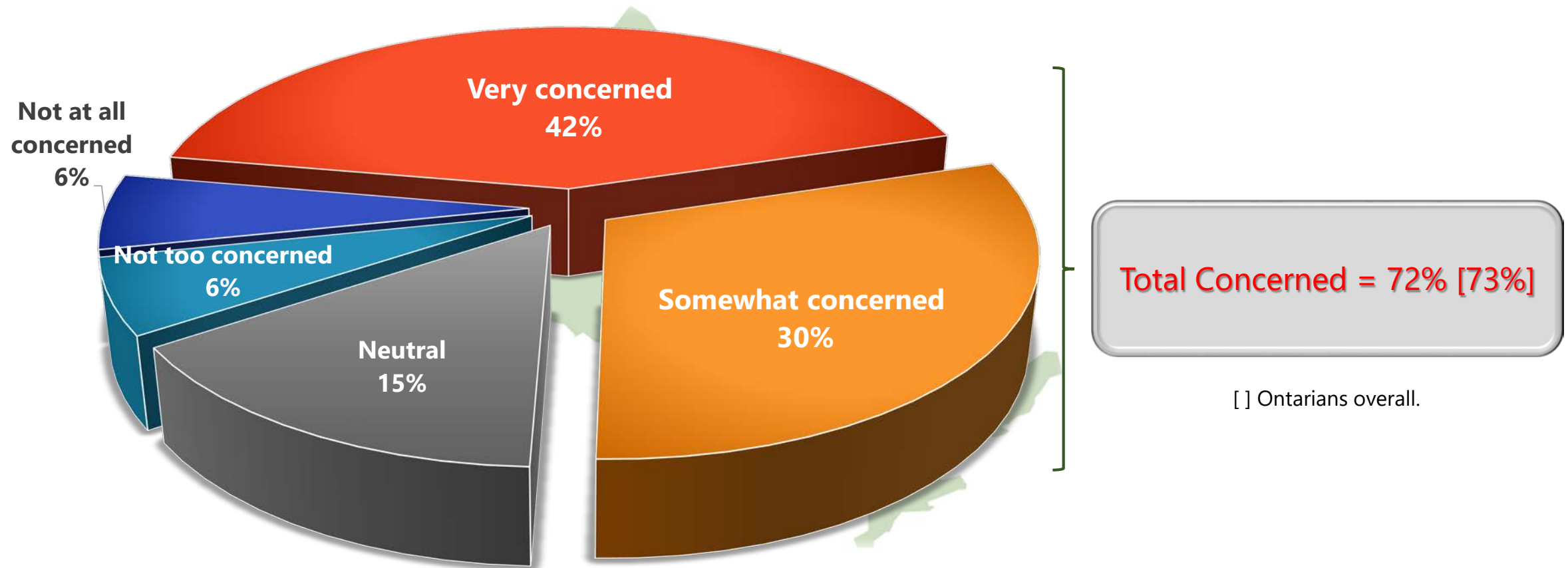
Question: "How much trust do you have in each of the following to make decisions about the quality of education provided to students at Ontario's universities?" [Total n=500]

Precarious Employment

Perspectives On Fairness
Measures For Contract Faculty
and the Impact of Precarious
Work On Quality

Major Issue of Concern: Job Quality In Ontario

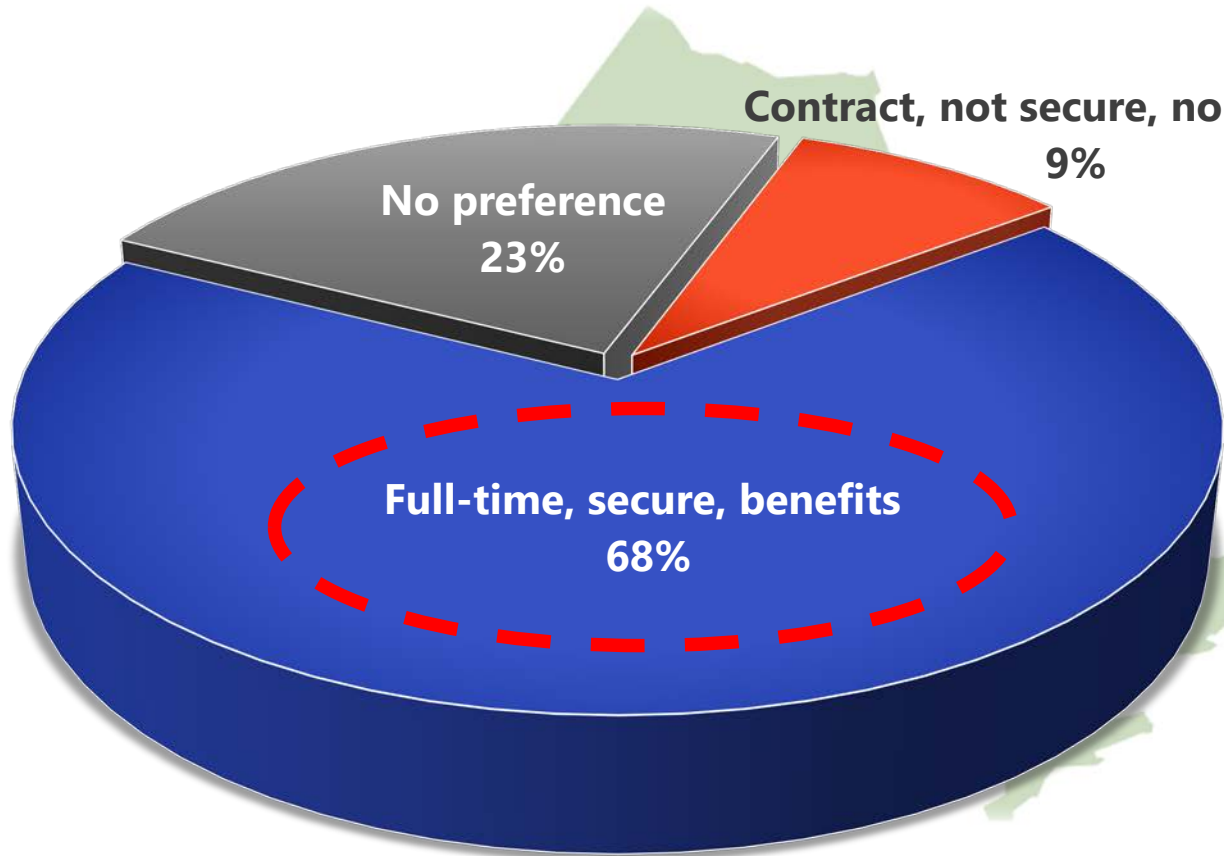
Nearly Three In Four Are "Concerned" About Job & Employment Quality



Precarious Or Not Precarious?:

Two In Three Would Prefer Securely Employed Professors Teach University Courses

Which type of professor would you prefer teach a university level course?

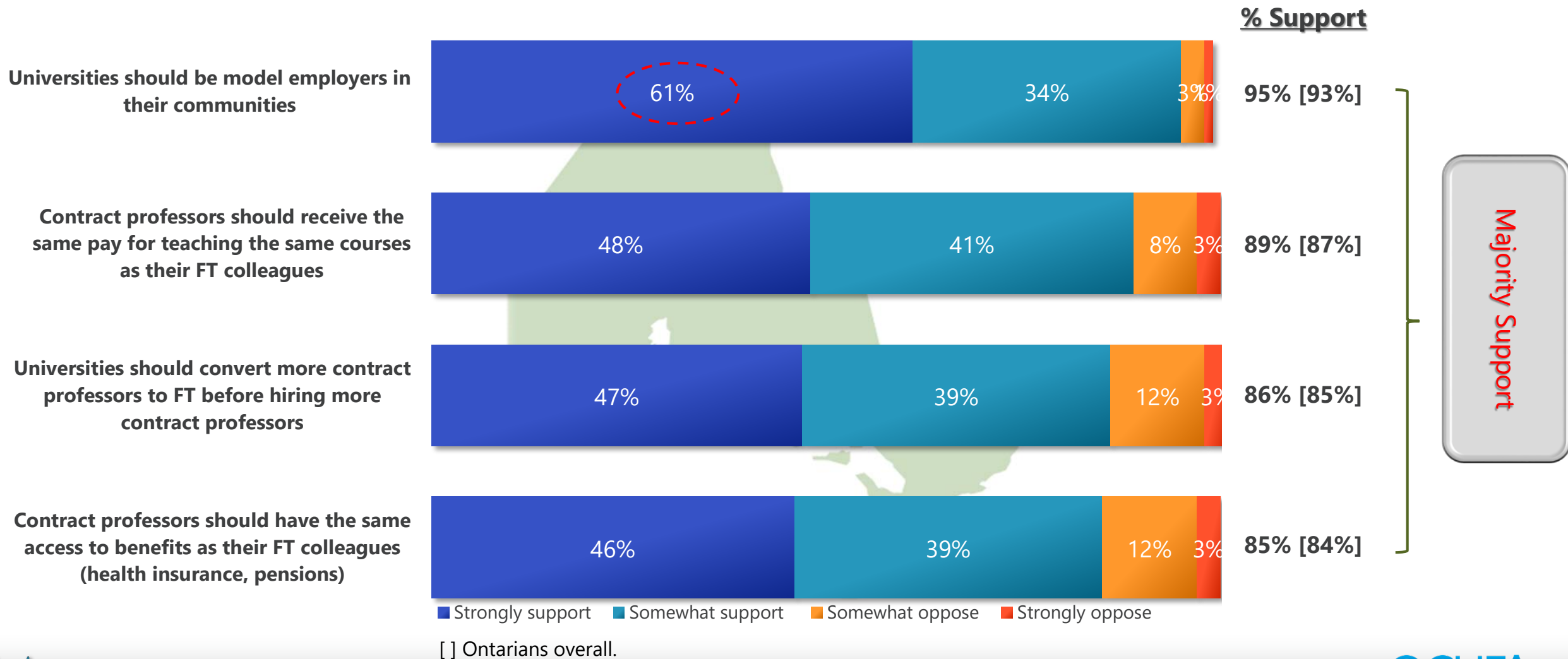


Ontarians Overall

Full-time, secure, benefits	64%
Contract, not secure, no benefits	9%
No preference	27%

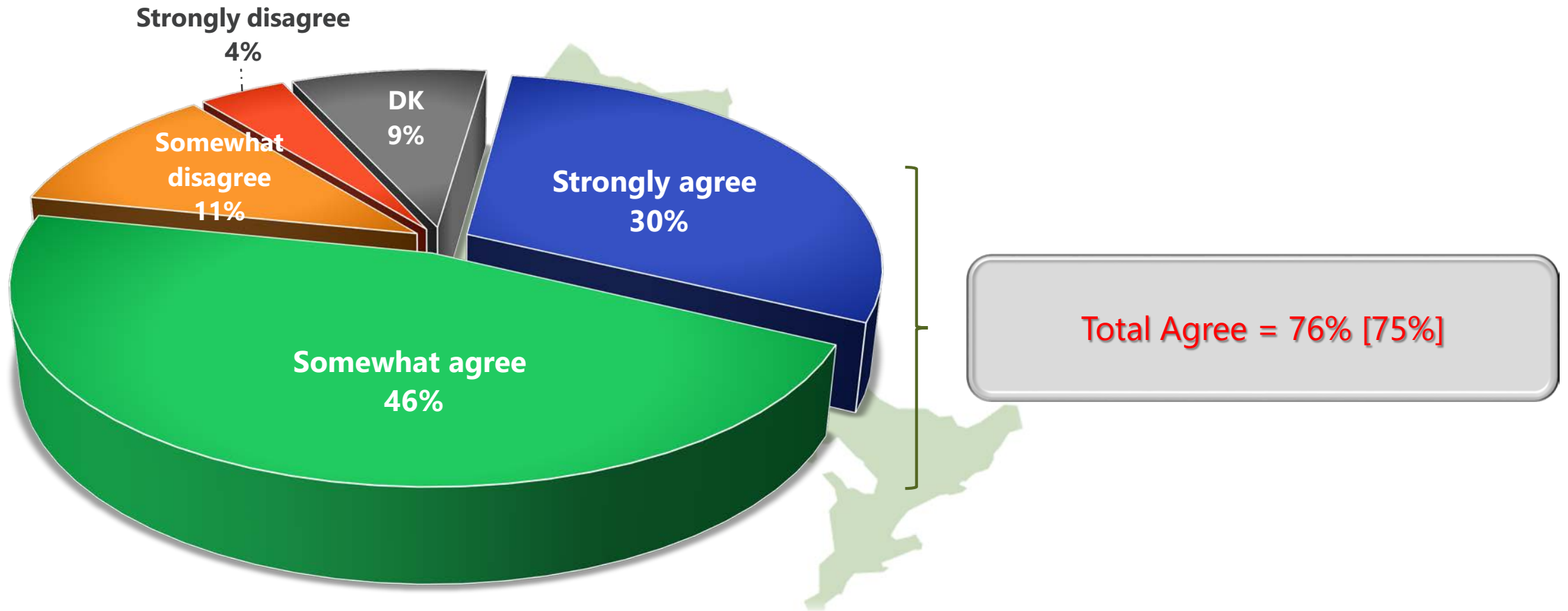
Support For Fairness For Contract Faculty:

A Large Majority Support Measures To Address Precarious Academic Work



Majority Support

Impact of Declining Working Conditions For Faculty: Three In Four Southwesterners Agree Will Have A Negative Impact On Education Quality



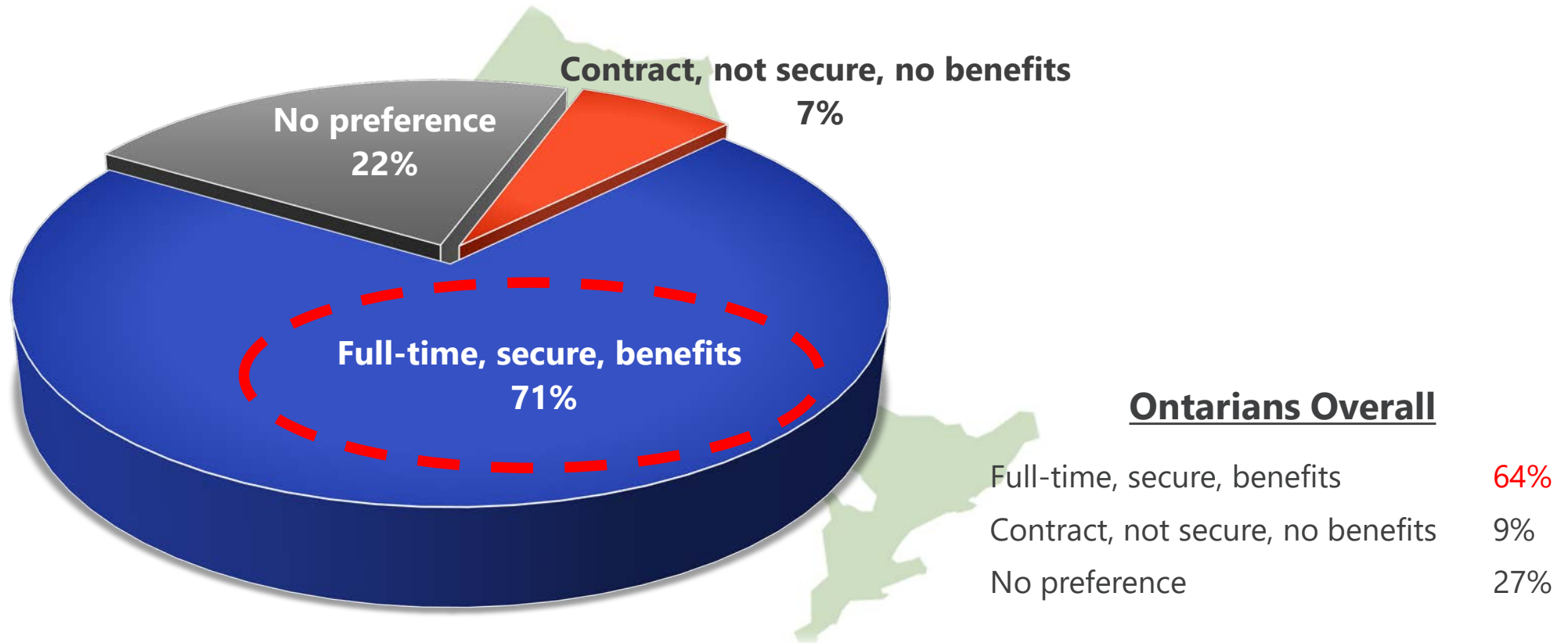
Young Ontarians (15-17 Year Olds)

Expectations From A
University Education

Precarious Or Not Precarious?

Seven In Ten Young Ontarians Want Securely Employed Professors Teaching University Courses

Which type of professor would you prefer teach a university level course?



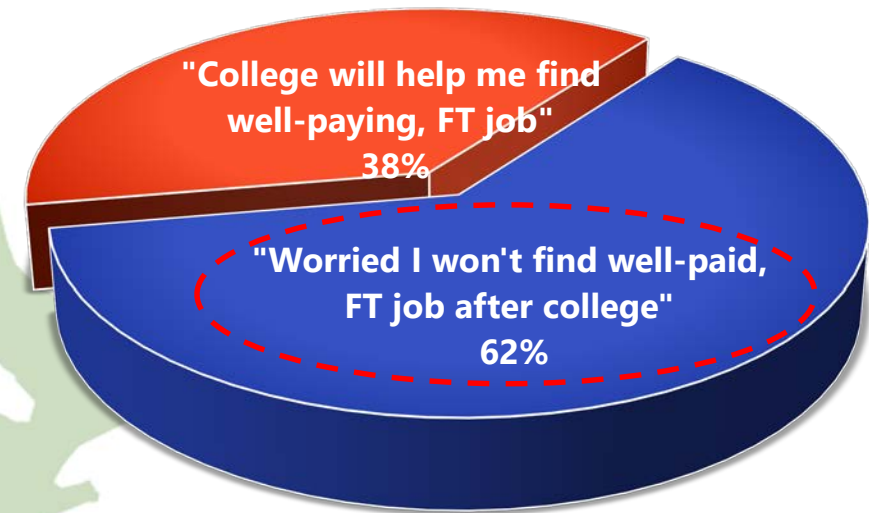
Expectations From A University Education:

Three In Five Young Ontarians Are "Worried" They Will Be Unable To Find A Good Job

*University Bound (54%)



*Other/Non-University (20%)



Charting The Way Forward

Strategic Implications

Strategic Imperative:

High Level of Support For Policy Measures To Protect Contract Faculty From Precarity

- Southwestern Ontarians believe that our universities provide students with a *high quality education* and that a university degree is a *necessary asset* in today's job market.
- **Precarious work conditions for university faculty are considered by most Southwestern Ontarians as a potential threat to the quality of university education in the province.**
- Like their counterparts across the province, there is a high level of support among Southwestern Ontarians for policy measures that **address precarious academic work and ensure fairness for contract faculty** at Ontario's universities.