

Appendix B

Case study 1: Voter turnout in Canadian federal elections

Federal elections: Voter turnout rates by age group (%)

Among eligible Canadians who did not vote in 2021, the most common reason for not voting was not being interested in politics (32%). In 2019, this was the most common reason in most age groups. There are two exceptions: illness or disability (39%) was the most reported reason among people aged 75 and older. Being too busy (34%) was most common among those aged 35 to 44.

	2021	2019	2015	2011
Total (all age groups)	76	77	77	70
18 to 24 years	66	68	67	55
25 to 34 years	71	71	70	59
35 to 44 years	73	75	75	65
45 to 54 years	76	78	79	73
55 to 64 years	80	81	83	80
65 to 74 years	83	85	86	84
75 years and older	78	79	80	79

Source: Elections Canada

Case study 2: Voter turnout in Ontario elections

Voter turnout in Ontario provincial elections, 1867 to 2022

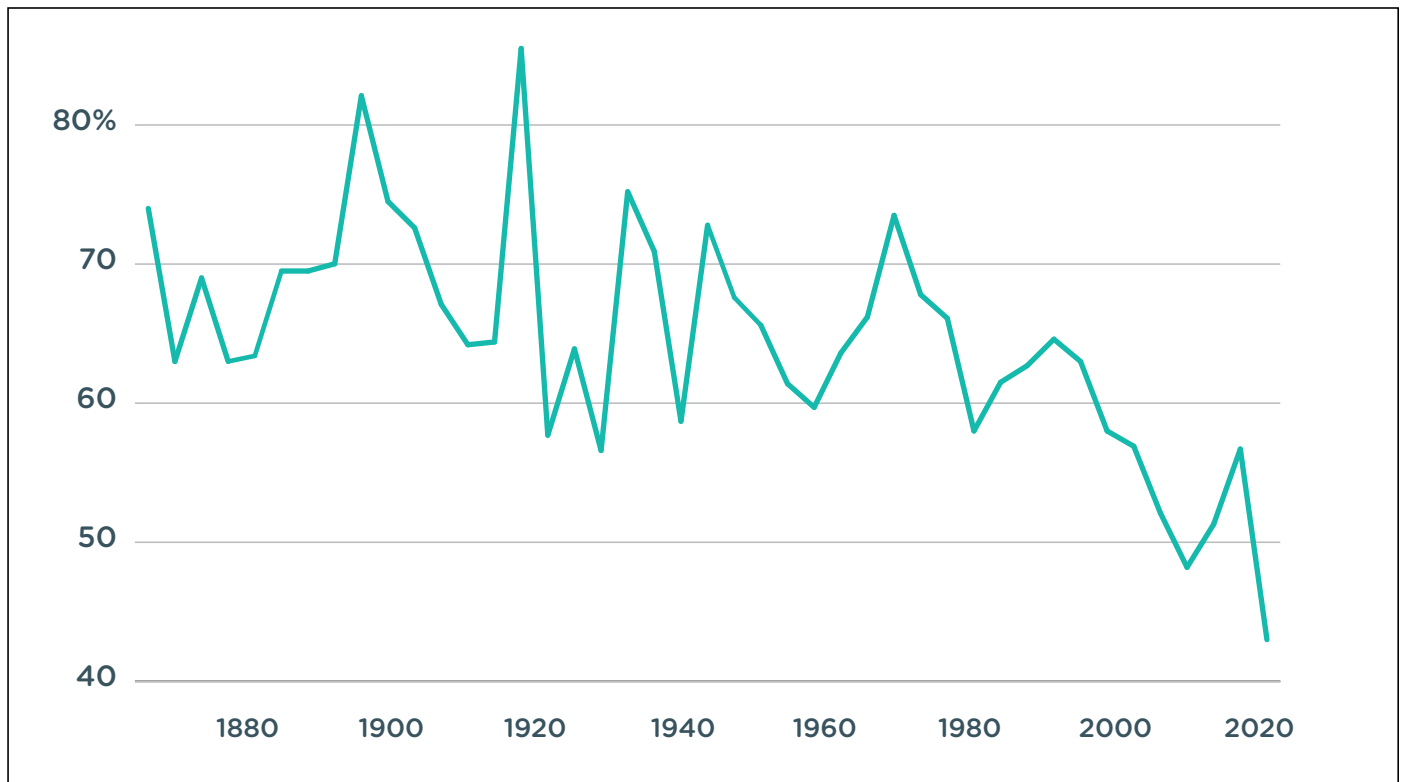
The 2022 Ontario general election drew the province's lowest turnout yet.

Ontario recorded the lowest voter turnout in history during the 2022 election. About 43.5% of eligible voters voted according to Elections Ontario results.

Of the 10.7 million registered voters in the province, this equals almost 4.6 million votes.

That's about 13.5% lower than the 2018 provincial election turnout.

In 2022, the Progressive Conservatives won with just over 1.9 million votes. This led to 83 seats in the Legislature.



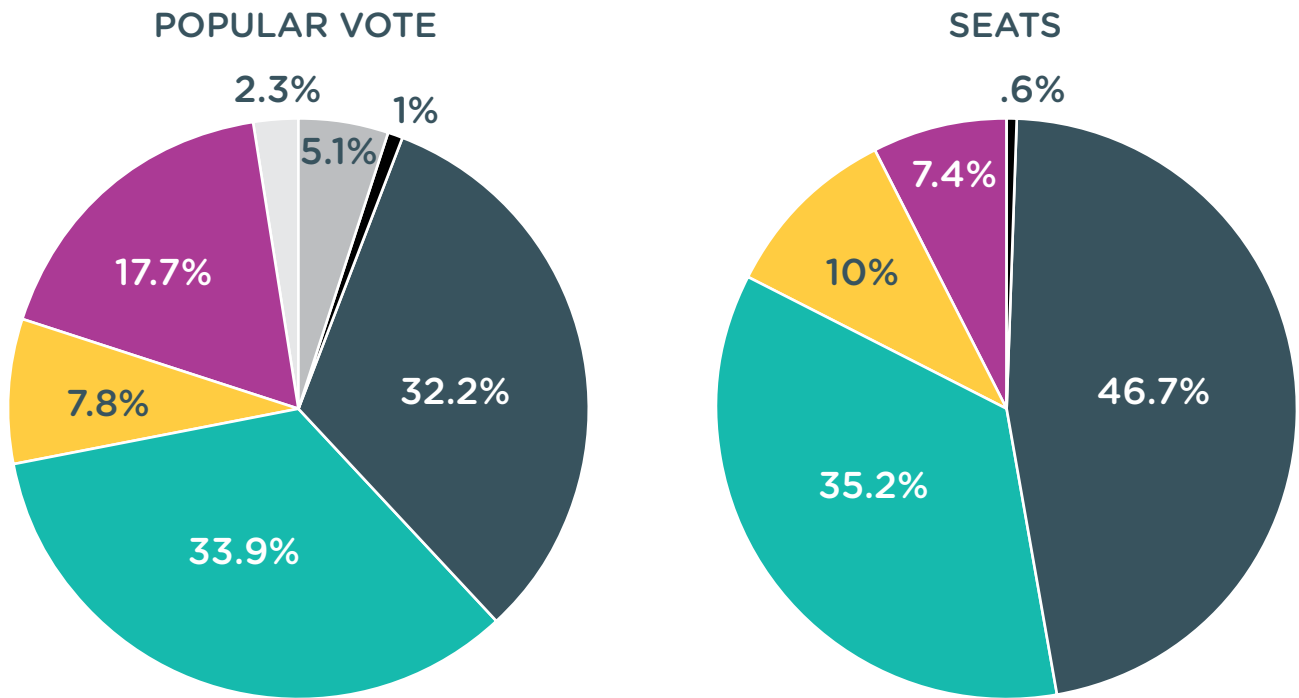
Source: Elections Ontario

Case study 3: Election results, Canada and Ontario

2021 federal election: Share of the popular vote and seat totals

Canada's elections, both at the provincial and federal level, use a system called First Past the Post (FPTP). It is used in 58 countries, including the United Kingdom, the US and India. This means a candidate wins by achieving the most votes (called a plurality) out of all the other candidates. The candidate does not have to receive more than 50% of the votes. Candidates represent political parties. The party that wins a majority of seats normally forms the government, with the party leader as prime minister. This system has advantages and disadvantages.

Canada Votes

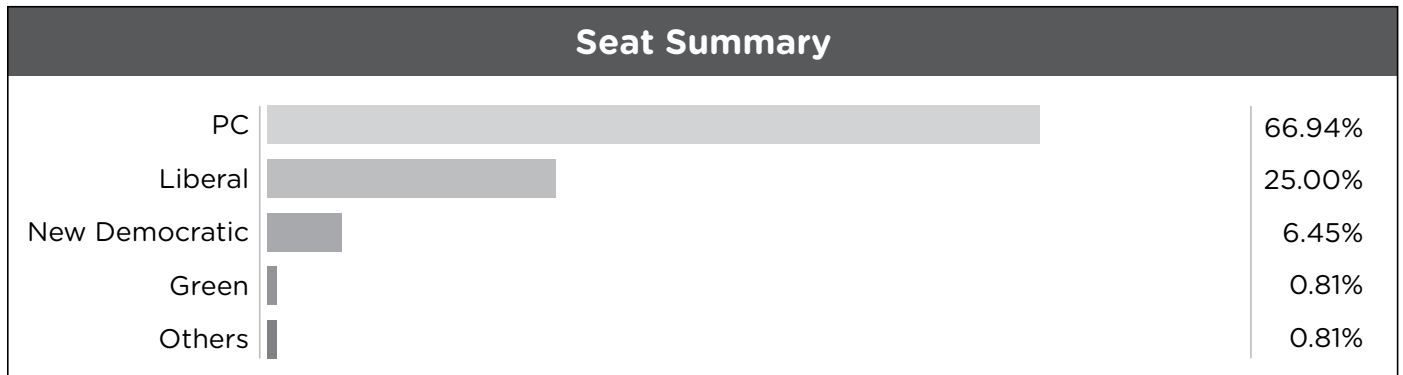
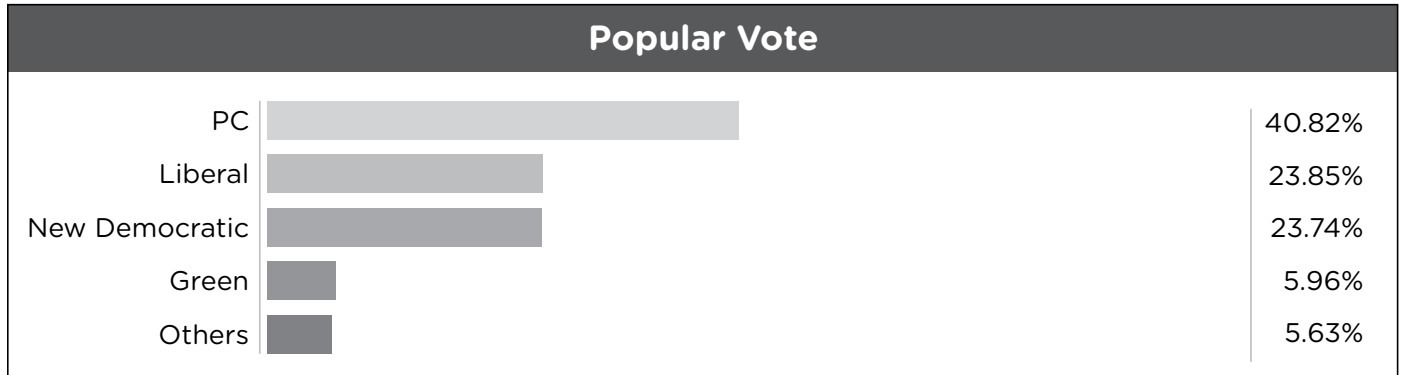


* As of 3 PM ET Sept 21

Source: Elections Canada data

2022 Ontario election: Share of the popular vote and seat totals

FPTP brings stability because it often results in single-party governments. It can also result in a party gaining power and the most seats without winning a majority of the popular vote. Consider the results of the 2021 federal election and 2022 Ontario election in the charts above. A larger percentage of voters voted against the party that gained the most seats than voted for it. In FPTP, parties do not win seats based on popular vote. This means many voters may feel their vote does not count on election day.



Source: Elections Ontario