



Alberta Pulse Check: Alberta Referendum

August 2026



Methodology



Methodology

Online survey among Alberta residents 18 years of age or older: n= 1,001.

Respondents were randomly recruited using LEO's online panel.



When

Data collection from August 21 - August 23, 2026.

Where available, results are compared to previous waves of research.



Margin of Error

For comparison purposes, a probability sample of n=1,001 yields a margin of error no greater than $\pm 3.1\%$ (19 times out of 20) for the total Alberta sample.



Weighting

Results were weighted according to **age, gender, region, and education** in order to ensure a representative sample of the population of Alberta.

Methodology



Significant Differences

↑ / ↓ indicates a significantly **higher** / **lower** proportion than the previous wave in June 2026.

Data in **green** / **red** indicates a significantly **higher** / **lower** proportion relative to the total.



Rounded Data

The numbers presented have been rounded up. However, the numbers before rounding were used to calculate the sums presented and might therefore not correspond to the manual addition of these numbers.



Questions

Have questions about the data presented in this report? Please contact Andrew Enns, Executive Vice-President, Central Canada at the following e-mail address: aenns@leger360.com

Some **key highlights** from the omnibus **include...**

The UCP maintains a 10-point lead among decided provincial voters, with a sharp regional divide. It stands at 51%, versus 41% for the Alberta NDP and 9% for other parties or independents. The NDP leads in Edmonton (51%), while the UCP reaches 63% outside Calgary and Edmonton.

Public attention to the referendum and turnout intention are high, but strongly age-skewed. Three-quarters (75%) follow the debate closely and 72% rate their chance of voting at 8–10, including 57% at 10 out of 10. The 8–10 share is 53% among 18–34-year-olds and 90% among those 55+.

Option 1 remains well ahead and is strongest among those most likely to vote. Overall, 65% would keep Alberta a province, 23% would begin the legal process toward a binding separation referendum, and 10% are undecided. Among respondents at 8–10 on the likely to vote, the split is 70% remain, 23%, and 7%.

On the referendum question (Question 10 on the ballot), the only statistically significant movement since June is toward uncertainty. Undecided respondents rose from 6% to 10%, while Option 1 (remain) moved marginally from 68% to 65% and Option 2 from 24% to 23%.

Option 1 (remain) supporters are more settled, and a majority see an Option 2 win as unlikely. Choice certainty is 8–10 among 89% of Option 1 supporters, compared with 71% of Option 2 supporters. Separately, 54% give Option 2 a 0–4 chance of winning, including 23% who say there is no chance, while 12% rate its chance at 8–10.

Belief that one's vote matters tracks strongly with turnout intention; direct complacency is limited. Among those at 8–10 on turnout, 73% say their vote could make a difference, compared with 13% among those at 0–4. Only 14% say an expected easy win reduces their motivation, similar among Option 1 (14%) and Option 2 (16%) supporters.

Some **key highlights** from the omnibus **include...**

Economic pessimism has eased somewhat since June, but negative expectations still outweigh positive ones by nearly two to one. 48% expect the referendum and separation discussions to hurt Alberta's economy, down significantly from 56% in June; 25% expect a positive impact.

With self-identified household finances being generally positive (63%), the referendum debate and vote will not impact spending for a majority of Albertans. Fifty-seven percent say their spending habits will not change. Just under 3 in 10 (28%) say their spending will change because of the referendum, 14% expect a decrease and 14% an increase.

Concern about American influence or interference remains widespread and crosses party lines. 62% are very or somewhat concerned, similar to June. Concern is highest among NDP voters (85%), but a slim majority of UCP voters are also concerned (51%).

Albertans remain divided over why the government is holding the referendum questions, although the balance has shifted modestly. Giving Albertans a voice (21%) and increasing pressure on the federal government (20%) now lead the list. "Increase pressure" rose from 17%, while "distract from other provincial issues" fell from 23% to 18%.

The debate is creating personal tension for a minority, especially younger Albertans. 30% report tension in relationships or interactions, while 66% do not. Tension rises to 40% among 18–34-year-olds and falls to 18% among those 55+.

Detailed Results - Voting Intentions

Provincial Voting Intentions (Among Decided Voters)

Q. If an Alberta Provincial election were held here in Alberta tomorrow, which party's candidate would you vote for?

Base: Decided voters (Weighted: n= 829; Unweighted: n= 857)



United
Conservative
Party



51%



Alberta NDP



41%

Another party/ an
independent candidate



9%

GENDER		AGE			REGION			FEDERAL VOTE		
Men	Women	18-34	35-54	55+	CGY	EDM	Other AB	Liberal	NDP	Conser- vative
54%	47%	51%	51%	50%	49%	40%	63%	14%	3%	86%
37%	44%	45%	41%	37%	42%	51%	30%	73%	94%	8%
8%	9%	4%	8%	12%	9%	10%	7%	13%	3%	5%

↑ Statistically significantly higher than previous wave.
↓ Statistically significantly lower than previous wave.

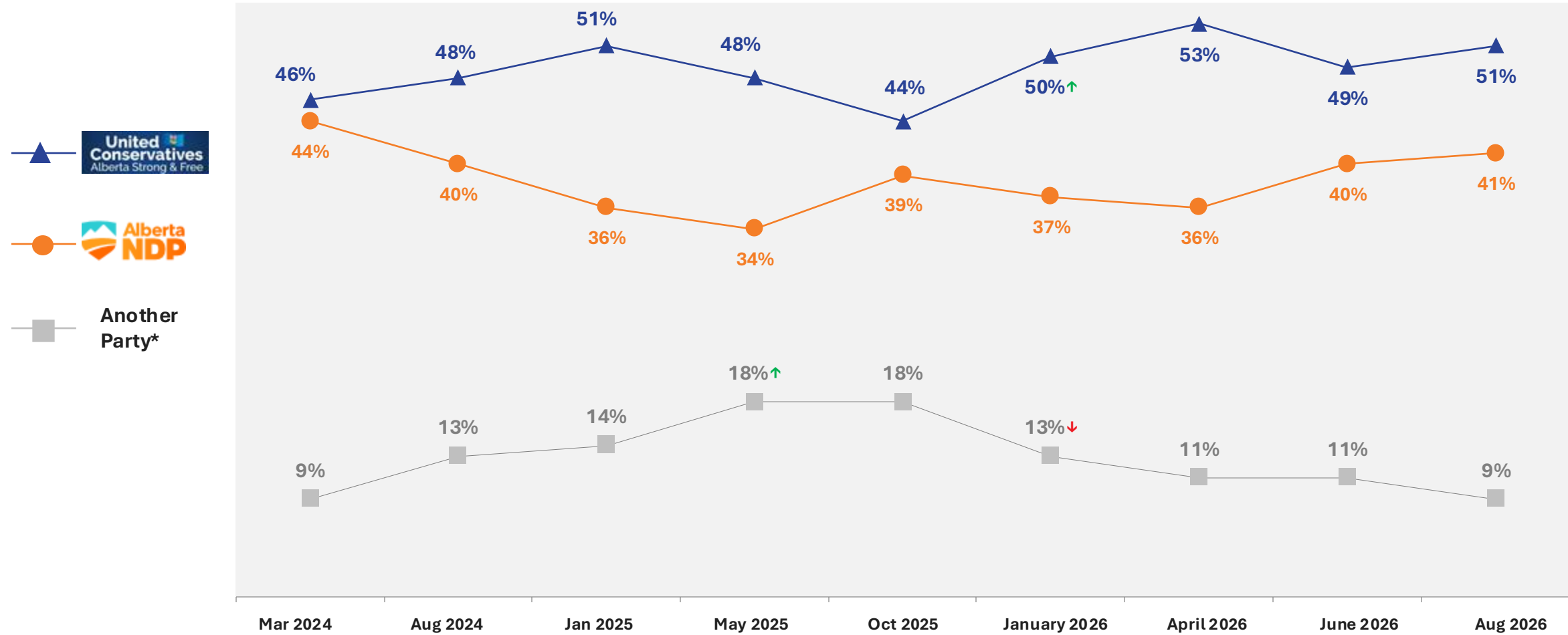
% Statistically significantly higher than total
% Statistically significantly lower than total

Provincial Voting Intentions Over Time (Among Decided Voters)

Q. If an Alberta Provincial election were held here in Alberta tomorrow, which party's candidate would you vote for?

Base: Decided voters (Weighted: n= 829; Unweighted: n= 857)

*Note: Minor parties were shown as individual options in survey prior to April 2026 and have been retroactively aggregated as a NET for comparison purposes. Take caution interpreting changes.



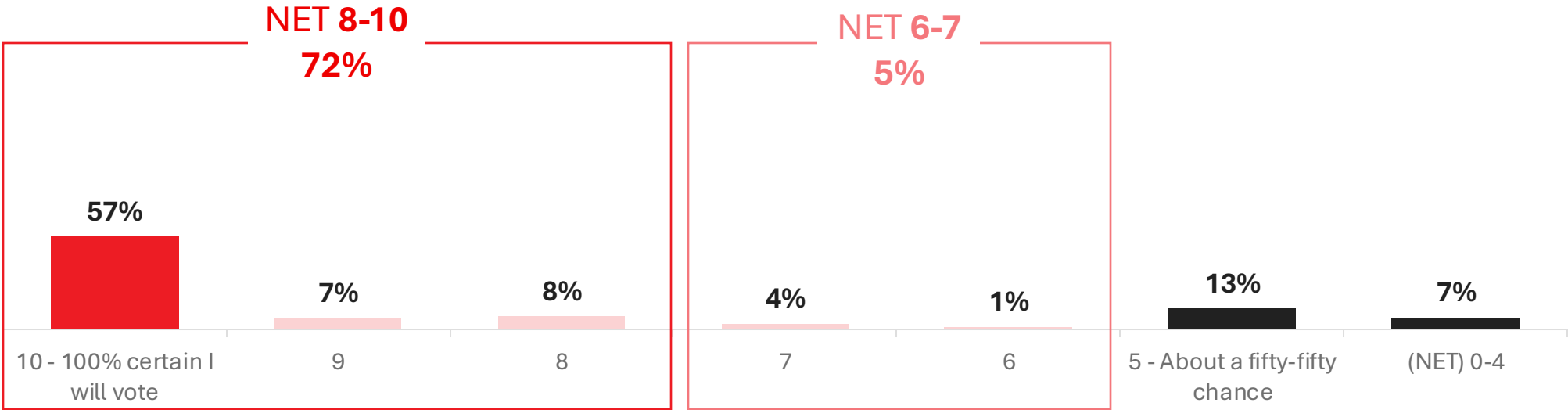
↑ Statistically significantly higher than previous wave.
↓ Statistically significantly lower than previous wave.

Detailed Results – Alberta Referendum Voting

Chance of Voting in Upcoming Alberta Referendum

Q. People sometimes do not vote for a variety of reasons, even when they are interested in the issues. Using a scale from 0 to 10, where 0 means there is no chance you will vote and 10 means you are certain to vote, what is the chance that you will cast a ballot in the upcoming Alberta referendum?

Base: Alberta Residents (Weighted: n= 1,001 ; Unweighted: n= 1,001)
Don't know / Prefer not to answer, 3% not shown.



	Total	GENDER		AGE			REGION			PROVINCIAL VOTE	
		Men	Women	18-34	35-54	55+	CGY	EDM	Other AB	NDP	UCP
NET 0-4	7%	8%	7%	9%	11%	2%	7%	9%	6%	2%	4%
NET 6-7	5%	7%	3%	10%	5%	1%	4%	4%	7%	2%	8%
NET 8-10	72%	70%	74%	53%	70%	90%	74%	73%	70%	85%	75%

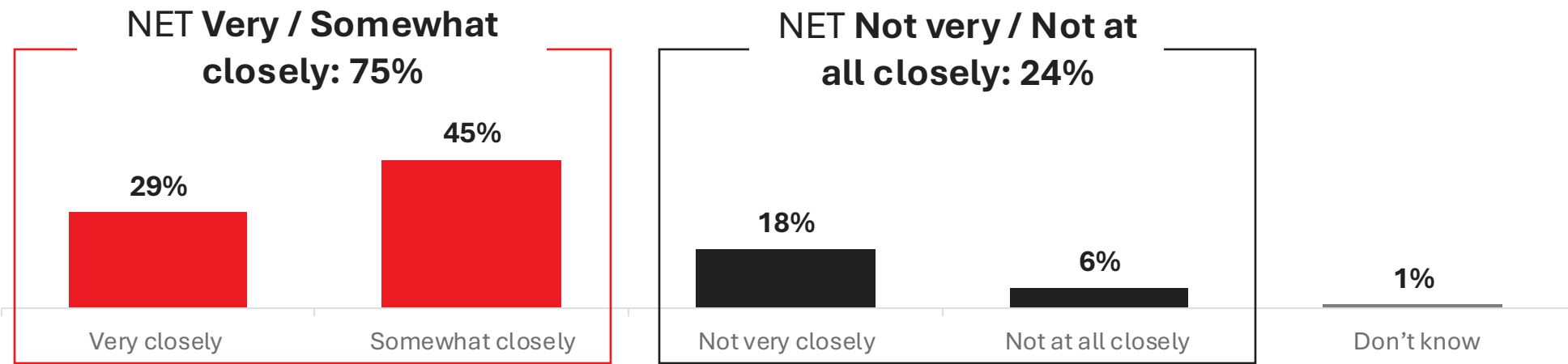
% Statistically significantly higher than total
% Statistically significantly lower than total

Detailed Results – Referendum Question 10 Perceptions

Public Attention to Alberta Sovereignty and Separation Discussions

Q. How closely have you followed recent discussions about Alberta sovereignty and separation from Canada?

Base: Alberta Residents (Weighted: n= 1,001 ; Unweighted: n= 1,001)
Prefer not to answer, <1% not shown.



	June 2026	Aug. 2026	GENDER		AGE			REGION			PROVINCIAL VOTE	
			Men	Women	18-34	35-54	55+	CGY	EDM	Other AB	NDP	UCP
NET Very / Somewhat closely	73%	75%	79%	71%	66%	74%	82%	73%	76%	75%	85%	81%
NET Not very / Not at all closely	26%	24%	19%	29%	31%	25%	17%	26%	22%	24%	15%	19%↓

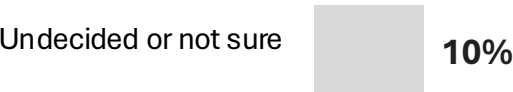
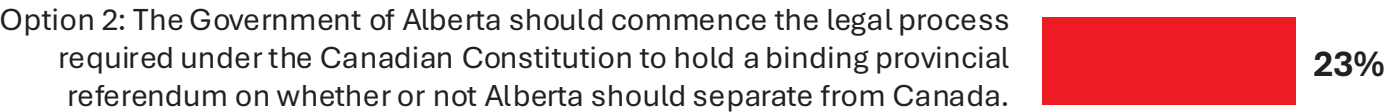
↑ Statistically significantly higher than previous wave.
↓ Statistically significantly lower than previous wave.

% Statistically significantly higher than total
% Statistically significantly lower than total

Referendum Preference: Remain in Canada vs. Begin Separation Process [1/2]

Q. As you may be aware, Question 10 on the ballot is a choice between two options:
Should Alberta remain a province of Canada, or should the Government of Alberta commence the legal process required under the Canadian Constitution to hold a binding provincial referendum on whether or not Alberta should separate from Canada?

Base: Alberta Residents (Weighted: n= 1,001 ; Unweighted: n= 1,001)
Prefer not to answer, 2% not shown.



	June 2026	Aug. 2026	GENDER		AGE			REGION			PROVINCIAL VOTE	
			Men	Women	18-34	35-54	55+	CGY	EDM	Other AB	NDP	UCP
Option 1	68%	65%	62%	68%	55%	67%	71%	67%	72%	54%	93%	42%
Option 2	24%	23%	28%	18%	31%	19%	21%	22%	16%	32%	4%	45%
Undecided or not sure	6%	10%↑	8%	12%	13%	11%	7%	10%	10%	10%	2%	12%

↑ Statistically significantly higher than previous wave.
↓ Statistically significantly lower than previous wave.

↑ Statistically significantly higher than total
↓ Statistically significantly lower than total

Referendum Preference: Remain in Canada vs. Begin Separation Process [2/2]

Q. As you may be aware, Question 10 on the ballot is a choice between two options:
Should Alberta remain a province of Canada, or should the Government of Alberta commence the legal process required under the Canadian Constitution to hold a binding provincial referendum on whether or not Alberta should separate from Canada?

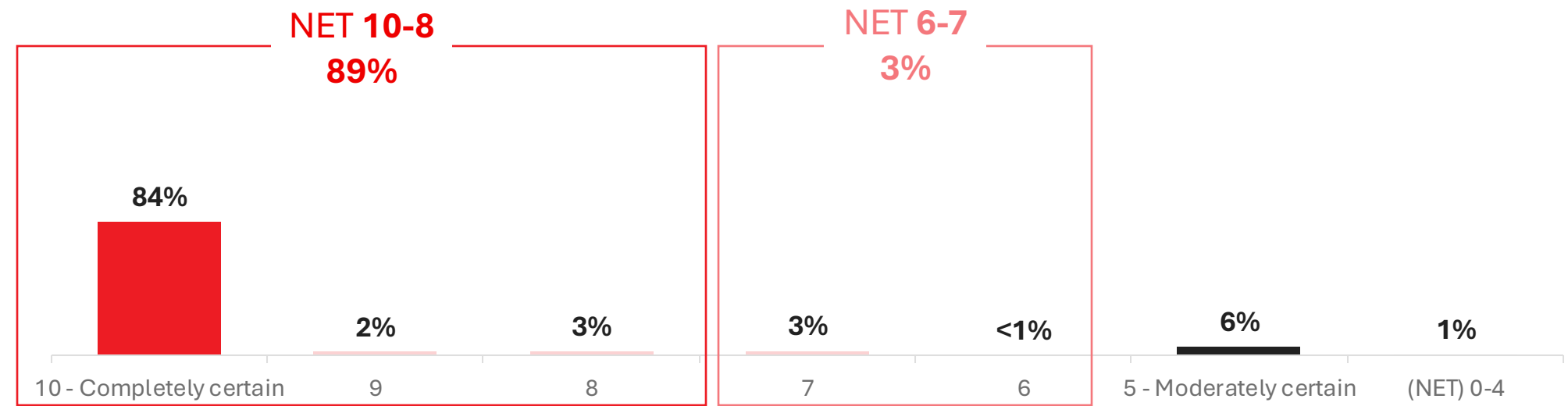
Base: Alberta Residents (Weighted: n= 1,001 ; Unweighted: n= 1,001)
Prefer not to answer, 2% not shown.

	NET Agree %	Chance of Voting out of 10			
		Total	0-4/10	5/10	6-7/10
Option 1: Alberta should remain a province of Canada.	65%	61%	50%	50%	70%
Option 2: The Government of Alberta should commence the legal process required under the Canadian Constitution to hold a binding provincial referendum on whether or not Alberta should separate from Canada.	23%	12%	29%	36%	23%
Undecided or not sure	10%	20%	19%	7%	7%

Chance of Not Changing Vote from Option 1 Before Alberta Referendum

Q. You indicated that you would select Alberta should remain a province of Canada. Thinking only about which option you would choose, not about whether you will vote, how certain are you that this is the option you will ultimately select on Question 10?

Base: Alberta Residents selecting Option 1 for Question 10 (Weighted: n=649 ; Unweighted: n= 705)
Don't know / Prefer not to answer, 1% not shown.



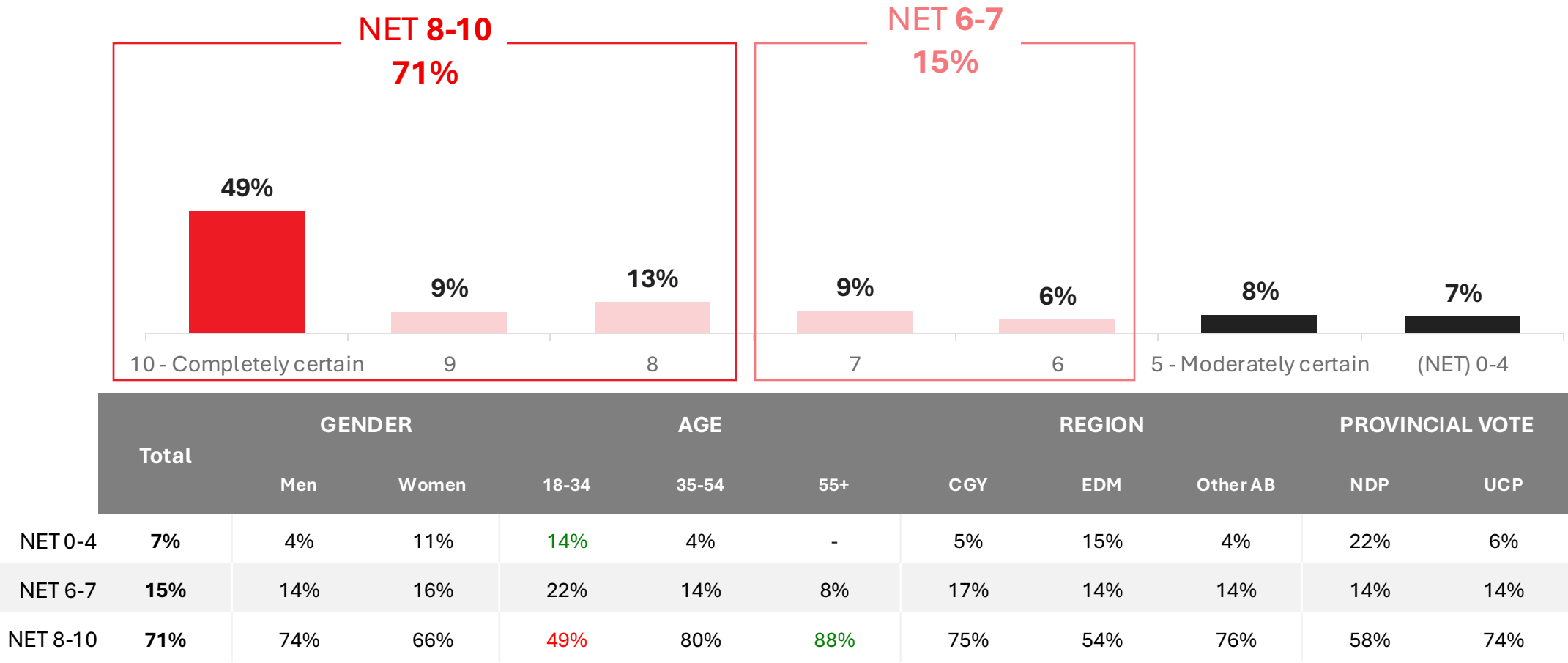
	Total	GENDER		AGE			REGION			PROVINCIAL VOTE	
		Men	Women	18-34	35-54	55+	CGY	EDM	Other AB	NDP	UCP
NET 0-4	1%	1%	<1%	1%	2%	-	1%	<1%	2%	1%	-
NET 6-7	3%	4%	3%	5%	4%	1%	1%	3%	6%	2%	4%
NET 8-10	89%	87%	90%	88%	82%	97%	90%	91%	84%	93%	86%

% Statistically significantly higher than total
% Statistically significantly lower than total

Chance of Not Changing Vote from Option 2 Before Alberta Referendum

Q. You indicated that you would select [Alberta should commence the process to hold a referendum on separation]. Thinking only about which option you would choose, not about whether you will vote, how certain are you that this is the option you will ultimately select on Question 10?

Base: Alberta Residents selecting Option 2 for Question 10 (Weighted: n= 230 ; Unweighted: n= 201)



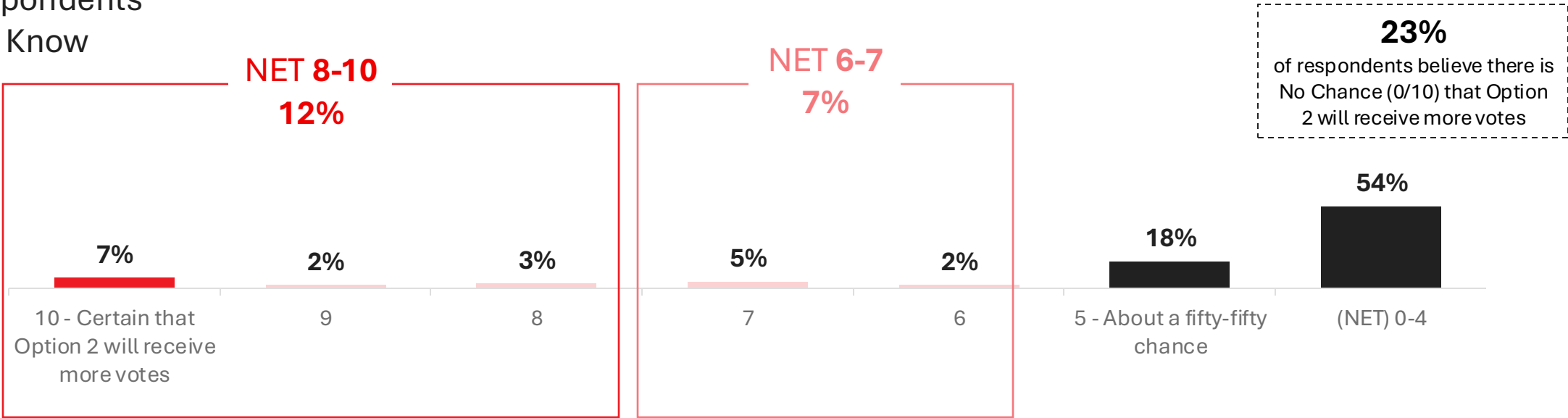
% Statistically significantly higher than total
% Statistically significantly lower than total

Perception of Option 2 Receiving More Votes

Q. Regardless of which option you personally prefer, what do you think is the chance that Option 2 will receive more votes than Option 1?

Base: Alberta Residents (Weighted: n= 1,001 ; Unweighted: n= 1,001)
Prefer not to answer, 1% not shown.

8% of respondents
Don't Know



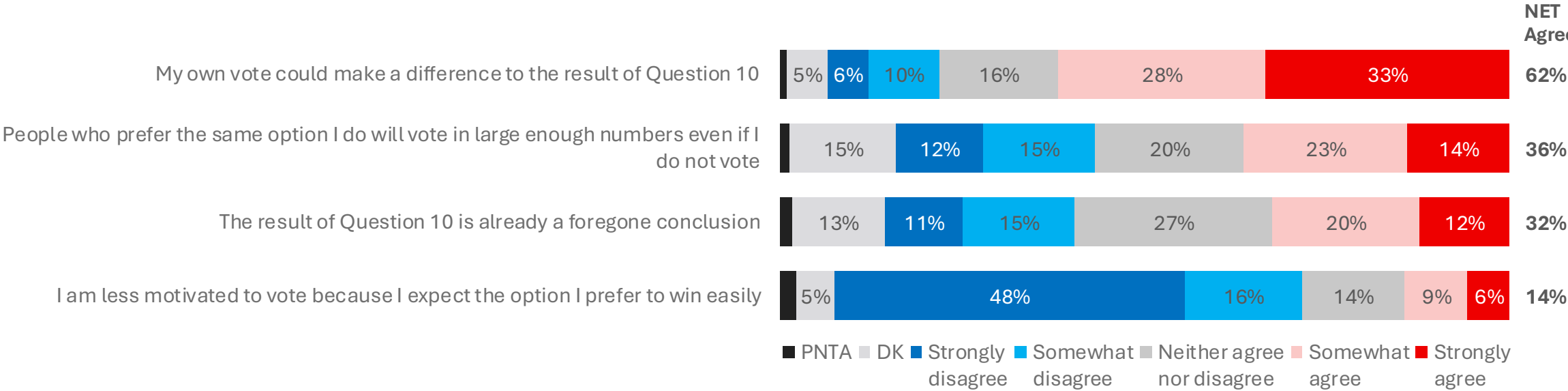
	Total	GENDER		AGE			REGION			PROVINCIAL VOTE	
		Men	Women	18-34	35-54	55+	CGY	EDM	Other AB	NDP	UCP
NET 0-4	54%	57%	52%	43%	53%	65%	61%	59%	42%	76%	40%
NET 6-7	7%	8%	5%	10%	5%	6%	6%	6%	8%	3%	12%
NET 8-10	12%	14%	10%	19%	10%	8%	10%	13%	14%	7%	17%

% Statistically significantly higher than total
% Statistically significantly lower than total

Perceptions on Question 10 [1/2]

Q. Please indicate how much you agree or disagree with each statement about Question 10.

Base: Alberta Residents (Weighted: n= 1,001 ; Unweighted: n= 1,001)



NET Agree %											
	Total	GENDER		AGE			REGION			PROVINCIAL VOTE	
		Men	Women	18-34	35-54	55+	CGY	EDM	Other AB	NDP	UCP
My vote could make a difference	62%	58%	66%	56%	55%	73%	61%	63%	61%	74%	63%
People who prefer the same... will vote in large enough numbers...	36%	43%	30%	41%	37%	31%	36%	40%	32%	42%	34%
The result... is a foregone conclusion	32%	40%	25%	31%	36%	30%	32%	39%	25%	40%	29%
I am less motivated...	14%	19%	10%	25%	15%	4%	14%	14%	15%	13%	15%

% Statistically significantly higher than total
% Statistically significantly lower than total

Perceptions on Question 10 [2/2]

Q. Please indicate how much you agree or disagree with each statement about Question 10.

Base: Alberta Residents (Weighted: n= 1,001 ; Unweighted: n= 1,001)

NET Agree %	Total	Chance of Voting out of 10				Would You Vote For:		
		0-4/10	5/10	6-7/10	8-10/10	Option 1	Option 2	Undecided/ not sure
My own vote could make a difference to the result of Question 10	62%	13%	36%	46%	73%	67%	62%	32%
People who prefer the same option I do will vote in large enough numbers even if I do not vote	36%	32%	36%	37%	38%	42%	32%	14%
The result of Question 10 is already a foregone conclusion	32%	23%	35%	19%	35%	38%	28%	12%
I am less motivated to vote because I expect the option I prefer to win easily	14%	23%	20%	34%	11%	14%	16%	12%

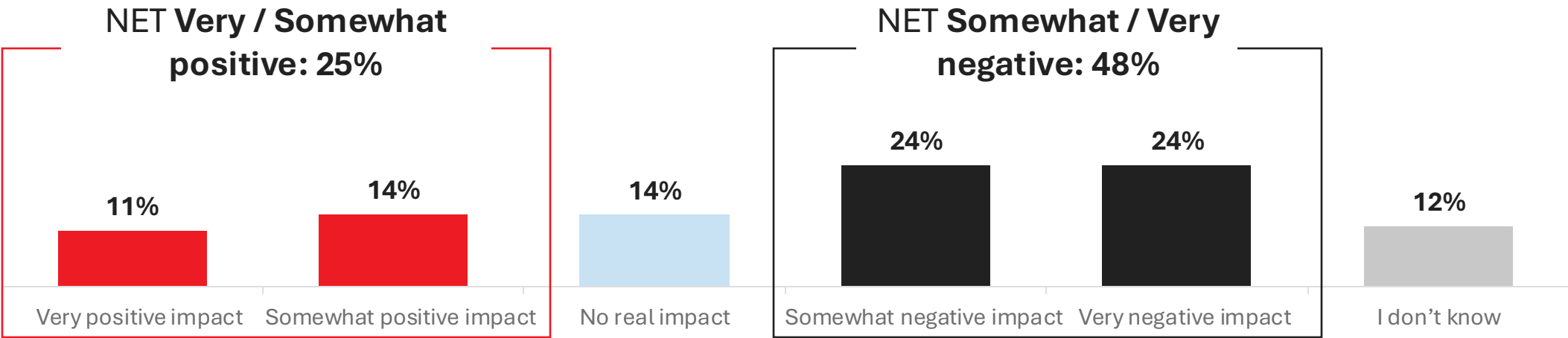
% Statistically significantly higher than total

% Statistically significantly lower than total

Perceived Economic Impact of Alberta’s Referendum and Separation Discussions

Q. Overall, do you think the referendum and ongoing discussions about Alberta separation will have a positive or negative impact on Alberta’s economy?

Base: Alberta Residents (Weighted: n= 1,001 ; Unweighted: n= 1,001)
Prefer not to answer, 1% not shown.



	June 2026	Aug. 2026	GENDER		AGE			REGION			PROVINCIAL VOTE	
			Men	Women	18-34	35-54	55+	CGY	EDM	Other AB	NDP	UCP
NET Very / Somewhat positive	24%	25%	32%	18%	34%	24%	20%	24%	22%	30%	9%	42%
NET Somewhat / Very negative	56%	48%↓	41%	55%	40%	47%	55%	49%	56%	38%	75%	27%

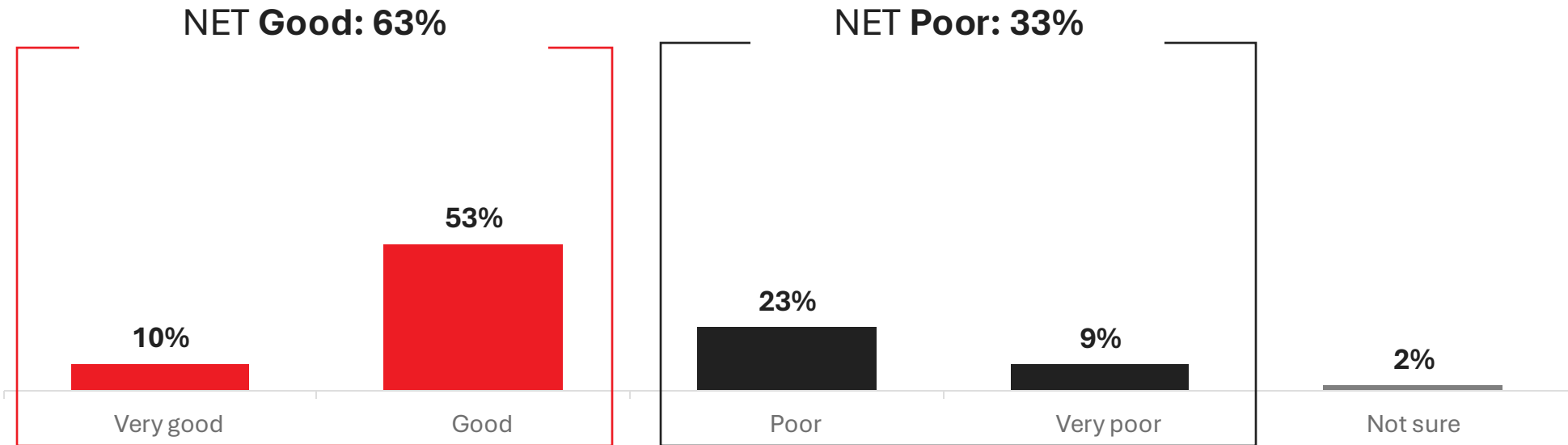
↑ Statistically significantly higher than previous wave.
↓ Statistically significantly lower than previous wave.

🟢 Statistically significantly higher than total
🔴 Statistically significantly lower than total

Household Financial Situation

Q. How would you describe your household’s financial situation today?

Base: Alberta Residents (Weighted: n= 1,001 ; Unweighted: n= 1,001)
Prefer not to answer, 2% not shown.

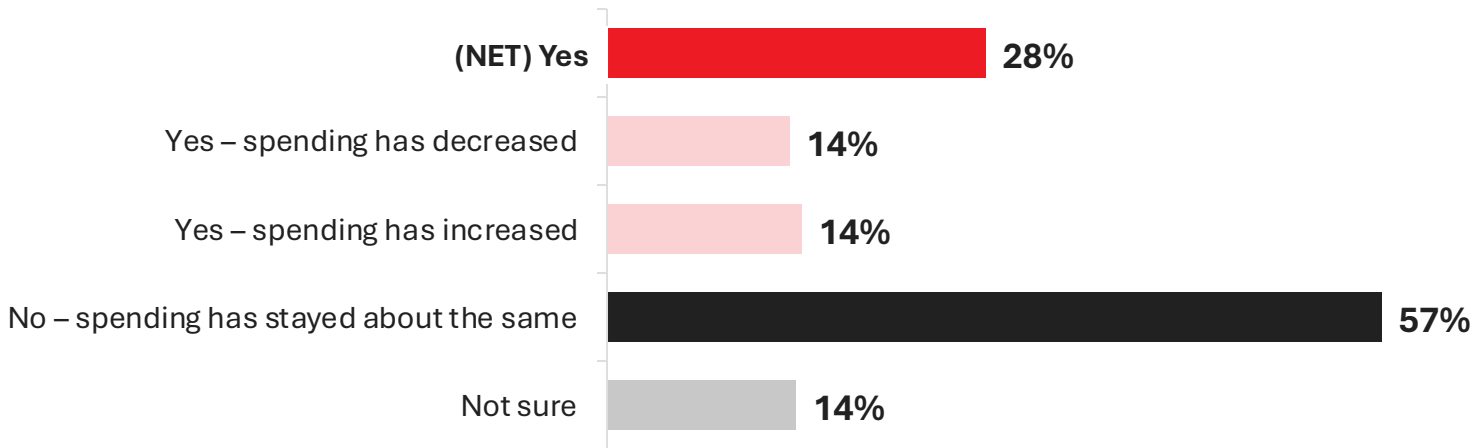


	Total	GENDER		AGE			REGION			PROVINCIAL VOTE	
		Men	Women	18-34	35-54	55+	CGY	EDM	Other AB	NDP	UCP
NET Good	63%	68%	59%	69%	55%	66%	63%	63%	64%	65%	65%
NET Poor	33%	28%	37%	25%	42%	29%	33%	33%	31%	31%	32%

% Statistically significantly higher than total
% Statistically significantly lower than total

Impact on Household Spending Habits

Q. In the next three months, will your household's spending habits change because of the impending referendum, or will they stay the same?
Base: Alberta Residents (Weighted: n= 1,001; Unweighted: n= 1,001)
Prefer not to answer, 1% not shown.



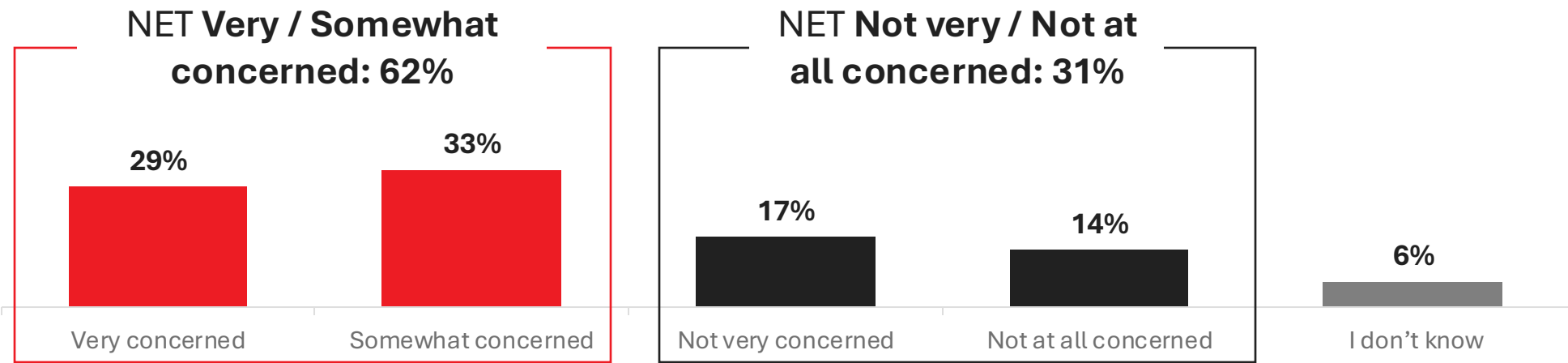
	Total	GENDER		AGE			REGION			PROVINCIAL VOTE	
		Men	Women	18-34	35-54	55+	CGY	EDM	Other AB	NDP	UCP
Spending has decreased	14%	13%	14%	10%	18%	12%	15%	14%	11%	17%	11%
Spending has increased	14%	15%	14%	29%	13%	5%	13%	14%	17%	17%	15%
No	57%	60%	54%	49%	52%	69%	61%	51%	60%	50%	65%

% Statistically significantly higher than total
% Statistically significantly lower than total

Perceived Risk of American Interference in Alberta’s Referendum Debate

Q. How concerned, if at all, are you about the possibility of American influence or interference in discussions around Alberta separation and the upcoming referendum?

Base: Alberta Residents (Weighted: n= 1,001 ; Unweighted: n= 1,001)
Prefer not to answer, 1% not shown.



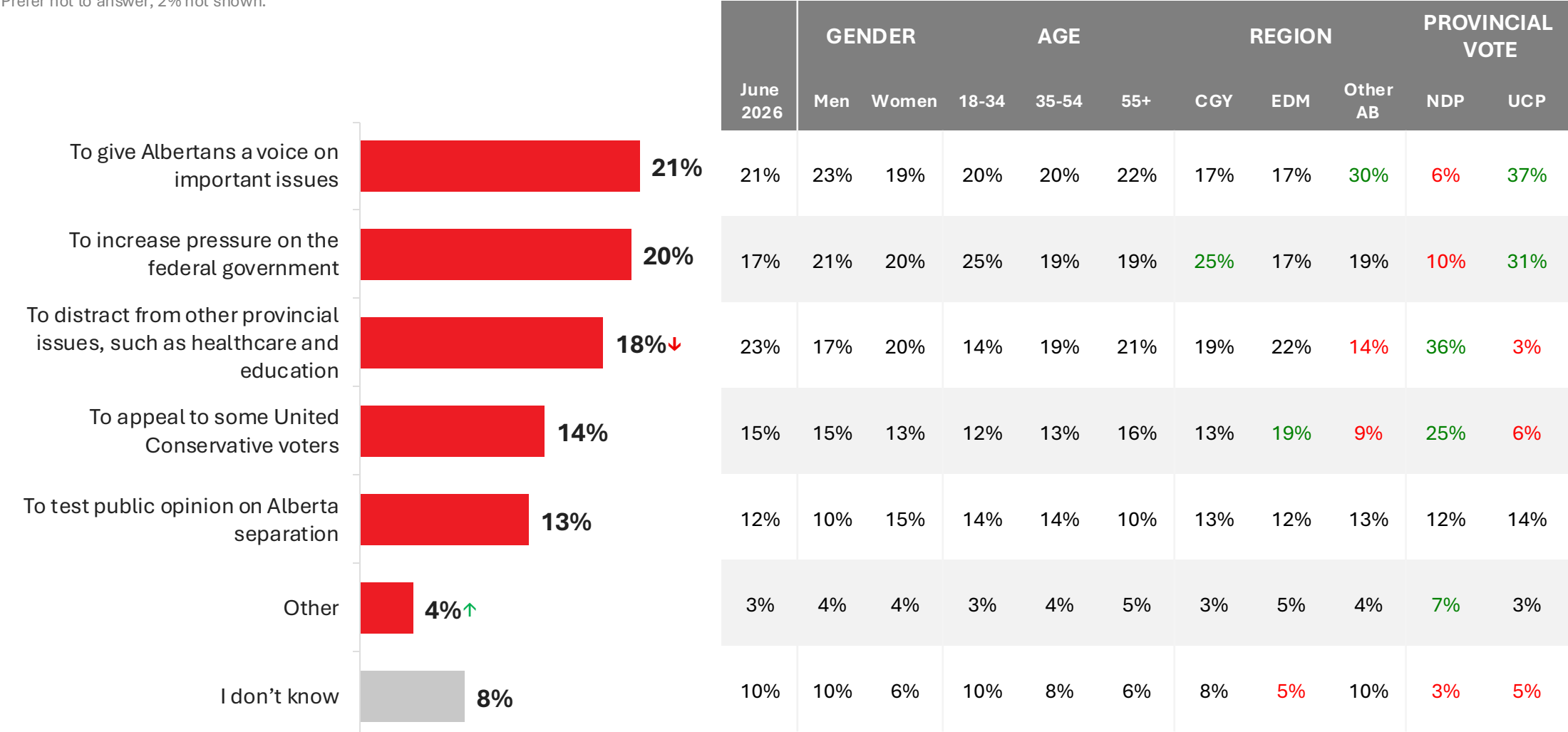
	June 2026	Aug. 2026	GENDER		AGE			REGION			PROVINCIAL VOTE	
			Men	Women	18-34	35-54	55+	CGY	EDM	Other AB	NDP	UCP
NET Very / Somewhat concerned	60%	62%	59%	65%	63%	62%	62%	62%	67%	57%	85%	51%
NET Not very / Not at all concerned	32%	31%	33%	28%	27%	31%	33%	32%	27%	33%	11%	45%

% Statistically significantly higher than total
% Statistically significantly lower than total

Perceived Motivations Behind Alberta’s Referendum Questions

Q. In your view, why do you think the Alberta government is holding these referendum questions?

Base: Alberta Residents (Weighted: n= 1,001; Unweighted: n= 1,001)
Prefer not to answer, 2% not shown.

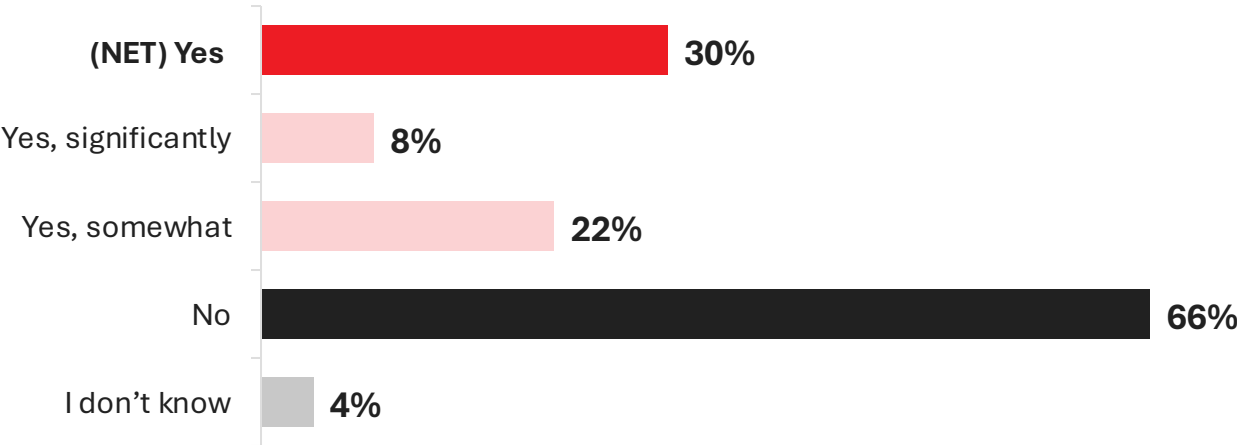


↑ Statistically significantly higher than previous wave.
↓ Statistically significantly lower than previous wave.
% Statistically significantly higher than total
% Statistically significantly lower than total

Personal Impact of Alberta Separation Discussions

Q. Have recent discussions about Alberta separation and Alberta’s place in Canada caused tension in your relationships or interactions with family members, friends, coworkers, or neighbours?

Base: Alberta Residents (Weighted: n= 1,001 ; Unweighted: n= 1,001)
Prefer not to answer, <1% not shown.



	June 2026	Aug. 2026	GENDER		AGE			REGION			PROVINCIAL VOTE	
			Men	Women	18-34	35-54	55+	CGY	EDM	Other AB	NDP	UCP
(NET) Yes	29%	30%	29%	31%	40%	34%	18%	26%	31%	33%	32%	31%
No	67%	66%	65%	66%	54%	61%	80%	71%	61%	64%	66%	67%

% Statistically significantly higher than total
% Statistically significantly lower than total

Sample Profile

Sample Profile

AB Residents (Unweighted Base n=1,001; Weighted Base n=1,001 unless noted otherwise)

Gender		
	Unweighted	Weighted
Men	474	495
Women	527	506

Region		
	Unweighted	Weighted
Calgary	330	351
Edmonton	320	335
Rest of AB	351	315

Age		
	Unweighted	Weighted
18-34	216	287
35-54	263	360
55+	522	354

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consultants

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