Report

## Government of Alberta Report Card

August 2024



**DATE** 8/13/2024



## BACKGROUND



Leger monitors constituents' views of Alberta government performance, party leadership, and voter intentions to keep a pulse on provincial political sentiment.

# METHODOLOGY

- Results are based on online research conducted among Albertan adults 18 years of age and older.
- The most recent wave was conducted among a sample of 1,005, with fieldwork from August 2-5, 2024.
  - No margin of error can be associated with a nonprobability sample, but for comparative purposes, a probability sample of this size would have a margin of error of +/-3.1%, 19 times out of 20.
- The data was statistically weighted according to Canadian Census figures for age, gender, region, and education within the Province.

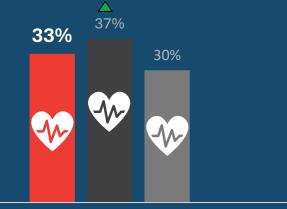
# DASHBOARD OF KEY METRICS

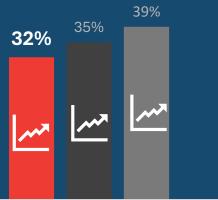


23%

#### **Most Important Issues**

Concerns about health care, inflation/rising interest rates, housing prices/affordability, and the economy continue to be most prominent in Alberta as of August 2024 – remaining consistent with March 2024 results.





Health care

#### Inflation/rising interest rates Housing prices/ affordability

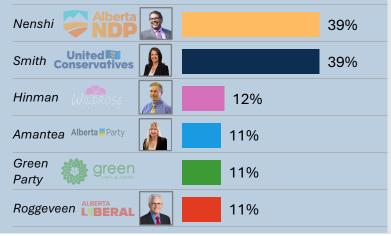
Economy

21%

E.

#### Leader Approval Ratings

Naheed Nenshi and Danielle Smith both received identical approval ratings of 39% while the remainder of Alberta party leaders struggle with low approval.



#### Approval Ratings of Current Government on Key Issues Approval ratings for the current UCP government on their handling of various

issues are mixed. Wildfires, energy/pipelines, and transportation are the only issues with higher approval than the 39% received by Premier Smith herself.



Housing prices/ affordability

#### **Alberta Voting Intentions**

27%

26%

25%

The United Conservative Party holds a strong lead over the second place Alberta NDP. Outside of the NDP and UCP, no party received more than 4% voting intention amongst Albertans.

August 2024

March 2024

September 2023

E

21%

United Conservatives Alberta Strong & Free	48%
Alberta NDP	40%
Alberta 🖻 Party 🗧 4%	
ALBERTA	
ULDROSE Legating Coalcion	



# **Detailed Findings**

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## **PROVINCIAL VOTING INTENTIONS**

(Among Decided Voters) Mar Sep 2024 2023 United United Conservative **Conservatives** Alberta Strong & Free 48% 46% 49% Party Alberta Alberta **40**% 44% 39% NDP NDP Alberta Alberta Party **4%** 4% 4% Party Alberta Liberal ALBERTA 3% 1% 3% LIBERAL Party **Green Party** green 3% 1% 2% of Alberta Wildrose Loyalty 2% 1% 1% Coalition Other 2% 2% 2%

Just less than half of Albertans report that they would vote for the United Conservative Party candidate were an Alberta provincial election held tomorrow.

The Alberta NDP received the second highest share of voting intention, with four-inten Albertans reporting that they would vote for a candidate from the party.

Just above one-in-ten Albertans report that they would vote for a candidate from a party other than the United Conservative Party or the Alberta NDP were an election held tomorrow.

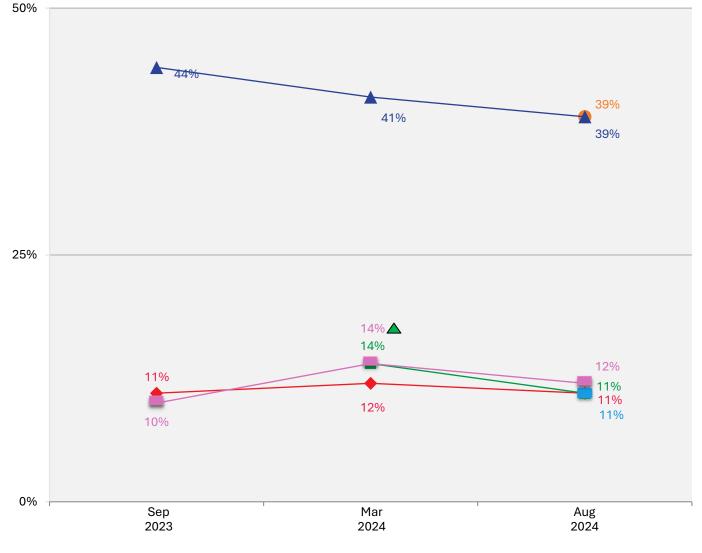
Results are statistically consistent with results from March 2024.

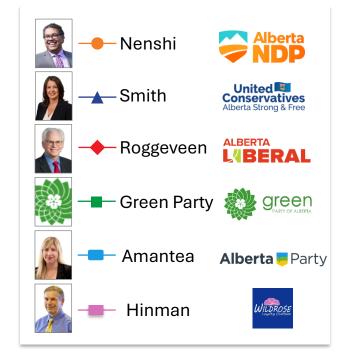


## **CURRENT LEADER APPROVAL RATING**

Albertans have the same level of approval towards NDP leader Naheed Nenshi and UCP leader Danielle Smith, with both leaders receiving 39% approval.

The remaining four party leaders all experience relatively low levels of approval, with no leader receiving more than 12%.



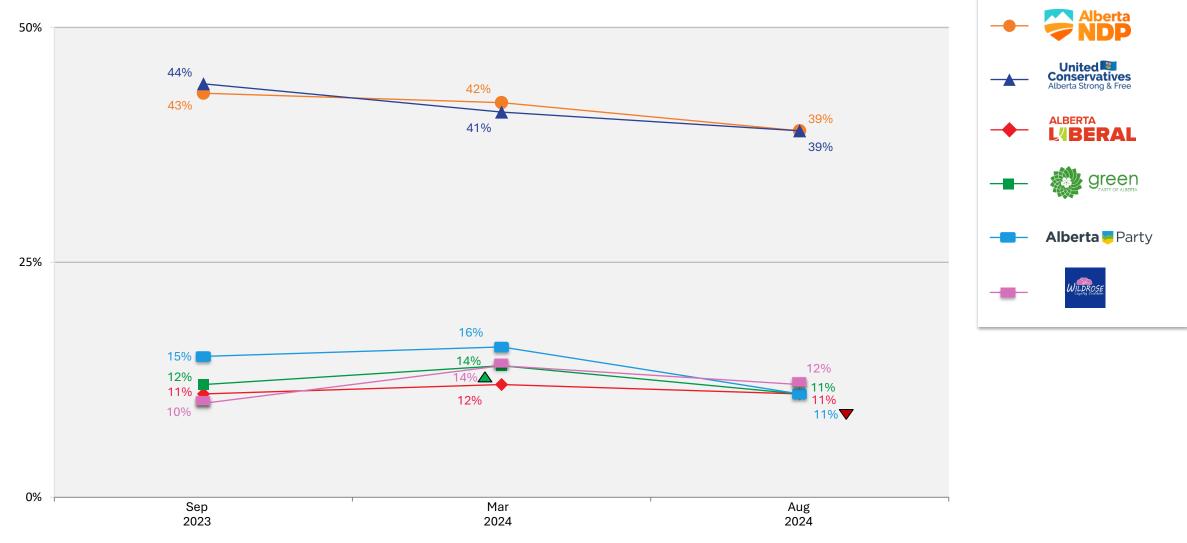


Base: All respondents (Aug 2024 n=1,005; Mar 2024 n= 1,002; Sep 2023 n=1,001)

Thinking of each of the following provincial party leaders, would you say you generally approve or disapprove of the way each has performed in their job?



## CURRENT LEADER APPROVAL RATING Longer Term Tracking



Statistically significantly higher than previous wave. Statistically significantly lower than previous wave. 7



## **CHANGE IN OPINION OF LEADERS**

Improved All Alberta provincial party 17% 20% 22%  $\Delta$ 19% 14% 12% 3% 2% 3% 2% 2% 2% 3% 2% 2% 1% 1% Albertan Partv Albert Party Alb areen Partv John Roggeveen -Paul Hinman – Lindsay Amantea -Danielle Smith -Naheed Nenshi -Green Partv Alberta Liberal Wildrose Loyalty United Conservative Party Alberta NDP Alberta Party of Alberta Coalition Party Worsened 7% <sub>9%</sub> 7% **7%** ▼ 12% 8% 8% 9% 11% 10% 12% 16% 21% 24% 26% 30% 35% 41% **NET Change** -18 -8 -10 -14 -11 -14 -7 -6 -5 -8 -21 -10 -5 -8 -2 -6

leaders have experienced a NET negative change in opinion over the past six months, though the magnitude of this change varies greatly by leader.

Danielle Smith experienced the largest negative change in NET opinion over the last six months (-18), while Naheed Nenshi has experienced the least (-2) negative change.

Greater than one-third of Albertans report their opinion of Danielle Smith has worsened over the last six months; a significant decrease from March 2024.



Base: All respondents (Aug 2024 n=1,005; Mar 2024 n= 1,002; Sep 2023 n=1,001) Over the past six months, has your opinion of each of the following leaders improved, stayed the same, or worsened? ▲ Statistically significantly higher than previous wave. Statistically significantly lower than previous wave.

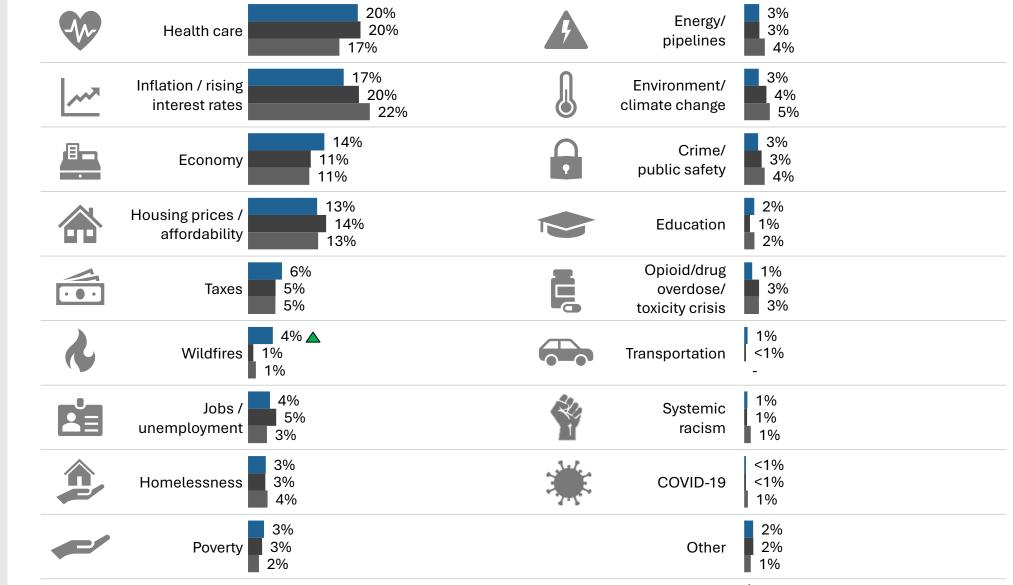
# ALBERTA ISSUES – MOST IMPORTANT: AIDED – TRACKER

Health care is the top issue facing Alberta today in August 2024, followed by inflation/ rising interest rates and economy; the latter of which surpassed housing prices/affordability for third place this wave.

Following the highly publicized wildfire disaster in Jasper National Park, Albertans are significantly more likely to rank wildfires as the top issue in the province in August 2024.

Aug 2024

Mar 2024
Sep 2023

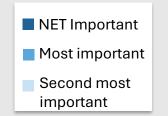


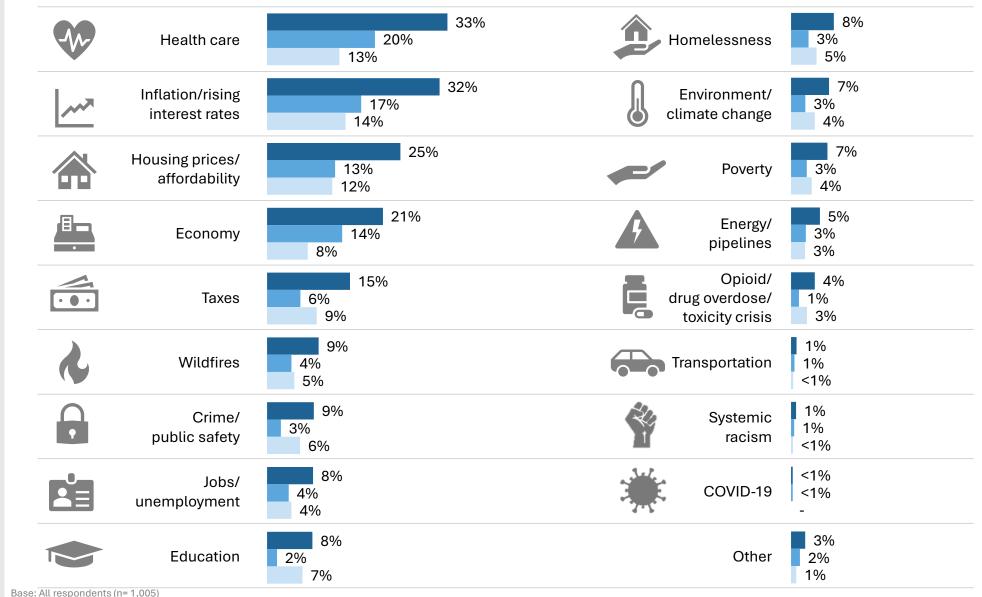
Base: All respondents (Aug 2024 n=1,005; Mar 2024 n= 1,002; Sep 2023 n=1,001) In your view, what is the most important issue facing Alberta today? What is the second most important issue? Statistically significantly higher than previous wave. Statistically significantly lower than previous wave.

## **ALBERTA ISSUES – TOTAL IMPORTANCE: AIDED**

Healthcare is the overall top issue cited by Albertans, with one-third reporting it as the first or second most important issue the province is currently facing. Inflation/rising interest rates and housing prices/ affordability are also important issues in Alberta, with just less than one-third and one-quarter of Albertans respectively ranking these as top two issues facing Alberta today.

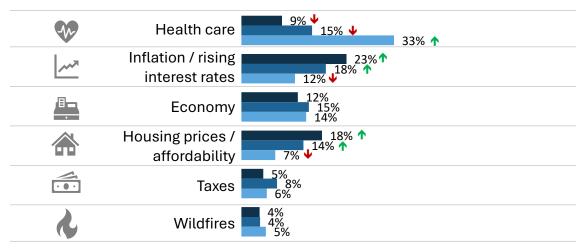
Taxes and wildfires have increased in importance relative to March 2024.





In your view, what is the most important issue facing Alberta today? What is the second most important issue?

#### **TOP 6 AB ISSUES – MOST IMPORTANT:** AIDED x AGE (Aug 2024)

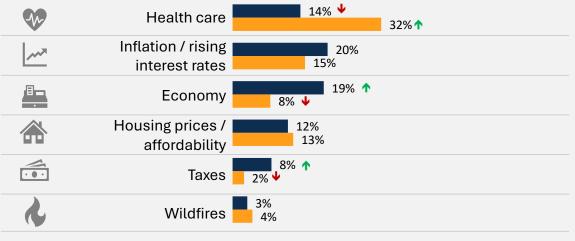


#### TOP 6 AB ISSUES – TOP 2 MOST IMPORTANT: AIDED x AGE (Aug 2024)

#### **TOP 6 AB ISSUES – MOST IMPORTANT:**



**AIDED x VOTING INTENTION** (Aug 2024)



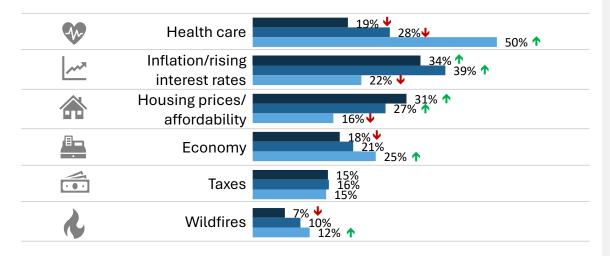
#### TOP 6 AB ISSUES – TOP 2 MOST IMPORTANT : **AIDED x VOTING INTENTION** (Aug 2024)

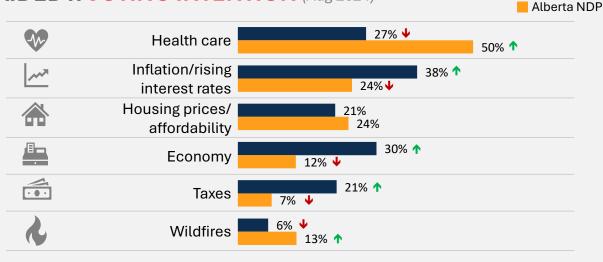
18-34

35-54

55+

United Conservative Partv





↑ Statistically significantly higher than comparison group(s).

↓ Statistically significantly lower than comparison group(s).

Base: All respondents (n= 1,005)

In your view, what is the most important issue facing Alberta today? What is the second most important issue?

Only the United Conservative Party and the Alberta NDP are included in voting intention breakdown due to small sample size for other parties.



## APPROVAL RATING OF CURRENT GOVERNMENT ON ISSUES

Issue-centric approval ratings for the UCP government fall in the 20-42% range depending on the issue, with response to wildfire evacuations being the notable exception. Results for August 2024 are statistically consistent with March 2024 results.

Response to wildfire evacuations, energy/ pipelines, and transportation and roads were the only issues where the Alberta Government received higher approval from Albertans than the 39% approval received by Premier Danielle Smith herself.

Aug 2024	
Mar 2024	
Sep 2023	

				Disapproval
	Response to wildfire		51%	31%
	evacuations	n/a		n/a
	evacuations	n/a		n/a
		4	2%	34%
	Energy/ pipelines		)%	35%
			42%	34%
	Transportation	40	0%	39%
	k roads	37%		41%
•	allaus	37%		36%
Π	Environment/	35%		40%
川		37%		42%
$\bigcirc$	climate change	35%		41%
	<b>Reconciliation</b> with	34%		32%
	Indigenous Peoples/	34%		33%
	First Nations	32%		33%
		34%		49%
	Economy	34%		49% 🛆
•		36%		42%
	Jobs/	34%		45%
		35%		45% 🛆
	unemployment	35%		40%
$\mathbf{T}$	Government	33%		46%
Ч.	spending/	30%		44%
$\mathbf{\Psi}$	Provincial budget	n/a		n/a

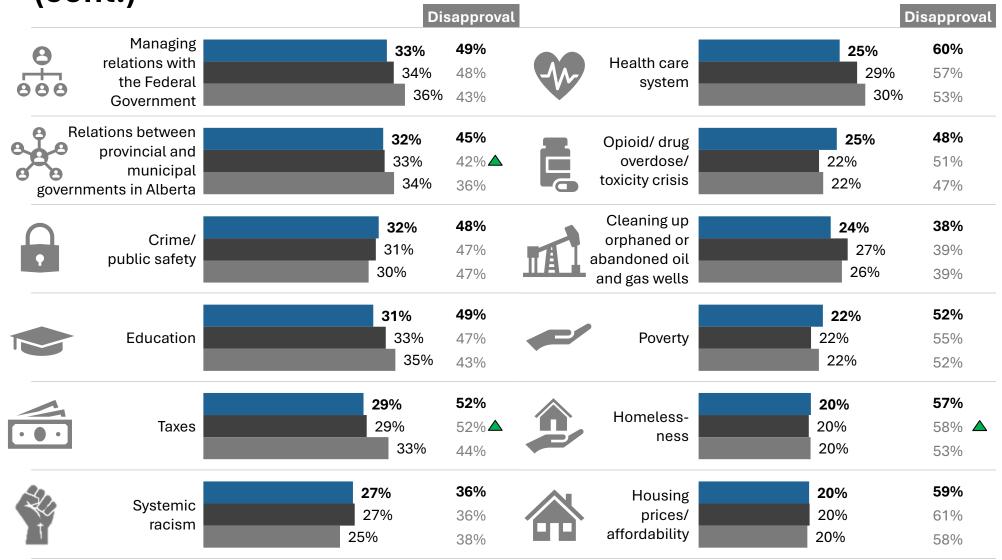
Base: All respondents (Aug 2024 n=1,005; Mar 2024 n= 1,002; Sep 2023 n=1,001)

Do you think Danielle Smith and the United Conservative Party have done a good job or a bad job handling each of the following issues in Alberta?

▲ Statistically significantly higher than previous wave.

Statistically significantly lower than previous wave.

# APPROVAL RATING OF CURRENT GOVERNMENT ON ISSUES (cont.)



Base: All respondents (Aug 2024 n=1,005; Mar 2024 n= 1,002; Sep 2023 n=1,001)

Do you think Danielle Smith and the United Conservative Party have done a good job or a bad job handling each of the following issues in Alberta?

Housing prices/affordability, homelessness, health care system, poverty, and taxes all received greater than 50% disapproval from Albertans.

Approval and disapproval ratings in August 2024 are consistent with March 2024 results across all issues.



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

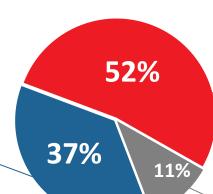


Just less than four-in-ten Albertans believe the province is going in the right direction, whereas just over half are negative about the direction the province is headed; significantly lower than in March 2024.

Males, those who are college educated, and those making \$80k+ income are more likely are more likely to believe the province in headed in the right direction, while females are more likely to report the opposite. **37%** of Albertans believe that **things in the province are going in the right direction,** up directionally from 34% in March 2024.

**CURRENT TRAJECTORY OF ALBERTA** 

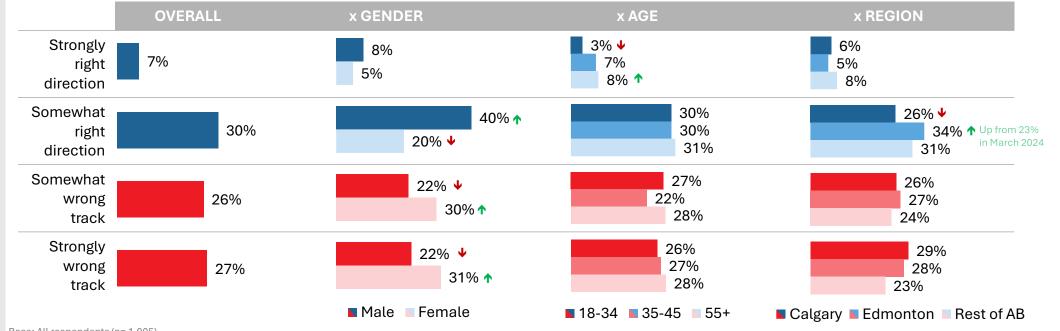
Males, those who are college educated, and those making \$80k+ income are more likely to hold this stance.



**52%** of Albertans believe that **things in the province are off on the wrong track**, down significantly from 59% in March 2024

Females are more likely to hold this stance.

**11%** of Albertans report that they **"don't know" or** simply **refuse to answer.** 



Base: All respondents (n= 1,005)

Taking everything into account how do you feel things are going these days in Alberta? Are things going in the right direction or are they off on the wrong track?

↑ Statistically significantly higher than comparison group(s). 14 ↓ Statistically significantly lower than comparison group(s).

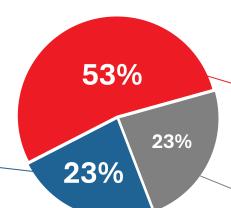


### **OPINIONS ON ALBERTA PENSION PLAN**

Less than a quarter of Albertans support the creation of a new Alberta Pension Plan to replace the existing Canada Pension Plan for Albertans.

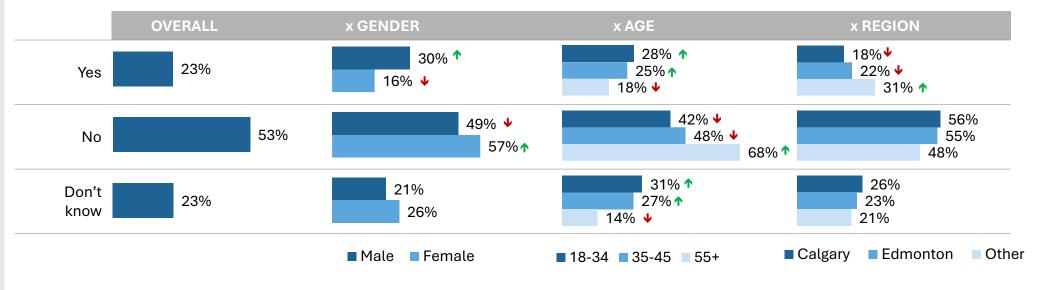
Those who reside outside of Edmonton and Calgary, males, and those under age 55 are more likely to support the creation of a new Alberta Pension Plan. **23% of Albertans support the creation of a new Alberta Pension Plan** to replace the Canada Pension Plan.

Those who reside outside of Edmonton and Calgary, males, and those under age 55 are more likely to support the creation of a new plan.



**53% of Albertans do not support the creation of a new Alberta Pension Plan** to replace the Canada Pension Plan.

23% of Albertans report that they "don't know" regarding the issue.



Base: All respondents (n= 1,005)

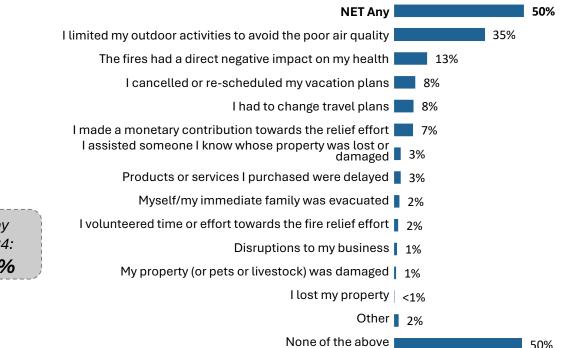
Statistically significantly higher than comparison group(s).
Statistically significantly lower than comparison group(s).

Do you believe that the Alberta government should create a new Provincial Pension Plan to replace the Canada Pension Plan for Albertans?

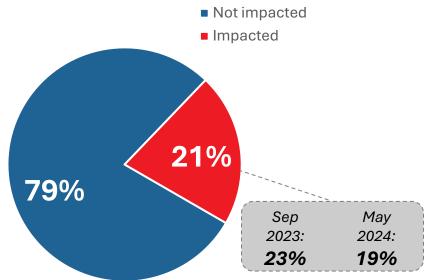


## **ALBERTA WILDFIRE IMPACTS**

#### HOW HAVE YOU BEEN IMPACTED?



#### HAVE YOU BEEN IMPACTED?

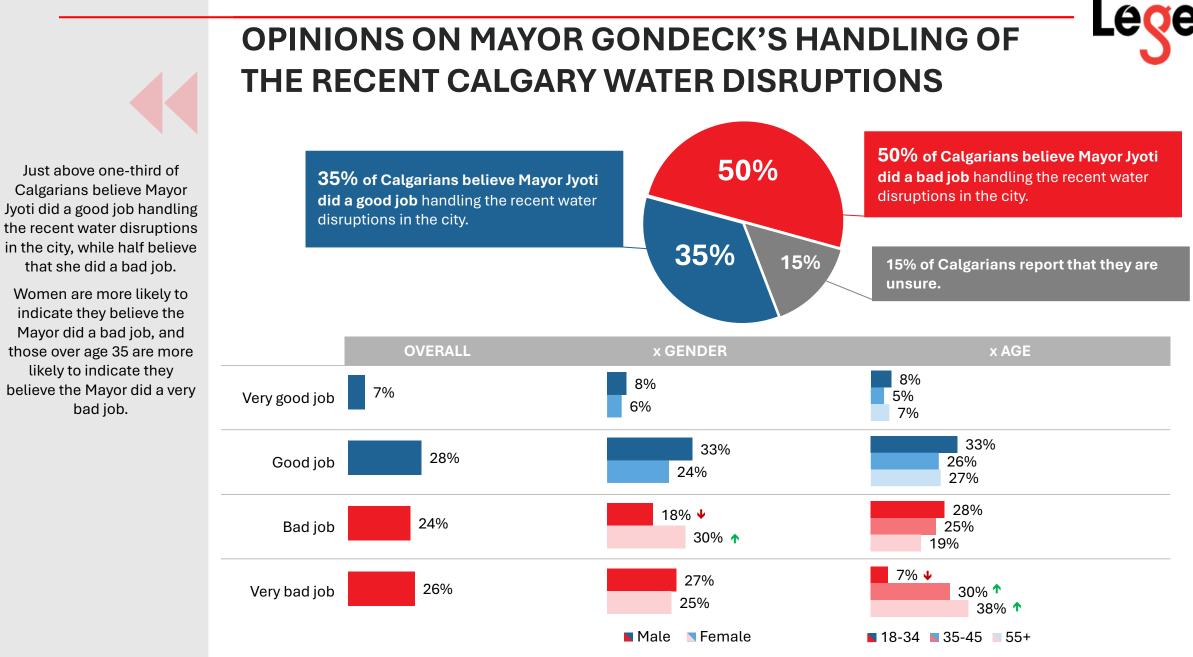


While just above one-in-five Albertans report being impacted by the recent Alberta wildfires when asked plainly, half reported different ways that the wildfires have impacted them when aided.

Likelihood of being impacted by the Alberta wildfires when asked plainly is consistent across age, gender, and region.

		GENDER		AGE			REGION		
	TOTAL	Male	Female	18-34	35-54	55+	Calgary	Edmon- ton	Other
Weighted n=		497		288			352	337	316
Unweighted n=	1,005	427	578	217	278	510	334	321	350
Impacted	21%	19%	24%	26%	20%	19%	20%	19%	25%
Not impacted	79%	81%	76%	74%	80%	81%	80%	81%	75%

Have you been personally impacted (directly or indirectly) by the forest fires in Alberta this past month? Base: All respondents (n= 1,005)



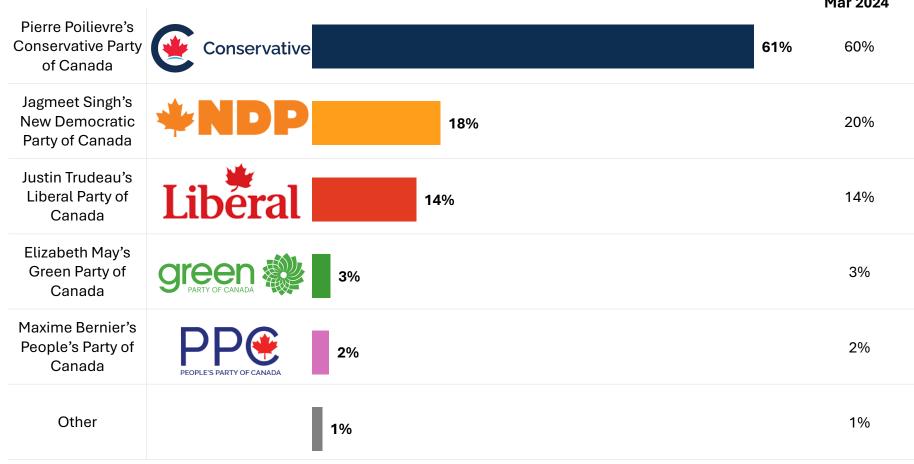
Base: All respondents residing in the Calgary Metro Area (n=334)

bad job.

Overall, do you feel Mayor Gondeck did a good job or poor job in handling the major water services disruption that impacted the city June into early July?

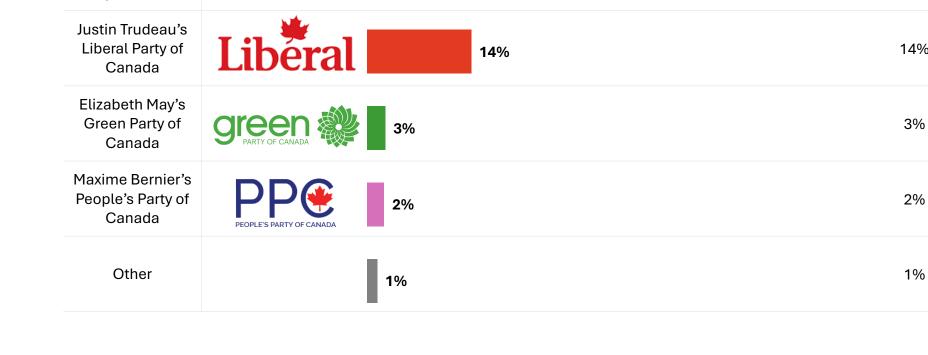
Statistically significantly higher than comparison group(s). ✓ Statistically significantly lower than comparison group(s).

17



## **FEDERAL VOTING INTENTIONS**

(Among Decided Voters)



Mar 2024

Just above three-in-five Albertans report that they would vote for Pierre Poilievre's Conservative Party of Canada were a federal election held tomorrow.

Jagmeet Singh's NDP received the second highest share of voting intention, with just less than one-infive Albertans reporting that they would vote for Jagmeet Singh's NDP.

Less than one-in-five Albertans report that they would vote for Justin Trudeau's Liberal Party of Canada were an election held tomorrow.

August 2024 results are consistent with those from March 2024.





## WEIGHTED AND UNWEIGHTED SAMPLE

The following tables present the demographic distribution of respondents according to gender, region, age, and voting intention (among decided voters) before and after weighting.

	WEIGHTED	UNWEIGHTED		
Gender	1,005	1,005		
Male	497	427		
Female	508	578		
Region	1,005	1,005		
Calgary	352	334		
Edmonton	337	321		
Rest of AB	316	350		
Age	1,005	1,005		
18 – 34	288	217		
35 – 54	361	278		
55+	356	510		
Voting Intention	813	842		
Alberta NDP	323	381		
United Conservative Party	389	367		
Other	102	94		







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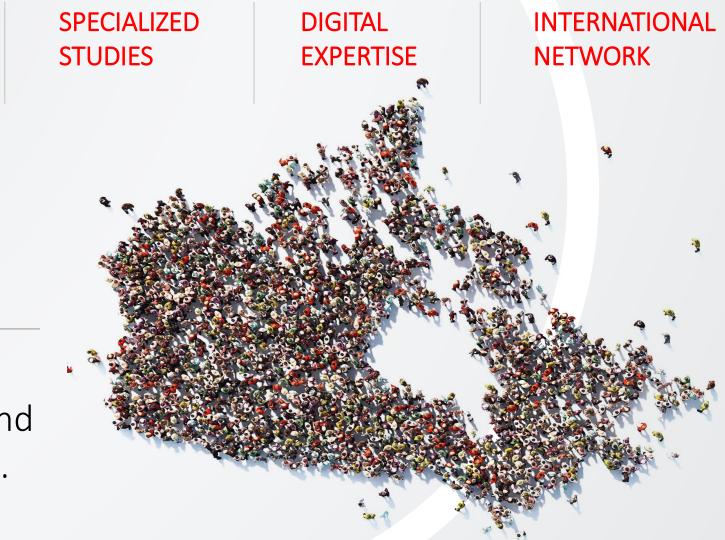
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