



Government of Alberta Report Card – Pulse Check

March 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 March 2 – 4, 2026

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



Margin of Error

Typically, a margin of error should not be determined from a panel sample, but 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 AB sample.



Weighting

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

Methodology



Significant Differences

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

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

Note that the October 2025 wave of research was conducted on a sample of eligible voters only. Take caution interpreting wave over wave comparisons.



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

Key Highlights

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

Voting Intentions: UCP Maintains Lead Over NDP

- If a provincial election were held today, the United Conservative Party would capture 48% of the vote among decided voters, compared to 36% for the Alberta NDP. This 12pt gap is consistent with the 13pt gap recorded in January 2026.

Public Outlook Holds Steady, with still a Majority Feeling Negative About the Province's Direction

- 31% of Albertans believe the province is headed in the right direction, compared to 60% who believe it is on the wrong track; consistent with results from January 2026.
- Men (36% right direction) and UCP voters (55%) continue to be relatively more positive regarding the province's trajectory.

Healthcare Dominates Alberta's Top Issue Matrix

- Health care continues to be viewed as the most important issue facing Alberta and was cited by nearly one-quarter (24%) of residents as their top concern. It is followed by economy (13%) and inflation/rising interest rates (10%).
- Provincial nationalism/separatism (9%) fell slightly in importance in March 2026, while housing prices/affordability (8%) increased marginally.
- When first and second most important issues are considered, cost of living issues such as economy (23%), inflation/rising interest rates (23%), and housing prices/affordability (18%) remain as top five issues alongside healthcare (40%) and provincial nationalism/separatism (16%).

Both Major Parties Hold Similar Leader Approval Ratings

- UCP leader Smith received approval from 39% of Alberta residents in March 2026, while NDP leader Nenshi received 38% in March 2026 following significant decreases relative to October 2025.

Key Highlights

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

Public Opinion on Eligibility & Costs for Non-Permanent Residents

- Across each measure tested, roughly six-in-ten Albertans support tightening or modifying access to provincially funded services for individuals with non-permanent status:
 - Restrict eligibility to citizens, permanent residents, and certain legal statuses: 63% support
 - Require a 12-month residency period before eligibility for social supports: 65% support
 - Charge reasonable service fees/premiums for health care and education: 63% support
- Men show slightly higher support than women across these measures, while older Alberta residents aged 55+ are most supportive compared to younger groups. Support levels are relatively consistent across regions
- There is a clear political divide in support regarding policies of this sort: UCP voters (80%-82%) are far more likely to support policies of this sort relative to NDP voters (36%-42%).

Alberta Sovereignty and Separatism

- Seven-in-ten (70%) Alberta residents believe that Alberta should remain part of Canada, while 17% believe it should be independent and only 4% believe it should join the US, consistent with results from January 2026.
- UCP Voters are far more likely to support independence (30%) while NDP voters are more likely to want Alberta to remain part of Canada (96%).
- Nearly six-in-ten (58%) Albertans are concerned about separatist movements in the province, consistent with results from January 2026, with NDP voters having much higher concern rates (80%) than UCP voters (41%).

Alberta Pension Plan Perceptions

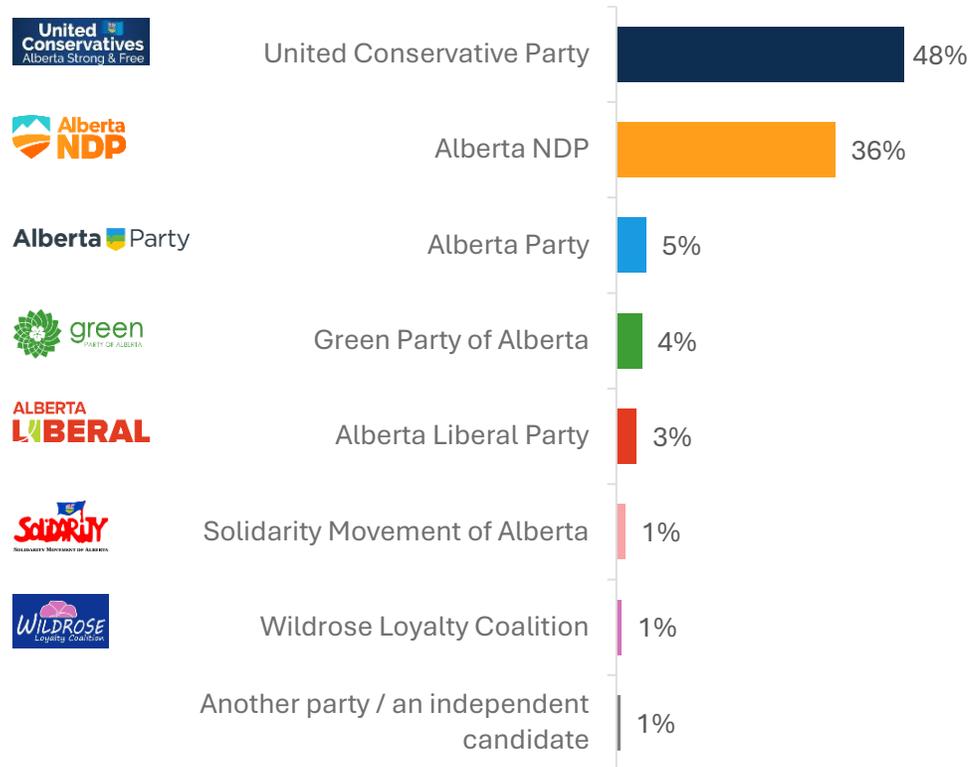
- Majority opposition remains stable with 55% opposing creating an Alberta Pension Plan vs. 25% supporting such an idea. Support is down slightly from October 2025.
- Older Albertans drive resistance to an Alberta Pension Plan, with 66% of those aged 55+ opposing the plan. Women are also significantly less supportive, with only 19% support for the plan.
- Opinion follows a sharp political divide, with 90% of NDP voters opposing an Alberta Pension Plan, while UCP voters are more split on the issue (43% support, 33% oppose).

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= 805 ; Unweighted: n= 836)

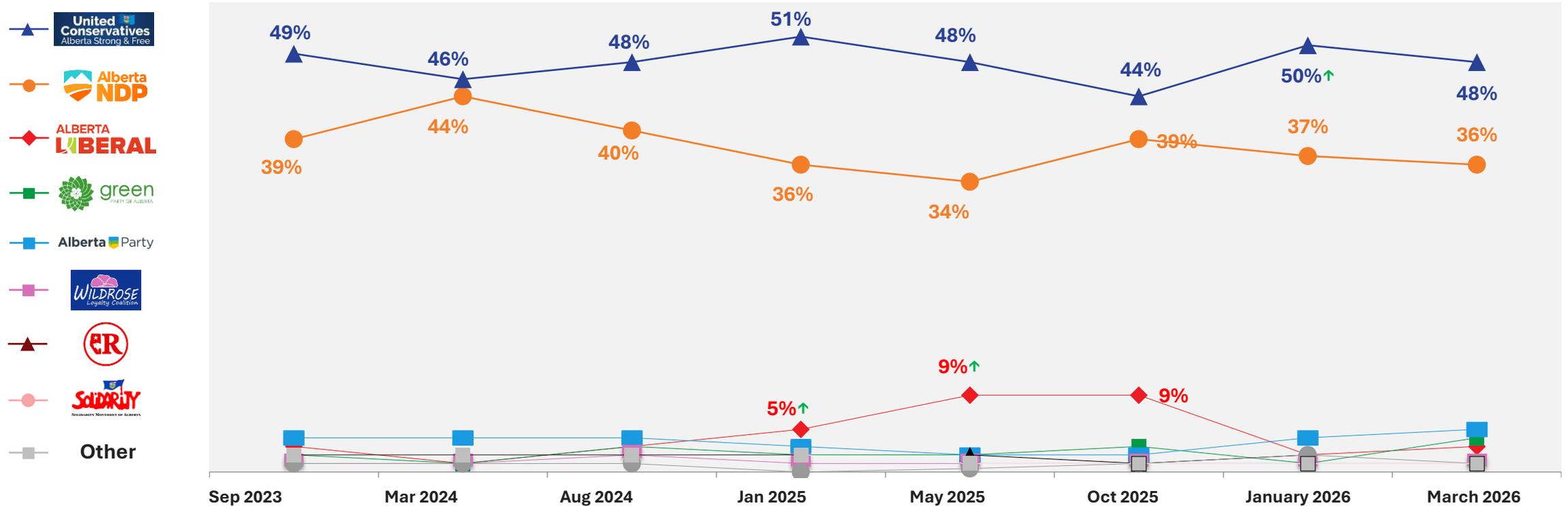


GENDER		AGE			REGION			FEDERAL VOTE		
Men	Women	18-34	35-54	55+	Calgary	Edmonton	Other AB	Liberal	Conser-vative	NDP
55%	41%	44%	47%	51%	51%	38%	56%	9%	87%	7%
31%	42%	34%	36%	39%	36%	43%	30%	73%	5%	82%
5%	4%	3%	7%	4%	4%	6%	5%	3%	4%	11%
4%	5%	10%	4%	1%	2%	9%	2%	2%	2%	-
2%	5%	6%	3%	2%	3%	4%	3%	9%	<1%	-
1%	2%	1%	2%	1%	3%	<1%	1%	1%	2%	-
2%	<1%	-	2%	1%	1%	-	2%	2%	<1%	-
<1%	1%	-	1%	1%	1%	<1%	1%	<1%	<1%	-

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= 805 ; Unweighted: n= 836)



	Sep 2023	Mar 2024	Aug 2024	Jan 2025	May 2025	Oct 2025	January 2026	March 2026
United Conservatives	49%	46%	48%	51%	48%	44%	50%↑	48%
Alberta NDP	39%	44%	40%	36%	34%	39%	37%	36%
ALBERTA LIBERAL	1%	1%	1%	5%↑	9%↑	9%	2%↓	3%↑
green	2%	1%	3%	2%	2%	3%	1%↓	4%↑
Alberta Party	4%	4%	4%	3%	2%	2%	4%↑	5%
WILDROSE	1%	1%	2%	1%	1%	1%	1%	1%
ER	1%	1%	1%	<1%	<1%	1%	2%	1%
SOLIDARITY	1%	1%	1%	<1%	<1%	1%	2%	1%
Other	2%	1%	1%	1%	1%	1%	1%	1%

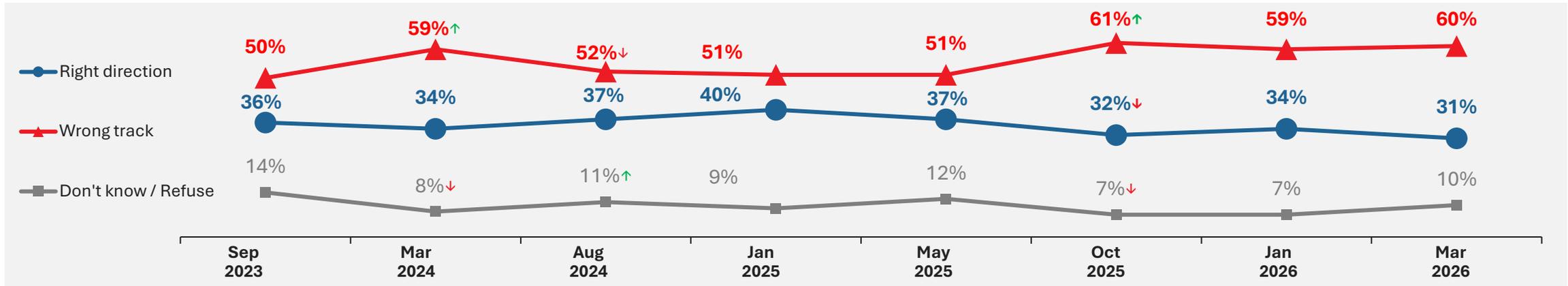
↑ Statistically significantly higher than previous wave.
 ↓ Statistically significantly lower than previous wave.

Detailed Results – Issues Overview

Current Trajectory of Alberta

Q. 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?

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



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

	Total	GENDER		AGE			REGION			PROVINCIAL VOTE	
		Men	Women	18-34	35-54	55+	Calgary	Edmonton	Other AB	NDP	UCP
NET Right direction	31%	36%	26%	32%	27%	33%	28%	30%	34%	6%	55%
Strongly right direction	8%	11%	5%	7%	6%	10%	5%	9%	9%	<1%	14%
Somewhat right direction	23%	25%	21%	25%	22%	22%	23%	21%	25%	5%	41%
NET Wrong Track	60%	58%	61%	54%	62%	61%	62%	59%	57%	93%	33%
Somewhat wrong track	22%	25%	20%	24%	22%	22%	24%	20%	23%	17%	19%
Strongly wrong track	37%	32%	41%	30%	39%	39%	38%	39%	34%	76%	14%

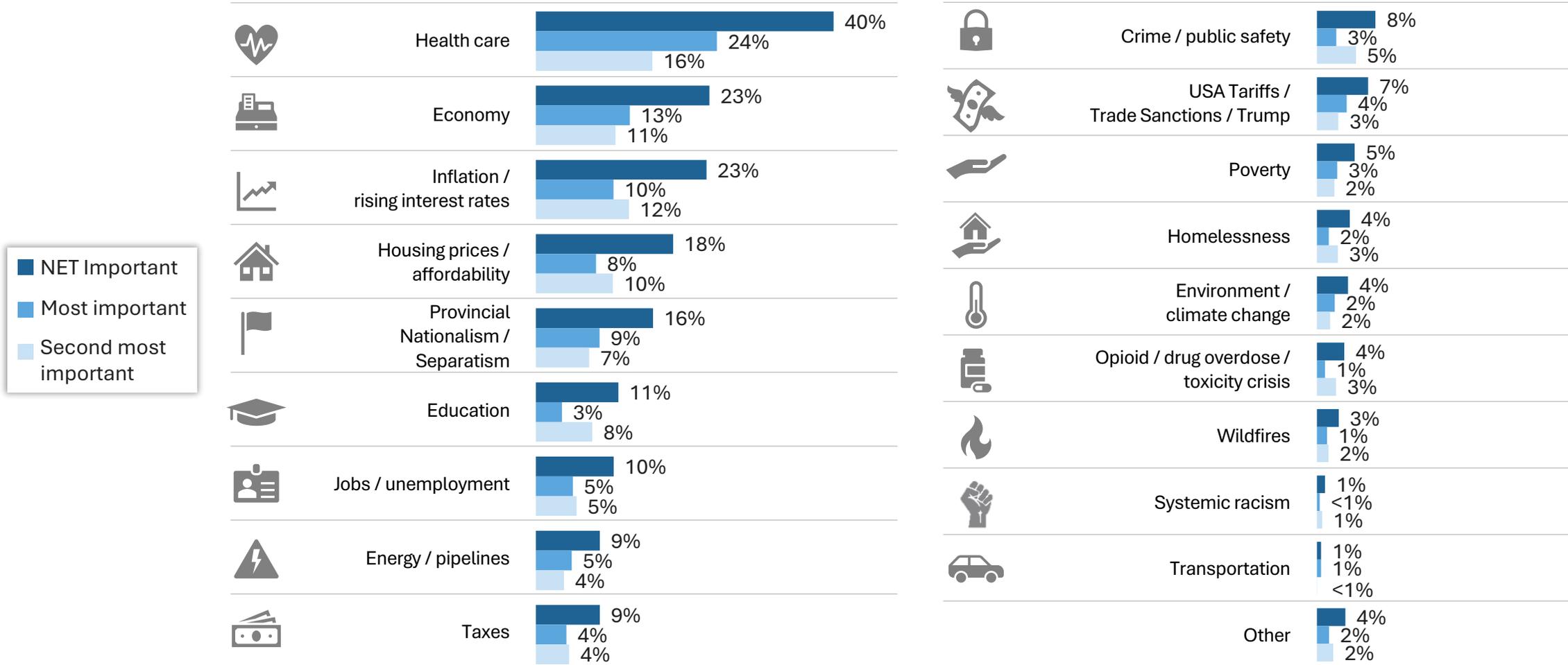
% Statistically significantly higher than total
 % Statistically significantly lower than total

Alberta Issues – Total Importance: Aided

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

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

'Not sure' (1%) responses not shown.



Alberta Issues – Most Important: Aided – Tracker

Q. In your view, what is the most important issue facing Alberta today?

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

*'Not sure' (1%) responses not shown.

	Mar 2026	Jan 2026	Oct 2025	May 2025	Jan 2025	Aug 2024	Mar 2024	Sep 2023
Health care	24%	27% [↑]	17%	17%	18%	20%	20%	17%
Economy	13%	11%	12%	13%	11%	14%	11%	11%
Inflation / rising interest rates	10%	10%	11%	10% [↓]	15%	17%	20%	22%
Provincial Nationalism / Separatism	9%[↓]	11% [↑]	7%	8%	n/a	n/a	n/a	n/a
Housing prices / affordability	8%[↑]	6%	8%	8% [↓]	12%	13%	14%	13%
Jobs / unemployment	5%	4%	6%	5%	7% [↑]	4%	5%	3%
Energy / pipelines	5%	6%	4% [↓]	8%	5% [↑]	3%	3%	4%
Taxes	4%	3%	4%	7%	5%	6%	5%	5%
USA Tariffs/Trade Sanctions / Trump	4%	3%	3%	5% [↓]	8%	n/a	n/a	n/a

	Mar 2026	Jan 2026	Oct 2025	May 2025	Jan 2025	Aug 2024	Mar 2024	Sep 2023
Education	3%	3% [↓]	11% [↑]	3%	2%	2%	1%	2%
Poverty	3%	2%	3%	2%	2%	3%	3%	2%
Crime / public safety	3%	2%	2%	2%	2%	3%	3%	4%
Environment / climate change	2%	1%	1%	3%	3%	3%	4%	5%
Homelessness	2%	3%	3%	3%	3%	3%	3%	4%
Wildfires	1%	1%	1%	1%	1% [↓]	4% [↑]	1%	1%
Opioid / drug overdose / toxicity crisis	1%	2%	1%	1%	2%	1%	3%	3%
Transportation	1%	1%	<1%	<1%	<1%	1%	<1%	-
Systemic racism	<1%	<1%	1%	1%	1%	1%	1%	1%
Other	2%	2%	3%	1%	2%	2%	2%	1%

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

Top 6 Alberta Issues – Demographic Breakdown

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

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

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

TOP 6 ALBERTA ISSUES – MOST IMPORTANT: AIDED (Mar 2026)

	AGE	18-34	35-54	55+		PROVINCIAL VOTING INTENT	NDP	UCP
Health care		21%	17%	33%	Health care		35%	15%
Economy		16%	11%	12%	Economy		9%	18%
Inflation / rising interest rates		12%	12%	8%	Inflation / rising interest rates		8%	10%
Provincial Nationalism / Separatism		1%	9%	13%	Provincial Nationalism / Separatism		12%	6%
Housing prices / affordability		9%	11%	5%	Housing prices / affordability		6%	11%
Jobs / unemployment		7%	6%	3%	Jobs / unemployment		4%	4%

TOP 6 ALBERTA ISSUES – TOP 2 MOST IMPORTANT: AIDED (Mar 2026)

	AGE	18-34	35-54	55+		PROVINCIAL VOTING INTENT	NDP	UCP
Health care		33%	34%	50%	Health care		57%	29%
Economy		25%	20%	25%	Economy		18%	30%
Inflation / rising interest rates		26%	26%	17%	Inflation / rising interest rates		18%	26%
Housing prices / affordability		26%	22%	10%	Housing prices / affordability		10%	19%
Provincial Nationalism / Separatism		5%	16%	23%	Provincial Nationalism / Separatism		25%	11%
Education		5%	15%	11%	Education		19%	6%

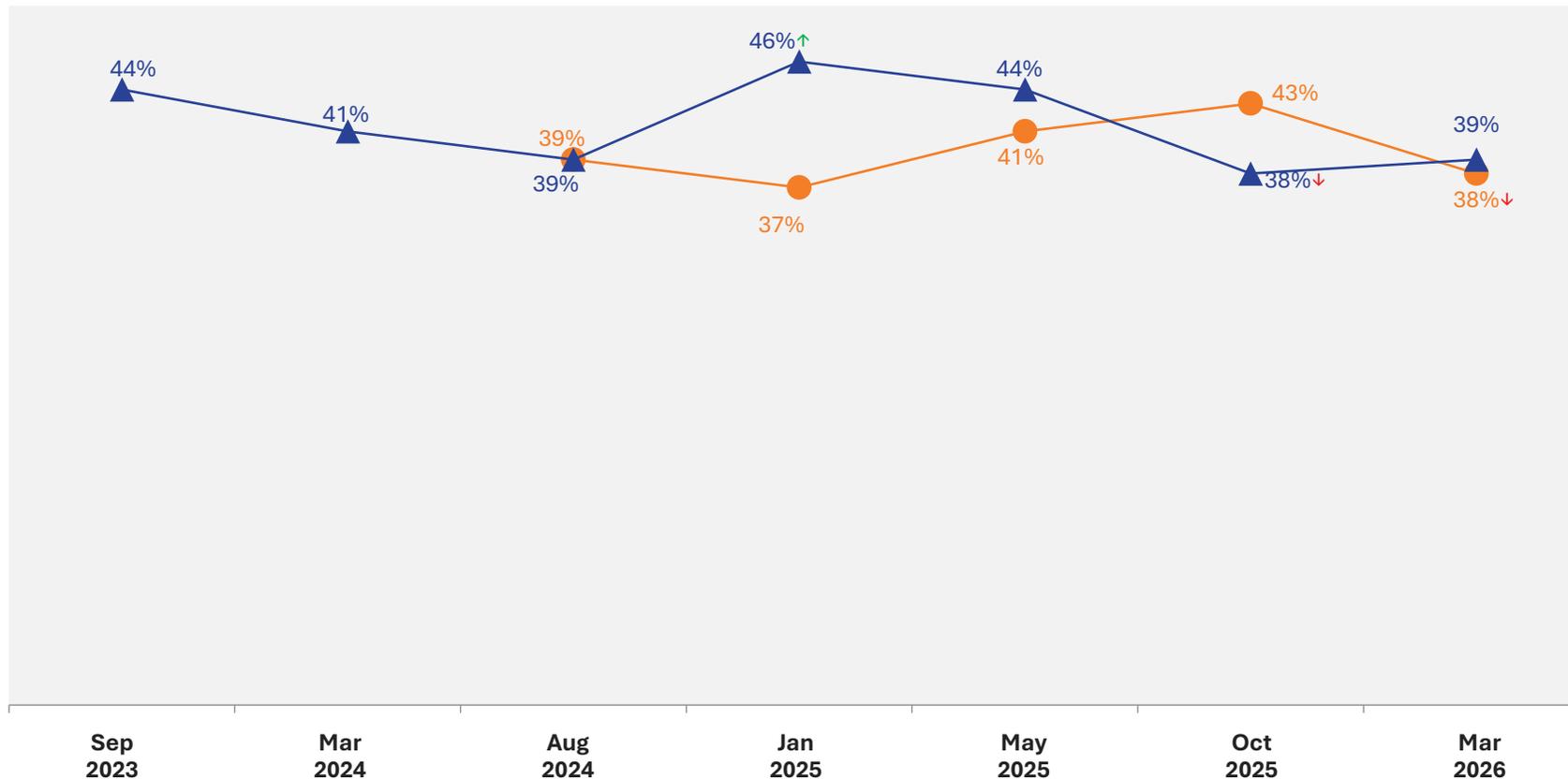
% Statistically significantly higher than total

% Statistically significantly lower than total

Current Leader Approval Rating

Q. 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?

Base: All respondents (Weighted: n= 1,001 ; Unweighted: n= 1,001)



 —●— Nenshi 

 —▲— Smith 

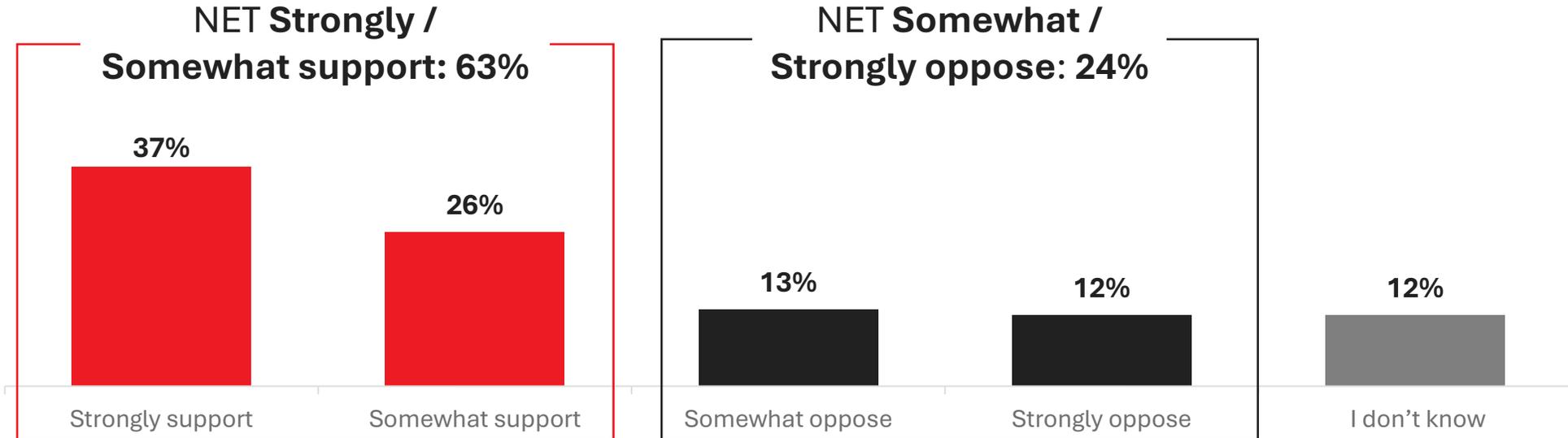
↑ Statistically significantly higher than previous wave.
 ↓ Statistically significantly lower than previous wave.

Detailed **Results** – Issues Spotlight:
Immigration and Separatism

Public Opinion on Eligibility for Provincially Funded Services

Q. Would you support or oppose a policy where only Canadian citizens, permanent residents, and individuals with a provincially approved immigration status would be eligible for provincially funded programs such as public health care, education, and other social services.

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



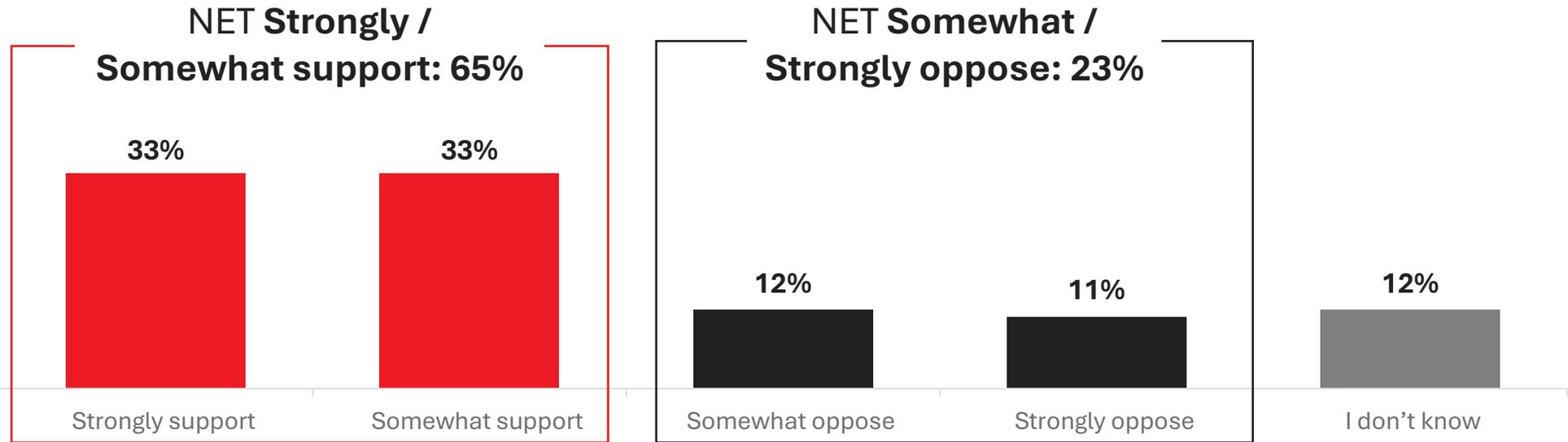
	GENDER		AGE			REGION			PROVINCIAL VOTE	
	Men	Women	18-34	35-54	55+	Calgary	Edmonton	Other AB	NDP	UCP
NET Strongly / Somewhat support	68%	59%	58%	62%	69%	65%	63%	61%	42%	82%
NET Somewhat / Strongly oppose	25%	24%	27%	25%	21%	21%	26%	26%	48%	13%

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

Public Opinion on a 12-Month Waiting Period for Social Support Eligibility

Q. Assuming that Canadian citizens and permanent residents would continue to qualify for social support programs as they do now, would you support or oppose a policy requiring individuals with a non-permanent legal immigration status to live in a province for at least 12 months before qualifying for provincially funded social support programs.

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



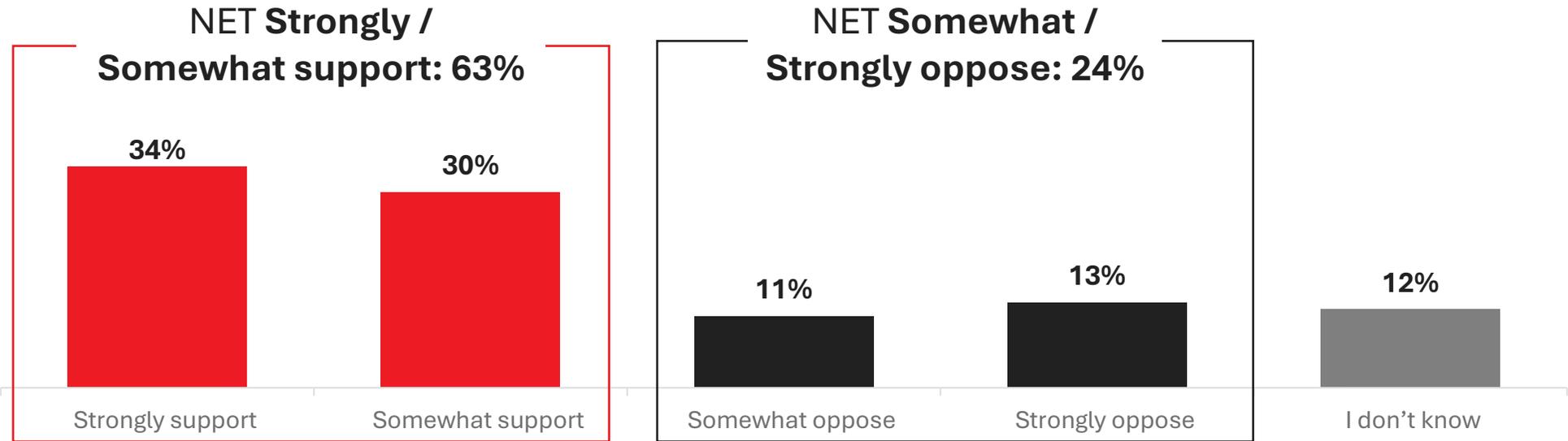
	GENDER		AGE			REGION			PROVINCIAL VOTE		
	Men	Women	18-34	35-54	55+	Calgary	Edmonton	Other AB	NDP	UCP	
Total											
NET Strongly / Somewhat support	65%	69%	62%	68%	59%	70%	66%	64%	66%	42%	80%
NET Somewhat / Strongly oppose	23%	24%	22%	21%	28%	19%	19%	28%	22%	46%	12%

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

Public Opinion on Service Fees for Non-Permanent Immigration Status Holders

Q. Assuming that Canadian citizens and permanent residents would continue to qualify for public health care and education as they do now, would you support or oppose charging a reasonable fee or premium to individuals with a non-permanent immigration status for their and their family’s use of public health care and education systems.

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



	GENDER		AGE			REGION			PROVINCIAL VOTE	
	Men	Women	18-34	35-54	55+	Calgary	Edmonton	Other AB	NDP	UCP
NET Strongly / Somewhat support	65%	62%	63%	58%	69%	63%	65%	63%	36%	82%
NET Somewhat / Strongly oppose	24%	24%	24%	28%	21%	22%	26%	24%	50%	12%

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

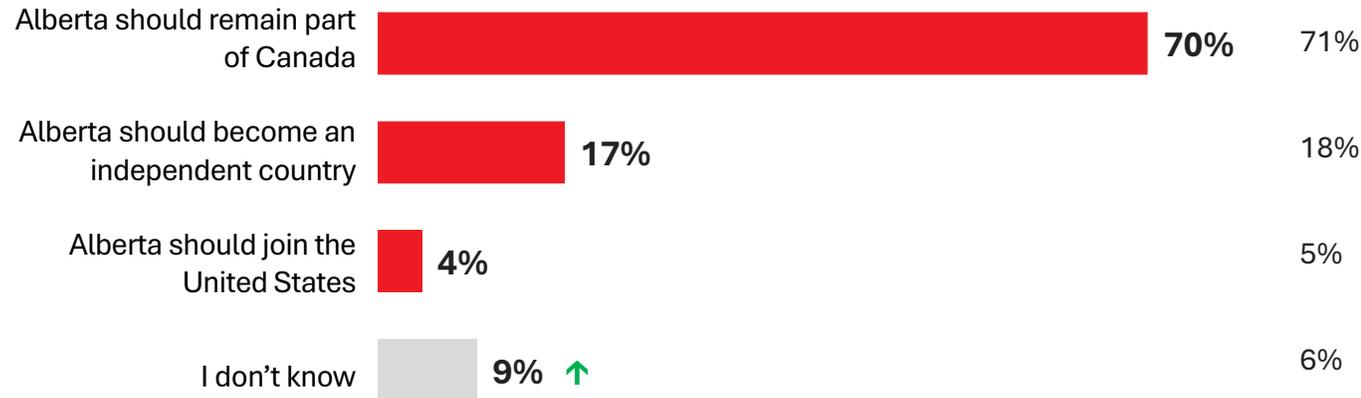
Preferences on Alberta's Sovereignty

Q. Which of the following best reflects your view?

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

January 2026

(n=1,003)



	Total	GENDER		AGE			REGION			PROVINCIAL VOTE	
		Men	Women	18-34	35-54	55+	Calgary	Edmonton	Other AB	NDP	UCP
Alberta should remain part of Canada	70%	66%	74%	66%	67%	77%	71%	72%	67%	96%	53%
Alberta should become an independent country	17%	21%	14%	14%	22%	15%	16%	18%	18%	4%	30%
Alberta should join the United States	4%	6%	2%	8%	3%	2%	2%	4%	6%	<1%	5%

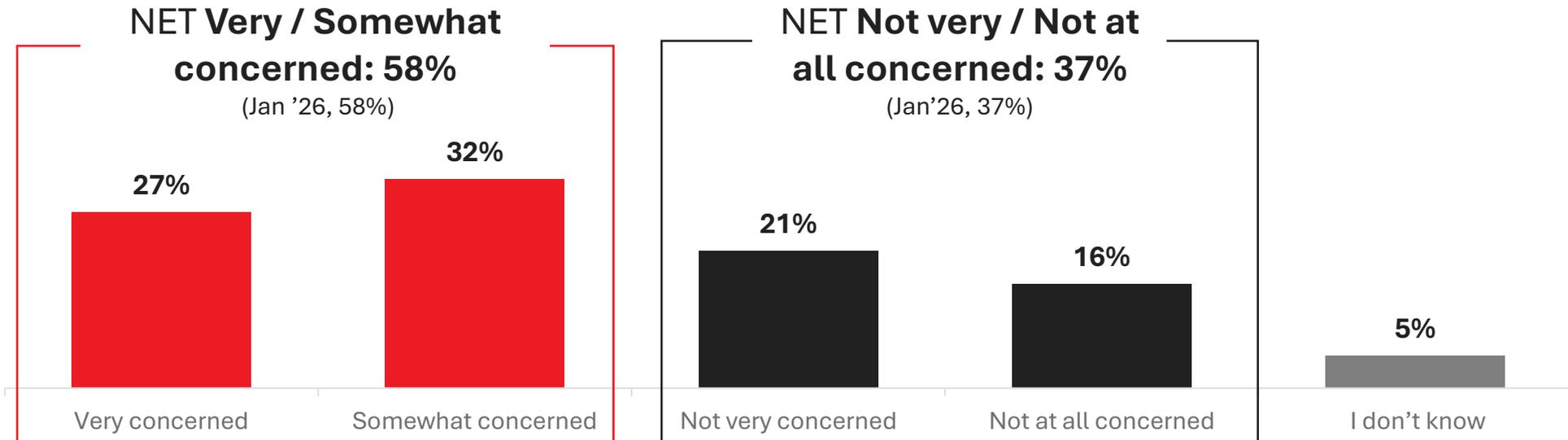
↑ Statistically significantly higher than previous wave.
 ↓ Statistically significantly lower than previous wave.

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

Concern Regarding Separatist Movements in Alberta

Q. How concerned, if at all, are you about separatist movements gaining influence in Alberta?

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



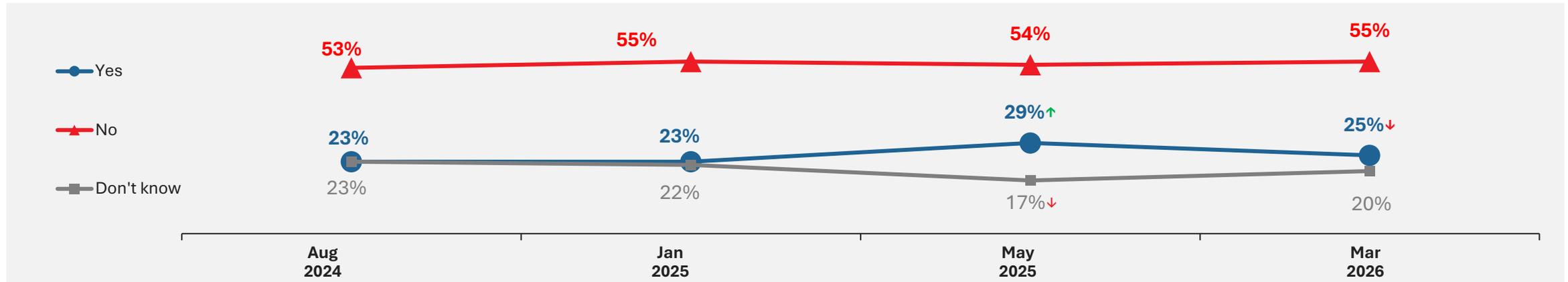
	GENDER		AGE			REGION			PROVINCIAL VOTE	
	Men	Women	18-34	35-54	55+	Calgary	Edmonton	Other AB	NDP	UCP
Total										
NET Very / Somewhat concerned	54%	62%	58%	54%	62%	57%	66%	50%	80%	41%
NET Not very / Not at all concerned	45%	31%	35%	41%	36%	37%	30%	46%	18%	56%

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

Perceptions of Alberta Pension Plan

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

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



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

	Total	GENDER		AGE			REGION			PROVINCIAL VOTE	
		Men	Women	18-34	35-54	55+	Calgary	Edmonton	Other AB	NDP	UCP
Yes	25%	32%	19%	23%	30%	21%	22%	21%	34%	3%	43%
No	55%	55%	56%	46%	51%	66%	57%	63%	44%	90%	33%
Don't know	20%	13%	26%	31%	19%	13%	22%	16%	22%	7%	23%

% 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	338	469
Women	663	532

Age

	Unweighted	Weighted
18-34	103	250
35-54	310	378
55+	588	372

Region

	Unweighted	Weighted
Calgary	331	356
Edmonton	321	339
Rest of AB	349	307

Federal Vote Intention

	Unweighted	Weighted
	<i>n=855</i>	<i>n=826</i>
Liberal Party	367	305
Conservative Party	397	420
NDP	64	65

Provincial Vote Intention

	Unweighted	Weighted
	<i>n=836</i>	<i>n=805</i>
UCP	367	387
NDP	347	294

Our services

Leger

Marketing research and polling

Customer Experience (CX)

Strategic and operational customer experience consulting services

Leger Analytics (LEA)

Data modelling and analysis

Leger Opinion (LEO)

Panel management

Leger Communities

Online community management

Leger Digital

Digital strategy and user experience

International Research

Worldwide Independent Network (WIN)

300
employees

185
consultants

8
offices

MONTREAL | QUEBEC |
TORONTO | WINNIPEG
EDMONTON | CALGARY |
VANCOUVER | NEW YORK

Le^ger

Data-driven intelligence for a changing world.

leger360.com