



Alberta Omnibus Data Centres

July 2026



Methodology



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Online survey among Alberta residents 18 years of age or older: n= 1,000.

Respondents were randomly recruited using LEO's online panel.



When

Data collection from July 17-19, 2026.



Margin of Error

For comparison purposes, a probability sample of n=1,000 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, and region** in order to ensure a representative sample of the population of Alberta.

Methodology



Significant Differences

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 Steve Mossop, Executive Vice-President, Western Canada at the following e-mail address: smossop@leger360.com

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

National context*

Canadians are cautiously receptive to AI data centres: 46% say their development is a good thing, while 37% say it is a bad thing. Views on development in their own province are nearly even, with 44% supporting and 42% opposing.

The Alberta debate reflects a broader Canadian pattern: people are open to the potential economic benefits of AI data centres, but that openness is conditional on protections around electricity costs, infrastructure and environmental impacts.

Support for the proposed Meta AI data centre exceeds opposition, but not by a majority. Overall, 44% support the Sturgeon County project, 36% oppose it, and 20% are not sure or have not heard enough. Support is higher among men and UCP voters, while opposition is higher among women and NDP voters.

The project is more clearly seen as a good deal once investment, jobs and infrastructure details are considered. A majority (57%) say the project is a very or somewhat good deal for Alberta, compared with 27% who say it is a very or somewhat bad deal and 15% who are not sure.

Albertans lean toward stricter rules for large AI data centres. Half (50%) support a less permissive approach, including requiring dedicated electricity arrangements or not approving large AI data centres, while 35% support more permissive rules.

Opinion is nearly evenly divided on whether approvals should continue or pause. 40% prefer continuing under current rules so Alberta does not lose investment and jobs, while 42% prefer a temporary pause until an independent public review examines electricity prices, grid reliability, water use and emissions.

Support weakens slightly when a similar large data centre is located near home. 41% would support a large AI data centre within approximately 25 kilometres of their home, while 44% would oppose it and 14% are not sure or have not heard enough.

Electricity demand and power prices are the top concern. 22% cite this as their biggest concern, followed by water use (18%), local environmental impacts (15%), taxpayer subsidies or public costs (13%), and foreign ownership/control (12%).

Perceived benefits are varied, with investment in Alberta leading. 19% cite investment in Alberta as the biggest potential benefit, while 17% see no significant benefits; other top benefits include diversifying Alberta's economy (13%), increased tax revenues (12%), and long-term jobs (10%).

Men and UCP voters are generally more favourable toward large AI data centres. They are more likely to support the Meta project, see it as a good deal, and favour continuing approvals under current rules.

Women and NDP voters are generally more cautious. They are more likely to oppose the Meta project, prefer a temporary pause, oppose a similar project near their home, and favour less permissive rules.

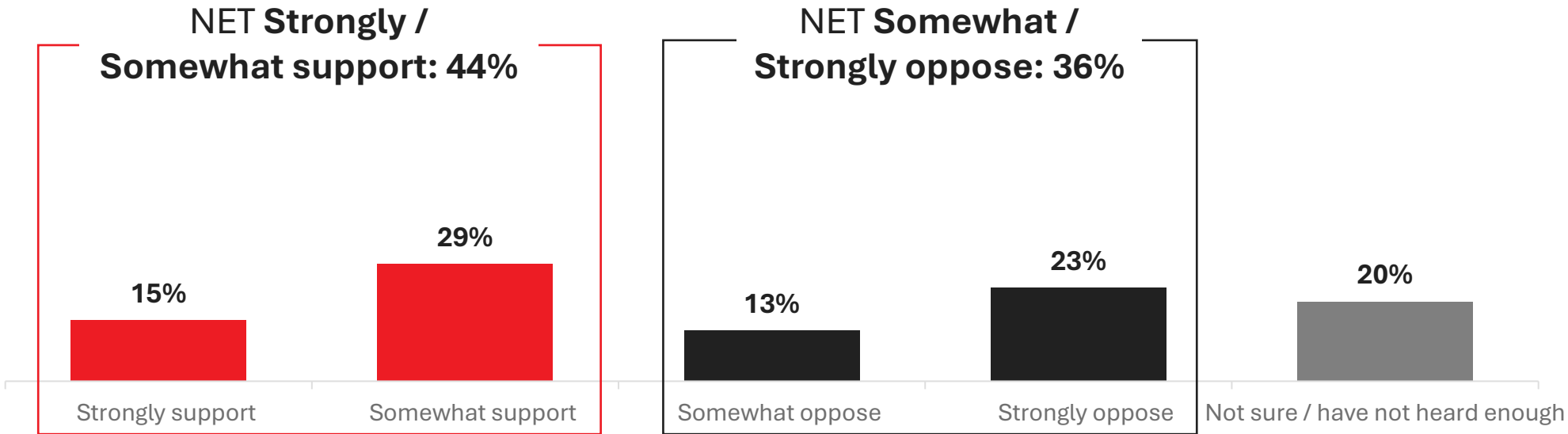
*Source: Leger, "AI Data Centres: A Survey of Canadians," online survey of 1,505 Canadian adults, July 10–13, 2026. This was a separate study; question wording differs from the Alberta omnibus, and national results are provided for contextual purposes only.

Detailed Results – Data Centres

Support for the Proposed Meta AI Data Centre in Alberta

Q. Meta recently announced plans to build a large artificial-intelligence data centre in Sturgeon County, north of Edmonton. Based on what you know today, do you support or oppose this project?

Base: Alberta Residents (Weighted: n= 1,000 ; Unweighted: n= 1,000)



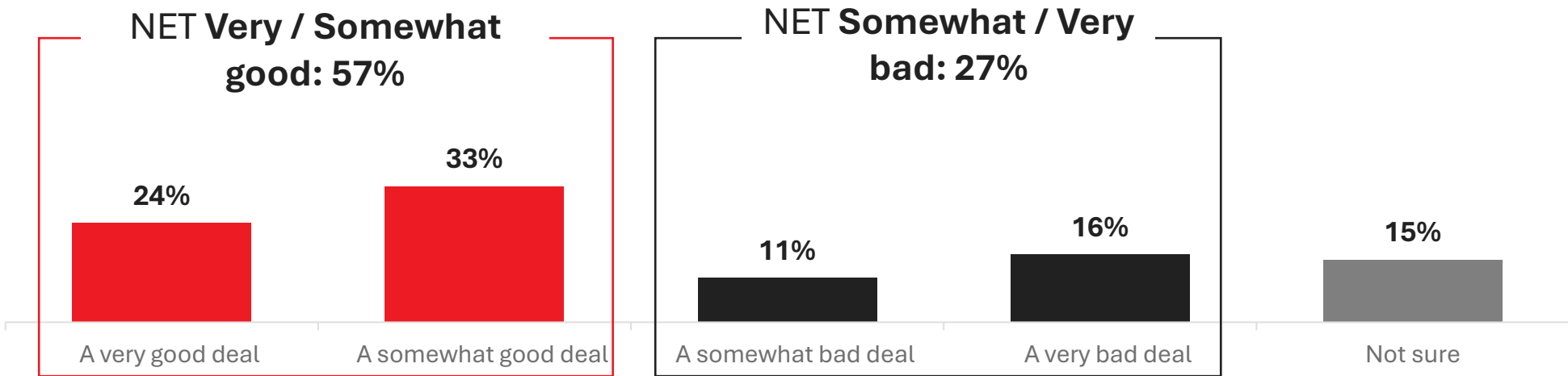
	Total	GENDER		AGE			REGION			PROVINCIAL VOTE	
		Men	Women	18-34	35-54	55+	CGY	EDM	Other AB	NDP	UCP
(NET) Support	44%	59%	30%	49%	43%	42%	46%	46%	41%	32%	59%
(NET) Oppose	36%	25%	47%	33%	36%	38%	32%	36%	40%	53%	25%

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

Impressions of the Proposed Meta AI Data Centre in Alberta

Q. The proposed project is expected to involve more than \$13 billion in investment, employ more than 3,000 construction workers at peak and more than 300 workers once operating. It would be a one-gigawatt facility powered by a new natural-gas generating plant, and Meta says it will pay for the new energy and grid infrastructure it requires. Taking all of this into account, would you say the project is a good deal or a bad deal for Alberta?

Base: Alberta Residents (Weighted: n= 1,000 ; Unweighted: n= 1,000)



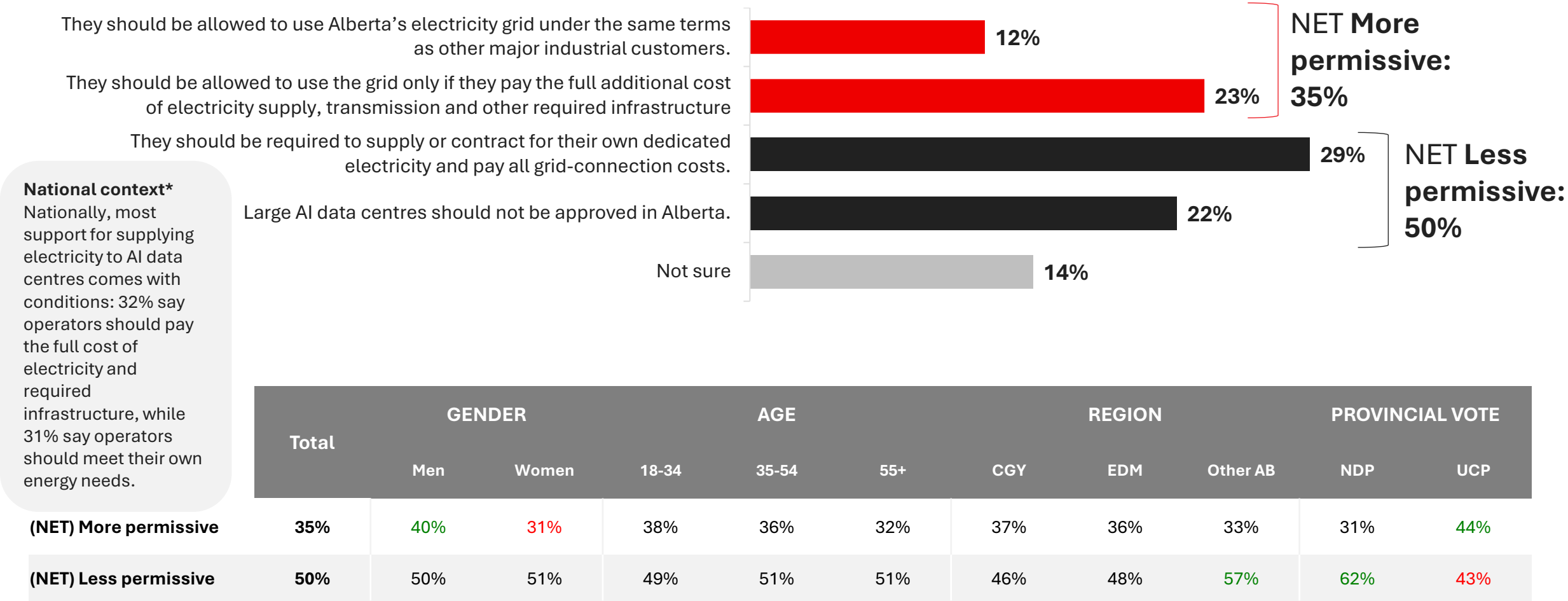
	Total	GENDER		AGE			REGION			PROVINCIAL VOTE	
		Men	Women	18-34	35-54	55+	CGY	EDM	Other AB	NDP	UCP
(NET) Good deal	57%	71%	44%	58%	54%	60%	62%	57%	52%	42%	75%
(NET) Bad deal	27%	21%	34%	31%	29%	23%	23%	26%	33%	45%	15%

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

Rule for Large AI Data Centres in Alberta

Q. Which one of the following should be Alberta’s rule for large AI data centres?

Base: Alberta Residents (Weighted: n= 1,000 ; Unweighted: n= 1,000)



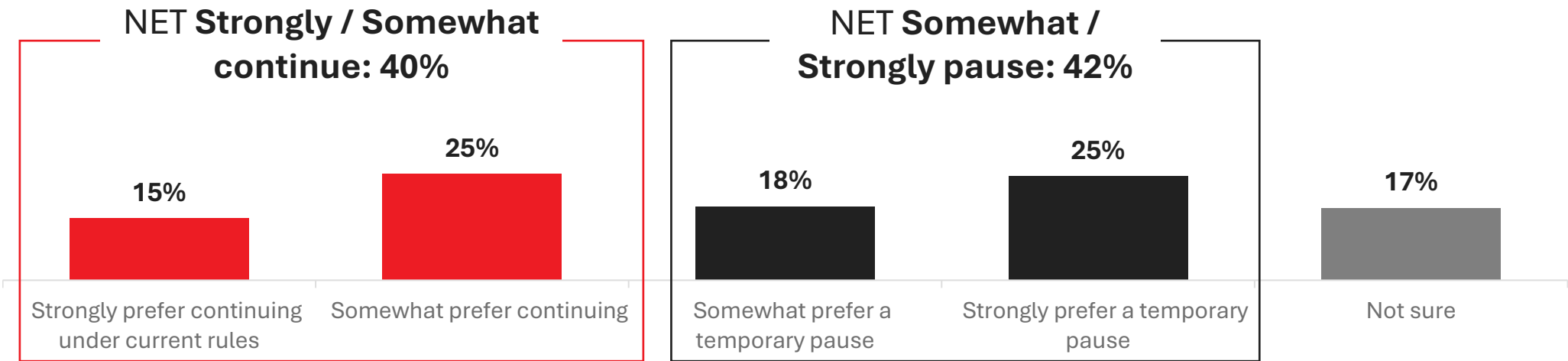
*Source: Leger, “AI Data Centres: A Survey of Canadians,” online survey of 1,505 Canadian adults, July 10–13, 2026. This was a separate study; question wording differs from the Alberta omnibus, and national results are provided for contextual purposes only.

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Preference for AI Data Centre Approvals in Alberta

Q. Some people say Alberta should continue considering and approving large AI data centres under its current rules so the province does not lose investment and jobs to other jurisdictions. Others say Alberta should temporarily pause new approvals until an independent public review examines the effects on electricity prices, grid reliability, water use and emissions. Which view is closer to your own?

Base: Alberta Residents (Weighted: n= 1,000 ; Unweighted: n= 1,000)



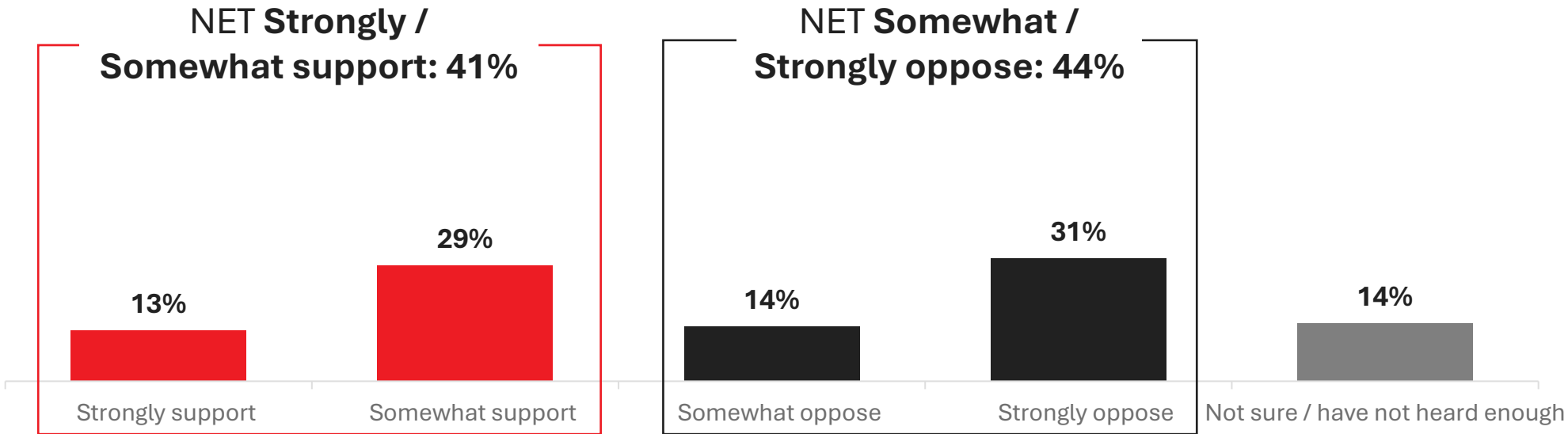
	Total	GENDER		AGE			REGION			PROVINCIAL VOTE	
		Men	Women	18-34	35-54	55+	CGY	EDM	Other AB	NDP	UCP
(NET) Prefer continuing	40%	54%	27%	41%	43%	36%	44%	40%	37%	29%	55%
(NET) Prefer temporary pause	42%	33%	51%	42%	41%	45%	36%	43%	49%	60%	29%

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

Support for a Large AI Data Centre Near Home in Alberta

Q. Would you support or oppose a large AI data centre similar in scale to the Meta project being built within approximately 25 kilometres of your home, assuming it met all provincial regulatory requirements?

Base: Alberta Residents (Weighted: n= 1,000 ; Unweighted: n= 1,000)



	Total	GENDER		AGE			REGION			PROVINCIAL VOTE	
		Men	Women	18-34	35-54	55+	CGY	EDM	Other AB	NDP	UCP
(NET) Support	41%	57%	26%	45%	37%	43%	40%	45%	39%	32%	53%
(NET) Oppose	44%	32%	56%	45%	47%	41%	43%	42%	48%	58%	35%

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

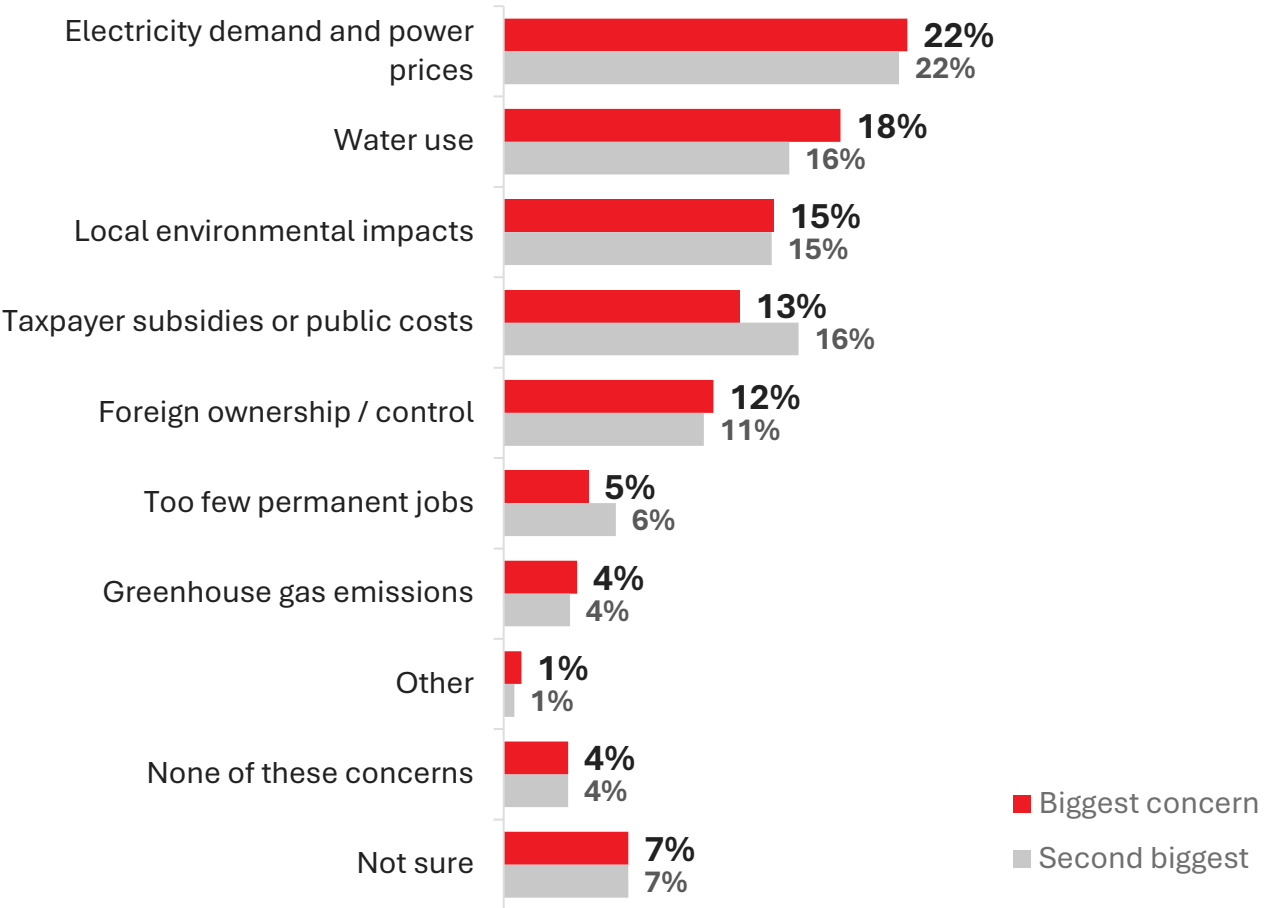
Top Concerns About Large AI Data Centres

Q. In your opinion, which of the following is your biggest concern about large AI data centres? What is your second biggest concern?

Base: Alberta Residents (Weighted: n= 1,000 ; Unweighted: n= 1,000)

National context*

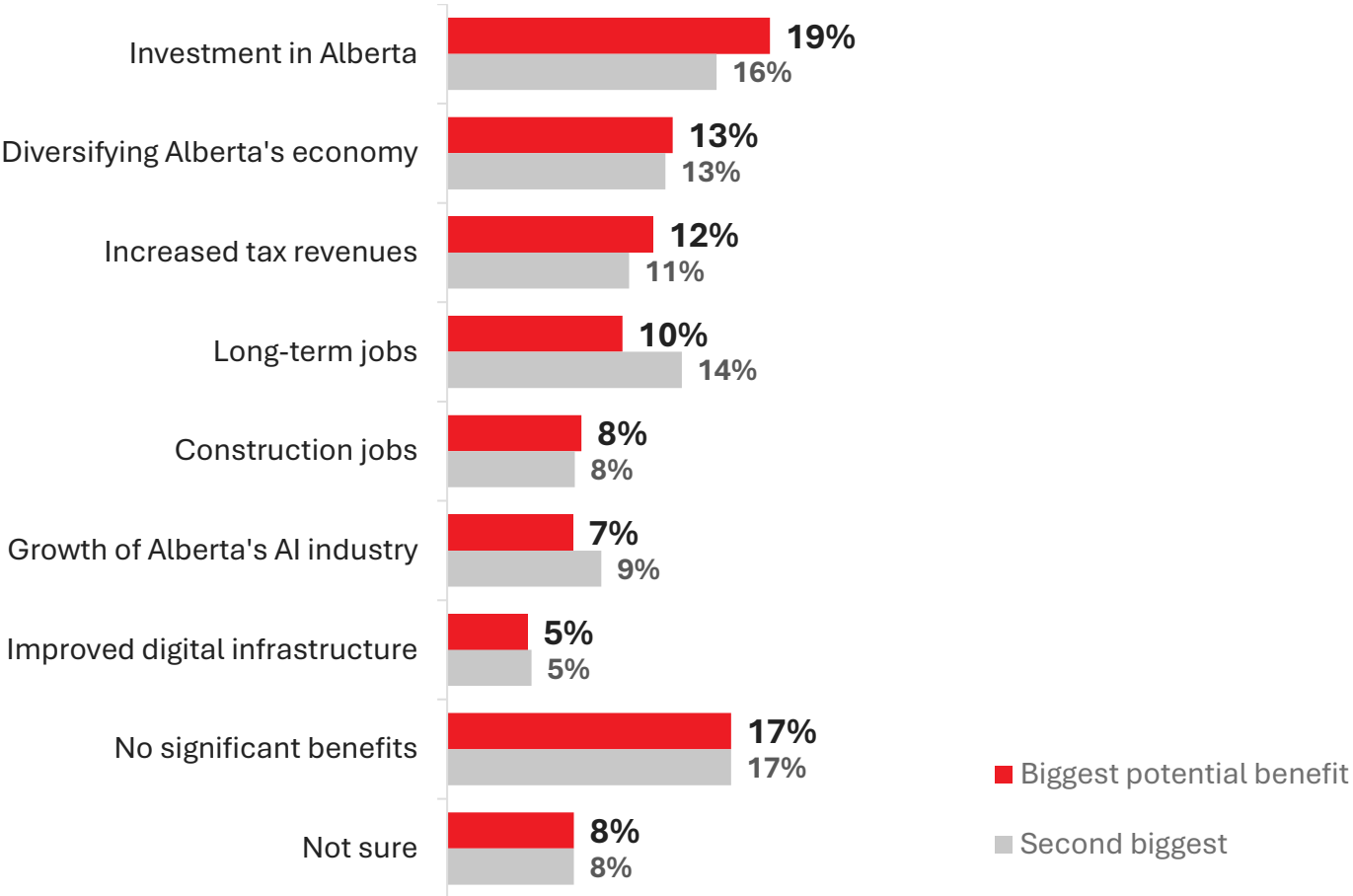
- 81% of Canadians are concerned about potential increases in household electricity bills.
- 79% are concerned about environmental impacts, including electricity use, water use and greenhouse-gas emissions.



*Source: Leger, “AI Data Centres: A Survey of Canadians,” online survey of 1,505 Canadian adults, July 10–13, 2026. This was a separate study; question wording differs from the Alberta omnibus, and national results are provided for contextual purposes only.

Perceived Benefits of Attracting AI Data Centres to Alberta

Q. In your opinion, which is the biggest potential benefit of attracting AI data centres to Alberta? What is the second biggest potential benefit?
Base: Alberta Residents (Weighted: n= 1,000 ; Unweighted: n= 1,000)



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

Sample Profile

Sample Profile

AB Residents (Unweighted Base n=1,000; Weighted Base n=1,000)

Gender		
	Unweighted	Weighted
Men	474	494
Women	526	506

Region		
	Unweighted	Weighted
Calgary	330	351
Edmonton	320	335
Rest of AB	350	314

Age		
	Unweighted	Weighted
18-34	197	286
35-54	300	360
55+	503	354

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