



Alberta Pulse Check

June 2026



Methodology



Methodology

Online survey among Alberta residents 18 years of age or older: n= 1,014.

Respondents were randomly recruited using LEO's online panel.



When

Data collection from May 29-June 1, 2026.

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



Margin of Error

For comparison purposes, a probability sample of n=1,014 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.

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

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

The UCP continues to lead among decided provincial voters, though the race remains regionally divided. Among decided voters, 49% say they would vote UCP, 40% would vote Alberta NDP, and 11% would vote for another party or independent candidate. The UCP performs strongest outside Calgary and Edmonton, while the NDP leads in Edmonton.

Views of provincial leaders remain mixed, with more Albertans saying their opinions have worsened than improved over the past six months. For Premier Danielle Smith, 15% say their opinion has improved while 48% say it has worsened. For Naheed Nenshi, 12% say their opinion has improved while 25% say it has worsened.

Most Albertans prefer Alberta to remain part of Canada, while support for independence remains a minority position. In the sovereignty question, 73% say Alberta should remain part of Canada, compared with 15% who say Alberta should become an independent country and 6% who say Alberta should join the United States.

Alberta sovereignty and separation are receiving significant public attention, even as most respondents prefer remaining in Canada. Nearly three-quarters of Albertans say they are following discussions very or somewhat closely, and a majority say they understand very or fairly well what separation would practically involve.

Albertans are more likely to view Alberta separation as a serious political movement than to dismiss it. A majority, 57%, describe it as a very or somewhat serious movement, while 35% describe it as small or not serious. Perceptions that separation is a serious political movement is notably higher among UCP voters than NDP voters.

Premier Smith's handling of sovereignty and separation discussions is more often disapproved of than approved of. One-third approve of how she has handled the issue, while just over half disapprove. Views differ sharply by provincial vote, with UCP voters more likely to approve and NDP voters more likely to disapprove.

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

When presented with a potential referendum framing, Albertans are more likely to choose remaining in Canada than beginning a separation process. 68% say Alberta should remain a province of Canada, while 24% say the government should begin the legal process required to hold a binding provincial referendum on whether Alberta should separate from Canada.

Perceived motivations for the referendum questions are mixed. The most common responses are that the government is holding the questions to distract from other provincial issues, to give Albertans a voice on important issues, and to increase pressure on the federal government. NDP and UCP voters differ substantially in how they interpret the government's motivations.

Economic and infrastructure impacts are more often viewed negatively than positively. A majority say the referendum and ongoing separation discussions will have a negative impact on Alberta's economy, while about one-quarter expect a positive impact. Similarly, respondents are more likely to say the discussions will hurt rather than help Alberta's ability to get major energy infrastructure projects approved and built.

Concern about American influence or interference is relatively common. Six-in-ten Albertans say they are very or somewhat concerned about the possibility of American influence or interference in discussions around Alberta separation and the upcoming referendum.

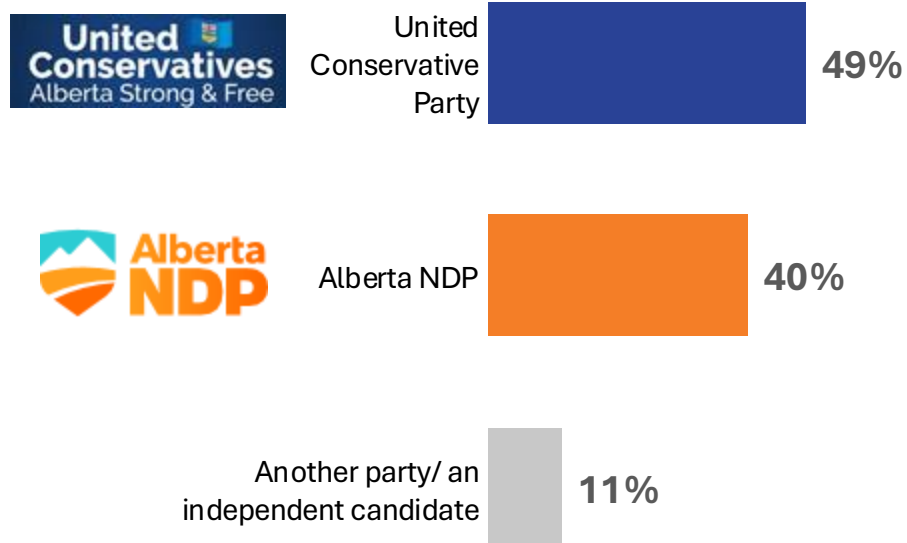
The separation debate is creating some personal tension, but not for most Albertans. Nearly three-in-ten say recent discussions have caused tension in their relationships or interactions, while 67% say they have not.

Detailed **Results** - Voting Intentions &
Party Leader Approval

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= 825; Unweighted: n= 857)



GENDER		AGE			REGION			FEDERAL VOTE		
Men	Women	18-34	35-54	55+	CGY	EDM	Other AB	Liberal	Conser-vative	NDP
52%	45%	48%	45%	52%	49%	34%	63%	13%	87%	4%
37%	44%	43%	43%	36%	40%	55%	25%	72%	7%	96%
11%	12%	9%	12%	12%	11%	11%	11%	15%	5%	-

% Statistically significantly higher than total

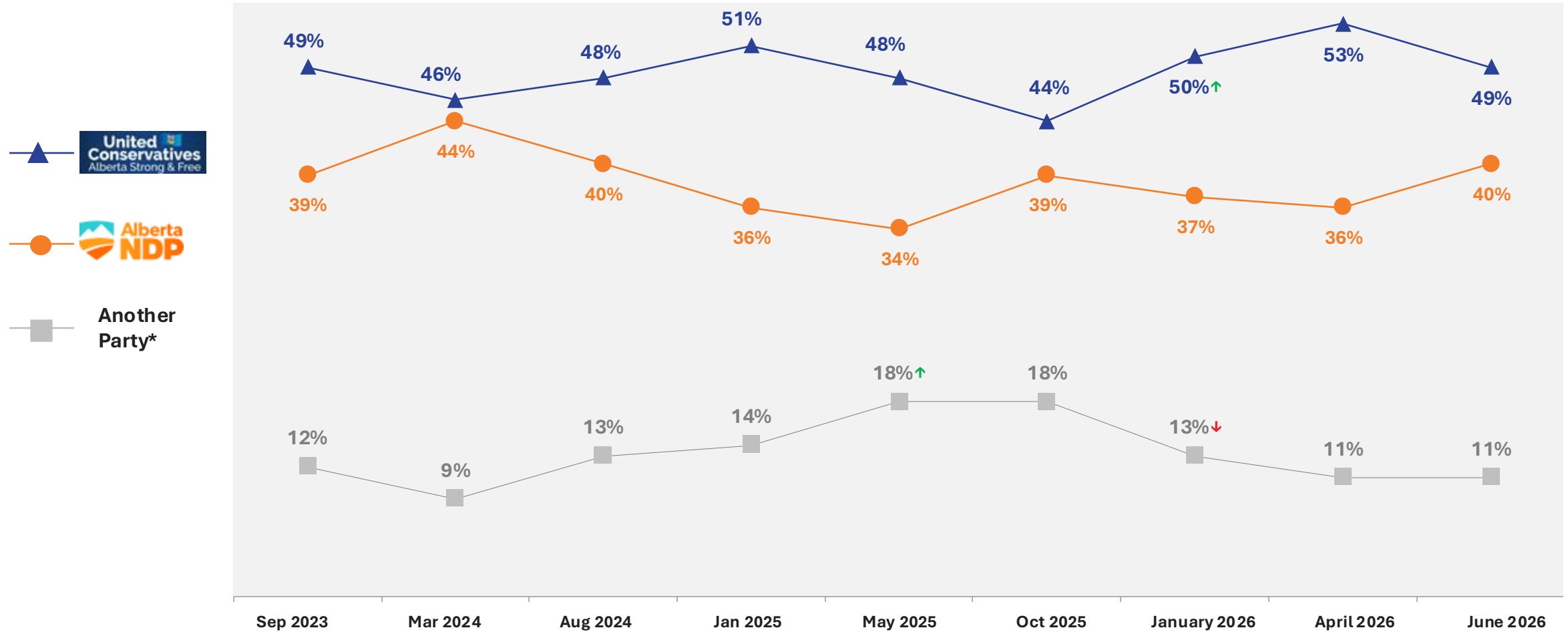
% Statistically significantly lower than total

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= 825; 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.

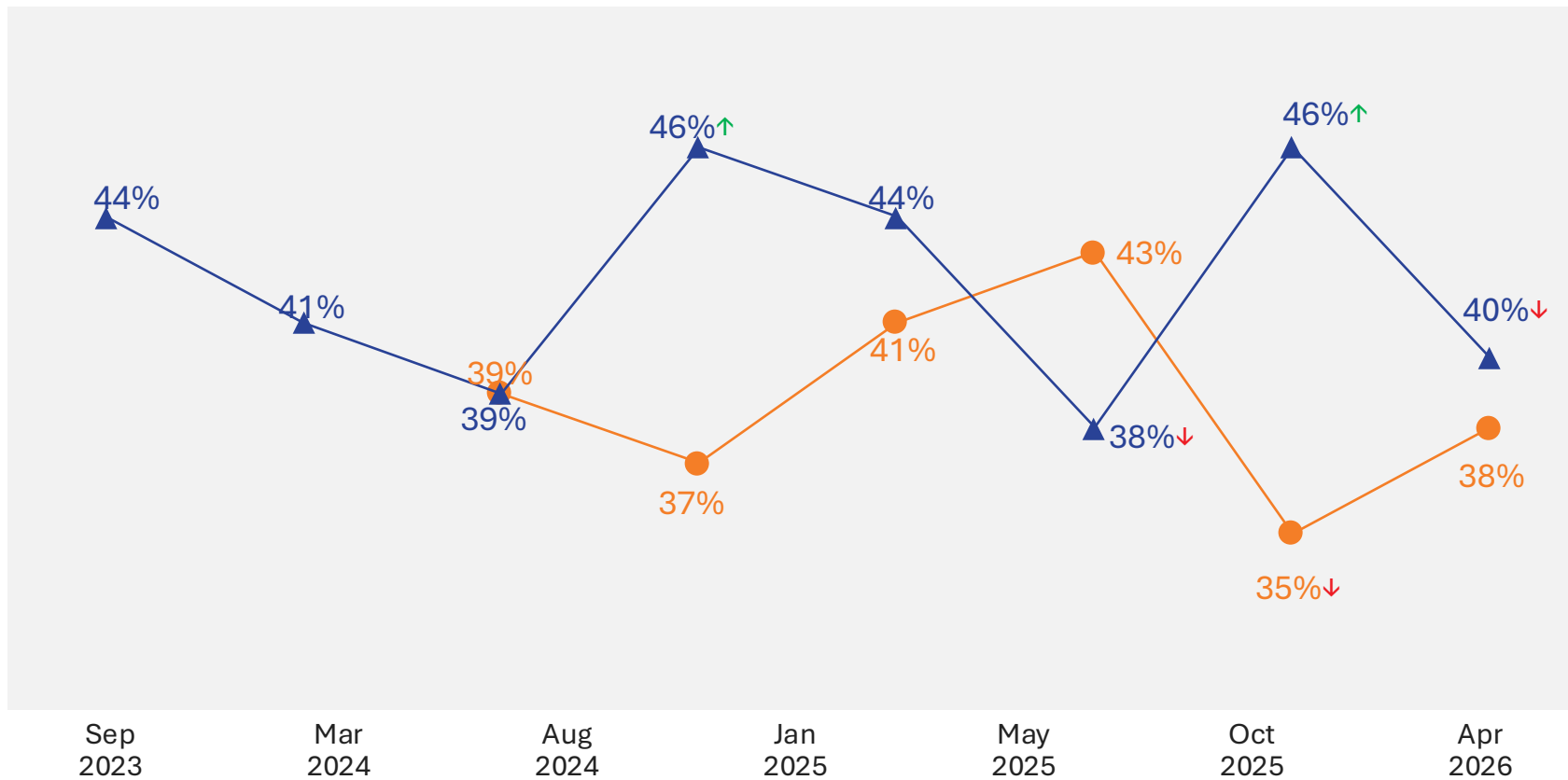


↑ Statistically significantly higher than previous wave.
 ↓ Statistically significantly lower than previous wave.

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: Alberta Residents (Weighted: n= 1,014 ; Unweighted: n= 1,014)



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

Change in Opinion of Leaders

Q. Over the past six months, has your opinion of each of the following leaders improved, stayed the same, or worsened?

Base: Alberta Residents (Weighted: n= 1,014 ; Unweighted: n= 1,014)



**Danielle Smith –
United Conservative Party**

June 2026	Apr 2026	Oct 2025	May 2025	Jan 2025
15%↓	19%	15%	18%↓	22%↑
48%↑	42%	47%↑	40%	35%
-33↓	-23↑	-32↓	-22	-13

Improved	Worsened	NET Change
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**Naheed Nenshi –
Alberta NDP**

June 2026	Apr 2026	Oct 2025	May 2025	Jan 2025
12%	11%↓	15%	16%	16%
25%↓	30%↑	22%↓	27%	25%
-13↓	-19↓	-7	-11	-9

Improved	Worsened	NET Change
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↑ Statistically significantly higher than previous wave.
↓ Statistically significantly lower than previous wave.

Detailed Results – Alberta Sovereignty and Separation

Preferences on Alberta's Sovereignty

Q. Which of the following best reflects your view?

Base: Alberta Residents (Weighted: n= 1,014 ; Unweighted: n= 1,014)

Prefer not to answer, 1% not shown.



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

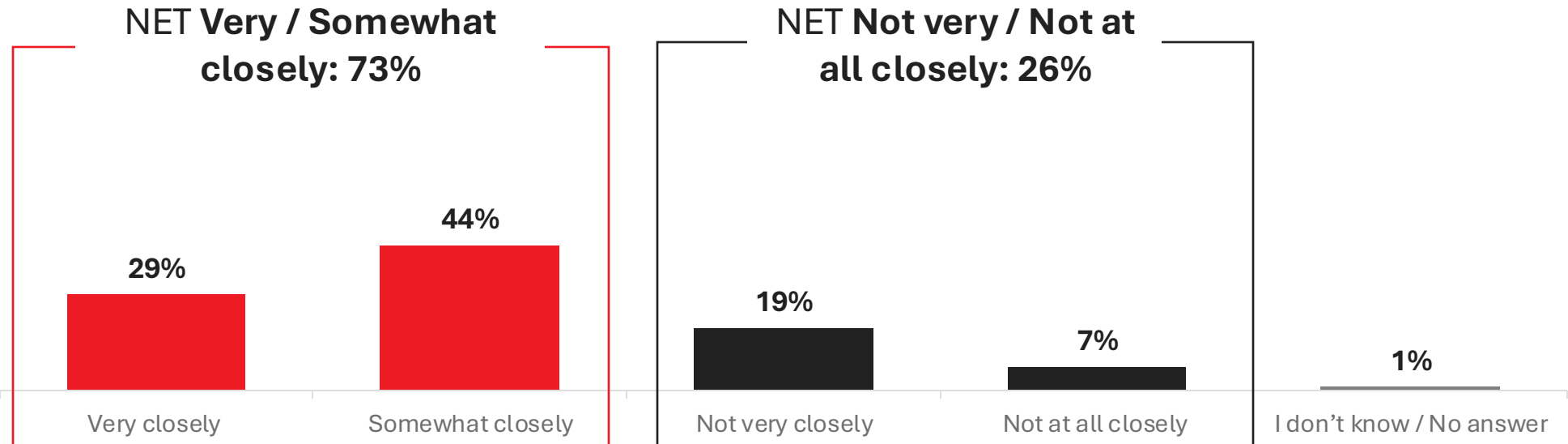
	Total	GENDER		AGE			REGION			PROVINCIAL VOTE	
		Men	Women	18-34	35-54	55+	CGY	EDM	Other AB	NDP	UCP
Alberta should remain part of Canada	73%	70%	76%	67%	77%	74%	75%	81%	62%	95%	52%
Alberta should become an independent country	15%	17%	14%	16%	13%	17%	14%	8%	24%	4%	29%
Alberta should join the United States	6%	7%	4%	9%	5%	4%	6%	5%	6%	-	10%

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

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= 1,014 ; Unweighted: n= 1,014)



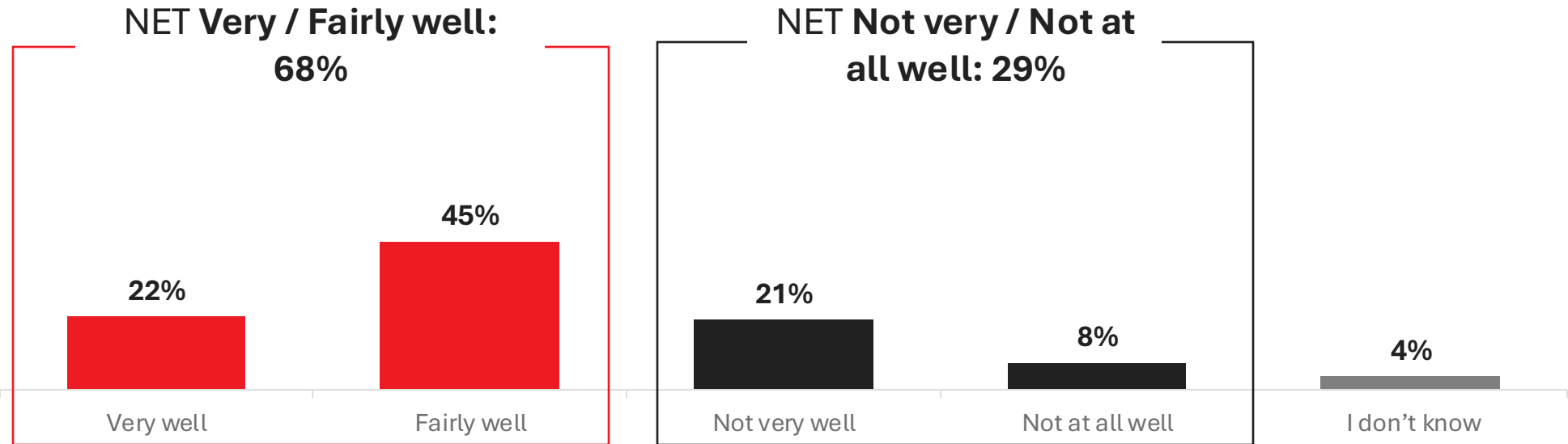
	Total	GENDER		AGE			REGION			PROVINCIAL VOTE	
		Men	Women	18-34	35-54	55+	CGY	EDM	Other AB	NDP	UCP
NET Very / Somewhat closely	73%	79%	67%	63%	68%	86%	73%	74%	72%	85%	75%
NET Not very / Not at all closely	26%	20%	31%	35%	31%	13%	24%	26%	27%	15%	25%

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

Public Understanding of Alberta Separation

Q. How well do you feel you understand what Alberta separating from Canada would practically involve?

Base: Alberta Residents (Weighted: n= 1,014 ; Unweighted: n= 1,014)



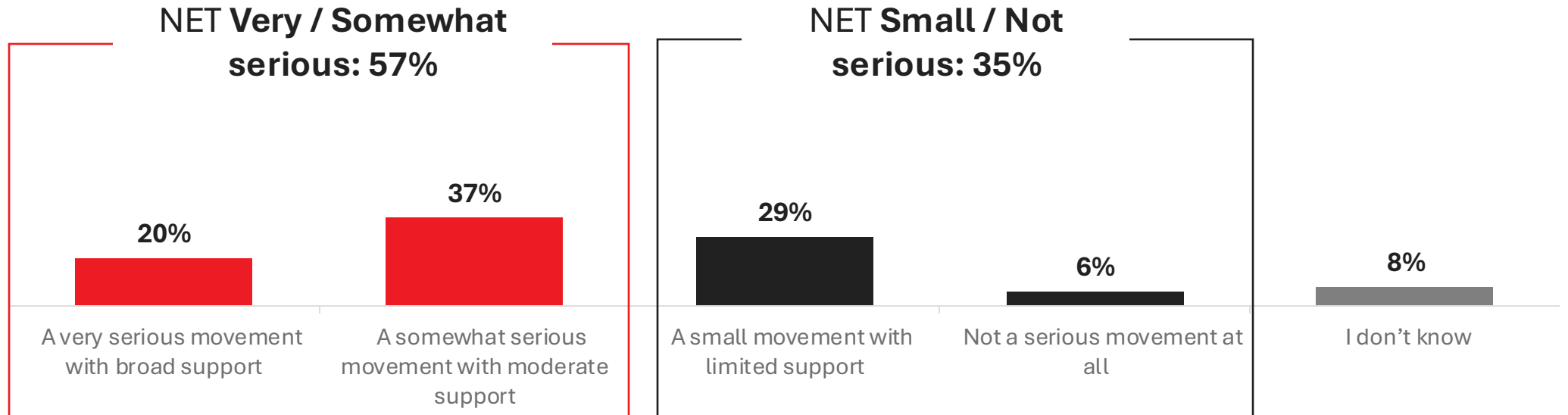
	Total	GENDER		AGE			REGION			PROVINCIAL VOTE	
		Men	Women	18-34	35-54	55+	CGY	EDM	Other AB	NDP	UCP
NET Very / Fairly well	68%	75%	60%	54%	67%	79%	69%	68%	65%	76%	68%
NET Not very / Not at all well	29%	23%	35%	41%	29%	19%	25%	30%	31%	24%	29%

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

Views on Alberta Separation as a Political Movement

Q. How serious of a political movement do you think Alberta separation is today?

Base: Alberta Residents (Weighted: n= 1,014 ; Unweighted: n= 1,014)



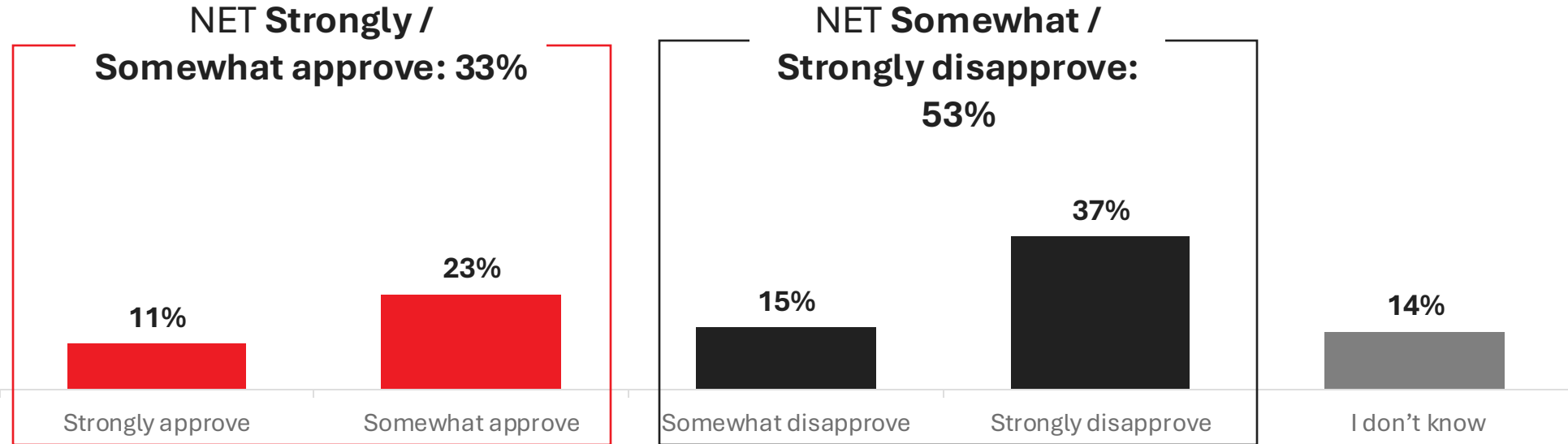
	Total	GENDER		AGE			REGION			PROVINCIAL VOTE	
		Men	Women	18-34	35-54	55+	CGY	EDM	Other AB	NDP	UCP
NET Very / Somewhat serious	57%	54%	59%	57%	55%	59%	59%	50%	61%	47%	74%
NET Small / Not serious	35%	39%	31%	30%	37%	37%	32%	44%	29%	51%	20%

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

Approval of Premier Smith’s Handling of Alberta Sovereignty and Separation Discussions

Q. Overall, do you approve or disapprove of how Premier Danielle Smith has handled discussions around Alberta sovereignty and separation?

Base: Alberta Residents (Weighted: n= 1,014 ; Unweighted: n= 1,014)



	Total	GENDER		AGE			REGION			PROVINCIAL VOTE	
		Men	Women	18-34	35-54	55+	CGY	EDM	Other AB	NDP	UCP
NET Strongly / Somewhat approve	33%	41%	26%	34%	31%	35%	33%	26%	42%	10%	64%
NET Somewhat / Strongly disapprove	53%	48%	57%	46%	53%	58%	54%	61%	42%	88%	24%

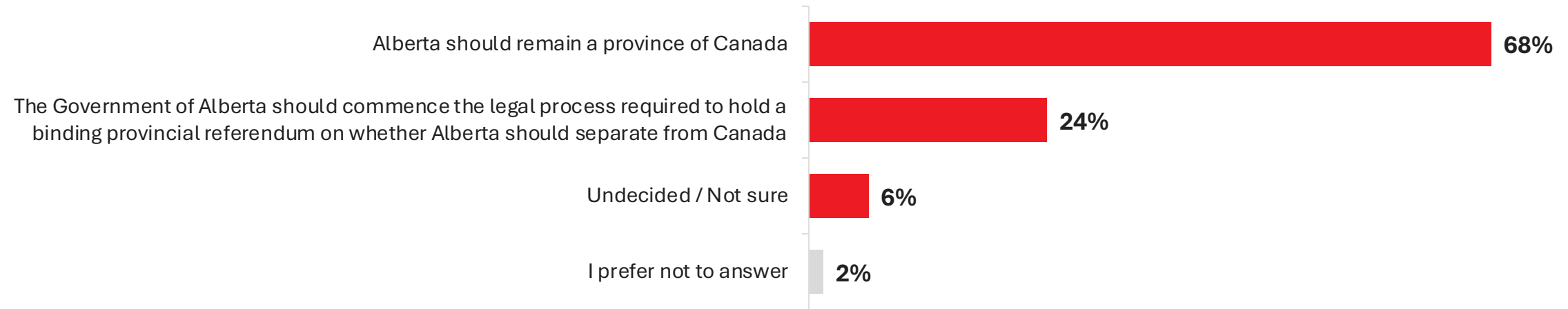
% Statistically significantly higher than total
% Statistically significantly lower than total

Detailed **Results** – Referendum
Perceptions

Referendum Preference: Remain in Canada vs. Begin Separation Process

Q. The Alberta government is considering the following referendum question: If this referendum were held today, would you vote:

Base: Alberta Residents (Weighted: n= 1,014 ; Unweighted: n= 1,014)



	Total	GENDER		AGE			REGION			PROVINCIAL VOTE	
		Men	Women	18-34	35-54	55+	CGY	EDM	Other AB	NDP	UCP
Alberta should remain part of Canada	68%	64%	73%	63%	70%	71%	68%	79%	57%	94%	44%
The Government of Alberta should commence the legal process required to hold a binding provincial referendum on whether Alberta should separate from Canada	24%	29%	19%	28%	23%	22%	22%	15%	35%	5%	48%
Undecided / Not sure	6%	6%	7%	8%	6%	5%	8%	4%	6%	1%	8%

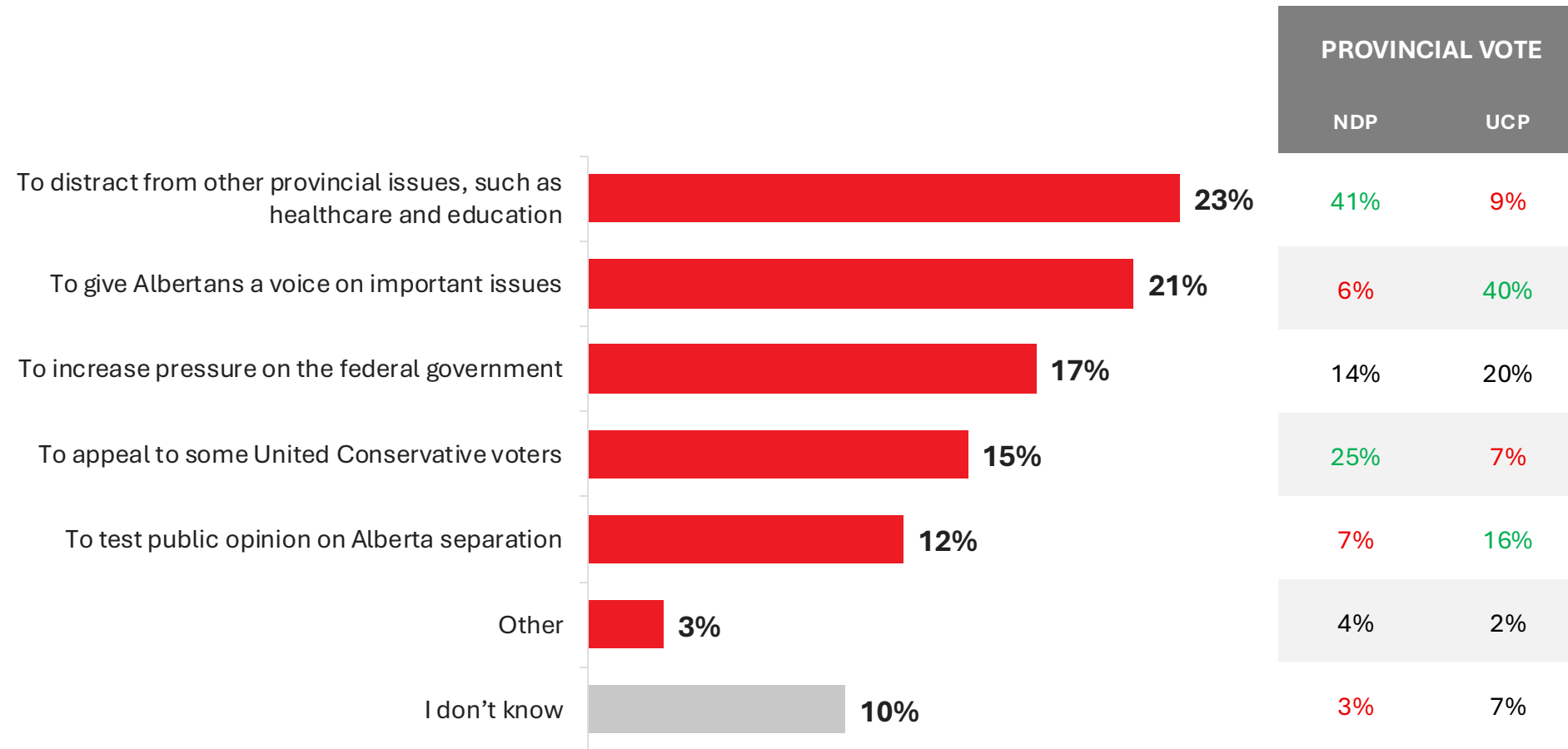
% Statistically significantly higher than total

% 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= 1,014 ; Unweighted: n= 1,014)



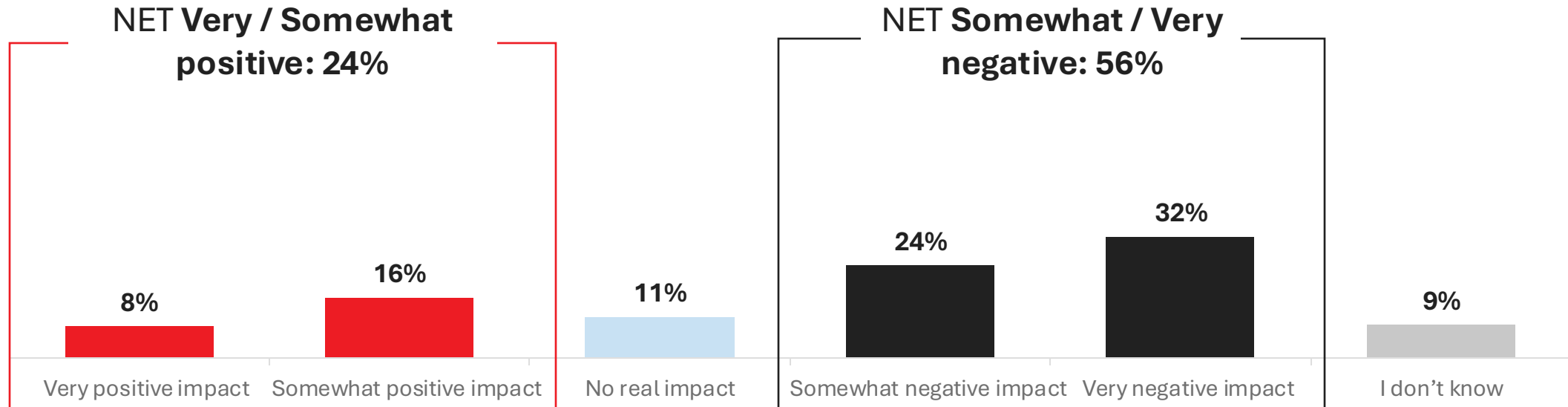
% Statistically significantly higher than total

% 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= 1,014 ; Unweighted: n= 1,014)



	Total	GENDER		AGE			REGION			PROVINCIAL VOTE	
		Men	Women	18-34	35-54	55+	CGY	EDM	Other AB	NDP	UCP
NET Very / Somewhat positive	24%	29%	19%	33%	22%	20%	21%	18%	33%	6%	46%
NET Somewhat / Very negative	56%	52%	60%	46%	60%	62%	57%	65%	46%	87%	28%

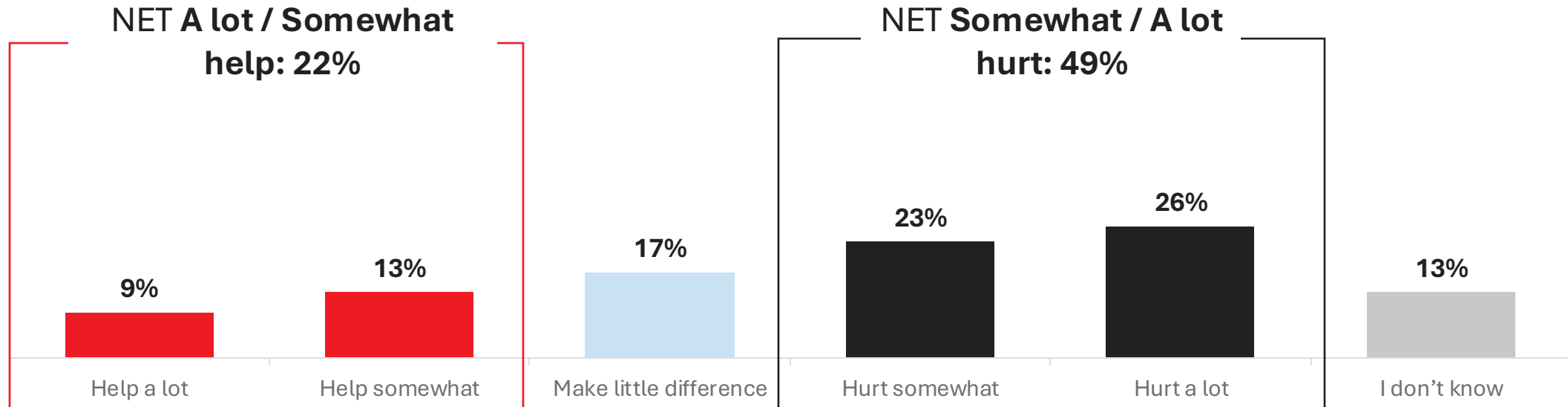
% Statistically significantly higher than total

% Statistically significantly lower than total

Perceived Impact on Alberta’s Energy Infrastructure Development

Q. Do you think the referendum and ongoing discussions about Alberta separation will help or hurt Alberta’s ability to get major energy infrastructure projects, such as pipelines to the west coast, approved and built?

Base: Alberta Residents (Weighted: n= 1,014 ; Unweighted: n= 1,014)



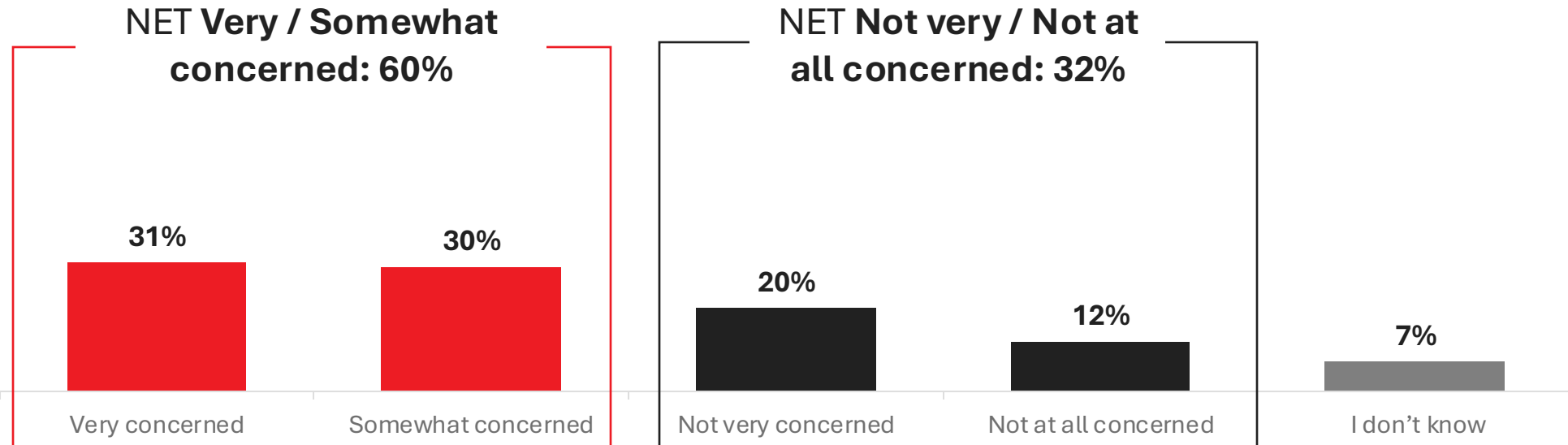
	Total	GENDER		AGE			REGION			PROVINCIAL VOTE	
		Men	Women	18-34	35-54	55+	CGY	EDM	Other AB	NDP	UCP
NET A lot / Somewhat help	22%	28%	15%	26%	20%	20%	19%	18%	28%	5%	42%
NET Somewhat / A lot hurt	49%	45%	52%	40%	51%	53%	45%	59%	42%	77%	21%

% 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= 1,014 ; Unweighted: n= 1,014)



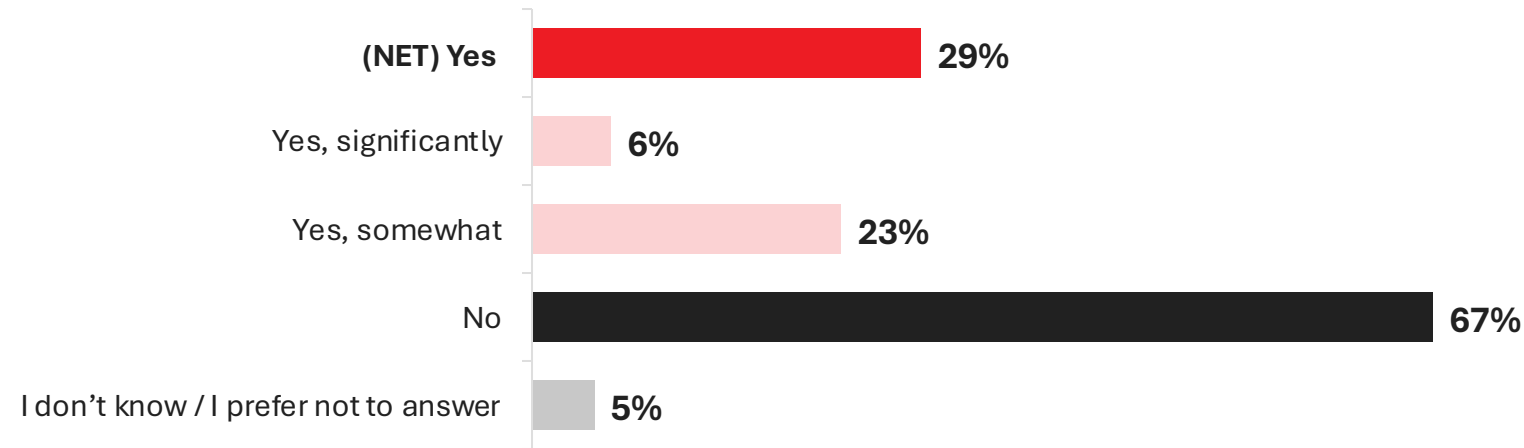
	Total	GENDER		AGE			REGION			PROVINCIAL VOTE	
		Men	Women	18-34	35-54	55+	CGY	EDM	Other AB	NDP	UCP
NET Very / Somewhat concerned	60%	60%	61%	63%	59%	60%	59%	68%	55%	87%	42%
NET Not very / Not at all concerned	32%	34%	30%	27%	32%	36%	34%	27%	37%	12%	52%

% 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= 1,014 ; Unweighted: n= 1,014)



	Total	GENDER		AGE			REGION			PROVINCIAL VOTE	
		Men	Women	18-34	35-54	55+	CGY	EDM	Other AB	NDP	UCP
(NET) Yes	29%	31%	27%	36%	27%	25%	30%	28%	28%	31%	32%
No	67%	65%	68%	59%	68%	71%	65%	68%	67%	67%	65%

% Statistically significantly higher than total

% Statistically significantly lower than total

Sample Profile

Sample Profile

AB Residents (Unweighted Base n=1,014; Weighted Base n=1,014 unless noted otherwise)

Gender

	Unweighted	Weighted
Men	443	502
Women	571	512

Age

	Unweighted	Weighted
18-34	188	291
35-54	306	364
55+	520	359

Region

	Unweighted	Weighted
Calgary	336	355
Edmonton	324	340
Rest of AB	354	319

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