



Canada This Month Immigration and Crime

Public Opinion Research
Release Date: December 16th
Field Dates: November 20 to 26, 2025

Table of Contents

Key Findings	4
Segmentations	5
Party ID	6
Immigration	7
Crime	18
Methodology	26
Appendix	30

Study Overview



Building on findings from previous waves, this report tracks November data on Immigration and Crime. This is part of a broader effort to understand the potential impact of cultural alienation. There will be a follow-up on underlying cultural attitudes later in December.

In this report:

- **Immigration (both legal and illegal) sentiment and attitudes**
- **The federal government's management of immigration**
- **Perceived impact of immigration**
- **Attention on crime**
- **Perceptions of safety and crime**

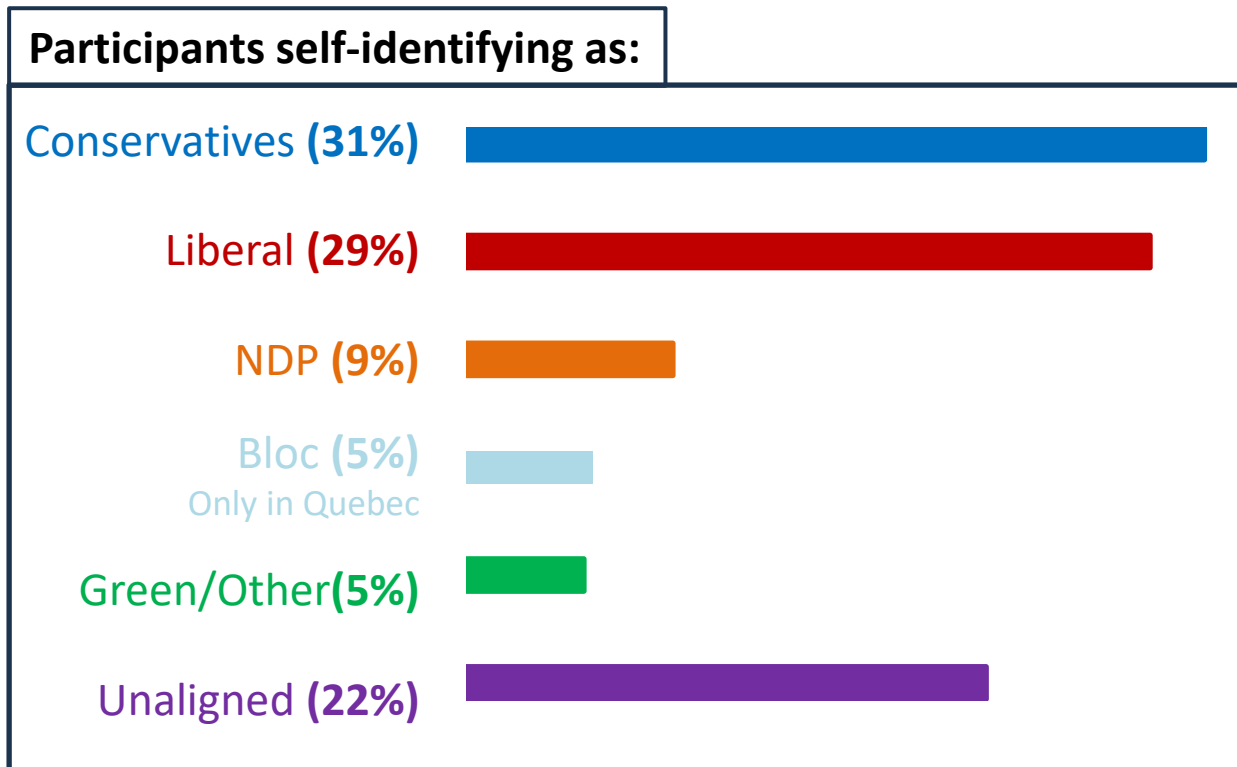
Key Findings

- 1 A growing majority now believe the number of newcomers threatens** traditional Canadian customs and values (54% in 2025 vs. 51% in 2024, 38% in 2020, and 42% in 2016); Conservative (73%) and Bloc (75%) identifiers being most likely to agree with it vs. Liberal (37%) and NDP (33%).
- 2 While concerns around illegal immigration remain high, concern about legal immigration is growing.** Concern about illegal immigration has been high since 2018 (75% today vs. 72% in 2018 rate it “serious”). The number who say legal immigration is good dropped from 54% in 2018 to 39% in 2025. There is also a sharp rise in the share saying immigration should be made harder (from 45% in 2018 to 61% in 2025)
- 3 Canadians feel the government has mismanaged immigration, leading to housing strain, and declining access to services.** 72% believe too many immigrants have been admitted, causing housing pressures and service strain (71%).
- 4 The mood on crime is more stable, but slipping.** 17% now report feeling unsafe in their communities (up from 11% in Jul ‘23). This is the highest among Conservatives (23%), residents of Alberta (23%), and women (21%). Nearly half (49%) view crime as at least one of the most important problems.
- 5 Crime is seen as a threat to society by most Canadians.** 78% believe crime threatens Canada’s social order — with 43% saying it is both a societal and personal threat.

Segmentation

Key Segmentation: Party Identification Groups

To better understand issues such as immigration and crime, INNOVATIVE will use segments based on participants' self-identified party affiliations. These segmentations have been developed, refined, and validated across dozens of election campaigns we have tracked. Detailed definitions can be found in the appendix. Age and region are also used to provide additional insights.

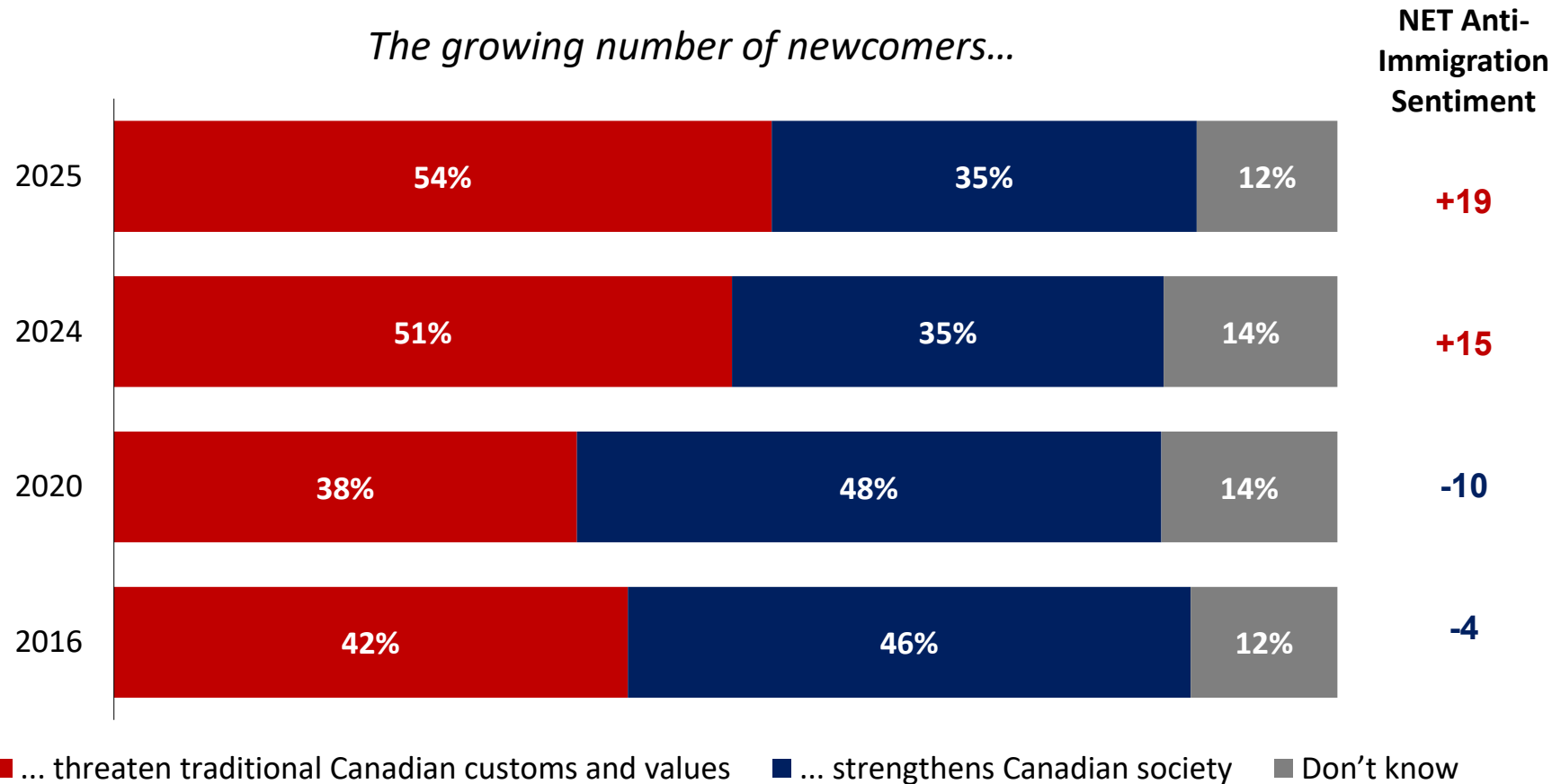


Immigration

Anti-Immigration Sentiment: More than half believe newcomers threaten traditional customs and values, 16-point increase since 2020

Q Which of the following statements best describes your personal point of view?
[asked of all respondents, n=1,000]

The growing number of newcomers...



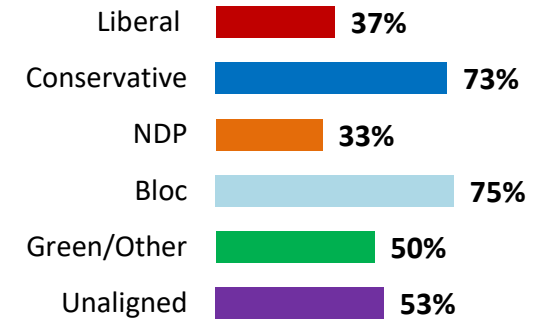
Segmentation

Respondents who say 'Threaten'

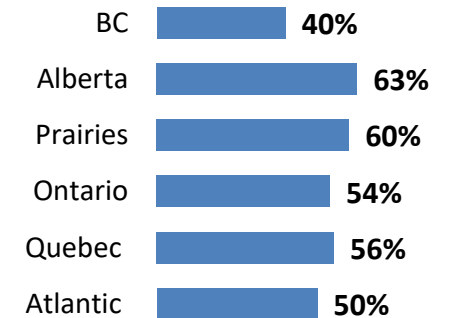
Age




Party ID

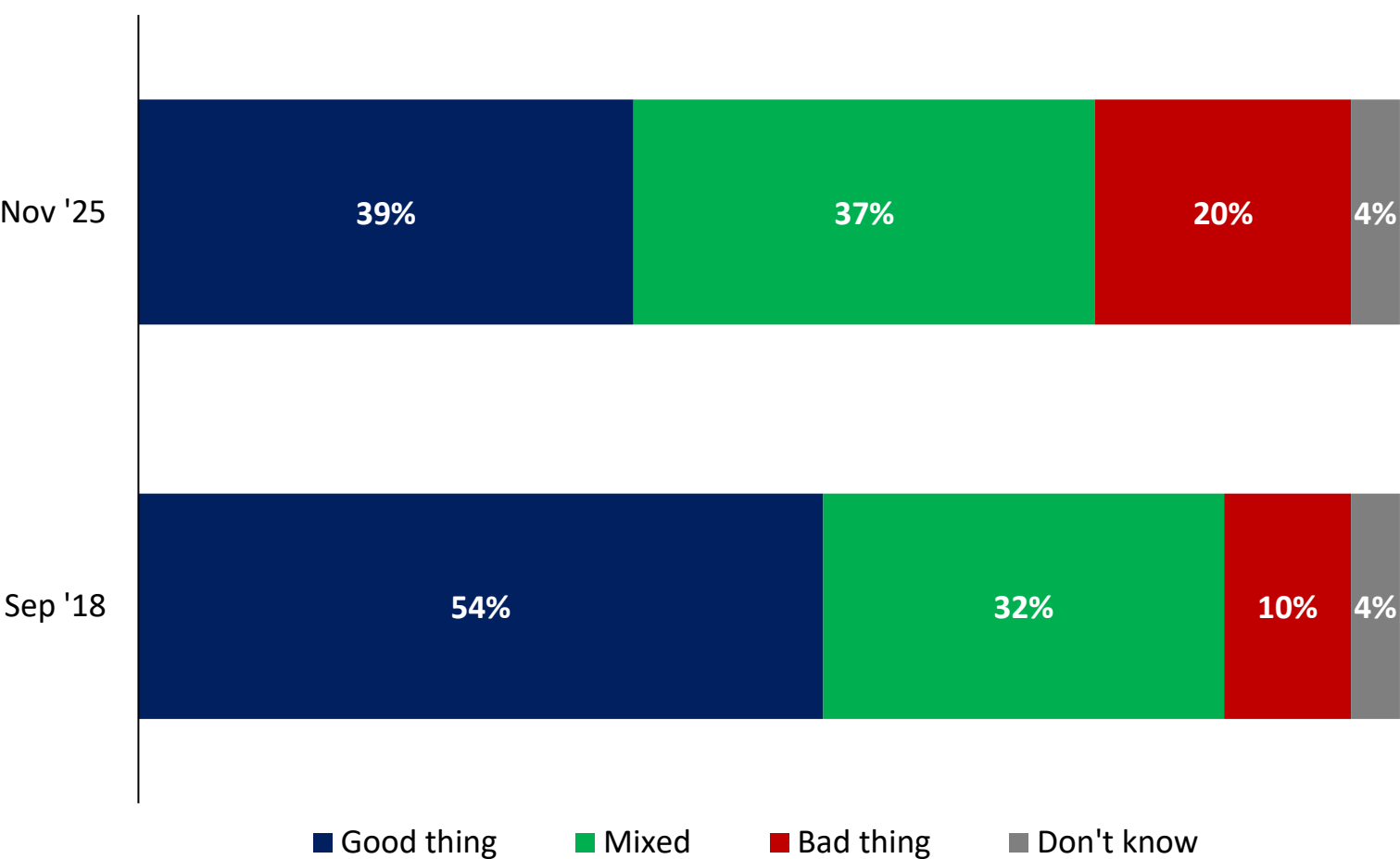


Region



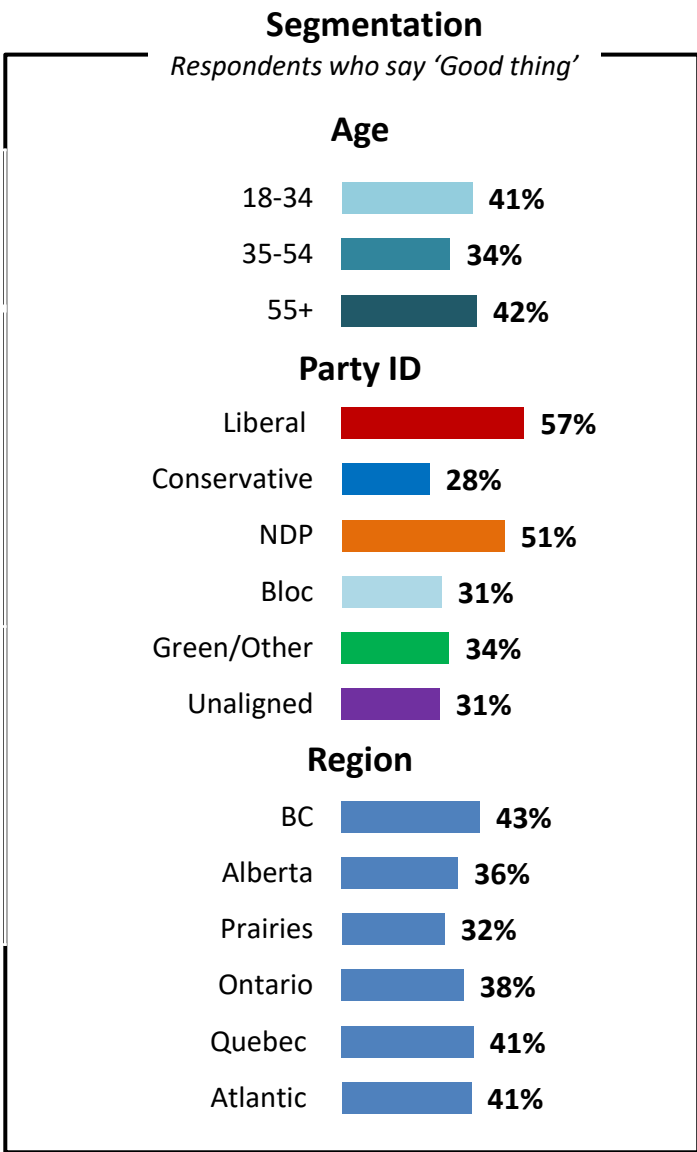
Legal Immigration: Just 39% of respondents think legal immigration is a good thing, down from 54% in 2018.

 On the whole, do you think legal immigration is a good thing or bad thing for Canada?
[asked of all respondents, n=1,000]



NET Legal Immigration Sentiment

+19

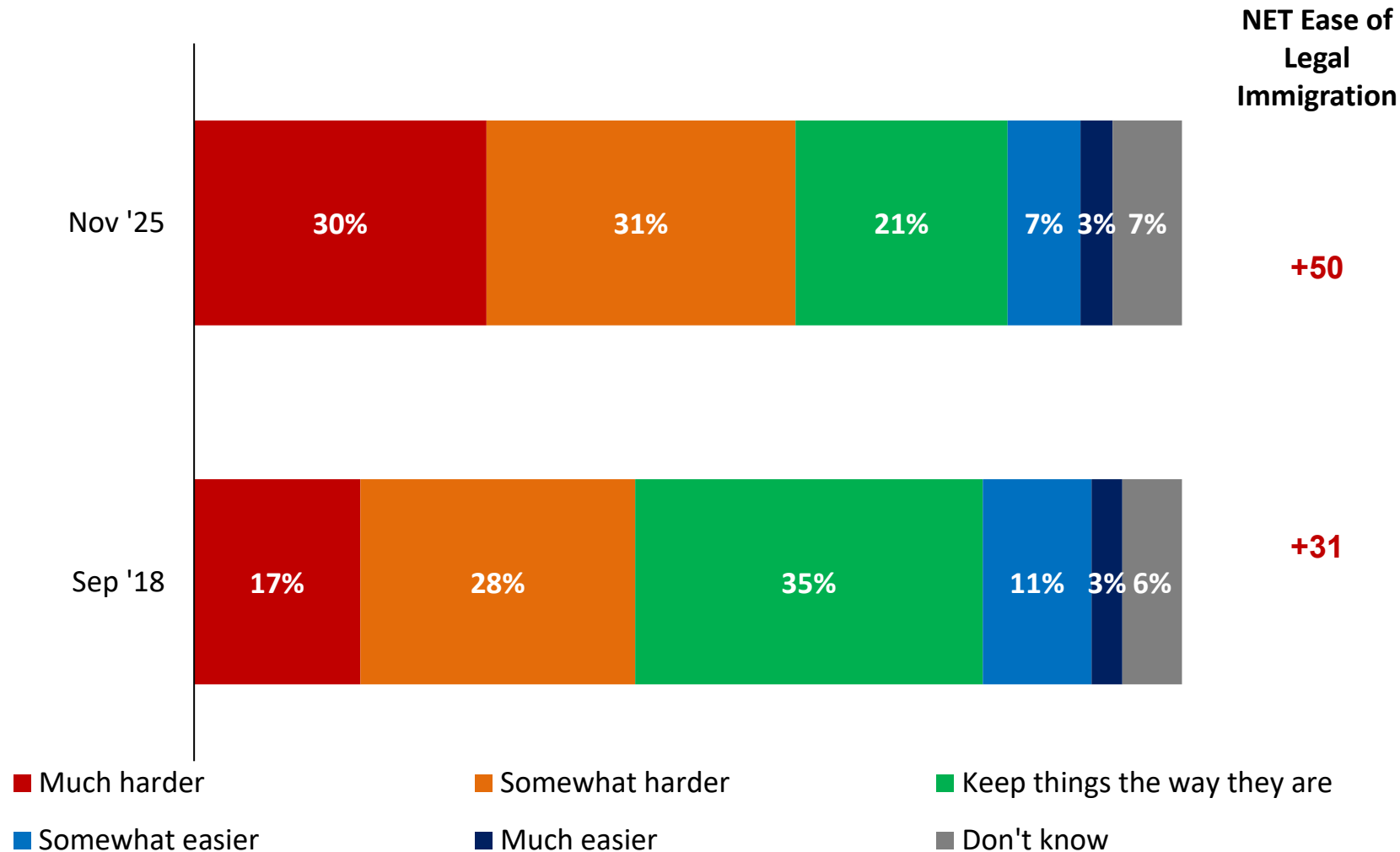


Ease of Legal Immigration: 3-in-5 (61%) think it should be “harder” to legally immigrate, a 16-point increase since 2018



In general, do you think it should be harder or easier for people to legally immigrate to Canada or should we keep things the way they are?

[asked of all respondents, n=1,000]



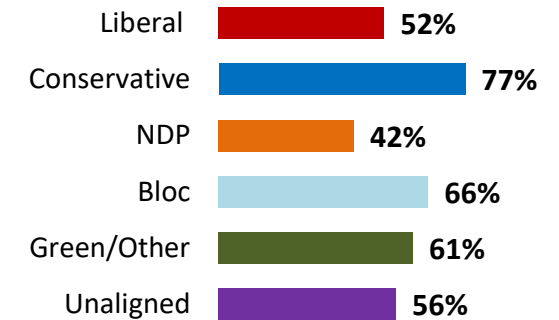
Segmentation

Respondents who say 'Harder'

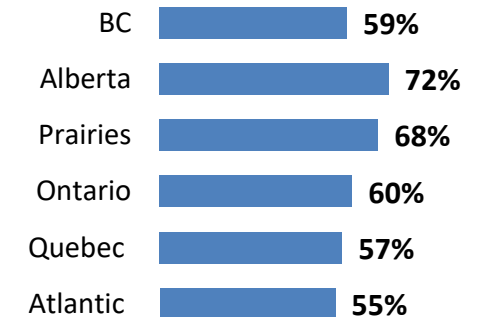
Age



Party ID



Region

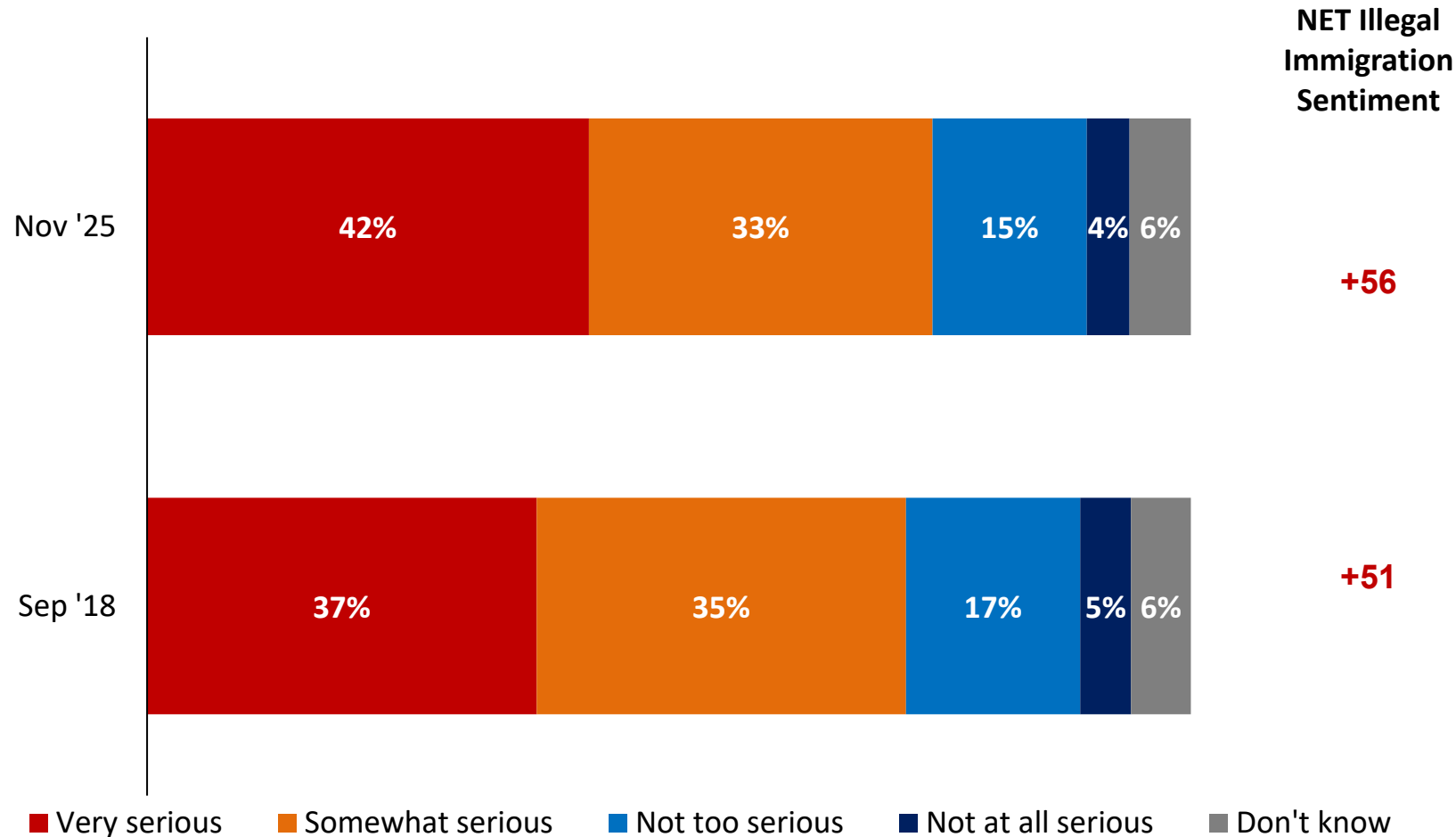


Illegal Immigration: 3-in-4 respondents think illegal immigration is a serious problem; highest among Conservative and Bloc identifiers



How serious a problem do you think the issue of immigrants who are entering* Canada illegally right now is?

[asked of all respondents, n=1,000]



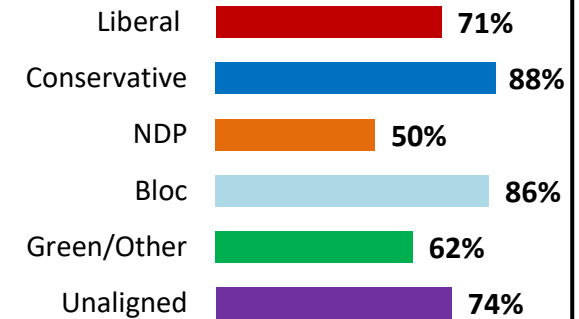
Segmentation

Respondents who say 'Serious'

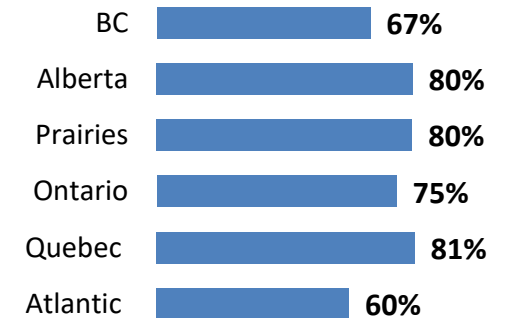
Age



Party ID



Region

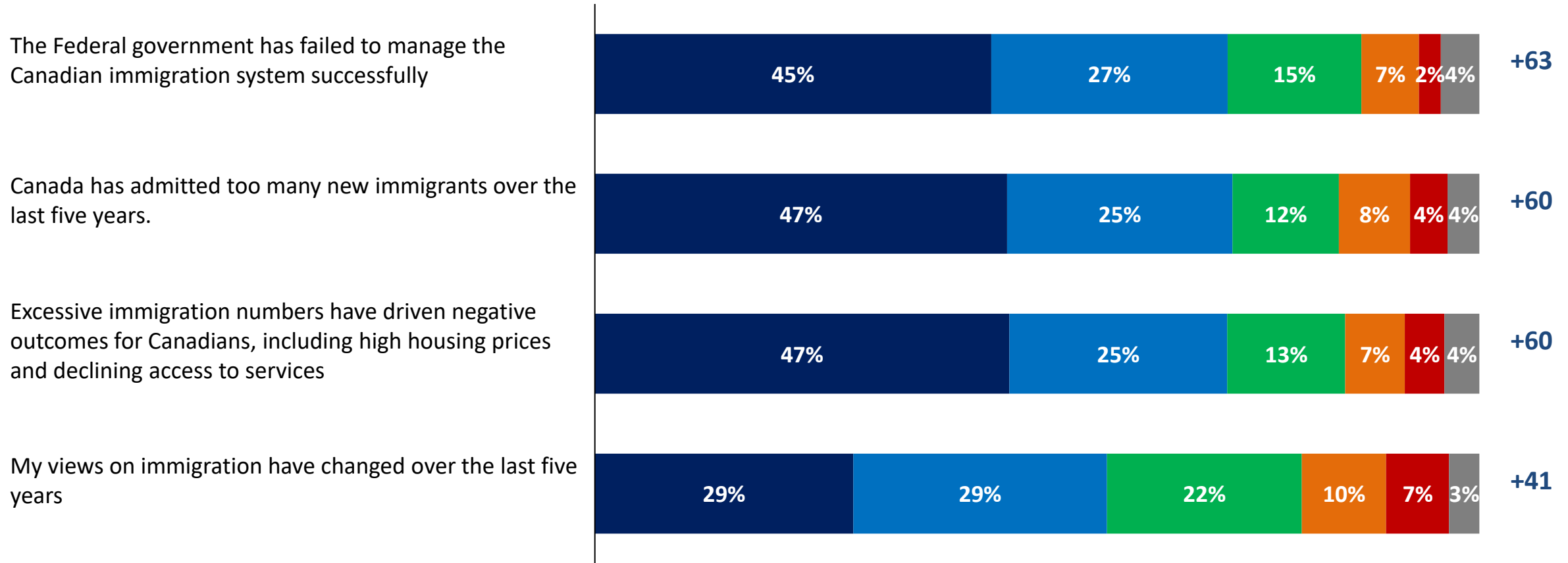


*In 2018 question was asked differently, so that instead of "entering", "crossing into" was used

Immigration Attitudes and Impact: Net agree highest on belief that federal government has failed to manage the Canadian immigration

Q Please indicate whether you agree or disagree with the following statements
[asked of all respondents, n=1,000]

Net Agreement

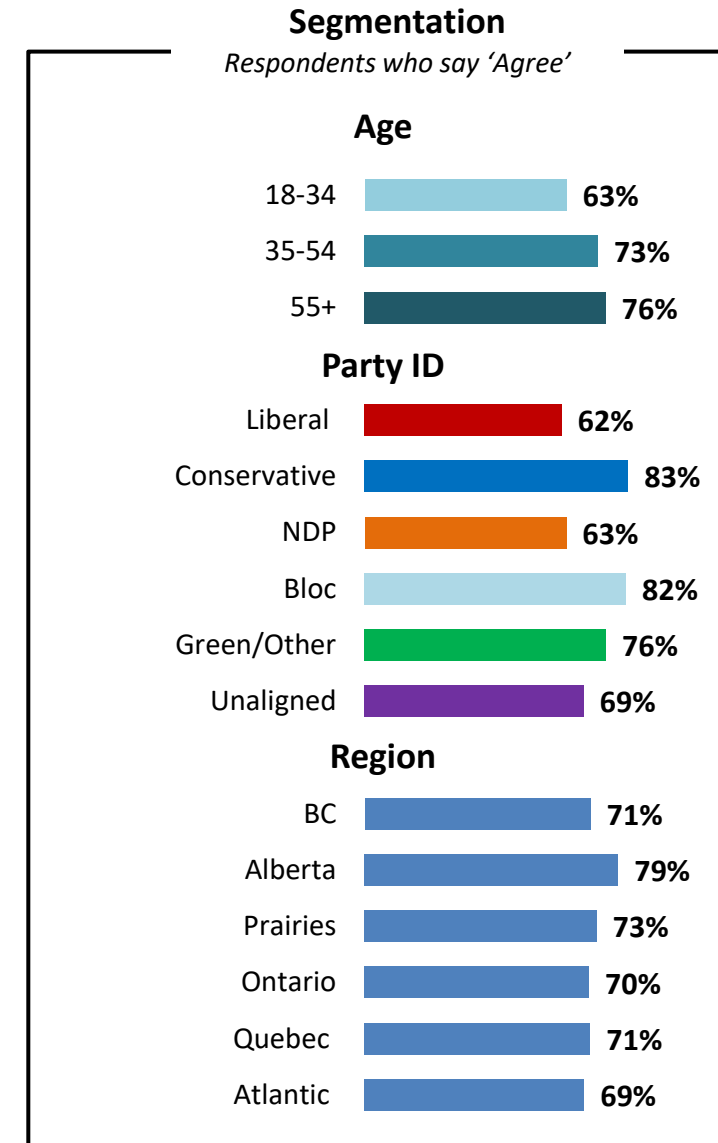
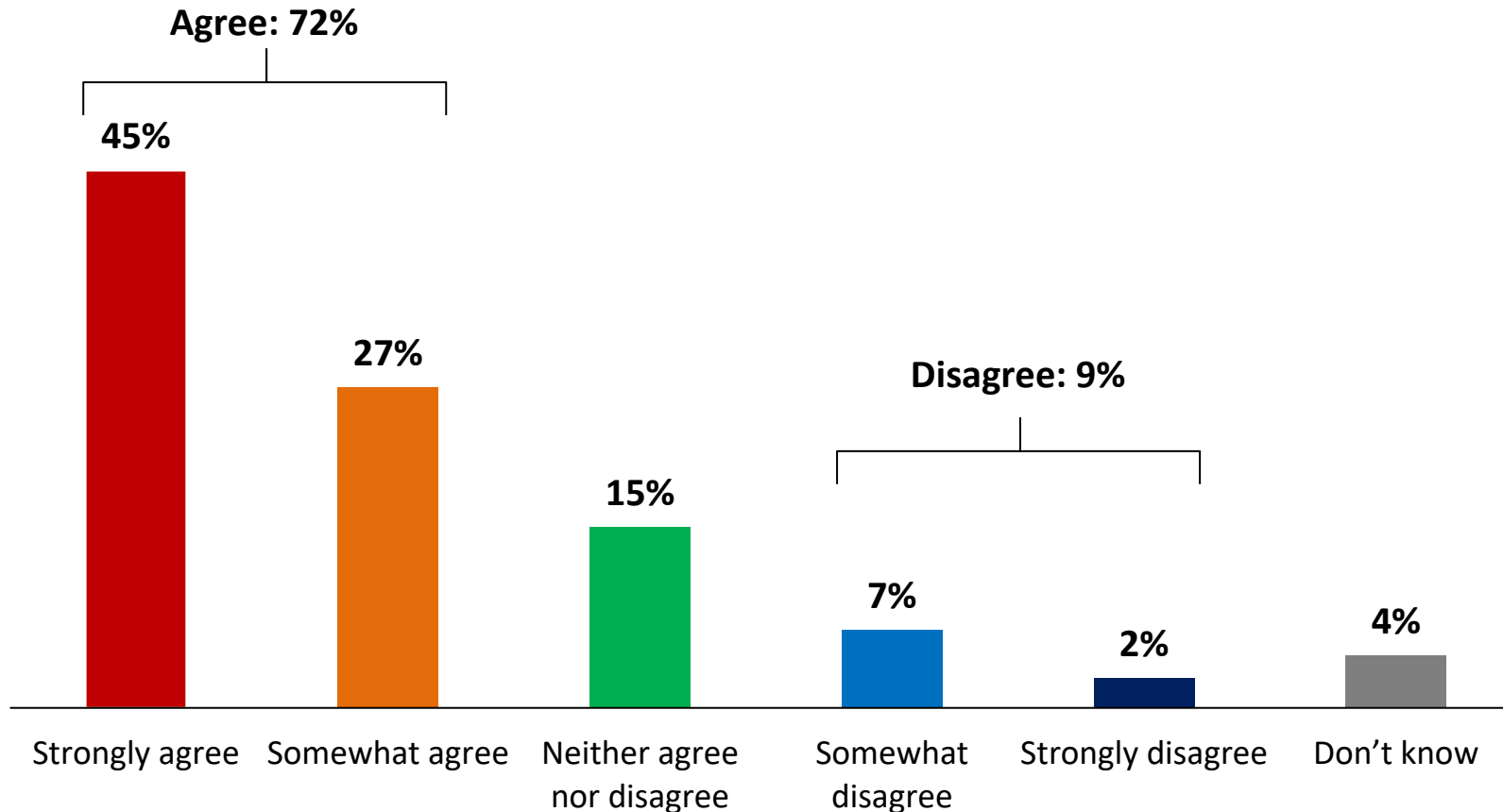


■ Strongly agree
 ■ Somewhat agree
 ■ Neither agree nor disagree
 ■ Somewhat disagree
 ■ Strongly disagree
 ■ Don't know

Failure to Manage Immigration: Agreement is highest among those self-identifying as Conservatives and Bloc voters, lowest among NDP

Q Please indicate whether you agree or disagree with the following statements
[asked of all respondents, n=1,000]

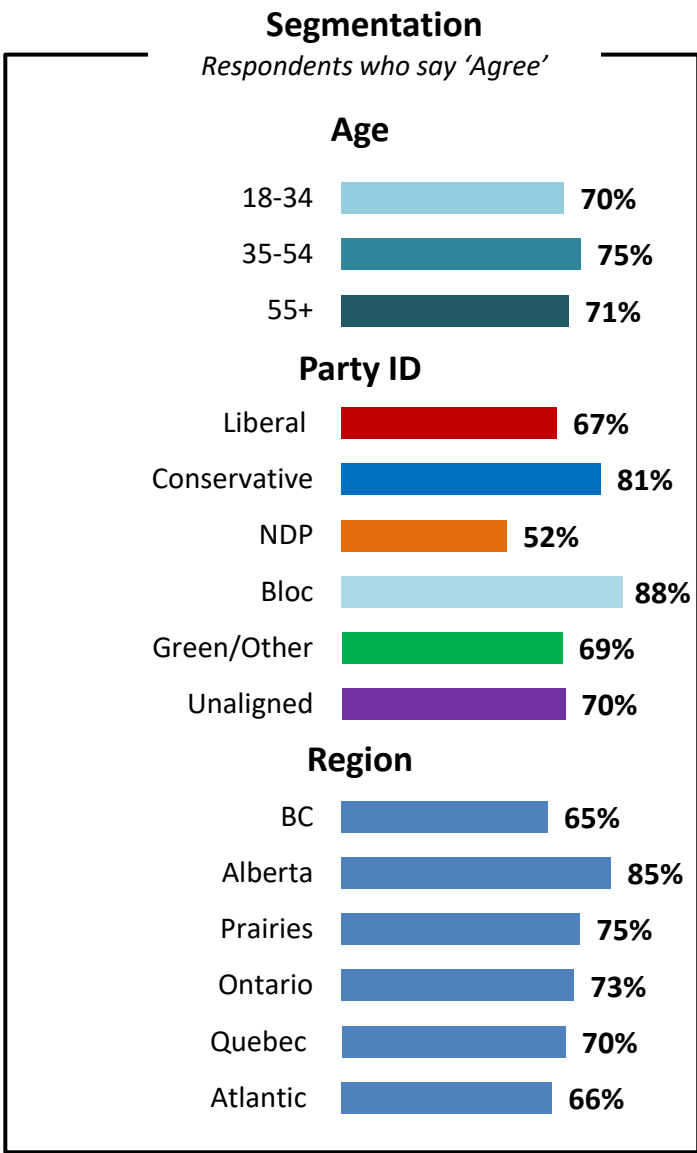
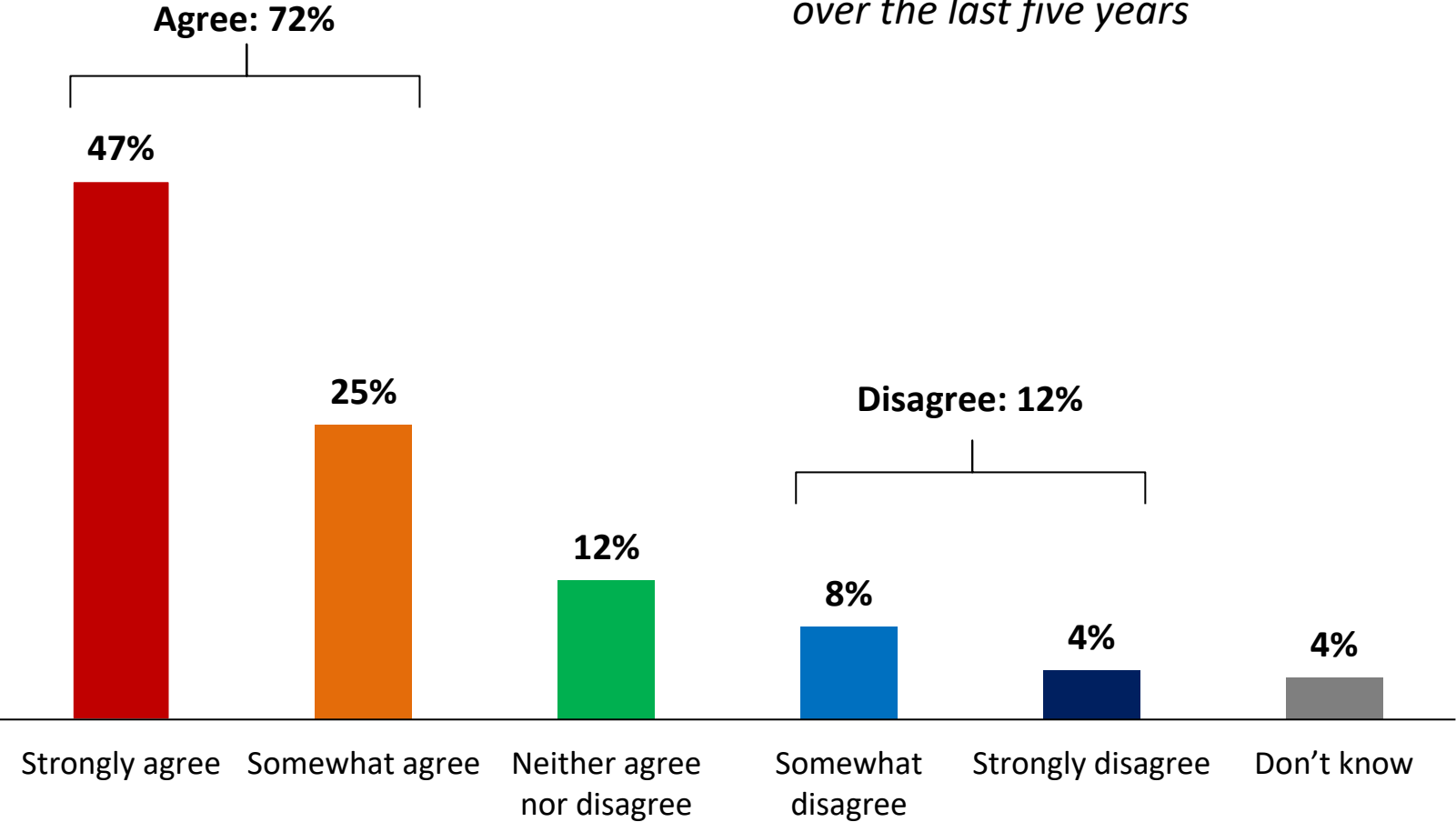
*The **Federal government** has failed to manage the Canadian immigration system successfully*



Immigration Numbers: Those who self-identify as Bloc and Conser's are most likely to agree that Canada has admitted too many immigrants

Q Please indicate whether you agree or disagree with the following statements
[asked of all respondents, n=1,000]

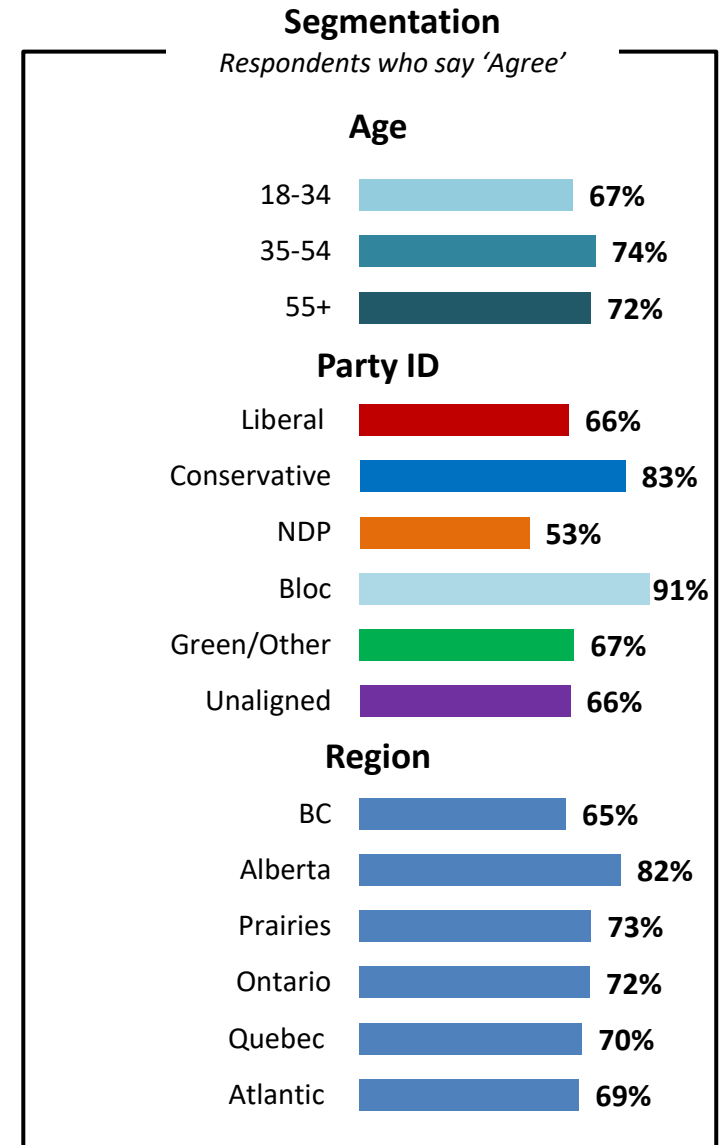
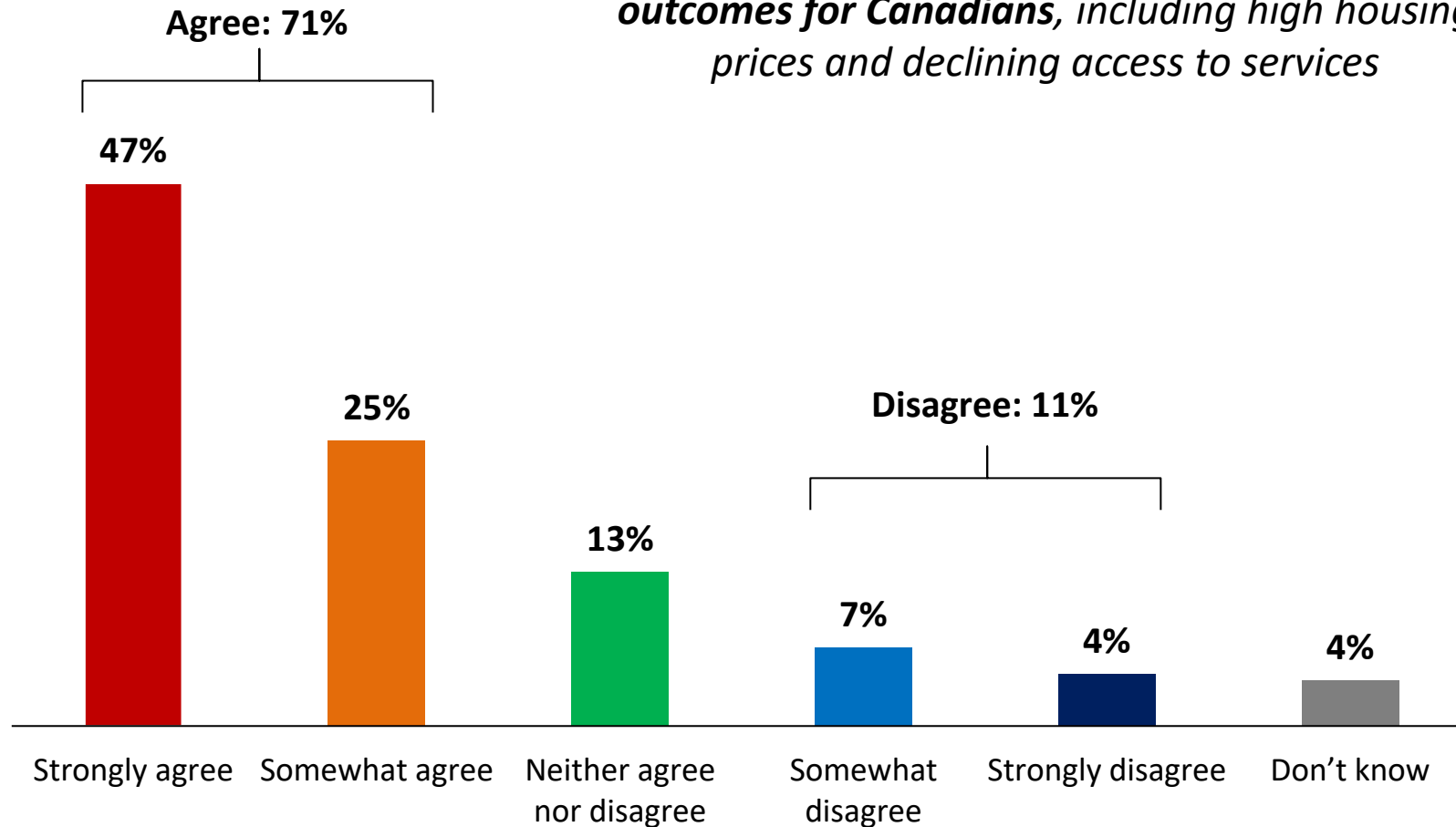
Canada has **admitted too many new immigrants**
over the last five years



Negative Outcomes of Immigration: Con's and Bloc identifiers are most likely to place blame for high housing prices on excessive immigration

Q Please indicate whether you agree or disagree with the following statements
[asked of all respondents, n=1,000]

*Excessive immigration numbers have driven **negative outcomes for Canadians**, including high housing prices and declining access to services*



Immigration Outcomes BY Vote: Those who self-report voting for Conservatives are most likely to feel strongly about negative outcomes



Please indicate whether you agree or disagree with the following statements: “Excessive immigration numbers have driven negative outcomes for Canadians, including high housing prices and declining access to services”

[asked of all respondents, n=1,000]

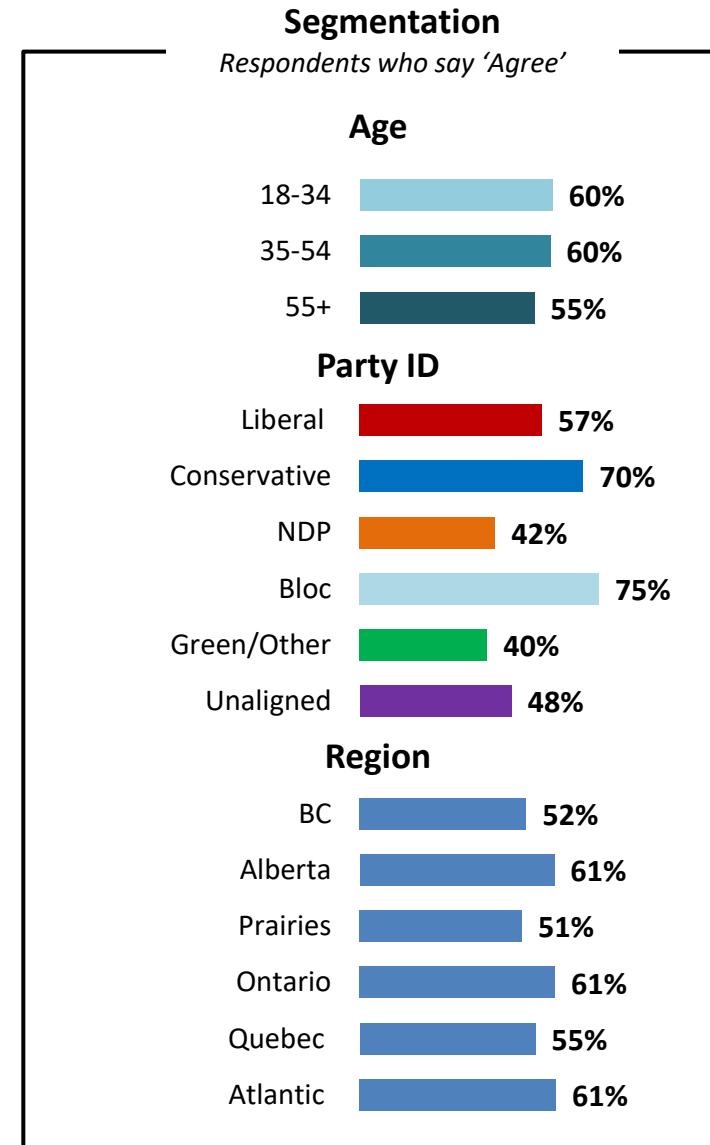
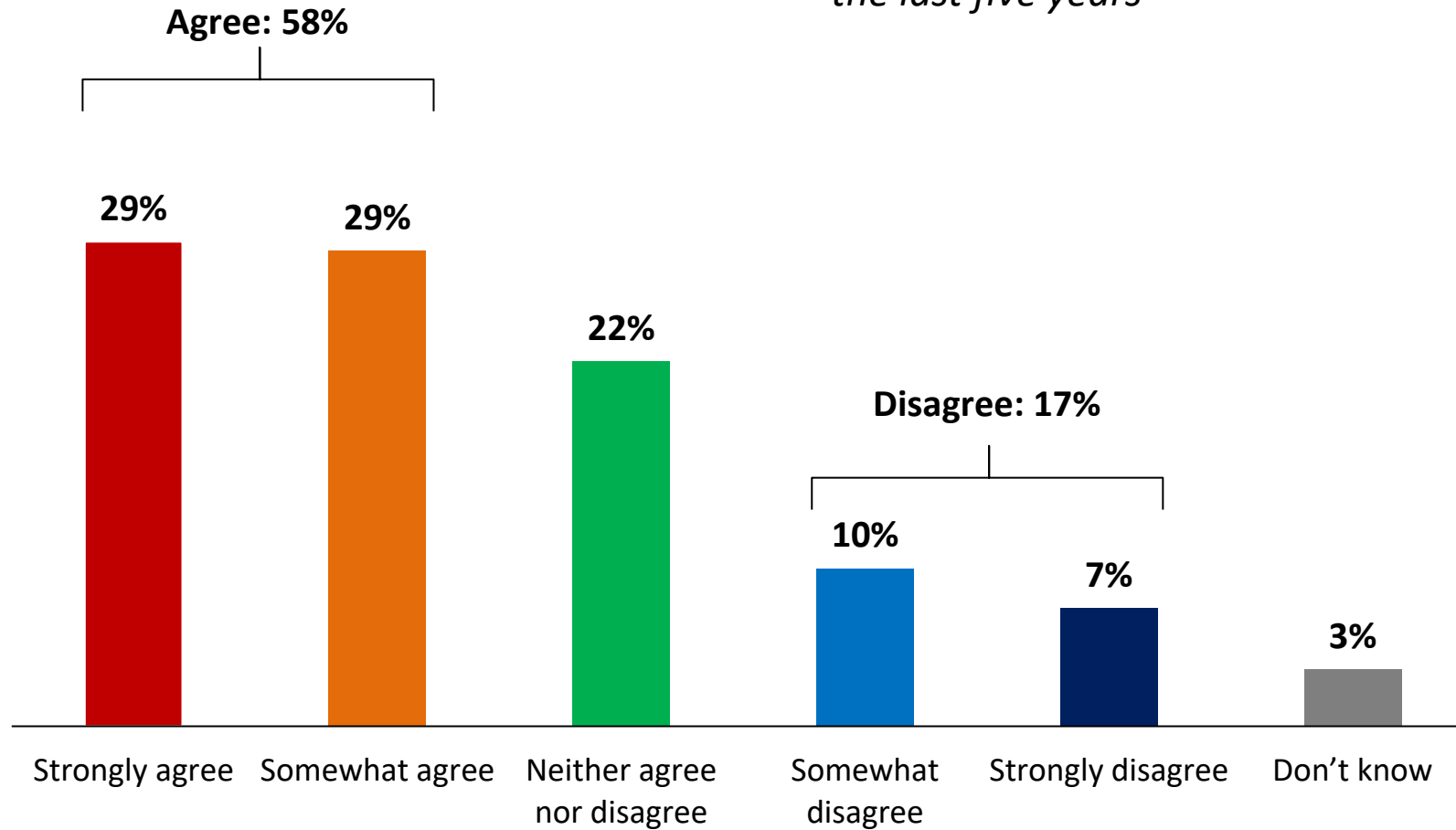
Negative Outcomes of
Immigration

Combined Federal Vote						
	Conservative (n=325)	Liberal (n=346)	NDP (n=83)	Bloc (n=65)	Green/Other (n=49)	Unaligned (n=132)
Strongly agree	65%	34%	33%	54%	42%	43%
Somewhat agree	19%	30%	25%	30%	21%	24%
Ambivalent (Neither/DK)	13%	19%	13%	11%	22%	28%
Disagree	4%	17%	28%	5%	14%	5%

Shift in Perception: Those who self-identify as Bloc and Conservatives are most likely to report a change in views on immigration

Q Please indicate whether you agree or disagree with the following statements
[asked of all respondents, n=1,000]

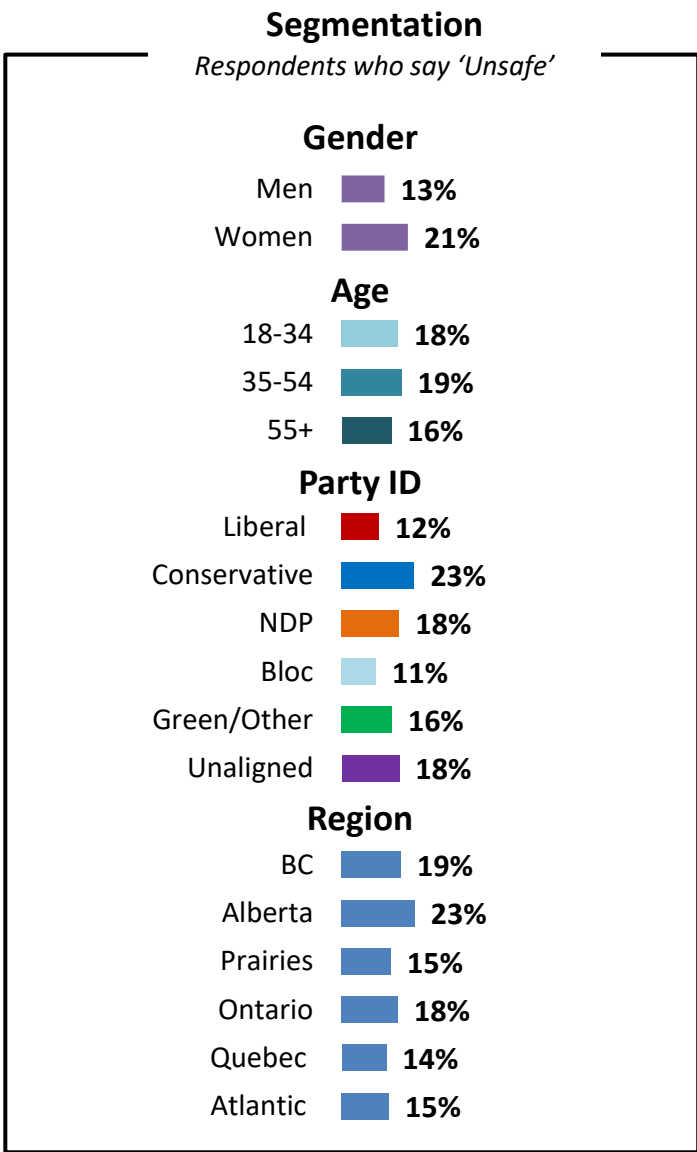
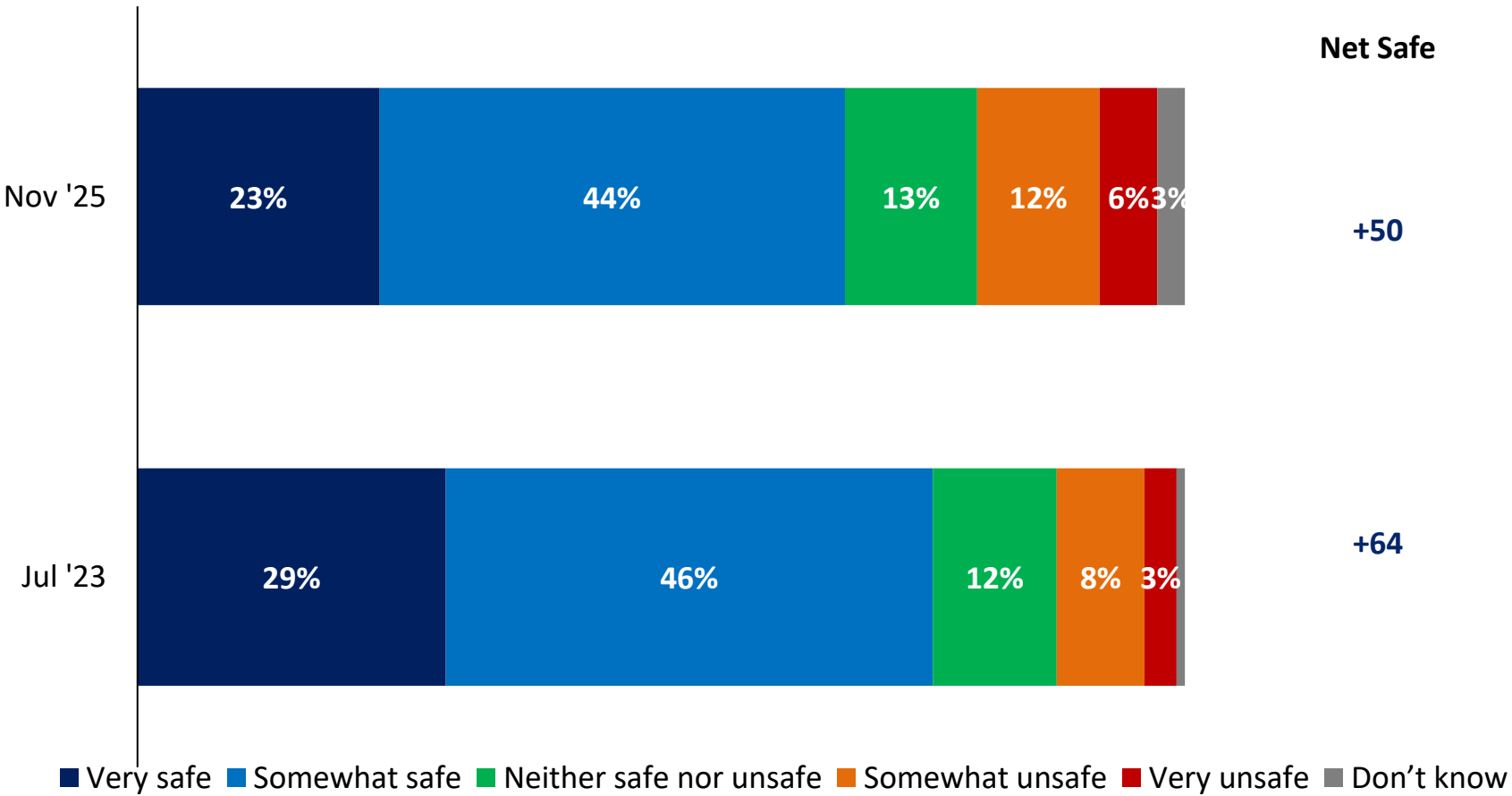
My views on immigration have changed over the last five years



Crime

Community Safety: 17% of Can's feel unsafe in their communities, Con's and women more so; Net safe score has dropped 14 points since '23

 Generally speaking, how safe do you feel in your community?
[asked of all respondents, n=1,000]

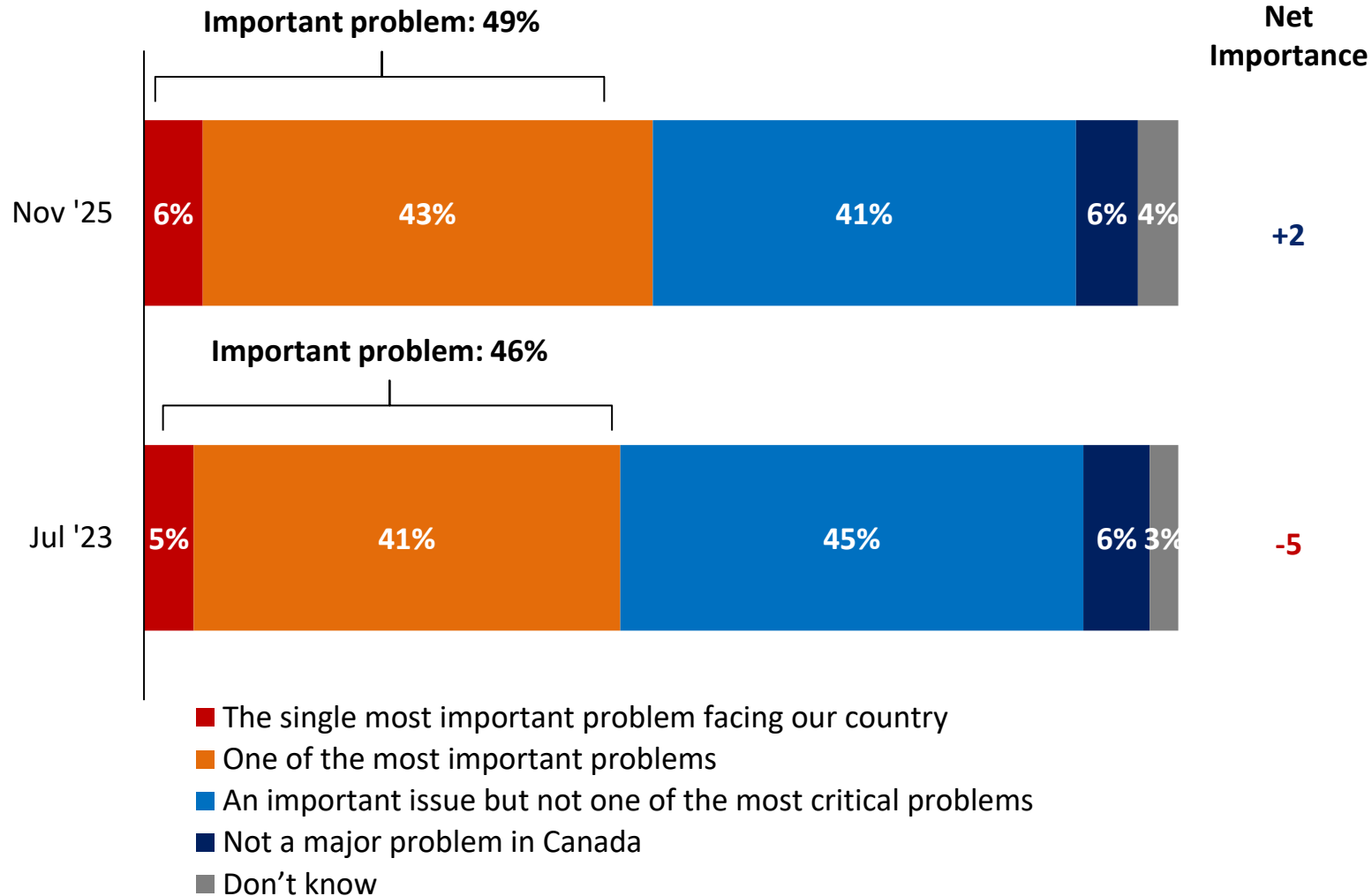


Importance of Crime: 49% say that crime is an important problem, but with low intensity; Conservatives are more likely to think so



There has been a lot of talk in the media about the issue of crime. How big an issue is crime in Canada?

[asked of all respondents, n=1,000]



Segmentation

Respondents who say 'Important problem'

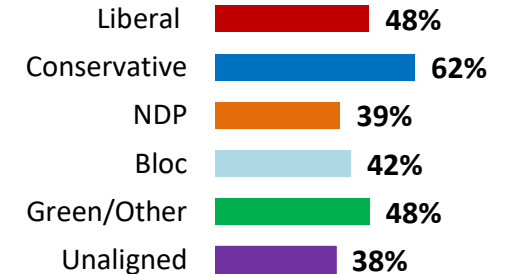
Gender



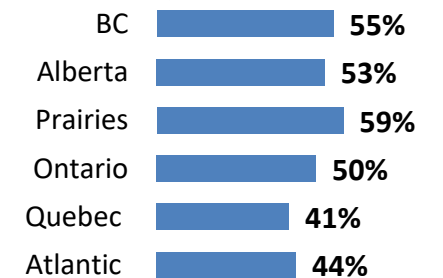
Age



Party ID



Region



Importance of Crime BY Vote: 64% of those that self-report voting Con's²¹ see crime as important problem vs. around 40% for Lib's, NDP and Bloc



There has been a lot of talk in the media about the issue of crime. How big an issue is crime in Canada?

[asked of all respondents, n=1,000]

Importance of Crime

Combined Federal Vote						
	Conservative (n=325)	Liberal (n=346)	NDP (n=83)	Bloc (n=65)	Green/Other (n=49)	Unaligned (n=132)
Important problem	64%	42%	41%	40%	52%	41%
Not that important/DK	36%	58%	59%	60%	48%	59%

Importance of Crime BY Perception of Safety: Those who feel unsafe are most likely to say crime is one of the most important issues (63%)



Importance of Crime BY Perception of Safety
[asked of all respondents, n=1,000]

Importance of Crime

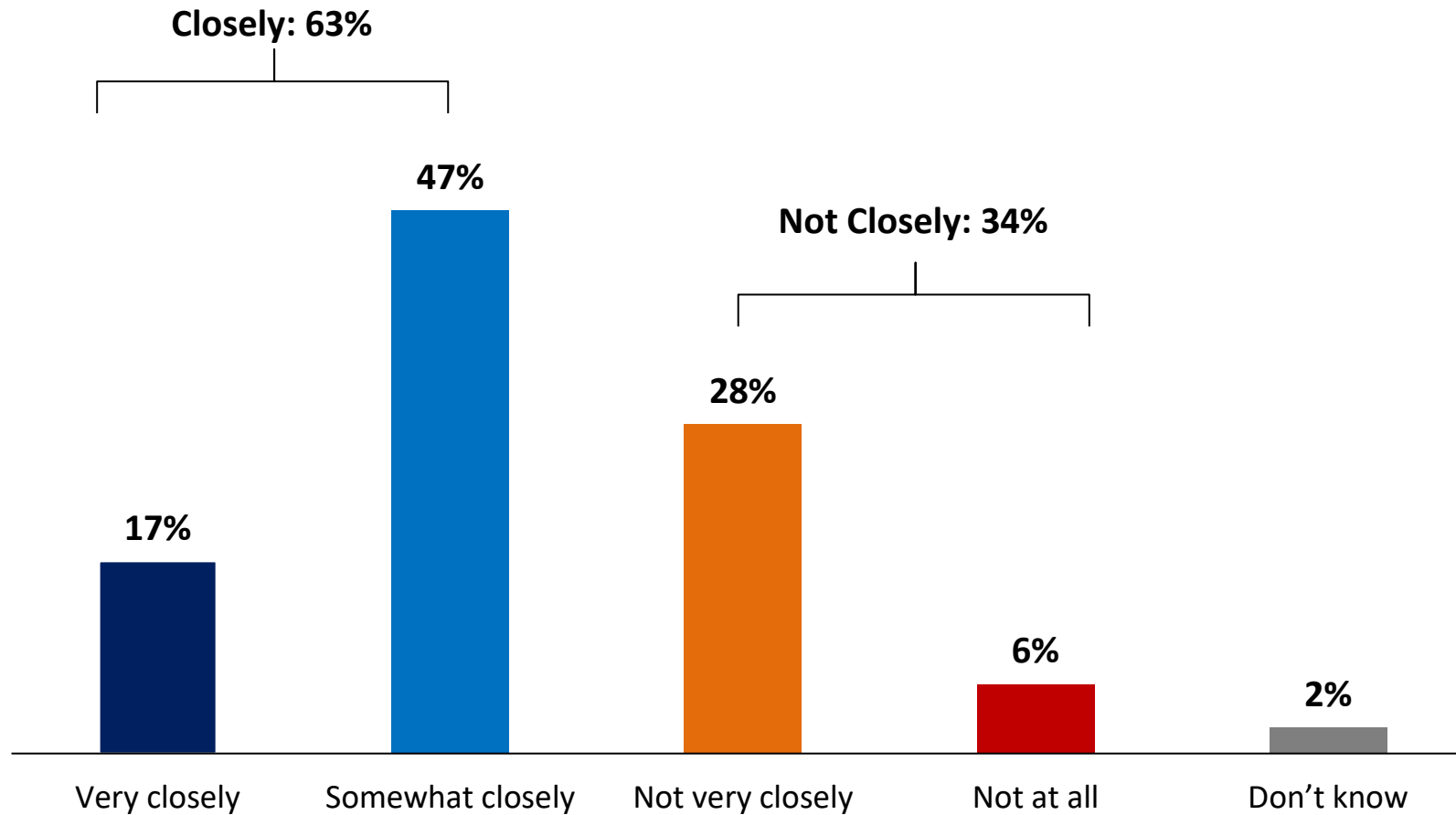
Perception of Safety			
	Safe (n=675)	Unsafe (n=172)	Neither/nor OR DK (n=153)
The single most important problem facing our country	5%	11%	3%
One of the most important problems	37%	63%	50%
An important issue but not one of the most critical problems	48%	23%	31%
Not a major problem in Canada	8%	1%	3%
Don't know	2%	2%	14%

Attention to Crime News: Canadians are tuned in, 63% follow news about crime; most attention among Conservatives and Liberals



How closely do you follow news about crime?

[asked of all respondents, n=1,000]



Segmentation

Respondents who say 'Closely'

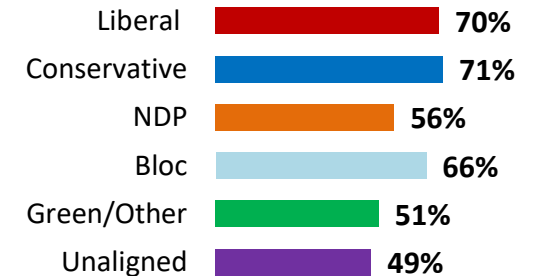
Gender



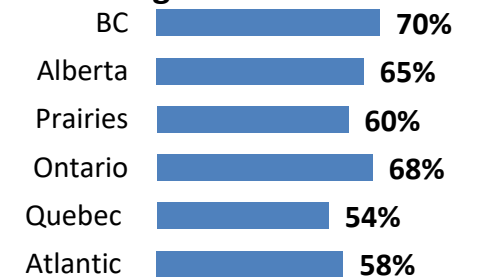
Age



Party ID



Region

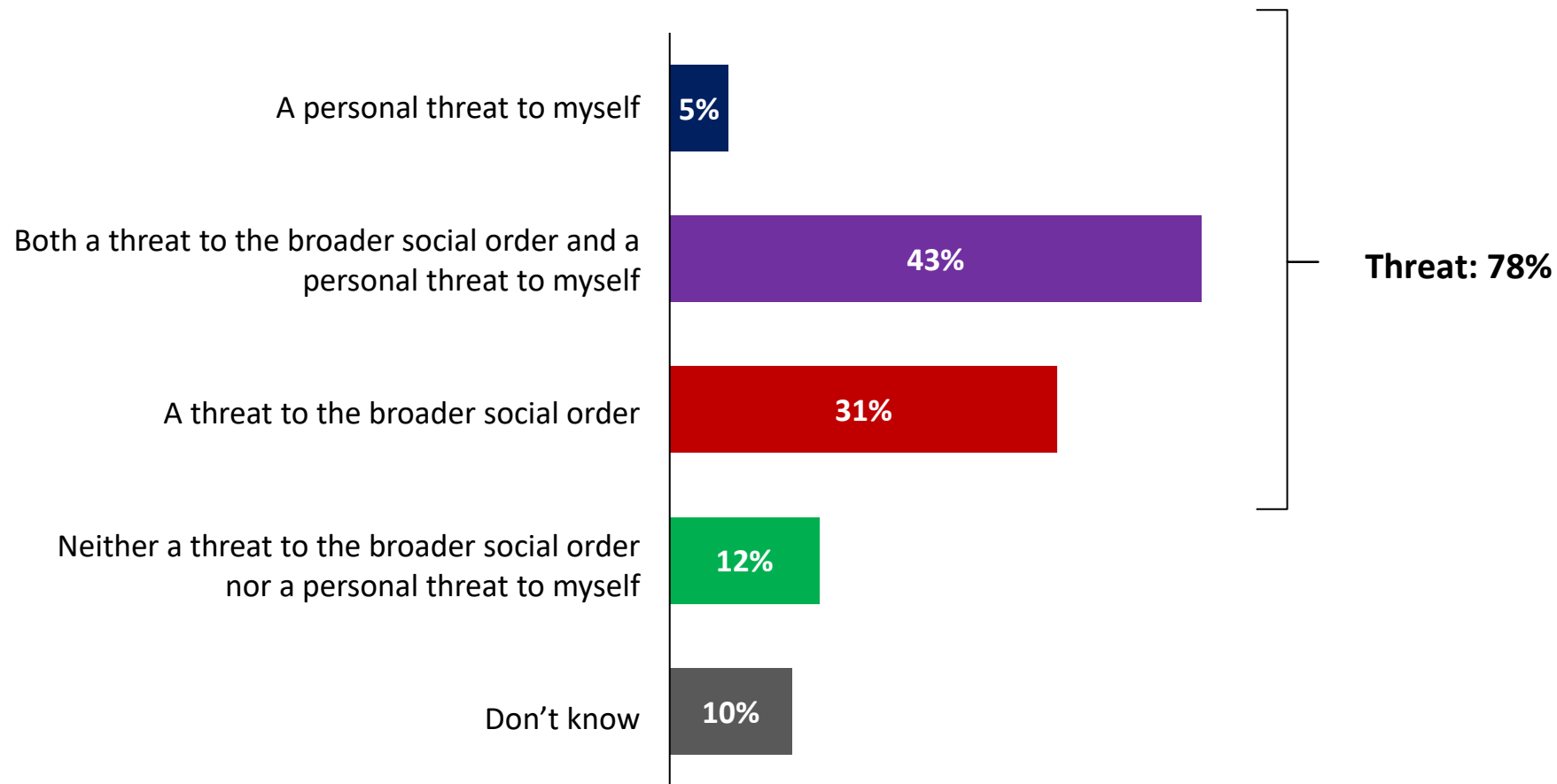


Personal vs Societal Threat: 43% consider crime to be a personal and a threat to social order, while 31% consider it only a threat to social order



Do you consider crime to be a threat to the broader social order, a personal threat to yourself, or both?

[asked of all respondents, n=1,000]



Segmentation

Respondents who say 'Threat'

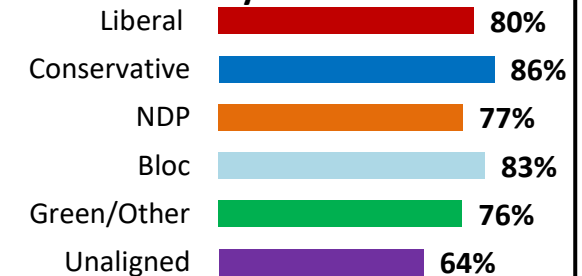
Gender



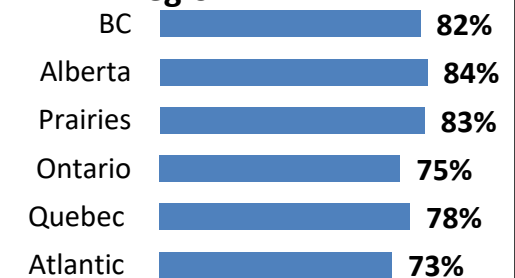
Age



Party ID



Region



Personal vs Societal Threat BY Perception of Safety: Those who feel unsafe are most likely to say crime is both a societal and personal threat



Importance of Crime BY Perception of Safety
[asked of all respondents, n=1,000]

Perception of Safety

		Safe (n=675)	Unsafe (n=172)	Neither/nor OR DK (n=153)
Personal vs Societal Threat	A personal threat to myself	4%	6%	8%
	Both a threat to the broader social order and a personal threat to myself	34%	64%	54%
	A threat to the broader social order	38%	17%	17%
	Neither a threat to the broader social order nor a personal threat to myself	16%	5%	3%
	Don't know	8%	8%	18%

Methodology

Survey Methodology – November 20 to 26, 2025



These are the results of an online survey conducted between November 20, 2025 to November 26, 2025.

Method: This online survey was conducted using INNOVATIVE's Canada 20/20 national research panel with additional respondents from Lucid, a leading provider of online samples. Each survey is administered to a series of randomly selected samples from the panel and weighted to ensure that the overall sample's composition reflects that of the actual Canadian population according to Census data to provide results that are intended to approximate a probability sample.

Sample Size: n=1,424 Canadian citizens, 18 years or older. The results are nationally weighted to n=1,000 based on Census data from Statistics Canada.

Field Dates: November 20, 2025 to November 26, 2025

Weighting: Results for Canada are weighted by age, gender, region, education, and self-reported federal past vote to ensure that the overall sample's composition reflects that of the actual population according to Census data, in order to provide results that are intended to approximate a probability sample. Weighted and unweighted frequencies are reported in the table.

Margin of Error: This is a representative sample. However, since the online survey was not a random probability-based sample, a margin of error cannot be calculated. Statements about margins of sampling error or population estimates do not apply to most online panels.

Note: Graphs may not always total 100% due to rounding values rather than any error in data. Sums are added before rounding numbers.

	Unweighted (n)	Unweighted (%)	Weighted (n)	Weighted (%)
Men 18-34	146	130	10.3%	13.1%
Men 35-54	210	163	14.8%	16.3%
Men 55+	329	191	23.1%	19.1%
Women 18-34	144	130	10.1%	13.0%
Women 35-54	251	168	17.6%	16.8%
Women 55+	343	216	24.1%	21.7%
British Columbia	211	139	14.8%	13.9%
Alberta	165	114	11.6%	11.4%
Prairies	98	64	6.9%	6.4%
Ontario	573	386	40.2%	38.6%
Québec	275	230	19.3%	23.0%
Atlantic	102	67	7.2%	6.7%



For more information, please contact:

Greg Lyle

President

(416) 642-6429

glyle@innovativeresearch.ca

Report Contributors:

Pallavi Sodhi, Consultant

Marina Mandic, Manager, Omnibus Research Services

Building Understanding.

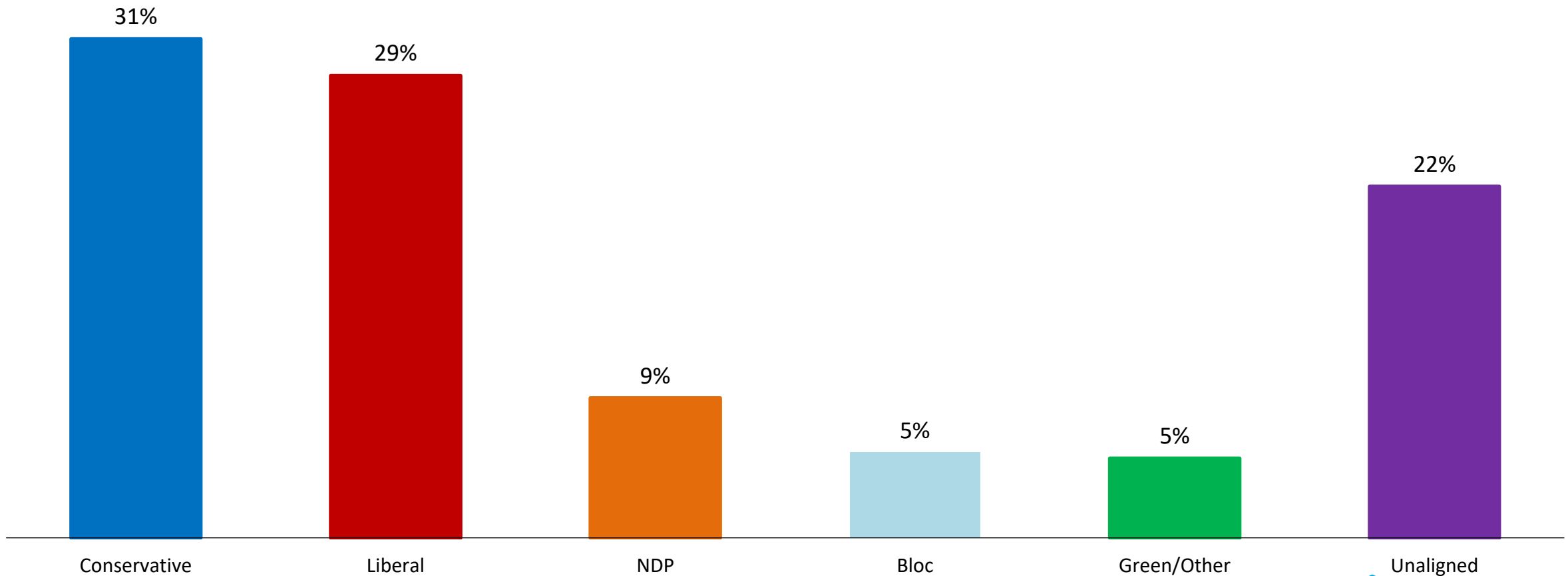


Appendix

Segmentation – Party ID

Federal Party ID: Most Canadians identify as conservatives (31%) or liberals (29%)

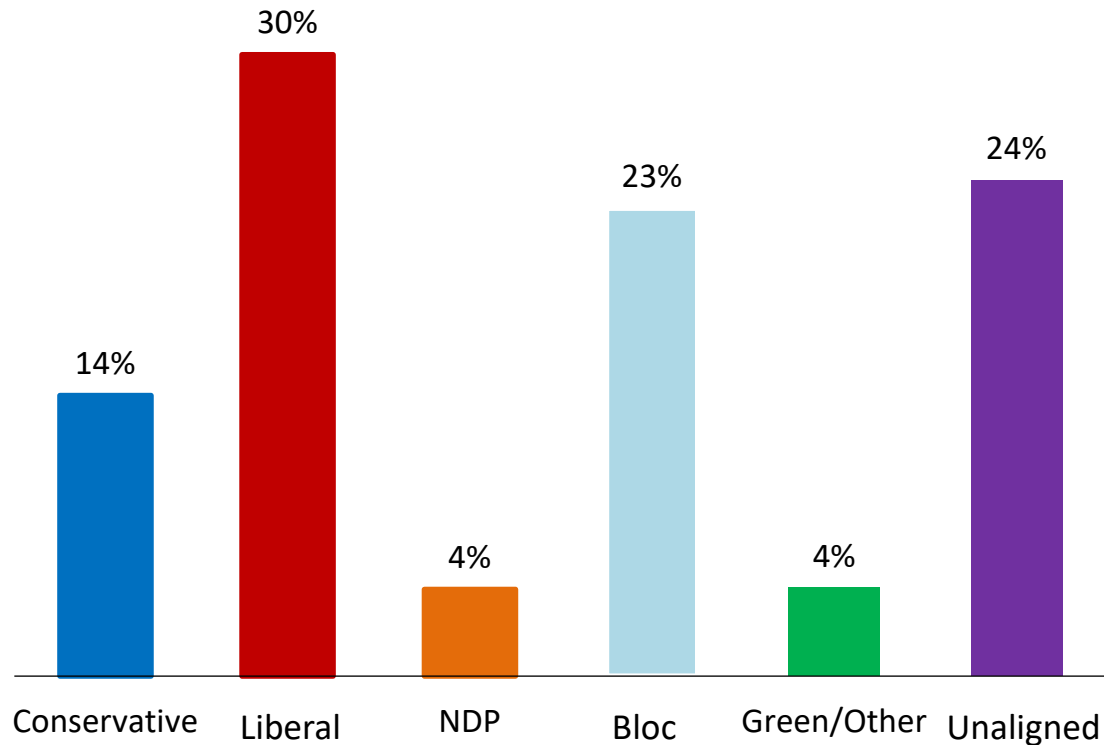
Q Thinking about politics in Canada, generally speaking, do you usually think of yourself as a...
[asked of all respondents; n=1000]



Federal Party ID (Quebec vs. ROC): In QC more identify as liberals than Bloc (7-point lead); in ROC more identify as conservatives than liberals

Party ID: Quebec

[Respondents in Quebec; n=230]



Party ID: Rest of Canada

[Respondents in the rest of Canada; n=770]

