# Canada This Month

# Leadership and Civility

INNOVATIVE
RESEARCH GROUP

Public Opinion Research
Release Date: Mar 02, 2026
Field Dates: Jan 16 to Feb 2, 2026

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# Study Overview

Building on findings from previous waves, this report tracks January data on leadership style preferences.

# Key Findings

**1**

**Carney maintains a clear favourability advantage.** Carney has 50% favourable vs. 32% unfavourable (Net +18). Poilievre is at 35% favourable vs. 43% unfavourable (Net -8). Tracking shows 4-point improvement for Carney vs 3-point for Poilievre, but Carney's net gap remains substantially higher.

**2**

**Canadians prefer stability.** The majority of Canadians (55%) think that it is more important to provide stability in a chaotic world vs 37% who think that it is more important to disrupt the status quo to provide change for the better, with Net stability of +18 Stability. 44% associate Carney's leadership style with stability net stability +15 (vs Poilievre's Net Stability -8).

**3**

**Carney's leadership style is associated more with stability, but a sizable number see him as disruptor.** Even thought plurality (44%) see Carney as focused on stability, almost 1-in-3 (29%) see him as focused on disrupt the status quo with net stability +15.

**4**

**Poilievre's picture is fuzzy in the opposite direction.** Plurality see him as focused on disrupting the status quo (35%), a portion of Canadians do also see him as stability-focused (27%). Large share of Canadians (38%) remains genuinely uncertain about his leadership style.
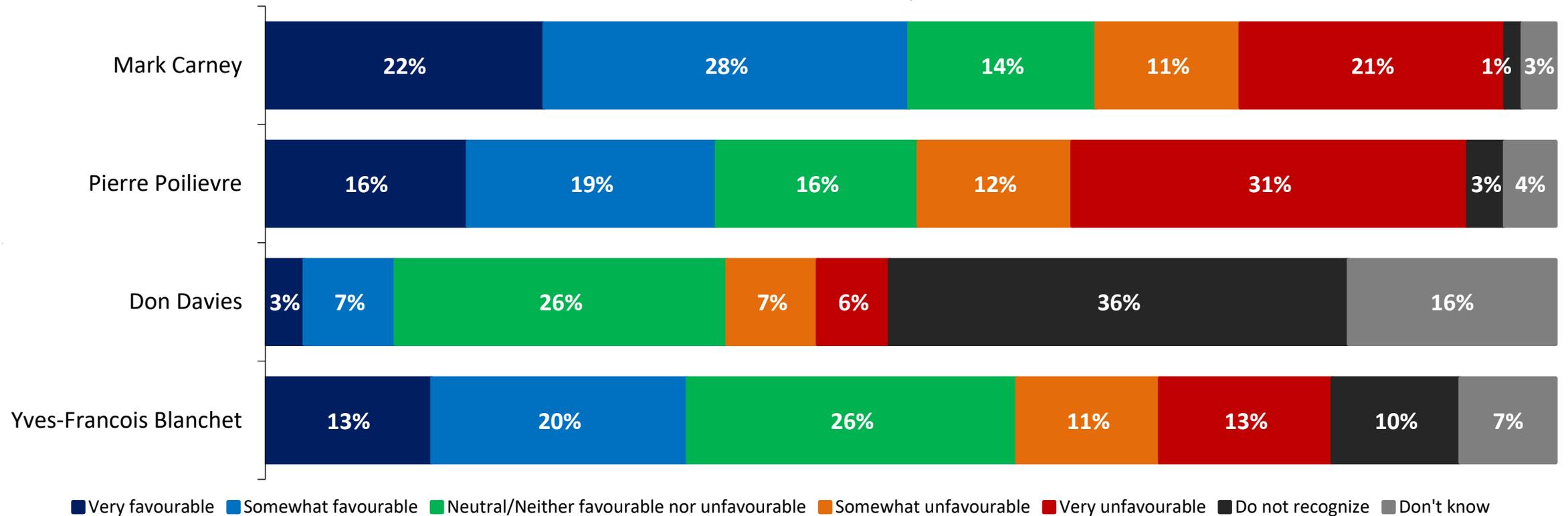
# Leadership

# Leader Favourables: Half of Canadians have a favourable view of Carney[6] vs 32% unfavourable; over 2-in-5 view Poilievre unfavourably (43%)

**Q** Now we are going to provide you with several names of public figures. Please indicate whether you have heard of that person and, if so, whether you have a favourable or unfavourable impression of that person. If you do not recognize the name, just indicate that.
[asked of all respondents; n=1,500]

| | Very favourable | Somewhat favourable | Neutral/Neither favourable nor unfavourable | Somewhat unfavourable | Very unfavourable | Do not recognize | Don't know |
|---|---|---|---|---|---|---|---|
| Mark Carney | 22% | 28% | 14% | 11% | 21% | 1% | 3% |
| Pierre Poilievre | 16% | 19% | 16% | 12% | 31% | 3% | 4% |
| Don Davies | 3% | 7% | 26% | 7% | 6% | 36% | 16% |
| Yves-Francois Blanchet | 13% | 20% | 26% | 11% | 13% | 10% | 7% |

■ Very favourable  ■ Somewhat favourable  ■ Neutral/Neither favourable nor unfavourable  ■ Somewhat unfavourable  ■ Very unfavourable  ■ Do not recognize  ■ Don't know

For Yves Blanchet only QC data n=345
Current data: January 2026

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# Party Leader NET Favourables Tracking: Both Carney's and Poilievre's favourable impressions are up (+4 and +3 points) compared to Jan W1-2

**Q** Now we are going to provide you with several names of public figures. Please indicate whether you have heard of that person and, if so, whether you have a favourable or unfavourable impression of that person. If you do not recognize the name, just indicate that.
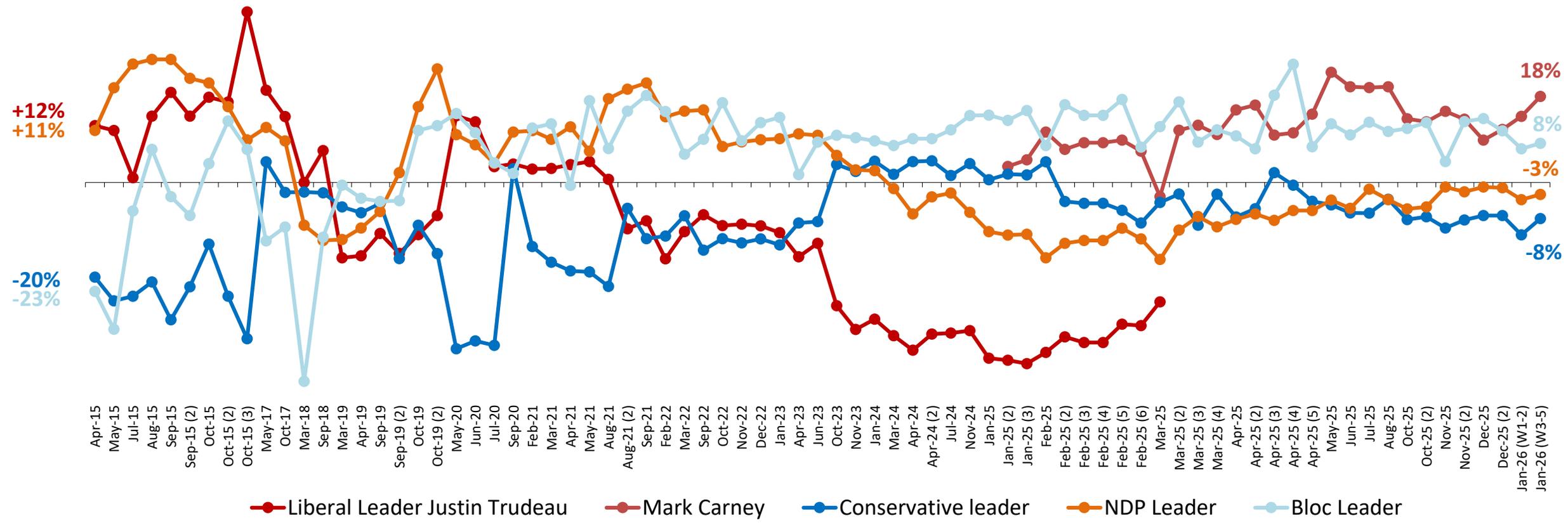[asked of all respondents; n=1,500]



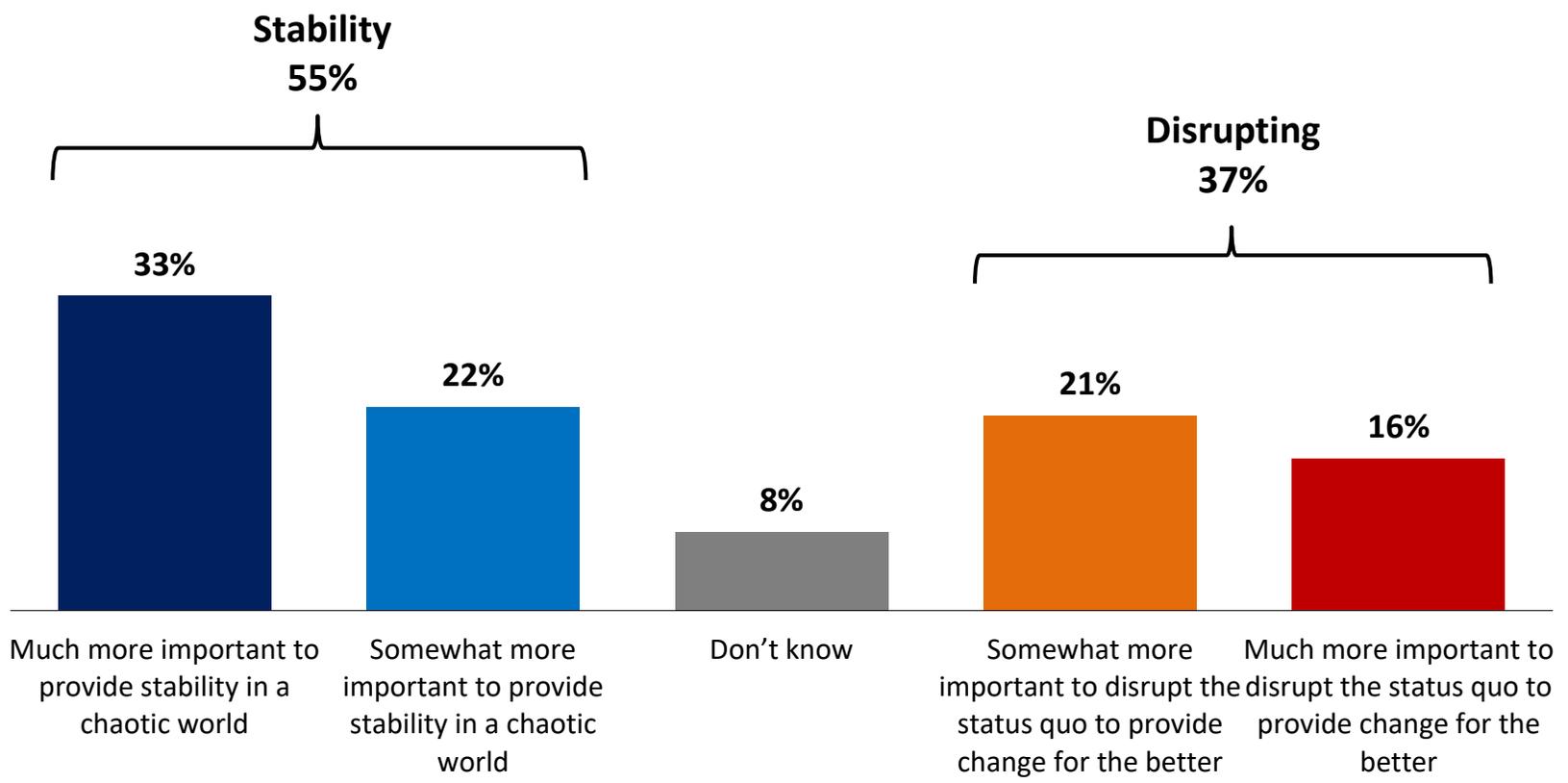For Bloc Leader only QC data n=345
Current data: January 2026

# Leadership Style - Stability vs Disrupting

# Leadership Style - Stability vs. Disrupting: Canadians favour stability (55%) over disruption (37%) when thinking about leadership style

**Q** Given the circumstances in Canada today, what do you want most from a leader?
[asked of all respondents; n=1,500]

NET Stability
+18

**Stability**
**55%**

**Disrupting**
**37%**

| | | | | |
|---|---|---|---|---|
| **33%** | **22%** | **8%** | **21%** | **16%** |
| Much more important to provide stability in a chaotic world | Somewhat more important to provide stability in a chaotic world | Don't know | Somewhat more important to disrupt the status quo to provide change for the better | Much more important to disrupt the status quo to provide change for the better |

**Segmentation**
*Respondents who say "Stability" is more important than "Disrupting"*

**Gender**
Men          55%
Women        55%

**Age**
18-34        58%
35-54        50%
55+          56%

**Region**
BC           56%
Alberta      55%
Prairies     62%
Ontario      56%
Quebec       49%
Atlantic     61%

**Party ID**
Liberal         60%
Conservative    58%
NDP             52%
Bloc            49%
Green/Other     43%
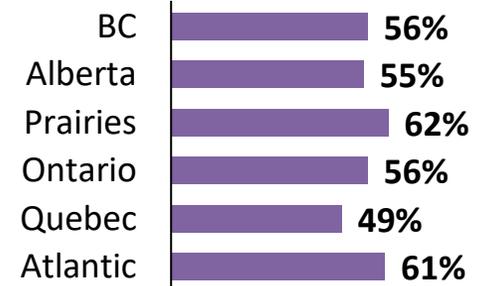Unaligned       50%
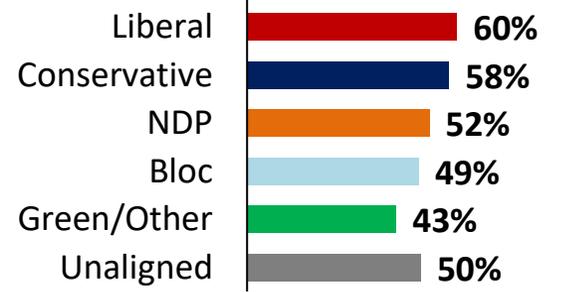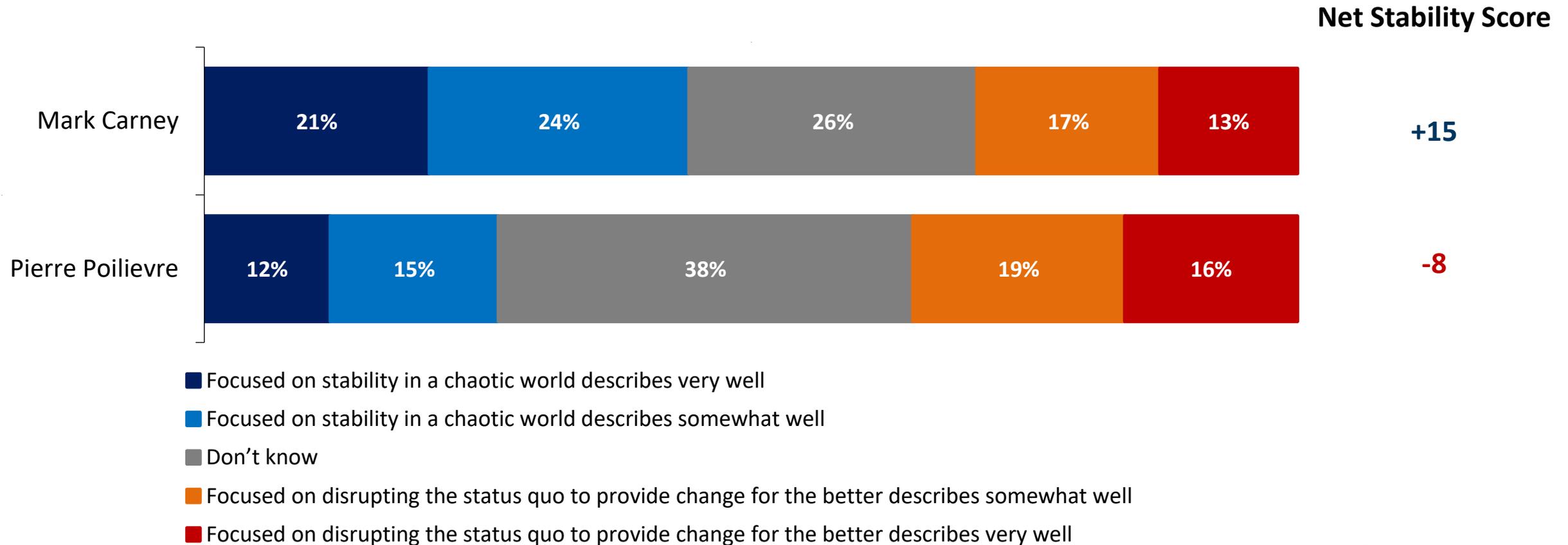
# Leadership Style – By Leader: Carney is more associated with stability (+15), Poilievre with disruption (-8), while most (38%) don't know

**Q** Thinking about the following political leaders, which approach do you think best describes that leader?
[asked of all respondents; n=1,500]

**Net Stability Score**

| Leader | Stability very well | Stability somewhat well | Don't know | Disrupting somewhat well | Disrupting very well | Net Stability Score |
|---|---|---|---|---|---|---|
| Mark Carney | 21% | 24% | 26% | 17% | 13% | +15 |
| Pierre Poilievre | 12% | 15% | 38% | 19% | 16% | -8 |

- ■ Focused on stability in a chaotic world describes very well
- ■ Focused on stability in a chaotic world describes somewhat well
- ■ Don't know
- ■ Focused on disrupting the status quo to provide change for the better describes somewhat well
- ■ Focused on disrupting the status quo to provide change for the better describes very well

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# Leadership Style – Mark Carney: Among those who identify as Liberals or NDP, a majority see Carney as focused on stability
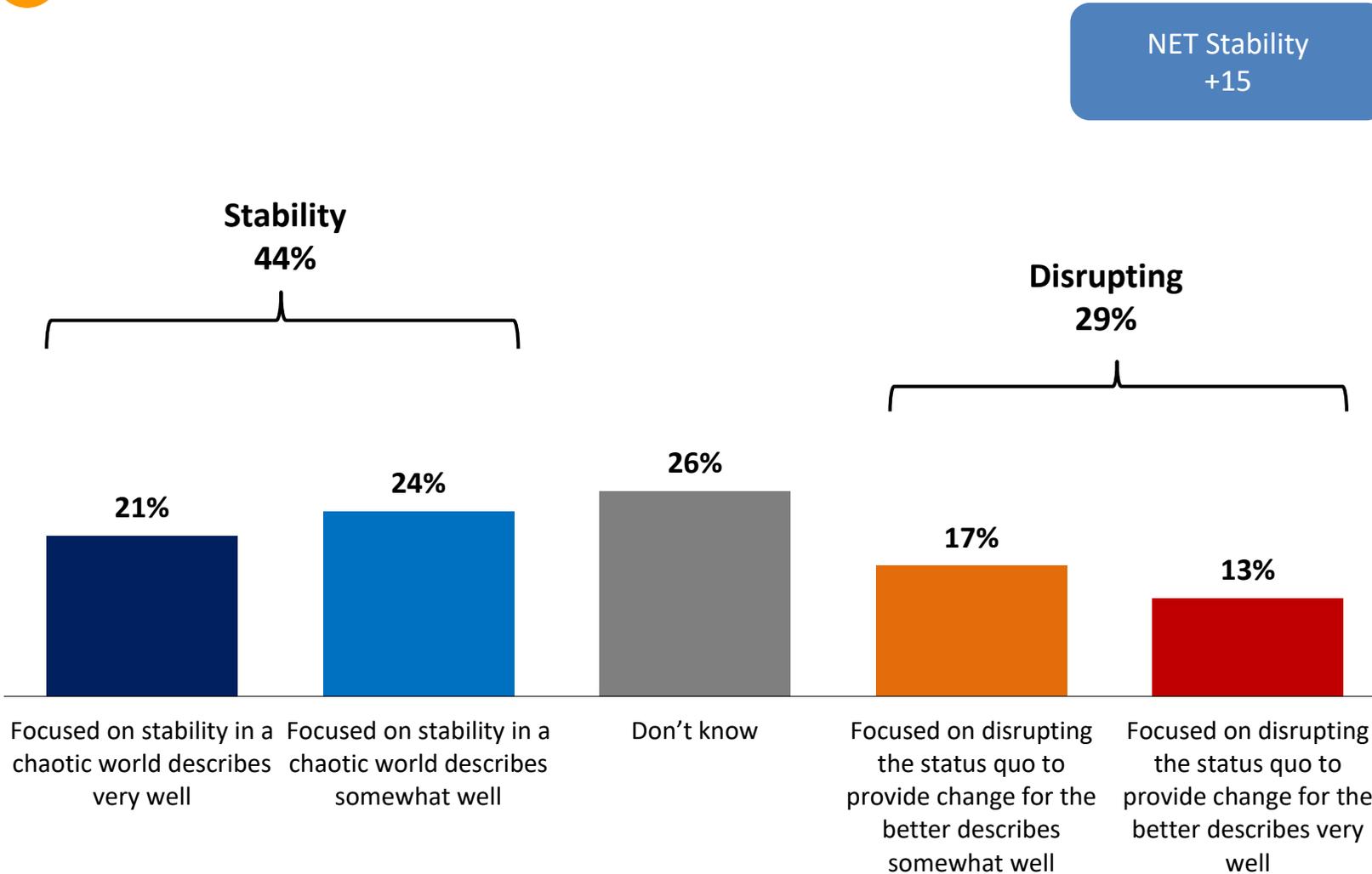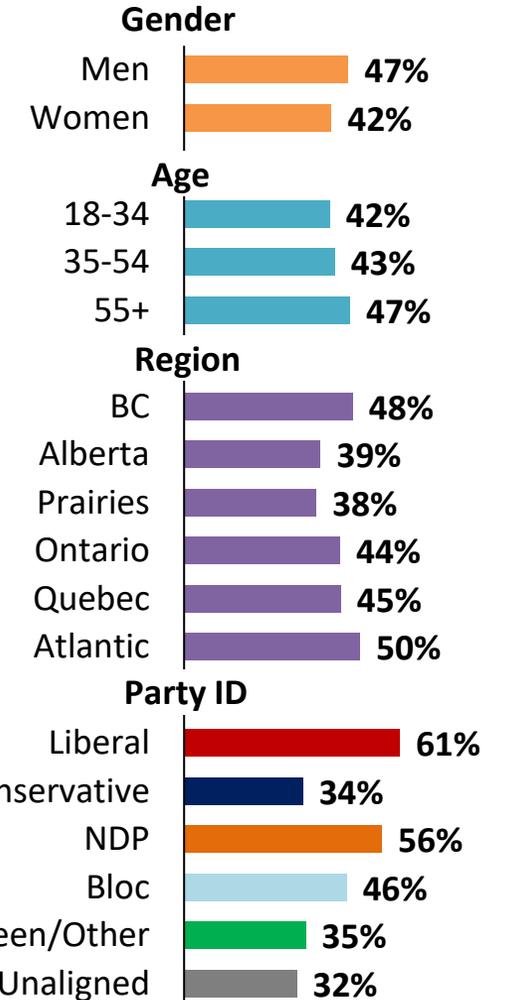
**Q** Thinking about the following political leaders, which approach do you think best describes that leader?
[asked of all respondents; n=1,500]

NET Stability
+15

**Stability**
**44%**

**Disrupting**
**29%**



| | | |
|---|---|---|
| **21%** | **24%** | **26%** |
| Focused on stability in a chaotic world describes very well | Focused on stability in a chaotic world describes somewhat well | Don't know |

| | |
|---|---|
| **17%** | **13%** |
| Focused on disrupting the status quo to provide change for the better describes somewhat well | Focused on disrupting the status quo to provide change for the better describes very well |

**Segmentation**
*Respondents who say "Focused on Stability"*

**Gender**
| Men | 47% |
| Women | 42% |

**Age**
| 18-34 | 42% |
| 35-54 | 43% |
| 55+ | 47% |

**Region**
| BC | 48% |
| Alberta | 39% |
| Prairies | 38% |
| Ontario | 44% |
| Quebec | 45% |
| Atlantic | 50% |

**Party ID**
| Liberal | 61% |
| Conservative | 34% |
| NDP | 56% |
| Bloc | 46% |
| Green/Other | 35% |
| Unaligned | 32% |

# Leadership Style – Pierre Poilievre: More associate Poilievre with disruption (38%) than with stability, while an equal share don't know

**Q** Thinking about the following political leaders, which approach do you think best describes that leader?
[asked of all respondents; n=1,500]

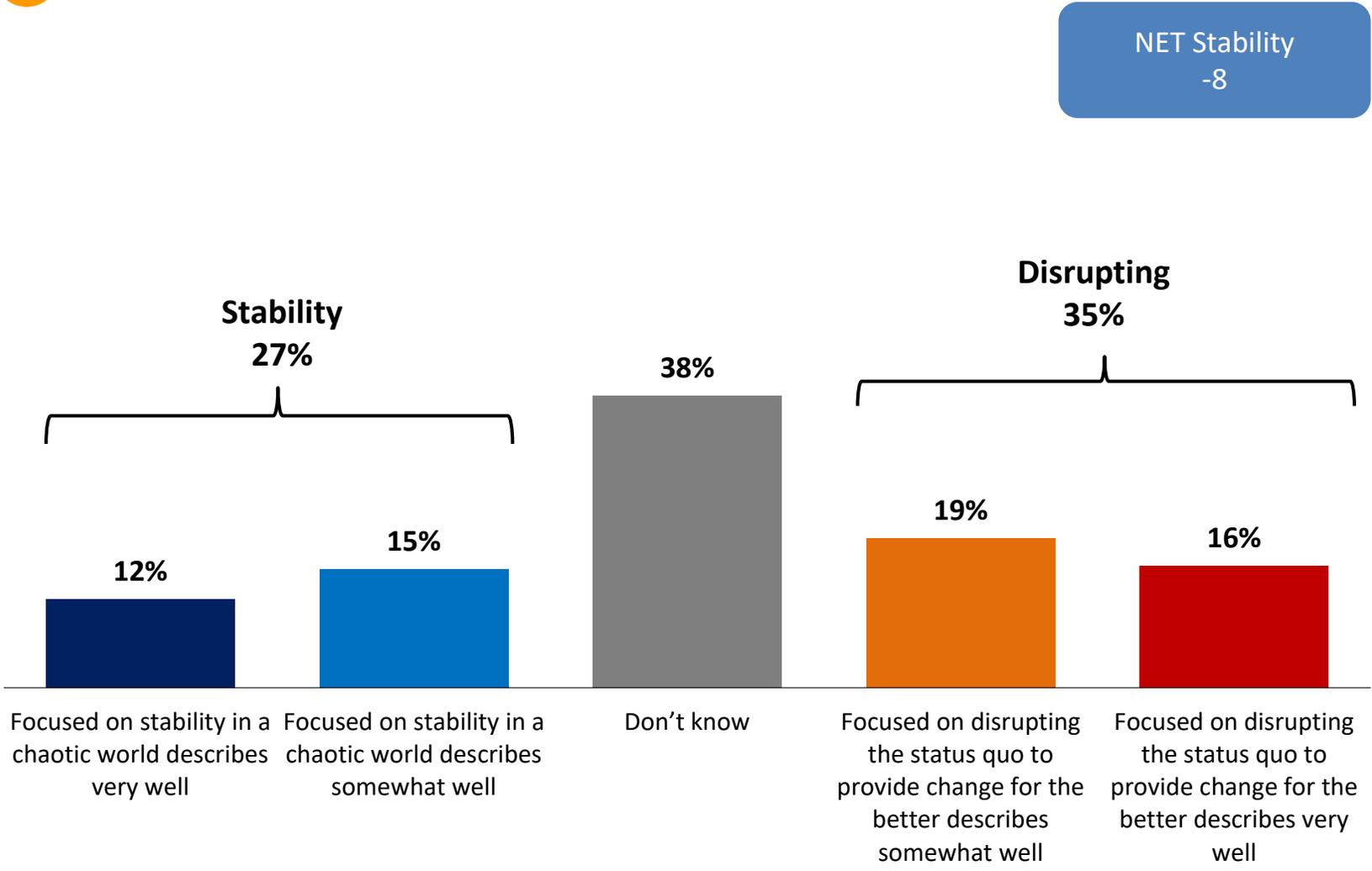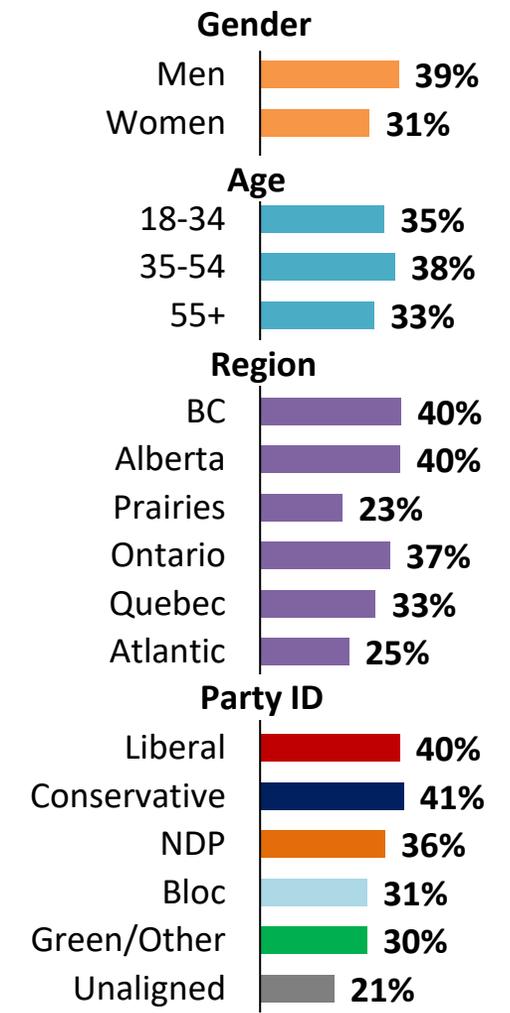NET Stability
-8

**Stability**
**27%**

**Disrupting**
**35%**

12%
Focused on stability in a chaotic world describes very well

15%
Focused on stability in a chaotic world describes somewhat well

38%
Don't know

19%
Focused on disrupting the status quo to provide change for the better describes somewhat well

16%
Focused on disrupting the status quo to provide change for the better describes very well

**Segmentation**
*Respondents who say "Focused on Disrupting"*

**Gender**
Men — 39%
Women — 31%

**Age**
18-34 — 35%
35-54 — 38%
55+ — 33%

**Region**
BC — 40%
Alberta — 40%
Prairies — 23%
Ontario — 37%
Quebec — 33%
Atlantic — 25%

**Party ID**
Liberal — 40%
Conservative — 41%
NDP — 36%
Bloc — 31%
Green/Other — 30%
Unaligned — 21%

# Methodology

# Survey Methodology – National

**These are the results of an online survey conducted between January 16, 2026, and February 02, 2026.**

**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= 2,527 Canadian citizens, 18 years or older. The results are nationally weighted to n=1,500 based on Census data from Statistics Canada.

**Field Dates:** January 16, 2026, to February 02, 2026

**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** | 265 | 10.5% | 203 | 13.6% |
| **Men 35-54** | 400 | 15.9% | 238 | 15.9% |
| **Men 55+** | 562 | 22.3% | 290 | 19.3% |
| **Women 18-34** | 293 | 11.6% | 199 | 13.3% |
| **Women 35-54** | 443 | 17.6% | 250 | 16.7% |
| **Women 55+** | 560 | 22.2% | 318 | 21.3% |
| | | | | |
| **British Columbia** | 346 | 13.7% | 210 | 14.0% |
| **Alberta** | 305 | 12.1% | 169 | 11.3% |
| **Prairies** | 151 | 6.0% | 96 | 6.4% |
| **Ontario** | 879 | 34.8% | 579 | 38.6% |
| **Québec** | 651 | 25.8% | 345 | 23.0% |
| **Atlantic** | 195 | 7.7% | 101 | 6.7% |

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Building Understanding.