



Canada This Month

British Columbia Politics

Public Opinion Research
Release Date: September 22, 2026
Field Dates: September 04 to September 18, 2026

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Study Overview



Building on previous waves of British Columbia tracking, this report provides a September 2026 snapshot of the provincial political environment. It examines:

- **Awareness of recent news involving Premier David Eby and its impact on government image**
- **Assessments of the BC government's response to issues arising from Donald Trump's presidency**
- **Favourability of BC's provincial party leaders**
- **Provincial vote intentions and underlying political trends**
- **Openness to vote for the "Third party"**

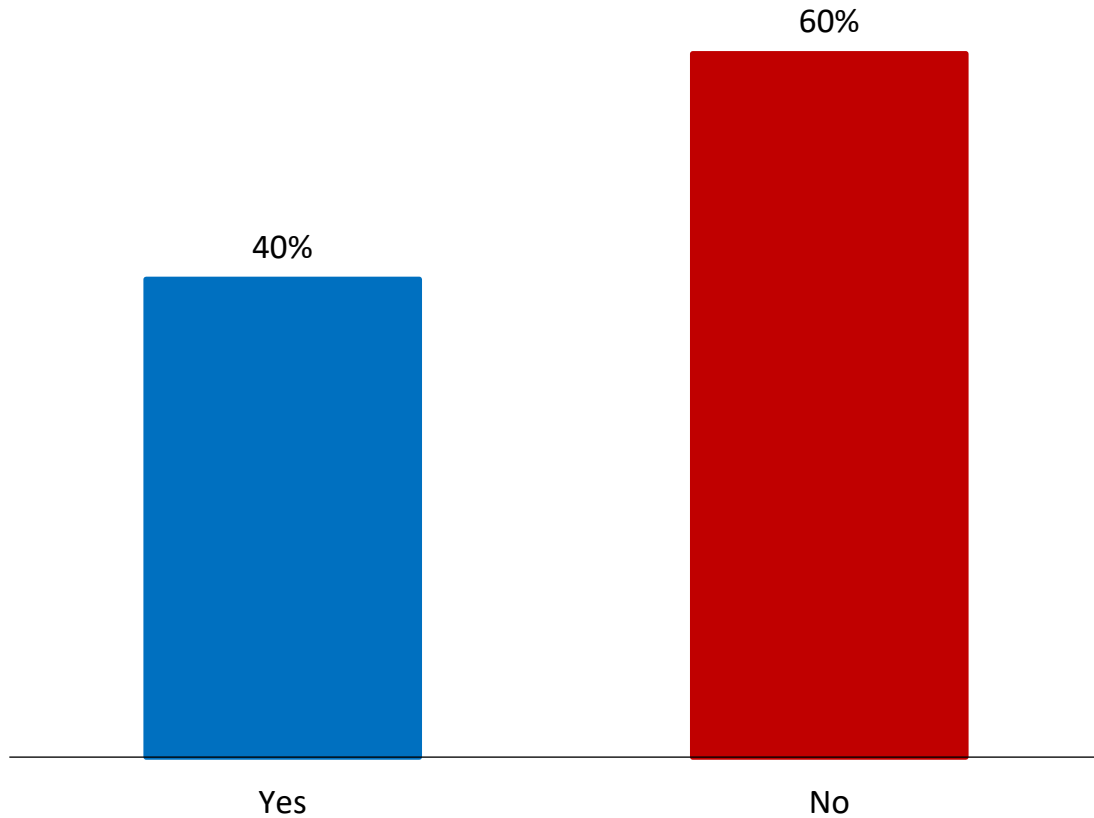
Key Findings

- 1** **Despite the dramatic fall of the former Conservative leader, the BC NDP only hold a narrow four-point advantage over the BC Conservatives, 43% to 39%.** Since August, NDP support has moved up marginally while Conservative support has fallen four points. Government satisfaction has improved since August, with British Columbians now evenly divided, 47% satisfied and 47% dissatisfied. Nevertheless, 57% agree it is time for a change.
- 2** **The NDP benefit from public focus shifting to Trump.** British Columbians have focused more and more on the provincial government's response to Trump, and they like what they see. Among those aware, favourable impact outweighs unfavourable impact by 40% to 19%, a remarkably positive result given most news tends to be bad news. Just over half (52%) approve of the government's response. As a result, overall government approval is up to 47% although Time for a Change is at 57% with intensity edging up.
- 3** **Eby has the strongest leader rating at 40% favourable and +6 net favourables.** While this is up from the summer, it remains significantly lower than when he first took office. Kerry Lynne Findlay declined almost 40 points in net favourables, ending up at -32. While far fewer have a view of Green leader Emily Lowan, those that do are a little more positive than negative (+3).
- 4** **There does not appear to be a big appetite for a centrist party.** Just thirty-one per cent reject both major parties. Only 17% say they are definitely or very likely to vote for a new, pragmatic centrist party. A new party is more likely to gain support from the BC Conservatives or third parties. It seems too late for a new centrist party to have a chance to win this election. They are more likely to help the NDP gain re-election.

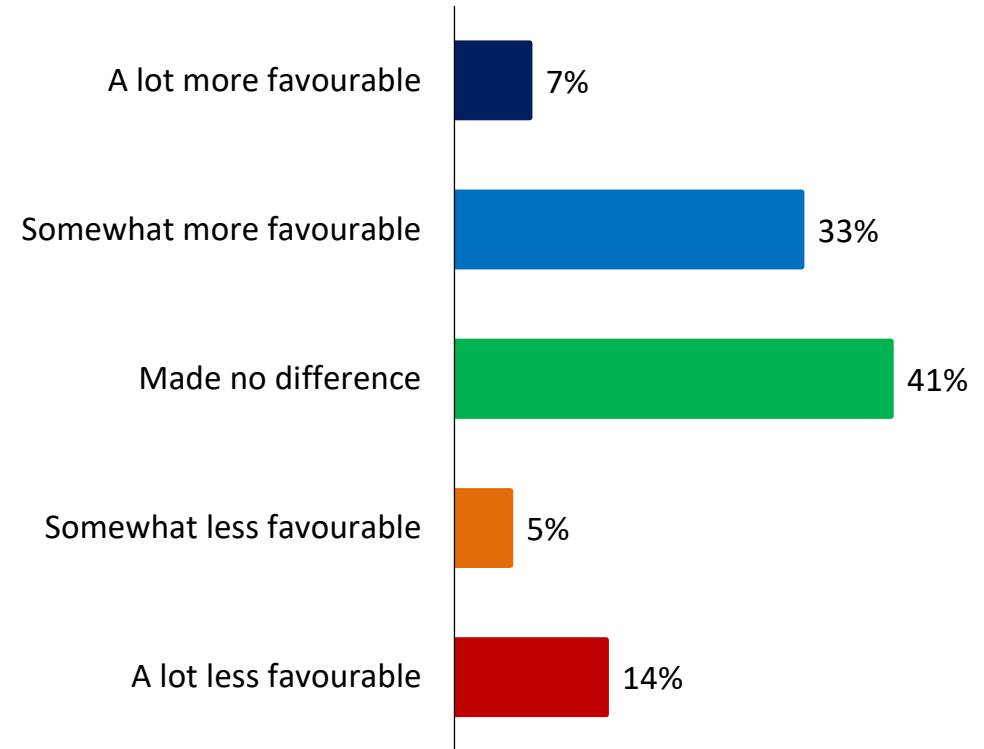
**Read, Seen,
Heard**

BC Read, Seen, Heard: Among those aware, 40% feel more favourable, 19% less favourable and 41% unchanged

Q Have you read, seen or heard anything about David Eby in the last few days?
[asked of all respondents; n=500]



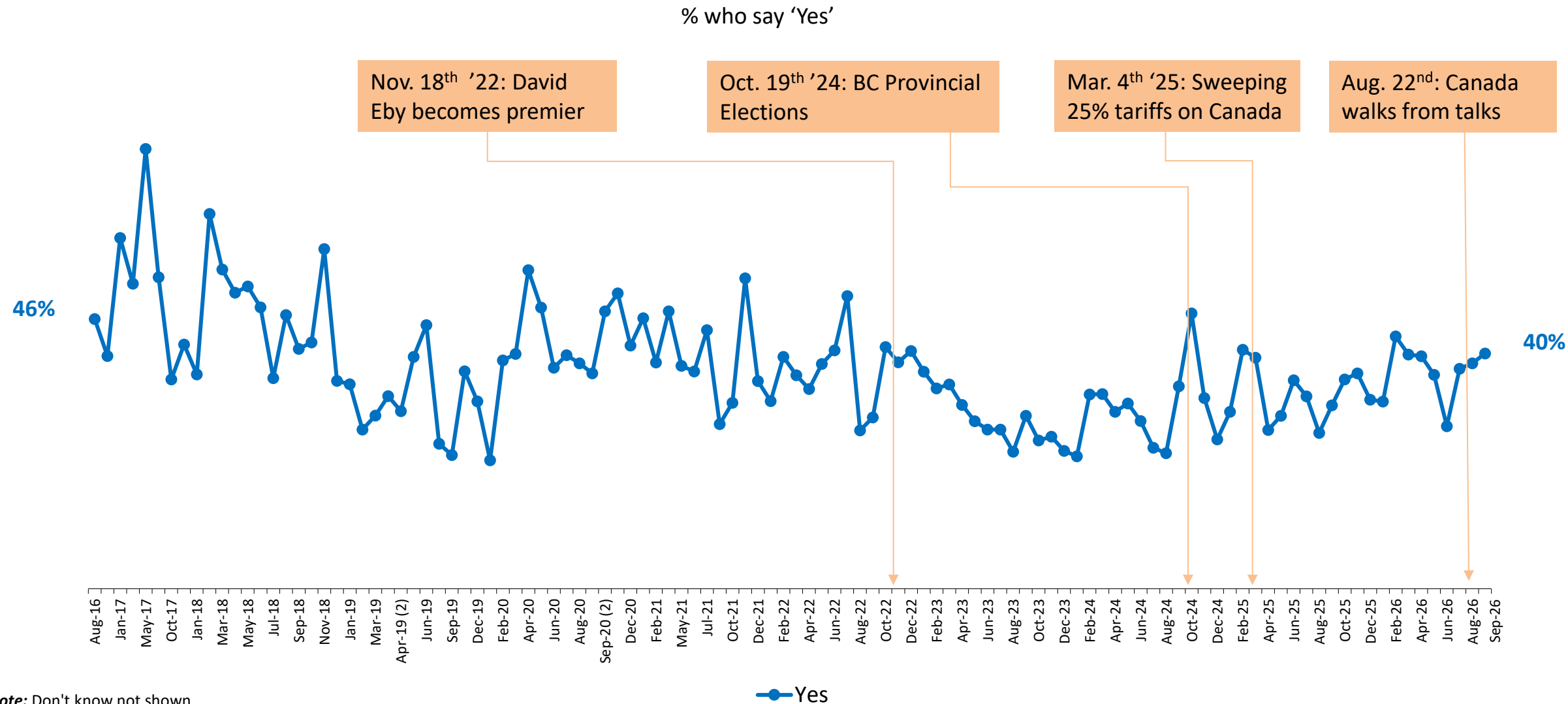
Q Did what you read, see or hear leave you feeling a lot more favourable, somewhat more favourable, somewhat less favourable or a lot less favourable towards David Eby, or did it make no difference?
[asked of those who RSH something; n=202]



Read, Seen, Heard Awareness: RSH continued to increase compared to past months, reaching 40%



Have you read, seen or heard anything about David Eby in the last few days?
[asked of all respondents; n=500]



Note: Don't know not shown.
Current data: September 2026

BC Read, Seen, Heard, Impact Tracking: Favourable impact rises five points to 40%, while unfavourable impact falls six points to 19%



Did what you read, see or hear leave you feeling a lot more favourable, somewhat more favourable, somewhat less favourable or a lot less favourable towards David Eby, or did it make no difference?

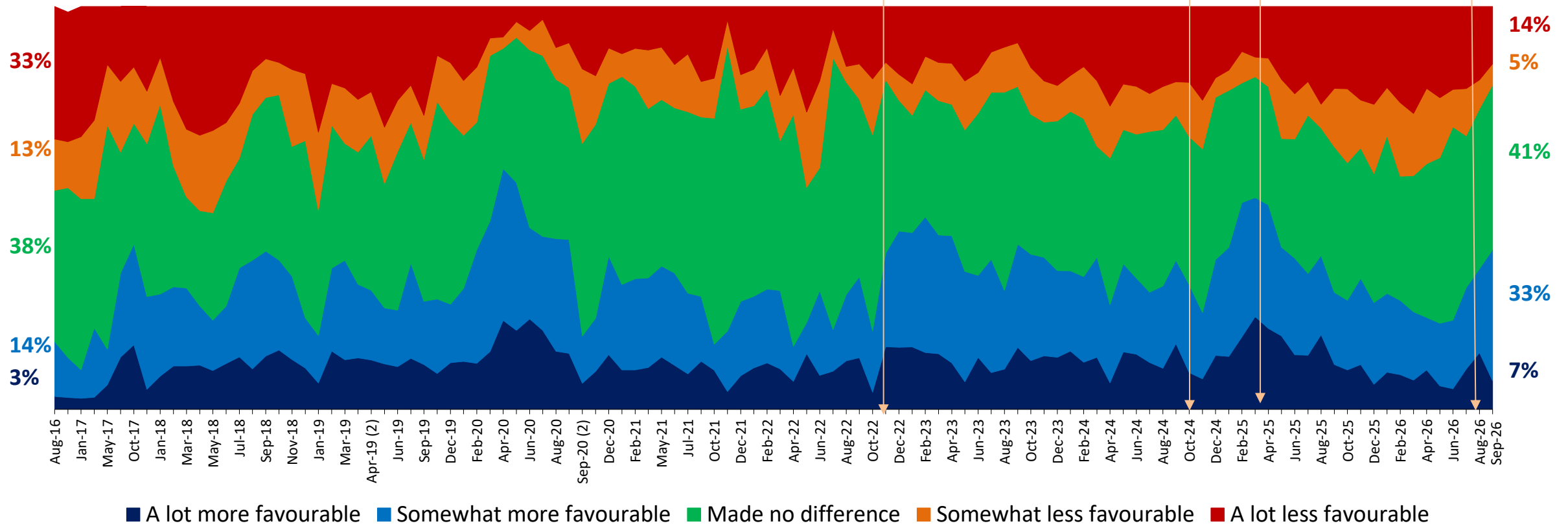
[asked of those who have RSH; n=202]

Nov. 18th '22: David Eby becomes premier

Oct. 19th '24: BC Provincial Elections

Mar. 4th '25: Sweeping 25% tariffs on Canada

Aug. 22nd: Canada walks from talks



Note: Don't know not shown.

Current data: September 2026

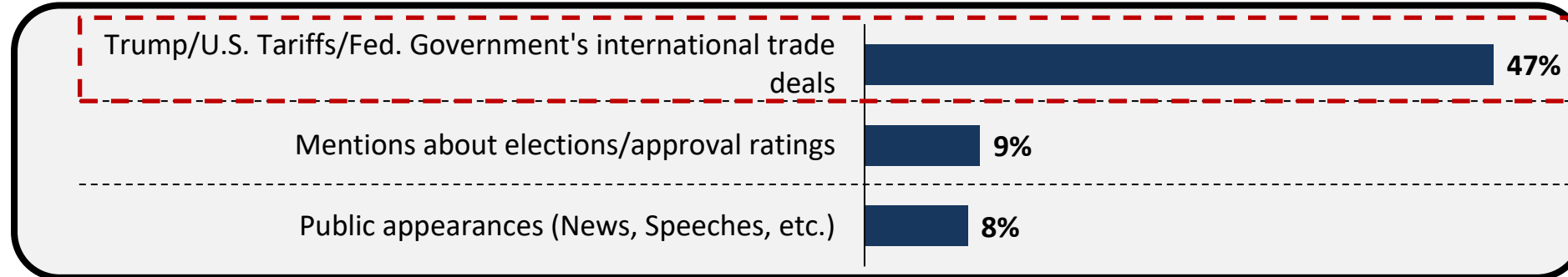
Displayed events provide context and do not establish causation.

September'26: Impact of RSH on Premier/BC Gov't: Nearly half mention U.S. tariffs and international trade, with this R/S/H having a strong positive impact



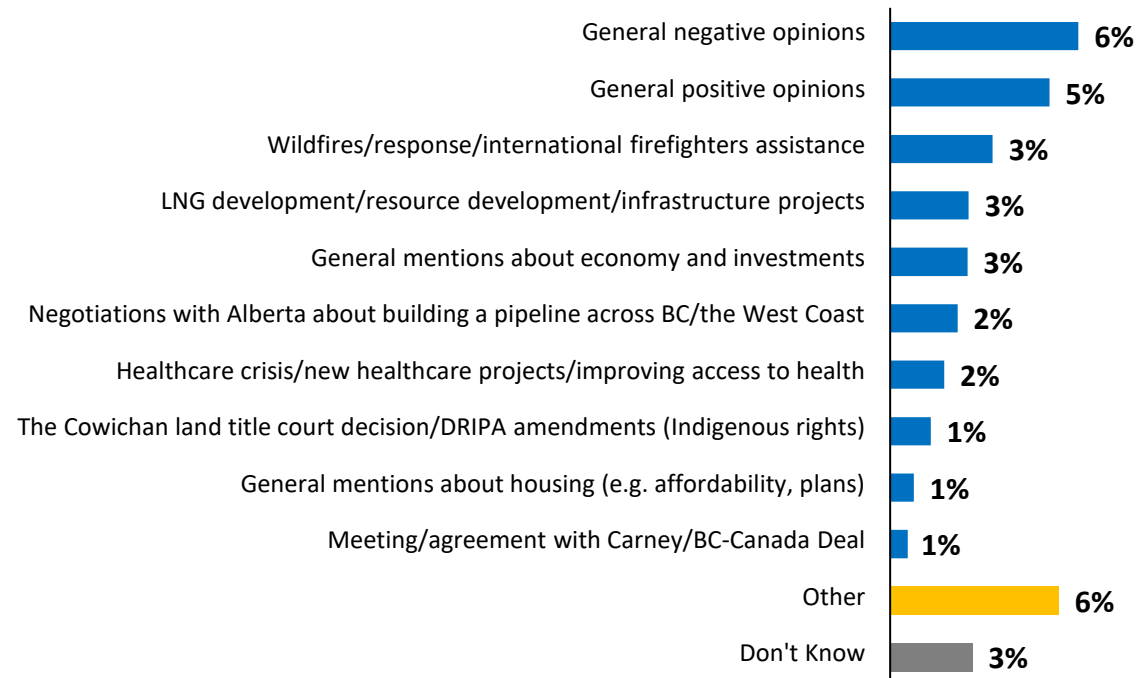
And what have you read, seen or heard about BC's Premier David Eby and the provincial government in the last few days? [OPEN ENDED]

[Asked of those who RSH about David Eby and Gov't; n=166]



Impact by RSH

More fav.	No Difference	Less fav.	NET
47%	40%	14%	+33
44%	50%	6%	+38
29%	38%	32%	-3



Note: Other includes responses <1% and 'Refused' (1%) not shown.

August'26: Impact of RSH on Premier/BC Gov't: 1-in-4 mention the wildfires, while the top issues recalled generally have a positive impact on favourability

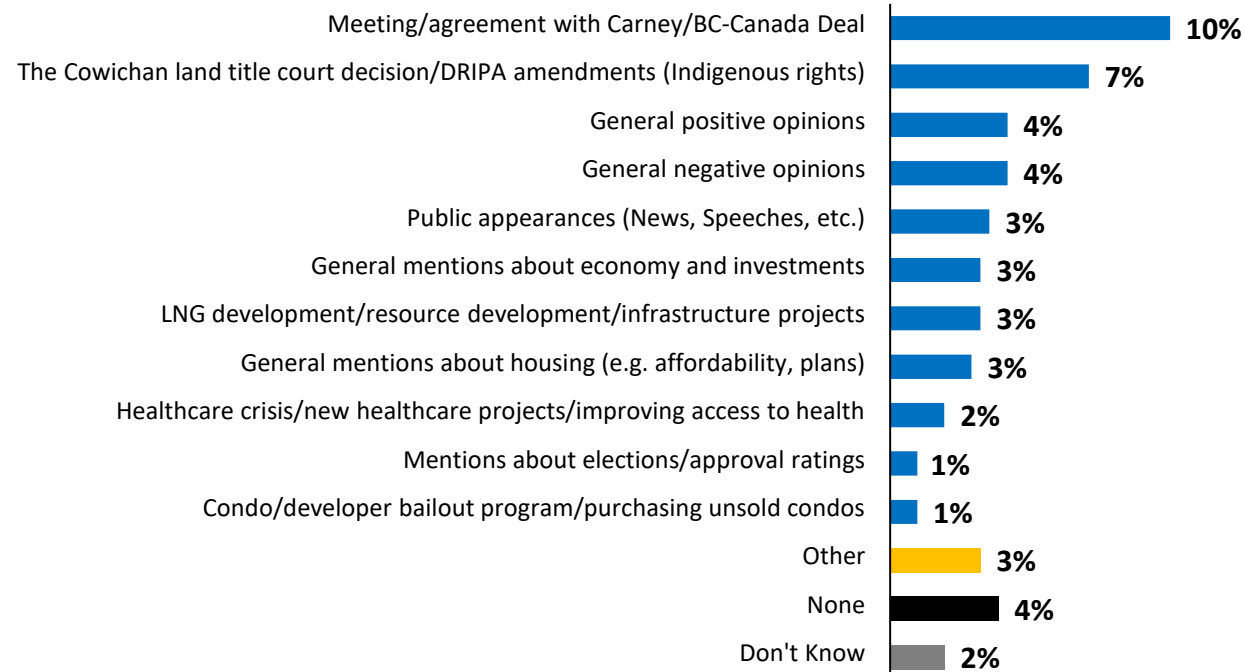


And what have you read, seen or heard about BC's Premier David Eby and the provincial government in the last few days? [OPEN ENDED]

[Asked of those who RSH about David Eby and Gov't; n=228]



Impact by RSH			
More fav.	No Difference	Less fav.	NET
40%	41%	19%	+21
38%	43%	19%	+19
51%	36%	13%	+38



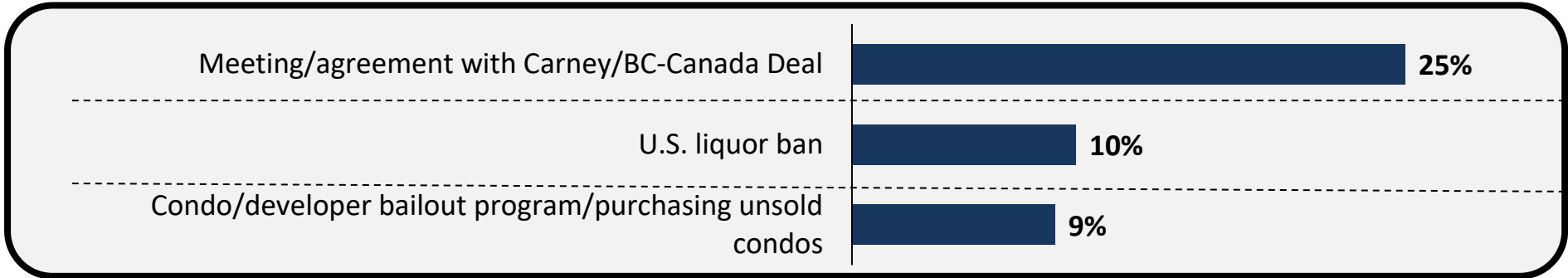
Note: Other includes responses <1% and 'Refused' (<1%) not shown.

July'26: Impact of RSH on Premier/BC Gov't: 1-in-4 mention the BC–Canada deal, while the U.S. liquor ban has the strongest positive impact on favourability¹¹

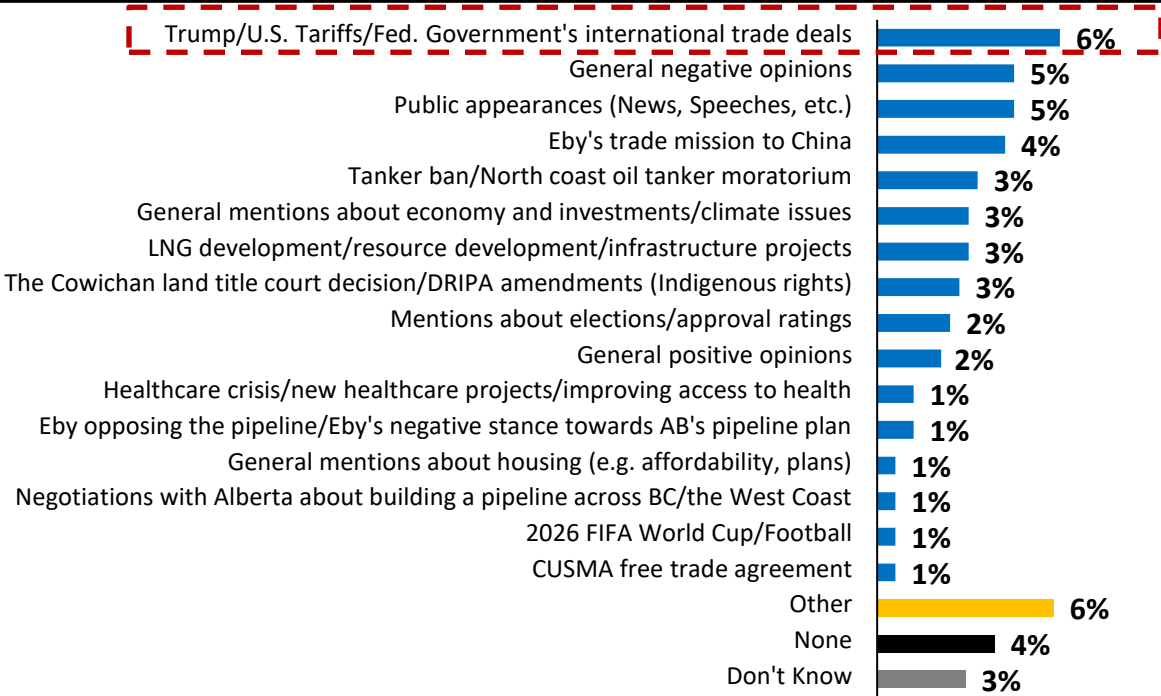


And what have you read, seen or heard about BC's Premier David Eby and the provincial government in the last few days? [OPEN ENDED]

[Asked of those who RSH about David Eby and Gov't; n=312]



Impact by RSH			
More fav.	No Difference	Less fav.	NET
30%	45%	25%	+5
49%	38%	13%	+36
29%	39%	32%	-3



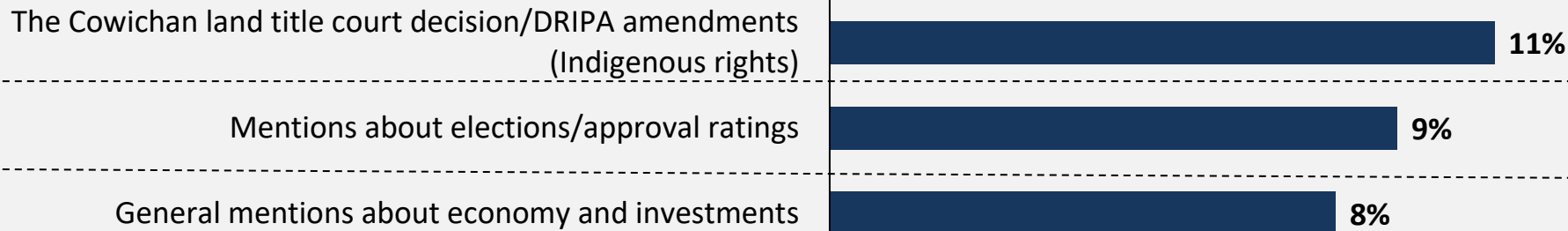
Note: Other includes responses <1% and 'Refused' (<1%) not shown.

June'26: Impact of RSH on Premier/BC Gov't: 11% mention having R/S/H about the Cowichan land title court decision, having a negative impact



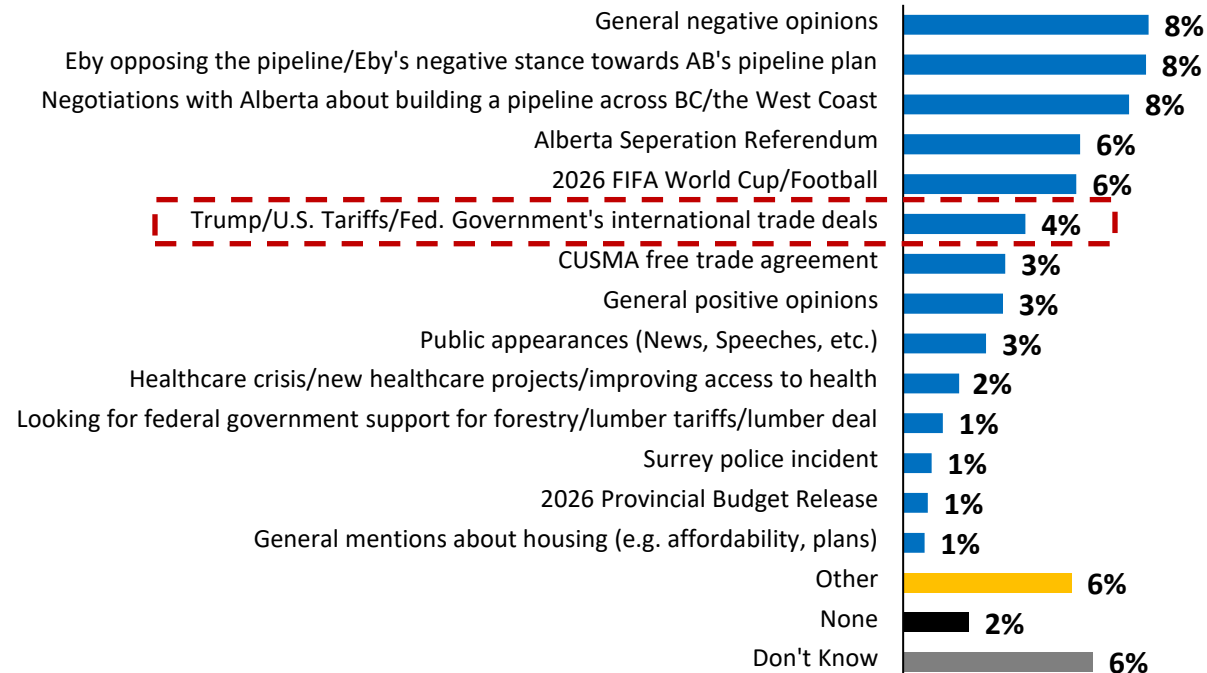
And what have you read, seen or heard about BC's Premier David Eby and the provincial government in the last few days? [OPEN ENDED]

[Asked of those who RSH about David Eby and Gov't; n=168]



Impact by RSH

More fav.	No Difference	Less fav.	NET
7%	35%	58%	-51
0%	70%	30%	-30
56%	35%	9%	+48



Note: Other includes responses <1% and 'Refused' (1%) not shown.



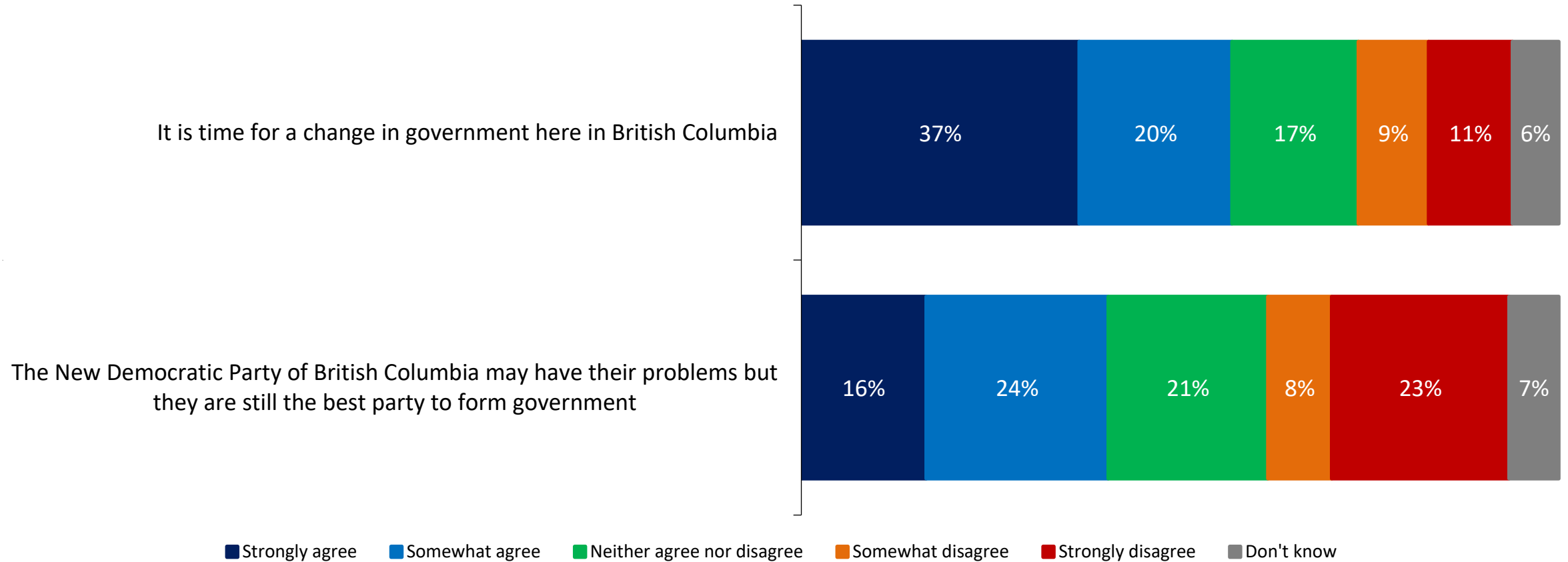
Time for Change

Time for Change Attitudes: More than half (57%) believe it is time for a change in gov't in BC, and 2-in-5 that they are still best to govern



Do you agree or disagree with the following statements? -

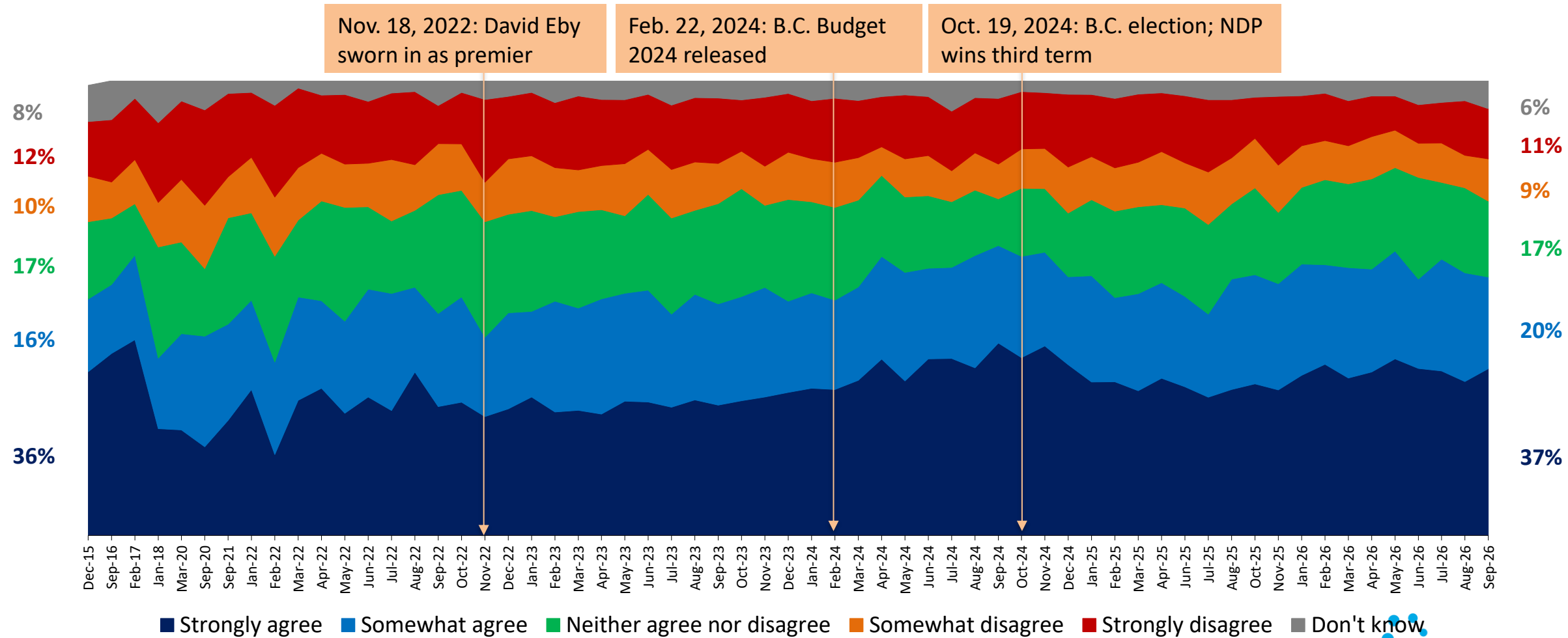
[asked of all respondents; n=500]



BC Time for Change Tracking: Net agree marginally unchanged compared with August (+39 to +36), and trending down since May (+47)



Do you agree or disagree with the following statements? - It is time for a change in government here in British Columbia
[asked of all respondents; n=500]

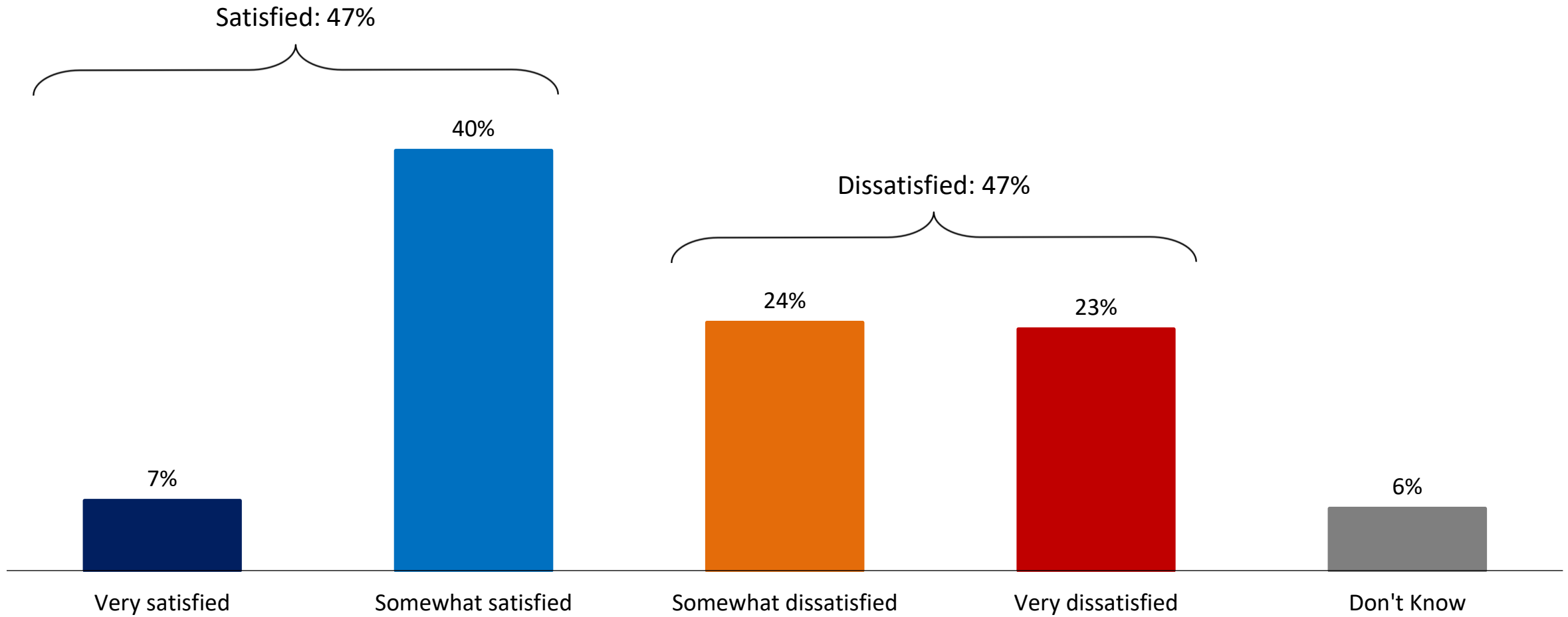


Satisfaction With the BC Government

Satisfaction With the BC Government: Provincial government approval is evenly split at 47% satisfied and 47% dissatisfied



Generally speaking, how satisfied are you with the performance of the PROVINCIAL government in British Columbia? Would you say you are...?
[asked of all respondents; n=500]

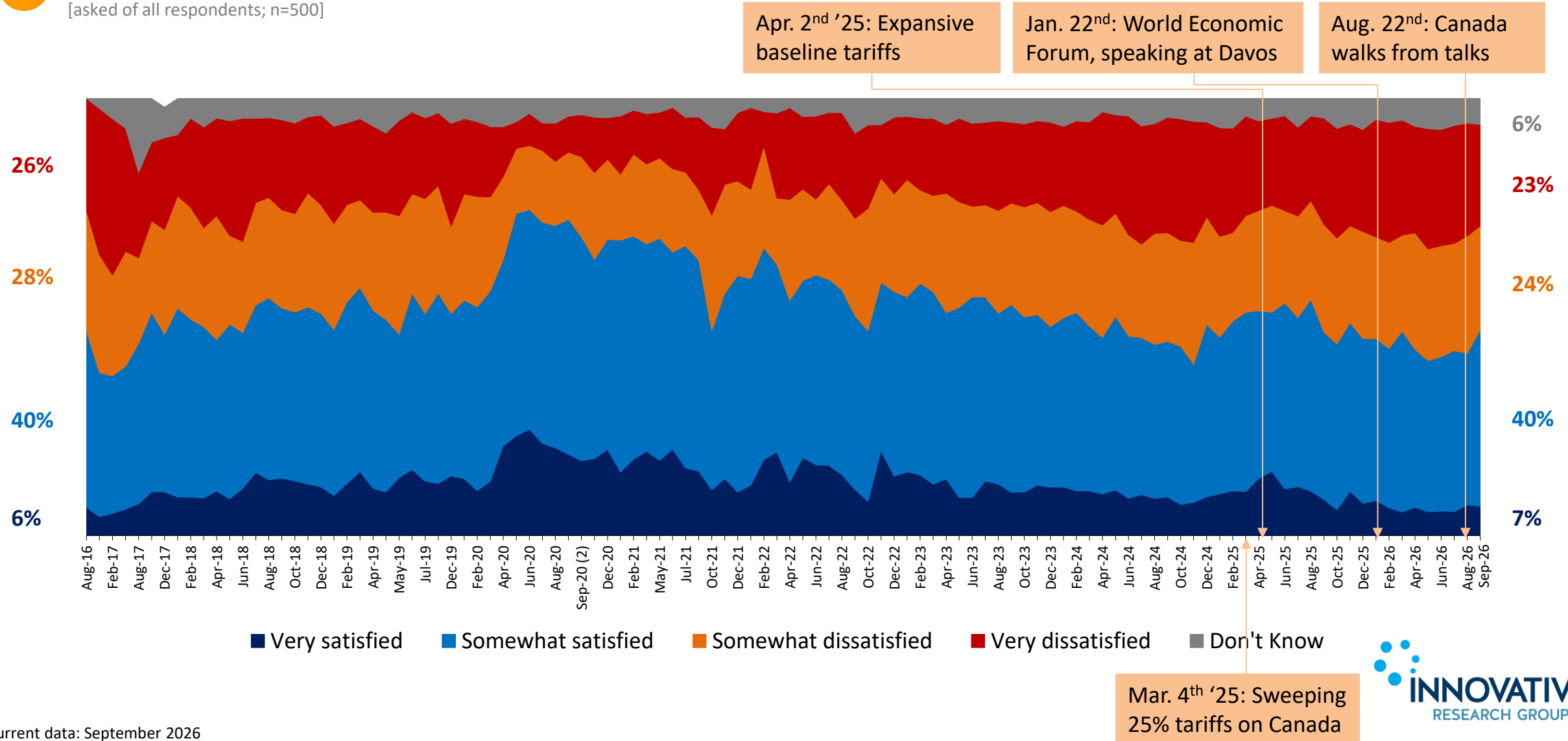


Satisfaction With BC Government Tracking: Satisfaction increased (42% to 47%) compared to August, dissatisfaction decreased (53% to 47%)



Generally speaking, how satisfied are you with the performance of the PROVINCIAL government in British Columbia? Would you say you are...?

[asked of all respondents; n=500]

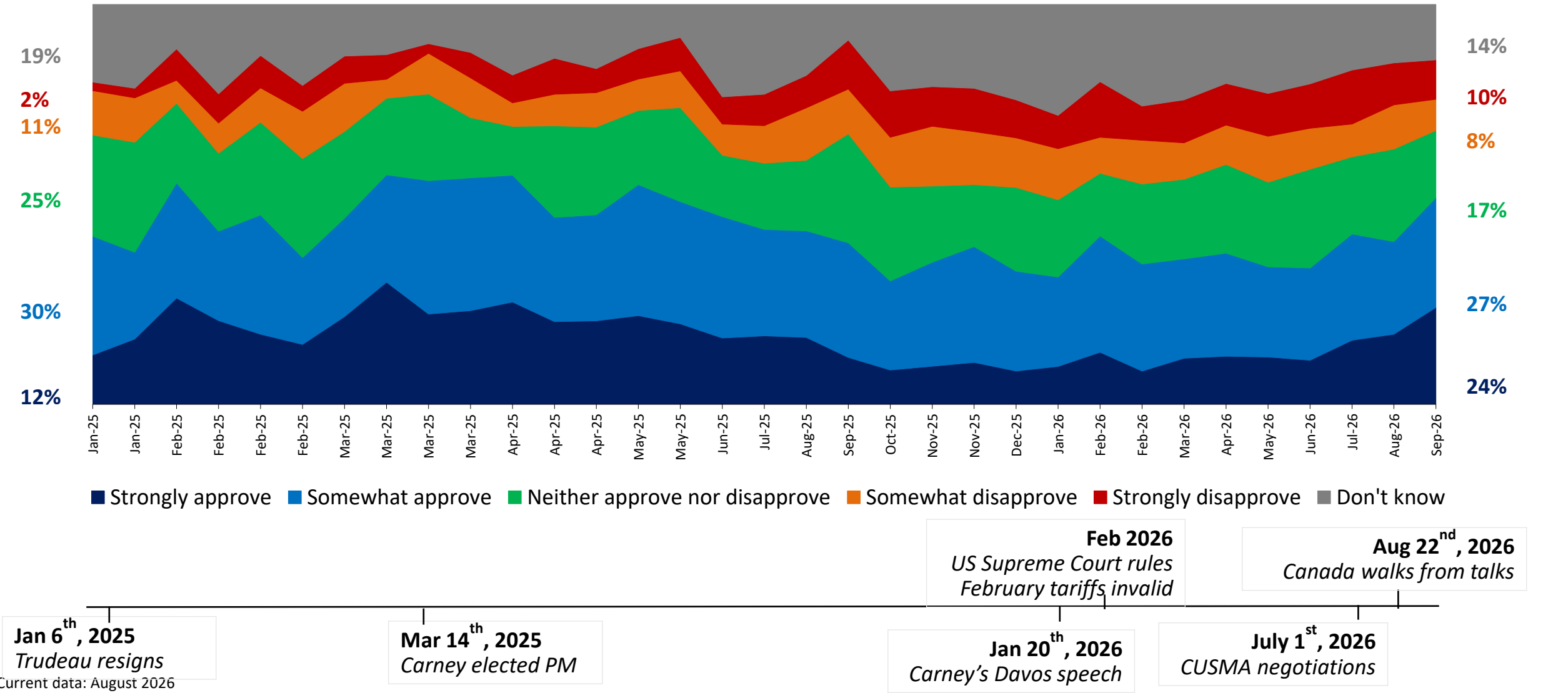


Reaction to Trump

BC Government Response to Trump: Approval increased (41% to 52%), disapproval decreased compared to August at 18%



Do you approve or disapprove of the way the British Columbia government is responding to issues resulting from Donald Trump's presidency?
[asked of those in British Columbia; n=500]

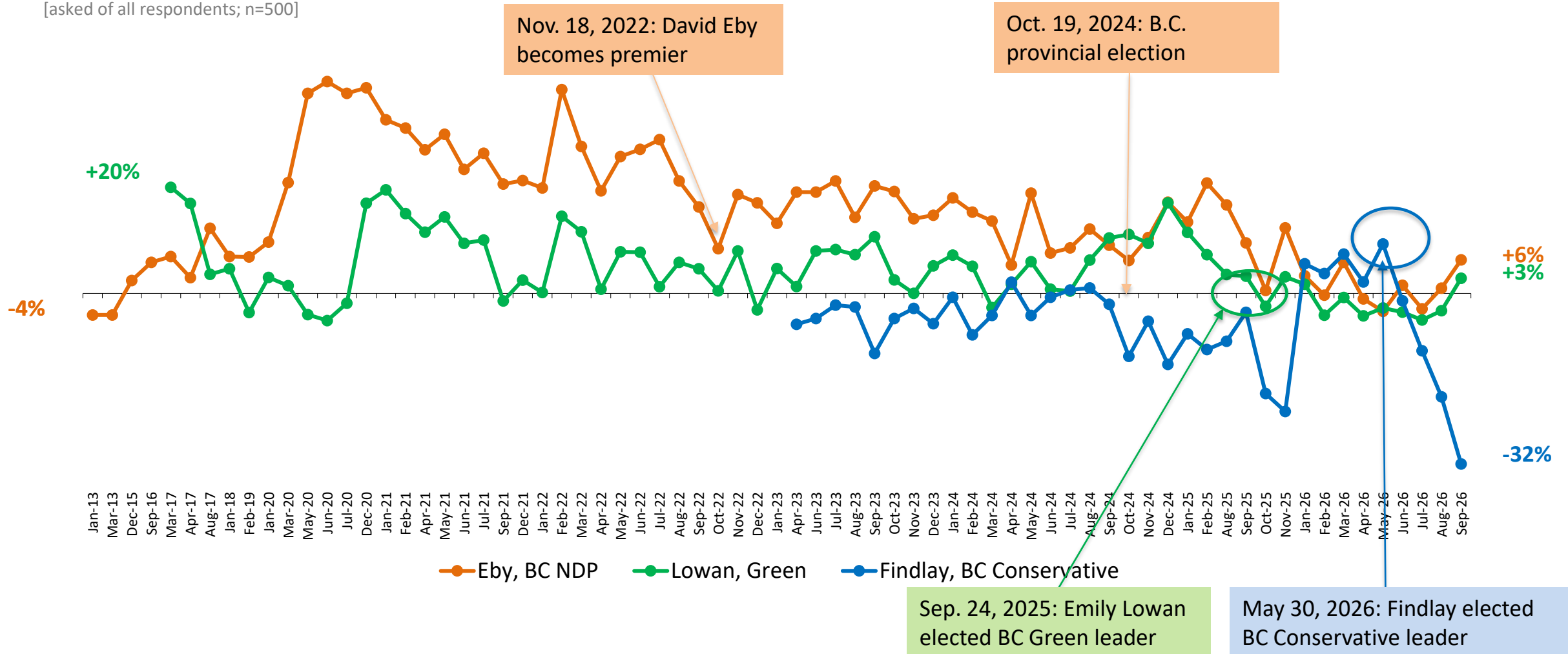


Leadership

BC Party Leader NET Favourables Tracking: Findlay's net favourability has declined substantially (-32), while Eby and Lowan remain positive

Q Below are the names of several individuals who have been mentioned in the news recently. For each one, please indicate whether you have heard of that person and, if so, whether you have a very favourable, somewhat favourable, neither favourable or unfavourable, somewhat unfavourable or very unfavourable impression of that person. If you do not recognize the name, just indicate.

[asked of all respondents; n=500]

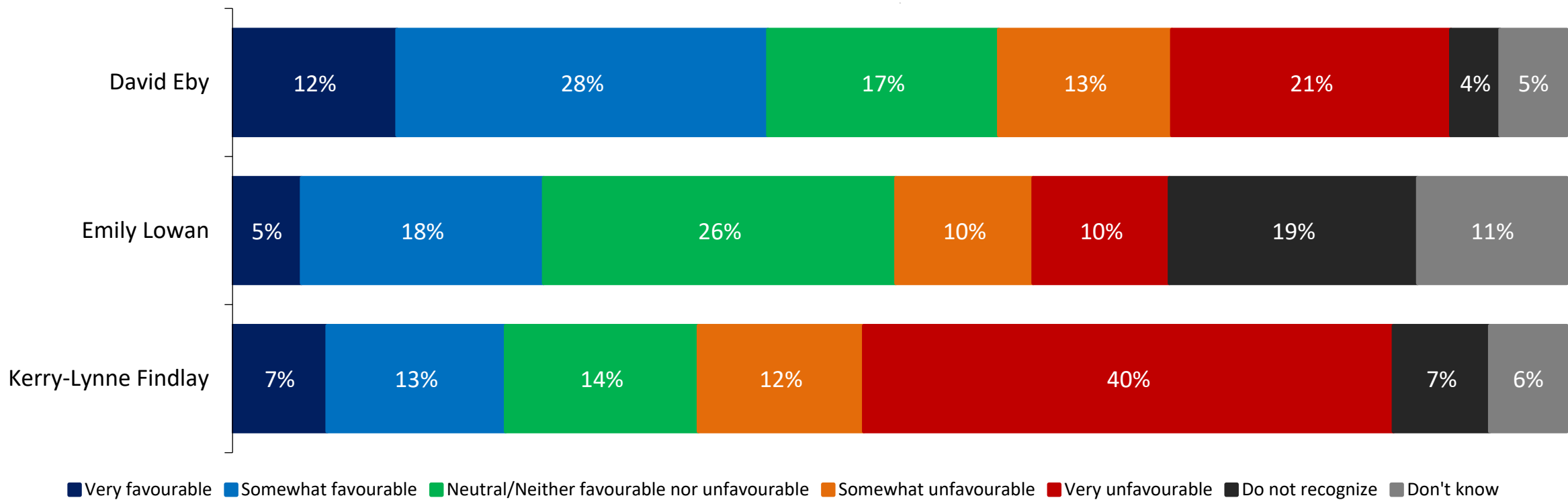


Leader Favourables: Eby has the strongest favourability at 40%, while 52% view Findlay unfavourably



Below are the names of several individuals who have been mentioned in the news recently. For each one, please indicate whether you have heard of that person and, if so, whether you have a very favourable, somewhat favourable, neither favourable or unfavourable, somewhat unfavourable or very unfavourable impression of that person. If you do not recognize the name, just indicate.

[asked of all respondents; n=500]

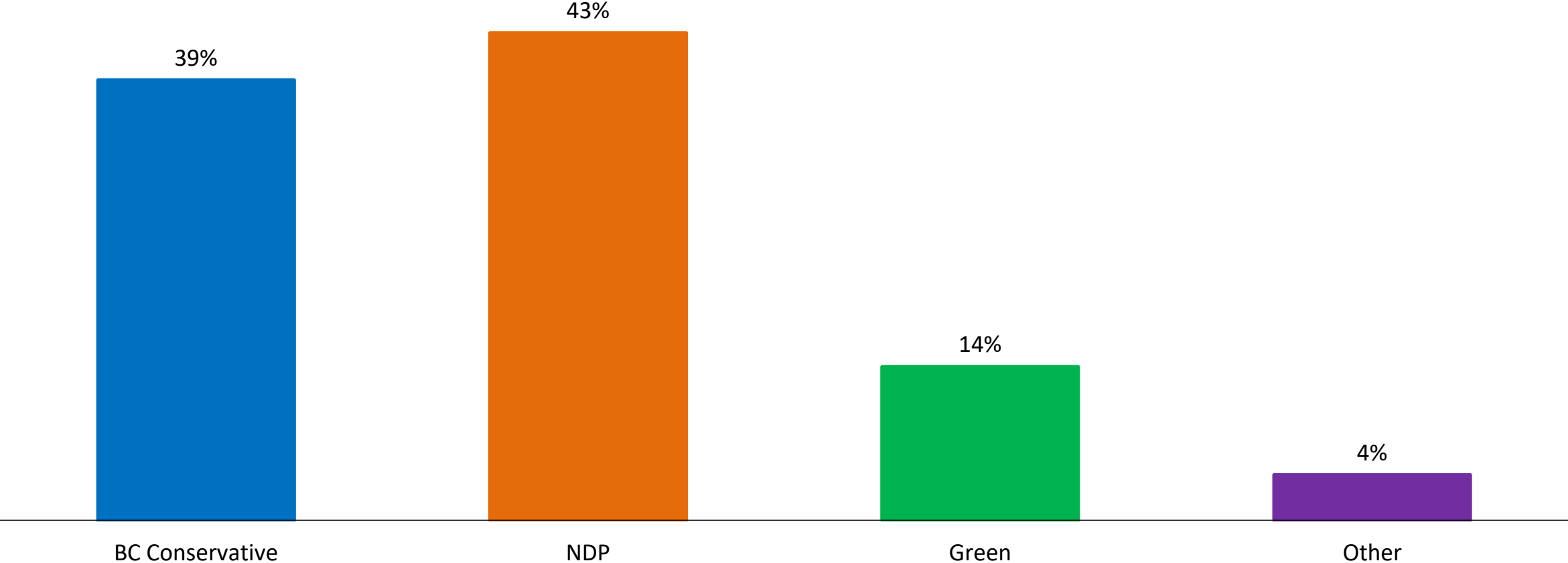


Provincial Vote

Provincial Decided Vote: The NDP holds a four-point edge over BC Conservatives among decided voters (43% to 39%)



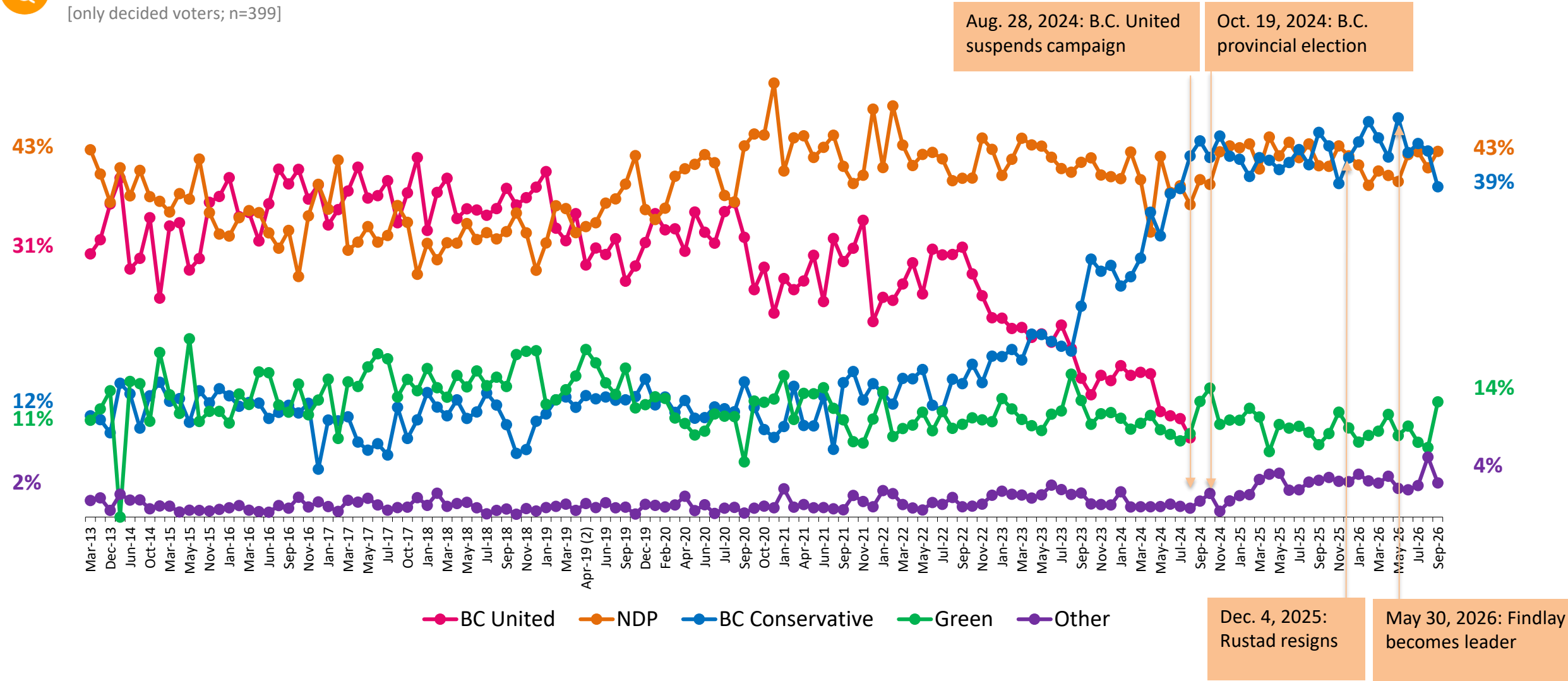
If a provincial election were held today, which party would you vote for? In that case, which party do you lean toward slightly? **[DECIDED]**
[decided voters only; n=399]



Provincial Decided Vote Tracking: NDP support marginally unchanged compared to August (41% - 43%), while Conservative declined (43% - 39%)



If a provincial election were held today, which party would you vote for? In that case, which party do you lean toward slightly? **[DECIDED]**
[only decided voters; n=399]



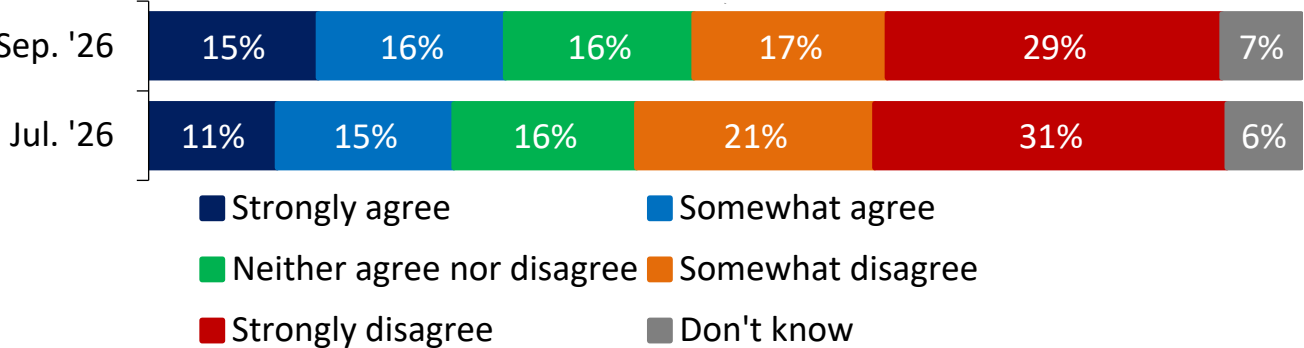
Voting for a Third Party

Third-Party Attitudes: Net rejection of both major parties rises 10 points, while net likelihood of voting centrist slips to net -17

Q Would you agree or disagree with the following statement:
[asked of all respondents; n=500]

I don't want to vote for either (ROTATE PARTIES) the BC NDP Party or the BC Conservative Party.

Net Agree

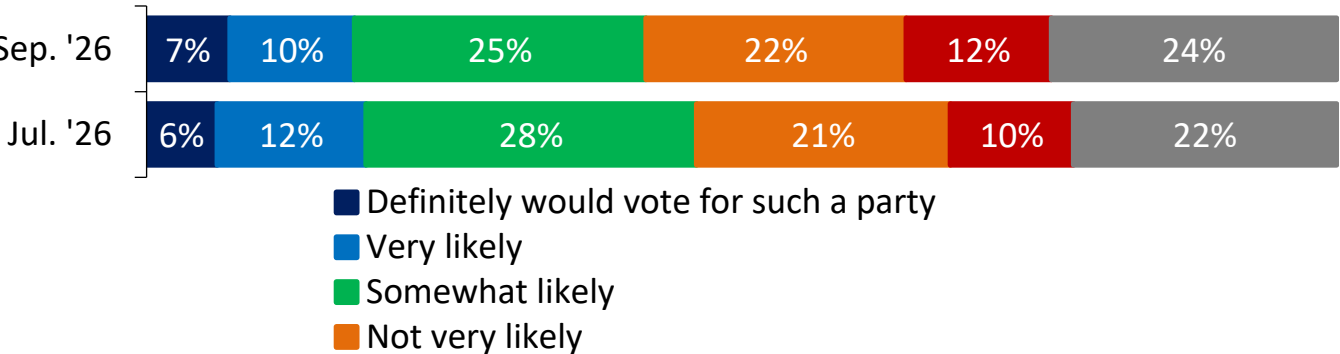


-15

-25

Q In the next election, if there was a new pragmatic and centrist party in British Columbia between the BC Conservative Party and the BC New Democratic Party, how likely are you to vote for such a party?
[asked of all respondents; n=500]

Likely



-17

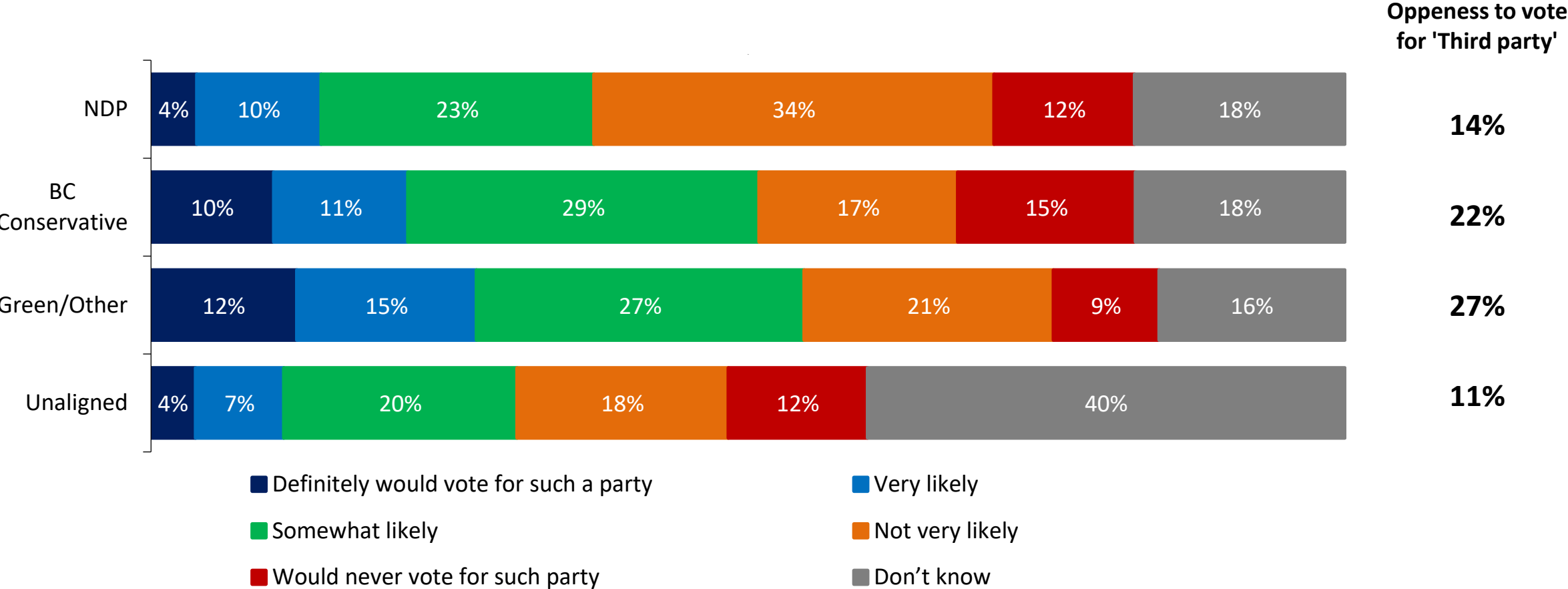
-13

Likelihood to vote for the third party					
I don't want to vote for either	% out of total	Definitely /very	Somewhat likely	Not very /Would never	Don't know
	Agree	10%	9%	7%	5%
	Disagree	6%	10%	22%	8%
	Neither/ Don't know	2%	6%	5%	11%

Third-Party Appeal BY Party ID: Green/Other are most open to a new centrist party at 27%, followed by Conservatives at 22% and NDP by 14%



In the next election, if there was a **new pragmatic and centrist party** in British Columbia between the BC Conservative Party and the BC New Democratic Party, how likely are you to vote for such a party?
[asked of all respondents; n=500]



Methodology

Survey Methodology



These are the results of an online survey conducted between September 4, 2026, and September 18, 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=2,818 Canadian citizens, 18 years or older. The results are BC weighted to n=500 based on Census data from Statistics Canada.

Field Dates: September 4, 2026 to September 15, 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	53	9.5%	64	12.8%
Men 35-54	81	14.5%	77	15.5%
Men 55+	134	23.9%	100	20.1%
Women 18-34	57	10.2%	64	12.8%
Women 35-54	88	15.7%	82	16.4%
Women 55+	147	26.2%	111	22.3%
Lower Mainland and Fraser Valley	322	57.4%	297	59.3%
Vancouver Island and Sunshine Coast	97	17.3%	92	18.4%
Interior and North	142	25.3%	111	22.3%

For more information, please contact:

Greg Lyle

President

(t) 416-642-6429

(e) glyle@innovativeresearch.ca

Report Contributors:

Marina Mandic, Manager, Omnibus Research Services

Natalia Zuluaga, Research Analyst

Yueshan Liu, Research Analyst

Building Understanding.

