

The
Free Press

Federal Politics in Manitoba

March 2026

PROBE Research



The Story

As support for the federal NDP falls away, the governing Liberals appear to be benefitting – although Conservative support is holding its own. Prime Minister Mark Carney and the federal Liberals currently hold a seven-point edge over Pierre Poilievre and the Conservatives (46% vs. 39%). The Liberals gained three percentage points in the last quarter versus a +1% increase for the Conservatives. NDP support has fallen to just eight per cent province-wide (-6% vs. December). Although they will pick a new leader here in the coming days, federal NDP support has dropped significantly throughout Manitoba and remains mostly concentrated in inner-city Winnipeg, where it holds one of its only remaining seats in the House of Commons.

The Conservatives are maintaining a healthy lead outside Winnipeg (51% vs. 33% for the Liberals and just 5% for the NDP). Interestingly, support for other parties in rural and northern Manitoba has gone up in the past few months, with five per cent backing the Greens and four percent backing the People's Party.

Past NDP support appears to be splitting along gender lines. As NDP support has decreased, the Liberals have picked up more support among women, with men gravitating to the Conservatives. Liberal support among women is six percentage points higher than it was in December, with the Liberals now holding a very large advantage over the Conservatives (53% vs. 32%). Among men, nearly one-half now back the Conservatives (48%, up from 43% in December), with 41 per cent of men preferring the Liberals.

Younger Manitobans remain much more likely to prefer the Conservatives, with the party now up to 44 per cent support among those aged 18-34. Liberal support remains very strong among those 55+ (54%) and has increased significantly among those aged 35-54 in the past three months (44%, up from 35% in December).

Methodology

Probe Research surveyed a random and representative sample of 1,000 Manitoba adults between March 1 and 17, 2026.

Respondents were contacted using four different methods. The sample includes 466 Manitobans randomly recruited via live-agent operator, 139 randomly recruited via text message/SMS, 195 randomly recruited via Interactive Voice Response (IVR) and 200 members of Probe Research's online panel. All respondents completed the survey using an online platform.

Probe reached out to Manitobans through modified random digit dialing, including both landline and wireless numbers. This ensured all Manitoba adults had an equal opportunity to participate in this survey.

With a sample of 1,000, one can say with 95 per cent certainty that the results are within ± 3.1 percentage points of what they would have been if the entire adult population of Manitoba had been surveyed. The margin of error is higher within each of the survey's population sub-groups.

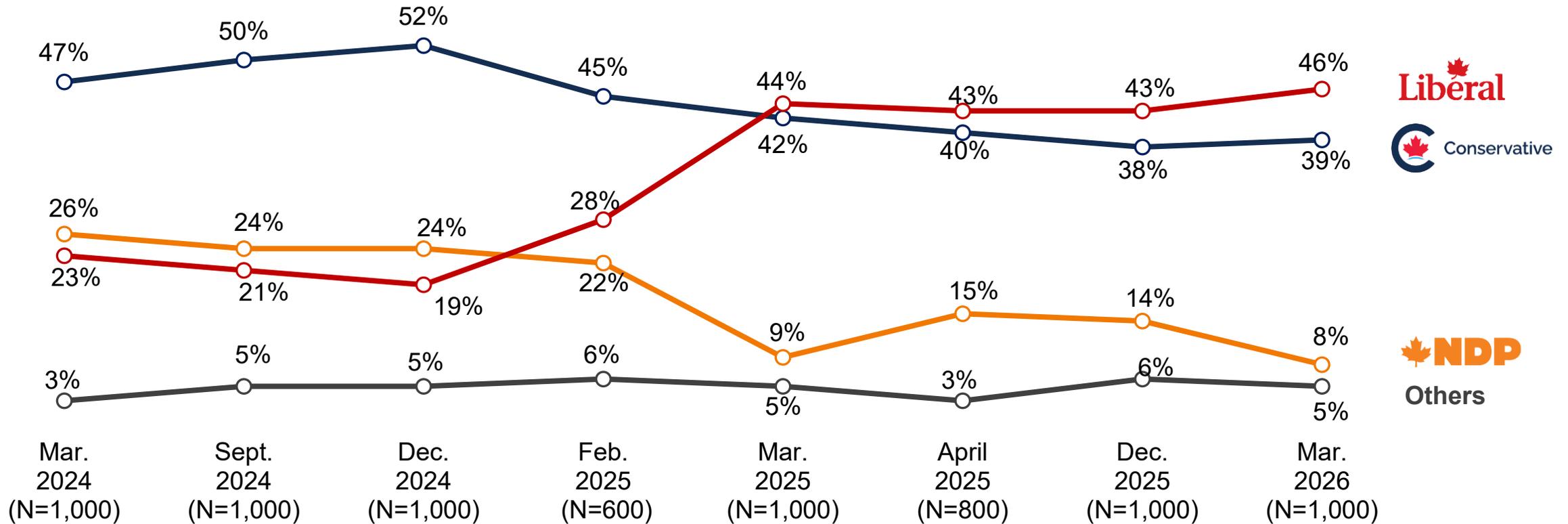
The sample has been weighted slightly by age, gender, region and educational attainment so it properly reflects the province's population, based on Census data. Probe used SPSS software to conduct all statistical analysis.

About the Probe Research Omnibus

For nearly 30 years, Probe Research has conducted quarterly omnibus surveys of random and representative samples of Manitoba adults. These surveys have provided strategic and proprietary insights to hundreds of public, private and not-for-profit clients on many different social, cultural and public policy topics. The Probe Research Omnibus Survey is the province's largest and most trusted general population survey.

The survey was designed by Probe Research in close consultation with the Free Press.

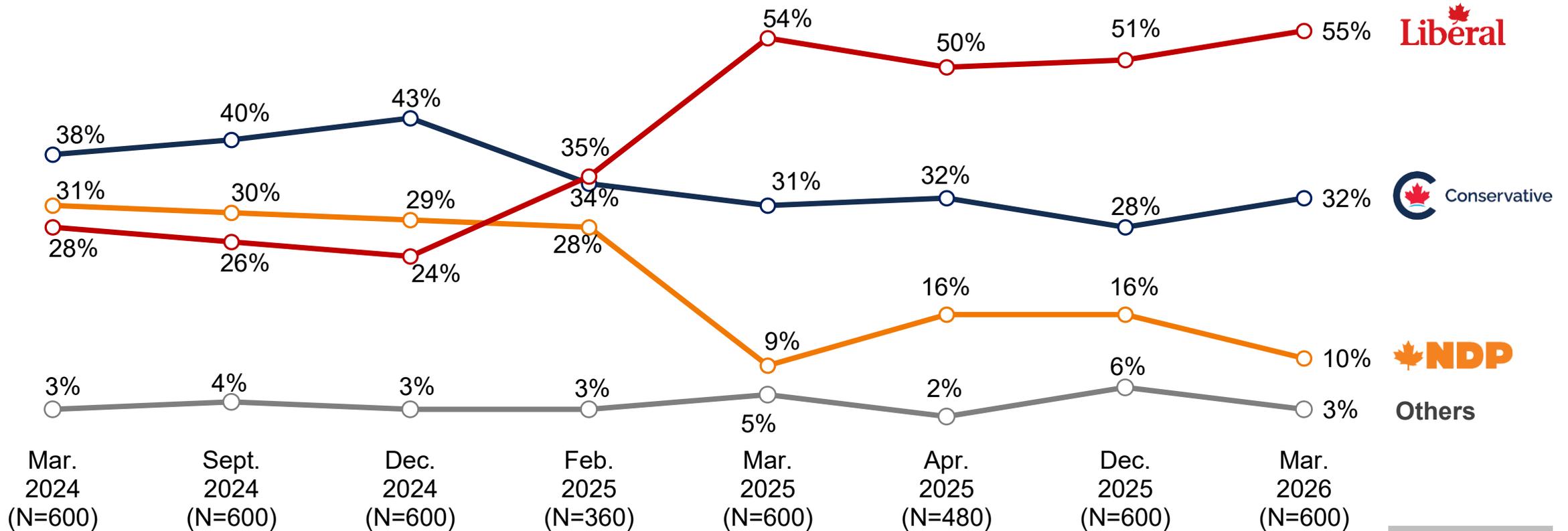
Federal Liberal support in Manitoba increases slightly, as NDP support takes a dip



ES4. Now turning to federal politics for a minute...If a federal election were held tomorrow, which party's candidate would you be most likely to support? (Base: Decided and leaning voters)

**Undecided:
18%**

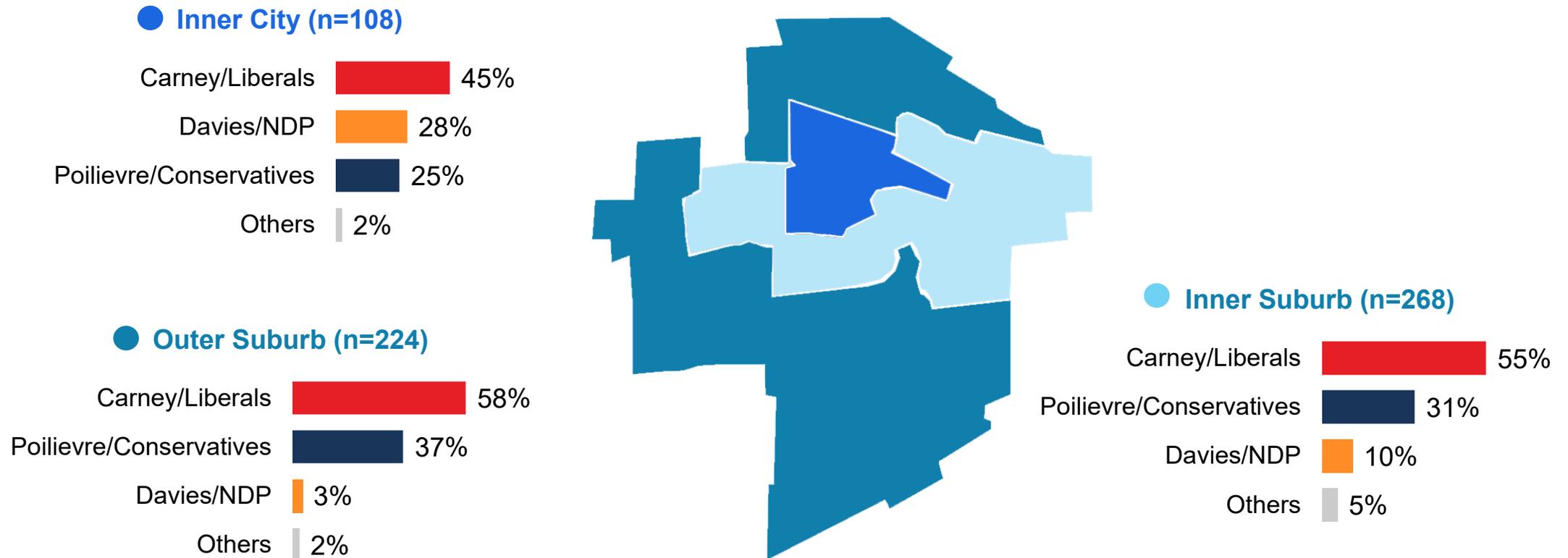
NDP support drops mainly in Winnipeg, as both the Liberals and Conservatives inch higher



ES4. Now turning to federal politics for a minute...If a federal election were held tomorrow, which party's candidate would you be most likely to support? (Base: Decided and leaning voters)

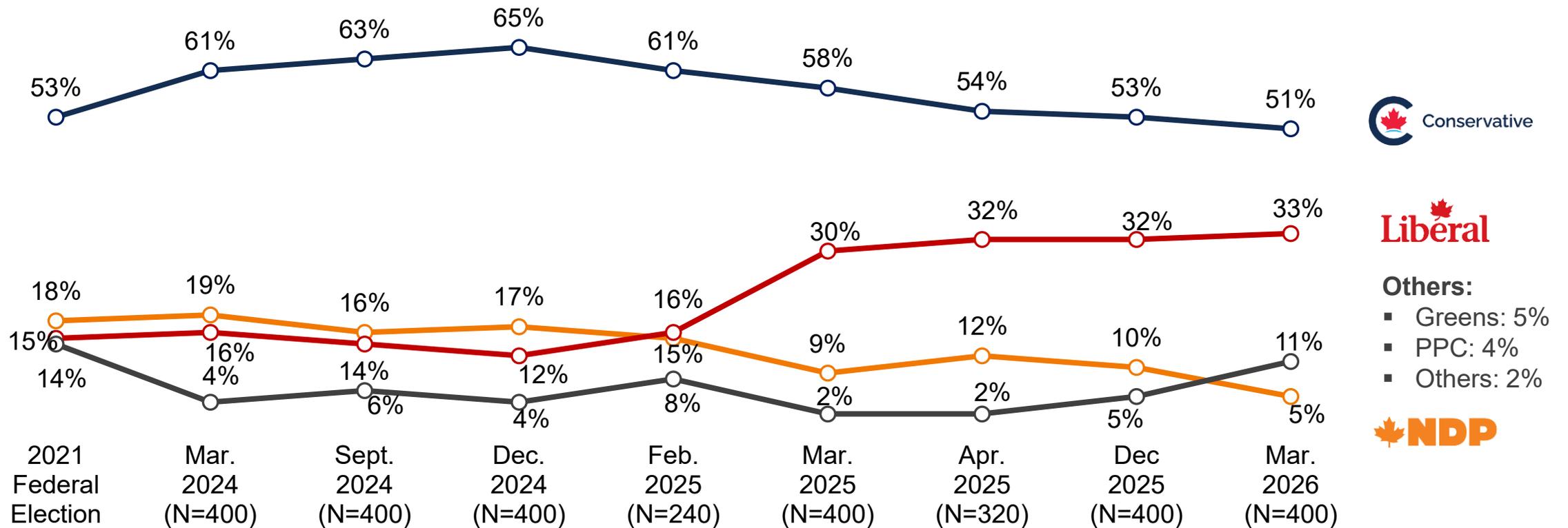
**Undecided:
15%**

More than one-half of voters support the Liberals in suburban neighbourhoods



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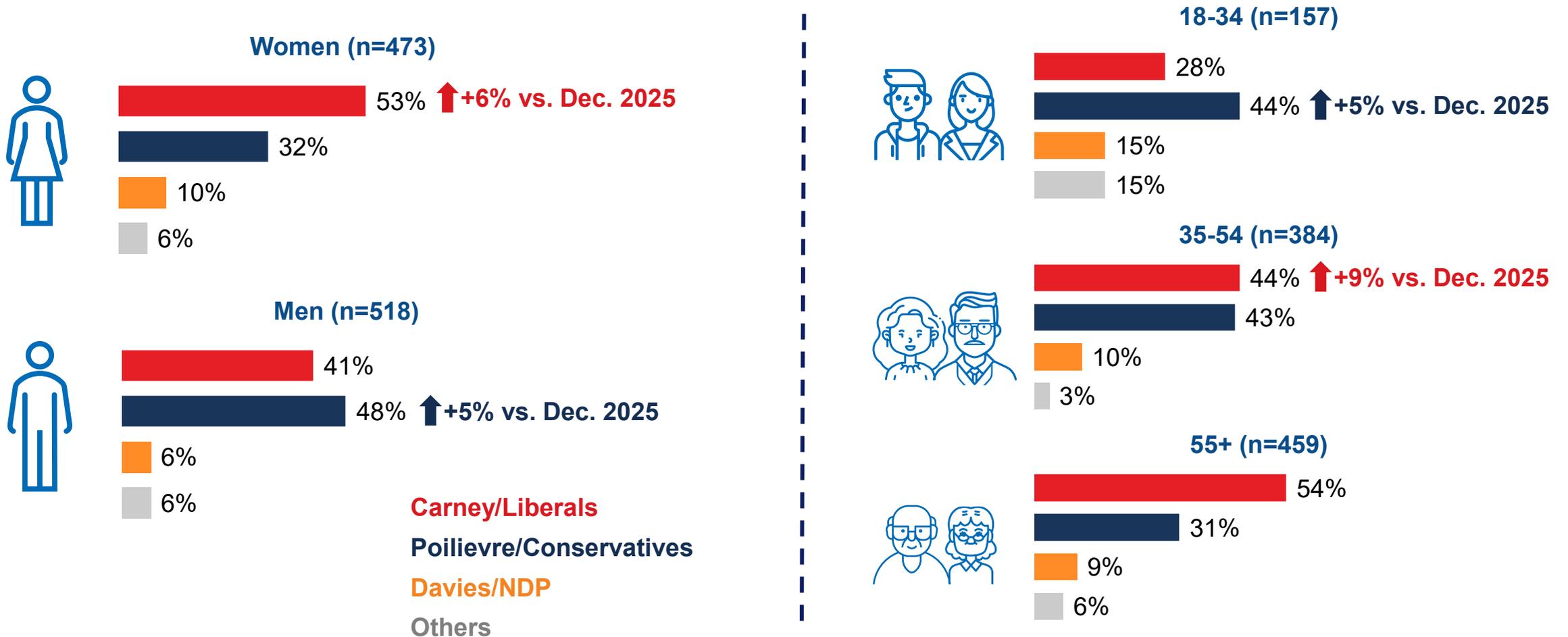
Support for other parties increases outside Winnipeg, though Conservatives maintain a lead



ES4. Now turning to federal politics for a minute...If a federal election were held tomorrow, which party's candidate would you be most likely to support? (Base: Decided and leaning voters)

**Undecided:
21%**

The gender gap is also widening between the Liberals and Conservatives



Federal voting preferences among decided/leaning voters: by subgroup

	Gender			Age			Region		Born outside Canada
	Total	Men	Women	18-34	35-54	55+	Winnipeg	Rest of Manitoba	
(Unweighted)	(1,000)	(518)	(473)	(157)	(384)	(459)	(600)	(400)	(142)
(Weighted Base)	(1,000)	(486)	(508)	(297)	(322)	(382)	(600)	(400)	(141)
Liberal	46%	41%	53%	28%	44%	61%	55%	33%	50%
Conservative	39%	48%	32%	44%	43%	34%	32%	51%	35%
NDP	8%	6%	10%	15%	10%	2%	10%	5%	3%
Others	5%	6%	6%	15%	3%	3%	3%	11%	12%

	Education			Household Income			Identity		
	HS or Less	College/ Some PS	University Graduate	<\$60K	\$60K-\$119K	\$120K+	Indigenous	Other Racialized	White
(Unweighted)	(162)	(420)	(403)	(233)	(358)	(279)	(123)	(94)*	(708)
(Weighted Base)	(451)	(286)	(248)	(285)	(327)	(237)	(165)	(97)*	(660)
Liberal	39%	44%	62%	51%	48%	47%	50%	56%	46%
Conservative	48%	41%	23%	36%	41%	39%	34%	34%	41%
NDP	5%	10%	11%	7%	8%	9%	12%	6%	8%
Others	8%	6%	4%	6%	4%	4%	4%	4%	5%

ES4. Now turning to federal politics for a minute...If a federal election were held tomorrow, which party's candidate would you be most likely to support? (Base: Decided and leaning voters) *Caution: Small base size

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