

The
Free Press

Provincial Politics in Manitoba

March 2026

PROBE Research



The Story

Shrinking support for Manitoba's third-place Liberals is giving some lift to both the NDP and PCs. As Manitoba heads into provincial budget week, Premier Wab Kinew and the governing NDP's popularity remains very high – 55 per cent would vote for this party today, up from 53 per cent in December. Support for Obby Khan and the Progressive Conservatives (PCs) has also inched up (35%, up from 32%). Support for the provincial Liberals has fallen, down to six per cent (-3% vs. December). Sixteen per cent of all voters are undecided.

Most crucially for the PCs, its support within Winnipeg is up four percentage points from December (29%, up from 25%). Outside Winnipeg, the NDP has regained a slight lead over the PCs (47% vs. 43%) after both parties being tied at 43 per cent in December. Interestingly, one in five rural and northern Manitobans are undecided about which party to support.

The gender gap is wider than it was in December. A higher share of women now prefer the NDP (63%, up from 56% three months ago). The PCs have narrowed the gap among men and are now just four points behind the NDP (42% vs. 46%).



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.

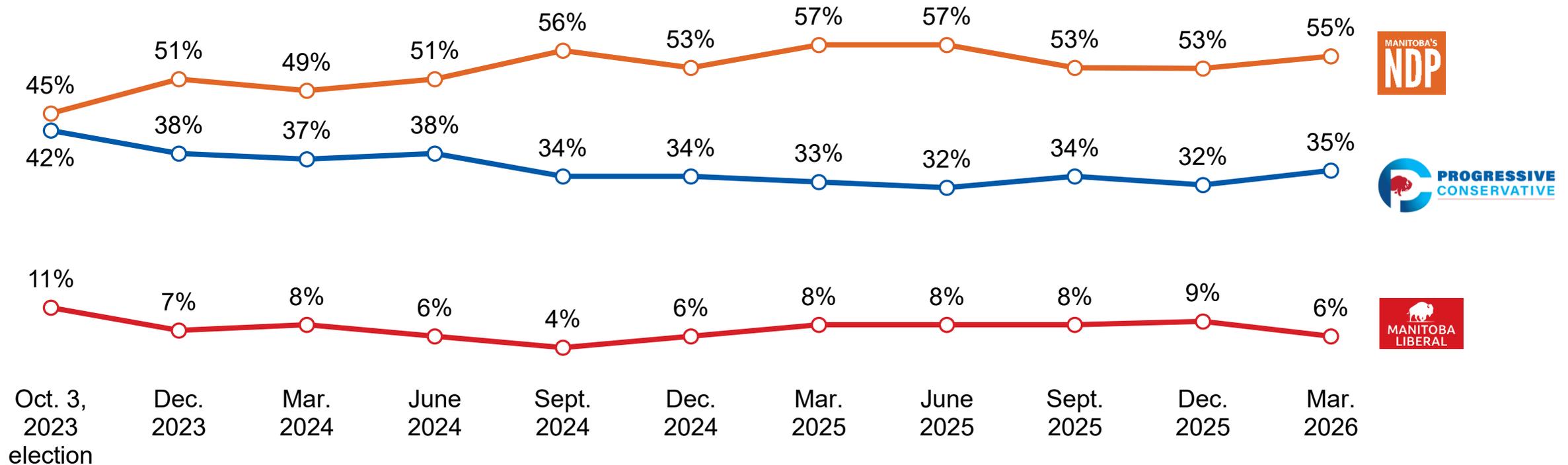
The sample has been weighted slightly by age, gender, region and educational attainment so it properly reflects the province's population, based on Census data. Probe used SPSS software to conduct all statistical analysis.

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.

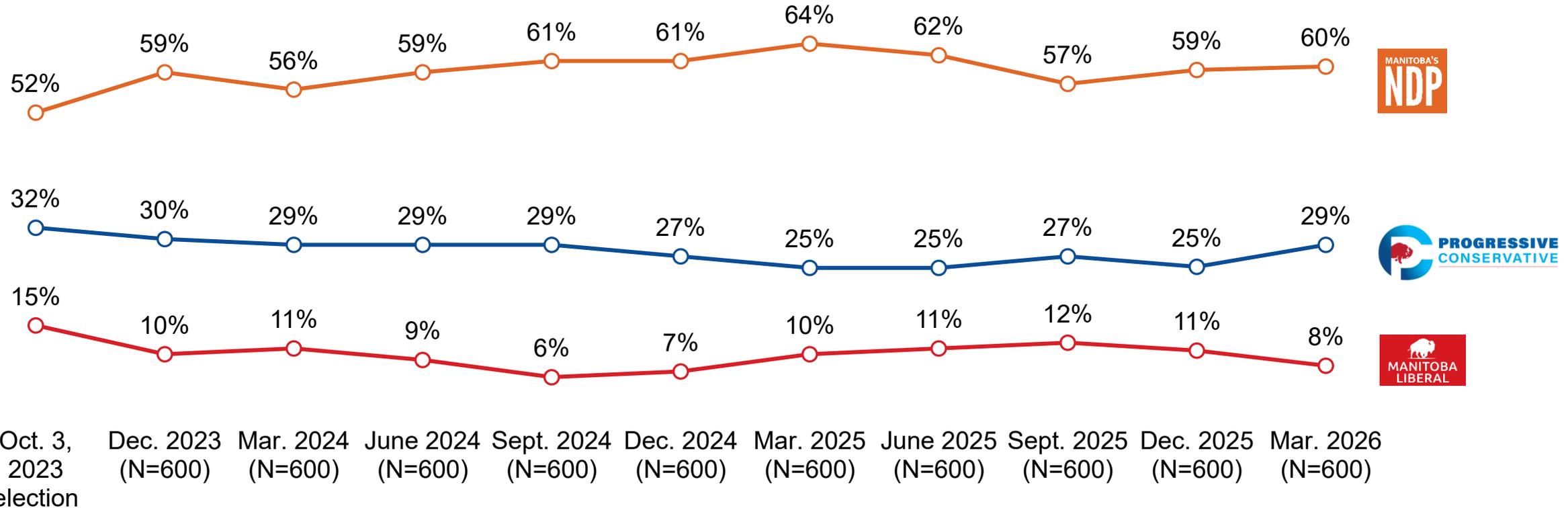
The NDP lead remains strong in Manitoba, with Liberal support decreasing slightly



Q1/2. If a provincial election were held tomorrow, which party's candidate would you be most likely to support? Even though you have not decided whom you would vote for, is there nonetheless a provincial party's candidate that you think you might want to support or are currently leaning toward? (Base: Decided and leaning voters in Manitoba, N=1,000)

**Undecided:
16%**

PC support increases slightly in Winnipeg – mainly at the expense of the Liberals



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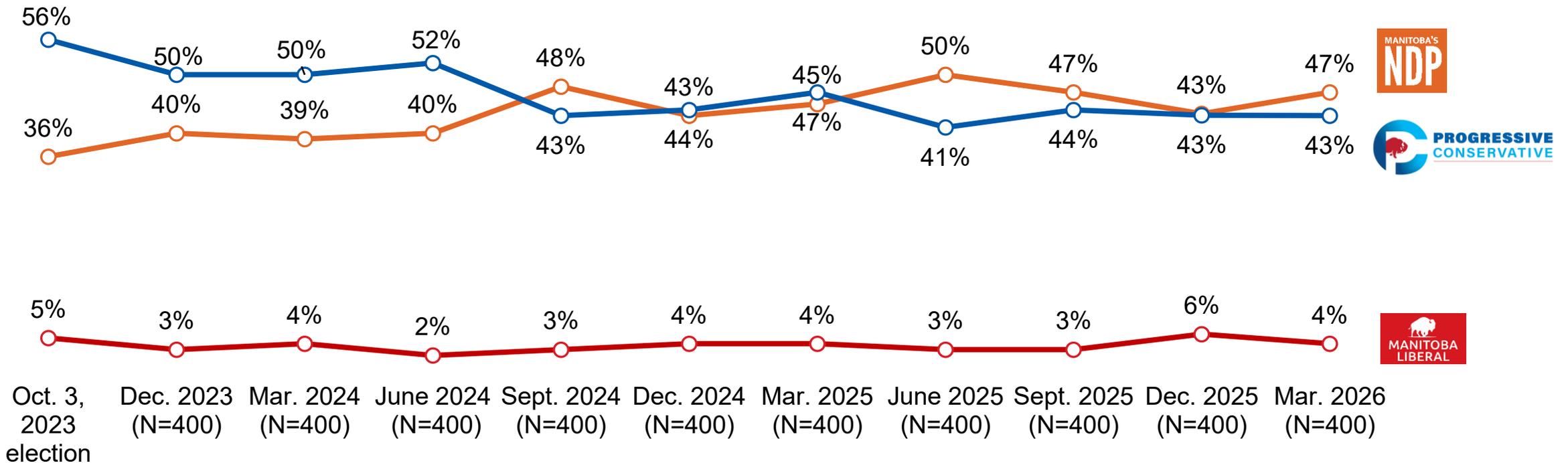
**Undecided:
15%**

NDP support remains especially concentrated in older Winnipeg neighbourhoods



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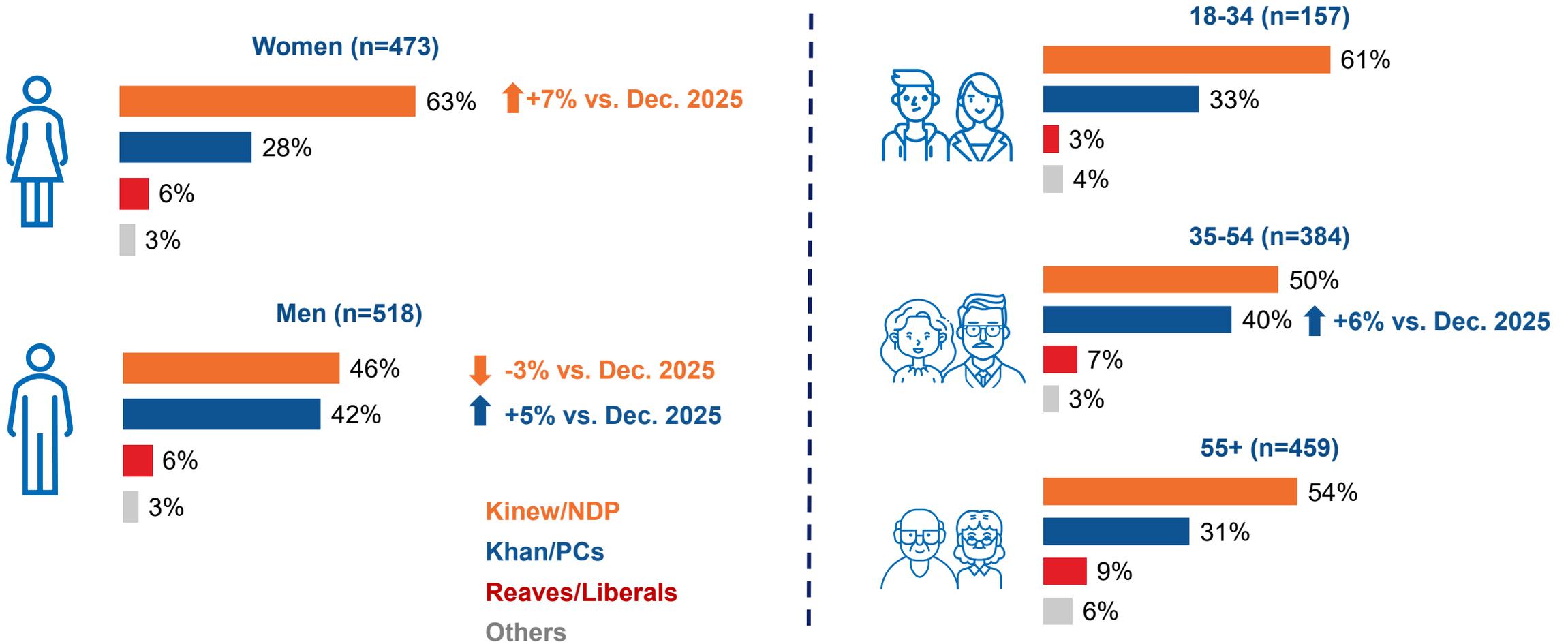
NDP support edges up outside Winnipeg, with the PC share unchanged



Q1/2. If a provincial election were held tomorrow, which party's candidate would you be most likely to support? Even though you have not decided whom you would vote for, is there nonetheless a provincial party's candidate that you think you might want to support or are currently leaning toward? (Base: Decided and leaning voters in rural/northern Manitoba)

**Undecided:
20%**

The gender gap is slightly wider today, with PC support increasing among men



Voting intentions among deciding/leaning voters: by subgroup

	Gender			Age			Region		
	Total	Men	Women	18-34	35-54	55+	Winnipeg	Rest of Manitoba	Born outside Canada
(Unweighted)	(1,000)	(518)	(473)	(157)	(384)	(459)	(600)	(400)	(142)
(Weighted Base)	(1,000)	(486)	(508)	(297)	(322)	(382)	(600)	(400)	(141)
NDP	55%	46%	63%	61%	50%	54%	60%	47%	59%
PC	35%	42%	28%	33%	40%	31%	29%	43%	29%
Liberal	6%	7%	6%	3%	7%	9%	8%	4%	10%
Others	4%	5%	3%	4%	3%	6%	2%	6%	2%
	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)
NDP	50%	54%	67%	60%	54%	59%	65%	60%	52%
PC	40%	37%	21%	27%	36%	34%	23%	27%	38%
Liberal	6%	6%	8%	8%	7%	4%	10%	10%	5%
Others	4%	3%	5%	6%	3%	2%	2%	3%	5%

Q1/2. If a provincial election were held tomorrow, which party's candidate would you be most likely to support? Even though you have not decided whom you would vote for, is there nonetheless a provincial party's candidate that you think you might want to support or are currently leaning toward? (Base: Decided and leaning voters in rural/northern Manitoba) *Caution: Small base

Contact:

Mary Agnes Welch, Partner

204-470-8862

Maryagnes@Probe-Research.com

PROBE Research

603 – 191 Lombard Ave.
Winnipeg, MB R3B 0X1

Probe-Research.com

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