



Update on the Political Landscape

BMD, Same-Sex, and Gomery – Issues Facing the Liberal Minority Government

February 14, 2005

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Methodology

■ Telephone survey of the general public

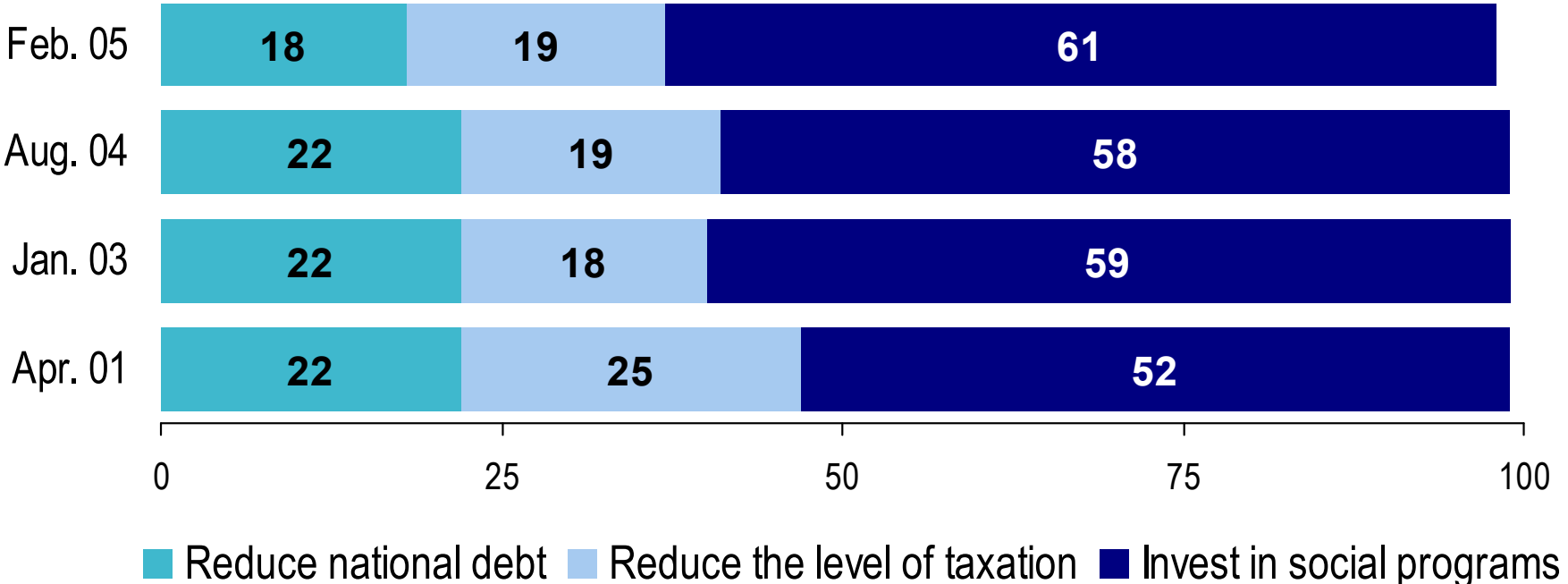
- ❖ 1046 interviews with a national random sample of Canadians 18 years of age and older
 - ✓ Interview period: February 7 – 9, 2005
 - ✓ National results valid within 3 percentage points, 19 times out of 20
- ❖ The margin of error increases when the results are sub-divided
- ❖ It should also be noted that the refusal rate and other measurement errors could also increase the margin of error

- All the data were statistically weighted to ensure the sample's regional, gender and age composition reflects that of the actual population of Canada according to Census data.
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The Budget

Surplus allotment to fund social programs

Q: As you may know, the Government of Canada has said it will have a budget surplus over the next several years. How would you prefer the Government of Canada make use of this budget surplus?

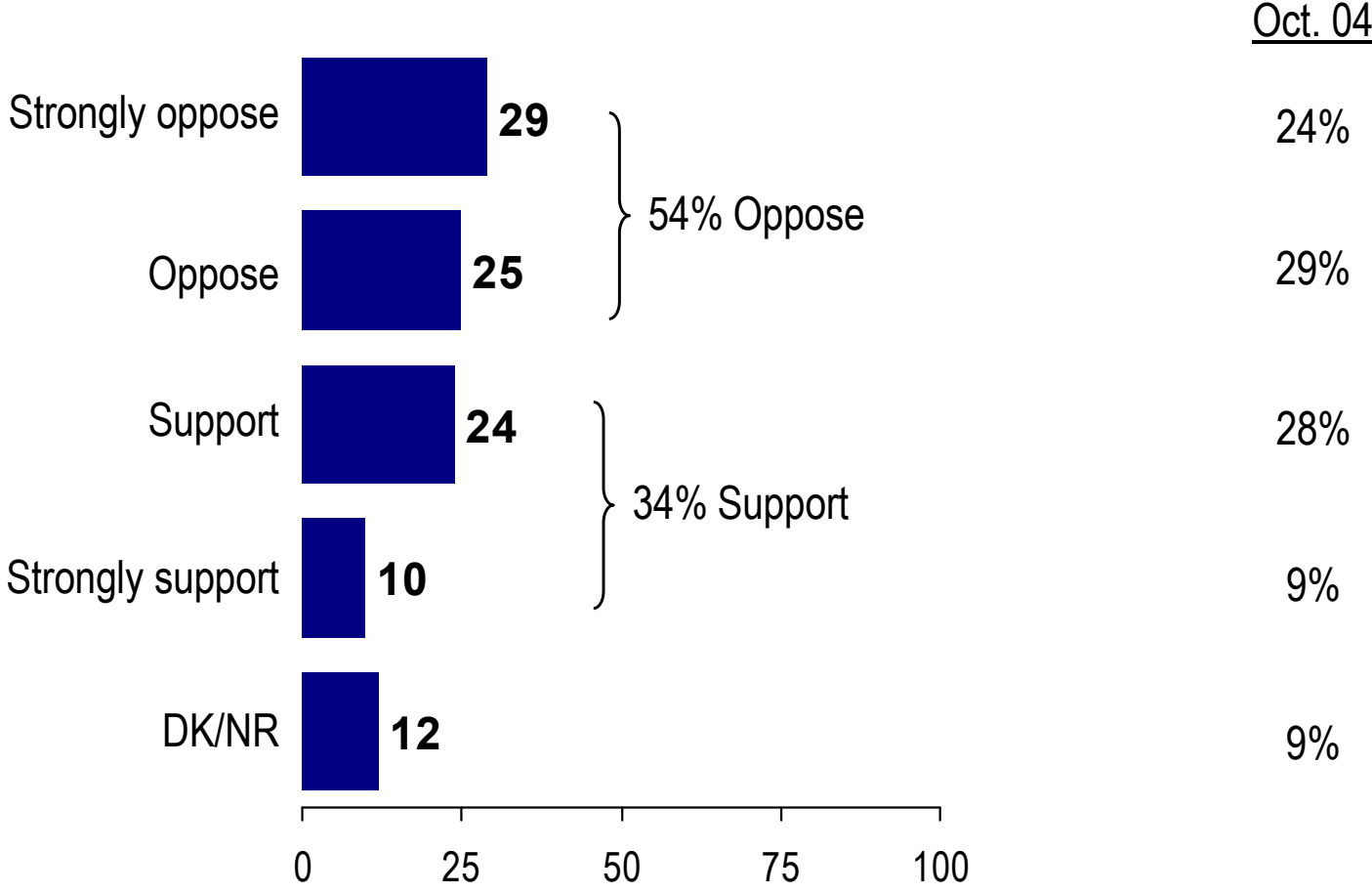


Base: All Canadians; most recent data point n=1046

Ballistic Missile Defence

Majority oppose participation in missile defence

Q: Would you say you support or oppose Canada's participation in the United States' ballistic missile defence program for North America?

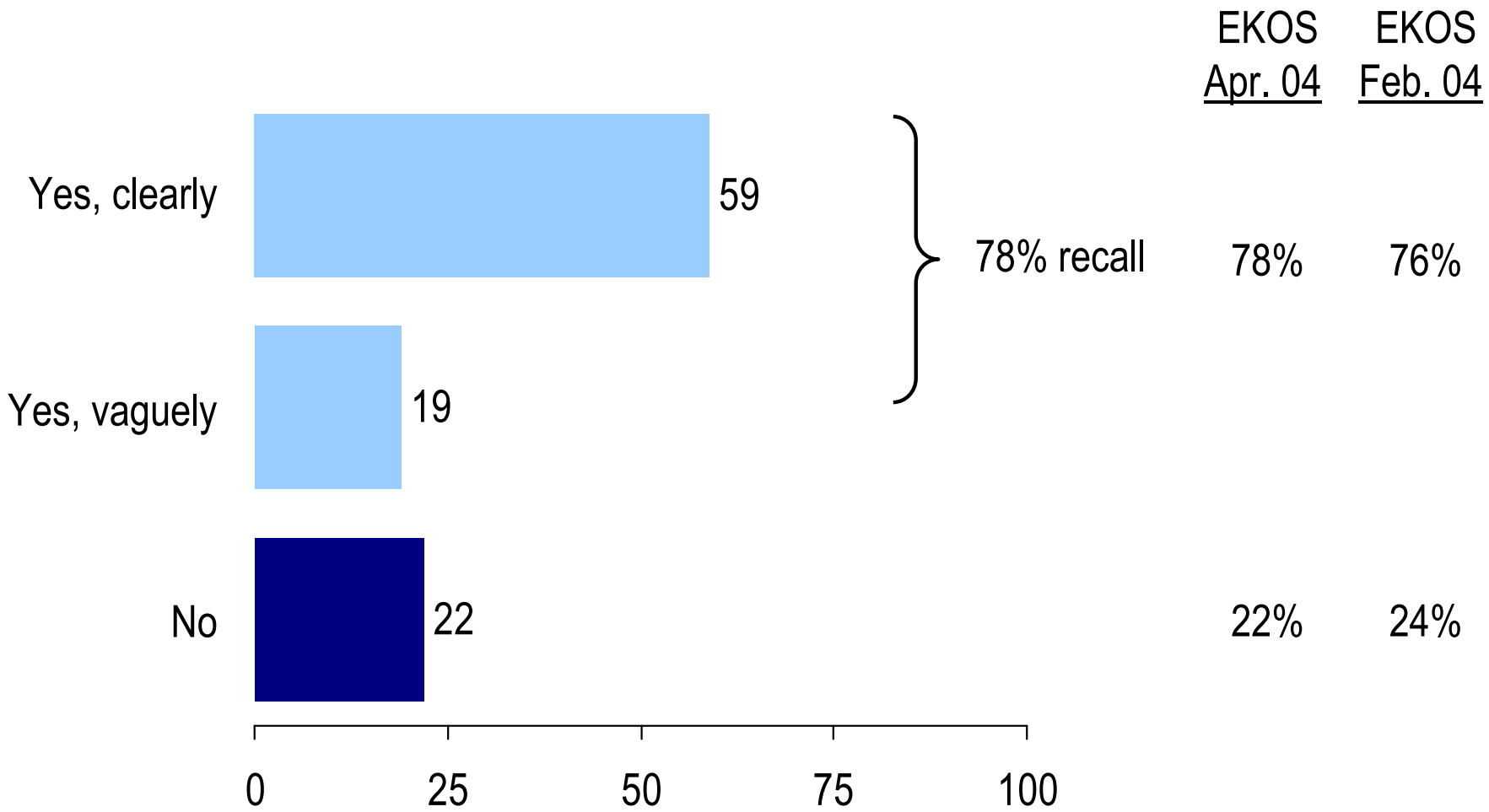


Base: All Canadians; Feb. 05 n=1046

The Gomery Inquiry

Sponsorship controversy registering with most Canadians

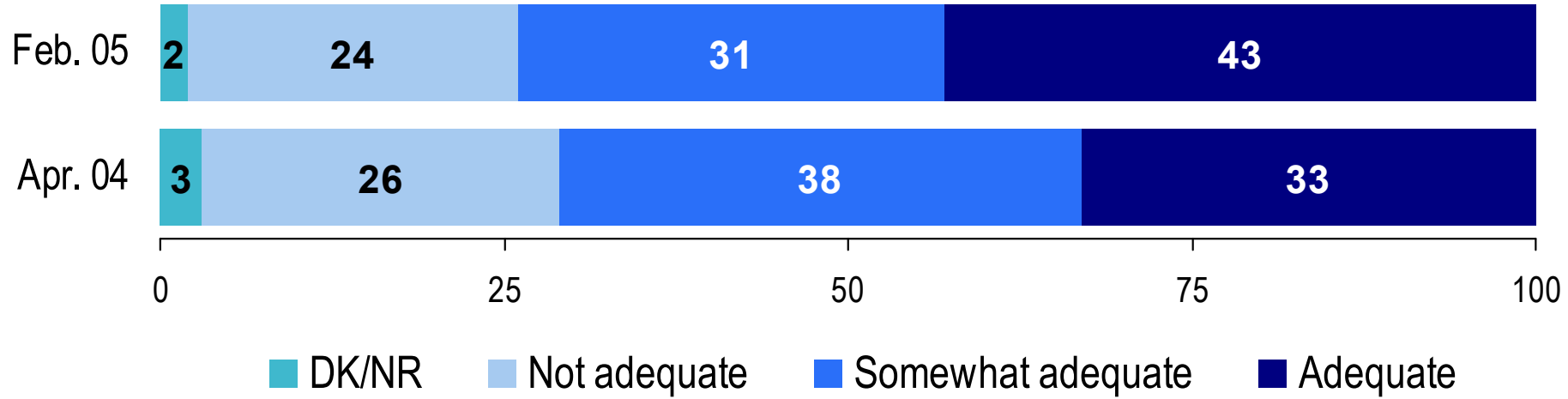
Q: Do you recall hearing or seeing anything over the past year or so about the controversy over the federal government's sponsorship program?*



* Question wording updated since April 2004 to include "over the past year or so" timeframe

Public comforted by sharing of information

Q: How adequate do you feel the information made available through sources such as the Auditor General, the Gomery Commission, and media reports is in helping you to form a rough judgment about the sponsorship program?*



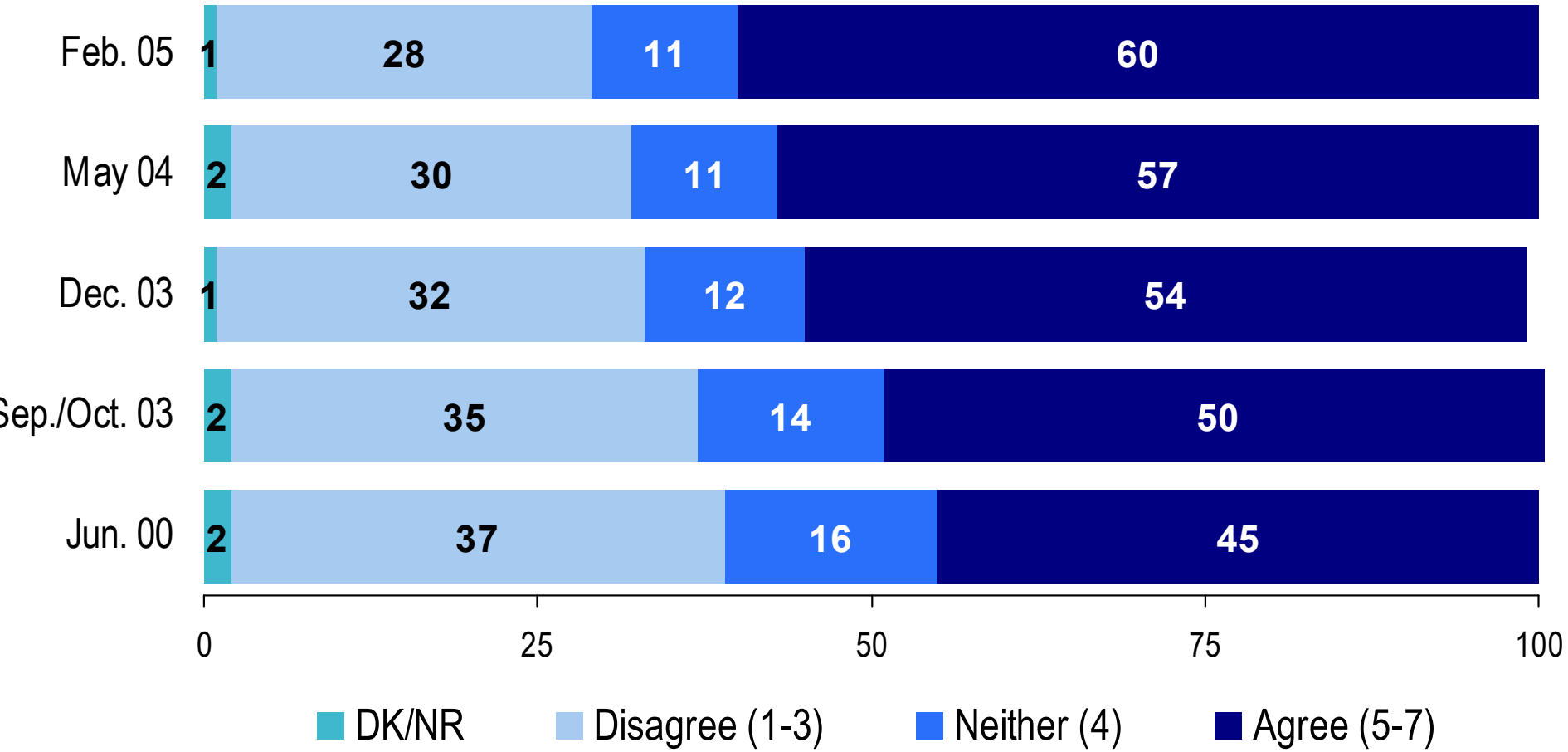
* Question wording updated since April 2004; “the Gomery Commission” replaced “the Parliamentary Committee”

Base: All Canadians; only asked of those who have at least a vague awareness of the sponsorship scandal

Same-Sex Marriage

Majority in favour of same-sex equality

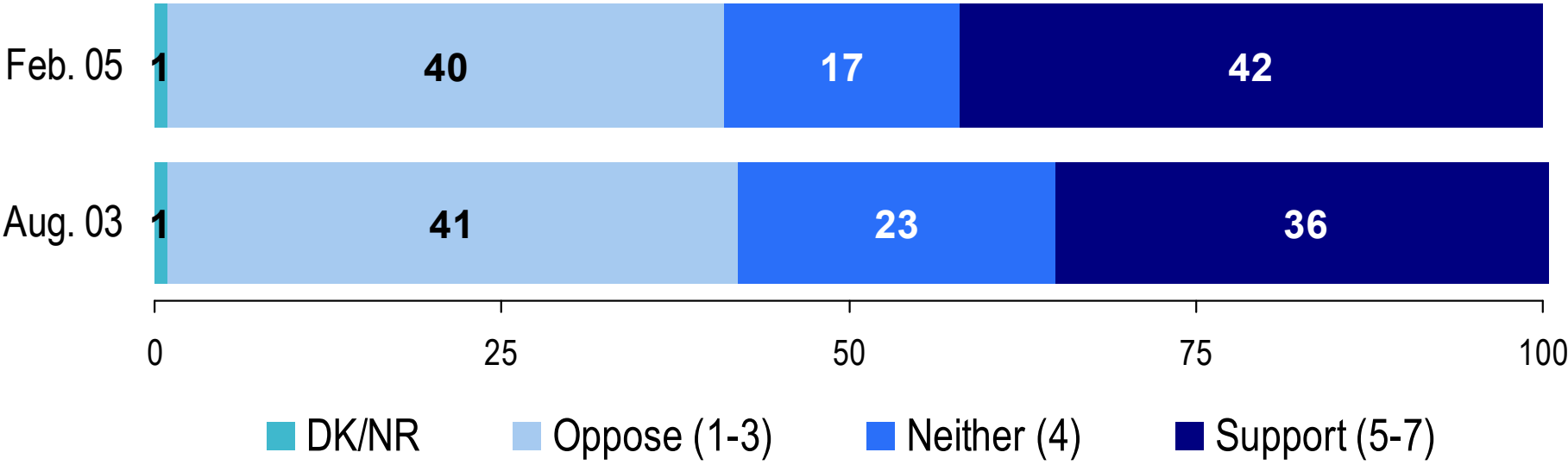
Q: Same-sex couples should have the same rights as heterosexual couples



Base: All Canadians; most recent data point n=1046

Slight plurality also support same-sex marriage

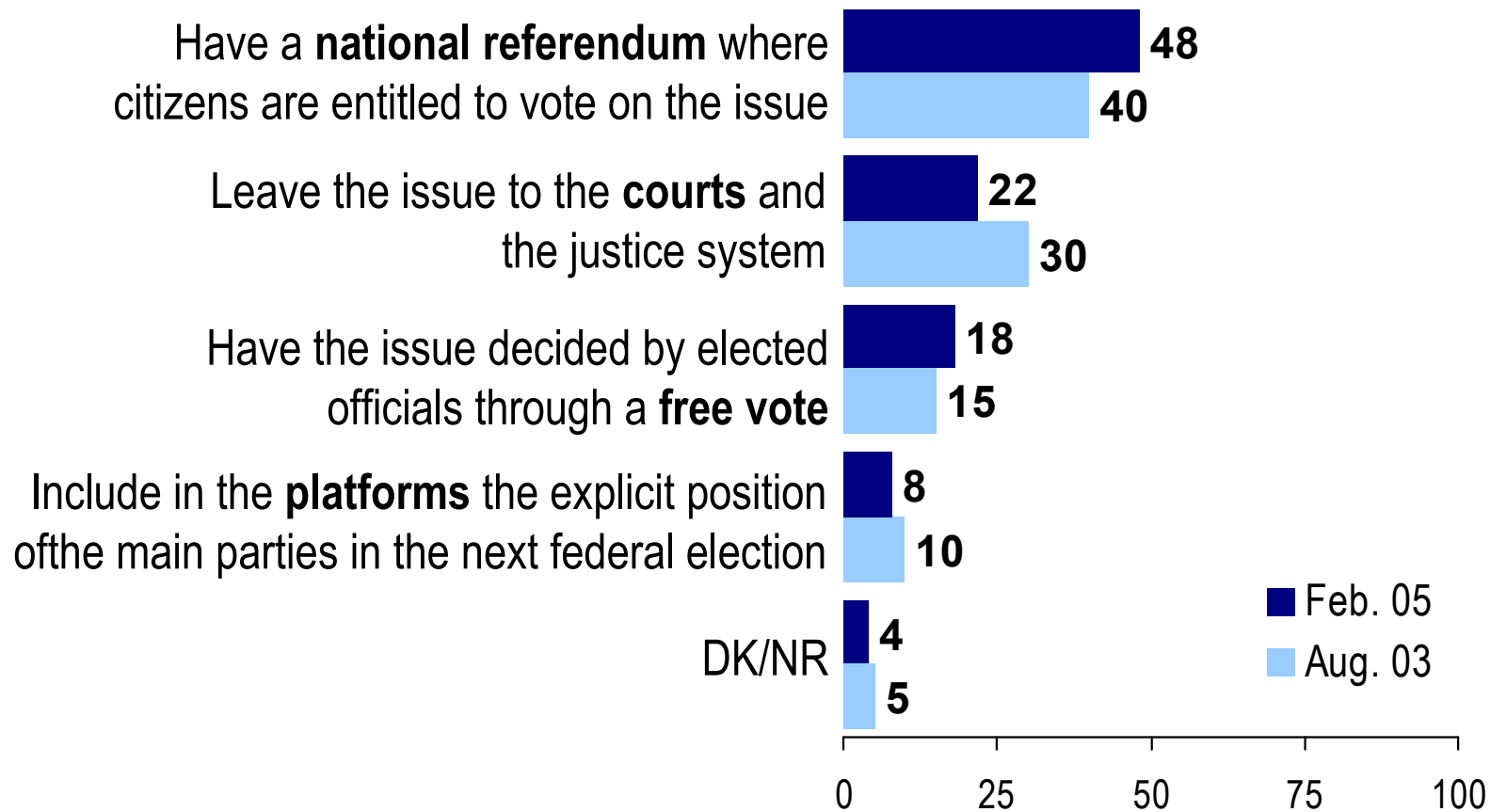
Q: Do you support or oppose allowing gay and lesbian couples to marry?



Base: All Canadians; most recent data point n=1046

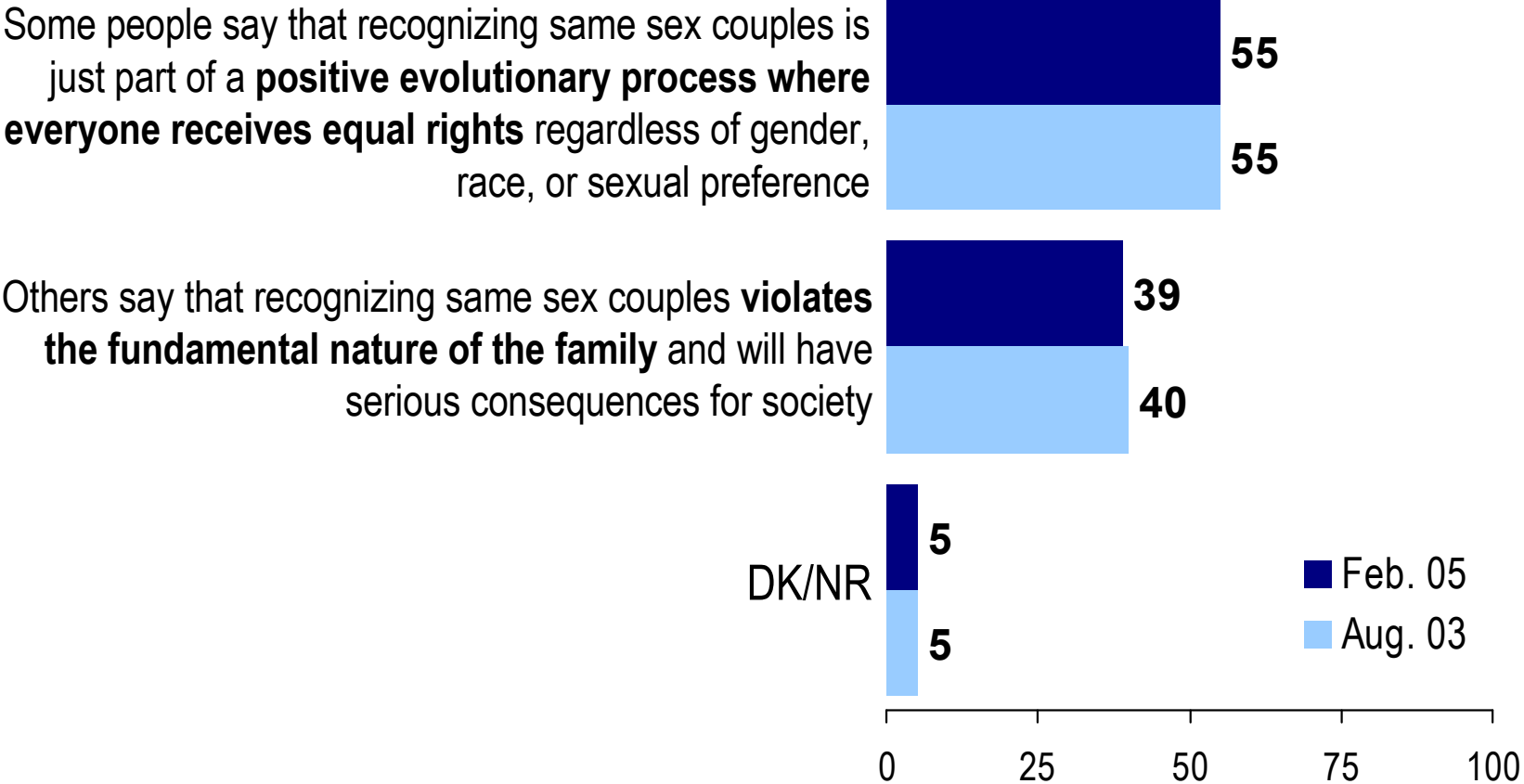
Referendum best way to settle the same-sex marriage debate

Q: Which of the following options do you think would be the best way to settle the divisive issue of same sex marriage?



Recognizing same-sex couples a step in the right direction

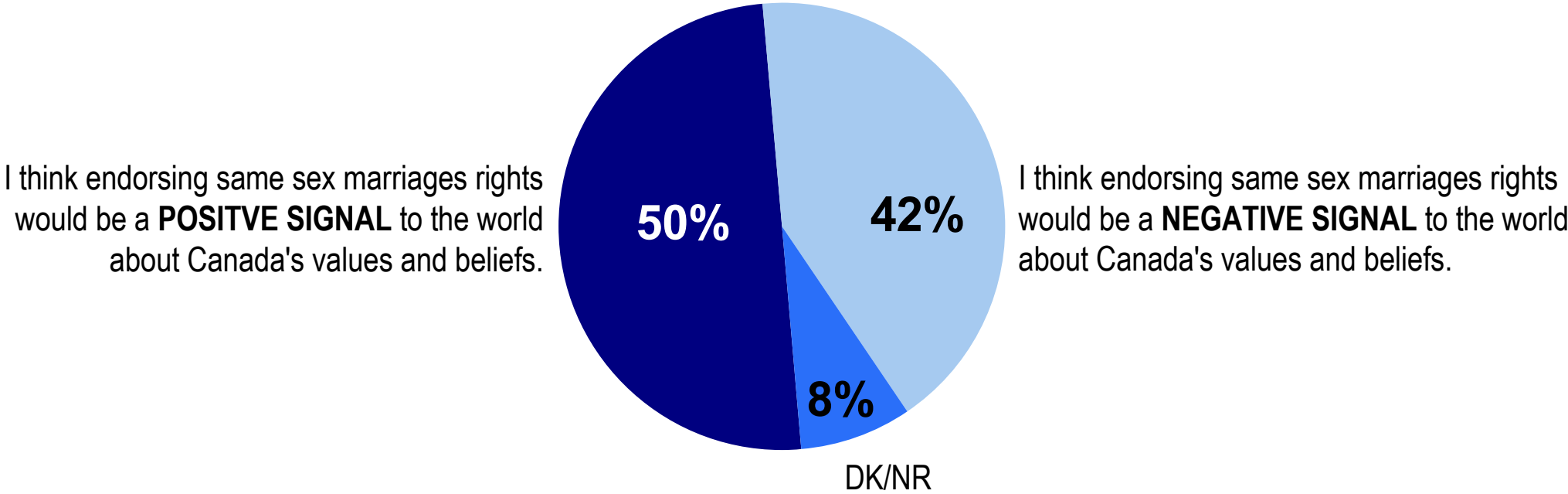
Q: Which of the following statements comes closer to you point of view?



Base: All Canadians; most recent data point n=1046

Endorsing same-sex marriage seen as sending a positive signal

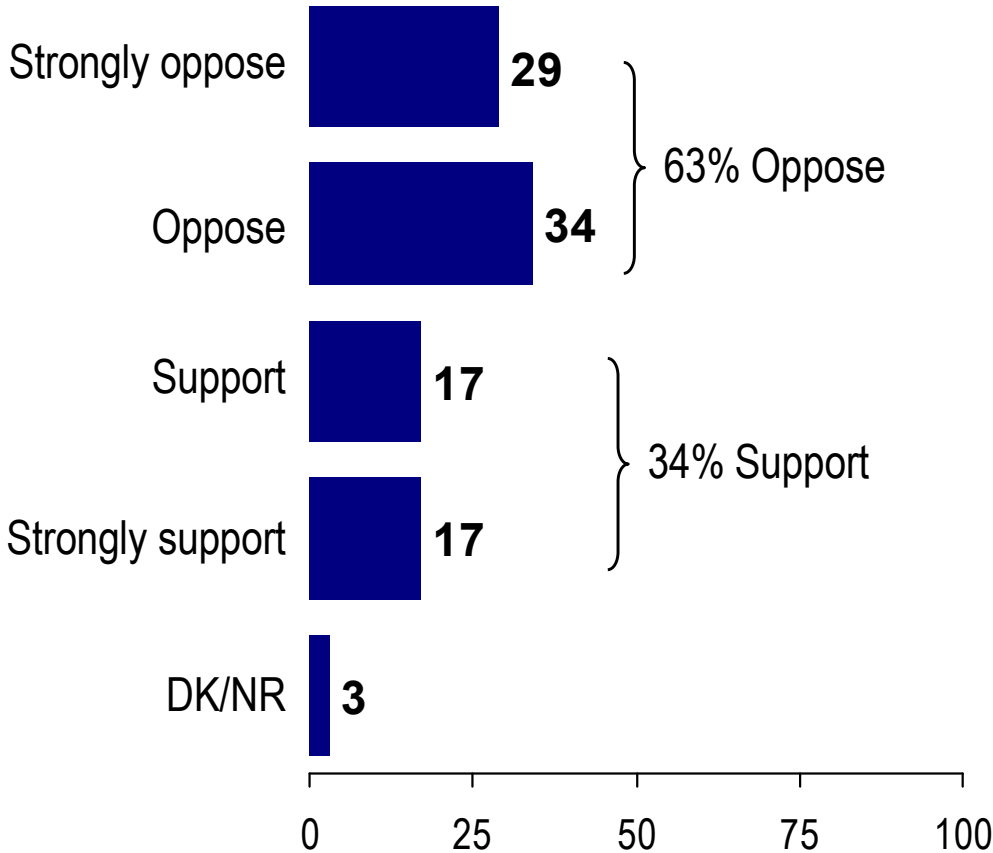
Q: Which of the following statements comes CLOSEST to your point of view?



Mandatory Retirement

Nearly two in three Canadians oppose mandatory retirement

Q: Prime Minister Martin has said that he is opposed to the idea of a mandatory retirement age in Canada, which is currently allowed in a number of provinces. Would you say you support or oppose a mandatory retirement age of 65 for Canadian workers?

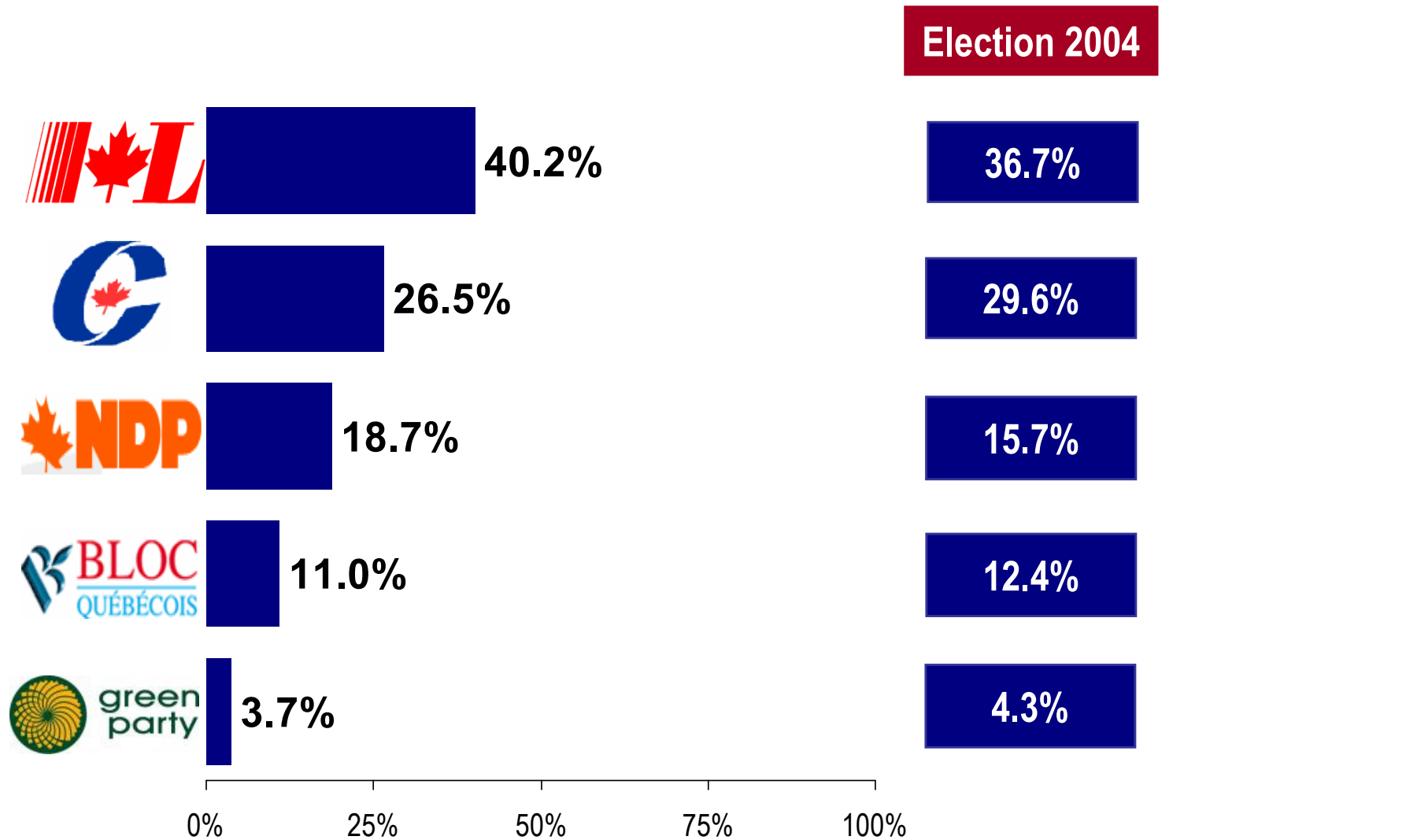


Base: All Canadians; Feb. 05, n=1046

Current Federal Voting Intentions

Federal voting intentions

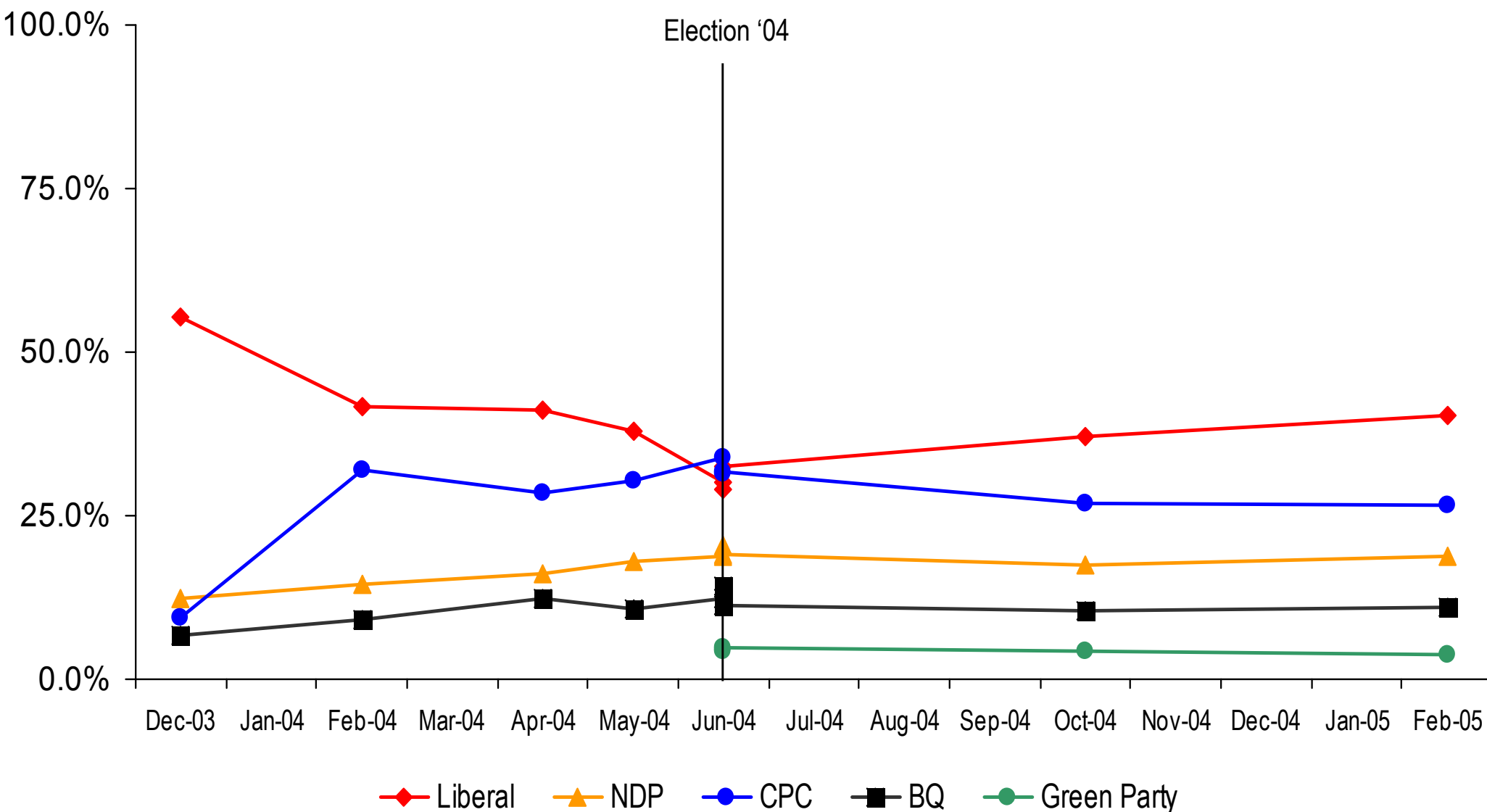
Q: If a federal election were held tomorrow, which party would you vote for?



Undecided/declined: 14.6%
Will not vote 1.3%

Federal voting intentions: trend since Martin became P.M.

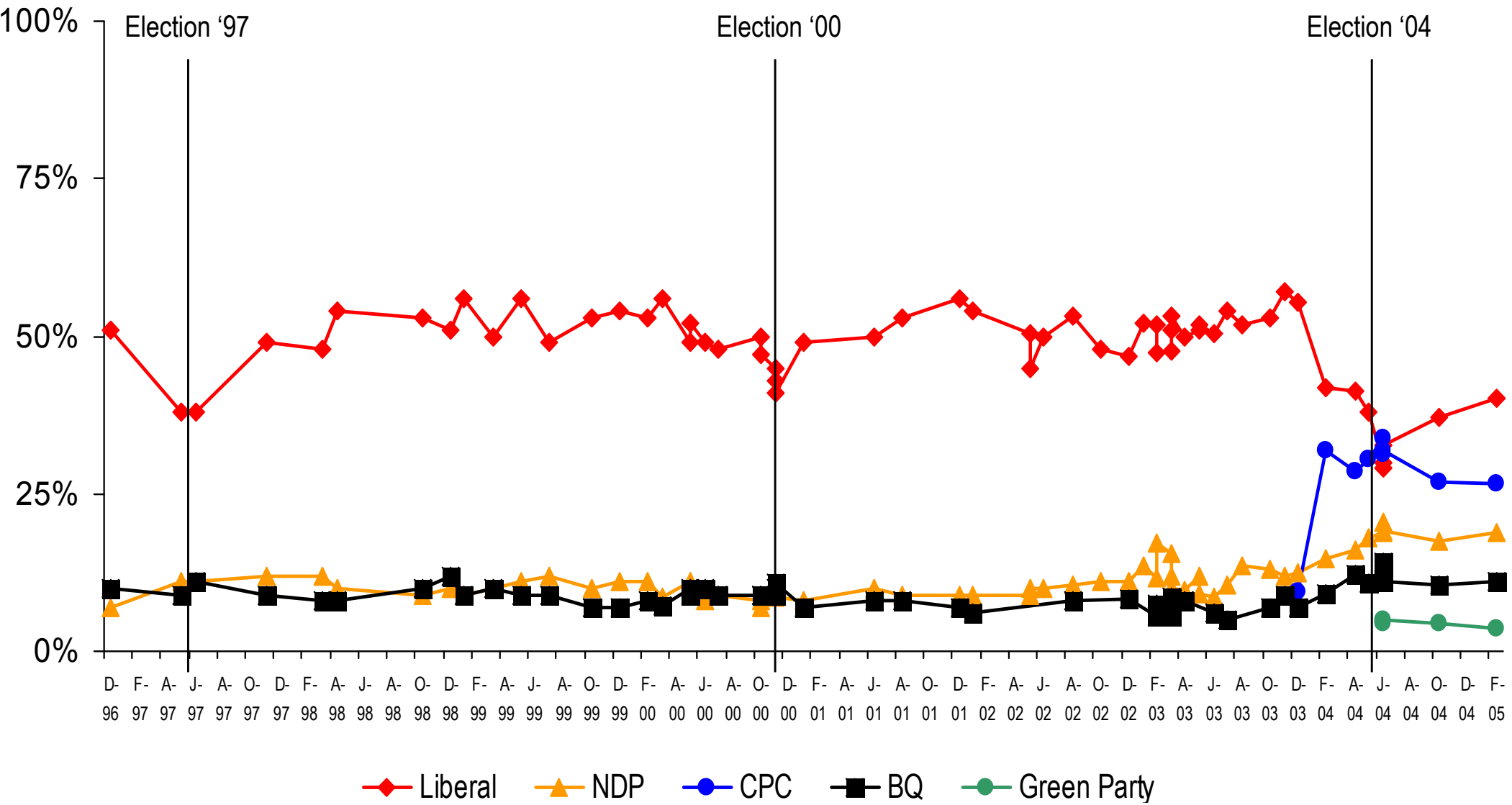
Q: If a federal election were held tomorrow, which party would you vote for?



Base Decided voters only (includes "leaners"); Feb. 05, n=876

Federal voting intentions: long-term trend

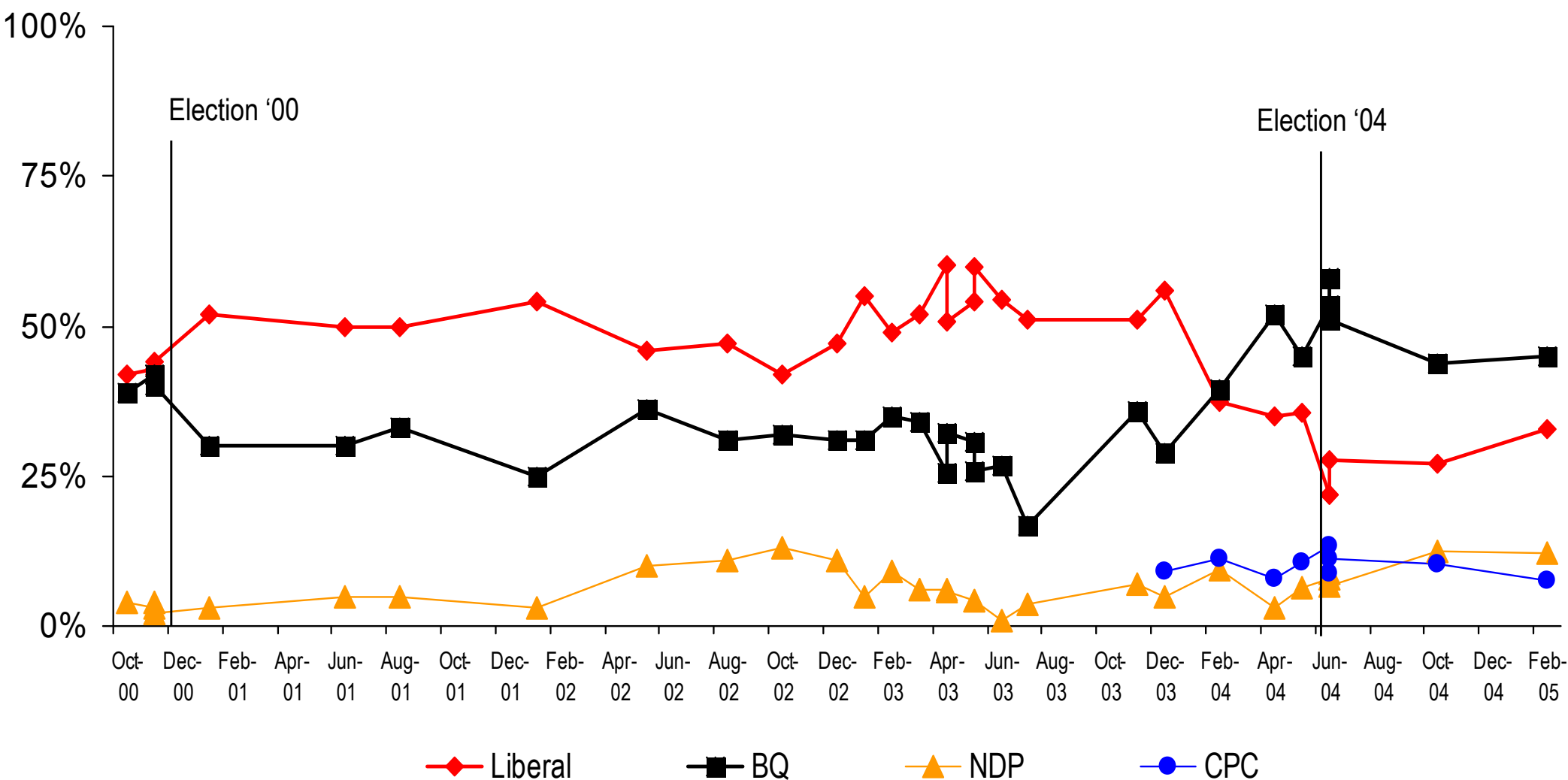
Q: If a federal election were held tomorrow, which party would you vote for?



Base Decided voters only (includes "leaners"); Feb. 05, n=876

Quebec federal voting preferences

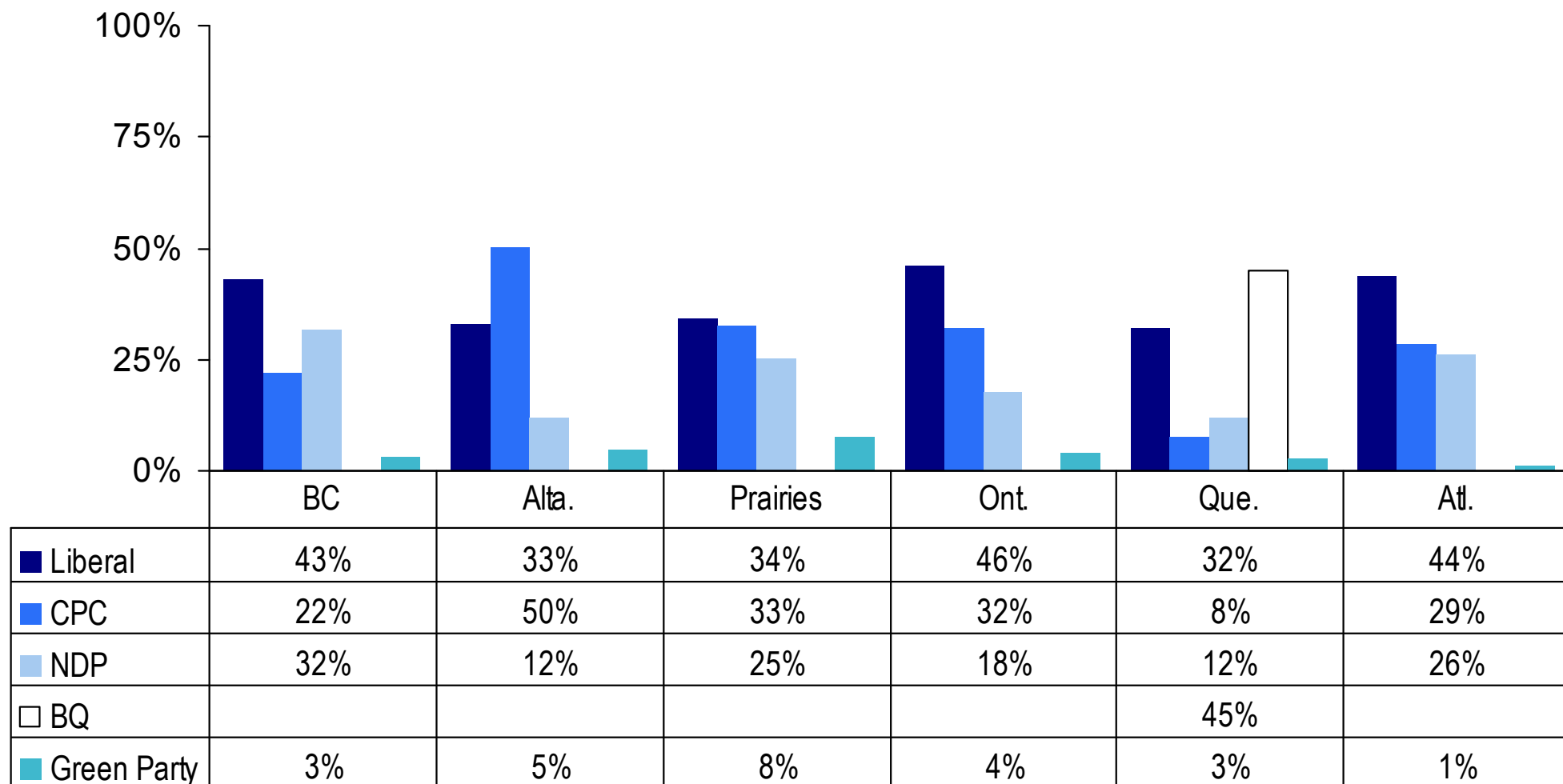
Q: If a federal election were held tomorrow, which party would you vote for?



Base Quebec decided voters only (includes "leaners"); Feb. 05, n=202

Federal voting intentions: regional

Q: If a federal election were held tomorrow, which party would you vote for?



■ Liberal

■ CPC

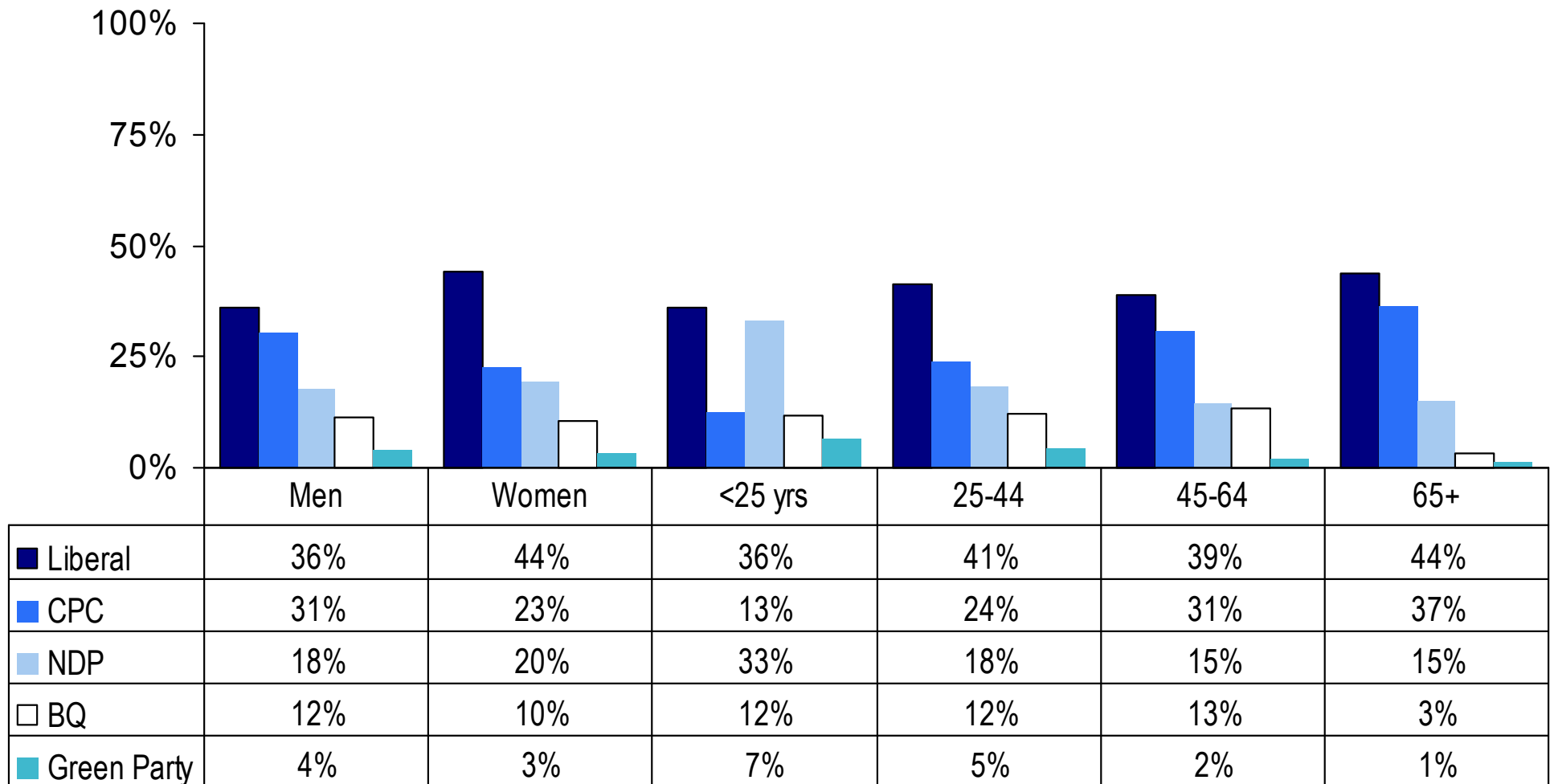
■ NDP

□ BQ

■ Green Party

Federal voting intentions: gender and age

Q: If a federal election were held tomorrow, which party would you vote for?



■ Liberal

■ CPC

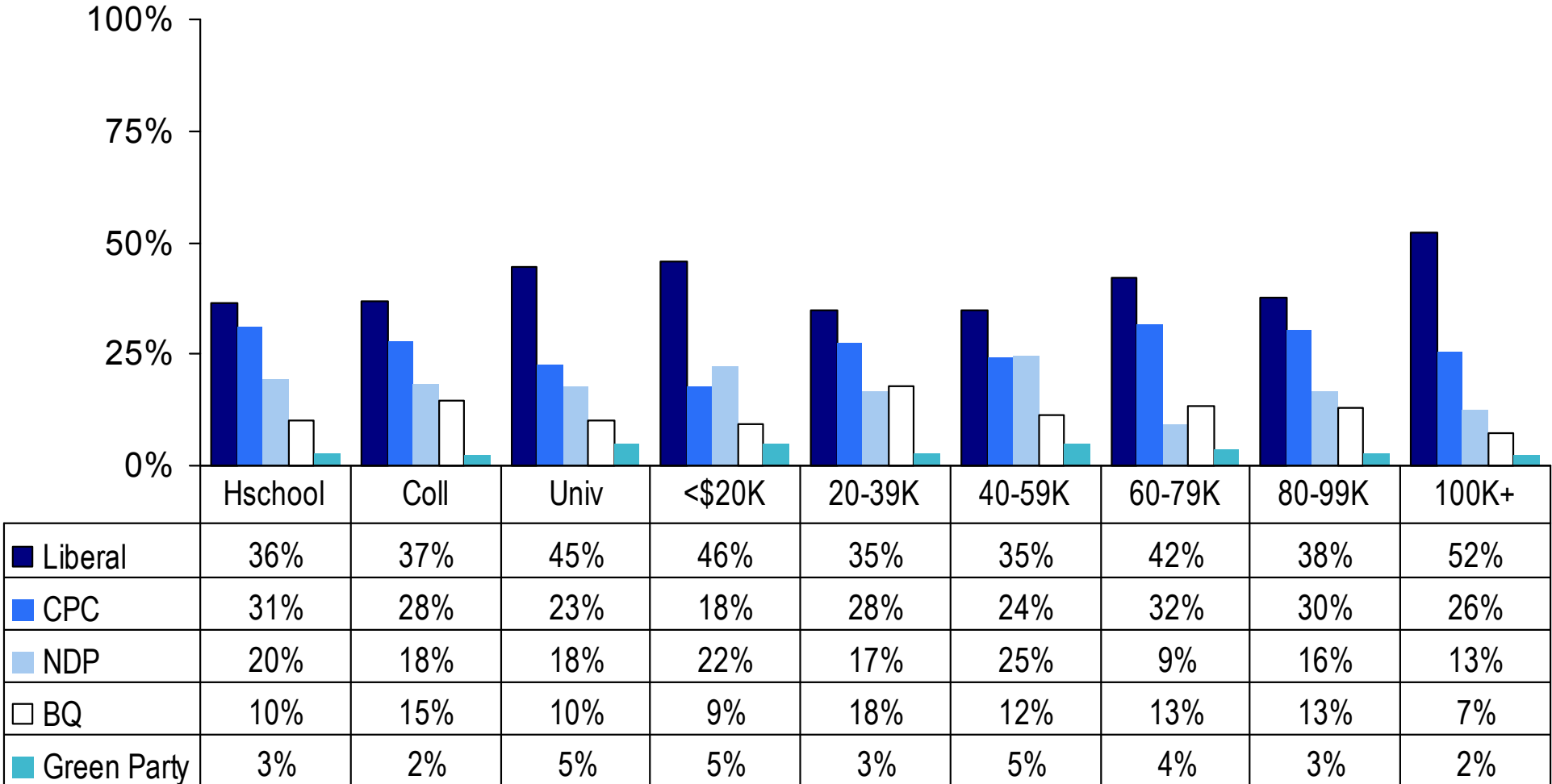
■ NDP

□ BQ

■ Green Party

Federal voting intentions: education & income

Q: If a federal election were held tomorrow, which party would you vote for?



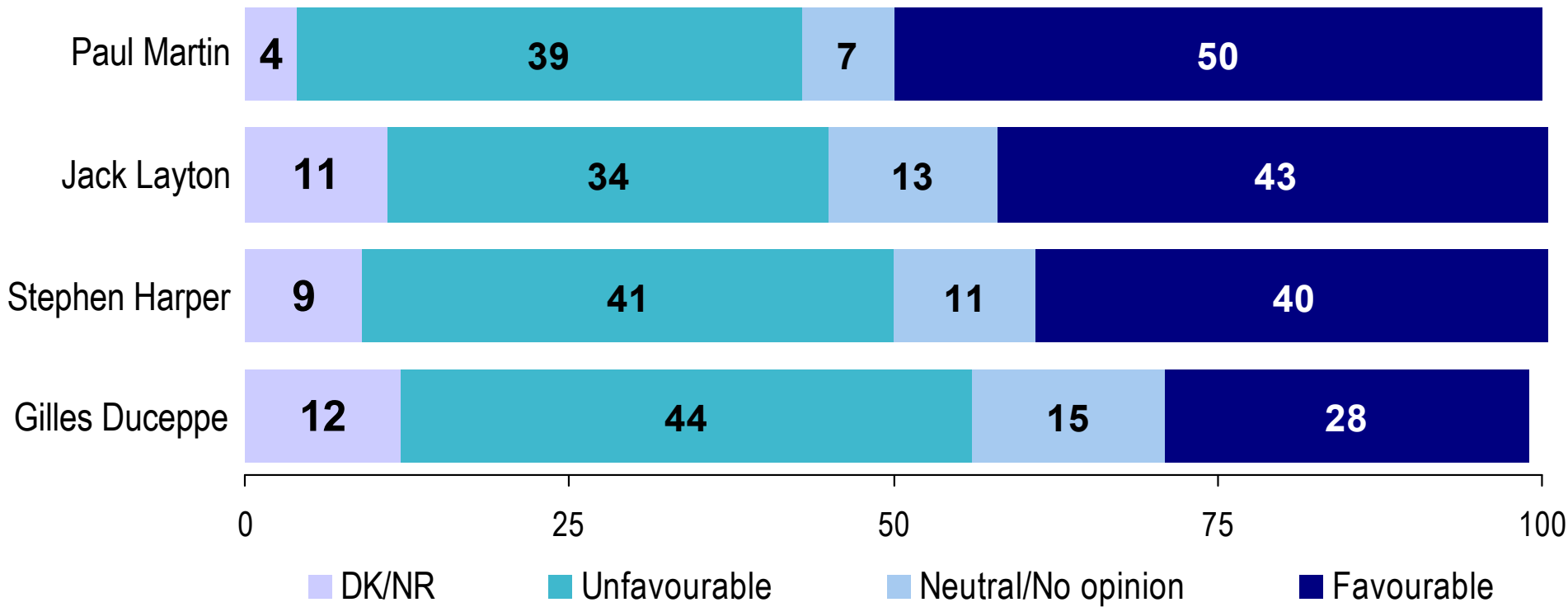
■ Liberal
 ■ CPC
 ■ NDP
 BQ
 ■ Green Party

Base Decided voters only (includes "leaners"); Feb. 05, n=876

Performance of the Leaders

Martin viewed most favourably

Q: Would you say your views of ... are generally favourable or unfavourable?

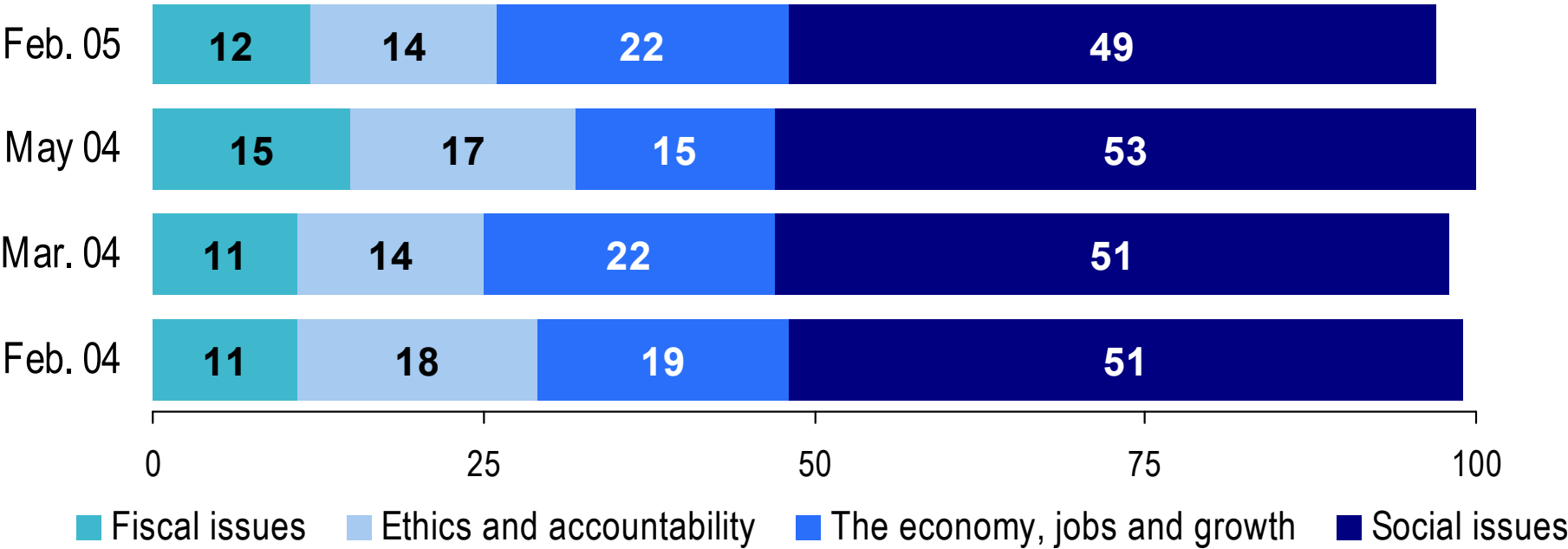


Base: All Canadians; Feb. 05, n=1046

The Next Election

Social issues most important for next election

Q: Which of the following do you think will be the most important issue for the next federal election?



Base: All Canadians; most recent data point n=1046

Liberals enjoy modest advantage overall

Q: And thinking about...which federal party do you feel offers the best solutions to address it?*

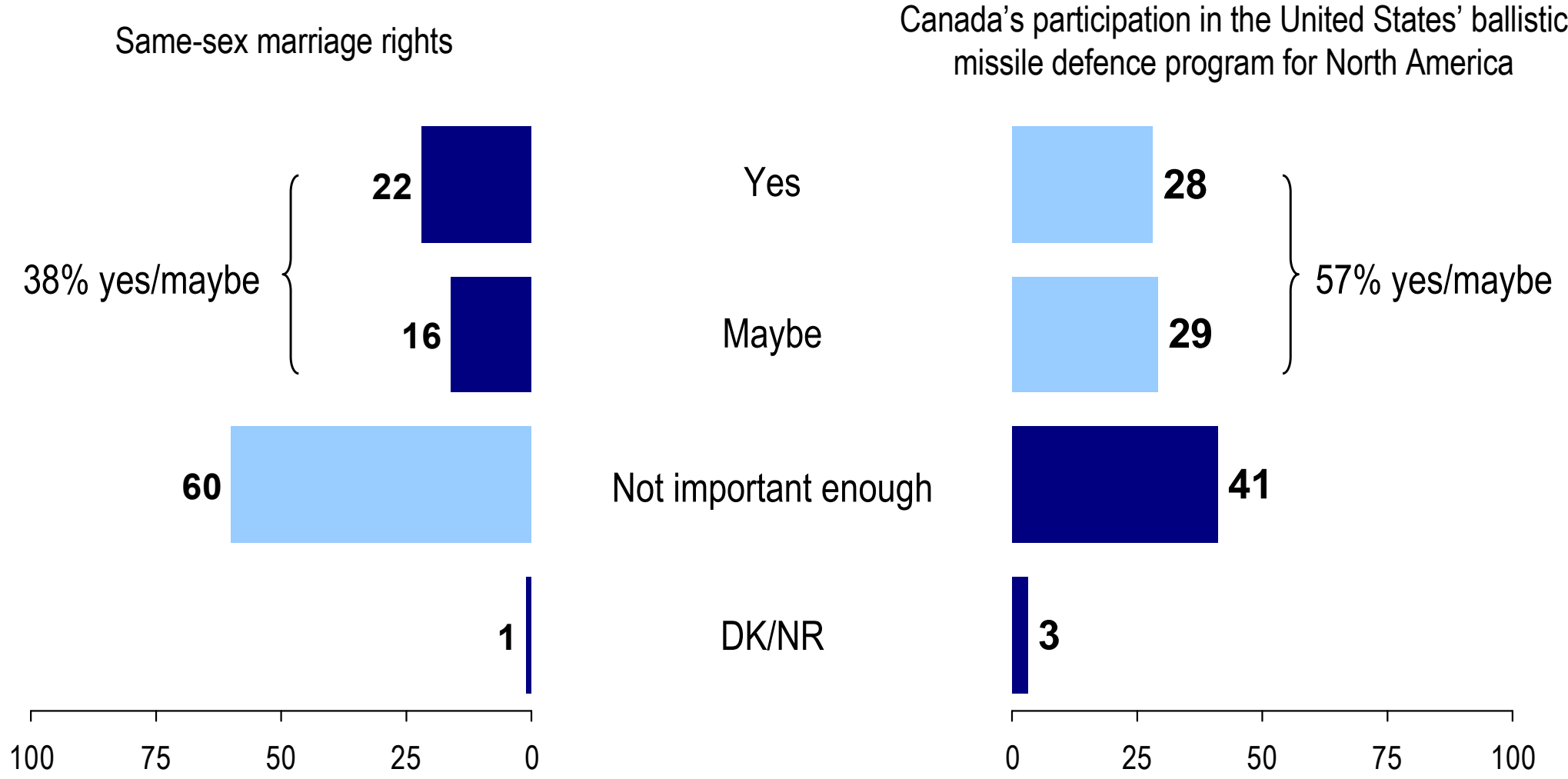
	<u>LPC</u>	<u>CPC</u>	<u>NDP</u>	<u>BQ</u>	<u>Green</u>	<u>None</u>	<u>DK/NR</u>
...social issues (health, education)	26	13	16	7	2	5	31
...the economy (jobs & growth)	34	18	6	6	3	7	25
...fiscal issues (taxes)	22	23	9	3	1	4	37
...ethics and accountability	15	37	11	3	2	3	29
...all issues**	26	19	12	6	2	5	30

*each respondent was asked to name the party they felt was best able to address the issue they considered the top priority for the next election

**represents collapse of responses for each of the issues

BMD, but not same-sex, important enough to force election?

Q: As you are likely aware, the current Liberal Government is a minority government, requiring support from the other parties to stay in power. I am going to read you a list of potential issues over which other parties could deny the government this support and potentially force another national election. For each, please tell me whether or not you feel this issue is important enough to force an election over.



Base: All Canadians; Feb. 05, n=1046



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