

**PUBLIC OPINION RESEARCH**

**CLIMATE EMERGENCY  
POLLING**

**SUMMER 2019**

**NATIONAL SURVEY OF 2,000 CANADIANS**

**ABACUS DATA**





# METHODOLOGY

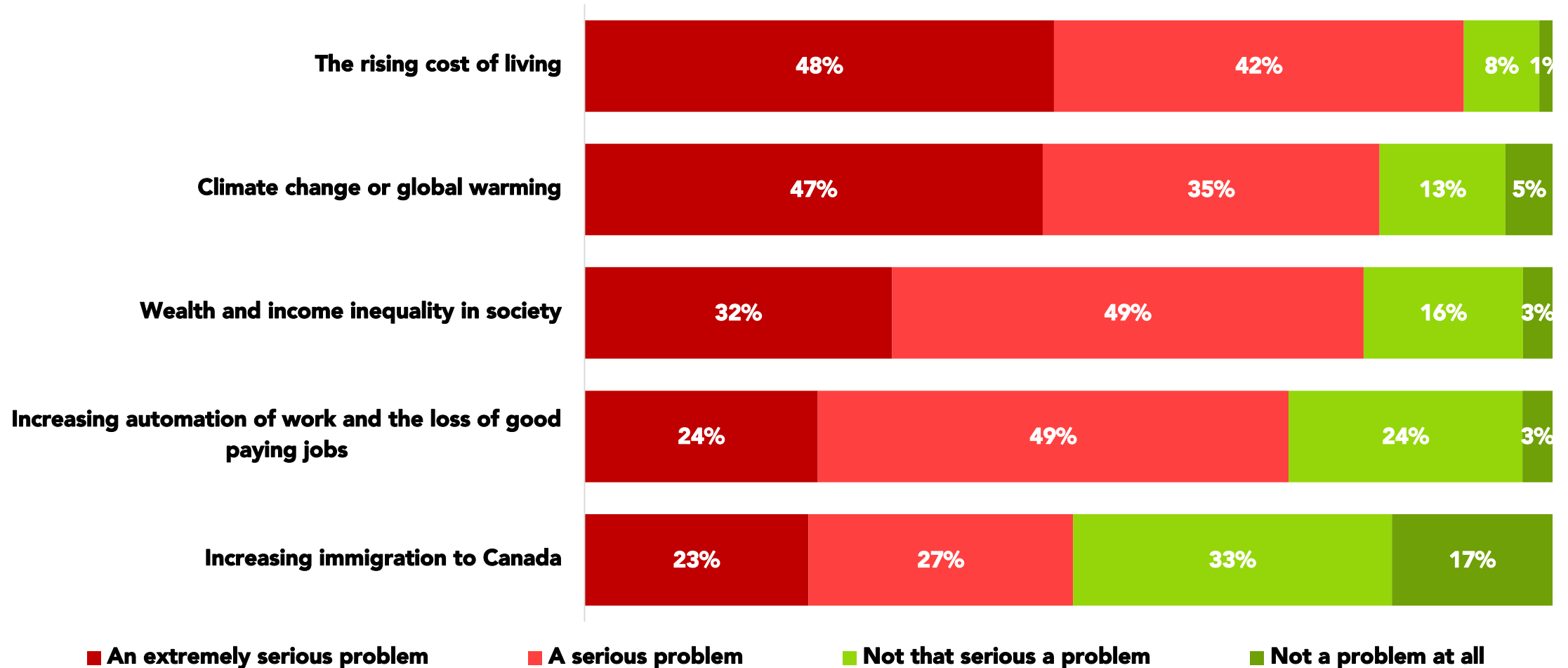
The survey was conducted online with 2,000 Canadian residents aged 18 and over, from July 16th to 19th, 2019. A random sample of panelists were invited to complete the survey from a set of partner panels based on the Lucid exchange platform. These partners are typically double opt-in survey panels, blended to manage out potential skews in the data from a single source.

The margin of error for a comparable probability-based random sample of the same size is +/- 2.19%, 19 times out of 20.

The data were weighted according to census data to ensure that the sample matched Canada's population according to age, gender, educational attainment, and region. Totals may not add up to 100 due to rounding.

This poll was commissioned by Seth Klein, adjunct professor with Simon Fraser University's Urban Studies program (as part of research for a book he is writing on the climate emergency), with support from the Canadian Centre for Policy Alternatives – BC Office and the Corporate Mapping Project.

# ISSUES FACING CANADA



To what extent, if at all, do you feel the following issues are an extremely serious problem, a serious problem, not that serious a problem, or not a problem at all?

# FEELINGS ABOUT CLIMATE CHANGE

**I think about it often and am getting really anxious about it**

**25%**

**I think about it sometimes and am getting increasingly worried about what impact it will have**

**49%**

**I honestly don't think about it all that much**

**19%**

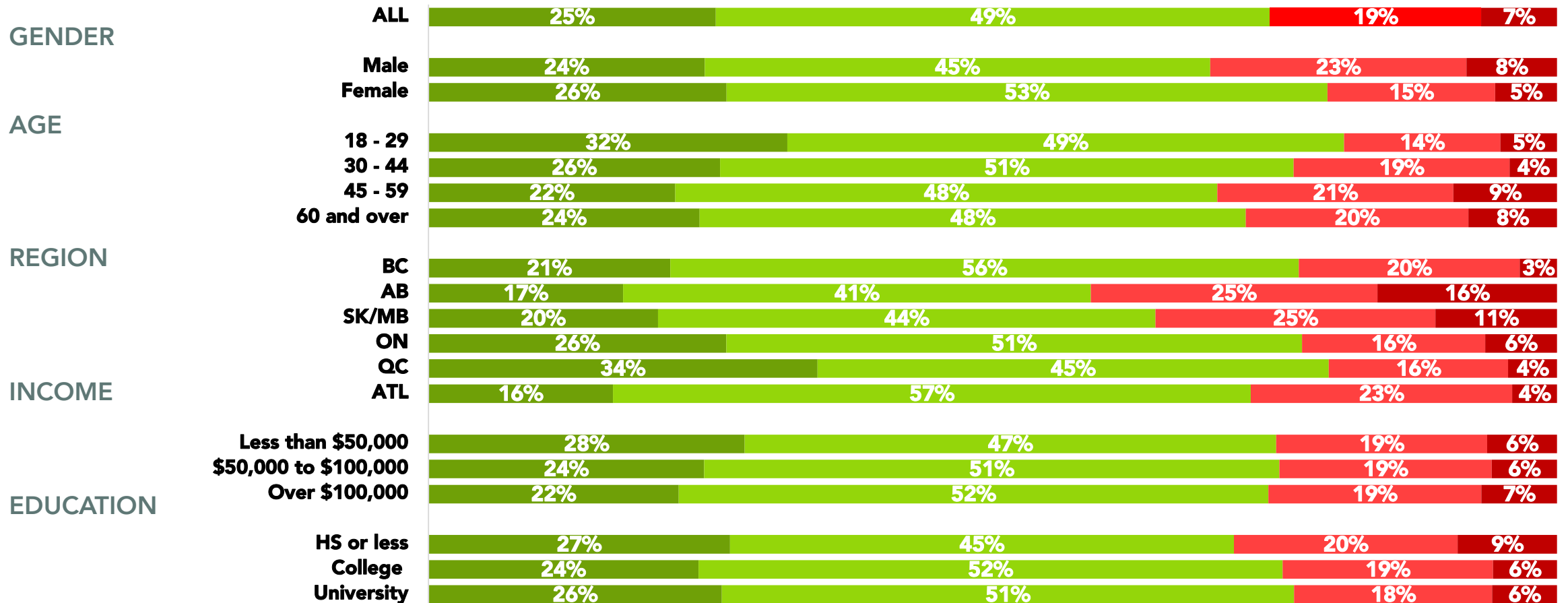
**I don't think climate change or global warming is real or something for us to worry about**

**7%**

Being honest with us for a moment, which of the following BEST describes how you're feeling about climate change these days?

**ABACUS DATA**

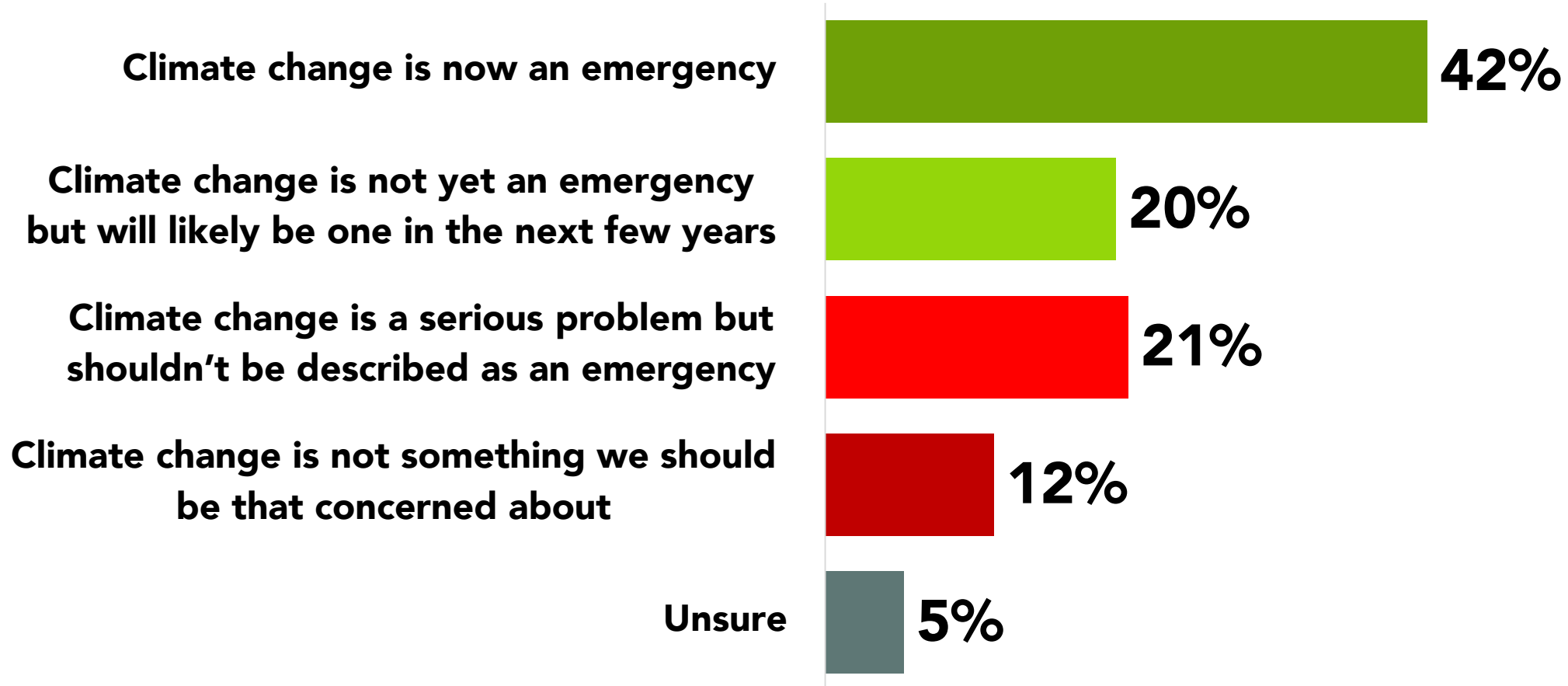
# FEELINGS ABOUT CLIMATE CHANGE



- I think about it often and am getting really anxious about it
- I think about it sometimes and am getting increasingly worried about what impact it will have
- I honestly don't think about it all that much
- I don't think climate change or global warming is real or something for us to worry about

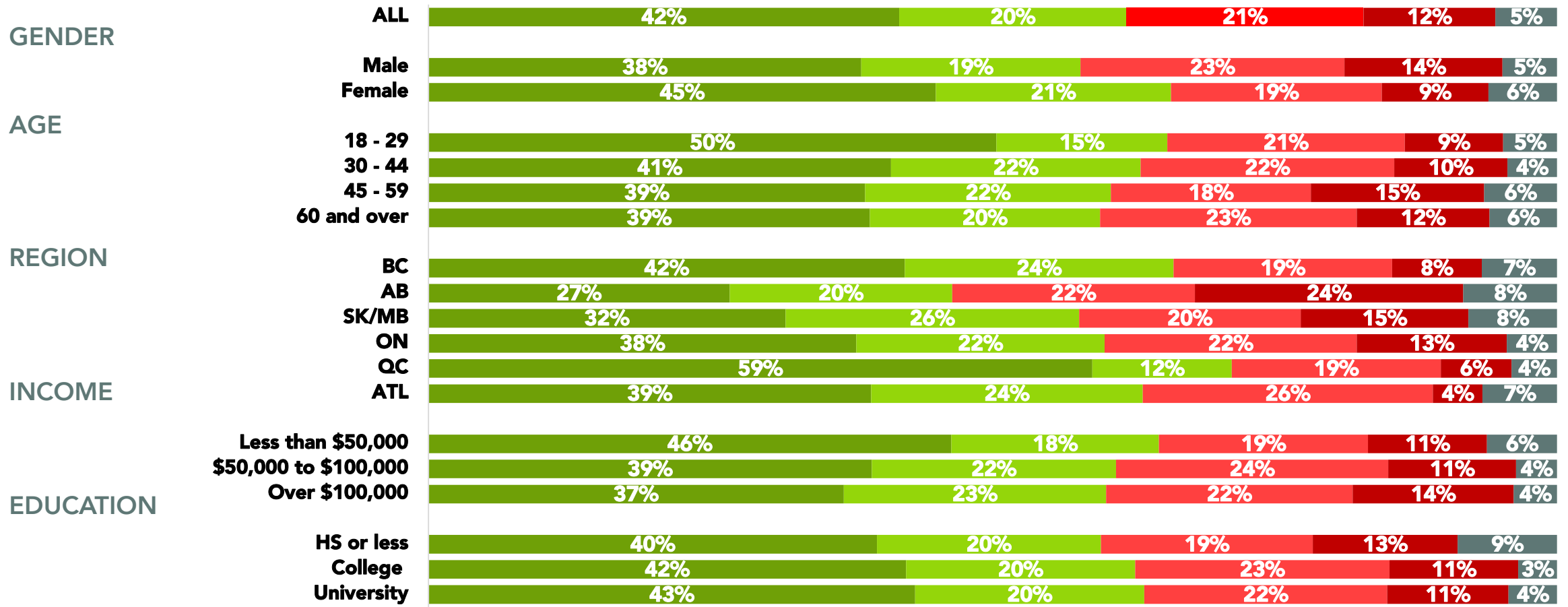
Being honest with us for a moment, which of the following BEST describes how you're feeling about climate change these days?

# CLIMATE CHANGE EMERGENCY



Thinking specifically about climate change, which of the following do you think BEST describes the situation?

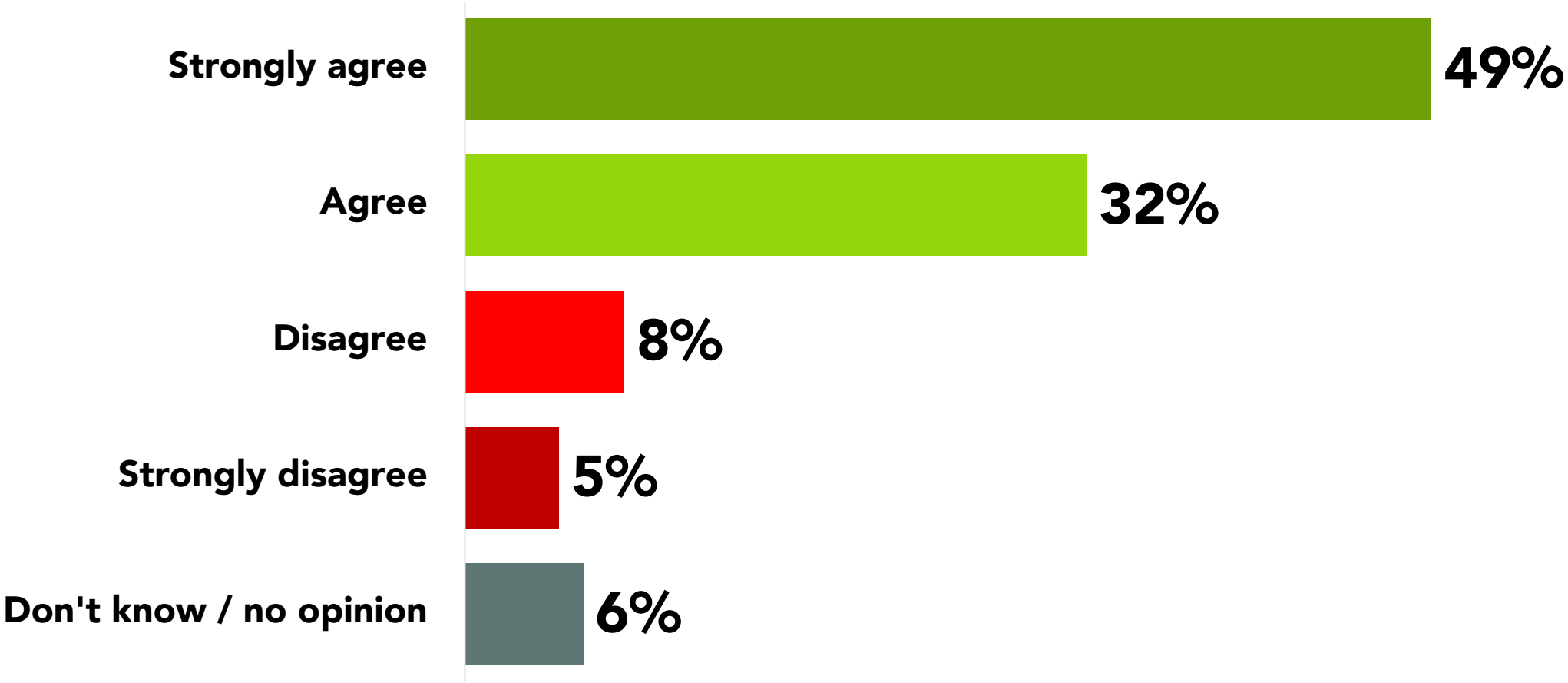
# CLIMATE CHANGE EMERGENCY



- Climate change is now an emergency
- Climate change is not yet an emergency but will likely be one in the next few years
- Climate change is a serious problem but shouldn't be described as an emergency
- Climate change is not something we should be that concerned about
- Unsure

Thinking specifically about climate change, which of the following do you think BEST describes the situation?

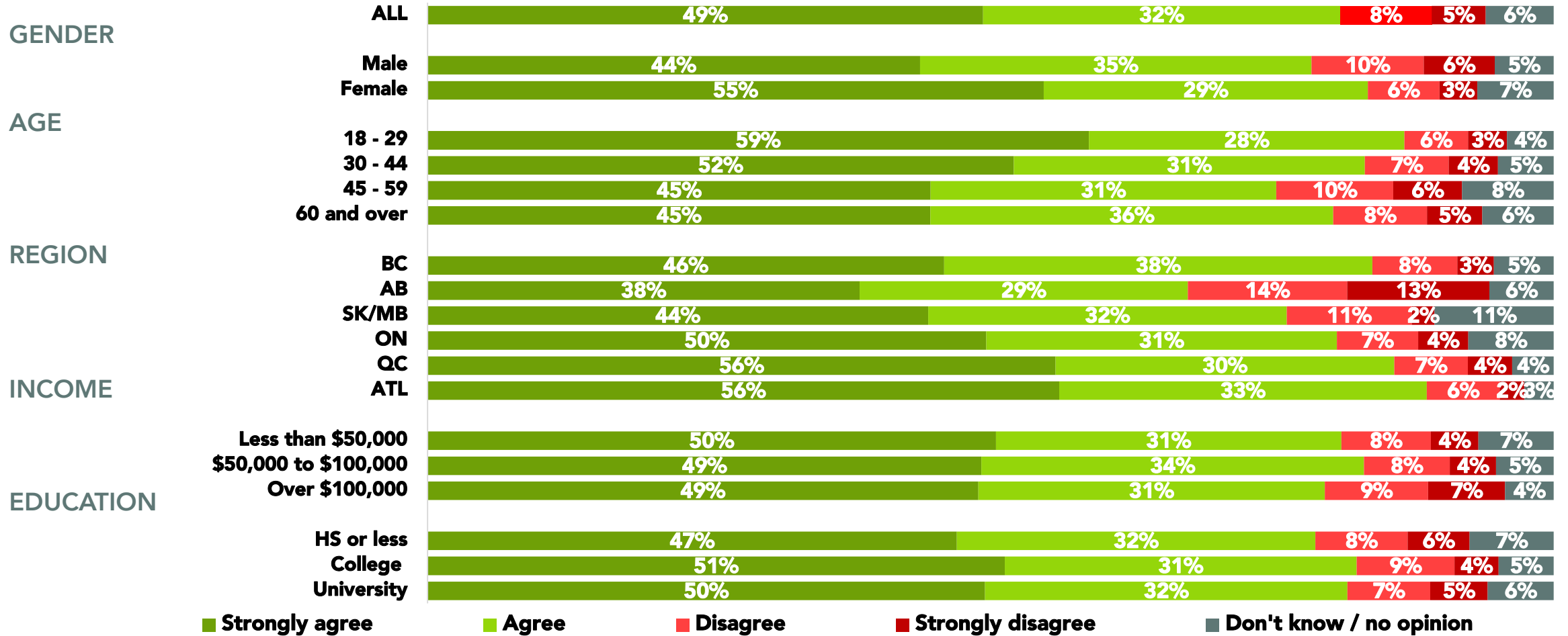
# CLIMATE CHANGE REPRESENTS A MAJOR THREAT TO THE FUTURE OF OUR CHILDREN AND GRANDCHILDREN



How much do you agree or disagree with the following statement: Climate change represents a major threat to the future of our children and grandchildren?

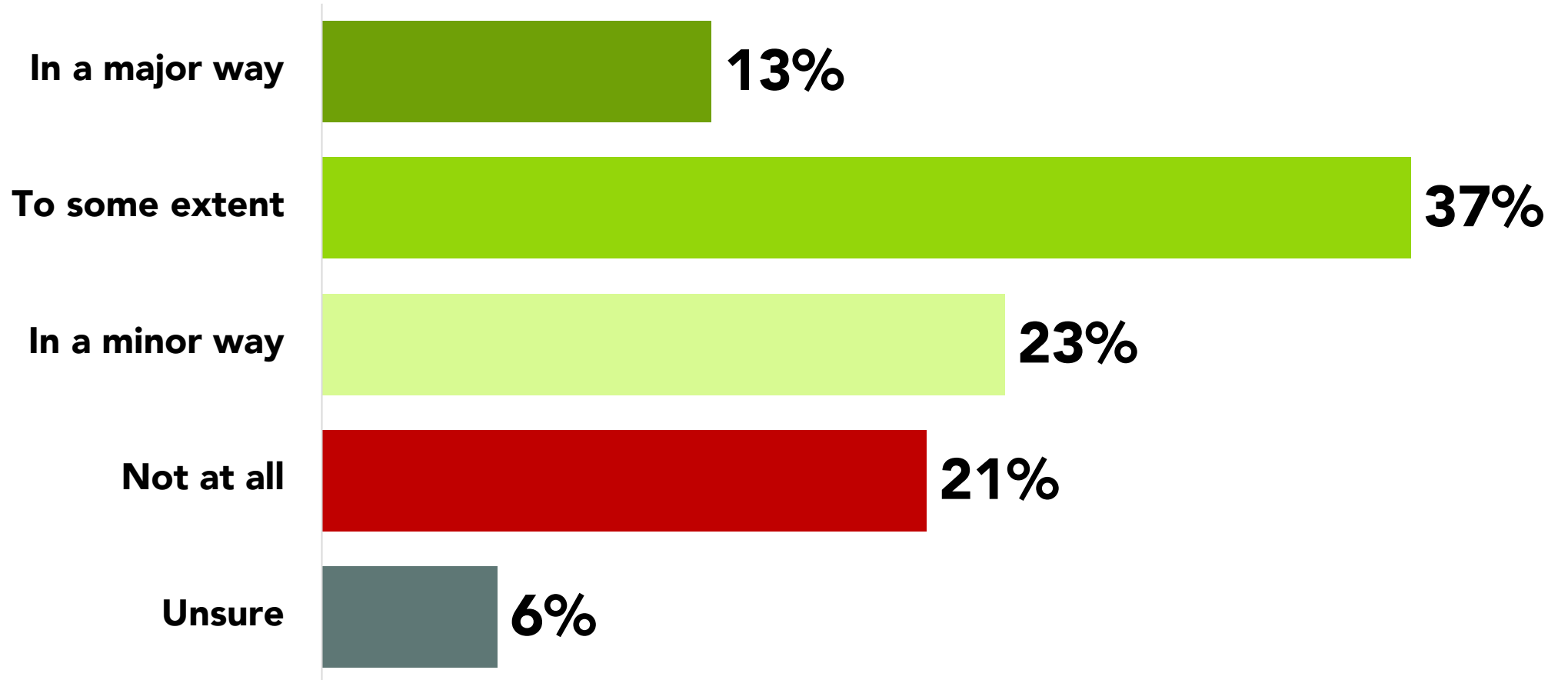


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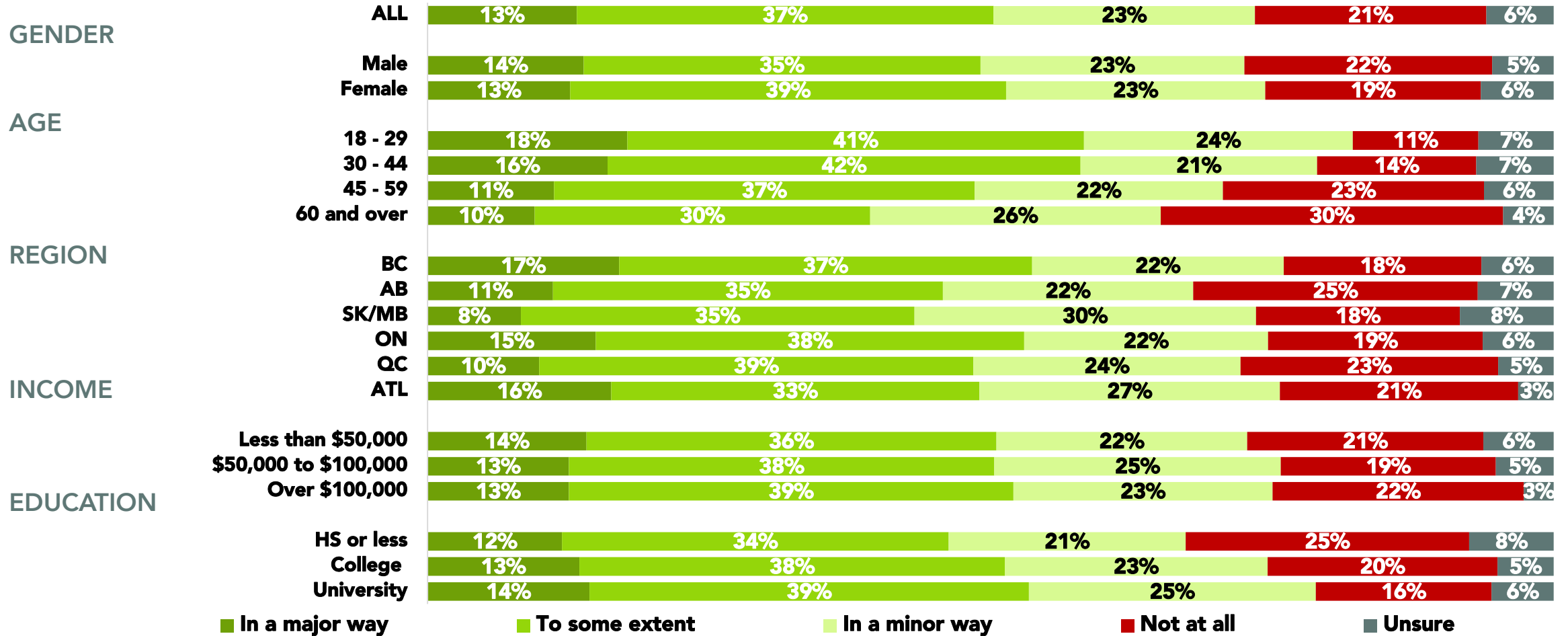
How much do you agree or disagree with the following statement: Climate change represents a major threat to the future of our children and grandchildren?

# EXPERIENCED THE EFFECTS OF CLIMATE CHANGE



To what extent have you or someone close to you experienced the effects of climate change (such as living with the consequences of changing weather patterns or severe weather events such as flooding, wild fires, droughts or intense heat waves)?

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# THE FUTURE OF ENERGY

**In the future, we should produce energy and electricity using 100% clean and renewable sources, such as hydro, solar, wind, tidal, and geothermal**

**44%**

**I support shifting towards clean and renewable energy and electricity, but don't think producing 100% this way is possible**

**37%**

**Shifting to clean and renewable energy/electricity sources like hydro, solar and wind is costly and unnecessary**

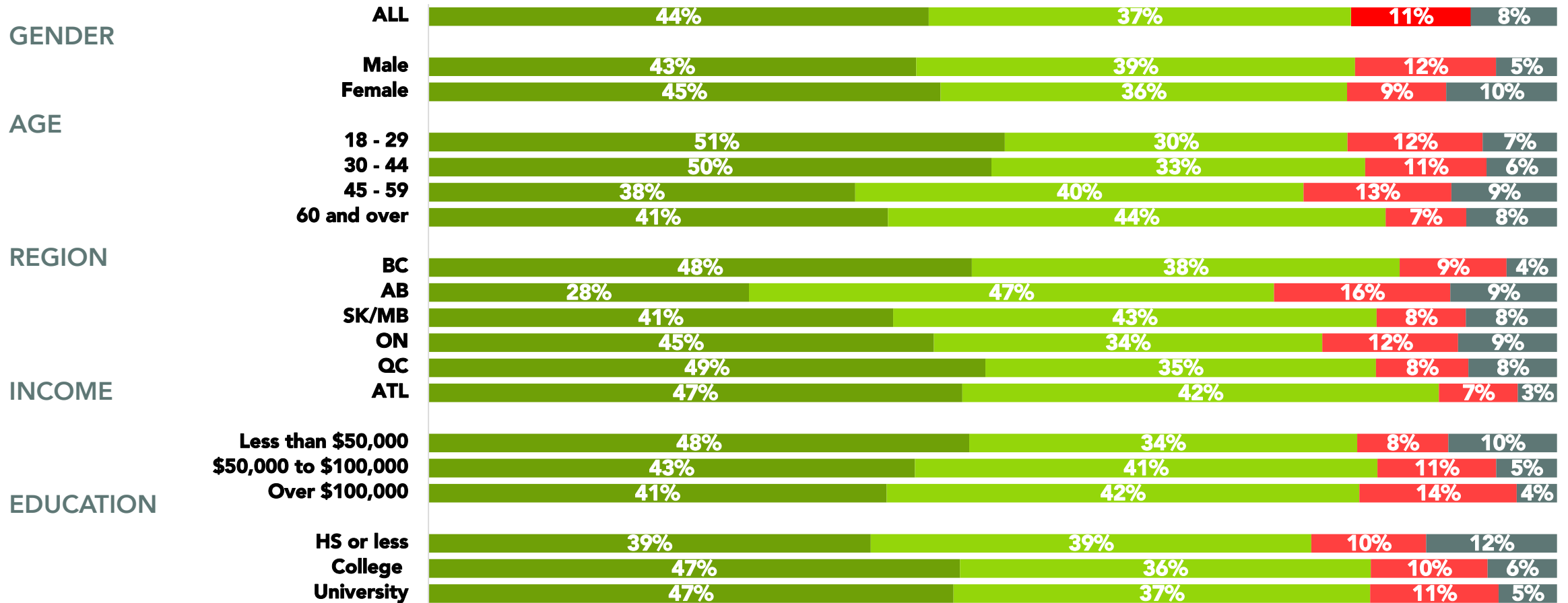
**11%**

**Not sure**

**8%**

Given the connections between climate change and burning fossil fuels to produce energy and electricity, which of the following do you agree with more?

# THE FUTURE OF ENERGY

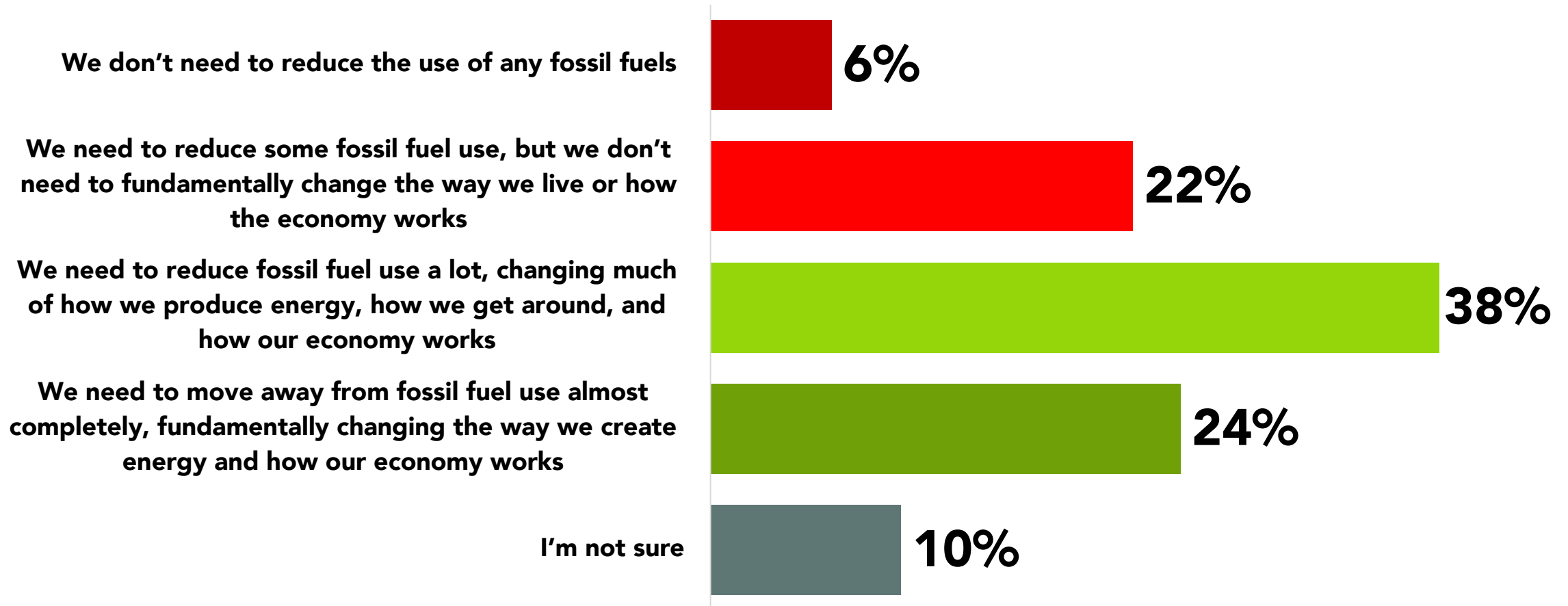


- In the future, we should produce energy and electricity using 100% clean and renewable sources, such as hydro, solar, wind, tidal, and geothermal
- I support shifting towards clean and renewable energy and electricity, but don't think producing 100% this way is possible
- Shifting to clean and renewable energy/electricity sources like hydro, solar and wind is costly and unnecessary
- Not sure

Given the connections between climate change and burning fossil fuels to produce energy and electricity, which of the following do you agree with more?

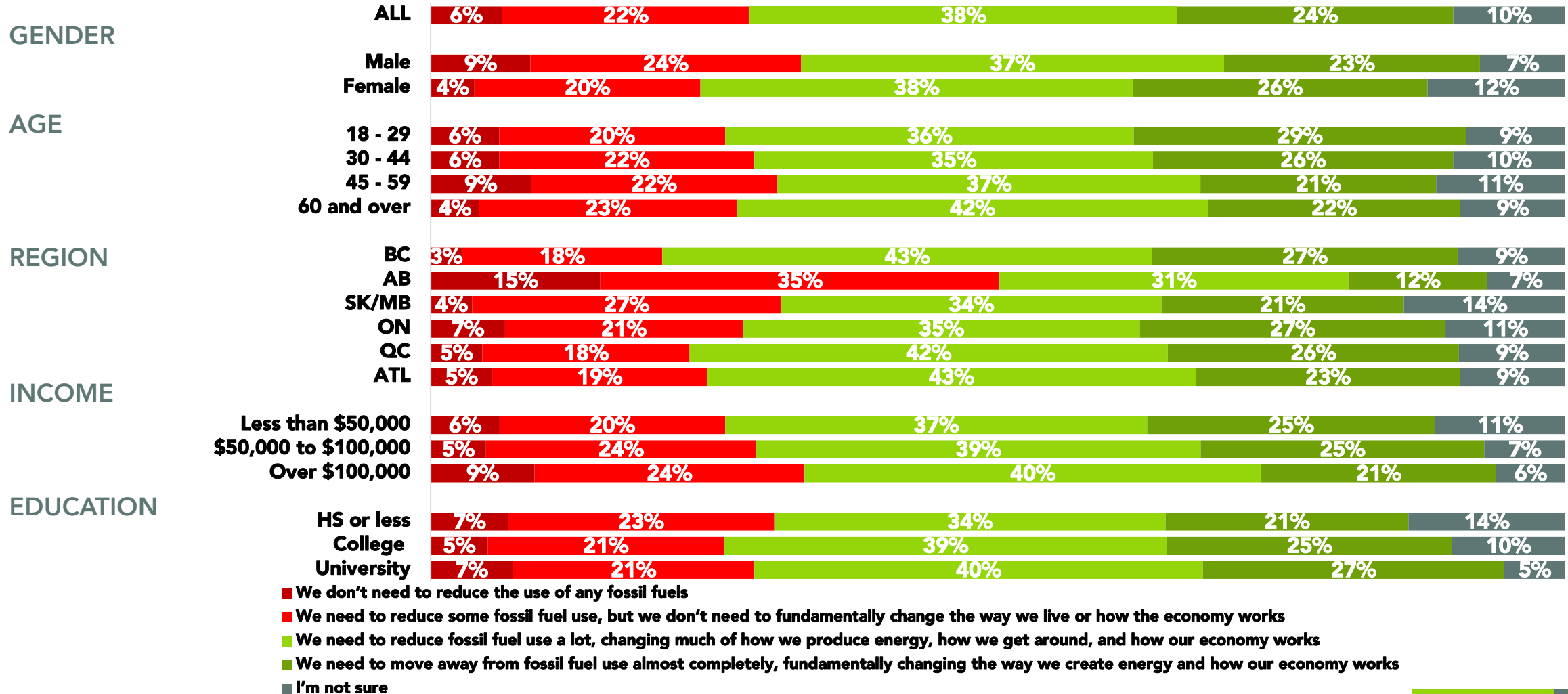


# BY HOW MUCH SHOULD FOSSIL FUELS BE REDUCED TO EFFECTIVELY COMBAT CLIMATE CHANGE



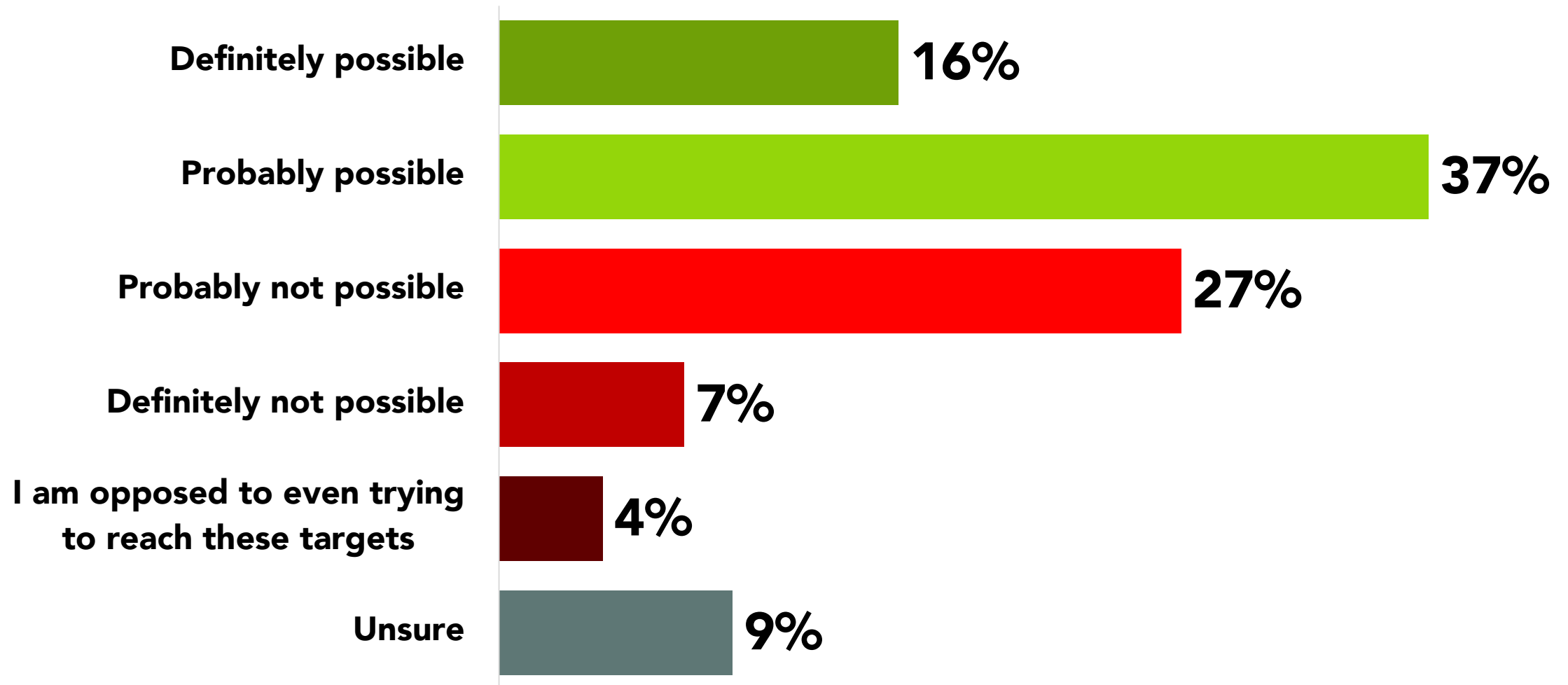
In order to combat climate change, scientists say we must substantially reduce the amount of fossil fuels we use in all aspects of our lives, in society, and in the economy. This includes oil, coal, and natural gas. In your view, by how much should fossil fuels be reduced to effectively combat climate change?

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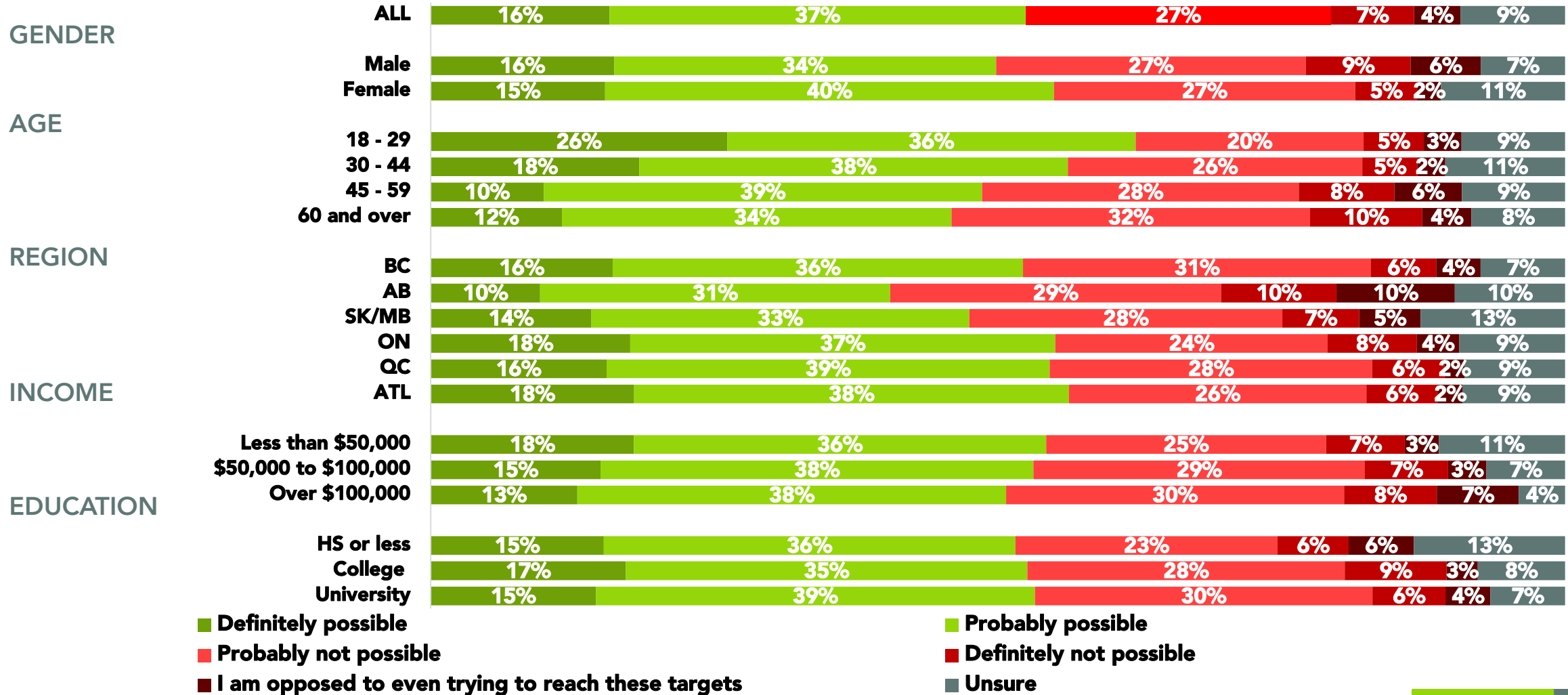
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# POSSIBILITY OF REACHING RECOMMENDED GHG TARGETS



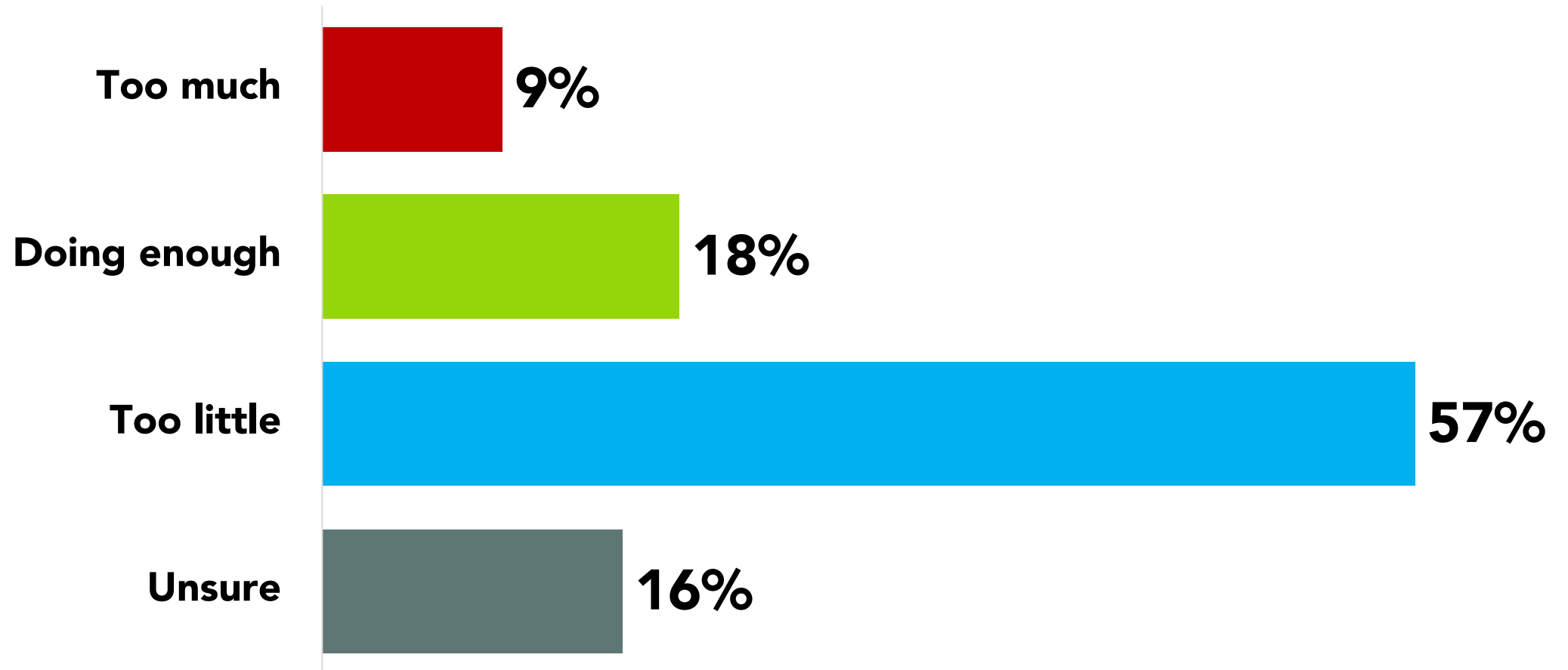
The United Nations Intergovernmental Panel on Climate Change (the world's top climate scientists) recently issued a report warning that carbon pollution – global greenhouse gas (GHG) emissions – must be cut in half by 2030, and that the world must be carbon-zero by 2050. Do you think it is definitely possible, probably possible, probably not possible, or definitely not possible for the world to achieve this goal (or do you oppose even trying)?

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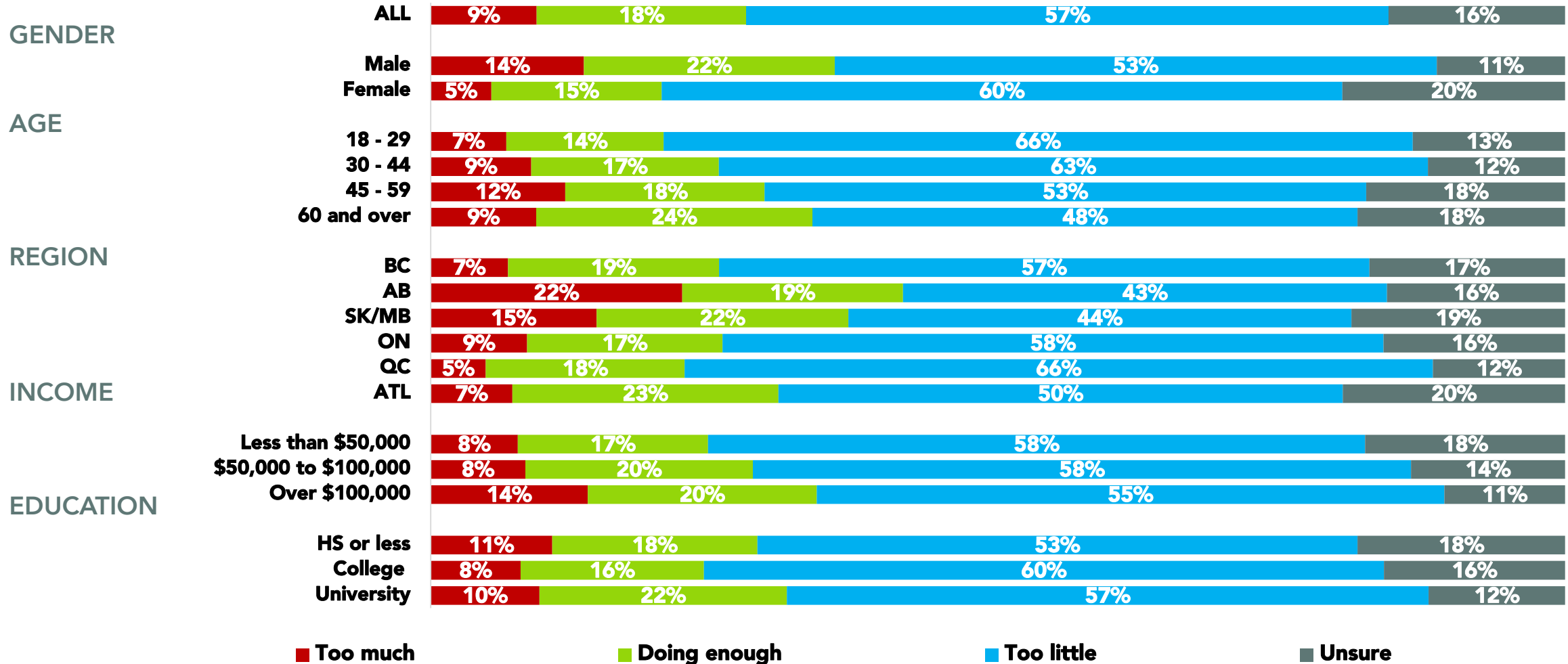
# GOVERNMENT COMBATTING CLIMATE CHANGE



Do you think the current federal government is doing too much, too little, or is doing enough to combat climate change?

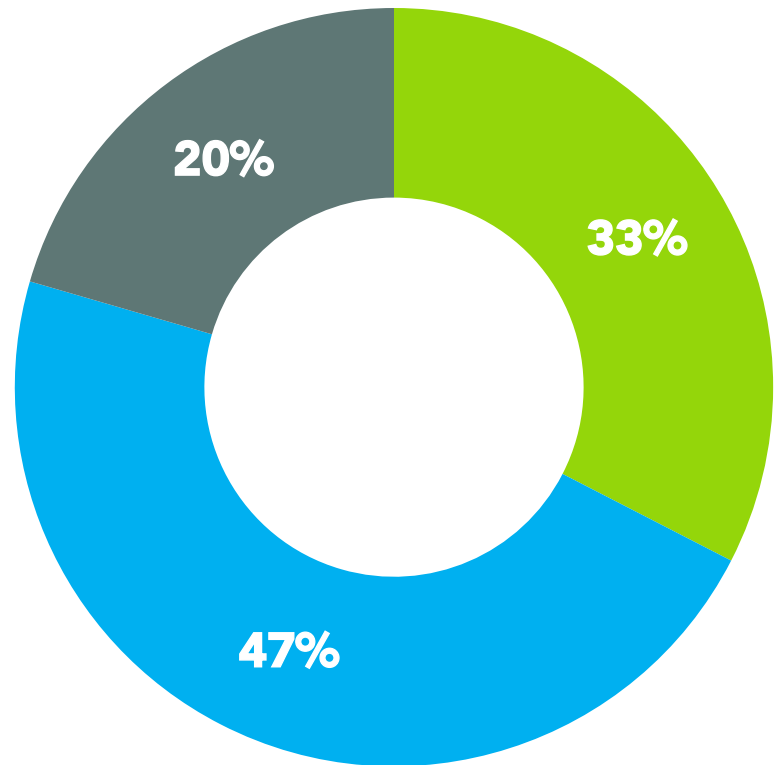


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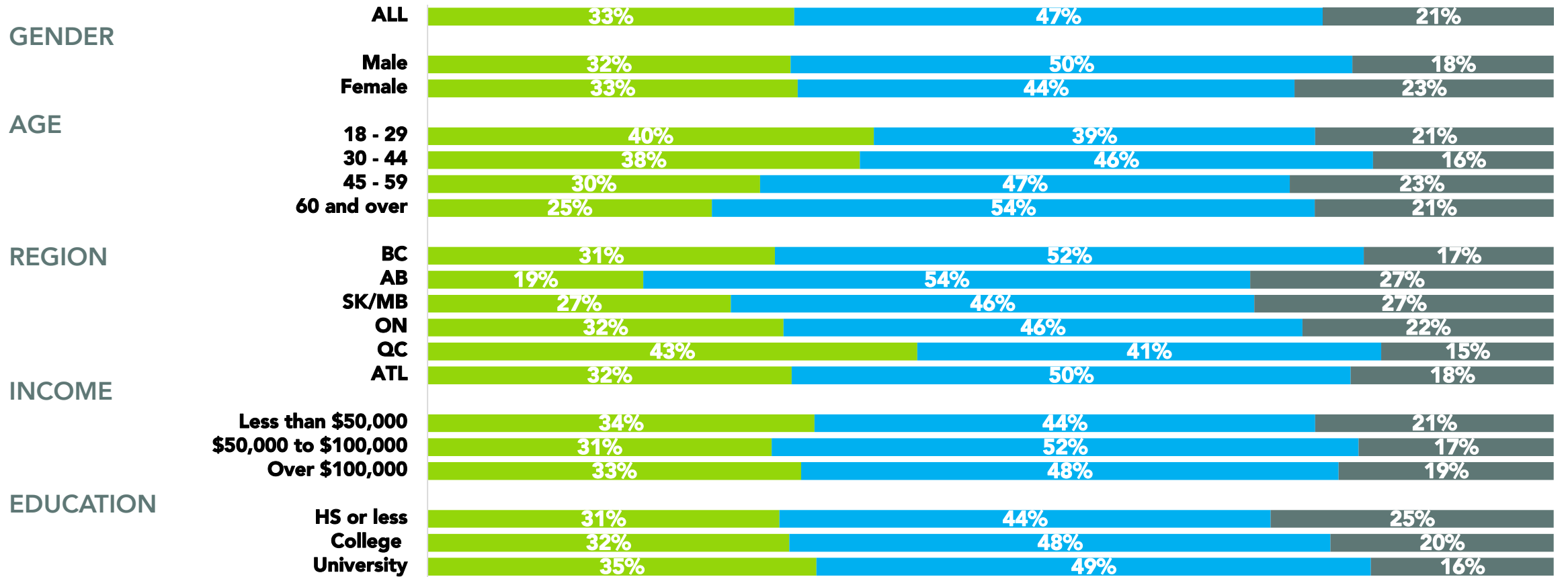
# GOVERNMENT COMBATTING CLIMATE CHANGE



- Like we did in WWII, our governments need to be ambitious and mobilize everyone to do what is necessary to combat climate change and quickly move our society and economy off fossil fuels
- Governments need to be measured and cautious, making sure that moving our society and economy off fossil fuels is not too costly and doesn't displace too many jobs
- Neither of these make sense to me

People have different views on the best way to combat climate change. Some have suggested Canada needs to mobilize on the scale it did in World War Two – the last time the country faced a fundamental threat to our way of life. Others have suggested that government action needs to be measured and cautious. Which of the following comes closest to your view?

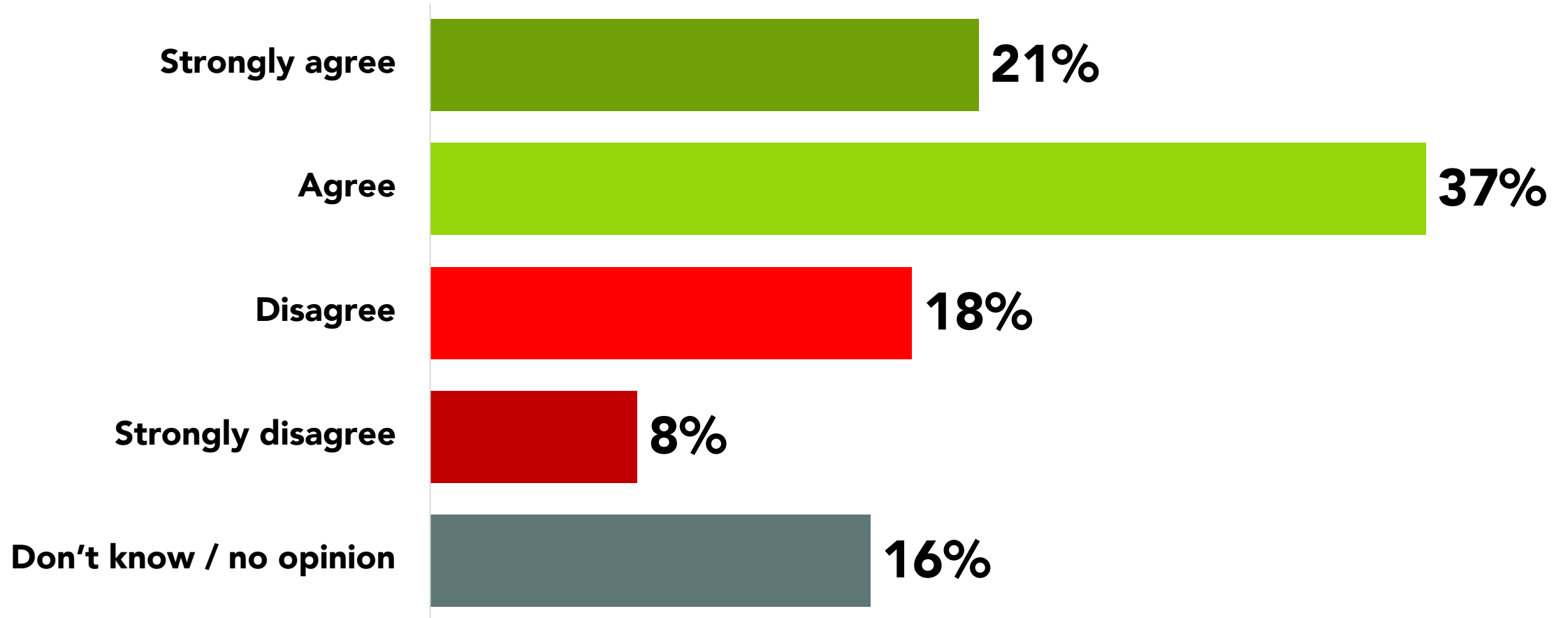
# GOVERNMENT COMBATTING CLIMATE CHANGE



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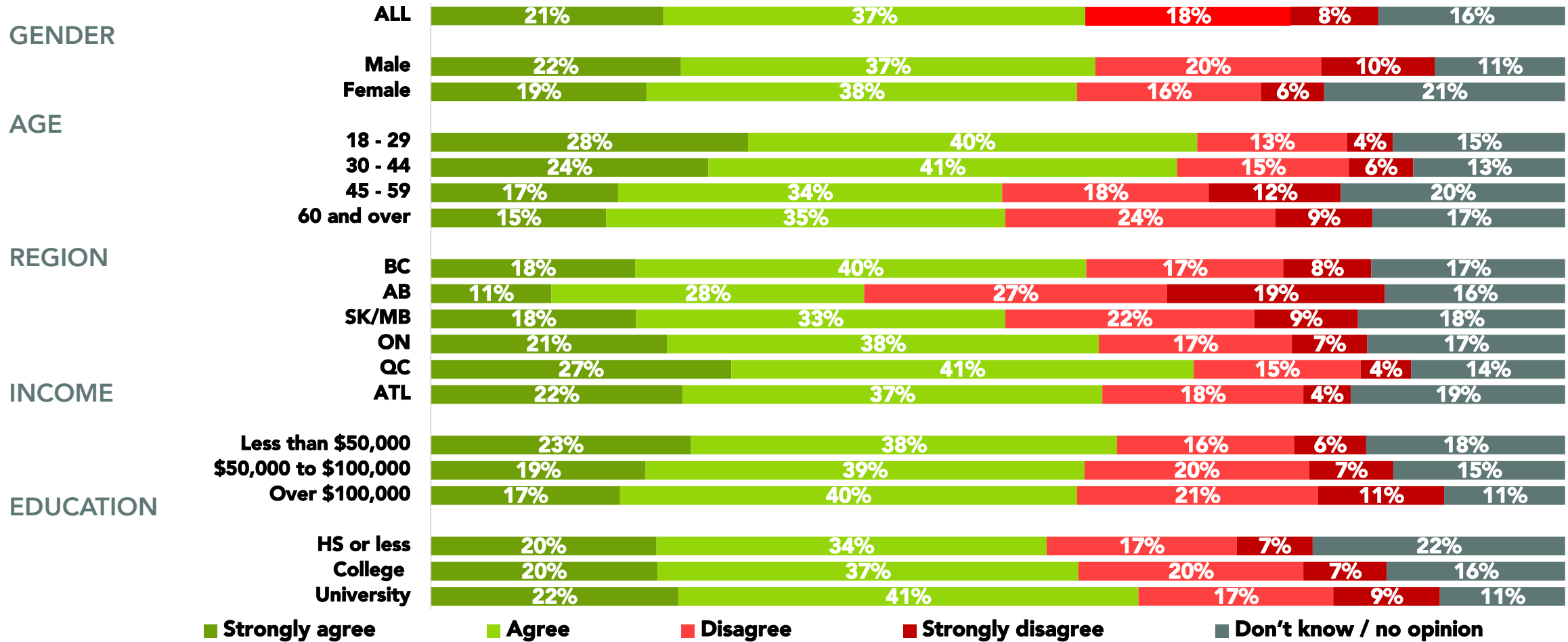
THE CLIMATE EMERGENCY REQUIRES THAT OUR GOVERNMENTS ADOPT A WARTIME-SCALE RESPONSE, MAKING MAJOR INVESTMENTS TO RETOOL OUR ECONOMY, AND MOBILIZING EVERYONE IN SOCIETY TO TRANSITION OFF FOSSIL FUELS TO RENEWABLE ENERGY.



How much do you agree or disagree with the following statement?

The climate emergency requires that our governments adopt a wartime-scale response, making major investments to retool our economy, and mobilizing everyone in society to transition off fossil fuels to renewable energy.

# THE CLIMATE EMERGENCY REQUIRES THAT OUR GOVERNMENTS ADOPT A WARTIME-SCALE RESPONSE, MAKING MAJOR INVESTMENTS TO RETOOL OUR ECONOMY, AND MOBILIZING EVERYONE IN SOCIETY TO TRANSITION OFF FOSSIL FUELS TO RENEWABLE ENERGY.



How much do you agree or disagree with the following statement?

The climate emergency requires that our governments adopt a wartime-scale response, making major investments to retool our economy, and mobilizing everyone in society to transition off fossil fuels to renewable energy.



# THINGS CANADA COULD DO TO REDUCE GREENHOUSE GAS EMISSIONS

**Transition all government vehicles in its fleet to electric vehicles (like Canada Post trucks/vans) over the next 5 years**



**Require all new buildings and homes in Canada to heat space and water using electricity and not gas, propane, or oil by 2022**



**Phase out the extraction and export of fossil fuels (oil, gas, and coal) over the next 20 to 30 years**



**Require all existing buildings and homes to switch their fuel source for heating off oil, gas, or propane by 2040**



**End the use of all coal, gas, and oil-generated electricity by 2030**



**Ban the sale of all new gas-powered vehicles (cars, vans & trucks) by 2030**



■ Definitely possible

■ Probably possible

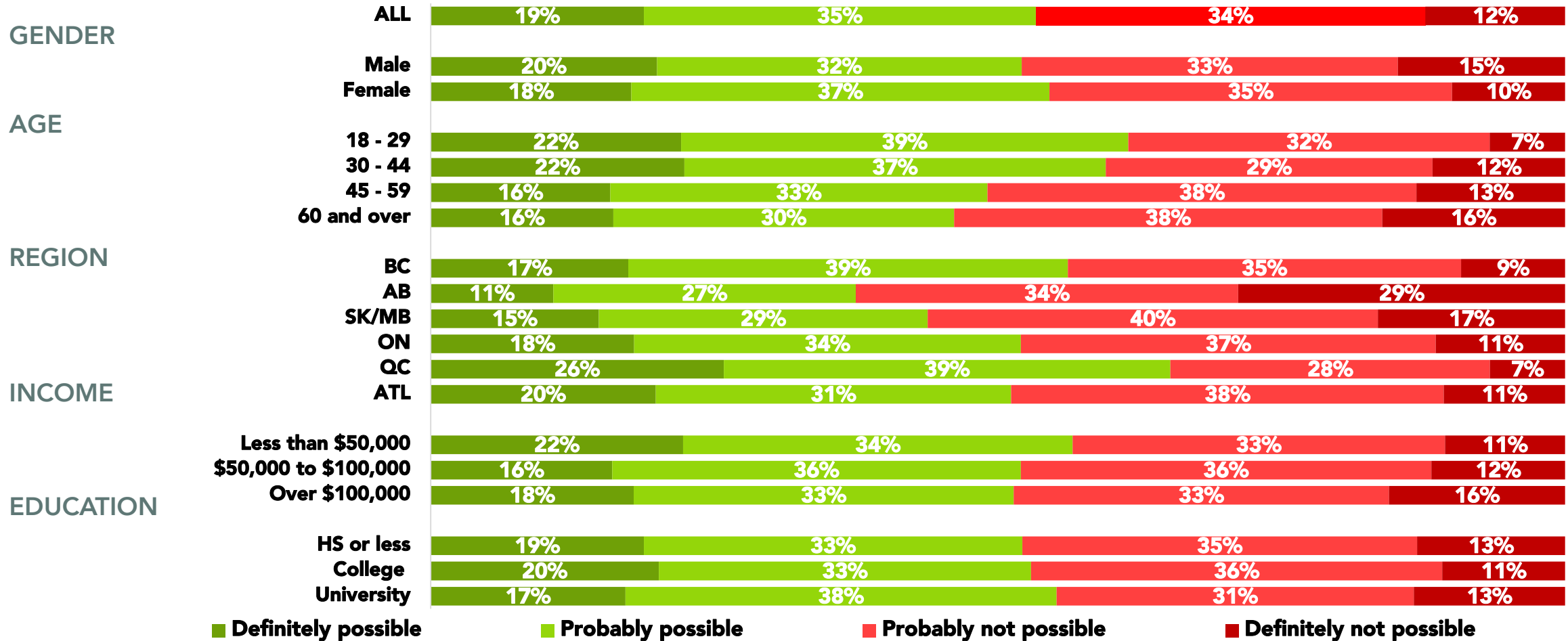
■ Probably not possible

■ Definitely not possible

Below are some things Canada could do to reduce greenhouse gas emissions and tackle climate change. For each, tell us whether you think it is...

# REDUCE GREENHOUSE GAS EMISSIONS

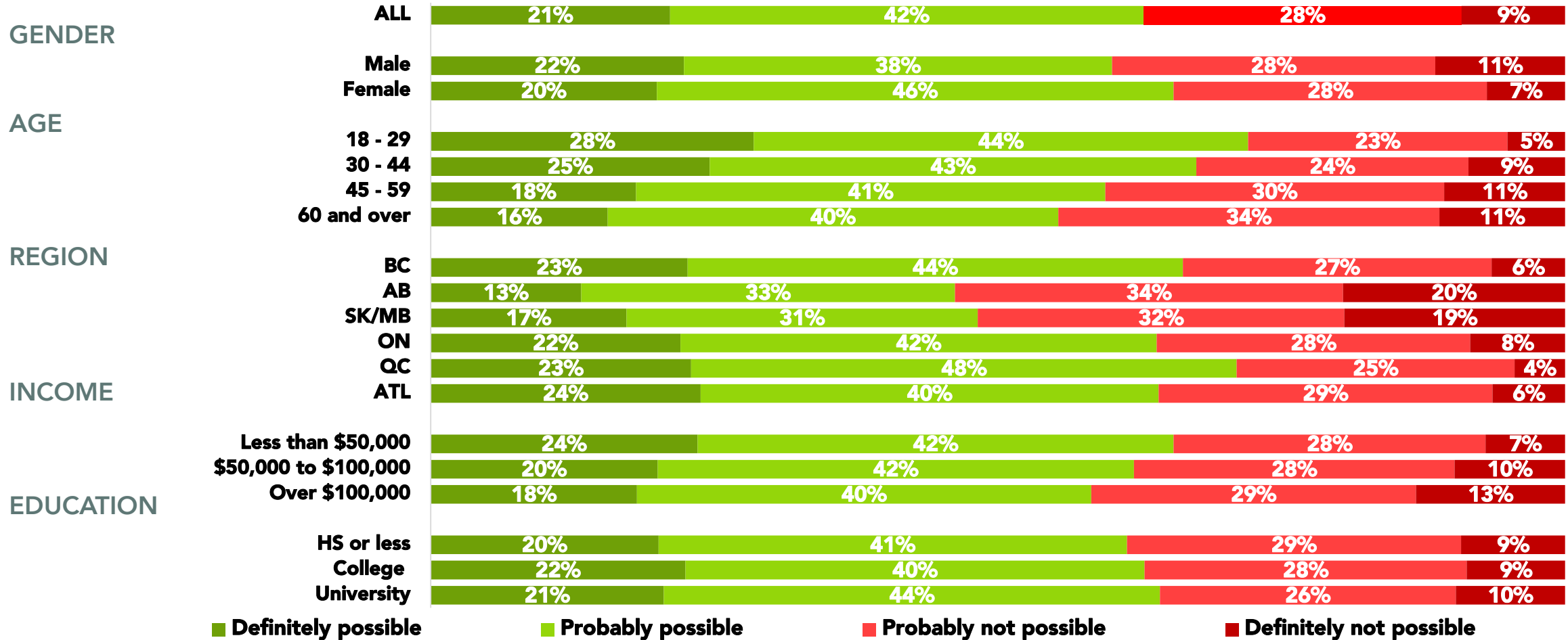
END THE USE OF ALL COAL, GAS, AND OIL-GENERATED ELECTRICITY BY 2030



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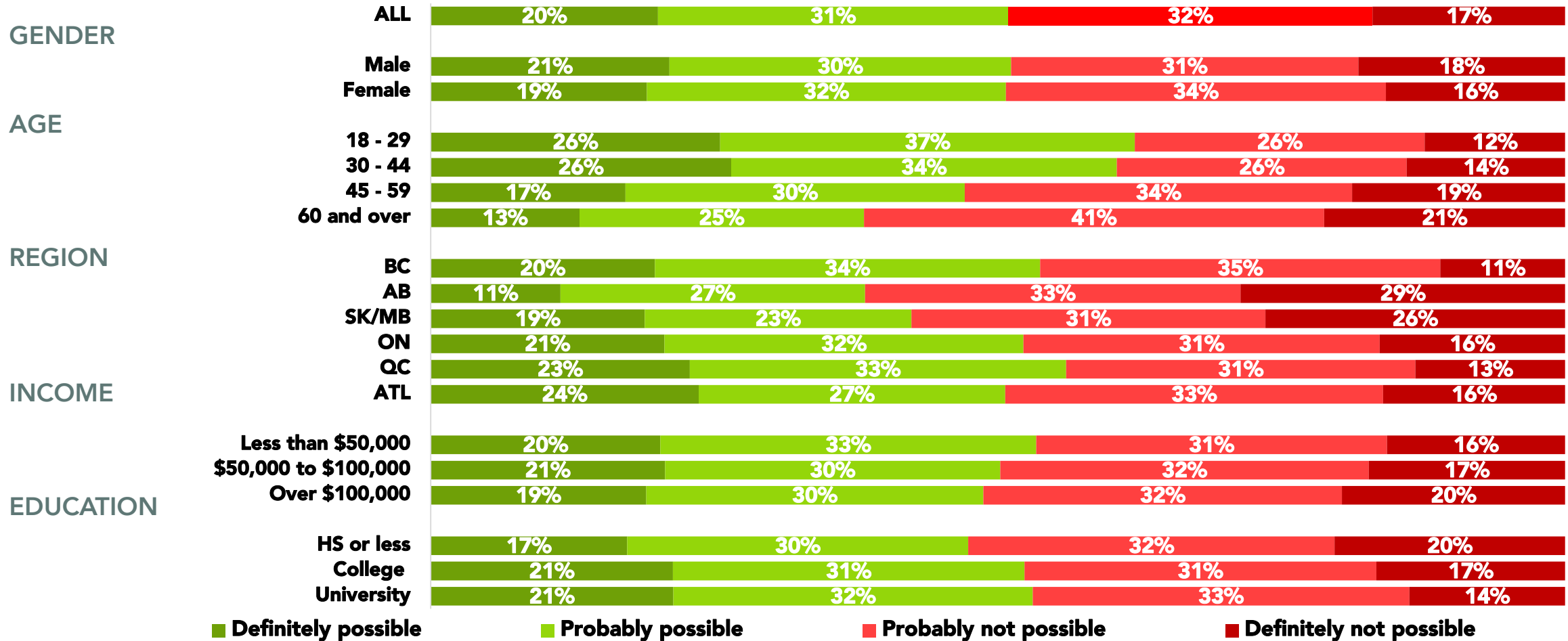
PHASE OUT THE EXTRACTION AND EXPORT OF FOSSIL FUELS (OIL, GAS, AND COAL) OVER THE NEXT 20 TO 30 YEARS



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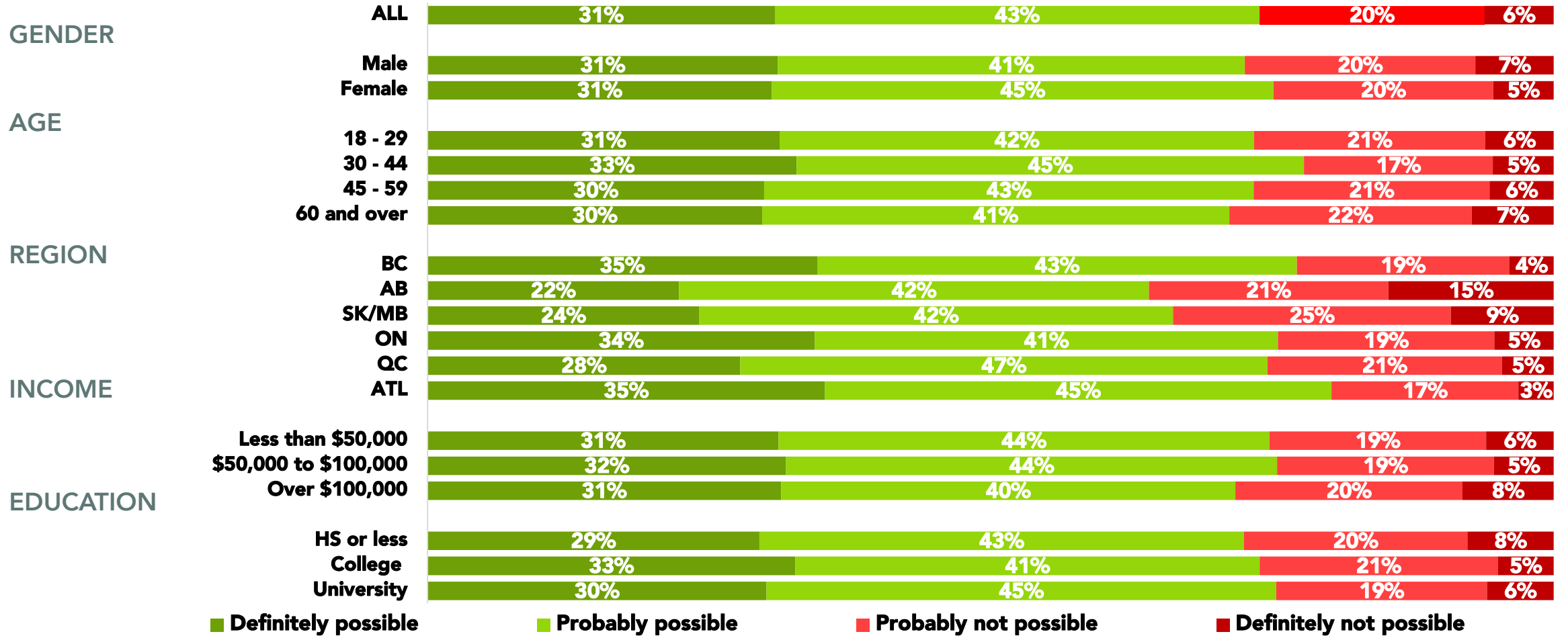
BAN THE SALE OF ALL NEW GAS-POWERED VEHICLES (CARS, VANS & TRUCKS) BY 2030



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# REDUCE GREENHOUSE GAS EMISSIONS

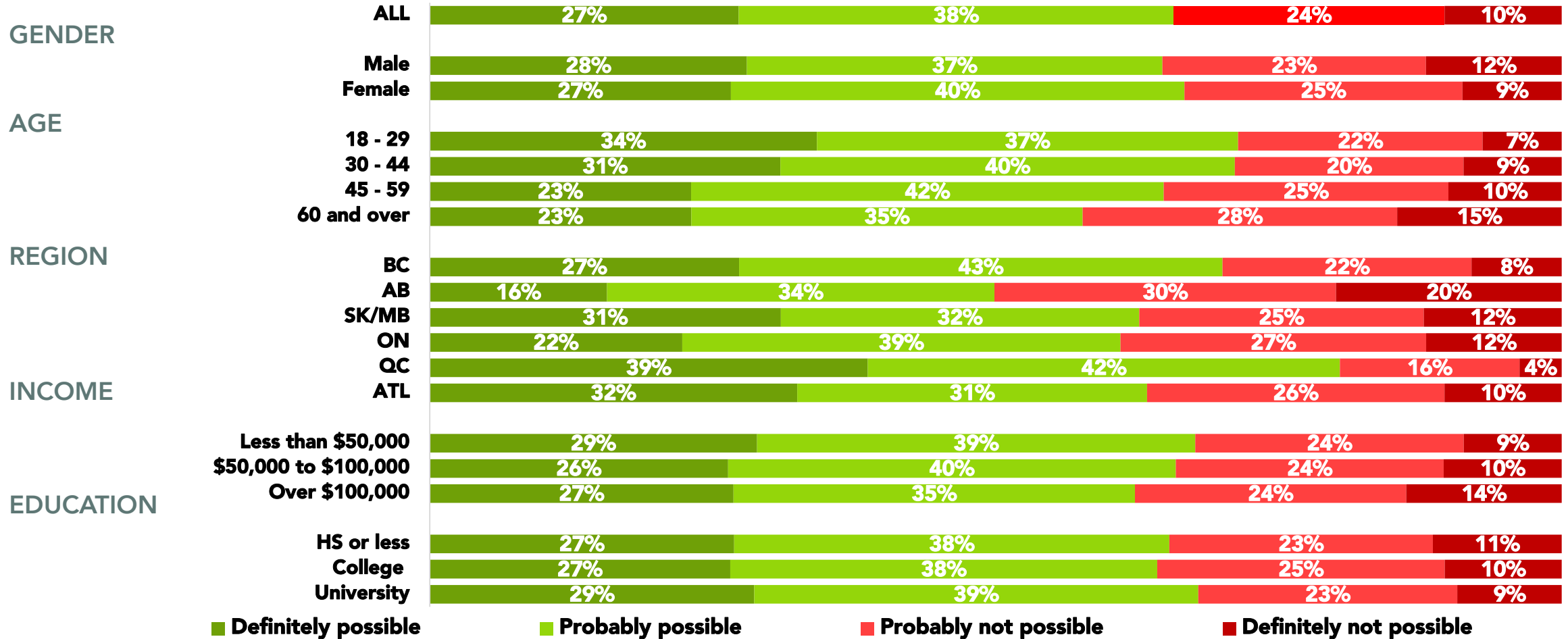
TRANSITION ALL GOVERNMENT VEHICLES IN ITS FLEET TO ELECTRIC VEHICLES (LIKE CANADA POST TRUCKS/VANS) OVER THE NEXT 5 YEARS



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# REDUCE GREENHOUSE GAS EMISSIONS

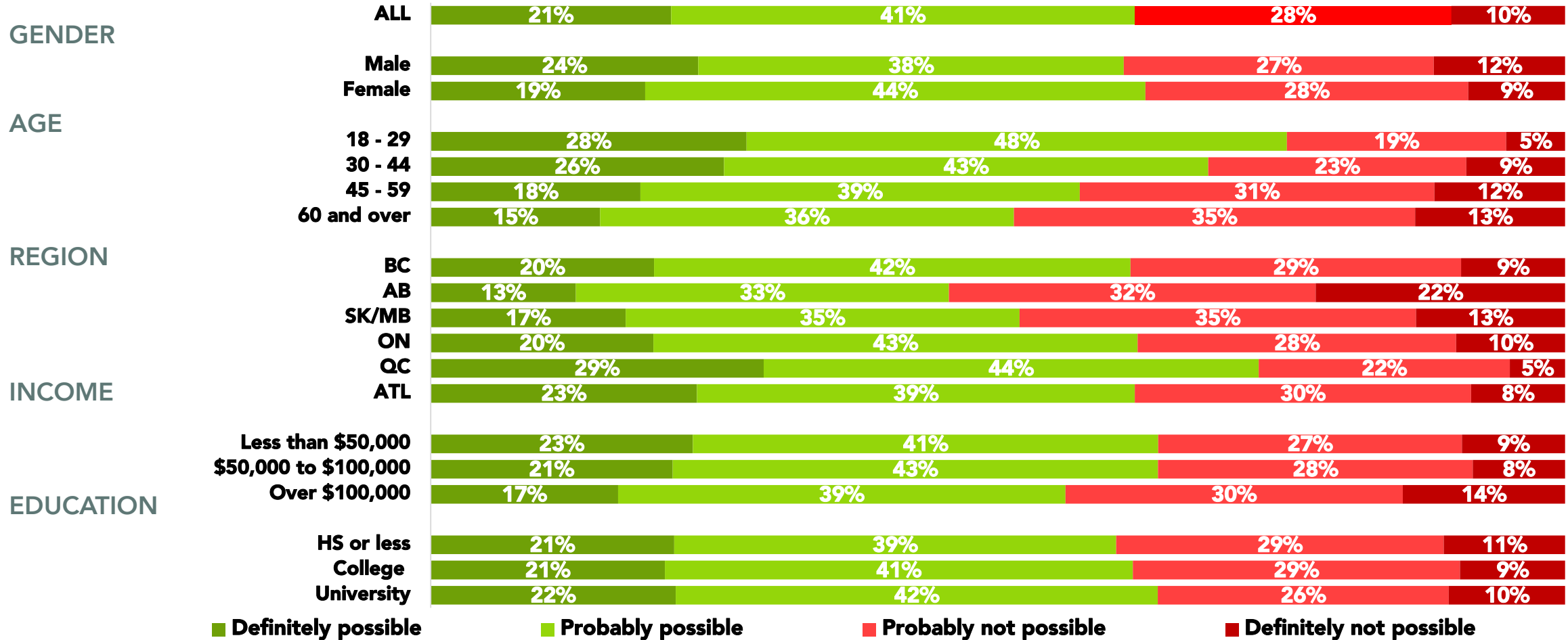
REQUIRE ALL NEW BUILDINGS AND HOMES IN CANADA TO HEAT SPACE AND WATER USING ELECTRICITY AND NOT GAS, PROPANE, OR OIL BY 2022



Below are some things Canada could do to reduce greenhouse gas emissions and tackle climate change. For each, tell us whether you think it is...

# REDUCE GREENHOUSE GAS EMISSIONS

REQUIRE ALL EXISTING BUILDINGS AND HOMES TO SWITCH THEIR FUEL SOURCE FOR HEATING OFF OIL, GAS, OR PROPANE BY 2040



Below are some things Canada could do to reduce greenhouse gas emissions and tackle climate change. For each, tell us whether you think it is...

# SUPPORT FOR THINGS CANADA COULD DO TO REDUCE GREENHOUSE GAS EMISSIONS

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**Require all new buildings and homes in Canada to heat space and water using electricity and not gas, propane, or oil by 2022**



**Phase out the extraction and export of fossil fuels (oil, gas, and coal) over the next 20 to 30 years**



**End the use of all coal, gas, and oil-generated electricity by 2030**



**Require all existing buildings and homes to switch their fuel source for heating off oil, gas, or propane by 2040**



**Ban the sale of all new gas-powered vehicles (cars, vans & trucks) by 2030**



■ Strongly support

■ Support

■ Can accept

■ Oppose

■ Strongly oppose

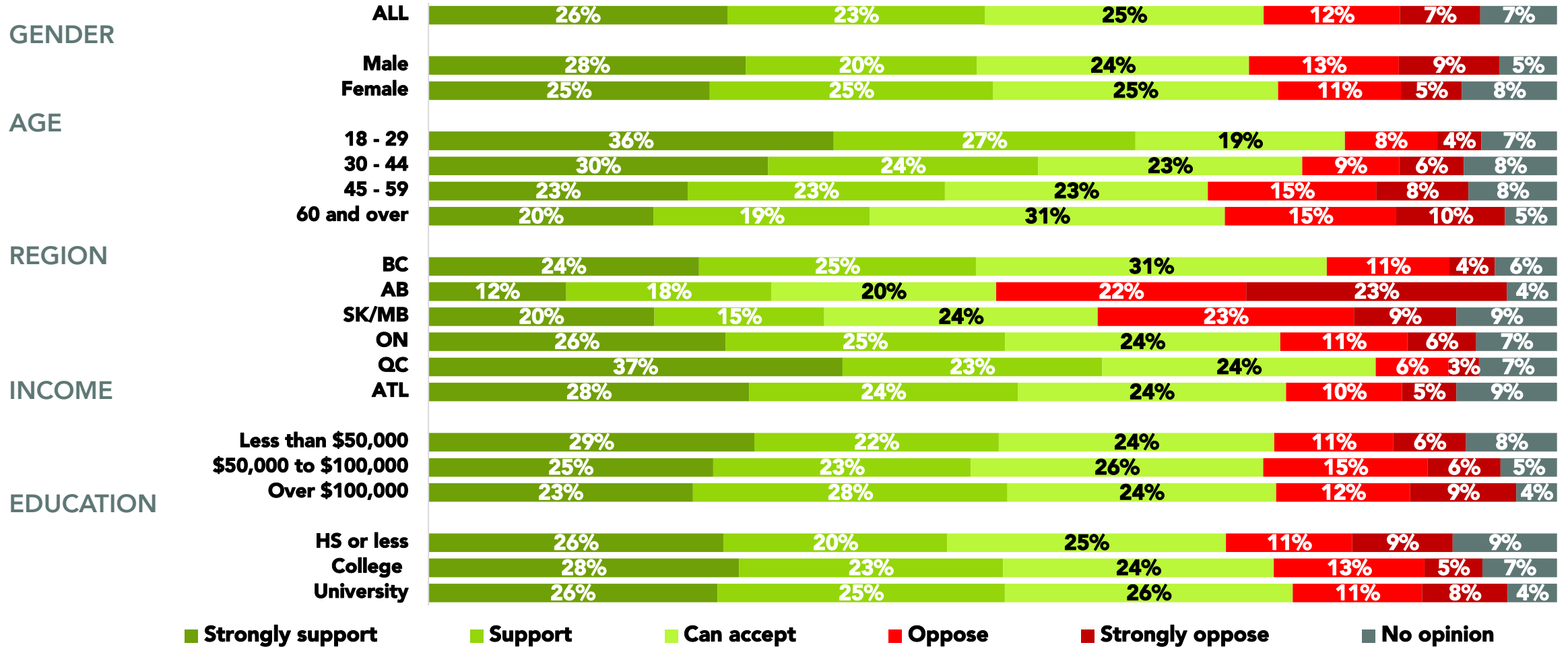
■ No opinion

Assuming it is technically and politically possible to do all of the following, do you support or oppose the same actions, or do you not have strong opinions either way?



# SUPPORT FOR THINGS CANADA COULD DO

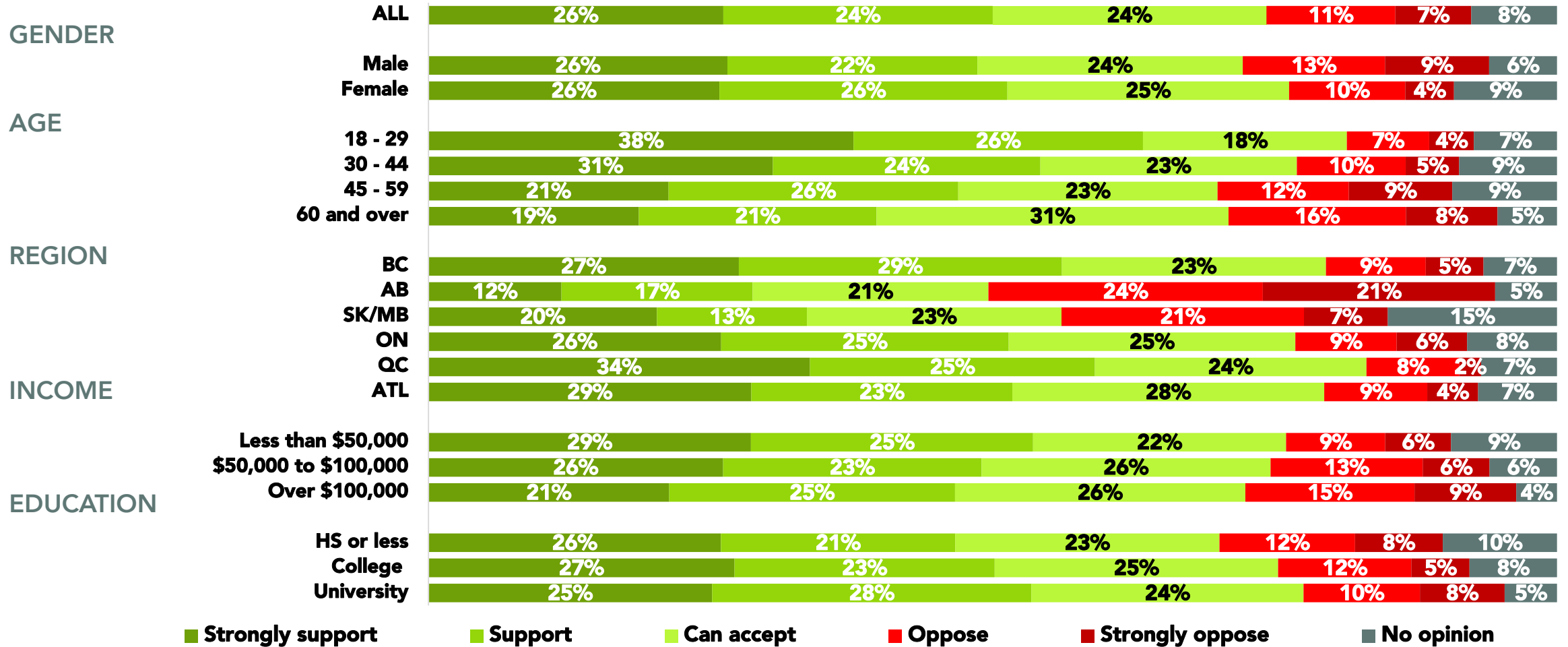
END THE USE OF ALL COAL, GAS, AND OIL-GENERATED ELECTRICITY BY 2030



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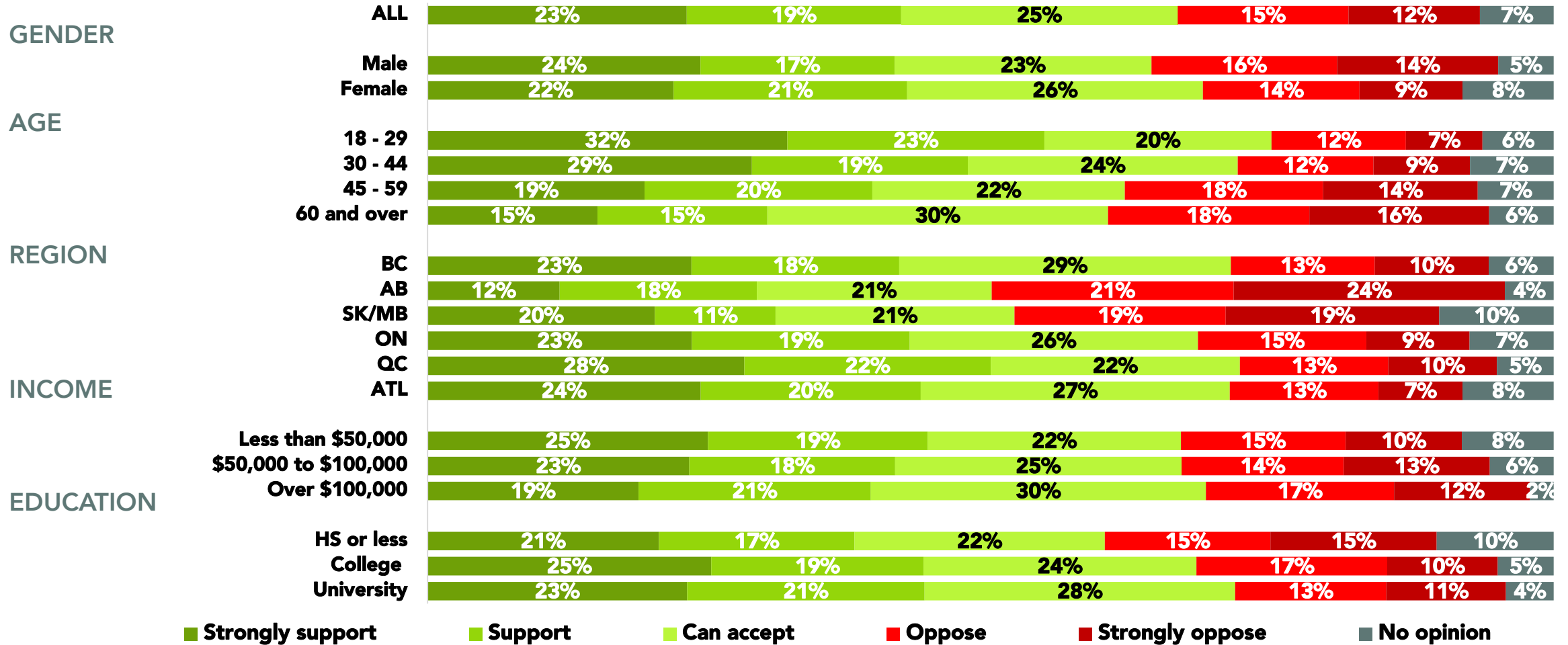
PHASE OUT THE EXTRACTION AND EXPORT OF FOSSIL FUELS (OIL, GAS, AND COAL) OVER THE NEXT 20 TO 30 YEARS



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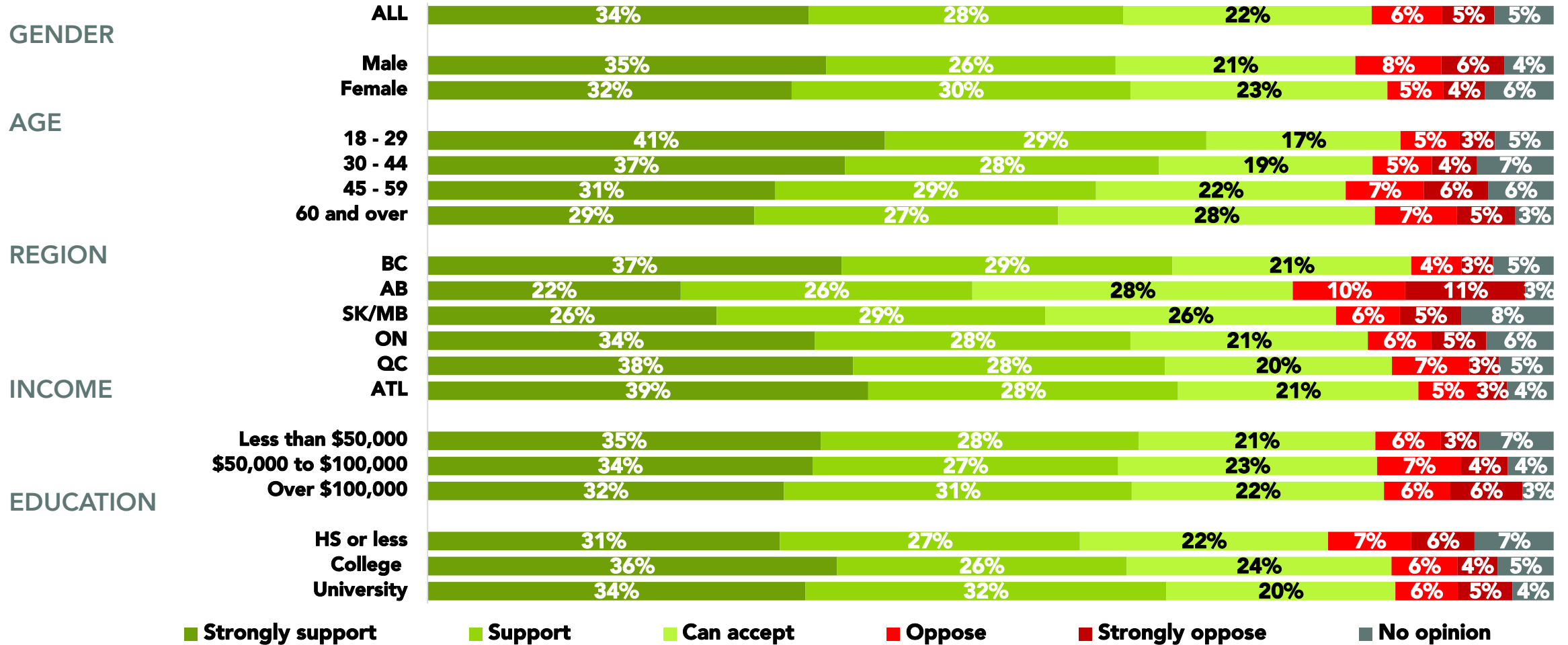
## BAN THE SALE OF ALL NEW GAS-POWERED VEHICLES (CARS, VANS & TRUCKS) BY 2030



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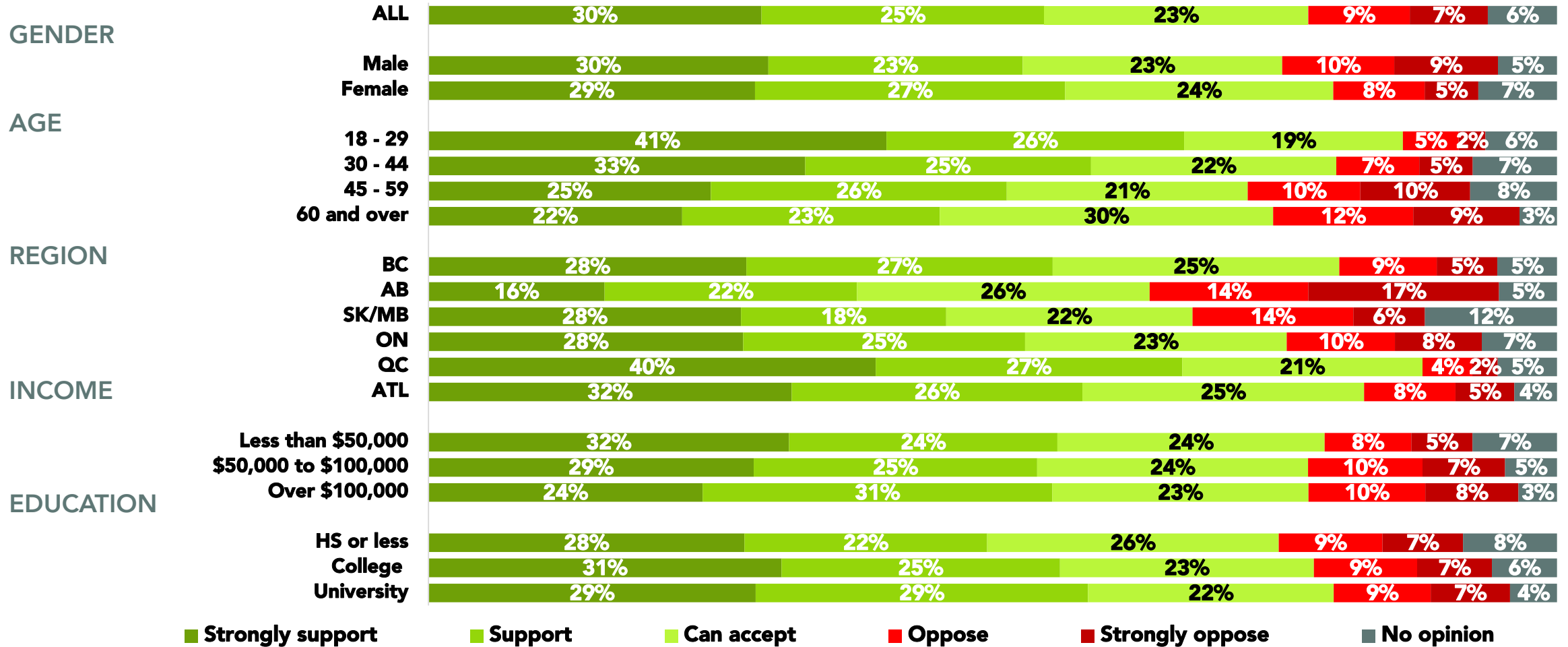
TRANSITION ALL GOVERNMENT VEHICLES IN ITS FLEET TO ELECTRIC VEHICLES (LIKE CANADA POST TRUCKS/VANS) OVER THE NEXT 5 YEARS



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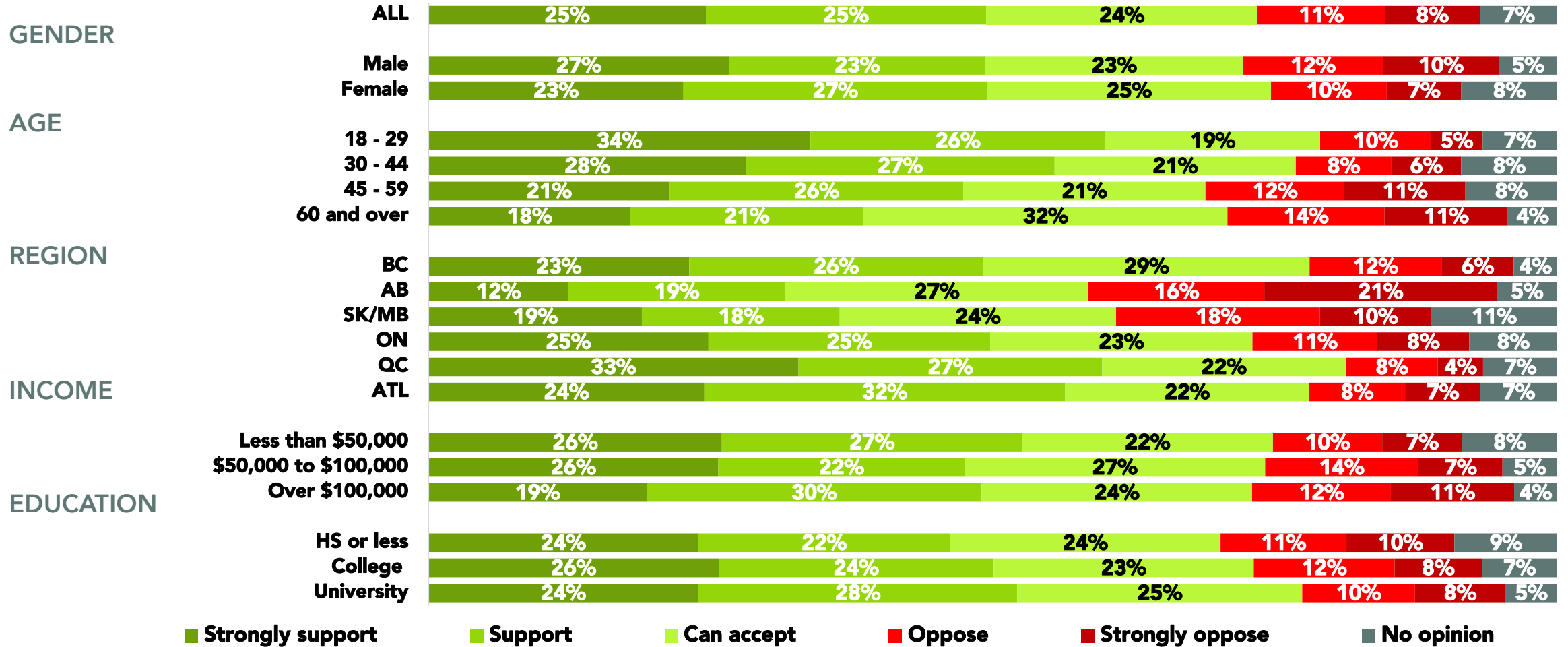
REQUIRE ALL NEW BUILDINGS AND HOMES IN CANADA TO HEAT SPACE AND WATER USING ELECTRICITY AND NOT GAS, PROPANE, OR OIL BY 2022



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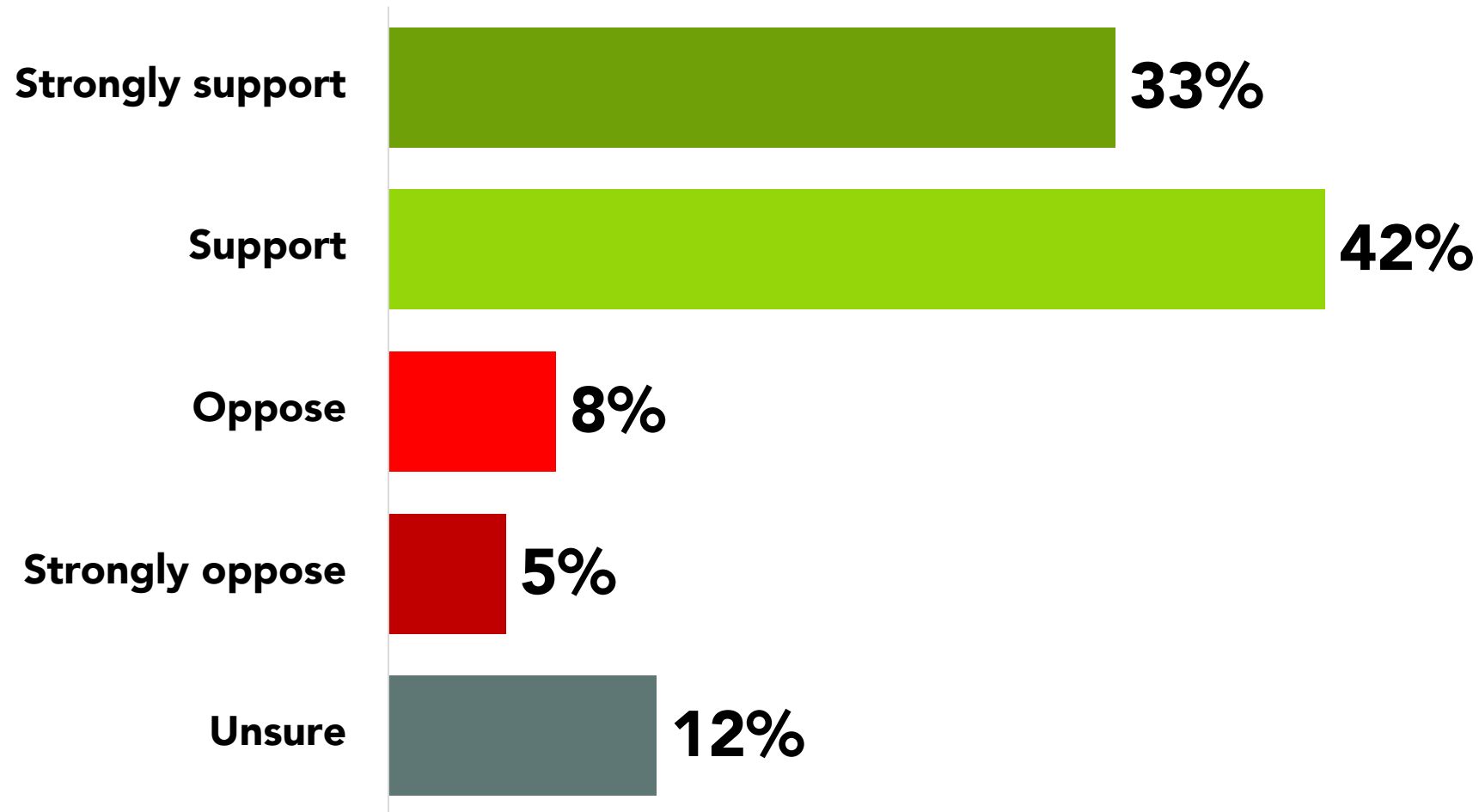
# SUPPORT FOR THINGS CANADA COULD DO

REQUIRE ALL EXISTING BUILDINGS AND HOMES TO SWITCH THEIR FUEL SOURCE FOR HEATING OFF OIL, GAS, OR PROPANE BY 2040



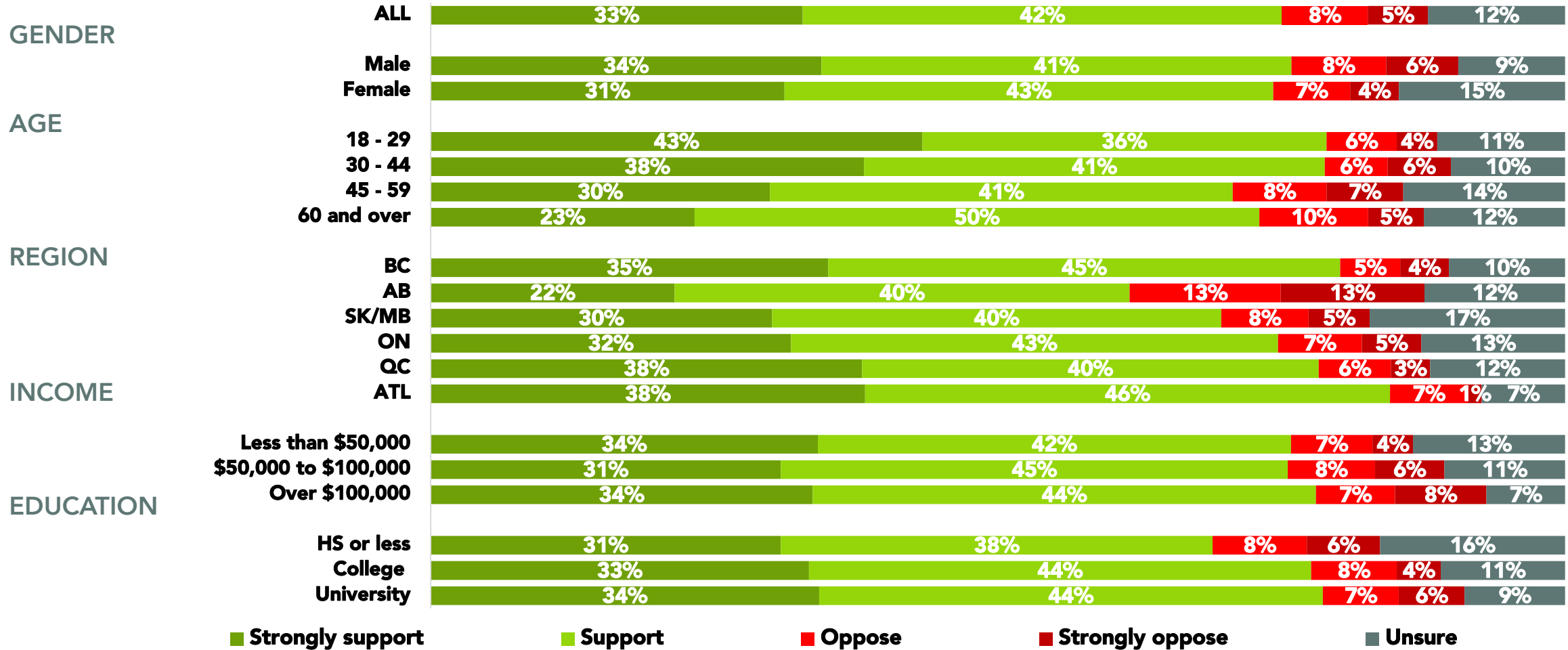
Assuming it is technically and politically possible to do all of the following, do you support or oppose the same actions, or do you not have strong opinions either way?

# SUPPORT INVESTMENT IN RENEWABLE ENERGY



Would you support or oppose our governments making massive investments in new green infrastructure, such as renewable energy (solar panel fields, wind farms, geothermal energy, tidal energy), building retrofits, high-speed rail, mass public transit, and electric vehicle charging stations, as well as reforestation?

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# TRANSITIONING THE ECONOMY AND SOCIETY AWAY FROM FOSSIL FUELS

**If governments provided financial support to low and modest-income households to help them transition away from fossil fuels**



**If your own income taxes didn't increase as a result of the plan**



**If the wealthy and large corporations were required to contribute more in taxes to help pay for this plan**



**If the government committed to pay a sizeable "climate action dividend" (similar to the GST credit) to all low and modest-income households to help offset rising energy costs**



**If the federal government committed to a "good jobs guarantee" for all people currently employed in the oil, gas, and coal industry**

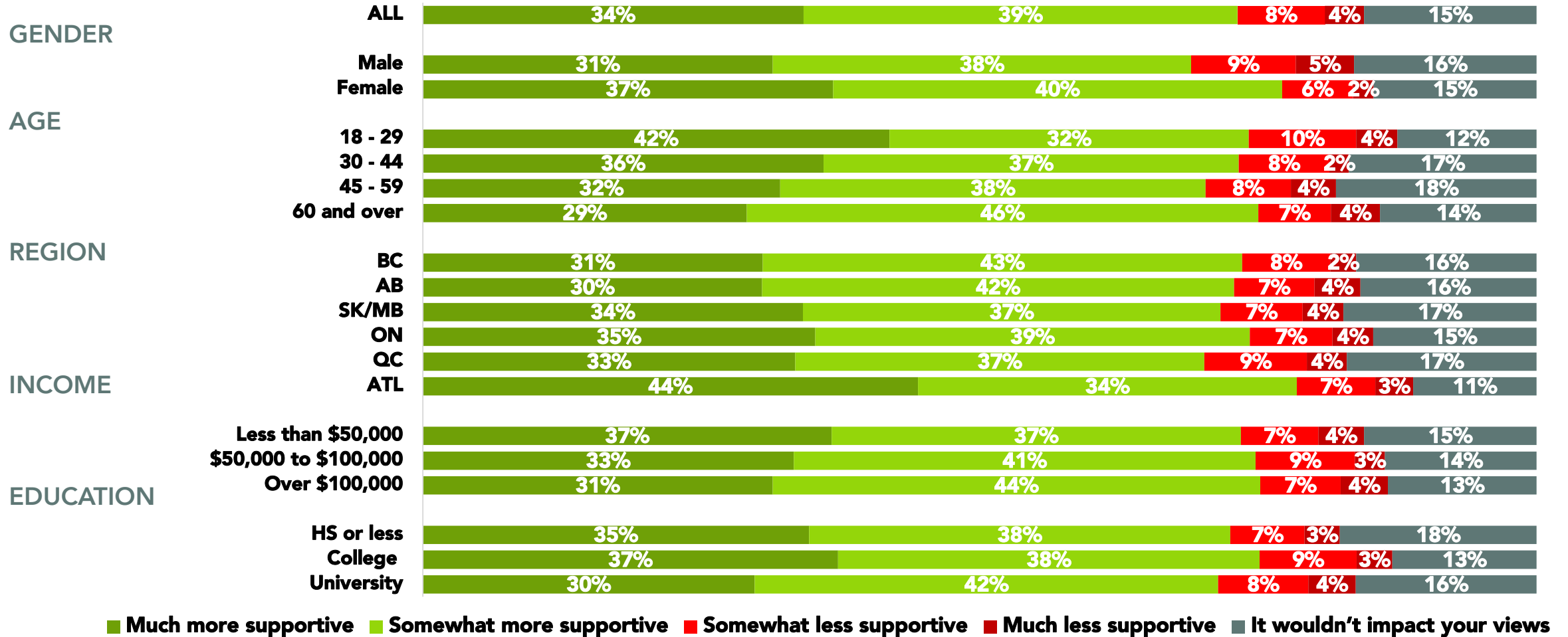


■ Much more supportive ■ Somewhat more supportive ■ Somewhat less supportive ■ Much less supportive ■ It wouldn't impact your views

Now we are going to show you some things governments could do to help the speedy transition of the economy and society away from fossil fuels. For each, tell us whether it is something that would make you more or less supportive of a bold and ambitious climate action plan.

# TRANSITIONING THE ECONOMY AND SOCIETY

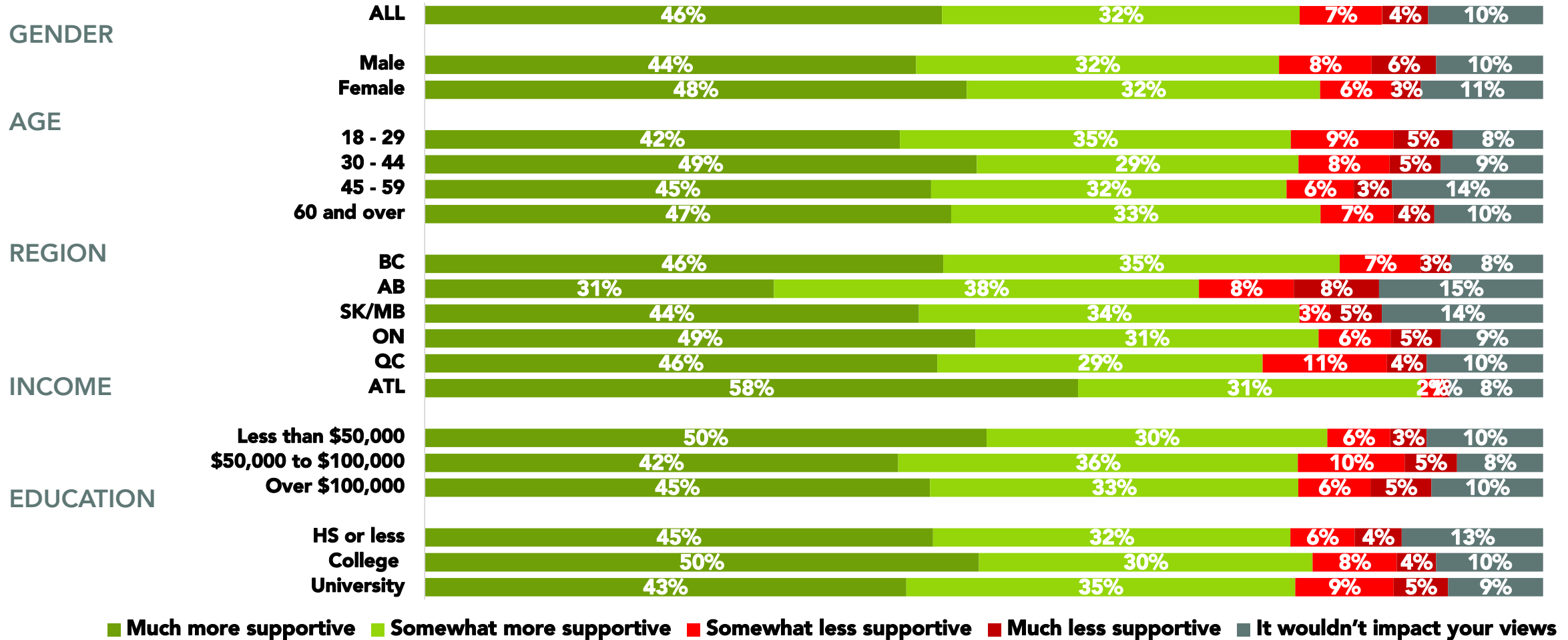
IF THE FEDERAL GOVERNMENT COMMITTED TO A "GOOD JOBS GUARANTEE" FOR ALL PEOPLE CURRENTLY EMPLOYED IN THE OIL, GAS, AND COAL INDUSTRY



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# TRANSITIONING THE ECONOMY AND SOCIETY

IF THE WEALTHY AND LARGE CORPORATIONS WERE REQUIRED TO CONTRIBUTE MORE IN TAXES TO HELP PAY FOR THIS PLAN

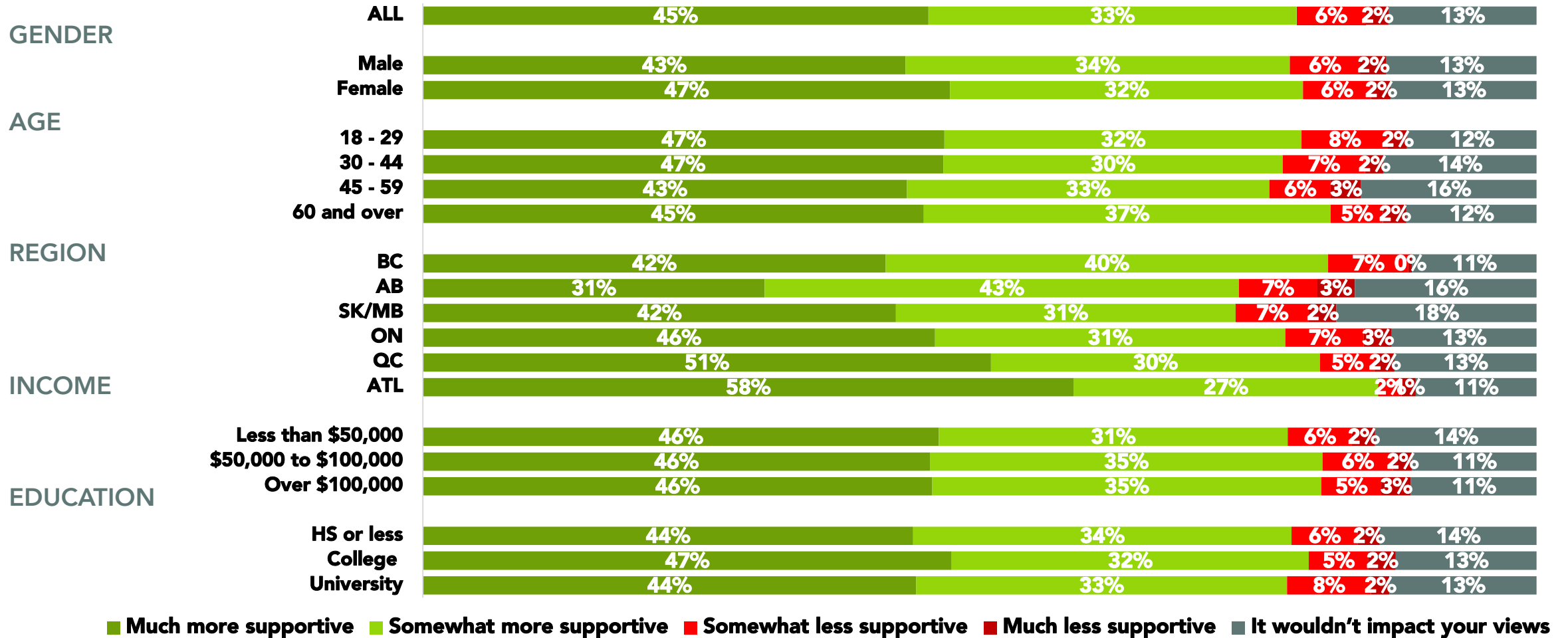


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# TRANSITIONING THE ECONOMY AND SOCIETY

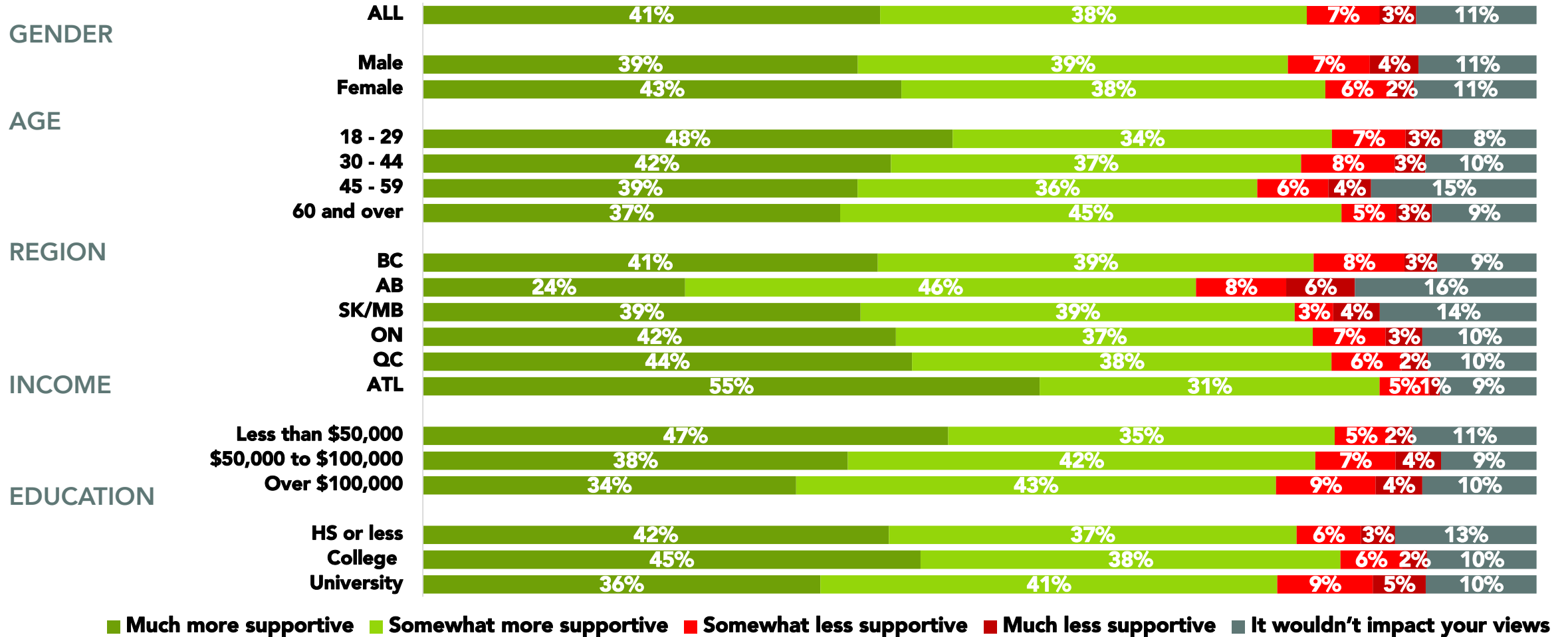
IF YOUR OWN INCOME TAXES DIDN'T INCREASE AS A RESULT OF THE PLAN



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# TRANSITIONING THE ECONOMY AND SOCIETY

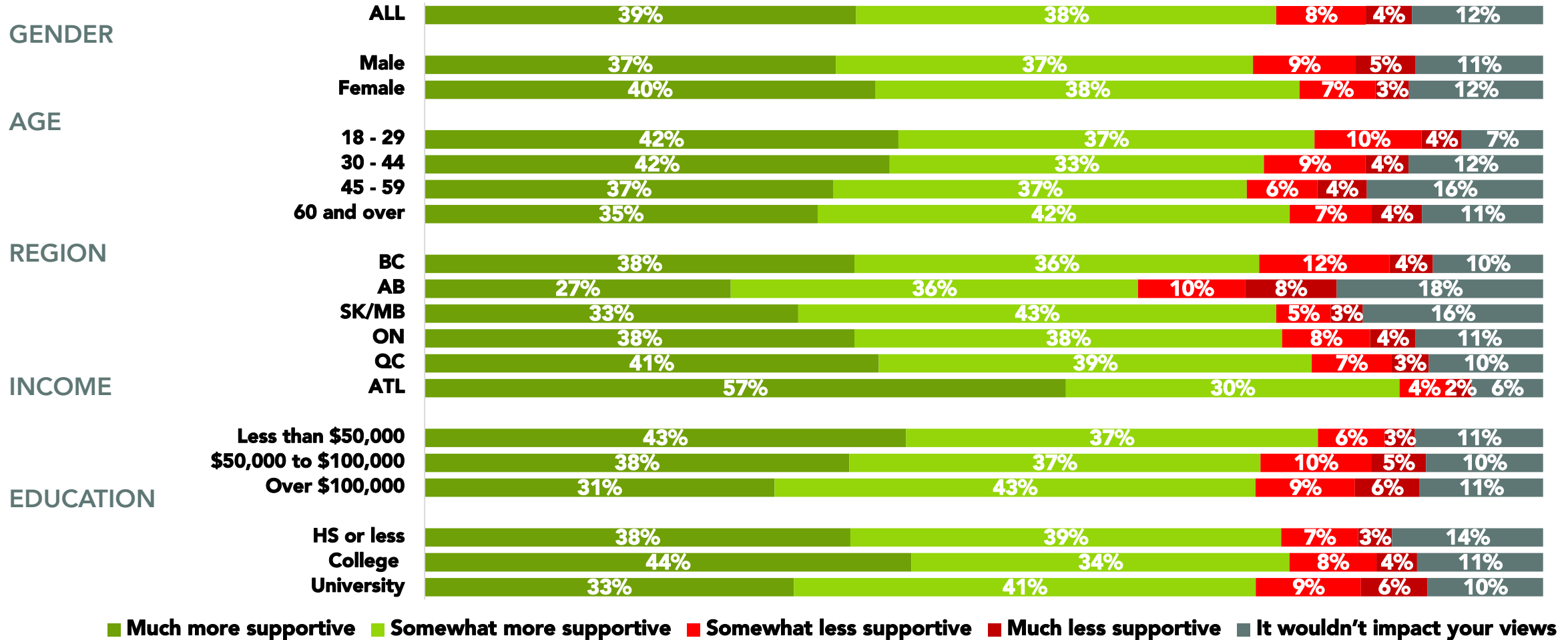
IF GOVERNMENTS PROVIDED FINANCIAL SUPPORT TO LOW AND MODEST-INCOME HOUSEHOLDS TO HELP THEM TRANSITION AWAY FROM FOSSIL FUEL



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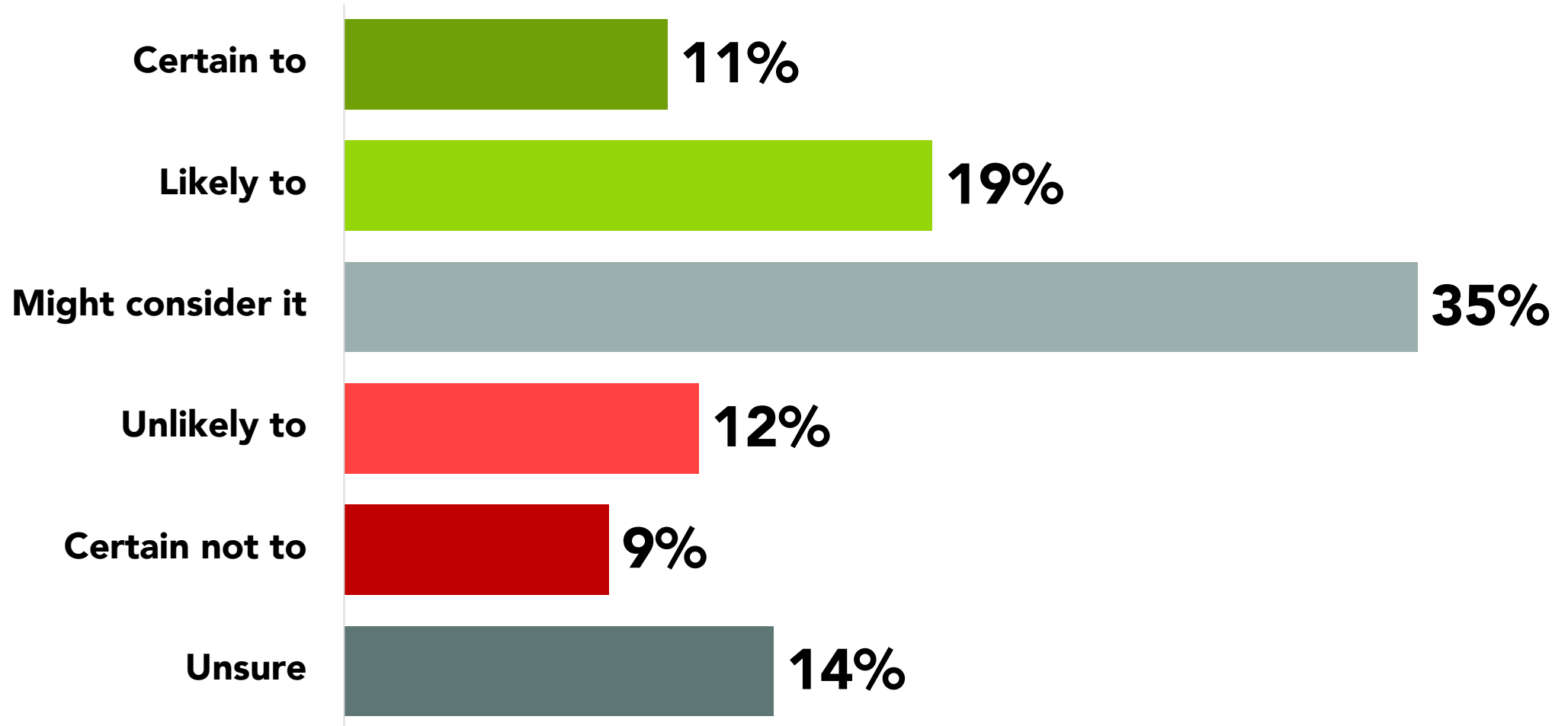
# TRANSITIONING THE ECONOMY AND SOCIETY

IF THE GOVERNMENT COMMITTED TO PAY A SIZEABLE "CLIMATE ACTION DIVIDEND" (SIMILAR TO THE GST CREDIT) TO ALL LOW AND MODEST-INCOME HOUSEHOLDS TO HELP OFFSET RISING ENERGY COSTS



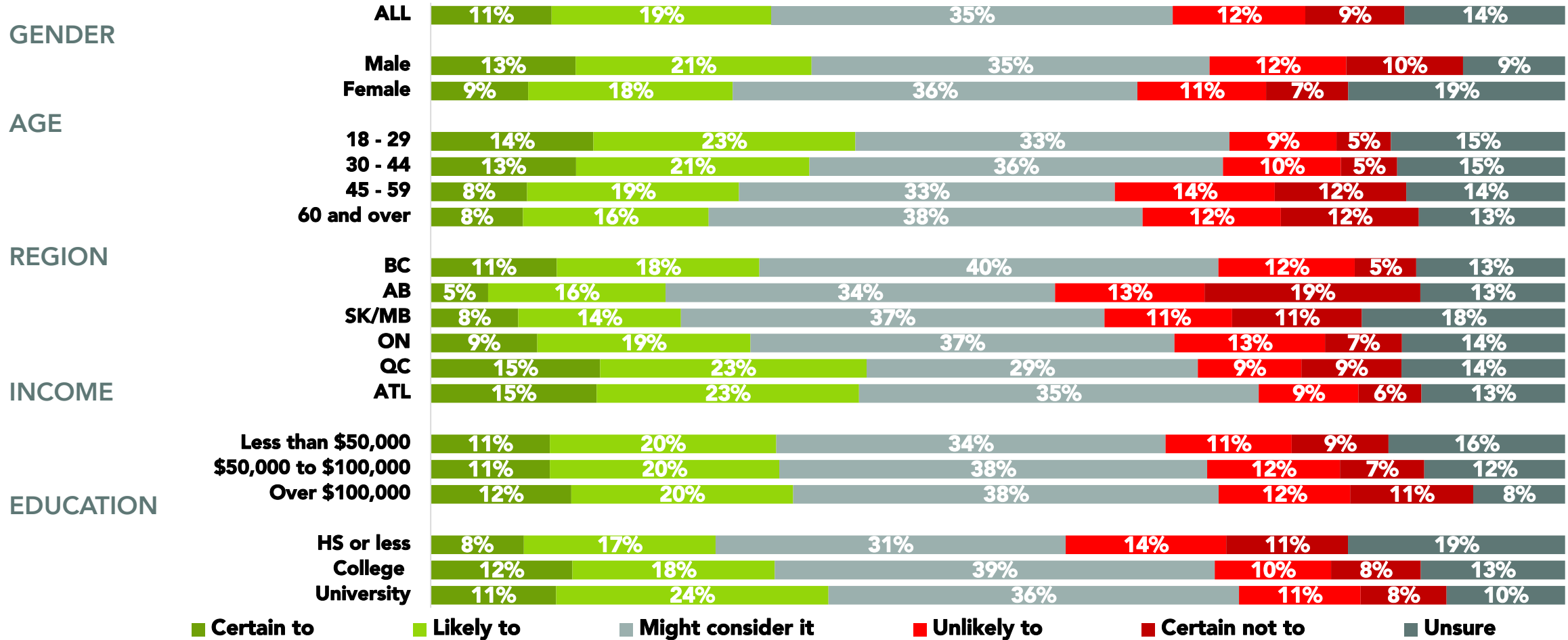
Now we are going to show you some things governments could do to help the speedy transition of the economy and society away from fossil fuels. For each, tell us whether it is something that would make you more or less supportive of a bold and ambitious climate action plan.

# LIKELIHOOD TO PURCHASE A "GREEN VICTORY BOND"



One idea for how to help pay the cost of transitioning the economy away from fossil fuels would be to sell "Green Victory Bonds" (which would be like "Victory Bonds" that were sold during World War II to help pay for the costs of the war). The money raised from these Green Victory Bonds would be used to pay for public infrastructure needed to respond to and tackle climate change (such as public transit, high-speed rail, building retrofits and renewable energy projects). They would also offer a reasonable rate of return for those who buy them. Given this, how likely are you to purchase a "Green Victory Bond"?

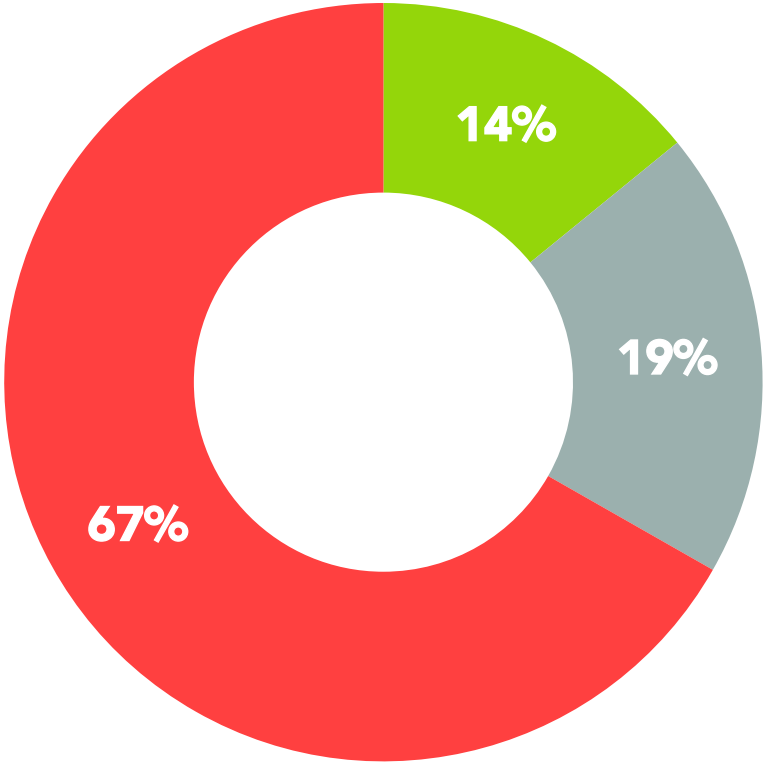
# LIKELIHOOD TO PURCHASE A "GREEN VICTORY BOND"



Given this, how likely are you to purchase a "Green Victory Bond"?



# AWARE OF "GREEN NEW DEAL"



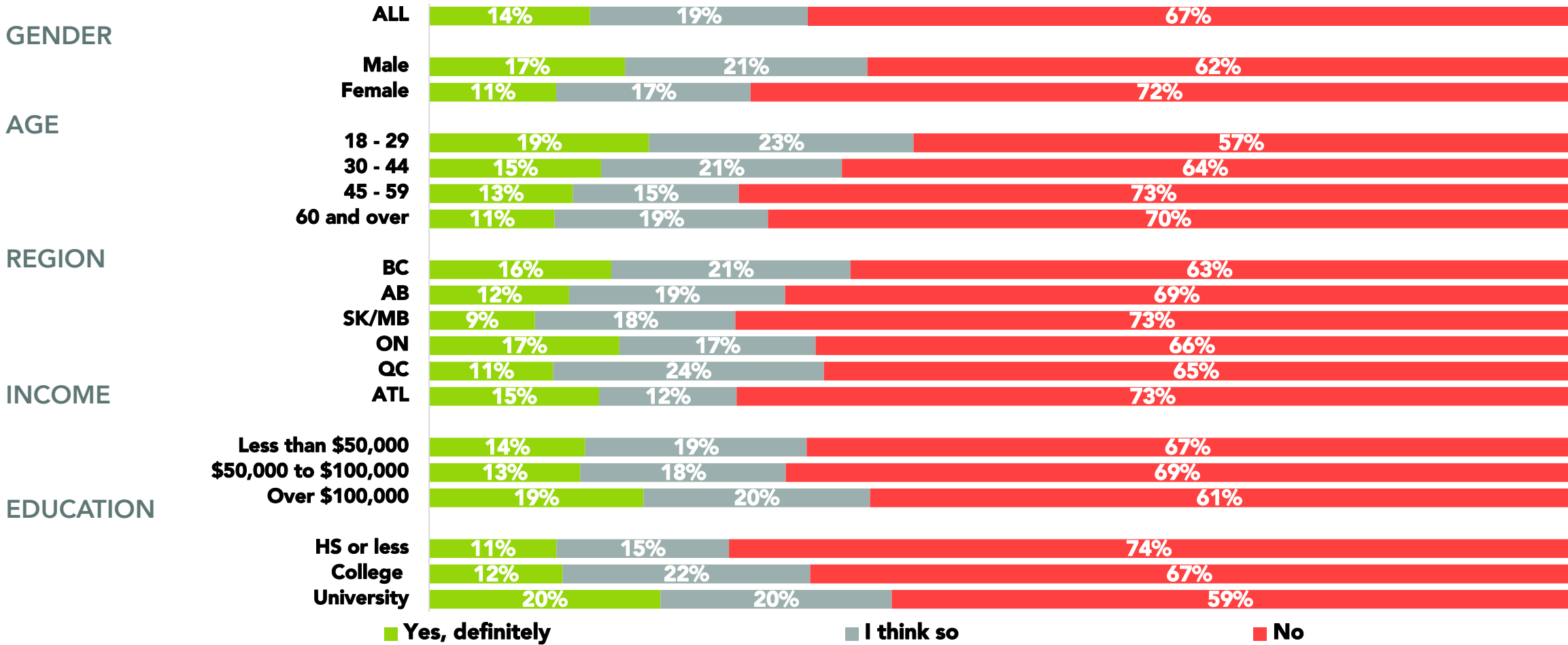
■ **Yes, definitely**

■ **I think so**

■ **No**

Before today, have you heard of the term "Green New Deal"?

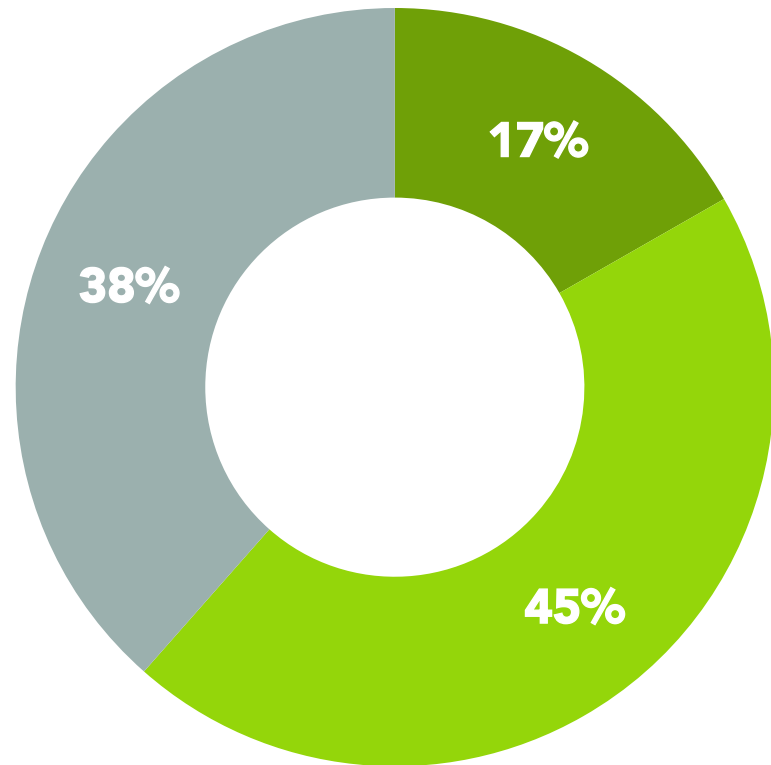
# AWARE OF "GREEN NEW DEAL"



Before today, have you heard of the term "Green New Deal"?

# FAMILIARITY WITH "GREEN NEW DEAL"

THOSE AWARE OF "GREEN NEW DEAL"



■ **Very familiar**

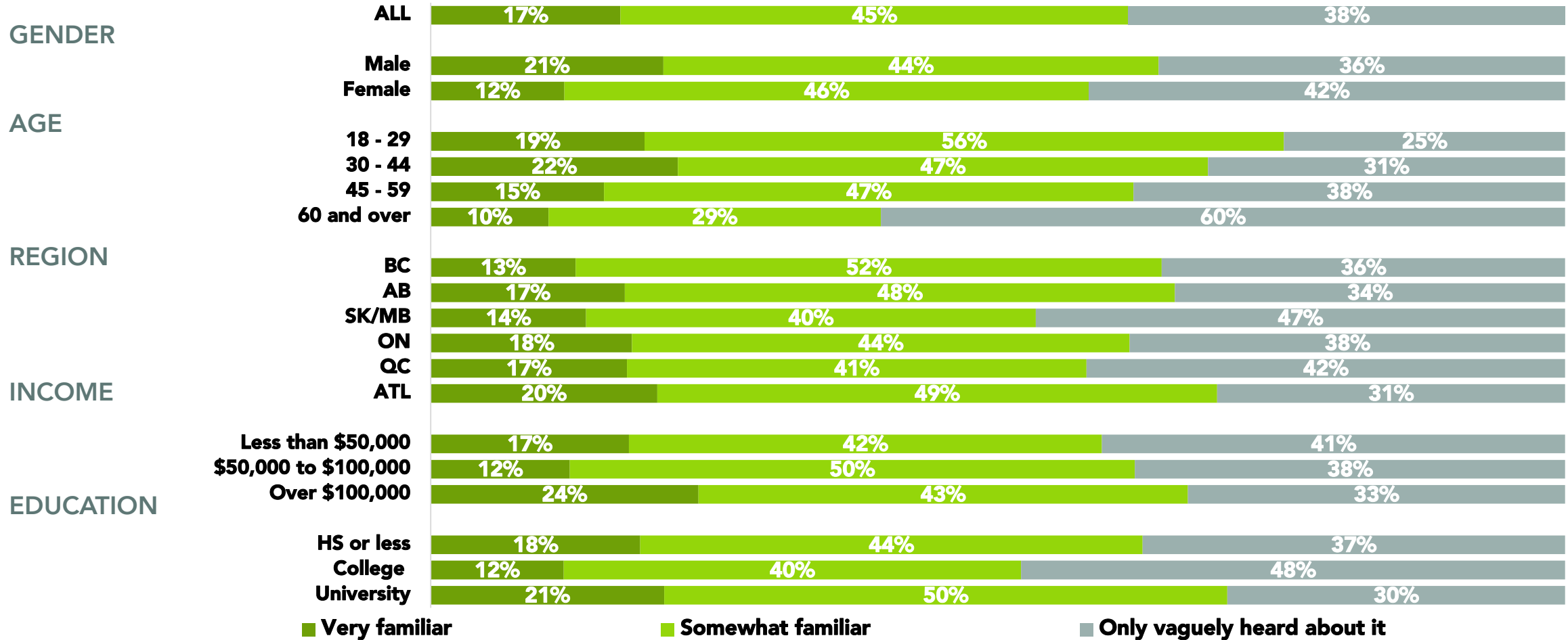
■ **Somewhat familiar**

■ **Only vaguely heard about it**

How familiar would you say you are with what "A Green New Deal" refers to?

# FAMILIARITY WITH "GREEN NEW DEAL"

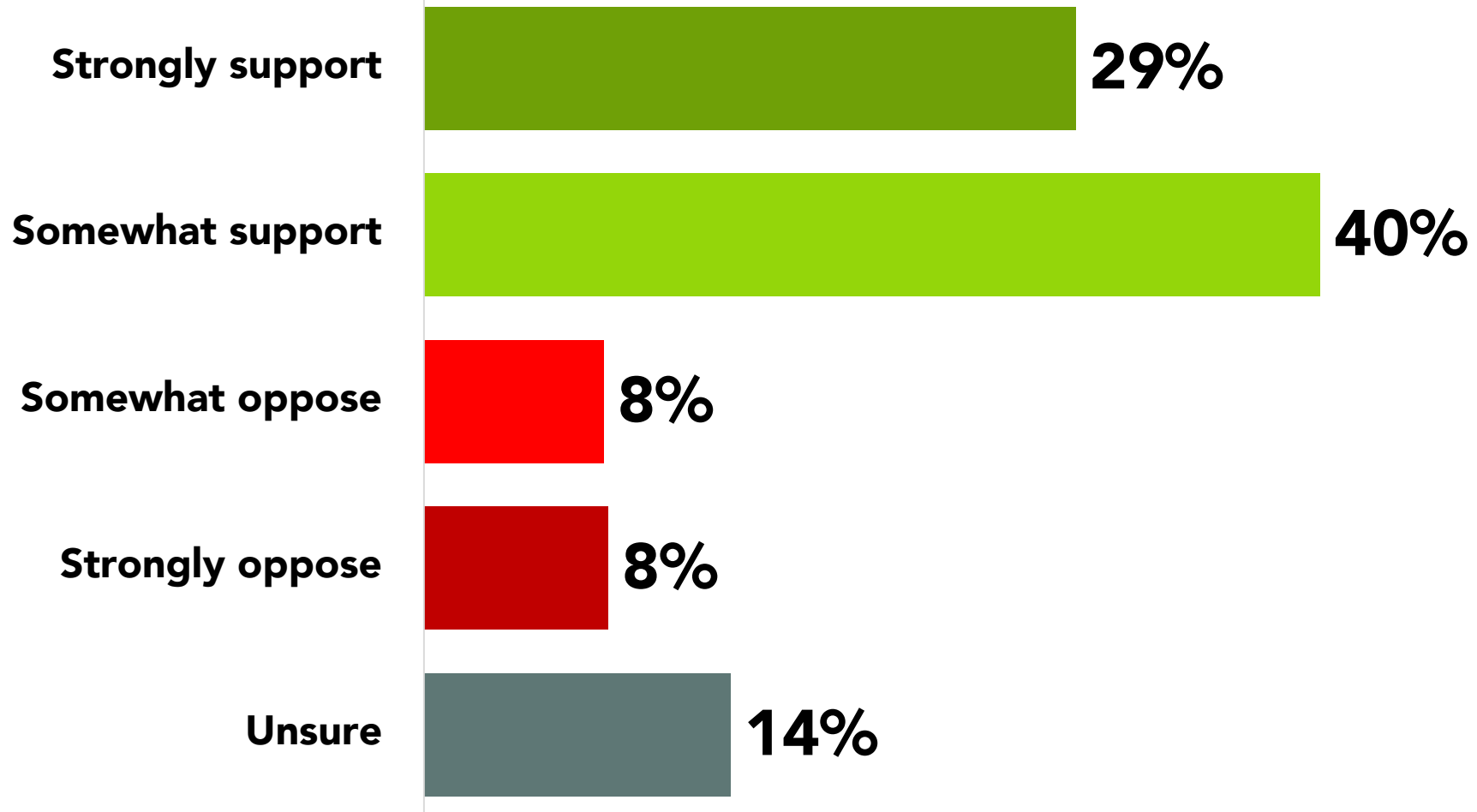
## THOSE AWARE OF "GREEN NEW DEAL"



How familiar would you say you are with what "A Green New Deal" refers to?

# SUPPORT FOR A MADE-IN-CANADA GREEN NEW DEAL

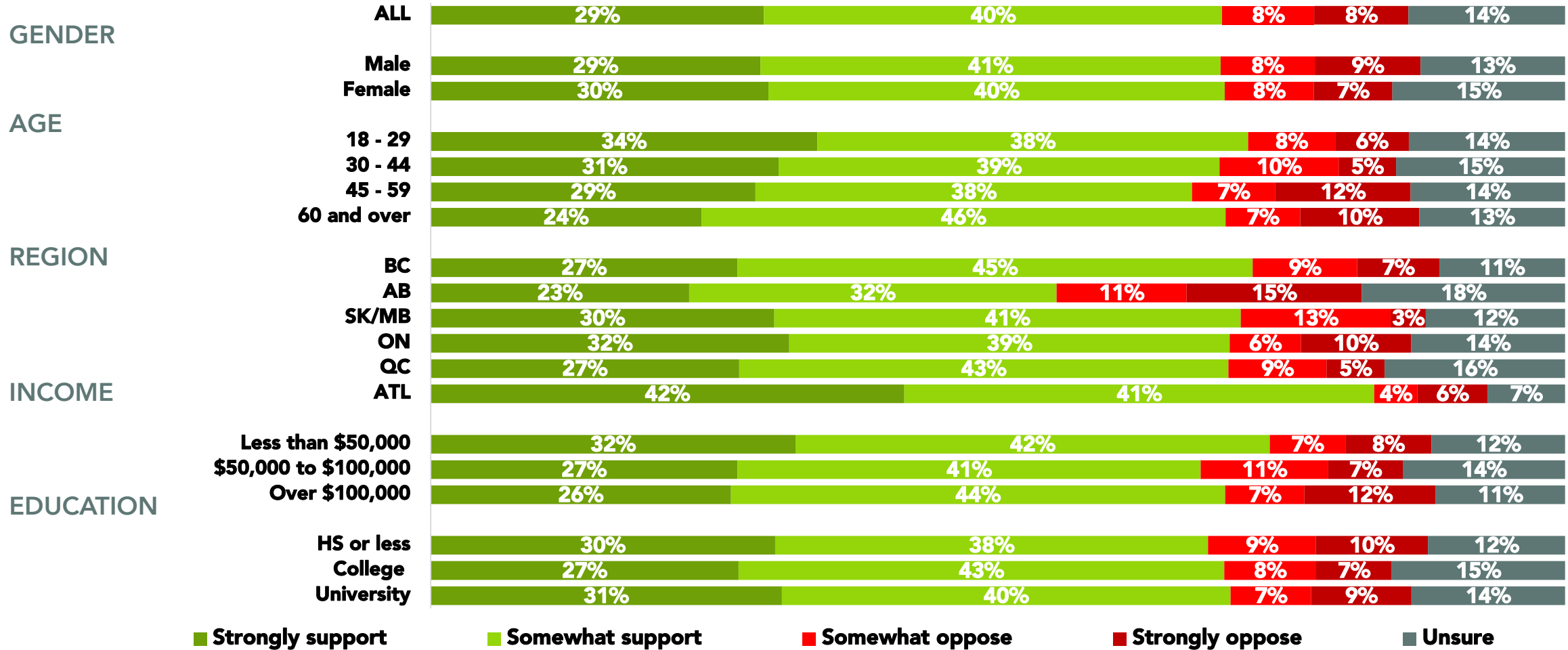
THOSE AWARE OF "GREEN NEW DEAL"



From what you know, do you support or oppose a made-in-Canada Green New Deal?

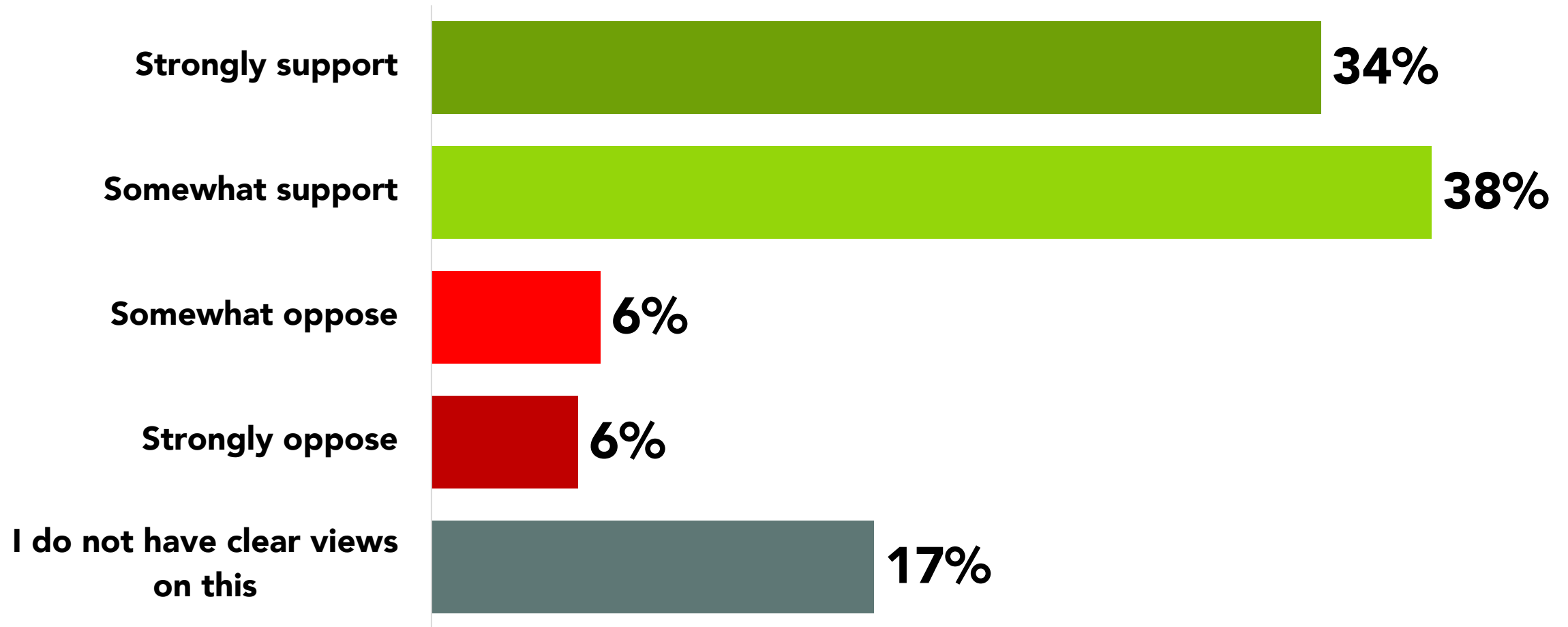
# SUPPORT FOR A MADE-IN-CANADA GREEN NEW DEAL

## THOSE AWARE OF "GREEN NEW DEAL"



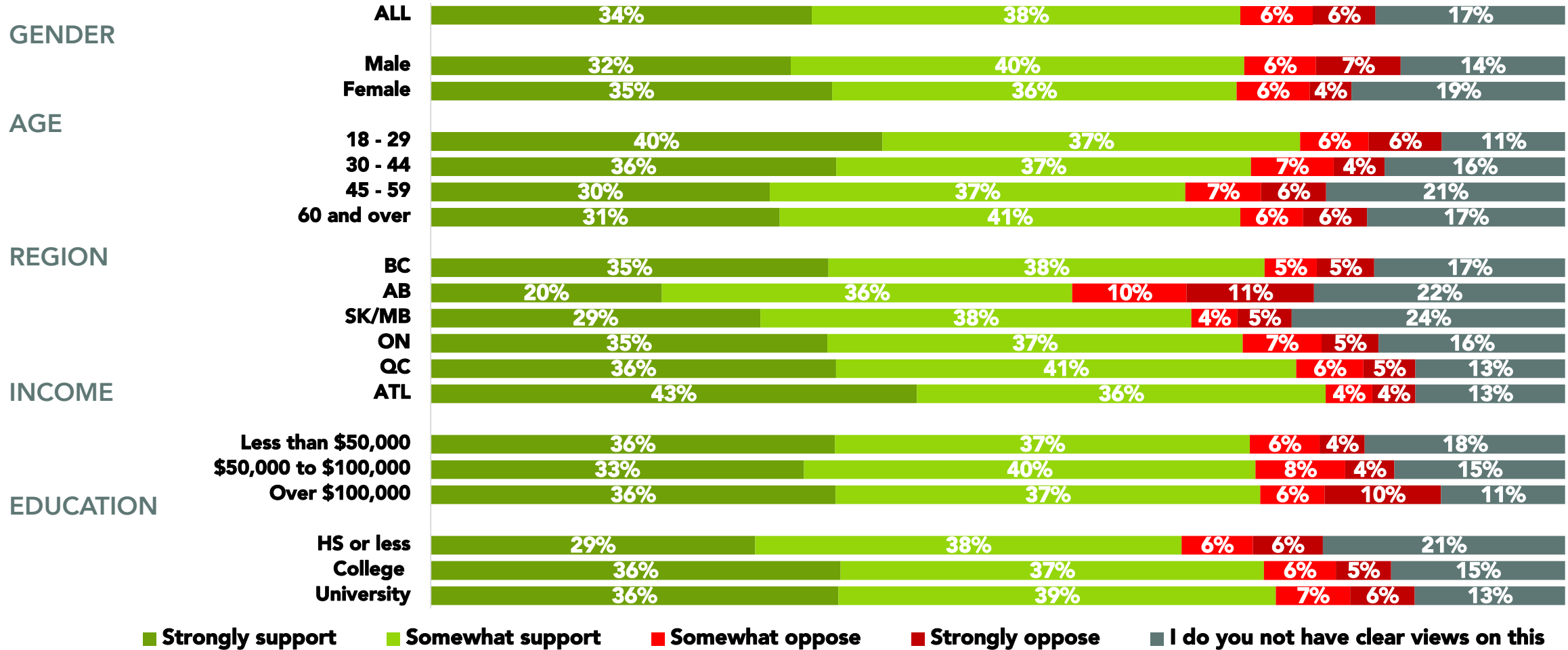
From what you know, do you support or oppose a made-in-Canada Green New Deal?

# SUPPORT FOR A GREEN NEW DEAL



Here's a definition of the Green New Deal: "A Green New Deal is an ambitious vision for tackling the twin crises of climate change and inequality. It would see us cut our greenhouse gas emissions by at least 50% by 2030, while leaving no one behind. It would be a comprehensive plan to massively invest in green infrastructure and renewable energy, and to transform our economy to address the scale of the climate emergency and deepening inequalities. It would see the creation of millions of jobs in the areas of economic/energy transition, affordable housing construction, reforestation, and in the caring economy (education, child care, elder care, etc)." Based on this description, is this something you strongly support, somewhat support, somewhat oppose, or strongly oppose or do you not have clear views?

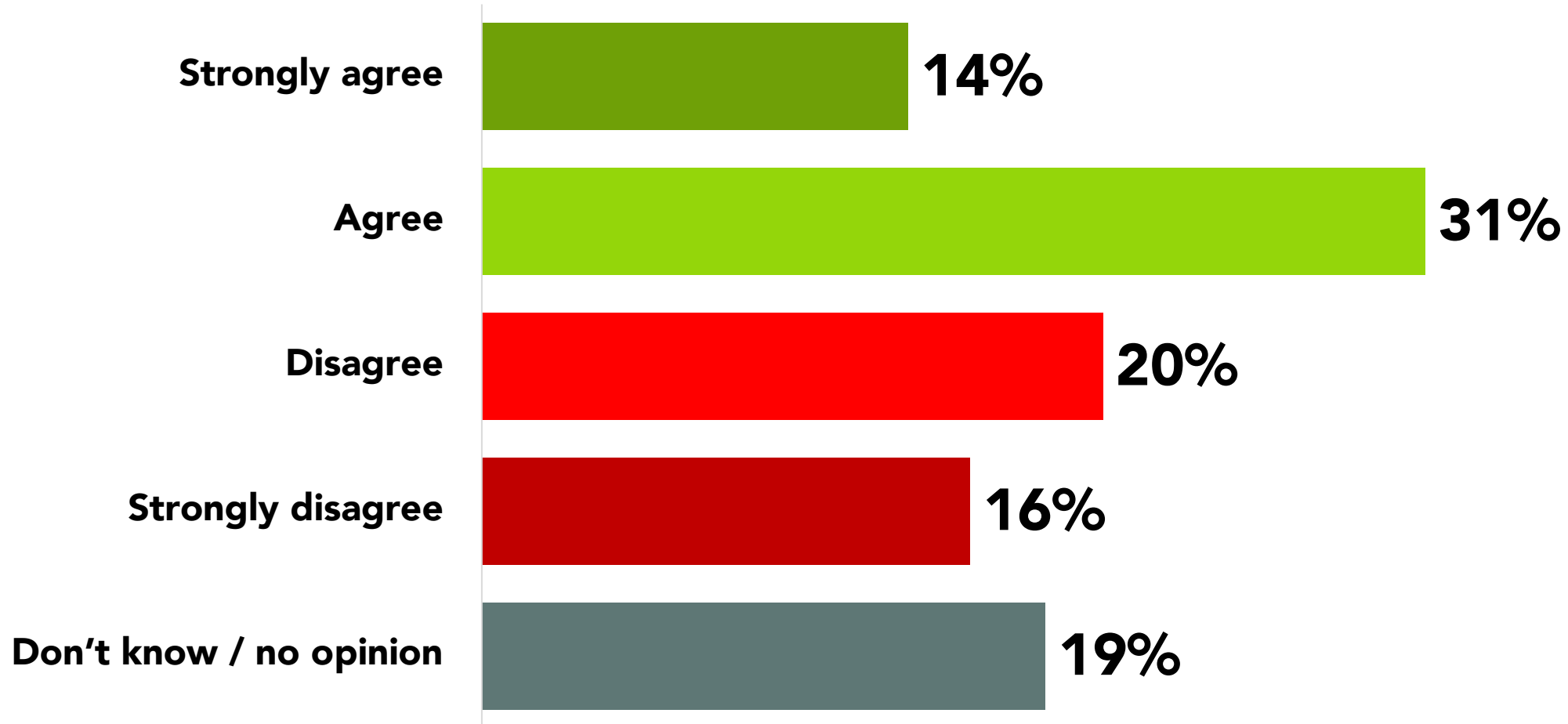
# SUPPORT FOR A GREEN NEW DEAL



Based on this description, is this something you strongly support, somewhat support, somewhat oppose, or strongly oppose or do you not have clear views?

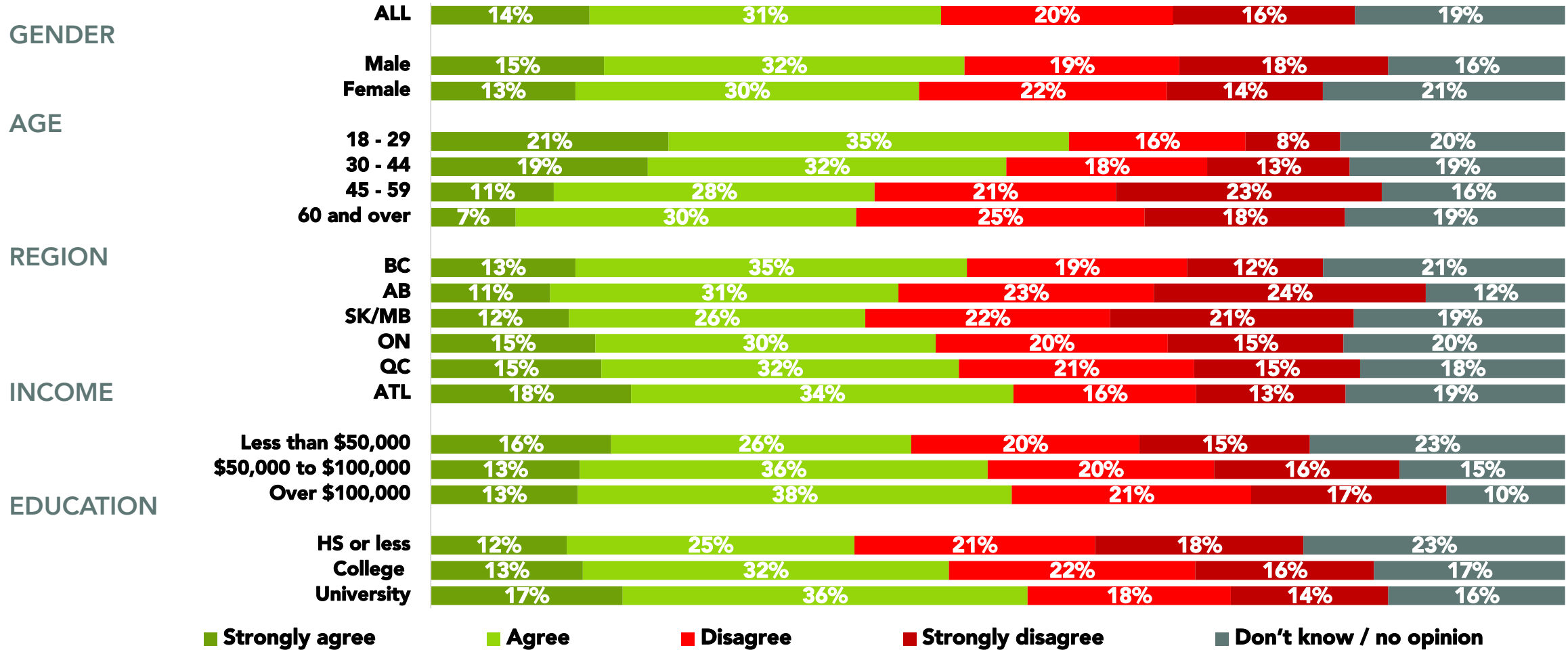


# AS CLIMATE CHANGE PROGRESSES AND MORE PEOPLE ARE DISPLACED BY MAJOR WEATHER EVENTS AROUND THE WORLD, CANADA HAS A RESPONSIBILITY TO ACCEPT HIGHER NUMBERS OF CLIMATE MIGRANTS AND REFUGEES



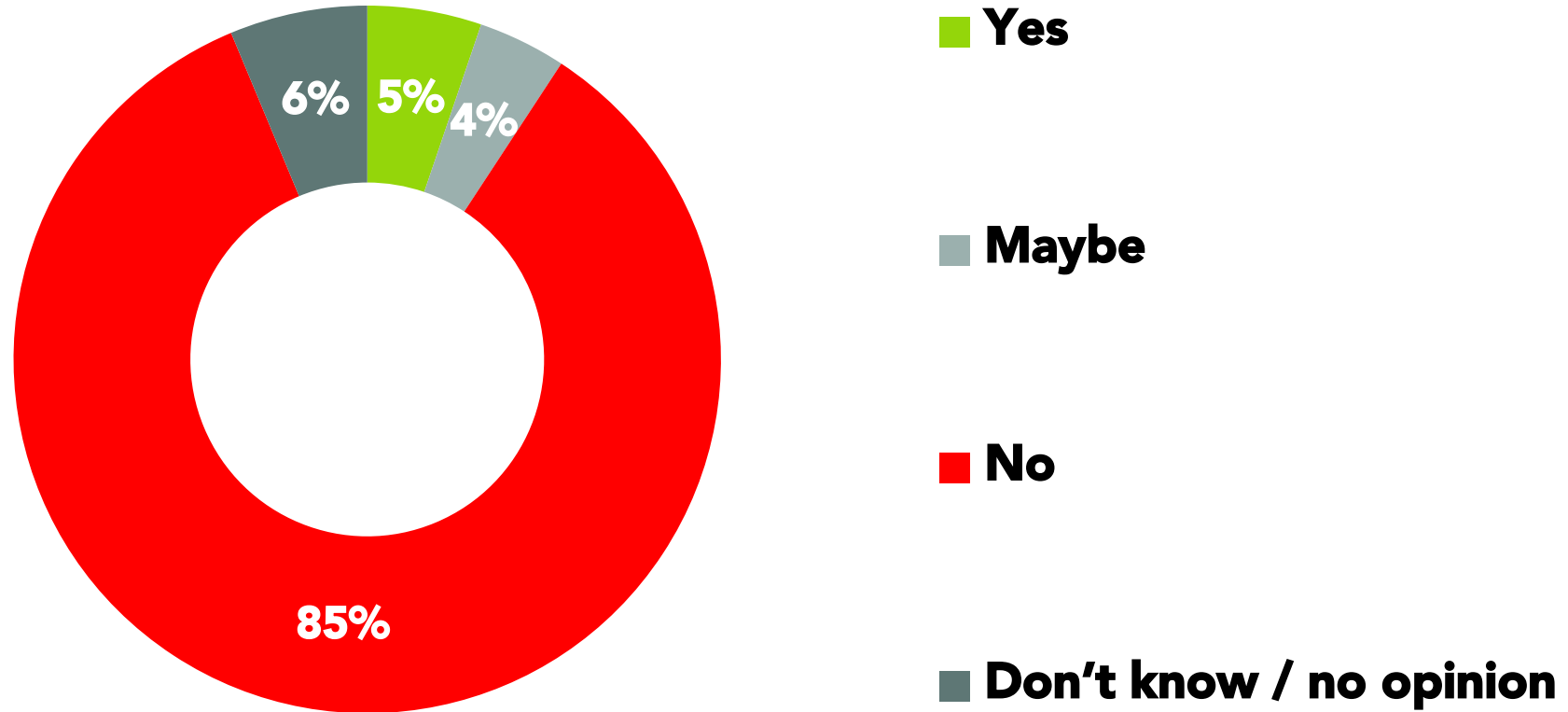
Do you agree or disagree with the following statement: As climate change progresses and more people are displaced by major weather events around the world, Canada has a responsibility to accept higher numbers of climate migrants and refugees?

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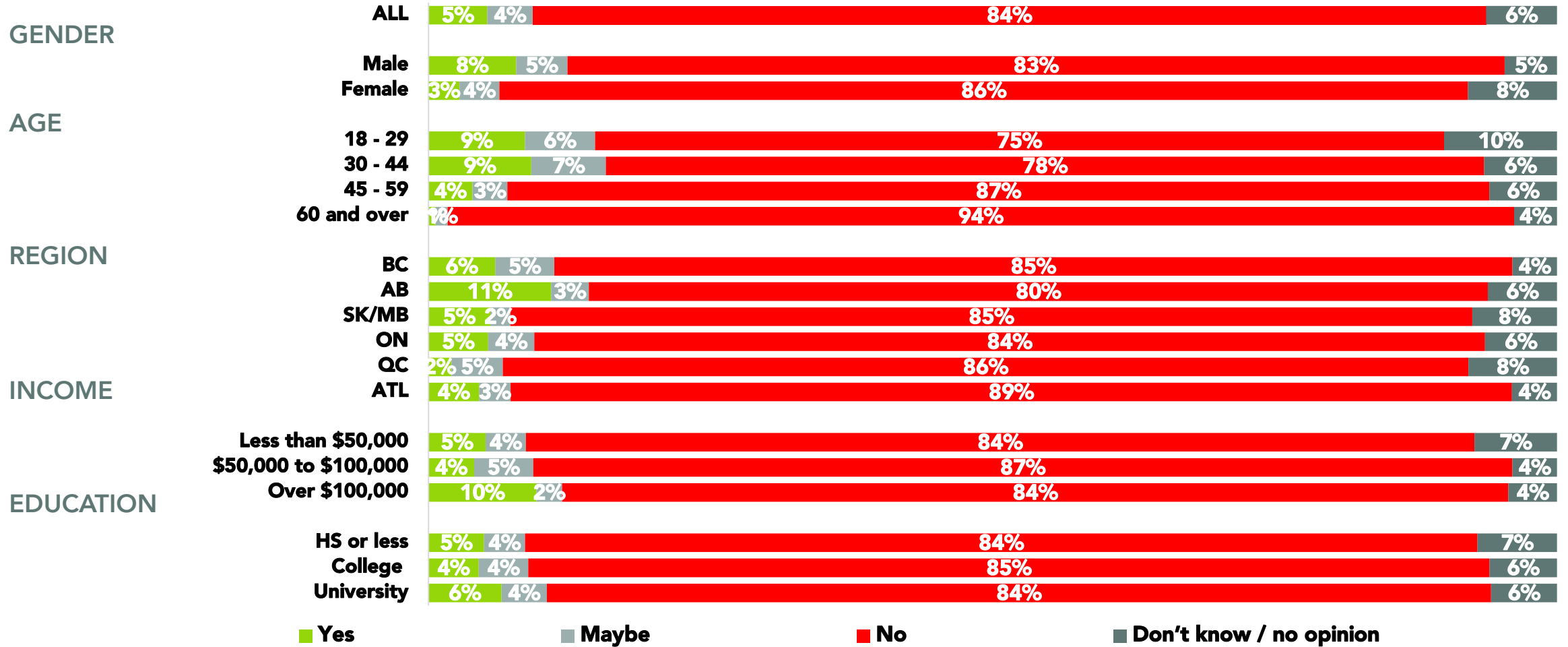
Do you agree or disagree with the following statement: As climate change progresses and more people are displaced by major weather events around the world, Canada has a responsibility to accept higher numbers of climate migrants and refugees?

# DO YOU CURRENTLY WORK IN THE OIL, GAS, OR COAL INDUSTRY OR IN A JOB CLOSELY RELATED



Do you currently work in the oil, gas, or coal industry, or in a job closely related to those sectors?

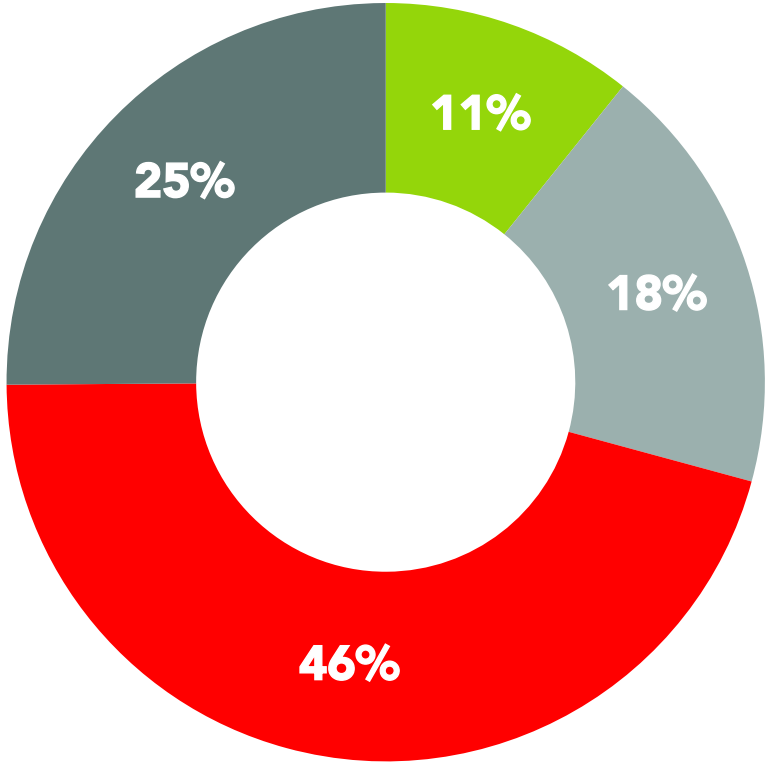
# DO YOU CURRENTLY WORK IN THE OIL, GAS, OR COAL INDUSTRY OR IN A JOB CLOSELY RELATED



Do you currently work in the oil, gas, or coal industry, or in a job closely related to those sectors?

# WOULD YOU WANT YOUR CHILD TO BE EMPLOYED IN THE OIL AND GAS INDUSTRY

THOSE 18 TO 65

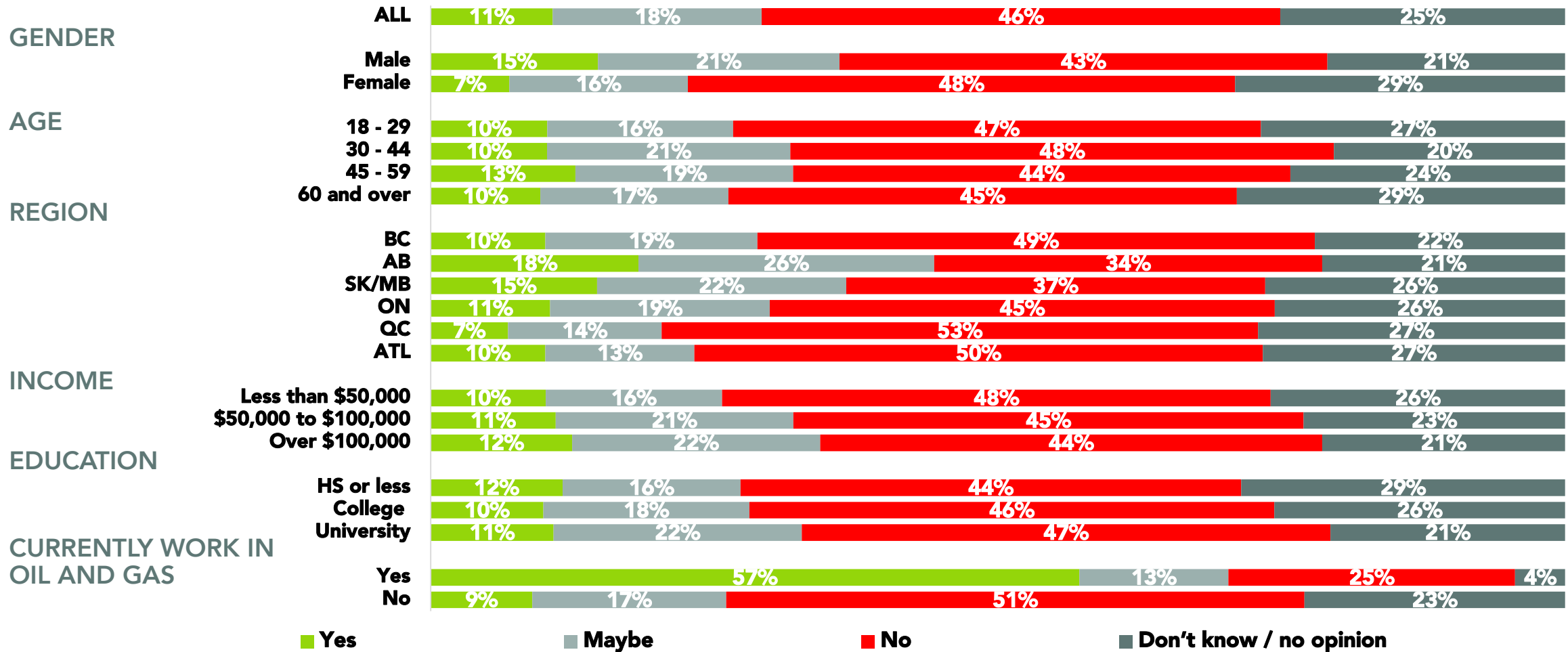


- Yes
- Maybe
- No
- Don't know / no opinion

If you have or plan to have children, would you want your child to be employed in the oil and gas industry?

# WOULD YOU WANT YOUR CHILD TO BE EMPLOYED IN THE OIL AND GAS INDUSTRY

THOSE 18 TO 65



If you have or plan to have children, would you want your child to be employed in the oil and gas industry?