

**STABLE OPINION  
ENVIRONMENT IN TERMS OF  
CLIMATE CHANGE AND  
NUCLEAR POWER**

**PUBLIC LARGELY SUPPORTS  
INVESTMENTS IN NEW  
NUCLEAR TECHNOLOGIES**

**PUBLIC TENDS TO BE  
UNSURE RATHER THAN  
OPPOSED TO NUCLEAR**



**DETAILED RESULTS**

# **TRACKING KEY INDICATORS AND SUPPORT FOR INVESTING IN NEW TECHNOLOGIES**

**CONDUCTED FOR CANADIAN NUCLEAR ASSOCIATION**

**RESEARCH AND ANALYSIS FROM CANADA'S LEADING PUBLIC  
AFFAIRS AND MARKET RESEARCH EXPERTS**

# METHODOLOGY

The survey was conducted with 2,000 Canadian residents from January 29 to February 3, 2021. 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 +/- 2.13%, 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.

# I. CLIMATE CHANGE ISSUES

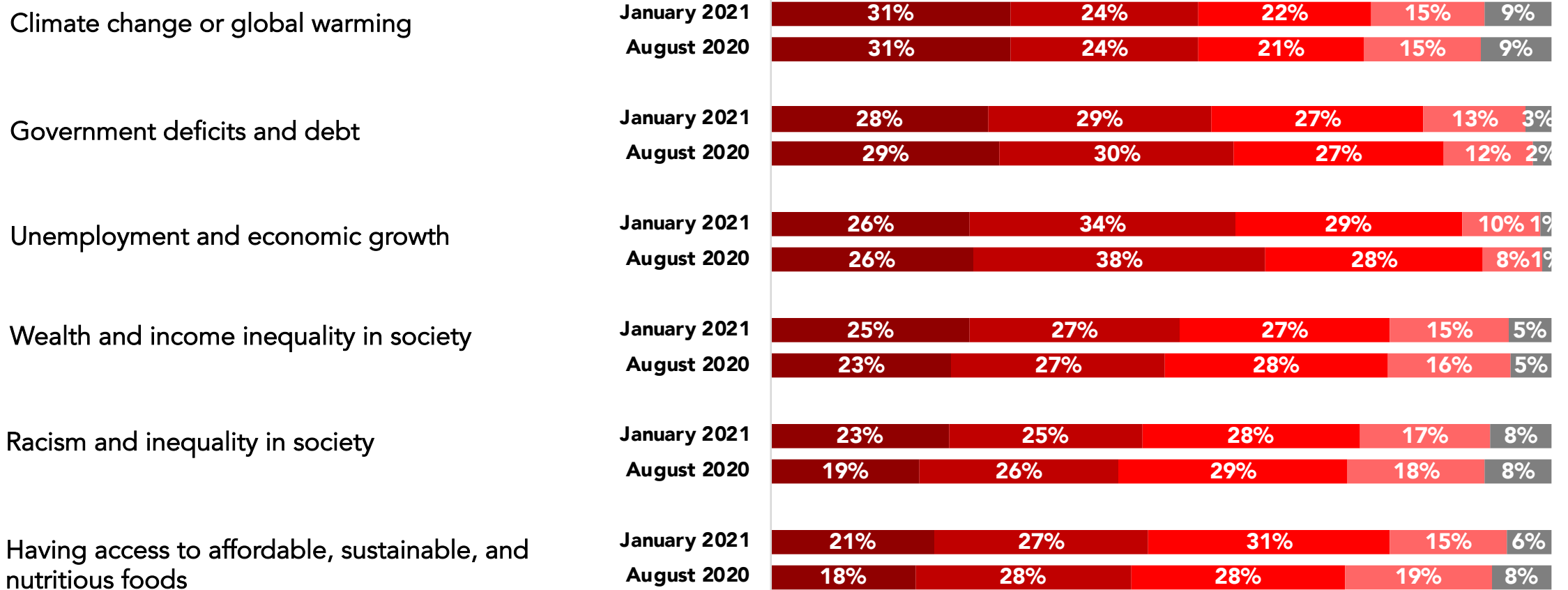
**ABACUS DATA**



# KEY FINDINGS

- Almost 8 in 10 (77%) feel that climate change or global warming is an issue that is at least *serious* and 31% consider it *very serious*.
  - Women, younger Canadians, as well as NDP and LPC voters are more inclined to view climate change/global warming issues as serious.
- The climate change impacts that Canadians are most concerned about are the impacts on the environment and the increase in extreme weather conditions. There is also significant concern with the prospect of higher costs associated with insurance and damage caused by extreme weather.

# CONCERN FOR ISSUES



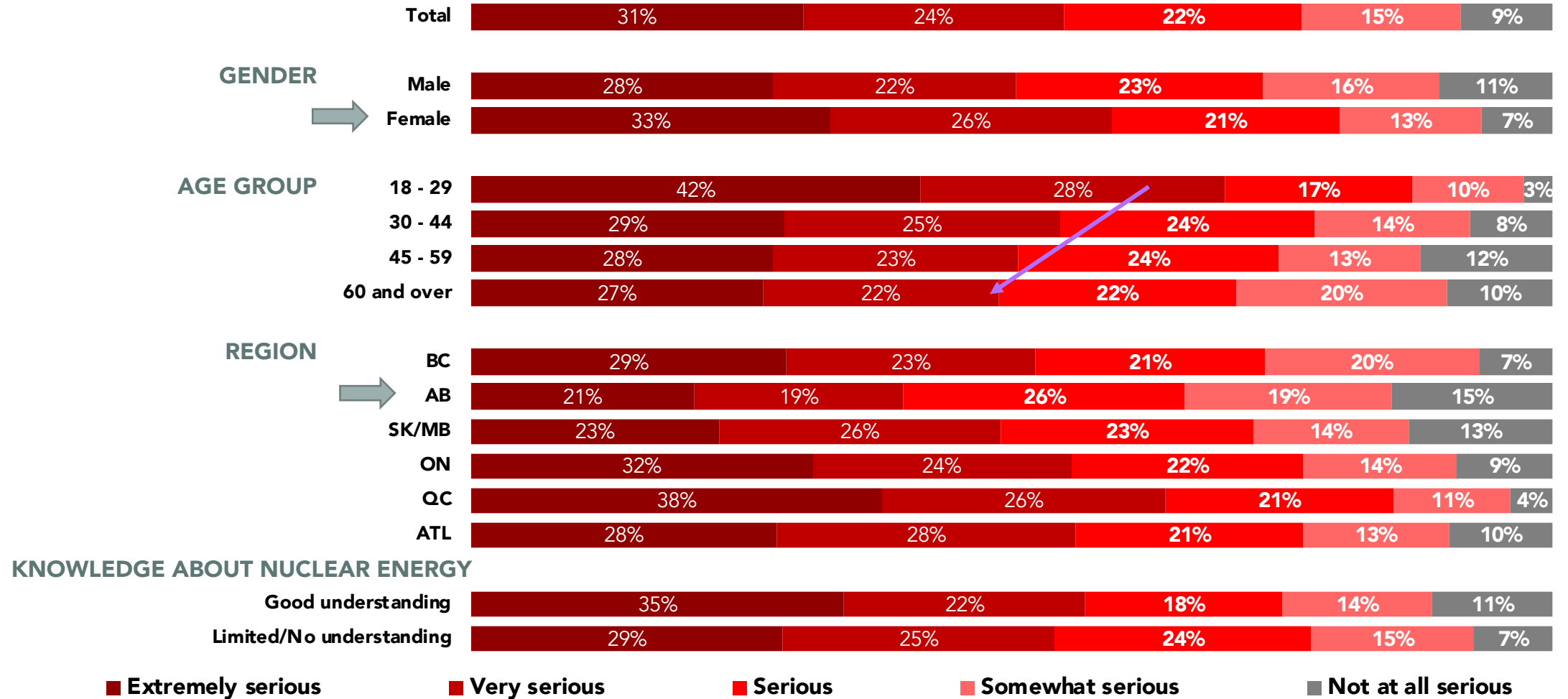
■ **Extremely serious**    
 ■ **Very serious**    
 ■ **Serious**    
 ■ **Somewhat serious**    
 ■ **Not at all serious**



To what extent, if at all, do you feel the following are serious issues we currently face?

# CONCERN FOR ISSUES

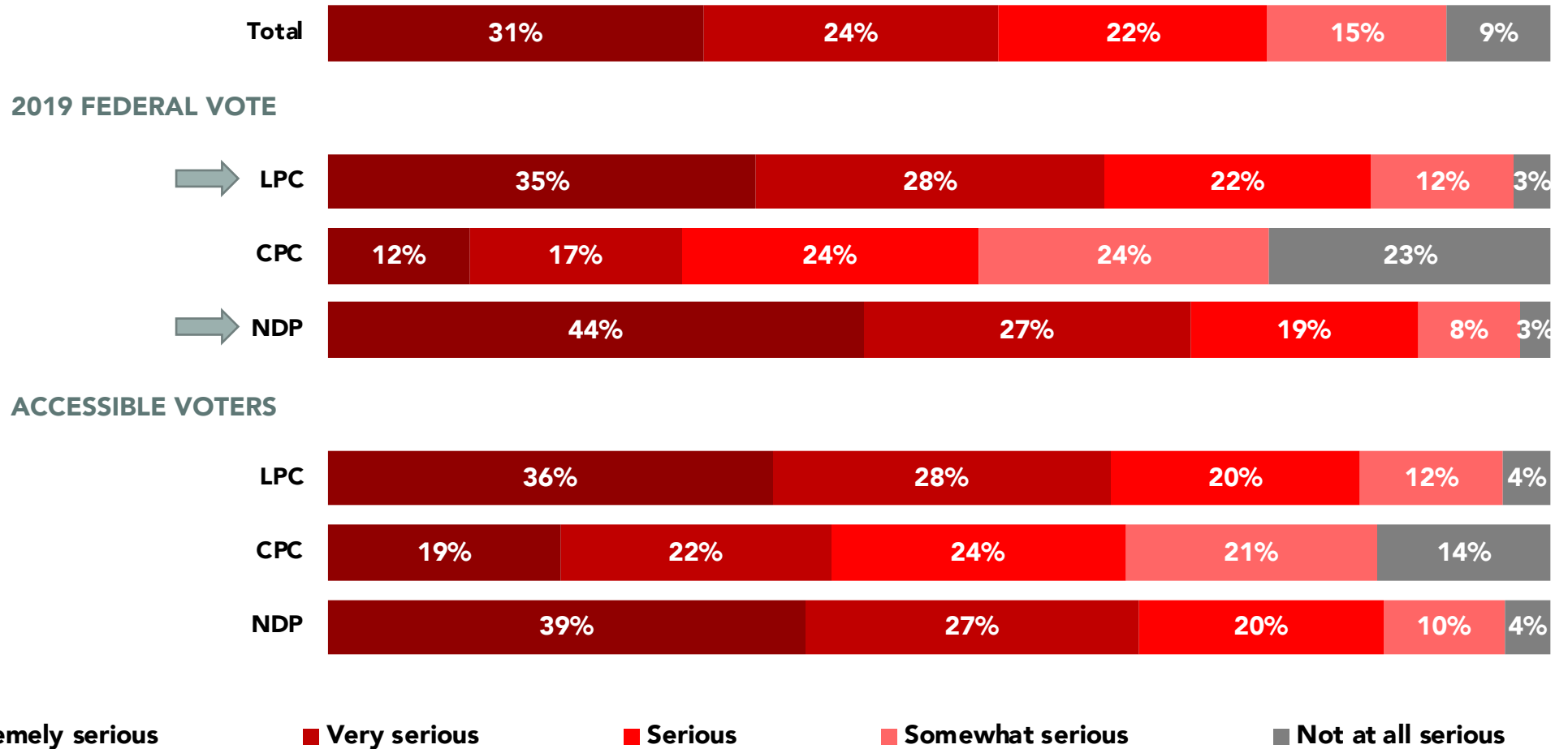
## CLIMATE CHANGE/GLOBAL WARMING



To what extent, if at all, do you feel the following are serious issues we currently face?

# CONCERN FOR ISSUES

## CLIMATE CHANGE/GLOBAL WARMING



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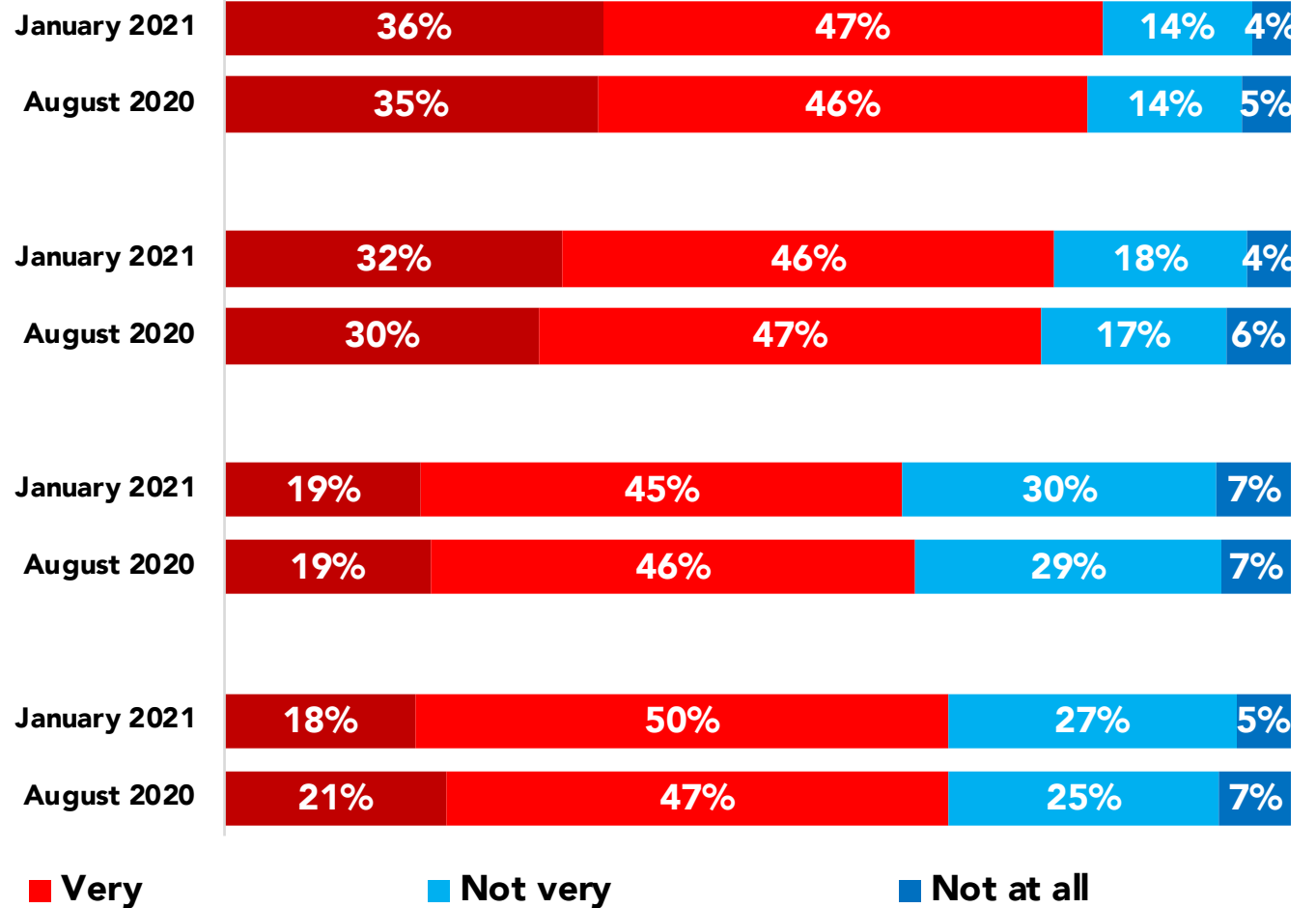
# CONCERN FOR CLIMATE CHANGE ISSUES

Impact on environment such as agriculture, crops, clean drinking water supply, melting glaciers, increase in transmissions of certain diseases

Increase in extreme weather conditions such as extreme temperatures, raising water levels, storms, flooding, droughts, wildfires

Prospect of higher insurance costs due to extreme weather patterns

Financial impact from damage or maintenance due to extreme weather patterns



■ Extremely

■ Very

■ Not very

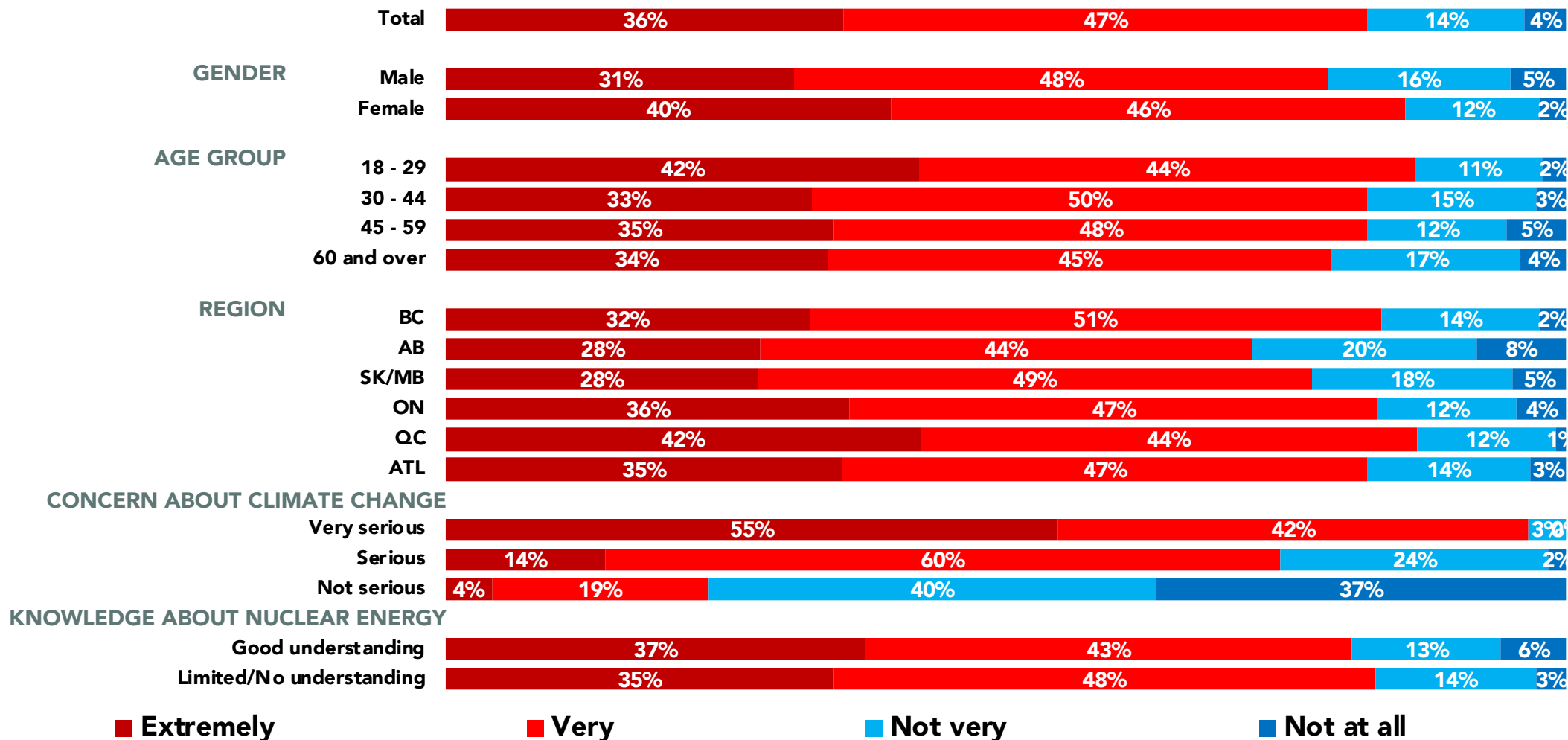
■ Not at all

When you consider climate change, to what extent are you concerned about the following?



# CONCERN FOR CLIMATE CHANGE ISSUES

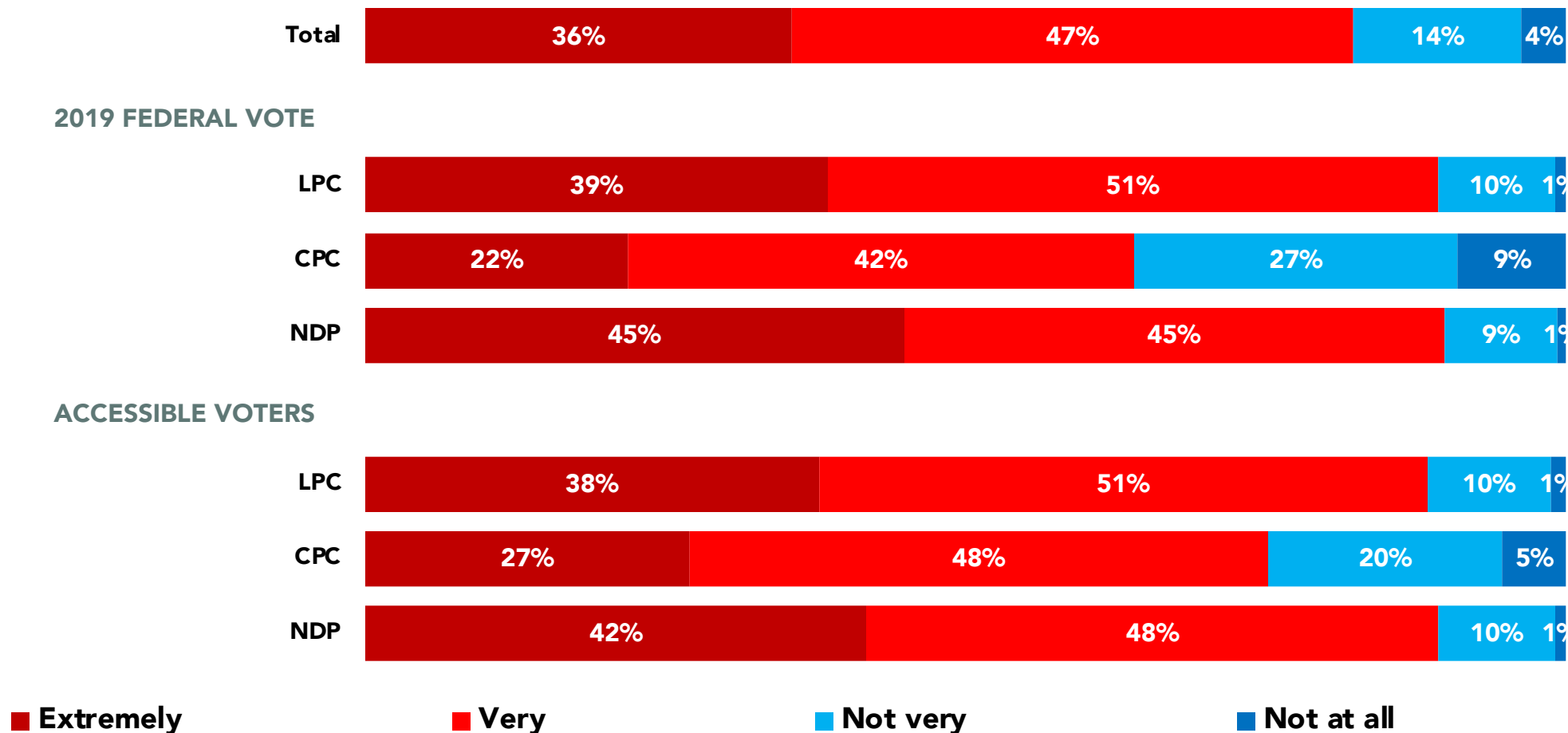
IMPACT ON ENVIRONMENT SUCH AS AGRICULTURE, CROPS, CLEAN DRINKING WATER SUPPLY, MELTING GLACIERS, INCREASE IN TRANSMISSIONS OF CERTAIN DISEASES



When you consider climate change, to what extent are you concerned about the following?

# CONCERN FOR CLIMATE CHANGE ISSUES

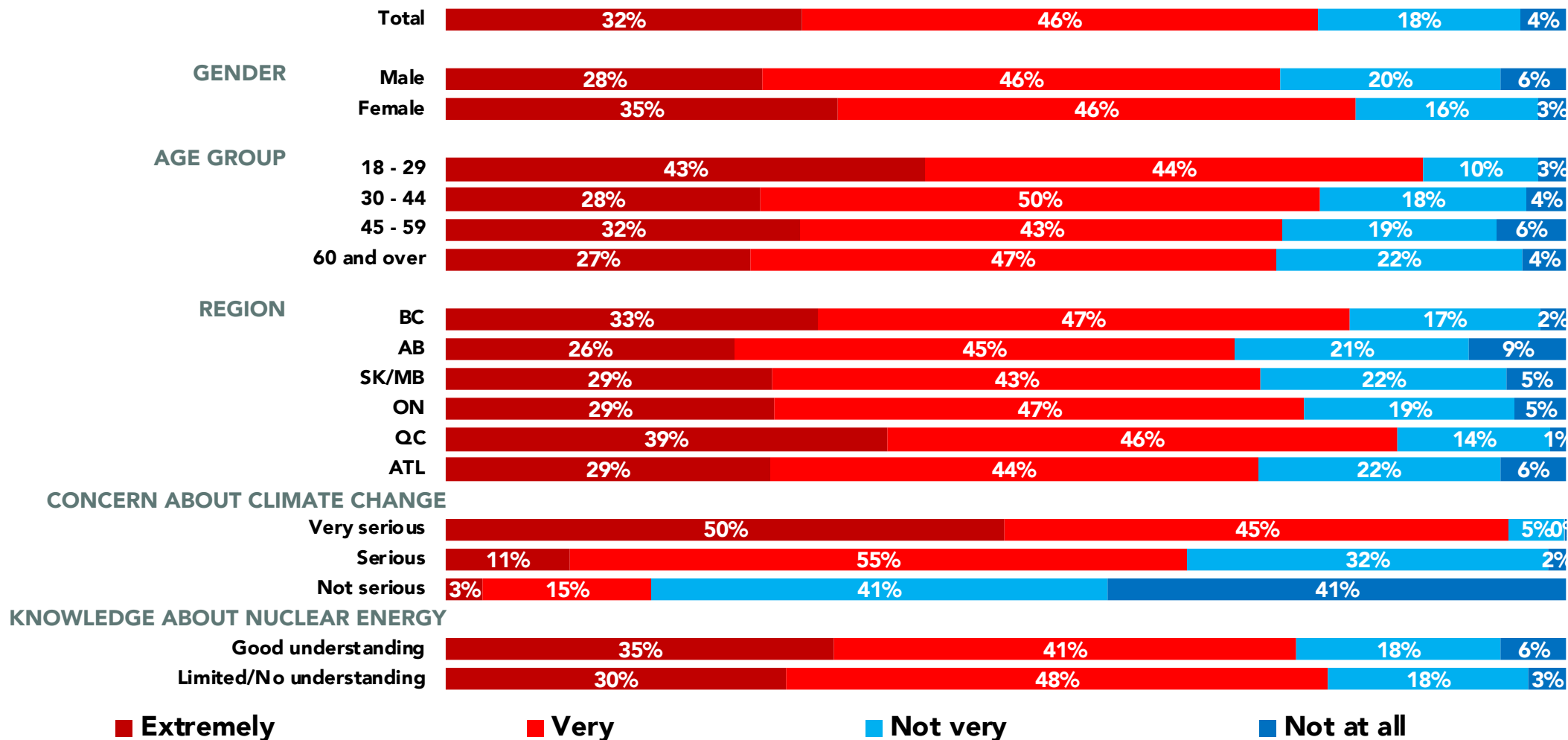
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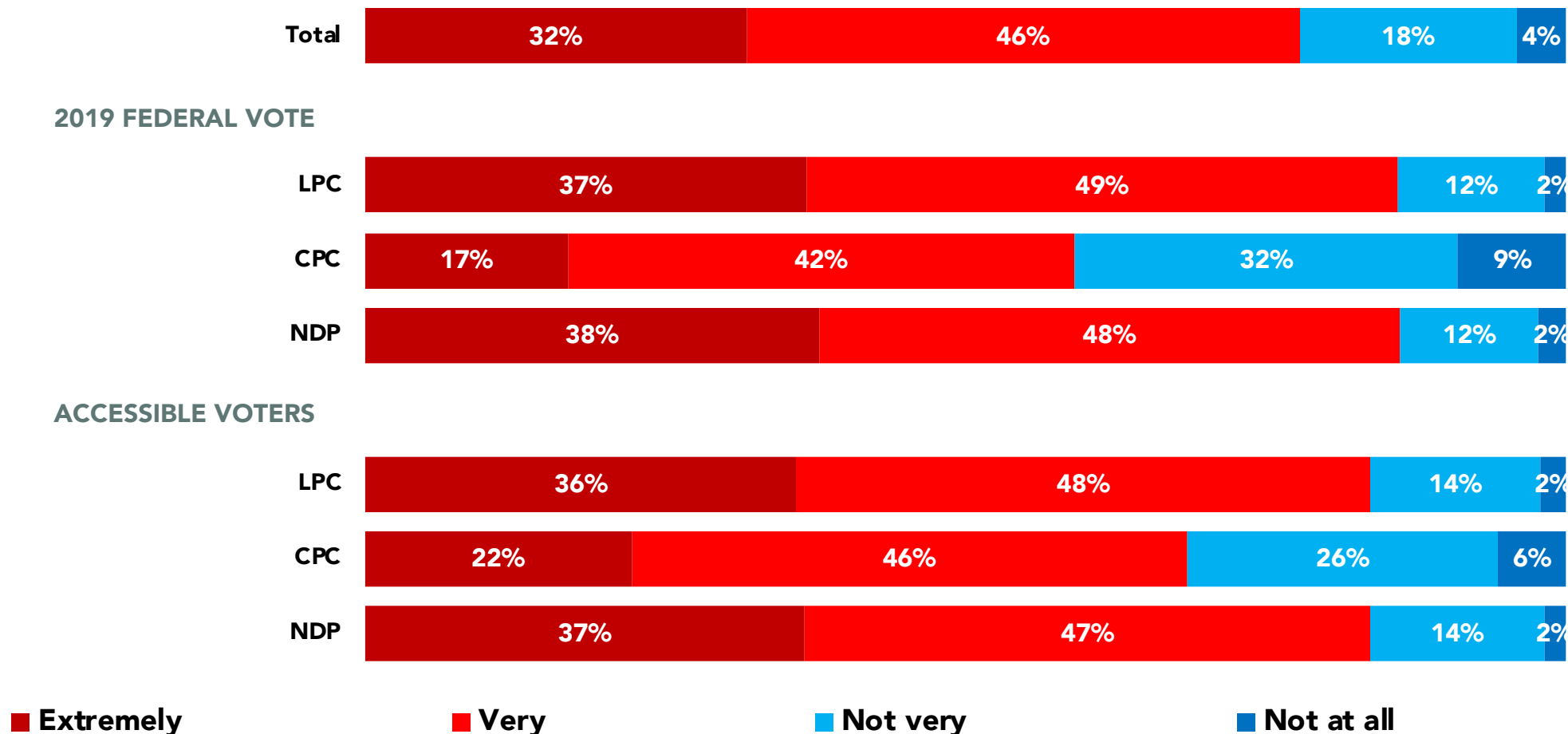
INCREASE IN EXTREME WEATHER CONDITIONS SUCH AS EXTREME TEMPERATURES, RAISING WASTER LEVELS, STORMS, FLOODING, DROUGHTS, WILDFIRES



When you consider climate change, to what extent are you concerned about the following?

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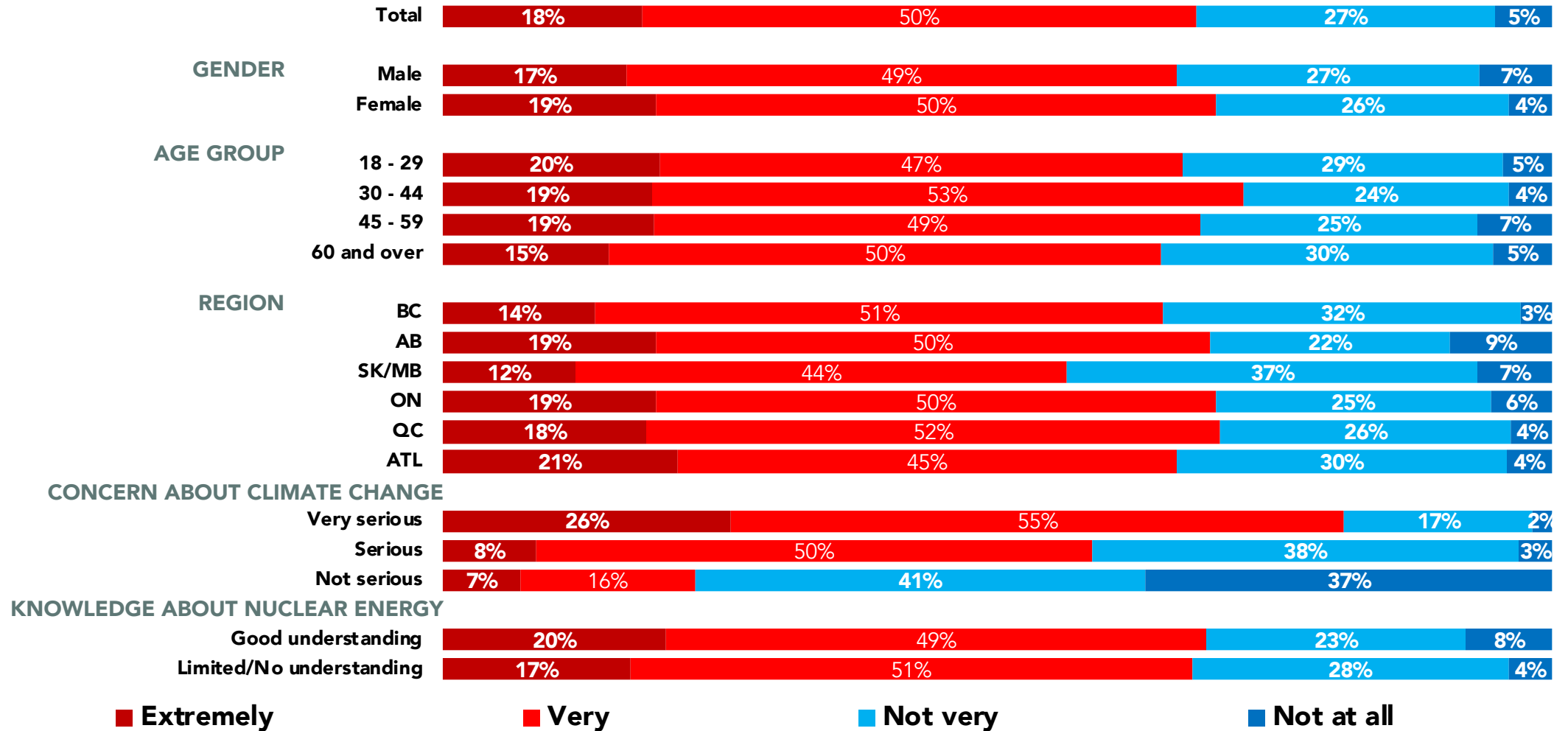
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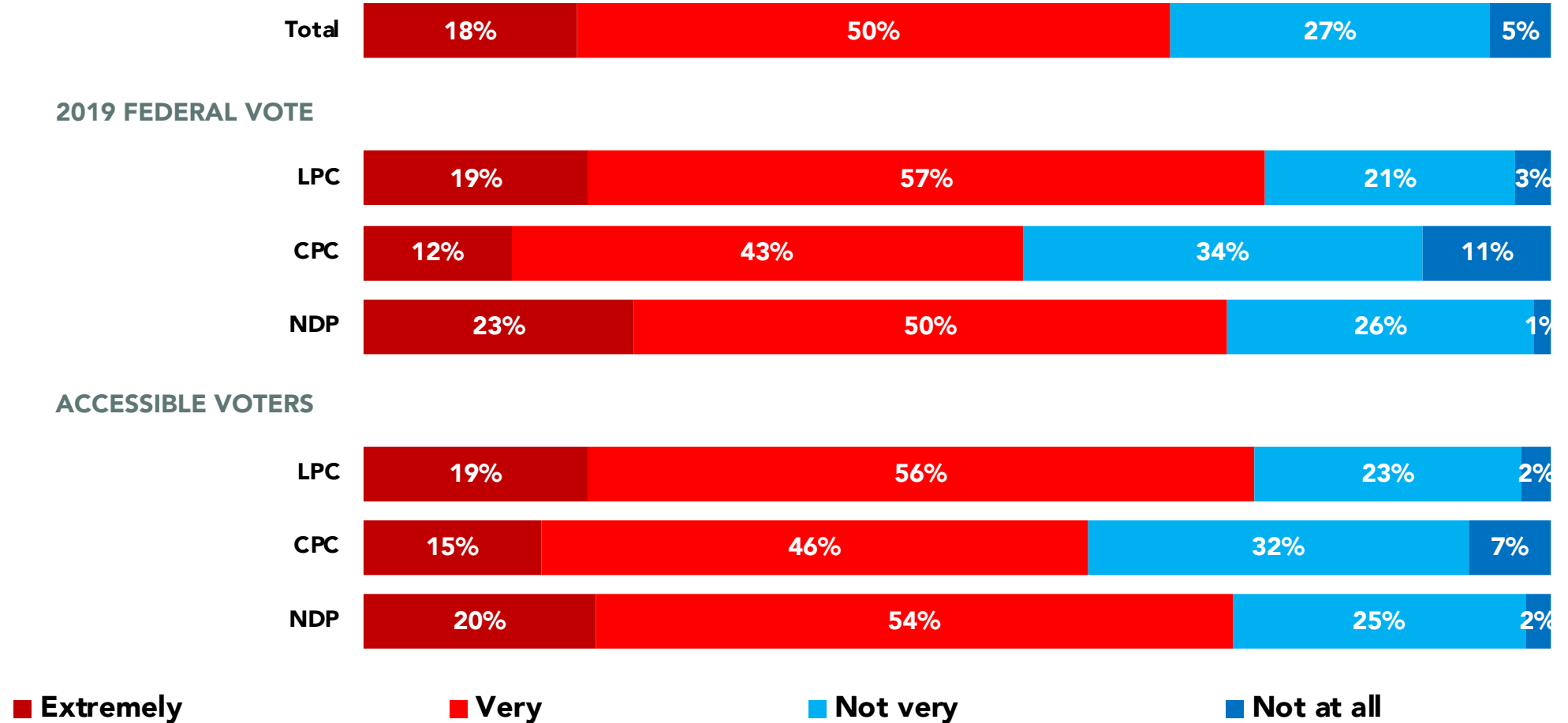
## FINANCIAL IMPACT FROM DAMAGE OR MAINTENANCE DUE TO EXTREME WEATHER PATTERNS



When you consider climate change, to what extent are you concerned about the following?

# CONCERN FOR CLIMATE CHANGE ISSUES

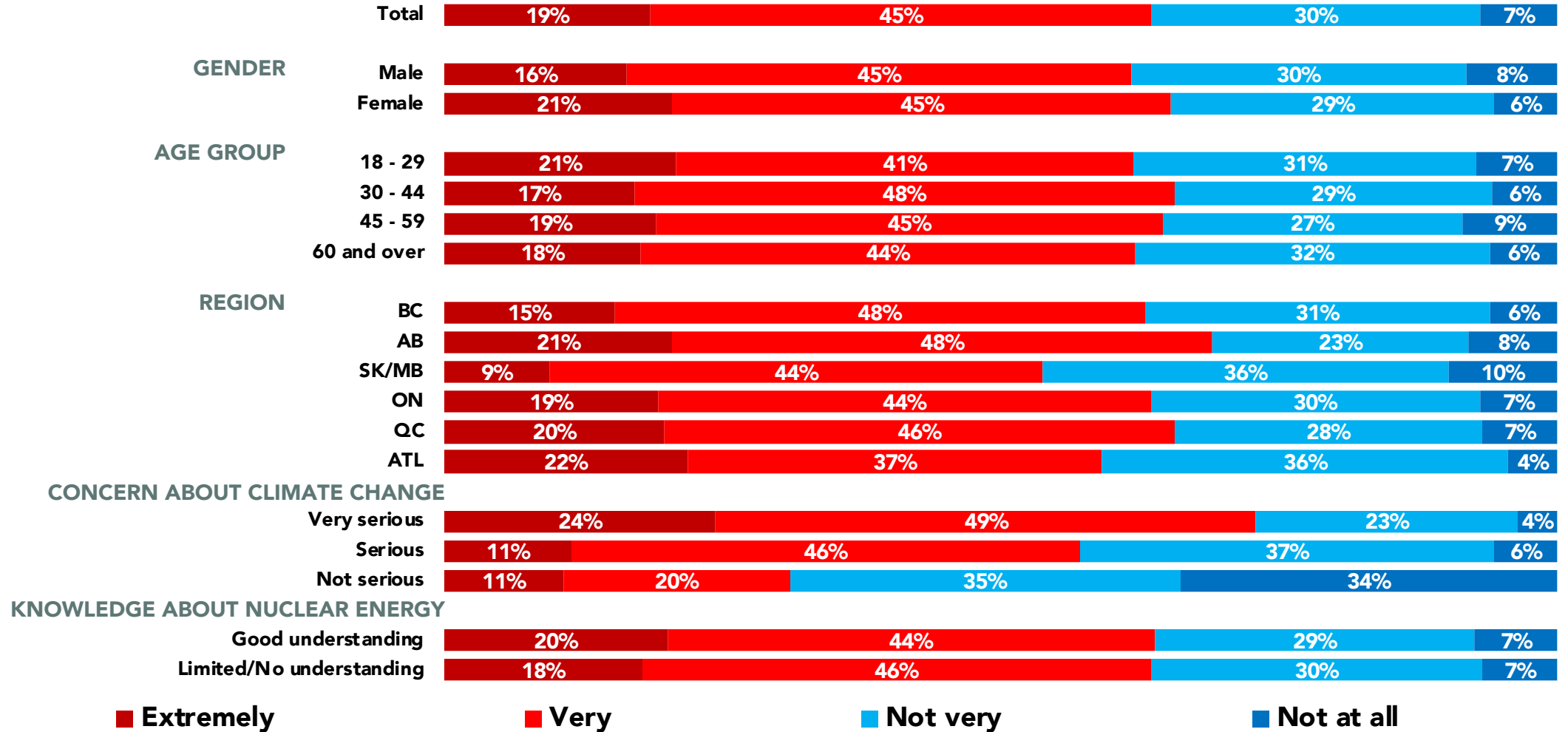
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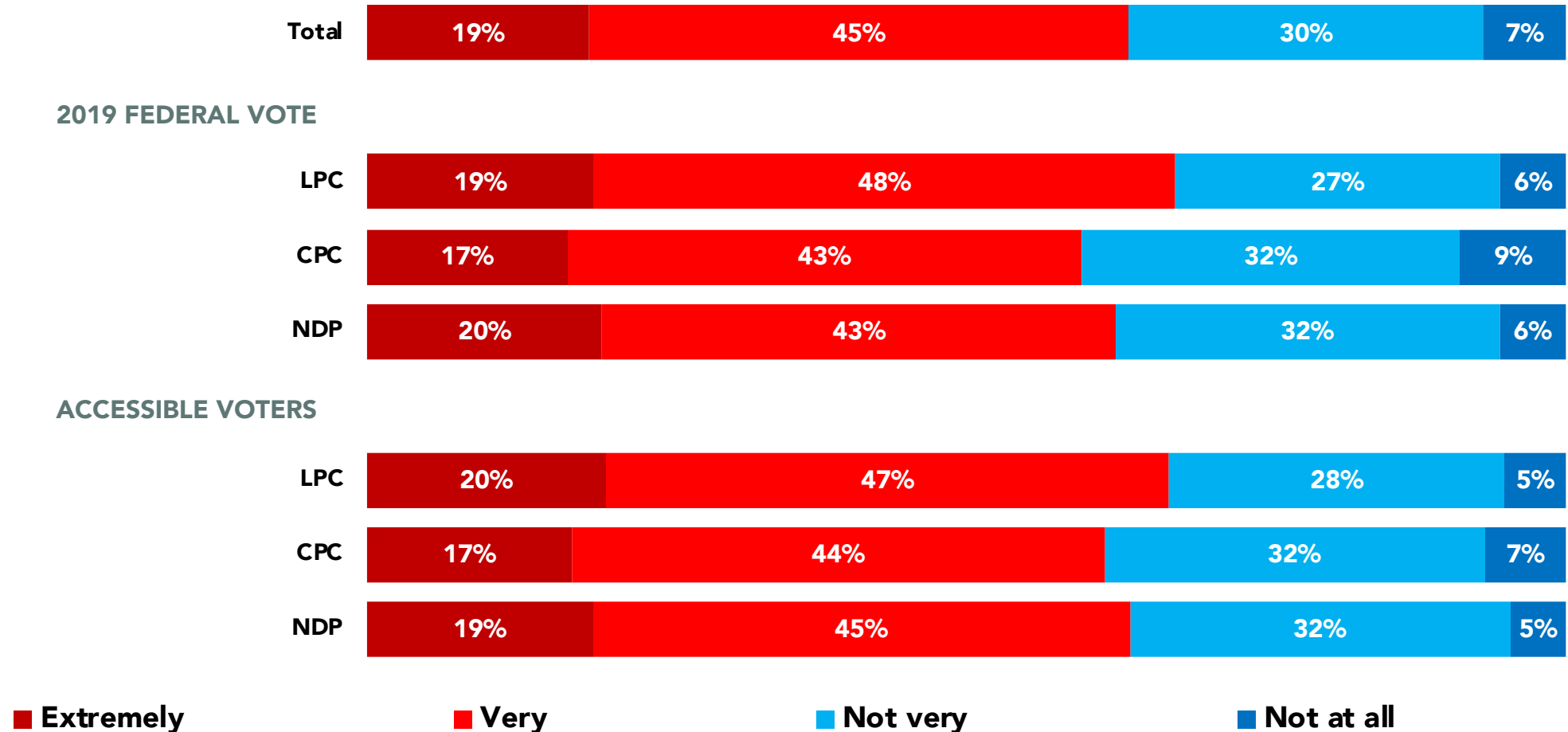
## PROSPECT OF HIGHER INSURANCE COSTS DUE TO EXTREME WEATHER PATTERNS



When you consider climate change, to what extent are you concerned about the following?

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# II. NUCLEAR-POWERED ENERGY

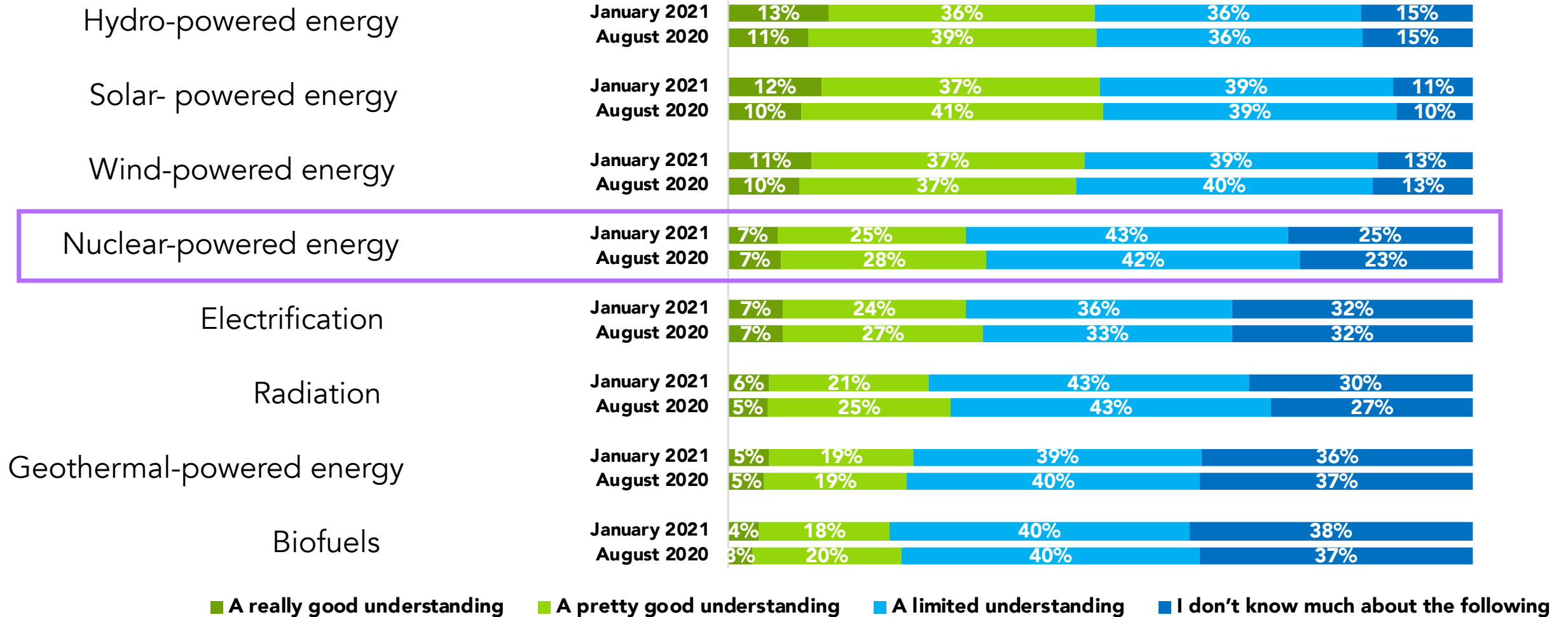
**ABACUS DATA**



# KEY FINDINGS

- 32% believe that they have at least a *pretty good understanding* of nuclear-powered energy but 25% don't know very much about it. More people are aware of hydro, solar and wind power energy sources.
  - Awareness of nuclear power is higher among men and residents of Ontario.
- 7 in 10 (69%) are unaware that nuclear power is the second-largest source of low-carbon electricity. Again, men are much more likely to be aware (40% versus 22% for women)
- Knowing this, 53% are at least *open* to supporting using more nuclear energy technologies to generate electricity in Canada. Only 11% are opposed, and a third (35%) would like to learn more before forming an opinion.
  - Women are less supportive, as are NDP voters.

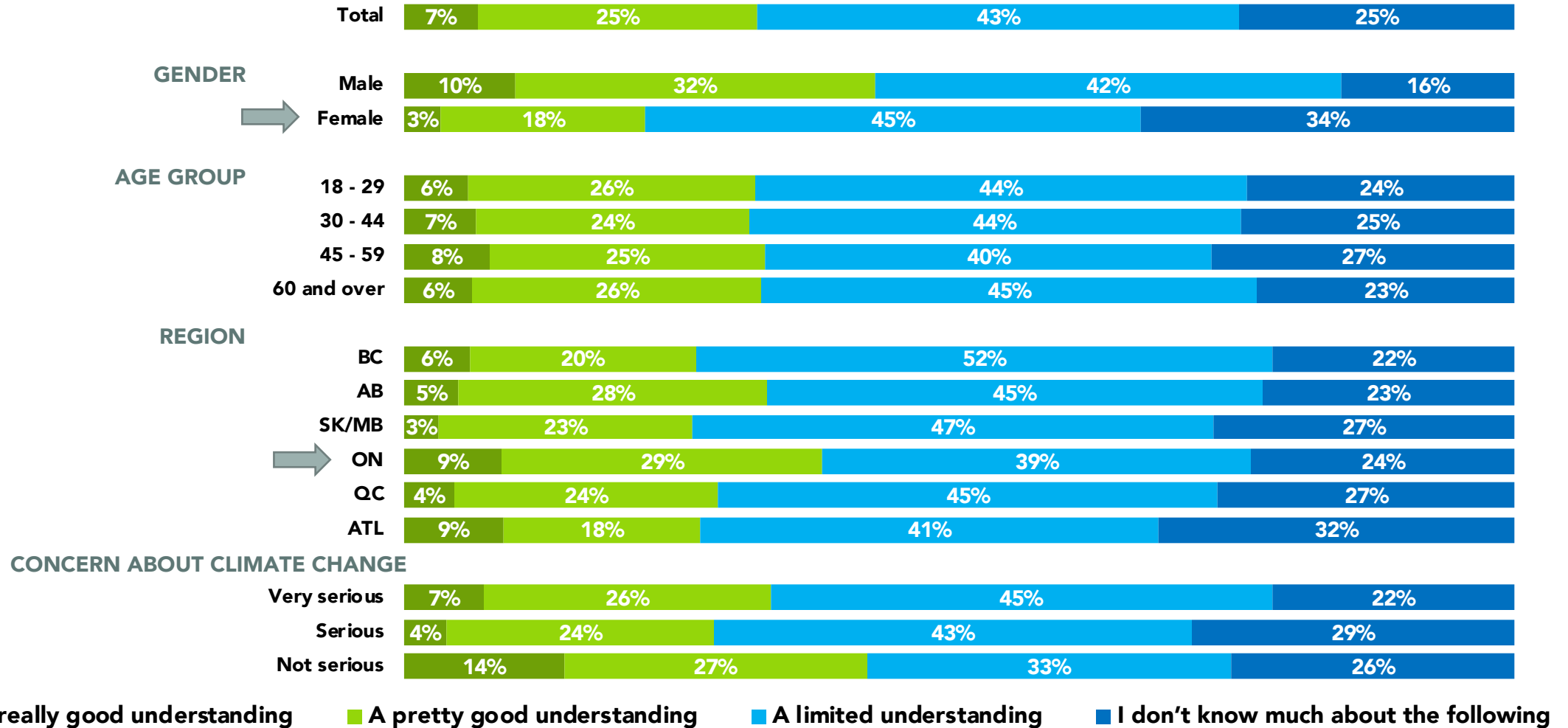
# KNOWLEDGE OF ENERGY SOURCES/TERMS



Do you feel you have a really good understanding, a pretty good understanding, a limited understanding or would you say you don't know much about the following?

# KNOWLEDGE OF ENERGY SOURCES

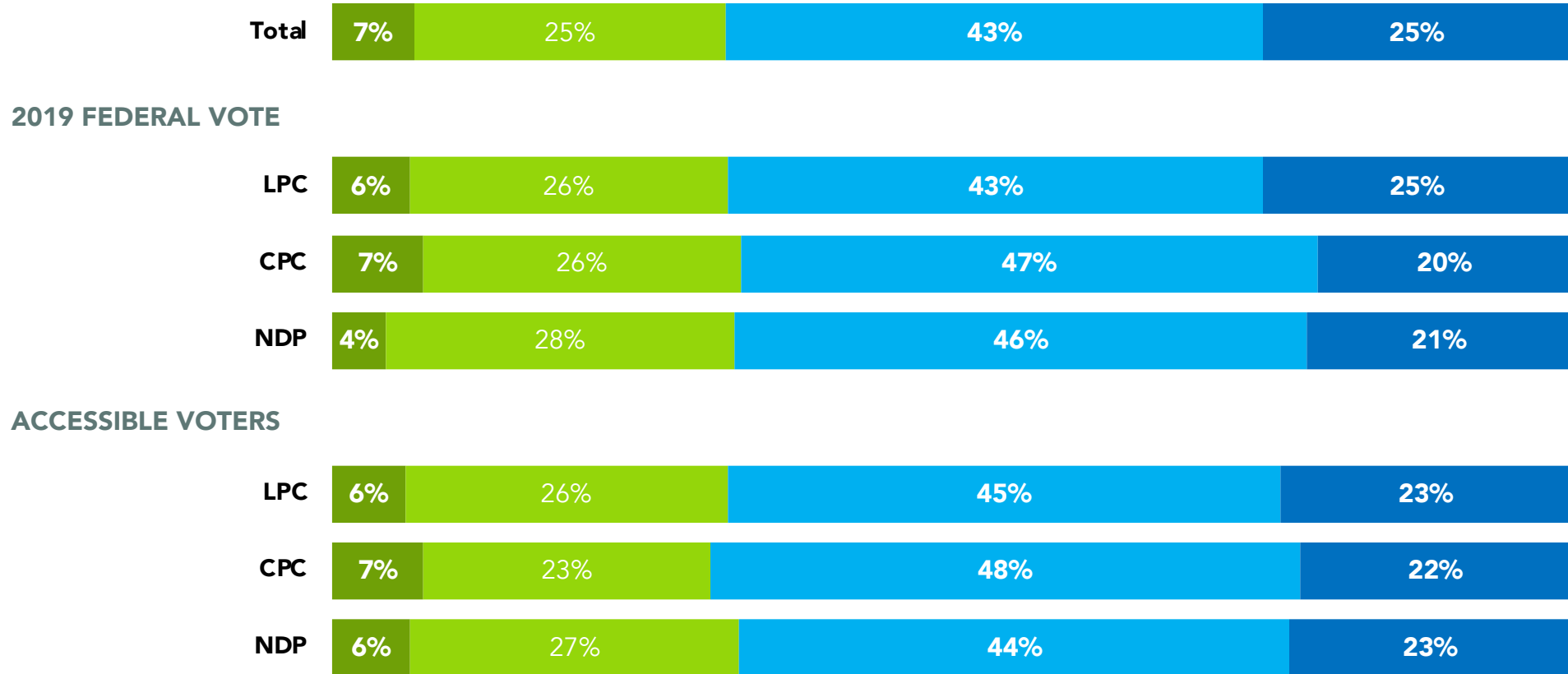
## NUCLEAR-POWERED ENERGY



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# KNOWLEDGE OF ENERGY SOURCES

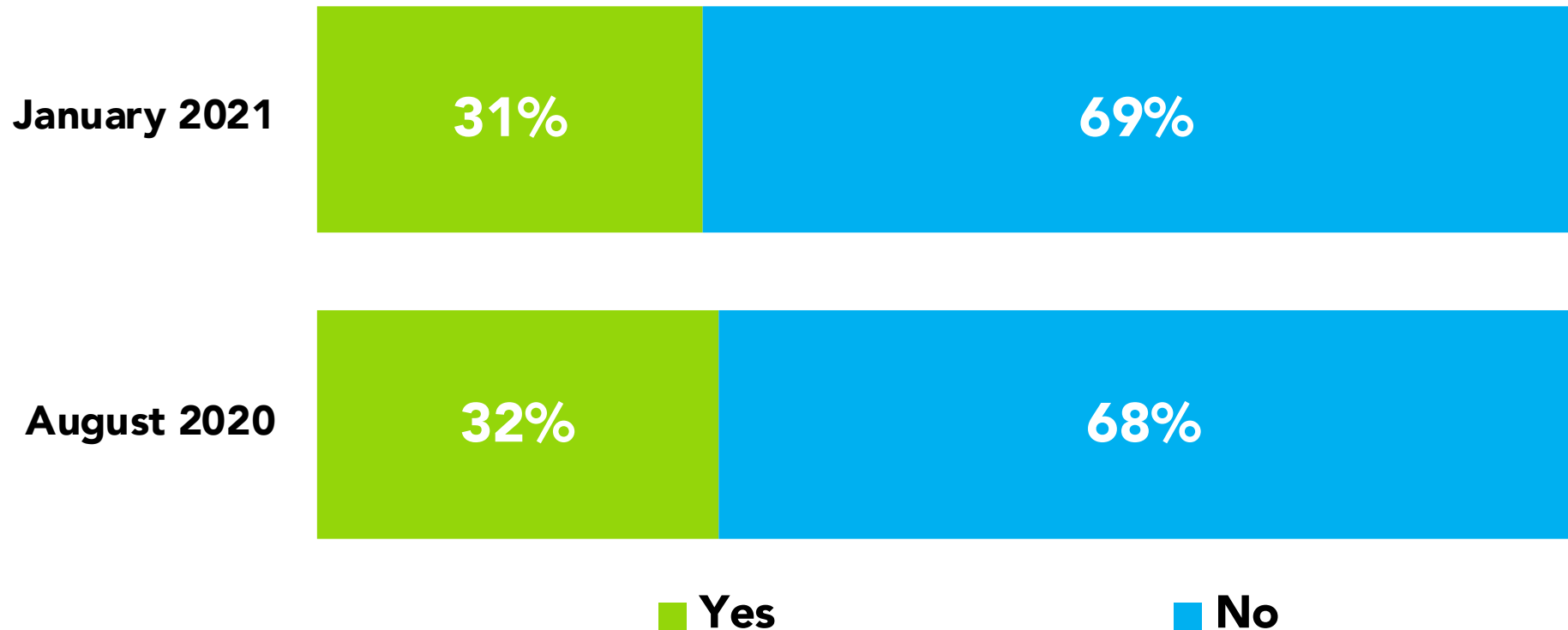
## NUCLEAR-POWERED ENERGY



■ A really good understanding   
 ■ A pretty good understanding   
 ■ A limited understanding   
 ■ I don't know much about the following

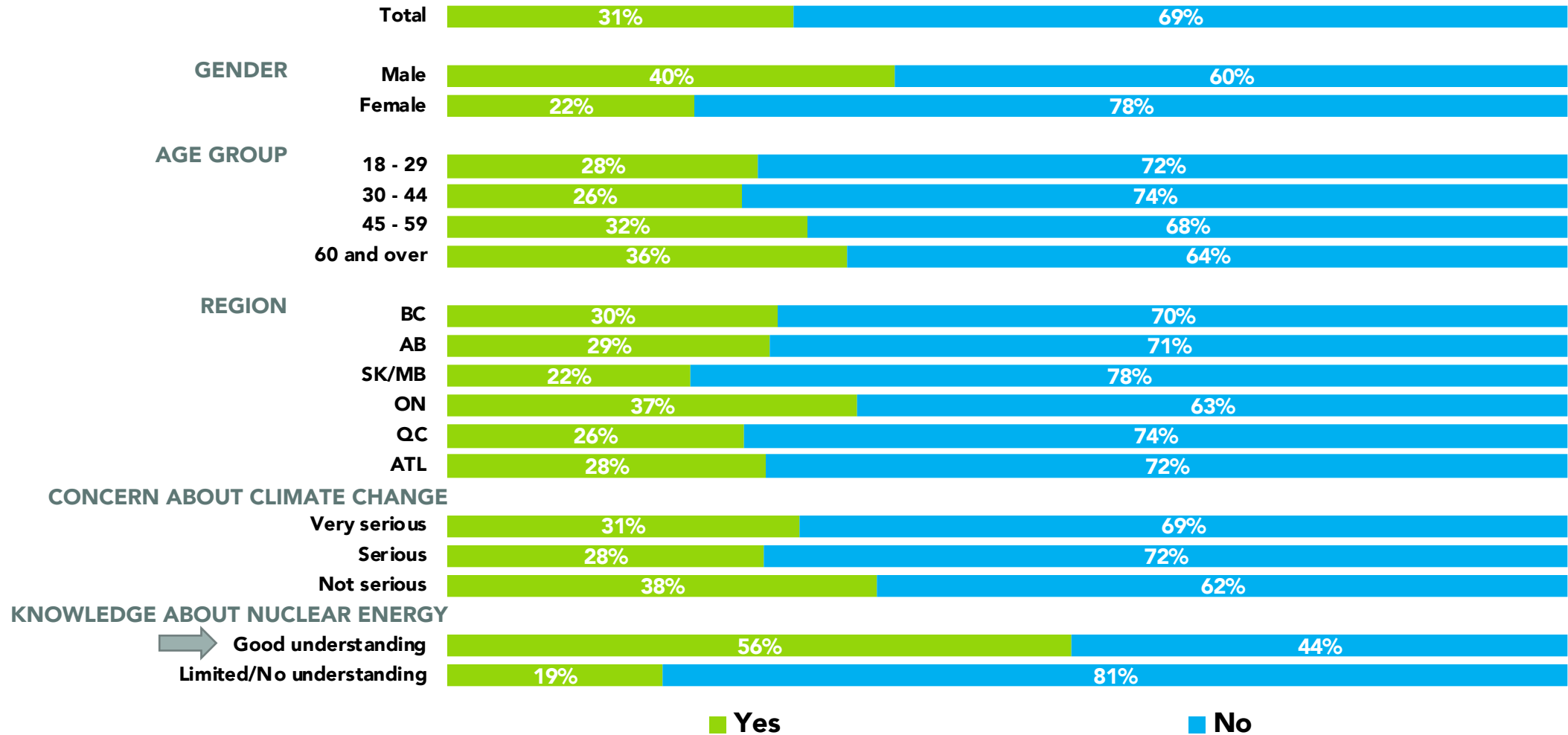
Do you feel you have a really good understanding, a pretty good understanding, a limited understanding or would you say you don't know much about the following?

# 7 IN 10 WERE UNAWARE THAT NUCLEAR POWER IS SECOND-LARGEST SOURCE OF LOW-CARBON ELECTRICITY



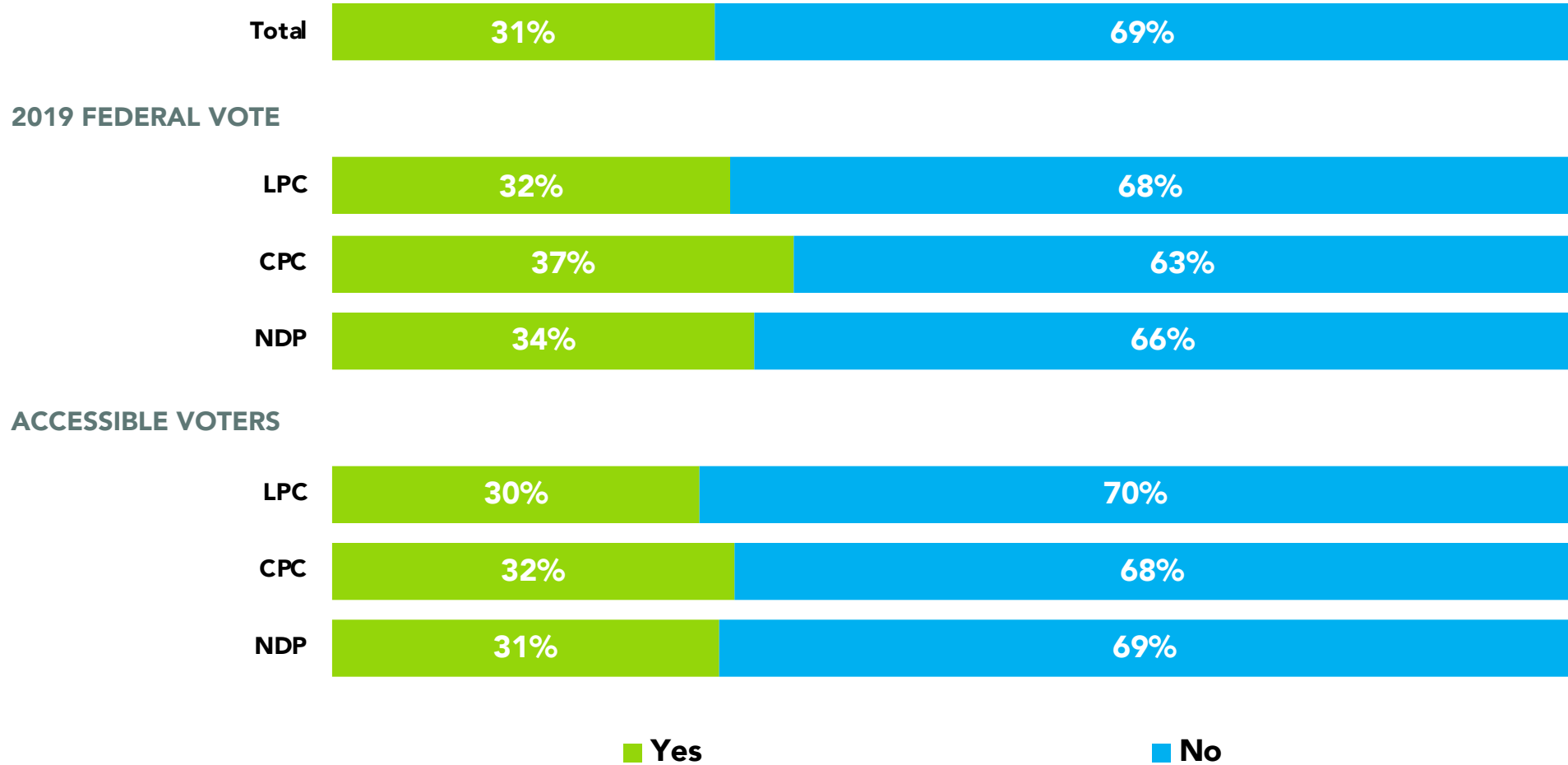
Did you know that according to the International Energy Agency, nuclear power is the second-largest source of low-carbon electricity today, after hydro?

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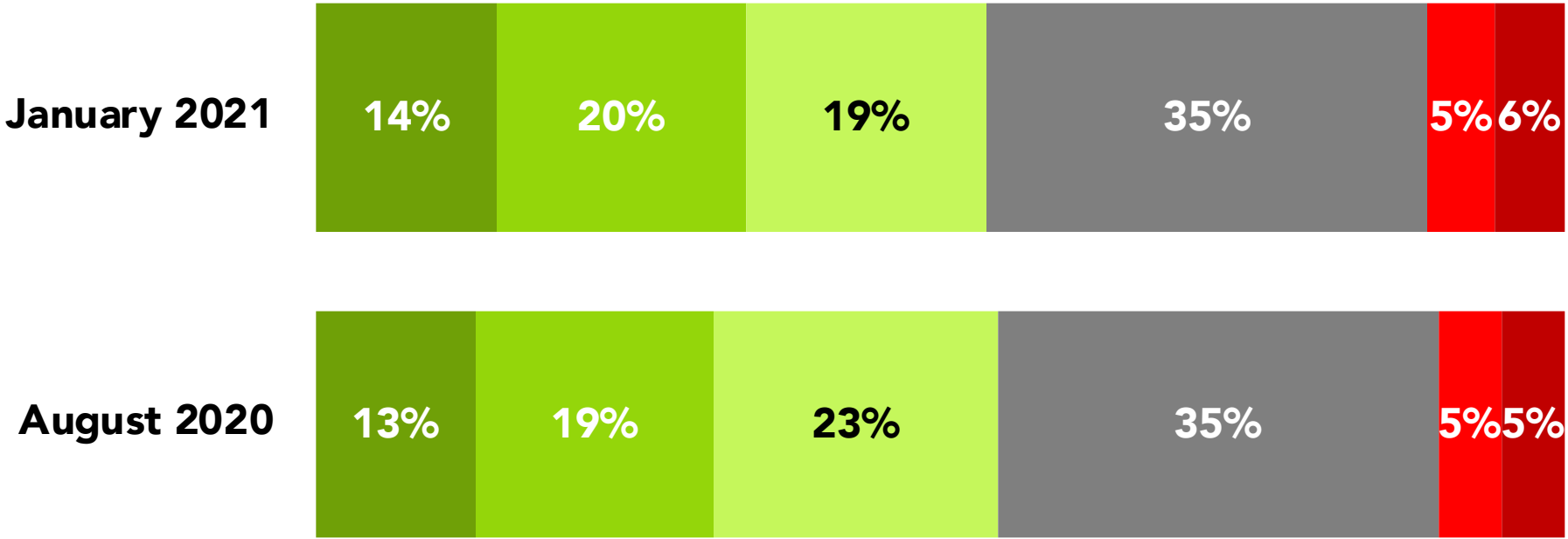
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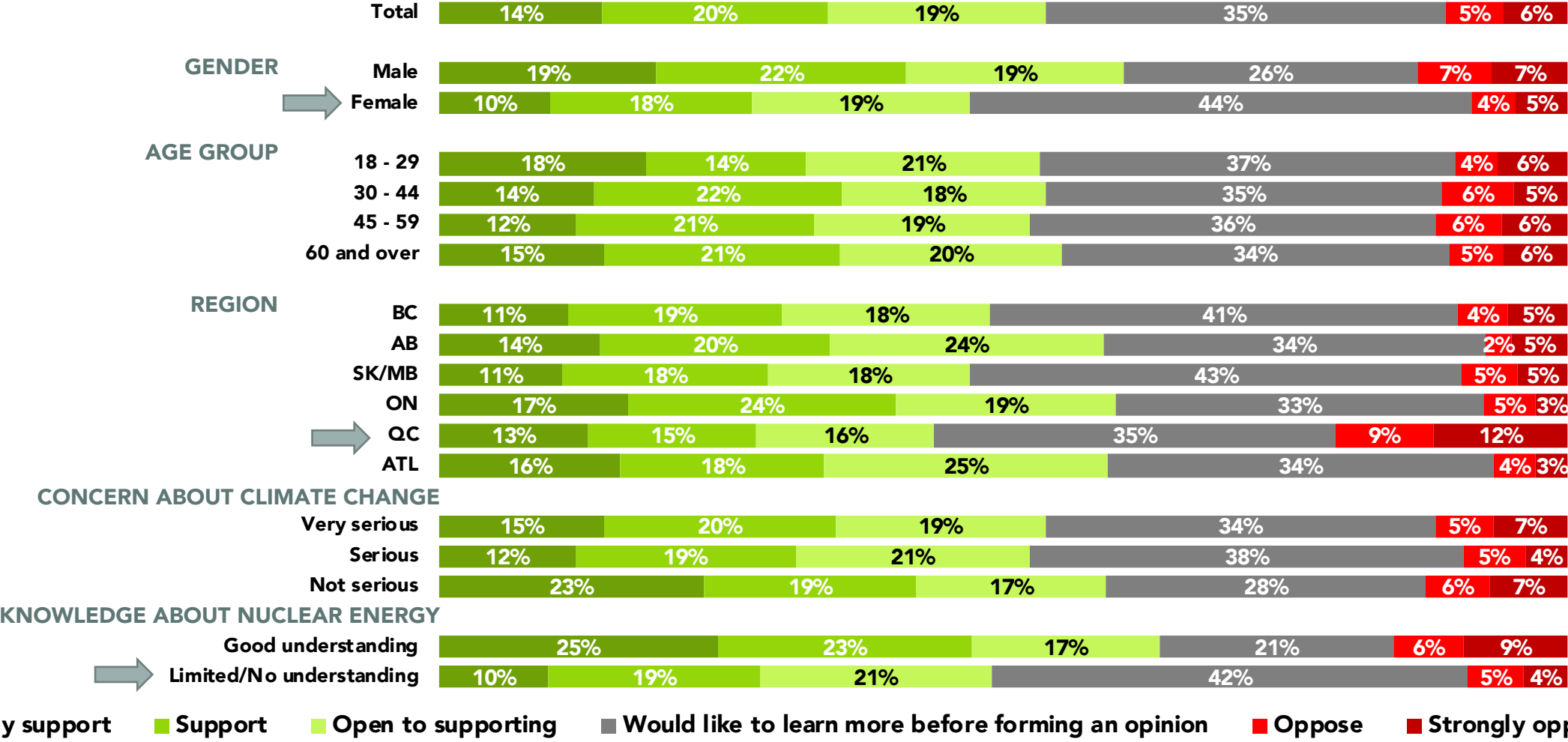
# SUPPORT FOR USING MORE NUCLEAR ENERGY TECHNOLOGIES TO GENERATE ELECTRICITY IN CANADA



■ Strongly support  
 ■ Support  
 ■ Open to supporting  
 ■ Would like to learn more before forming an opinion  
 ■ Oppose  
 ■ Strongly oppose

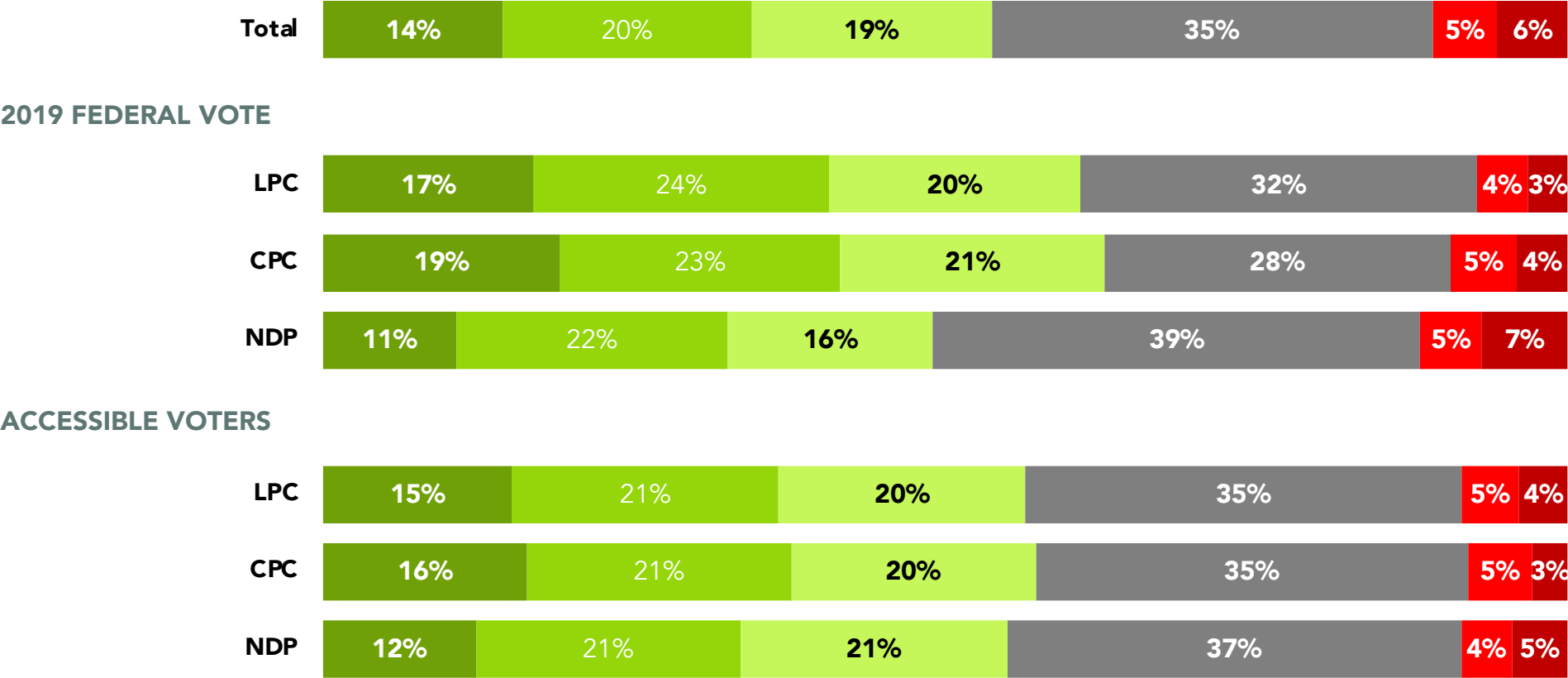
Today, in Canada, nuclear reactors meet about 17% of our energy needs, but have the potential to increase supply significantly. Knowing it is the second-largest source of low-carbon electricity today, would you support, be open to, or oppose using more nuclear energy technologies to generate electricity in Canada?

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# III. CLIMATE CHANGE SOLUTIONS

**ABACUS DATA**



# KEY FINDINGS

- Industries adopting cleaner energy technologies and leveraging new technology to offset emissions in the natural resource sector are the most important of the tested solutions for addressing climate change.
- More than half of Canadians think that an increased reliance on nuclear as a clean energy source is at least an important solution.
  - While those who are concerned about climate change are more likely to think that other potential ideas are important, the more serious climate change is viewed, the higher the importance of increasing our reliance on nuclear energy.
- 86% of Canadians say that they believe the Canadian government should invest in clean energy technology to help fight climate change.
  - NDP and LPC voters, and those that are concerned with climate change are more likely to say that the Canadian government should invest in clean energy technology.

# IMPORTANCE OF SOLUTIONS TO CLIMATE CHANGE

Industries must adopt cleaner energy technologies



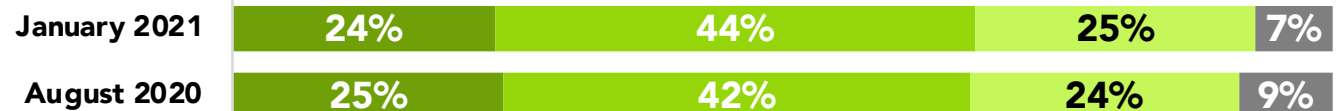
Leverage new technology to offset emissions in the natural resources sector



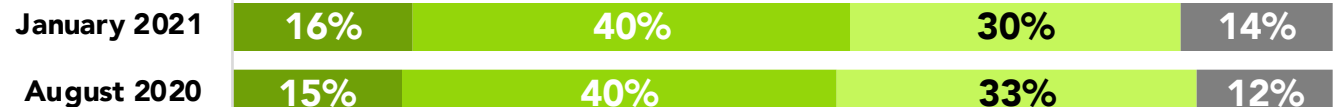
Government must implement the necessary policies to change energy consumption behaviours of consumers and industry



Canadians must dramatically reduce their energy consumption



Increased reliance on nuclear as a clean energy



■ Very important

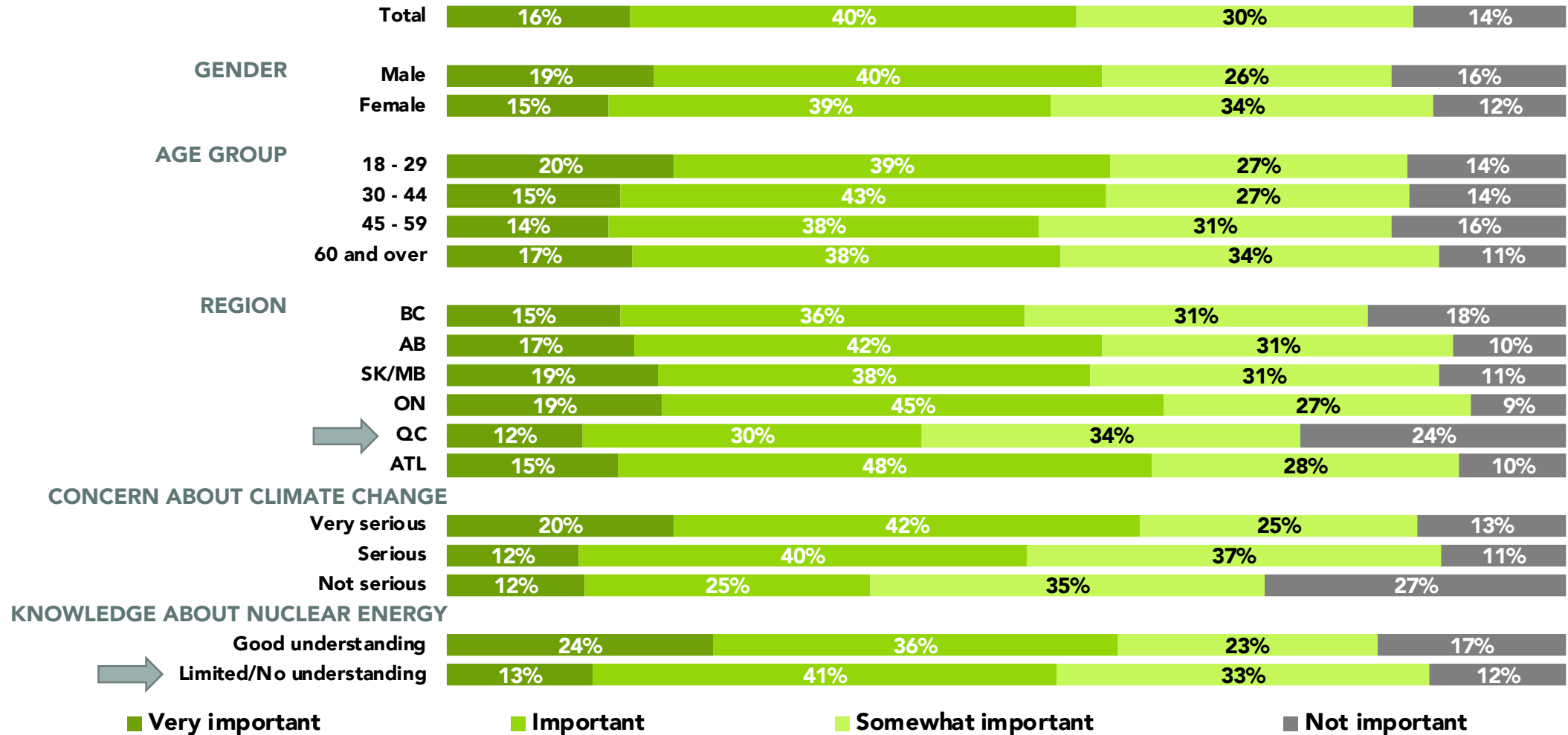
■ Important

■ Somewhat important

■ Not important

# IMPORTANCE OF SOLUTIONS TO CLIMATE CHANGE

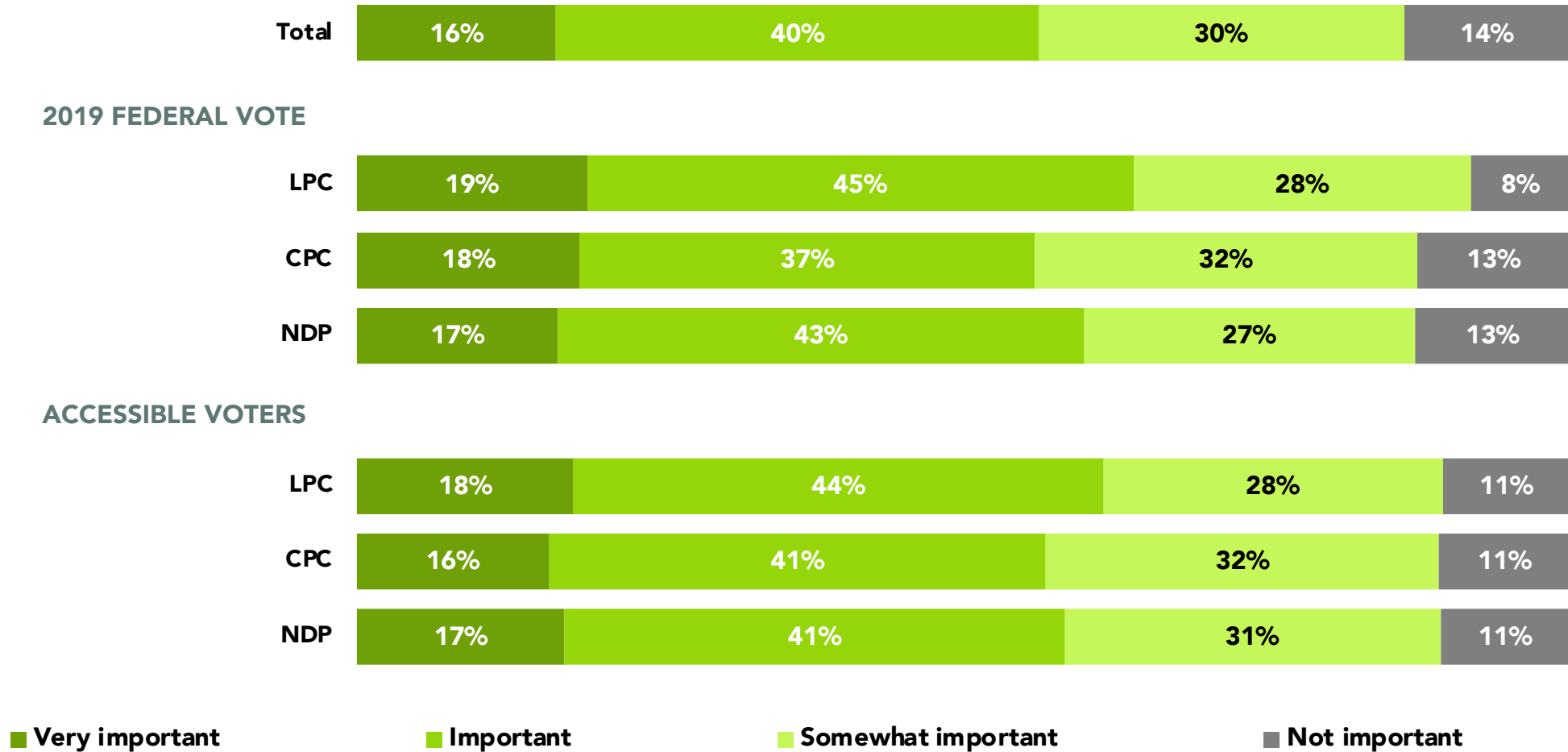
## INCREASED RELIANCE ON NUCLEAR AS A CLEAN ENERGY



When it comes to climate change, how important are these possible solutions to addressing climate change?

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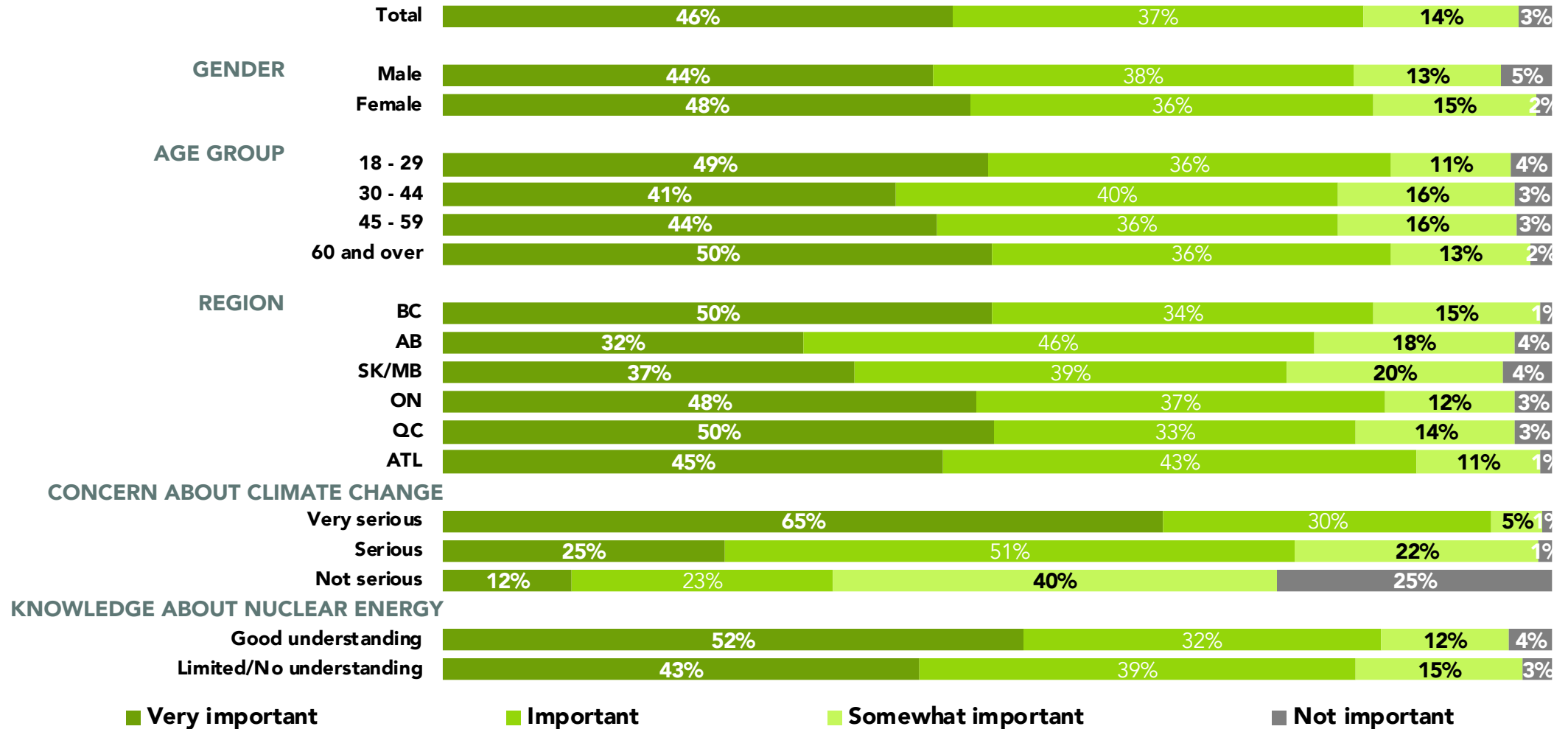


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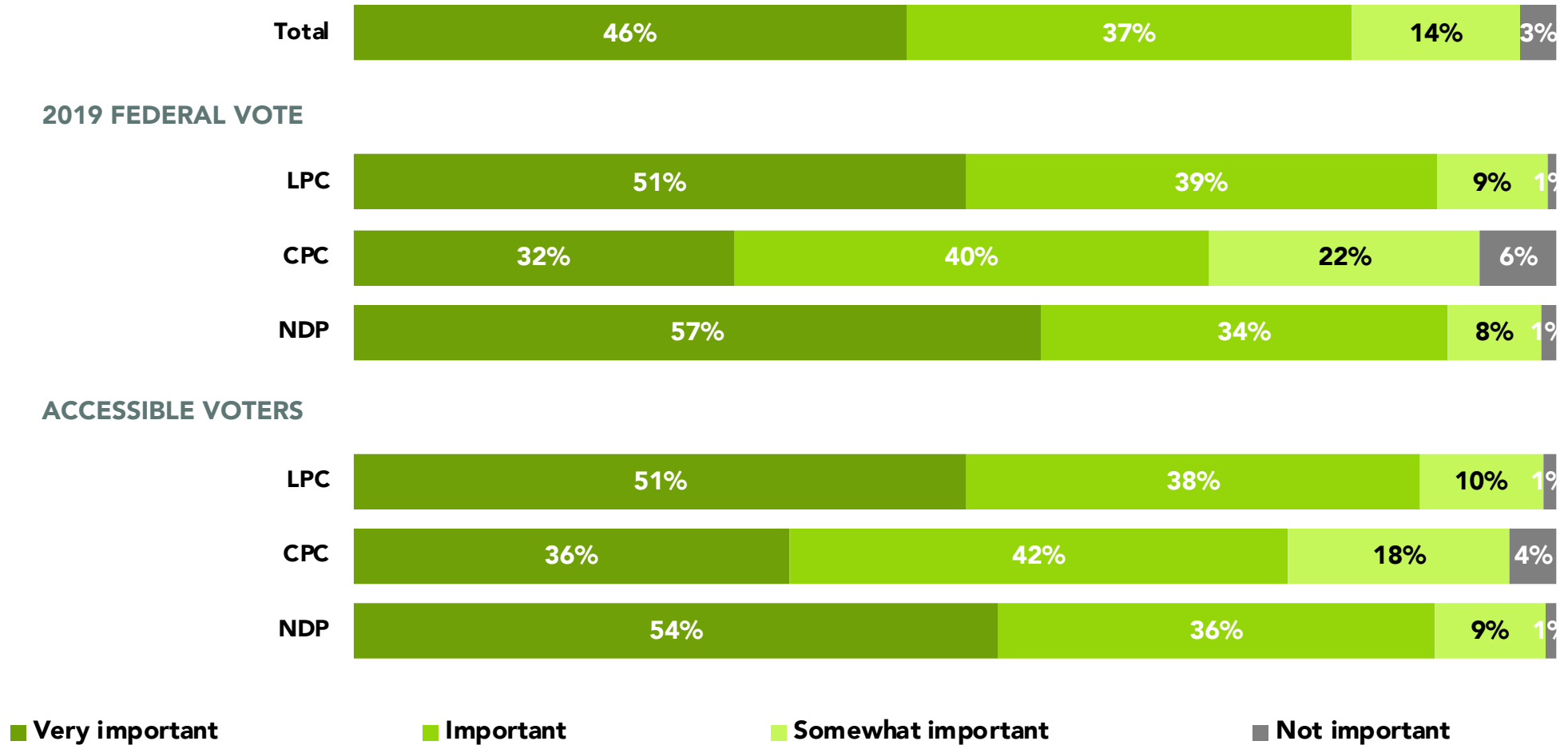
## INDUSTRIES MUST ADOPT CLEANER ENERGY TECHNOLOGIES



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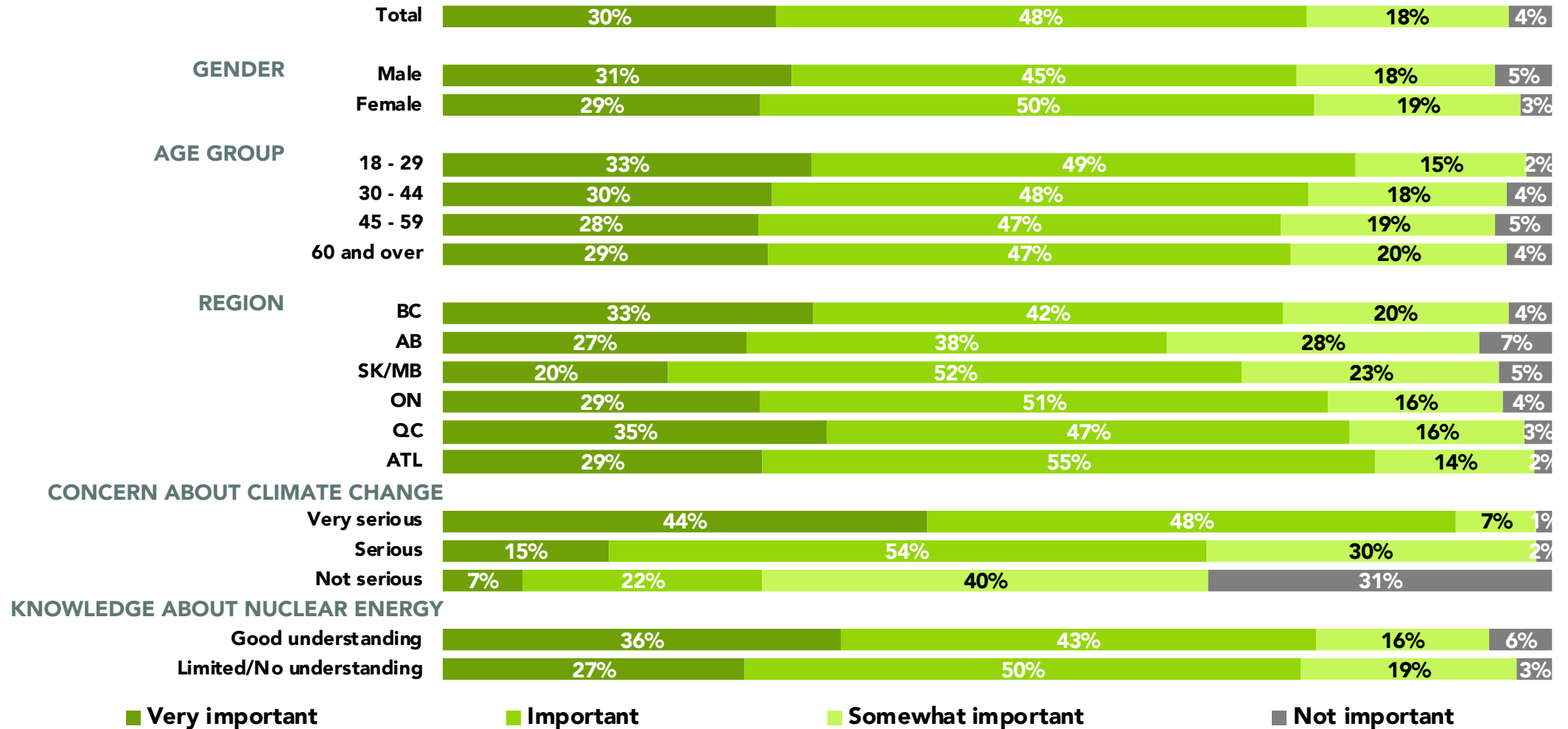
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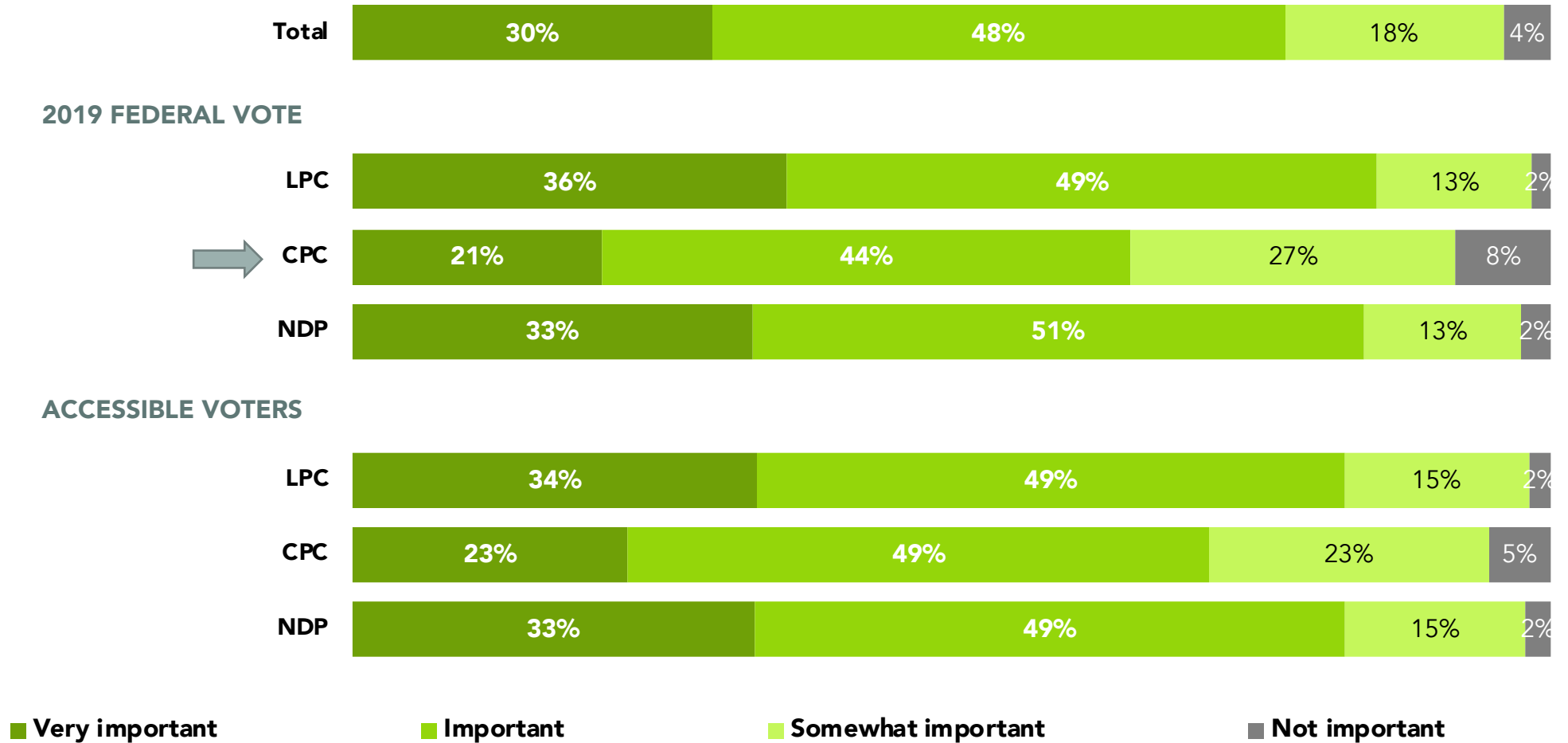
## LEVERAGE NEW TECHNOLOGY TO OFFSET EMISSIONS IN THE NATURAL RESOURCES SECTOR



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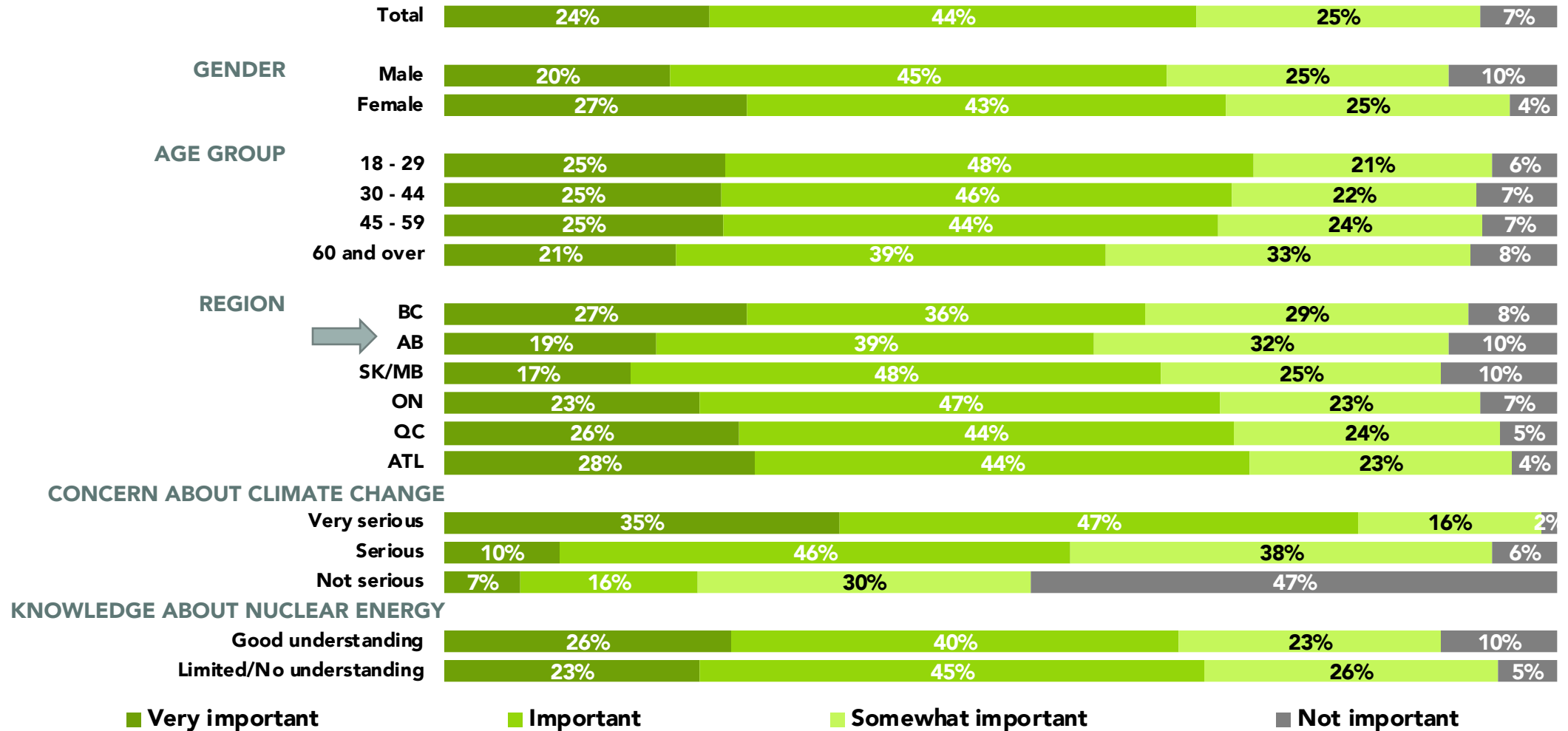
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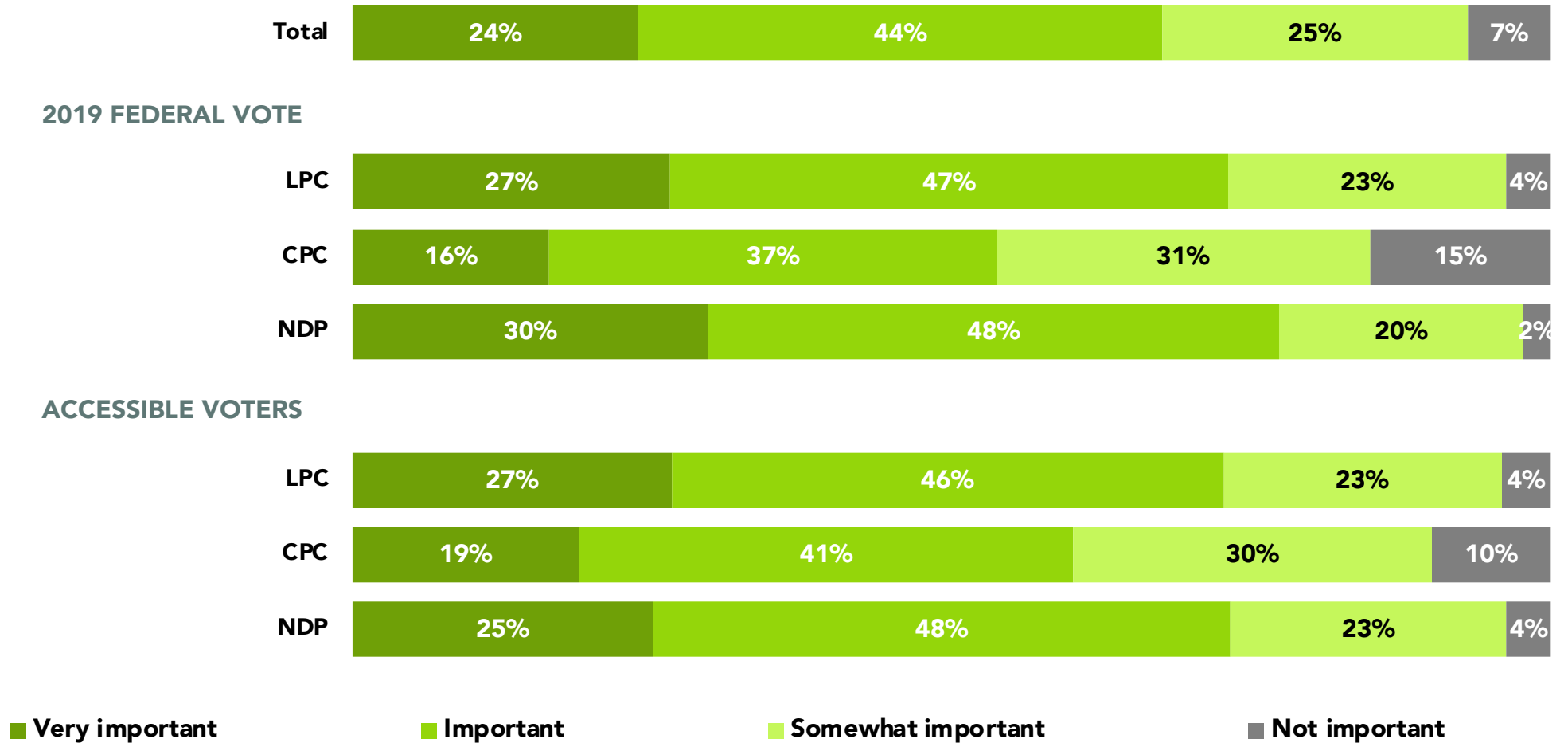
## CANADIANS MUST DRAMATICALLY REDUCE THEIR ENERGY CONSUMPTION



When it comes to climate change, how important are these possible solutions to addressing climate change?

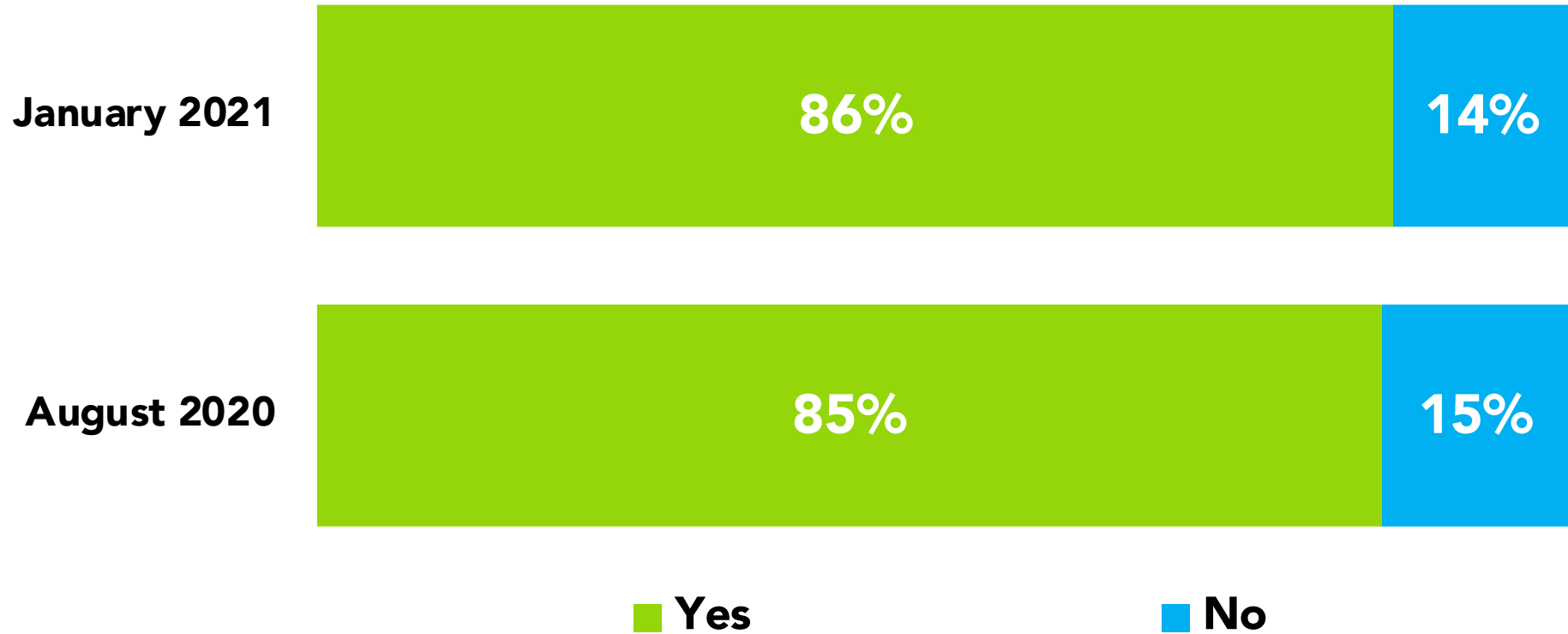
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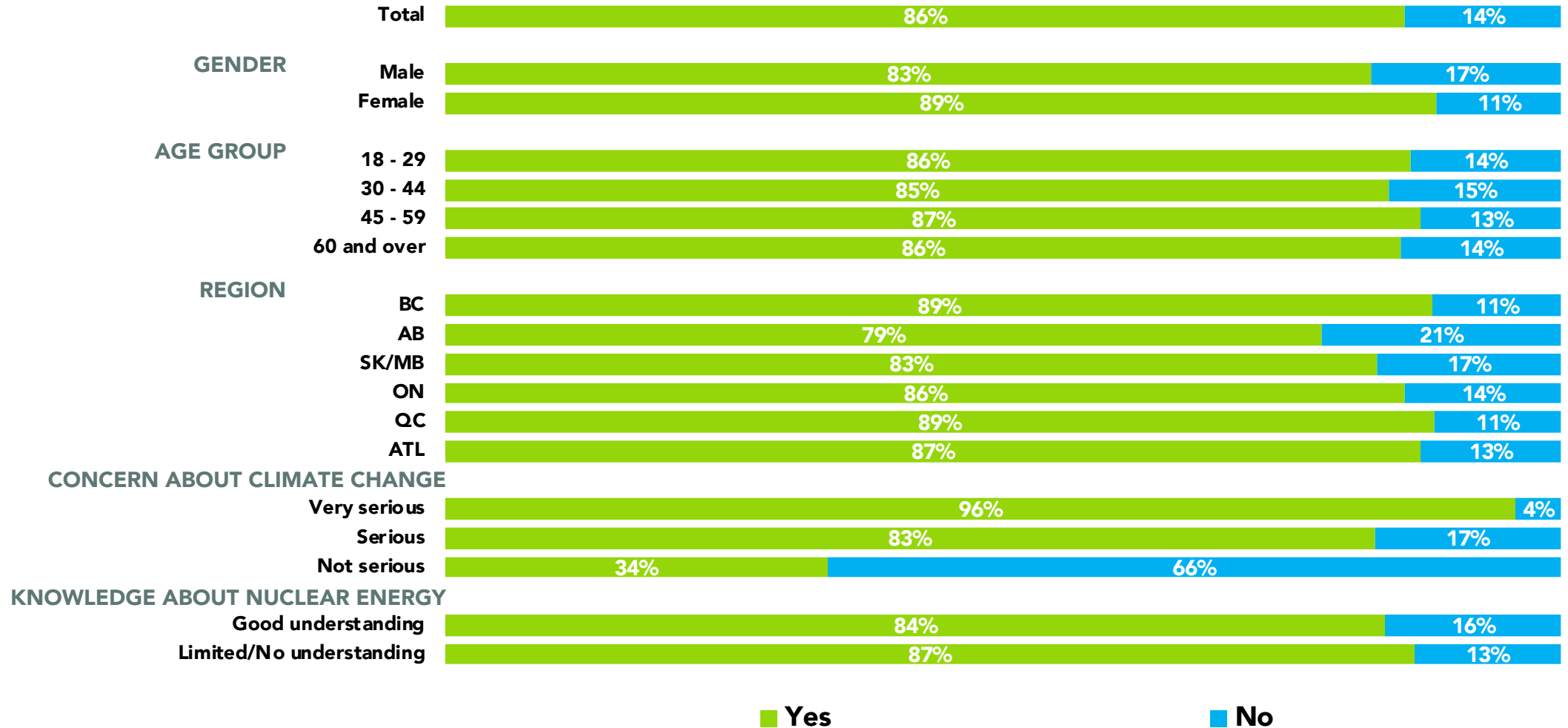
When it comes to climate change, how important are these possible solutions to addressing climate change?

# MOST THINK CND GOV SHOULD INVEST IN CLEAN ENERGY TECHNOLOGY



Do you believe the Canadian government should invest in clean energy technology to help fight climate change?

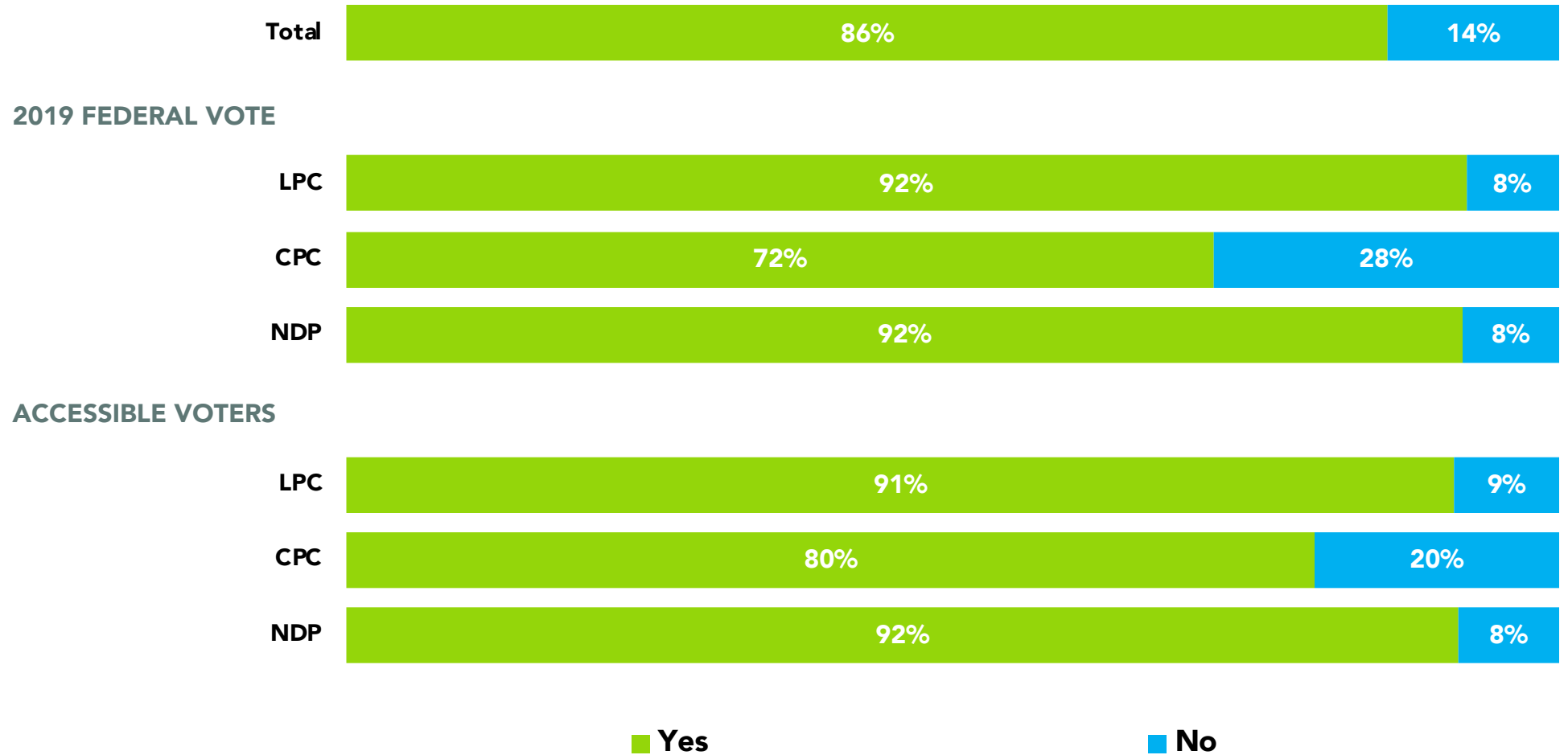
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# IV. NEW NUCLEAR TECHNOLOGIES

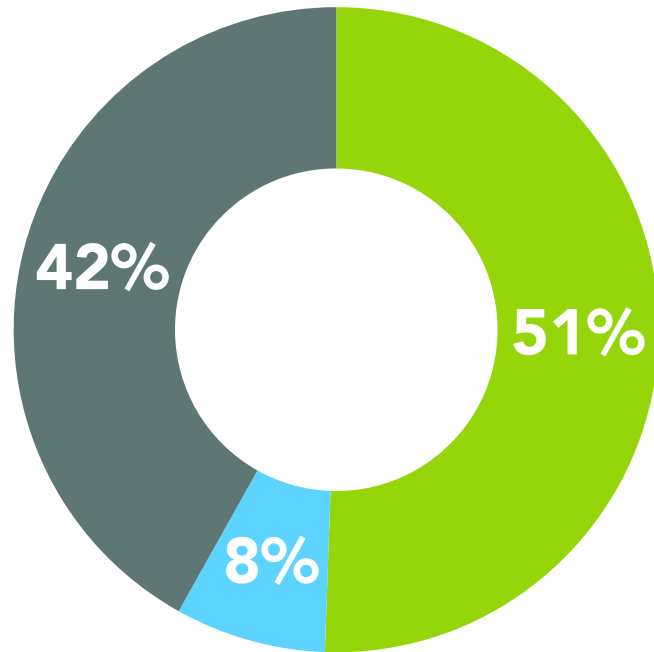
**ABACUS DATA**



# KEY FINDINGS

- Canadians who have an opinion about investing in the development of new nuclear technologies want a made-in-Canada approach. Nevertheless, 35% need to learn more to form an opinion. Those who have good understanding of nuclear power are more likely to want this approach and are less likely to want to learn more.
- Faced with the fact that Canada cannot reach its 2050 net-zero emission commitment without nuclear, 40% of Canadians think Canada should invest in the development of new nuclear technologies. Only 14% would not invest in new nuclear energy even if it means we cannot reach the net-zero target.
- 6 in 10 are at least *open* to supporting federal government investment in small modular nuclear reactors. Only 7% are opposed. A majority thinks that such an investment could help remote communities that are not connected to the grid transition from diesel.
- A similar share of Canadians think that investing in nuclear can help Canada pursue a green economy/increase the pace of electrification and to help decarbonize key sectors of the economy. There is little disagreement with these ideas but many are **not sure**.

# STRONG PREFERENCE FOR INVESTING IN CANADA IN THE DEVELOPMENT OF NEW NUCLEAR TECHNOLOGIES BUT MANY UNSURE

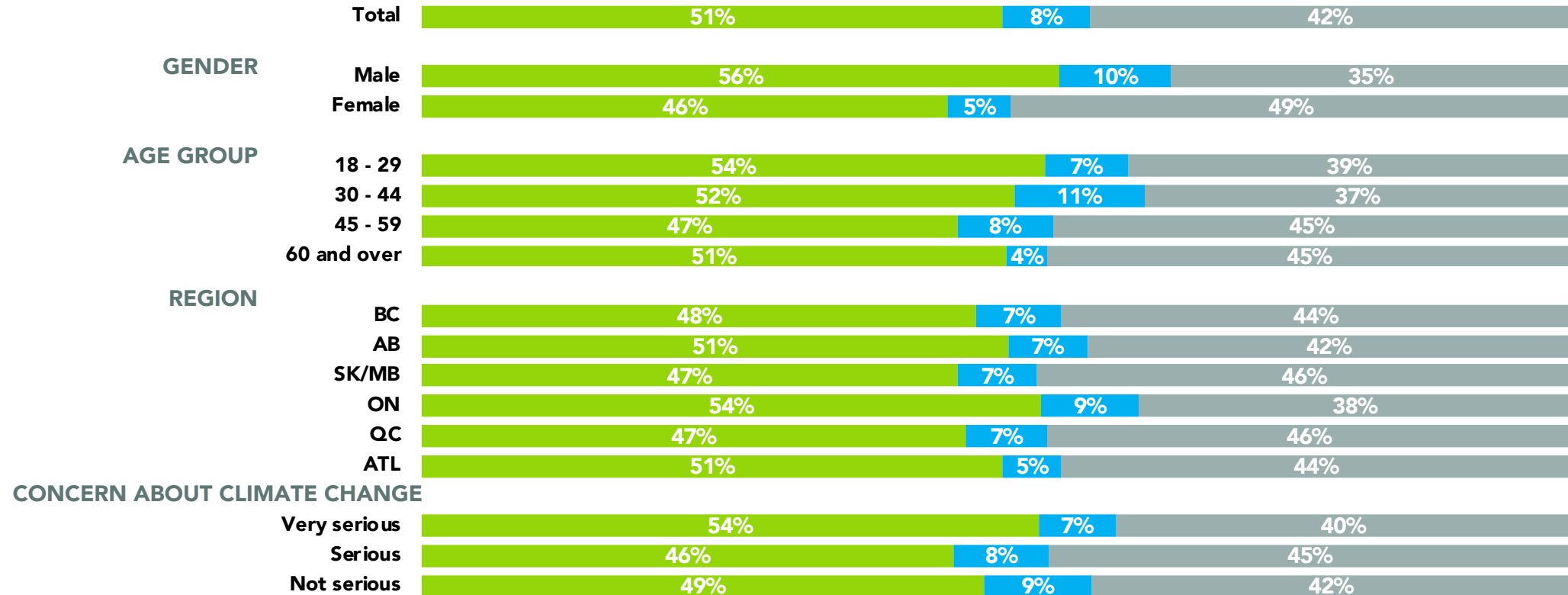


- Canada should invest in the development and production of new nuclear technologies in Canada to produce new jobs in the sector and sell the technology internationally
- Canada should not invest in development and production of new nuclear energy technology in Canada and should instead buy the technology internationally
- I need to learn more before having an opinion about this

The federal government has committed to achieve a net-zero emission economy by 2050. According to the federal government achieving this goal will require nuclear power as well as non-emitting power sources such as hydroelectric, wind and solar.

If this is the case, which of the following is closer to your own view?

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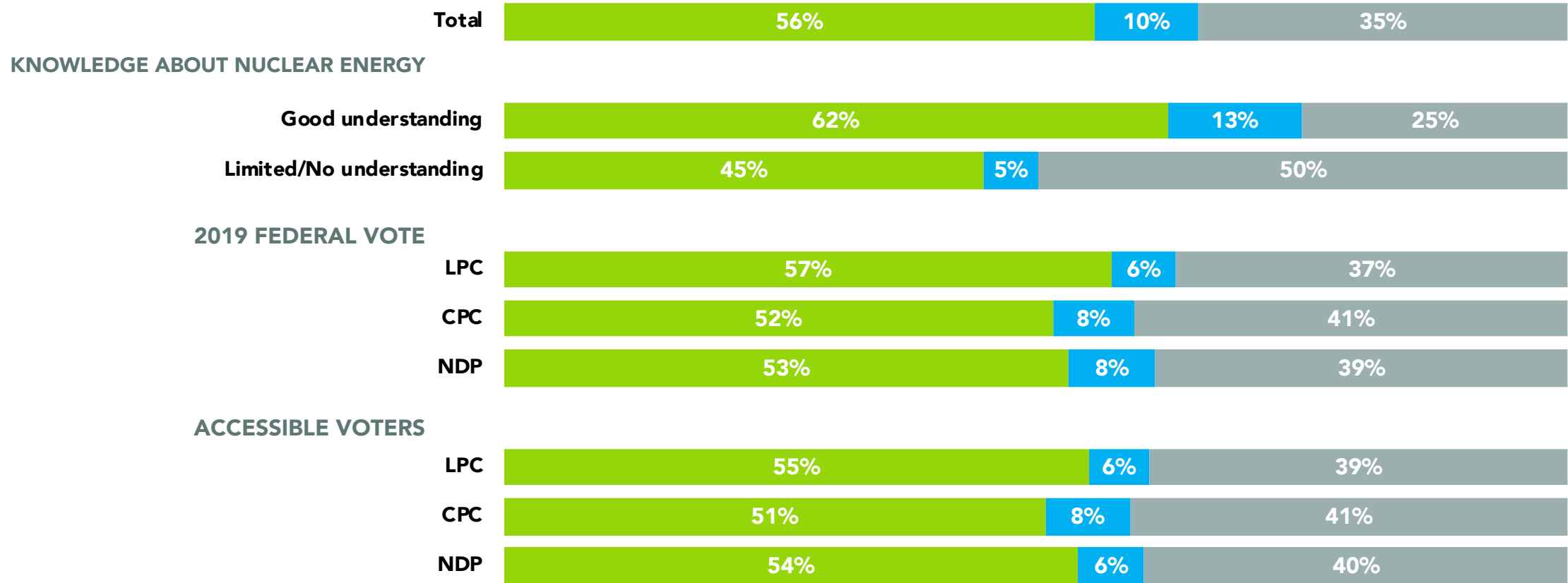


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# STRONG PREFERENCE FOR INVESTING IN CANADA IN THE DEVELOPMENT OF NEW NUCLEAR TECHNOLOGIES SINCE ACHIEVING NET-ZERO BY 2050 WON'T BE POSSIBLE

Canada should invest in the development and production of new nuclear technologies in Canada because without nuclear energy, achieving net-zero by 2050 won't be possible

40%

Canada should not invest in new nuclear energy production or technology, even if it means we cannot achieve the net-zero emission target

14%

Canada should not try to get to net-zero emissions at all

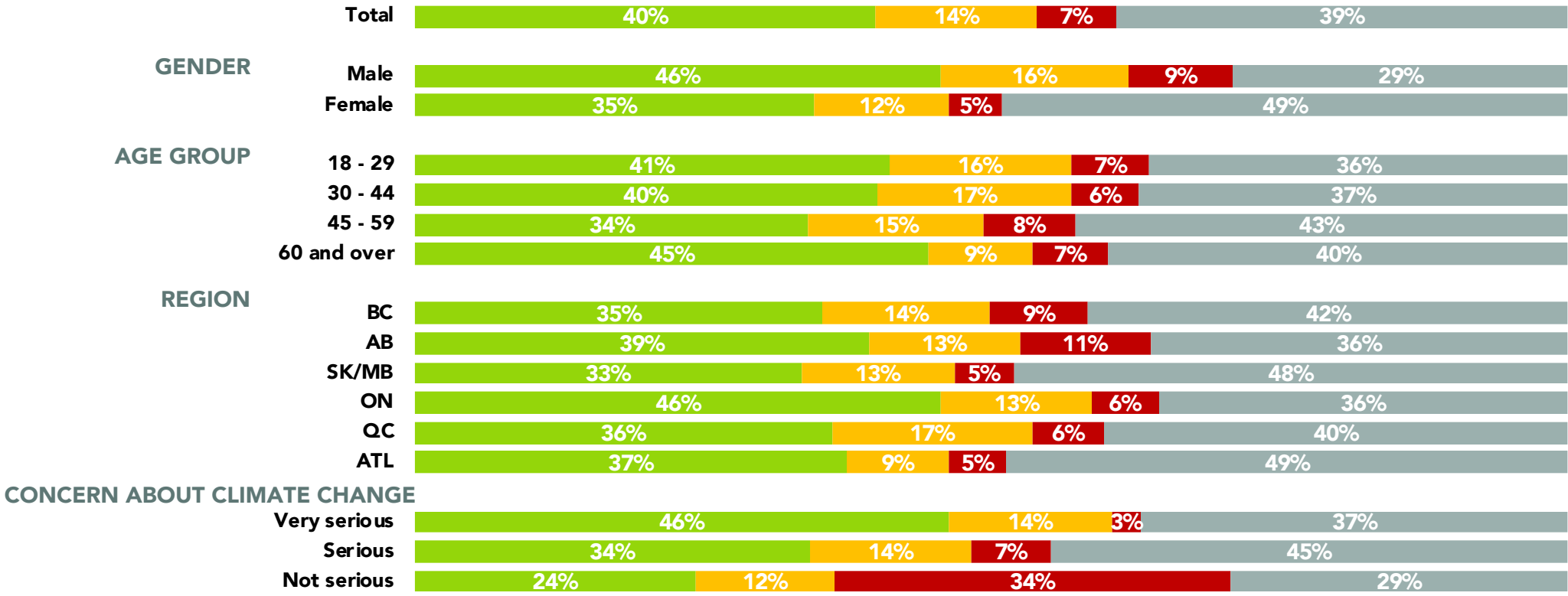
7%

I need to learn more before having an opinion about this

39%

Which of the following is closer to your own view?

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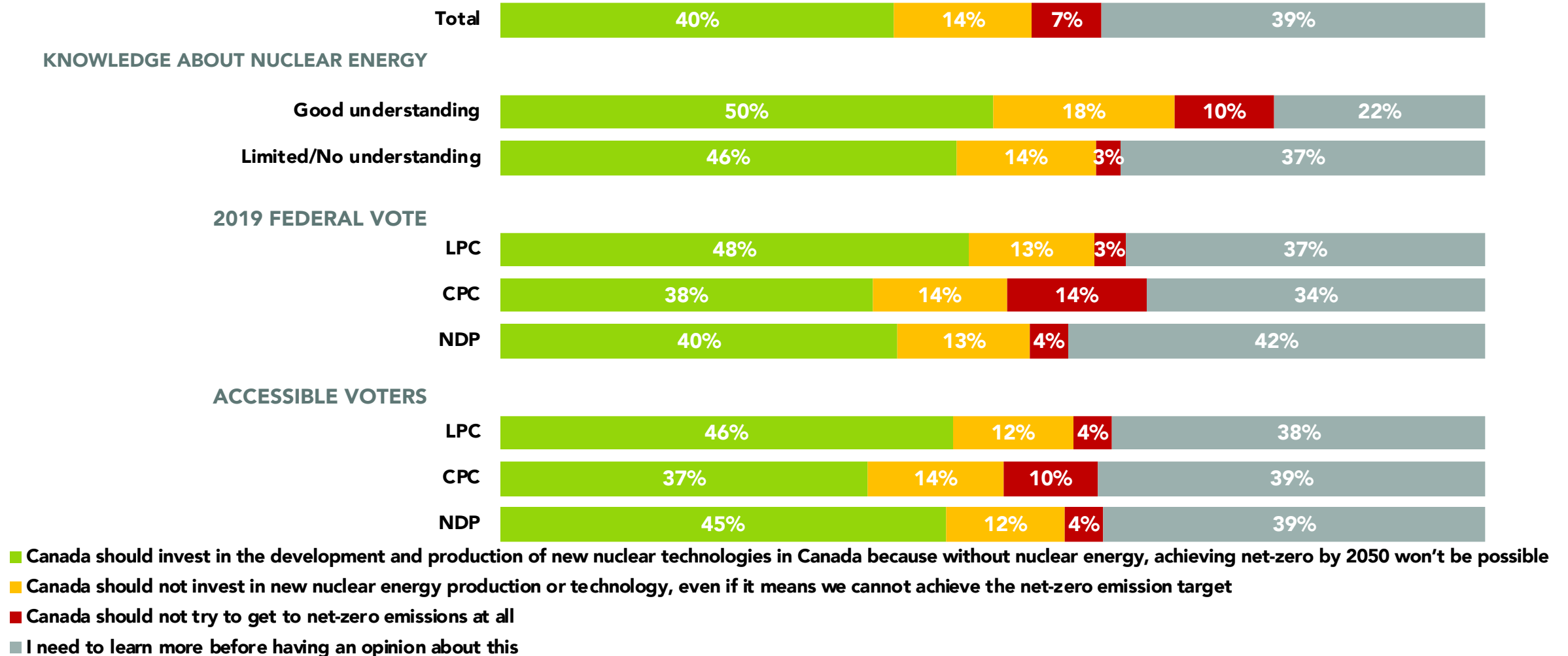


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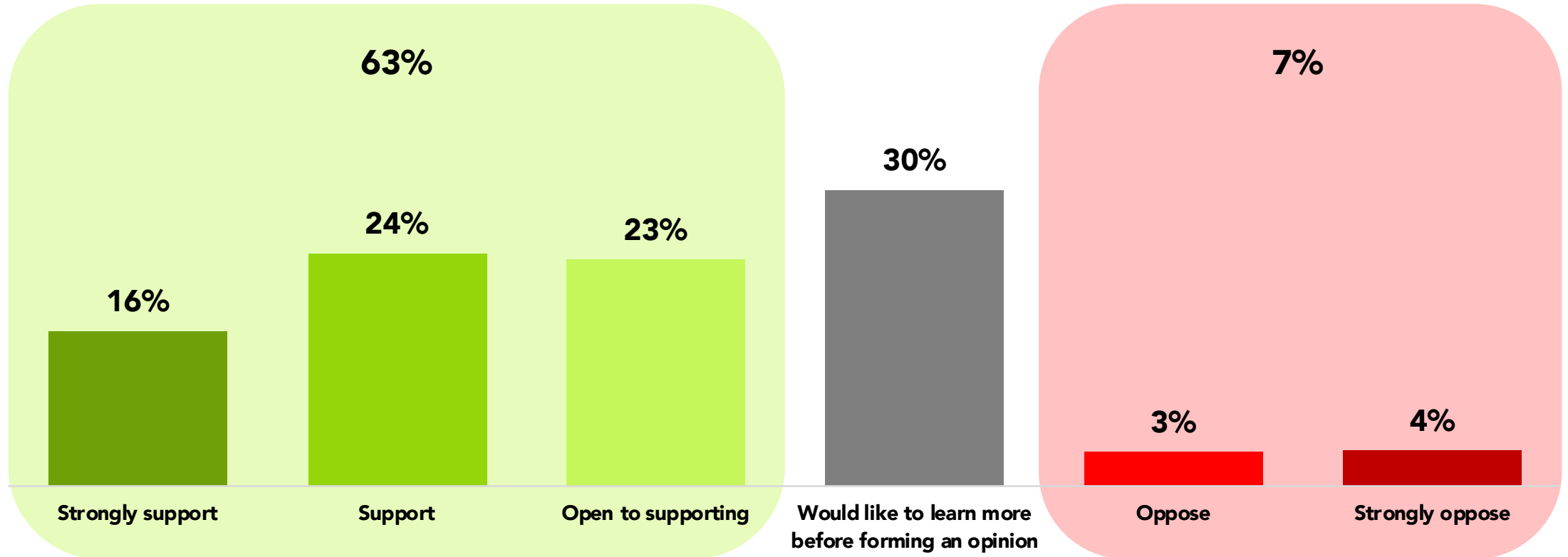


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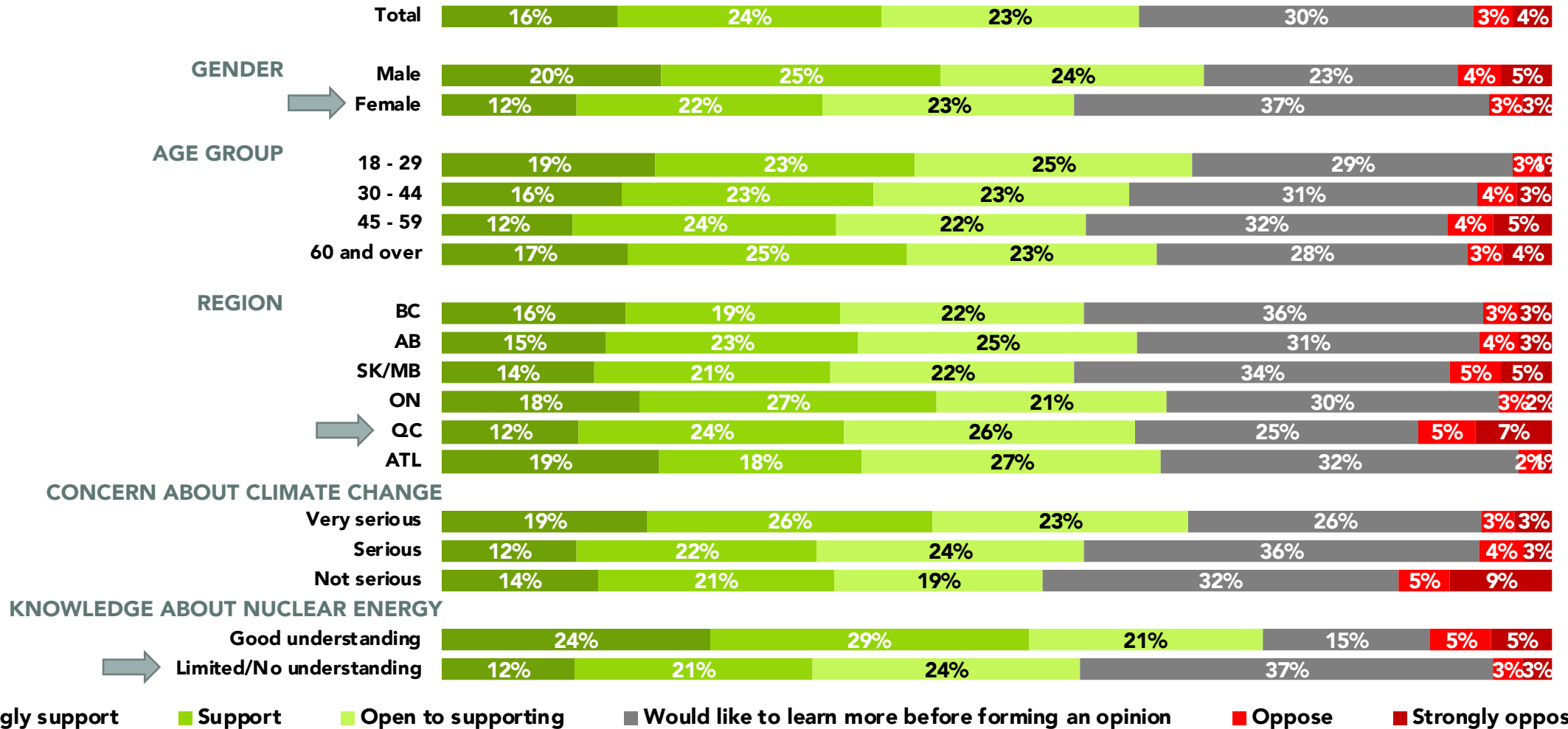
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# CANADIANS SUPPORT GOVERNMENT INVESTMENT IN SMALL NUCLEAR REACTORS



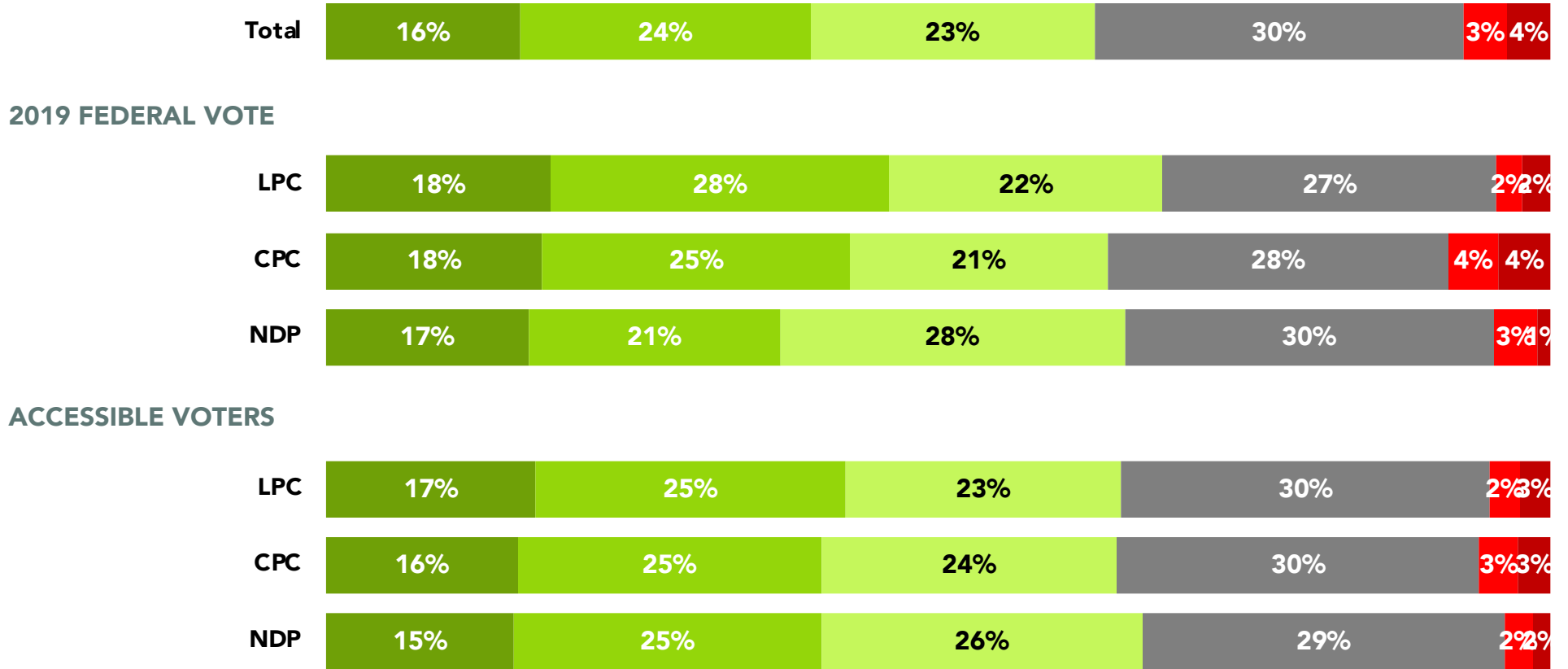
Small modular nuclear reactors have the capability to bring non-emitting electricity and heat production to remote communities, as well as industrial and resource extraction sites. They can also be added to larger grids as electricity demand grows. Knowing this, do you support or oppose government investment in this new technology?

# CANADIANS SUPPORT GOVERNMENT INVESTMENT IN SMALL NUCLEAR REACTORS



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# CANADIANS SUPPORT GOVERNMENT INVESTMENT IN SMALL NUCLEAR REACTORS



■ Strongly support  
 ■ Support  
 ■ Open to supporting  
 ■ Would like to learn more before forming an opinion  
 ■ Oppose  
 ■ Strongly oppose

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# AGREE/DISAGREE STATEMENTS

Investing in small modular nuclear technologies can help remote communities' that are not connected to the electricity grid transition away from a reliance on diesel



Investing in nuclear technologies can help Canada pursue a green economy and increase the pace of replacing carbon-based fuels with electricity



Nuclear energy can help decarbonize key economic sectors challenged with high emissions such as oil and gas, mining, and production of cement/ fertilisers



Strongly agree

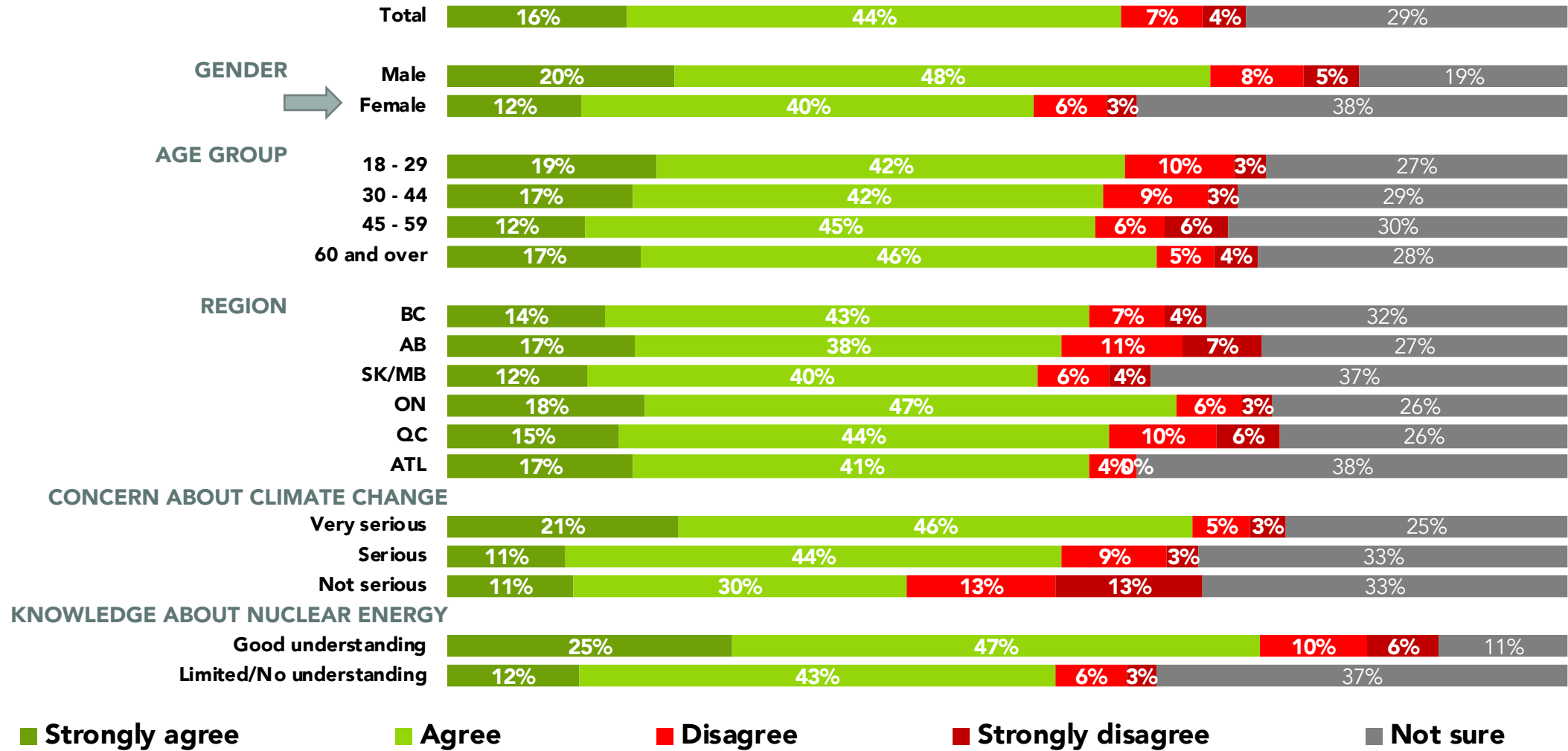
Agree

Disagree

Strongly disagree

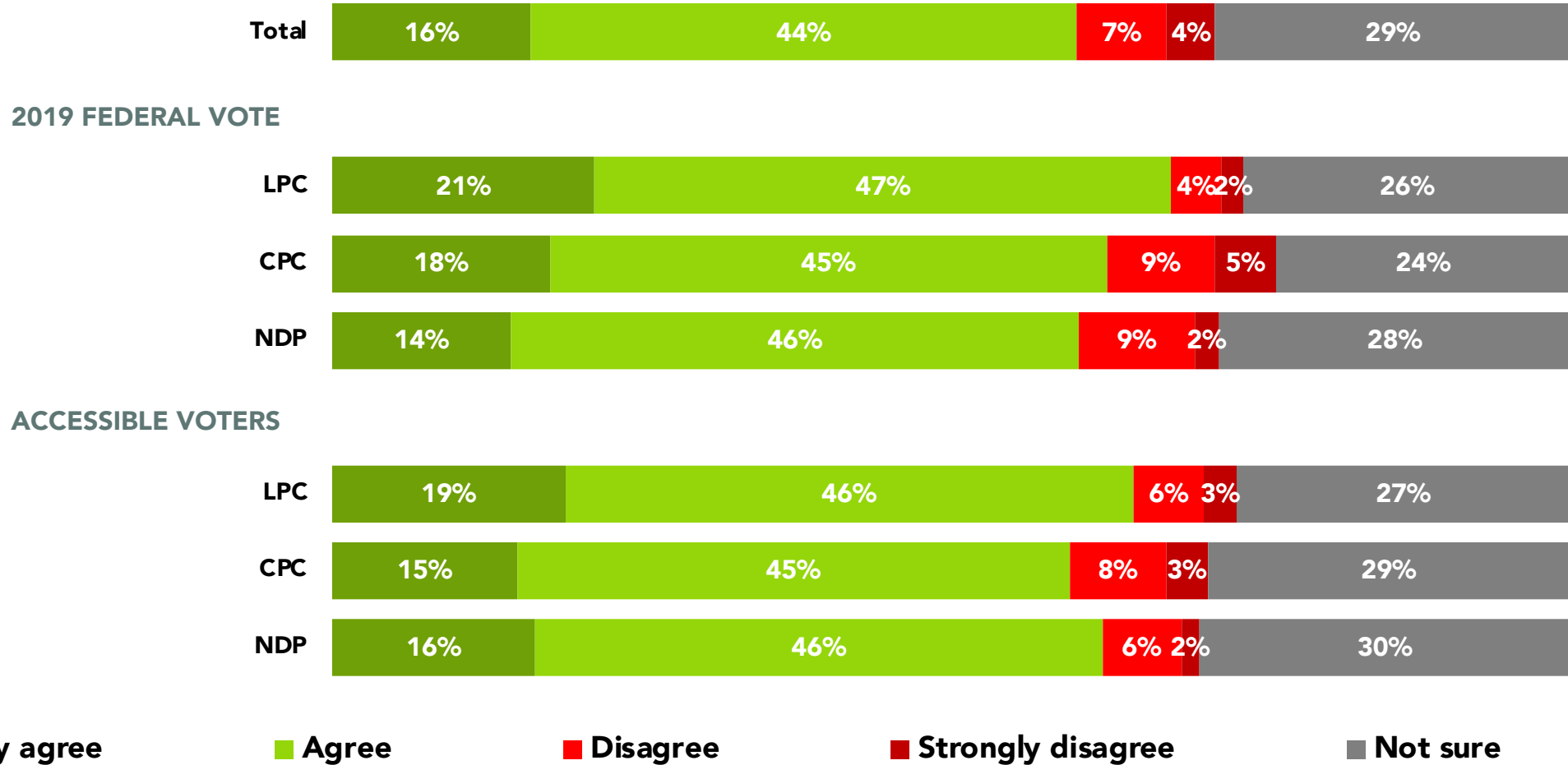
Not sure

# NUCLEAR ENERGY CAN HELP DECARBONIZE KEY ECONOMIC SECTORS CHALLENGED WITH HIGH EMISSIONS SUCH AS OIL AND GAS, MINING, & PRODUCTION OF CEMENT/FERTILIZERS



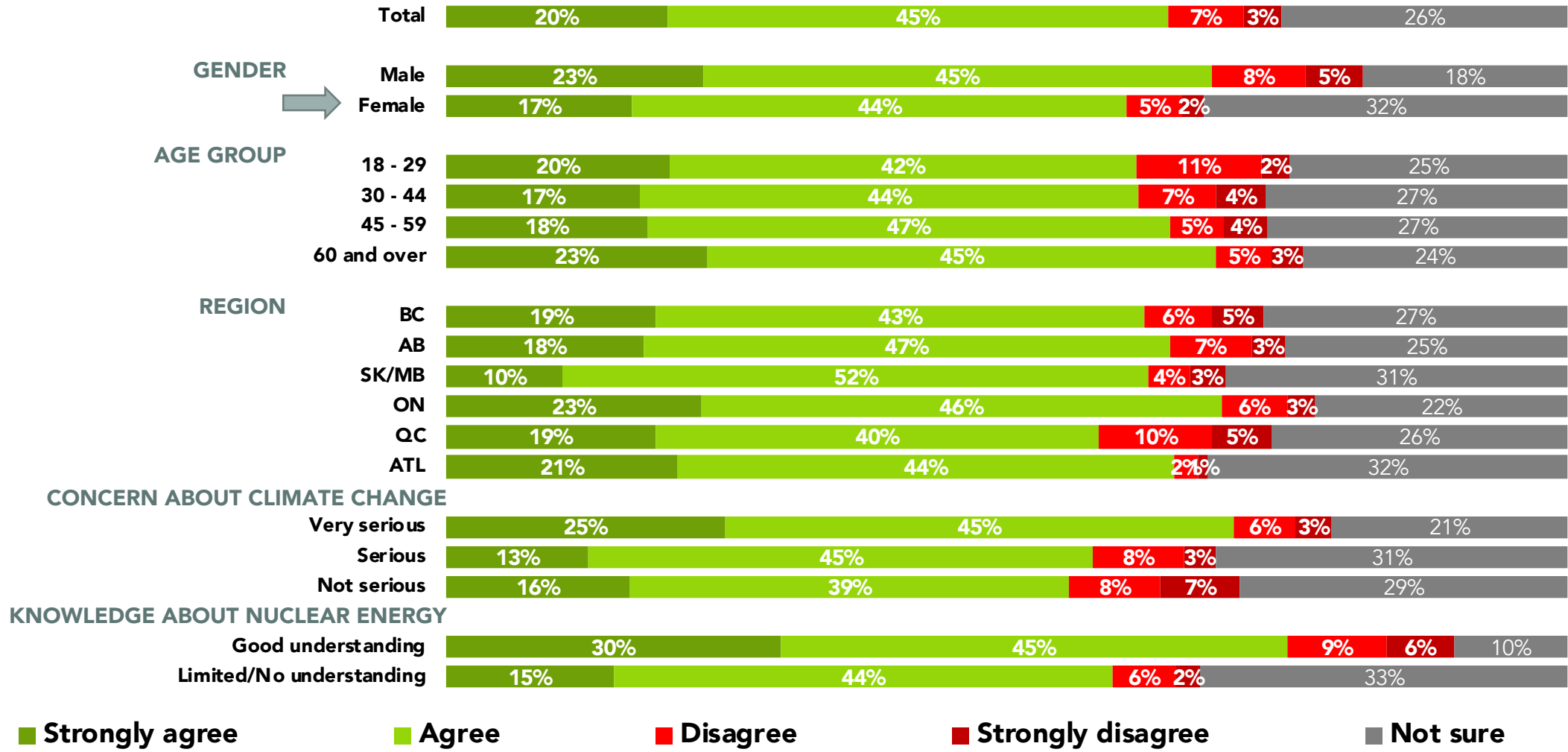
Do you agree or disagree with each of the following statements?

# NUCLEAR ENERGY CAN HELP DECARBONIZE KEY ECONOMIC SECTORS CHALLENGED WITH HIGH EMISSIONS SUCH AS OIL AND GAS, MINING, & PRODUCTION OF CEMENT/FERTILIZERS



Do you agree or disagree with each of the following statements?

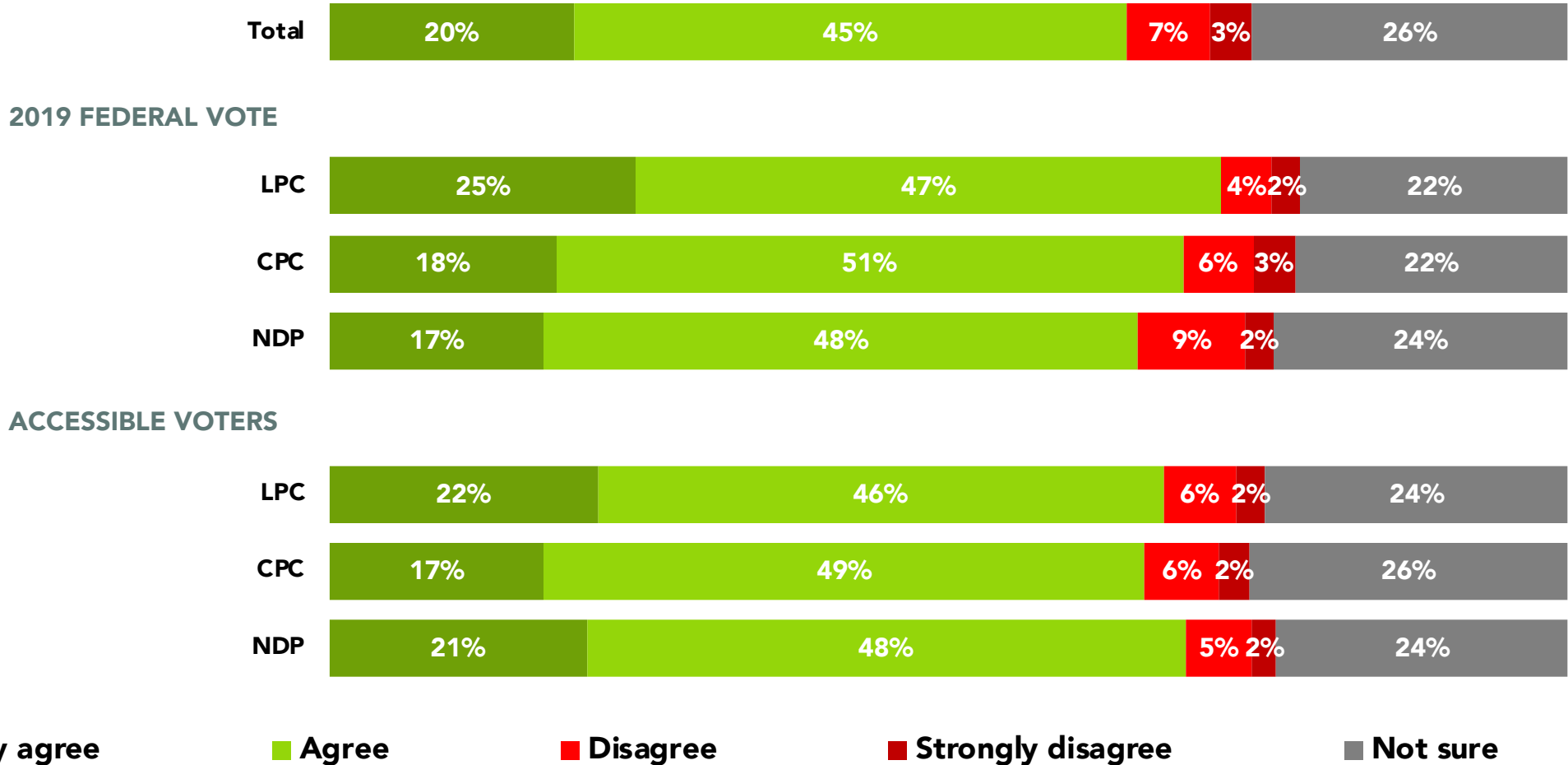
# INVESTING IN SMALL MODULAR NUCLEAR TECHNOLOGIES CAN HELP REMOTE COMMUNITIES' THAT ARE NOT CONNECTED TO THE ELECTRICITY GRID TRANSITION AWAY FROM A RELIANCE ON DIESEL



Do you agree or disagree with each of the following statements?

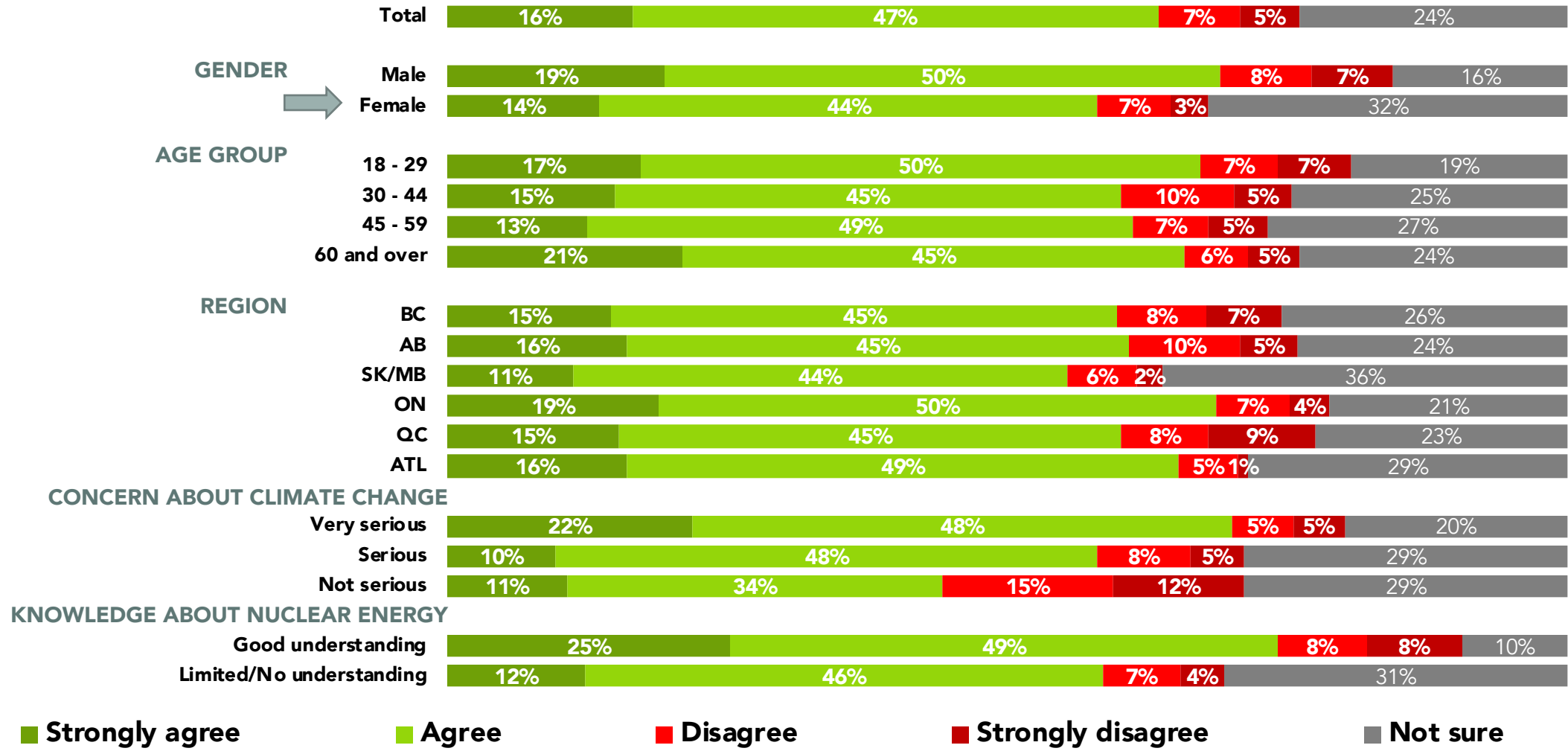


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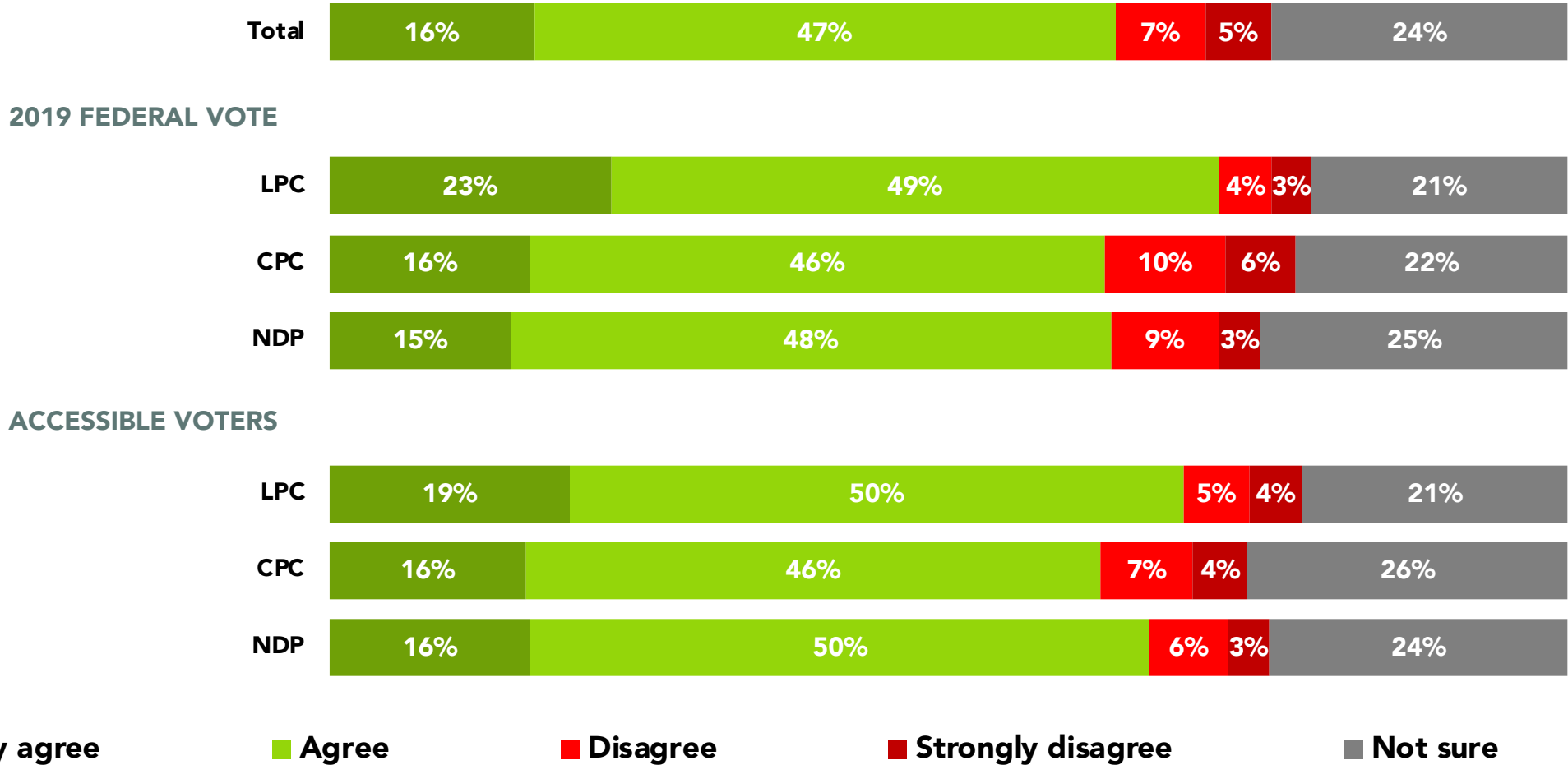
Do you agree or disagree with each of the following statements?

# INVESTING IN NUCLEAR TECHNOLOGIES CAN HELP CANADA PURSUE A GREEN ECONOMY AND INCREASE THE PACE OF REPLACING CARBON-BASED FUELS WITH ELECTRICITY



Do you agree or disagree with each of the following statements?

# INVESTING IN NUCLEAR TECHNOLOGIES CAN HELP CANADA PURSUE A GREEN ECONOMY AND INCREASE THE PACE OF REPLACING CARBON-BASED FUELS WITH ELECTRICITY



Do you agree or disagree with each of the following statements?