A satellite image of Earth at night, showing the Western Hemisphere with city lights glowing against the dark blue oceans and landmasses.

Obs'COP 2019

CLIMATE CHANGE AND PUBLIC OPINIONS INTERNATIONAL OBSERVATORY

***MOBILIZATION, CONCERN OR INDIFFERENCE:
HOW DO THE CITIZENS OF 30 COUNTRIES
FEEL ABOUT CLIMATE CHANGE?***

Methodology

30 countries questioned across 5 continents, a representative sample of 2/3 of the world's population.

Selection of countries based on their CO2 emissions, their geographic location or their exemplary performance in the fight against global warming

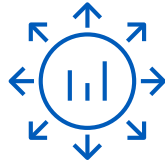


Methodology

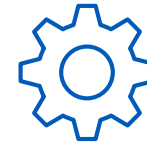
30 countries questioned across 5 continents, a representative sample of 2/3 of the world's population.



- Total sample of **24,017 individuals**;
- Representative of the population aged **16 and over** in each country;
- 500 or 1000 individuals questioned in each country.



- Representativeness was ensured by using the **quota sampling methodology** ;
- Quotas used: gender; age, region, profession or social category, agglomeration size.



- Data collection method: **Online** (via PC, tablet or smartphone);
- Fieldwork conducted **between September 7 and October 4, 2019.**



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Climate change: Knowledge and perceptions overview of the world's populations



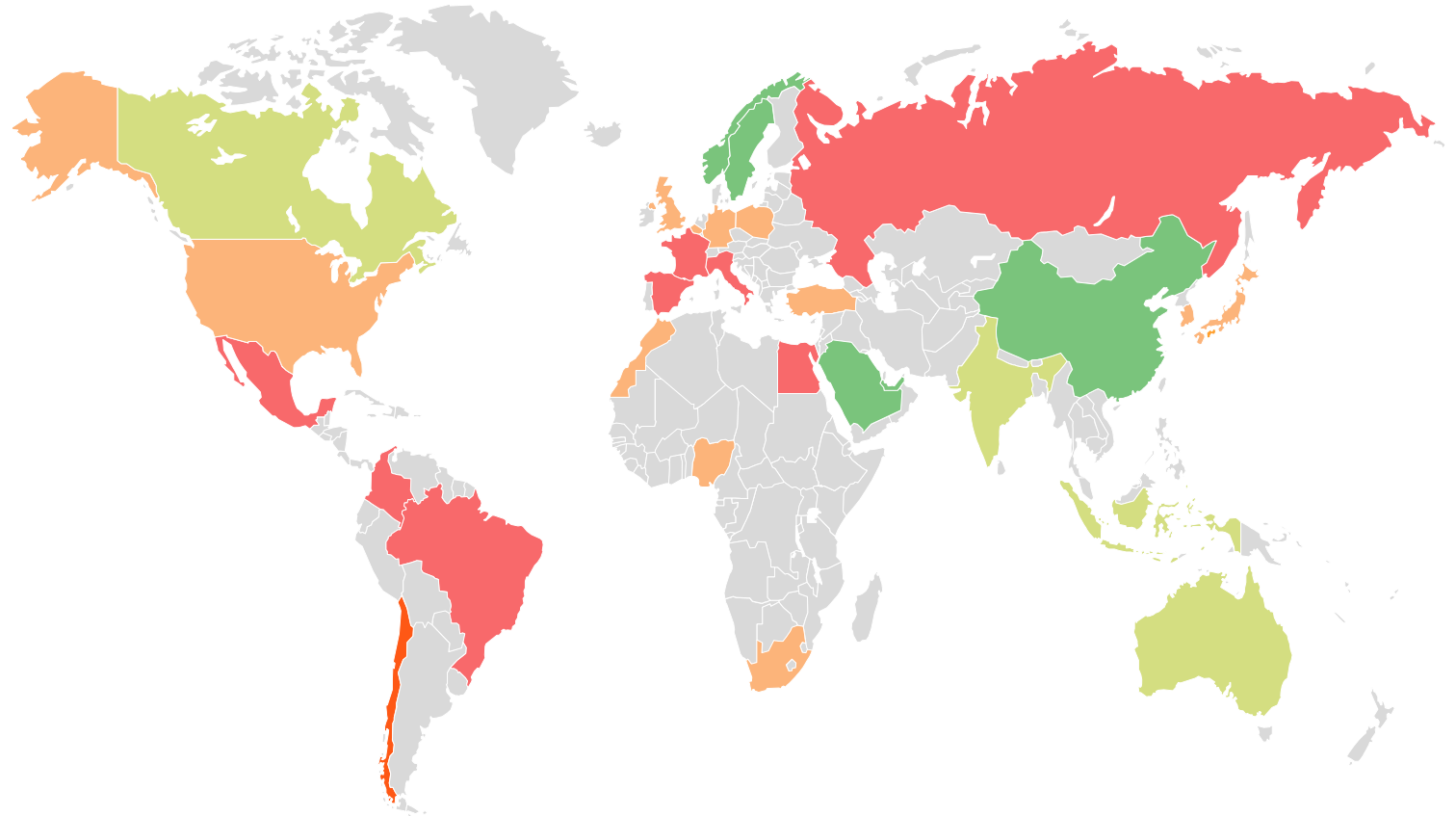
There are many environmental threats: the climate issue is not the only challenge

A population mostly negative (in 20 out of 30 countries) about the environmental situation of their country

TELL ME WHETHER THE ENVIRONMENTAL SITUATION IN YOUR COUNTRY SEEMS BAD TO YOU:

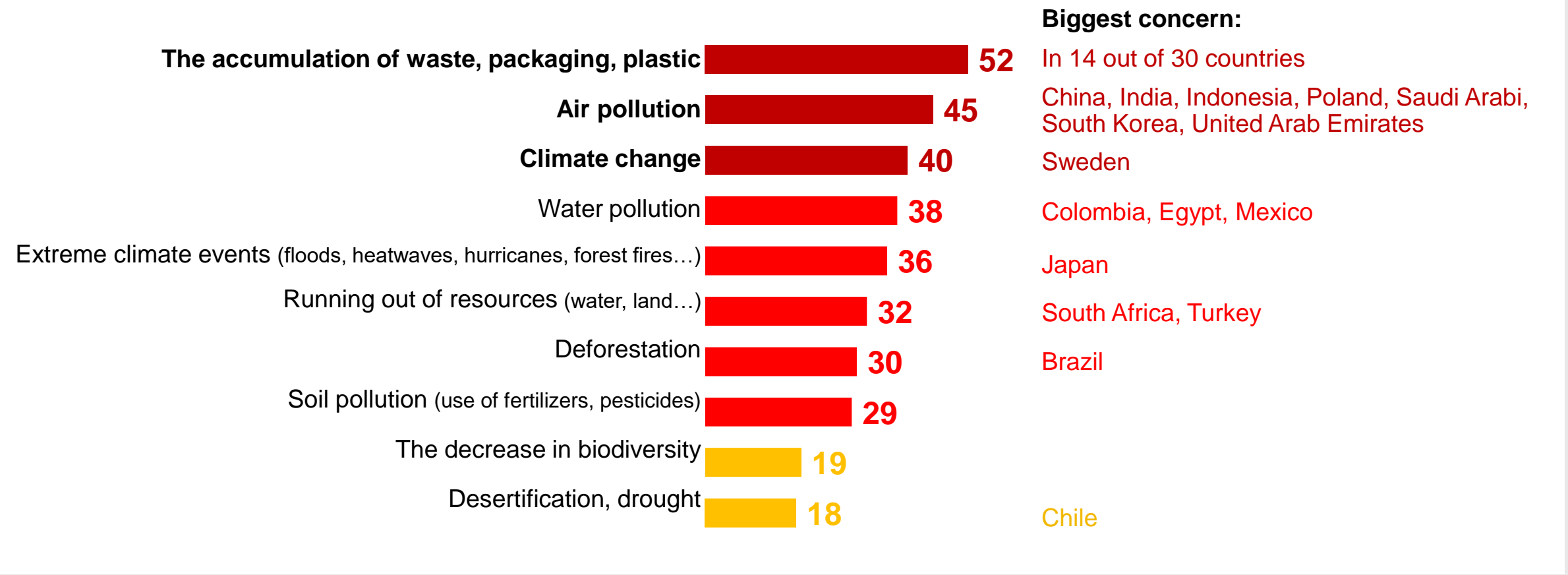
% Situation of the environment is bad

- 66% or more
- Between 50% and 65%
- Between 30% and 49%
- Less than 30%



There are multiple environmental threats perceived, and the climate change does not appear to be the most concerning

MOST CONCERNING ENVIRONMENTAL PROBLEMS IN YOUR COUNTRY





The reality of climate change is no longer disputed, and is now recognized by 9 out of 10 citizens, but almost one quarter still doubt the phenomenon's human origins

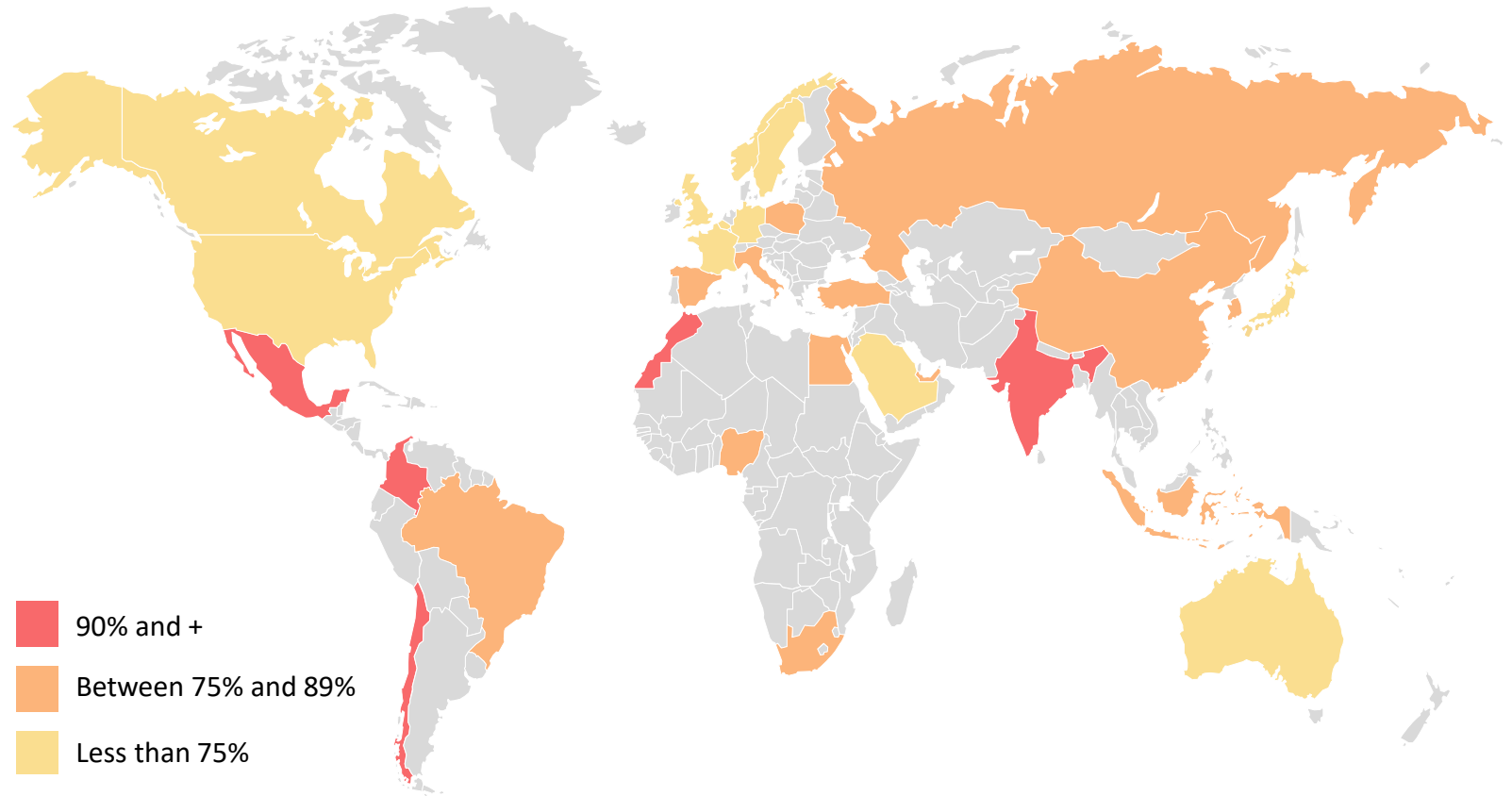
The very large majority of citizens have already noticed the effects of climate change in their geographic area

% HAVE ALREADY NOTICED THE EFFECTS OF CLIMATE CHANGE IN THEIR REGION



78%

of the world's population have already noticed the effects of climate change in their region



Climate change is no longer up for debate for almost all citizens...

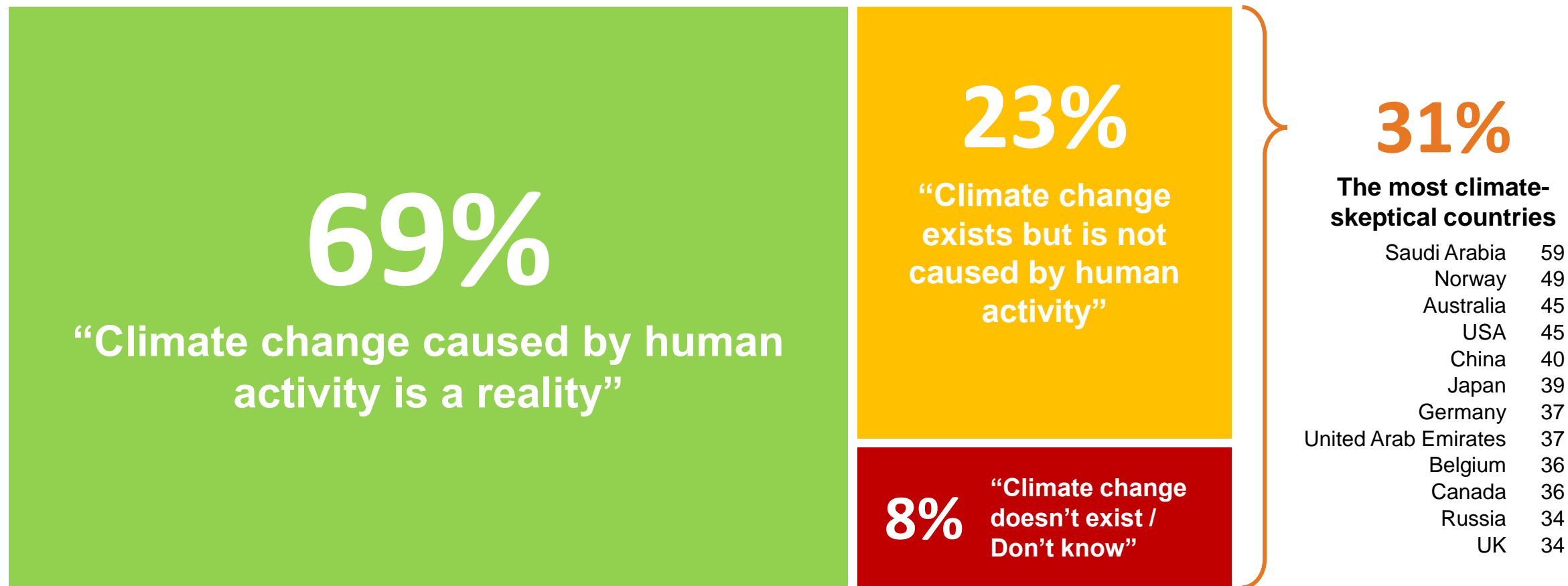
92%

“Climate change is a reality”

8%

“Climate change
doesn't exist /
Don't know”

...but almost one third of citizens doubt the human origin of climate change, or that it even a reality





While CO₂ = climate change is widely known, climate change still generates confusion about its causes

Citizens from all countries point, accurately, at greenhouse gas emissions as the main cause of climate change...


WHAT IS OR WHAT ARE THE CAUSES OF CLIMATE CHANGE?

61% 

**Emissions of
greenhouse gases
such as CO2**

45% 

Air pollution

44% 


Deforestation

...but certain causes are wrongly attributed nevertheless


WHAT IS OR WHAT ARE THE CAUSES OF CLIMATE CHANGE?

61% 

**Emissions of
greenhouse gases
such as CO2**

45% 

Air pollution

44% 

Deforestation

42% 

**Heat produced by
human activity**

31% 

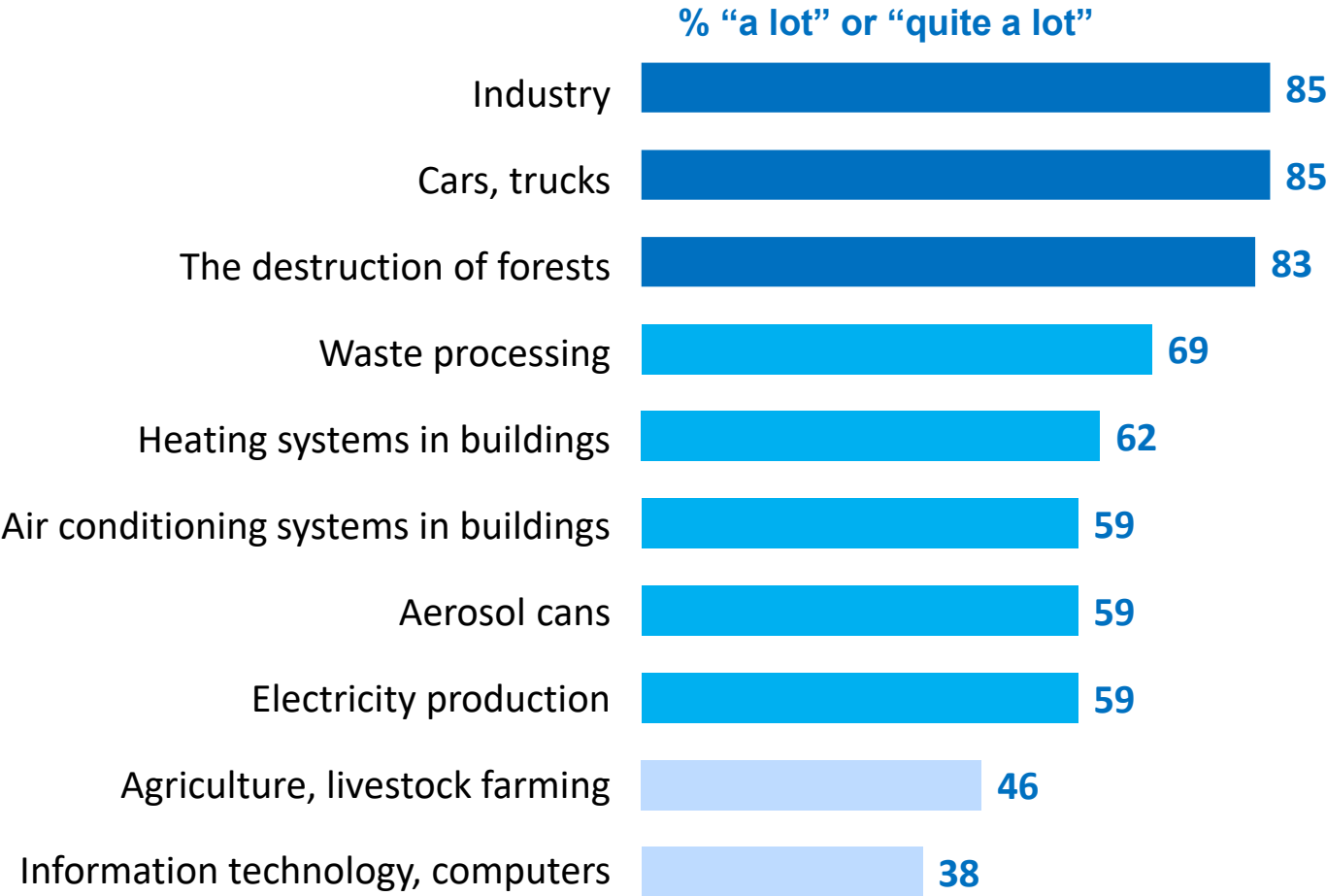
**The hole in the ozone
layer**

30% 

**Natural warming of the
planet**

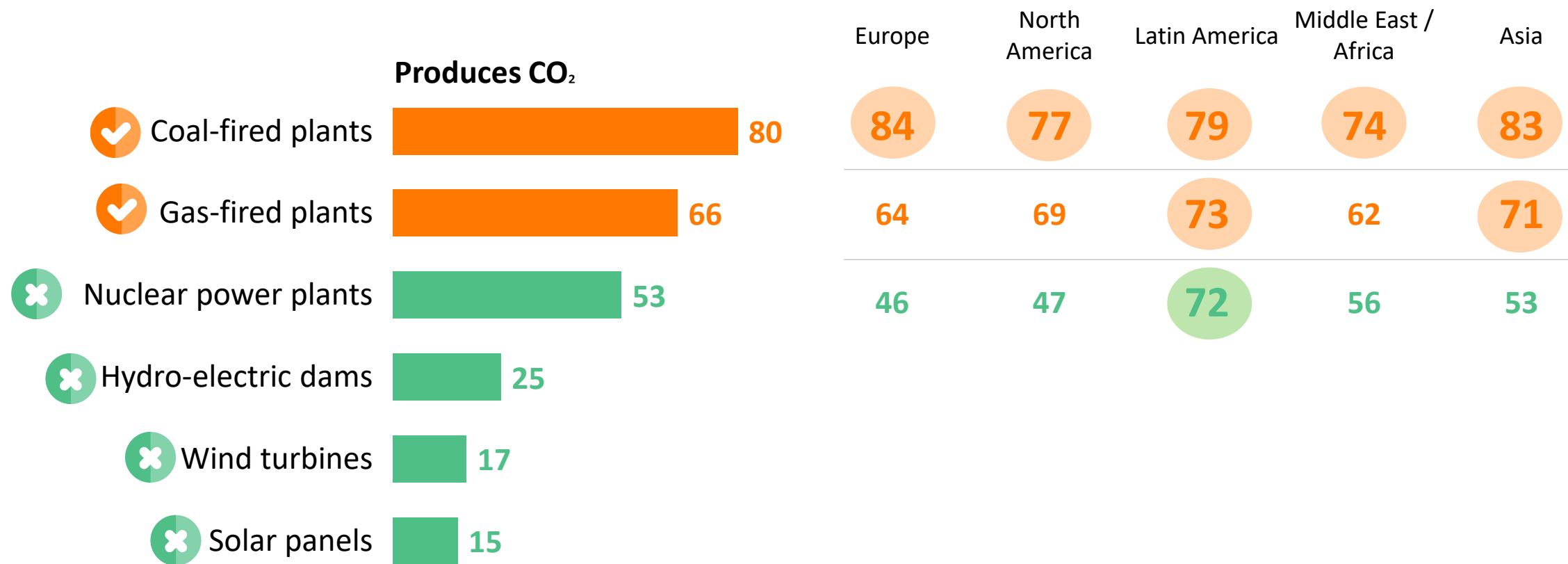
The activities that produce most CO₂ according to respondents, are industry, transports and deforestation, but others such as livestock farming or information technology are underestimated

DO THESE ACTIVITIES PRODUCE CO₂, THE GREENHOUSE GAS THAT CAUSES CLIMATE CHANGE?



Electricity production: a share of the population are still ill-informed about decarbonized energies

FOR EACH OF THESE ELECTRICITY PRODUCTION METHODS, STATE WHETHER YOU THINK IT PRODUCES CO₂?



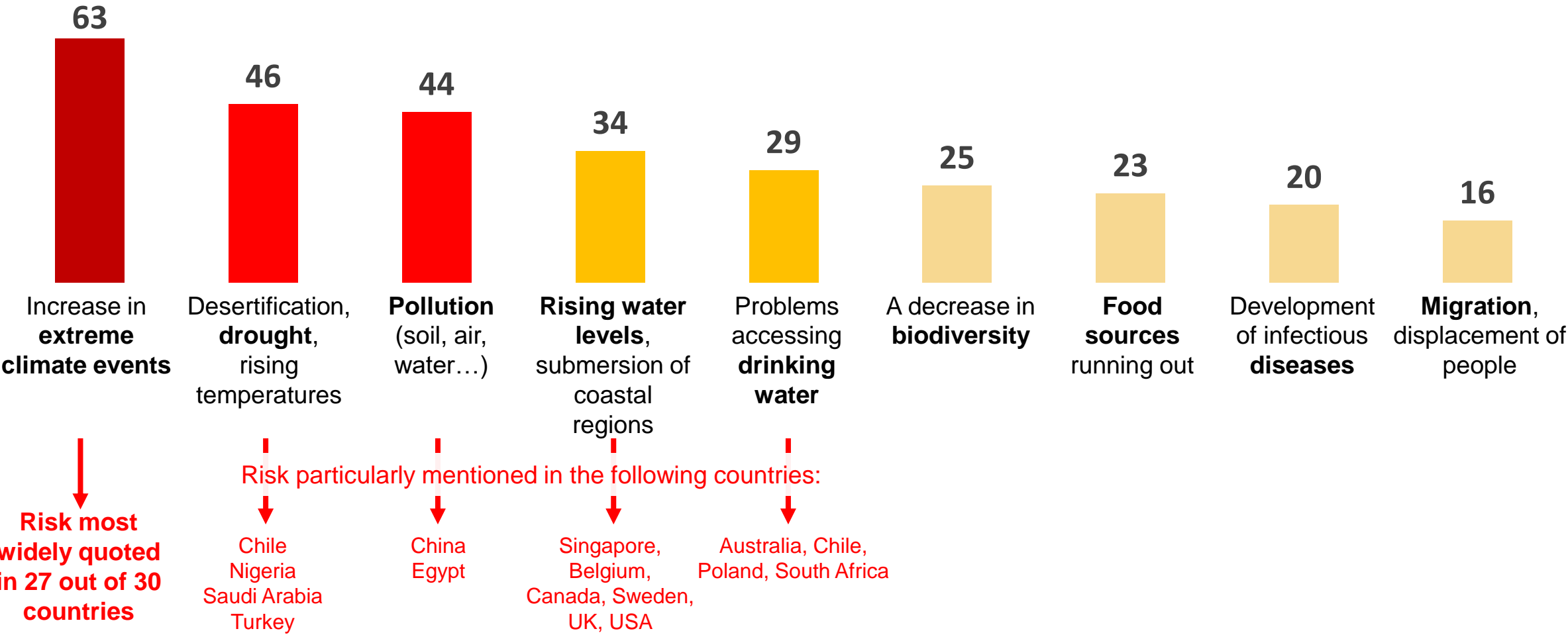


**There is a divergence of opinion
on the consequences of climate
change too**



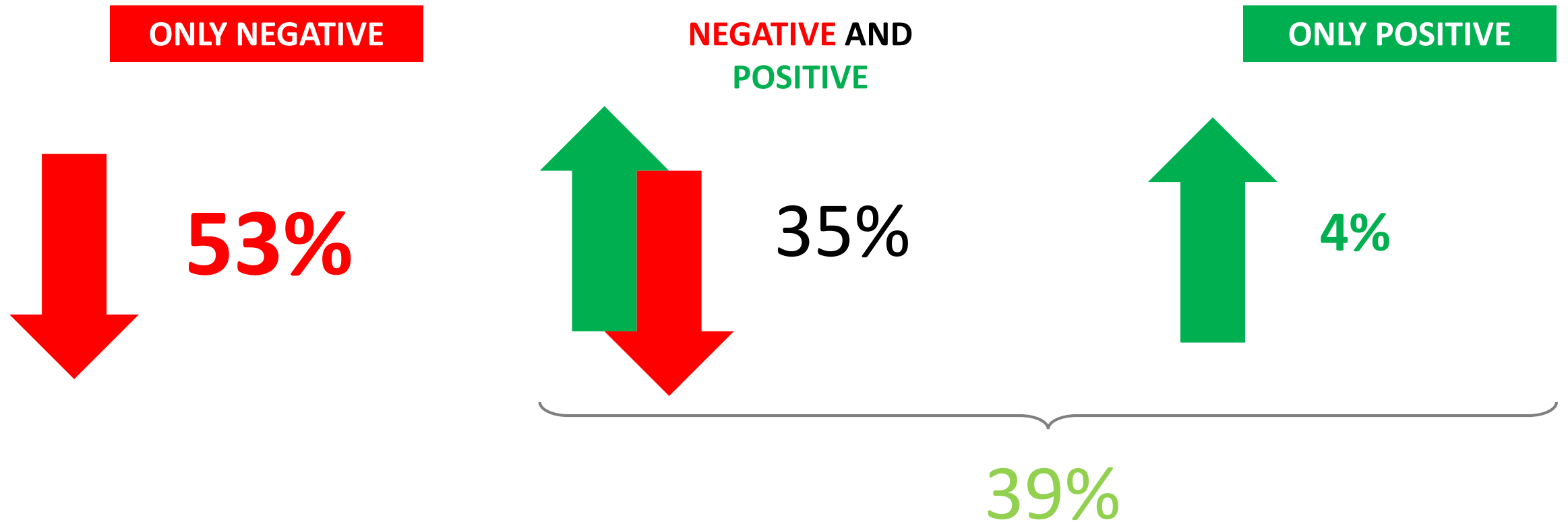
The increase in extreme climate events, the main expected consequence of climate change

THE RISKS THAT CLIMATE CHANGE BRINGS FOR YOUR COUNTRY?



Only a small majority (53%) consider that climate change will have only negative consequences in their country

THE CONSEQUENCES OF CLIMATE CHANGE IN YOUR REGION

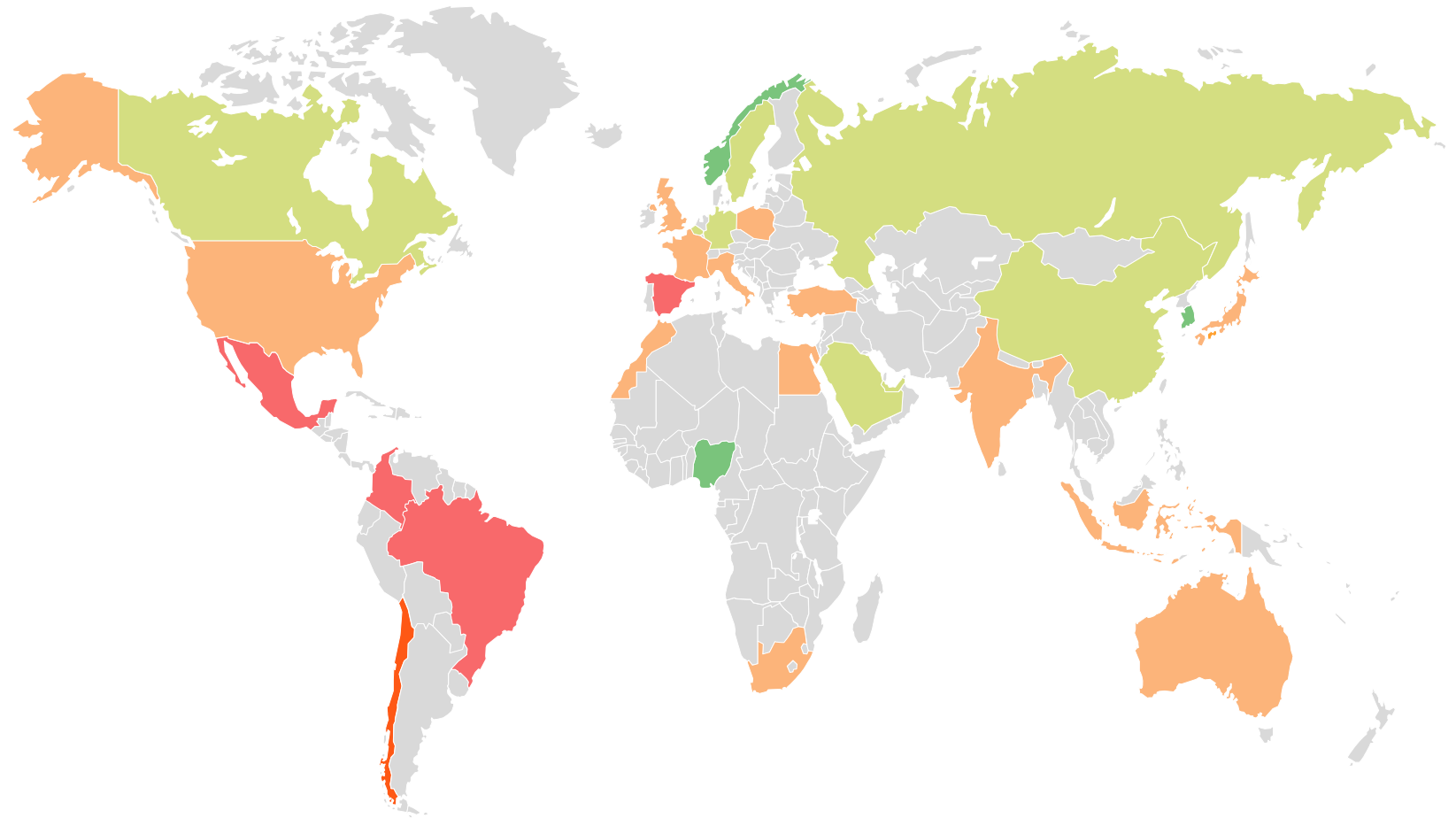


Positive consequences are also envisaged in the Northern countries

THE “NEGATIVE AND POSITIVE” CONSEQUENCES OF CLIMATE CHANGE IN YOUR REGION

% “negative and positive” consequences

- Over 50%
- Between 40% and 50%
- Between 25% and 39%
- Less than 25%



Wake
up



Ultimately, climate change is
giving rise to increasing concern



This reality is viewed as increasingly concerning as the years go by...



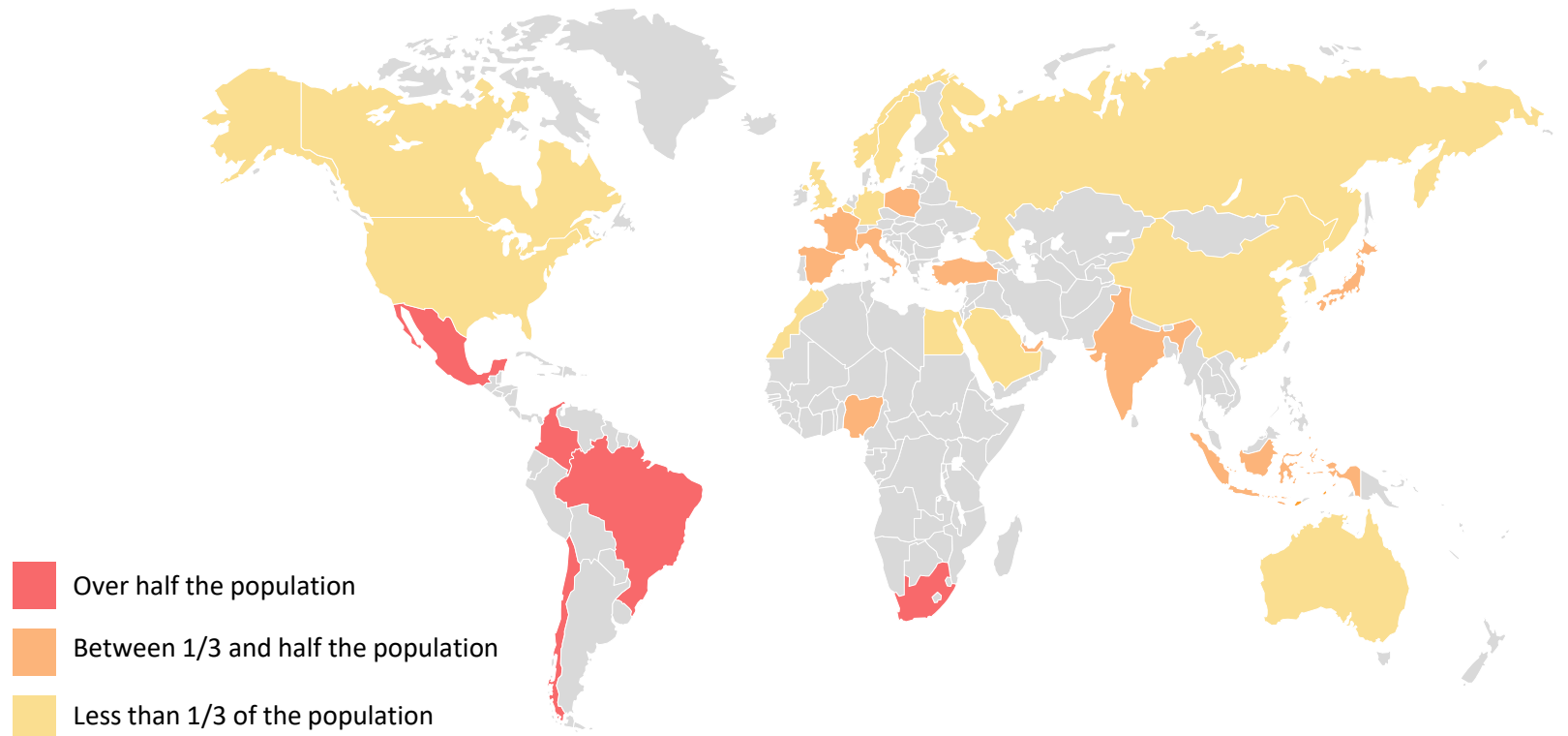
74%

of the world's population claim to be “more worried” than they were 5 years ago about climate change,

37%

“much more” worried.

% “MUCH MORE” WORRIED ABOUT CLIMATE CHANGE THAN 5 YEARS AGO



... particularly among young people in Europe and North America



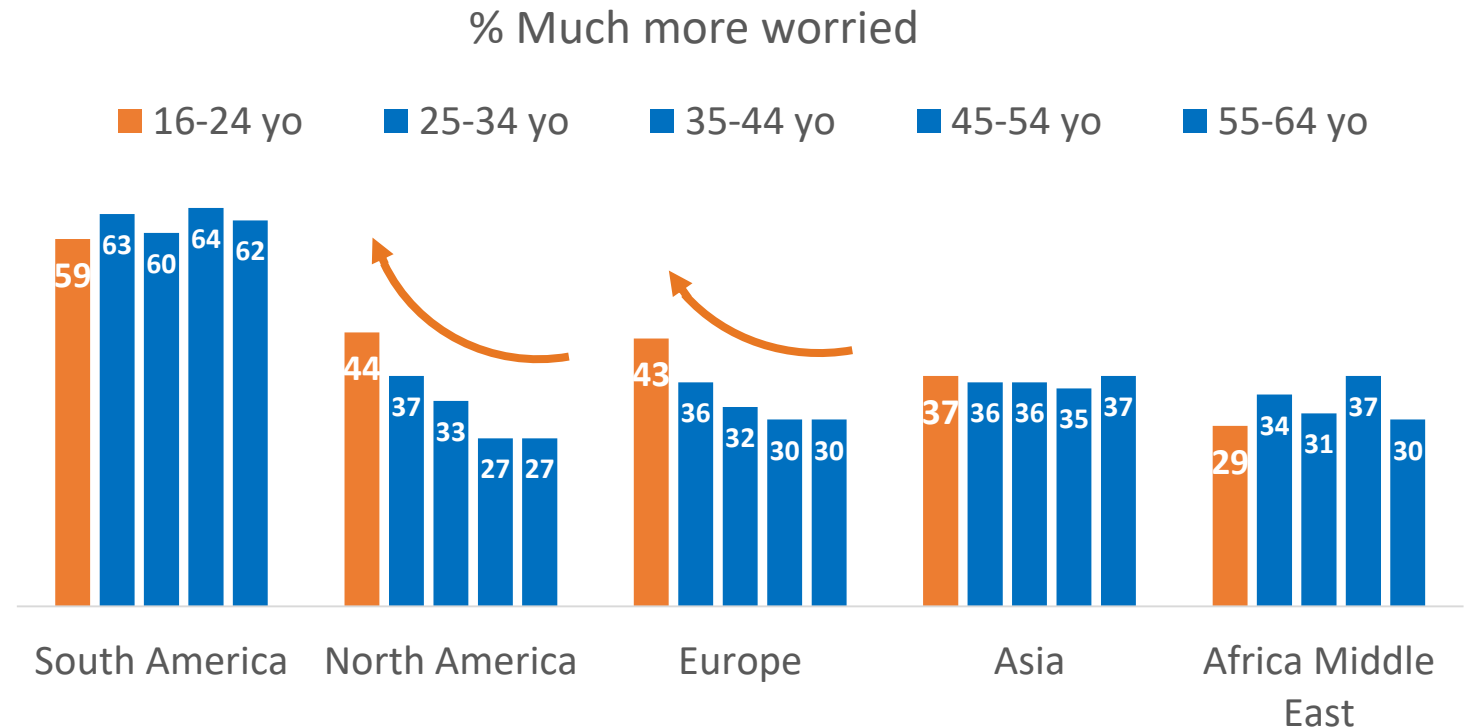
74%

of the world's population claim to be “more worried” than they were 5 years ago about climate change,

37%

“much more” worried.

IN RELATION TO CLIMATE CHANGE, WOULD YOU SAY THAT COMPARED TO 5 YEARS AGO:





2

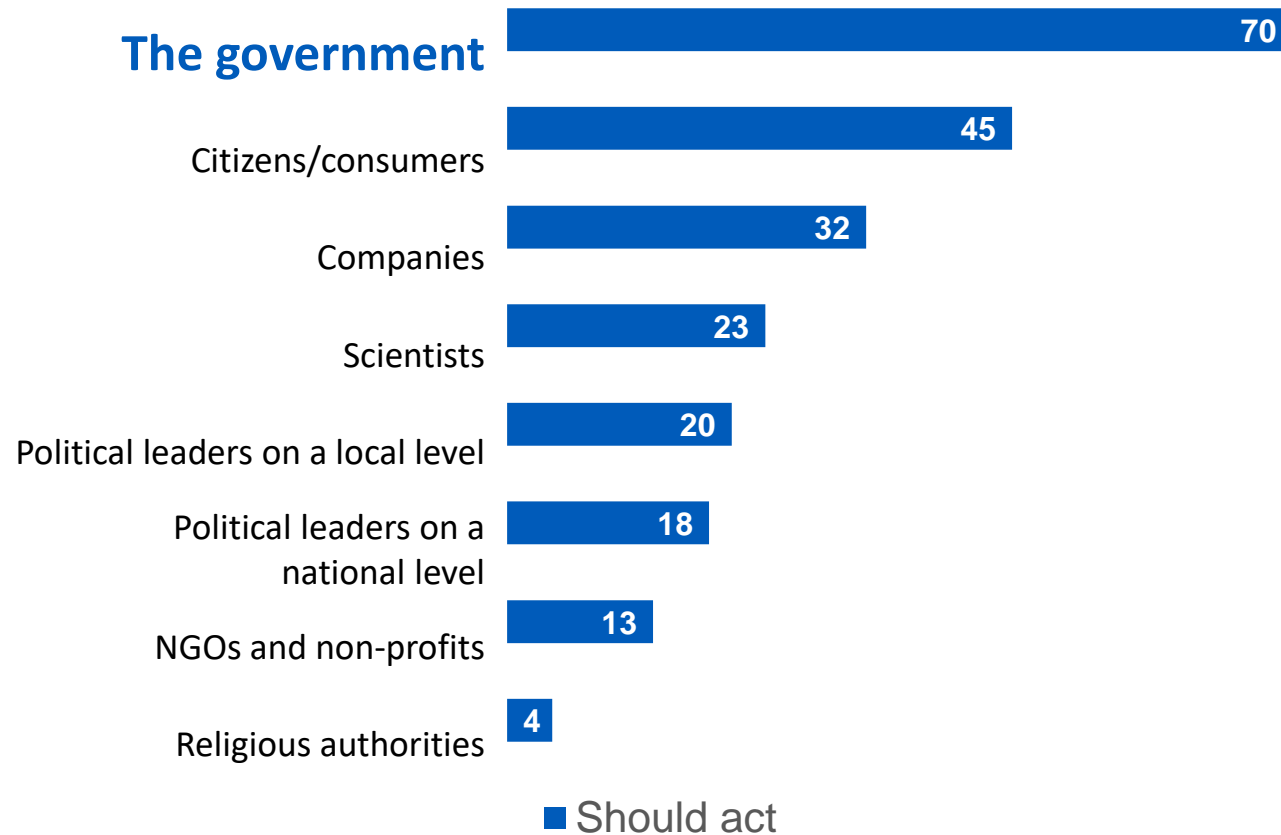
Climate change:
who should take action first and
foremost and what to do?



Mobilization should primarily be driven by governments... which are not viewed as rising up to the challenge

In terms of responding to climate change issues, citizens express a clear demand for public action by governments...

WHICH ENTITIES NEED TO TAKE ACTION FIRST AND FOREMOST TO FIGHT CLIMATE CHANGE IN YOUR COUNTRY?

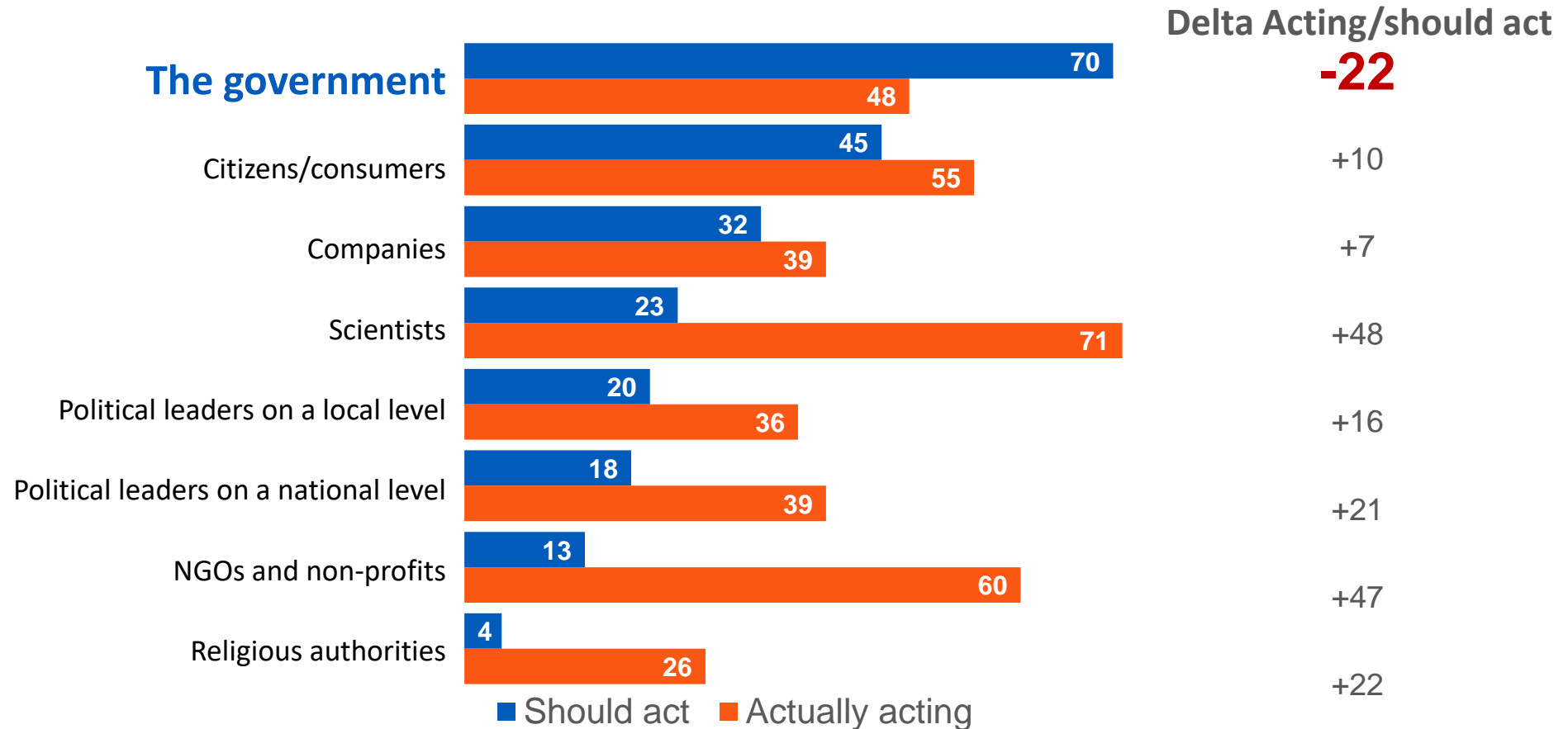


Base: All

...governments that are not viewed everywhere as meeting the challenge

WHICH ENTITIES NEED TO TAKE ACTION FIRST AND FOREMOST TO FIGHT CLIMATE CHANGE IN YOUR COUNTRY?

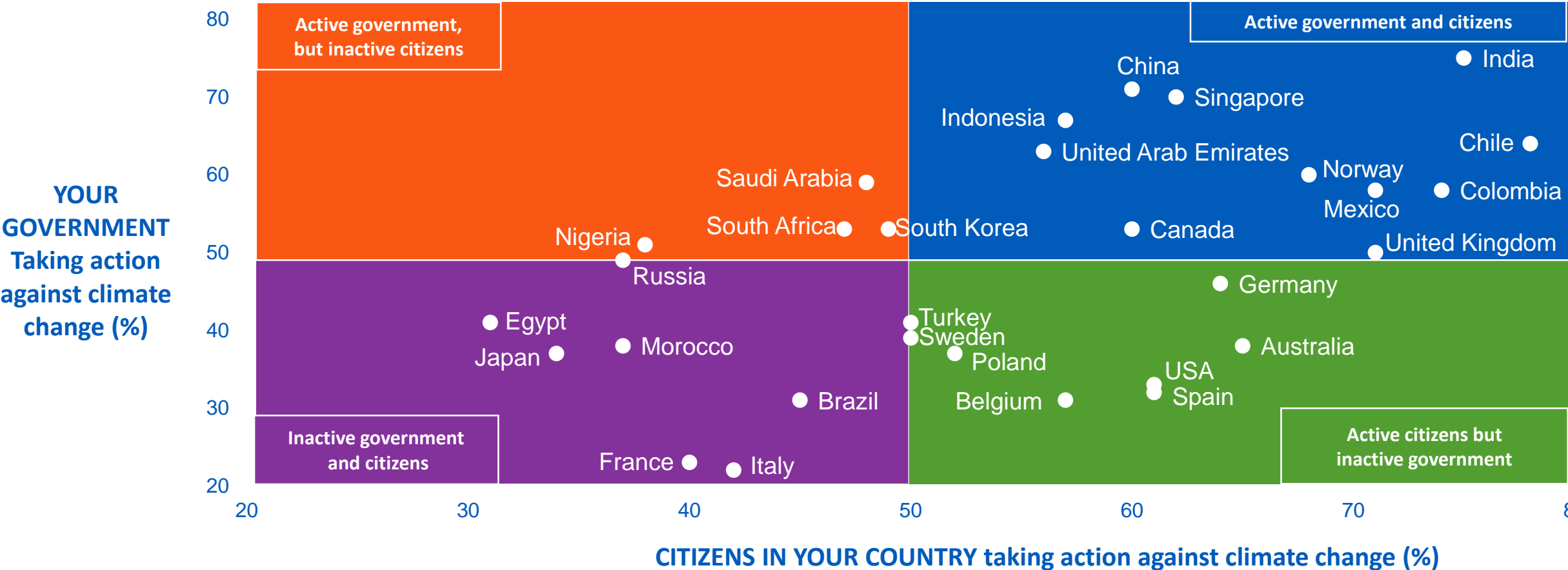
IS EACH ENTITY REALLY TAKING ACTION?



Base: All

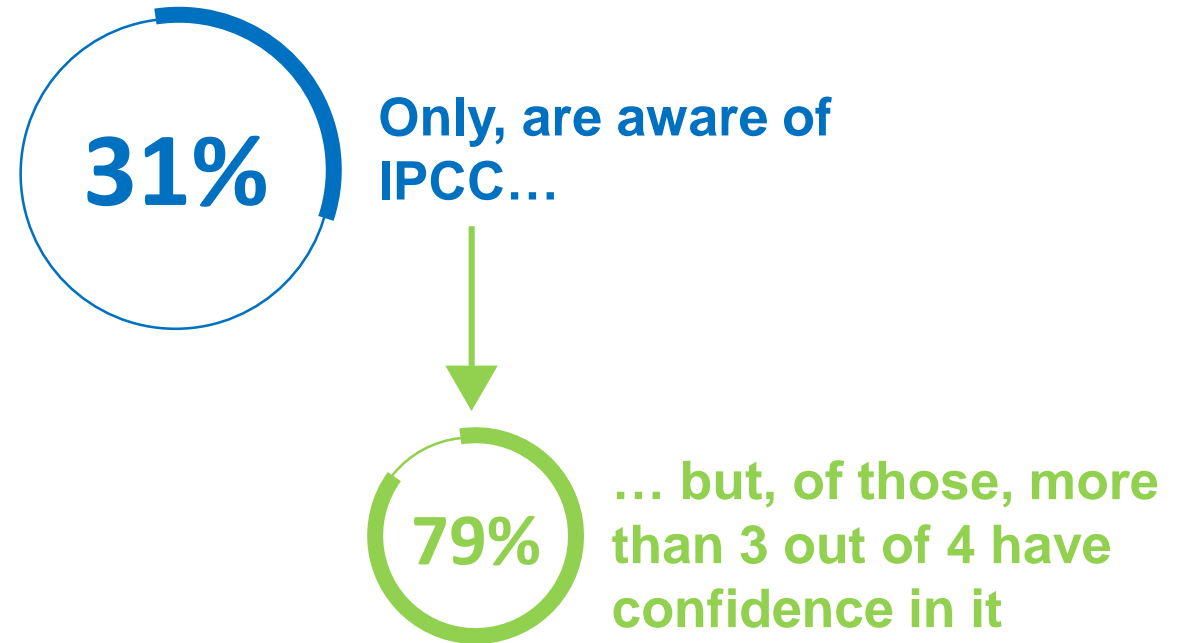
Actions by governments and citizens: very disparate diagnoses

DO YOU THINK THEY ARE TAKING ACTION TO FIGHT CLIMATE CHANGE IN YOUR COUNTRY?



Scientists are viewed as the ones taking the most action

71%
claim that
“**scientists**”
are taking action to fight
climate change
in their country.

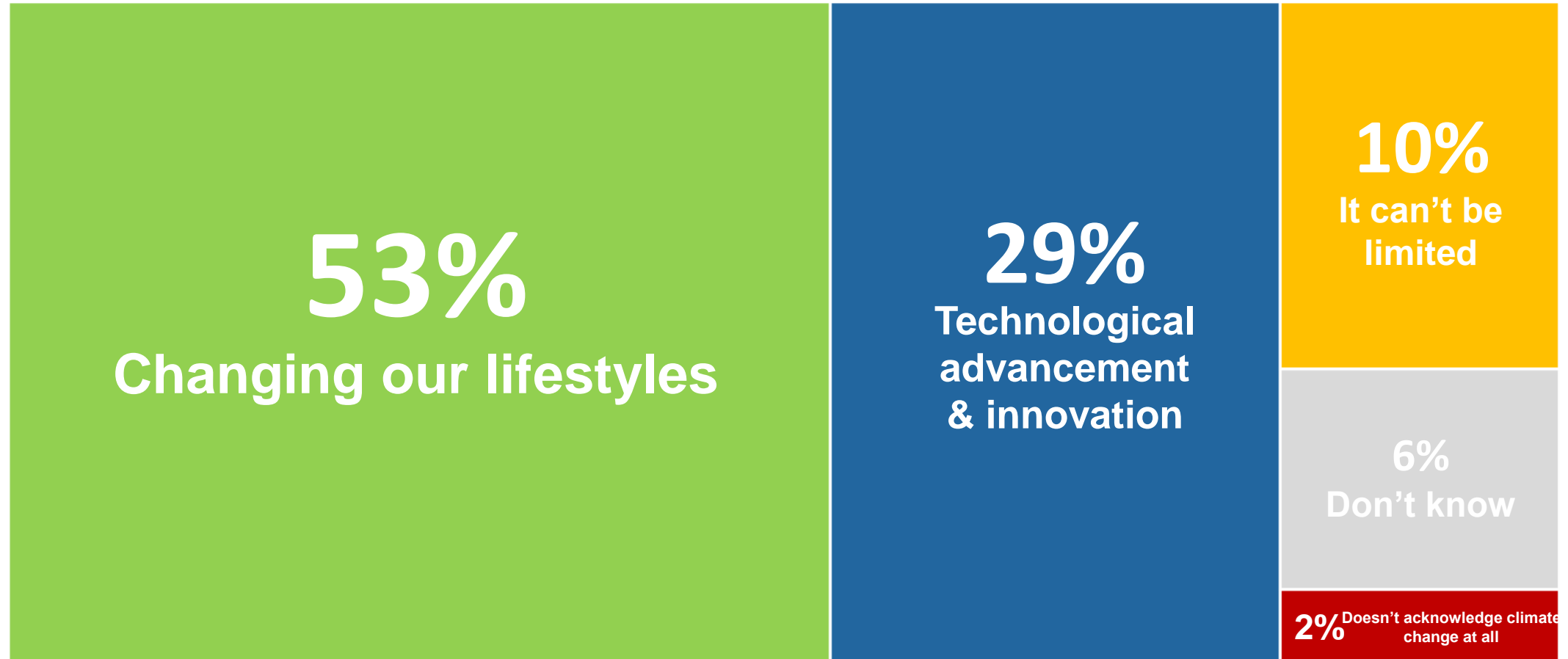




Although citizens are convinced of the need to change their lifestyle, it is not always followed up by concrete actions on a day-to-day basis

While one third hope for a solution resulting from technological innovation, a majority think that fighting climate change will require a change in lifestyles

THE MOST EFFECTIVE SOLUTION FOR FIGHTING CLIMATE CHANGE



In only 21 out of the 30 countries interviewed, an – often small – majority think that fighting climate change will require a change in lifestyles

THE MOST EFFECTIVE SOLUTION FOR FIGHTING CLIMATE CHANGE

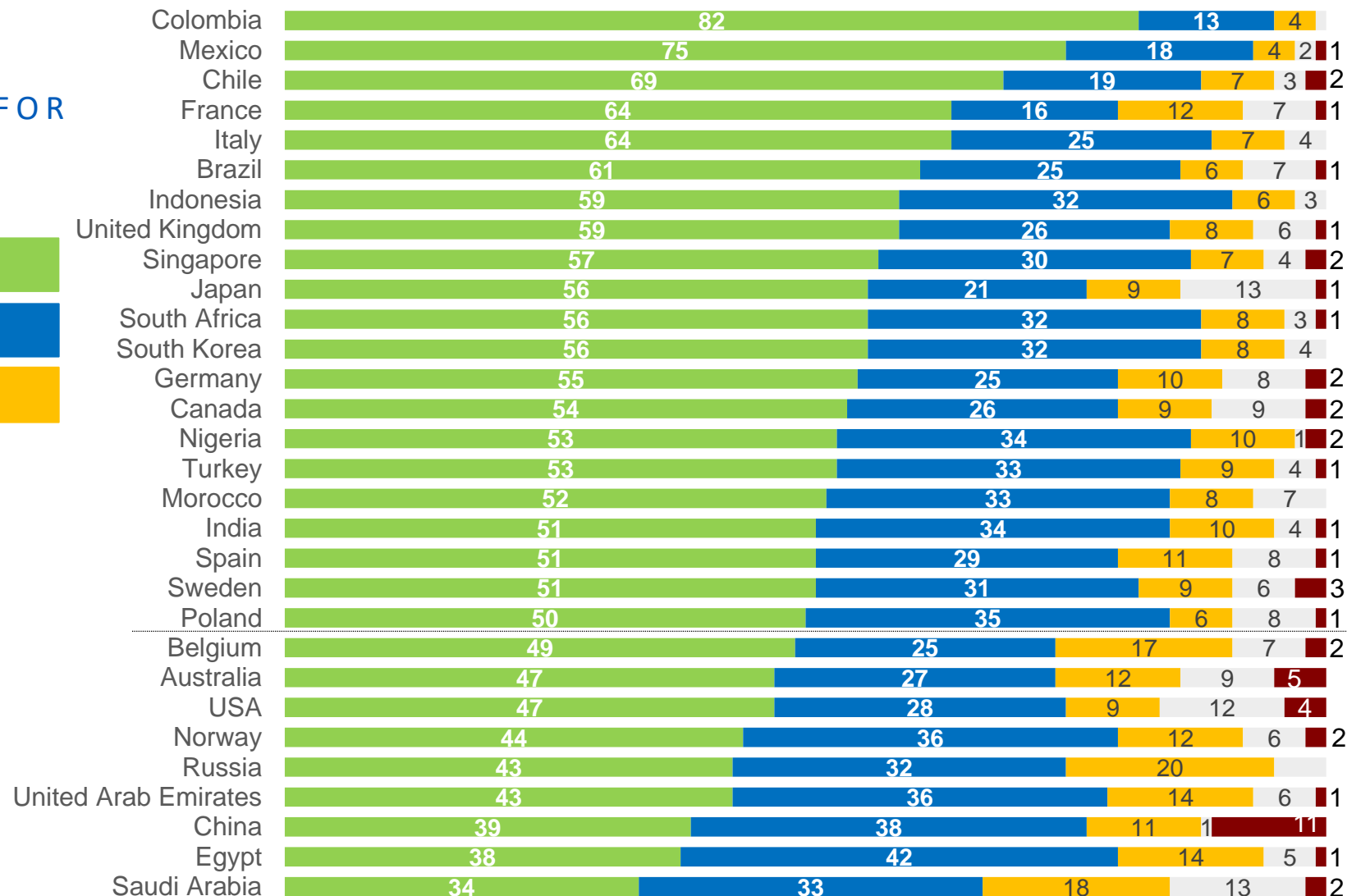
Changing our lifestyles

Technological advancement & innovation

It can't be limited, NOTHING CAN BE DONE

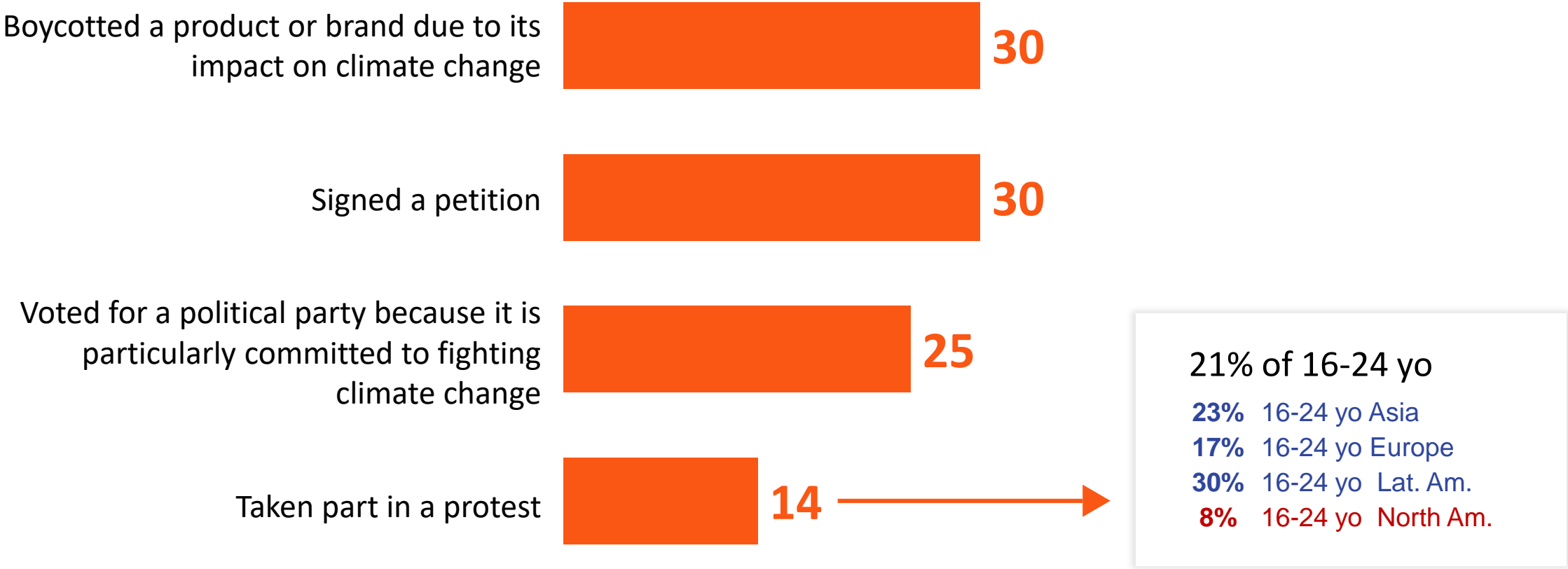
Don't know

Doesn't acknowledge climate change



Almost one third of citizens have already resorted to protests, boycotts or political action to fight global warming

WHEN IT COMES TO FIGHTING CLIMATE CHANGE, HAVE YOU PERSONALLY EVER:



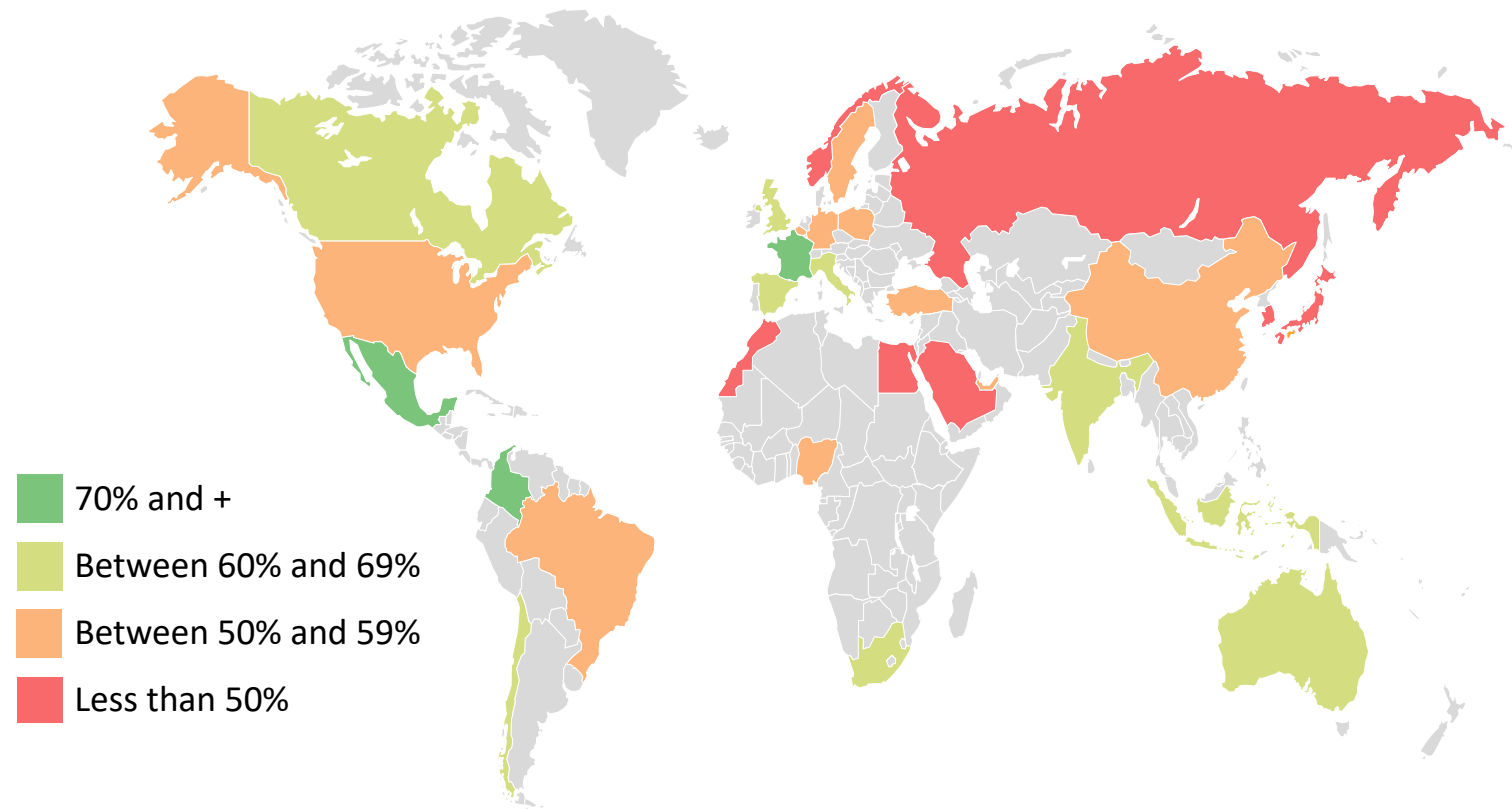
And over half of citizens claim to have changed the way they live and consume



55%

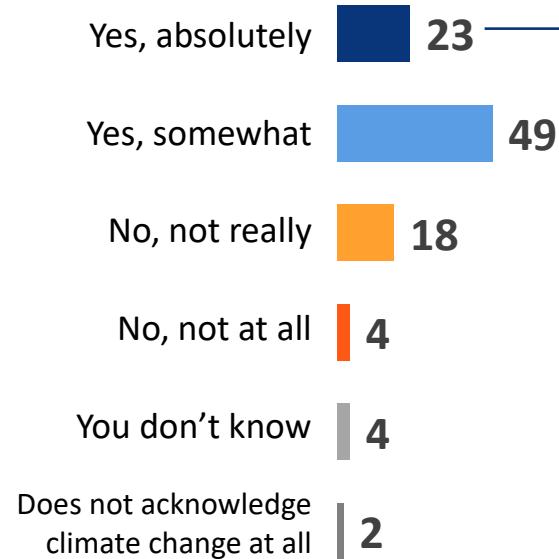
of the world's
population claim to have
changed the way they
live, consume.

% HAVE CHANGED THEIR WAY OF LIVING, CONSUMING

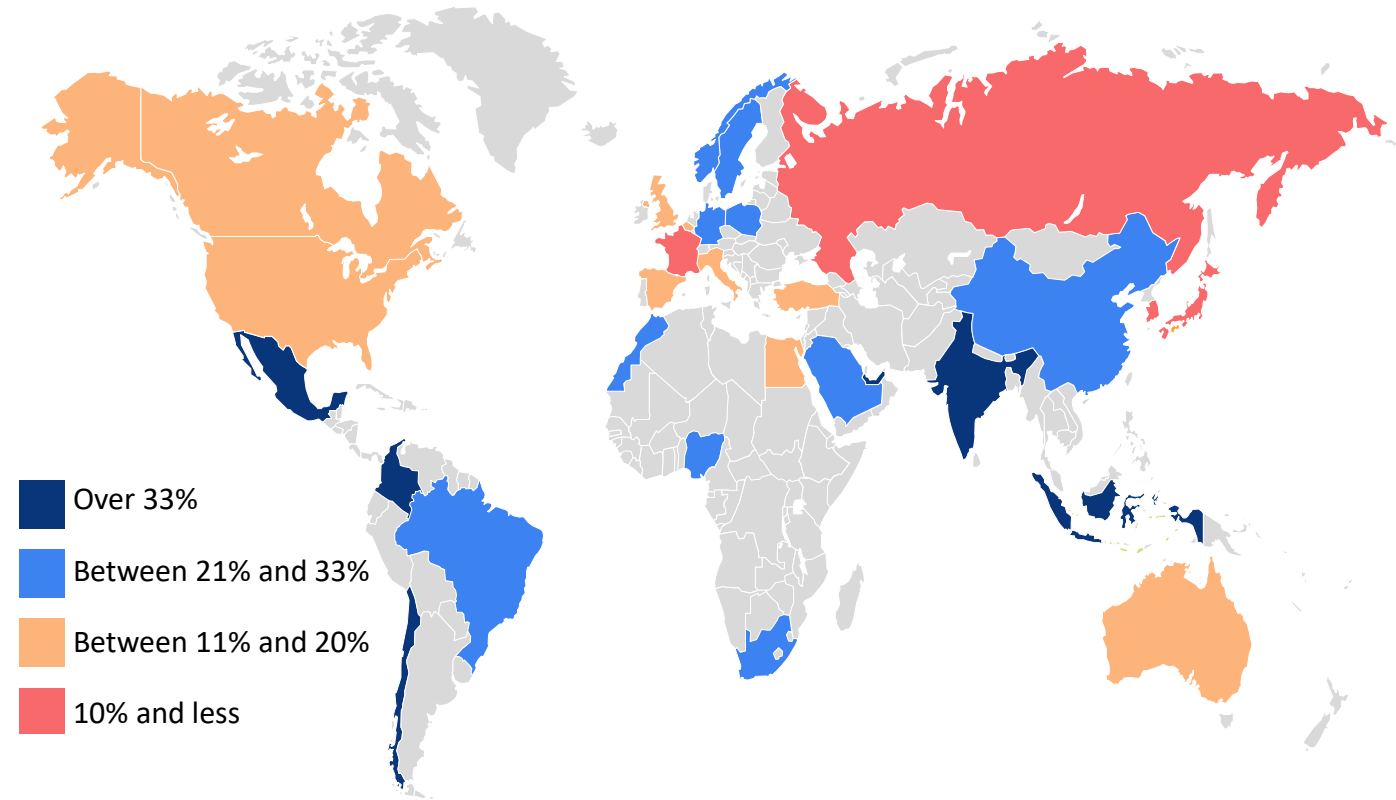


On the other hand, there is little confidence in knowledge of what can be done

DO YOU KNOW WHAT YOU CAN DO ON A PERSONAL LEVEL TO FIGHT CLIMATE CHANGE?

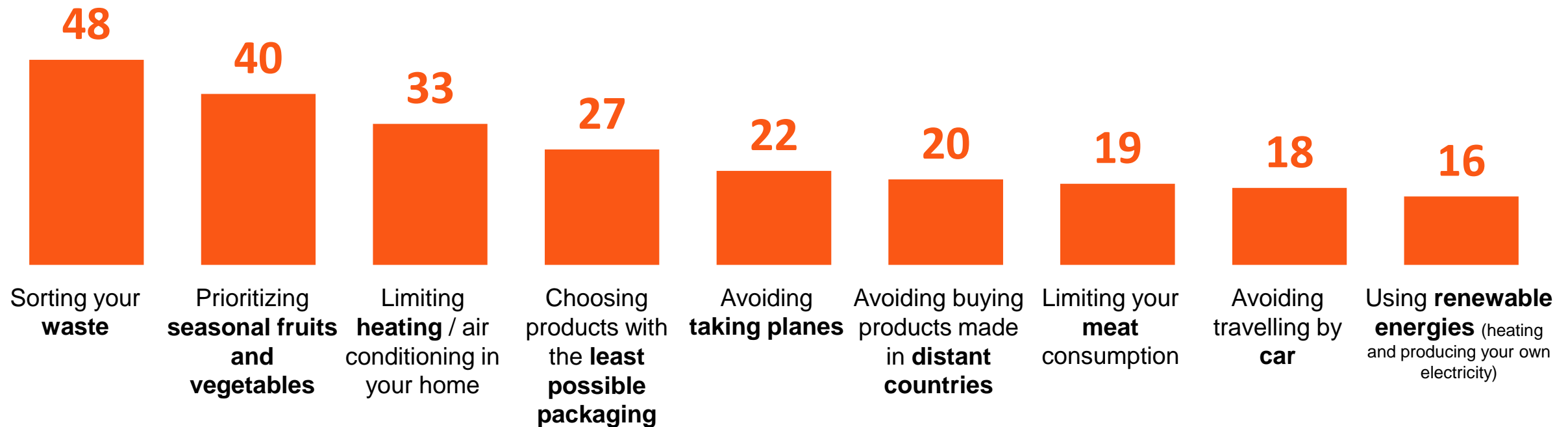


% "Absolutely" knows what to do



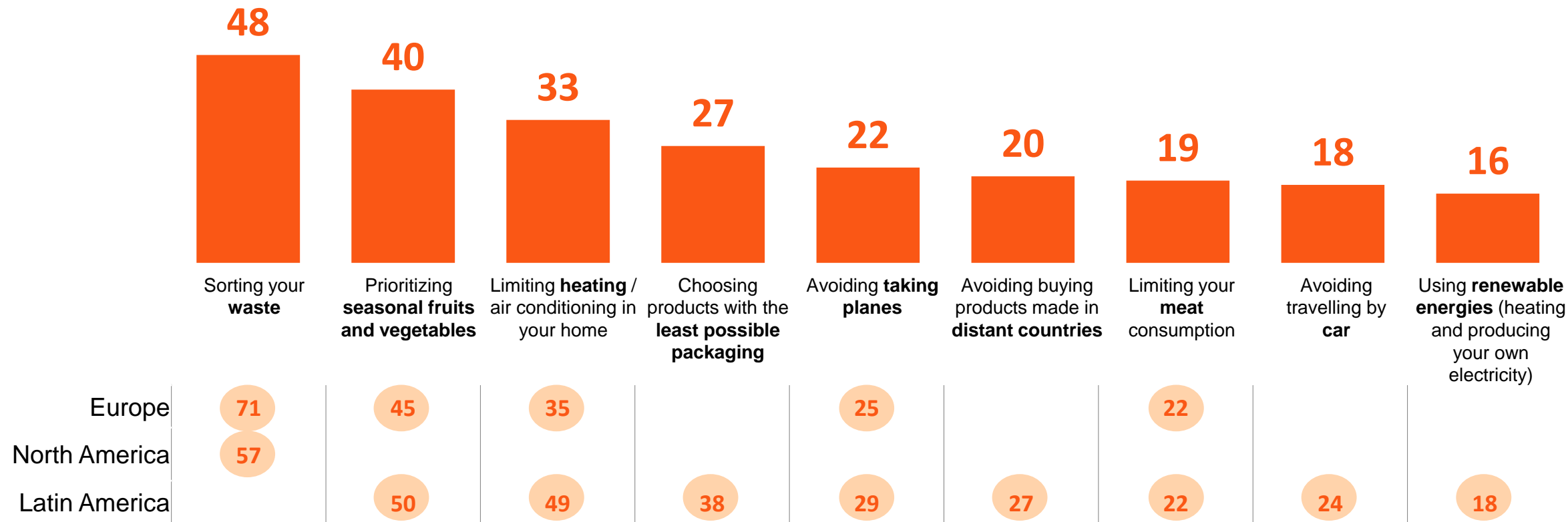
And when they are asked about the everyday actions they perform, fewer than half of citizens do them systematically or almost

INDIVIDUAL ACTIONS DONE SYSTEMATICALLY OR ALMOST TO FIGHT CLIMATE CHANGE



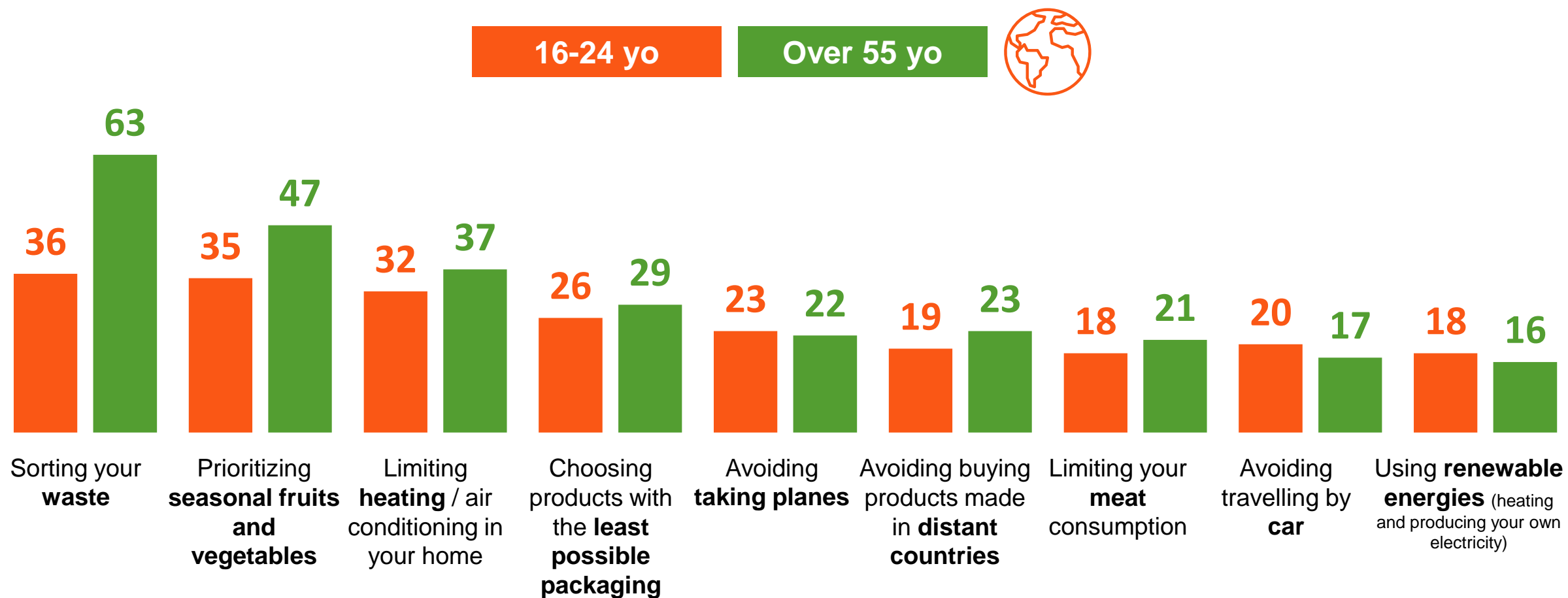
Differences according to geographic regions

INDIVIDUAL ACTIONS DONE SYSTEMATICALLY OR ALMOST TO FIGHT CLIMATE CHANGE



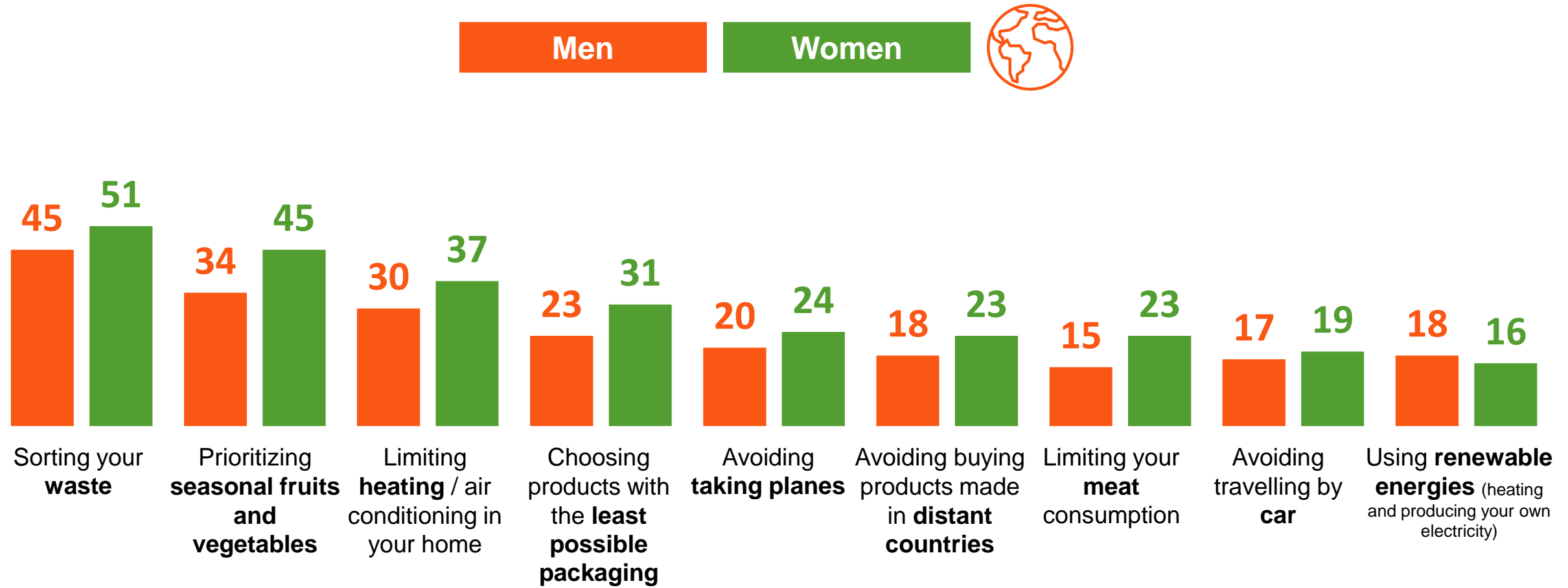
16-24-year-olds prove to be less active in this respect than their elders

INDIVIDUAL ACTIONS DONE SYSTEMATICALLY OR ALMOST TO FIGHT CLIMATE CHANGE



And women prove to be more involved than men

INDIVIDUAL ACTIONS DONE SYSTEMATICALLY OR ALMOST TO FIGHT CLIMATE CHANGE

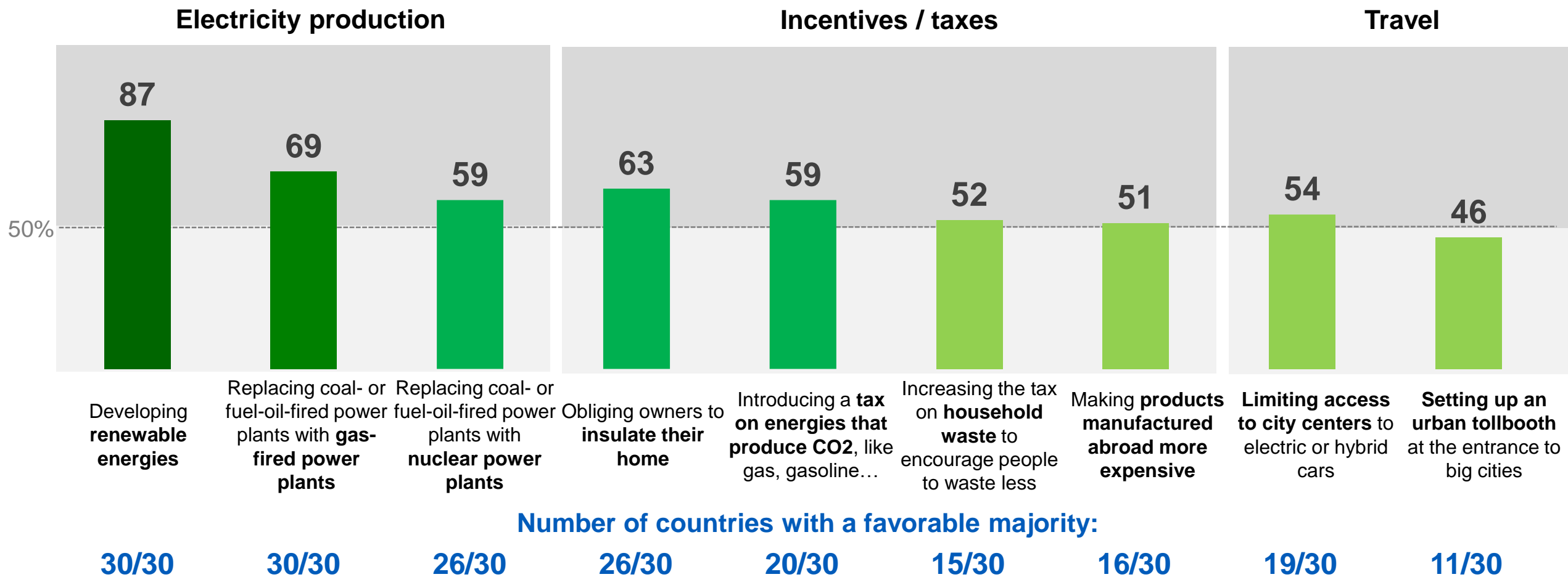




**What measures are acceptable for
fighting climate change? Limited room
for maneuver...**

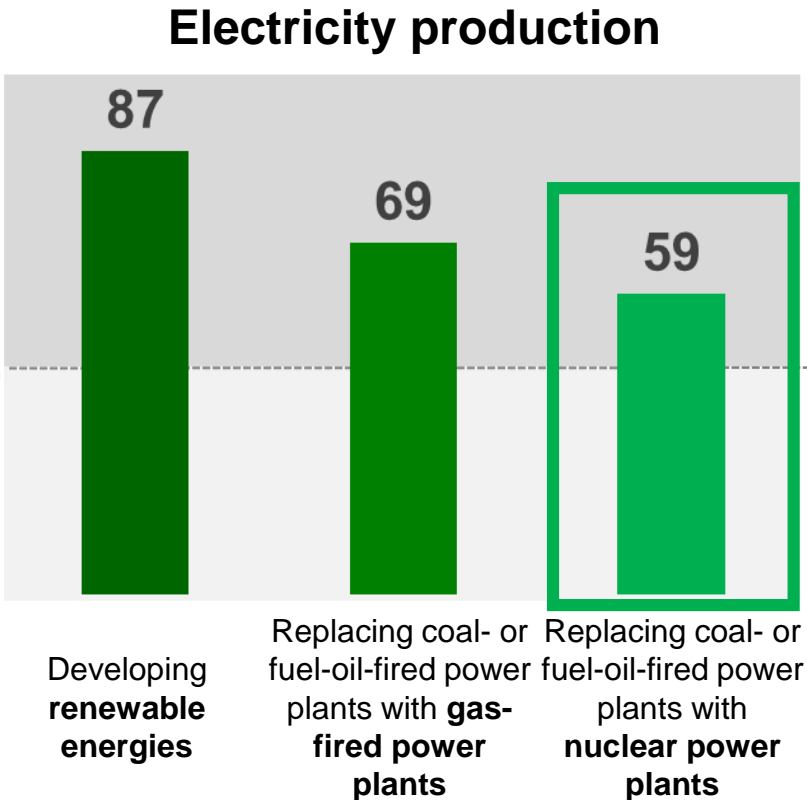
When it comes to actions on a community level, renewable energies, an end to coal and insulating homes are the most consensual measures

EVALUATE EACH ACTION AS ACCEPTABLE FOR REDUCING GREENHOUSE GAS EMISSIONS



A large majority of respondents opt for renewable energies first, followed by the replacement of coal- or fuel-oil-fired power plants. Almost 3 out of 5 people find nuclear power acceptable, but with disparities according to countries.

EVALUATE EACH ACTION AS ACCEPTABLE FOR REDUCING GREENHOUSE GAS EMISSIONS



More favorable:

- India (77%)
- Africa/Middle East (69%)
- China (69%)
- Russia (67%)
- United Kingdom (65%)
- France (55%)

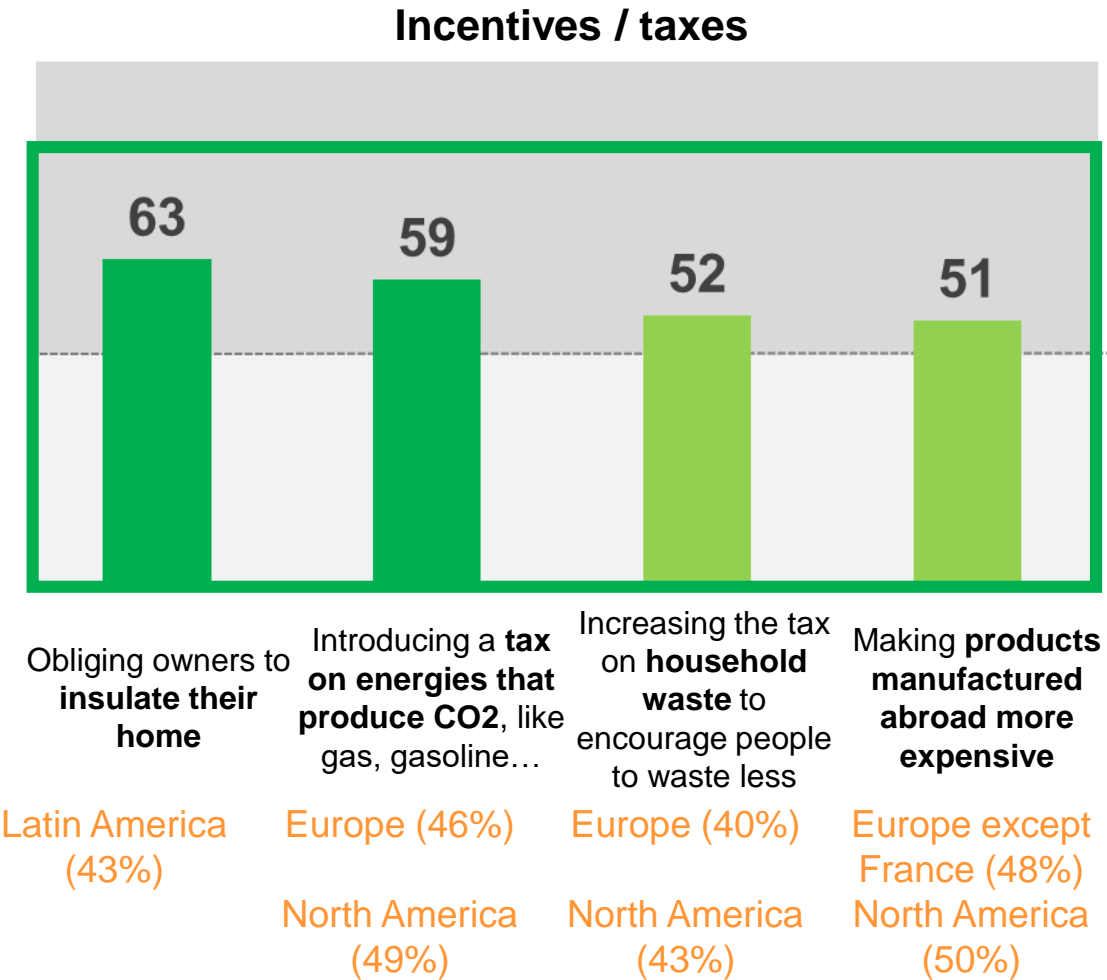


Less favorable:

- Singapore (49%)
- Italy (45%)
- Japan (35%)
- Germany (39%)

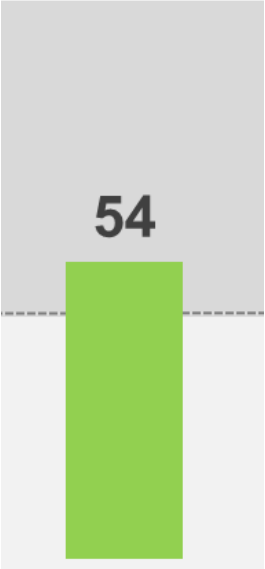
In terms of incentives and taxes, these are less well accepted in Europe and North America

EVALUATE EACH ACTION AS ACCEPTABLE FOR REDUCING GREENHOUSE GAS EMISSIONS

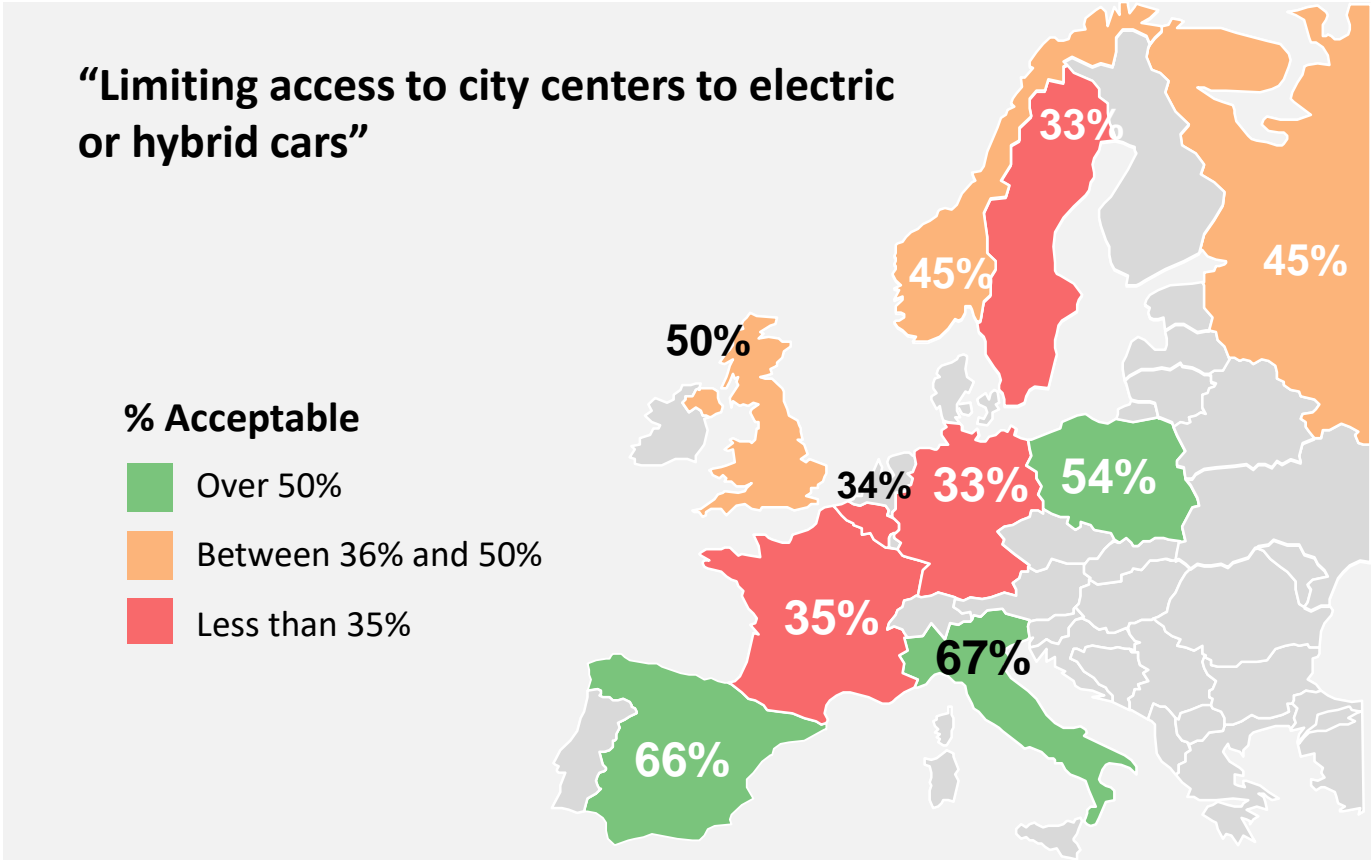


Concerning travel restrictions: a divided Europe

EVALUATE EACH ACTION AS ACCEPTABLE FOR REDUCING GREENHOUSE GAS EMISSIONS



Limiting access to city centers to electric or hybrid cars



Less favorable elsewhere in the world:

- Japan (45%)
- Australia (36%)
- North America (32%)

Contacts



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