

JUST TRANSITION BASELINE REPORT

August 2026

Commissioned by the Just Transition
Commission

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Introduction

A just transition cannot be achieved without understanding the perspectives of the people and communities it is intended to benefit. Since its establishment, the Just Transition Commission has sought to support the embedding of fairness, evidence and meaningful participation across Ireland's climate policymaking. To support that work, the Commission commissioned this baseline research to better understand public awareness, attitudes and expectations of the just transition.

The findings send a clear message. People recognise the need for climate action and want Ireland to succeed in the transition to a climate-neutral future. They also expect that transition to be fair. They want confidence that the costs and benefits will be shared equitably, that decisions will reflect the realities of their lives, and that they will have a meaningful voice in shaping the changes ahead. For policymakers, this research reinforces that fairness is not an optional consideration, it is fundamental to building public trust, maintaining support for climate action, and delivering lasting climate policy. These findings provide an important evidence base for the Commission's advice to Government and establish a benchmark against which progress can be measured in the years ahead.

Ali Sheridan

Chair of the Just Transition Commission

Key findings

- 1. Climate change is widely acknowledged as urgent** – 64% of the public view climate change as an immediate and urgent problem (**Slide 13**), with 77% saying they are at least somewhat worried about it (**Slide 14**).
- 2. Awareness of 'just transition' remains limited** – Only 27% had previously heard the phrase 'just transition', though 59% claimed to understand the concept once it was explained to them (**Slide 20**).
- 3. Most feel poorly informed about the climate transition** – 57% feel they are not well informed about Ireland's climate transition (**Slide 17**), and 56% say access to information on climate action is insufficient (**Slide 34**).
- 4. Trust in Government to manage a just transition is low** – 60% believe the Government is not doing enough to achieve climate neutrality (**Slide 27**), but only 25% trust the Government to manage a just transition (**Slide 25**).
- 5. The majority believe climate actions are unfairly distributed** – 81% feel actions to achieve climate neutrality are unfair to at least some parts of society (**Slide 27**), with those on lower incomes (68%), rural residents (51%) and the farming sector (50%) seen as most affected (**Slide 28**).
- 6. Affordability is the dominant concern** – 42% say keeping energy and living costs affordable is the most important step for climate action to feel fair (**Slide 30**), and cost emerged as the primary obstacle to a just transition in open-ended responses (**Slide 31**).
- 7. Many have already experienced climate impacts** – 40% say they have been personally impacted by climate change, with 70% of these experiencing permanent or mixed (temporary and permanent) effects (**Slide 41**).
- 8. The public expects Government supports for future adaptations** – 78% expect to make changes because of climate change (**Slide 52**) and 52% of these think they will need help from Government supports (advice, grants) to make these changes (**Slide 54**). However, only 32% of those currently aware of supports consider them sufficient (**Slide 36**).

Conclusion

Public awareness of climate change is high, but understanding of a just transition is not

While most Irish adults recognise the urgency of climate change, familiarity with the concept of a 'just transition' remains low. Building public understanding of what a just transition means in practice will be essential to securing buy-in for the changes ahead.

Information and support gaps must be closed

The majority feel poorly informed about the climate transition and consider current access to information and Government supports insufficient. Clearer, more accessible communications and streamlined support mechanisms are needed to enable meaningful public participation.

There is a significant trust deficit to address

Only 1 in 4 trust the Government to manage a just transition, and the majority believe current climate actions are unfairly distributed across society. Rebuilding public confidence will require demonstrable progress on fairness, particularly for those on lower incomes, rural communities, and the farming sector.

Monitor public attitudes to assess progress

These findings establish a clear benchmark against which future attitudes, awareness, and perceptions can be tracked. Regular follow-up research will be critical to monitoring whether public confidence and understanding improve as Ireland progresses towards climate neutrality.

Affordability is the central concern

Cost emerged consistently as the dominant barrier to both acceptance of and participation in climate action. Policies that fail to address affordability risk deepening public resistance and widening inequalities.

Contents

1 Public understanding
and expected impact
of climate change

2 Familiarity and
perceptions of the just
transition

3 Progress toward a
just transition to
climate neutrality

4 Information about the
just transition

5 Current and expected
personal impacts,
adaptations and
information needs

6 Conclusion and
recommendations



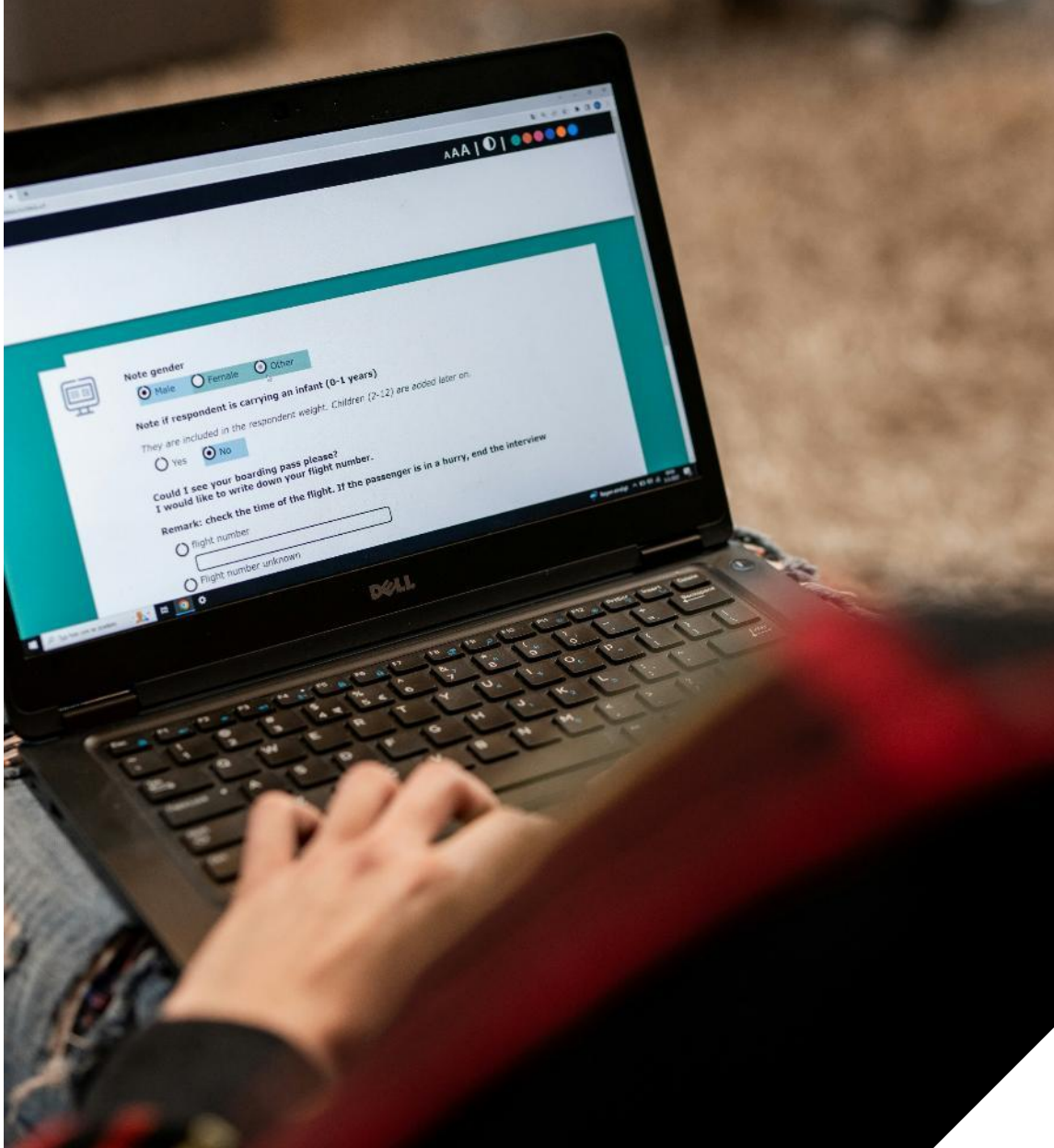
Introduction and objectives

The Just Transition Commission has been established to ensure that Ireland's transition to a climate-neutral economy occurs in a manner that is fair, equitable, and inclusive for all citizens. Central to this mission is understanding how the Irish public perceives and experiences this transition.

This Baseline Awareness Survey represents a foundational piece of research designed to capture a comprehensive snapshot of public understanding, attitudes, and perceptions relating to Ireland's just transition.

The primary objectives of this baseline survey were to:

1. Assess public understanding of climate change, including perceived urgency, personal concern, and expected impacts on people and places.
2. Measure awareness and understanding of Ireland's climate transition objectives and the concept of a 'just transition'.
3. Evaluate perceptions of fairness and trust in Government actions to achieve climate neutrality, including which groups are seen as most impacted.
4. Explore current and anticipated personal impacts of climate change, and the adaptations people have made or expect to make.
5. Identify information and support needs to enable public participation in the transition to climate neutrality.



Methodology

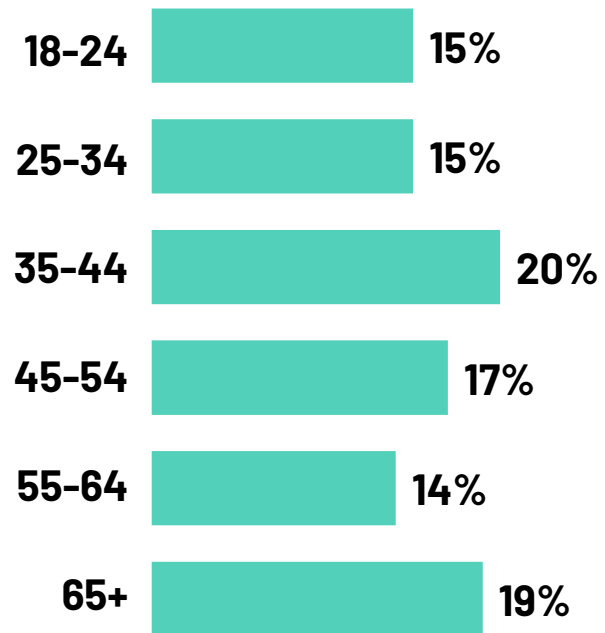
This study employed a quantitative online survey methodology designed to capture nationally representative insights into public awareness and perceptions of Ireland's just transition.

- A total of 1,046 respondents participated in the survey.
- Respondents were recruited using Ipsos B&A's online Acumen Panel (74%) and Cint panel (26%).
- Data collection was conducted via an online self-completion survey (CAWI) with a duration of 15–20 minutes.
- Fieldwork took place between the 11th and 24th of March 2026.
- Data were weighted to ensure the final sample was representative of the national population according to the most recent CSO data by key demographic variables including age x gender, education, region, and occupation.

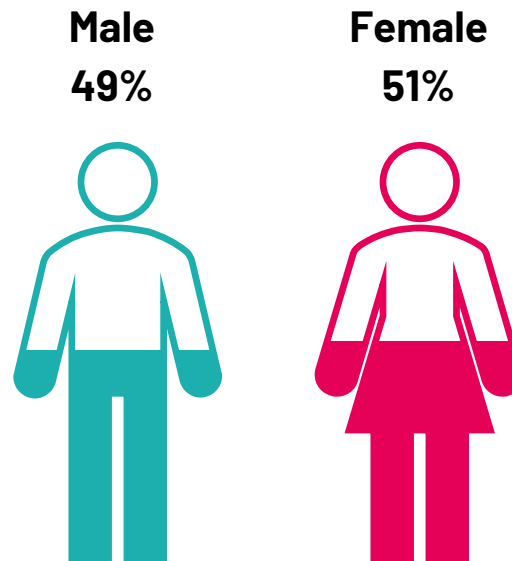
All fieldwork was conducted in accordance with ESOMAR and AIMRO guidelines, with Ipsos B&A holding ISO 9001 (Quality Management) and ISO 27001 (Information Security Management) certifications, ensuring robust data quality and security standards throughout the research process.

Sample Profile

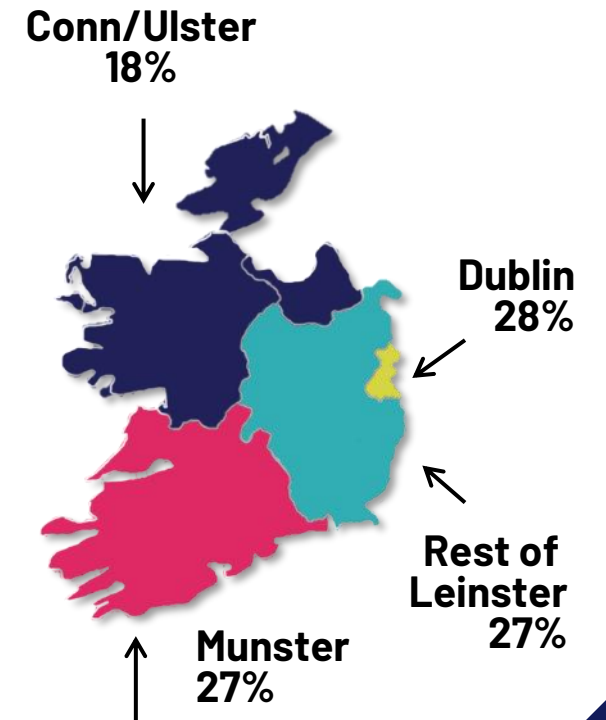
Age



Gender

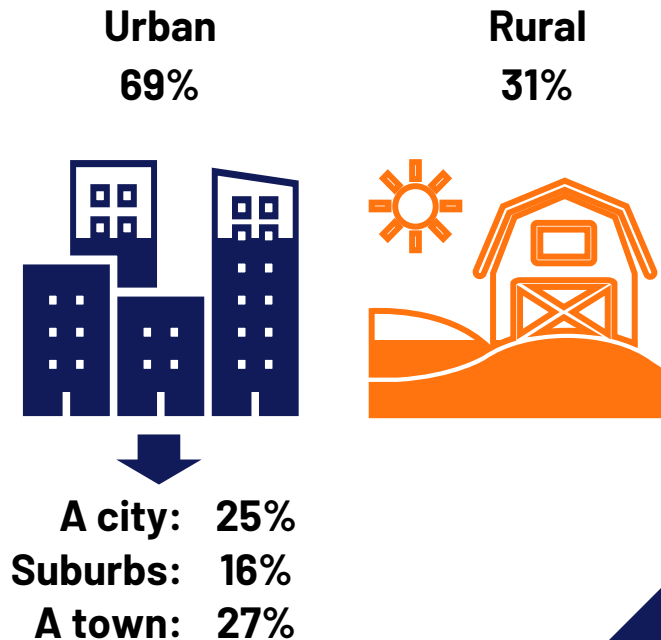


Region



Sample Profile

Area



Income



Education

Highest level completed...



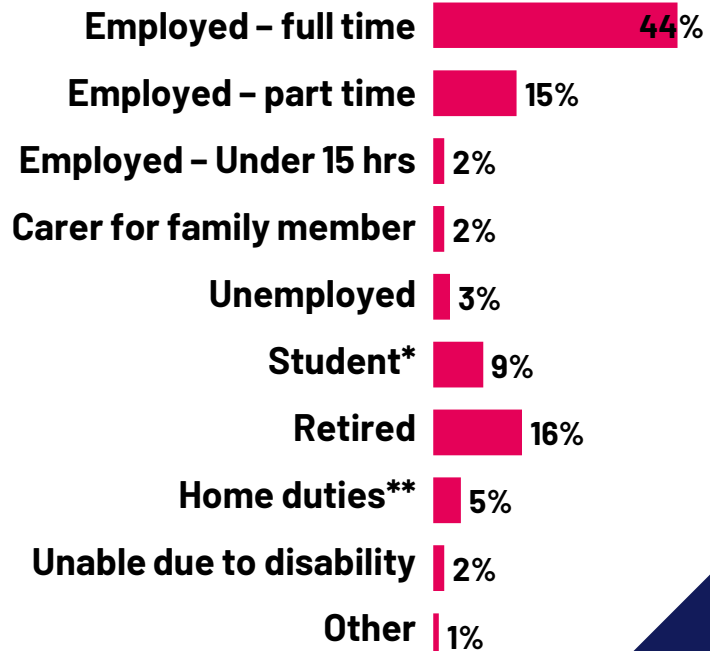
Primary: 17%
Secondary: 31%
Non-degree: 13%
Degree or higher: 38%

Sample Profile

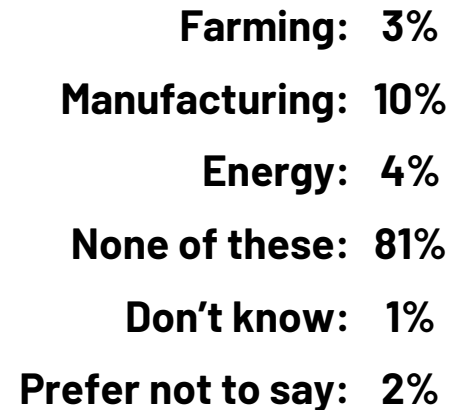
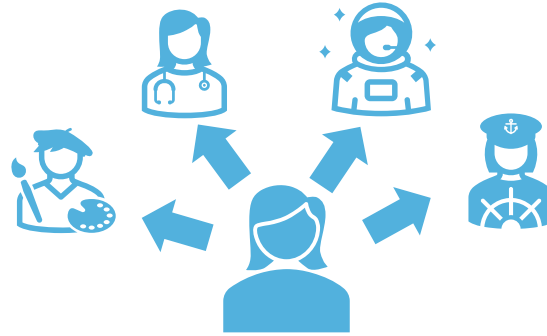
Employment status



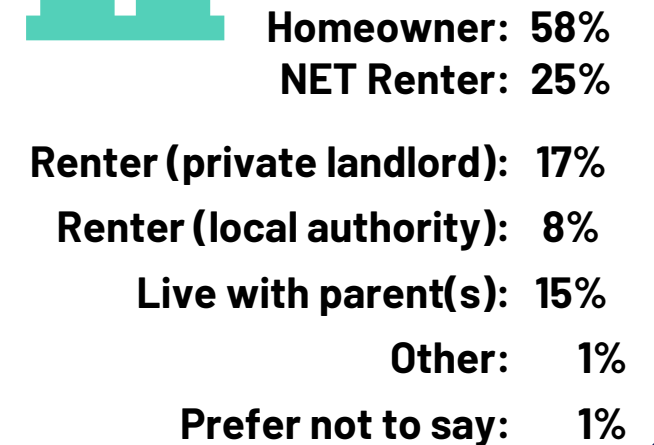
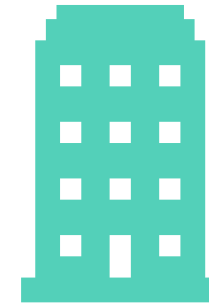
NET Employed: 67%



Employment sector



Living situation



*Student, in school, in vocational training

**Housewife/husband, homemaker, home duties

Base: All Respondents(Weighted): 1,046

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Sample Profile

Disability



NET Yes: 19%

Yes - physical disability/ condition: 13%

**Yes - emotional or psychological condition/
mental health issue: 7%**

**Yes - intellectual disability or difficulty
with learning: 2%**

No: 77%

Prefer not to say: 4%

Irish citizenship and ethnicity

Are you an Irish citizen?



Ethnic group/background

White: 95%

Black: 2%

Asian: 2%

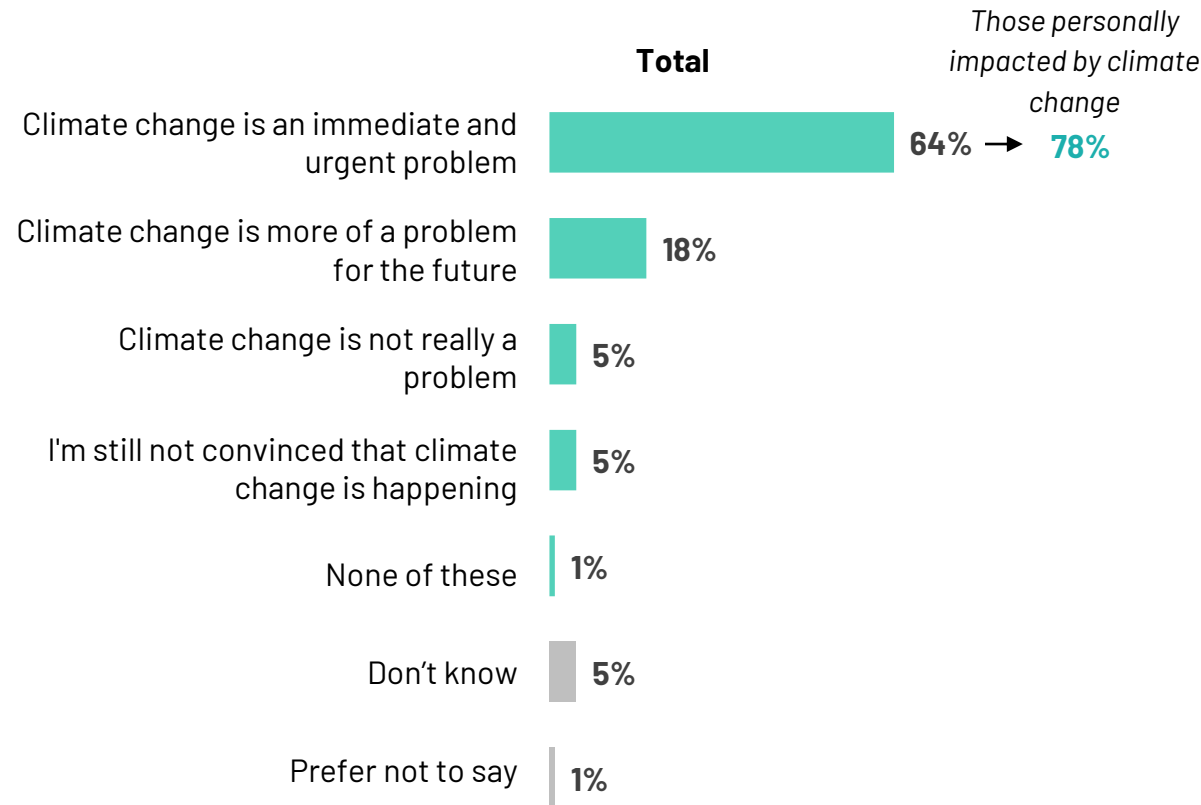
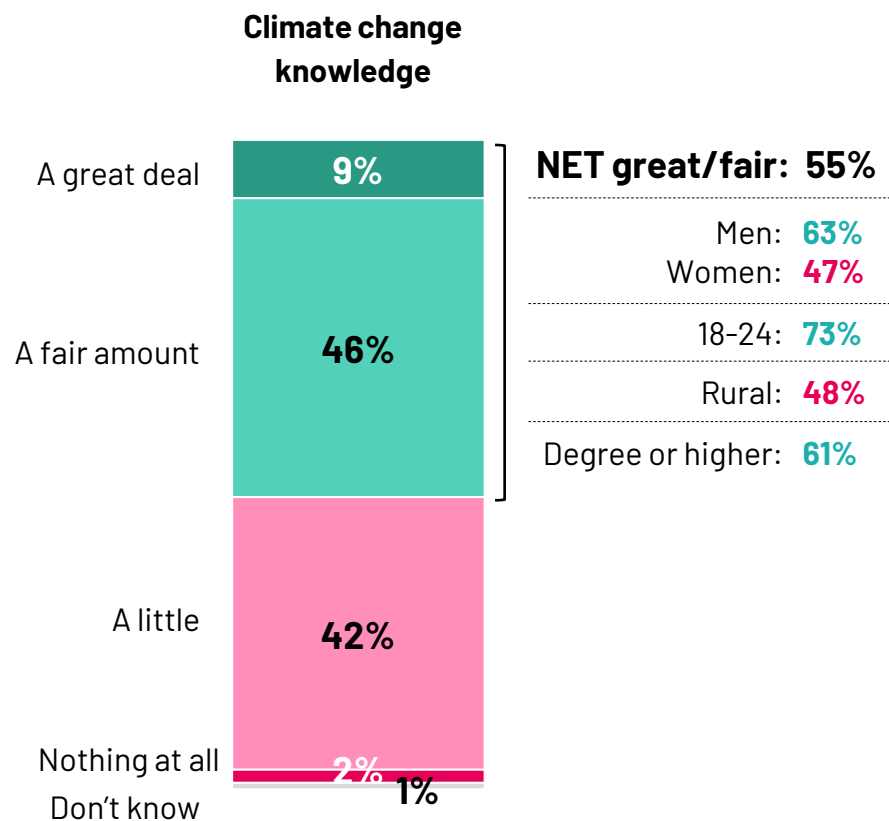
Other, including mixed: 1%

Prefer not to say: 1%

PUBLIC UNDERSTANDING AND EXPECTED IMPACTS OF CLIMATE CHANGE

Perceived knowledge and urgency of climate change

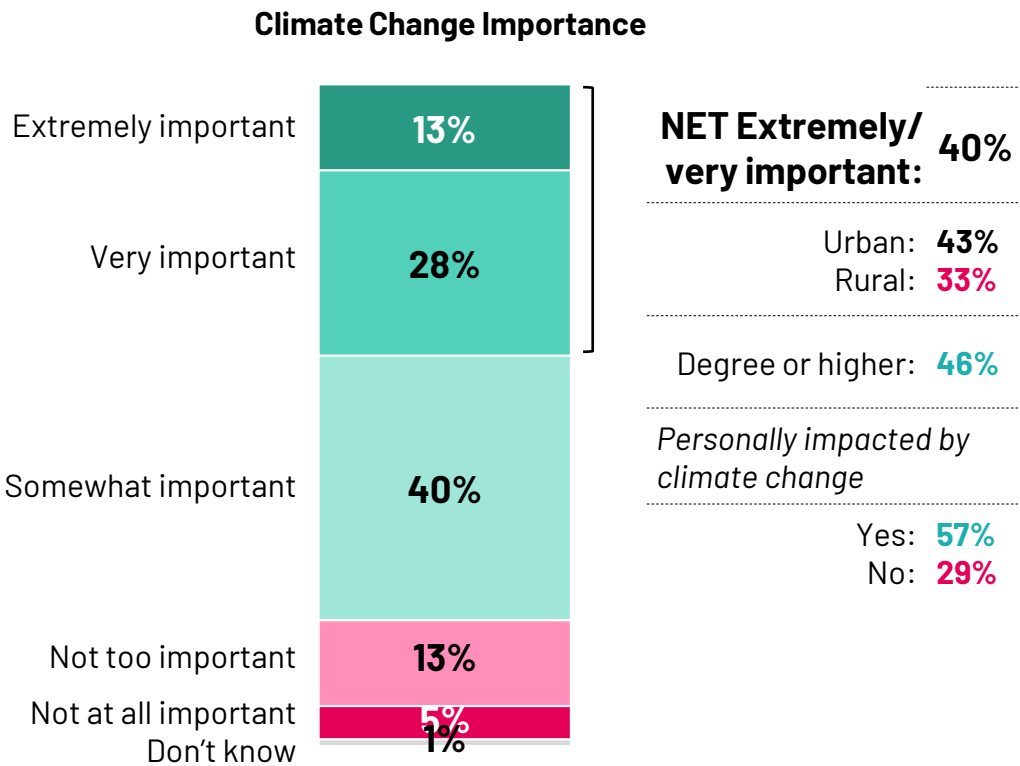
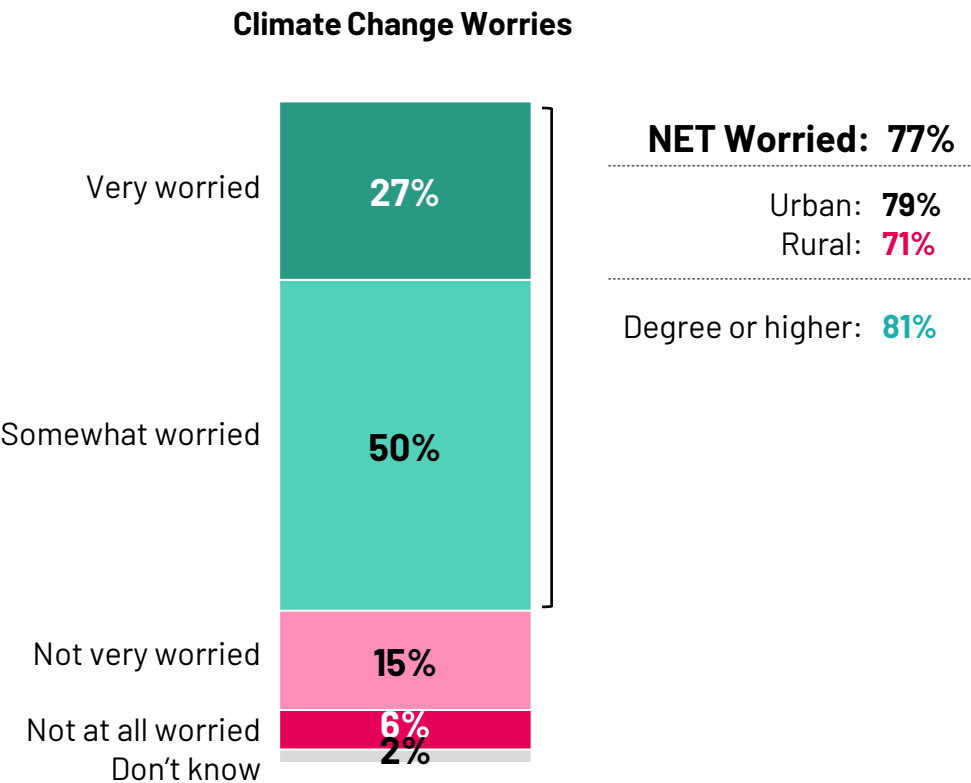
55% claim to have at least a fair amount of knowledge about climate change, while 42% say they know only a little. Men (63%), young adults (18-24: 73%) and those with a degree or higher (61%) are more confident in their knowledge, whereas women and rural residents are less so. 64% say climate change is an immediate and urgent problem, especially those personally impacted.



Q.1 Overall, how much would you say you know about the topic of climate change?
Q.2 Which of these statements, if any, comes closest to your own view?
Base: All Respondents N - 1046

Worry and personal importance of climate change

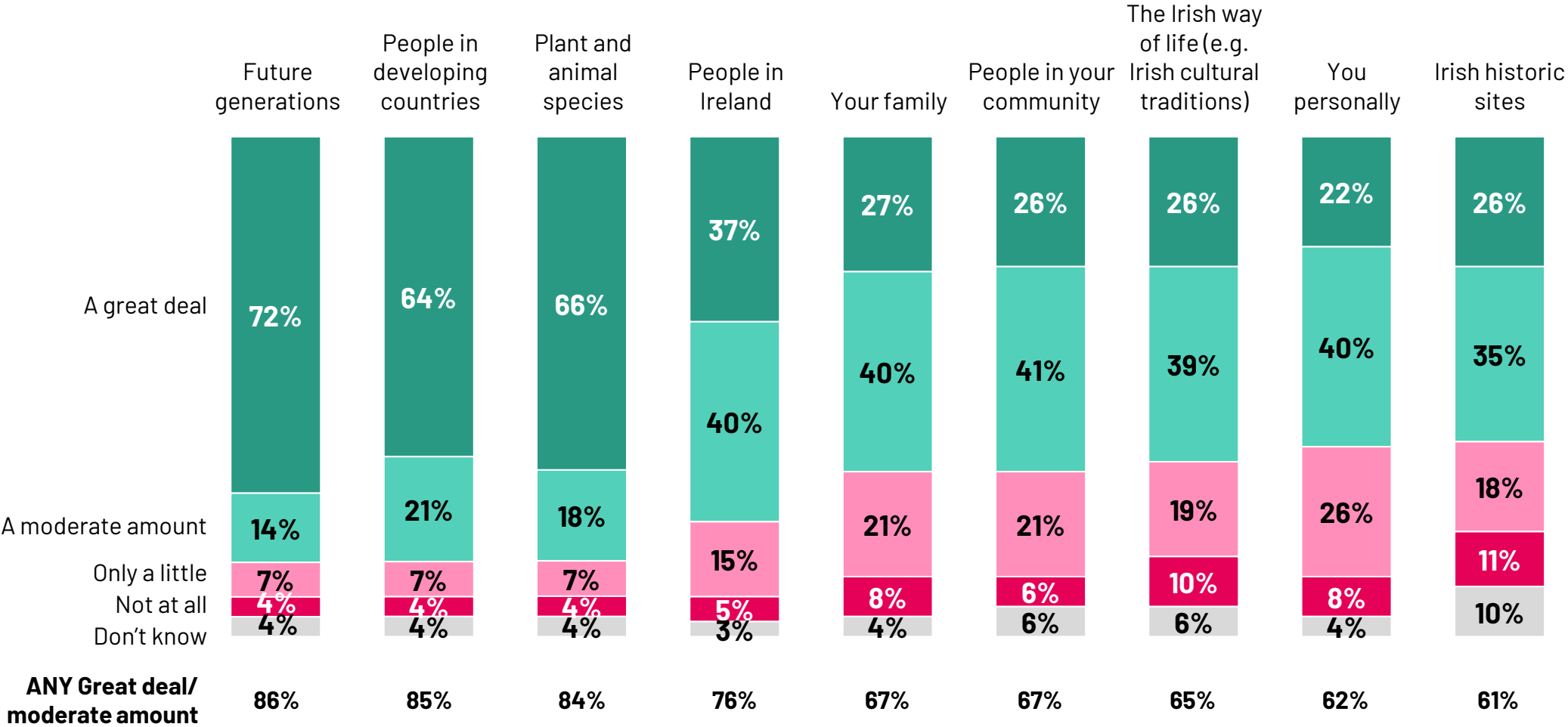
77% are at least somewhat worried about climate change. Those with a degree or higher (81%) are more worried, whereas rural residents (71%) are less worried. 40% say climate change is an extremely or very important issue. More educated respondents and those who have been personally impacted by climate change think it's a more important issue.



Q.3 How worried are you about climate change, if at all?
Q.4 How important is the issue of climate change to you personally?
Base: All Respondents N - 1046

Expected climate impacts across people, places and ways of life

People think climate change will have the greatest impact (great deal/moderate) on future generations (86%), developing countries (85%) and plant/animal species (84%). 67% believe their family will be impacted and 62% think they will be personally.



Q.5 How much do you think climate change will impact

Base: All Respondents N - 1046

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FAMILIARITY AND PERCEPTIONS OF THE CLIMATE TRANSITION



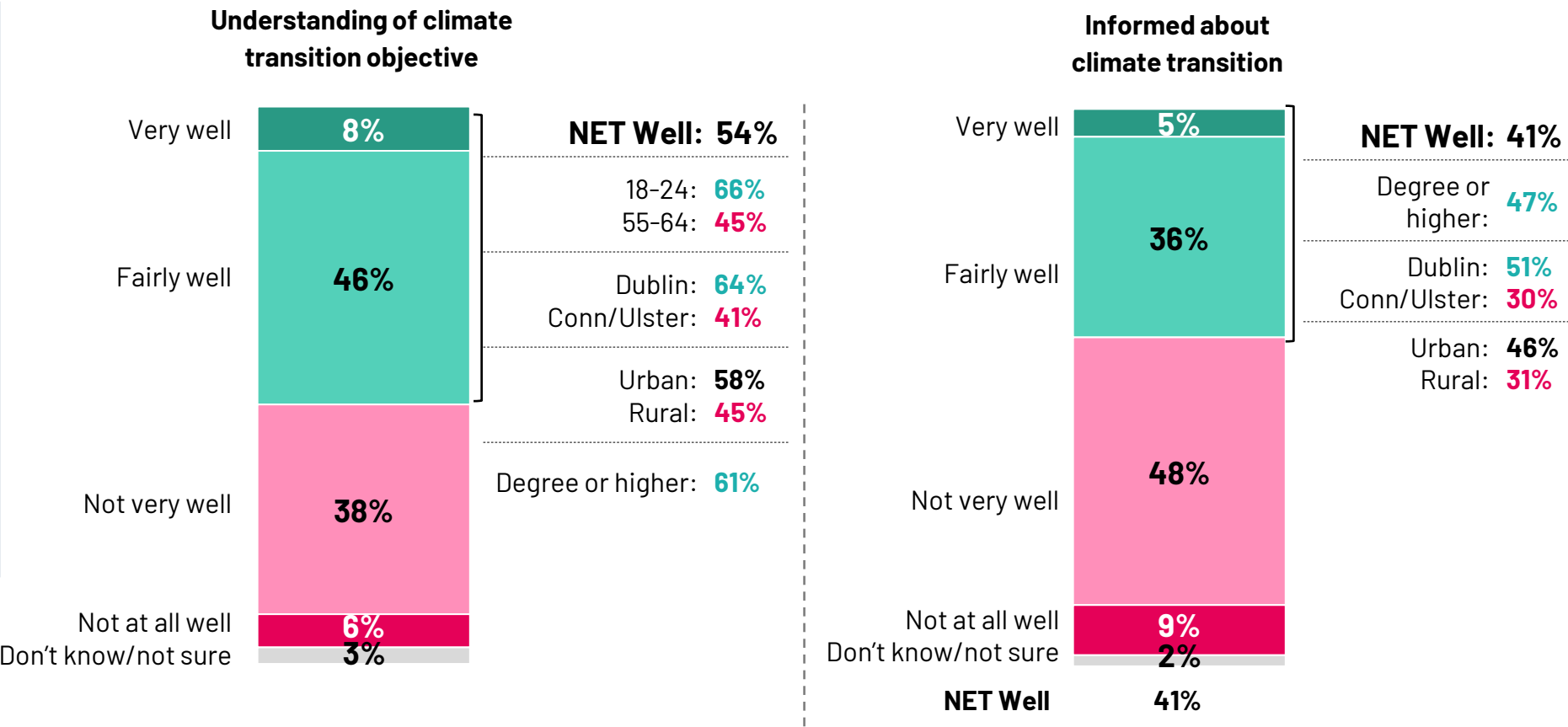
How informed people feel about the climate transition

54% feel they understand Ireland’s climate transition objective very or fairly well, while 42% feel they do not understand it. Younger adults (18-24: 66%), people from Dublin and those with a degree or higher are more likely to say they understand it well. 41% feel well informed about the climate transition, rising to 47% for degree or higher holders and 51% for Dublin residents.

Respondents were provided with the following description

As set out in law, the National Climate Objective is to “pursue and achieve, by no later than the end of the year 2050, the transition to a climate resilient, biodiversity rich, environmentally sustainable and climate neutral economy.”

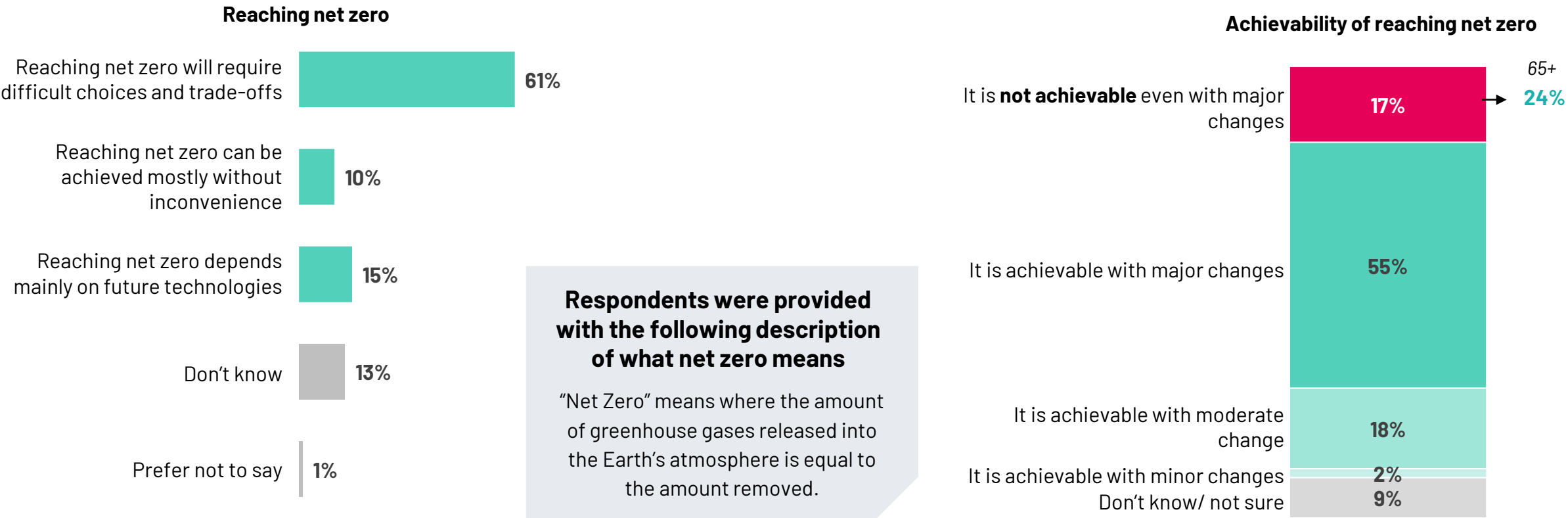
This will require a 51% reduction in emissions and to achieve it will involve a comprehensive transition across all sectors of society including energy generation, transportation, buildings and land use.



Q.6 How well would you say you feel you understand this climate transition objective?
Q.7 How well informed do you feel about the climate transition in Ireland?
Base: All Respondents N - 1046

Perceived expectations and achievability of reaching net zero emissions

61% believe reaching net zero will require difficult choices and trade-offs, 15% think it depends mainly on future technologies, and 10% say it can be achieved mostly without inconvenience. 73% believe achieving net zero emissions is achievable with major or moderate changes. However, 17% believe net zero cannot be achieved, rising to 24% among adults aged 65+.

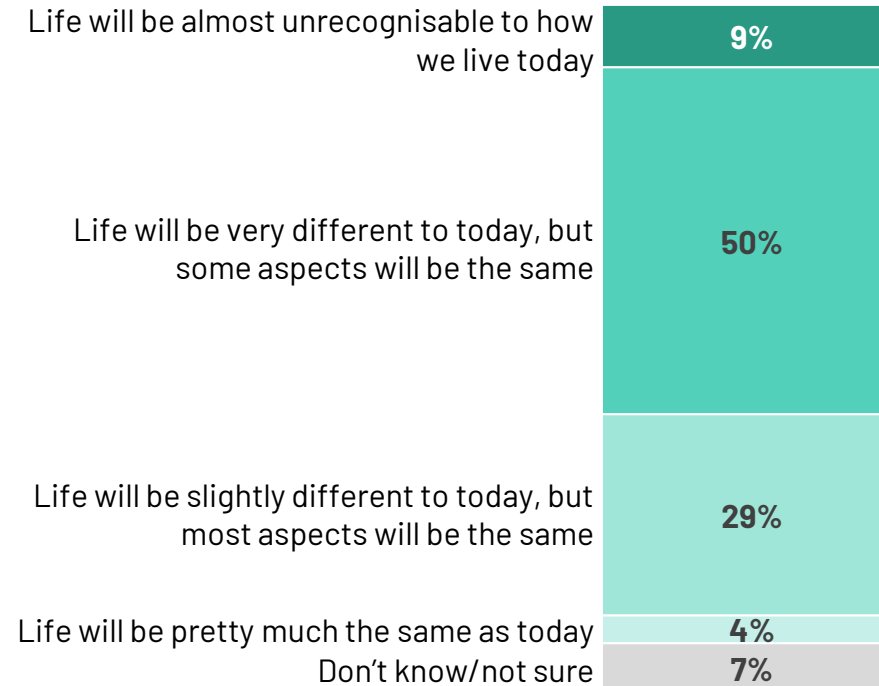


Q.8 Which of these statements comes closest to your view?
Q.9 To reach net zero emissions, how much change do you think will be needed in Ireland overall?
Base: All Respondents N - 1046

How different life will be by 2050 due to steps to achieve net zero

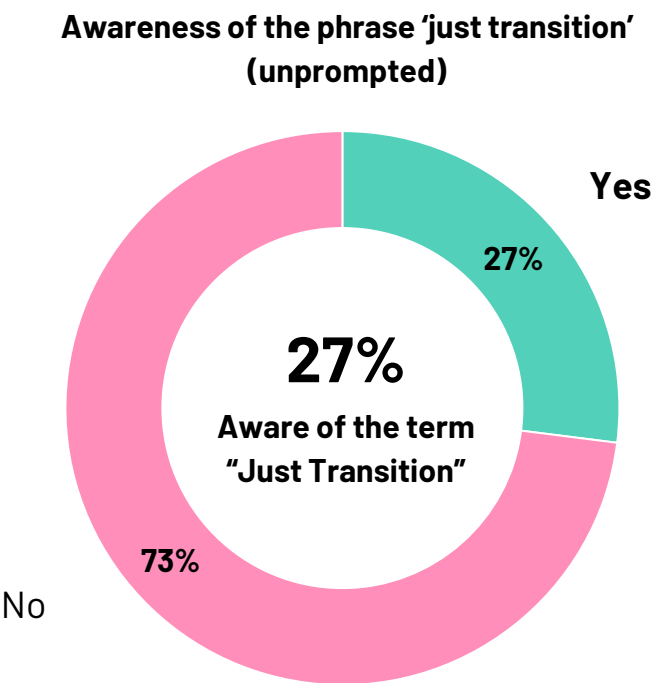
Half (50%) expect life to be very different, but some aspects will remain the same due to the steps to achieve net zero; 29% expect it to be slightly different and 9% think it will be almost unrecognisable

Expectations from steps to achieve net zero



Awareness and understanding of the phrase ‘just transition’

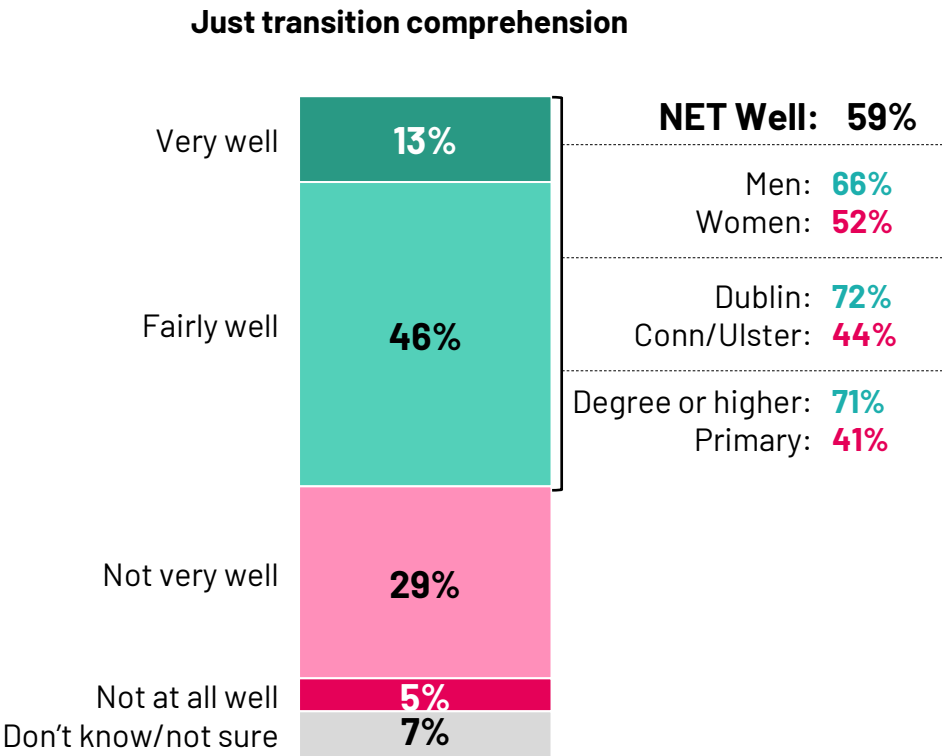
Just over 1 in 4 (27%) said they had heard the phrase ‘just transition.’ When provided with a description, 59% said they understood what is meant by it fairly or very well. Awareness and comprehension when provided with a description was higher among men, those with a degree or higher and Dublin residents.



Men:	35%
Women:	20%
Degree or higher:	36%
Non-degree:	18%
Secondary:	20%
Dublin:	36%
Conn/Ulster:	16%

Respondents were then provided with following description of what the Just Transition means

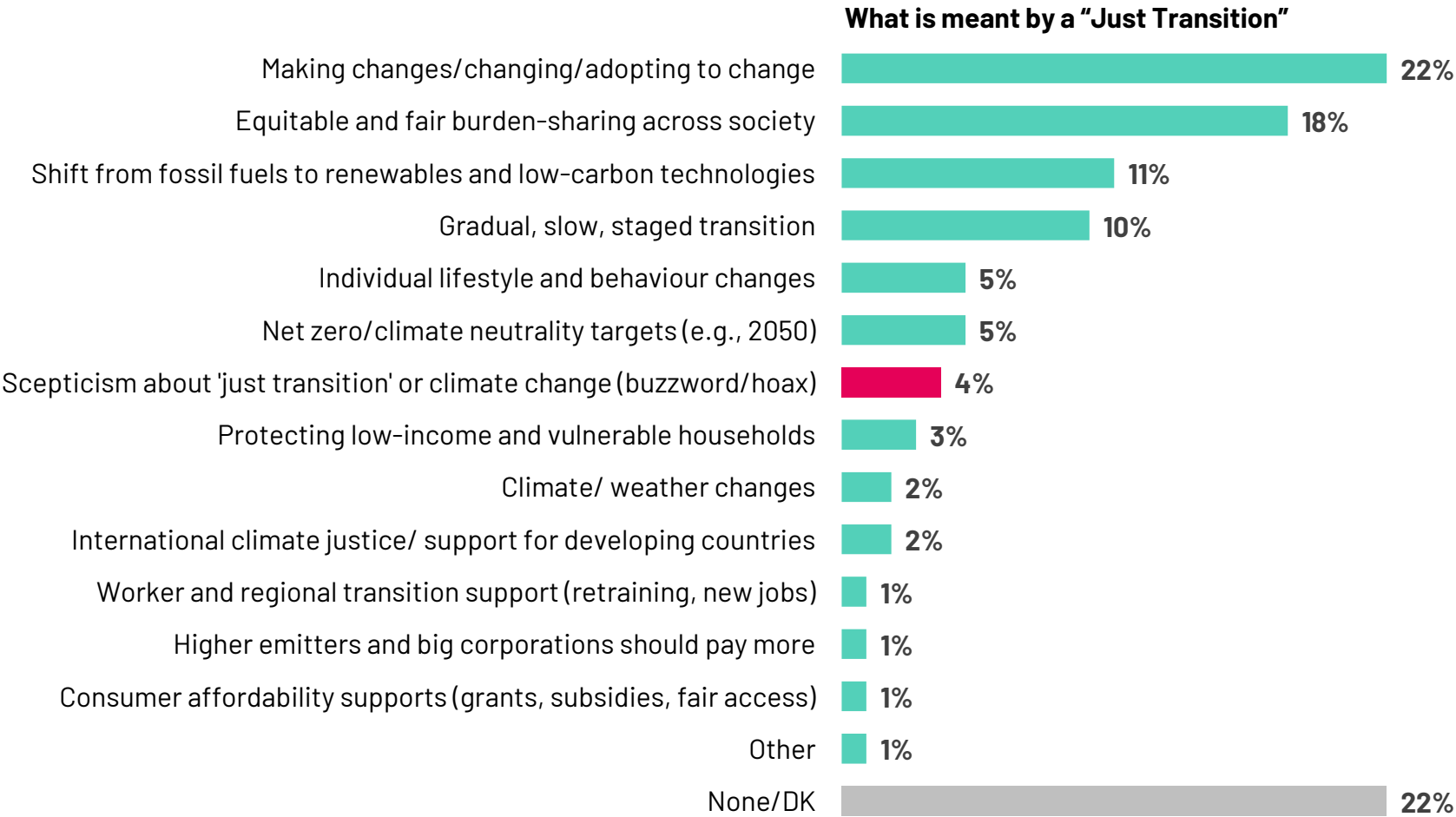
A just transition might be described as a shift to a low-carbon economy in a fair and inclusive way, which supports workers, communities, and vulnerable groups to ensure that no one is left behind.



Q.11 Before today, had you previously heard the phrase “just transition” in terms of climate change?
Q.13 Based on this, how well would you say you feel you understand what is meant by a just transition?
Base: All Respondents N - 1046
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What people think ‘just transition’ means (open-ended)

The most common way of describing a ‘just transition’ was as a form of change that was equitably and fairly shared across society. Some described it as a gradual or slow transition to limit the impact on daily life. While minor overall, some are sceptical towards climate change or see a ‘just transition’ as another buzzword.



Q.12 In your own words, can you describe what you think is meant by a “just transition” in the context of climate change?
Base: All Respondents N - 1046

What people think 'just transition' means (Verbatims)

The change **should not impact people differently** in terms of those who are wealthy to those who are less well off in our society.

A transition that **does not place undue burden on any one section of society**/does not leave anyone behind and is conducted in an inclusive manner.

To make the changes and transitions necessary but with as **minimal impact on daily life** as possible.

A **shift to a low-carbon economy, maximising employment and supporting communities negatively affected** by decarbonisation.

That it will be fair on the weakest and poorest in Irish society and not overly impact those who can least afford to pay for the transition.

It means **people will just change their habits** and start thinking more sustainably.

Honestly, I think its all just made up about climate change, **just transition is just a made-up word by the ones who runs the show.**

Q.12 In your own words, can you describe what you think is meant by a "just transition" in the context of climate change?

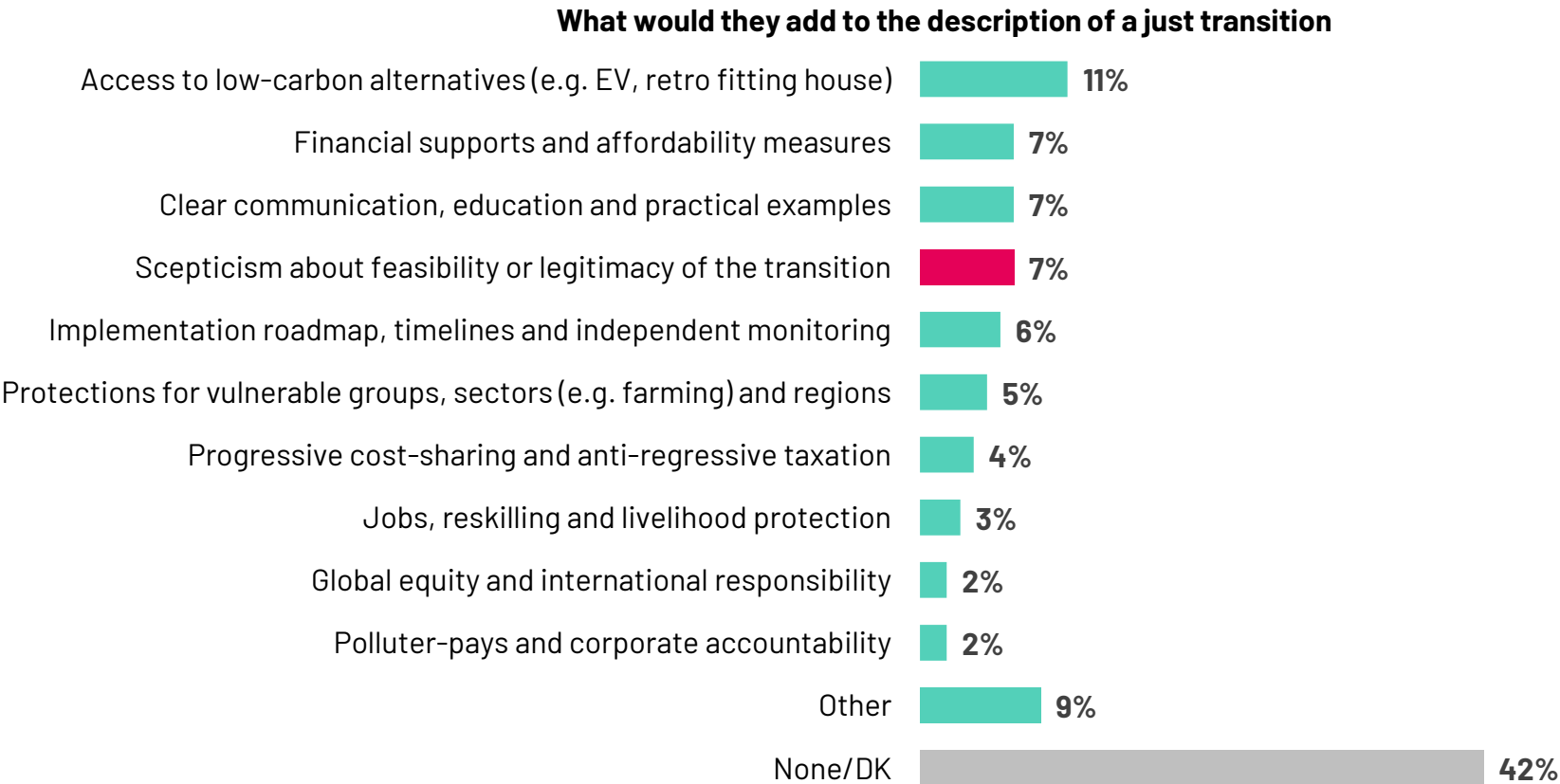
Base: All Respondents N - 1046

What a fair ‘just transition’ should also include (open-ended)

Around 2 in 5 respondents did not know or had nothing to add to the description. Of those that provided a response, most mentioned actions they would like to see rather than additions, such as improving access to low carbon alternatives or grants and protecting vulnerable groups/ regions. A small few expressed scepticism about the feasibility or legitimacy of the transition.

Respondents were provided with following description of what the Just Transition means

A just transition might be described as a shift to a low-carbon economy in a fair and inclusive way, which supports workers, communities, and vulnerable groups to ensure that no one is left behind.



Q.14 What else, if anything, would you add to the description of a just transition that is relevant to you that would ensure that our transition to climate neutrality is fair
Base: All Respondents N - 1046

What a fair 'just transition' should also include (Verbatims)

Not giving money via grants to those who already have lots, e.g. if someone can afford an electric car they are already well off. Instead give it to those who cannot afford house improvements, e.g. cash, not grants afterwards, for insulation.
No more regressive taxes like the carbon tax, fuel levies, and concrete tax. Adding in something about energy independence.

By **involving more of the affected communities, trade unions, and workers in decision-making** to create local solutions.

We need to have more green energy, **it is not a fair transition when green energy is being blocked by the few** when the mass want it

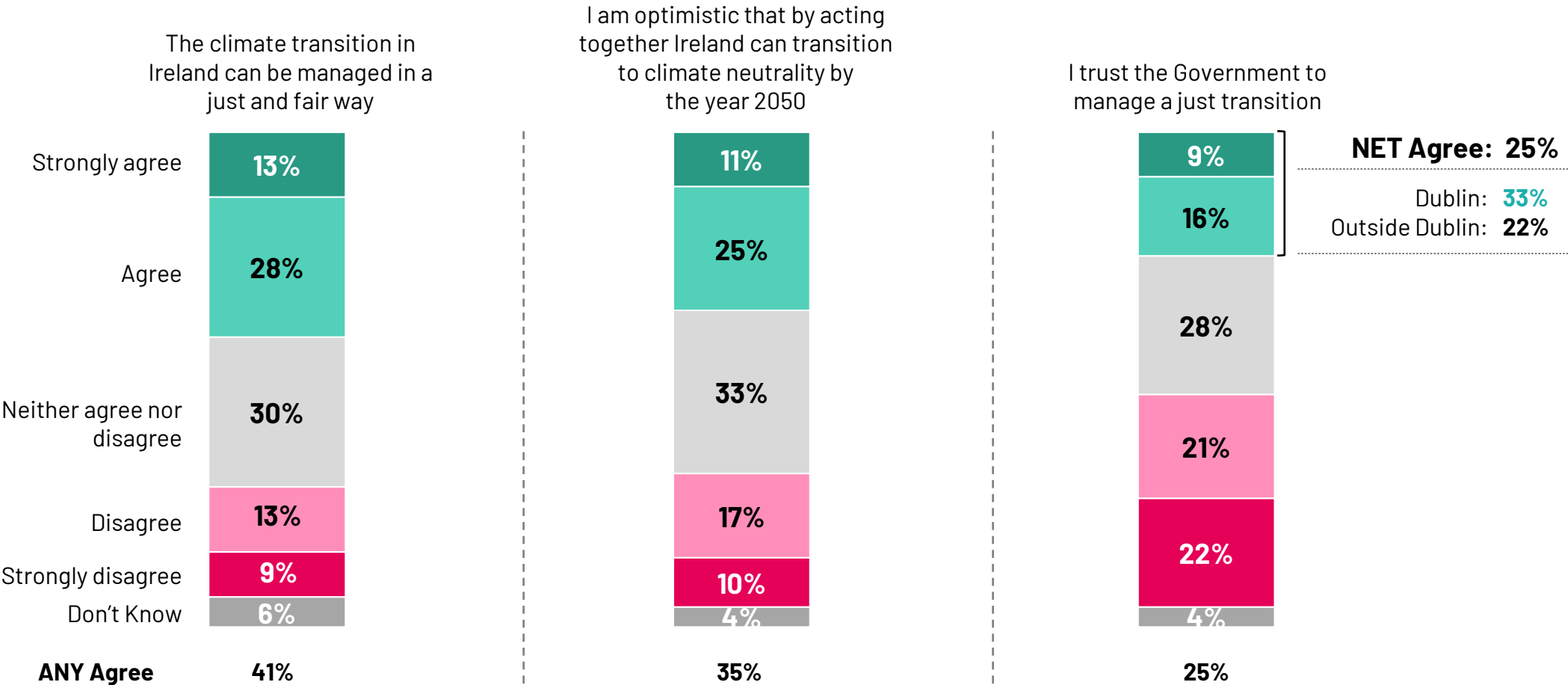
Their would **need to be government support to help with the transition**, example with moving to more sustainable heating, vehicles etc

Regulations or additional **penalties regarding travel/commuting should not be applied uniformly to people in rural areas as they are applied to city areas.** Many people do not have the option of using any public transport to get to work etc. despite travelling far distances, as there are insufficient buses & trains to rely on in their area

It can't be done in a fair and inclusive way, the rich and politicians from all over Europe get to fly around as much as they like and offset their carbon footprint with taxpayers money, it costs them nothing and they are not affected, **Just transition is another scam**, Lower income people will be told we're all in it together but we aren't

Confidence in a fair transition and trust in government

41% agree the climate transition can be managed in a just and fair way and 35% are optimistic Ireland can reach climate neutrality by 2050. However, only 25% trust the government to manage a just transition, rising to 33% among Dublin residents.

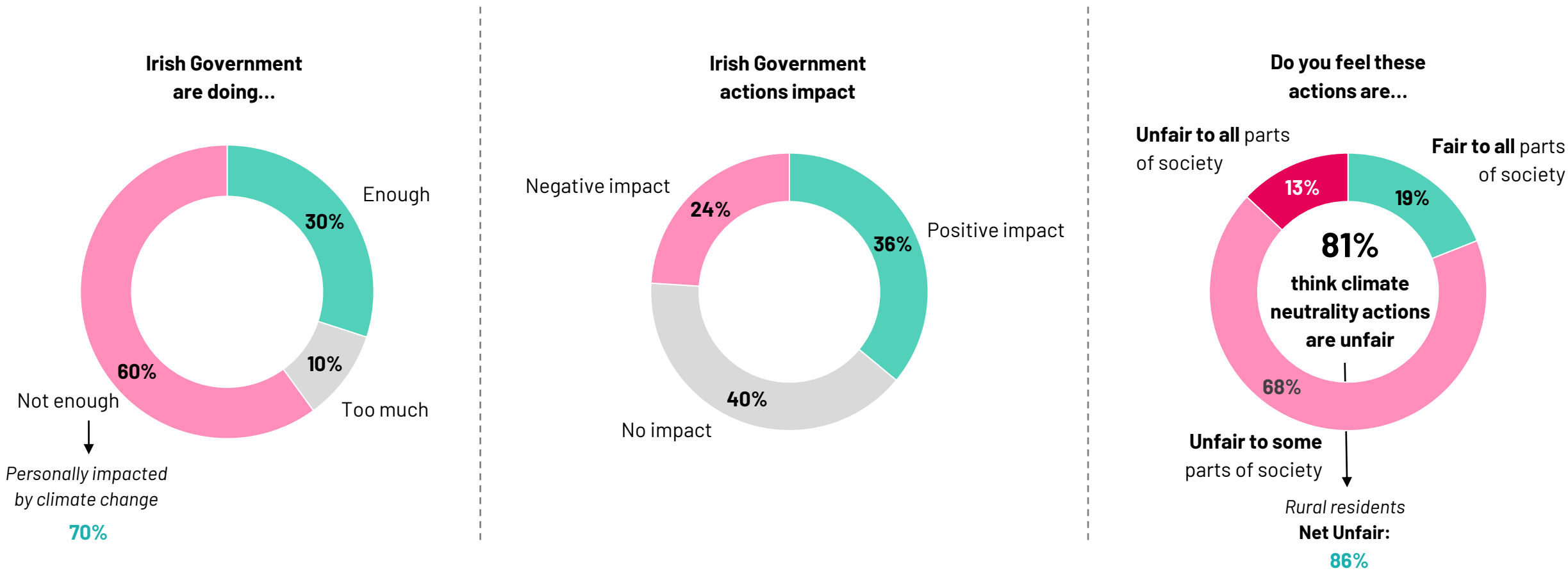


Q.15 To what extent do you agree or disagree with each of the following statements:
Base: All Respondents N - 1046
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PROGRESS TOWARD A JUST TRANSITION TO CLIMATE NEUTRALITY

Views on government action, impact and fairness

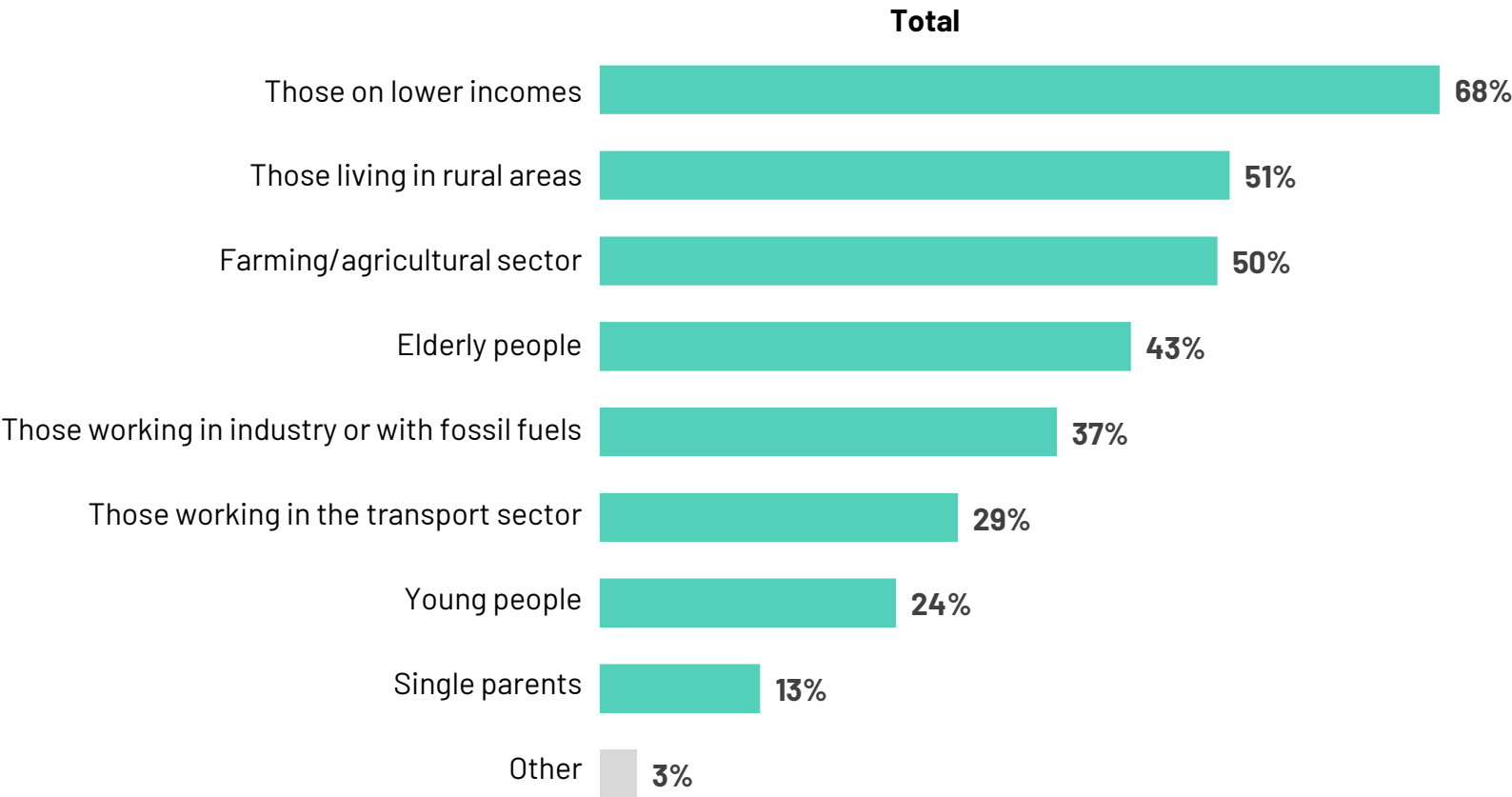
60% think the Irish government is not doing enough to achieve climate neutrality. While 36% think Government actions are having a positive impact, 24% believe they are having a negative impact and 40% think they are having no impact. Moreover, 81% think actions to achieve climate neutrality are unfairly shared (68% unfair to some, 13% to all), with just 19% believing they are fair to all.



Q.16 Do you think the Irish Government is doing enough, not enough or too much to achieve climate neutrality?
Q.17 What impact do you think the Government's actions to achieve climate neutrality are having?
Q.18 Do you think the actions to achieve climate neutrality are fairly or unfairly shared across society?
Base: All Respondents N - 1046

Parts of society climate actions unfairly impact

Almost 7 in 10 (68%) think those on lower incomes will be unfairly impacted by climate actions, followed by rural residents (51%), the farming sector (50%) and elderly people (43%).

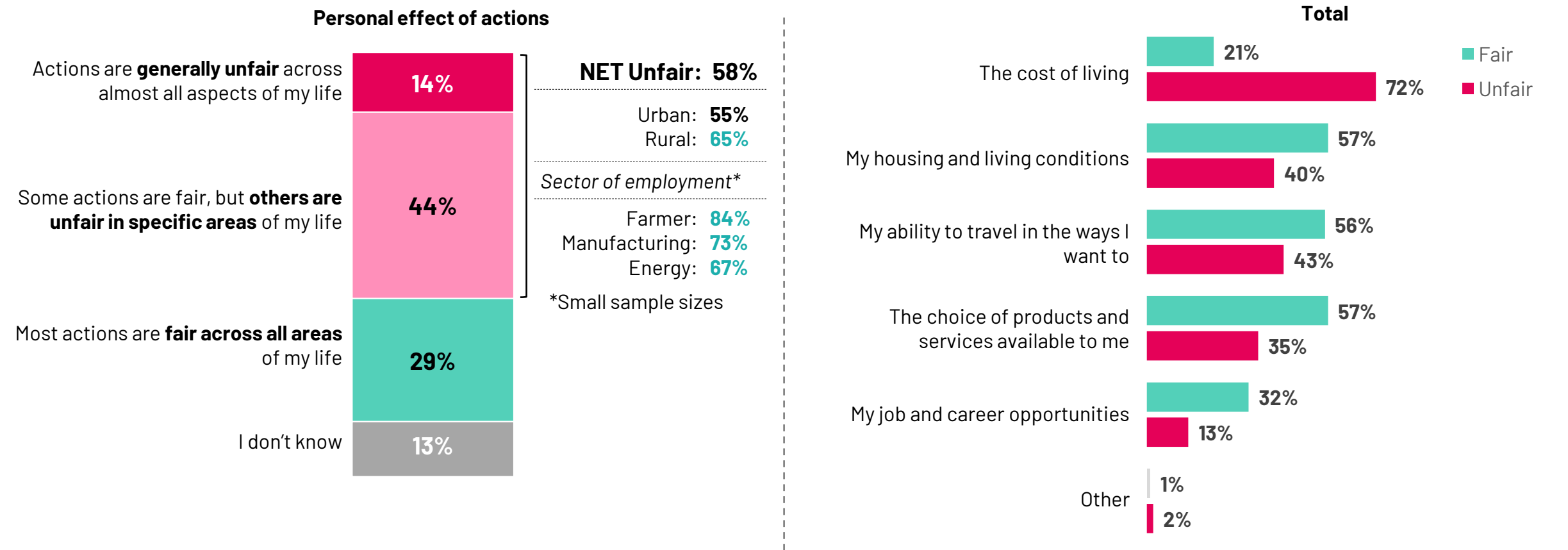


Q.19 Which parts of society do you feel climate actions are generally unfair towards?

Base: Any who feel actions are unfair N - 848

Personal fairness of current climate actions

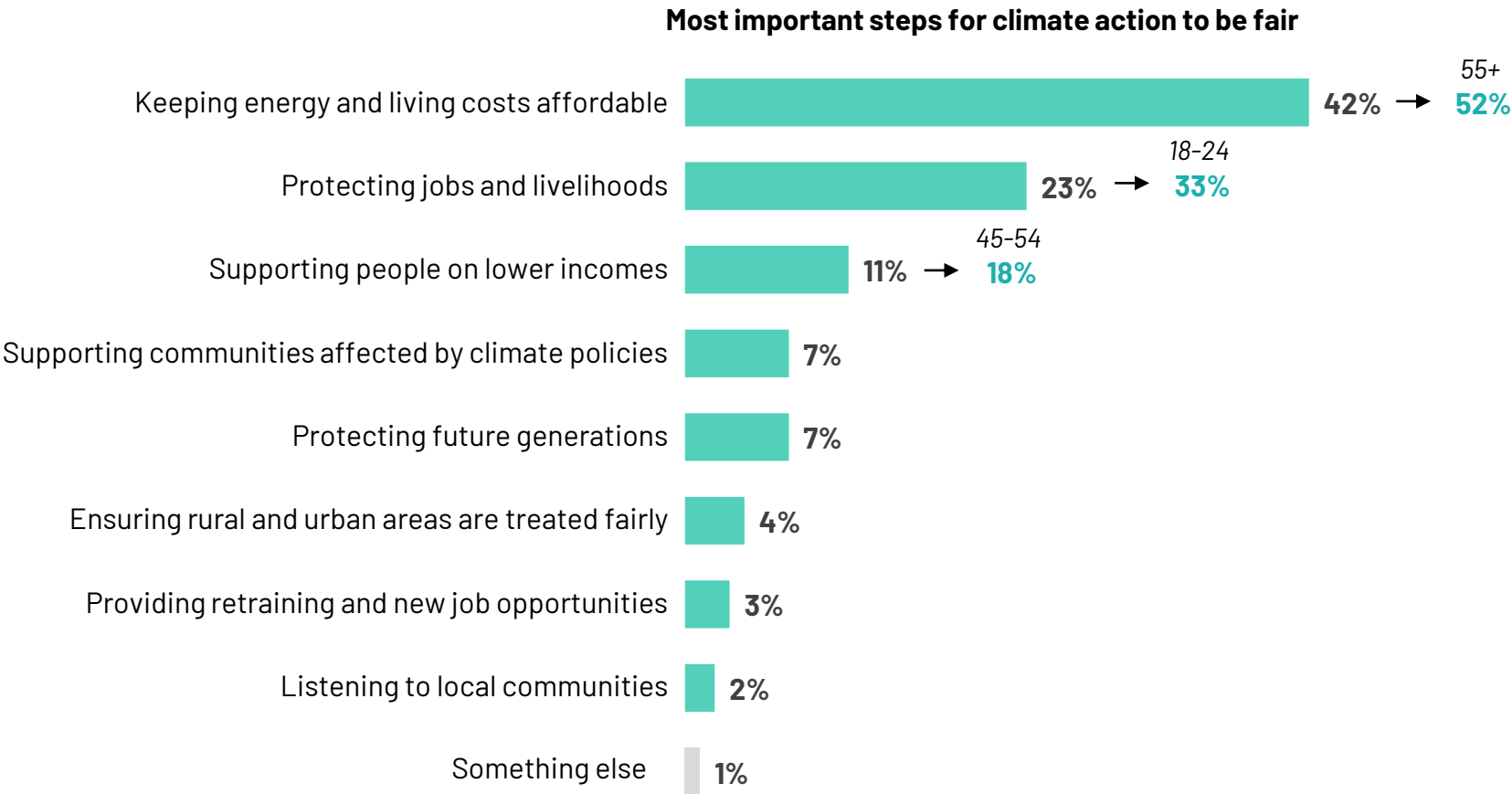
58% feel actions are unfair in at least some areas of their life, rising among those living in rural areas and working in sectors like farming, manufacturing and energy. Of those that feel climate actions are unfair, 72% feel it will negatively impact their cost of living, 43% feel it will impact their ability to travel and 40% feel it will affect their living conditions.



Q.20 And thinking of your personal circumstances, do you feel current actions to achieve climate neutrality are fair or unfair to your life?
Q.21 Which parts of your life do you feel current climate actions are generally [fair/unfair] towards?
Base: All Respondents N – 1046; ANY who feel personally affected by actions N – 923 (Fair=313, Unfair=610)

What would make climate action feel fair

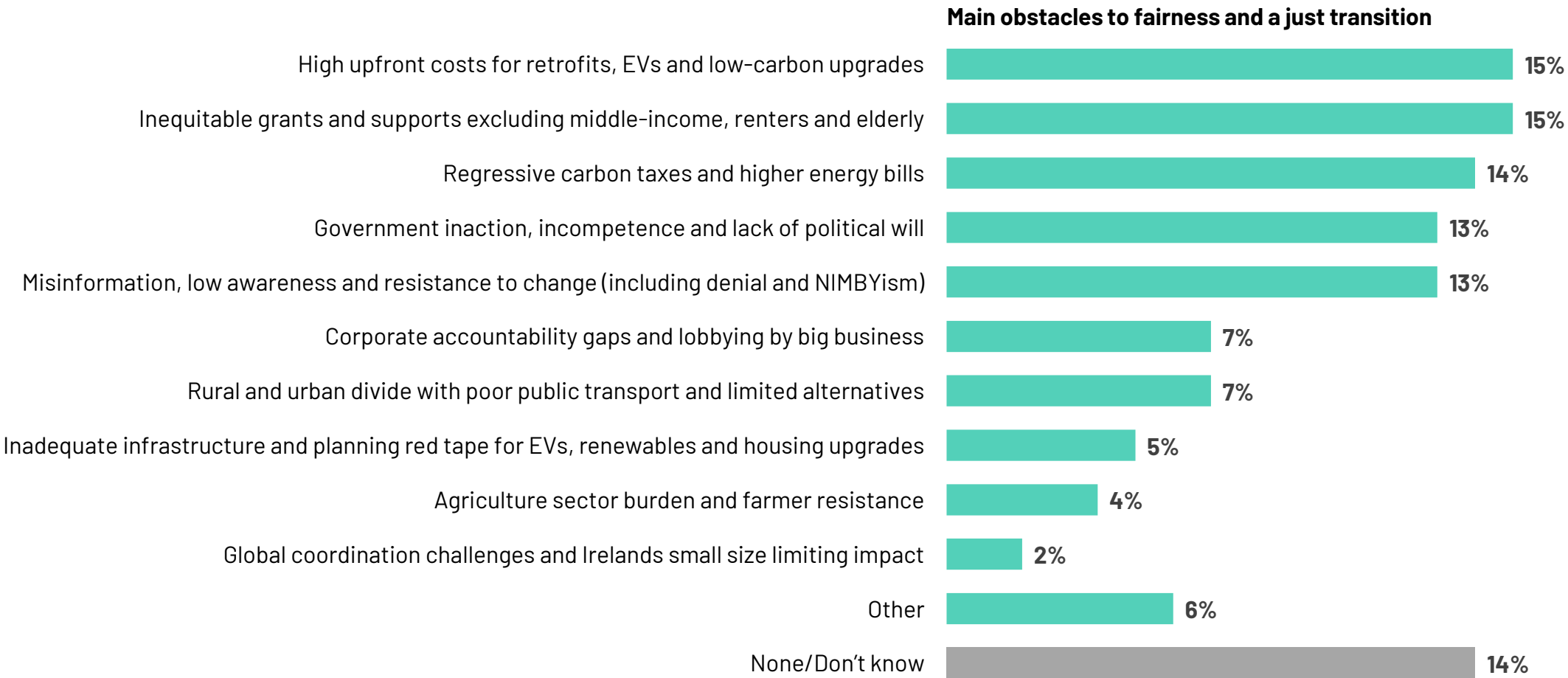
Keeping energy and living costs affordable (42%), protecting jobs and livelihoods (23%) and supporting lower-income households (11%) are considered the most important steps to ensure that climate action is fair



Q.45A Which of the following do you think is the most important step for climate action to be fair?
Base: All Respondents N - 1046

Main obstacles to fairness and a just transition (open-ended)

The dominant obstacle identified is the high costs of green upgrades (e.g., solar panels, EVs, retrofits) and carbon taxes as unfair burdens on ordinary people, especially low/middle-income and rural households. Government inaction, urban-rural divides in transport access, and agriculture's challenges are also noted. Some feel climate policies favour the wealthy or big business.



Q.22 Generally for Ireland, what do you feel are the main obstacles to fairness and ensuring a just transition to climate neutrality?
Base: All Respondents N - 1046

Main obstacles to fairness and a just transition (Verbatims)

People on low incomes don't have the money to make changes, **there has to be sufficient support to this group of people**

Money – **those on lower incomes can't afford to carry out retro-fits on their property to reduce energy use** and then end up paying more than those who can afford works. The same could be said for the adoption of electric vehicles.

Datacentres consume a third of the electricity and the corporations they belong to have low taxes, whereas normal people are asked to consume less electricity and pay taxes at the full rate. **As long as one is not big enough or rich enough, fairness is but a dream**

That the measures don't improve people's quality of life, **they make it actively worse through things like taxes and regulations**

Many people are just plain unaware. Some that are aware **just don't care**. There is a lot of green washing by companies.

Corruption among politicians, lack of education, anti climate change propaganda. Big corporations avoiding responsibility for their contribution to climate change.

I think **the government is the main obstacles**, as they just do what they are told by the EU, and the only ones to suffer will be the ordinary person.

Q.22 Generally for Ireland, what do you feel are the main obstacles to fairness and ensuring a just transition to climate neutrality?

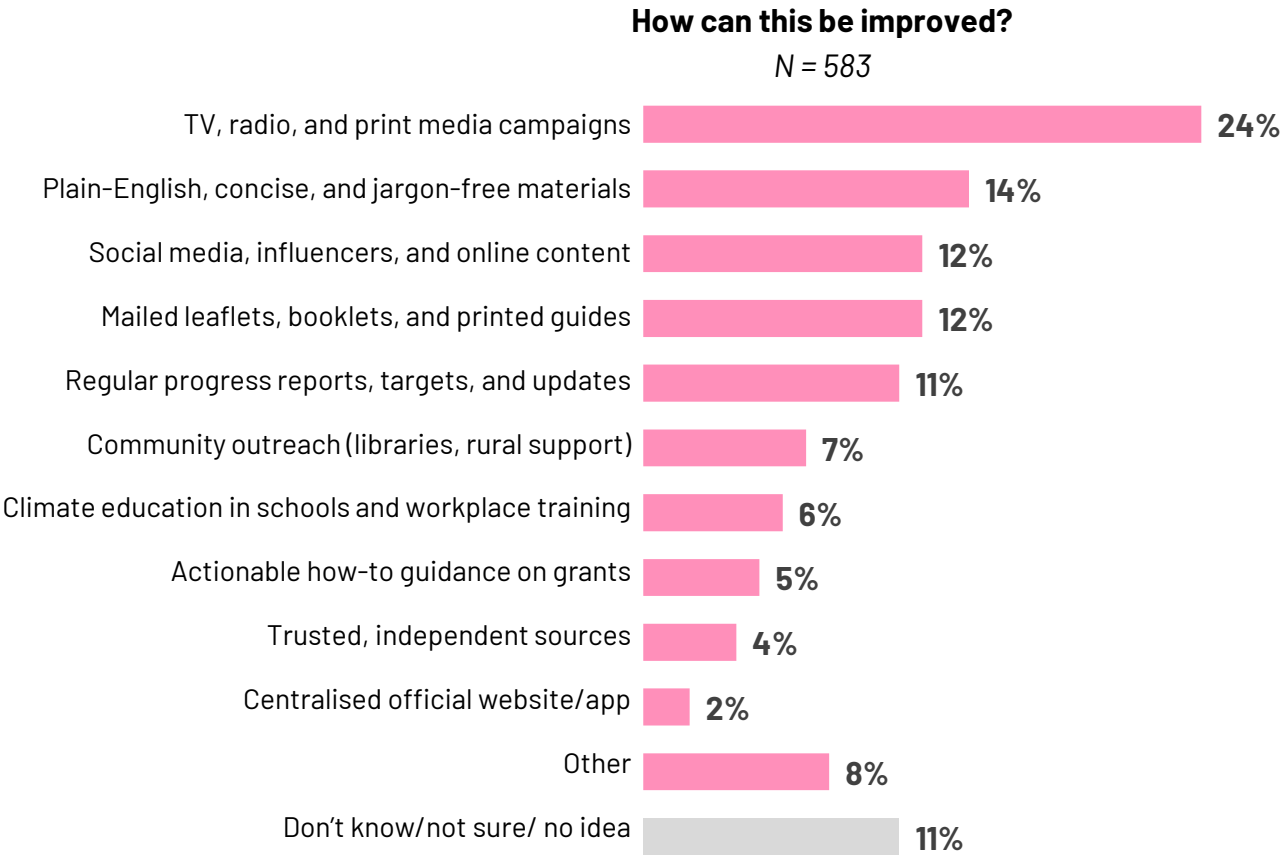
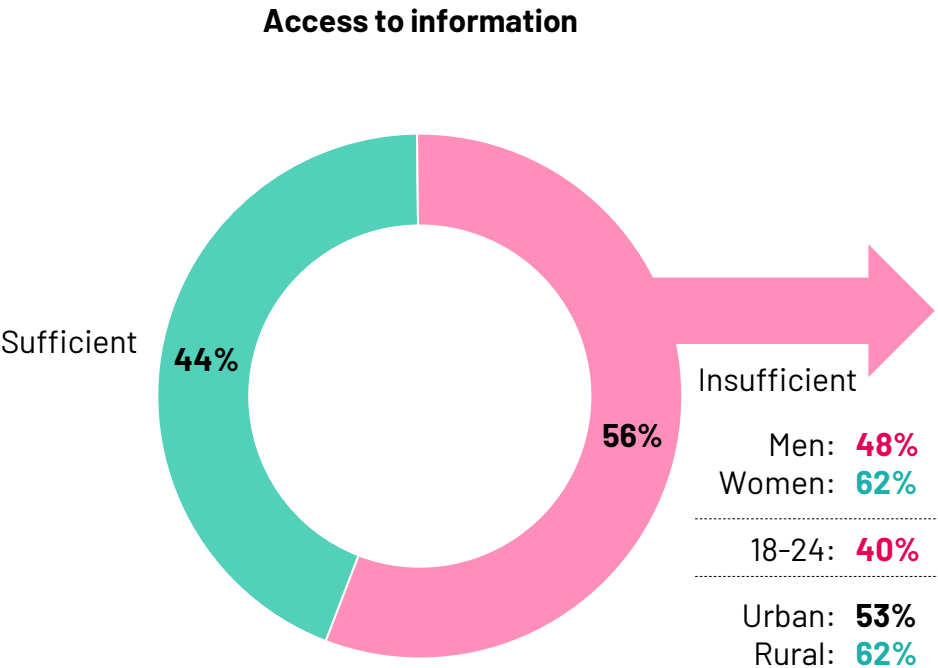
Base: All Respondents N – 1046

INFORMATION ABOUT THE JUST TRANSITION



Sufficiency of climate action information and how to improve it

56% say access to information is insufficient, rising to 62% for women and rural residents. Respondents thought access to information could be improved through traditional communication channels (TV/ radio), followed by social media and direct mail/leaflets. Many would also like simpler, jargon-free language used and regular progress updates.



Q.23 Do you feel that the access to information you have about climate action is sufficient or insufficient?
Q.24 In what ways could the access to information be improved?
Base: All Respondents N - 1046

In what ways could the access to information be improved? (Verbatims)

Clearer regular updates on the progress being made are essential for people to **get a motivational sense that the efforts are yielding results**. Also important to increase awareness of the next steps on the journey

I think there should be **a lot more advertising and making people aware** to implement change

More programmes on TV would be an idea. Any programme needs to be **delivered in layman's terms**.

Climate change is **currently being posed as** a collection of **individual choices**. This is a great opportunity for **greenwashing and taking responsibility from corporations and systemic issues** which cause the most pollution.

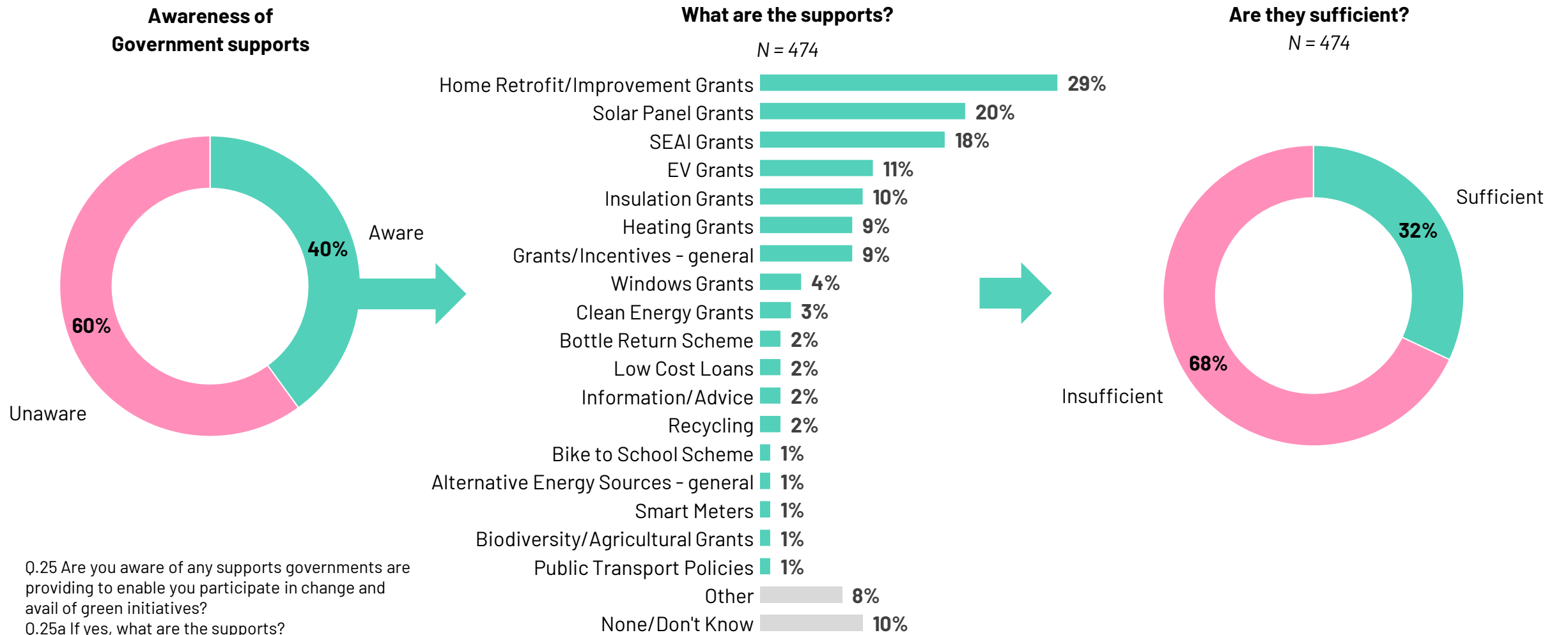
I think the government should **outline all the options** open to them and **inform the public, explaining how it will affect them** both positively and negatively going forward.

Clear reports with shortened versions for public consumption, updates on projects in the pipeline and **'good news' press briefings** or news segments.

Use **national tv to have weekly programs to educate us**, shows us the **positive impact** it can have, the **challenges we face**, how we need to act together, what we can do on a micro level

Awareness and adequacy of government supports

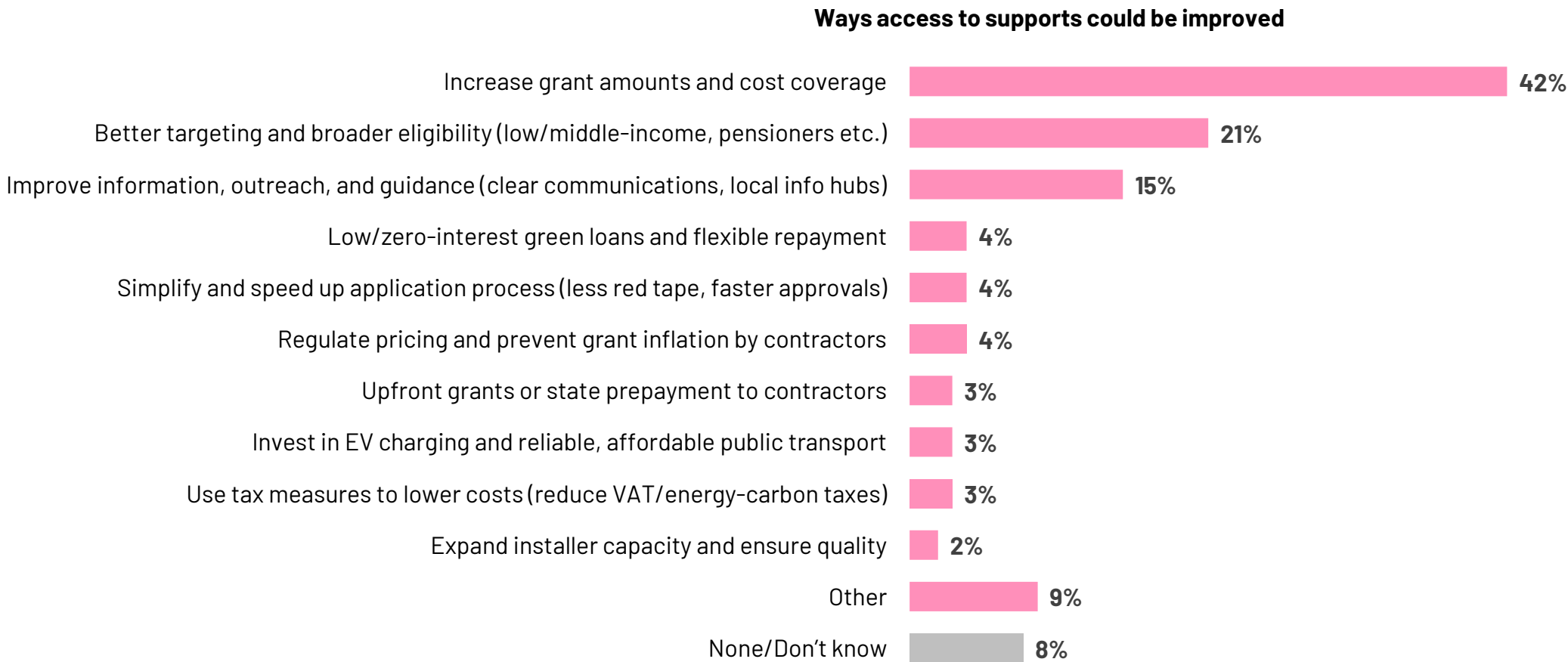
40% are aware of Government supports for green initiatives, with 60% saying they are unaware any. The most-recalled supports are home retrofit grants (29%), solar grants (20%) and EV grants (11%). 18% mentioned SEAI grants without specifying any grant area specifically. However, among those who are aware, only 68% think the supports are insufficient.



Q.25 Are you aware of any supports governments are providing to enable you participate in change and avail of green initiatives?
Q.25a If yes, what are the supports?
Q.25b Are they sufficient?
Base: All Respondents N - 1046

How access to supports should be improved (open-ended)

The most common way respondents felt supports could be improved was by increasing grant amounts, broadening eligibility, and by improving information, outreach and guidance on how to access supports.



Q.26 In what ways could the access to supports be improved?
Base: ANY who feel that government supports are insufficient N - 335
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How access to supports should be improved (Verbatims)

Too many obstacles to improving houses.
Can't insulate certain roofs. **Can't** external wrap certain houses. **Can't** internal wrap certain walls. Doors **not included**.

Increase the level of grant aid and availability of qualified installers

Low grants for hugely expensive improvement. As a single homeowner, **I can't afford this & grants barely scratch the surface.**

More information about ways to improve energy efficiency which suit all budgets and ensure fair pricing across suppliers of energy efficiency products and services

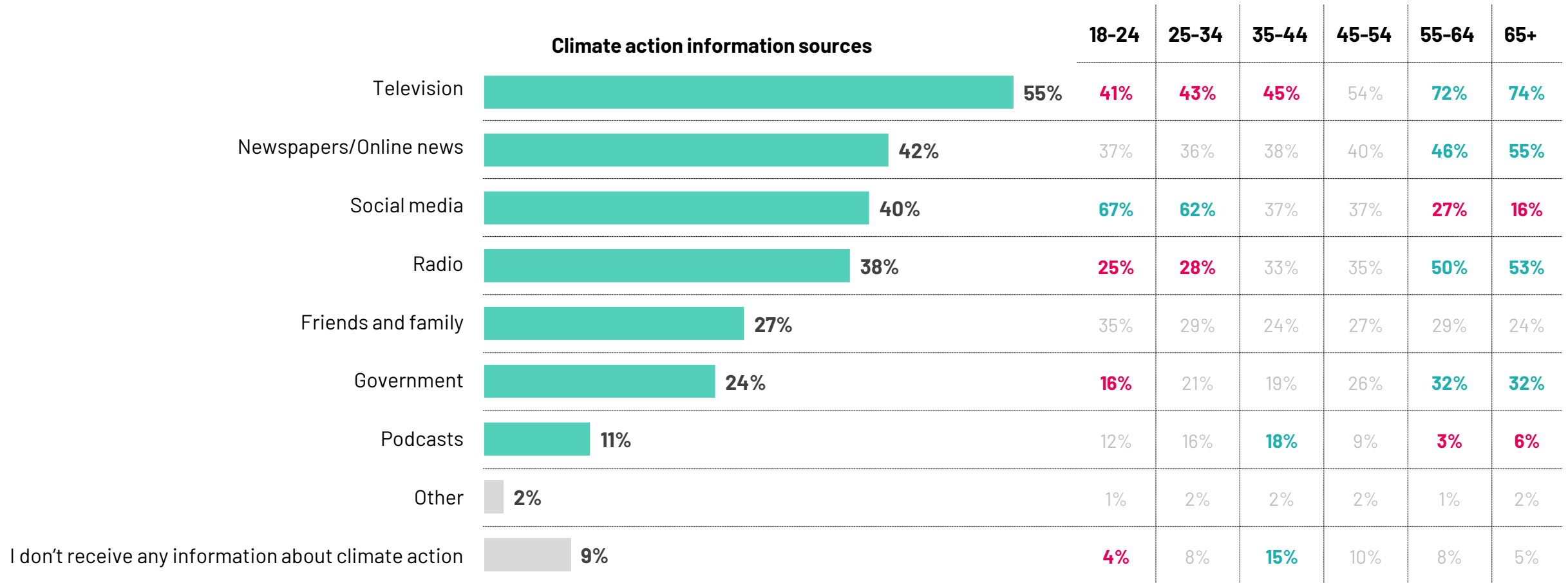
Make them [supports] **available to everyone who needs them without having to fill in lots of paperwork**

Elderly state pensioners cannot access loans from banks to avail of grants.
Perhaps government funding to means tested state pensioners.

Focus on those that cannot afford green initiatives themselves, free solar upgrades for those on dsp benefits for example. **All sustainability efforts out price a majority of the people in Ireland**, until that's addressed we can't do anything of substance as a country

Where people get climate action information

Over half (55%) say they receive information on climate action from Television, followed by online news/newspapers (42%), social media (40%) and radio (38%); 9% say they don't receive any information on climate action. However, the source differed by age, with younger adults more likely to say social media and older adults were more likely to say TV, newspapers, and Government



Q.27 From what sources, if any, do you receive information about climate action?

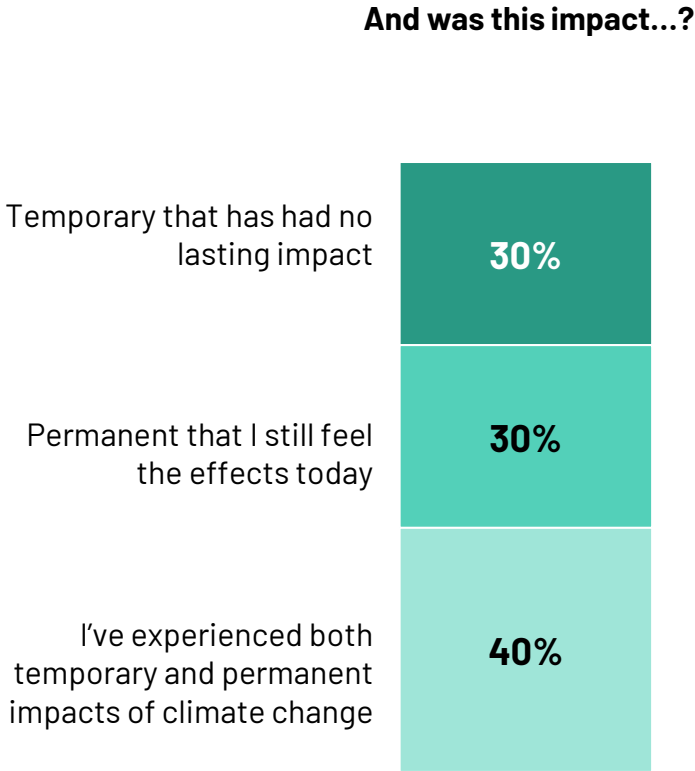
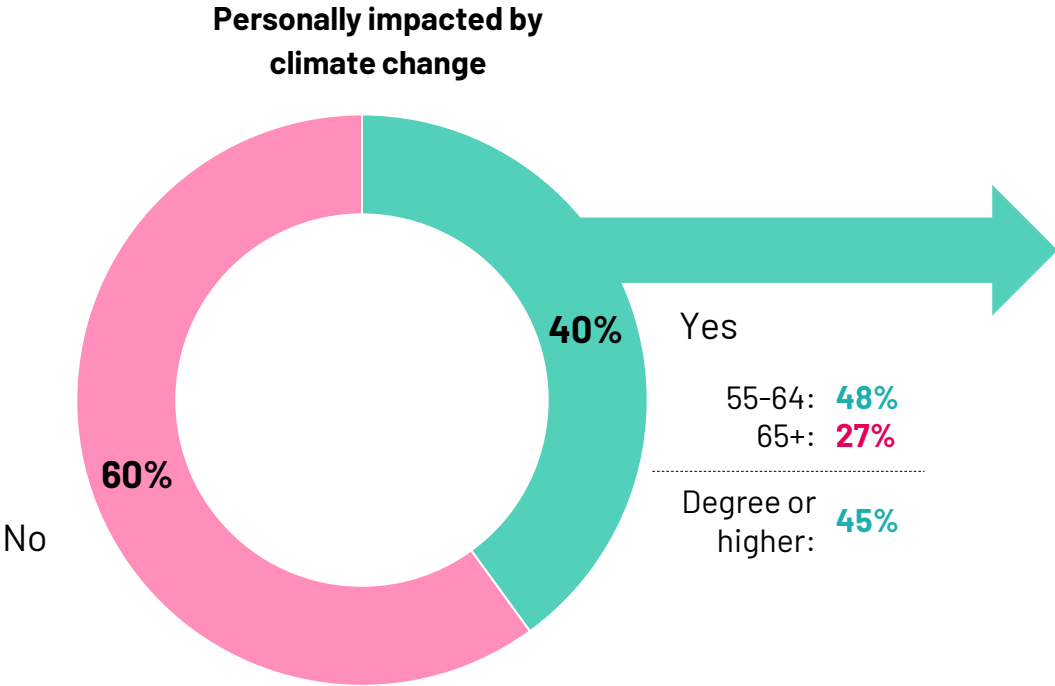
Base: All Respondents N - 1046

CURRENT AND EXPECTED PERSONAL IMPACTS, ADAPTATIONS AND INFORMATION NEEDS



Personal experience of climate impacts

40% say they have been personally impacted by climate change. Of these, 30% say the impact was temporary, 30% say it has had a permanent impact that still affects them today and 40% experienced both temporary and permanent impacts.



Q.28 Do you feel you have been personally impacted by climate change?

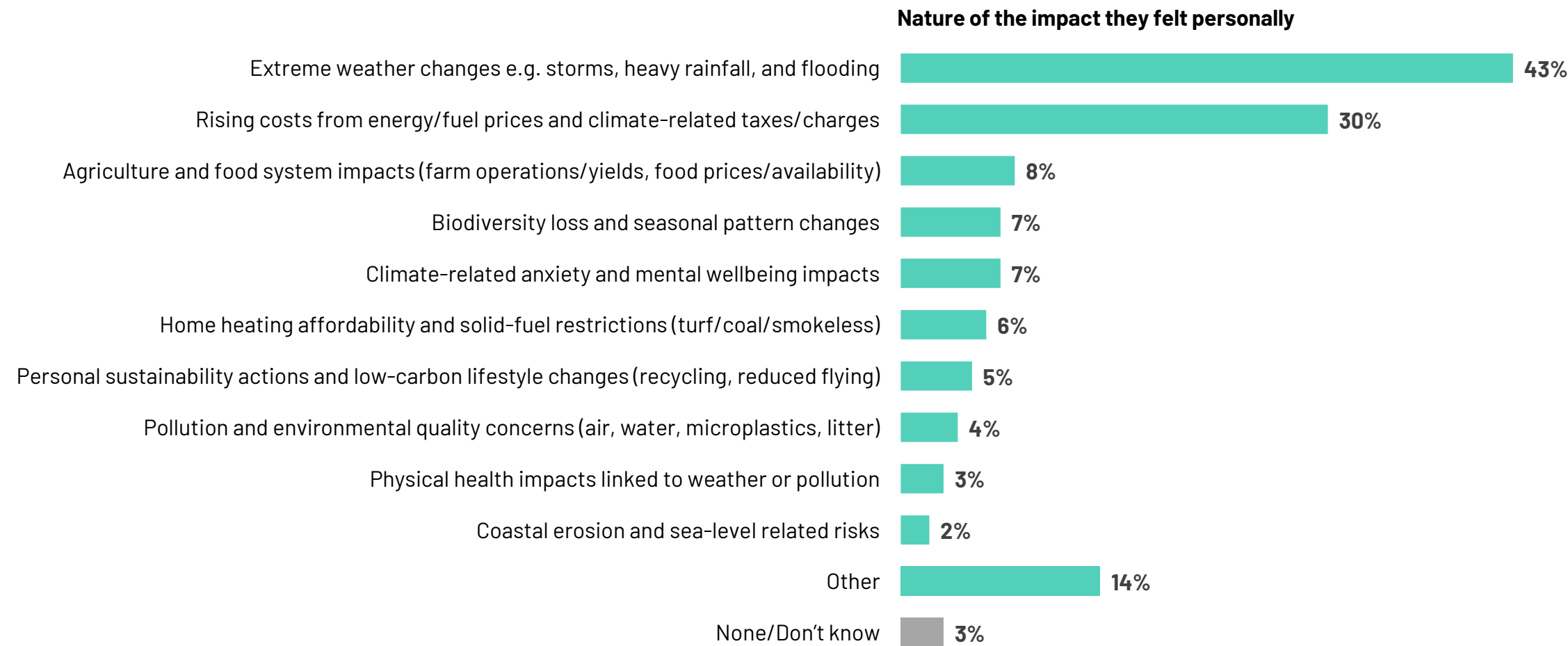
Q.29 And was this impact temporary or permanent?

Base: All Respondents N - 1046

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Nature of the impacts felt (open-ended)

The most common way respondents had been personally impacted by climate change was from experiencing a negative effect from an extreme weather event. However, almost a third said they had been personally impacted by the rising costs of energy/fuel and climate-related taxes.



Q.30 In your own words, can you describe the nature of the impact you have felt?
Base: Any personally impacted N - 440
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Nature of the impacts felt (Verbatims)

Cost of living via food because of more severe wind and rain. **Unable to get out for walks sometimes because of weather conditions.**

The impact I have felt from Ireland's transition towards climate neutrality is mainly related to the **increased cost of living and lifestyle adjustments**. For example, **higher energy prices** and carbon-related costs have made everyday expenses like electricity, heating, and transport more expensive. As a student, **this creates financial pressure**, especially when managing rent and other living costs.

The **endless rain is very tough on my animals** and makes looking after them very difficult. It's **also taxing on mental health**.

Flooding at my property with the council not helping. Uisce Éireann absolutely useless. Local erosion at rivers.

Increased cost of electricity and fossil fuels. I would like to get solar panels but they are very expensive even with the Grant available

I have observed a **significant change in biodiversity** - loss of species, as well as changing habitats. It also **causes a lot of anxiety for me** regarding my children's future.

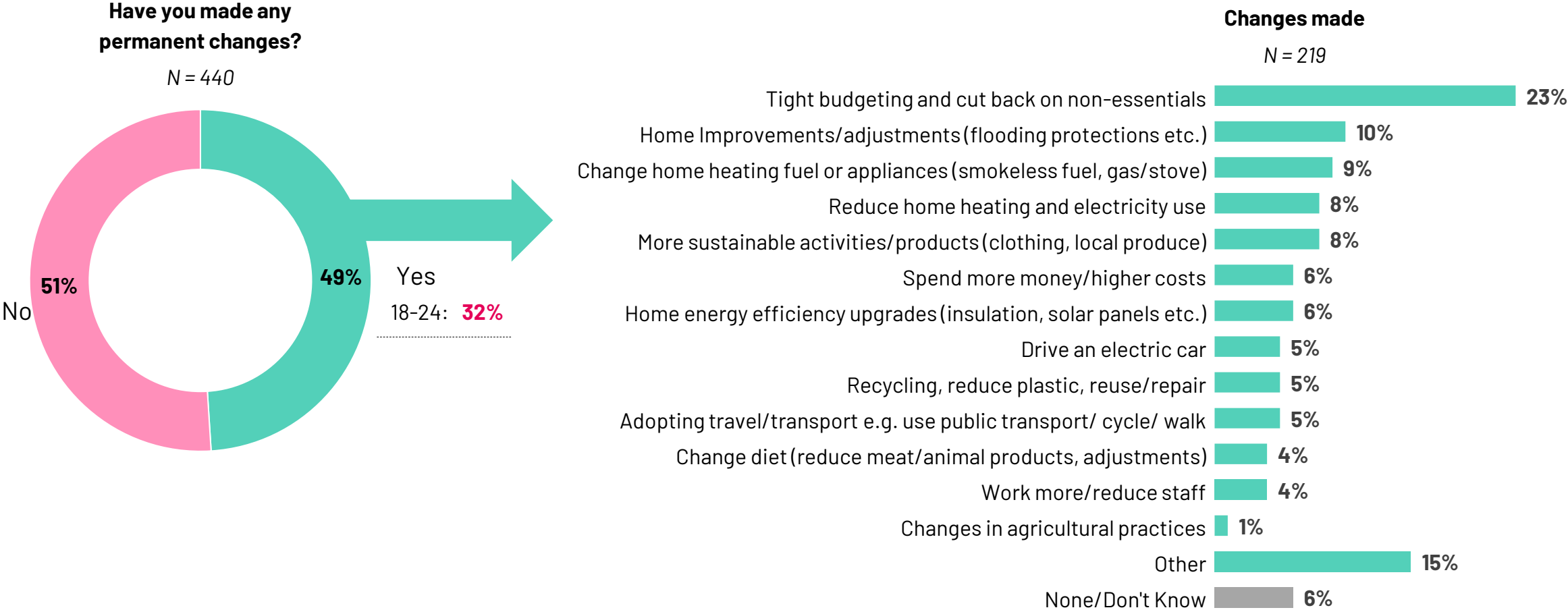
I had to stop farming as **running the farm became too costly** - it used to be my livelihood and then turned into a very expensive "hobby". I couldn't afford to be a farmer anymore. **I now risk losing the family farm** - the farm that has been in the family for so many generations.

Q.30 In your own words, can you describe the nature of the impact you have felt?

Base: Any personally impacted N - 440

Permanent changes made in response to climate impact

Around half (49%) of those impacted by climate change say they made permanent changes. These changes often involved tightening their budget and cutting back on essentials, making improvements to their home, and adjusting energy use.



Q.31 Did you have to make any permanent changes to adjust to this impact?

Q.32 What changes did you need to make?

Base: Any personally impacted N – 440/ Any who made changes N – 219

Permanent changes made in response to climate impact (Verbatims)

Can't do things, go places, treat my kids as I can't afford to because fuel food rent heating is all so expensive amongst other things

I have to juggle which bills I can afford to pay each week, just to be able to keep my heating on. Also I have had to **cut down on my food shopping as the prices are so high**, I can barely afford to pay for them. And this is an ongoing crisis and it's only getting worse – not better.

No longer visiting relatives in other countries as often, keeping leisure activities closer to home.

Increased insulation in home; changed boiler, **use public transport more**, installed new porch. All to help reduce use of c/heating system.

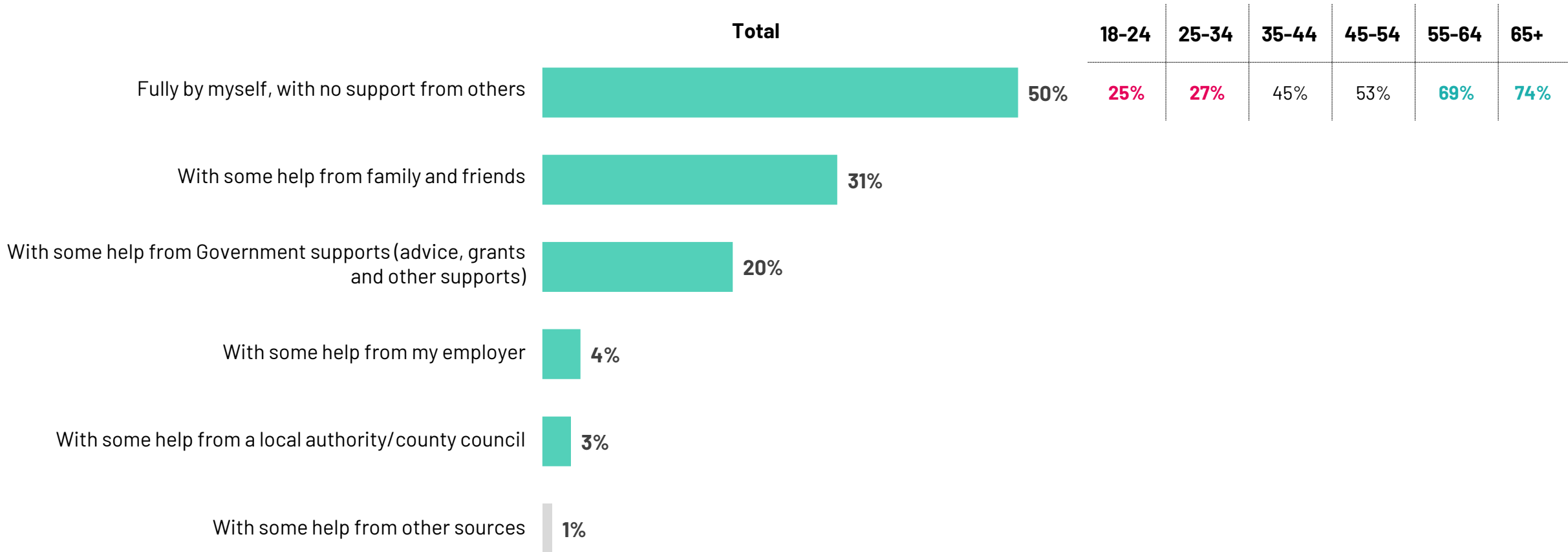
Ensuring our household is always prepared for extreme weather, and potentially not being able to leave the house, have power, water or heating or get in supplies for a few days.

Installed individual room heating controls, **only heat the room we're in**. Rest of the house is freezing. Also using the solid fuel stove more and we've started burning coal rather than wood as it's cheaper and warmer. Bought a Superser, too – less stressful to prepay for your heat than the bill in the door

Yes, I have had to make some practical and ongoing changes to adjust to these impacts, although they are relatively small but consistent. For example, I have become **more conscious of my energy usage**, such as **limiting heating, turning off appliances** when not in use, and **managing electricity consumption** more carefully to reduce costs.

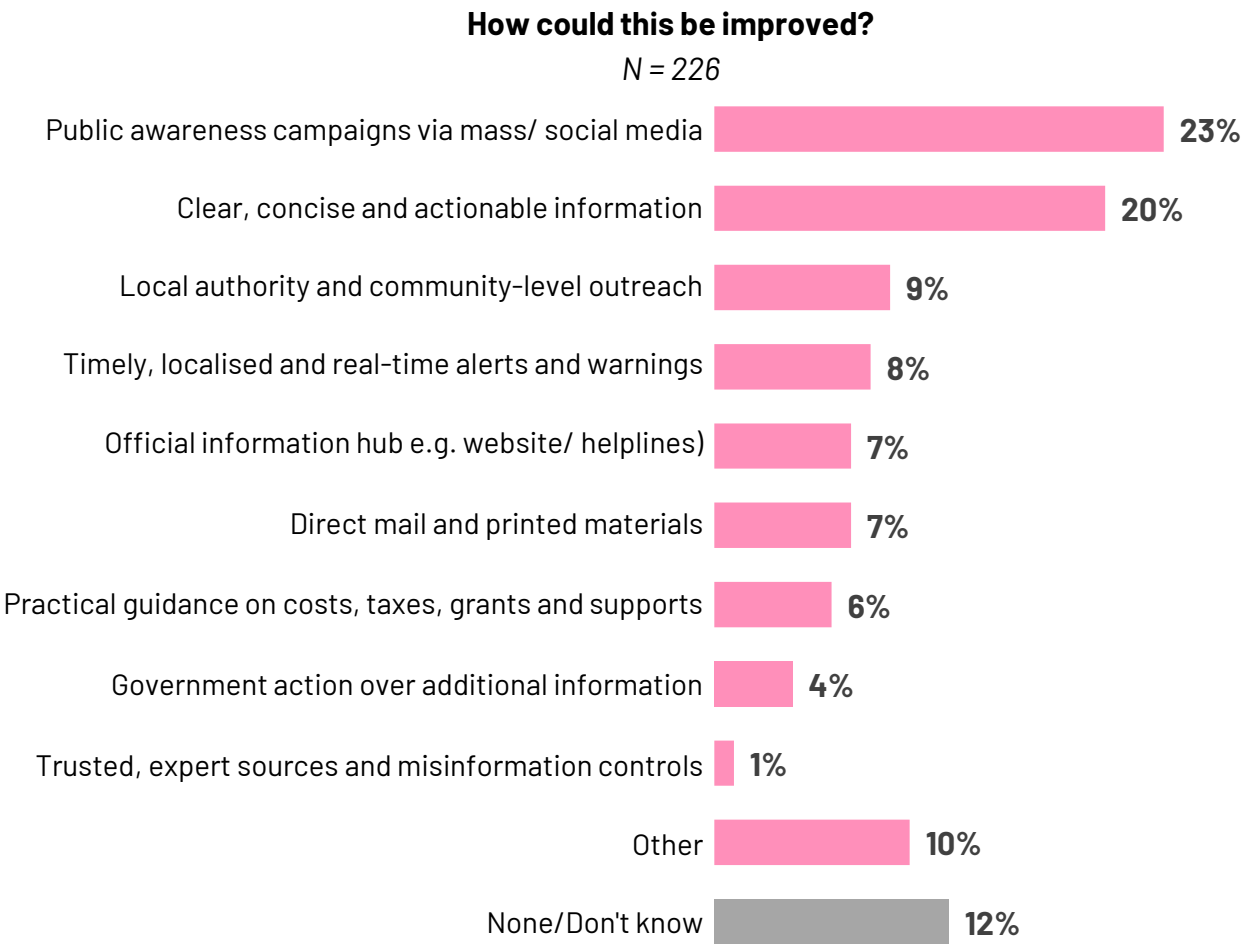
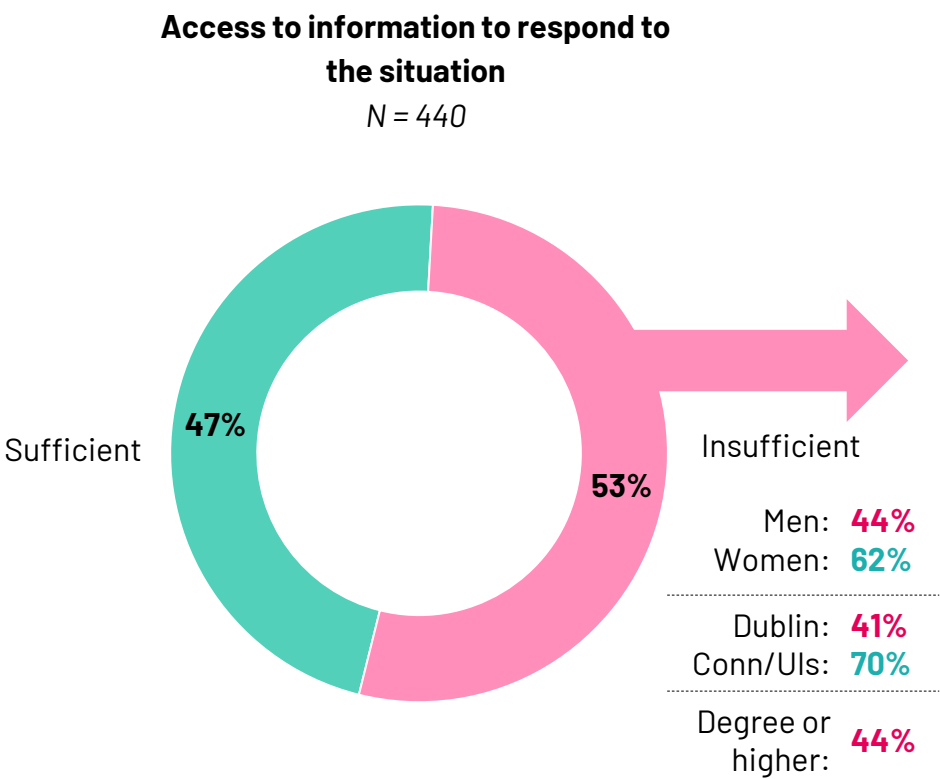
How people personally impacted by climate changes made changes

Of those personally impacted by climate change, 50% say they made changes fully by themselves, 31% had help from family/friends, 20% used government supports and a smaller share cite help from employers (4%) or local authorities (3%). Older adults were more likely than younger adults to make changes without support from others.



Information sufficiency during impact and improvements needed

53% feel they had insufficient access to information to respond to the climate-related situation. To improve access, they suggest having more public awareness/education via either traditional or social media. Many noted that information should be provided in a clear and actionable way (i.e. simple language with practical steps). Some want Government action over additional information.



Q.34 At the time did you feel you had access to sufficient information on how to respond to the situation?

Q.35 In what ways could the access to information be improved?

Base: Any personally impacted N – 440/ Any who found information access insufficient N – 226

Ways to improve access to information (Verbatims)

The government could **let people know what financial supports are available** for vulnerable people who are struggling to pay their bills and who don't have the option to turn the heating off without putting themselves into a medical crisis. Again, they can **send emails to people who are in receipt of Disability allowance, illness benefit, etc** - all the payments that vulnerable people are currently getting. **Just share the information and encourage people to come forward for help.** This way we may feel like they care and that we are being supported instead of ignored.

Have a **Government sponsored website** available to all with the **information there in simple terms.**

Greater information and supports with **helplines** and **better websites.**

Information in shops, alternative items. Full transparency of cost of item plus packaging/who pays for what, etc.

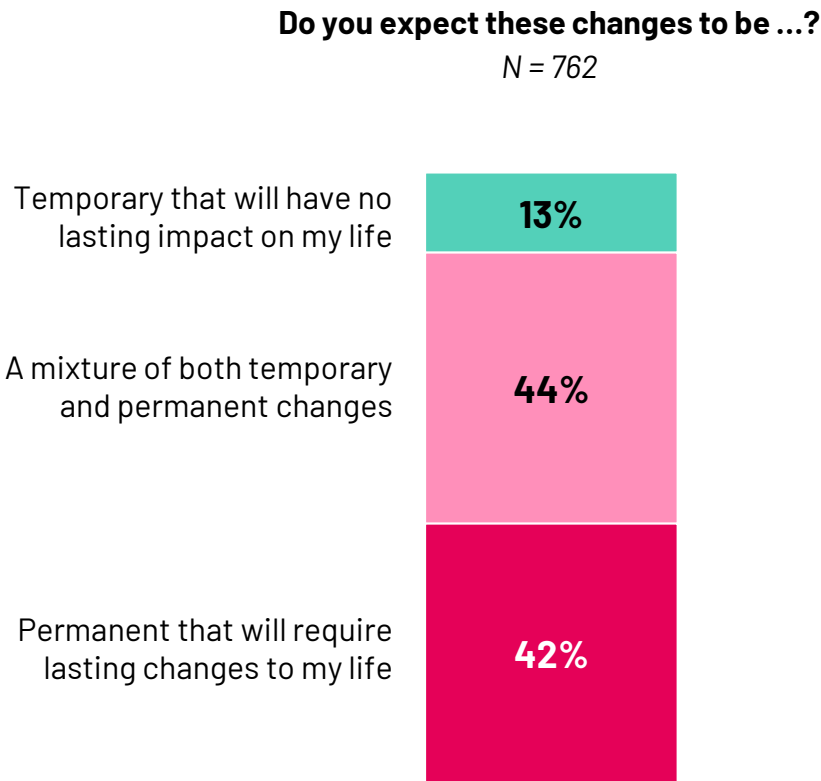
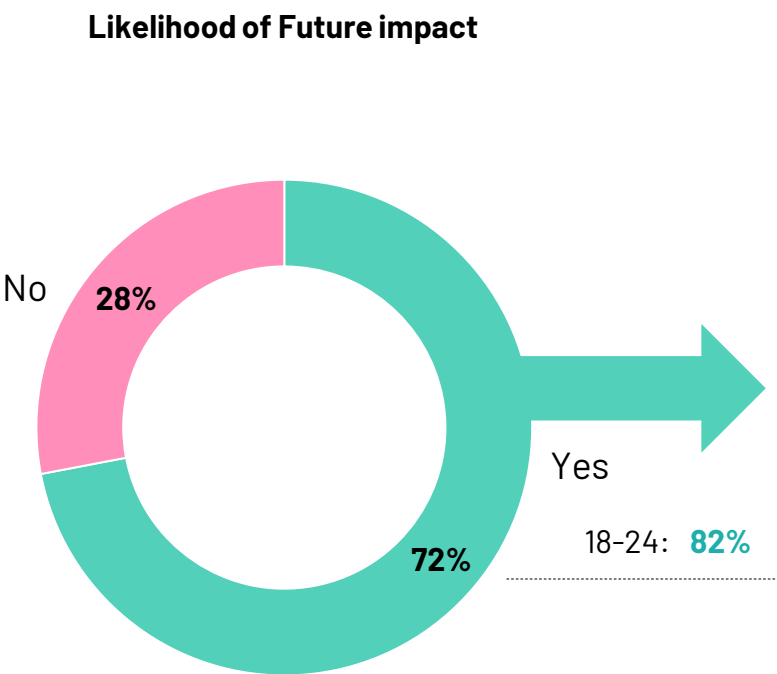
[information] Online either through **social media** or **newspapers**

More debate - and challenging conversations. I feel at my age the brutal impact will be felt by the next generation but **I'm not hearing from young voices.**

It is all very haphazard a little bit here and another bit there. **Have a clear message if you are in this situation this might help you to improve it etc** that sort of scenario A fixed income does not stretch to laying down monies for expensive items that will work out cheaper. Get the brains in the country to sit down and really think on a day to day simple basis what needs to be done

Expected future personal impact of climate change

Almost 3 in 4 (72%) expect to be personally impacted by climate change in the future, rising to 82% for 18- to 24-year-olds. Of those that expect to be impacted, 42% expect this will require permanent changes to their life, 44% feel it will require a mix of permanent and temporary changes, and 13% feel it will only require temporary changes.



Q.36 Do you expect to be personally impacted by changes in climate in the future?

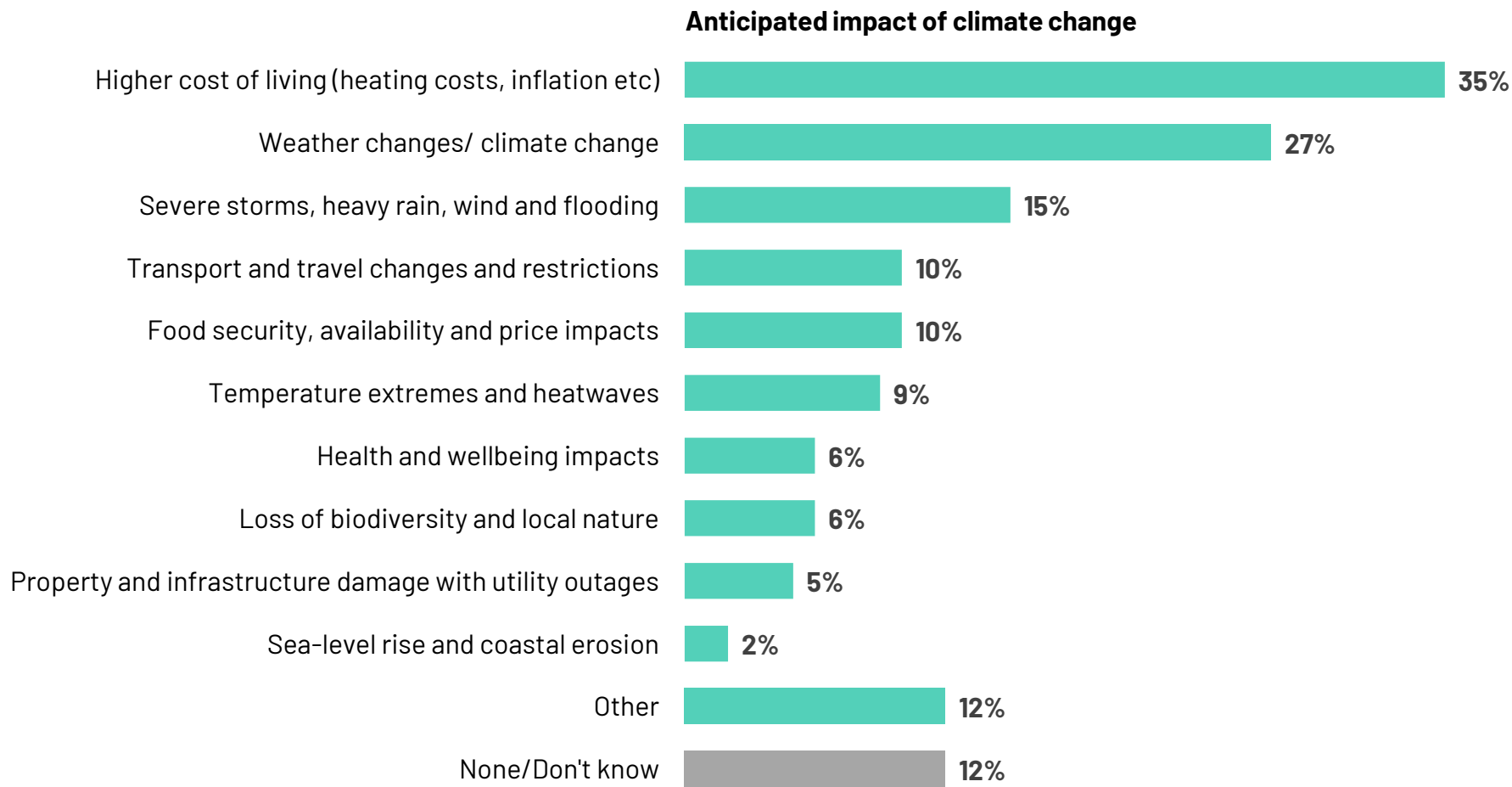
Q.37 And do you expect these changes will be temporary or permanent?

Base: All Respondents N – 1046/ Any expecting to be impacted N – 762

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Anticipated future impact of climate change (open-ended)

People predominantly foresee climate change leading to a rise in the cost of living with higher heating costs and prices, changes to the weather/climate and more frequent extreme weather events (e.g. storms, floods and flooding)



Q.38 In your own words, can you describe the nature of the impacts you are likely to feel?

Base: Any expecting to be impacted N - 762

Anticipated future impact of climate change (Verbatims)

More **natural disasters** and increasingly **abnormal weather**

Cost of living crisis will get worse

I really worry about coastline erosion and rising sea levels and also this year I think we've had **more rain** than we had in last January and February and I worry about that going forward.

Higher cost of fuel, the dilemma of being in an old house albeit recently retro fitted still reliant on fossil fuel for heat and no direct way of changing same. **Weather issues, flooding, storms.**

I would imagine that we will **continue to experience adverse weather conditions**

Effects such as changes in local weather patterns and **higher frequency disruptive weather events** (storms, floods, heatwaves, etc.) are likely to have noticeable impacts in daily life. However, within my own lifetime, at least in the medium-term, the larger effects are more likely to be the **economic impact of climate change in terms of systems of production**, and the downstream effects on the **cost of living**.

Warmer summers and colder winters. Living on the west coast, worries about **rising sea levels** and what that means for coastal communities

Intensified storms which could damage my area. **Inability to travel** to certain parts of the world

More flooding. My roof is damaged due to **more rain**. The weather will have catastrophic changes for people by rivers/ seas and in flood prone areas.

Q.38 In your own words, can you describe the nature of the impacts you are likely to feel?

Base: Any expecting to be impacted N - 762

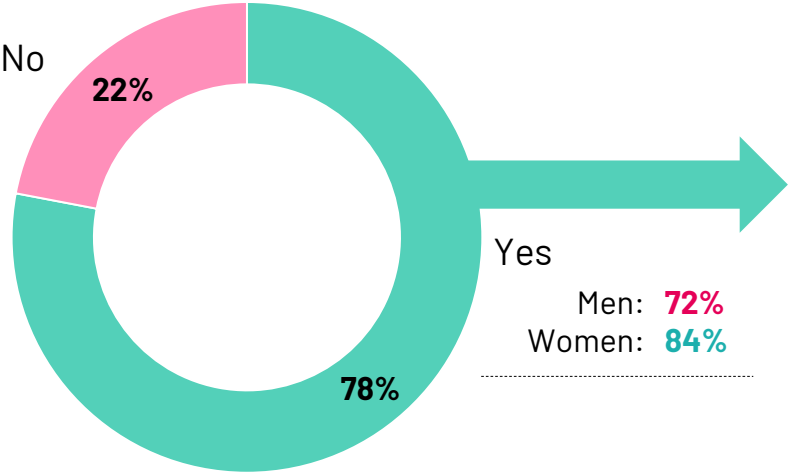
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Likely adaptations people expect to make

78% expect to make changes to adjust to the impacts of climate change. The most common changes they expect to make are budgeting and cutting back on non-essentials, adapting energy needs and making upgrades/retrofitting their home.

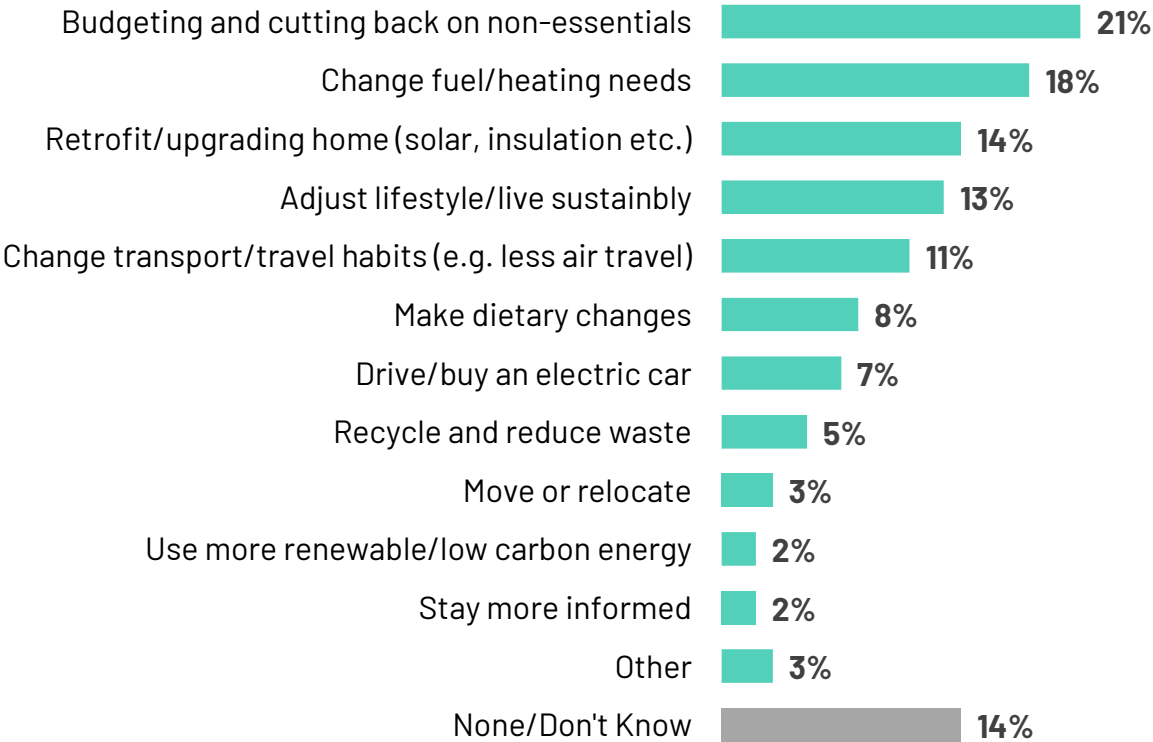
Do you expect to have to make any changes to adjust to this impact?

N = 762



What changes do you expect to make?

N = 599



Q.39 Do you expect to have to make any changes to adjust to this impact?
Q.40 What changes do you expect you will need to make?
Base: Any expecting to be impacted N - 762/ Any expecting to make changes N - 599

Changes people expect to make (Verbatims)

I expect to have to be **more creative about spending** money and **using more sustainable options**

Try to **manage with less heating in the winter and keep cool in the summer**. Planning shopping trips to **reduce the number of times I use** the car and to spend less time away from home.

Live in a smaller house, spend less, **eat differently, increase self reliance** rather than relying on society (for example personal savings rather than public pension scheme, etc.)

Consider a car that is better for the economy and upgrade my home's boiler before **fossil fuel boilers are banned**

Irish **government making us change how we use our energy**. Tax us for carbon tax. Encourage EV's that are harder on the environment by how they are made (batteries) the tyre consumption (more than regular car) and how long lifespan they have (10yr average)

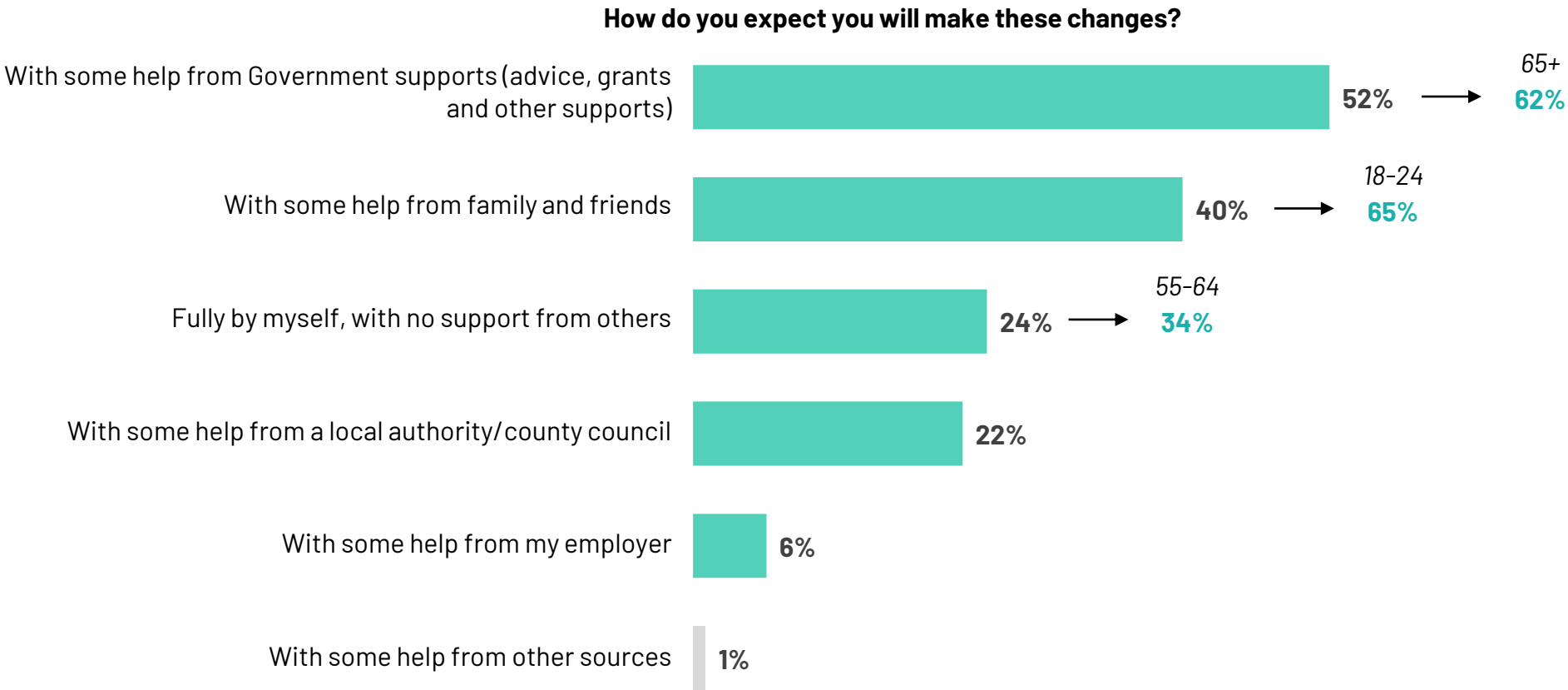
Manage our energy use. I don't drive so that doesn't impact me. Clothes from Shein should be subject to taxes. They are landfill chemical rubbish adding to our pollution problem. Less plastic use.

It will be necessary to **identify additional sources for heating/cooking** etc beyond what is currently available. With the risk of increased risk to food production it is possible that changes will be required.

Create a more resilient residence. **capturing water from rain**, creating a **organic vegetable garden**, installing alternatives energy harvesting: **wind, solar panels** and **battery storage**

How people expect to make changes to adjust to climate change

Around half (52%) expect to make changes with some help from government supports, 40% anticipate help from family/friends, and 22% expect help from local authorities. 24% think they will manage the change without support from others. Older adults are more likely to say help from Government supports, whereas younger adults are more likely to rely on family/friends for support.



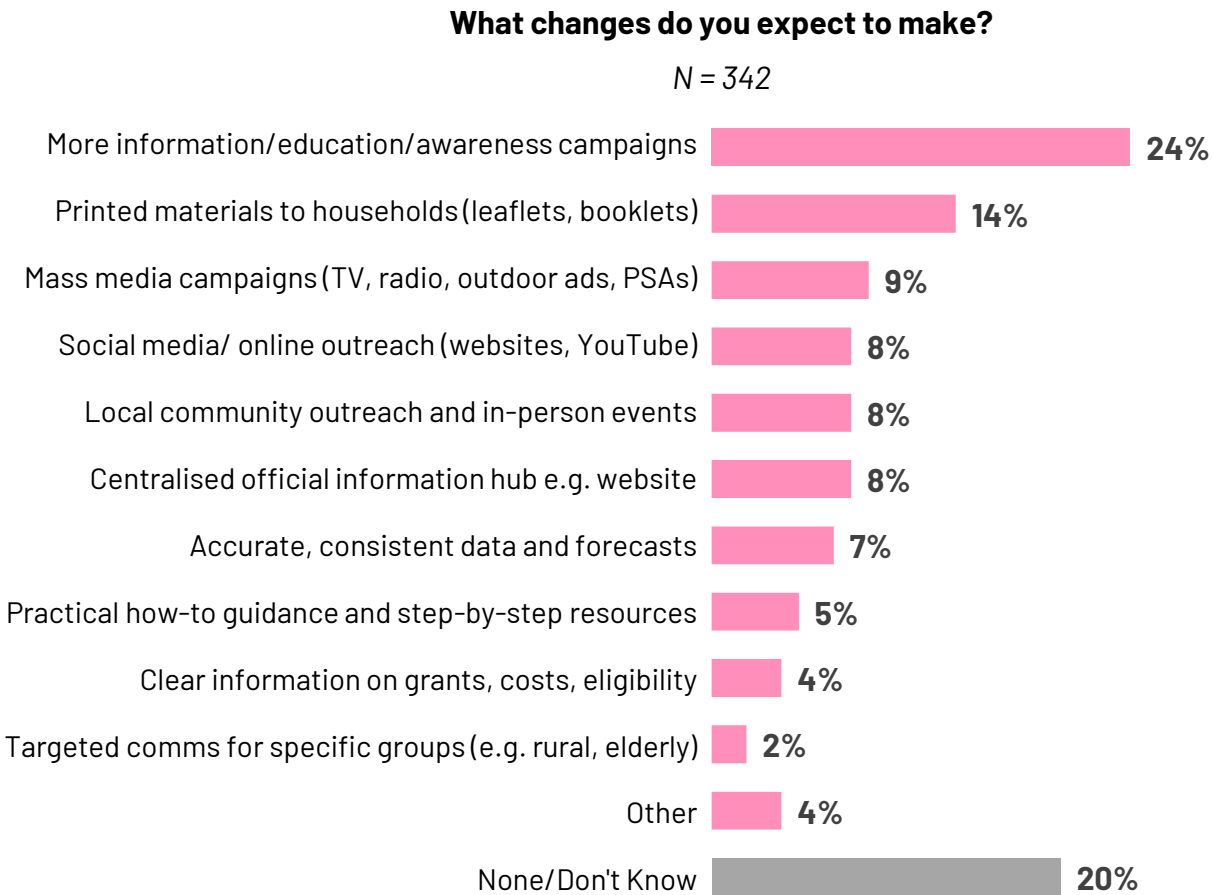
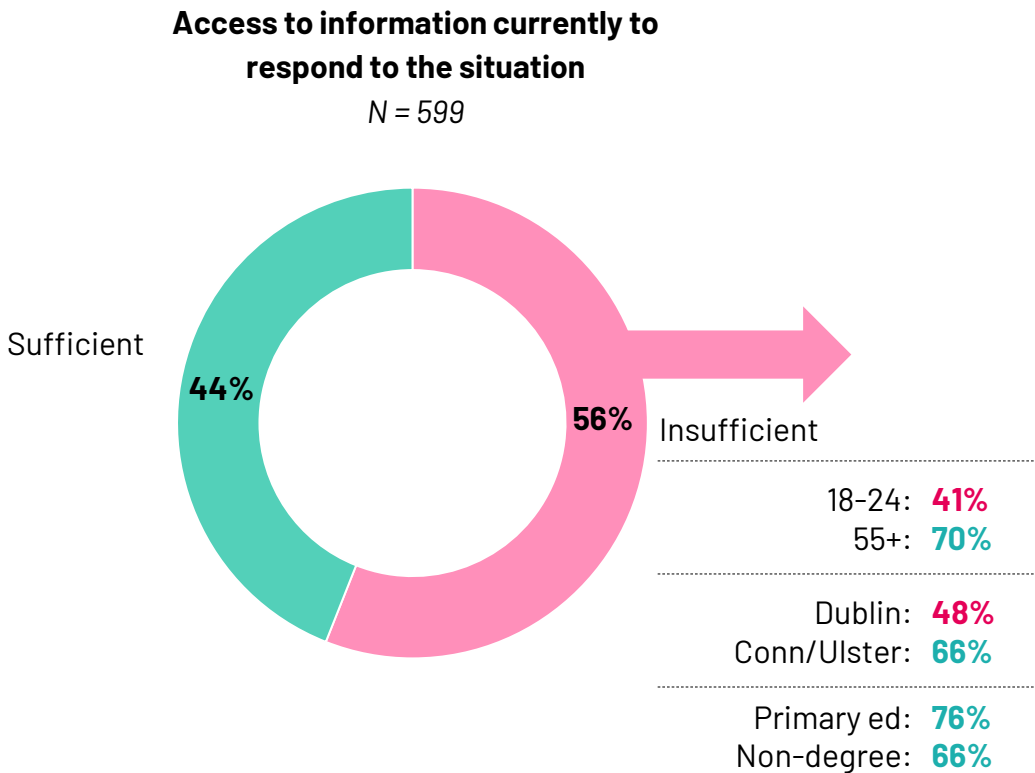
Q.41 How do you expect you will make these changes?

Base: Any expecting to make changes N - 599

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Current information sufficiency to respond to future climate impacts

56% feel they have insufficient access to information to respond to future climate impacts, rising among older adults, Connacht/Ulster residents and those with less education. They suggest it could be improved by making more information available e.g. more awareness campaigns, with recommendations for printed and mass media campaigns.



Q.42 Do you feel you have access to sufficient information currently on how you could respond to the situation?
Q.43 In what ways could the access to information be improved?
Base: Any expecting to make changes N – 599/ Any expecting to make changes who feel information access is insufficient N – 342

Current information sufficiency to respond to future climate impacts

Better communication from government similar to what went on during Brexit and Covid lockdown in that the government was very proactive in meeting challenges head on and **made sure to communicate effectively in order to combat dangers of misinformation**. This combined with pushing for internet regulation of tech abilities would improve things greatly. Age verification is not going to help this problem, by the way, that is another way for tech to abuse our data that does nothing to change their abuse of consumer data.

Detailed forecast of what we may expect the near future by government and clear indication of **what supports from [them] may be available** from local councils and what demands they may make

More and better **funded community responders**. More **practical advice** on **what to store** and **where to access help** in an emergency

The ads about grants make it sound like it will cost me very little to make changes to my home - in reality it will cost a great deal. **Let people know that up front and create schemes for payment plans**.

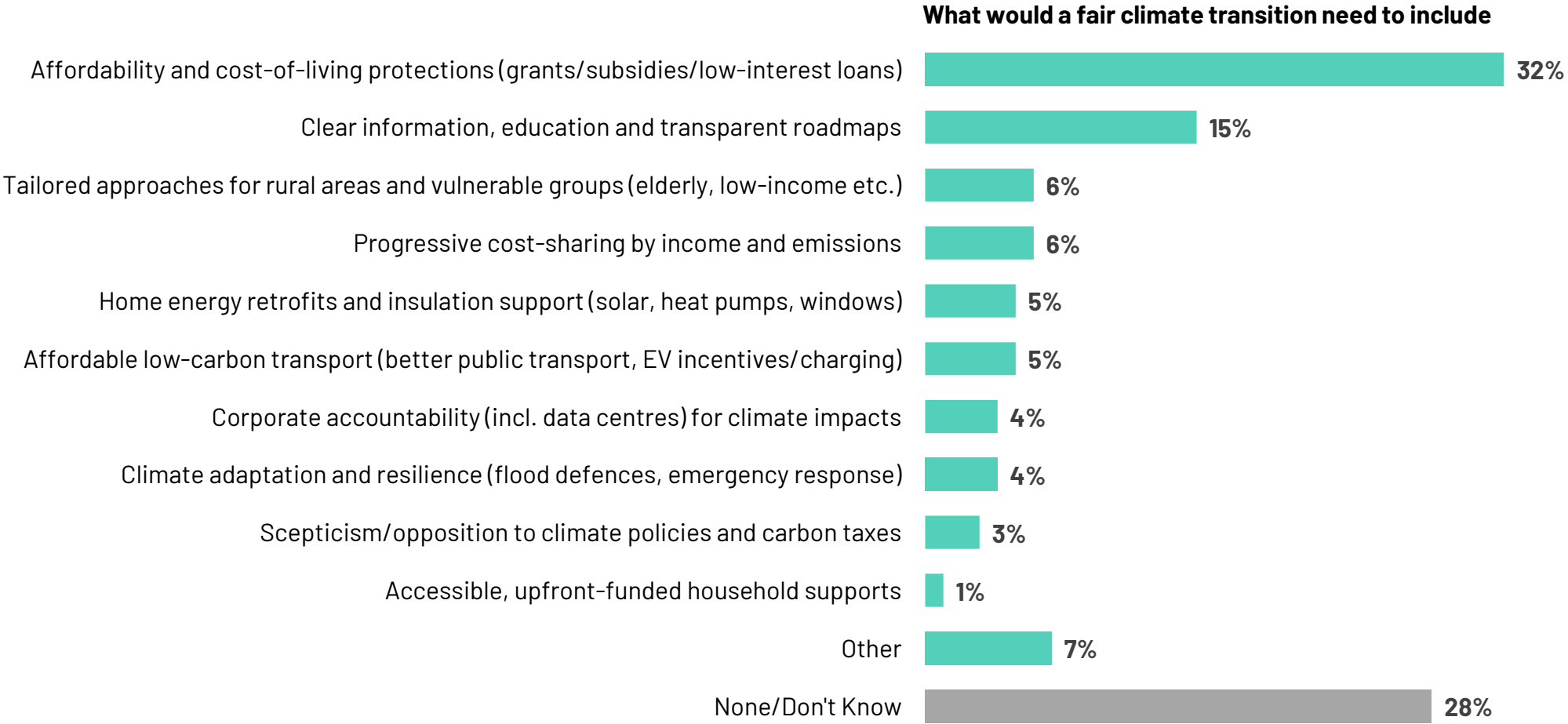
Practical suggestions for people in rural areas, most **info assumes city dwelling**, with access to public transport

The information could be **more consistent** because at the moment **there are a lot of different numbers being talked about** and I don't know which are correct.

As I said already the government **need to do better to educate society on the effects and impact of climate change** and what it is doing to tackle it and **what's available to us to tackle the cost of living** as a result

What a fair climate transition must include (open-ended)

Respondents say a fair climate transition must avoid worsening the cost-of-living crisis and include substantial, accessible financial support for home upgrades and low-carbon transport. They want costs and responsibilities shared fairly, protecting lower and middle-income and rural households while placing greater obligations on large polluters and the wealthy.



Q.44 Considering all the different areas covered by this survey, what would a fair climate transition need to include for it to feel fair to you personally?
Base: All Respondents N - 1046

What a fair climate transition must include (Verbatims)

For the transition to climate neutrality to feel fair to me personally, **it would need to ensure that the financial burden is shared equitably**. As a student, affordability is a major concern, so I would expect **policies to include financial support or subsidies that make sustainable options** such as energy-efficient housing, public transport, and green technologies **accessible to everyone**, not just higher-income groups.

Stop costing me extra money, everything seems to be about squeezing every last penny out of ordinary people. **Get big companies/ business to pay they cause most of the problems**

More transparency on where government funding is being spent. What is being done for those of us excluded from fuel allowances, and who don't qualify for deep retrofits paid in full by the state?

More financial support - if they want us to reduce emissions they should **compensate us for the expense involved**

Honesty and integrity from those in charge. Being clear about the likely impacts in Ireland and providing **clear, concise information regarding mitigation**. Appropriate **supports**. **Less greenwashing**.

It needs to be affordable and to allow people feel that they are not been **unfairly targeted for tax when large companies are not**

Reassurance mostly that the government is serious about meeting targets and is willing to stand up to vested and corporate interests and **protect the needs of ordinary citizens**. That it won't fudge it as usually happens.

Q.44 Considering all the different areas covered by this survey, what would a fair climate transition need to include for it to feel fair to you personally?

Base: All Respondents N - 1046

THANK YOU



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