



**FONDATION
TRUDEAU
FOUNDATION**



Democracy in the 21st Century

The Canadian public speaks out



**The Xth Annual Conference of the
Pierre Elliott Trudeau Foundation
Montréal, QC
November 21-23, 2013**





HUMAN RIGHTS AND DIGNITY =



McGill





CANADA
IN THE
WORLD



Université 
de Montréal





Why survey the public?

Q: Liberal leader Michael Ignatieff has claimed he would NOT participate in a coalition. Do you believe him?

YES 17%

NO 56%

DON'T KNOW 28%

BY PARTY:

| | CONS. | LIB. | NDP | BLOC | GREEN |
|------------|-------|------|-----|------|-------|
| Yes | 8% | 32% | 18% | 17% | 7% |
| No | 86% | 35% | 48% | 64% | 48% |
| Don't know | 7% | 32% | 34% | 19% | 45% |

Q: Would you approve or disapprove if the Liberals, Bloc and NDP formed a political coalition?

YES 37%

NO 47%

DON'T KNOW 16%

BY PARTY:

| | CONS. | LIB. | NDP | BLOC | GREEN |
|------------|-------|------|-----|------|-------|
| Yes | 2% | 67% | 66% | 64% | 43% |
| No | 95% | 19% | 22% | 15% | 28% |
| Don't know | 3% | 14% | 12% | 21% | 29% |

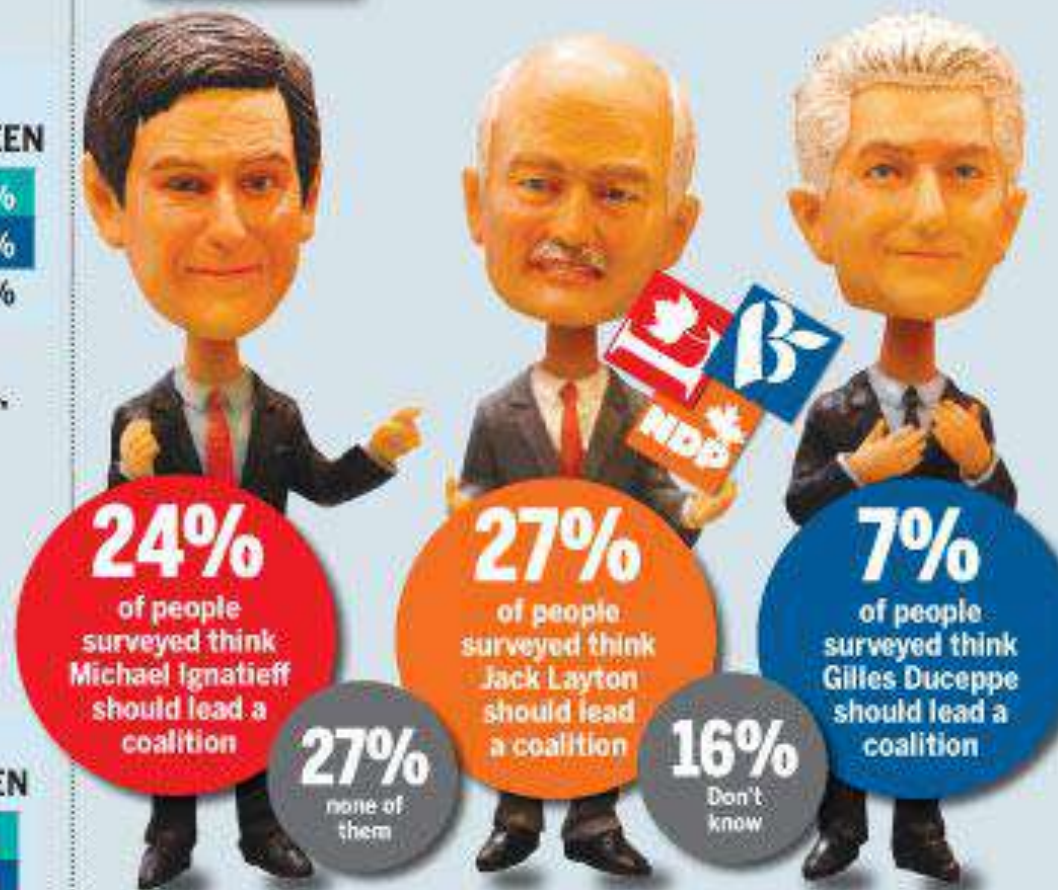
Q: Would you approve of the Bloc joining an opposition Coalition?

YES 28%

NO 54%

DON'T KNOW 17%

Figures may not add up to 100% due to rounding.



This online poll by Leger Marketing was done March 26-27 with a representative sample of 1,119 Canadians. Results are considered accurate +/- 3.1%, 19 times out of 20.

Fundamental questions to be answered

- Who we are – as individuals and collectively”
- What do we think and believe?
- What are our priorities and expectations?

How we learn about who we are

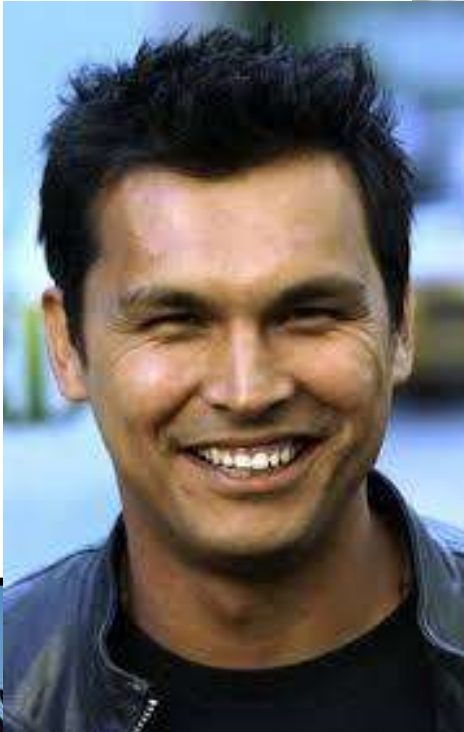
- From people we know – friends, family, colleagues
- From media – traditional and social
- From art and literature
- From advertising and marketing
- From social science & survey research

Why survey research is important

- Expands the dialogue to all segments of society, especially those not usually heard from
- Provides an essential check on how elites and media define public opinion
- Identifies myths and misperceptions that call for attention
- Provides the basis for understanding and empathy – what it's like to be someone else



Groundbreaking Study of Aboriginal Canadians



2013 Trudeau Foundation Survey - Methodology

- Telephone survey – representative sample of 1,503 Canadians (18+)
- Conducted September 17 – October 13, 2013
- Stratified to ensure representation by age, gender, province and community size
- Margin of sampling error: + / - 2.5% (19 in 20 samples)

RESPONSIBLE CITIZENSHIP



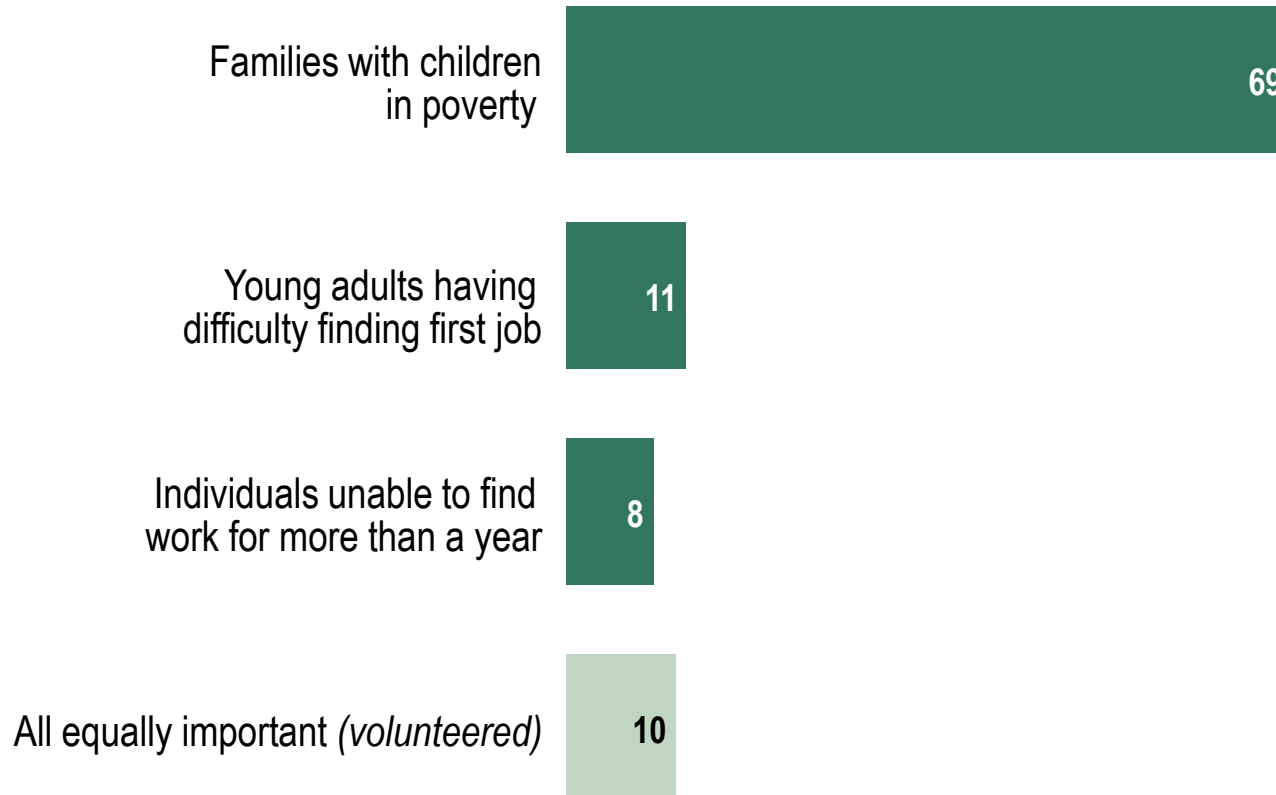
Society's responsibility to assist people in need

Respecting the aspirations of Aboriginal self-government

Access to social and economic assistance programs

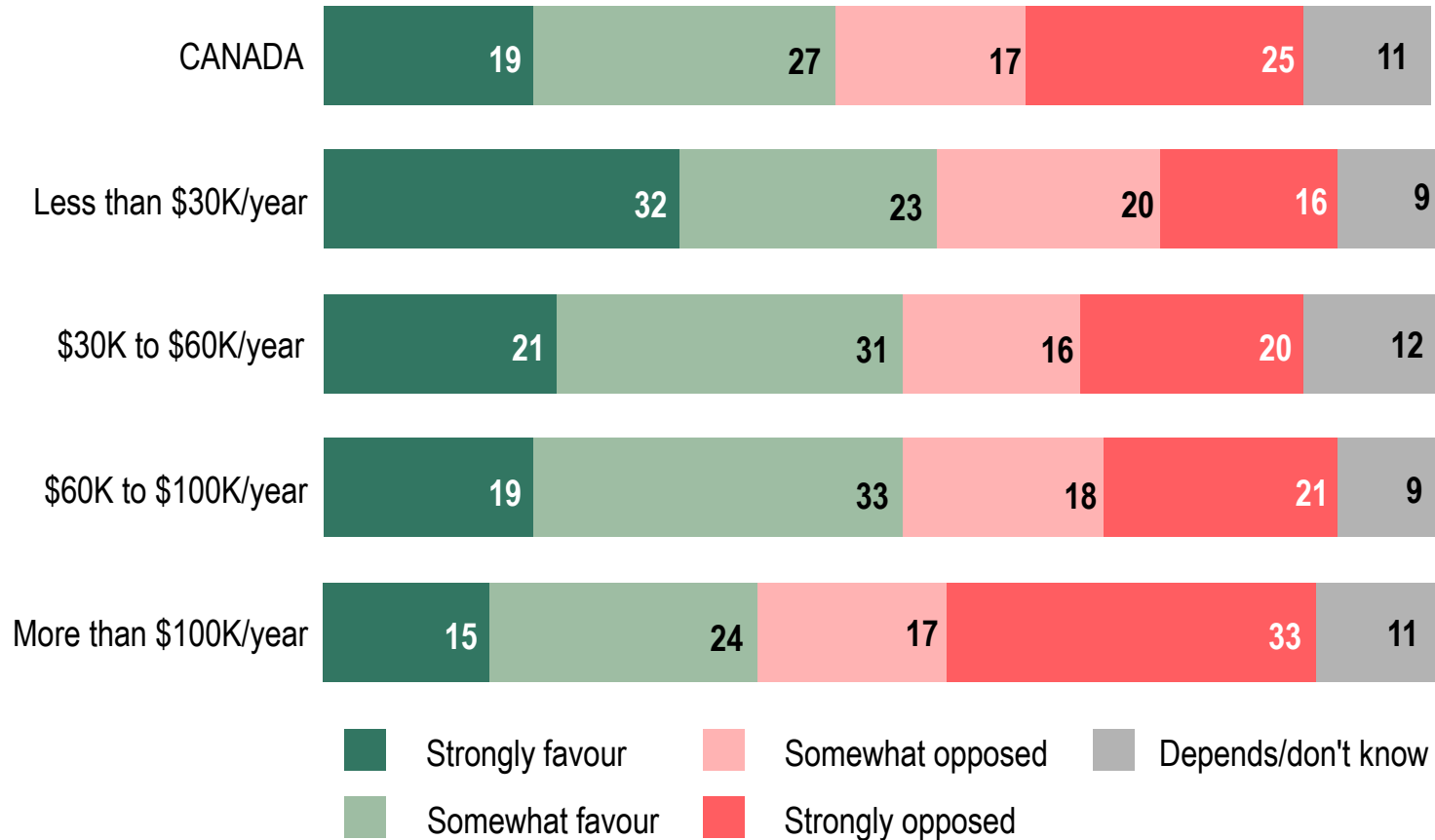


Who is most in need of more government assistance?



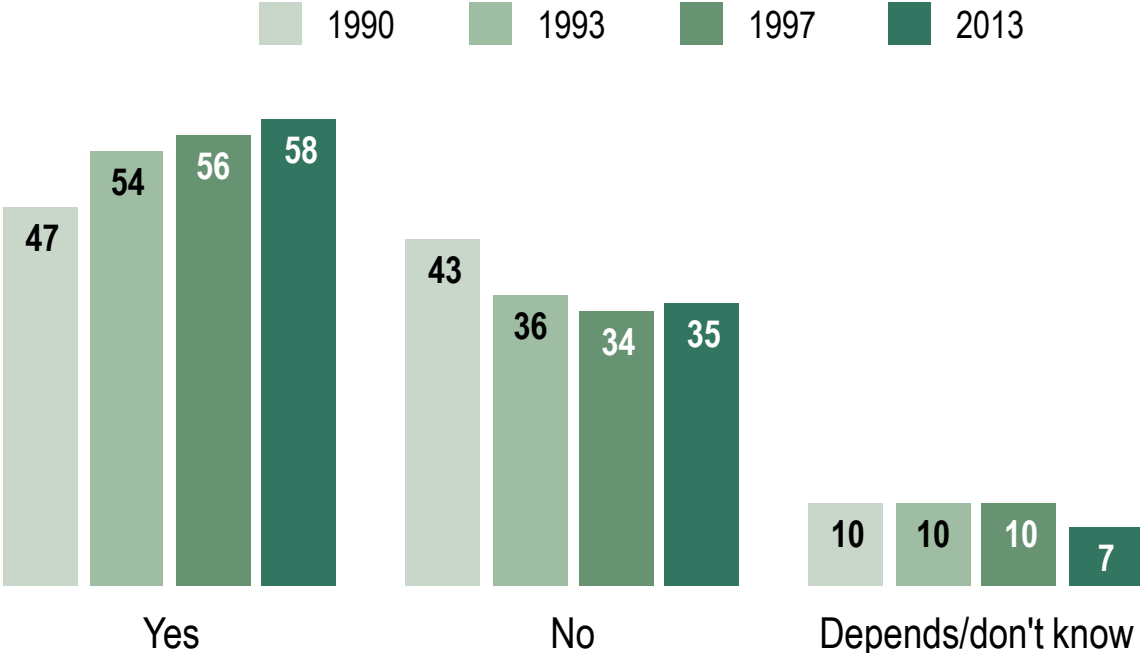
A guaranteed annual income for all Canadians, to replace current assistance programs

By household income



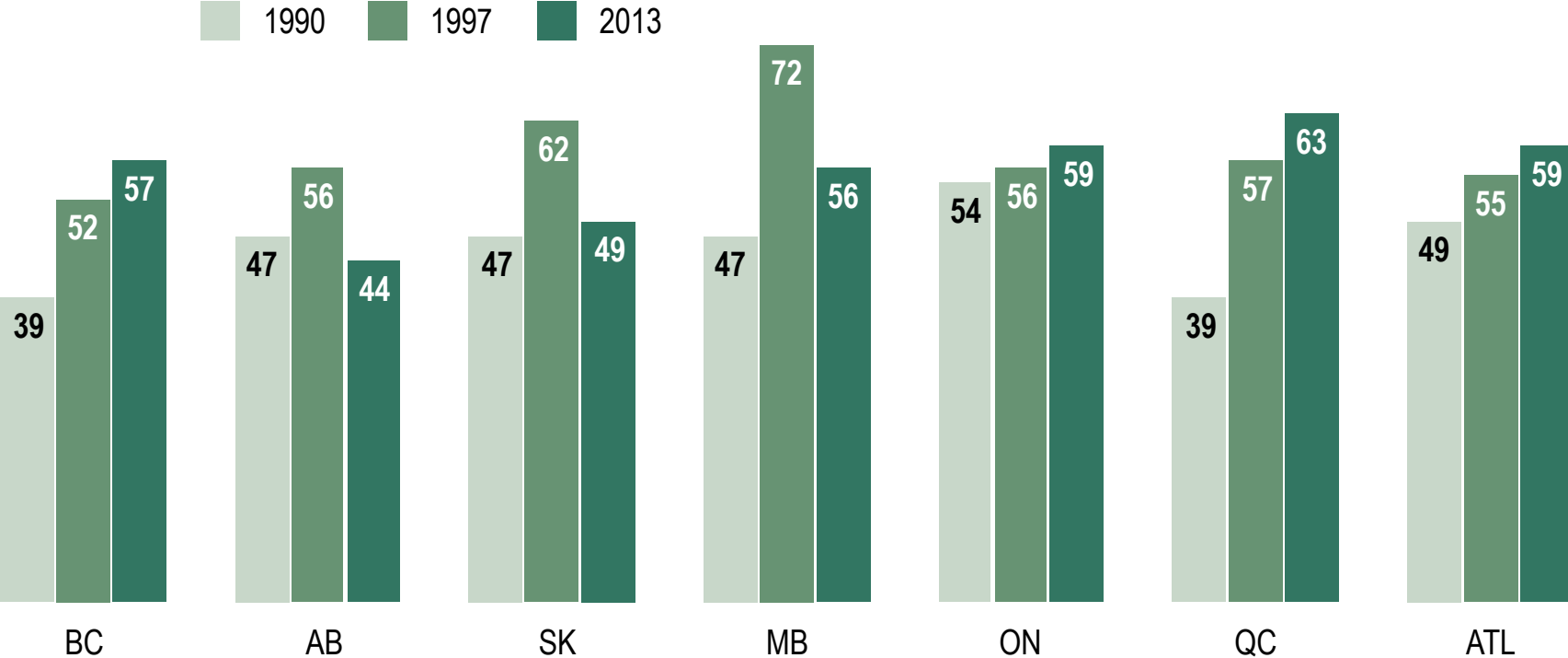
Should Aboriginal Peoples have self-government?

1990 – 2013



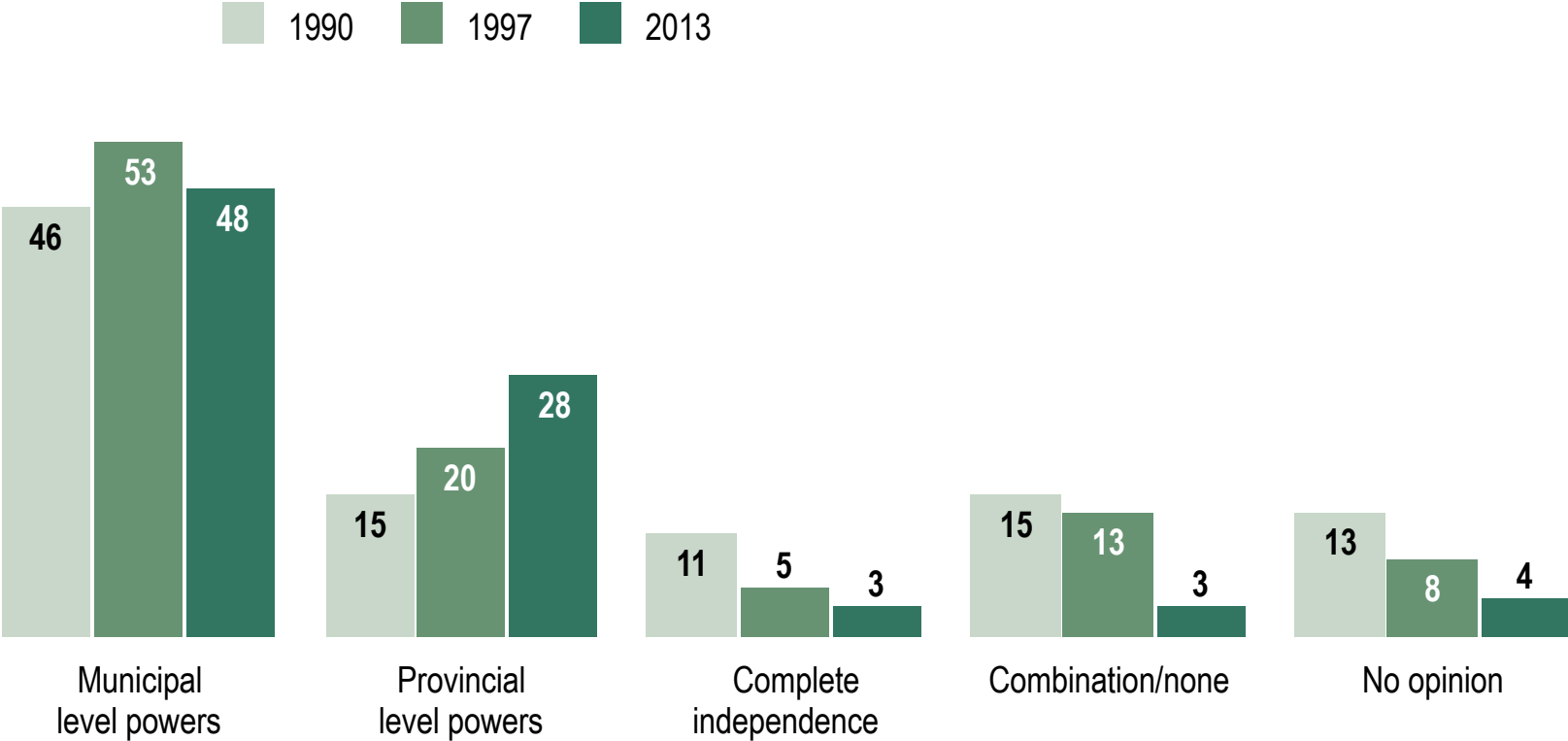
Should Aboriginal Peoples have self-government?

1990 – 2013 By province

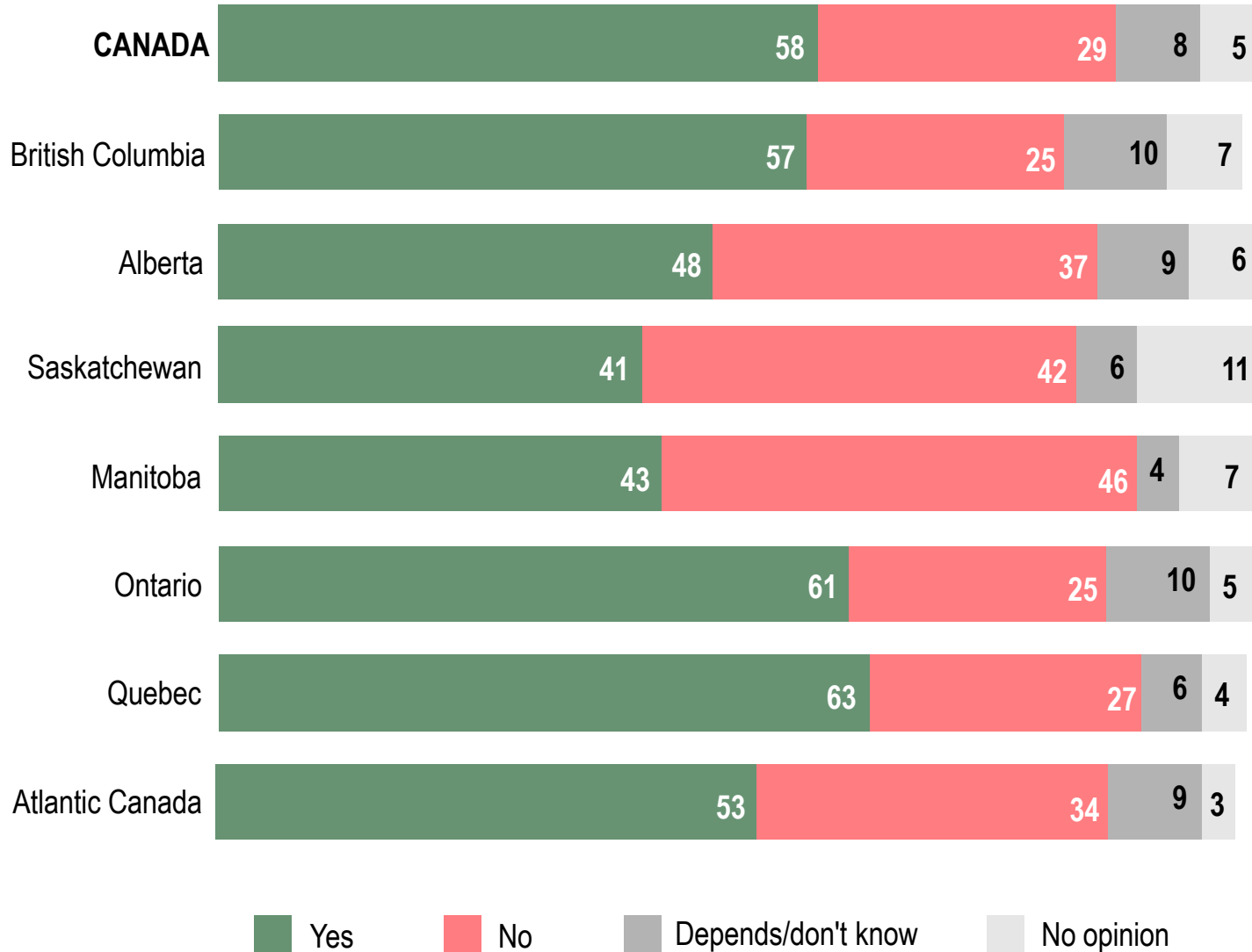


Preferred form of Aboriginal self-government

1990 – 2013



Does current Canadian government have moral responsibility to honour First Nations treaties, regardless of cost?



HUMAN RIGHTS AND DIGNITY

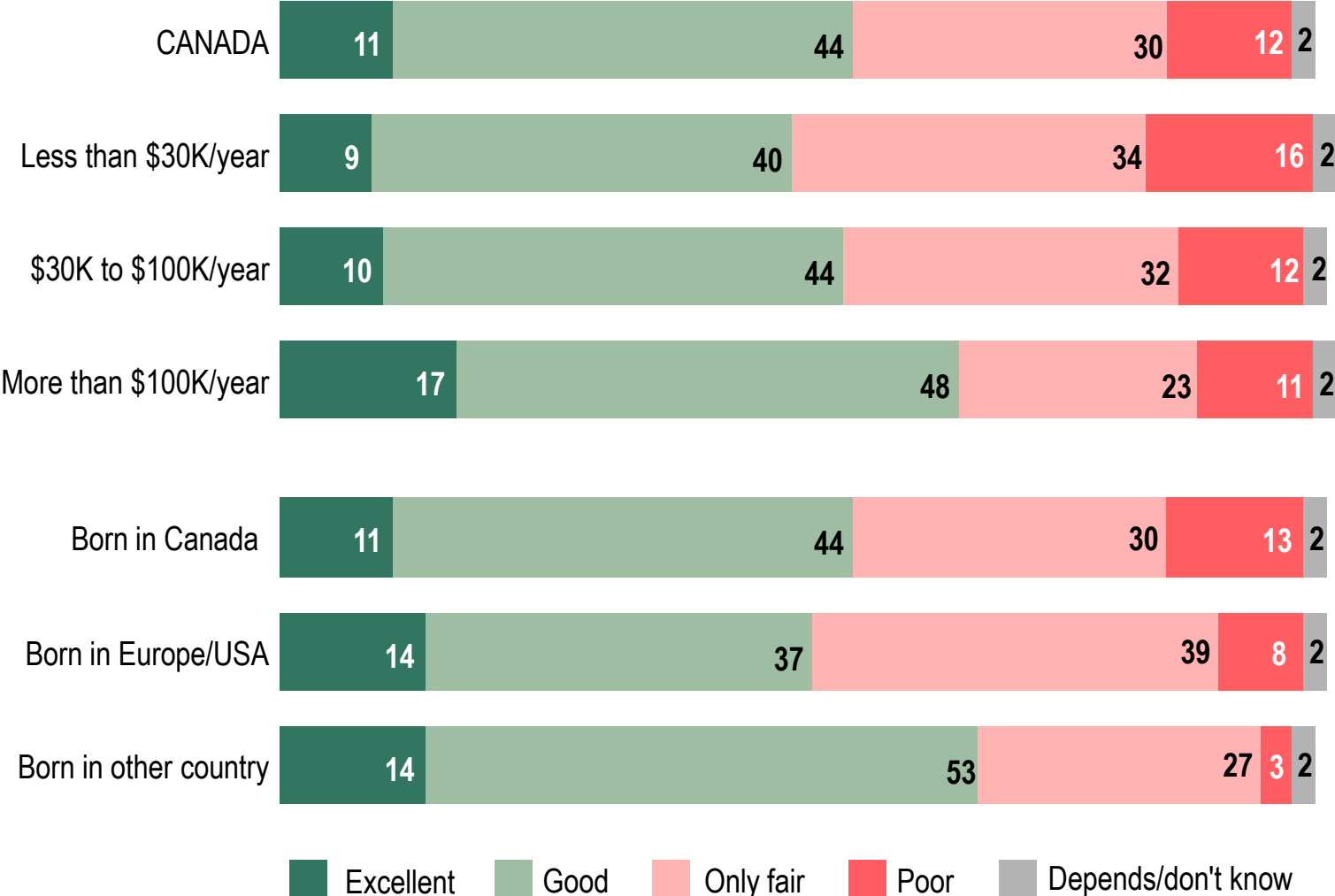


Canada's record on protecting human rights at home and abroad

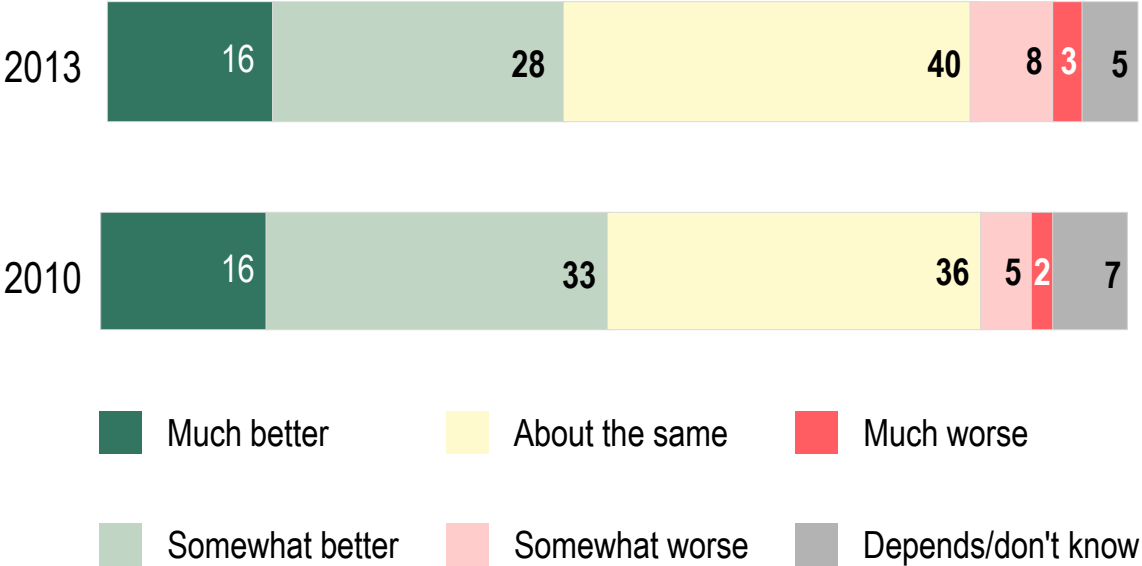
Extent of society's discrimination against minority groups

Canada's record on protecting the human rights of its own citizens

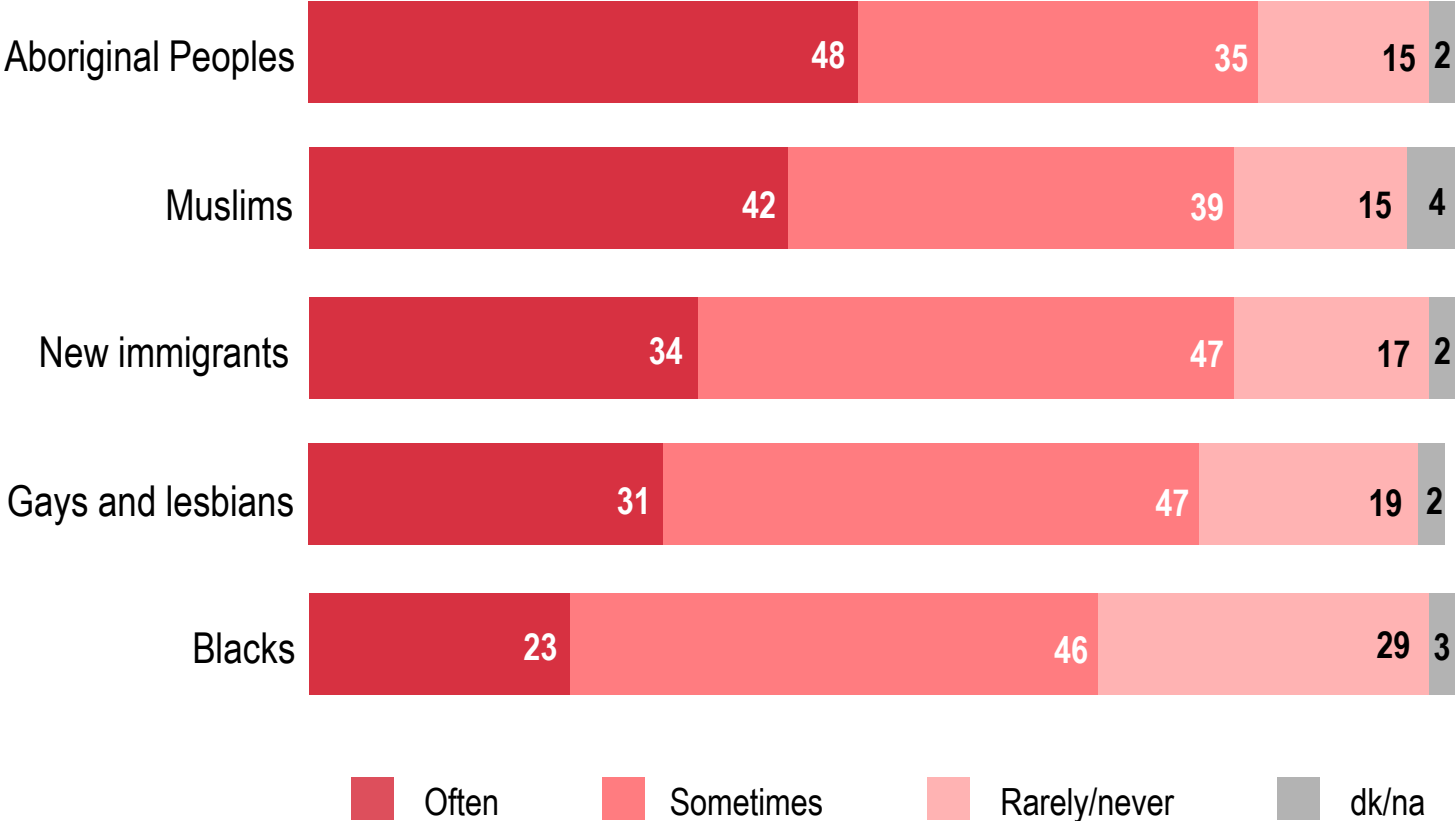
By income and country of origin



Canada's record on human rights vs. other western democracies

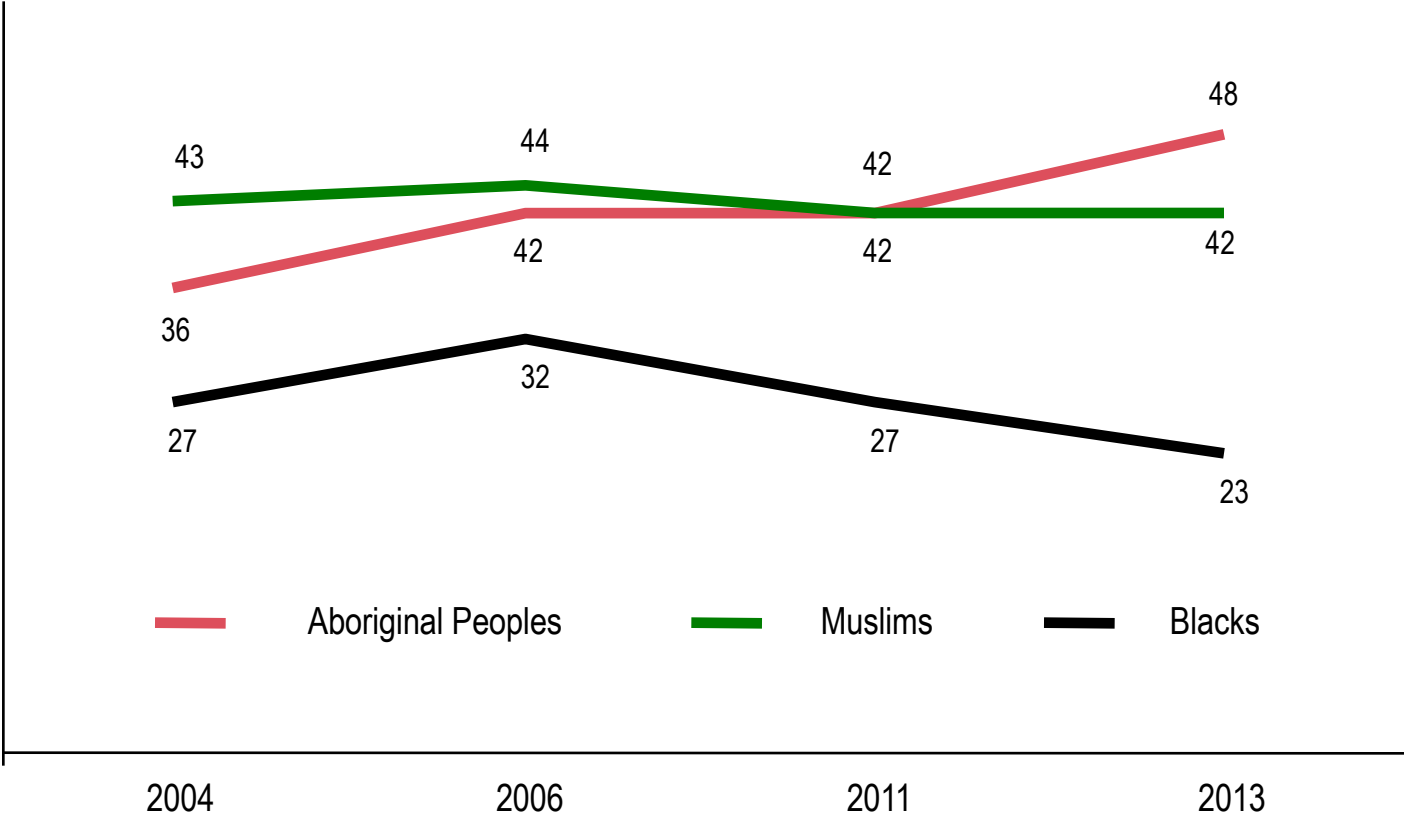


Frequency of discrimination against minority groups



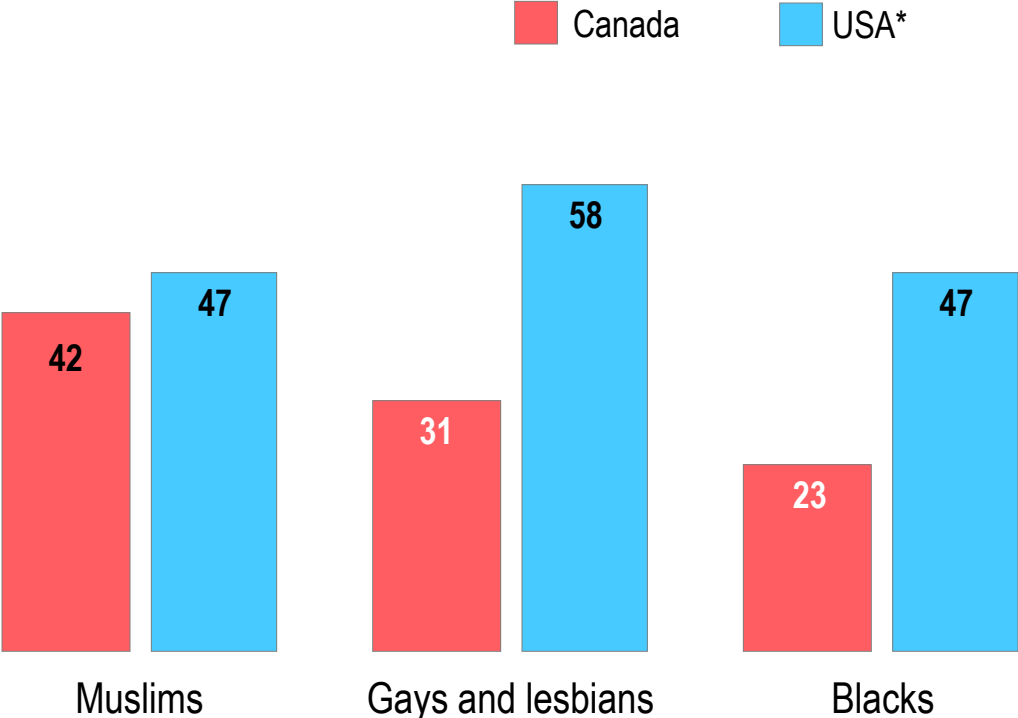
Groups often subject to discrimination

2004 – 2013



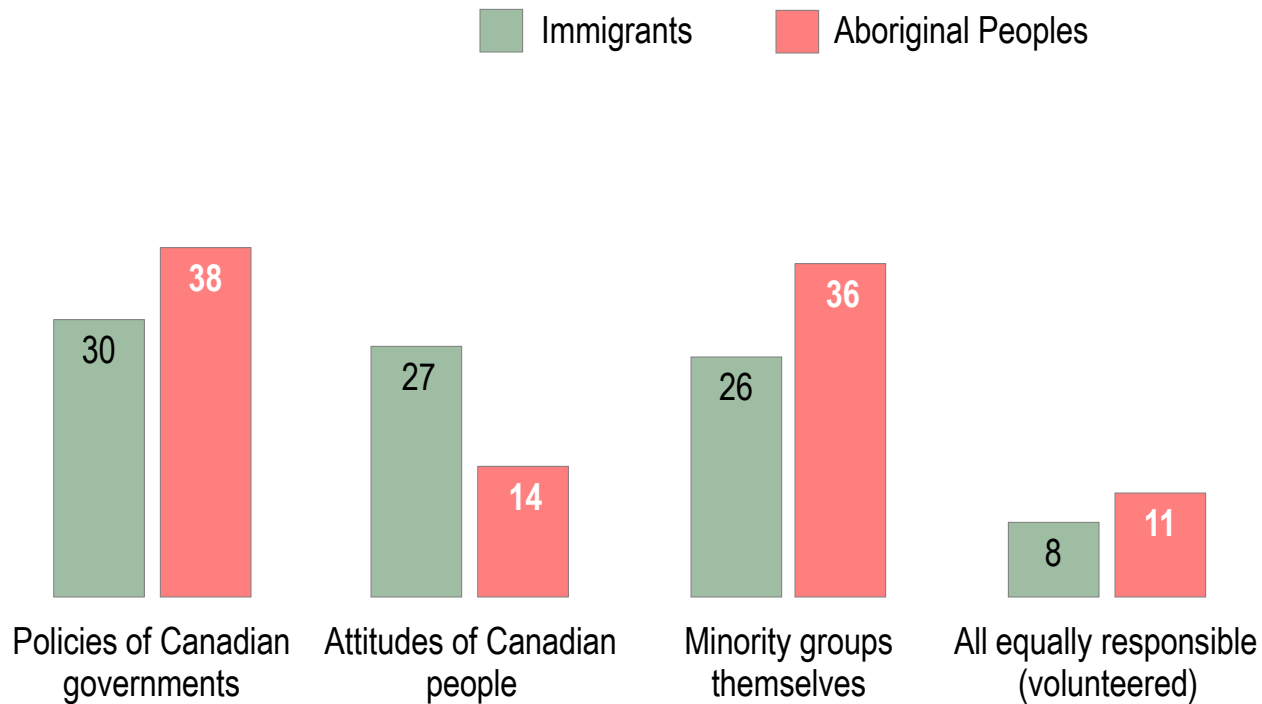
Groups often subject to discrimination

Canada and USA



*Pew research center, 2013

Who is most responsible for economic and social inequality among minority groups?





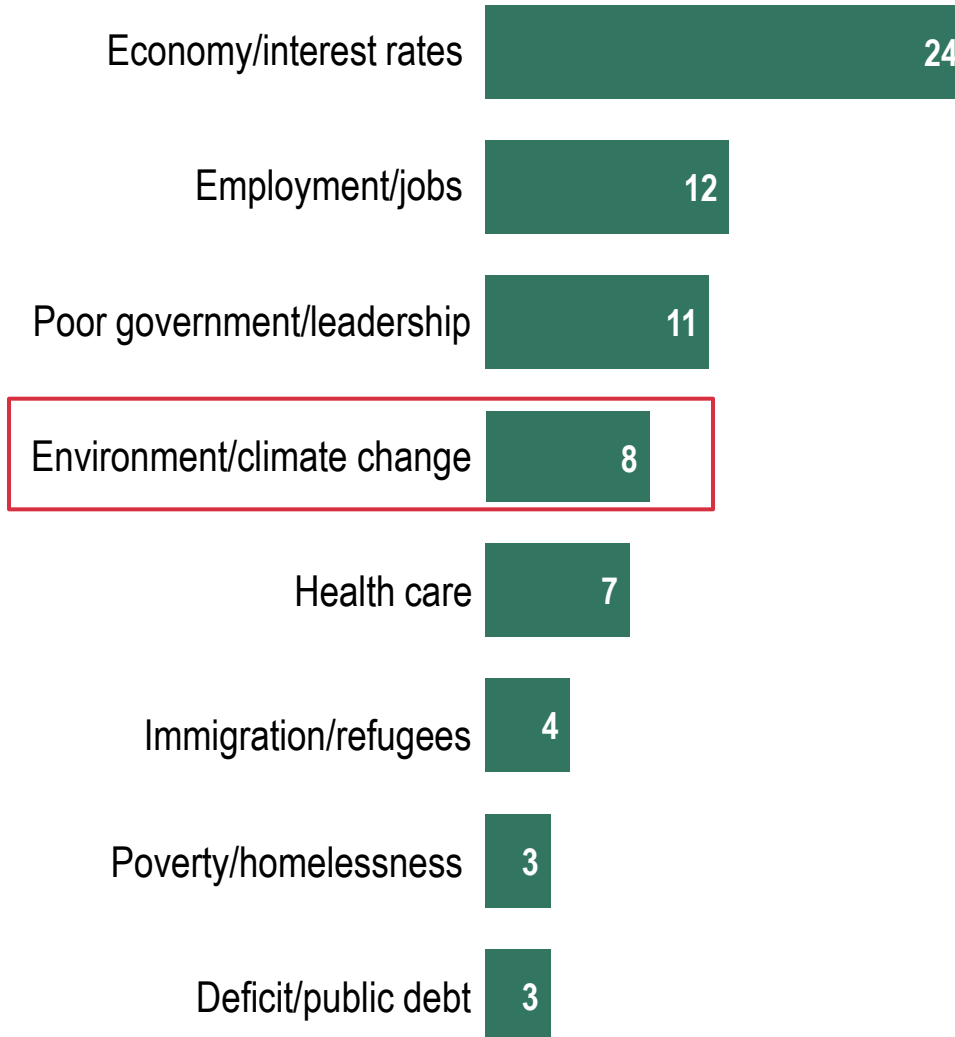
PEOPLE AND THEIR NATURAL ENVIRONMENT

How important is the environment as a national priority?

Extent to which environmental problems are hazardous to health

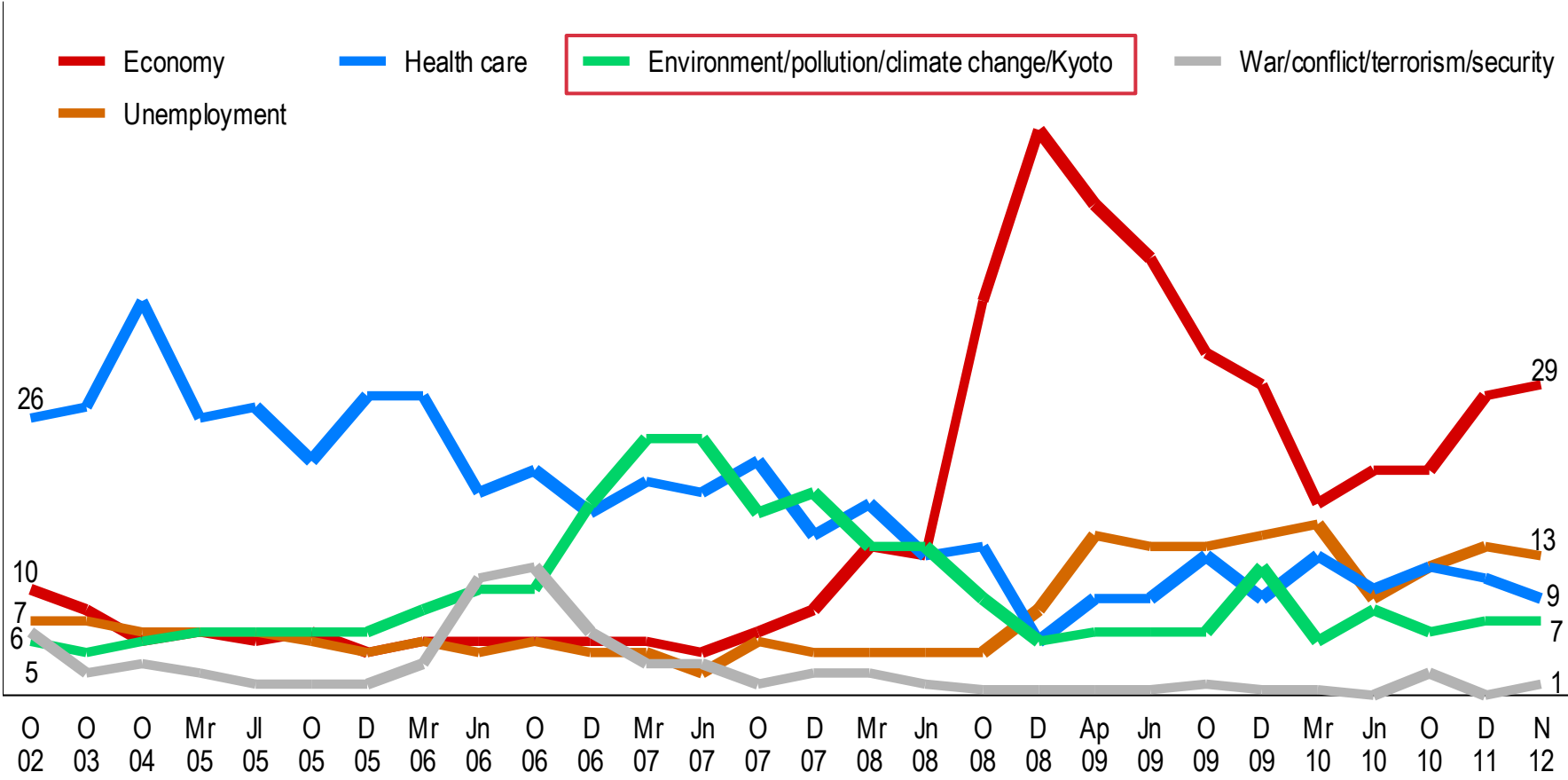
Most important problem facing Canada today

Unprompted responses – Top mentions



Most important problem facing Canada today*

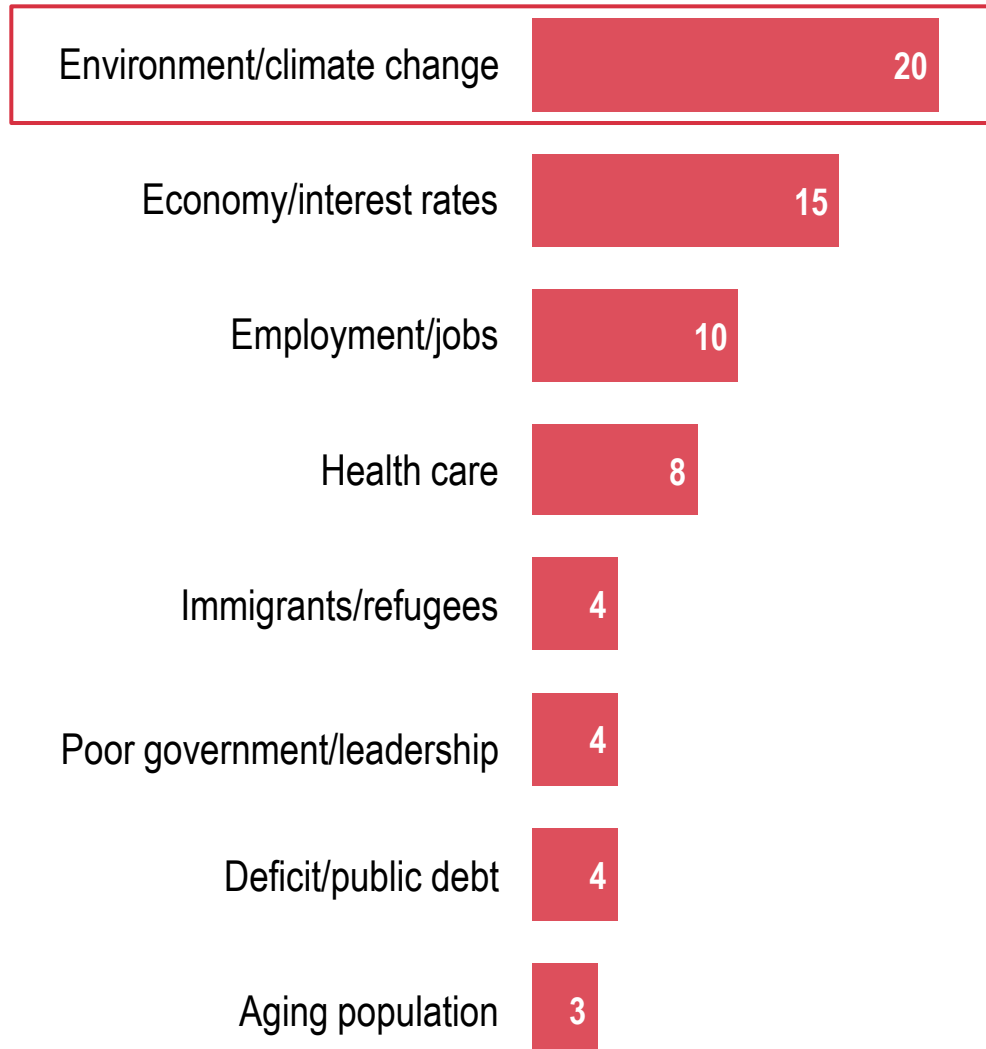
Unprompted responses – Top mentions



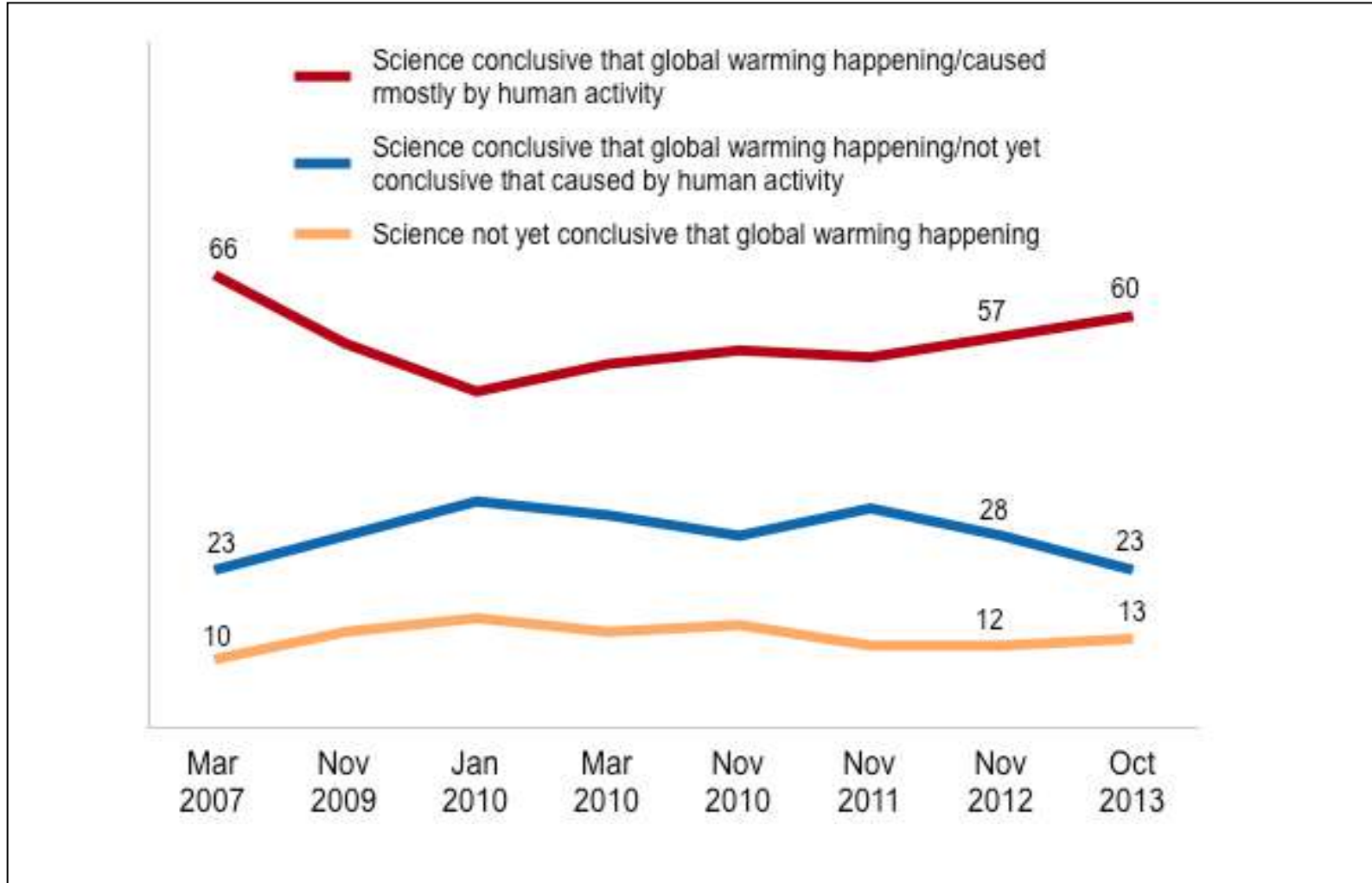
Source: Focus Canada 2012

Most important problem facing Canada in future if not addressed

Unprompted responses – Top mentions

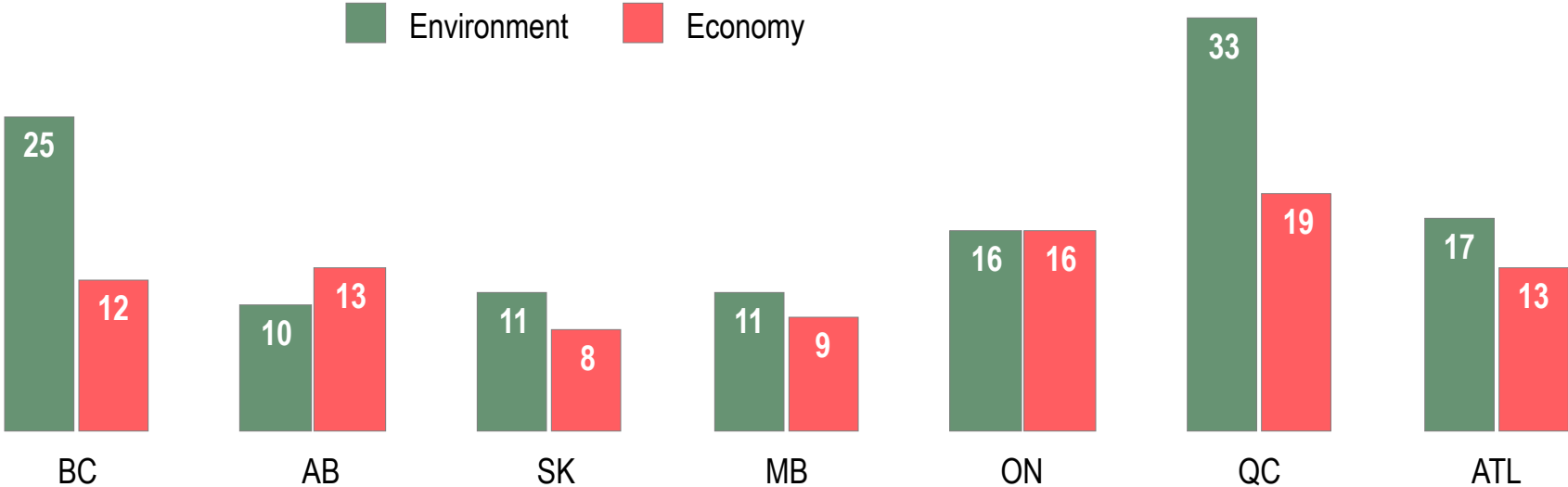


Belief in the reality of climate change*



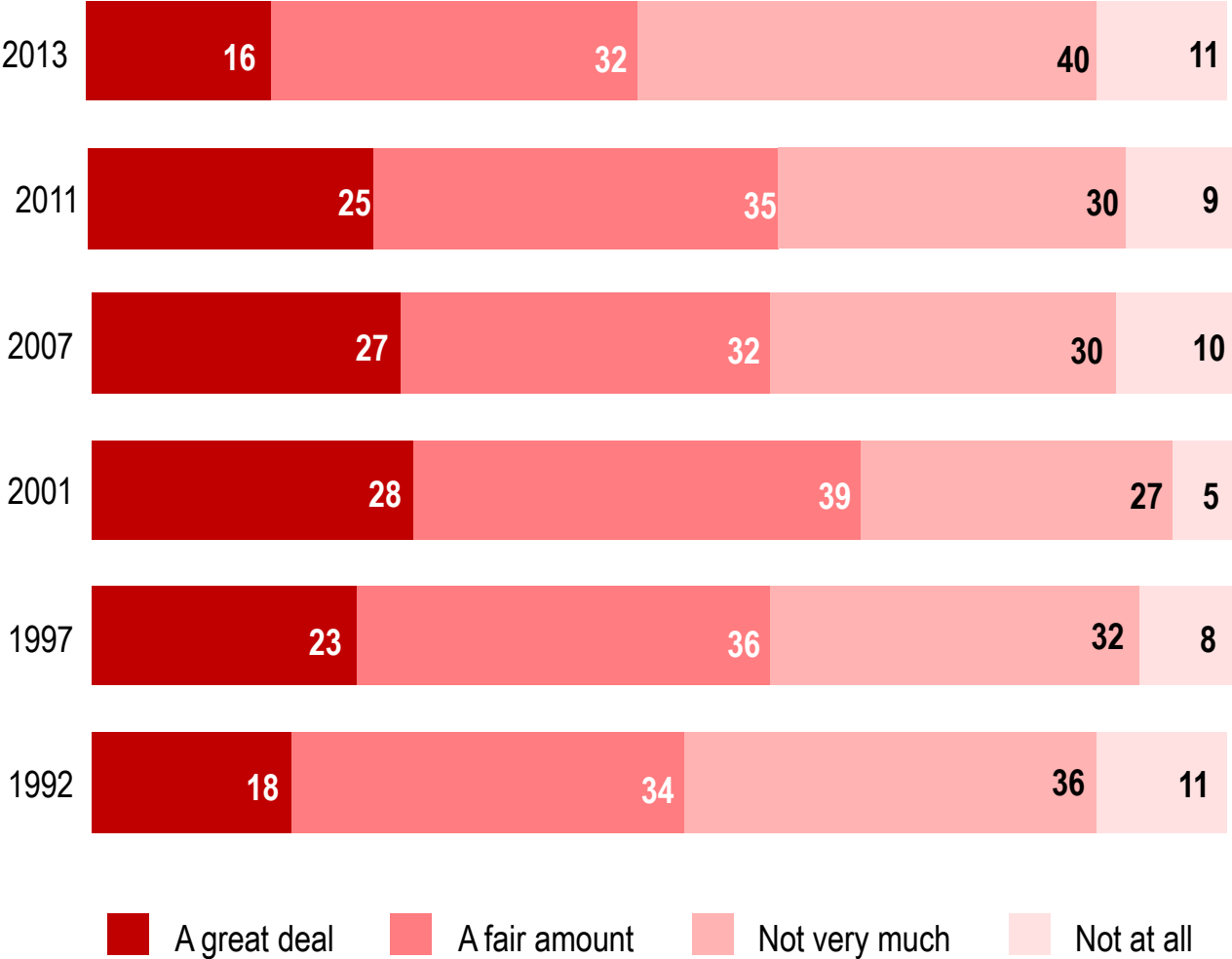
Most important problem facing Canada in future if not addressed

By province



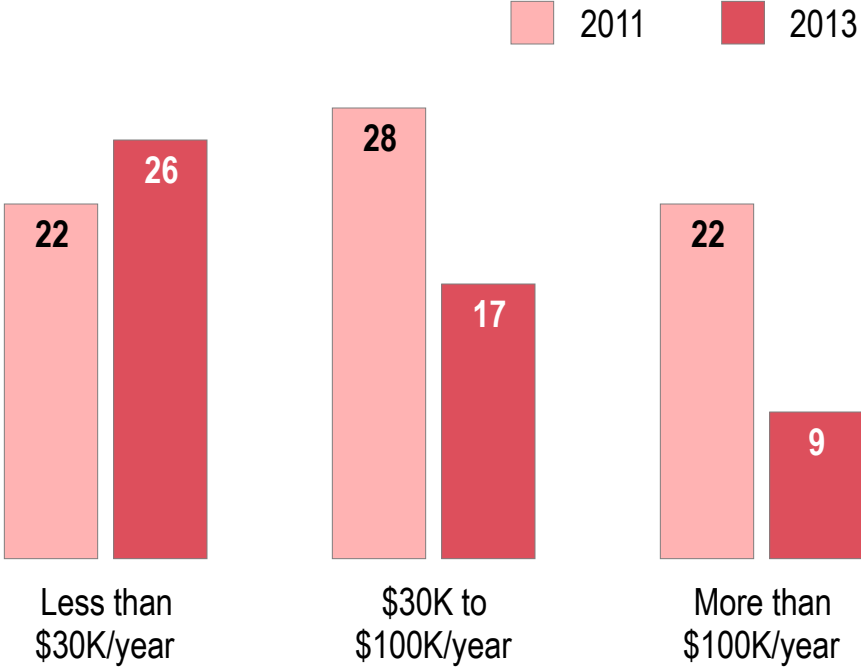
How much do environmental problems affect your own health?

1992 - 2013



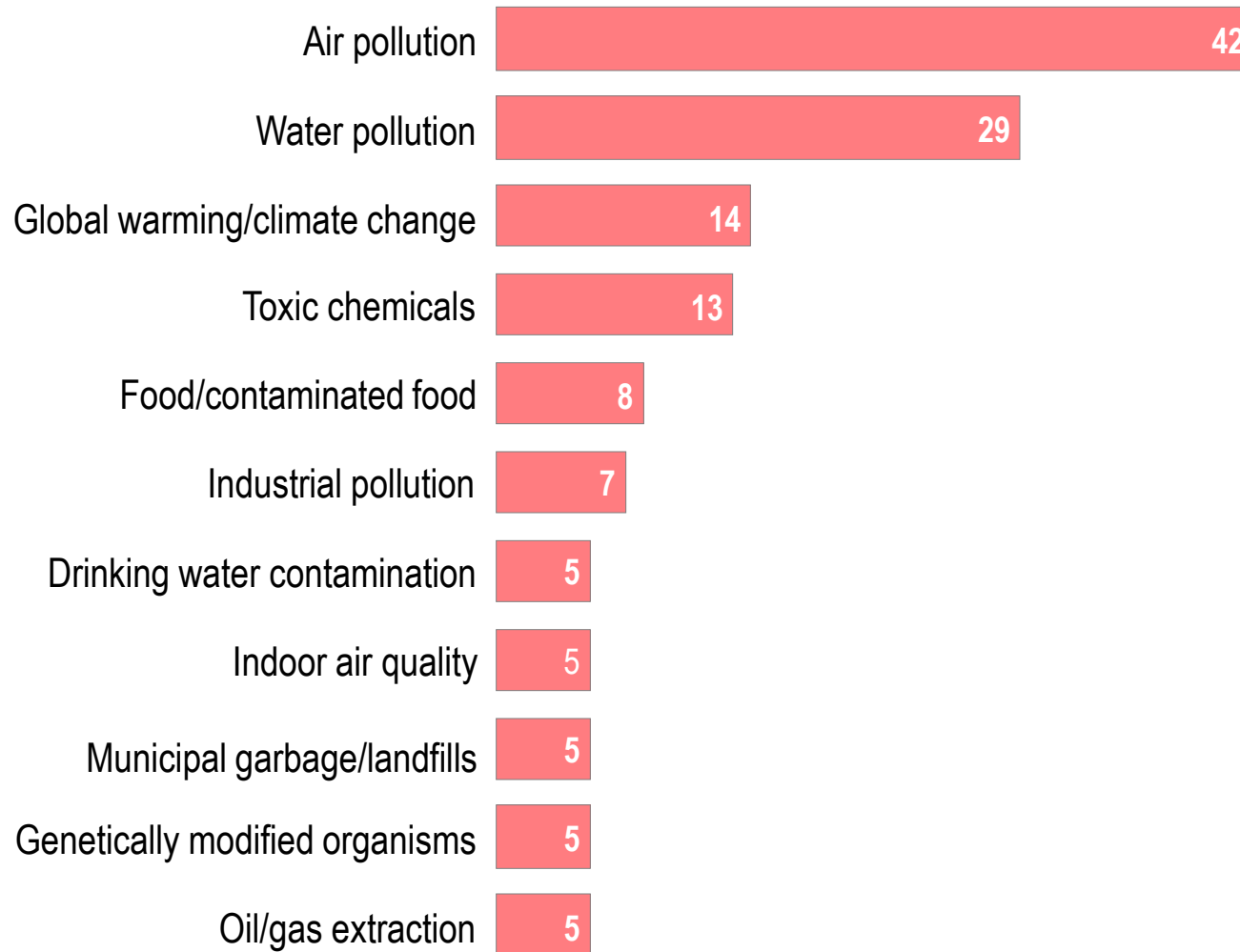
How much do environmental problems affect your own health?

“A great deal” by household income 2011 – 2013

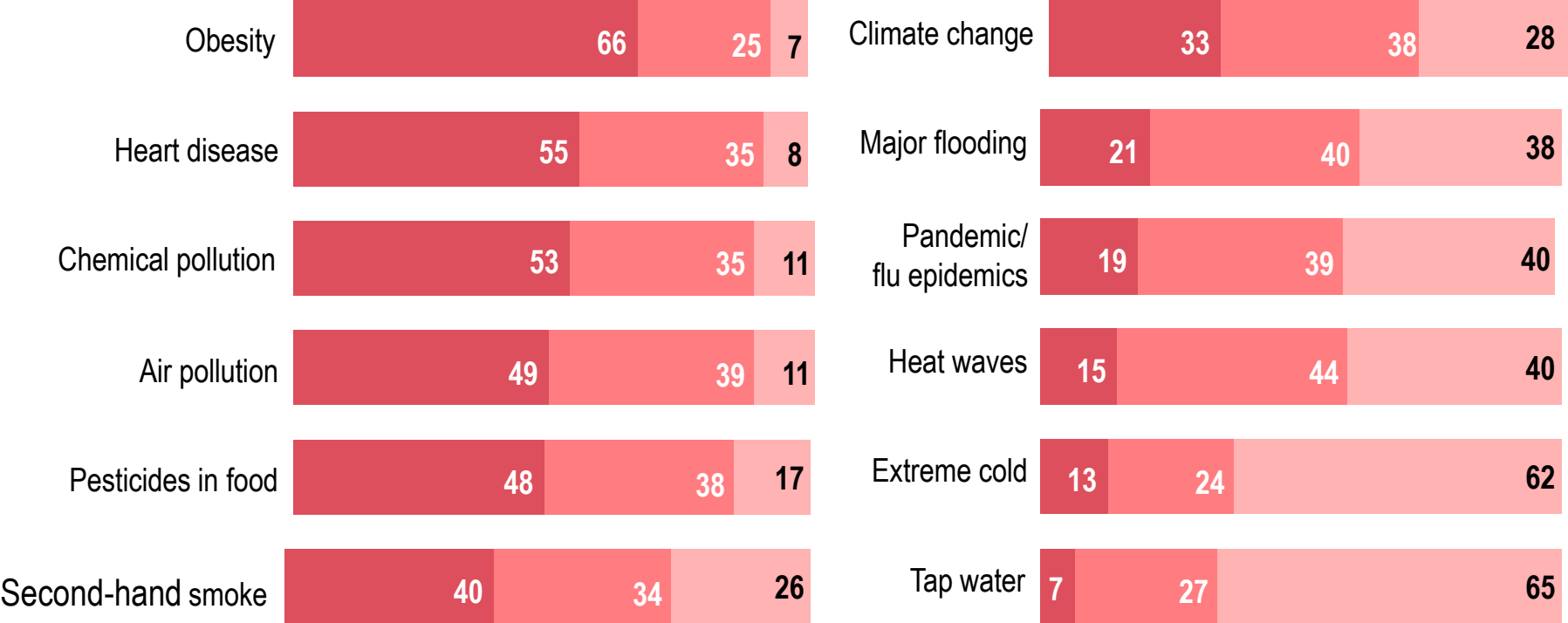


Most serious environmental hazards to public health

Unprompted responses – Top mentions

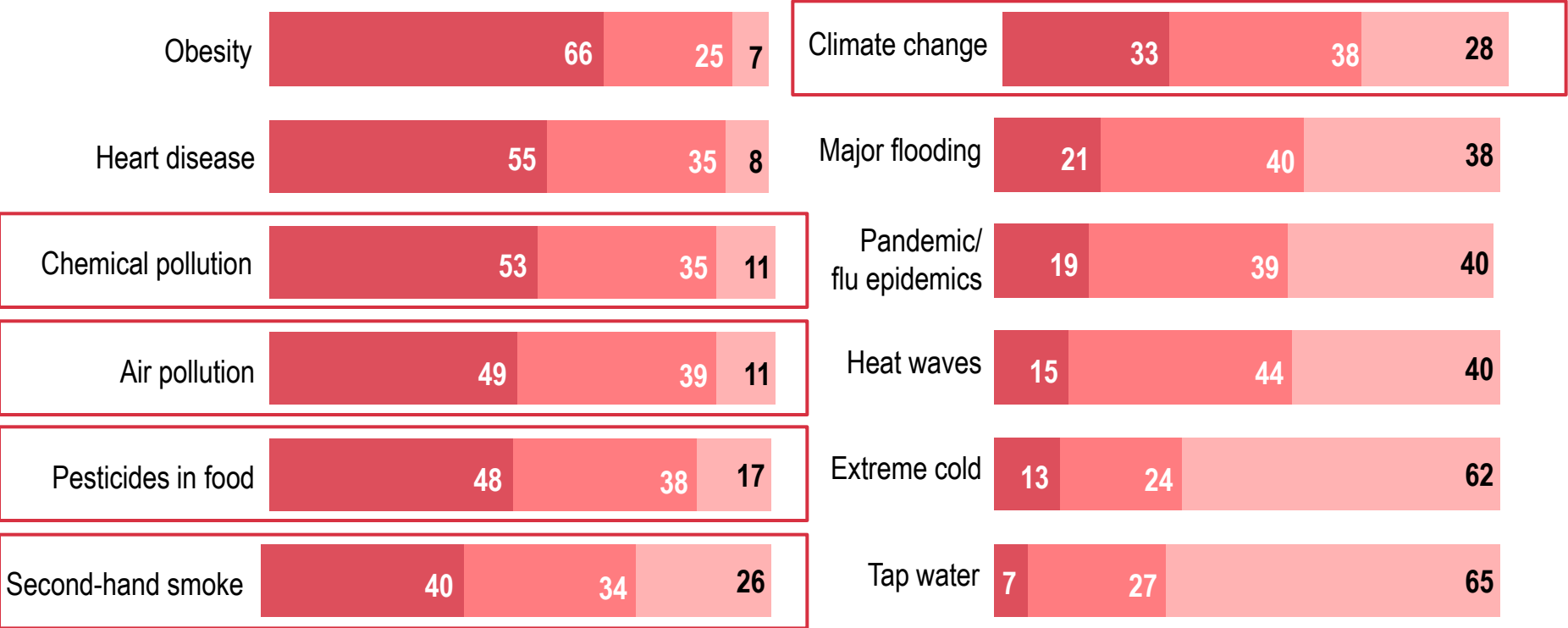


Potential risks to health of Canadians



Major risk
 Moderate risk
 Minor/no risk

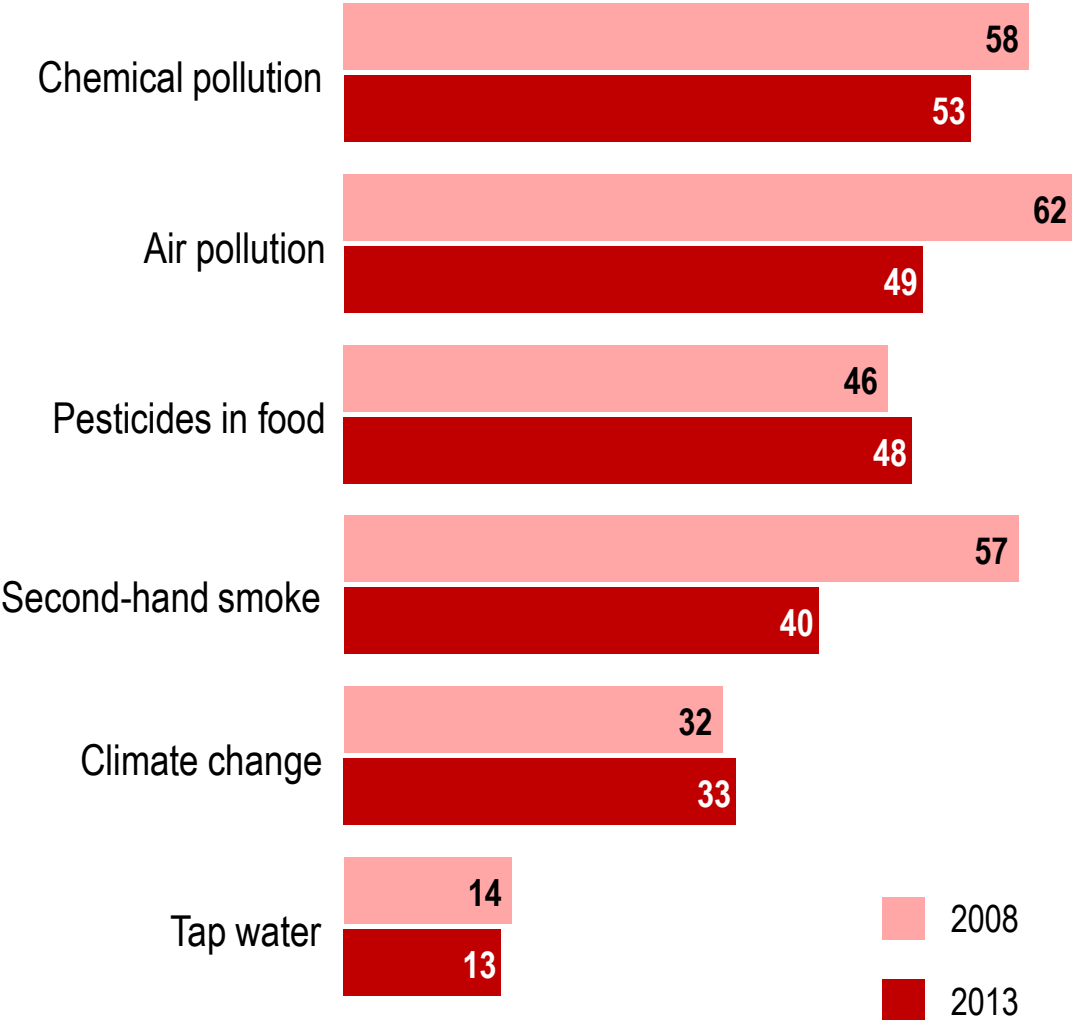
Potential risks to health of Canadians



Major risk
 Moderate risk
 Minor/no risk

Environmental hazards as a major risk to health of Canadians

2008 – 2013



CANADA IN THE WORLD

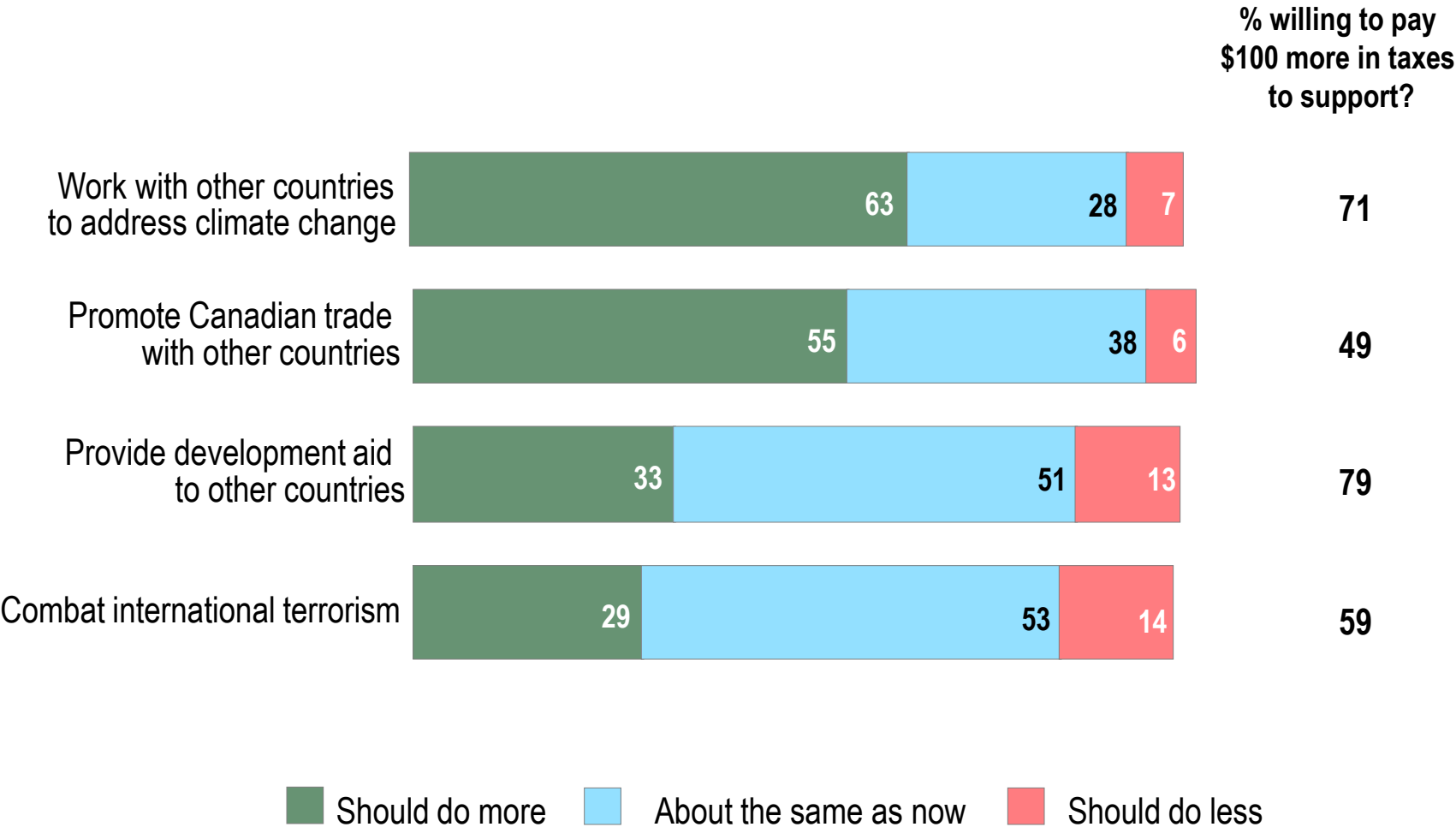


Canada's foreign policy priorities

Support for military peace-making missions abroad

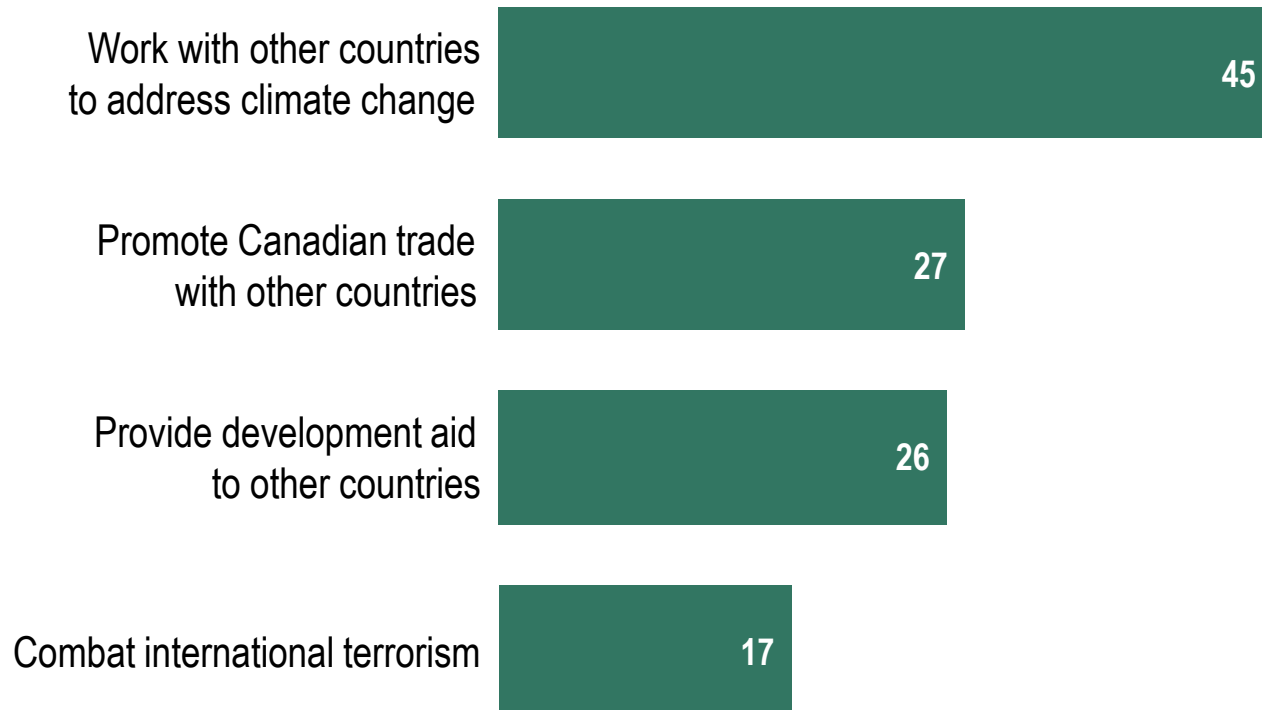
Who are our friends and enemies?

Canada's foreign policy priorities

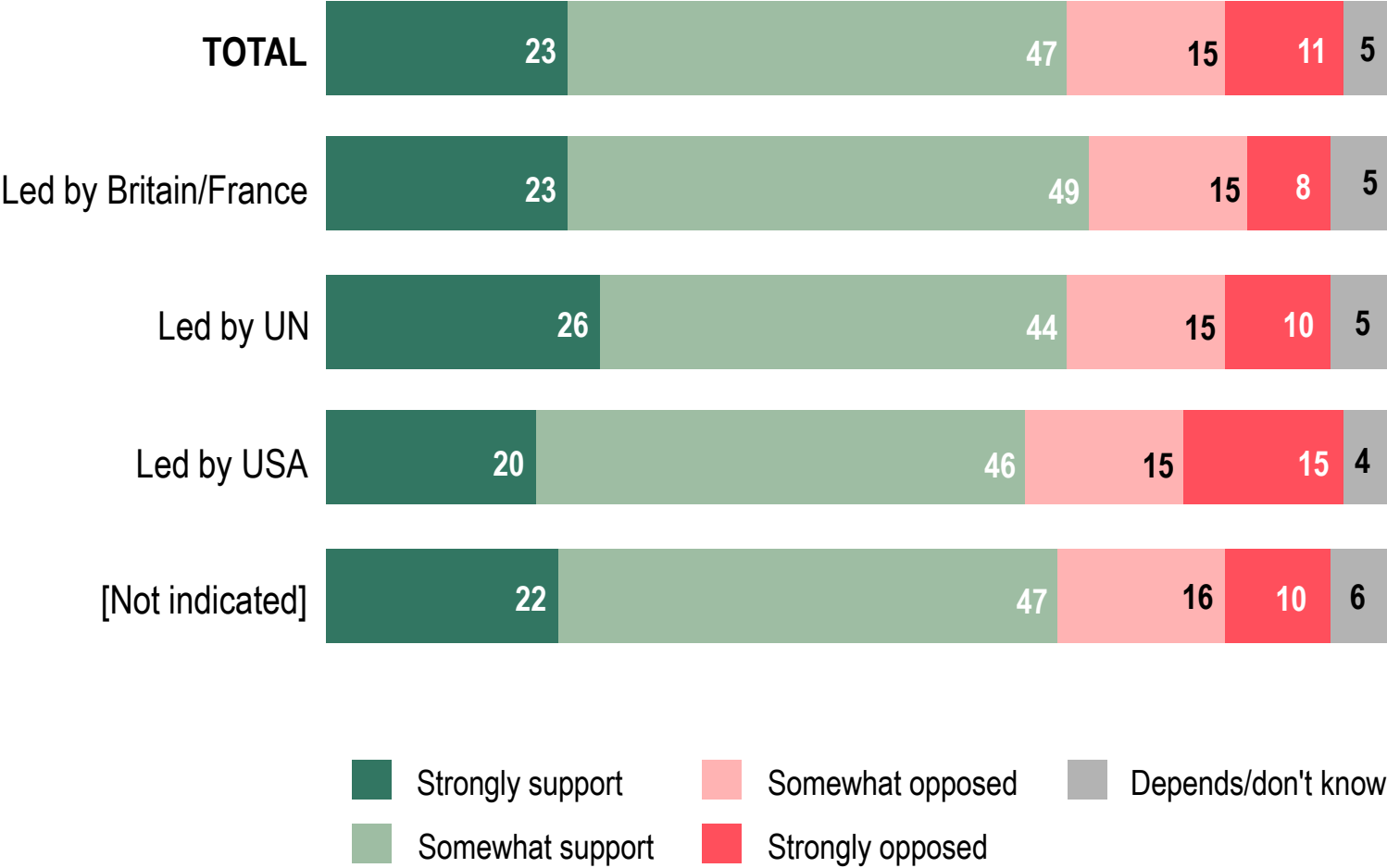


Canada's foreign policy priorities

Canada should do more and I am prepared to help pay for it through higher taxes

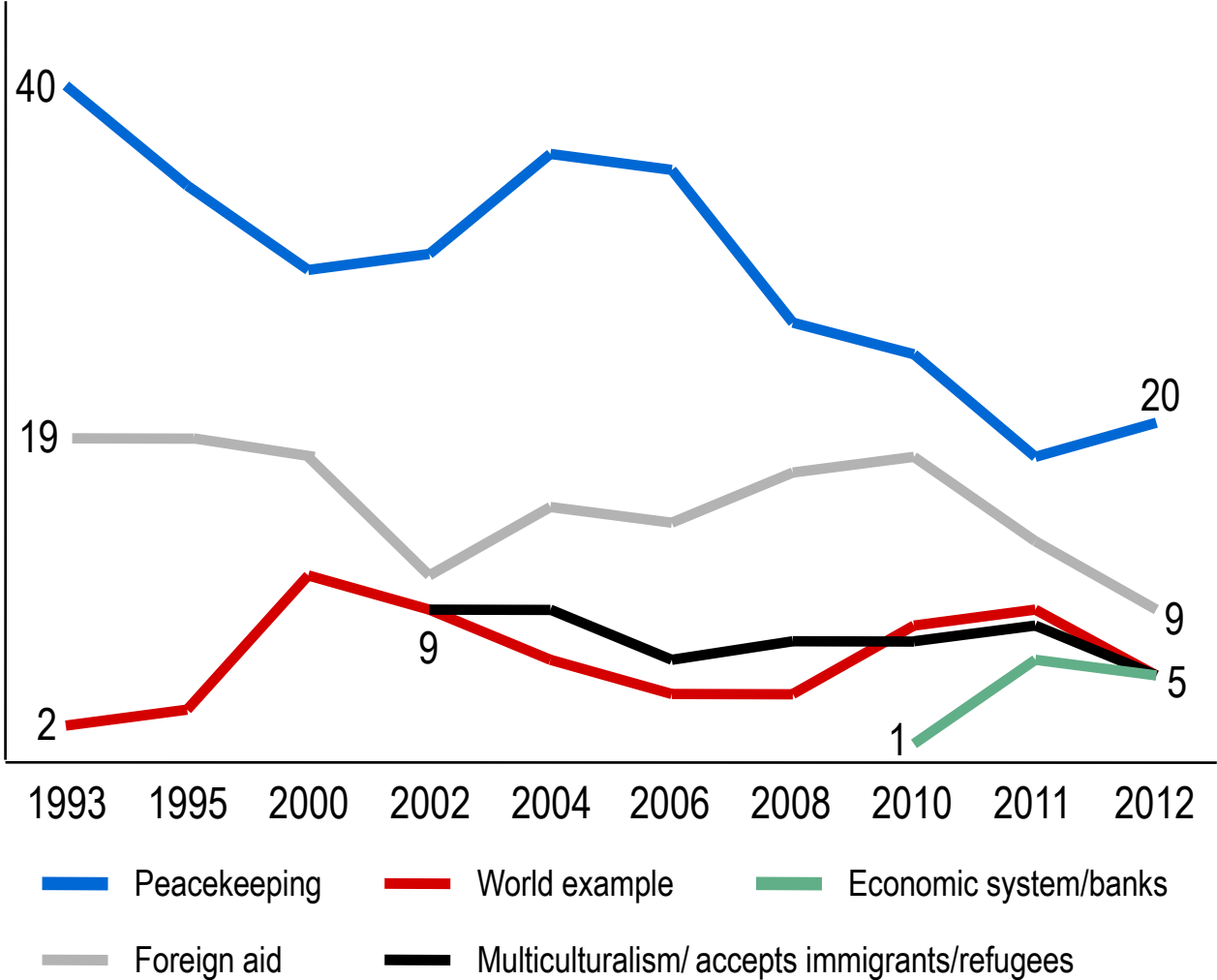


Canada's participation in military action to restore peace in a small African country



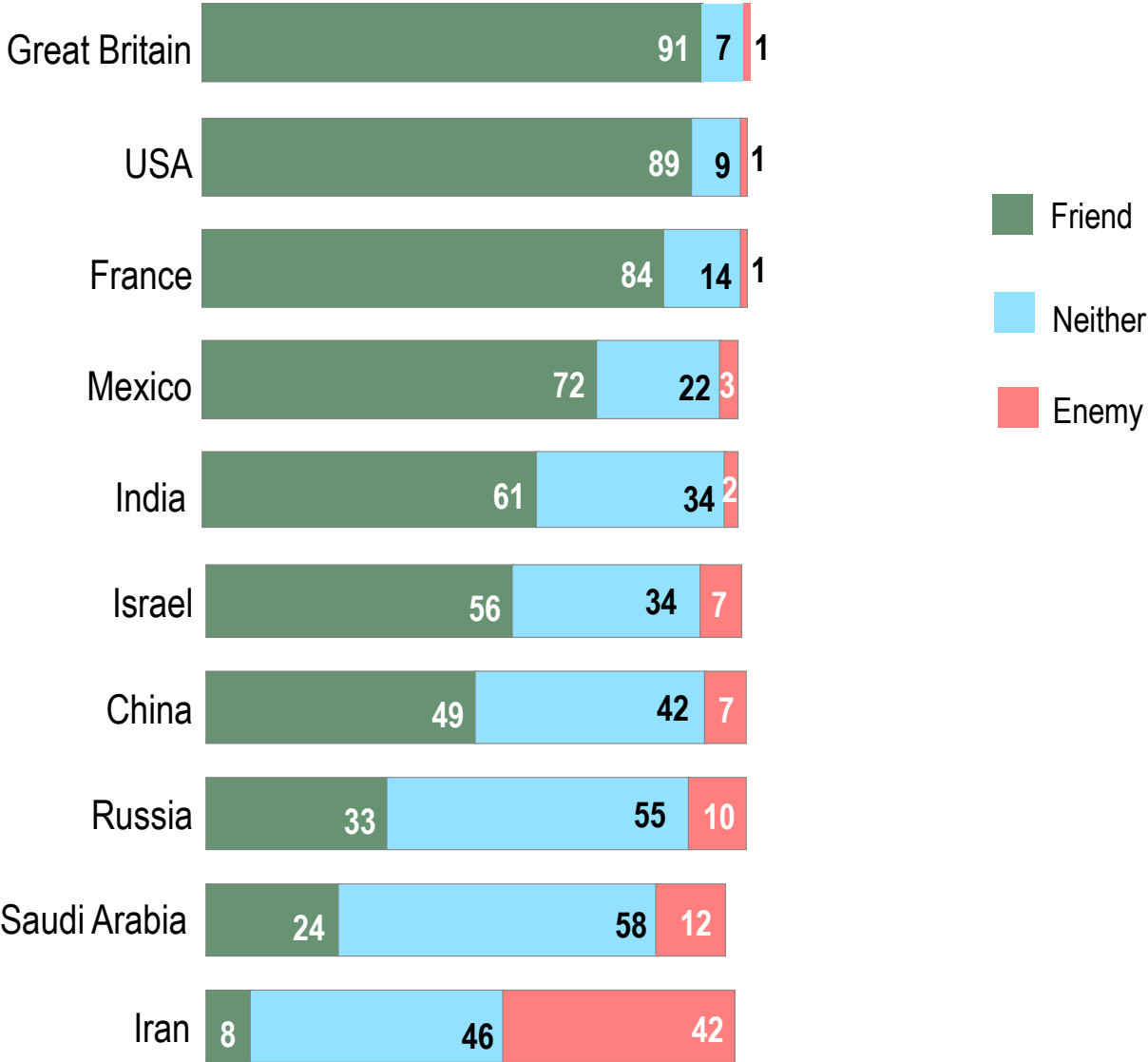
Canada's most positive contribution to the world*

1993 – 2012 Top mentions

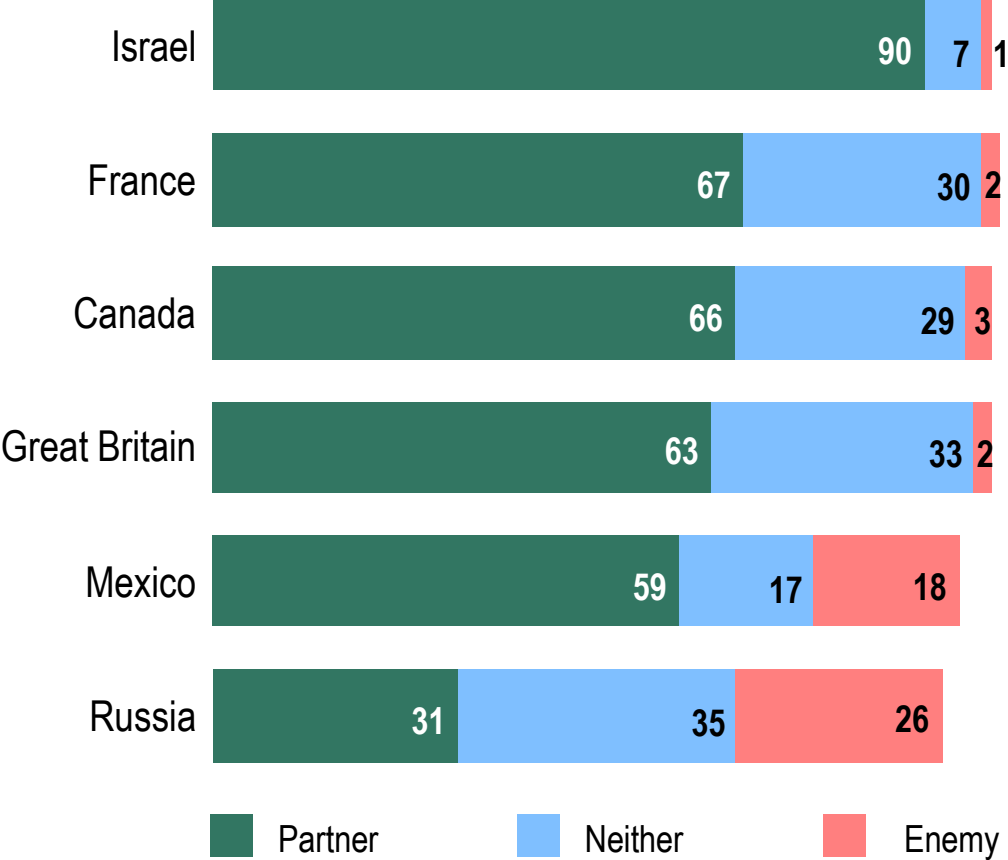


* Focus Canada 2012

Friend or enemy of Canada?



Partner or enemy of the USA?*



*Pew Research Center, 2013

Who are we as Canadians?



What this research tells us

- A clear sense of collective responsibility for those who are vulnerable and in need of assistance
- An increasing acknowledgement of the challenges and aspirations of Aboriginal Peoples
- Human rights protections are not a widespread concern, but most are mindful of ongoing discrimination against certain minorities
- Some do blame the victim, and bigotry is still present among us

What this research tells us

- Environmental issues are not a pressing public concern – for many it remains more symbolic than concrete
- But issues like climate change are broadly acknowledged to be critical priorities for the future
- Canadians want their country to be a force of good in the world, and send the troops if necessary
- We don't divide the world into friends and enemies



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