

MEETING QUEBEC'S ENERGY NEEDS (2022)

Montreal Economic Institute

Research Report
March 2022

© 2022 Ipsos. All rights reserved. Contains Ipsos' Confidential and Proprietary information and may not be disclosed or reproduced without the prior written consent of Ipsos.



Ideas for a
More Prosperous
Society



SUMMARY

- As recent international events have brought to the fore the importance of rethinking global energy needs, **over half (52%)** of Quebecers believe that their province should develop its own oil resources instead of importing all the oil it consumes. This represents an **increase of 9 points** compared to last year - bouncing back after 2021's decrease. Indeed, **almost three quarters of Quebecers (73%)** agree that current taxes and duties on gasoline are already too high and should not be increased further.
- **Half of Quebecers (50%)** feel the actions taken by some environmental groups are preventing too many job-creation projects in Quebec from moving forward. This marks an increase of 9 points since August 2021. Furthermore, **One-third (33%) disagree** (a decrease of 11 points) and the remaining 18% say they don't know. **Just over half (55%) of Quebecers** think the Quebec government should promote competition in the production of green hydrogen. A similar proportion (**54%**) say Quebec should follow the example of the EU, designating natural gas as a green energy source. Slightly fewer (**47%**) feel job creation in their region is more important than the reduction of global greenhouse gas emissions. Finally, **nearly 6 out of 10 Quebecers (57%)** agree with the idea that the government of Quebec should allow natural gas development projects to go ahead.
- **Slightly less than half (45%)** of Quebecers agree with the Quebec government's idea to prohibit all exploitation of the province's gas and oil potential - with 20% 'strongly agreeing'. In comparison, around one-third (36%) disagree. However, **half (51%)** of Quebecers agree that, if the government's idea is implemented, companies that hold licenses to tap into the province's oil and natural gas reserves should be compensated according to the fair market value of their license, while 28% disagree and 22% don't know.

Methodology



These are findings of an Ipsos poll conducted on behalf of the Montreal Economic Institute.



A sample of 1,007 Quebec residents aged 18 years and over was interviewed between 25 February and 2 March 2022.



Weighting according to age, gender and language was employed to ensure that the sample's composition reflects the overall population according to the latest census information.



The precision of Ipsos online polls is measured using a credibility interval. In this case, the results are accurate to within **+/- 3.5 percentage points**, 19 times out of 20, of what the results would have been had all Quebec adults been polled.

Could Environmental Groups' Actions Hinder Job Creation?

Half of Quebecers (50%) feel the actions taken by some environmental groups are preventing too many job-creation projects in Quebec from moving forward. This marks an increase of 9 points since August 2021. One-third (33%) disagree (a decrease of 11 points). The remaining 18% say they don't know.

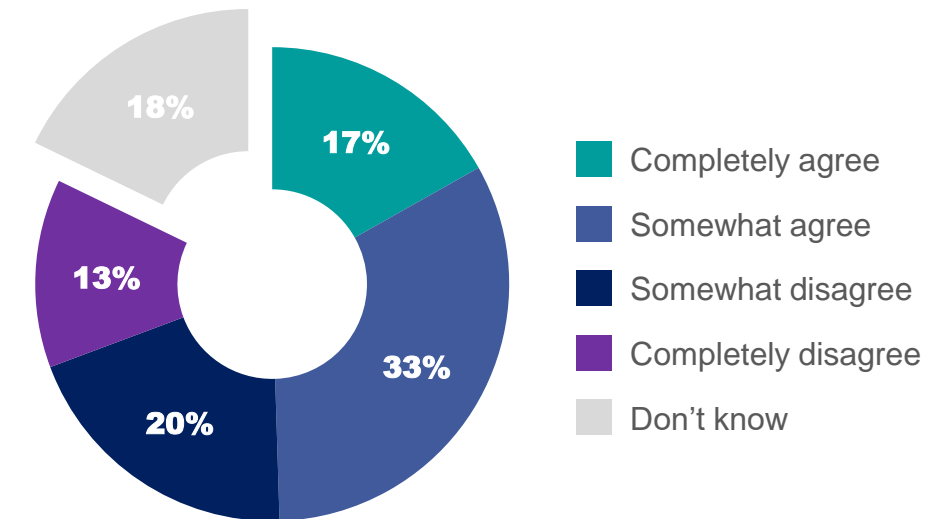
Men are more likely to say that they believe environmental groups are preventing too many job-creation projects from going forward and are more likely to say they 'completely agree' (21% v. 12% among women). Women are more likely to say they don't know.

50%

Agree Aug 2021: 41%

33%

Disagree Aug 2021: 44%



Perceptions of actions taken by environmental groups and job-creating projects



56%

of men agree vs. 44% of women



61%

Of residents of the greater Quebec region agree vs. 48% for greater Montreal, and 48% for other regions

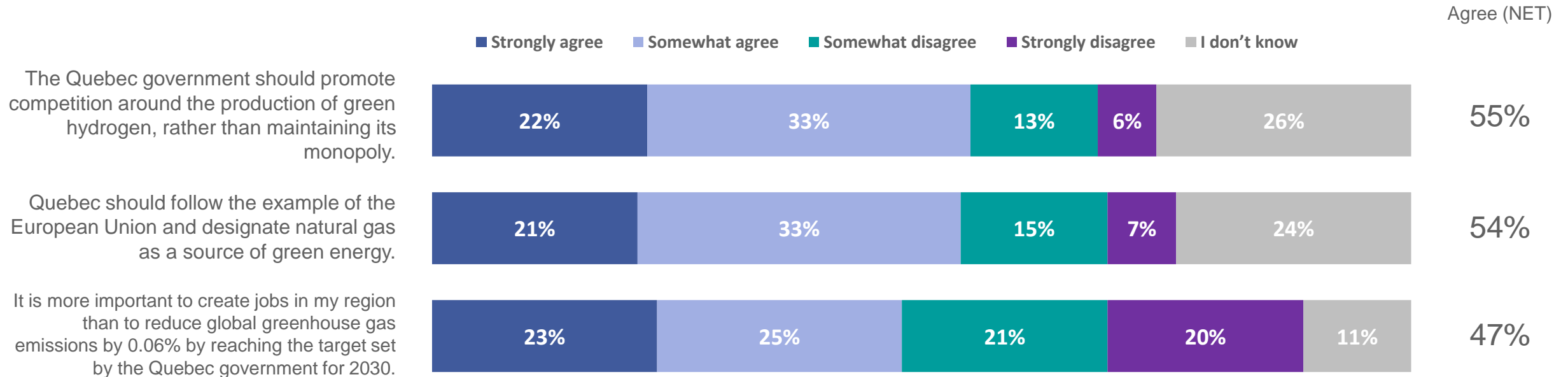


24%

of women say they don't know vs. 11% of men

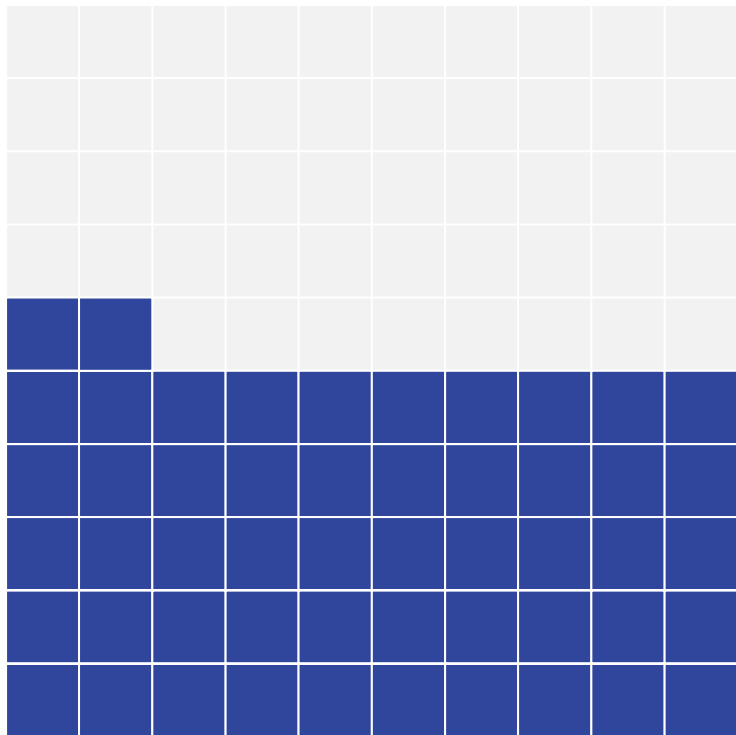
Attitudes Towards Green Energy Creation

Just over half (55%) of Quebecers think the Quebec government should promote competition in the production of green hydrogen. A similar proportion (54%) say Quebec should follow the example of the EU, designating natural gas as a green energy source. Slightly fewer (47%) feel job creation in their region is more important than the reduction of global greenhouse gas emissions. A fifth (20%) ‘strongly disagree’ with this statement. Men tend to agree more with all three statements compared to women (+11; +8, +7 pts).



Continue to Import Oil or Develop Own Supply?

Attitudes on Quebec's Oil Supply



52%

Develop its own oil resources

2021: 43%
2020: 50%
2019: 45%

28%

Continue to import 100% of the oil it needs

2021: 31%
2020: 26%
2019: 26%

20%

Don't Know

2021: 27%
2020: 24%
2019: 28%

More than half Quebecers (52%) believe that their province should develop its own oil resources instead of importing all the oil it consumes. This represents an increase of 9 points compared to last year, bouncing back after 2021's decrease. Inversely, 28% think that the province should continue importing oil, a decrease of 3 points.

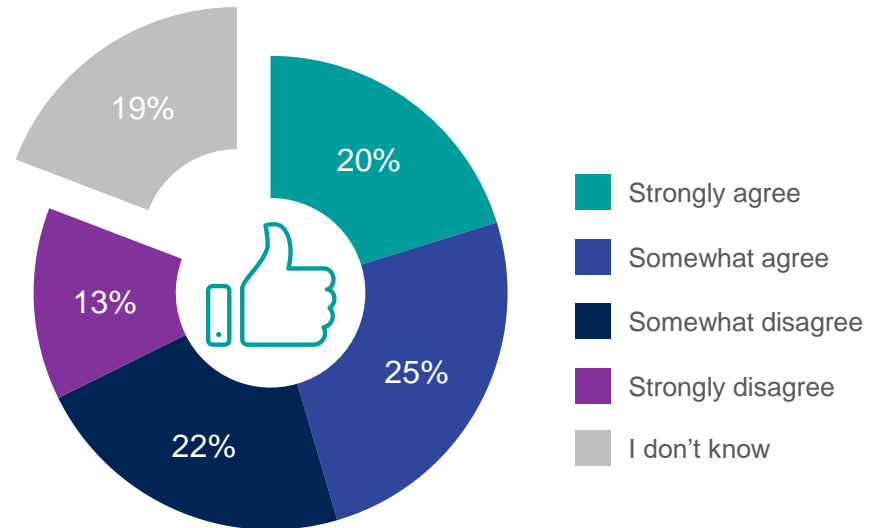
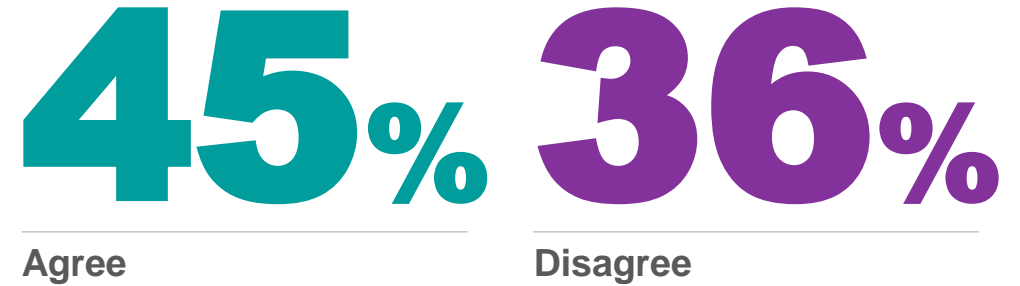
The remaining Quebec respondents say they **don't know the best way for the province to meet its energy needs** (20%, -7). Women are more likely to say they don't know (24%, -13).

Proposal to Prohibit the Exploration and Exploitation of Quebec's Oil and Gas Potential

Just under half (45%) of Quebecers agree with the Quebec government's idea to prohibit all exploitation of the province's gas and oil potential, with 20% 'strongly agreeing.' Around one-third (36%) disagree.

Men (50%) tend to agree more with this statement compared to women (41%), among whom 25% say they don't know.

Those in the greater Quebec region (56%) are significantly more likely to agree than those in other regions (greater Montreal 46%, other regions 42%).

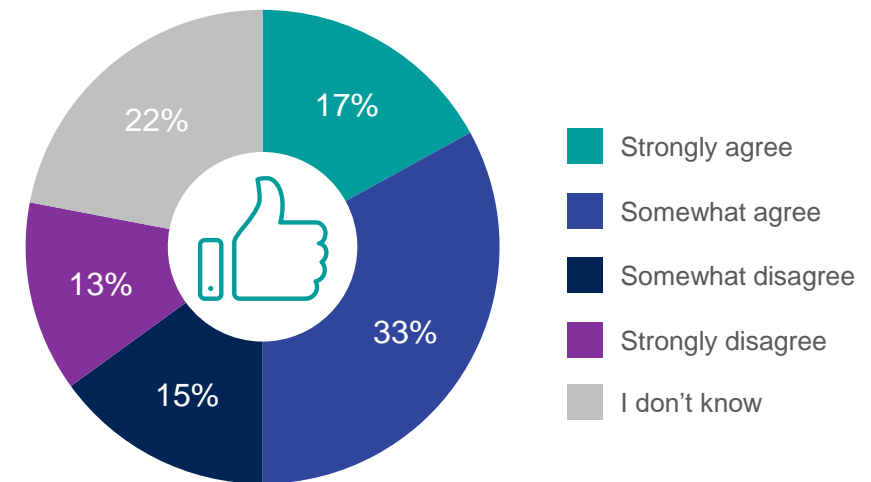
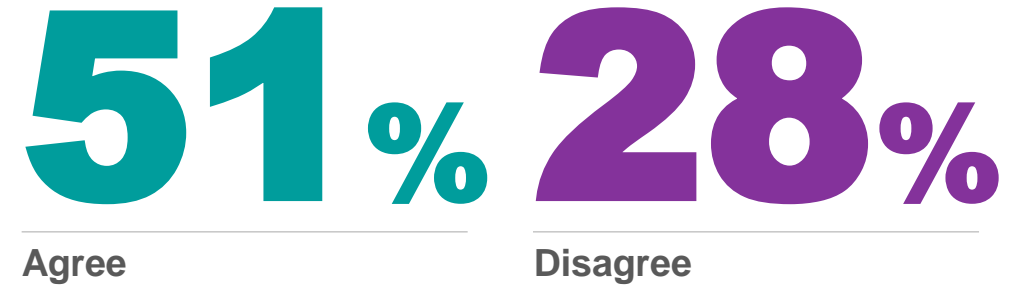


Quebec government's idea to prohibit all exploration and exploitation of the province's gas and oil potential

Compensation of Oil License Holders

Half (51%) of Quebecers agree that, if the government's idea is implemented, companies that hold licenses to tap into the province's oil and natural gas reserves should be compensated according to the market value of their license. Just over one-quarter (28%) disagree, while 22% say they don't know.

Men (54%) again tend to agree more ('strongly' and 'somewhat') with this statement compared to women (47%); this is also the case for those under 35 (56% vs. 53% 35-54 and 47% 55+).



Companies that hold licenses to tap into the province's oil and natural gas reserves should be compensated according to the fair market value of their license.

Taxes and Duties on Gasoline Too High?

Almost three quarters of Quebecers (73%) agree that current taxes and duties on gasoline are already too high and should not be increased further, with 51% 'strongly agreeing.' Just 15% disagree with this statement.

While still low, **men** are significantly more likely to disagree (20%) than **women** (11%), which is also the case for those under 35 (20% vs. 15% 35-54 and 12% 55+). By contrast, **those 55+ are more likely to agree** (79% vs. 70% 35-54 and 68% 18-34).

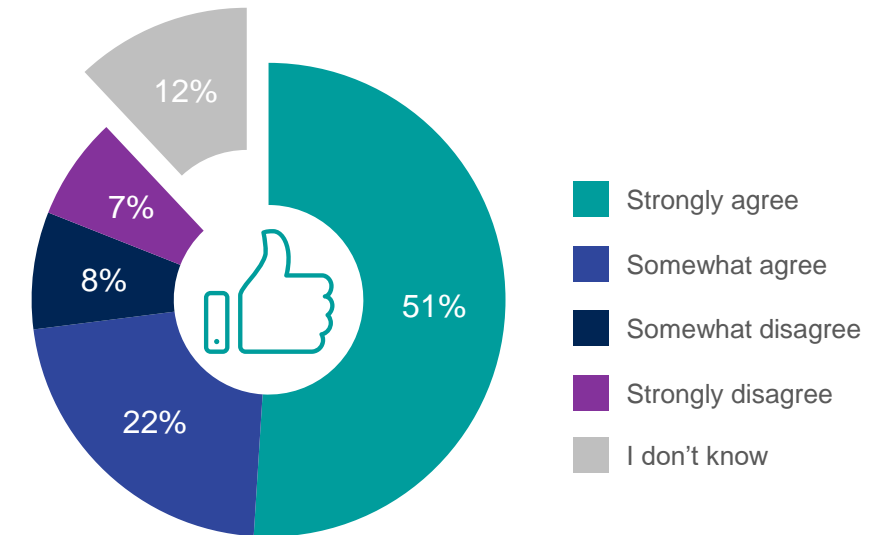
Those in the **greater Montreal region** are more likely to 'strongly disagree' (9% vs. 6% greater Quebec region and 5% other regions).

73%

Agree

15%

Disagree



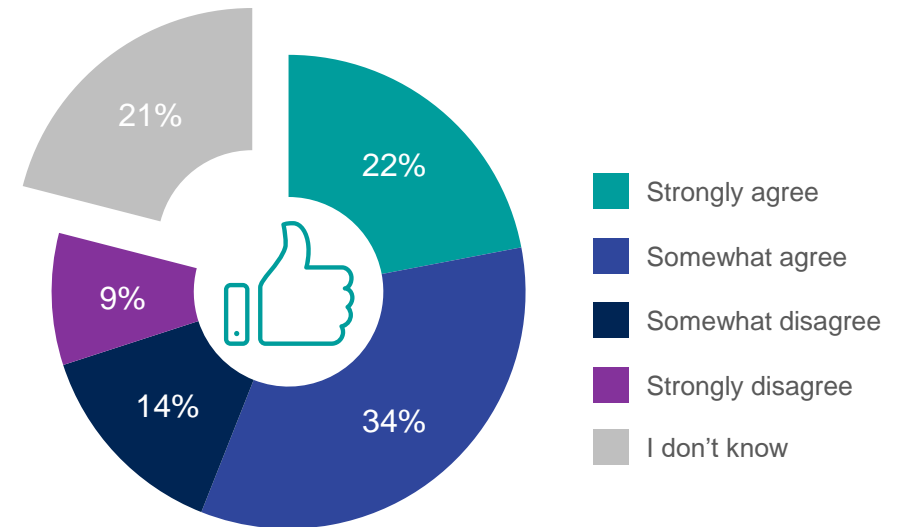
This percentage is already too high and should not be increased any further.

Authorization of Natural Gas Projects

Nearly 6 out of 10 Quebecers (57%) agree with the idea that the Quebec government should allow natural gas development projects to go ahead insofar as these projects do not emit greenhouse gases during their production phase, even if the subsequent use of the natural gas generates GHG emissions. This includes 22% who 'strongly agree' and 34% who 'somewhat agree' with the statement. Around one-quarter (23%) disagree, while one in five (21%) don't know. **Men** (60%) are more likely to agree than **women** (53%).

57% **23%**

Agree Disagree



The Quebec government should allow local natural gas development projects to go ahead

About Ipsos

Ipsos is the third largest market research company in the world, present in 90 markets and employing more than 18,000 people.

Our research professionals, analysts and scientists have built unique multi-specialist capabilities that provide powerful insights into the actions, opinions and motivations of citizens, consumers, patients, customers or employees. Our 75 business solutions are based on primary data coming from our surveys, social media monitoring, and qualitative or observational techniques.

“Game Changers” – our tagline – summarises our ambition to help our 5,000 clients to navigate more easily our deeply changing world.

Founded in France in 1975, Ipsos is listed on the Euronext Paris since July 1st, 1999. The company is part of the SBF 120 and the Mid-60 index and is eligible for the Deferred Settlement Service (SRD).

ISIN code FR0000073298, Reuters ISOS.PA, Bloomberg IPS:FP
www.ipsos.com

Game Changers

In our world of rapid change, the need for reliable information to make confident decisions has never been greater.

At Ipsos we believe our clients need more than a data supplier, they need a partner who can produce accurate and relevant information and turn it into actionable truth.

This is why our passionately curious experts not only provide the most precise measurement, but shape it to provide True Understanding of Society, Markets and People.

To do this we use the best of science, technology and know-how and apply the principles of security, simplicity, speed and substance to everything we do.

So that our clients can act faster, smarter and bolder. Ultimately, success comes down to a simple truth:
You act better when you are sure.