

CANADA'S ENERGY STRATEGY

Montreal Economic Institute

Research Report

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Ideas for a
More Prosperous
Society



SUMMARY

- As the war in Ukraine continues to exert pressure on energy markets, the issues of rising oil and gas prices and energy dependence have come to the forefront. Almost **three quarters (72%) of Canadians agree** that Canada has a role to play in decreasing the dependence of European countries, like Germany, on oil and natural gas coming from Russia. Similarly, **more than two-thirds (68%) of Canadians** believe that Canada must build the necessary energy infrastructure, including pipelines, to facilitate export of oil and natural gas to European countries, like Germany, in order to reduce their dependence on Russian energy. Finally, **more than three quarters (77%) of Canadians agree** that the Canadian government should facilitate access to Canadian oil products in order to contribute to reducing the price of gas over time. In terms of socio-demographics, those **aged 55 and over** are more likely to agree compared to other age groups for these three issues, which is also the case for **those who live in Alberta** compared to those living in other regions of Canada.
- Also, over **six in ten (62%)** Canadians agree that in order to replace a portion of Russian natural gas in Europe, the Quebec government should approve the GNL Québec project to export liquified natural gas to European countries like Germany. Moreover, the **same proportion of Canadians (62%)** agree that, considering the high price of oil and the current demand for this resource in Europe, Quebec should exploit its own oil and gas resources and export some to European countries like Germany. In both instances, **Quebecers are more likely to disagree** with these statements compared to other regions, while **Albertans are the most likely to agree** compared to residents of other regions.

Methodology



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



A sample of 2,500 Canadian residents aged 18 years and over was interviewed between April 5th and 12th, 2022.



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

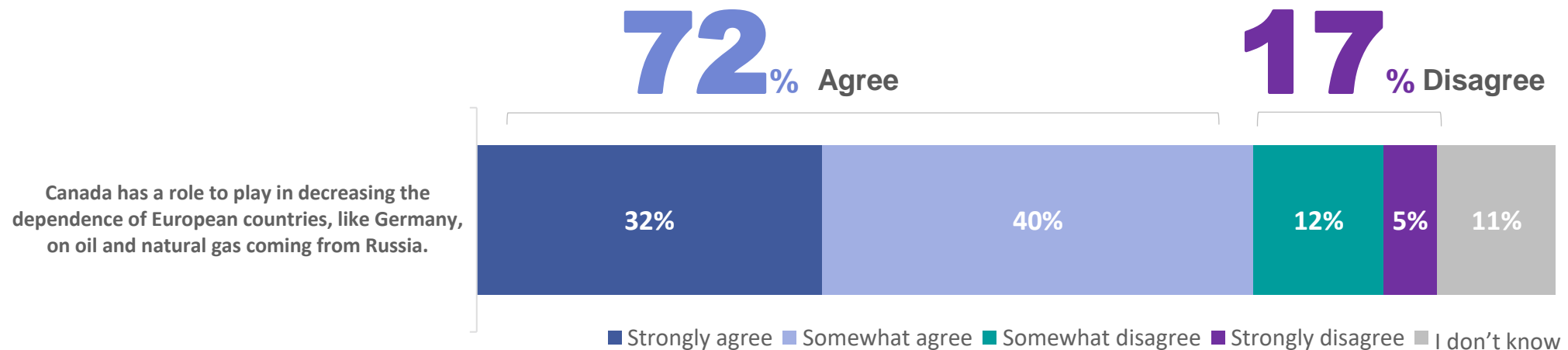


The precision of Ipsos online polls is measured using a credibility interval. In this case, the results are accurate to within **+/- 2.2 percentage points**, 19 times out of 20, of what the results would have been had all Canadian adults been polled.

Canada's Role in Reducing Europe's Dependence on Russian Oil and Gas

Almost three quarters (72%) of Canadians agree that Canada has a role to play in decreasing the dependence of European countries, like Germany, on oil and natural gas coming from Russia. While only 17% disagree, almost a third (32%) strongly agree.

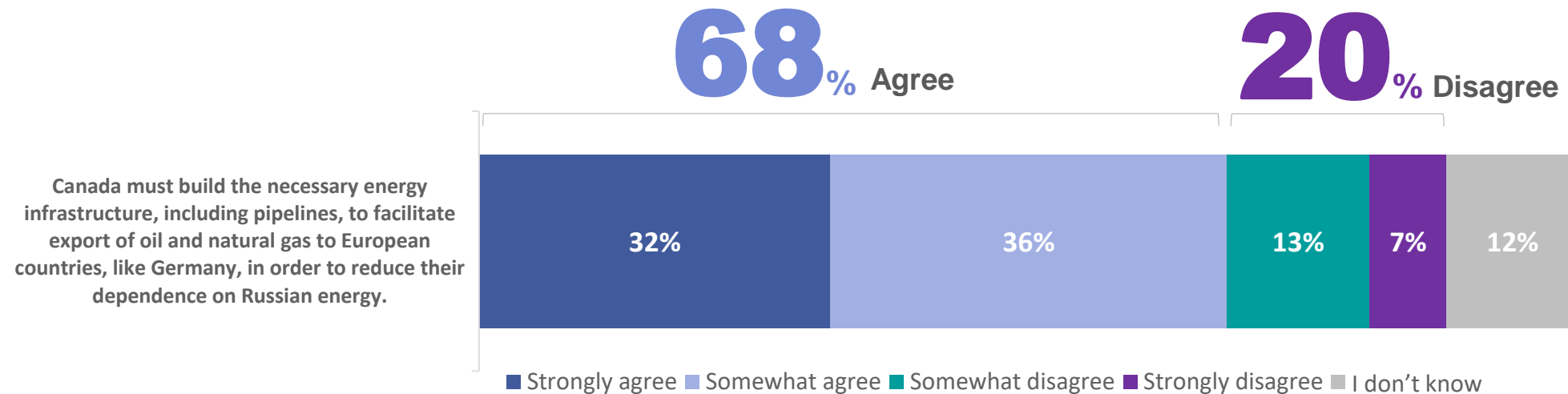
Men are more likely to agree with this statement (79% vs. 66% among women). Those aged between **35-54** (70%) and **55+** (83%) are also more likely to agree (vs. 18-34: 61%). **Albertans** are the most likely to agree (84% vs. BC: 76%; SK/MB: 70%; ON: 72%; QC: 65%; ATL: 69%).



Building Energy Infrastructures to Facilitate Exportations

More than two-thirds (68%) of Canadians believe that Canada must build the necessary energy infrastructure, including pipelines, to facilitate export of oil and natural gas to European countries, like Germany, in order to reduce their dependence on Russian energy. One fifth (20%) disagree.

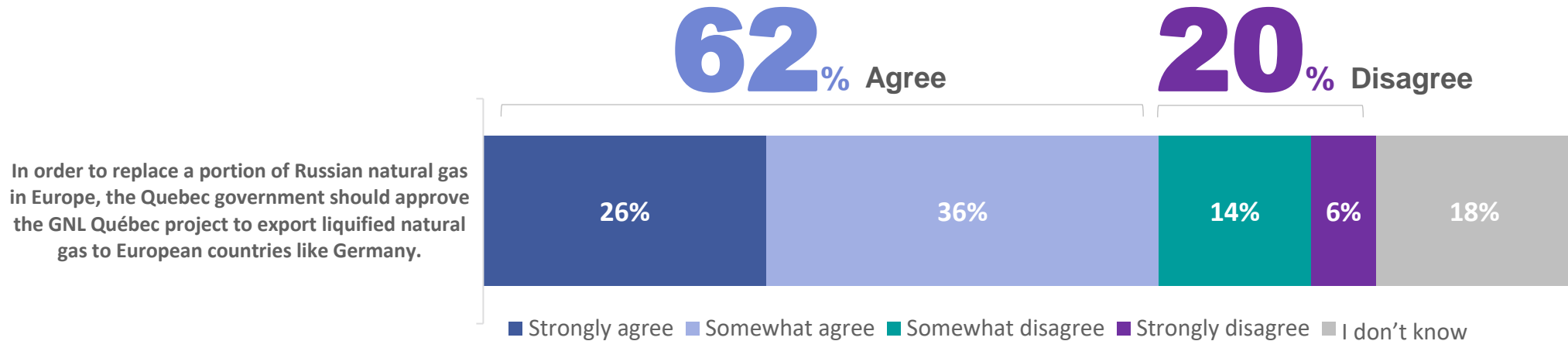
Men are more likely to agree with this statement (74% vs. 63% among women), which is also the case for those who are aged **55 and over** (76% vs. 35-54: 66%; 18-34: 61%). Those who live in **Alberta** are the most likely to agree that Canada should build the necessary energy infrastructure, including pipelines, to facilitate oil and gas exports (88% vs. BC: 68%; SK/MB: 69%; ON: 71%; QC: 54%; ATL: 67%).



Approval of the GNL Québec Project in Order to Export to Europe

Over six in ten (62%) Canadians agree that in order to replace a portion of Russian natural gas in Europe, the Quebec government should approve the GNL Québec project to export liquified natural gas to European countries like Germany. One fifth (20%) disagree with this statement, while almost two in ten (18%) remain undecided.

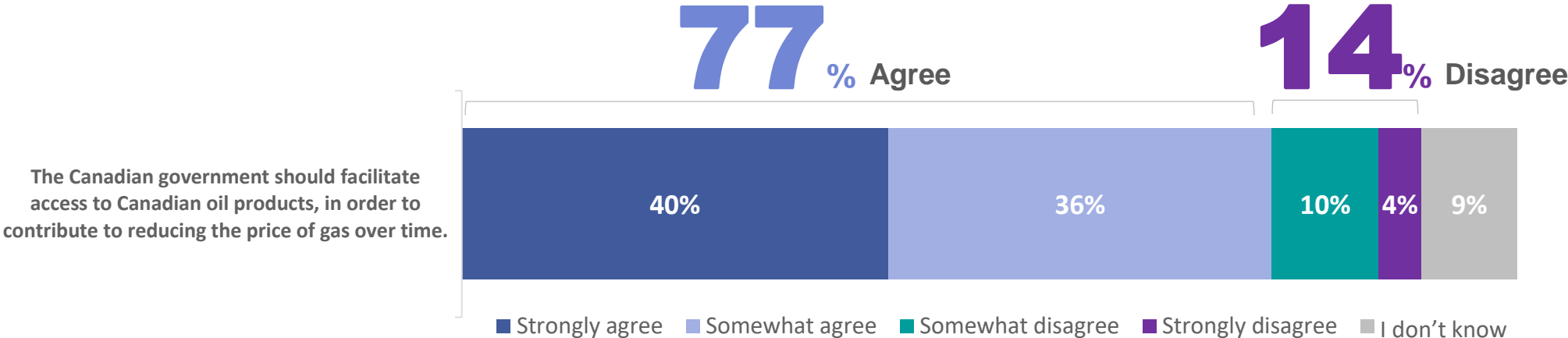
Men are more likely to agree with this statement (70% vs. 55% among women), which is also the case for those aged **55+** (72% vs. 18-34: 53%; 35-54: 58%). **Quebecers** are the most likely to disagree that the Quebec government should approve the GNL Québec project in order to export natural gas to European countries and replace a portion of Russian natural gas (29% vs. BC: 17%; AB: 11%; SK/MB: 21%; ON: 17%; ATL: 24%). Meanwhile, **Albertans** are the most likely to agree that the Quebec government should approve the GNL Québec project (77% vs. BC: 67%; SK/MB: 60%; ON: 63%; QC: 53%; ATL: 56%).



Facilitating Access to Canadian Oil Products

More than three quarters (77%) of Canadians agree that the Canadian government should facilitate access to Canadian oil products in order to contribute to reducing the price of gas over time. While 14% disagree with this statement, 4 in 10 (40%) strongly agree.

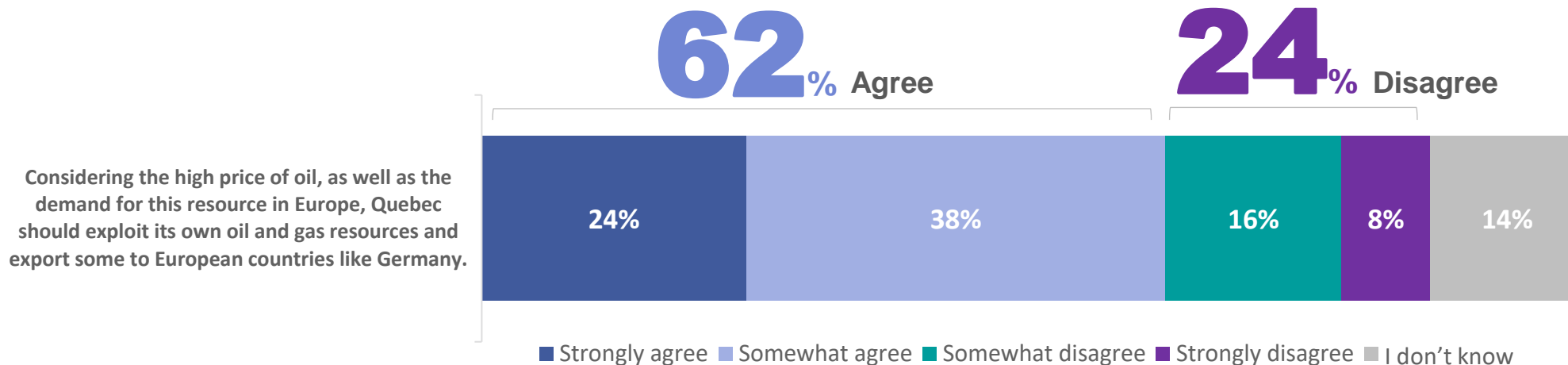
Those aged 55+ are the age group likeliest to agree that access to Canadian oil products should be facilitated (83% vs. 35-54: 76%; 18-34: 70%). Similarly, **Albertans** are much more likely to agree with this statement compared to residents of other regions (91% vs. BC: 74%; SK/MB: 76%; ON: 76%; QC: 73%; ATL: 76%).



Exploiting Quebec's Oil and Gas Resources?

Over six in ten Canadians (62%) agree that, considering the high price of oil and the current demand for this resource in Europe, Quebec should exploit its own oil and gas resources and export some to European countries like Germany; meanwhile, almost a quarter of Canadians disagree (24%).

Men (68%) tend to agree more than women (56%) that Quebec should exploit its own oil and gas resources in this context, which is also the case for **those aged over 55+** (69% vs. 35-54: 60%; 18-34: 55%). **Quebecers** tend to disagree more with this statement compared to other regions (30% vs. BC: 22%; AB: 15%; SK/MB: 20%; ON: 24%; ATL: 26%). Inversely, **Albertans** tend to agree more with this statement compared to other regions (72% vs. BC: 64%; SK/MB: 62%; ON: 61%; QC: 59%; ATL: 59%).



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