



**THE
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Climate change and political priorities

What the British public think

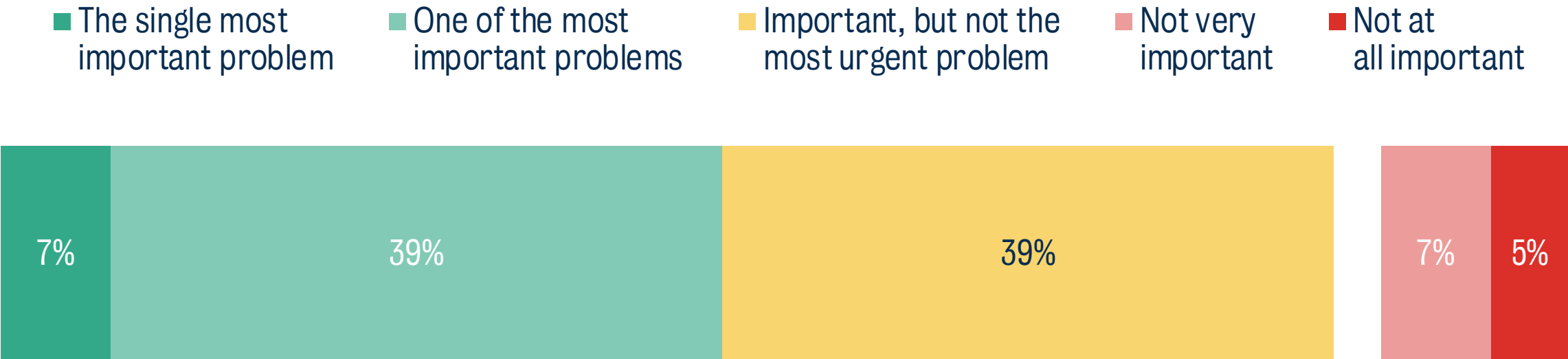
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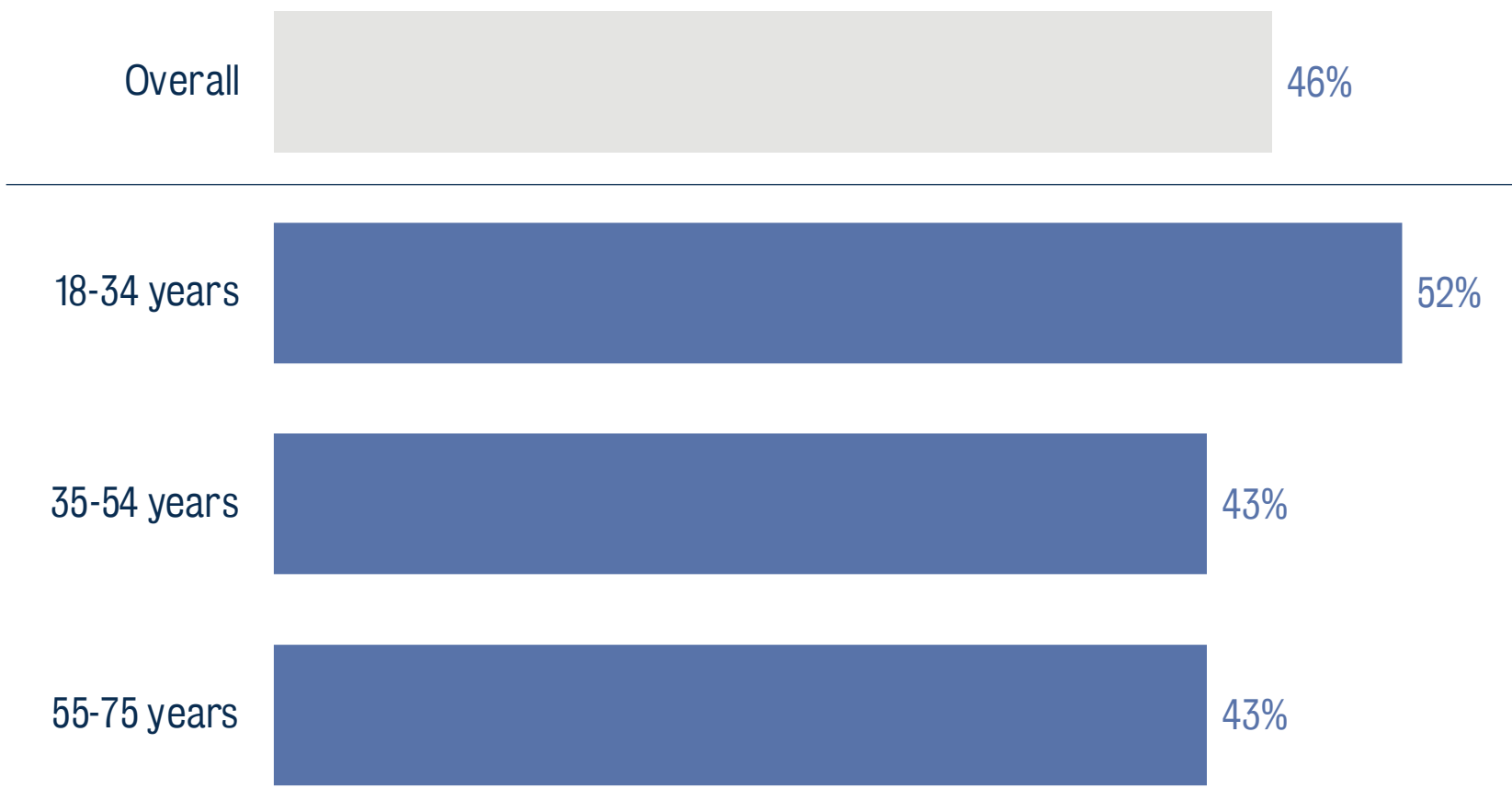
Most Britons see climate change as an important problem facing the UK

Compared to all the other problems facing the UK, would you say that climate change is:



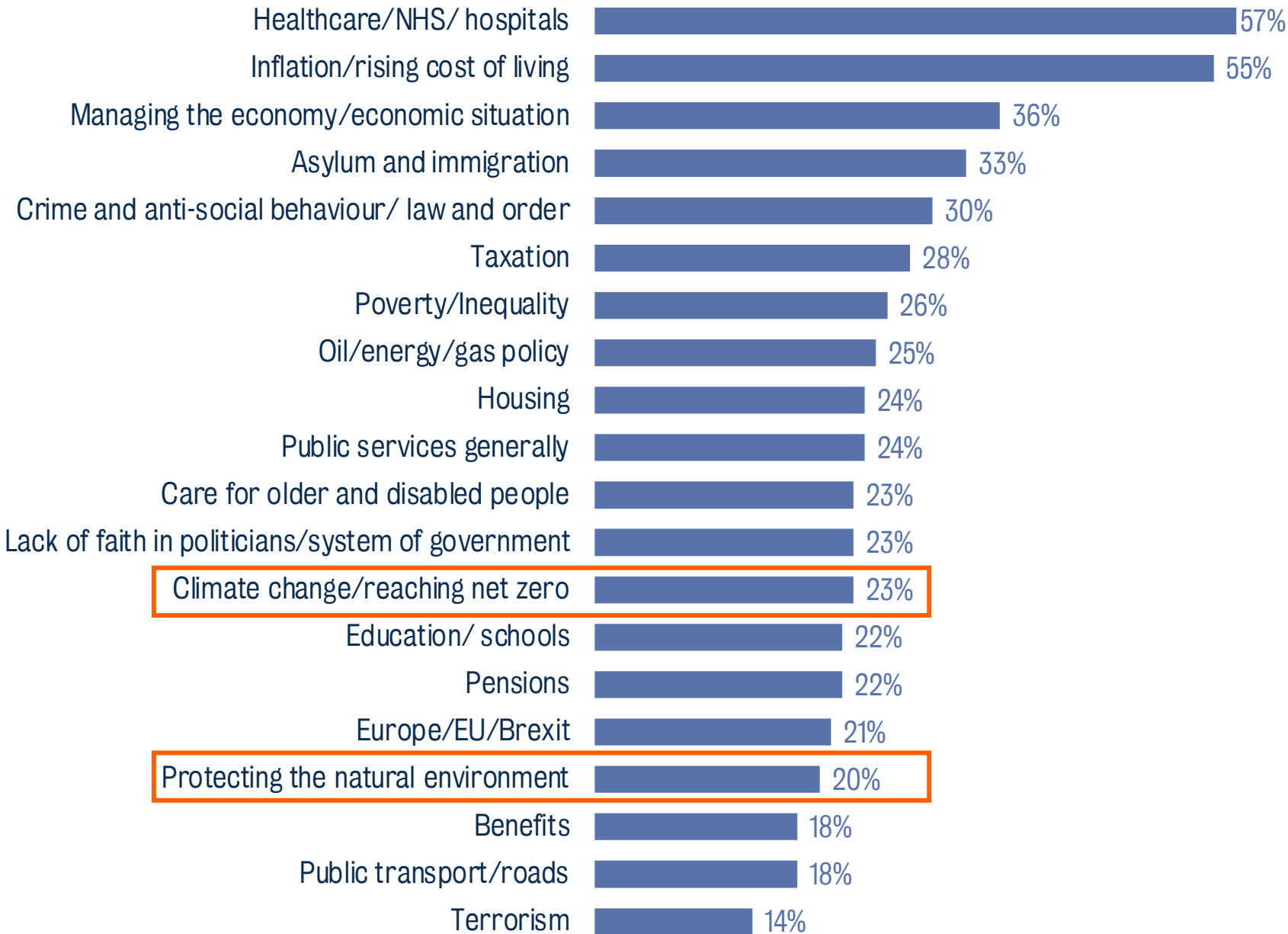
The youngest age group surveyed are most inclined to see climate change as one of the biggest problems facing the UK

Compared to all the other problems facing the UK, would you say that climate change is... % who say the single most/one of the most important problems



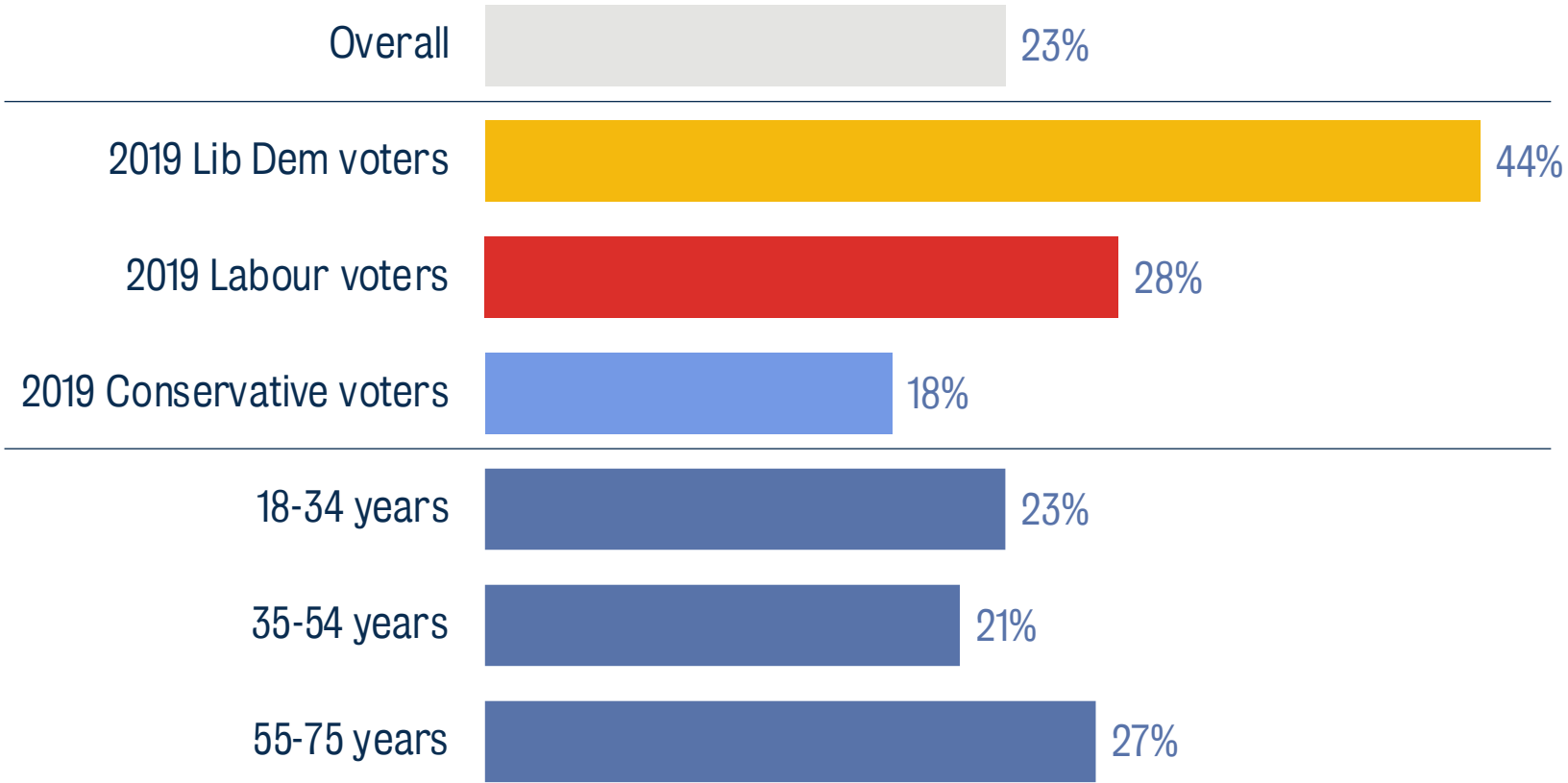
Of the top 20 issues Britons say will be very important in deciding their vote at the next election, climate change ranks joint 11th, while protecting the natural environment comes 17th

As you may know the current general election is expected to take place by January 2025. Which, if any, issues do you think will be very important to you in helping you decide which party to vote for?



There are no statistically significant differences by age on the question of whether climate change will be key in determining people’s vote, but there are large differences in attitudes by how people voted at the last general election

As you may know the current general election is expected to take place by January 2025. Which, if any, issues do you think will be very important to you in helping you decide which party to vote for? % who say climate change / reaching net zero



By 41% to 33%, the public say they'd be more likely to vote for a party that took strong action on climate change than one that took a slower approach

Below are two different aims a political party could have. For these statements, please choose which would make you more likely to vote for a political party, or if it would make no difference.

Statement A: We will take strong action against things that cause climate change, even if this increases costs of oil and gas production and requires increased investment in renewable energy supplies

Statement B: We will slow down actions against things that cause climate change, because it is not necessary or we can't afford the additional costs right now while there are other priorities

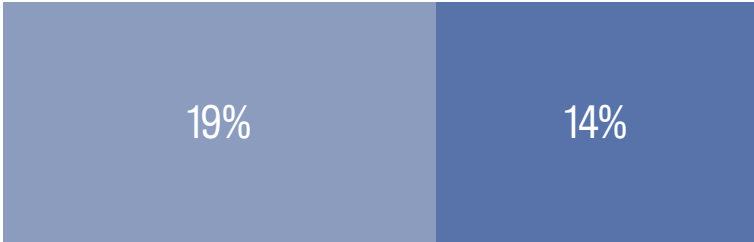
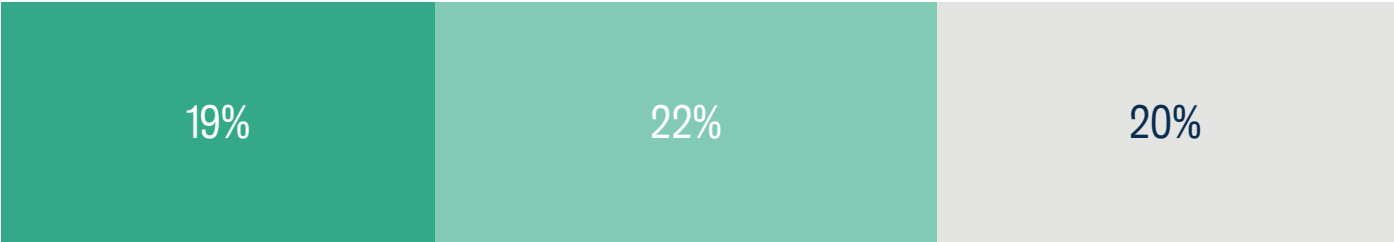
■ Strongly prefer a party saying Statement A

■ Tend to prefer a party saying Statement A

■ Neither A nor B would make a difference to my choice of party

■ Tend to prefer a party saying Statement B

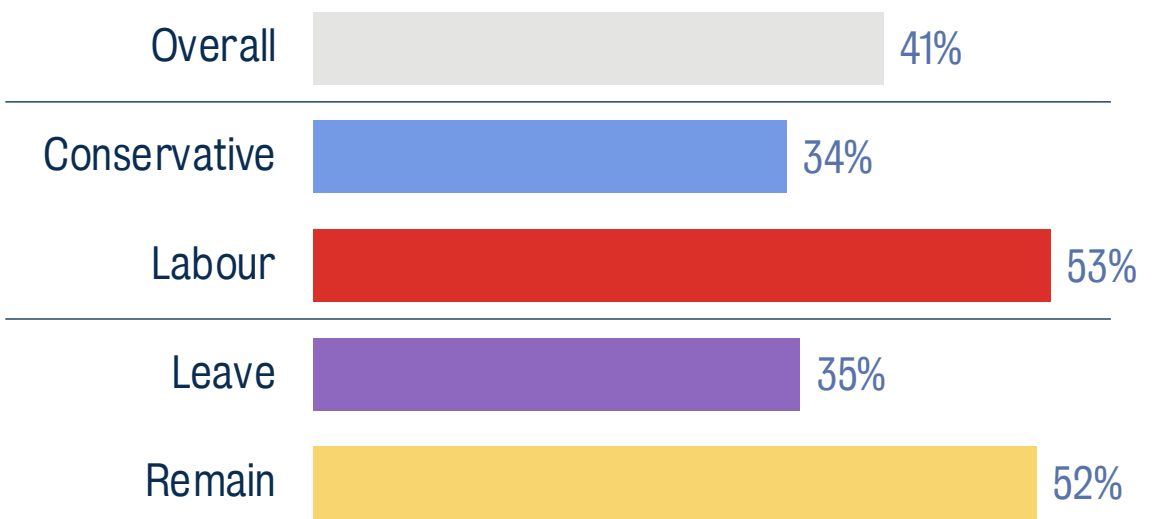
■ Strongly prefer a party saying Statement B



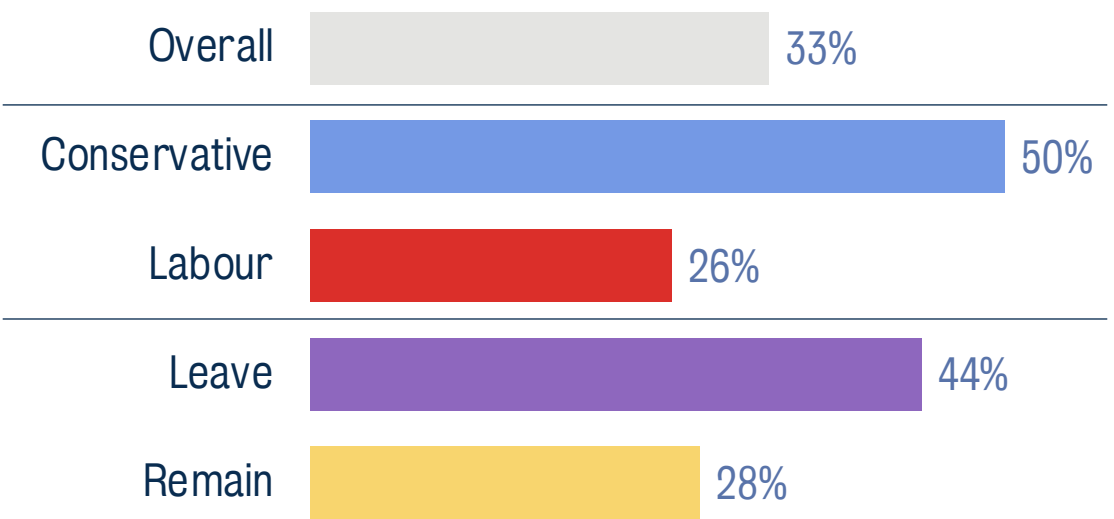
Among those who prefer a party advocating either a strong or slow approach to tackling climate change, there are big differences in views by 2019 general election vote and Brexit vote

Below are two different aims a political party could have. For these statements, please choose which would make you more likely to vote for a political party, or if it would make no difference. % who say they **strongly or tend to** prefer a party saying either statement

Statement A: We will take strong action against things that cause climate change, even if this even if this increases costs of oil and gas production and requires increased investment in renewable energy supplies

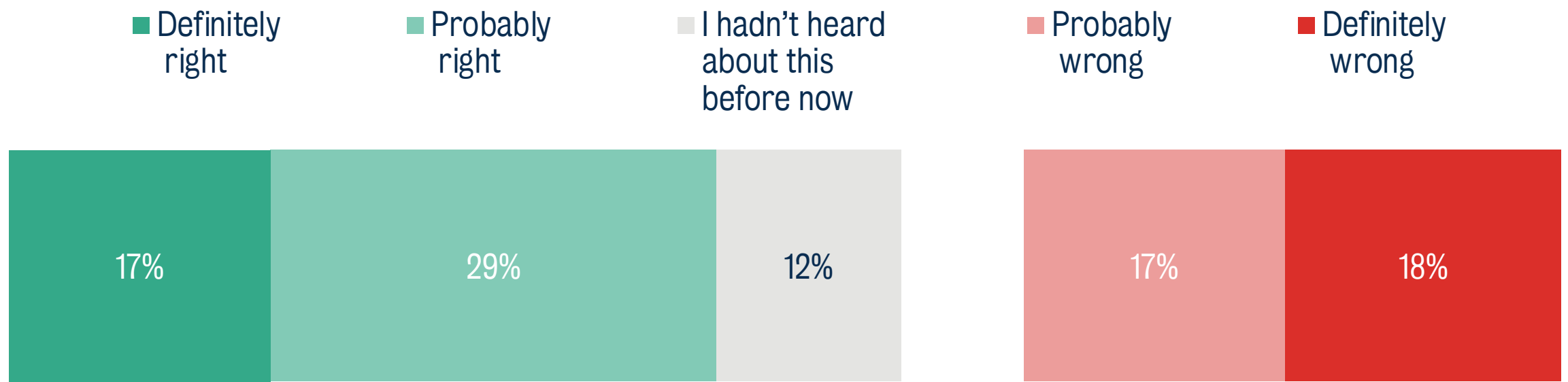


Statement B: We will slow down actions against things that cause climate change, because it is not necessary or we can't afford the additional costs right now while there are other priorities



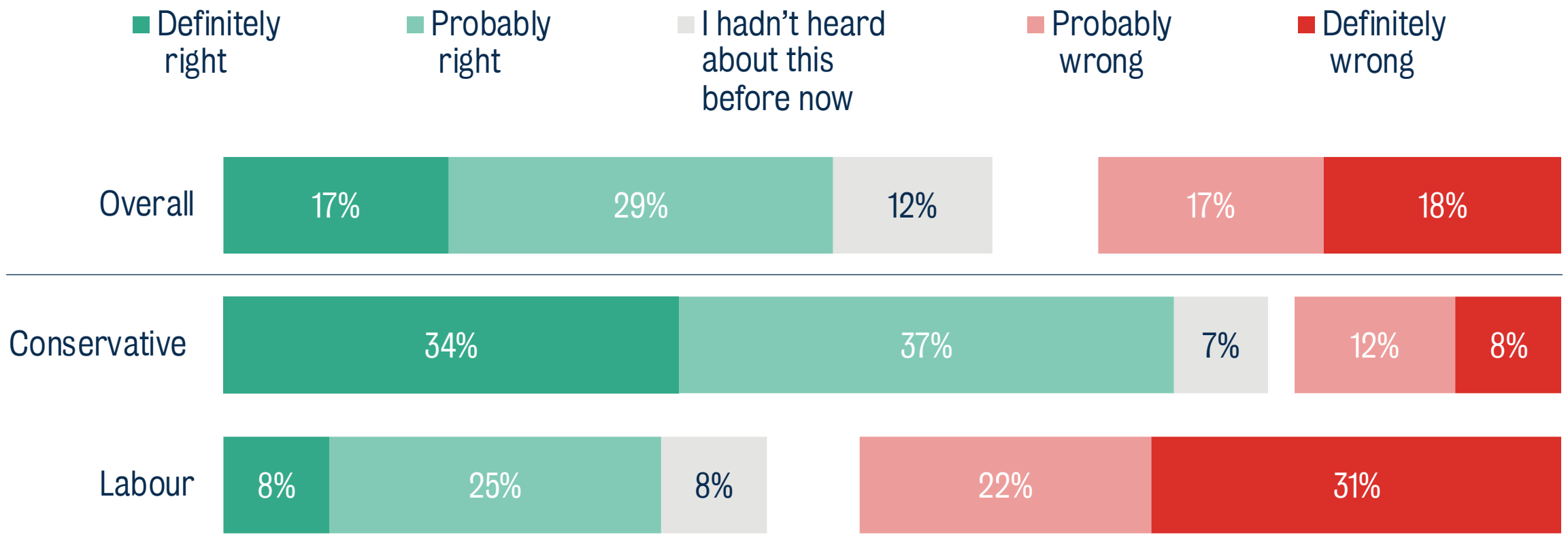
46% see the Prime Minister's decision to delay or cancel some net zero policies as right, compared with 35% who see it as wrong

In September 2023, the UK Prime Minister Rishi Sunak announced that the government was going to make some changes to delay or cancel some net zero policies. Based on what you know or have heard, if anything, about these announcements, do you think the government is right or wrong to delay or cancel some of its policies aimed at reducing emissions?



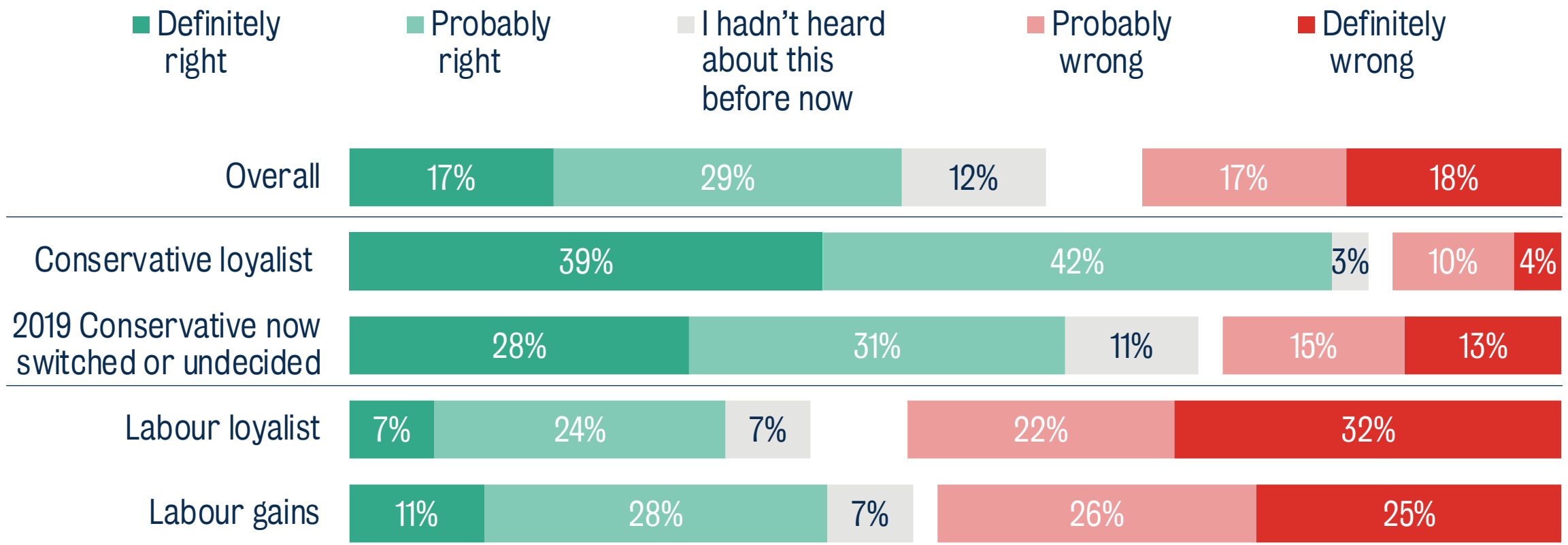
2019 Conservative voters are around twice as likely as Labour voters to say the Prime Minister's decision was right – but one in five Conservatives still feel it was wrong

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Those who voted Conservative in 2019 but have now switched party or are undecided are more likely than other Conservative loyalists to say the Prime Minister’s decision was wrong

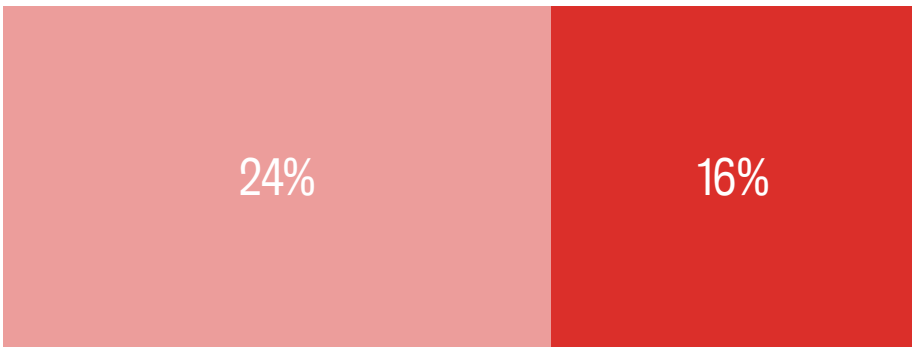
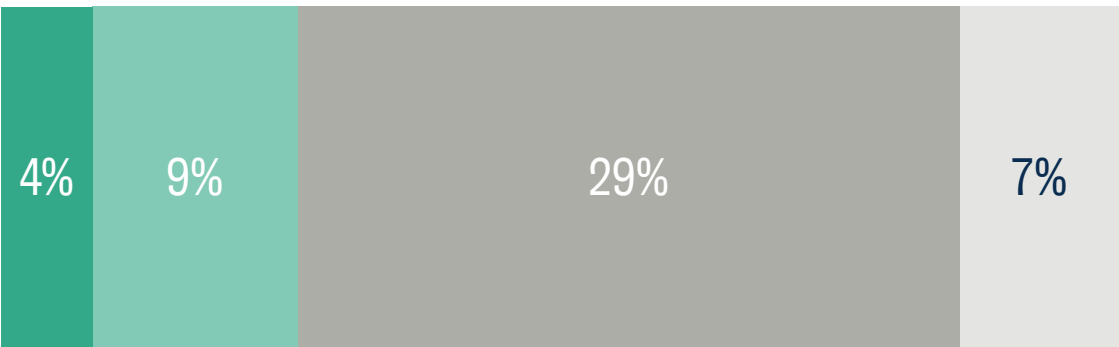
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While a greater share of the public see the Prime Minister's decision as right than wrong, four in 10 think it has worsened Britain's reputation abroad

And based on what you know or have heard about these announcements, how do you think these may have impacted Britain's reputation around the world, if at all?

- Significantly improved Britain's reputation
- Slightly improved Britain's reputation
- They have had no impact on Britain's reputation
- I hadn't heard about this before now
- Slightly worsened Britain's reputation
- Significantly worsened Britain's reputation





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MISSION ZERO 
COALITION

Survey details

Ipsos interviewed a representative sample of 1,083 GB adults aged 18-75. Interviews were conducted online from 7-9 December 2023. Data are weighted to match the profile of the population. All polls are subject to a wide range of potential sources of error.

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