



THE UNIVERSITY OF BRITISH COLUMBIA

School of Public Policy and Global Affairs



PUBLIC ATTITUDES IN QUEBEC ON CHINA AND CANADA-CHINA RELATIONS FULL QUEBEC RESULTS

Paul Evans, Xiaojun Li, and Pascale Massot
The University of British Columbia and University of Ottawa

Report of Collected Data
7 May 2018

Method: Qualtrics panel survey of 521 Canadian adults from Quebec (18+); adjusted to match the latest census data on age and gender; in the field December 18, 2017 to March 5, 2018; margin of error +/- 4%; median completion time of 17 minutes. The survey was conducted in English and French.

In total, 14 demographic questions (including party affiliations/support) and 60 on substantive matters and preferences.

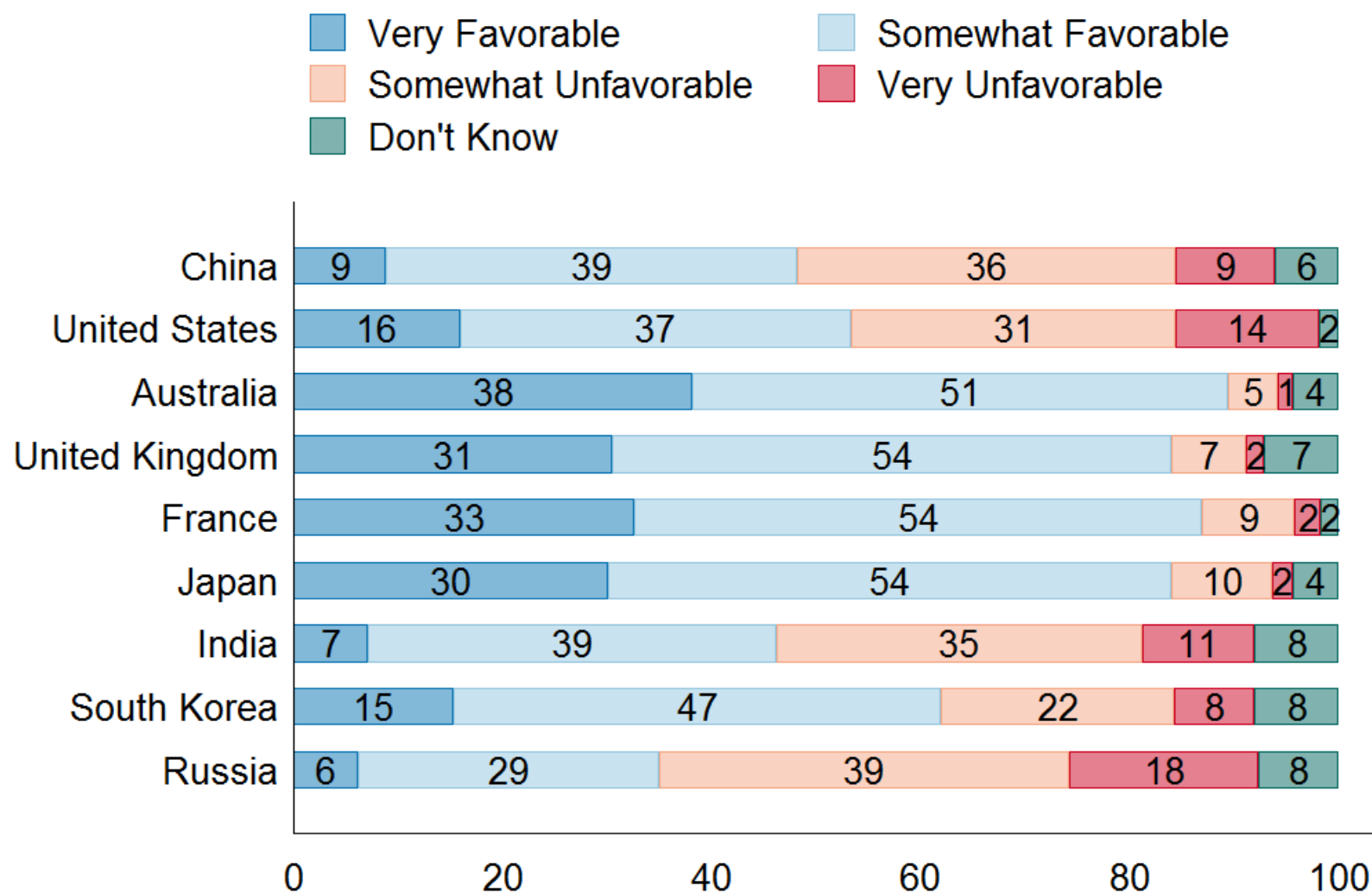
About this report: The substantive questions are presented first, followed by the demographic questions. In each case, the wording of the question is presented as it was shown to the respondents who took the English version, together with a table summarizing the results. A graph shows at a glance what the question was about. The wording in some of them has been simplified from what was actually posed in the survey questionnaire.

SUBSTANTIVE QUESTIONS

1. Please tell me if you have a very favorable, somewhat favorable, somewhat unfavorable or very unfavorable opinion of the following countries?

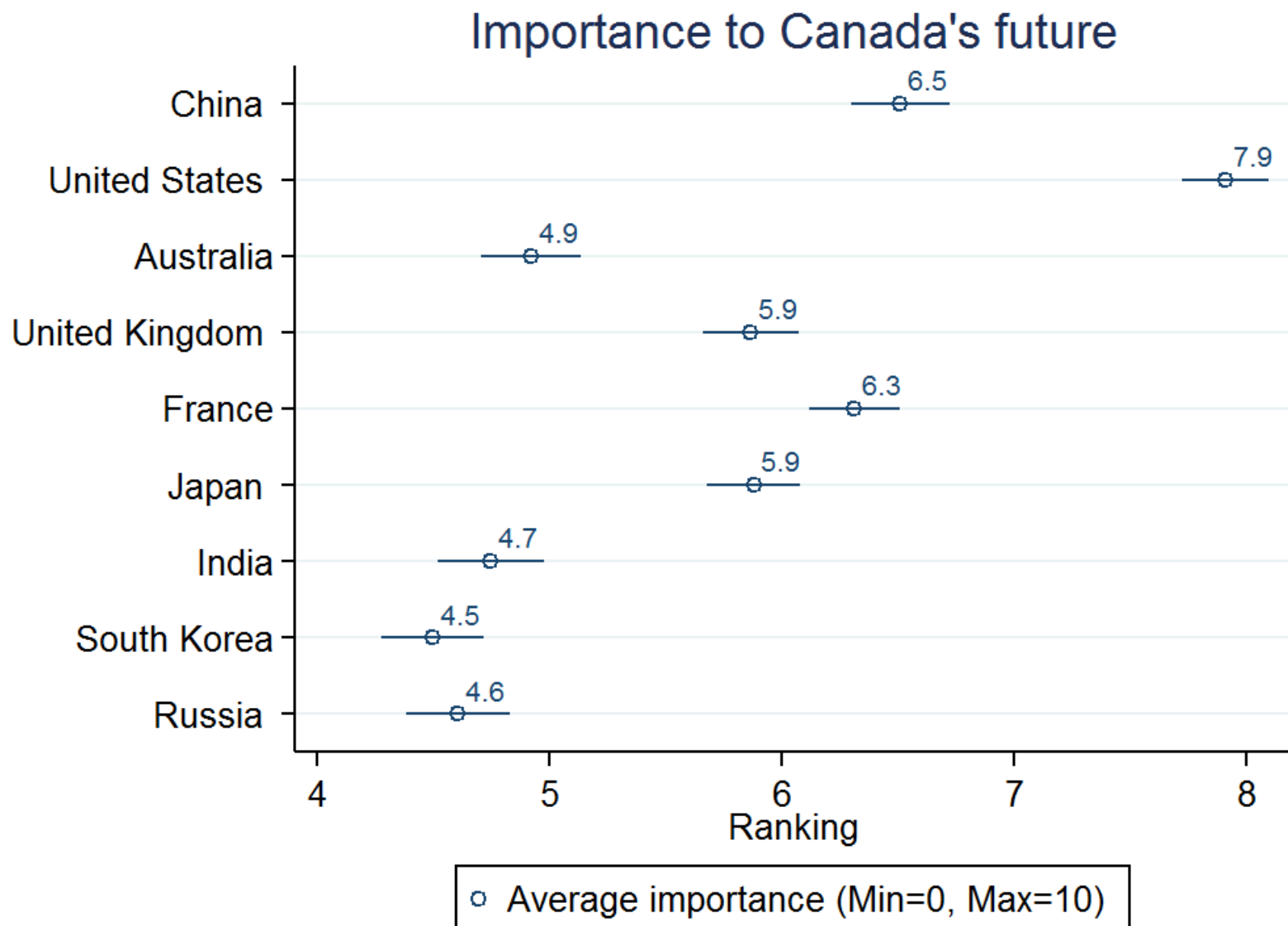
	Very favorable	%	Somewhat favorable	%	Somewhat unfavorable	%	Very unfavorable	%	Don't know	%	Total
China	46	8.83	205	39.35	189	36.28	49	9.4	32	6.14	521
United States	83	15.93	195	37.43	162	31.09	71	13.63	10	1.92	521
Australia	199	38.2	267	51.25	25	4.8	7	1.34	23	4.41	521
United Kingdom	159	30.52	279	53.55	37	7.1	9	1.73	37	7.1	521
France	170	32.63	283	54.32	46	8.83	13	2.5	9	1.73	521
Japan	157	30.13	281	53.93	50	9.6	10	1.92	23	4.41	521
India	37	7.1	204	39.16	182	34.93	56	10.75	42	8.06	521
South Korea	80	15.36	243	46.64	116	22.26	40	7.68	42	8.06	521
Russia	32	6.14	150	28.79	205	39.35	94	18.04	40	7.68	521

Your opinion about these countries is:



2. In your view, how important are the following countries to Canada's future?

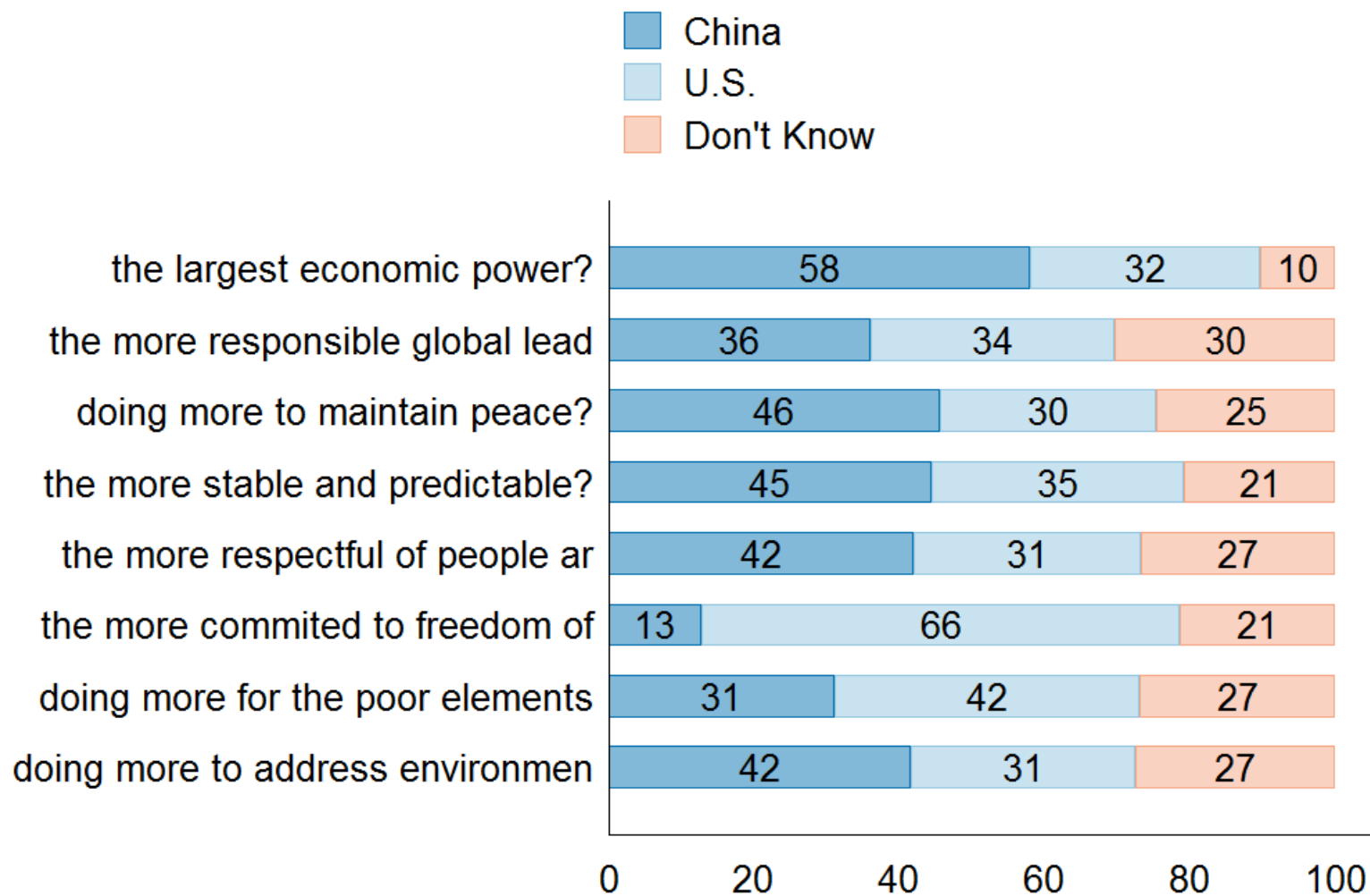
Field	Minimum	Maximum	Mean	Std Deviation	Variance	Count
China	0.00	10.00	6.51	2.47	6.09	521
United States	0.00	10.00	7.91	2.16	4.67	521
Australia	0.00	10.00	4.92	2.49	6.19	521
United Kingdom	0.00	10.00	5.86	2.41	5.81	521
France	0.00	10.00	6.31	2.28	5.20	521
Japan	0.00	10.00	5.88	2.35	5.53	521
India	0.00	10.00	4.75	2.68	7.17	521
South Korea	0.00	10.00	4.49	2.57	6.61	521
Russia	0.00	10.00	4.60	2.57	6.65	521



3. Comparing the US and China, and looking out over the next decade, which country do you feel...

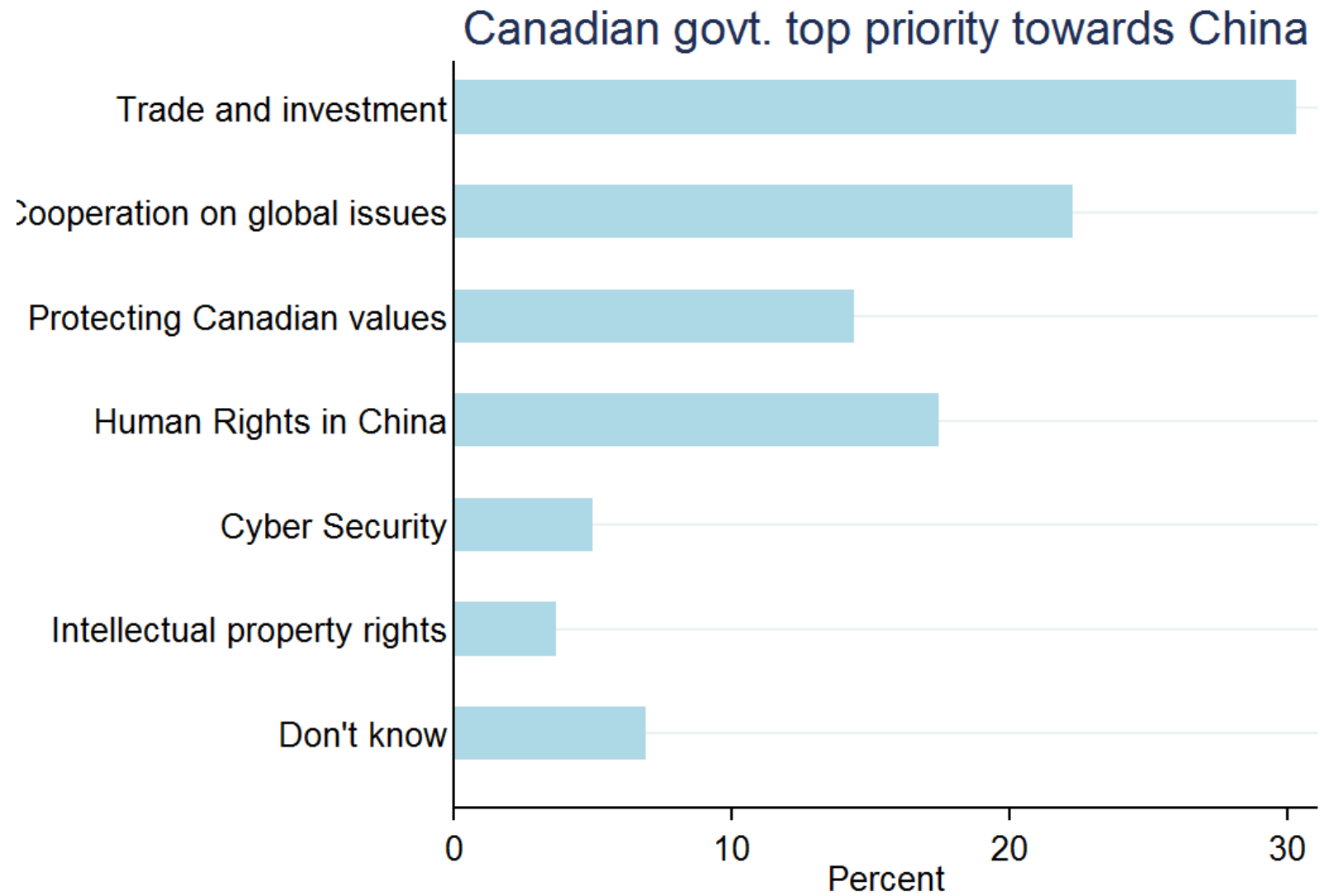
	China	%	United States	%	Don't know	%	Total
will be the largest economic power?	302	57.97	165	31.67	54	10.36	521
will be the more responsible global leader?	188	36.08	175	33.59	158	30.33	521
do more to maintain peace and avoid conflict?	238	45.68	155	29.75	128	24.57	521
be more stable and predictable?	232	44.53	181	34.74	108	20.73	521
be more respectful of other people around the world?	219	42.03	163	31.29	139	26.68	521
be more committed to freedom of speech and expression?	67	12.86	343	65.83	111	21.31	521
do more for the poorest elements of their country?	162	31.09	219	42.03	140	26.87	521
do more to address climate change and environmental issues?	217	41.65	161	30.9	143	27.45	521

In the next decade - which country will be:



4. Which elements of the relationship with China do you think should be the highest priority for the Canadian government?

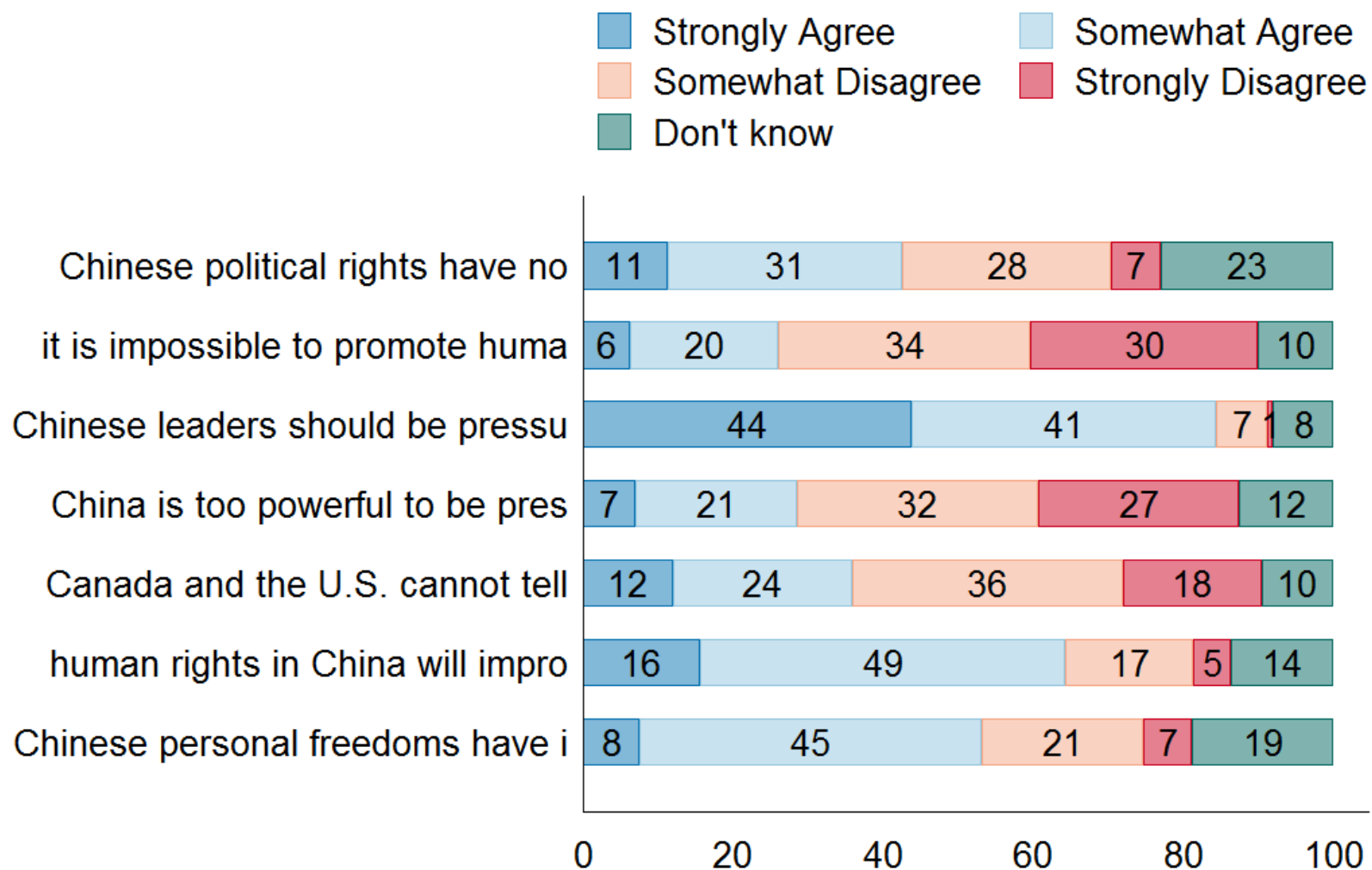
Answer	%	Count
Cooperation on global issues like climate change, epidemics, counter-terrorism	22.26	116
Promoting trade and investment including negotiation of some kind of free trade agreement or comprehensive economic partnership	30.33	158
Addressing cyber security	4.99	26
Advancing human rights and democratic reforms in China	17.47	91
Protecting Canadian values and institutions at home from growing Chinese influence	14.4	75
Addressing intellectual property rights	3.65	19
Don't know	6.91	36
Total	100%	521



5. Regarding the human rights situation in China, do you agree with the following statements?

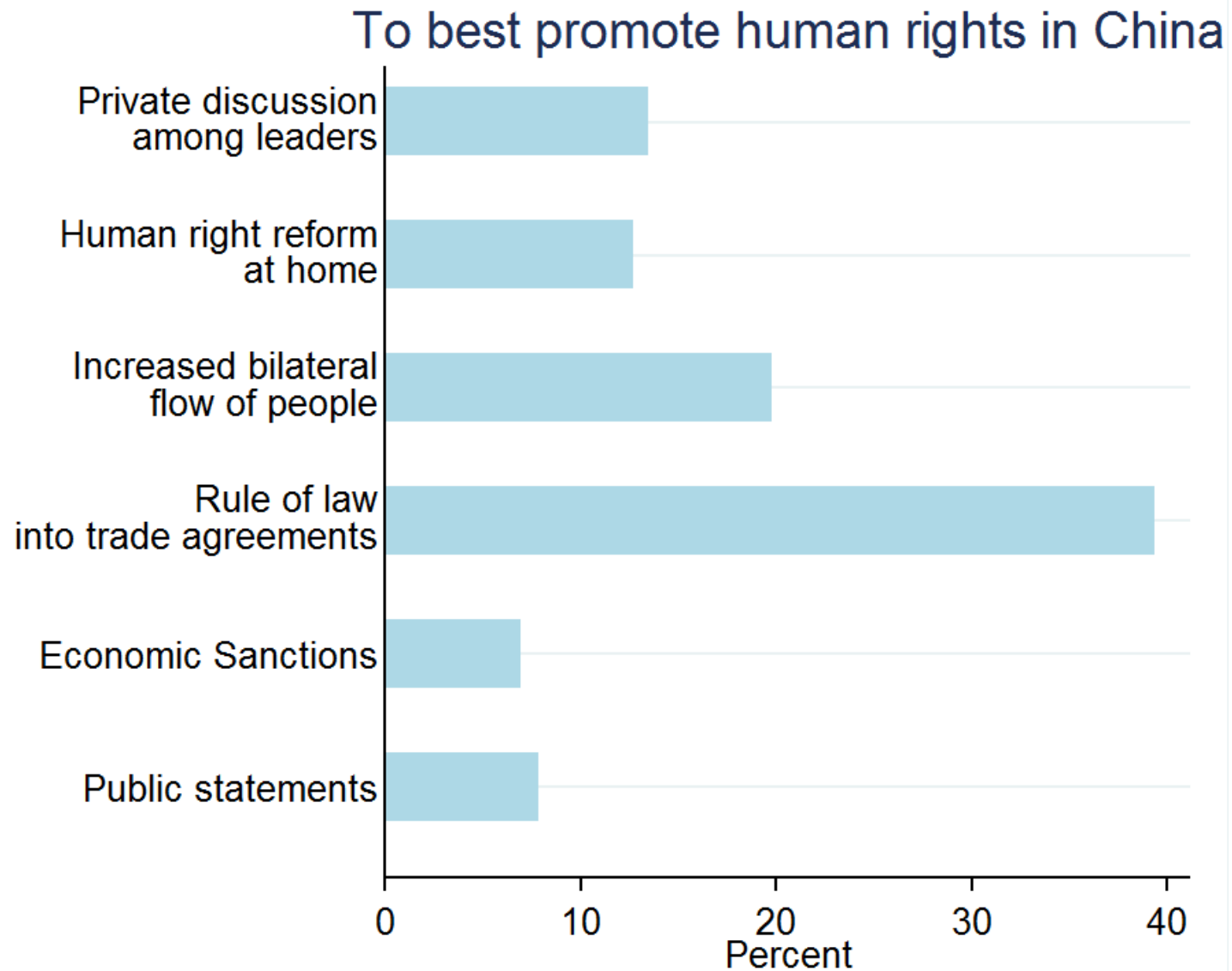
Question	Strongly Agree	%	Somewhat Agree	%	Somewhat Disagree	%	Strongly Disagree	%	Don't know	%	Total
The political rights of Chinese citizens have not improved in the past decade	59	11.32	163	31.29	145	27.83	34	6.53	120	23.03	521
It's impossible to promote human rights while expanding economic relations	33	6.33	103	19.77	175	33.59	158	30.33	52	9.98	521
Chinese leaders should be pressured to respect international treaties and covenants on human rights that they have signed	228	43.76	212	40.69	35	6.72	4	0.77	42	8.06	521
China is now too big and powerful to be pressured into adopting Western standards of human rights	37	7.1	112	21.5	167	32.05	140	26.87	65	12.48	521
Canadians and Americans are in no moral position to tell other countries how to treat their own citizens	63	12.09	124	23.8	188	36.08	96	18.43	50	9.6	521
The human rights situation in China will improve as its economy opens and more Chinese are exposed to the political systems and ways of life in other countries including Canada	82	15.74	253	48.56	89	17.08	26	4.99	71	13.63	521
Personal freedoms of Chinese citizens have improved in the past decade	40	7.68	237	45.49	112	21.5	34	6.53	98	18.81	521

Regarding the human rights situation in China:



6. How could Canada best promote human rights in China?

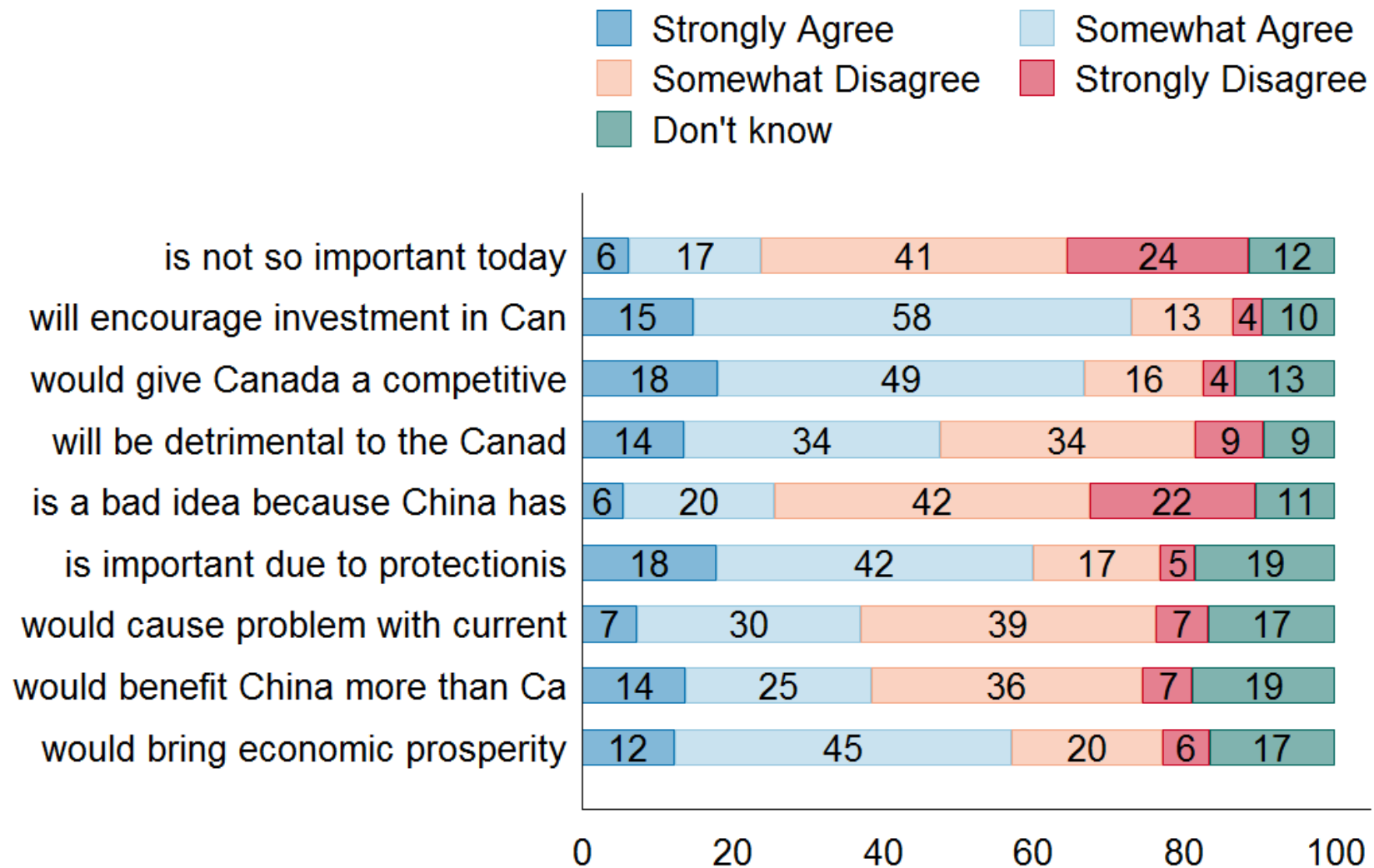
Answer	%	Count
public statements and pressure by the Canadian government	7.87	41
threat of economic sanctions	6.91	36
helping strengthen the rule of law in China through provisions and practices built into trade agreements	39.35	205
increasing flows of people bilateral exchanges, such as two-way movements of students and tourists	19.77	103
by strengthening human rights and democratic reforms here at home	12.67	66
raising concerns privately in discussion between officials and leaders	13.44	70
Total	100%	521



7. Canada has recently opened exploratory talks on a Canada-China free trade agreement. Do you agree or disagree with each of the following arguments regarding expanded trade with China? Expanded trade with China ...

Question	Strongly agree	%	Somewhat agree	%	Somewhat disagree	%	Strongly disagree	%	Don't know	%	Total
is not so important today because China's future economic outlook is far from certain as economic growth rate slows down	33	6.33	91	17.47	212	40.69	125	23.99	60	11.52	521
is likely to encourage needed investment in Canadian businesses	77	14.78	303	58.16	70	13.44	21	4.03	50	9.6	521
would give Canada a competitive edge over other countries	94	18.04	254	48.75	82	15.74	22	4.22	69	13.24	521
is likely to be detrimental as it will lead to an influx of cheap Chinese goods that will compete with Canadian products in the Canadian market	71	13.63	177	33.97	176	33.78	48	9.21	49	9.4	521
is a bad idea, because we should not get too involved with a country governed by the communist party, and with different values and culture	29	5.57	104	19.96	218	41.84	115	22.07	55	10.56	521
is important today due to rising protectionist sentiments in the US and in Europe	93	17.85	219	42.03	88	16.89	24	4.61	97	18.62	521
would cause problems for Canada with the current U.S. Administration	38	7.29	155	29.75	204	39.16	36	6.91	88	16.89	521
would benefit China more than it would benefit Canada	72	13.82	128	24.57	188	36.08	34	6.53	99	19	521
would bring greater economic prosperity to Canada	64	12.28	233	44.72	105	20.15	32	6.14	87	16.7	521

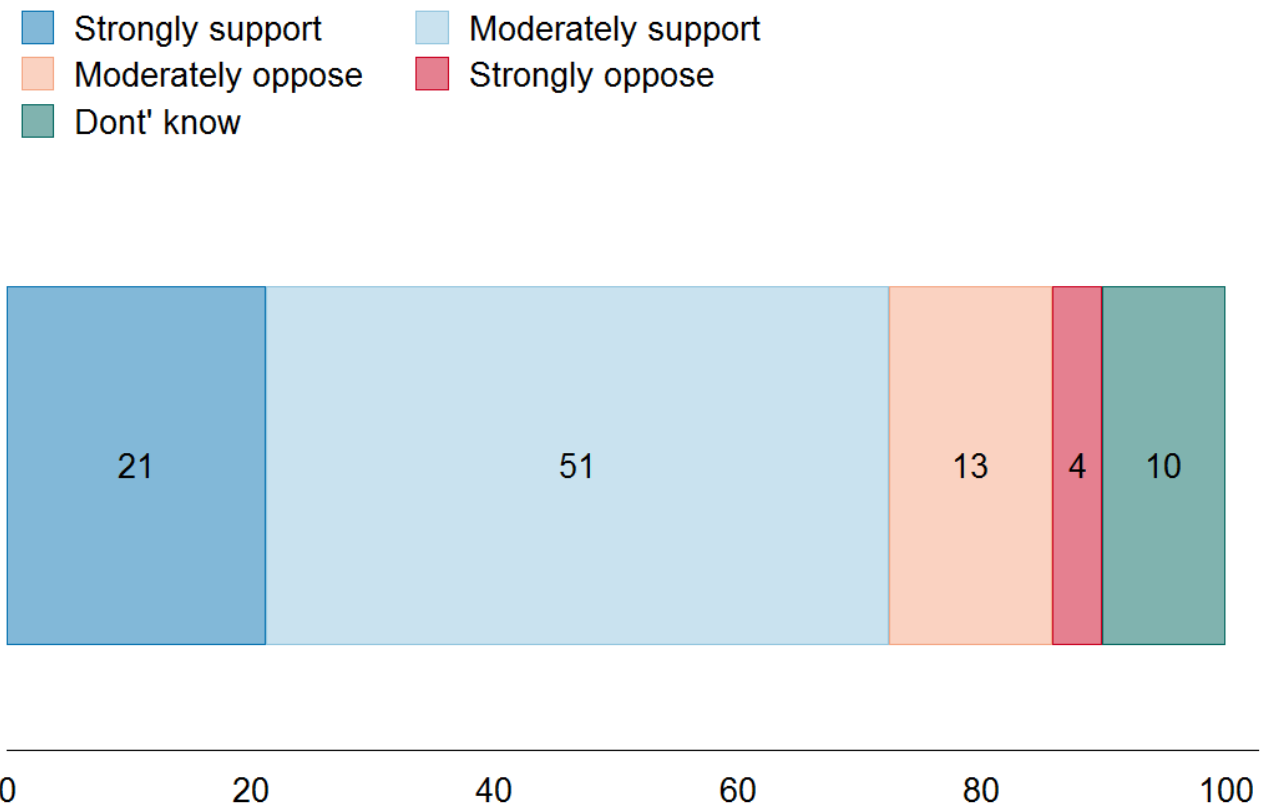
Expanded trade with China:



8. Do you support or oppose the Canadian government entering into a free trade agreement with China?

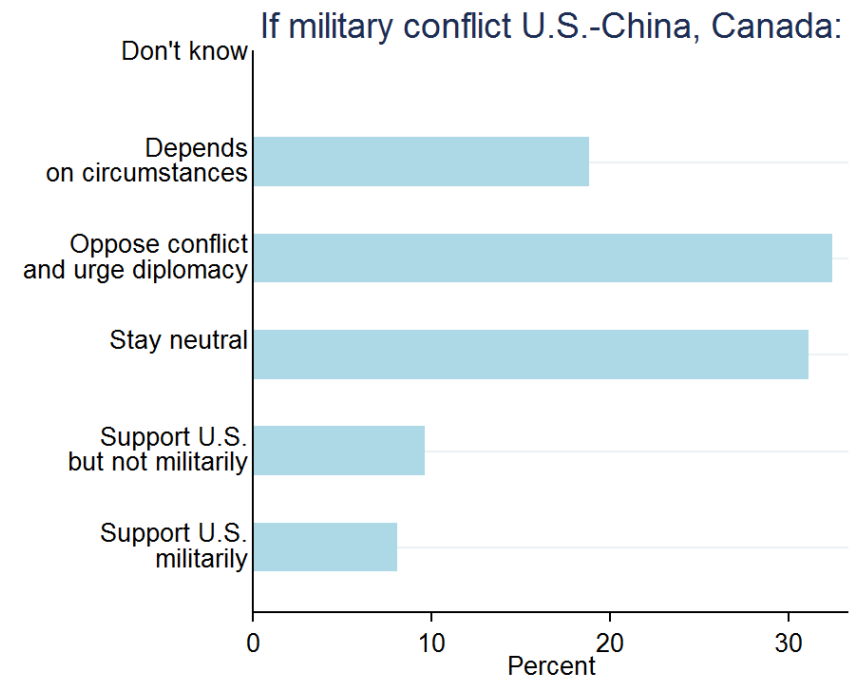
Answer	%	Count
Strongly support	21.31	111
Moderately support	51.06	266
Moderately oppose	13.44	70
Strongly oppose	4.03	21
Don't know	10.17	53
Total	100%	521

Support for FTA with China



9. In the event of a US military conflict with China, should Canada ...

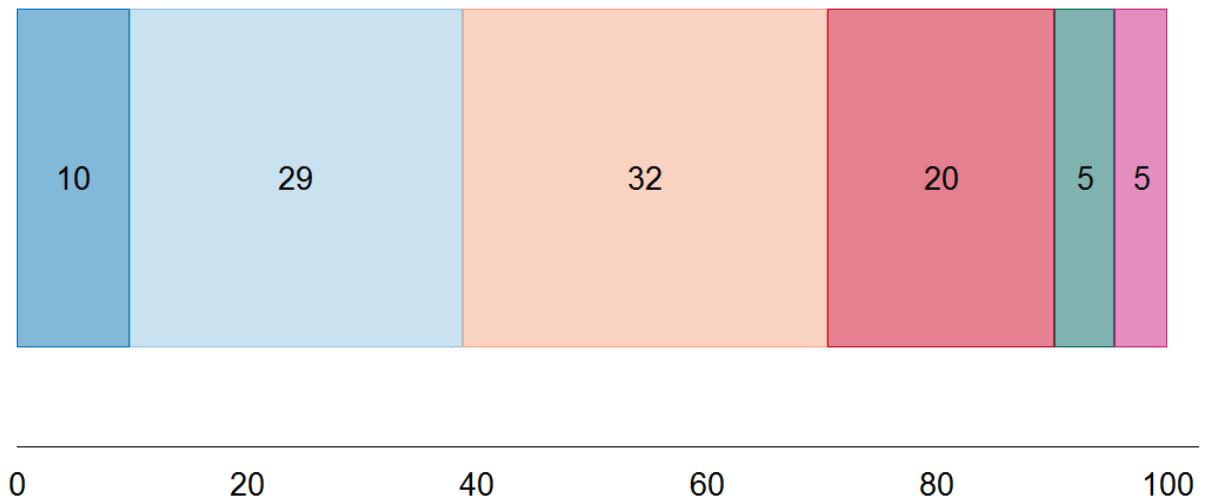
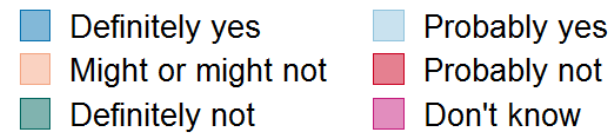
Answer	%	Count
Support the US militarily	8.06	42
Express support for the US but not participate militarily	9.6	50
Stay neutral	31.09	162
Oppose the conflict and urge diplomatic solutions	32.44	169
The choice would depend on the circumstances	18.81	98
Don't know	8.06	42
Total	100%	521



10. Looking out over the next ten years, are China's increasing military and defense capabilities a serious concern for Canada?

Answer	%	Count
Definitely yes	9.79	51
Probably yes	28.98	151
Might or might not	31.67	165
Probably not	19.77	103
Definitely not	5.18	27
Don't know	4.61	24
Total	100%	521

In the next ten years - are Chinese increasing military capabilities

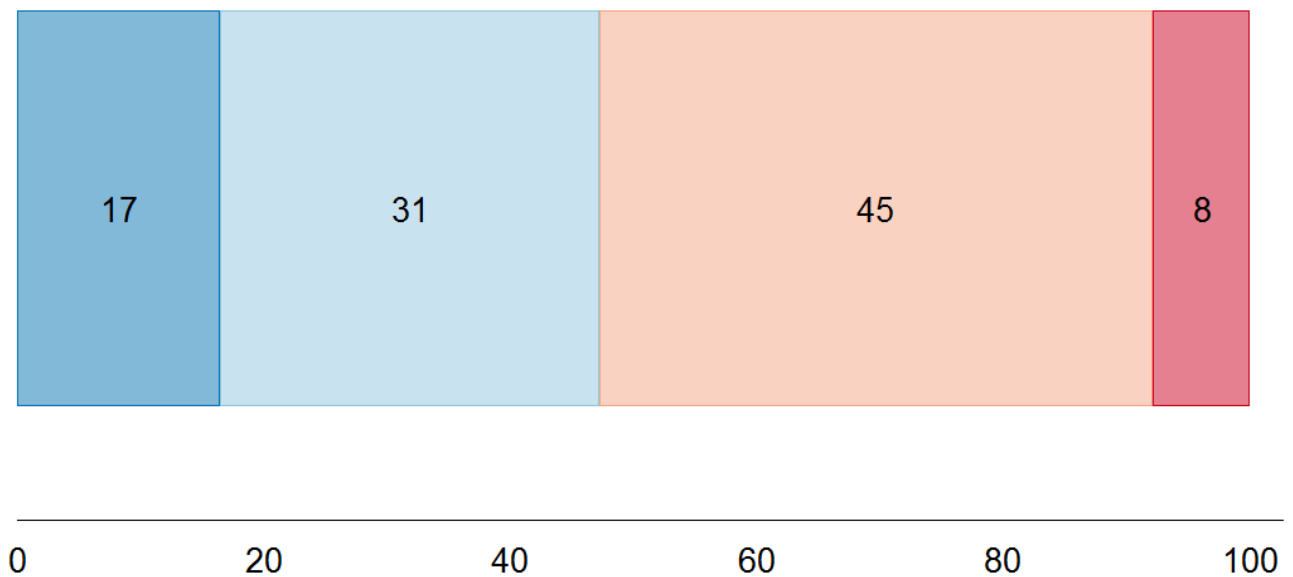


11. Should Canada increase defense spending to deal with potential Chinese threats?

Answer	%	Count
Yes	16.51	86
Maybe	30.71	160
No	44.91	234
Don't know	7.87	41
Total	100%	521

Should Canada increase defense spending to deal with Chinese

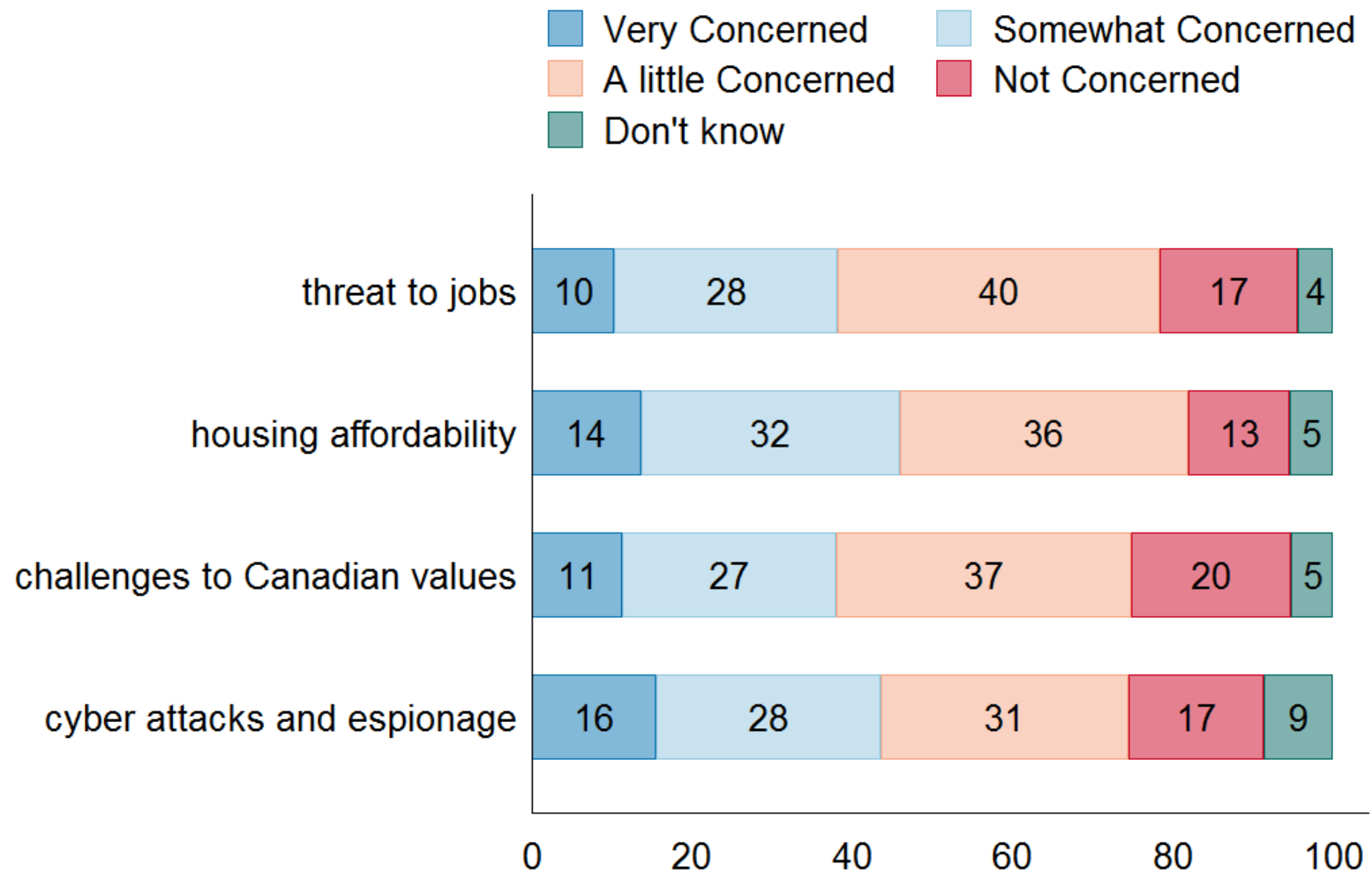
■ Yes ■ Maybe
■ No ■ Don't know



12. As the Chinese presence in Canada deepens, do you have special concerns about

Question	Very concerned	%	Somewhat concerned	%	A little concerned	%	Not concerned at all	%	Don't know	%	Total
Threats to jobs	54	10.36	145	27.83	209	40.12	90	17.27	23	4.41	521
Pressure on housing availability and affordability	71	13.63	168	32.25	188	36.08	66	12.67	28	5.37	521
Challenges to Canadian values and institutions (the Canadian way of life)	59	11.32	139	26.68	192	36.85	104	19.96	27	5.18	521
Cyber attacks and espionage	81	15.55	146	28.02	161	30.9	88	16.89	45	8.64	521

With growing Chinese presence in Canada do you worry about:

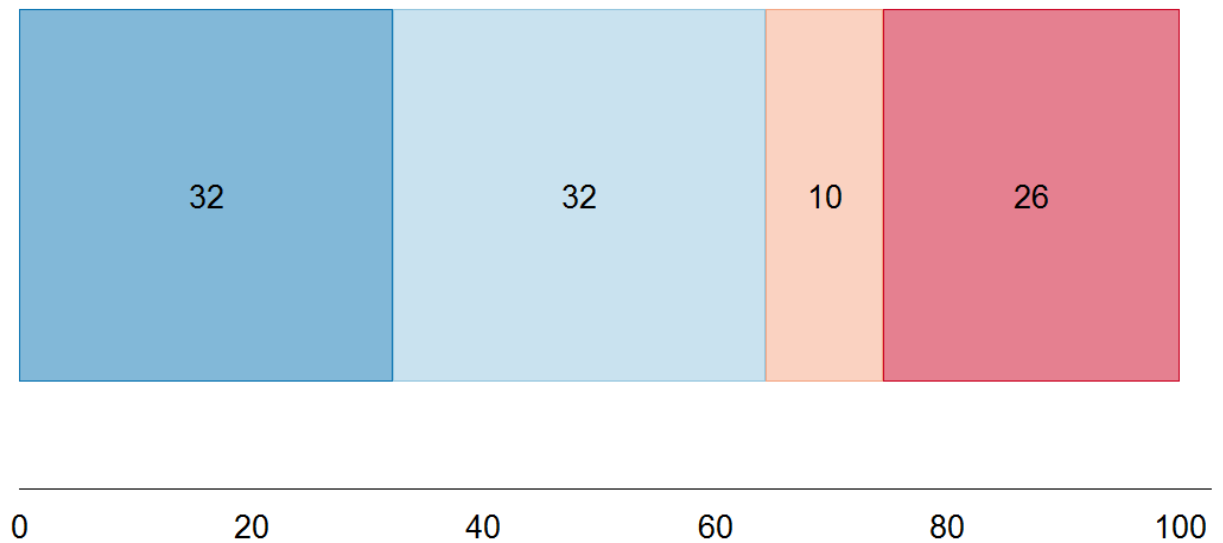


13. Should Canada negotiate an extradition treaty with China?

Should Canada negotiate an extradition treaty with China?

Yes Maybe
No Don't know

Answer	%	Count
Yes	32.25	168
Maybe	32.05	167
No	10.17	53
Don't know	25.53	133
Total	100%	521

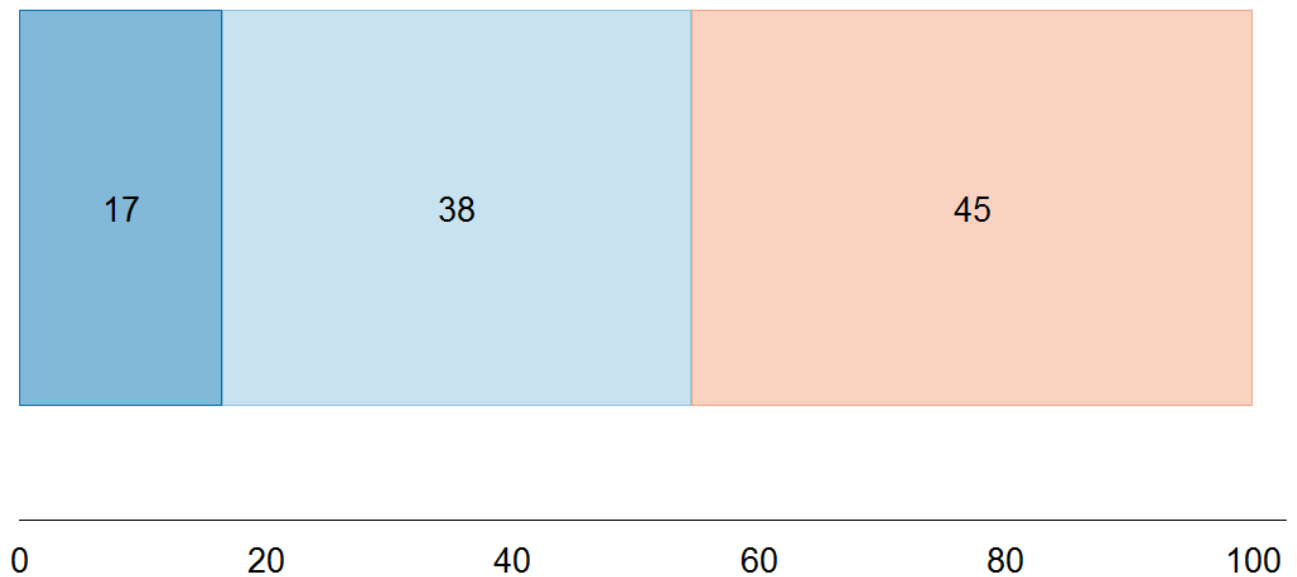


14. Does the Canadian government do enough to protect Canadian citizens under arrest or imprisoned in China?

Answer	%	Count
Yes	16.51	86
No	38	198
Don't know	45.49	237
Total	100%	521

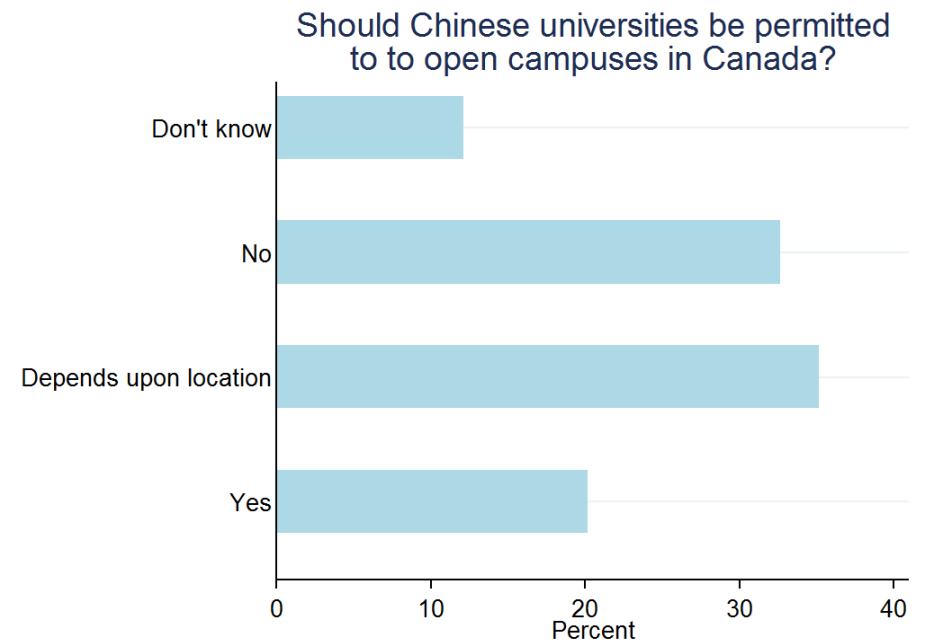
Does the Canadian government do enough to protect Canadian

■ Yes ■ No
■ Don't know



15. Should Chinese universities be permitted to open campuses in Canada?

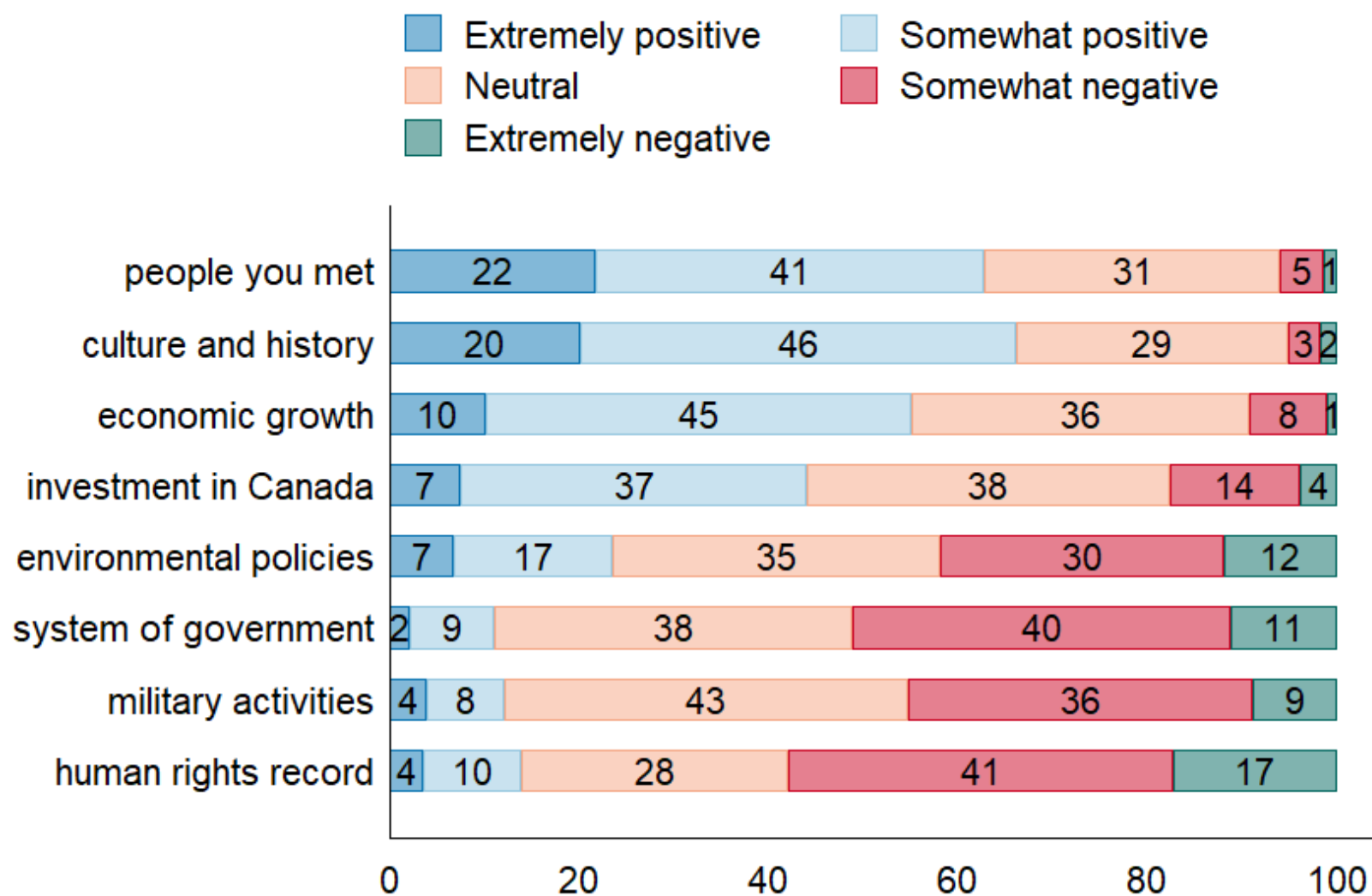
Answer	%	Count
Yes	20.15	105
Depends upon the specific focus and location	35.12	183
No	32.63	170
Don't know	12.09	63
Total	100%	521



16. For each of the following factors, please say whether, for you personally, they have a positive or negative influence on your overall view of China?

Question	Extremely positive	%	Somewhat positive	%	Neither positive nor negative	%	Somewhat negative	%	Extremely negative	%	Total
Chinese people you have met	114	21.88	213	40.88	163	31.29	24	4.61	7	1.34	521
China's culture and history	105	20.15	240	46.07	149	28.6	18	3.45	9	1.73	521
China's economic growth	53	10.17	234	44.91	186	35.7	43	8.25	5	0.96	521
Chinese investment in Canada	39	7.49	191	36.66	199	38.2	72	13.82	20	3.84	521
China's environmental policies	36	6.91	87	16.7	180	34.55	156	29.94	62	11.9	521
China's system of government	11	2.11	47	9.02	197	37.81	208	39.92	58	11.13	521
China's military activities	21	4.03	42	8.06	222	42.61	190	36.47	46	8.83	521
China's human rights record	19	3.65	54	10.36	146	28.02	212	40.69	90	17.27	521

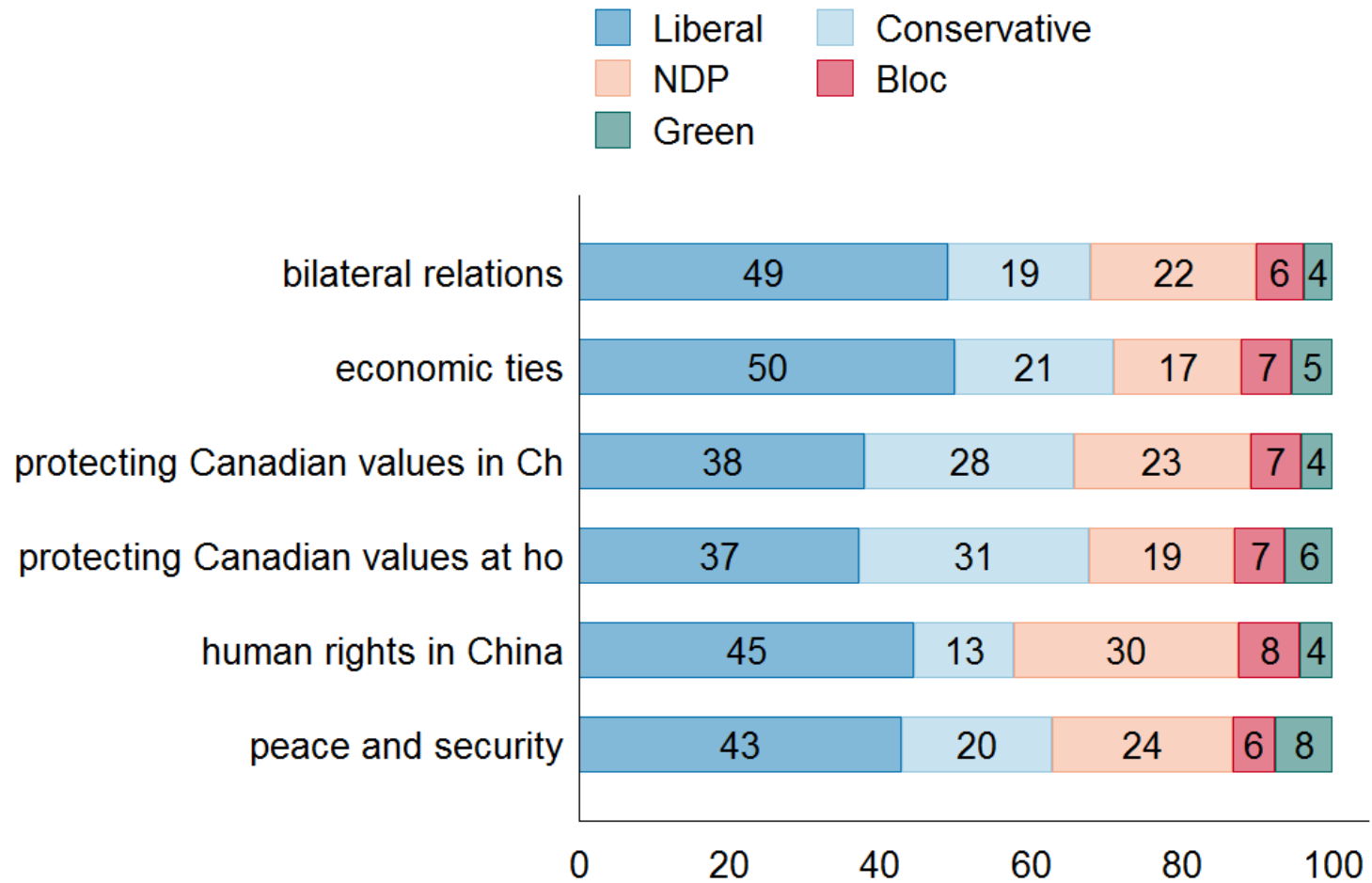
How these factors influenced your overall view of China:



17. Which Party (Liberal, Conservative, NDP, Bloc, Green) do you think would do a better job of handling each of the following issues with China

Question	Liberal	%	Conservative	%	NDP	%	Bloc	%	Green	%	Total
Overall management of the bilateral relations	255	48.94	99	19	114	21.88	33	6.33	20	3.84	521
Developing economic ties	260	49.9	110	21.11	88	16.89	35	6.72	28	5.37	521
Protecting Canadians in China	198	38	144	27.64	122	23.42	35	6.72	22	4.22	521
Protecting Canadian interests and values at home	194	37.24	159	30.52	100	19.19	35	6.72	33	6.33	521
Advancing human rights and democracy in China	232	44.53	69	13.24	155	29.75	42	8.06	23	4.41	521
Building peace and security	223	42.8	104	19.96	125	23.99	29	5.57	40	7.68	521

Which party would do a better job with China about:

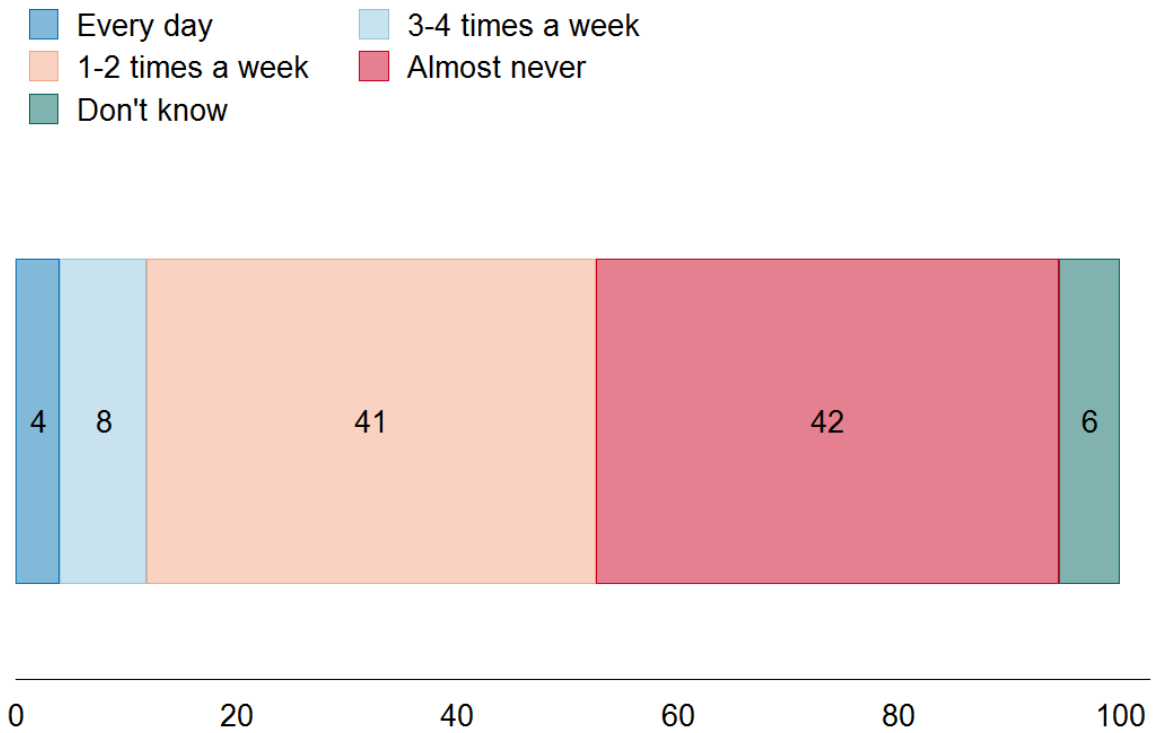


SOCIO-DEMOGRAPHIC QUESTIONS

18. How often you listen, watch or read news about China?

Answer	%	Count
Every day	4.03	21
3-4 times a week	7.87	41
1-2 times a week	40.69	212
Almost never	41.84	218
Don't know	5.57	29
Total	100%	521

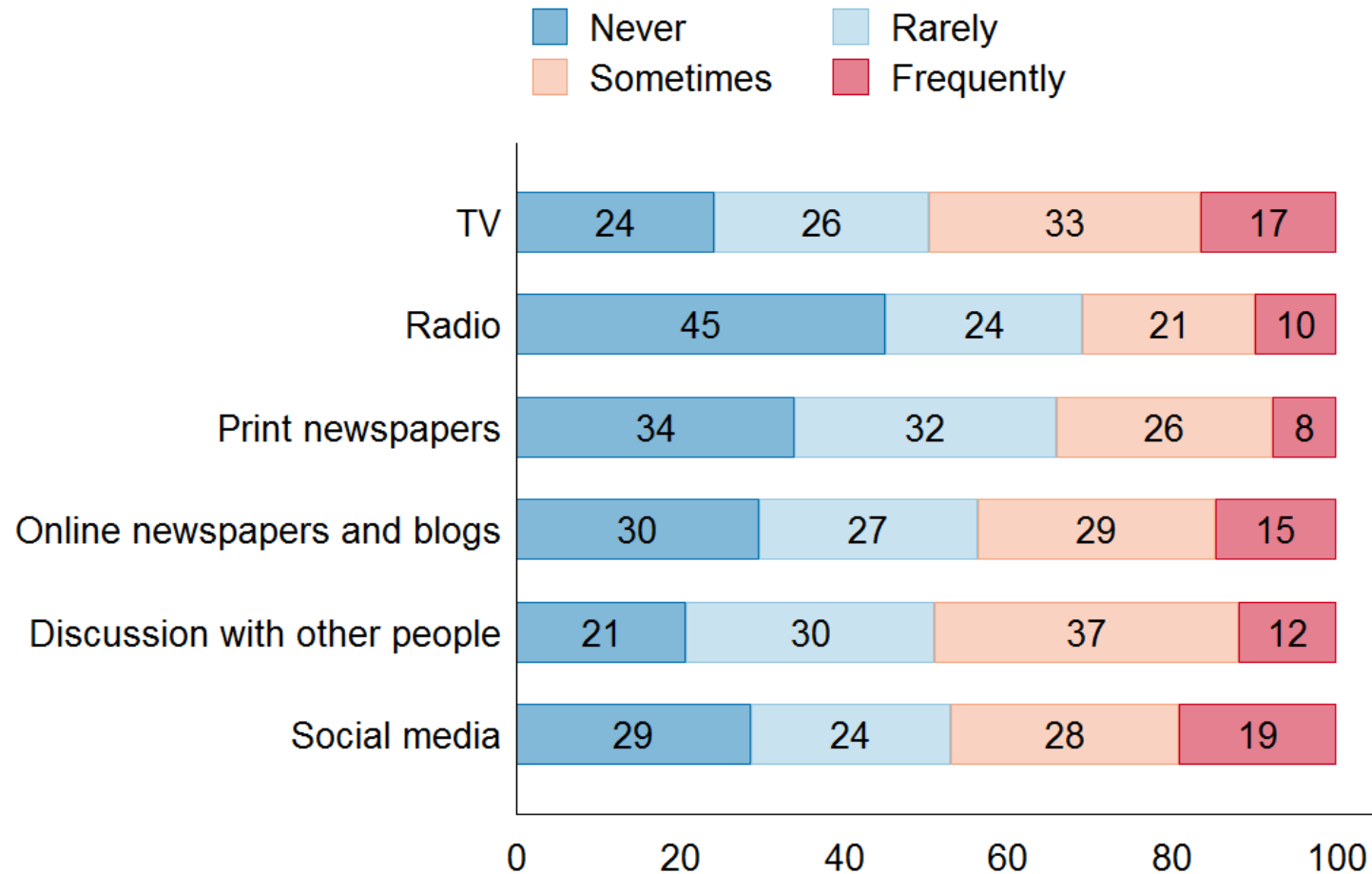
How often to you listen watch or read news about China?



19. What often do you use the following sources for your news about China?

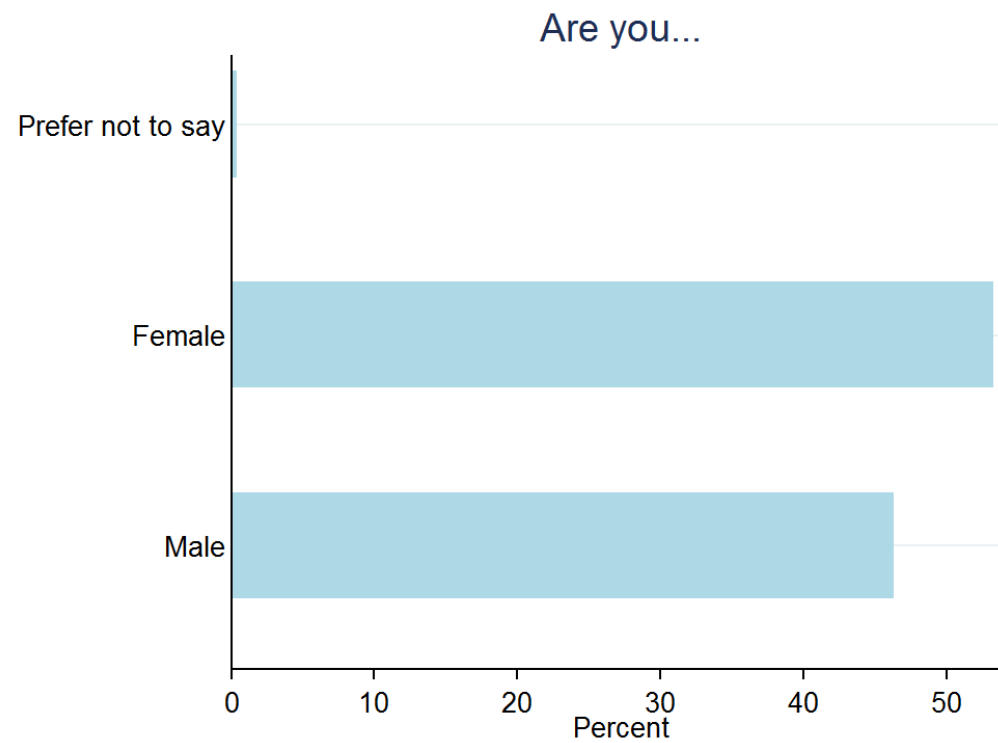
Question	Never	%	Rarely	%	Sometimes	%	Frequently	%	Total
TV	126	24.18	136	26.1	173	33.21	86	16.51	521
Radio	235	45.11	125	23.99	109	20.92	52	9.98	521
Print newspaper and magazines	177	33.97	166	31.86	137	26.3	41	7.87	521
Online newspaper, magazine and blogs	154	29.56	139	26.68	151	28.98	77	14.78	521
Social media (facebook, twitter, etc.)	149	28.6	127	24.38	145	27.83	100	19.19	521
Discussion with other people	108	20.73	158	30.33	193	37.04	62	11.9	521

How often do you use this source for your news about China?



20. Are you...

Answer	%	Count
Male	46.32	239
Female	53.29	275
Prefer not to say	0.39	2
Total	100%	516

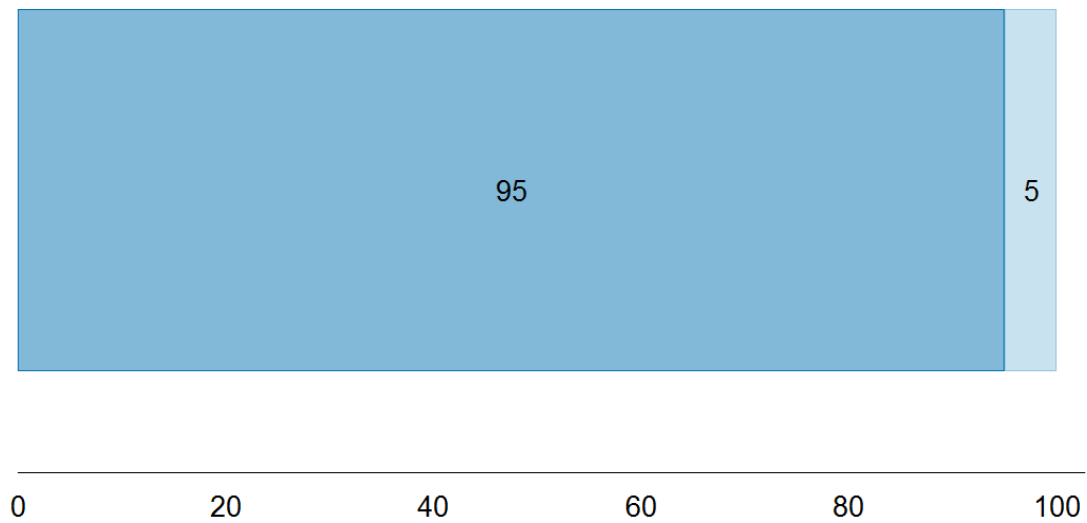


21. Were you born in Canada?

Answer	%	Count
Yes	95.01	495
No	4.99	26
Total	100%	521

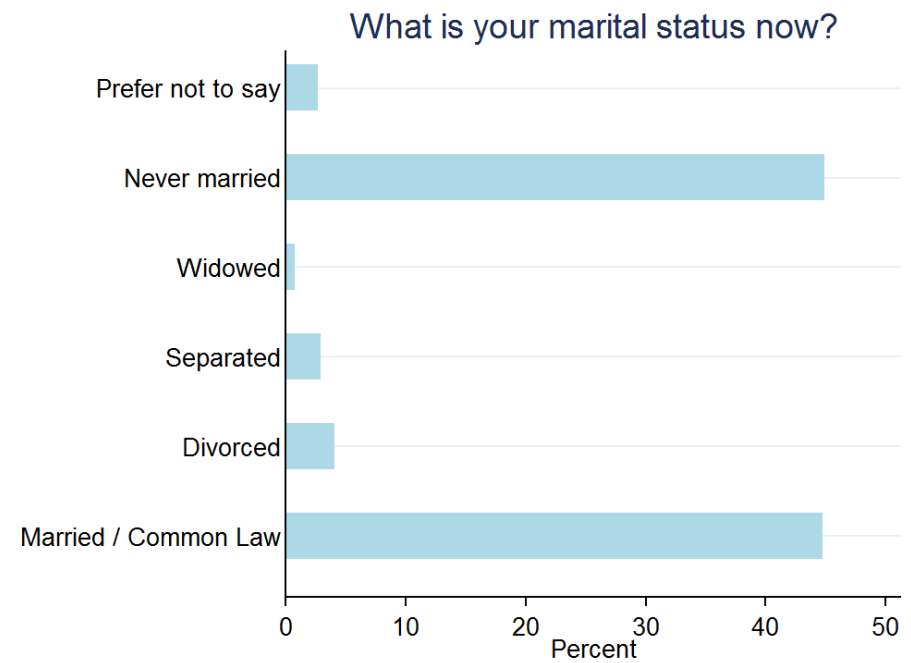
Were you born in Canada?

■ Yes ■ No



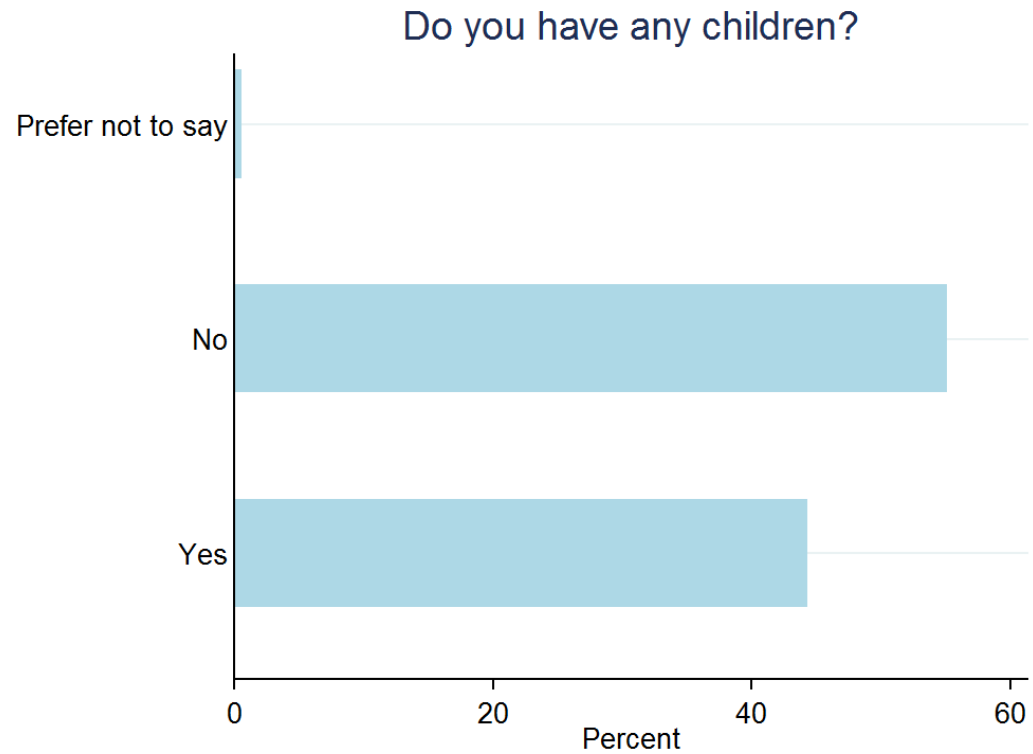
22. What is your marital status now?

Answer	%	Count
Married / in a common law relationship	44.72	233
Divorced	4.03	21
Separated	2.88	15
Widowed	0.77	4
Never married	44.91	234
Prefer not to say	2.69	14
Total	100%	521



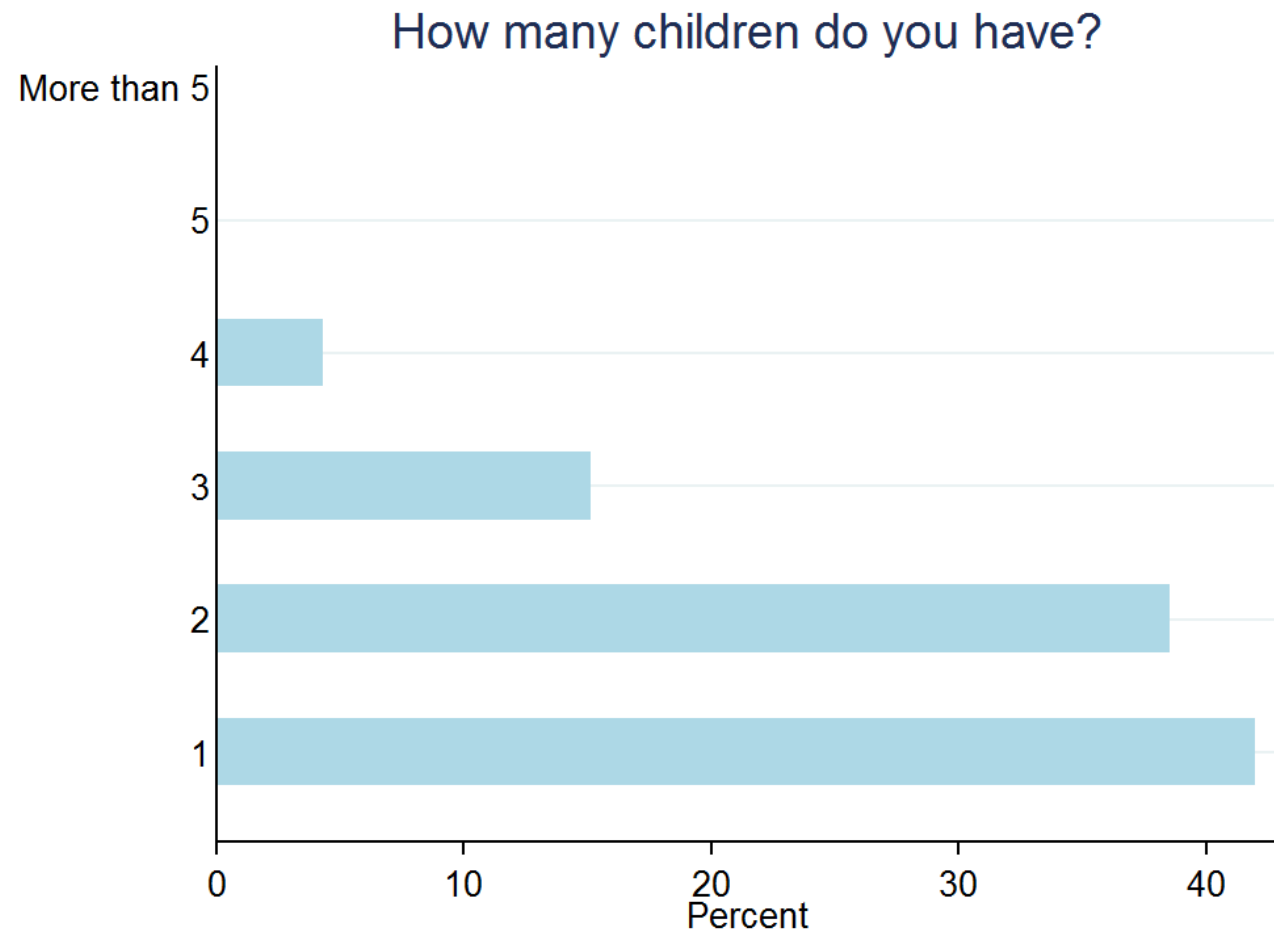
23. Do you have any children?

Answer	%	Count
Yes	44.34	231
No	55.09	287
Prefer not to say	0.58	3
Total	100%	521



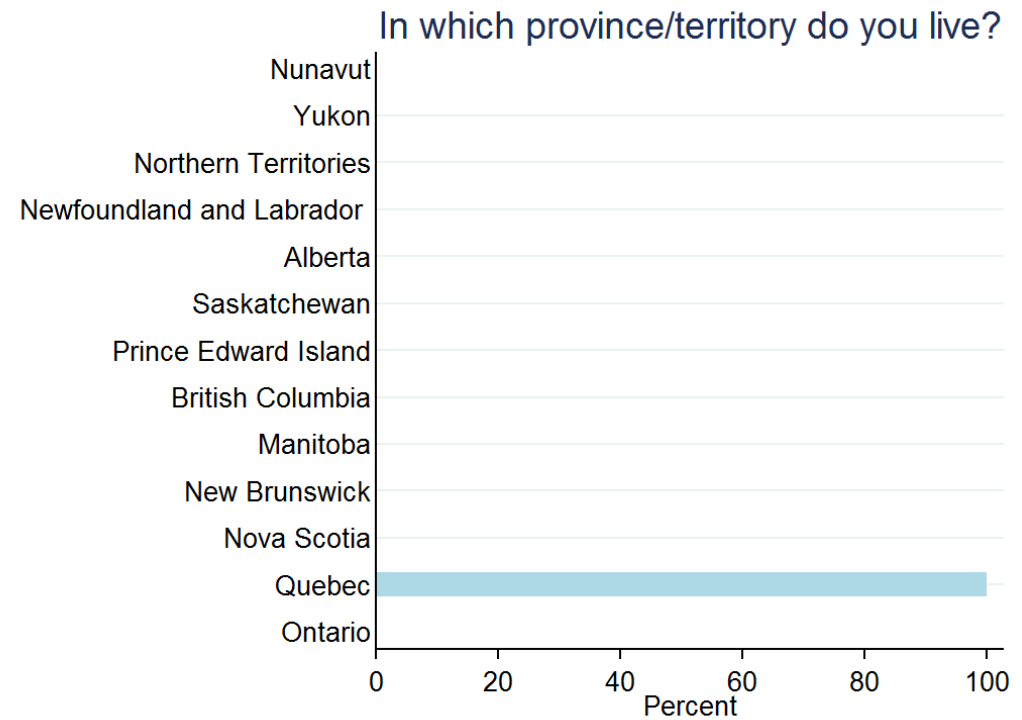
24. How many children do you have?

Answer	%	Count
1	41.99	97
2	38.53	89
3	15.15	35
4	4.33	10
5	0	0
more than 5	0	0
Total	100%	231



25. In which province/territory do you live?

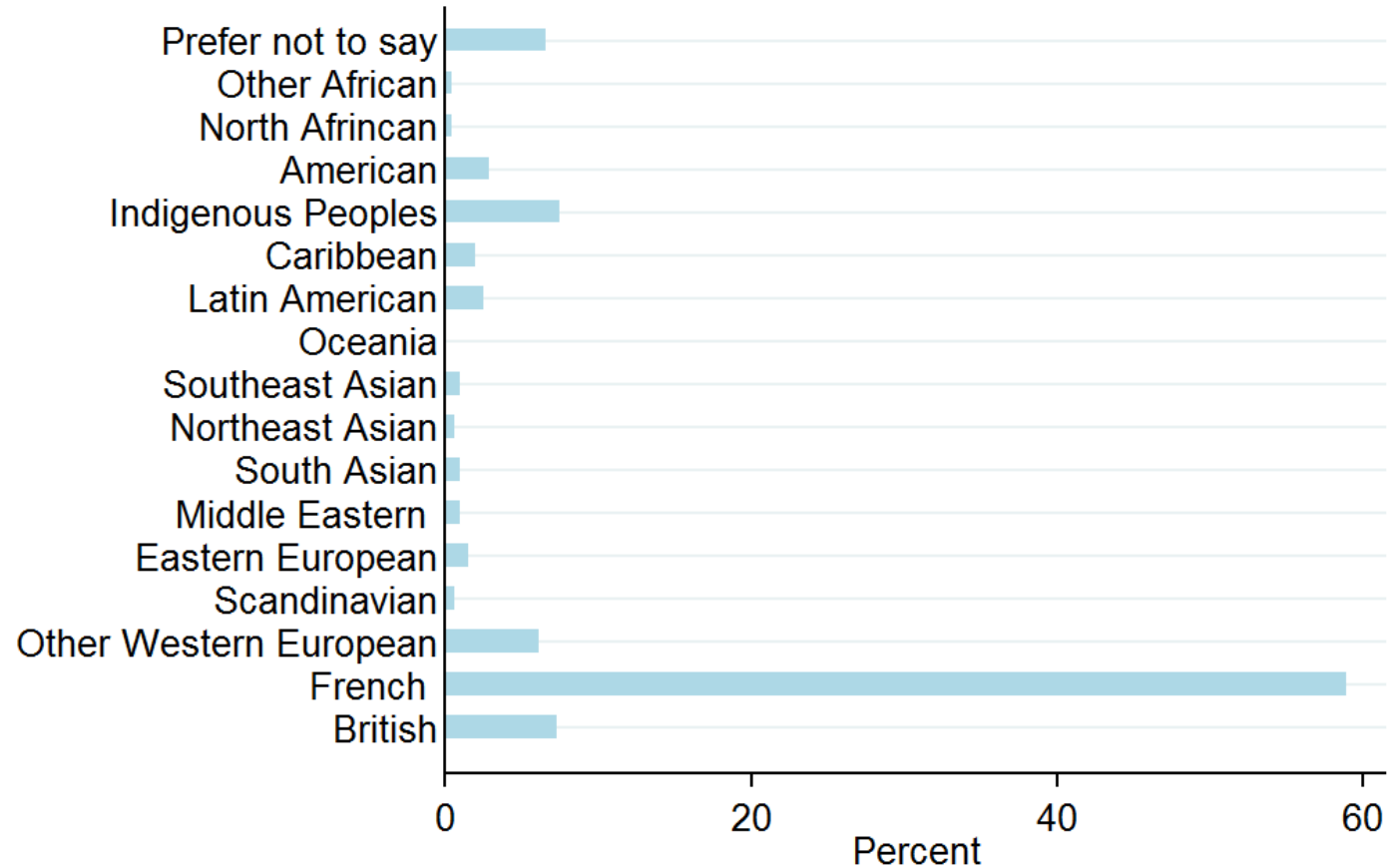
Answer	%	Count
Quebec	100	516
Total	100%	516



26. Other than Canadian, to which ethnic or cultural group(s) do your ancestors belong?

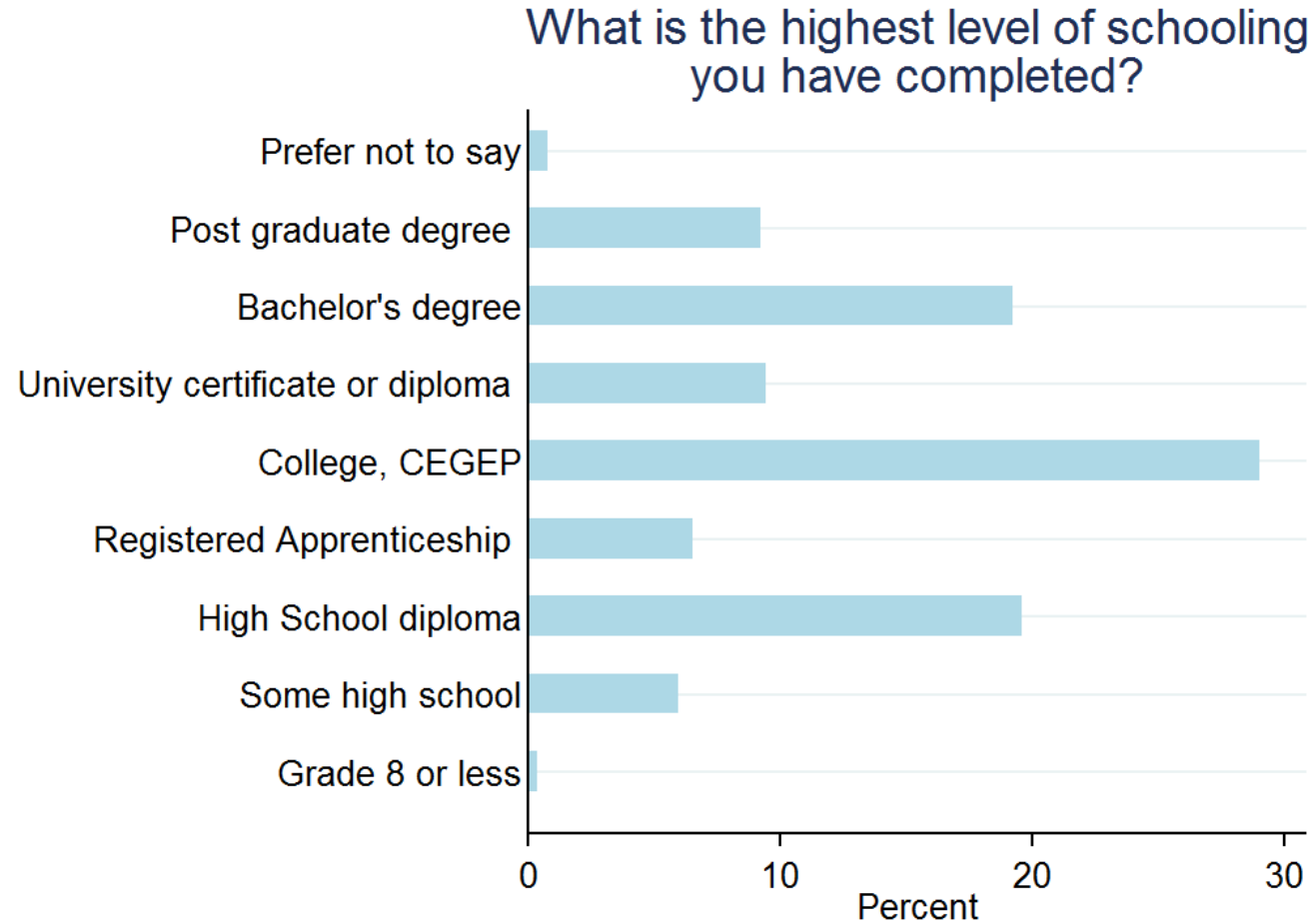
Answer	%	Count
British (e.g., English, Scottish, Irish, Welsh)	7.29	38
French	58.93	307
Other Western European (e.g., Italian, Spanish, German)	6.14	32
Scandinavian (e.g., Swedish, Finn, Danish, Norwegian)	0.58	3
Eastern European (e.g., Polish, Russian, Slav, Greek)	1.54	8
Middle Eastern (e.g., Lebanese, Turk, Iraqi)	0.96	5
South Asian (e.g., Pakistani, Indian, Sri Lankan)	0.96	5
Northeast Asian (e.g., Chinese, Japanese, Korean)	0.58	3
Southeast Asian (e.g., Filipino, Vietnamese, Indonesian)	0.96	5
Oceania (e.g., Australian, New Zealander, Polynesian)	2.5	13
Latin American (e.g., Mexican, Brazilian, Chilean)	1.92	10
Caribbean (e.g., Jamaican, Trinidadian, Haitian)	7.49	39
Indigenous Peoples in Canada (e.g., First Nations, Inuit, Métis)	2.88	15
American (general mention)	0.38	2
North African (e.g., Egypt, Libya, Morocco, Tunisia)	0.38	2
Other African (e.g., Nigerian, Somali, Kenyan)	6.53	34
Prefer not to say	7.29	38
Total	100%	521

Other than Canadian to which ethnic or cultural group(s) do your ancestors belong?



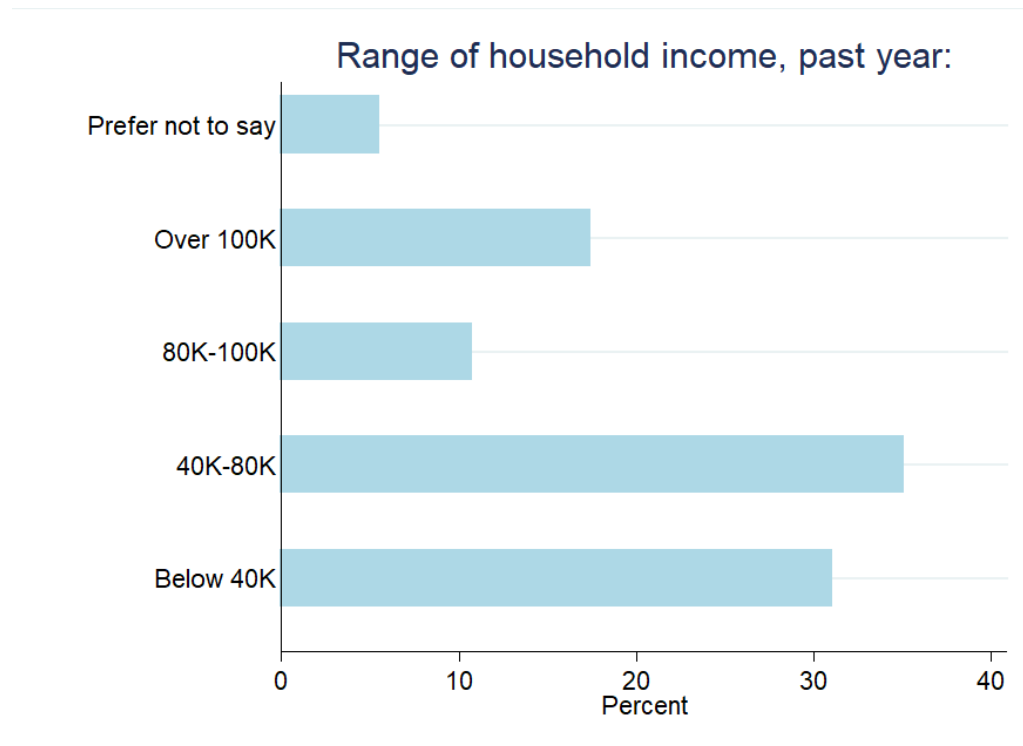
27. What is the highest level of schooling you have completed?

Answer	%	Count
Grade 8 or less	0.38	2
Some high school	5.95	31
High School diploma or equivalent	19.58	102
Registered Apprenticeship or other trades certificate or diploma	6.53	34
College, CEGEP or other non-university certificate or diploma	28.98	151
University certificate or diploma below bachelor's level	9.4	49
Bachelor's degree	19.19	100
Post graduate degree above bachelor's level	9.21	48
Prefer not to say	0.77	4
Total	100%	521



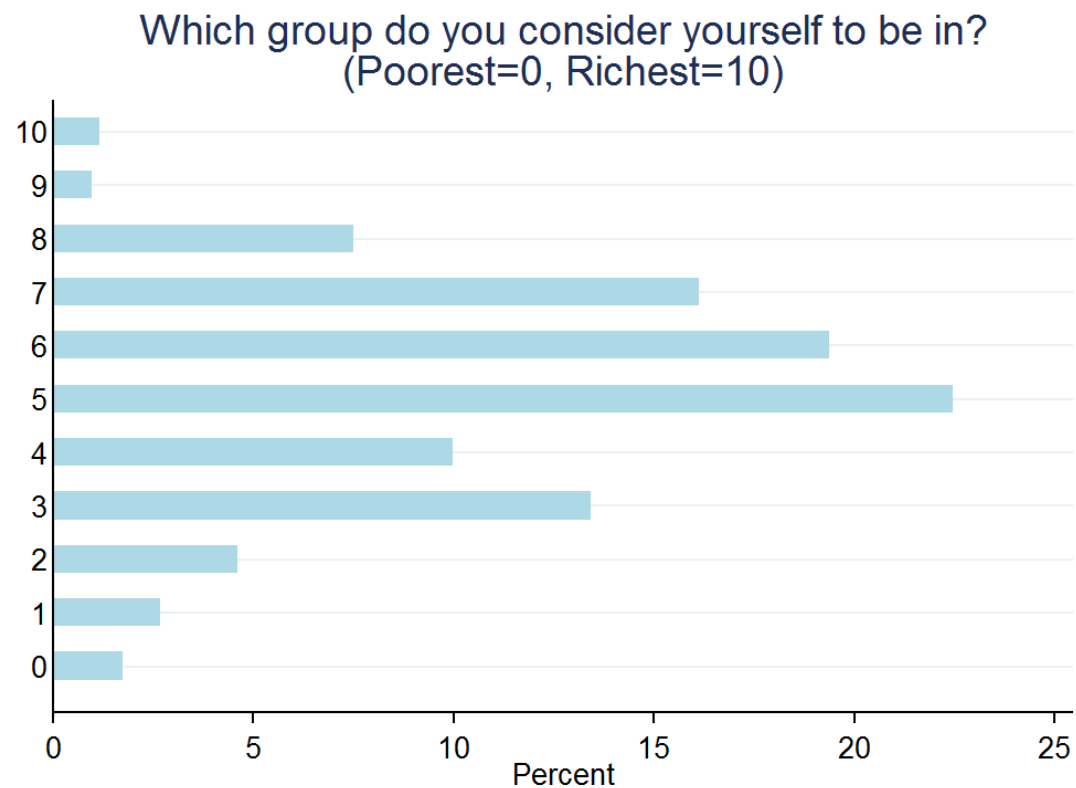
28. What was the range of your household income last year?

Answer	%	Count
Under \$40,000	31.09	162
Between \$40,000 to \$80,000	35.12	183
Between \$80,000 to \$100,000	10.75	56
Above \$100,000	17.47	91
Prefer not to say	5.57	29
Total	100%	521



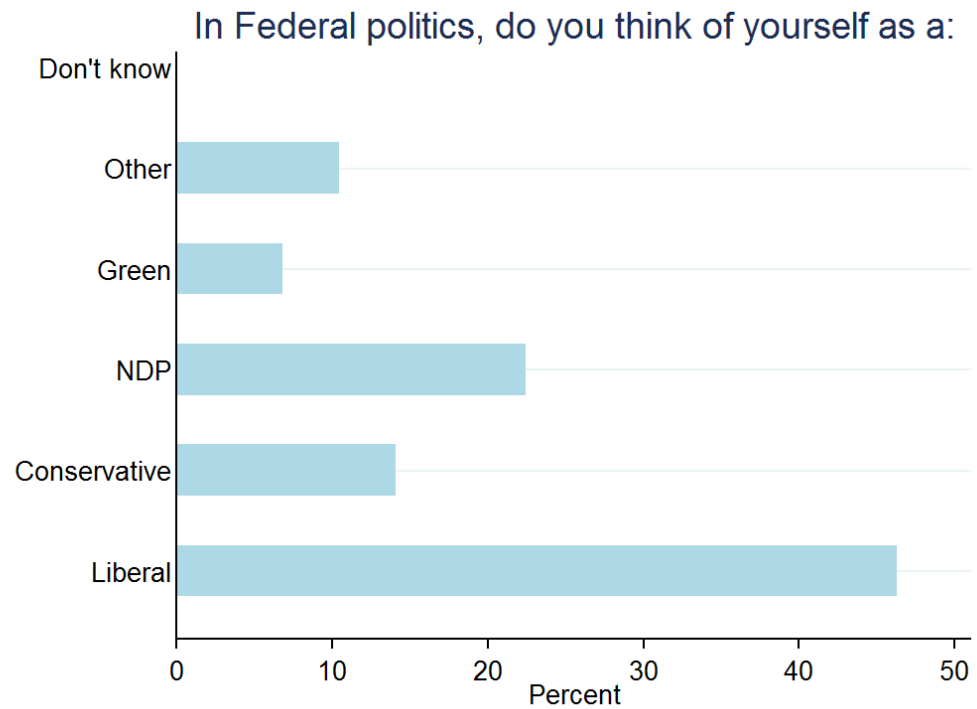
29. People can be divided into different social groups based on their economic conditions. In the scale below, 0 represents the poorest group and 10 represents the richest group. Which group do you consider yourself to be in? Please select a number from the scale that best corresponds to your group.

Answer	%	Count
0	1.73	9
1	2.69	14
2	4.61	24
3	13.44	70
4	9.98	52
5	22.46	117
6	19.39	101
7	16.12	84
8	7.49	39
9	0.96	5
10	1.15	6
Total	100%	521



30. In Federal politics, do you usually think of yourself as a:

Answer	%	Count
Liberal	46.26	204
Conservative	14.06	62
NDP	22.45	99
Green	6.8	30
Other	10.43	46
None	100	441
Total	46.26	204

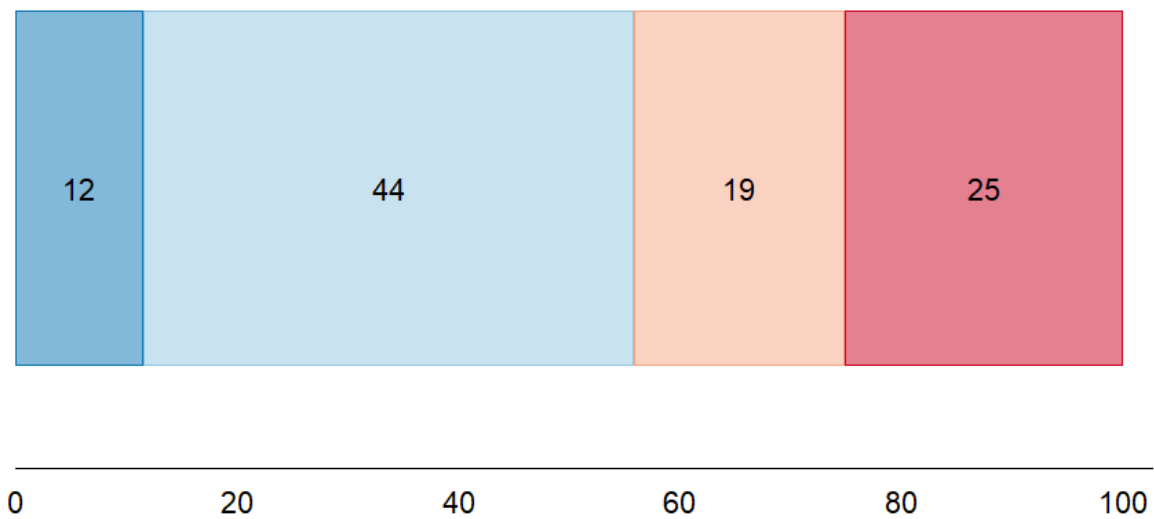


31. How strongly do you associate with the [answer to previous question] party?

Answer	%	Count
Very strongly	11.52	60
Fairly strongly	44.34	231
Not very strongly	19	99
Don't know	25.14	131
Total	100%	521

How strongly do you associate with your party?

Very strongly Fairly strongly
Not very strongly Don't know



32. What year were you born?

	Year born	Age
Mean	1980	37
Standard deviation	13.3	13.3
Min	1944	73
Max	2000	17
Total	521	521

