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BC Renewable Polling

Clean Energy Canada



October 2026

Methodology

- Sample size: 1,506 B.C. residents ages 18+
  - → Mainland/Southwest (n=534)
  - → Vancouver Island/Coast (n=447)
  - → Okanagan (n=256)
  - → Kootenays (n=119)
  - → Cariboo (n=88)
  - → North Coast and Nechako (n=30)
  - → Northeast (n=32)
- Survey field dates: September 16 to October 1, 2026
- Margin of error: (+/-) ~2.53%, 19 times out of 20.
- The data was weighted by age, gender, education, and region.
- Totals may not add up to 100 due to rounding.



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Key Insights



KEY INSIGHTS

1

Renewable power projects are residents' preferred way to meet growing electricity demand. When adding non-hydro electricity generation to B.C.'s power grid, more than three times as many residents want the government to prioritize renewables (60%) over natural gas (17%) or nuclear (13%) plants. 4 in 5 (82%) support constructing renewable power projects to help meet the province's growing demand for electricity.

2

Support holds close to home and is higher for projects with local benefits. Just over three-quarters (77%) of B.C. residents would support a renewable power project in their community, and 84% would support one that brings community benefits like local jobs, infrastructure improvements, and municipal tax revenue. Fewer than 1 in 10 oppose renewable power projects in B.C. (6%), local renewables projects (7%), and local renewables projects that provide community benefits (5%).

3

Residents see many benefits to renewable power projects, with no single one standing out. Lower electricity rates (84%), not producing climate pollution (84%), and attracting business to B.C. (83%) are virtually tied as recognized benefits of renewable power projects, with relatively low build and operating costs (78%) close behind. Fewer than 1 in 10 say each one is not a benefit.

4

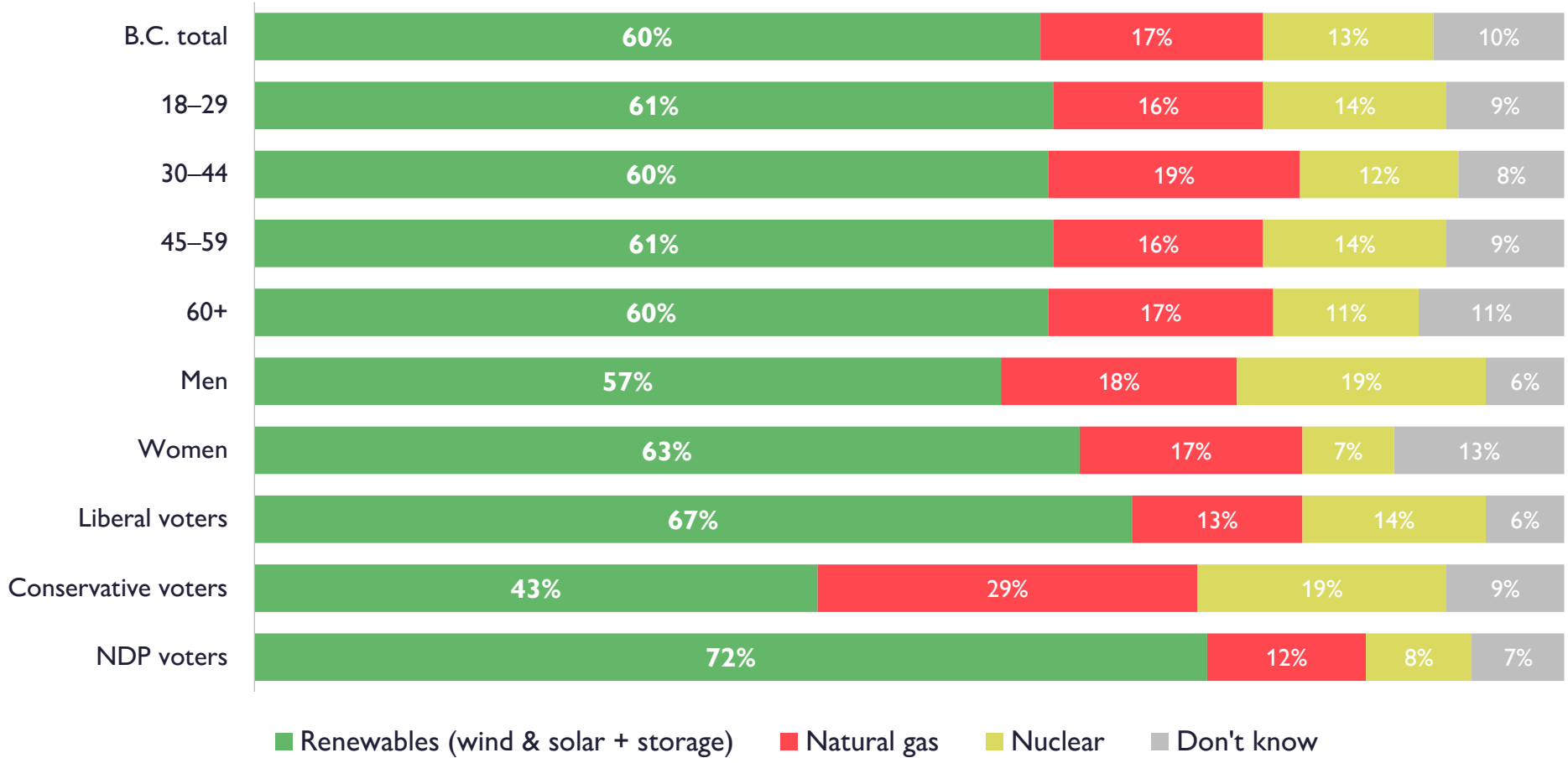
Support for renewable power projects and recognition of their benefits crosses party lines, though Conservative voters are less enthusiastic. Federal Liberal voters are consistently more likely than Conservative voters to support renewable power projects in B.C. (92% vs. 71%), in their community (87% vs. 67%), and in their community when the projects provide local benefits (92% vs. 76%).

Liberal voters are also more likely to identify not producing climate pollution (91% vs. 76%), attracting business to B.C. (91% vs. 78%), and keeping electricity rates lower for consumers (91% vs. 80%) as benefits of building more renewable power in B.C.

Still, a majority of Liberal, Conservative, and NDP voters support all three types of projects, and perceive all four statements shown as benefits.

KEY INSIGHTS

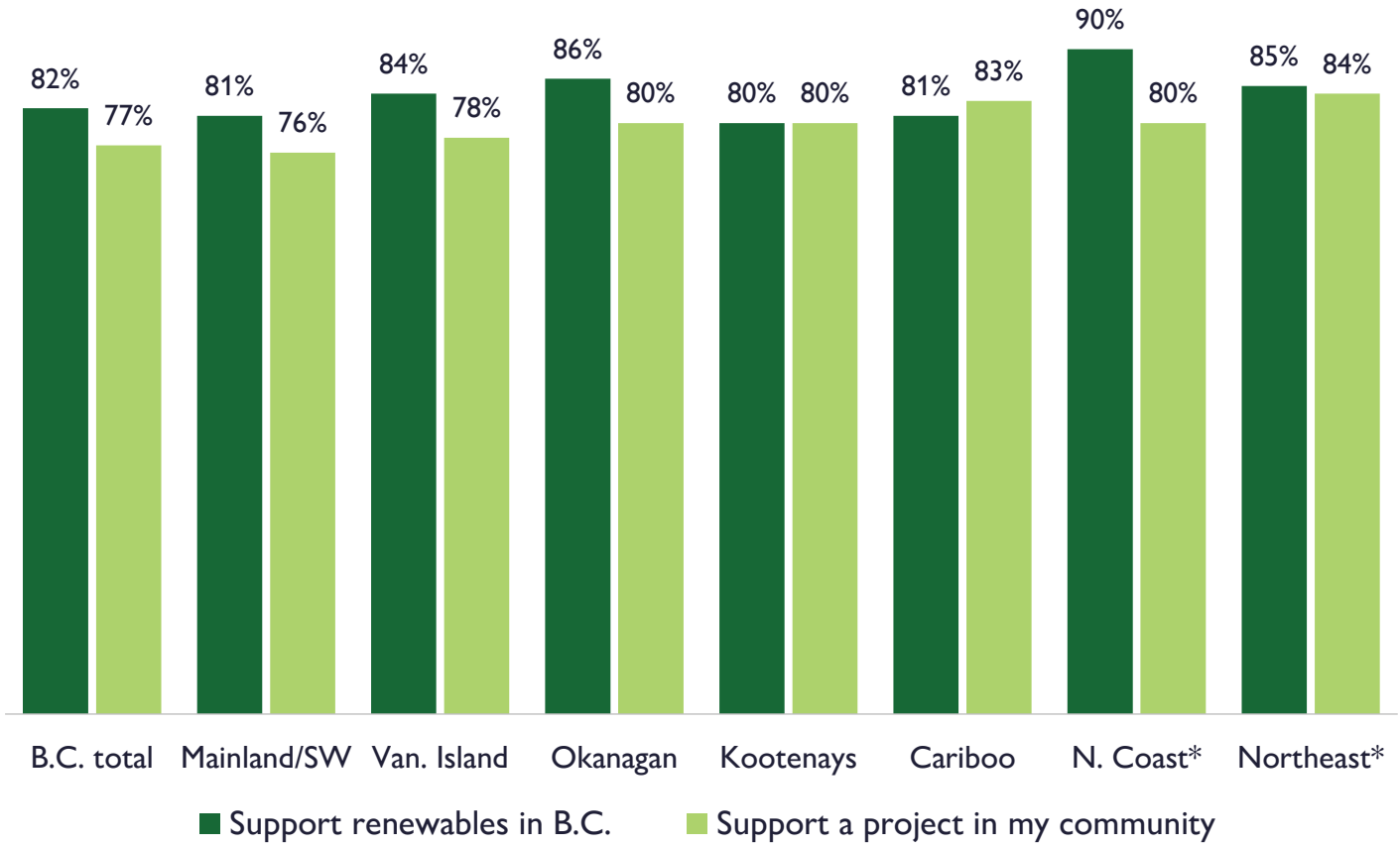
Renewables are the top priority in every demographic and political group, and even Conservative voters favour them over natural gas (43% vs. 29%)



Base: All respondents (n=1,506). Type of non-hydro project government should prioritize most.

KEY INSIGHTS

At least 4 in 5 support renewables in every region of B.C., and at least three-quarters would welcome a project in their own community



80–90%

support renewables in B.C., a 10-point spread across all seven regions

76–84%

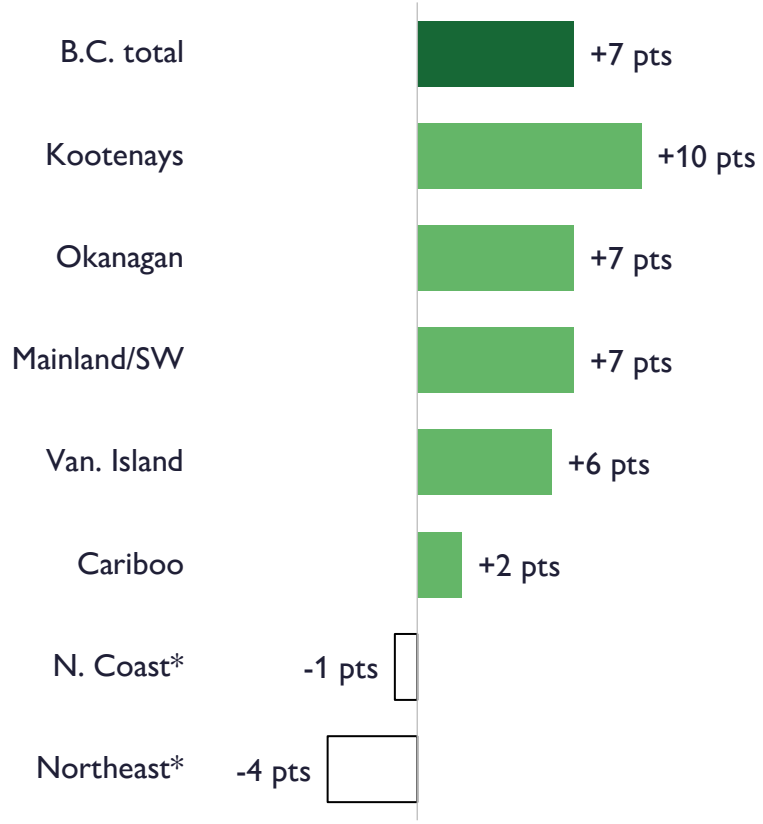
support a project in their own community; Mainland/SW is lowest

Base: All respondents (n=1,506). % strongly + somewhat support. *Small bases (N. Coast n=30, Northeast n=32); directional only.

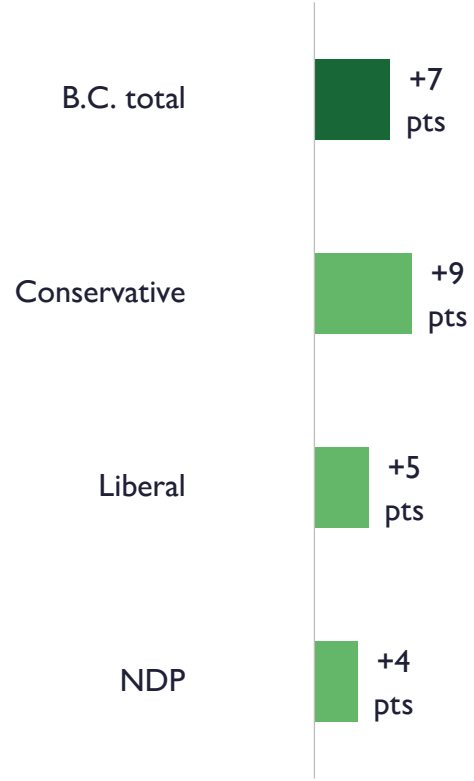
KEY INSIGHTS

Offering local benefits lifts support for a local project by 7 points, with the biggest gains in the Kootenays and among Conservative voters

BY REGION



BY FEDERAL VOTE



STRONG SUPPORT

45% → 53%

strongly support a local project once community benefits are on the table

CONSERVATIVE VOTERS

67% → 76%

support a local project once community benefits are offered

Base: All respondents (n=1,506). Change in local support when a project brings community benefits. *Small bases; directional only.

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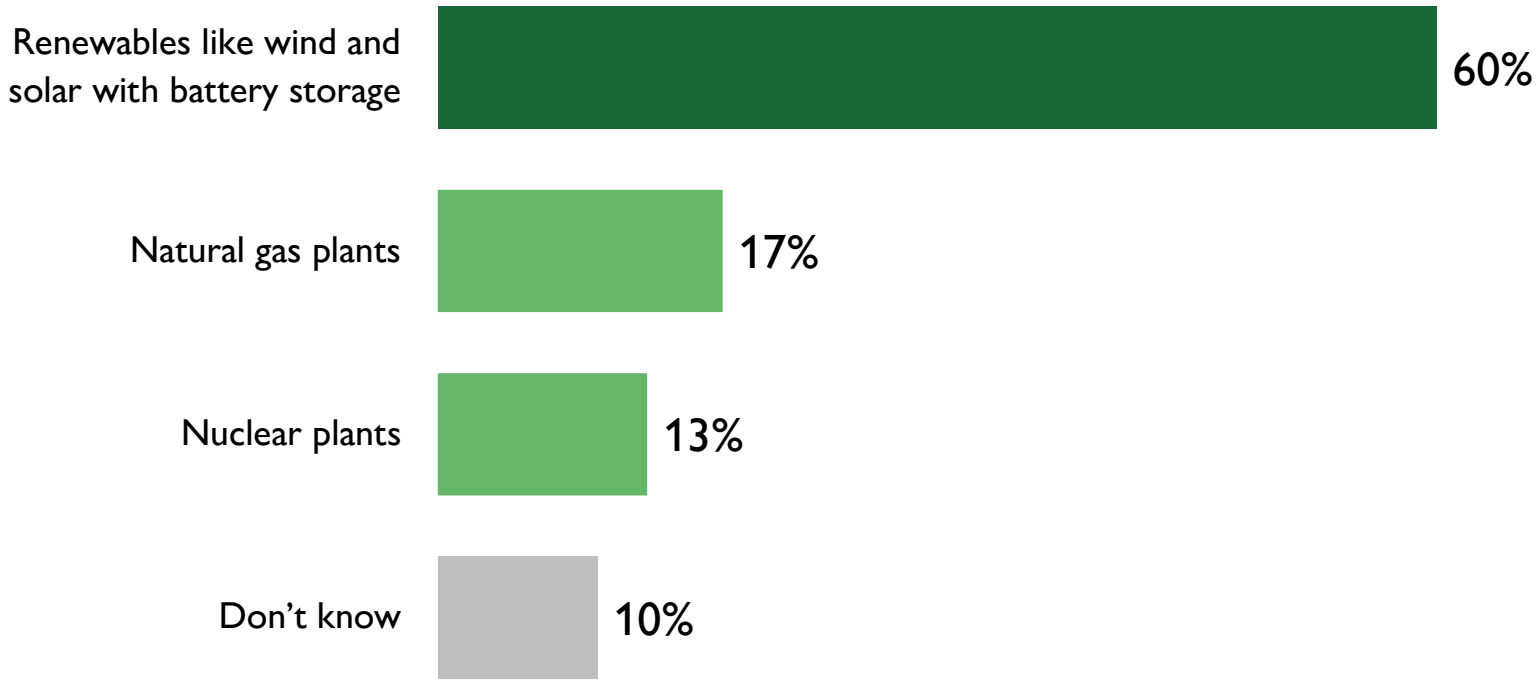
Detailed Results



When it comes to adding non-hydro electricity generation to B.C.'s power grid, which ONE of the following types of projects do you think the government should prioritize most?

More than three times as many B.C. residents want the government to prioritize renewables projects (60%) over natural gas (17%) or nuclear (13%) plants.



Base: All respondents (n=1,506)

When it comes to adding non-hydro electricity generation to B.C.'s power grid, which ONE of the following types of projects do you think the government should prioritize most?

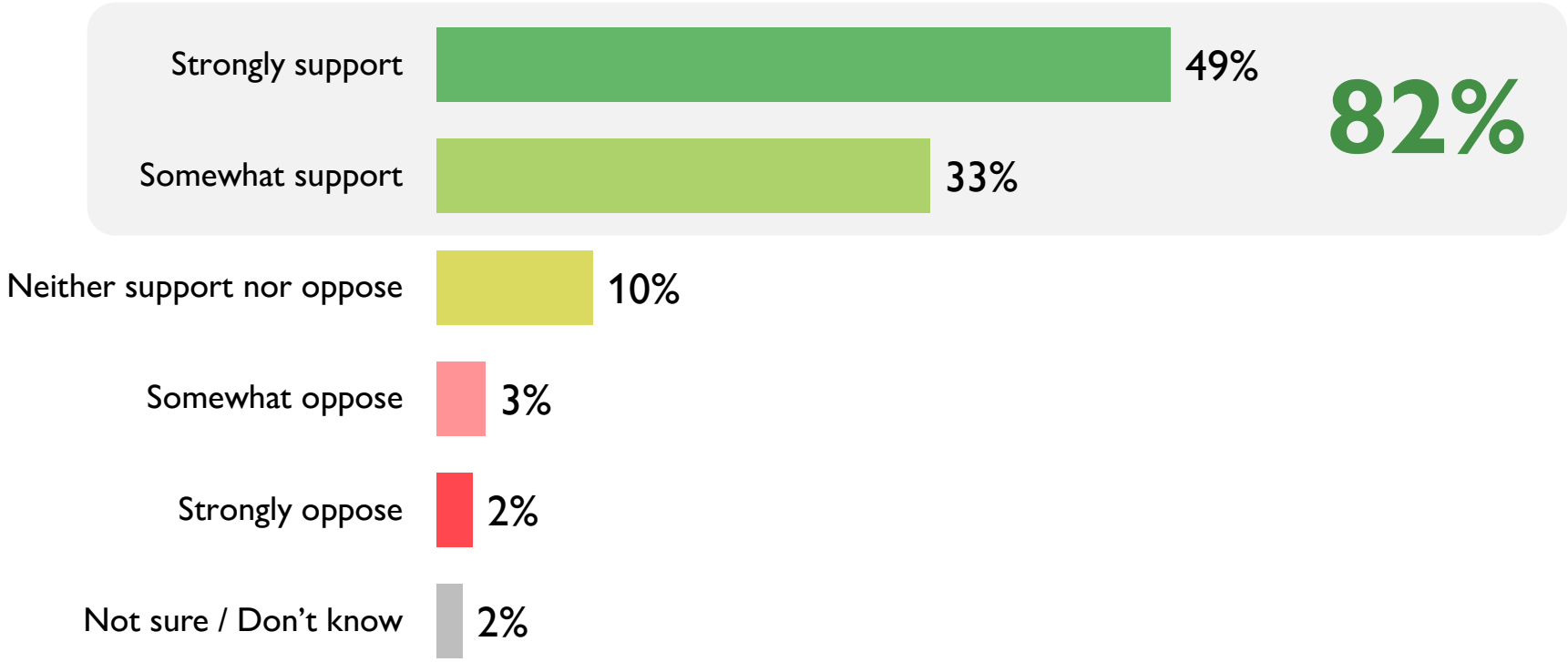
TYPES OF PROJECTS GOVERNMENT SHOULD PRIORITIZE

	TOTAL	AGE				GENDER		REGION							AREA			COMMITTED VOTE		
		18-29	30-44	45-59	60+	Male	Female	Mainland / SW	Van. Island	Okanagan	Kootenays	Cariboo	N. Coast	NE	Urban	Suburban	Rural	LP	CP	NDP
Renewables like wind and solar with battery storage	**60%**	61%	60%	61%	60%	57%	63%	58%	66%	57%	63%	78%	57%	66%	62%	58%	61%	67%	43%	72%
Natural gas plants	**17%**	16%	19%	16%	17%	18%	17%	17%	16%	19%	15%	14%	19%	24%	17%	18%	14%	13%	29%	12%
Nuclear plants	**13%**	14%	12%	14%	11%	19%	7%	14%	9%	15%	12%	2%	20%	0%	12%	14%	12%	14%	19%	8%
Don't know	**10%**	9%	8%	9%	11%	6%	13%	11%	8%	9%	10%	6%	3%	10%	8%	10%	13%	6%	9%	7%

Base: All respondents (n=1,506)

Generally speaking, do you support or oppose the construction of renewable power projects in B.C. (like wind and solar) to help meet the province's growing demand for electricity?

4 in 5 B.C. residents (82%) support constructing renewable power projects to help meet the province's growing electricity demand.



Base: All respondents (n=1,506)

Generally speaking, do you support or oppose the construction of renewable power projects in B.C. (like wind and solar) to help meet the province's growing demand for electricity?

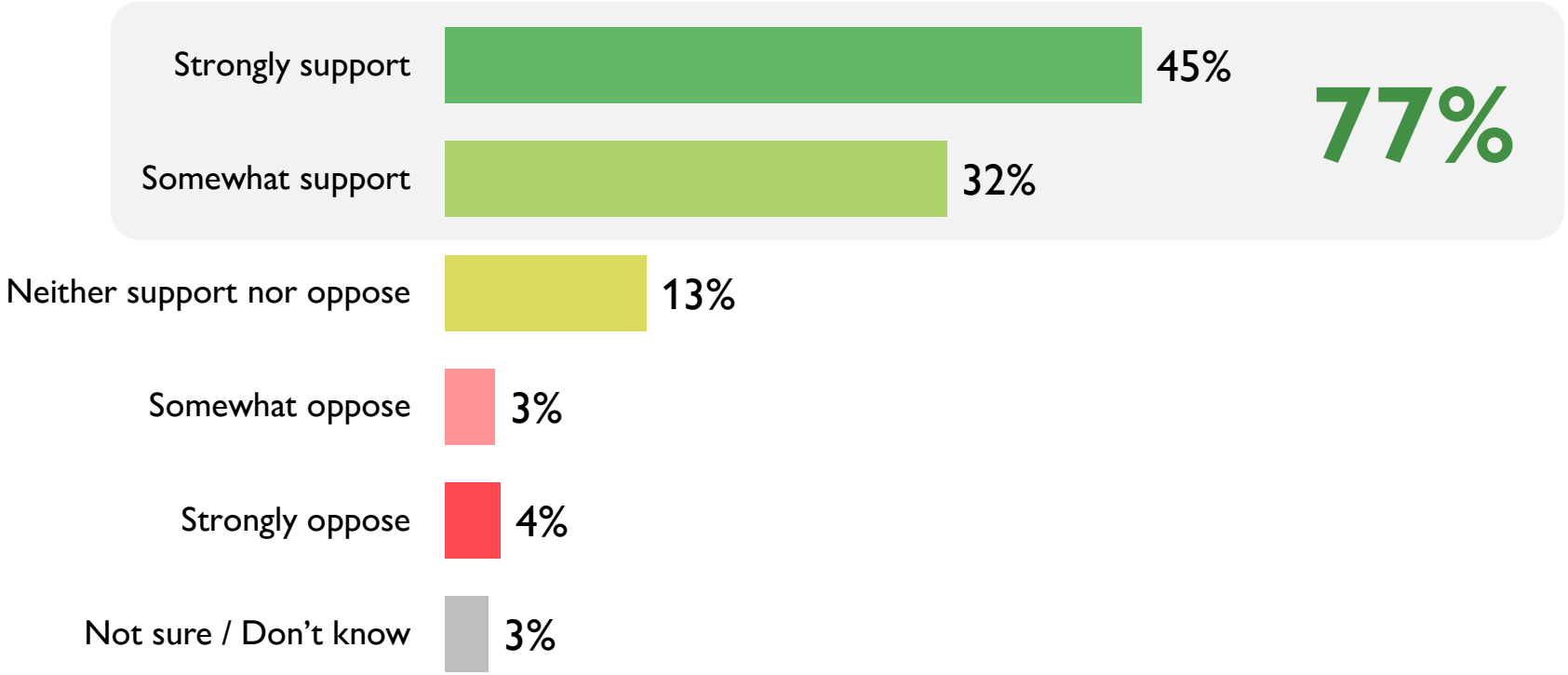
SUPPORT FOR RENEWABLE POWER PROJECTS IN B.C.

	TOTAL	AGE				GENDER		REGION							AREA			COMMITTED VOTE		
		18-29	30-44	45-59	60+	Male	Female	Mainland / SW	Van. Island	Okanagan	Kootenays	Cariboo	N. Coast	NE	Urban	Suburban	Rural	LP	CP	NDP
[NET] SUPPORT	**82%**	79%	82%	87%	81%	82%	82%	81%	84%	86%	80%	81%	90%	85%	84%	80%	82%	92%	71%	86%
Strongly support	**49%**	43%	45%	56%	52%	54%	44%	48%	54%	50%	51%	42%	63%	35%	50%	49%	49%	63%	32%	53%
Somewhat support	**33%**	36%	37%	31%	29%	28%	38%	33%	30%	36%	29%	38%	27%	50%	34%	31%	33%	29%	39%	33%
Neither support nor oppose	**10%**	14%	11%	6%	10%	8%	13%	12%	11%	6%	11%	13%	6%	2%	10%	11%	11%	6%	12%	11%
Somewhat oppose	**3%**	2%	2%	4%	5%	5%	2%	3%	2%	4%	6%	4%	3%	8%	2%	4%	4%	1%	8%	2%
Strongly oppose	**2%**	2%	3%	2%	3%	4%	1%	3%	1%	3%	2%	0%	0%	5%	2%	2%	2%	0%	7%	0%
[NET] OPPOSE	**6%**	4%	4%	6%	8%	8%	3%	6%	4%	6%	8%	4%	3%	13%	5%	7%	6%	2%	16%	2%
Not sure / Don't know	**2%**	2%	2%	1%	1%	1%	2%	2%	2%	2%	1%	2%	0%	0%	2%	2%	1%	0%	1%	2%

Base: All respondents (n=1,506)

And would you support or oppose the construction of a renewable power project (like wind and solar) in your local community to help meet B.C.'s growing demand for electricity?

Just over three-quarters (77%) support the construction of a renewable power project in their community.



Base: All respondents (n=1,506)

And would you support or oppose the construction of a renewable power project (like wind and solar) in your local community to help meet B.C.'s growing demand for electricity?

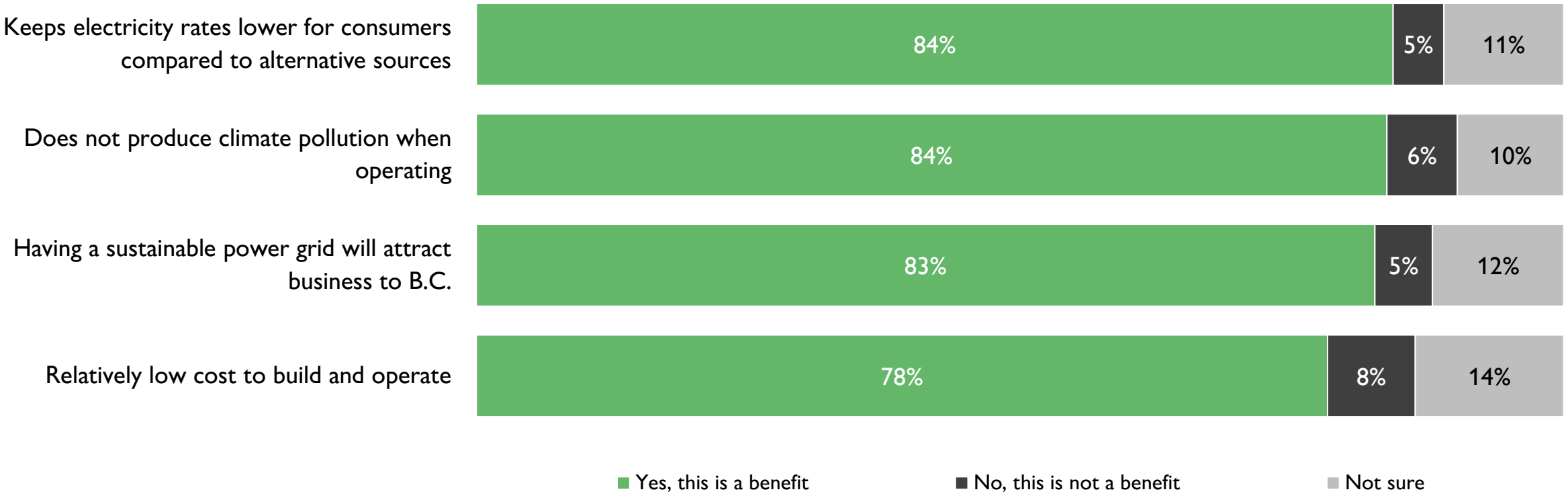
SUPPORT FOR LOCAL RENEWABLE POWER PROJECTS

	TOTAL	AGE				GENDER		REGION							AREA			COMMITTED VOTE		
		18-29	30-44	45-59	60+	Male	Female	Mainland / SW	Van. Island	Okanagan	Kootenays	Cariboo	N. Coast	NE	Urban	Suburban	Rural	LP	CP	NDP
[NET] SUPPORT	**77%**	80%	76%	80%	74%	80%	75%	76%	78%	80%	80%	83%	80%	84%	79%	76%	77%	87%	67%	81%
Strongly support	**45%**	47%	43%	48%	43%	51%	40%	43%	47%	47%	56%	48%	52%	49%	46%	43%	48%	56%	32%	51%
Somewhat support	**32%**	34%	33%	32%	31%	29%	35%	33%	31%	33%	24%	35%	29%	35%	32%	33%	29%	32%	35%	29%
Neither support nor oppose	**13%**	14%	13%	10%	14%	9%	16%	14%	14%	12%	6%	11%	0%	11%	13%	13%	12%	10%	14%	12%
Somewhat oppose	**3%**	2%	4%	3%	4%	4%	3%	3%	3%	4%	6%	1%	17%	0%	2%	4%	5%	1%	7%	4%
Strongly oppose	**4%**	3%	3%	4%	5%	5%	2%	4%	3%	2%	4%	5%	0%	5%	3%	4%	4%	1%	10%	2%
[NET] OPPOSE	**7%**	4%	7%	7%	8%	9%	4%	7%	6%	6%	10%	6%	17%	5%	5%	8%	9%	2%	17%	5%
Not sure / Don't know	**3%**	1%	4%	3%	3%	1%	4%	3%	2%	3%	5%	1%	3%	0%	3%	3%	2%	1%	2%	2%

Base: All respondents (n=1,506)

Based on what you know, do you think each of the following is or is not a benefit of building more renewable power in B.C.?

Renewable power's benefits are broadly recognized, with 78%–84% seeing advantages across affordability, climate, investment and cost.



Base: All respondents (n=1,506)

Based on what you know, do you think each of the following is or is not a benefit of building more renewable power in B.C.?

BUILDING MORE RENEWABLE POWER IS BENEFICIAL

% YES	TOTAL	AGE				GENDER		REGION							AREA			COMMITTED VOTE		
		18-29	30-44	45-59	60+	Male	Female	Mainland / SW	Van. Island	Okanagan	Kootenays	Cariboo	N. Coast	NE	Urban	Suburban	Rural	LP	CP	NDP
Does not produce climate pollution when operating	**84%**	80%	80%	86%	87%	84%	83%	83%	81%	86%	88%	80%	100%	90%	85%	82%	85%	91%	76%	85%
Having a sustainable power grid will attract business to B.C.	**83%**	81%	83%	79%	86%	83%	82%	83%	78%	83%	88%	81%	94%	87%	83%	82%	83%	91%	78%	83%
Keeps electricity rates lower for consumers compared to alternative sources	**84%**	81%	83%	85%	86%	83%	85%	87%	82%	75%	83%	80%	98%	90%	84%	85%	85%	91%	80%	86%
Relatively low cost to build and operate	**78%**	79%	79%	80%	76%	77%	80%	80%	78%	71%	78%	77%	90%	71%	80%	77%	77%	83%	74%	84%

Base: All respondents (n=1,506)

Based on what you know, do you think each of the following is or is not a benefit of building more renewable power in B.C.?

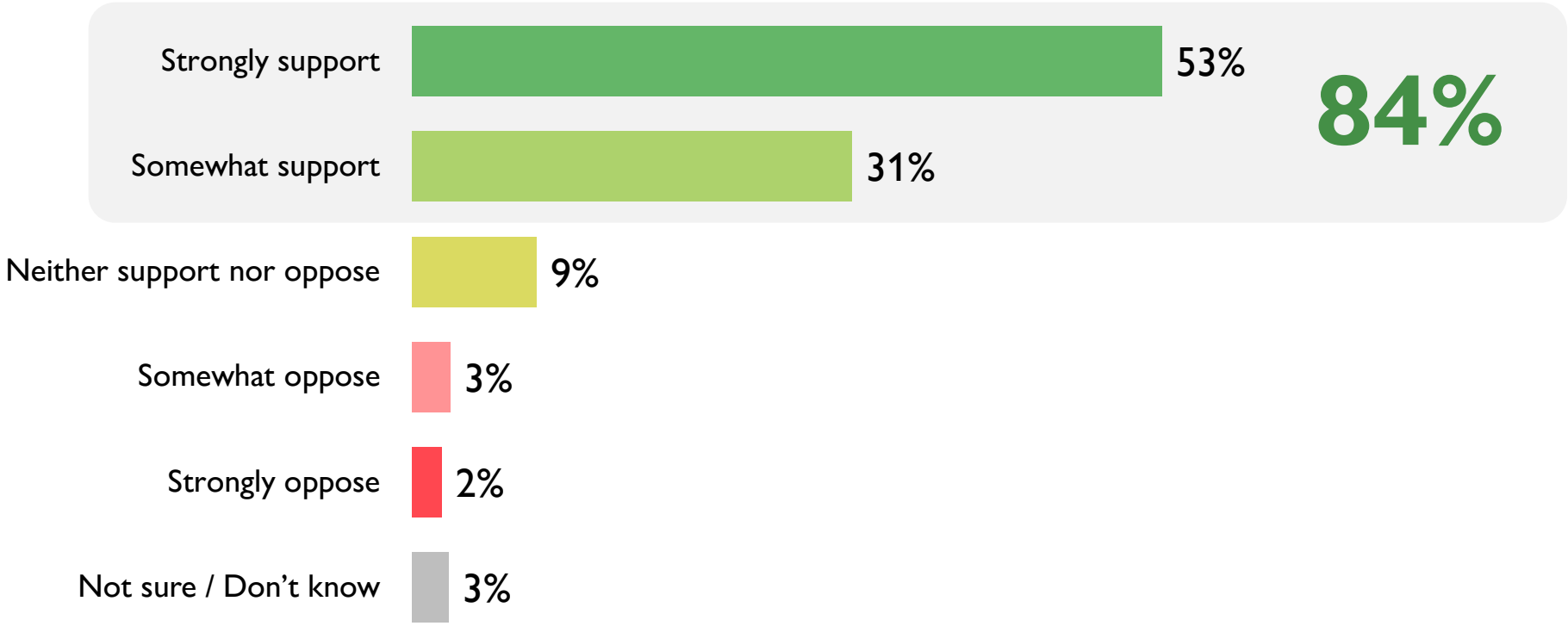
BUILDING MORE RENEWABLE POWER IS NOT BENEFICIAL

% NO	TOTAL	AGE				GENDER		REGION							AREA			COMMITTED VOTE		
		18-29	30-44	45-59	60+	Male	Female	Mainland / SW	Van. Island	Okanagan	Kootenays	Cariboo	N. Coast	NE	Urban	Suburban	Rural	LP	CP	NDP
Does not produce climate pollution when operating	**6%**	8%	10%	6%	3%	8%	5%	7%	8%	4%	5%	3%	0%	8%	6%	8%	3%	4%	13%	6%
Having a sustainable power grid will attract business to B.C.	**5%**	5%	6%	7%	4%	6%	4%	5%	7%	3%	6%	9%	3%	5%	5%	6%	5%	3%	10%	5%
Keeps electricity rates lower for consumers compared to alternative sources	**5%**	8%	6%	3%	3%	6%	4%	4%	5%	6%	6%	7%	0%	8%	5%	5%	3%	4%	9%	3%
Relatively low cost to build and operate	**8%**	9%	10%	7%	7%	10%	6%	8%	7%	9%	10%	11%	3%	11%	5%	11%	9%	5%	14%	5%

Base: All respondents (n=1,506)

If a new renewable power project (like wind or solar) in your community provided local benefits, such as new jobs, infrastructure improvements, and tax revenue for your municipal government, would you support or oppose the project?

More than 4 in 5 residents (84%) support renewable power projects that would bring community benefits like new jobs, infrastructure improvements, and municipal tax revenue.



Base: All respondents (n=1,506)

If a new renewable power project (like wind or solar) in your community provided local benefits, such as new jobs, infrastructure improvements, and tax revenue for your municipal government, would you support or oppose the project?

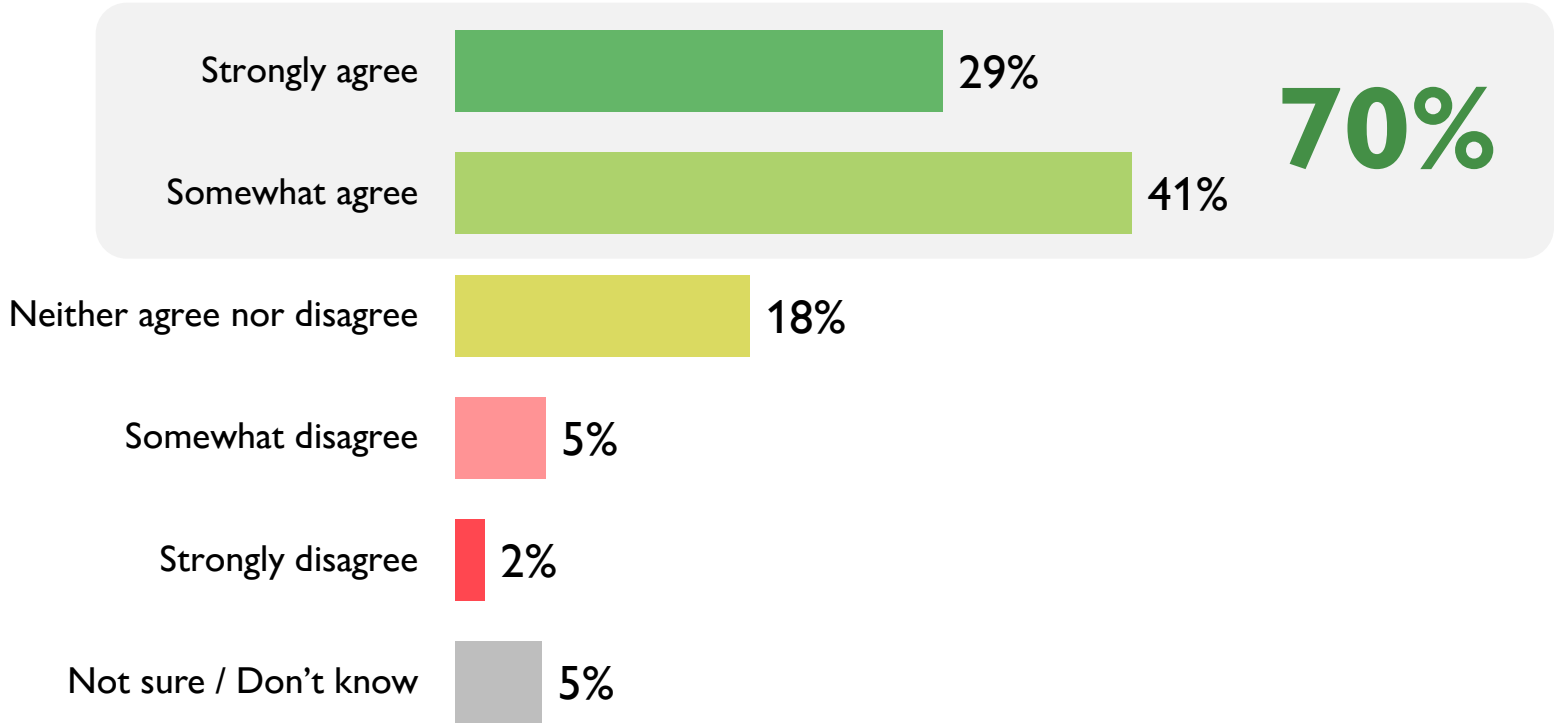
SUPPORT FOR LOCAL RENEWABLE POWER PROJECTS THAT SUPPORT COMMUNITY

	TOTAL	AGE				GENDER		REGION							AREA			COMMITTED VOTE		
		18-29	30-44	45-59	60+	Male	Female	Mainland / SW	Van. Island	Okanagan	Kootenays	Cariboo	N. Coast	NE	Urban	Suburban	Rural	LP	CP	NDP
[NET] Support	**84%**	83%	82%	88%	83%	85%	82%	83%	84%	87%	90%	85%	79%	80%	86%	81%	83%	92%	76%	85%
Strongly support	**53%**	49%	48%	60%	54%	59%	47%	52%	57%	51%	59%	44%	60%	43%	52%	52%	59%	67%	38%	58%
Somewhat support	**31%**	34%	34%	28%	28%	26%	35%	30%	27%	35%	31%	41%	19%	37%	34%	29%	24%	25%	38%	27%
Neither support nor oppose	**9%**	10%	11%	5%	9%	6%	12%	11%	8%	4%	2%	9%	7%	7%	7%	11%	9%	6%	9%	10%
Somewhat oppose	**3%**	4%	2%	1%	3%	4%	2%	1%	4%	4%	4%	6%	10%	10%	2%	3%	5%	1%	6%	2%
Strongly oppose	**2%**	0%	2%	3%	3%	3%	1%	2%	2%	2%	1%	0%	0%	3%	2%	2%	2%	1%	5%	1%
[NET] Oppose	**5%**	5%	4%	4%	6%	7%	3%	4%	6%	6%	5%	6%	10%	13%	4%	5%	7%	2%	12%	2%
Not sure / Don't know	**3%**	2%	3%	3%	2%	2%	3%	3%	2%	2%	3%	0%	4%	0%	3%	2%	1%	0%	3%	3%

Base: All respondents (n=1,506)

How much do you agree or disagree that BC Hydro can be trusted to effectively plan for B.C.'s growing electricity needs in the future?

7 in 10 (70%) residents trust B.C. Hydro to effectively plan for growing electricity needs.



Base: All respondents (n=1,506)

How much do you agree or disagree that BC Hydro can be trusted to effectively plan for B.C.'s growing electricity needs in the future?

TRUST IN B.C. HYDRO'S FUTURE PLANS FOR ELECTRICITY NEEDS

	TOTAL	AGE				GENDER		REGION							AREA			COMMITTED VOTE		
		18-29	30-44	45-59	60+	Male	Female	Mainland / SW	Van. Island	Okanagan	Kootenays	Cariboo	N. Coast	NE	Urban	Suburban	Rural	LP	CP	NDP
[NET] Agree	**70%**	67%	67%	68%	76%	74%	66%	71%	65%	71%	64%	75%	81%	74%	72%	70%	61%	84%	66%	73%
Strongly agree	**29%**	28%	30%	29%	29%	36%	23%	30%	27%	25%	20%	42%	26%	55%	30%	30%	23%	39%	25%	31%
Somewhat agree	**41%**	38%	37%	39%	47%	38%	43%	40%	38%	47%	44%	33%	55%	18%	42%	40%	38%	45%	42%	42%
Neither agree nor disagree	**18%**	22%	21%	17%	13%	16%	20%	17%	21%	17%	21%	17%	9%	5%	15%	19%	25%	12%	18%	14%
Somewhat disagree	**5%**	7%	5%	6%	5%	4%	7%	5%	6%	5%	5%	5%	7%	10%	6%	5%	7%	3%	8%	6%
Strongly disagree	**2%**	0%	3%	3%	1%	2%	1%	2%	2%	1%	2%	1%	0%	5%	2%	1%	2%	0%	3%	2%
[NET] Disagree	**7%**	7%	8%	8%	6%	6%	8%	7%	7%	6%	7%	6%	7%	15%	8%	6%	9%	3%	10%	8%
Not sure / Don't know	**5%**	5%	5%	7%	5%	4%	6%	5%	7%	6%	8%	2%	3%	7%	5%	6%	5%	1%	5%	6%

Base: All respondents (n=1,506)

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Respondent Profile



Demographics

GENDER	
Male	55%
Female	44%
Non-binary / third gender	1%
Self describe	<1%

AGE	
18 to 29	11%
30 to 44	29%
45 to 59	23%
60 and older	36%

REGION	
Mainland/Southwest	35%
Vancouver Island	30%
Okanagan	17%
Kootenays	8%
Cariboo	6%
Northeast	2%
North Coast	2%

AREA	
Urban	44%
Suburban	38%
Rural	18%

MARITAL STATUS	
Married / Domestic partner	55%
Widowed / Divorced / Separated	18%
Single / Never married	27%

EDUCATION	
High school or less	27%
College or some university	39%
Bachelor's degree	26%
Post-graduate work or higher	8%

EMPLOYMENT	
Permanent full-time	39%
Self-employed	7%
Full-time contract that is renewed	1%
Provide services on freelance basis	1%
Employed part-time	10%
Student	2%
Retired	27%
Unemployed	7%
Stay at home	4%
Other	2%

INCOME	
Less than $50K	35%
$50K to $100K	35%
$100K to $150K	18%
Over $150K	9%
Rather not say	3%

HOUSEHOLD	
1 – Just me	24%
2 people	33%
3 people	19%
4 people	15%
5 or more people	8%

CHILDREN	
None	34%
Under 4 years old	10%
5 to 11 years old	15%
12 to 17 years old	18%
18 and older	35%

MINORITY GROUPS (% YES)	
Asian	18%
LGBTQ	8%
Black / African-Canadian	8%
First Nations / Métis / Inuit	3%
Muslim	2%

TIME IN CANADA	
I was born in Canada	78%
Living in Canada < 5 years	3%
Living in Canada 6-20 years	6%
Living in Canada 20+ years	13%
Prefer not to answer	<1%

Political Attitudes

2025 FEDERAL ELECTION	
I voted	76%
I did not vote	20%
Can't remember	4%
2025 FEDERAL VOTE	
Liberal Party	43%
Conservative Party	30%
NDP	16%
Green Party	6%
People's Party of Canada	1%
Another party	<1%
Prefer not to say	4%
POLITICAL SPECTRUM	
Left	10%
Centre left	25%
Centre	42%
Centre right	15%
Right	7%

FEDERAL VOTE INTENTION	
Liberal Party	37%
Conservative Party	25%
NDP	11%
Green Party	7%
People's Party of Canada	1%
Another party	1%
Undecided right now	18%
WOULD CONSIDER VOTING FOR	
Liberal Party	59%
Conservative Party	42%
NDP	41%
Green Party	38%
People's Party of Canada	19%

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Good decisions require good data.

Good data drives success.

CONTACT
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