



**Programme Area:** Bioenergy

**Project:** Public Perceptions

**Title:** Summary Presentation of Bioenergy Survey Results 2015

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### Abstract:

This document presents the results of a survey on public perceptions of bioenergy carried out by YouGov for the ETI from 21st – 24th August 2015. The total sample size was 3,105 GB (Great Britain) adults and the figures in this document have been weighted and are representative of all GB adults (aged 18+). The survey found that there is strong public support for producing bioenergy in the UK from both biomass and waste, with 80% of respondents in favour of bioenergy playing a bigger part in the UK energy mix. Readers should note that any percentages calculated based on fewer than 50 respondents do not represent a wide enough cross-section of the target population to be considered statistically reliable. The questionnaire was developed by the ETI and reviewed by specialists in social science research.

An insights paper, 'Public Perceptions of Bioenergy', based on the findings from the 2015 and 2016 surveys is available on the ETI website: <http://www.eti.co.uk/library/public-perceptions-of-bioenergy-in-the-uk-1>

A shorter perspective on the results from all three surveys is available here: <http://www.eti.co.uk/library/an-eti-perspective-public-perceptions-of-bioenergy>

### Context:

To complement its existing analysis of the bioenergy sector, the ETI wanted to find out more about current public opinion of bioenergy in the UK and the potential drivers behind those opinions. To do this the ETI developed a survey which was carried out by YouGov in 2015. An extended version of the survey was repeated in 2016.



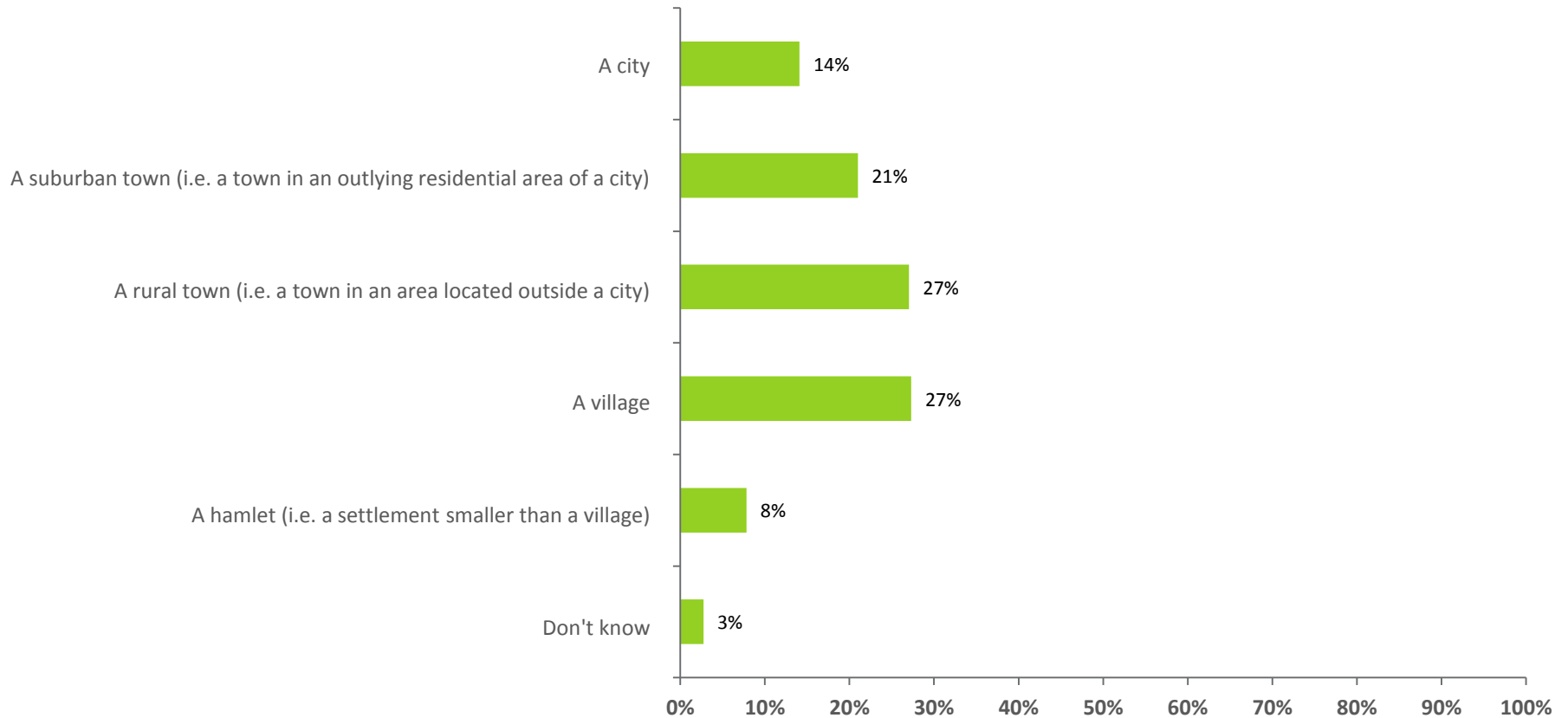
# Energy Technologies Institute

21<sup>st</sup> – 24<sup>th</sup> August 2015



# Most ideal place to live

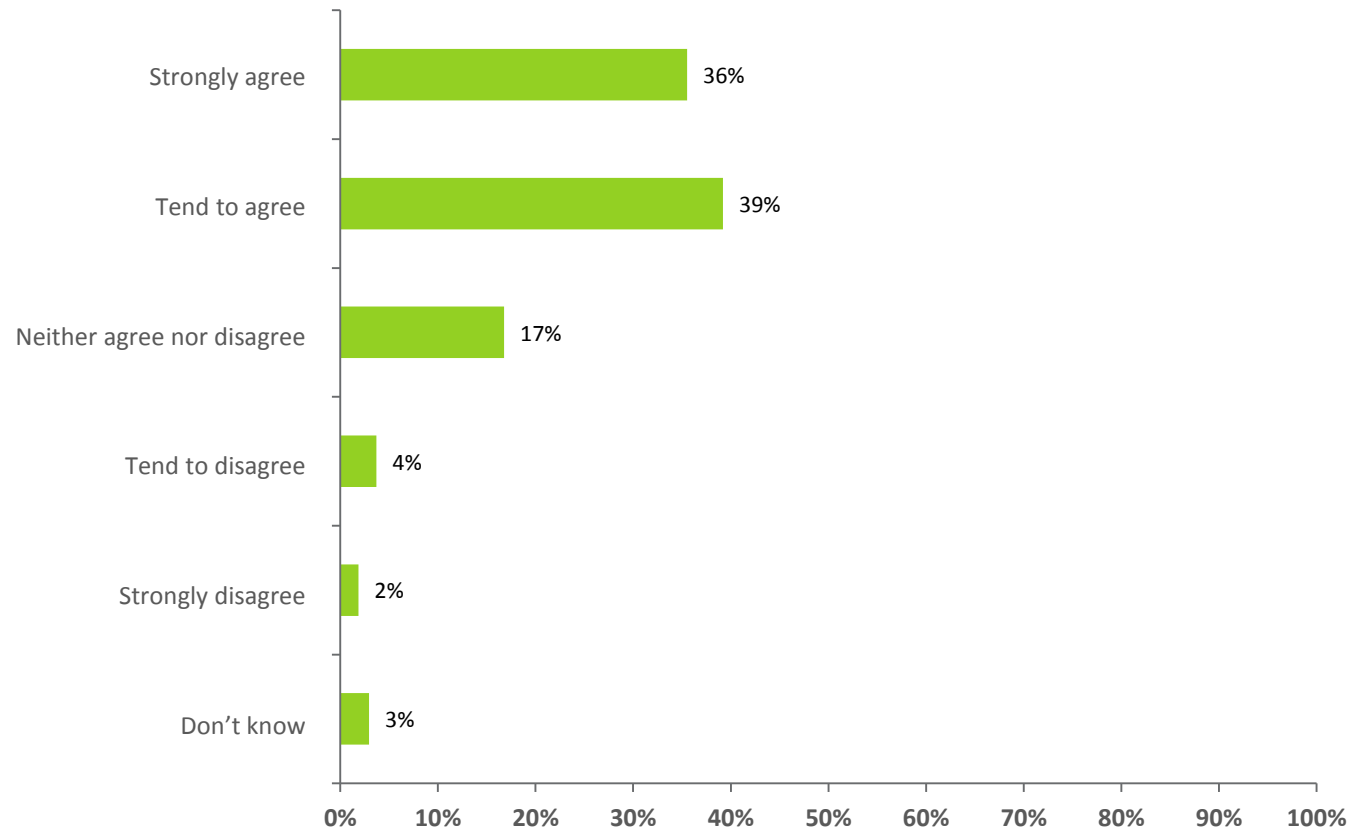
WEB\_q3. In general, which ONE, if any, of the following BEST describes where you would MOST ideally like to live?



Base: All GB adults (3105)

# The UK should be trying to reduce greenhouse gas emissions

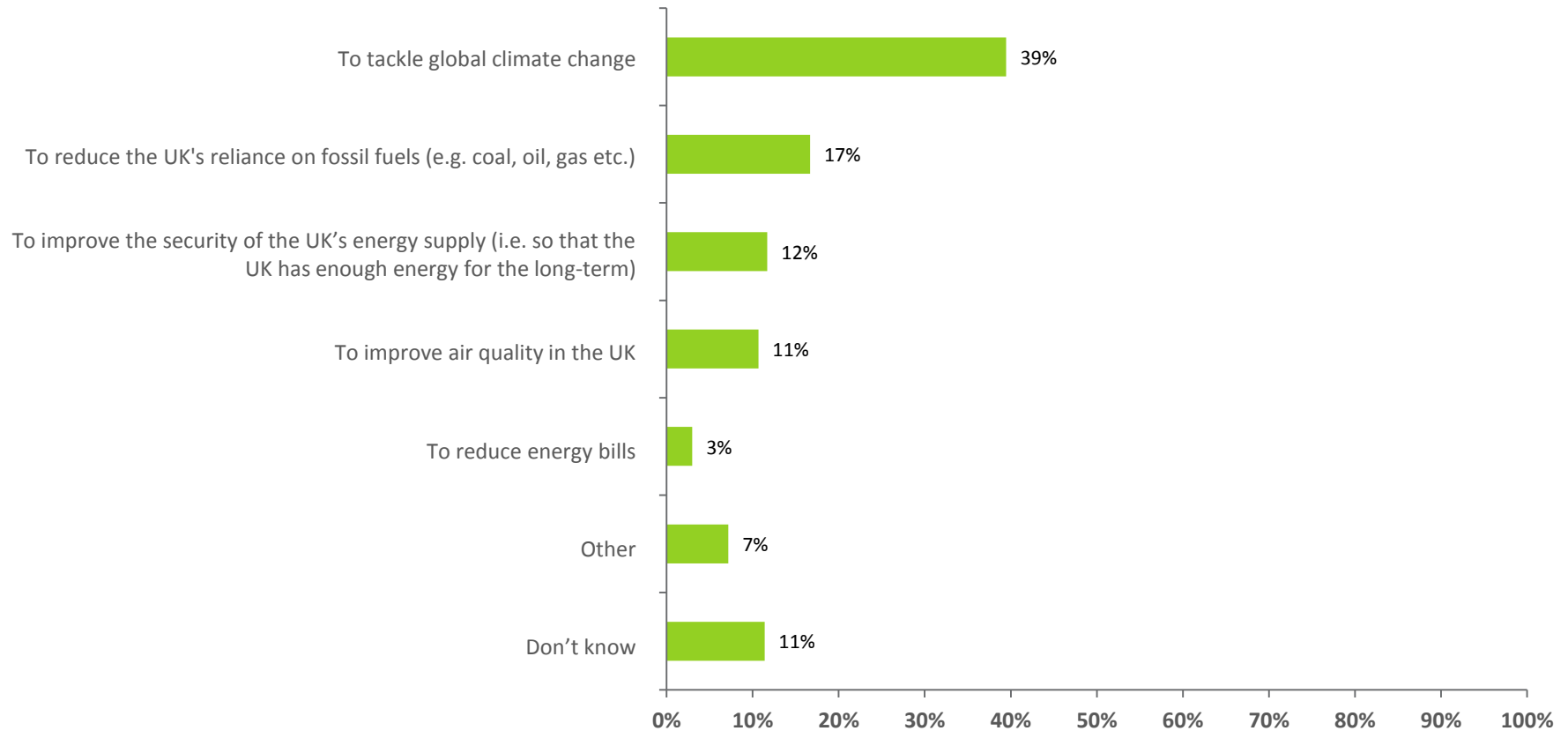
*WEB\_q1. For the following questions, by 'the UK', we mean the UK public as well as the UK Government. To what extent do you agree or disagree with the following statement? The UK should be trying to reduce greenhouse gas emissions*



Base: All GB adults (3105)

# Reasons for reducing greenhouse gas emissions

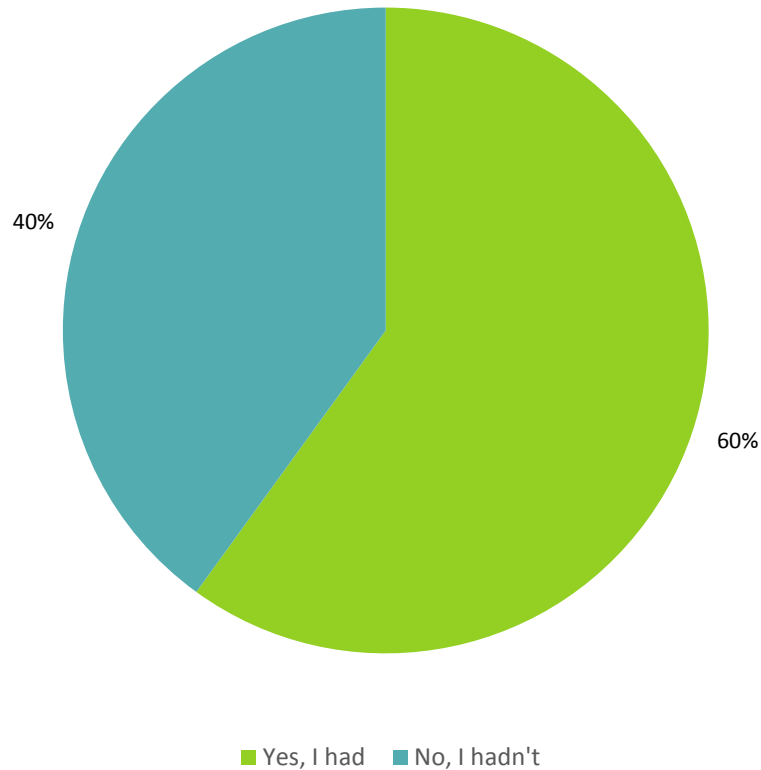
*WEB\_q2. The UK has committed to reducing its greenhouse gas emissions. Which ONE, if any, of the following do you think is the MAIN reason for this?*



Base: All GB adults (3105)

# Awareness of bioenergy

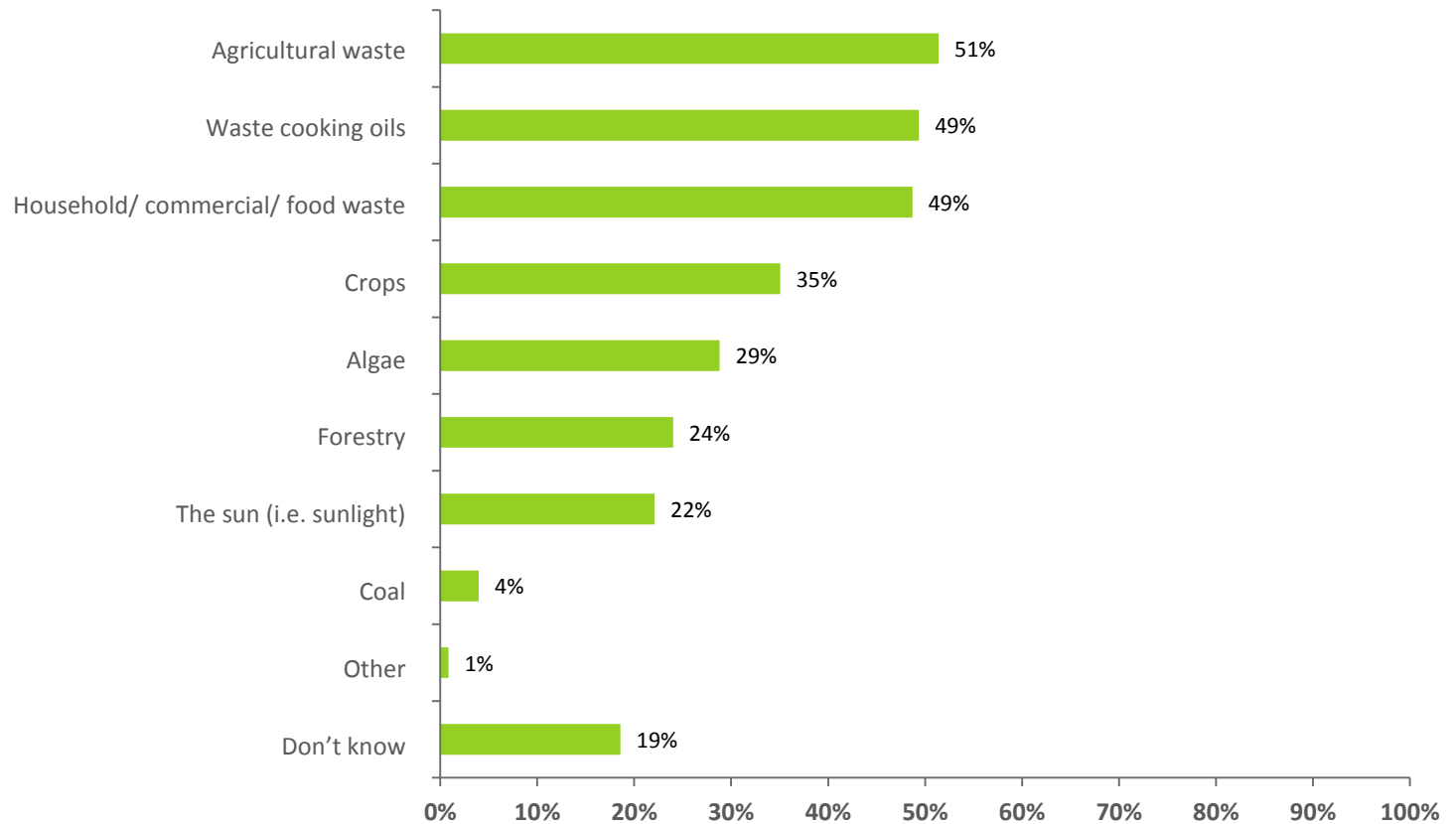
WEB\_q7. Before taking this survey, had you ever heard of bioenergy?



Base: All GB adults (3105)

# Produced

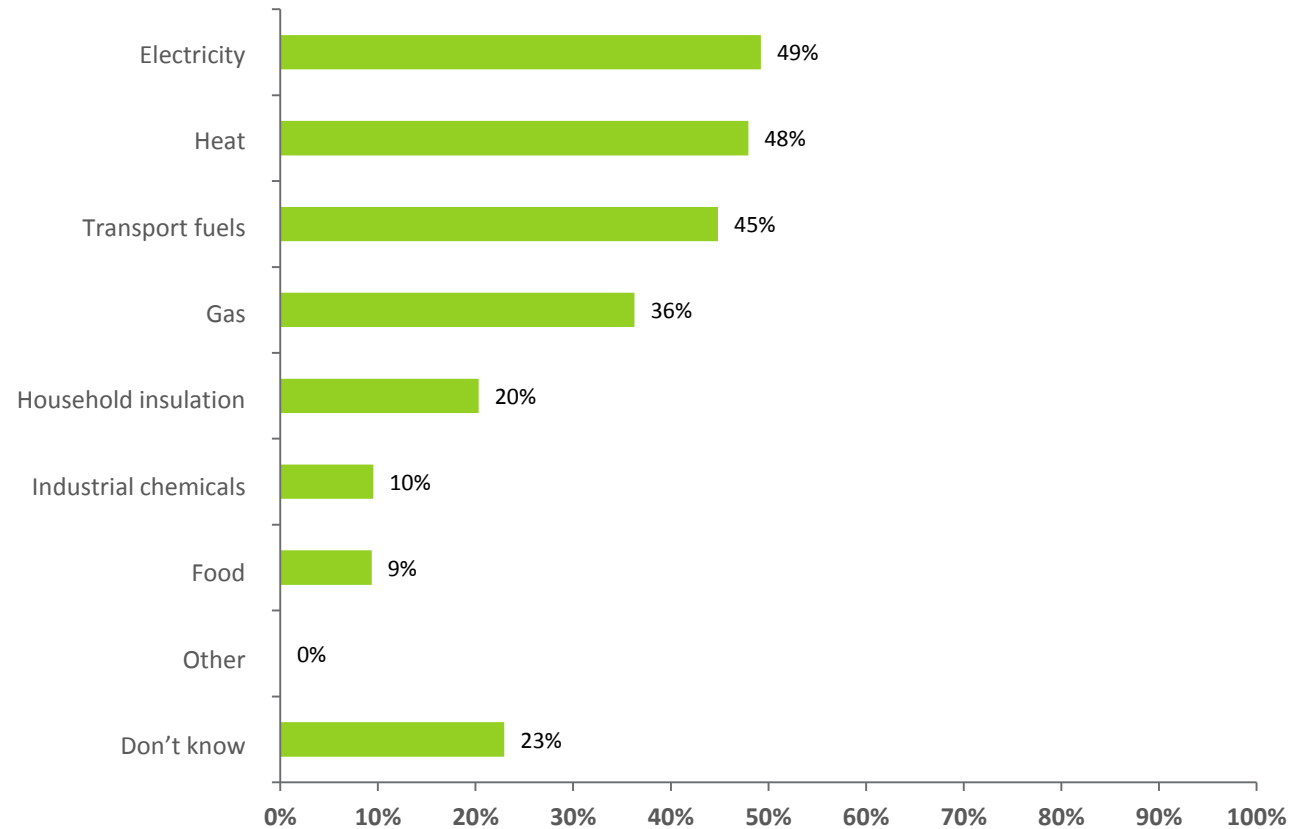
*WEB\_q4. Which, if any, of the following do you think bioenergy is directly produced from? (Please select all that apply. If any of your answers are not shown in the list below, please type them in the 'other' box)*



Base: All GB adults (3105)

# Forms

*WEB\_q5. And which, if any, of the following do you think bioenergy can take the form of? (Please select all that apply. If any of your answers are not shown in the list below, please type them in the 'other' box)*

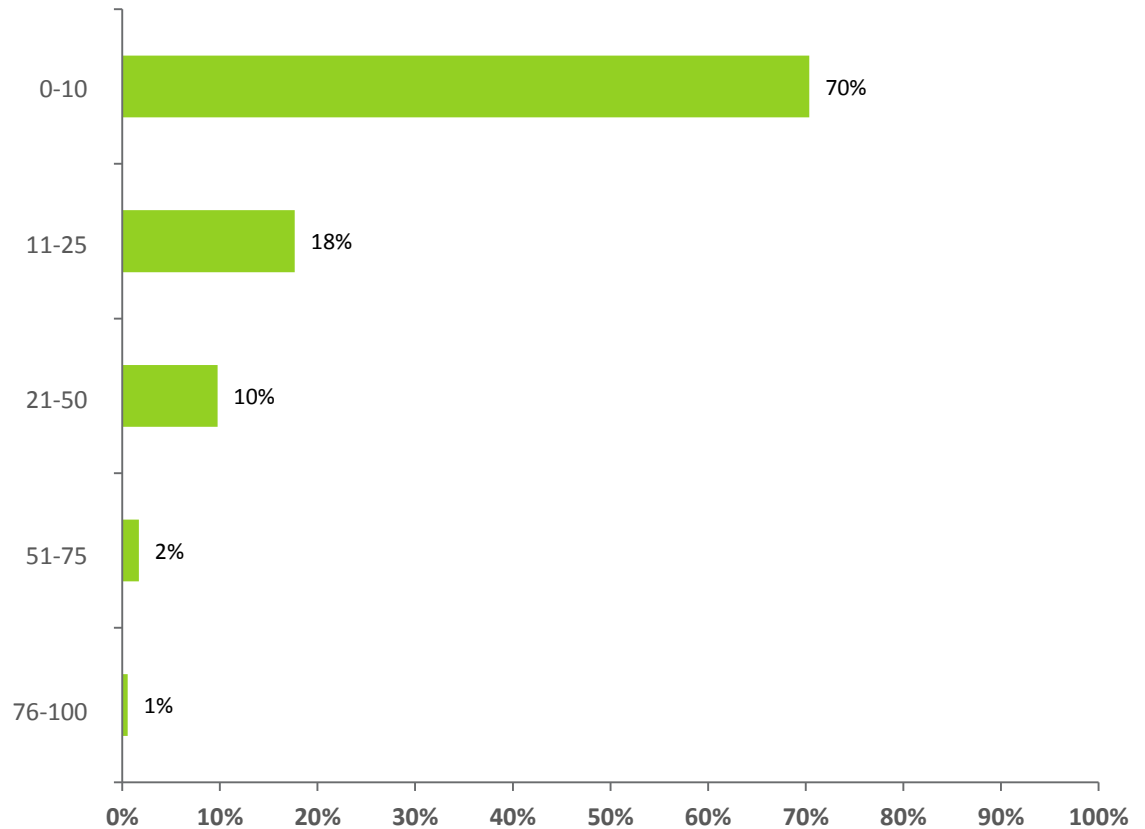


Base: All GB adults (3105)



# Percentage of renewable energy

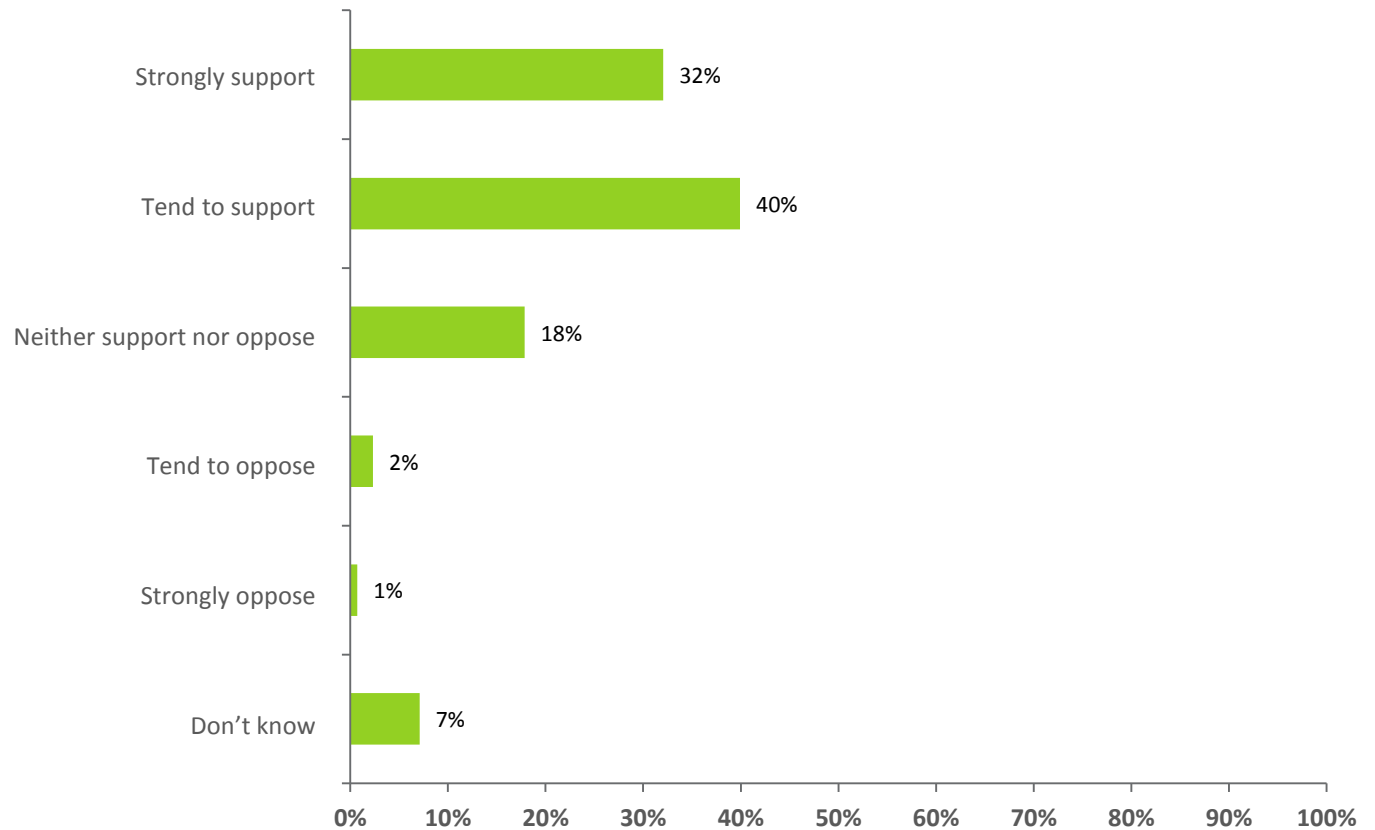
*WEB\_q6\_rc. Approximately, what percentage, if any, of renewable energy currently used in the UK do you think comes from bioenergy? (Please type your answer to the nearest percentage in the box below. If you are unsure, please give your best guess.)*



Base: All GB adults (3105)

# Support/ oppose biomass

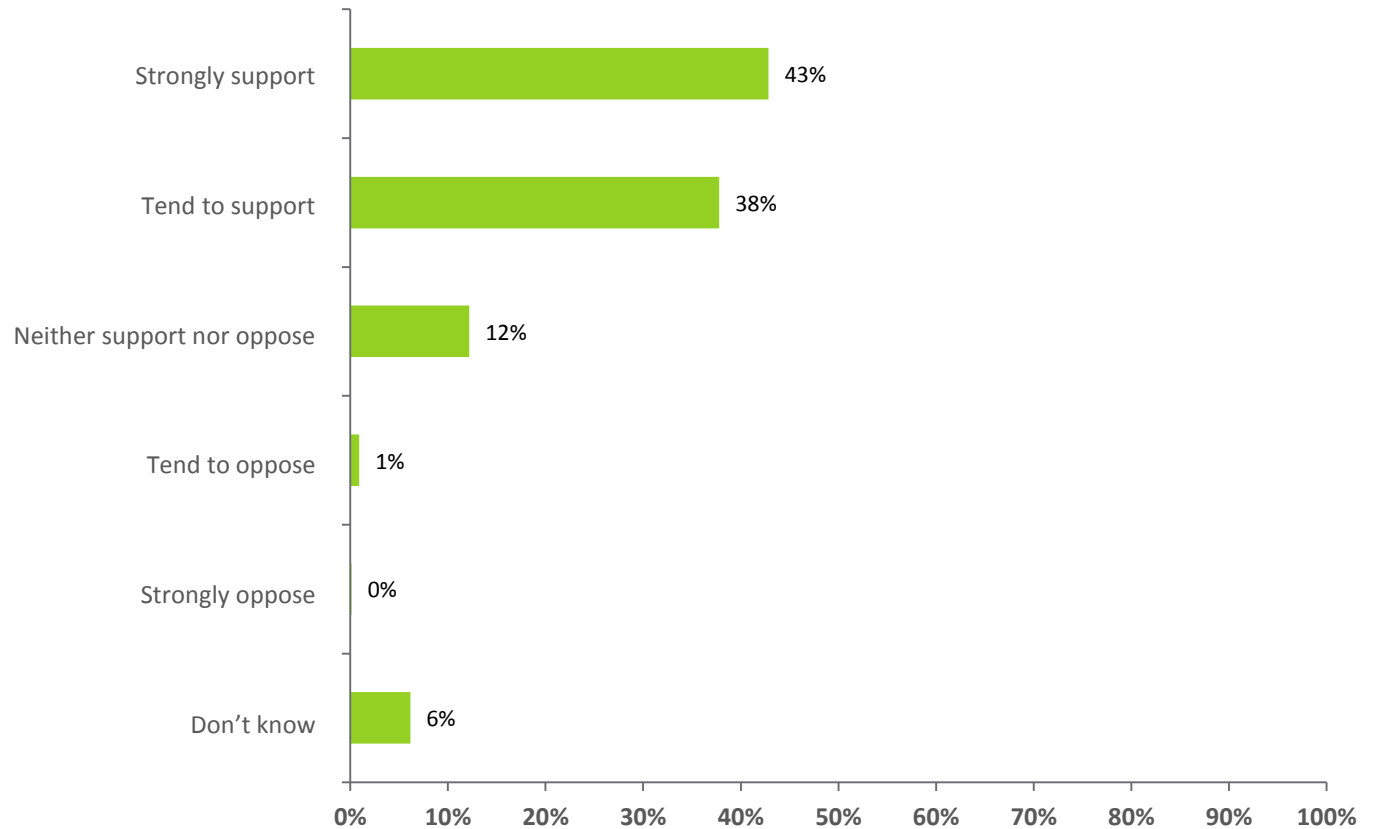
WEB\_q8a. In general, to what extent do you support or oppose the use of biomass to produce bioenergy in the UK?



Base: All GB adults (3105)

# Support/ oppose waste

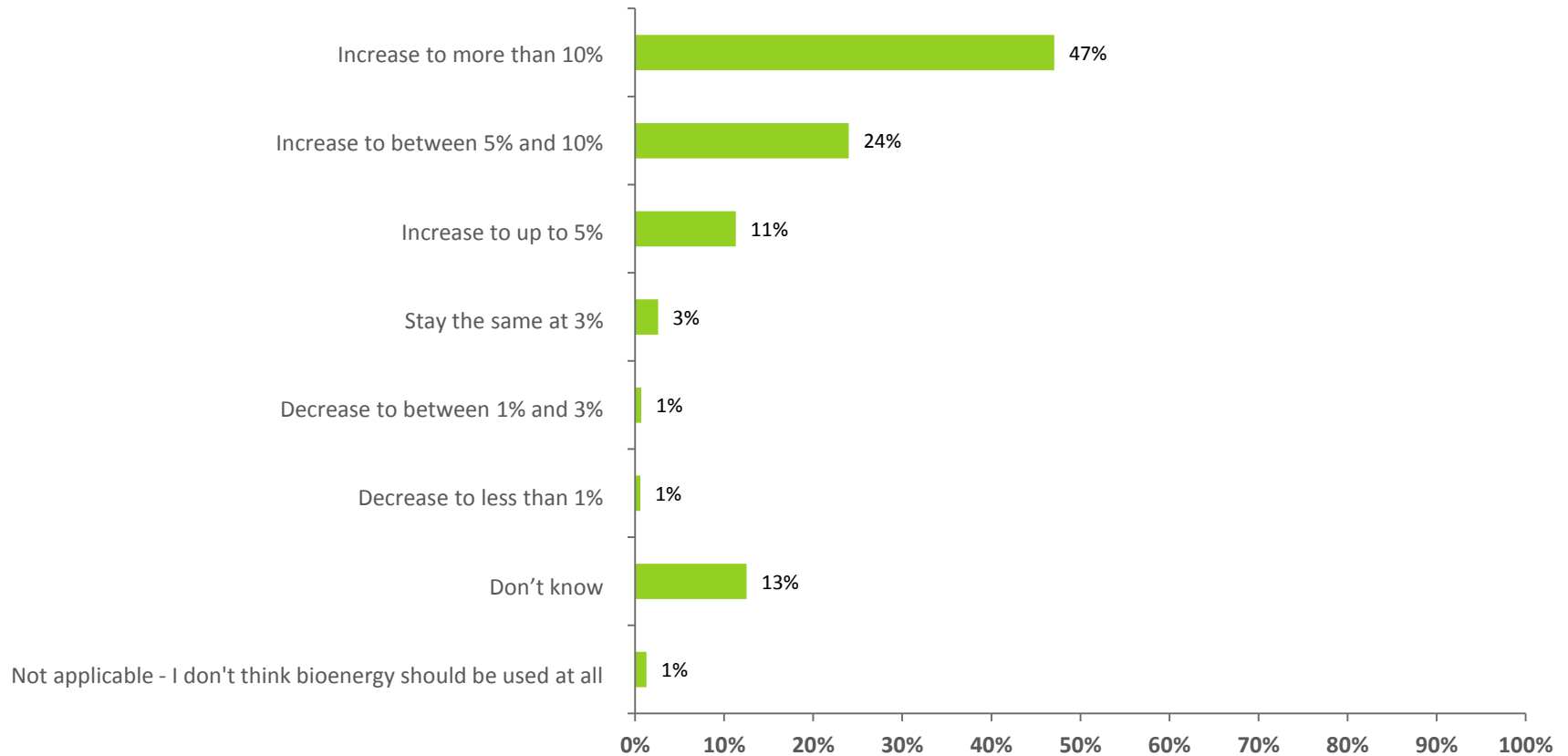
WEB\_q8b. In general, to what extent do you support or oppose the use of waste to produce bioenergy in the UK?



Base: All GB adults (3105)

# Increase/ decrease

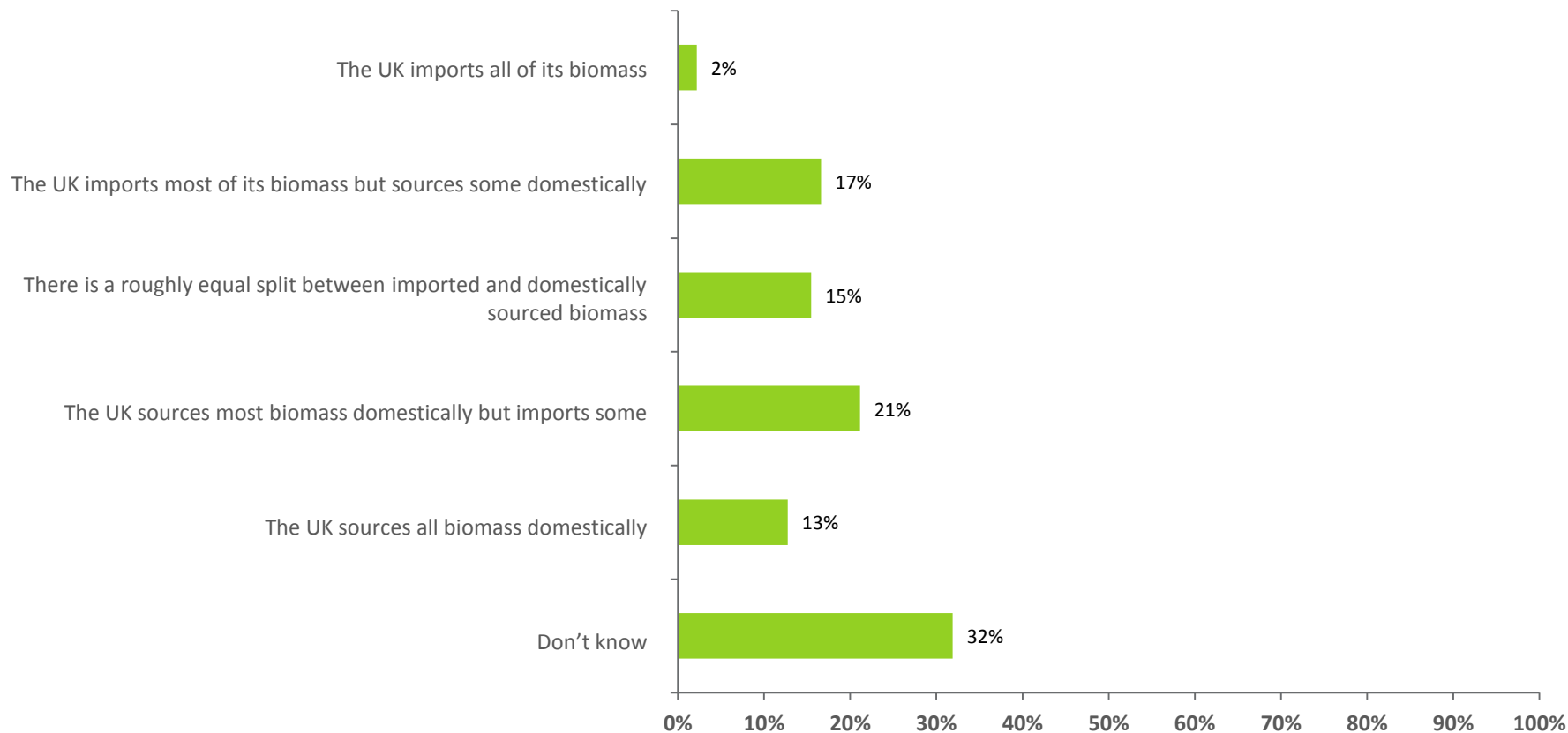
*WEB\_q9. Bioenergy currently meets 3% of all of the UK's total energy demand. To what extent do you think this percentage should increase or decrease, or do you think it should stay the same?*



Base: All GB adults (3105)

# Sources

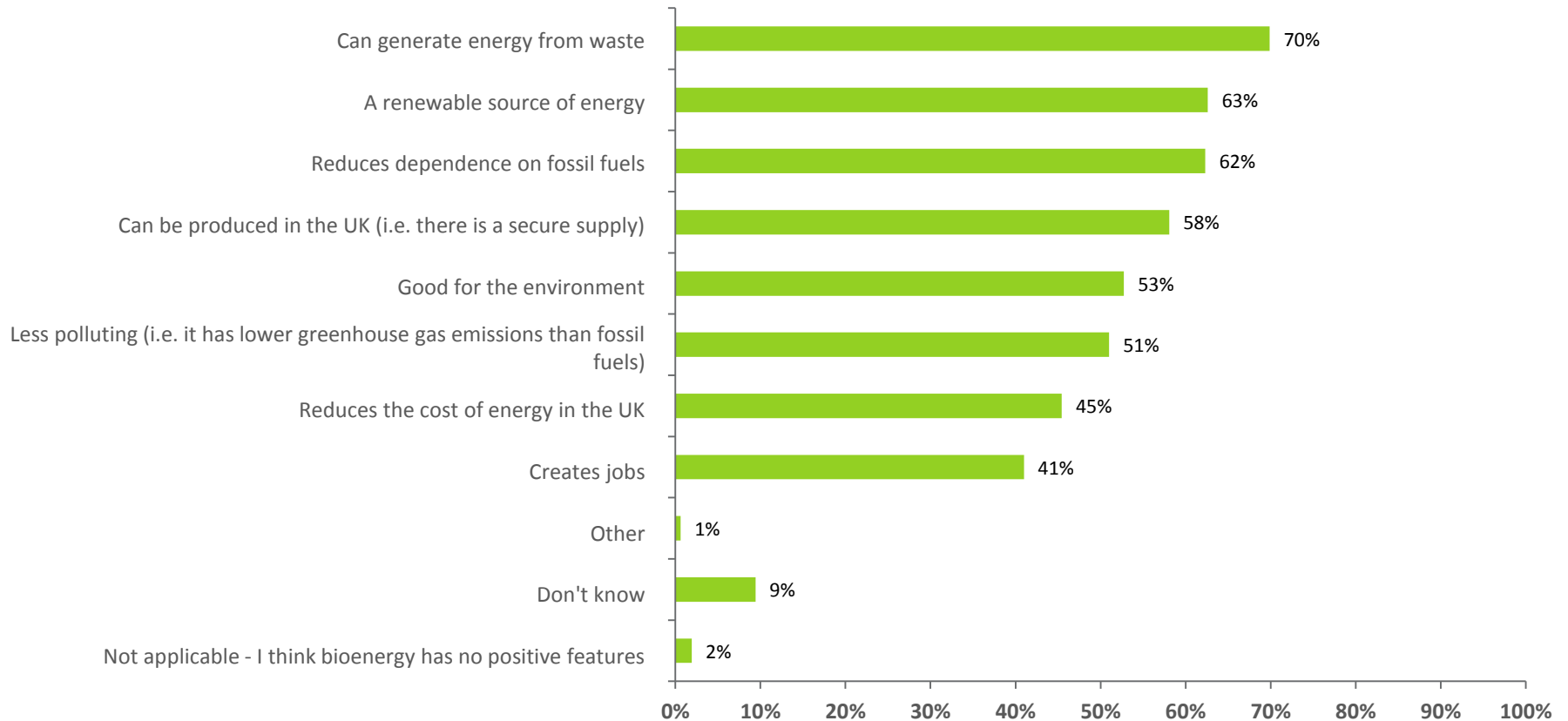
*WEB\_q10. As a reminder, 'biomass' is any purpose-grown material (e.g. crops, forestry or algae). Which ONE of the following statements BEST describes where you think the UK currently sources its biomass for bioenergy? (Please select the option that BEST applies)*



Base: All GB adults (3105)

# Positive features

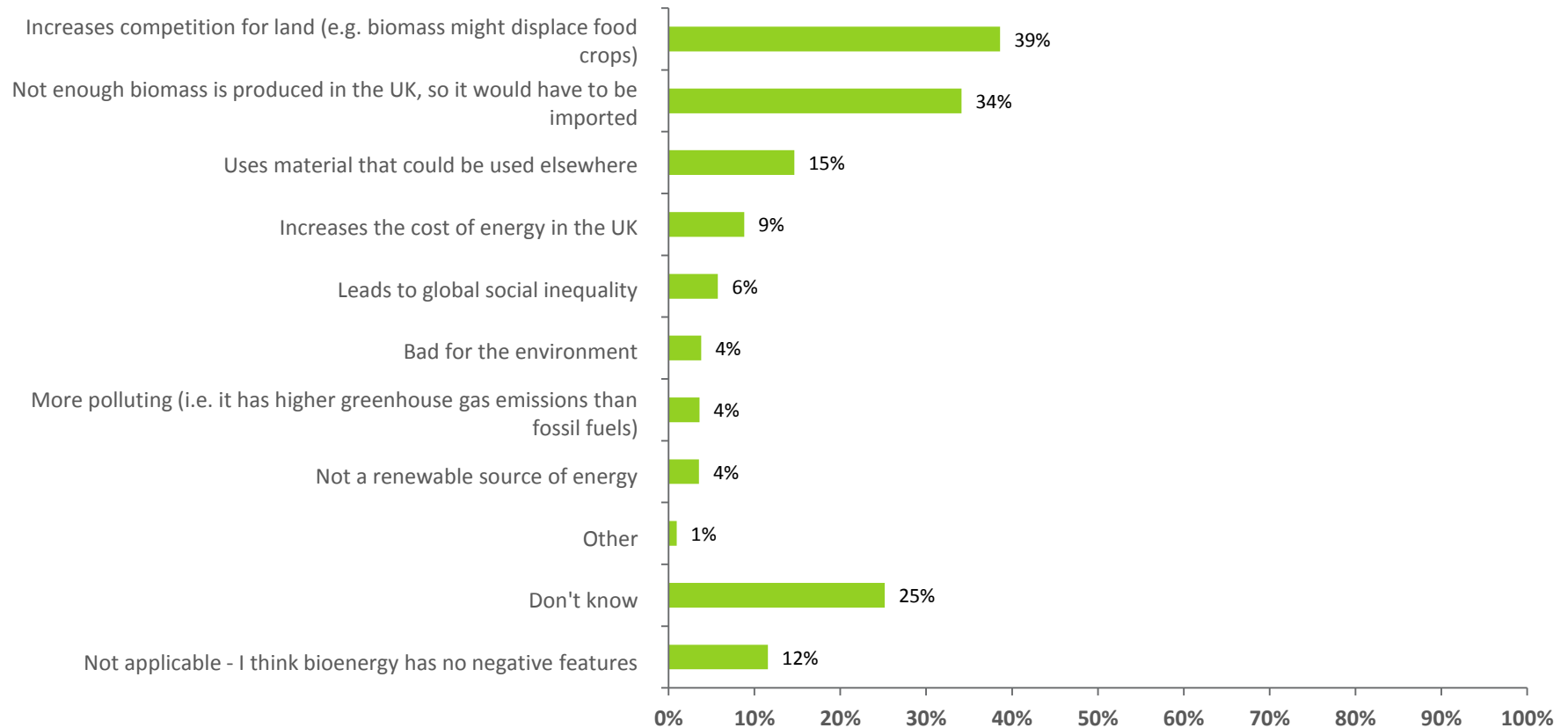
*WEB\_q11. In general, which, if any, of the following would you say are positive features of bioenergy? (Please select all that apply. If any of your answers are not shown in the list below, please type it in the 'other' box)*



Base: All GB adults (3105)

# Negative features

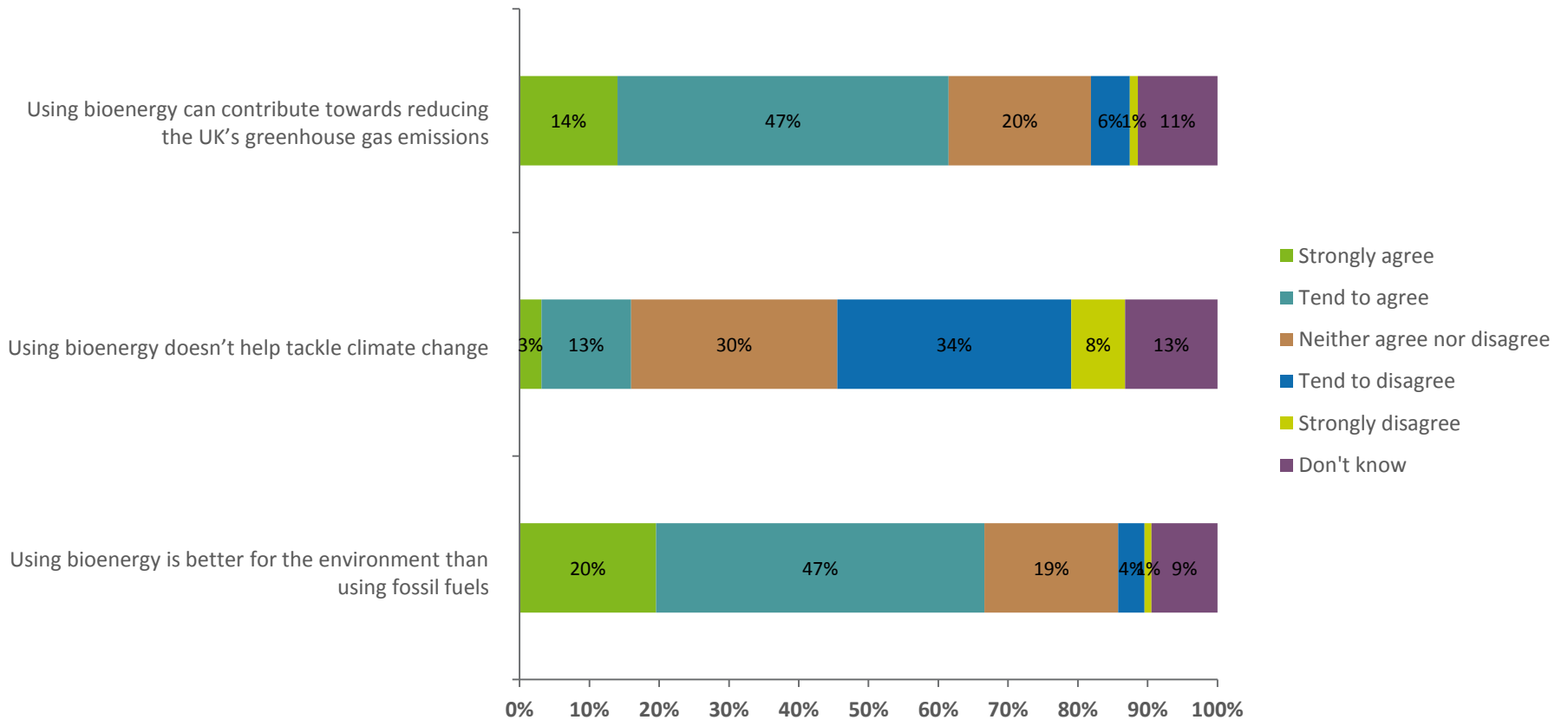
*WEB\_q12. And which, if any, of the following would you say are negative features of bioenergy? (Please select all that apply. If any of your answers are not shown in the list below, please type it in the 'other' box)*



Base: All GB adults (3105)

# Using bioenergy – agreement statements

WEB\_q13. To what extent do you agree or disagree with the following statement?

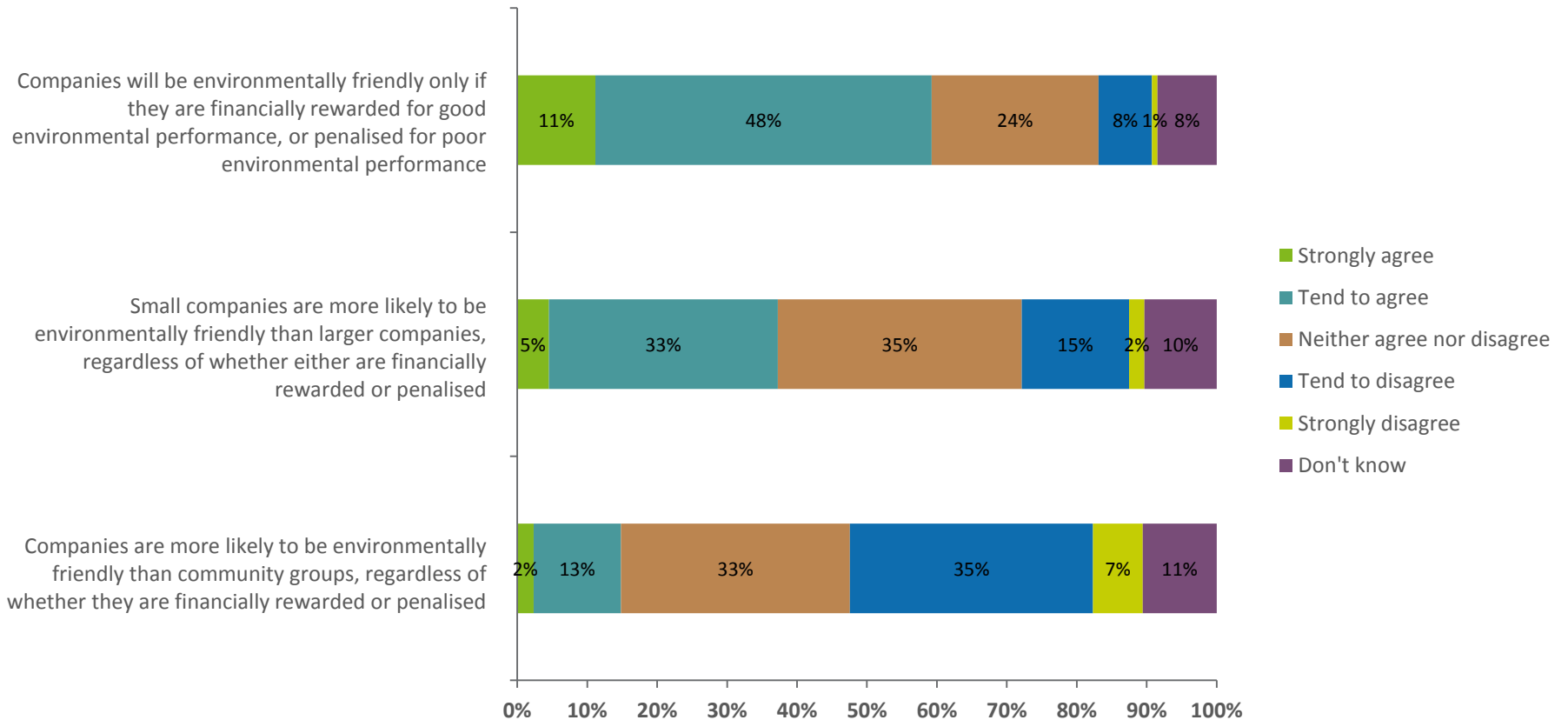


Base: All GB adults (3105)



# Companies & Community groups – agreement statements

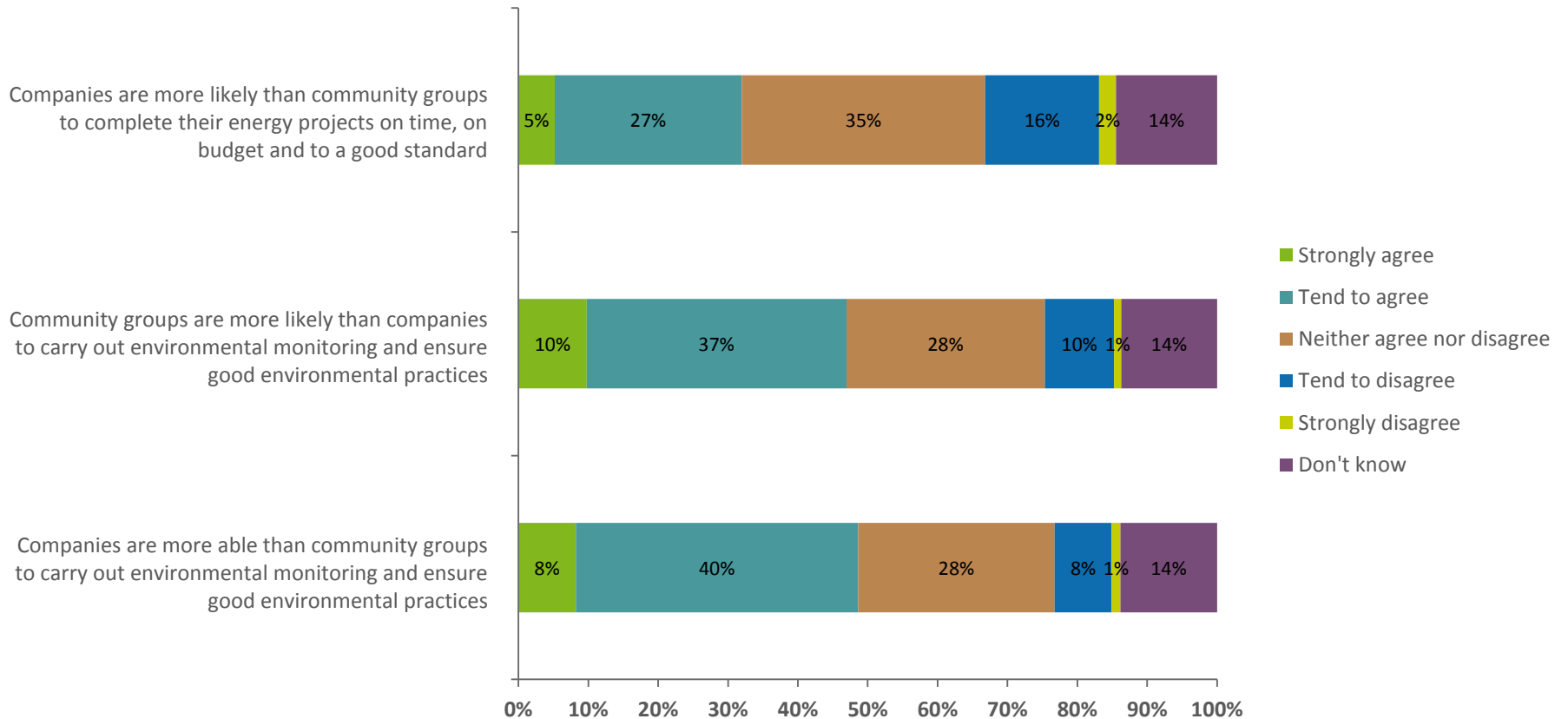
WEB\_q14a. For the following question, please think about organisations that develop energy projects in the bioenergy sector. Please read the brief definitions below before answering the questions that follow... • By 'community group', we mean a set of people from the same local area who are working together to plan, build and operate a bioenergy installation. • By 'small company', we mean a company in the bioenergy sector with fewer than 250 employees. • By 'large company', we mean a company in the bioenergy sector that has at least 250 employees. To what extent do you agree or disagree with the following statement?



Base: All GB adults (3105)

# Companies & Community groups – agreement statements (2)

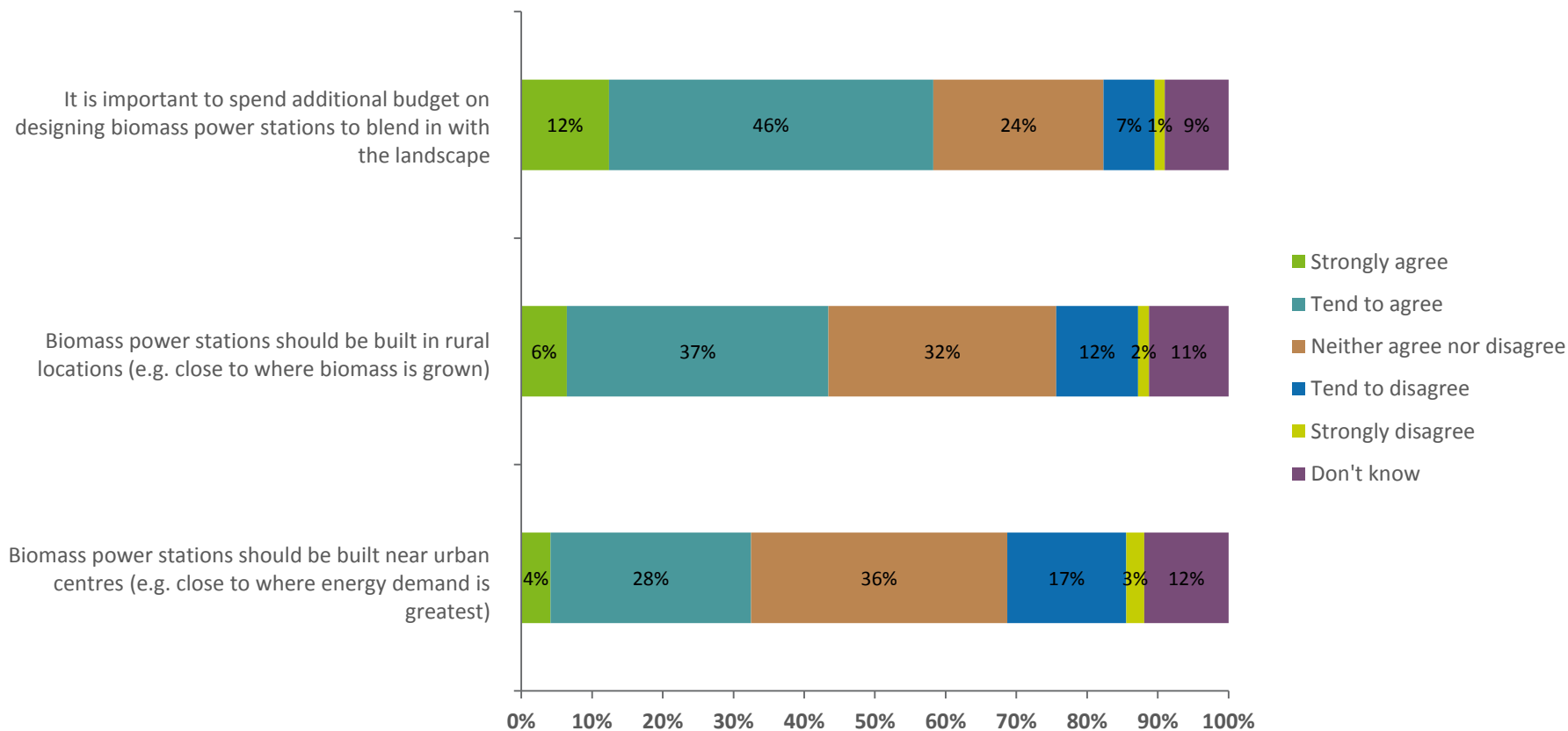
*WEB\_q15. Still thinking generally about organisations that develop energy projects in the bioenergy sector...To what extent do you agree or disagree with each of the following statements?*



Base: All GB adults (3105)

# Power stations – agreement statements

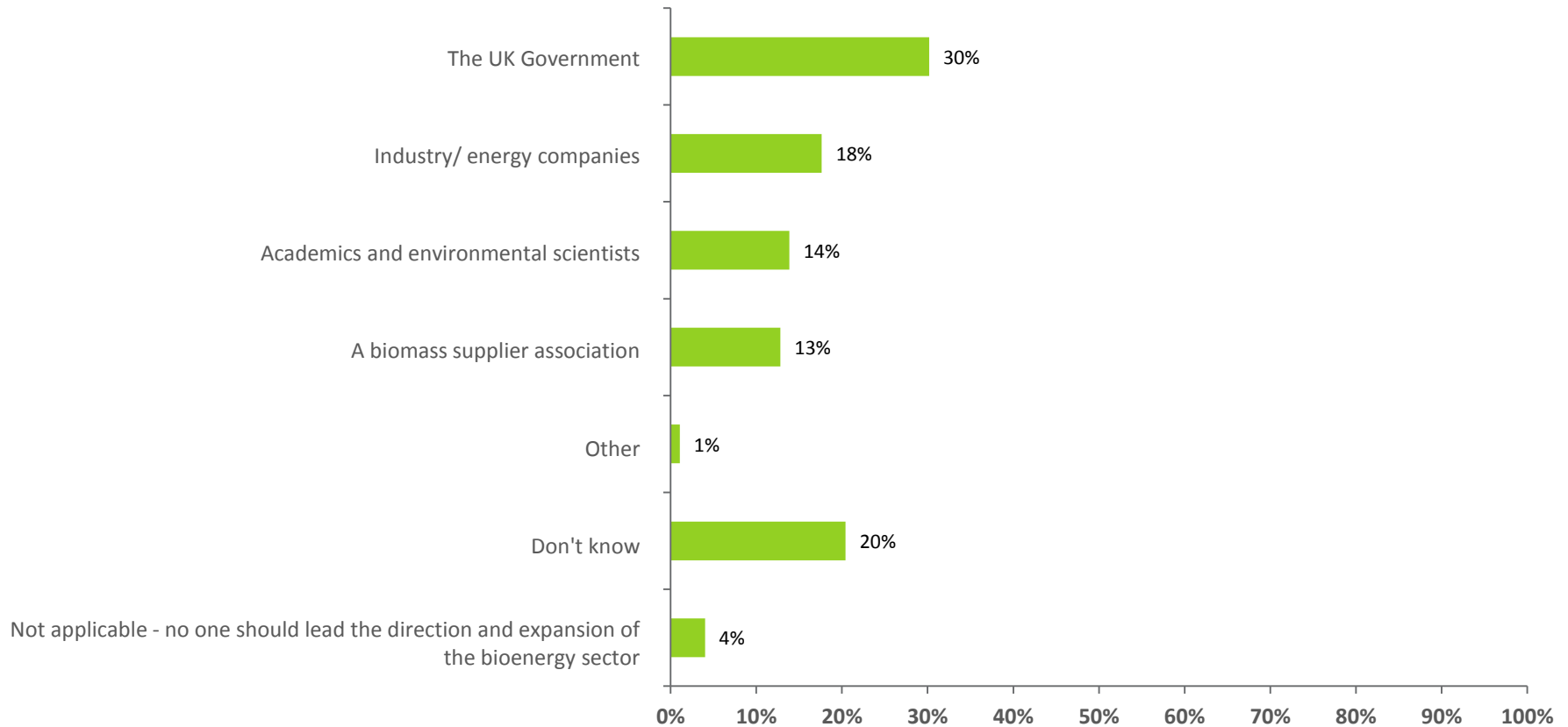
WEB\_q16a. Thinking about the construction of new biomass power stations...To what extent do you agree or disagree with the following statement?



Base: All GB adults (3105)

# Leaders

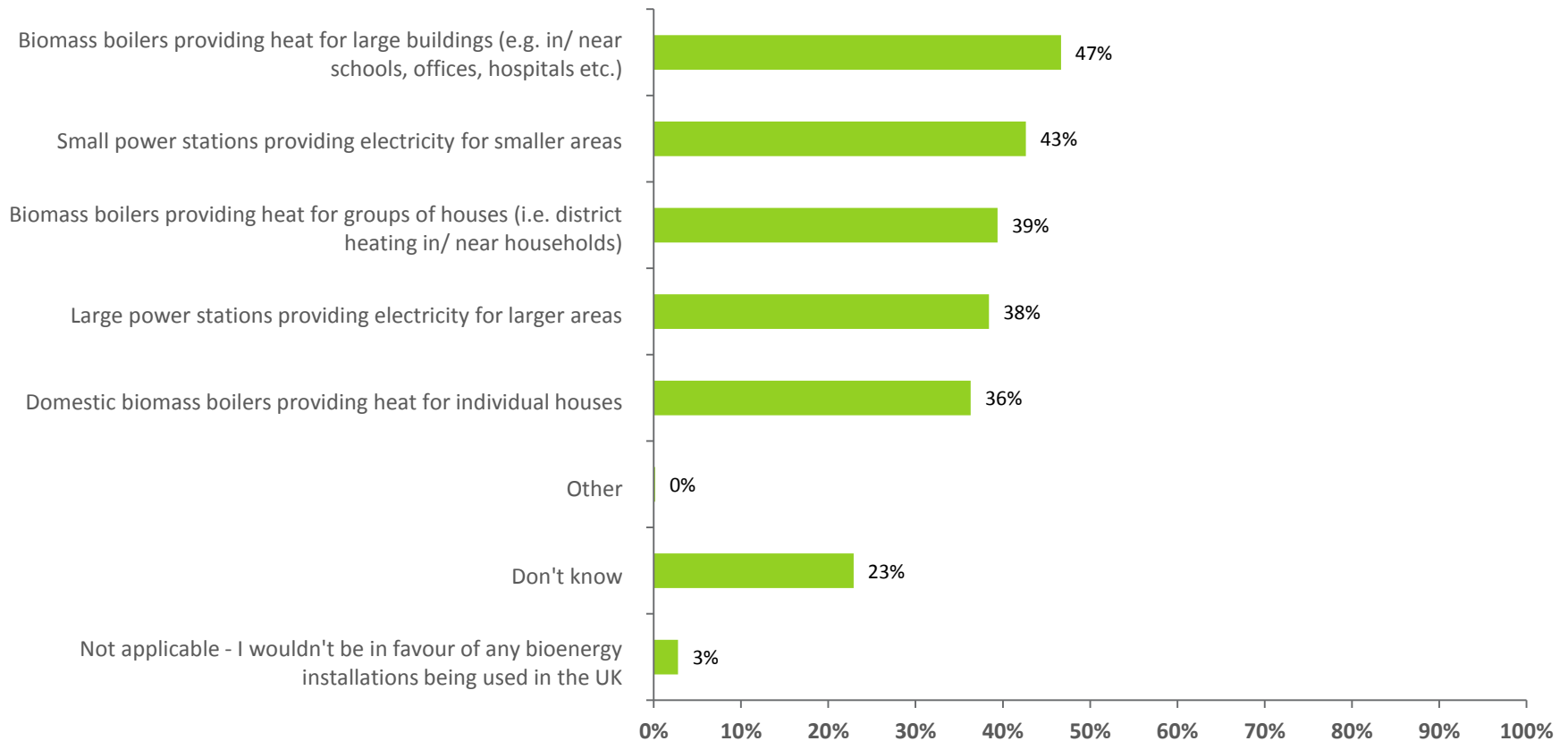
WEB\_q17. The use of bioenergy in the UK is increasing. Some people believe that the direction and expansion of the bioenergy sector should be led by an organisation. Which ONE, if any, of the following do you think should be the MAIN leader of the bioenergy sector? (If your answer is not shown in the list below, please type it in the 'other' box)



Base: All GB adults (3105)

# Favoured bioenergy installations

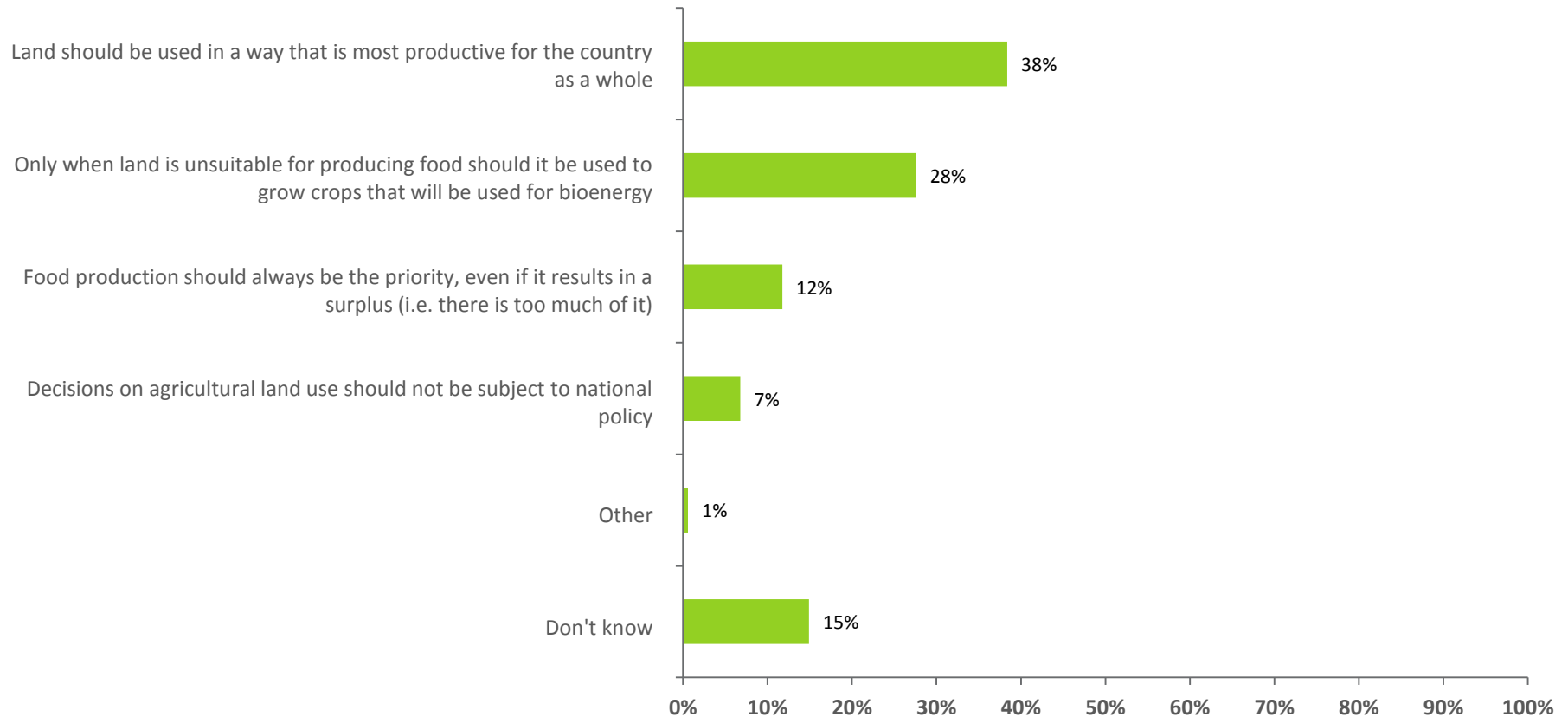
*WEB\_q18. Bioenergy installations that generate electricity or heat come in various sizes. Which, if any, of the following bioenergy installations would you be in favour of being used in the UK? (Please select all that apply. If any of your answers are not shown in the list below, please type them in the 'other' box)*



Base: All GB adults (3105)

# Use of agricultural land

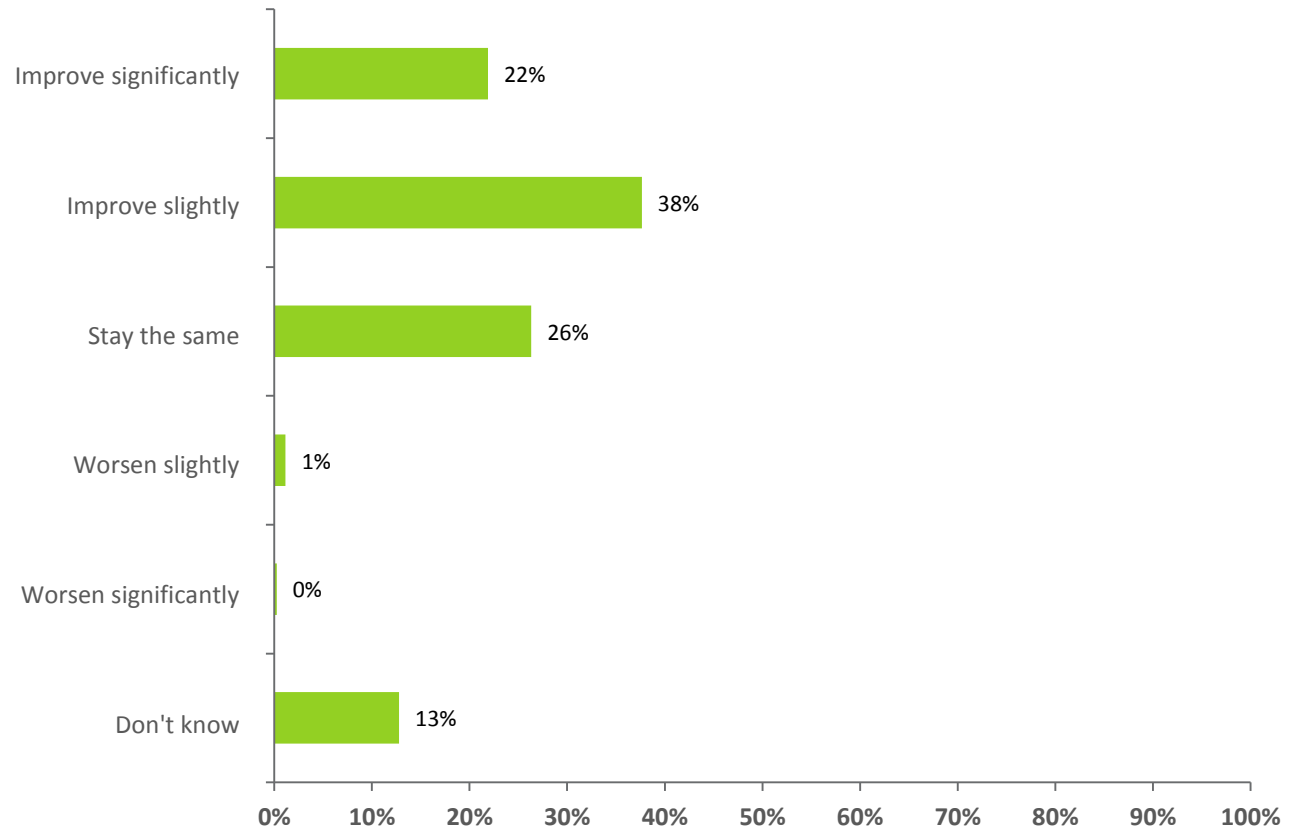
*WEB\_q19. Which ONE, if any, of the following statements BEST describes how you think agricultural land (i.e. farmland) should be used in general? (If your answer is not shown in the list below, please type it in the 'other' box)*



Base: All GB adults (3105)

# Bioenergy helps to tackle global climate change

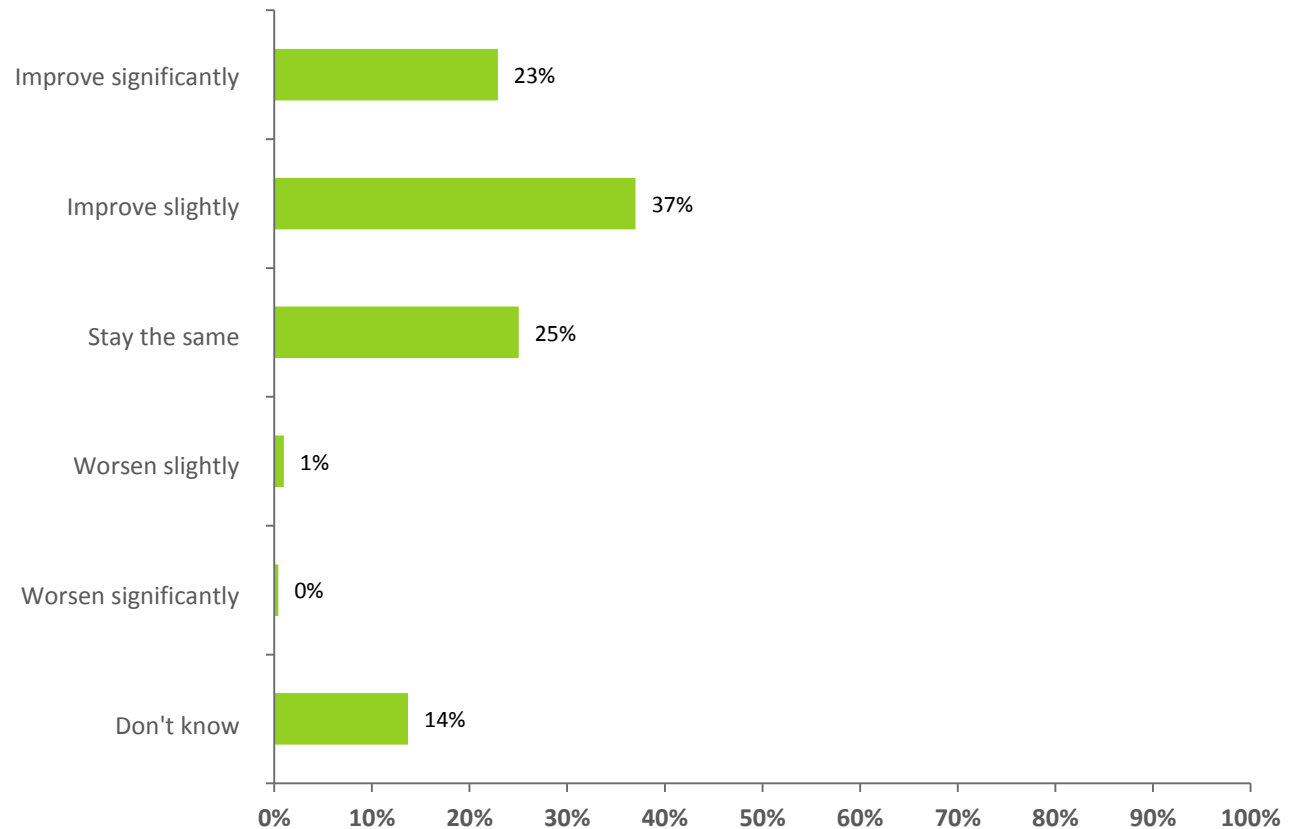
WEB\_q20a. For the following question, please imagine you were shown conclusive scientific evidence that proved the following statement to be correct;• Bioenergy helps to tackle global climate changeBased on this, would your opinion of the use of bioenergy in the UK improve or worsen, or would it stay the same?



Base: All GB adults (3105)

# Bioenergy reduces greenhouse gas emissions

WEB\_q20b. For the following question, please imagine you were shown conclusive scientific evidence that proved the following statement to be correct;•  
Bioenergy reduces greenhouse gas emissionsBased on this, would your opinion of the use of bioenergy in the UK improve or worsen, or would it stay the same?

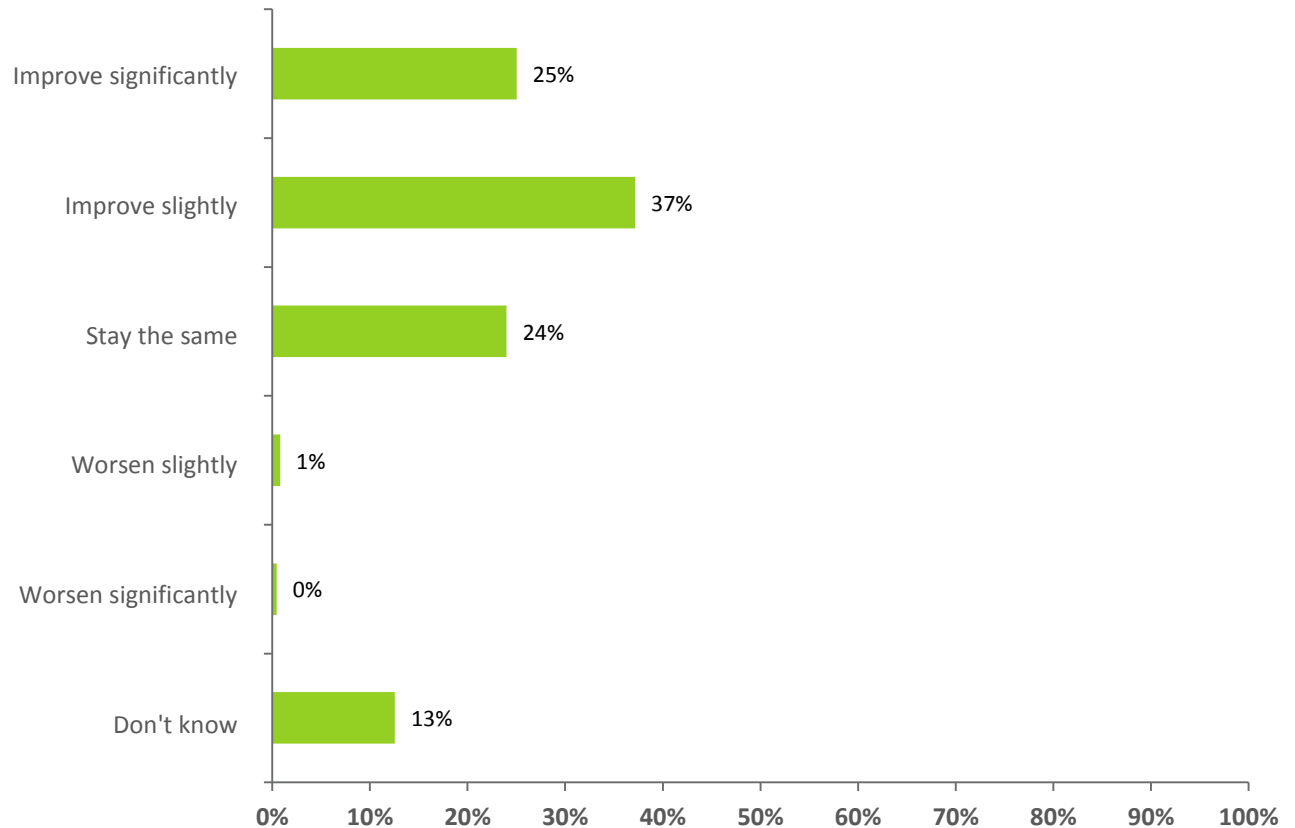


Base: All GB adults (3105)



# Bioenergy is better for the environment than fossil fuels

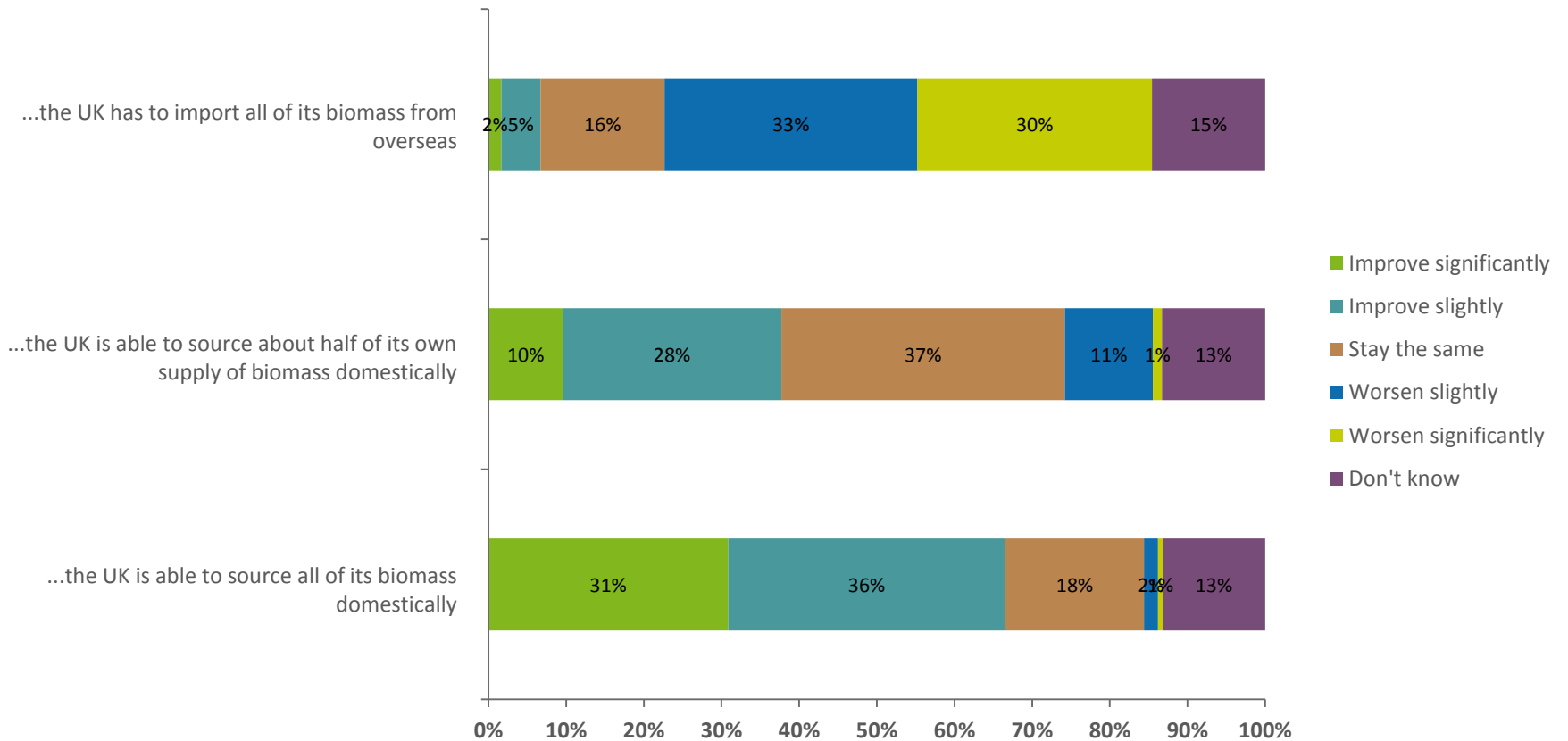
WEB\_q20c. For the following question, please imagine you were shown conclusive scientific evidence that proved the following statement to be correct;• Bioenergy is better for the environment than fossil fuelsBased on this, would your opinion of the use of bioenergy in the UK improve or worsen, or would it stay the same?



Base: All GB adults (3105)

# Opinion of bioenergy use

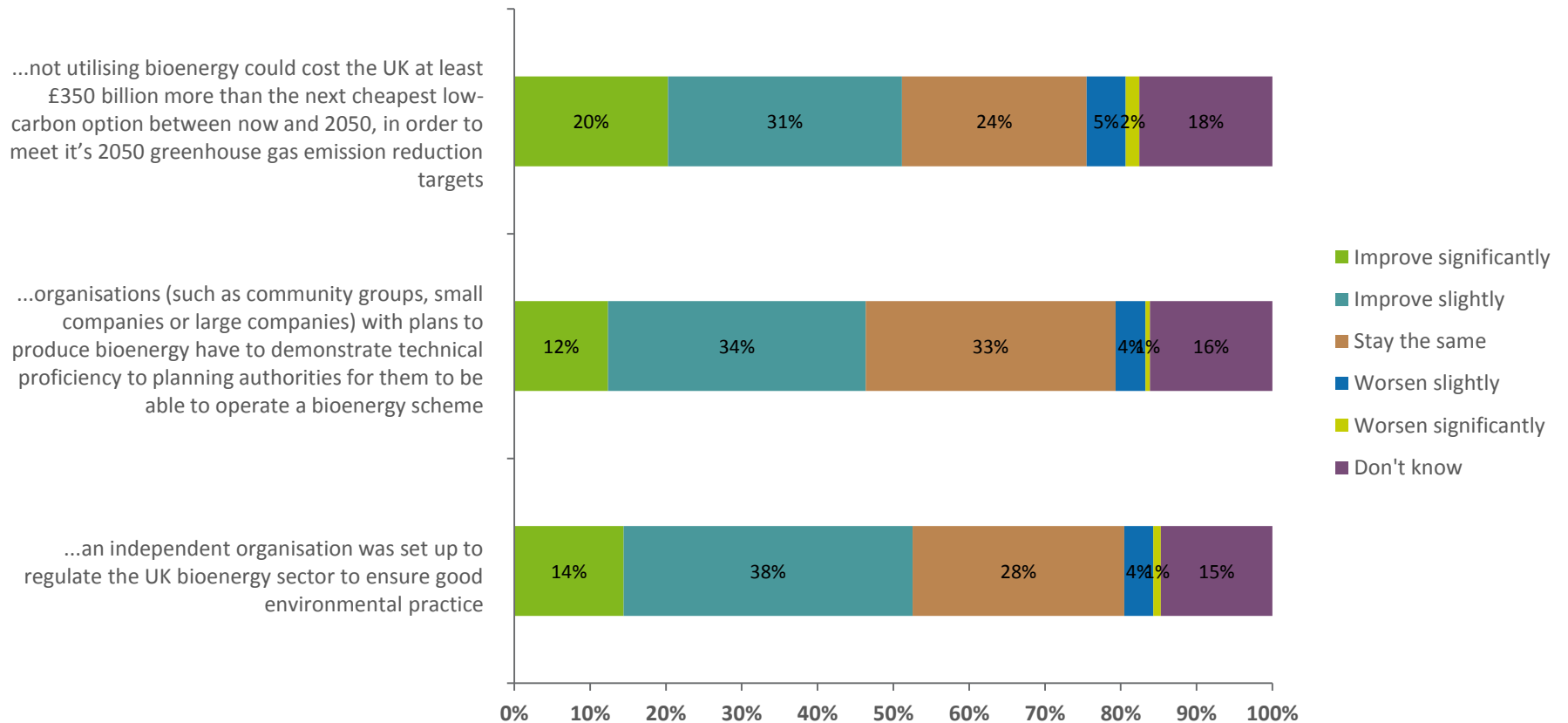
WEB\_q21a. Would your opinion of the use of bioenergy in the UK improve, worsen or stay the same if you were told that...



Base: All GB adults (3105)

# Opinion of bioenergy use (2)

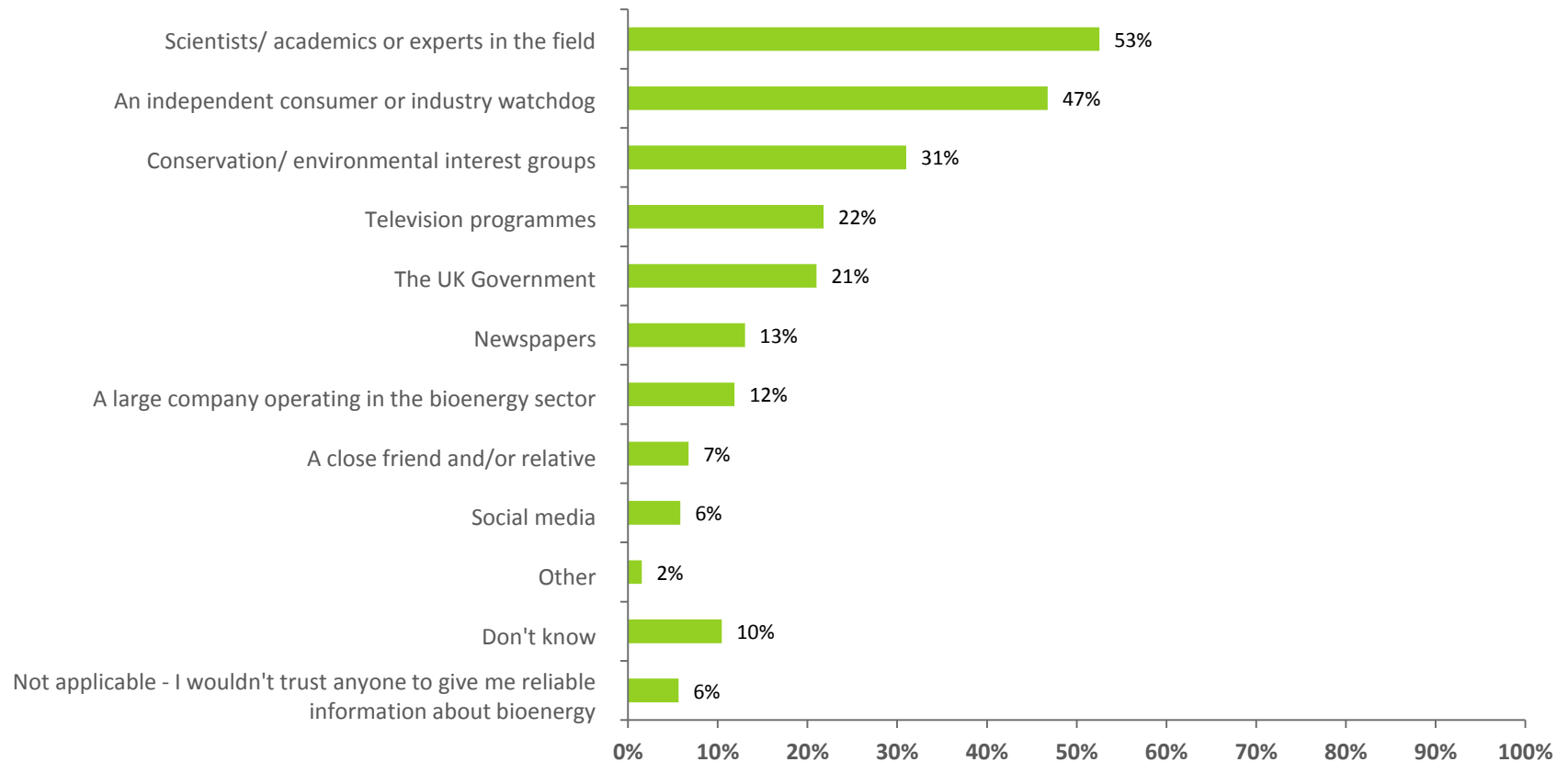
WEB\_q22. Would your opinion of the use of bioenergy in the UK improve, worsen or stay the same if you were told that...



Base: All GB adults (3105)

# Reliable sources of information

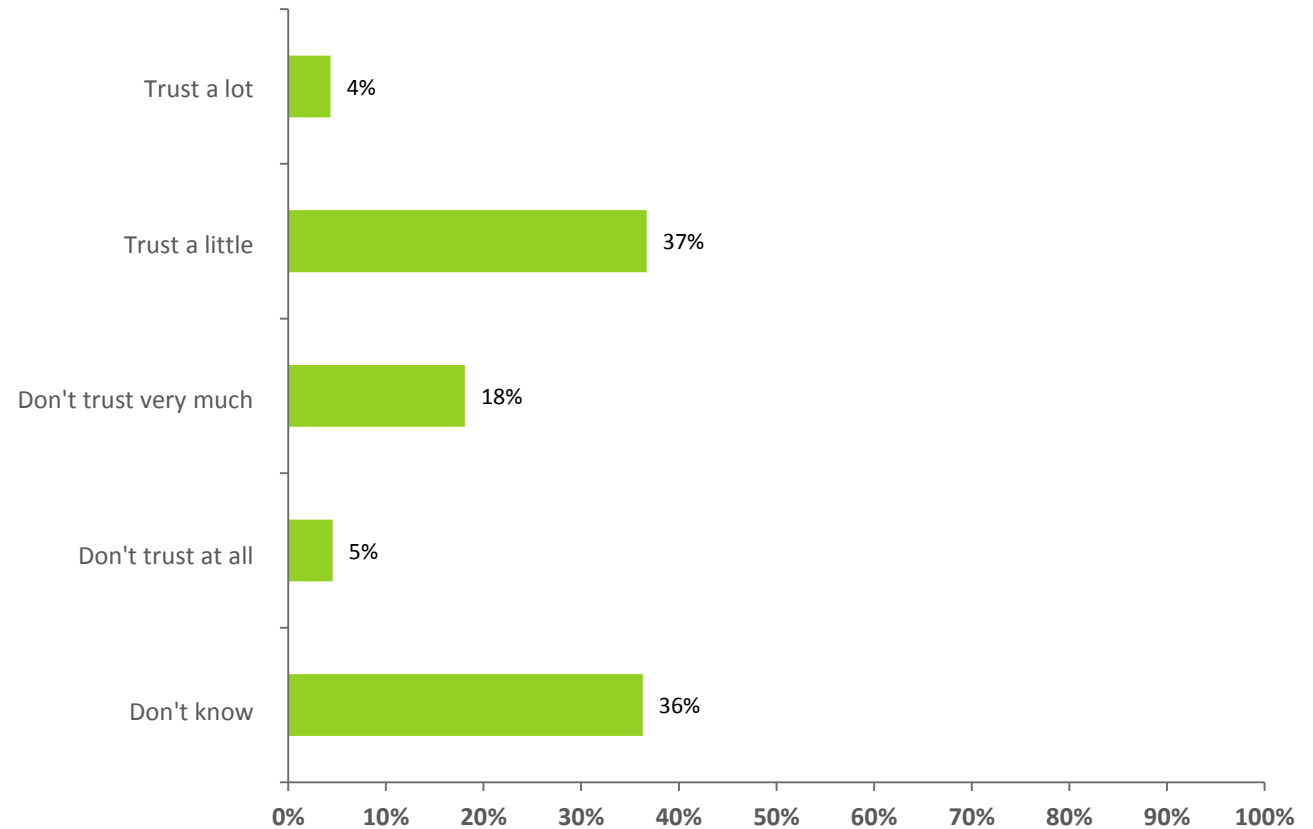
WEB\_q23. Please imagine you were interested in finding out more information on bioenergy...Which, if any, of the following would you trust to give you reliable information? (Please select all that apply. If any of your answers are not shown in the list below, please type them in the 'other' box)



Base: All GB adults online (3105)

# Trust

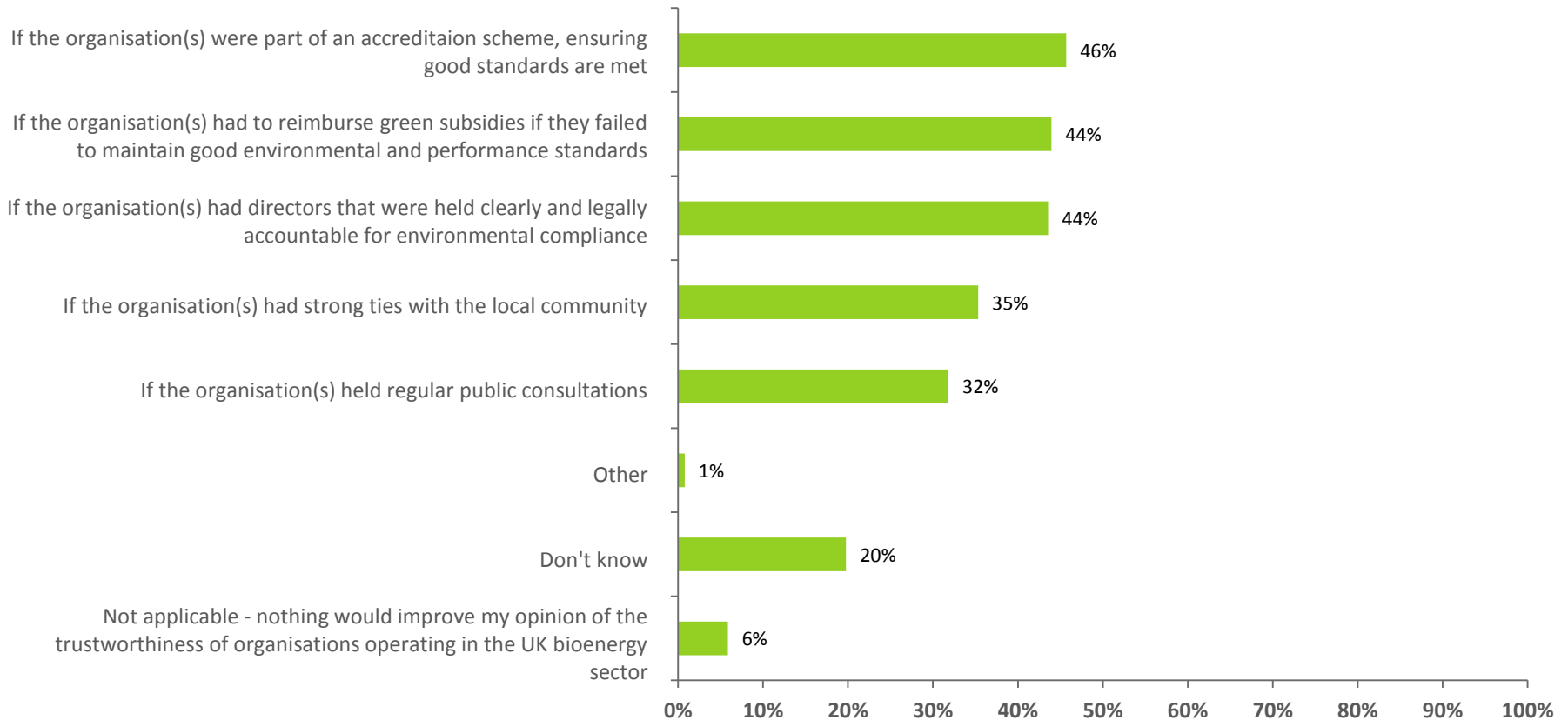
WEB\_q25. Overall, to what extent, if at all, do you trust organisations operating in the UK bioenergy sector?



Base: All GB adults (3105)

# Trustworthiness

*WEB\_q24. Which, if any, of the following do you think would improve your opinion of the trustworthiness of organisations operating in the UK bioenergy sector? (Please select all that apply. If any of your answers are not shown in the list below, please type them in the 'other' box)*



Base: All GB adults (3105)

# Custom research at YouGov

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