

# **IPSOS UK** **Attitudes towards** **blackouts polling**

**November 2022**



# The public are slightly more likely to think that blackouts this winter will happen in Britain generally than in their house specifically

As you may know, the National Grid’s Electricity Systems Operator recently warned that blackouts might occur this winter due to insufficient energy supplies. One potential outcome might be planned three-hour blackouts that may occur between 4-7pm during the coldest winter days in January and February should gas suppliers fall short of demand. They said this was an unlikely scenario, and their ‘base case’ view is that there would be adequate supply.

How likely or unlikely do you think it is that blackouts will happen in ... this winter?

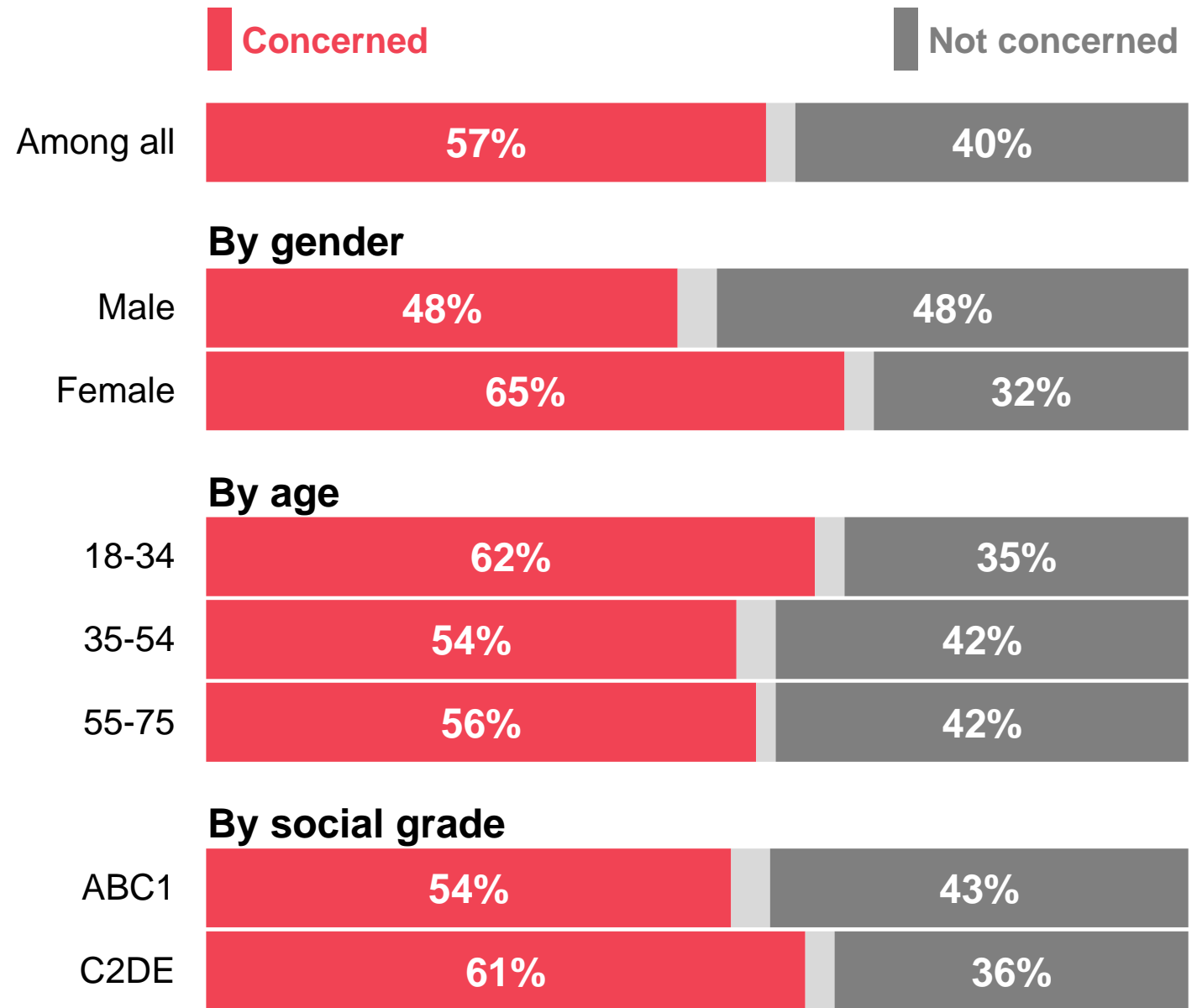


Base: 1,072 Online British adults aged 18-75, 1<sup>st</sup> – 4<sup>th</sup> November 2022



# Around three in five are concerned about the potential of energy blackouts occurring in their area this winter

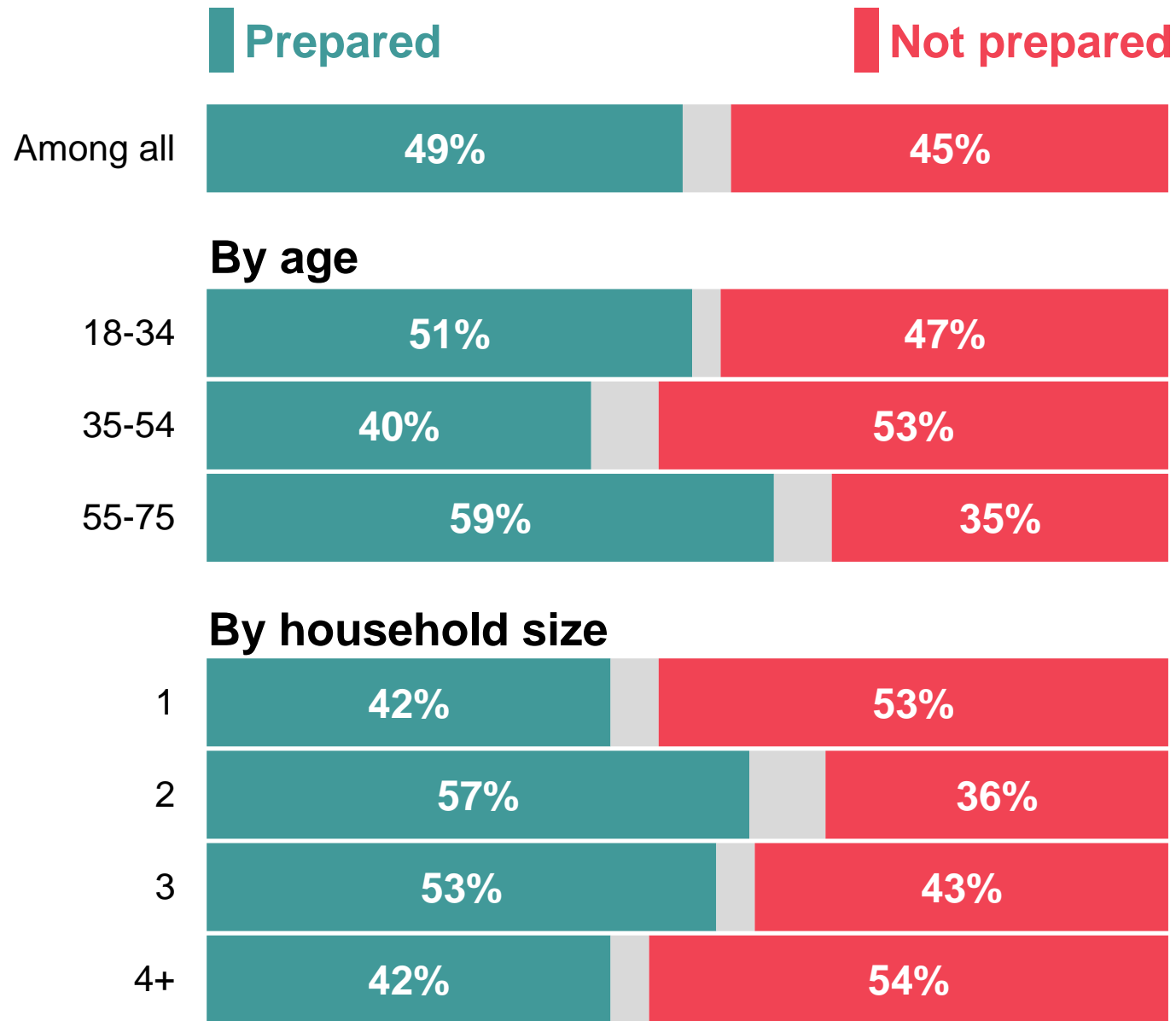
How concerned are you, if at all, about potential energy blackouts occurring in your area this winter?



Base: 1,072 Online British adults aged 18-75, 1<sup>st</sup> – 4<sup>th</sup> November. Including males (526), females (545), those aged 18-34 (362), 35-54 (389), 55-75 (321), ABC1s (730), C2DEs (324)

# Brits are largely divided over how prepared they feel their household is to cope with potential blackouts this winter

How prepared do you feel your household is, if at all, to cope with potential energy blackouts occurring in your area this winter?



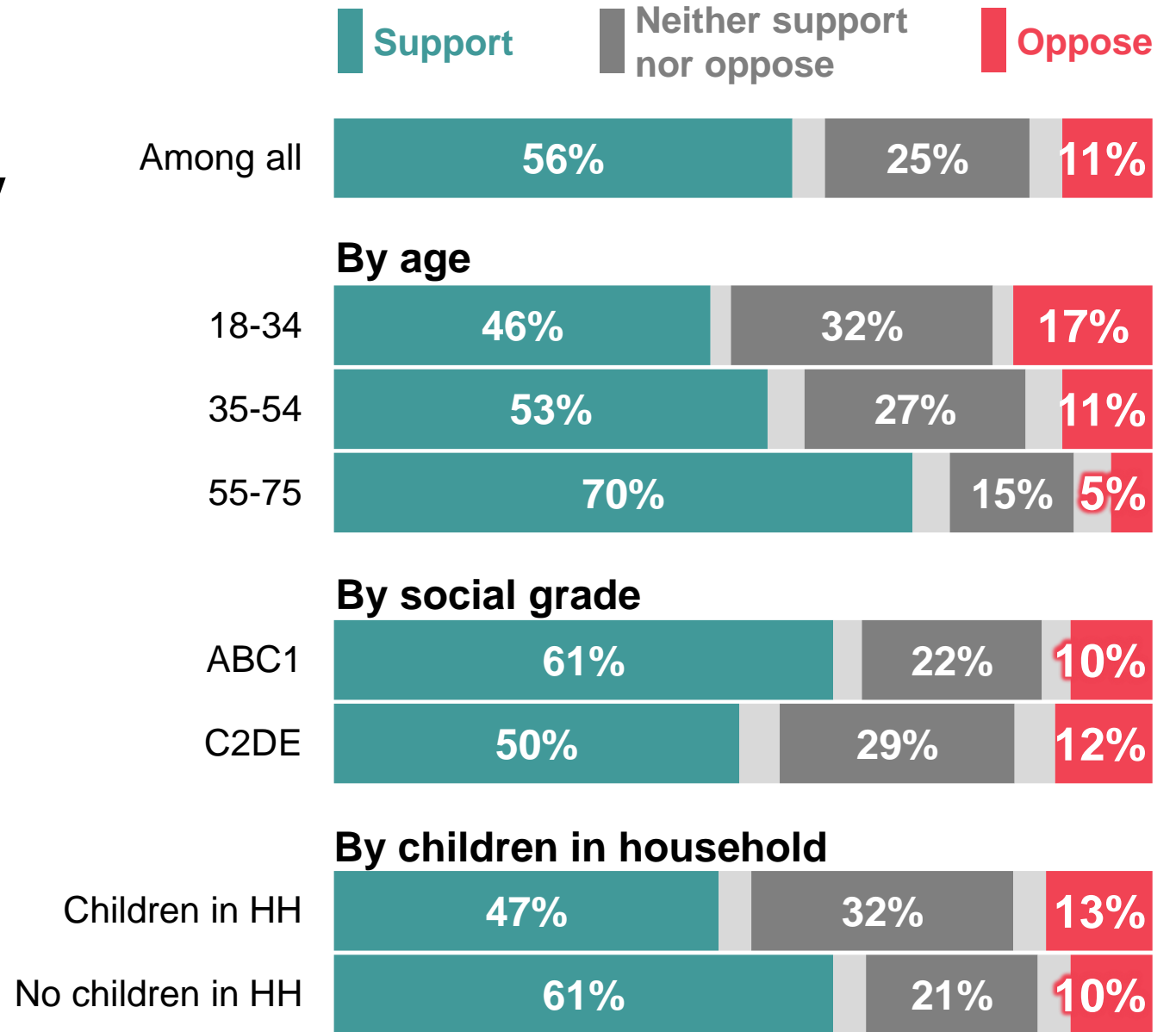
Base: 1,072 Online British adults aged 18-75, 1<sup>st</sup> – 4<sup>th</sup> November. Including those aged 18-34 (362), 35-54 (389), 55-75 (321), those with a household size of 1 (174), household size of 2 (362), household size of 3 (238) and household size of 4+ (289)

# The public are largely supportive of Britain adopting similar reductions to electricity consumption as countries in the EU

In order to cope with volatile energy supplies, countries in the European Union have agreed to a voluntary 10% reduction of overall electricity consumption between 1 December 2022 and 31 March 2023, with a further compulsory 5% reduction of electricity consumed during peak hours during this period.

Achieving these reductions will largely involve reductions from businesses and governments. For example, in Spain, businesses and other public buildings are now banned from heating their buildings above 19°C, and must turn off any window lighting from 10pm. Local governments and citizens are similarly being encouraged to find ways to reduce their energy consumption, though no compulsory measures have been announced as of yet.

To what extent would you support or oppose Britain adopting similar measures?



Base: 1,072 Online British adults aged 18-75, 1<sup>st</sup> – 4<sup>th</sup> November. Including those aged 18-34 (362), 35-54 (389), 55-75 (321), ABC1s (730), C2DEs (324), those with children aged 17 or under in their household (389) and those with no children aged 17 or under in their household (683)

# Ipsos UK

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**For more information**

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