

Ipsos: Priorities for economic growth among MPs and the public

January 2025

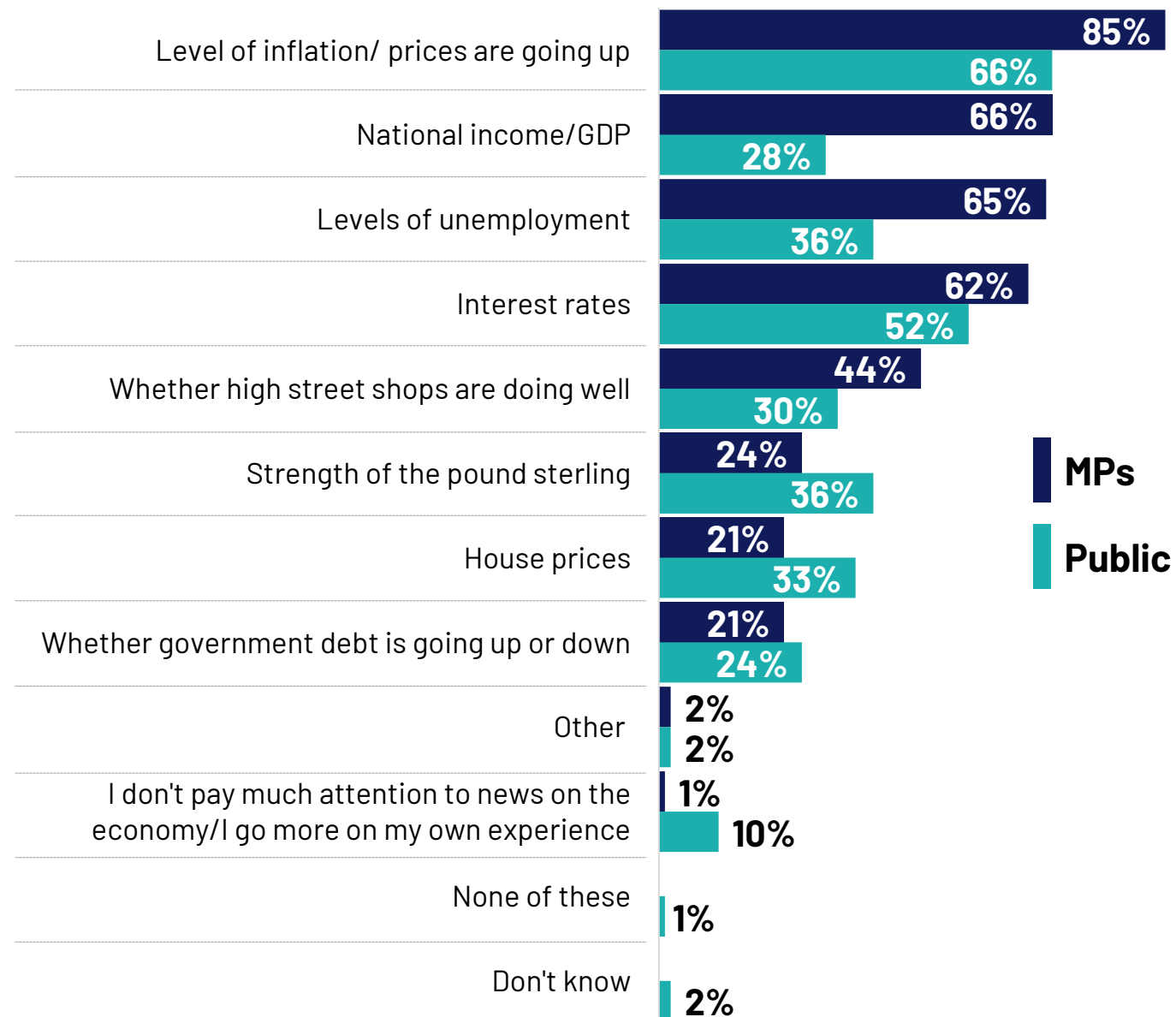
The level of inflation is the key economic indicator for both MPs and the public

Which of these specific types of information, if any, most influence your view of how the economy is doing?

Please select all that apply.

Base: 1,070 Online British adults aged 18-75, 1 – 5th November 2024

Base: 139 MPs, 22nd July – 30th September 2024



Both MPs and the public think economic growth does more good than harm, but especially MPs

You will now see several pairs of statements about economic growth. For each pair, please indicate whether you agree more with statement A or statement B, if either.



MPs



The public

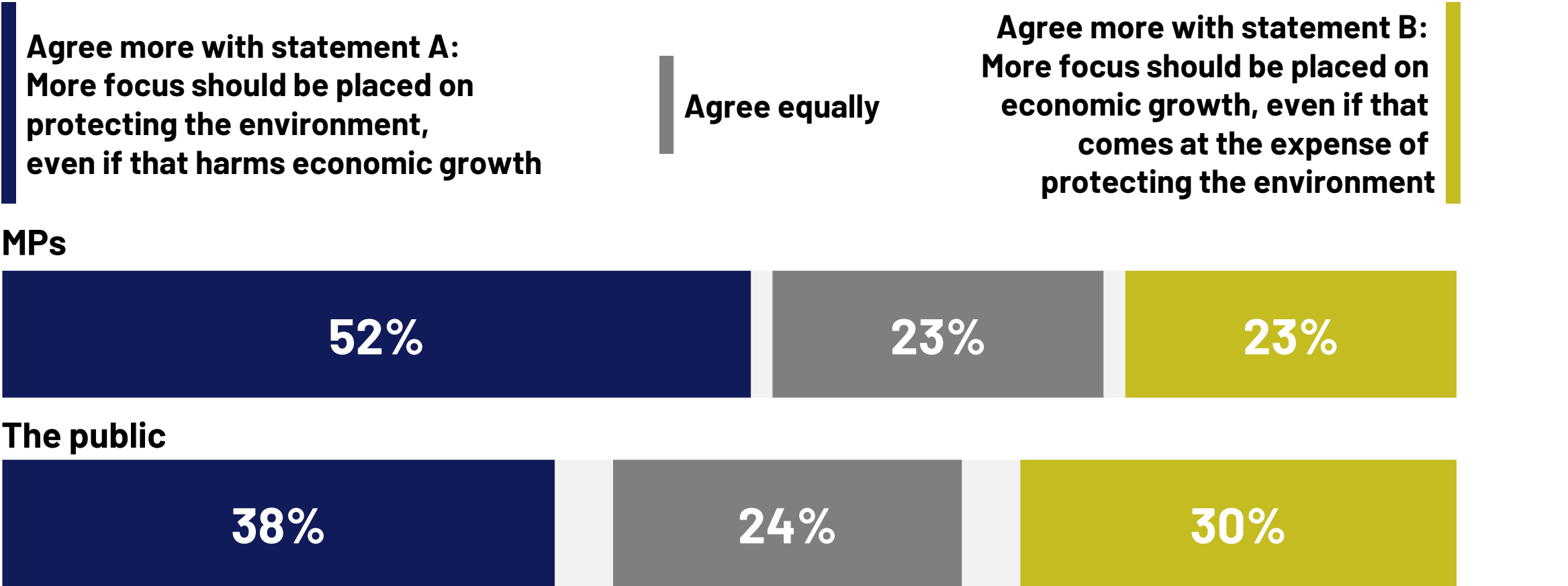


Base: 1,070 Online British adults aged 18-75,, 1 – 5th November 2024
Base: 110 MPs, 22nd July – 30th September 2024



MPs are though more likely to agree that more focus should be placed on protecting the environment, even if that harms economic growth, while the public are more divided

You will now see several pairs of statements about economic growth. For each pair, please indicate whether you agree more with statement A or statement B, if either.



Base: 1,070 Online British adults aged 18-75,, 1 – 5th November 2024
Base: 110 MPs, 22nd July – 30th September 2024



MPs are in favour of Britain allowing as much immigration as the economy needs to support growth, but the public are more likely to support limits on immigration

You will now see several pairs of statements about economic growth. For each pair, please indicate whether you agree more with statement A or statement B, if either.



MPs



The public



Base: 1,070 Online British adults aged 18-75,, 1 – 5th November 2024
Base: 110 MPs, 22nd July – 30th September 2024

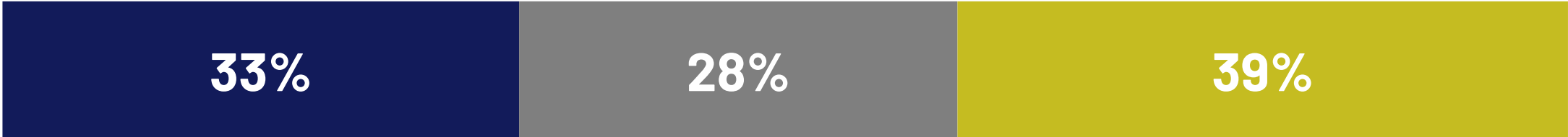


MPs and the public are largely divided over whether redistributing money or growing the overall economy is more important – though growth is somewhat preferred

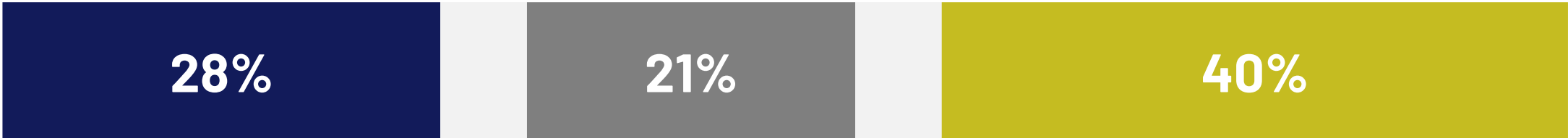
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MPs



The public



Base: 1,070 Online British adults aged 18-75,, 1 – 5th November 2024
Base: 110 MPs, 22nd July – 30th September 2024



The public tend to think that more focus should be placed on improving the UK economy as a whole, rather than specific regions and nations – MPs are more divided

You will now see several pairs of statements about economic growth. For each pair, please indicate whether you agree more with statement A or statement B, if either.

Agree more with statement A:
More focus should be placed on
improving the economy of specific
regions and nations in the UK

Agree equally

Agree more with statement B:
More focus should be placed on
improving UK economy as a whole

MPs



The public



Base: 1,070 Online British adults aged 18-75, 1 – 5th November 2024
Base: 110 MPs, 22nd July – 30th September 2024



Note on interpreting party differences

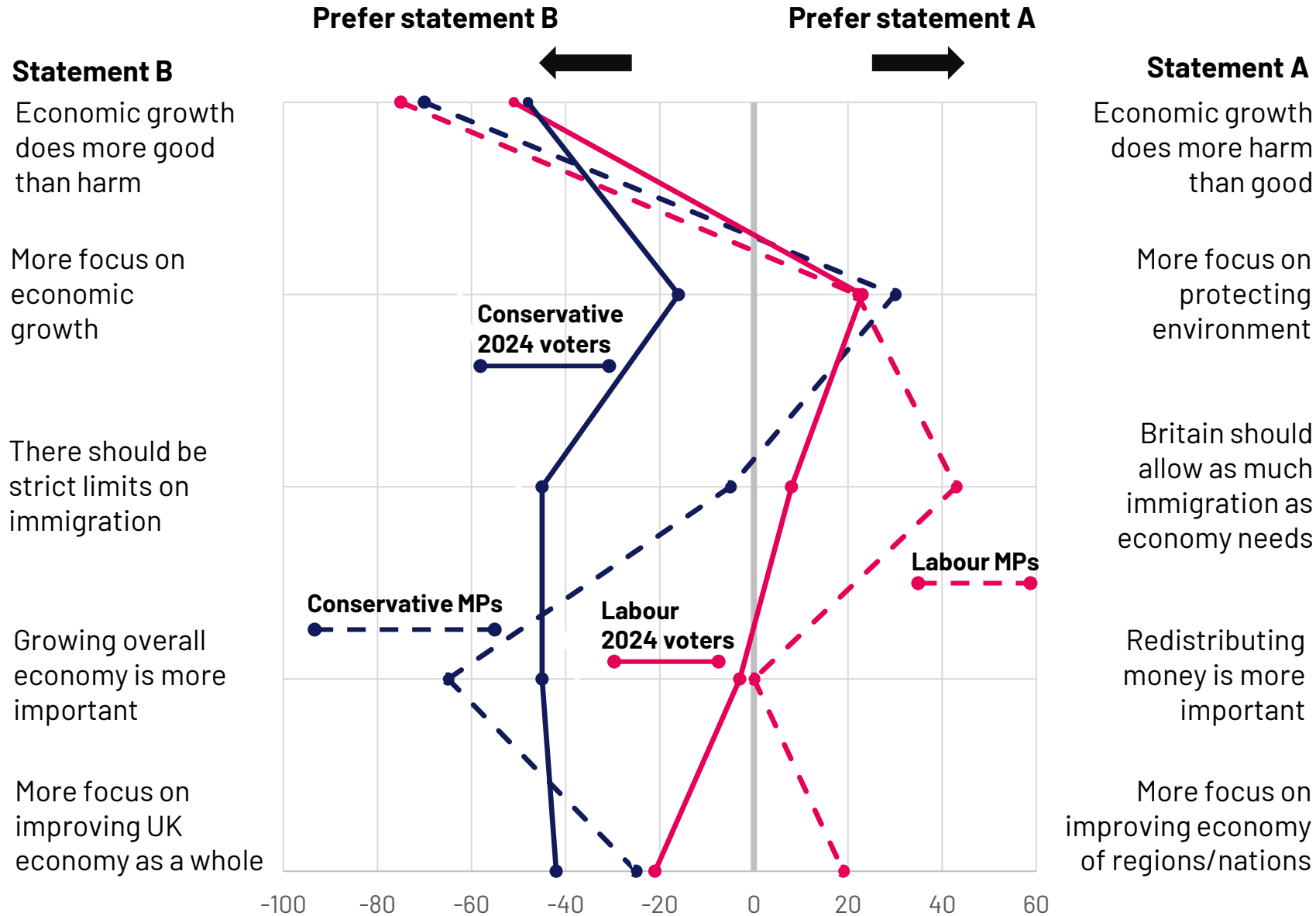
The Ipsos MPs survey is conducted via a mix of telephone and face-to-face interviews with over 100 MPs each wave. The sample is reflective of the make-up of the House of Commons by political party, so the majority are Labour MPs.

This means the data for “All MPs” tends to be more similar to the views of Labour MPs, but there is a wider range of opinions in the sub-groups. The following slides break down the results to show the views of Conservative and Labour MPs, to show where there are differences (and similarities) between them and to allow comparison with the views of Labour and Conservative voters.

However, it is important to note that the base size of these sub-groups is very small, particularly for Conservative MPs (c20-24 interviews). This means there is a wide margin of error for these results. This data should be interpreted cautiously, as indicative of the range of opinion and differences of emphasis between Conservative and Labour MPs, rather than as a precise estimate.

Both Labour and Conservative MPs are more in favour of allowing as much immigration as the economy needs than their own party voters. Though they are similar to their own voters on redistribution.

You will now see several pairs of statements about economic growth. For each pair, please indicate whether you agree more with statement A or statement B, if either.



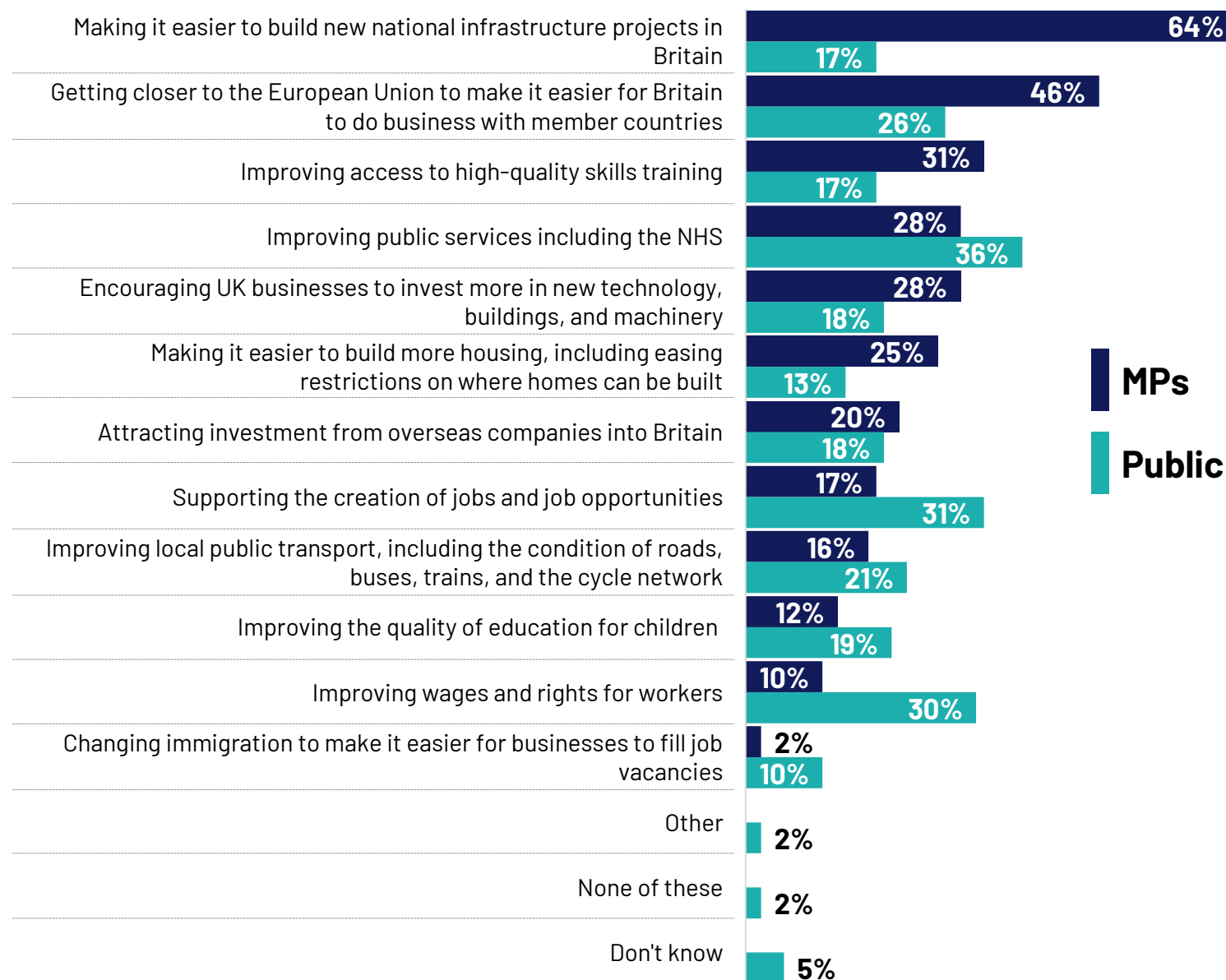
Base: 1,070 Online British adults aged 18-75, 1 - 5th November 2024, including 156 Conservative and 361 Labour 2024 voters

Base: 110 MPs, 22nd July - 30th September 2024, including 20 Conservative MPs and 68 Labour MPs. Caution very small base, see note on interpretation

MPs and the public differ on what would make the biggest improvements to Britain's economic growth over the next five years.

MPs prioritise new infrastructure projects and trade with EU, while the public focus more on public services, more job opportunities and better wages/workers' rights

Which two or three options on this list do you think would make the biggest improvement to Britain's economic growth over the next five years? Please select up to three.



Base: 1,070 Online British adults aged 18-75, 1 – 5th November 2024

Base: 117 MPs, 22nd July – 30th September 2024

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Some similarities in priorities for growth between Labour and Conservative MPs and their voters, but differences too – especially over need to make it easier to build new national infrastructure projects

Which two or three options on this list do you think would make the biggest improvement to Britain’s economic growth over the next five years? *Top four answers*

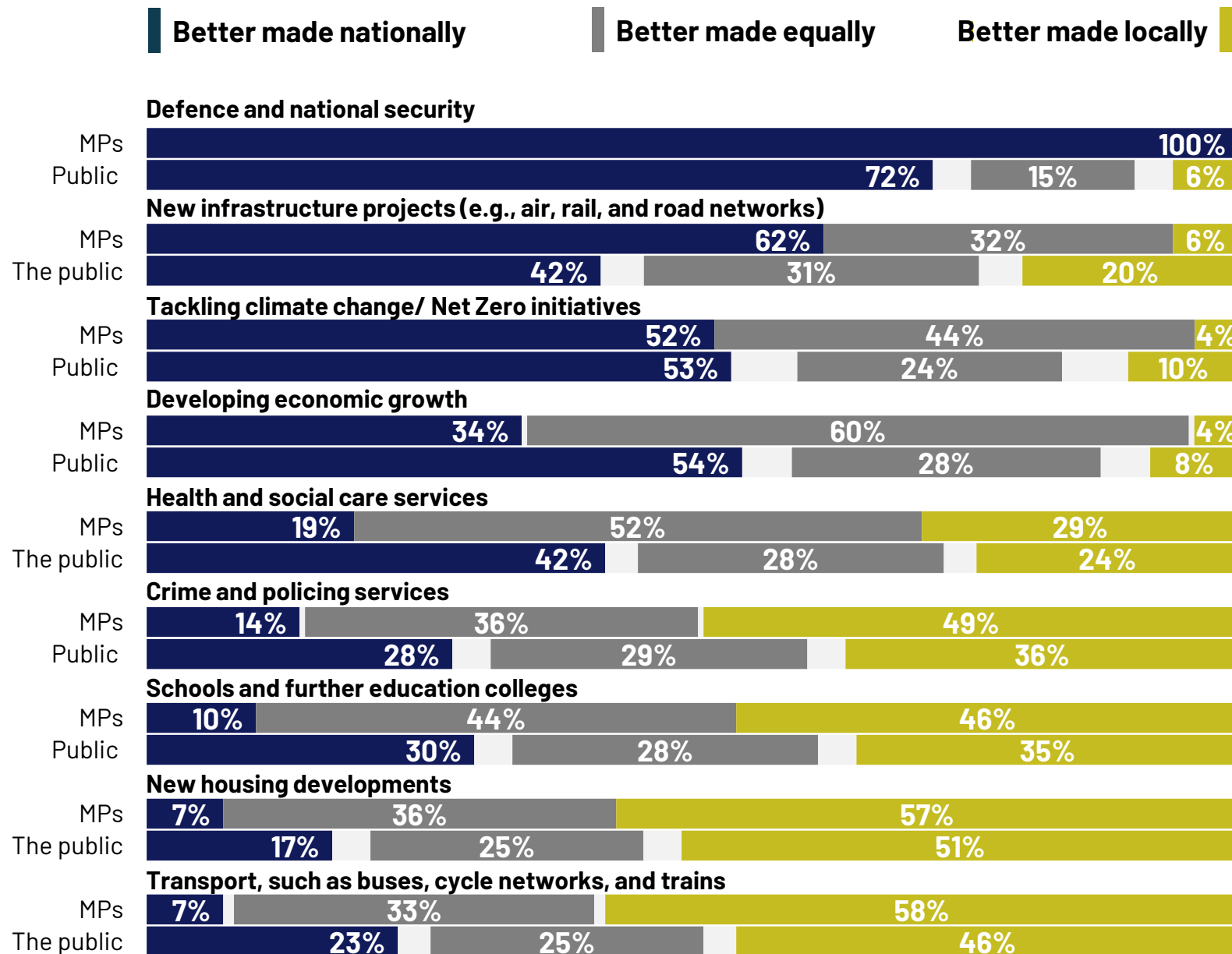
Labour MPs	Labour 2024 voters	Conservative MPs	Conservative 2024 voters
Making it easier to build new national infrastructure projects in Britain e.g. transport projects, renewable energy and digital infrastructure	Improving public services inc. the NHS	Encouraging UK businesses to invest more in new technology, buildings, and machinery	Supporting the creation of jobs and job opportunities
Getting closer to the EU to make it easier for GB to do business with member countries	Improving wages and rights for workers	Improving access to high-quality skills training	Improving public services inc. the NHS
Improving public services inc. the NHS	Getting closer to the EU to make it easier for GB to do business with member countries	Making it easier to build new national infrastructure projects in Britain e.g. transport projects, renewable energy and digital infrastructure	Encouraging UK businesses to invest more in new technology, buildings, and machinery
Making it easier to build more housing including easing restrictions on where homes can be built	Supporting the creation of jobs and job opportunities	Attracting investment from overseas companies into Britain	Attracting investment from overseas companies into Britain

Are decisions made better nationally or locally?

For each of the following, do you think decisions should be taken nationally for England as a whole or locally by the council or group of local councils together (e.g. a City Region or Combined Authority) and/or other relevant local body (e.g. a local council, an elected Mayor)?

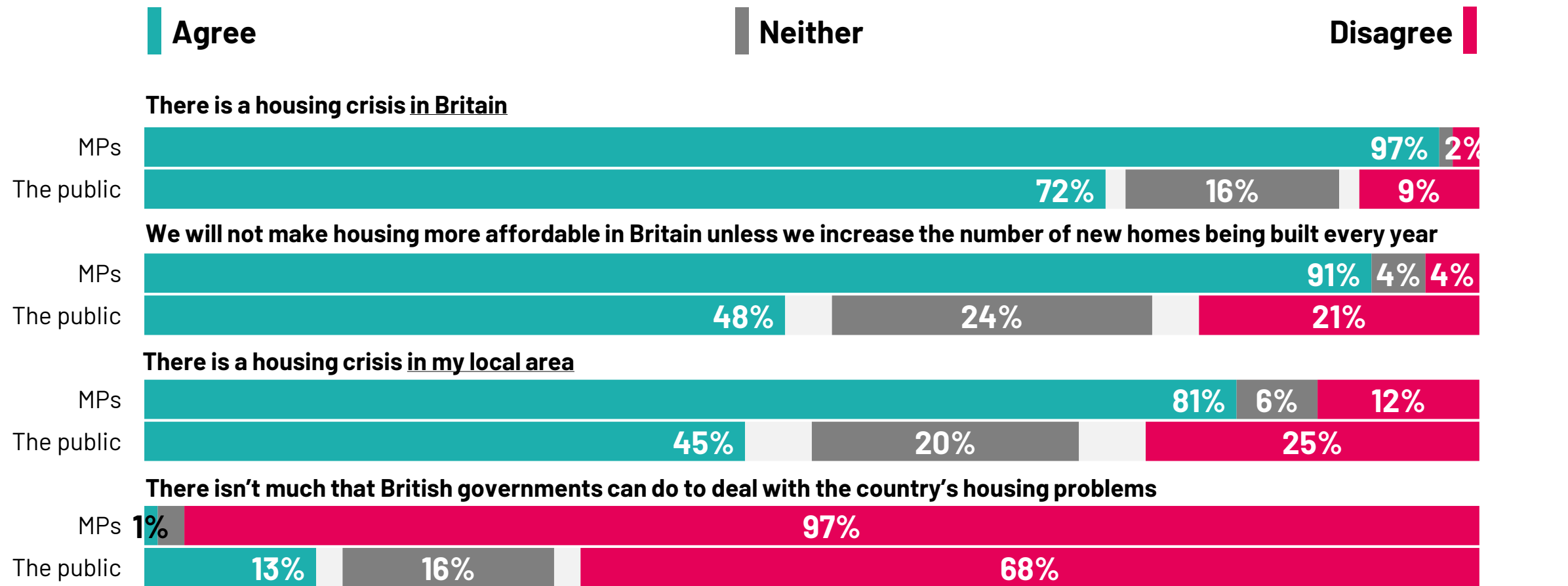
Base: 921 Online adults aged 18-75 in England, 1 - 5th November 2024

Base: 97 MPs, 22nd July - 30th September 2024



Both MPs and public believe there is a national housing crisis, and that government can do something about it. MPs are much more likely to think the crisis extends to their local area, and to support the need for new homes to improve affordability

To what extent, if at all, do you agree or disagree with the following statements about housing?

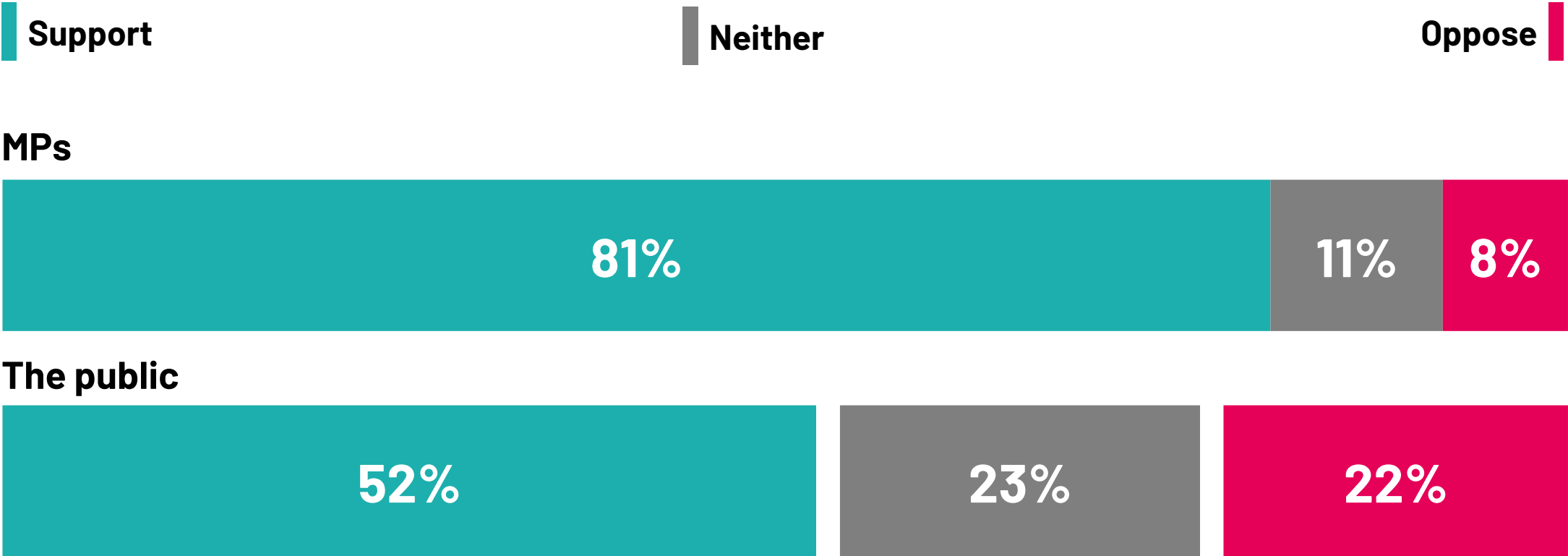


Base: 1,070 Online British adults aged 18-75, 1 – 5th November 2024
Base: 122 MPs, 22nd July – 30th September 2024



Both the public and especially MPs support more homes being built in their local area

To what extent would you support or oppose more homes being built in your local area?

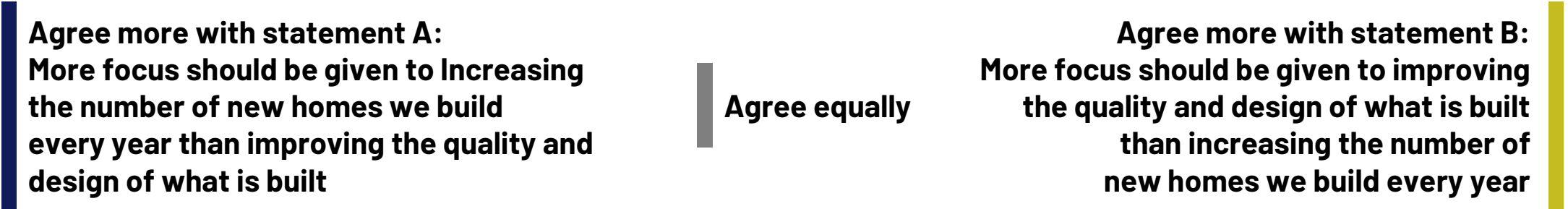


Base: 1,070 Online British adults aged 18-75, 1 – 5th November 2024
Base: 121 MPs, 22nd July – 30th September 2024

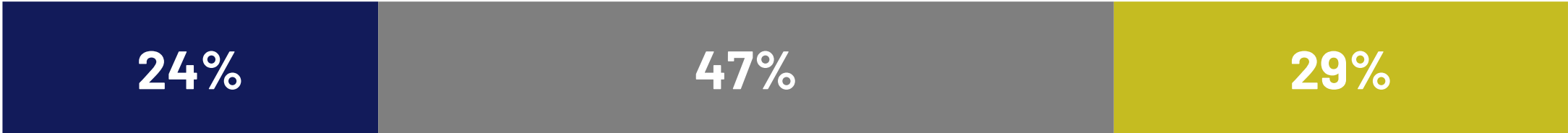


The public are more likely to think more focus should be given to improving the quality and design of what is built rather than the increasing the number of new homes, while MPs think these are equally important

You will now see several pairs of statements about housing. For each pair, please indicate whether you agree more with statement A or statement B, if either.



MPs



The public



Base: 1,070 Online British adults aged 18-75, 1 – 5th November 2024
Base: 106 MPs, 22nd July – 30th September 2024

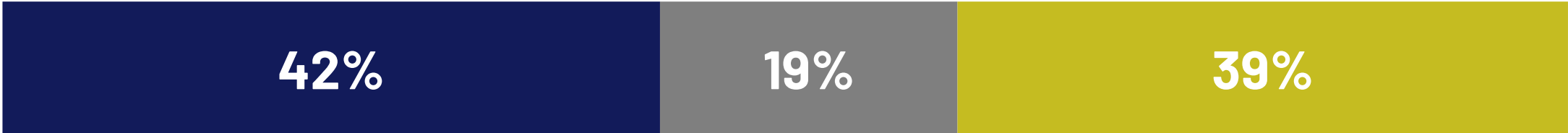


When planning for new housing, the public think priority should be given to the views of local councils and residents even if less housing is built – MPs are more divided

You will now see several pairs of statements about housing. For each pair, please indicate whether you agree more with statement A or statement B, if either.



MPs



The public



Base: 1,070 Online British adults aged 18-75, 1 – 5th November 2024
Base: 106 MPs, 22nd July – 30th September 2024



MPs and their party voters share a similar pattern of views on housing. But Labour MPs especially tend to be stronger in view that their local area also faces a housing crisis, and to support need for many more local homes being built

Statement B

Disagree there is a housing crisis in GB

Disagree there is a housing crisis in my local area

Disagree will not make housing more affordable unless increase number of new homes being built

Disagree there isn't much govts can do to deal with GB's housing problems

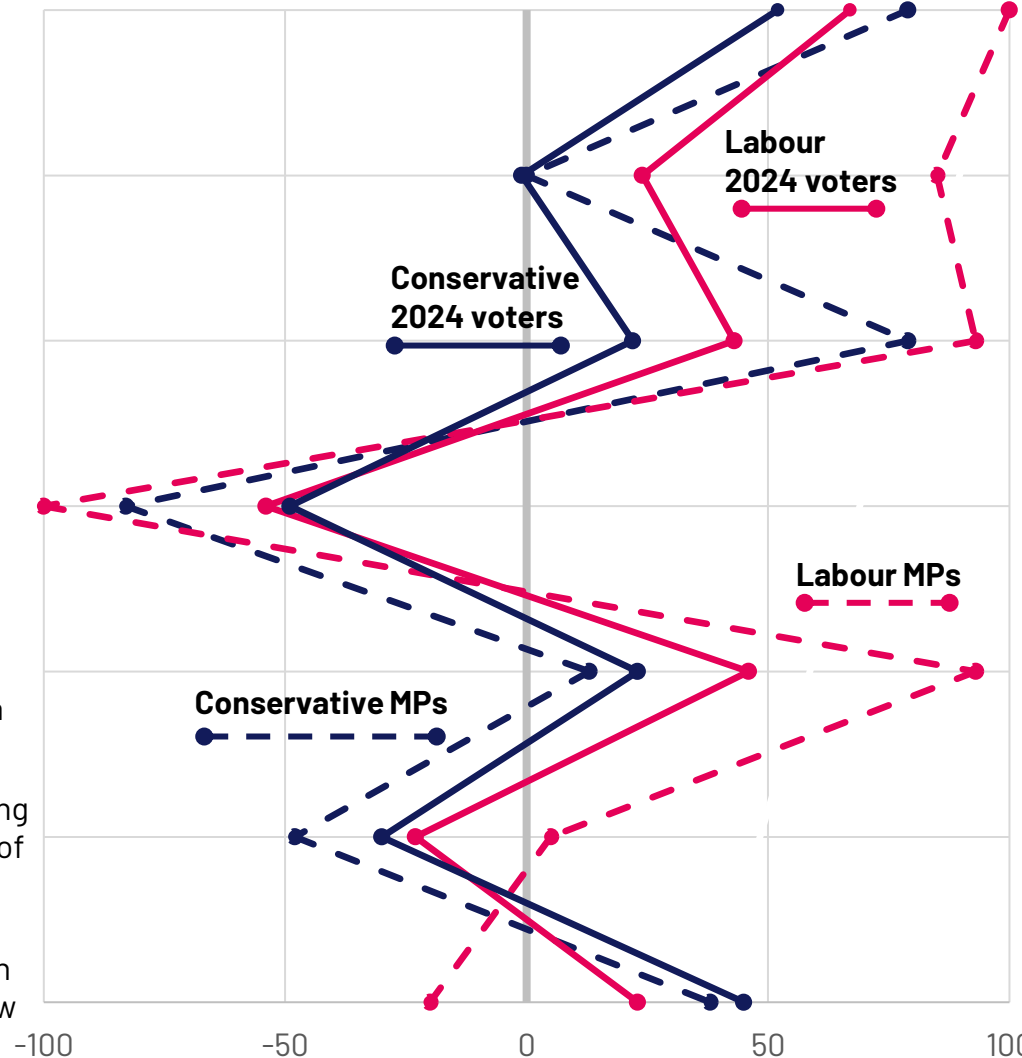
Oppose more homes being built in local area

More focus on improving the quality and design of what is built

Priority should be given to building as many new homes as possible

Prefer statement B

Prefer statement A



Statement A

Agree there is a housing crisis in GB

Agree there is a housing crisis in my local area

Agree will not make housing more affordable unless increase number of new homes being built

Agree there isn't much govts can do to deal with GB's housing problems

Support more homes being built in local area

More focus on increasing the number of new homes being built

Priority should be given to the views of local councils and residents

Base: 1,070 Online British adults aged 18-75, 1 - 5th November 2024, including 156 Conservative and 361 Labour 2024 voters

Base: 110 MPs, 22nd July - 30th September 2024, including 21-24 Conservative MPs and 64-75 Labour MPs. Caution very small base, see note on interpretation

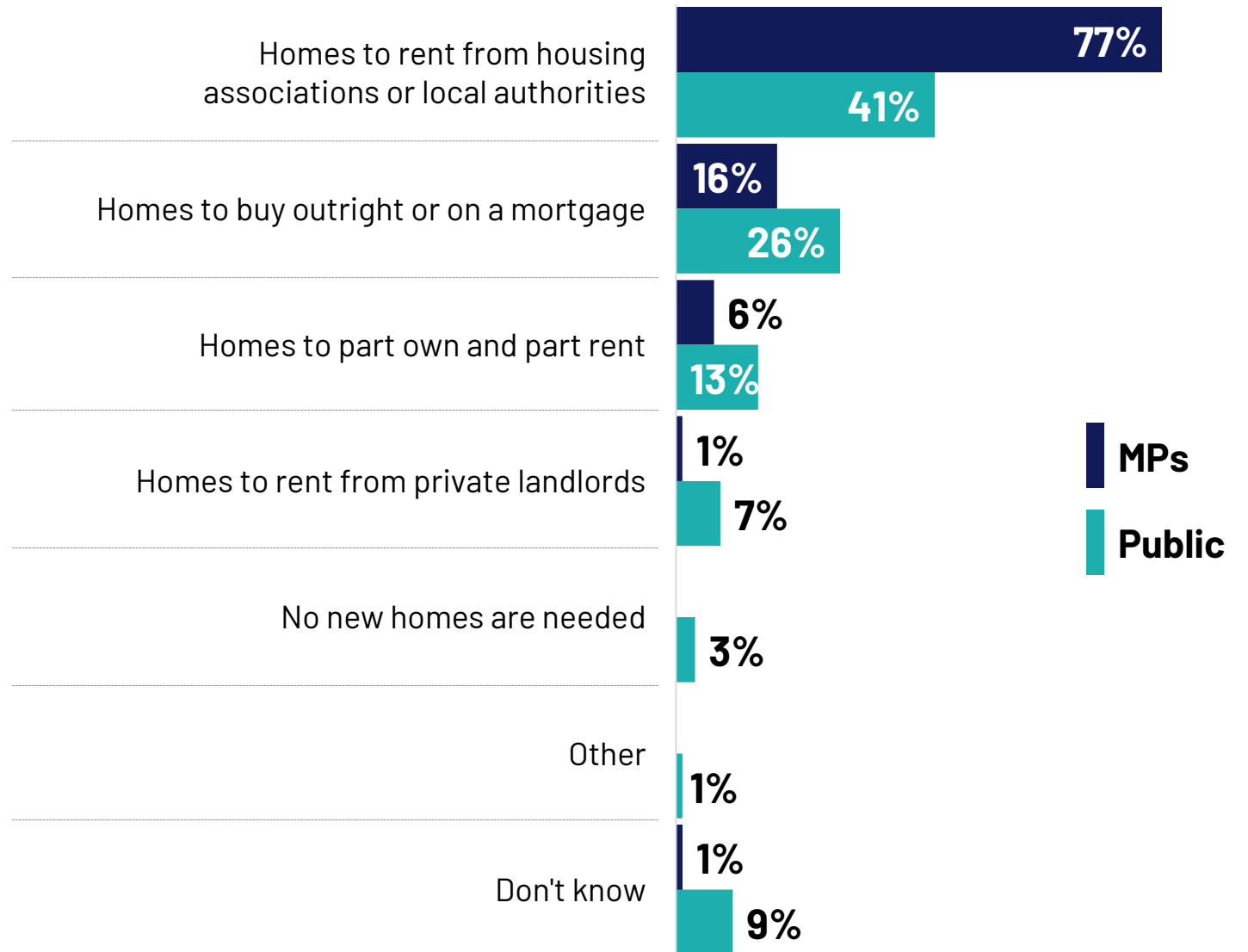
Both MPs and the public think homes to rent from housing associations or local authorities are most needed

Please consider each of the following types of properties listed that Britons might live in.

Which one, if any, of these types of homes do you think is most needed?

Base: 1,070 Online British adults aged 18-75, 1 – 5th November 2024

Base: 111 MPs, 22nd July – 30th September 2024



Ipsos MPs survey Methodology



Ipsos has been running syndicated stakeholder surveys for over 40 years.

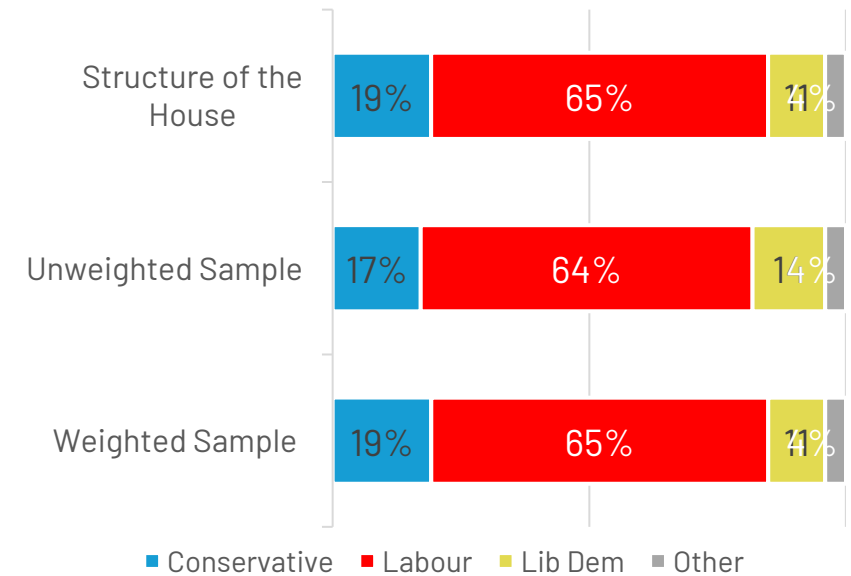
Interviews were conducted from July to September 2024. All interviews were conducted by experienced interviewers by telephone: these were proper conversations with MPs, giving in-depth insight and understanding of what is driving their opinions



577 MPs were contacted, and 140 MPs were interviewed (versioning was used to control interview length so base sizes for individual questions may vary).



Quotas and weighting are used so results reflect the House by political party. Broad sample controls are also set on region and gender.





January 2025 MPs vs the public polling

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