ENERGY IN CANADA MEI 2026

Report

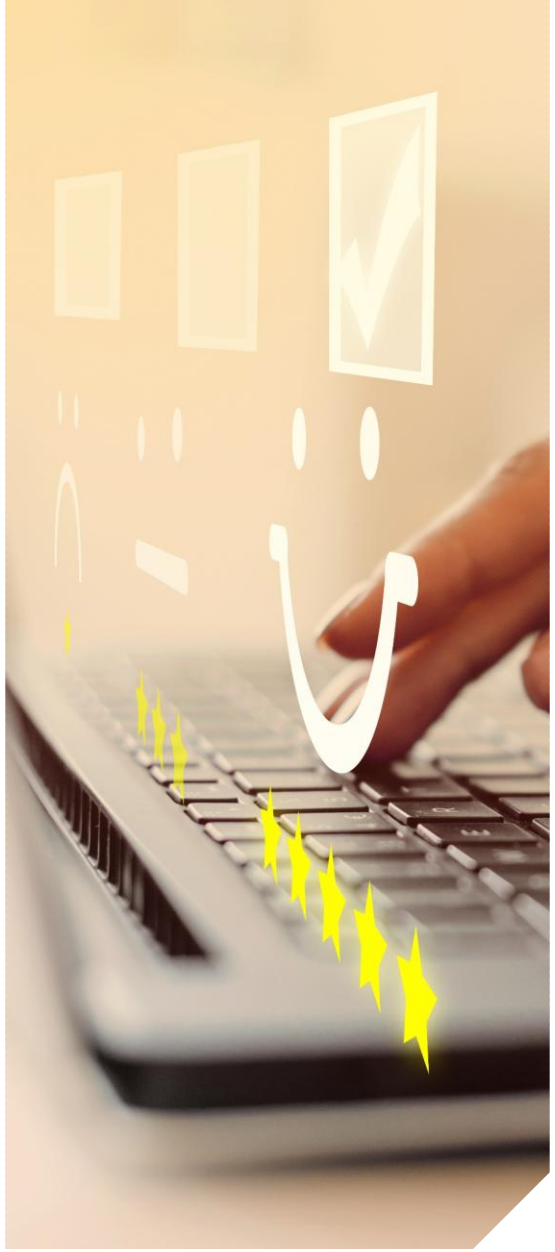
October 2026



MEI Ideas for a More Prosperous Society

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Ipsos



Methodology

These are the findings of an **online Ipsos poll** conducted on behalf of the Montreal Economic Institute.

A sample of **1,167 Canadian residents** 18 years of age and older - including an oversample of 403 Quebec residents - was interviewed between **October 16-19, 2026.**

Weighting according to age, gender and region was employed to ensure that the sample's composition is representative of the overall population according to the latest census information.

The precision of Ipsos online polls is measured using a credibility interval. In this case, the results are accurate to within **± 3.5 percentage points, 19 times out of 20**, of what the results would have been had all Canadian adults been polled. Some totals may not add up to 100% due to rounding.

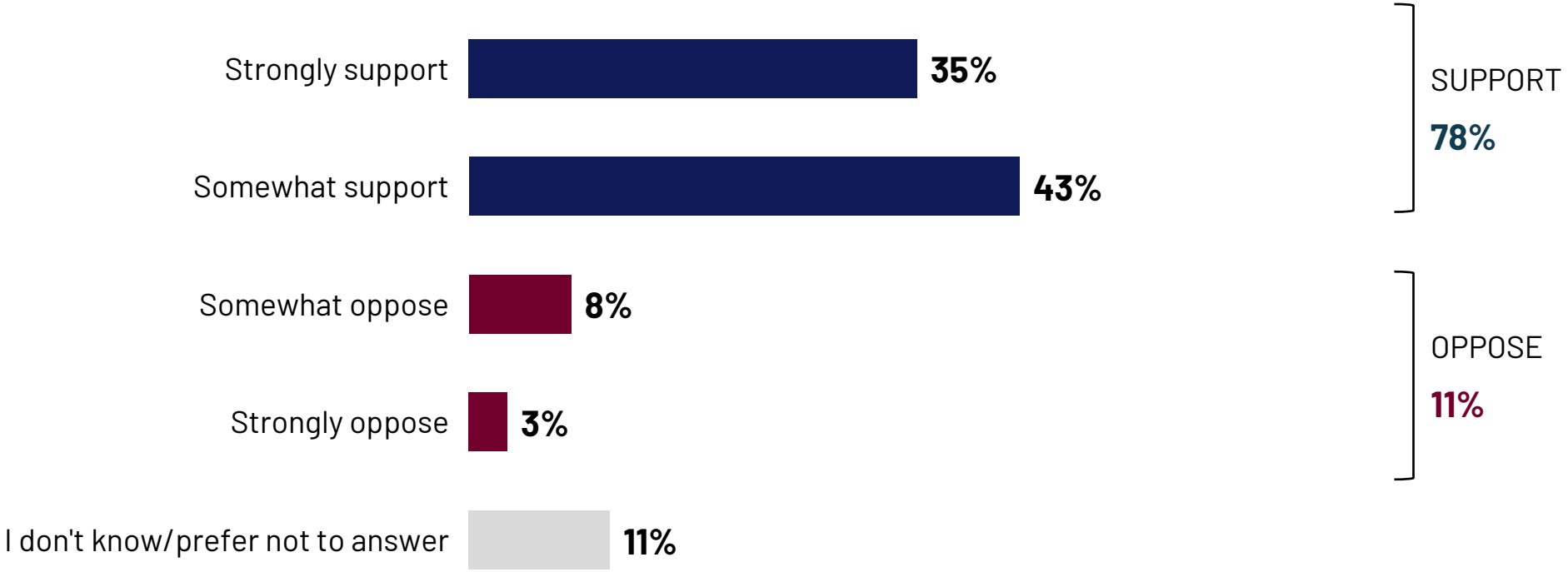
DETAILED FINDINGS



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Canadians show broad support for increasing energy exports, with nearly 8 in 10 in favour (78%).

SUPPORT FOR INCREASING CANADIAN ENERGY EXPORTS



Base: All respondents: 2026 (1167)
Q1. Over the past few years, several countries including Poland, South Korea, Japan, Germany and Ukraine have expressed interest in getting better access to Canadian energy resources such as oil and natural gas.
Do you support or oppose increasing Canadian energy exports to meet those needs?

Support for Canadian energy exports cuts across demographics, but is particularly strong among men, Ontarians, and Western Canadians.

	TOTAL [A]	GENDER		AGE			REGION			
		Male [B]	Female [C]	18 to 34 yrs. [D]	35 to 54 yrs. [E]	55+ yrs. [F]	West [G]	Ontario [H]	Quebec [I]	Atlantic [J]
Base:	1167	562	605	310	401	456	310	379	403	75
T2B Support	**78%**	**86% C**	**70%**	**75%**	**79%**	**79%**	**83% IJ**	**82% IJ**	**68%**	**66%**
Strongly support	35%	44% C	27%	26%	38% D	39% D	42% IJ	38% IJ	24%	24%
Somewhat support	43%	42%	44%	49% EF	41%	40%	41%	44%	45%	42%
Somewhat oppose	8%	6%	10% B	14% EF	7%	4%	6%	7%	12% GH	7%
Strongly oppose	3%	2%	5%	2%	4%	3%	2%	3%	5% G	7% G
B2B Oppose	**11%**	**8%**	**14% B**	**16% F**	**11% F**	**7%**	**8%**	**10%**	**17% GH**	**14%**
I don't know/prefer not to answer	11%	6%	16% B	9%	10%	14% D	9%	9%	15% GH	20% GH

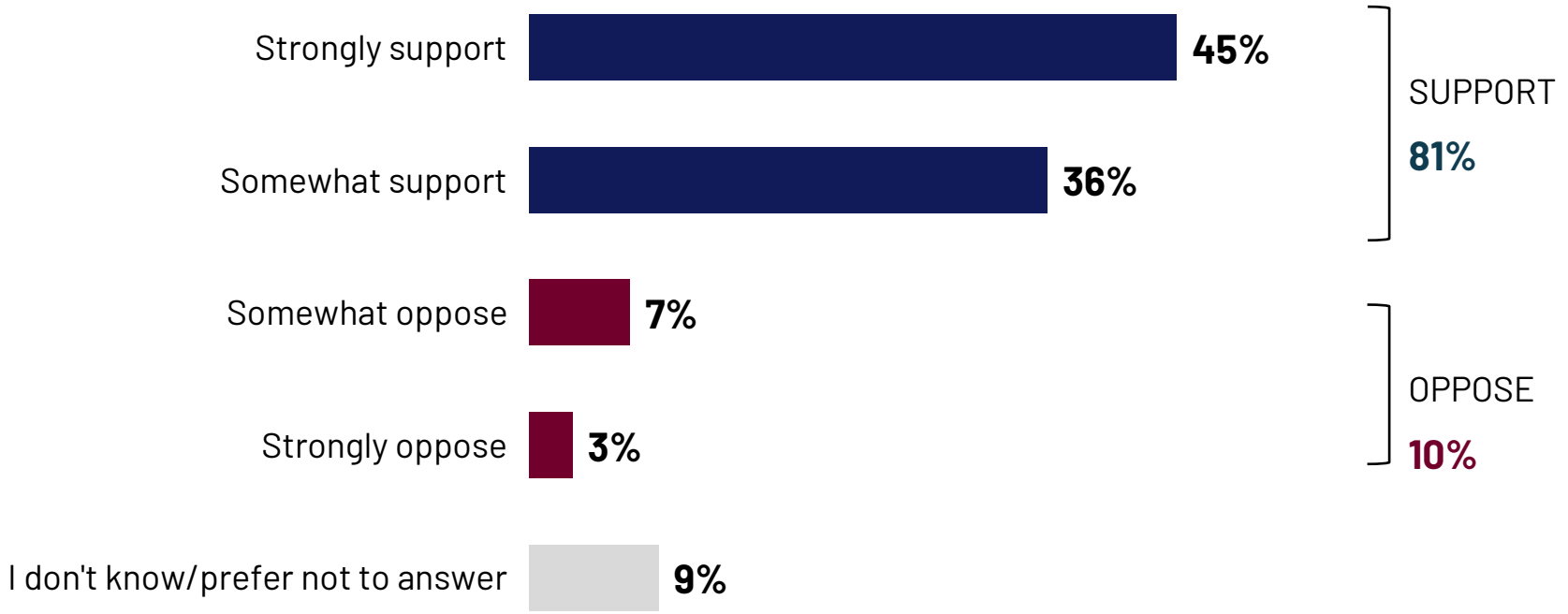
Base: All respondents: 2026 (1167)
Q1. Over the past few years, several countries including Poland, South Korea, Japan, Germany and Ukraine have expressed interest in getting better access to Canadian energy resources such as oil and natural gas.
Do you support or oppose increasing Canadian energy exports to meet those needs?

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ABCDEFGHIJ Significantly higher than subgroup indicated by letter.

Support for diversifying energy exports beyond the U.S is strong, with four in five in favour.

SUPPORT FOR EXPORTING ENERGY ABROAD, REDUCING RELIANCE ON U.S. CUSTOMERS



Base: All respondents: 2026 (1167)
Q2. Currently, most of Canada's energy export infrastructure leads to the United States. Recent oil and gas pipeline and export terminal projects suggest Canada could export more to Asian and European markets, reducing its reliance on U.S. customers. Do you support or oppose these initiatives?

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Support for building new pipeline infrastructure to expand Canada's access to global energy markets remains high overall, particularly among men and Canadians aged 35+. Support is strong among Quebecers and younger Canadians, though it is comparatively softer than among other groups.

	TOTAL [A]	GENDER		AGE			REGION			
		Male [B]	Female [C]	18 to 34 yrs. [D]	35 to 54 yrs. [E]	55+ yrs. [F]	West [G]	Ontario [H]	Quebec [I]	Atlantic [J]
Base:	1167	562	605	310	401	456	310	379	403	75
T2B Support	**81%**	**85% C**	**77 %**	**74%**	**83% D**	**84% D**	**83% I**	**84% I**	**74%**	**77%**
Strongly support	45%	55% C	36%	33%	47% D	52% D	53% IJ	45% I	36%	38%
Somewhat support	36%	31%	41% B	42% F	36%	32%	30%	39% G	38%	39%
Somewhat oppose	7%	6%	8%	13% EF	5%	2%	6%	6%	11% GHJ	2%
Strongly oppose	3%	3%	3%	3%	5% F	2%	3%	2%	4%	9% GHI
B2B Oppose	**10%**	**9%**	**11%**	**15% EF**	**10%**	**6%**	**8%**	**8%**	**14% GH**	**11%**
I don't know/prefer not to answer	9%	6%	12% B	10%	8%	10%	9%	8%	12%	12%

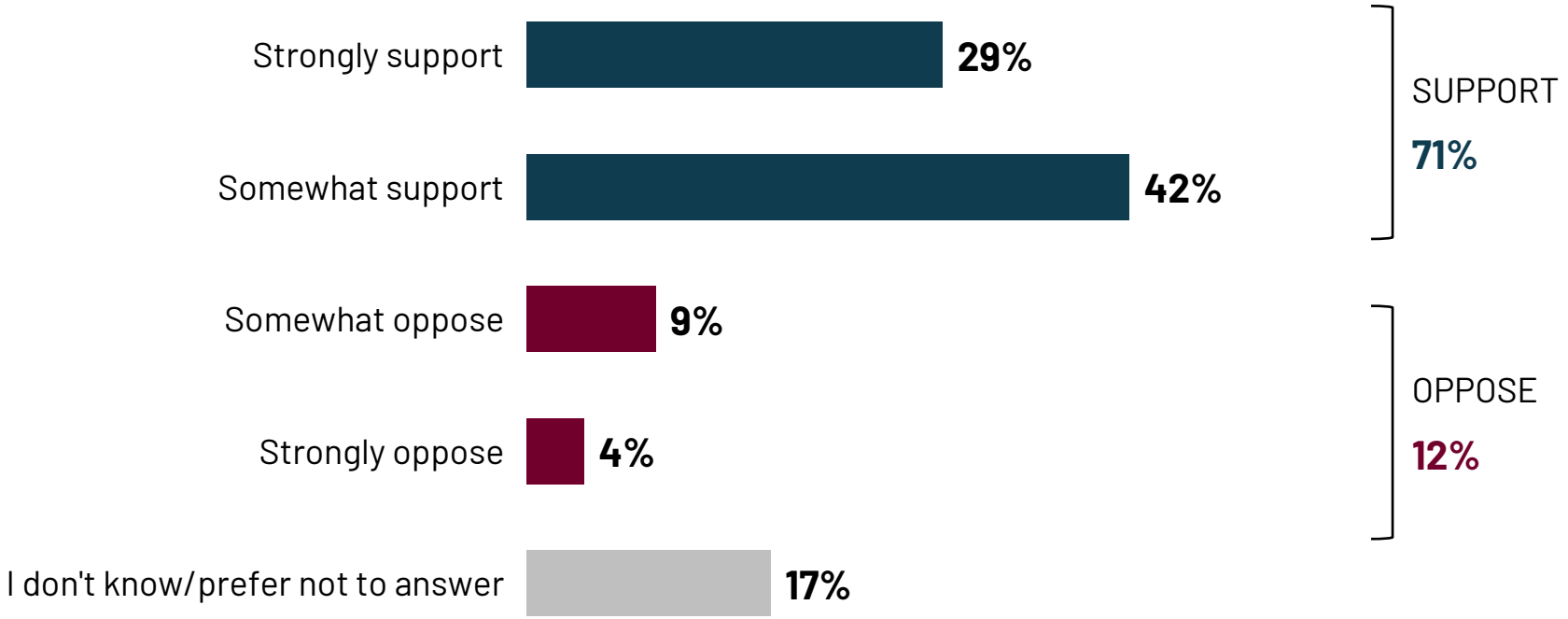
Base: All respondents (n= 1167)
Q2. Currently, most of Canada's energy export infrastructure leads to the United States. Recent oil and gas pipeline and export terminal projects suggest Canada could export more to Asian and European markets, reducing its reliance on U.S. customers. Do you support or oppose these initiatives?

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ABCDEFGHIJ Significantly higher than subgroup indicated by letter.

Canadians favour a faster assessment process for major federal projects, with strong support for the federal government's proposed changes (71%) and limited opposition.

SUPPORT FOR FASTER APPROVAL PROCESSES



Base: All respondents (n= 1167)
Q3. Recently, the federal government announced changes to the assessment process for large federal projects. Supporters say these changes will reduce approval timelines and eliminate duplication. Do you support or oppose these changes?

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Support for faster federal project approvals is strongest among men and older Canadians, while younger adults are more divided.

	TOTAL [A]	GENDER		AGE			REGION			
		Male [B]	Female [C]	18 to 34 yrs. [D]	35 to 54 yrs. [E]	55+ yrs. [F]	West [G]	Ontario [H]	Quebec [I]	Atlantic [J]
Base:	1167	562	605	310	401	456	310	379	403	75
T2B AGREE	**71%**	**75% C**	**67%**	**61%**	**76% D**	**73% D**	**72%**	**72%**	**68%**	**67%**
Strongly support	29%	36% C	23%	17%	33% D	35% D	33% I	31% I	23%	26%
Somewhat support	42%	39%	44%	44%	43%	38%	39%	41%	46%	42%
Somewhat oppose	9%	10%	8%	16% EF	6%	6%	9%	9%	7%	13%
Strongly oppose	4%	4%	3%	4%	5%	2%	3%	4%	4%	2%
B2B DISAGREE	**12%**	**14%**	**11%**	**20% EF**	**11%**	**9%**	**12%**	**13%**	**11%**	**15%**
I don't know/prefer not to answer	17%	11%	28% B	20%	14%	18%	16%	15%	20%	18%

Base: All respondents (n= 1167)
Q3. Recently, the federal government announced changes to the assessment process for large federal projects. Supporters say these changes will reduce approval timelines and eliminate duplication. Do you support or oppose these changes?

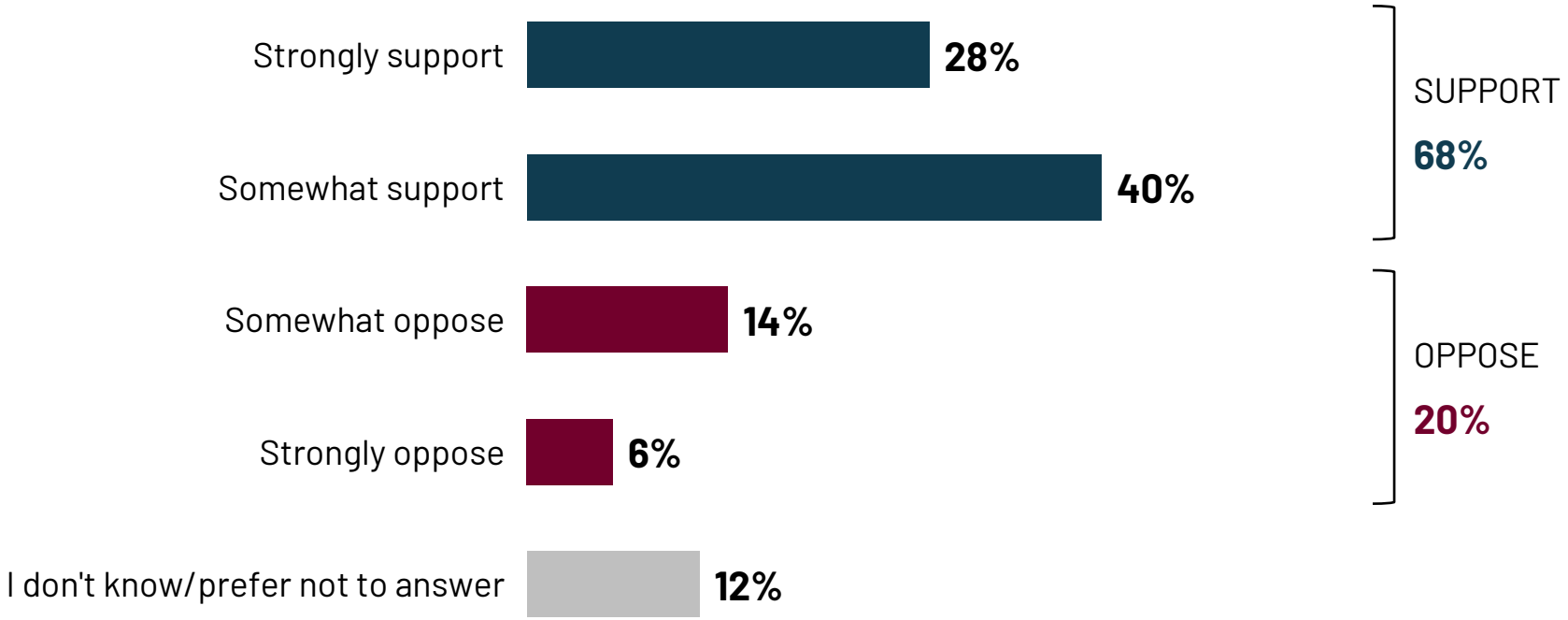
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ABCDEFGHIJ Significantly higher than subgroup indicated by letter.

QUEBEC ONLY

Over two-thirds of Quebecers support producing natural gas in Quebec to meet domestic needs and export surplus production to other markets.

SUPPORT FOR QUEBEC PRODUCING ITS OWN NATURAL GAS AND EXPORTING SURPLUS PRODUCTION



Base: Quebec respondents only (n=403)
Q4. Currently, Quebec doesn't produce any natural gas, despite having confirmed sources. Some say Quebec should develop its own natural gas to meet its domestic needs and export any surplus production to other markets. Do you support or oppose this idea?

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QUEBEC ONLY

Support for developing Quebec's natural gas resources is broadly consistent across demographic groups, with men expressing stronger support than women.

	TOTAL [A]	GENDER		AGE		
		Male [B]	Female [C]	18 to 34 yrs. [D]	35 to 54 yrs. [E]	55+ yrs. [F]
Base:	403	195	208	109	136	158
T2B Support	**68%**	**73%**	**65%**	**63%**	**74%**	**68%**
Strongly support	28%	37% C	20%	23%	30%	30%
Somewhat support	40%	35%	44%	39%	44%	37%
Somewhat oppose	14%	14%	15%	23% EF	10%	12%
Strongly oppose	6%	7%	5%	5%	7%	6%
B2B Oppose	**20%**	**20%**	**19%**	**27%**	**17%**	**18%**
I don't know/prefer not to answer	12%	7%	16% B	10%	10%	15%

Base: Quebec respondents only (n=403)
Q4. Currently, Quebec doesn't produce any natural gas, despite having confirmed sources. Some say Quebec should develop its own natural gas to meet its domestic needs and export any surplus production to other markets. Do you support or oppose this idea?

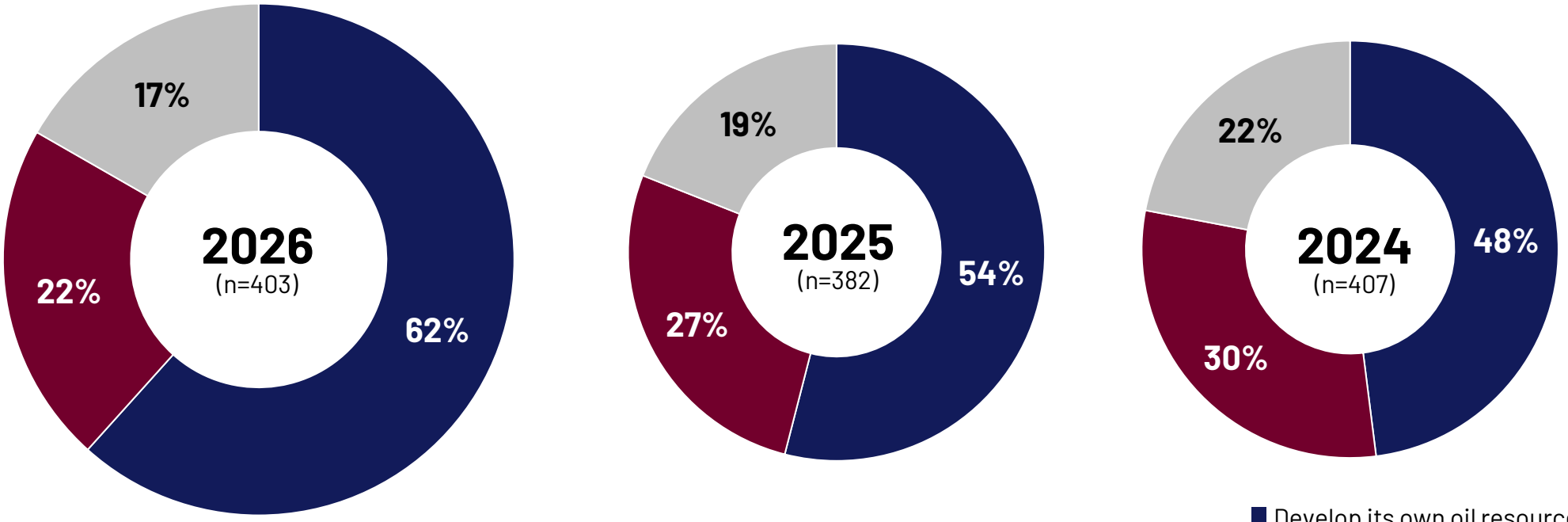
ABCDEF Significantly higher than subgroup indicated by letter.

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QUEBEC ONLY

Support for developing Quebec's own oil resources continues to grow, reaching 62% in 2026, up 14 points since 2024.

PREFERENCE FOR QUEBEC DEVELOPING ITS OWN OIL RESOURCES VS. IMPORTING



Base: Quebec respondents only (n=403)
Q5, Currently, Quebec must import (from Western Canada or from abroad) all of the oil it consumes. In your opinion, should Quebec develop its own oil resources or continue to import 100% of the oil it needs?

QUEBEC ONLY

Majorities across all demographic groups favour developing Quebec's own oil resources, with men expressing stronger support and women more likely to be undecided.

	TOTAL [A]	GENDER		AGE		
		Male [B]	Female [C]	18 to 34 yrs. [D]	35 to 54 yrs. [E]	55+ yrs. [F]
Base:	403	195	208	109	136	158
Develop its own oil resources	62%	67% C	57%	65%	65%	56%
Continue to import 100% of the oil it needs	22%	29%	26%	24%	19%	23%
I don't know/prefer not to answer	17%	10%	23% B	11%	16%	21% D

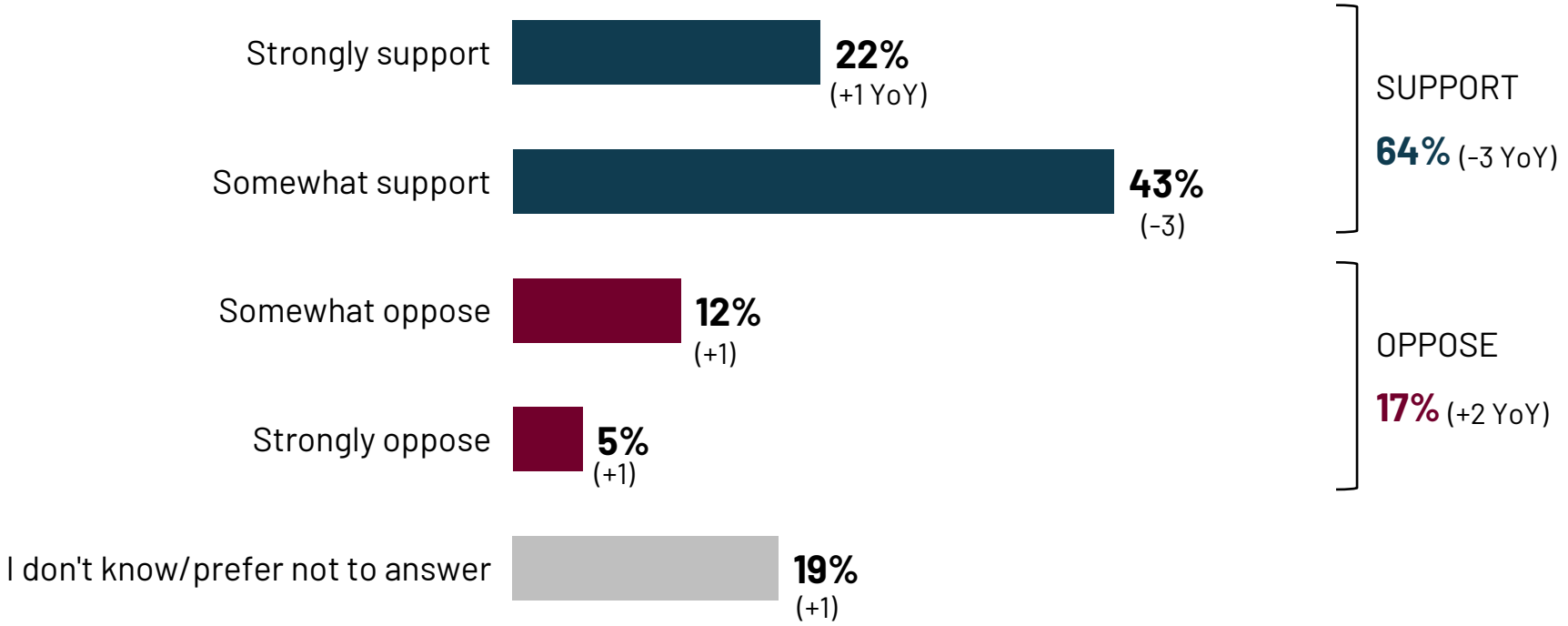
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Q5, Currently, Quebec must import (from Western Canada or from abroad) all of the oil it consumes. In your opinion, should Quebec develop its own oil resources or continue to import 100% of the oil it needs?

ABCDEF Significantly higher than subgroup indicated by letter.

QUEBEC ONLY

Nearly two-thirds of Quebecers support the LNG export project, though support has softened modestly since 2025.

SUPPORT FOR MARINVEST PROJECT IN QUEBEC TO EXPORT LNG TO EUROPEAN COUNTRIES



Base: Quebec respondents only 2026 (n=403); 2025 (n=382)
Q6. The Marinvest project in Quebec (now known as the Kino Aski project) could export liquefied natural gas to European countries, such as Germany, to compensate for any reductions in Russian natural gas supply. Do you support or oppose this initiative?

* Changes compared to 2025 could be impacted by a slight wording change in the question.

QUEBEC ONLY

Support for the LNG export project is strongest among men, while younger Quebecers are the most likely to oppose it.

	TOTAL [A]	GENDER		AGE		
		Male [B]	Female [C]	18 to 34 yrs. [D]	35 to 54 yrs. [E]	55+ yrs. [F]
Base:	403	195	208	109	136	158
T2B SUPPORT	**64%**	**74% C**	**55%**	**59%**	**64%**	**68%**
Strongly support	22%	30% C	14%	15%	25% D	23%
Somewhat support	43%	43%	42%	44%	39%	44%
Somewhat oppose	12%	13%	12%	23% EF	11%	6%
Strongly oppose	5%	5%	4%	3%	6%	5%
B2B OPPOSE	**17%**	**18%**	**16%**	**26% F**	**17%**	**11%**
I don't know/prefer not to answer	19%	9%	29% B	16%	19%	21%

Base: Quebec respondents only 2026 (n=403); 2025 (n=382)
Q6. The Marinvest project in Quebec (now known as the Kino Aski project) could export liquefied natural gas to European countries, such as Germany, to compensate for any reductions in Russian natural gas supply. Do you support or oppose this initiative?

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THANK YOU

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