

STUDY

# Brazilian citizen's perception towards climate change 2021



Instituto  
de Tecnologia  
& Sociedade  
do Rio



YALE PROGRAM ON  
Climate Change  
Communication



Ipec  
INTELIGÊNCIA  
EM POLÍTICAS PÚBLICAS  
E COMUNICAÇÃO

# Technical Specifications

## Goal

Gathering, for the second year in a row, data regarding the Brazilian population's perception towards the issues surrounding the climate and the environment.

## Study period

From September 28<sup>th</sup> to November 1<sup>st</sup>, 2021.

## Method and data collection

Quantitative research/ Phone interviews - C.A.T.I. system

## Universe

Brazilian population aged 18 or older.

## Sample

2,600 interviews.

## Weighting

Weighting factors were calculated by Ipec for the correction of demographic quotas, based on data provided by PNAD-IBGE.

## Margin of error

2 percentual points for the sample's total, considering a 95% trust level.

# Technical Specifications

**Sample's design and collection:** A sample consisting of 2,600 interviews, representing the Brazilian population aged 18 or older. Land line and cellphone numbers were randomly selected for the interviews.

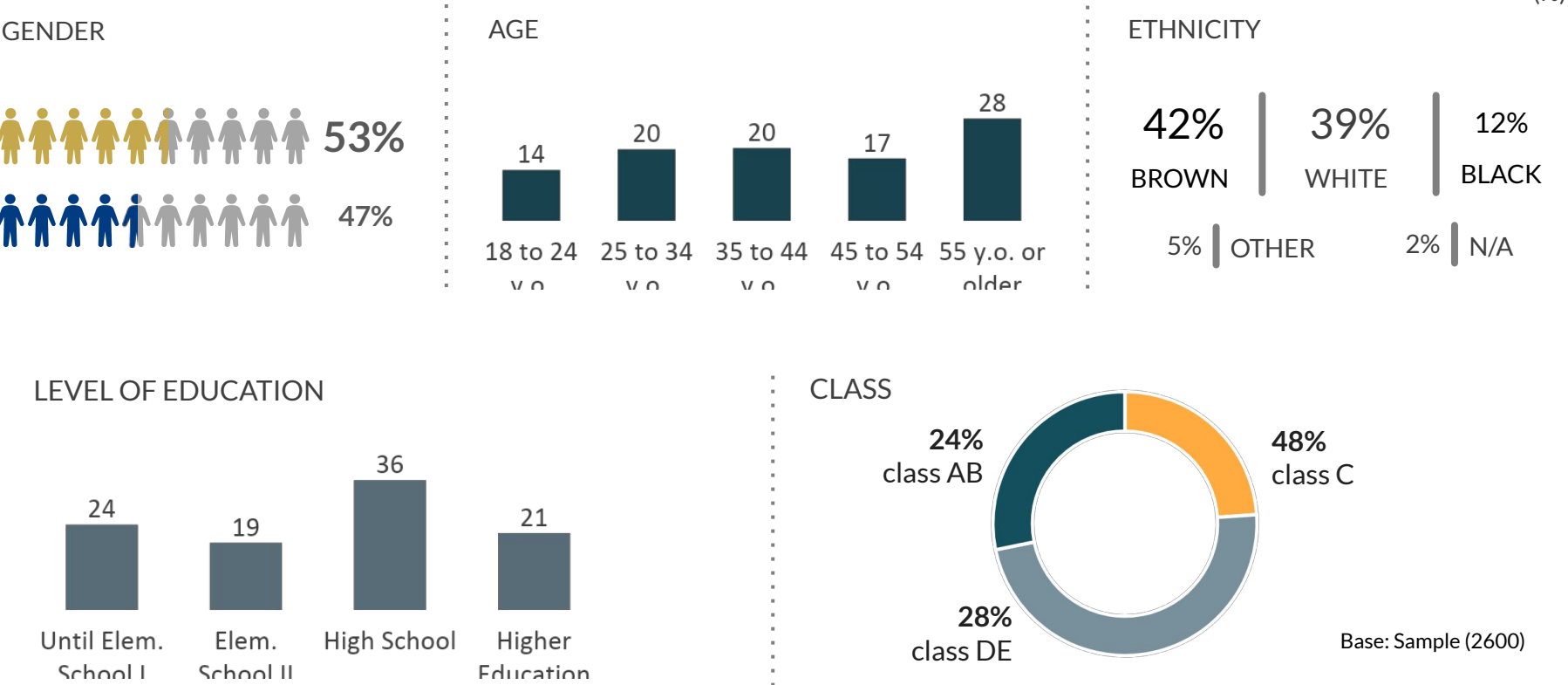
**Number of interviewers:** 20 interviewers.

**Data-collecting instrument:** Questionnaire structured by Ipec and submitted for client approval, lasting an average of 18 minutes.

**Quality control:** 100% of the questionnaires were submitted to an electronic consistency test to verify the integrity of the answers. At least 20% of the interviewer's material was reviewed and verified.

- Fieldwork and processing was carried out with the support of this interior structure and through partners.
- Ipec's activities are ruled under the Brazilian Market Research Association's (ABEP) and World Research Association's (ESOMAR) ethical standards.
- In addition, our procedures are in accordance with the International Quality Standards in Market, Opinion and Social Research – ISO 20252 and the International Quality Standards in Quality Management ISO 9001.

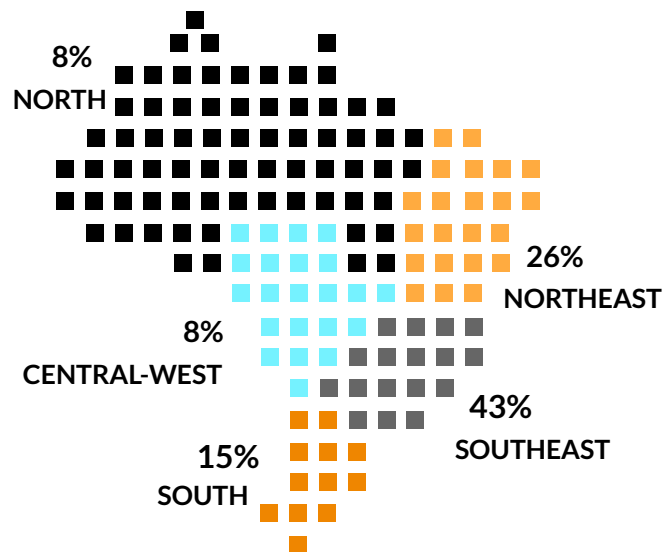
# SAMPLE PROFILE



F1) GENDER / CLASS/ F2) What is your age? / LEVEL OF EDUCATION) Up to what school grade did you attend and complete? (SPONTANEOUS) / ETHNICITY) Now, I will ask you a question exactly as it is asked by IBGE when classifying the Brazilian population. Your skin color or ethnicity is: (READ OPTIONS- SA)

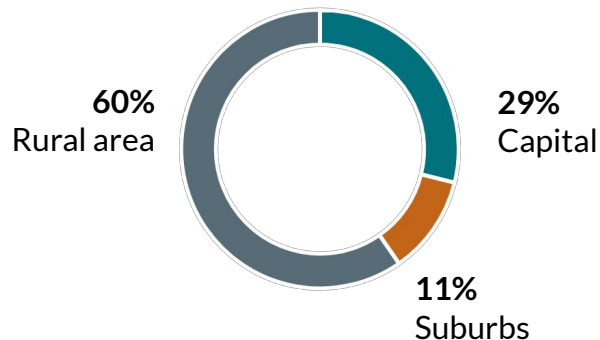
# SAMPLE PROFILE

## REGION

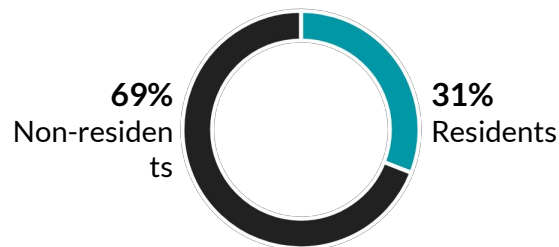


Base: Sample (2600)

## City Condition (%)



## FIRE SPOTS - R2\*



F3) In what city and state do you live?

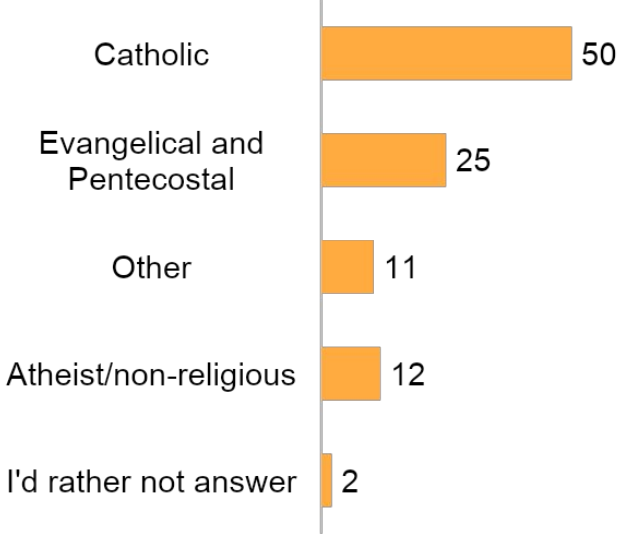
\*Residing in the 10 states with a higher number of fire spots between 09/01/2020 and 09/01/2021: MT, PA, MA, AM, TO, RO, PI, MG, BA, MS.

Source: INPE - National Institute for Space Research, 2021. Portal for Monitoring Fire Spots and Vegetation Fires. Available at <http://www.inpe.br/queimadas>. Accessed on: 09/29/2021

# SAMPLE PROFILE

(%)

## RELIGION



## POLITICAL POSITION

18%  
Leaning towards the left

23%  
CENTER

32%  
Leaning towards the right  
27% DON'T KNOW/DIDN'T ANSWER

Base: Sample (2600)

RELIGION) What's your religion or cult? (SPONTANEOUS- SA) / Q2.1.9) In politics, people usually talk about the "left", "right" and "center". Do you define yourself as: (READ THE OPTIONS-SA) /

# SAMPLE PROFILE



88%

Internet users

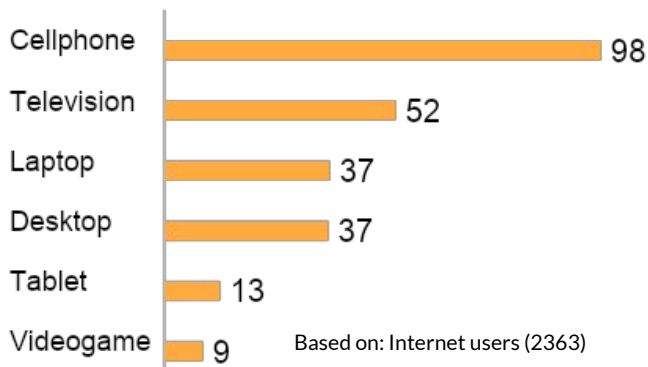
(used it within the last 3 months)



12%

Non-users

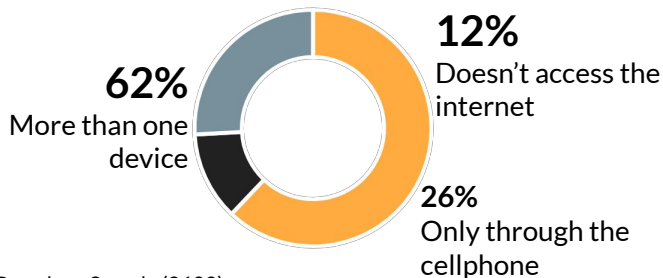
## DEVICE USED



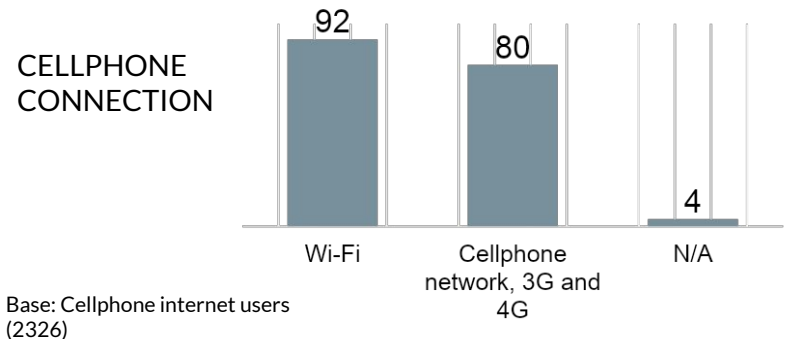
I.M.: 2.47

## INTERNET ACCESS DEVICE

(%)



## CELLPHONE CONNECTION



INTERNET) Have you used the internet in the last three months? (SA) / INTERNET1) In the last 3 months, you used the internet: (READ OPTIONS - SA PER LINE) / INTERNET2) When using the Internet on your cellphone in the last 3 months, what was the kind of connection utilized? (SA PER LINE)

# RESPONDENTS' BACKGROUND ON MAIN ANALYSIS VARIABLES

## AGE

18 to 27 y.o.	299
25 to 34 y.o.	590
35 to 44 y.o.	600
45 to 54 y.o.	479
55 y.o. or older	632

## REGION

North	360
Northeast	580
Southeast	920
South	380
Central-west	360

## POLITICAL POSITION

Leaning towards the left	Center	Leaning towards the right
479	621	847

## LEVEL OF EDUCATION

Elementary School I	390
Elementary School II	542
High School	1010
Higher Education	658

## CLASS

AB	C	DE
941	1107	552

## INTERNET USAGE

Users	Non-users
2363	237

Sample (2600)



# Through which of these means do you receive most of your information?

I.M.: 4.7



87%

Conversations  
with relatives,  
friends, and  
coworkers



71%

Internet  
Websites



70%

WhatsApp



66%

Social  
networks, such  
as Facebook,  
Twitter or  
Instagram



62%

Broadcast  
TV



49%

Radio



32%

Cable TV, pay  
TV



31%

Print  
newspapers  
or magazines

Base: Sample (2600)

Q.2.1.8) Usually, through which of these means do you receive most of your information? (READ OPTIONS – SA PER LINE)

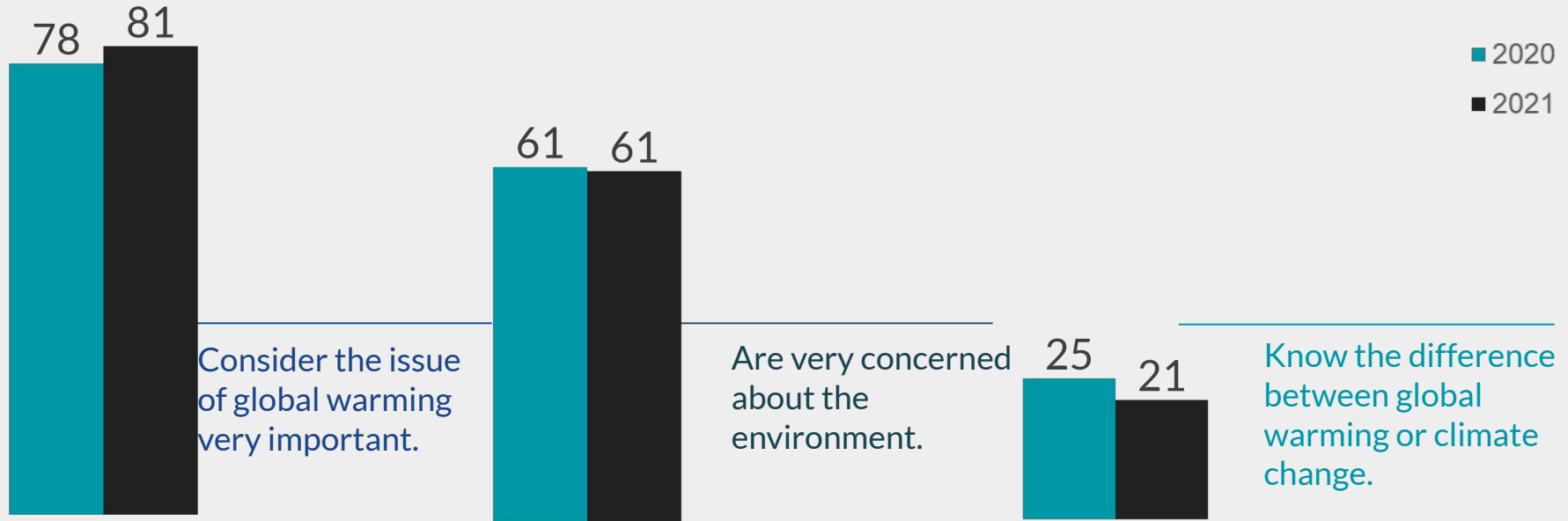
A close-up photograph of several green leaves, likely from a tropical plant, covered in numerous small, glistening water droplets. The leaves are dark green with prominent veins. The background is dark, making the leaves and droplets stand out.

## Knowledge

Most Brazilian citizens still consider the issue of global warming important and are concerned about this theme, but only **25%** claim to know much about the topic.

# Importance, concern, and knowledge

regarding global warming and climate change



Base: 2020 and 2021 sample. (2,600)

Q1.1.4) How important do you deem the issue of global warming to be? (READ OPTIONS – SA)

Q1.1.1) How concerned about the environment do you consider yourself to be currently? Would you say you are... (READ OPTIONS – SA)

Q1.1.0) How much do you know about global warming or climate change? (READ OPTIONS – SA)



55 years old or older

Consider the issue of global warming very important.

65%

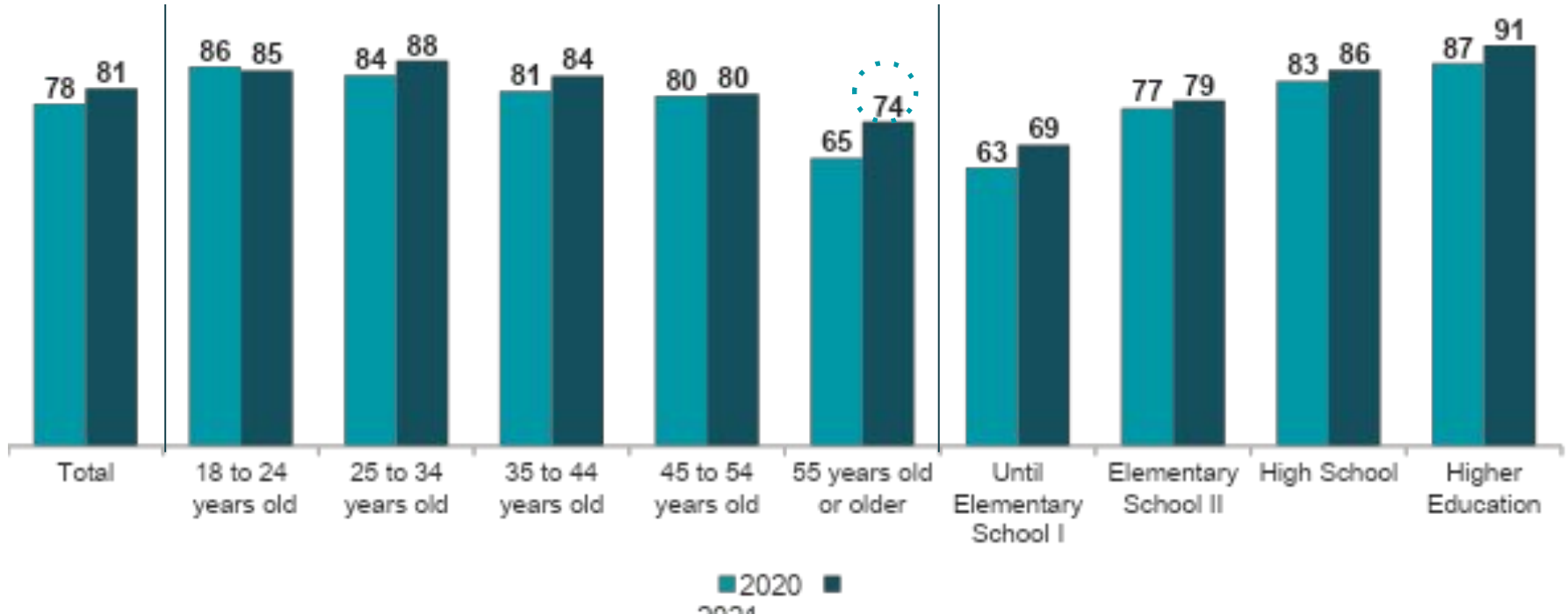
2020

74%

2021

# Level of importance

regarding the issue of global warming (very important)

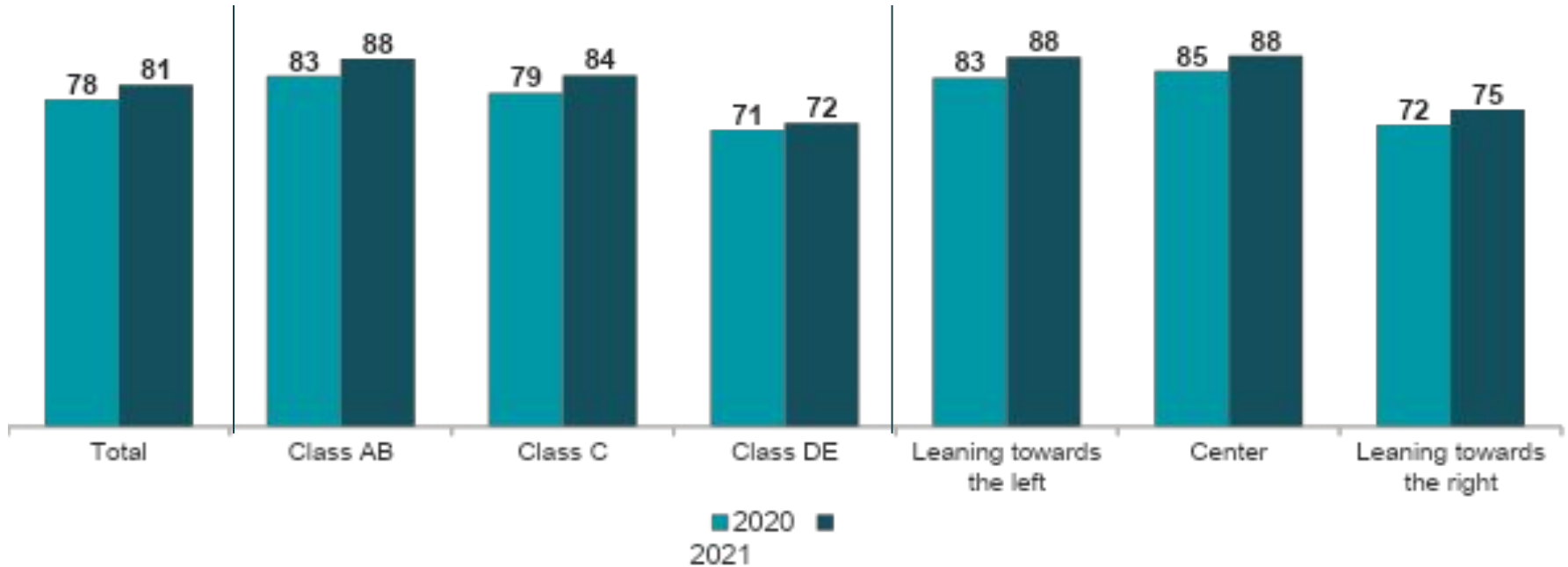


Q1.1.4) How important do you deem the issue of global warming to be? (READ OPTIONS – SA)

Base: Sample (2,600)

# Level of importance

regarding the issue of global warming (very important)

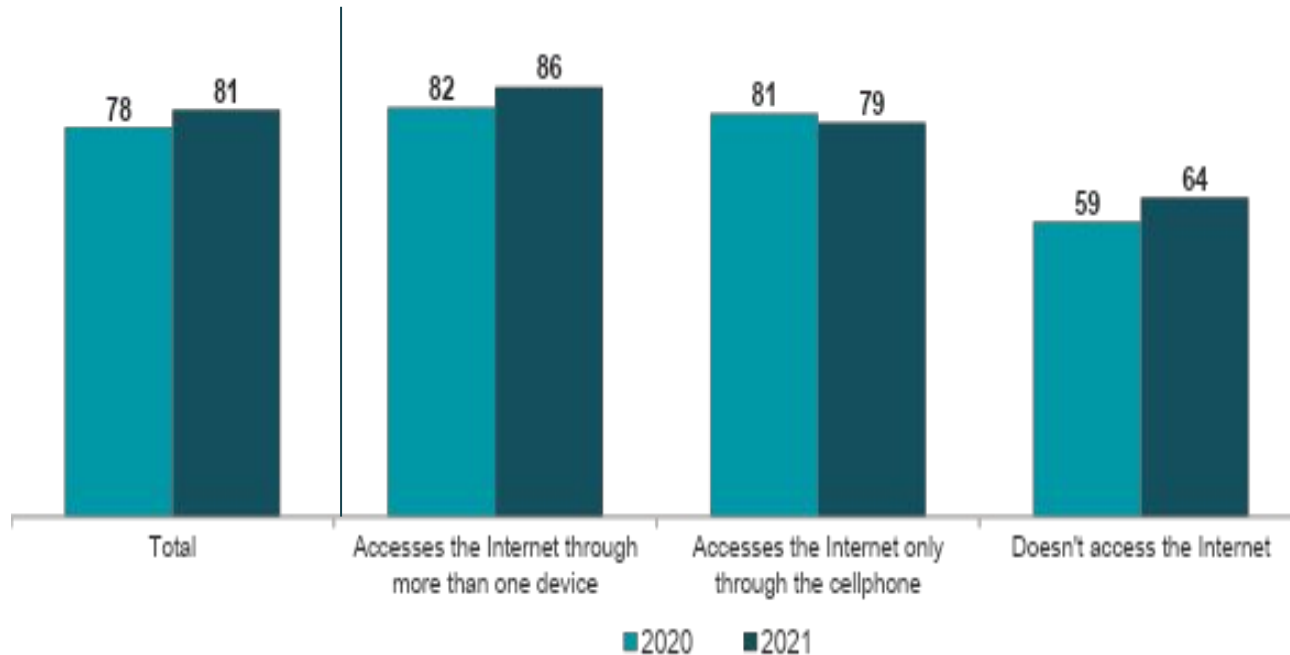


Q1.1.4) How important do you deem the issue of global warming to be? (READ OPTIONS – SA)

Base: Sample (2,600)

# Level of importance

regarding the issue of global warming (very important)







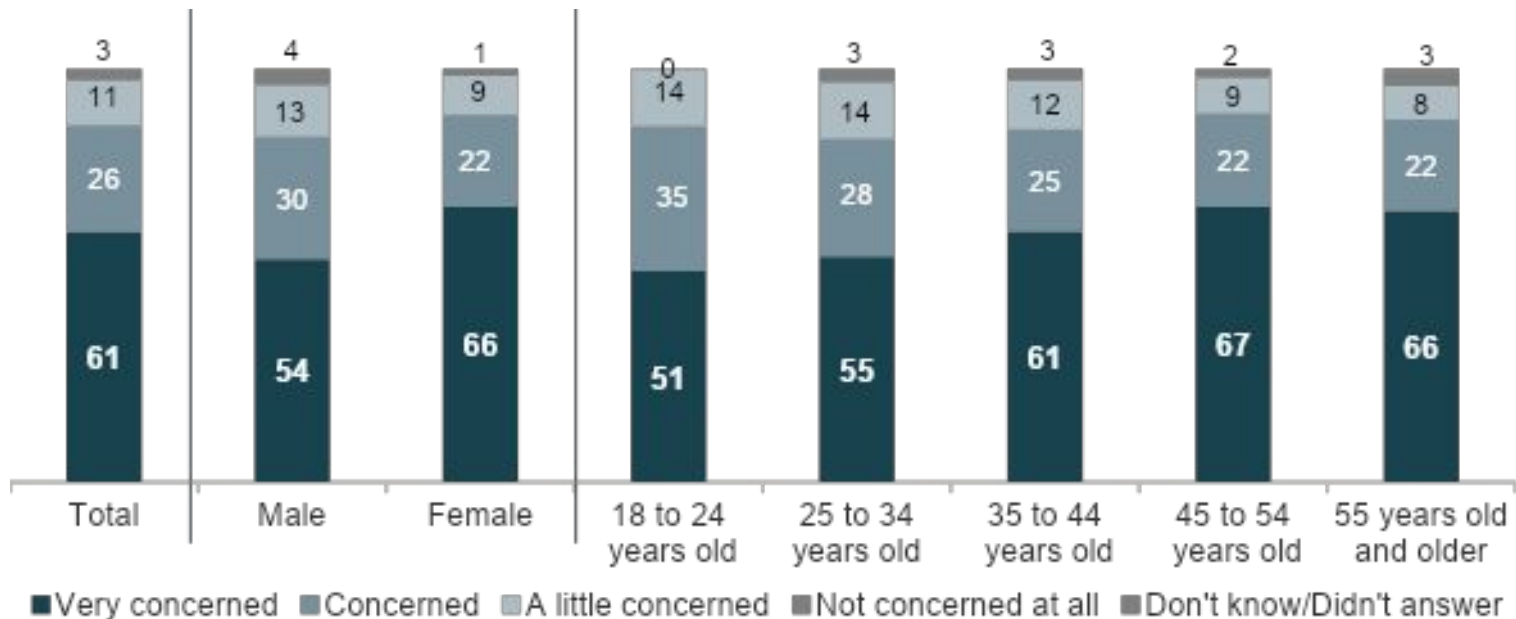
## Environment and politics

Those who position themselves politically towards the left are those who claim greater concern towards the environment.



# Level of concern

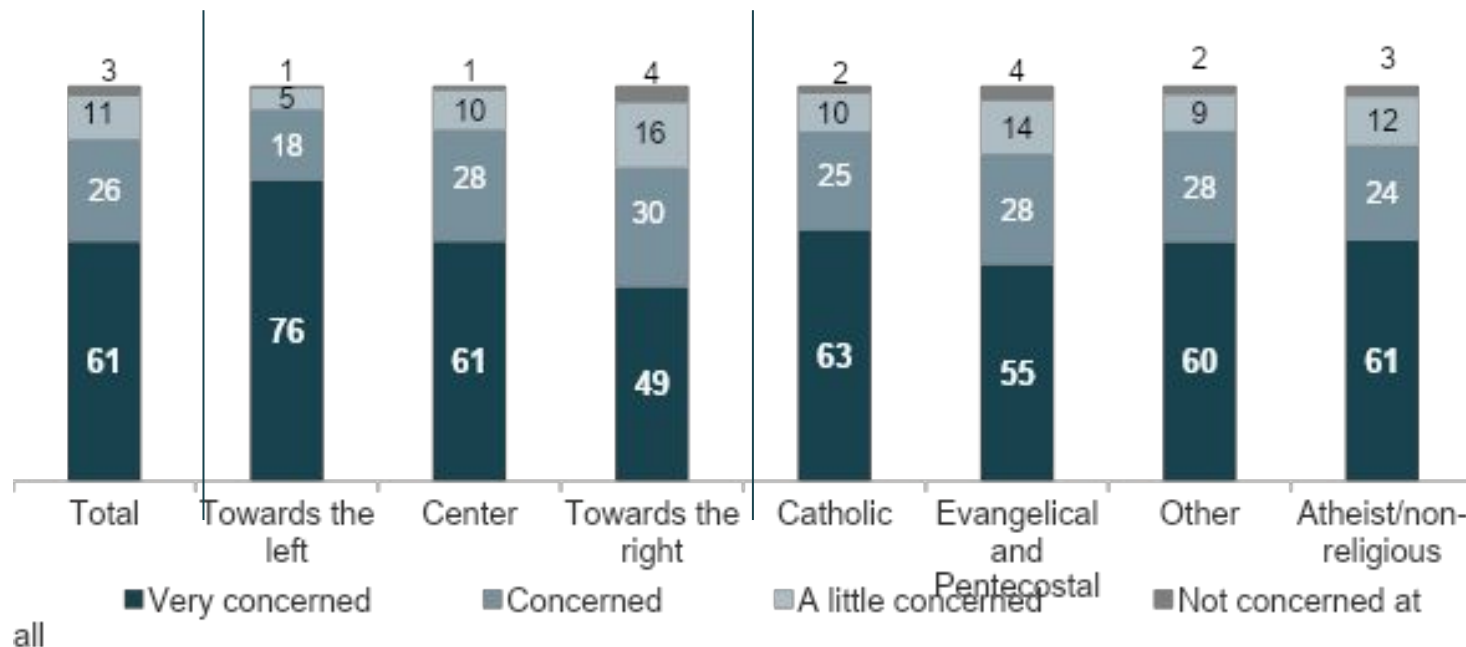
## towards the environment



Q1.1.1) In terms of the environment, how concerned would you consider yourself to be right now? Would you say you are...

Base: Sample (2,600)

# Level of concern towards the environment



**Q1.1.1)** In terms of the environment, how concerned would you consider yourself to be right now? Would you say you are...

Base: Sample (2,600)

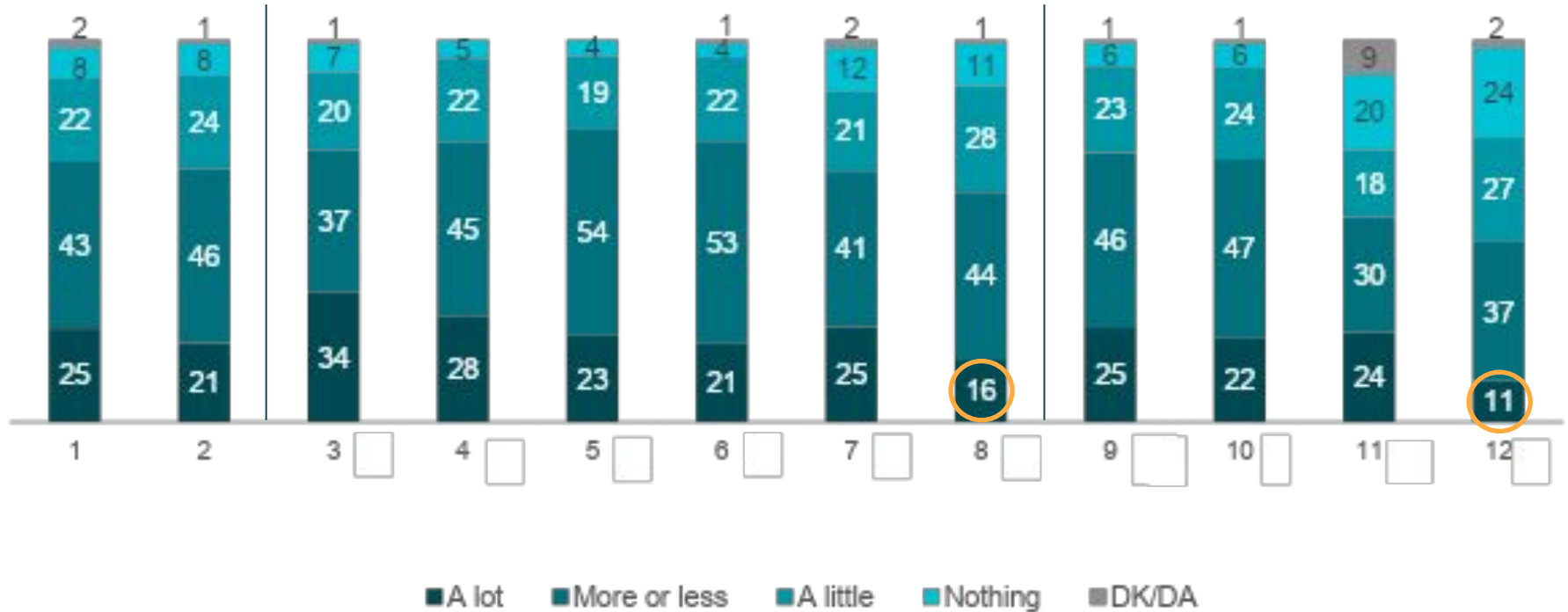
A close-up, slightly blurred photograph of a person's hands holding and reading a newspaper. The newspaper is open, showing text and a small image. The background is out of focus, suggesting an indoor setting with shelves or a desk.

## Knowledge

There's a lower number of people who consider themselves knowledgeable regarding the issue of global warming and climate change among those who don't access the Internet and those more politically aligned with the right.

# Level of knowledge

regarding the issue of global warming and climate change



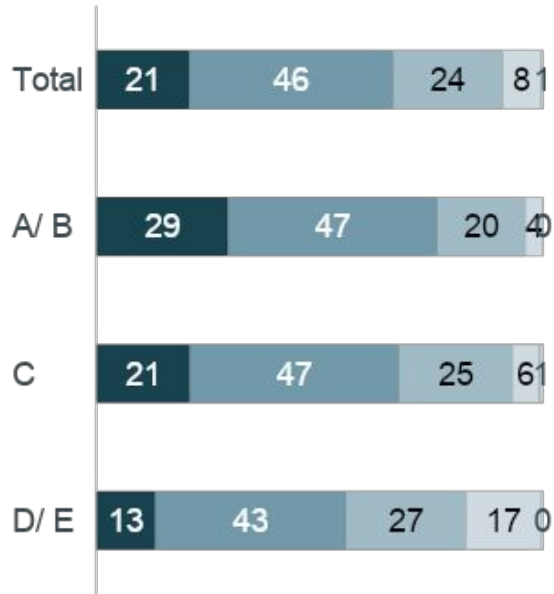
Q1.1.0) How much do you know about global warming or climate change? (READ OPTIONS – SA)

Base: Sample (2,600)

# Level of knowledge

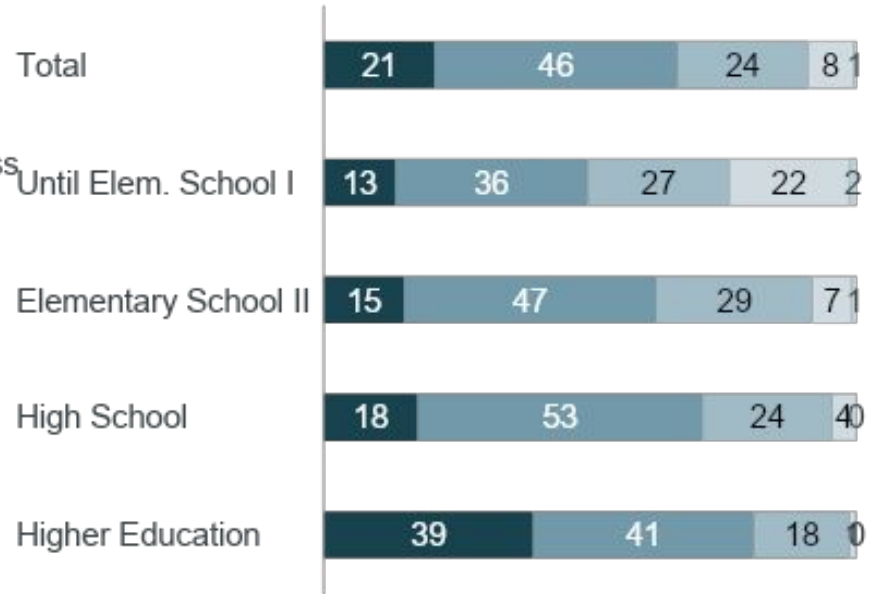
regarding the issue of global warming and climate change

## Class



Q1.1.0) How much do you know about global warming or climate change? (READ OPTIONS – SA)

## Level of education



Base: Sample (2,600)

# What is considered more important?

77%

**PROTECTING THE ENVIRONMENT,**  
even if that means low economic growth and fewer jobs (77% in 2020)

Base: Sample (2600)

Q1.2.3) What do you consider more important: (READ OPTIONS – SA)

13%

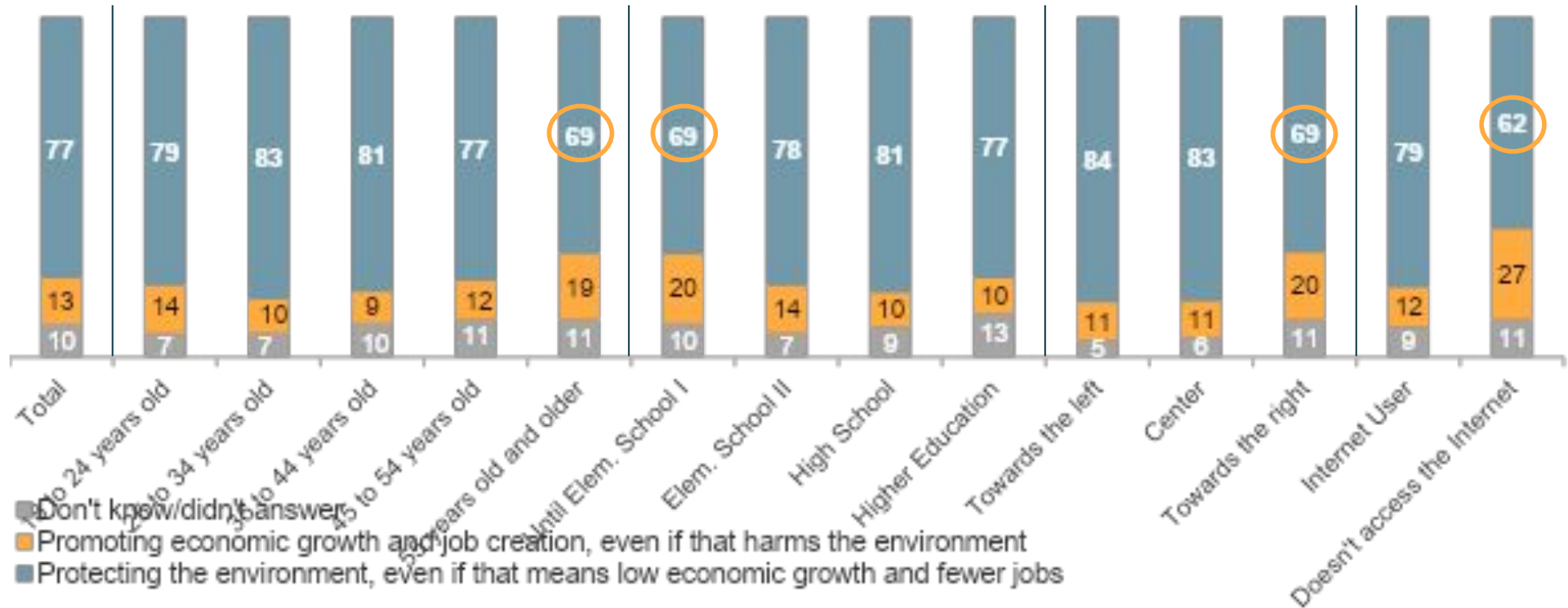
**PROMOTING ECONOMIC GROWTH**

and job creation, even if this harms the environment (14% in 2020)

10%

**DK/DA**  
(8% in 2020)

# What is considered more important?



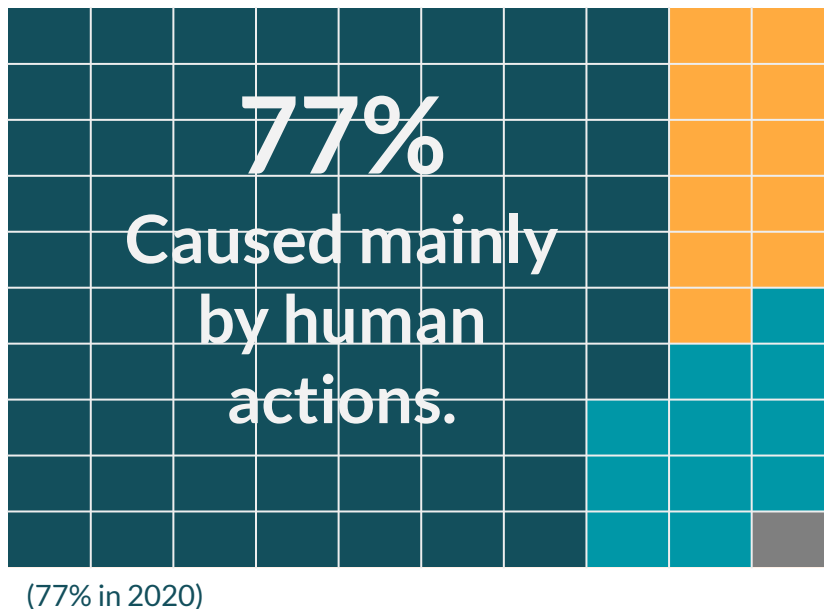
Base: Sample (2600)

Q1.2.3) What do you consider more important: (READ OPTIONS – SA)

# Perception regarding the causes behind global warming

**96%**

of Brazilian citizens believe that global warming is happening.  
(92% in 2020)



**11%**

Results from **natural environmental changes.** (12% in 2020)

**11%**

Both (sp.).  
(9% in 2020)

**1%** DON'T

KNOW/DIDN'T ANSWER

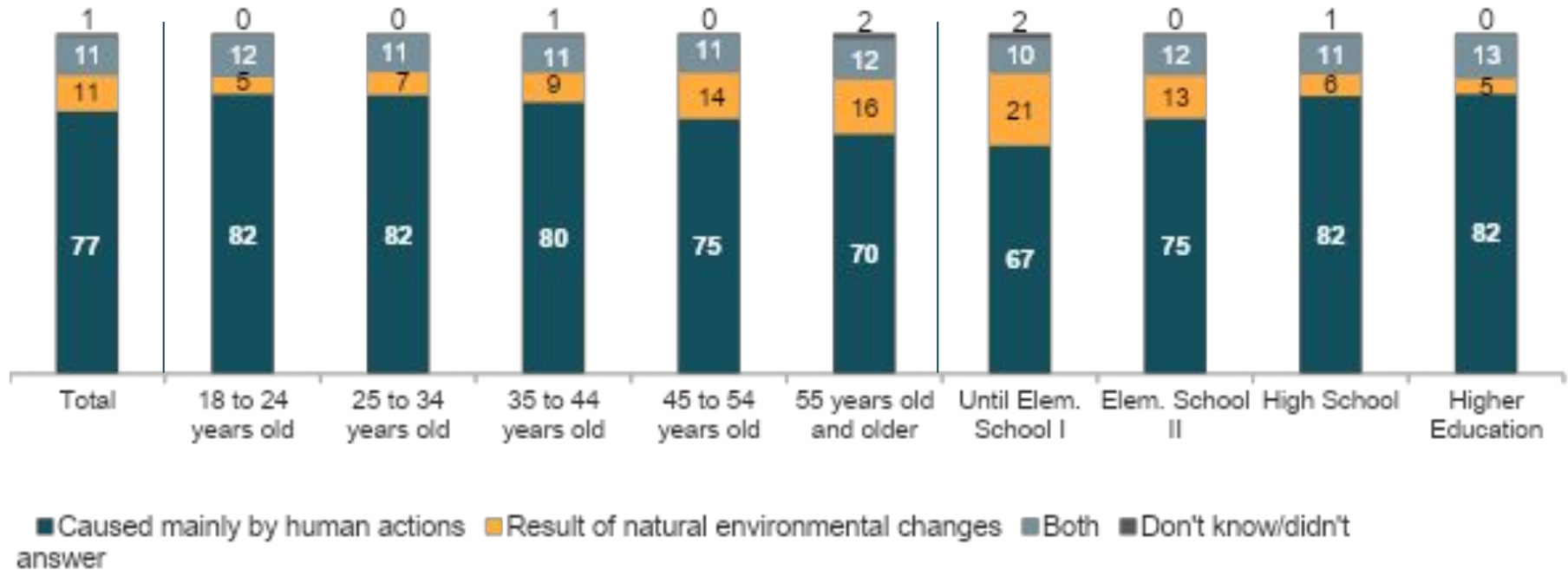
**Q1.1.2)** Recently, a lot has been said about global warming, meaning, the rise in global temperatures over the last 150 years, which contributes to causing changes to the planet's climate. In your opinion, is global warming happening? (SA)

**Q1.2.1)** Do you believe that it's caused mainly by human actions or as a result of natural environmental changes? (SA)

Base: Sample (2,600)



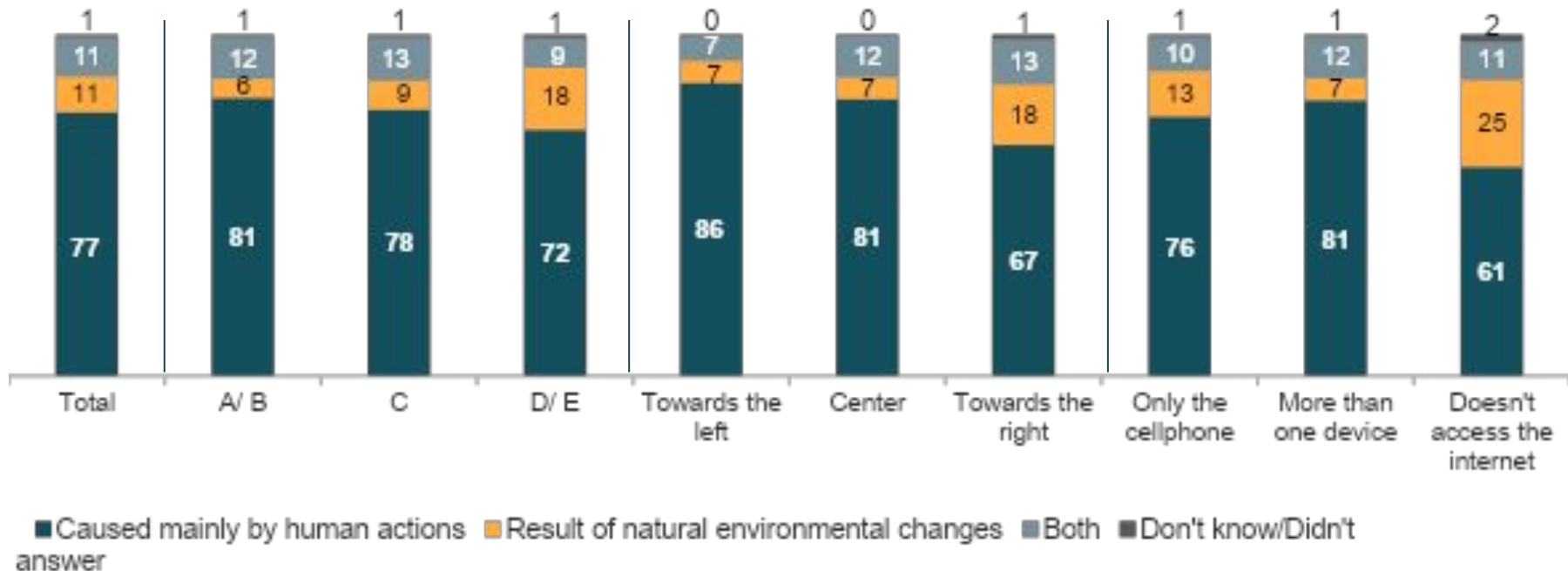
# Perception regarding the causes behind global warming



Base: Sample (2,600)

Q1.2.1) Do you believe that it's caused mainly by human actions or as a result of natural environmental changes? (SA)

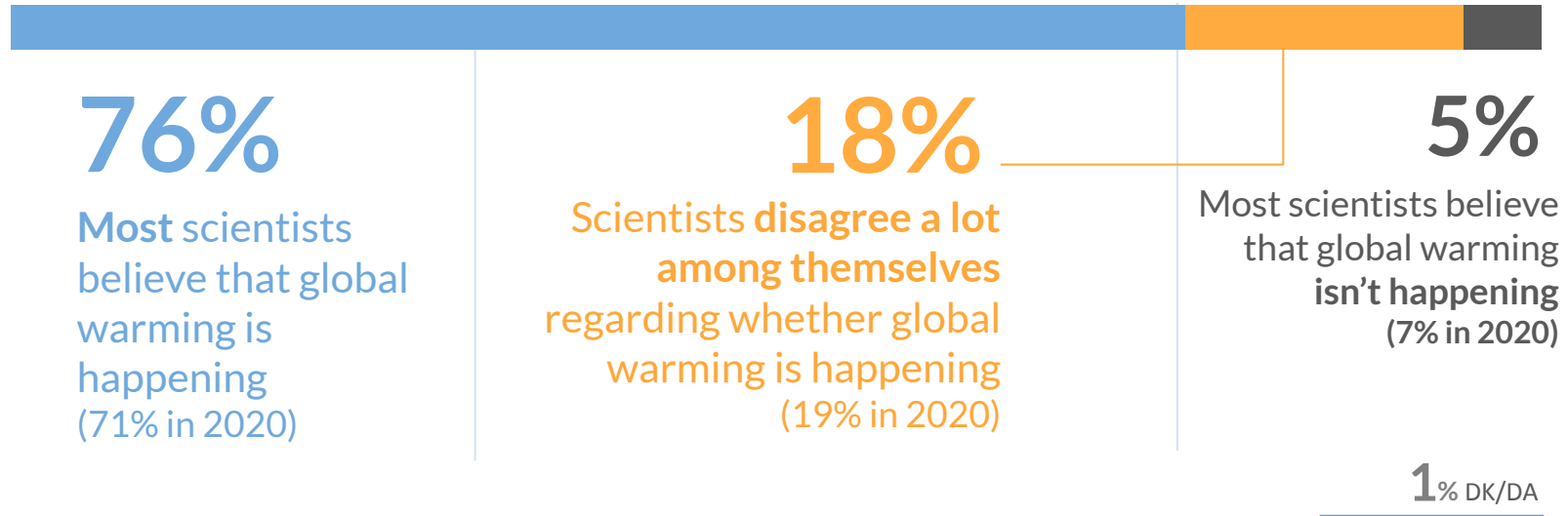
# Perception regarding the causes behind global warming



Base: Sample (2,600)

Q1.2.1) Do you believe that it's caused mainly by human actions or as a result of natural environmental changes? (SA)

# Perception towards scientists' opinions regarding this issue

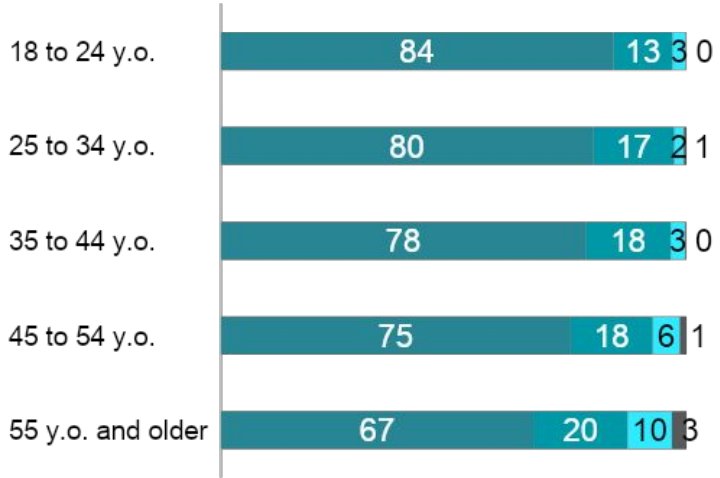


Q1.2.2) Which of the next three sentences read by me is closest to your opinion regarding scientists' thoughts surrounding global warming (SA):

Base: Sample (2,600)

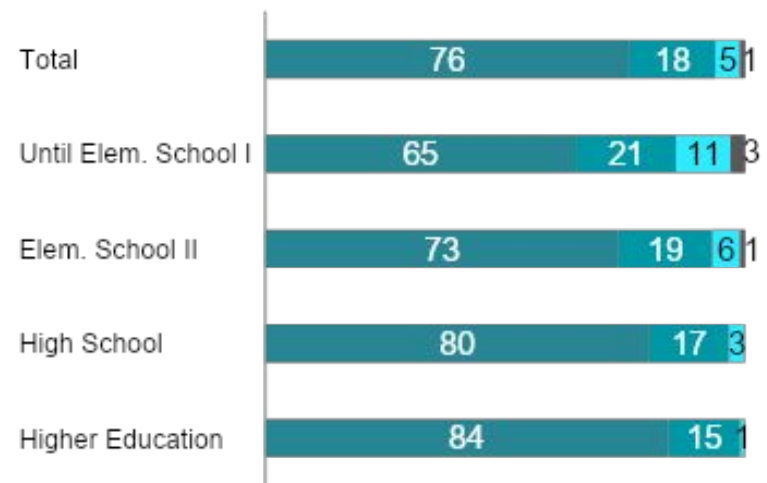
# Perception towards scientists' opinions regarding this issue

## Age



Most scientists believe that global warming is happening  
 Scientists disagree a lot among themselves whether global warming is happening  
 Most scientists believe global warming isn't happening  
 Don't know/Didn't answer

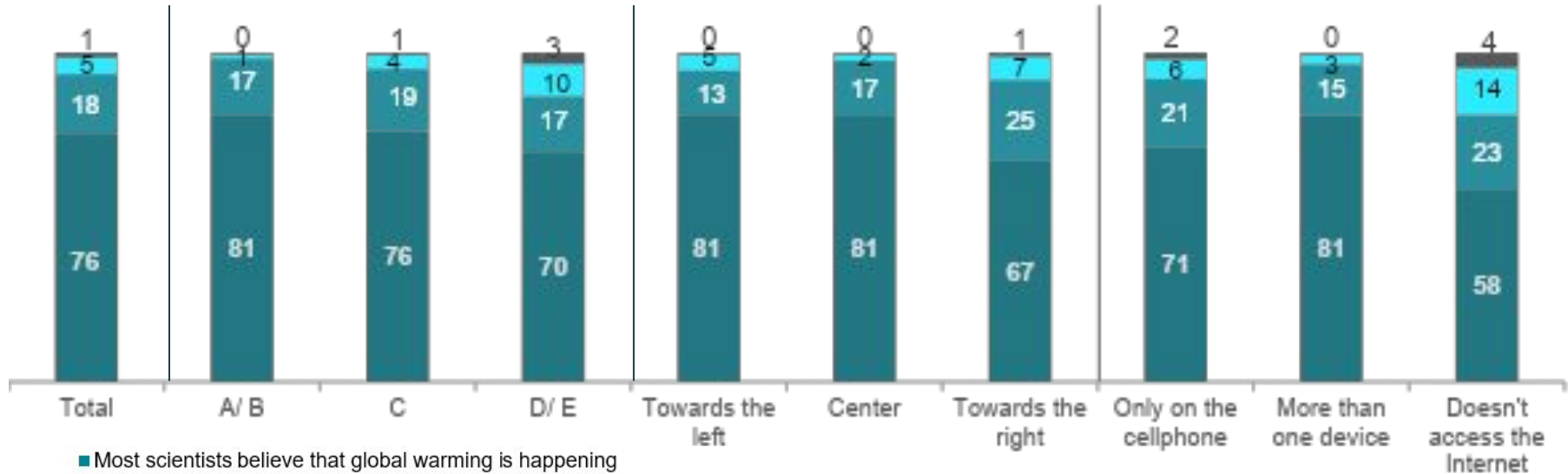
## Level of education



Q1.2.2) Which of the next three sentences read by me is closest to your opinion regarding scientists' thoughts surrounding global warming (SA):

Base: Sample (2600)

# Perception towards scientists' opinions regarding this issue



■ Most scientists believe that global warming is happening

■ Scientists disagree a lot among themselves whether global warming is happening

■ Most scientists believe global warming isn't happening

■ Don't know/Didn't answer

Q1.2.2) Which of the next three sentences read by me is closest to your opinion regarding scientists' thoughts surrounding global warming (SA):

Base: Sample (2,600)

# Can global warming greatly harm future generations?

90%

Believe that global warming may harm future generations a lot (88% in 2020)

5%

Somewhat  
(5% in 2020)

3%

A little  
(4% in 2020)

1%

Not at all  
(4% in 2020)

1%

DK/DA  
(1% in 2020)

Base: 2020 and 2021 sample (2,600)

Q1.1.6) And to what extent do you believe global warming may harm future generations)?



75%

**Believe that  
global warming  
may harm them  
and their families  
a lot.**

(72% in 2020)

13%

**Somewhat**

(14% in 2020)

8%

**A little**

(7% in 2020)

3%

**Not at all**

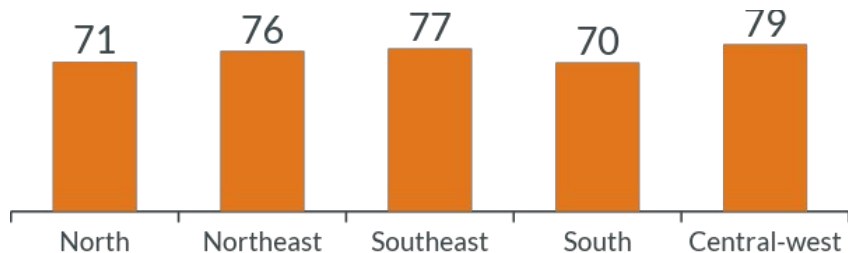
(5% in 2020)

**Q1.1.5)** In your opinion, to what extent do you believe global warming may harm you and your family?

Base: 2020 and 2021 sample (2,600)

# Brazilian citizens who believe global warming may harm their families **a lot**\*.

## Region



## Gender

**80%**  
Female

**70%**  
Male

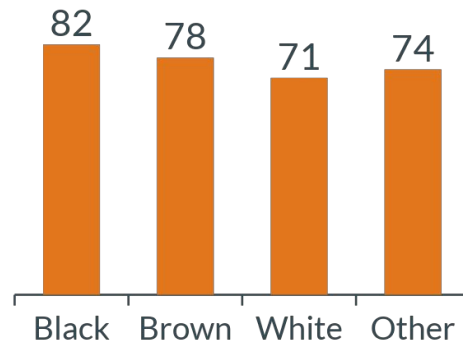
## Politics

**81%**  
Towards the left

**78%**  
Center

**69%**  
Towards the right

## Ethnicity



Base: Sample (2,600)

Q1.1.5) In your opinion, to what extent do you believe global warming may harm you and your family

\*Percentage of those who answered that global warming may harm future generations **A LOT**.



# Who is able to contribute the most to solve the issue of climate change?

37%

Governments  
(35% in 2020)

32%

Companies  
and Industries  
(32% in 2020)

24%

Citizens  
(24% in 2020)

4%

NGOs  
(4% in 2020)

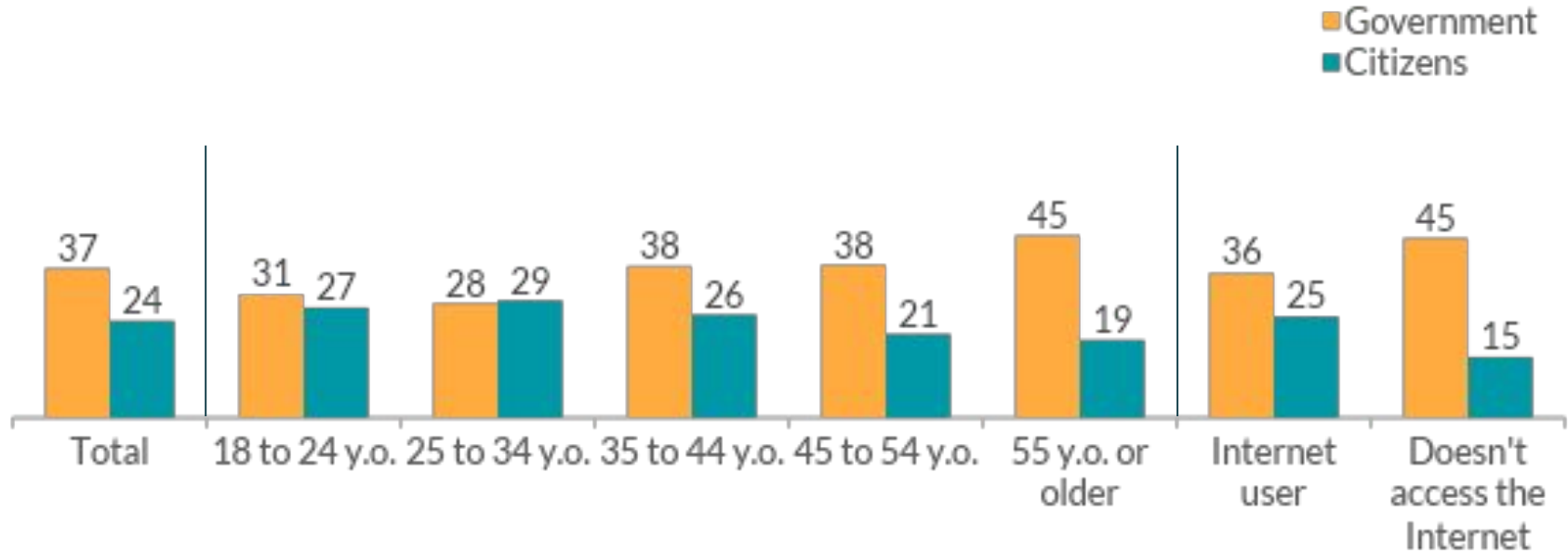
3%

DK/DA  
(4% in 2020)

Q2.2.2) In your opinion, who is able to contribute the most to solve the issue of climate change? (READ OPTIONS) And in second place? And in third place?

Base: 2020 and 2021 sample (2,600)

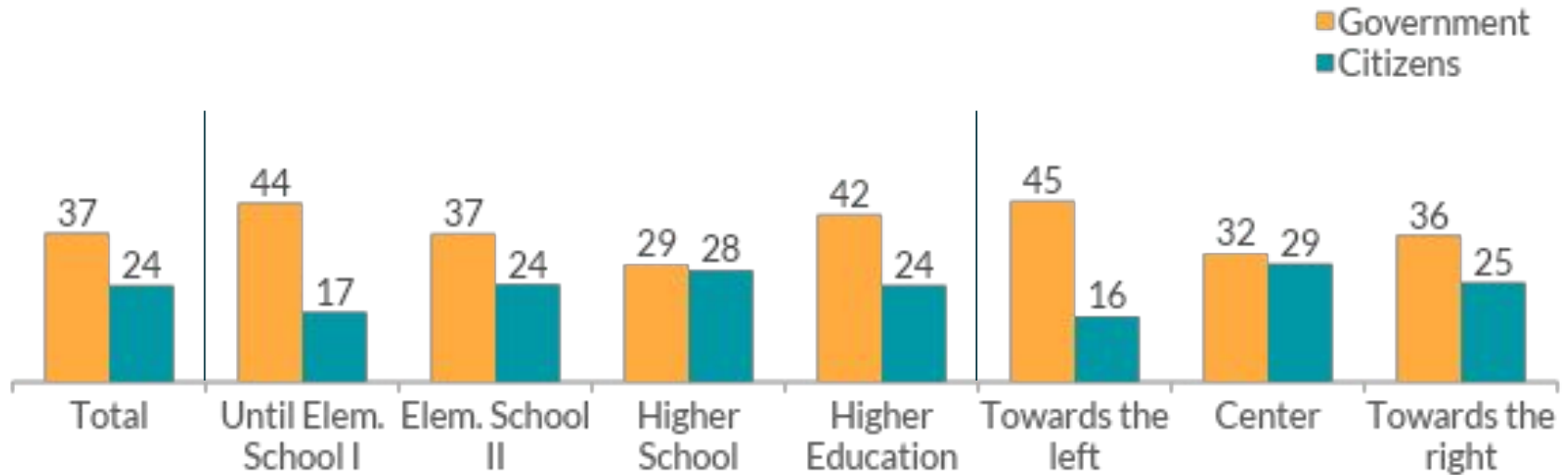
# Government's VS citizens' contributions to solve the issue of climate change



Base: Sample (2,600)

Q2.2.2) In your opinion, who is able to contribute the most to solve the issue of climate change? (READ OPTIONS) And in second place? And in third place?

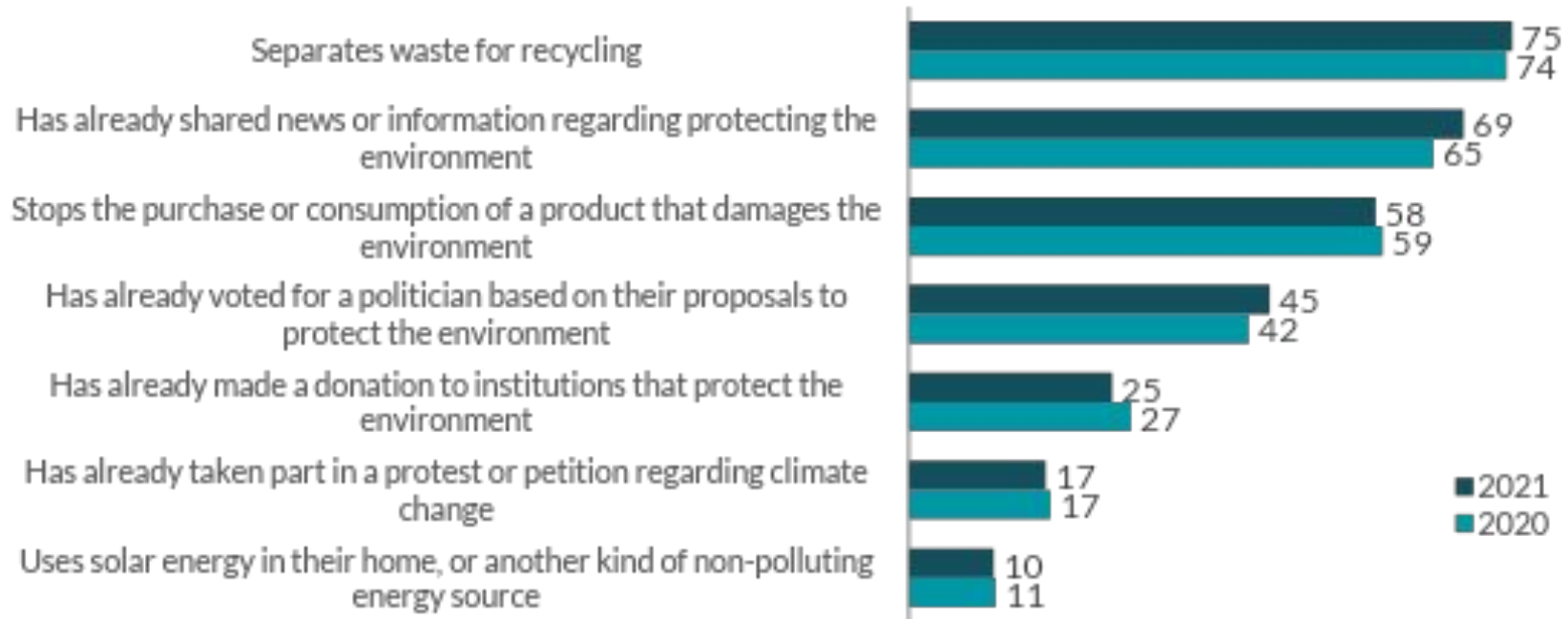
# Government's VS citizens' contribution to solve the issue of climate change



Base: Sample (2,600)

Q2.2.2) In your opinion, who is able to contribute the most to solve the issue of climate change? (READ OPTIONS) And in second place? And in third place?

# What actions do you usually take?



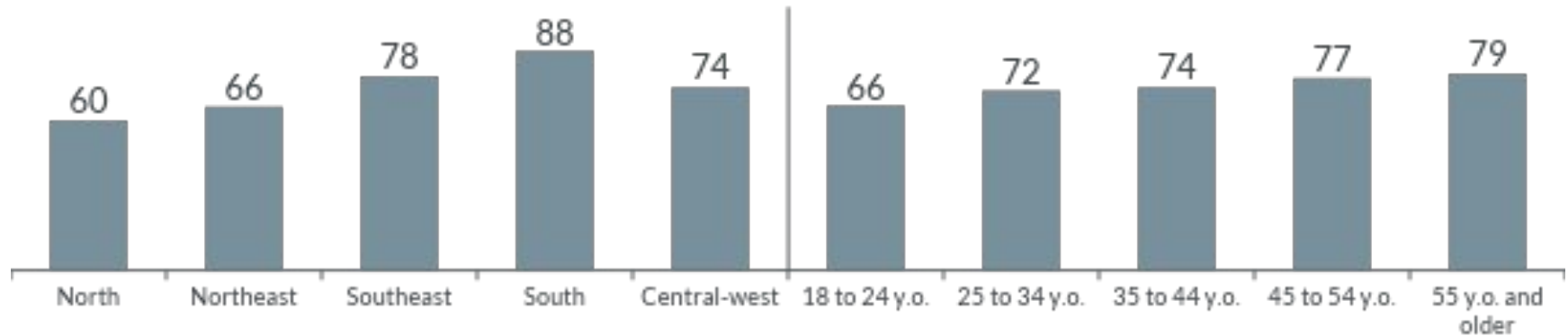
Q 1.1.7) From the options I'll read out, please, tell me, which of those actions do you usually take or have you already taken

Base: Sample (2,600)

# What actions do you usually take?

75%

Separates waste  
for recycling  
(74% in 2020)



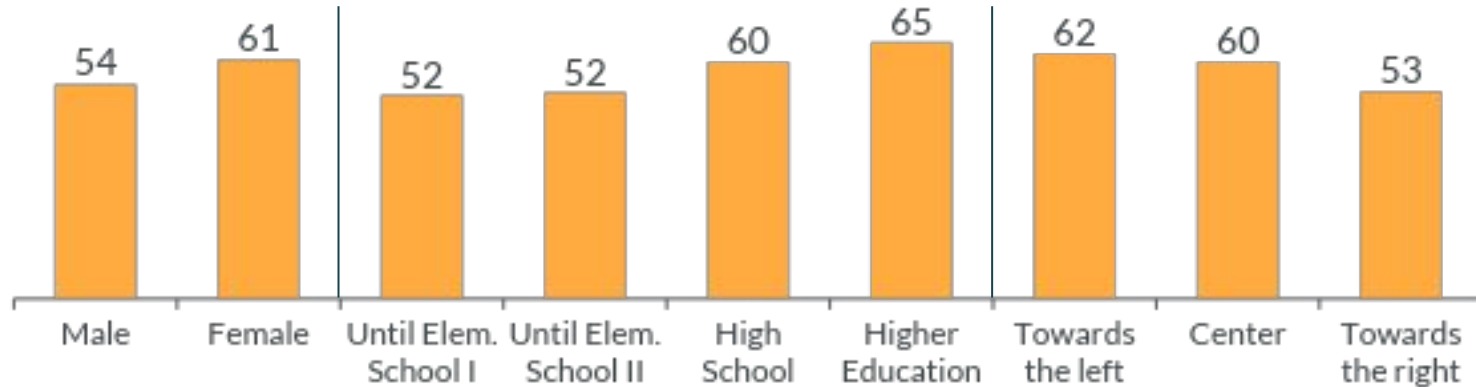
Q 1.1.7) From the options I'll read out, please, tell me, which of those actions do you usually take or have you already taken

Base: Sample (2,600)

# What actions do you usually take?

58%

Stops purchase or consumption of a product that damages the environment  
(59% in 2020)



Q 1.1.7) From the options I'll read out, please, tell me, which of those actions do you usually take or have you already taken

Base: Sample (2,600)



45%

Has already **voted on a politician**  
based on their proposals to **protect the environment**  
(42% in 2020)

65%

Towards the left

55%

Higher education

51%

Class A/B

Base: Sample (2,600)

Q 1.1.7) From the options I'll read out, please, tell me, which of those actions do you usually take or have you already taken





17%

Has already taken part in a protest or petition  
regarding climate change  
(17% in 2020)

33%

Higher Education

32%

Towards the left

30%

18 to 24 y.o.

26%

Class A/B

Base: Sample (2,600)

Q 1.1.7) From the options I'll read out, please, tell me, which of those actions do you usually take or have you already taken





98%

Has already heard of the  
**Amazon fires**  
(98% in 2020)

87%

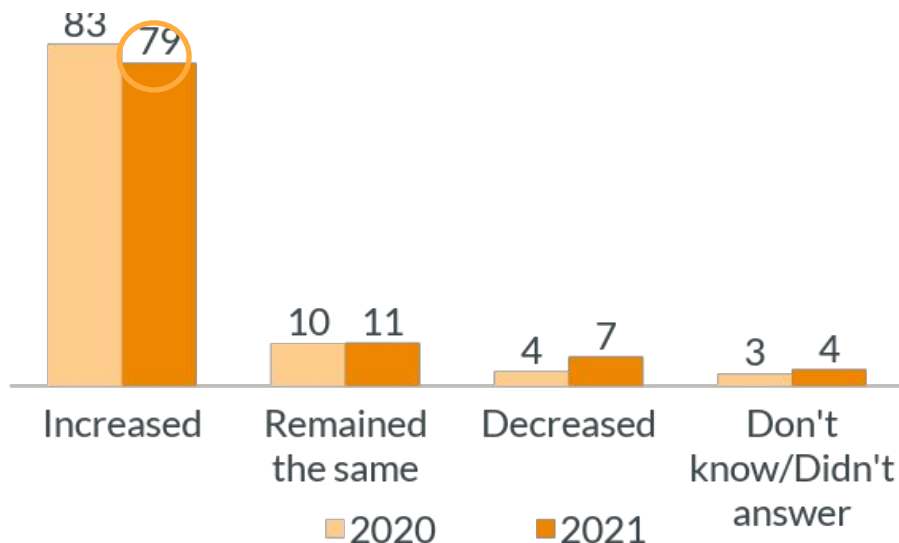
Has already heard a lot about  
**the fires that happen every  
year in the country**  
(87% in 2020)

Base: Sample (2,600)

Q2.1.1) Have you heard of the Amazon fires? (SA)

Q2.1.0) Now thinking of the fires in Brazil, how much have you already heard about the fires that happen every year in the country?

# Perception towards the evolution of Amazon fires over the last years



Base: Sample (2,600)

Q2.1.3) In your opinion, over the last two years, have the number of Amazon fires increased, remained the same, or decreased compared to previous years? (READ OPTIONS – SA)

Politics\*

91%

Towards the left

83%

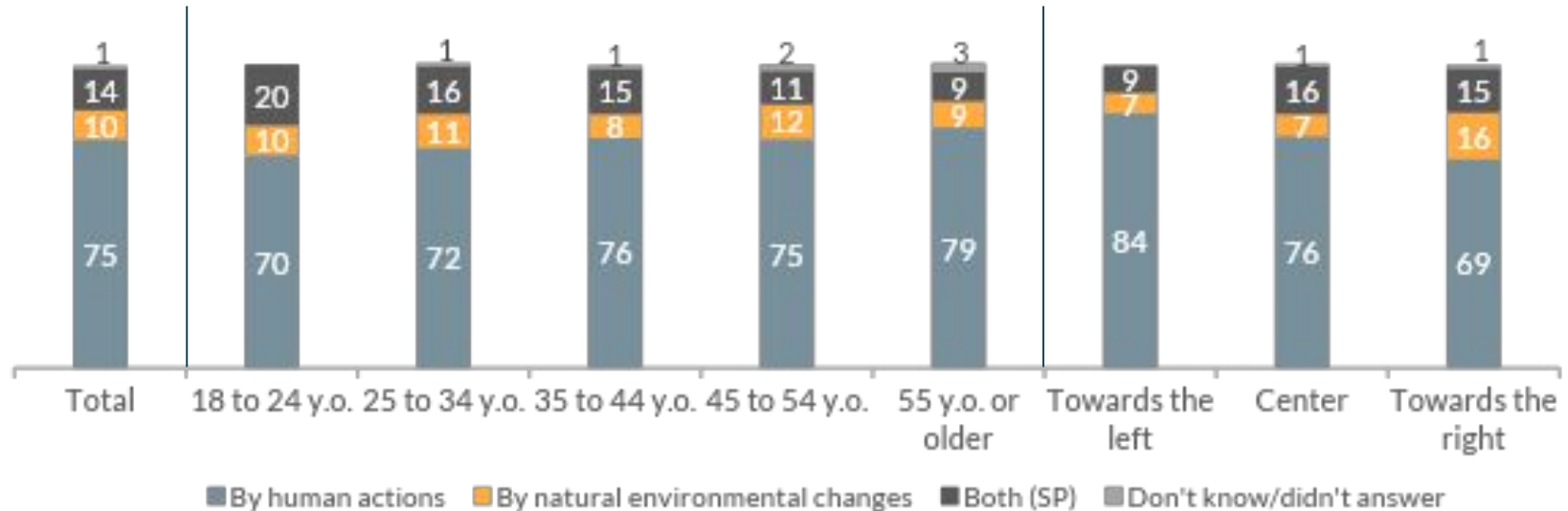
Center

68%

Towards the right

\*Percentage of respondents who said the number of Amazon fires increased compared to previous years.

# Perception towards the causes behind the Amazon fires



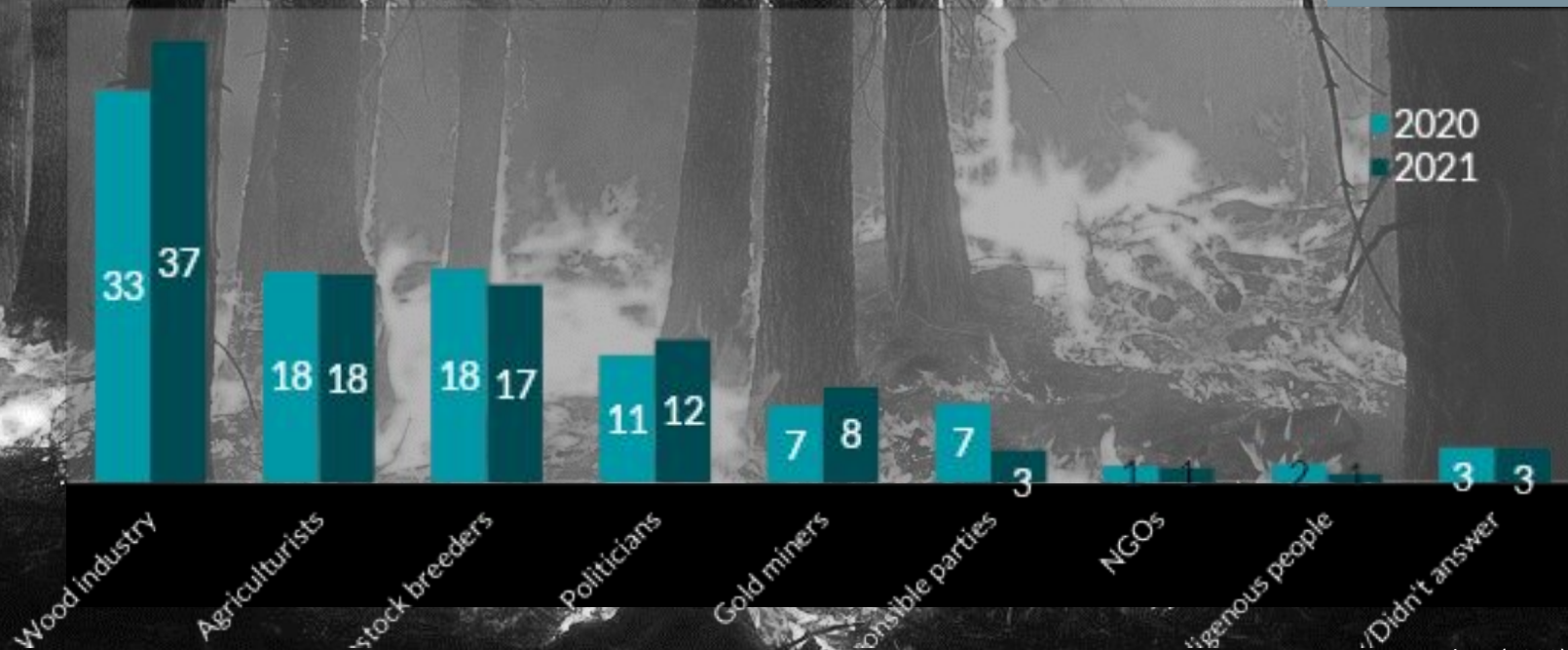
In 2020: 77% by human actions/ 9% by natural environmental changes/ 12% by both

Base: Sample (2,600)

Q.2.1.6) Recently, there has been news in the press regarding the Amazon fires. In your opinion, the Amazon fires are caused

# Main responsible parties for the Amazon fires

1<sup>st</sup> PLACE

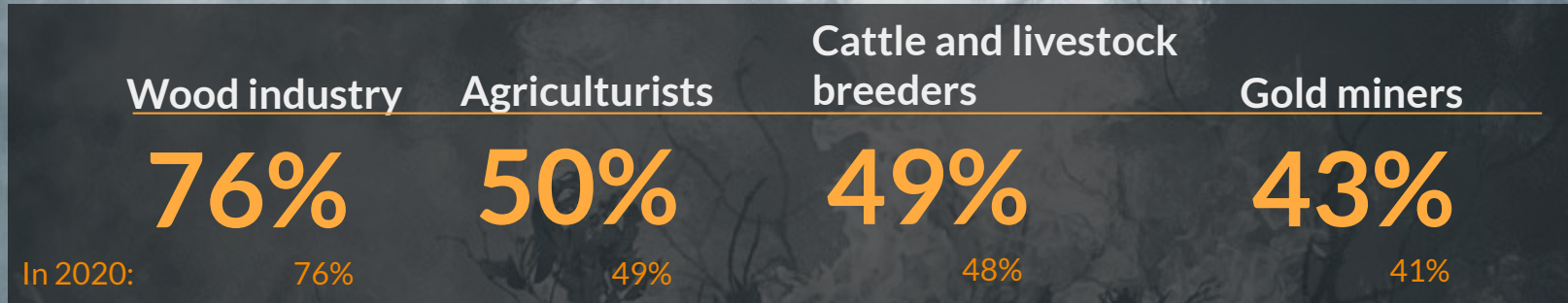


Q.2.1.4) In your opinion, from the options I'll read, who are the main responsible parties for the Amazon fires in first, second, and in third place?

Base: Respondent (1998)

# Responsible parties for the Amazon fires

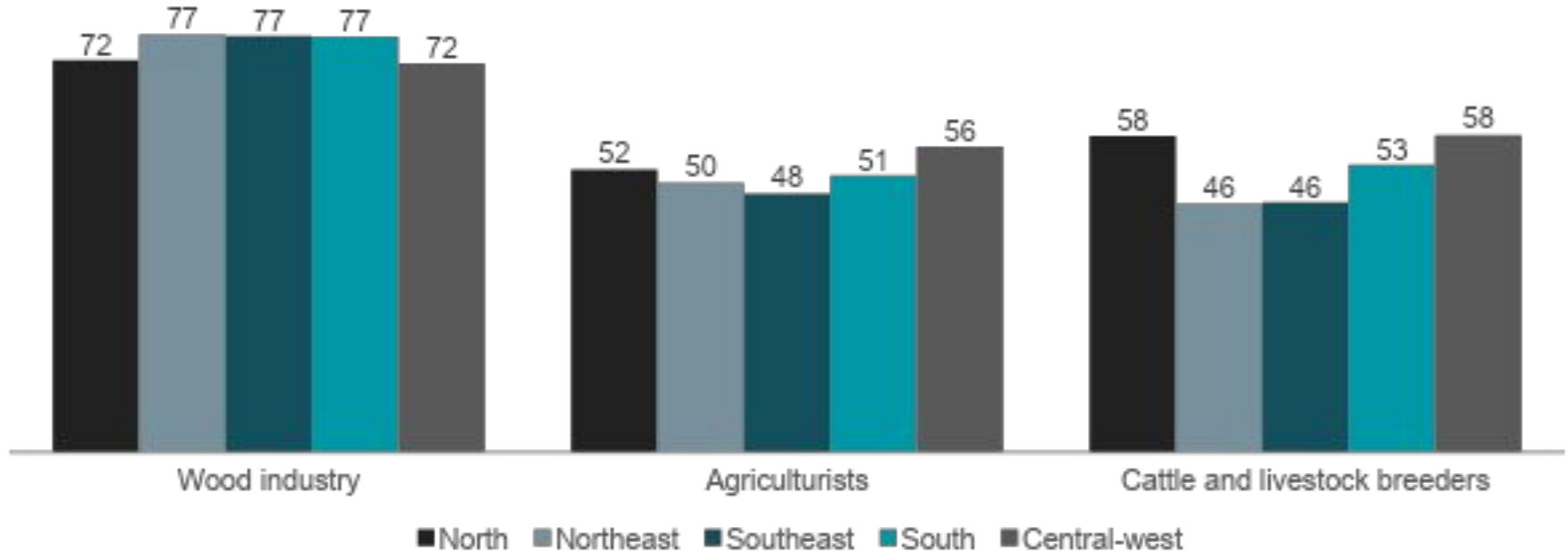
1<sup>ST</sup> + 2<sup>ND</sup> + 3<sup>RD</sup> PLACE



Q.2.1.4) In your opinion, from the options I'll read out, who are the main responsible parties for the Amazon fires in first, second, and in third place?

Base: Respondent (1998)

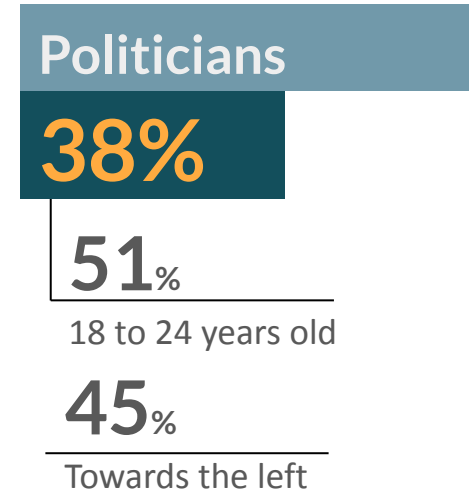
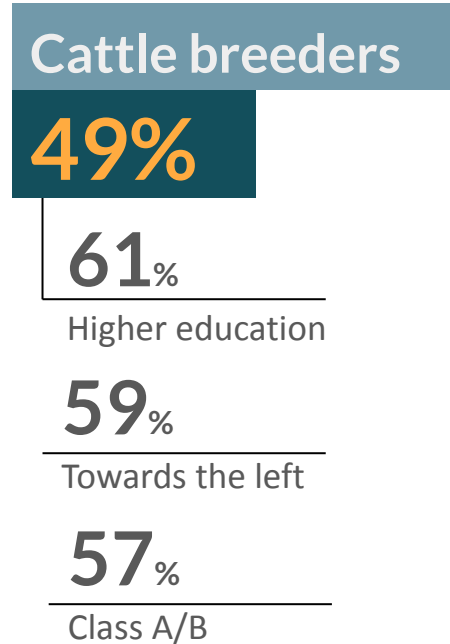
# Responsible parties for the Amazon fires



Q.2.1.4) In your opinion, from the options I'll read out, who are the main responsible parties for the Amazon fires in first, second, and in third place?

Base: Respondent (1998)

# Responsible parties for the Amazon fires



Base: Respondent (1998)



# Who can contribute the most to solve the issue of the Amazon fires

**50%**  
Governments  
(54% in 2020)

**21%**  
Citizens  
(21% in 2020)

**13%**  
Companies  
and  
industries  
(15% in 2020)

**1<sup>st</sup> PLACE**

**9%**  
**THE MILITARY\***

**4%**  
**NGOs** (4% in 2020)

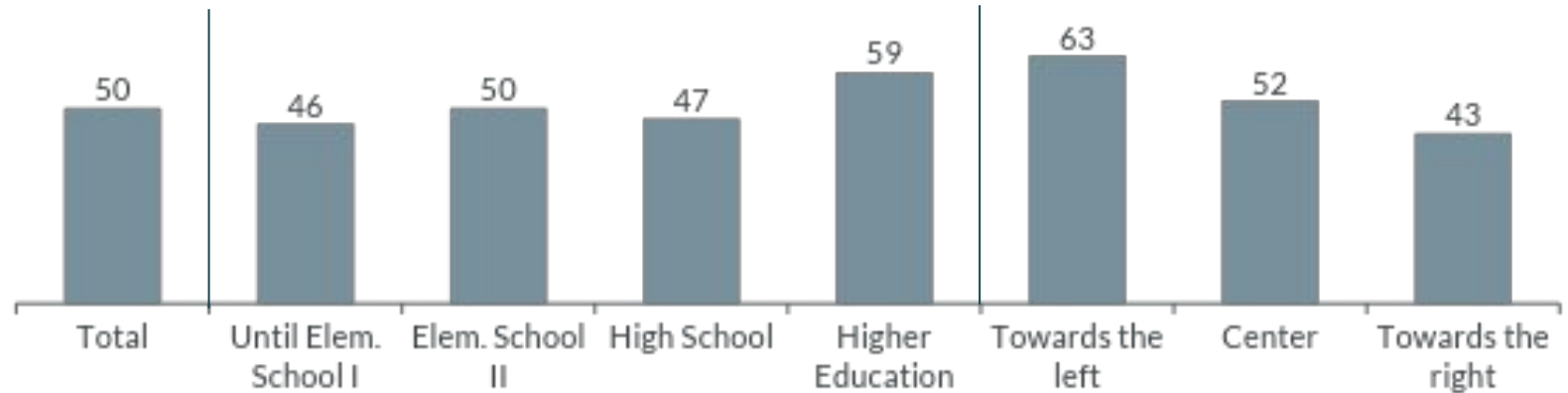
**3%**  
**DK/DA** (4% in 2020)

\*New item, not asked in the 2020 edition

Q2.2.3) In your opinion, who do you believe can contribute the most to solve the issue of the Amazon fires?

# Who can contribute the most to solve the issue of the Amazon fires

## Government



Base: Sample (2,600)

Q2.2.3) In your opinion, who do you believe can contribute the most to solve the issue of the Amazon fires?

**86% agree**

That the Amazon fires  
damage **Brazil's image  
abroad.** (84% in 2020)

**10%**

Disagree

**3%**

Neither agree, nor  
disagree

**1%**

Don't know/didn't  
answer

Politics\*

**95%**

Towards the left

**90%**

Center


**77%**

Towards the right

\*Percentage of those who agreed with the  
statement.

Base: Sample (2,600)

Q2.1.2) Please, tell me whether you agree or disagree with each of the sentences that I'll read:



78% agree

That the Amazon fires may harm **Brazil's trade relationships with other countries.** (78% in 2020)

14%  
Disagree

6%  
Neither agree,  
nor disagree

2%  
DK/DA

Politics\*

91%

Towards the left

80%

Center

69%

Towards the right

\*Percentage of those who agreed with the statement.

Base: Sample (2,600)

Q2.1.2) Please, tell me whether you agree or disagree with each of the sentences that I'll read:



# 74% disagree

That the Amazon fires **are necessary for economic growth** (74% in 2020)

Base: Sample (2,600)

Q2.1.2) Please, tell me whether you agree or disagree with each of the sentences that I'll read:

17%

Agree

6%

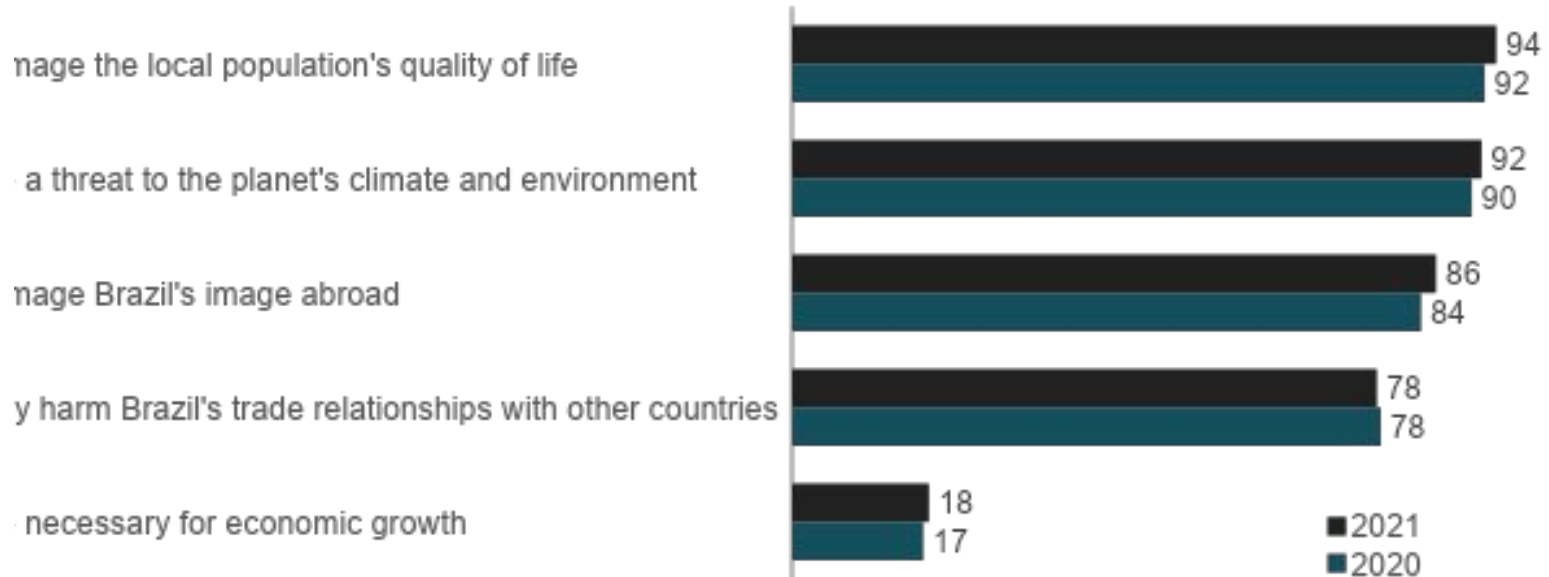
Neither agree,  
nor disagree

2%

DK/DA



# How much do you agree with the following statements?\*



\*Percentage of those who agreed with the statement.

Base: Sample (2,600)

Q2.1.2) Please, tell me whether you agree or disagree with each of the sentences that I'll read:

STUDY

# Brazilian citizen's perception towards Climate Change 2021

ACCESS THE PROJECT'S WEBSITE

[percepcaoclimatica.com.br](https://percepcaoclimatica.com.br)



Instituto  
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VALE PROGRAM ON  
Climate Change  
Communication



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