



 MORNING CONSULT

Arizona: Wildfires and Extreme Weather

EDF ACTION

September 2020

Key Points

- 1 **Concern is high** for Arizona voters across each weather event tested, including wildfires (89%), heat waves (83%) and drought (88%).
- 2 Half of Arizona voters say that wildfires have become both **much more frequent (54%)** and **much more extreme (55%)** in the past 3-5 years.
- 3 Events like wildfires, drought, and heat waves have made **75% of Arizona voters more concerned about climate change**, including 71% of independent voters.
- 4 **A majority of Arizona voters** say **wildlife (70%)**, the **environment (64%)**, and **agriculture (57%)** have been **impacted a lot by wildfires**, and 63% say wildfires have been **very harmful to the environment** in the past 3-5 years.
- 5 **Four in five Arizona voters (78%)** say it should be a **priority for the U.S. to pass legislation** to address climate change, including 44% who say it should be a **top priority**.
- 6 And, **three in five Arizona voters (61%)** say they **would be more likely to vote** for a U.S. senate candidate in their state if that candidate were to support **aggressive action to address climate change**.

Methodology: This poll was conducted between September 11-September 14, 2020 among a national sample of 400 Arizona RVs. The interviews were conducted online and the data were weighted to approximate a target sample of Arizona RVs based on age, gender, race, and educational attainment. Results from the full survey have a margin of error of plus or minus 5 percentage points.

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Perceptions of Extreme Weather Events



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Impact of Extreme Weather



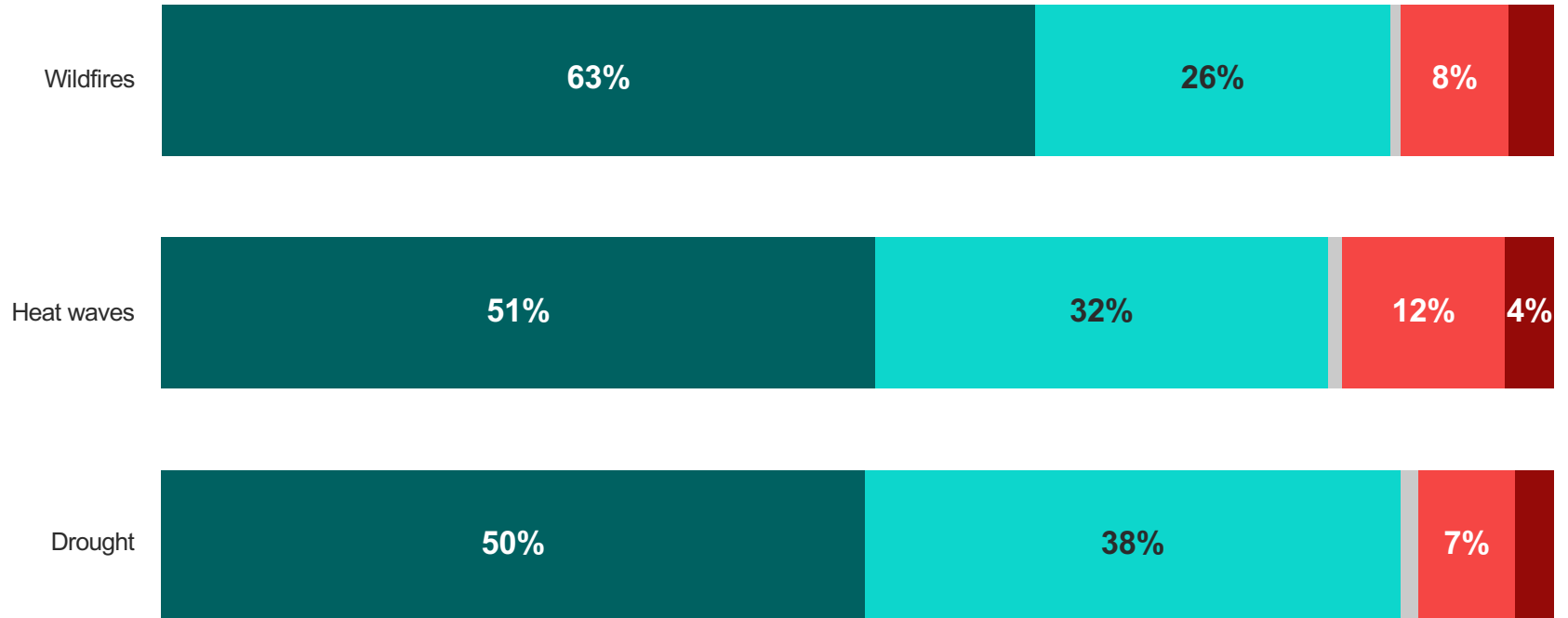
Policy and Candidate Support

Perceptions of Extreme Weather Events

Concern is high for Arizona voters across each weather event, including wildfires (89%), heat waves (83%) and drought (88%).

As you may know, wildfires, drought, and heat waves have been affecting large parts of the United States over the past few weeks. How concerned, if at all, are you about these events?

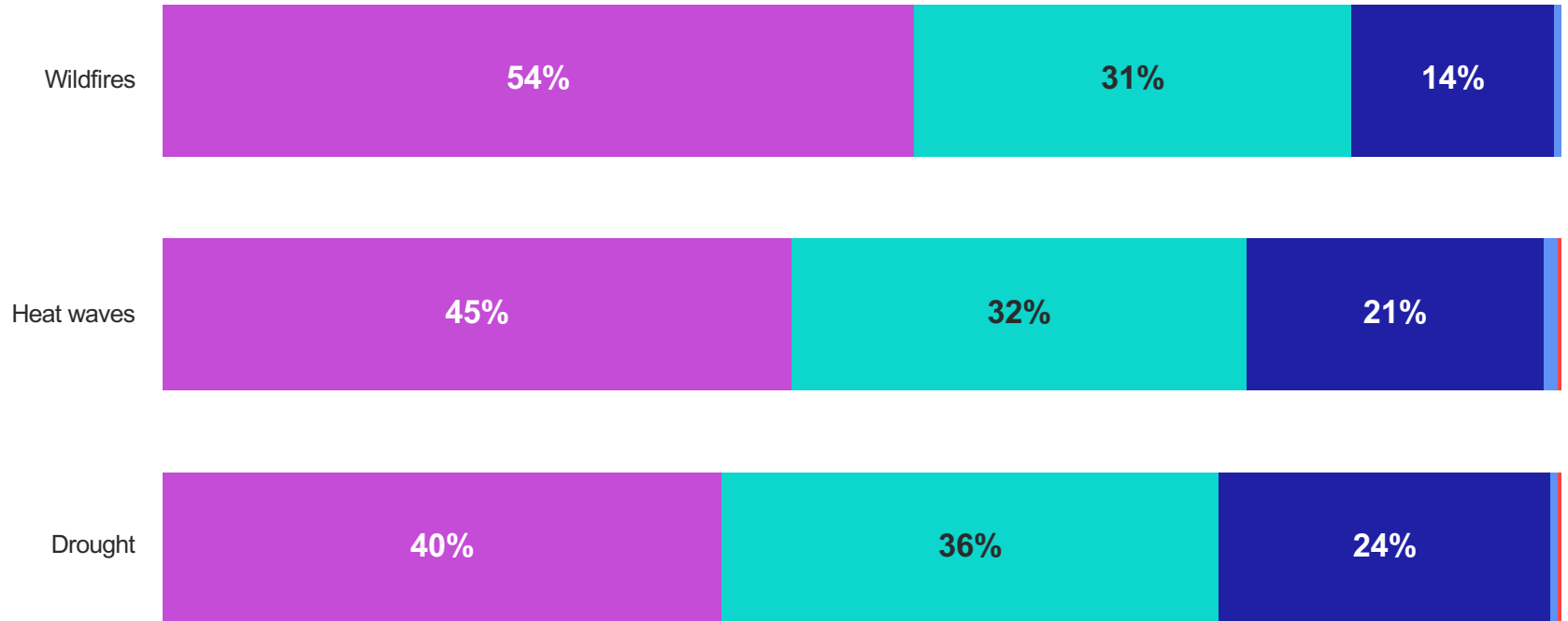
● Very concerned ● Somewhat concerned ● Don't know/no opinion ● Not too concerned ● Not at all concerned



Over three quarters of Arizona voters say wildfires have become more frequent in the past 3-5 years (85%), with half of Arizona voters saying wildfires have become *much more* frequent (54%).

In your opinion, in the past 3-5 years, have events like wildfires, drought, and heat waves become more frequent or less frequent, or has the frequency not changed much at all?

Much more frequent Somewhat more frequent Not changed much at all Somewhat less frequent Much less frequent

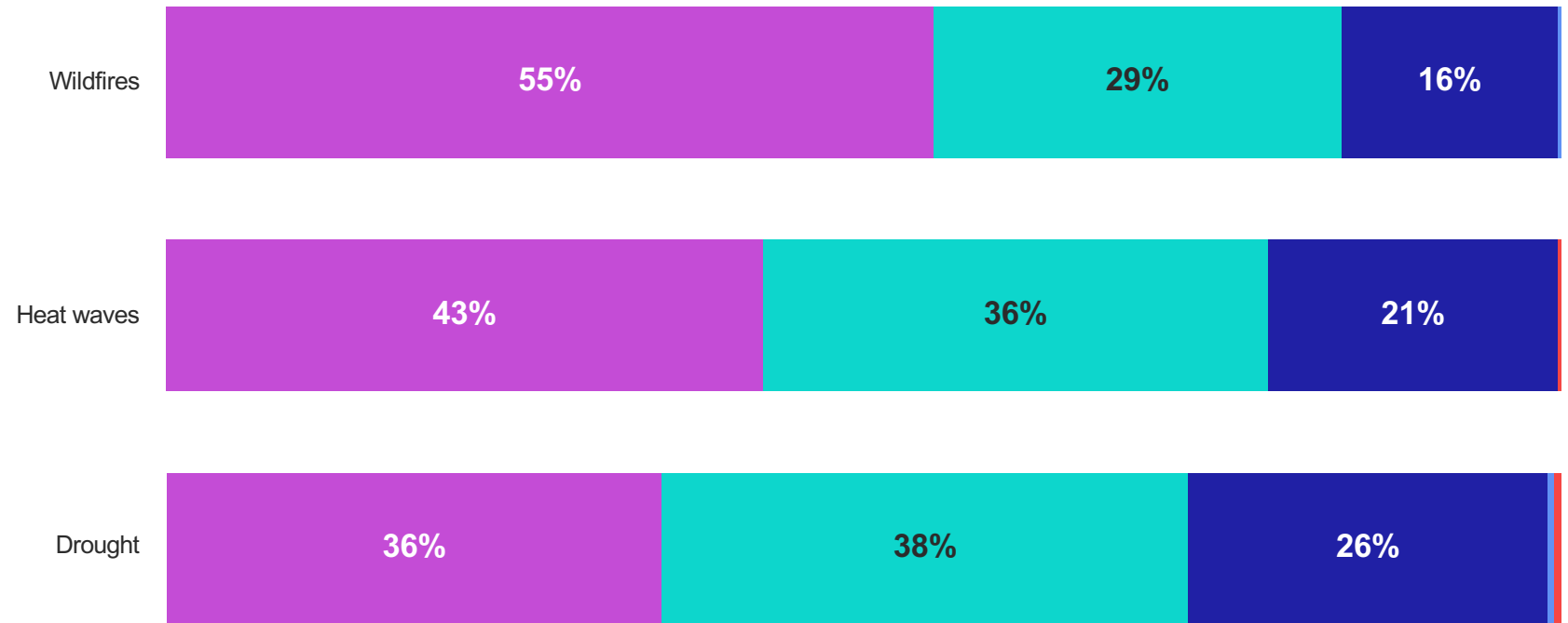


Perceptions of Extreme Weather Events

A majority of Arizona voters say that wildfires (84%), heat waves (79%), and drought (74%) have become at least somewhat more extreme in the past 3-5 years.

In your opinion, in the past 3-5 years, have events like wildfires, drought and heat waves become more extreme, less extreme, or have they not changed much at all?

● Much more extreme ● Somewhat more extreme ● Not changed much at all ● Somewhat less extreme ● Much less extreme



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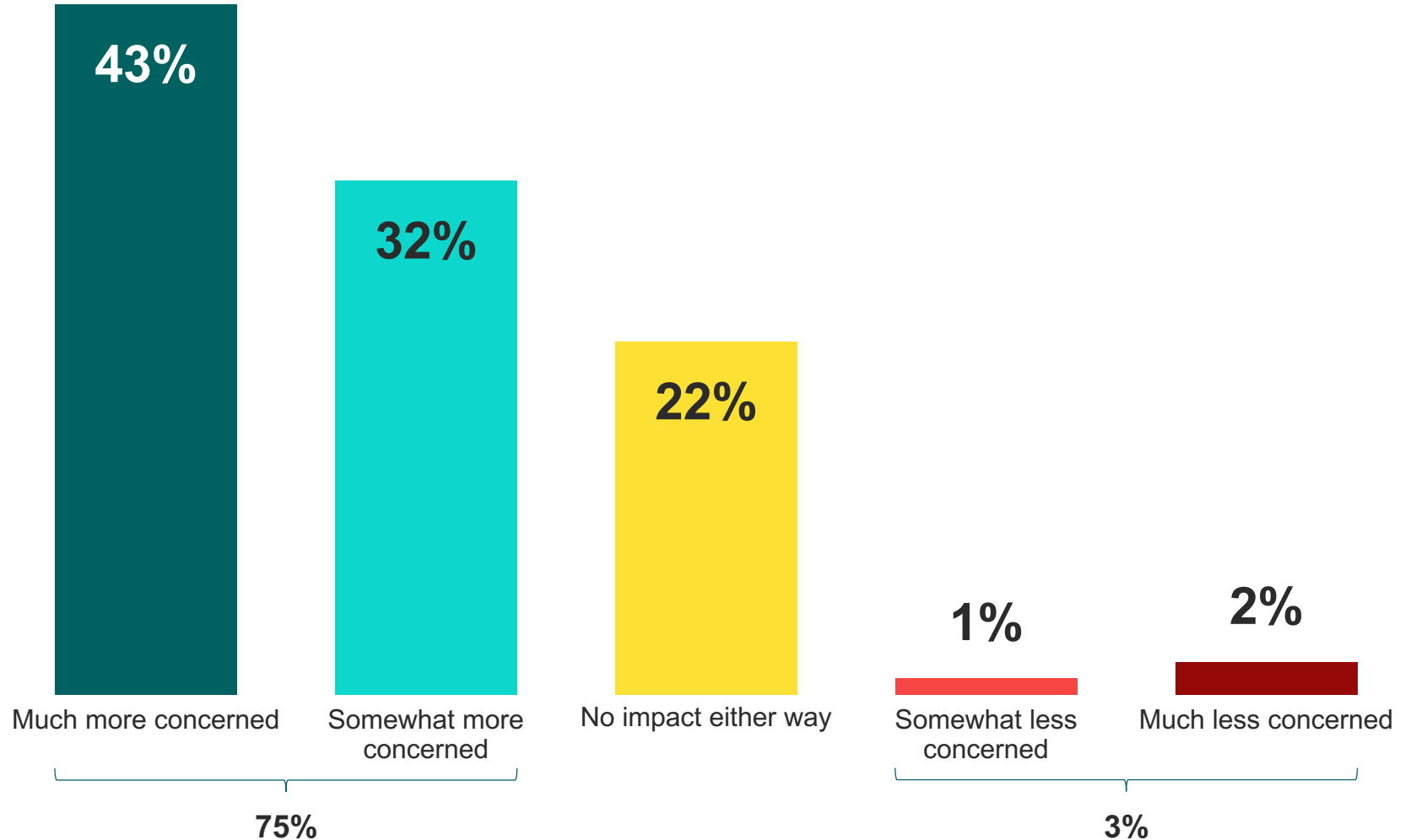


Policy and Candidate Support

Climate Change Concern

2 in 5 Arizona voters say the recent weather events have made them *much more concerned* about the impacts of climate change (43%).

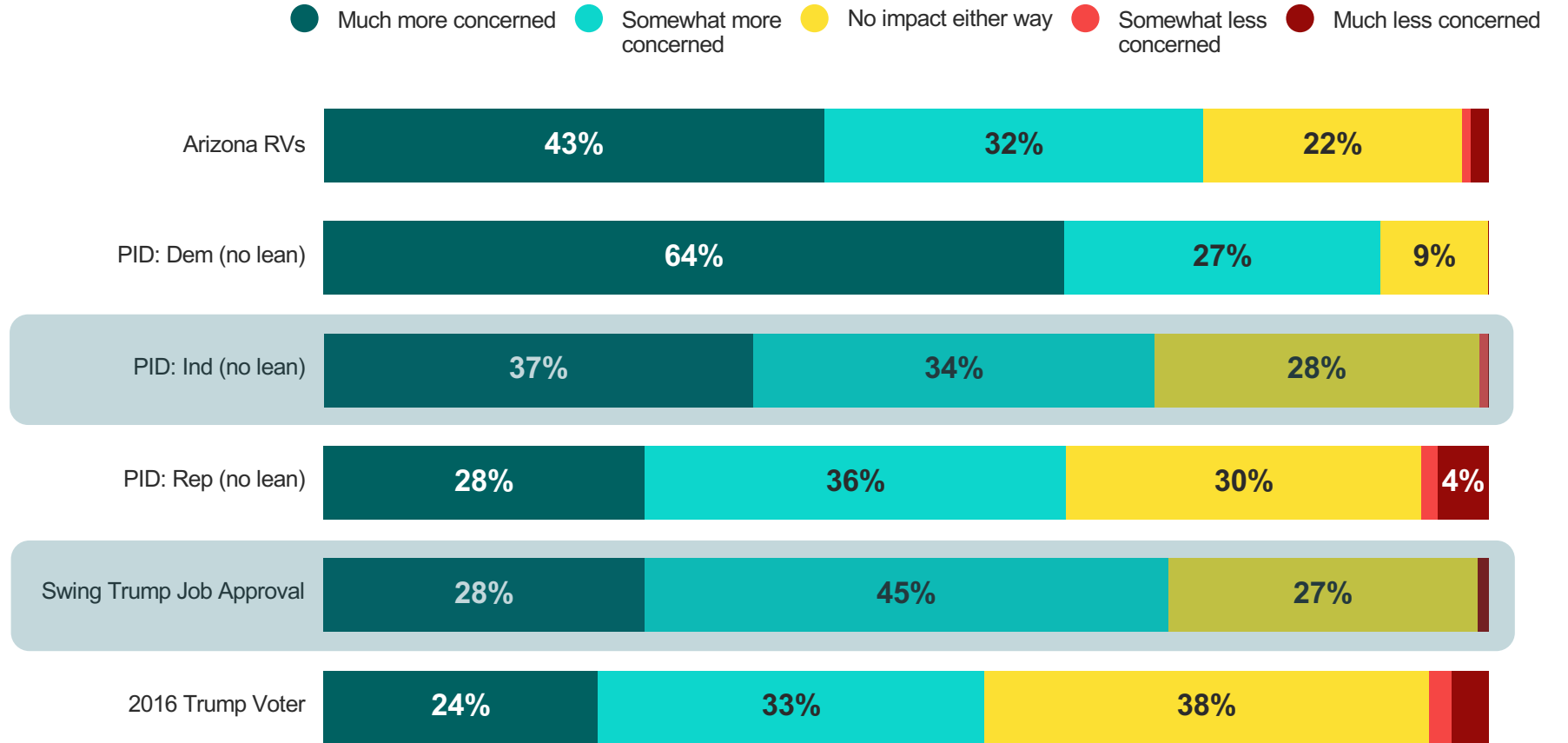
Have events like the wildfires, drought, and heat waves currently affecting large parts of the United States made you more or less concerned about the impacts of climate change, or do these events not impact your opinion either way?



Climate Change Concern

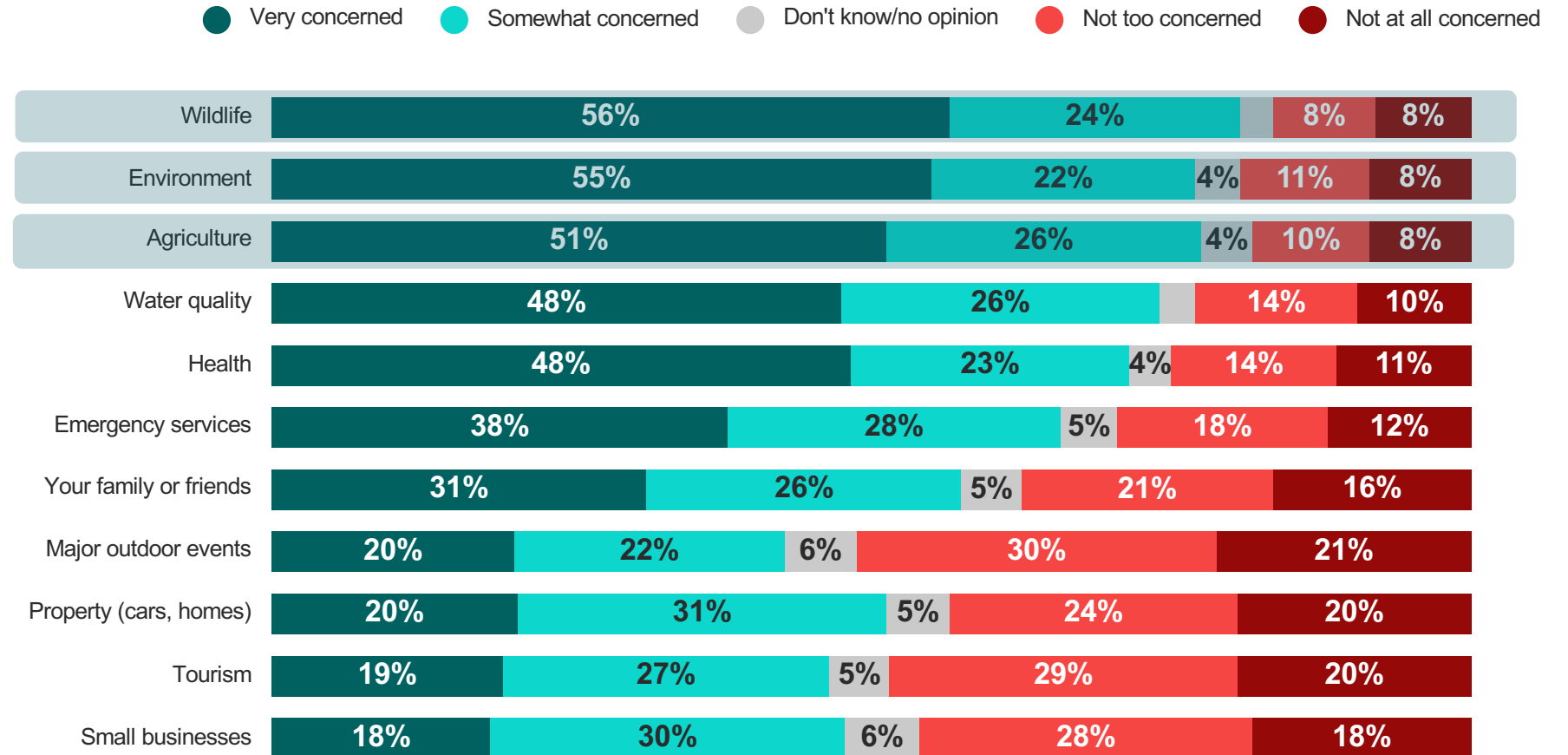
Nearly three quarters of Arizona swing voters, including swing Trump job approval (73%) and independent voters (71%), say the recent weather events have made them more concerned about the impacts of climate change.

Have events like the wildfires, drought, and heat waves currently affecting large parts of the United States made you more or less concerned about the impacts of climate change, or do these events not impact your opinion either way?



Arizona voters are most concerned, of the options tested, about climate change's impacts on the environment (77%), wildlife (80%) and agriculture (77%).

How concerned are you, if at all, about the impacts of climate change on each of the following?



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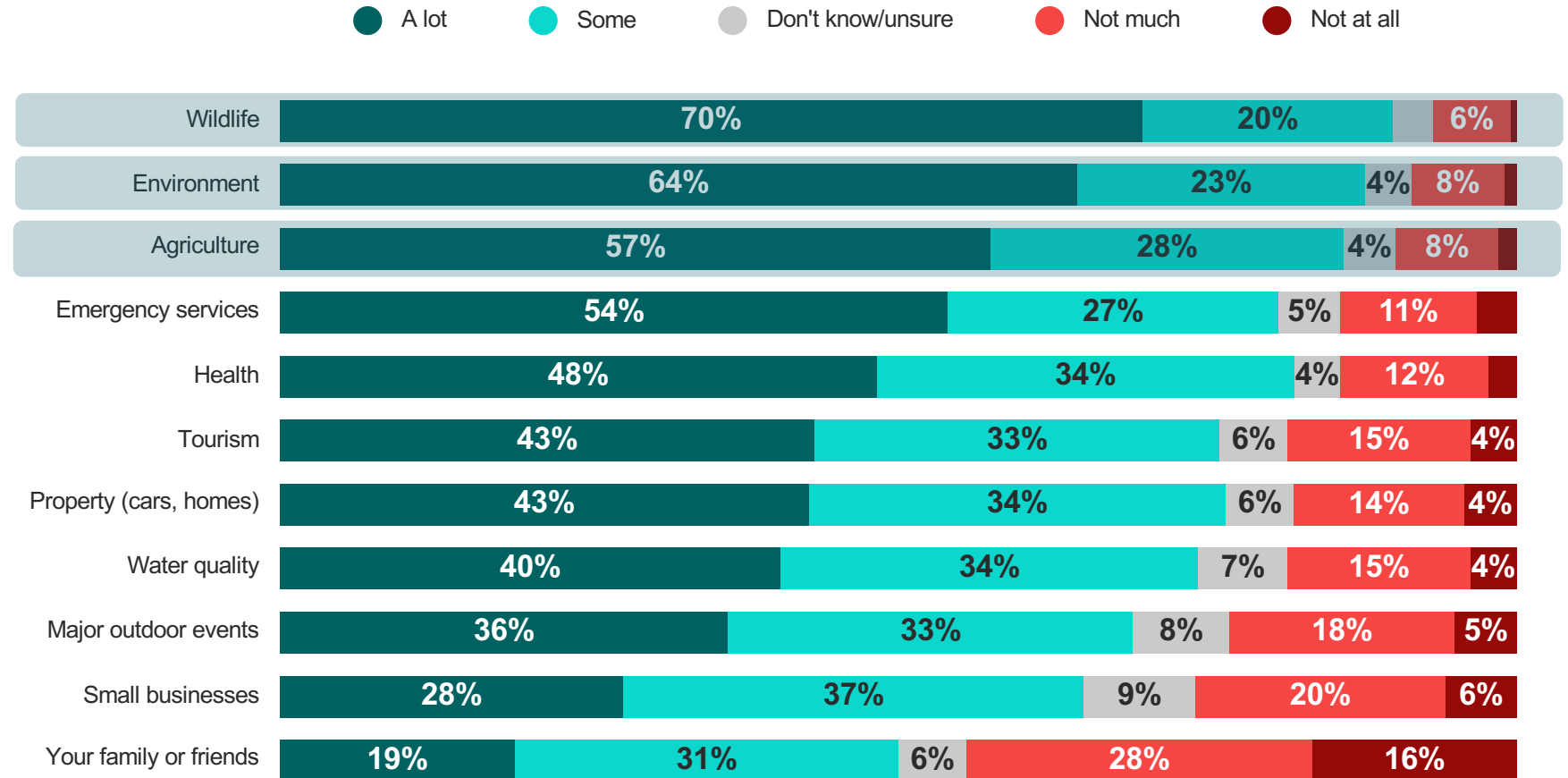
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Policy and Candidate Support

Wildlife (90%), the environment (87%), and agriculture (85%) rise to the top when Arizona voters think about the impacts of wildfires.

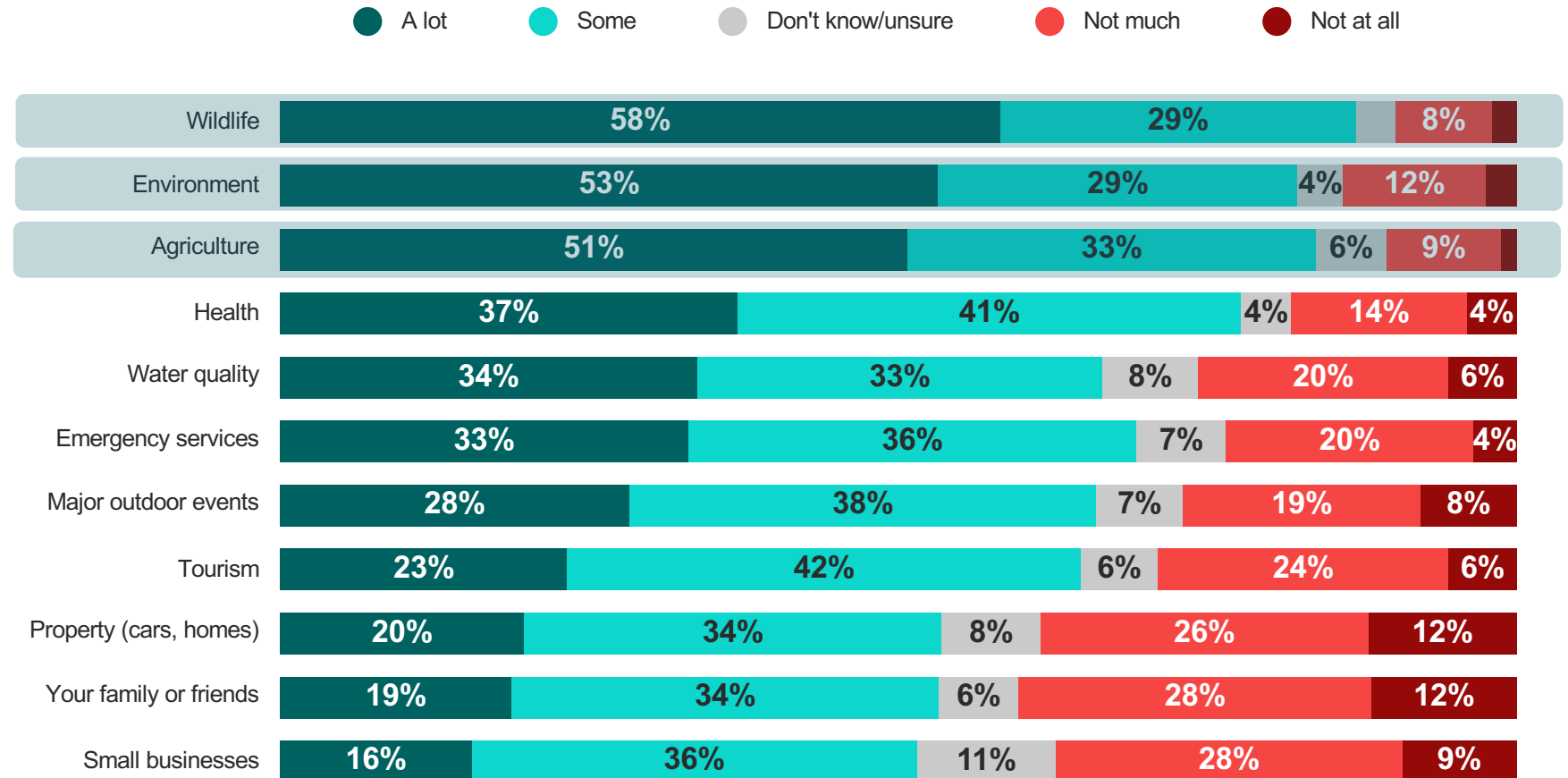
In your opinion, how much, if at all, have the wildfires currently affecting large parts of the United States impacted each of the following?



Impact of Extreme Weather

The top three remain unchanged when Arizona voters consider the impact of heat waves, with over three quarters of voters saying wildlife (87%) the environment (82%) and agriculture (84%) have been impacted at least somewhat. A majority of Arizona voters also believe health has been impacted by recent heat waves (79%).

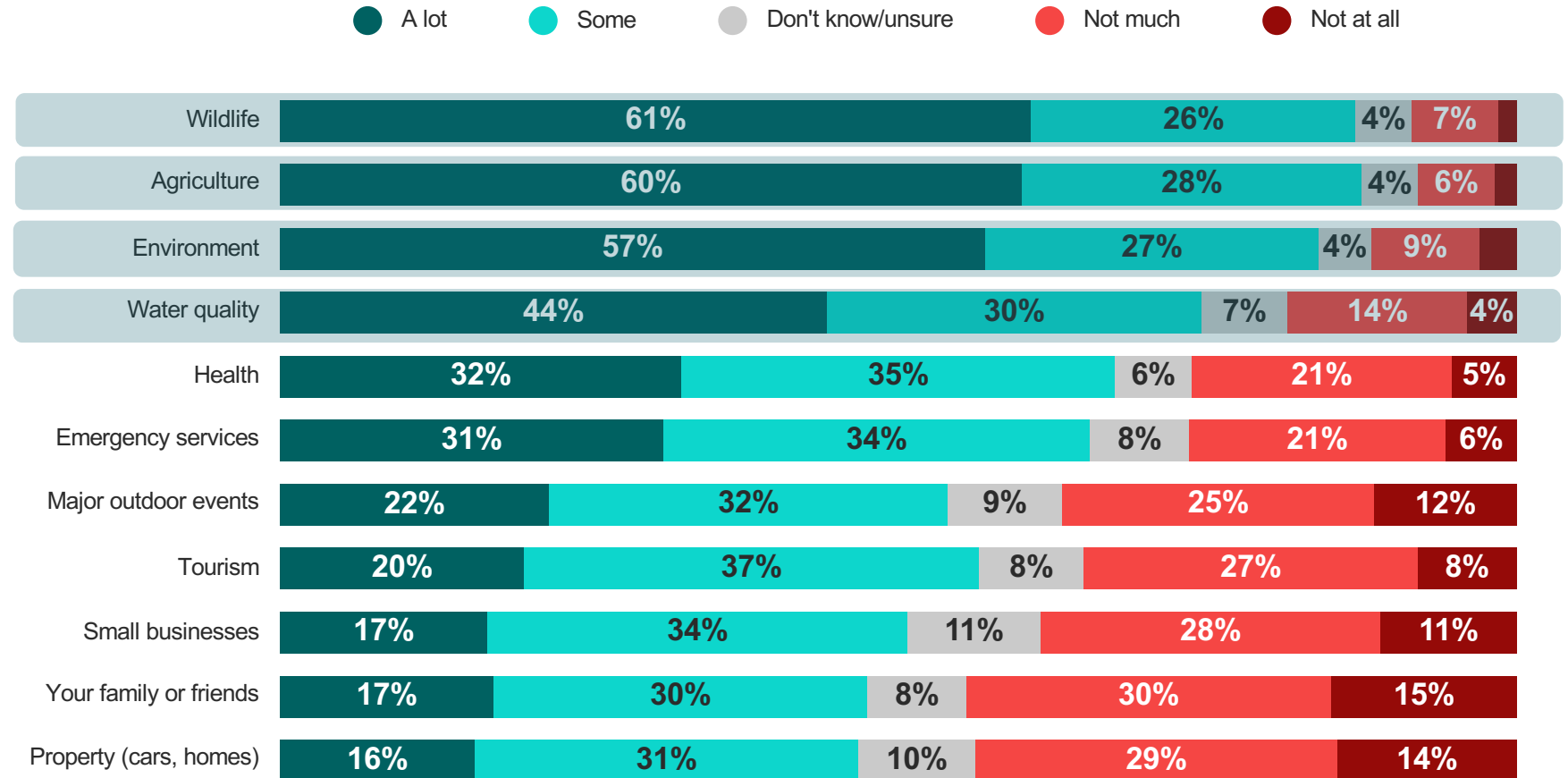
In your opinion, how much, if at all, have the heat waves currently affecting large parts of the United States impacted each of the following?



Impact of Extreme Weather

Over half of Arizona voters say agriculture (60%), wildlife (61%) and the environment (57%) have been impacted a *lot* by drought. Over one third of voters say water quality has been impacted a *lot* by drought (44%).

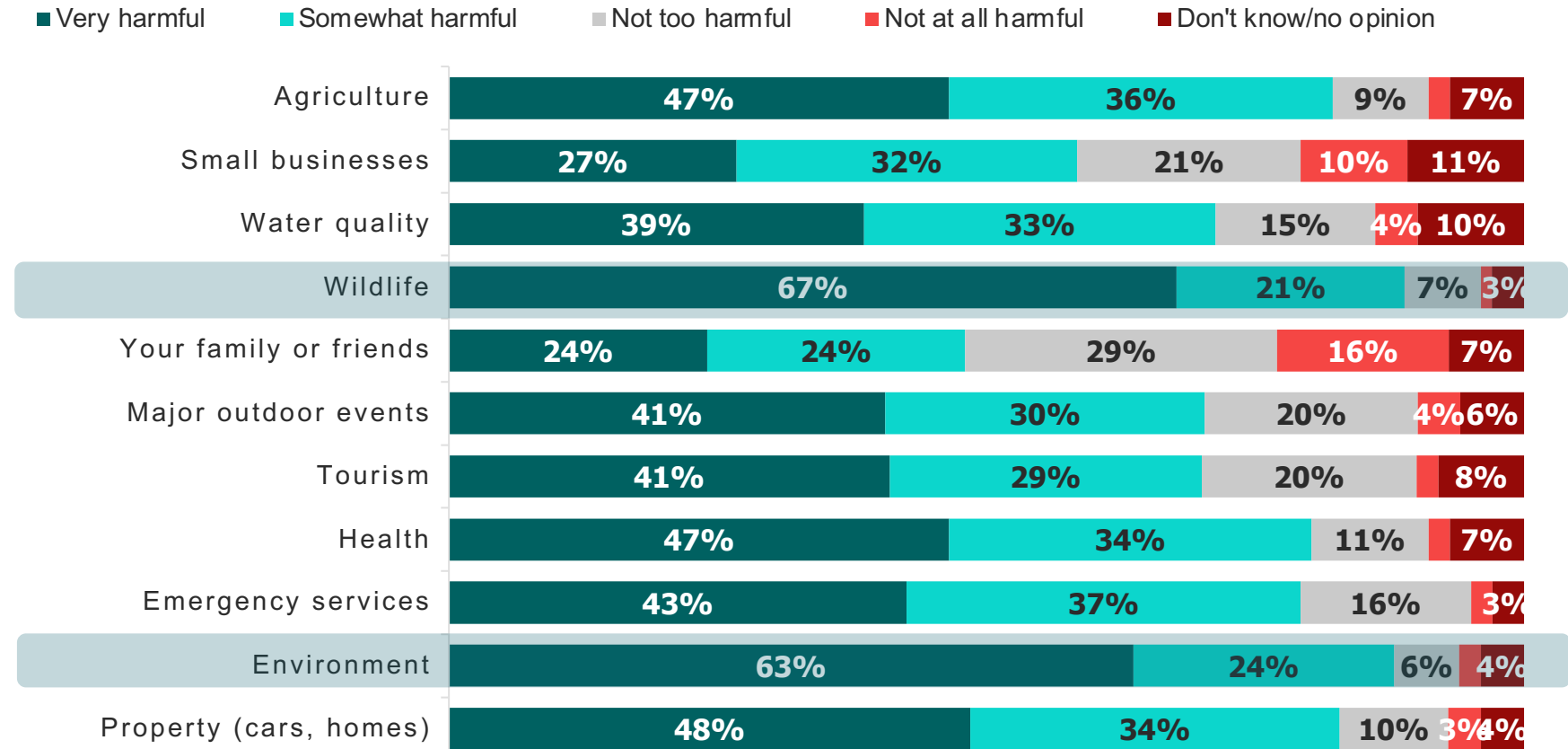
In your opinion, how much, if at all, has the drought currently affecting large parts of the United States impacted each of the following?



Impact of Extreme Weather

Approximately two thirds of voters in Arizona say wildfires have been very harmful to wildlife (67%) and the environment (63%).

*In your opinion, in the past 3-5 years, how harmful, if at all, have events like **wildfires** been to each of the following?*

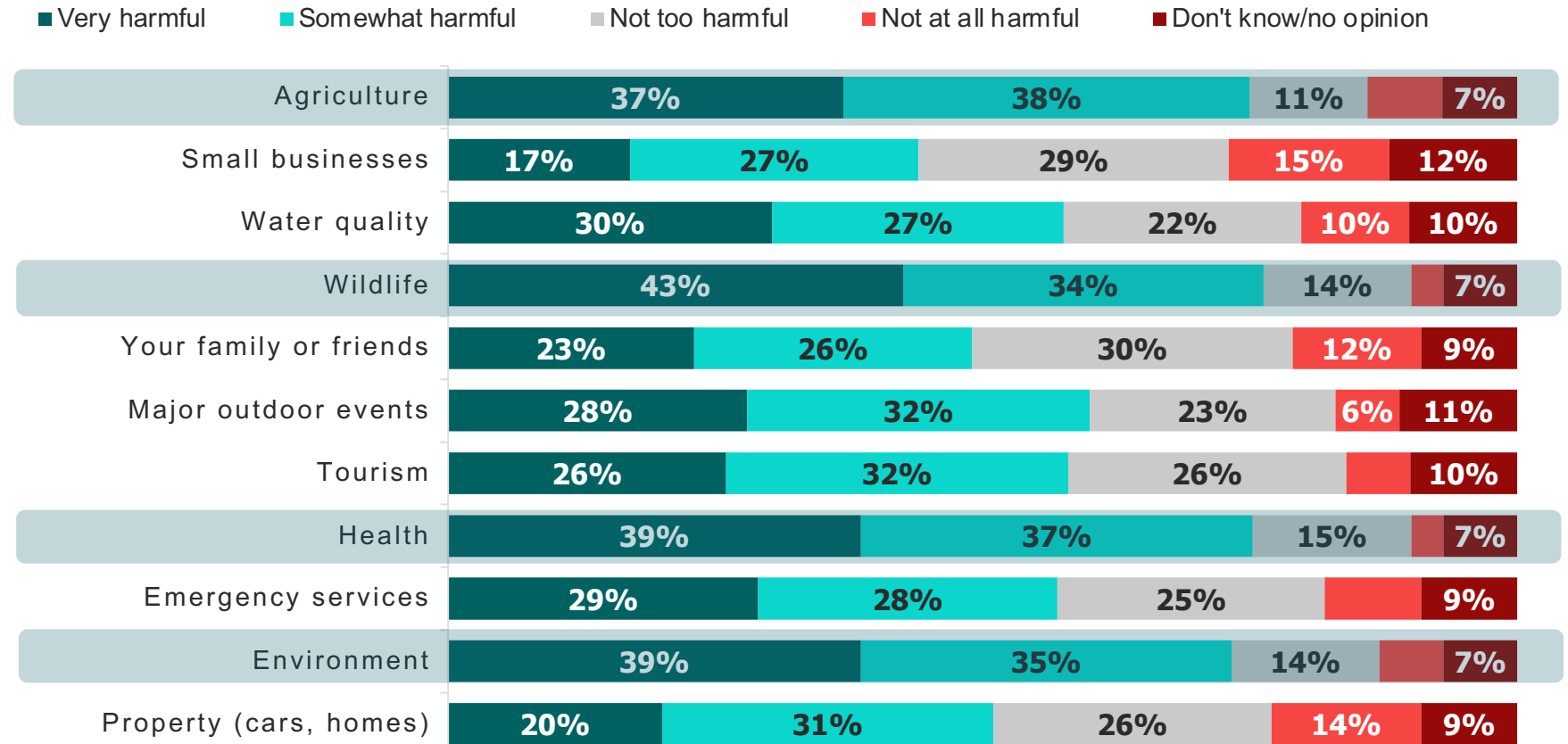


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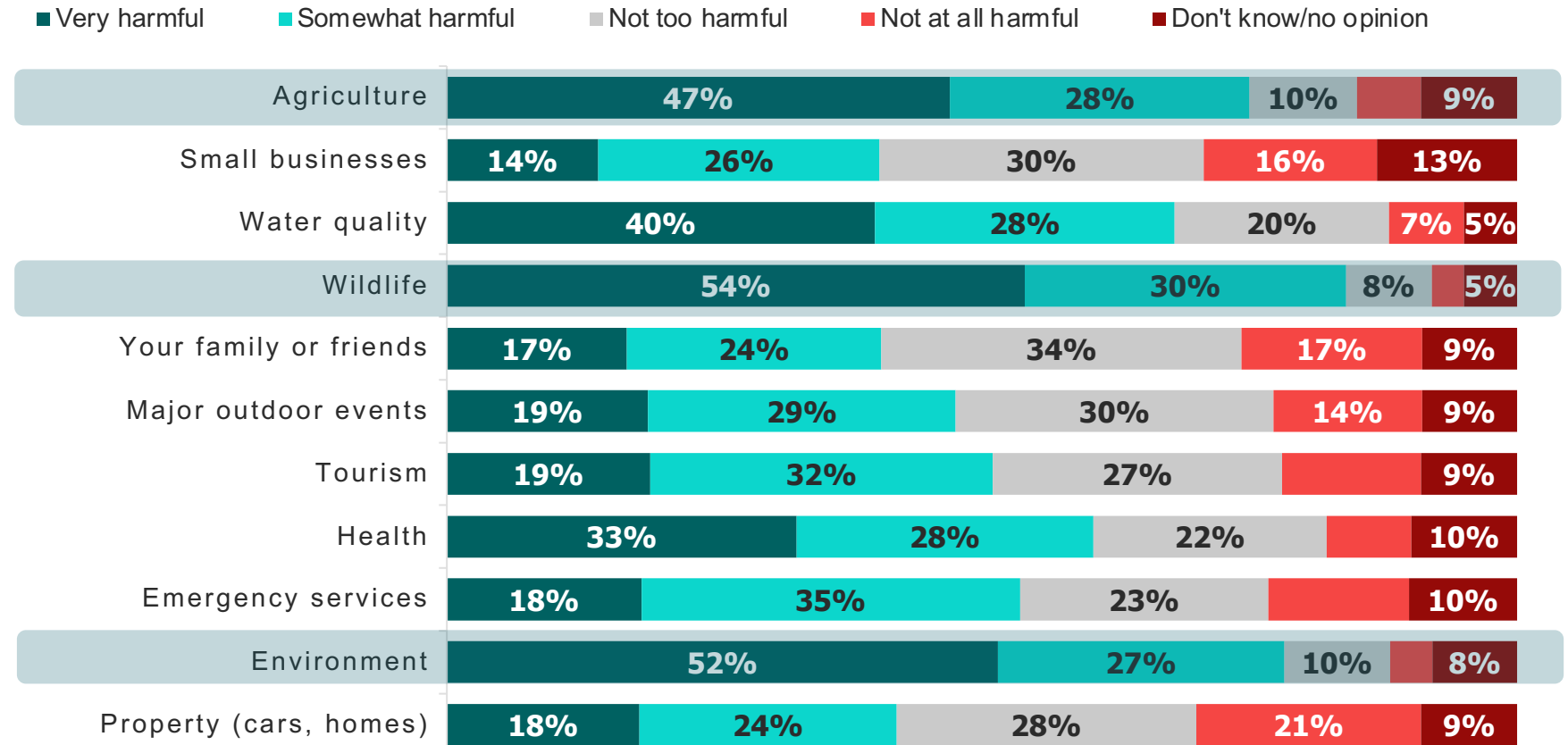
When it comes to heat waves, over one third of Arizona voters believe they have been very harmful to wildlife (43%), health (39%), the environment (39%), and agriculture (37%).

*In your opinion, in the past 3-5 years, how harmful, if at all, have events like **heat waves** been to each of the following?*



Approximately half of Arizona voters say drought has been harmful to wildlife (54%), the environment (52%), and agriculture (47%).

*In your opinion, in the past 3-5 years, how harmful, if at all, have events like **drought** been to each of the following?*



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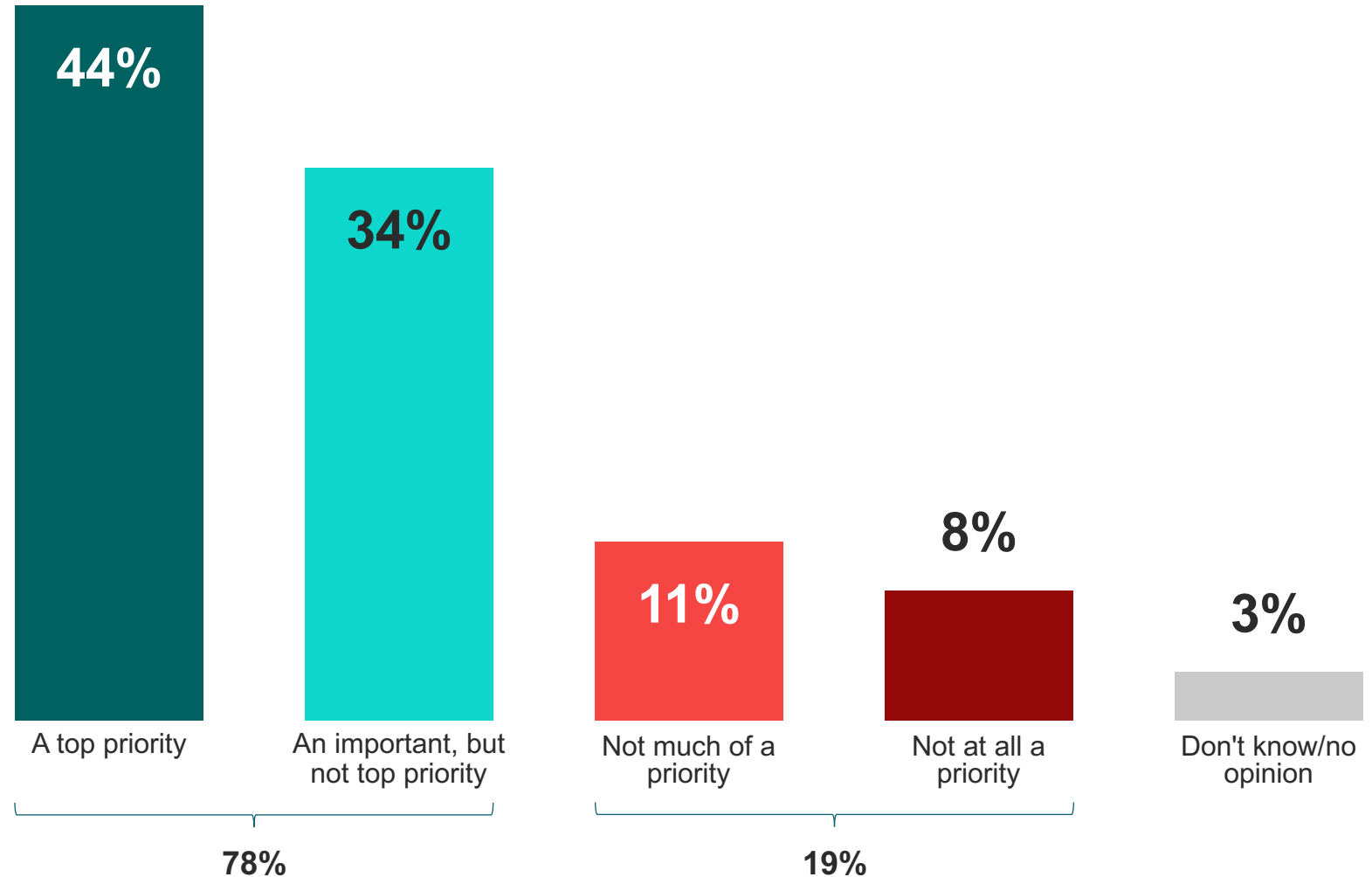


Policy and Candidate Support

Policy and Candidate Support

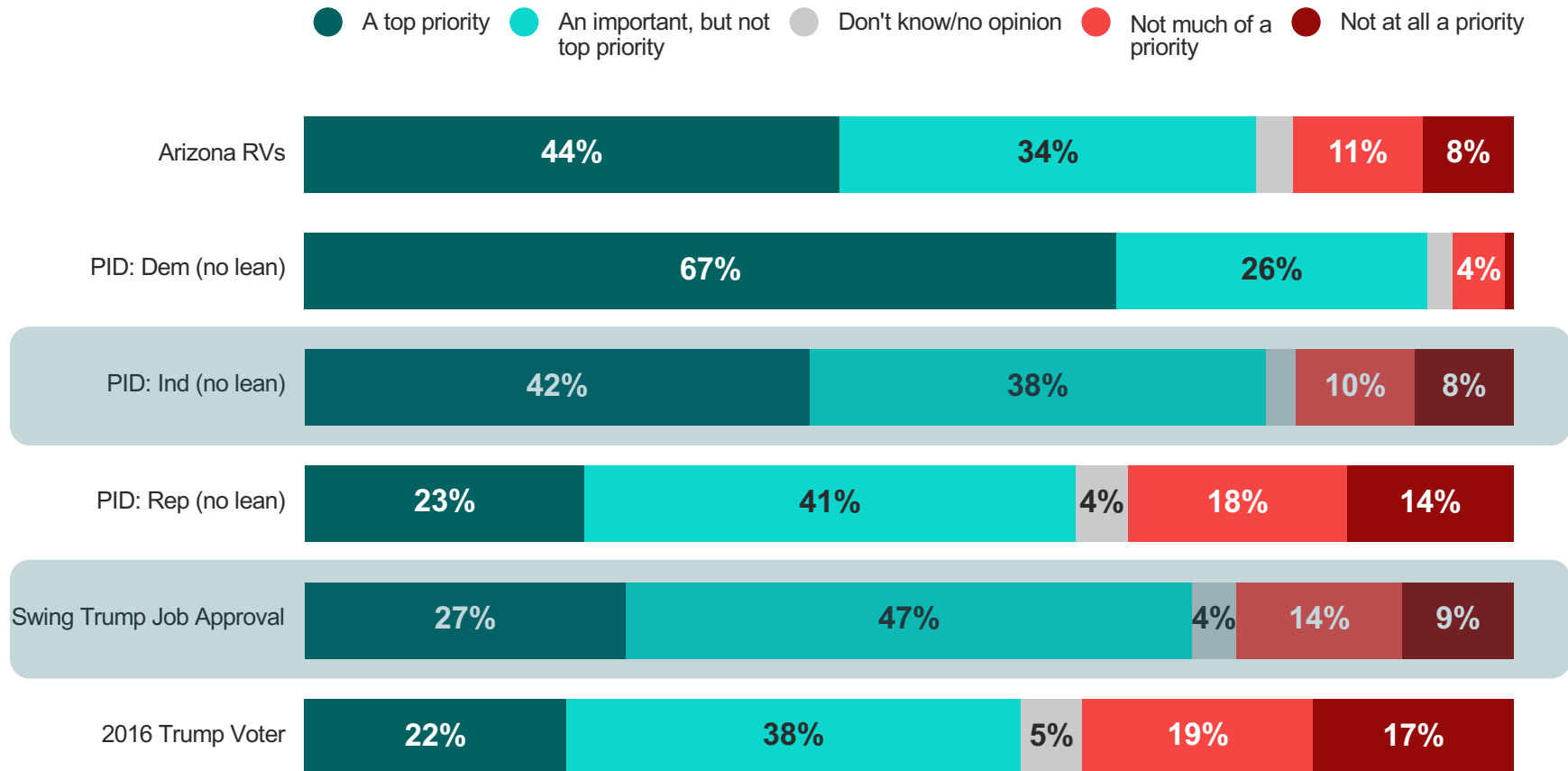
When thinking about recent wildfires, drought, and heat waves, 44% of Arizona voters say it should be a *top priority* for the U.S. to pass legislation to address climate change.

Thinking about recent wildfires, drought and heat waves, how much of a priority should it be, if at all, for the U.S. to pass legislation to address climate change?



When thinking about recent wildfires, drought, and heat waves, three quarters of Arizona independents (80%) and swing Trump job approval voters (74%) say it should be a priority for the U.S. to pass legislation to address climate change.

Thinking about recent wildfires, drought and heat waves, how much of a priority should it be, if at all, for the U.S. to pass legislation to address climate change?

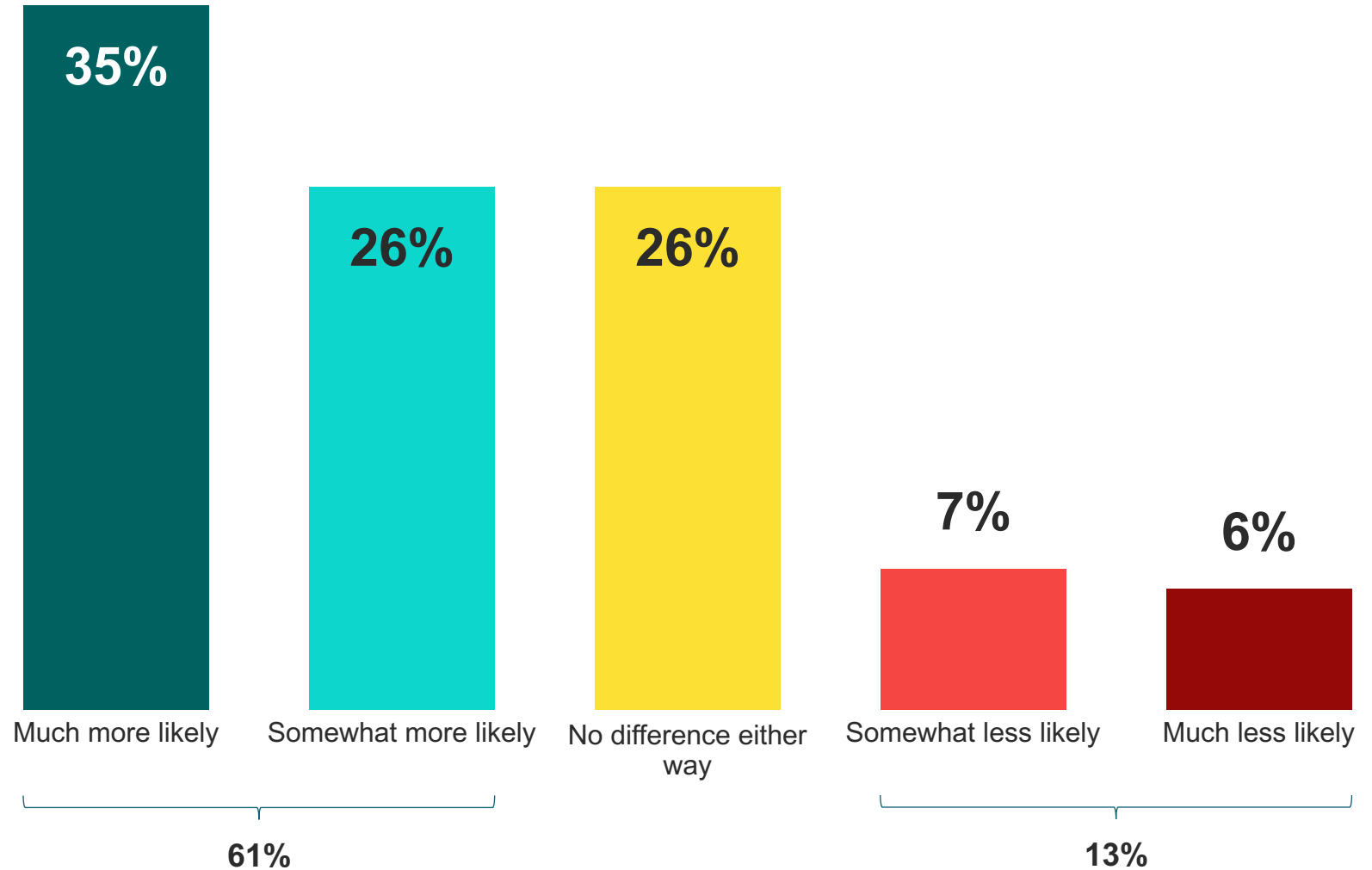


Policy and Candidate Support

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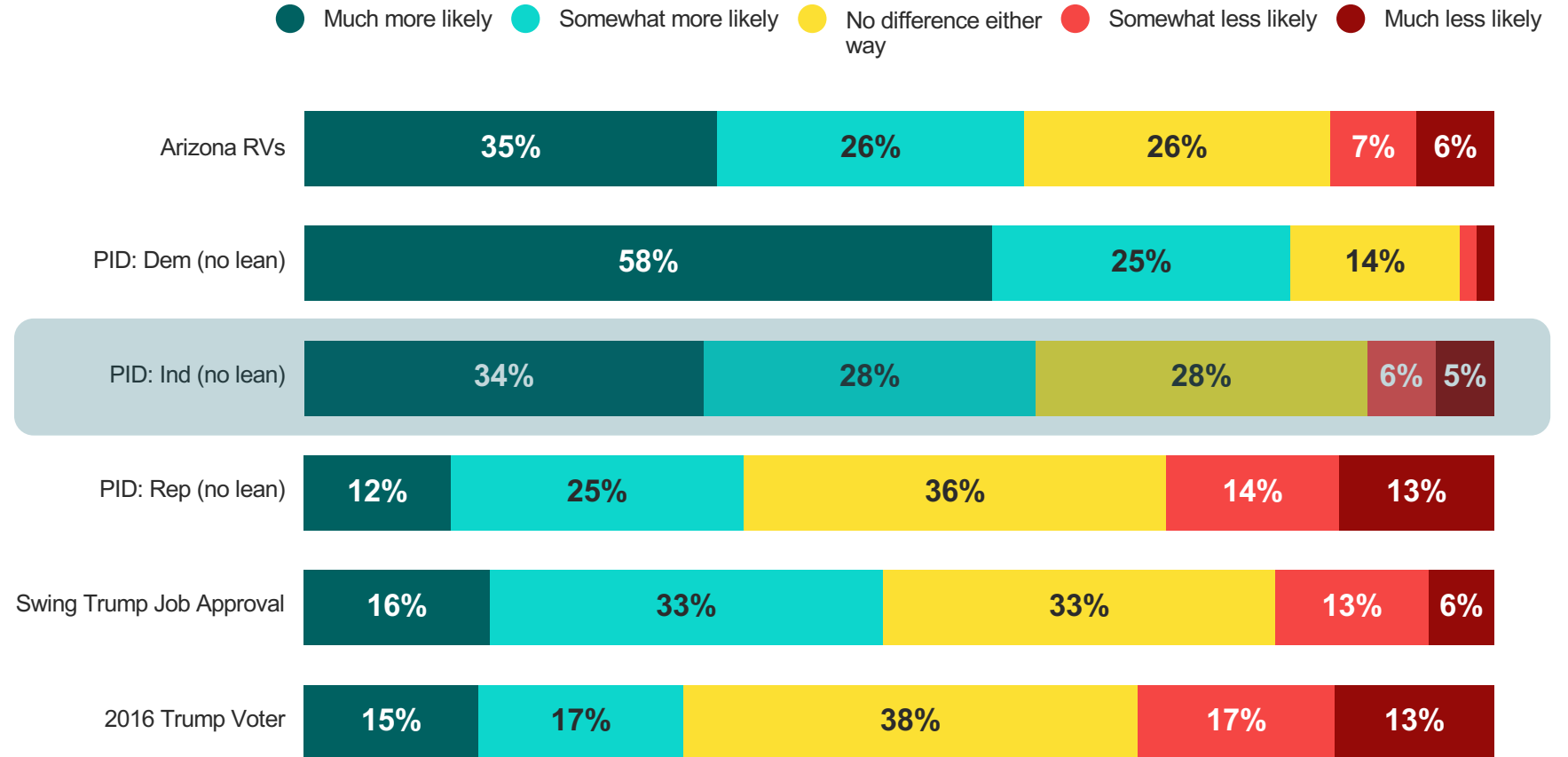
Three in five Arizona voters (61%) say they would be more likely to vote for a U.S. senate candidate in their state if that candidate were to support aggressive action to address climate change.

If a U.S. senate candidate running in your state were to support aggressive action to address climate change, would you be more or less likely to vote for that candidate, or would it not make a difference either way?



Over half of independents in Arizona (62%) say they would be more likely to vote for a U.S. senate candidate in their state if that candidate were to support aggressive action to address climate change.

If a U.S. senate candidate running in your state were to support aggressive action to address climate change, would you be more or less likely to vote for that candidate, or would it not make a difference either way?



Policy and Candidate Support

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