

Energy Transformation in Germany & France: What do citizens expect from energy politics?

The Social Sustainability
Barometer for the German
Energiewende 2017 –

Presentation of key findings.

Daniela Setton

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Overview



- i. Short introduction: What is the „Social Sustainability Barometer for the German Energiewende“?
- ii. Presentation of main findings with regard to:
 - The Energiewende in general and its objectives.
 - The political implementation of the Energiewende.
 - A fair distribution of costs.
 - The expansion of wind onshore.
 - The performance of the political decision makers.
 - Individual contribution to the energy transition.
- iii. Conclusion

SOCIAL SUSTAINABILITY BAROMETER FOR THE GERMAN ENERGIEWENDE 2017



Our methodological approach

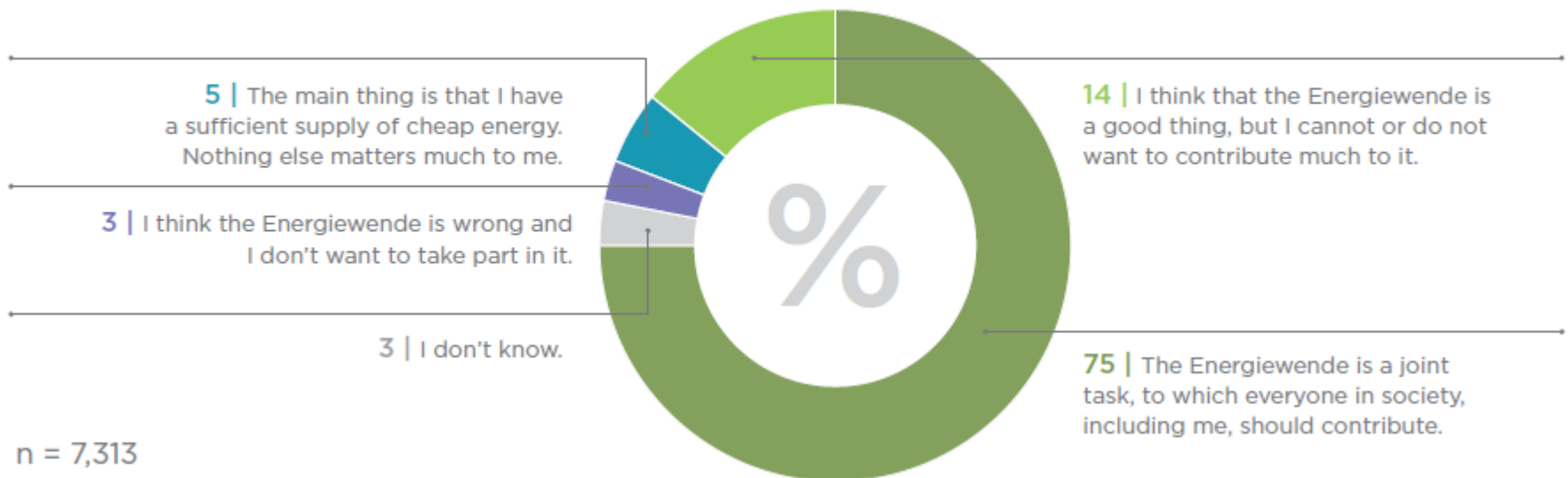
- **Combination of quantitative and qualitative methods**
 - Internet-based, representative survey: more than 7,500 German households (Period: 7 June - 23 July 2017)
 - Focus groups (5 guided group discussions)
 - Expert elicitations
 - Discourse analysis



1. What do people think about the energy transition in general and its objectives?

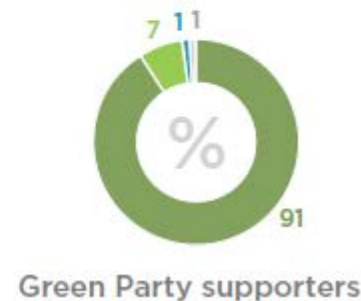
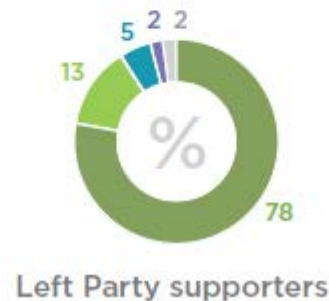
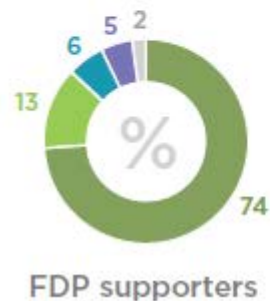
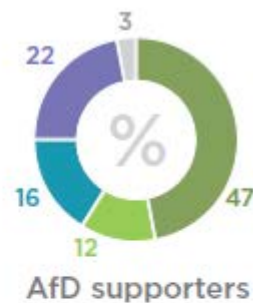
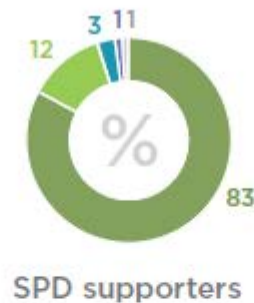
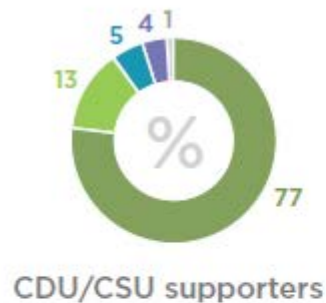
A BROAD CONSENSUS FOR THE ENERGY TRANSITION

If you think of your personal contribution to the energy transition, which of the following statements is most applicable to you?



ALL ACROSS THE POLITICAL SPECTRUM: AN OVERWHELMING MAJORITY

From the Left Party to the AfD: broad agreement on the Energiewende

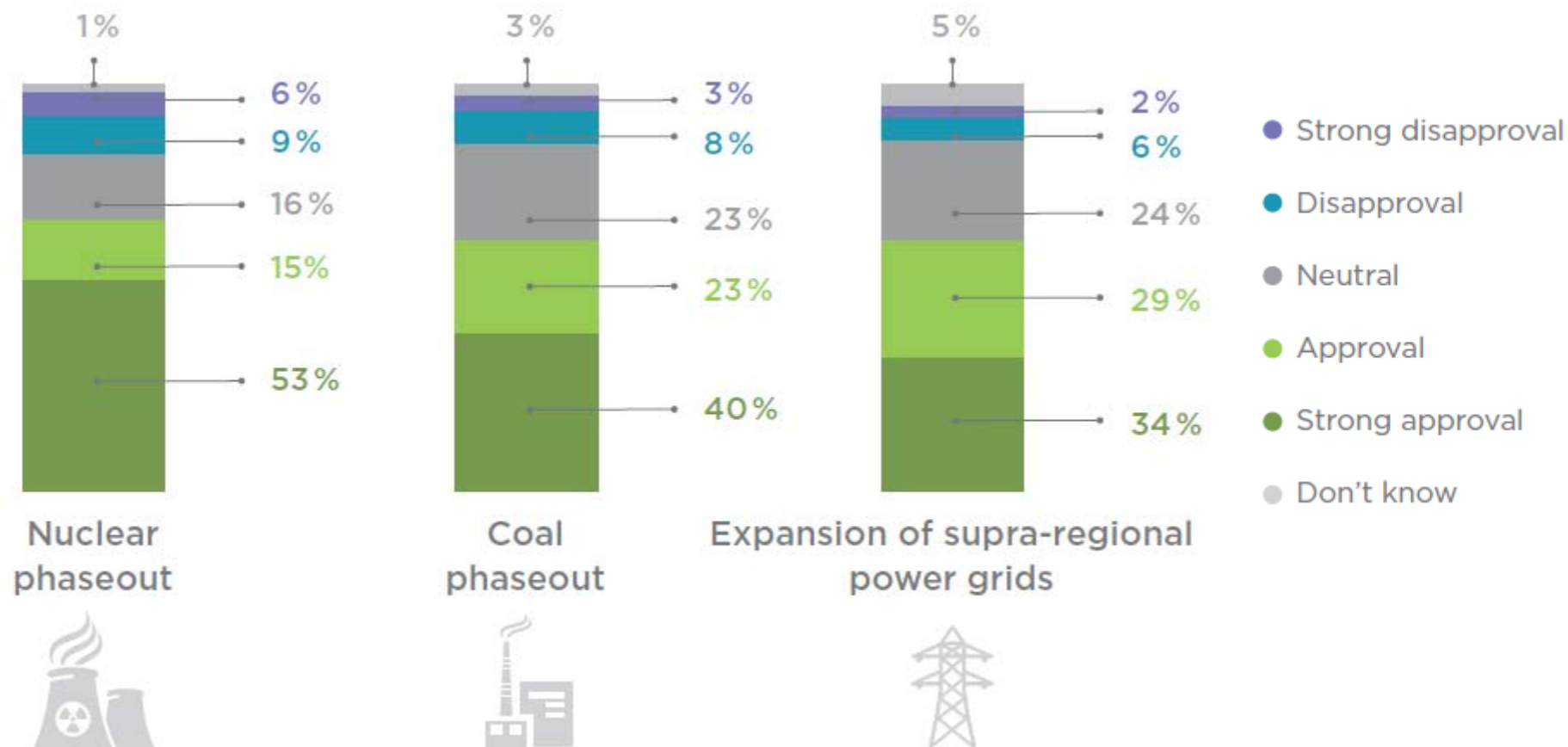


- I think that the Energiewende is a good thing, but I cannot or do not want to contribute much to it.
- The Energiewende is a joint task to which everyone in society, including me, should contribute.
- The main thing is that I have a sufficient supply of cheap energy. Nothing else matters much to me.
- I think the Energiewende is wrong and I don't want to take part in it.
- I don't know.

n = 4,307, households stating a party preference

TWO THIRDS IN FAVOUR OF COAL PHASEOUT, ALMOST AS MANY AS FOR NUCLEAR PHASEOUT

HIGH APPROVAL FOR THE OBJECTIVES OF THE ENERGIEWENDE



n = 7.459

2. What do people think about the political implementation of the Energiewende?

2 | DISPUTED IMPLEMENTATION OF THE ENERGIEWENDE

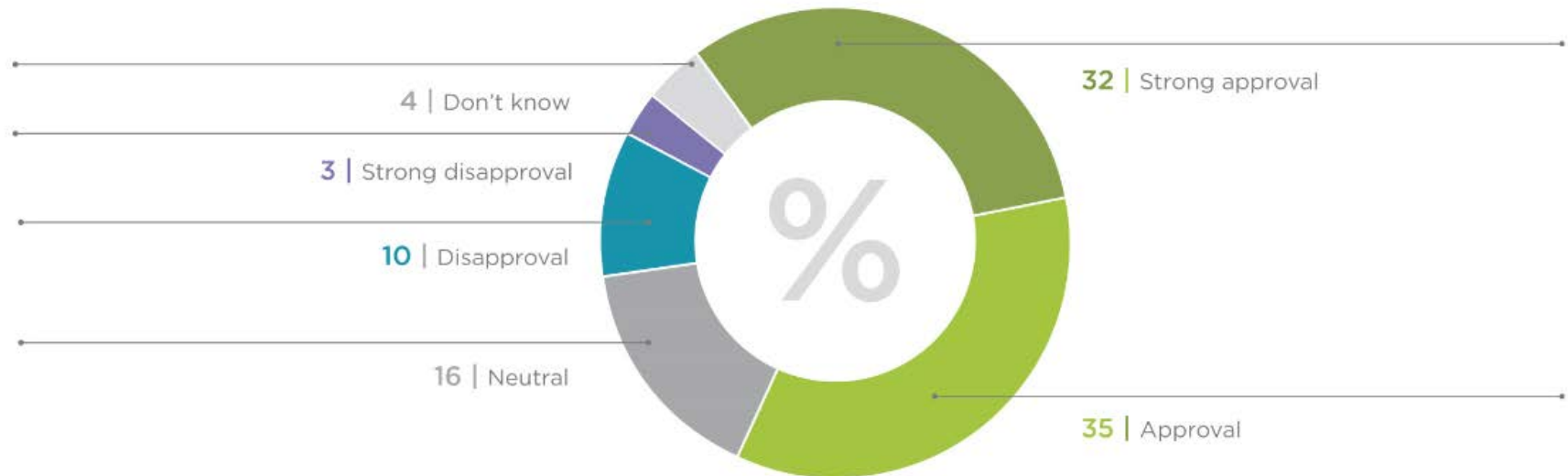
Assessment of the Energiewende in Germany based on pairs of characteristics.



COST DISTRIBUTION: NOT FAIR

What do you think of the following statement:

The costs of the Energiewende are borne by „ordinary people“, while the wealthy and the companies tend to profit from it.

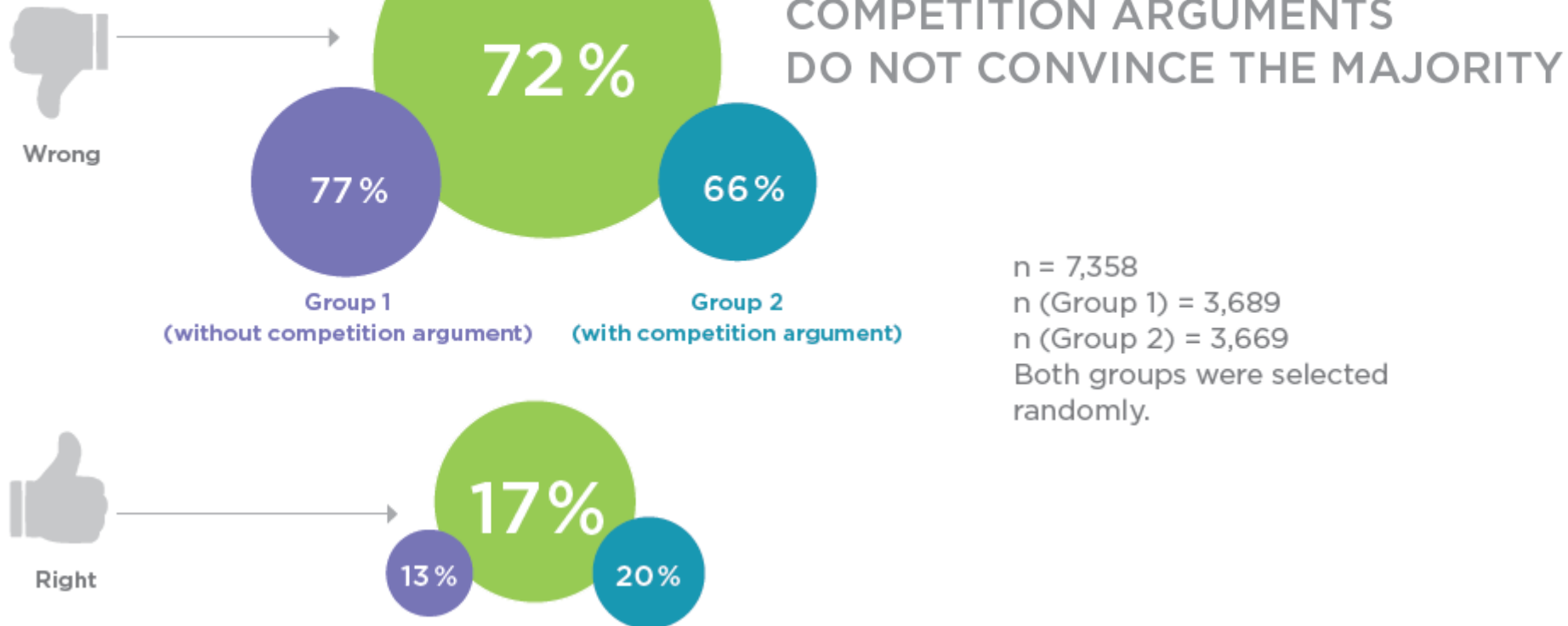


n=7,431

3. What do people think is a fair distribution of costs?

MAJORITY REJECTS EXEMPTION OF INDUSTRY FROM RENEWABLE ENERGY (EEG) LEVY

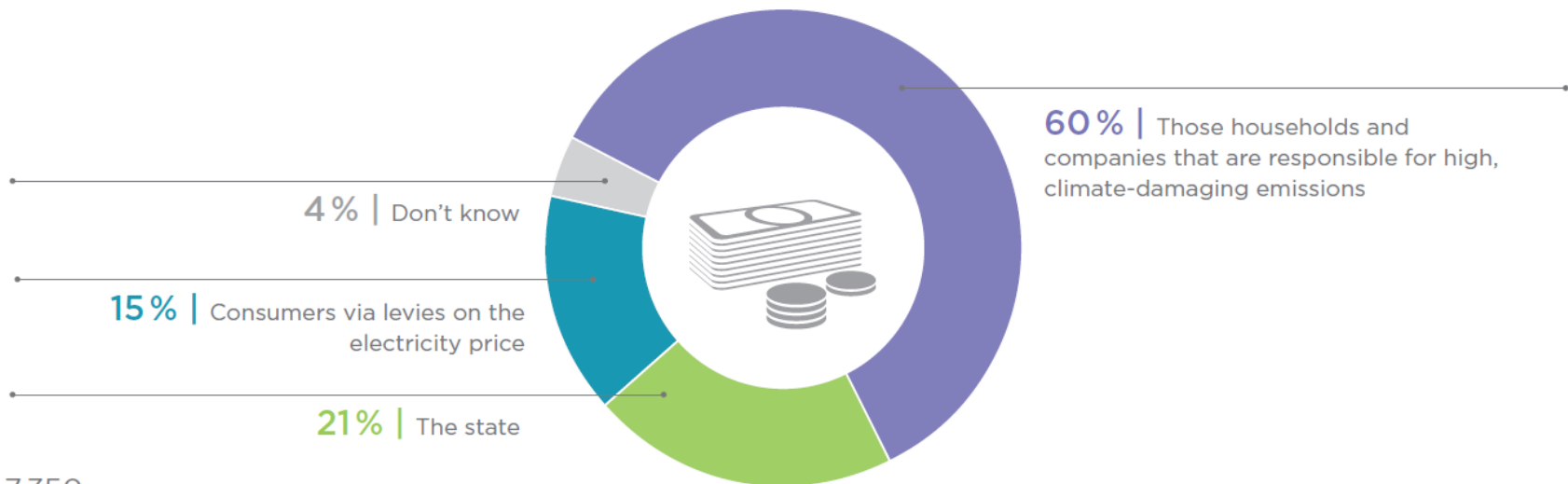
Total (Groups 1 + 2)



At present, particularly energy-intensive companies (e.g. in the chemicals and steel industry) are generally exempt from paying the EEG levy. *[Sentence added for Group 2: In this way, the federal government aims to preserve international competitiveness.]* What do you think about this exemption?

FAIR DISTRIBUTION OF COSTS

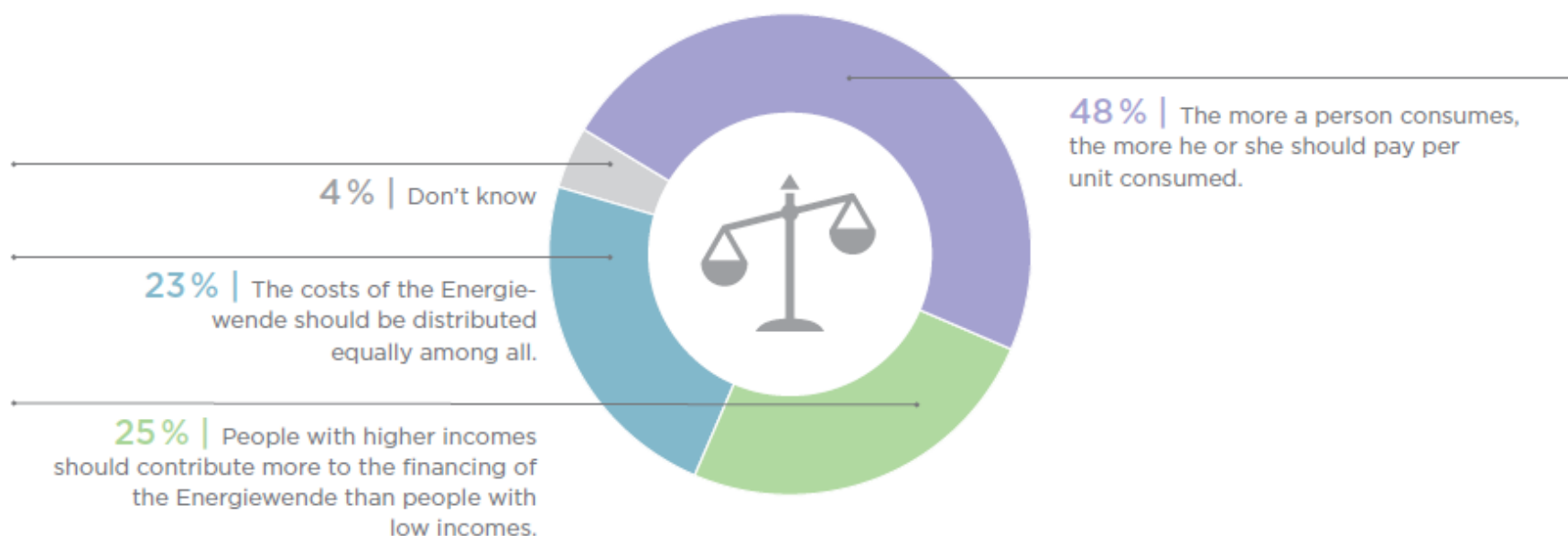
Who should bear the brunt of the costs of the Energiewende?



As a consumer, you increasingly pay a range of charges and levies on top of the basic electricity price, to cover, for example, the expansion of renewable energies, electricity grids, and security of supply. Do you agree on the whole that consumers should shoulder most of the costs associated with the energy transition?

FAIR DISTRIBUTION OF COSTS: “THOSE WHO CONSUME MORE SHOULD PAY MORE!”

What would a fair distribution of Energiewende costs look like?

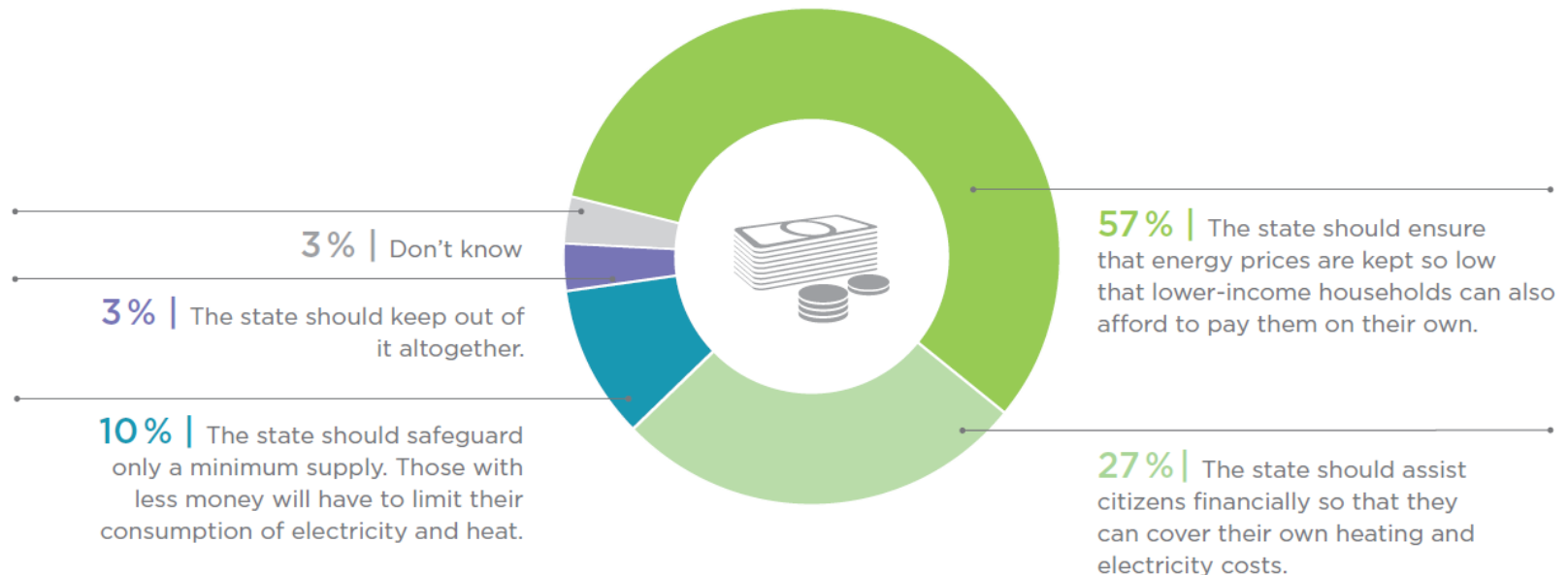


n = 7,323

If you were asked to advise the German Government on how the costs of the Energiewende in Germany could be shared equitably, which aspects would be most important to you?

A SOCIALLY JUST ENERGY TRANSITION: STATE SHOULD ASSUME MORE RESPONSIBILITY

In your opinion, what role should the state play in securing an energy supply for all citizens in Germany? Which statement do you agree with most?



n = 7,366

ENERGY REFURBISHMENTS AND RENT INCREASES

What do respondents think about additional rent increases after an upgrade to the energy efficiency of a building?



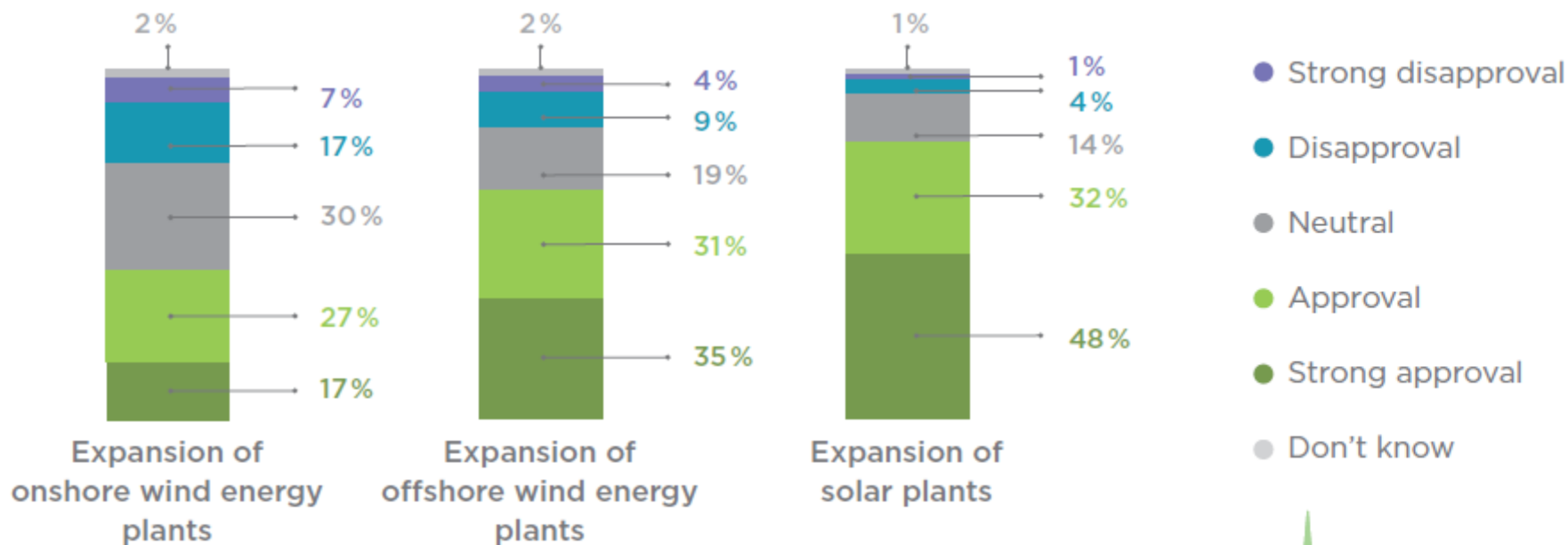
n = 7,331 (all households); n = 868 (landlords)

Under current law, landlords are entitled to increase rents following an upgrade to the energy efficiency of their property (for example, installing new windows or heating systems or insulating the facade). This rent increase can amount to several hundred euros per month. Which of the following statements do you agree with most?

4. What do people think about the expansion of wind onshore?

GAP IN ATTITUDES TO WIND AND SOLAR

Attitudes of the population to the expansion of solar plants and offshore/onshore wind energy plants



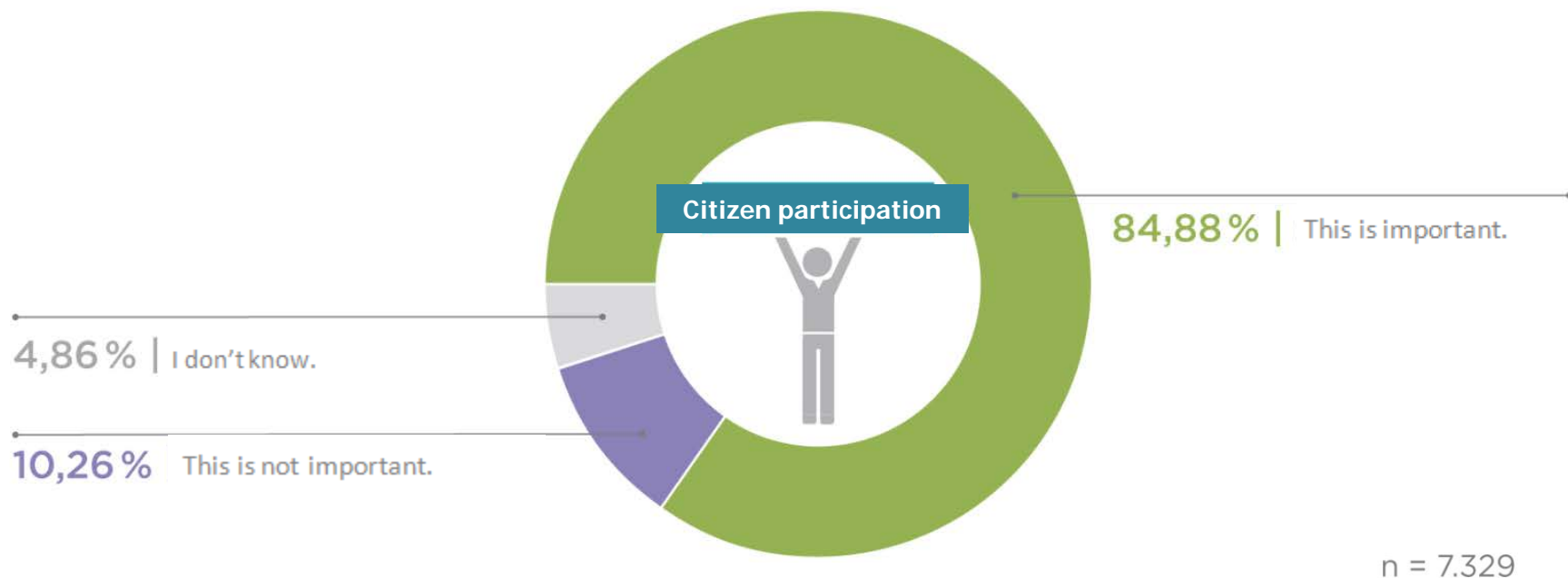
n= 7.386

The expansion of renewable energies is one component of the energy transition. What is your personal opinion of the following technologies?



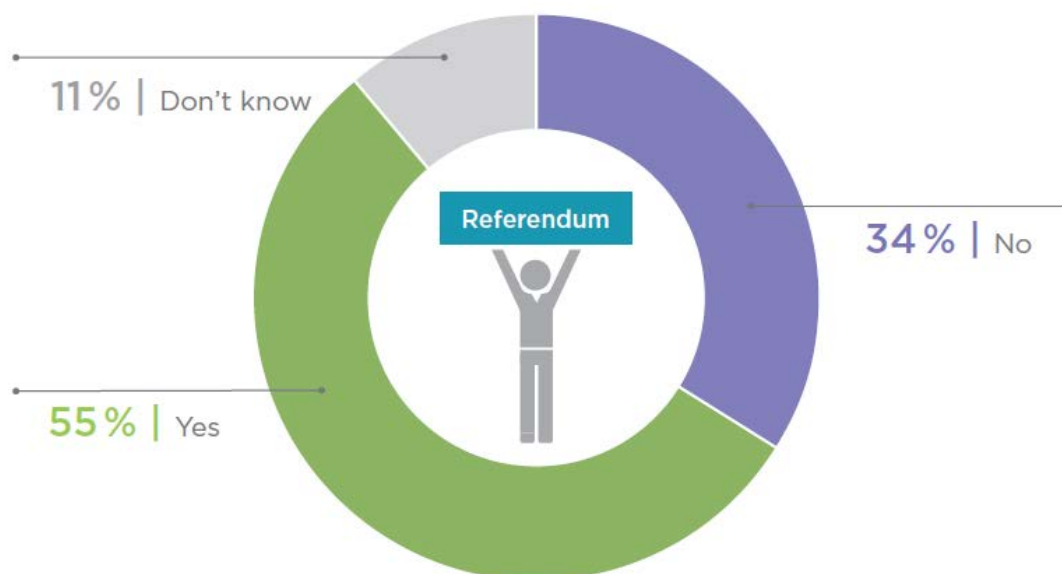
WIND ONSHORE: STRONG DESIRE FOR MORE POLITICAL PARTICIPATION

Do you think it's important that citizens have the opportunity to participate in the planning of new wind energy plants in their locality at an early stage?



CITIZENS SHOULD HAVE THE FINAL SAY

Should affected citizens have the final say on new wind energy plants – e.g. by means of a referendum?

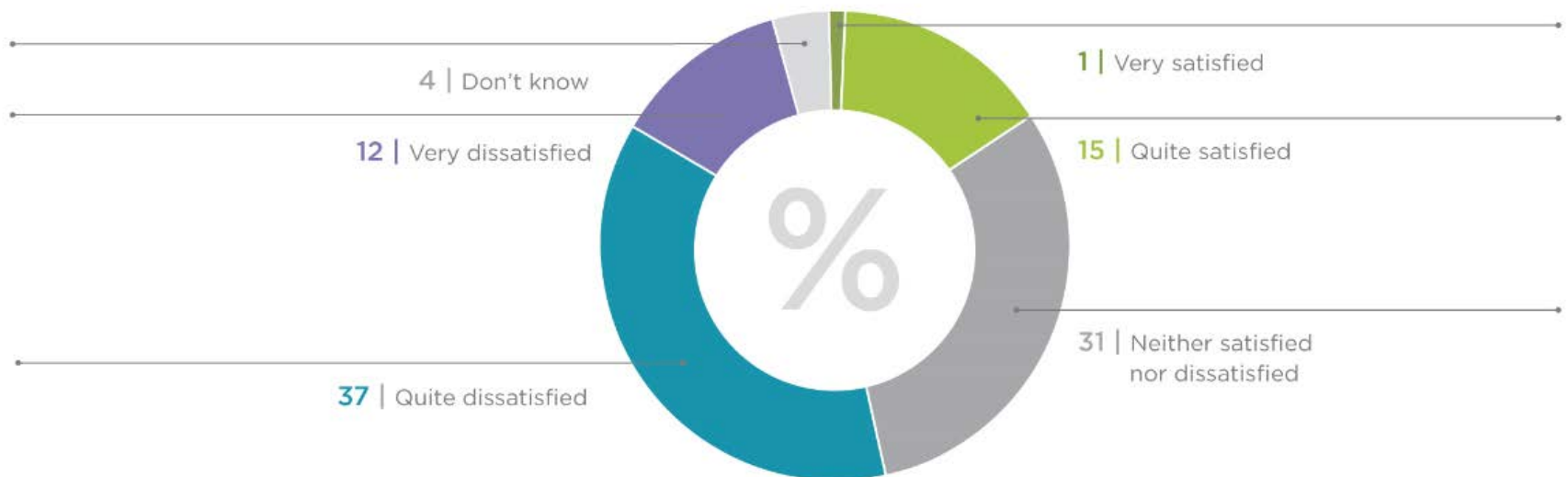


n = 7.328

5. What do people think about the performance of the political decision makers?

PERFORMANCE OF THE GOVERNMENT: RATED POOR BY A MAJORITY

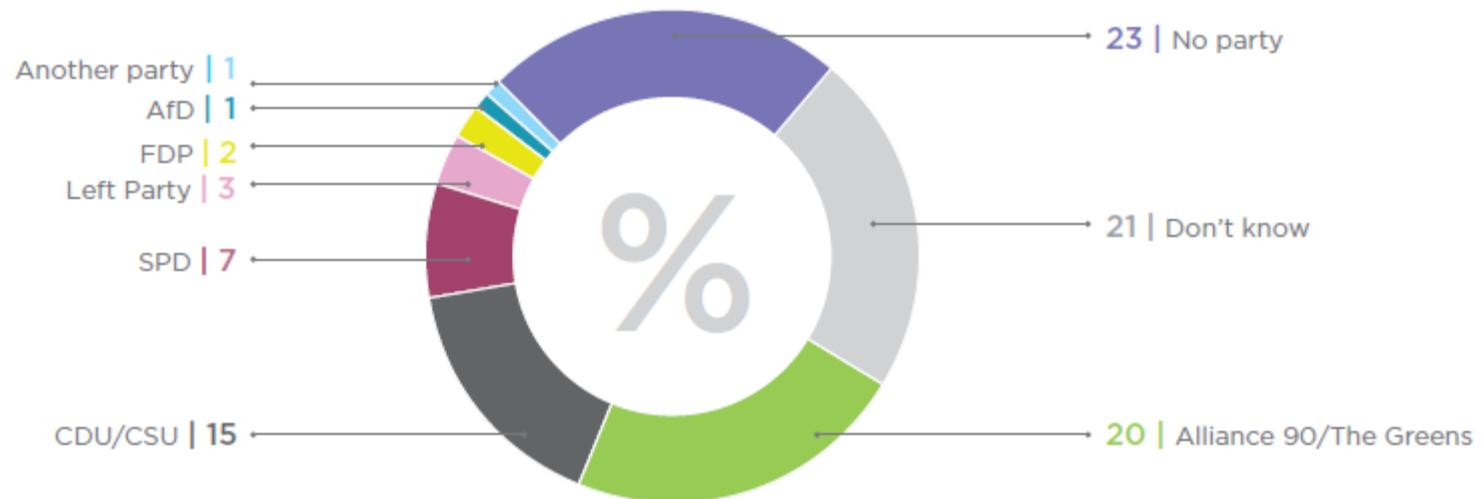
Are you satisfied with the performance of the Federal Government when it comes to how the energy transition is proceeding and being implemented?



n = 7,321

LITTLE CONFIDENCE IN THE COMPETENCE OF THE POLITICAL PARTIES

Which political party has the best concepts for implementing the Energiewende?



n = 7,321; 7 % of respondents did not answer this question

6. What about the individual contribution to the energy transition?

YES TO ENERGY SAVING BUT RELUCTANCE TO INVEST IN CITIZEN ENERGY AND SMART HEAT



When buying household equipment I keep energy efficiency in mind.

93%

I think it's important to save energy in everyday life.

87%

I have a green energy provider.

35%

I have already invested in my own solar or wind energy plant.

10%

I have already invested in smart heat.

8%

Conclusion

1. The German population wants the energy transition!
2. A fairer distribution of costs needed:
 - High energy consumers (Industry and Households) should pay more.
 - More social balancing.
3. Expansion of wind onshore: more political participation is needed.
4. Much more support for activating all sections of the population.

Thank you very much for your attention.



Daniela Setton / Senior Research Associate
daniela.setton@iass-potsdam.de

Institut für transformative
Nachhaltigkeitsforschung (IASS)
Berliner Straße 130
D – 14467 Potsdam
Web: www.iass-potsdam.de

