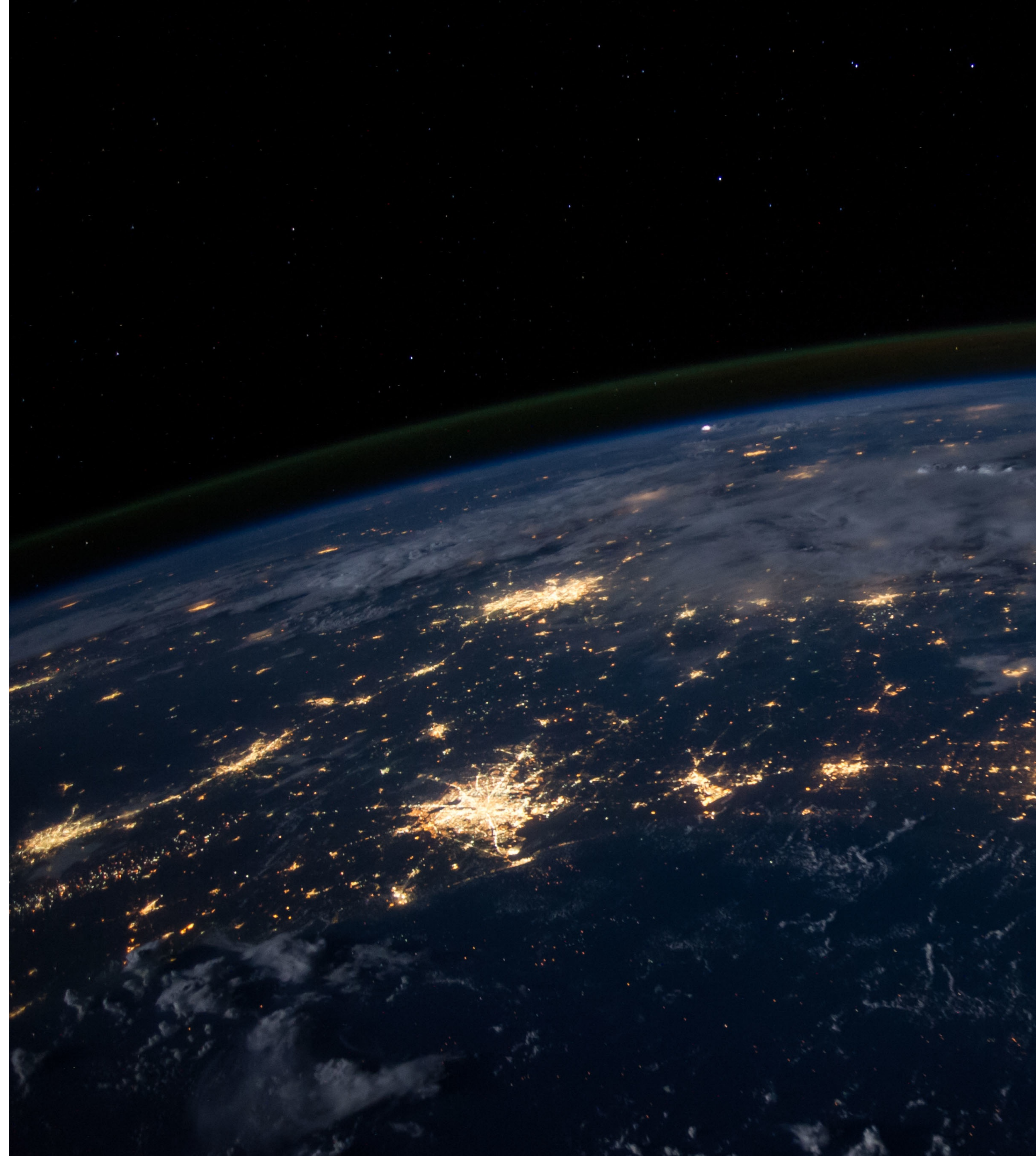ECHELON INSIGHTS

Solar United Neighbors

## West Virginia State Survey about Net Metering

N=500 Registered Voters in West Virginia
December 5-7, 2023

Strong support for net metering in West Virginia

- After informing them about the concept of net metering, 70% of West Virginians express support for the net metering system, with 40% strongly supporting and 30% somewhat supporting.

Strongly support **Somewhat support**
Somewhat oppose **Strongly oppose**
Unsure

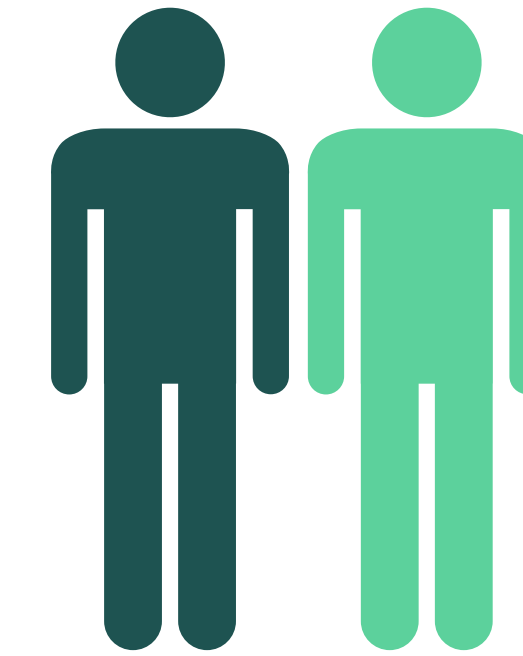| 40% | 30% | 3% | 7% | 20% |

70% support for net metering
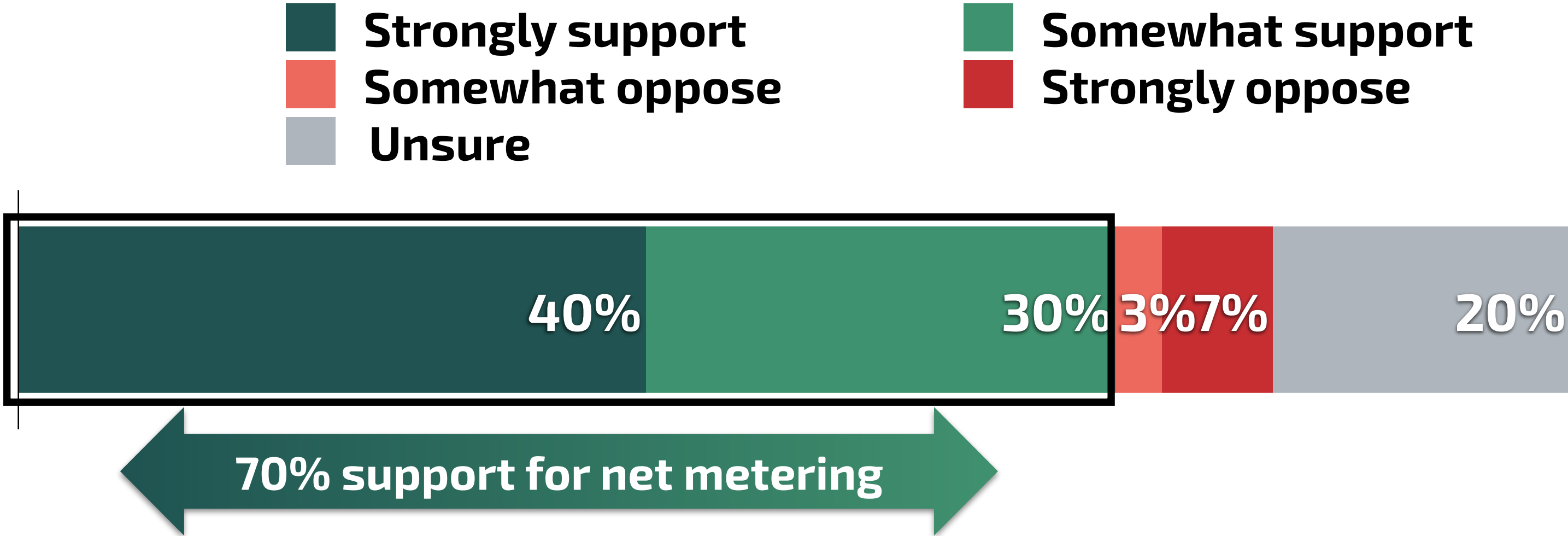
Q. Utility customers in West Virginia who have solar panels on their homes use a system called "net metering". Net metering allows solar customers to get a dollar for dollar credit on their electric bill if their solar panels produce more energy than they use, creating additional electricity for the utility. Knowing this, would you say that you support or oppose West Virginia's net metering system?

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If West Virginia state legislators voted for bills raising the cost of solar panel installation...
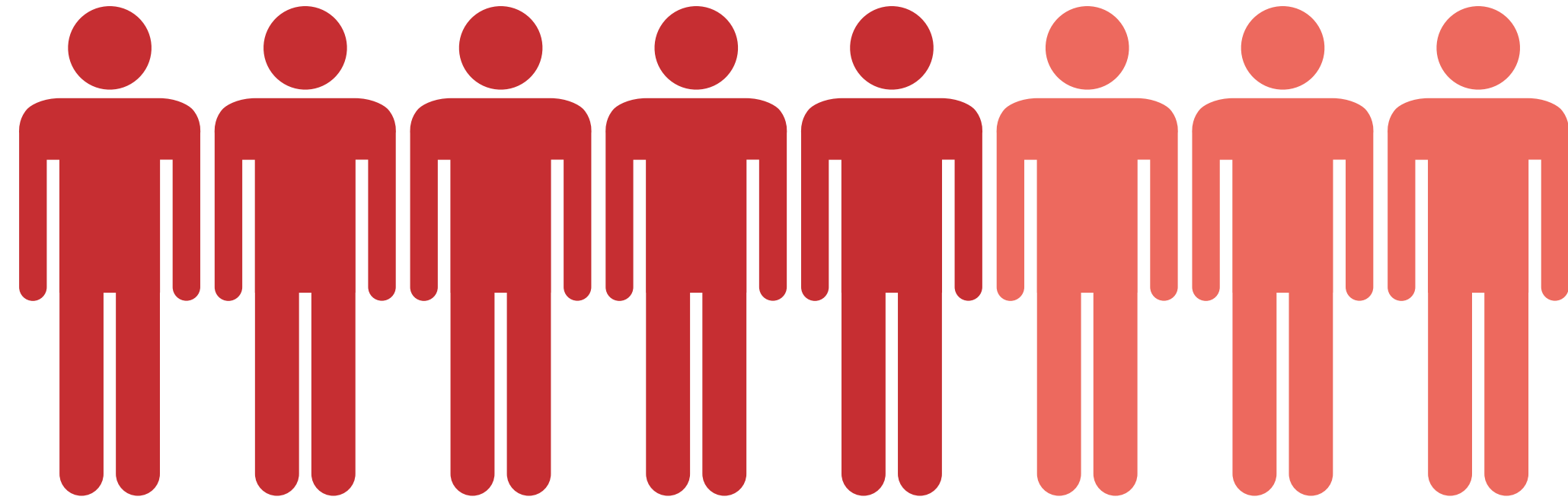
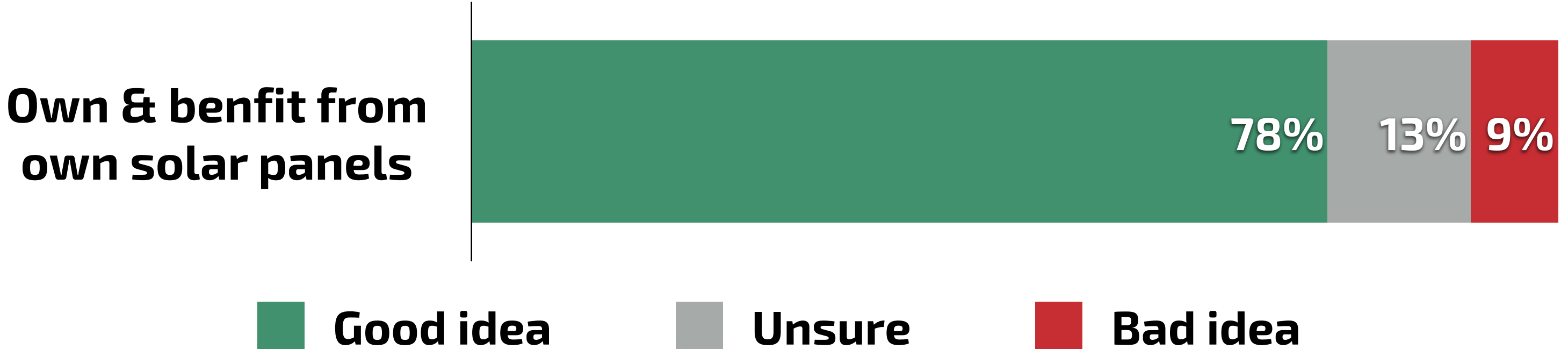**A 65% majority would be <u>much</u> or <u>somewhat</u> less likely to re-elect them.**

Only 8% were <u>much</u> or <u>somewhat</u> more likely to re-elect them

ECHELON INSIGHTS

Q. Some researchers say that the West Virginia solar energy industry creates thousands of manufacturing and installation jobs in the state. Thinking about your vote in November next year, if your state legislator voted for bills that would significantly raise the cost for customers to install solar panels on their rooftops, would that make you more or less likely to re-elect them?

There's strong support for solar among West Virginia voters

- 78% believe it's a good idea for more West Virginia families to own and benefit from their own solar panels.

Residential rooftop solar usage

54%	26%	20%

- ■ **Yes, should be incentivized**
- ■ **Unsure**
- ■ **No, should not be incentivized**

Own & benfit from own solar panels

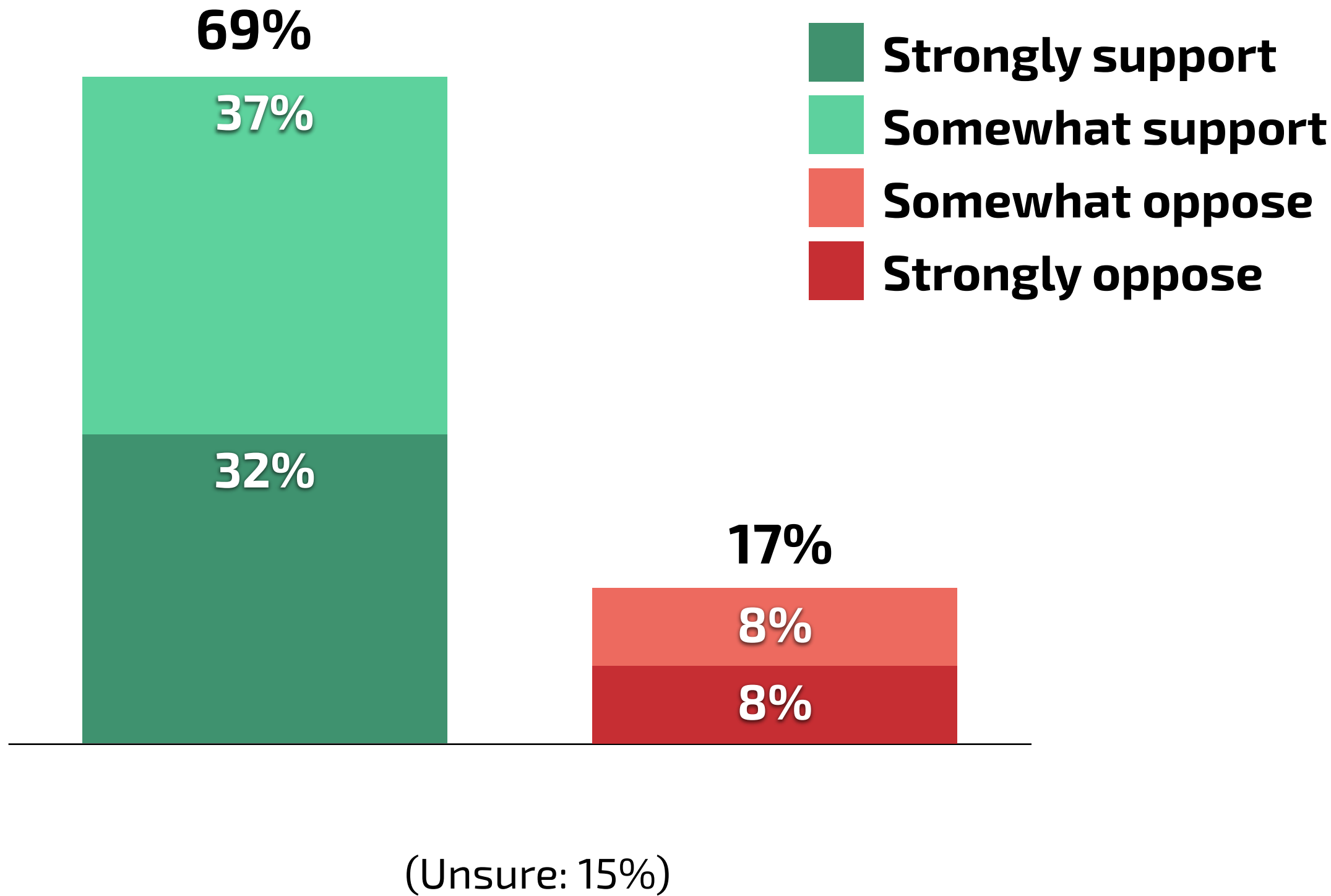| 78%	13%	9%

- ■ **Good idea**
- ■ **Unsure**
- ■ **Bad idea**
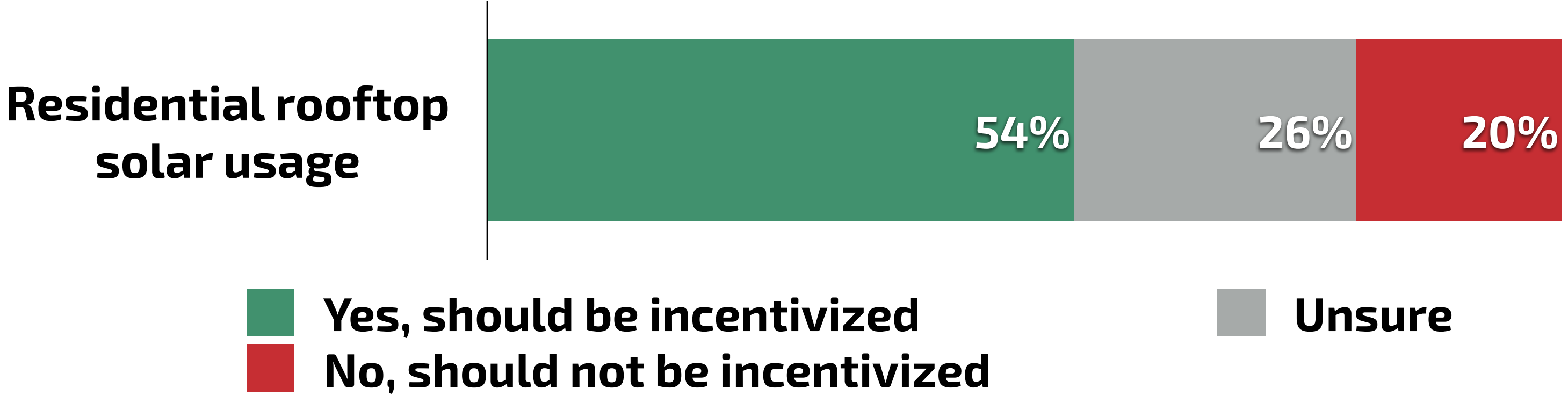
Q. As part of building a healthy balance of energy in West Virginia, do you feel that residential rooftop solar power usage should or should not be incentivized by the state government to grow?

Q. Generally speaking, do you think that it's a good idea or a bad idea for more West Virginia families to be able to own and benefit from their own solar panels?

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Nearly 70% of West Virginians support community solar

· Programs would allow residential customers to tap into power from nearby solar panels.

69%
37%
32%

17%
8%
8%

Strongly support
Somewhat support
Somewhat oppose
Strongly oppose

(Unsure: 15%)

Q. Solar panels may be too expensive for some families to install on their own roofs. However, many states have enabled a program called "Community Solar" which allows families to reduce their electric bills through subscribing to panels that exist off site - on a school building, abandoned landfill or over a local church's parking lot.
Knowing this would you say you support or oppose having a Community Solar program in West Virginia?

ECHELON INSIGHTS