

# STUDENT OPINION: UNIVERSITY FINANCIAL INVESTMENTS

Survey research for Invest for Change campaign

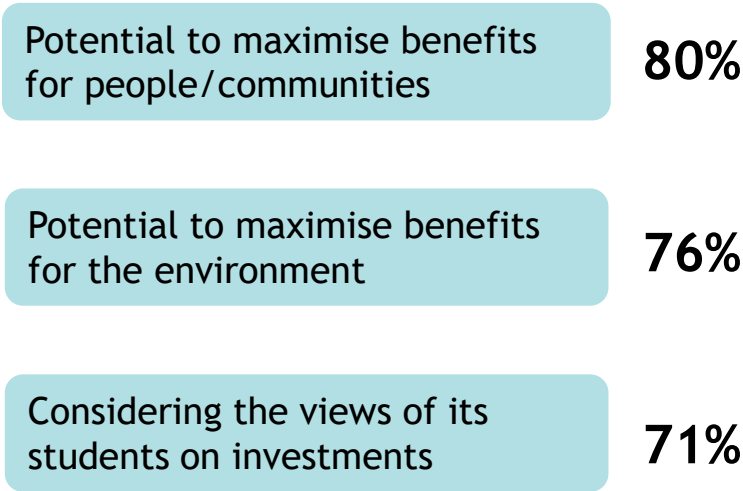


STUDENTS  
ORGANISING FOR  
SUSTAINABILITY  
UNITED KINGDOM

# SUMMARY

Invest for Change campaigns for university money to act in the interest of students. This survey was carried out to find out more about what students think about the issues covered by the campaign. The survey was sent out to TOTUM cardholders in February 2023. 1621 students participated in the survey with results weighted to be nationally representative.

According to respondents, their university should make making financial investment decisions based on...

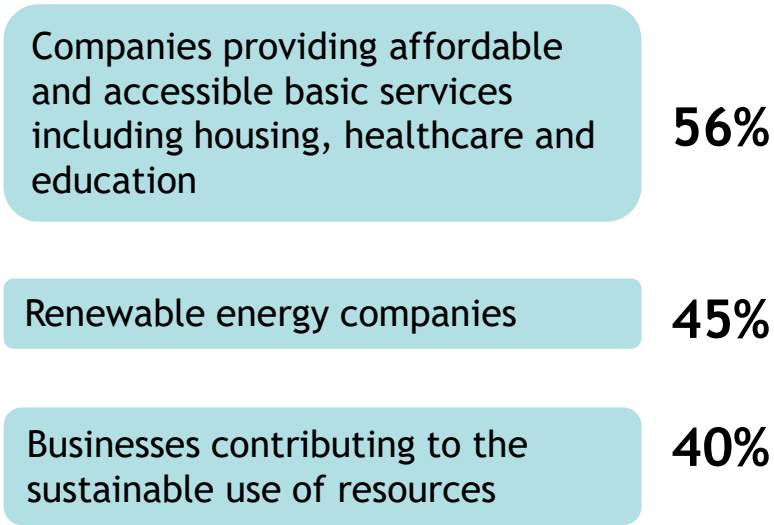


57%

agree that universities have a responsibility to address the harmful impact of previous investments by investing in solutions to environmental and social issues

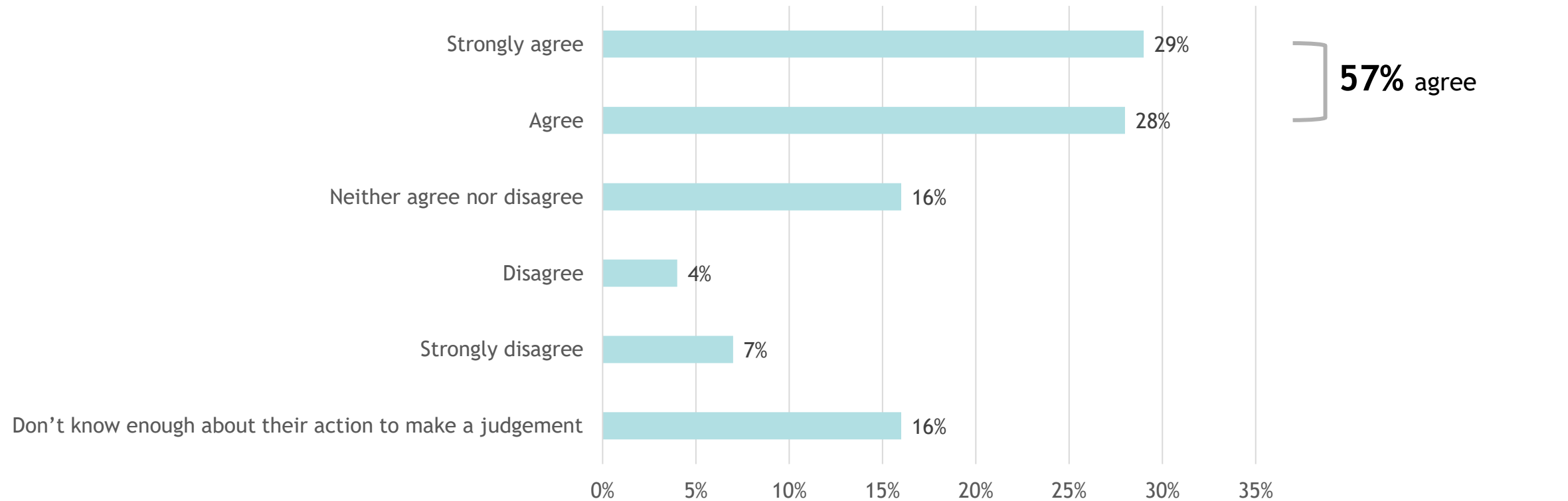


Respondents would like to see their universities investing in...



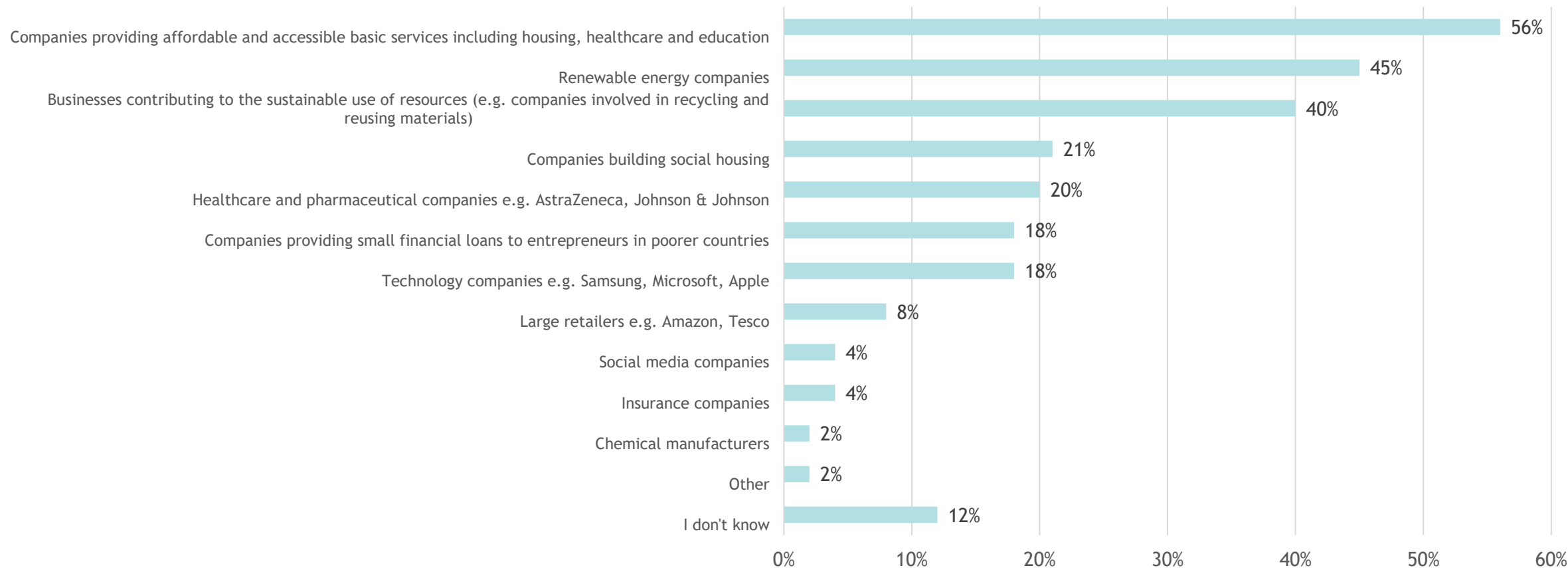
# FINDINGS IN DETAIL

Over half (57%) of respondents agree that universities have a responsibility to address the harmful impact of previous investments by investing in solutions to environmental and social issues



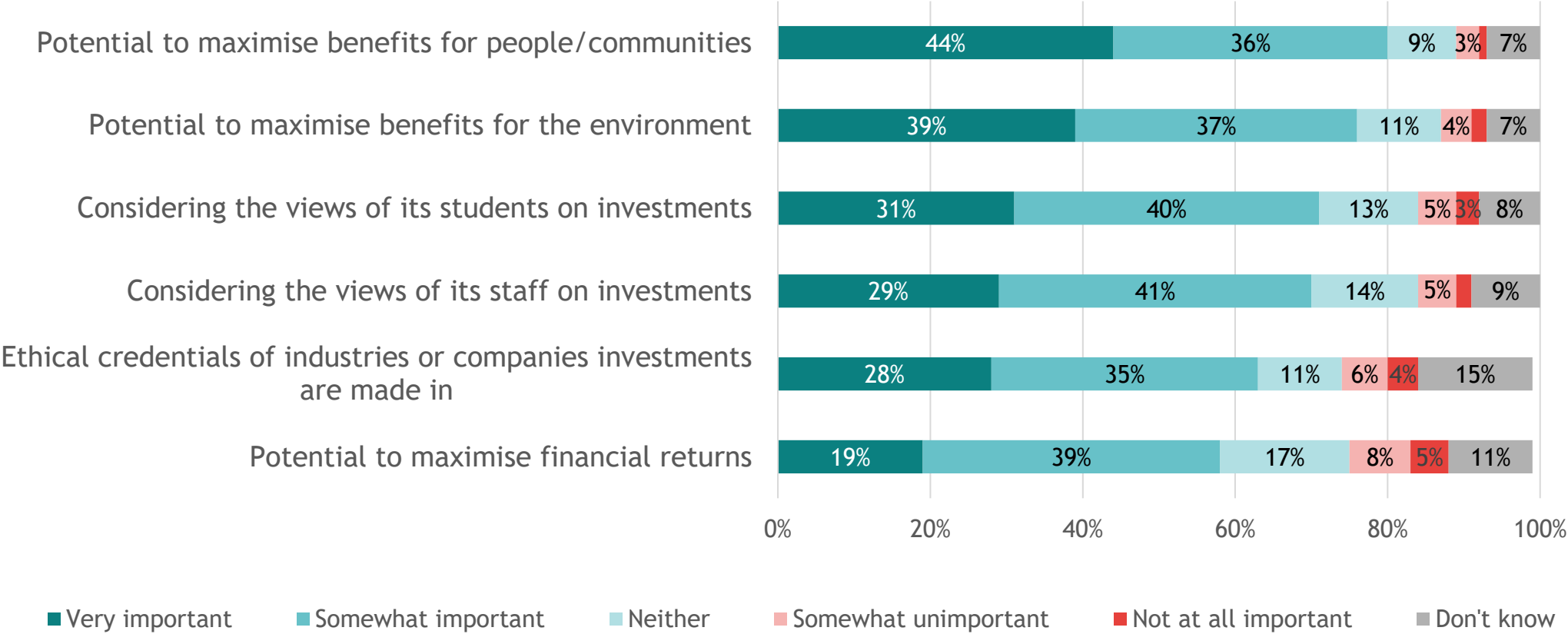
Question: Many universities have grown their endowments through historic investments in fossil fuels. Older universities have also profited from investing in the slave trade in the past. Bearing this in mind, to what extent do you agree or disagree that universities have a responsibility to address the harmful impact of previous investments by investing in solutions to environmental and social issues? Base: 1615

Over half (56%) of students would like to see their university investing in companies providing affordable and accessible basic services and just under half of students (45%) said they would like to see their university investing in renewable energy companies. There is limited support for investment in insurance, large retailers, social media and chemical manufacturers.



Question: What would you like to see your university/college investing in? Base: 1611

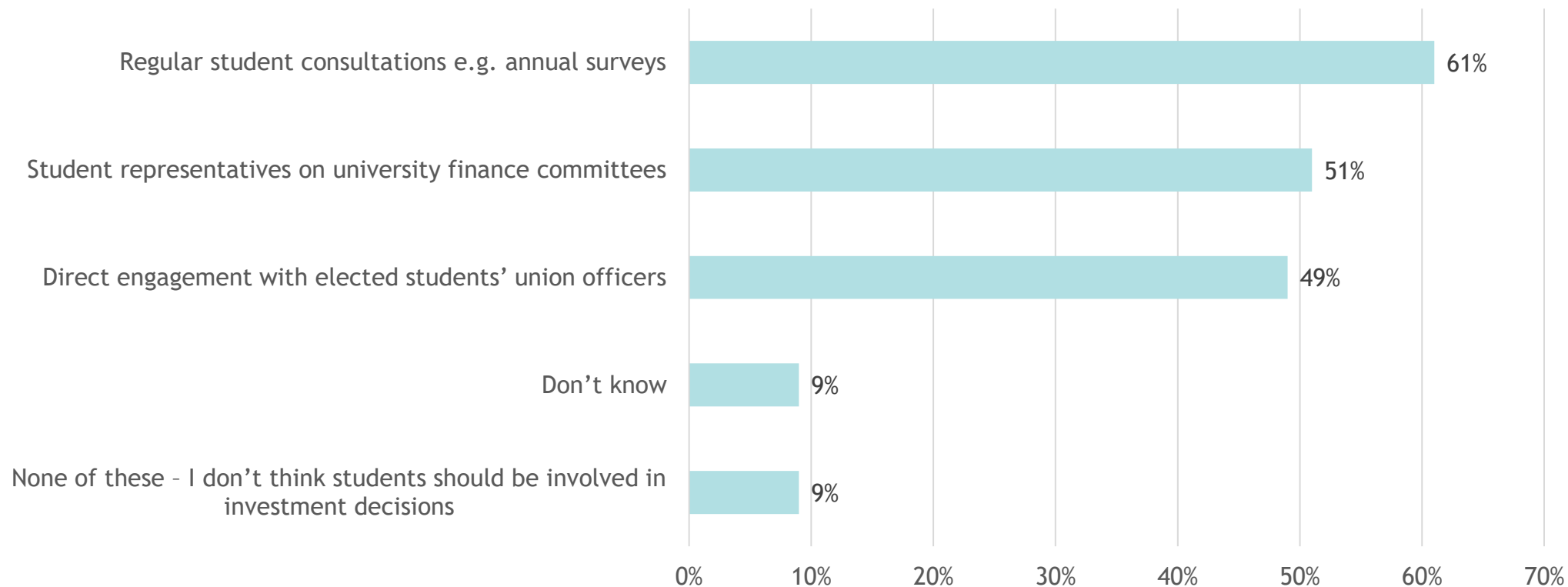
80% of respondents think that the potential to maximise benefits for people/communities should be an important factor for their university to consider when making decisions on financial investments



Question: How important should the following factors be to your university when making decisions on where to make financial investments? Weighted base: c. 1605

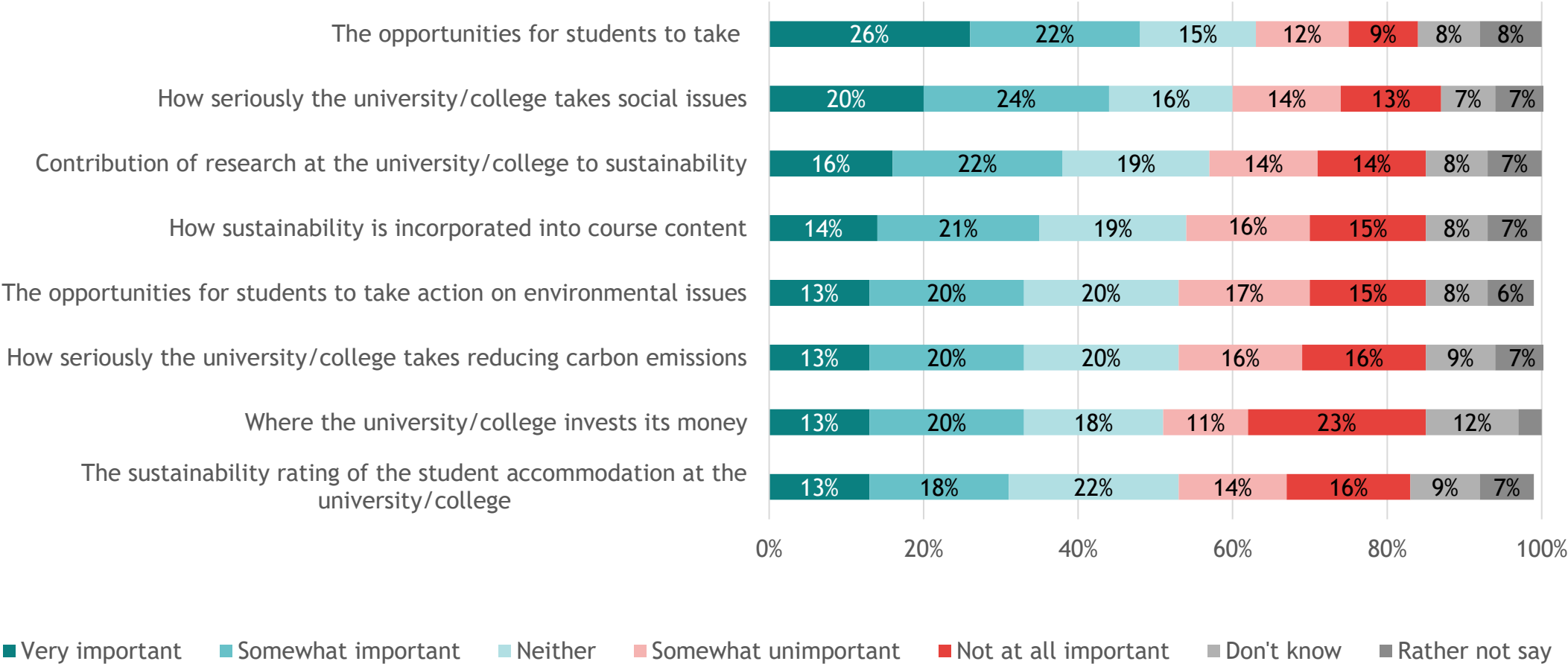


61% of respondents think that student representatives should be involved in informing their university/college’s investment decisions through regular student consultations, such as annual surveys



Question: How, if at all, do you think student representatives should be involved in informing their university/college’s investment decisions? ? Base: 1603

44% of respondents say that how seriously the university/college takes social issues was important when choosing where to apply to.

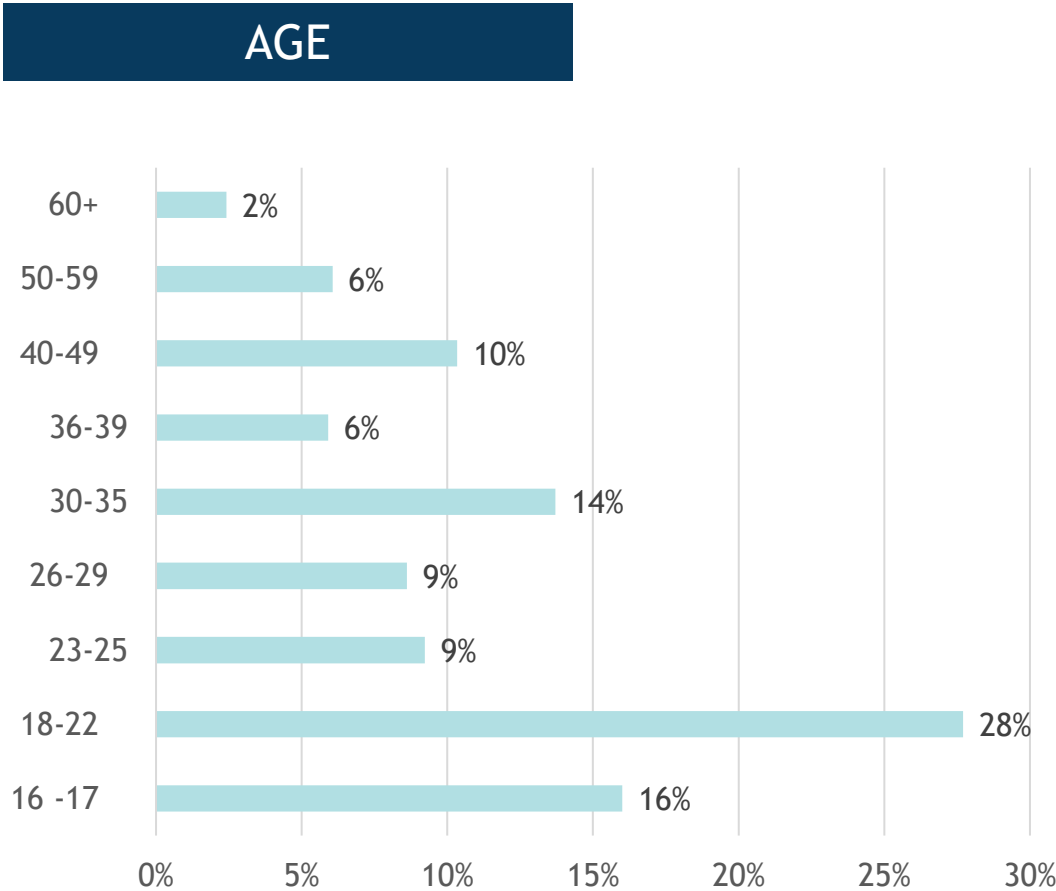
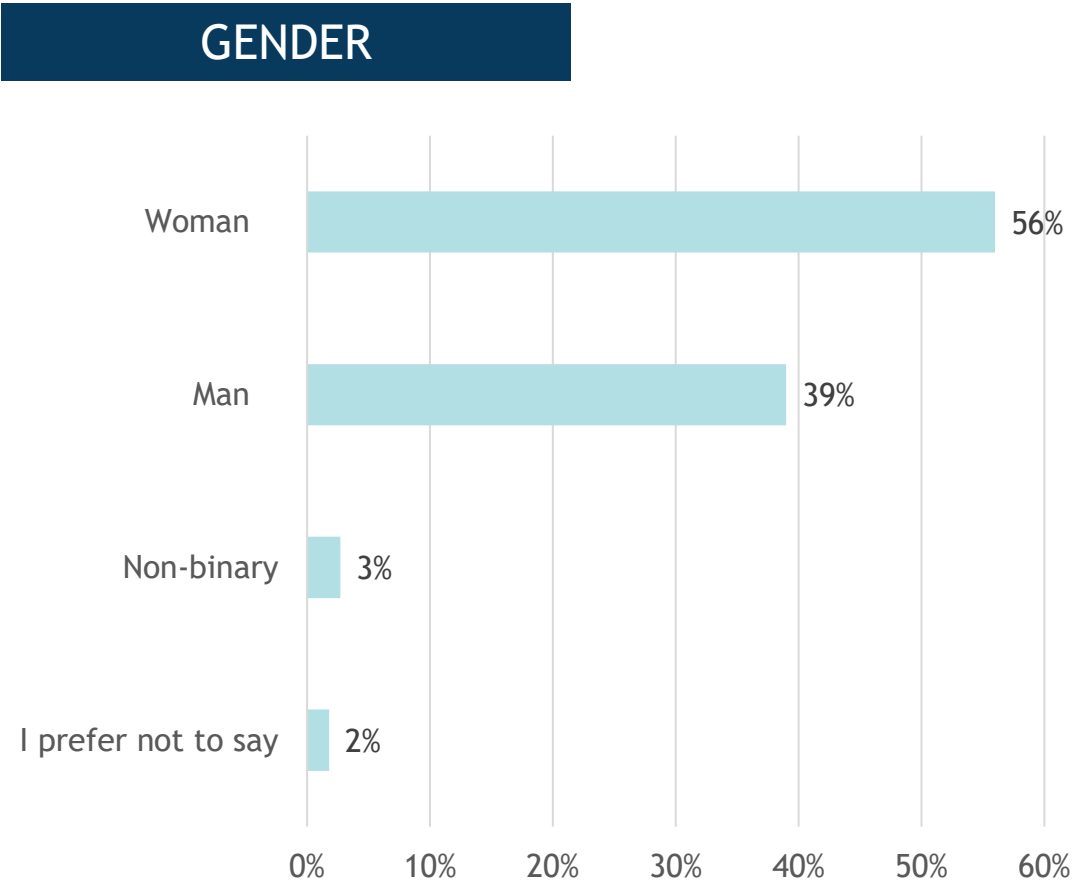


Question: We're interested in how you chose your current place of study. How important were the following when choosing which university/college to apply to? Weighted base: c. 1554



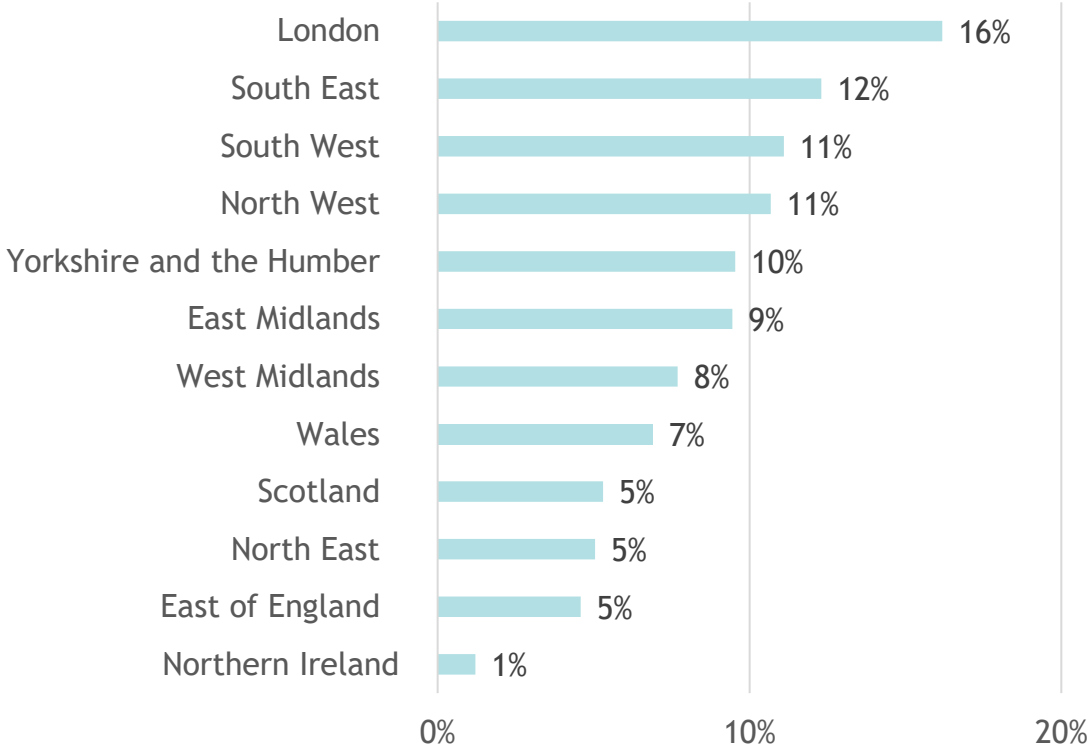
# DEMOGRPAHICS

# Over half of respondents are women and over two fifths of respondents are 22 and under

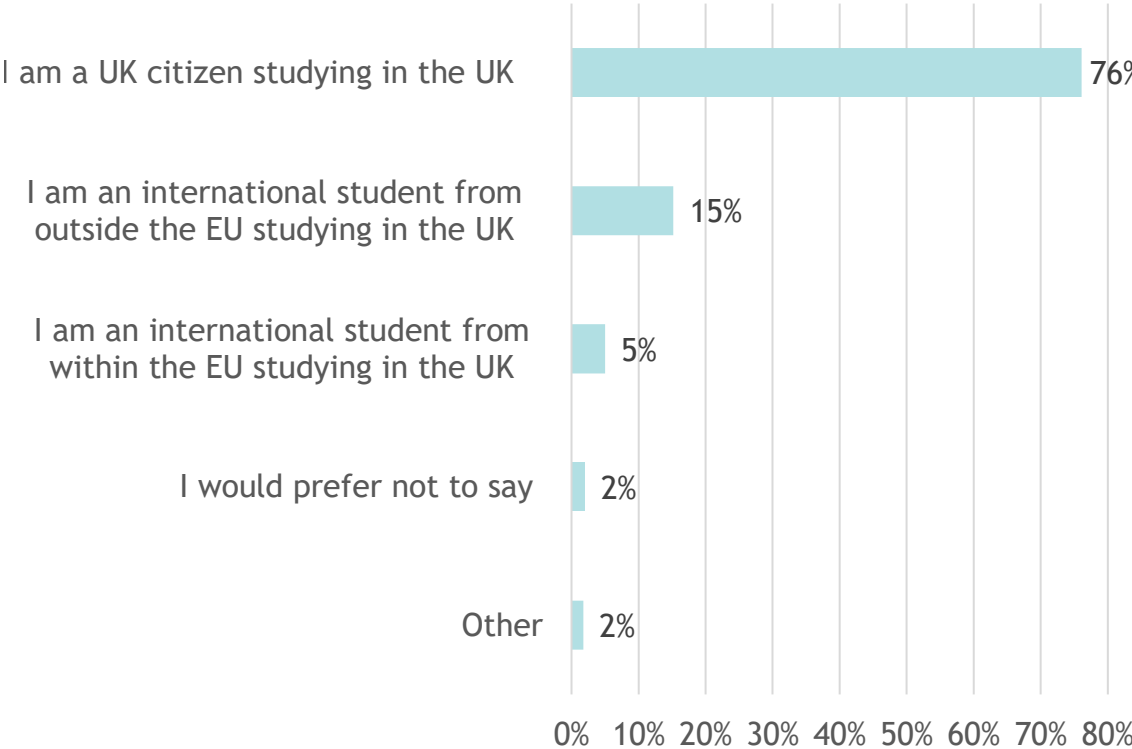


Over a quarter of respondents (28%) are studying in the South East of the UK or London. Over three quarters (76%) of respondents are UK citizens.

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