

Meng Wanzhou's Extradition Case

Public Opinion Research of
Chinese Canadians in BC

May 2019



加拿大华裔百人会
Canada Committee 100 Society



Background

This is a report on a survey of Chinese Canadians in British Columbia – collecting their views on Meng Wanzhou’s extradition case and the Canadian justice system. Surveys that represent the full range of backgrounds and experiences in the Chinese Canadian population are rare, and this is a unique opportunity to understand their perspectives on an important issue in the news.

The online survey of N=413 (weighted N=400) Chinese Canadians in BC was jointly conducted by The Canada Committee 100 Society (CCS100) and Innovative Research Group (INNOVATIVE). Because of the challenges in conducting a survey that represents Chinese Canadians with different backgrounds, language abilities, and immigration histories the sample was collected from a wide variety of sources – both traditional and non-traditional survey samples. The final sample was blended together and calibrated on key demographic, linguistic and immigration attributes from the census to be representative of the Chinese Canadian population in BC. The full methodology is described in the appendix.

About The Canada Committee 100 Society (CCS100) (www.ccs100.ca)

The Canada Committee 100 Society (CCS100) is a membership organization dedicated to promoting the best interests of Chinese community in Canada through knowledge and strategy. The BC Ministry of Justice engaged with CCS100 to understand what Chinese Canadians think about the Canadian Justice System in light of Meng’s extradition case. CCS100 is registered as a non-partisan and not-for-profit, non-government-organization in Canada.

About Innovative Research Group (INNOVATIVE) (www.innovativeresearch.ca)

INNOVATIVE is an independent national public opinion research and consultation firm with offices in Vancouver and Toronto. INNOVATIVE offers significant research capabilities that marry cutting edge insights and tools with extensive practical experience. Click [here](#) for Chinese media coverage of INNOVATIVE.



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Meng is going to be in court again this Wednesday. Here's what BC's sizeable population of Chinese Canadians have to say about the case.

More Chinese Canadians in BC support the Government's decision to *not* intervene in Meng's case than oppose it:

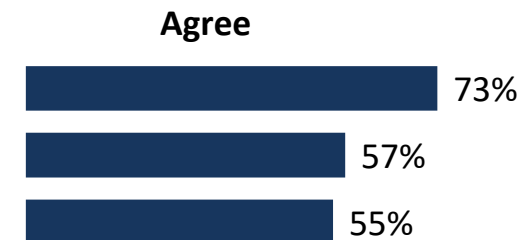


But they are more divided when asked if the Government should approve the extradition request *if* the courts recommend it:



Chinese Canadians in BC think that Meng has been treated fairly:

- Did Meng have fair access to legal representation?
- Did the Canadian justice system treat Meng the same as anyone else?
- Have Meng's constitutional rights been respected?



Chinese Canadians are a diverse community.

They all bring their unique backgrounds and experiences to the table.

Overall, more Chinese Canadians in BC support (54%) the Government's decision to *not* intervene in Meng's case than oppose it (15%). This pattern of being more supportive of the Government's position holds up *regardless of...*

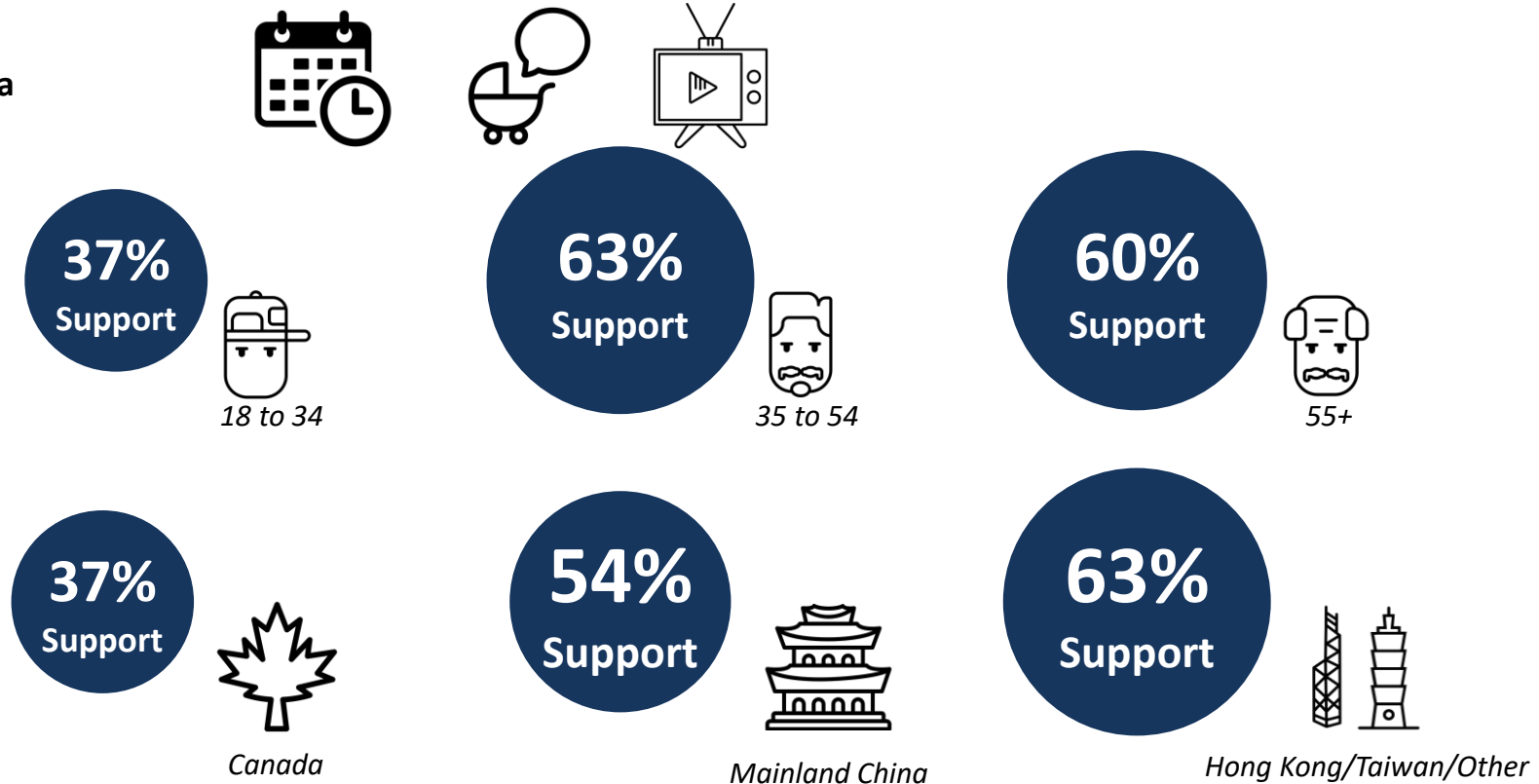
- their period of immigration
- mother tongue
- the language in which they consume the media

However, we do find major differences depending on their age. Chinese Canadians age 35+ show stronger support than those under 35.

We also see some differences depending on their place of birth. Canadian-born are *less* likely to support the Government's position than those who were born outside Canada.

Note that the relatively low support among the younger generation and the Canadian-born Chinese are largely because they are more likely to be uncertain, not because they are more opposed to the Government's position.

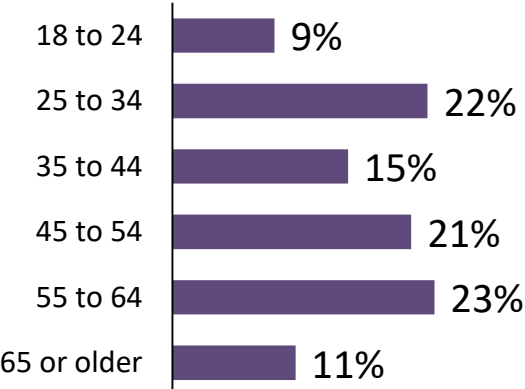
Another key finding is that knowledge drives support. The more they know about the Canadian justice system and Meng's case, the stronger they support the Government's decision to *not* intervene in Meng's case than oppose it.



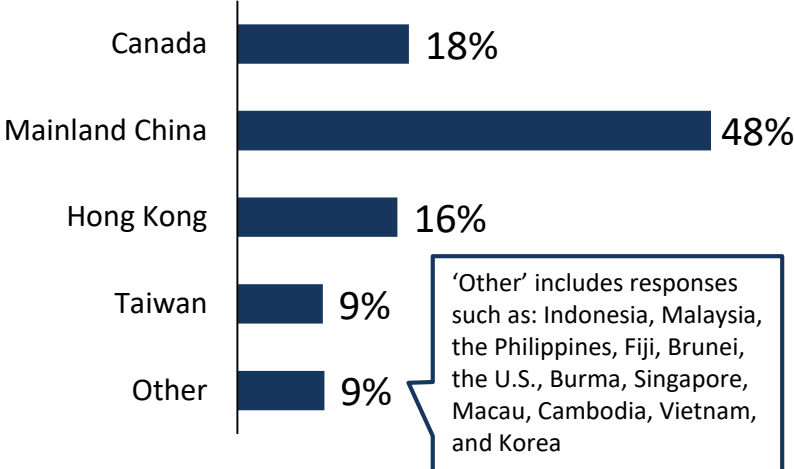
Key Findings

Respondent Profile

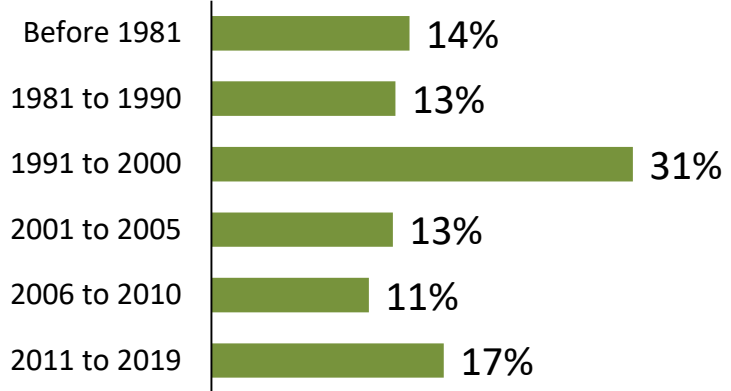
Age



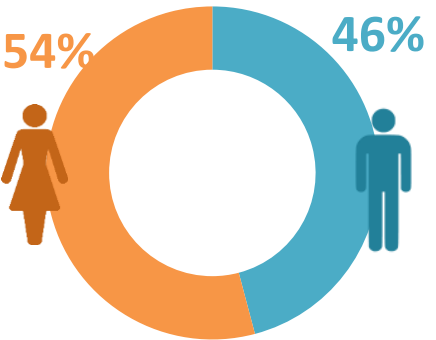
Place of Birth



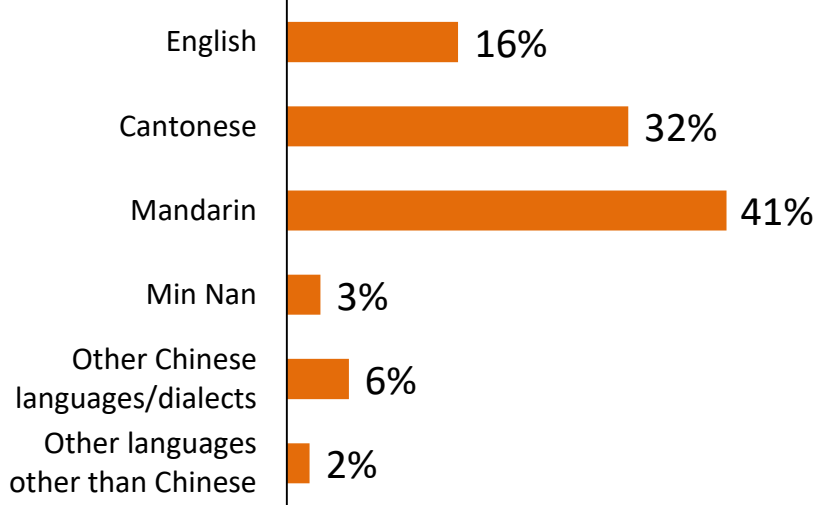
Period of Immigration



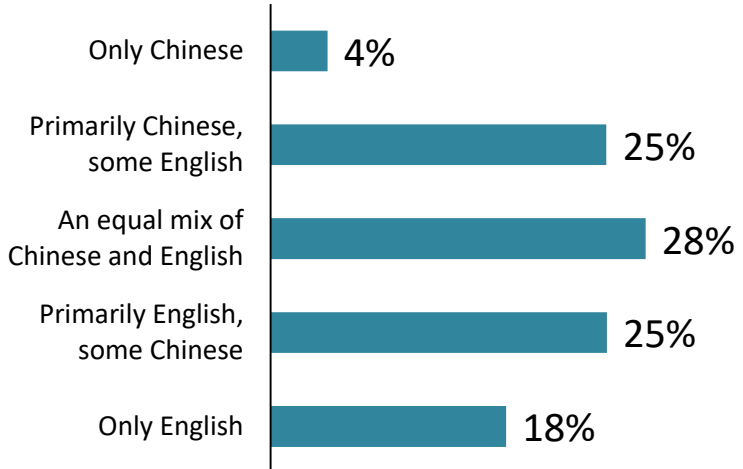
Gender



Mother Tongue



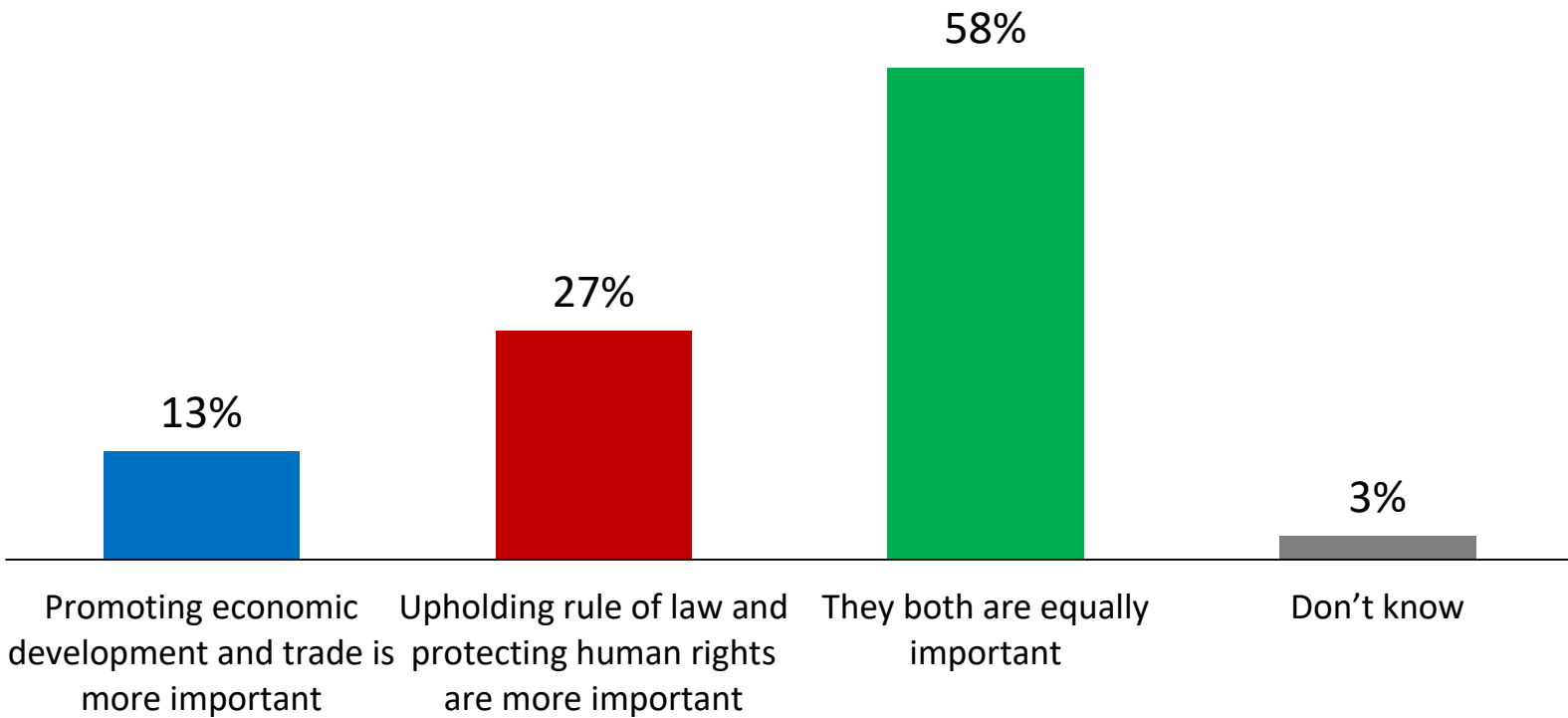
Language of Media Consumption



Trade-off: About 6-in-10 are on the fence when it comes to the trade-off between economic development and upholding the rule of law

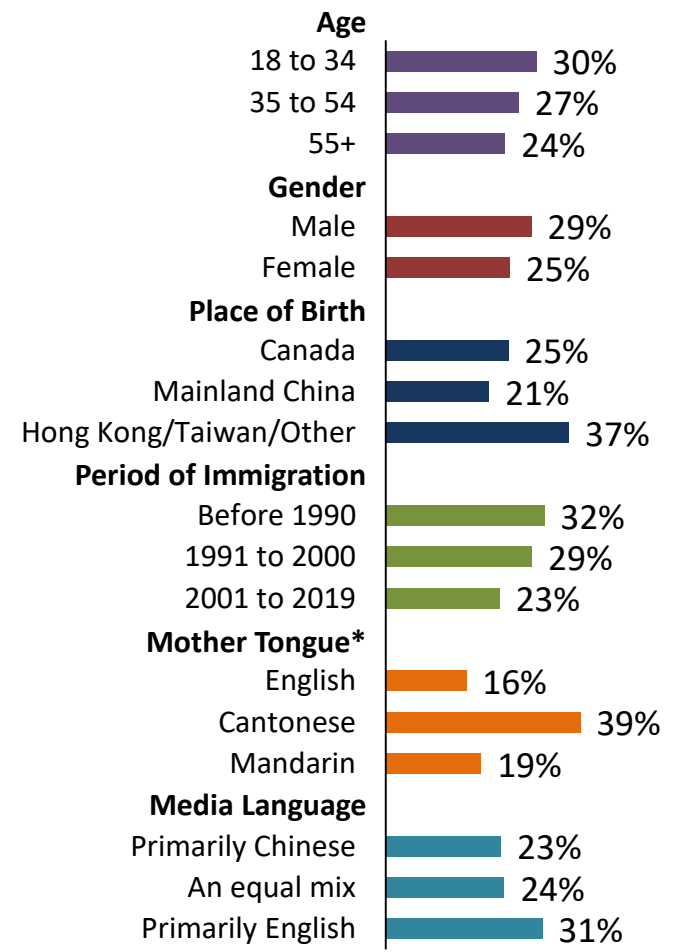
Q When it comes to trade-offs between (ROTATE) promoting economic development and trade and upholding rule of law and protecting human rights, which one would you say is more important for Canada?

[asked of all respondents]



Sample Breakdown ▶▶

Percentage who say "Upholding the rule of law"

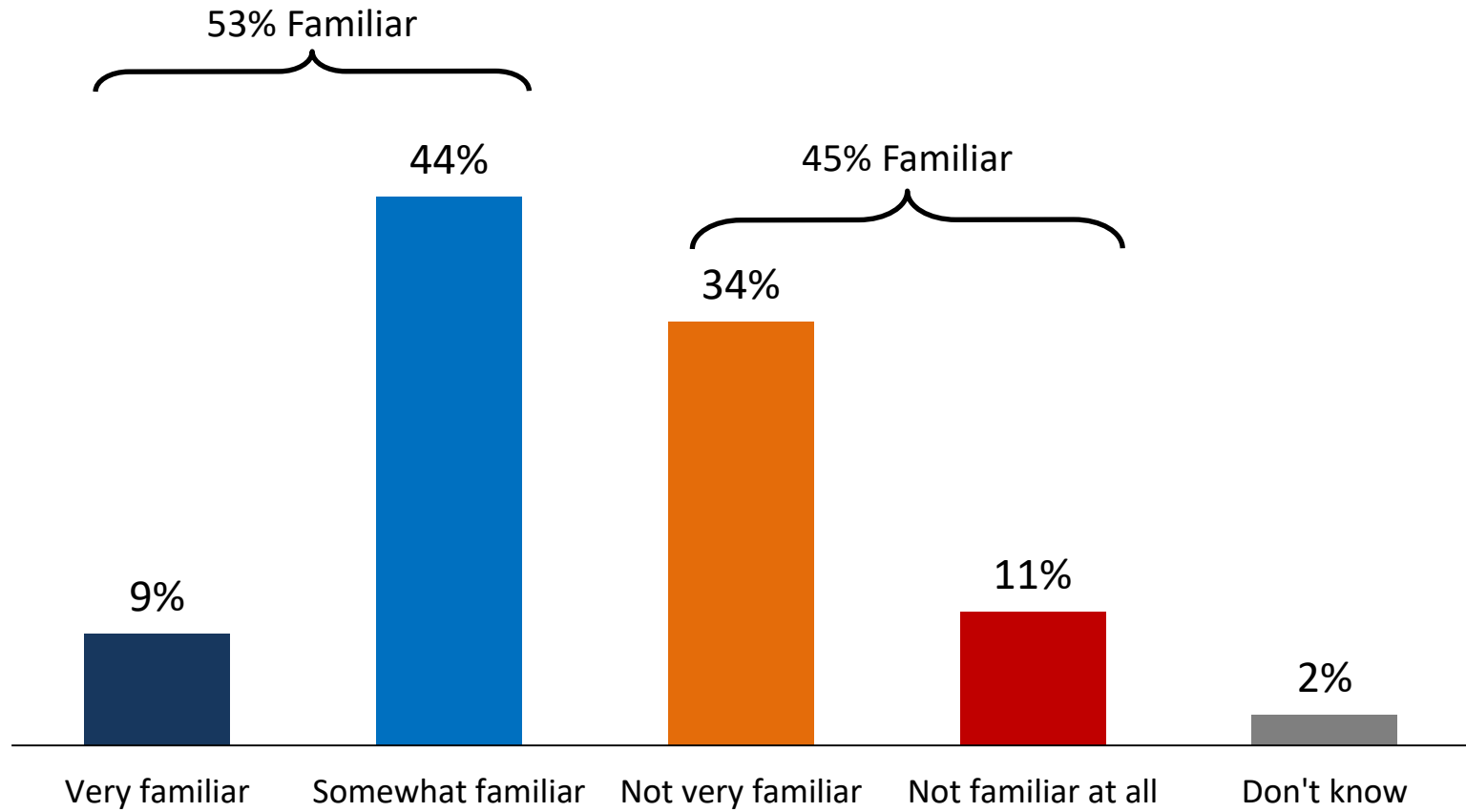


*Note: Due to small sample size (n=44), the results by other languages are not shown.

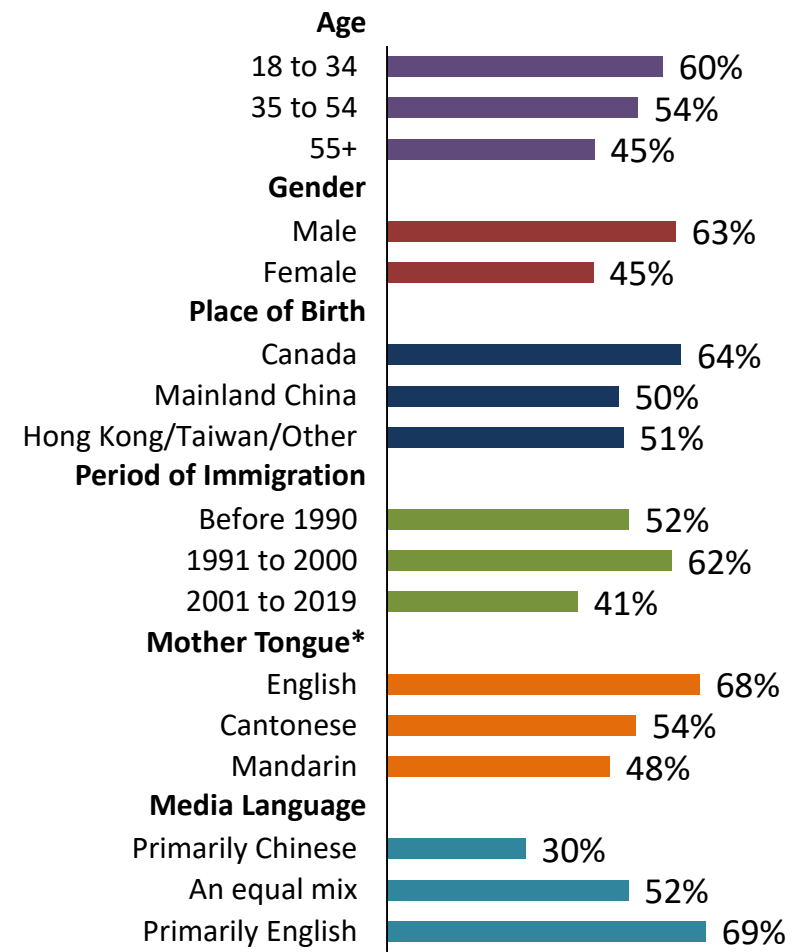


Familiarity with the Canadian Justice System: Half (53%) say they are familiar with the justice system, with only less than 1-in-10 (9%) saying “very familiar”

Q In Canada, the justice system includes the courts, police officers such as the RCMP, and prosecutors. In general, how familiar are you with how the Canadian justice system works?
[asked of all respondents]



Sample Breakdown ▶▶ Percentage who say familiar



*Note: Due to small sample size (n=44), the results by other languages are not shown.

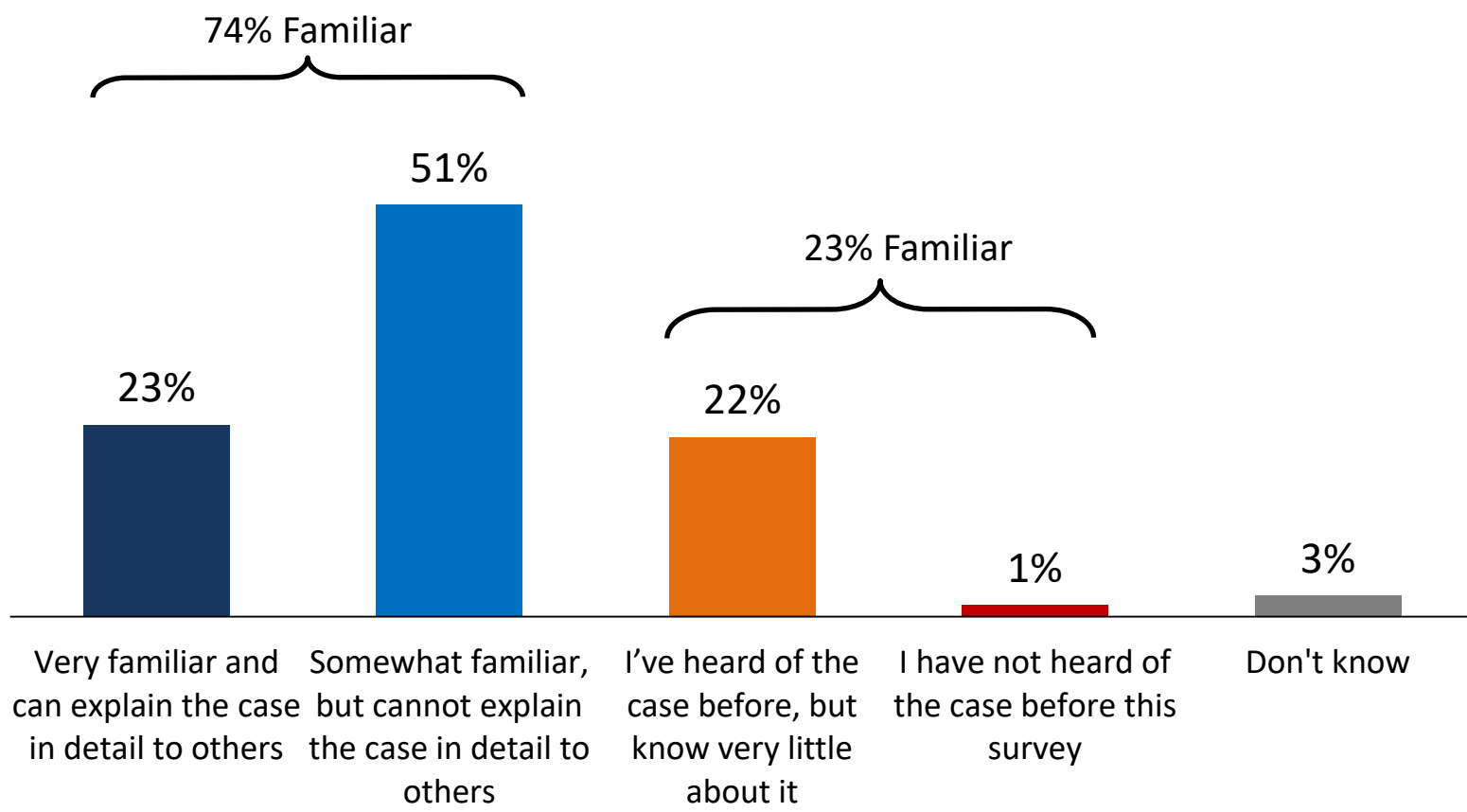


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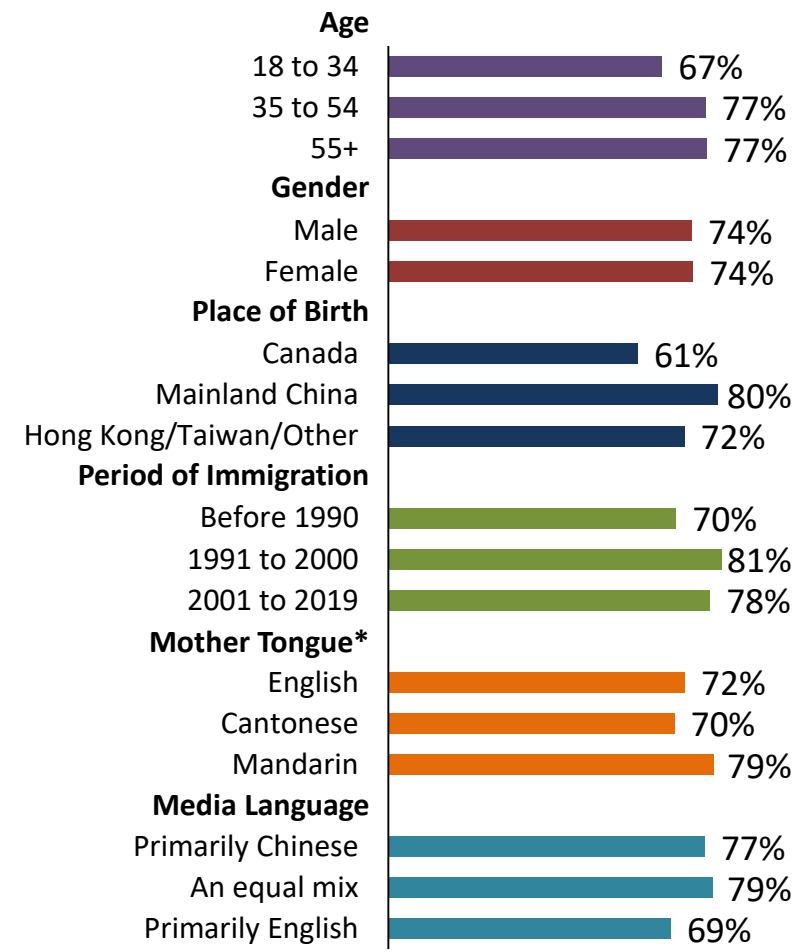


Familiarity with Meng's Case: Three-quarters (74%) say they are familiar with Meng's case, with nearly a quarter (23%) saying "very familiar"

Q As you may know Meng Wanzhou, the CFO of the Chinese telecommunications company Huawei, is under house arrest in Vancouver and has an upcoming extradition hearing in BC Supreme Court. How familiar are you with Meng's case?
[asked of all respondents]



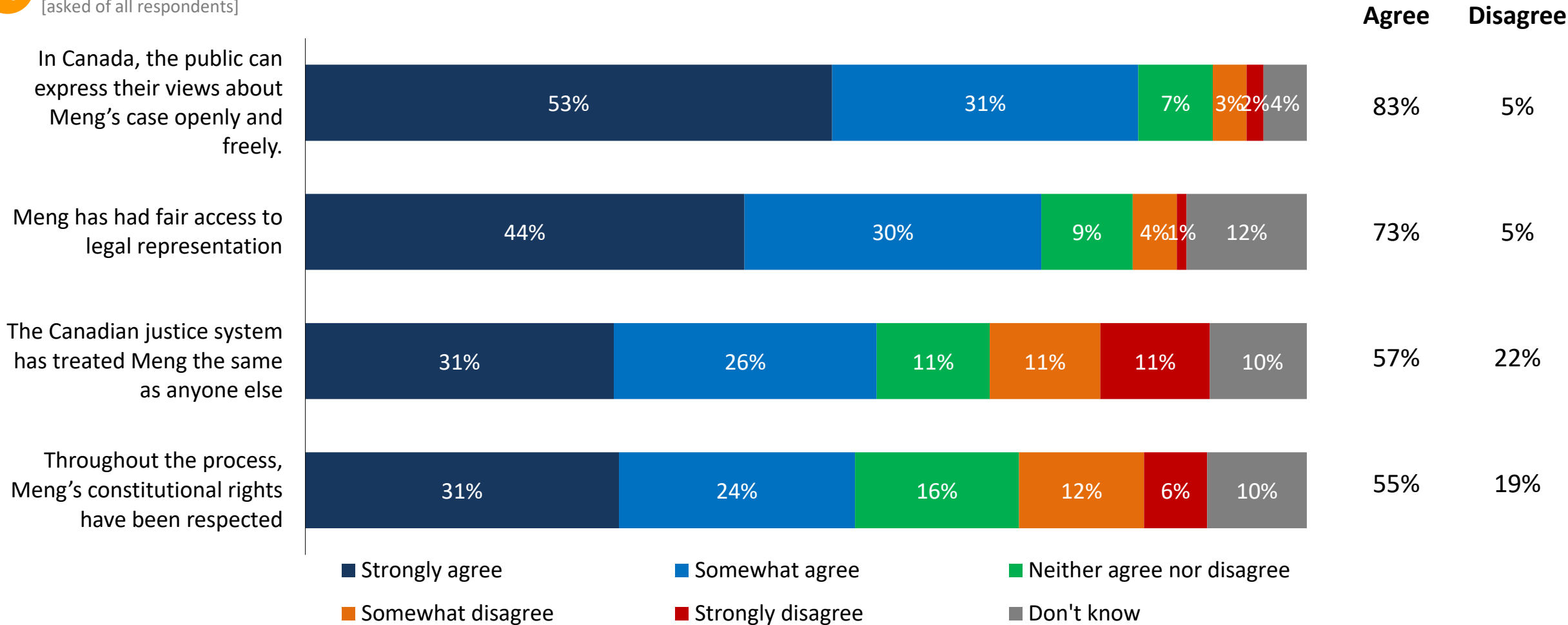
Sample Breakdown ▶▶ Percentage who say familiar



*Note: Due to small sample size (n=44), the results by other languages are not shown.

8-in-10 (83%) say they agree that the public can express their views about the case openly and freely. Overall, they feel Meng has been treated fairly.

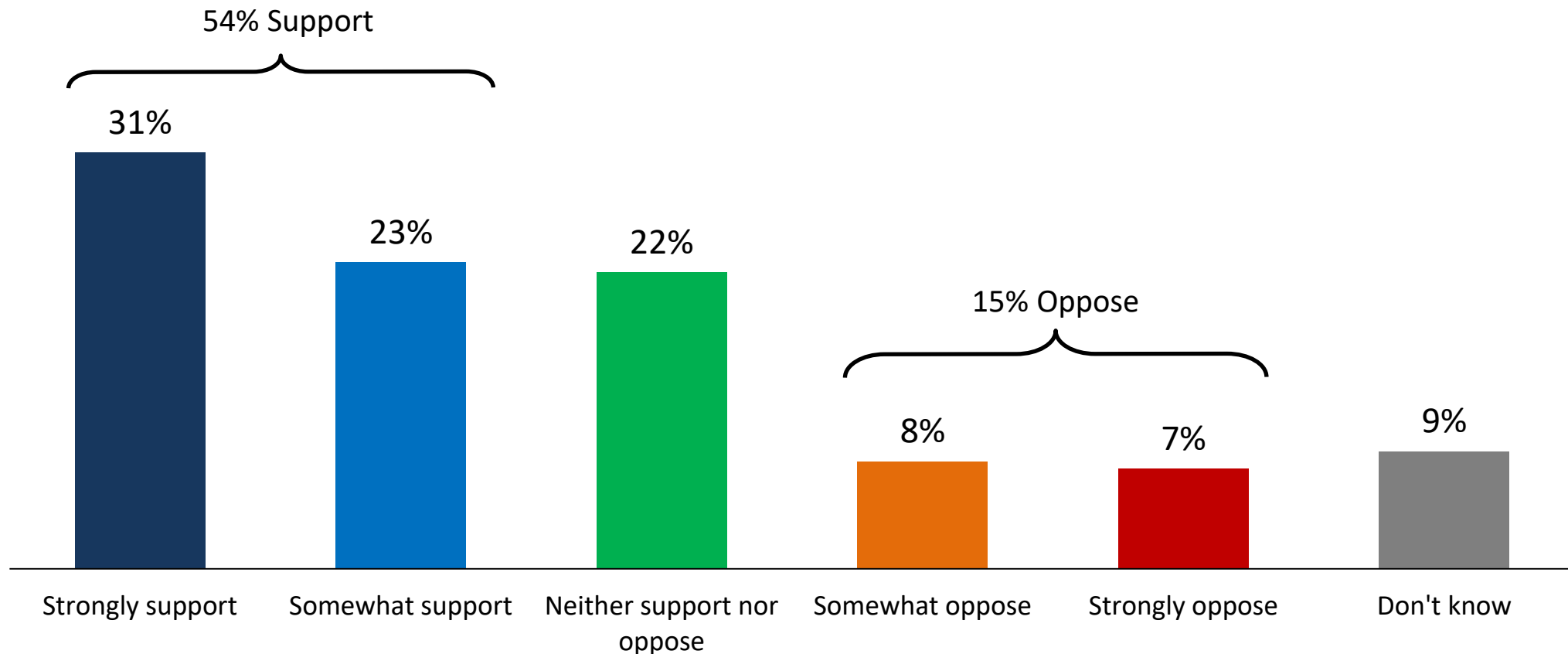
Q Do you agree or disagree with the following statements?
[asked of all respondents]



Support for the Government's Decision *NOT* to Intervene: More say they support the Government's decision (54%) than oppose it (15%)

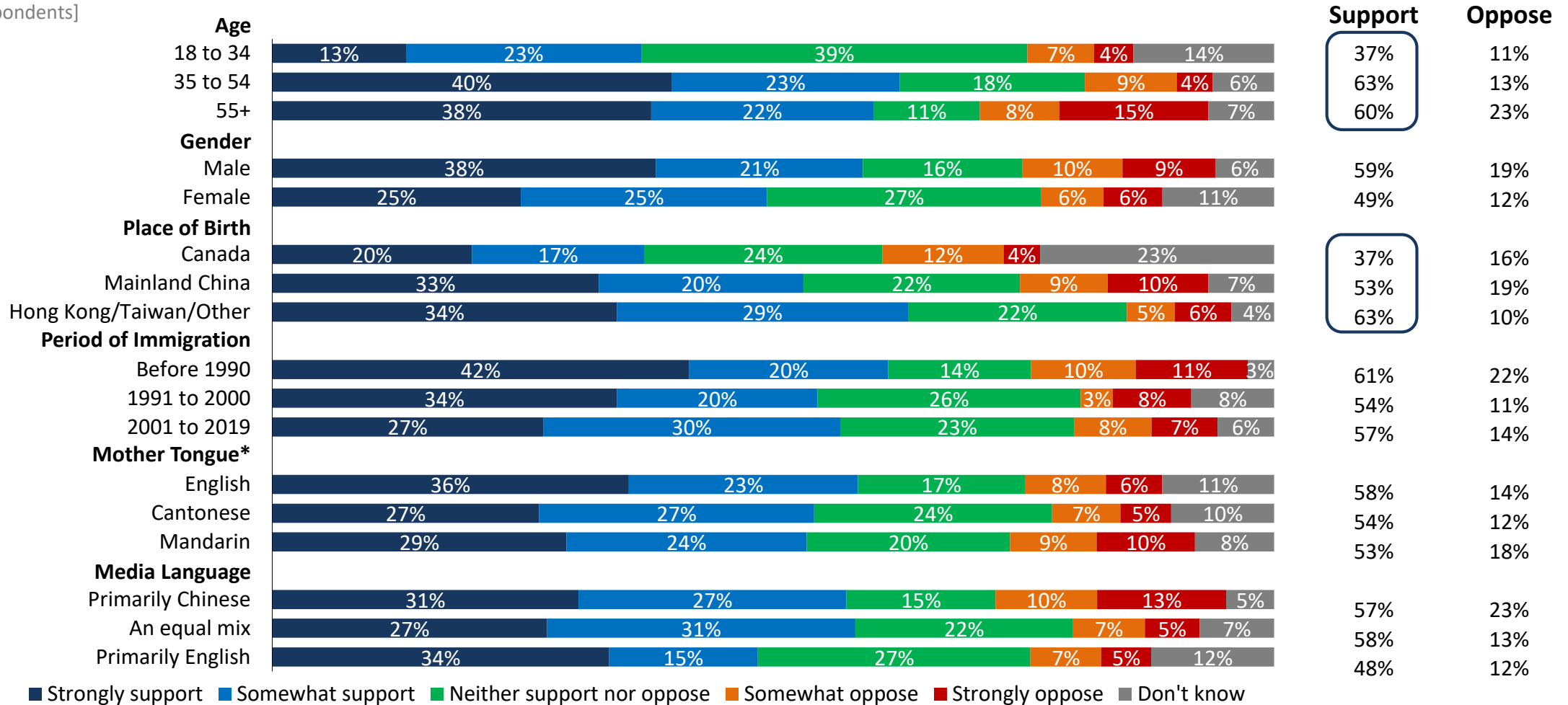
Q While Meng's extradition case is still before the court, the Federal Government has not intervened to stop it, citing the importance of following the rule of law. Do you support or oppose the Federal Government's decision not to intervene?

[asked of all respondents]



Chinese Canadians age 35+ (60%-63%) are more likely to say they support the Government's decision than those under 35 (37%)

Q While Meng's extradition case is still before the court, the Federal Government has not intervened to stop it, citing the importance of following the rule of law. Do you support or oppose the Federal Government's decision not to intervene?
 [asked of all respondents]



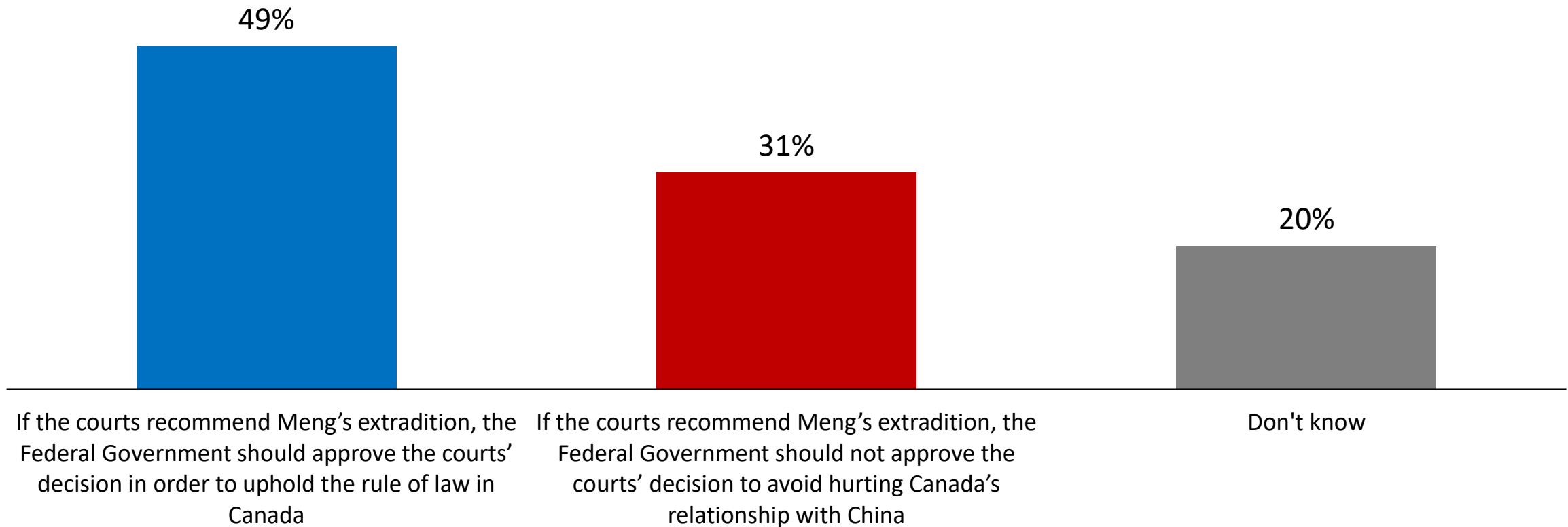
*Note: Due to small sample size (n=44), the results by other languages are not shown.



What Should the Gov't Do? More (49%) say the Gov't should approve the extradition request *if* the courts recommend it than not approving it (31%)

Q If the courts recommend Meng's extradition, the Federal Attorney General and the Minister of Justice will make the final decision whether to approve Meng's extradition or not. If the Federal Government is faced with this decision in the future, which of the following statements is closest to your point of view?

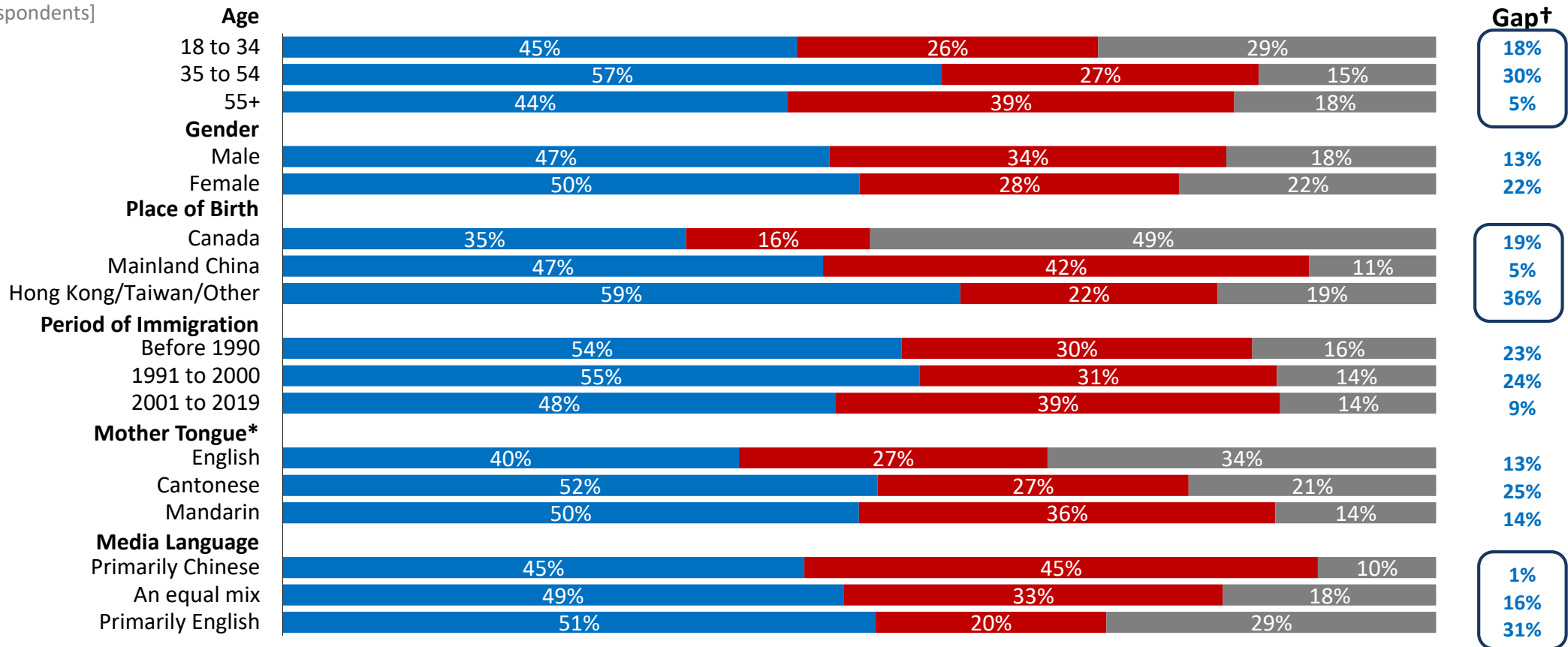
[asked of all respondents]



Those whose primarily consume the media in English are more likely to say “approve”, but those who primarily consume the media in Chinese are split

Q If the courts recommend Meng’s extradition, the Federal Attorney General and the Minister of Justice will make the final decision whether to approve Meng’s extradition or not. If the Federal Government is faced with this decision in the future, which of the following statements is closest to your point of view? “If the courts recommend Meng’s extradition...”

[asked of all respondents]



■ ... the Federal Government should approve the courts’ decision in order to uphold the rule of law in Canada
■ ... the Federal Government should not approve the courts’ decision to avoid hurting Canada’s relationship with China
■ Don't know

*Note: Due to small sample size (n=44), the results by other languages are not shown.

†The gap percentage is calculated by: (percentage of “approve” – percentage of “not approve”)



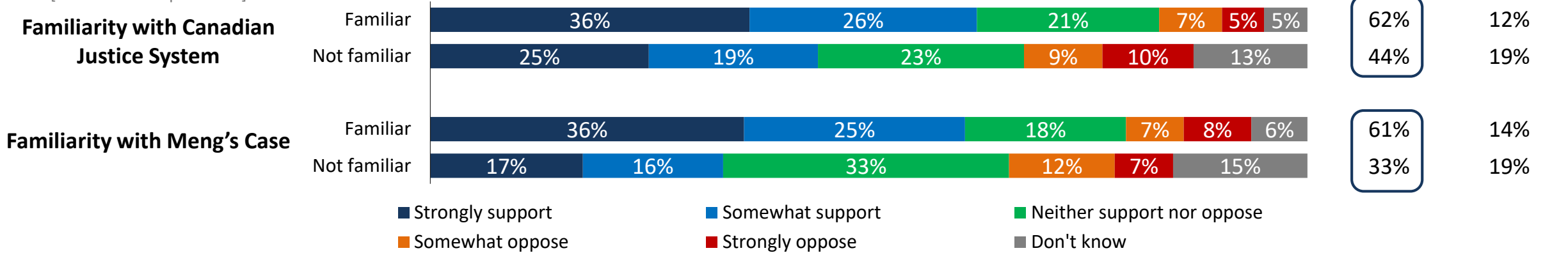
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When it comes to familiarity, those who are familiar with the Canadian justice system and Meng’s case are more likely to support the Government’s position

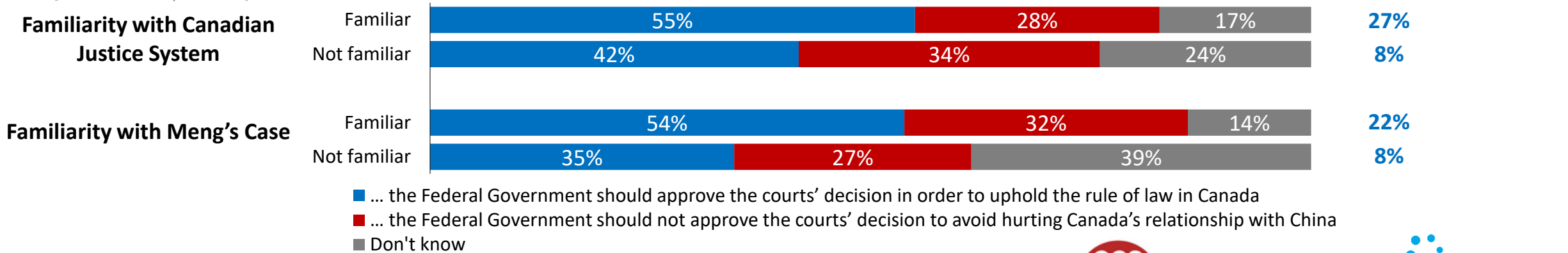
Q While Meng’s extradition case is still before the court, the Federal Government has not intervened to stop it, citing the importance of following the rule of law. Do you support or oppose the Federal Government’s decision not to intervene?

[asked of all respondents]



Q If the courts recommend Meng’s extradition, the Federal Attorney General and the Minister of Justice will make the final decision whether to approve Meng’s extradition or not. If the Federal Government is faced with this decision in the future, which of the following statements is closest to your point of view? “If the courts recommend Meng’s extradition...”

[asked of all respondents]



†The gap percentage is calculated by: (percentage of “approve” – percentage of “not approve”)



Appendix – Methodology

Methodology

- This survey was conducted online from April 18th to April 29th, 2019, among Chinese Canadians in BC who are 18 years and older.
- Chinese Canadians residing in BC (who are Canadian citizens, permanent residents, and non-permanent residents) and 18 years of age and older were eligible to participate. Chinese Canadians are defined as those whose ancestors (someone more distant than a grandparent) speak at least one Chinese language/dialect.
- Respondents were able to complete the survey in English, Simplified Chinese, or Traditional Chinese.
- Respondents were recruited through a wide variety of traditional and non-traditional channels.
 - Traditional channels include INNOVATIVE's Canada 20/20 online panel and Lucid, a leading online sample provider. Each panelist was provided with a unique URL via email invitation.
 - Non-traditional channels include social networks of CCS100 and INNOVATIVE. These sampling methods are complemented by referral sampling, also known as snowball sampling, to increase the representativeness of the sample that would otherwise not be captured in the sample frame and to reduce bias from self-selection.
- Recruiting a sample through multiple channels has unknown coverage and is likely subject to non-response biases. To correct for these, INNOVATIVE followed best practices in public opinion research and weighted the sample by key demographic, linguistic and immigration attributes from the 2016 Census data to reflect the Chinese Canadian population in BC. Despite these corrections, a convenience sample of this type is not a traditional scientific survey sample and a margin of error will not apply.
- To ensure no respondent entered the survey twice, duplicate responses with the same email address are removed. Among responses identified as duplicates, only the first response will be treated as valid.
- To encourage participation, all participants had the chance to enter offers a prize draw for one of five \$100 cash prizes. As is standard in snowball sampling, referring others to the survey earned participants additional prize draw entries.

Note: *Graphs and tables may not always total 100% due to rounding values rather than any error in data. Sums are added before rounding numbers.*



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Sample Breakdown

As discussed, the sample is weighted by key demographic, linguistic and immigration attributes from the 2016 Census data so the overall sample's composition reflects that of the actual population of Chinese Canadians in BC.

Attributes	Attribute Groups	Unweighted n	Unweighted %	Weighted n	Weighted %
Age	18 to 24	28	7%	35	9%
	25 to 34	70	17%	88	22%
	35 to 44	71	17%	61	15%
	45 to 54	108	26%	83	21%
	55 to 64	92	22%	91	23%
	65 or older	44	11%	43	11%
Gender	Male	232	56%	184	46%
	Female	181	44%	216	54%
Region	Vancouver	128	31%	134	34%
	Richmond	67	16%	79	20%
	Burnaby/New West/ Tri Cities	105	25%	98	24%
	Rest of LM	80	19%	59	15%
	Else in BC	33	8%	30	7%
Generation	First generation	343	83%	330	83%
	Second+ generation	70	17%	70	18%
Period of Immigration	Before 1981	35	10%	48	14%
	1981 to 1990	40	12%	44	13%
	1991 to 2000	125	36%	101	31%
	2001 to 2010	82	24%	81	25%
	2011 to 2019	61	18%	56	17%

Specifically, the sample is weighted by age, gender, region, generation status, period of immigration, citizenship status, their place of birth, their parents' place of birth if they are second+ generation, mother tongue, and language spoken most often at home.

Weighted and unweighted frequencies of these attributes are reported in the table on the left and on the next page.

Sample Breakdown (con't)

Attributes	Attribute Groups	Unweighted n	Unweighted %	Weighted n	Weighted %
Citizenship Status	Citizen	331	80%	317	79%
	Permanent Resident	73	18%	61	15%
	Non-PR	9	2%	22	5%
Place of Birth	Canada	70	17%	70	18%
	Mainland China	204	49%	194	48%
	Taiwan	56	14%	35	9%
	Hong Kong	61	15%	65	16%
	Other	22	5%	36	9%
Their parents' place of birth among second+ generation	Canada	5	8%	10	17%
	Mainland China	25	38%	25	41%
	Hong Kong	10	15%	6	11%
	Taiwan	4	6%	2	3%
	Mainland/HK/TW	14	22%	9	15%
	Other places	12	18%	18	30%
Mother Tongue	English	42	10%	64	16%
	Cantonese	123	30%	128	32%
	Mandarin	197	48%	164	41%
	Other	51	12%	44	11%
Language Spoken Most Often at Home	English	113	27%	151	38%
	Cantonese	84	20%	73	18%
	Mandarin	192	46%	156	39%
	Other	24	6%	20	5%

Appendix – Questionnaire

Full Questionnaire

Screening Questions

1. In which province or territory do you currently reside?

- 01 British Columbia
- 02 Alberta
- 03 Saskatchewan
- 04 Manitoba
- 05 Ontario
- 06 Quebec
- 07 New Brunswick
- 08 Prince Edward Island
- 09 Nova Scotia
- 10 Newfoundland and Labrador
- 11 Yukon
- 12 Northwest Territories
- 13 Nunavut
- 97 Currently reside outside of Canada

2. Are you a Canadian citizen or a Permanent Resident?

- 01 Yes – Canadian citizen
- 02 Yes – Permanent Resident of Canada
- 03 No

3. What age category do you fall into?

- 01 Younger than 18
- 02 18 to 24
- 03 25 to 34
- 04 35 to 44
- 05 45 to 54
- 06 55 to 64
- 07 65 or older

Now we would like to ask you about your ancestors. An ancestor is usually more distant than a grandparent. What language did your ancestors speak? Please select all that apply. [RANDOMIZE]

- 01 Yes
- 02 No
- 98 Not sure

- 4. English
- 5. Cantonese
- 6. Mandarin
- 7. Min Nan
- 8. Other Chinese languages/dialects

Core Questions

9. In Canada, the justice system includes the courts, police officers such as the RCMP, and prosecutors. In general, how familiar are you with how the Canadian justice system works?

- 01 Very familiar
- 02 Somewhat familiar
- 03 Not very familiar
- 04 Not familiar at all
- 98 Don't know

10. As you may know Meng Wanzhou, the CFO of the Chinese telecommunications company Huawei, is under house arrest in Vancouver and has an upcoming extradition hearing in BC Supreme Court. How familiar are you with Meng's case?

- 01 Very familiar and can explain the case in detail to others
- 02 Somewhat familiar, but cannot explain the case in detail to others
- 03 I've heard of the case before, but know very little about it
- 04 I have not heard of the case before this survey
- 98 Don't know

Do you agree or disagree with the following statement? [RANDOMIZE]

- 01 Strongly agree
- 02 Somewhat agree
- 03 Neither agree nor disagree
- 04 Somewhat disagree
- 05 Strongly disagree
- 98 Don't know

11. The Canadian justice system has treated Meng the same as anyone else.

12. Meng has had fair access to legal representation.

13. Throughout the process, Meng's constitutional rights have been respected.

14. In Canada, the public can express their views about Meng's case openly and freely.

15. While Meng's extradition case is still before the court, the Federal Government has not intervened to stop it, citing the importance of following the rule of law. Do you support or oppose the Federal Government's decision not to intervene?

- 01 Strongly support
- 02 Somewhat support
- 03 Neither support nor oppose
- 04 Somewhat oppose
- 05 Strongly oppose
- 98 Don't know

16. If the courts recommend Meng's extradition, the Federal Attorney General and the Minister of Justice will make the final decision whether to approve Meng's extradition or not. If the Federal Government is faced with this decision in the future, which of the following statements is closest to your point of view? [ROTATE 1 AND 2]

- 01 If the courts recommend Meng's extradition, the Federal Government should approve the courts' decision in order to uphold the rule of law in Canada
- 02 If the courts recommend Meng's extradition, the Federal Government should not approve the courts' decision to avoid hurting Canada's relationship with China
- 98 Don't know



Full Questionnaire (con't)

Demographic and Attitudinal Questions

We have a few questions to make sure we are getting a good mix of Chinese Canadians.

As with all of our questions, your answers will remain confidential and will be combined with others to protect your anonymity.

This question is about your own identify, in ethnic or cultural terms. This identity may be the same as that of your parents, grandparents or ancestors or it may be different. What is your ethnic or cultural identity?

Please select all that apply. [RANDOMIZE]

- 01 Yes
- 02 No
- 98 Not sure

- 17. Chinese
- 18. Taiwanese
- 19. Hong Konger
- 20. Canadian

21. Where were you born?

- 01 Canada
- 02 Mainland China
- 03 Taiwan
- 04 Hong Kong
- 05 Malaysia
- 06 Singapore
- 07 The United States
- 88 Other (Please specify)

[IF PLACE OF BIRTH IS OUTSIDE CANADA]

22. In what year did you first come to Canada to live? (e.g. 2019)

[IF PLACE OF BIRTH IS CANADA]

23. Where were your parents born? Select up to 2 answers.

- 01 Canada
- 02 Mainland China
- 03 Taiwan
- 04 Hong Kong
- 05 Malaysia
- 06 Singapore
- 07 The United States
- 88 Other

24. When it comes to trade-offs between (ROTATE) promoting economic development and trade and upholding rule of law and protecting human rights, which one would you say is more important for Canada?

- 01 Promoting economic development and trade is more important
- 02 Upholding rule of law and protecting human rights are more important
- 03 They both are equally important
- 98 Don't know

25. In general, do you support or oppose the government of the People's Republic of China?

- 01 Strongly support
- 02 Somewhat support
- 03 Neither support nor oppose
- 04 Somewhat oppose
- 05 Strongly oppose
- 98 Don't know

26. The next few questions ask about your knowledge and use of languages. What is the language that you first learned at home in childhood and still understand?

- 01 English
- 02 Cantonese
- 03 Mandarin
- 04 Min Nan
- 05 Other Chinese languages/dialects
- 88 Other (Please specify)

27. What language do you speak most often at home?

- 01 English
- 02 Cantonese
- 03 Mandarin
- 04 Min Nan
- 05 Other Chinese languages/dialects
- 88 Other (Please specify)

28. Thinking about the media you consume (TV, radio, newspaper (print and online), and social media), what languages do you use?

- 01 Only Chinese
- 02 Primarily Chinese and some English
- 03 An equal mix of Chinese and English
- 04 Primarily English and some Chinese
- 05 Only English

We are almost done! This is the second last set of questions.

As with all of our questions, your answers will remain confidential and will be combined with others to protect your anonymity.

29. What is the highest level of education you have completed?

- 01 High school or less
- 02 Graduated High School
- 03 Some Vocational/Technical/College/CEGEP
- 04 Completed Vocational/Technical/College/CEGEP
- 05 Some University
- 06 Graduated University
- 07 Post Graduate

30. What is your annual household income from all sources before taxes?

- 01 Less than \$40,000
- 02 \$40,000 to less than \$60,000
- 03 \$60,000 to less than \$80,000
- 04 \$80,000 to less than \$100,000
- 05 \$100,000 to less than \$150,000
- 06 \$150,000 or more
- 99 Prefer not to say

31. How would you best describe your employment status?

- 01 Working in your own business within your home
- 02 Working in your own business outside of your home
- 03 Working at an employer's business full-time
- 04 Working at an employer's business part-time
- 05 Currently unemployed
- 06 Student
- 07 Retired
- 08 Homemaker

32. This last set of questions is for statistical purpose only. What are the first 3 digits of your postal code?

33. Please indicate your gender.

- 01 Male
- 02 Female

34. Please indicate your year of birth. (e.g. 2001)

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