

MANITOBANS' VIEWS ON COVID-19: CURRENT IMPRESSIONS AND EXPECTATIONS FOR THE FUTURE

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PROBE RESEARCH INC.

FOR MORE INFORMATION:

Scott MacKay
President

PROBE RESEARCH INC.

603 – 191 Lombard Ave.
Winnipeg, MB R3B 0X1

(204) 926-6565

scott@probe-research.com

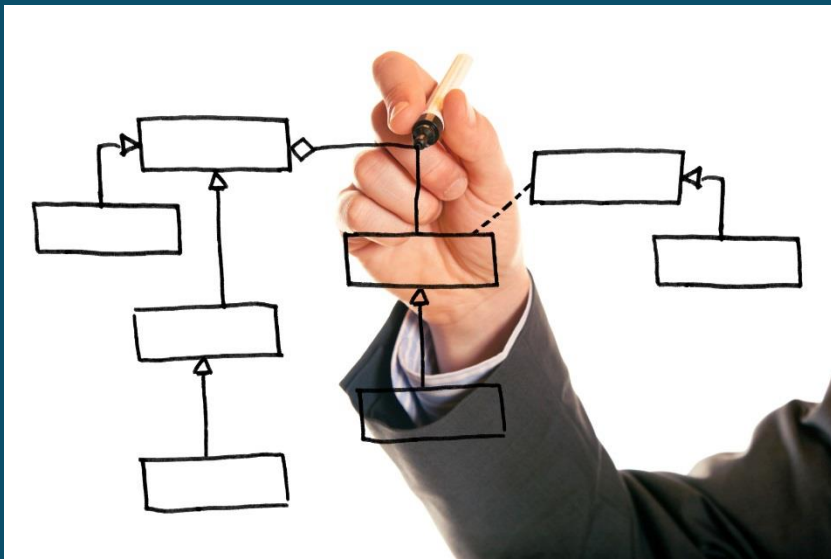
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KEY FINDINGS

- Relatively few Manitobans expect life to revert back to normal once the COVID-19 pandemic has passed. Nearly six-in-ten residents feel society will have changed deeply once the crisis is over. Around one-quarter of Manitobans, on the other hand, do expect our earlier routines and ways of life to return while one-in-five were unable to predict what kind of post COVID-19 world will emerge. Interestingly, men were twice as likely as women to expect things to go back to normal after the pandemic.
- Even as Manitobans anticipate a dramatically altered post-pandemic reality, more than nine-in-ten adults in the province feel these changes will be enduring and last for many years to come, with seven-in-ten agreeing the pandemic will cause permanent economic damage. There is a strong consensus among Manitobans from all demographic groups and among citizens from all walks of life that this will be the case.
- The proportion of Manitobans who feel COVID-19 is "overblown" has declined significantly since mid-to-late March. Only about one-in-five (down from one-third) now feel the danger is overhyped. Men – especially younger men – remain much more likely than women to see COVID-19 as overblown.
- Public confidence in the provincial government's handling of COVID-19 has increased significantly since March. Right now, three-quarters of adults are confident the provincial government is prepared to address COVID-19 compared to only six-in-ten who felt this way one month ago. Rural Manitobans and those who intend to support either the provincial Progressive Conservatives (PCs) or Manitoba Liberal party in the next election are most likely to express confidence in the provincial government's handling of COVID-19.

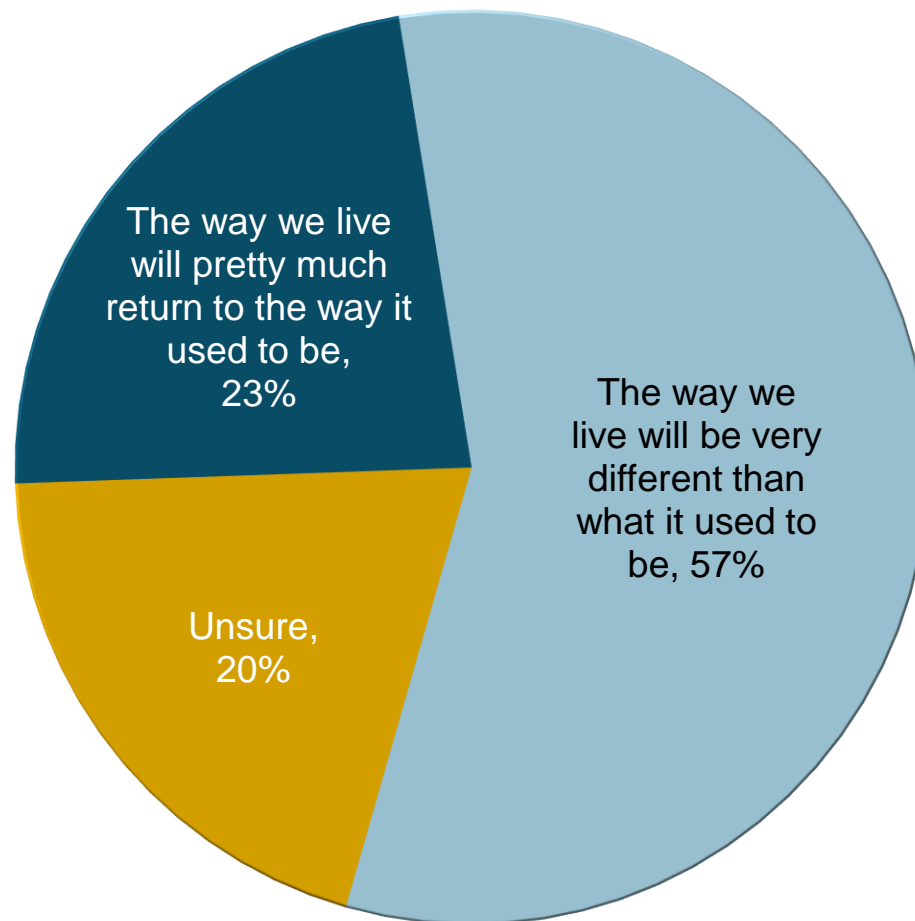
METHODOLOGY



- Probe Research conducted a survey of Manitoba adults regarding their experiences with and perspectives on the COVID-19 virus.
- Probe Research surveyed a total of N=803 Manitoba adults online between April 24th and 28th, 2020.
- Respondents were recruited from Probe Research's proprietary panel and supplemented with those from a national online panel provider.
- As an online survey is a sample of convenience, no margin-of-error can be ascribed. However, a random and representative non-convenience sample of 803 adults would have a margin of error of ± 3.46 percentage points, 19 times out of 20.
- Minor statistical weighting by age, gender and region has been applied to this sample to ensure that it corresponds with the province as a whole.

MANITOBANS EXPECT PROFOUND SOCIAL CHANGE IN PANDEMIC AFTERMATH

Q25. "Overall, when the pandemic has passed, do you expect..."



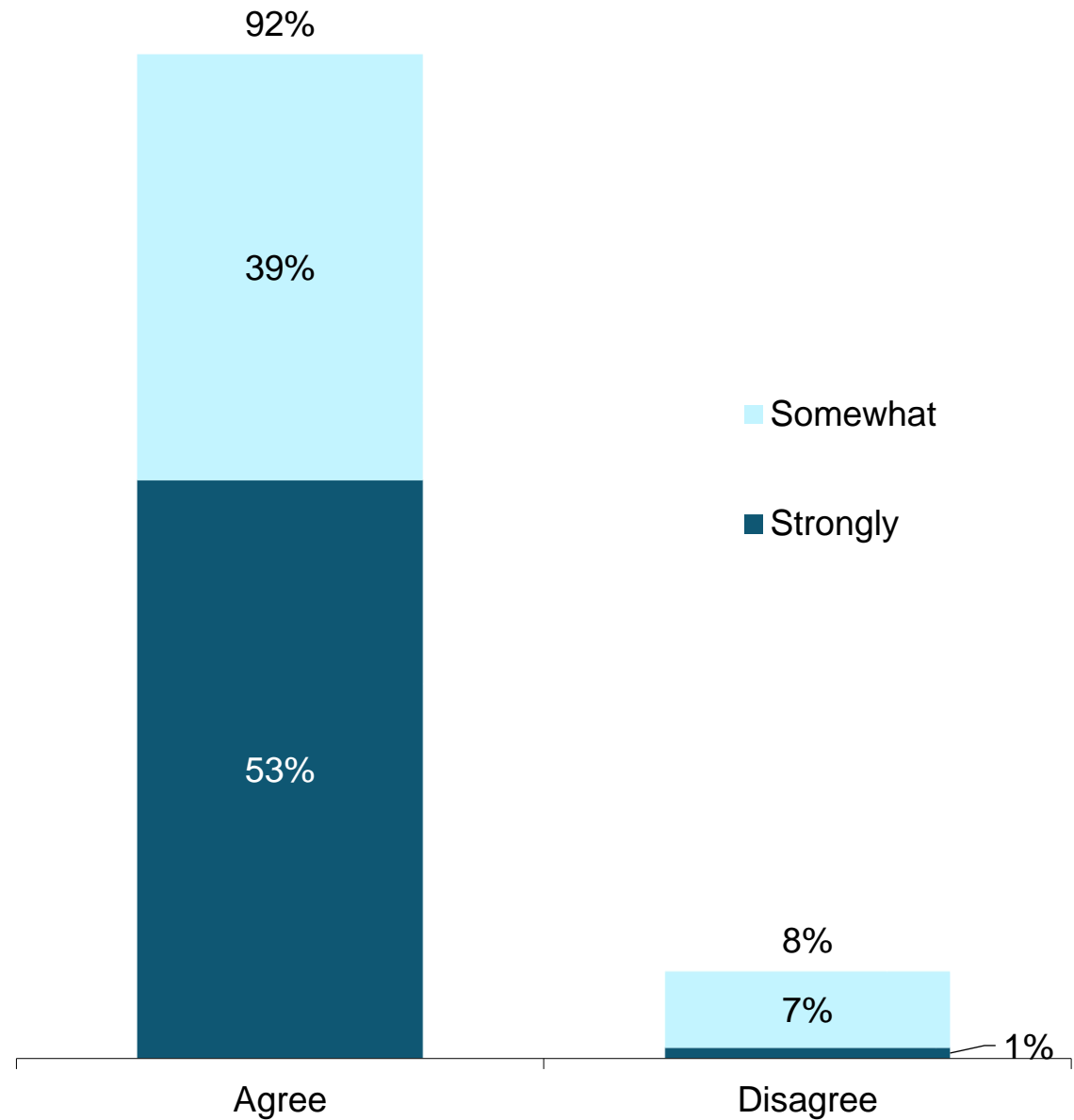
■ Men (31% vs. 16% among women) and PC supporters (30% vs. 17% among NDP supporters) are most likely to think that life will return to the way it used to be.

Base: All respondents (N=803)

MANITOBANS EXPECT DEEP CHANGES TO HOW WE LIVE OUR LIVES

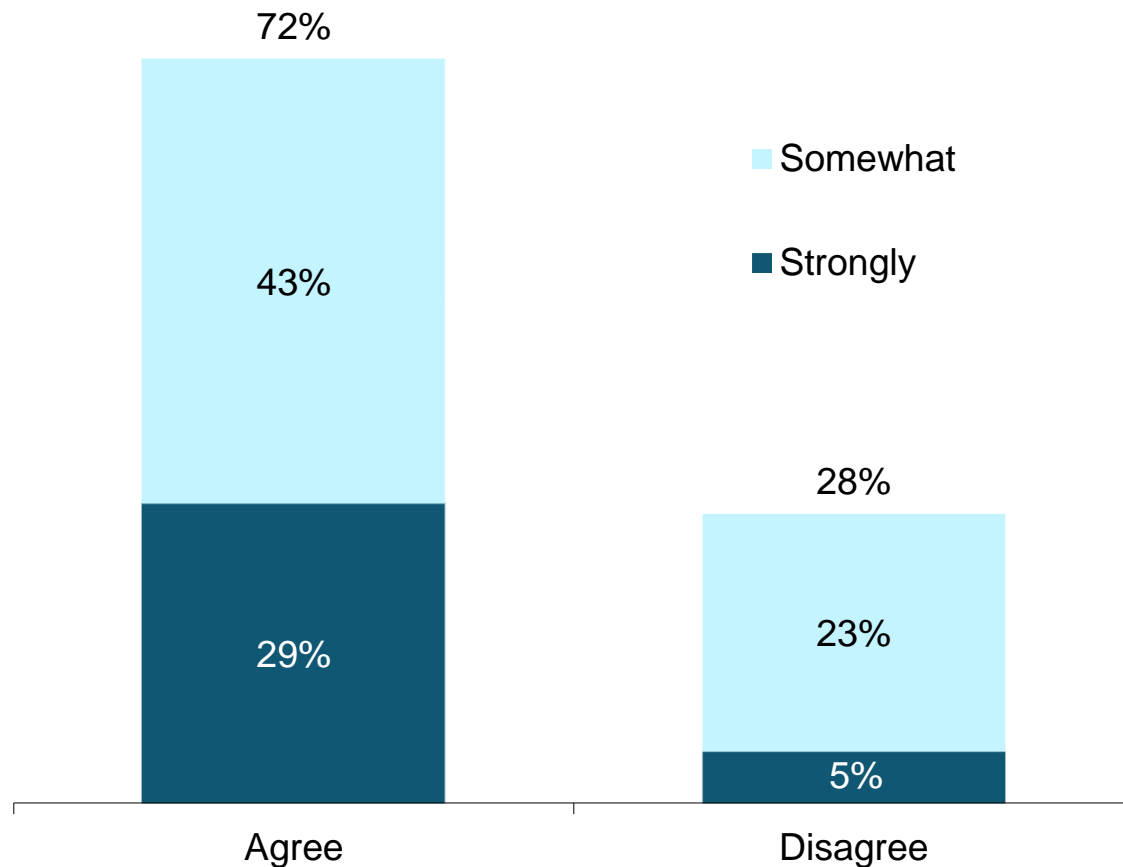
Q24b. "Please indicate the extent to which you agree or disagree with each of the following statements: The COVID-19 pandemic will affect how we live our lives for many years to come."

Base: All respondents (N=803)



SEVEN-IN-TEN BELIEVE THE PANDEMIC WILL CAUSE PERMANENT ECONOMIC DAMAGE

Q24a. "Please indicate the extent to which you agree or disagree with each of the following statements: I think the COVID-19 pandemic will cause permanent damage to our economy."



Base: All respondents (N=803)

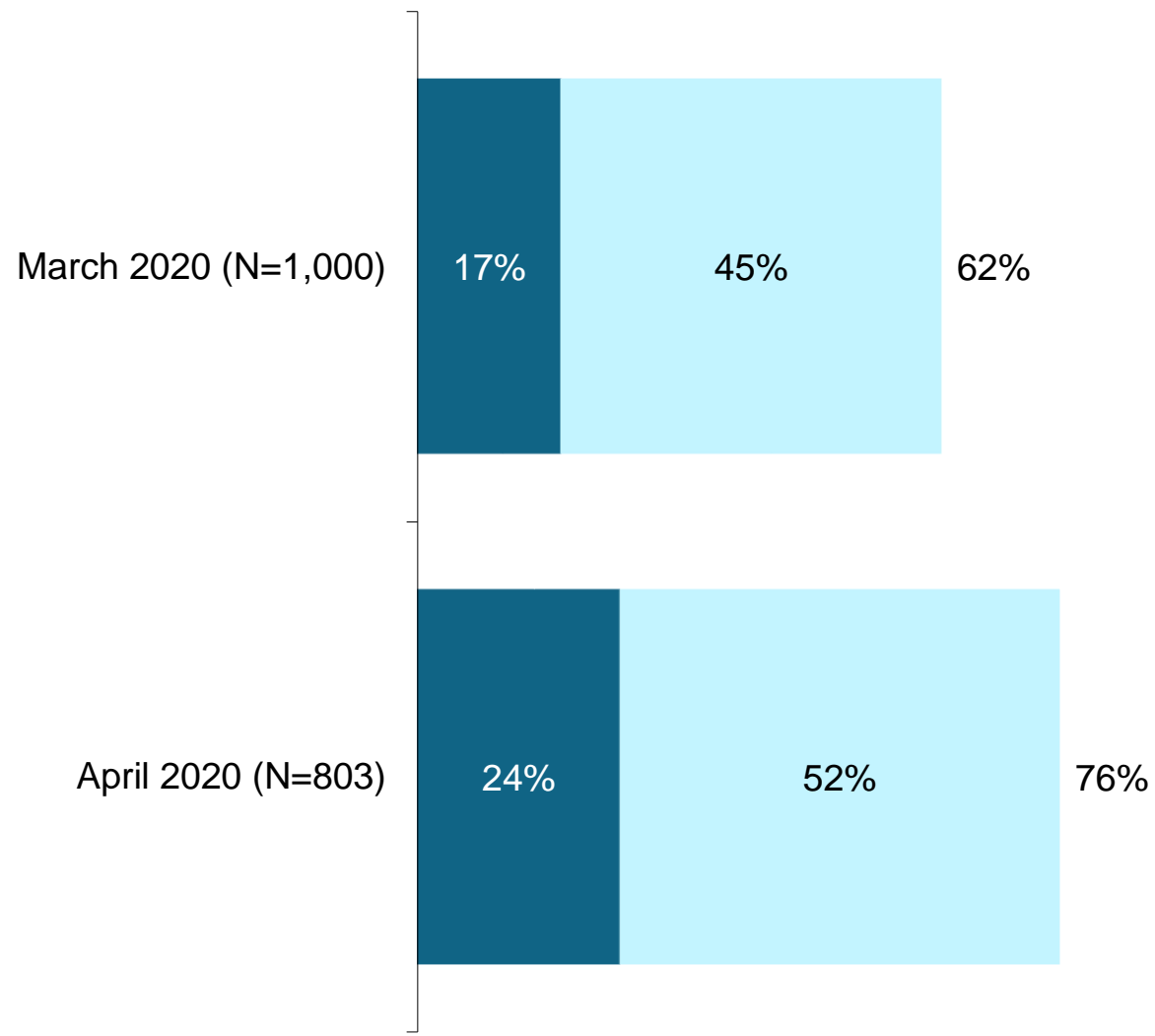
■ Provincial Progressive Conservative voters are significantly more likely to believe the pandemic will cause permanent economic damage (81% vs. 66% among NDP supporters and 71% among Manitoba Liberal supporters).

CONFIDENCE IN PROVINCIAL GOVERNMENT ON COVID-19 IMPROVES SINCE EARLY DAYS OF CRISIS

Q1a. "The COVID-19 virus (also known as coronavirus) emerged earlier this year and has spread to several countries. Please read the following statements and indicate if you agree or disagree: I am confident our provincial government is prepared to deal with an outbreak of the COVID-19 virus here in Manitoba."

Base: All respondents (N=803)

■ Strongly Agree ■ Somewhat Agree



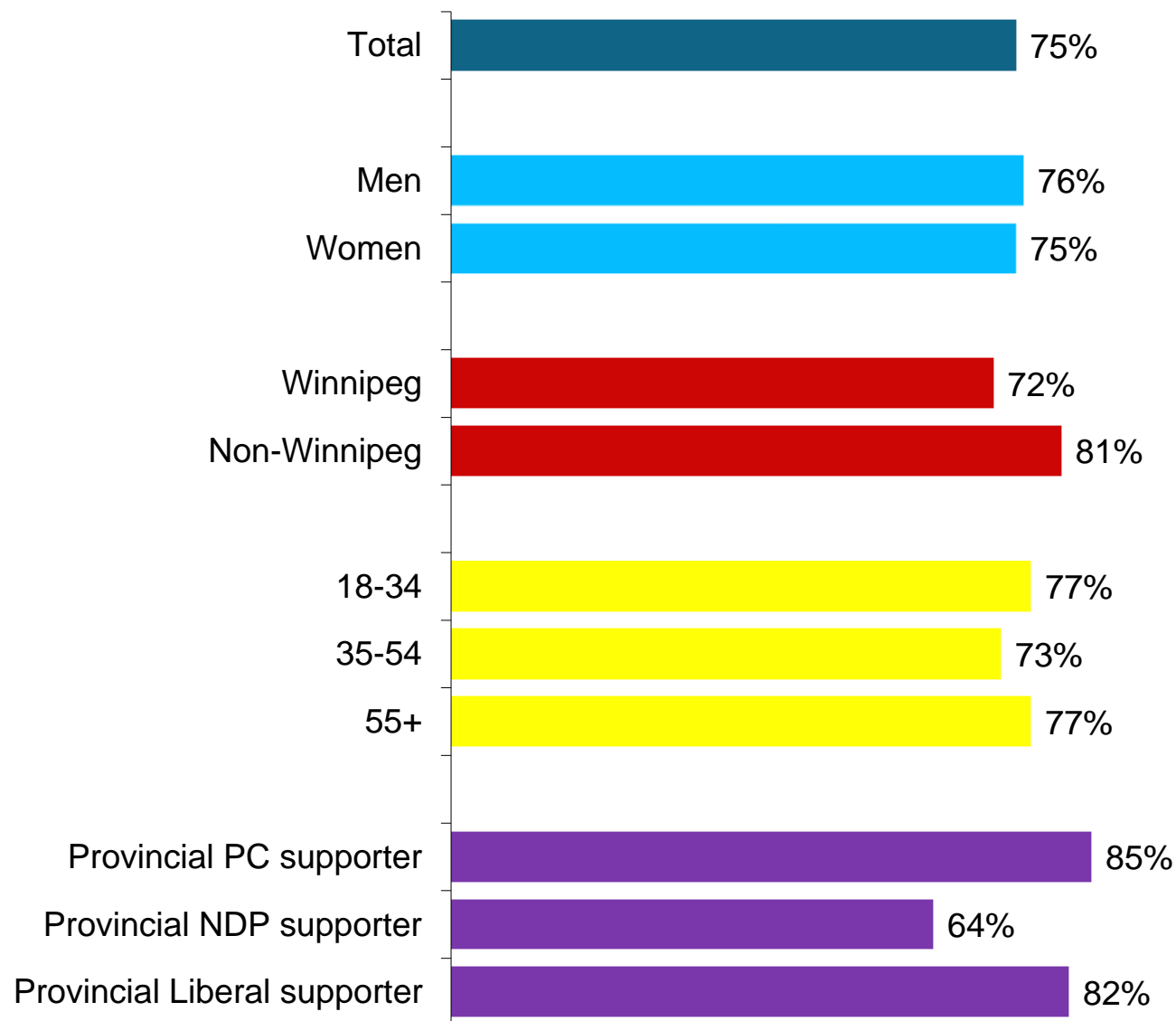
WINNIPEGGERS, NDP VOTERS LESS LIKELY TO HAVE CONFIDENCE IN THE PROVINCE

CONFIDENCE IN THE PROVINCE AMONG SUB-POPULATIONS

Q1a. "The COVID-19 virus (also known as coronavirus) emerged earlier this year and has spread to several countries. Please read the following statements and indicate if you agree or disagree: I am confident our provincial government is prepared to deal with an outbreak of the COVID-19 virus here in Manitoba."

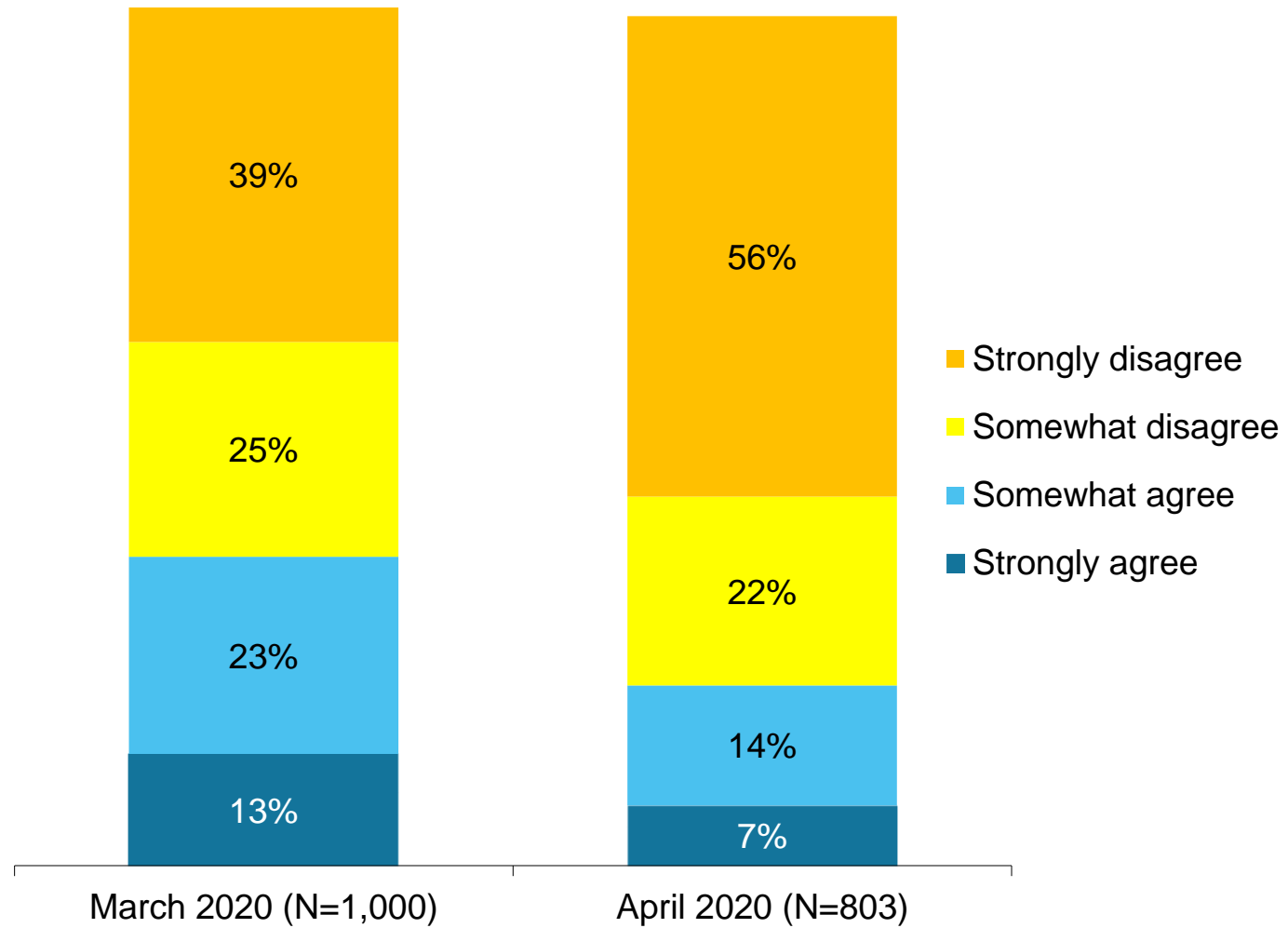
Base: All respondents (N=803)

% who strongly/somewhat agree the province is prepared



DWINDLING NUMBERS VIEW COVID-19 AS OVERBLOWN

Q1b. “The COVID-19 virus (also known as coronavirus) emerged earlier this year and has spread to several countries. Please read the following statements and indicate if you agree or disagree: This whole issue of the COVID-19 virus is overblown for people living in this country.”



Base: All respondents (N=803)

YOUNGER MEN REMAIN SIGNIFICANTLY LESS LIKELY TO TAKE COVID-19 SERIOUSLY

VIEWS AMONG SUB- POPULATIONS

Q1b. "The COVID-19 virus (also known as coronavirus) emerged earlier this year and has spread to several countries. Please read the following statements and indicate if you agree or disagree: This whole issue of the COVID-19 virus is overblown for people living in this country."

Base: All respondents (N=803)

% who strongly/somewhat agree COVID-19 is overblown

