IPC COMMUNITY ATTITUDES STUDY 2022

DATA SHARING

APRIL 2022

RESEARCH DESIGN

Woolcott Research was commissioned by the IPC to investigate awareness of privacy, information access and data sharing rights amongst the general public of NSW.

A phone and online survey amongst n=800 NSW residents aged 18+ years was conducted in February 2021.

Quotas were set by methodology (telephone interviewing/online), location (Sydney/ Regional NSW), gender and age; data was post-weighted by location, gender and age to reflect the latest ABS population estimates.

Where possible, this report compares results from the 2014 and 2016 omnibus studies, as well as the 2018 and 2020 mixed mode survey.

Significant differences in results at the 95% confidence level are shown as follows:

- Results from 2022 that are significantly higher or lower than the total are shown in **GREEN** or **RED** respectively

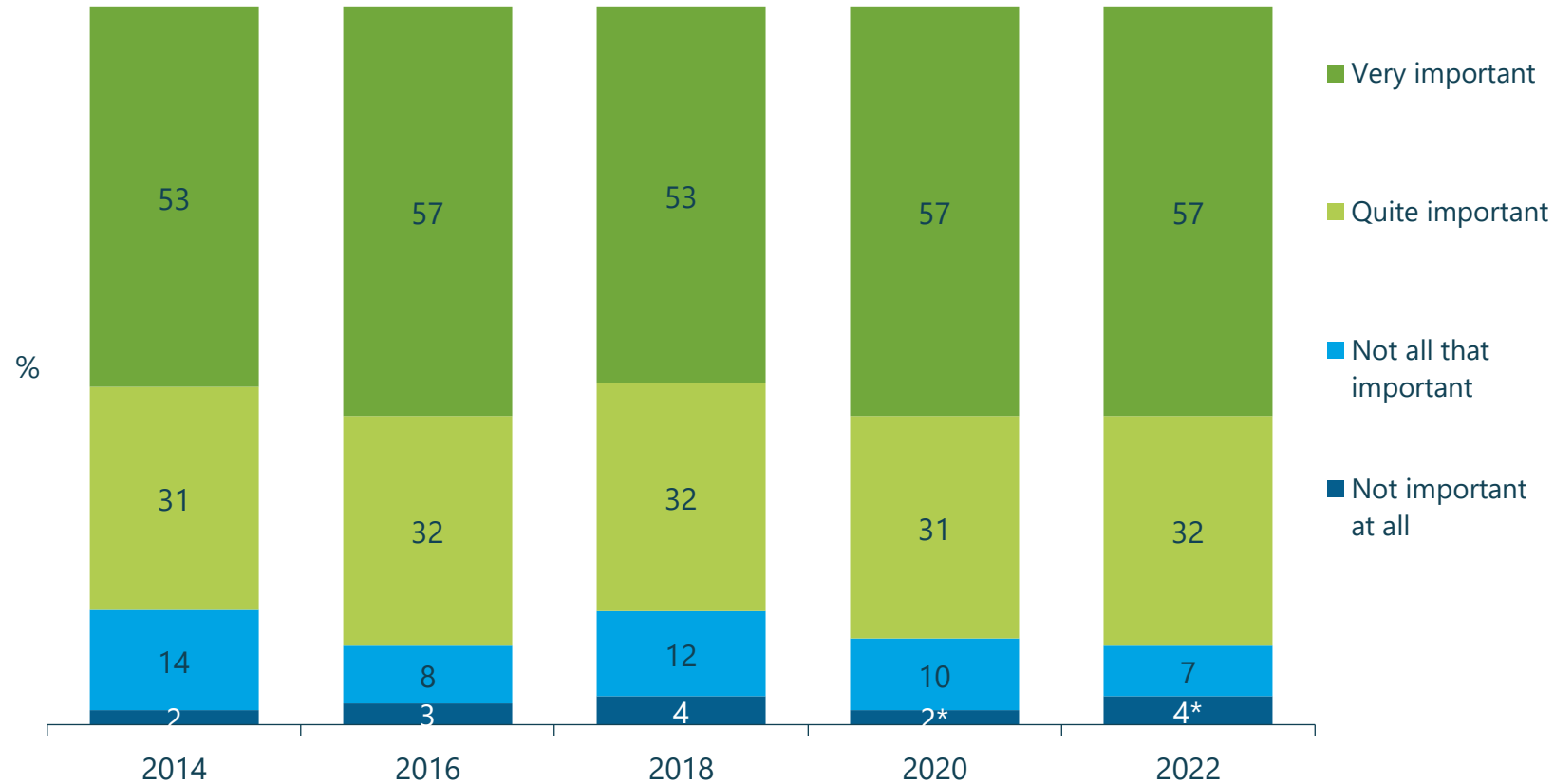- Differences between the most recent comparative year and 2022 results are denoted by asterisks (*)

DATA SHARING

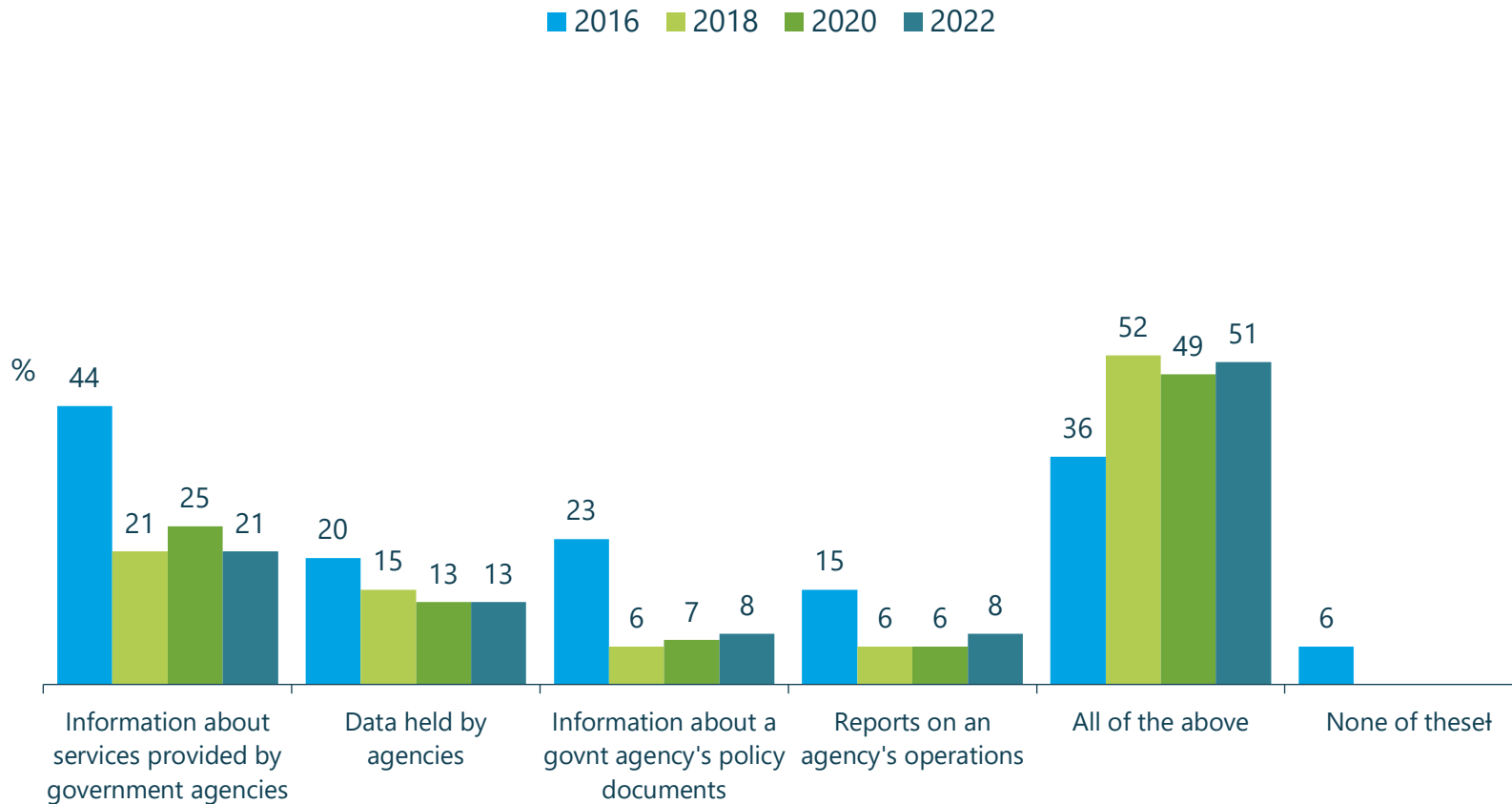# IMPORTANCE OF HAVING THE RIGHT TO ACCESS GOVERNMENT INFORMATION

Legend:
- Very important
- Quite important
- Not all that important
- Not important at all

Data by year:

Year	Very important	Quite important	Not all that important	Not important at all
2014	53	31	14	2
2016	57	32	8	3
2018	53	32	12	4
2020	57	31	10	2*
2022	57	32	7	4*

- Most respondents continued to feel that having the right to access government information was very important.

INTEREST IN TYPES OF GOVERNMENT HELD INFORMATION

Legend: ■ 2016 ■ 2018 ■ 2020 ■ 2022

%

Information about services provided by government agencies: 44, 21, 25, 21

Data held by agencies: 20, 15, 13, 13

Information about a govnt agency's policy documents: 23, 6, 7, 8

Reports on an agency's operations: 15, 6, 6, 8

All of the above: 36, 52, 49, 51

None of these‡: 6

- Interest in the type of information held by the government was consistent with 2020, with approximately half being interested in all the information types listed.

Q13. What type of government held information are you most interested in accessing?
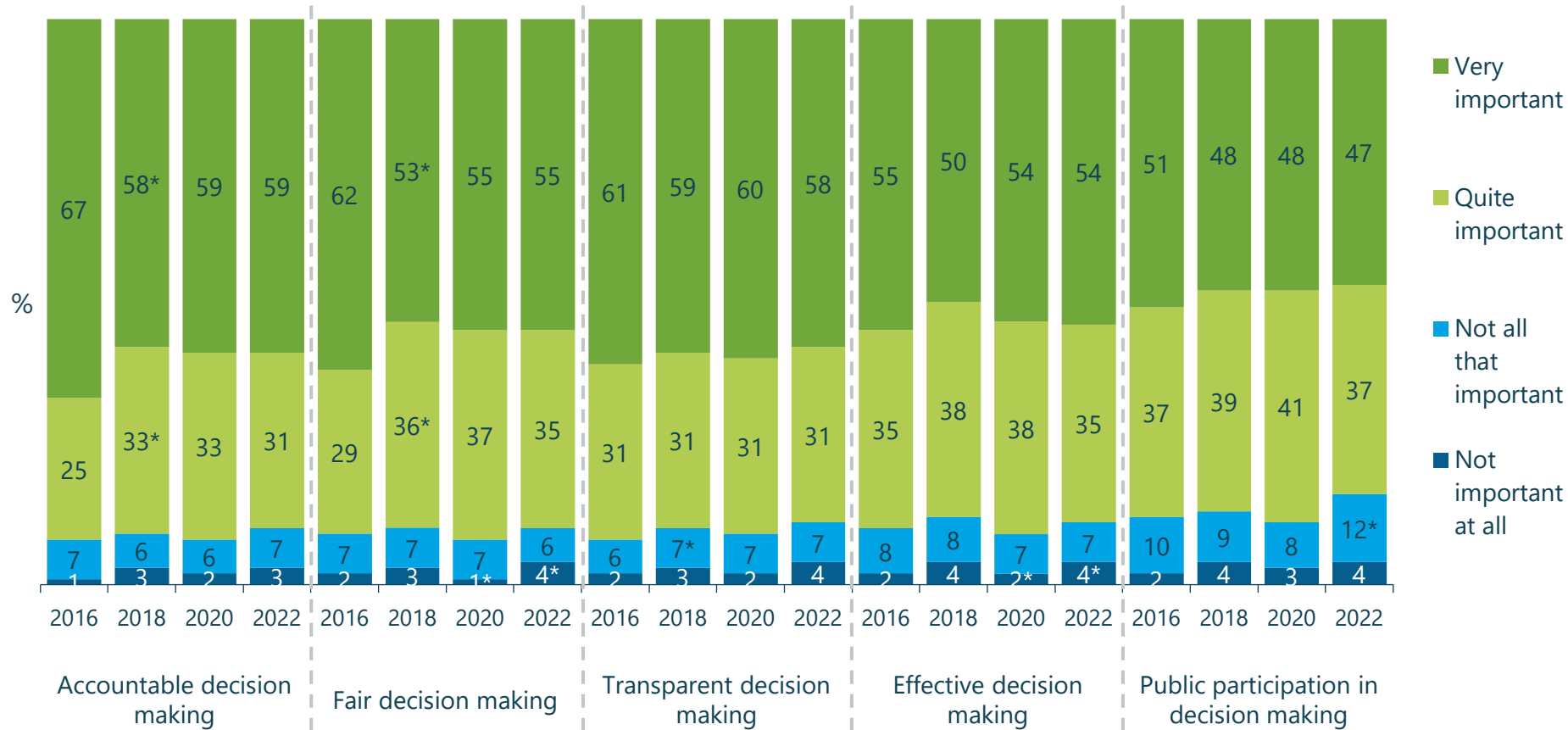Base: All respondents (2016 n=340, 2018 n=803, 2020 n=802, 2022 n=800)
‡ Not an available code in 2018 or 2020
PLEASE NOTE: QUESTION WAS MULTIPLE CHOICE IN 2016

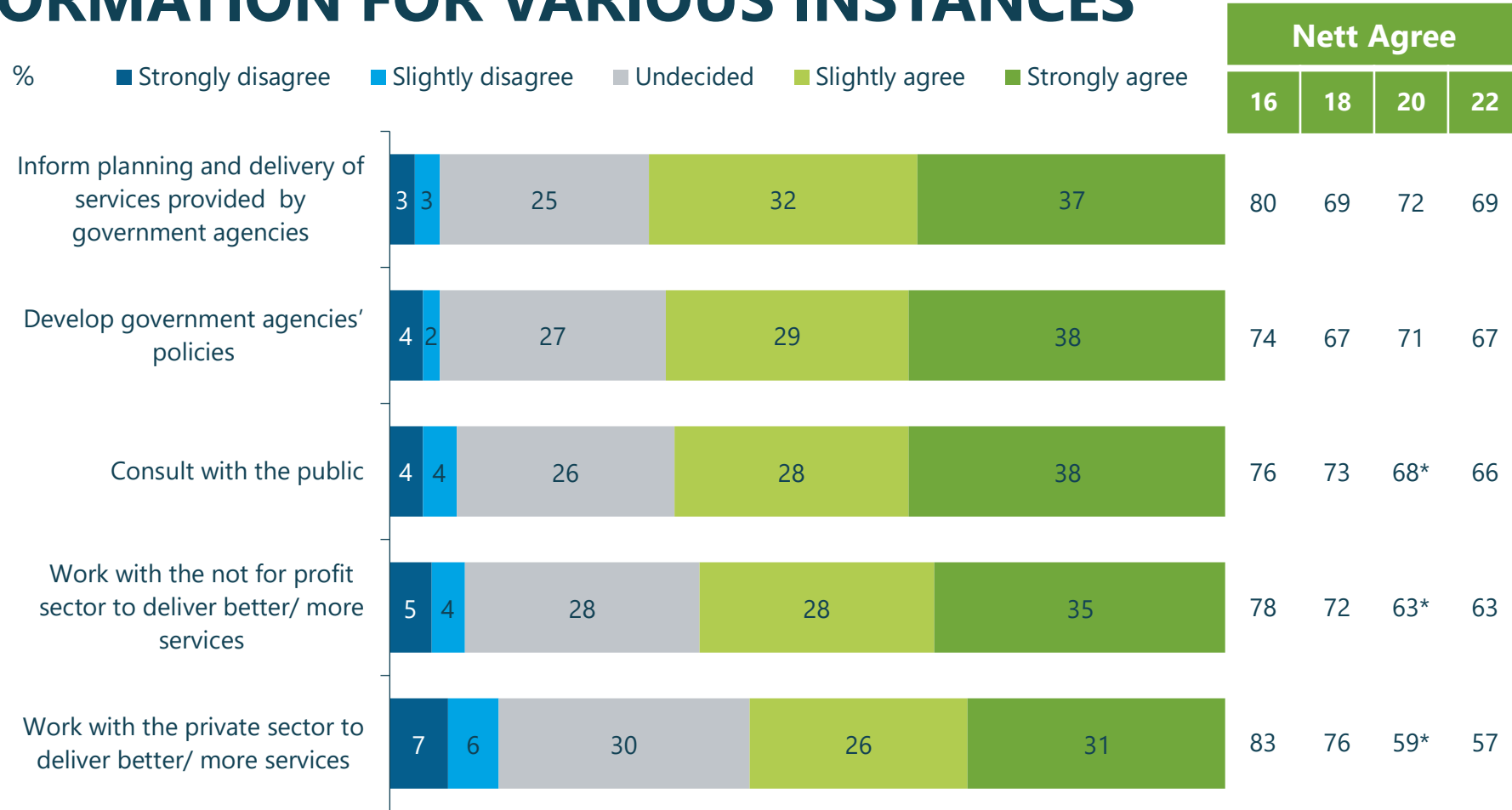# IMPORTANCE OF ALLOWING PUBLIC ACCESS TO INFORMATION HELD BY GOVERNMENT AGENCIES

- Most respondents continued to feel that it was very or quite important to allow public access to the government held information listed.

AGREEMENT WITH DE-IDENTIFICATION OF INFORMATION FOR VARIOUS INSTANCES

% ■ Strongly disagree ■ Slightly disagree ■ Undecided ■ Slightly agree ■ Strongly agree

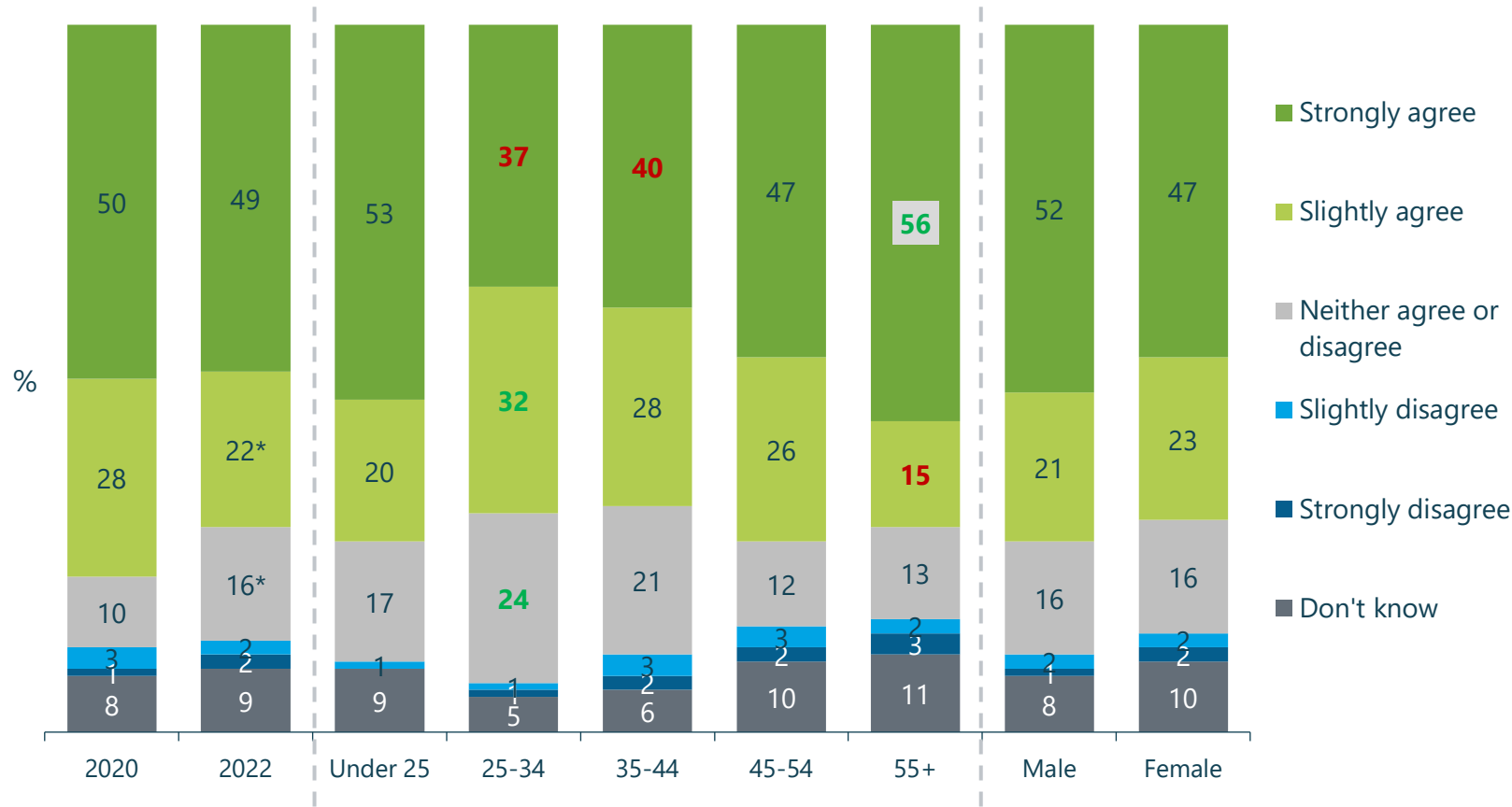|	Nett Agree			
	16	18	20	22
Inform planning and delivery of services provided by government agencies (3, 3, 25, 32, 37)	80	69	72	69
Develop government agencies' policies (4, 2, 27, 29, 38)	74	67	71	67
Consult with the public (4, 4, 26, 28, 38)	76	73	68*	66
Work with the not for profit sector to deliver better/ more services (5, 4, 28, 28, 35)	78	72	63*	63
Work with the private sector to deliver better/ more services (7, 6, 30, 26, 31)	83	76	59*	57

- Agreement with the de-identification of information was also consistent with 2020.

Q23. *"Data collected and held about individuals can be fully de-identified so it cannot be used to identify a particular person"*
To what extent do you agree or disagree that this de-identified information should be used to...?
Base: All respondents (2016 n=340, 2018 n=803, 2020 n=802, 2022 n=800)
Please note: Percentages have been amended so they add to 100%

AGREEMENT THAT AGENCIES MUST PUBLICLY REPORT ON USE OF ARTIFICAL INTELLEGENCE
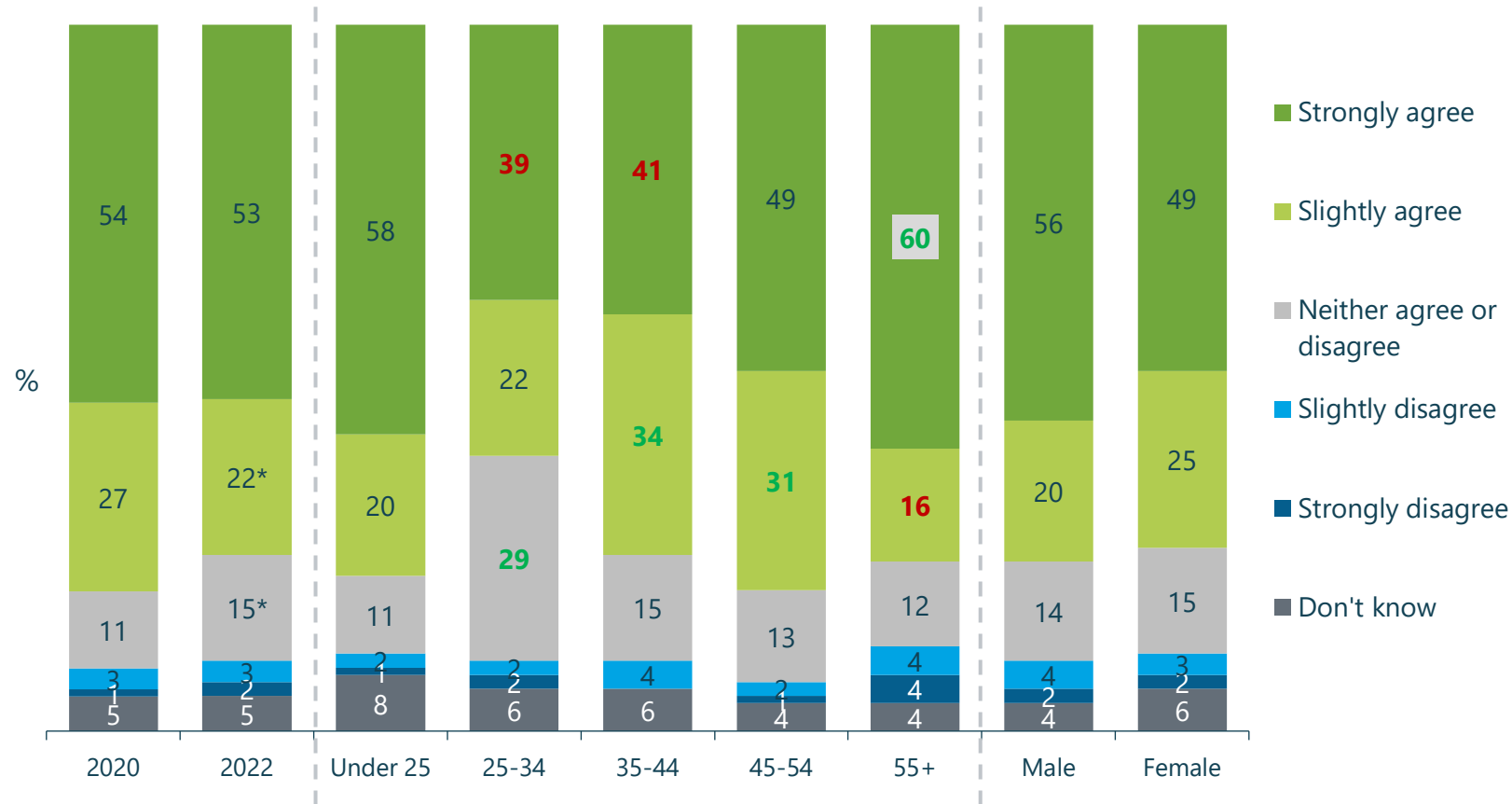

- Approximately half strongly agreed that agencies should publicly report on use of artificial intelligence, however incidence of neither agreeing nor disagreeing increased in 2022.

- The extent to which different age ranges agreed with the statement somewhat varied, however total agreement was consistent.

Q24. "*Governments are increasingly using data, algorithms and other forms of artificial intelligence to inform decisions, for example subsidy and or payment calculations.*"
To what extent do you agree that government agencies should be required to publicly report on any systems used to inform agency decisions that impact an individuals?
Base: All respondents (2020 n=802, 2022 n=800)
Please note: Percentages have been amended so they add to 100%

AGREEMENT THAT AGENCIES MUST PUBLICLY REPORT ON RETENTION OF INFORMATION

Legend:
- Strongly agree
- Slightly agree
- Neither agree or disagree
- Slightly disagree
- Strongly disagree
- Don't know

	2020	2022	Under 25	25-34	35-44	45-54	55+	Male	Female
Strongly agree	54	53	58	39	41	49	60	56	49
Slightly agree	27	22*	20	22	34	31	16	20	25
Neither agree or disagree	11	15*	11	29	15	13	12	14	15
Slightly disagree	3	3	2	2	4	2	4	4	3
Strongly disagree	1	2	1	2	4	1	4	2	2
Don't know	5	5	8	6	6	4	4	4	6

- As with 2020, over half strongly agreed that government agencies should publicly report on the information they maintain.

- However, those in the 25-44 age groups were less likely to strongly agree.

Q25. To what extent do you agree that government agencies should publicly report on the information they maintain?
Base: All respondents (2020 n=802, 2022 n=800)
Please note: Percentages have been amended so they add to 100%

DEMOGRAPHICS

GENDER AND AGE

%	2014 (n=340)	2016 (n=340)	2018 (n=803)	2020 (n=802)	2022 (n=800)
Gender					
Male	44	49	48	50	50
Female	56	51	52	50	50
Gender neutralɫ	Not an option in 2014, 2016 or 2018			-	-
Prefer not to indicateɫ				-	-
Age					
18-24	12	15	15	18	18
25-34	12	20	21	11	12
35-44	8	16	17	13	18
45-54	17	18	16	19	12
55-64	12	12	12	11	7
65-74	38	20	10	14	13
75+			8	14	20

D1. Which of the following age brackets do you belong to?
D2. Do you identify as being…?
Base: All respondents (2016 n=340, 2018 n=803, 2020 n=802, 2022 n=800)
ɫOptions added in 2020
Please note: Percentages have been amended so they add to 100%

WORK STATUS

%	2014 (n=340)	2016 (n=340)	2018 (n=803)	2020 (n=802)	2022 (n=800)
Working status					
Working full time	Not asked in 2014	89	39	34	34
Working part time			17	14	12
Retired		4	23	29	32
Student		4	9	12	11
Unemployed		3	5	6	5
Engaged in home duties		1	7	4	5
Refused		-	1	1	1

D3. Which of these categories best describes you?
Base: All respondents (2016 n=340, 2018 n=803, 2020 n=802, 2022 n=800)
Please note: Percentages have been amended so they add to 100%

MAIN LANGUAGE SPOKEN

%	2014 (n=340)	2016 (n=340)	2018 (n=803)	2020 (n=802)	2022 (n=800)
Main Language Spoken					
English			90	86	88
Cantonese/Mandarin			1	6	4
Korean	Not asked in 2014 or 2016		-	1	**<1**
Hindi			1	1	1
Arabic (incl. Lebanese)			1	1	<1
Indonesian			<1	1	**<1**
Other			6	5	6

D4. What is the main language spoken at home?
Base: All respondents (2016 n=340, 2018 n=803, 2020 n=802, 2022 n=800)

DATA SHARING SUMMARY

Having the right to access government information continued to be important for most respondents.

Similarly, the vast majority felt that it was important to allow public access to information that government agencies used for decision making.

Interest in the types of information held by the government was consistent with the past two years, with approximately half being interested in accessing information from all the categories listed.

Most continued to agree that data collected about individuals should be de-identified information in the instances listed, including when the government is planning and delivering services and during the policy making process.

Respondents also continued to indicate that agencies should report on the use of artificial intelligence and information they maintain. However strong agreement with both these statements was higher amongst those aged over fifty-four years.

Woolcott Research & Engagement

L6, 104 Mount Street, North Sydney 2060

+61 29261 5221

woolcott.com.au

IPC COMMUNITY ATTITUDES STUDY 2022 – DATA SHARING

NSW Information and Privacy Commission (IPC)

Karyn Wong
kwong@Woolcott.com.au