

Public attitudes towards fishing quota allocation in Spain

For  OCEANA

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Background

The present poll aimed to find out Spanish citizens' views about the importance of preserving a healthy ocean and how they feel about current fishing quota allocation practices and criteria and if they would support or not more quotas to fleets with a lower environmental impact and offering more societal benefits for coastal communities.

Objectives

The study focused around 4 main objectives:

- 1) Do Spanish citizens care about the marine environment and want it to be in a better state?
- 2) Do they think that the impact of the fishing boat on the ocean and the amount of jobs the boat creates are important factors to consider when allocating fishing quotas to fishers?
- 3) Do Spanish citizens think that certain fishers should get more quotas over others, and if so, what factors are important?
- 4) Do they want their government to grant them more access to information on how they distribute fishing quotas to their fleets?

METHODOLOGY



FIELDWORK

Format: Online interviews,
conducted on YouGov's
panel

Dates: 4th – 7th April



QUESTIONNAIRE

11 closed questions
The duration was on
average 5 min.



TARGET

Men and women, of legal
age (18+), residents



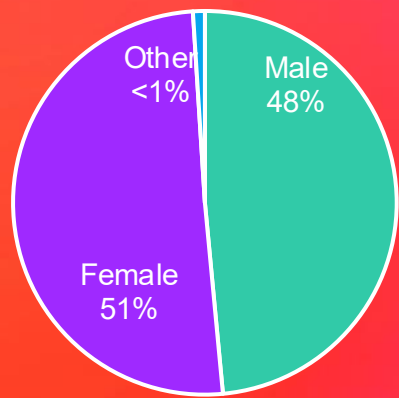
SAMPLE

1007 size sample.
National Representative
data, with gender & age
quota

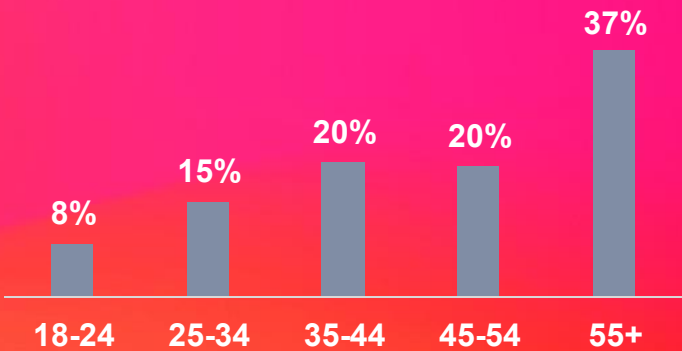
SPAIN DISTRIBUTION

The sample of 1007 people, representative of the Spanish population in terms of gender and age, is distributed as follows:

Gender

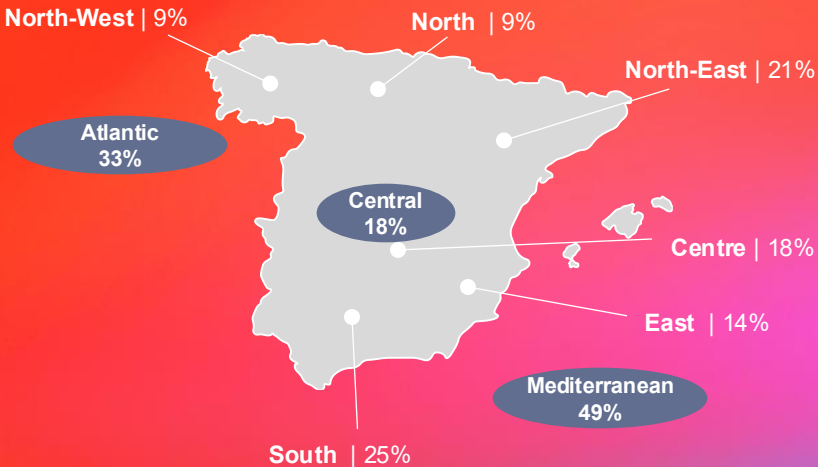


Age



Education

Low	24%
Medium	37%
High	39%

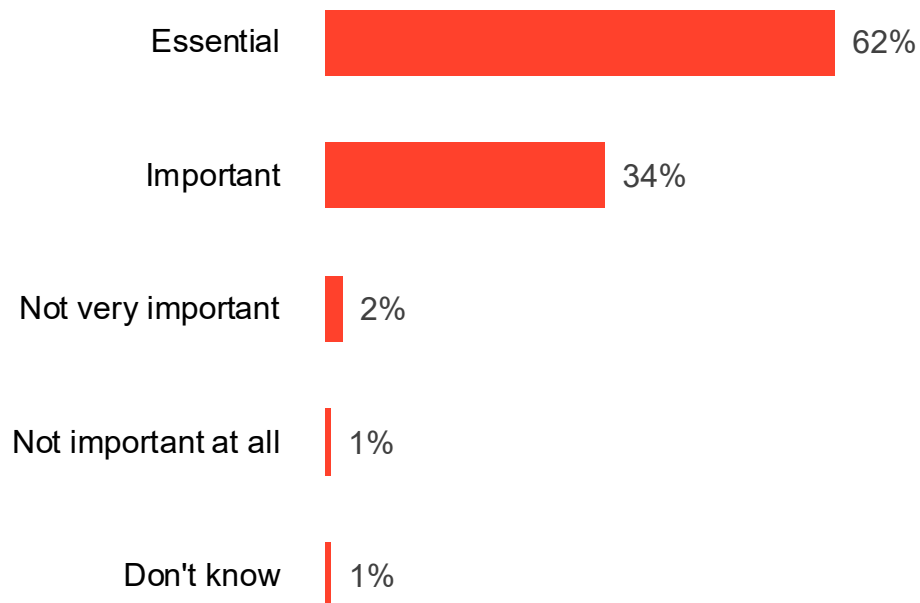


Key highlights & Results

KEY HIGHLIGHTS

- 87% of citizens believe the Spanish government should give more quotas to small-scale fishers and 78% believe they should give fewer to industrial vessels to better support coastal communities and local economies.
- Citizens support such a re-distribution of quotas because it would support local seafood, protect jobs and protect the ocean.
- 83% of Spanish citizens want their government to provide easier access to clear information about the criteria, methodology, and decisions regarding fishing quota distribution. 85% of Spanish citizens believe that small-scale fishers should have a greater role in decision-making regarding government quota distribution.
- The overwhelming majority of Spanish citizens (96%) believe it is important to protect the ocean, with 62% considering it essential.
- 89% of Spanish citizens acknowledge that small-scale traditional fishers often use gear with a minimal impact on marine ecosystems and that is therefore compatible with a healthy ocean while 76% consider unselective and destructive fishing methods like bottom trawling to be incompatible with preserving the ocean's health.
- 79% of Spaniards believe that the impact of fishing boats on ocean habitats and the amount of unwanted fish caught should be prioritized when distributing fishing quotas and 69% believe that the amount of jobs the boat creates and the importance of the fishing activity for the coastal community should also be a priority.

96% OF SPANISH CITIZENS THINK IT'S IMPORTANT TO PROTECT THE OCEAN, and 62% would even say it's essential



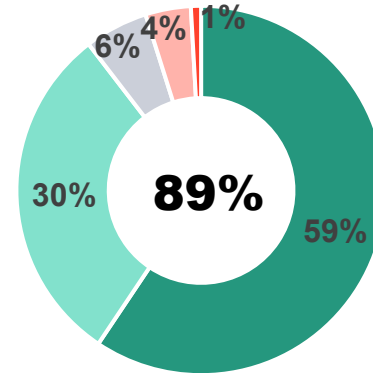
How important, or not, is for you protecting the ocean and making it in a better state?

Base (1007)



89% of Spanish citizens believe that small-scale fishing is more compatible with a healthy ocean than industrial fishing.

Small-scale fishing more compatible with a healthy ocean



■ I strongly agree

■ I don't know

■ I strongly disagree

■ I moderately agree

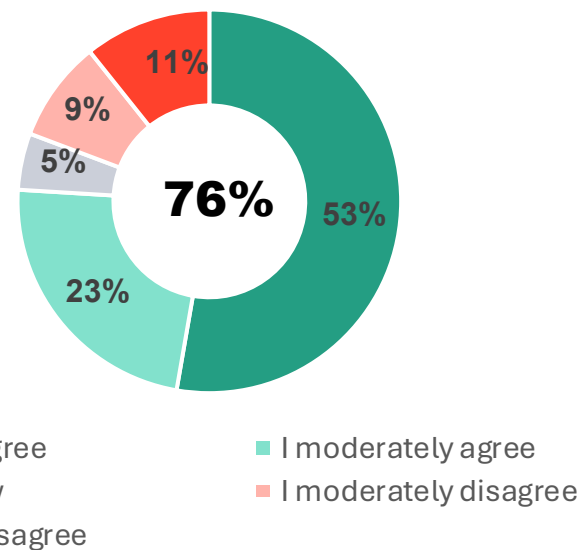
■ I moderately disagree

To what extent do you agree or disagree that small-scale fishing is more compatible with a healthy ocean than industrial fishing, like bottom trawling?

Base (1007)

The majority of Spanish citizens believe that unselective and destructive fishing is incompatible with a healthy ocean.

Unselective & destructive fishing is incompatible with a healthy ocean



To what extent do you agree or disagree that destructive and unselective fishing methods, like bottom trawling, are incompatible with preserving a healthy ocean?
Base (1007)

79% of Spaniards believe that the impact of the boat on ocean habitats and how much unwanted fish it catches SHOULD be a priority when deciding how much fishing quotas to give out

Do you believe that criteria, such as the impact of the boat on ocean habitats and how much unwanted fish it catches, should or should not be a priority when deciding how much fishing quotas to give to out?

Base (1007)

YES

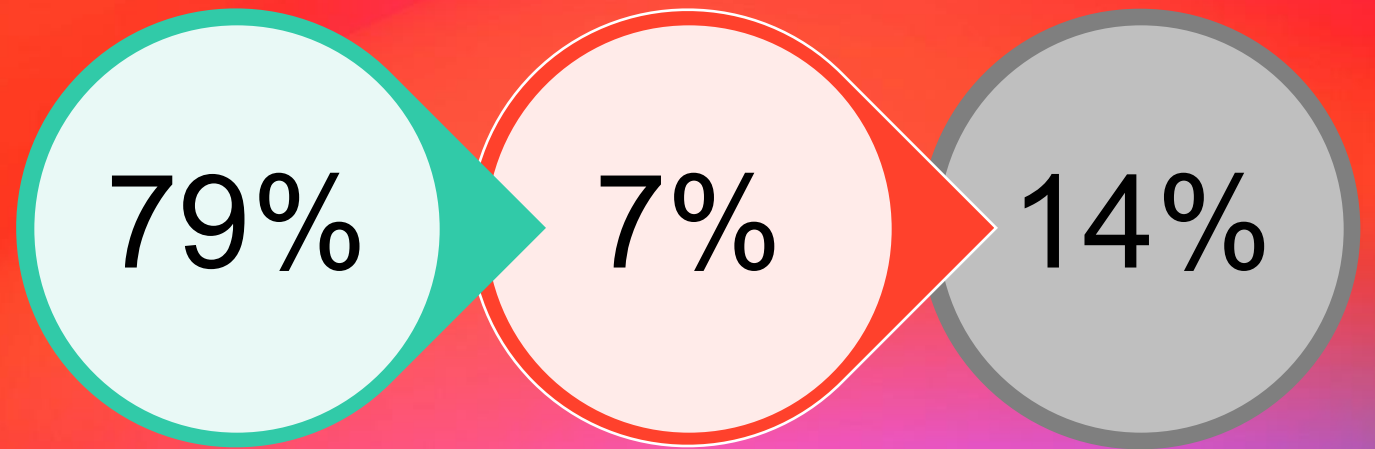
NO

Don't Know

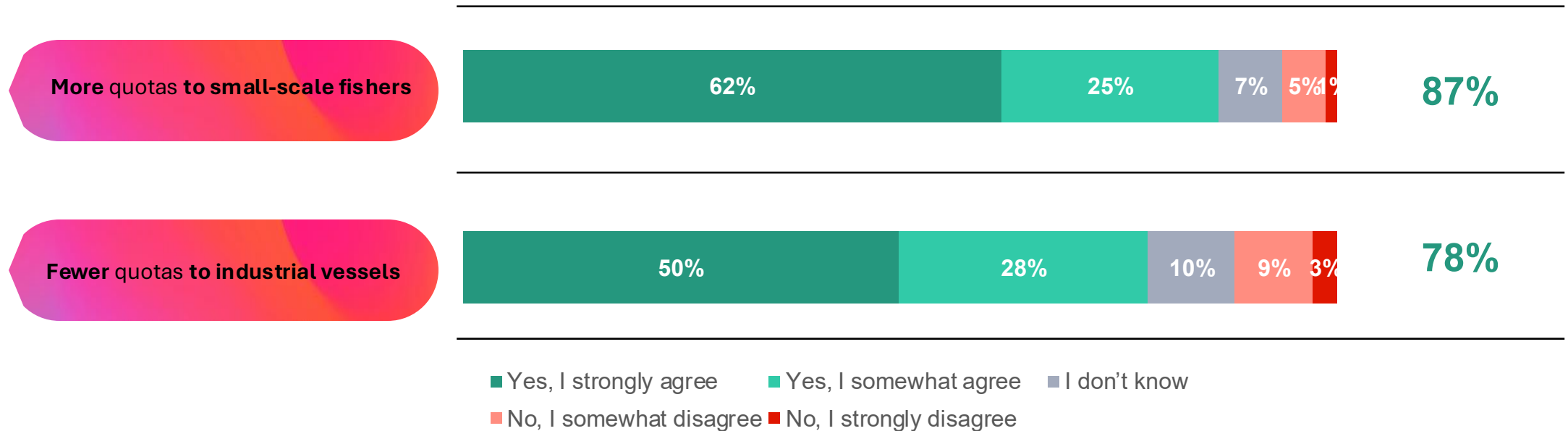
79%

7%

14%



The majority of citizens polled believe that the Spanish government should give more quotas to small-scale fishers and fewer quotas to industrial vessels



Do you agree or disagree that the Spanish government should give more quotas to small-scale fishers to better support coastal communities and local economies?

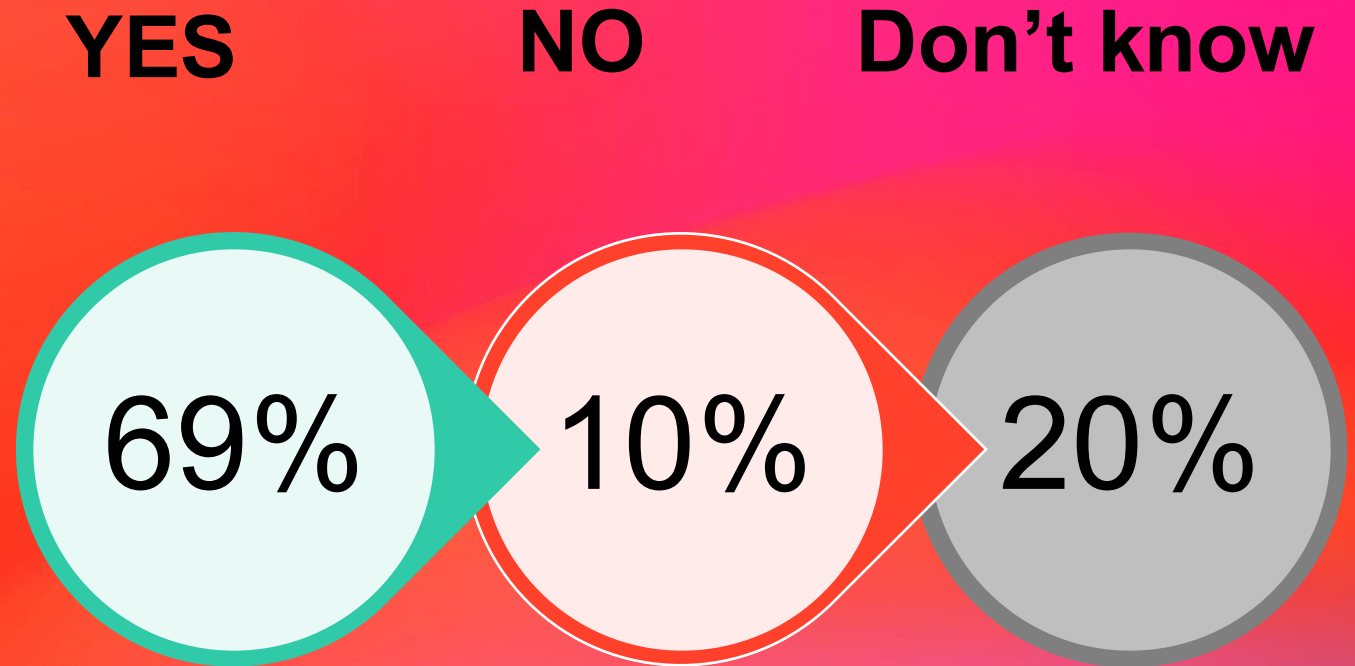
Do you agree or disagree that the Spanish government should give fewer quotas to industrial vessels, like bottom trawlers to better support coastal communities and local economies?

Base (1007)

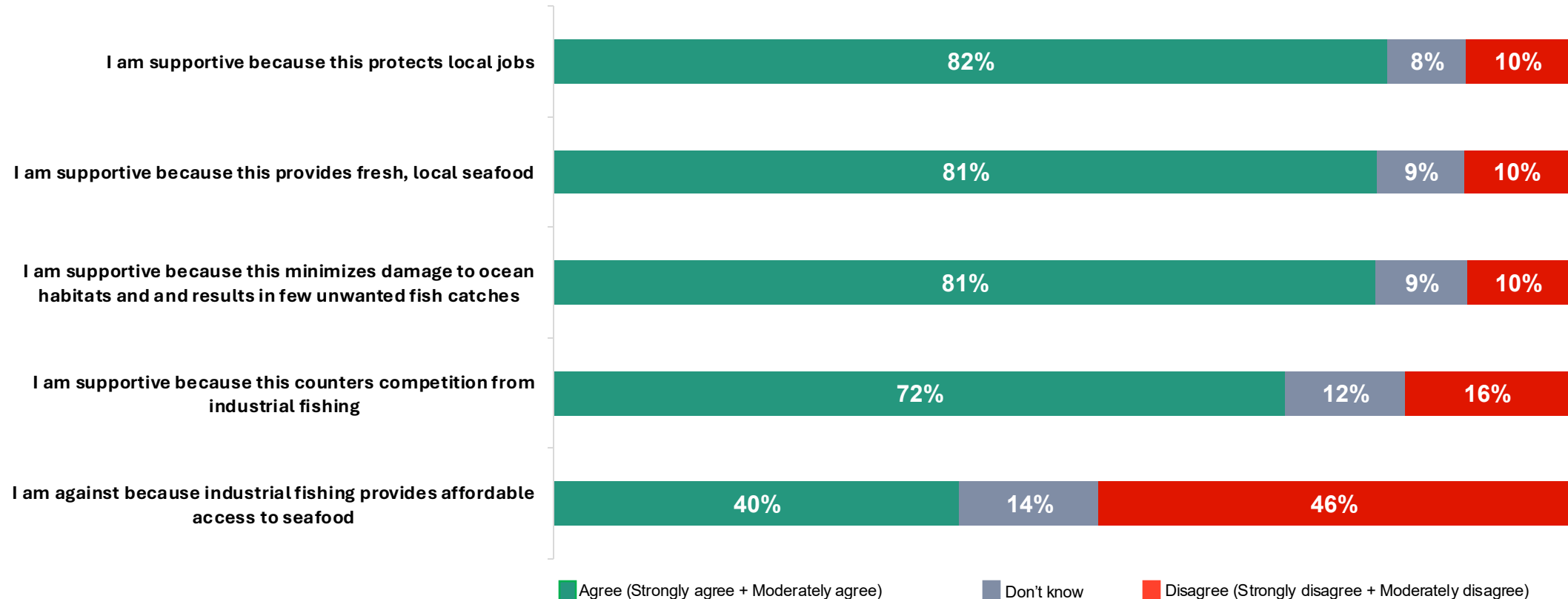
69% of Spaniards believe that the amount of jobs the boat creates and the importance of the fishing activity for the costal community SHOULD be a priority when deciding about fishing quota distribution.

Do you believe that criteria such as the amount of people the boat employs and the importance of the fishing activity for the coastal community should or should not be a priority when deciding how much fishing quotas to give out?

Base (1007)



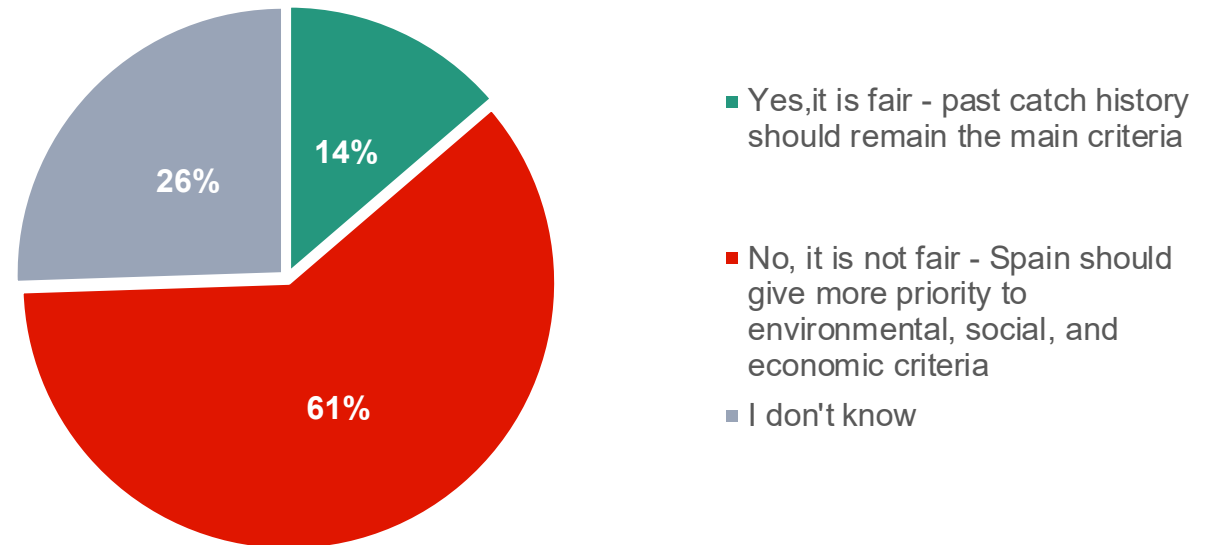
Providing local seafood, protecting local jobs, and protecting the ocean are the reasons why the vast majority of Spaniards support more quotas for small-scale fishers



Concerning redistributing quotas in favor of small-scale fishers, to what extent do you agree or disagree with the following statements?

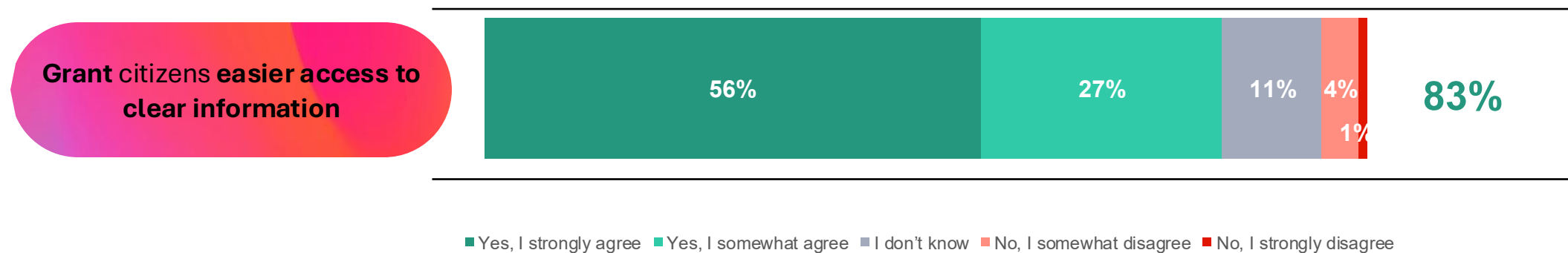
Base (1007)

Most Spanish citizens believe that the way the government gives out fishing quotas is not fair



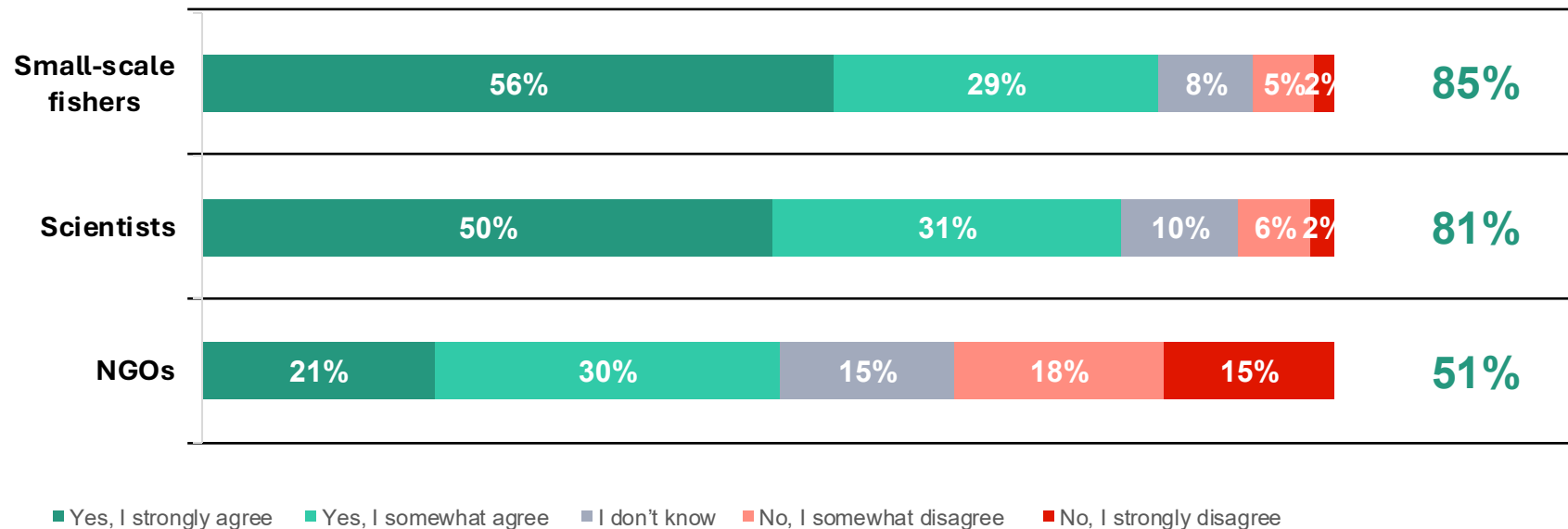
Do you believe that the way Spain gives out fishing quotas is or is not fair?
Base (1007)

83% of Spanish citizens are keen for their government to grant them more access to information on how they distribute fishing quotas to their fleets



To what extent do you agree or disagree that the Spanish government should grant citizens easier access to clear information about the criteria, methodology and final decisions concerning how it gives out fishing quotas to its fleets?
Base (1007)

85% of Spaniards agree that small-scale fishers should have a greater role in decision-making regarding government quota distribution



To what extent do you agree or disagree that other partners should have a greater role in decision-making processes regarding how the government gives out fishing quotas?
Base (1007)

Thank you

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