



BC Shipbuilders Omnibus Survey Report

November 2025

Poll Commissioned by
Build Them Here: Shipbuilding Coalition



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Methodology



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Methodology

Online survey among n=1,035 British Columbians 18 years of age or older. Respondents were randomly recruited via Leger's LEO panel

When

In field from November 07 to November 09, 2025, inclusive.

Margin of error

For comparison purposes, a probability sample of n=1,035 yields a margin of error no greater than $\pm 3.05\%$, (19 times out of 20) for the sample.

Weighting

Results were weighted according to age, gender, region, and education to ensure a representative sample of the population of BC (see respondent profile section).

Rounding

The numbers presented have been rounded up. However, the numbers before rounding were used to calculate the sums presented and might therefore not correspond to the manual addition of these numbers.

Significant differences

Data in bold **red** characters indicate a significantly lower proportion than that of other respondents.
Conversely, data in bold **green** characters indicate a significantly higher proportion than that of other respondents.

Key Highlights

Some **key highlights** include...

There is strong support for building ferries in B.C. to help support local jobs and economy.

- **A majority of B.C. residents (61%) believe that ferries should be built in the province**, to keep jobs and tax dollars here, even if it costs somewhat more.
 - Among those who feel that ferries should be built in B.C., largely their reason is to support B.C. jobs and the economy (66%).
- **Fewer (23%) feel that ferries should be built wherever is cheapest**, even if it means jobs are sent offshore.
 - Those who feel that ferries should be built wherever is cheapest have more varied reasons, including to save taxpayer money (31%), to get best value for money (29%), and to ensure ferries are delivered on time (20%).

British Columbians want greater transparency on the selection process and long-term planning to keep work in the province.

- **84% of British Columbians say the B.C. government should have a long-term plan** to keep shipbuilding work and expertise in the province.
- **81% want B.C. Ferries to release more information about contract value** and the selection process.
- **76% believe the B.C. government should build ferries in B.C.** to create good jobs and economic benefits.

There is some uncertainty about what to do with the current contract, but preference leans toward local building.

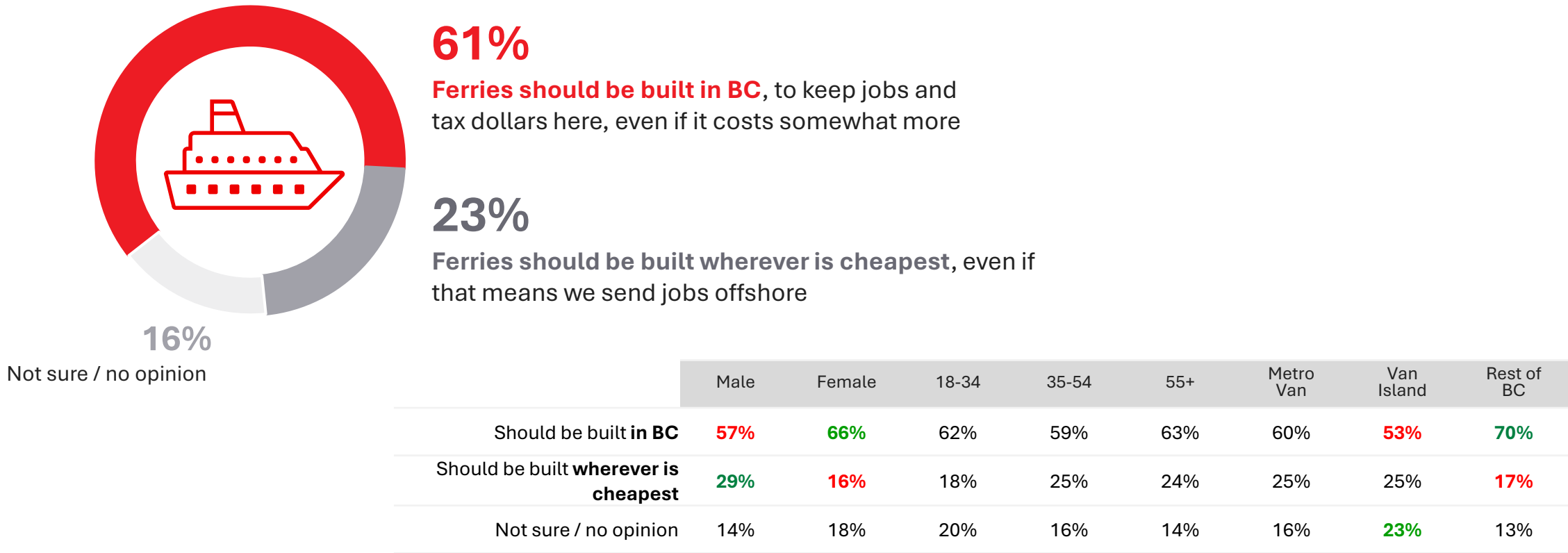
- **69% favour renegotiating** so at least some components or work are completed in B.C.
- **50% support cancelling the current contract** to build locally, while 38% disagree and 16% are unsure.
- **49% support cancelling the \$1-billion federal loan** and funding only projects that create Canadian jobs, while 38% disagree and 18% are unsure.

Detailed Results

Views on BC Ferries Shipbuilding Decision

Q. BC Ferries awarded a contract to build four new ferries in China. The federal government provided a one billion dollar interest free loan for the purchase of these vessels. Supporters say building overseas is faster and cheaper. They note that no Canadian shipyards submitted final bids. Two Canadian yards withdrew from the bidding process, saying it favoured countries with lower labour costs, weaker worker protections and looser environmental standards. Critics argue the decision sends good jobs and tax dollars overseas. Building in B.C. would use Canadian steel, employ local trades like welders and electricians and keep money here to support hospitals and schools. Some also warn that imported steel can be lower quality.

Knowing this, which of the following statements comes closest to your view?
Base: BC residents (n=1,035)

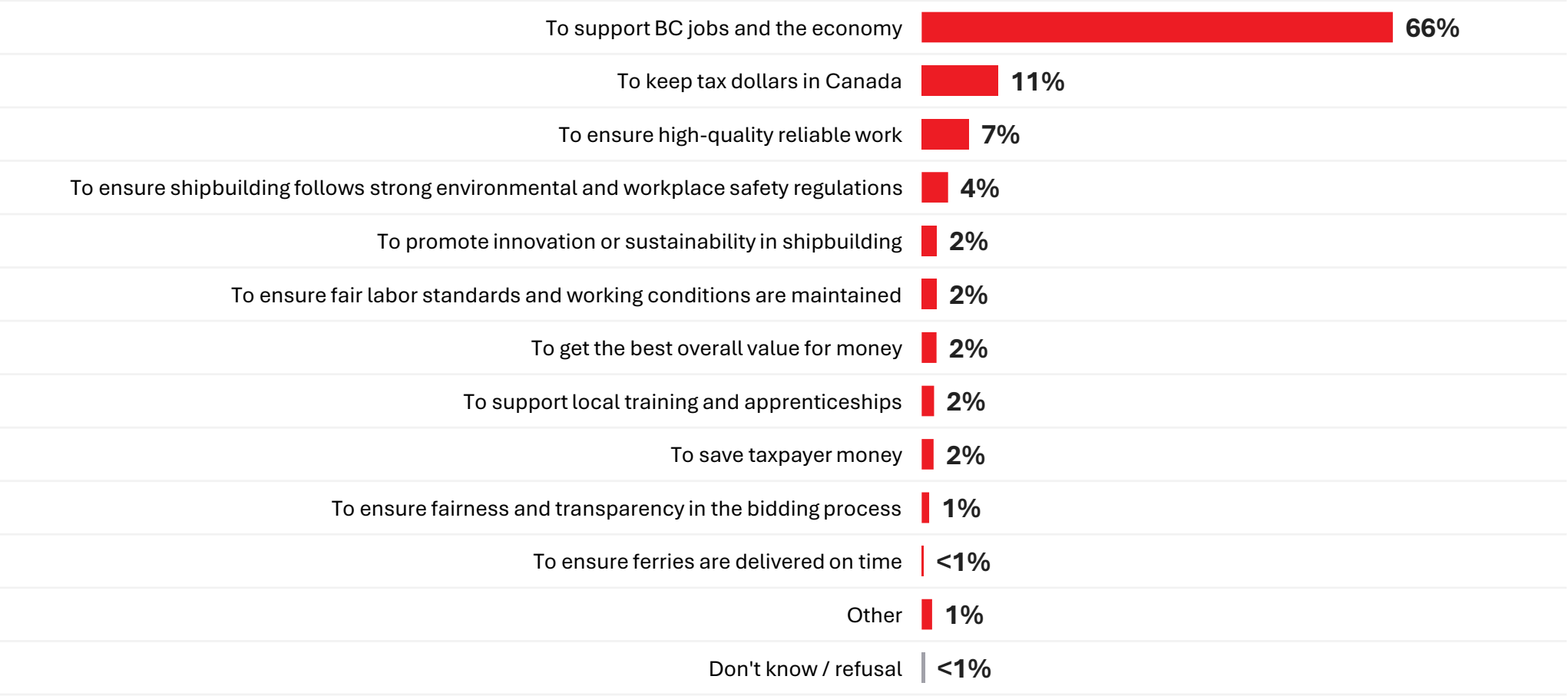


Why BC Residents Think Ferries **Should Be Built in BC**

Q. What is the main reason you feel that way?

Base: Respondents who feel “Ferries should be built in BC, to keep jobs and tax dollars here, even if it costs somewhat more” (n=634)

% Why

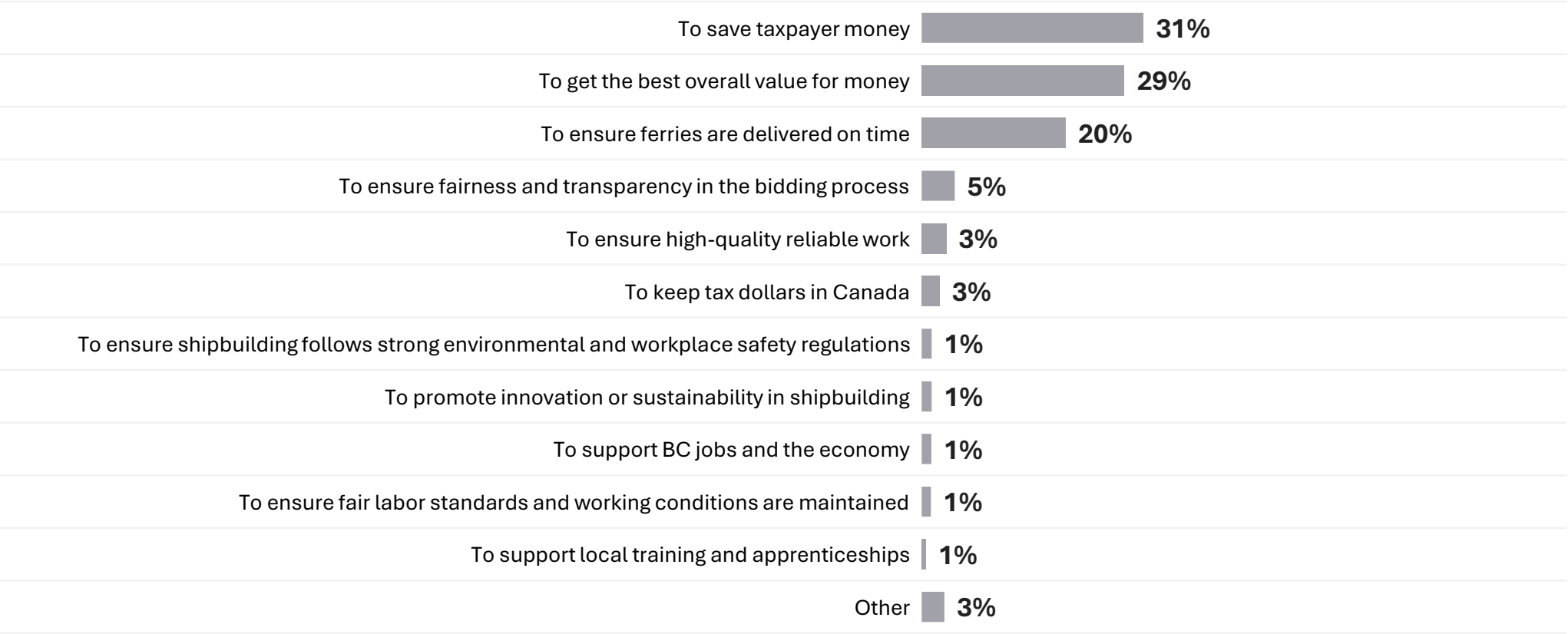


Why BC Residents Think Ferries Should Be Built Wherever is Cheapest

Q. What is the main reason you feel that way?

Base: Respondents who feel “Ferries should be built wherever is cheapest, even if that means we send jobs offshore” (n=249)

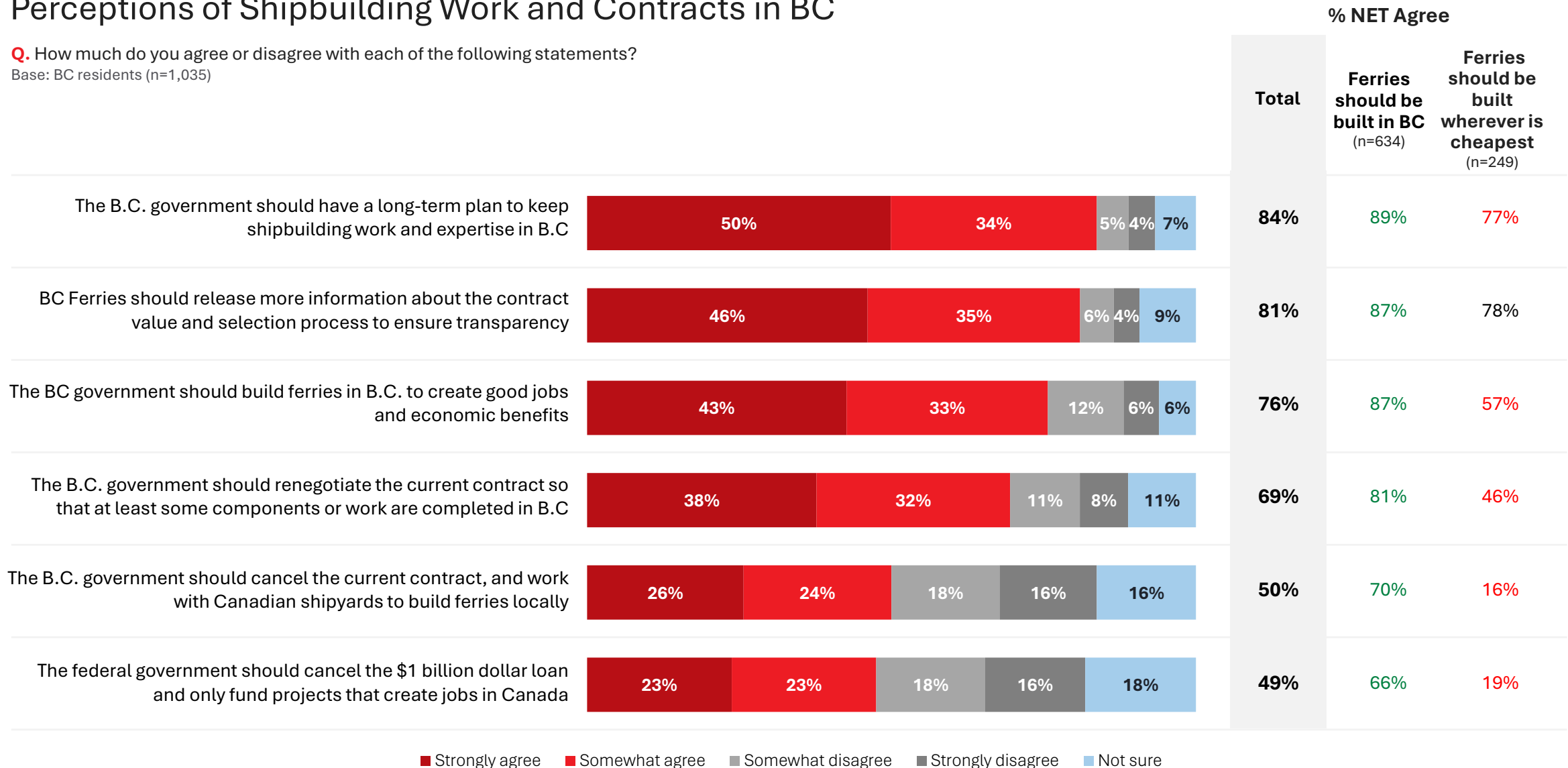
% Why



Perceptions of Shipbuilding Work and Contracts in BC

Q. How much do you agree or disagree with each of the following statements?

Base: BC residents (n=1,035)



Perceptions of Shipbuilding Work and Contracts in BC

% NET Agree

Q. How much do you agree or disagree with each of the following statements?
Base: BC residents (n=1,035)

% Agree (Strongly/Somewhat)	Total	Male	Female	18-34	35-54	55+	Metro Van	Van Island	Rest of BC
The B.C. government should have a long-term plan to keep shipbuilding work and expertise in B.C	84%	84%	84%	78%	82%	88%	84%	80%	86%
BC Ferries should release more information about the contract value and selection process to ensure transparency	81%	79%	82%	76%	82%	83%	79%	82%	84%
The BC government should build ferries in B.C. to create good jobs and economic benefits	76%	72%	79%	73%	77%	76%	74%	68%	82%
The B.C. government should renegotiate the current contract so that at least some components or work are completed in B.C	69%	66%	73%	68%	69%	71%	70%	61%	73%
The B.C. government should cancel the current contract, and work with Canadian shipyards to build ferries locally	50%	47%	52%	52%	49%	49%	47%	45%	58%
The federal government should cancel the \$1 billion dollar loan and only fund projects that create jobs in Canada	49%	47%	50%	49%	51%	46%	47%	41%	56%

Appendix: Respondent Profile

Respondent Profiles

Base: BC Residents (n=1,035)

Unweighted counts

Gender

	Unweighted	Weighted
Men	487	502
Women	548	531

Children in Household

	Unweighted	Weighted
Yes	276	266
No	757	765

Area

	Unweighted	Weighted
Urban	478	458
Suburban	402	434
Rural	148	133

Region

	Unweighted	Weighted
Metro Vancouver	501	548
Vancouver Island	217	177
Other BC	317	308

Age

	Unweighted	Weighted
18-34	226	266
35-54	317	324
55+	492	443

Education

	Unweighted	Weighted
High school or less	239	326
College	261	364
University	534	342

Income

	Unweighted	Weighted
<\$40k	164	192
\$40k-<\$80k	287	305
\$80k+	526	477

Our Credentials



Canada

Leger is a member of the [Canadian Research Insights Council \(CRIC\)](#), the industry association for the market/survey/insights research industry.



Europe

Leger is a member of [ESOMAR](#) (European Society for Opinion and Market Research), the global association of opinion polls and marketing research professionals.



America

Leger is also a member of the [Insights Association](#), the American Association of Marketing Research Analytics.



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185
consultants

8
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