

Australian Institute for
Disaster Resilience



Australian Disaster Resilience
Conference presents

Knowledge Week

24 - 27 AUGUST 2020

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#ADRC20



Australian Disaster Resilience Conference presents

○
KNOWLEDGE WEEK

————— **DAY THREE** —————

Community creating change



10.30AM – 4.30PM AEST | 26 AUGUST 2020





Brigid Little

AIDR

Will Mezner

World Vision

Natalie Dajkovich

Oaktree

Ashley Wild

Monash University

Turning up the volume: young Australian voices on climate change and disaster risk



our world our say

National survey of children and young people
on climate change and disaster risk

Australian Institute for
Disaster Resilience



World Vision



unicef
AUSTRALIA
for every child



Save the Children.

the
power of
humanity



Acknowledgement of Country

This report identifies the importance of a sustainable future to young people, which directly aligns with the aspirations of First Nations groups across Australia who in accordance with their laws and customs have taken care of these lands for thousands of generations.

... while young people feel protecting the environment is important, they feel unprepared and ill-equipped to do so. Our First Nations communities have generational collective knowledge on sustainable land practices that could empower young people in their ability to become a force for change.

Gheran Yarraman Steel (Briggs) Yaluk-ut Weelam of the Boon Wurrung

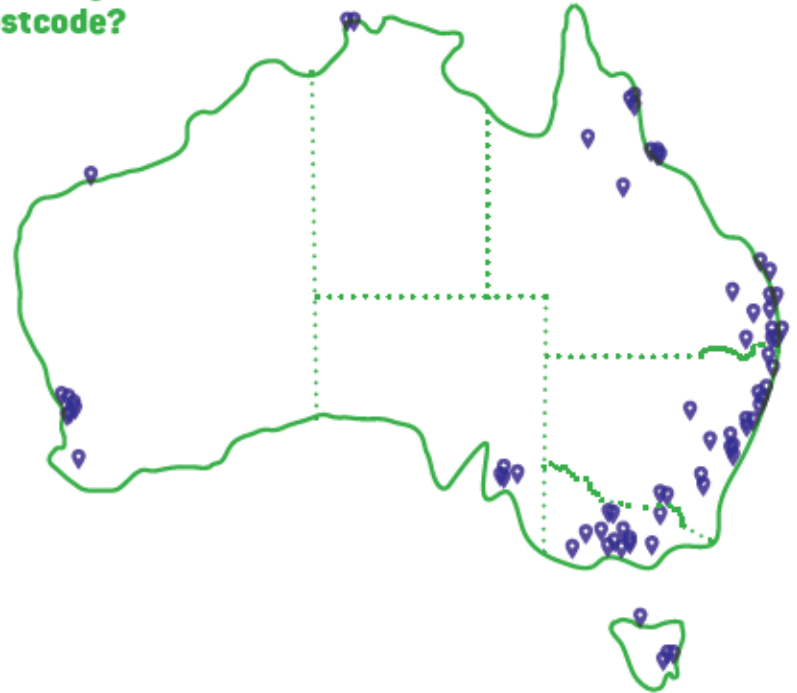
Methodology

- 1447 young people (10-24)
- 26 questions
- Youth Advisory Panel workshops

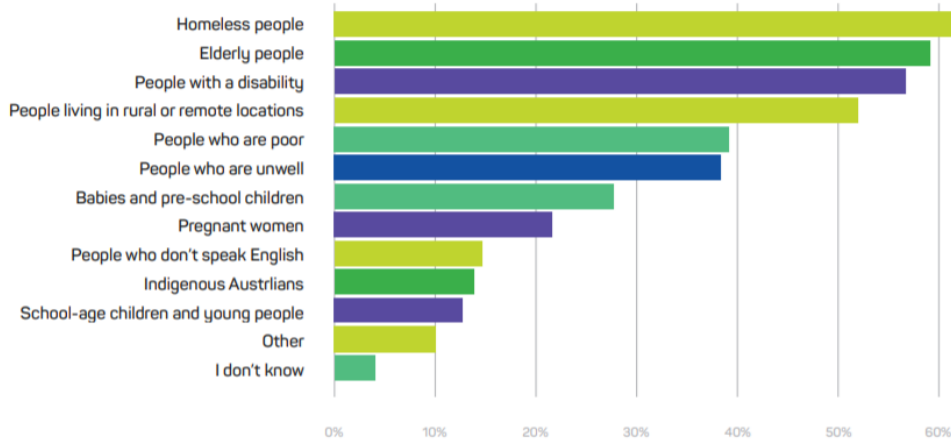


our world
our say

What is your
postcode?



In the event of a disaster, who do you think would be most in danger?



78%

Young people are concerned or extremely concerned about climate change

67%

Young people believe Australia is not doing enough to reduce carbon emissions



our world
our say

73%

Young people are either concerned or extremely concerned about experiencing a disaster

88%

Young people think they should be learning more about natural hazards and how to reduce the risk of a disaster



“The bushfires this summer in Australia were horrific. These catastrophic disasters aren't going to stop. In fact, they are only going to get worse as time progresses without action being taken. It is the responsibility of every single person to do everything they can to reduce the impact of climate change. Everyday people are trying their hardest to do their best, but until huge corporations and governments all around the world take action, this crisis will only get worse. Responsibility to fix this global crisis is falling on youth, because we are the ones growing up with this as our reality. It makes me angry. It makes me anxious. I am tired of being angry and anxious about this huge problem, especially when I feel so small and powerless. Please, do something.”

– 14, East Toowoomba

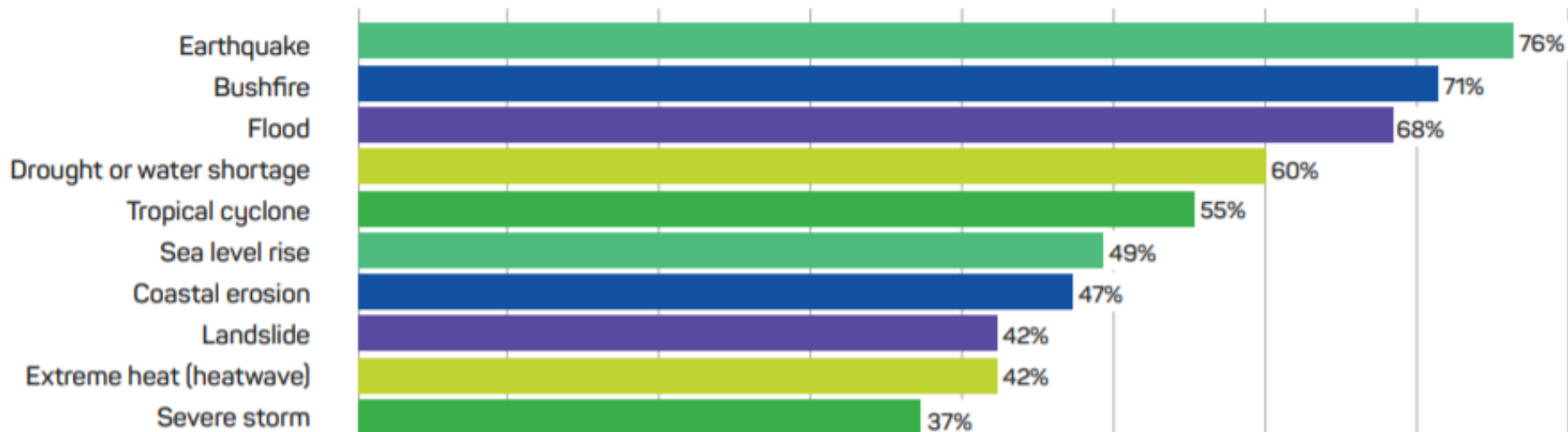


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our say



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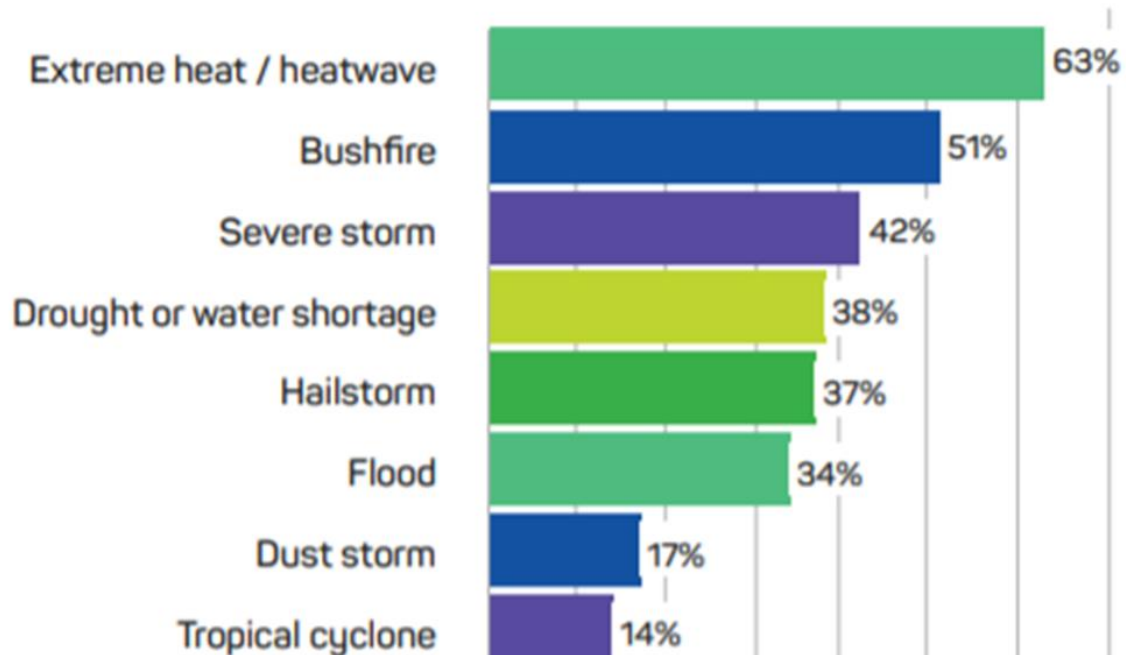
What natural hazards have you learned about at school?





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our say

Natural hazards experienced in the last 3 years





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What do you think are the most important things young people need to learn about natural hazards and the risk of disasters? (Top 5)

73%	How to plan and prepare for natural hazards and disasters
70%	How to care for themselves and others if their community experiences a natural hazard or disaster
69%	Where to access emergency warnings and alerts
66%	The actions children and young people can take to prevent or reduce the impact of natural hazards and disasters
64%	The causes of natural hazards and disasters

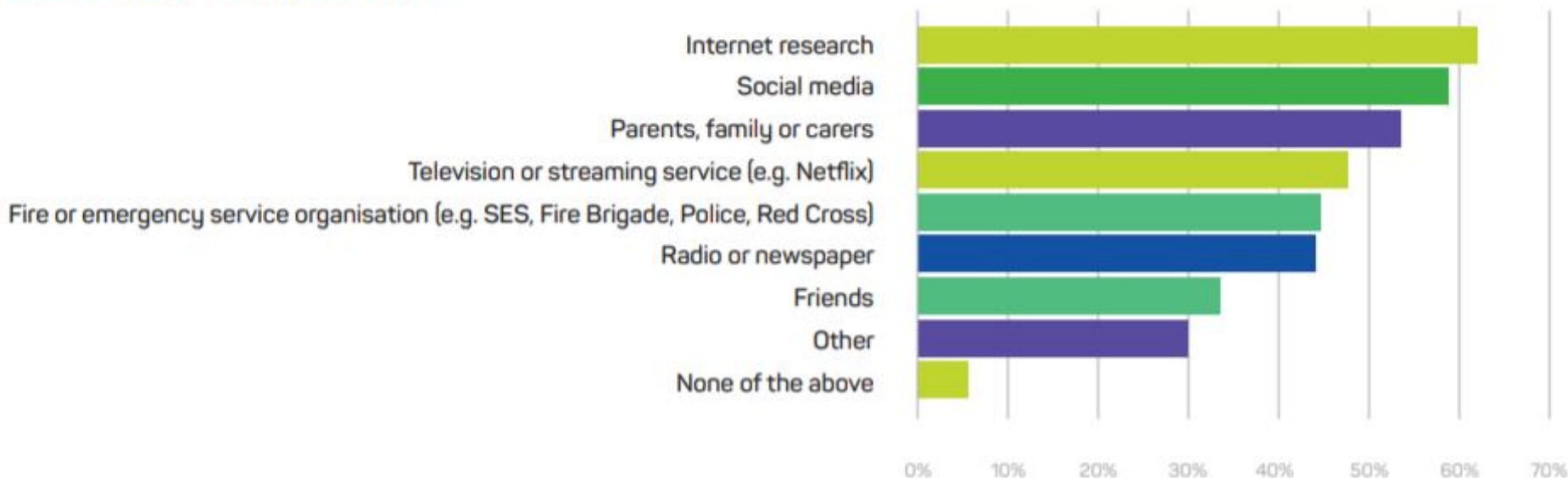
When you studied natural hazards, did you learn about...? (Top 5)

72%	The causes of natural hazards and disasters
54%	The potential impacts of natural hazards and disasters on your community
48%	The influence of climate change on natural hazards and disasters
45%	The types of natural hazards that could affect your community in the future
45%	How to plan and prepare for natural hazards and disasters



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Where else (apart from school) have you learned about natural hazards and how to protect your community from a disaster?

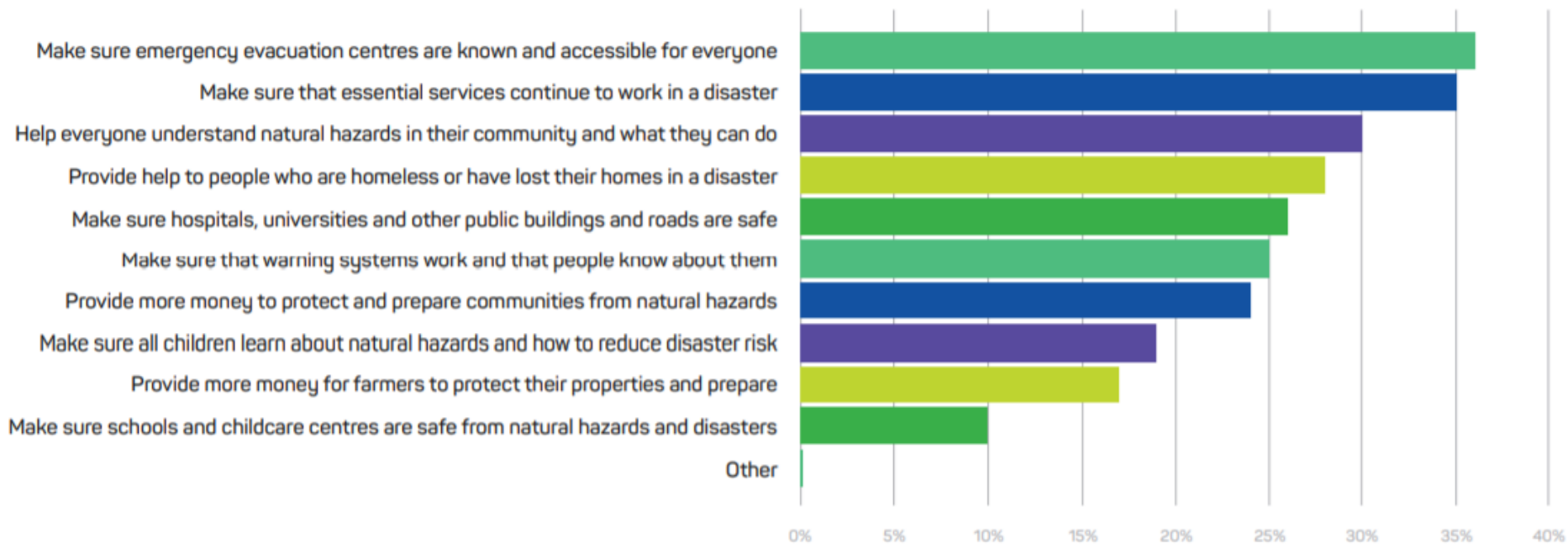




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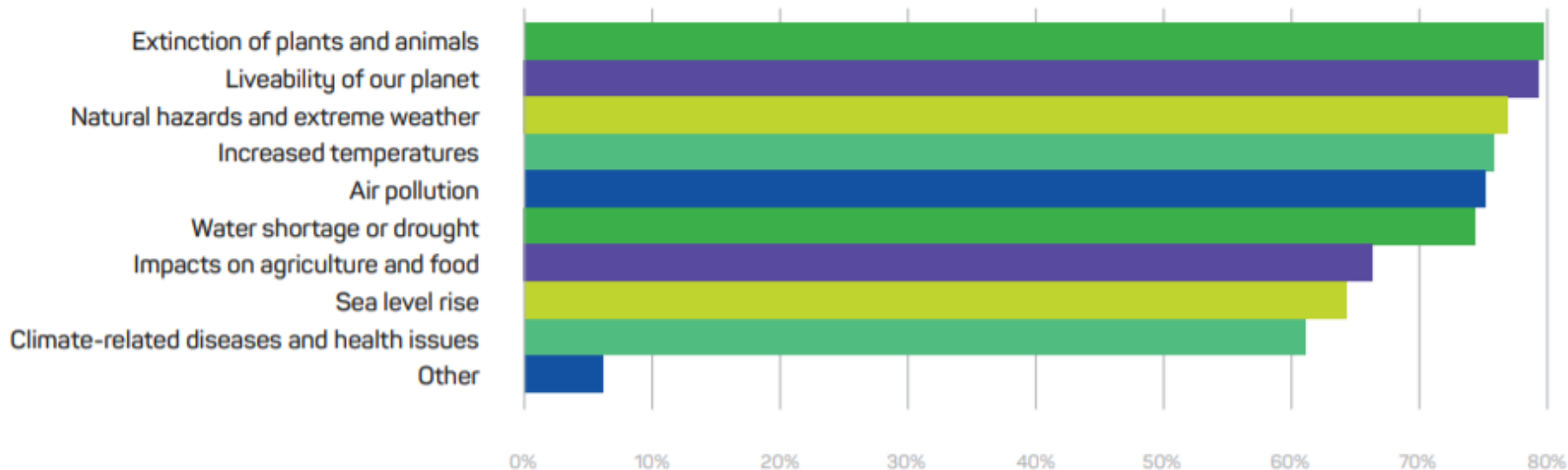
What do you think the Australian government should do to limit the impacts of natural hazards and disasters in Australia? (top three selections by participant)





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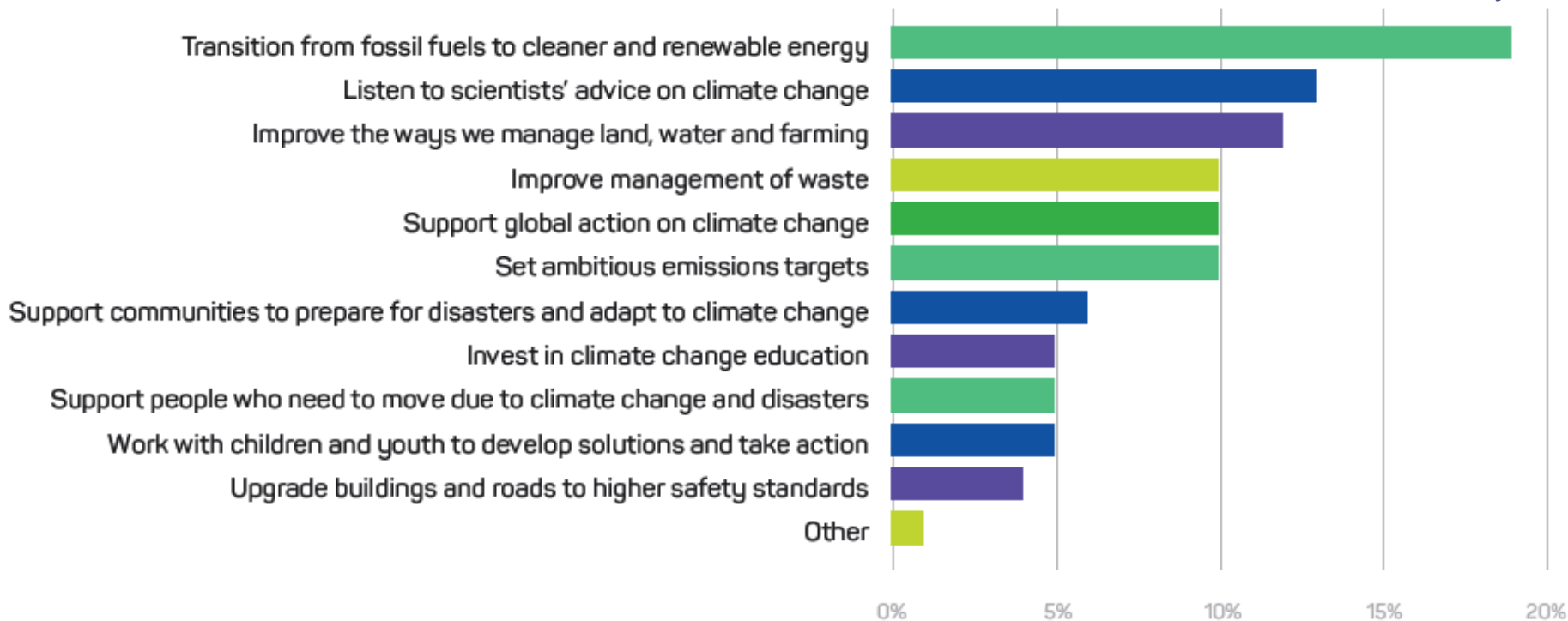
Young Australians' concerns about Climate Change





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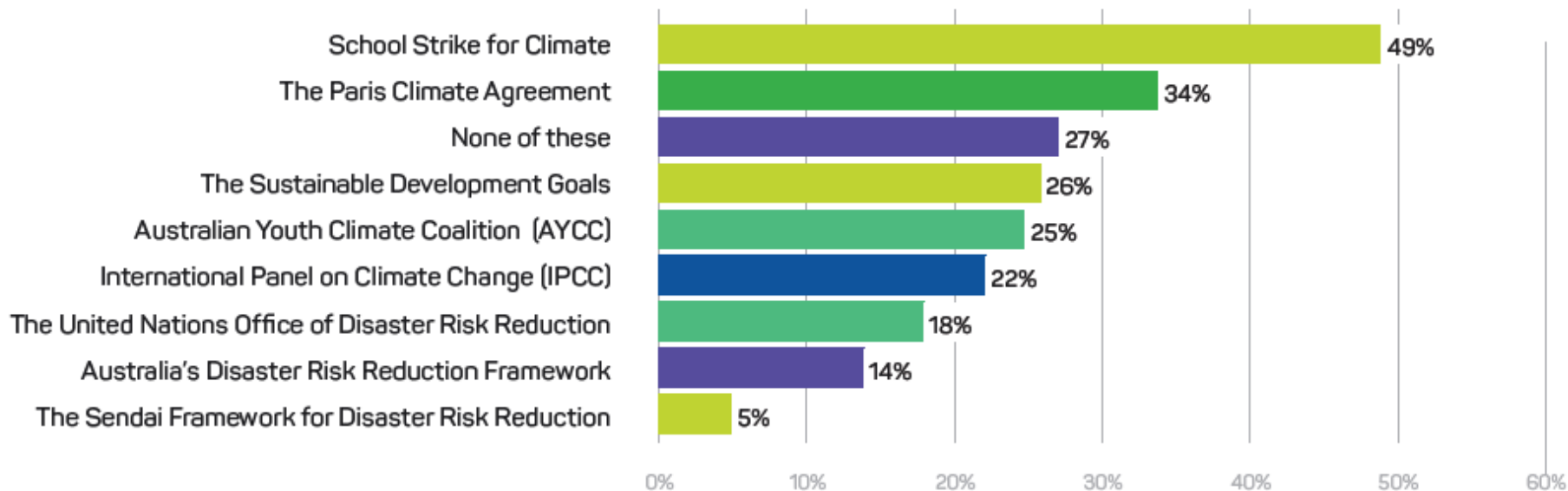
What would you like the Australian Government to do to address the impact of climate change in your community? (top three selections by participant)





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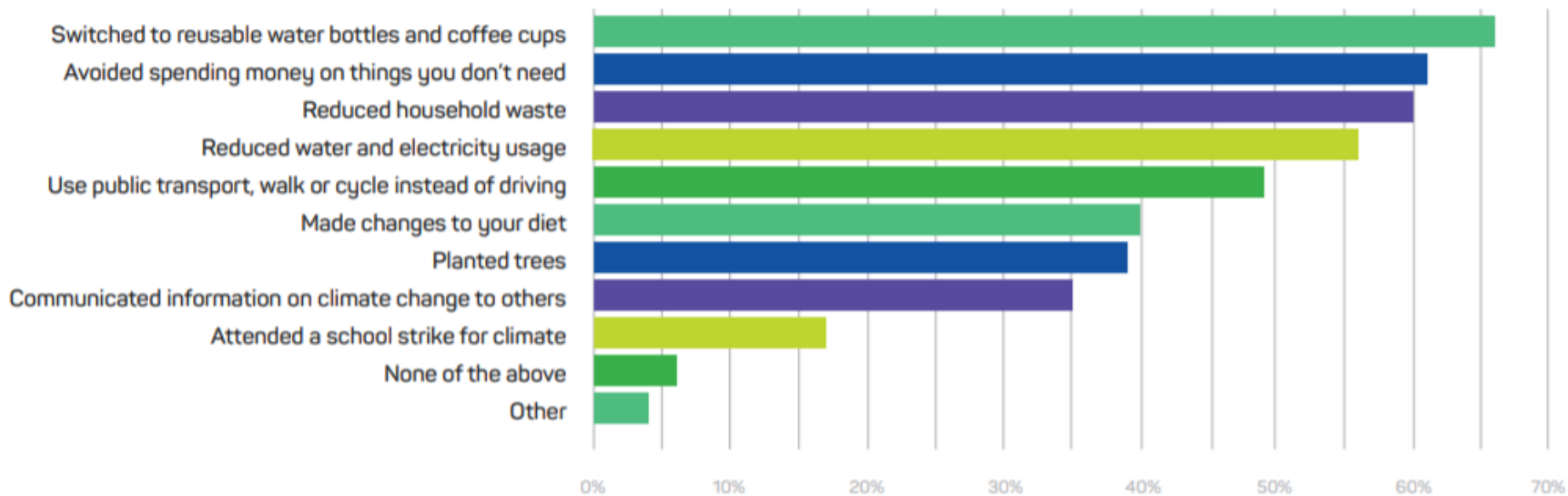
Before completing this survey, had you heard of any of the following?





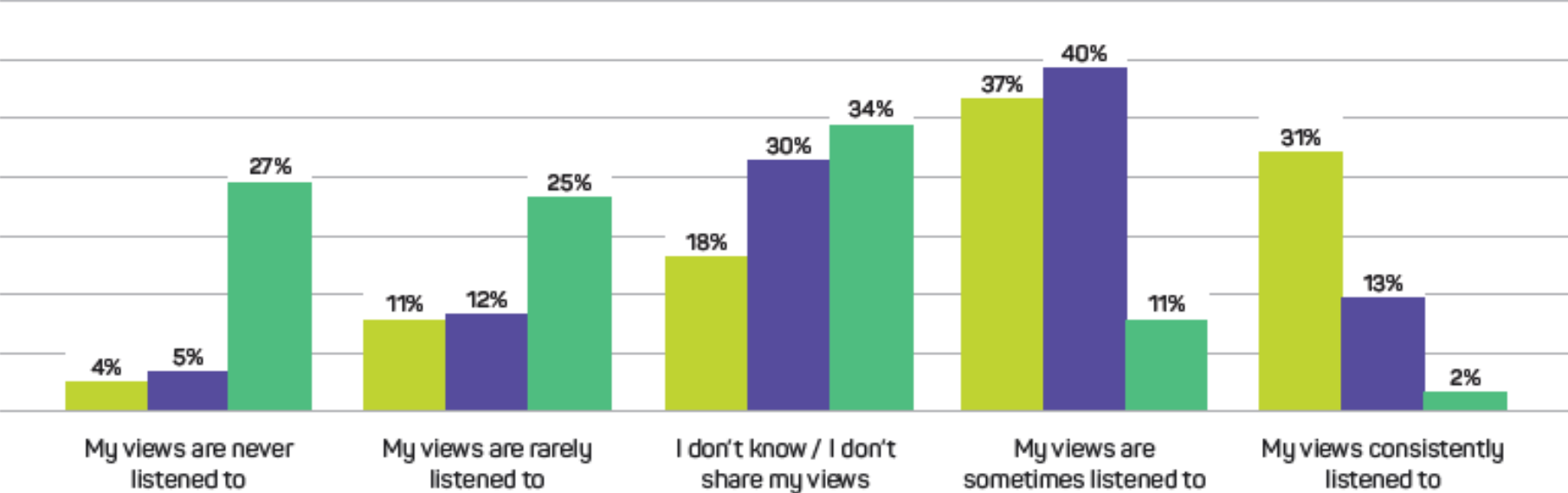
our world
our say

Have you done any of these things, either by yourself or with your family, to address climate change?



How well do you think your views on climate change and the risk of disasters are listened to by teachers, leaders in government and parents?

- Parents
- Teachers
- Leaders in Government



“The Australian government plays a pivotal role in supporting each and every resident of this country and to make sure that everyone’s protected from whatever danger that is approaching, therefore, we put a lot of hopes for the government to initiate any action necessary for the sake of climate change and the future.”

– 21, Melbourne

“Governments don’t have the answers. The scientists do, [and] young people want the government to hear what is being said.”

– 13, Adelaide

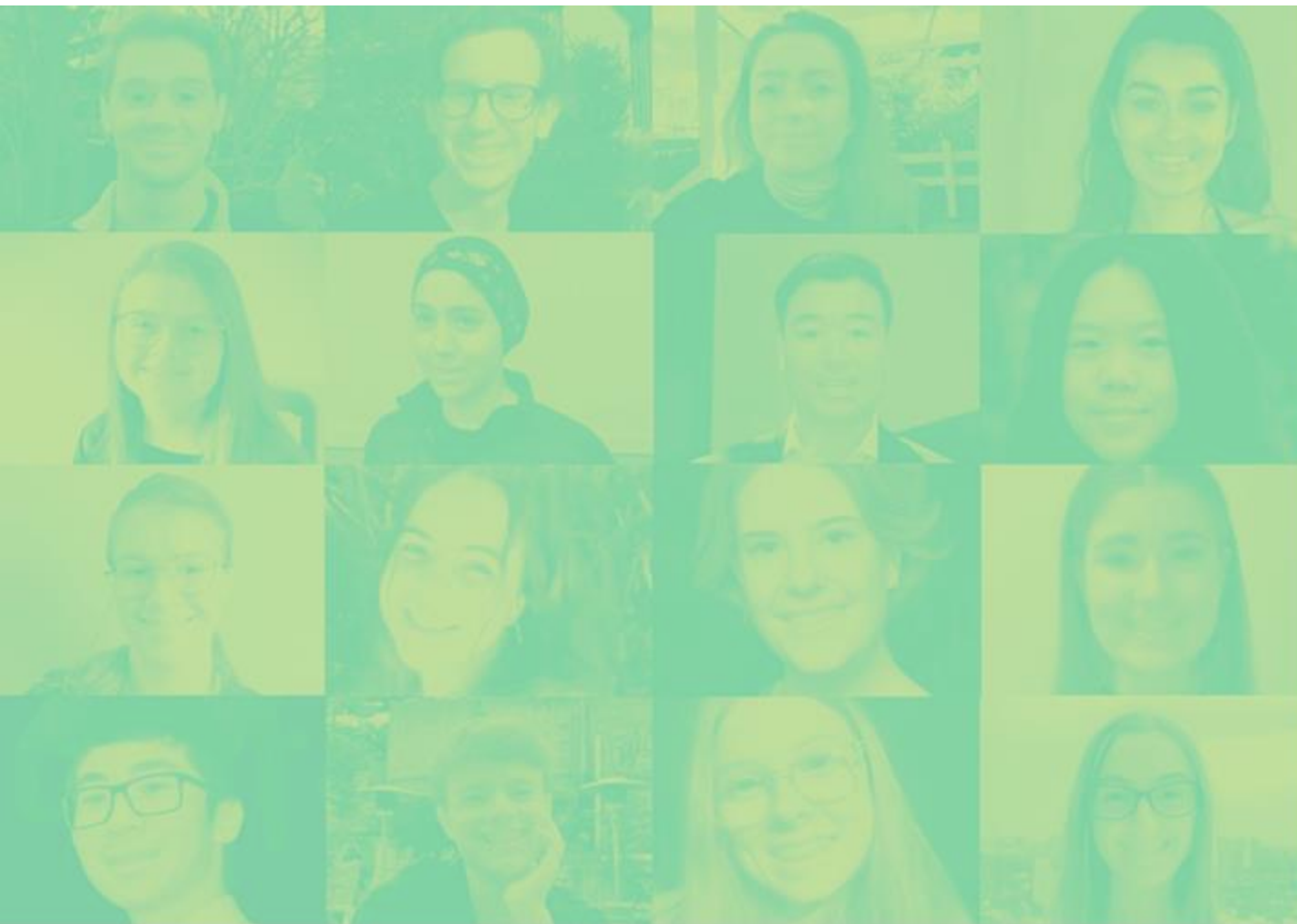
“Listen to the Indigenous Australian communities. Listen to the scientists. Take on their advice. Be determined and driven to make each Australian live eco-friendly lives. Work towards introducing new legislation and use renewable energy to reduce the effects of climate change. Consult with children regularly and ensure they are doing well mentally with the natural hazards occurring.”

– 19, Perth

Young Australians ...



- are concerned about climate change and don't believe we are doing enough.
- have experienced natural hazards personally and feel that disasters present a real and personal threat to their lives and prospects.
- feel under-prepared by schools for the disasters they face, and are turning to the internet and social media for information.
- do not feel listened to by government, but feel parents are listening.
- want the Australian government to listen to scientists' advice on climate change and transition from fossil fuels to clean and renewable energy.



Our World Our Say:
youth report on climate
change and disaster risk
featured at
www.schools.aidr.org.au

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