

# Australians' response to the bushfires in Victoria

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February 2009

Nationally representative survey

UMR Research

# Methodology

- 1,000 online interviews
- 18+ nationally representative survey
- Fieldwork: 13-18 February 2009
- Data is weighted and matched with ABS census data to ensure a nationally representative sample
- Online panel members are primarily recruited offline and by invitation only ruling out self-selection issues associated with online methodologies
- Maximum margin of error for n=1,000 at 95% confidence level:  $\pm 3.1\%$

## Key findings

- After the devastating bushfires in Victoria 83% of Australians agree that houses in fire-prone areas should be required by law to have a fireproof shelter for residents to escape the flames (54% agree strongly)
- 59% agree (33% strongly) that there should be a blanket order to evacuate rather than the traditional fire brigade advice to decide early to stay and defend your house, or leave
- 92% agree (81% strongly) that arsonists who light fires that kill should be charged with murder

# Houses in fire-prone areas should be required by law to have a fireproof shelter for residents to escape the flames

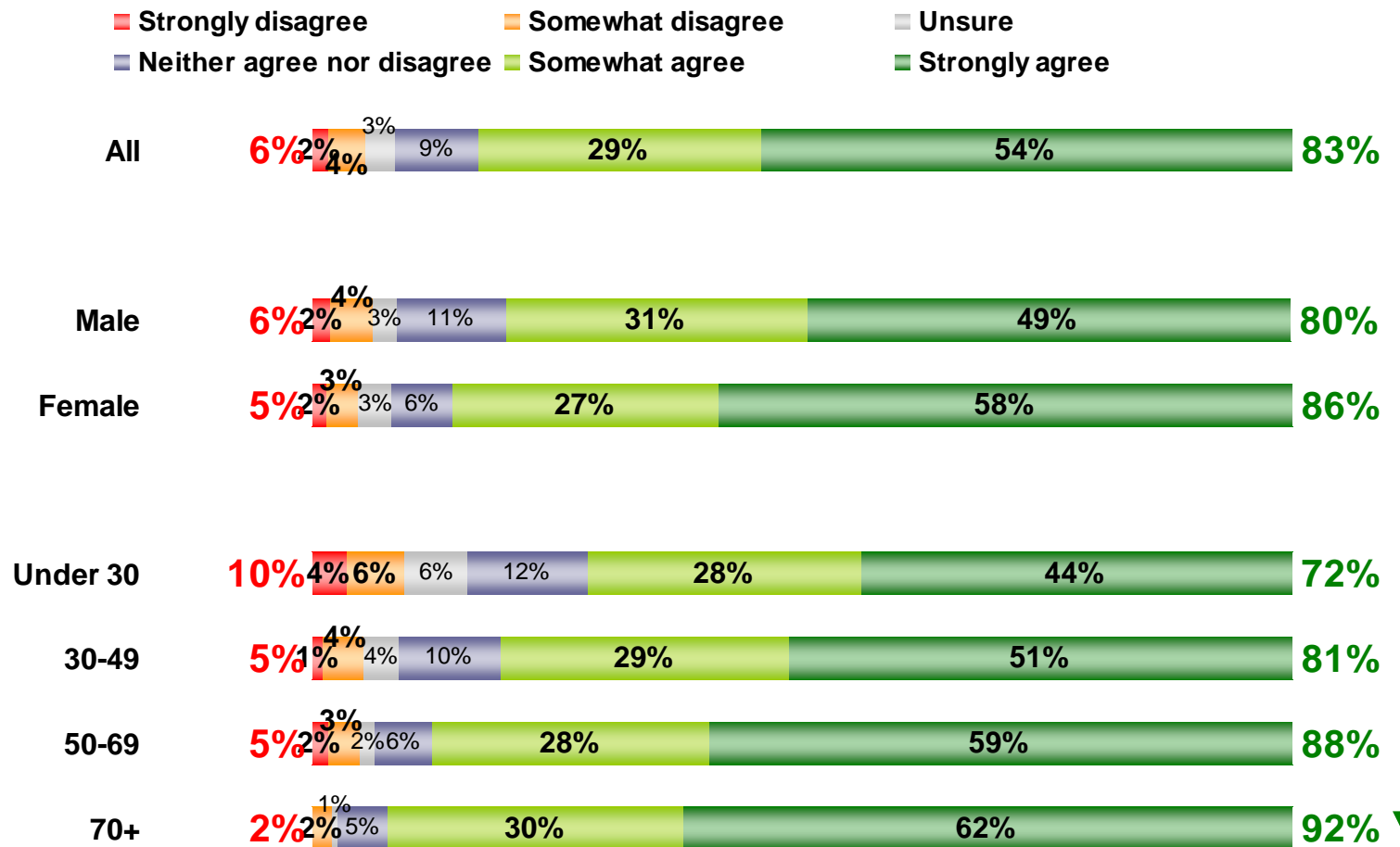
Thinking about the latest bushfires in Victoria, do you agree or disagree with the following?

■ Strongly disagree 
 ■ Somewhat disagree 
 ■ Unsure 
 ■ Neither agree nor disagree 
 ■ Somewhat agree 
 ■ Strongly agree



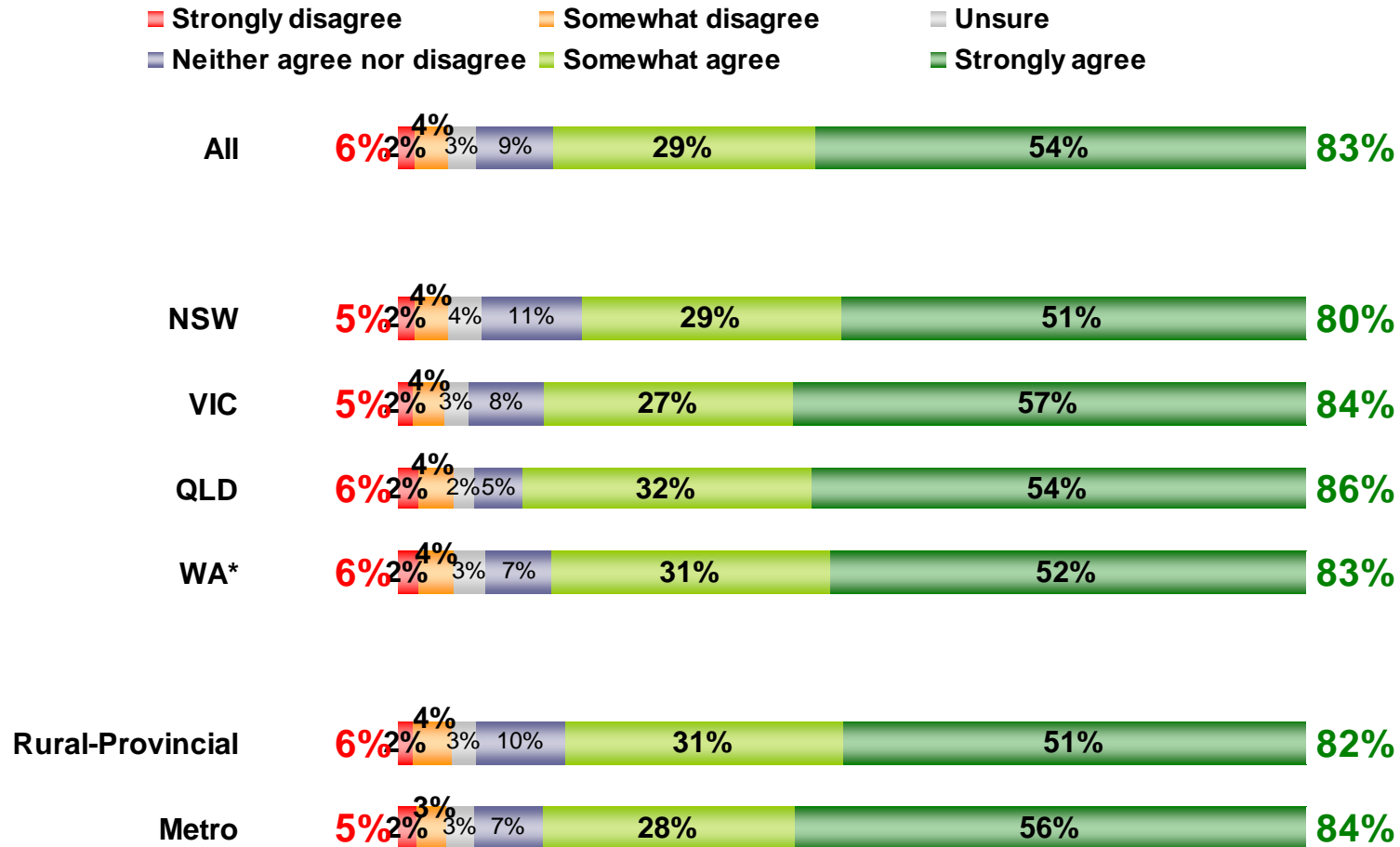
# Houses in fire-prone areas should be required by law to have a fireproof shelter for residents to escape the flames (I/II)

Thinking about the latest bushfires in Victoria, do you agree or disagree with the following?



# Houses in fire-prone areas should be required by law to have a fireproof shelter for residents to escape the flames (II/II)

Thinking about the latest bushfires in Victoria, do you agree or disagree with the following?



# There should be a blanket order to evacuate rather than the traditional fire brigade advice to decide early to stay and defend your house, or leave

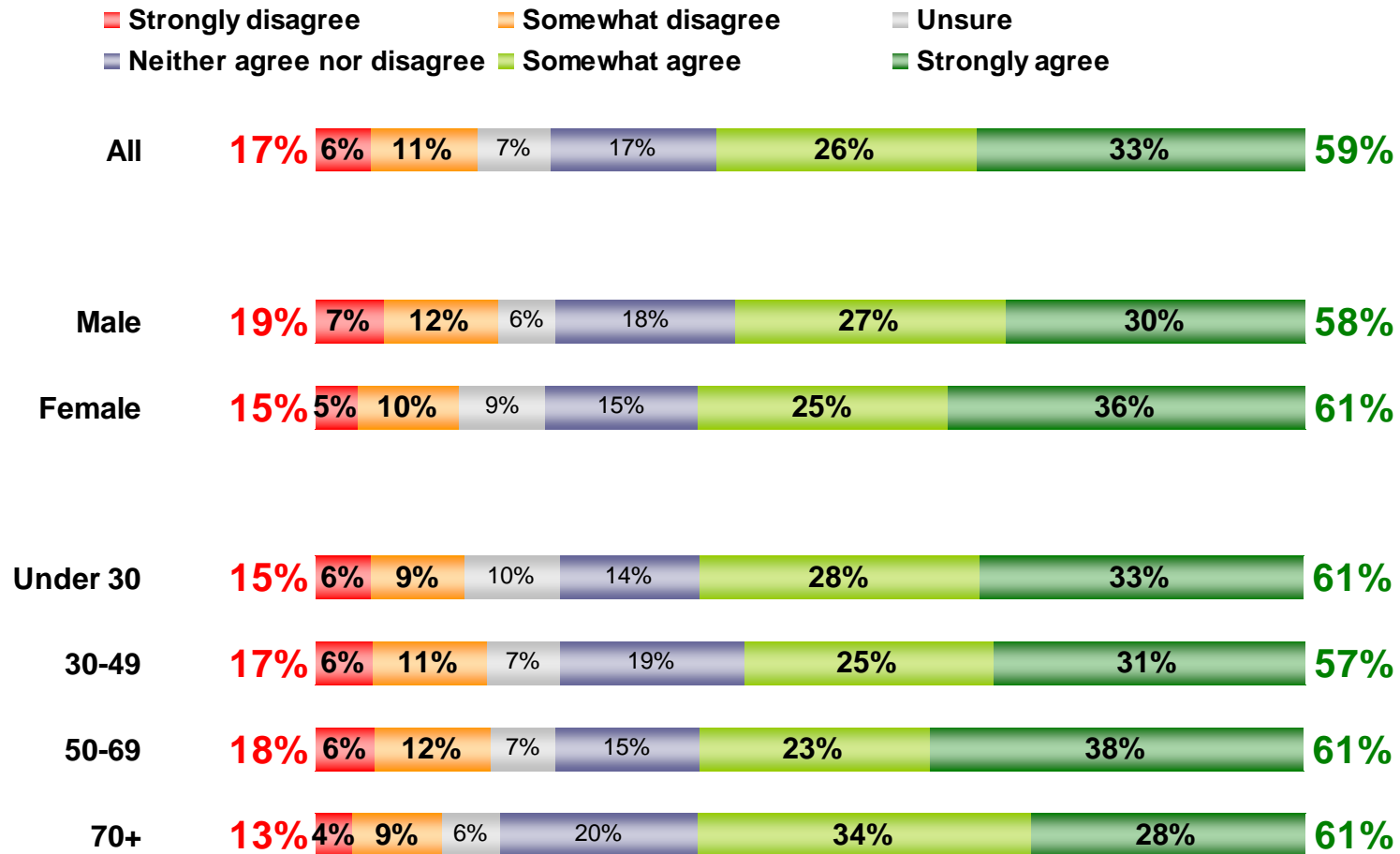
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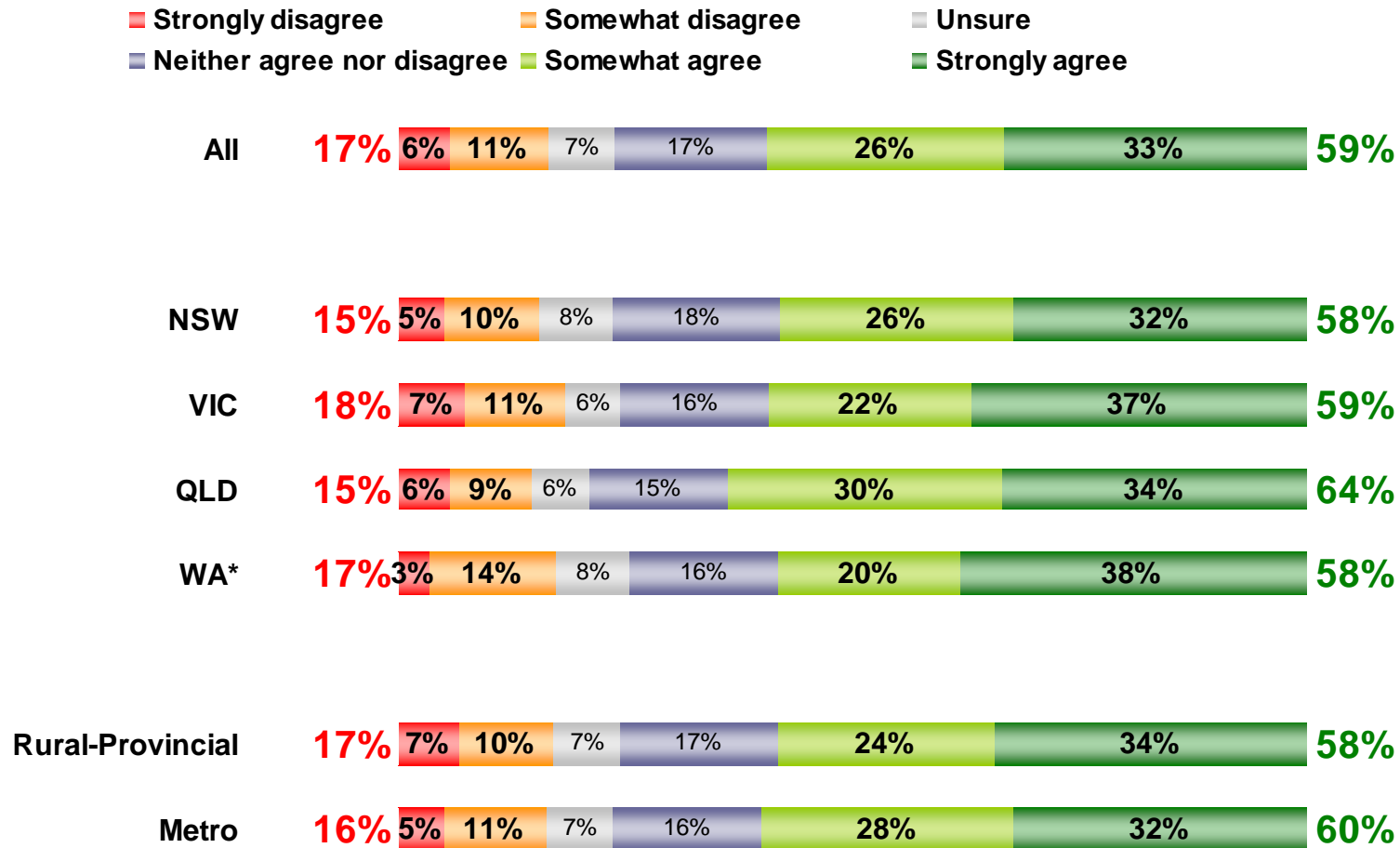
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# There should be a blanket order to evacuate rather than the traditional fire brigade advice to decide early to stay and defend your house, or leave (II/II)

Thinking about the latest bushfires in Victoria, do you agree or disagree with the following?



# Arsonists who light fires that kill should be charged with murder

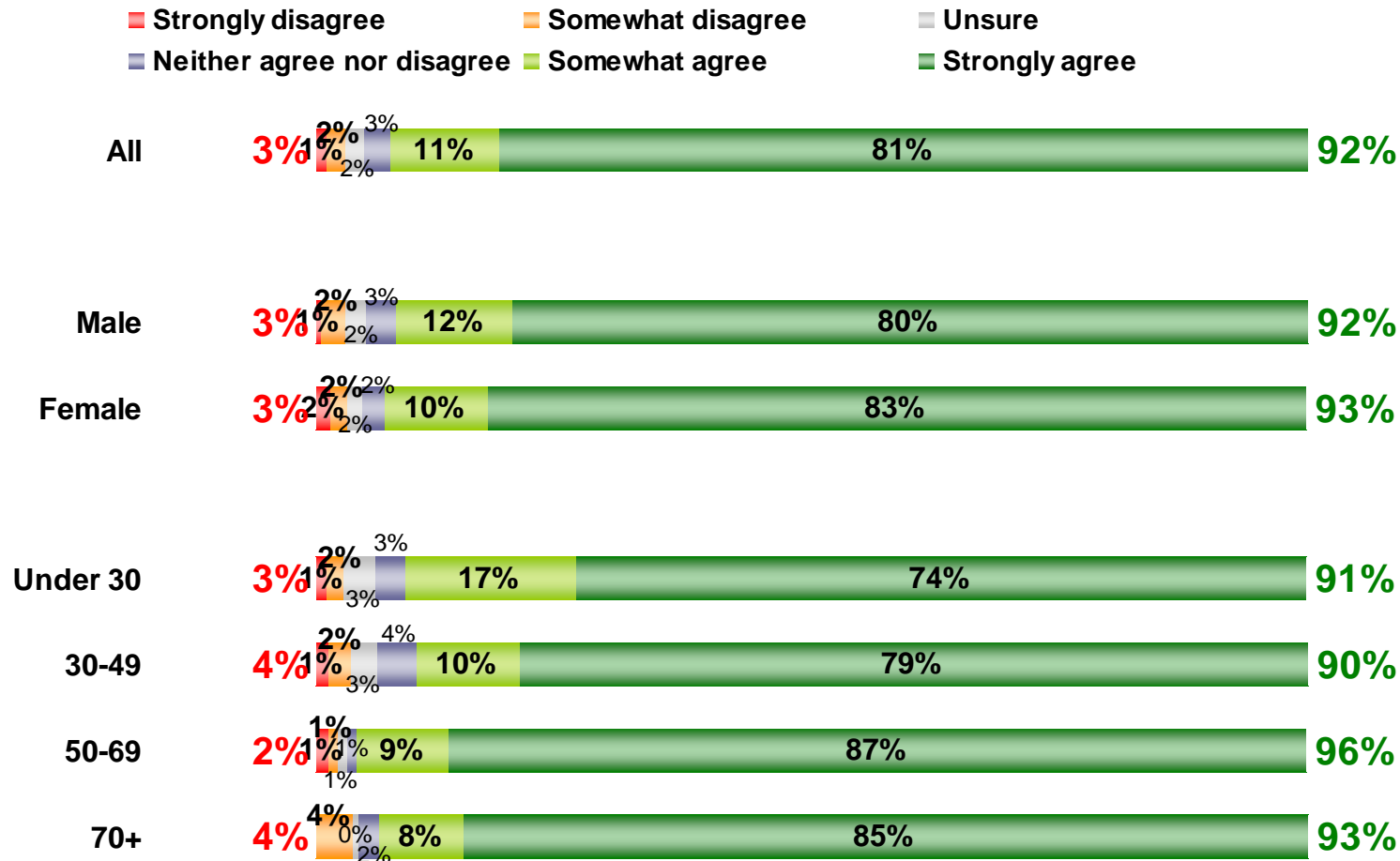
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# Arsonists who light fires that kill should be charged with murder (I/II)

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# Arsonists who light fires that kill should be charged with murder (II / II)

Thinking about the latest bushfires in Victoria, do you agree or disagree with the following?

