



When climate hits home: Public
attitudes in Germany

Background and methodology
Findings
Conclusions

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This study sought to understand attitudes towards adaptation across 18 countries including:

- What are views about adaptation in the face of climate impacts?
- Do people foresee climate impacts affecting them and their lives?
- Are people more or less likely to prioritize issues that climate will affect or other issues?
- How does the public view government action and responsibility for taking action?
- Are new technologies perceived as important for adapting to climate impacts?

This slide deck provides the findings for Germany.

Background

To understand these issues, the study interviewed around 1000 respondents in:

- UK, France, Germany, Spain, Italy, Poland, Australia, USA, South Africa, Kenya, India, Argentina, Brazil, Mexico, China, Indonesia, Saudi Arabia, and Turkey.

This results in an overall theoretical margin of error of $\pm 3.1\%$ at the national level and $\pm 0.73\%$ at the global level.

The data is weighted to be nationally representative, though, in countries with lower levels of internet penetration, the data will skew towards being more urban, educated, and politically engaged.

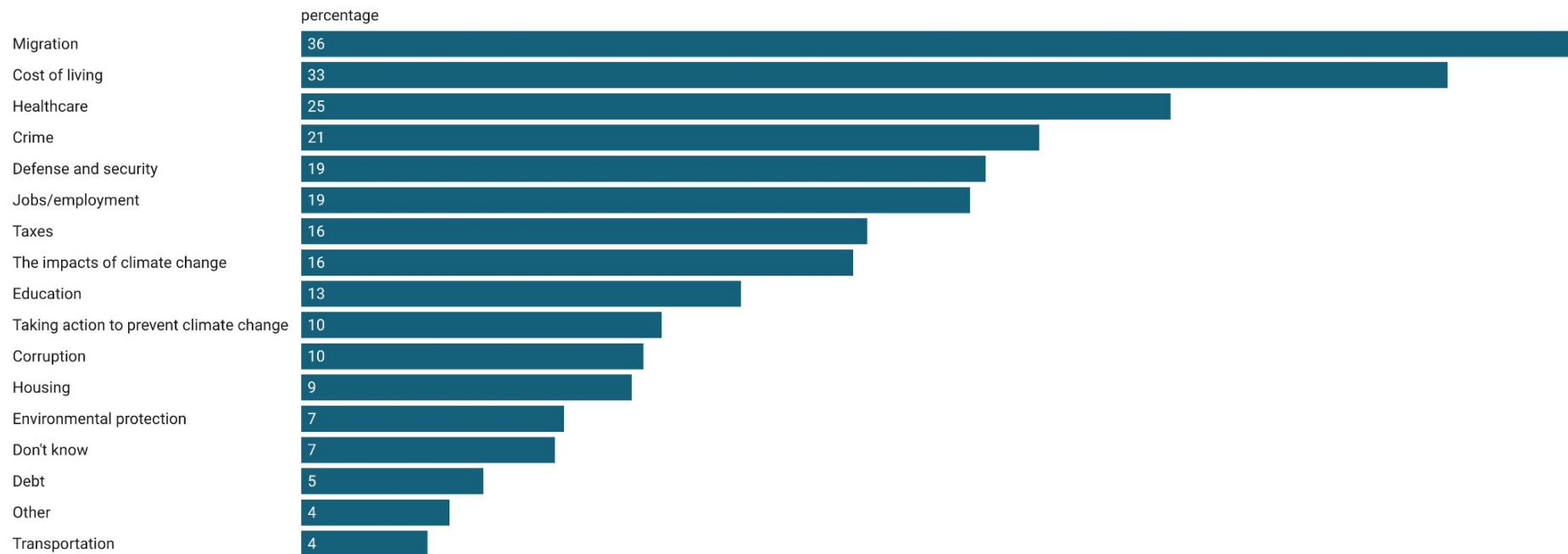
The left-right political spectrum variable is constructed from four statements on immigration, the government's role in the economy, small government, and business regulation. Agreeing with these statements is the left-of-centre answer, so each respondent is placed at the average of their four answers on the 1 to 5 agreement scale, using the same cut-off points for left, centre, and right in every country.

Background and methodology

Findings: Impacts and mitigation

Most important issues facing the country - Germany (%)

Germany - all respondents, n = 1,025



Climate impacts vs. climate action as a top issue - Germany (% naming as a top issue)

Germany - all respondents, n = 1,025

Overall



Age



Gender



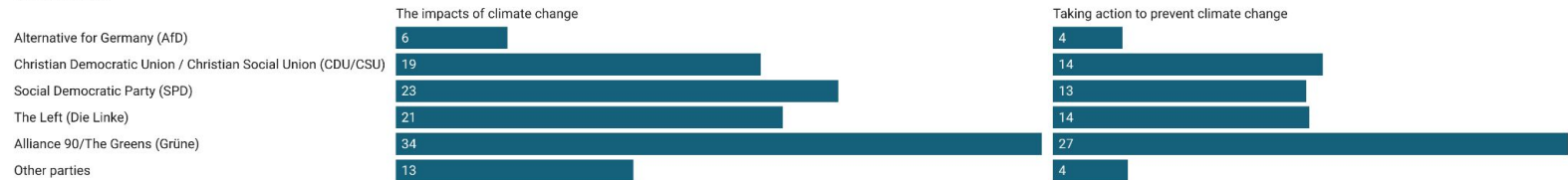
Education



Income



Voting intention



Political spectrum



How concerned are you about climate change? - Germany (%)

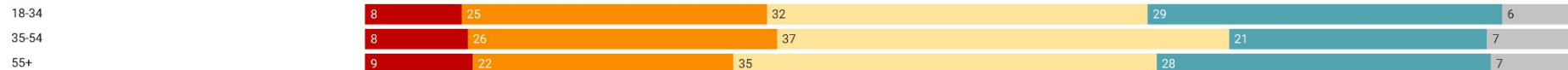
Germany - all respondents, n = 1,025

■ 1 - Not concerned at all ■ 2 - Not very concerned ■ 3 - Concerned ■ 4 - Very concerned ■ Don't know

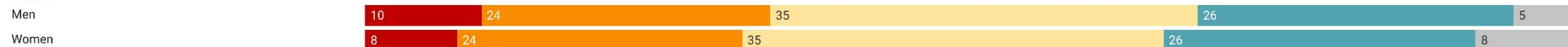
Overall



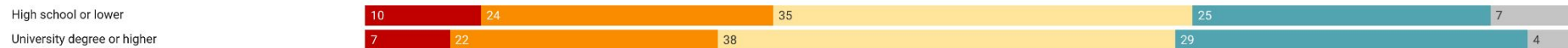
Age



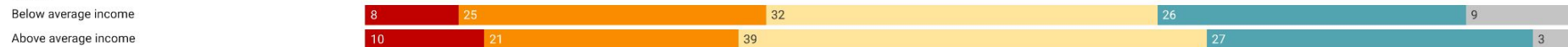
Gender



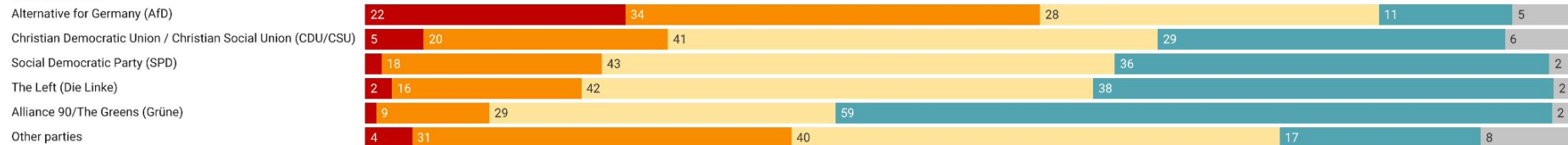
Education



Income



Voting intention



Political spectrum



Should [country] focus on reducing greenhouse gas emissions or on adapting to climate change? - Germany (%)

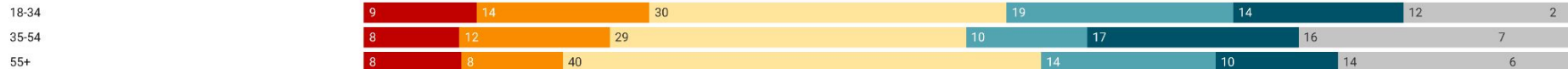
Germany - all respondents, n = 1,025

■ We should focus entirely on reducing the greenhouse gas emissions in [country]
 ■ We should mostly focus on reducing the greenhouse gas emissions in [country]
 ■ We should focus equally on both
 ■ We should focus mostly on adapting to climate change
 ■ We should focus entirely on adapting to climate change
 ■ Don't know
 ■ Not applicable - climate change is not real, so there is no need to do anything

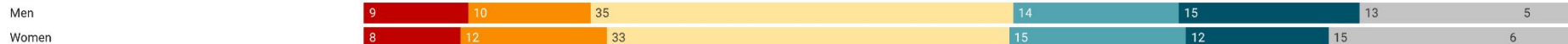
Overall



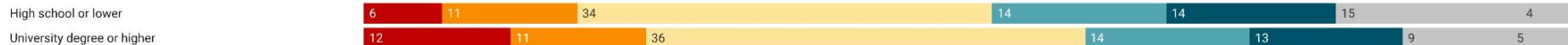
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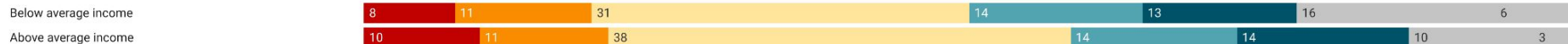
Gender



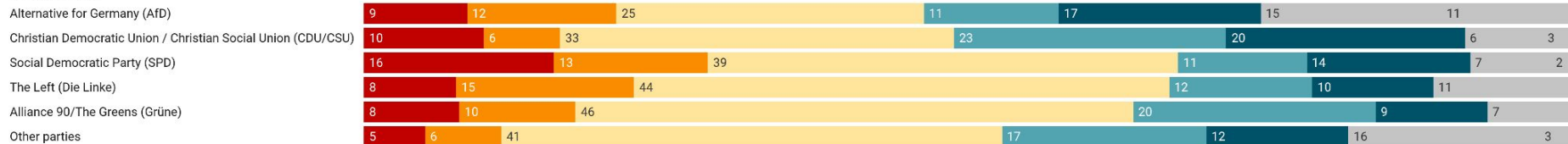
Education



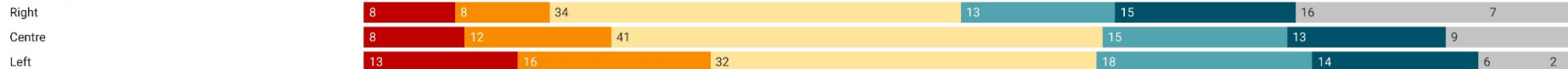
Income



Voting intention



Political spectrum



Which of the following statements do you agree with most? (adapt, reverse, or both) - Germany (%)

Germany - all respondents, n = 1,025

■ Climate change is here whether we want it or not - its smarter to adapt the infrastructure, agriculture, housing, and ot to climate change, we need to focus on reversing it through efforts such as building re
 ■ We need to both adapt to climate change and work on preventing it from getting worse - these are not tradeoffs but mutua
 ■ Rather than focusing on adapting
 ■ Don't know

Overall



Age



Gender



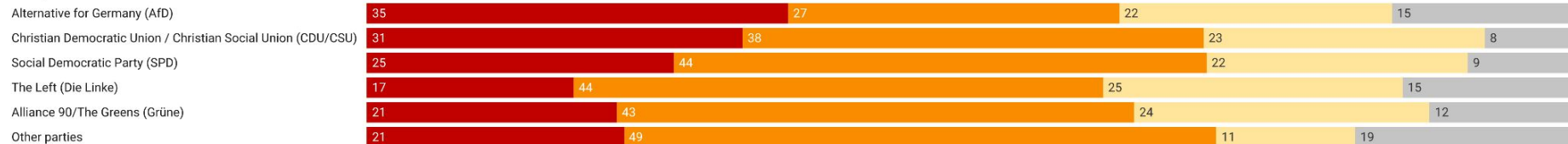
Education



Income



Voting intention



Political spectrum



Which of the following statements comes closest to your view? (should government adapt or prevent) - Germany (%)

Germany - all respondents, n = 1,025

■ I want the government to focus on adapting to climate change (e.g. improving infrastructure) ■ I want the government to focus on preventing climate change (e.g. supporting renewables construction) ■ I want the government to do both - there is not a tradeoff between the government adapting and mitigating climate change ■ Don't know

Overall



Age



Gender



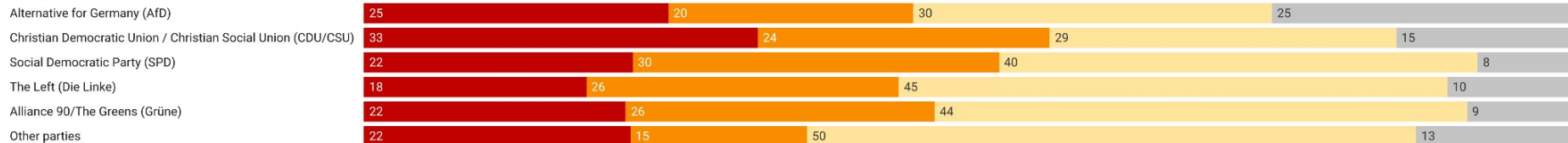
Education



Income



Voting intention



Political spectrum



Which of the following statements do you agree with more? - Germany (%)

Germany - all respondents, n = 1,025

■ Focusing on adapting to climate change will make efforts aimed at reducing the emissions which cause it more ambitious ■ Focusing on adapting to climate change will make efforts aimed at reducing the emissions which cause it less ambitious ■ Don't know

Overall



Age



Gender



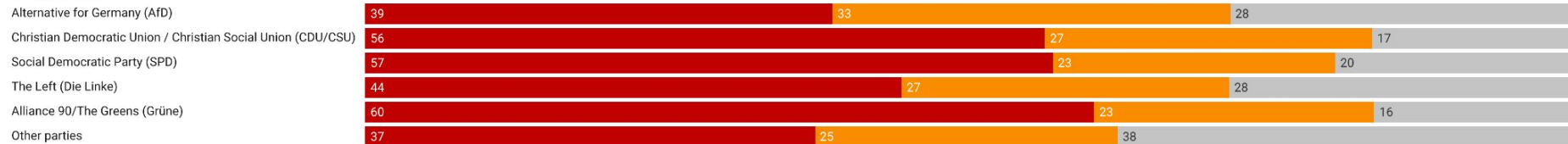
Education



Income



Voting intention



Political spectrum



Findings: Impacts on daily life

You - How much do you believe that climate change will affect the following groups of people? - Germany (%)

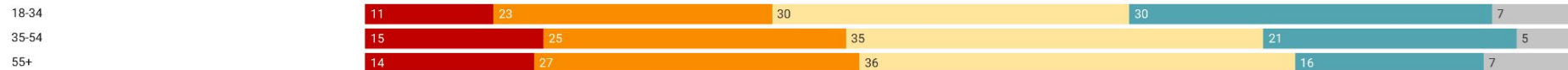
Germany - all respondents, n = 1,025

1 - Not at all 2 - Only a little 3 - A moderate amount 4 - A great deal Don't know

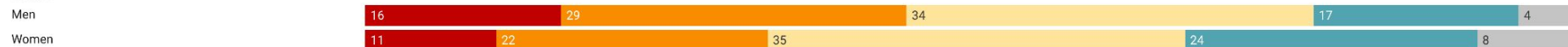
Overall



Age



Gender



Education



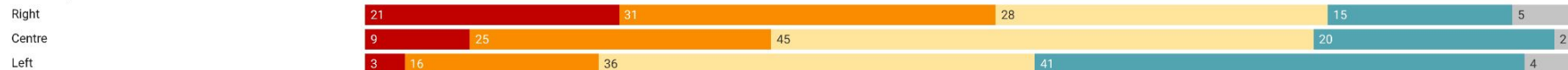
Income



Voting intention



Political spectrum



Your family - How much do you believe that climate change will affect the following groups of people? - Germany (%)

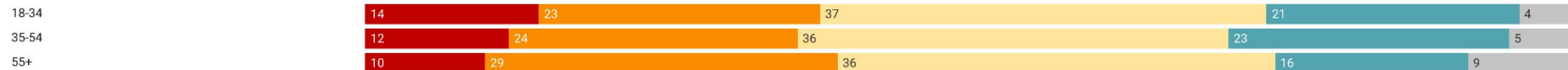
Germany - all respondents, n = 1,025

1 - Not at all 2 - Only a little 3 - A moderate amount 4 - A great deal Don't know

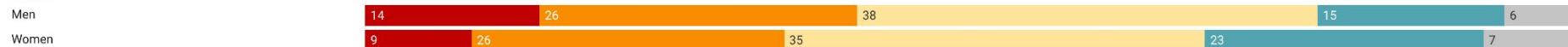
Overall



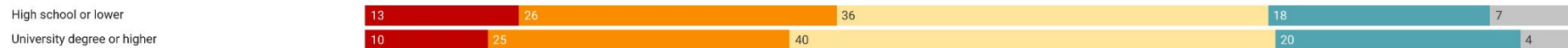
Age



Gender



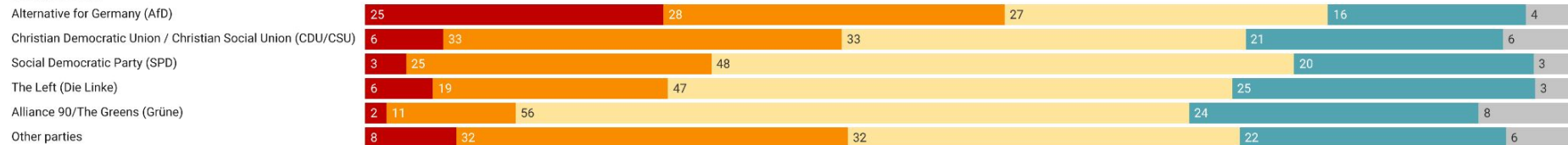
Education



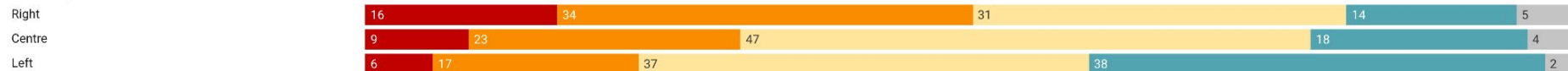
Income



Voting intention



Political spectrum



Your community - How much do you believe that climate change will affect the following groups of people? - Germany (%)

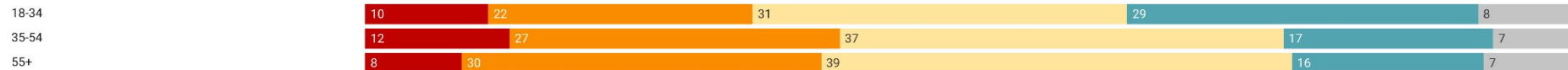
Germany - all respondents, n = 1,025

1 - Not at all 2 - Only a little 3 - A moderate amount 4 - A great deal Don't know

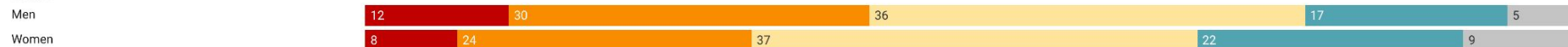
Overall



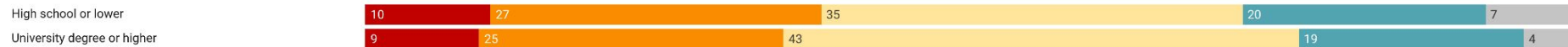
Age



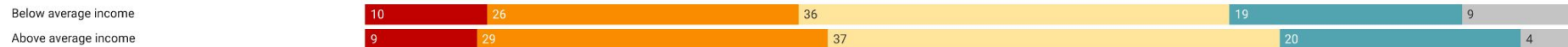
Gender



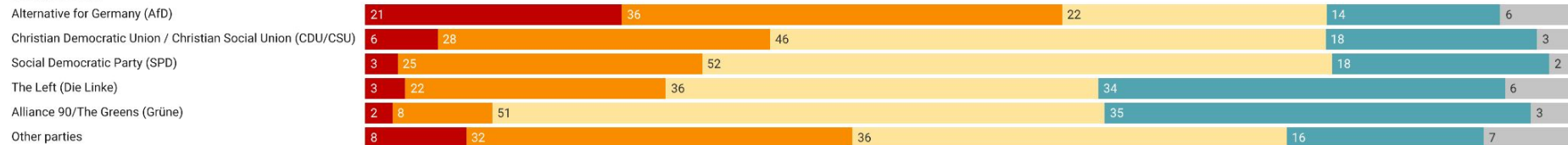
Education



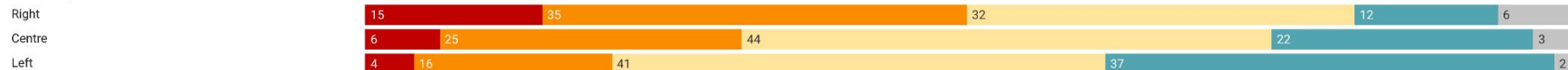
Income



Voting intention



Political spectrum



Your country - How much do you believe that climate change will affect the following groups of people? - Germany (%)

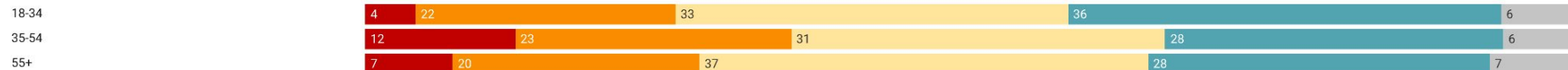
Germany - all respondents, n = 1,025

1 - Not at all 2 - Only a little 3 - A moderate amount 4 - A great deal Don't know

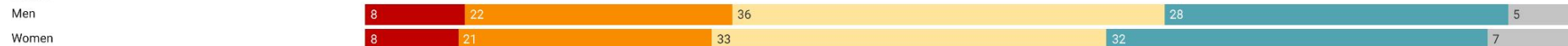
Overall



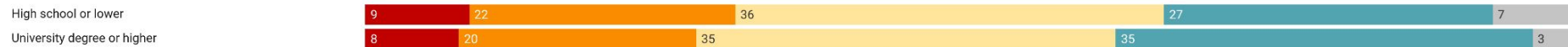
Age



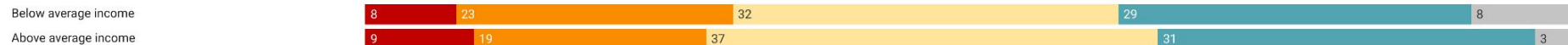
Gender



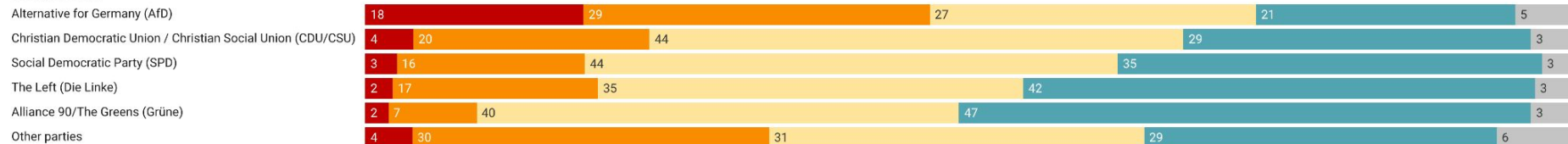
Education



Income



Voting intention



Political spectrum



The world - How much do you believe that climate change will affect the following groups of people? - Germany (%)

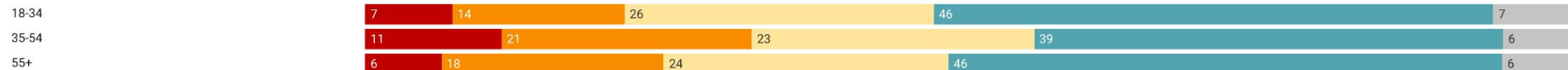
Germany - all respondents, n = 1,025

1 - Not at all 2 - Only a little 3 - A moderate amount 4 - A great deal Don't know

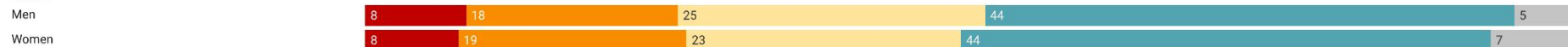
Overall



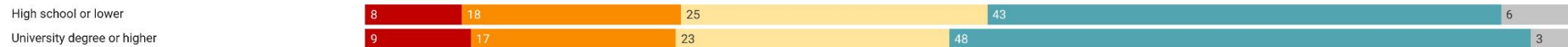
Age



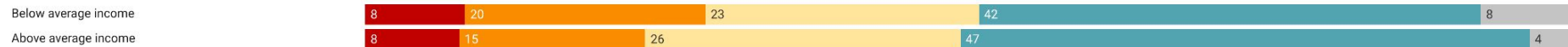
Gender



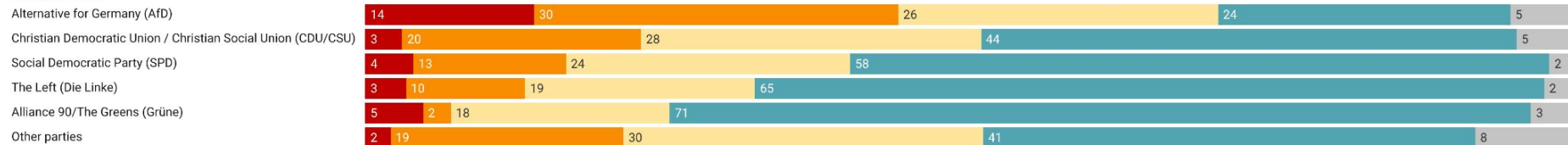
Education



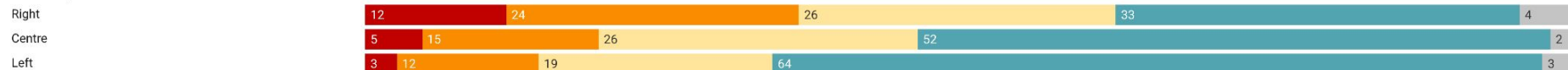
Income



Voting intention



Political spectrum



Future generations - How much do you believe that climate change will affect the following groups of people? - Germany (%)

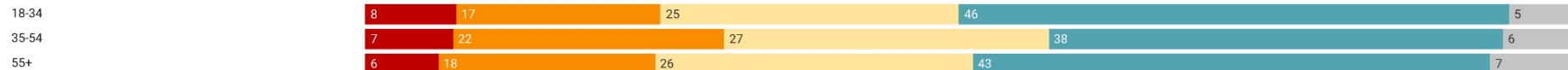
Germany - all respondents, n = 1,025

1 - Not at all 2 - Only a little 3 - A moderate amount 4 - A great deal Don't know

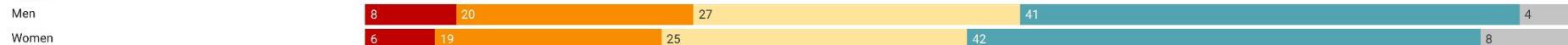
Overall



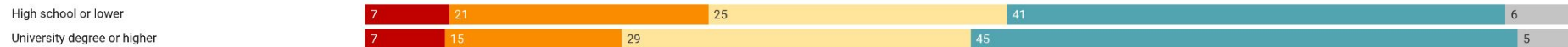
Age



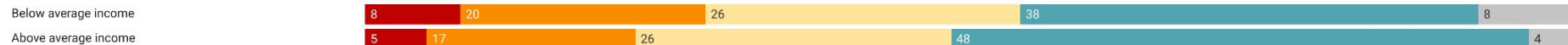
Gender



Education



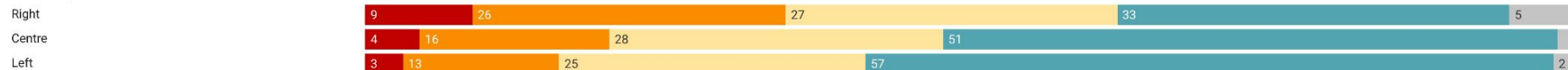
Income



Voting intention



Political spectrum



Increased extreme weather events (heatwaves, flooding, fires, droughts, etc.) - How much do you believe the following issues related to climate change will affect [country] over the next five years? - Germany (%)

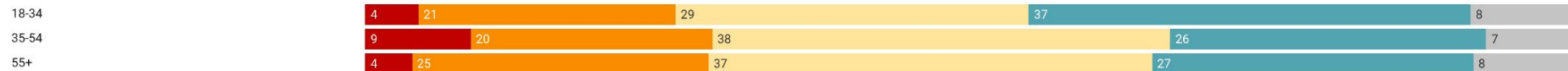
Germany - all respondents, n = 1,025

1 - No impact at all 2 - Small impacts 3 - Large Impacts 4 - Very large impacts Don't know

Overall



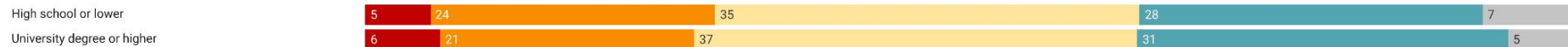
Age



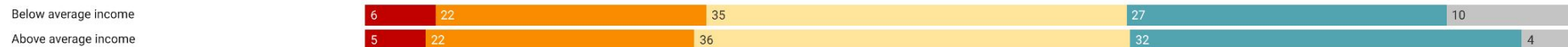
Gender



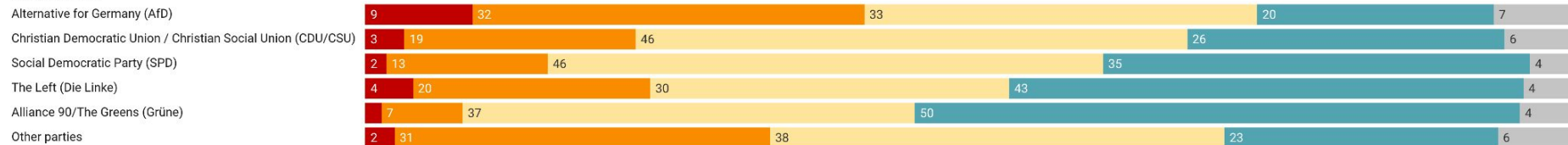
Education



Income



Voting intention



Political spectrum



The economy - How much do you believe the following issues related to climate change will affect [country] over the next five years? - Germany (%)

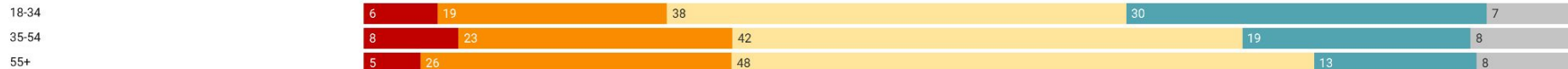
Germany - all respondents, n = 1,025

1 - No impact at all 2 - Small impacts 3 - Large Impacts 4 - Very large impacts 5 - Don't know

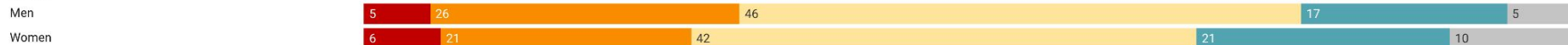
Overall



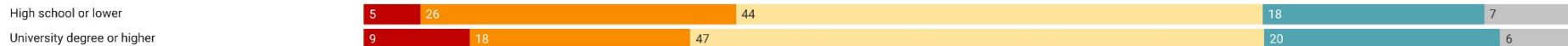
Age



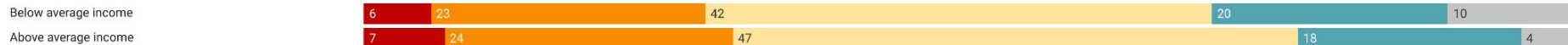
Gender



Education



Income



Voting intention



Political spectrum

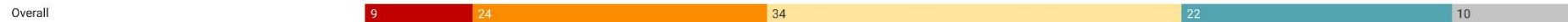


Migration - How much do you believe the following issues related to climate change will affect [country] over the next five years? - Germany (%)

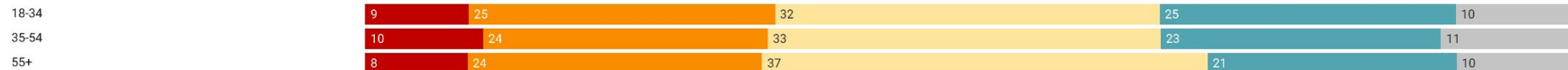
Germany - all respondents, n = 1,025

1 - No impact at all 2 - Small impacts 3 - Large Impacts 4 - Very large impacts Don't know

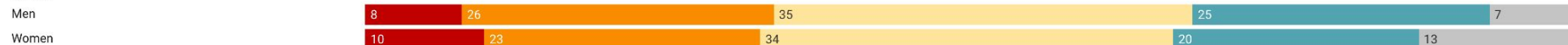
Overall



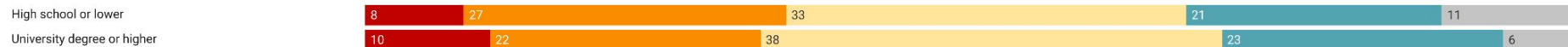
Age



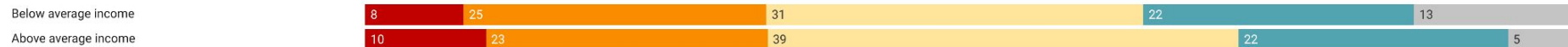
Gender



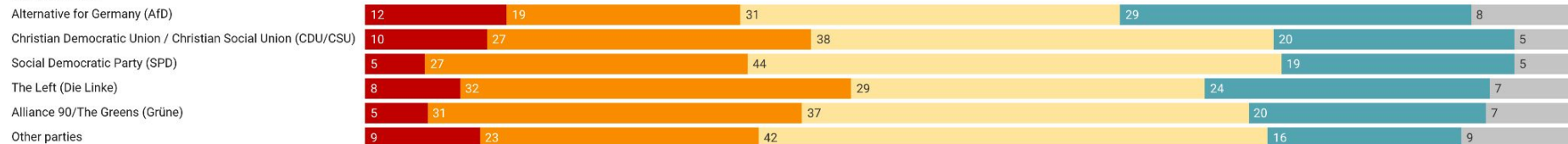
Education



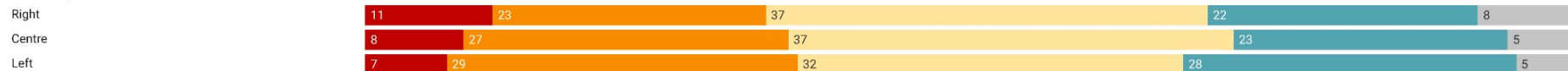
Income



Voting intention



Political spectrum



Increased prices - How much do you believe the following issues related to climate change will affect [country] over the next five years? - Germany (%)

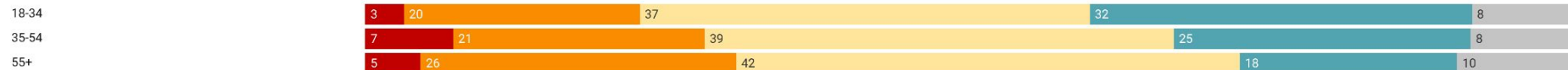
Germany - all respondents, n = 1,025

1 - No impact at all 2 - Small impacts 3 - Large Impacts 4 - Very large impacts 5 - Don't know

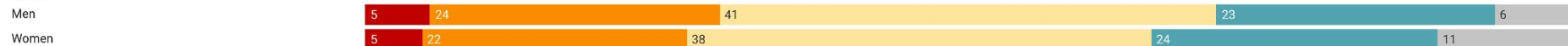
Overall



Age



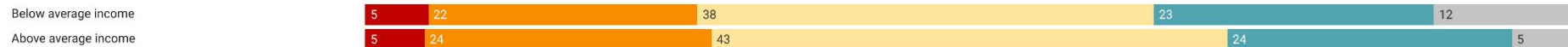
Gender



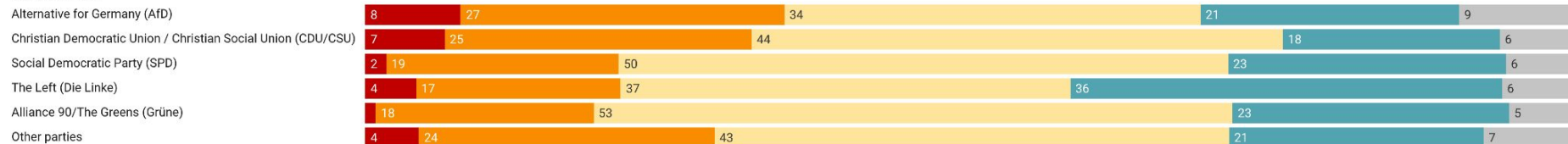
Education



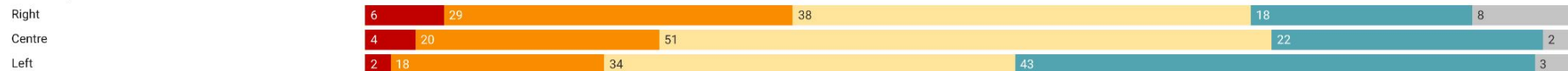
Income



Voting intention



Political spectrum

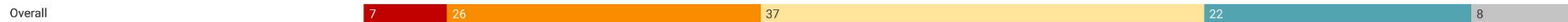


More health problems (e.g. heat stroke, more infectious disease) - How much do you believe the following issues related to climate change will affect [country] over the next five years? - Germany (%)

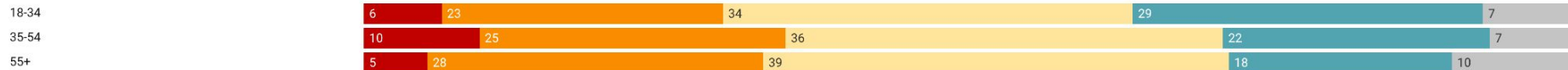
Germany - all respondents, n = 1,025

1 - No impact at all 2 - Small impacts 3 - Large Impacts 4 - Very large impacts Don't know

Overall



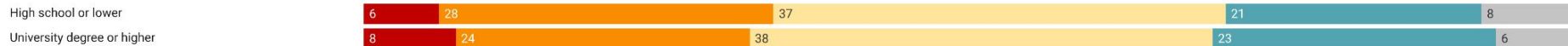
Age



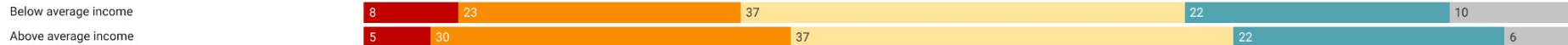
Gender



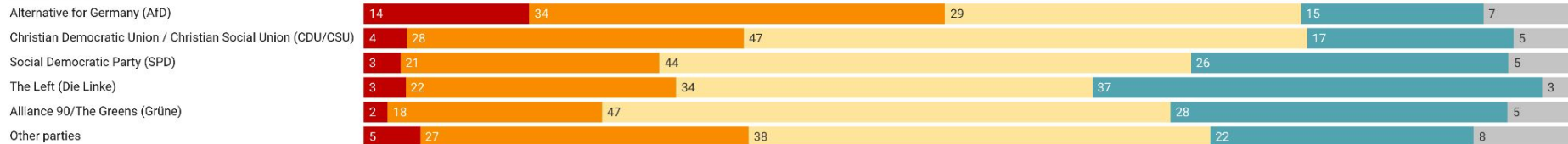
Education



Income



Voting intention



Political spectrum

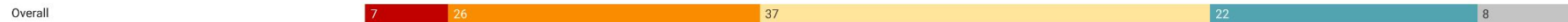


Health infrastructure issues (e.g. overloaded healthcare systems during extreme weather) - How much do you believe the following issues related to climate change will affect [country] over the next five years? - Germany (%)

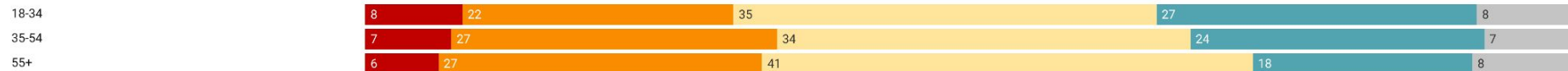
Germany - all respondents, n = 1,025

1 - No impact at all 2 - Small impacts 3 - Large Impacts 4 - Very large impacts Don't know

Overall



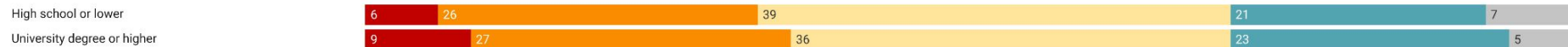
Age



Gender



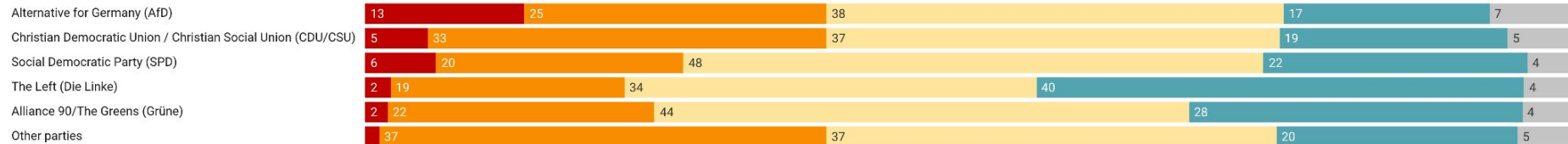
Education



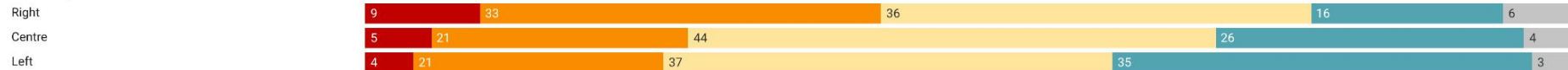
Income



Voting intention



Political spectrum



Energy shortages - How much do you believe the following issues related to climate change will affect [country] over the next five years? - Germany (%)

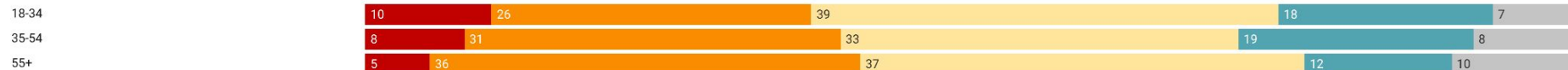
Germany - all respondents, n = 1,025

1 - No impact at all 2 - Small impacts 3 - Large Impacts 4 - Very large impacts 5 - Don't know

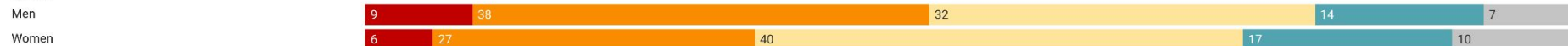
Overall



Age



Gender



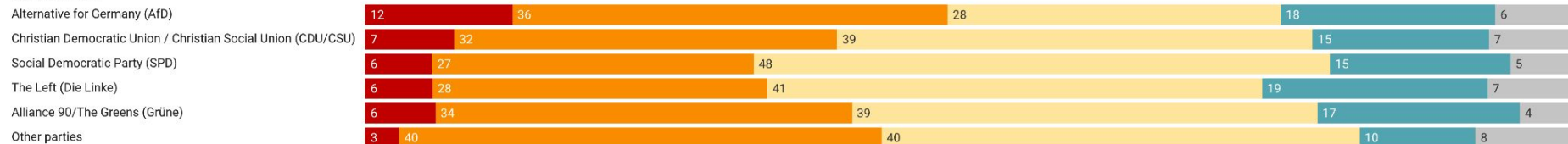
Education



Income



Voting intention



Political spectrum



Water shortages - How much do you believe the following issues related to climate change will affect [country] over the next five years? - Germany (%)

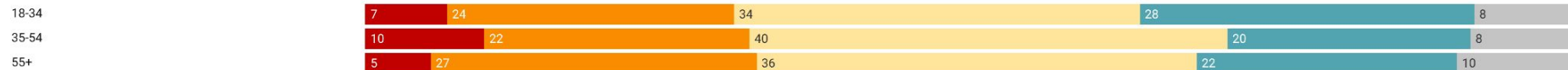
Germany - all respondents, n = 1,025

1 - No impact at all 2 - Small impacts 3 - Large Impacts 4 - Very large impacts 5 - Don't know

Overall



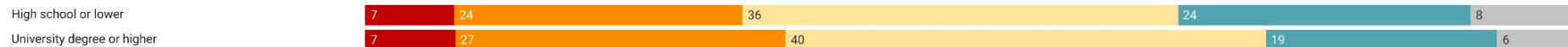
Age



Gender



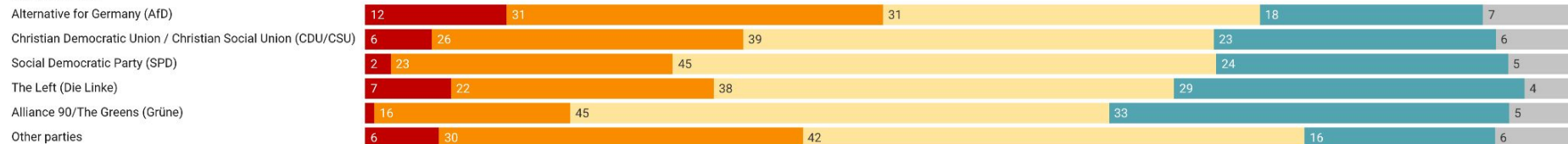
Education



Income



Voting intention



Political spectrum



Increased international conflict - How much do you believe the following issues related to climate change will affect [country] over the next five years? - Germany (%)

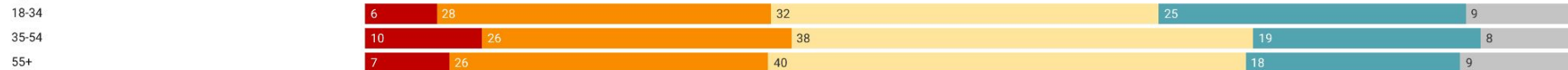
Germany - all respondents, n = 1,025

1 - No impact at all 2 - Small impacts 3 - Large Impacts 4 - Very large impacts Don't know

Overall



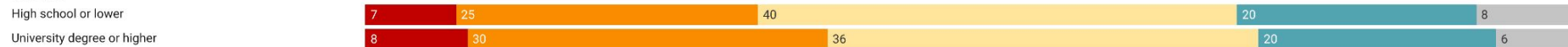
Age



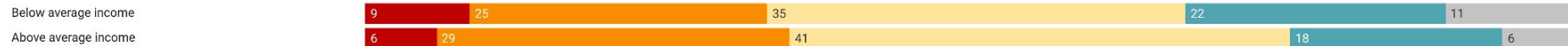
Gender



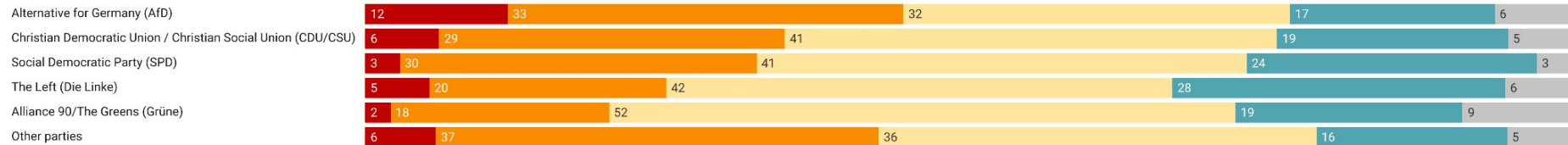
Education



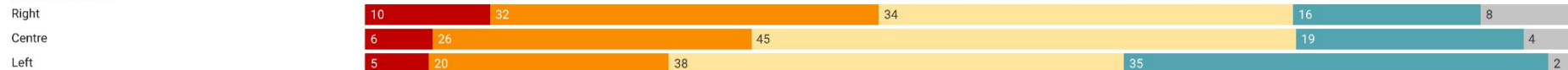
Income



Voting intention



Political spectrum



Which of the following issues do you believe will impact your life the most over the next five years? - Germany (%)

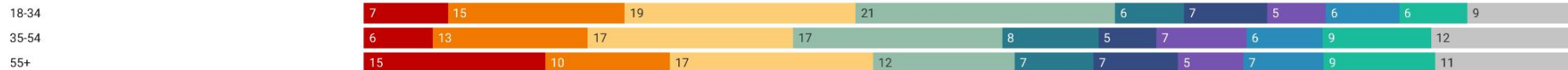
Germany - all respondents, n = 1,025

■ Increased extreme weather related events (heatwaves, flooding, fires, droughts, etc.)
 ■ The economy
 ■ Migration
 ■ Increased prices
 ■ More health problems (e.g. heat stroke, more prominent infectious disease)
 ■ Health infrastructure issues (e.g. overloaded healthcare systems during extreme weather)
 ■ Energy shortages
 ■ Water shortages
 ■ Increased international conflict
 ■ Don't know

Overall



Age



Gender



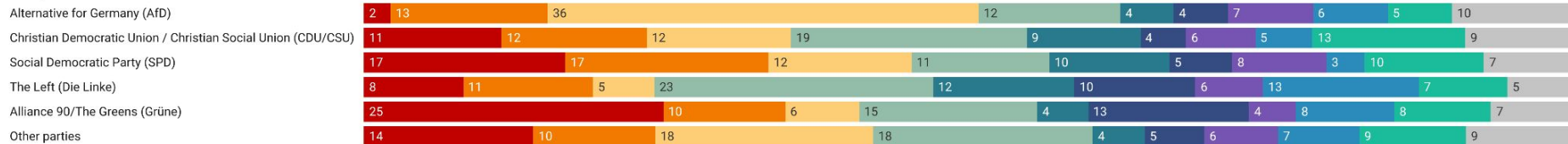
Education



Income



Voting intention



Political spectrum



Which of the following statements comes closest to your view? (safety and security) - Germany (%)

Germany - all respondents, n = 1,025

■ Climate change will have a negative impact on my safety and security over the next five to ten years ■ Climate change is unlikely to affect my safety and security over the next five to ten years ■ Don't know

Overall



Age



Gender



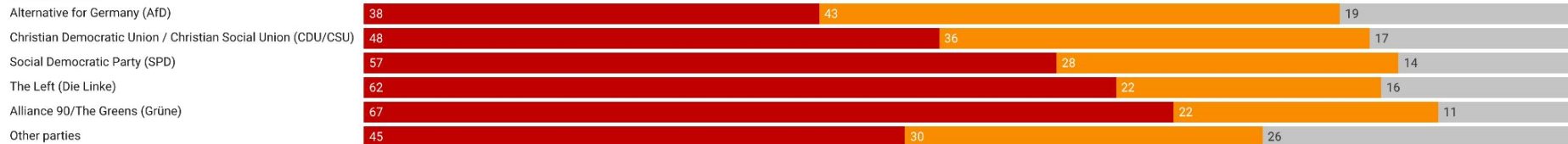
Education



Income



Voting intention



Political spectrum



Which of the following statements comes closest to your view? (how I earn a living) - Germany (%)

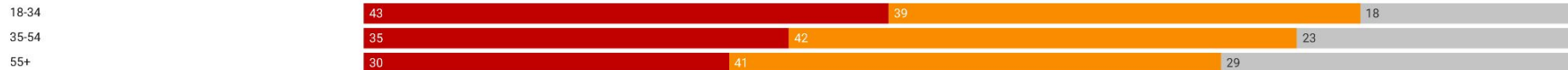
Germany - all respondents, n = 1,025

■ Climate change will likely disrupt how I earn a living over the next five to ten years ■ Climate change is unlikely to affect how I earn a living over the next five to ten years ■ Don't know

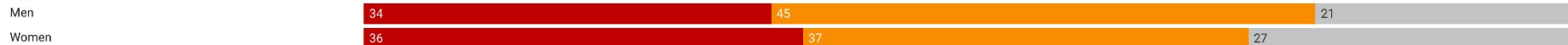
Overall



Age



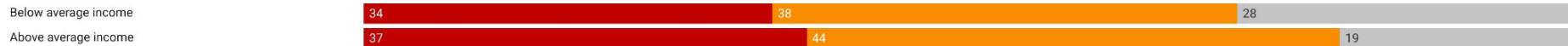
Gender



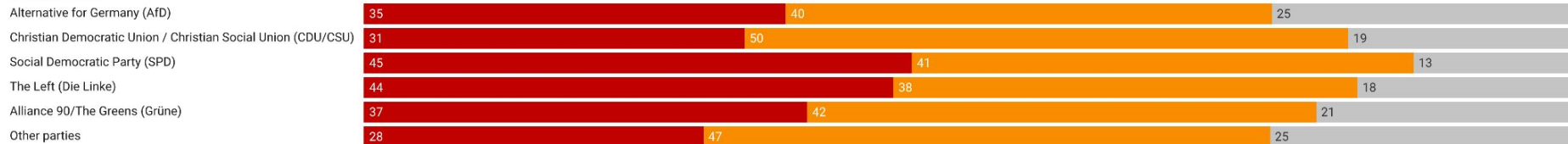
Education



Income



Voting intention



Political spectrum



Which of the following statements comes closest to your view? (cost of living) - Germany (%)

Germany - all respondents, n = 1,025

■ Climate change is going to increase the cost of living for me and my family over the next five to ten years
■ Climate change will not affect the cost of living for me and my family over the next five to ten years
■ Climate change will decrease the cost of living for me and my family over the next five to ten years
■ Don't know

Overall



Age



Gender



Education



Income



Voting intention



Political spectrum



Findings: Responsibility

Providing new technologies that help us live in a changed environment - Which actors do you perceive as most responsible for the following aspects of climate change adaptation? - Germany (%)

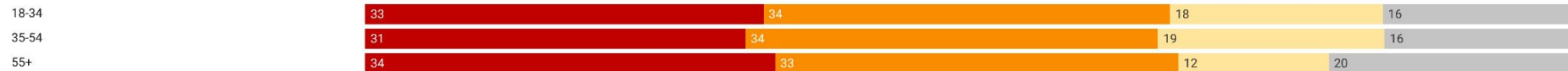
Germany - all respondents, n = 1,025

Government Business Individuals themselves Don't know

Overall



Age



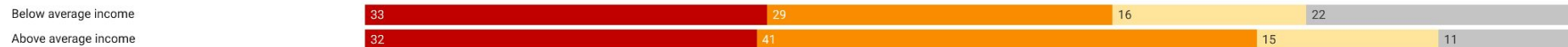
Gender



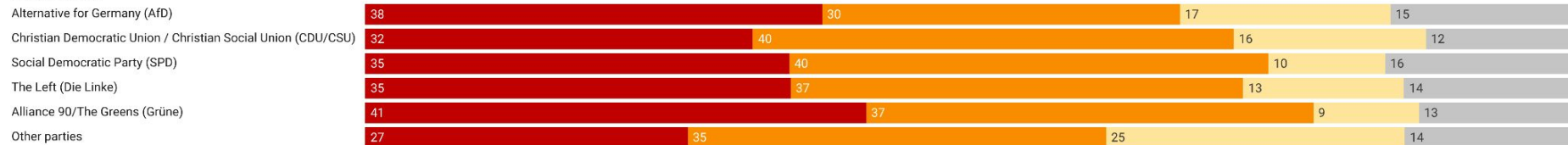
Education



Income



Voting intention



Political spectrum



Provide protection in the face of extreme weather conditions and its impacts - Which actors do you perceive as most responsible for the following aspects of climate change adaptation? - Germany (%)

Germany - all respondents, n = 1,025

Government Business Individuals themselves Don't know

Overall



Age



Gender



Education



Income



Voting intention



Political spectrum



Improvements to housing (e.g. household renewables for cooling systems, insulation, siding) - Which actors do you perceive as most responsible for the following aspects of climate change adaptation? - Germany (%)

Germany - all respondents, n = 1,025

Government Business Individuals themselves Don't know

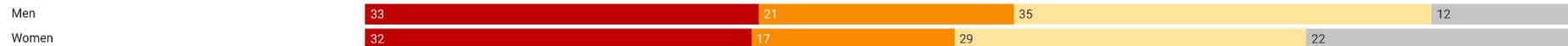
Overall



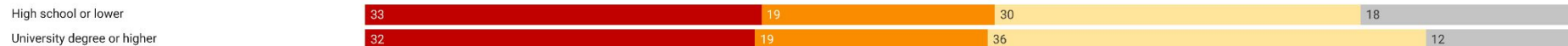
Age



Gender



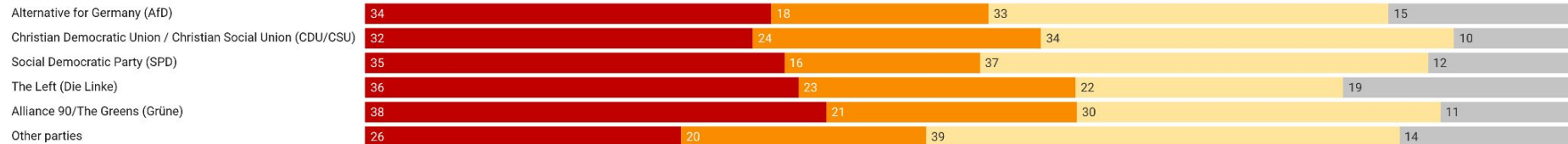
Education



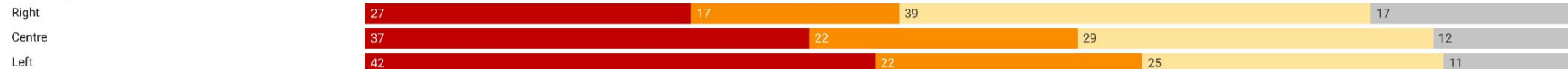
Income



Voting intention



Political spectrum



Online schooling - Which actors do you perceive as most responsible for the following aspects of climate change adaptation? - Germany (%)

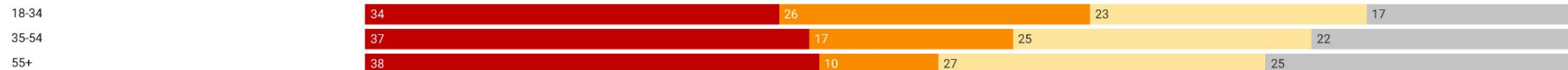
Germany - all respondents, n = 1,025

Government Business Individuals themselves Don't know

Overall



Age



Gender



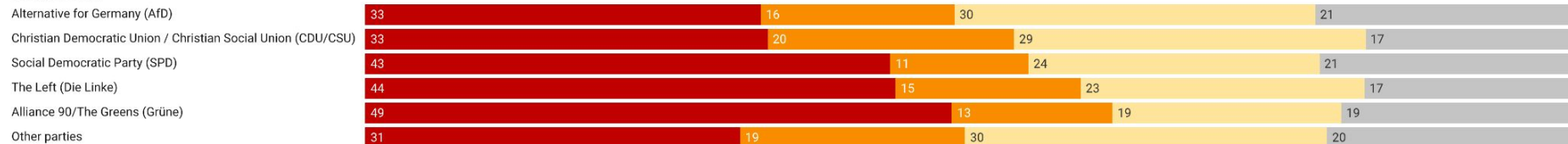
Education



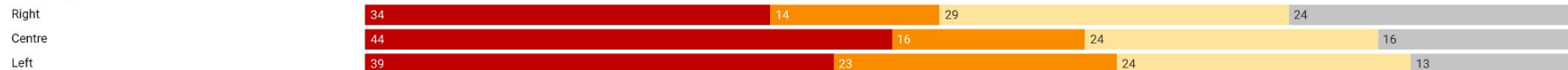
Income



Voting intention



Political spectrum



Public health planning - Which actors do you perceive as most responsible for the following aspects of climate change adaptation? - Germany (%)

Germany - all respondents, n = 1,025

Government Business Individuals themselves Don't know

Overall



Age



Gender



Education



Income



Voting intention



Political spectrum



Planning of public spaces (e.g. ensuring enough shade) - Which actors do you perceive as most responsible for the following aspects of climate change adaptation? - Germany (%)

Germany - all respondents, n = 1,025

Government Business Individuals themselves Don't know

Overall



Age



Gender



Education



Income



Voting intention



Political spectrum



Which of the following statements comes closest to your view? (does the government have a plan) - Germany (%)

Germany - all respondents, n = 1,025

■ The government has a clear game plan to adapt to climate change ■ The government does not have a clear game plan to adapt to climate change ■ Don't know

Overall



Age



Gender



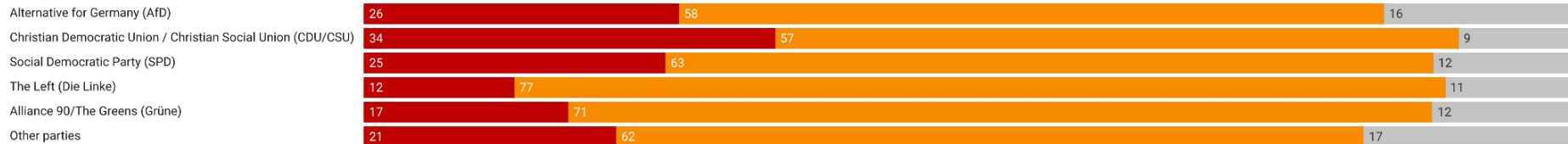
Education



Income



Voting intention



Political spectrum



How effective or ineffective do you believe the current government's efforts are to adapt to climate change? - Germany (%)

Germany - all respondents, n = 1,025

1 - Entirely ineffective 2 - Ineffective 3 - Effective 4 - Very effective Don't know

Overall



Age



Gender



Education



Income



Voting intention



Political spectrum



Do you believe that the government should be doing more or less to help the country adapt to climate change? - Germany (%)

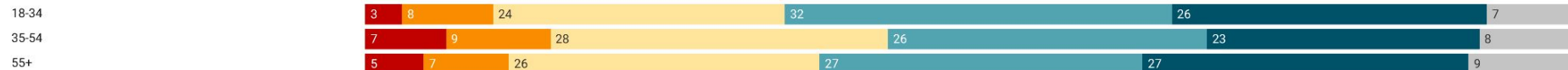
Germany - all respondents, n = 1,025

1 - Much less 2 - Less 3 - They are currently doing the right amount 4 - More 5 - Much more Don't know

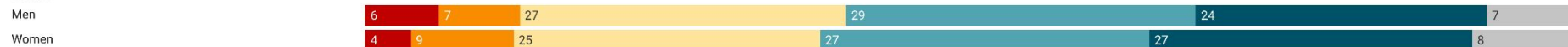
Overall



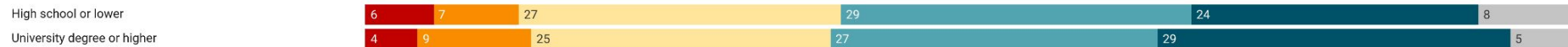
Age



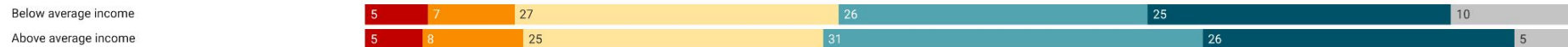
Gender



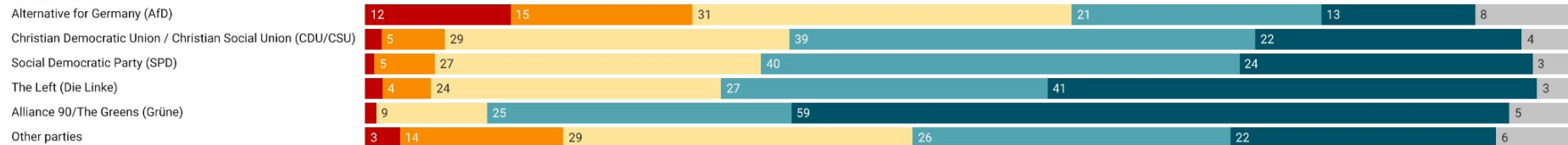
Education



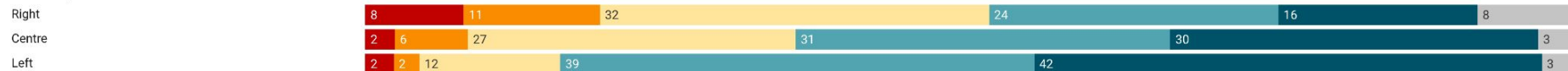
Income



Voting intention



Political spectrum



Which of the following parties do you trust most to deal with adaptation to climate change? - Germany (%)

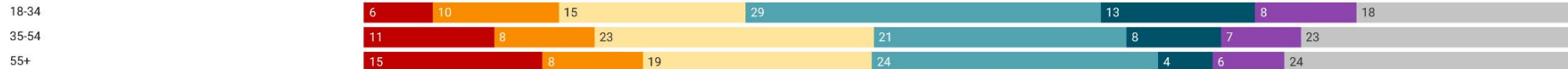
Germany - all respondents, n = 1,025

■ Christian Democratic Union / Christian Social Union (CDU/CSU)
 ■ Social Democratic Party (SPD)
 ■ Alternative for Germany (AfD)
 ■ Alliance 90/The Greens (Grüne)
 ■ The Left (Die Linke)
 ■ Other parties
 ■ Don't know

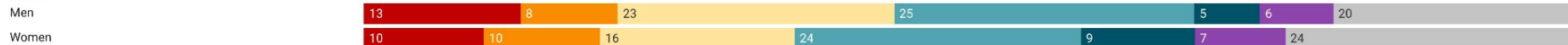
Overall



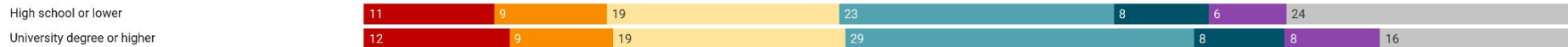
Age



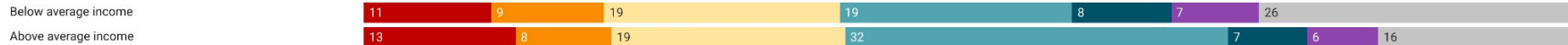
Gender



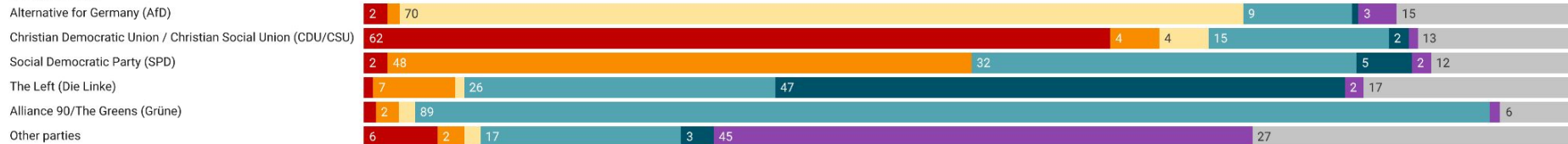
Education



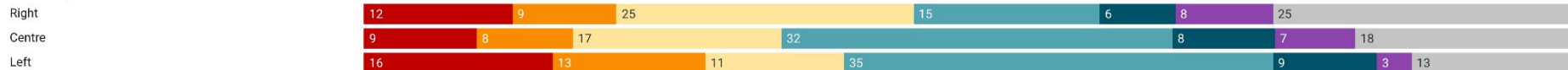
Income



Voting intention



Political spectrum



Findings: Technology

Which of the following statements do you agree with most? (new technologies) - Germany (%)

Germany - all respondents, n = 1,025

■ New technologies and products will be required to live in the world as climate change alters day to day life. ■ Existing technologies and products will be sufficient to continue life as normal as climate change alters day to day life ■ Don't know

Overall



Age



Gender



Education



Income



Voting intention



Political spectrum

