

SOUTH AFRICANS' ATTITUDES TO CLIMATE CHANGE

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BACKGROUND

- Survey conducted during Pre COP 17 Provincial Summits in 7 provinces.
- The purpose of the provincial summits:
 - To create awareness of climate change and COP17;
 - To showcase the efforts of government in addressing climate change and
 - To provide participants with the opportunity to express their views on the issue.

PURPOSE OF THE STUDY

- Identify people's perceptions of the seriousness of Climate Change
- Find out the extent to which people feel informed about Climate Change
- Become aware of peoples' attitudes towards Climate Change and their personal response to it.

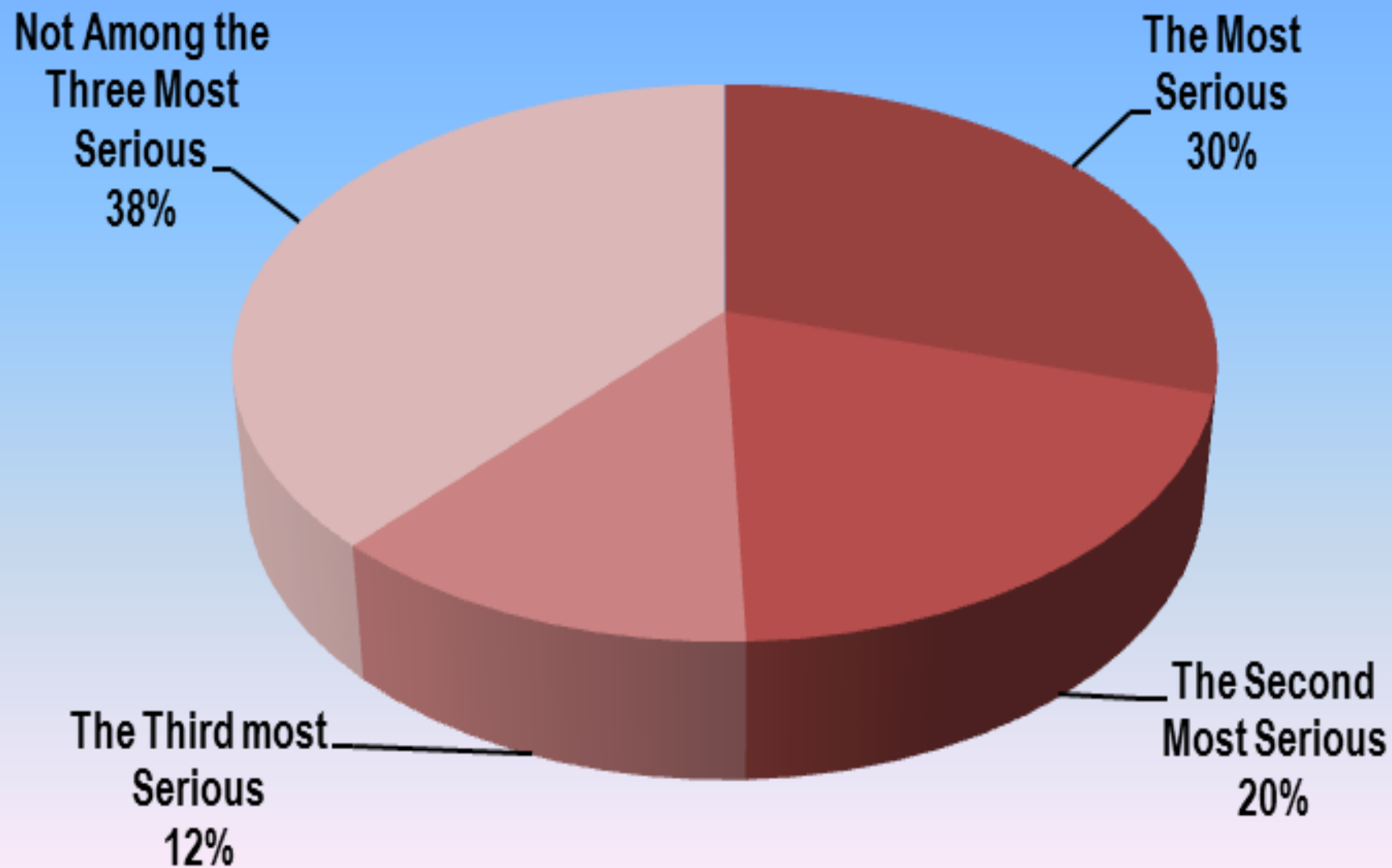
QUESTION

In your opinion, which of the following do you consider to be the most serious problems currently facing the world as a whole?

- The spread of infectious disease
- International terrorism
- Poverty, lack of food and drinking water
- A major global economic downturn
- Armed conflicts
- The increasing world population
- **Climate change**
- The proliferation of nuclear weapons
- None
- Other (specify)
- Do not know

FOCUSING JUST ON CLIMATE CHANGE

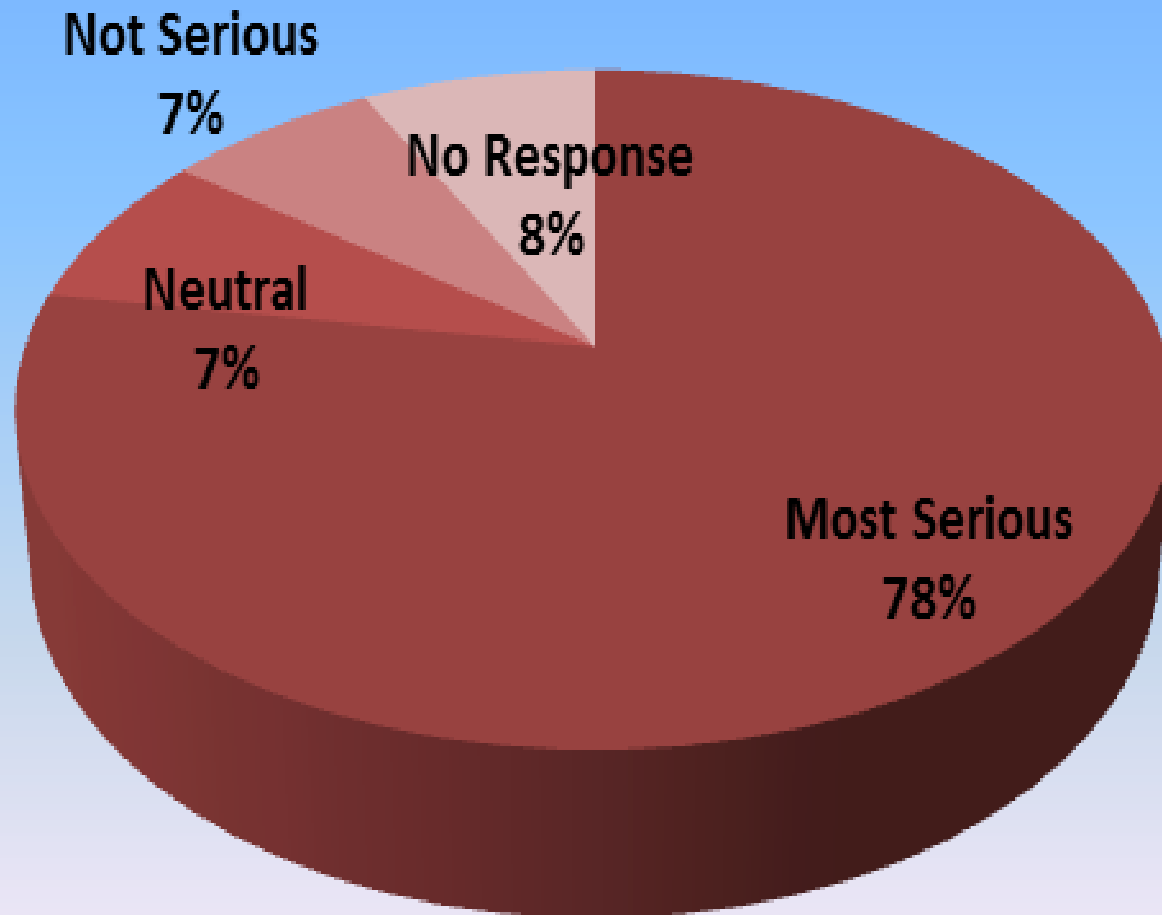
Climate Change is among the Three Most Serious Problems Currently Facing the World as a Whole



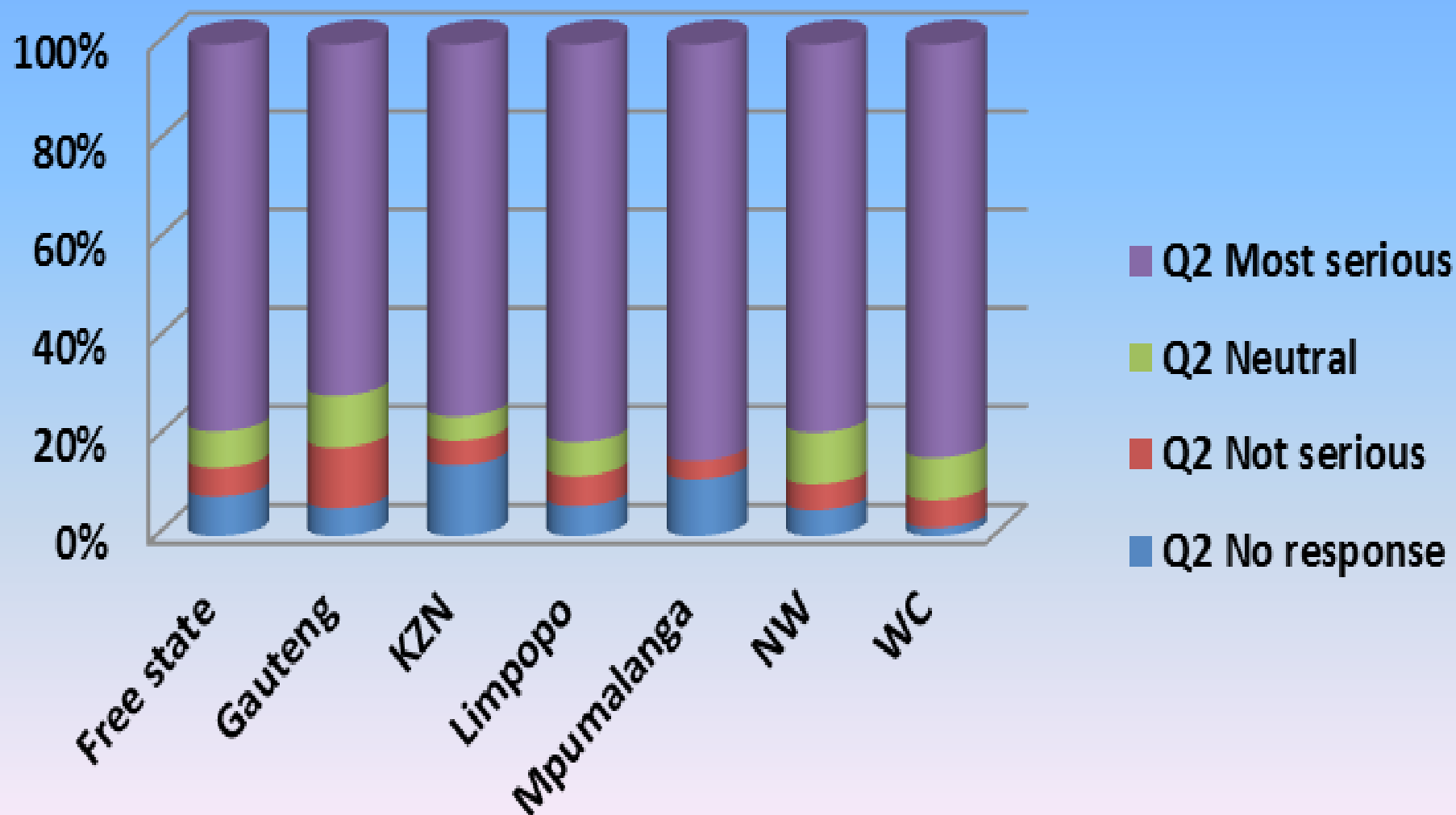
QUESTION

**HOW SERIOUS A PROBLEM IS CLIMATE
CHANGE AT THE MOMENT?**

How Serious a Problem is Climate Change at this Moment



How Serious a Problem is Climate Change at this Moment

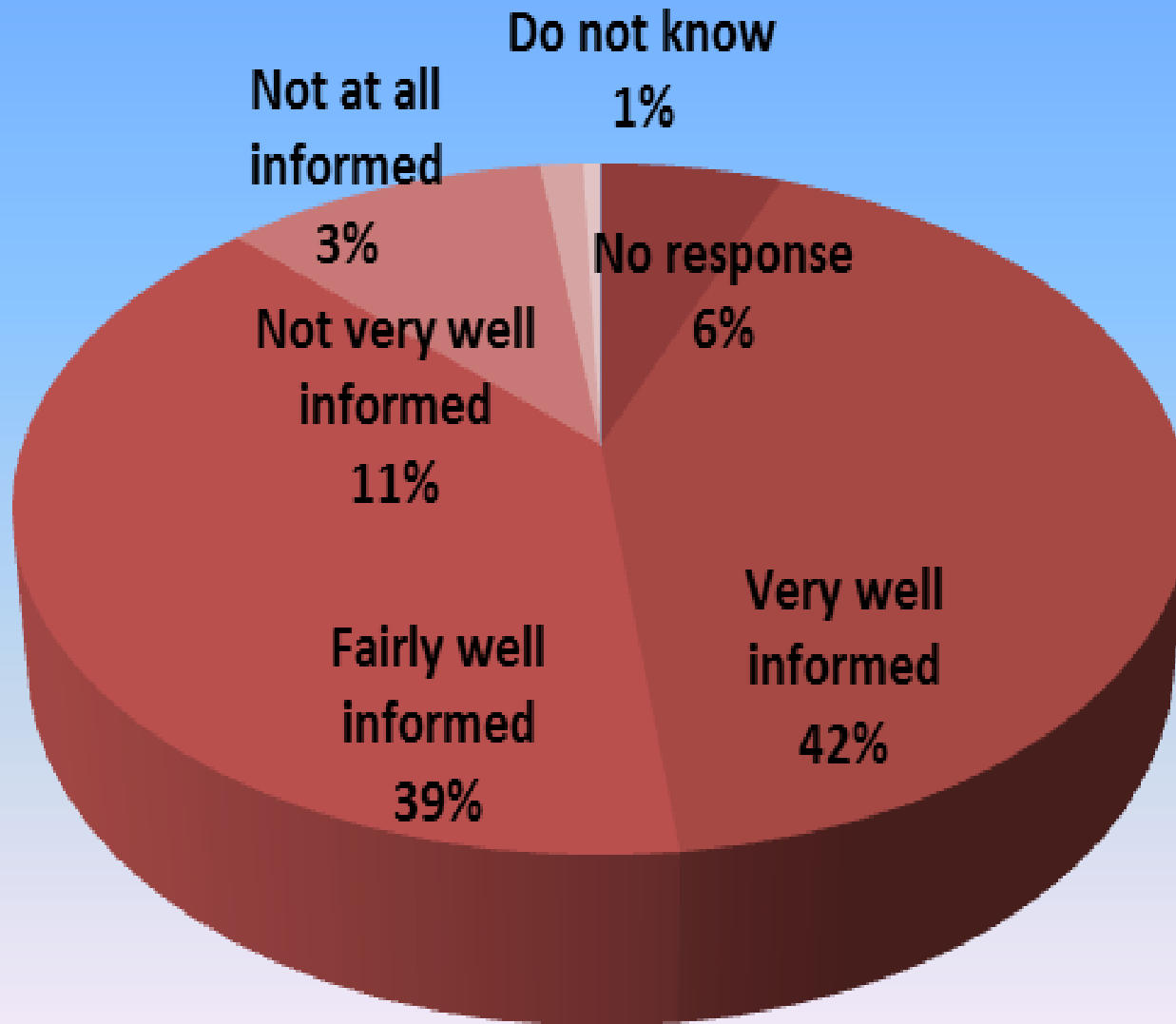


QUESTION

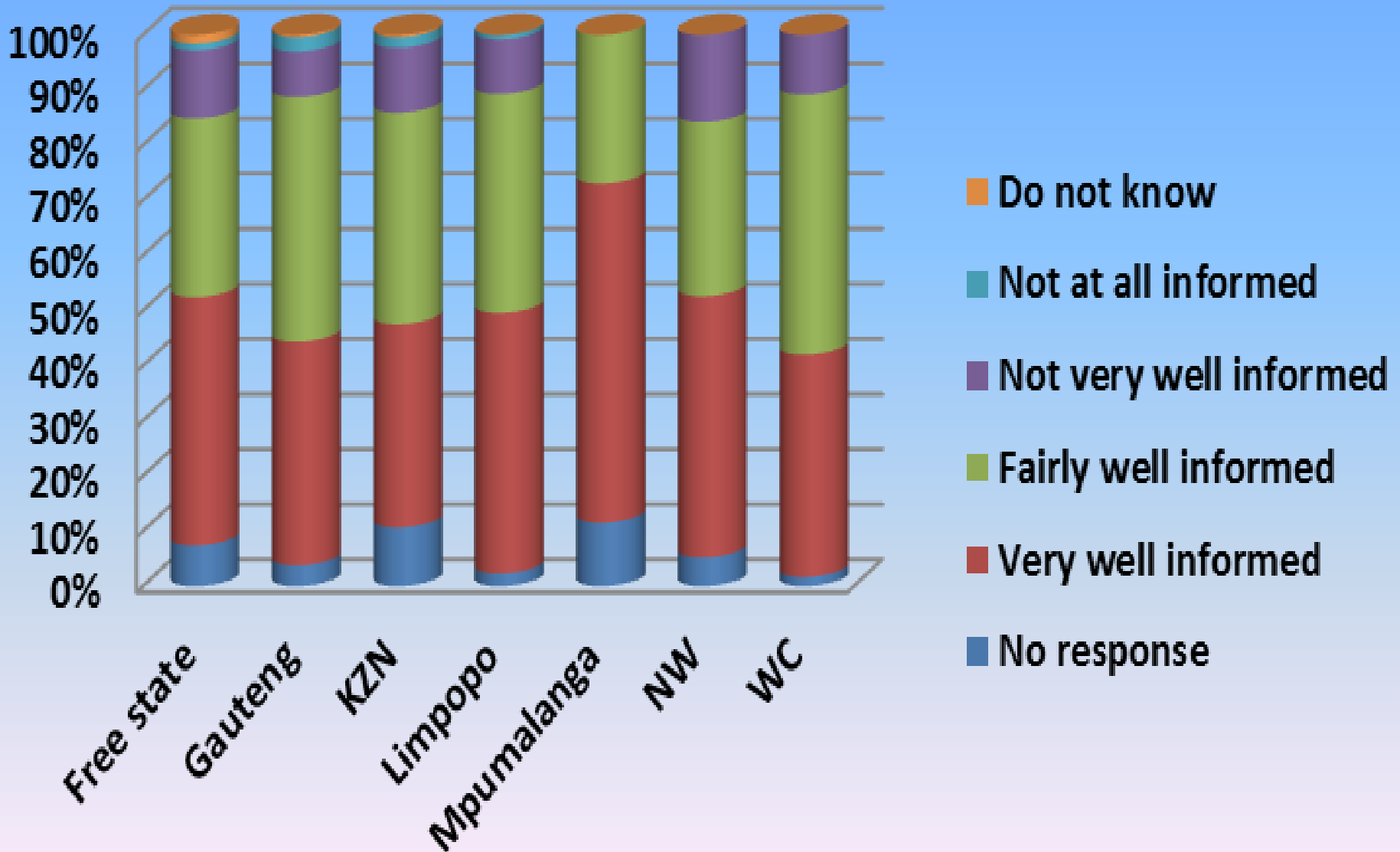
Personally, how well informed are you about the causes, consequences and ways to fight Climate Change?

- Very Well;
- Fairly Well
- Not Very Well Informed
- Not at All Informed
- Do not Know

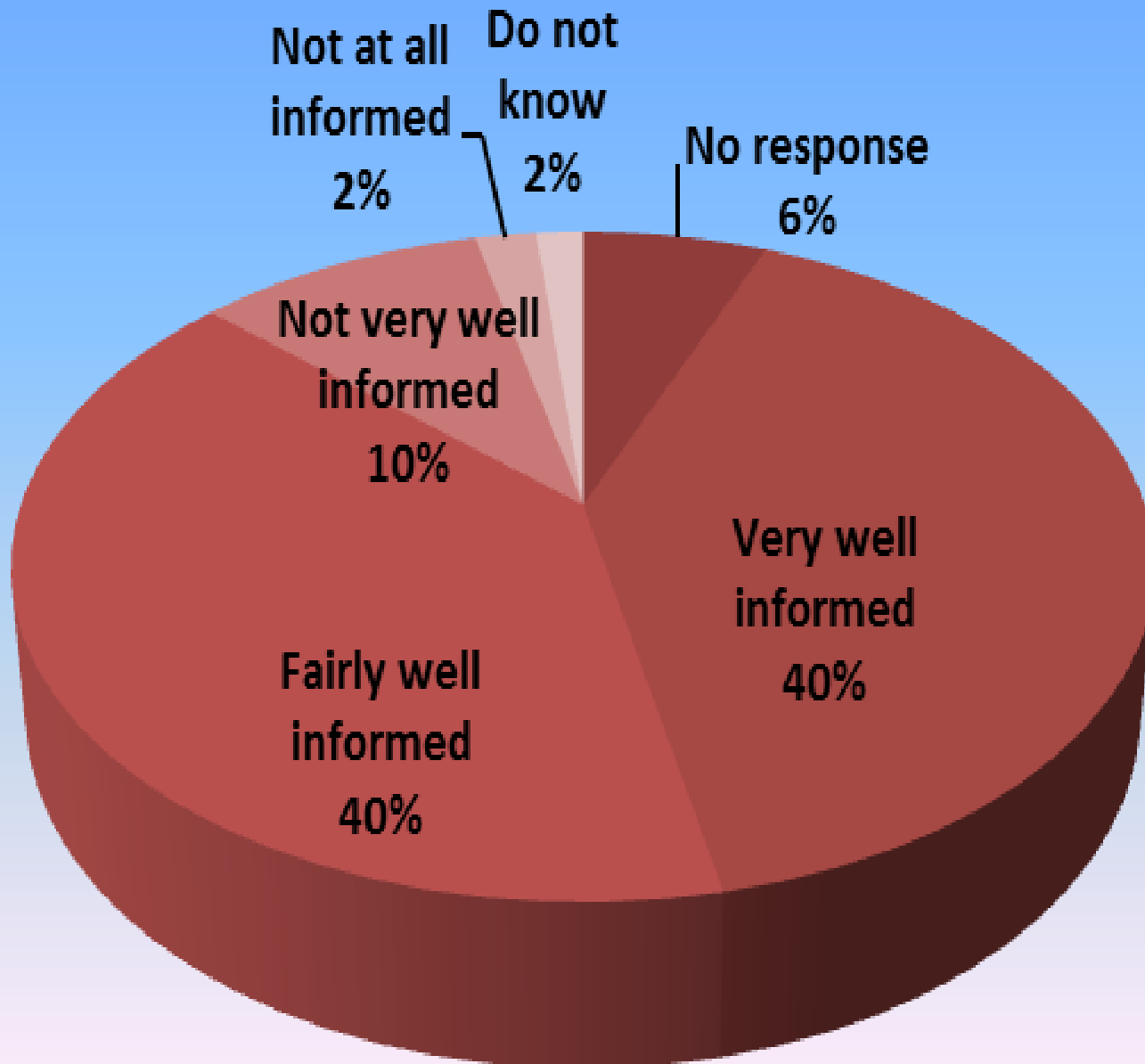
Causes of Climate Change



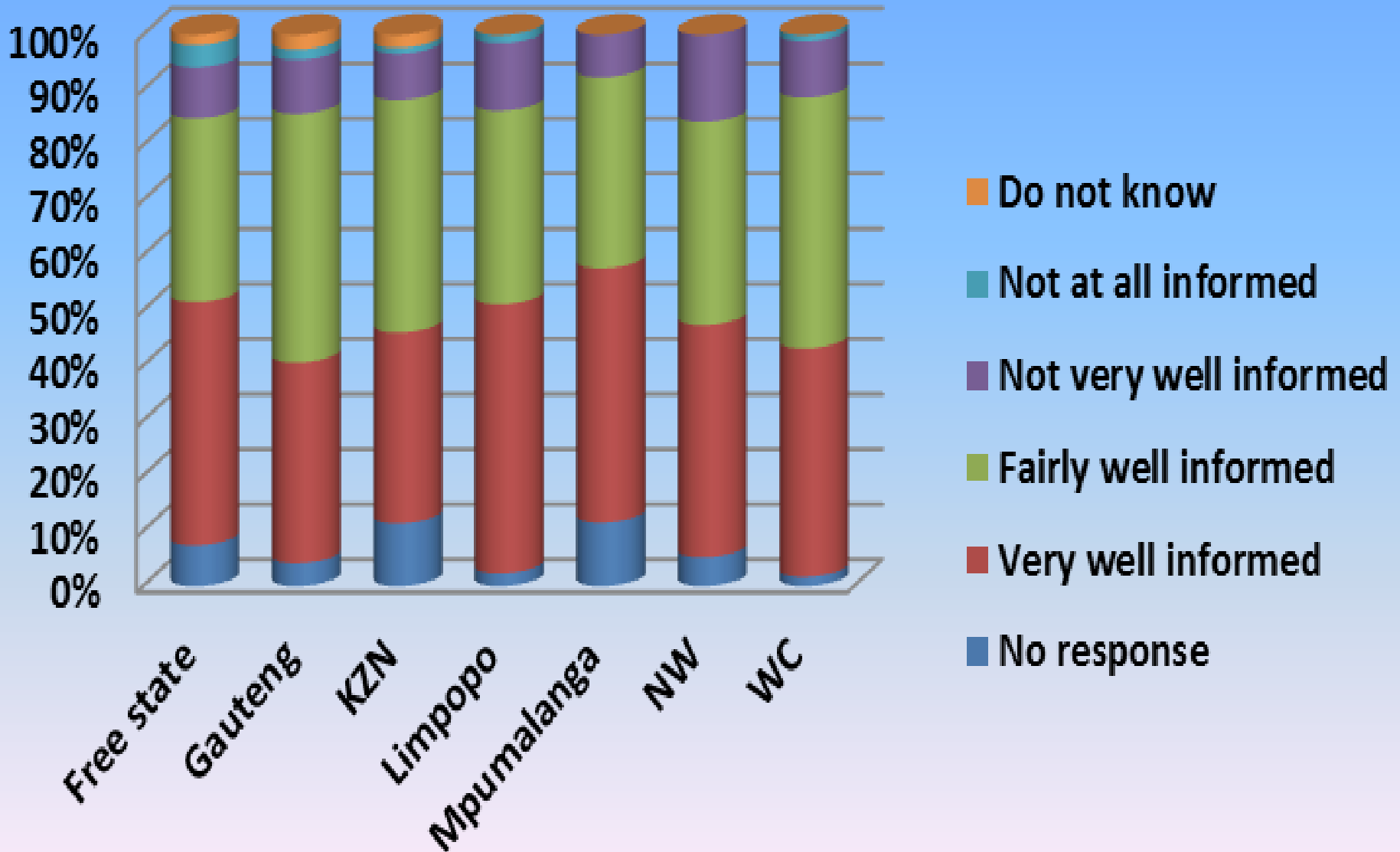
Causes of Climate Change



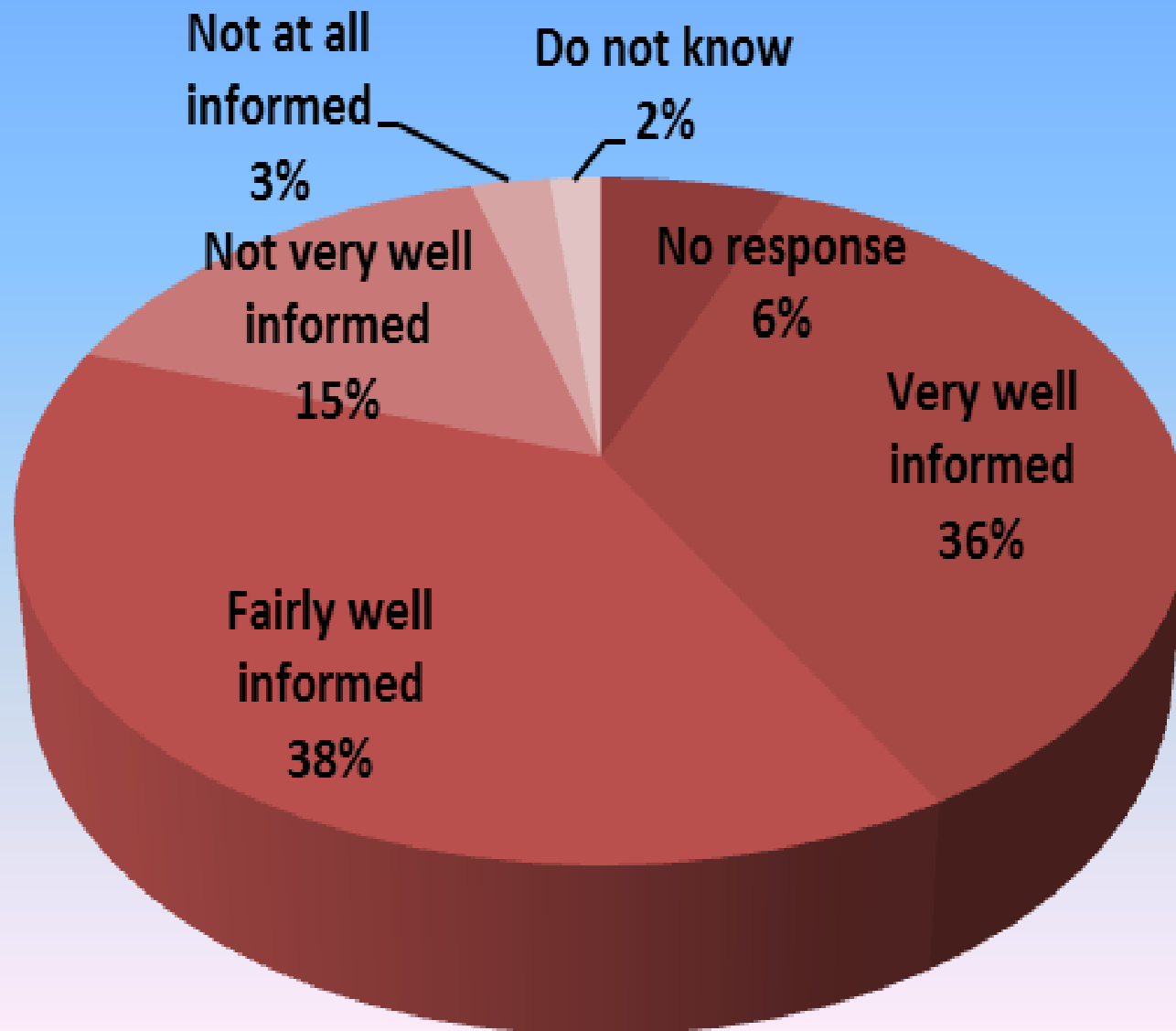
Consequences of Climate Change



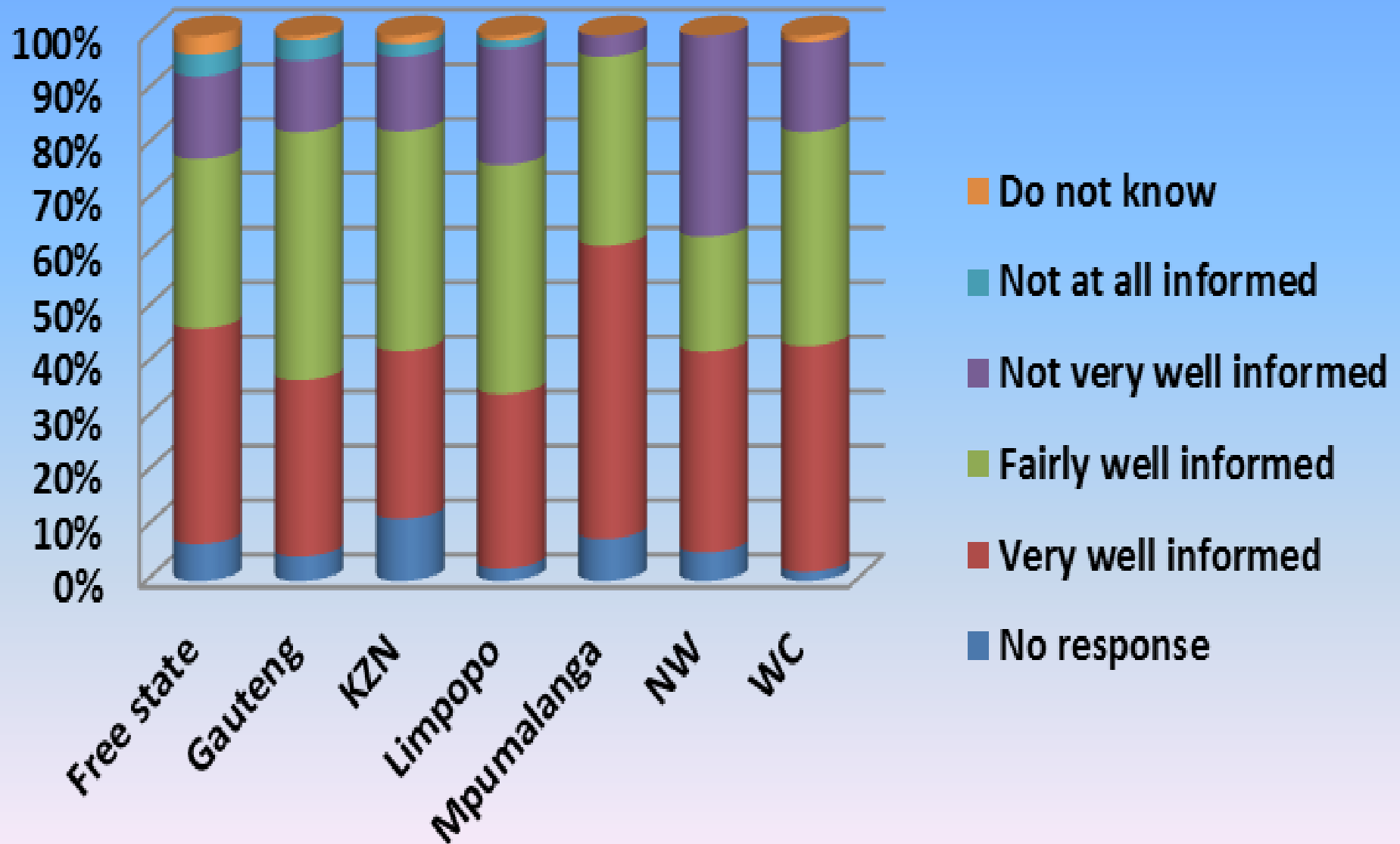
Consequences of Climate Change



Ways to Fight Climate Change



Ways to Fight Climate Change



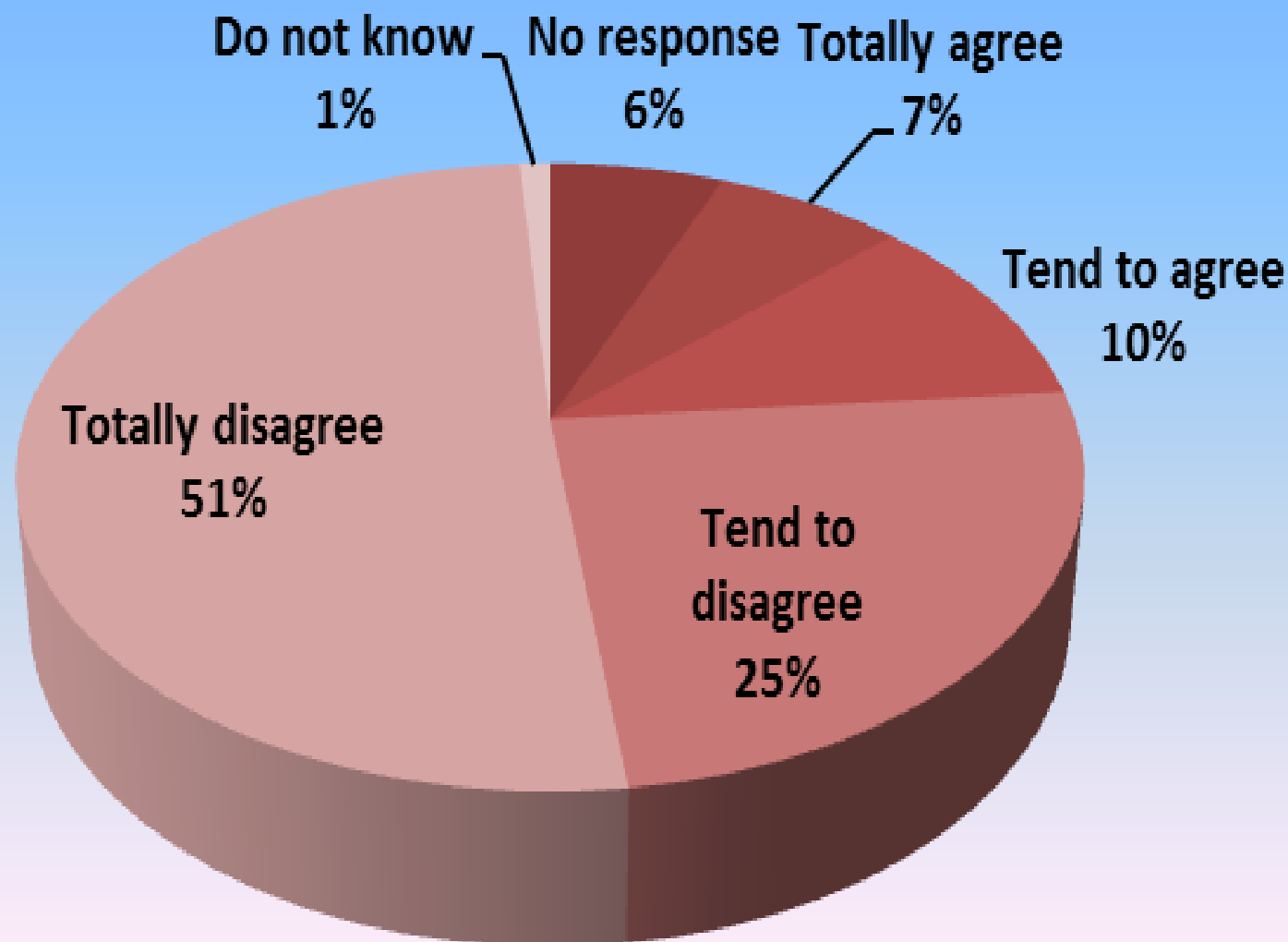
QUESTION

For each of the following statements, do the respondents totally agree, tend to agree, tend to disagree, or totally disagree

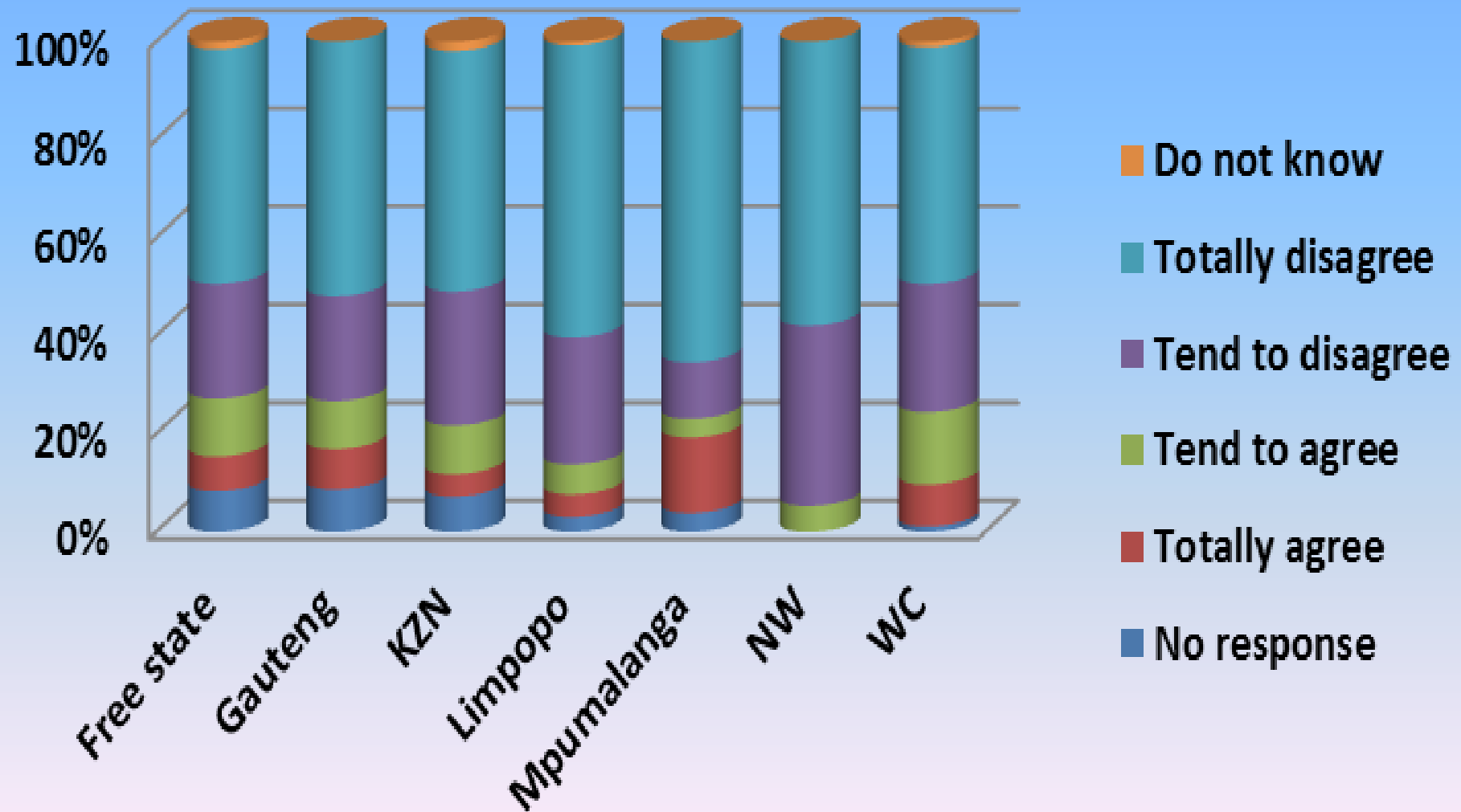
- Climate Change is an unstoppable process, we can do nothing about it.
- The seriousness of Climate Change has been exaggerated
- Emission of Carbon Dioxide (CO₂) has only a marginal impact on Climate Change
- Fighting Climate Change can have a positive impact on the economy
- Alternative fuels such as biofuels should be used to reduce green house gas emissions
- You personally have taken actions aimed at fighting Climate Change

**CLIMATE CHANGE IS AN UNSTOPPABLE
PROCESS, WE CAN DO NOTHING ABOUT IT.**

Climate Change is an Unstoppable Process, We Can Do Nothing About It

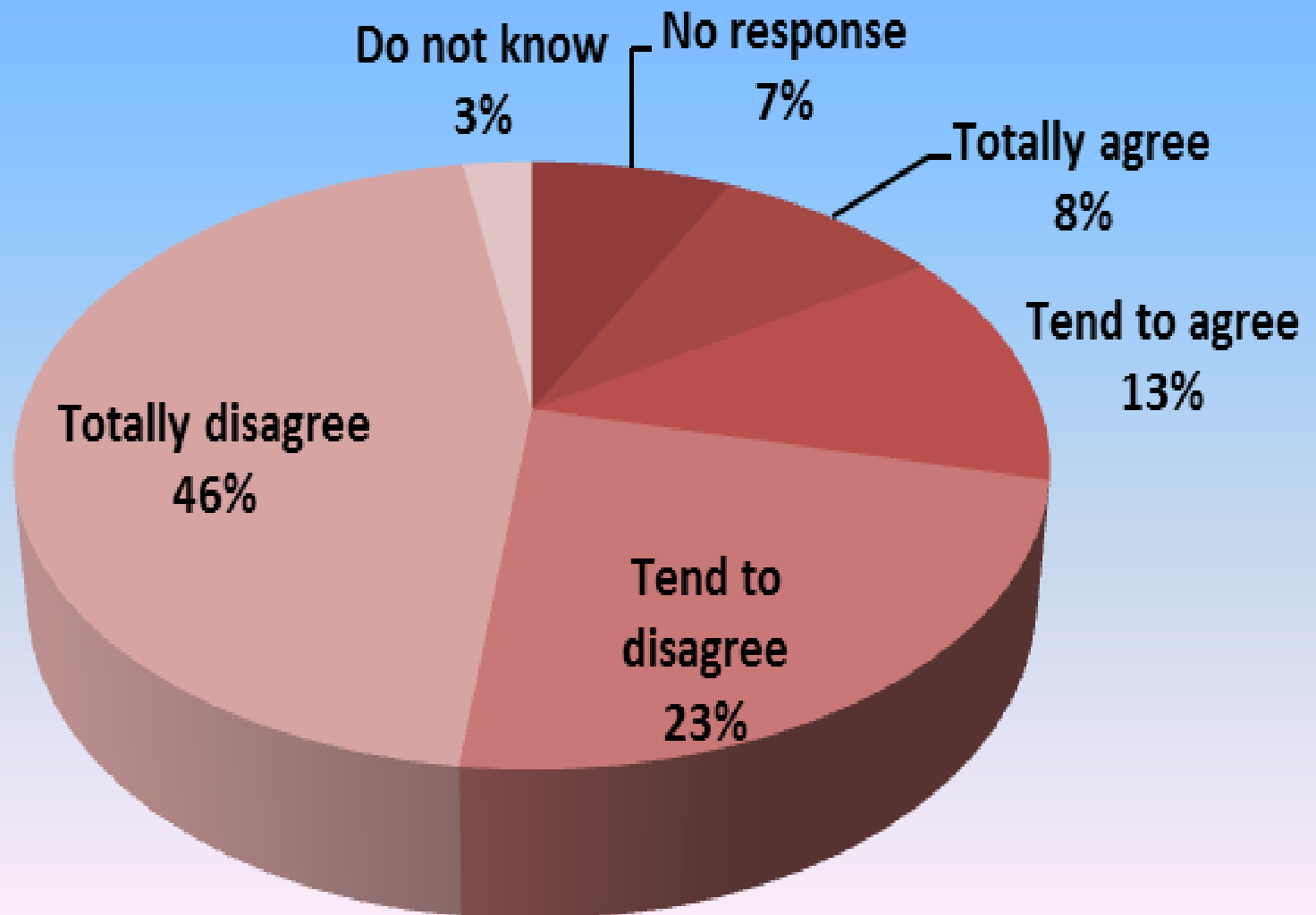


Climate Change is an Unstoppable Process, We Can Do Nothing About It

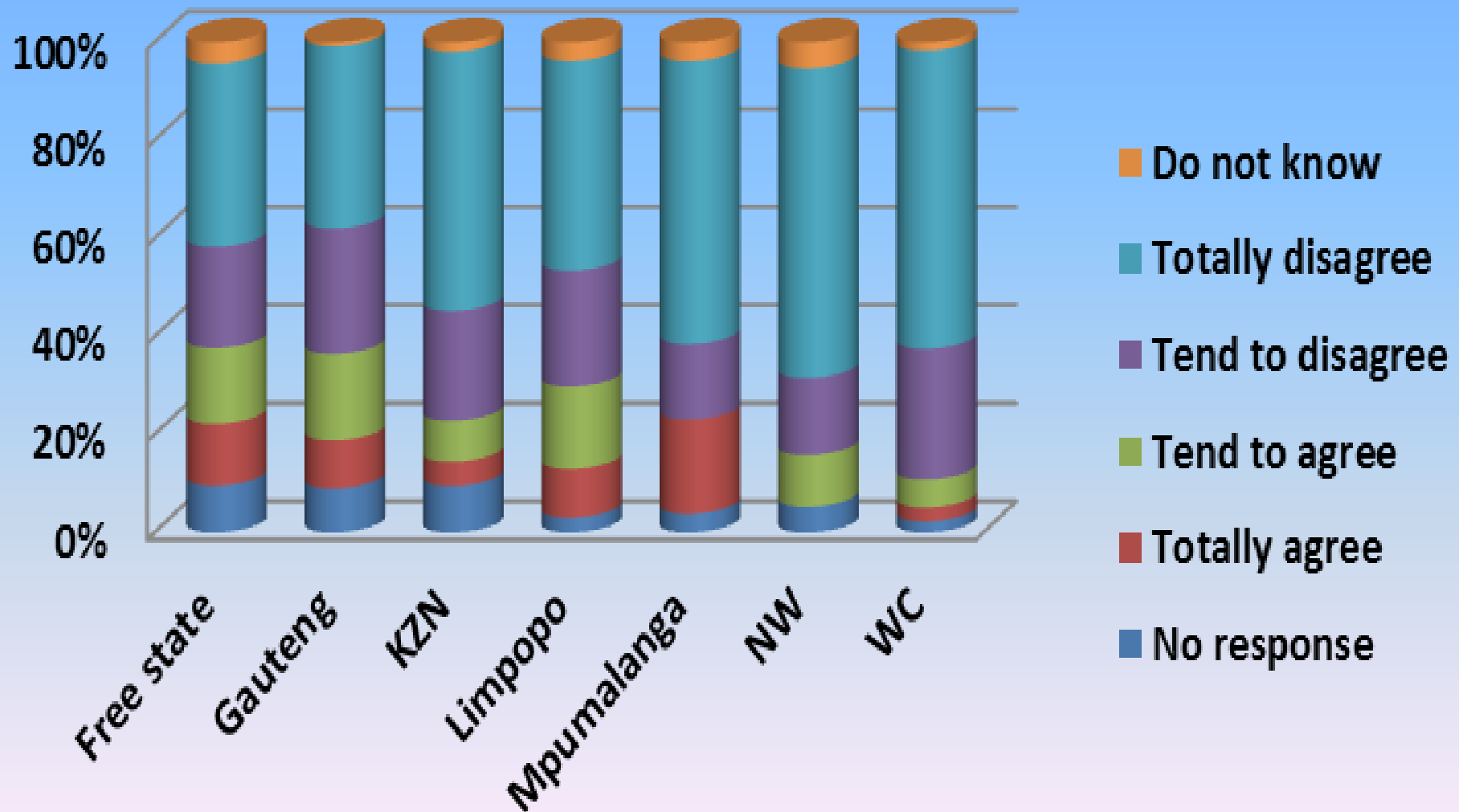


**THE SERIOUSNESS OF CLIMATE CHANGE HAS
BEEN EXAGGERATED**

The Seriousness of Climate Change Has been Exaggerated

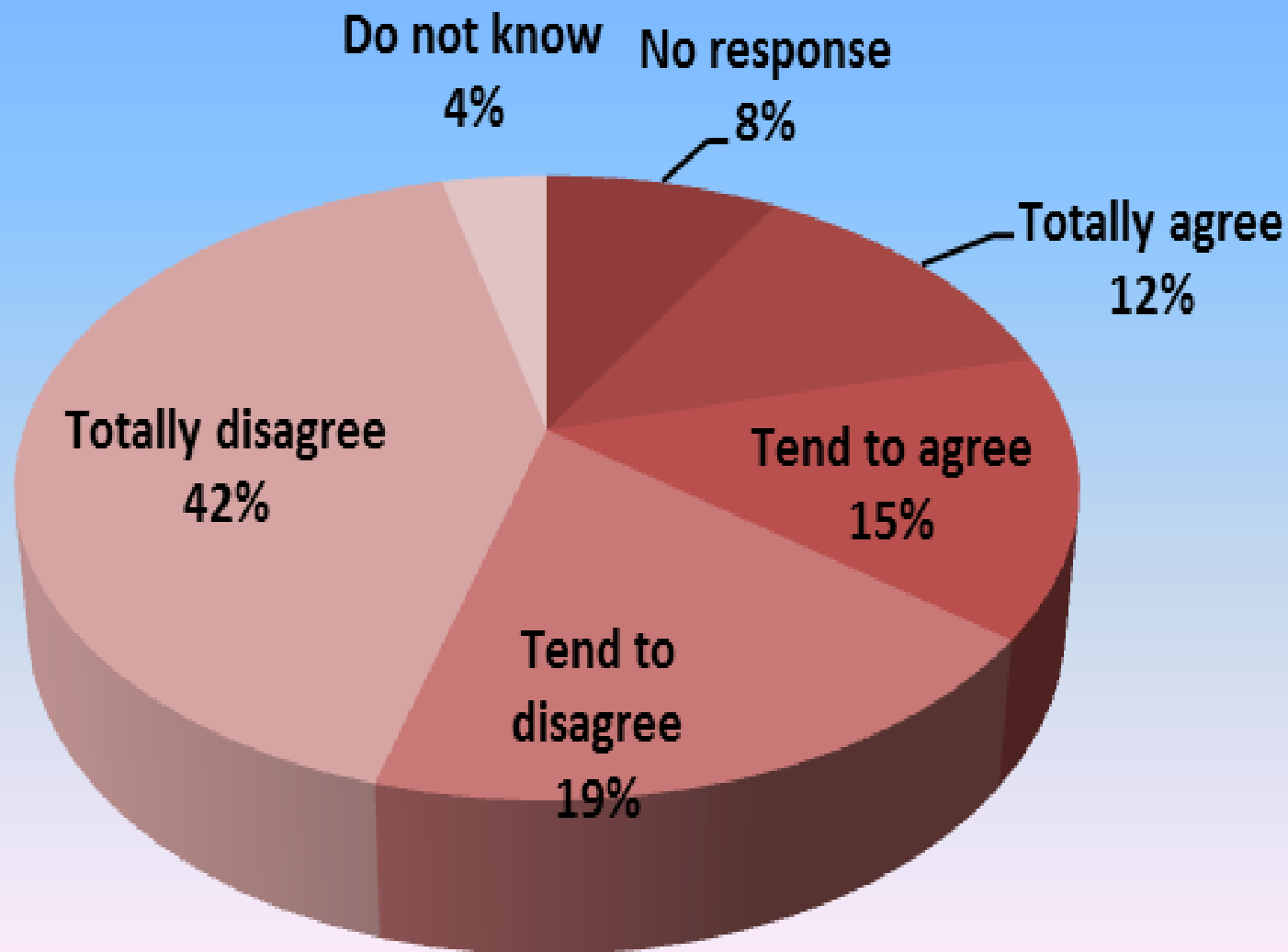


The Seriousness of Climate Change Has been Exaggerated

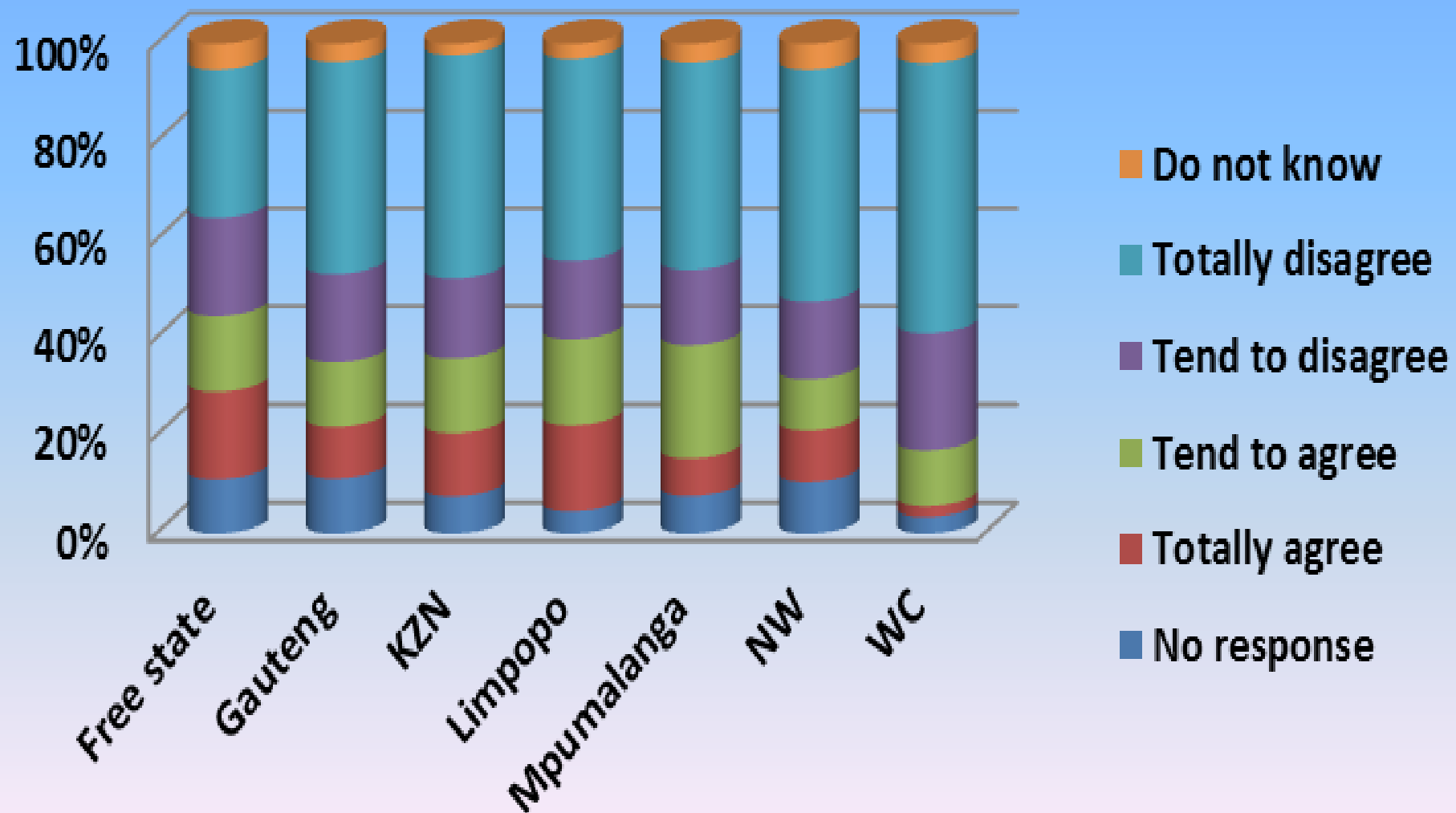


**EMISSION OF CARBON DIOXIDE (CO₂) HAS ONLY
A MARGINAL IMPACT ON CLIMATE CHANGE**

Emissions of CO₂ Have Only a Marginal Impact on Climate Change

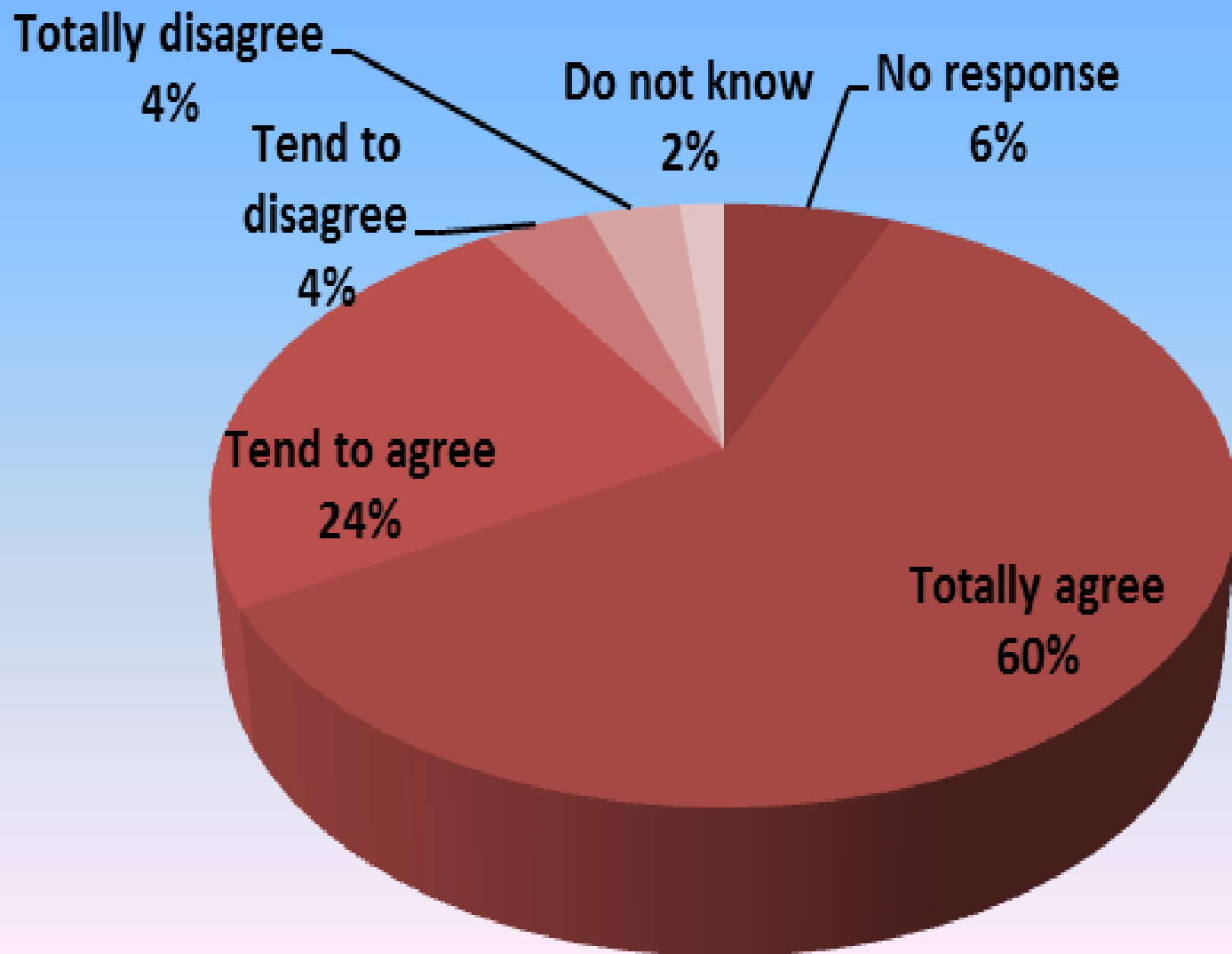


Emissions of CO₂ Have Only a Marginal Impact on Climate Change

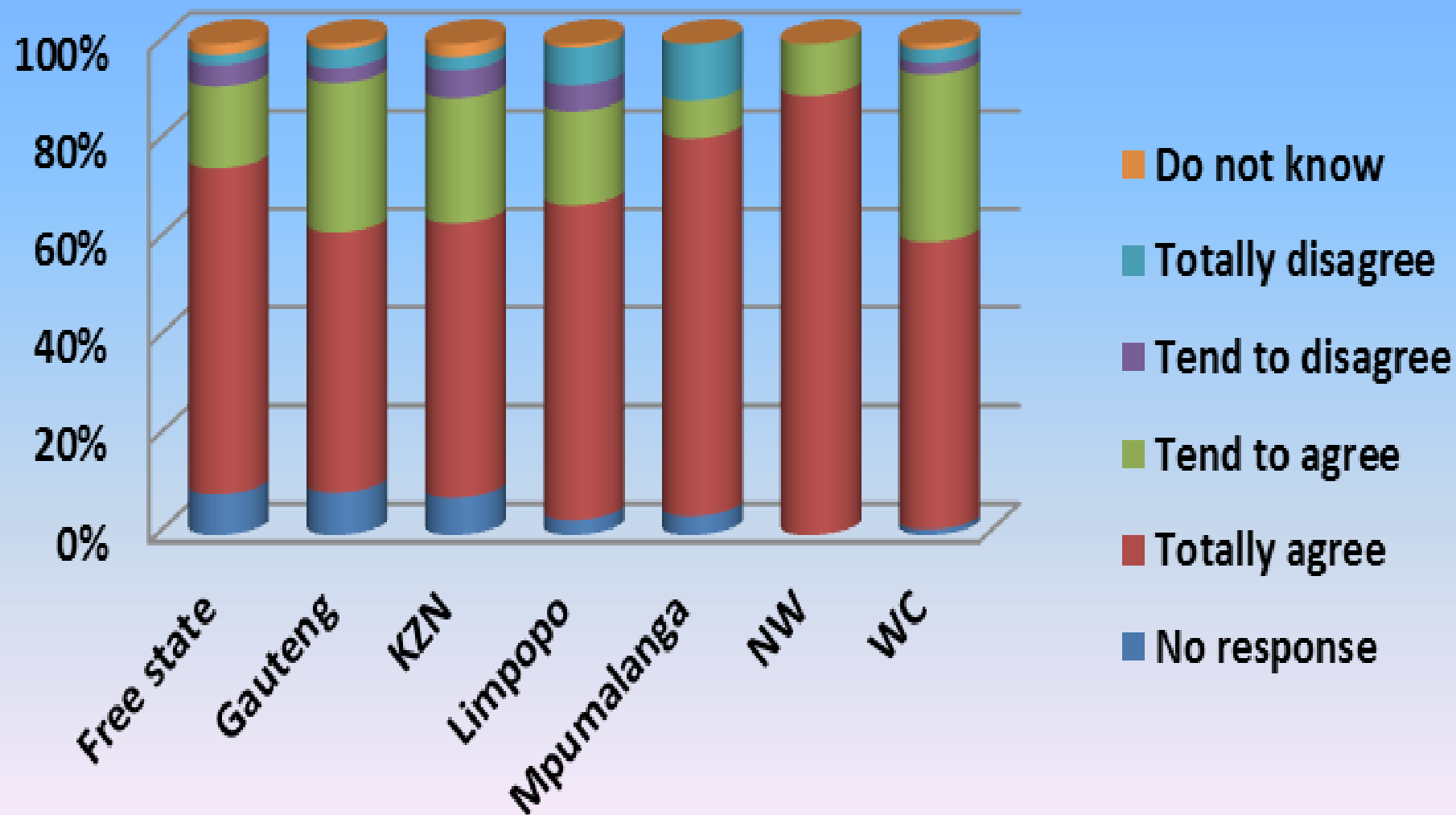


**FIGHTING CLIMATE CHANGE CAN HAVE A
POSITIVE IMPACT ON THE ECONOMY**

Fighting Climate Change Can Have a Positive Effect on the Economy

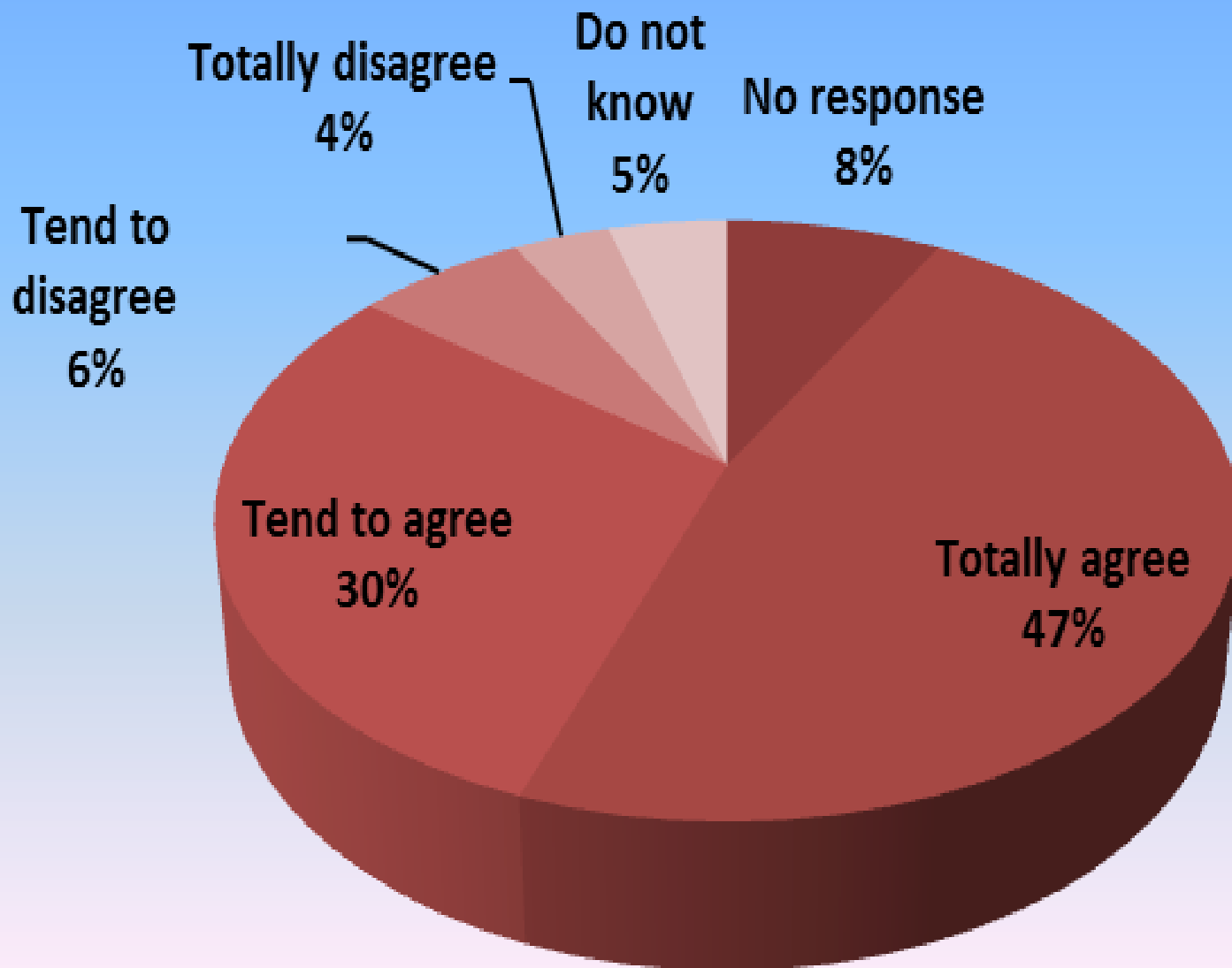


Fighting Climate Change Can Have a Positive Effect on the Economy

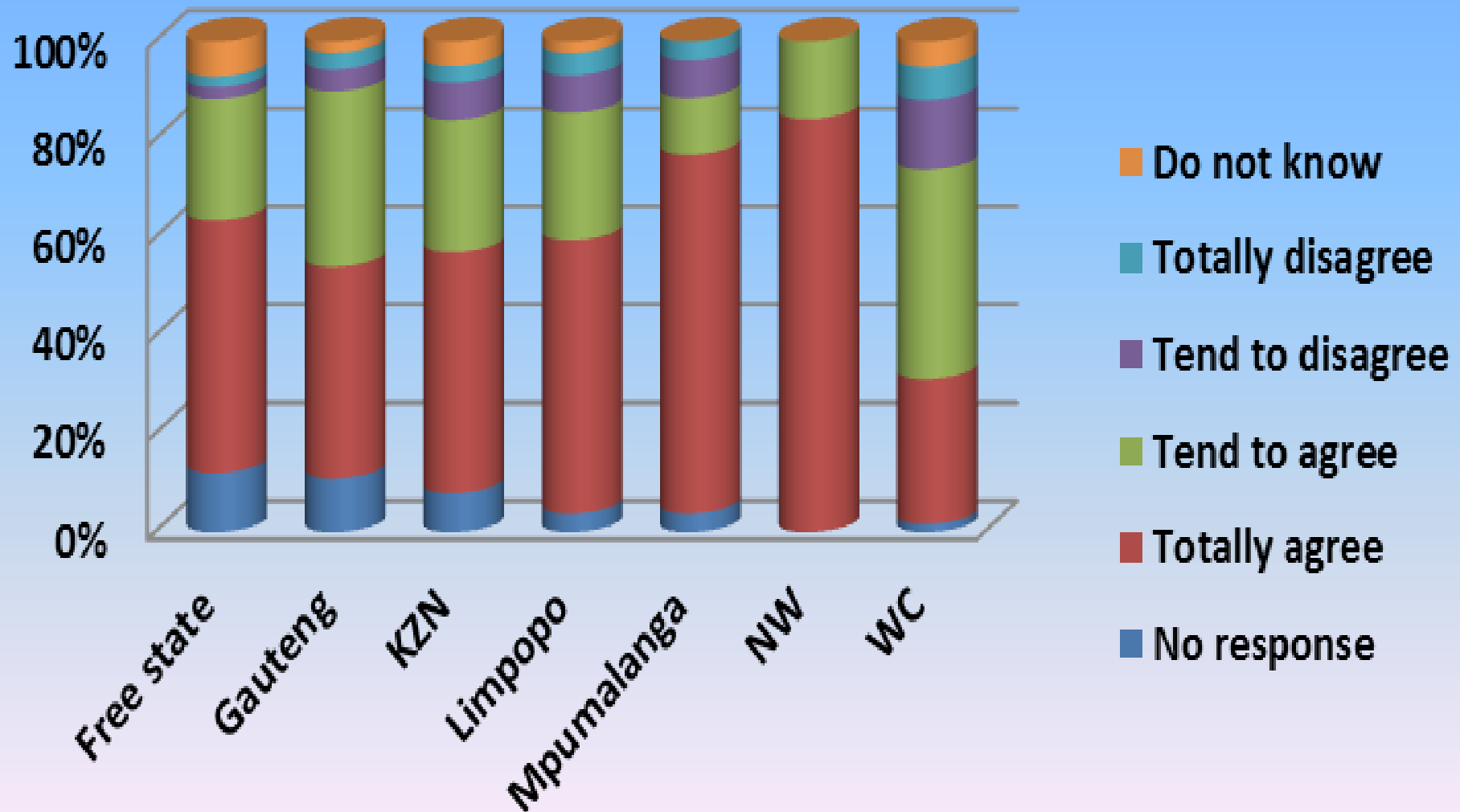


**ALTERNATIVE FUELS SUCH AS BIOFUELS
SHOULD BE USED TO REDUCE GREEN HOUSE
GAS EMISSIONS**

Alternative Fuels Should be Used to Reduce GHG Emissions

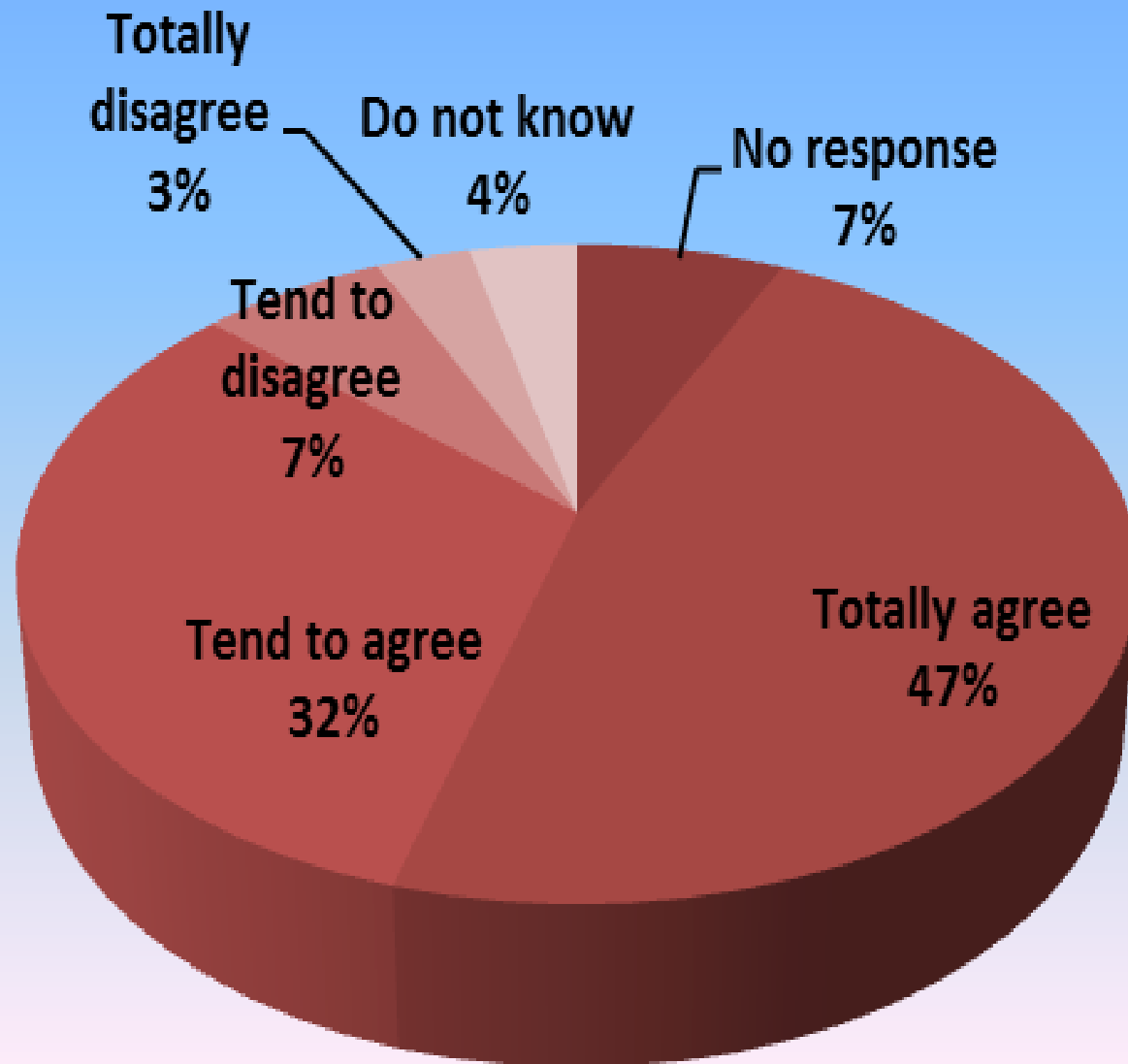


Alternative Fuels Should be Used to Reduce GHG Emissions

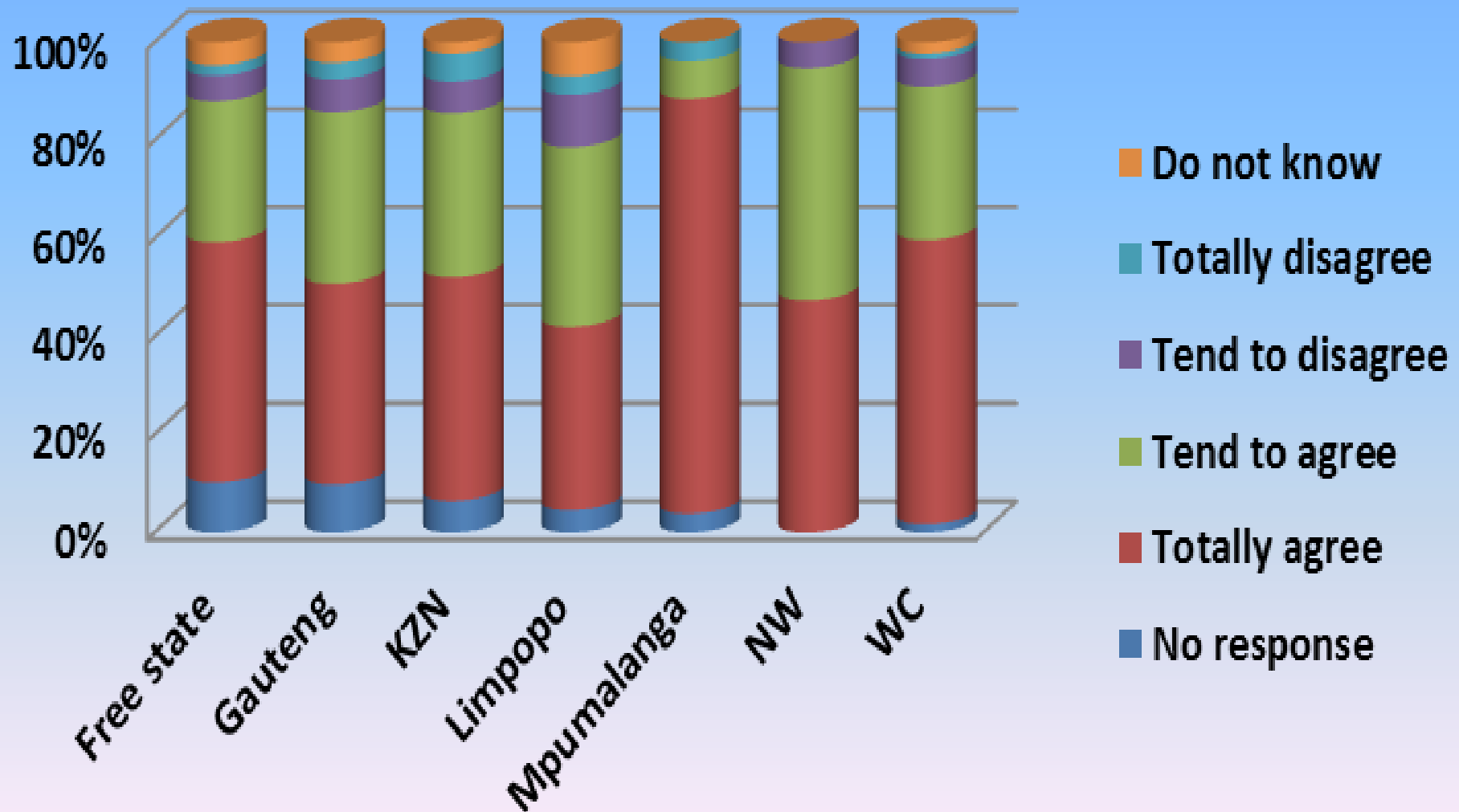


**YOU PERSONALLY HAVE TAKEN ACTIONS AIMED
AT FIGHTING CLIMATE CHANGE**

You Personally Have Taken Measures Aimed at Fighting Climate Change



You Personally Have Taken Measures Aimed at Fighting Climate Change



COMPARISON BETWEEN SA and EUROPE

- Europeans' attitudes towards climate change, was carried out in spring 2008.
- The survey was commissioned on behalf of the European Parliament and the European Commission.
- The interviews were conducted among 30,170 citizens in the 27 Member States of the European Union.

COMPARISON BETWEEN SA and EUROPE

	SOUTH AFRICA	EUROPE
CC the most serious problems currently facing the world	Total – 72% The Most Serious 30% The Second Most Serious 20% The Third most Serious 12%	62% Range: 92% - Republic of Cyprus 45% - Czech Republic
How Serious a Problem Climate Change is at this Moment?	Most Serious 78% Neutral 7% Not Serious 7%	Most Serious 75% Range: 96% - Republic of Cyprus 59% - The United Kingdom Neutral 15% Not Serious 7%
How well informed are you about the causes of Climate Change?	Fairly to very well informed – 81%	56% Range: 88% - Sweden 33% - Romania
How well informed are you about the consequences of Climate Change?	Fairly to very well informed – 80%	56% Range: 85% - Sweden 34% - Portugal
How well informed are you about the ways to fight Climate Change?	Fairly to very well informed – 74%	52% Range: 77% - The Netherlands 25% - Bulgaria

COMPARISON BETWEEN SA and EUROPE

	SOUTH AFRICA	EUROPE
Climate Change is an unstoppable process, we can do nothing about it.	Tend to totally agree – 17%	31% Range: 52% - Estonia 19% - Malta
The seriousness of Climate Change has been exaggerated	Tend to totally agree – 21%	26% Range: 40% - The Netherlands 11% - Bulgaria
Emission of Carbon Dioxide (CO2) has only a marginal impact on Climate Change	Tend to totally agree – 27%	30% Range: 47% - The Netherlands 10% - Bulgaria
Fighting Climate Change can have a positive impact on the economy	Tend to totally agree – 84%	56% Range: 75% - Greece 38% - The Netherlands
Alternative fuels such as biofuels should be used to reduce green house gas emissions	Tend to totally agree – 77%	70% Range: 87% - Greece 54% - Germany
You personally have taken actions aimed at fighting Climate Change	Tend to totally agree – 79%	61% Range: 87% - Sweden 17% - Bulgaria

CLOSING REMARKS

- The majority of the people perceive that Climate Change is a serious issue.
- The majority of the people feel informed about Climate Change
- We appear to be generally more well informed than Europe about the causes, consequences and ways to fight Climate Change.
- We disagree with Europe on whether Climate Change can have a positive impact (we think it can) on the economy.
- These are the results of the survey, however, the numbers are open to interpretation