

CAUT Harris-Decima Public Opinion Poll

CAUT Council
November 29, 2013

Methodology

- Telephone interviews (landline and cell) conducted with representative sample of 2,000 adult Canadians between November 7 and 18, 2013
- Results considered accurate within +/- 2.2%, 19 times out of 20
- Wider margin of error for regional and sub-population groups

The Canadian Political Environment



Political Party Support

- Liberals widen national lead
- Liberals ahead in Quebec and the ROC for the first time since the 2006 election
- More trouble for Stephen Harper in low job approval ratings + most believe that Canada is moving in the wrong direction under the Conservatives

Where they stand



35.9%



26.5%



23.8%

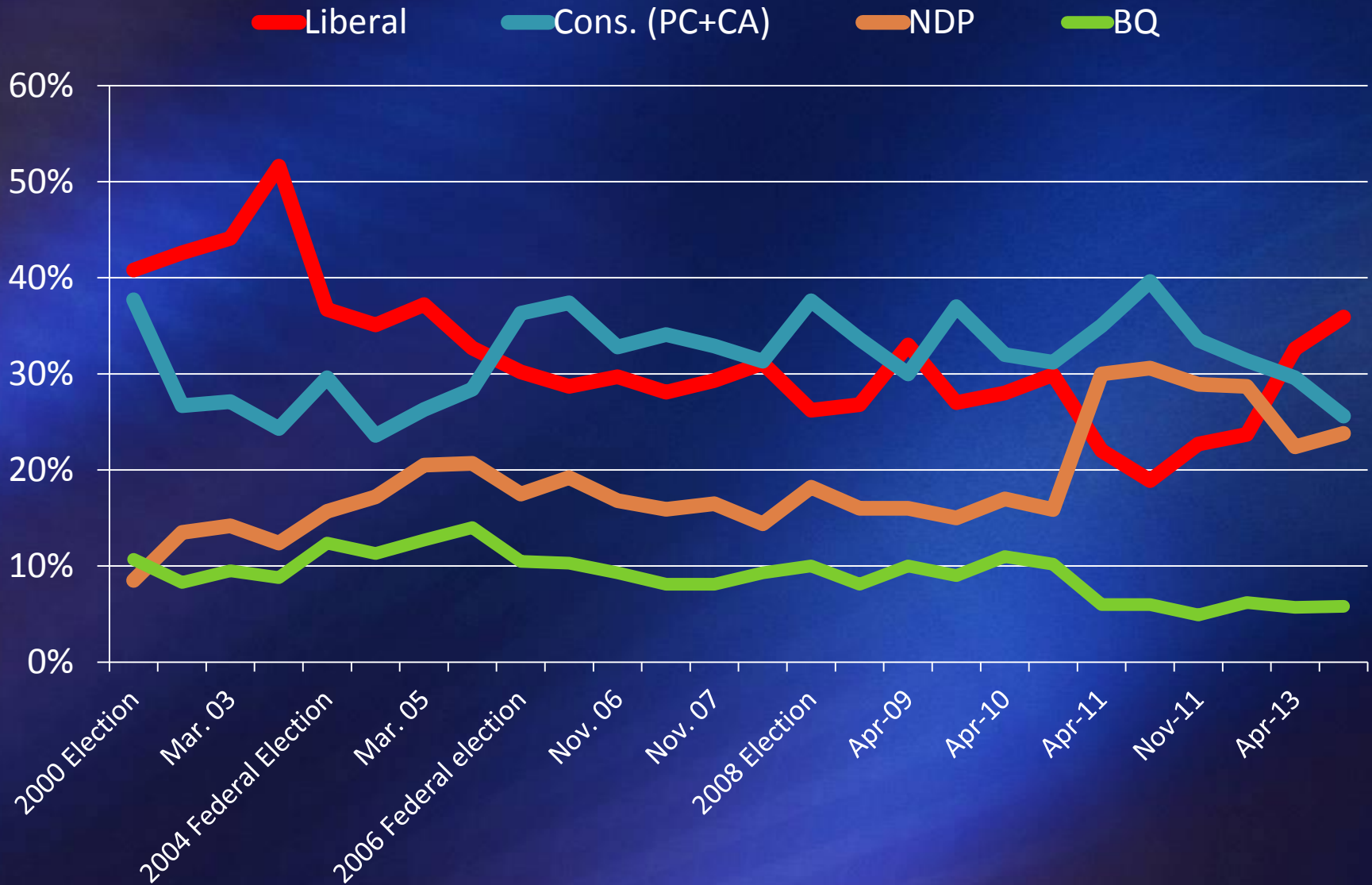


8.0%



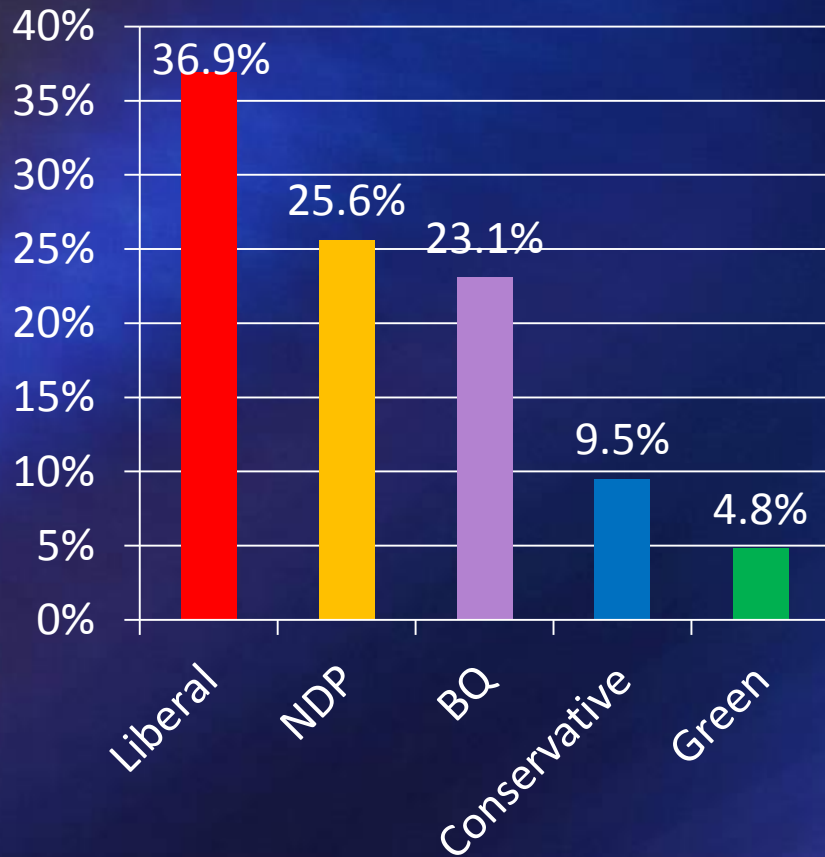
5.8%

Political party support

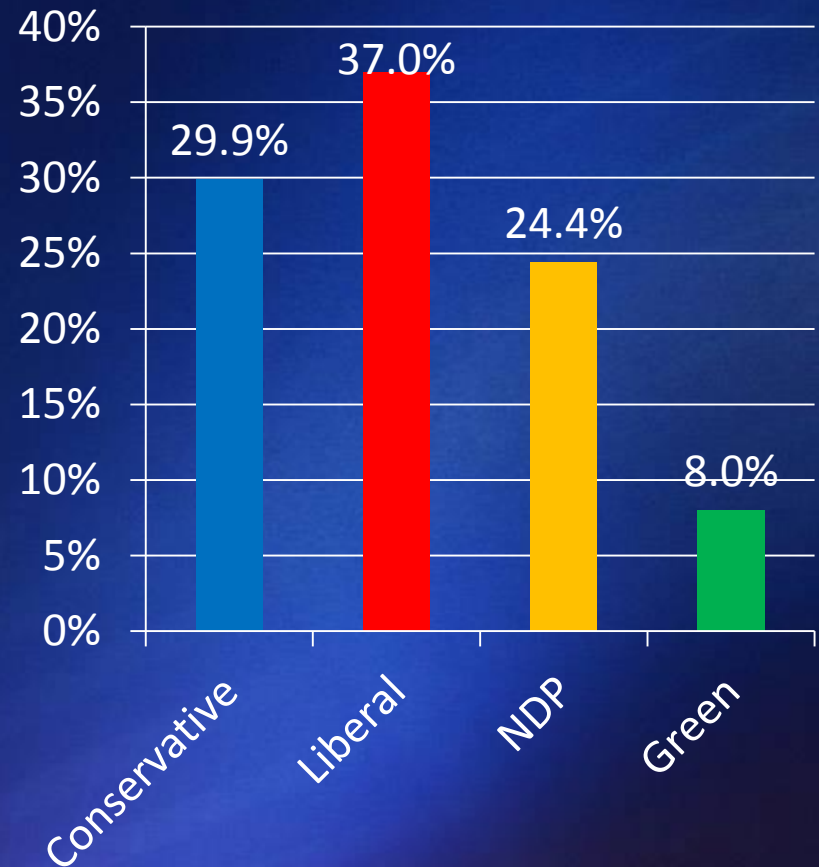


Party support Quebec and ROC

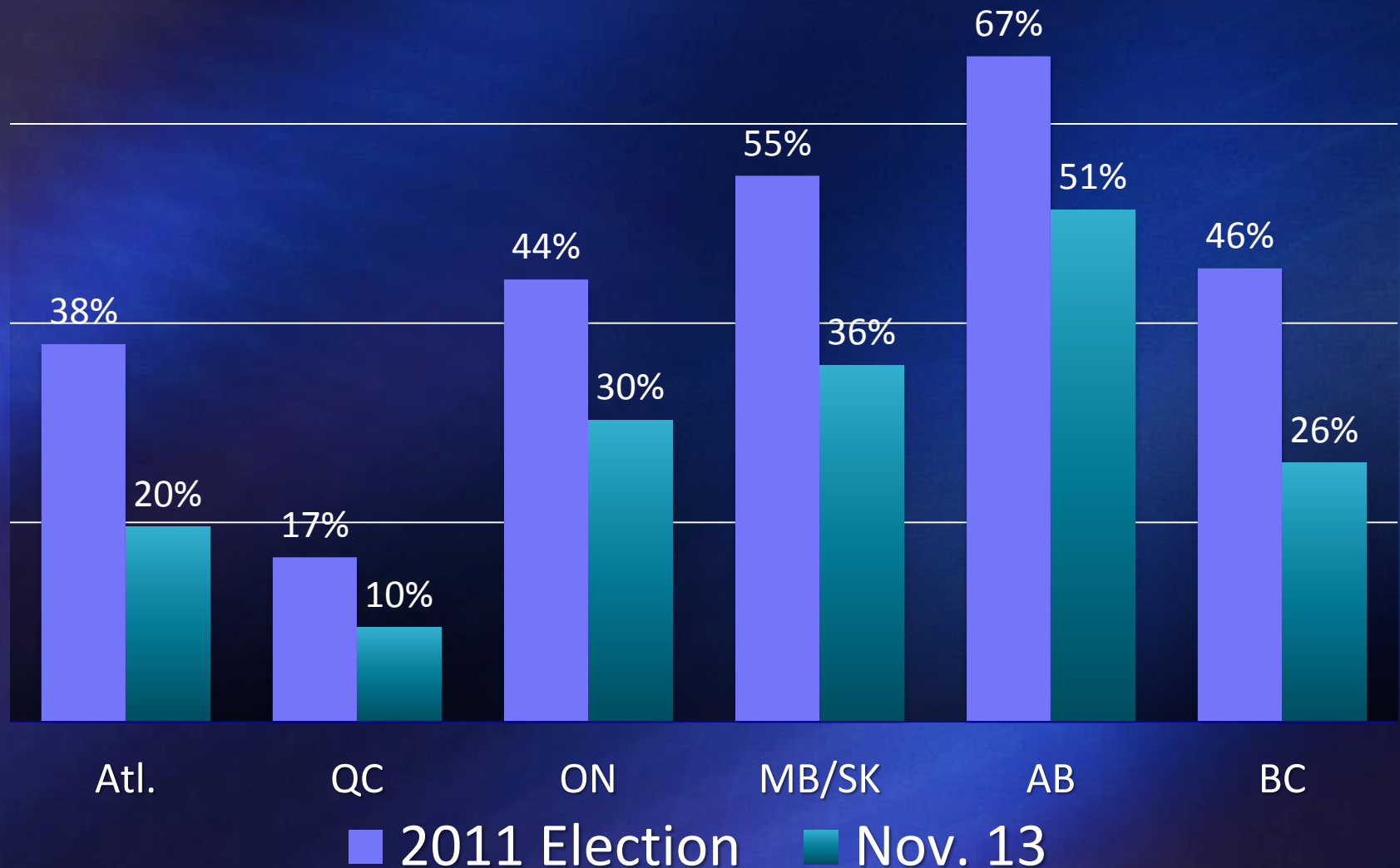
Quebec



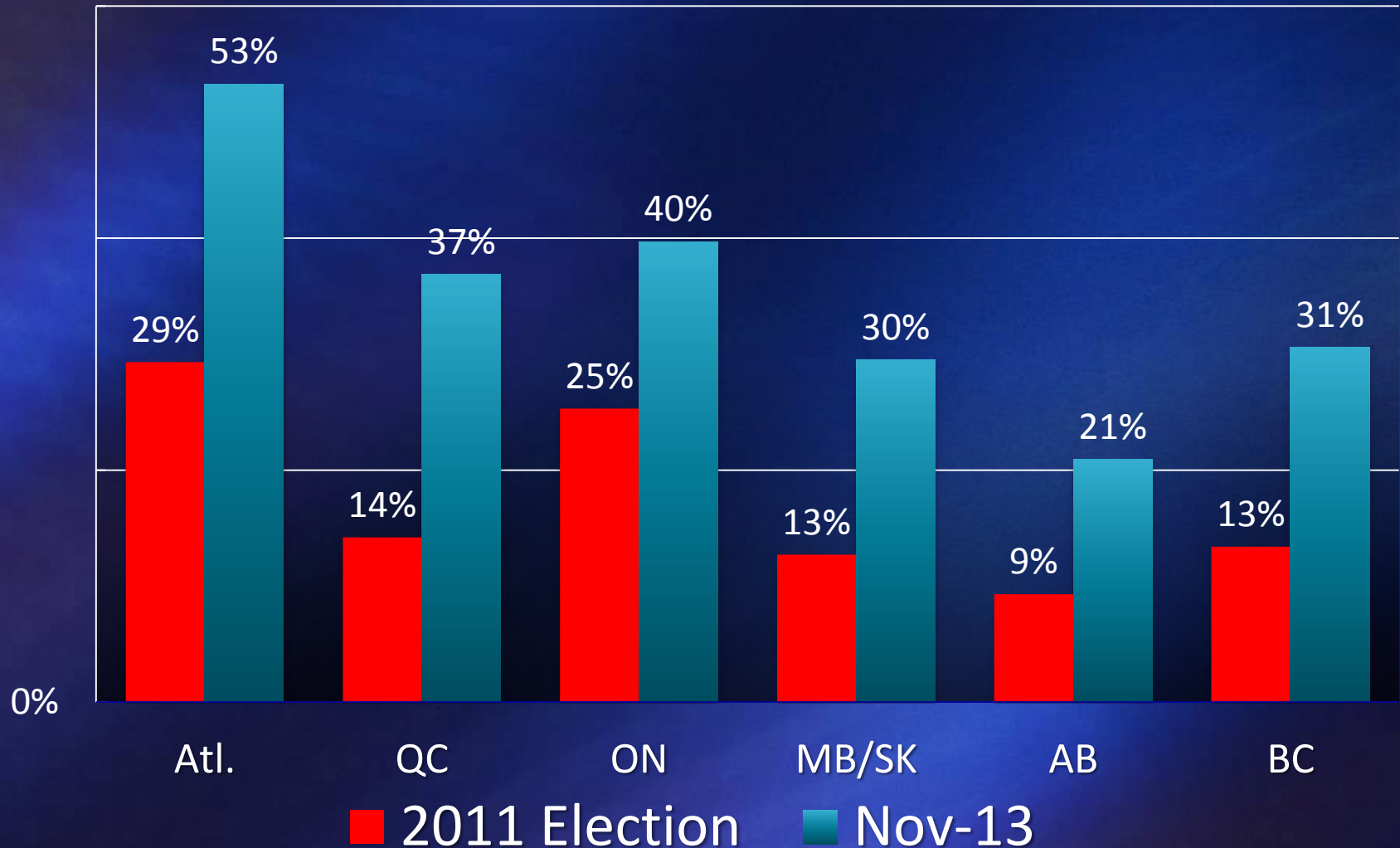
Rest of Canada



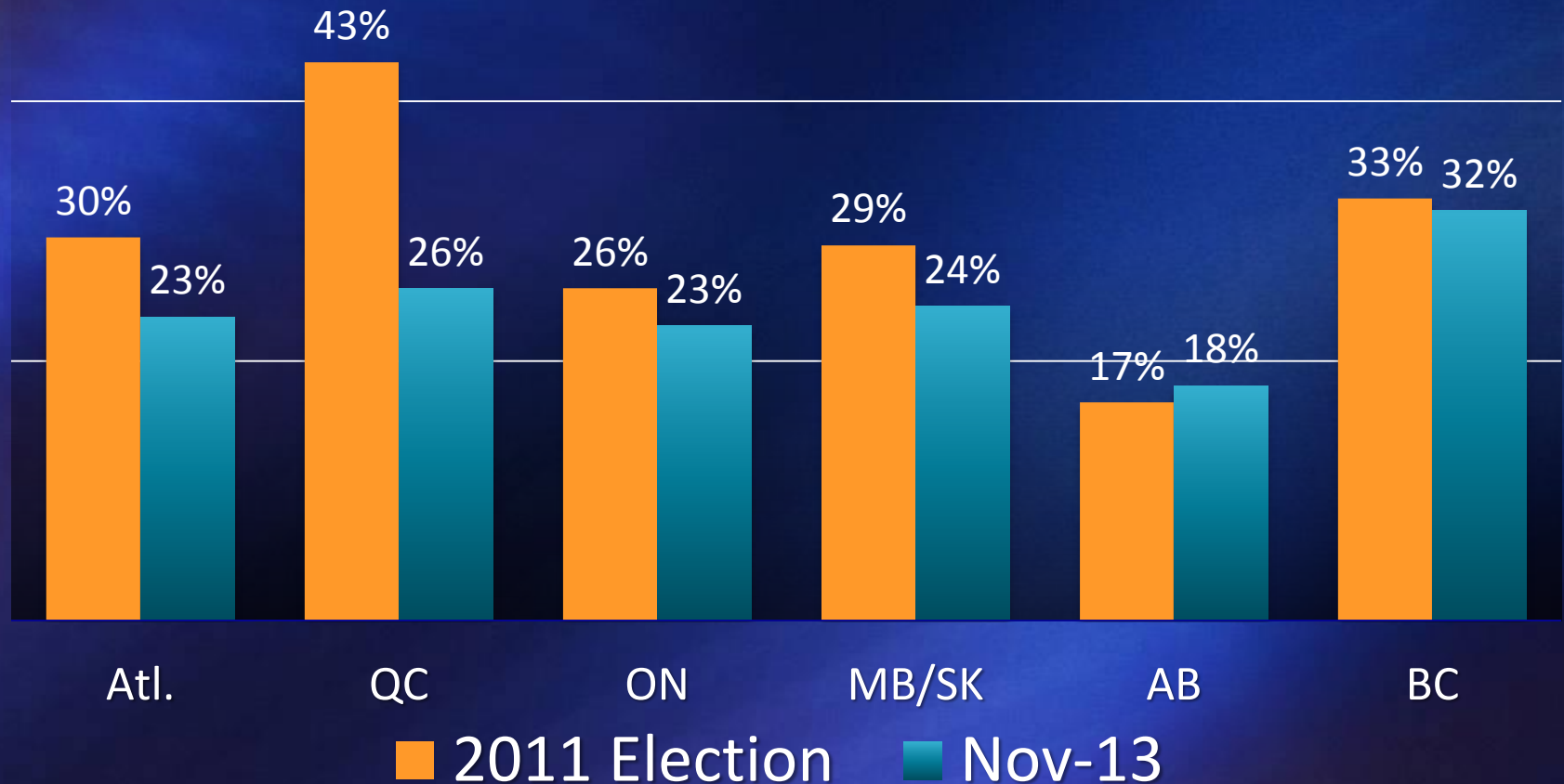
CPC support by region



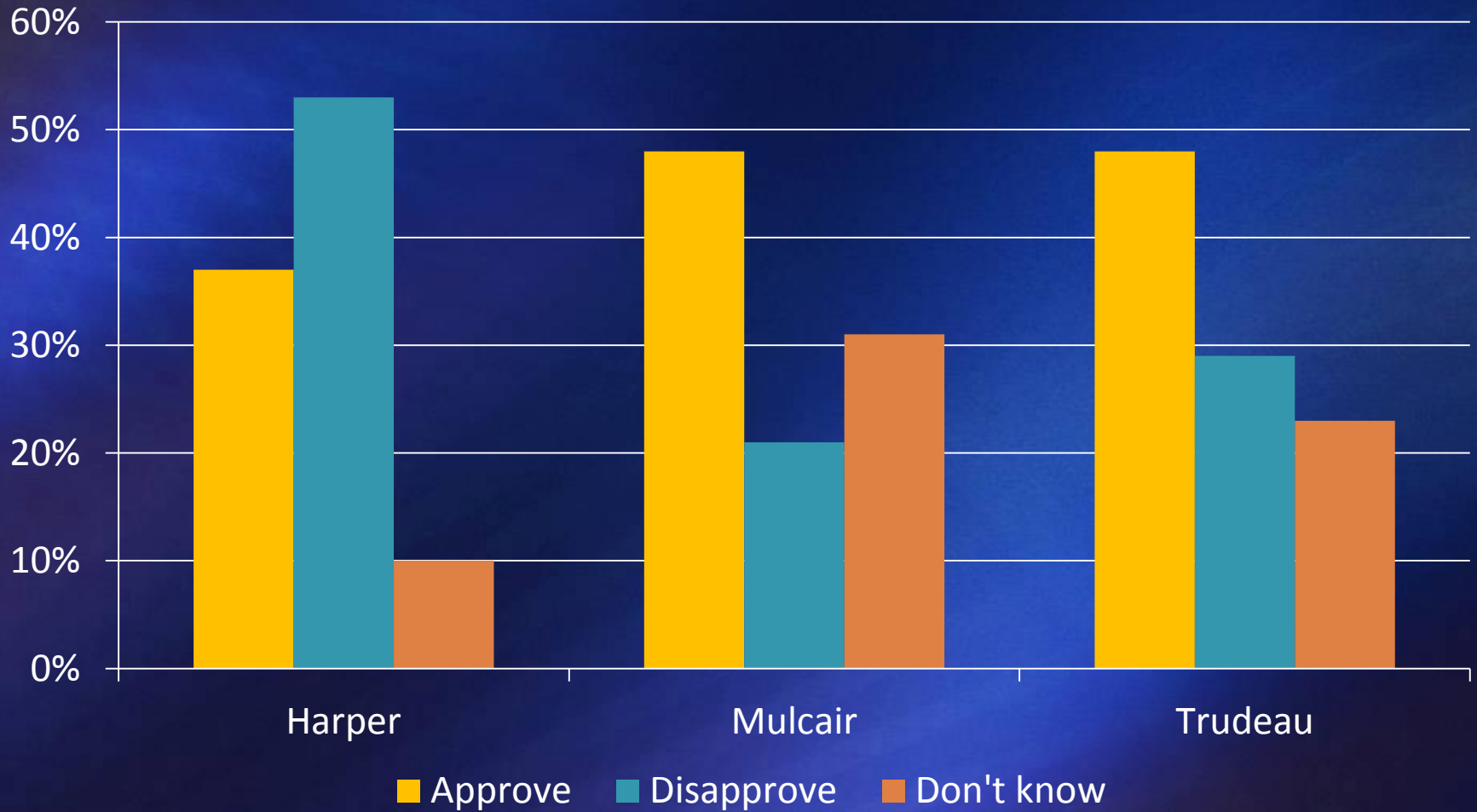
Liberal support by region



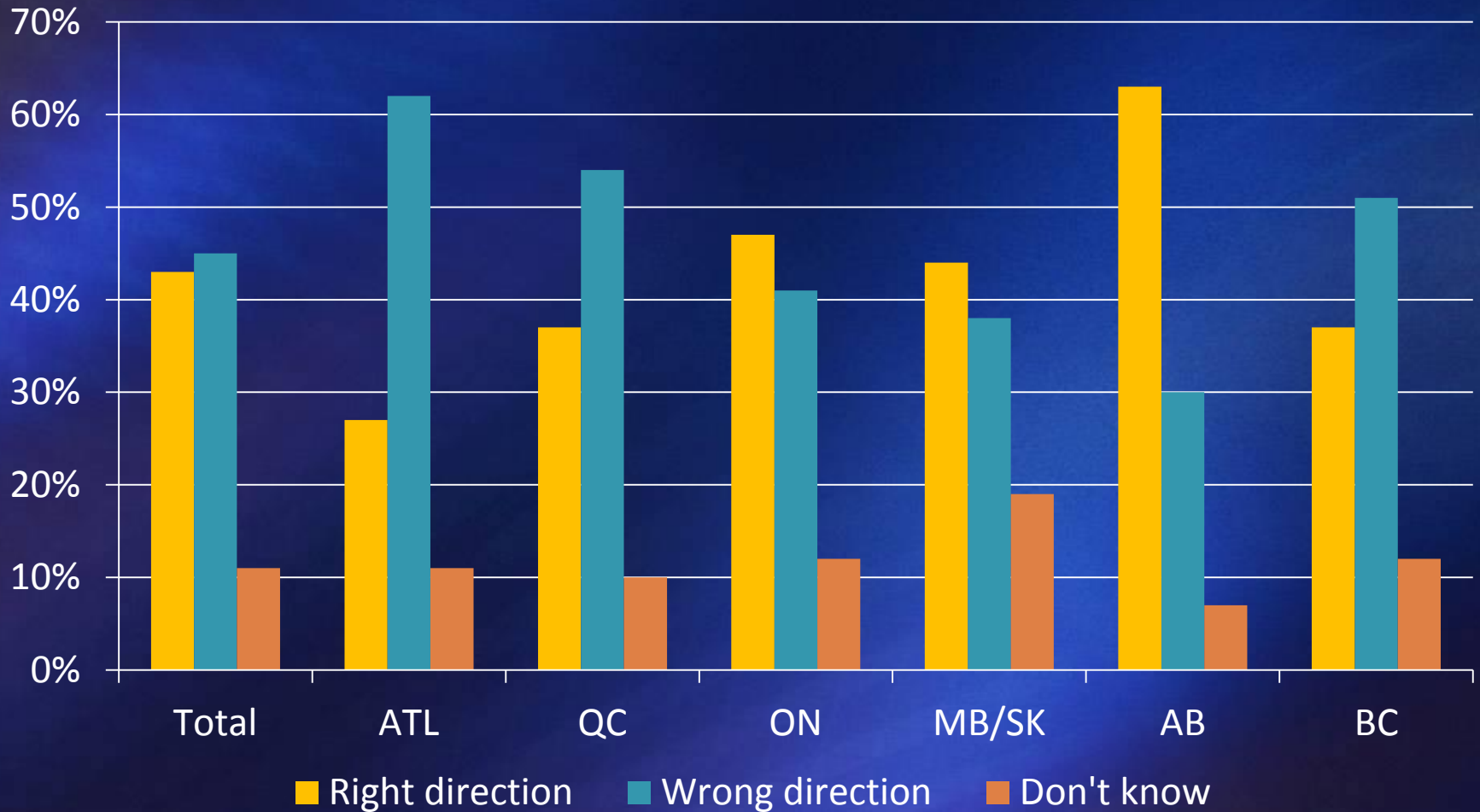
NDP support by region



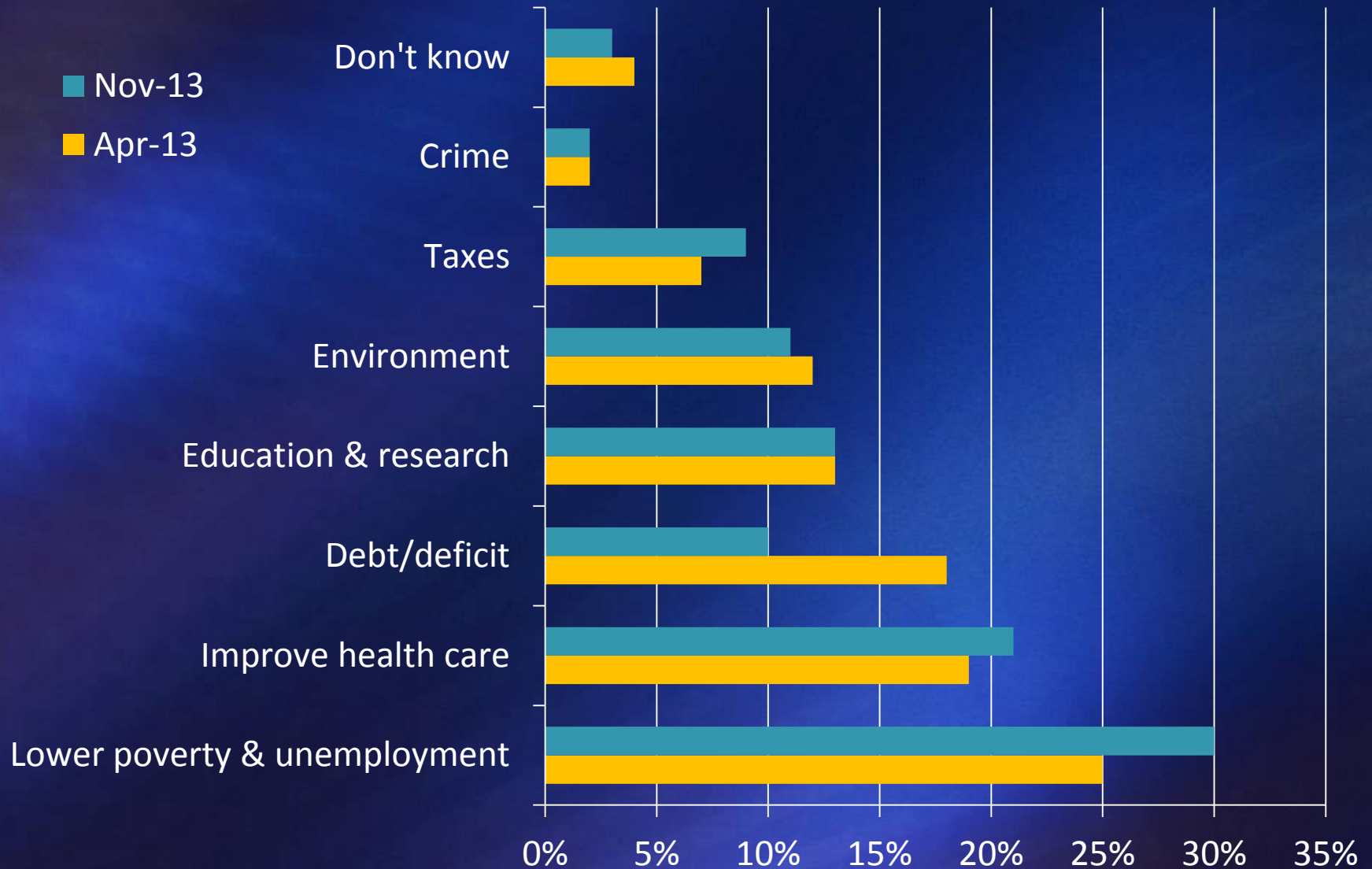
Job approval



Harper gov't: right or wrong direction?



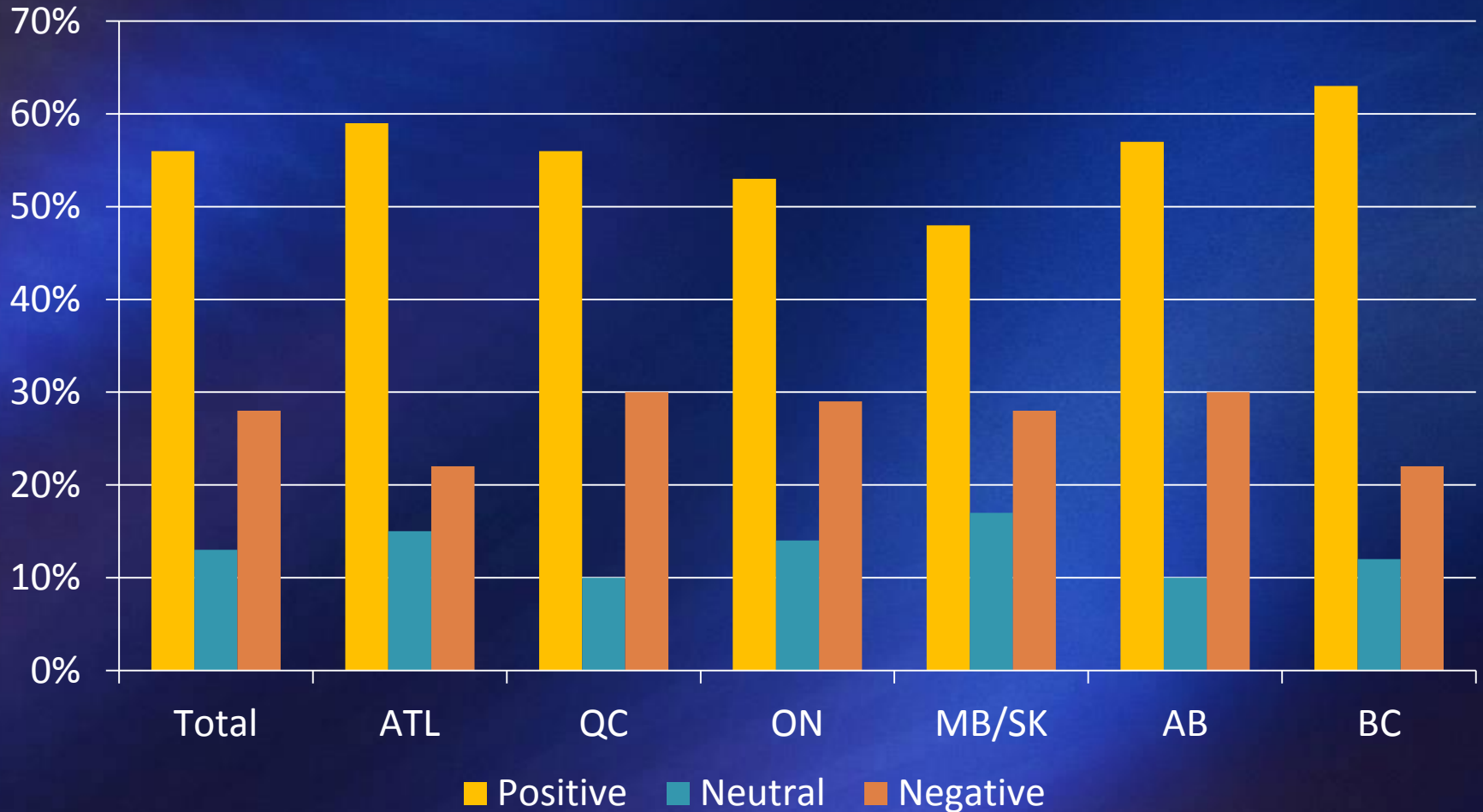
Main priority for Gov't



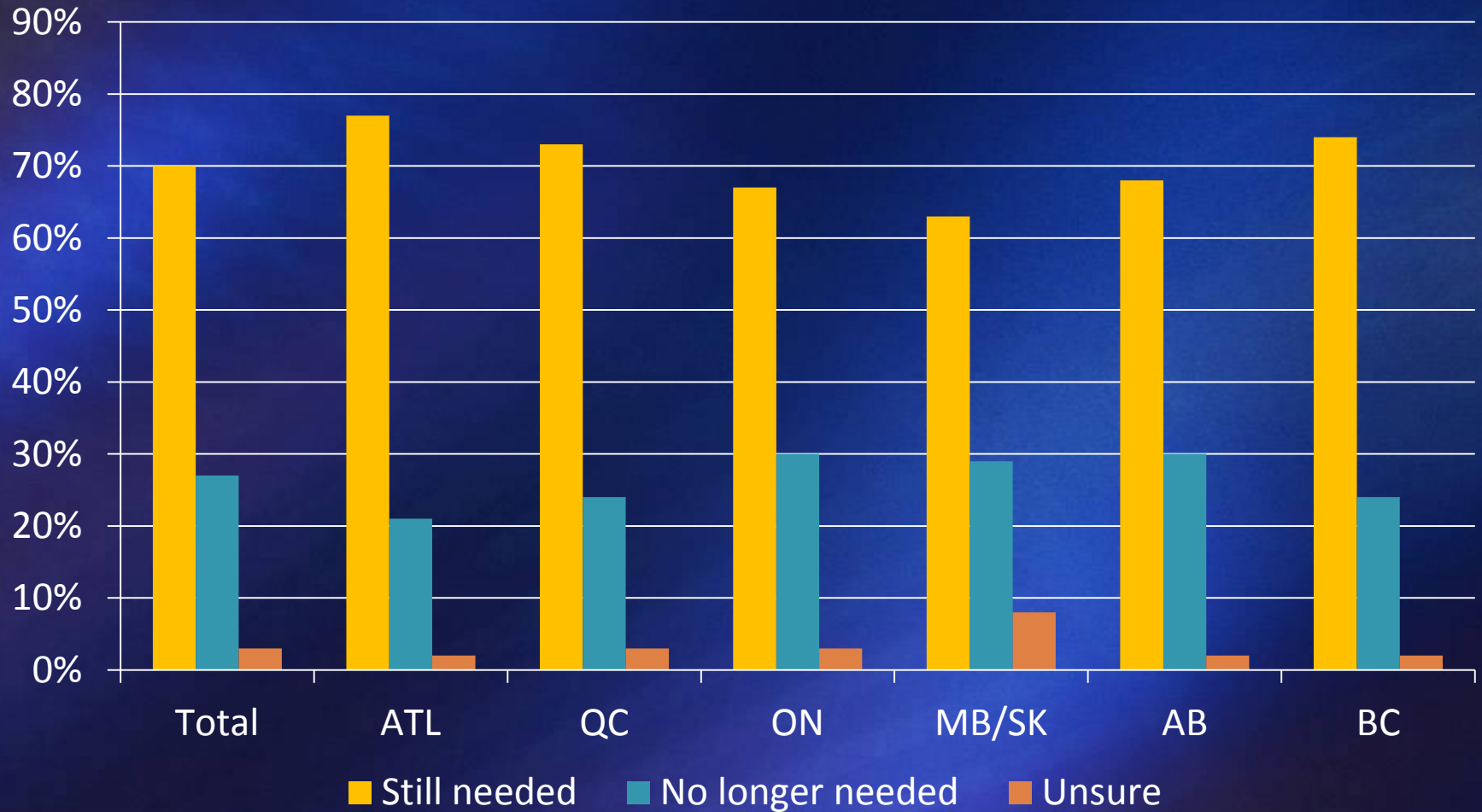
Public opinion on unions & employee associations

- Most Canadians think unions play a positive role in society and are still needed today
- By a margin of 2 to 1, Canadians think everyone should be required to pay union dues if they benefit from what the union does
- Canadians are split on whether unions have too much power and whether public sector unions should be stripped of rights
- But there is also strong suspicion of politicians who want to limit the power of unions

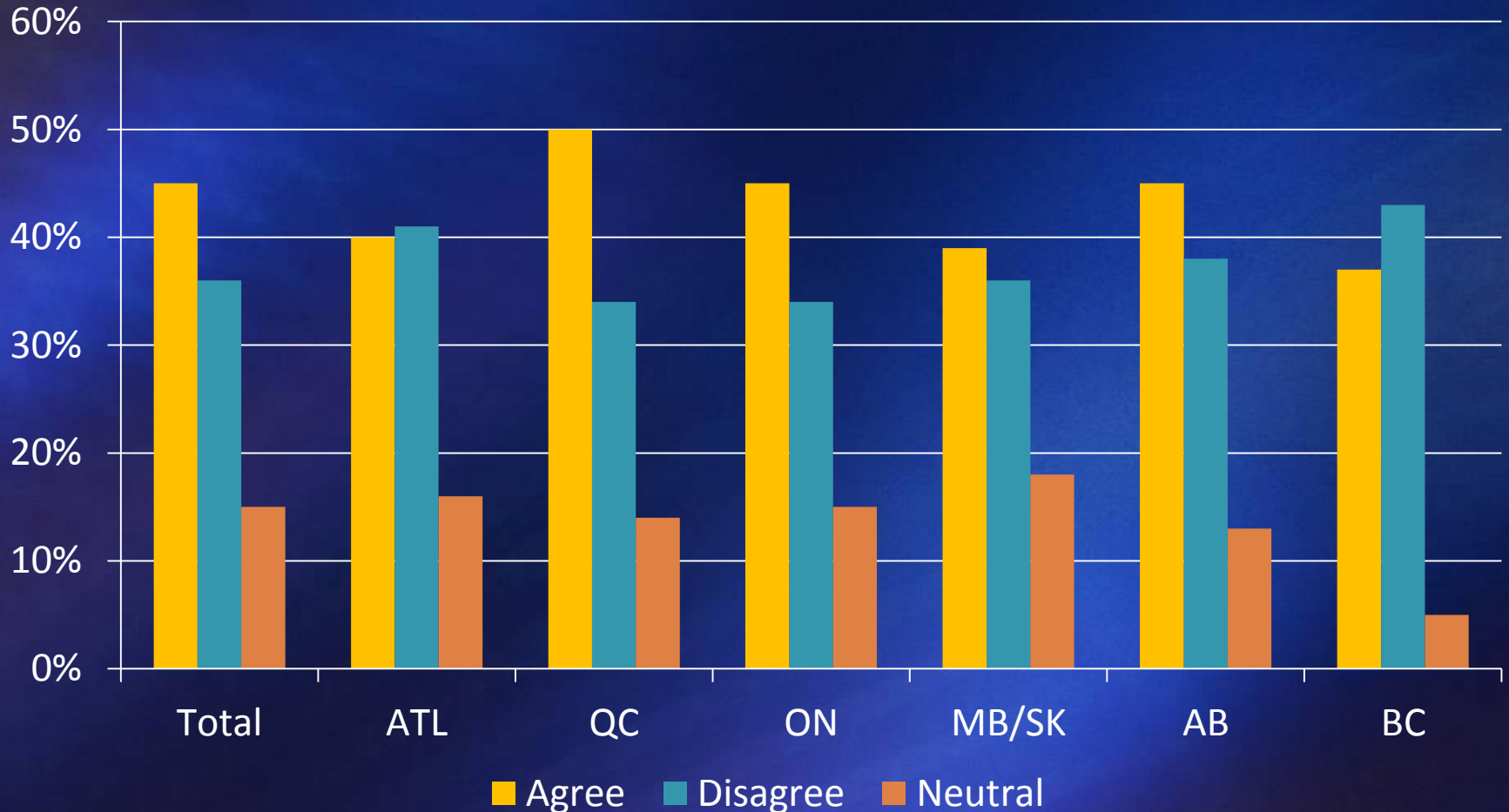
Unions: positive or negative?



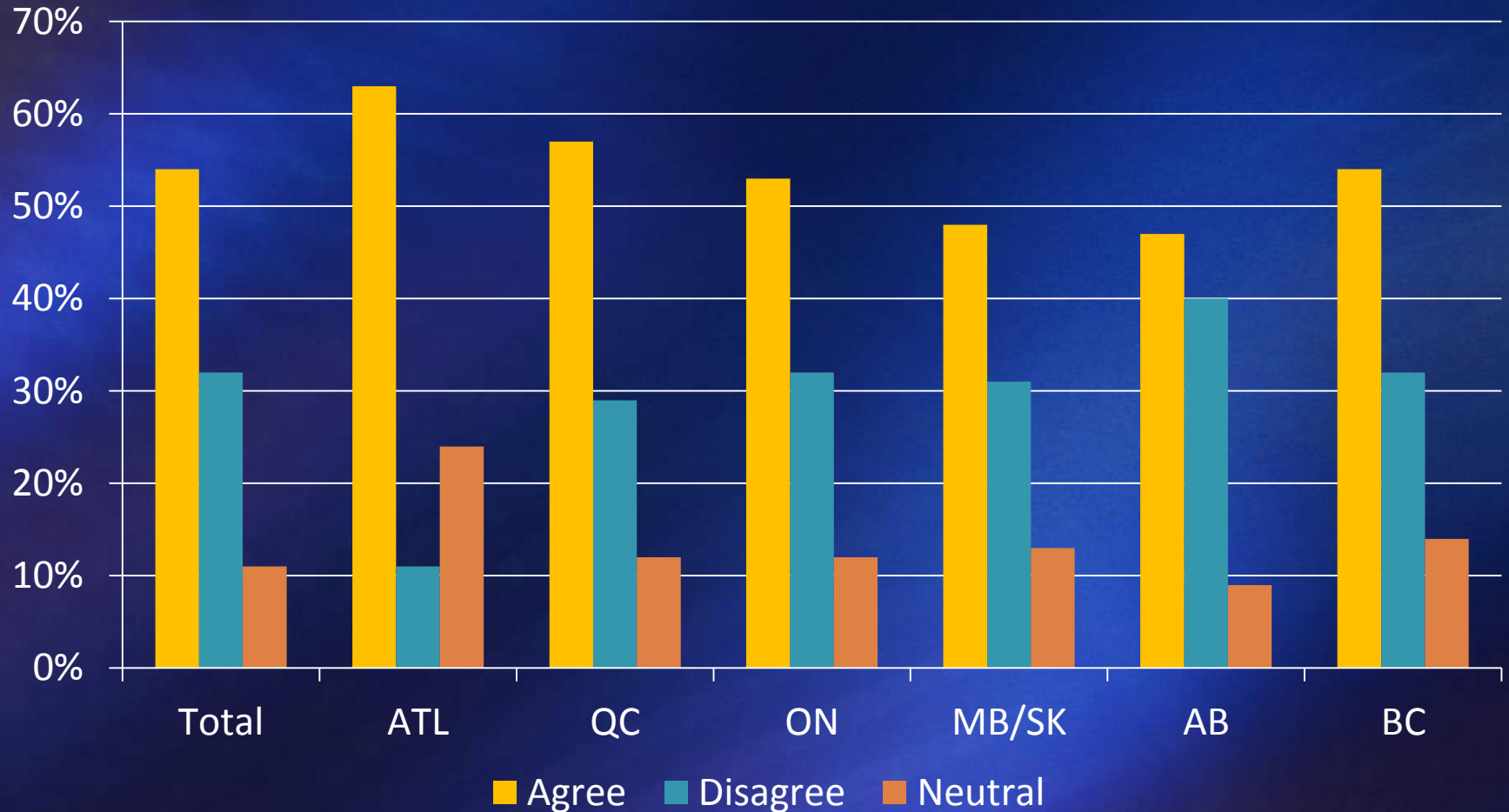
Are unions still needed ?



Unions have too much power over governments and businesses



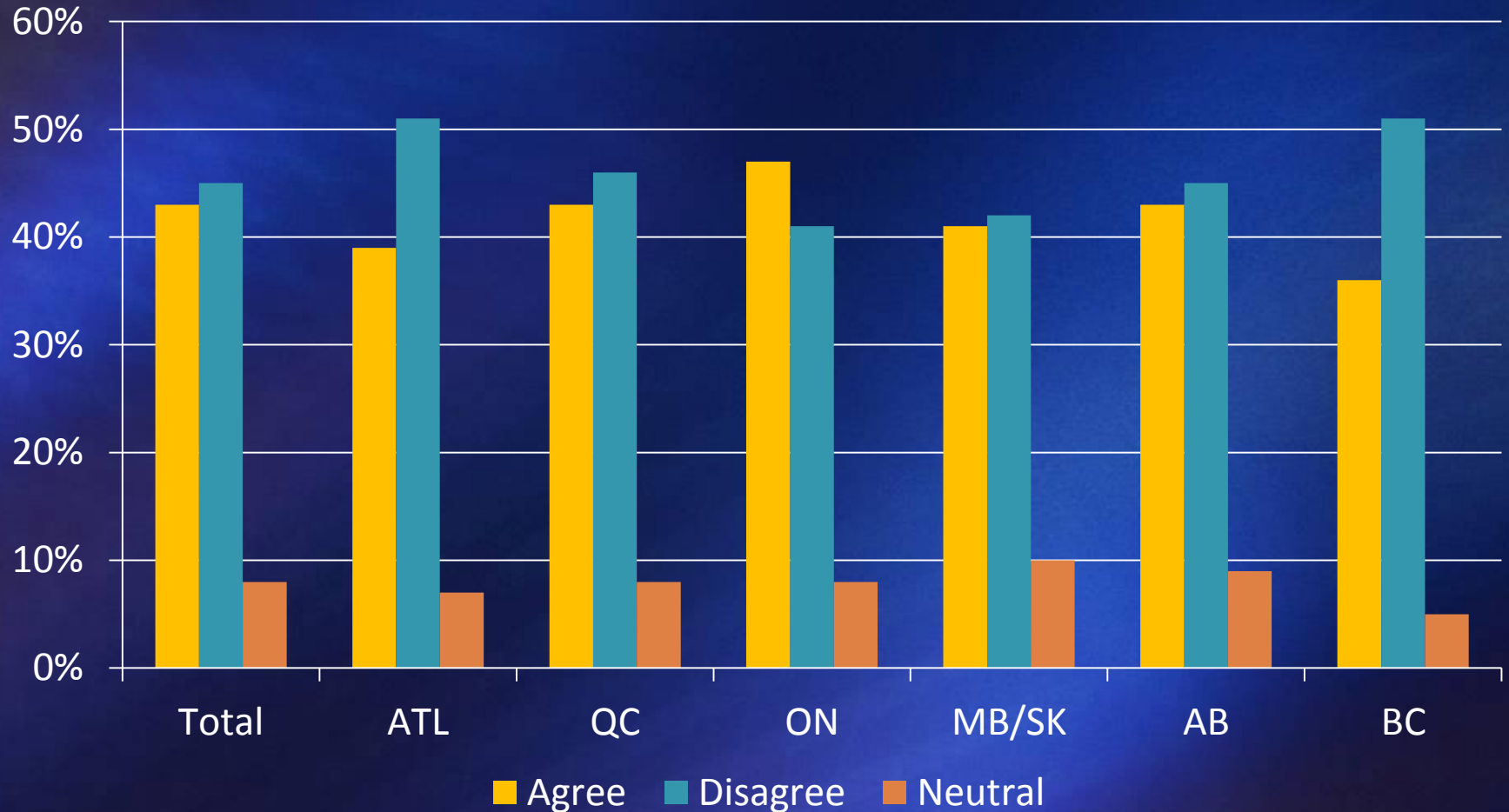
Our society would be less fair without unions



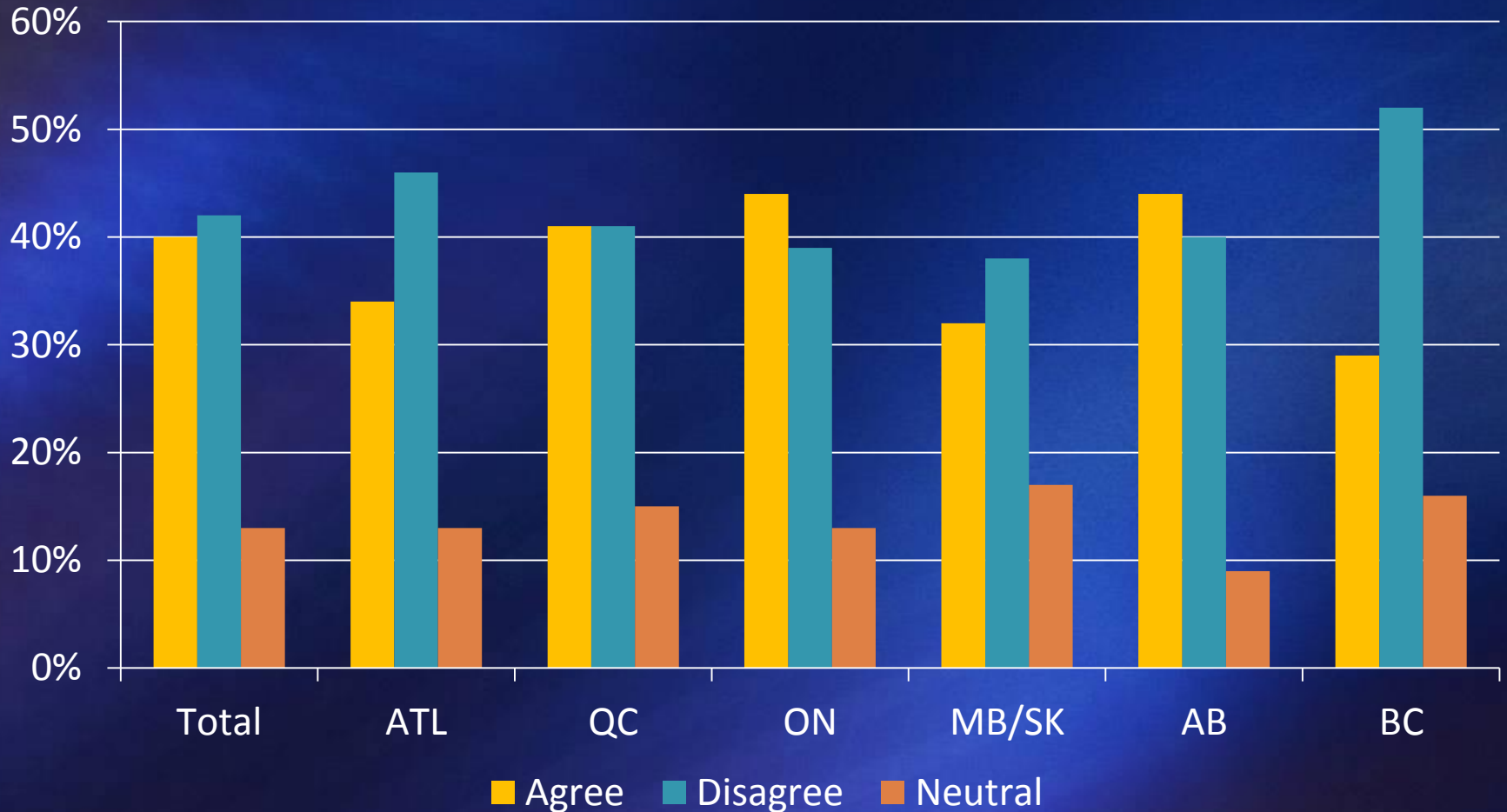
Opting out of paying dues



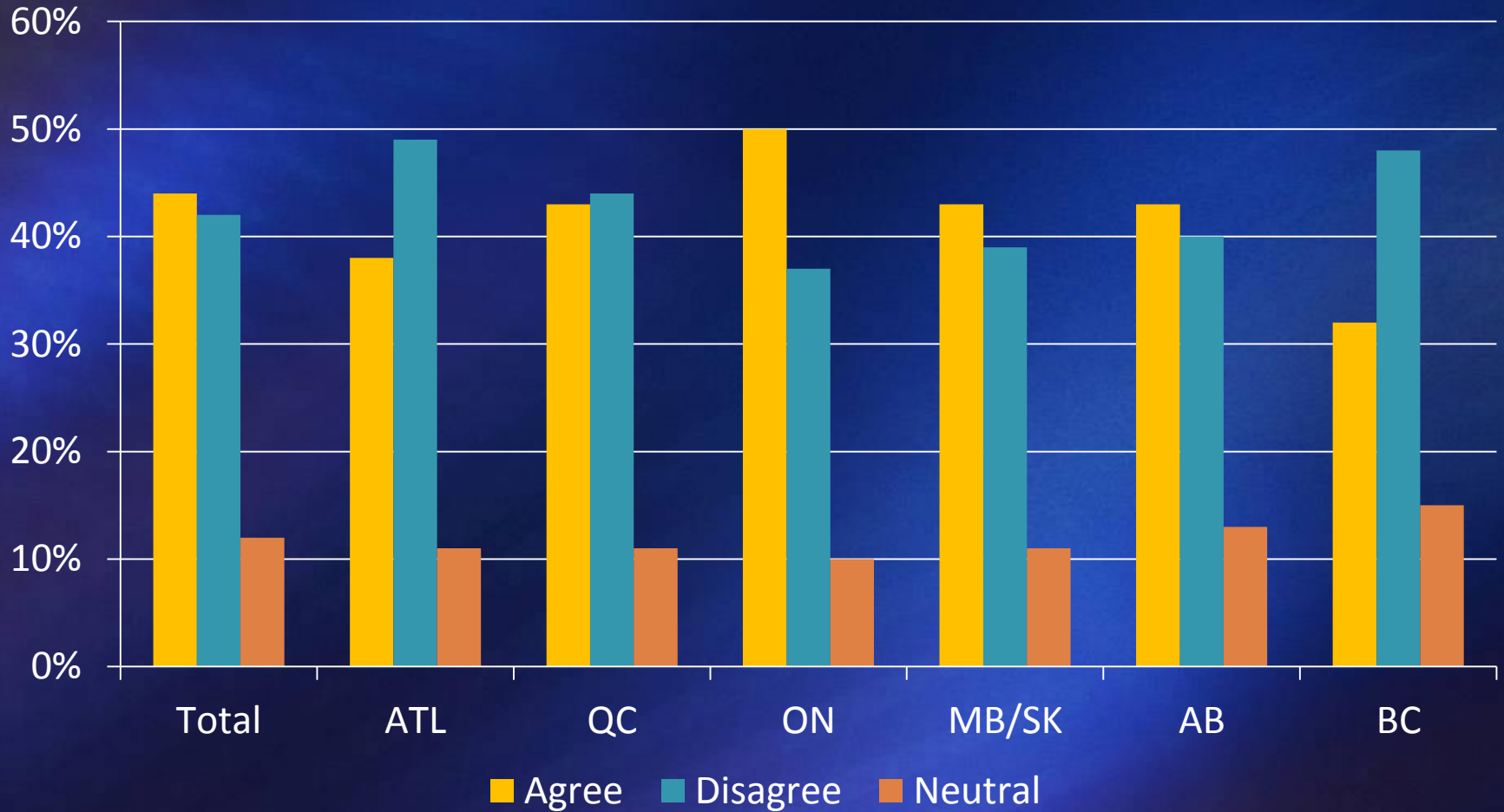
If I had a choice, I'd never join a union



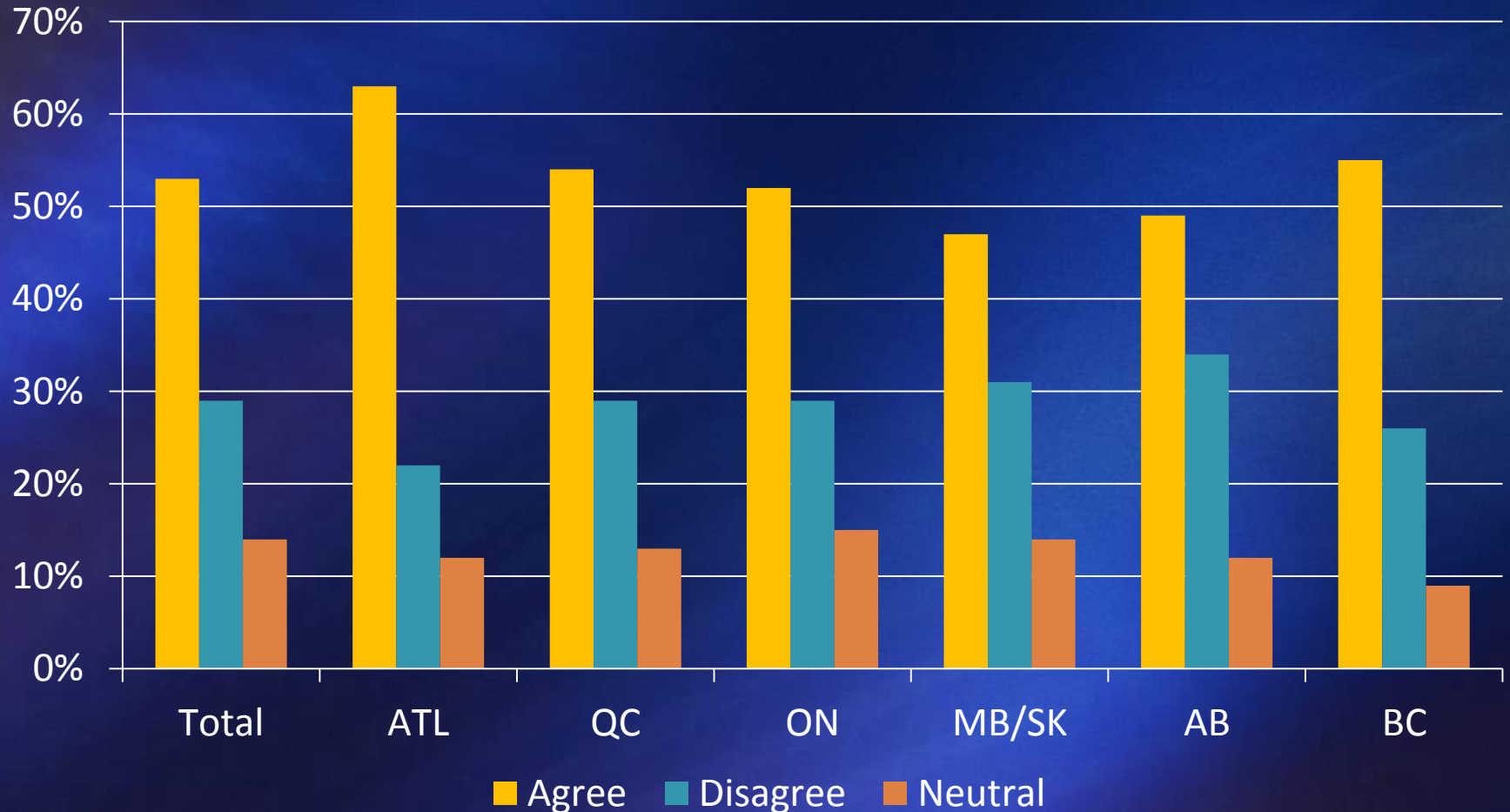
Governments should have the right to impose contracts on PS unions



Public sector unions should not have the right to strike



I am suspicious of politicians who want to limit the power of unions



Conclusions

- The Justin factor – more than a political “blip”?
- The Duffy factor – Harper’s headache to get worse?
- Ambiguous and often contradictory views of unions and employee associations presents both a challenge and opportunity