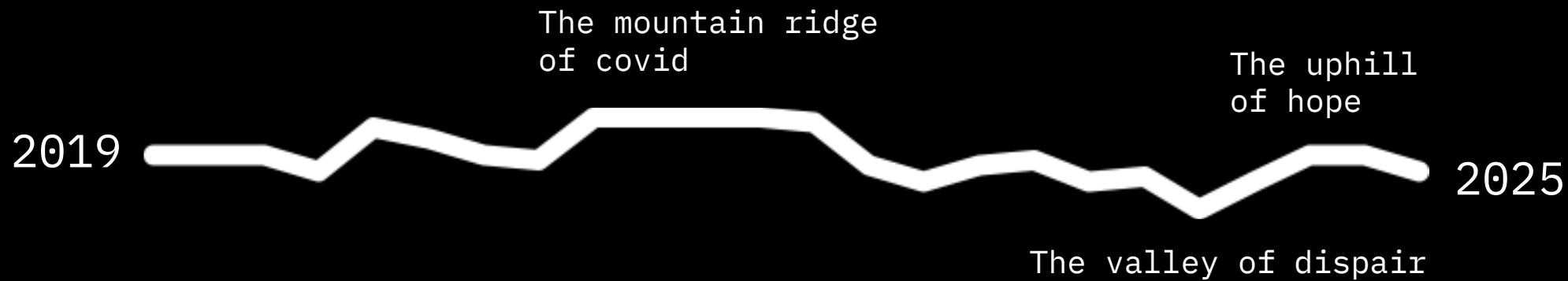


The fragile bond?



Th. Kittling



Trust in science and scientists

Mapping attitudes towards science and knowledge in Norway

On-line surveys on a four-month basis
since 2019



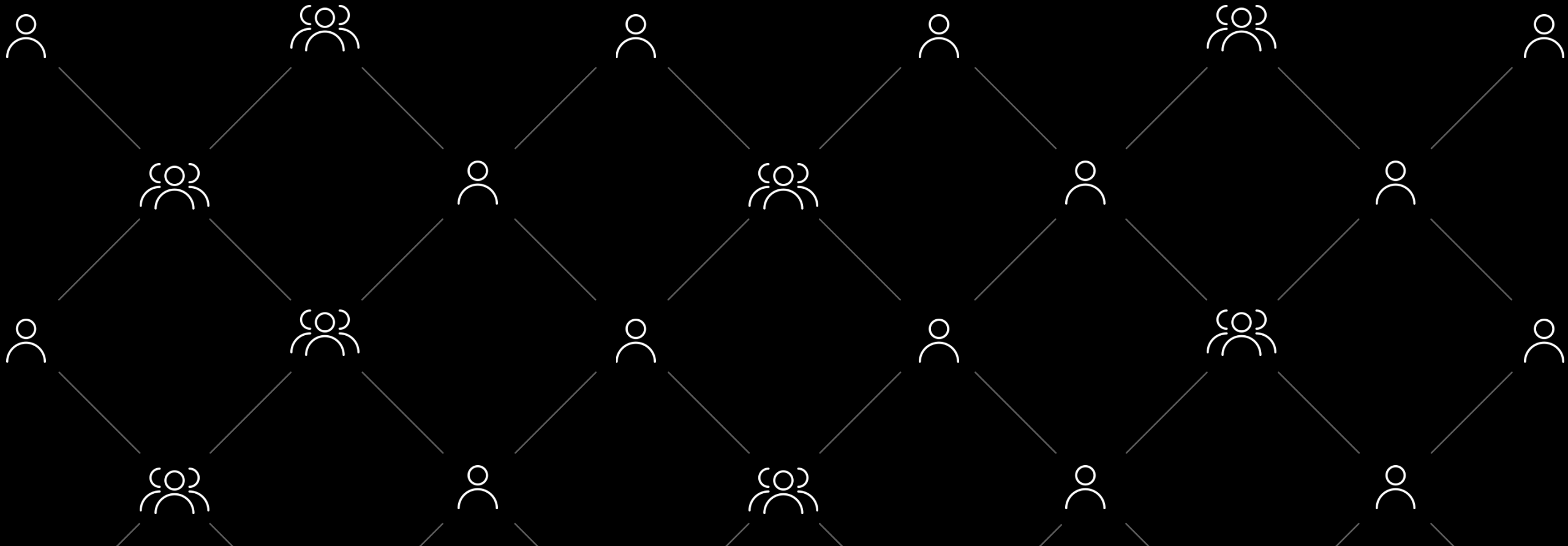
$N=28\ 000$

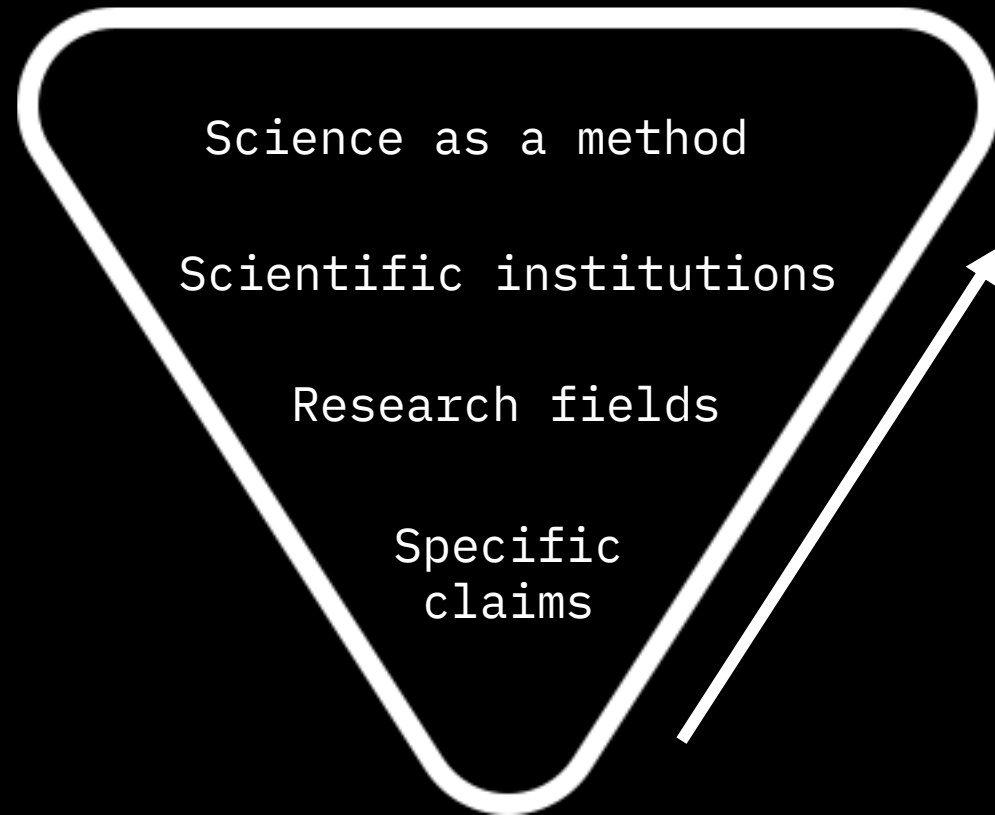
Is was time for some help

- Increasing uncertainty, complexity, and risk
- Growing integration with politics = research carries more of the “burden of trust” in society (“evidence-based policy”)
- Science-related populism, linked to a broader anti-elite narrative



A new international public sphere







Overall findings

Trust in science and
scientist remain high
throughout the period

More uncertainty

High degree of trust
in public funded
research





THE POLITICAL OUTSIDER

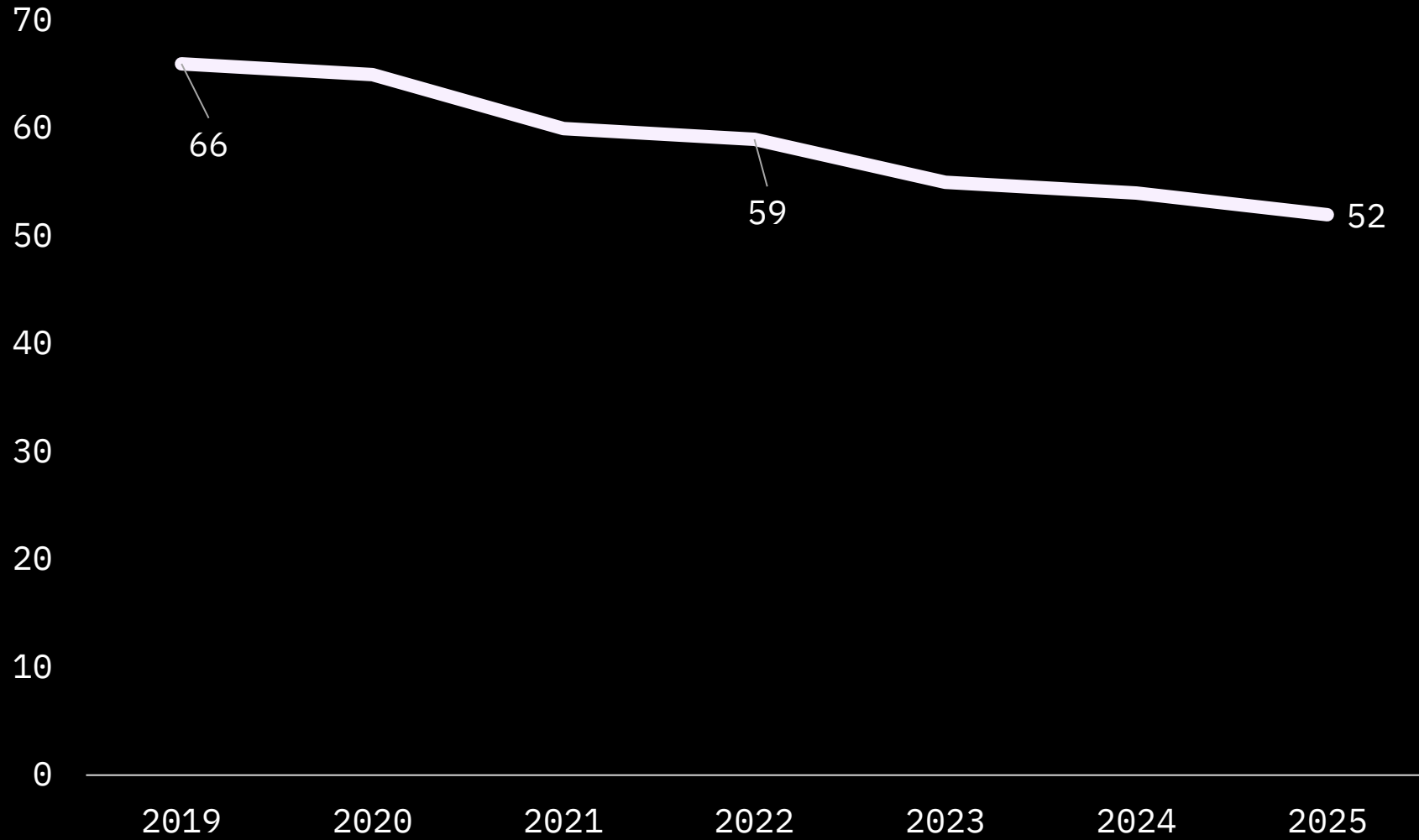
THE IDEOLOGIST

THE ANTI-ELITIST

YOUNG MEN



The effect of rethoric?

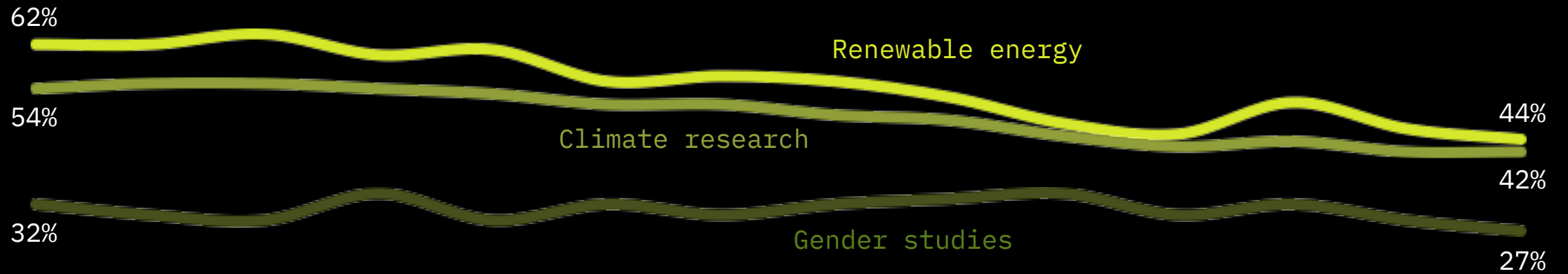




The cost of science-based policy advice?

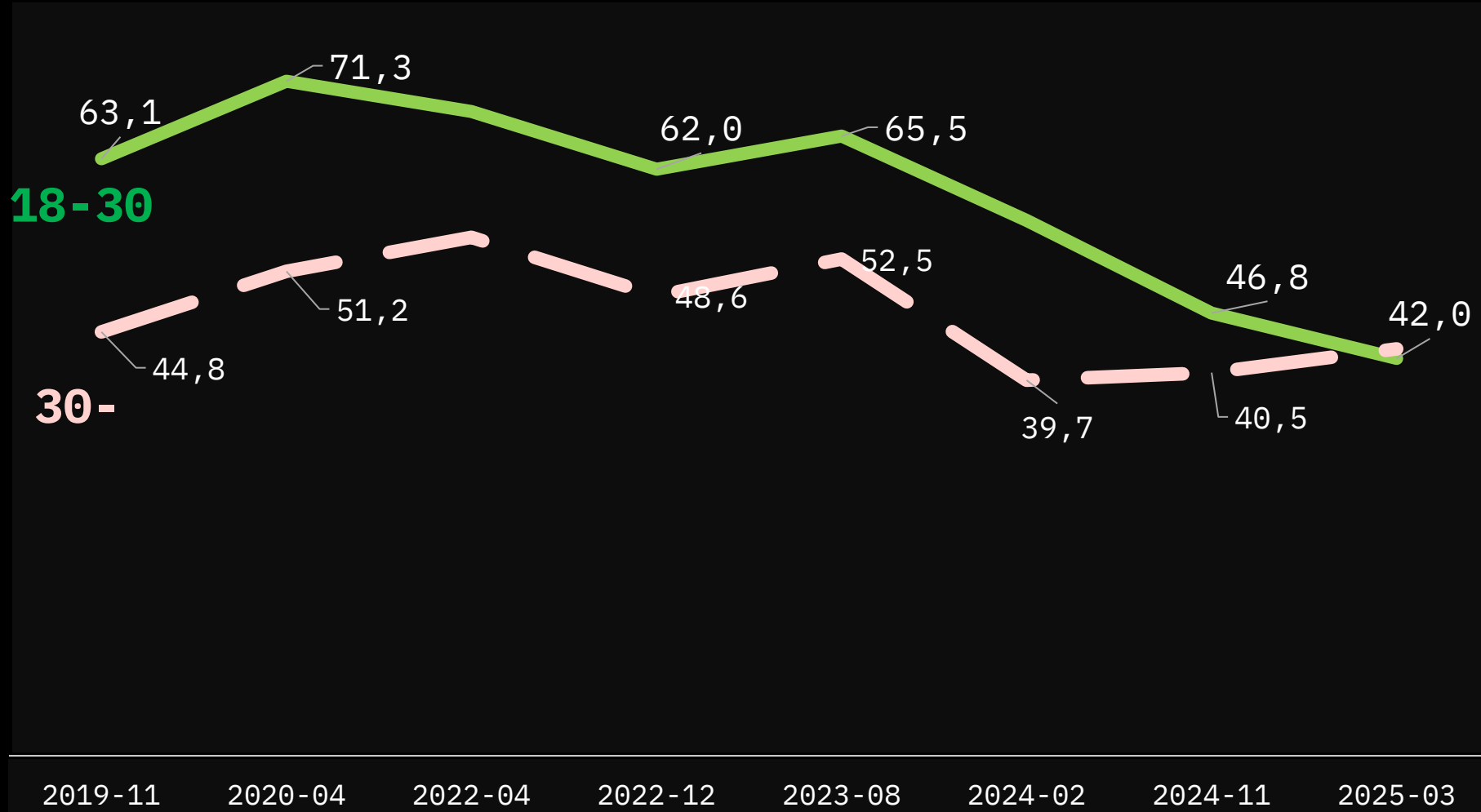


Decline in trust in research fields



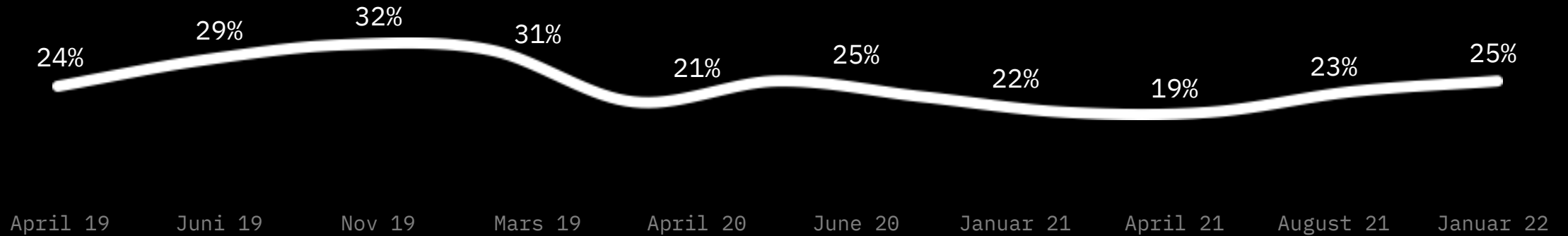


Trust in climate research – by age





“Research results are largely influenced by the researchers’ own political views and perceptions” (agree)





Integration with politics and "burden of trust"

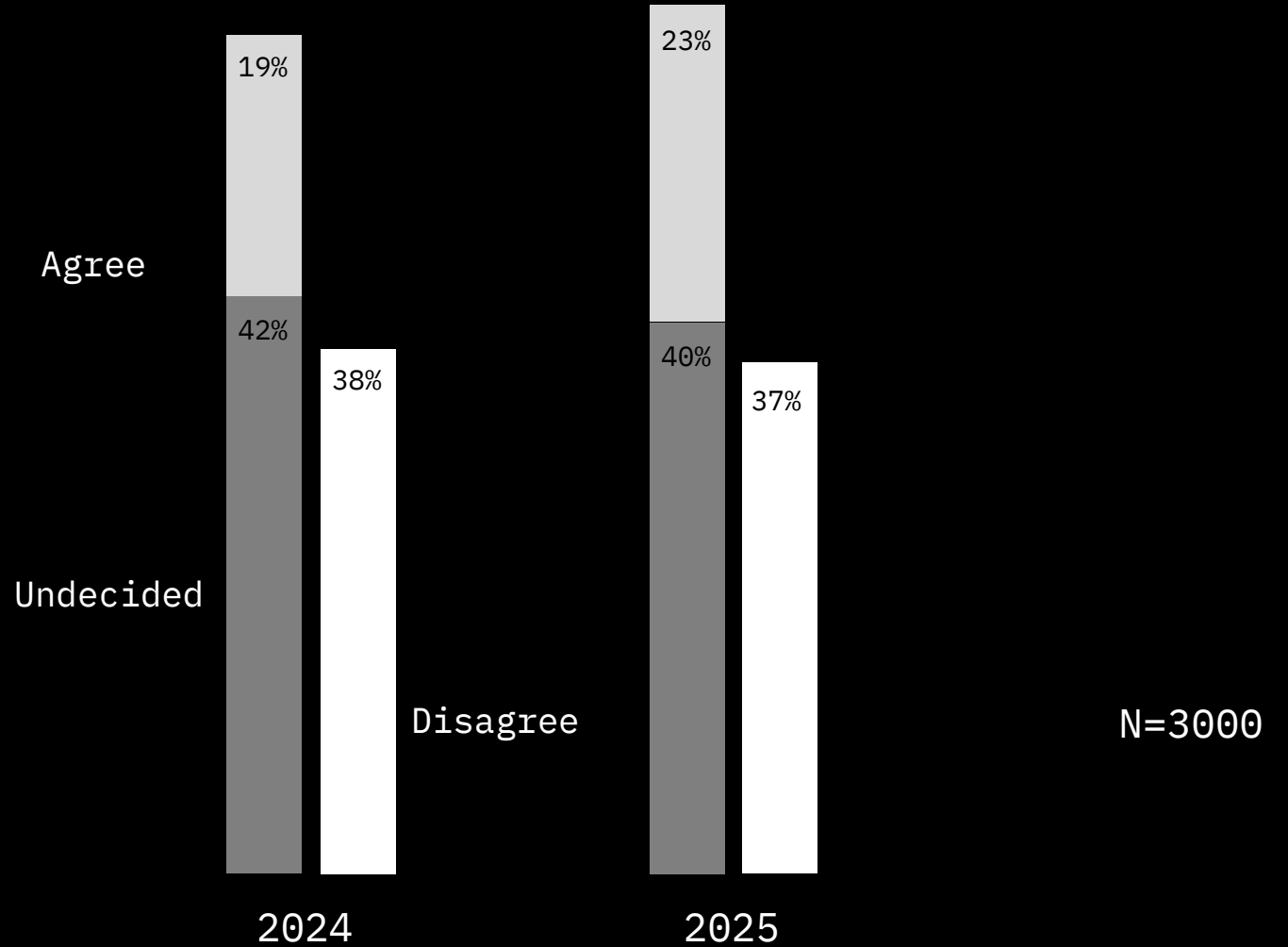
DISTRUST

Populism

Uncertainty, complexity, and risk

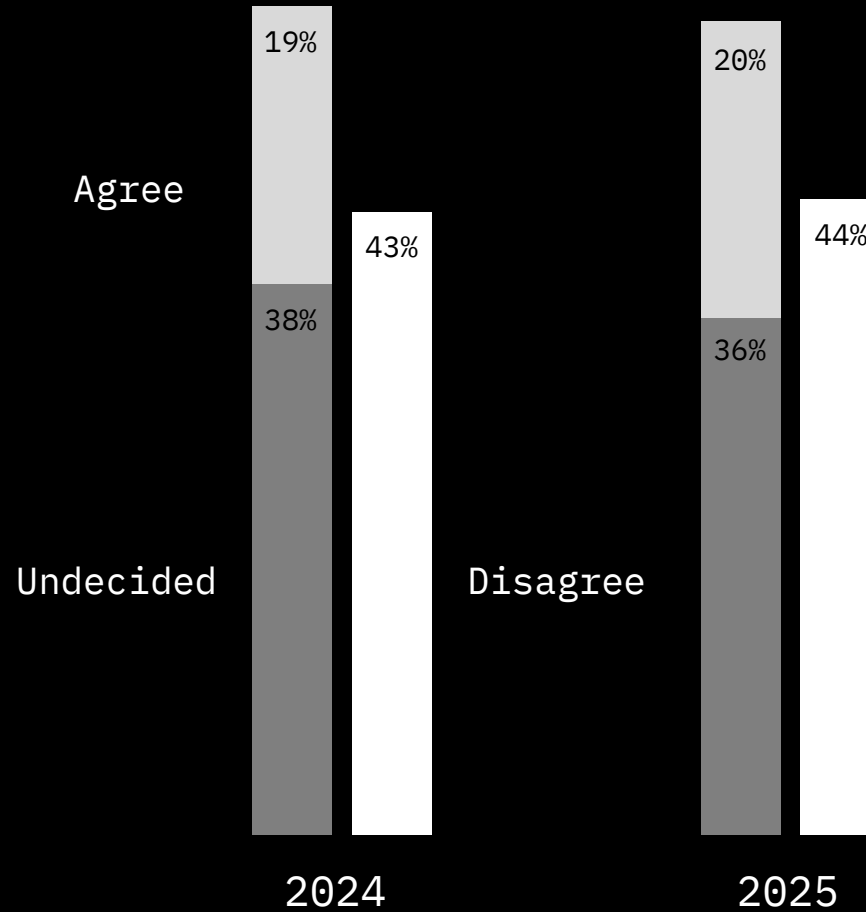


“Scientists collaborate secretly with politicians and the business sector”



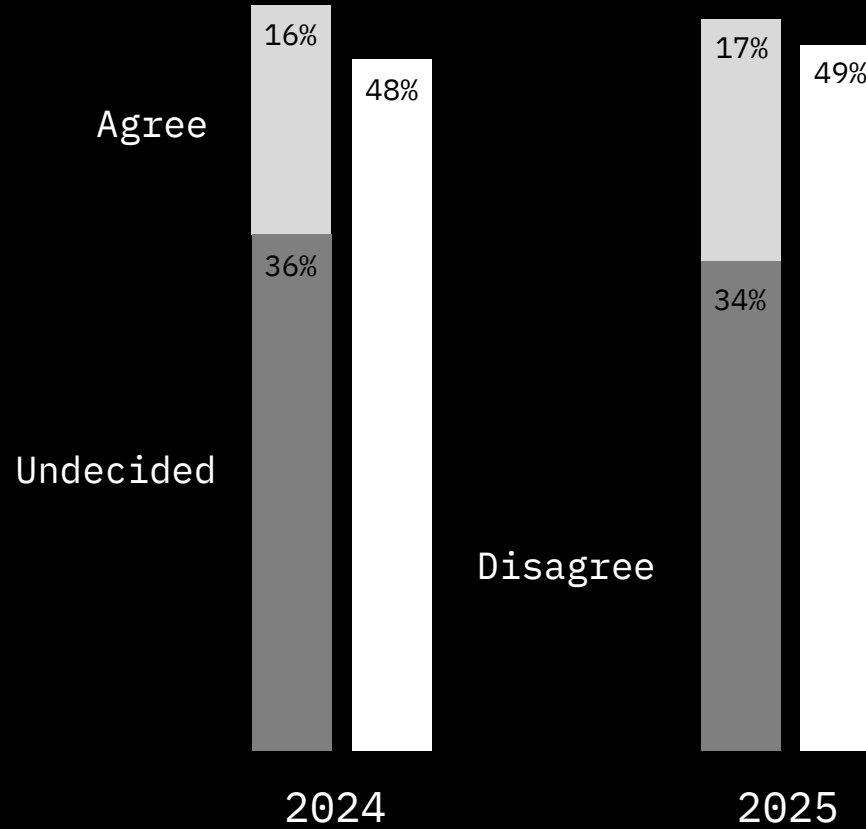


“Ordinary people should trust their own life experience more than the recommendations of scientists”



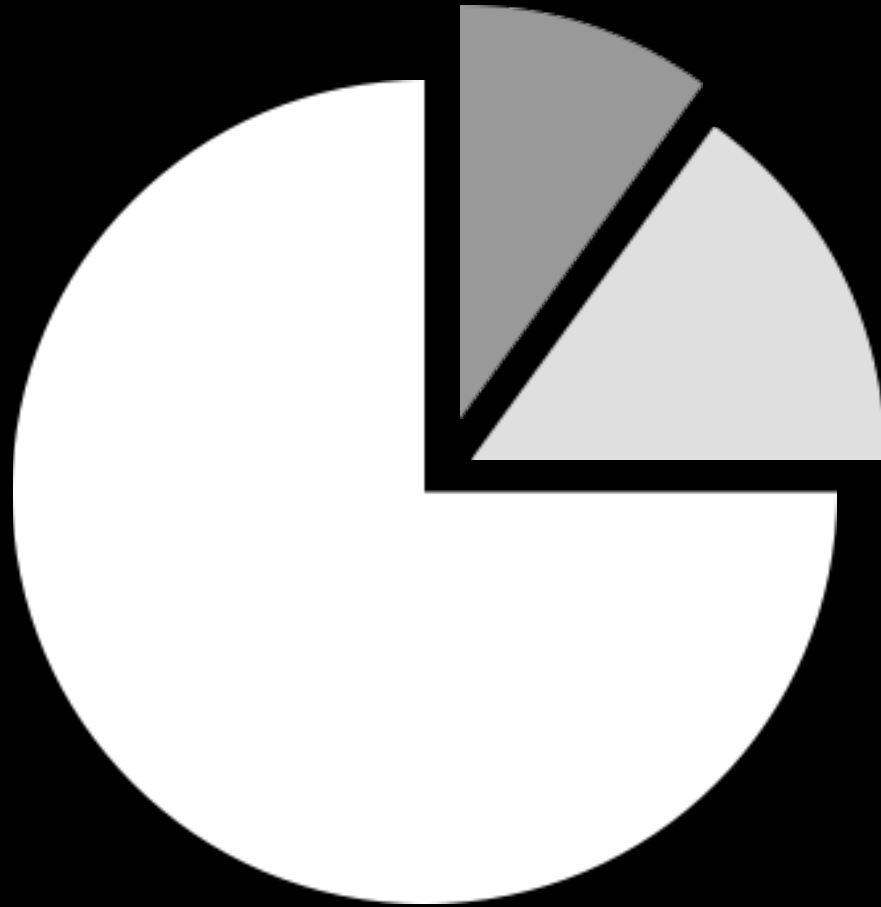


“Scientists are only interested in what benefits themselves”



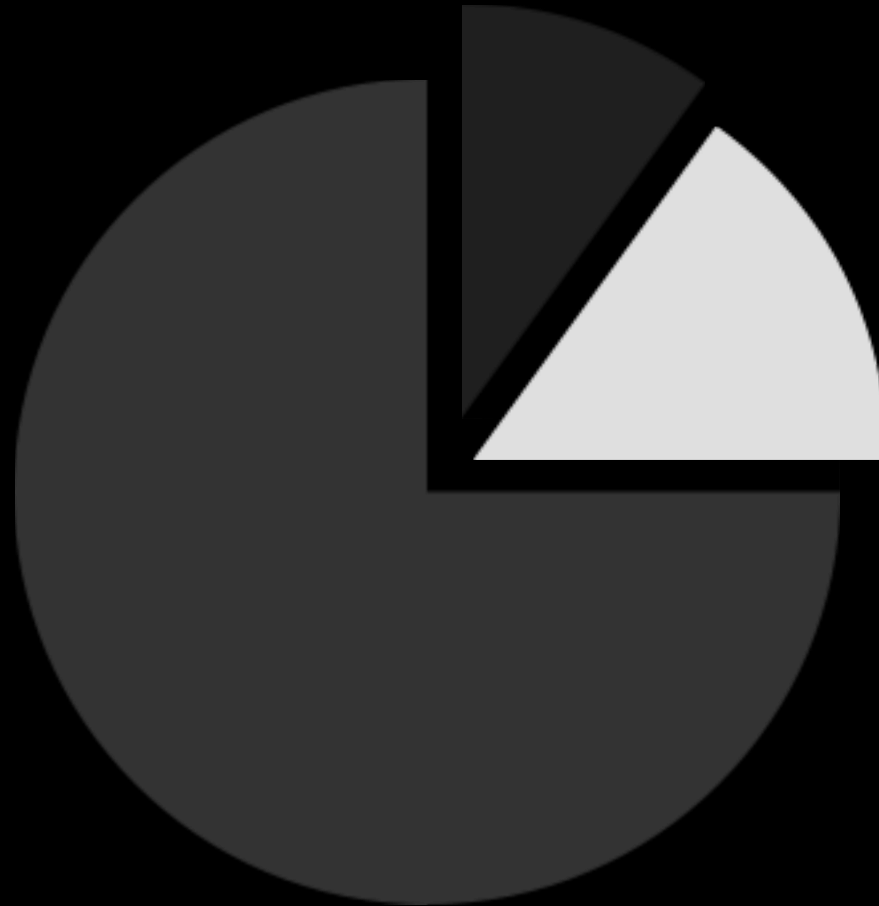


OVERALL PICTURE – trust and polarization



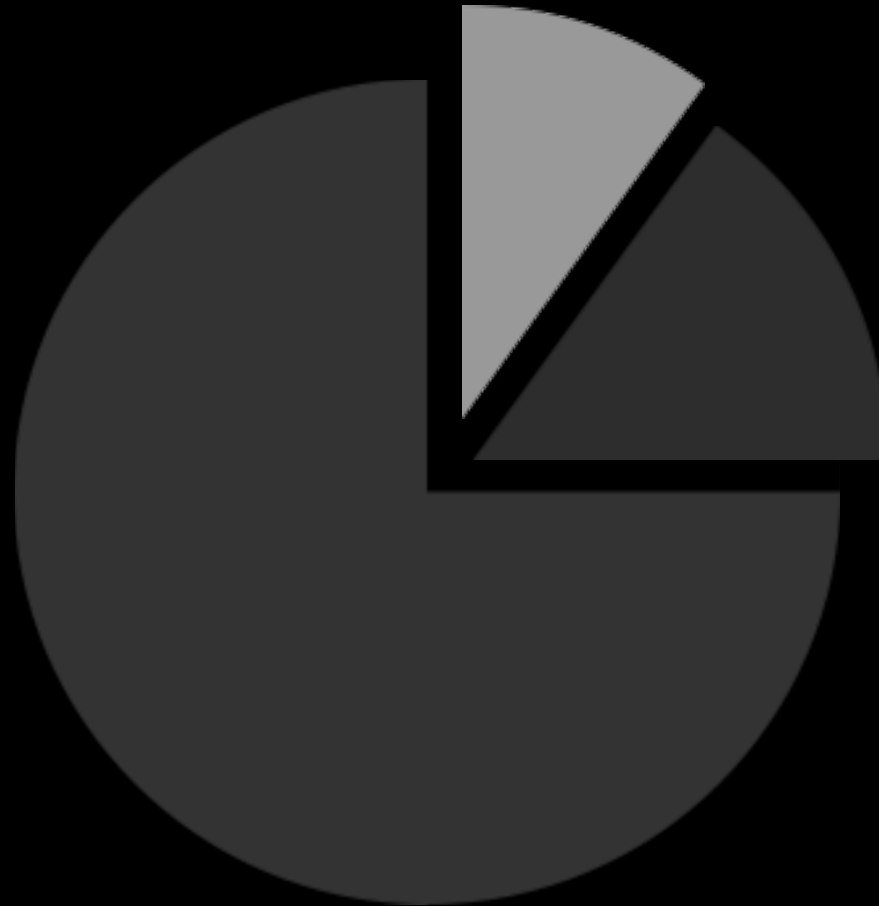


Uncertainty – appx. 15%





Distrust – appx.10%





Transparency about uncertainty
strengthens trust





Academic freedom & independence
is a vehicle for trust





Not more, but smarter science communication





Evidence-based critical thinking





Key challenges for Sci Com?

- Budgets cuts – science communication becomes a balancing item
- Science communication is not taken seriously enough at leadership level within institutions
- Knowledge – not gut feeling

