

Reykjavik Index Special Report

How Societies Perceive Violence Against
Women and Girls

Initial Findings as presented on September 21st 2026

Full report to be published at:

Reykjavik Global Forum, November 16th 2026



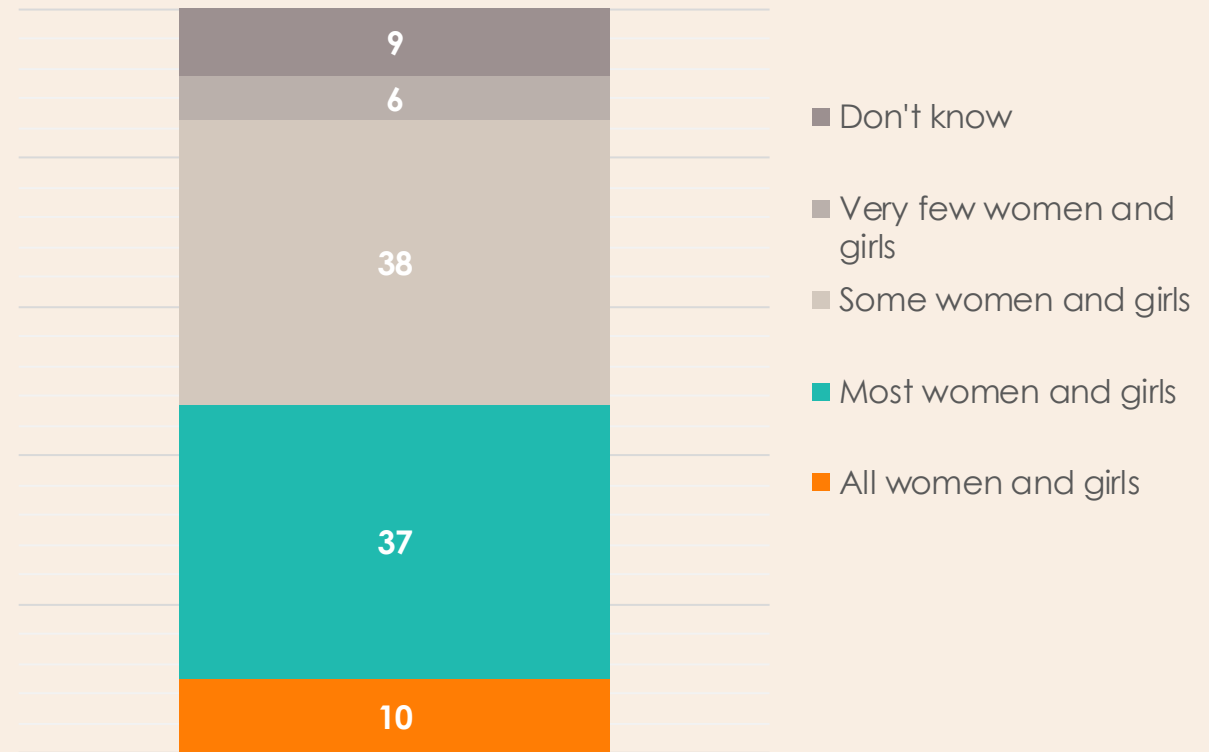
Recognition of the prevalence of VWAG

Violence against women and girls is understood to be prevalent across society.

85%

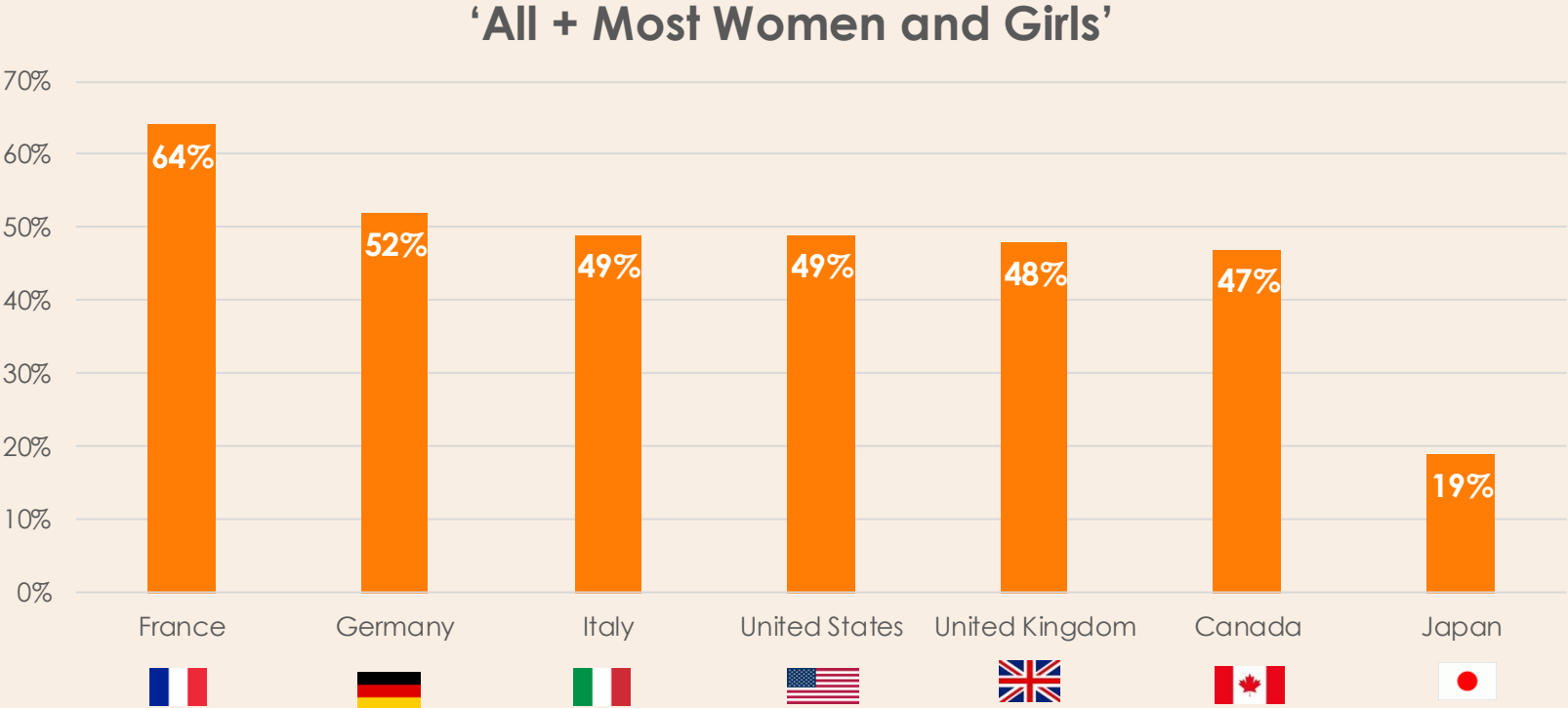
Believe all, most
or some women
experience
violence in their
lifetime.

In your opinion, today in [your country], how many women and girls experience violence during their lifetime?



Some variation across the G7

In your opinion, today in [your country], how many women and girls experience violence during their lifetime?

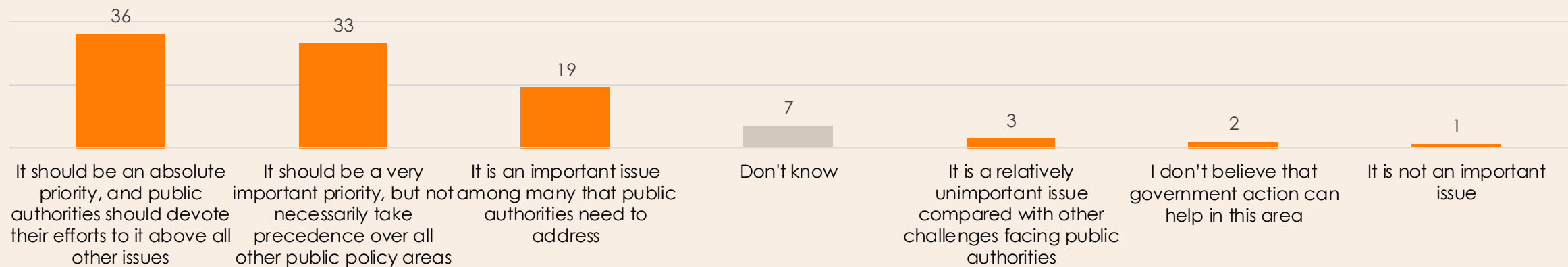


We Have A Mandate for Action

88% agree it is a priority or important, felt most strongly among ages 18-34

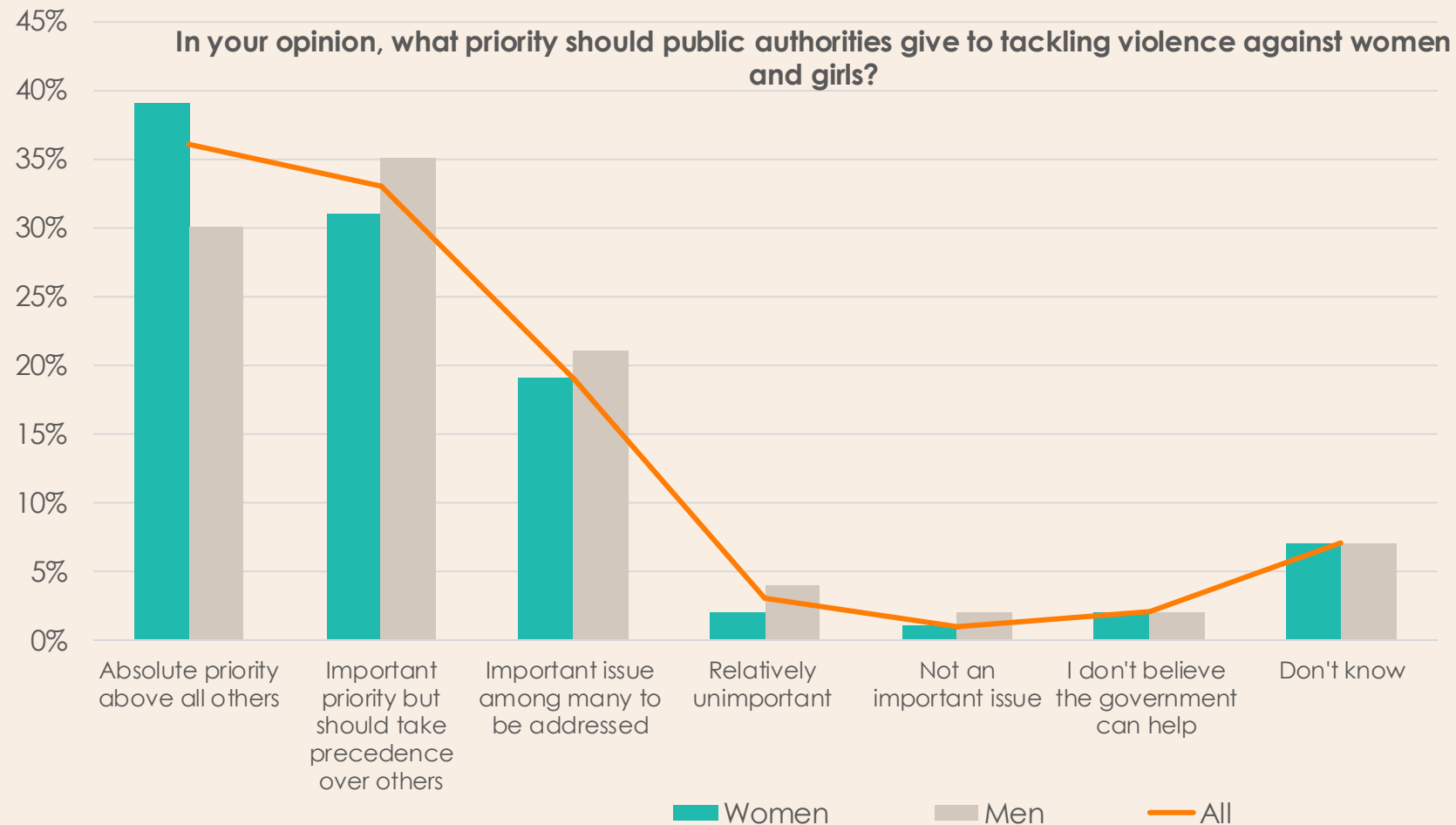
In your opinion, what priority should public authorities give to tackling violence against women and girls?

88% of respondents agree it is a priority or important issue



We Have A Mandate for Action

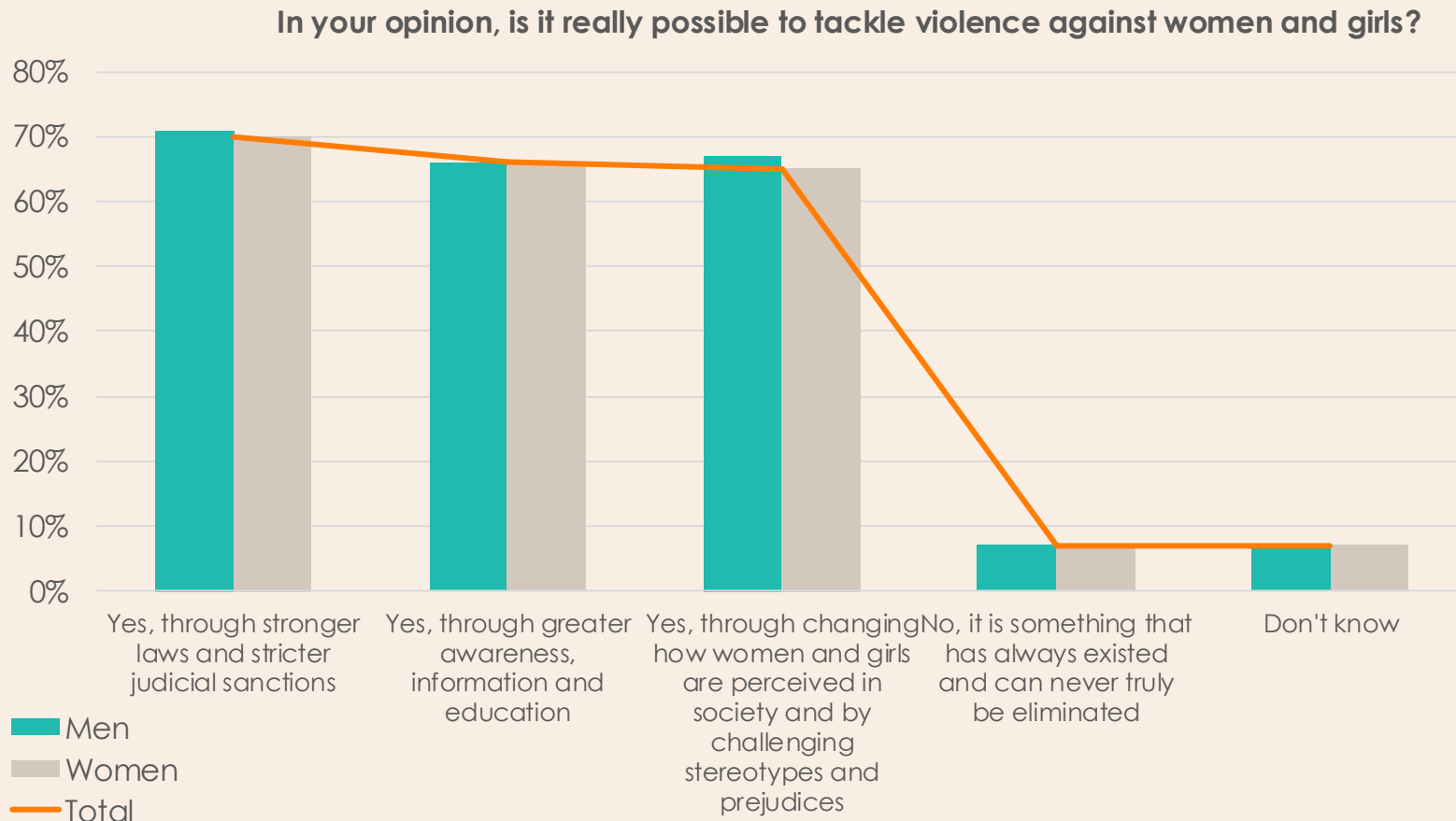
Women and men differ in their perceptions of the importance of public authorities taking action



Ages 18-34 feel most strongly that public authorities should take action.

The first step to eradication

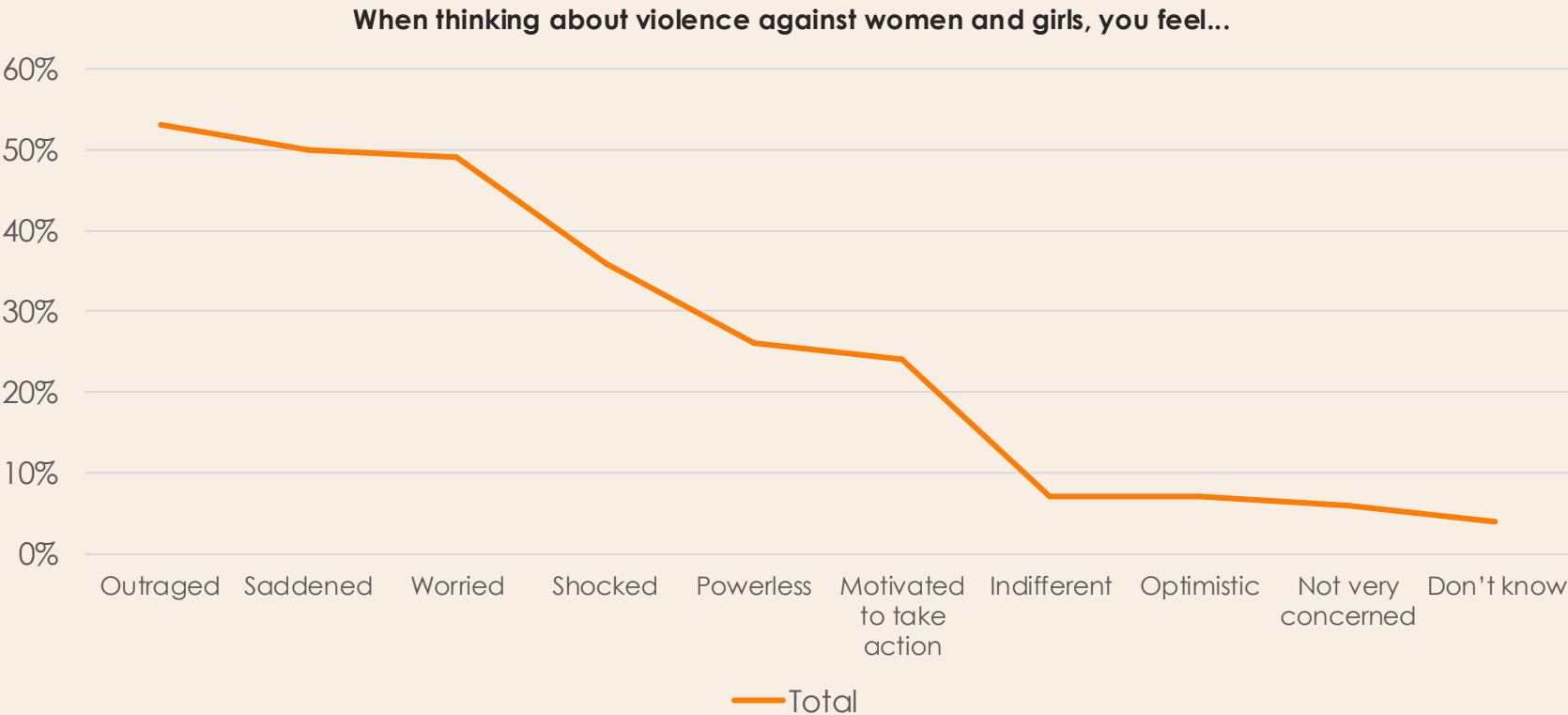
Perceptions and beliefs are positive around the possibility of change among both women and men



Across the G7, most people believe violence against women and girls can be tackled although confidence is notably lower in Japan.

From Belief and Commitment towards Change

Age, gender and nationality shapes perceptions of personal agency



Both men and women feel strong emotion, but less motivation to act (23% of women, 25% for men)

Motivation to act is highest among 18-34 year-olds.

Across the G7 Canada, Italy, UK and US are most motivated to act.

A wicked social problem in a time of low public trust in institutions – how to build the next wave of momentum

Building the next wave of agency to end violence against women and girls

Thank you



Powering decisions
that shape the world.

