













June 2022

# Global Tracker: South Korea *Presentation Deck*

*Brought to you by your Kantar Team:*  
Youngmi Lee, Jihee Jun, Gyeryeong Kim, Nick  
Bounds, Lynsey Chung (Irwin),  
& Carolina Ferrando



# We have conducted the global tracker in 22 markets over the last 8 years, as a key export market Korean fieldwork has run every year.

MARKETS	 Japan	 Korea	 China	 Indonesia	 Singapore	 Malaysia	 Philippines	 Taiwan	 Thailand	 Vietnam	 USA	 Canada	 KSA	 UAE	 Oman	 Jordan	 Kuwait	 Qatar	 UK	 Hong Kong	 Mexico	 Chile	Total # of markets
2015	Green	Green	Green	Green	Grey	Green	Green	Green	Grey	Grey	Green	Green	Green	Green	Grey	Grey	Grey	Grey	Grey	Grey	Grey	Grey	11
2016	Green	Green	Green	Green	Green	Green	Green	Green	Green	Green	Green	Green	Green	Green	Green	Grey	Grey	Grey	Grey	Grey	Grey	Grey	15
2017	Green	Green	Green	Green	Grey	Green	Grey	Grey	Grey	Grey	Green	Green	Green	Green	Grey	Green	Grey	Grey	Grey	Grey	Grey	Grey	11
2018	Green	Green	Green	Green	Grey	Green	Grey	Grey	Green	Grey	Green	Grey	Green	Green	Grey	Grey	Grey	Grey	Green	Green	Green	Green	13
2019	Green	Green	Green	Green	Grey	Green	Grey	Grey	Grey	Grey	Green	Grey	Green	Green	Grey	Grey	Green	Green	Grey	Grey	Grey	Grey	10
2020	Green	Green	Green	Green	Grey	Green	Grey	Green	Grey	Grey	Green	Grey	Green	Green	Grey	Grey	Grey	Grey	Grey	Grey	Grey	Grey	9
2021	Green	Green	Green	Green	Grey	Green	Grey	Grey	Green	Grey	Green	Grey	Green	Green	Grey	Grey	Grey	Grey	Green	Grey	Grey	Grey	11
2022	Green	Green	Green	Grey	Green	Grey	Green	Grey	Grey	Green	Green	Green	Green	Green	Grey	Grey	Grey	Green	Grey	Grey	Grey	Grey	11



# South Korea Sample – a deliberate skew (not Nationally representative)



**Sample is made up of n=800 consumers**

		COUNTRY INCIDENCE	SAMPLE STRUCTURE
Gender	Male	50%	-
	Female	50%	100%
Age	18-34	-	30%
	35-49	-	54%
	50-64	-	16%
Cities	Seoul	19%	42%
	Busan	7%	20%
	Daegu	4%	17%
	Gyeonggi-do	26%	21%
Consumption	Buy Fresh Meat (at least occasionally)	-	100%
MGBs	Main Grocery Buyers	-	91%
Children	Households with Children	-	37%
Income	Under 35,999,999 won	-	23%
	36,000,000 – 89,999,999 won	-	57%
	90,000,000 won+	-	21%

# The Central Question

How can Australian product maintain its current positioning as accessible Premium product for Korea consumers, and hold off the growing challenge of USA beef?

# Flow of the presentation today



## MACRO-MARKET CONTEXT

Understanding the context for the Korean market in which to interpret the consumer behaviours and perceptions we have observed in the last 5 years



## Protein Landscape

Setting the scene by looking at the awareness, claimed consumption and perceptions of the key proteins in market. This also includes general beef buying behaviours.



## Beef country of origin brand health, trust & perceptions

Looking at the key associations with COO brands and trust in those brands.

How does this flow through to brand equity and Power.



## What next for AU beef in Korea

What levers can we pull and what should we continue to communicate to maintain our strong position in the Korean market



## Final Thoughts & Discussion

Wrapping up with discussion and summary of the key findings

# MACRO-MARKET CONTEXT



# Economic challenges and the long term impact of the pandemic have shaped Koreans approach to brand and product choices in recent years



## Economic

The post-covid economic environment, falling value of the Won has accentuated the relationship between local vs. imported and affordable vs. premium, and stagnant wage growth leaving Korean consumers preparing for affordability challenges.



## Covid

Covid response of Korean consumers has been to refocus on health & well-being, and re-evaluate their brand choices. Health consciousness entrenched as a trend post-COVID, as Koreans attempt to remain healthy, reduce stress, as working from home becomes the new norm



## Providing value for money *(Low price and Premium options)*

Price and affordability vs. choosing premium options for at-home consumption. A shift towards trusted brands.



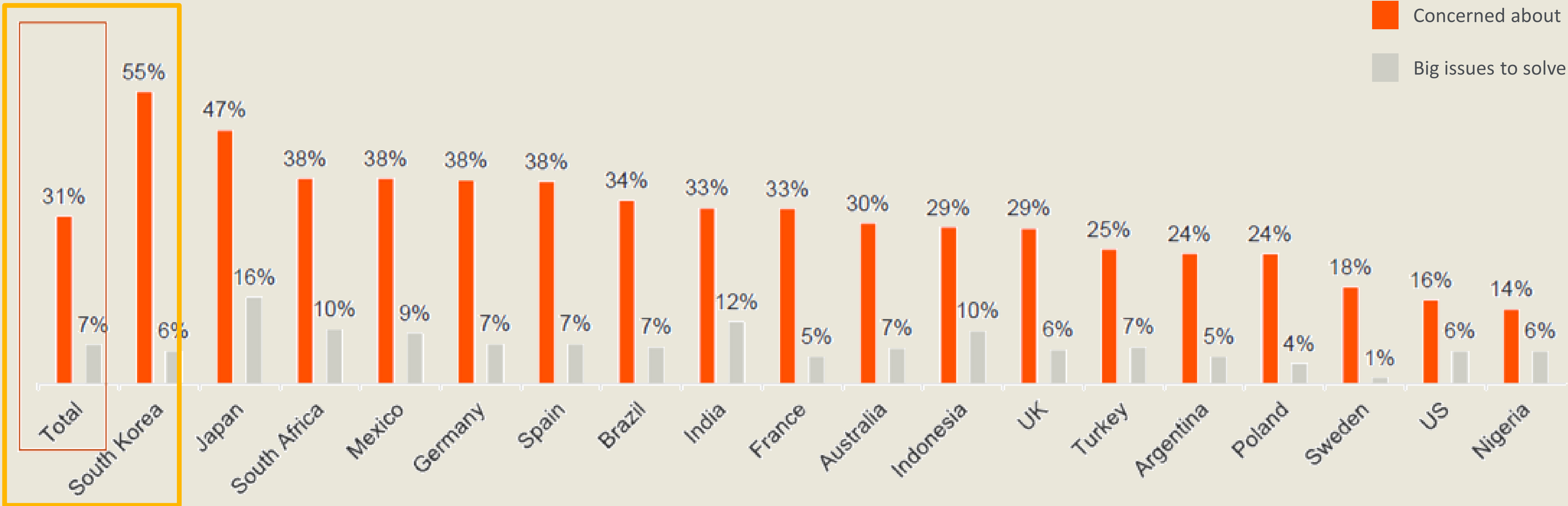
## Health

Seeking healthier alternatives in response to covid lockdowns and a refocus on health

# After 2 years, Covid still remains a key concern for Koreans, impacting more than half of Koreans, the highest proportion globally



% mentions of Covid-19



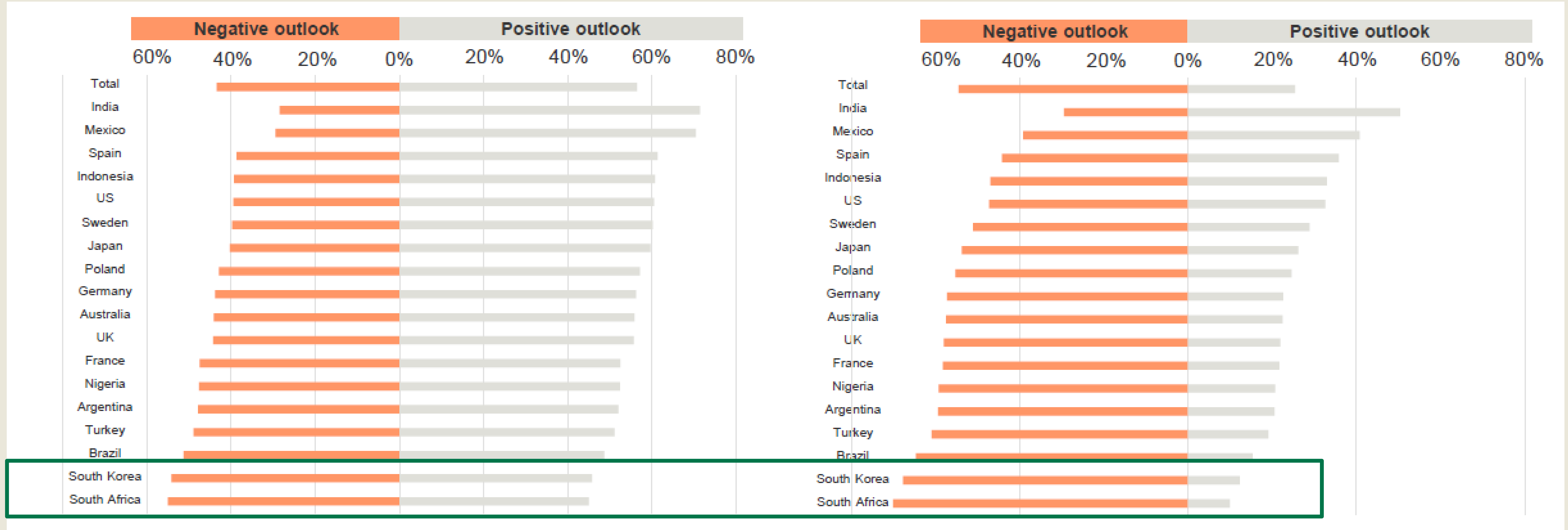
Q18 Can you name 3 things happening in the world that you are most concerned about right now? Open ended question  
 Q1b What are some of the big issues in society that you think something needs to be done about? Open ended question

# Whether it is their personal or the national economic situation, Korean consumers outlook is more negative or cautious than other markets.



Me and my households financial situation is currently...

The general economic outlook of the country right now...



# With global supply chain challenges, affordability of food is a growing concern for Korean consumers, impacting prices at shelf.



## Imported food prices surge and may continue rising



An employee displays imported meat packs at a mart at Eungam-dong, northern Seoul, in December. [NEWS1]

Imported food prices are soaring as China locks down, the Ukraine-Russia conflict drags on and the United States deals with labor shortages.

Beef imported from the United States or Australia is considered a cheaper alternative to *hanwoo*, or Korean beef, which is almost twice the price of Australian beef at discount marts.

### Soaring food prices Unit: won, %

	March 30, 2022	March 30, 2021	Increase rate
U.S. beef rib (100g)	3,765	2,454	53
Australian beef rib (100g)	3,497	2,494	40
U.S. orange (10 units)	13,453	10,869	23
Imported banana (100g)	323	305	6
Korean beef sirloin (100g)	13,865	12,742	9
Korean pork belly (100g)	2,389	2,144	11

Source: Korea Agricultural Marketing Information Service

Luxury and value categories have grown in the Korean market, reflecting a willingness to spend on products that can justify their premium, but also value-seeking behaviours.



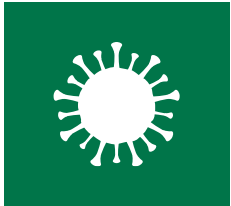
VIP sales, who purchased more than 20 million won a year at **department stores, increased by 33%**

In particular, the **luxury goods sales growth** rate is growing rapidly both last year (80%) and this year (64%)

**The average sales of Daiso, ultra-low-priced discount store, and affiliates have been steadily increasing since 2018 - 283.8 billion won in last year, up 7.6%**



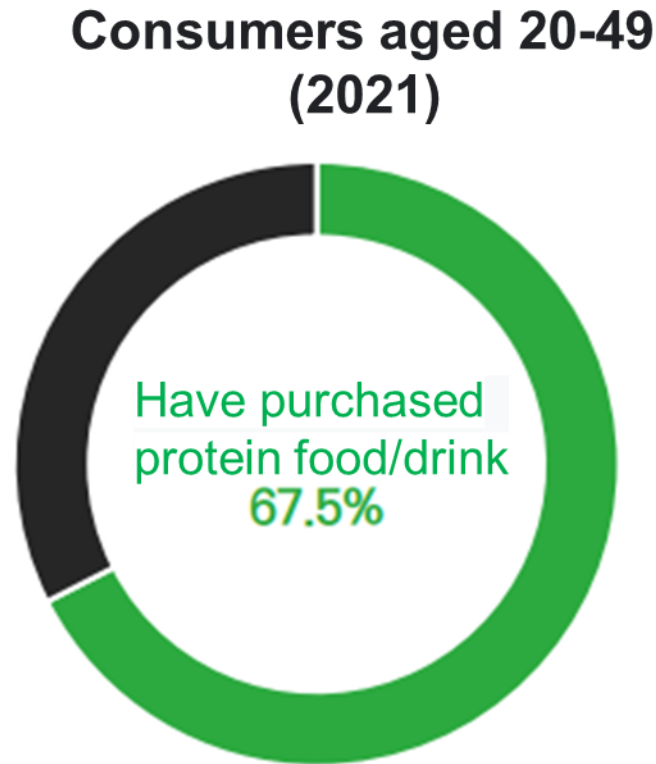
# Korean consumers concerns around health are manifesting in greater management both through diet and exercise regimes.



## Increased consumption of protein products

68% of consumers buy high-profile protein products

Protein has recently known for as an essential nutrient and its consumption is increasing  
68% of consumers answered that they have purchased protein products, and use them to manage their physical strength, weight, and eating habits



Rank	Reasons for purchase (Male)	Reasons for purchase (Female)
1	protein supplementation after workout	Diet
2	Meal replacement	Meal replacement
3	For daily health care	For daily health care
4	Diet	protein supplementation after workout
5	Like its taste	Like its taste

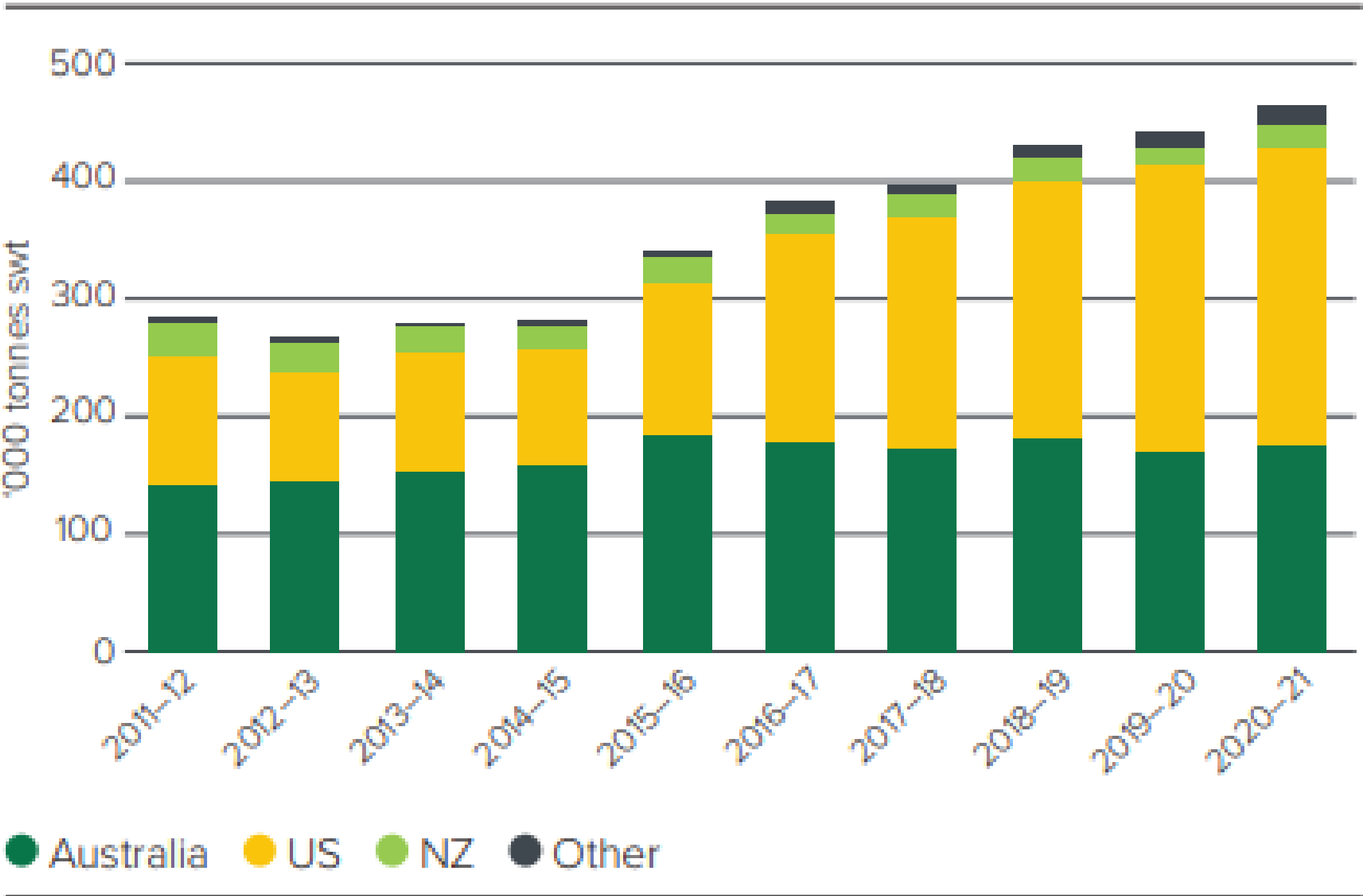


Source: [http://www.mezzomedia.co.kr/data/insight\\_m\\_file/insight\\_m\\_file\\_1457.pdf](http://www.mezzomedia.co.kr/data/insight_m_file/insight_m_file_1457.pdf)

# AU Beef imports to Korea remain static in 2021 while competitor COOs continue to grow, with US beef dominating market share.

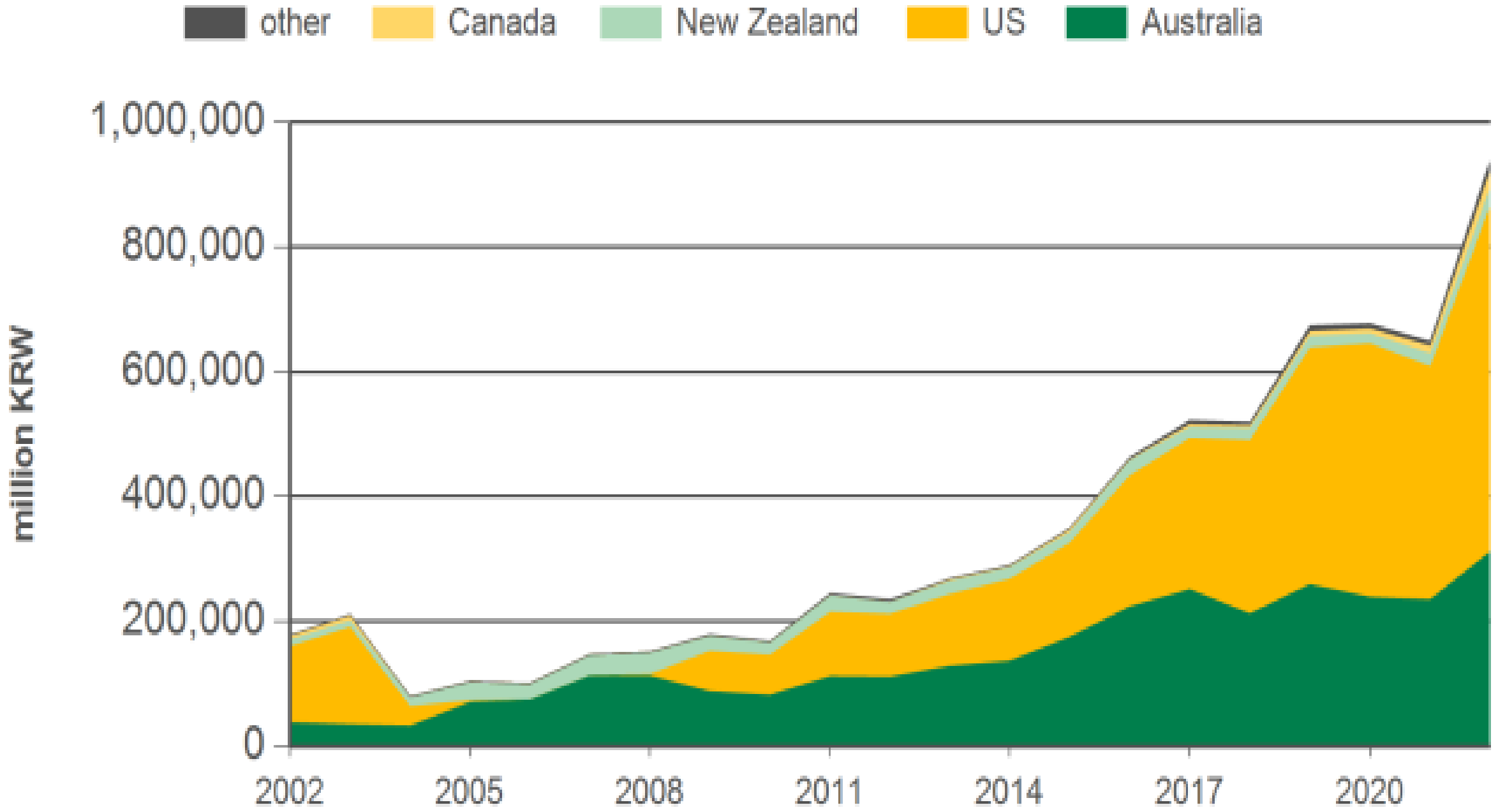
MLA market snapshot – South Korea (2022)

Korea beef imports by supplier



Source: IHS Markit, Australian Fiscal Year

Year-to-February Korean beef imports - value



Source: Global Trade Atlas, Korea Customs and Trade Development Institution. Prepared by MLA.

[https://www.mla.com.au/globalassets/mla-corporate/prices--markets/documents/os-markets/export-statistics/november-2021/2021-korea-market-snapshot-red-meat\\_111121\\_distribution.pdf](https://www.mla.com.au/globalassets/mla-corporate/prices--markets/documents/os-markets/export-statistics/november-2021/2021-korea-market-snapshot-red-meat_111121_distribution.pdf)

<https://www.mla.com.au/globalassets/mla-corporate/prices--markets/documents/os-markets/export-statistics/feb-2022/2202---korea-beef-imports---global-summary.pdf>

# PROTEIN LANDSCAPE

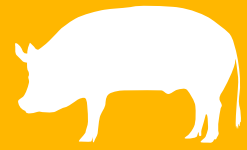


A reminder, we know that there are some consistent themes of what the proteins stand for across all of our markets. Beef is the 'Superior' protein.

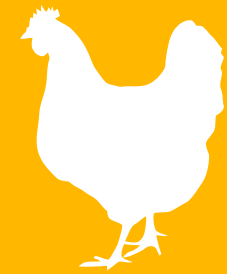


Global  
Summary

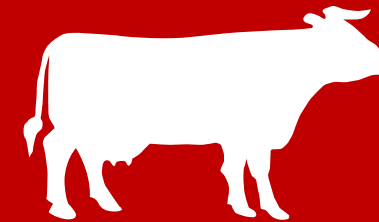
### THE STAPLE



- Cheap (cost less) and easily available
- Versatile and easy to prepare
- Doesn't play to taste
- Not very nutritious
- Animals treated poorly
- Questionable safety
- *Pork: Consistent quality, favourite and taste in key markets like China, Taiwan, US, Jp, SK)*



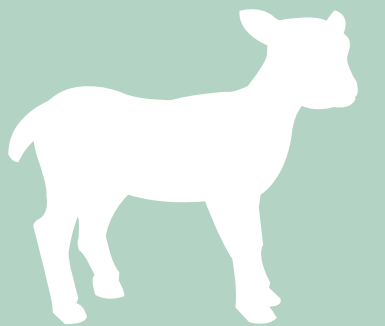
### THE SUPERIOR



- Good quality, great taste, superior
- Worth paying more for
- Nutritious
- *In MENA, beef is a Staple*

### THE CURIOSITY

- Unfamiliar, occasional purchase
- Premium option
- Not sure what to do with it
- Fatty
- Taste is a barrier for some
- *In MENA lamb is Superior*



### THE SPECIALTY



- Few strengths or weaknesses
- Weakly positive on animal welfare and sustainability
- Taste is a barrier
- Lean/tough
- Unfamiliar and uncommon except amongst certain groups



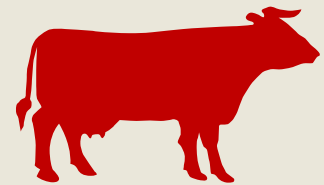
### THE HEALTHY ALTERNATIVE

- Fresh
- Nutritious – especially for children
- Low in fat
- Tricky to use
- Welfare is not great
- *In SEA, fish is a cheap, low value protein - elsewhere it is premium*



**There is a clear role for beef as a superior option, and an essential part of a healthy diet for growing children. Pork and Chicken play very similar roles to each other, providing the lower cost, convenient option.**

### The Superior, tender favourite option



#### Beef

- **Is an essential part of a healthy diet for growing children**
- Is my/my family's favourite meat
- Is the most superior meat
- I am willing to pay a bit more for this meat
- Tender

#### What's changed this year?

Lost perceptions of nutrition in recent years, as well as taste

### The affordable, convenient, versatile option



#### Chicken & Pork

- **Cheaper** (costs less)
- Is easy and convenient to prepare
- Is easy and convenient to purchase
- Can be used in many different meals
- Guaranteed safe to eat
- Is an essential part of a healthy diet for growing children
  
- Pork is fattier, but also tastier

#### What's changed this year?

Consistent quality standards has improved for chicken recently

### The alternative

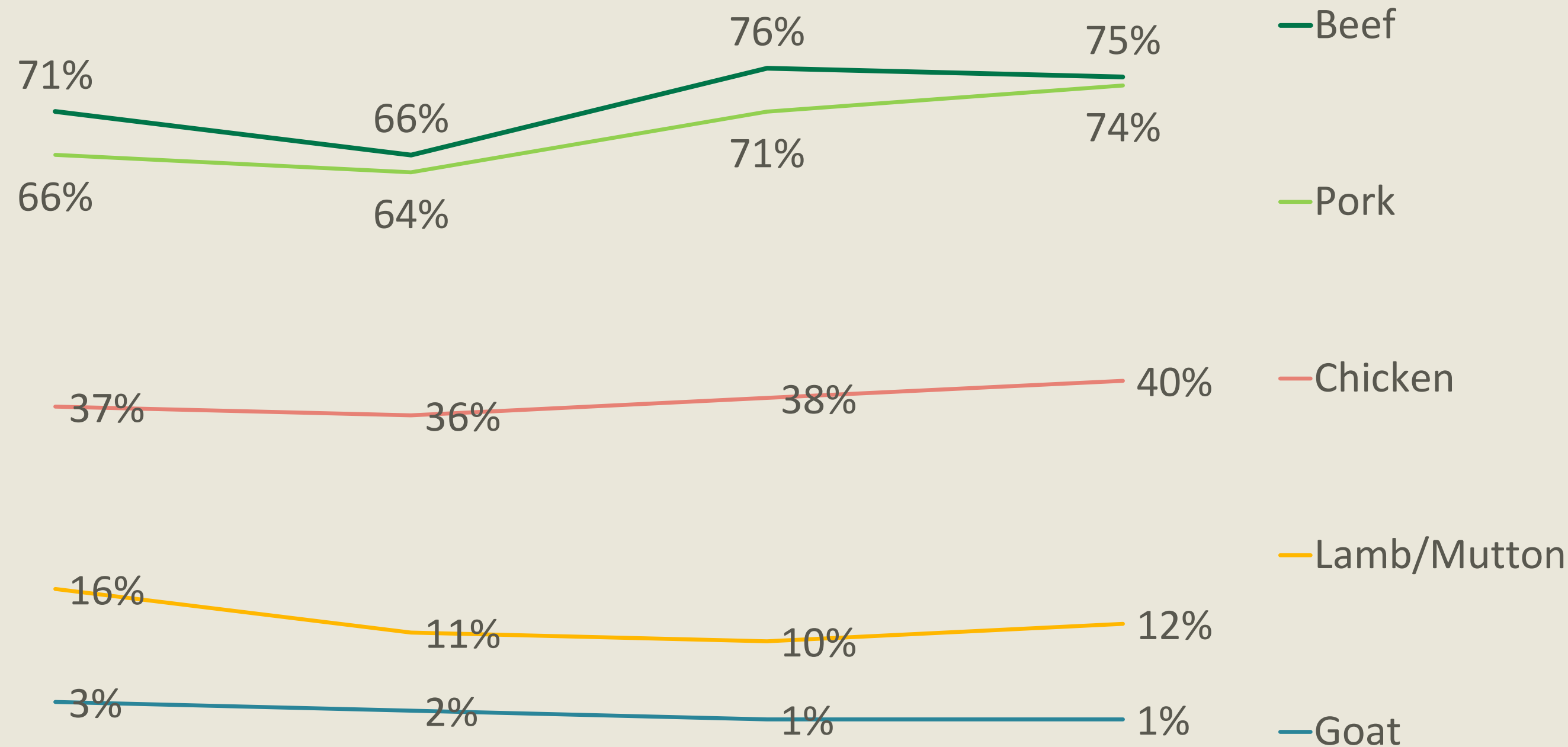


- Stand for the same things - Low in fat and high nutrition

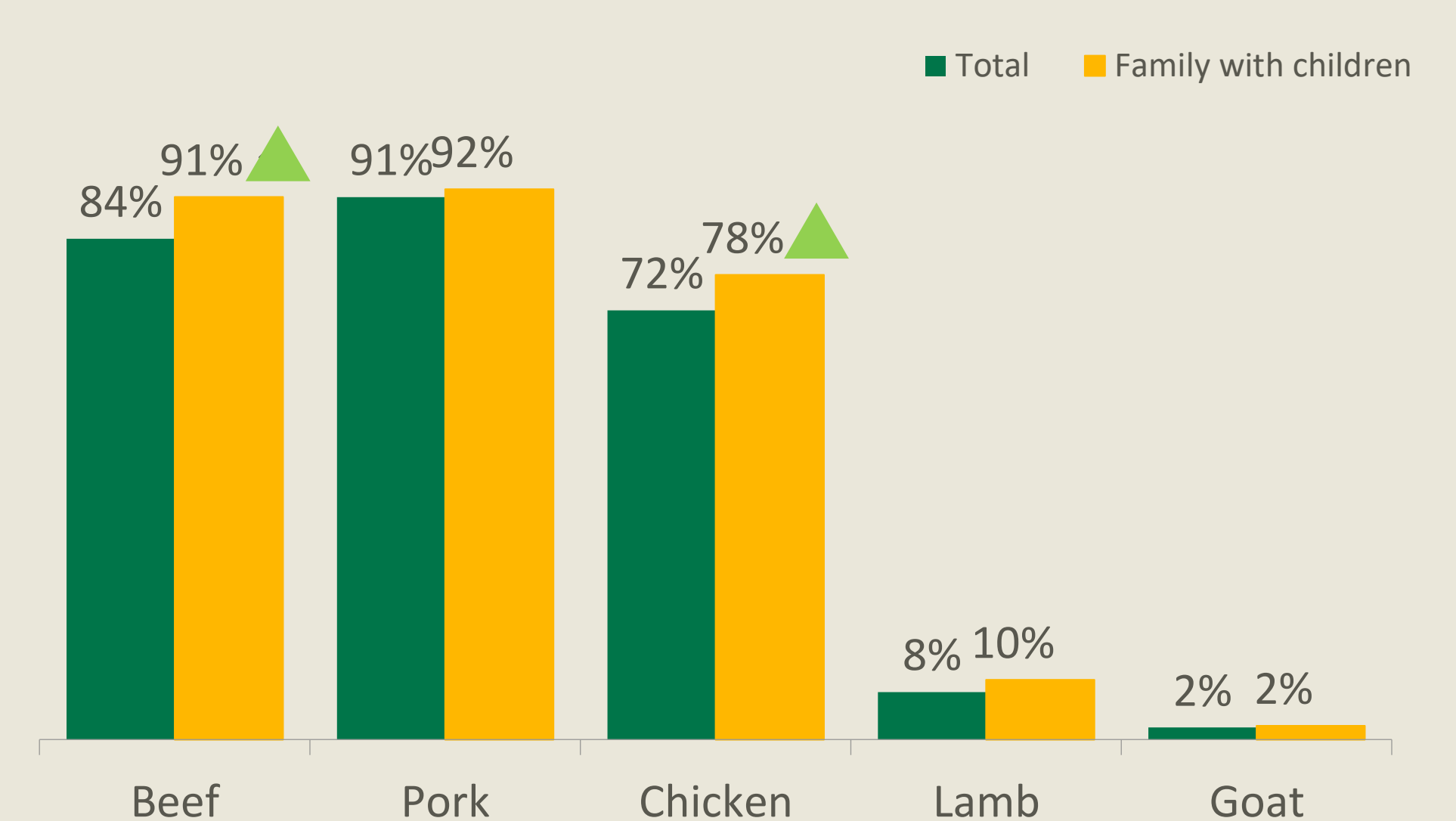
# Beef, closely followed by pork, are consistently top of mind meats in South Korea. Monthly protein purchase remains consistent year to year; beef and chicken higher for families.



## SPONTANEOUS AWARENESS

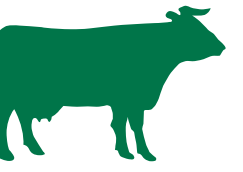


## BOUGHT IN LAST MONTH



Proportion of families buying beef is up significantly in last 5 years

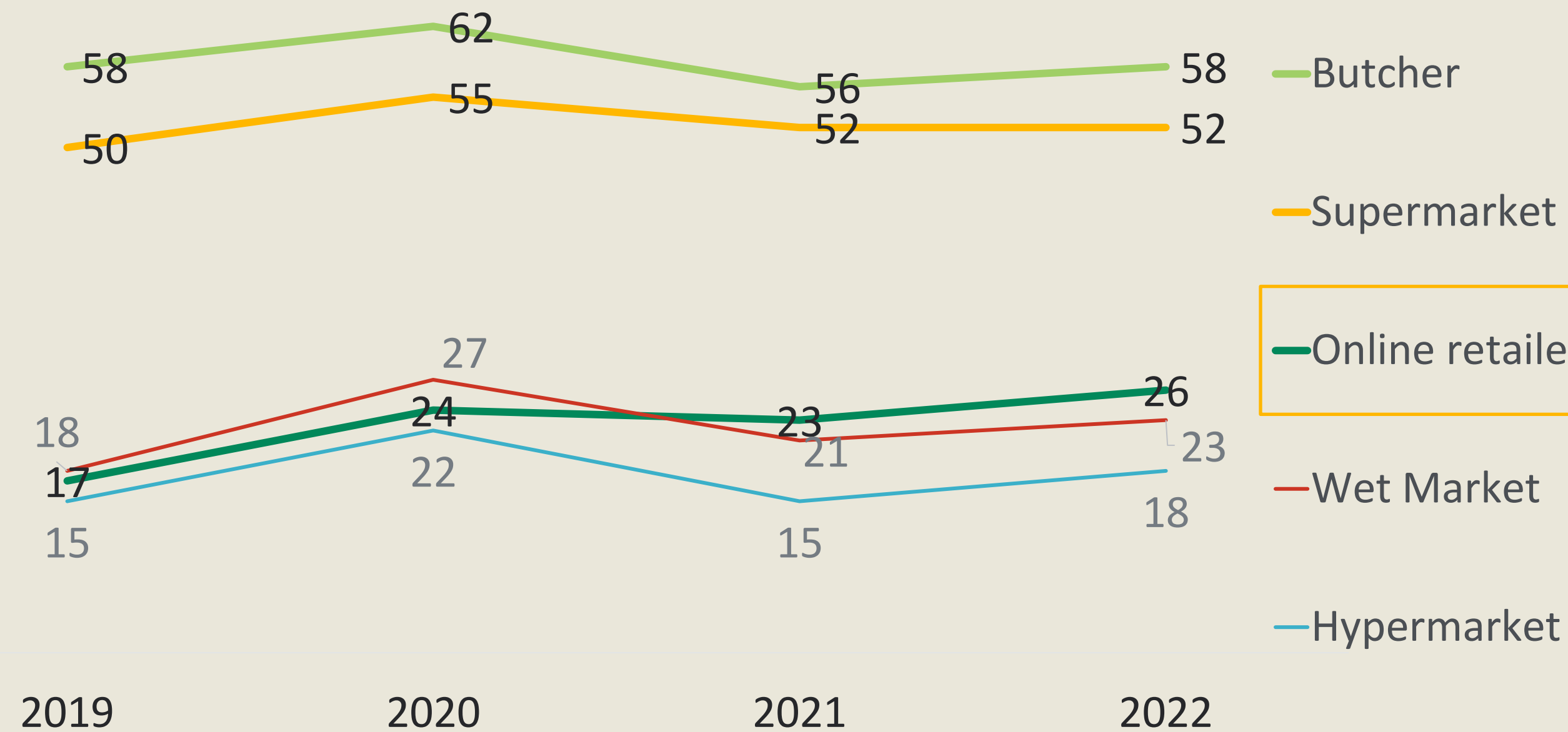
# Butchers and supermarkets remain the leading channels for beef purchase, online purchase continues to increase in Korea



## ALL BEEF PLACES OF PURCHASE

Once per month or more often (net)

2021: Online Supermarket 59%,  
Online-Only Retailer 41%, Other 8%



32% of 18-34s claim to buy beef online (at least monthly) in 2022 (+8% vs 2021).

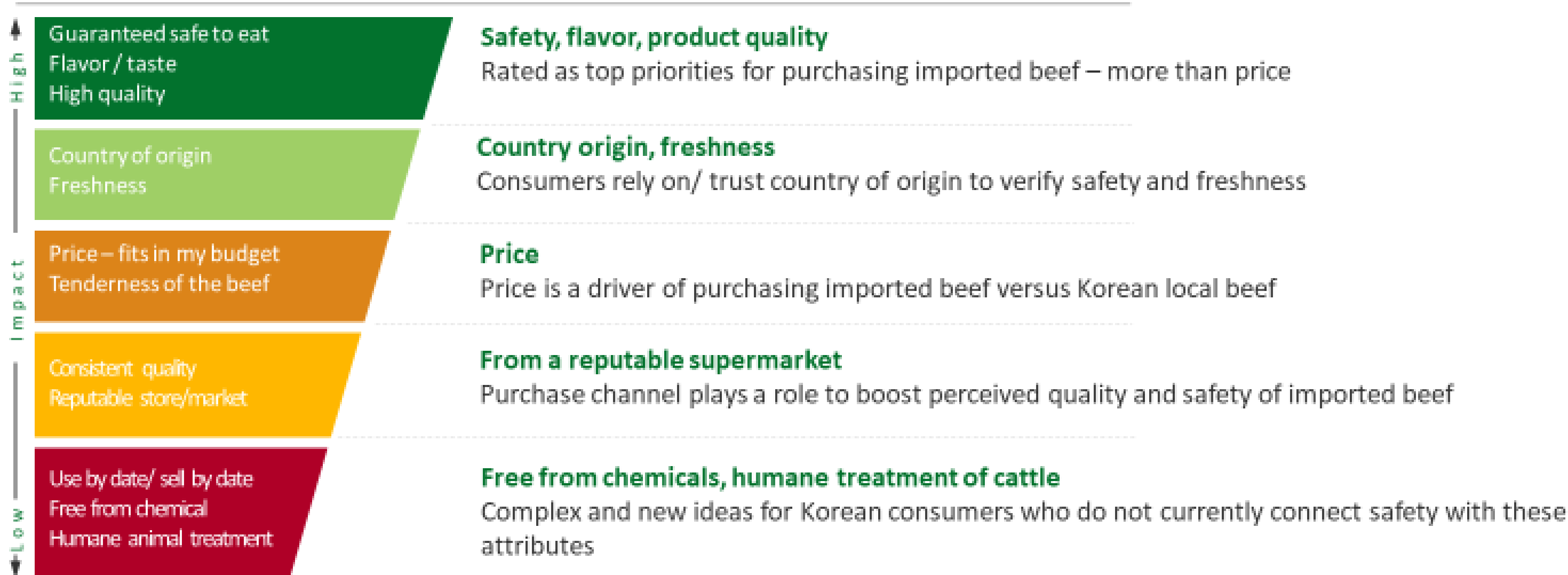
However, a continued rise is driven by **35-49s**, 27% (up from 14% in 2019) and **families** 32% (up from 18% in 2019)

Of those shopping for red meat online (2021), **59% online supermarkets vs 41% online-only retailer vs 8% other**

When we spoke with consumers qualitatively (Project Cyclone) we saw safety, quality and flavour were important, but COO was an important proof point (RTB) for these associations, along with freshness.

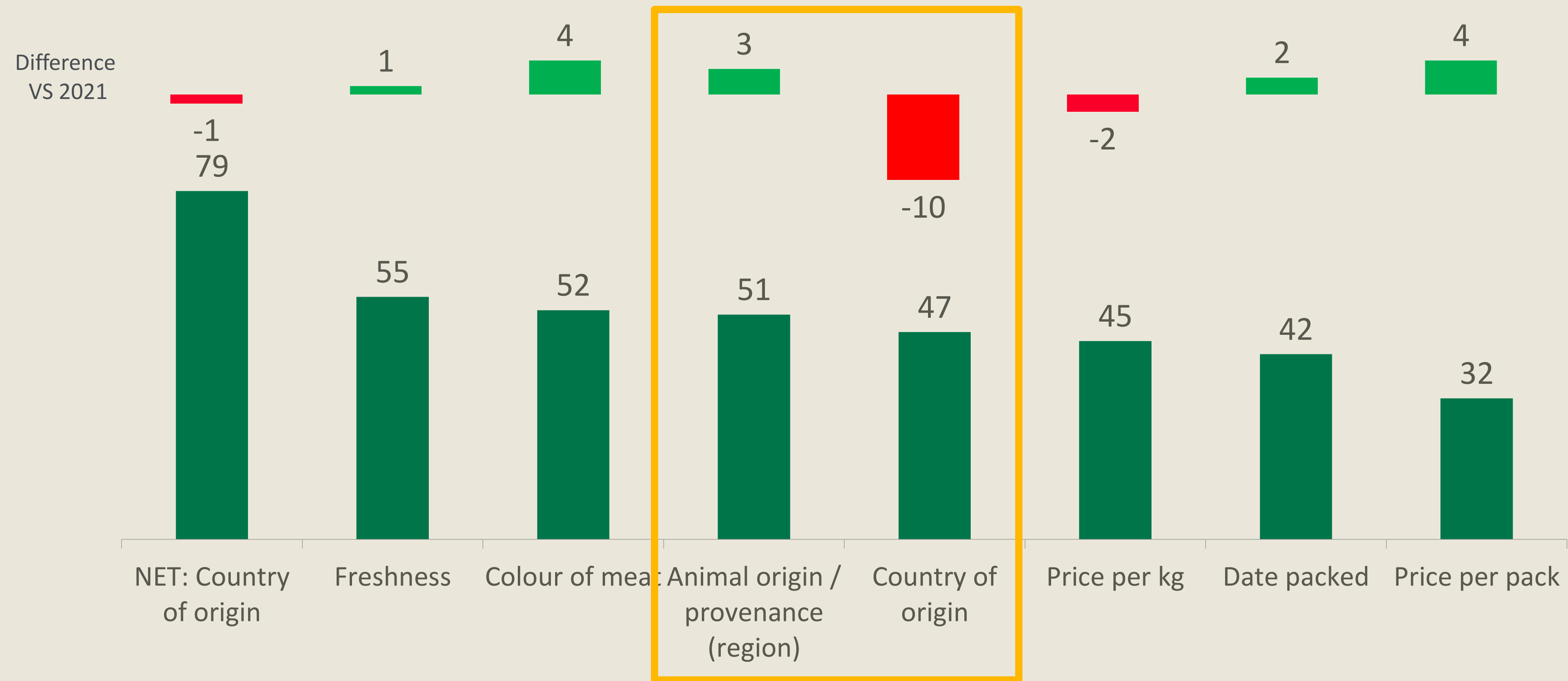
## Flavour dominates the consumer decision-making process

Key factors to influence in imported beef purchase where traceability solutions can add value



# Consumers continue to look for freshness and origin cues on pack (region as a detailed version of where a product comes from grows while simpler COO softens). COO is still well ahead of the global average.

## Top 'on pack' cues sought while buying product



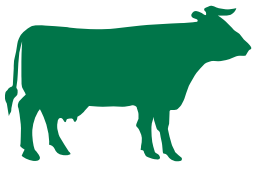
Global average 2022

Ranking

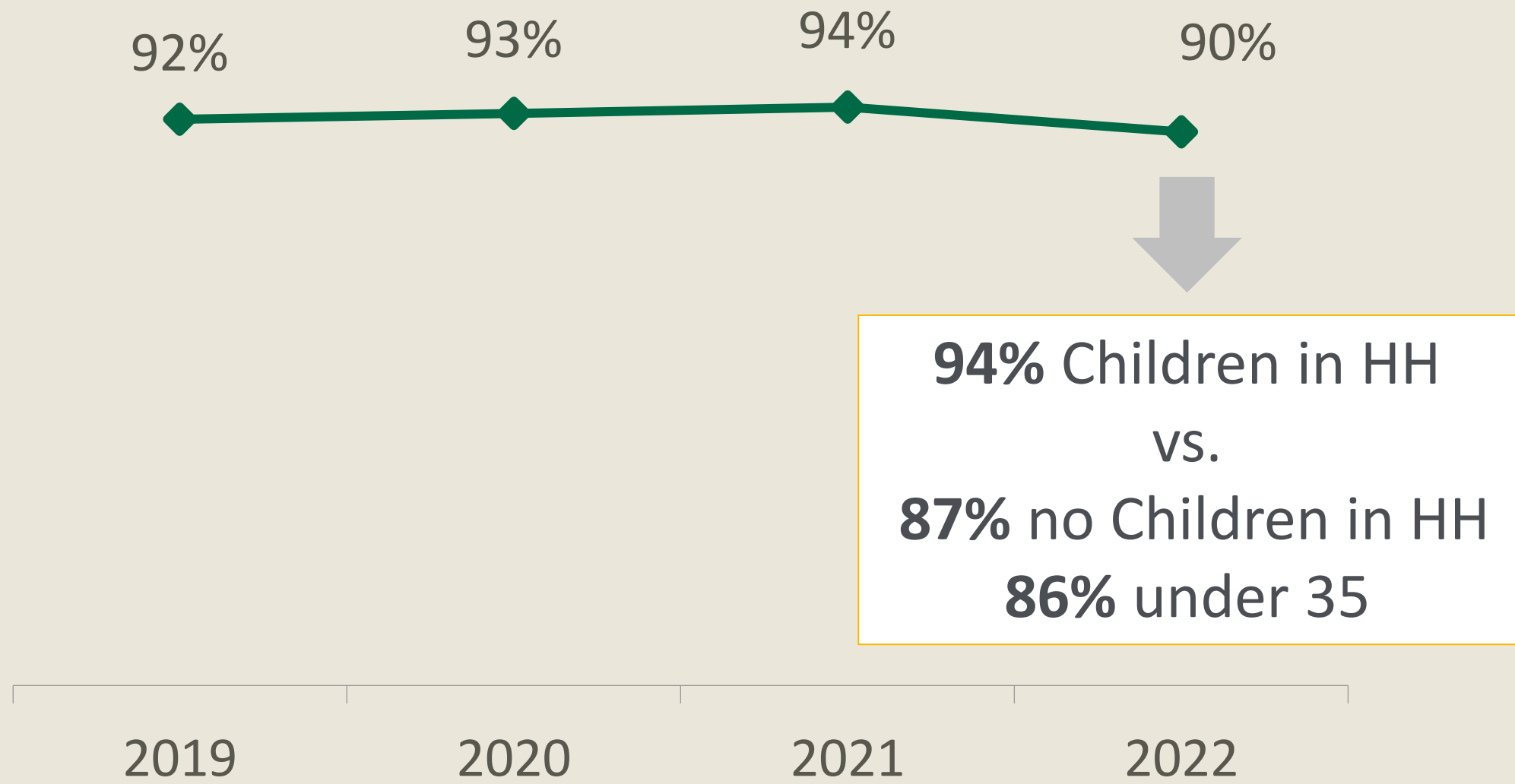
48%	55%	30%	31%	25%	46%	25%
#2	#1	#6	#5	#9	#3	#10

Global #4 '100% natural' does not feature strongly for Korea

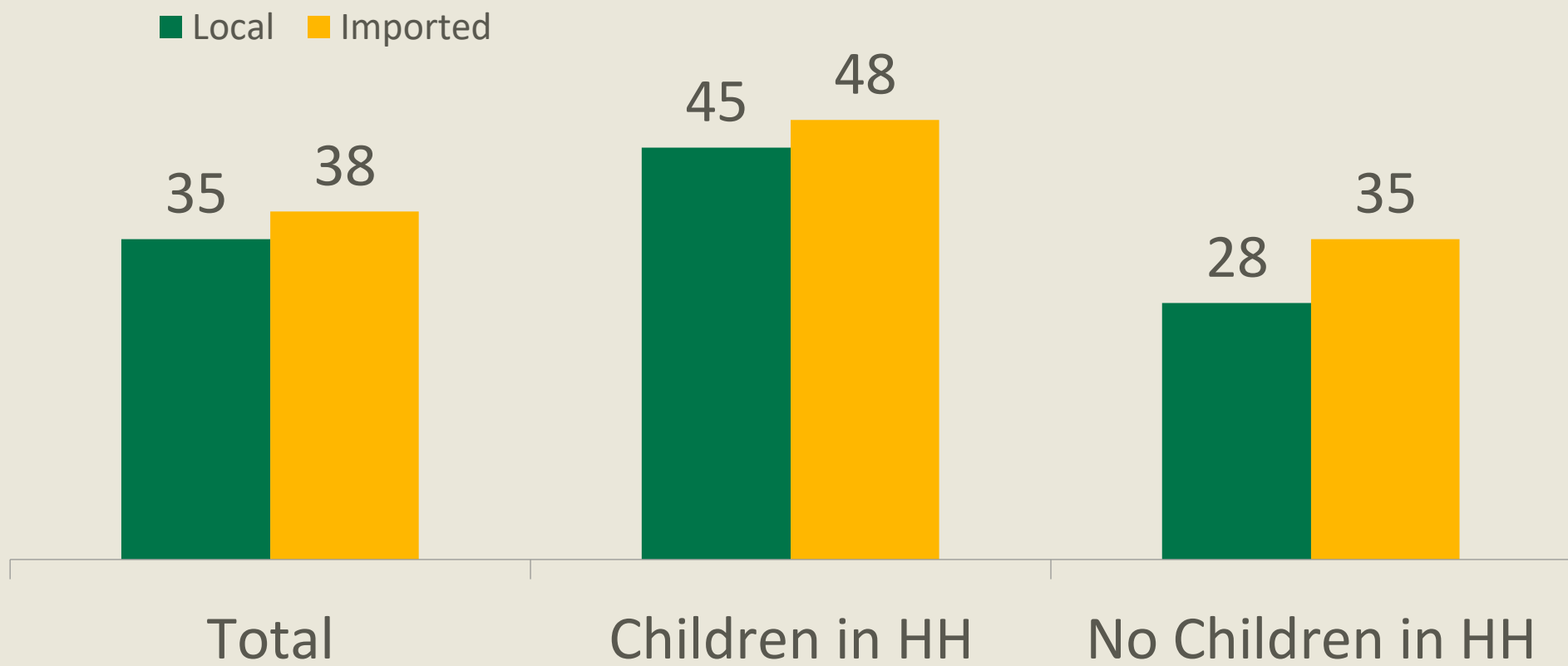
With this in mind we, see that a high proportion of Korean consumers (9 in 10) claim to know the COO of the beef they buy over the years. Especially for families who purchase most often.



Know Country of Origin?



FREQUENCY OF BUYING (FORTNIGHTLY OR MORE OFTEN)  
LOCAL AND IMPORTED BEEF



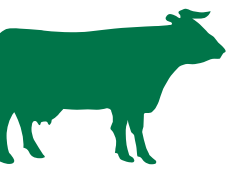
---

**BEEF** COUNTRY OF  
ORIGIN BRAND  
HEALTH, TRUST &  
PERCEPTIONS

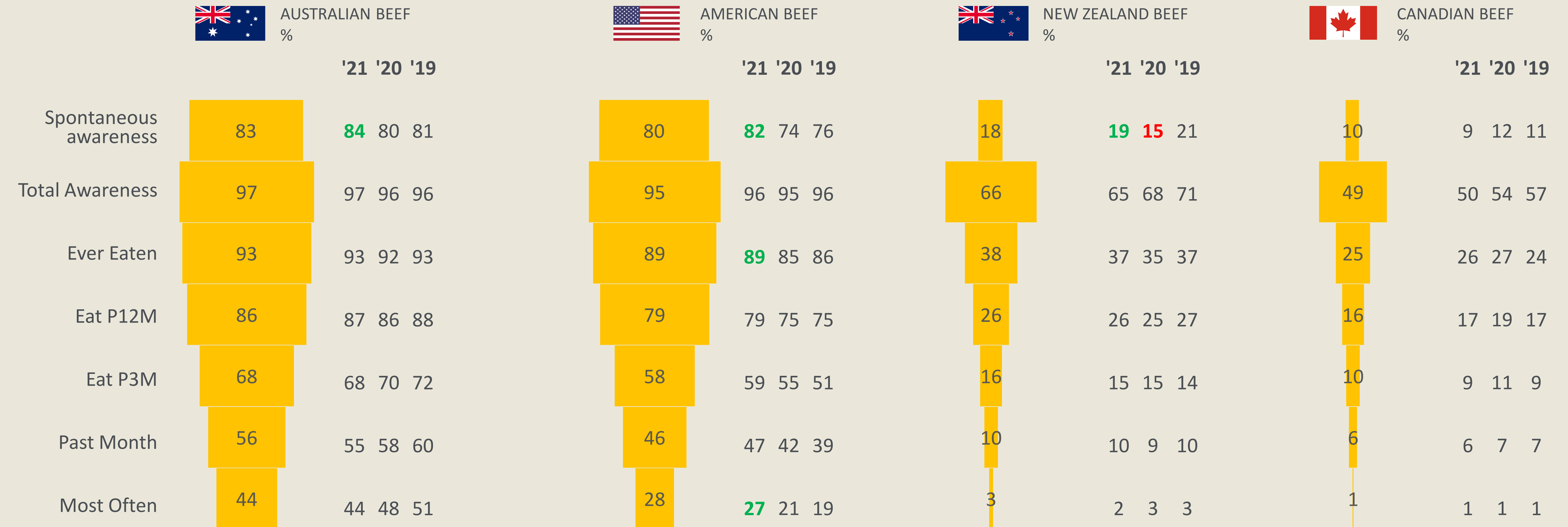
---



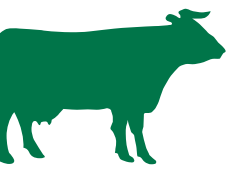
# AUS and USA beef are market leaders, both remaining stable YoY. US product builds usage at the lower end of the funnel over the past 4 years. AU conversion to recent consumption remains strong.



## BRAND HEALTH – BEEF

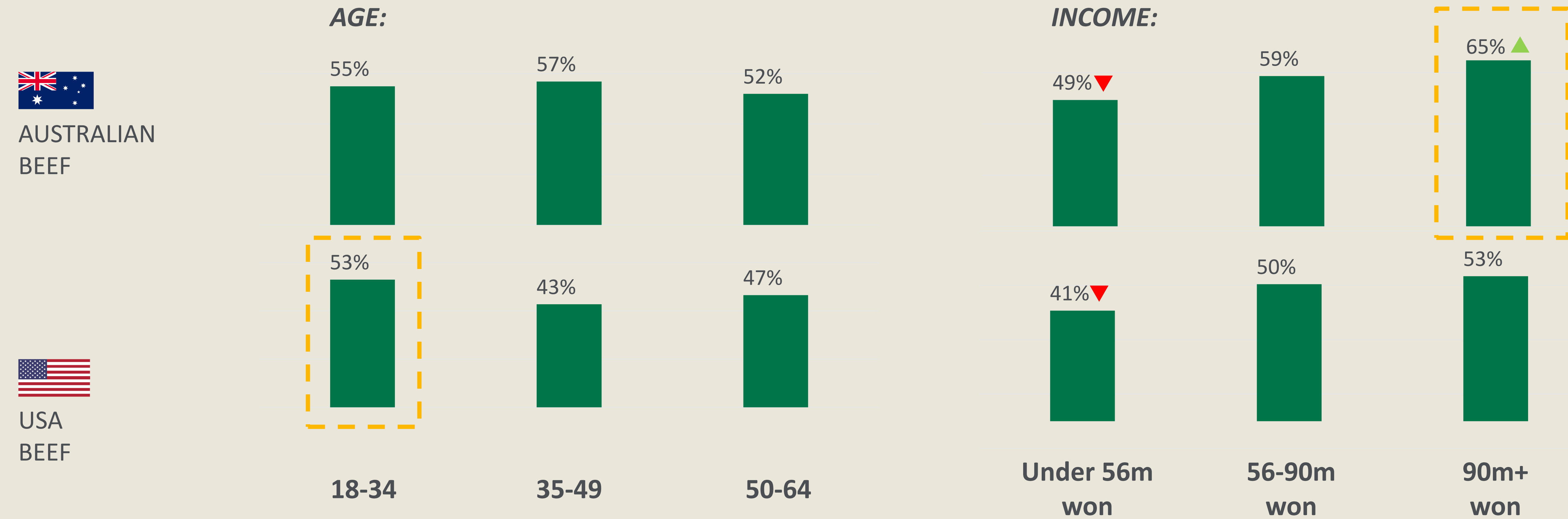


AUS beef is consistently used across all age groups, in contrast USA beef has established a greater usage with <35s. AUS users are more heavily skewed to wealthier consumers.

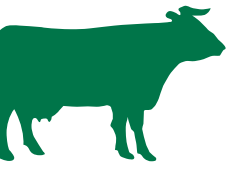


**BOUGHT IN PAST MONTH – BEEF**  
**AUS vs. USA (AGE & INCOME)**

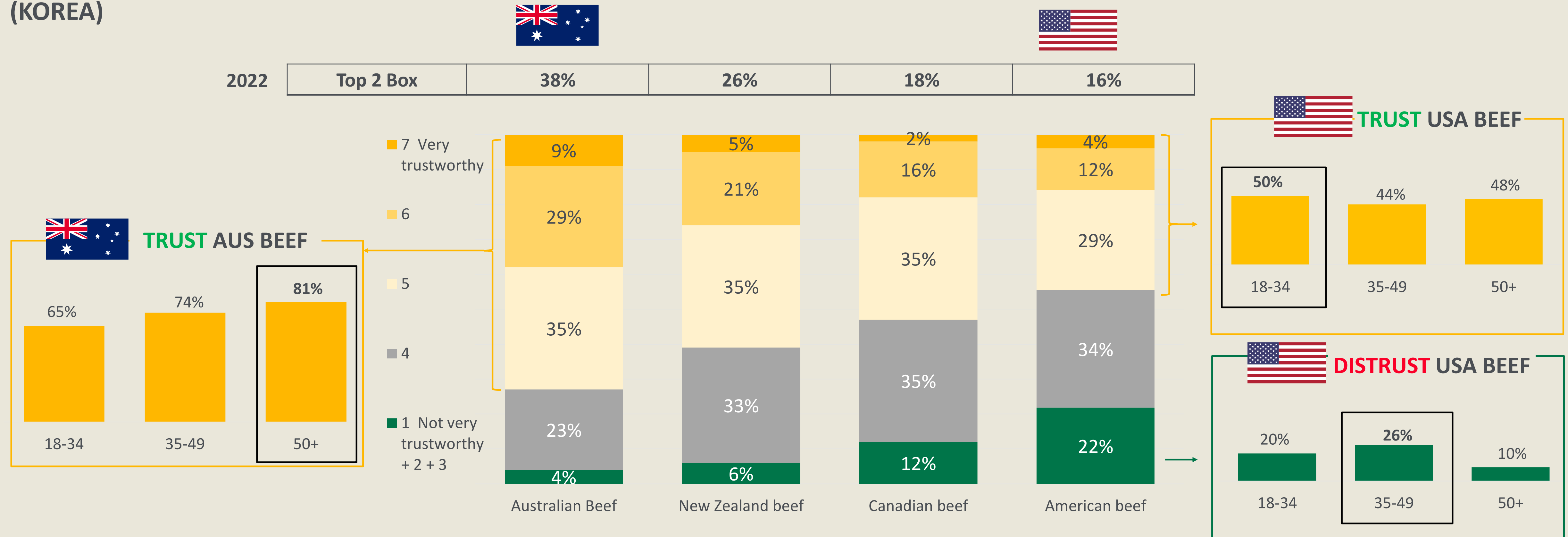
Conversion for *Past 3 month to Past month* is very consistent for AU and USA product, for every sub-group – approximately 80% across the board.



# Trust in AUS beef remains consistent with 2021, Australian a clear #1 vs other imported beef, with USA trailing other COO. Age profiles for AU vs USA differ, with AU relying on older consumers for their trust.

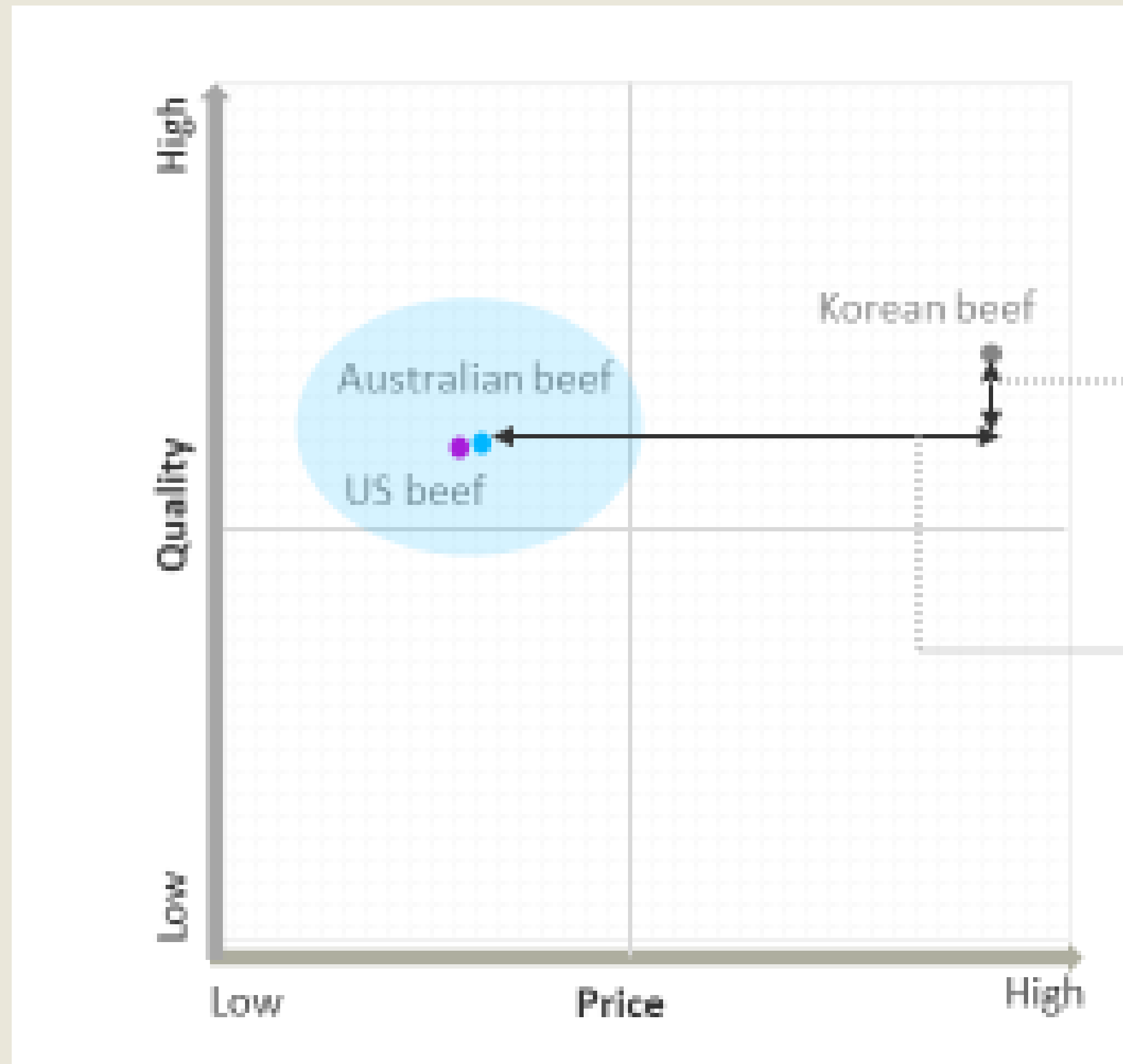


## Trustworthy - COO BEEF (KOREA)



From Project Cyclone (2021), we see Koreans find locally-produced Korean product as higher quality vs imported, and in relative terms, AUS and USA are perceived as relatively similar in quality

### Qualitative Mapping



*“To feed all family members including kids, Korean beef is not affordable. I am satisfied with good enough quality, and price of imported beef” (Consumer, buys Australian and US beef)*

Consumer Quote, Project Cyclone,  
Trust & Traceability

**AUS and US product share some associations, both seen as good quality, but AUS is seen as clean and less processed – likely supported by overall country perceptions, Hoju Chungjungwo and campaign elements.**



AUSTRALIAN BEEF



USA BEEF

**While AU beef is seen as fresh, clean and safe, US beef has a perceived flavour advantage with mouth feel benefits**

Perceptions of AU beef: More superior than US beef, safer, healthier but lacks in taste

Perceptions of US beef: A cheaper option, better flavour, but carries a shadow for safety reassurance

**Consumer perception**

Positive consumer sentiment with AU beef viewed as *clean and safe beef* vs US beef

**Sourcing stability**

Stable price and sourcing with no major price fluctuations vs US beef. Importantly, Australian beef is free of mad cow disease and known to be more accessible to purchase

**Environment/ facilities**

Perceived humane animal-friendly farm base, and cleaner producing facility/environment than US beef

**Quality of producing**

Nicely packed, neat packaging quality but there is strong variation in high/low quality

**Freshness of meat**

Australian beef is fresher than US Beef although cold chain technology is seen as becoming dated

**Price**

More competitive price for the comparable quality/ grade of AU grain-fed beef

**Flavor of beef**

Better taste from grain-fed beef. Most US beef is grain-fed, and likely to have good marbling. Korean consumers prefer the flavour added by marbling especially for grilled beef, as they believe it is an indicator of quality, so restaurants usually offer US to AU beef

**Quality**

Consistent product quality although seen as bulk items and condition of environment – raise and processing not as high as AU beef and the shadow of Mad Cow Disease remains as a barrier for 'emotional safety'



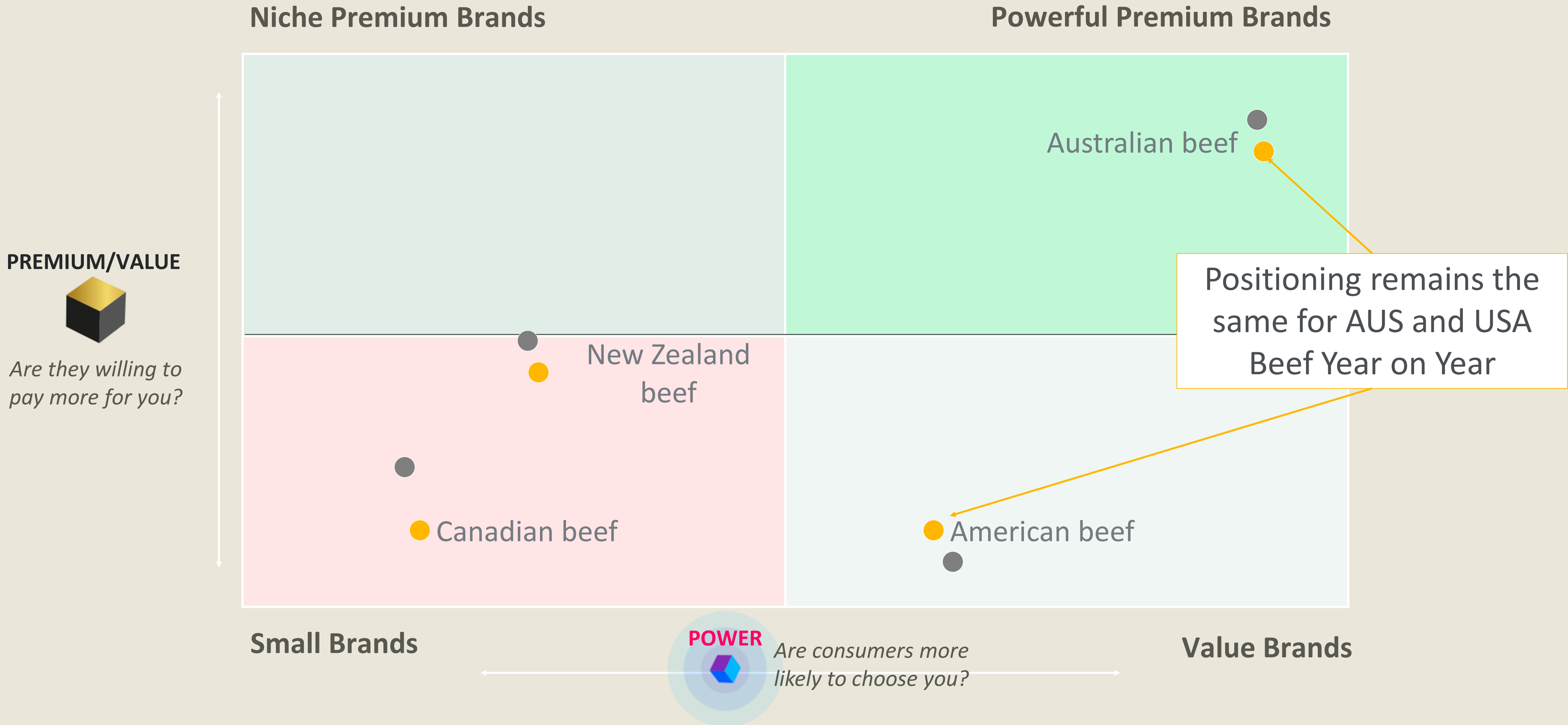
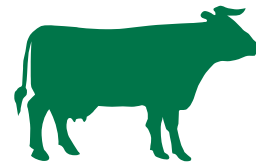
- Clean & Safe vs US Beef
- Humane, animal friendly, cleaner production process vs. US
- Quality Packaging
- Perceived to be fresher

- Cheaper than Australian product
- More flavoursome (due to marbling and grain-fed)
- Quality is good, but not as high as AU
- Some safety concerns

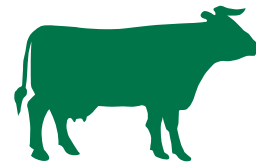
KANTAR



However, in the context of imported beef, AUS and USA play distinct roles, and are clearly pulled apart by consumers, with Australian seen as the more Premium option and USA more Value



**AUS and US beef are seen as readily available (vs NZ/CAN with small volume). Low fat is a new relative AU weakness – potentially due to higher value, marbled cuts in market (but a watchout for growing health focus). US’s price difference reflects in perceptions of being less expensive and more versatile.**



**DRIVERS OF POWER**  
(ranked top to bottom)



AUSTRALIAN BEEF



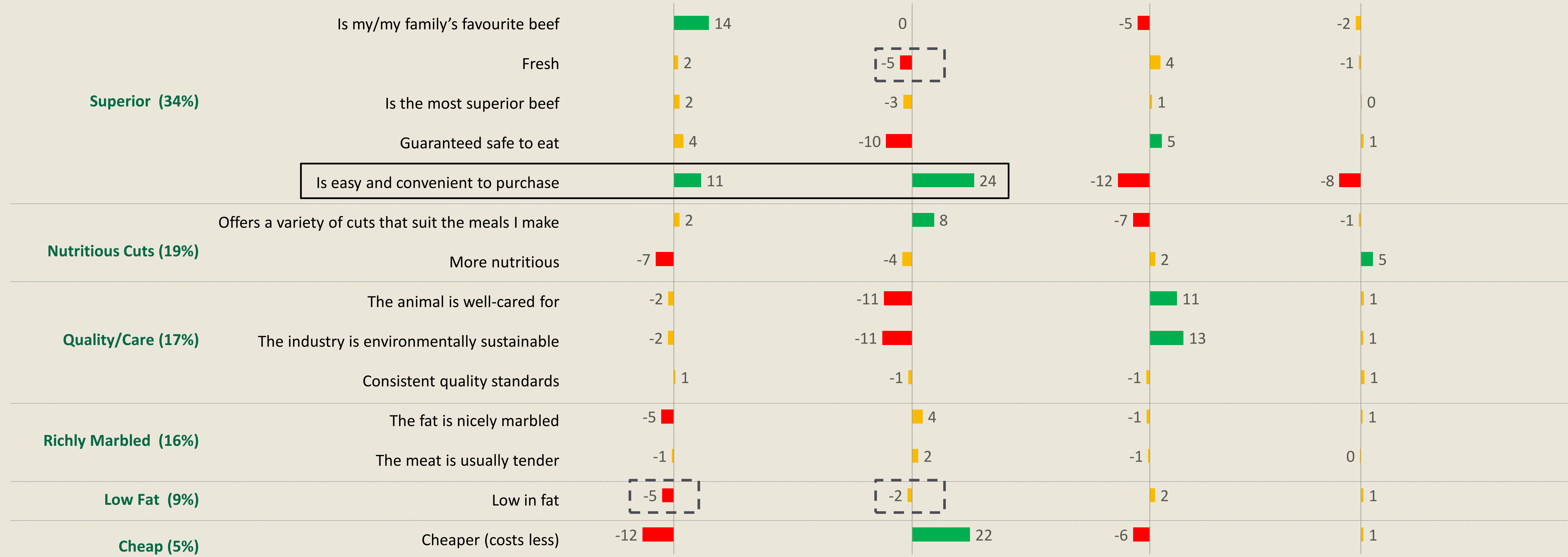
AMERICAN BEEF



NEW ZEALAND BEEF



CANADIAN BEEF



BBH9. Here are some things which people have said about beef. We would like to know which of the following statements apply to beef from different countries of origin. You may choose as many or as few countries of origin as you wish. It doesn’t matter if you don’t buy any of them - it’s your impressions we’d like. Base: (n=800). Attributes are grouped according to level of co-endorsement i.e. when respondents endorse one attribute for a brand, they are likely to endorse the others in the group. In this way the attributes are linked, then the groups are given an appropriate, summary name.



Change in perception since 2021

+5 or more = relative category strength  
-5 or less = relative category weakness.



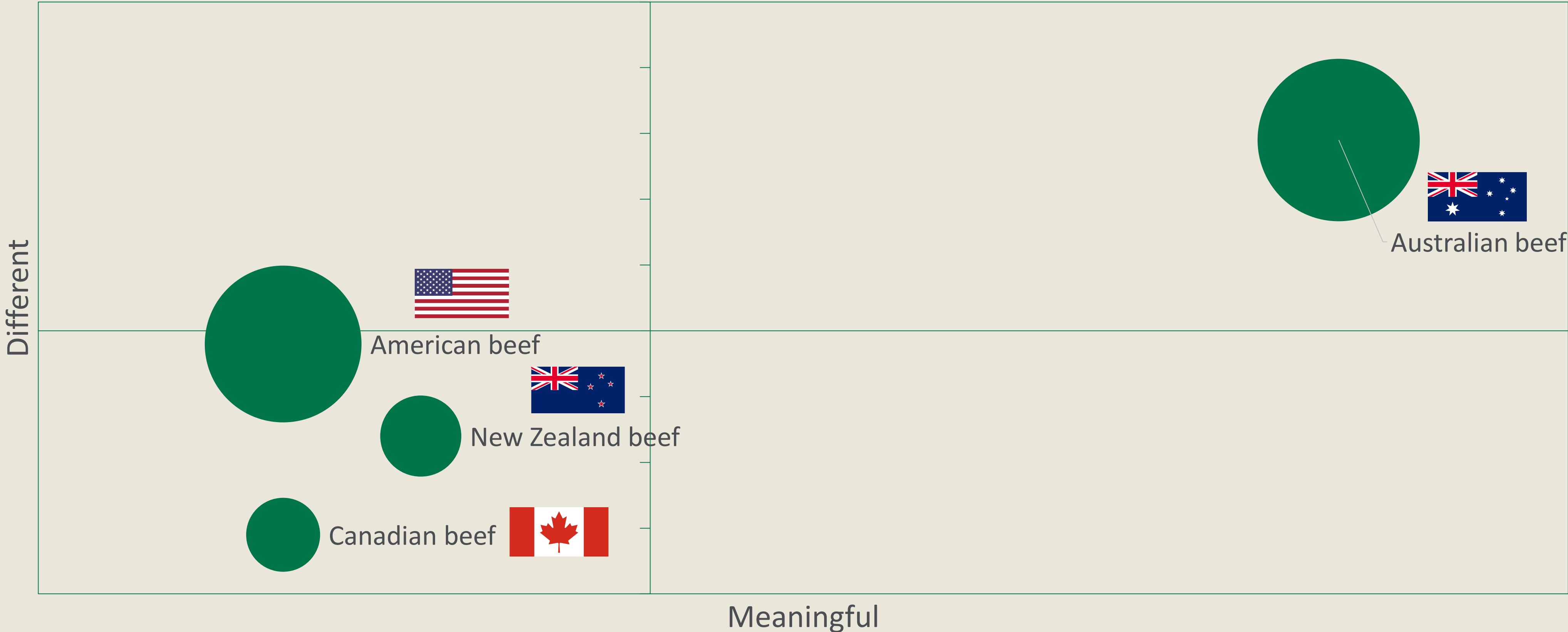
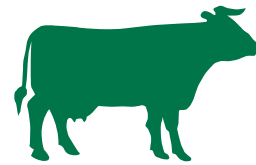
---

# WHAT NEXT FOR AUS BEEF IN KOREA?

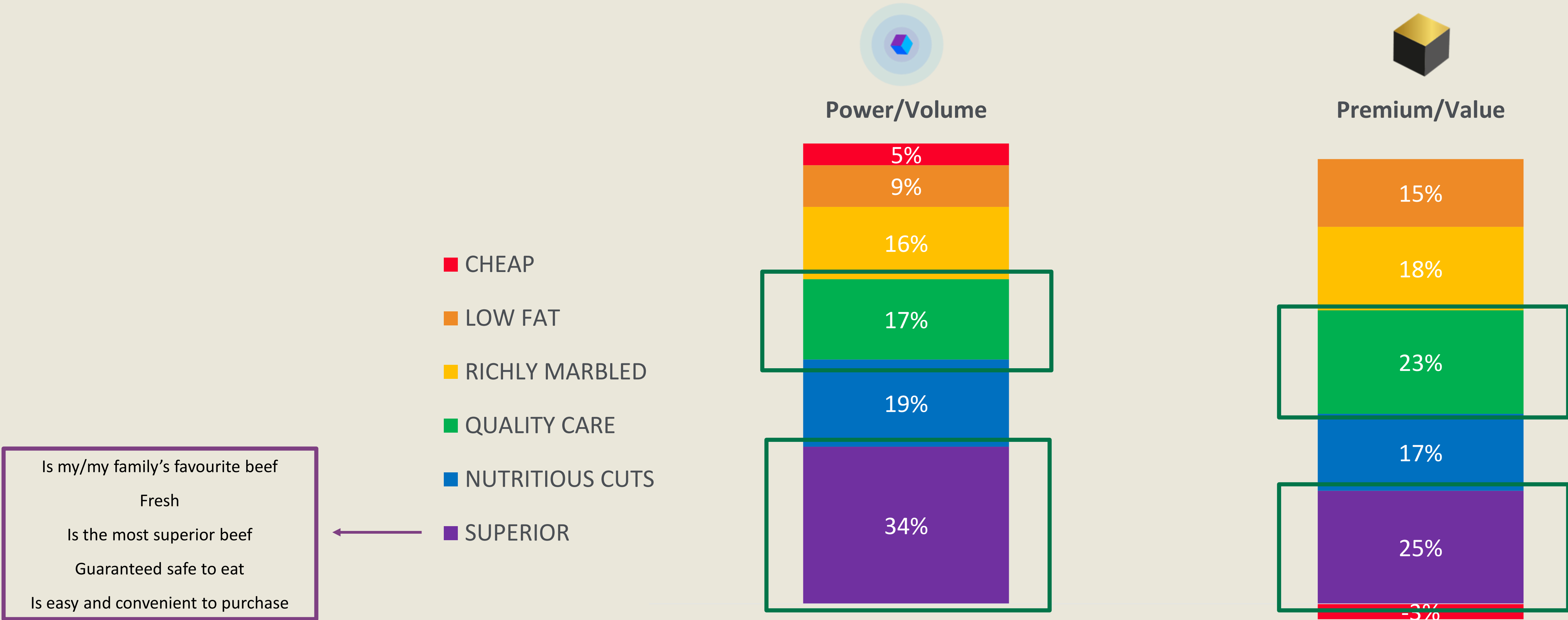
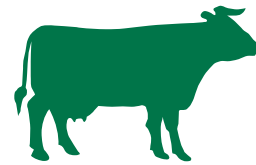
---



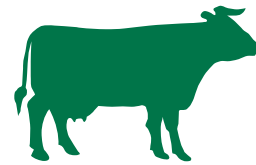
AU remains the strongest beef brand; the most meaningful, different and salient. But we need to protect this position in the face of challenging conditions and increasing US volumes.



To drive Volume (Power) and perceptions of better value, we need to build associations of superiority, and nutritious (mostly unowned). Quality care is an opportunity, but is currently owned by NZ.



The specific attributes for protecting our Powerful Premium position are delivering freshness, safety – while superiority and nutritious justify price and cater to growing macro health trends



These associations are simulated in the Meaningfully Different model to ascertain which will drive the greatest growth in Power and Premium

OBJECTIVE:



GROWING  
**EQUITY/VOLUME**

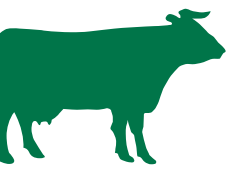


GROWING  
**PREMIUM/VALUE**

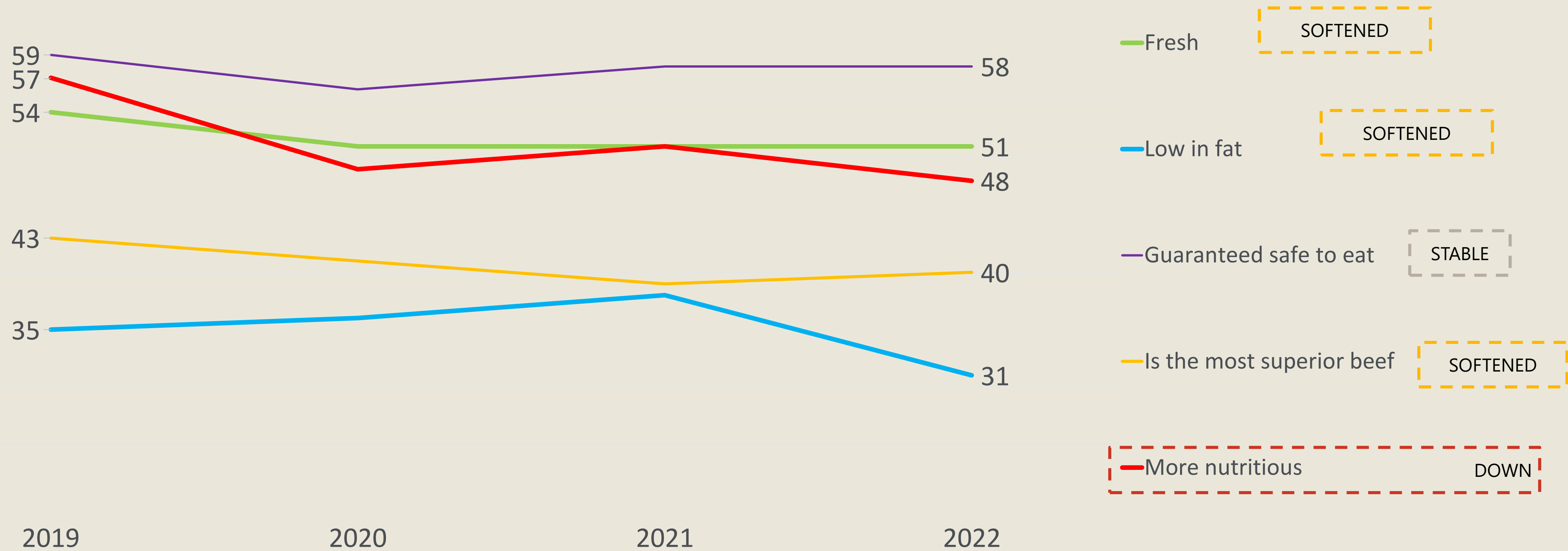
KEY AREAS TO FOCUS ON WHEN DRIVING THESE OBJECTIVES IN THIS MARKET...



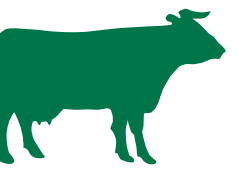
But our challenge is that perceptions of fresh, low fat, nutritious and superior have all been trending down over the past 4 years.



AUSTRALIAN BEEF



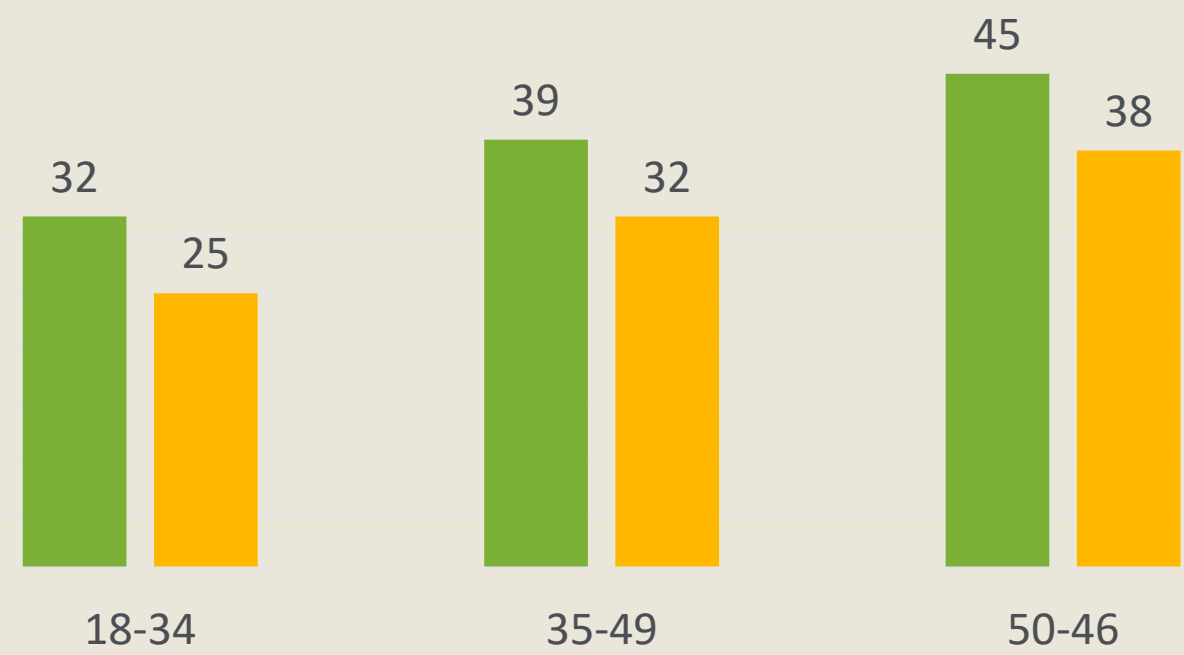
There are some specific age and lifestage groups that are driving the declines in these key associations. We need to rebuild perceptions of nutrition and superiority amongst younger consumers and families.



## AUSTRALIAN BEEF PERCEPTIONS

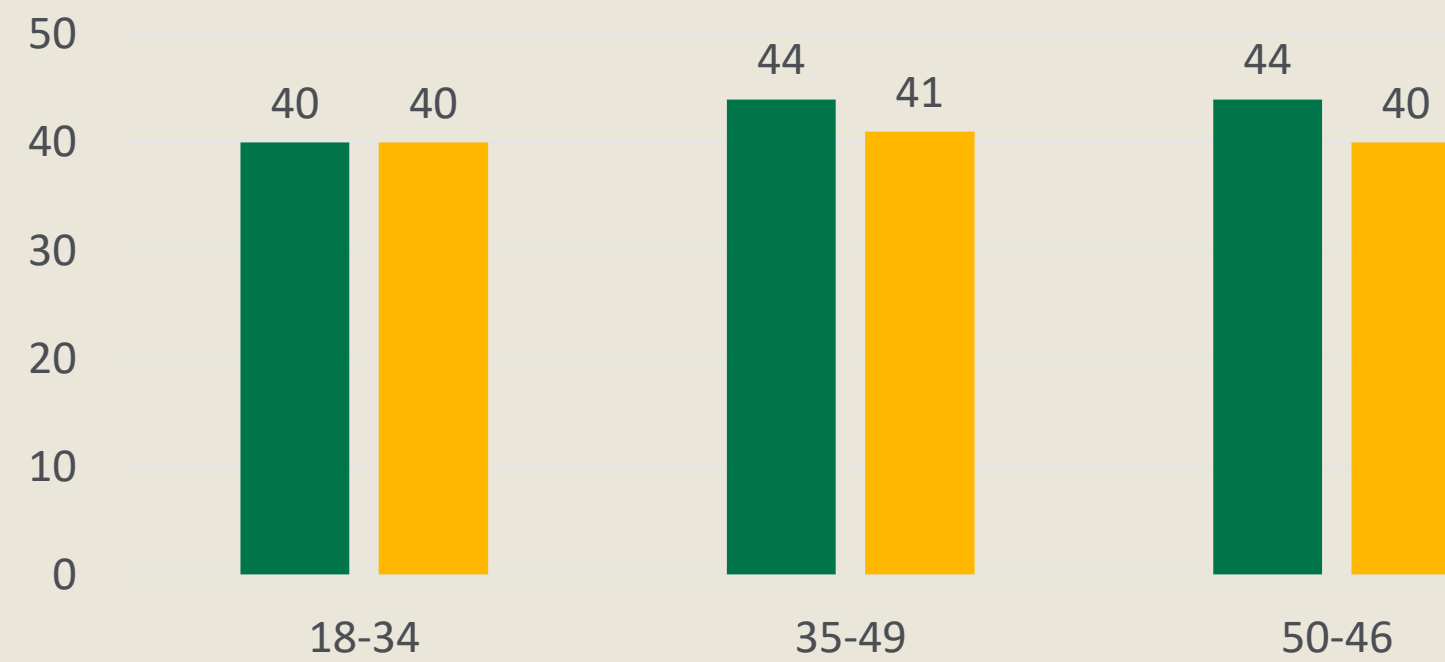
### Low in Fat

2021  
2022



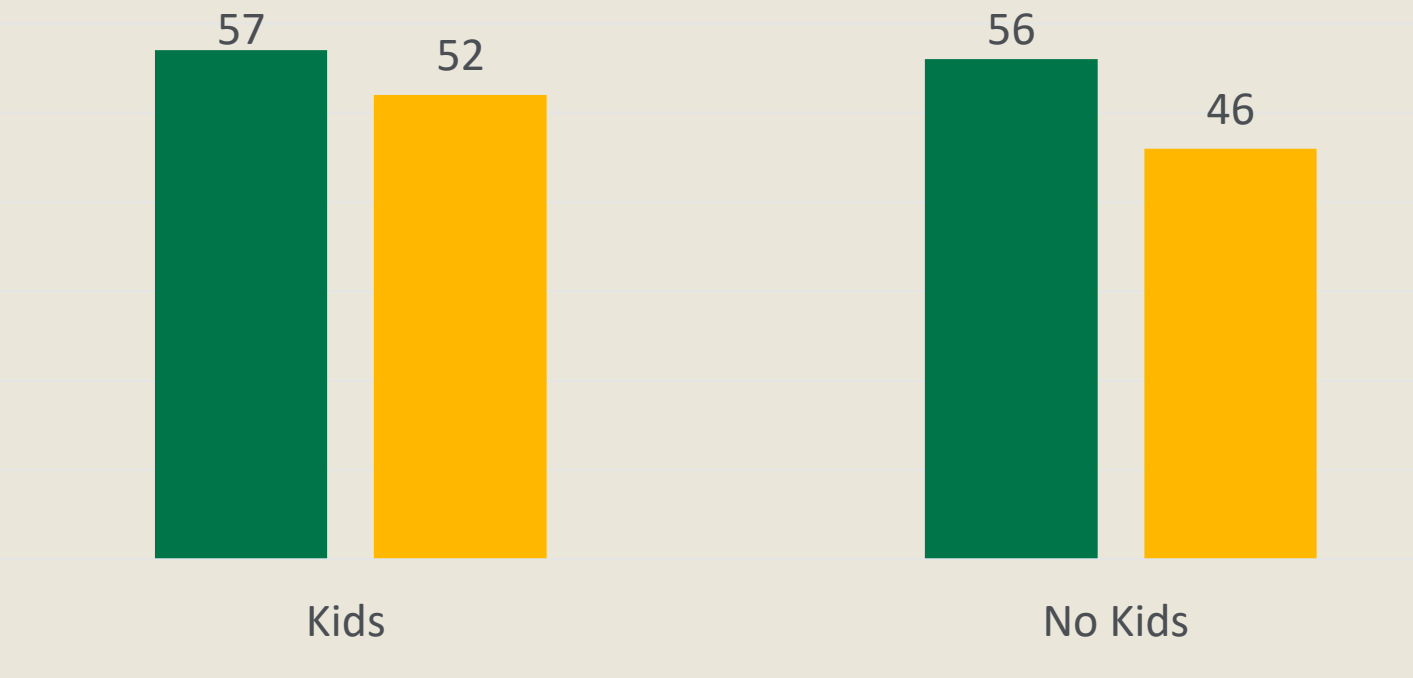
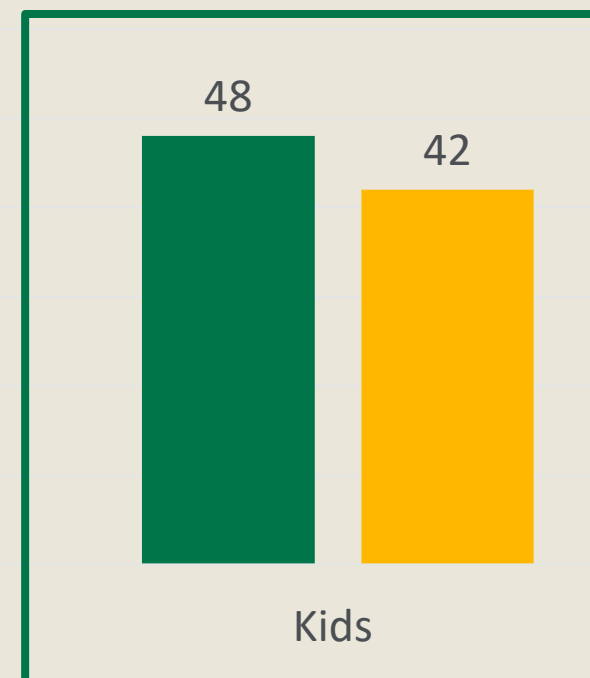
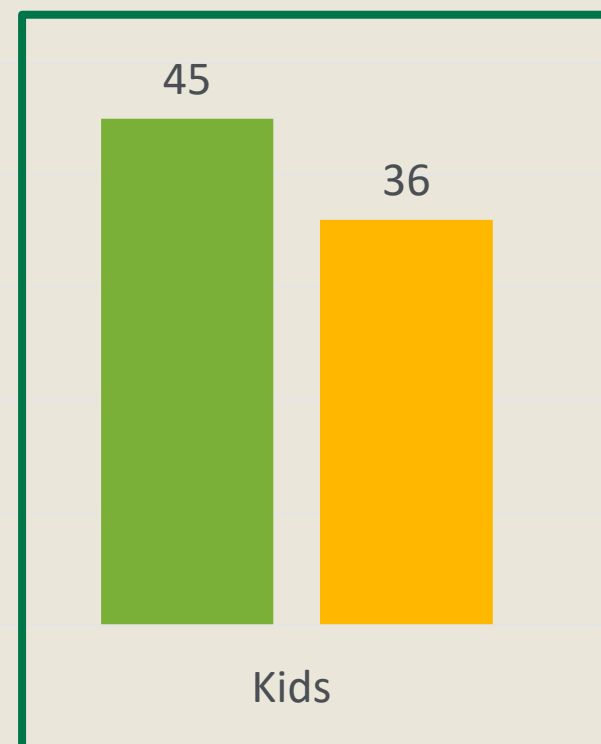
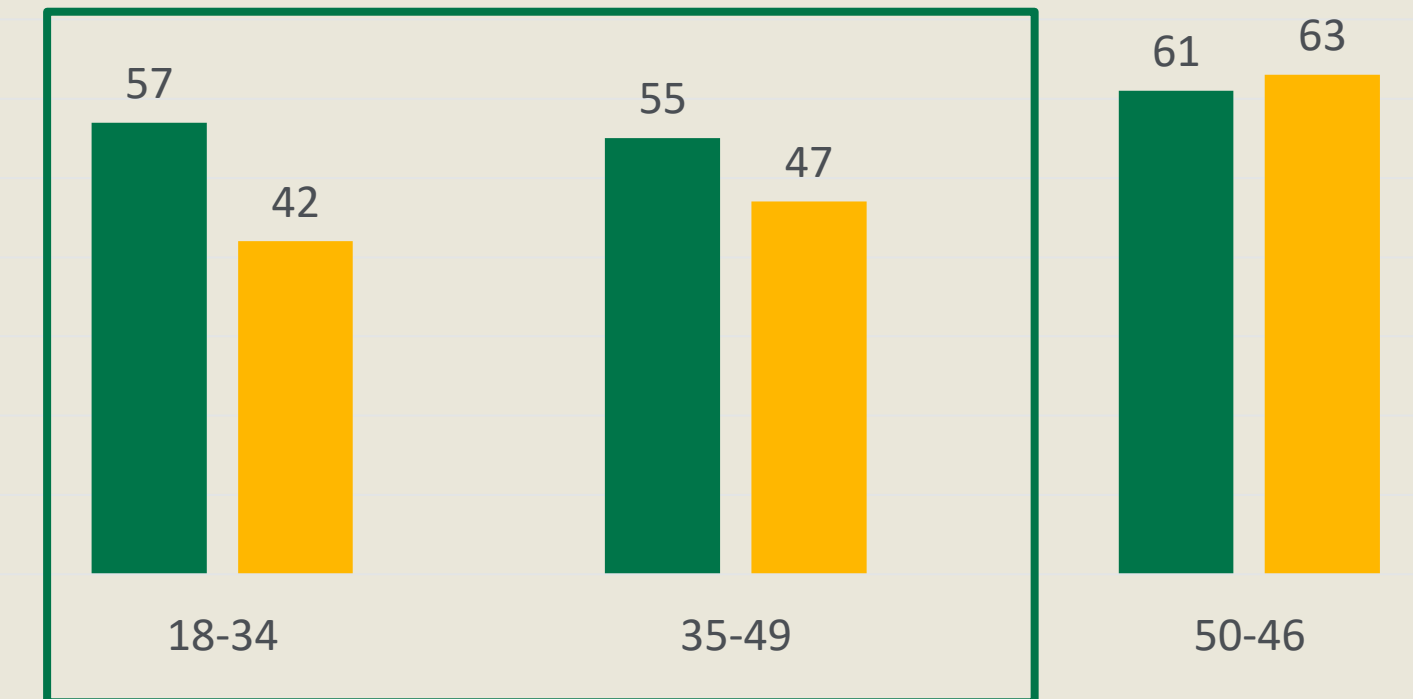
### Superior

2019  
2022

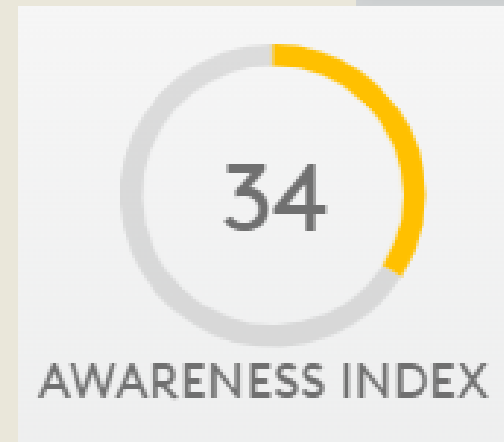
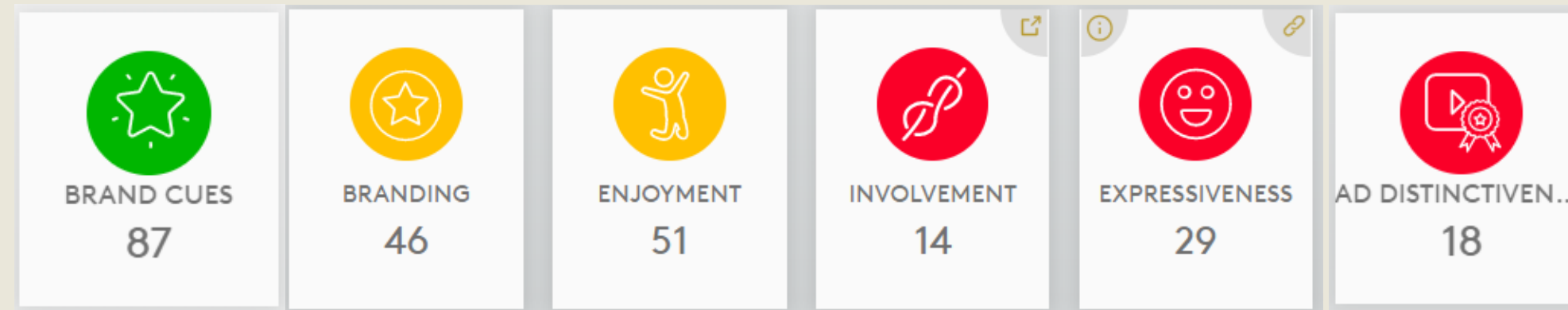
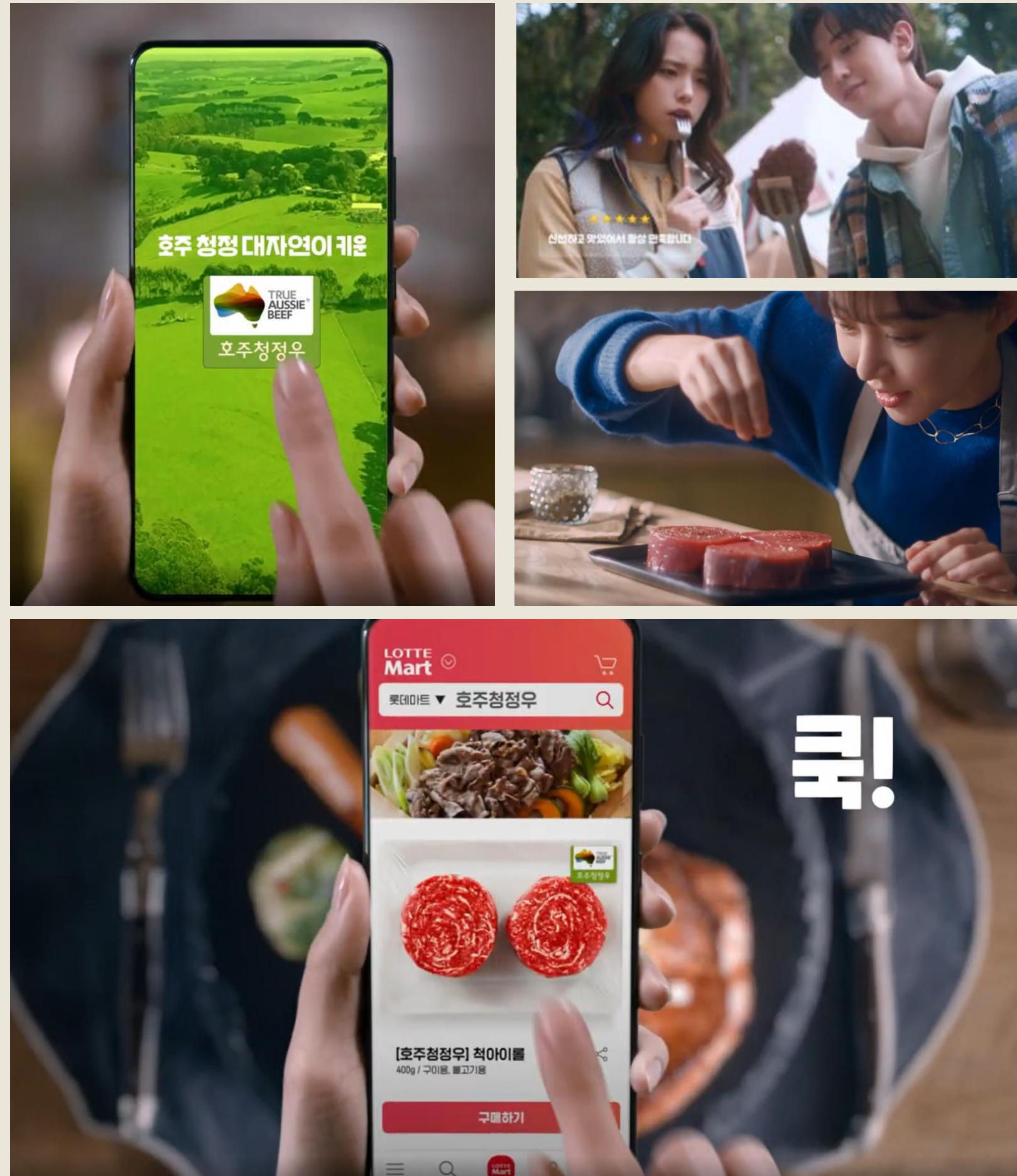


### Nutritious

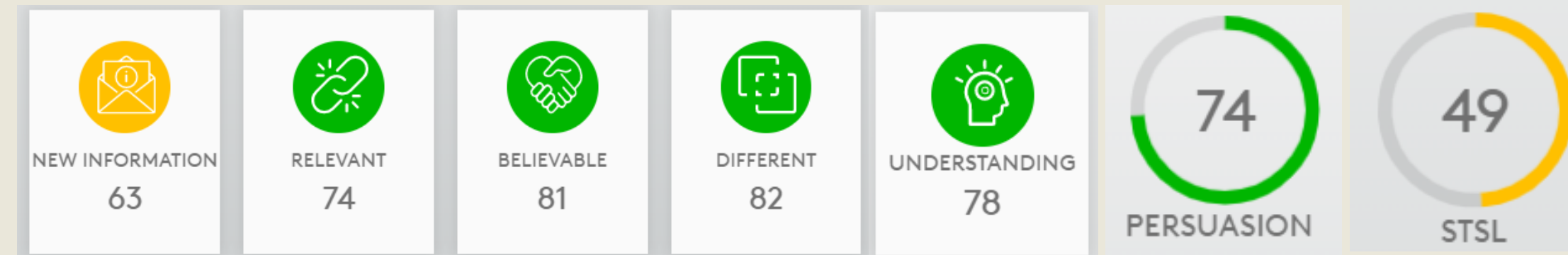
2019  
2022



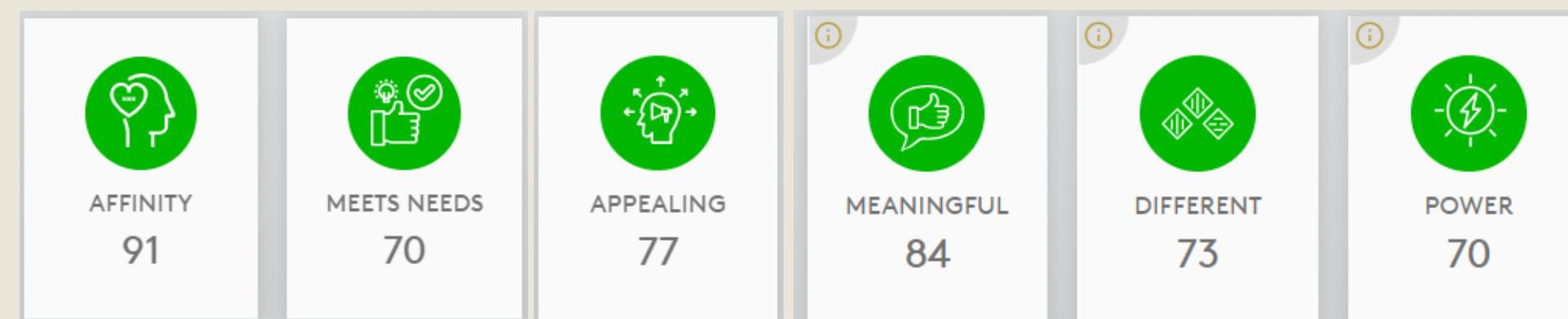
Positively, our comms are communicating the right elements – a clean rearing environment, safe/fresh, superiority, versatility and health/nutrition. In doing so, they should help to maintain relevance and choice.



Strong **integration of beef**, but **average connection to Hoju Chungjungwo** pairs with a **gentler tone** (soothing, pleasant, gentle) to generate **average cut through efficiency**.



Clear delivery of **credible, differentiating** and **relevant** information leads to a **very compelling** creative. Paired with **average cut through** this drives an **average short term sales response**.

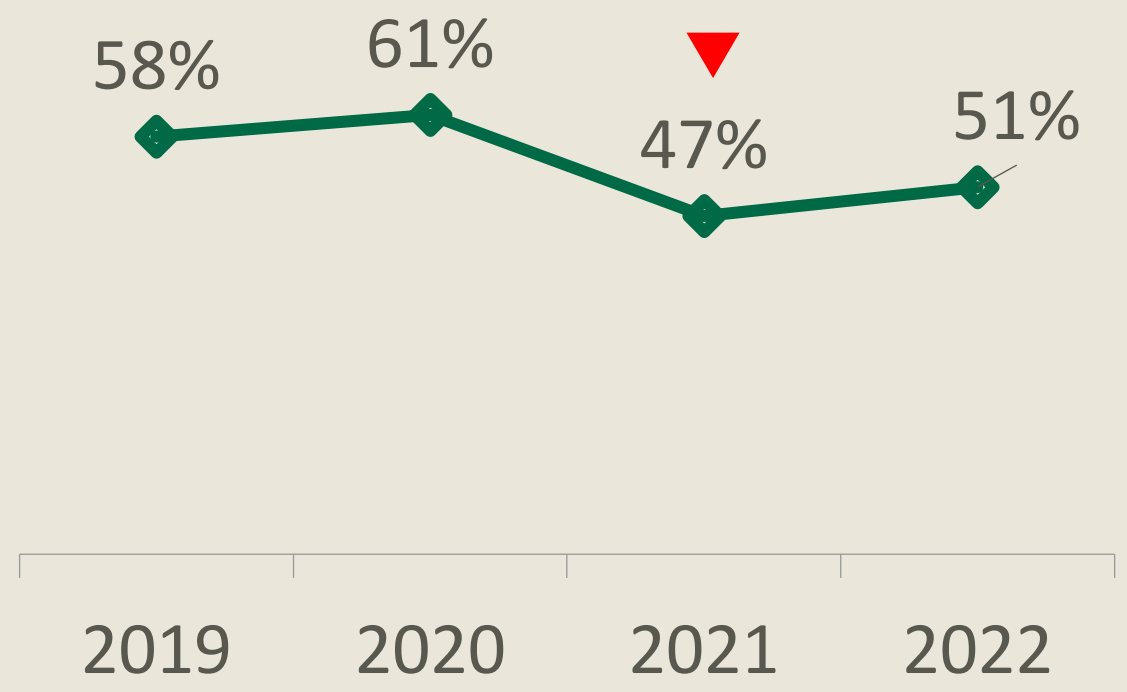


The ad drives strong love/**affinity** and communicates it **meets needs** to be **appealing**. Paired with **strong differentiation** this ad drives **strong long term equity**.

True Aussie Hoju Chungjungwoo appears to reinforce some key perceptions, and provides a platform for continuing to communicate these with the half of consumers who claim to be aware of the logo/term.

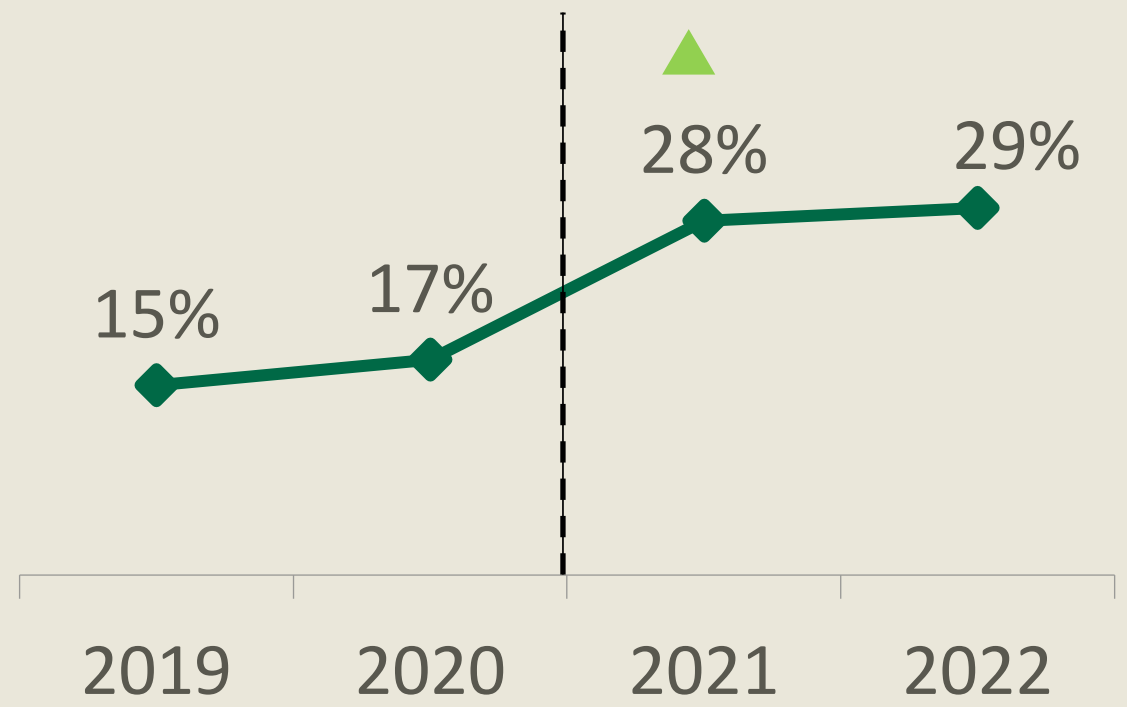


### AWARE OF TRUE AUSSIE TERM & LOGO

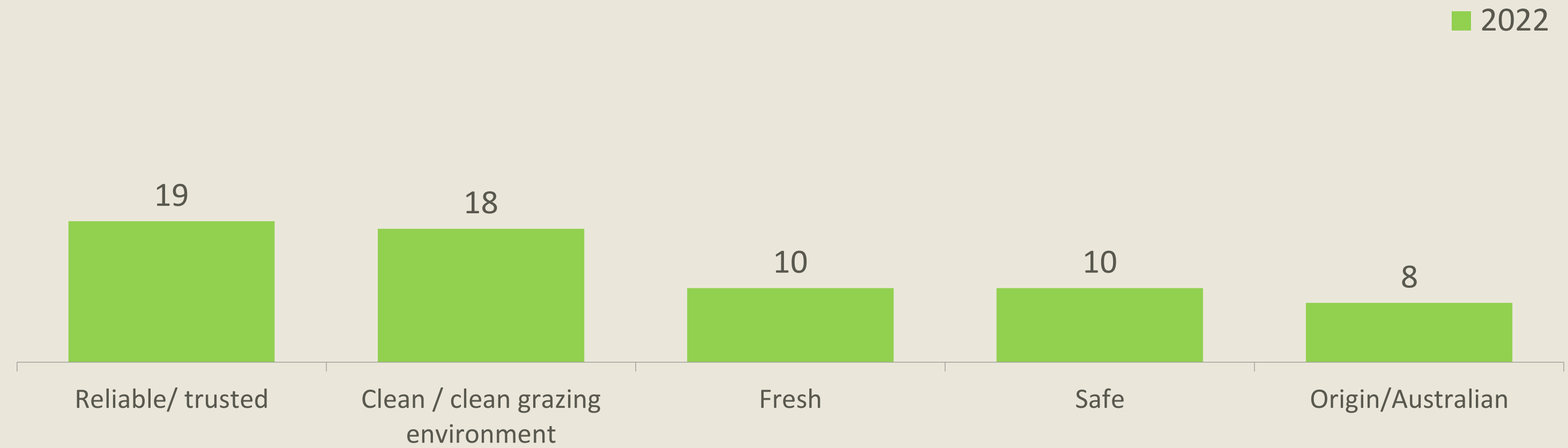


2021-22: 'True Aussie Hojuchungjungwoo'

Prior to 2021: 'True Aussie'



### What does the logo communicate?



Order remains largely the same as 2021

**So the job to be done is to stem the decline in perceptions of superiority and ongoing weaknesses in nutrition  
- continue to do so by promoting the differentiating perceptions of our safe, clean process**



### **1. SUPERIOR PRODUCT**

Re-establish perceptions of superiority to justify our premium positioning



### **2. NUTRITION**

Address the health concerns and erosion of nutrition credentials of Australian product



### **3. SAFETY THROUGH CLEAN REARING**

Reinforce the more sustainable practices of Australian production which reinforce the healthier, superior product attributes

**Nutrition is connected to Safe/Clean rearing, an RTB for Superior and Better For You**

## Terms of use: MLA data, reports and information

Meat & Livestock Australia Limited | ABN 39 081 678 364 | Level 1, 40 Mount Street, North Sydney NSW 2060 Postal address: Locked Bag 991, North Sydney NSW 2059 | Ph +61 2 9463 9333 | Fax +61 2 9463 9393 | [mla.com.au](http://mla.com.au)

### 1. General

1.1 The reports, data and information provided to you (Data) are owned by Meat & Livestock Australia Limited (ABN 39 081 678 364) (“MLA”, “we”, “us” or “our”).

1.2 “You” or “your” means the person or entity that is provided with a copy of the Data.

1.3 Your access to and use of the Data is subject to these terms of use and any additional terms, notices and disclaimers which appear with or in the Data. If you do not agree with the terms, notice and disclaimers, you must not access or use the Data.

1.4 MLA may amend these terms of use from time to time and will notify you of any amended terms of use. If you do not agree to the amended terms of use, you should not continue to use the Data. Your continued use of the Data after these terms of use have been amended constitutes your acceptance of them.

### 2. Limited licence

2.1 MLA grants you a non-exclusive, royalty free licence to use the Data solely for your personal and business purposes. MLA may revoke this licence at any time by providing you with at least 14 days’ notice, in which case you must cease all use of the Data on expiry of the notice period.

2.2 You must not provide the Data to anyone else.

### 3. Copyright

3.1 All rights (including intellectual property rights such as copyright) in the Data, its content and design are owned by or licensed to MLA.

3.2 You must not remove, alter or obscure any copyright notices that appear on the Data.

3.3 You must not commercialise any information, content or designs contained in any part of the Data without the prior written consent of MLA.

### 4. Trade marks, trade names and logos

4.1 All trade marks, trade names, service marks and other names and logos on the Data are owned by or licensed to MLA and are protected by applicable trade mark and copyright laws.

4.2 You must not remove, alter or obscure any trade marks, trade names and other names and logos that appear on the Data.

### 5. Collection of information

5.1 If MLA requires you to provide personal information in connection with your receipt of the Data, MLA will collect, store, use and disclose this information in accordance with its privacy policy (found at [www.mla.com.au/General/Privacy](http://www.mla.com.au/General/Privacy)) and you consent to this.

### 6. Disclaimer and liability