



Research Roundup & Counter-Narratives: International Students at UCLA

Climate Change After the Election?

Amy Pojar, M.A., Ph.D. Candidate

Assistant Director, Research & Special Projects

Dashew Center for International Students & Scholars (DCISS)



Question:

1. **Did campus climate change or vary for international students after the 2016 U.S. election, which included two executive orders that excluded people from 7 countries?**
2. **Do international students who identify as Muslim report experiencing this period differently than their non-Muslim peers?**

Method:

1. **Observe rate of disagreement to campus climate questions about citizenship, national origin, religion, and political beliefs.**
2. **Perform ANOVA to test the difference between means for each of these variables; use time period / epochs as well as Muslim status as predictors.**



Epochs

Pre-Election (before the election)

Inauguration (between the election and inauguration)

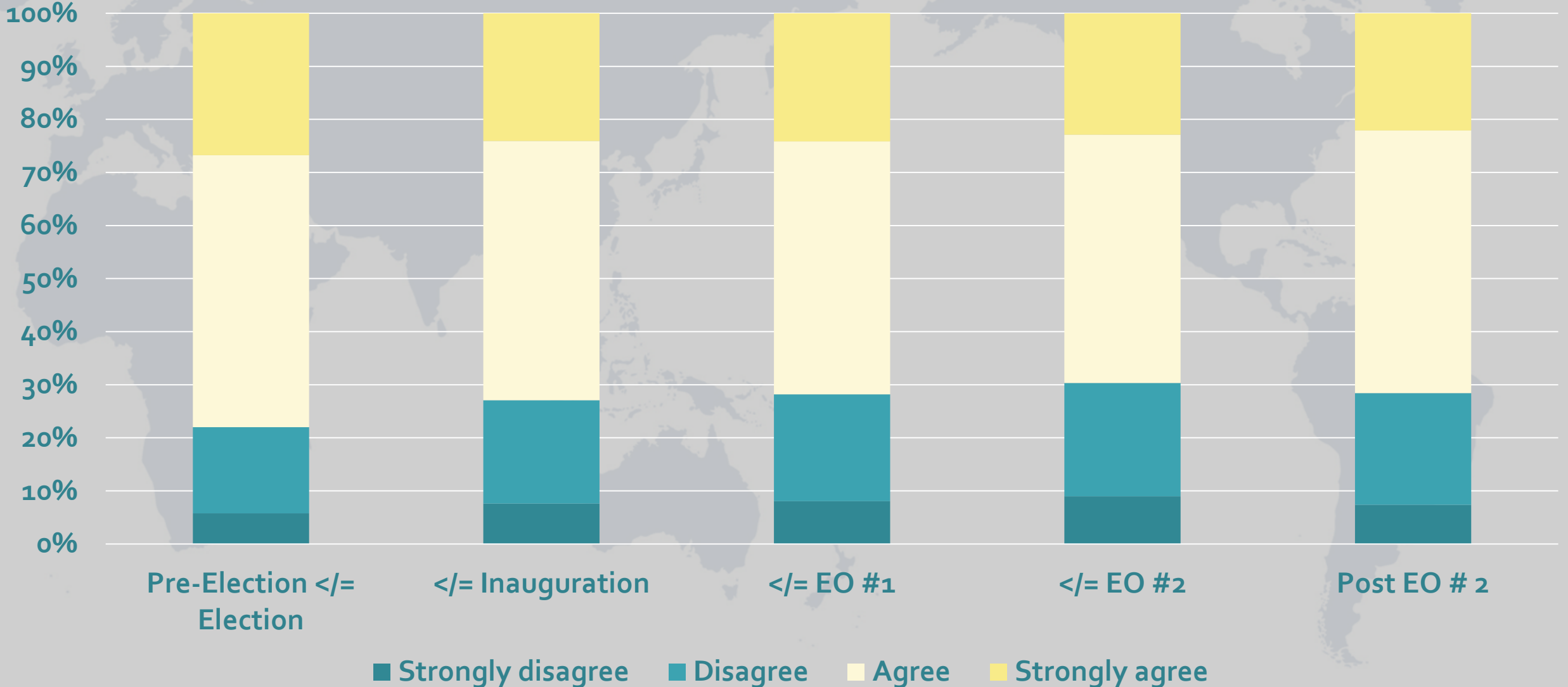
EO #1 (between inauguration and Executive Order 1)

EO #2 (between Executive Order 1 and Executive Order 2)

Post EO (after Executive Order 2)

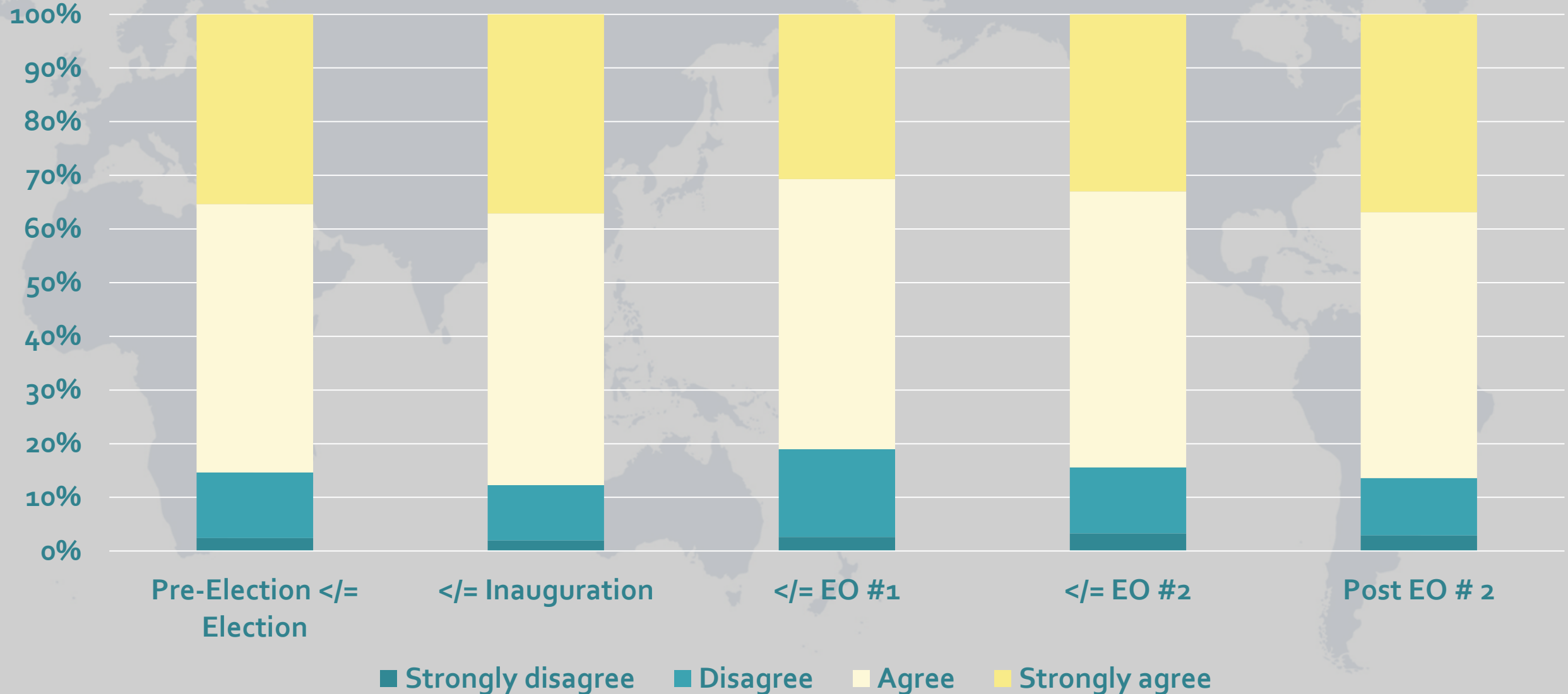
People Respected at UCLA Regardless of Political Beliefs: ALL

Source: Dashew Center Biennial Survey of International Students, 2016-17



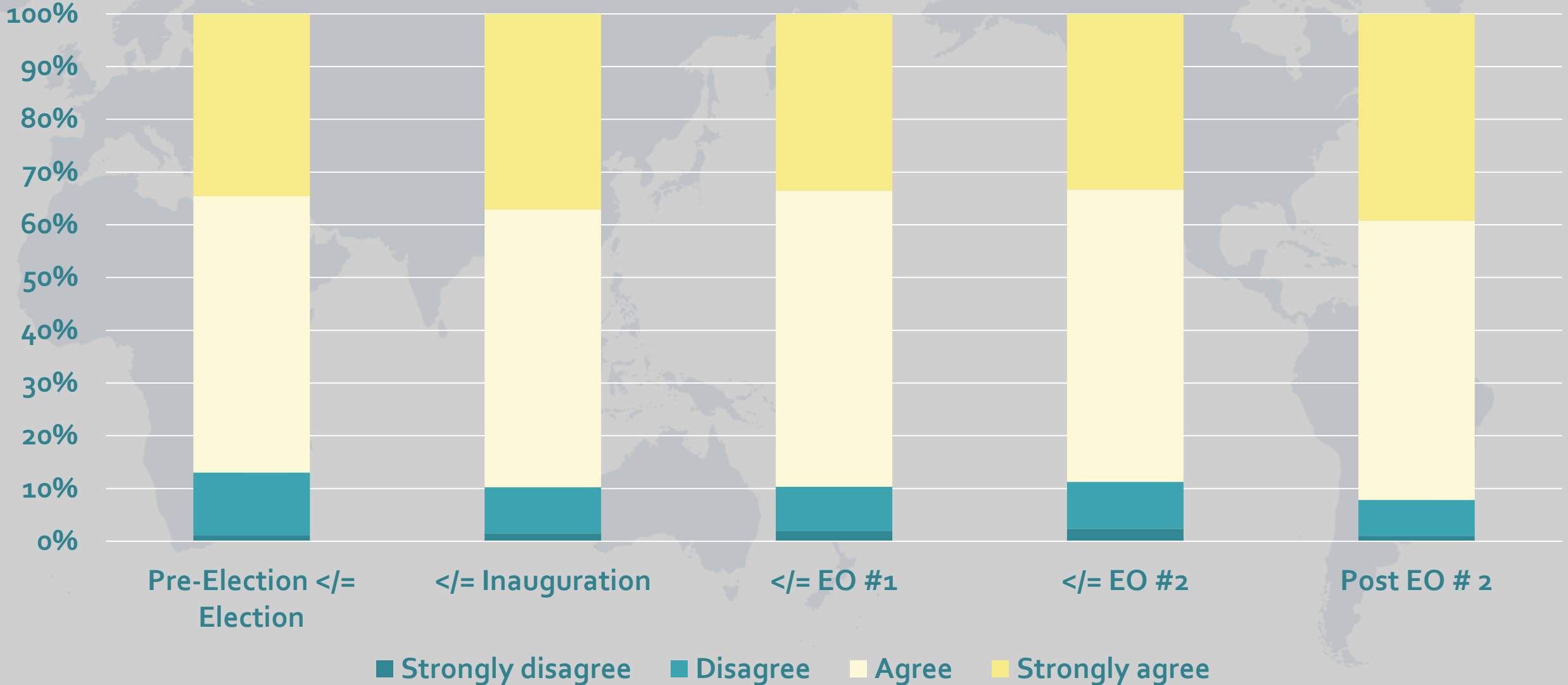
People Respected at UCLA Regardless of Citizenship/International Status: ALL

Source: Dashew Center Biennial Survey of International Students, 2016-17



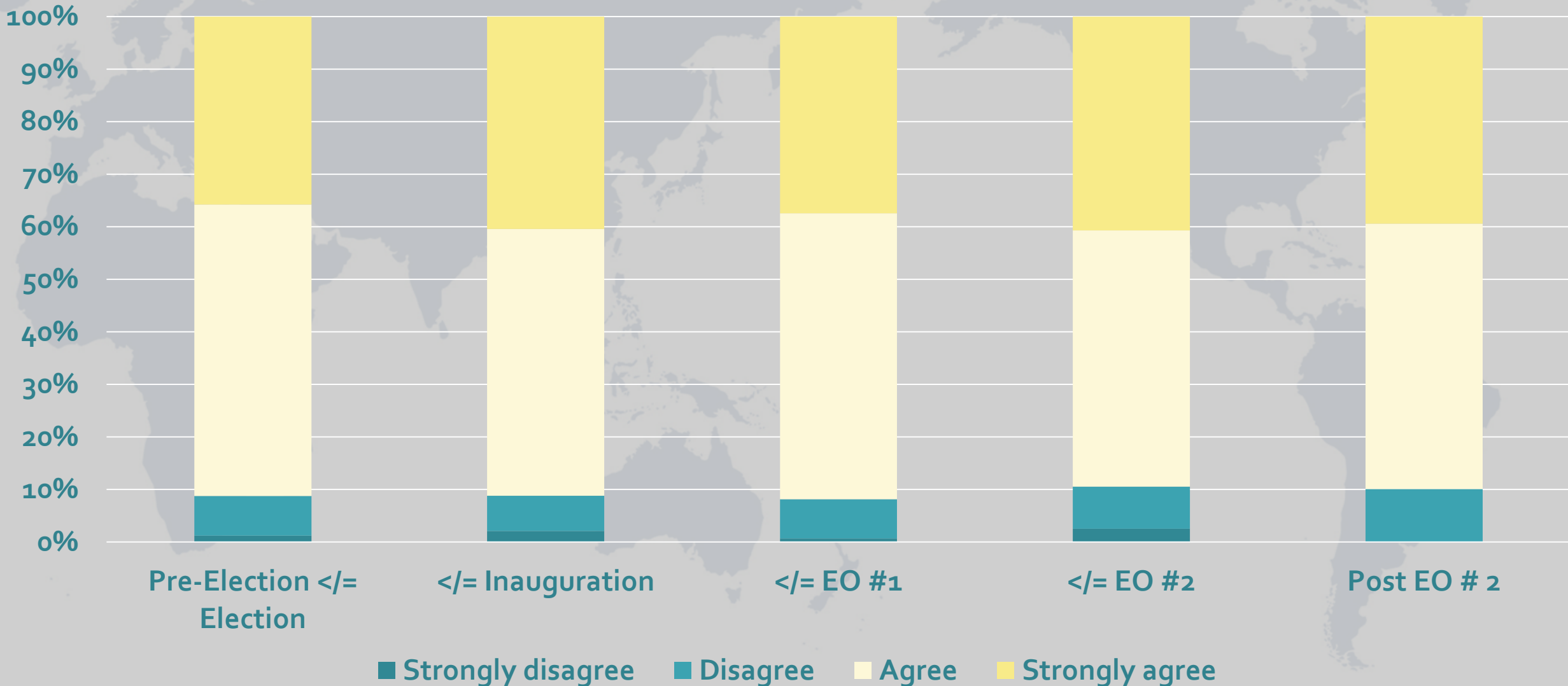
People Respected at UCLA Regardless of National Origin: ALL

Source: Dashew Center Biennial Survey of International Students, 2016-17



People Respected at UCLA Regardless of Religious Beliefs: ALL

Source: Dashew Center Biennial Survey of International Students, 2016-17



Spotlight



- While the Dashew Center heard from various students who had fears about their visa status during this time, no differences were found when using ANOVA to test whether epochs and Muslim status predict each of the climate variables
- Possible reasons for no generalizable effect:
 - Whatever effects occurred began before the survey period, during the lead up to the election
 - UCLA's institutional response and support for international students shielded them from possible impact of the executive orders on campus climate and/or the campus is generally supportive
 - Students were not the direct subject of the orders and the U.S. government was not the direct subject of the survey questions
 - The dataset does not include many students from countries impacted by the executive orders

Questions

