



# HONG KONG EXTRADITION BILL

Member temperature gauge survey

June 12-June 18, 2019

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**1,250**

members surveyed  
starting June 12

**200**

respondents  
at 10 pm, June 18





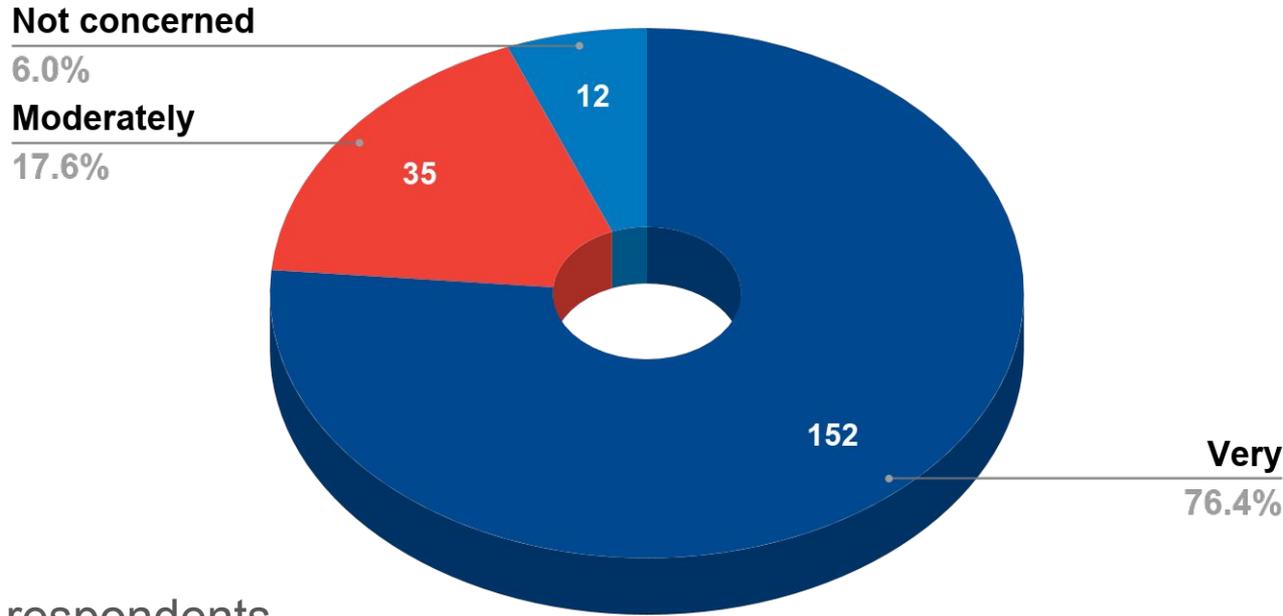
## Summary

**Ninety-four percent** of AmCham members who responded to the poll said they were concerned by the bill, with **three-quarters** ‘very concerned’. **Inadequate protections in China’s legal system** was the most cited reason for those concerns (84 percent of respondents), followed by **erosion of Hong Kong’s autonomy** and **concerns over HK governance** (66 percent and 63 percent). Escalating **public protests** were cited by 69 respondents, with **91 percent calling on the government to scrap or delay the bill**.

While only **54 percent** felt the bill had or would damage their own businesses, **72 percent** felt **global firms would be more likely to move regional HQs** from Hong Kong. Members cited HK’s lost reputation as a center of excellence for the **rule of law and effective governance**, as well as greater difficulty in **attracting and retaining global talent** to the city. **Sixty percent** of respondents said they were also “very” worried by the possible **revision of Hong Kong’s trade and legal status** by other countries.

To be sure, opposing viewpoints were also clear: Some members cited **poor communication and execution** of the legislation, deliberate **misinformation to stir up public opposition** and **anti-China bias** from foreign governments and media.

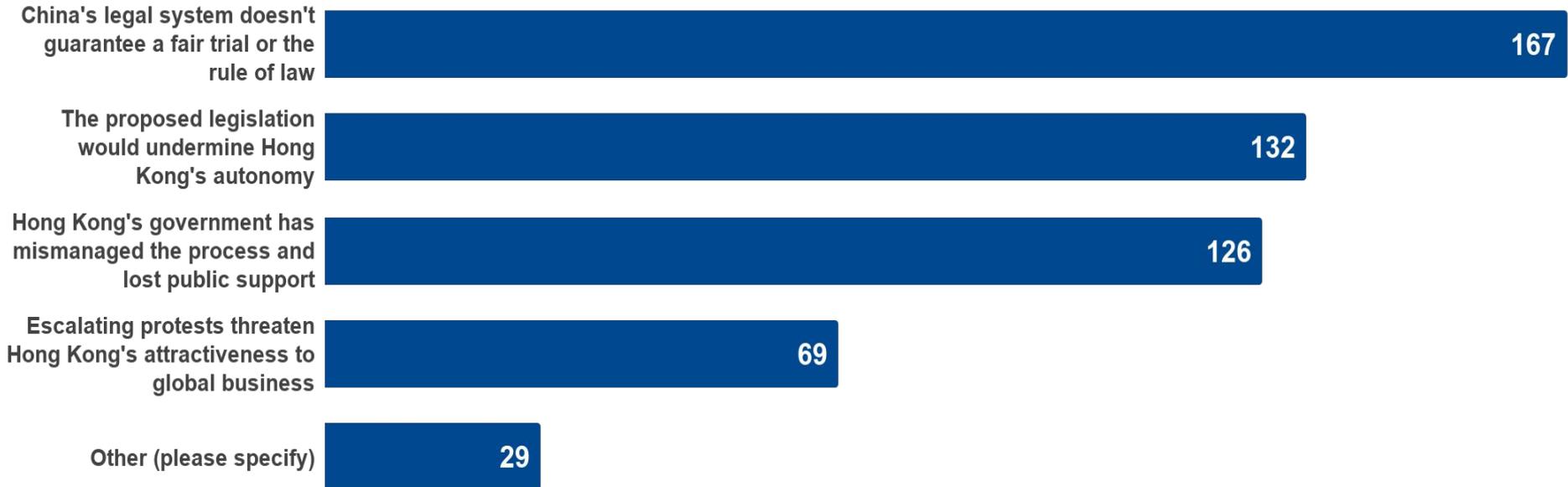
# Q1: How concerned are you about Hong Kong's proposed extradition legislation?



199 respondents

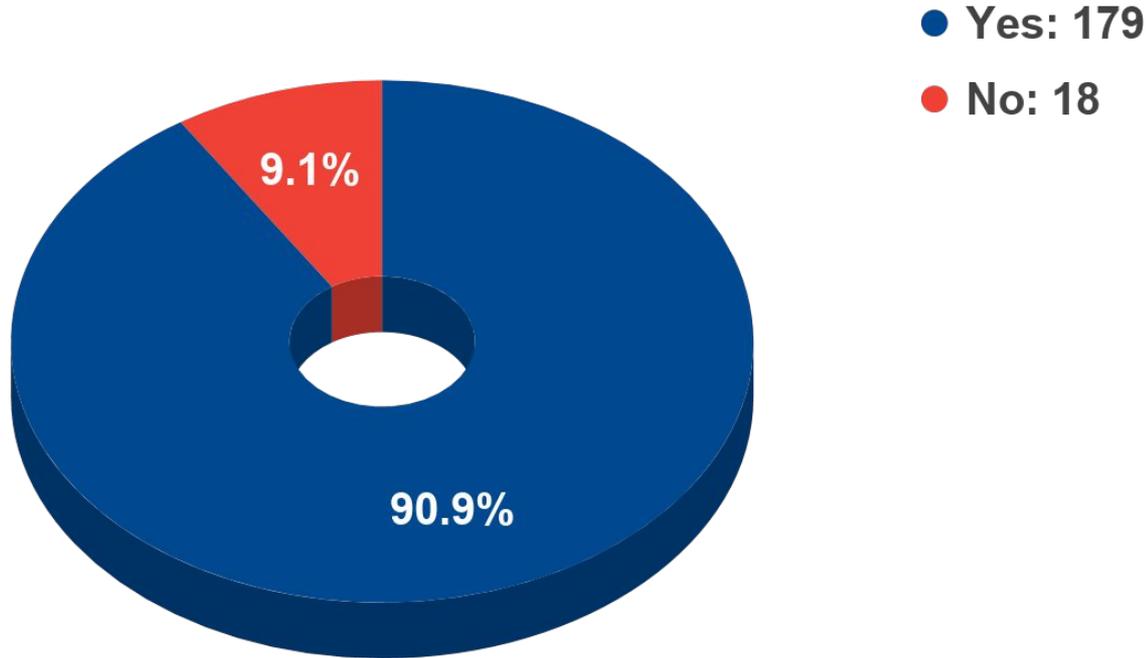
# Q2: What do you think is the primary cause of concern over the extradition issue?

(More than one choice allowed)



199 respondents

### Q3: Should Hong Kong's government scrap or delay the extradition bill?

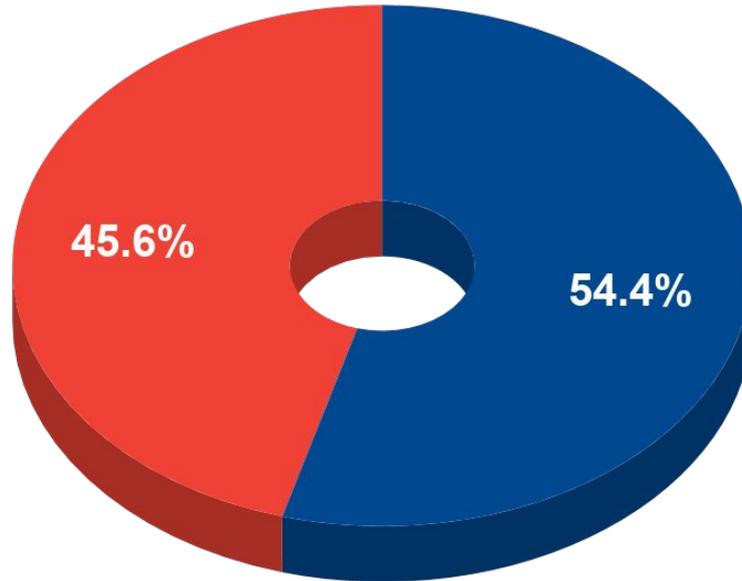


197 respondents

Q4: Has the issue harmed or is it likely to harm your business?



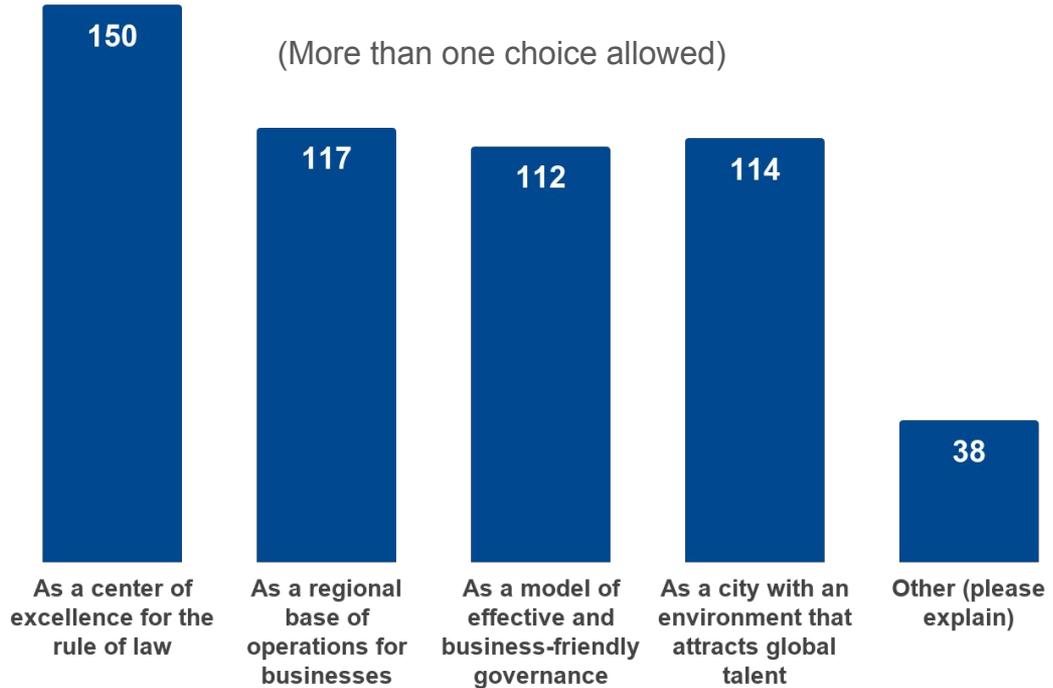
- Yes: 106
- No: 89



195 respondents



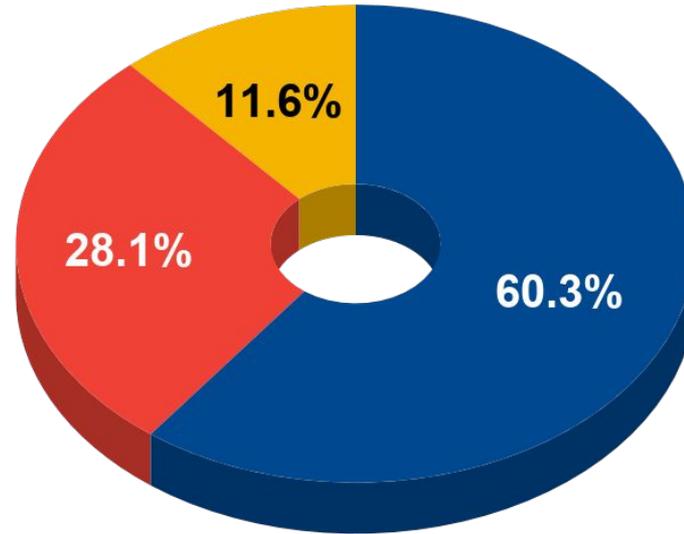
# Q5: How has the extradition issue tarnished Hong Kong's reputation overseas?



198 respondents



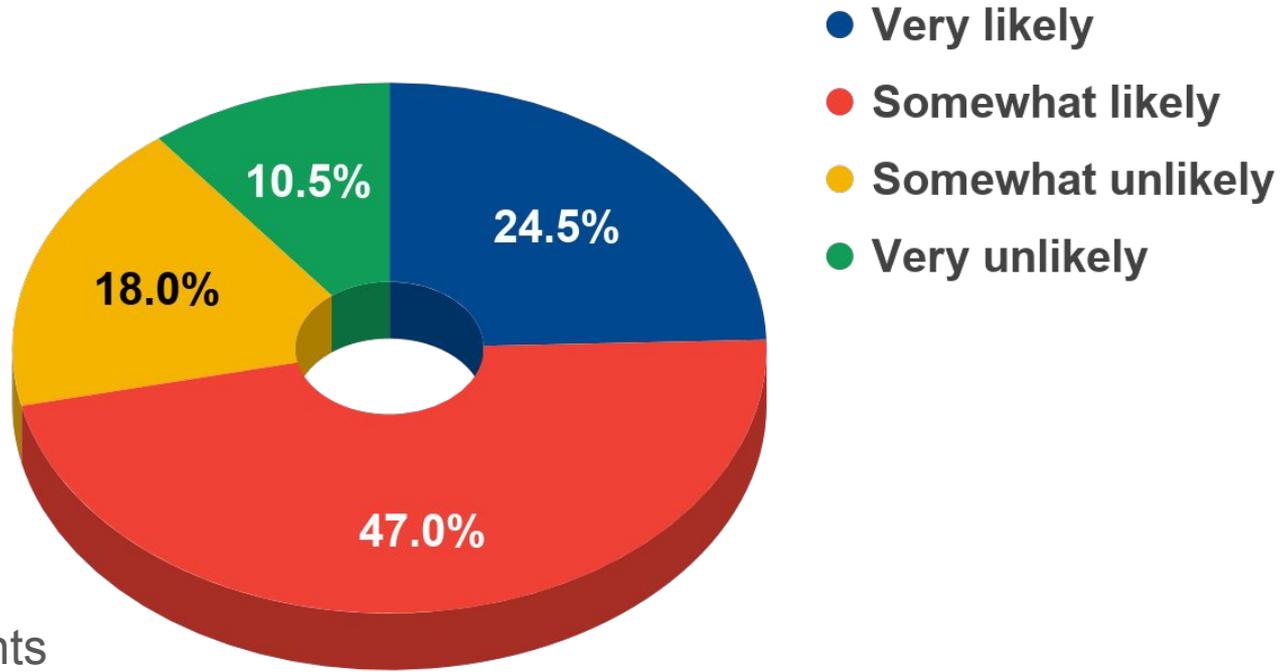
Q6: How seriously do you take the possibility that the US and other countries may review Hong Kong's trade and legal status if the bill is passed?



● Very ● Moderately ● I don't see it as a risk

199 respondents

Q7: If the bill is passed, how likely is it that global companies will relocate their Asia HQs?



200 respondents



## Selected comments...

“Politics trump the legal processes. Laws are vaguely written and being charged results in a 99.99% conviction rate”

“This law establishes that the deliberate separation of Hong Kong and China envisioned in the original handover agreement is irrelevant”

“The proposed Fugitives Bill ... would forcibly transplant the mainland's arbitrary and capricious criminal justice system into Hong Kong”

“Protests are justified ... the public understands the catastrophic consequences of the premature destruction of the one-country, two-systems framework”

“If the US-China trade war gets worse then the ability to extradite Western business people into China from HK could become a more serious reason for businesses to choose another place“

“Carrie Lam [is] ... now stuck between her superiors in China and the people of Hong Kong. I can't see any good outcomes here”



## Selected comments II

“Our overseas colleagues already bring vanilla/data free laptops to China & HK for fear of big brother spying. They are becoming more reluctant to travel because they feel HK is not the free economy it was famous for”

“Reduced economic attractiveness to HK equals less foreign talent coming to HK and for us, less business”

“Will make investment of resources, whether human or capital, more risky and therefore more unlikely”

“We will struggle to justify basing talent in Hong Kong, which is our Asia regional headquarters – for now”

“When people and business don't trust the HK government any more, they will start leaving the city”

“Echoes of Tiananmen Square and police in riot gear with over 20 percent of the population being ignored – including the legal community – while the international voices express legitimate concerns”

“Transactions have been aborted. Financial services firms (our clients) are deeply pessimistic and have begun preparations to relocate APAC operations from HK to Singapore or Tokyo”



## Selected comments III

“Yet another reason for companies who choose not to base their Asian headquarters in China to not choose to base them in Hong Kong either”

“Further undermining the central role which Hong Kong used to play in Asia ... in the past years, I've seen many of my clients moving to Singapore. None has come from Singapore to Hong Kong.

“I will shut down my business and move out of Hong Kong personally if this passes”

“The bill is being misinterpreted by opposition parties, that leads to mass protests”

“Vague and generalized anti-China sentiment among the citizens plus a feeling of ‘nothing to lose’ among the younger generation”

“Publicity driven by anti-China parties to denigrate China “

“The younger generation of Hong Kongers refuse to accept the idea of one country. They resent anything that is China related”