NATIONAL SURVEY OF BANGLADESH

March-April 2023

CENTER FOR INSIGHTS IN SURVEY RESEARCH

A PROJECT OF THE INTERNATIONAL REPUBLICAN INSTITUTE

Detailed Methodology

- The survey was conducted on behalf of the International Republican Institute's Center for Insights in Survey Research by Innovative Research & Consultancy under the supervision of Redstone Scientific.
- Data was collected between March 1st and April 6th,2023 through CAPI-administered in-person interviews.
- The sample consists of 5,000 adults 18 years of age and older from all 64 districts and all eight divisions of Bangladesh. It is representative of voting age adults nationally.
- The multi-stage probability sample was distributed into 500 primary sampling units (PSU) and stratified by division and urbanicity. PSUs were defined as *mouza* in rural areas and *mahalla* in urban areas and were selected using the Probability-Proportionate-to-Size (PPS) method. In each PSU, after identifying a centrally-located starting point, a skip pattern was used to select the appropriate households. Within each household a respondent was selected using the Kish Grid. Enumerators alternated between selecting male and female respondents to enhance representativeness.
- The sample was weighted by age using the preliminary results of the 2021 census data.
- On select questions a split sample was executed for the purposes of experimentation. Where the results for the split sample are shown it is denoted as such and consists of interviews executed in the same manner as the rest of the survey but represents half of the sample size.
- The overall response rate was 47 percent.
- The margin of error for the national sample is plus or minus 1.4 percent at the midrange with a confidence level of 95%.
- Charts and graphs may not add up to 100 percent due to rounding.

Frequently Cited Disaggregate Bases

Disaggregate	Category	Base
Age Brackets	Age 18-35	n = 2,348
	Age 36-55	n = 1,733
	Age 56+	n = 919
Gender	Men	n = 2,633
	Women	n = 2,367
Location	Urban	n = 1,550
	Rural	n = 3,450

Cited bases are weighted. Margin of error will vary with sample size n.

General Outlook

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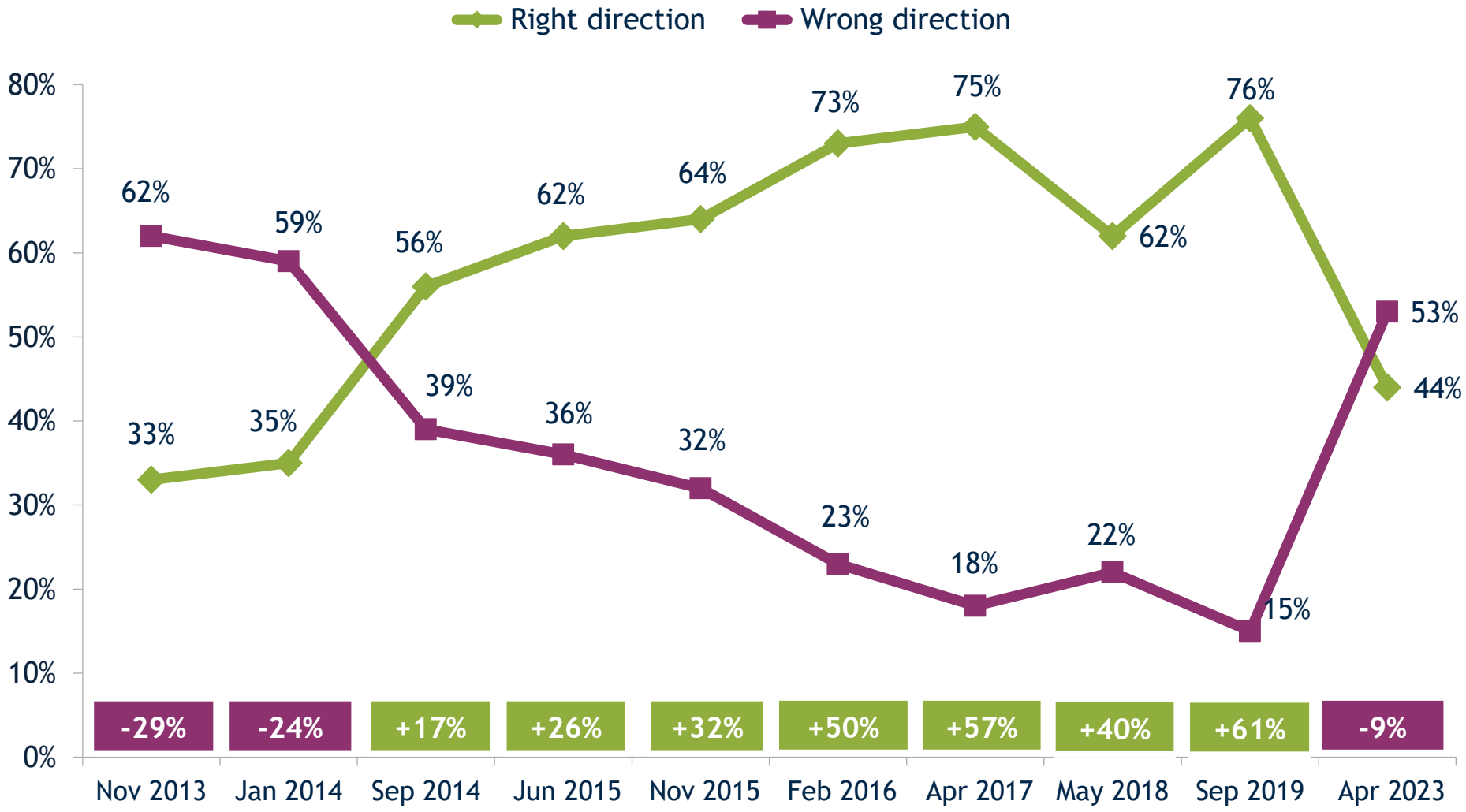
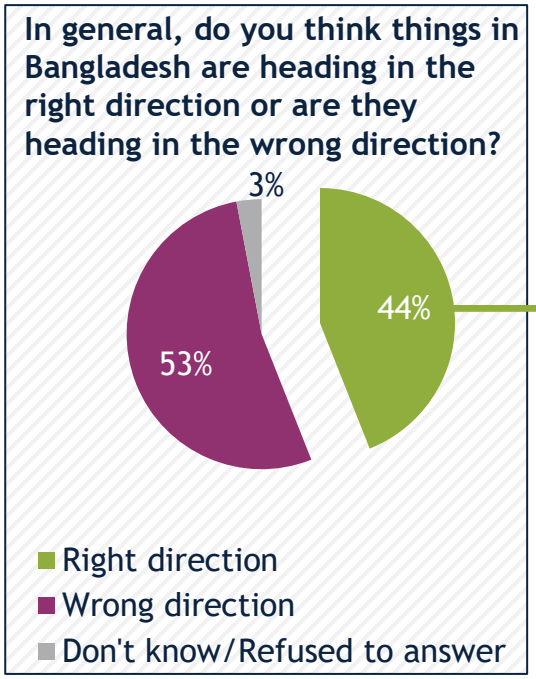
In general, would you say that things in Bangladesh are heading in the right direction or are they heading in the wrong direction?

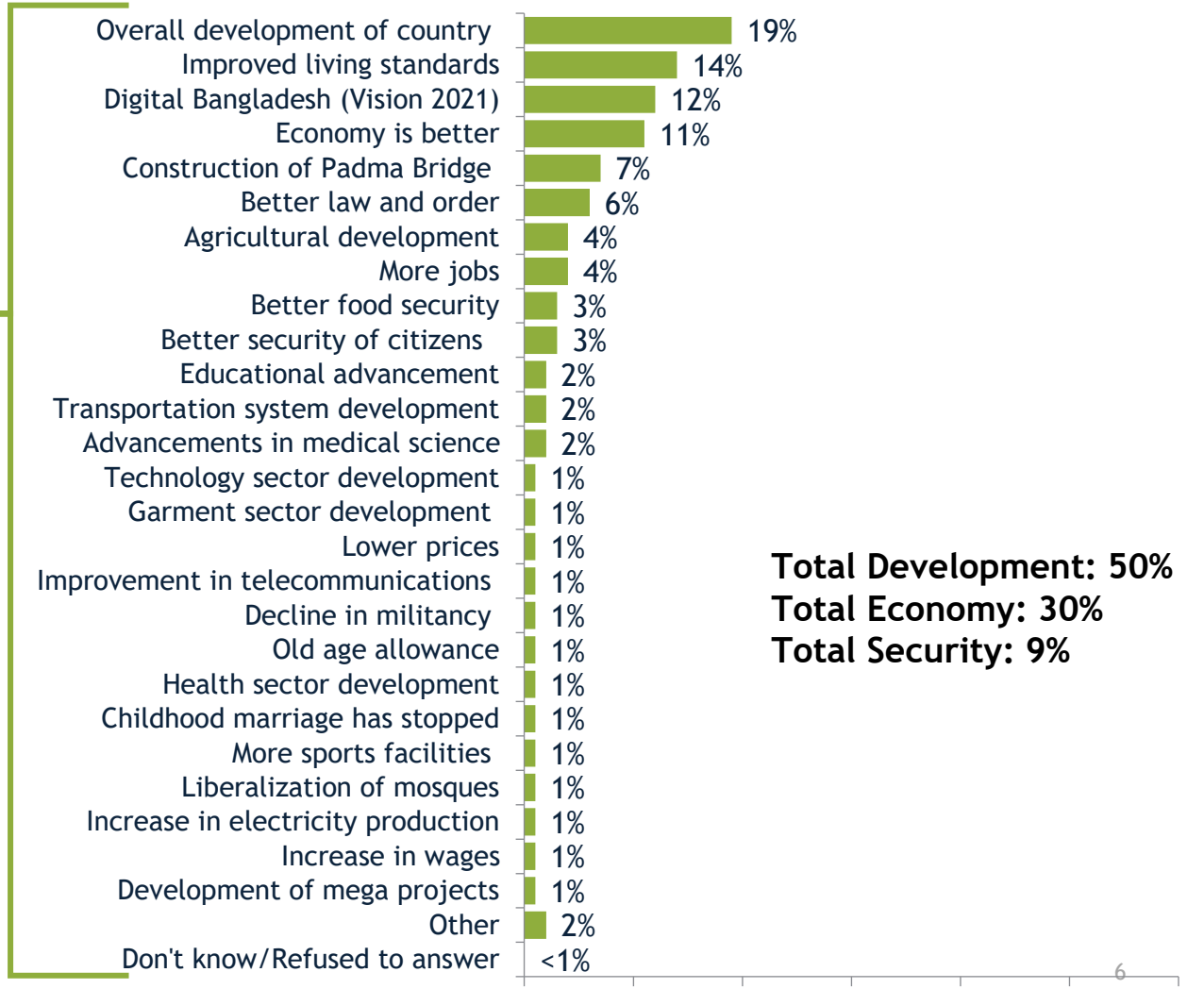


Note: The April 2023 sample-frame was updated to reflect the new 2021 census data; resulting demographic shifts in the sample may impact trend data.

In general, why do you think that things are heading in the right direction?

(Among those who declared "right direction", n=2,195; spontaneous response)



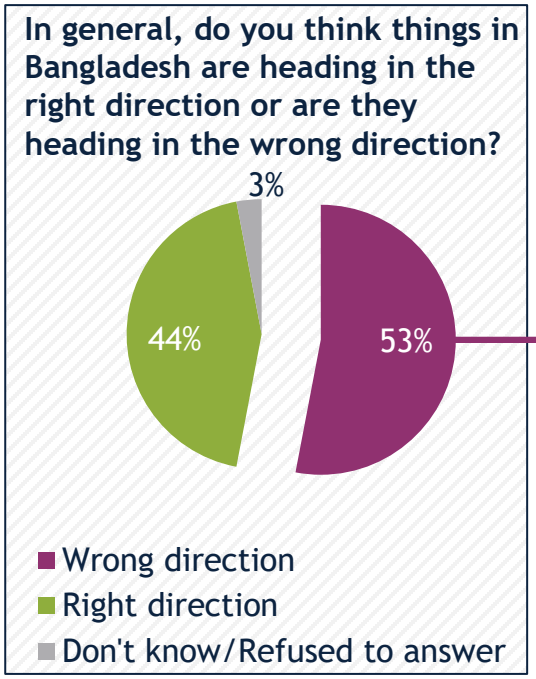


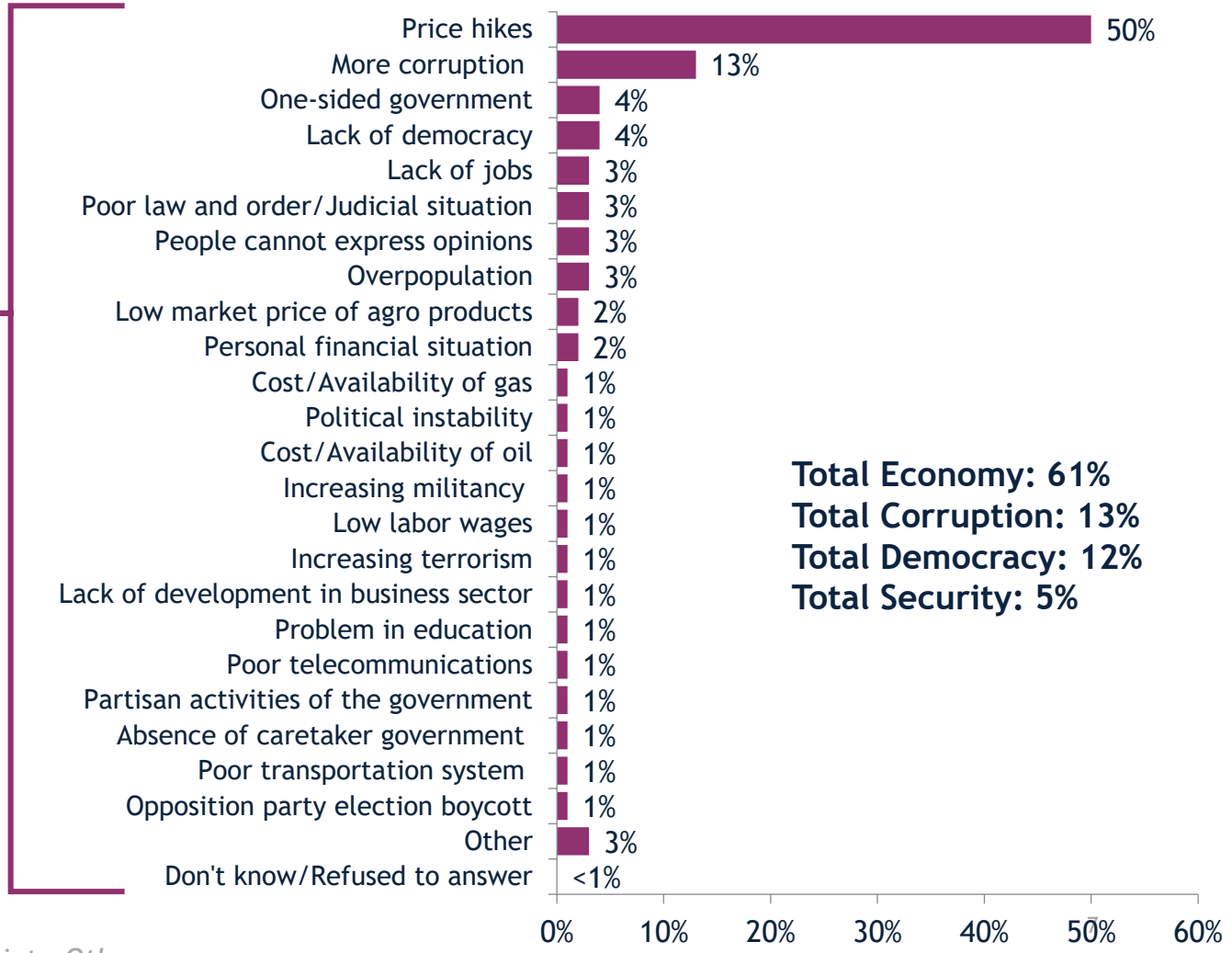
Total Development: 50%
Total Economy: 30%
Total Security: 9%

*Responses receiving <1% are collapsed into *Other*

In general, why do you think that things are heading in the wrong direction?

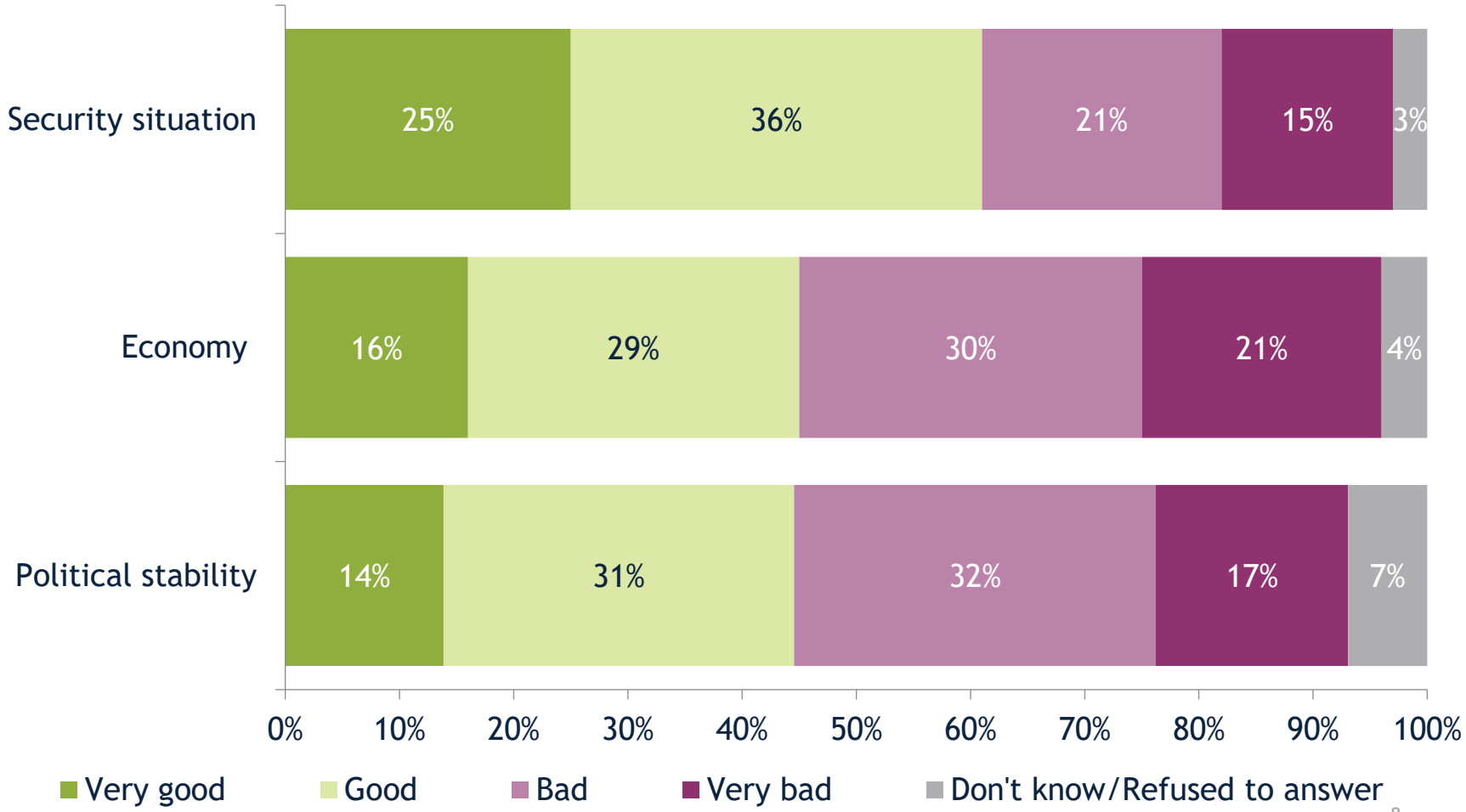
(Among those who declared “wrong direction”, n=2,641; spontaneous response)



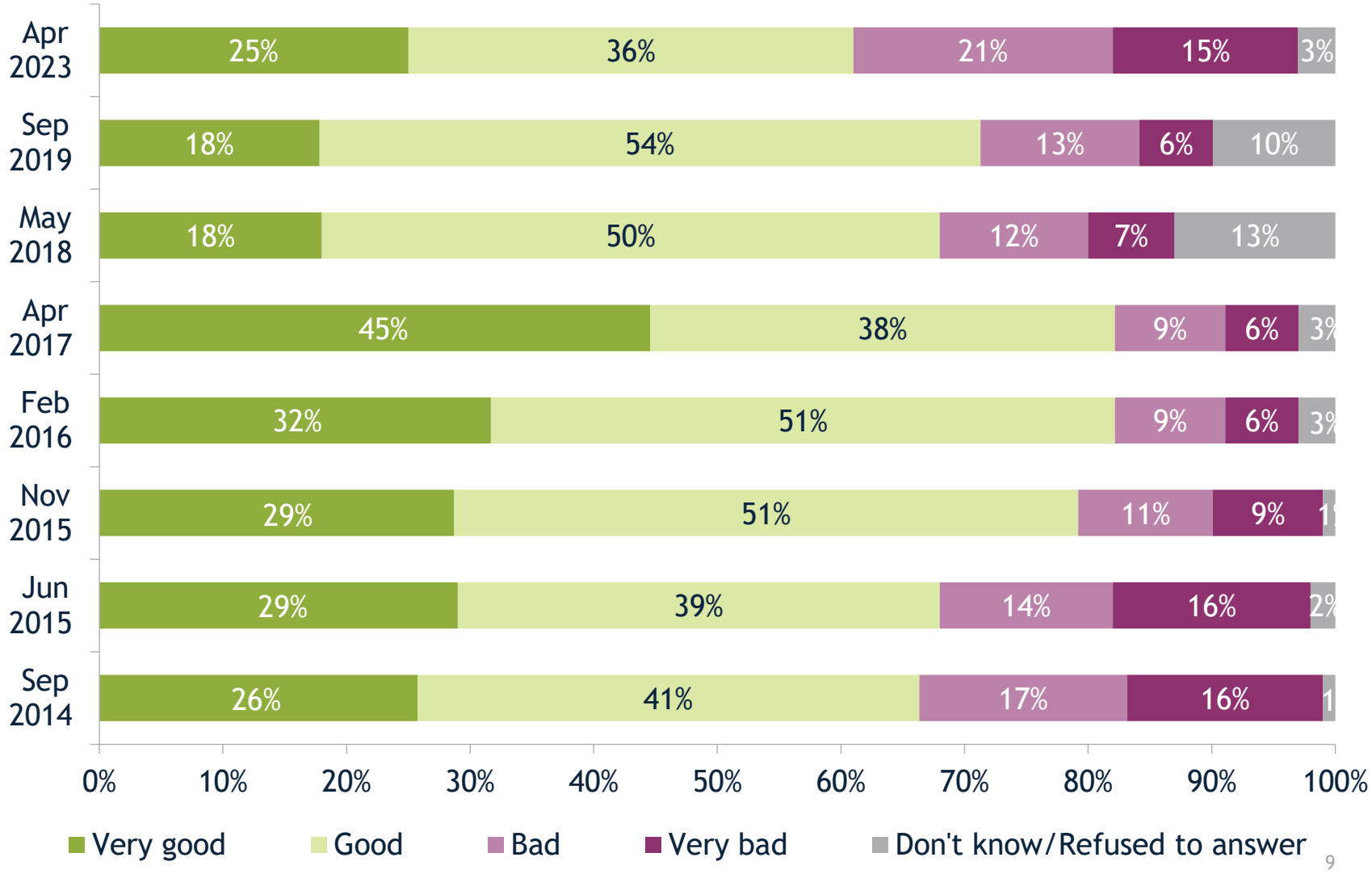


*Responses receiving <1% are collapsed into *Other*

Thinking now about the following, would you rate the situation with each as good or bad? And would you say very good or very bad?

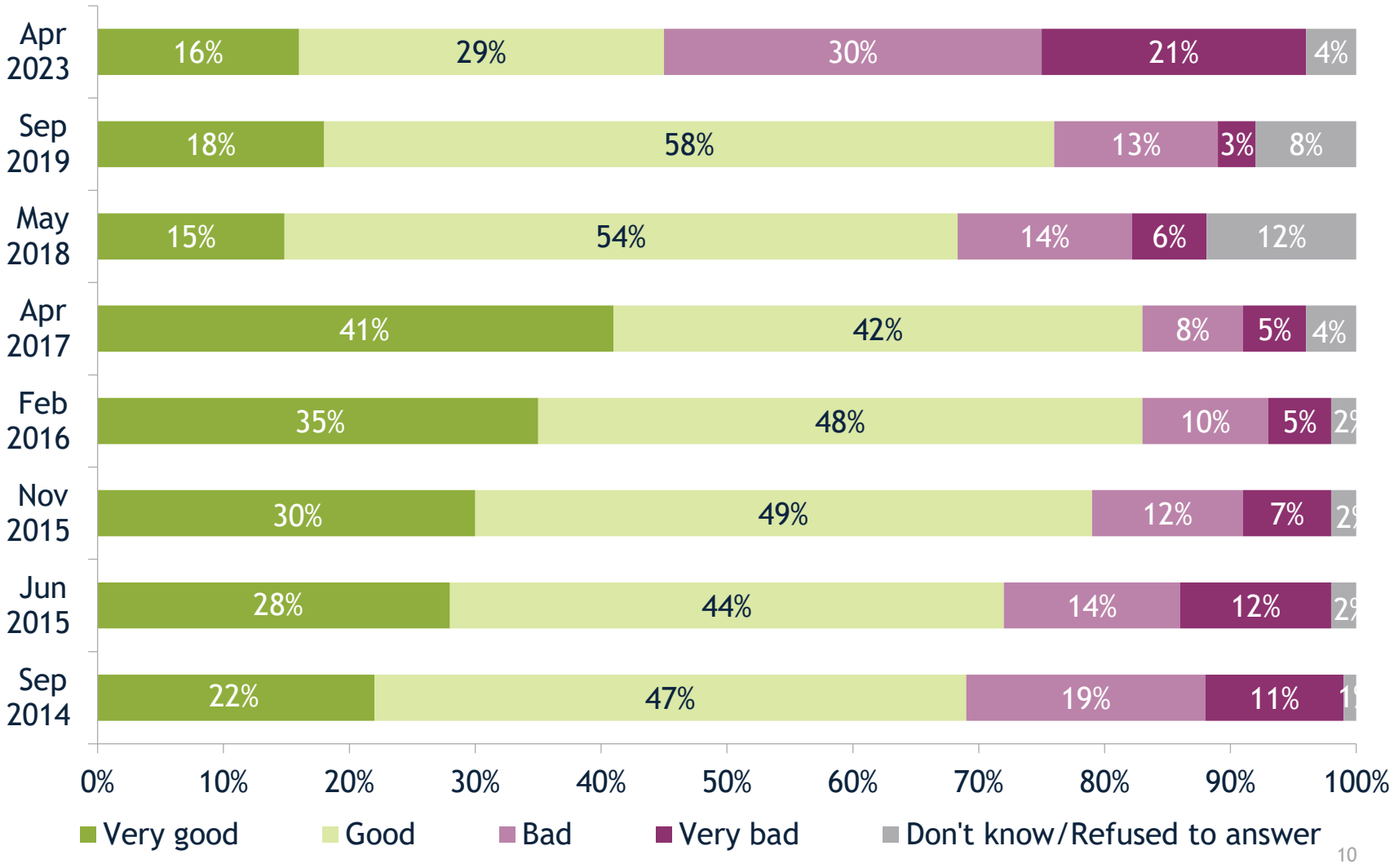


Thinking now about security, would you rate the situation as good or bad? And would you say very good or very bad?



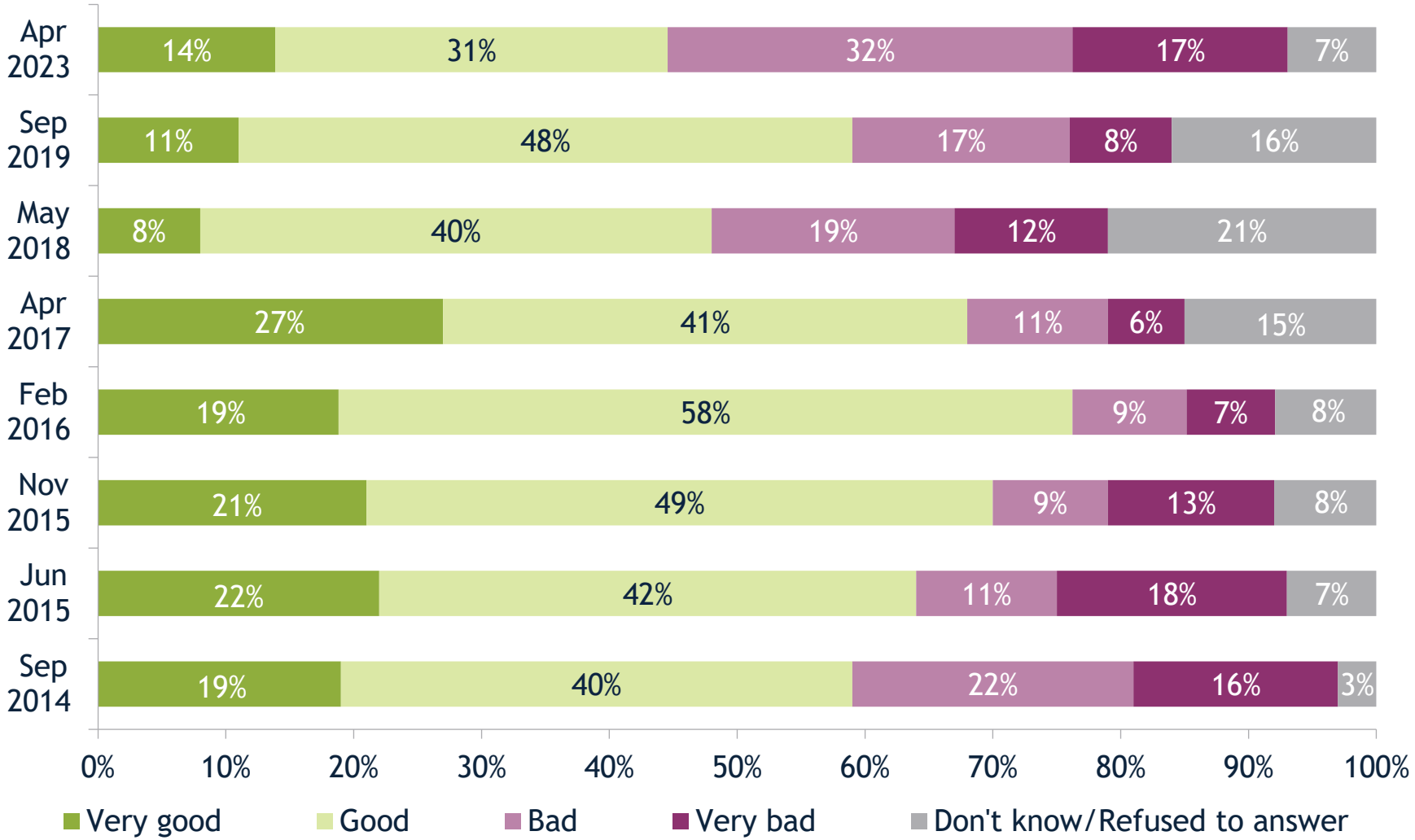
Note: The April 2023 sample-frame was updated to reflect the new 2021 census data; resulting demographic shifts in the sample may impact trend data.

Thinking now about the economy, would you rate the situation as good or bad? And would you say very good or very bad?



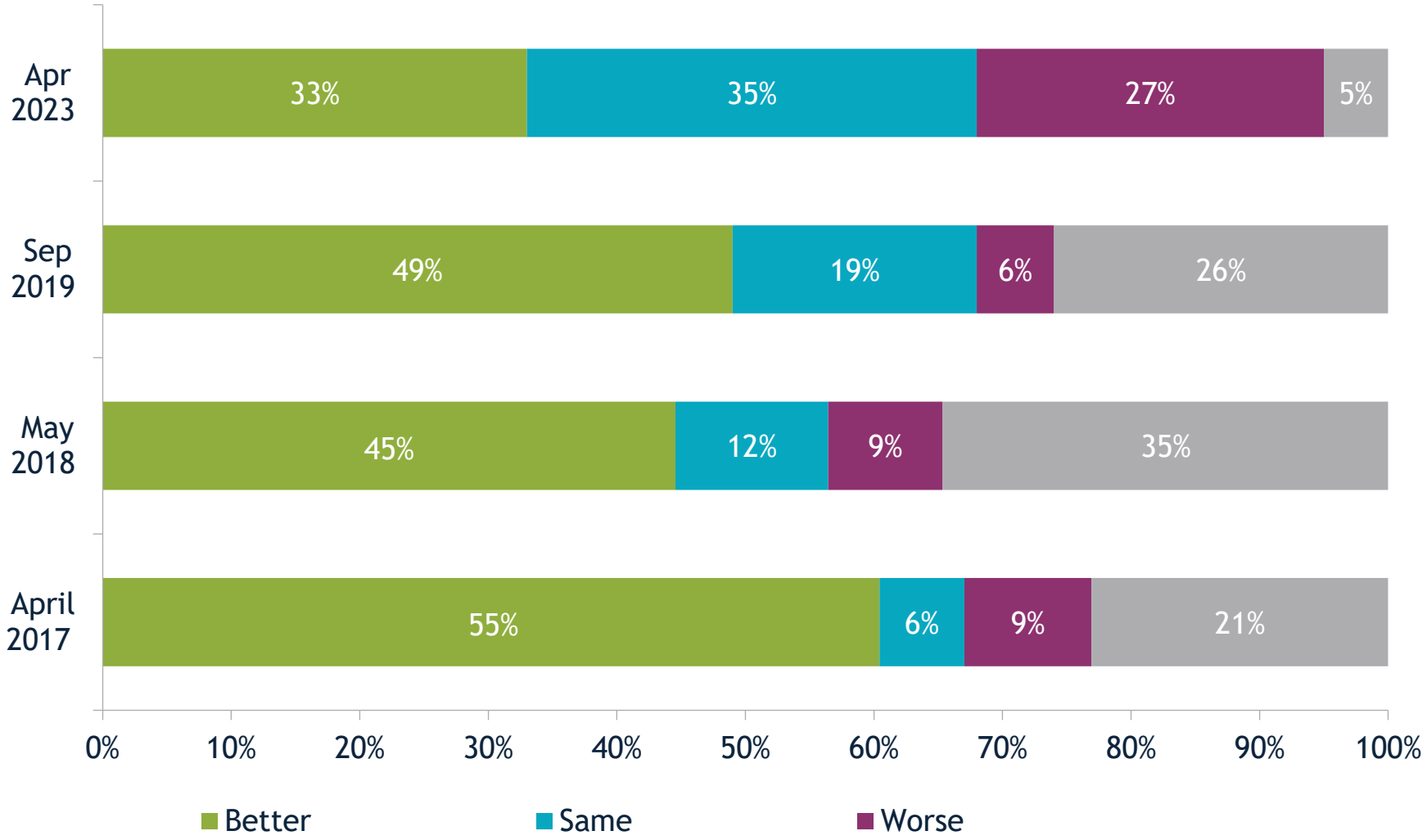
Note: The April 2023 sample-frame was updated to reflect the new 2021 census data; resulting demographic shifts in the sample may impact trend data.

Thinking now about political stability, would you rate the situation as good or bad? And would you say very good or very bad?



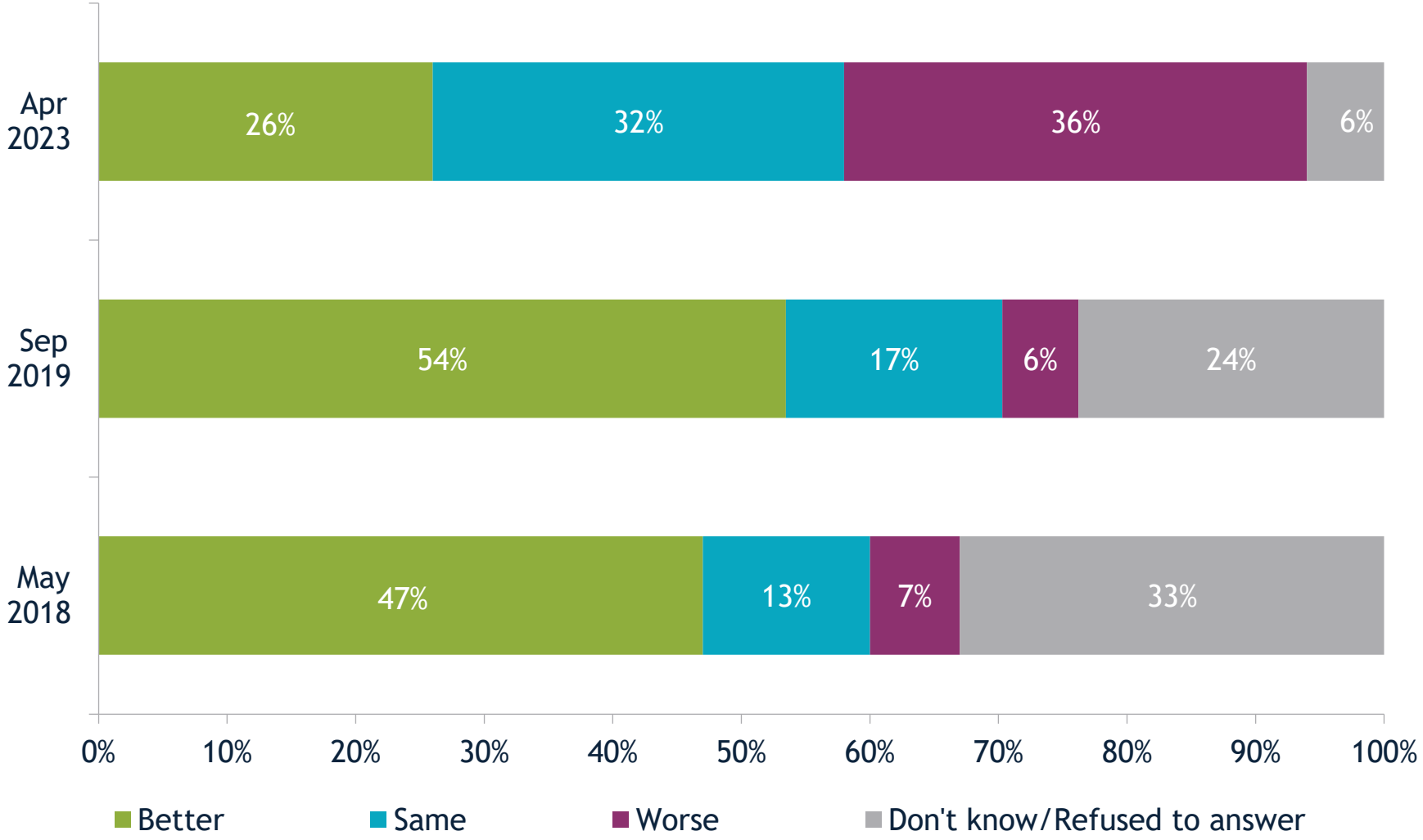
Note: The April 2023 sample-frame was updated to reflect the new 2021 census data; resulting demographic shifts in the sample may impact trend data.

Thinking more about this, in the coming year, do you think that the situation with security is going to get better, worse, or stay the same?



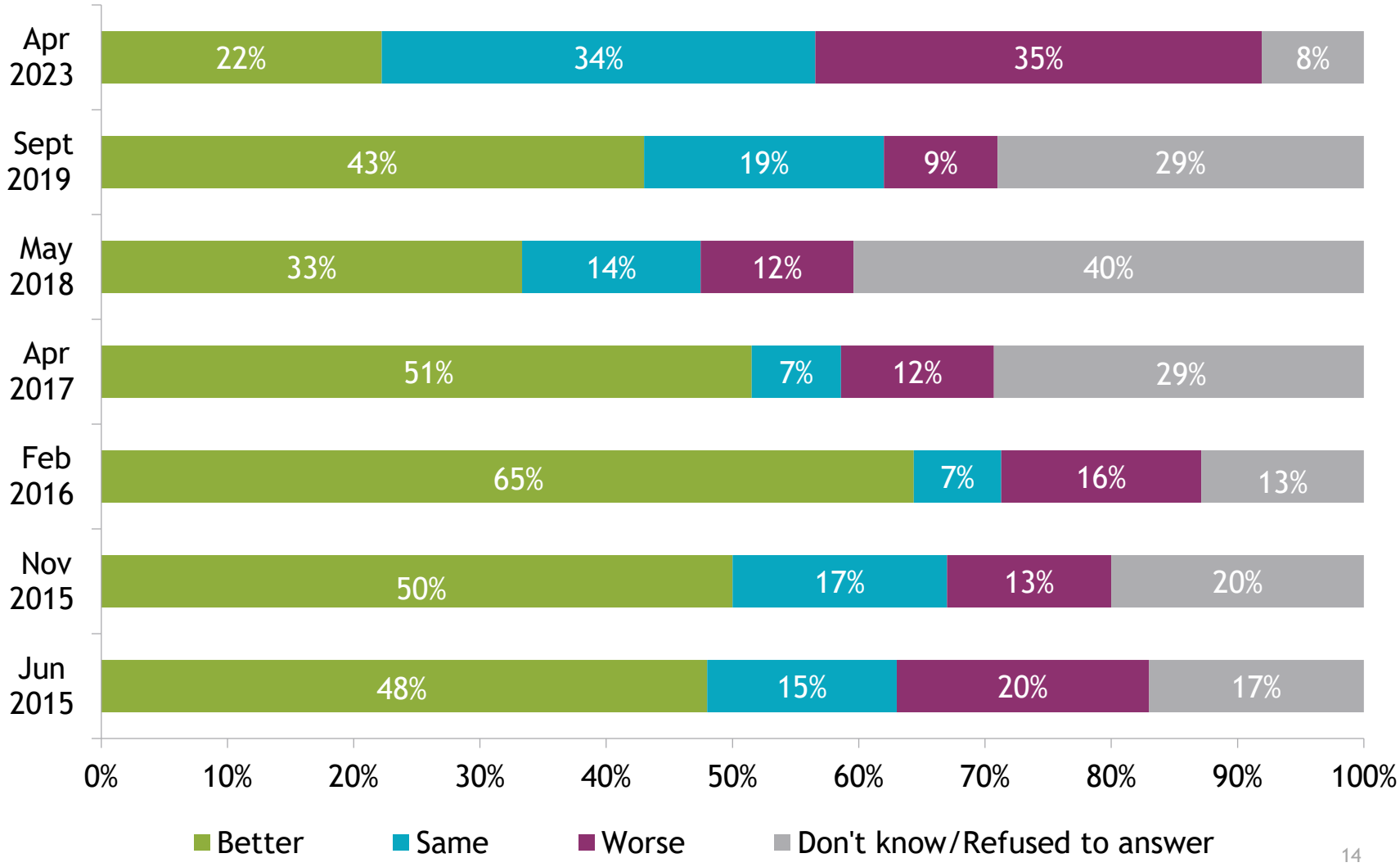
Note: The April 2023 sample-frame was updated to reflect the new 2021 census data; resulting demographic shifts in the sample may impact trend data.

Thinking more about this, in the coming year, do you think that the situation with the economy is going to get better, worse, or stay the same?



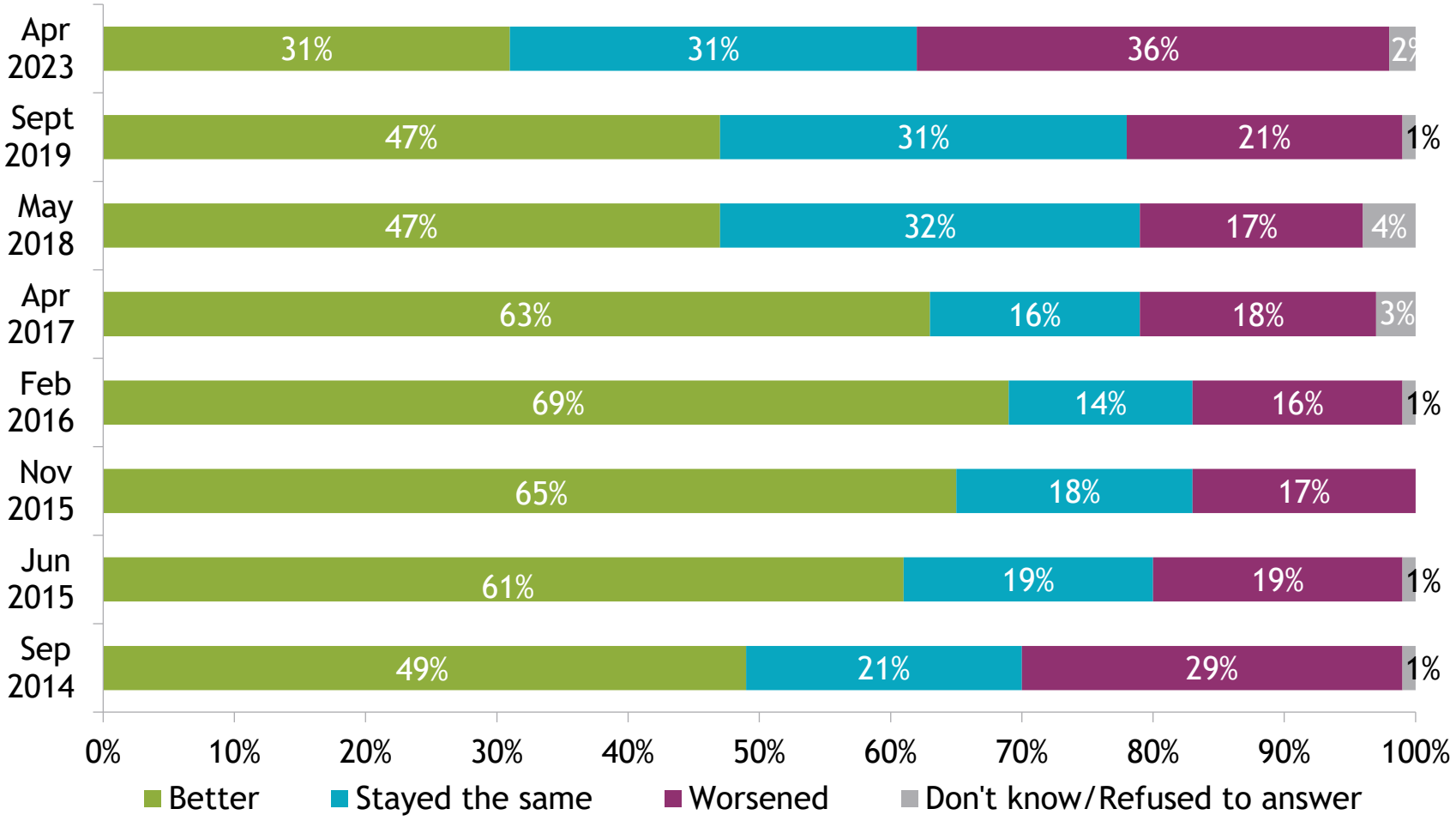
Note: The April 2023 sample-frame was updated to reflect the new 2021 census data; resulting demographic shifts in the sample may impact trend data.

Thinking more about this, in the coming year, do you think that the situation with political stability is going to get better, worse, or stay the same?



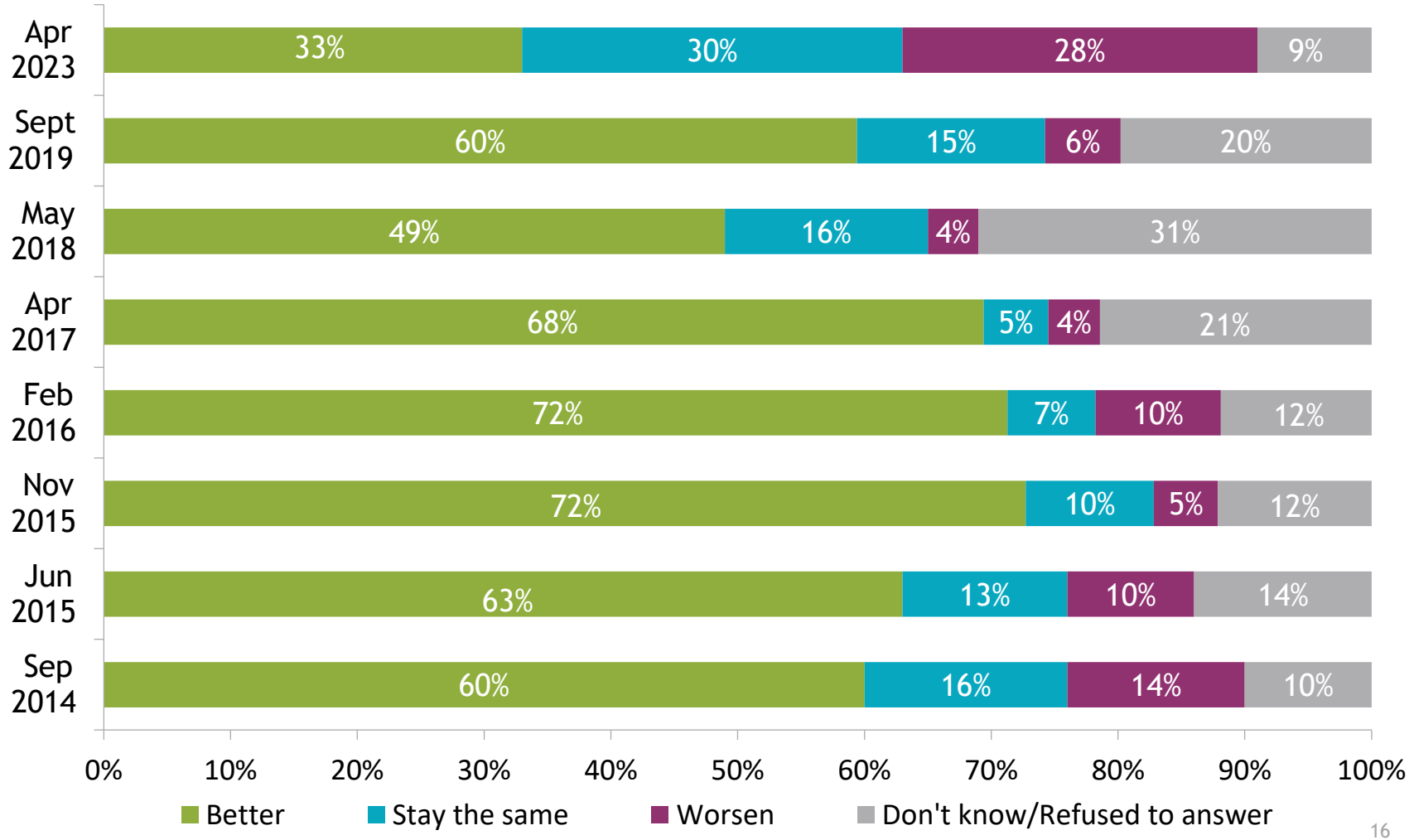
Note: The April 2023 sample-frame was updated to reflect the new 2021 census data; resulting demographic shifts in the sample may impact trend data.

Thinking now about your personal economic situation for you and your family, over the past year has it gotten better, stayed the same, or worsened?



Note: The April 2023 sample-frame was updated to reflect the new 2021 census data; resulting demographic shifts in the sample may impact trend data.

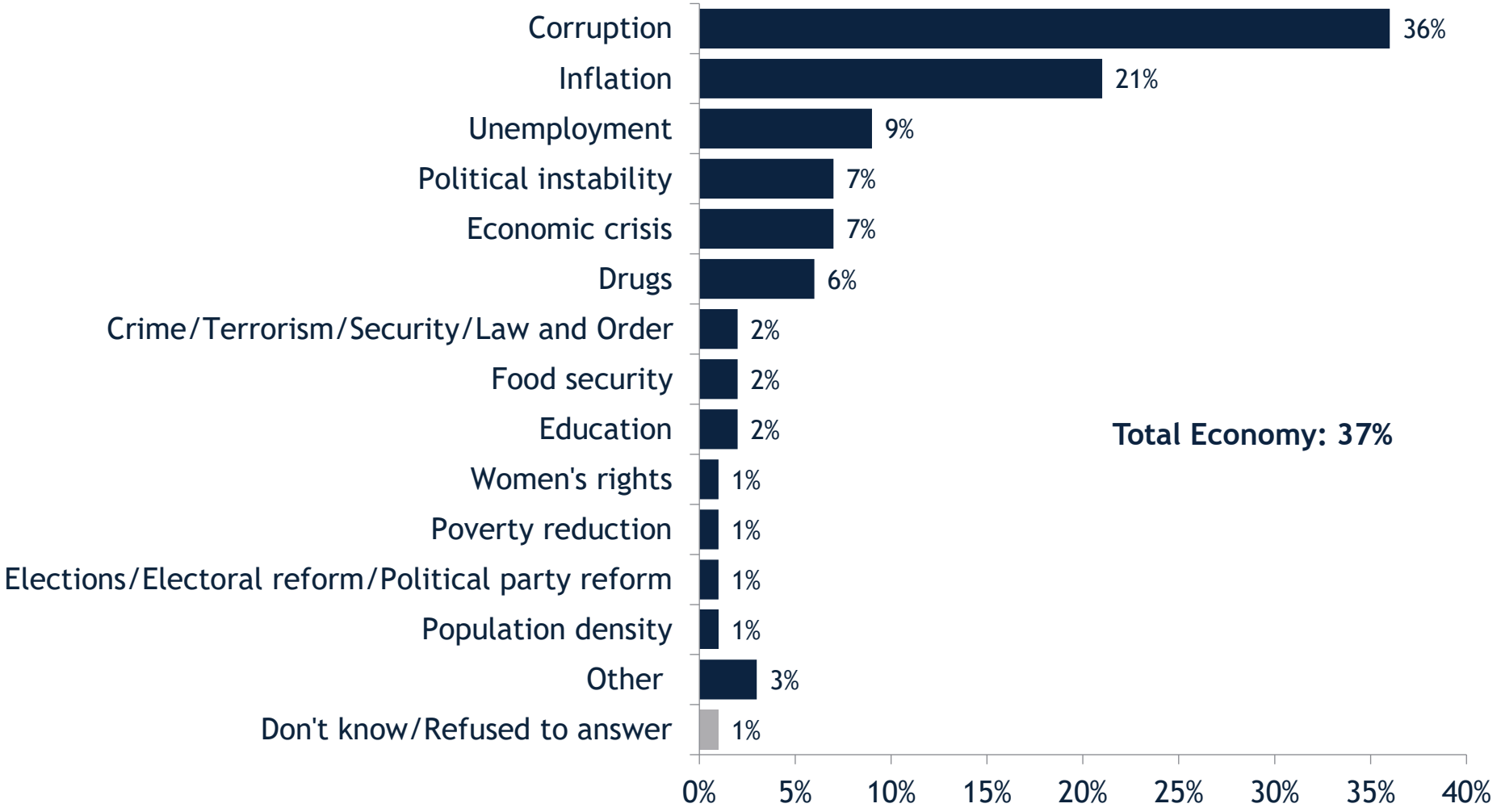
Thinking more about your personal economic situation, in the coming year, do you expect your personal economic situation is going to get better, stay the same, or get worse?



Note: The April 2023 sample-frame was updated to reflect the new 2021 census data; resulting demographic shifts in the sample may impact trend data.

What is the single most important problem facing Bangladesh?

(Spontaneous response)



*Responses receiving <1% are collapsed into *Other*

Democracy

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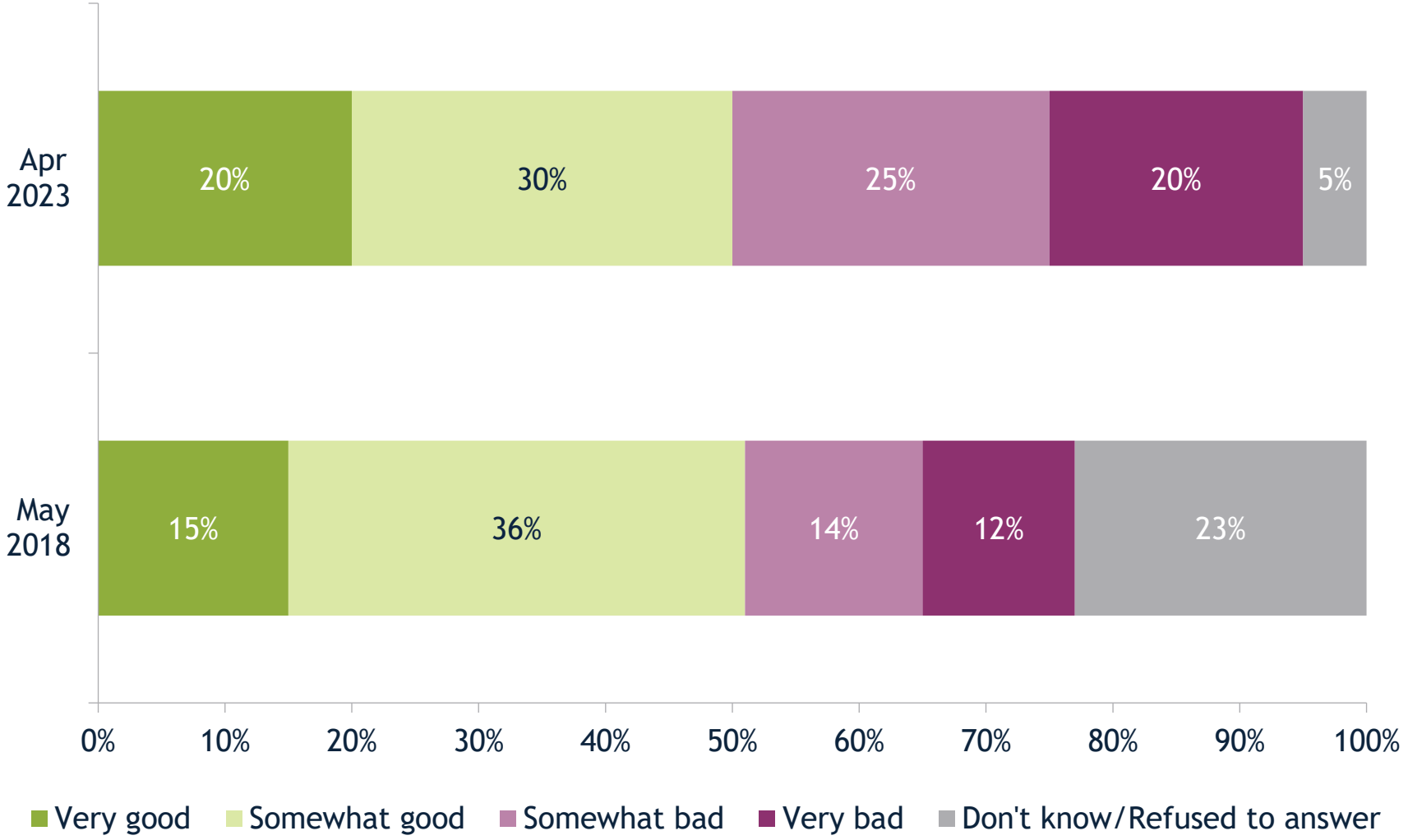
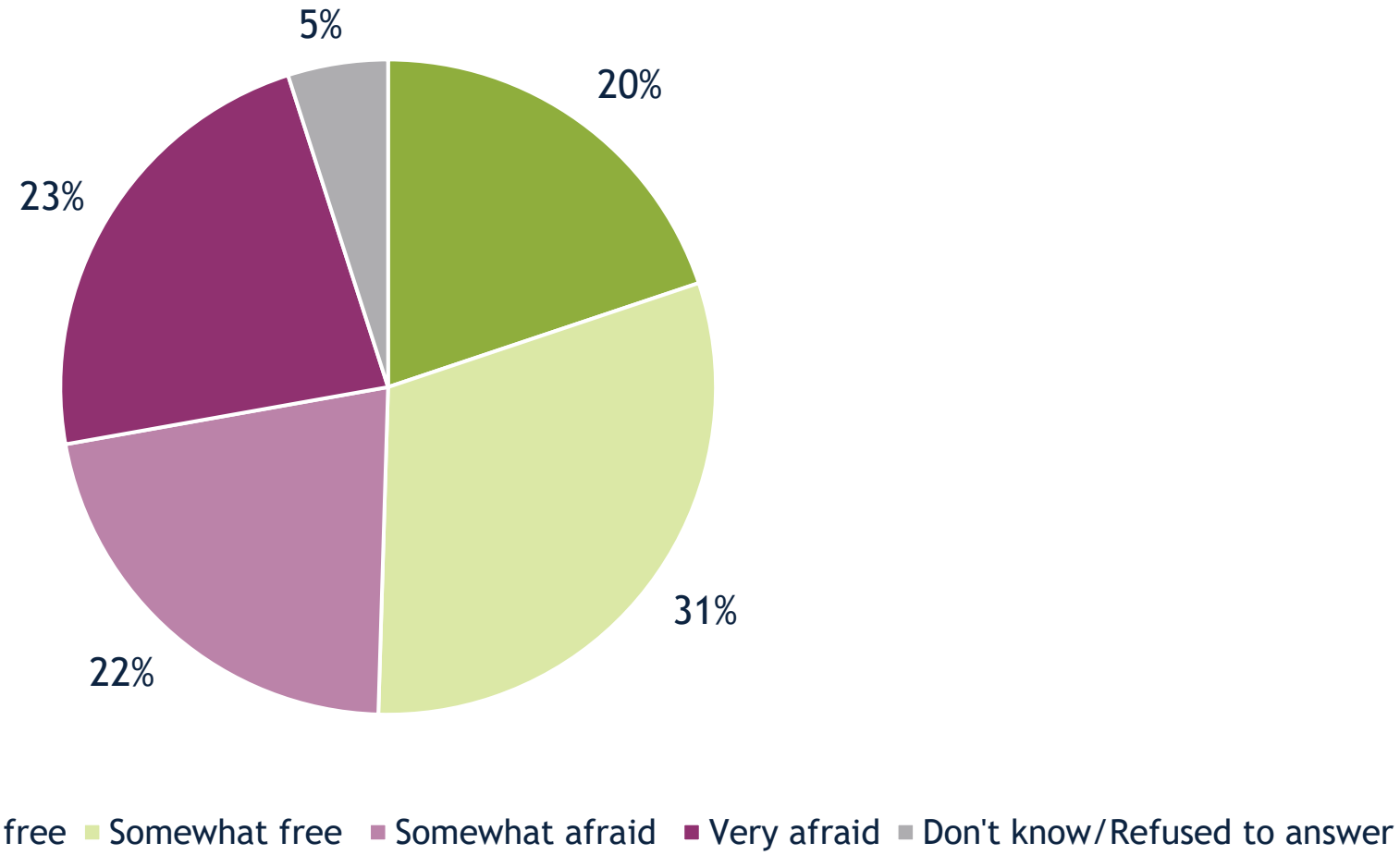
How would you rate the current state of Bangladesh's democracy, would you say it is good or bad? And would you say that it is very or somewhat good/bad?

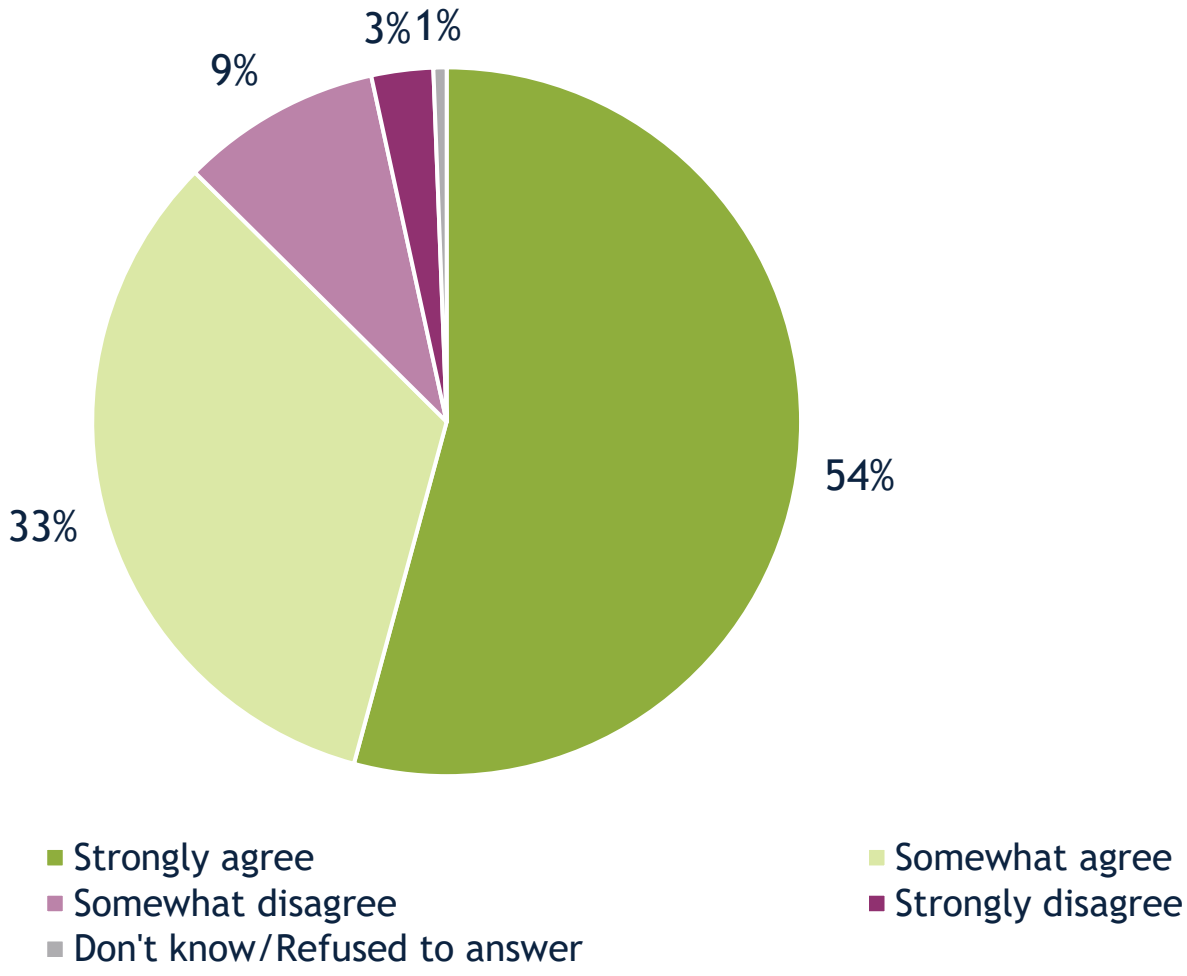


Note: The April 2023 sample-frame was updated to reflect the new 2021 census data; resulting demographic shifts in the sample may impact trend data.

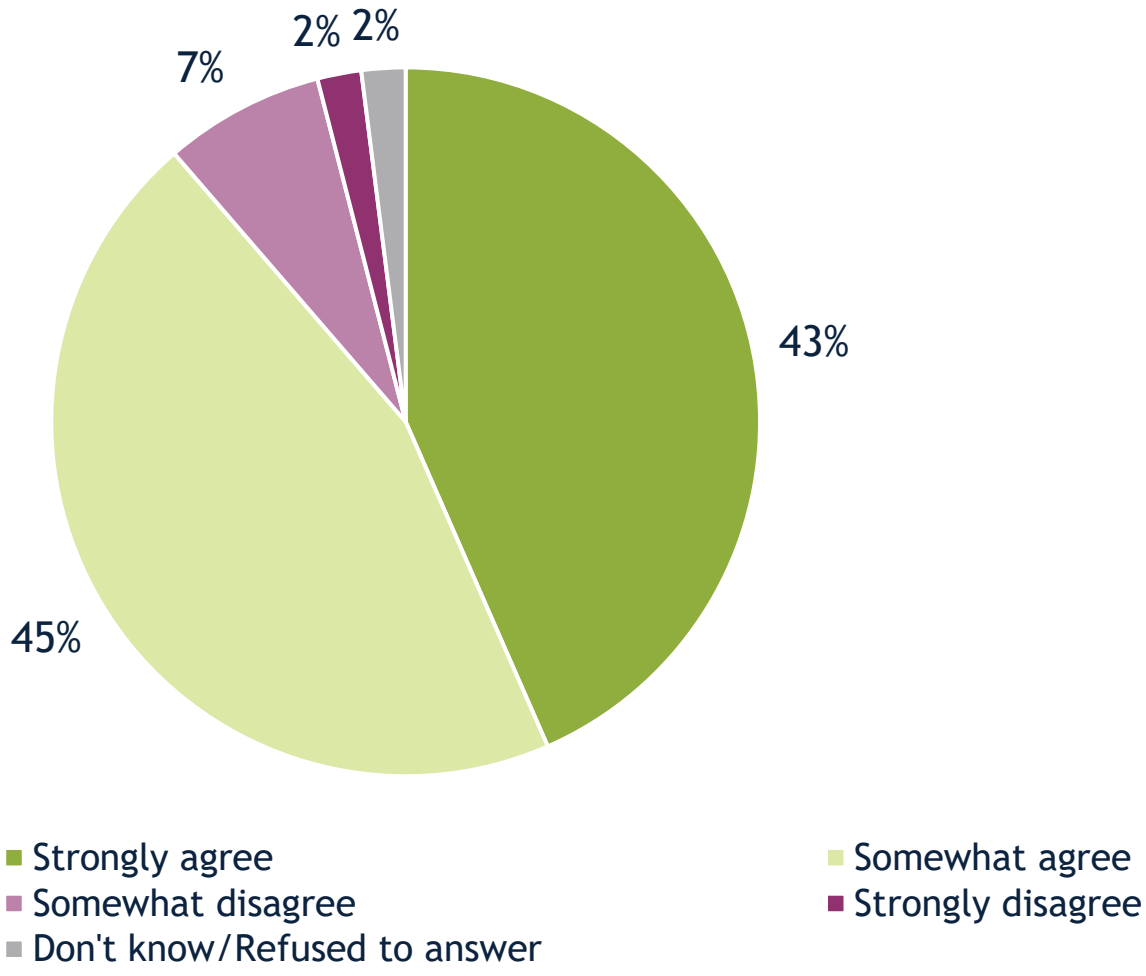
Do people in our country feel free to openly express their political opinions or are they afraid?



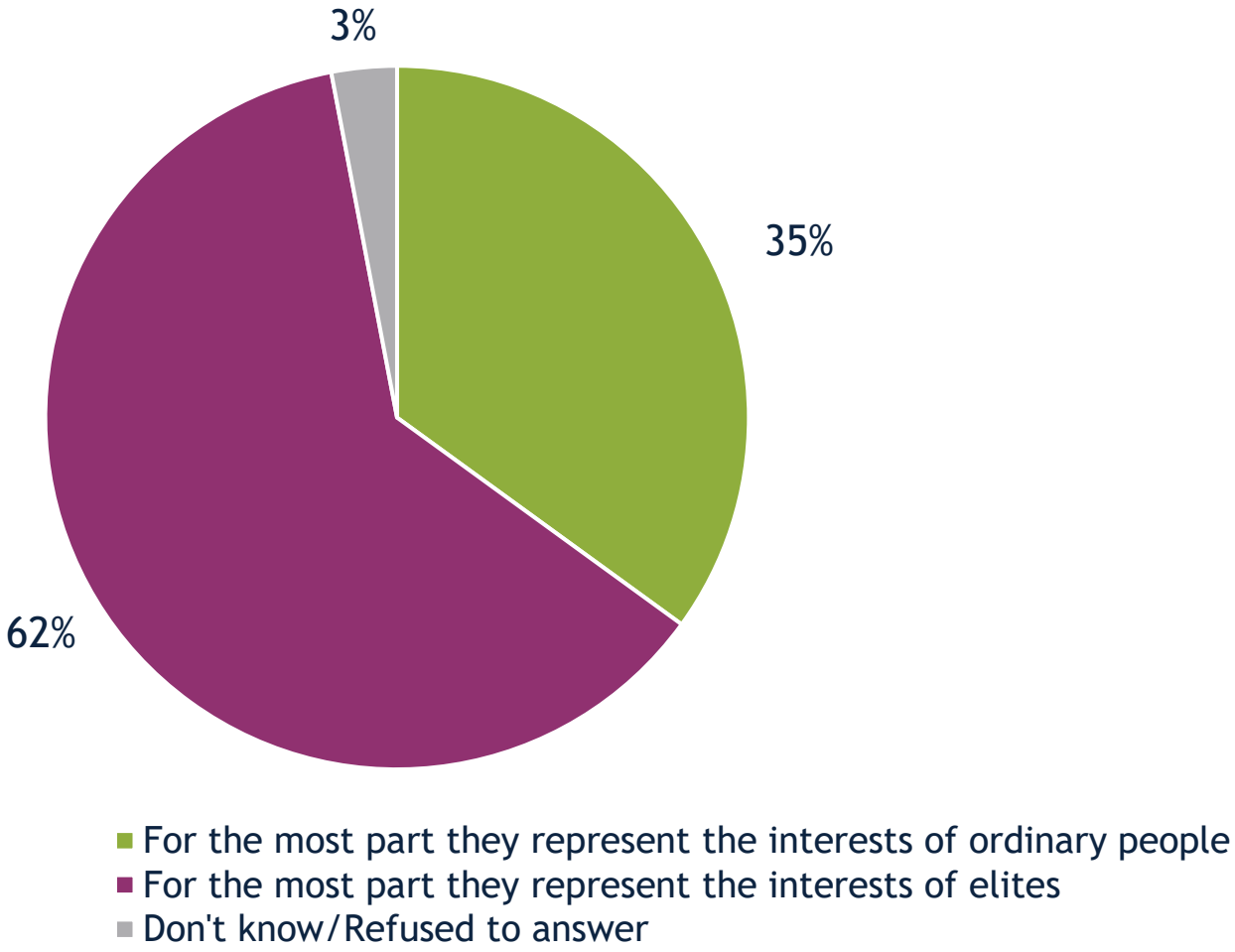
Do you agree or disagree with the following statement? The gap between the rich and the poor in Bangladesh is growing larger.



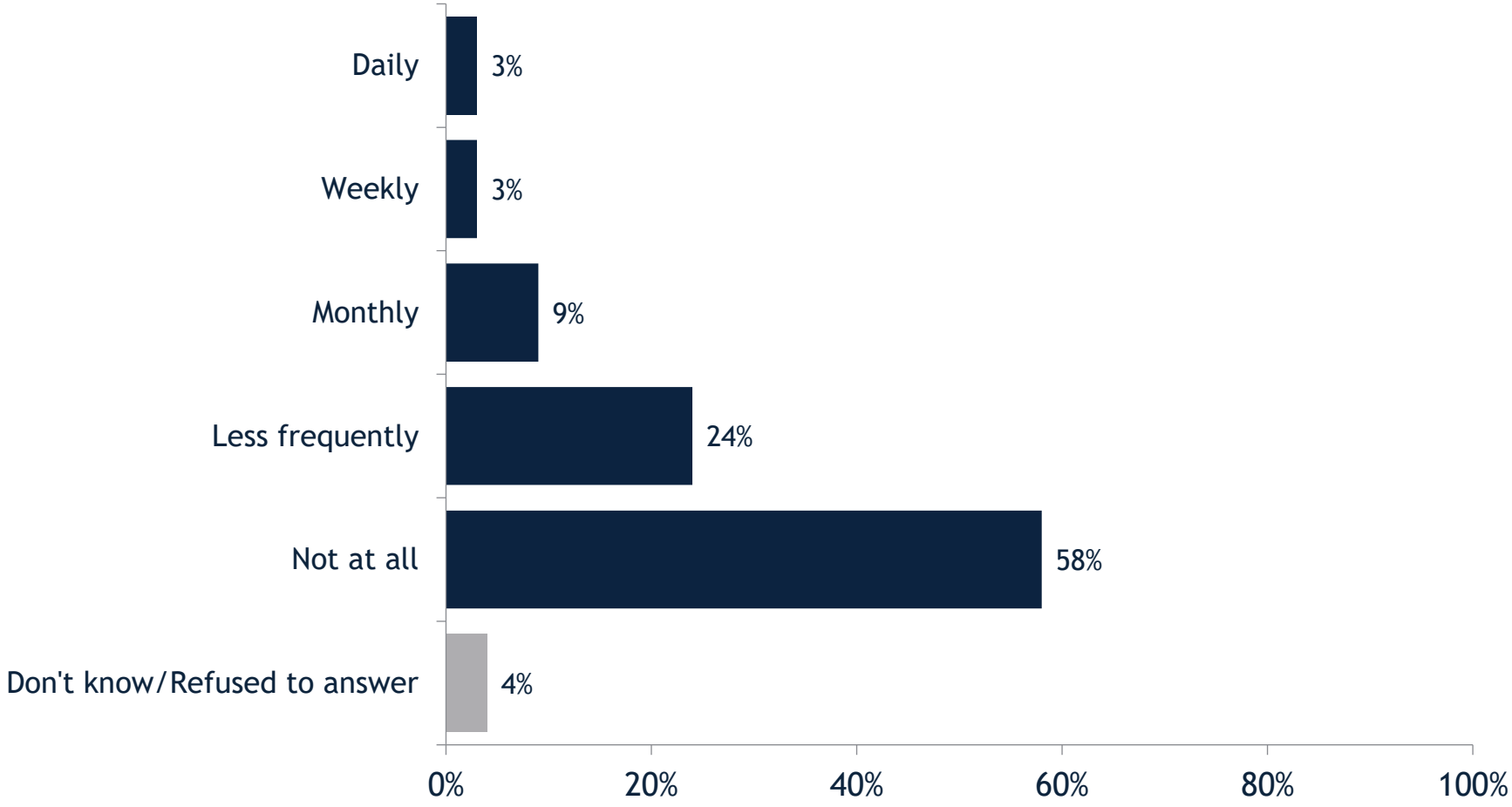
Do you agree or disagree with the following statement? There is a large gap between political elites and the people.



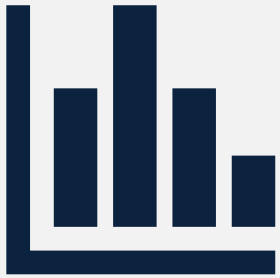
I am now going to ask you about civil society organizations. When I say civil society organizations, I mean a local, national or international group of people who organize to support a particular interest, group or issue. In your opinion do you think such organizations for the most part represent the interests of ordinary people or do they mostly represent the interests of the elites?



Now I would like to discuss corruption with you. When I say corruption, I mean having to do a favor, give a gift or pay a bribe because someone misuses their position for personal gains. In the past 12 months, how often, if at all, have you been impacted by corruption?



Approval Ratings



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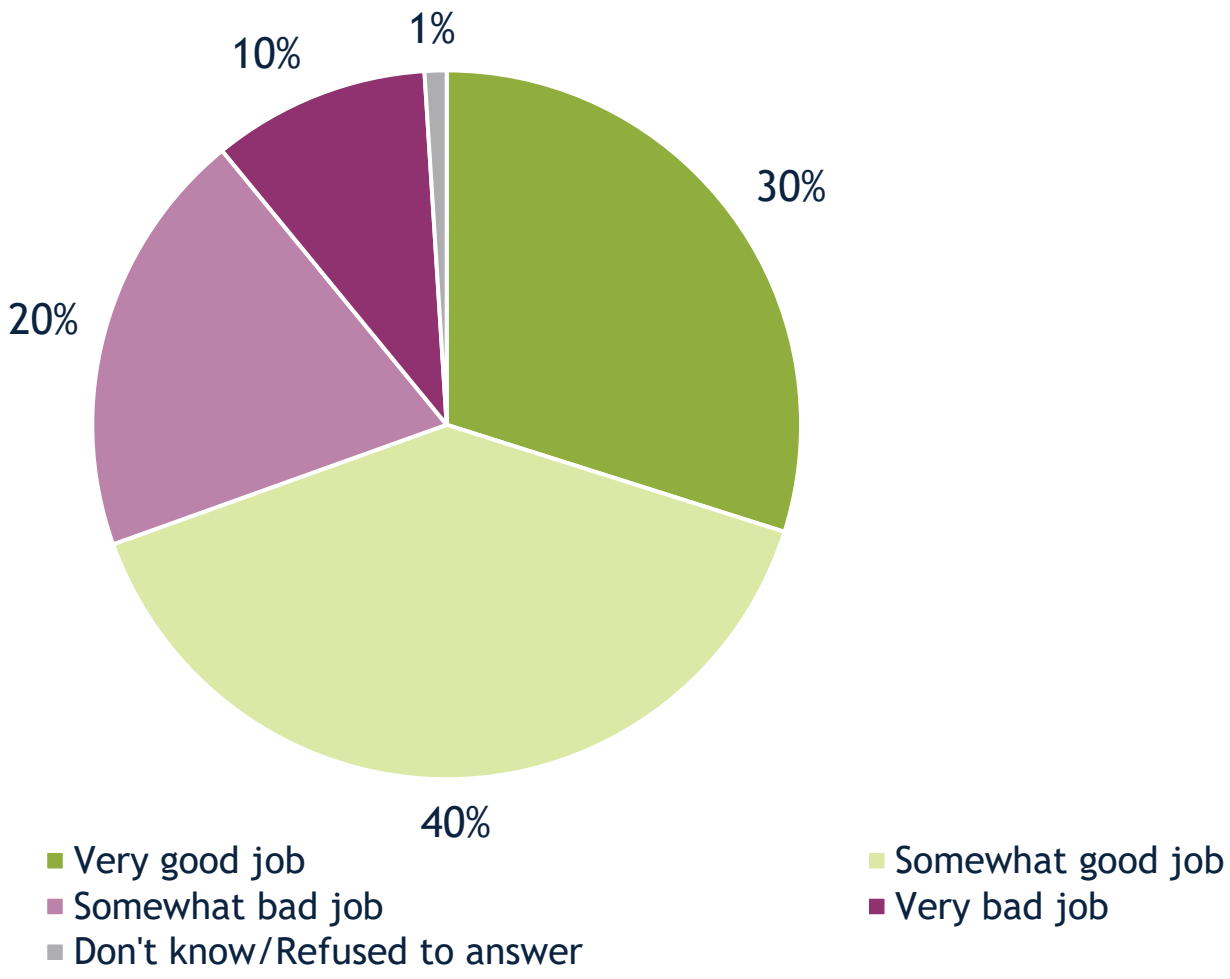
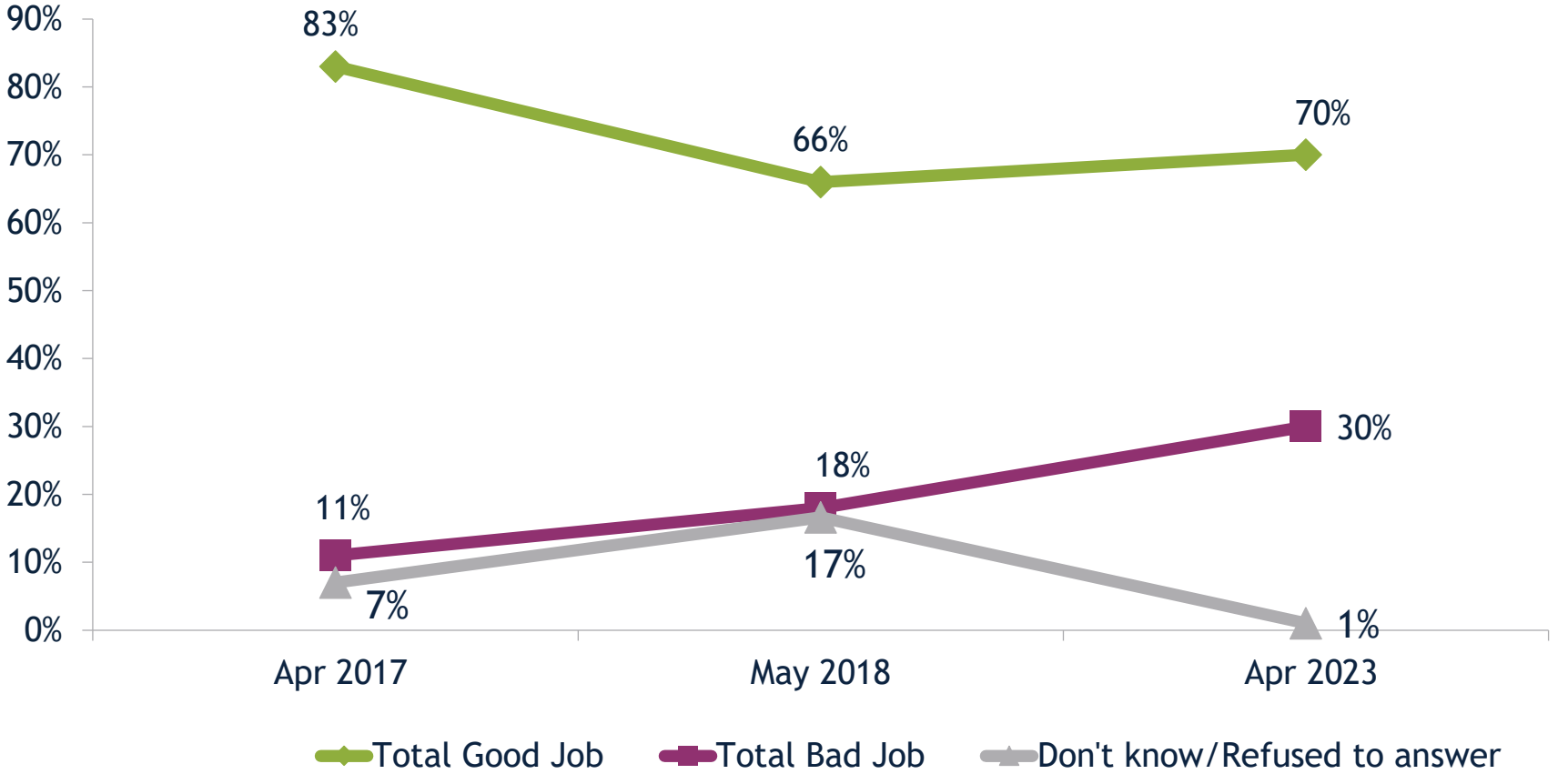
Thinking now about Prime Minister Sheikh Hasina, do you think she is doing a very good job, a somewhat good job, a somewhat bad job, or a very bad job?



Thinking now about Prime Minister Sheikh Hasina, do you think she is doing a very good job, a somewhat good job, a somewhat bad job, or a very bad job?*

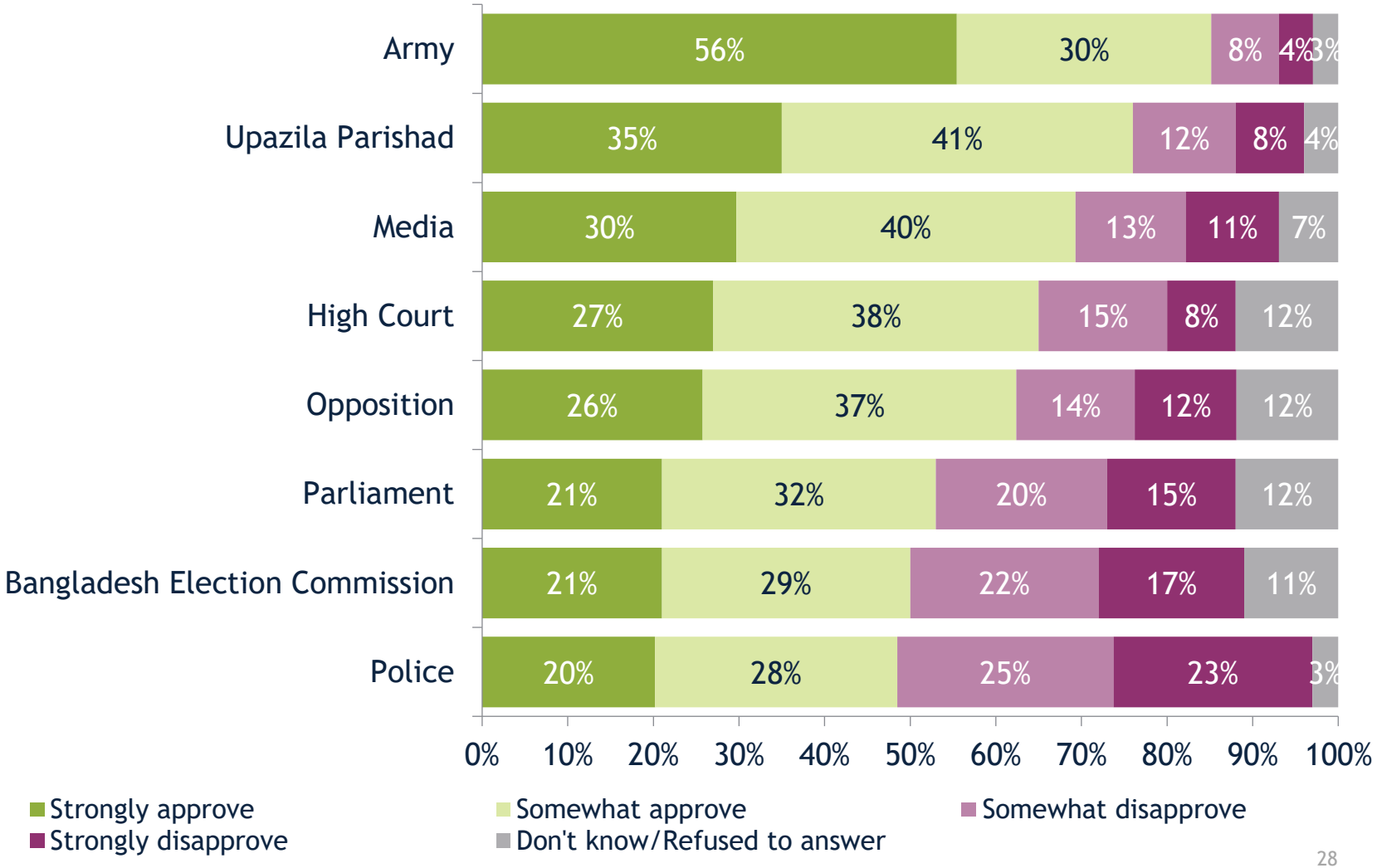
(Total of those responding “very” and “somewhat” good/bad job)



*Prior to 2023, this question asked about the Prime Minister in general without specifying a name and used an approve/disapprove scale.

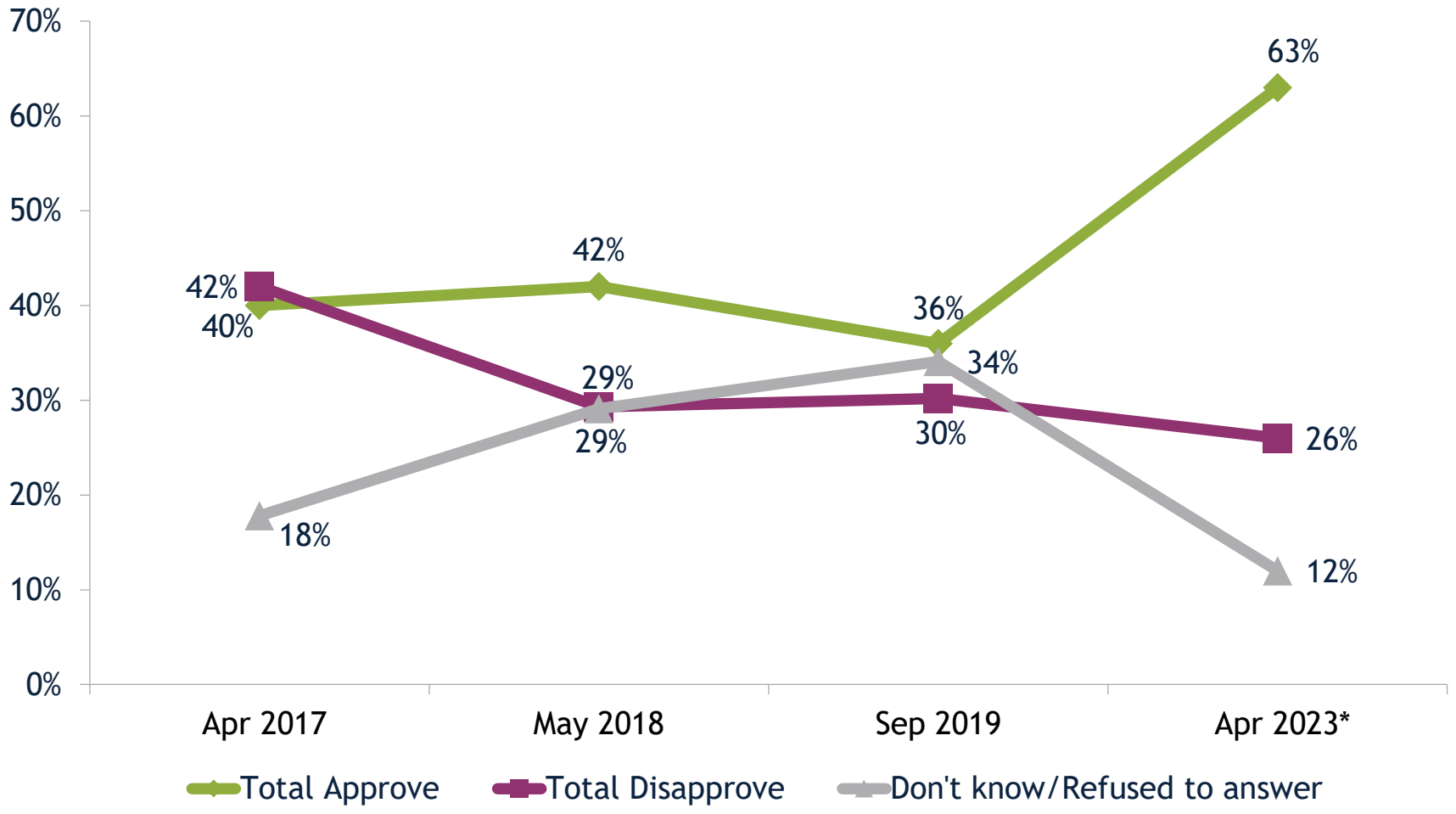
Note: The April 2023 sample-frame was updated to reflect the new 2021 census data; resulting demographic shifts in the sample may impact trend data.

Thinking now about the following institutions and people, would you say you approve or disapprove of the job they are doing? And would that be strongly or somewhat approve/disapprove?



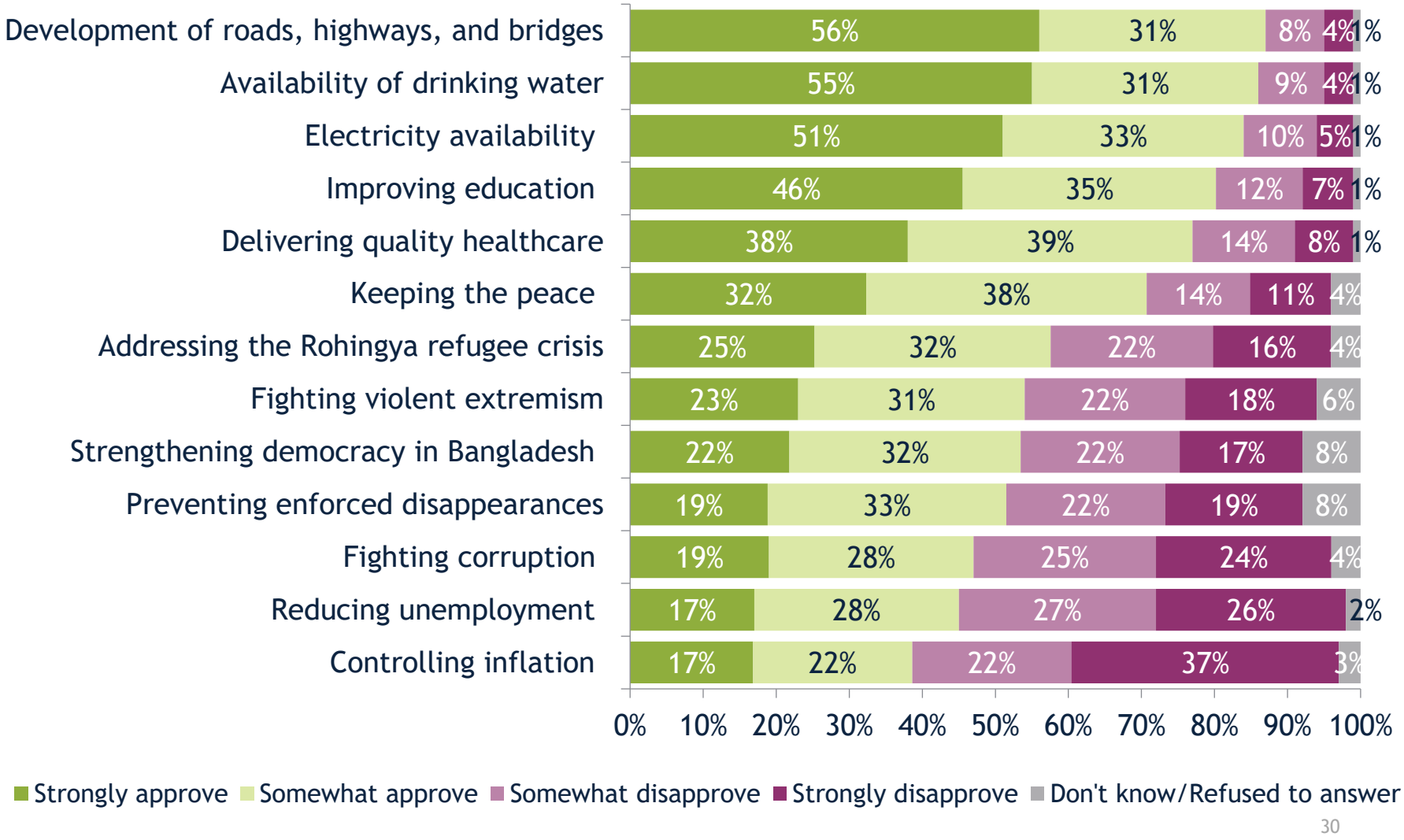
Thinking now about the following institutions and people, would you say you approve or disapprove of the job they are doing? …Opposition

(Total of those responding "strongly" and "somewhat" approve/disapprove)



Note: The April 2023 sample-frame was updated to reflect the new 2021 census data; resulting demographic shifts in the sample may impact trend data.

Now I am going to read various issues. Please rate the current national government's performance on each one.



Elections

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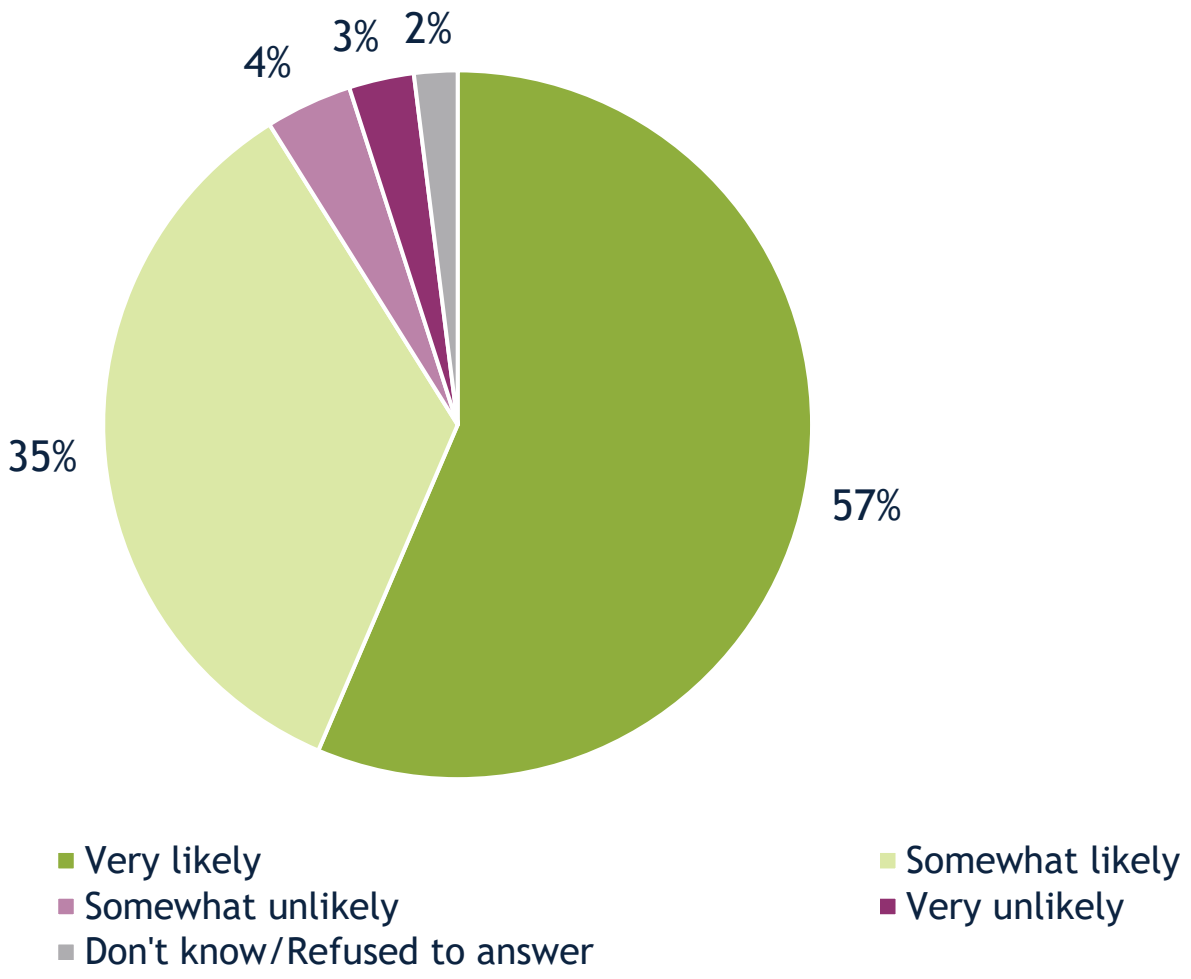
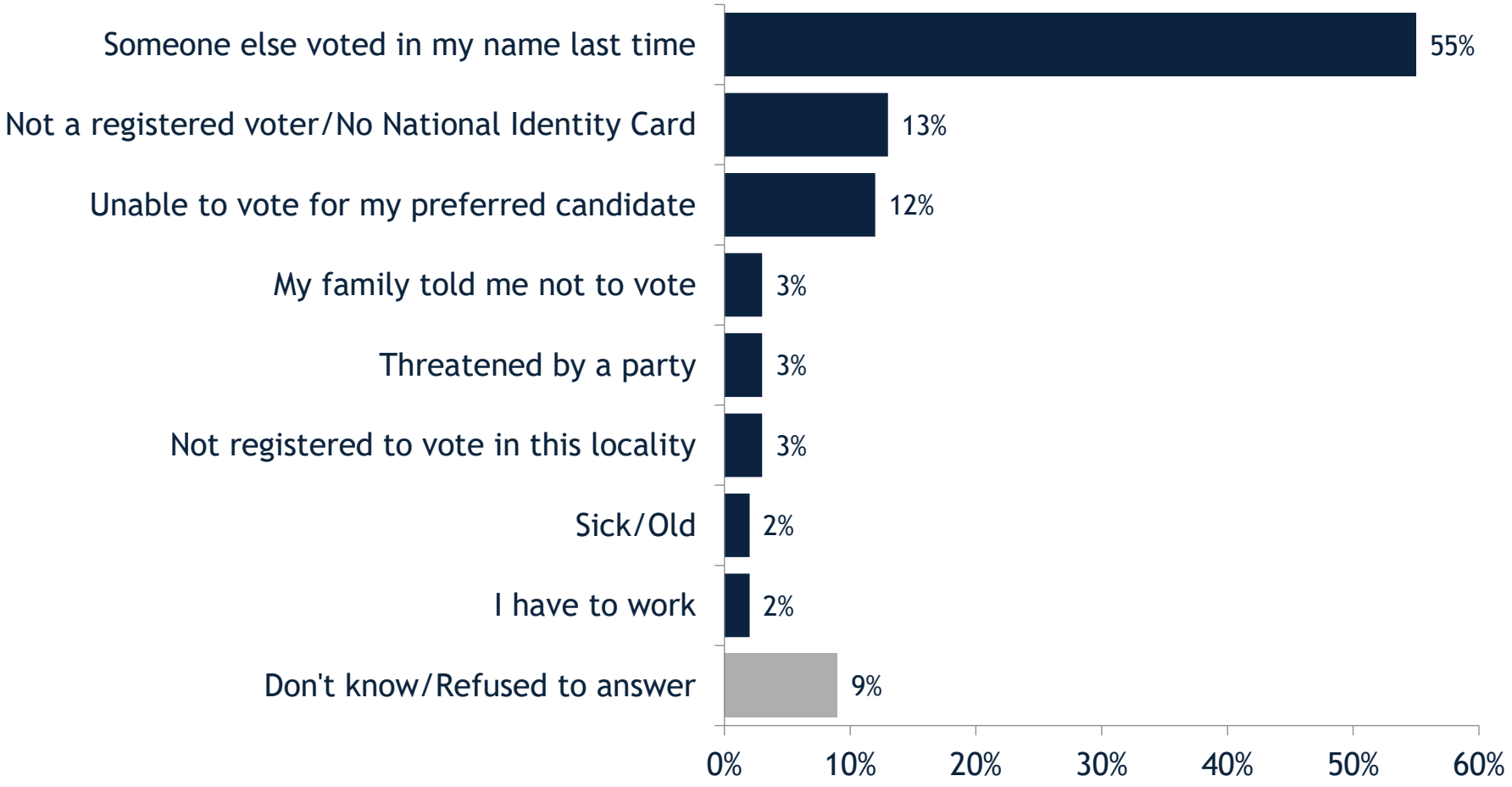
How likely, if at all, are you to vote in the next national election scheduled for January 2024?

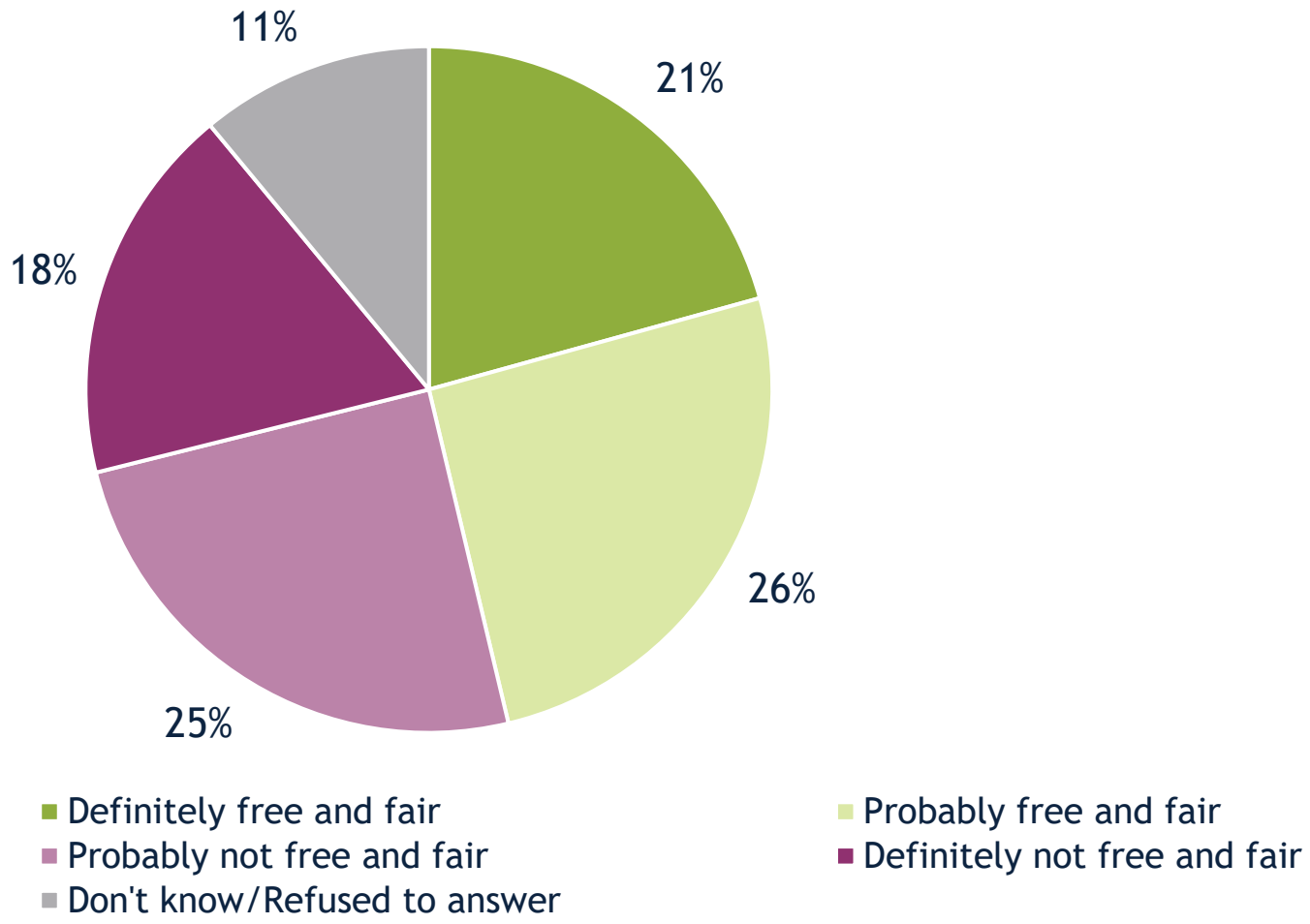


If you do not vote, what would be the primary reason why?

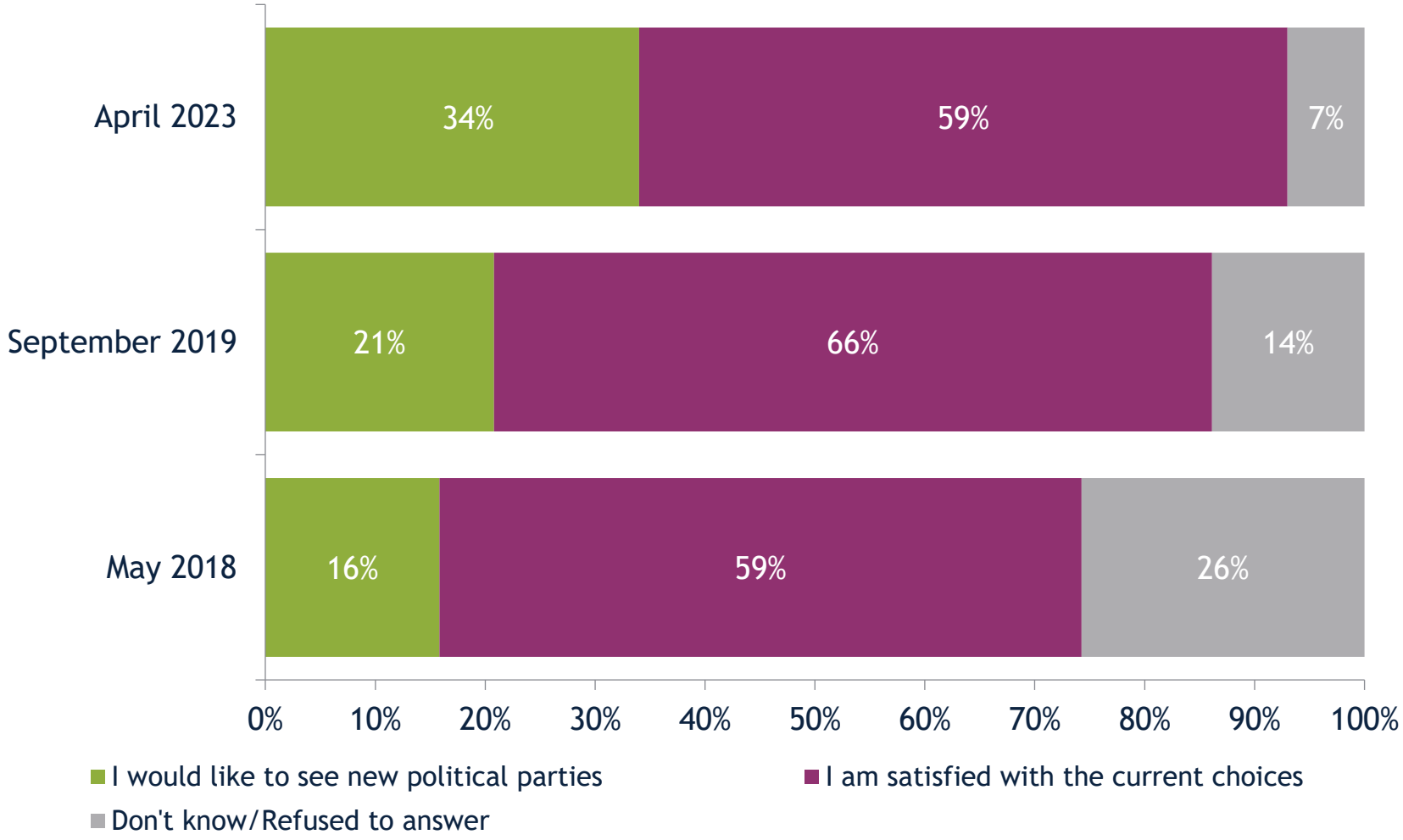
(Of those responding “somewhat” or “very” unlikely to vote, or Don’t Know/Refused to answer; spontaneous response; n=401)



Do you feel that the upcoming elections will be free and fair or not?

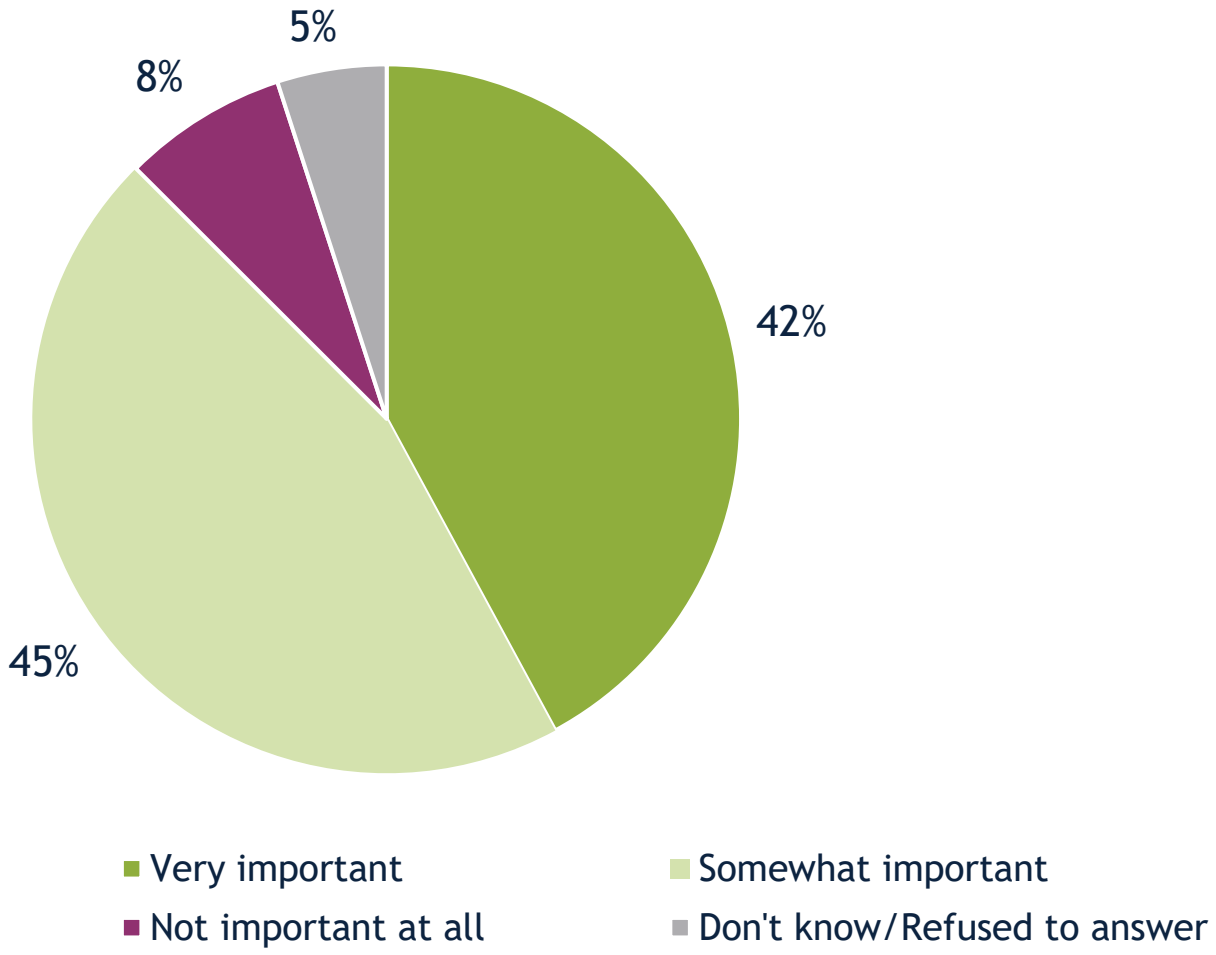


Would you like to see new political parties in future elections or are you satisfied with the current choices?

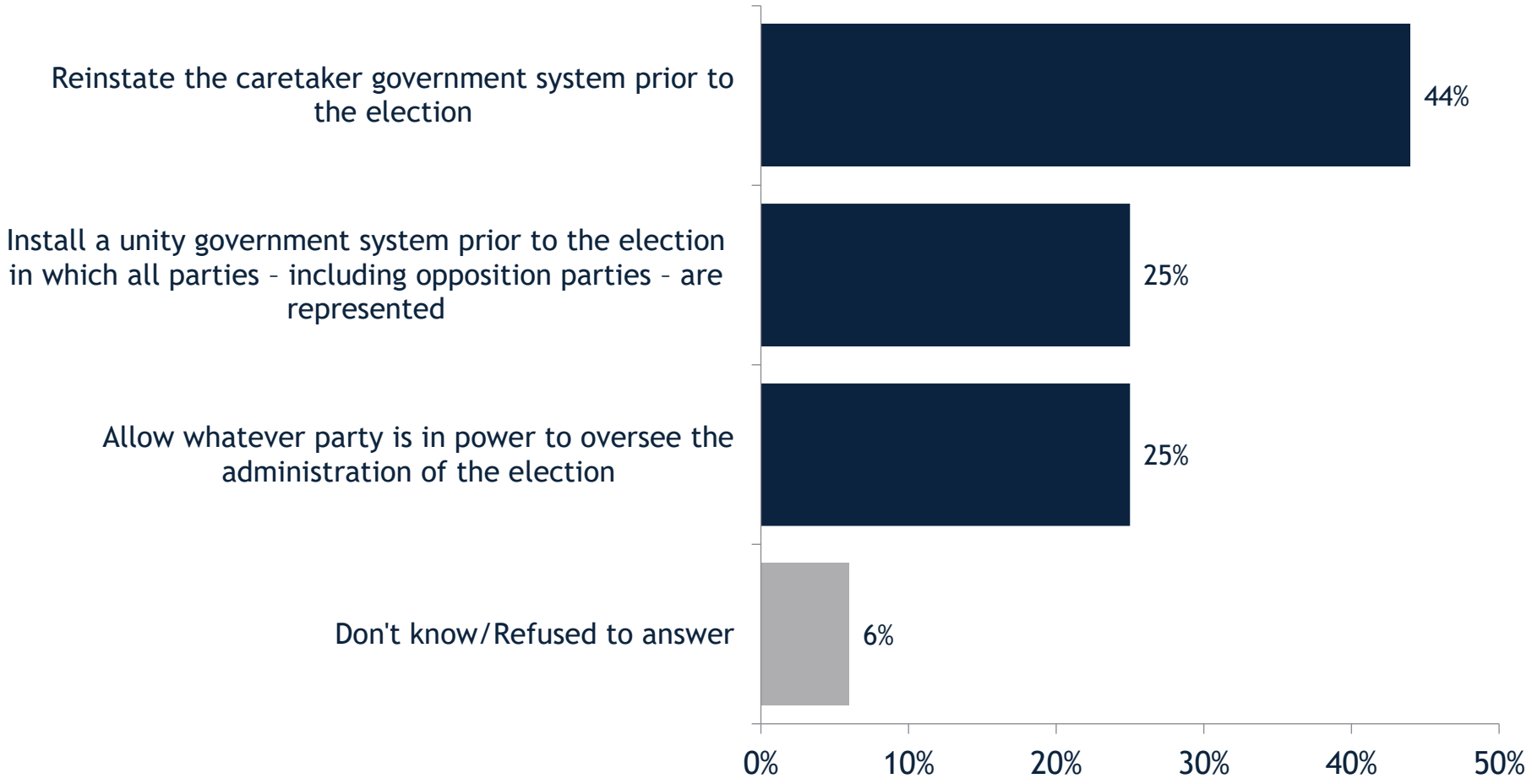


Note: The April 2023 sample-frame was updated to reflect the new 2021 census data; resulting demographic shifts in the sample may impact trend data.

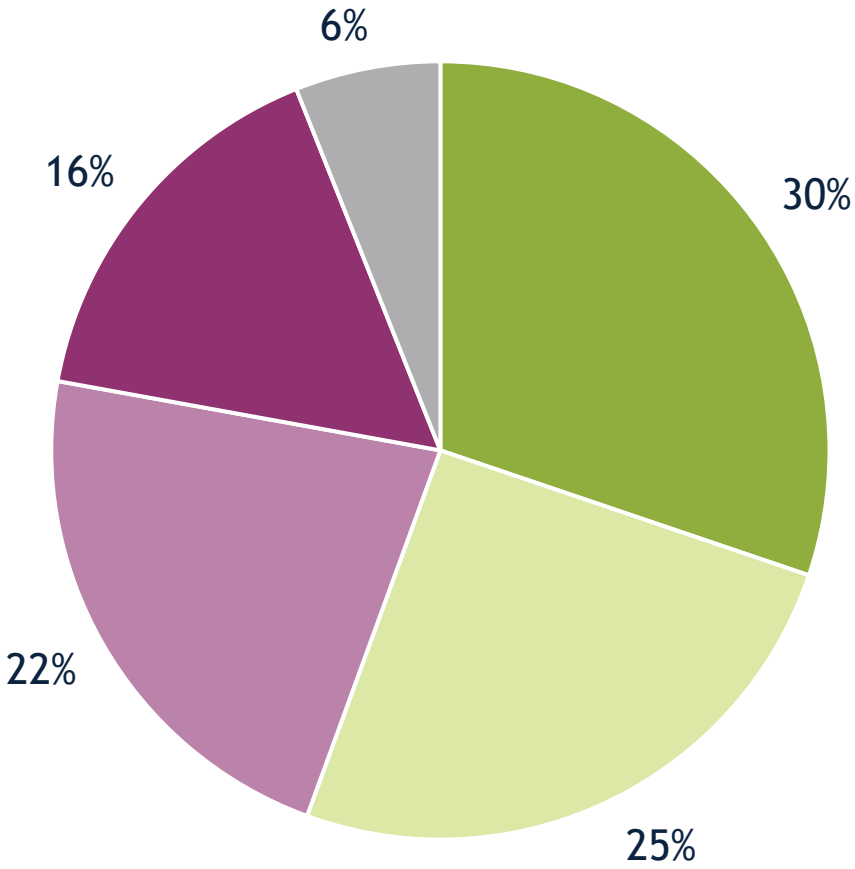
How important is it to you that the Awami League-led Government seek input from other political parties and include them in the decision-making process?



Which of the following systems do you believe is the best way to ensure a fair national election?

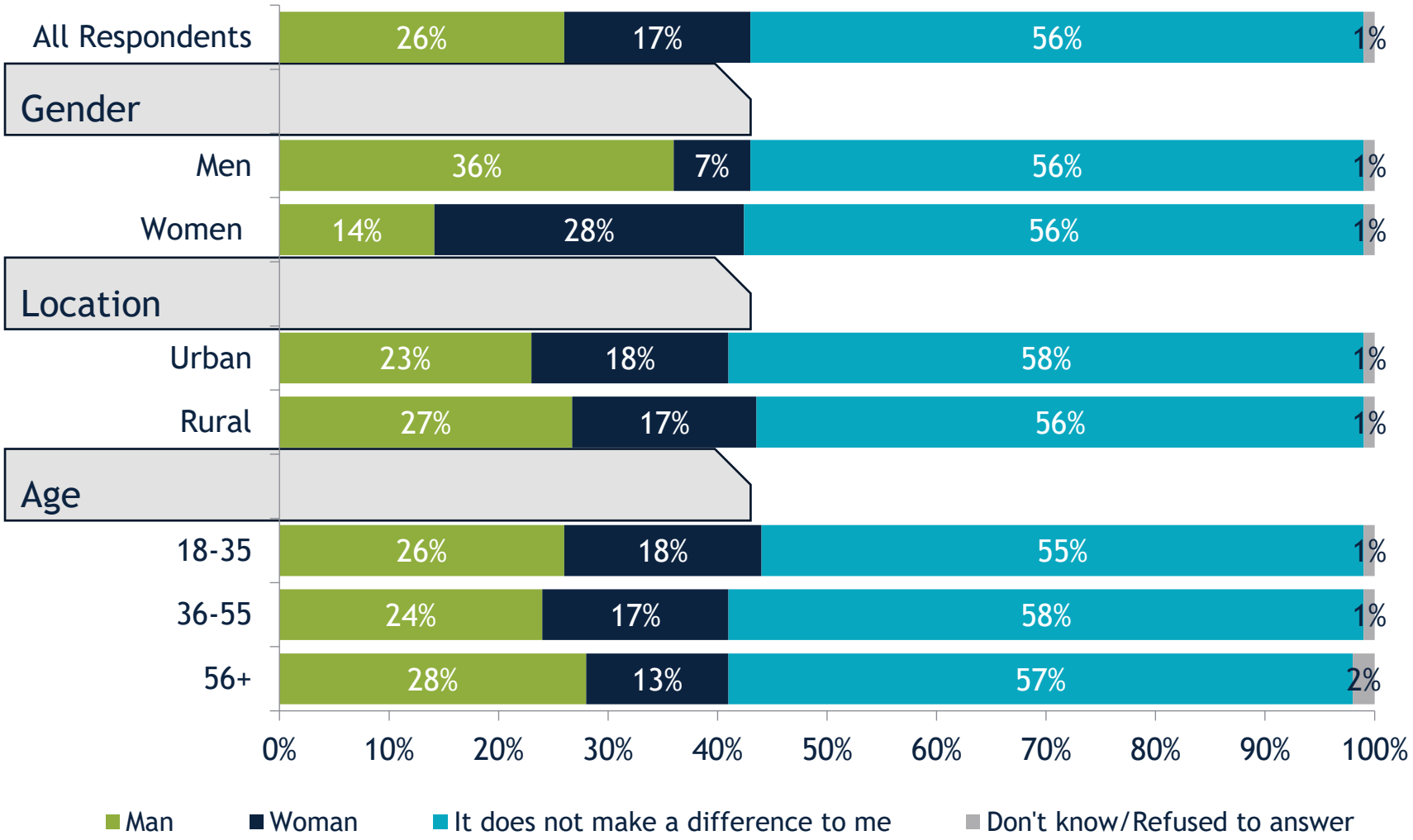


In your opinion, do you believe that the opposition parties should participate in national elections even if a caretaker system is not in place?

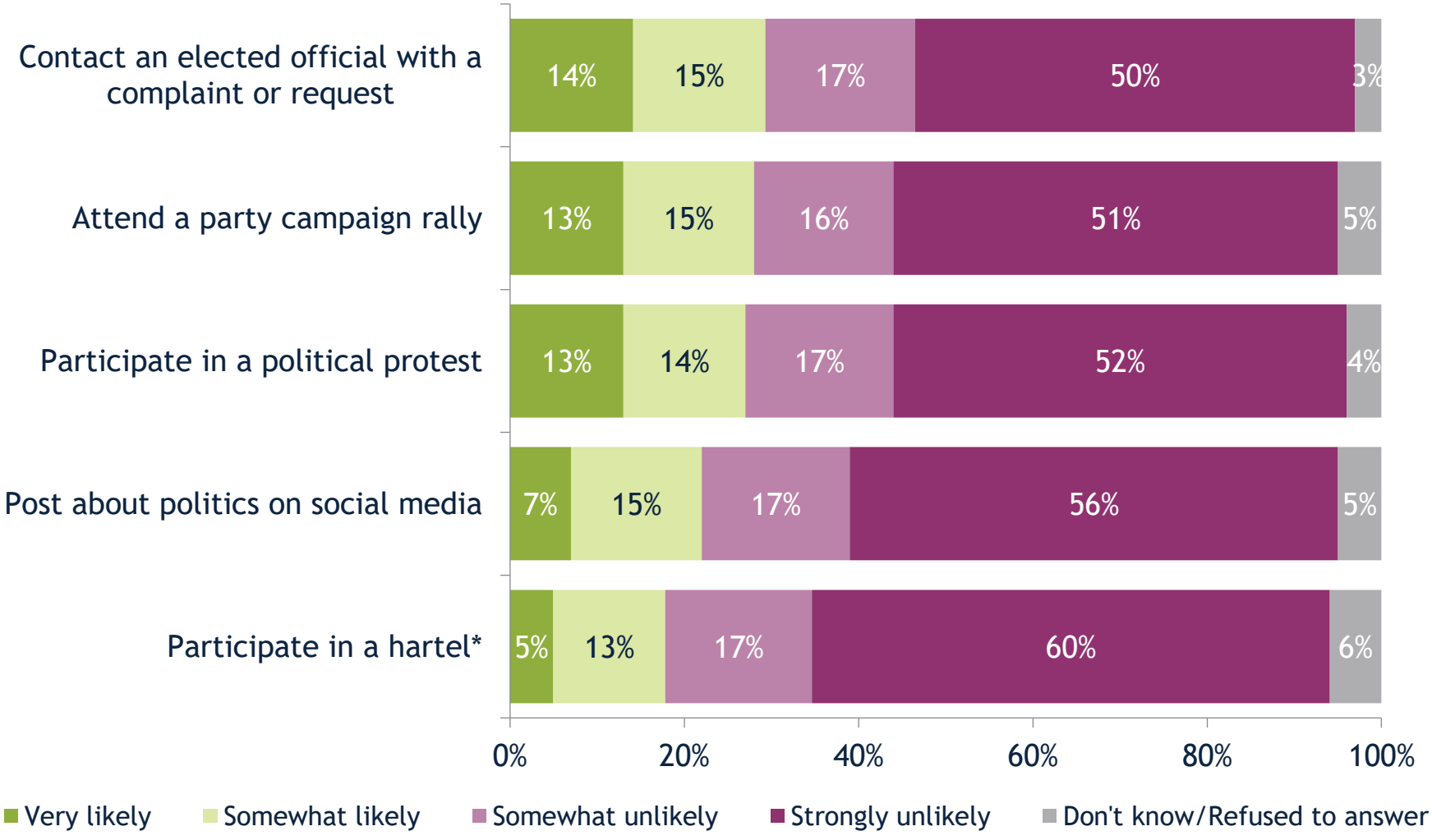


- I strongly believe that opposition parties should participate in national elections even if a caretaker system is not in place
- I somewhat believe that opposition parties should participate in national elections
- I somewhat believe that opposition parties should NOT participate in national elections
- I strongly believe that opposition parties should NOT participate in national elections
- Don't know/Refused to answer

If there are two candidates running for office and they have the same qualifications aside from the fact that one is a man and one is a woman, which candidate are you more likely to support?



How likely, if at all, are you to engage in the following political activities?



*Form of mass protest, similar to a general strike, often involving violence

Foreign Relations

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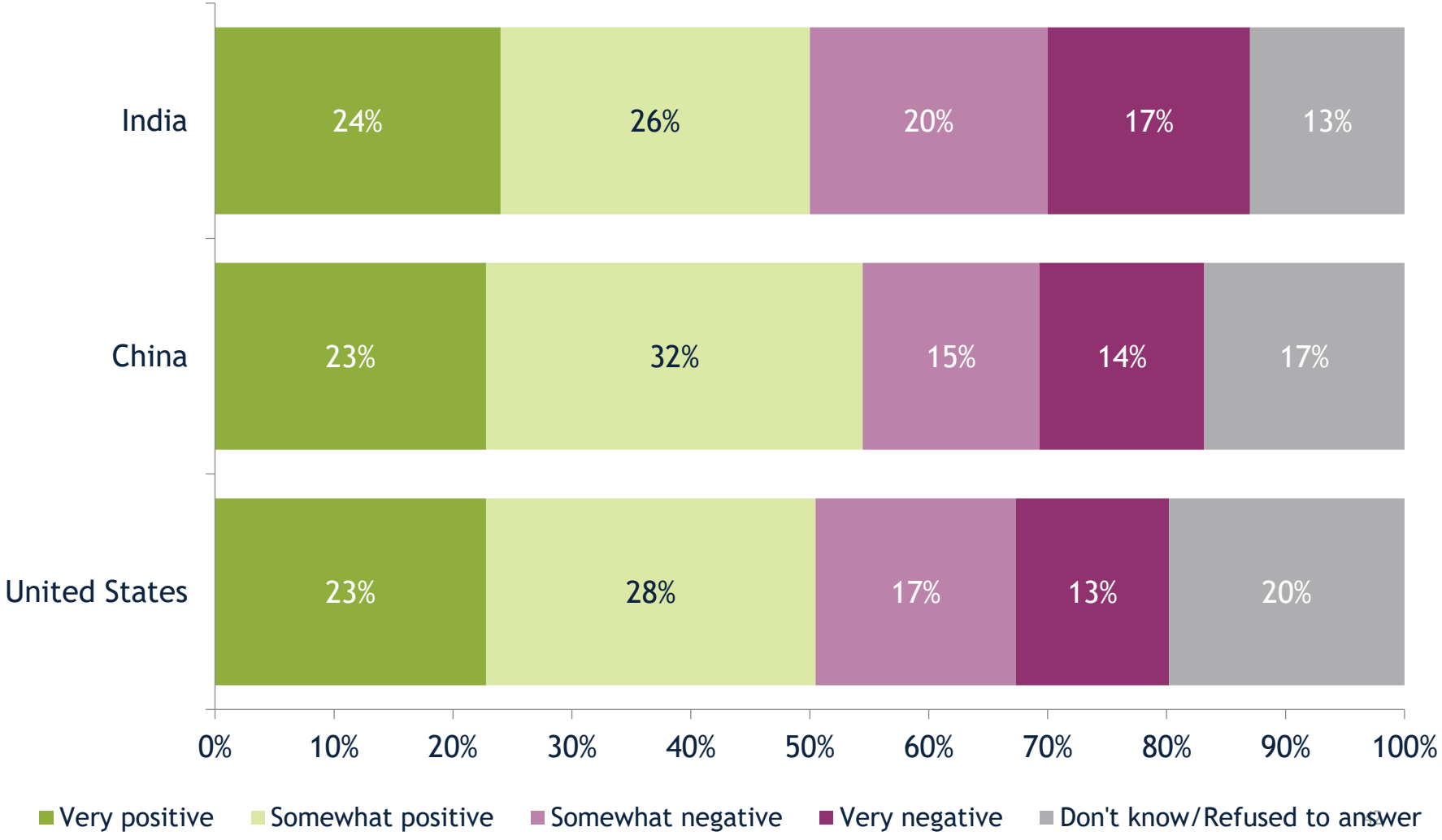
I am now going to read you a list of countries. For each one, please tell me if you think that country is having a positive or negative impact on Bangladesh, and whether that is a very or somewhat positive/negative impact.



I am now going to read you a list of countries. For each one, please tell me if you think that country is having a positive or negative impact on Bangladesh, and whether that is a very or somewhat positive/negative impact.

India
2023 and 2019 Comparison

Note: The April 2023 sample-frame was updated to reflect the new 2021 census data; resulting demographic shifts in the sample may impact trend data.

I am now going to read you a list of countries. For each one, please tell me if you think that country is having a positive or negative impact on Bangladesh, and whether that is a very or somewhat positive/negative impact.

China
2023 and 2019 Comparison

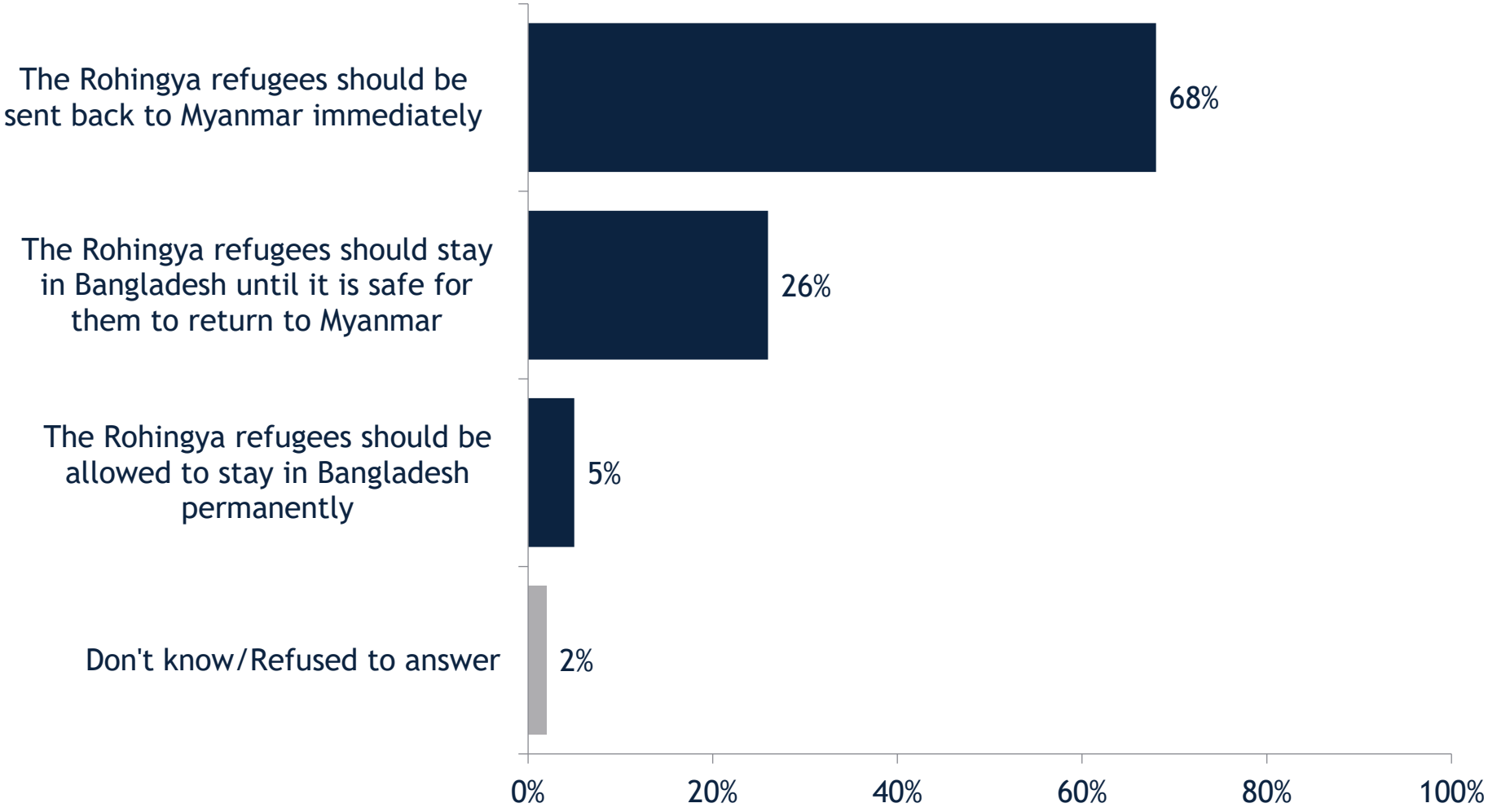
Note: The April 2023 sample-frame was updated to reflect the new 2021 census data; resulting demographic shifts in the sample may impact trend data.

I am now going to read you a list of countries. For each one, please tell me if you think that country is having a positive or negative impact on Bangladesh, and whether that is a very or somewhat positive/negative impact.

United States
2023 and 2019 Comparison

Note: The April 2023 sample-frame was updated to reflect the new 2021 census data; resulting demographic shifts in the sample may impact trend data.

Thinking now about the Rohingya refugee crisis, which of the following statements comes closest to your own opinion?



Media

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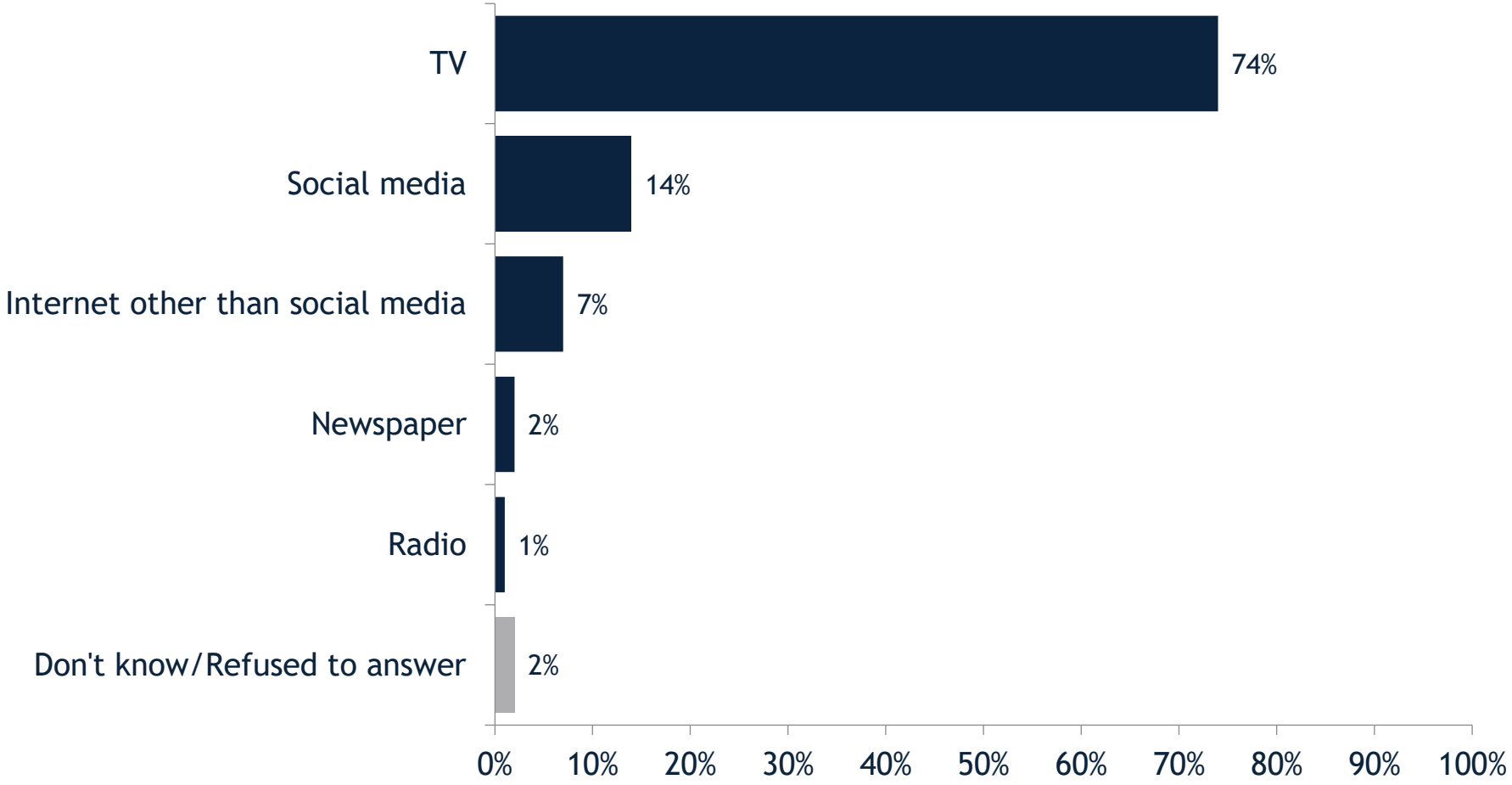
Thinking now about your media habits, from which type of media are you most likely to get your news?



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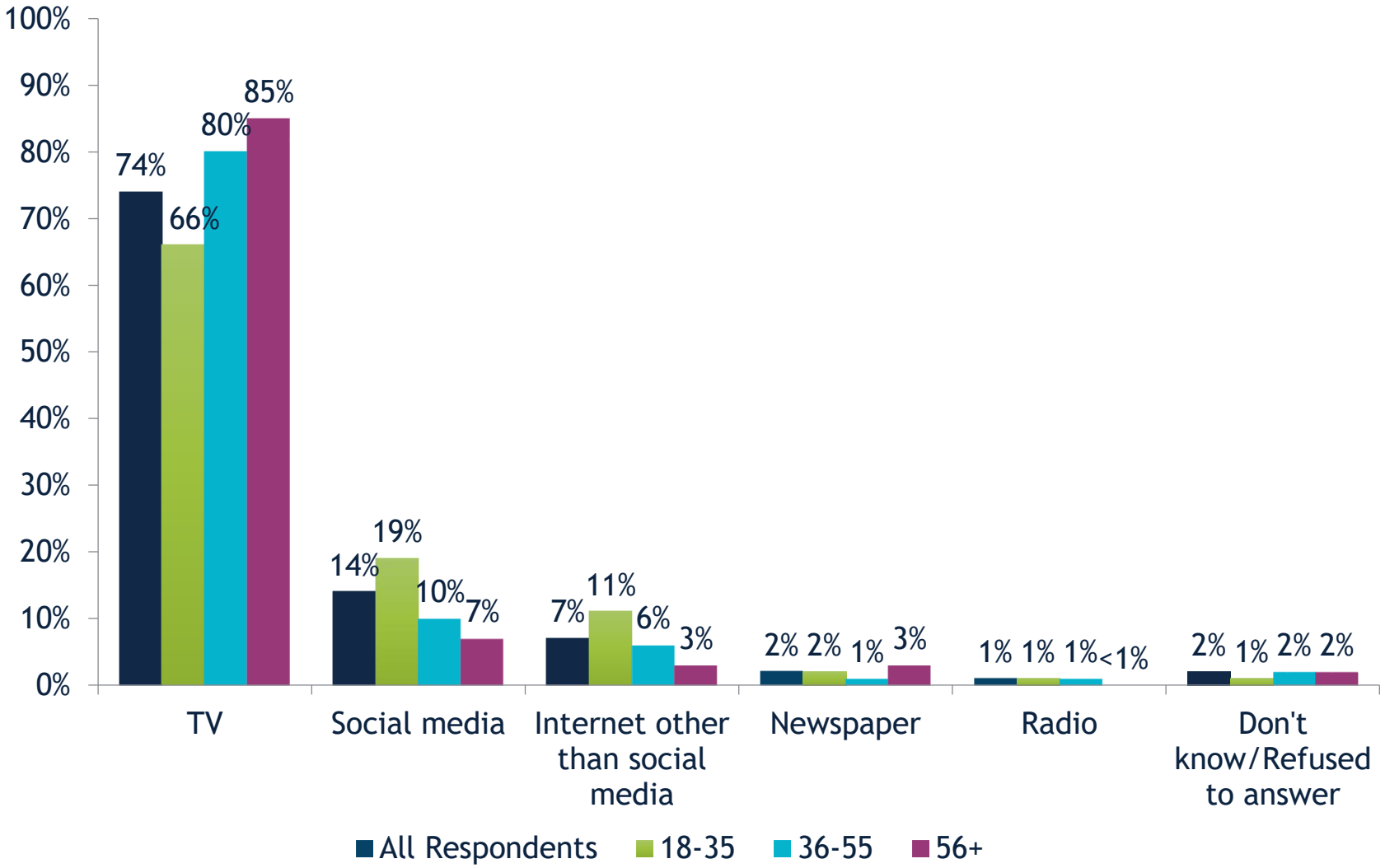
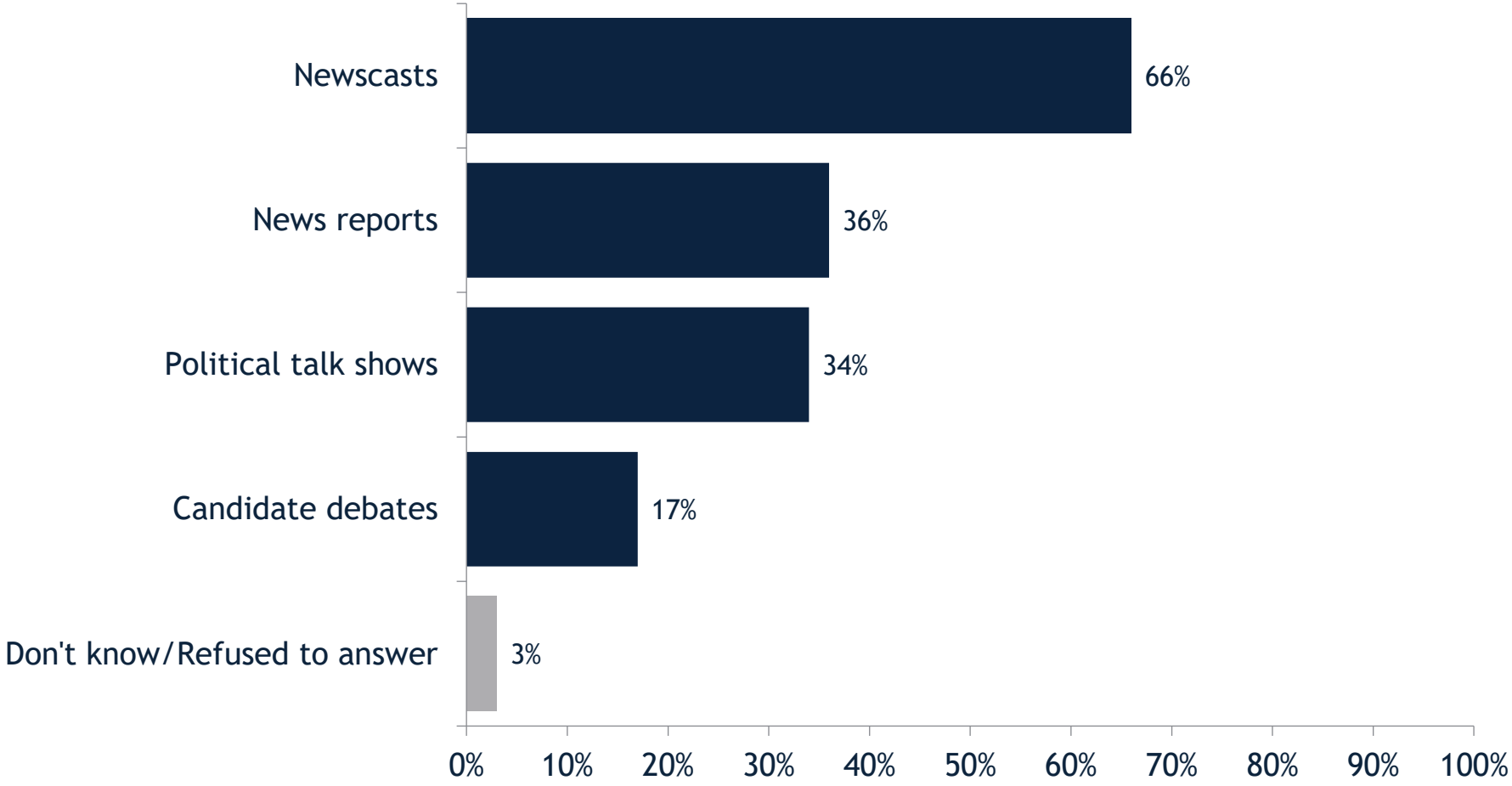
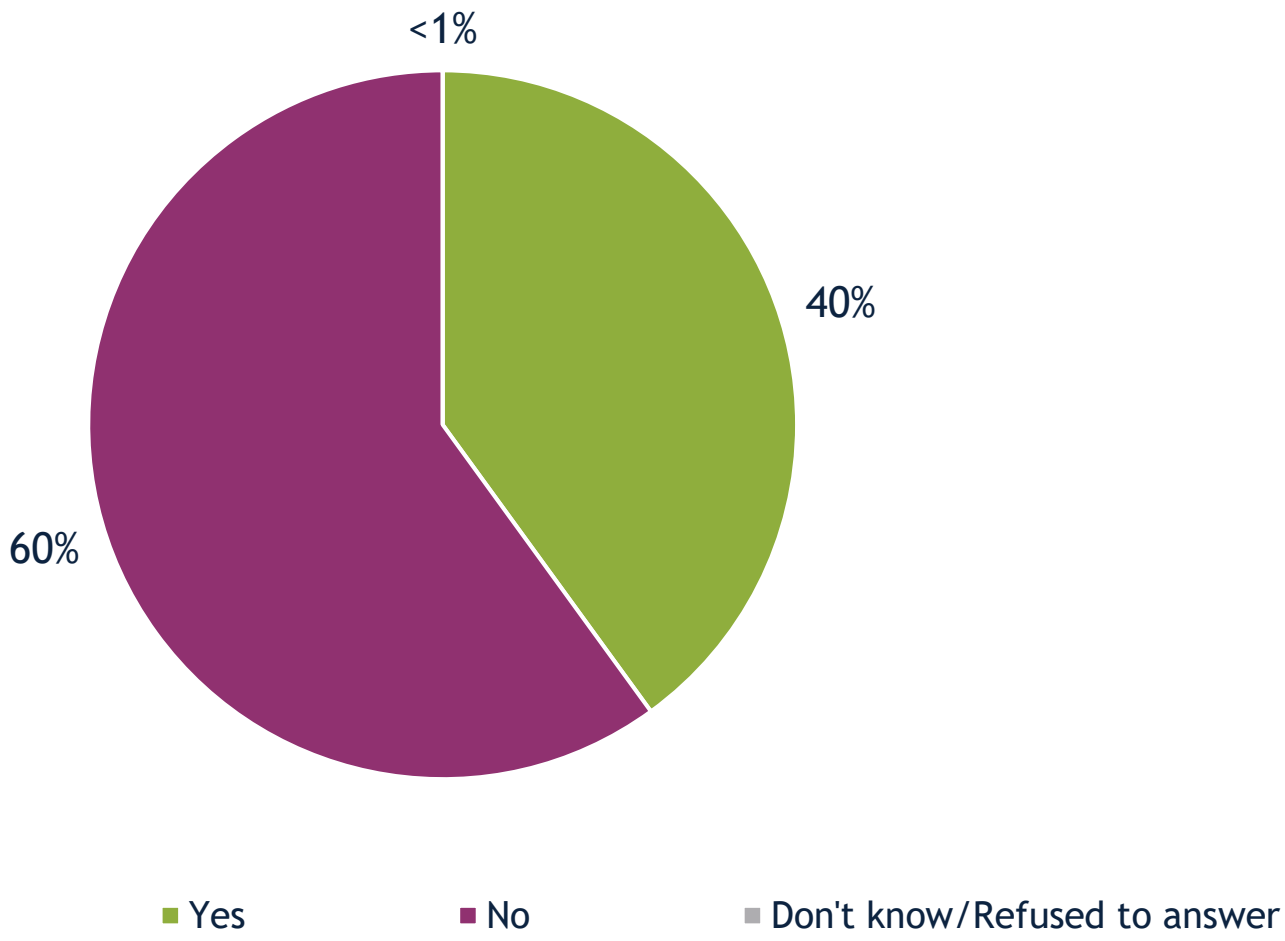


Which of the following news and political television programs do you watch to get election information?

(Multiple responses allowed; number shown is the total number of respondents naming each item)

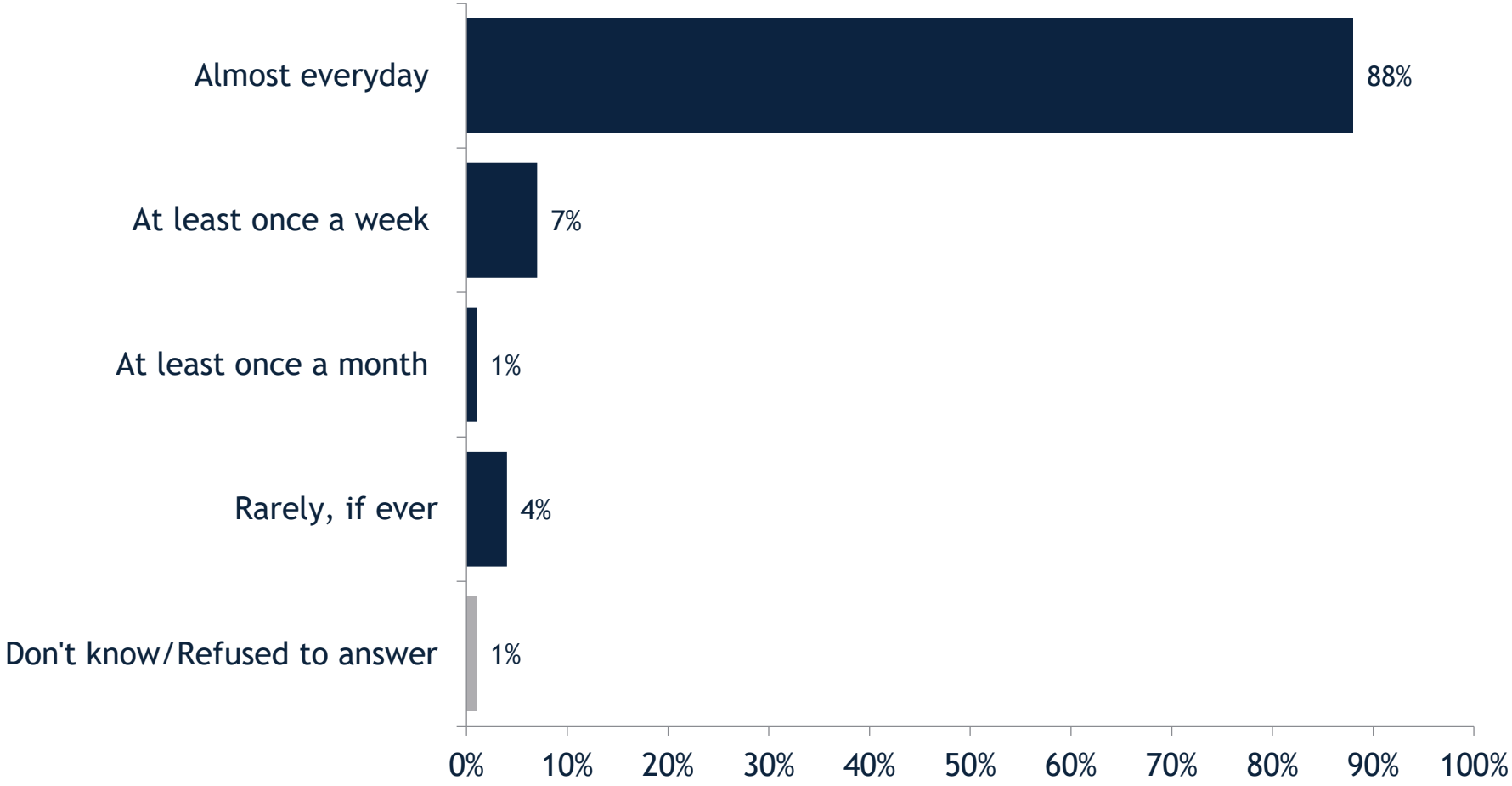


Do you use Facebook?

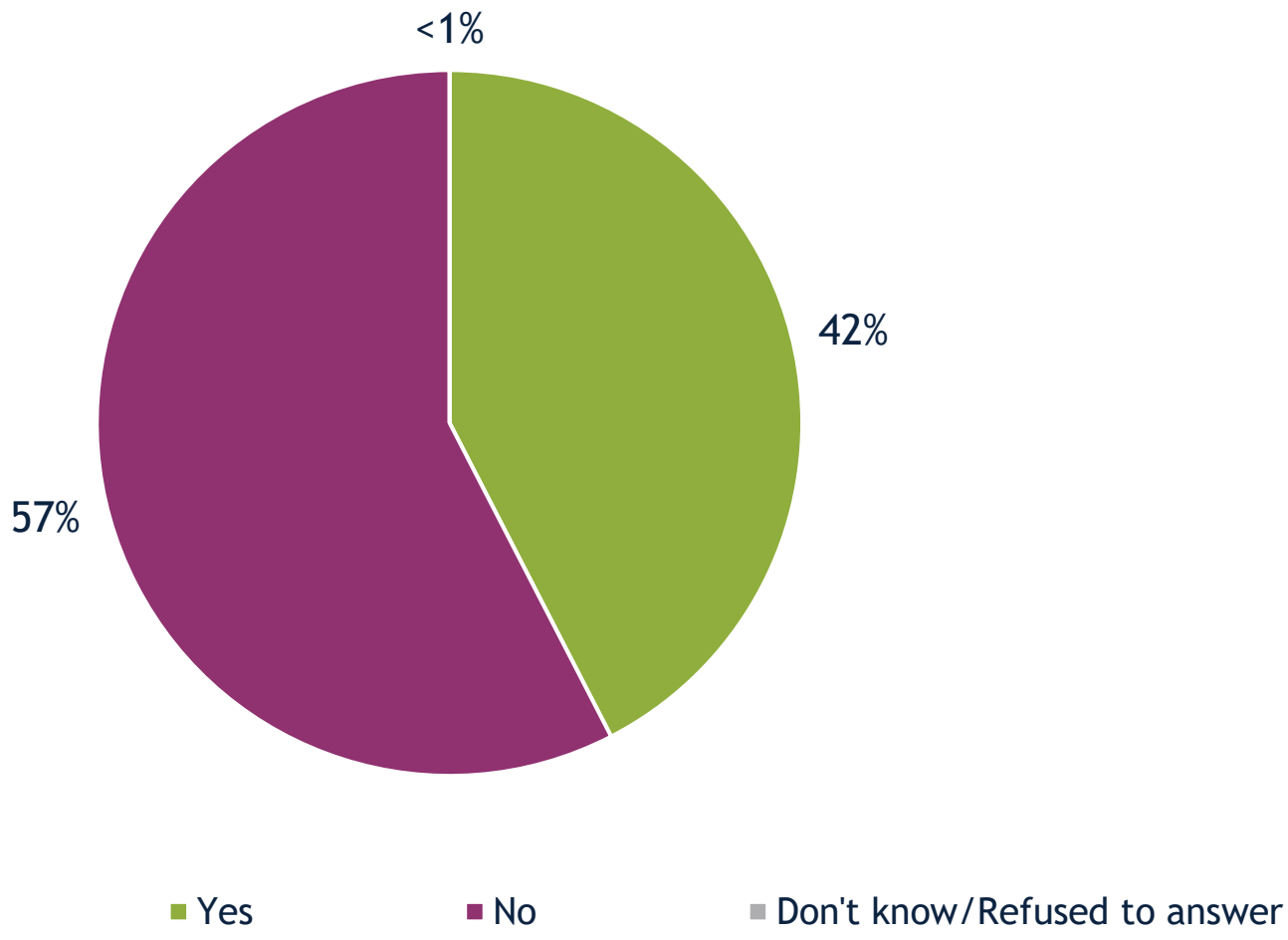


How often do you use Facebook?

(Asked of those who responded that they used Facebook; n=2,003)

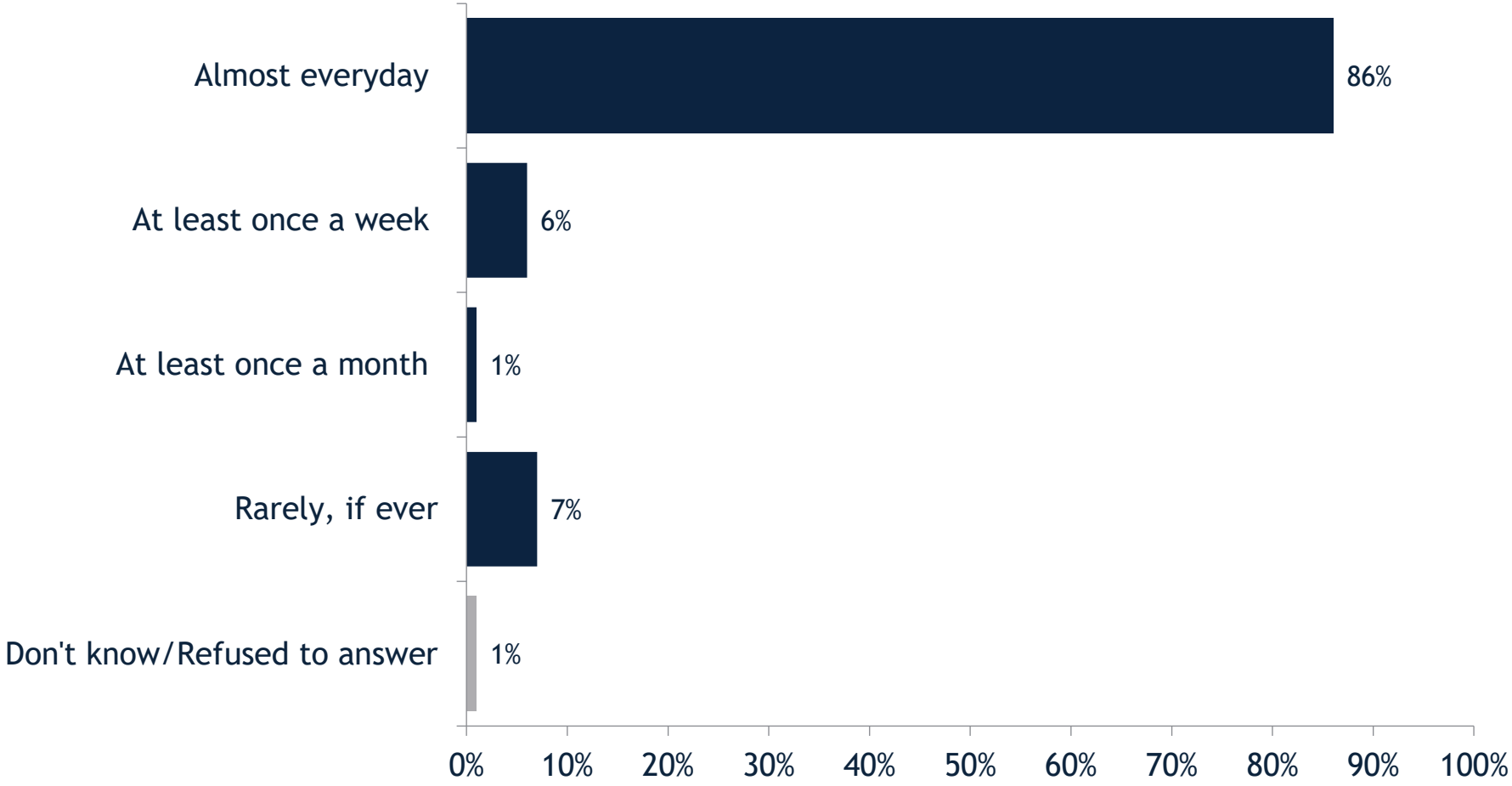


Do you have access to the Internet, either on a phone or a computer?



How often do you use the Internet?

(Asked of those who have access to the Internet; n=2,111)



Demographics

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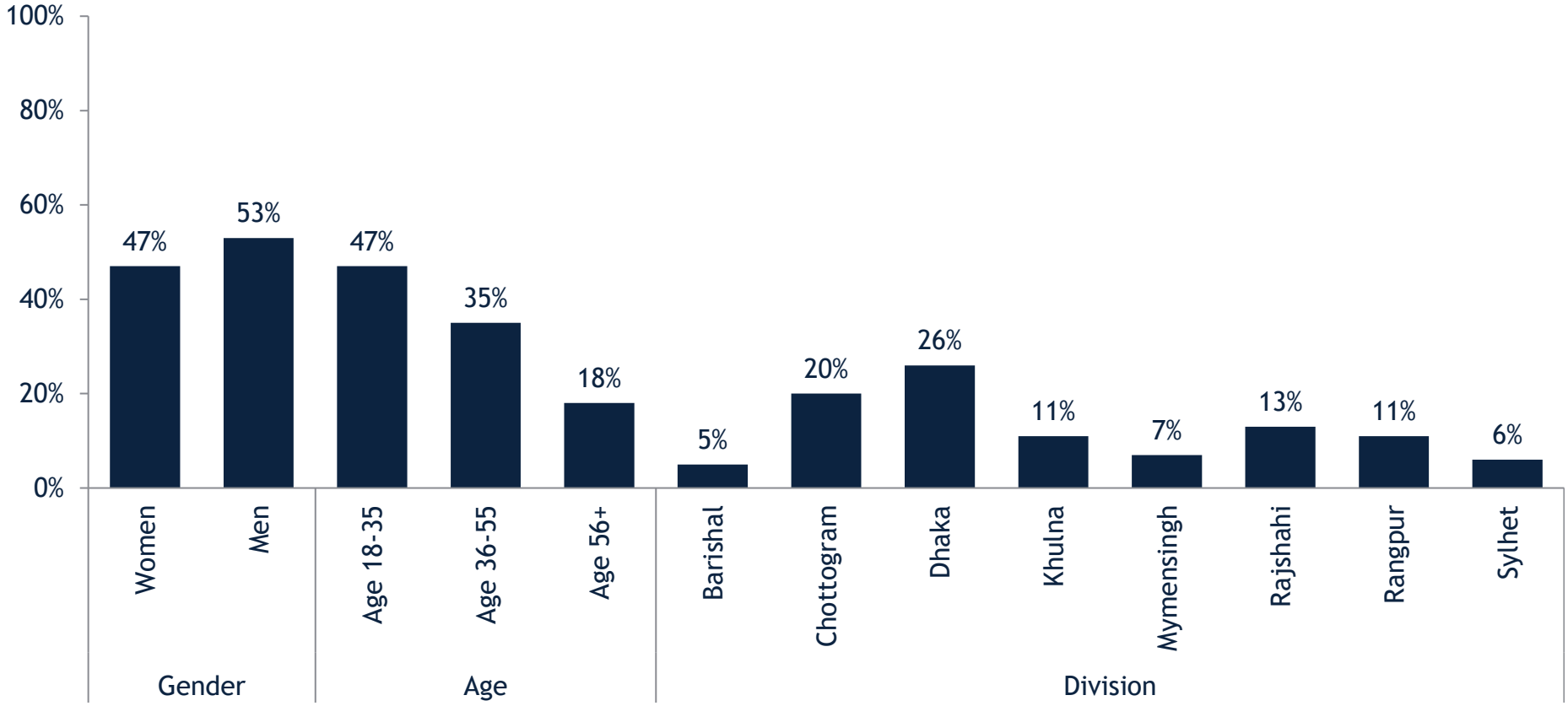
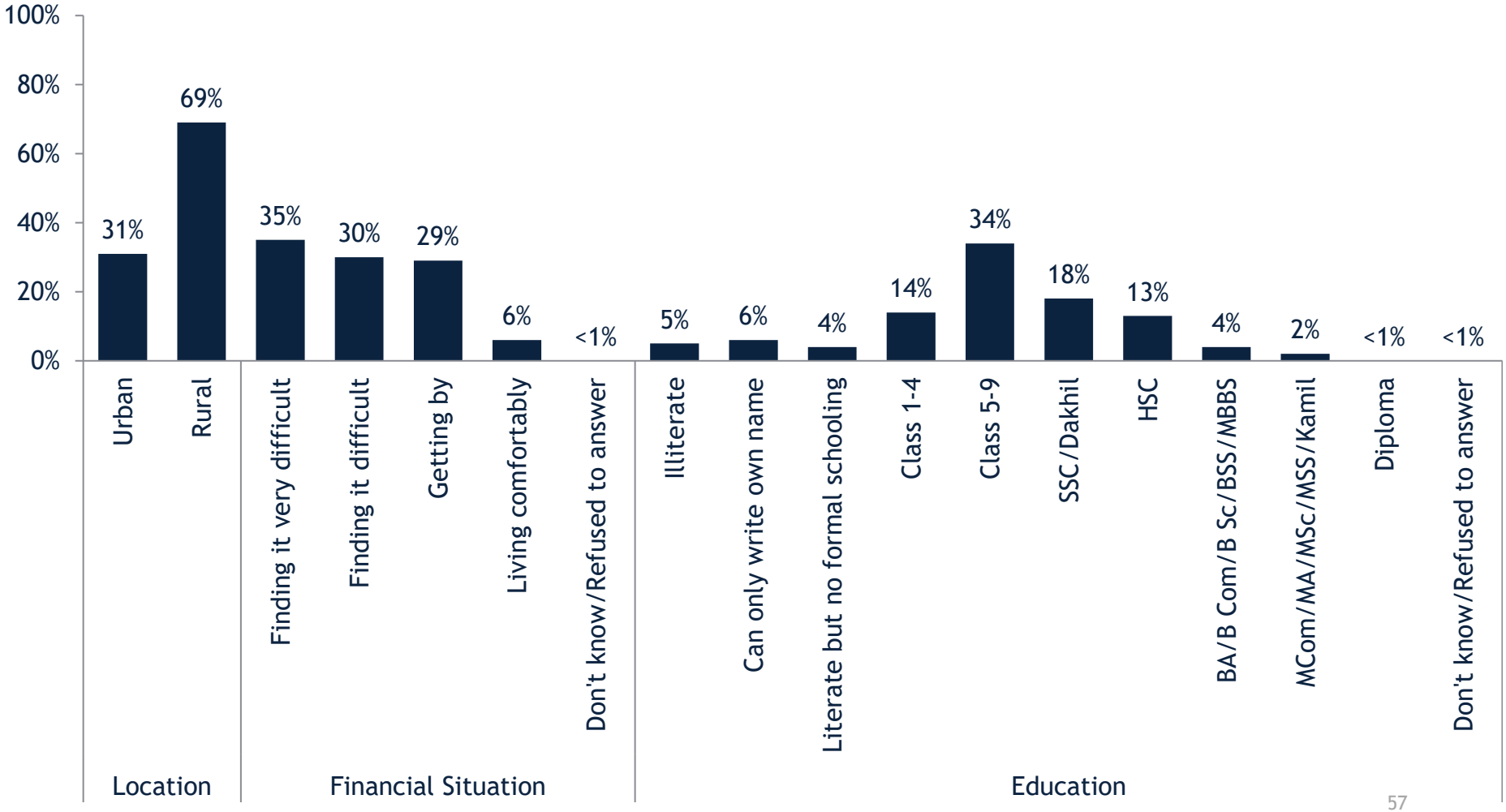
Demographics I.



Demographics II.



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