



Survey of Burma Public Opinion

December 24, 2013 - February 1, 2014

Detailed Methodology

- *Period* : December 24, 2013 - February 1, 2014
- *Survey Type* : In-person, in-home interviews
- *Eligibility* : Age 18+. The survey is a national representative sample of voting age adults.
- *Total Respondents* : n = 3,000
- Data was collected by Myanmar Survey Research under the supervision of Rob Varsalone of [Global Strategic Partners](#) and the [International Republican Institute](#).
- A multi-stage probability sample was used. The sample was distributed into 300 primary sampling units (PSU) which were then stratified by region. Townships were selected through the Probability-Proportionate-to-Size (PPS) method and the sample was further stratified by location. The equal-sized village tracts were selected by simple random sampling (SRS) and then the PSUs were selected through PPS.
- Within each PSU, systematic random sampling was used to select the households. Within each household the respondent was selected through the Kish Grid.
- At the midrange the survey has a confidence interval of plus and minus two percent with a confidence level of 95 percent. The response rate was 79 percent.
- The information in this report has been compiled in accordance with international standards for market and social research methodologies. Figures in charts and tables may not sum to 100 percent due to rounding error.
- This public opinion poll was funded by the generous support of the American people through the [United States Agency for International Development \(USAID\)](#). The opinions expressed herein are those of the author(s) and do not necessarily reflect the views of USAID or the United States government.

Demographics

GENDER	
Male	50%
Female	50%

RELIGION	
Buddhism	92%
Christianity	5%
Islam	2%
Hinduism	1%
Other	<1%

MONTHLY INCOME LEVEL	
1 - 50 USD	22%
50 - 100 USD	38%
100 - 500 USD	34%
500 - 1,000 USD	2%
1,000 - 2,000 USD	1%
2,000 or more USD	<1%

EDUCATION LEVEL	
Illiterate	9%
Literate - No School	2%
Monastic	10%
Some Primary	16%
Primary	37%
Middle	12%
High School	8%
Vocational	1%
College	6%

LOCATION	
Urban	31%
Rural	69%

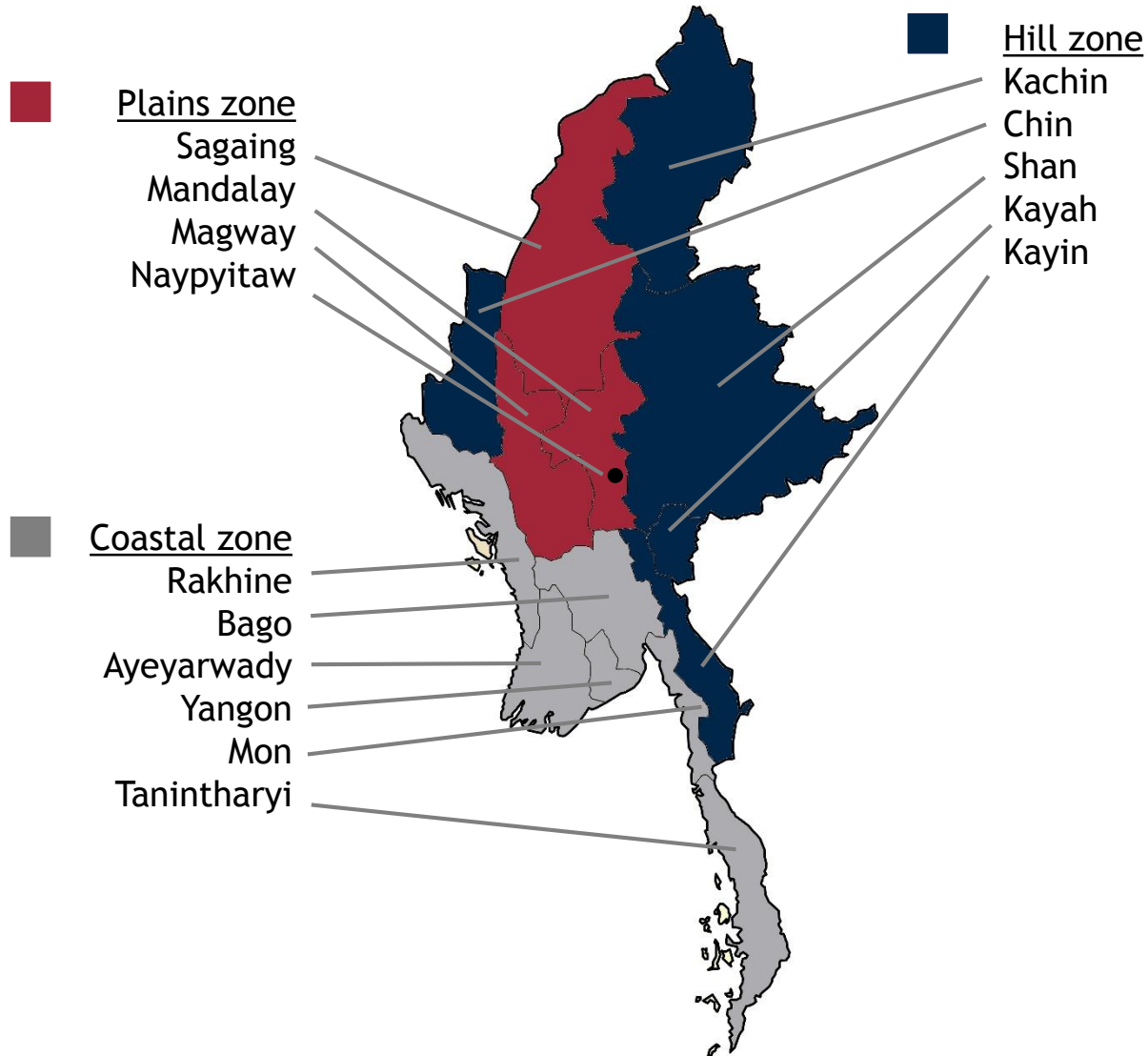
AGE	
18-25	11%
26-40	30%
41-55	33%
55+	26%

REGION / STATE	
Ayeyarwady	13%
Yangon	12%
Sagaing	11%
Mandalay	11%
Bago East	10%
Magway	9%
Shan (North)	7%
Mon	5%
Rakhine	5%
Kachin	3%
Kayin	3%
Tanintharyi	3%
Naypyitaw	3%
Shan (South)	2%
Kayah	1%
Chin	1%

ETHNICITY	
Bamar	70%
Kayin	6%
Shan	5%
Rakhine	5%
Kachin	2%
Chin	2%
Mon	2%
Myanmar Indian	2%
Kayah	1%
Myanmar Chinese	1%
Pa-O	1%
Other*	4%

* Other includes Chinese, Kokang, Dhanu, Kayin and Pa-O, Chin and Bamar, Palaung, Wa, Khami, Mon and Bamar, Pathi and Tamil
Income level was recorded in Burmese Kyat, the local currency, but reported in US dollars for ease of reference.

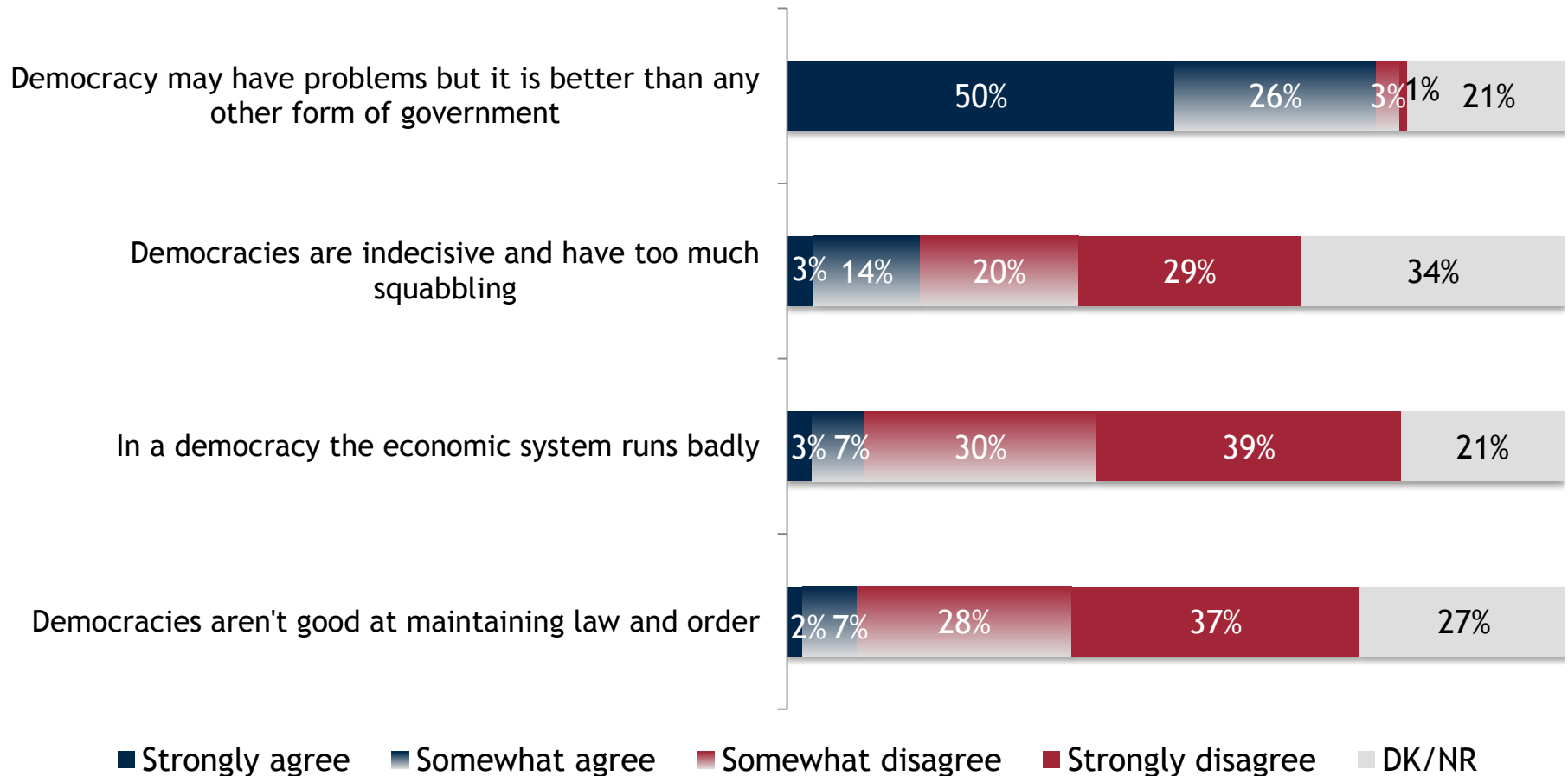
Burma Polling Locations



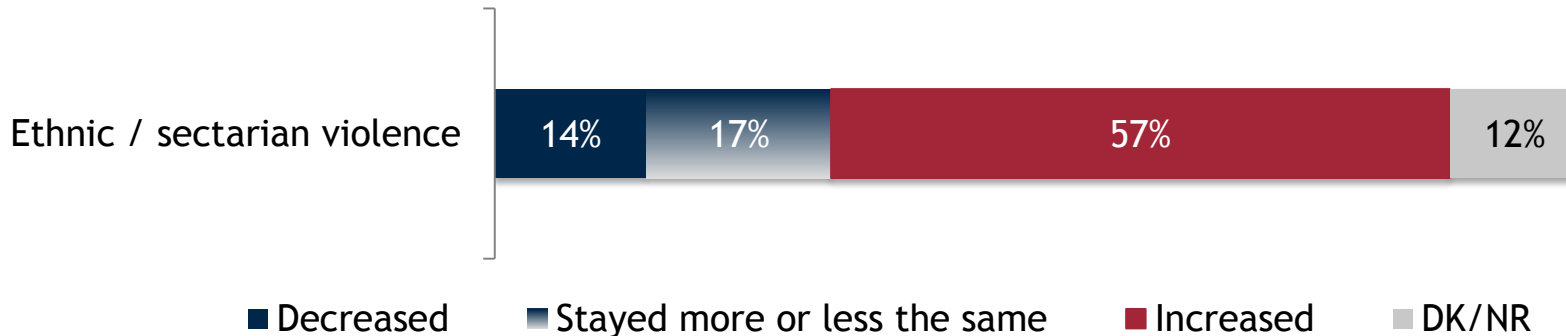
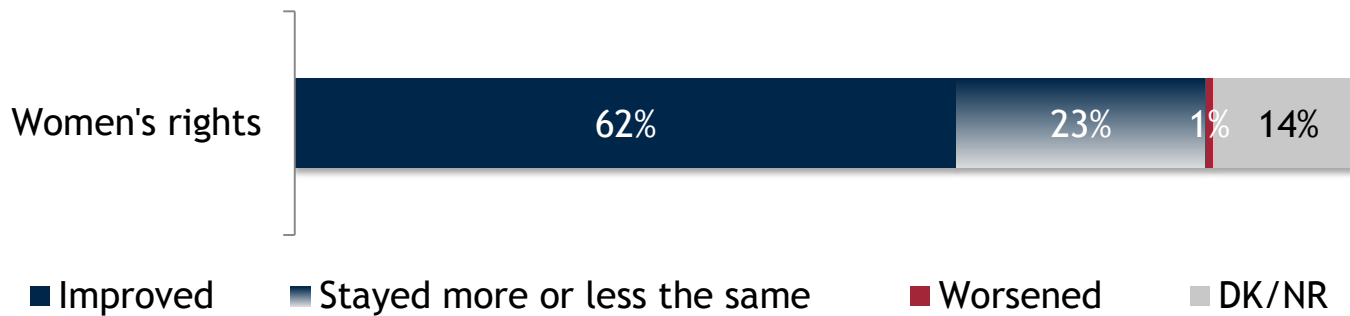
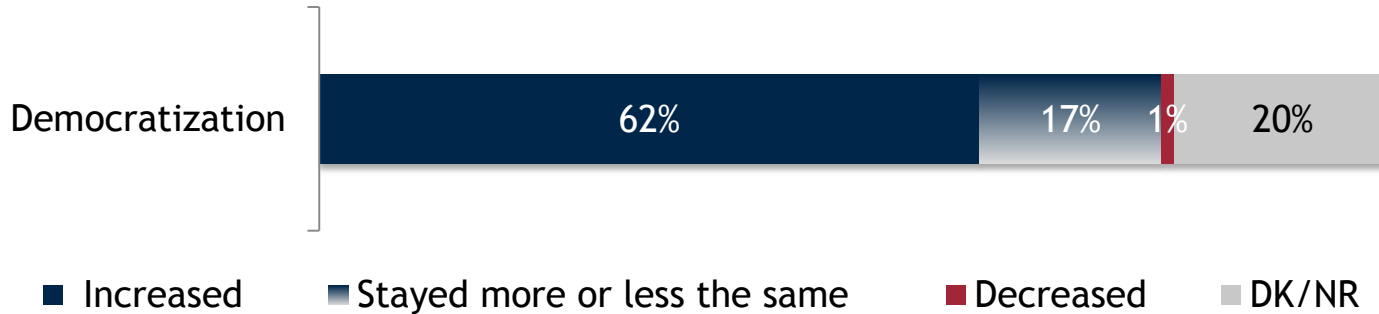
Current Developments

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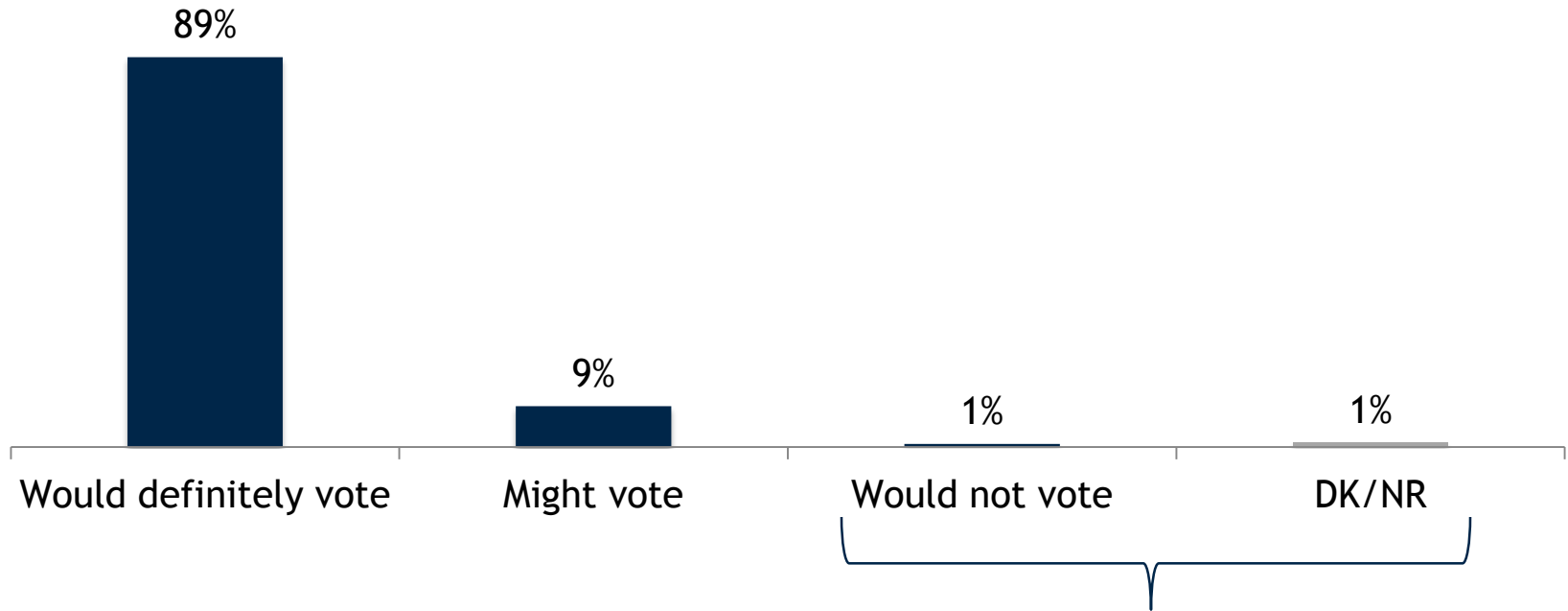
Do you strongly agree, somewhat agree, somewhat disagree or strongly disagree with each of these statements?



What is your opinion about the trend of the following in Burma compared to a year ago? Is it increased/improved, the same or decreased/worsened?



If parliamentary elections were held today, how likely is it that you would vote?



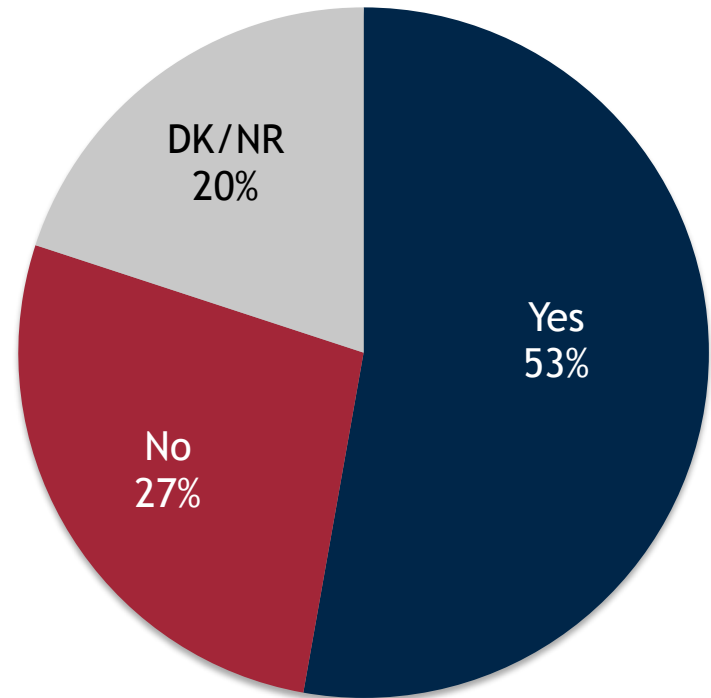
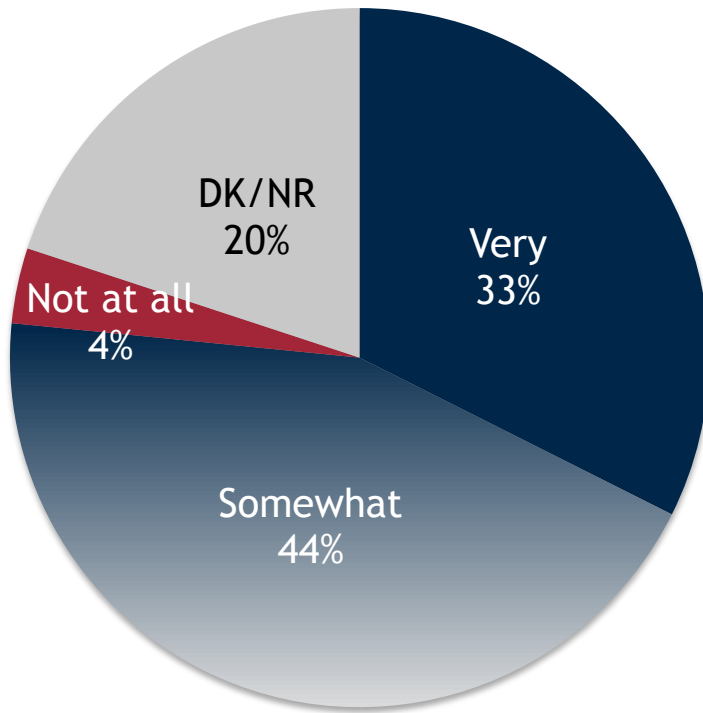
Why will you not vote?

I am not interested in politics	30%
I don't have enough information about the candidates	11%
I don't have time to vote	7%
I am not registered	4%
My vote won't change anything	4%
I don't think the vote will be fair	2%
I don't support any party/candidate	2%
DK/NR	42%

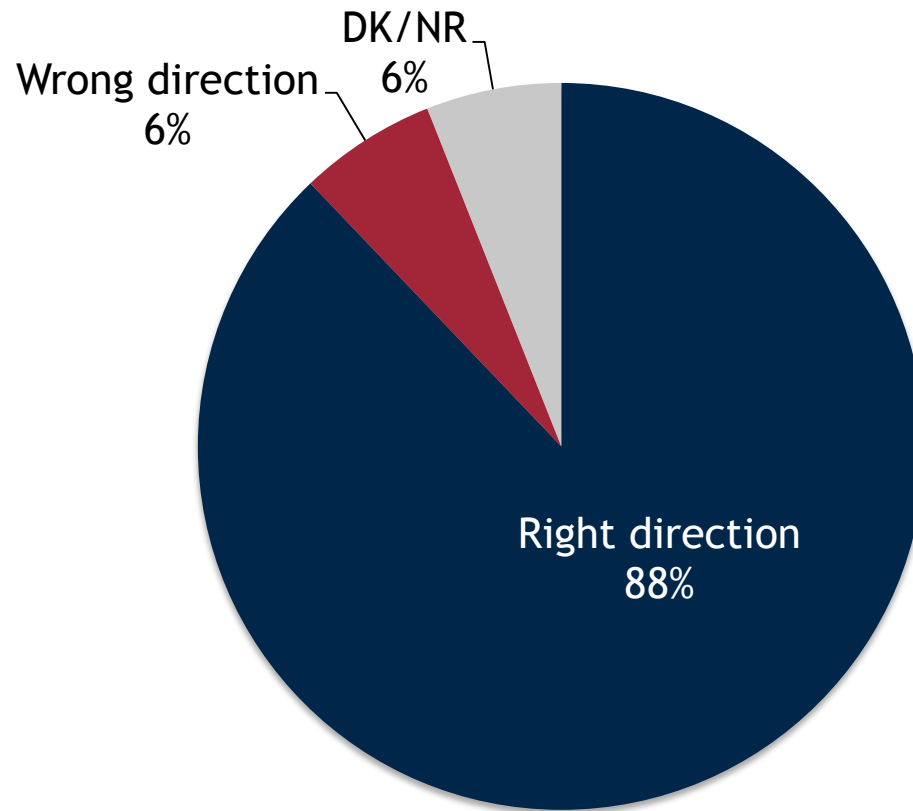
* Would not vote or DK/NR n=57

How credible do you think the results of the 2015 parliamentary elections will be?

Were the results of the last parliamentary elections held in 2010 credible to you?



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



Why do you think that things in Burma are heading in the right/wrong direction?

Right direction

(Open-ended - Only responses >3% shown)

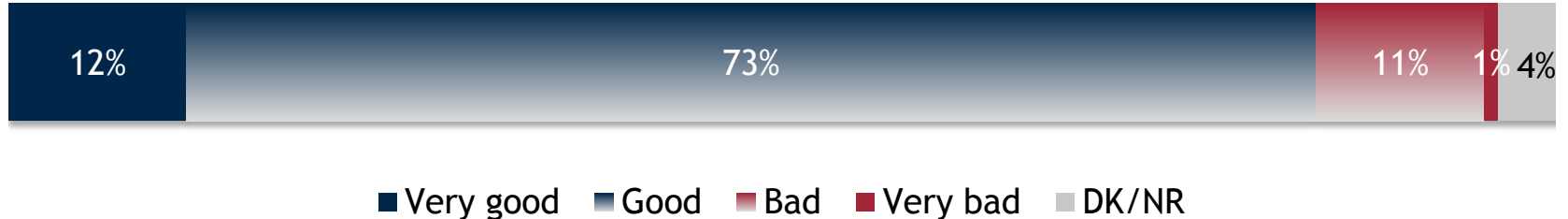
35%	Roads are being paved & bridges are being built
27%	Economic conditions have improved
10%	The rule of law has improved
6%	People can speak their minds about politics
3%	Support for education has increased
3%	The agricultural sector has improved
8%	DK/NR

Wrong direction

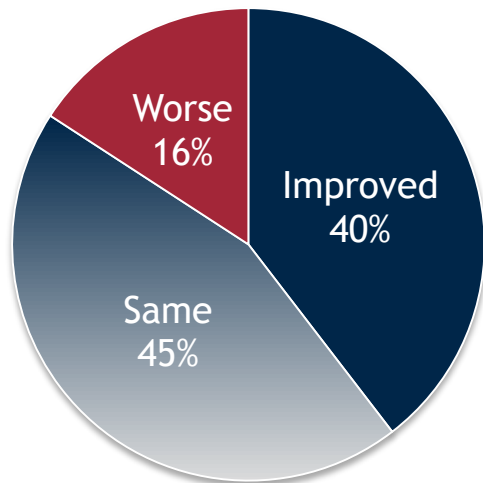
(Open-ended - Only responses >3% shown)

32%	Poor economic conditions
21%	Ethnic or sectarian violence
12%	There is no rule of law or transparency
7%	Poor transportation
5%	Political problems
5%	Traditions eroded, youth more spoiled
3%	The Constitution has not been amended
3%	DK/NR

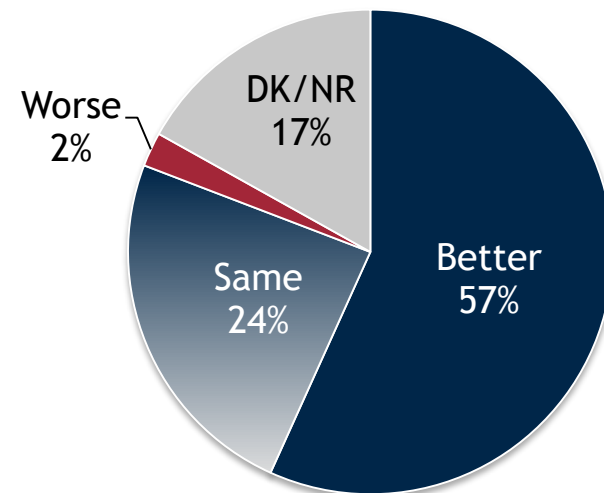
How would you describe the current economic situation in Burma?



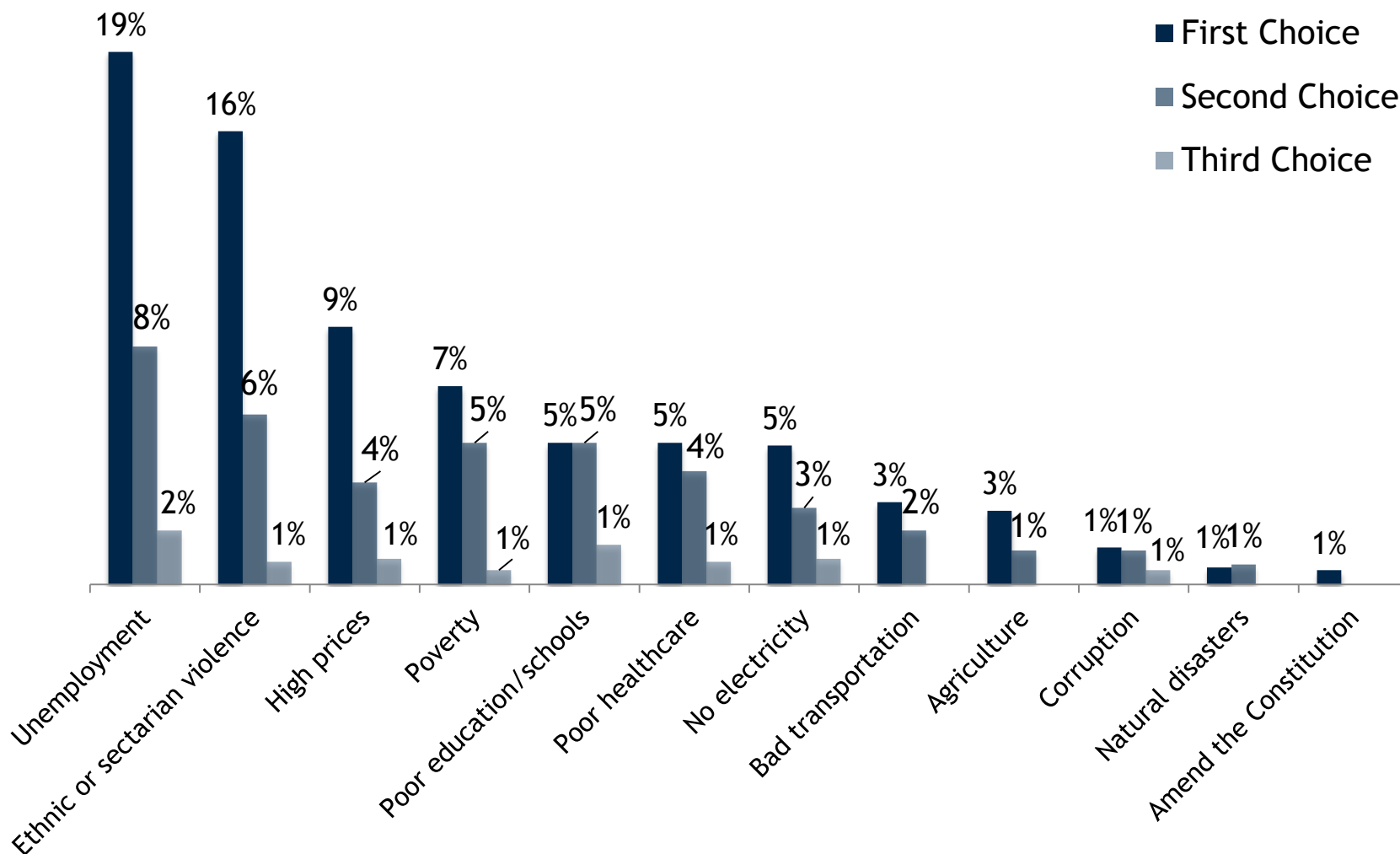
Compared to a year ago, has your personal economic situation improved, stayed the same or worsened?



Do you expect your personal economic situation in the next year to get better, stay the same or get worse?

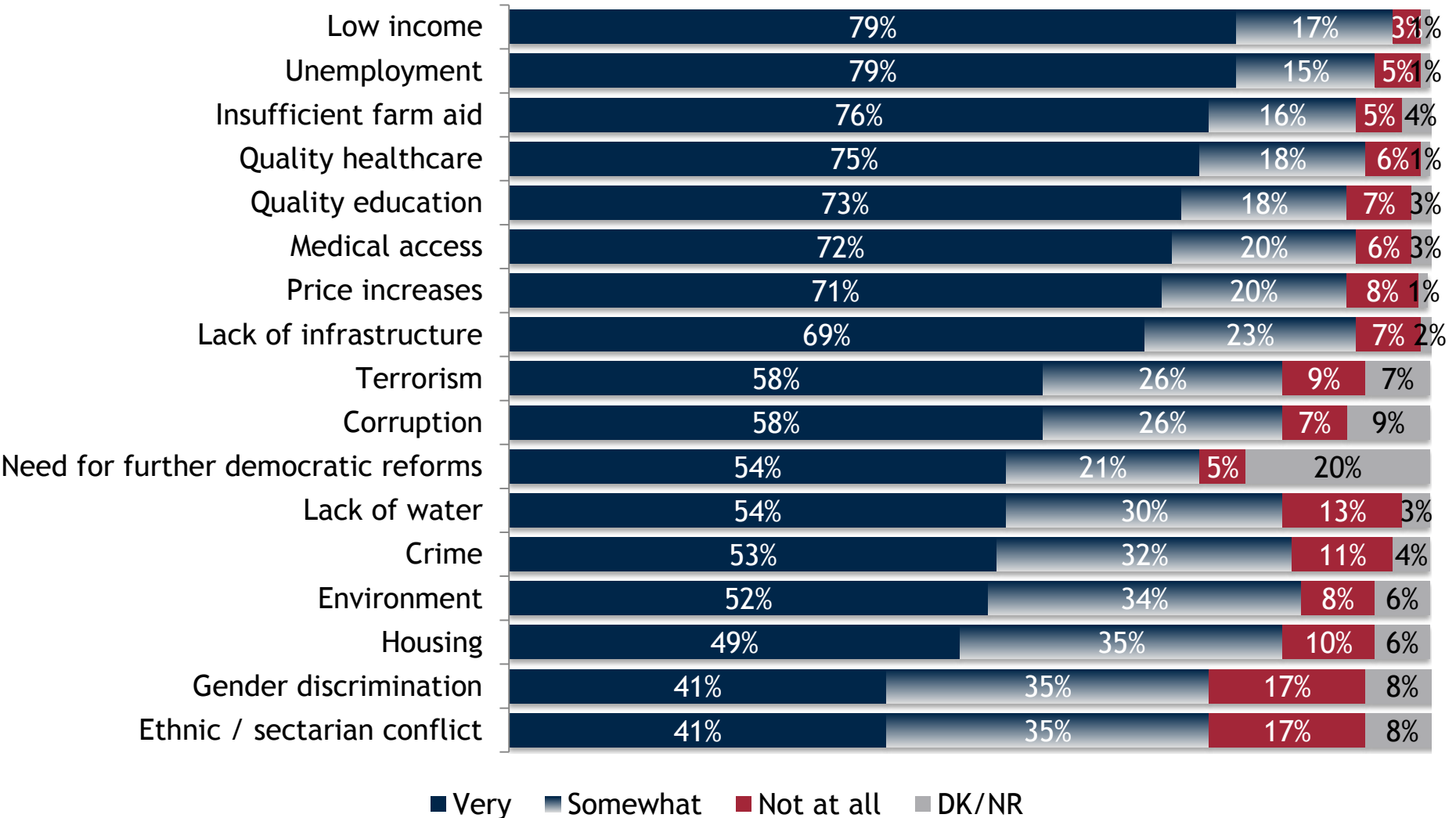


What are the three biggest problems facing Burma as a whole? (Open-ended, responses >1% shown)



* Don't Know / No response is not shown but accounted for 23% of first choice responses, 58% of second choices and 95% of third choices.

How serious of a problem would you say each of the issues below are in Burma?



Generally speaking, do you think the national government is doing a good job or a bad job?



Do you approve or disapprove of the way President Thein Sein is handling his job?

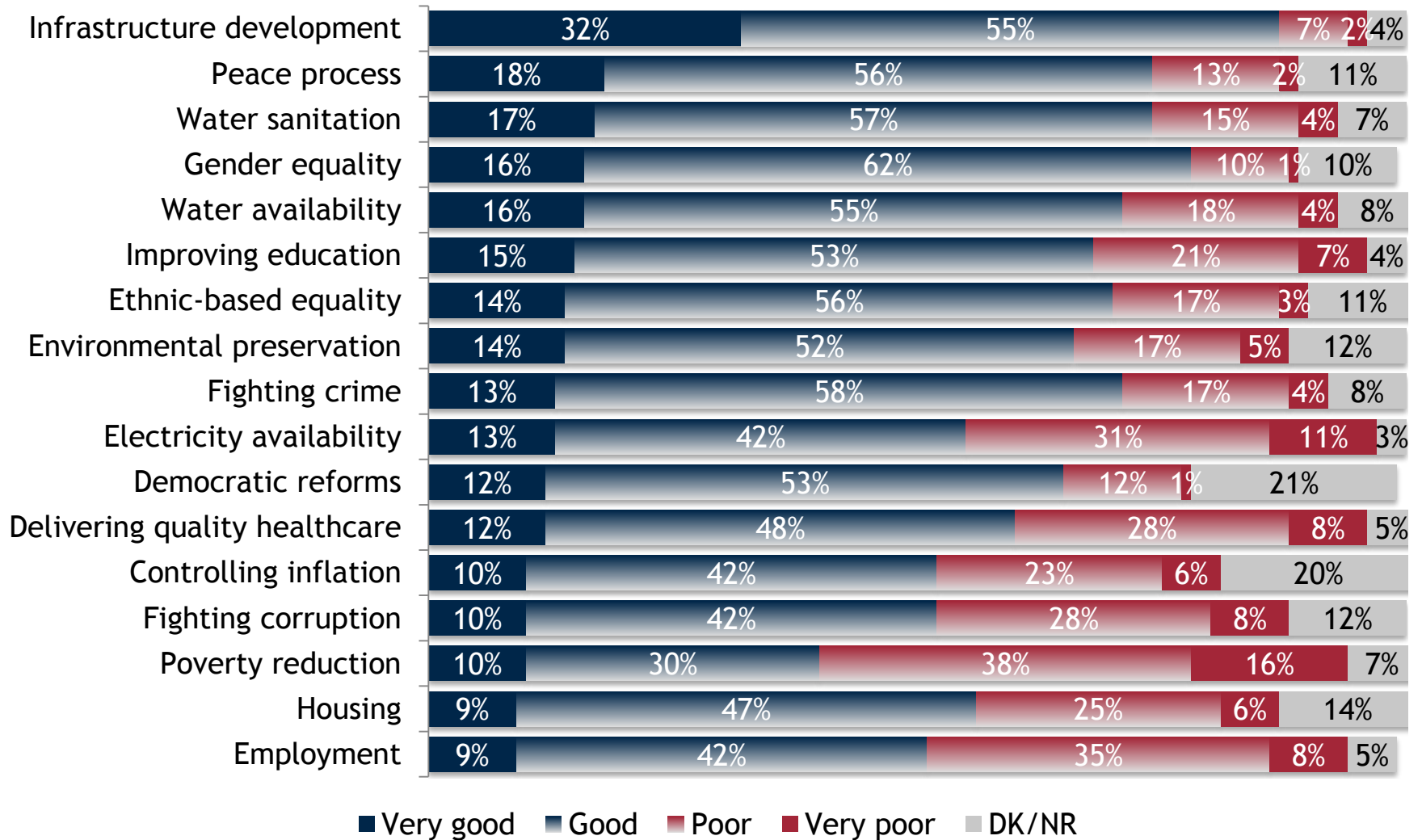


Do you approve or disapprove of the job done by the Union Parliament?

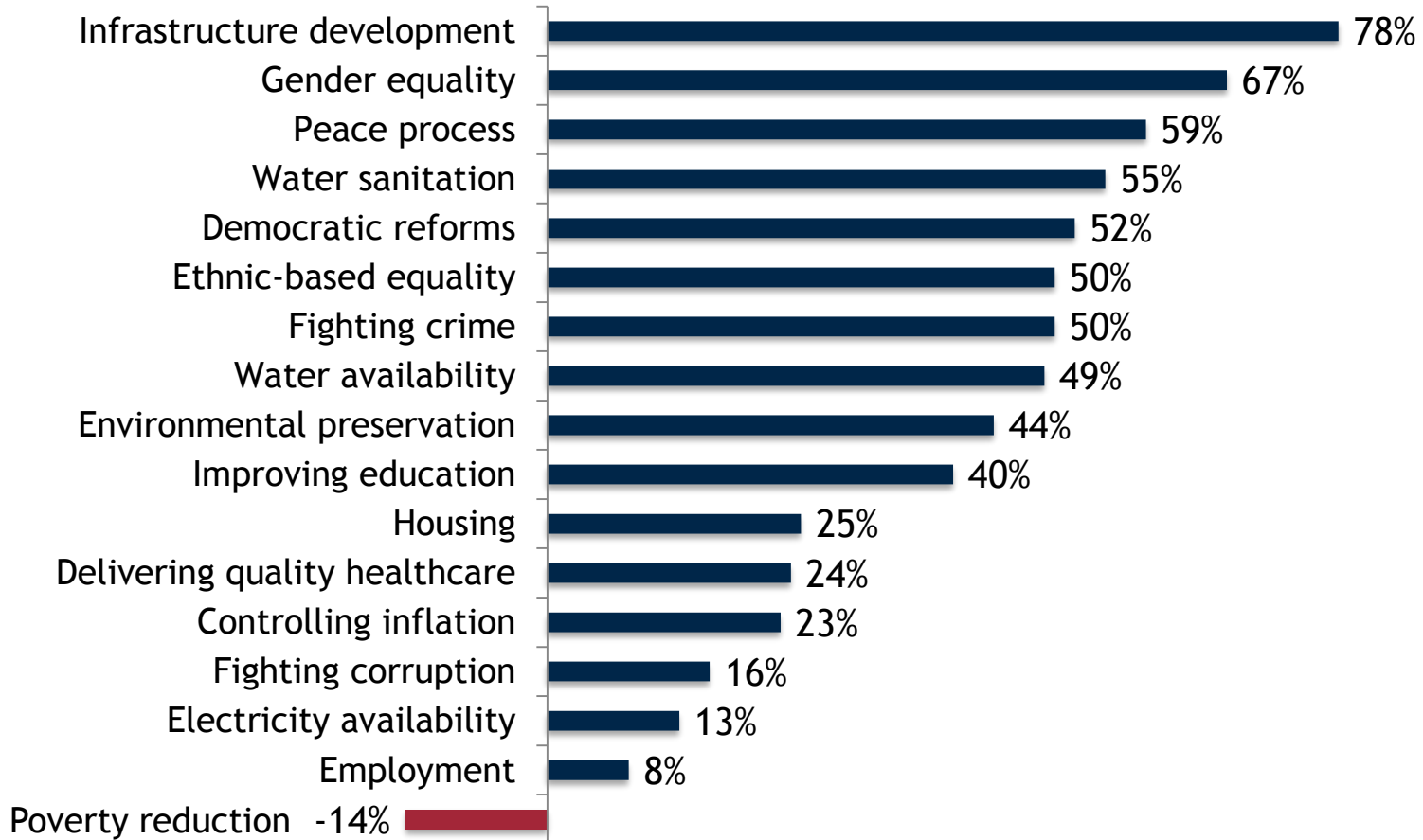


* Net is calculated by the sum of very good/strongly approve and good/approve and minus the sum of very bad/strongly disapprove and bad/disapprove.

Please rate the national government's performance on each of the following issues:

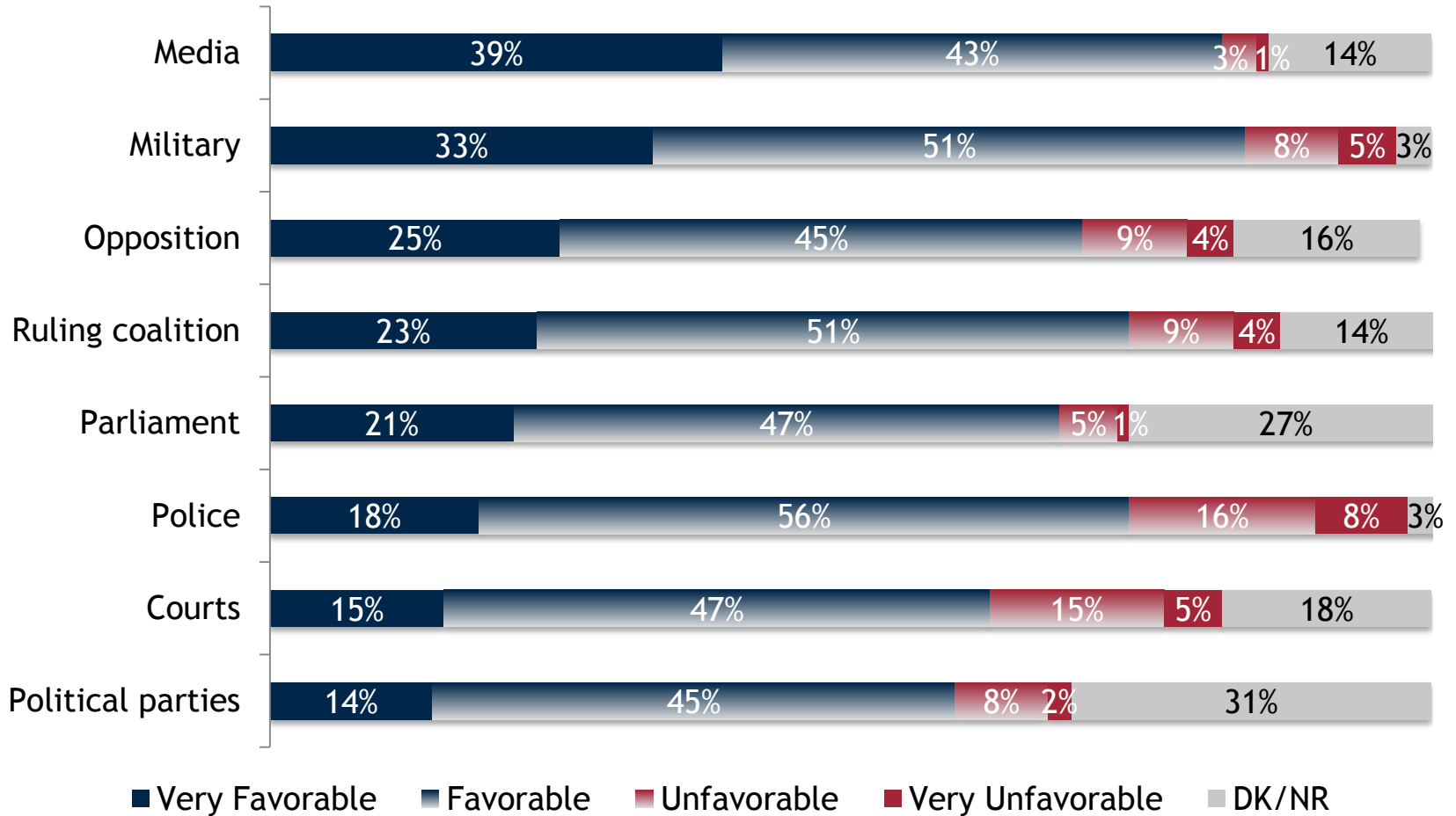


Please rate the national government's performance on each of the following issues: (Positive-negative net)*

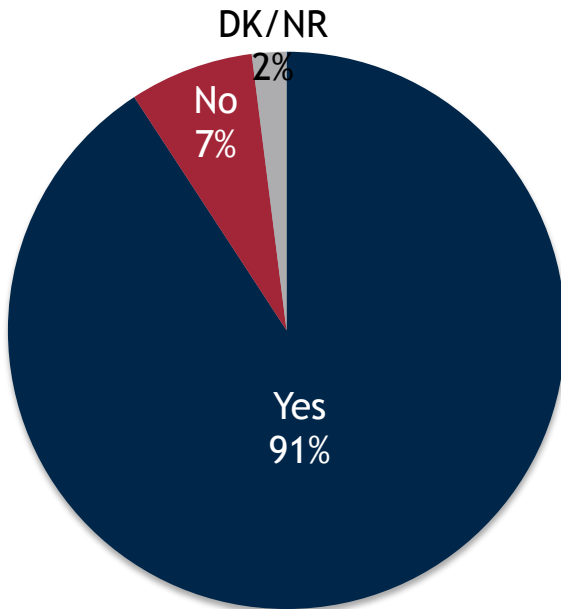


** Net is calculated by the sum of very good/strongly approve and good/approve and minus the sum of very bad/strongly disapprove and bad/disapprove.*

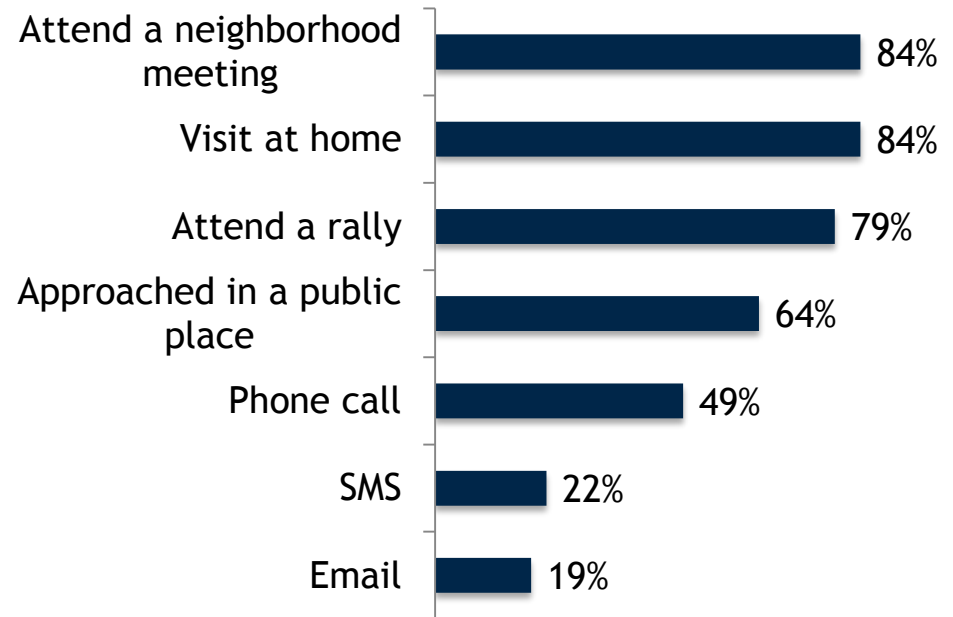
How would you rate each of the following institutions or organizations: very favorable, somewhat favorable, somewhat unfavorable or very unfavorable?



Would you welcome contact from a political party during future campaigns?



Which of the following forms of contact would you welcome from a political party?

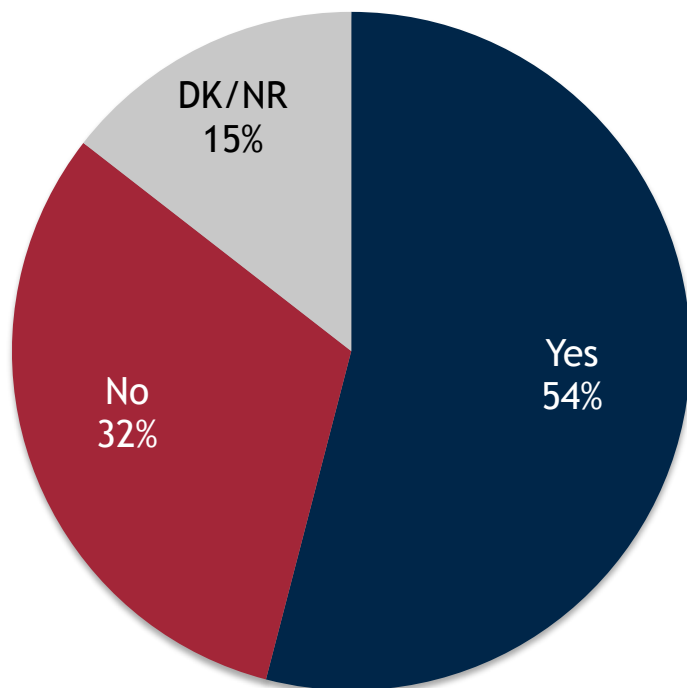


* Yes, welcome contact from a political party n=2,722

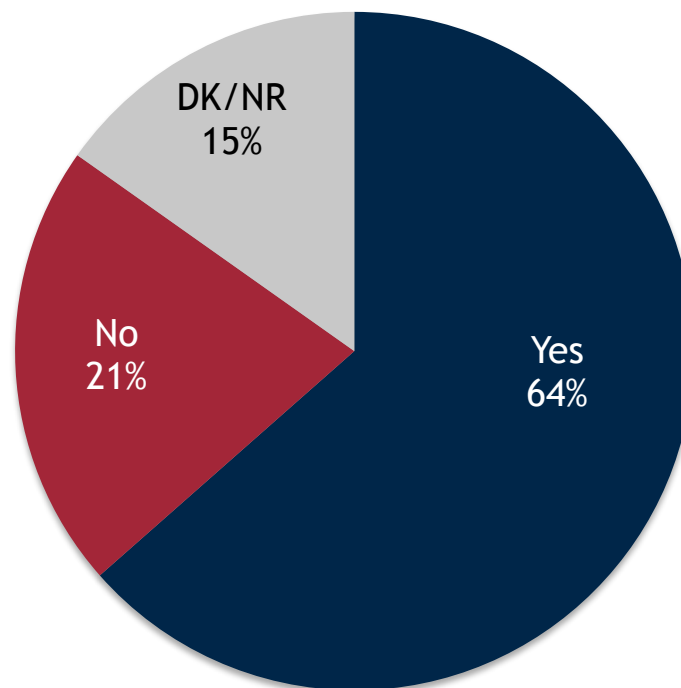
Issues In Depth

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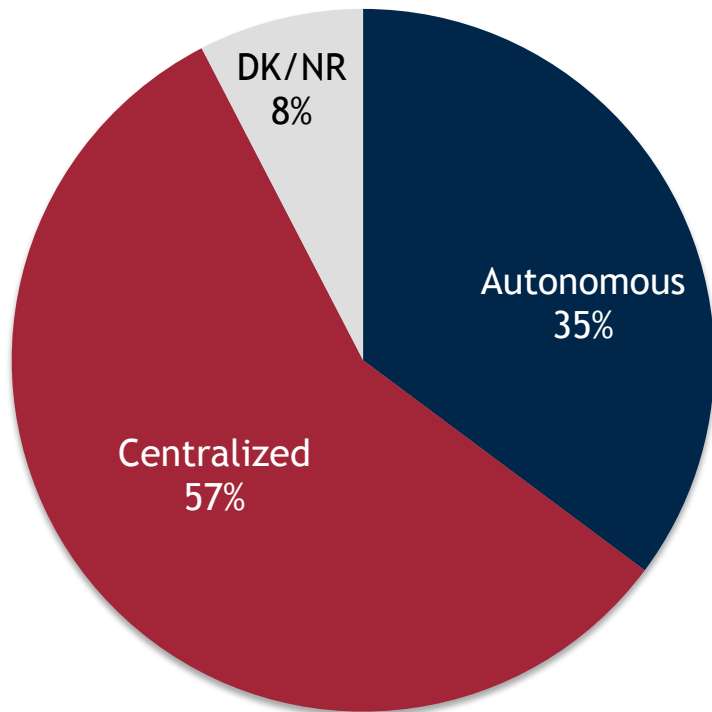
Do you support the repeal of the current constitutional amendment that bans someone from becoming president if they have married a foreigner?



Knowing Aung San Suu Kyi is prevented from becoming president with the current constitution, would you now support amending the constitution so that she would be able to run?

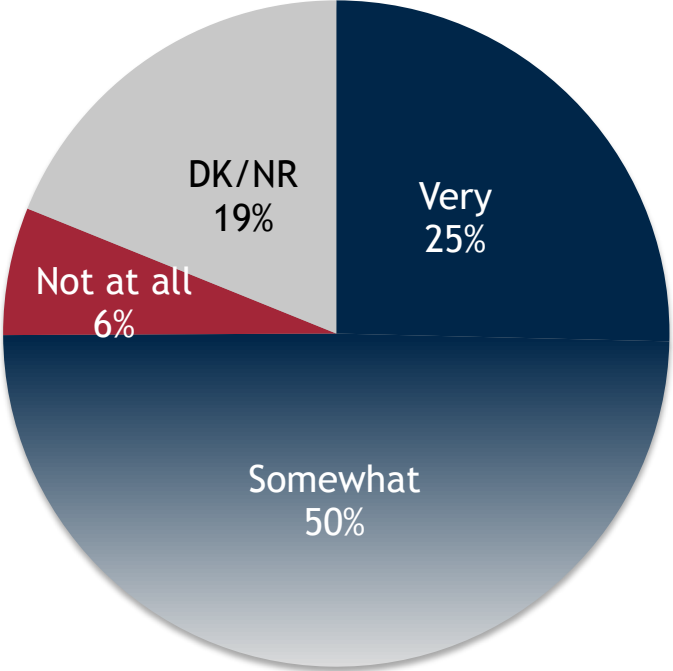


Do you support giving the states and regions more autonomy and power so that they can make decisions for themselves, or do you think that all such power and decisions should be centralized and made by the union government?

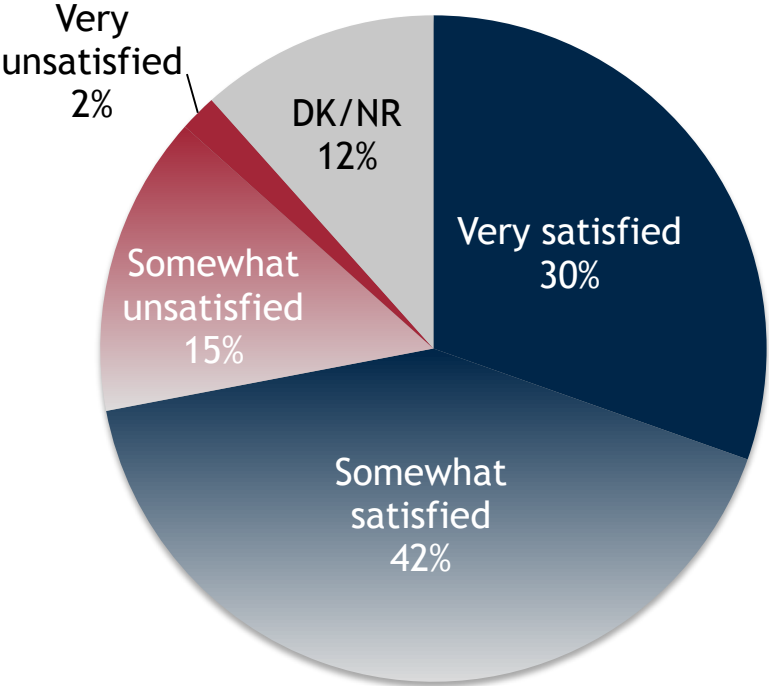


	Autonomous	Centralized
Coastal zone	40%	53%
Hill zone	39%	55%
Plains zone	25%	65%
Non-Bamar	47%	47%
Bamar	30%	62%

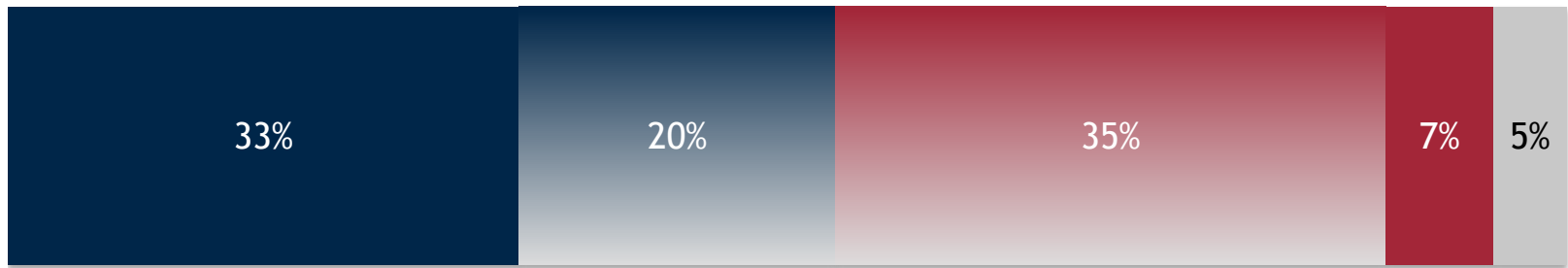
In your opinion, how prevalent is corruption within the government in Burma?



Are you satisfied with the national government's efforts to fight corruption?



In your opinion are people in Burma afraid to openly express their political views or not?



■ Most are afraid

■ Most are not afraid

■ DK/NR

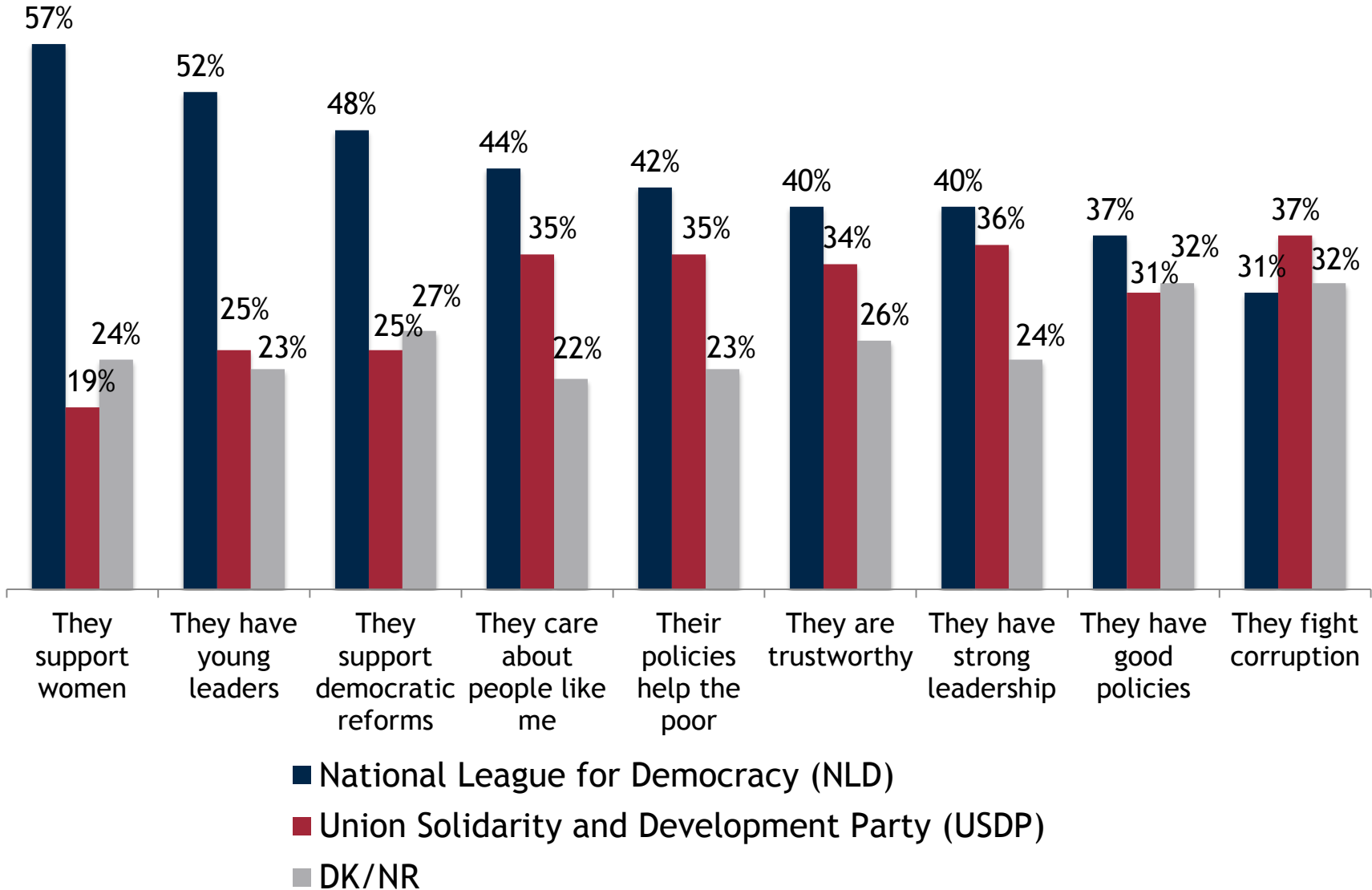
■ Some are afraid

■ For the most part no one is afraid

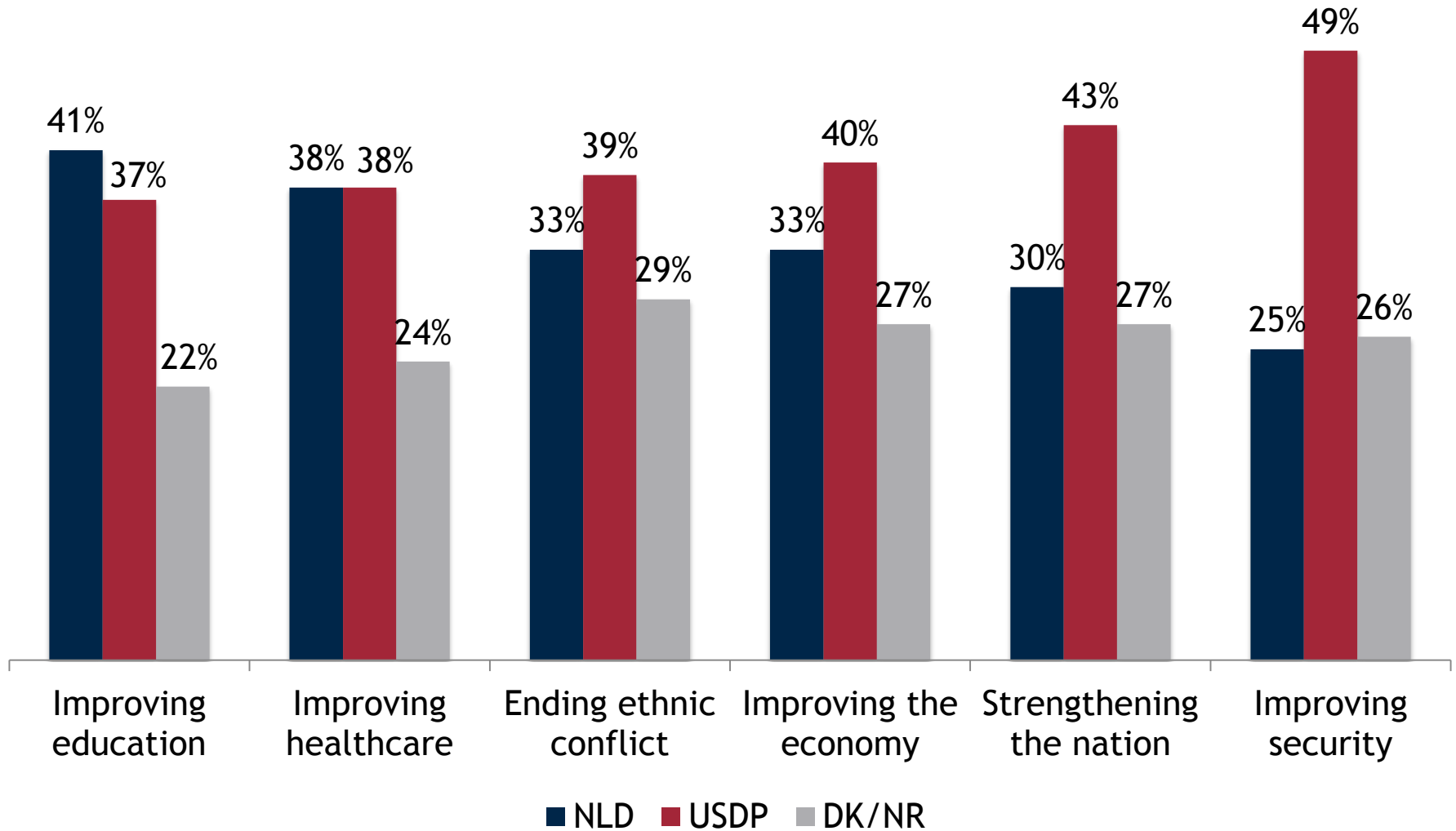
Political Parties



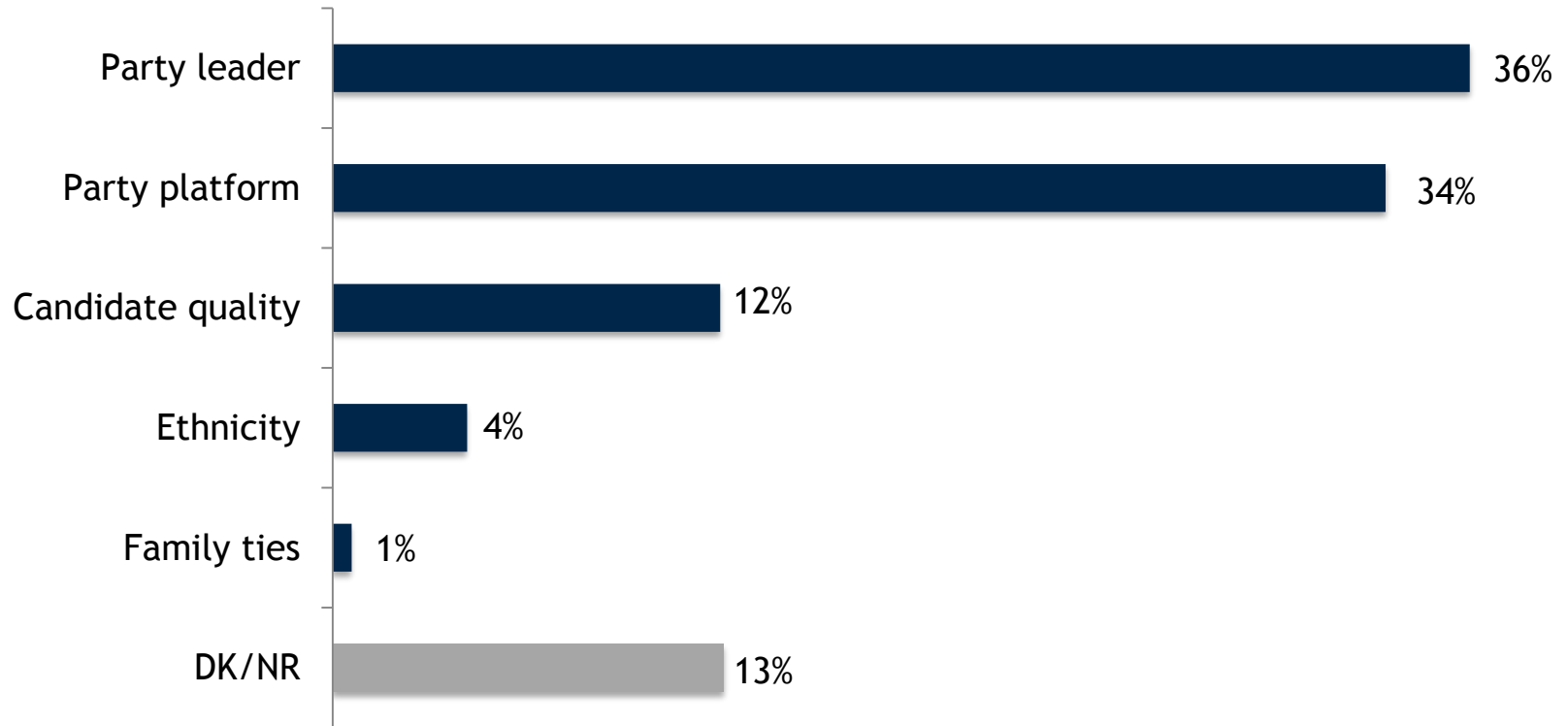
Which party do you think best reflects each statement?



Which party do you think would do a better job on the following:

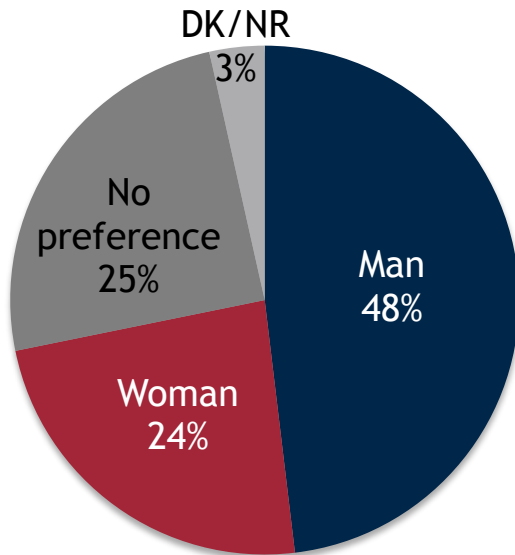


What is the most important reason for you in choosing a political party?

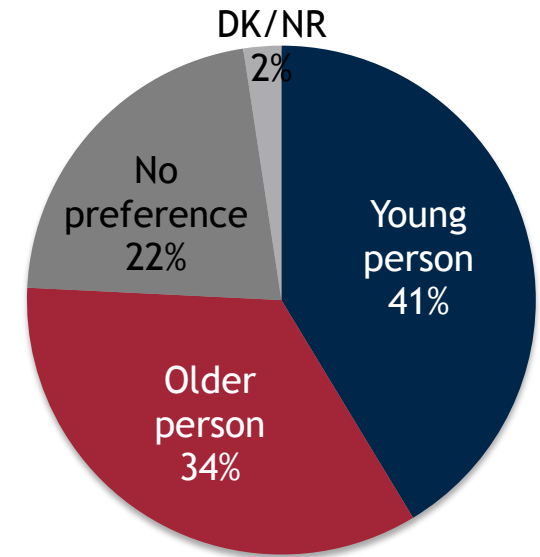


If there are two candidates campaigning for the same elected office with exactly the same qualifications, which one would you be more likely to vote for?

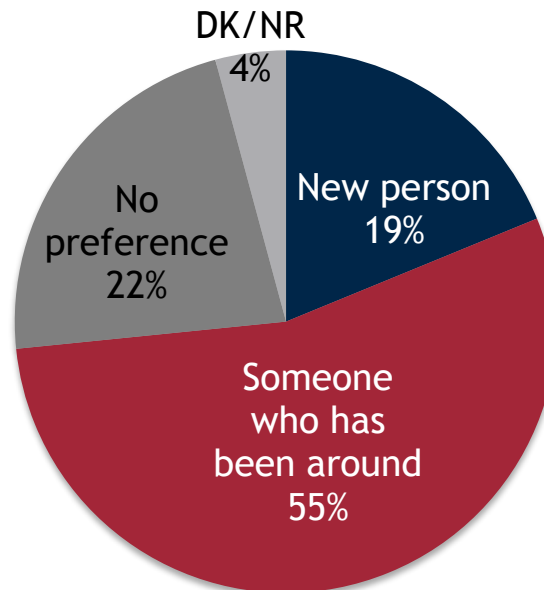
Man or woman



Young or older



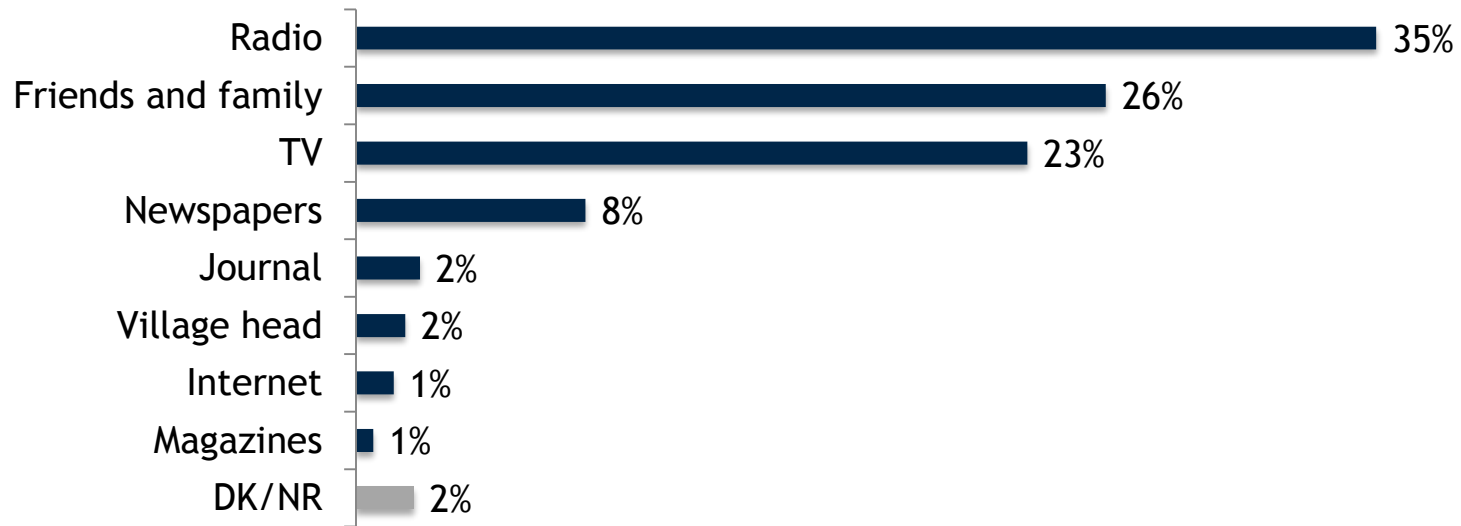
Person new to politics or someone who has been involved in politics for a long time



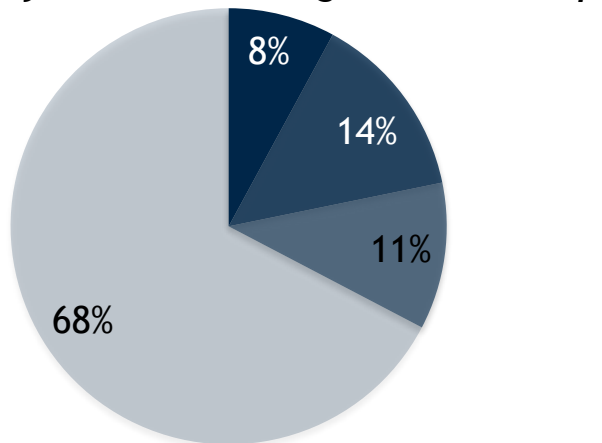
Media Usage

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Where are you most likely to get your news and information?

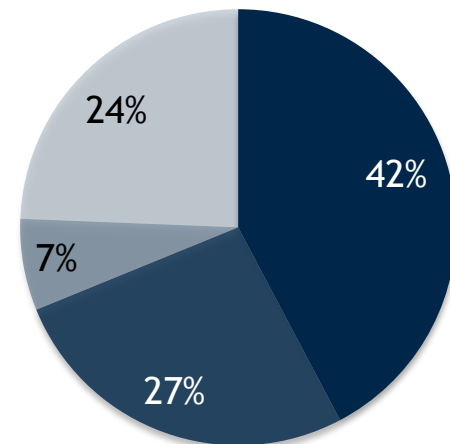


How often do you read news magazines or newspapers?



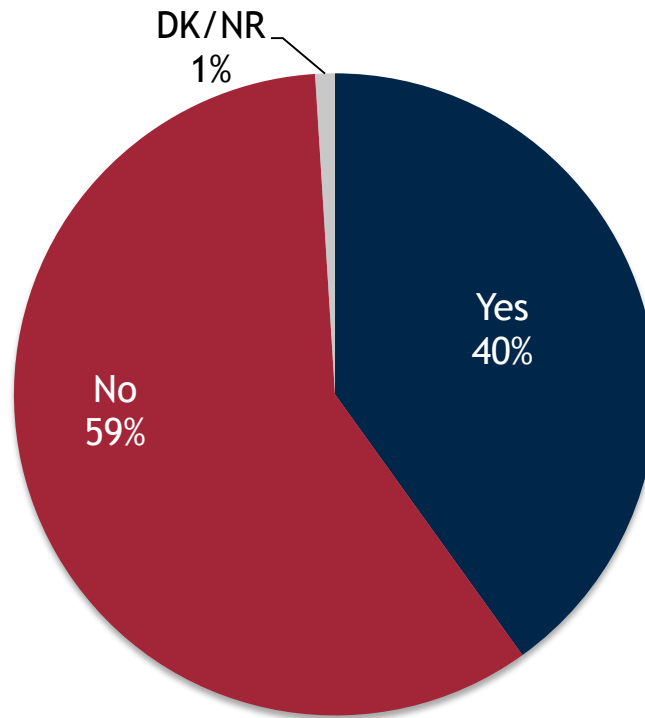
■ Almost every day ■ Once a week
■ Once a month ■ Less than once a month

How often do you listen to the radio or watch TV?

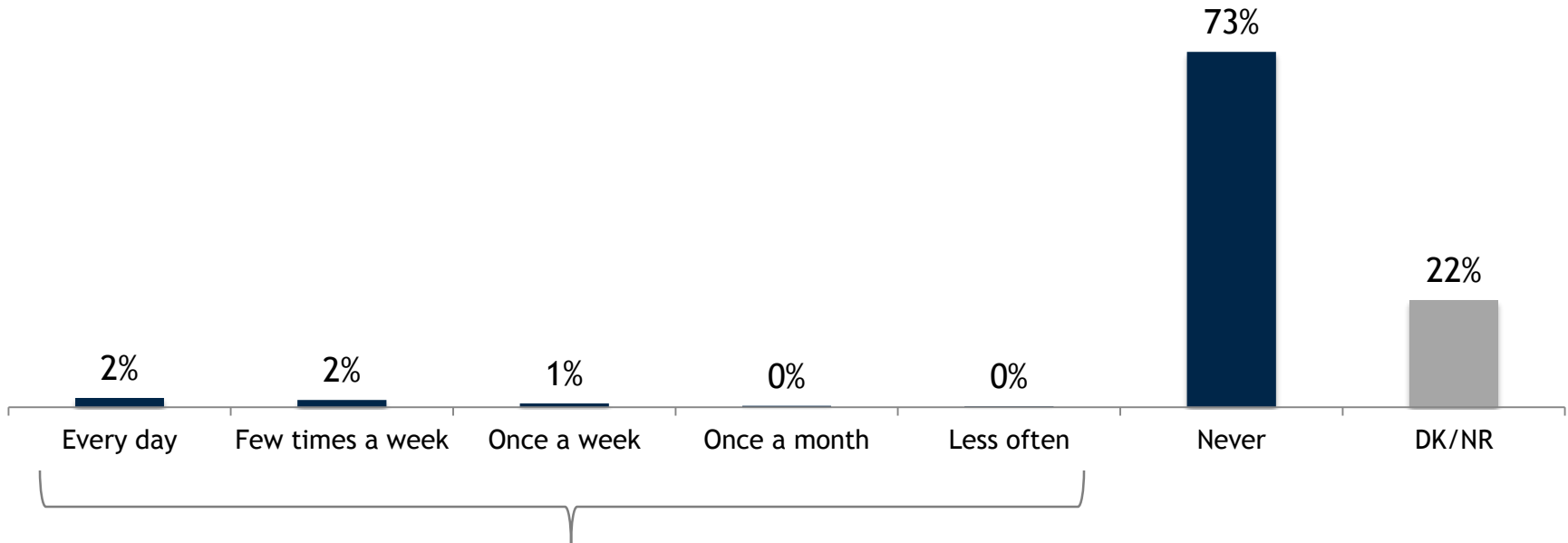


■ Almost every day ■ Once a week
■ Once a month ■ Less than once a month

Does your household own a mobile phone?



On average, how often do you use the Internet?



When you do use the Internet, from where do you most regularly access the Internet?

Cell phone	56%
Home	29%
Internet cafe	7%
Work	5%
Home of friend/family	4%

** Often use Internet n=142*

International Republican Institute
(202) 408-9450 | info@iri.org
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