



Survey of Burma/Myanmar Public Opinion

March 9 - April 1, 2017

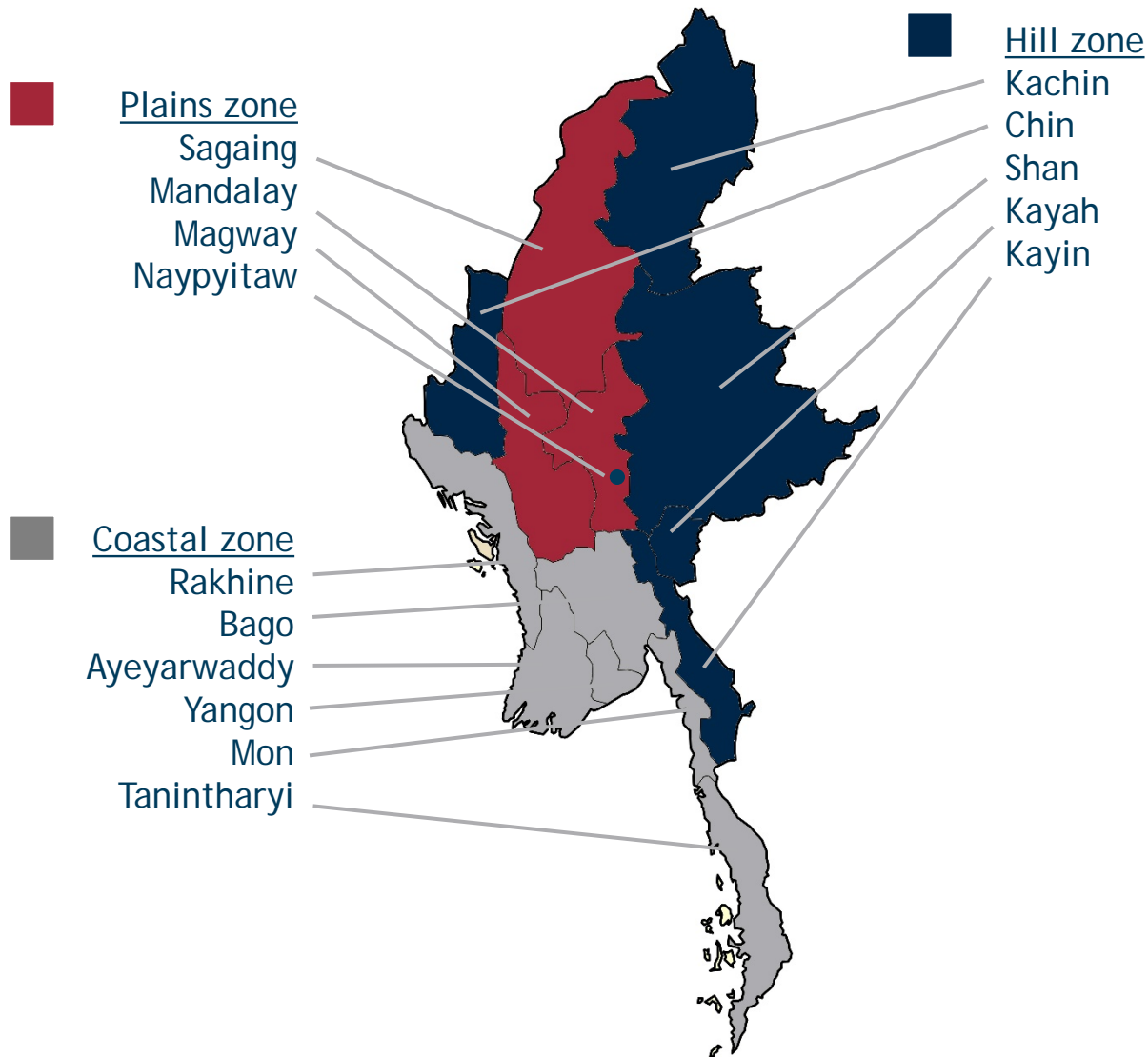




Detailed Methodology

- *Period* : March 9, 2017 - April 1, 2017
- *Survey Type* : In-person, in-home interviews
- *Eligibility* : The survey is a national representative sample of voting age adults, age 18+.
- *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 1.8 percent with a confidence level of 95 percent. The response rate was 63 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.

Burma/Myanmar Geographical Zones



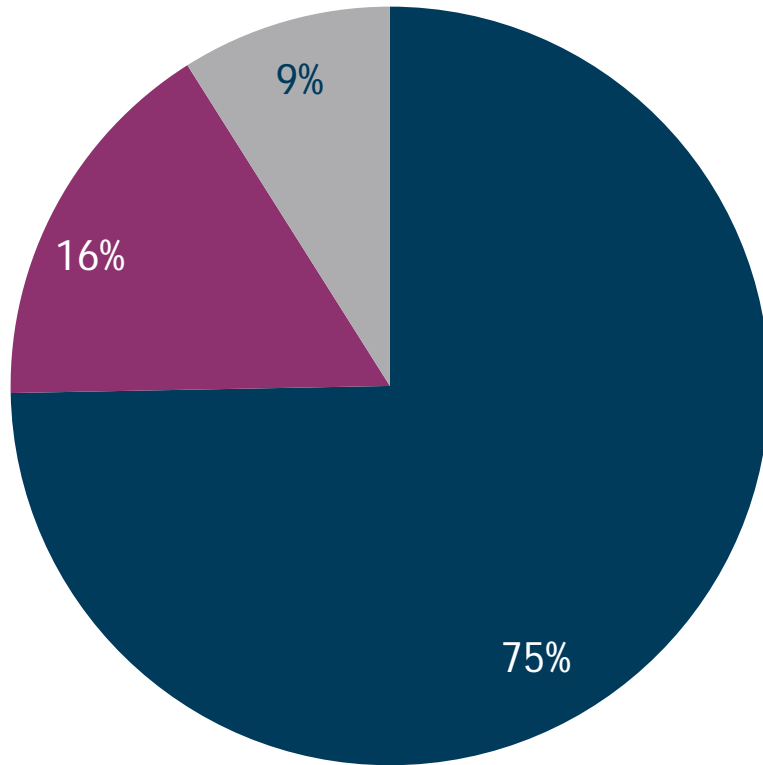


Socioeconomic Indicators

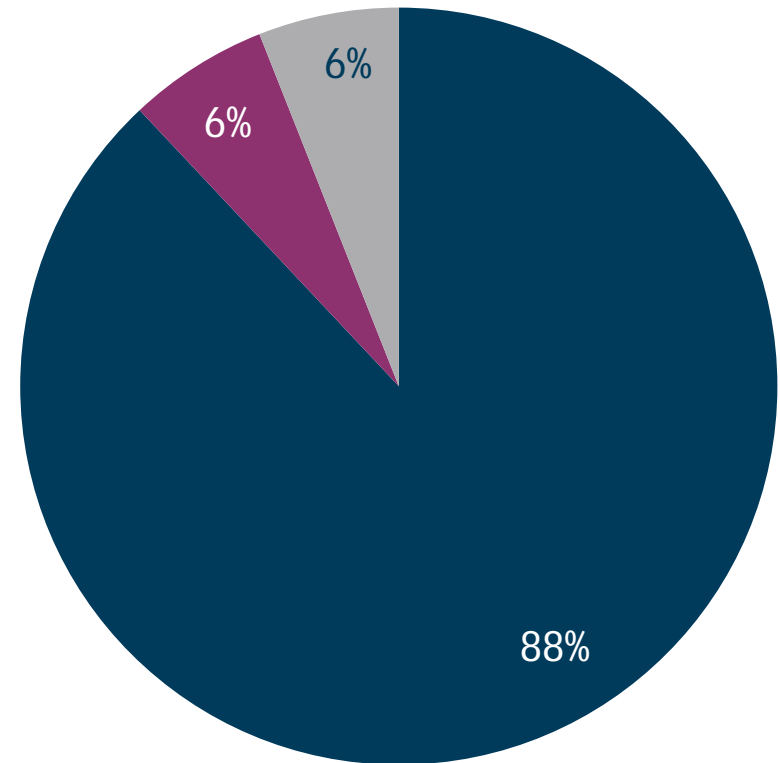


In general, would you say that things in the country are heading in the right direction or that they are heading in the wrong direction?

Apr-17



Feb-14



■ Right direction ■ Wrong direction ■ Don't know/No response

Why do you say “right direction”? (n=2,249)

Infrastructure	40%
Roads are being paved and bridges are being built	37%
Other	3%

Democracy/Freedom	6%
People can speak their mind about politics	4%
Other	2%

Economy	18%
Economic conditions have improved	12%
There are more jobs	4%
Other	2%

Social Services	6%
More people have access to education	3%
Other	3%

Security	10%
Security has improved	4%
Ethnic conflict has declined	3%
Other	3%

New Government - Misc.	5%
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Don't know/No response	9%
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*Responses less than 3 percent have been excluded for the purposes of this slide.

Why do you say “wrong direction”? (n=493)

Economy	53%
Poor economic conditions	21%
Prices are higher	21%
Crop prices are lower	7%
There are fewer jobs	3%
Other	1%

Peace Process/Violence	20%
Ethnic violence	12%
Slow progress in the peace process	5%
Sectarian violence	3%

Law and Order	14%
Crime is worse	5%
No rule of law/transparency	4%
Security has declined	3%
Other	2%

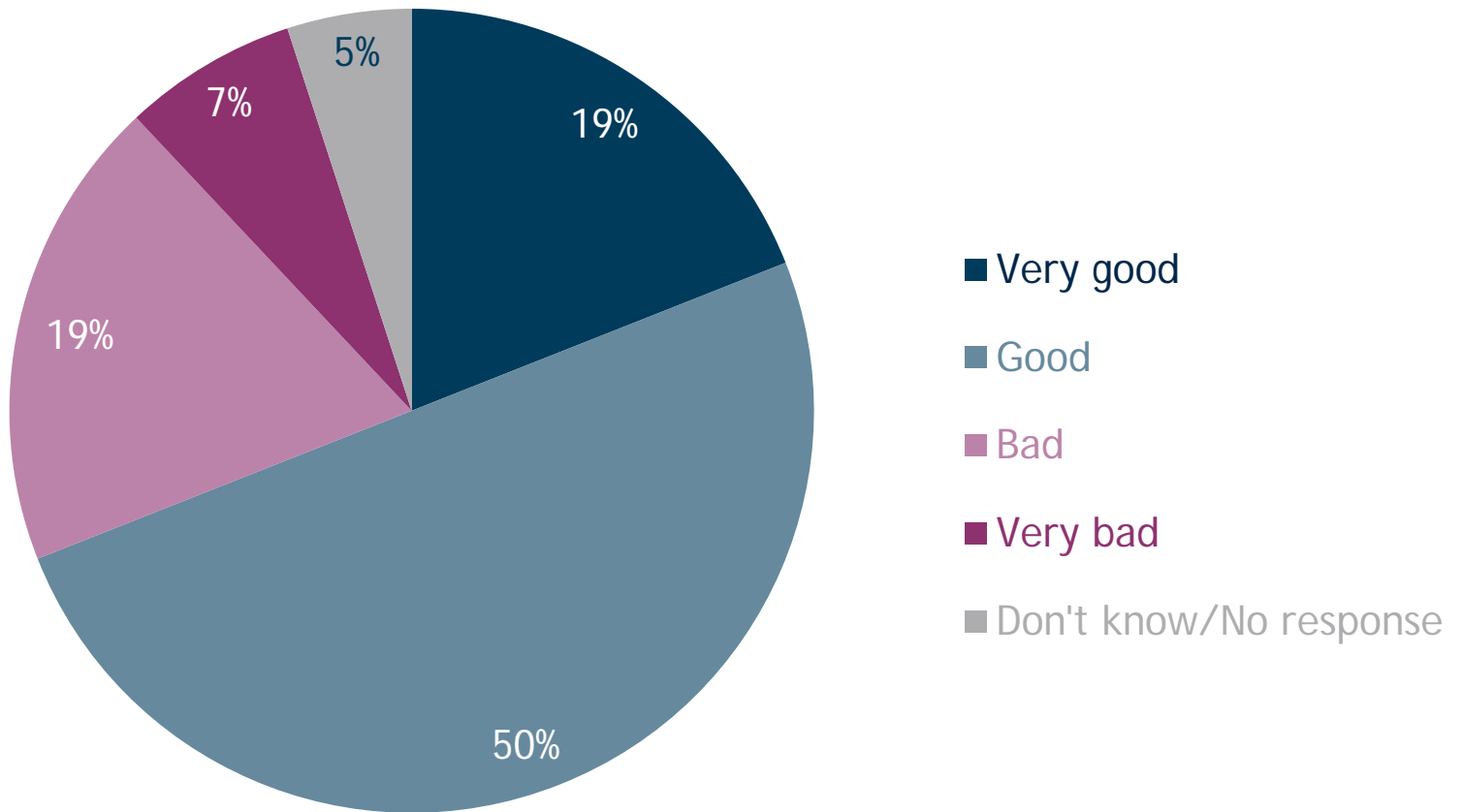
Problems with Youth	3%
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Infrastructure	3%
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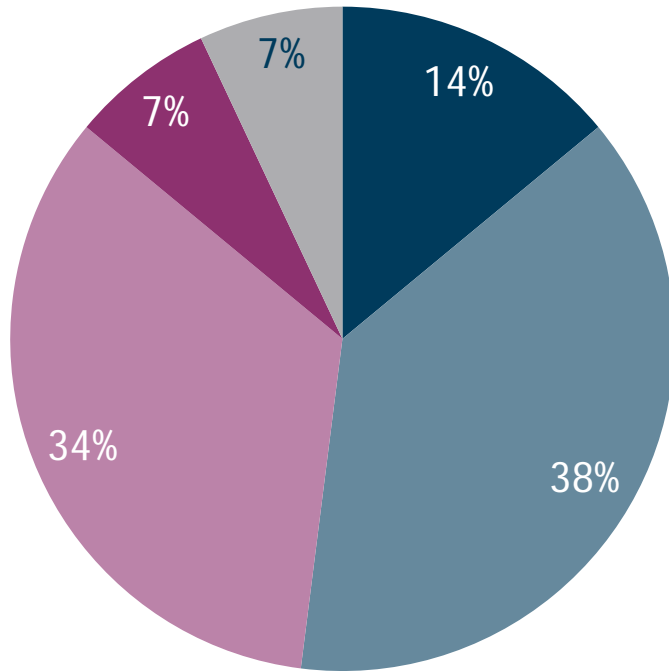
Don't know/No response	5%
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*Responses less than 3 percent have been excluded for the purposes of this slide.

How would you describe the security situation in the country?

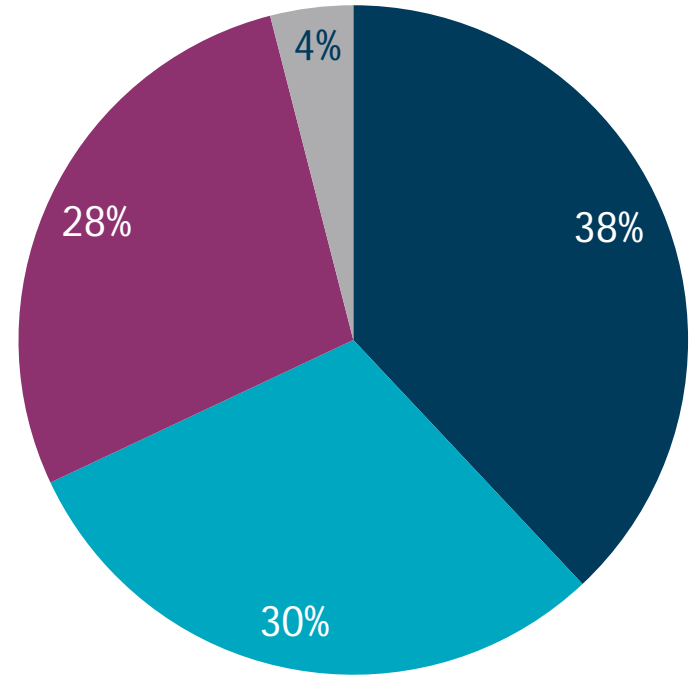


How would you describe the political situation in the country?



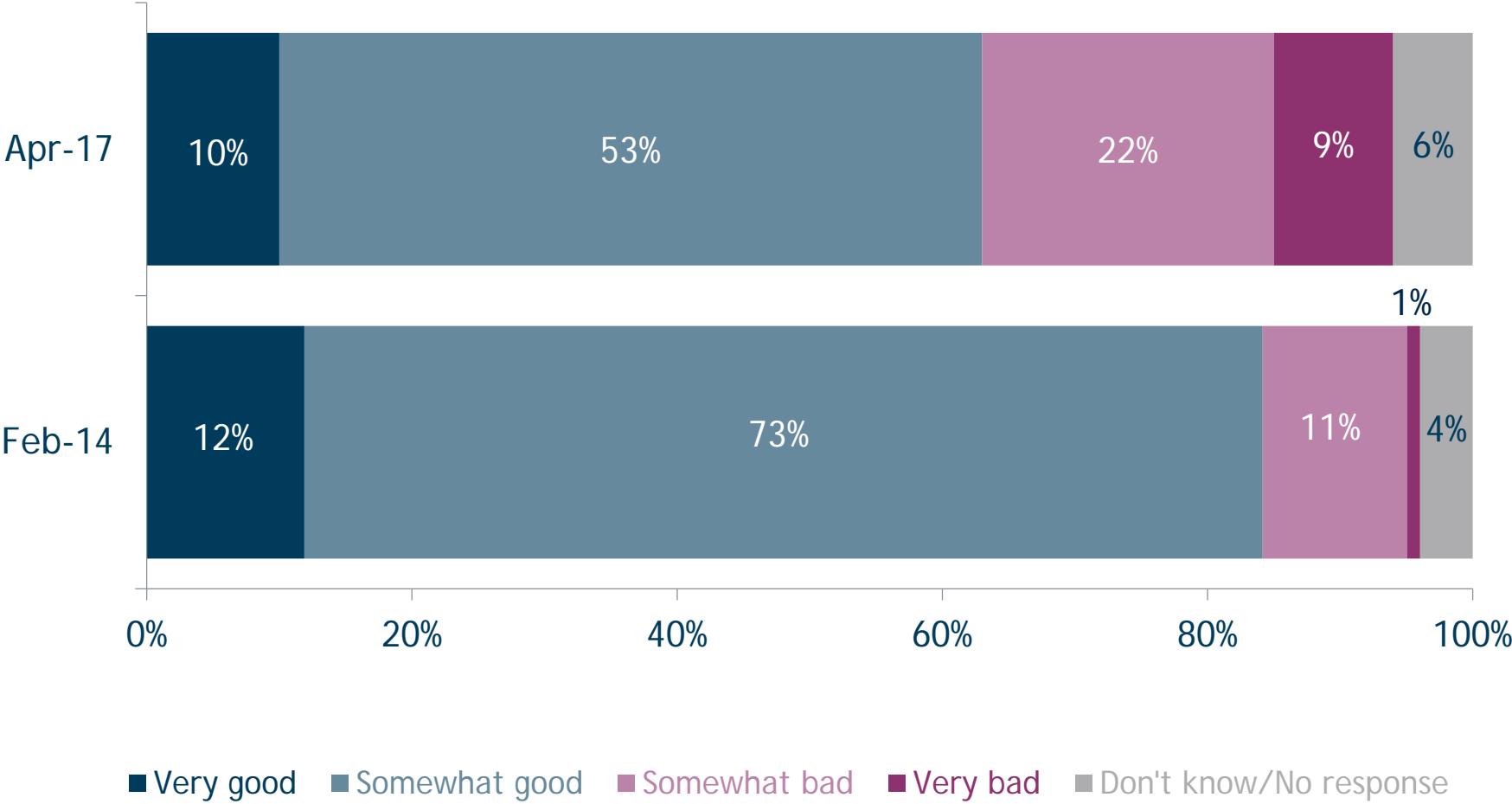
- Very stable
- Somewhat stable
- Somewhat unstable
- Very unstable
- Don't know/No response

Compared to a year ago, has the political situation become more stable, stayed the same, or become less stable?

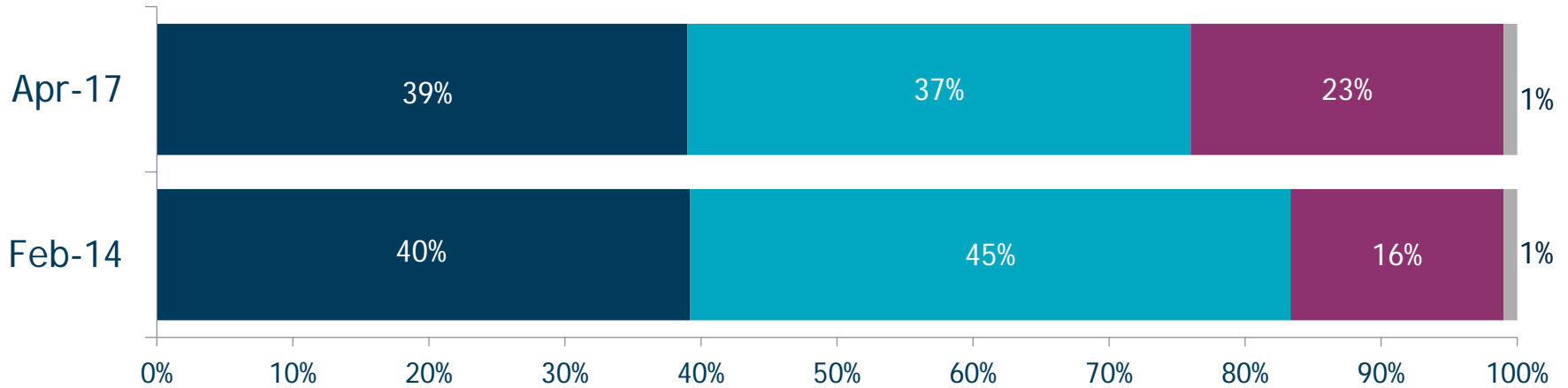


- More stable
- Same
- Less stable
- Don't know/No response

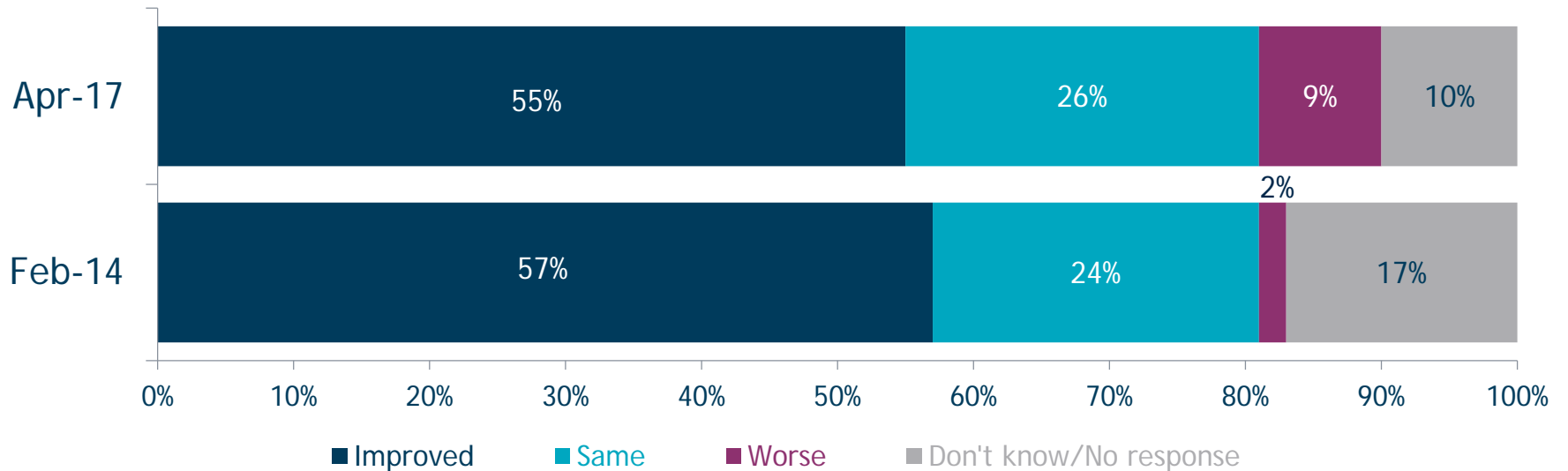
How would you describe the current economic situation in the country?



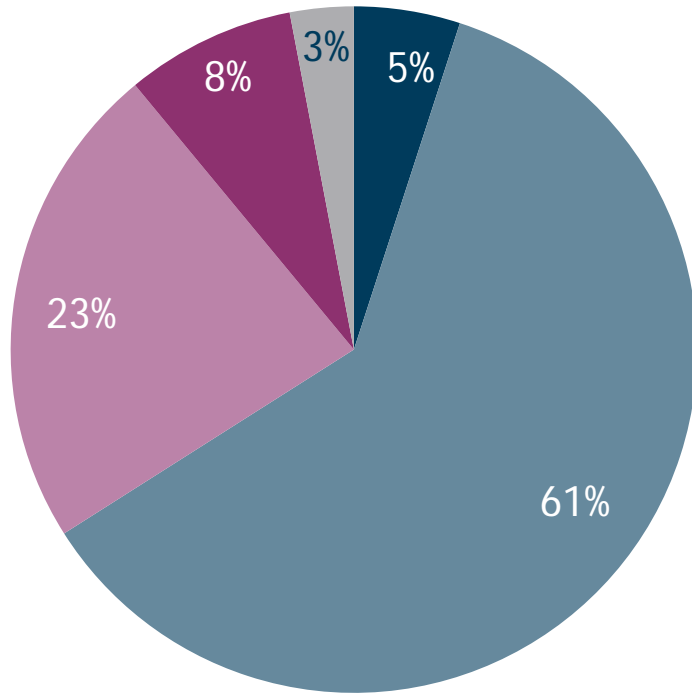
Thinking now about your personal economic situation, compared to a year ago, has it improved, stayed the same or worsened?



Thinking about the upcoming year, do you expect your personal economic situation to get better, stay the same or get worse?

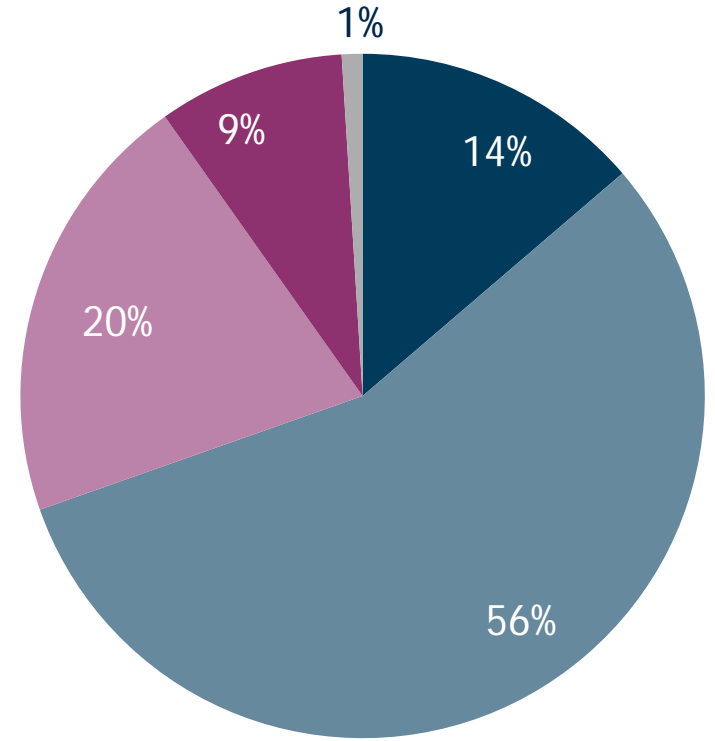


How would you describe your household's current standard of living?



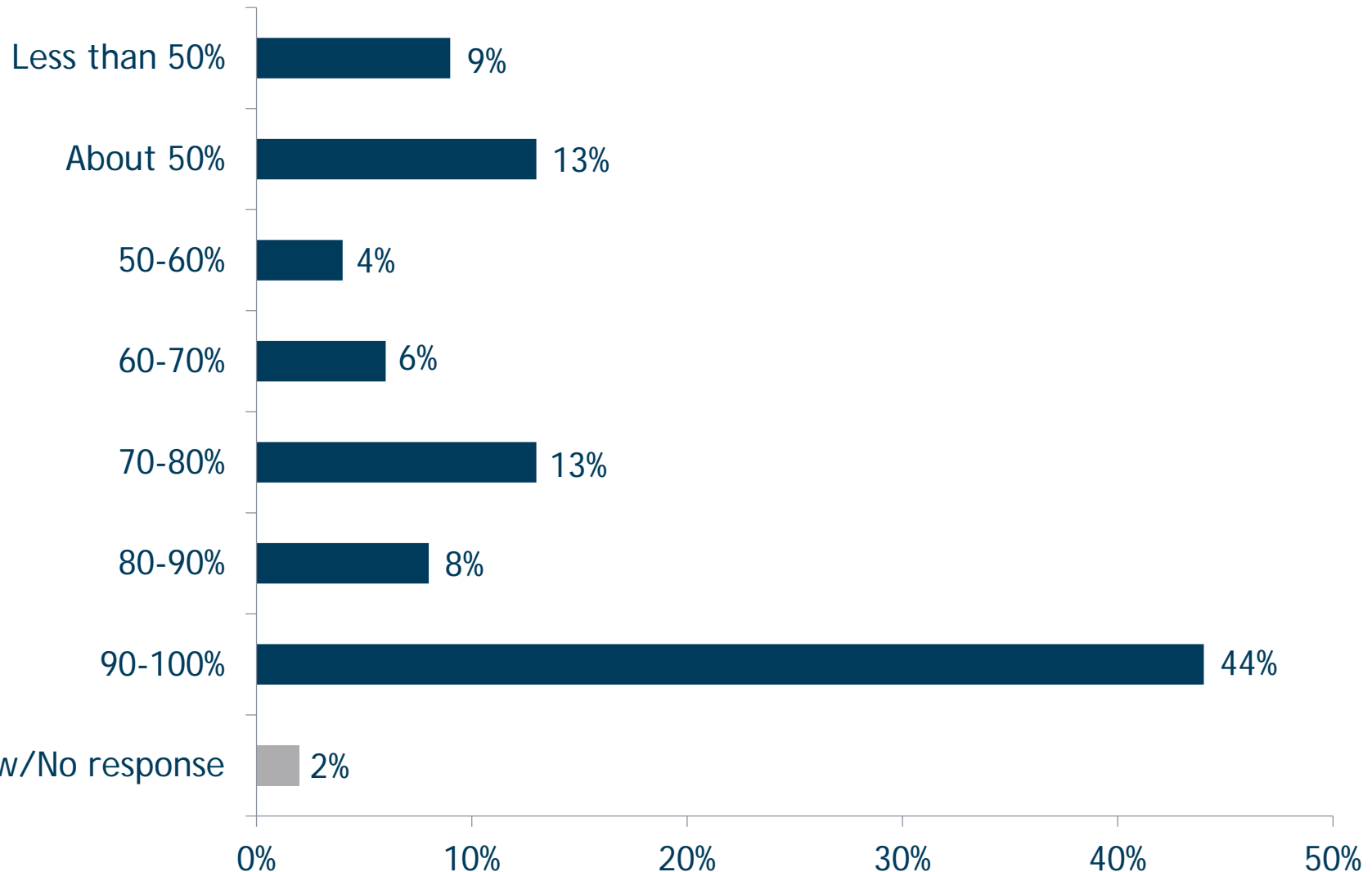
- Very good
- Good
- Bad
- Very bad
- Don't know/No response

Which one of these phrases comes closest to your own feelings about your household's income these days?



- Living comfortably on present income
- Getting by on present income
- Finding it difficult on present income
- Finding it very difficult on present income
- Don't know/No response

Every week, what percentage of your income would you say you spend on basic needs, such as food, clothing and housing?





Priority Issues



What are the three biggest problems facing the country as a whole? (open-ended)

Issue	First mention	Second mention	Third mention	Total
Economy	25%	32%	26%	83%
No jobs	11%	14%	9%	34%
High prices	7%	8%	8%	23%
Low crop prices	4%	5%	4%	13%
Conflict	18%	16%	15%	49%
Civil war/peace process	9%	8%	3%	20%
Sectarian conflict	5%	5%	9%	19%
Ethnic violence	4%	3%	4%	11%
Law and Order	13%	9%	12%	34%
Security/safety/crime rate	3%	5%	6%	14%
No rule of law	1%	2%	2%	5%
Political Instability	13%	5%	5%	23%
Don't know/No response	28%	1%	1%	30%

*Responses less than 3 percent have been excluded for the purposes of this slide.

In your opinion, what should be the first priority of the national government? (open-ended)

Economy	31%
Improve economic conditions	24%
Create more jobs	4%
Other	3%

Ethnic/Sectarian Conflict	25%
Peace process	24%
Other	1%

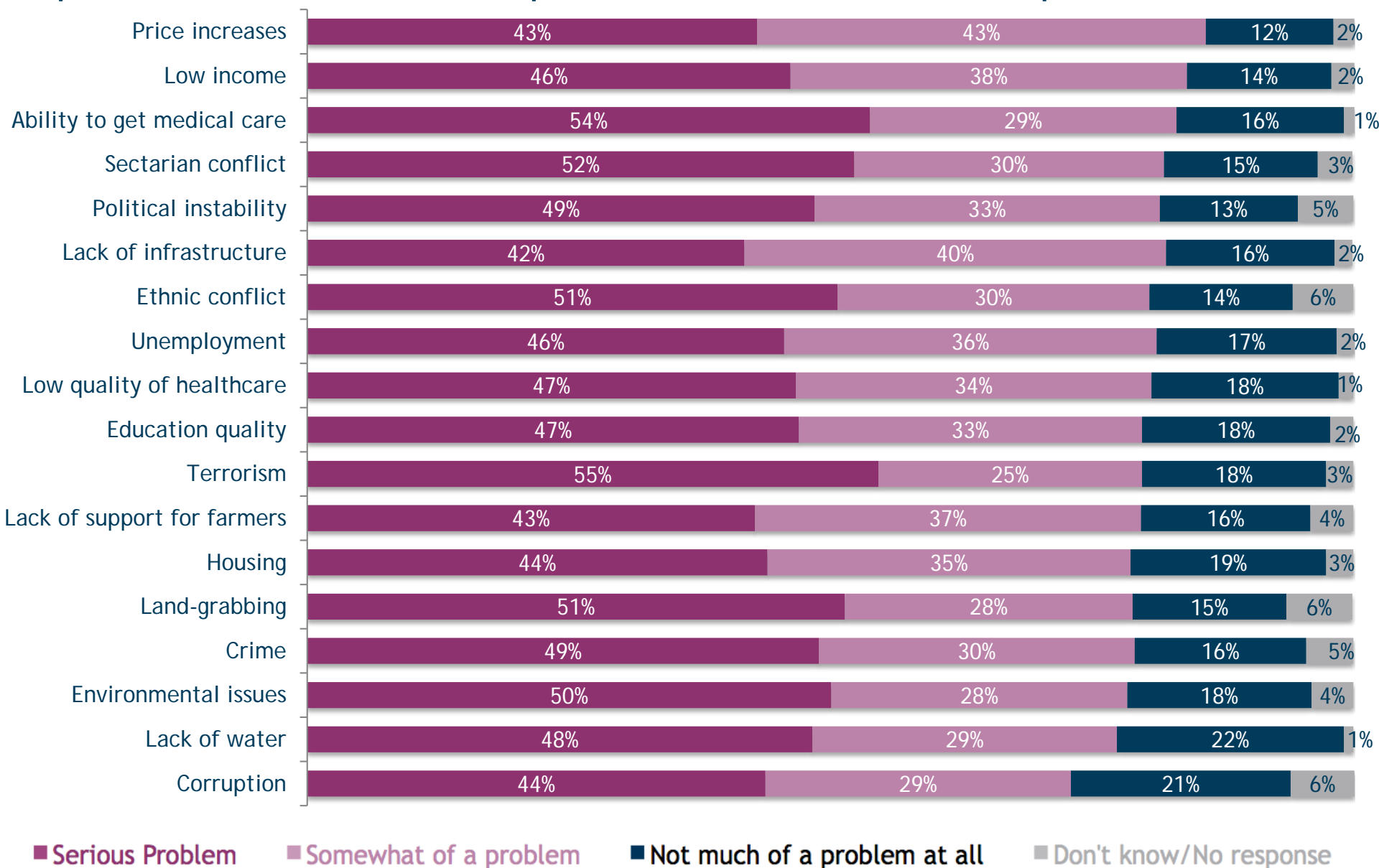
Development/Infrastructure	11%
Improve the transportation system	5%
Construct hospitals and clinics	3%
Expand electricity access throughout country	3%

Social Services	6%
Increase education standards	6%

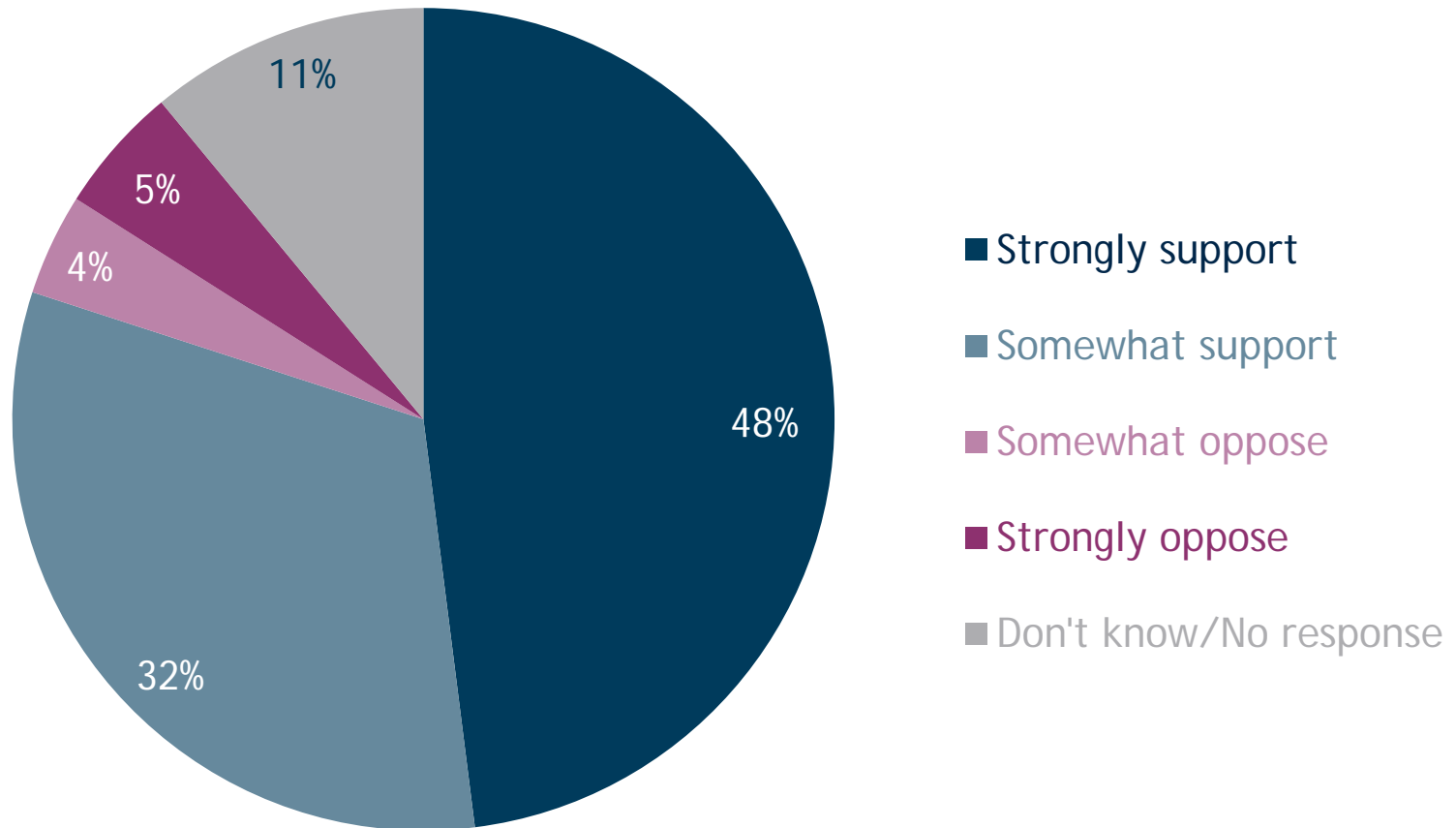
Don't know/No response	13%
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*Responses less than 3 percent have been excluded for the purposes of this slide.

On each of these issues, would you say that they are a serious problem, somewhat of a problem, or not much of a problem at all?



In order to amend the Constitution it would require the support of more than 75 percent of parliament. Do you support or oppose making it easier to amend the Constitution by changing this requirement?



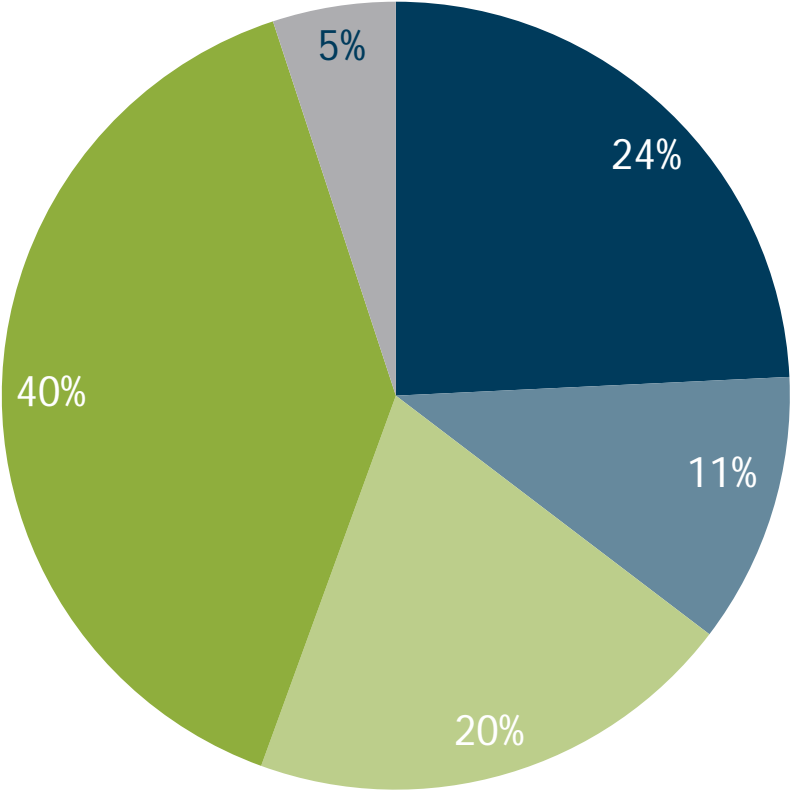


Democracy and Rights



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If you could only have one or the other, which is more important to you: a democratic system of government or a prosperous economy?



- Democracy is definitely more important to me
- Democracy is somewhat more important to me
- Prosperity is somewhat more important to me
- Prosperity is definitely more important to me
- Don't know/No response

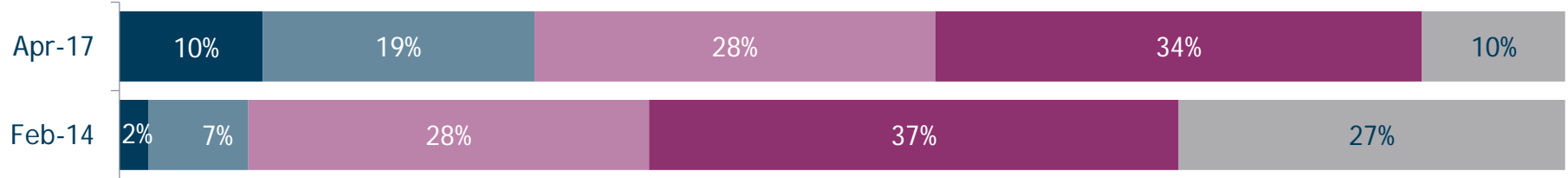
	Total Prefer Democracy	Total Prefer Prosperity
18-25 years old	34%	63%
26-40 years old	34%	61%
41-55 years old	34%	61%
Over 55 years old	41%	54%

Do you agree or disagree with each of these statements:

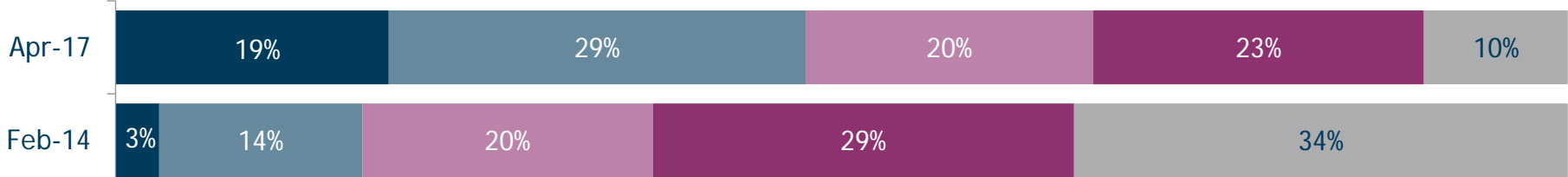
Democracy may have problems, but it is better than any other form of government



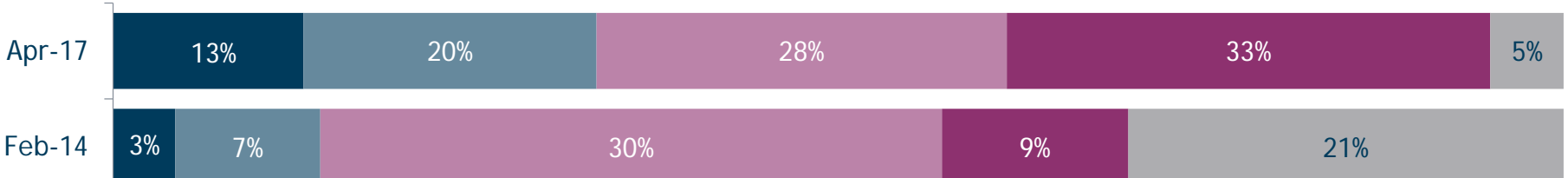
Democracies aren't any good at maintaining law and order



Democracies are indecisive and have too much squabbling

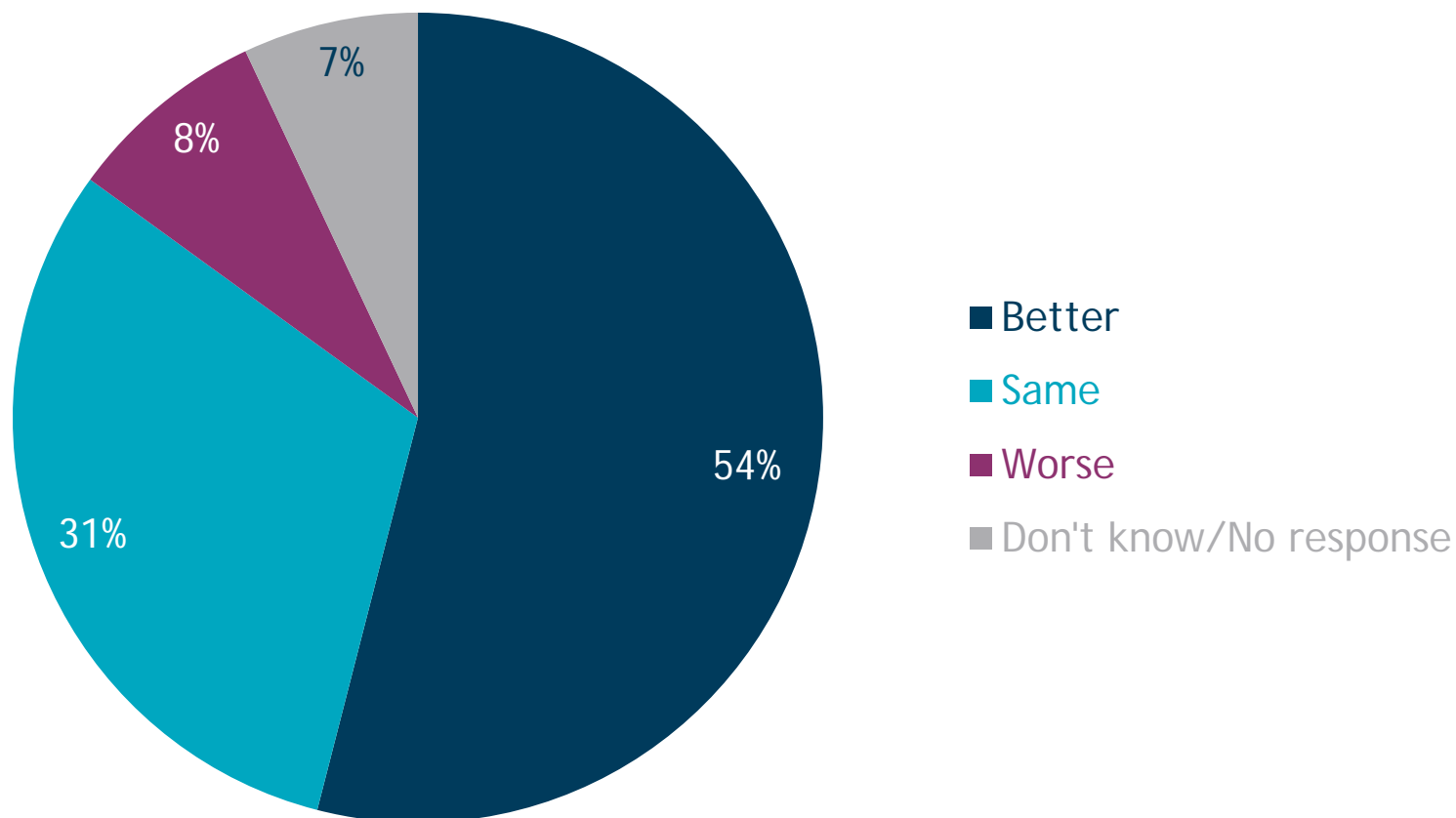


In a democracy, the economic system runs badly

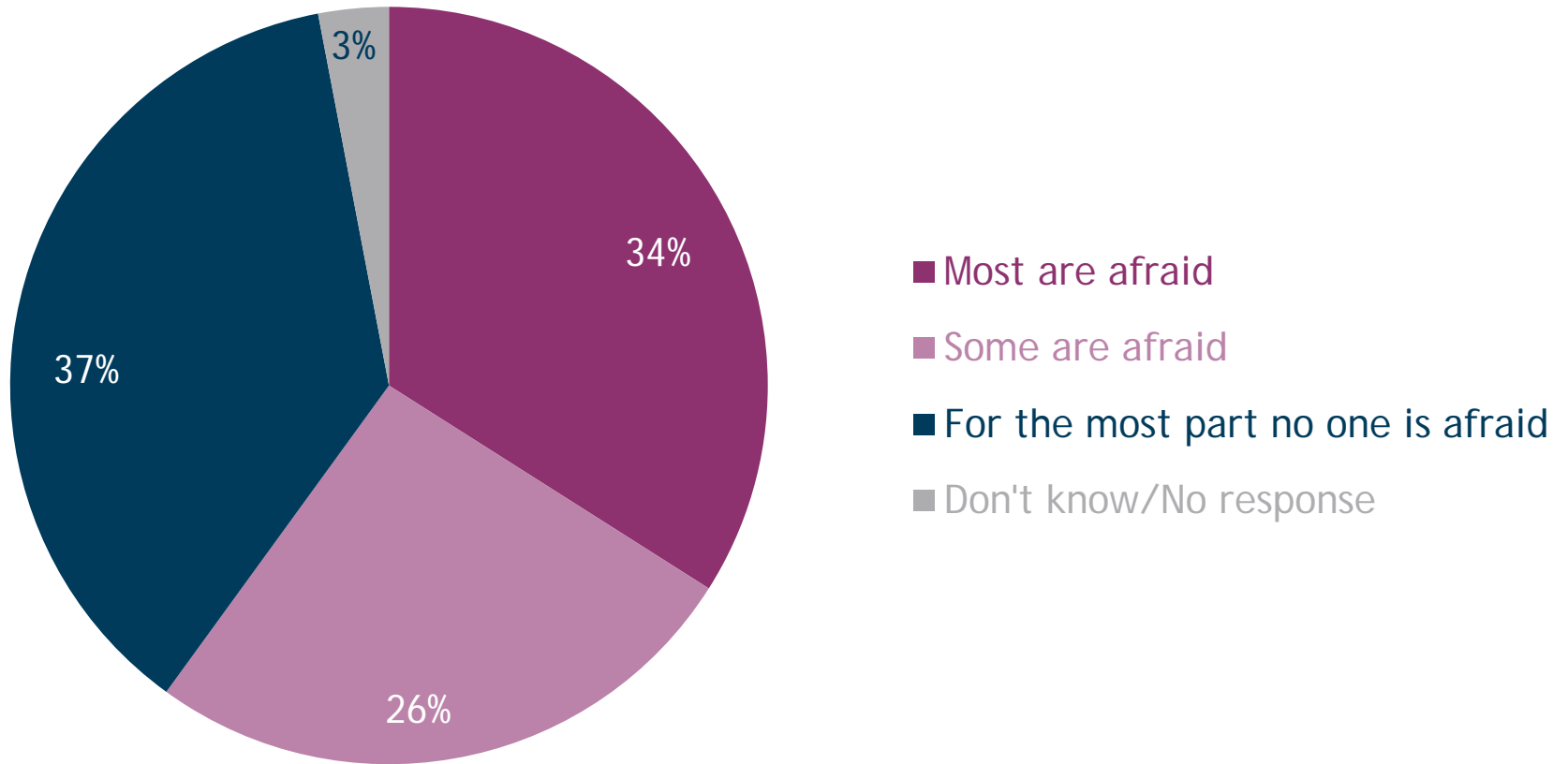


■ Strongly agree
 ■ Somewhat agree
 ■ Somewhat disagree
 ■ Strongly disagree
 ■ Don't know/No Response

When it comes to the democratic process in Burma/Myanmar, over the past year, do you think that things have gotten better, worse, or stayed the same?



In your opinion, are people in Burma/Myanmar afraid to openly express their political views?



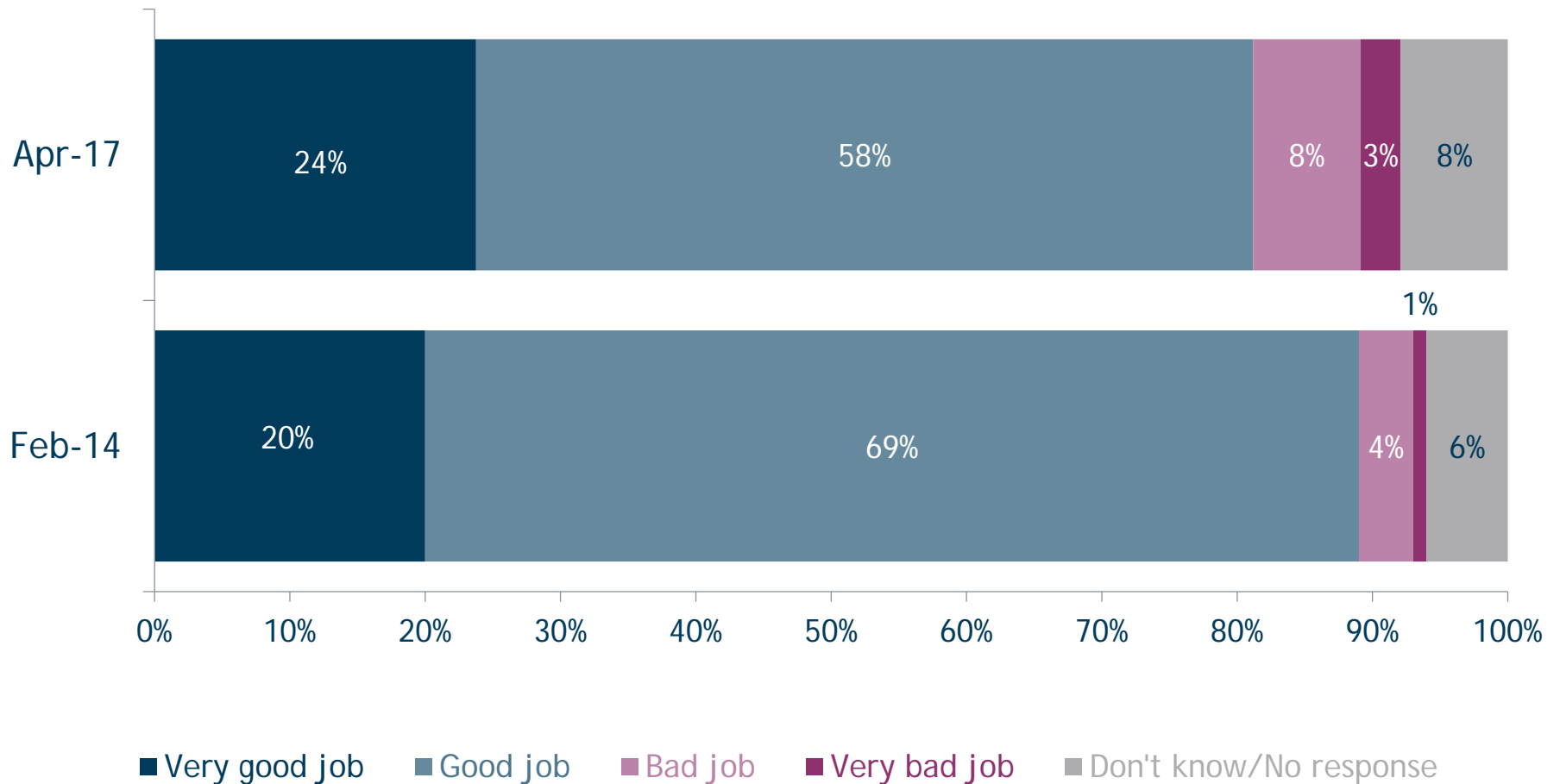


Assessment of Institutions

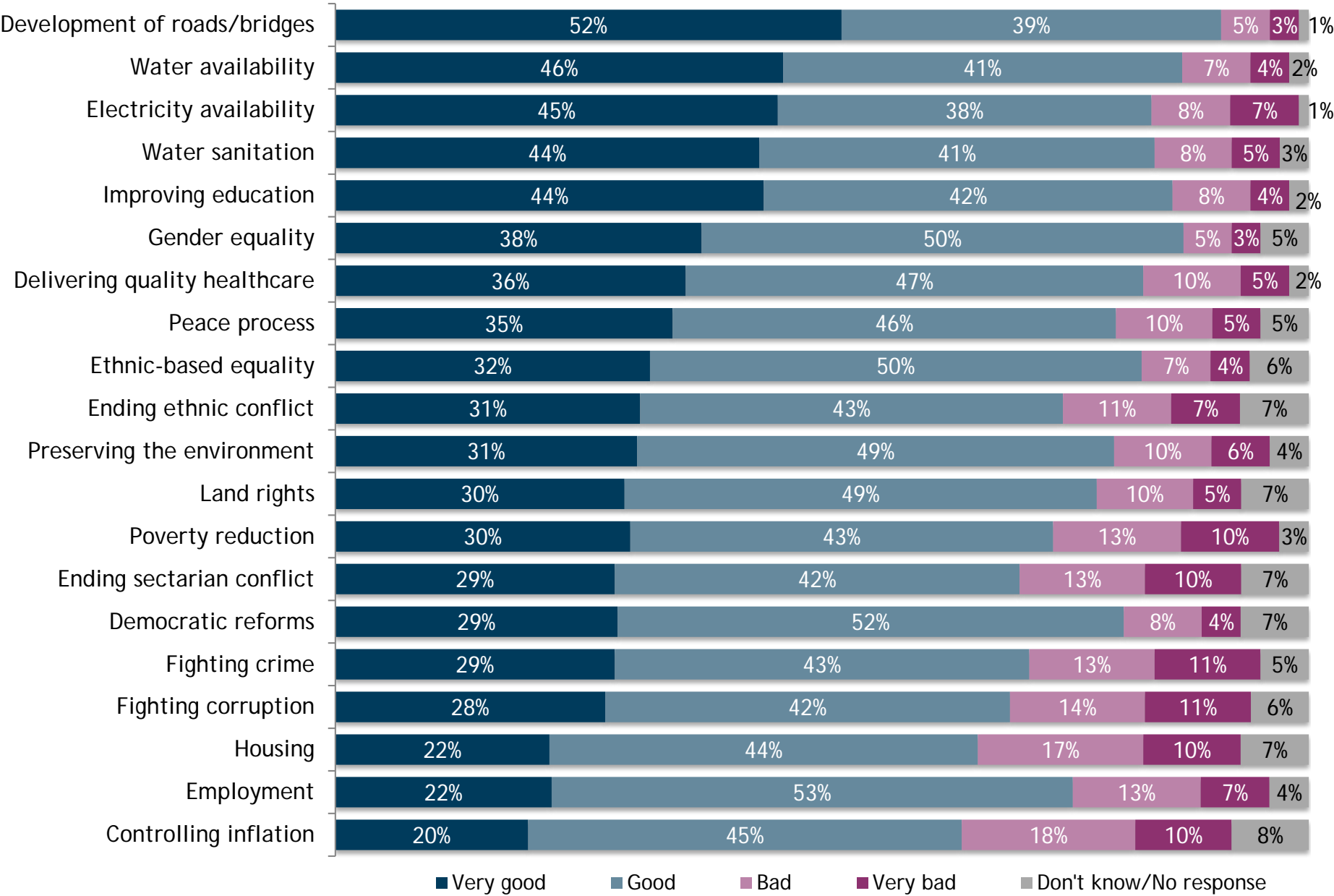


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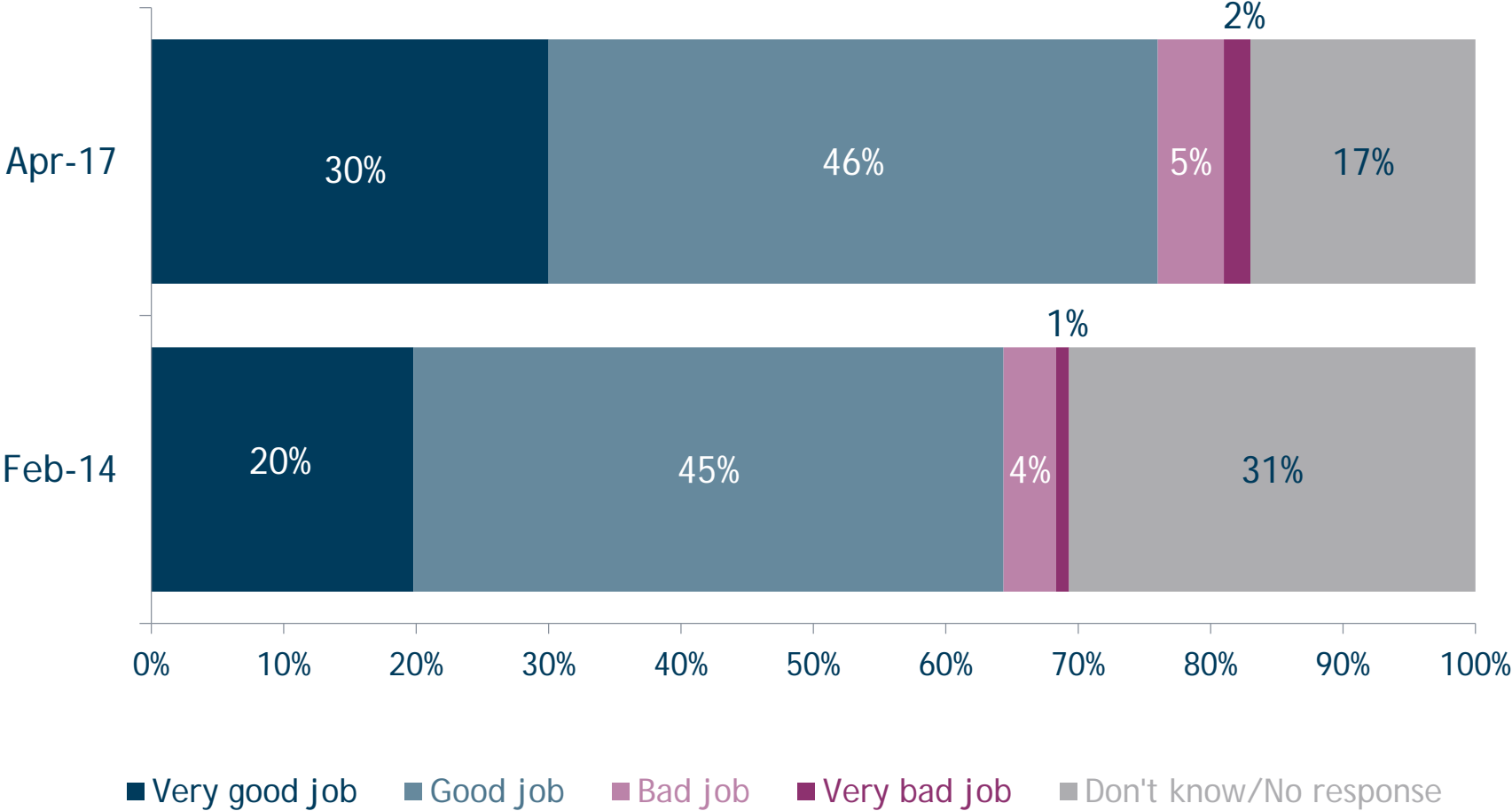
Generally speaking, do you think the national government is doing a good job or a bad job?



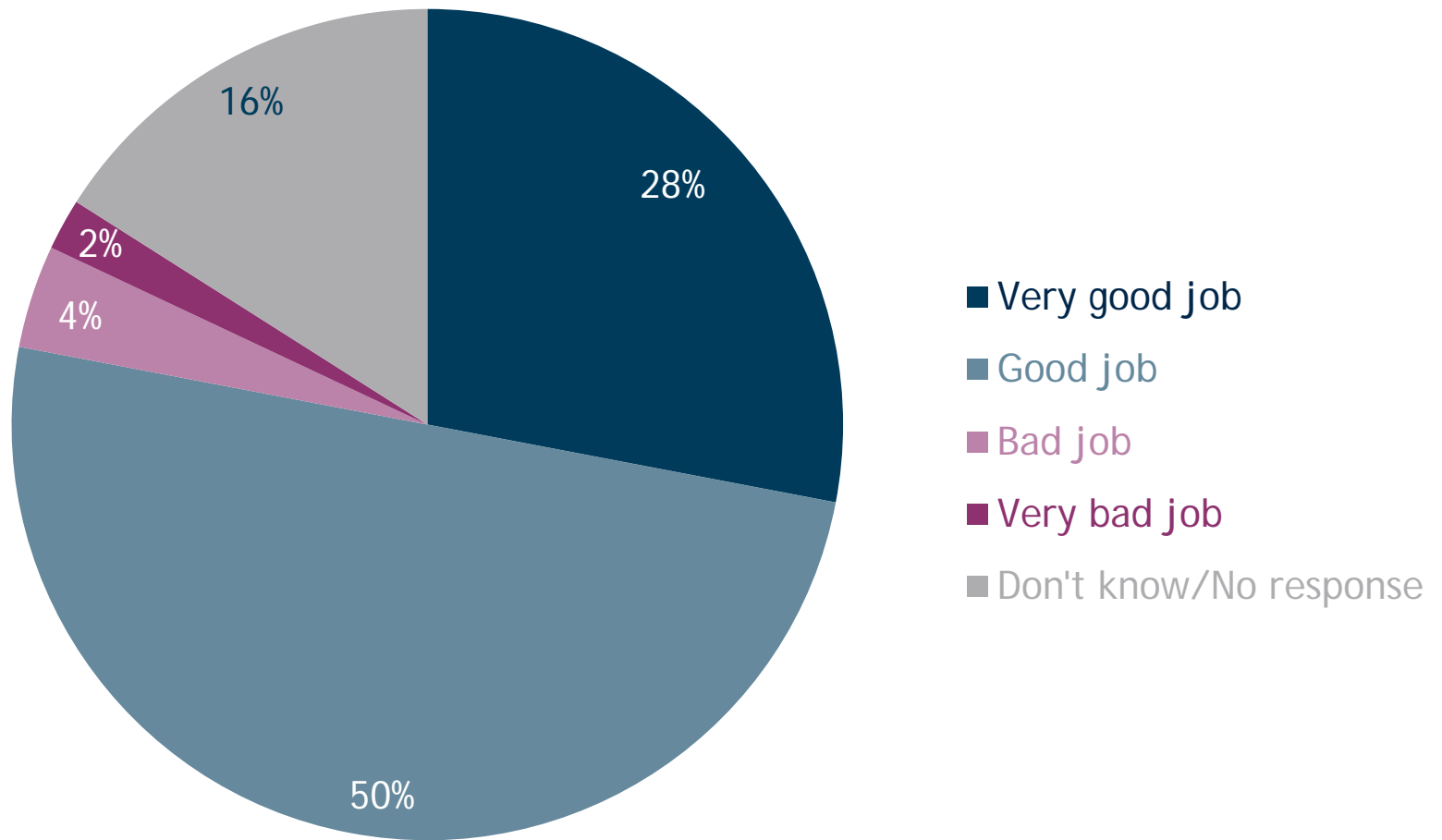
Rate the national government's performance on each of the following:



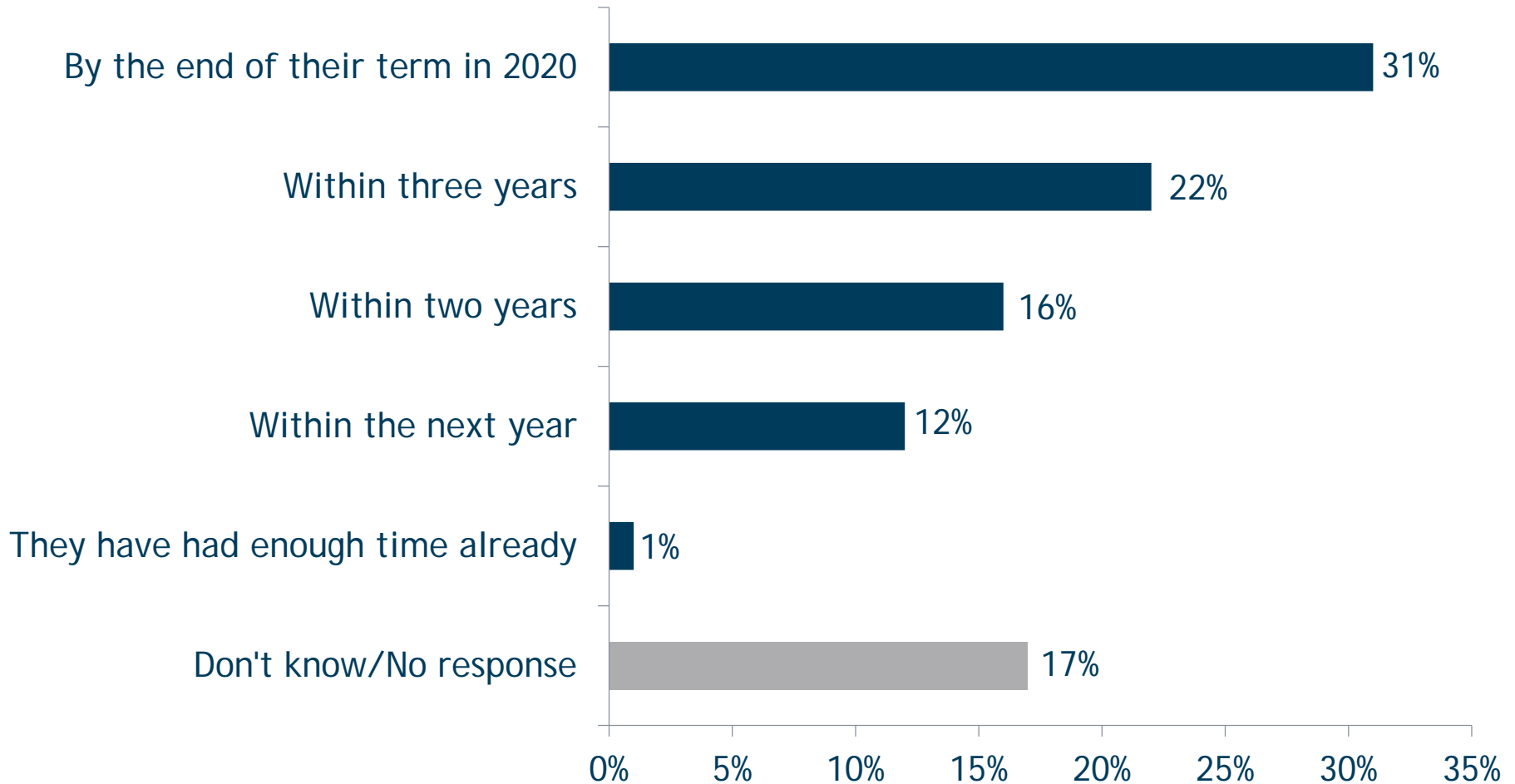
Do you think the Union Parliament is doing a good job or a bad job?



Do you think your state/regional parliament is doing a good job or a bad job?



Thinking some more about the performance of the national government, how long do you think it will take them to start delivering results for the Burmese people?





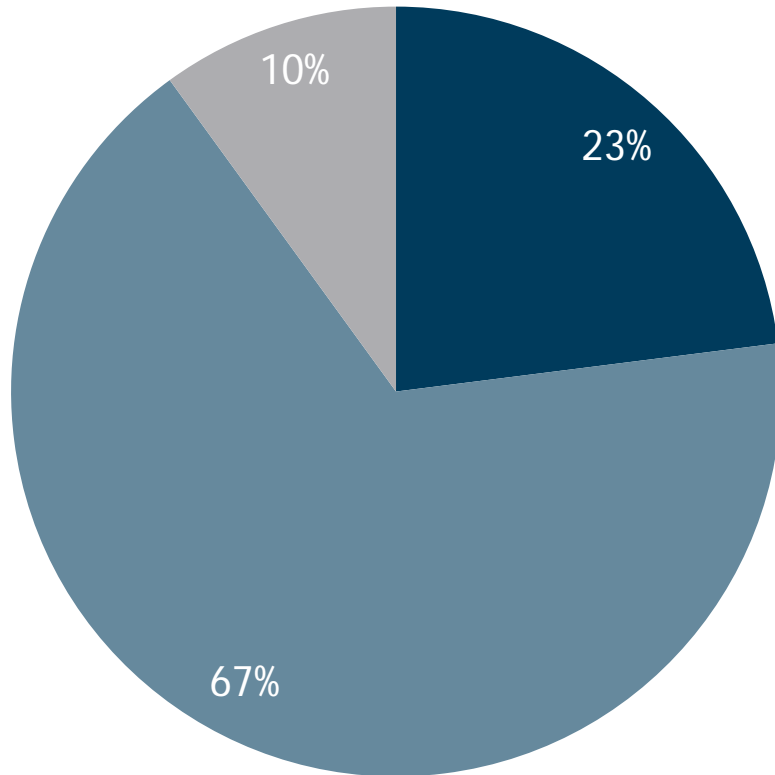
State and Region Autonomy



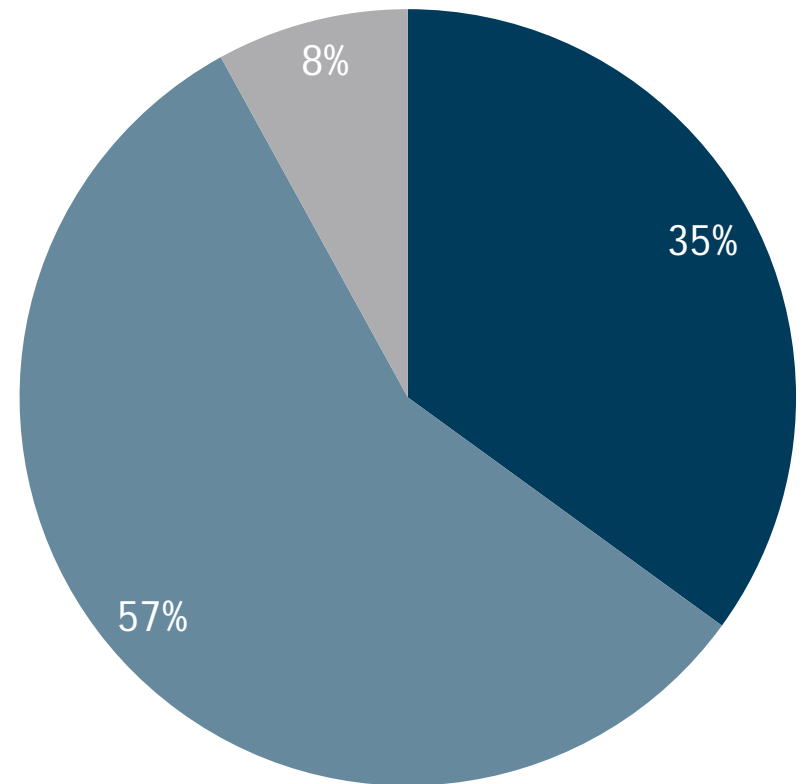
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Do you support giving the states/regions more autonomy and power so that they can make decisions for themselves, or do you think that all power and decisions should be centralized and made by the union government?

Apr-17



Feb-14

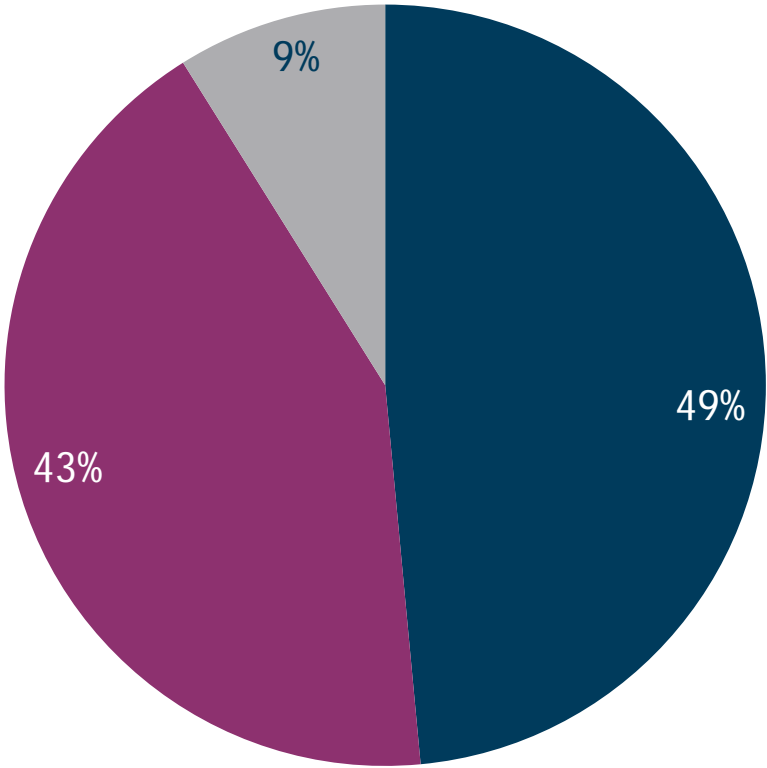


- Support more autonomy and power for states and regions
- Support centralized power and decisions made by the union government
- Don't know/No response

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

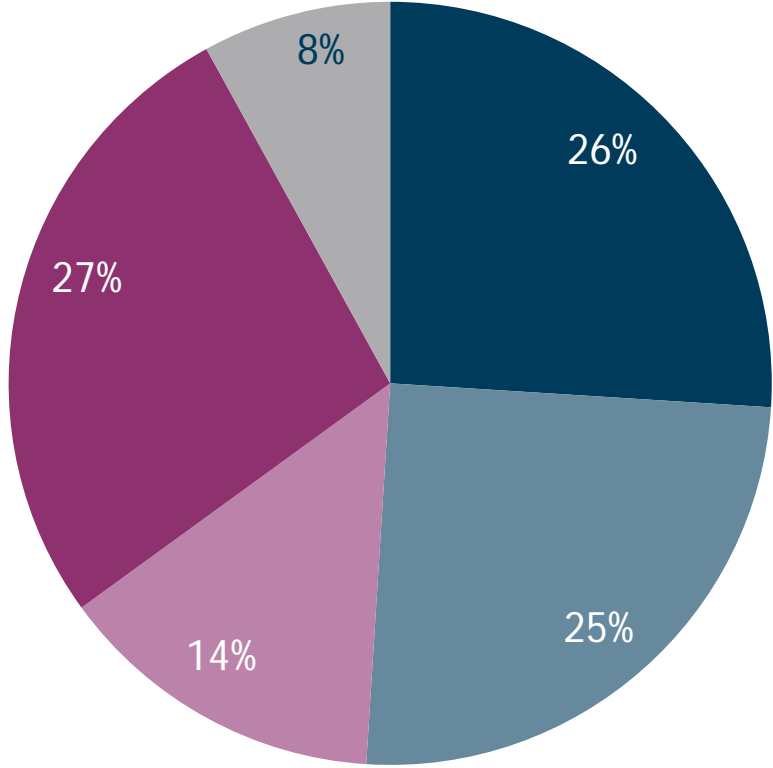
	Apr-2017		Feb-2014	
	Autonomous	Centralized	Autonomous	Centralized
Urban	22%	69%	35%	59%
Rural	23%	67%	35%	57%
Bamar	17%	74%	30%	62%
Non-Bamar	35%	52%	47%	47%
Hill Zone	27%	57%	39%	35%
Plains Zone	19%	71%	25%	65%
Coastal Zone	24%	69%	40%	53%

Would you prefer that provinces elect their own Chief Minister, or should they be appointed by the union government?



- Prefer provinces elect their Chief Minister
- Prefer Chief Minister appointed by nat'l government
- Don't know/No response

Would you support or oppose provinces having more control over their natural resources?



- Strongly support
- Somewhat support
- Strongly oppose
- Somewhat oppose
- Don't know/No response

Centralized/Autonomous (Disaggregated Data)

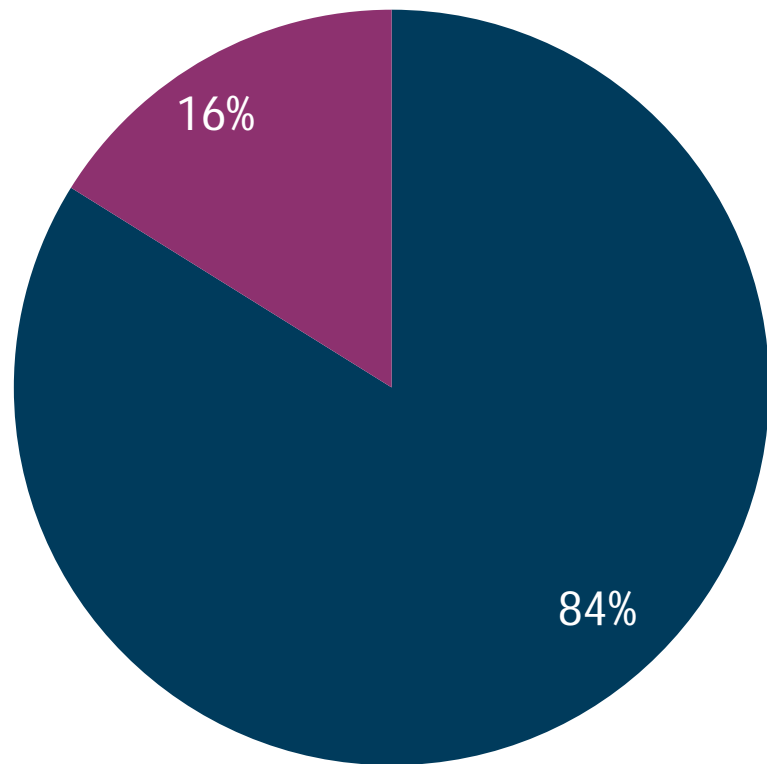
	Chief minister elected by provinces or appointed by union government		Provinces should have more control over natural resources	
	Provinces elect	Union appoint	Support	Oppose
Urban	59%	28%	47%	46%
Rural	48%	43%	53%	39%
Bamar	48%	45%	45%	49%
Non-Bamar	51%	38%	64%	25%
Hill Zone	47%	39%	59%	28%
Plains Zone	45%	46%	48%	43%
Coastal Zone	52%	42%	50%	45%



Political Parties

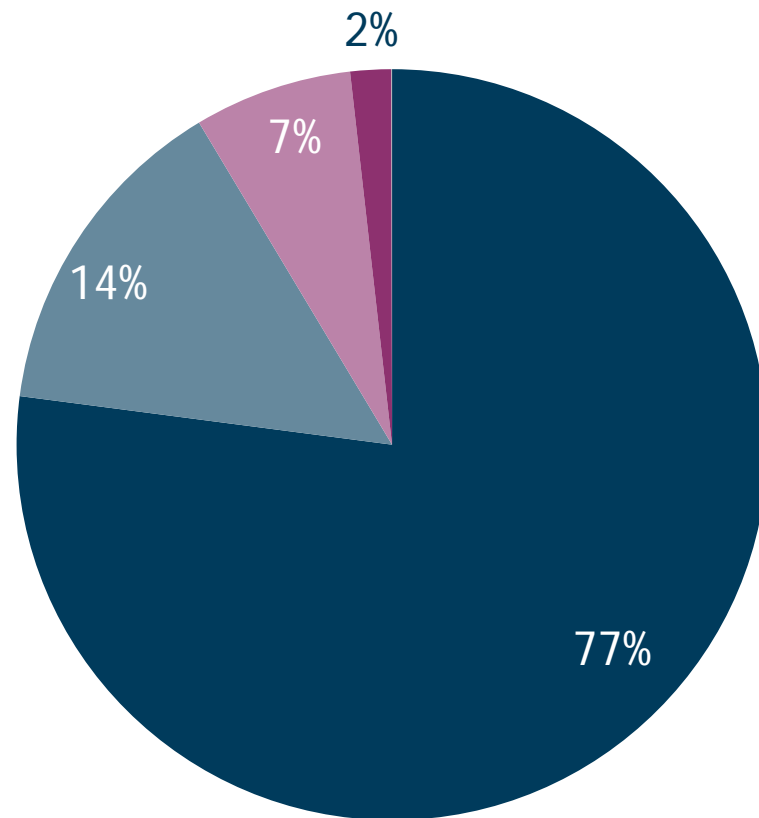


Thinking now about the 2015 national elections, did you vote in the elections?



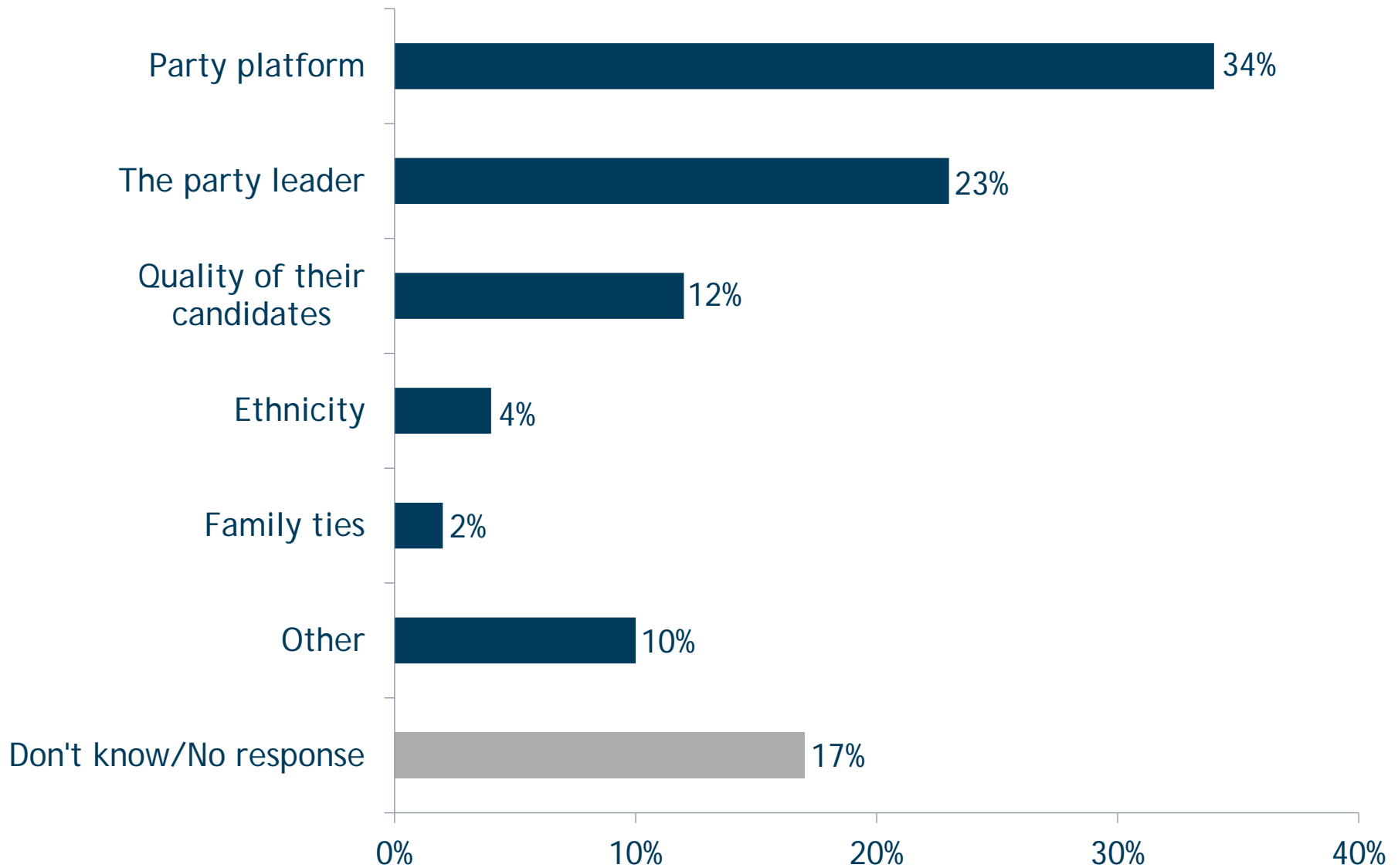
- Yes
- No

How likely, if at all, are you to vote in the next national elections in 2020?

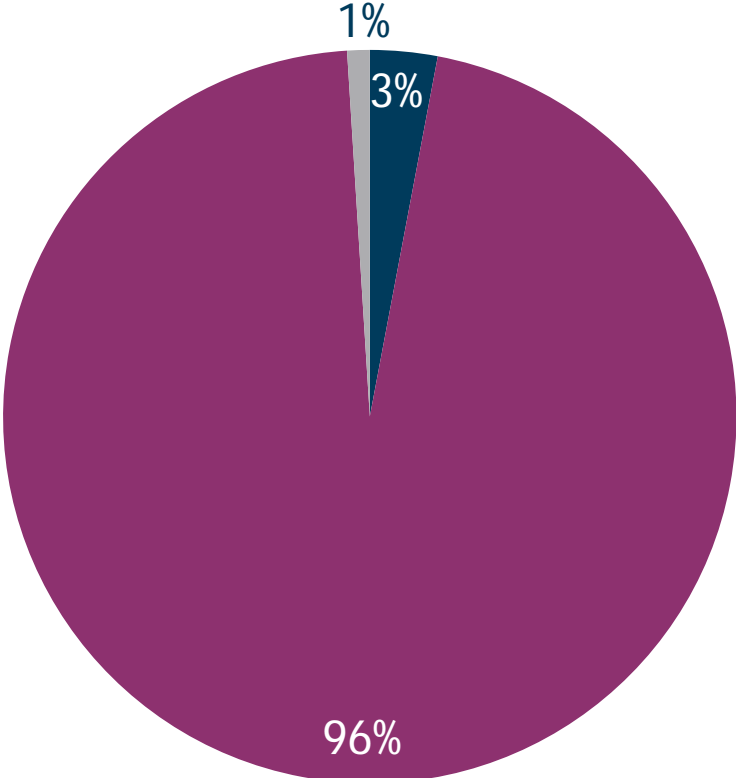


- Very likely
- Somewhat likely
- Somewhat unlikely
- Very unlikely

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

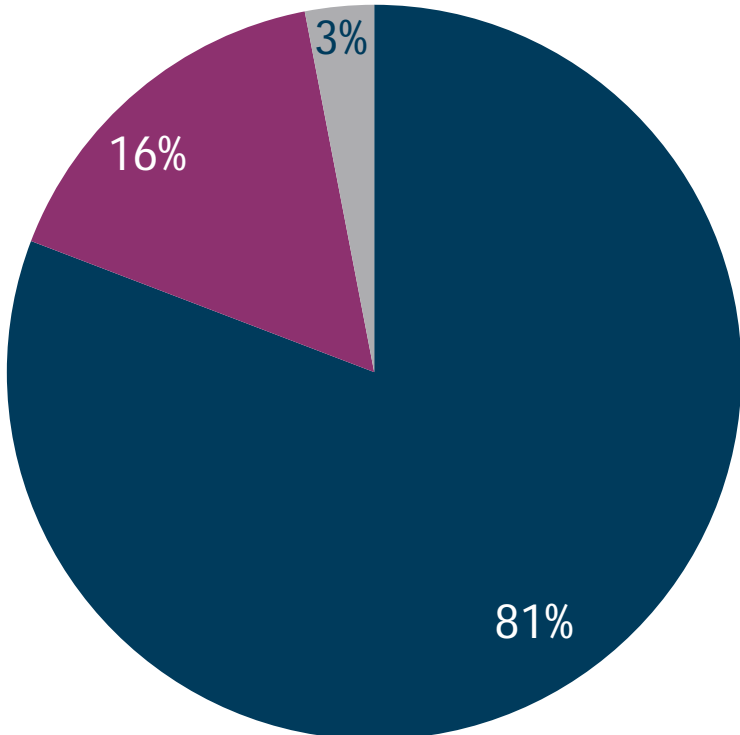


In the past year have you been contacted by a member of the national or state/region parliament?



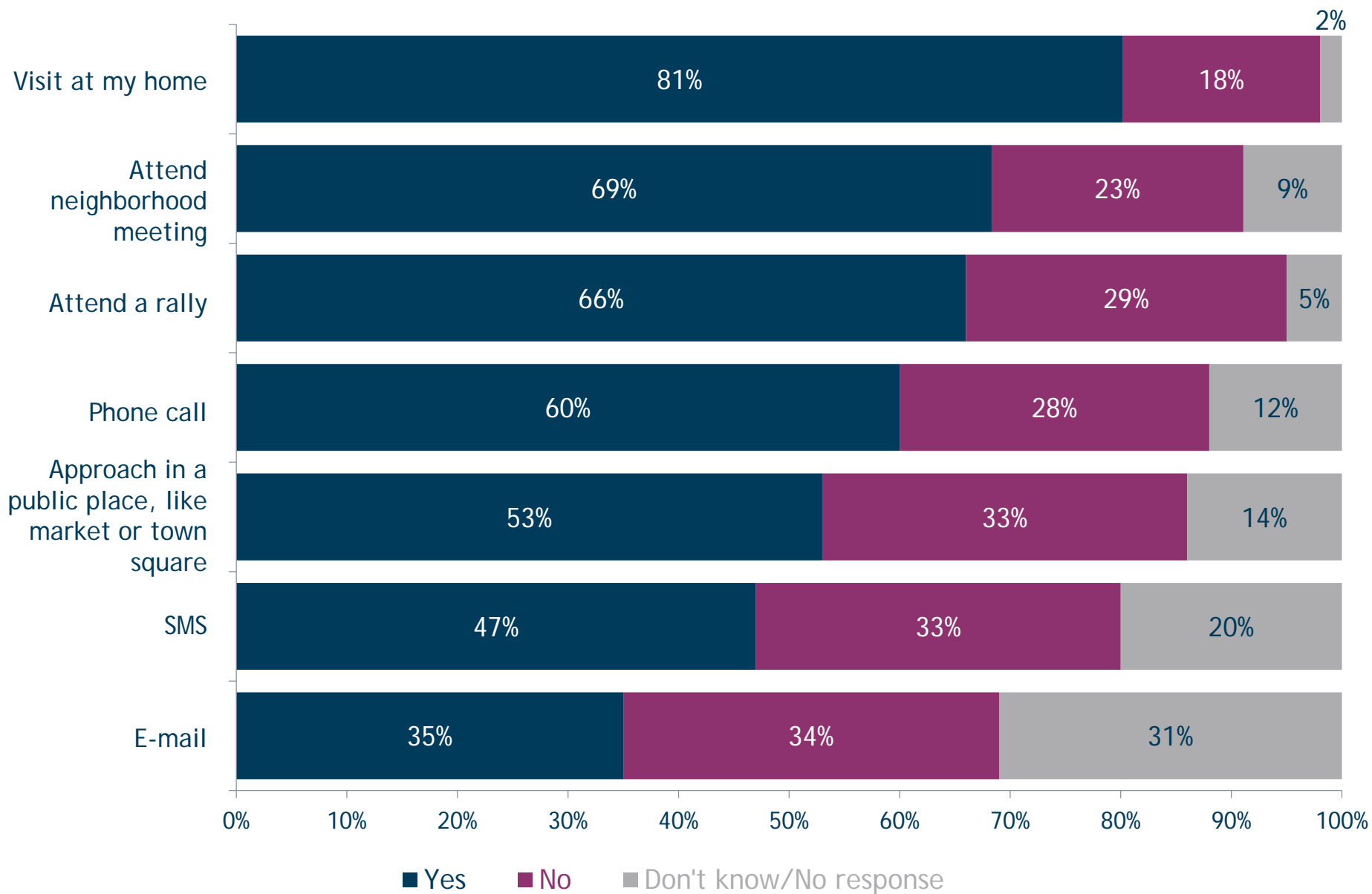
- Yes
- No
- Don't know/No response

Thinking now about the future, would you welcome contact from a Member of Parliament or political party?

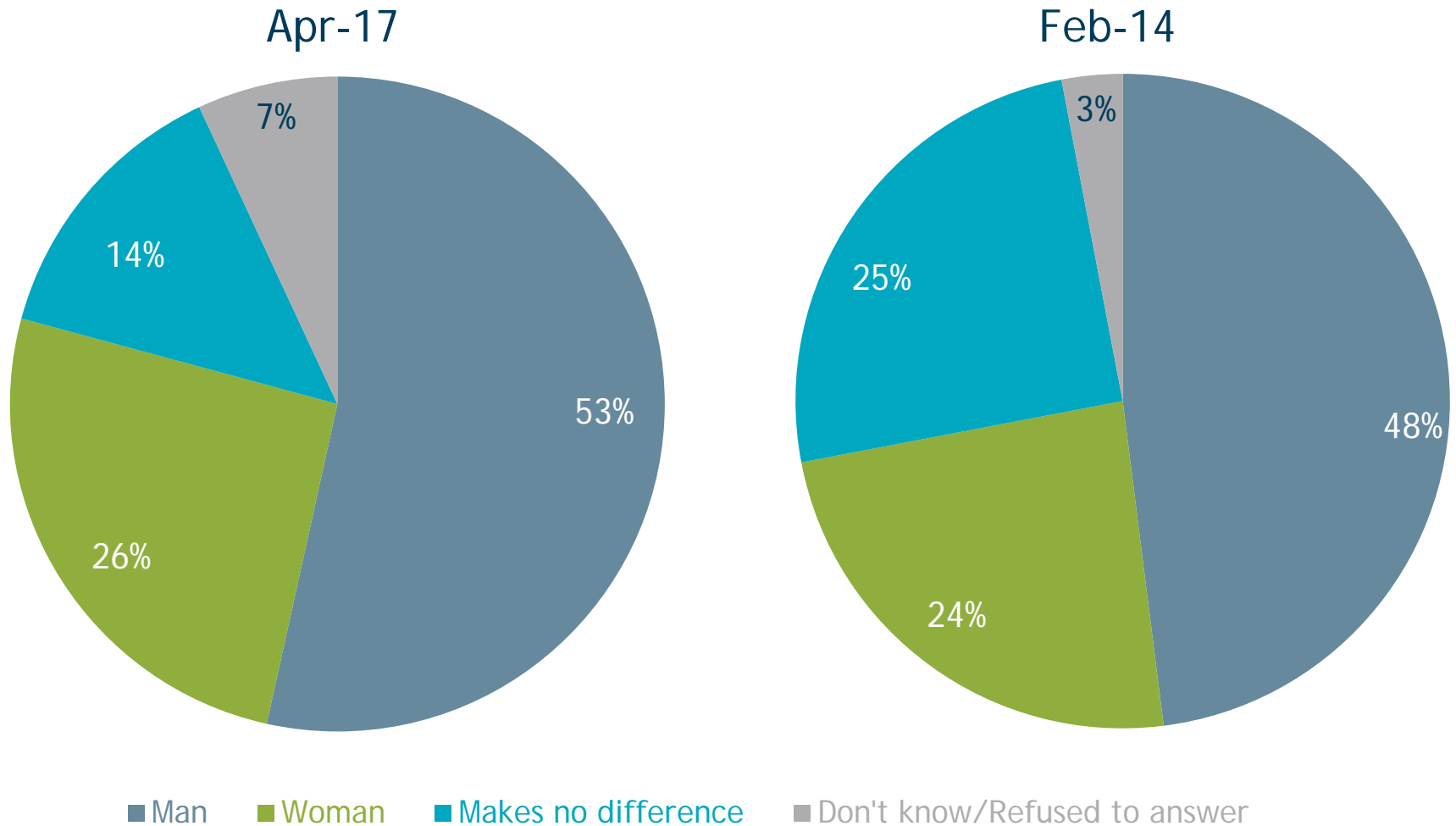


- Yes
- No
- Don't know/No response

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

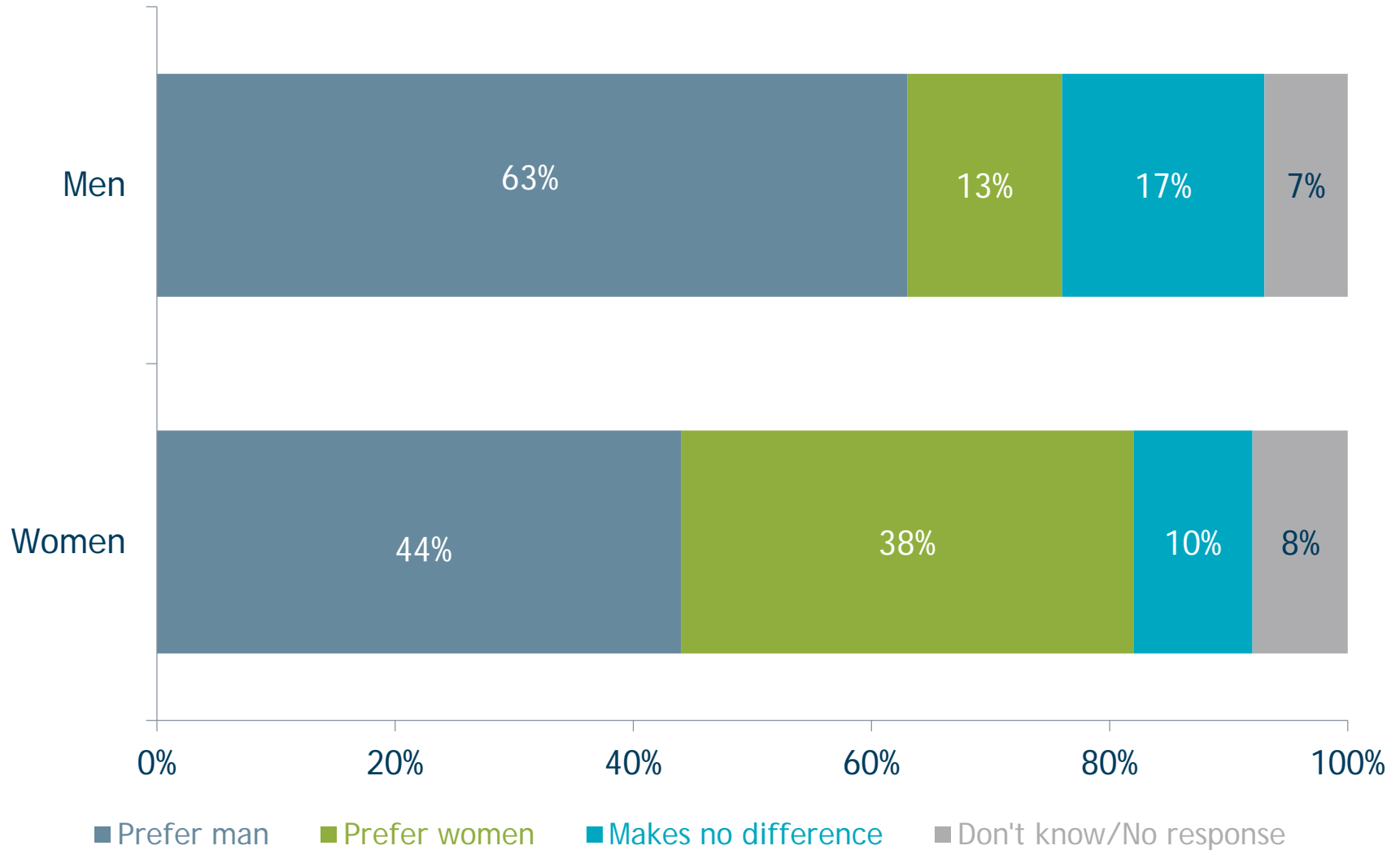


If there are two candidates running for office and they have the same qualifications aside from the fact that one is a man and one is a woman, which candidate are you more likely to support?



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?

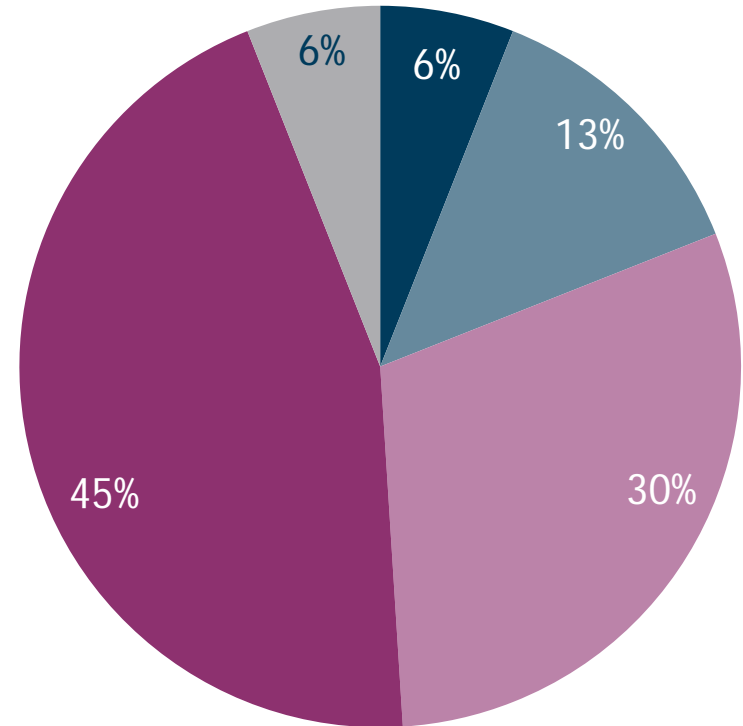
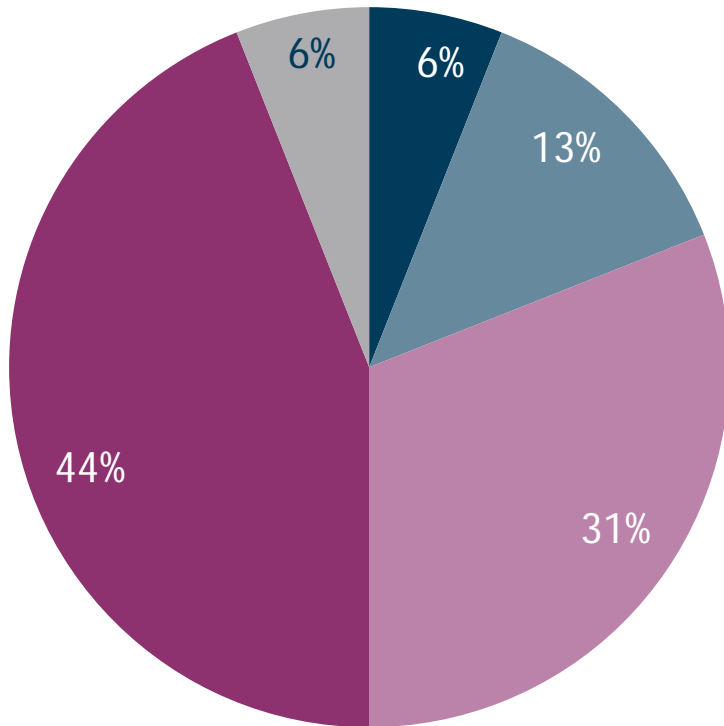
(Disaggregated data)



Do you agree or disagree with the following statements:

Politicians do not listen to the needs and ideas of women.

Politicians do not listen to the needs and ideas of young people.



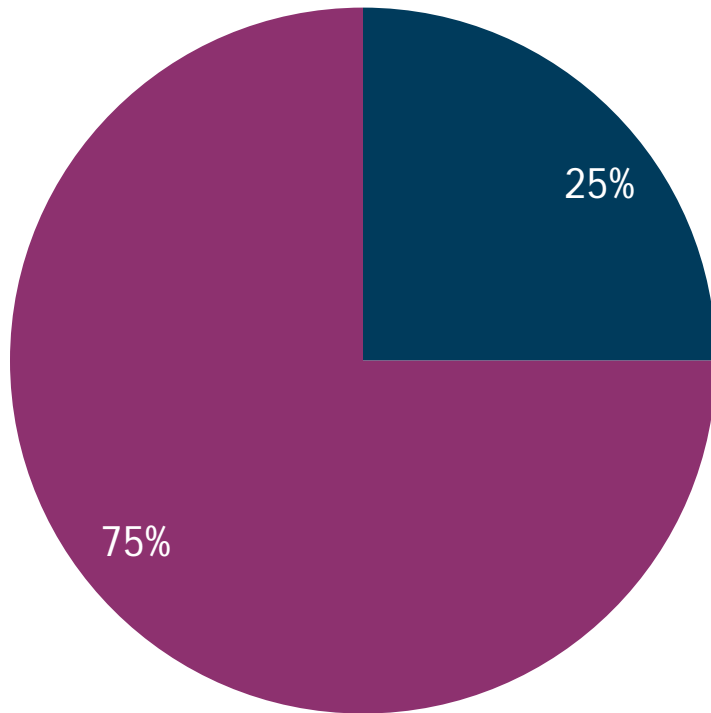
■ Strongly agree ■ Somewhat agree ■ Somewhat disagree ■ Strongly disagree ■ Don't know/No response



Media

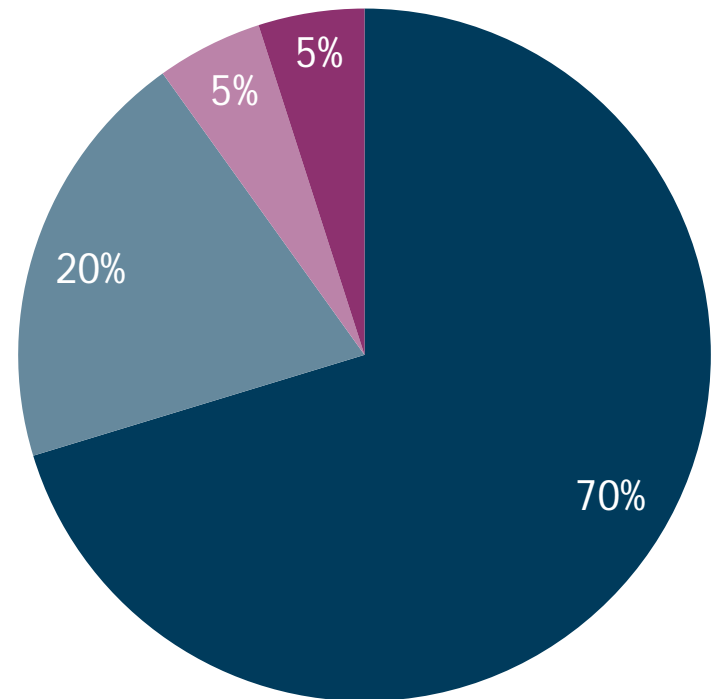


Do you ever use Facebook?



- Yes
- No
- Don't know/No response

How often do you use Facebook? (n=745)



- Almost every day
- At least once a week
- At least once a month
- Rarely, if ever
- Don't know/No response

What do you like most about Facebook?

(Open-ended, n=745)

Response	Percent
Watching/reading international and local news	73%
Chatting with children/friends	6%
Reading fashion designs, status updates, photos uploaded by friends	5%
Reading poems, novels, and comics	4%

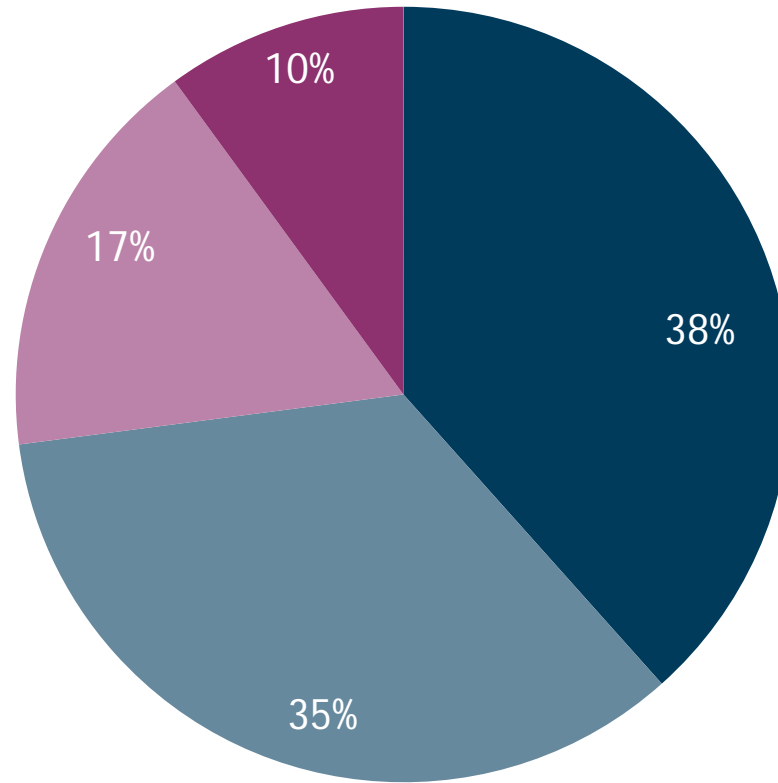
What do you like least about Facebook?

(Open-ended, n=745)

Response	Percent
Fake news	24%
Embarrassing videos, photos, scandals	22%
Abusive/offensive/threatening language	10%
Chatting, commenting and posting	5%
Posting statuses and photos that attack religion, ethnicities	4%
Don't know/No response	28%

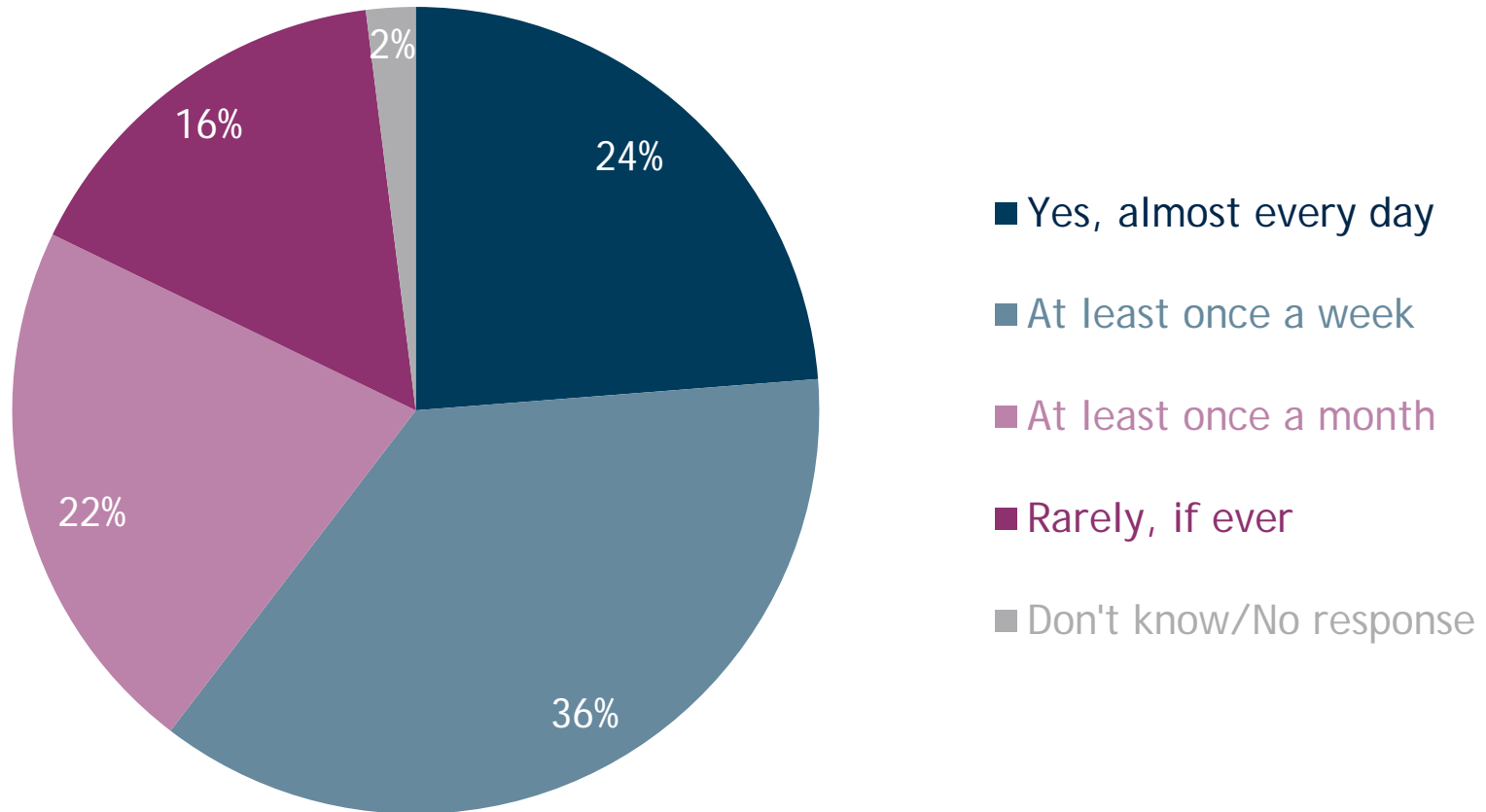
*Responses less than 3 percent have been excluded for the purposes of this slide.

When it comes to the sources from which you get your news, to what extent do you rely on Facebook for your news? Would you say that:
(n=745)

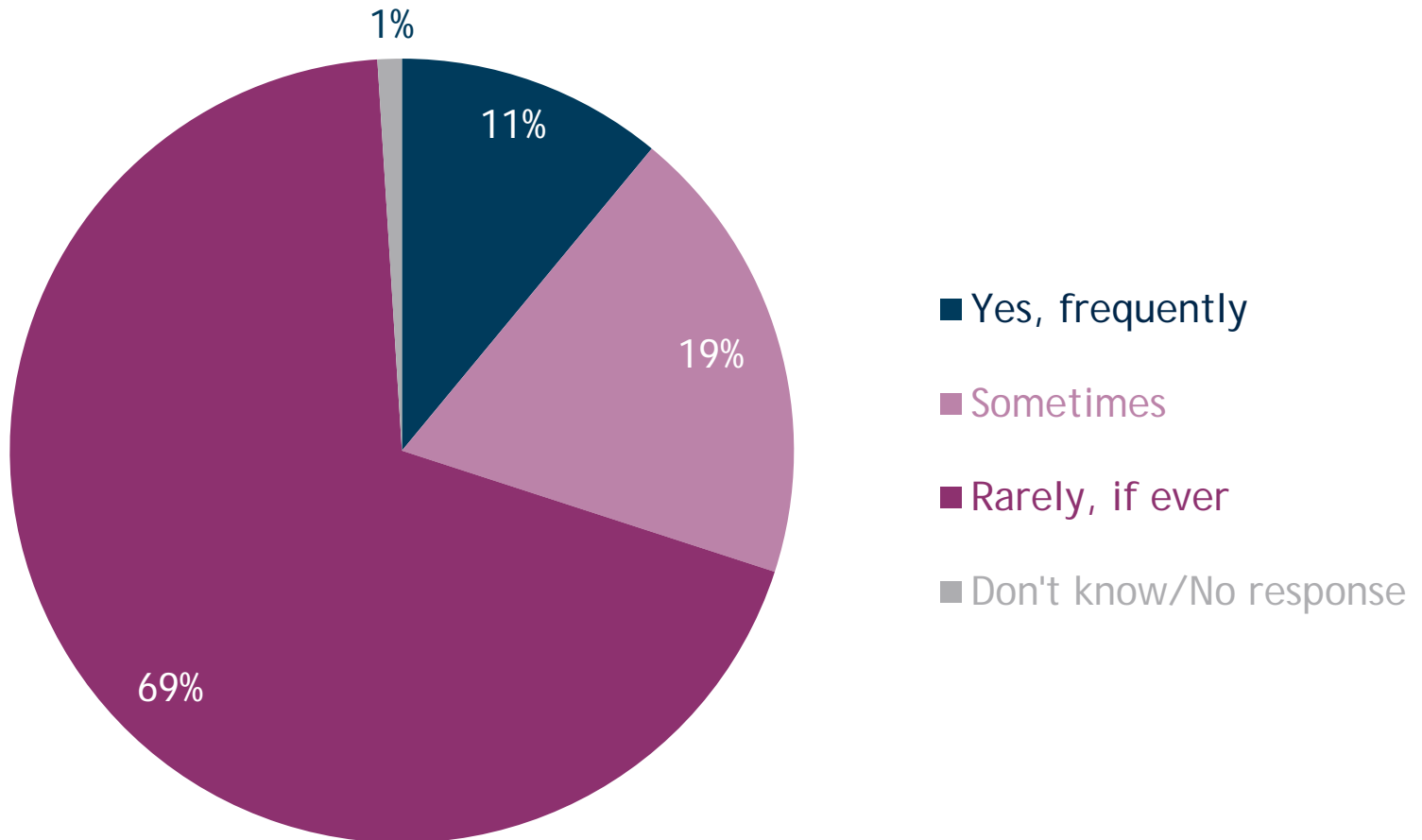


- You get most, if not all, of your news from Facebook
- You get some of your news from Facebook but from other sources as well
- You mostly get news from other sources, and get only a little news from Facebook
- You rarely get news from Facebook, if at all
- Don't know/No response

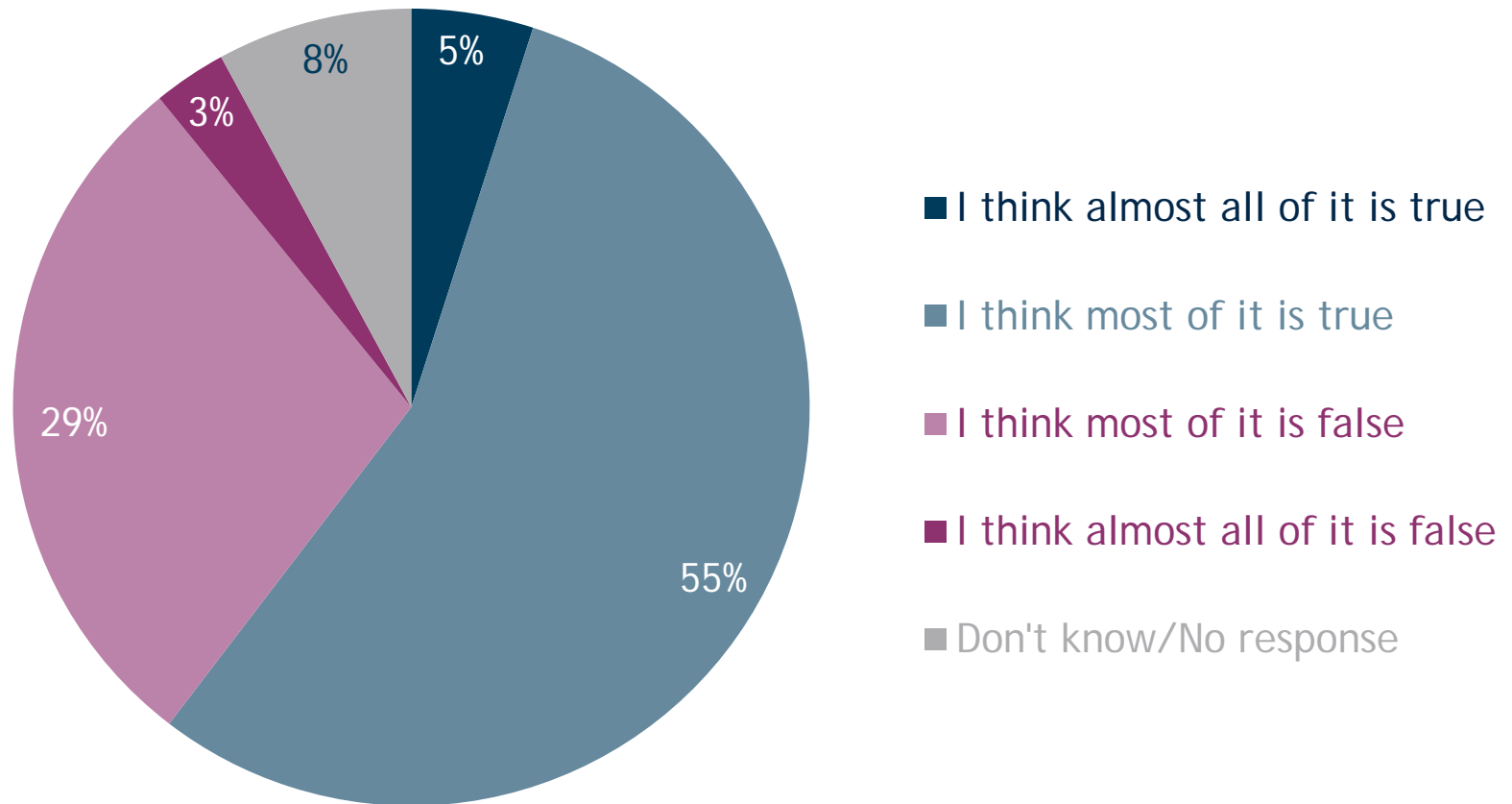
Do you ever see posts about conflict - such as ethnic or religious conflict - in Burma/Myanmar on Facebook? (n=745)



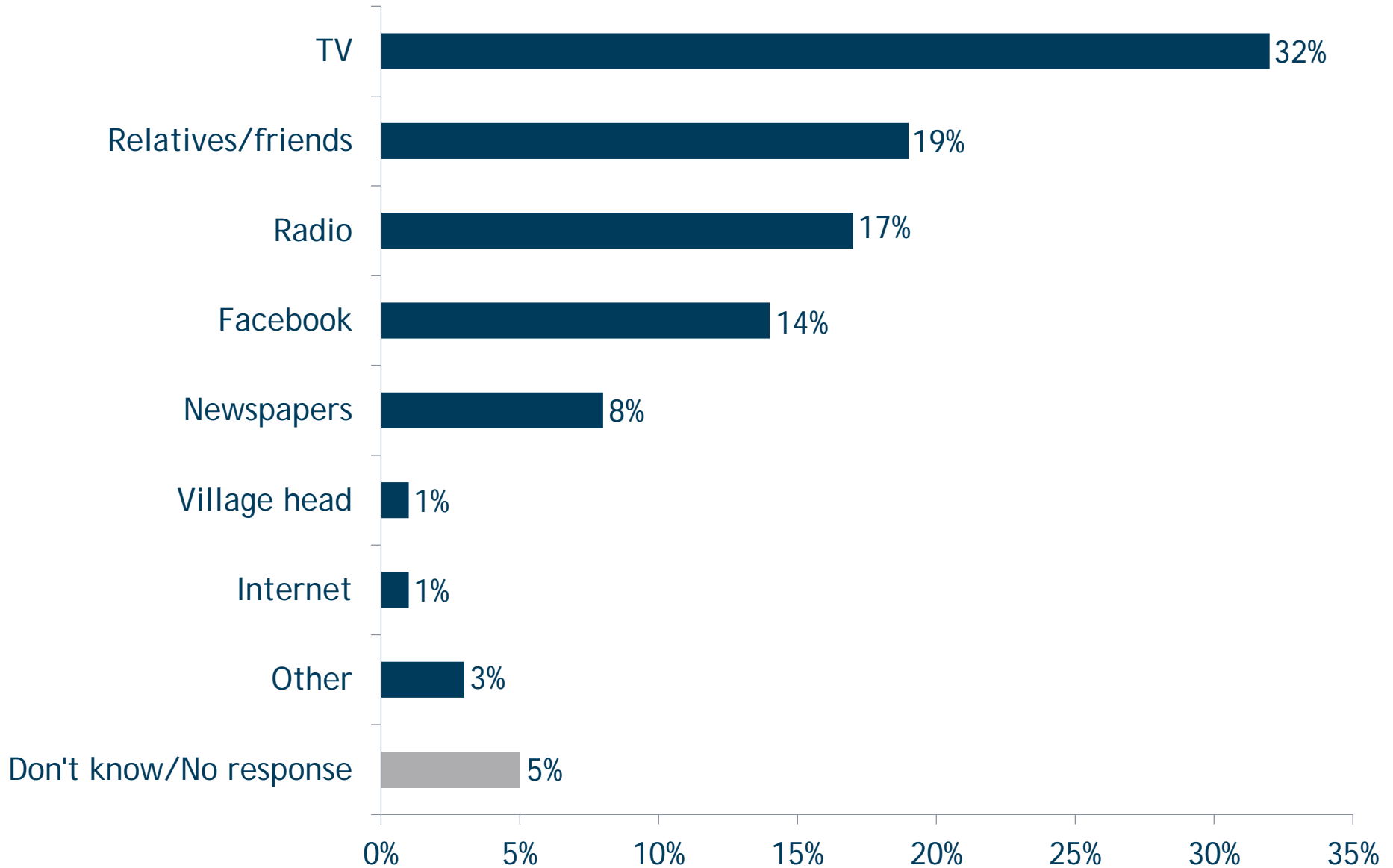
Have you ever asked a Facebook friend to not share graphic information related to ethnic or religious conflict?
(n=745)



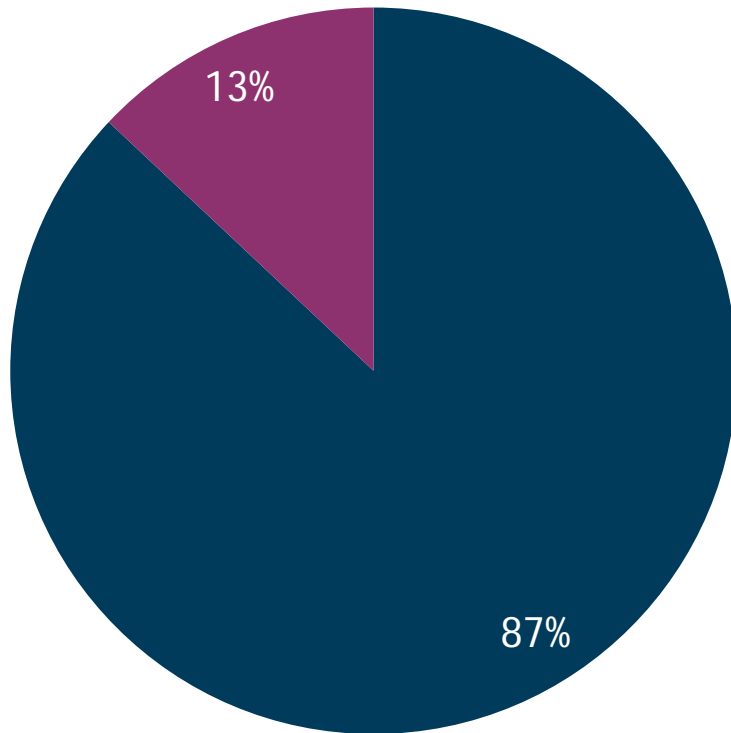
When it comes to the content you see on Facebook, to what extent do you think it is true? (n=745)



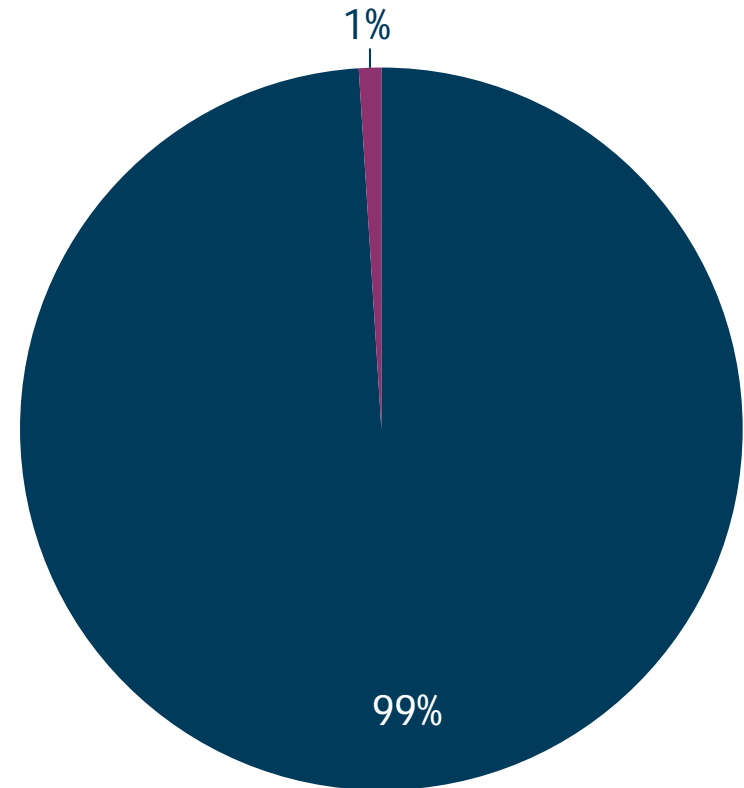
Where are you most likely to get your news and information?



Does your household own a mobile phone?

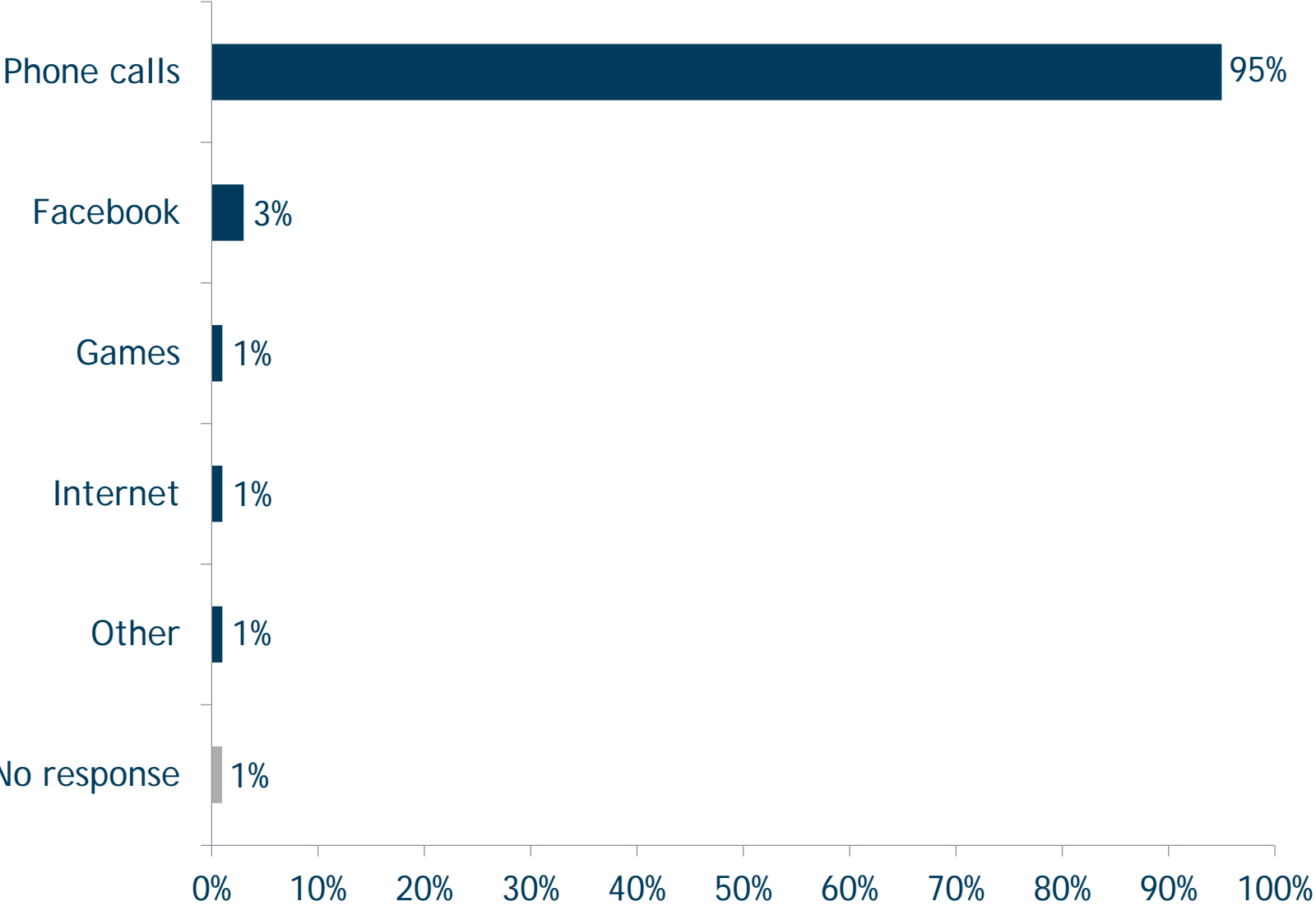


Does your household own a SIM card?
(n=2,603)



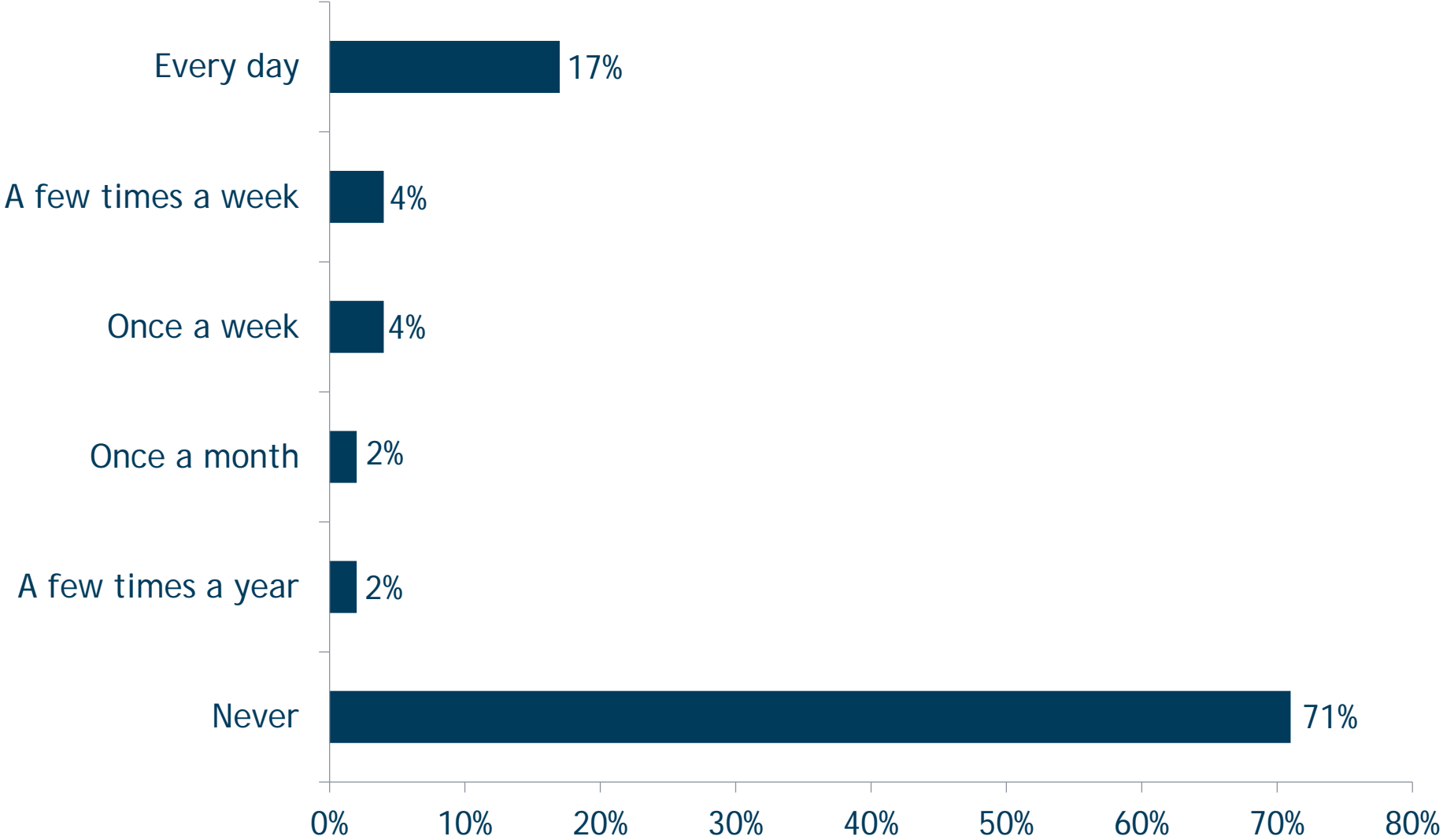
■ Yes ■ No

Which of the following do you use your mobile phone for the most? (n=2,603)

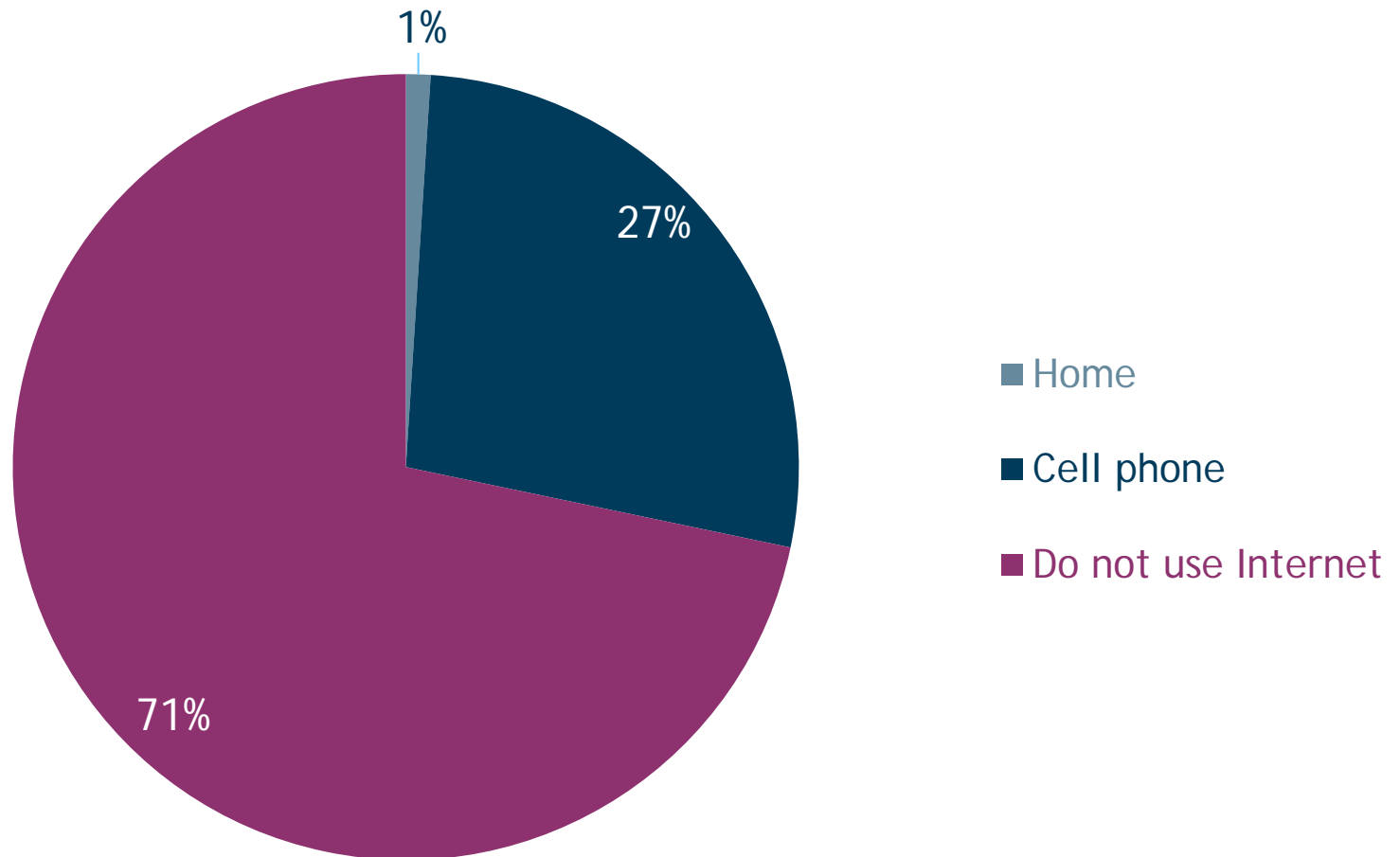


Don't know/No response

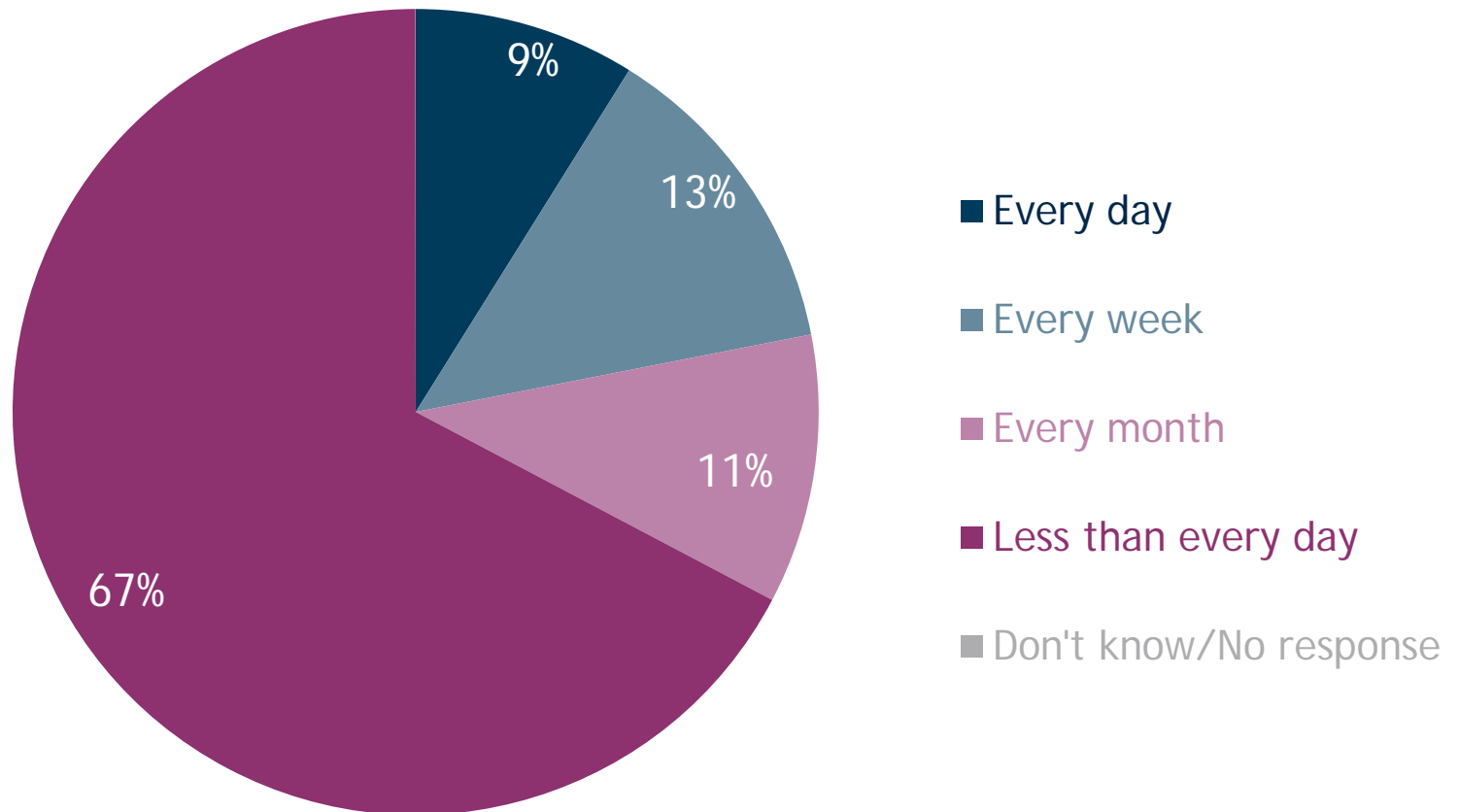
On average, how often do you use the Internet?



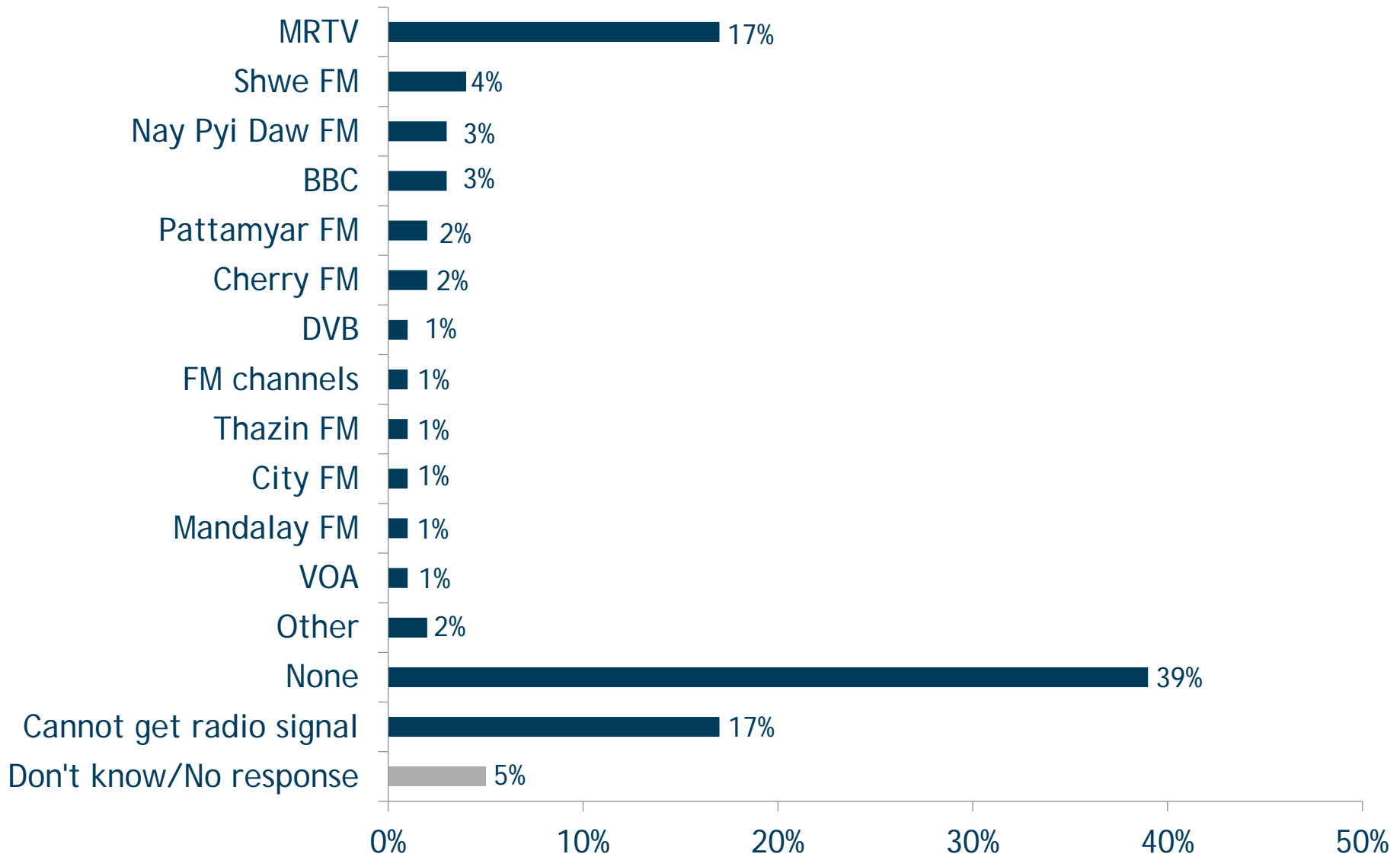
When you do use the Internet, from where do you most regularly access the Internet?



How often do you read news magazines, journals or newspapers?



Which radio stations do you listen to regularly? (Open-ended)



Demographics

GENDER

Male	50%
Female	50%

RELIGION

Buddhism	91%
Christianity	6%
Islam	2%
Hinduism	<1%

MONTHLY INCOME LEVEL

No household income	1%
1-50,000 Kyat	7%
50,001-100,000 Kyat	17%
100,001-500,000 Kyat	64%
500,001-1,000,000 Kyat	6%
1,000,001 Kyat +	2%
Don't know/No response	4%

ETHNICITY

Bamar	69%
Non-Bamar	32%

LOCATION

Urban	32%
Rural	68%

AGE

18-25	13%
26-40	33%
41-55	32%
55+	22%

REGION / STATE

Yangon	16%
Mandalay	13%
Ayeyarwaddy	12%
Shan	11%
Sagaing	10%
Bago	10%
Magway	8%
Mon	4%
Rakhine	4%
Kachin	3%
Kayin	3%
Tanintharyi	3%
Naypyitaw	2%
Kayah	1%
Chin	1%

ETHNICITY

Bamar	69%
Shan	9%
Kayin	4%
Rakhine	4%
Kachin	2%
Chin	3%
Mon	3%
Burma Indian	2%
Kayah	2%
Burma Chinese	1%
Pa-O	1%
Palong	1%
Larhu	1%

EDUCATION LEVEL

Illiterate	6%
No schooling - literate	2%
Monastic schooling	3%
Some primary school	22%
Primary-completed grade 5	39%
Middle-completed grade 9	14%
High school-complete grade 11	6%
Vocational college/diploma	2%
College and above	8%

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