NATIONAL SURVEY OF MOLDOVA

July-August 2023

CENTER FOR INSIGHTS IN SURVEY RESEARCH

A PROJECT OF THE INTERNATIONAL REPUBLICAN INSTITUTE

Detailed Methodology

- The survey was coordinated by Dr. Rasa Alisauskiene from Baltic Surveys/The Gallup Organization on behalf of the Center for Insights in Survey Research. The fieldwork was carried out by Magenta Consulting.
- Data was collected between July 11, 2023 and August 1, 2023 through face-to-face interviews in respondents' homes.
- The main sample consisted of n=1,199 adults aged 18 and older and eligible to vote. It is representative of the general population of Moldova (except for Transnistria) by gender, region and urbanicity (urban/rural), according to the Moldova Statistical Databank, 2019.
- The sample of residents of Chisinau Municipality consist of 695 permanent residents of Chisinau Municipality aged 18 and older. It is representative of the Chisinau Municipality population by gender and settlement size (*urban/rural*), according to the Moldova Statistical Databank, 2019. It is made up of 293 interviews from the main sample and 402 oversample interviews.
- A multistage probability sampling method was used, with the random route and last birthday respondent selection procedures.
  - Stage one: All districts of Moldova are grouped into 11 groups; all regions (with the exception of Transnistria) were surveyed.
  - Stage two: Selection of the settlements (cities and villages).
    - Settlements were selected at random.
    - The number of settlements selected in each region was proportional to the share of population living in the particular type of settlement in each region.
  - Stage three: Primary sampling units were described.
- The achieved main sample was weighted for gender, region and urbanicity. The achieved sample of Chisinau Municipality was weighted for gender and urbanicity. Weighting procedure was based on the data of the National Bureau of Statistics from 2019. Unlike the December 2019-March 2022 surveys, which included an age group weight for the national sample, the November 2022 and July 2023 samples were not weighted by age group due to a potential distortionary effect linked to international labor migration. Direct comparison of the two most recent rounds of data to previous waves may be affected by the different weighting scheme.
- The response rate was 54 percent.
- The margin of error for the mid-range of the main sample does not exceed ±2.8 points. The margin of error for the mid-range of the sample of Chisinau Municipality does not exceed ±3.7 points.
- Charts and graphs may not add up to 100 percent due to rounding.
- The survey was funded by the United States Agency for International Development.

Frequently Cited Disaggregate Bases*

Disaggregate	Category	Base
Age Brackets	18-35	n = 294
	36-55	n = 377
	56+	n = 527
Gender	Men	n = 566
	Women	n = 633
Urbanicity	Urban	n = 535
	Rural	n = 664
Chisinau Municipality		n = 695
Margin of error will vary with sample size n. Cited bases are weighted.		

*Disaggregation of age, gender and urbanicity presented for the main sample

Previous IRI Moldova polls

Poll	Fieldwork Dates	Total Sample Size
National poll of residents of Moldova	October 1 – November 15, 2022	n = 1,648
National poll of residents of Moldova	September 16 – November 1, 2021	n = 1,619
National poll of residents of Moldova	February 9 – March 16, 2021	n = 2,001
National poll of residents of Moldova	November 16 – December 8, 2019	n = 1,204
National poll of residents of Moldova	May 8 – June 10, 2019	n = 1,543

About the Center for Insights In Survey Research (CISR)

CENTER FOR INSIGHTS IN SURVEY RESEARCH

Research and qualitative and quantitative public opinion data is a cornerstone of IRI's approach to programming. Our data ensures citizens' needs are at the center of the political debate and guide our projects' goals. **To date, IRI has conducted more than 1,000 polls in over 100 countries, surveying more than 1.5 million people and measuring community attitudes on a wide range of issues.**

IRI's research approach integrates CISR's methodological polling best practices protocol and field partner in-depth knowledge of the local research environment. This close collaboration begins at project design, with carefully calibrated sampling and instrument development, and continues throughout the entire fieldwork cycle to ensure the collection of reliable qualitative and quantitative data.

← For more of IRI's public opinion research, see CISR's content.

General Outlook

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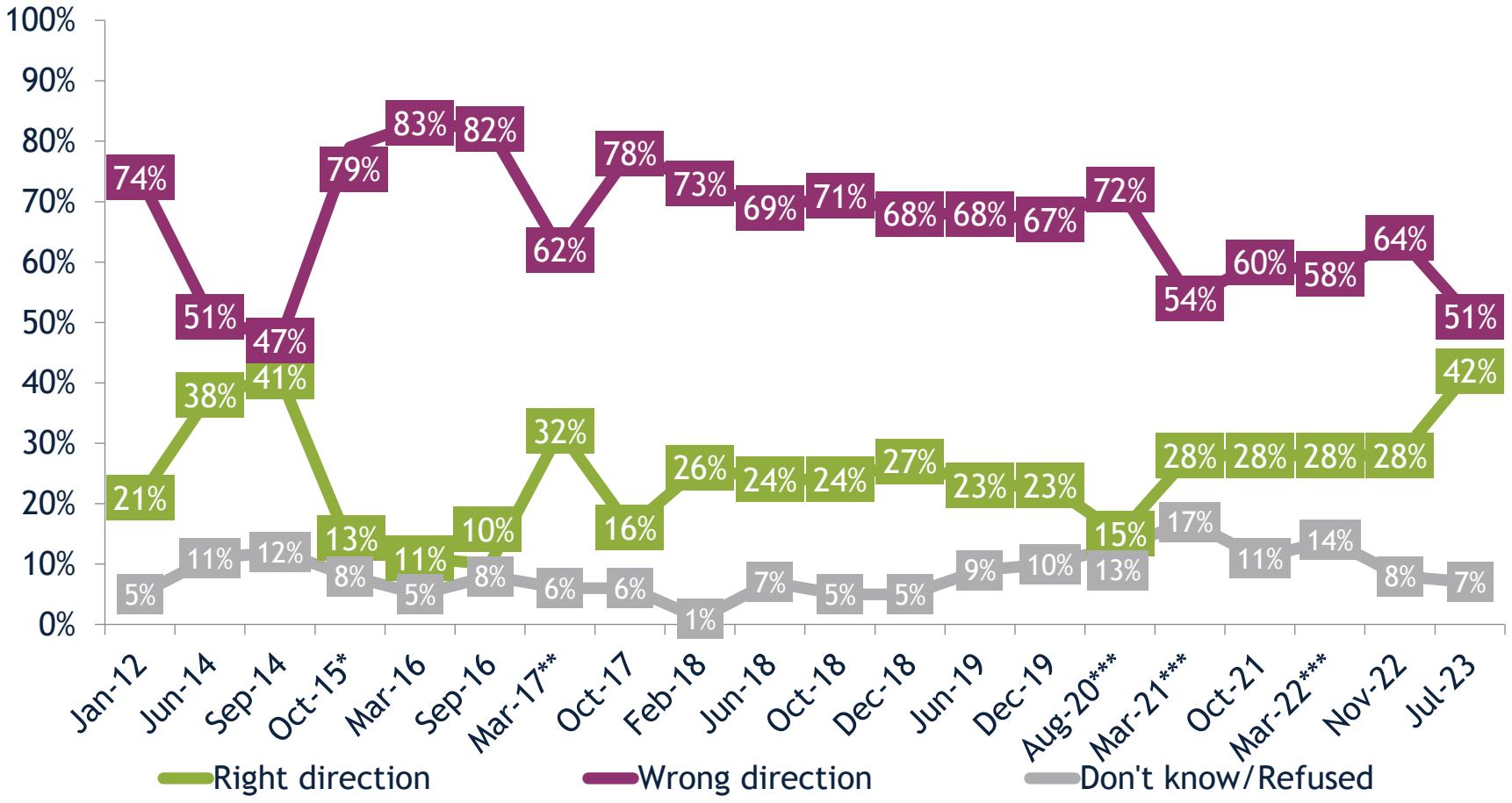
In general, would you say that Moldova is heading in the right direction or the wrong direction?

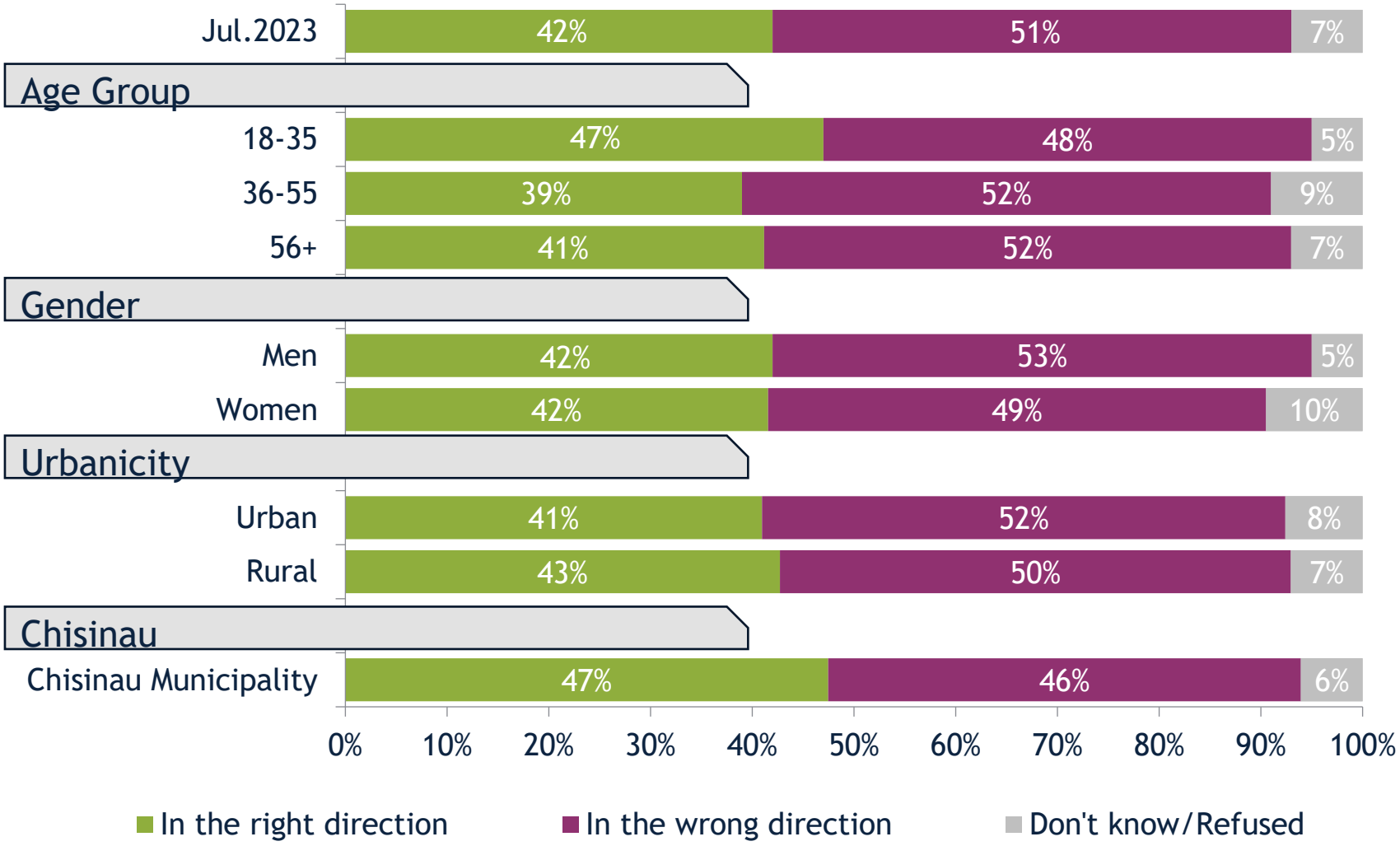


*In December 2014, news broke of a major banking scandal involving nearly $1 billion missing from three state banks. The scandal is often referred to as "the stolen billion."

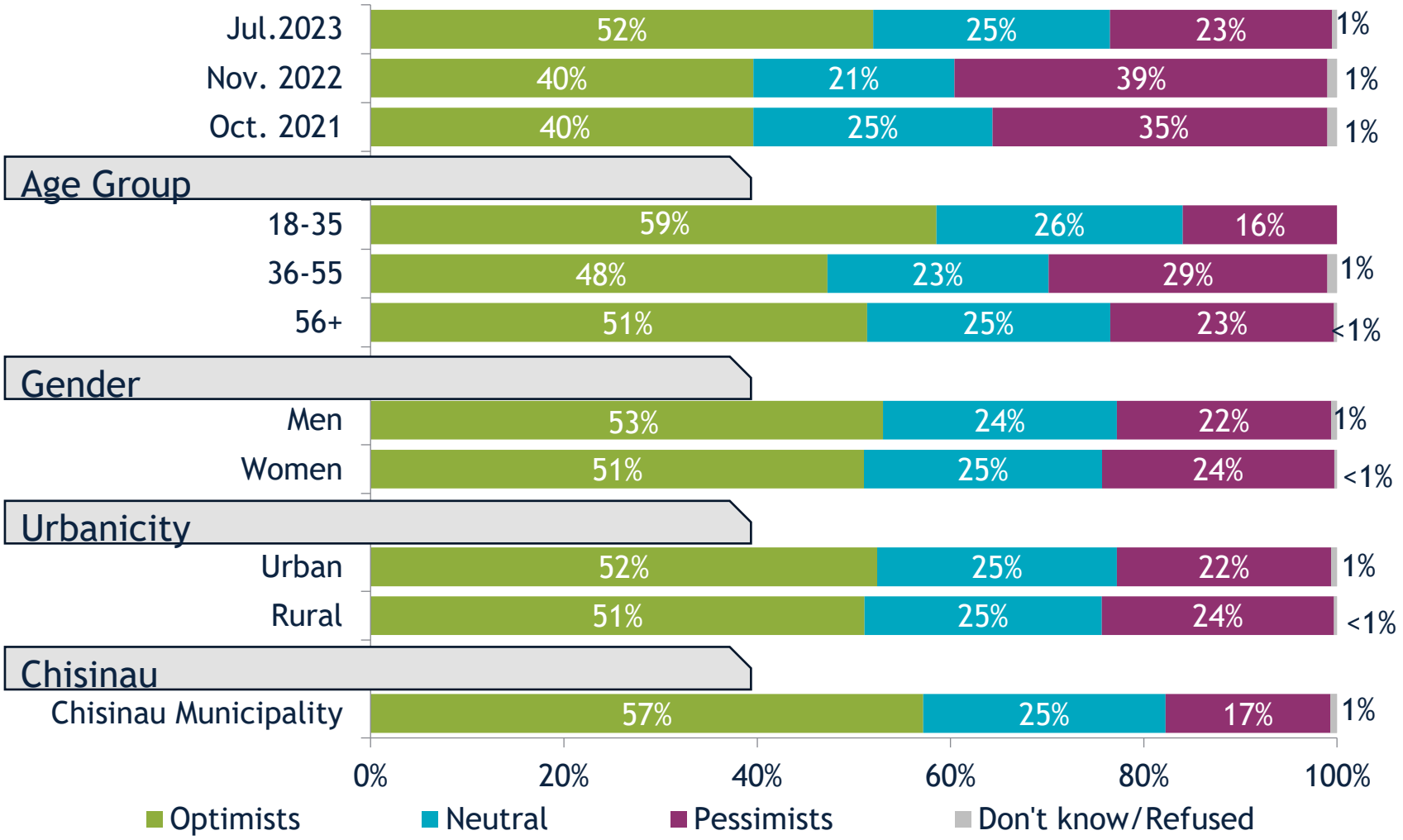
**In 2016, Moldova conducted the first popular presidential election since 1996. Igor Dodon was elected in the second-round contest on November 13, 2016.

*** Interviews for the August 2020, March 2021 and February-March 2022 surveys were done via computer-assisted phone interviews (CATI). Other previous polls were conducted through face-to-face interviews.

In general, would you say that Moldova is heading in the right direction or the wrong direction?

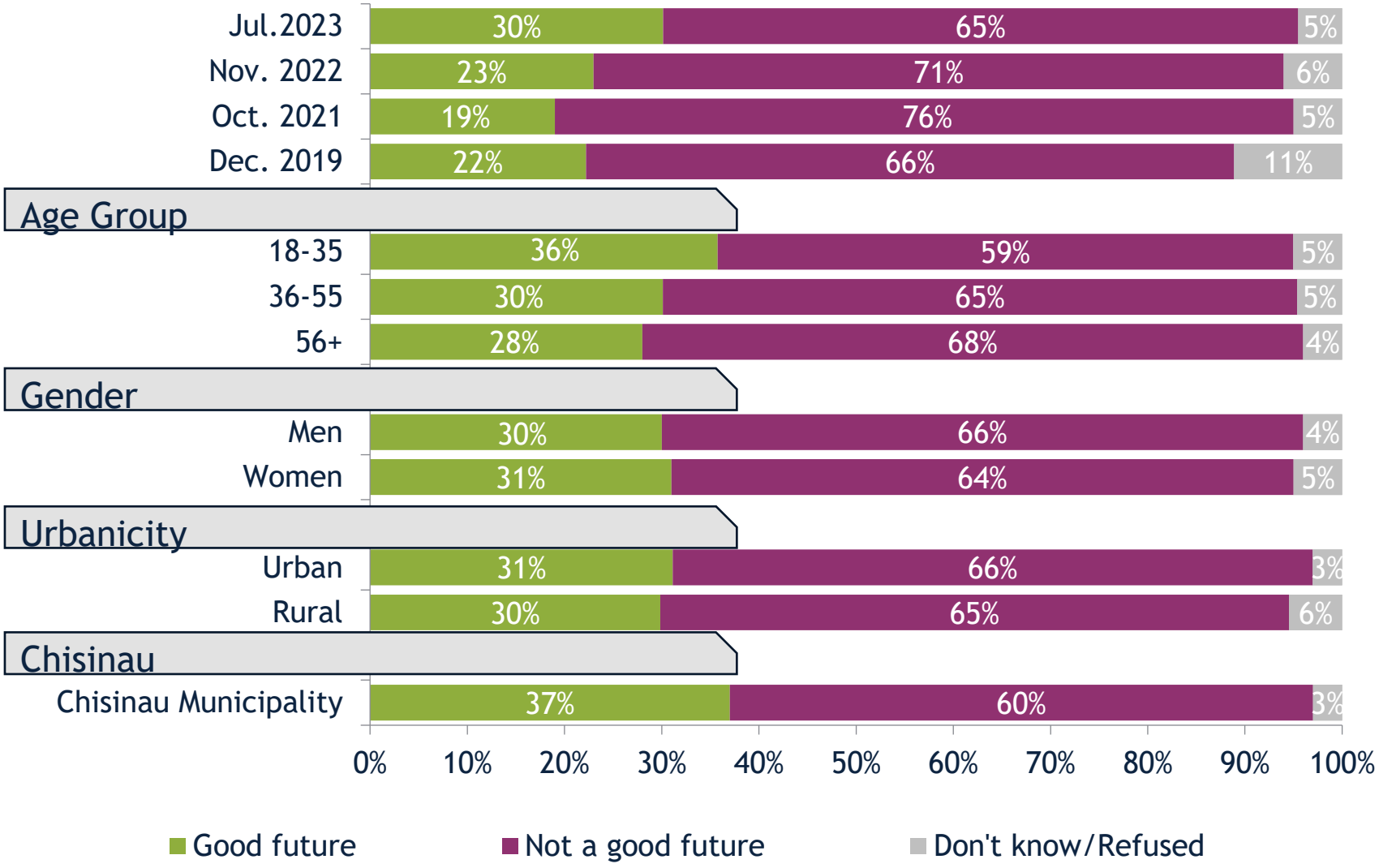


How would you evaluate the prevailing mood of the Moldovan population?



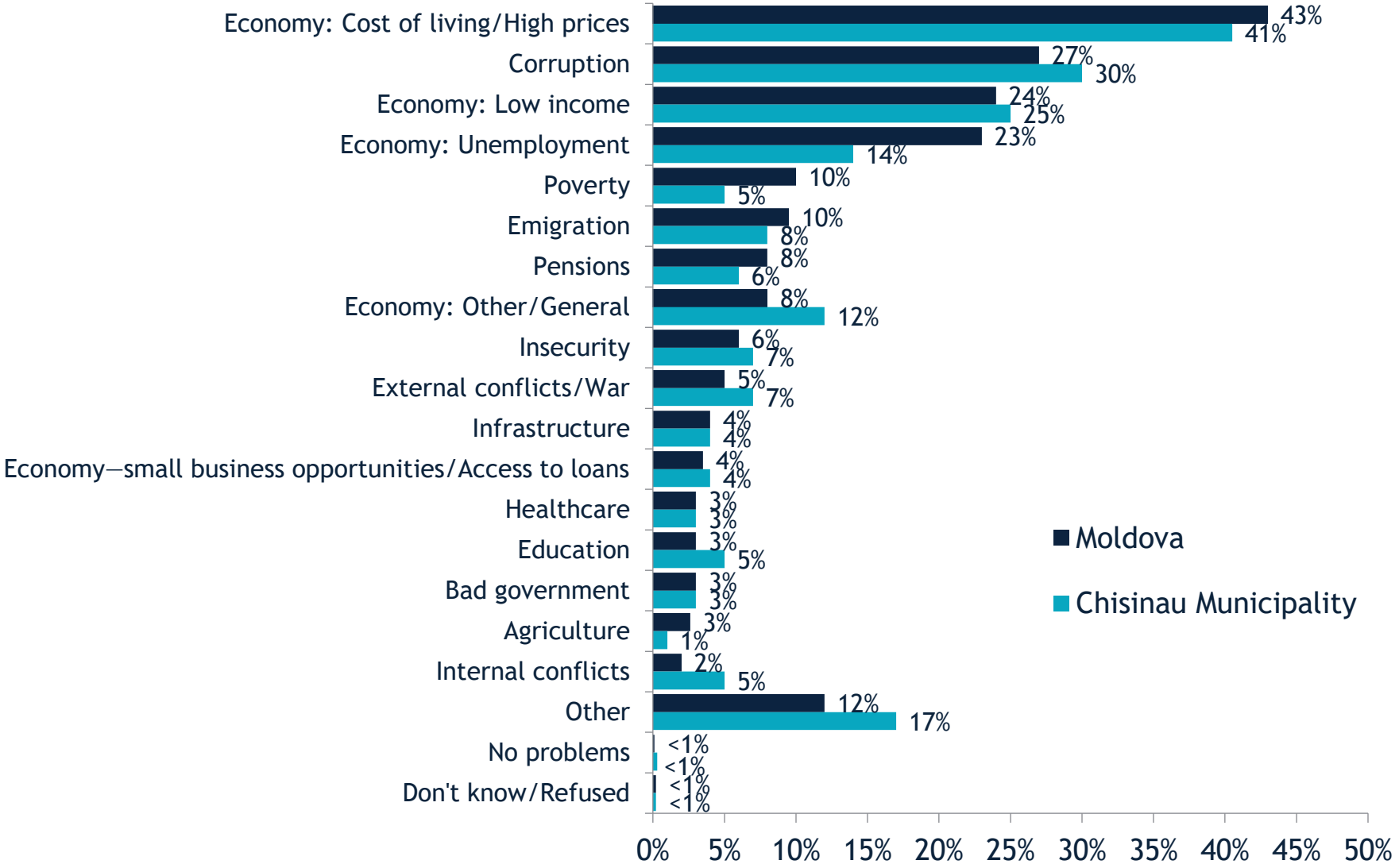
*Responses "Belief that the future will definitely be better" and "Hope that the future will be somewhat better" are combined under "Optimists". Responses "Not much hope for a better future" and "Apathy, indifference" combined under "Neutral". Responses "Insecurity, worry, fear for the future" and "Total disappointment, disbelief in any improvement" are combined under "Pessimists".

Do you think that today's generation of young people has a good future in Moldova or not?



What is the most important problem facing Moldova today? And what is the second most important problem?

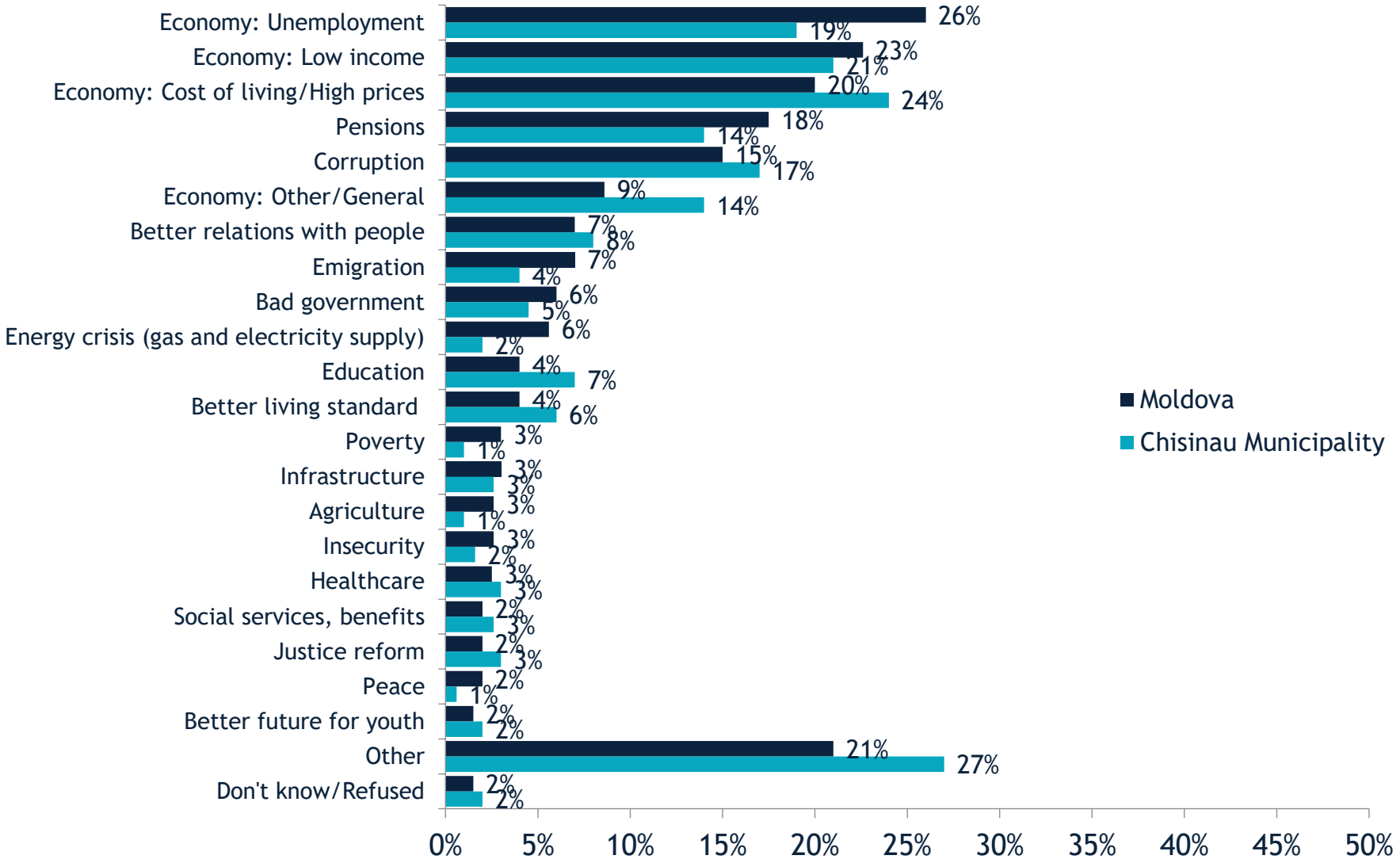
(Spontaneous response; two responses permitted; total mentions displayed)



*Responses receiving <2% in the main sample are collapsed into *Other*.

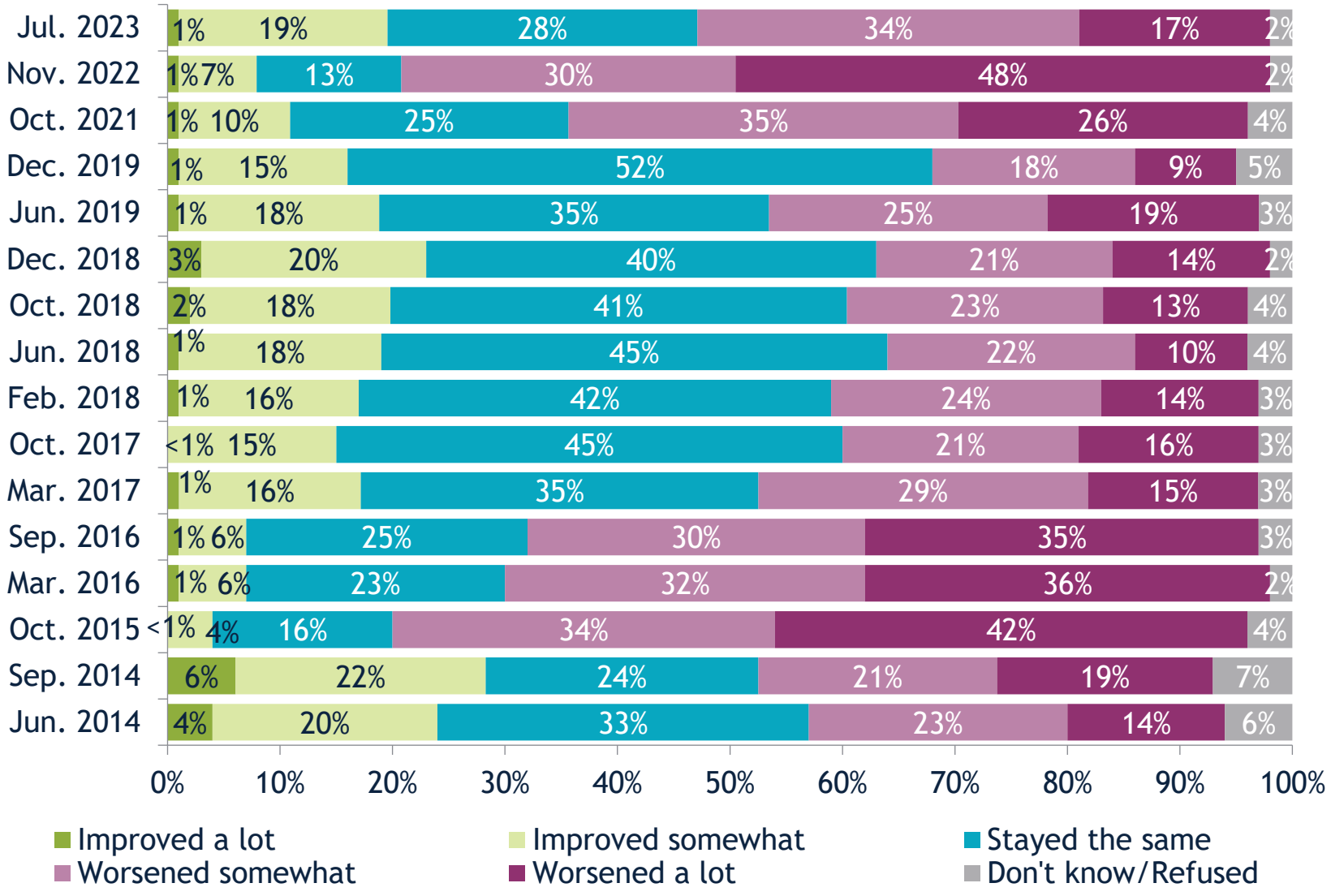
What specific issues should be the top priority for the government to address?

(Spontaneous response; two responses permitted; total mentions displayed)



*Responses receiving 1% or less in the main sample are collapsed into *Other*.

Over the last 12 months, how has the economic situation in Moldova changed?



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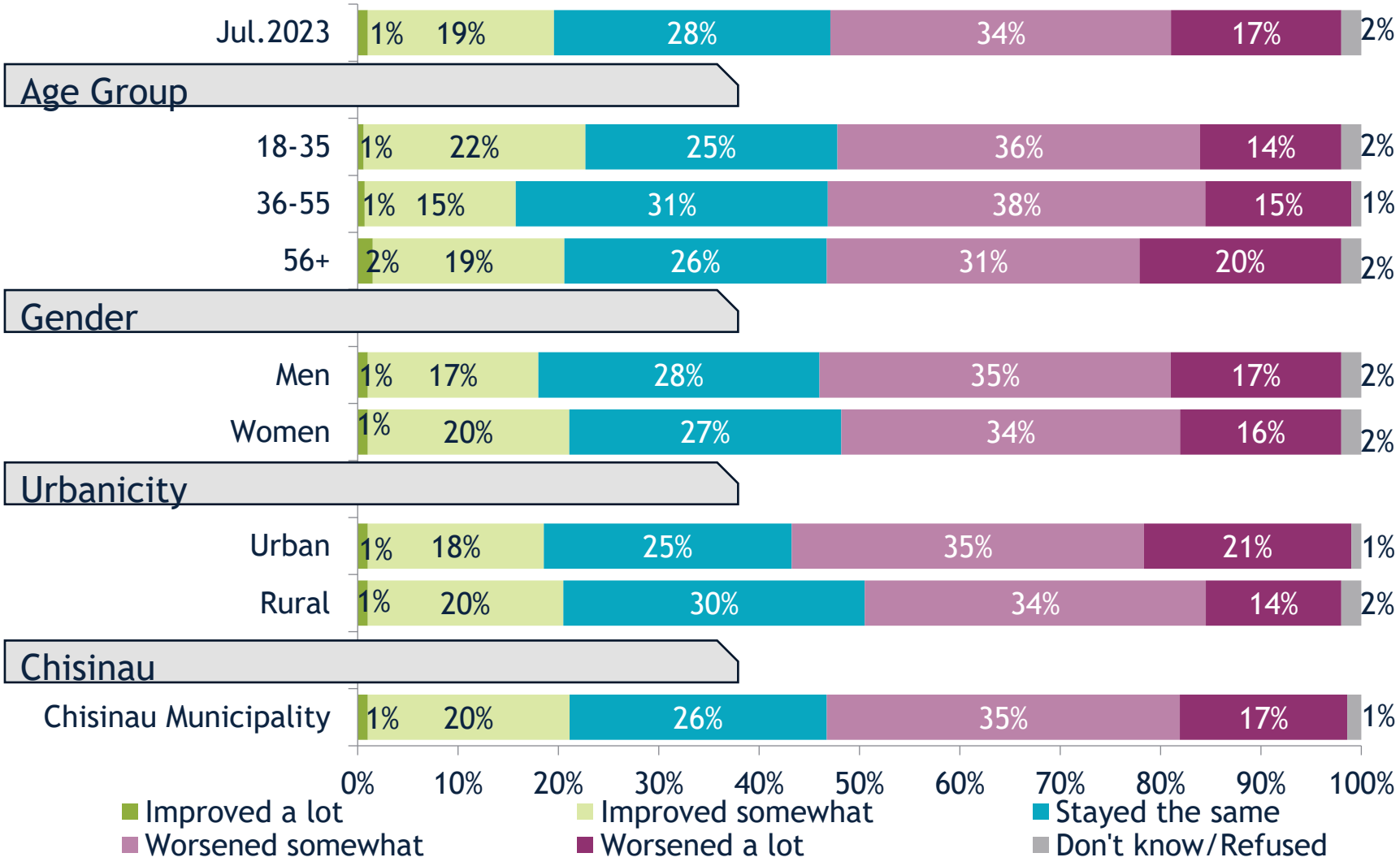
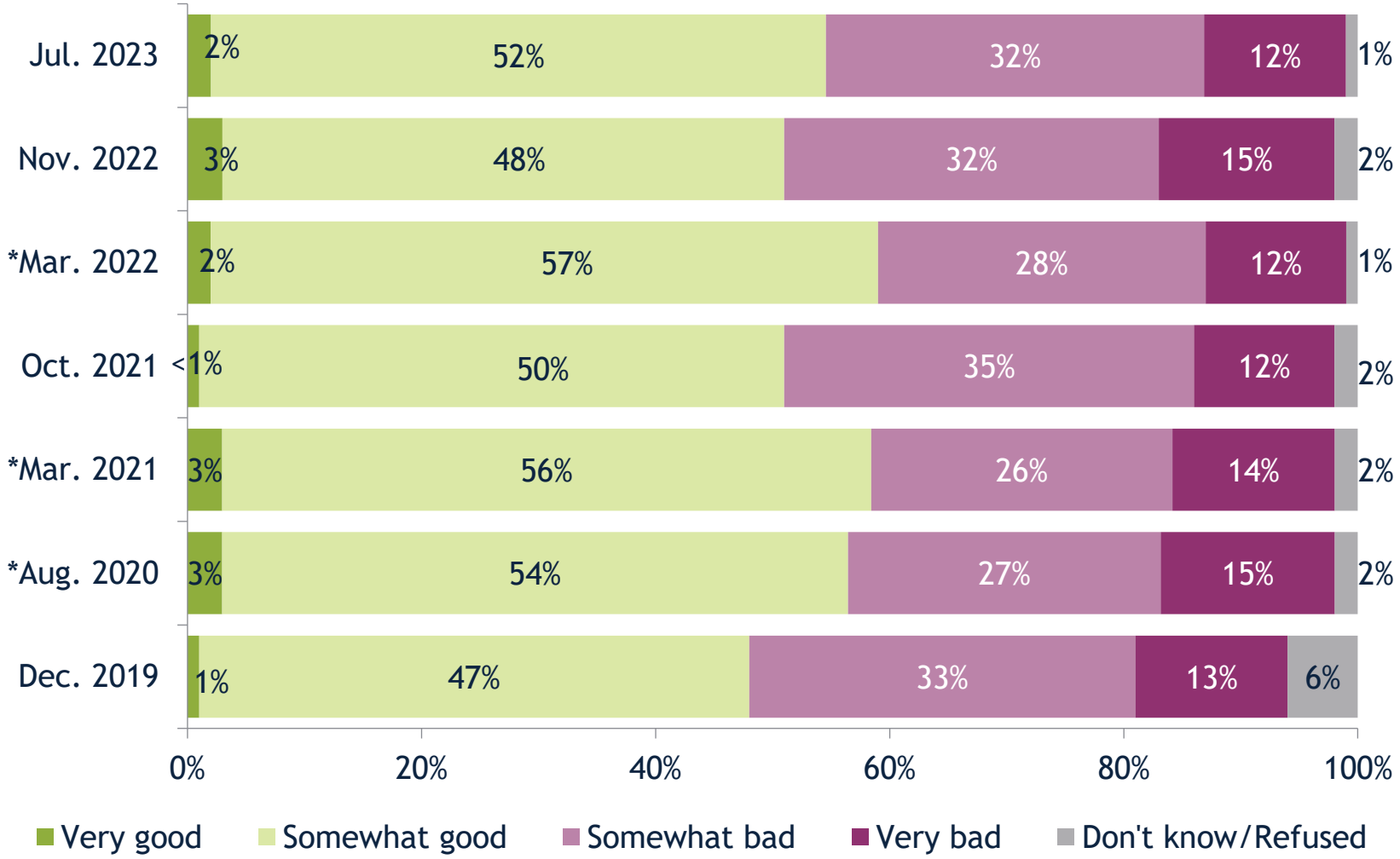
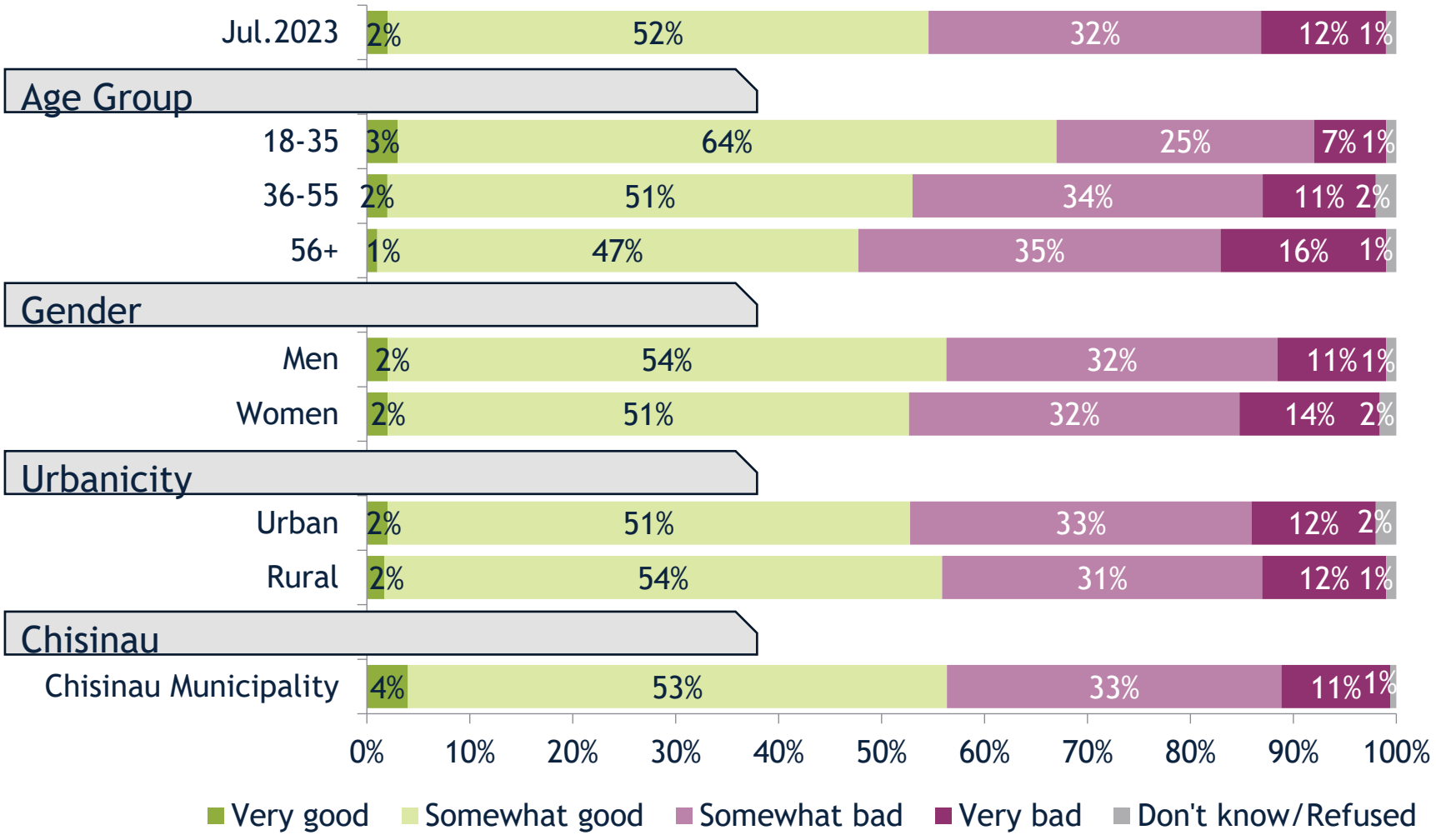


How would you describe the current economic situation of your household?

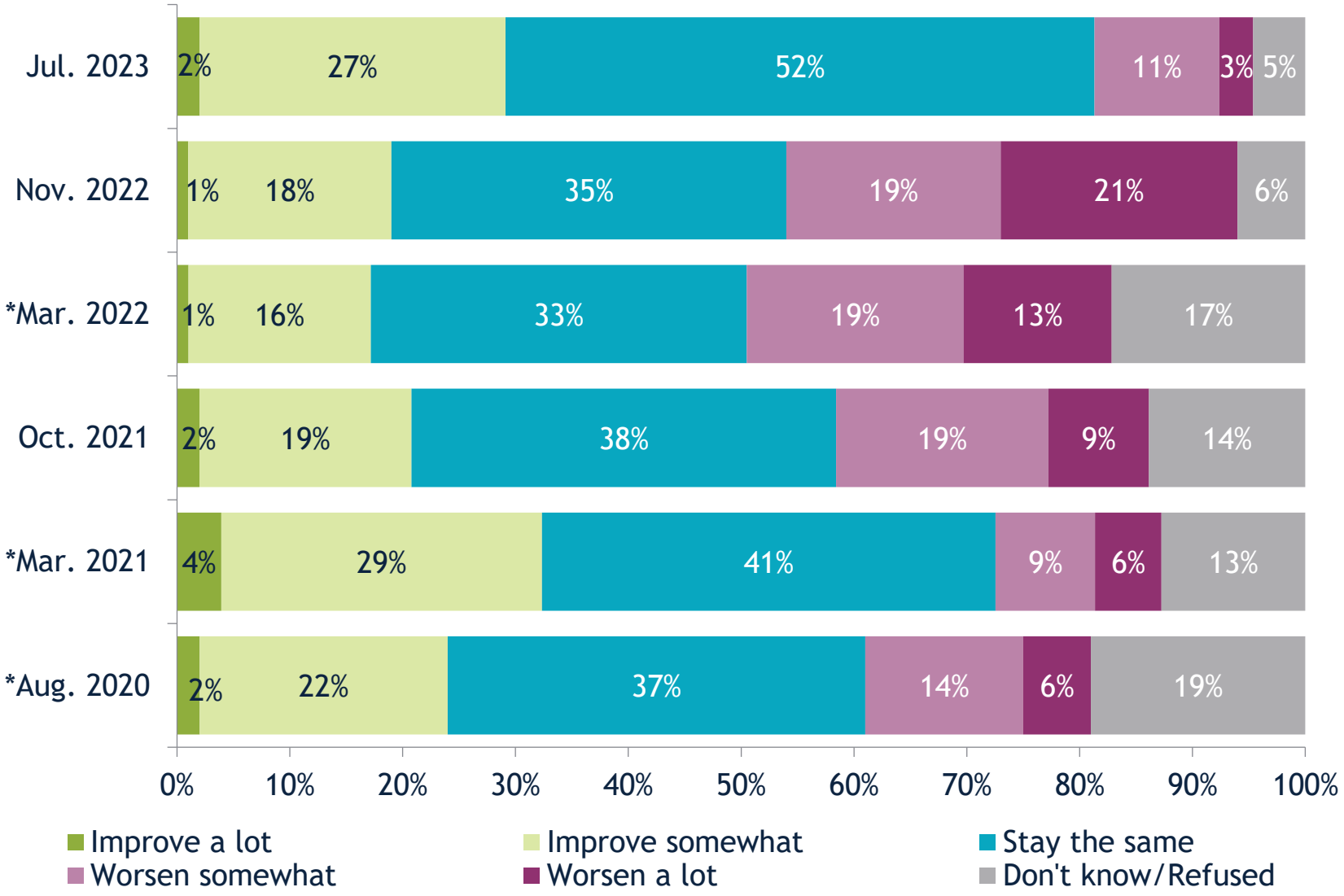


* Interviews for the August 2020, March 2021 and March 2022 surveys were done via computer-assisted phone interviews (CATI). All other polls were conducted through face-to-face interviews.

How would you describe the current economic situation of your household?



In the coming 12 months, how do you expect the economic situation of your household to change?



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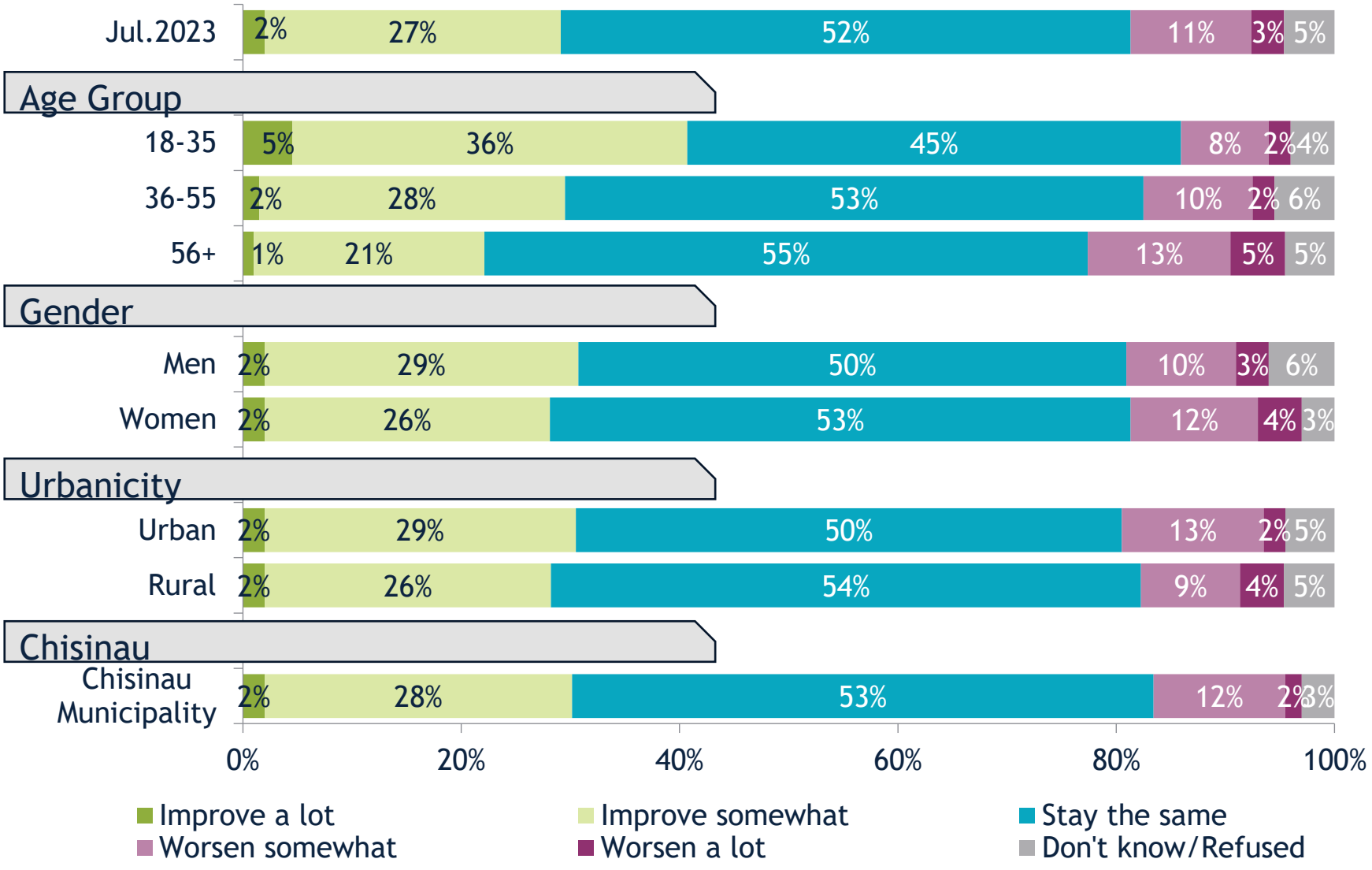
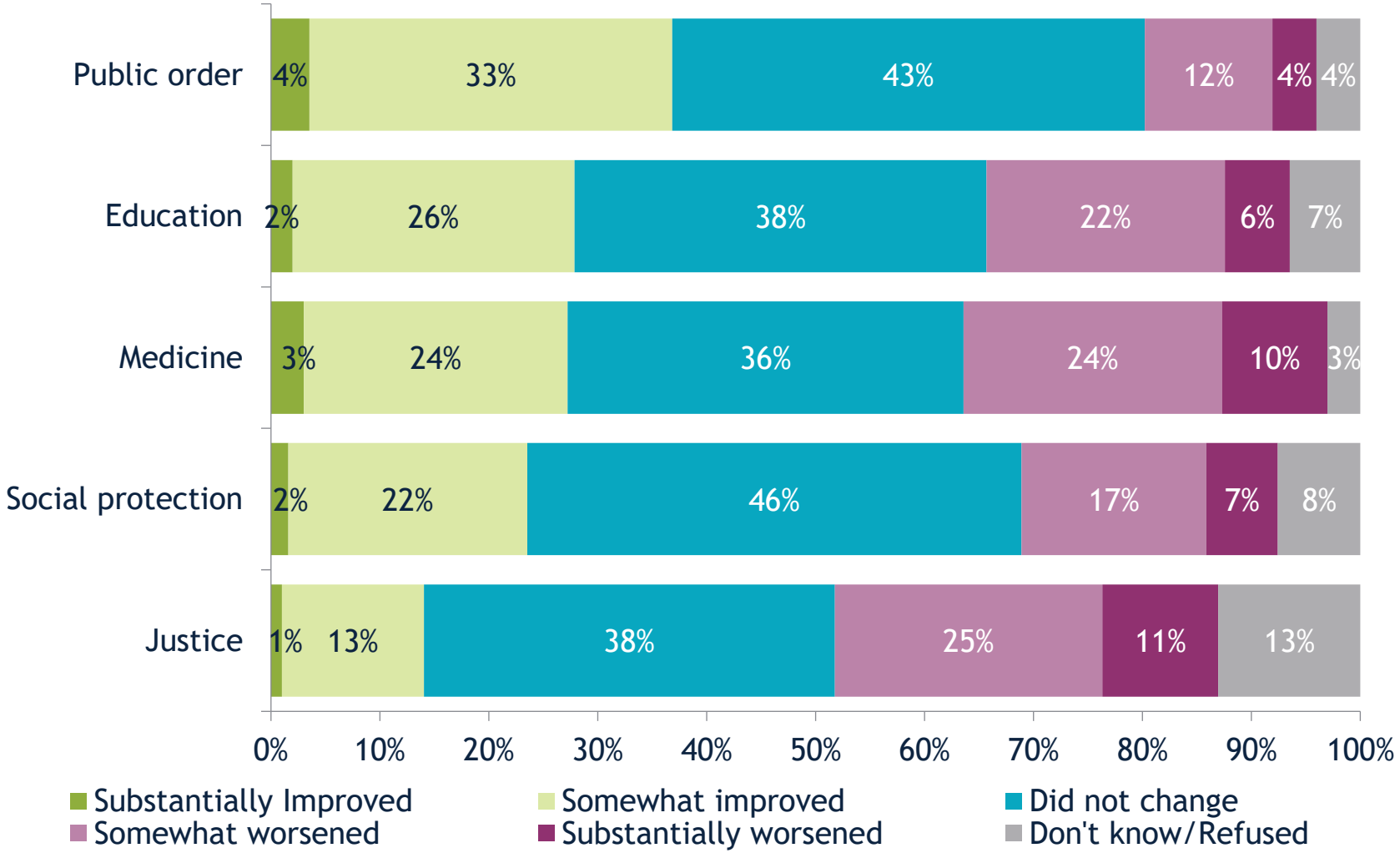


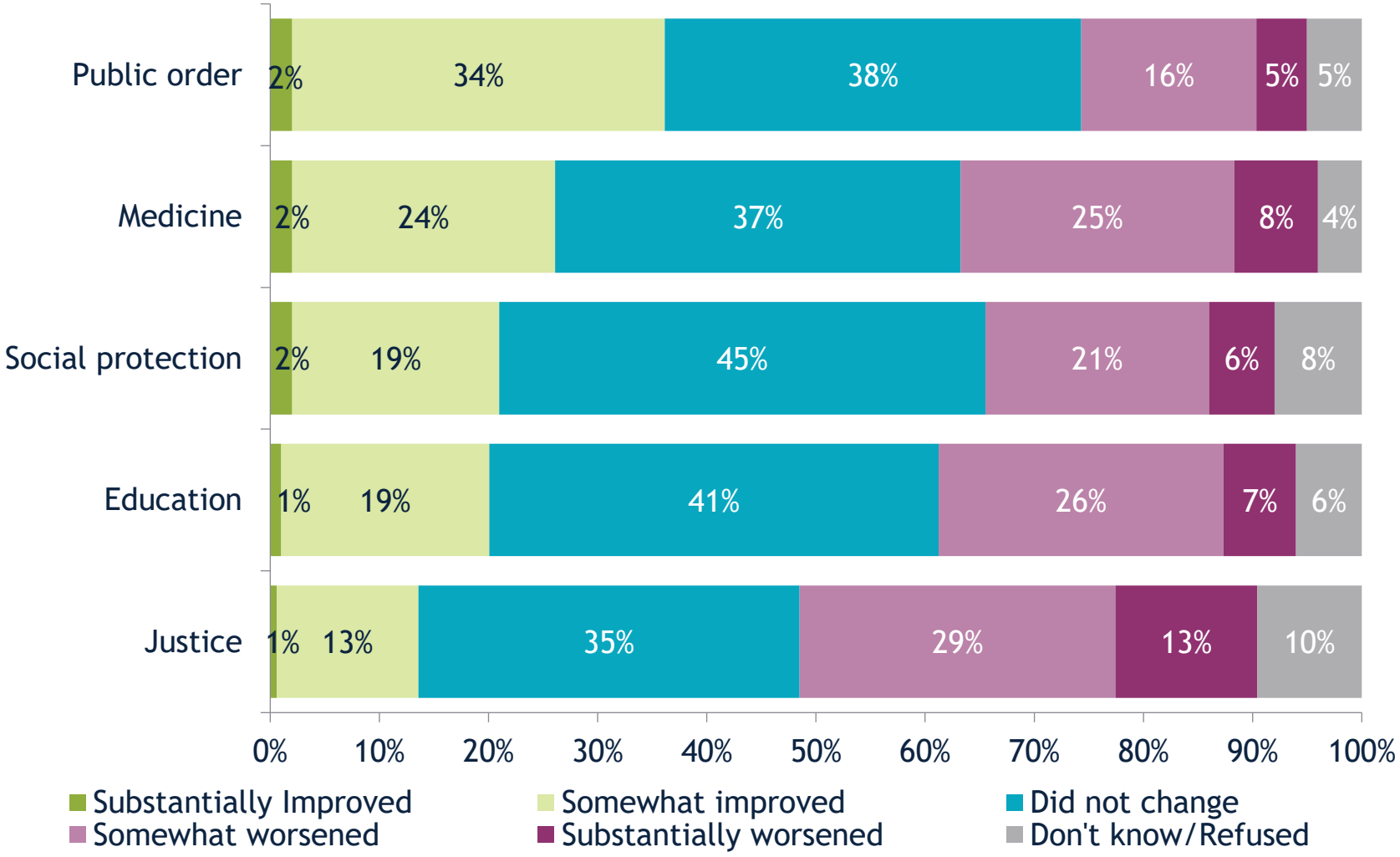
In the past 12 months, how has the situation in the following areas changed, if at all?

(Residents of Moldova)



In the past 12 months, how has the situation in the following areas changed, if at all?

(Residents of Chisinau Municipality)



Hypothetical Election Scenario

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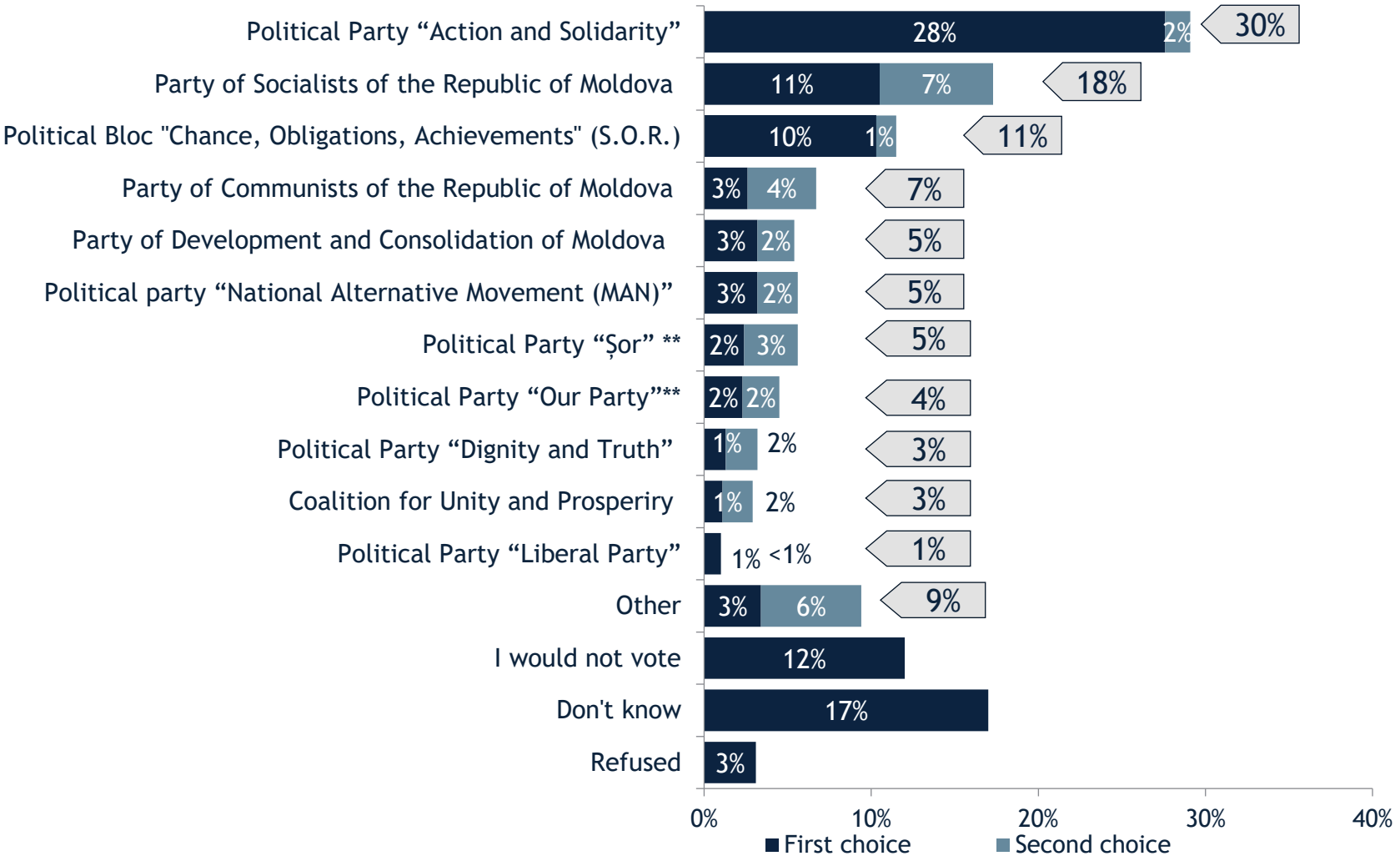
If parliamentary elections were held this coming Sunday, for which party, if any, would you vote?
If parliamentary elections were held this coming Sunday, and the party you mentioned is not on the list, for which party, if any, would you vote?

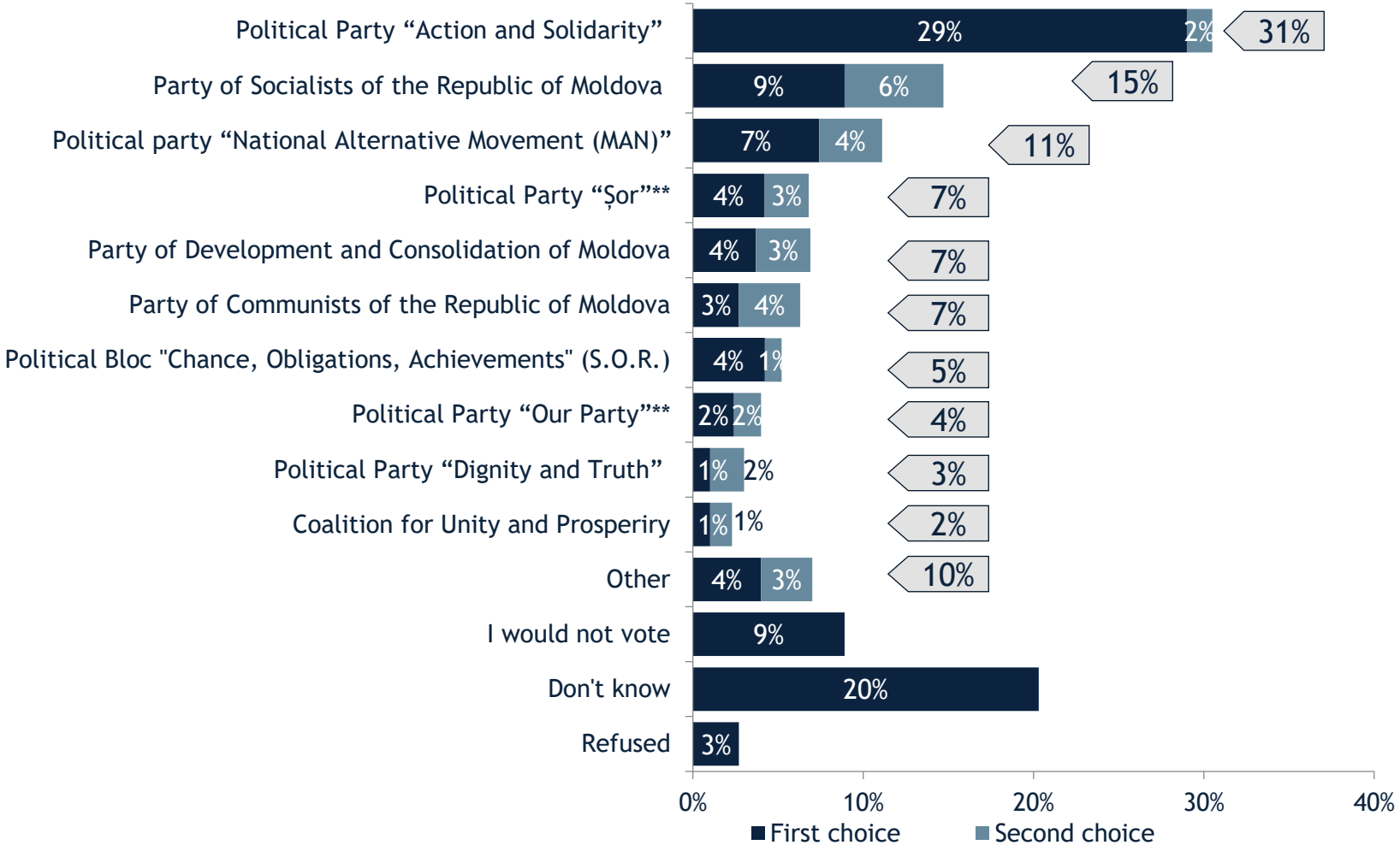
(Spontaneous response, residents of Moldova)



*Responses receiving <1% cumulatively are collapsed into *Other*.
** These parties are expected to join the Political Bloc "Chance, Obligations, Achievements"(S.O.R.)

If parliamentary elections were held this coming Sunday, for which party, if any, would you vote?
If parliamentary elections were held this coming Sunday, and the party you mentioned is not on the list, for which party, if any, would you vote?

(Spontaneous response, residents of Chisinau Municipality)



*Responses receiving <1% cumulatively are collapsed into *Other*.
** These parties now are expected to join the Political Bloc ”Chance, Obligations, Achievements”(S.O.R.)

Government

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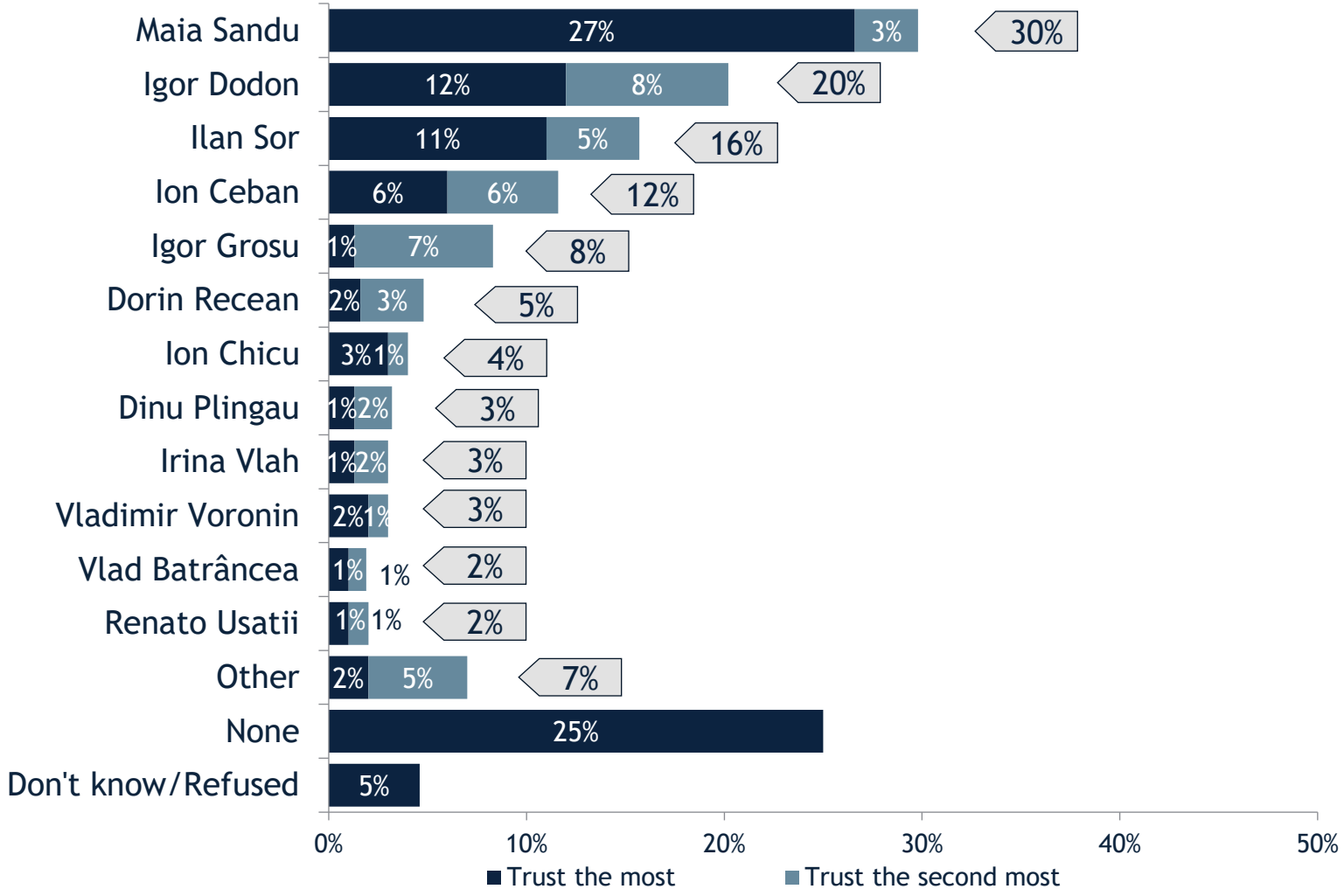
Which politician or public figure do you trust the most? And the second most?

(Spontaneous response, residents of Moldova)



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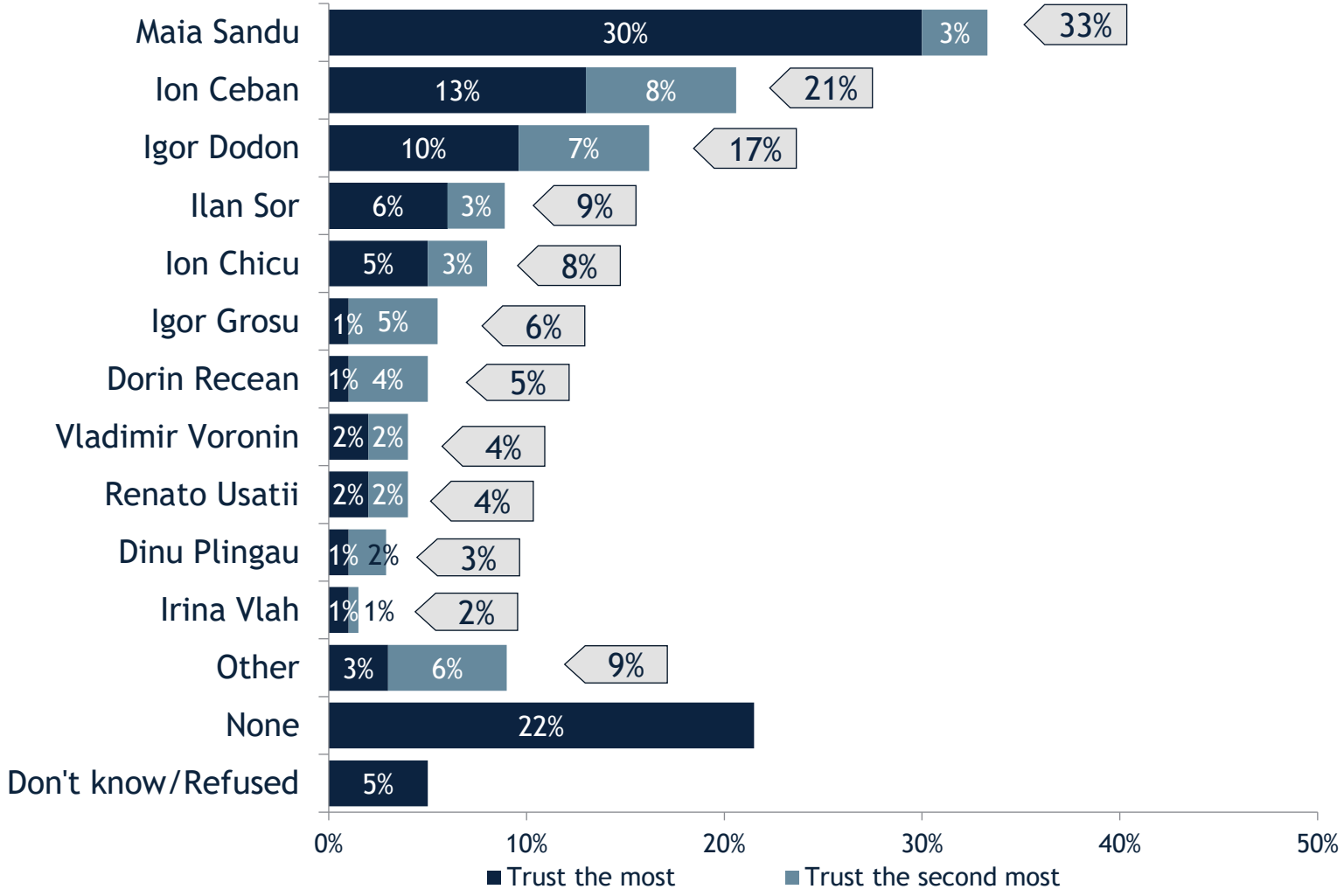
Which politician or public figure do you trust the most? And the second most?

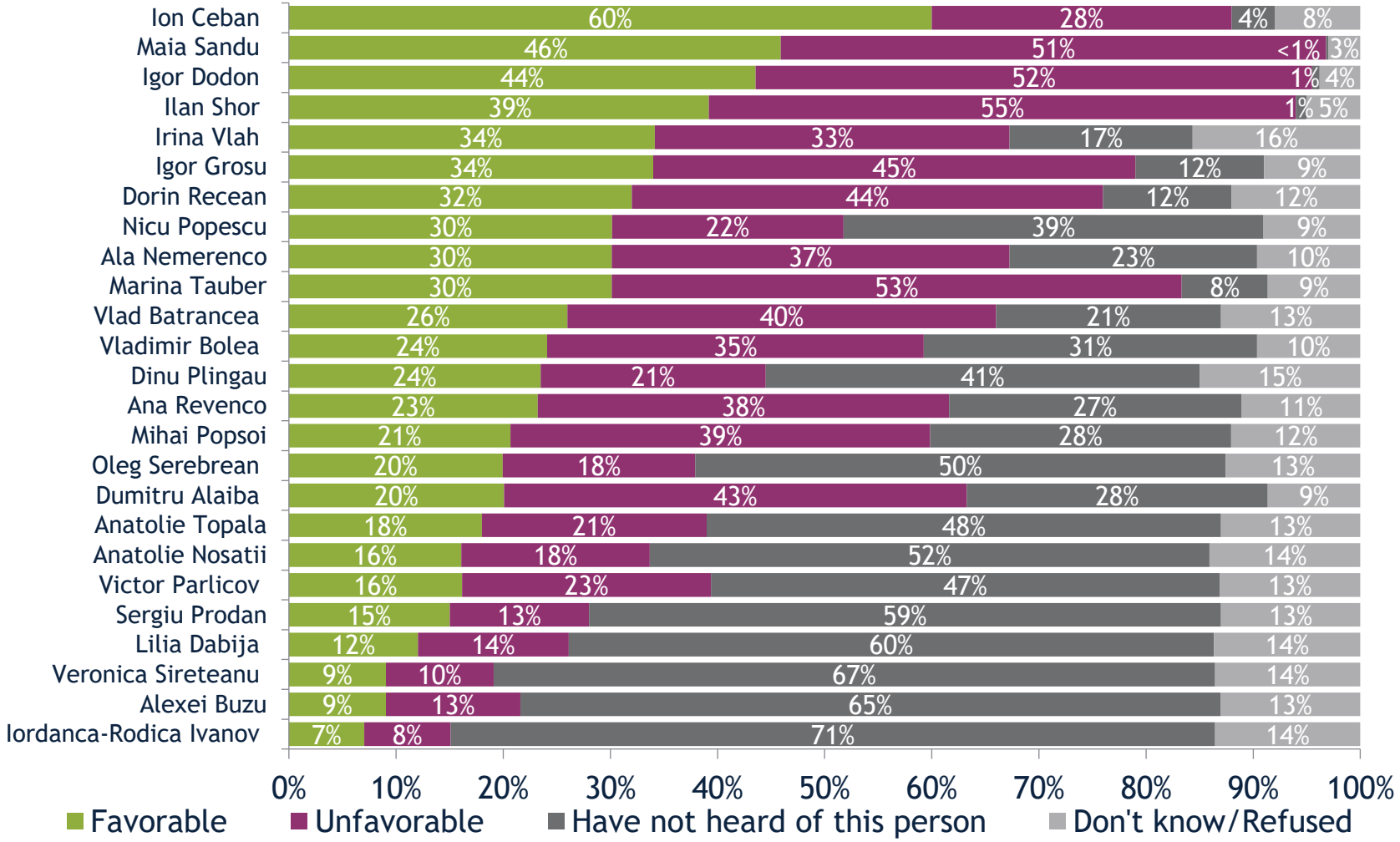
(Residents of Chisinau Municipality)



*Responses receiving <2% cumulatively are collapsed into *Other*.

I will read you a list of names. For each, please tell me if you have a highly favorable, somewhat favorable, somewhat unfavorable or highly unfavorable opinion of this individual. If you have not heard of this person, please tell me.

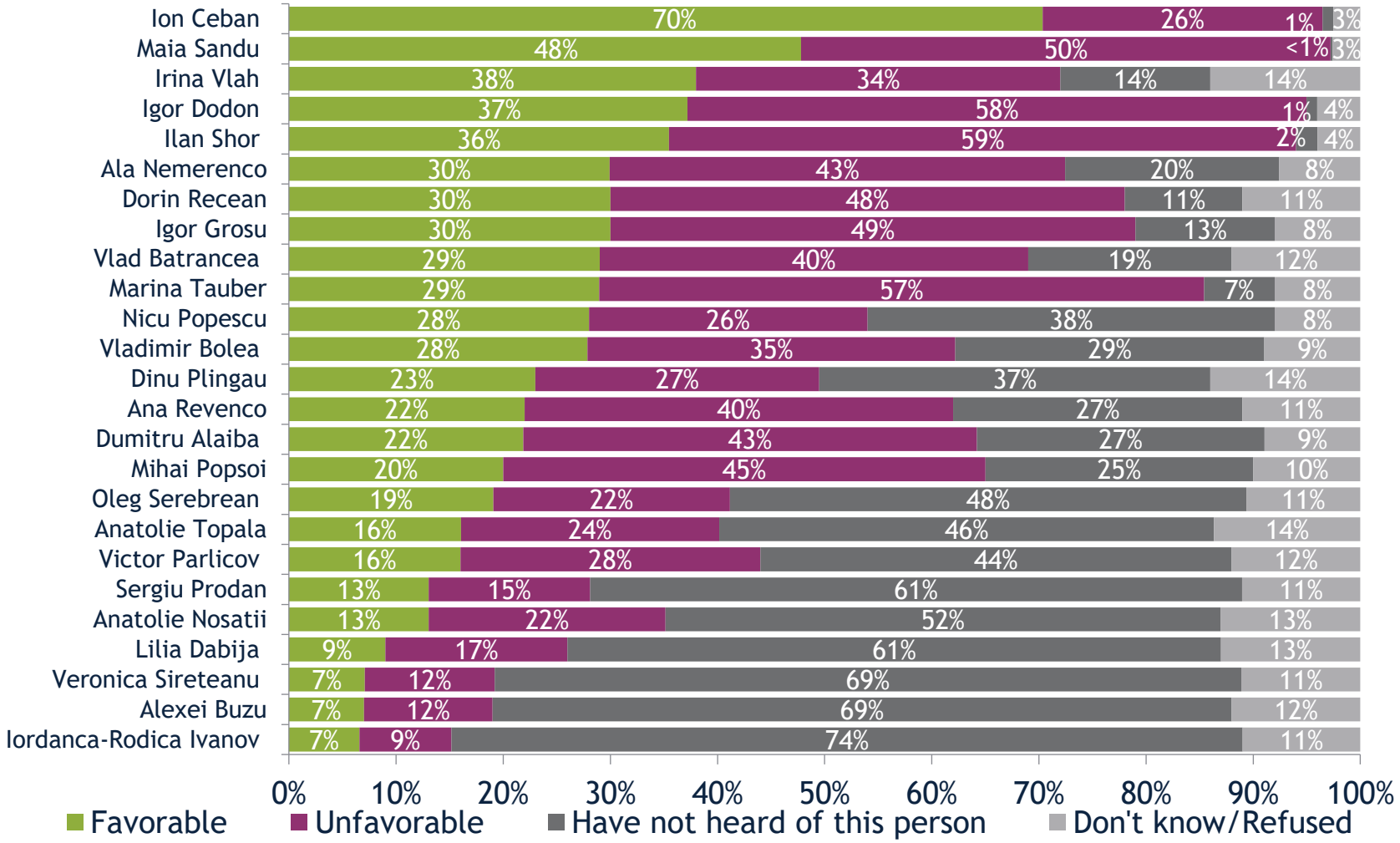
(Residents of Moldova)



*Responses “Very favorable” and “Somewhat favorable” combined under “Favorable.” Responses “Very unfavorable” and “Somewhat unfavorable” combined under “Unfavorable.”

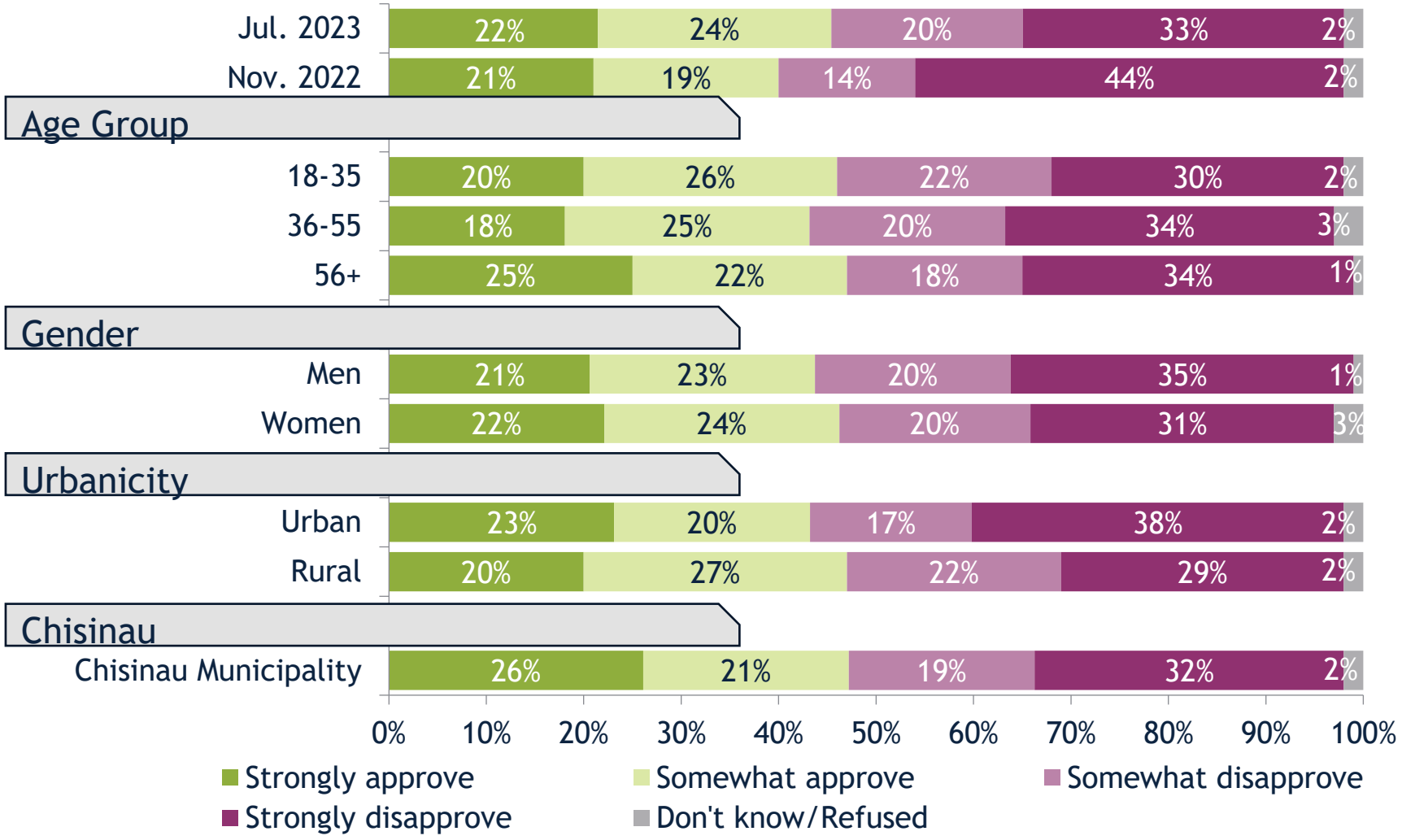
I will read you a list of names. For each, please tell me if you have a highly favorable, somewhat favorable, somewhat unfavorable or highly unfavorable opinion of this individual. If you have not heard of this person, please tell me.

(Residents of Chisinau Municipality)

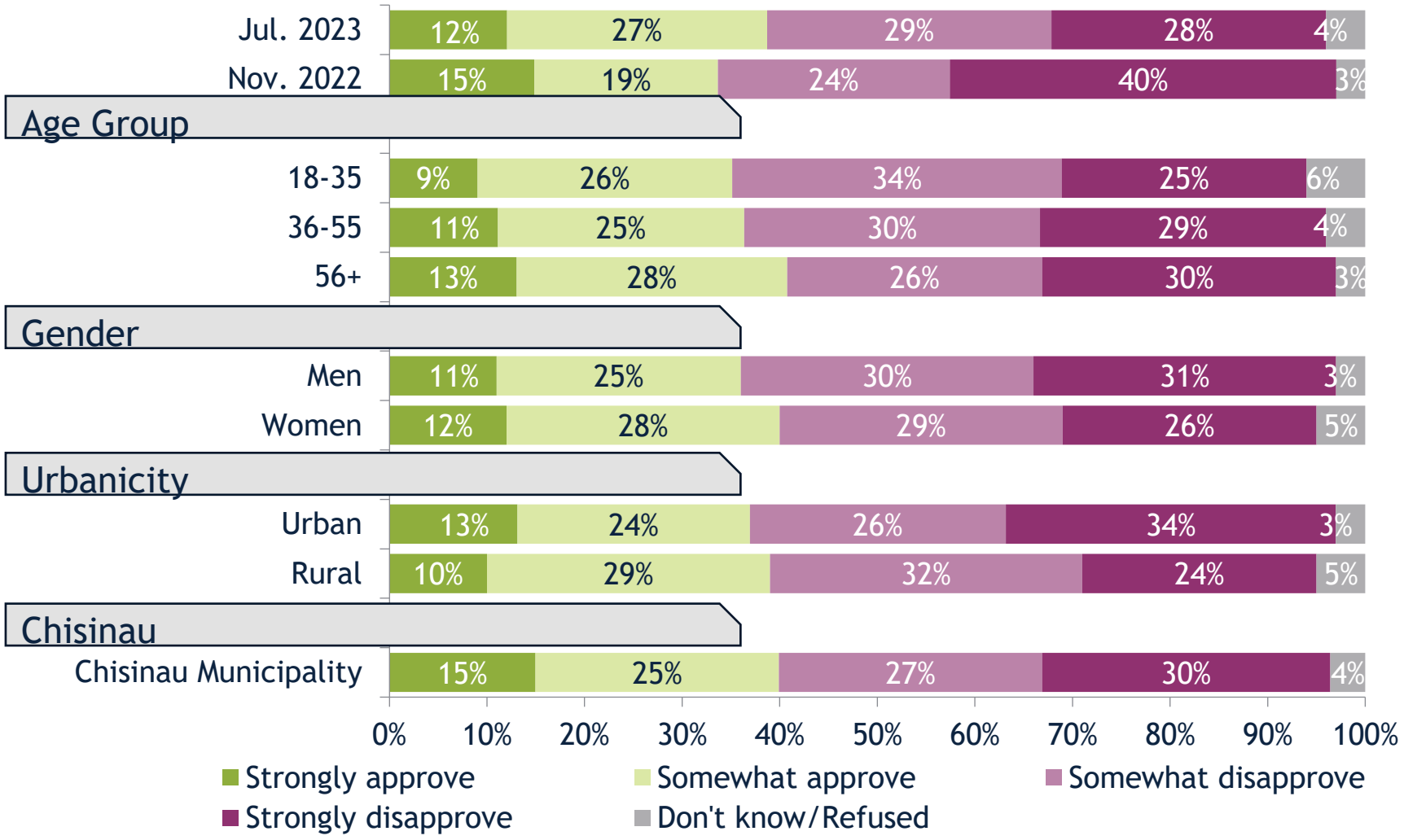


*Responses “Very favorable” and “Somewhat favorable” combined under “Favorable.” Responses “Very unfavorable” and “Somewhat unfavorable” combined under “Unfavorable.”

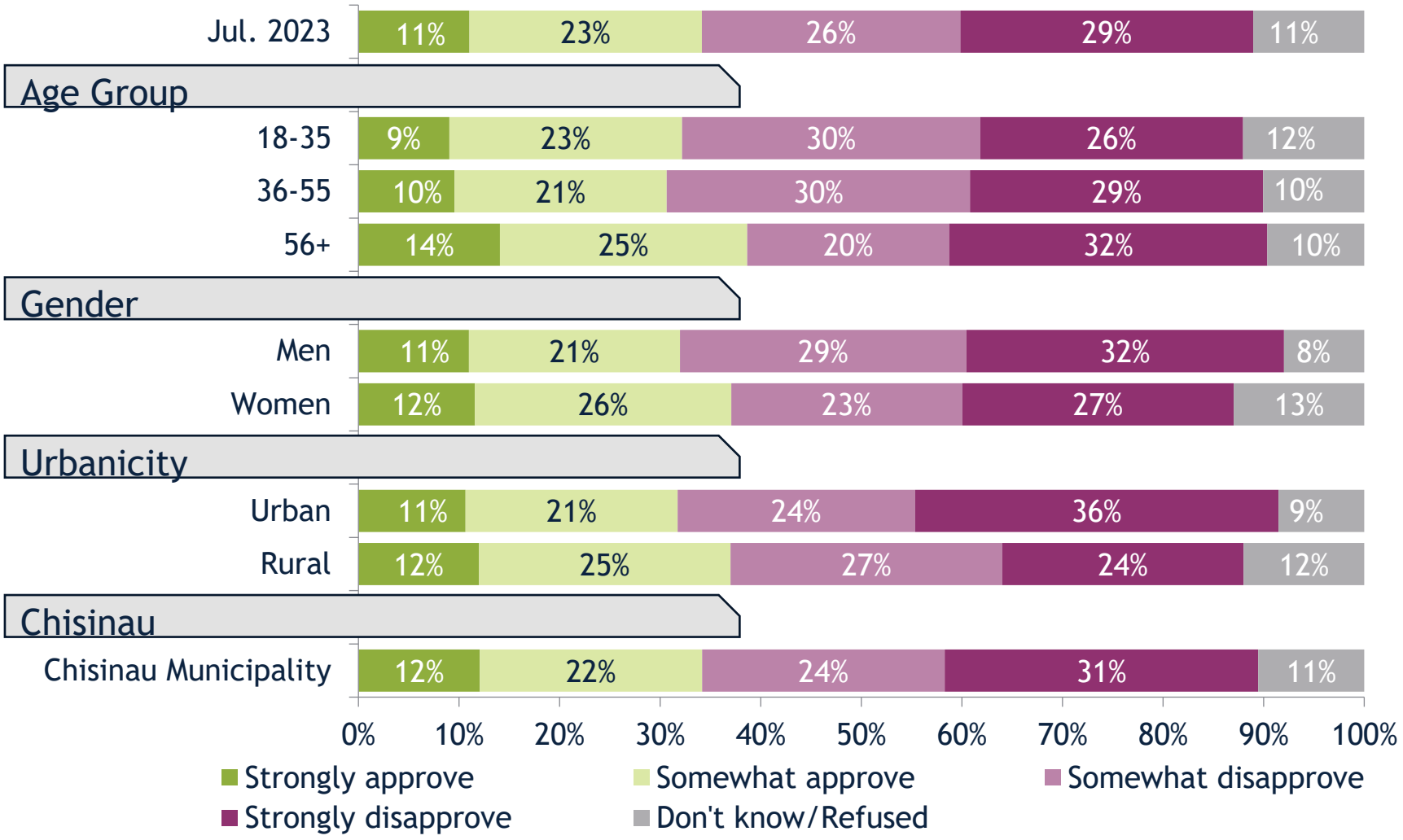
Do you approve or disapprove of the activities of the President of Moldova, Maia Sandu?



Do you approve or disapprove of the activities of the Government of Moldova?

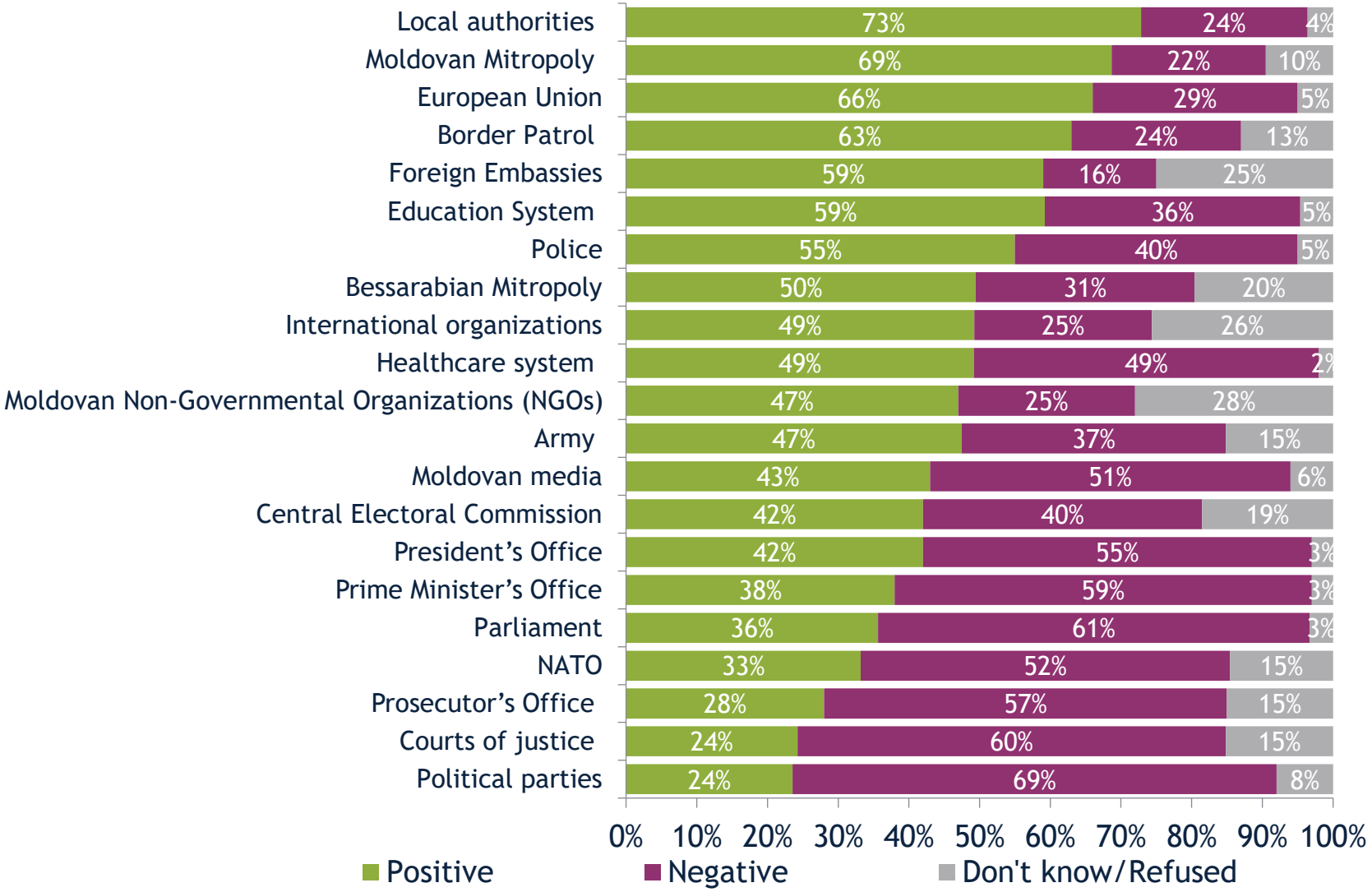


Do you approve or disapprove of the activities of the Government since Prime Minister Dorin Recean took office in February 2023?



What is your opinion of each of the following institutions?

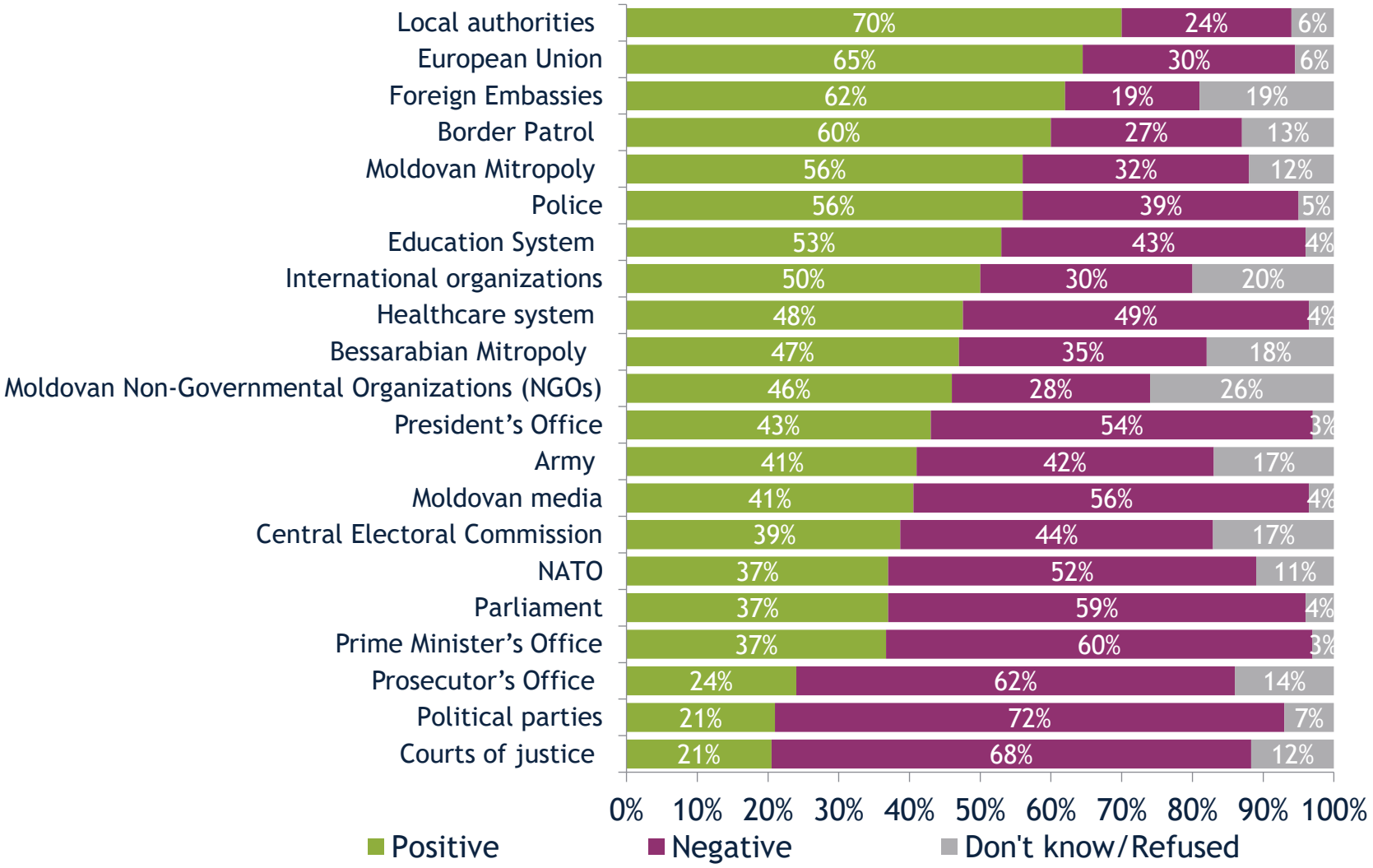
(Residents of Moldova)



*Responses "Very positive" and "Somewhat positive" combined under "Positive." Responses "Very negative" and "Somewhat negative" combined under "Negative."

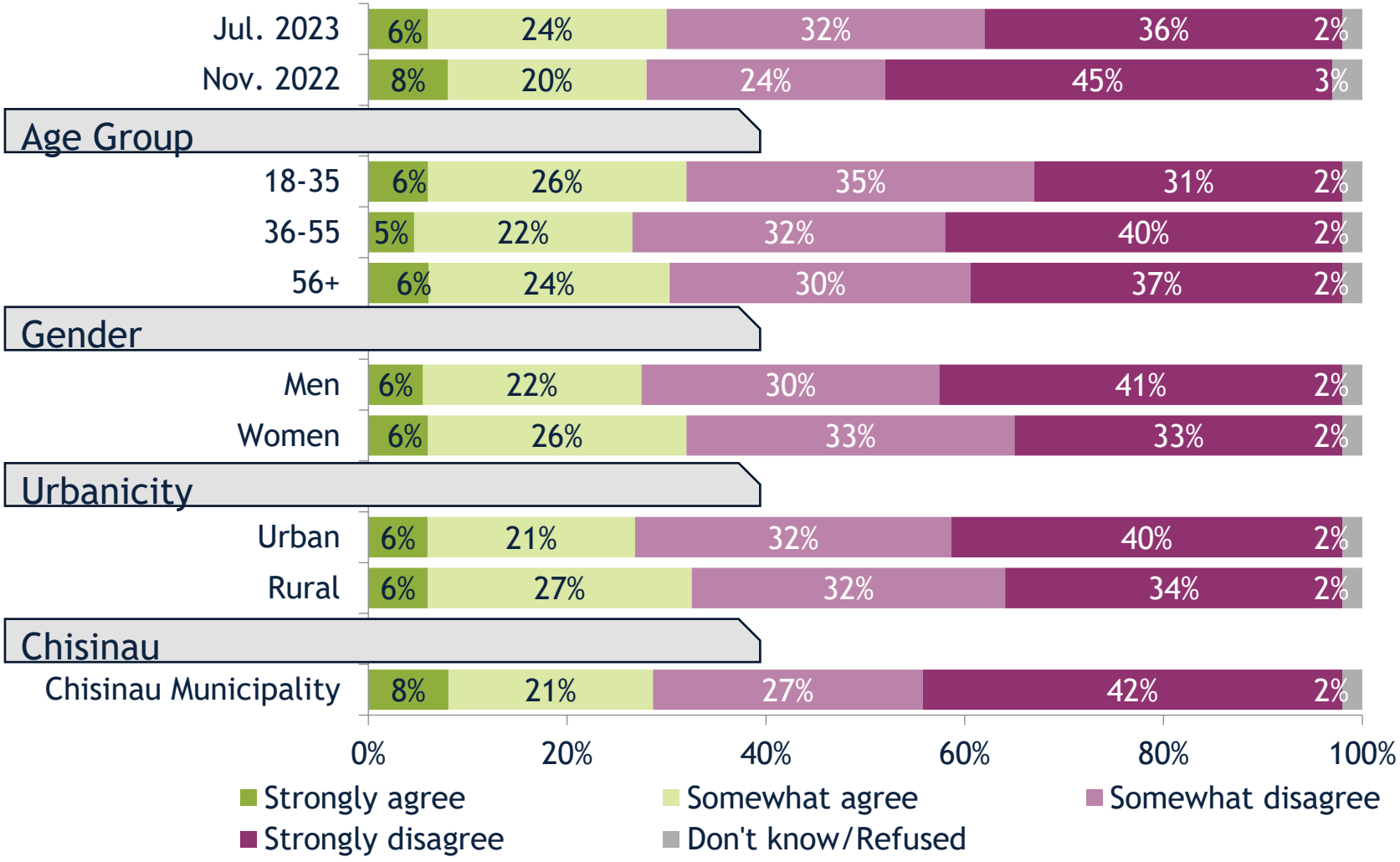
What is your opinion of each of the following institutions?

(Residents of Chisinau Municipality)

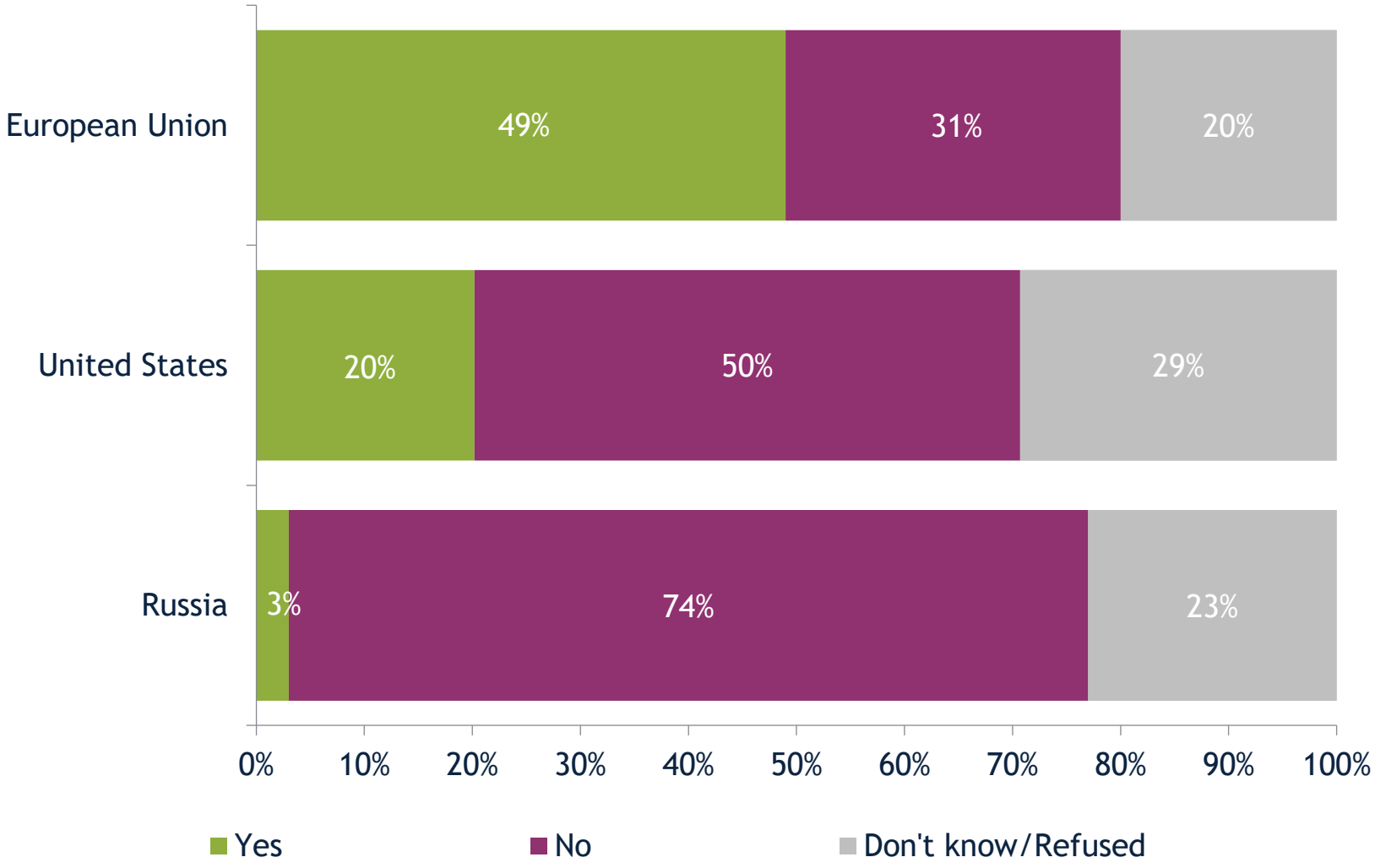


*Responses "Very positive" and "Somewhat positive" combined under "Positive." Responses "Very negative" and "Somewhat negative" combined under "Negative."

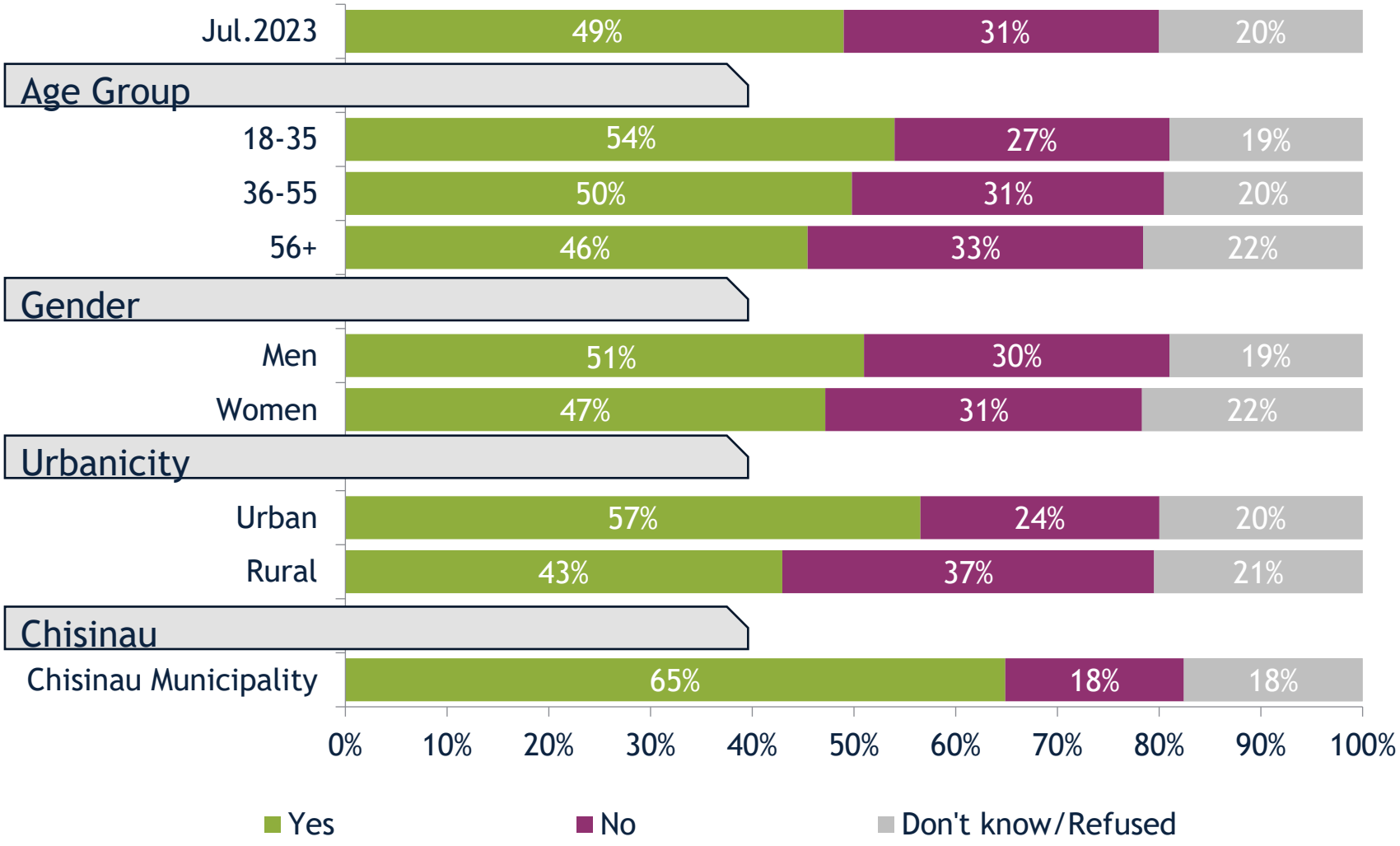
Do you agree or disagree with the following statement? "The government is taking enough actions to manage the rising cost of energy in Moldova."



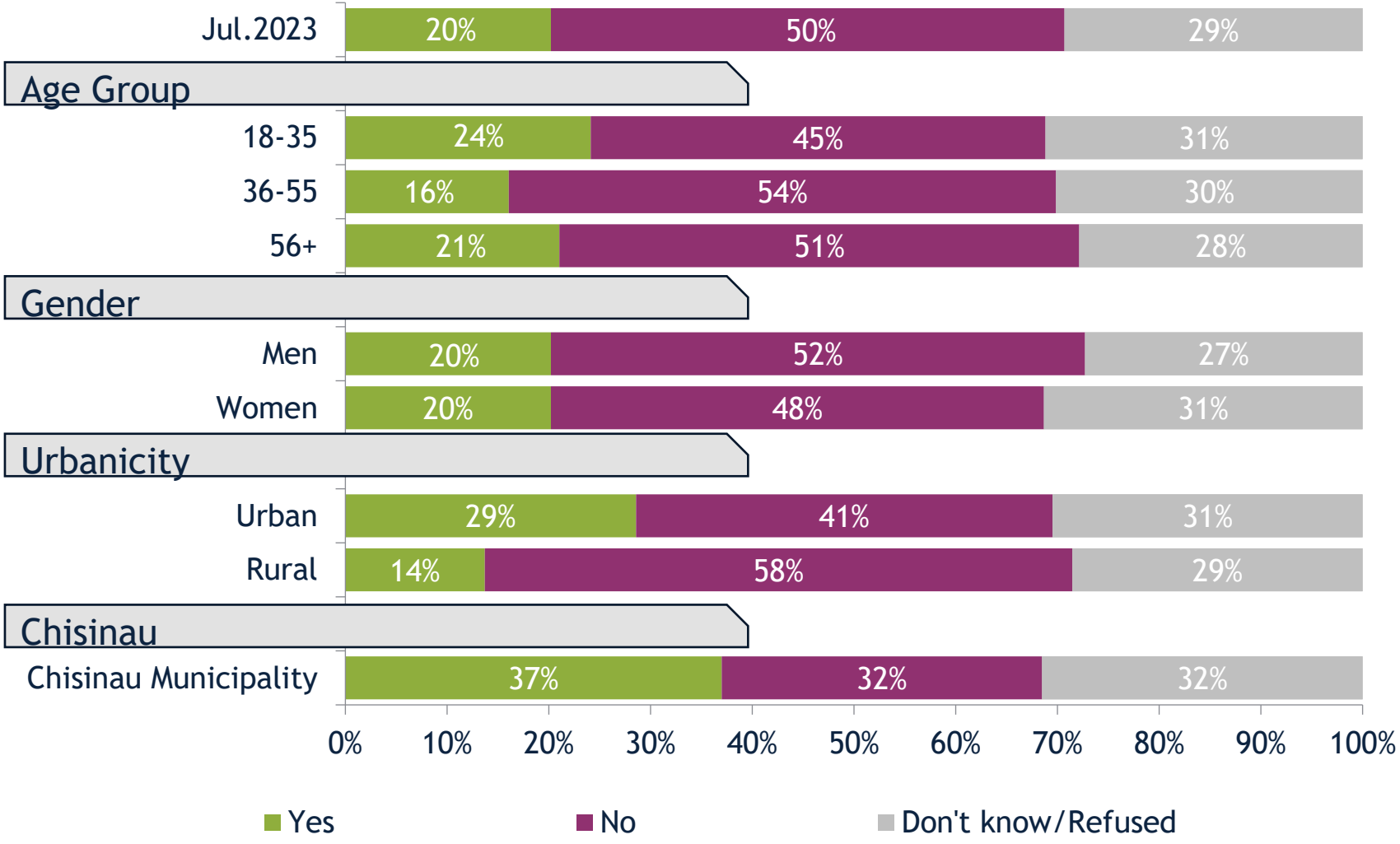
In the past 12 months, has the [...] made any investments in your city or village?



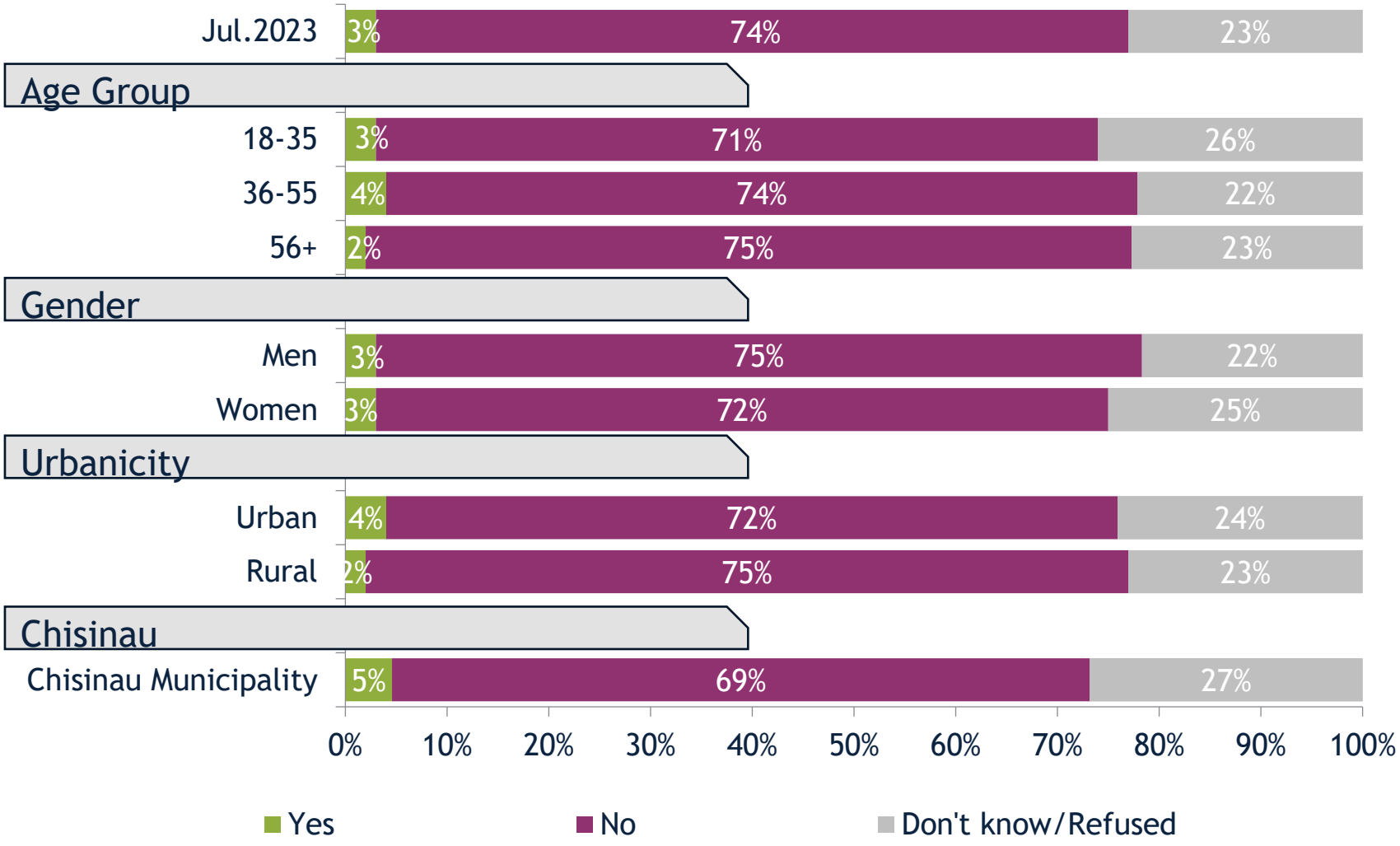
In the past 12 months, has the European Union made any investments in your city or village?



In the past 12 months, has the US made any investments in your city or village?



In the past 12 months, has Russia made any investments in your city or village?



Local Elections

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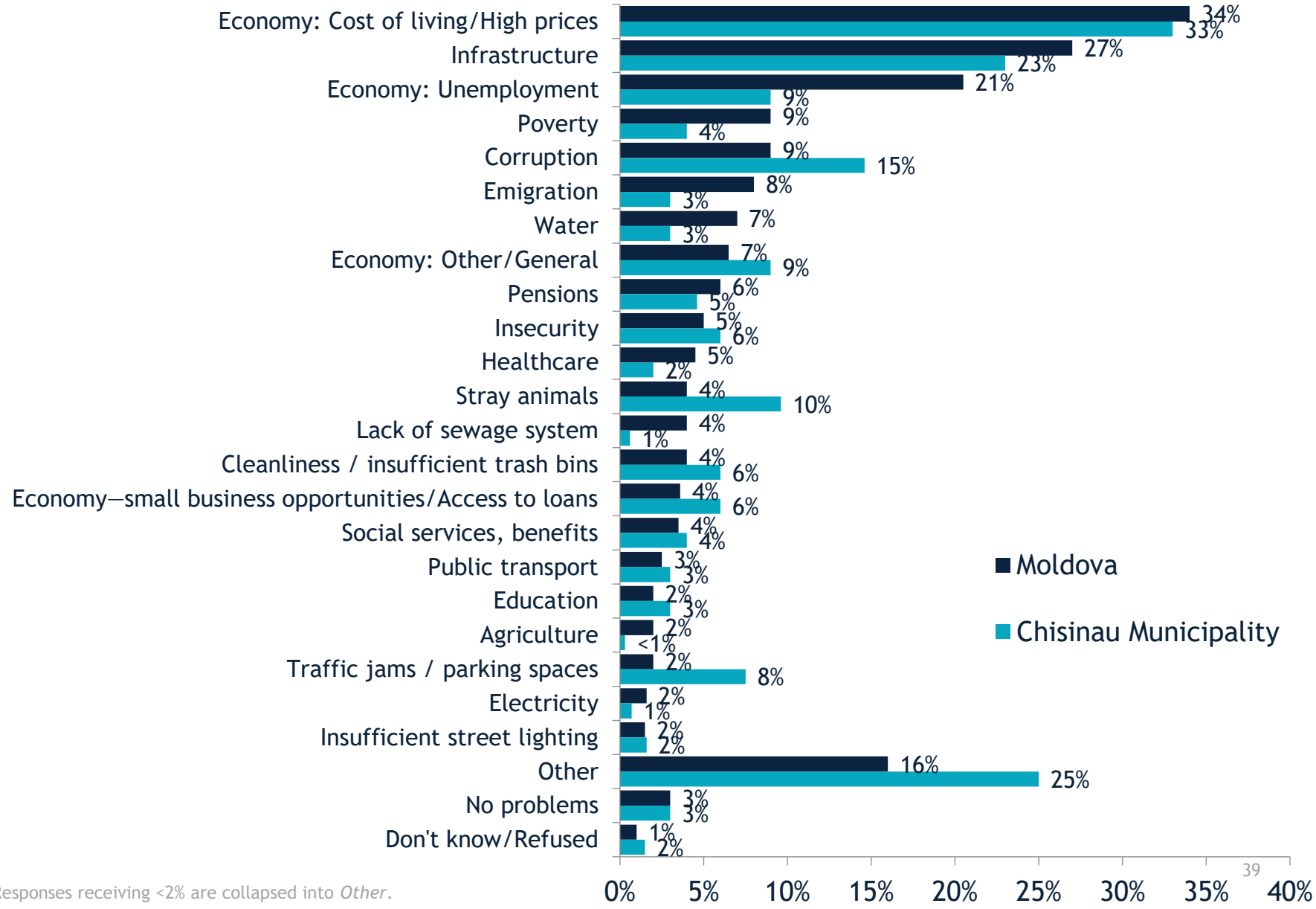
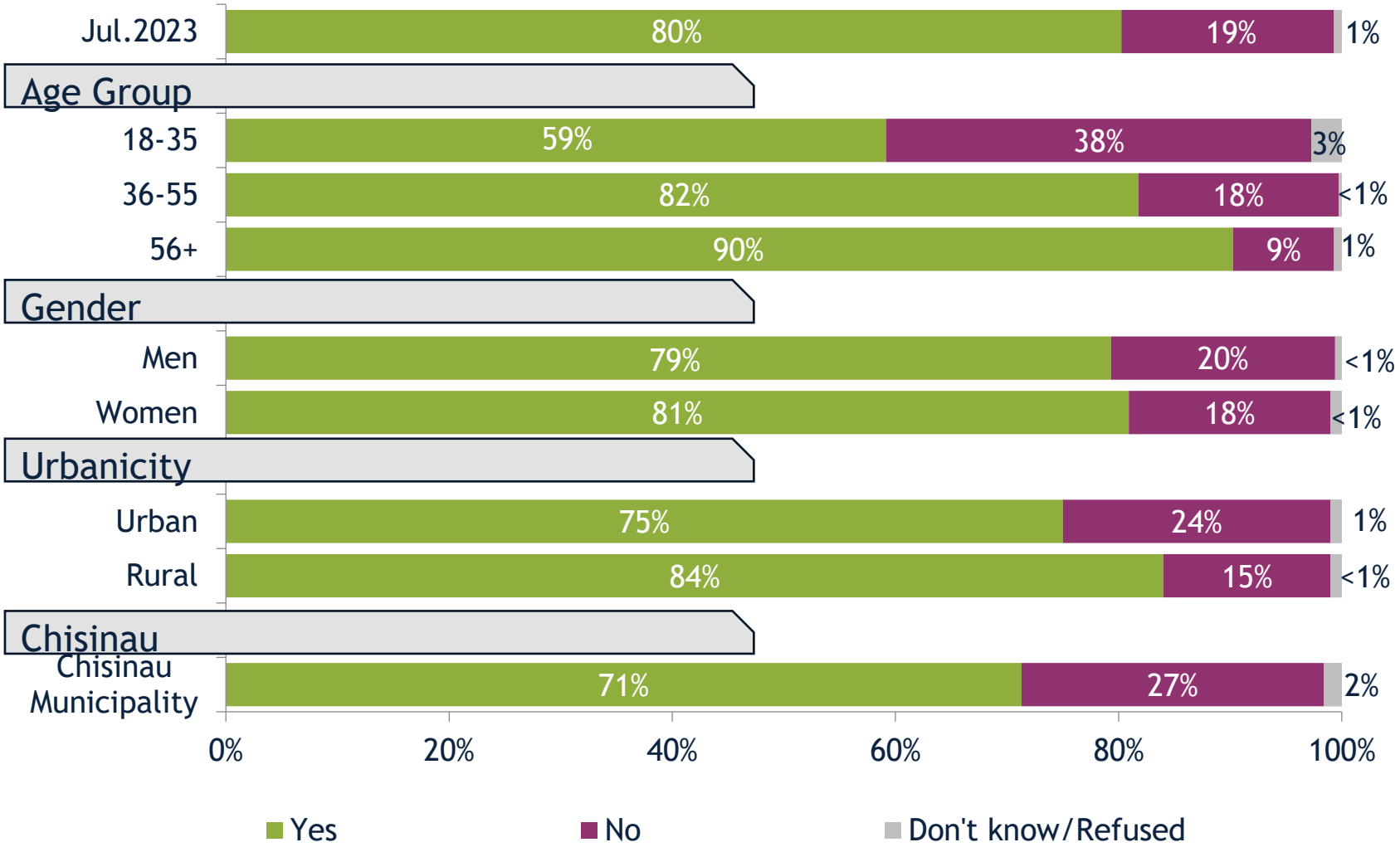
What is the biggest problem facing your town/village today?

(Spontaneous response; two responses permitted; total mentions displayed)



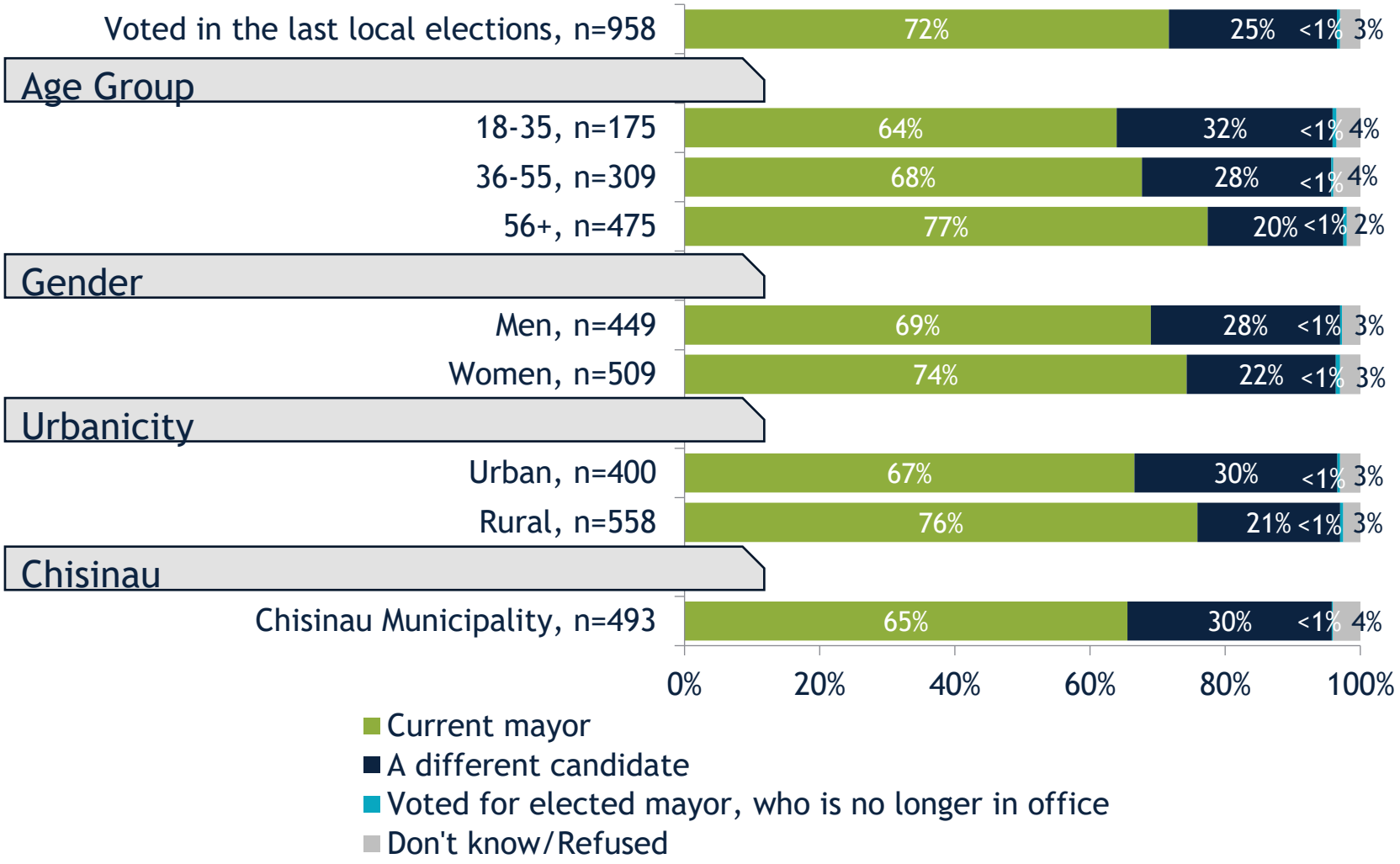
*Responses receiving <2% are collapsed into *Other*.

Did you vote in the last local elections in October 2019?

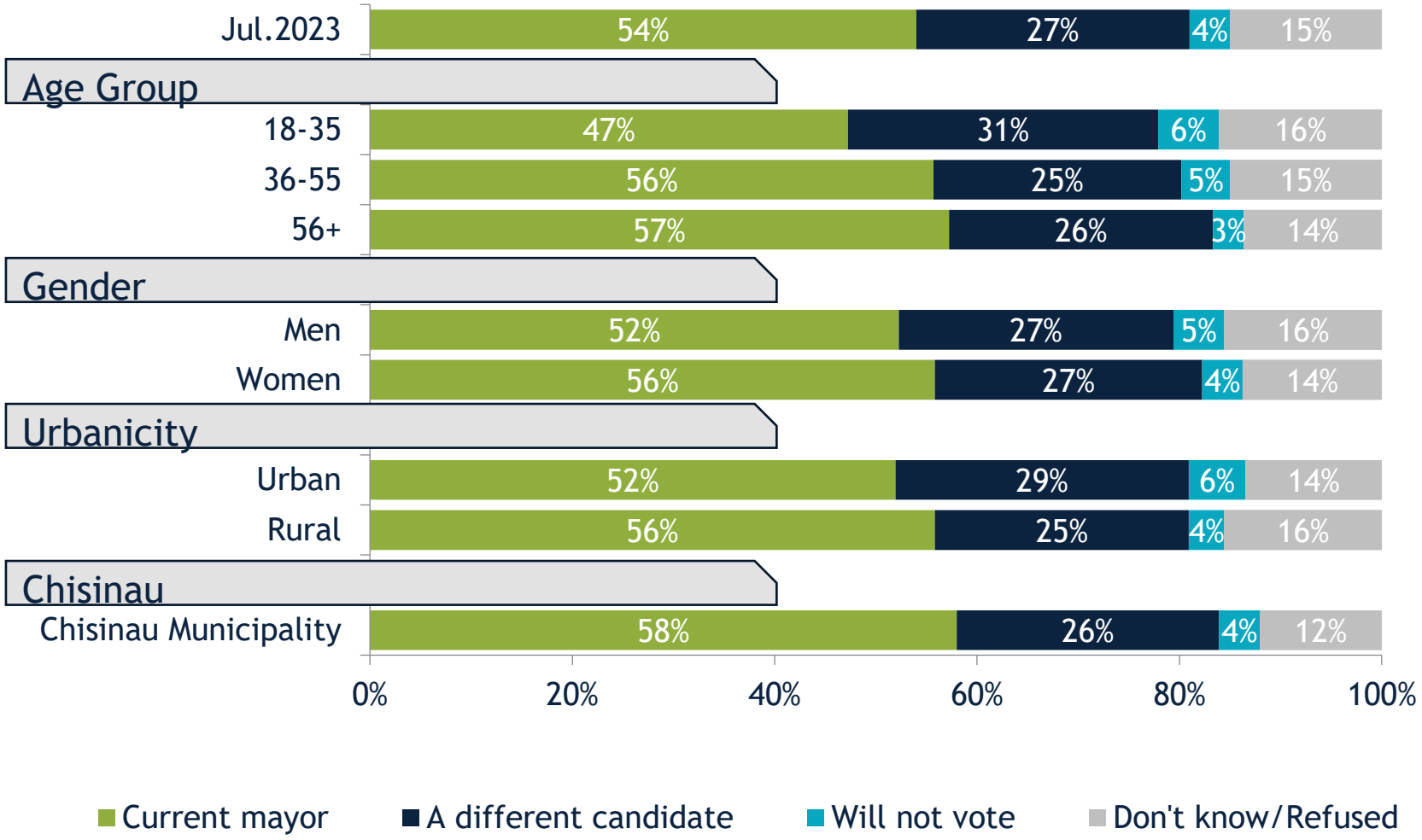


Did you vote for your currently elected mayor or a different candidate in the last local elections?

(Among respondents who voted in the last local elections in October 2019)

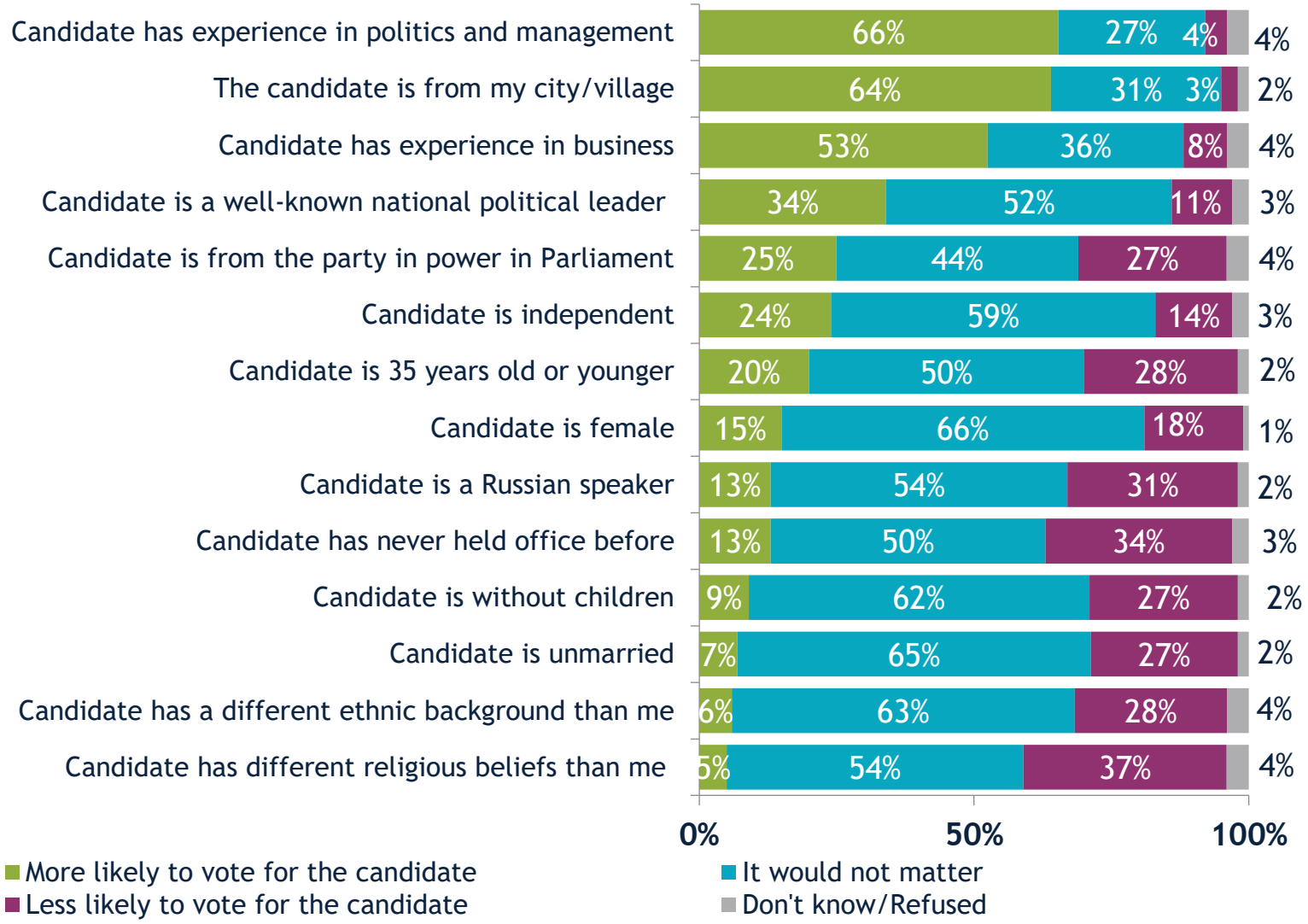


In the upcoming local elections, would you vote for your current mayor or a different candidate?



I will read you a list of several attributes a candidate running for office may have. For each attribute, please tell me if it would make you more likely or less likely to vote for the candidate, or if it would not matter?

(Residents of Moldova)



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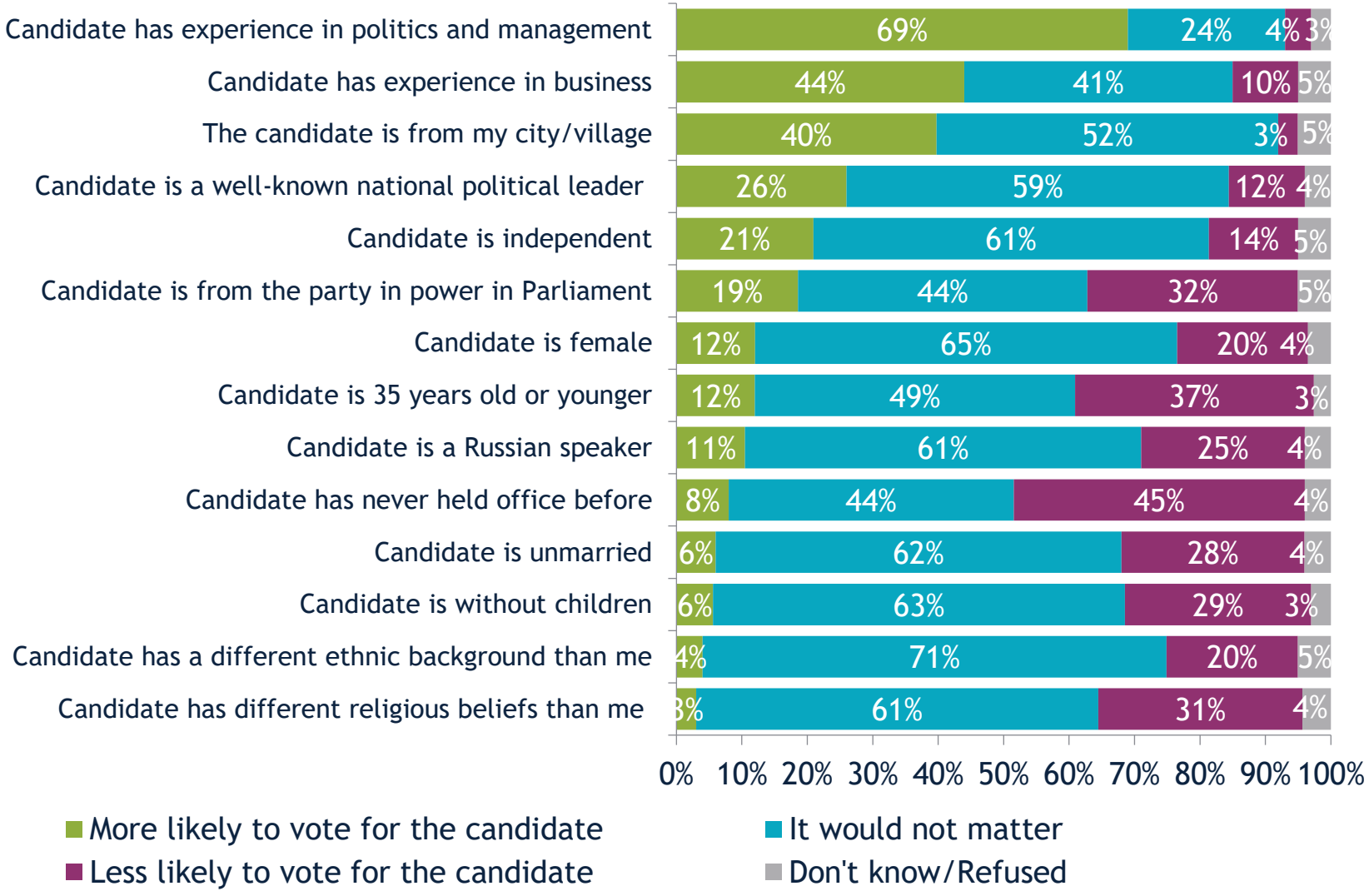
(Residents of Chisinau Municipality)



Chisinau Municipality

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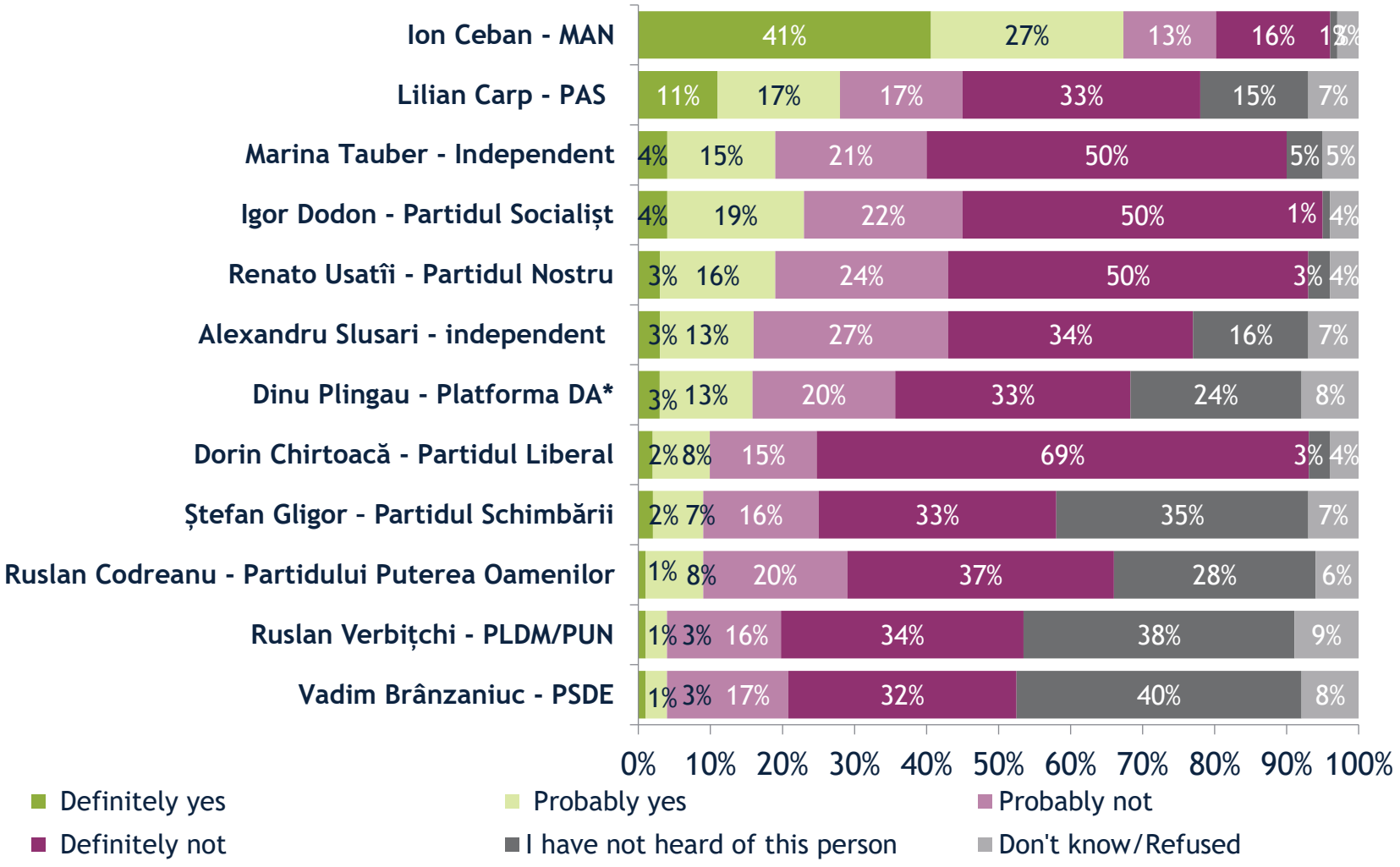
Would you consider voting for any of the following candidates to become mayor of Chisinau?

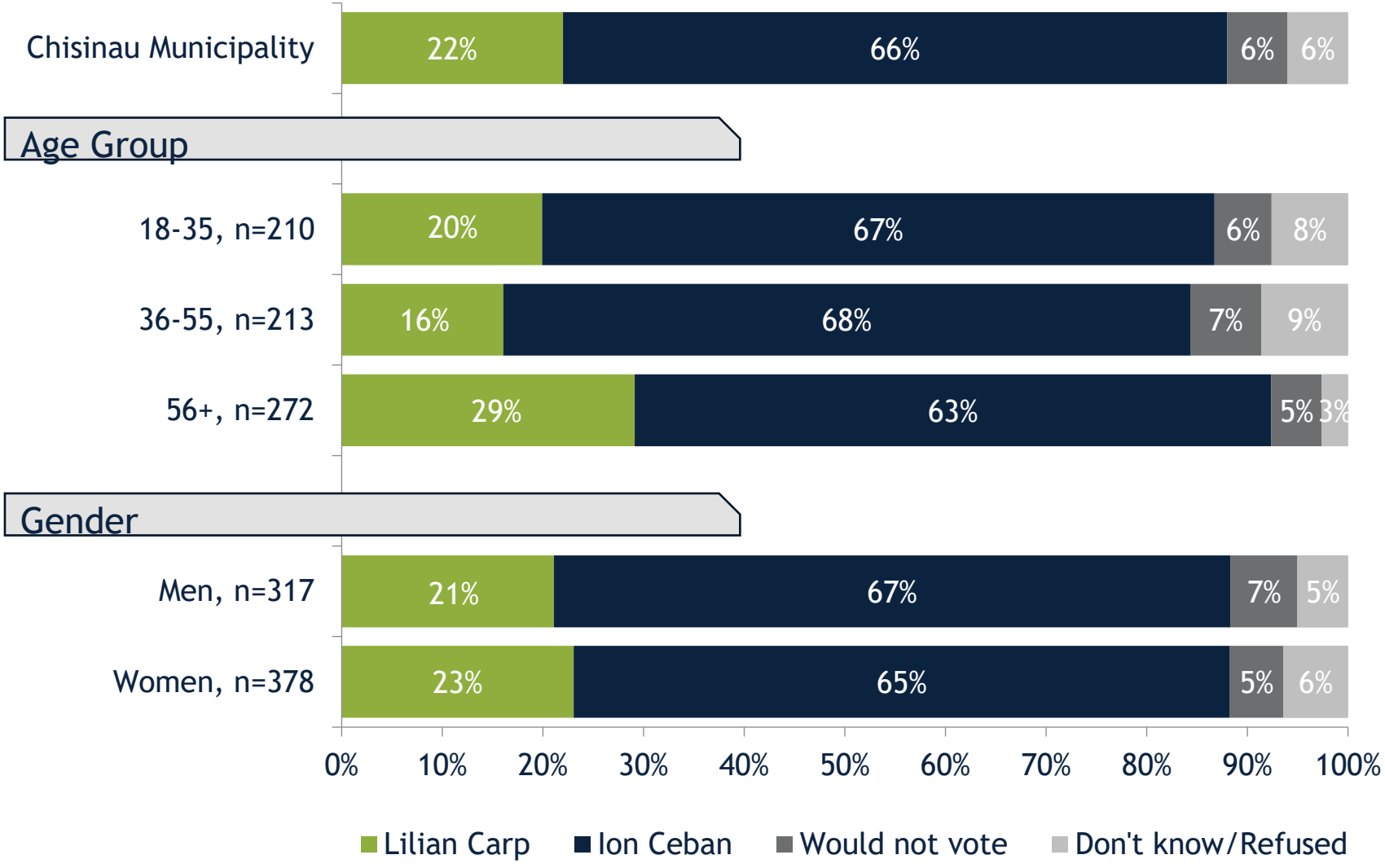
(Residents of Chisinau Municipality)



*On July 3, 2023, Victor Chironda was announced as candidate for Platforma DA. However, the questionnaire fielded for this survey still listed Dinu Plingau as the candidate for Platforma DA.

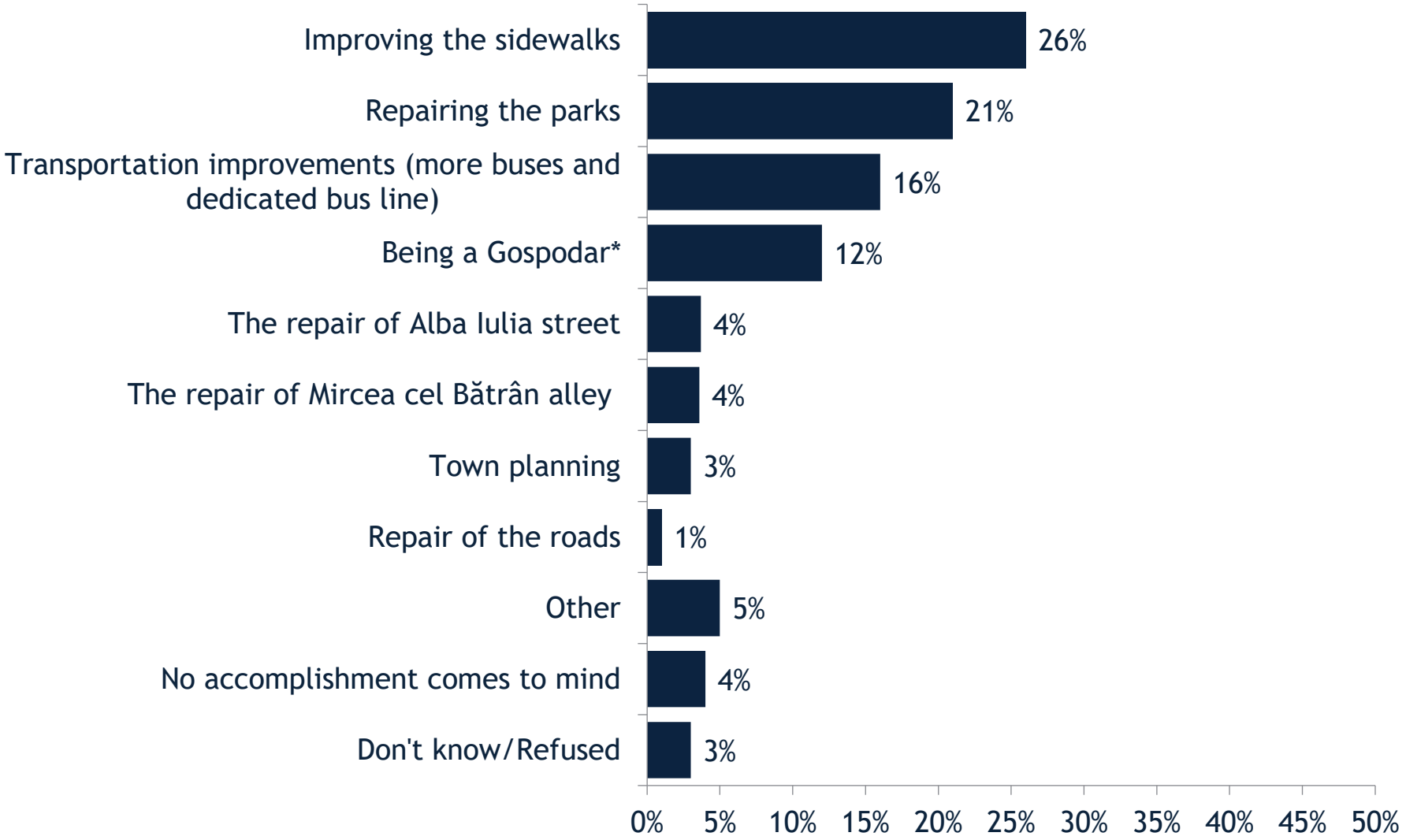
If the election was between Lilian Carp and the current mayor Ion Ceban, who would you plan to vote for?

(Residents of Chisinau Municipality)



What in your opinion is the biggest accomplishment of the current Mayor of Chisinau?

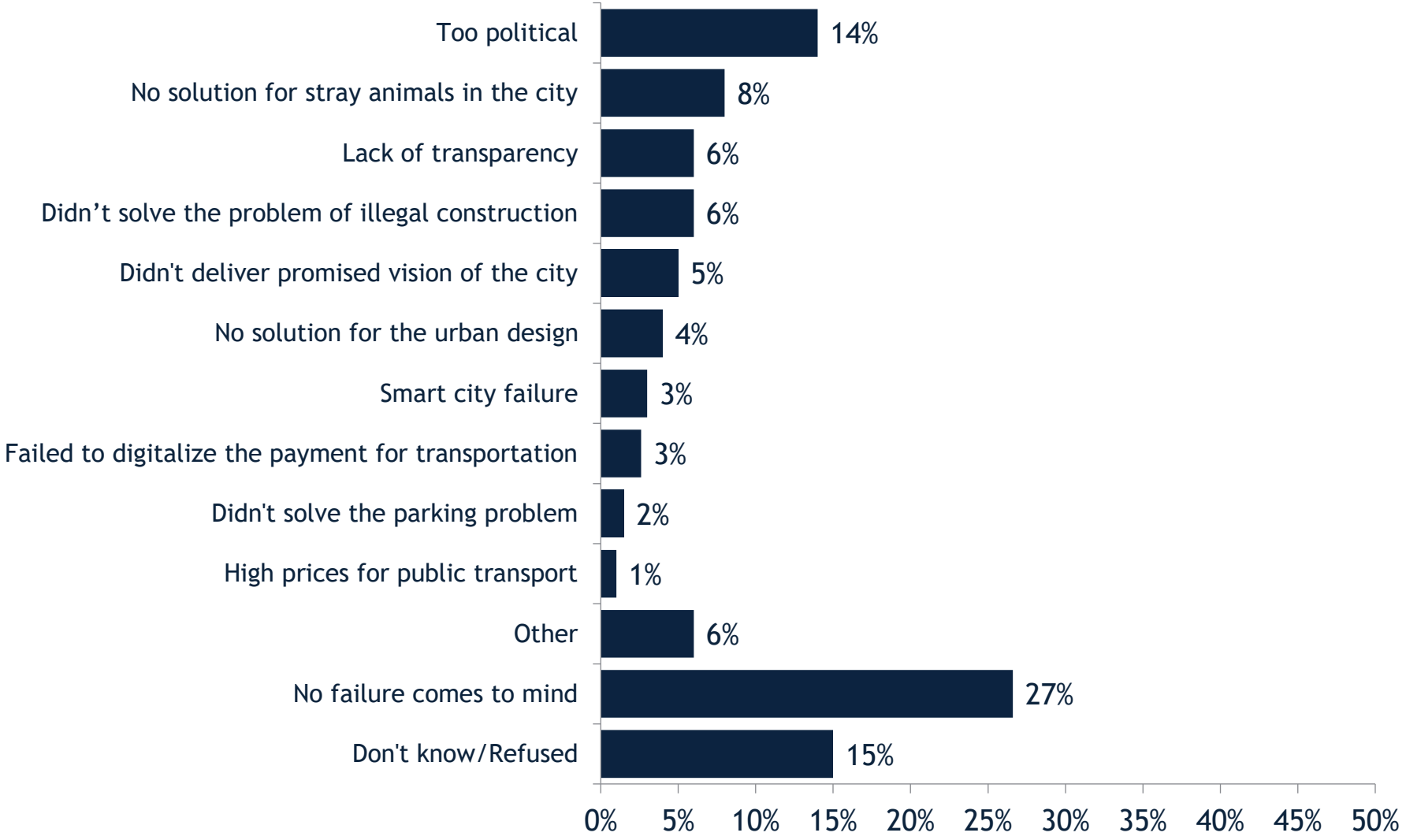
(Spontaneous response; residents of Chisinau Municipality)



*Moldovan term meaning to be a good manager or host

What in your opinion is the biggest failure of the current Mayor of Chisinau?

(Spontaneous response; residents of Chisinau Municipality)



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

International Relations

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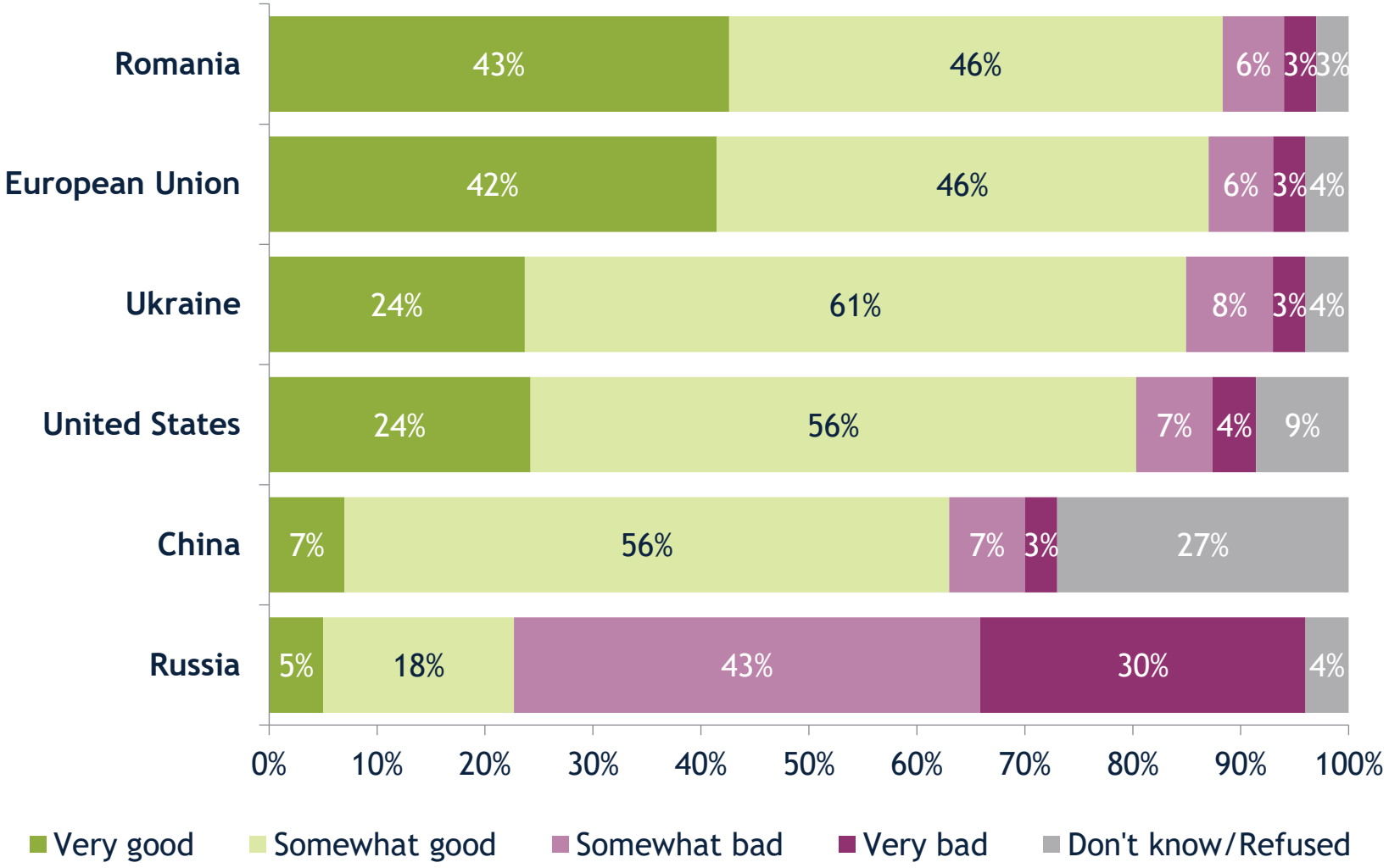
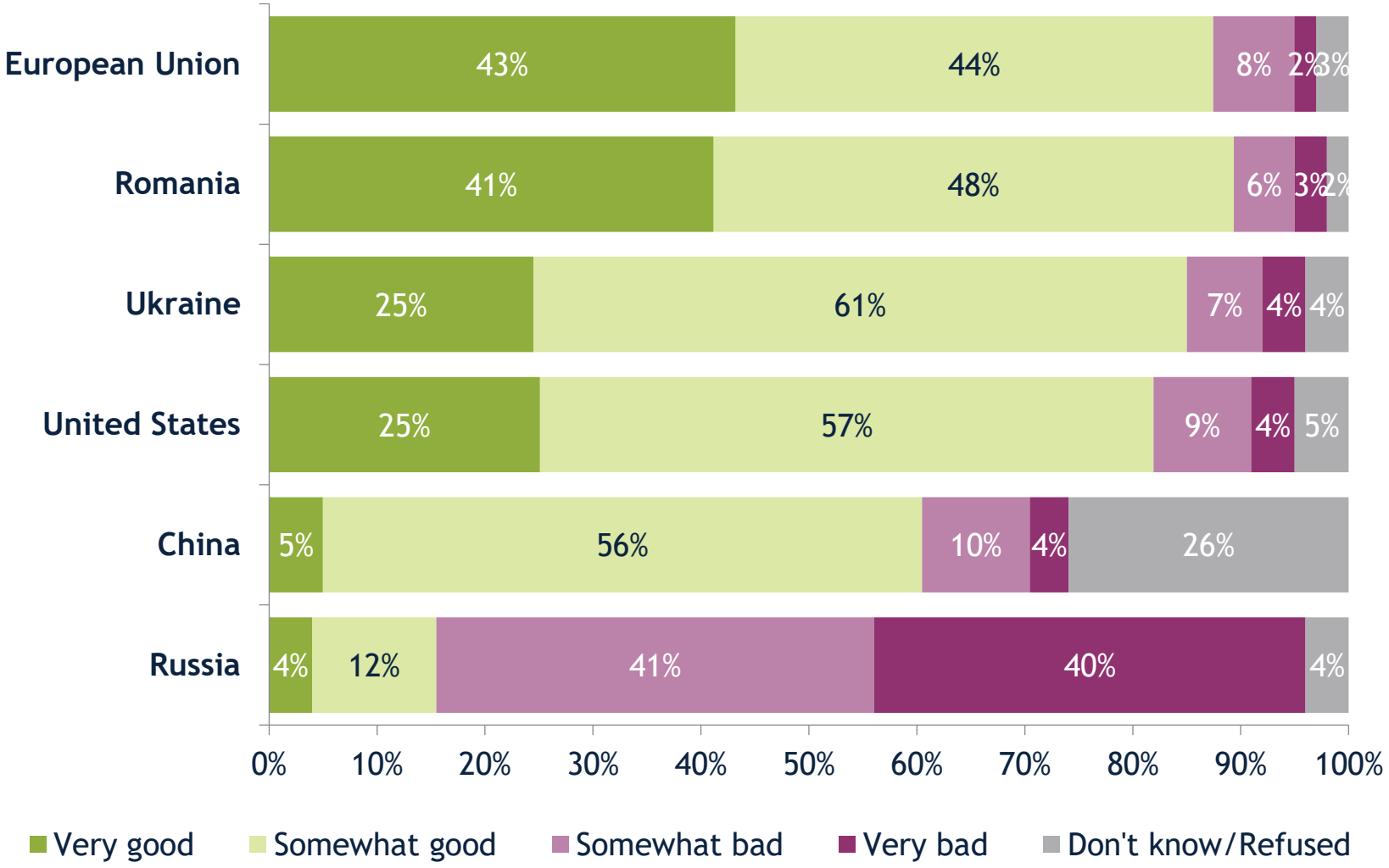
How would you rate the current relations between Moldova and …

(Residents of Moldova)



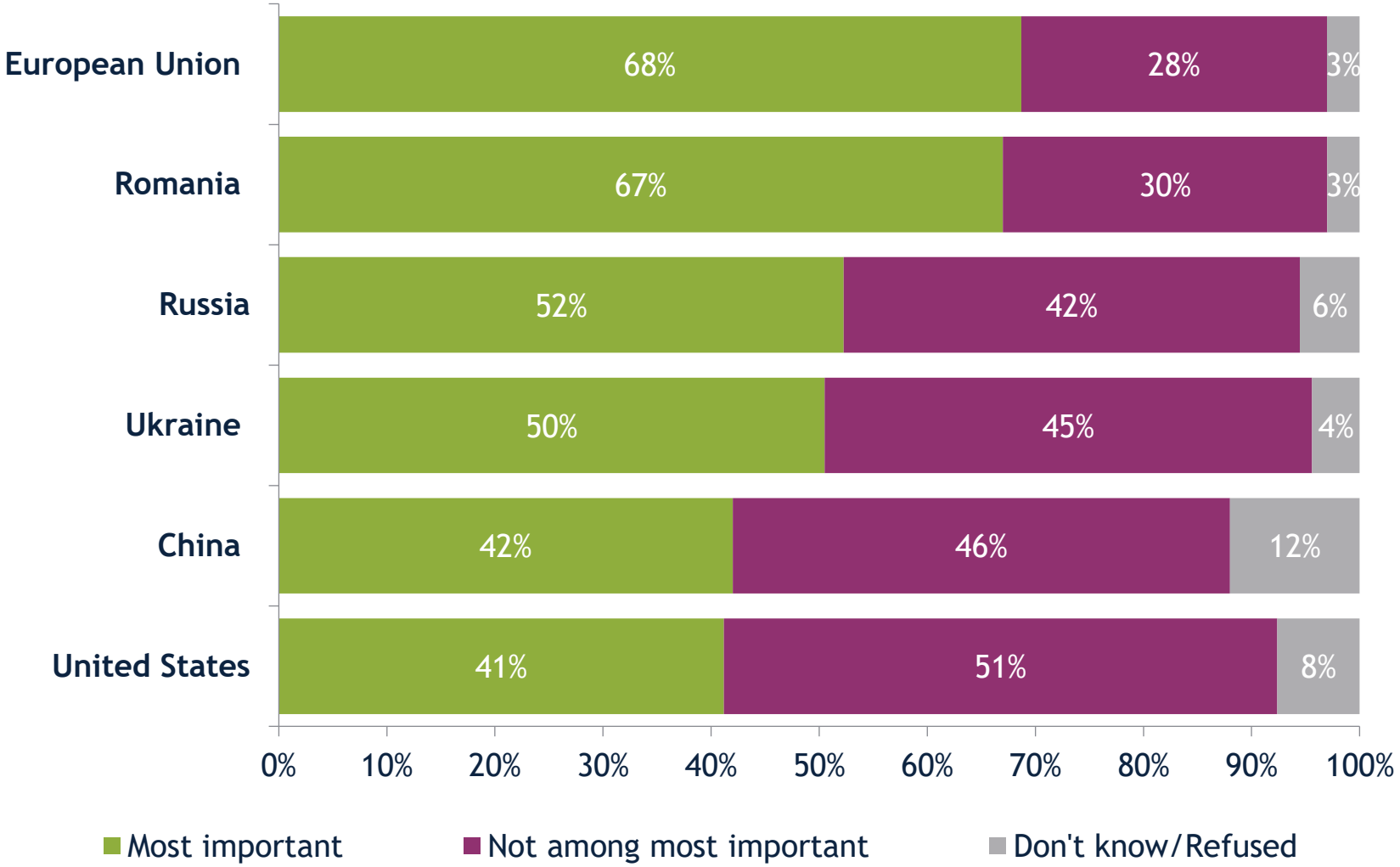
How would you rate the current relations between Moldova and …

(Residents of Chisinau Municipality)



Which of these countries do you consider to be the most important economic partner or partners for Moldova?

(Residents of Moldova)



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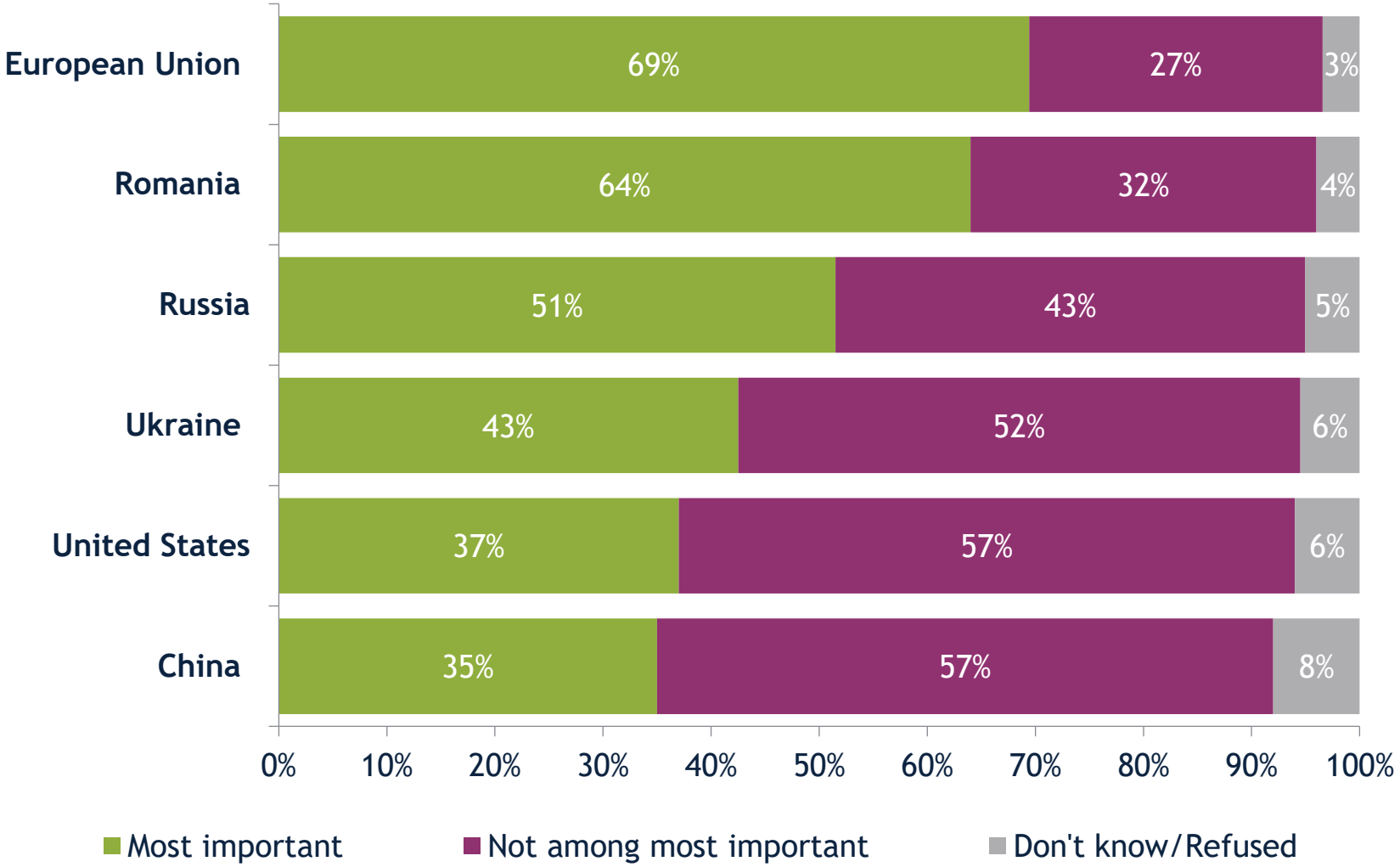
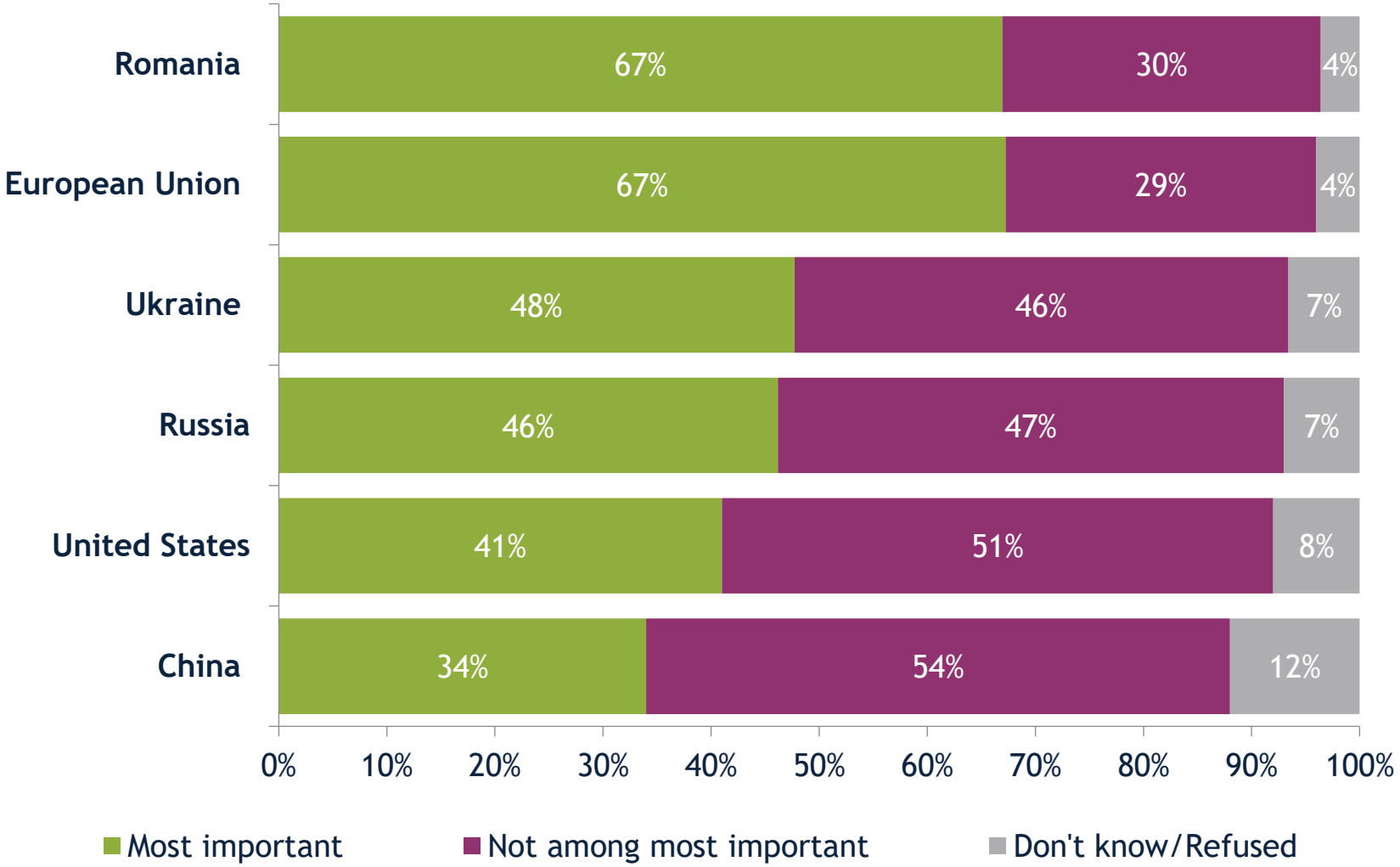
(Residents of Chisinau Municipality)



Which of these countries do you consider to be the most important political partner or partners for Moldova?

(Residents of Moldova)



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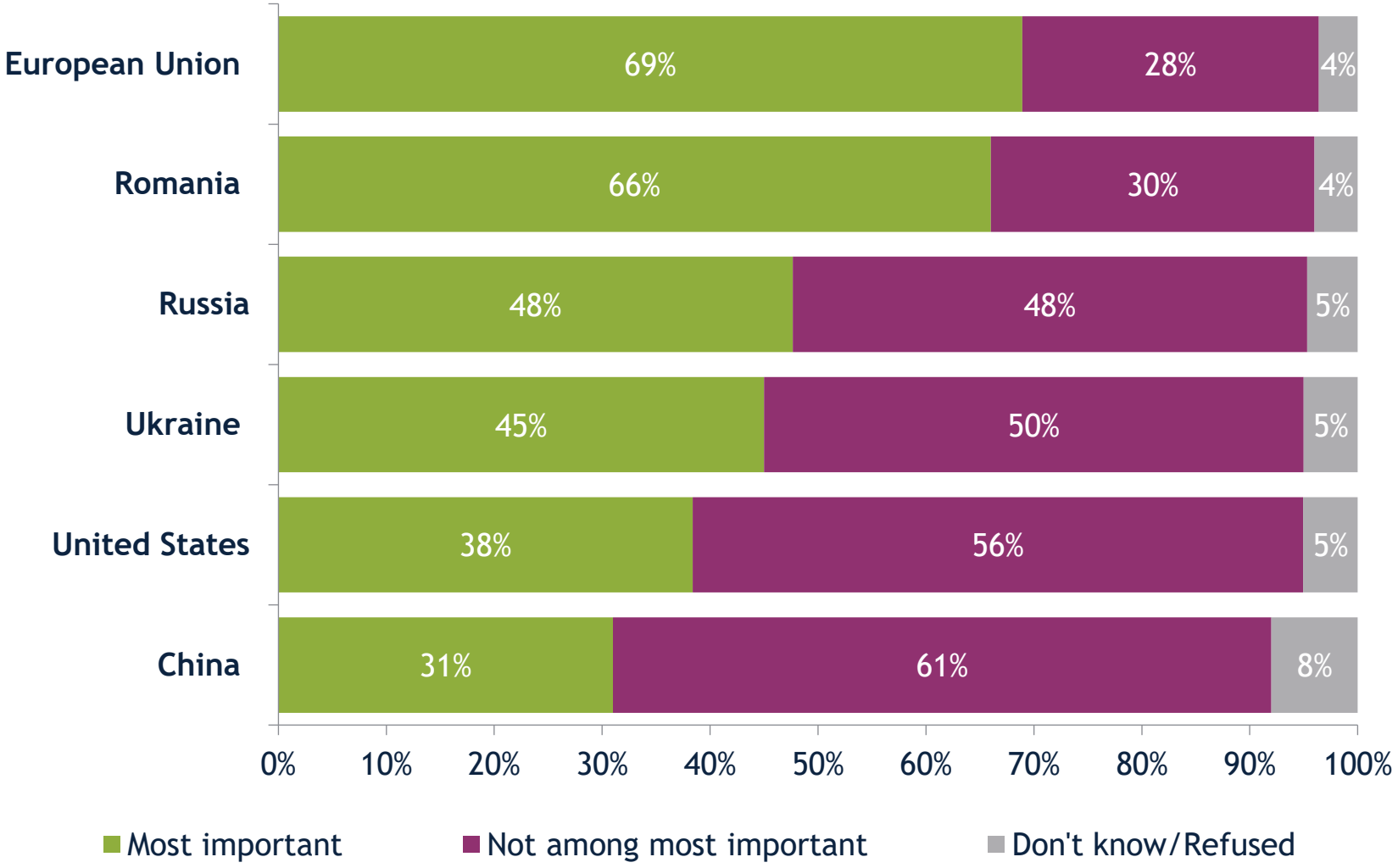
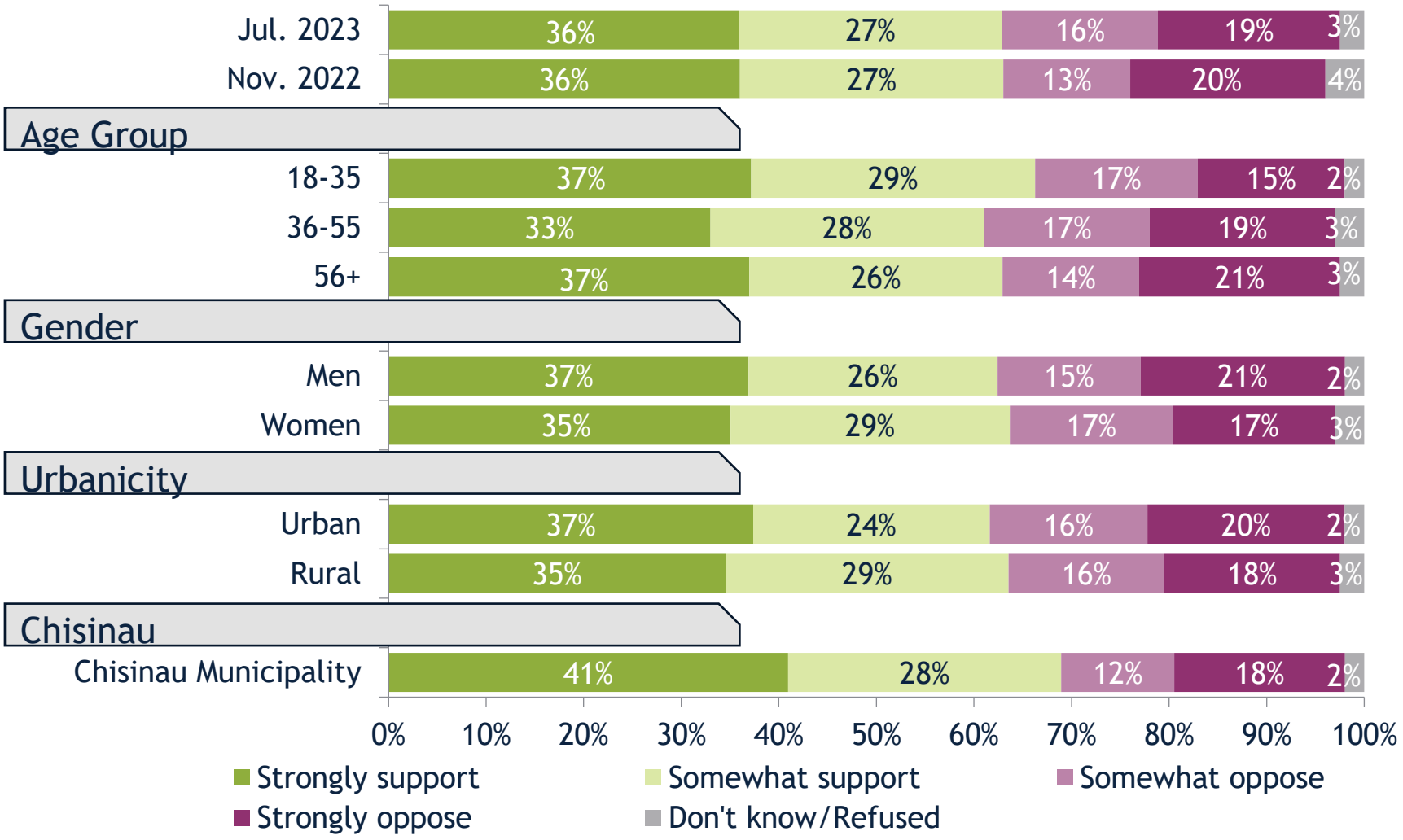
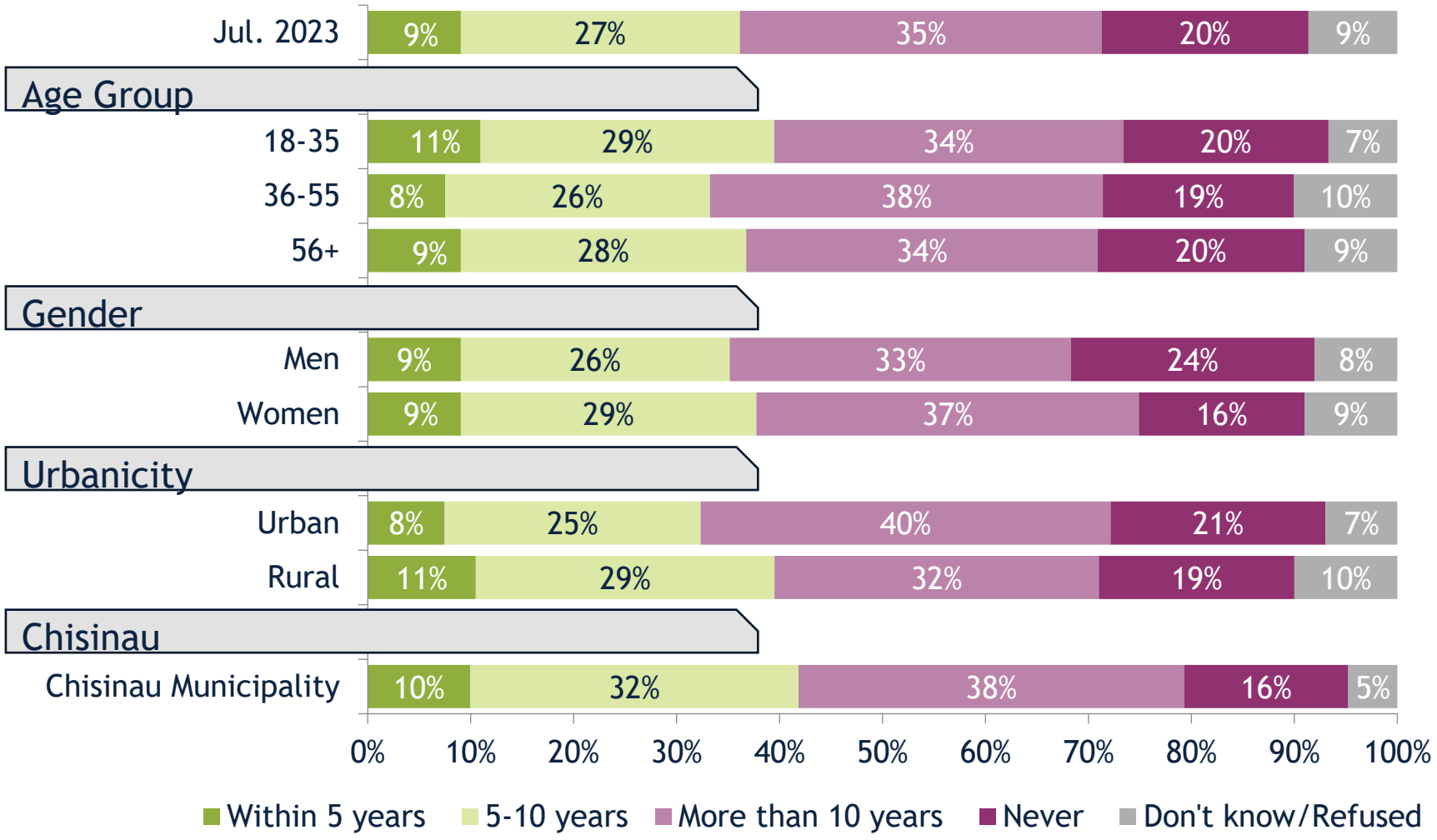
(Residents of Chisinau Municipality)



Do you support or oppose Moldova becoming a member of the European Union in the future?

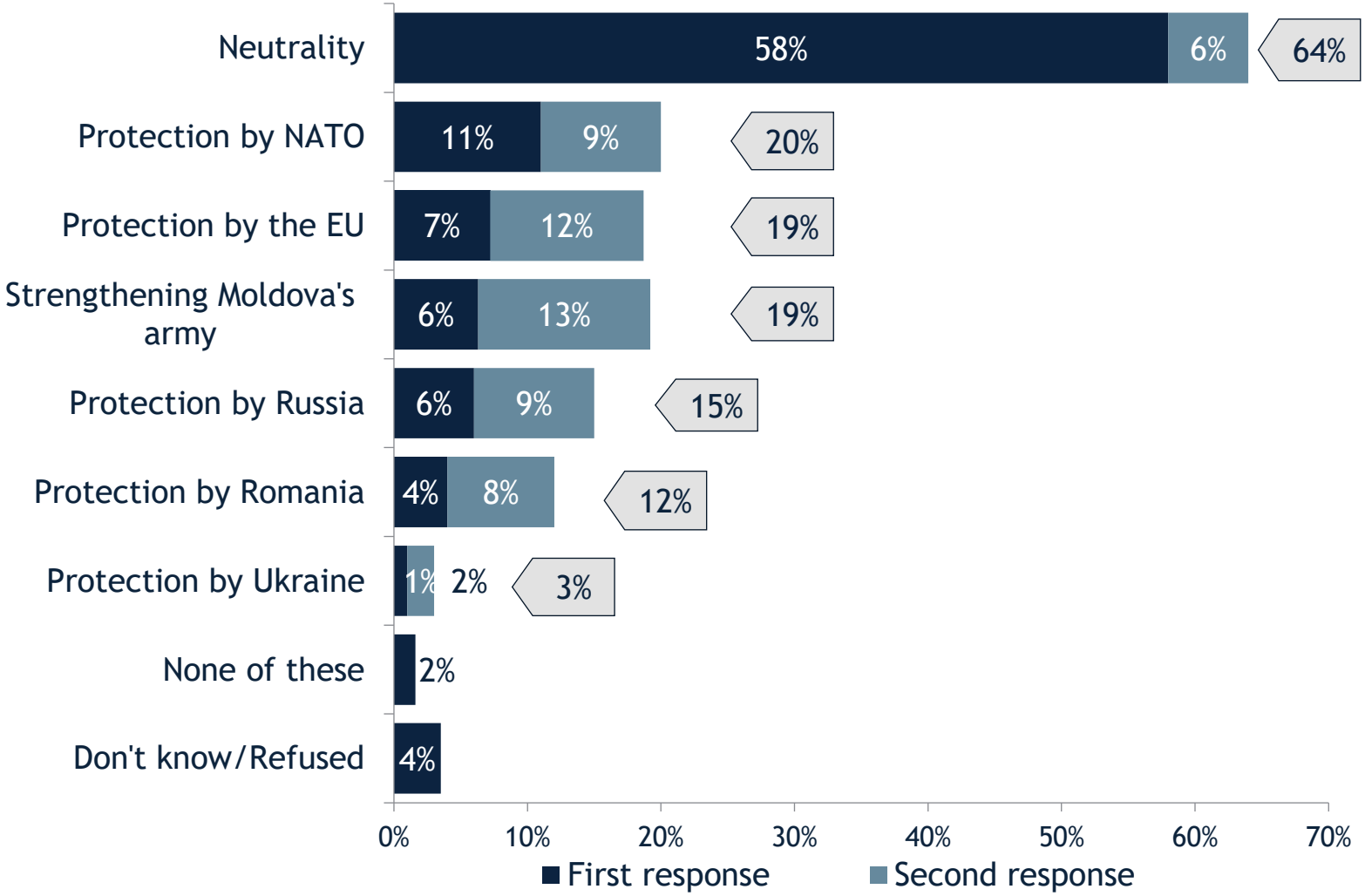


How many years do you think it would take Moldova to become a member of the European Union?



In your opinion, which of these options can best guarantee Moldova's security?
And which can second best guarantee Moldova's security?

(Residents of Moldova)



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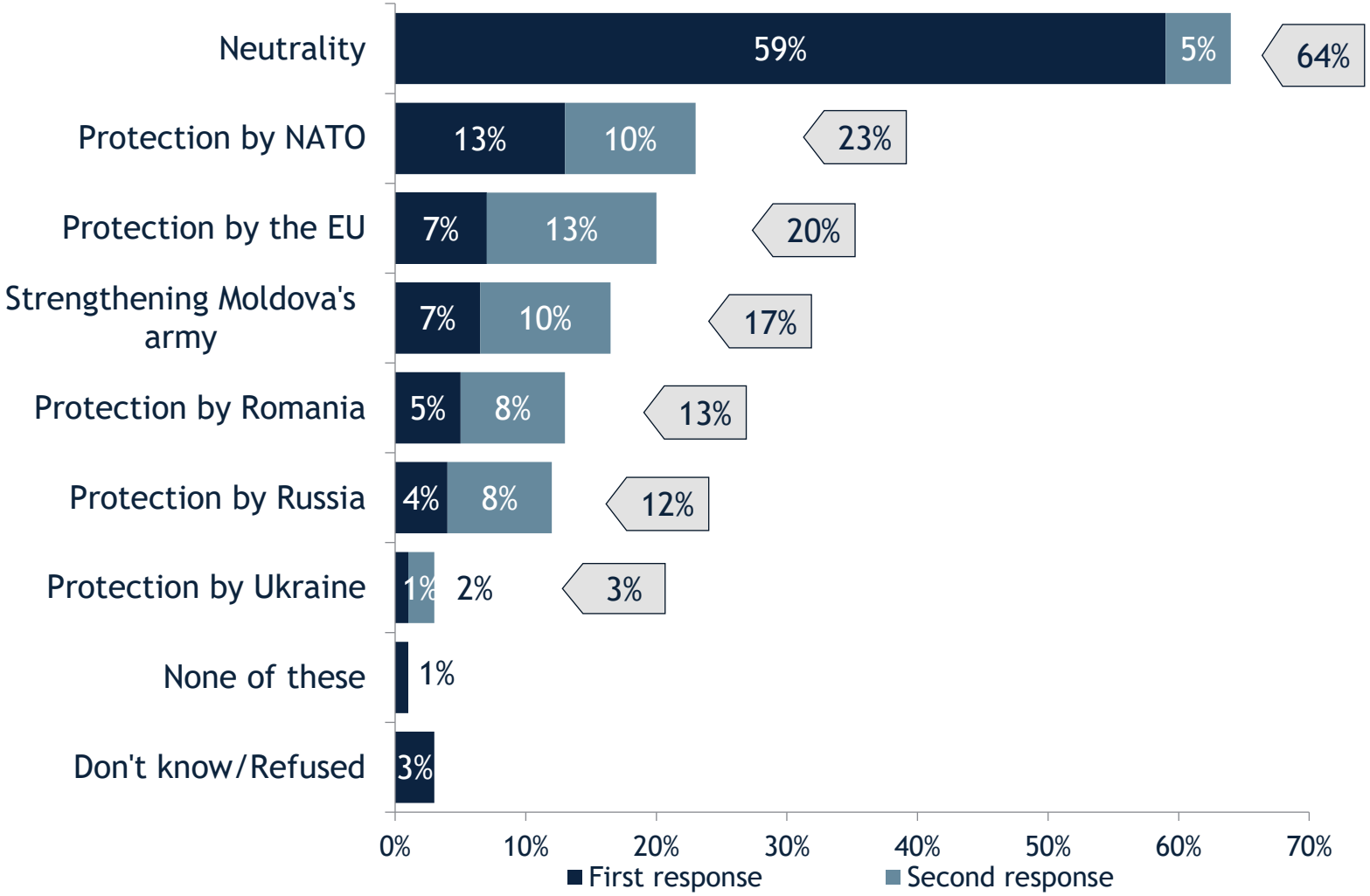
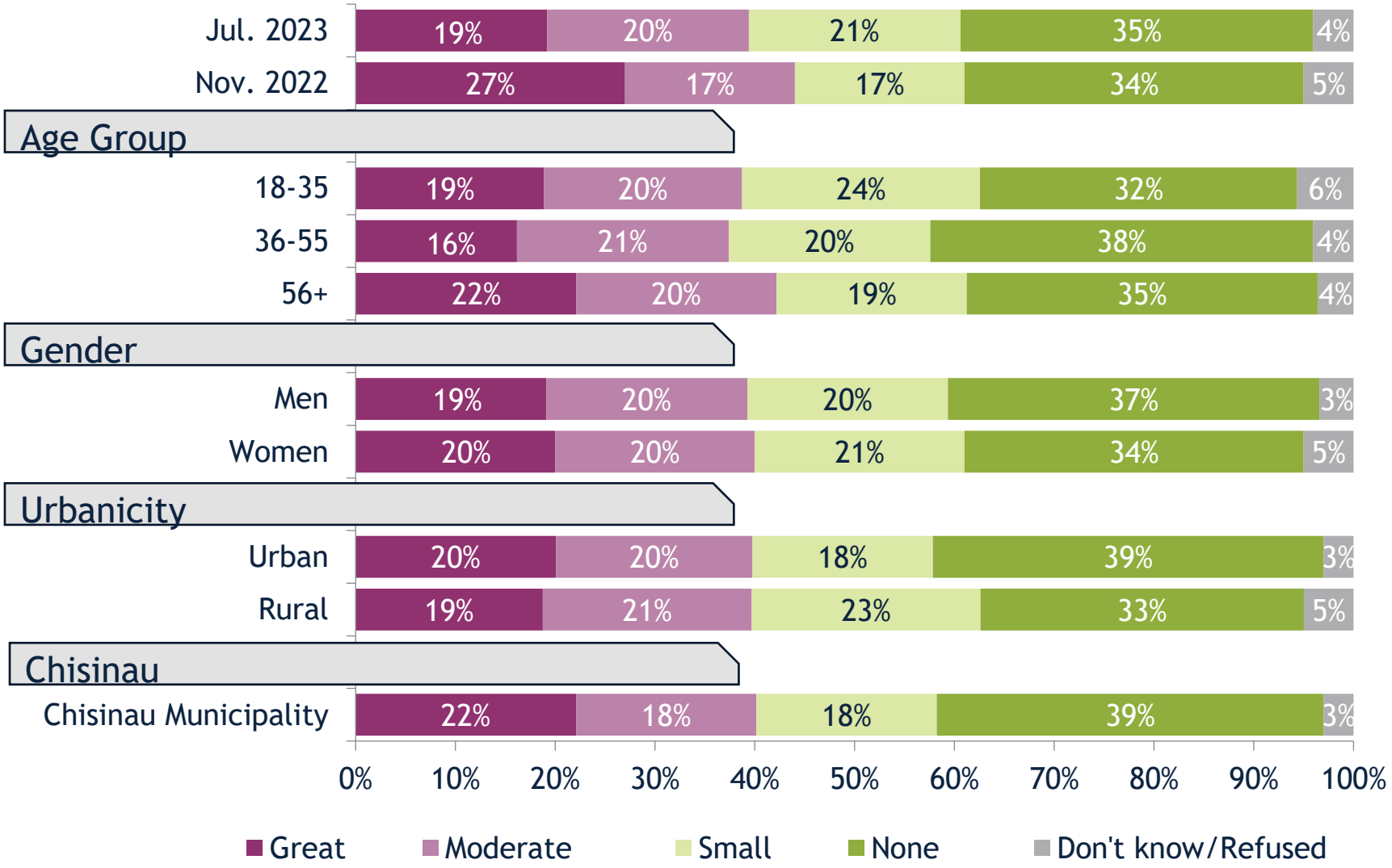
And which can second best guarantee Moldova's security?

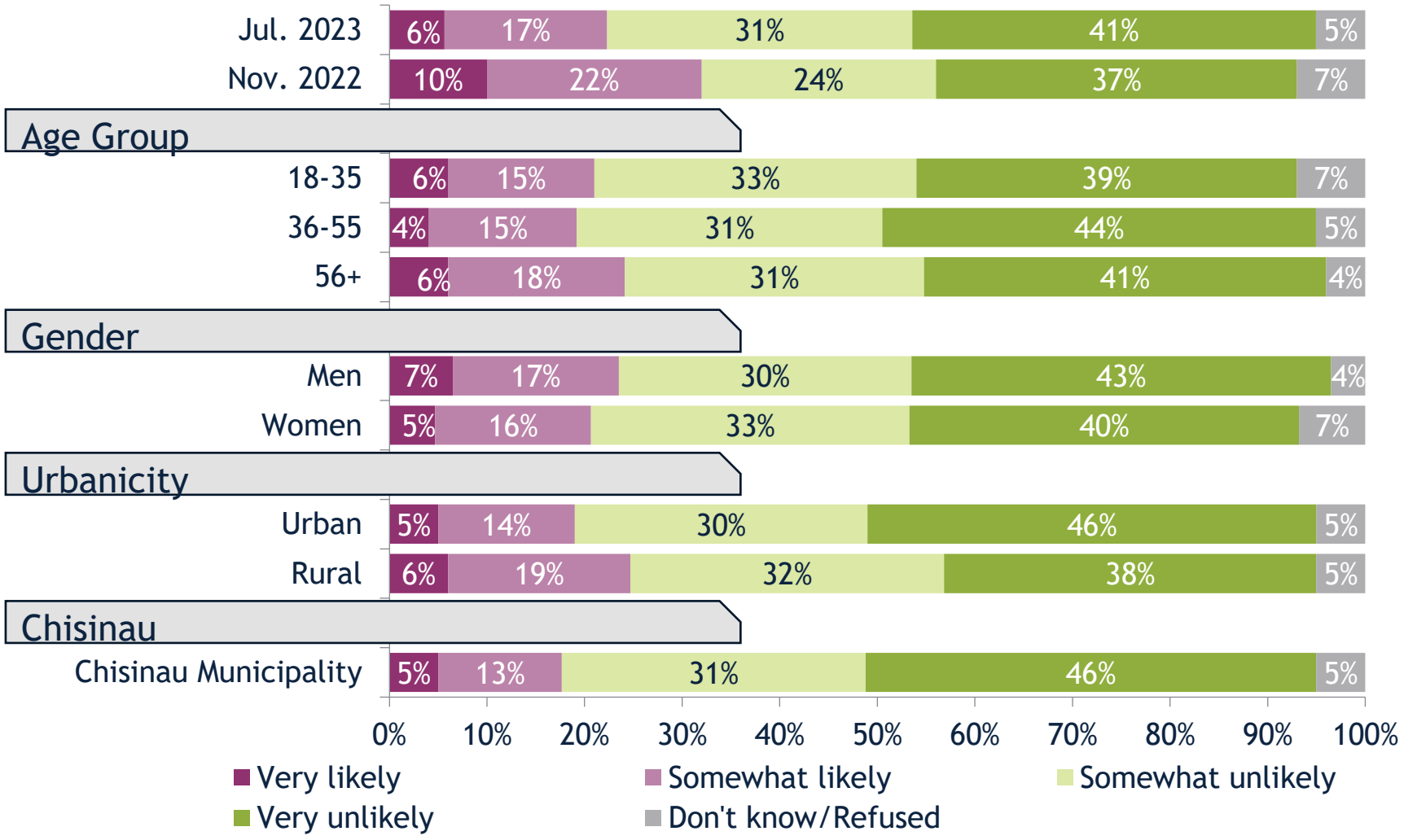
(Residents of Chisinau Municipality)



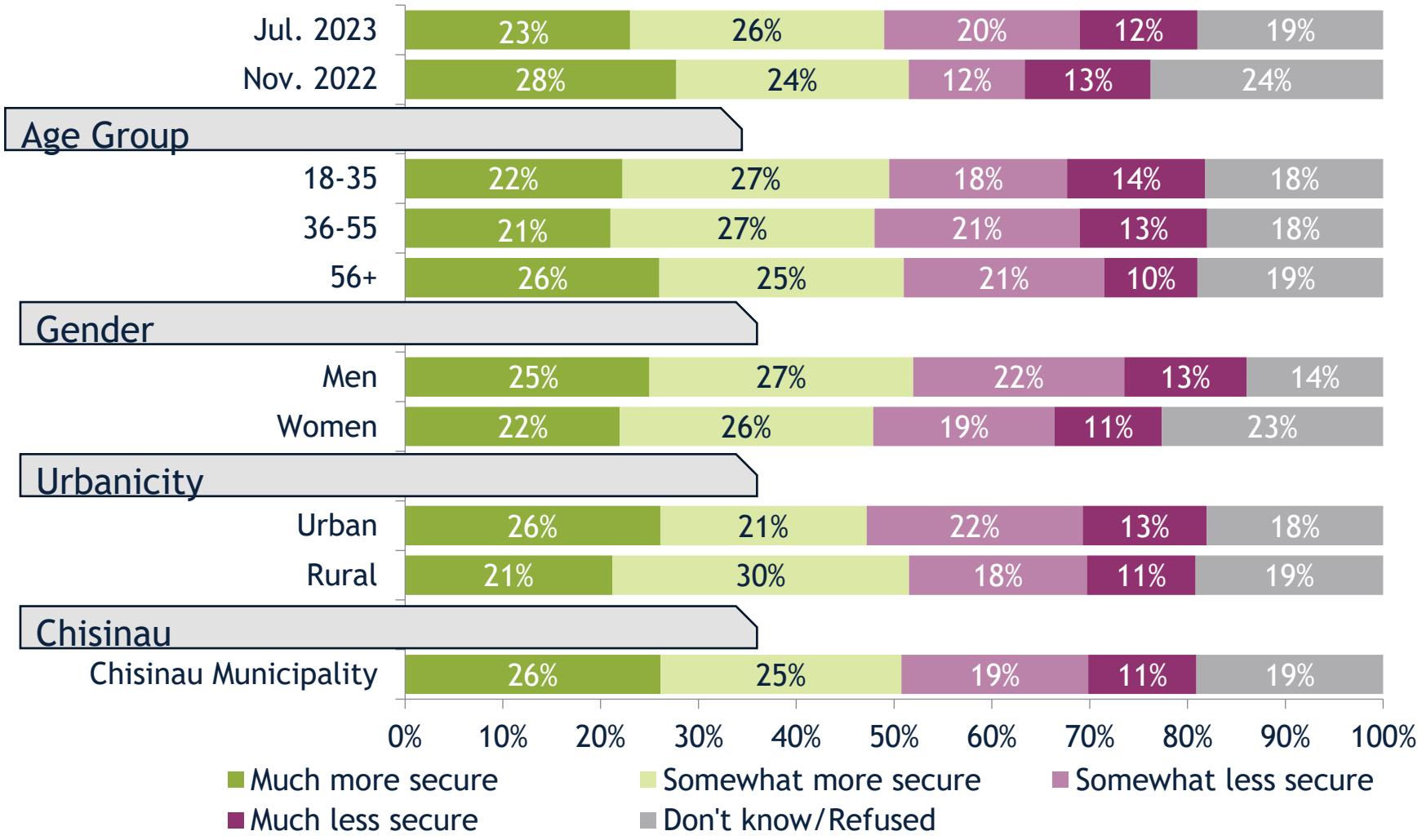
How much of a threat is Russia to Moldova?



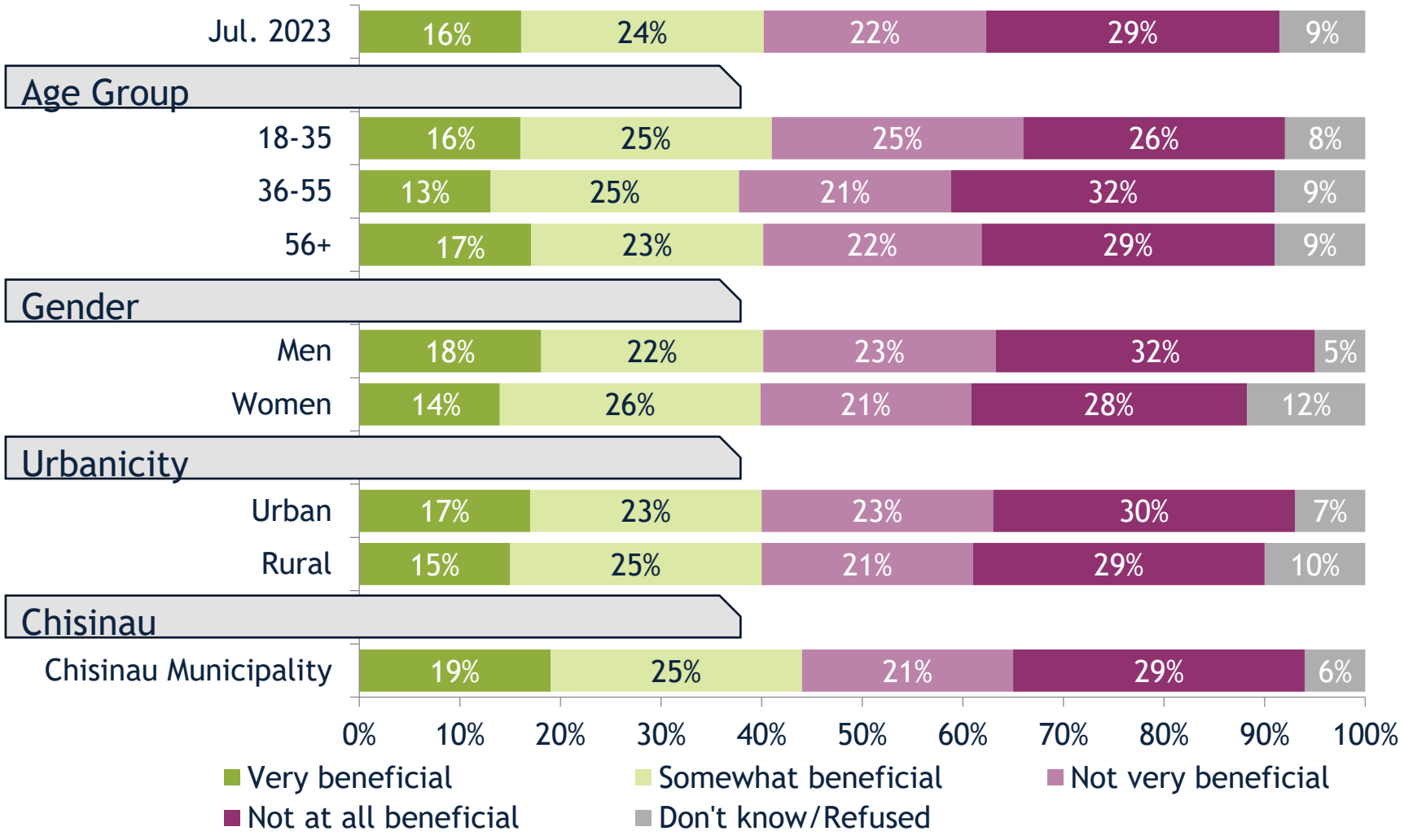
In your opinion, how likely or unlikely is direct military action from Russia in the Republic of Moldova in the next 12 months?



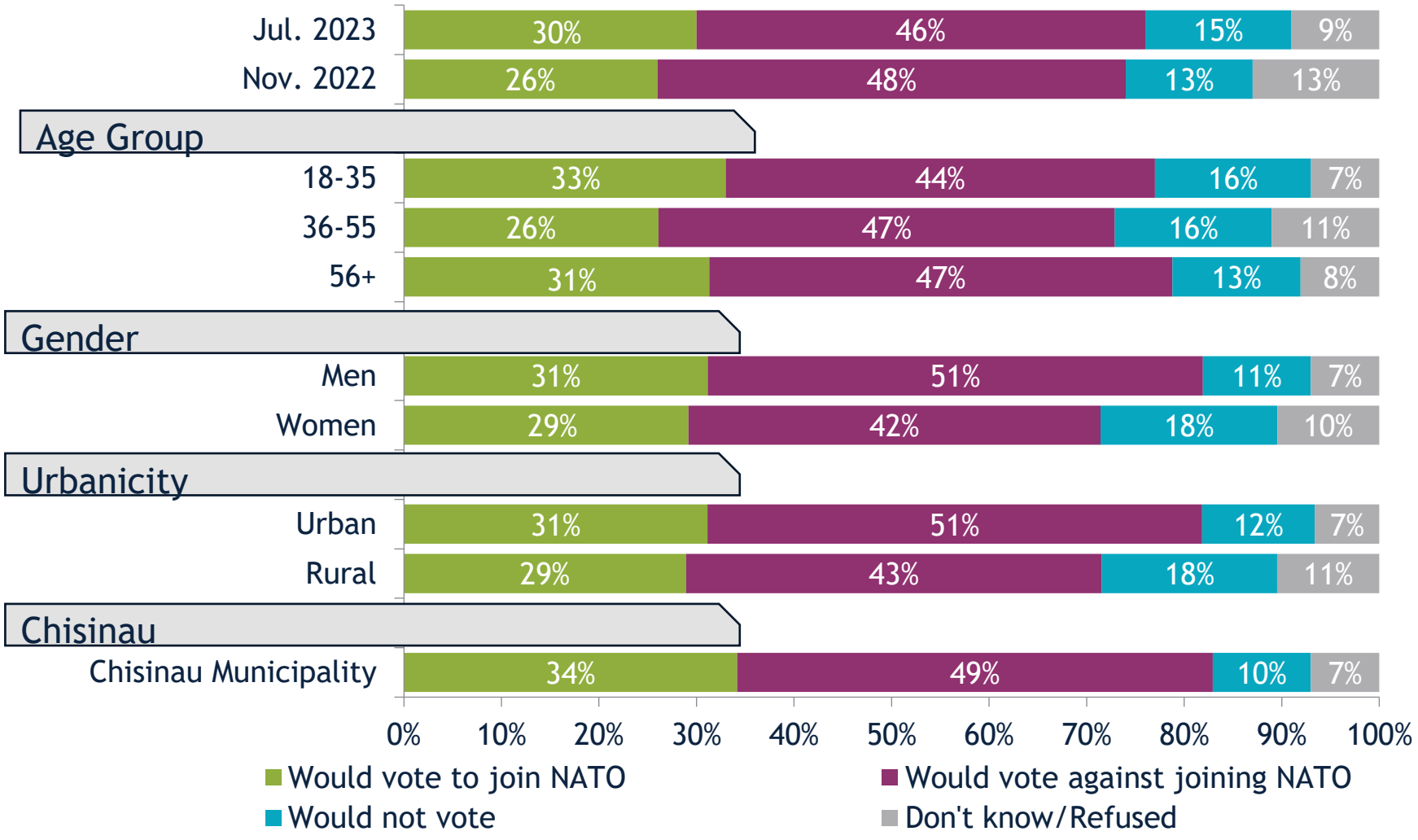
In your opinion, are NATO member states more or less secure than countries that do not belong to NATO? NATO member states are …



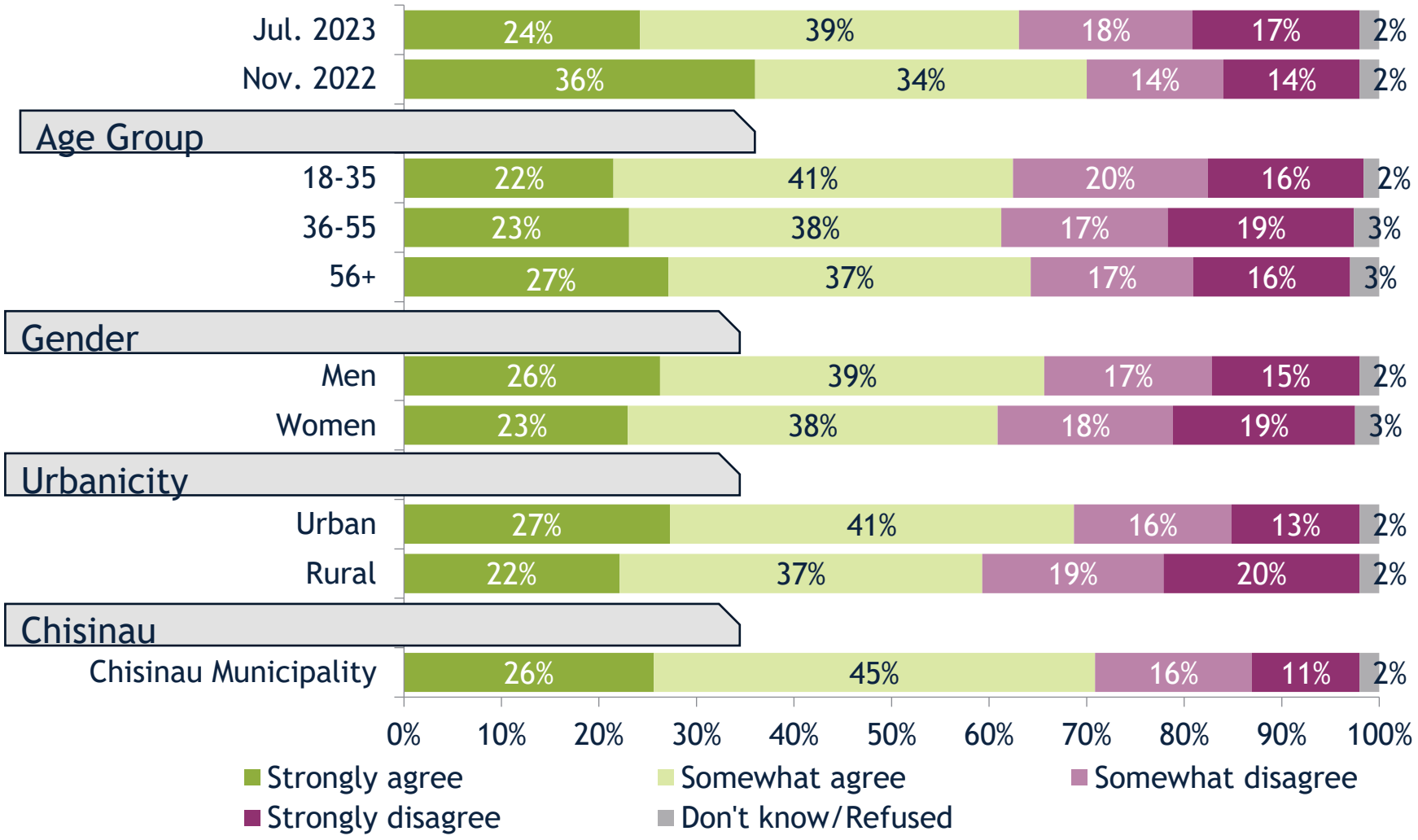
In your opinion, is cooperation with NATO beneficial for Moldova?



If a referendum were held today on Moldova joining NATO, how would you vote?



Do you agree or disagree with the following statement? “Moldova should continue to provide support to Ukrainian refugees in Moldova.”



Sources of Information

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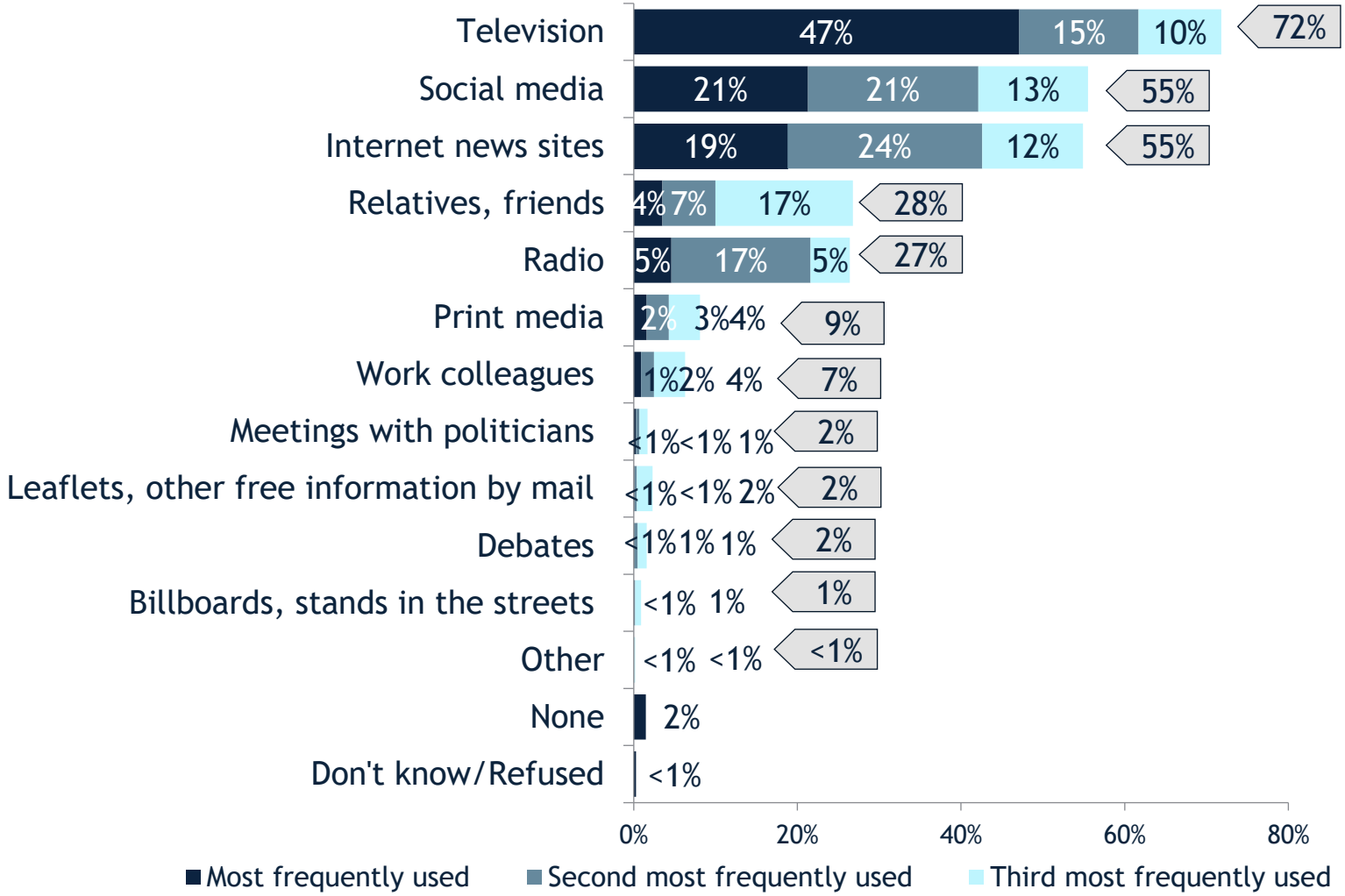
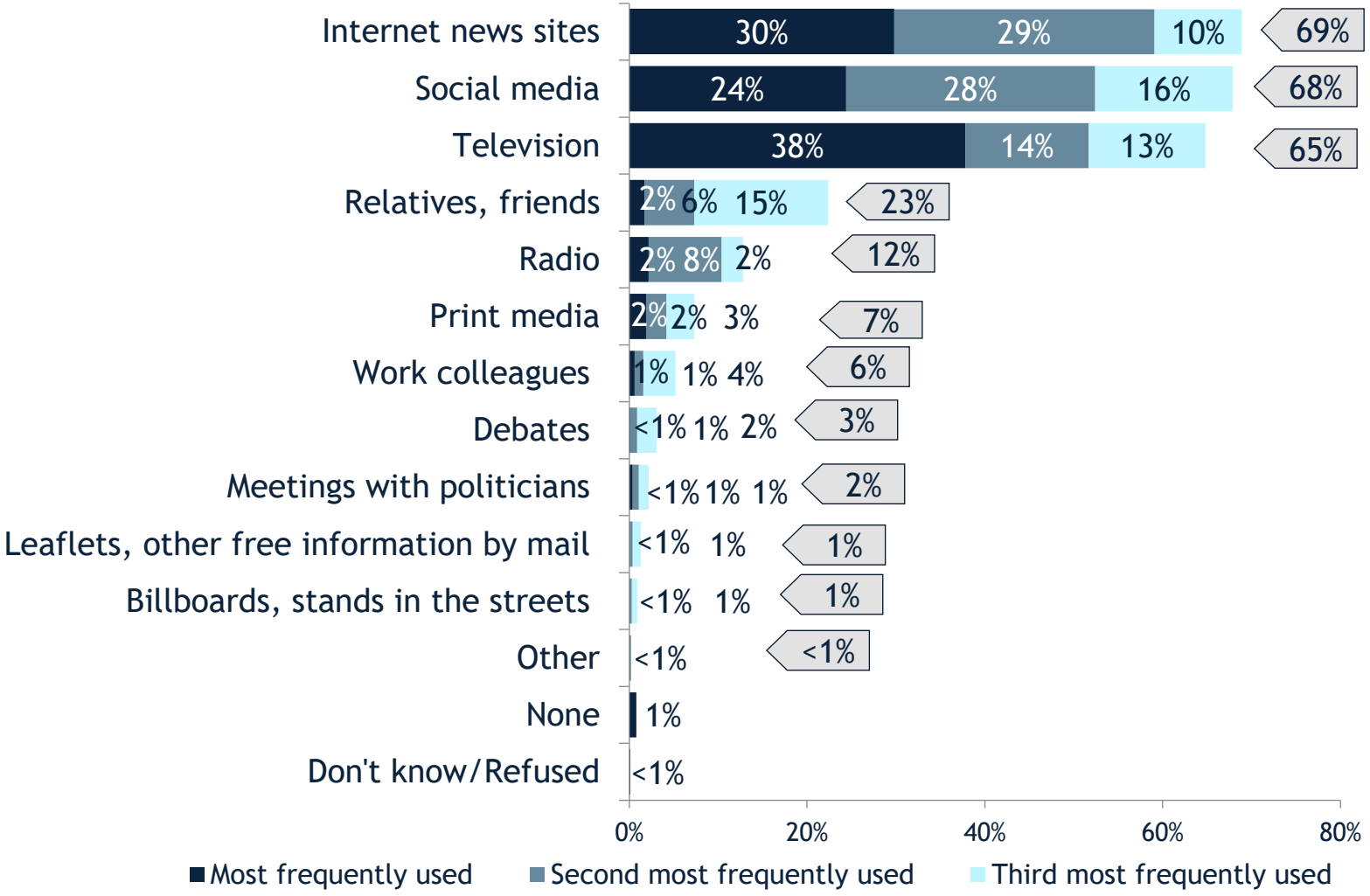
Which sources of information do you use most frequently to gain political news and information? Please name 3 main sources of information, starting with the most frequently used.

(Residents of Moldova)



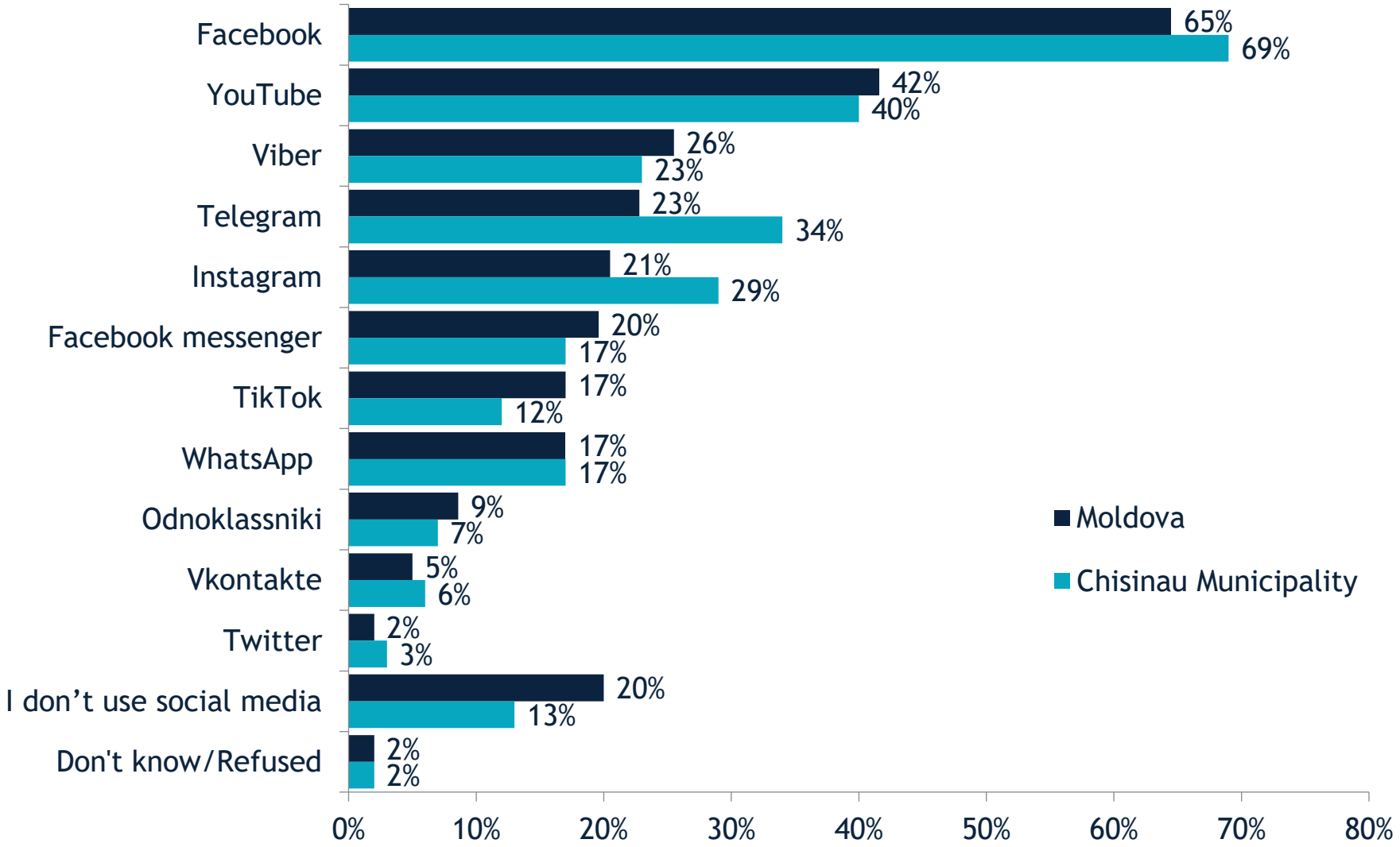
Which sources of information do you use most frequently to gain political news and information? Please name 3 main sources of information, starting with the most frequently used.

(Residents of Chisinau Municipality)



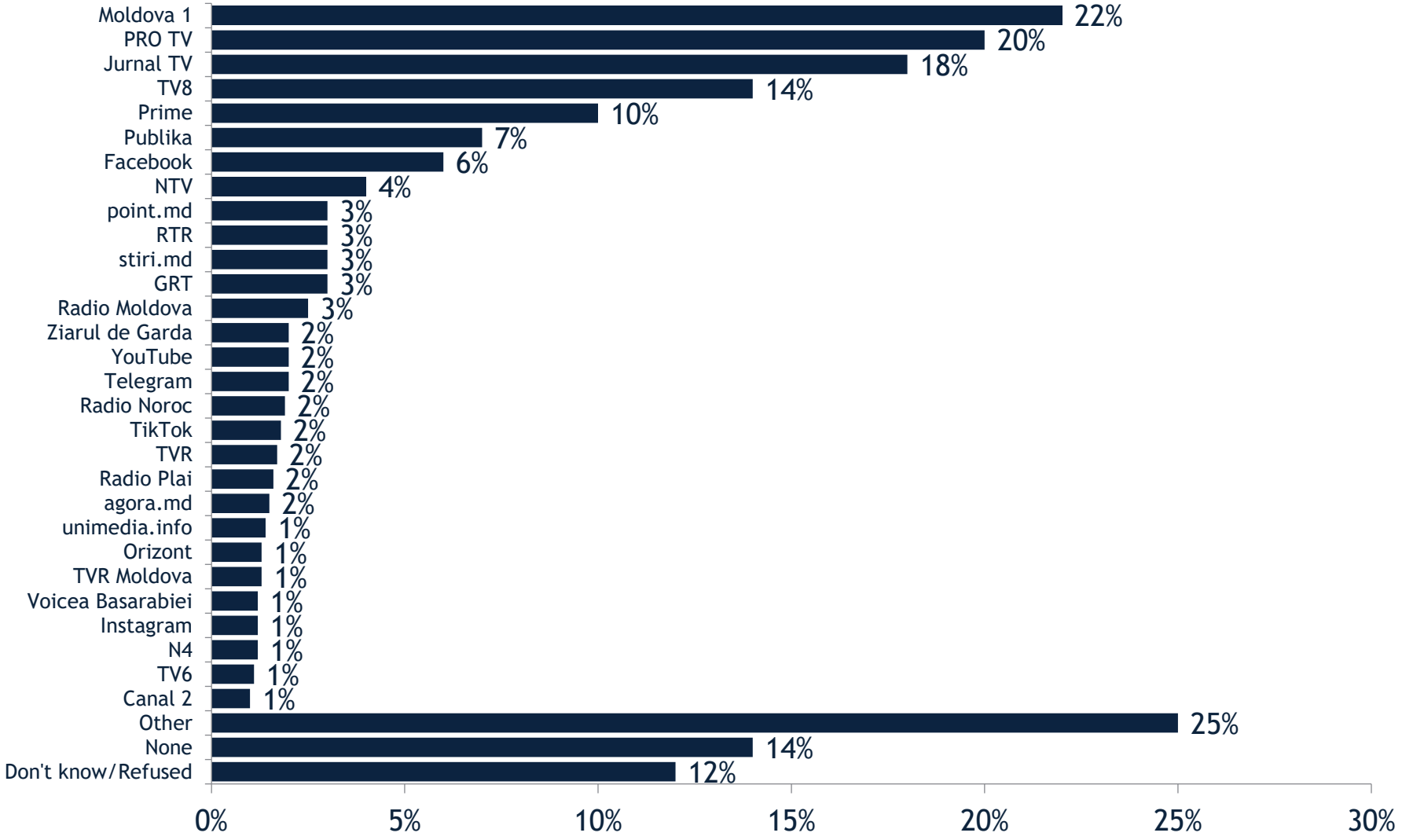
Which social media applications do you use as sources of information? Please mention all you use as sources of information.

(Spontaneous response; multiple responses permitted; total mentions displayed)



Which specific media outlets, such as specific TV channel, radio station, newspaper, website etc. do you consider most trustworthy for political news and information?

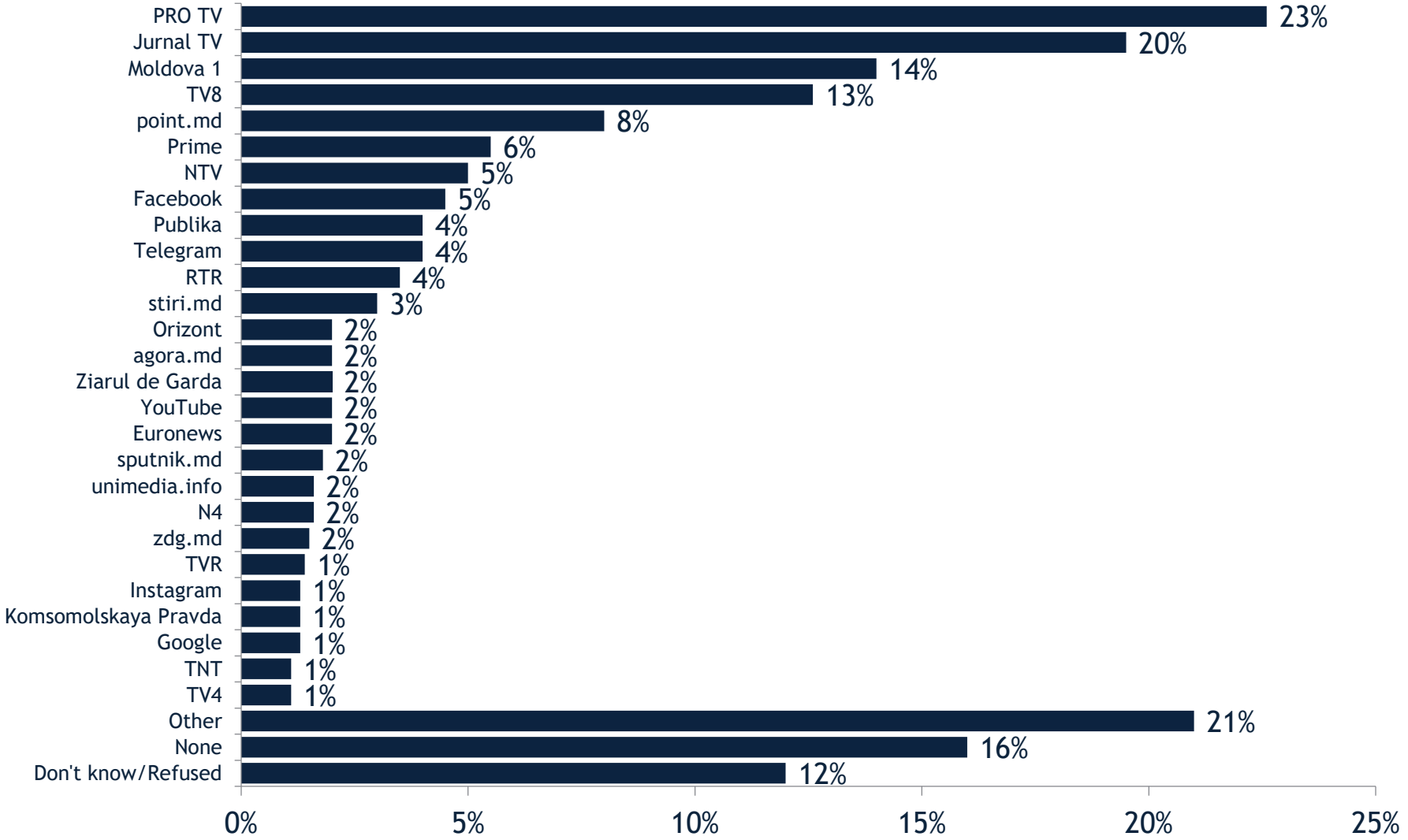
(Spontaneous response; multiple responses permitted, residents of Moldova)



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

Which specific media outlets, such as specific TV channel, radio station, newspaper, website etc. do you consider most trustworthy for political news and information?

(Spontaneous response; multiple responses permitted, residents of Chisinau Municipality)



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Demographics

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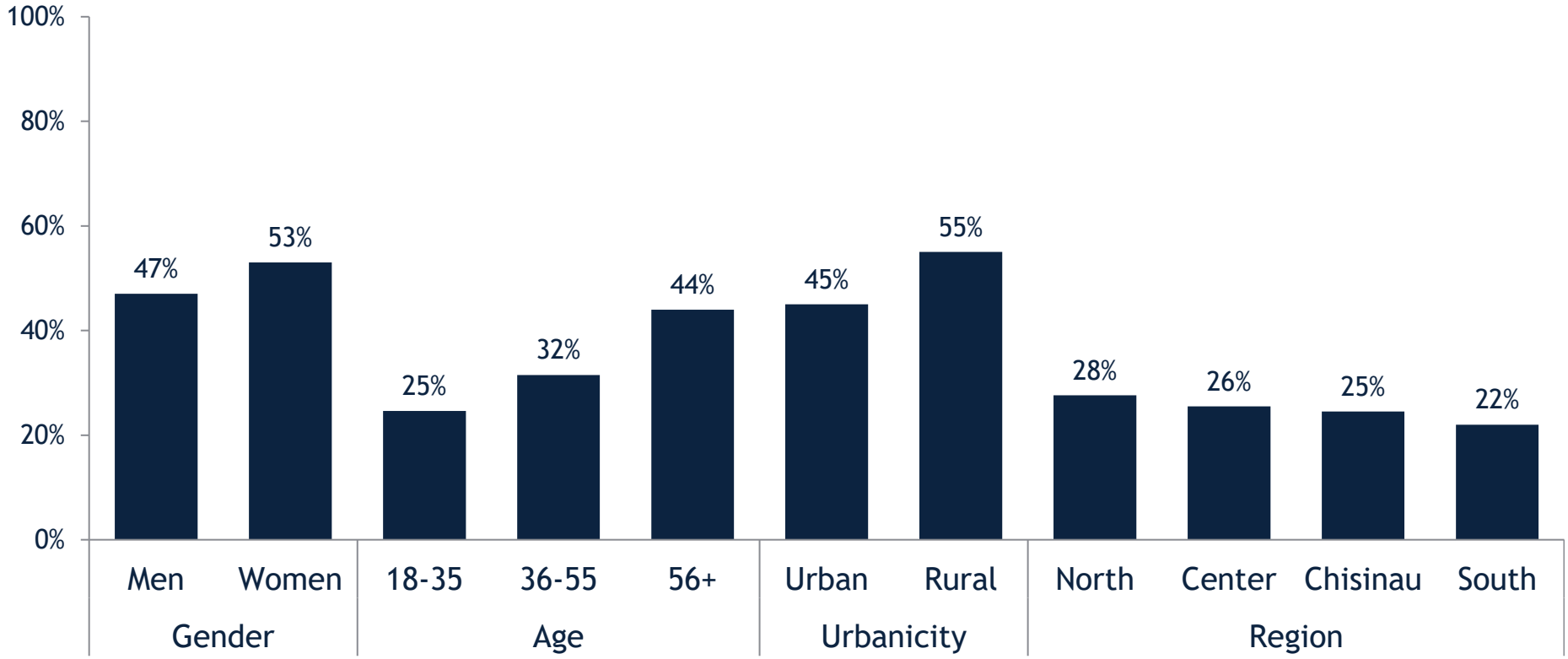
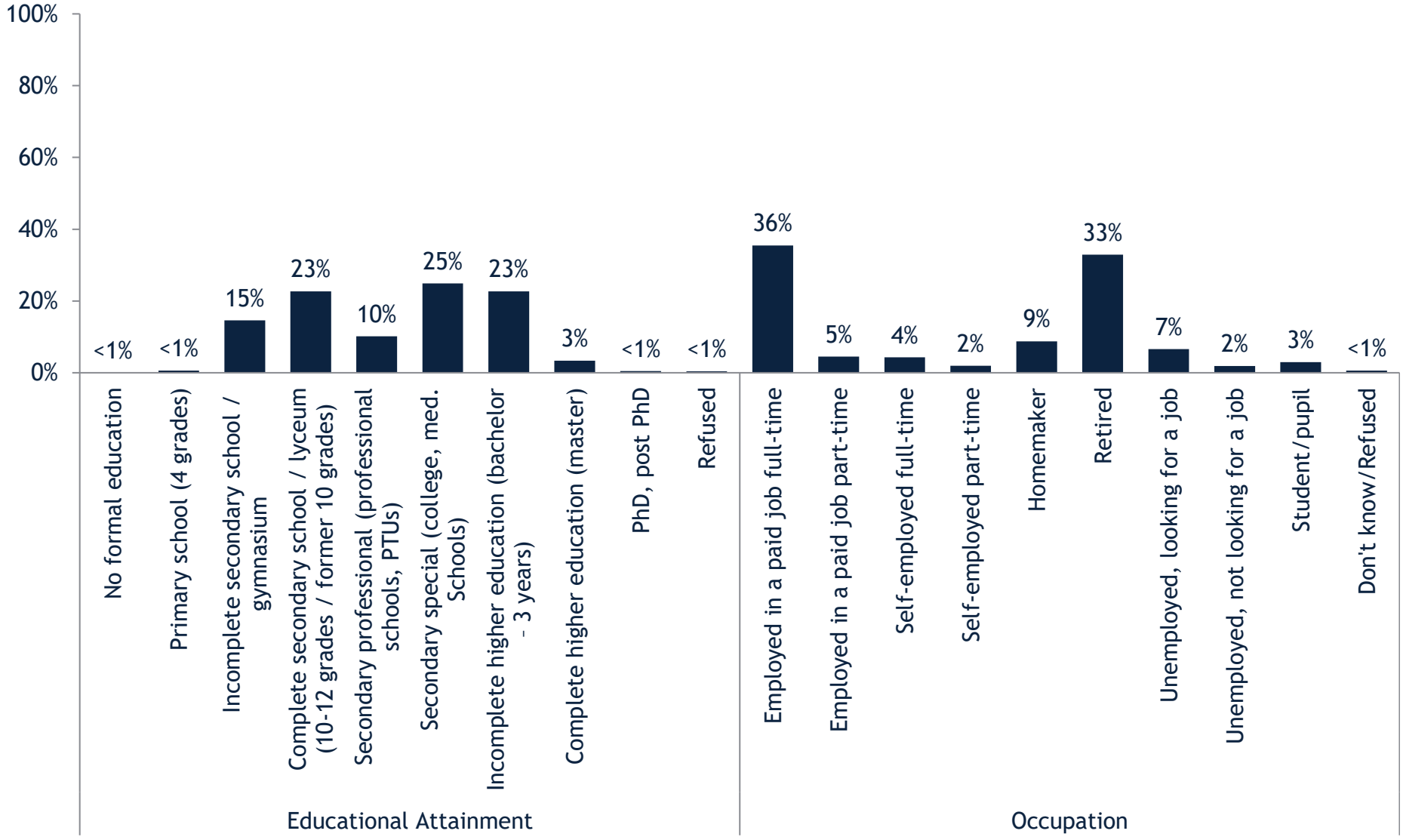
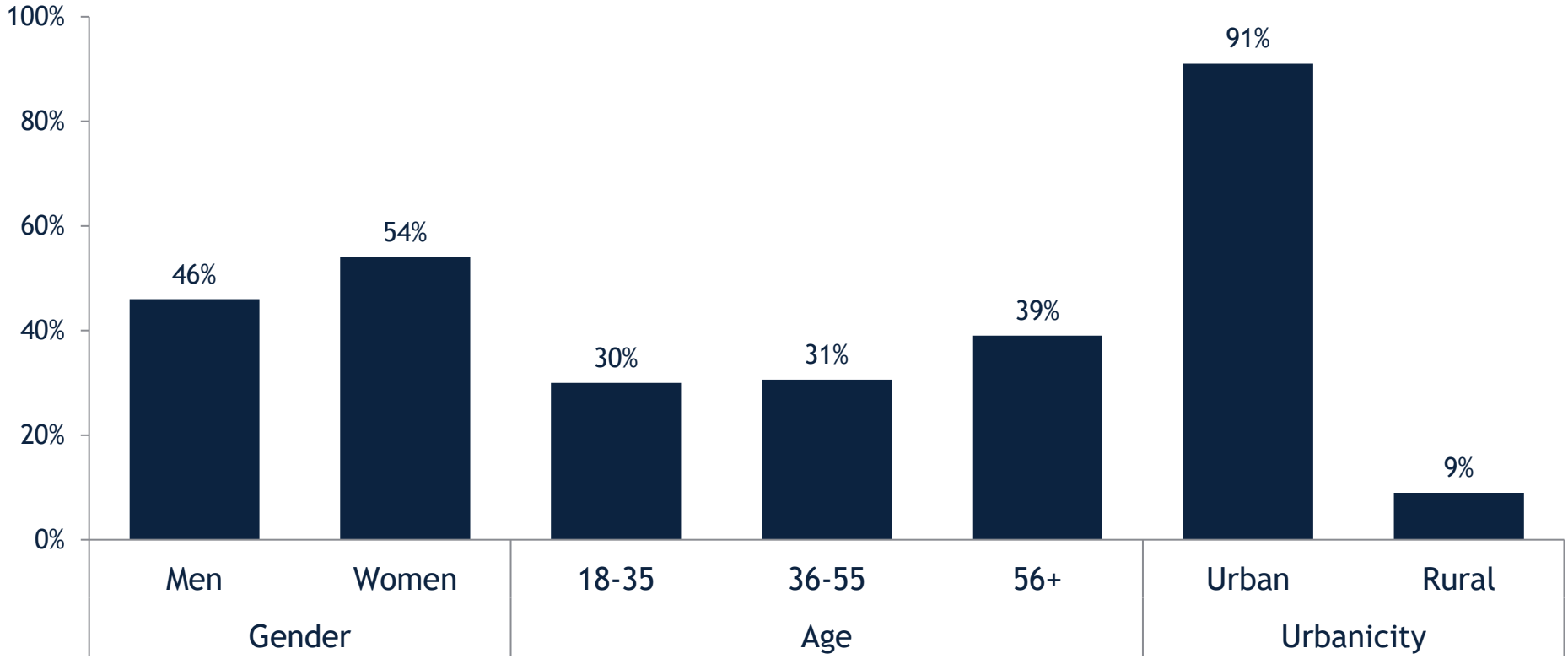
Demographics (Moldova)



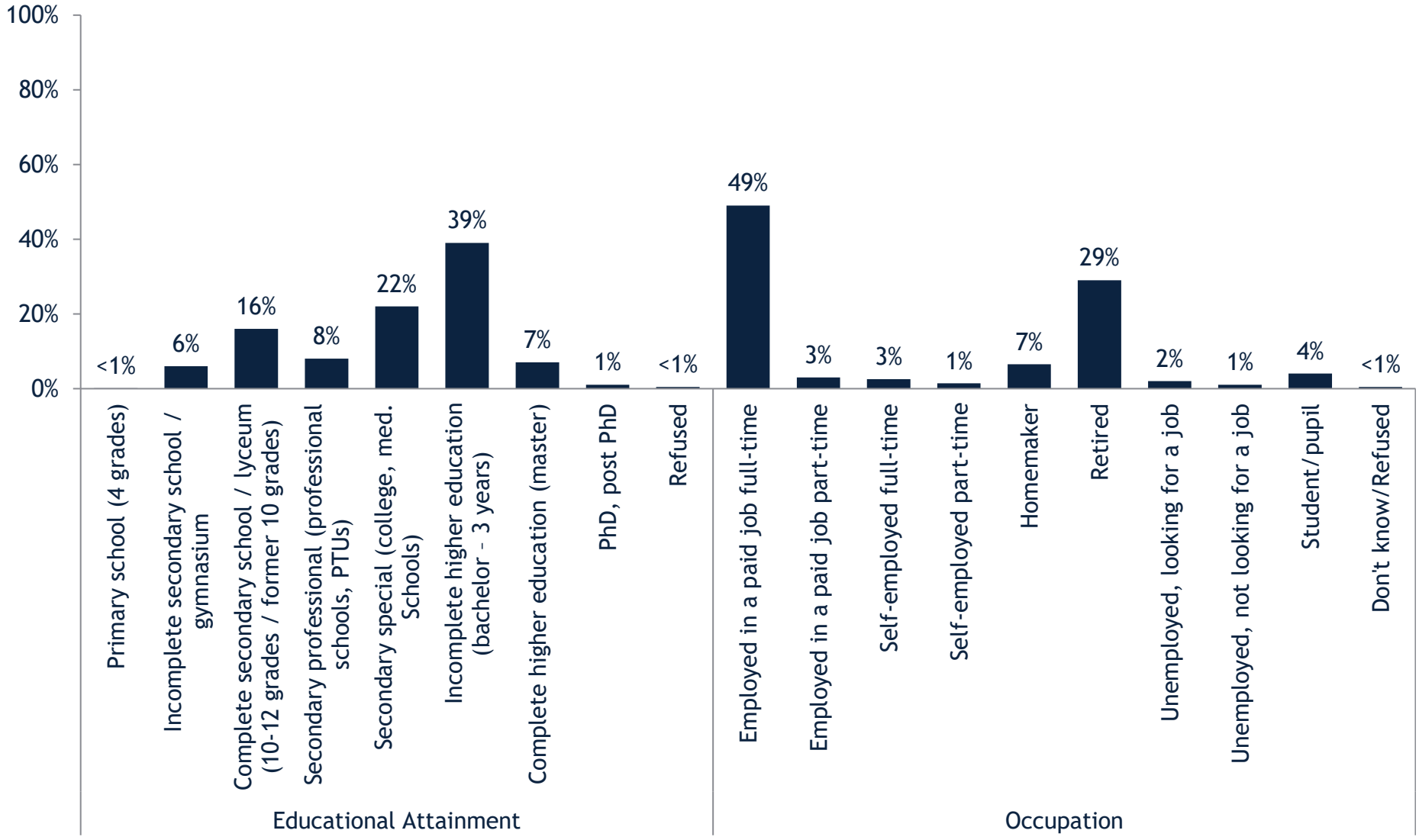
Demographics (Moldova)



Demographics (Chisinau Municipality)



Demographics (Chisinau Municipality)



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