

Public Opinion Survey: Residents of Georgia

February 2021



Detailed Methodology

- The fieldwork was carried out by the [Institute of Polling & Marketing](#). The survey was coordinated by Dr. Rasa Alisauskiene of the public and market research company [Baltic Surveys/The Gallup Organization](#) on behalf of the [Center for Insights in Survey Research](#).
- Data was collected across Georgia between February 2 and February 26, 2021, through face-to-face interviews in respondents' homes.
- The sample consisted of 1,500 permanent residents of Georgia aged 18 and older and eligible to vote. It is representative of the general population by age, gender, region and settlement size.
- A multistage probability sampling method was used with the random route and next birthday respondent's selection procedures.
 - Stage one: All districts of Georgia are grouped into 10 regions. All regions of Georgia were surveyed (Tbilisi city - as separate region) except for Abkhazeti (Abkhazia) and Samachablo (South Ossetia), which were excluded due to the political situation.
 - Stage two: selection of the settlements - cities and villages.
 - Settlements were selected at random. The number of selected settlements in each region was proportional to the share of population living in a particular type of the settlement in each region.
 - Stage three: primary sampling units were described.
- The margin of error does not exceed plus or minus 2.5 percent, and the response rate was 75 percent.
- Charts and graphs may not add up to 100 percent due to rounding.
- The survey was funded by the [U.S. Agency for International Development](#).

Frequently Cited Disaggregates

Disaggregate	Disaggregation Category	Base
Region	Tbilisi	n=451
	Kakheti	n=132
	Shida Kartli	n=107
	Kvemo Kartli	n=167
	Samtskhe-Javakheti	n=64
	Ajara	n=134
	Guria	n=48
	Samegrelo	n=138
	Imereti	n=221
	Mtskheta-Mtianeti	n=37
Gender	Male	n=693
	Female	n=806
Age	18-29 years old	n=296
	30-49 years old	n=564
	50 and older	n=639
Occupation	Blue collar	n=110
	Farmer	n=39
	White collar	n=176
	Higher or medium level executive	n=94
	Pensioner (not working)	n=292
	Student	n=70
	Housewife	n=195
	Unemployed	n=417
Self-employed	n=107	
Settlement	Urban	n=418
	Rural	n=631
	Tbilisi	n=451
Party Preference	Georgian Dream-Democratic Georgia	n=522
	European Georgia	n=50
	Strategy Aghmashenebli	n=46
	United National Movement-United Opposition Strength in Unity	n=274
	Other parties	n=154
	Spoil the ballot	n=69
	None	n=153
Don't know/No answer	n=232	

* Cited bases are weighted. Margin of error will vary with sample size n. Results for sample size n less than 50 should be interpreted with caution.

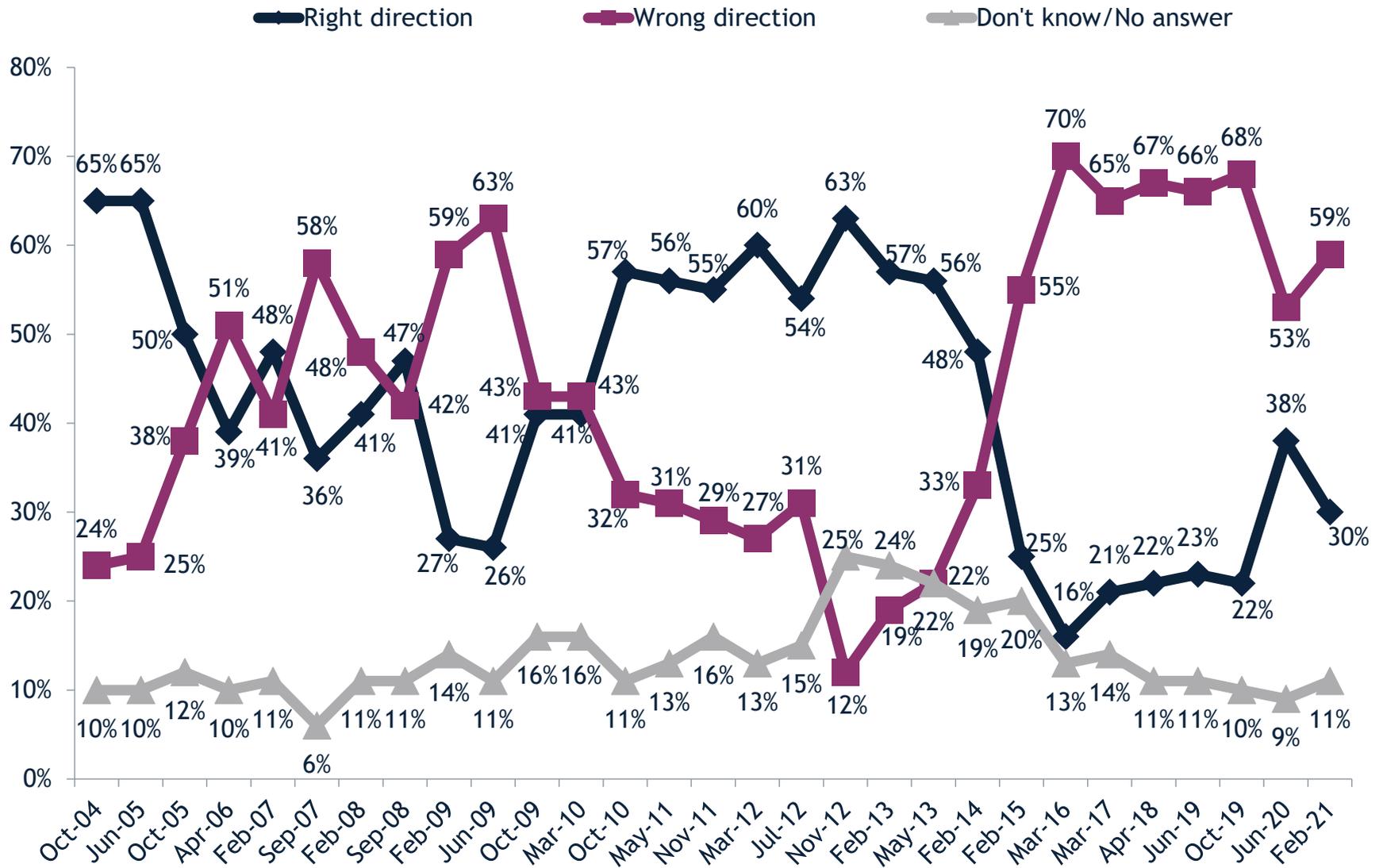


National Outlook

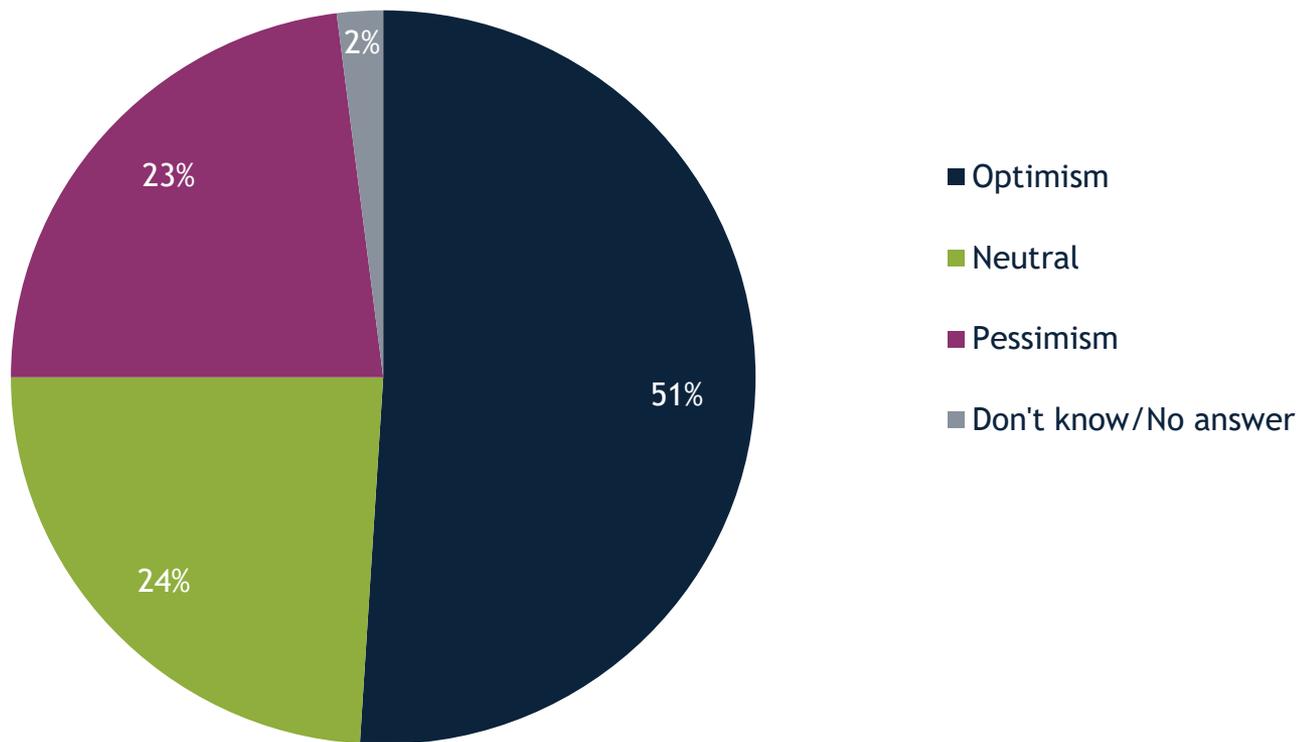


CENTER FOR
INSIGHTS IN
SUR✓**EY**
RESEARCH

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

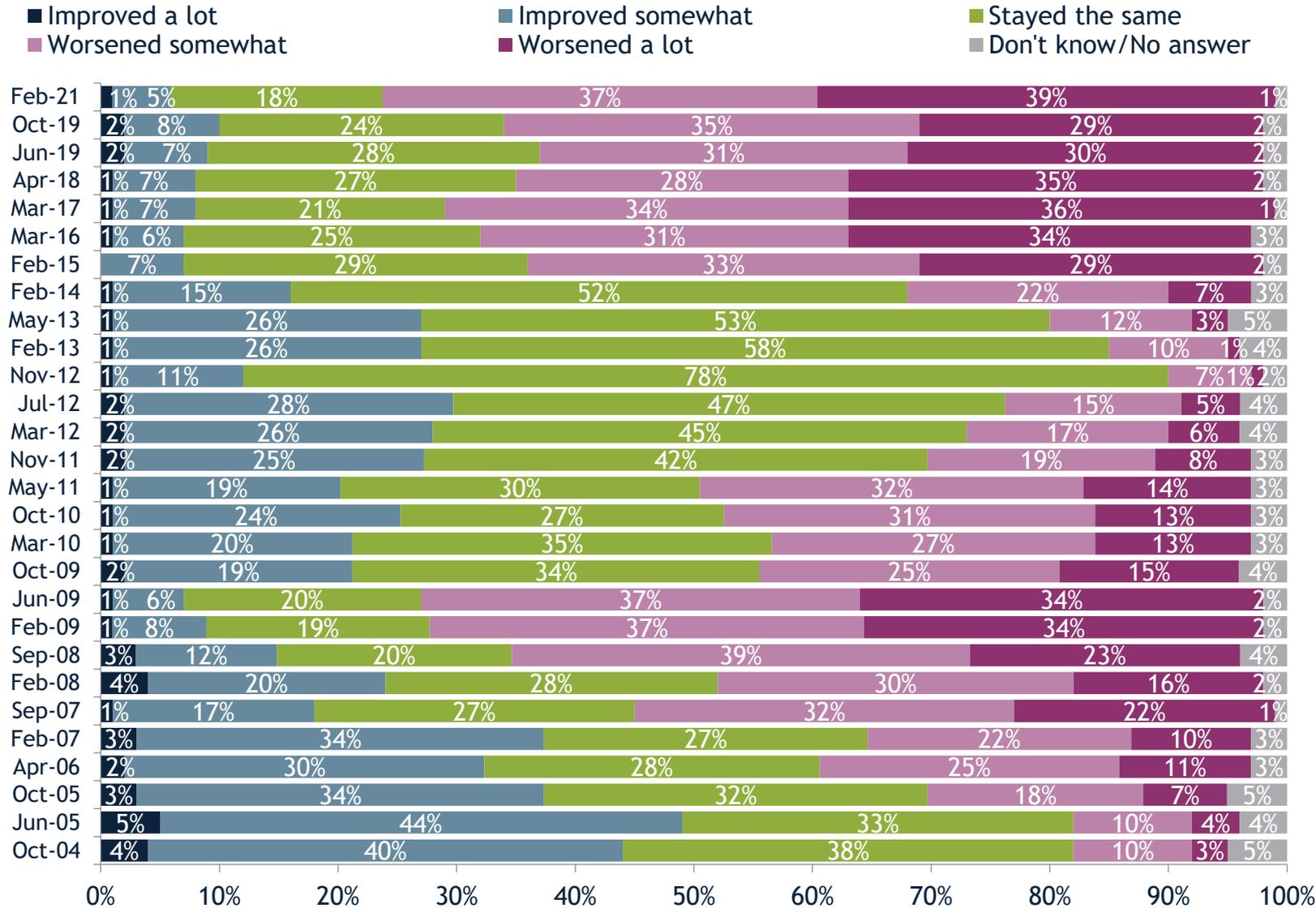


How would you evaluate the prevailing mood of the Georgian population?*



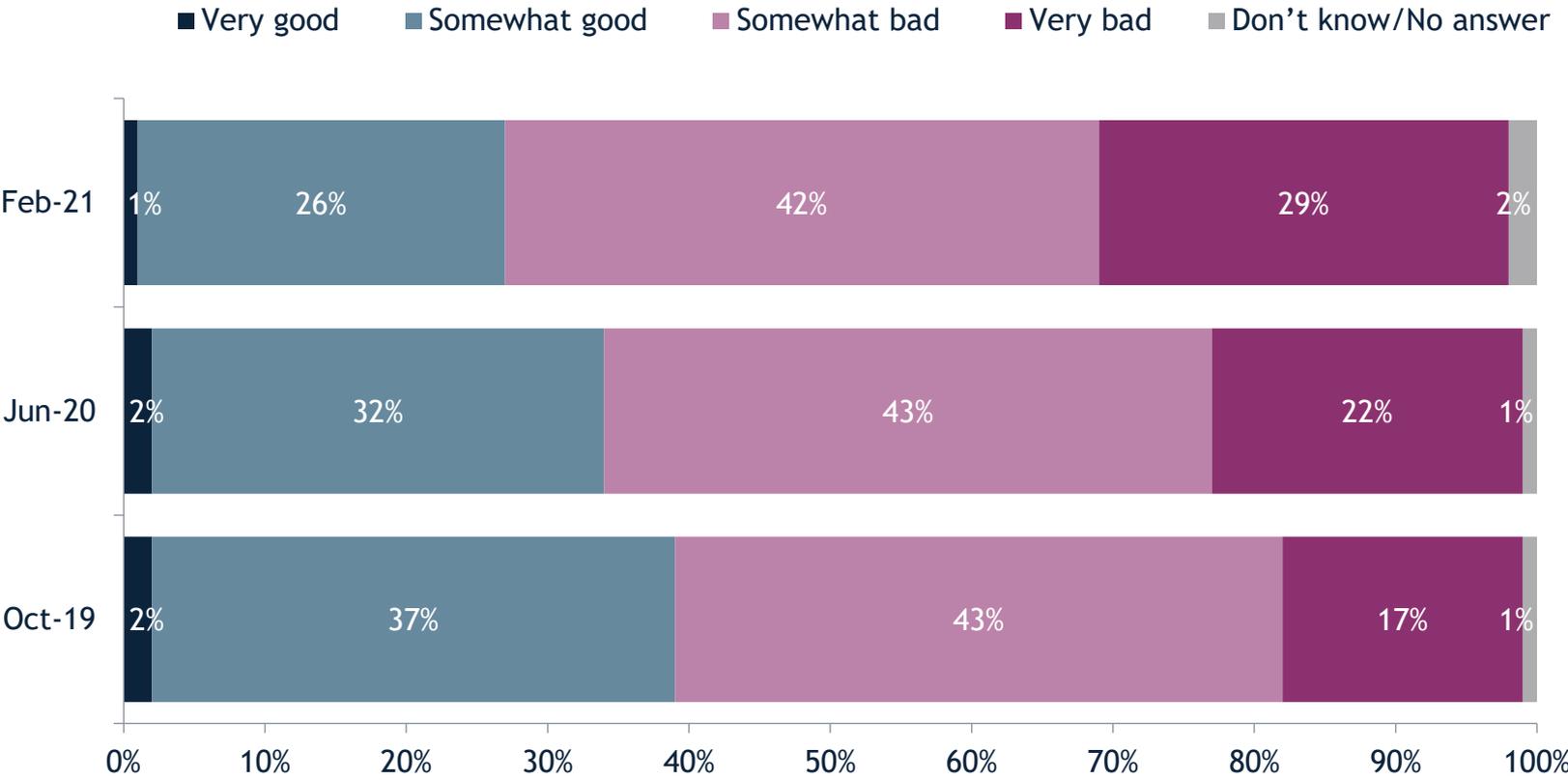
* Under "Optimism," responses "Belief that the future will definitely be better" and "Belief that the future will be somewhat better" are combined. Responses "Not much hope for a better future" and "Apathy, belief in fate" are grouped under "Neutral." Responses "Insecurity, worry, fear for the future" and "Total disappointment, disbelief in any improvement" are combined under "Pessimism."

Over the last 12 months*, the economic situation in Georgia has...

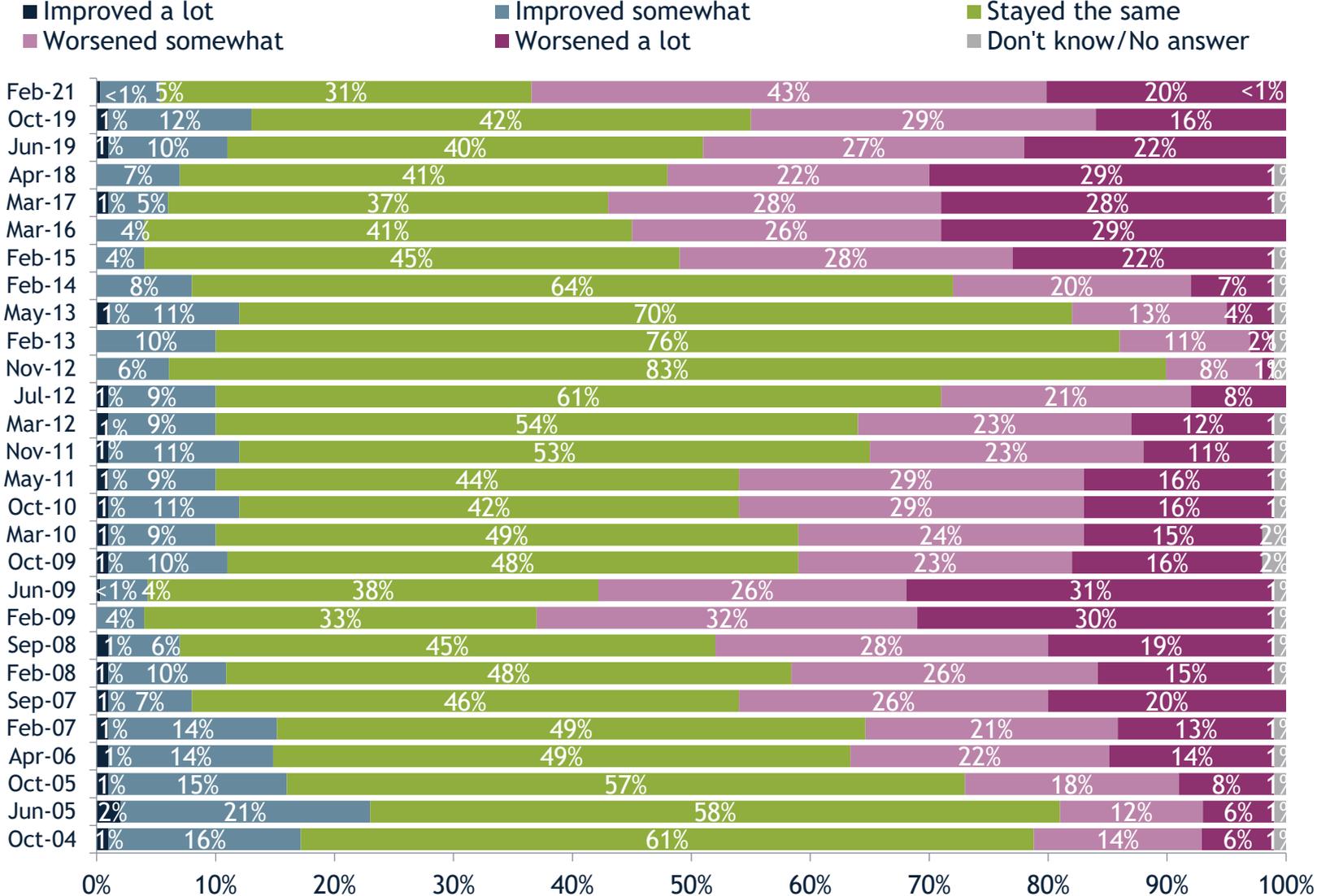


* In surveys before 2008, this question covered a three-month period. In surveys from 2008 to 2017, it covered a period of two months.

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



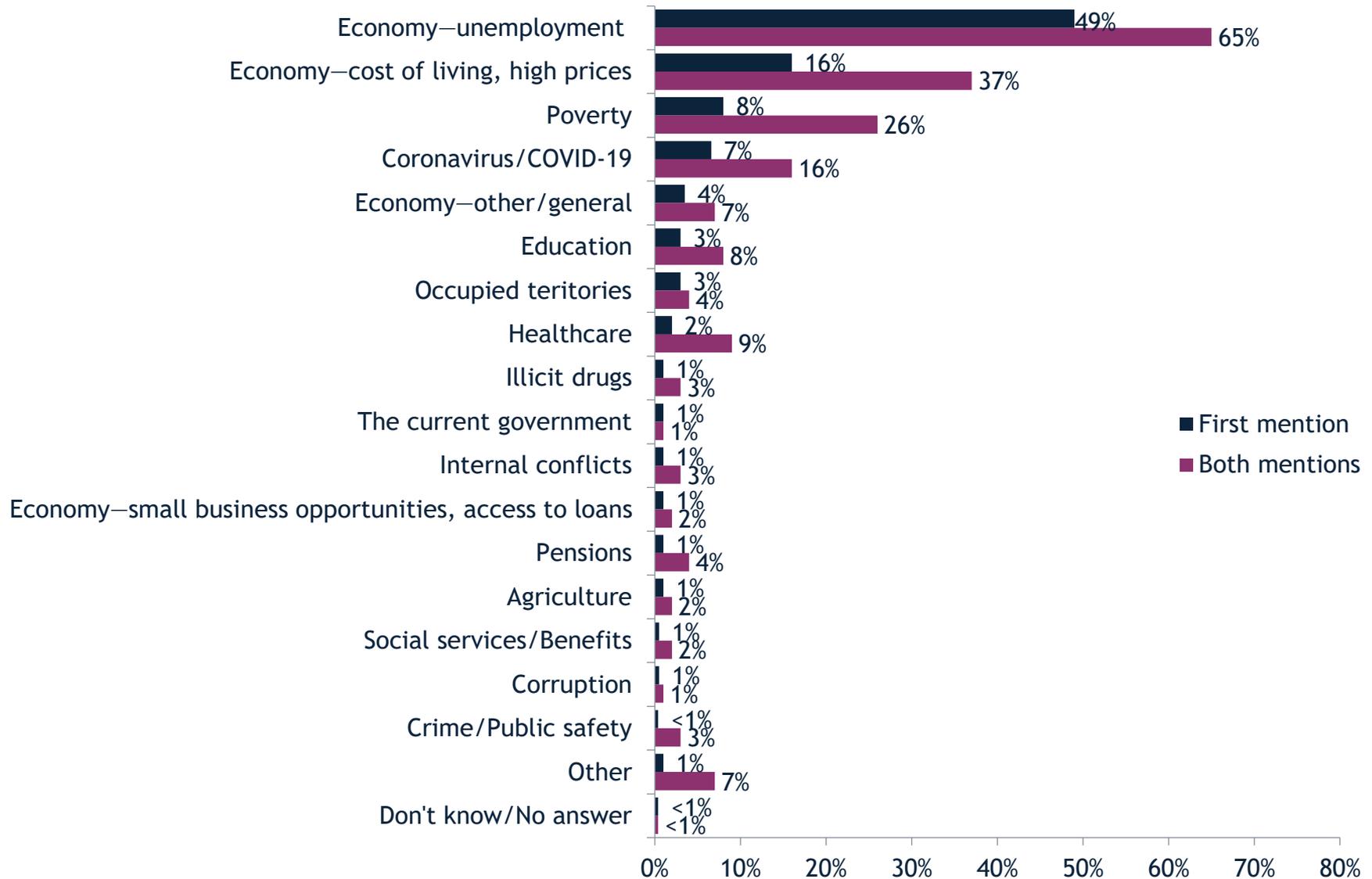
Over the last 12 months*, how has the economic situation of your household changed?



* In surveys before 2008 the question was about the period of 3 months, in surveys from 2008 to 2017 - about the period of 2 months

What is the most important problem facing our country today?*

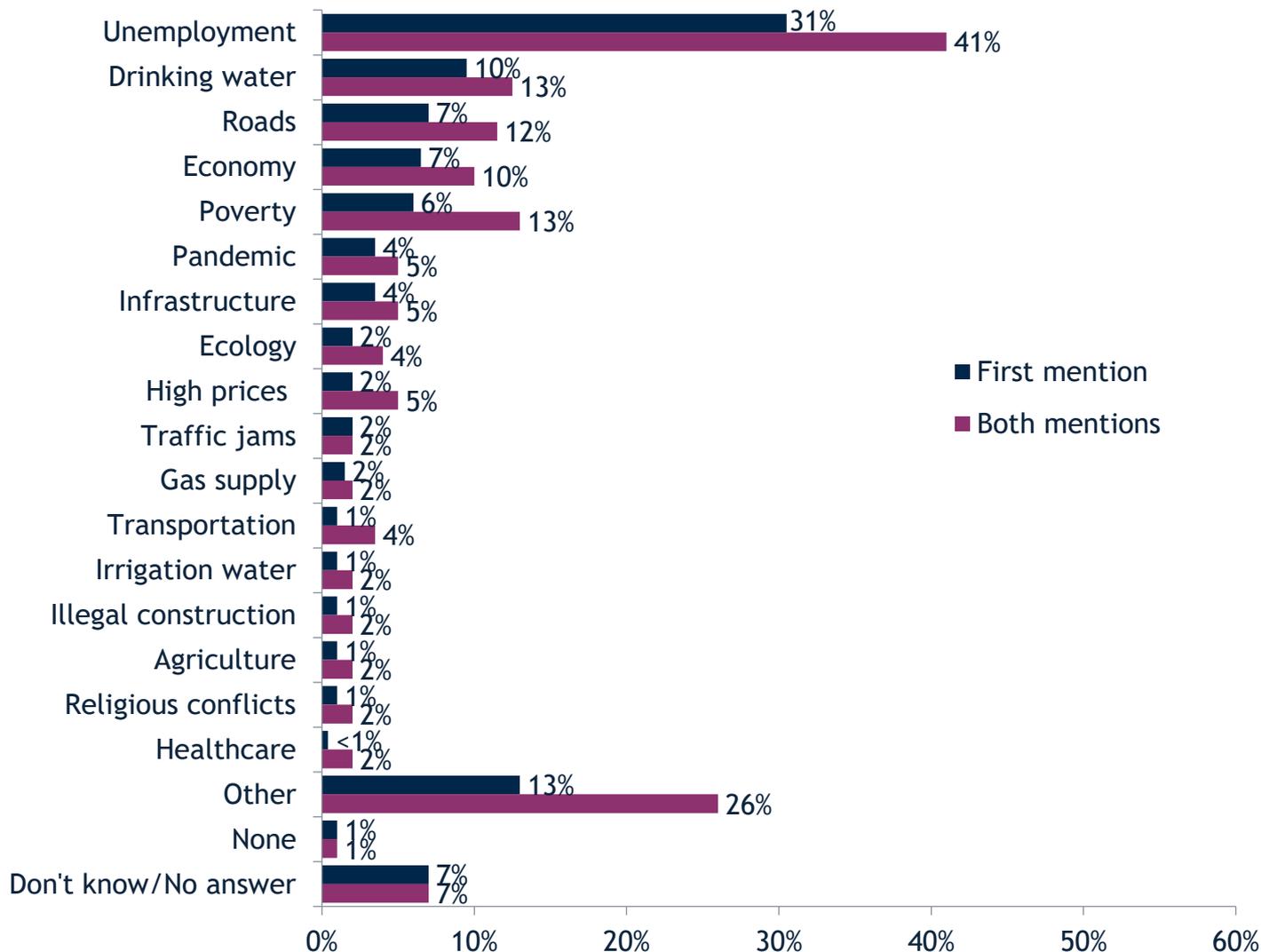
(Respondents permitted to supply two spontaneous answers)



* Responses named by less than one percent merged into "Other."

What is the most important problem facing your town/village today?

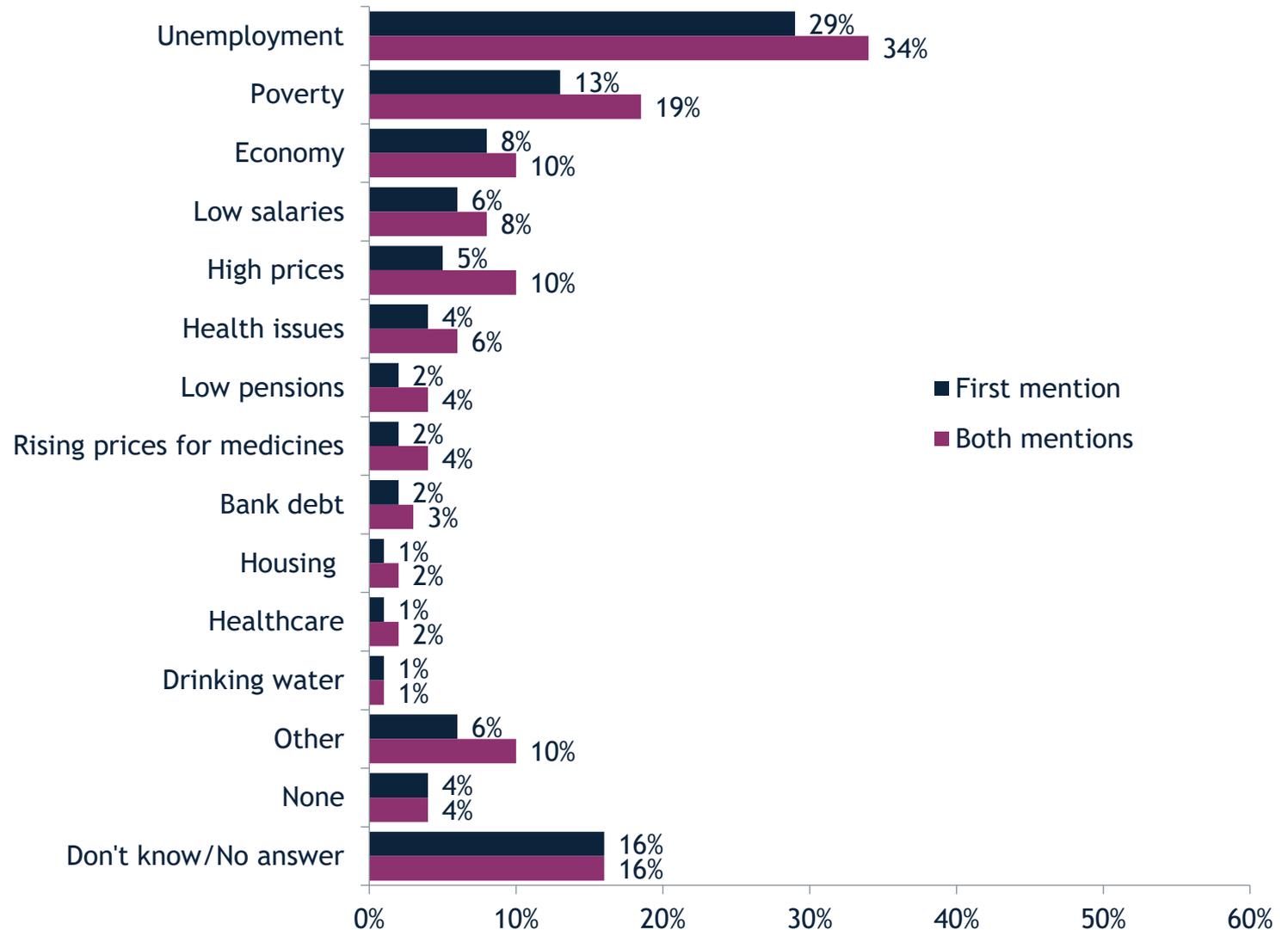
(Respondents permitted to supply two spontaneous answers)



* Responses named by less than one percent merged into "Other."

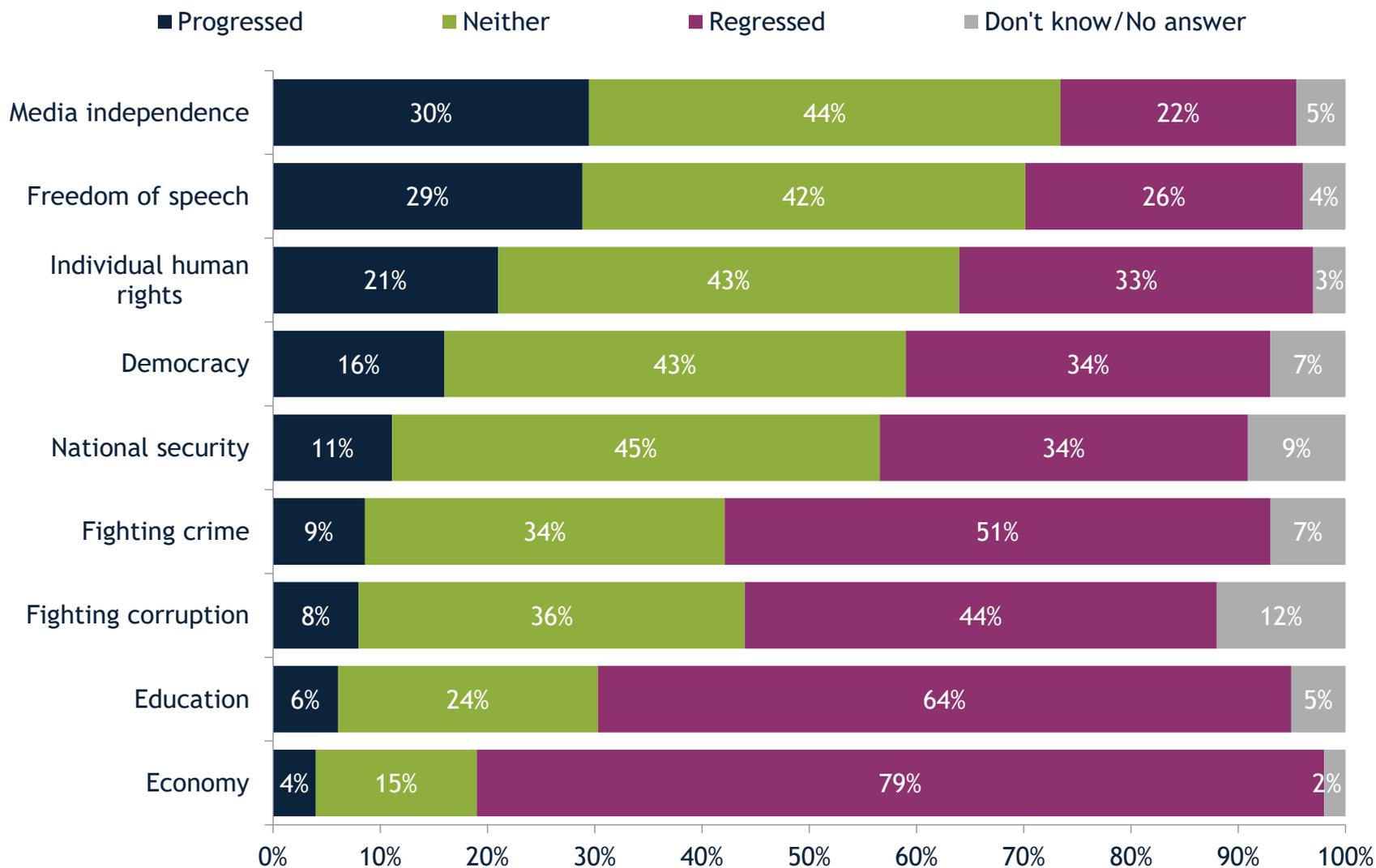
What is the most important problem facing your household today?

(Respondents permitted to supply two spontaneous answers)



* Responses named by less than one percent merged into "Other."

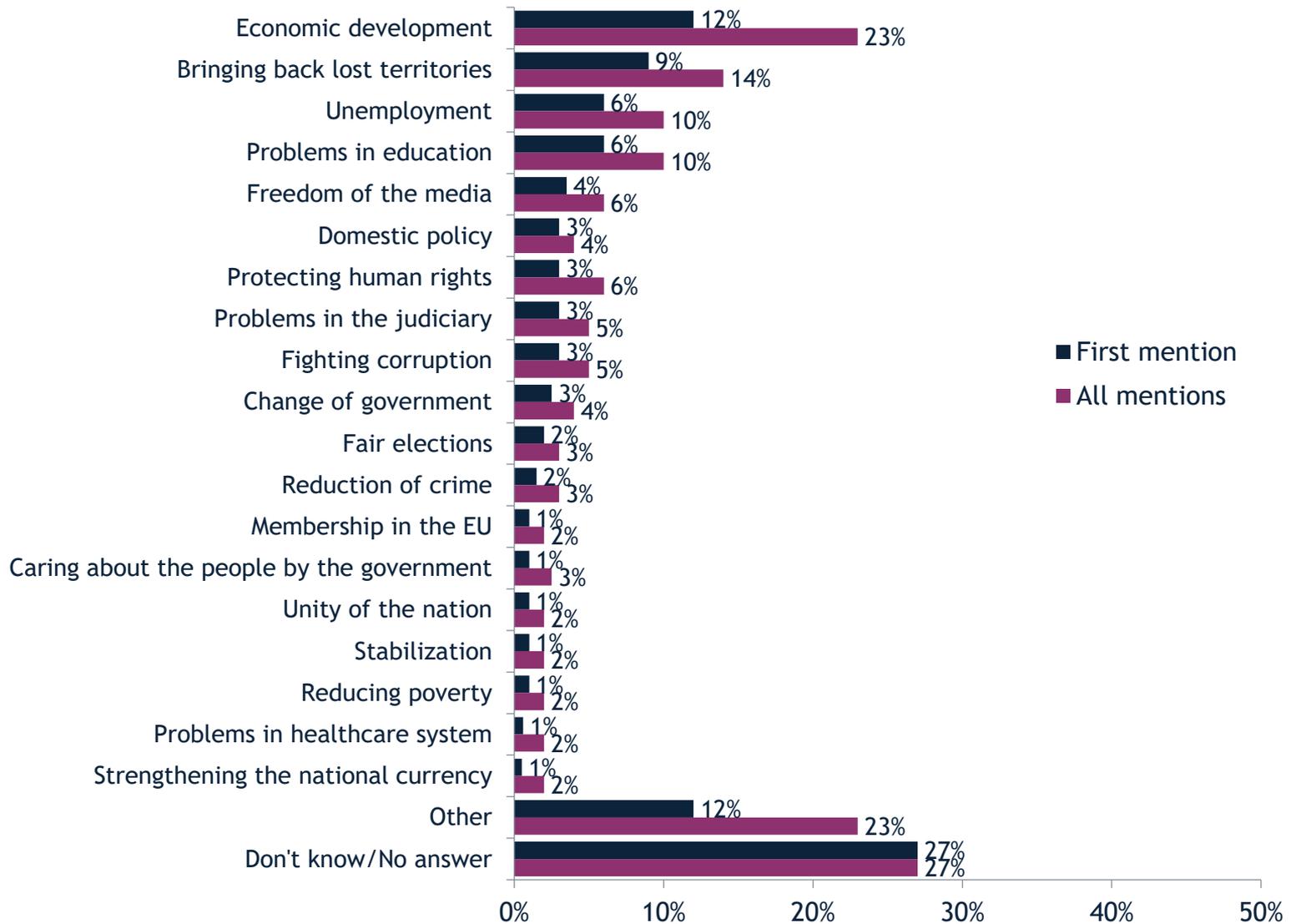
How do you feel about the direction of the following issues? Have they progressed or regressed over the past year?*



*Responses “Regressed a lot” and “Regressed” are combined under “Regressed.” Responses “Progressed a lot” and “Progressed” are combined under “Progressed.”

What do you think are the three biggest challenges for Georgia's democratic development and future?

(Respondents permitted to supply three spontaneous answers)

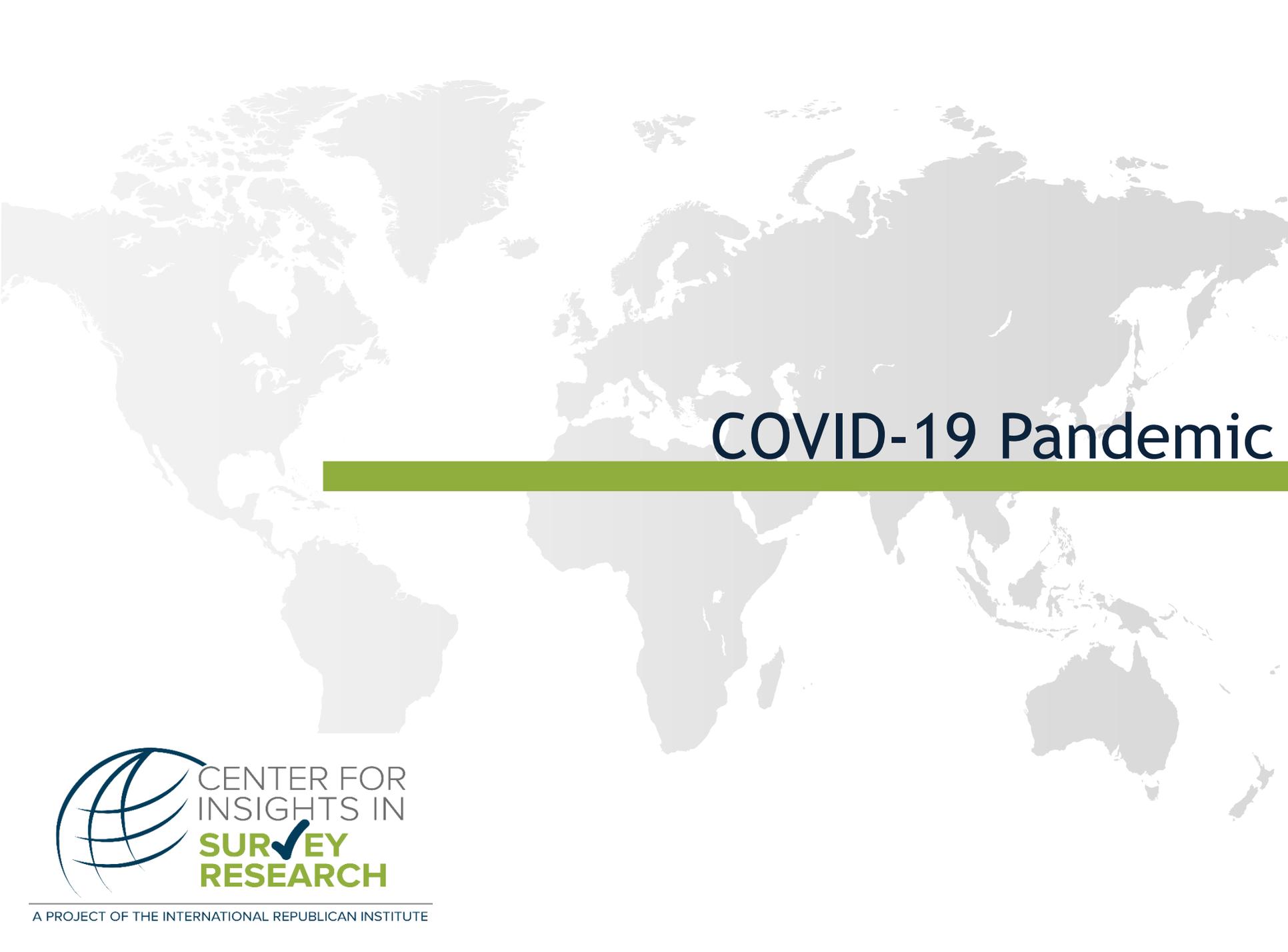


In your opinion what are the first laws that the newly elected Parliament should adopt, if any?*

(Respondents allowed to submit two spontaneous answers)



* Responses named by less than one percent merged into "Other."

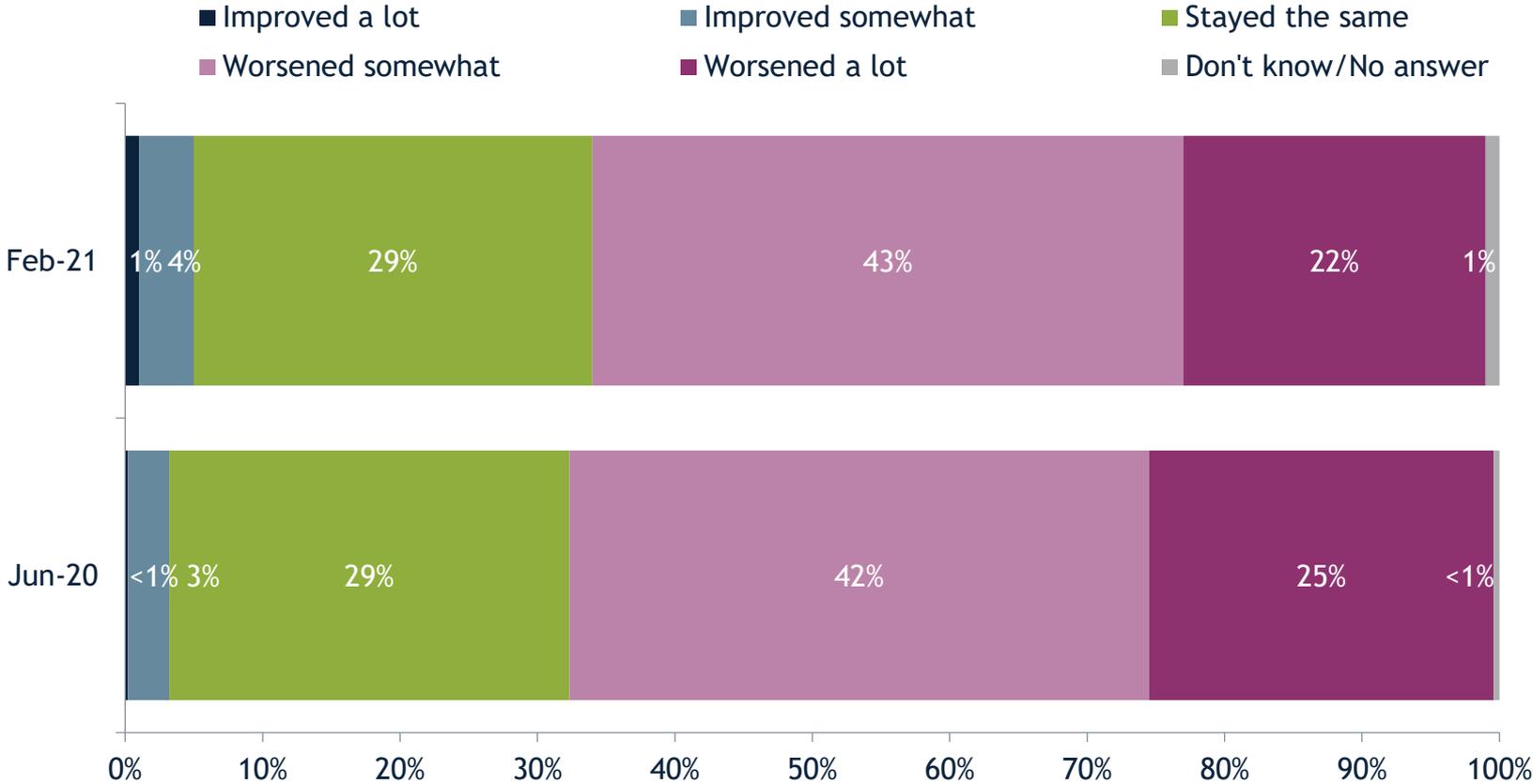


COVID-19 Pandemic



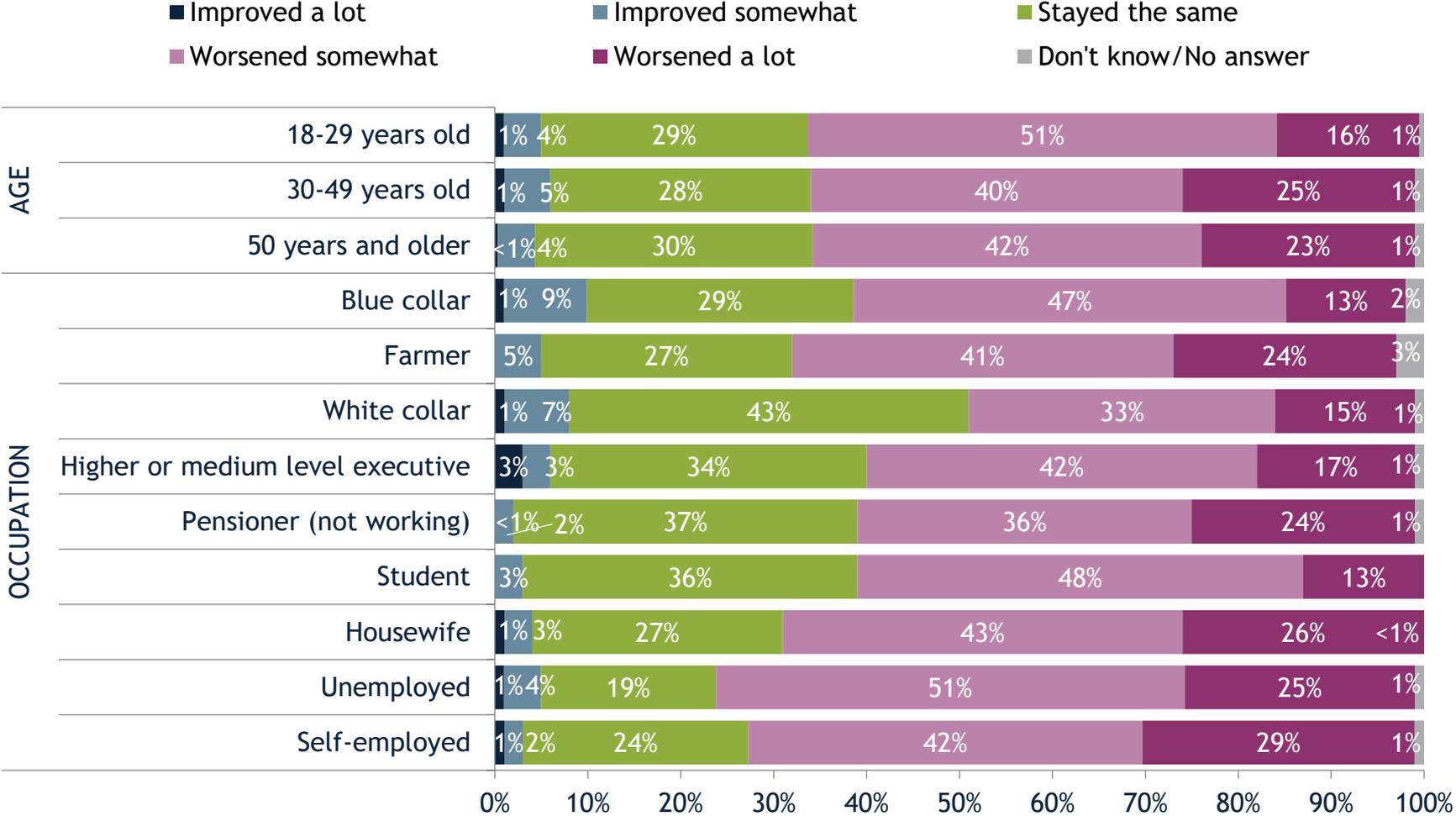
CENTER FOR
INSIGHTS IN
SUR✓**EY**
RESEARCH

Since the outbreak of the COVID-19 pandemic, how has the economic situation of your household changed?



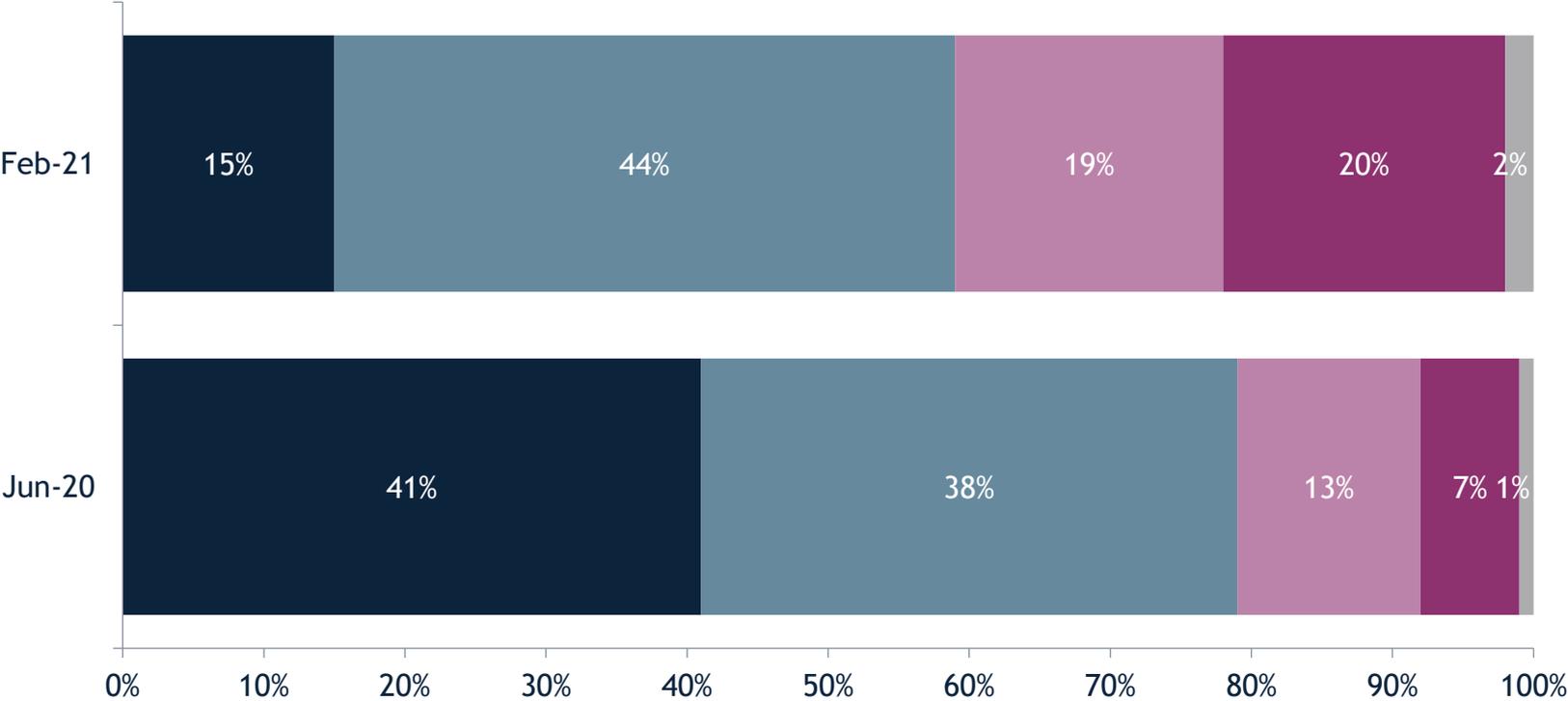
Since the outbreak of the COVID-19 pandemic, how has the economic situation of your household changed?

(Disaggregated by age and occupation)

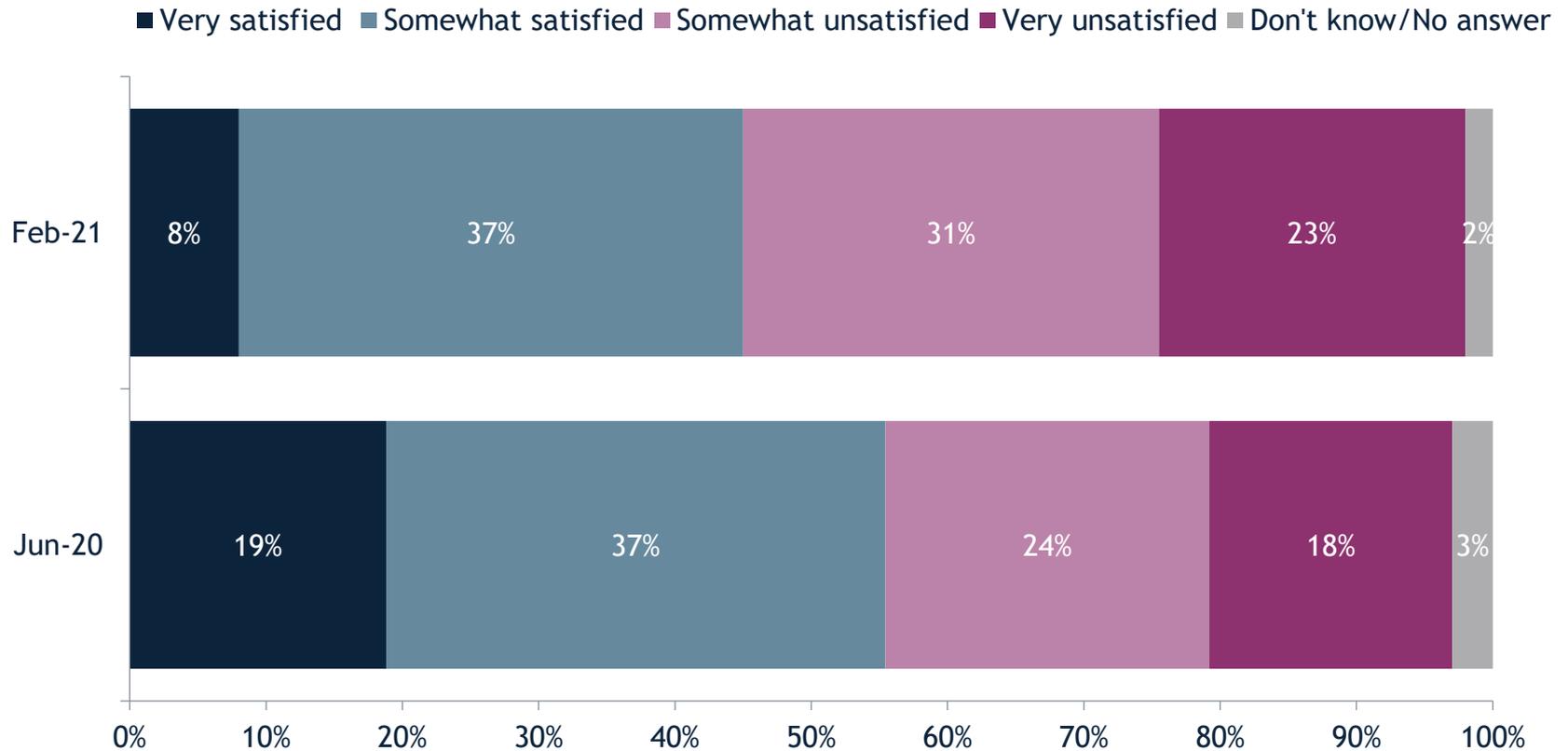


To what extent are you satisfied with the government's response to COVID-19?

■ Very satisfied ■ Somewhat satisfied ■ Somewhat unsatisfied ■ Very unsatisfied ■ Don't know/No answer

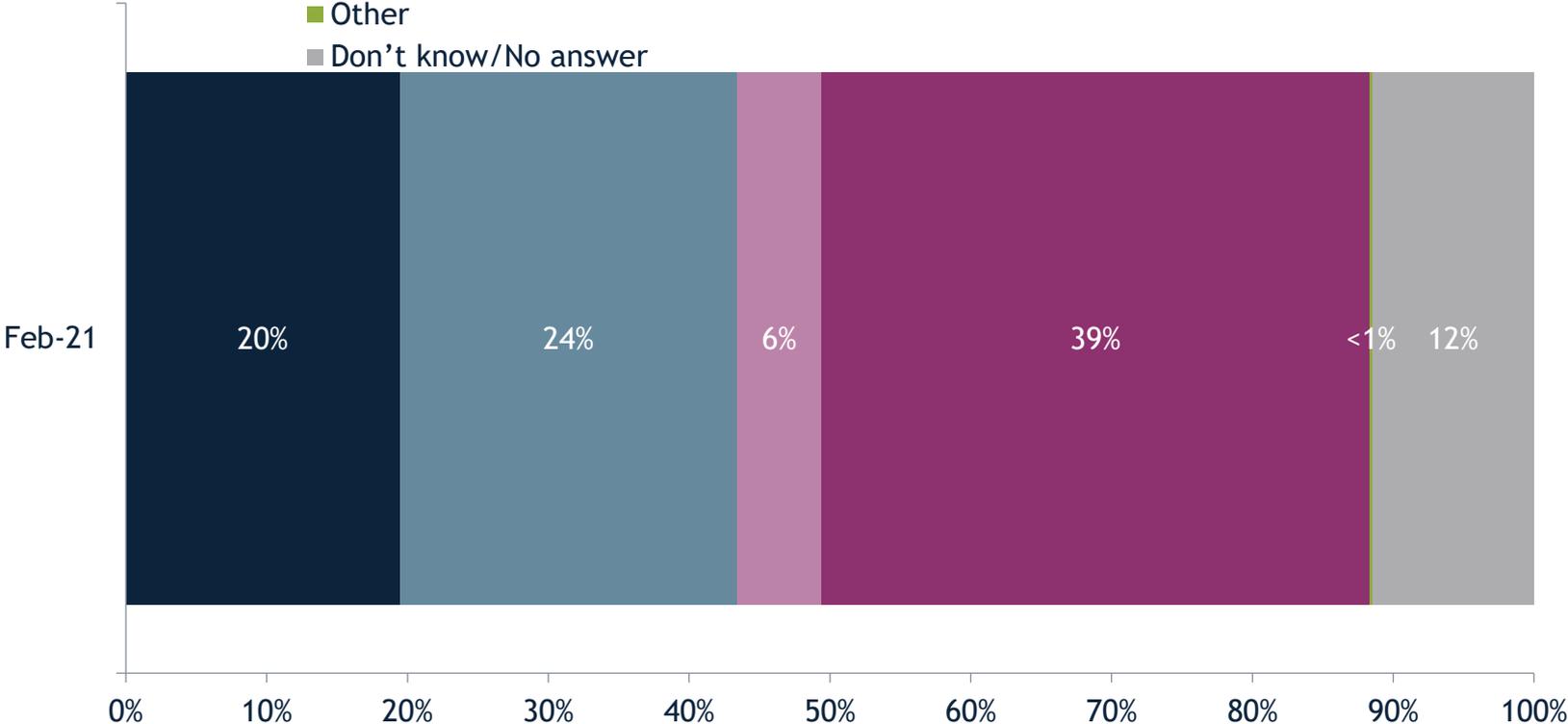


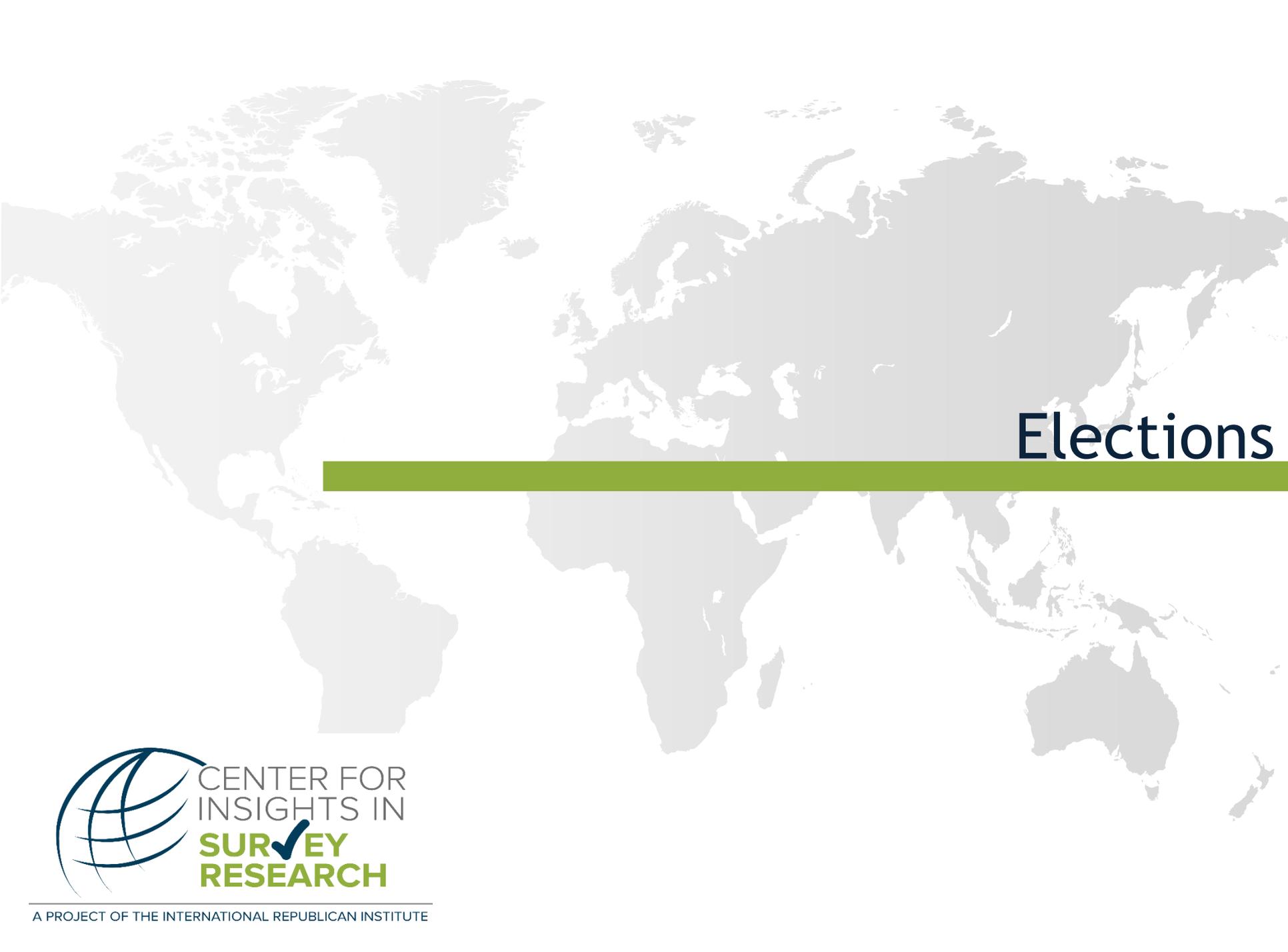
To what extent are you satisfied with the government's efforts to address the economic consequences of COVID-19?



After the COVID-19 vaccine becomes available and the vaccination process starts, what will be your decision?

- I will get vaccinated as soon as it is available to me
- I will get vaccinated after some time passes
- I will get vaccinated only if required by the law or my employer
- I will not get vaccinated
- Other
- Don't know/No answer



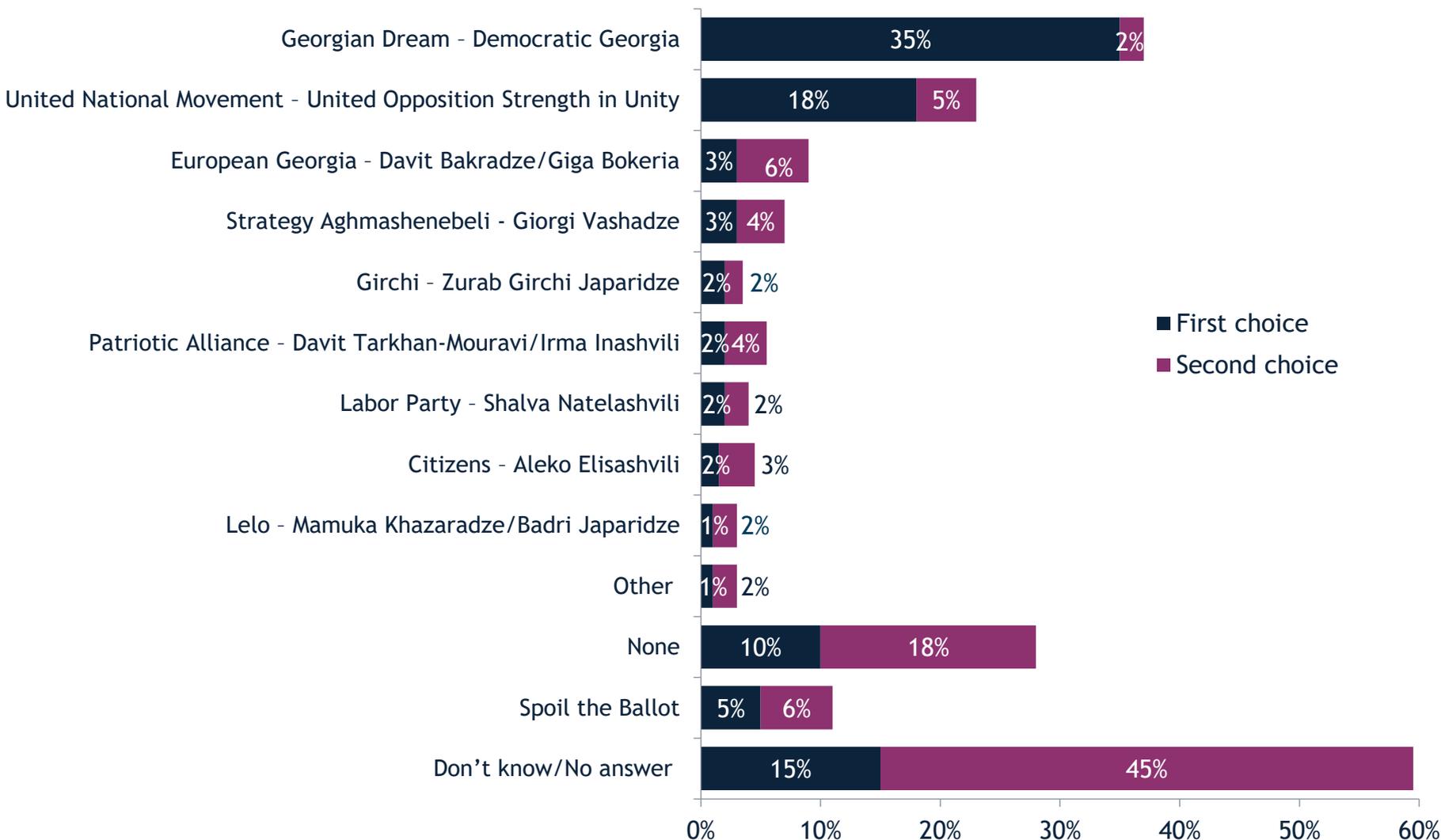


Elections



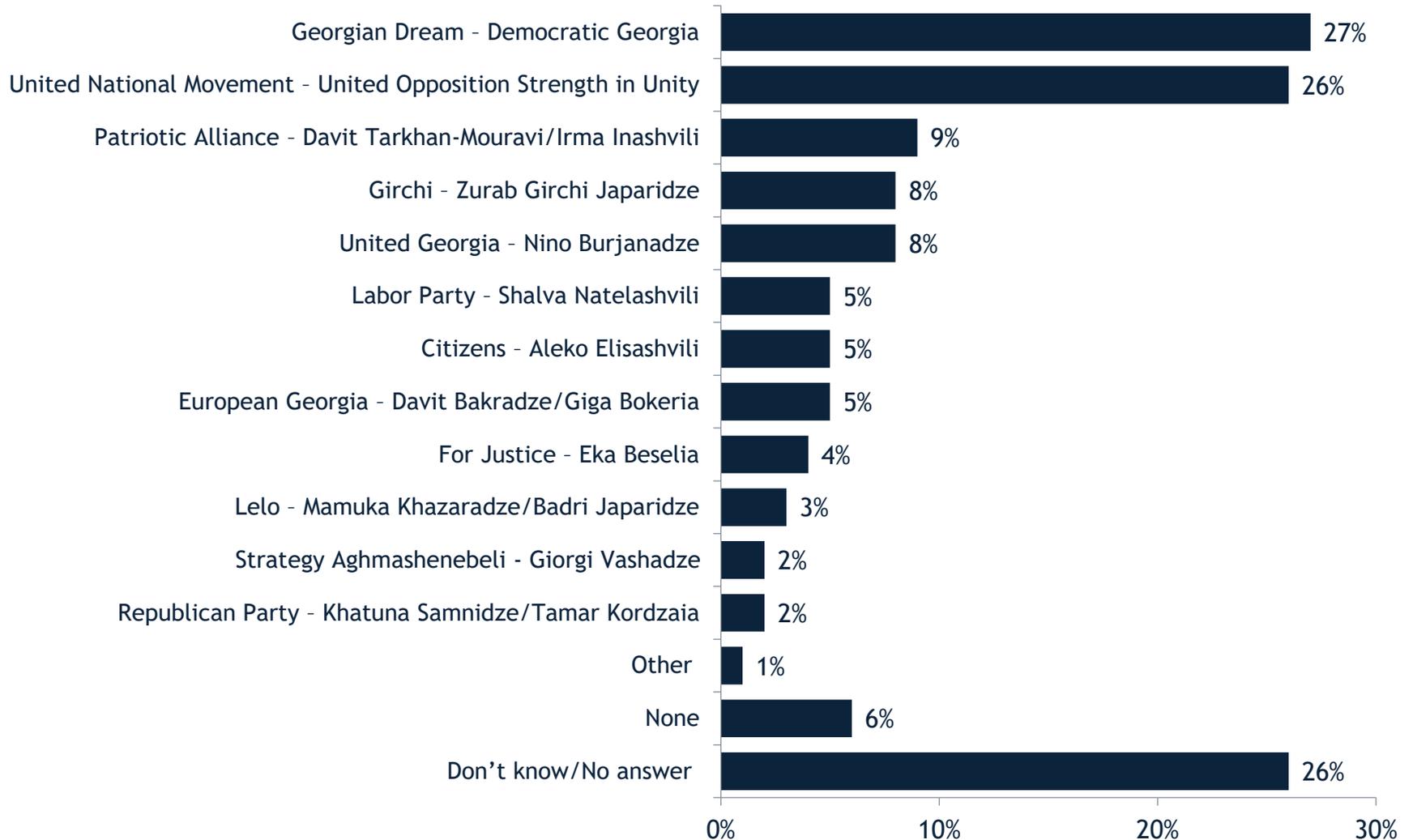
If elections were held this coming Sunday, for which party, if any, would you vote? (First choice)

If your first-choice party was not on the ballot, who would you vote for instead? (Second choice)

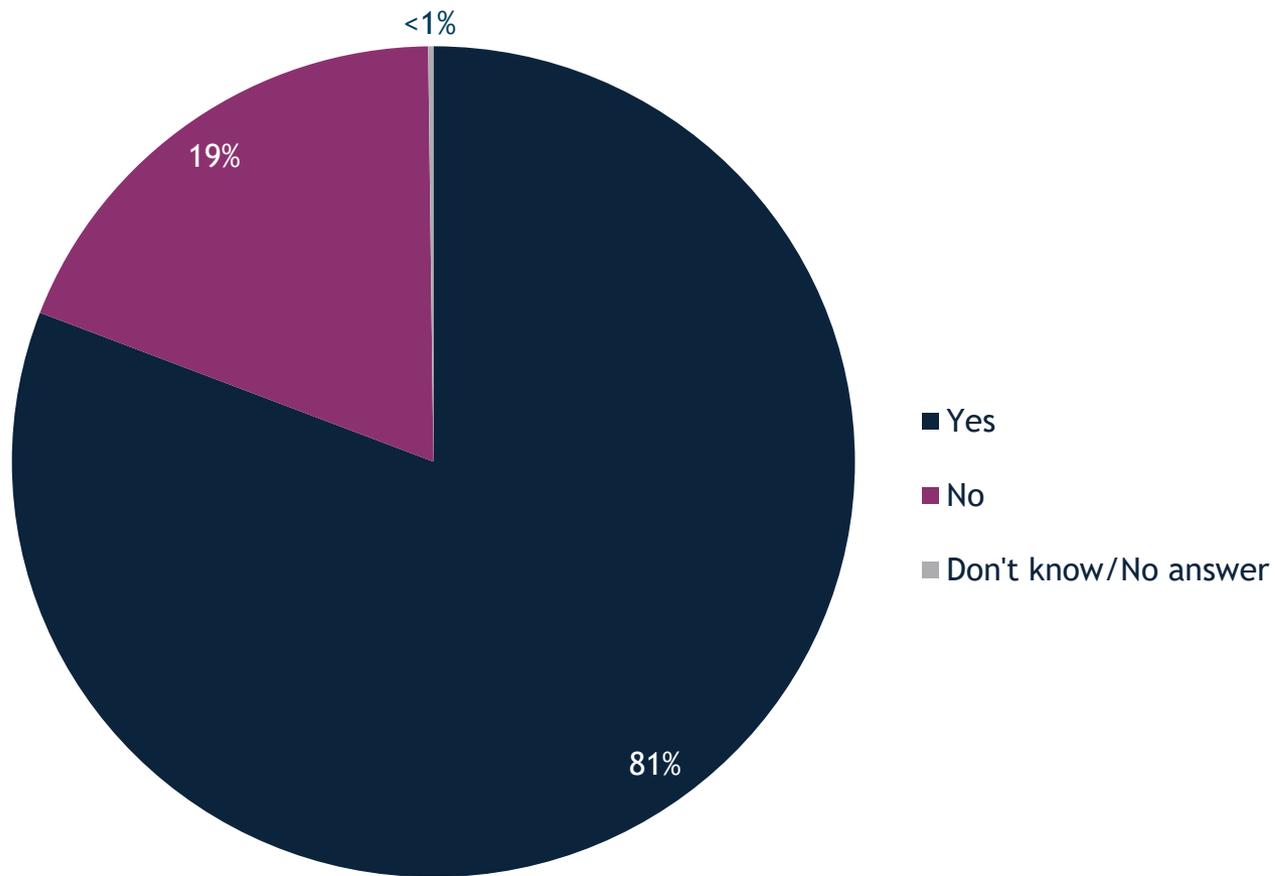


Which parties, if any, would you not vote for under any circumstances?

(Respondents allowed to provide multiple responses)

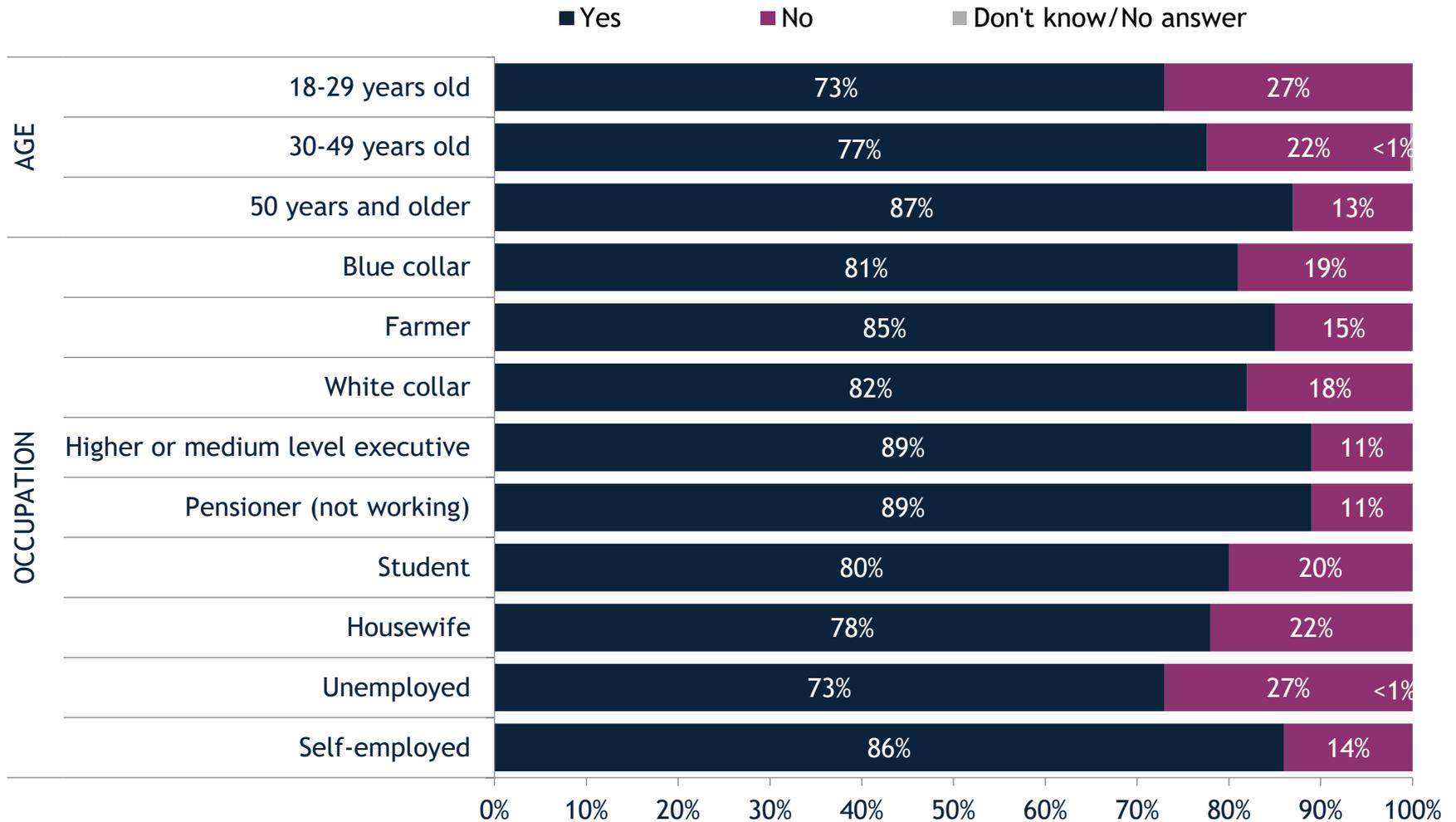


Did you vote in the 2020 parliamentary elections?

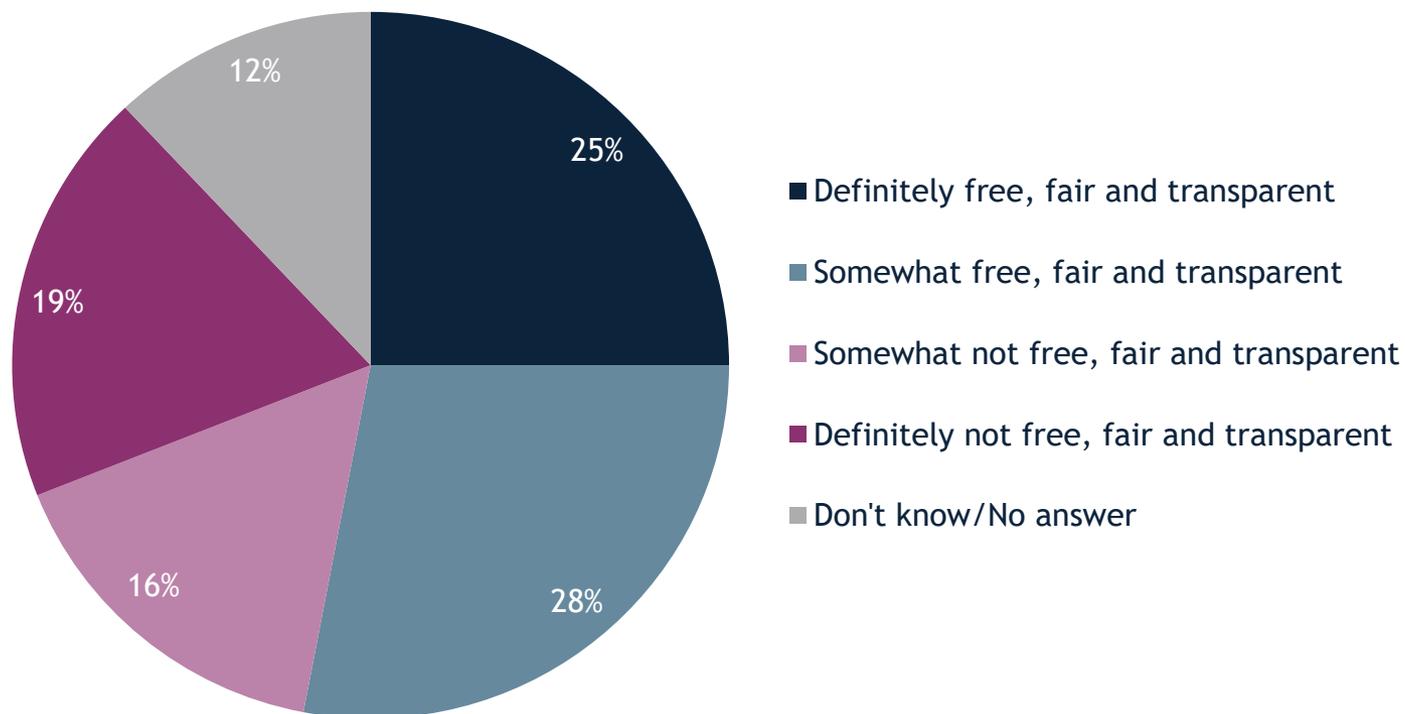


Did you vote in the 2020 parliamentary elections?

(Disaggregated by age and occupation)

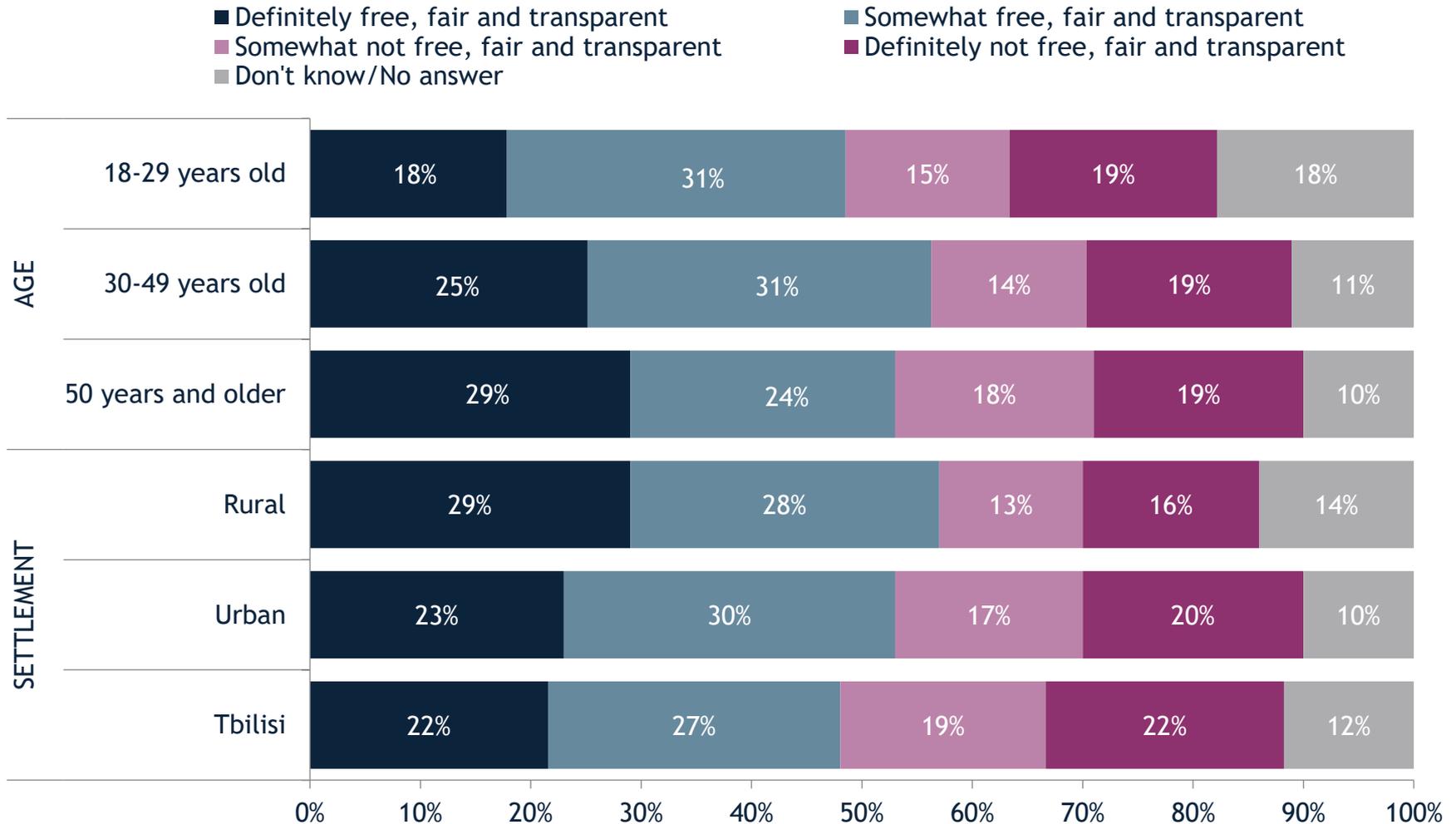


Thinking about the 2020 parliamentary elections, do you believe the elections were free, fair and transparent?



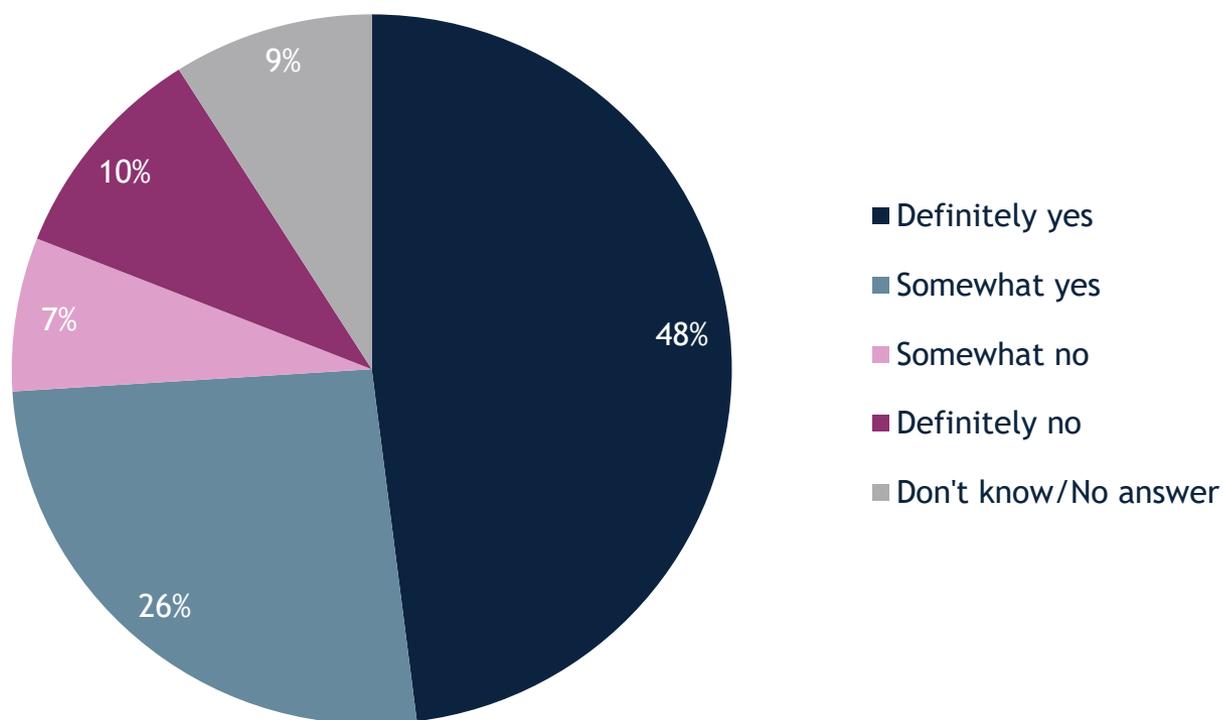
Thinking about the 2020 parliamentary elections, do you believe the elections were free, fair and transparent?

(Disaggregated by age and settlement)



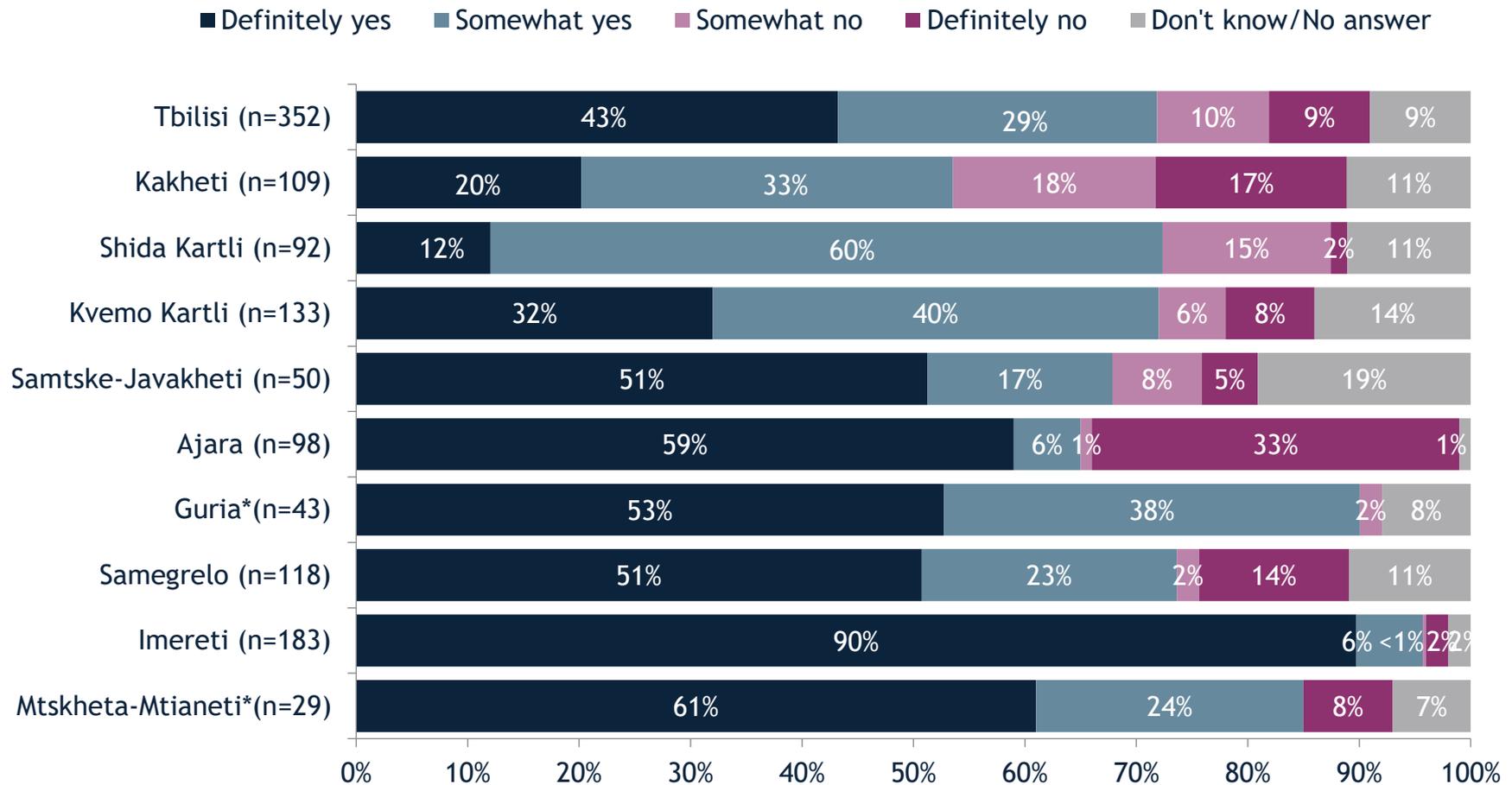
Was your polling station in the 2020 parliamentary elections a safe environment for you to vote confidently and without fear of violence or intimidation?

(Respondents that voted in 2020 parliamentary elections, n=1,211)



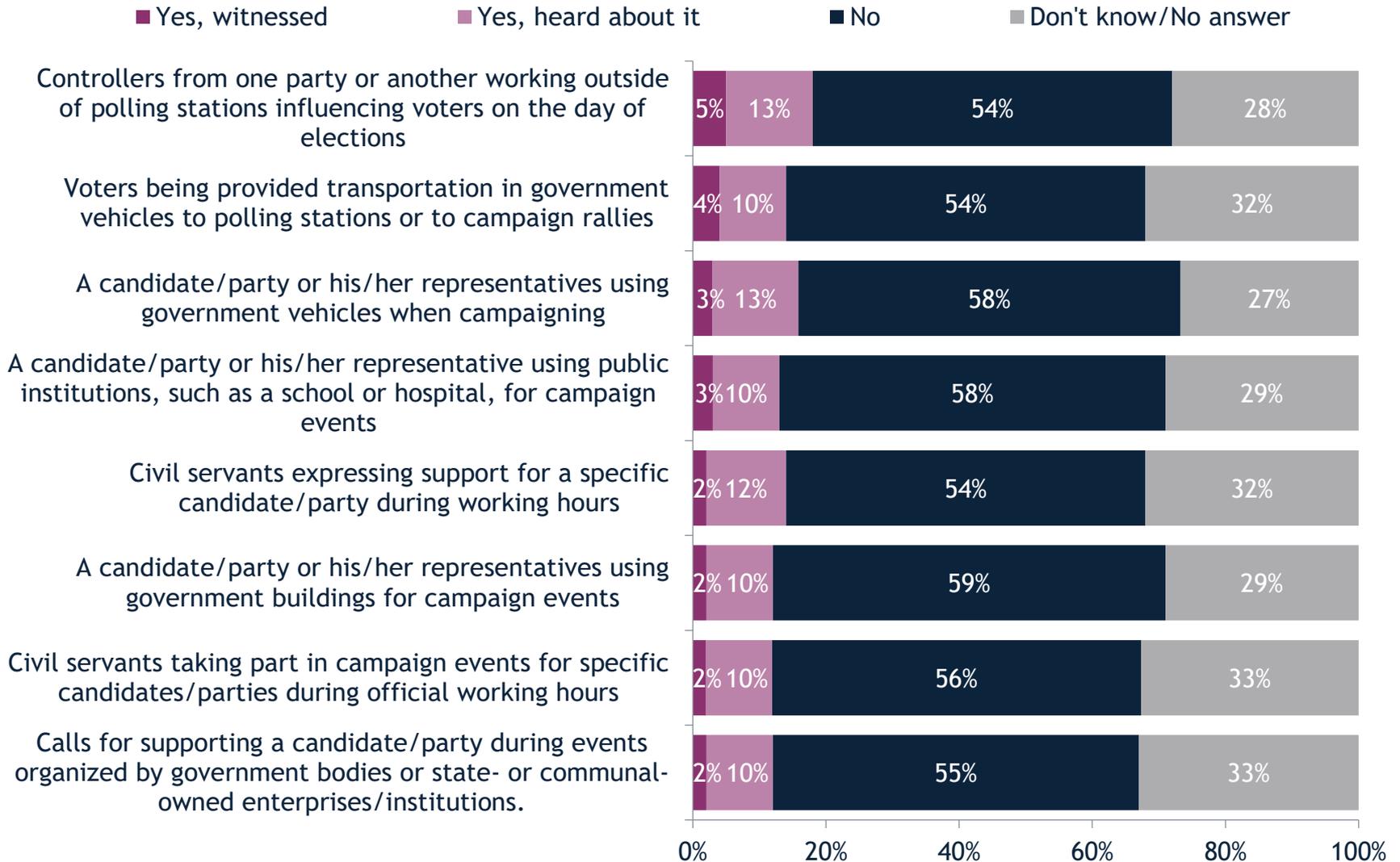
Was your polling station in the 2020 parliamentary elections a safe environment for you to vote confidently and without fear of violence or intimidation?

(Disaggregated by region; Respondents that voted in 2020 parliamentary elections, n=1,211)

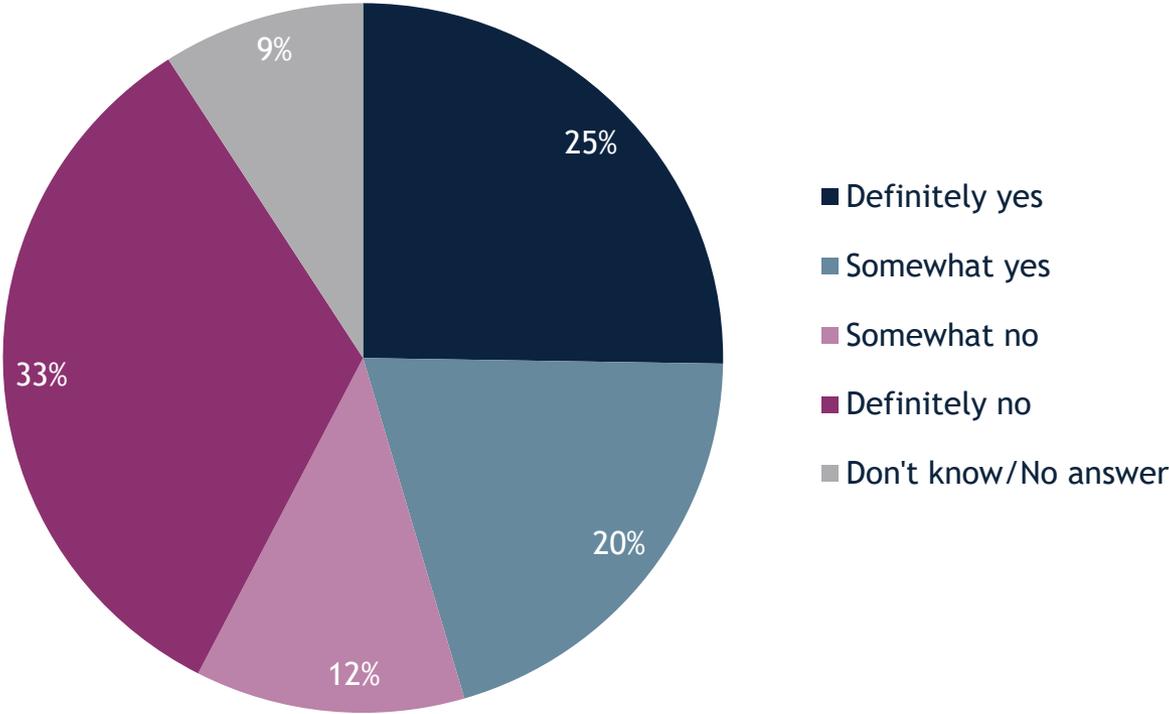


*Cited bases are weighted. Margin of error will vary with sample size n. Results for sample size n less than 50 should be interpreted with caution.

Did you personally witness or hear about any of the following things during the 2020 parliamentary elections?

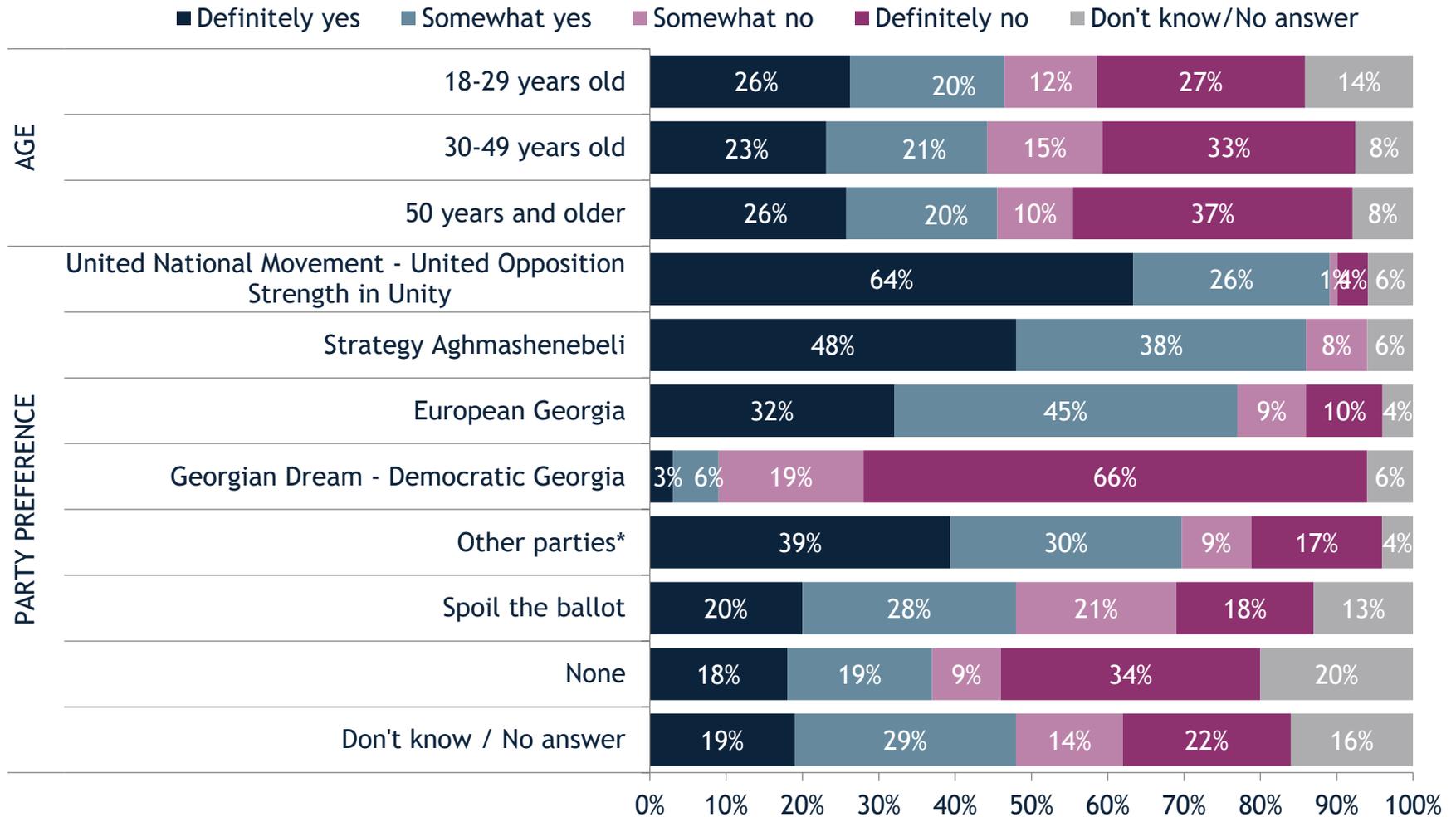


Do you support the opposition demand for snap parliamentary elections in Georgia?



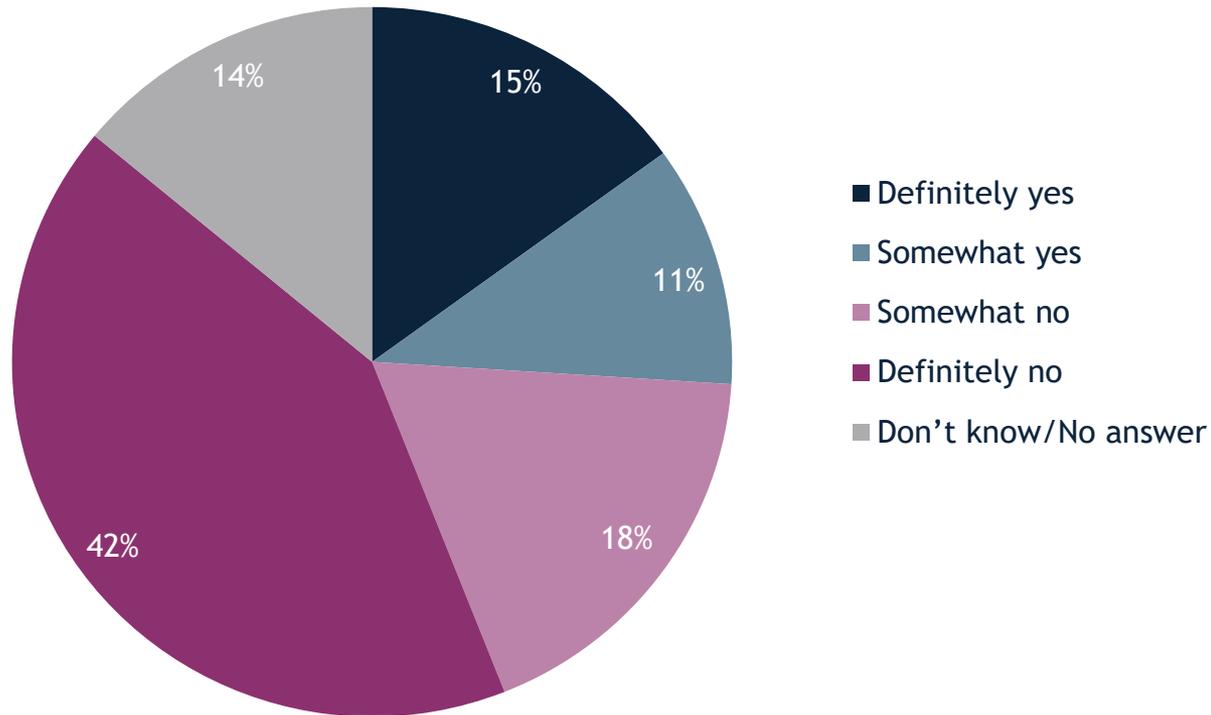
Do you support the opposition demand for snap parliamentary elections in Georgia?

(Disaggregated by age and party preference)



*“Other parties” includes parties selected by fewer than 3 percent of respondents: Citizens, United Georgia, For Justice, Republican Party, Girchi, Labor Party, Lelo, Free Democrats, Patriotic Alliance, European Socialists

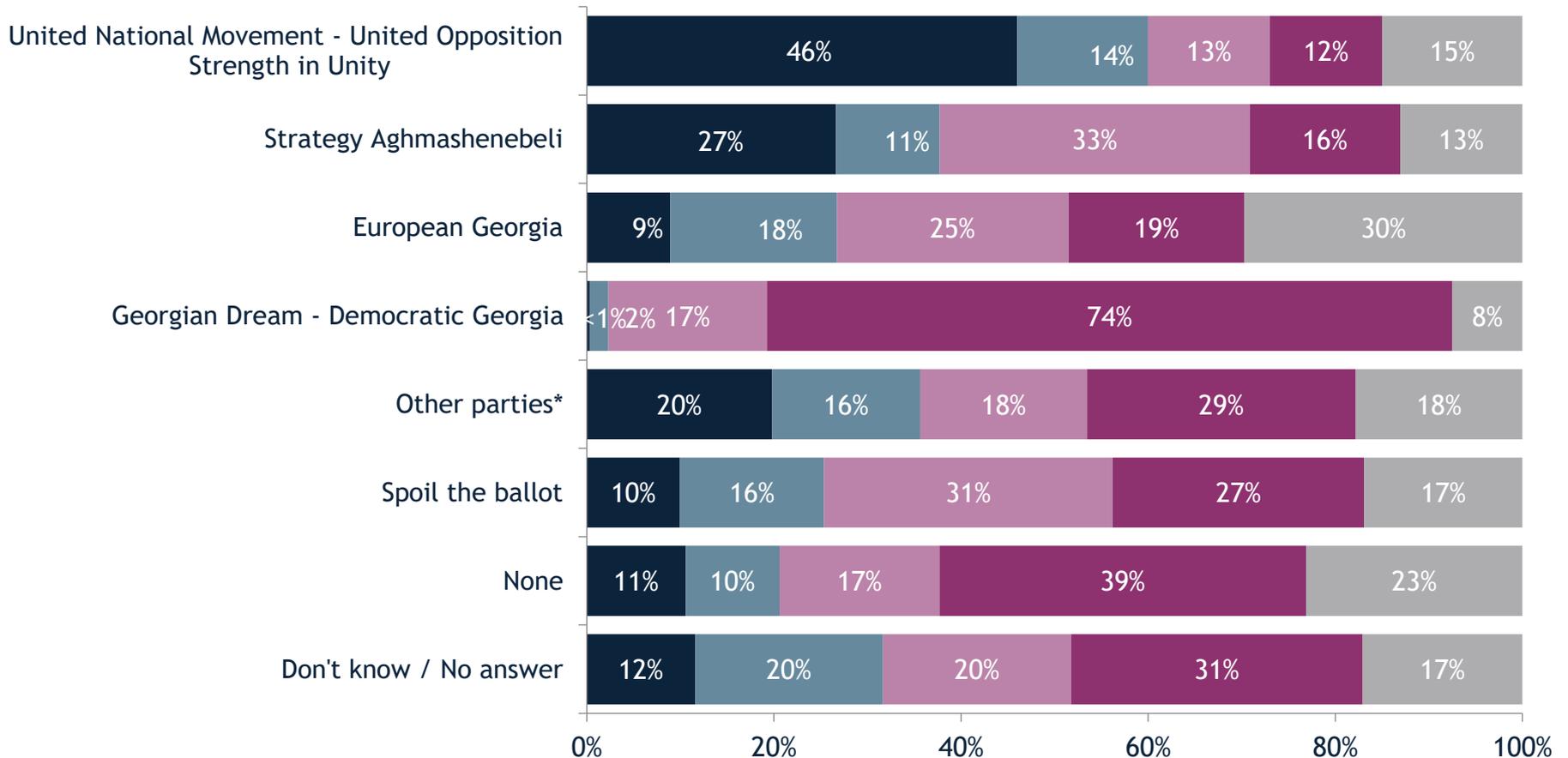
Do you support the opposition's decision to boycott entering the Parliament?



Do you support the opposition's decision to boycott entering the Parliament?

(Disaggregated by party preference)

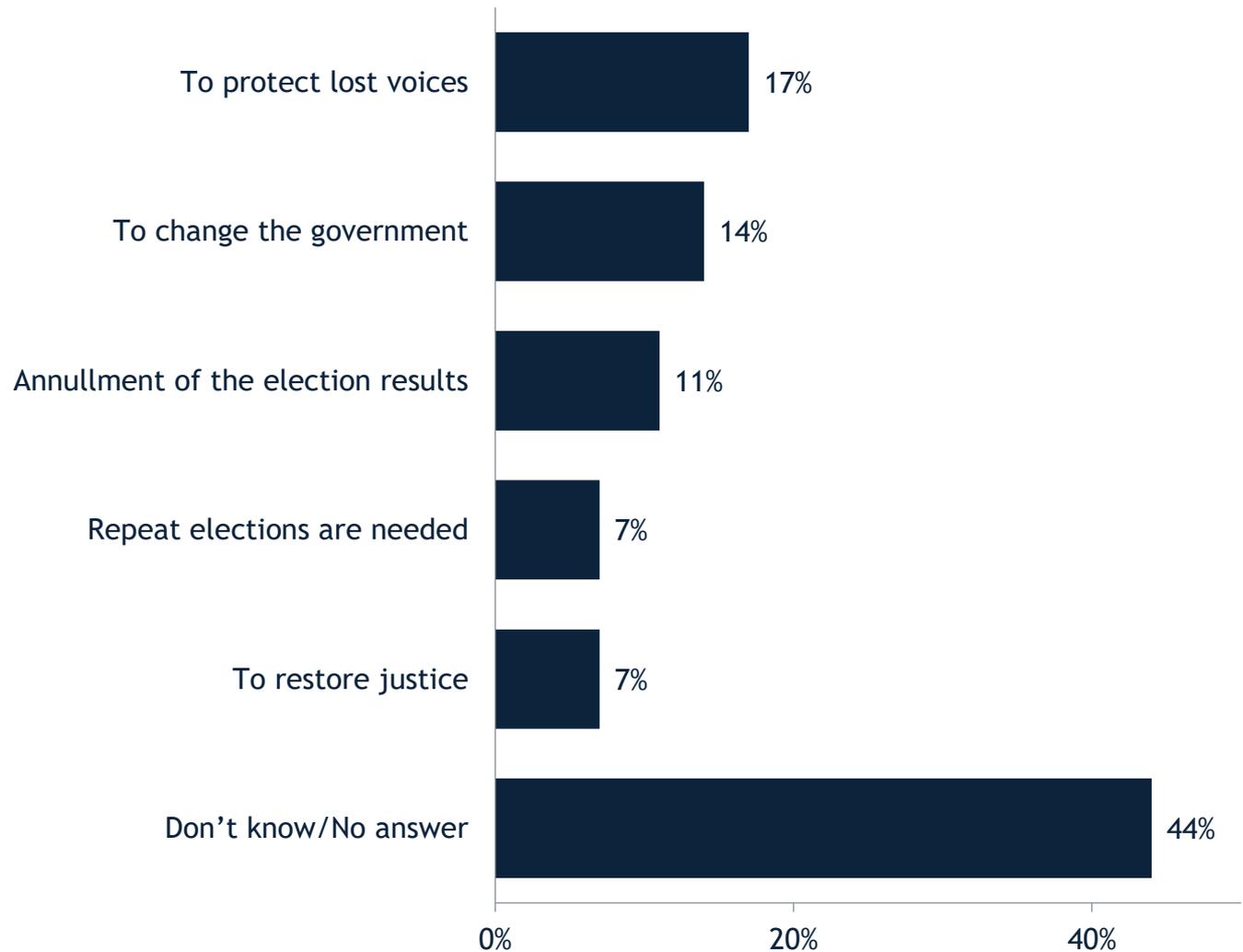
■ Definitely yes
 ■ Somewhat yes
 ■ Somewhat no
 ■ Definitely no
 ■ Don't know/No answer



*"Other parties" includes parties selected by fewer than 3 percent of respondents: Citizens, United Georgia, For Justice, Republican Party, Girchi, Labor Party, Lelo, Free Democrats, Patriotic Alliance, European Socialists

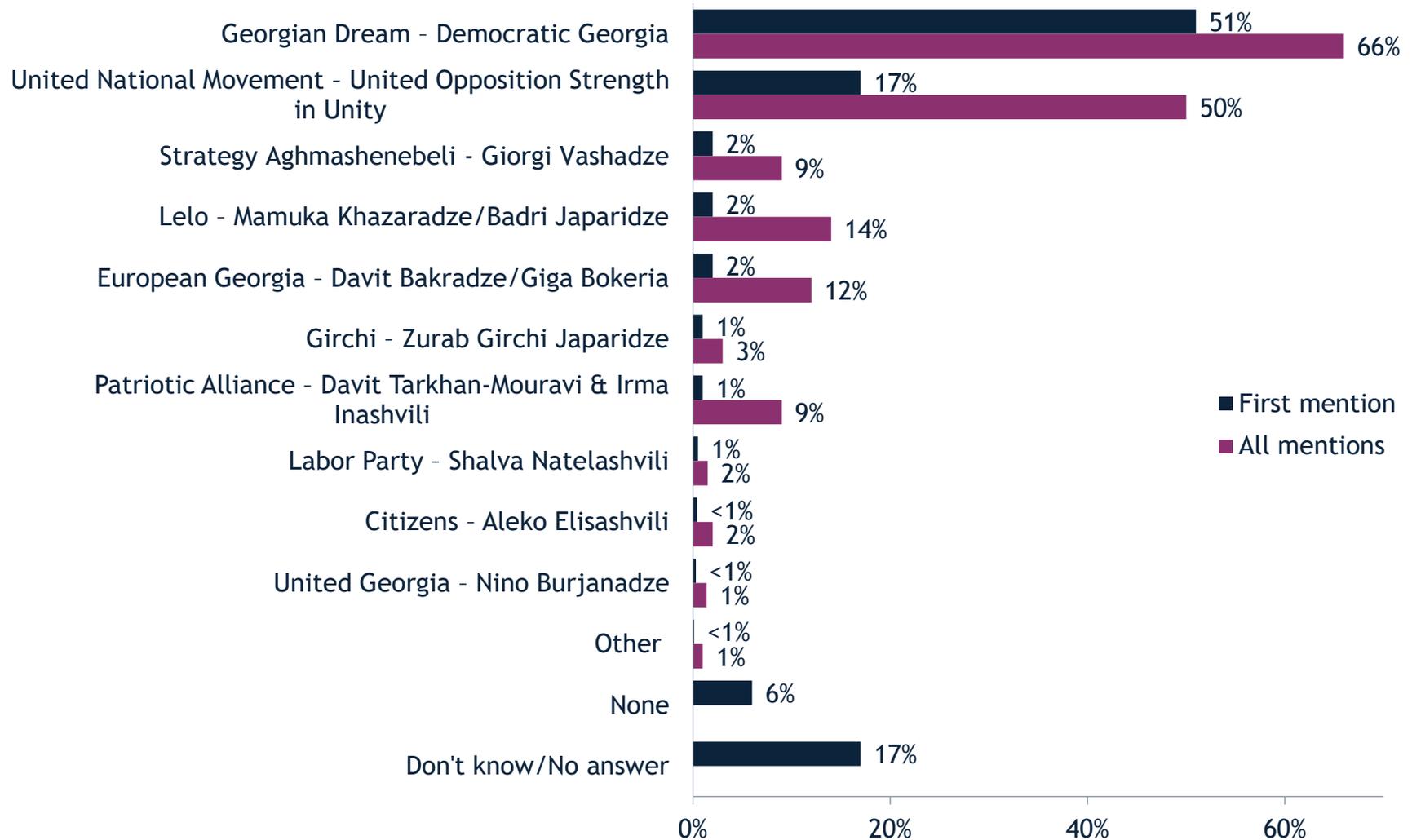
Why do you support the opposition's decision to boycott entering the Parliament?

(Respondents allowed to submit a spontaneous response; respondents supporting opposition's decision to boycott entering the Parliament, n=383)

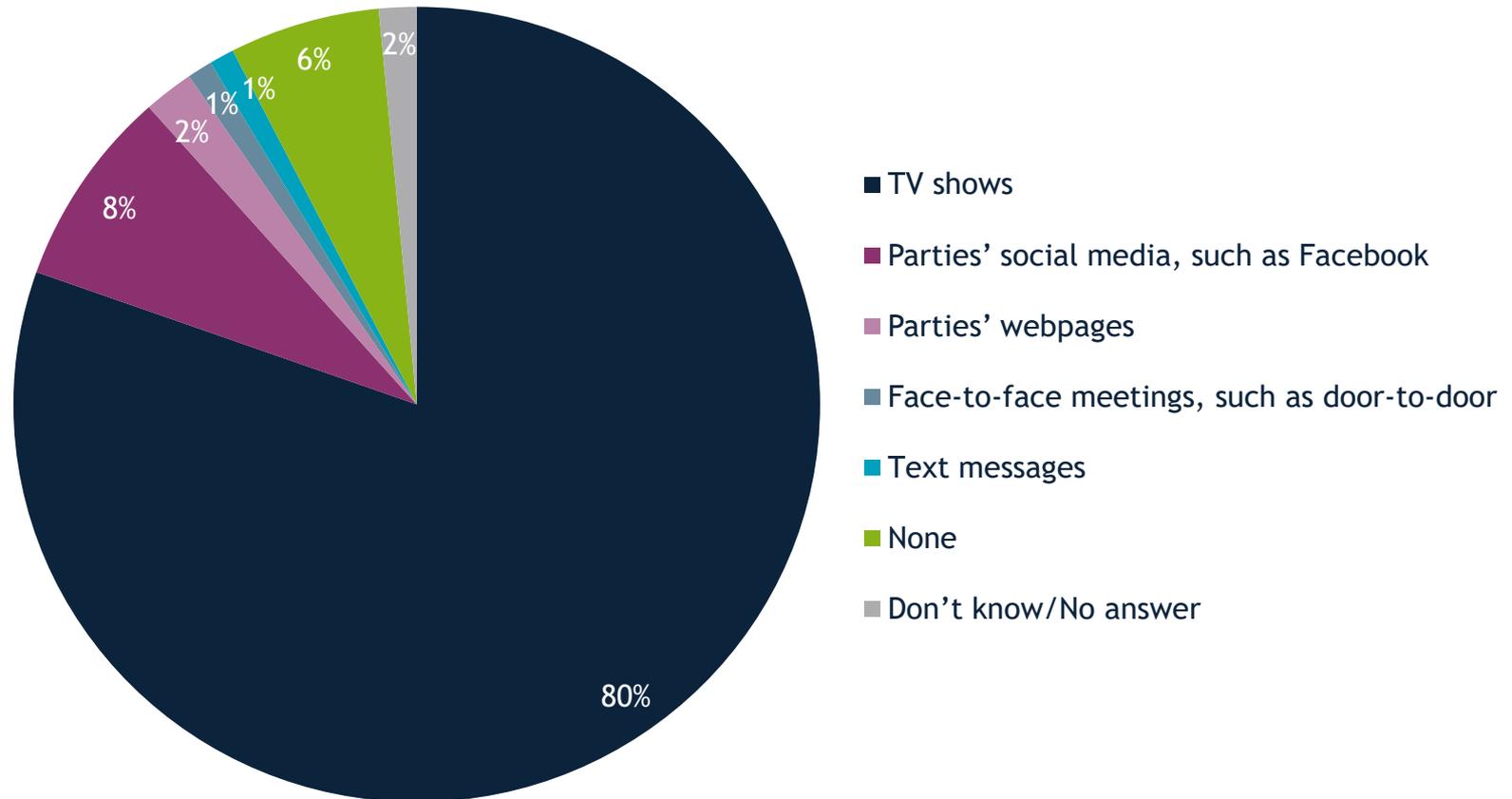


Which political party or parties had the most active election campaign in your district/city?

(Respondents permitted to supply three spontaneous answers)

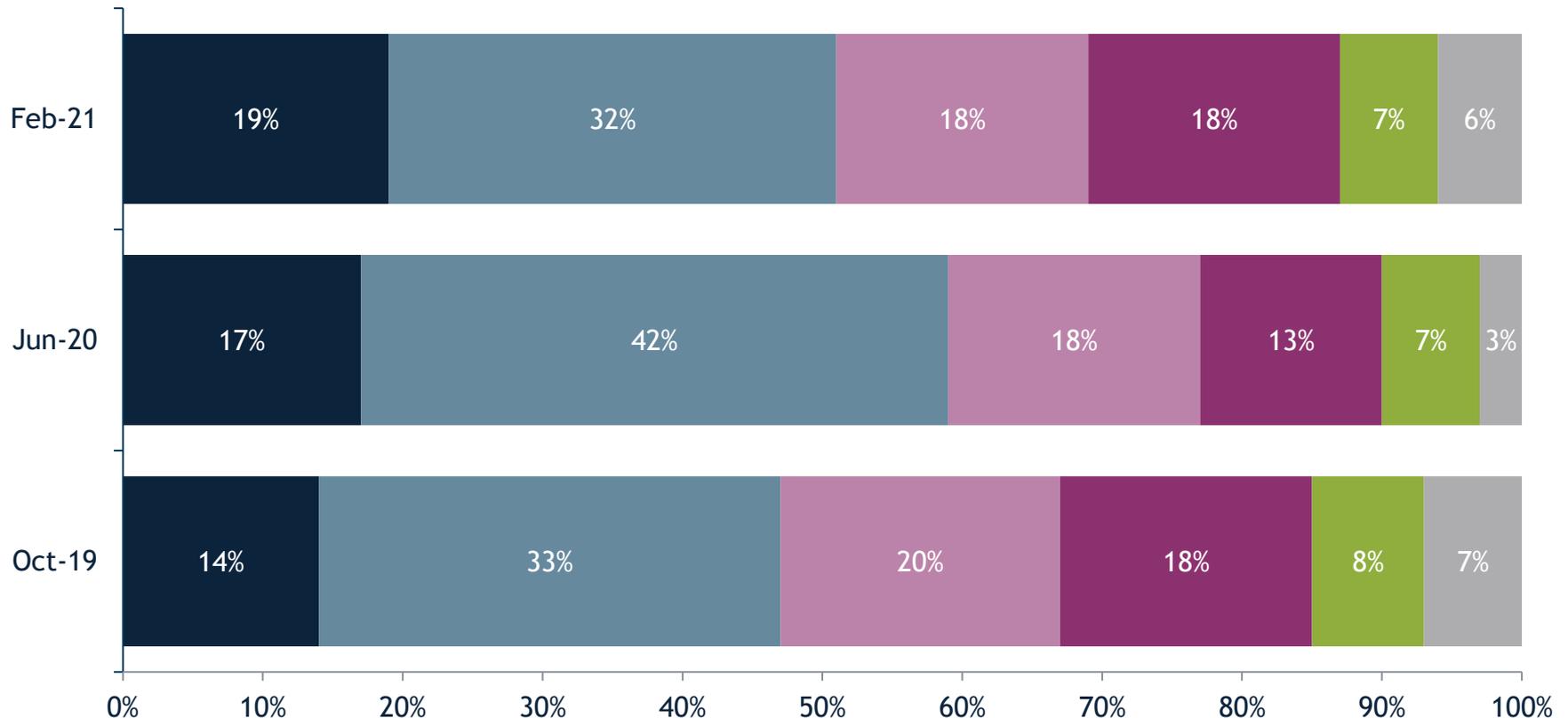


Through which means did you get acquainted with the political party election messages most often?



Do you trust or distrust the opinion of local election observation organizations regarding whether or not the parliamentary elections were free, fair and transparent?

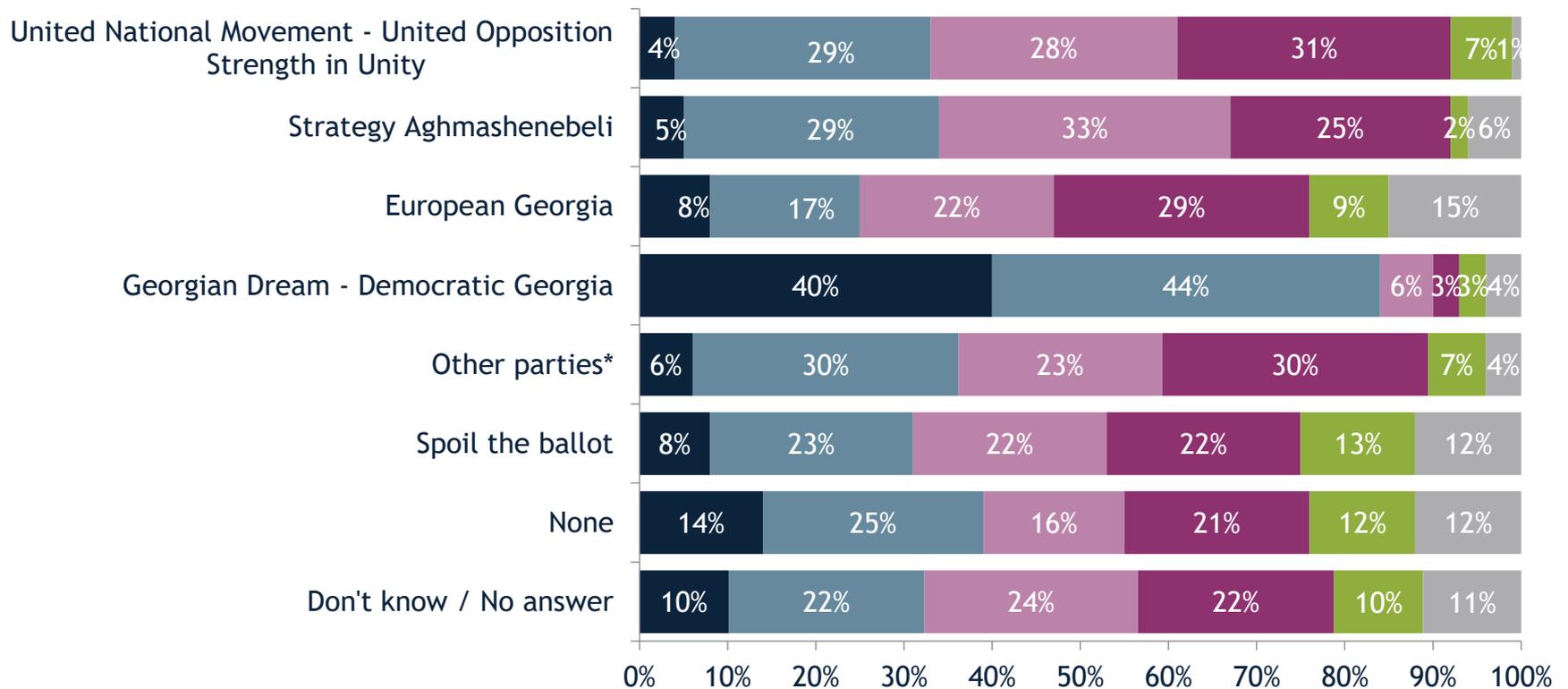
- Fully trust
- Somewhat trust
- Somewhat distrust
- Fully distrust
- I'm not familiar with the opinions of local election observation organizations
- Don't know/No answer



Do you trust or distrust the opinion of local election observation organizations regarding whether or not the parliamentary elections were free, fair and transparent?

(Disaggregated by party preference)

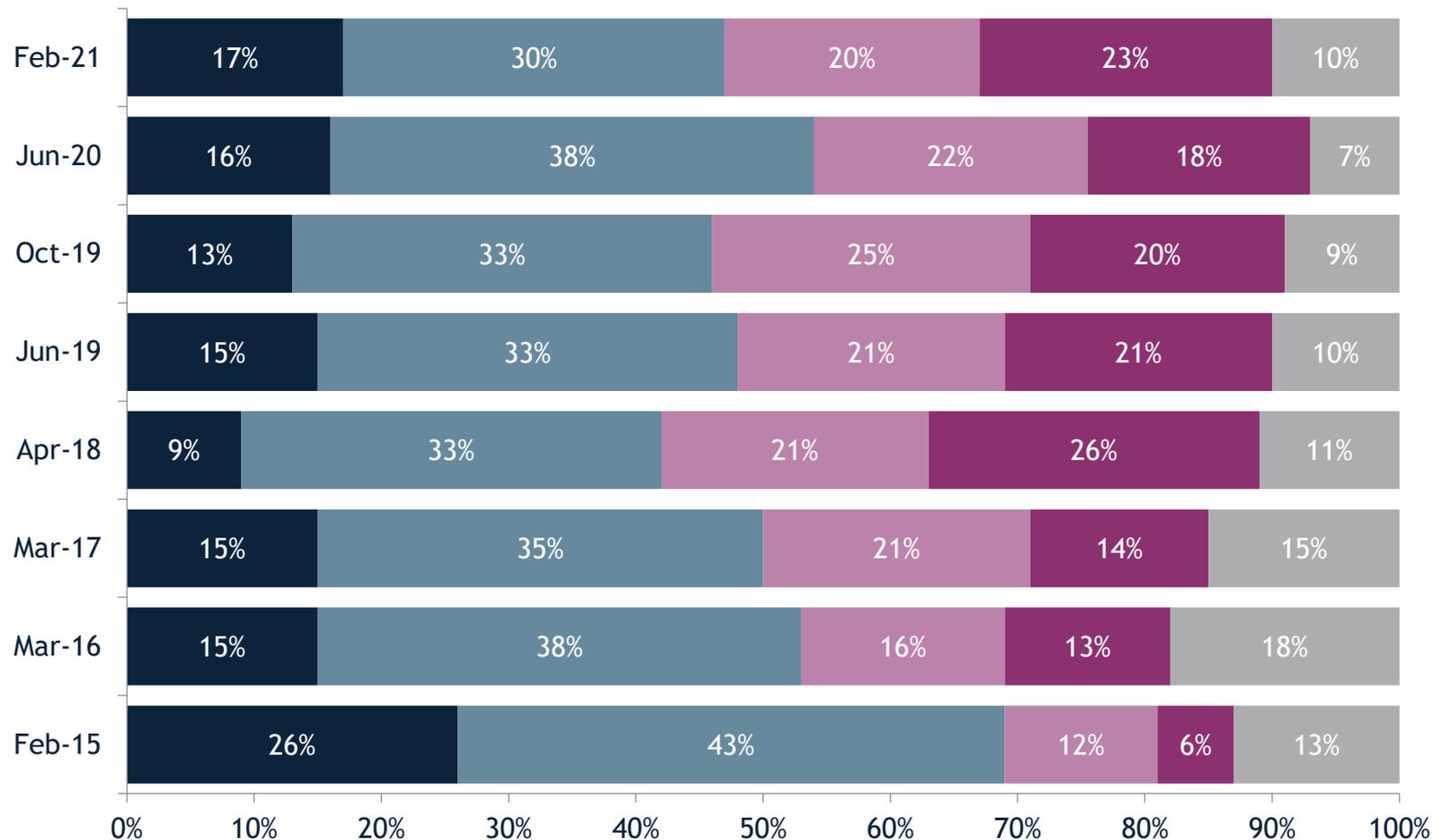
- Fully trust
- Somewhat trust
- Somewhat distrust
- Fully distrust
- I'm not familiar with the opinions of local election observation organizations
- Don't know/No answer



*"Other parties" includes parties selected by fewer than 3 percent of respondents: Citizens, United Georgia, For Justice, Republican Party, Girchi, Labor Party, Lelo, Free Democrats, Patriotic Alliance, European Socialists

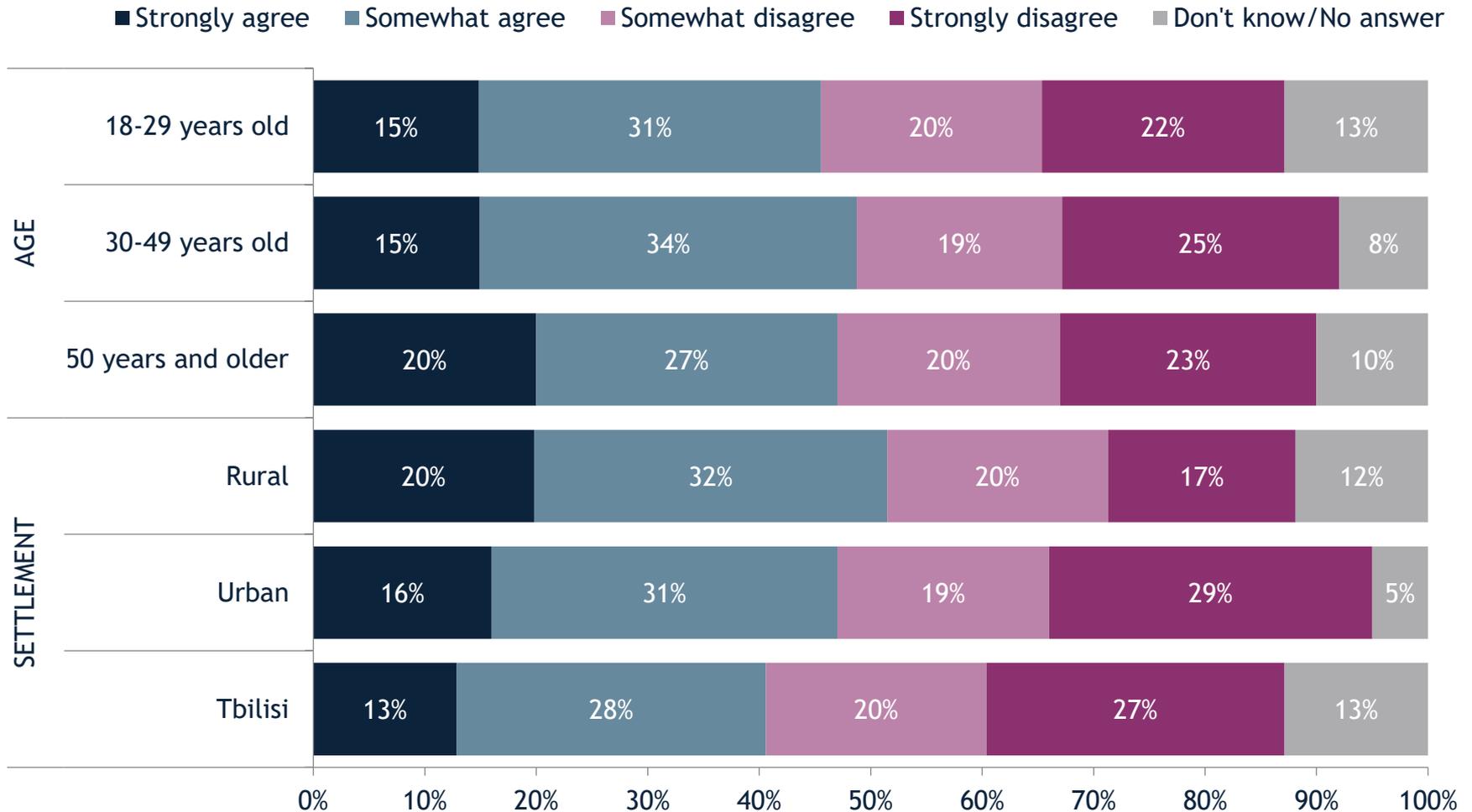
Do you agree or disagree that the Central Election Commission (CESKO) performs its work in a trustworthy manner?

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



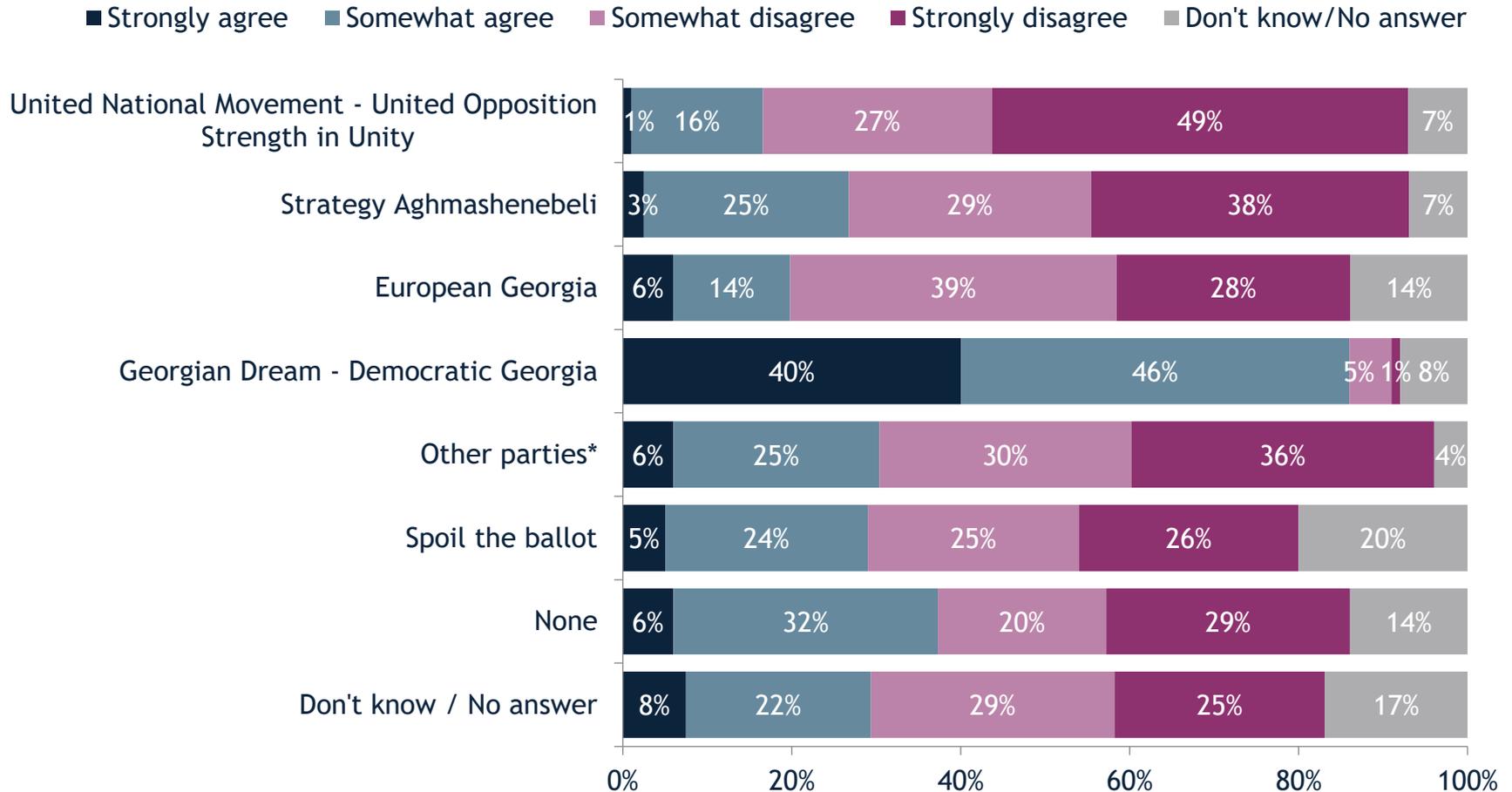
Do you agree or disagree that the Central Election Commission (CESKO) performs its work in a trustworthy manner?

(Disaggregated by age and settlement)



Do you agree or disagree that the Central Election Commission (CESKO) performs its work in a trustworthy manner?

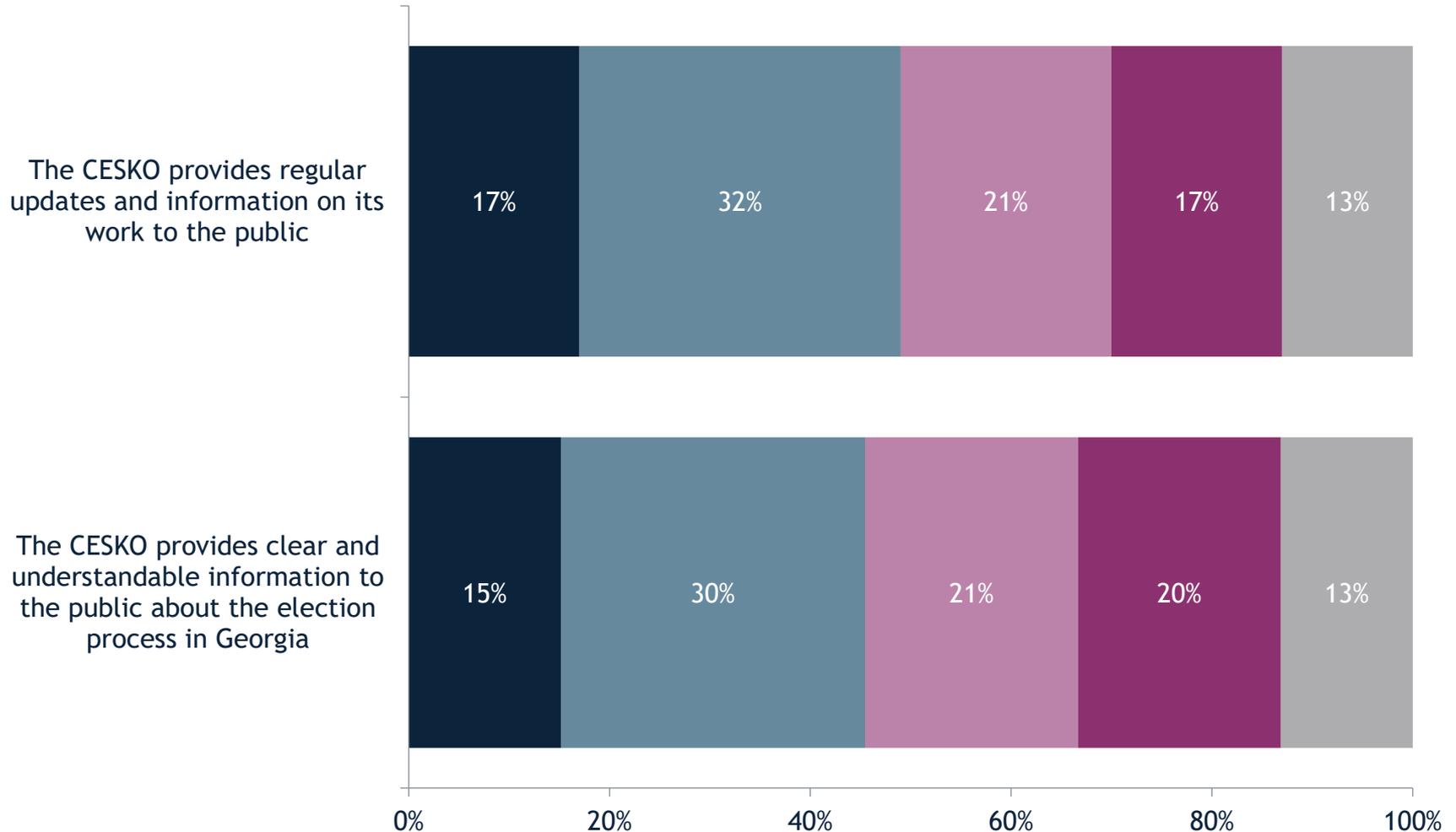
(Disaggregated by party preference)



*"Other parties" includes parties selected by fewer than 3 percent of respondents: Citizens, United Georgia, For Justice, Republican Party, Girchi, Labor Party, Lelo, Free Democrats, Patriotic Alliance, European Socialists

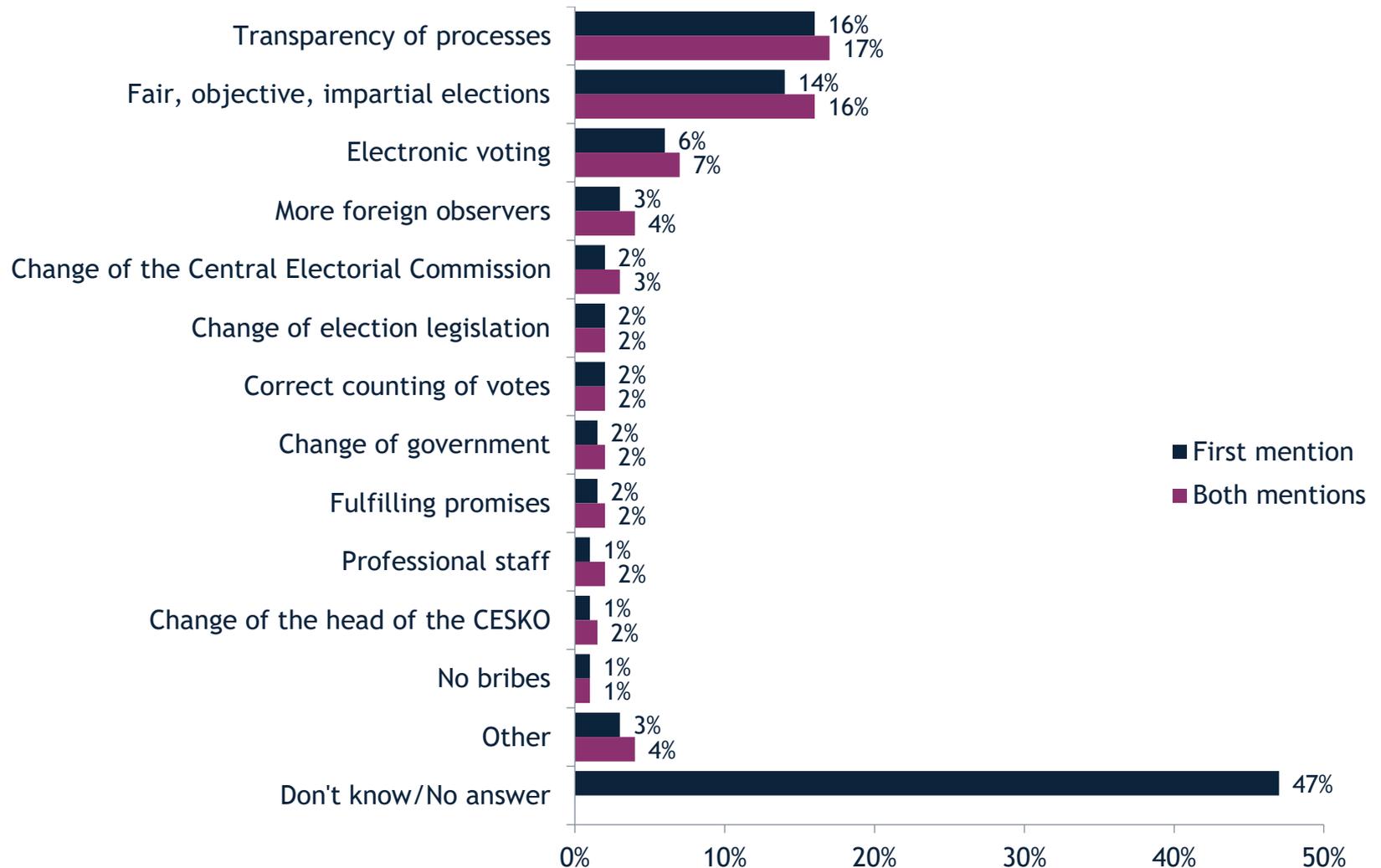
To what degree do you either agree or disagree with the following statements about the work of the Central Election Commission (CESKO)?

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



What would increase your overall trust in the electoral process?

(Respondents allowed to submit two spontaneous answers)



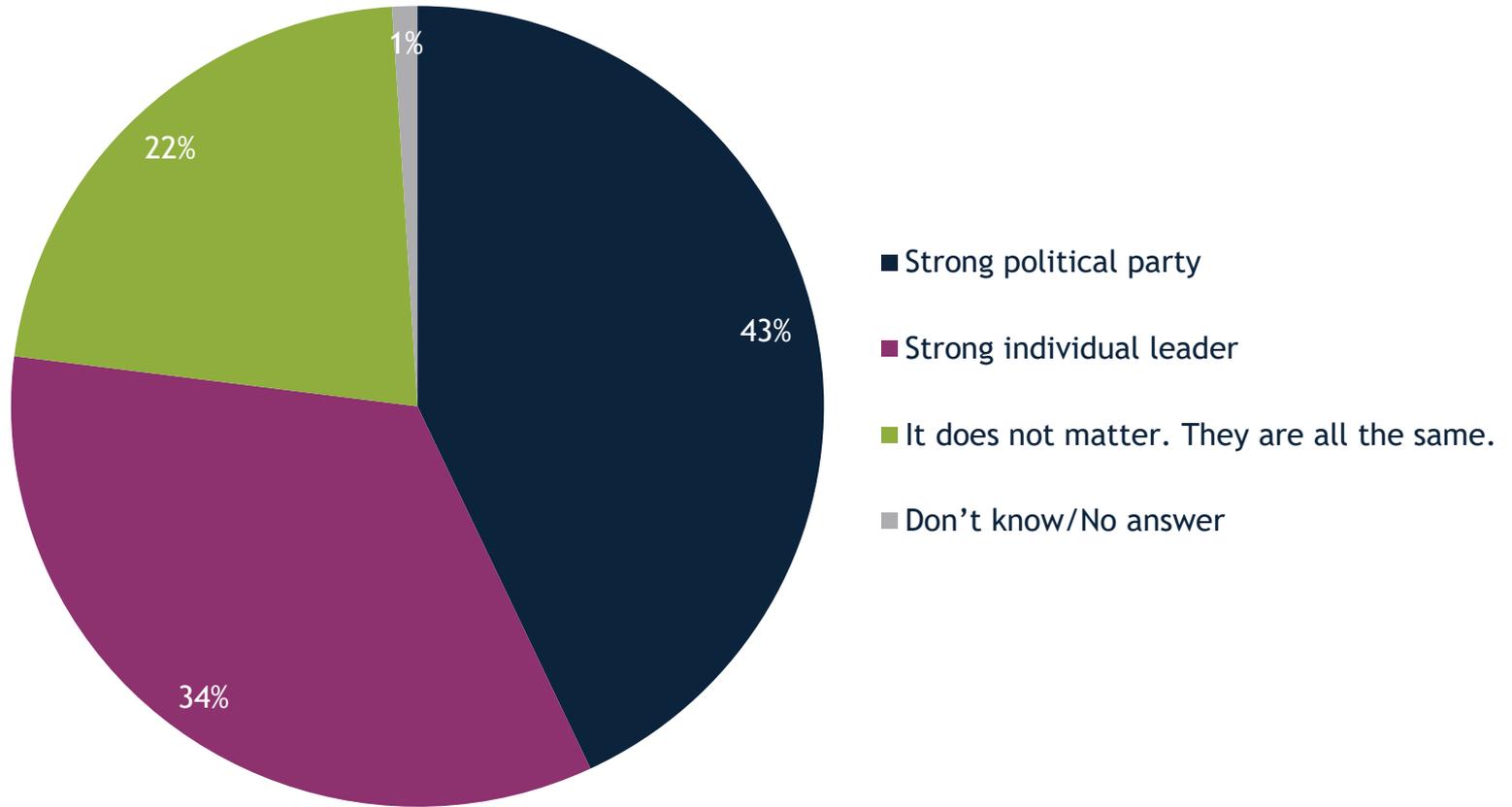


Political Parties

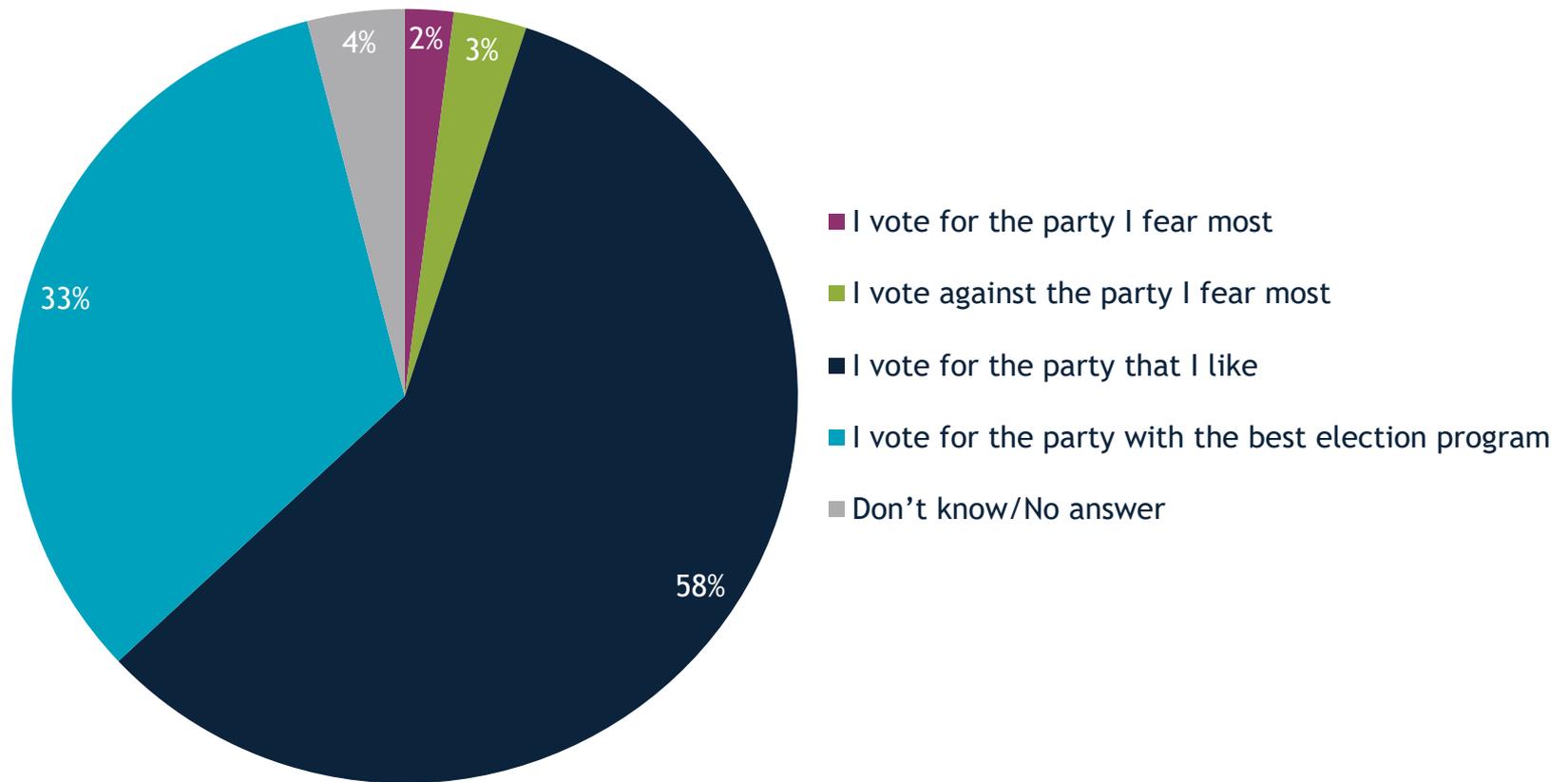


CENTER FOR
INSIGHTS IN
SUR✓**EY**
RESEARCH

Which is of greater importance to you?

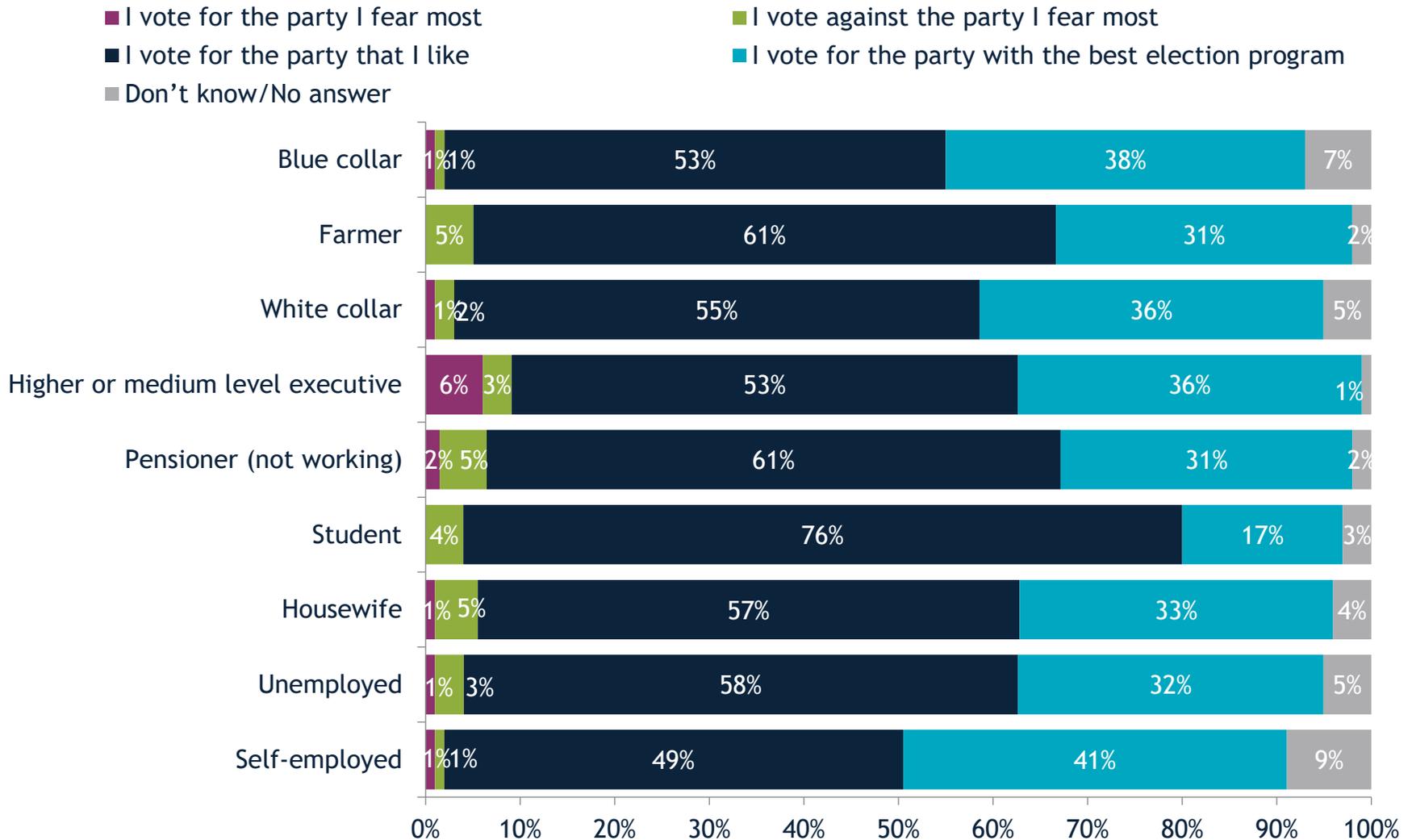


When voting, what best describes your decision-making process?

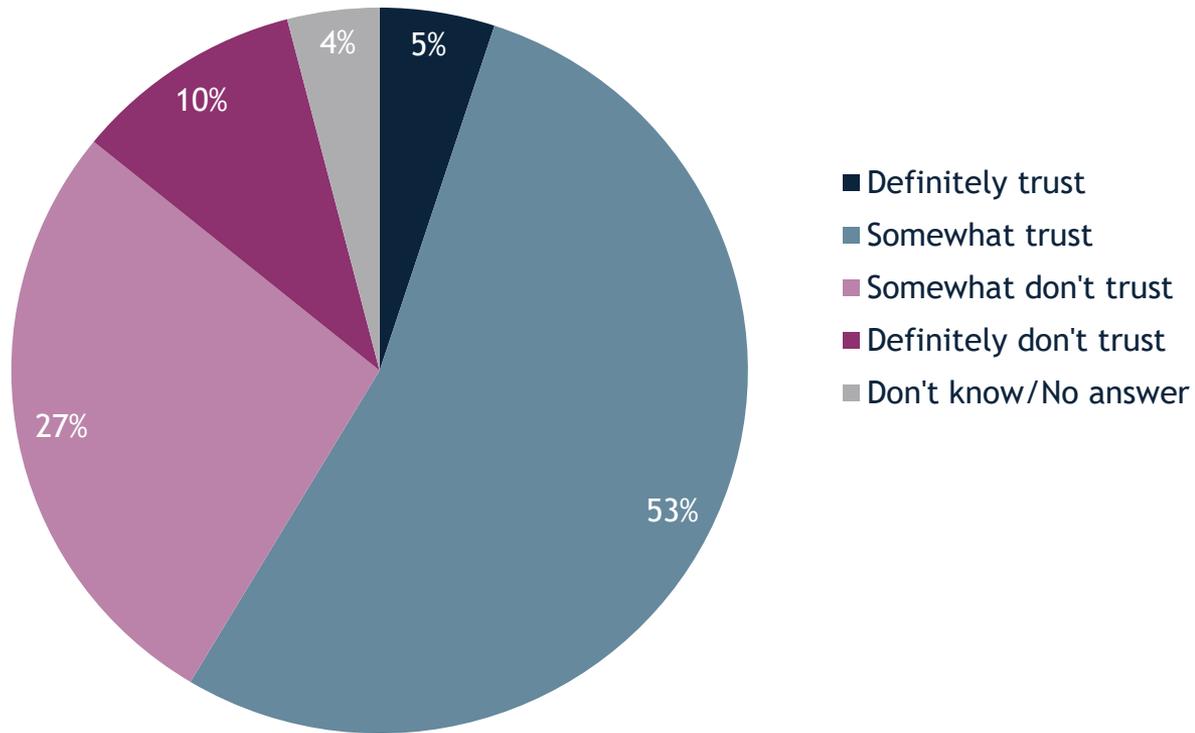


When voting, what best describes your decision-making process?

(Disaggregated by occupation)

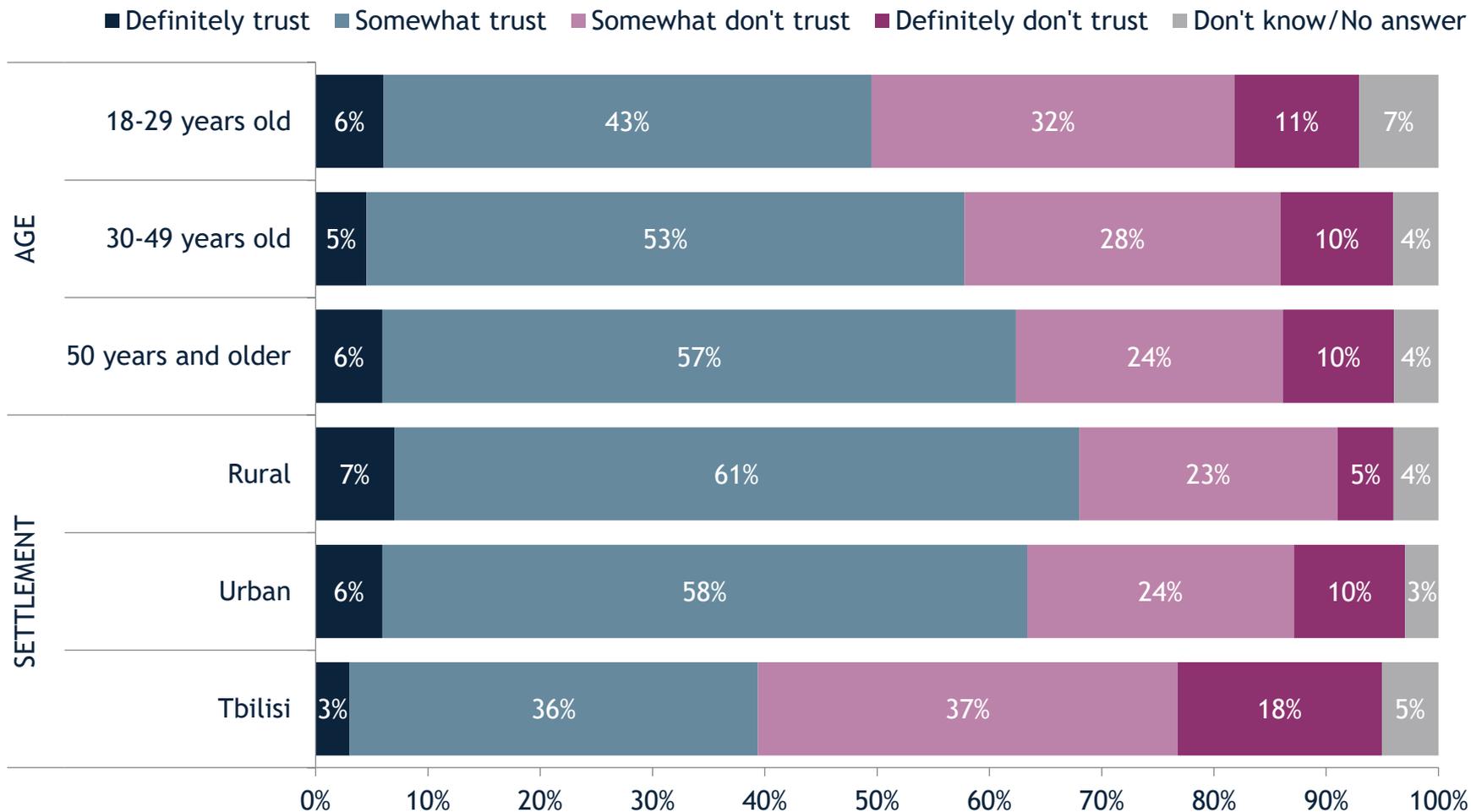


Please tell me: how much do you trust or distrust Georgia's political parties?



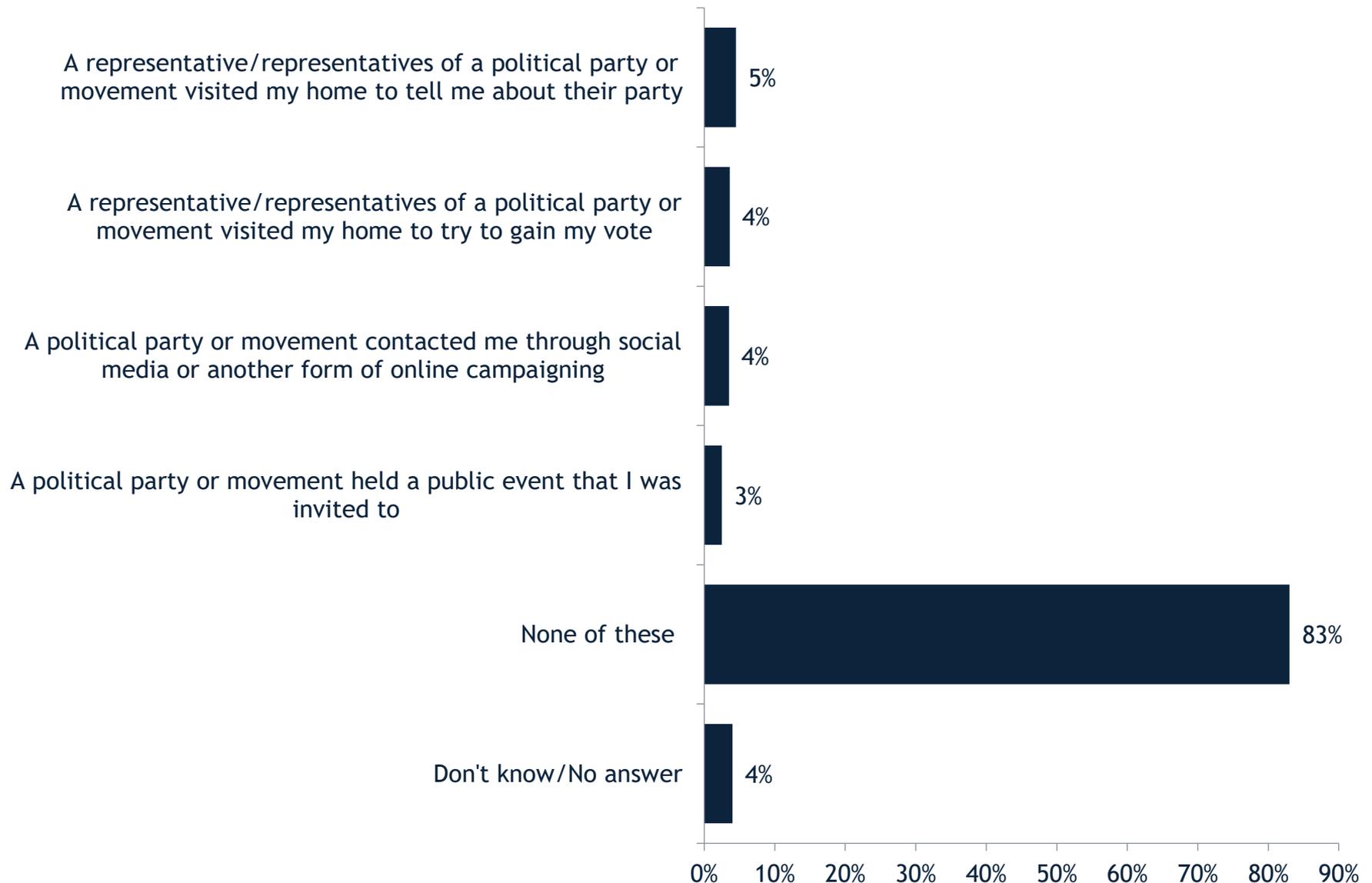
Please tell me how much do you trust or distrust Georgia's political parties?

(Disaggregated by age and settlement)

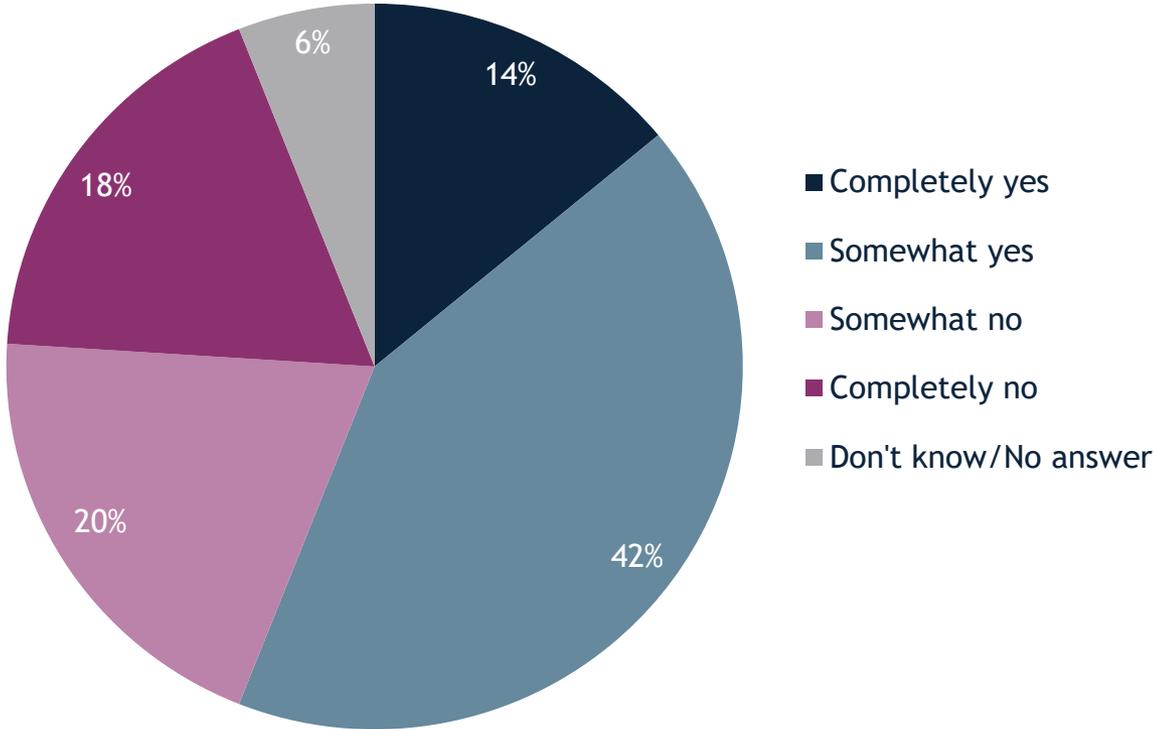


In the past six months, have any of the following happened to you?

(Respondents allowed to provide multiple answers)

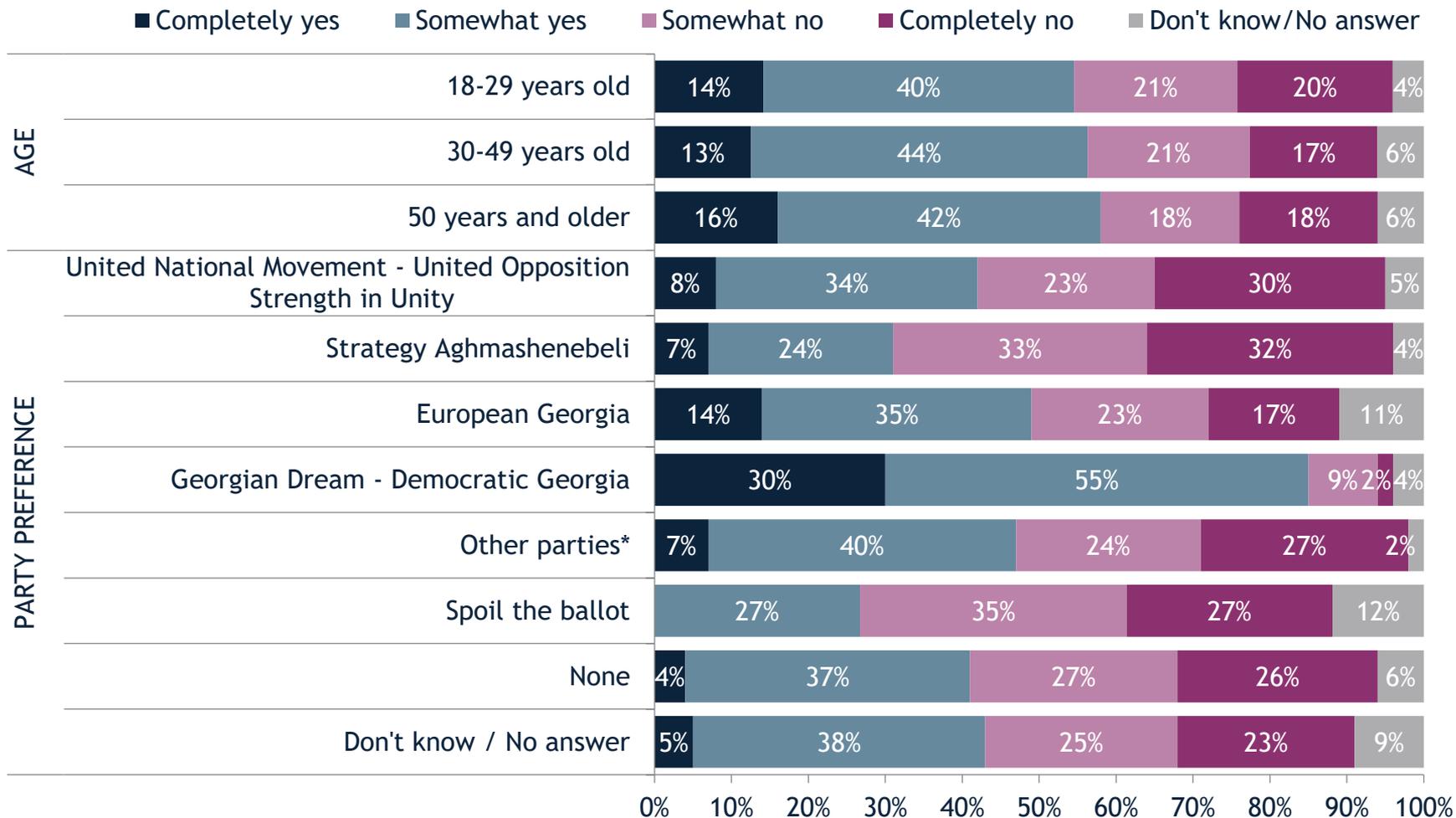


To what extent are your interests represented by the political system, meaning the government, Parliament and political parties, in Georgia?

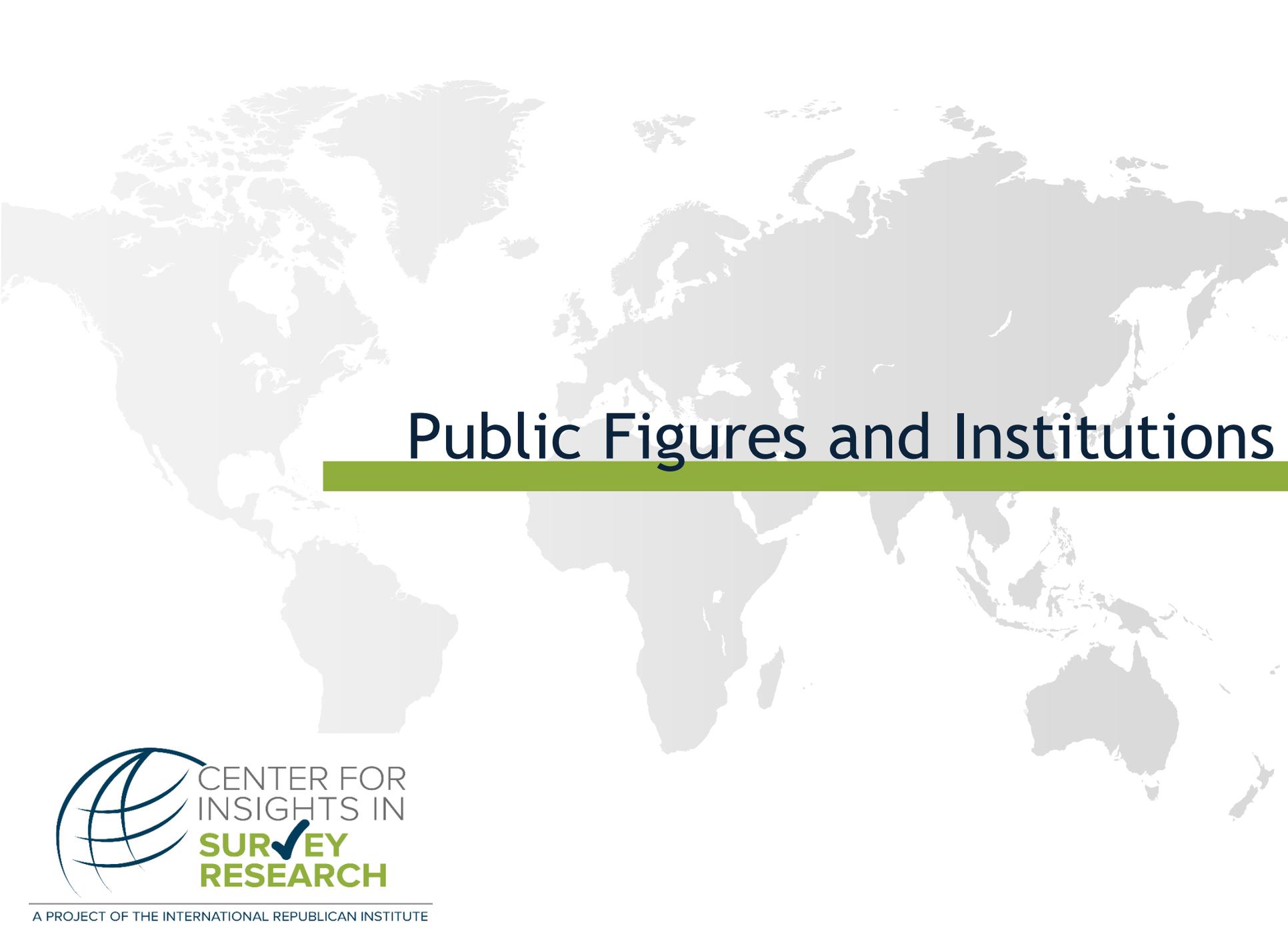


To what extent are your interests represented by the political system, meaning the government, Parliament and political parties, in Georgia?

(Disaggregated by age and party preference)



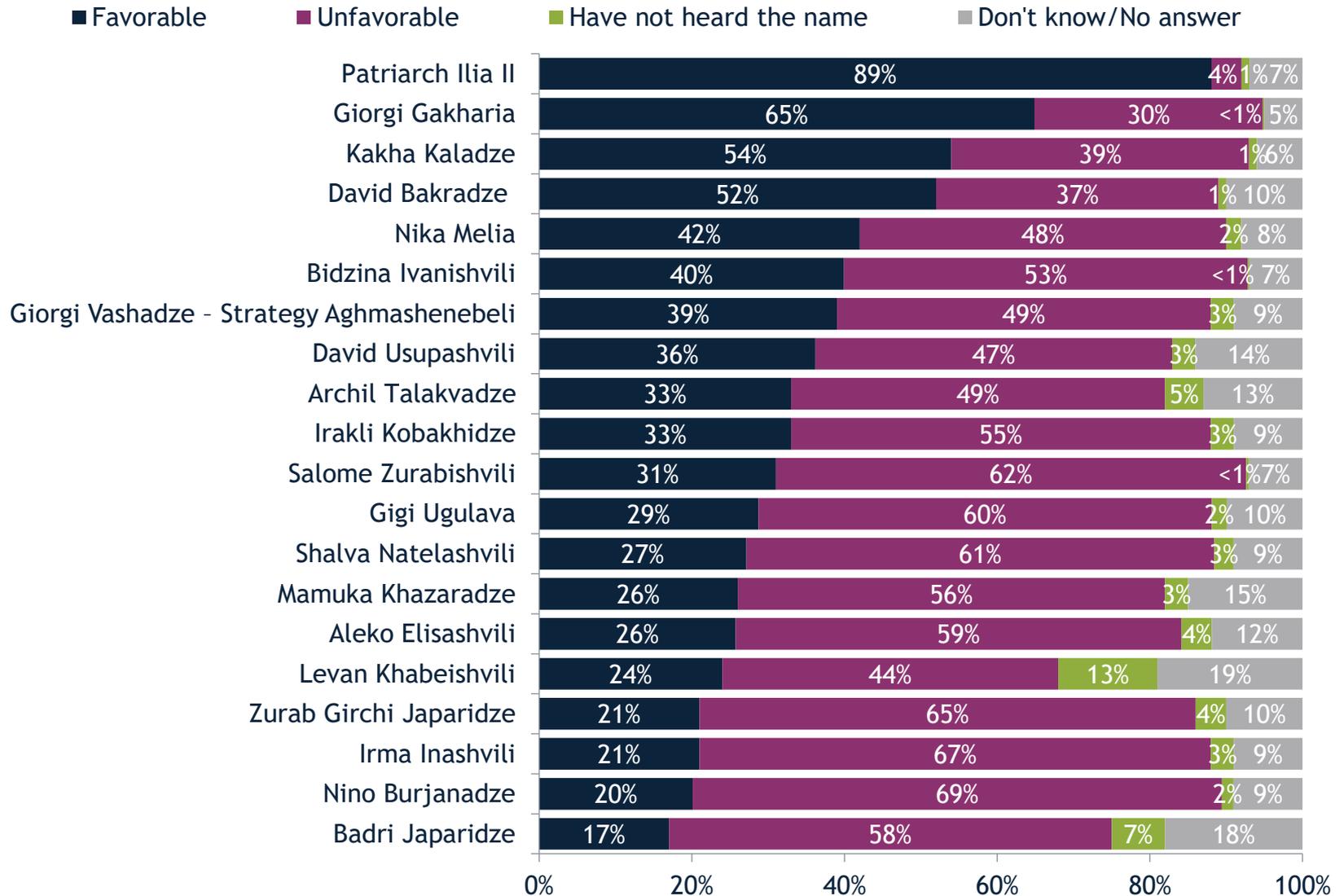
**"Other parties" includes parties selected by fewer than 3 percent of respondents: Citizens, United Georgia, For Justice, Republican Party, Girchi, Labor Party, Lelo, Free Democrats, Patriotic Alliance, European Socialists



Public Figures and Institutions

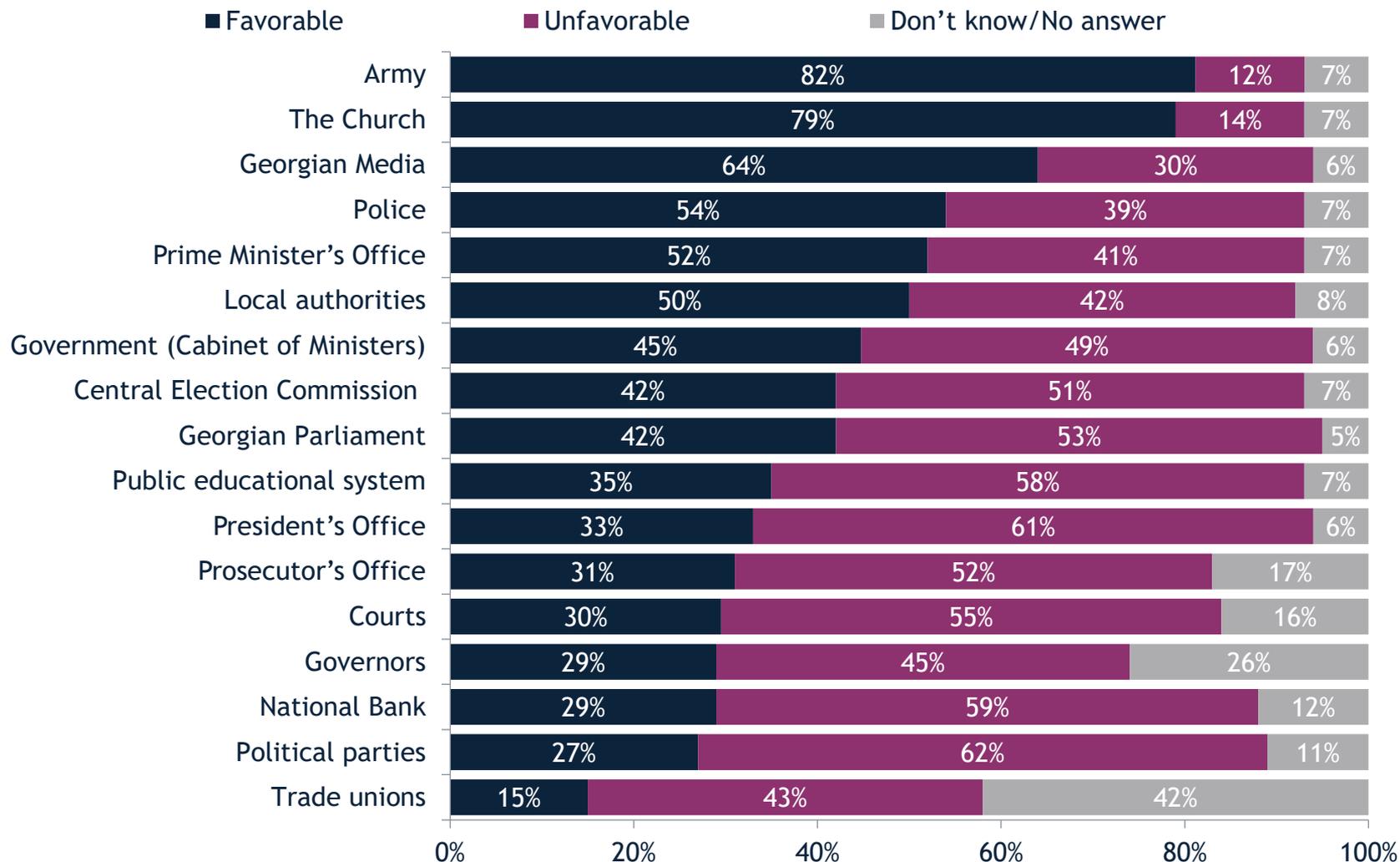


I am going to read you the names of Georgian politicians and public figures. Please tell me your opinion of him/her.*



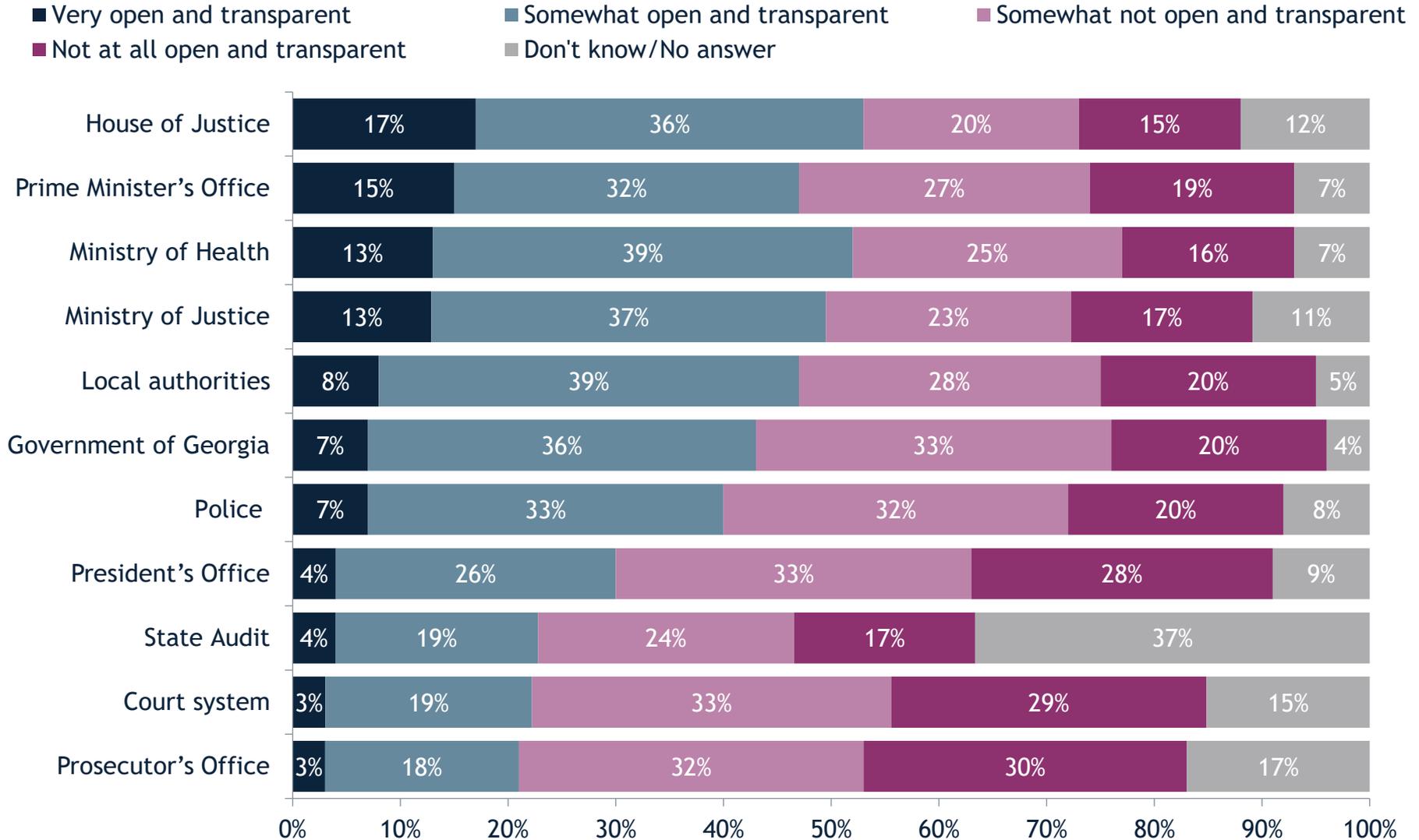
*Responses “Very favorable” and “Somewhat favorable” combined under “Favorable.” Responses “Very unfavorable” and “Somewhat unfavorable” combined under “Unfavorable.”

Now I am going to read out the names of some Georgian institutions and organizations. Please tell me your opinion about the work of each of these institutions:*



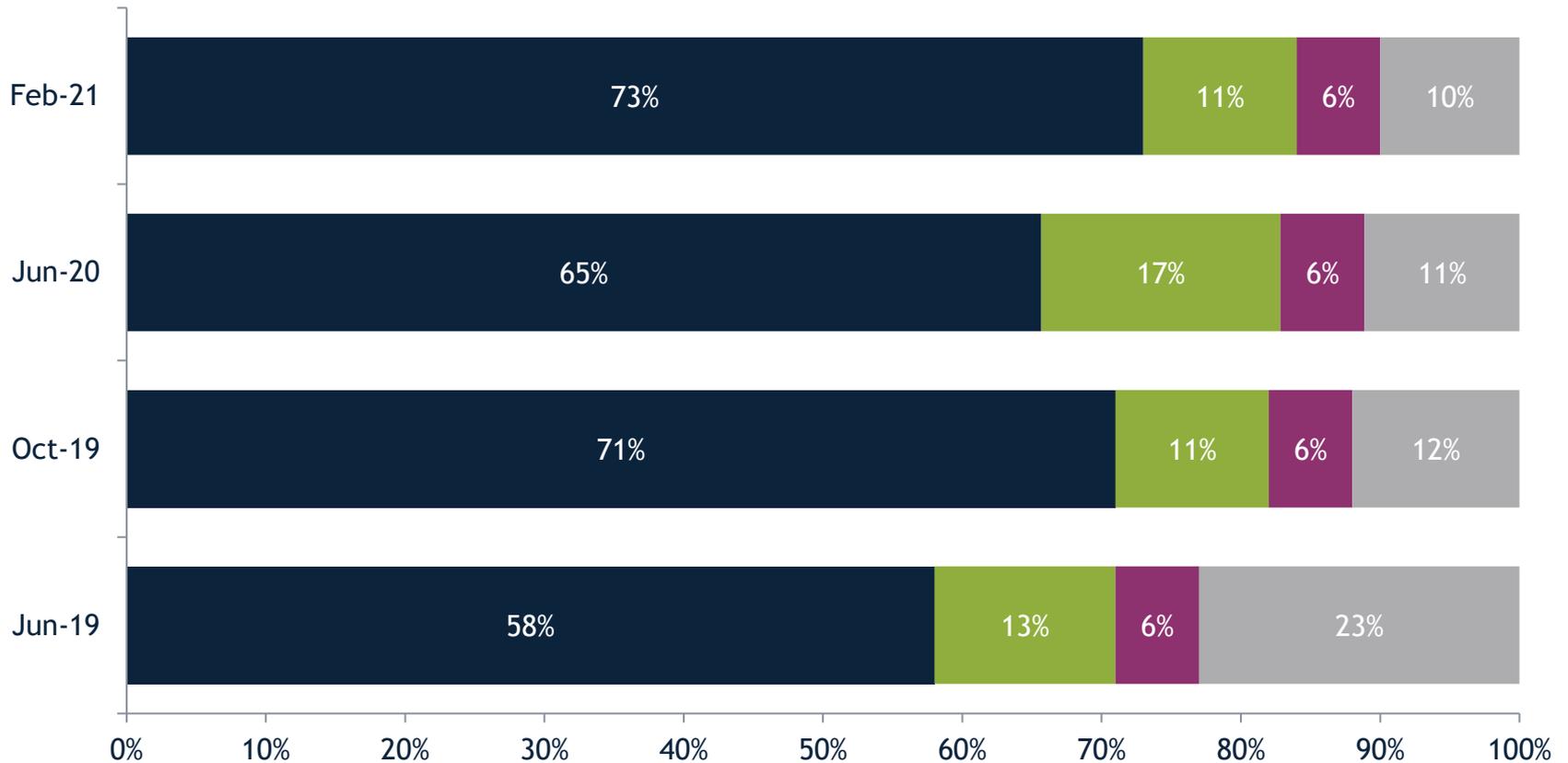
*Responses "Very favorable" and "Somewhat favorable" combined under "Favorable." Responses "Very unfavorable" and "Somewhat unfavorable" combined under "Unfavorable."

How do you assess the performance of the following institutions in terms of openness and transparency?

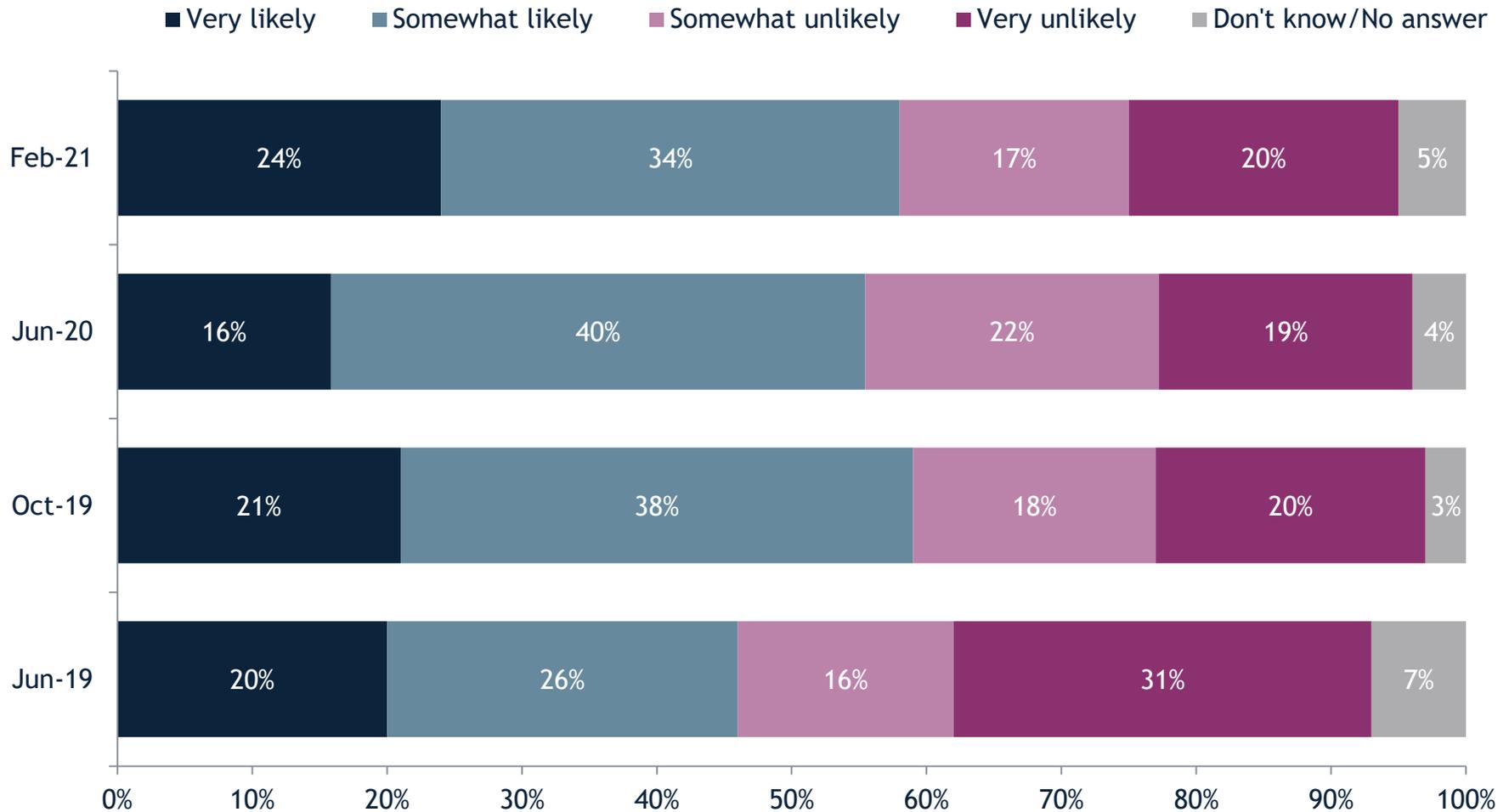


Do you believe that democracy is the best possible form of government for our country or not?

- Yes, it is the best possible form of government for our country
- No, there are other forms of government that could be equally good for our country
- No, there are other forms of government that are better than democracy
- Don't know/No answer

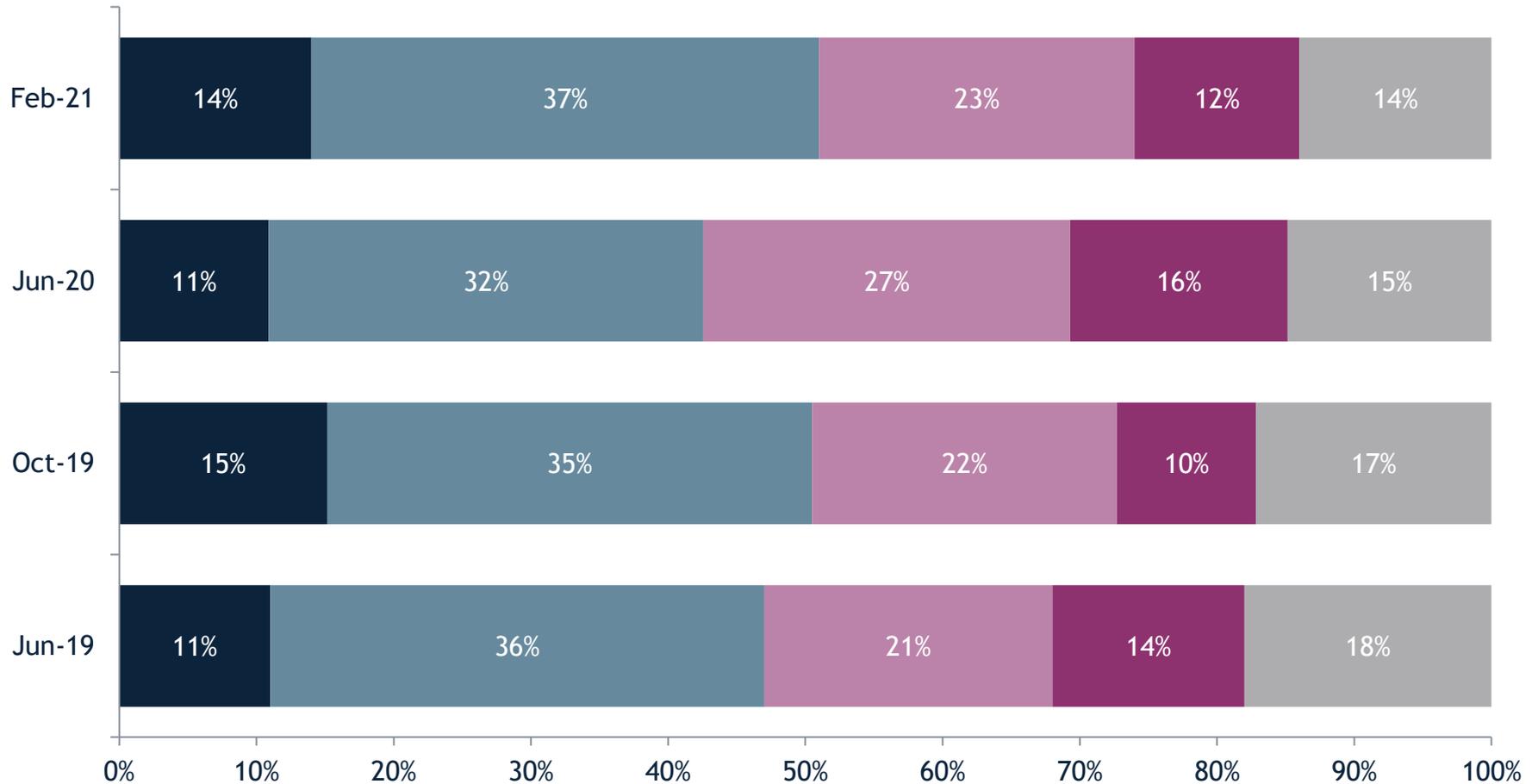


How likely or unlikely is it that ordinary people are able to influence decisions made in our country?



What is your perception of the level of impact of civil society organizations (CSOs) on government policy in Georgia?

- CSOs have a great impact on government policy
- CSOs have some impact on government policy
- CSOs have little impact on government policy
- CSOs have no impact on government policy
- Don't know/No answer



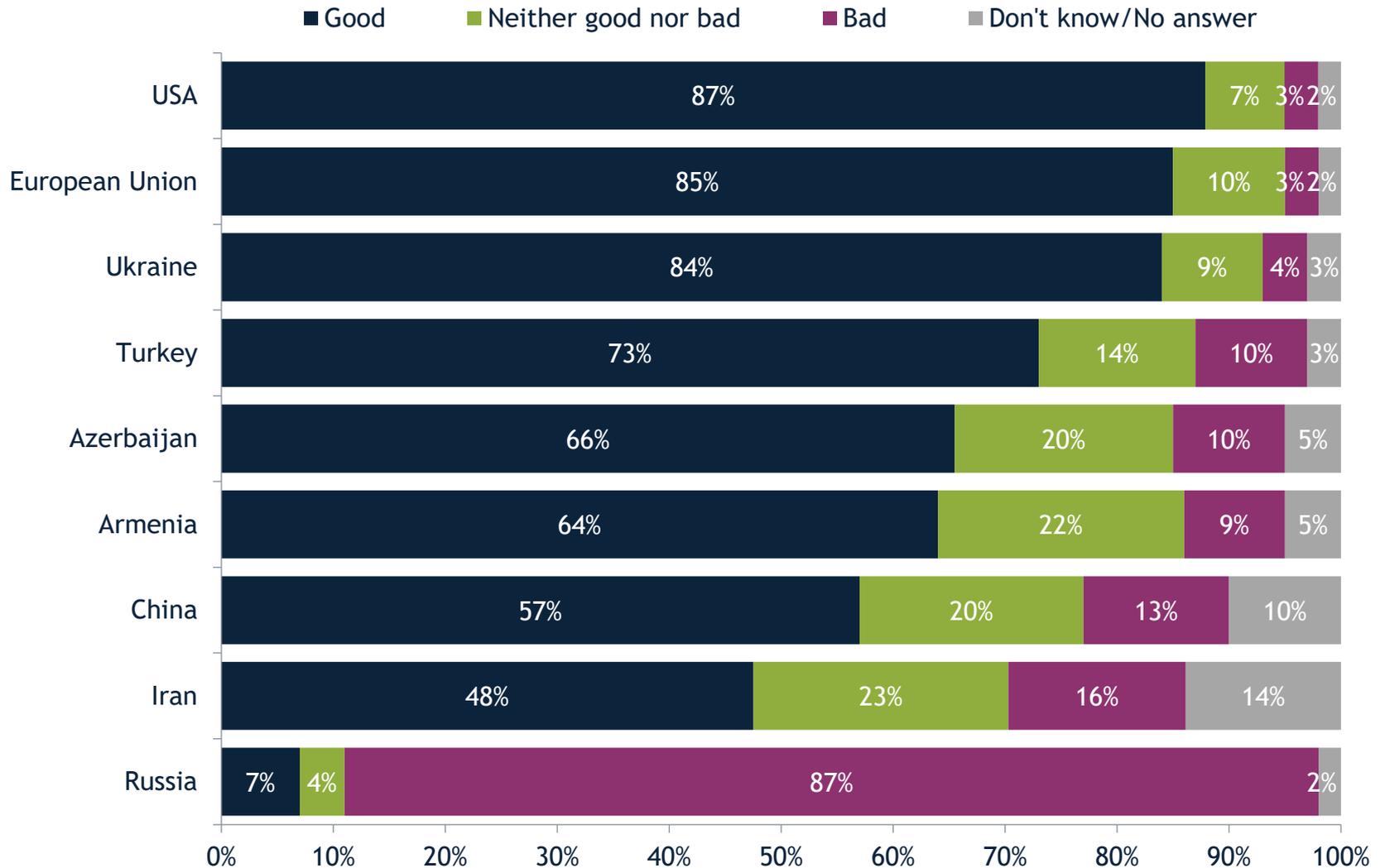


International Relations



CENTER FOR
INSIGHTS IN
SUR✓**EY**
RESEARCH

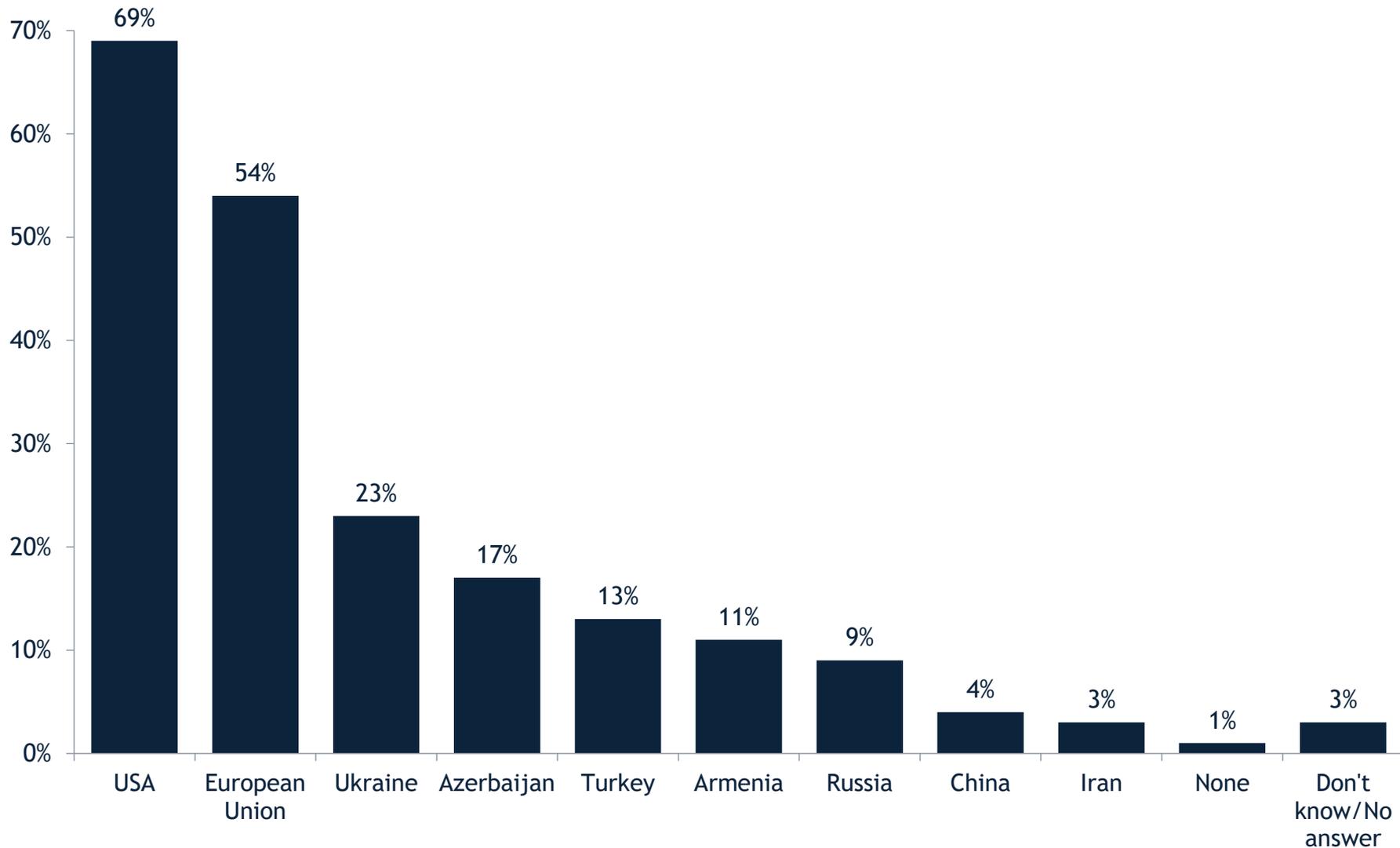
How would you evaluate the current state of the relationship between Georgia and the following countries?*



*Responses “Very good” and “Good” are combined into the category “Good.” Responses “Bad” and “Very Bad” are combined into a single category, “Bad.”

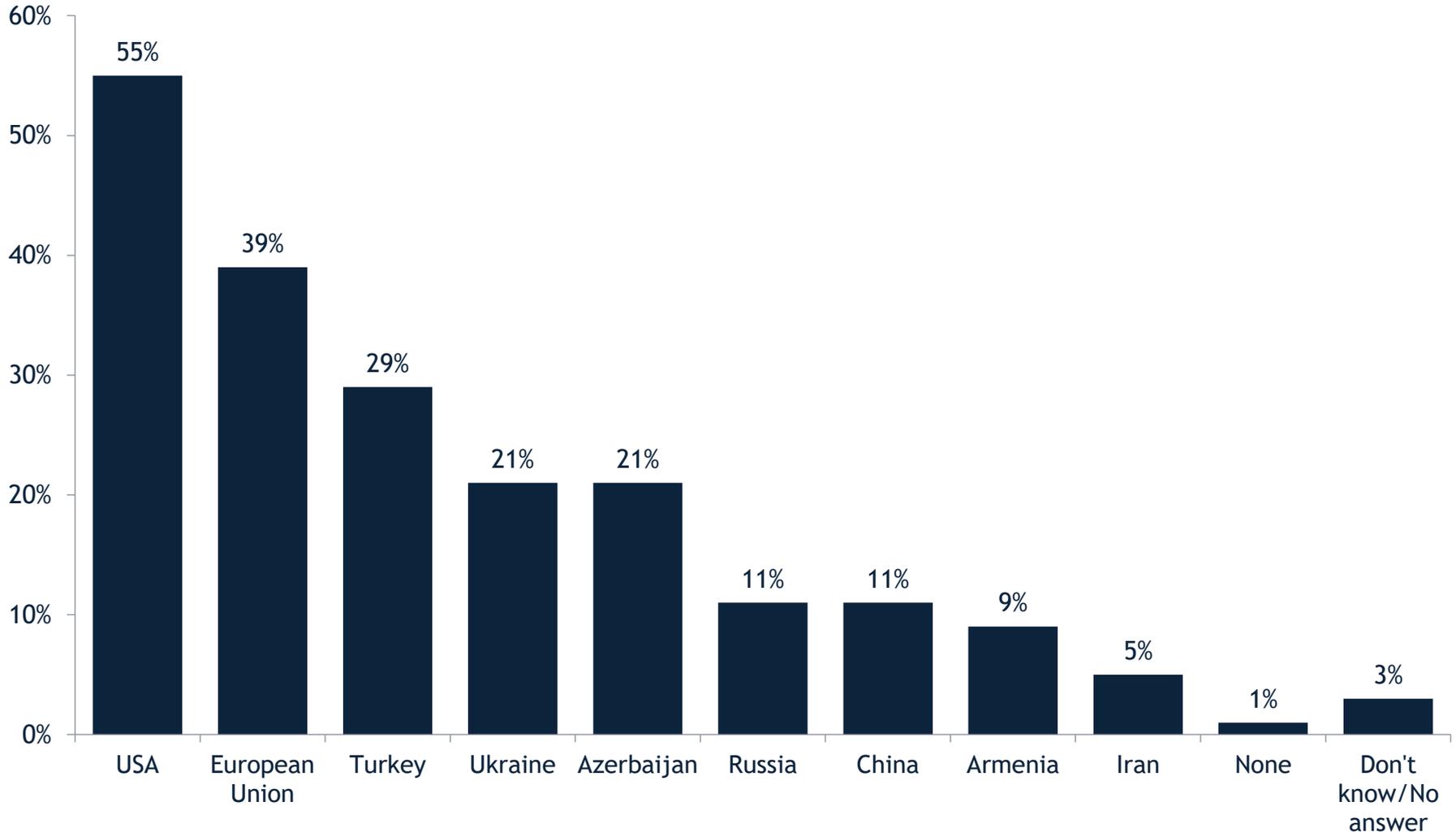
Which of these countries do you consider to be the most important political partners for Georgia?

(Respondents allowed to provide multiple responses)



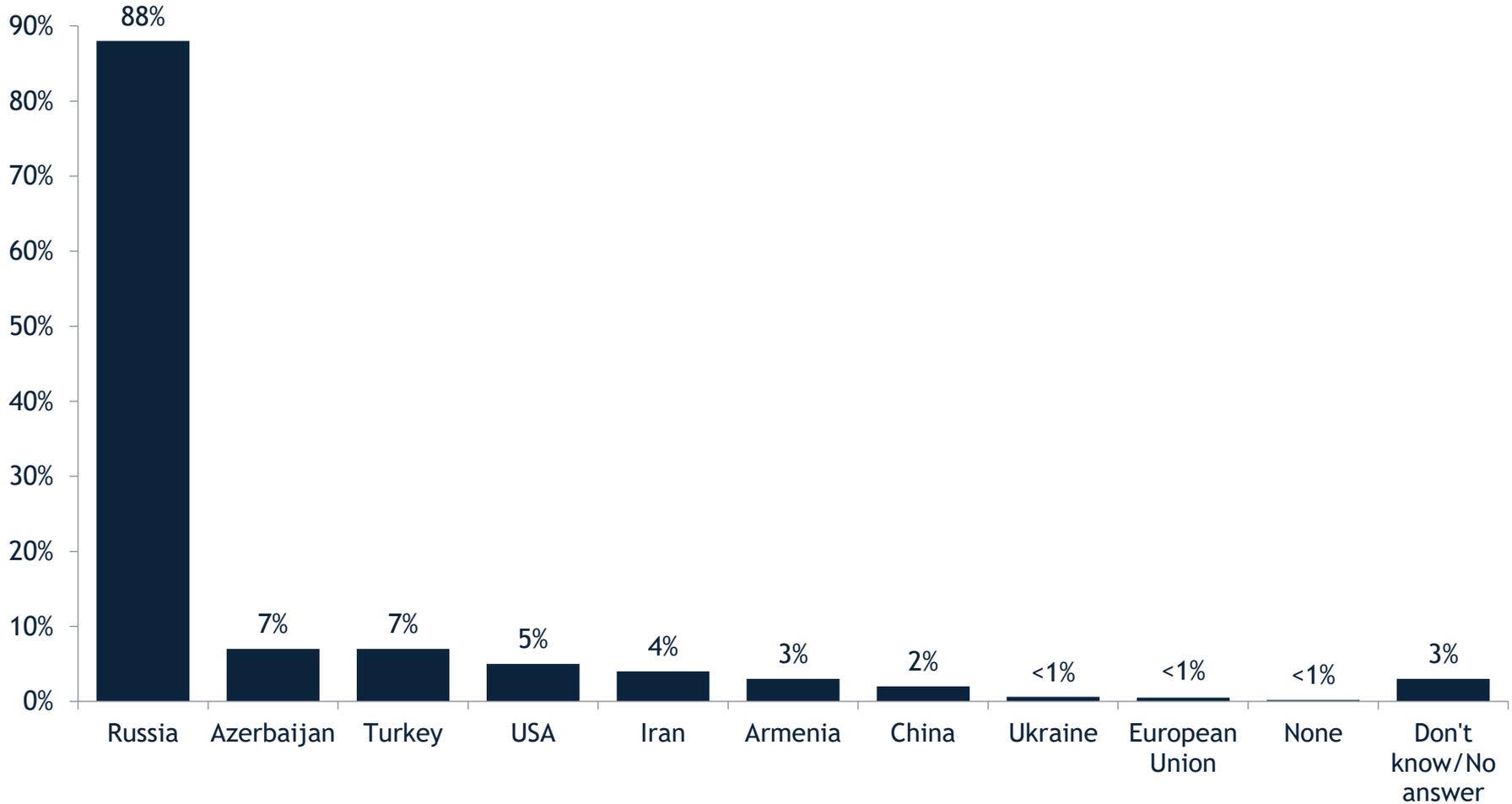
Which of these countries do you consider to be the most important economic partners for Georgia?

(Respondents allowed to provide multiple responses)



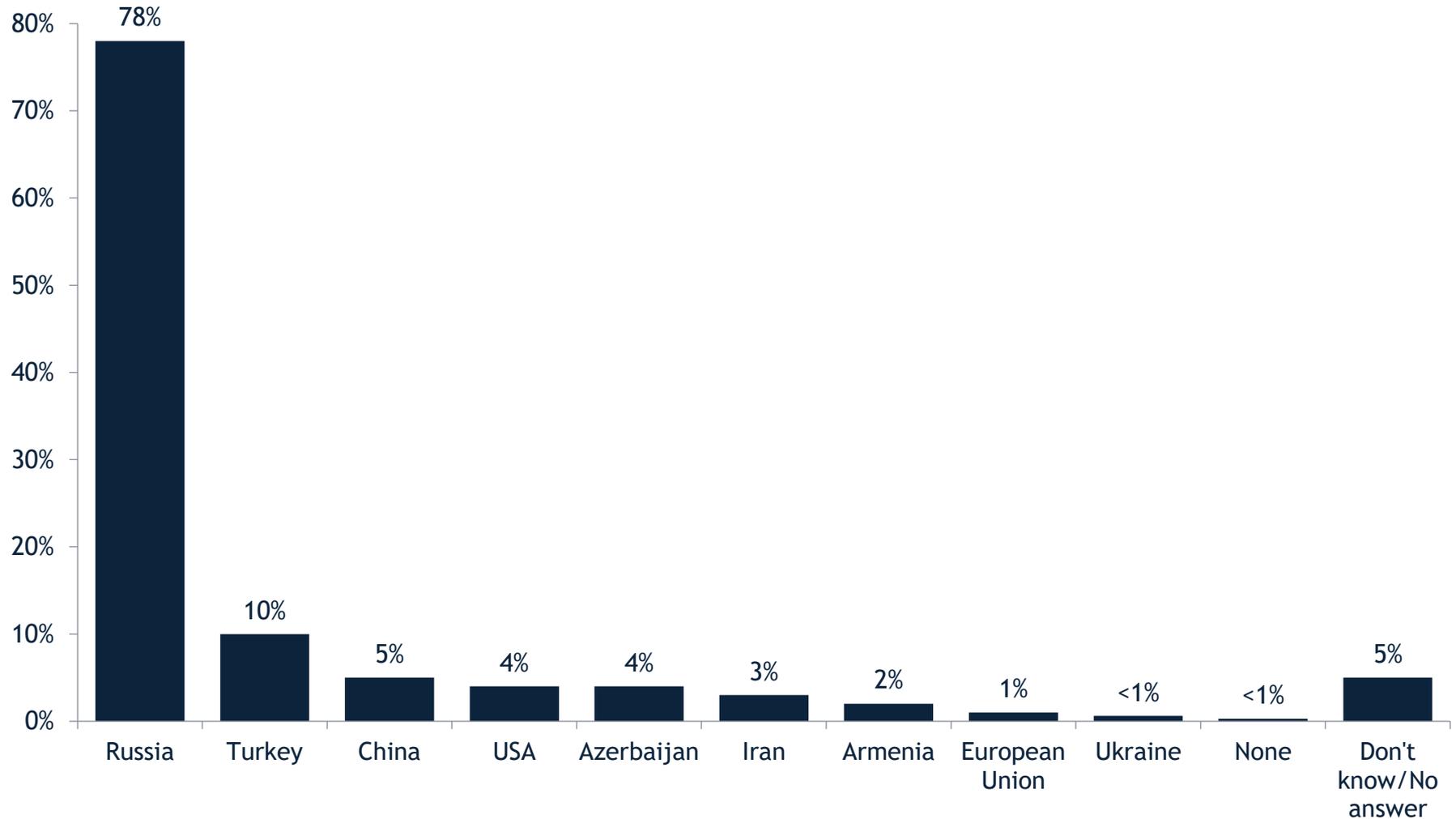
Which of these countries pose the greatest political threat to Georgia?

(Respondents allowed to provide multiple responses)

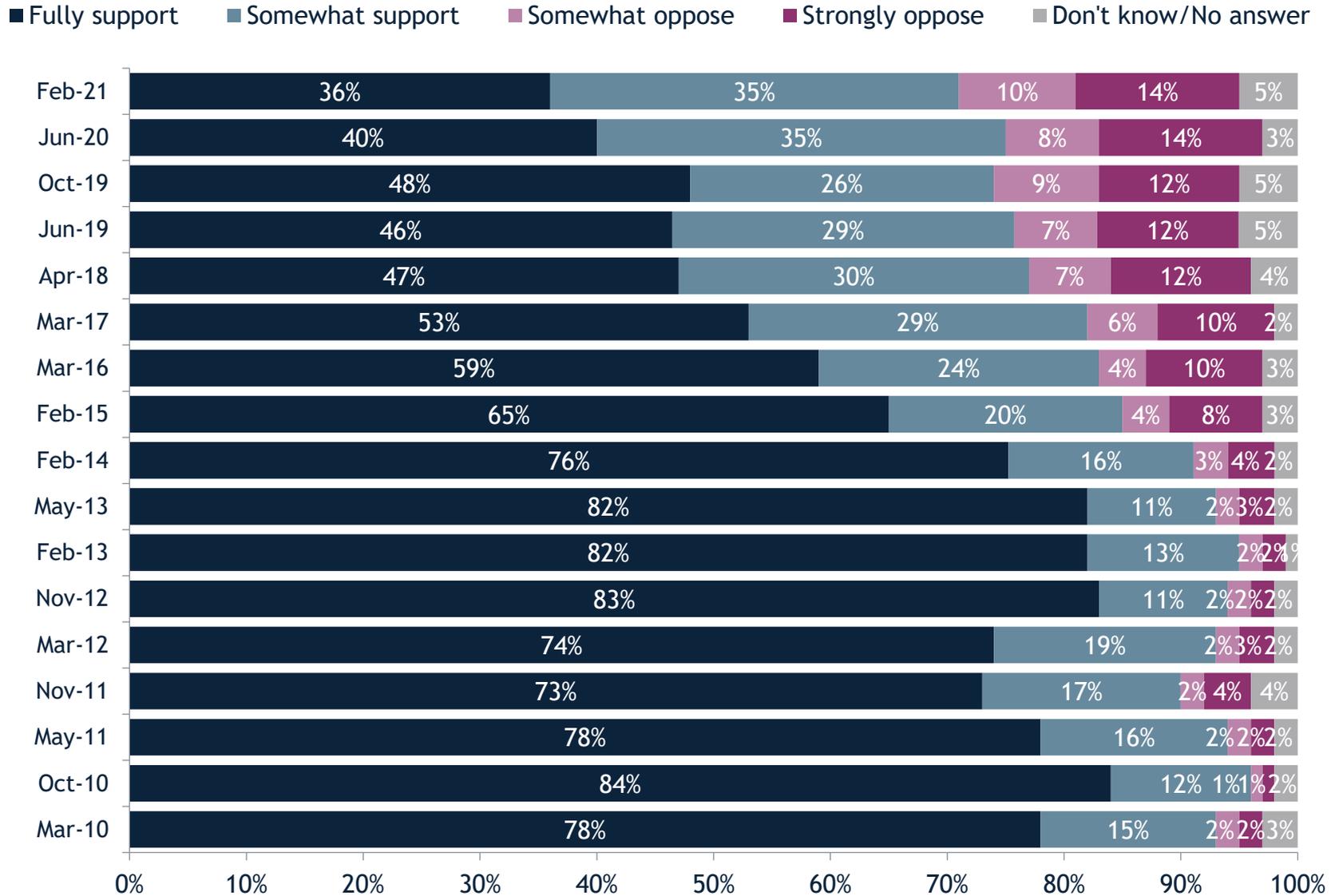


Which of these countries pose the greatest economic threat to Georgia?

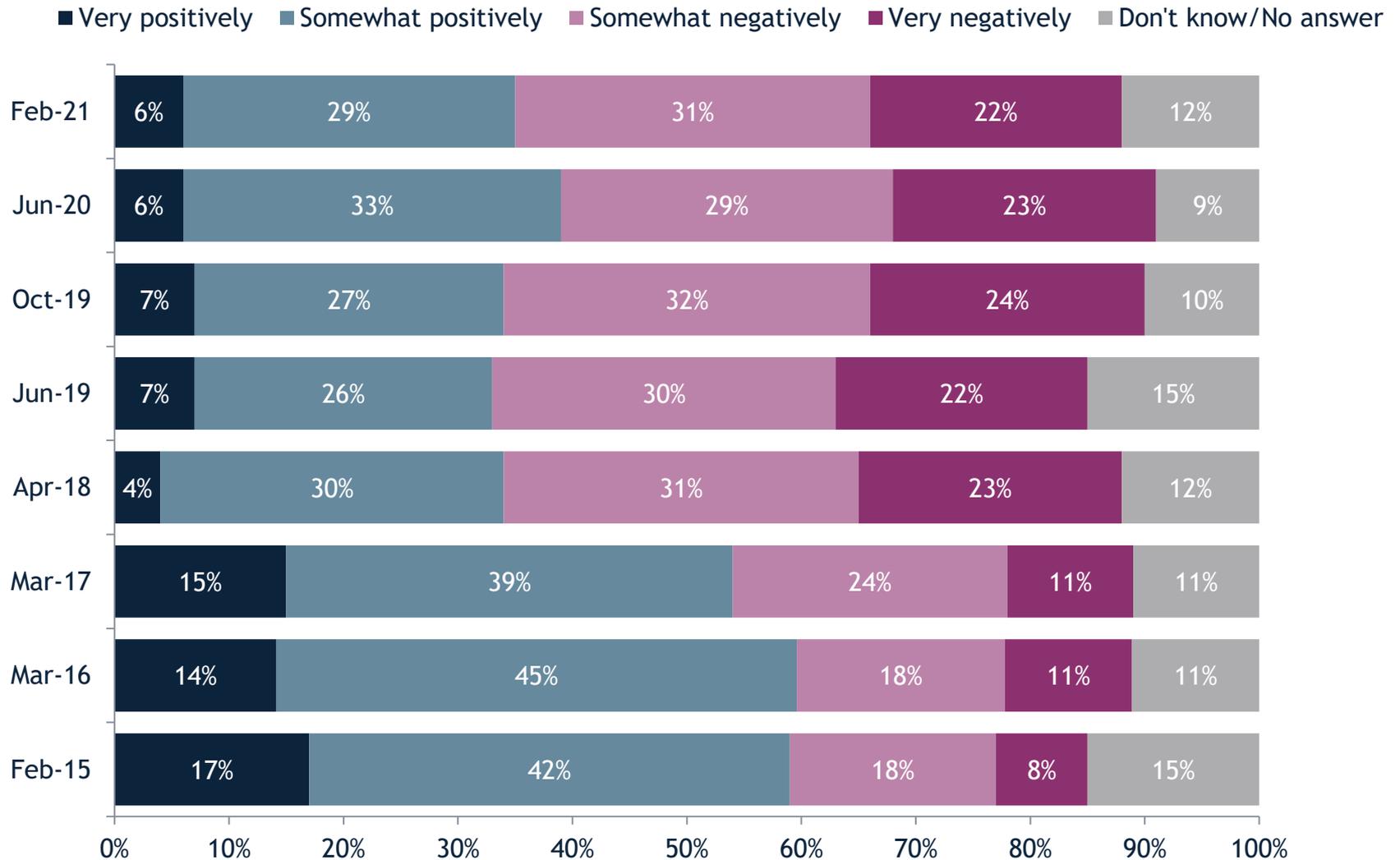
(Respondents allowed to provide multiple responses)



Do you support or oppose further dialogue with Russia?

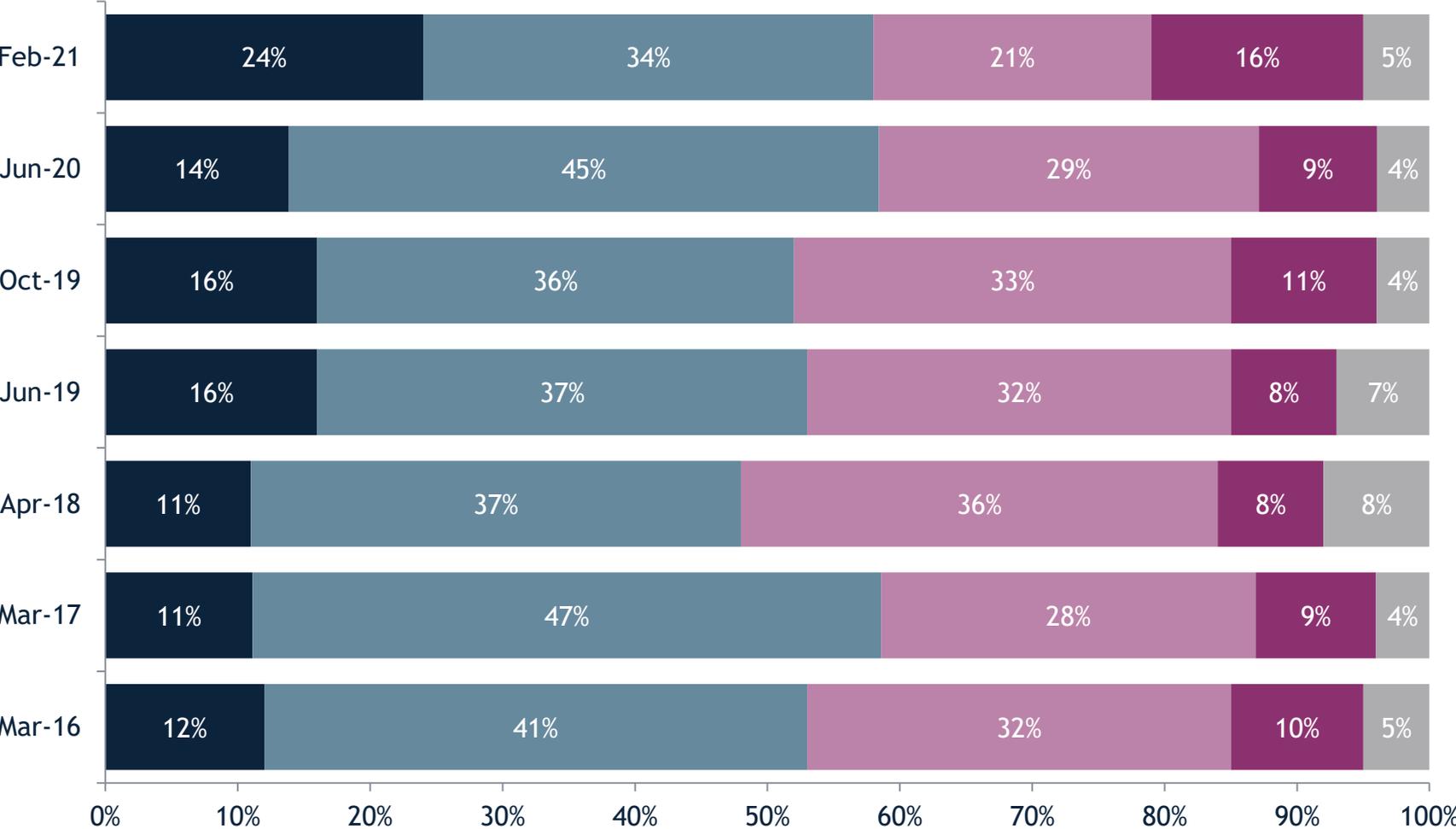


How do you rate the current government's handling of Georgia's relationship with Russia?



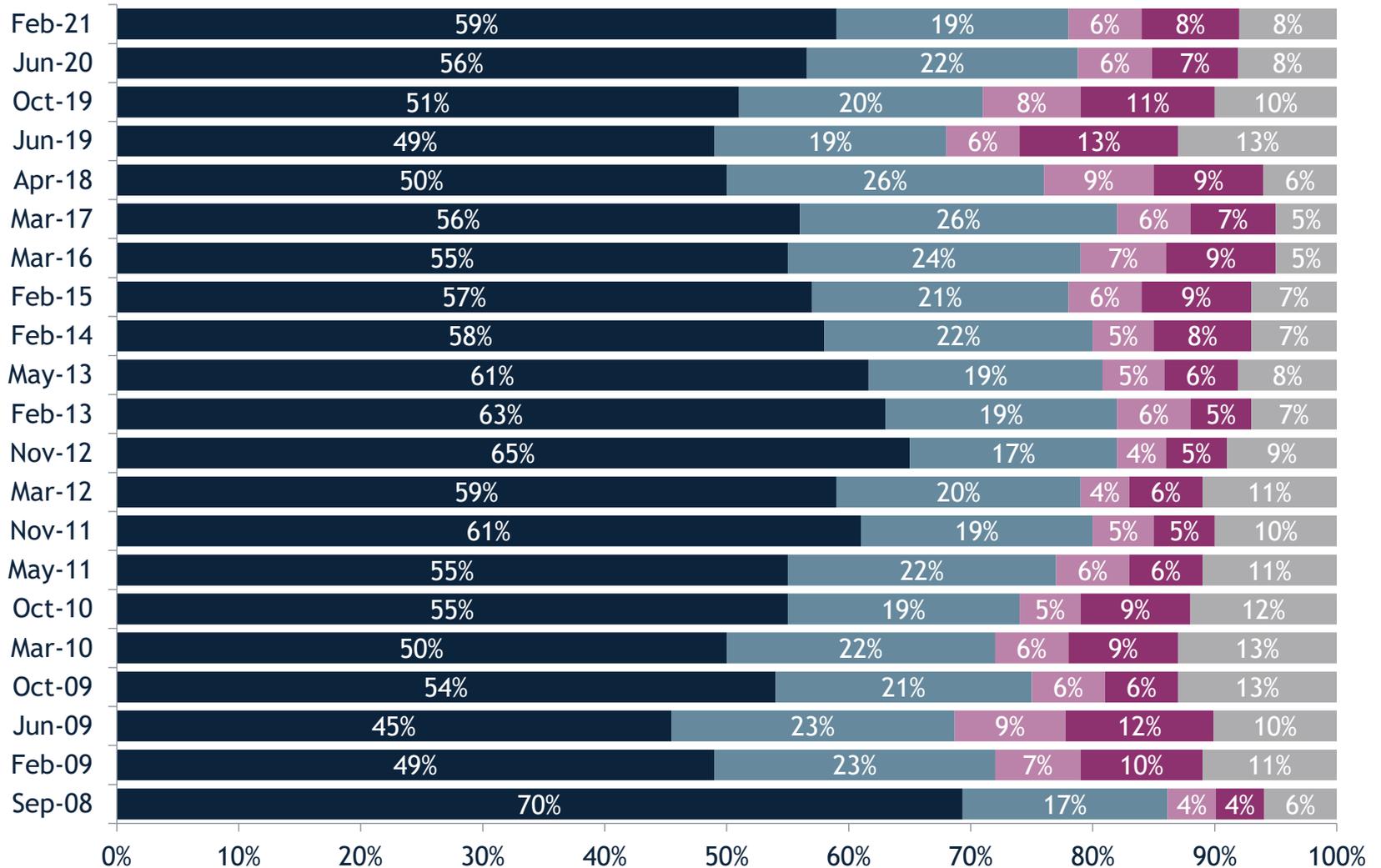
Given the current state of Georgia's relationship with Russia, how secure do you feel living in Georgia?

■ Very secure
 ■ More secure than not
 ■ More insecure than secure
 ■ Very insecure
 ■ Don't know/No answer



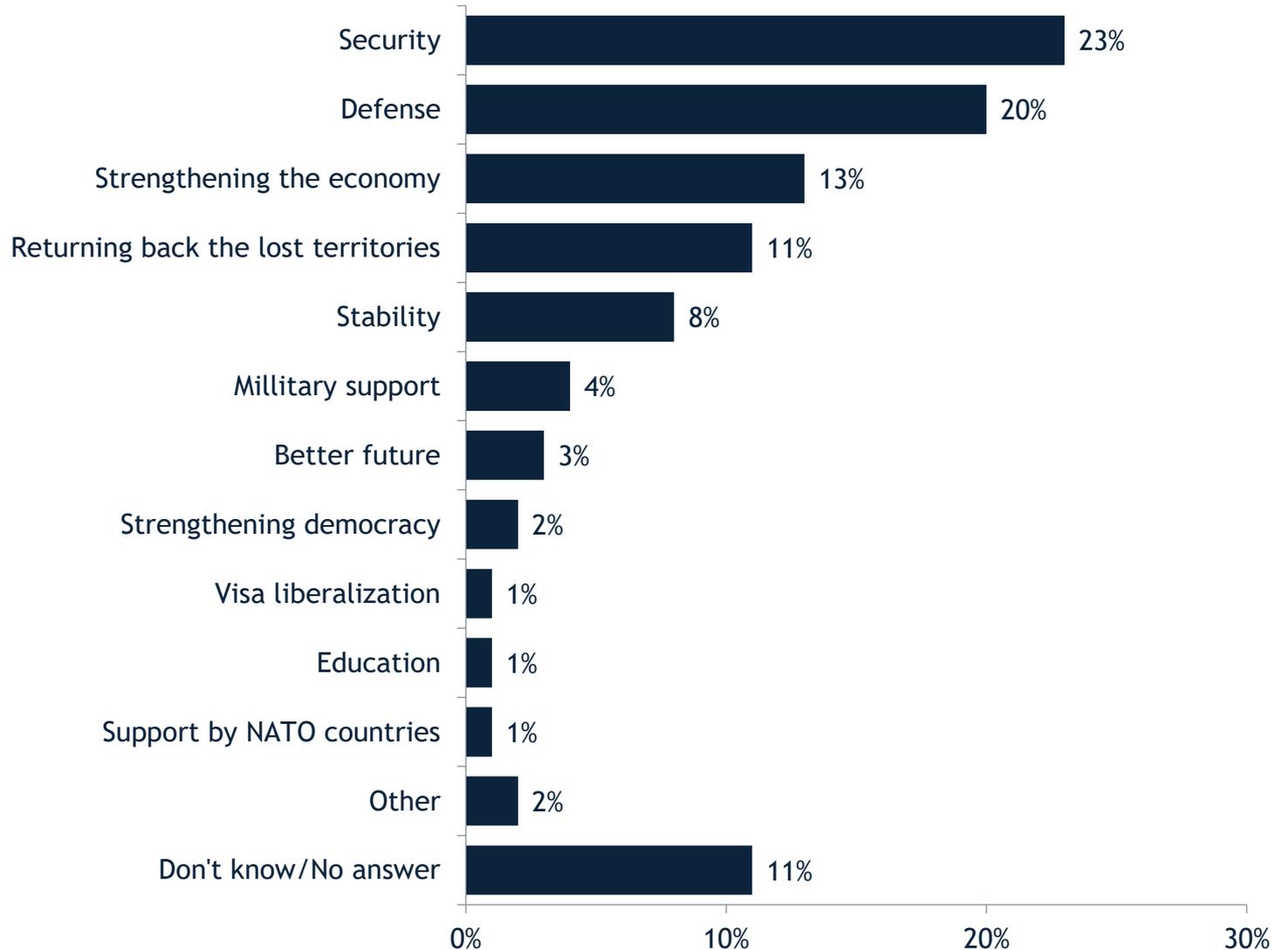
Do you support or oppose Georgia joining NATO?

■ Fully support
 ■ Somewhat support
 ■ Somewhat oppose
 ■ Strongly oppose
 ■ Don't know/No answer

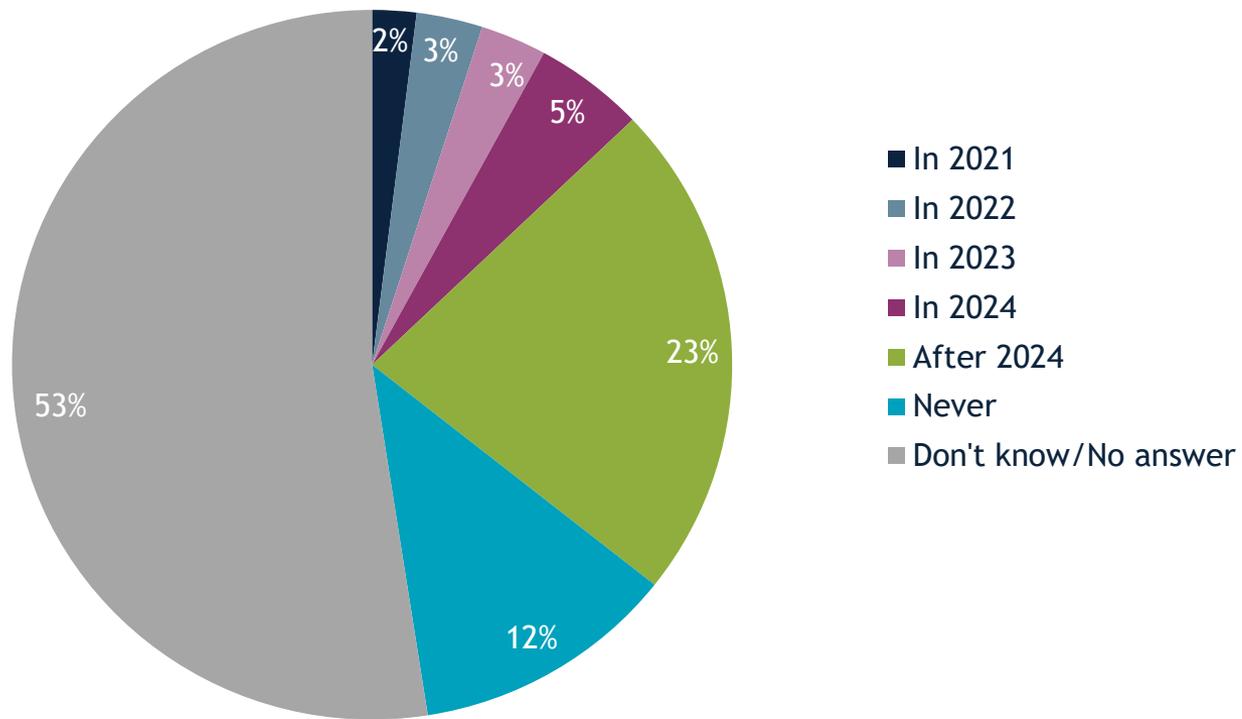


If you support, what is the main benefit of joining NATO?

(Respondents allowed to submit spontaneous responses; respondents supporting Georgia joining NATO, n=1,164)

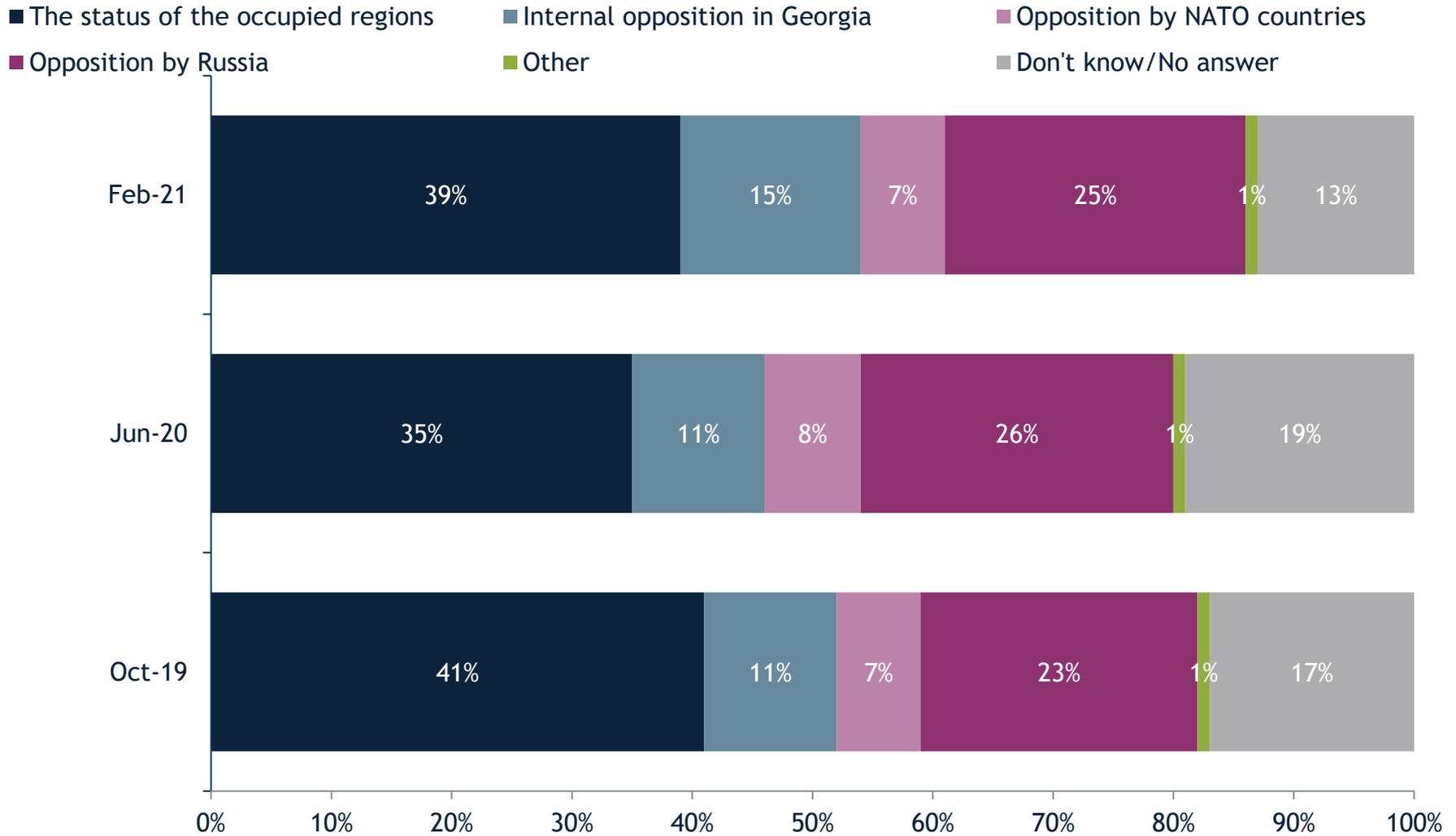


When do you think Georgia will become a member of NATO?

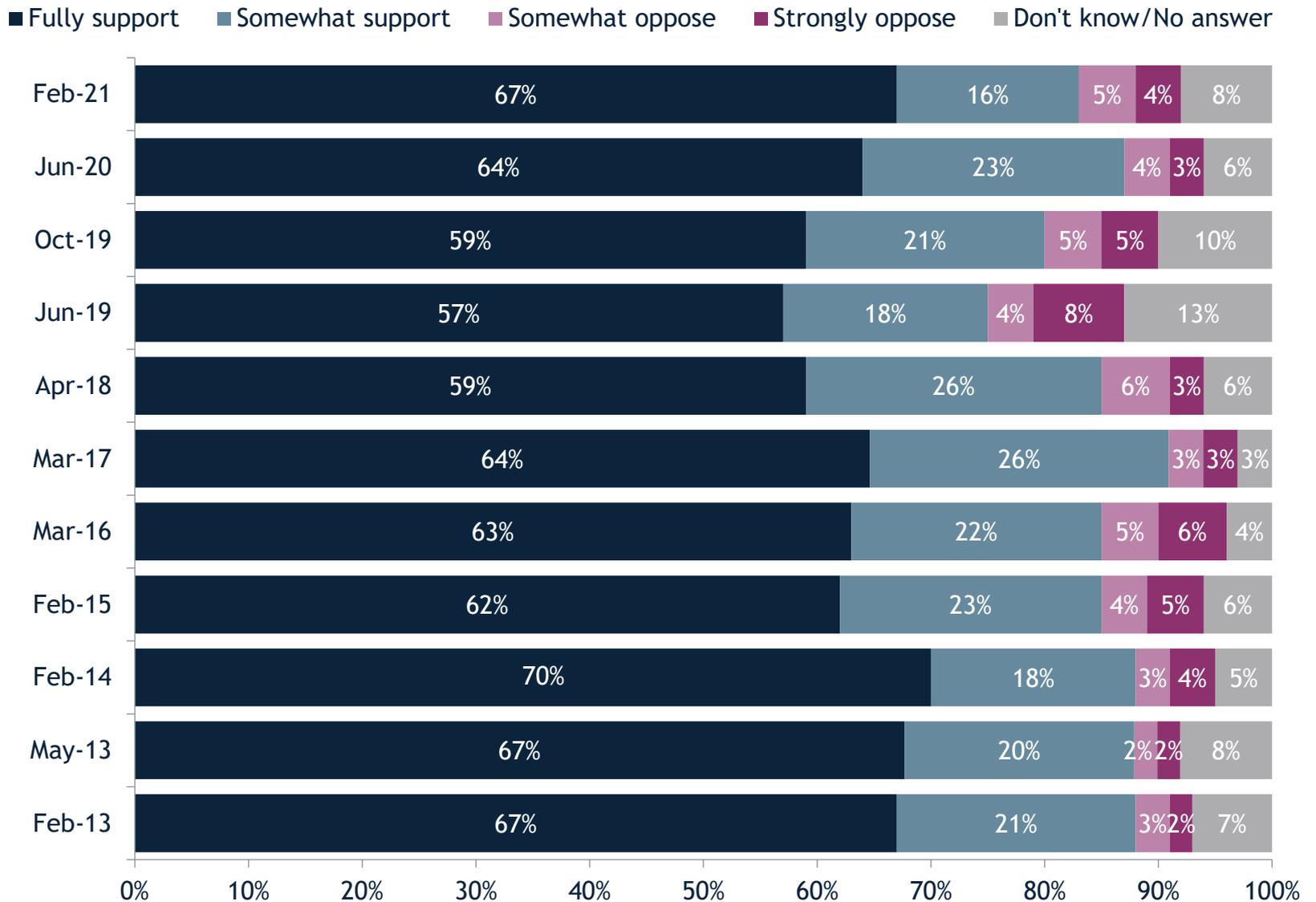


What is biggest obstacle in the way of Georgia joining NATO?

(Respondents allowed to submit a spontaneous response)

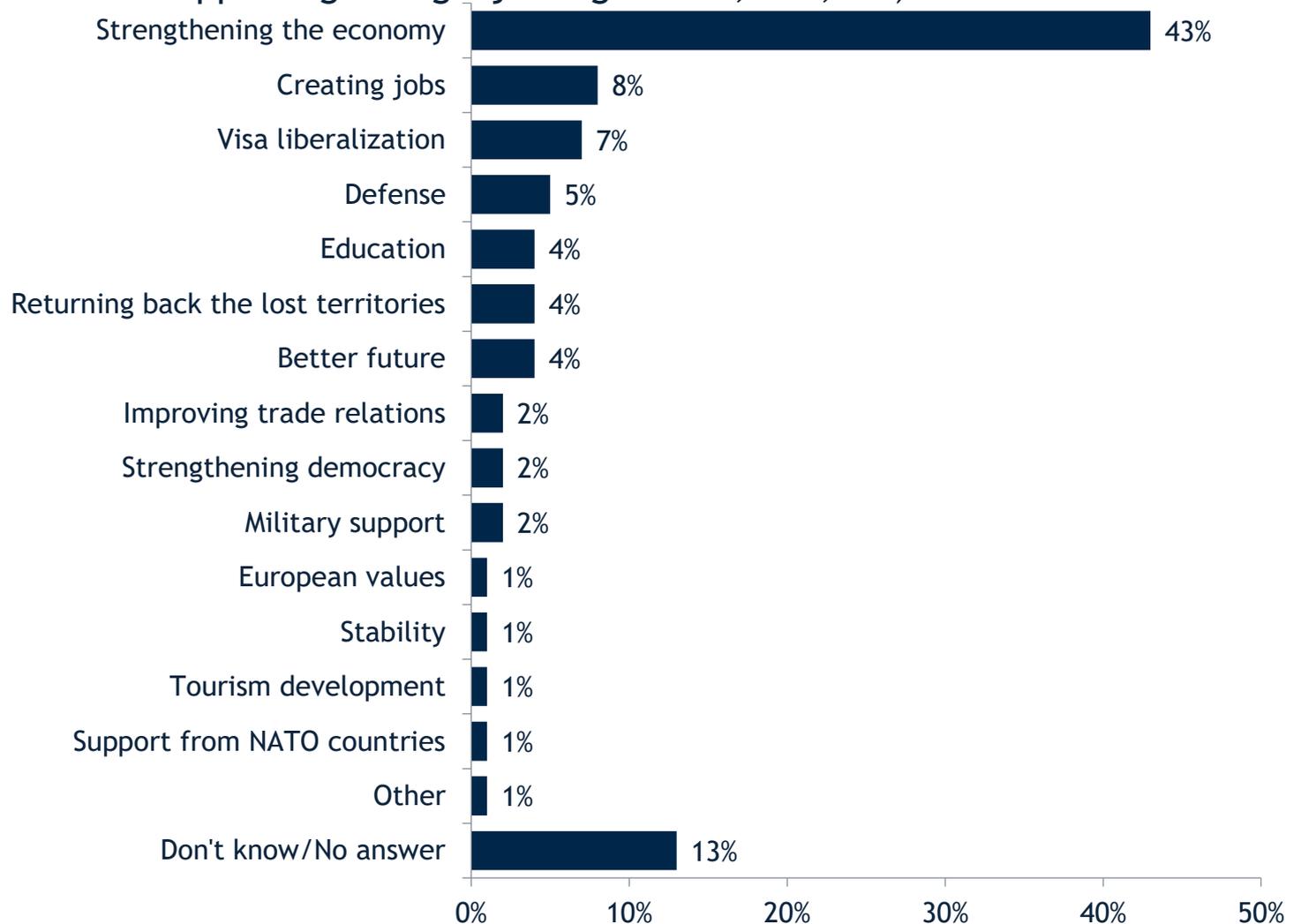


Do you support or oppose Georgia joining the EU?

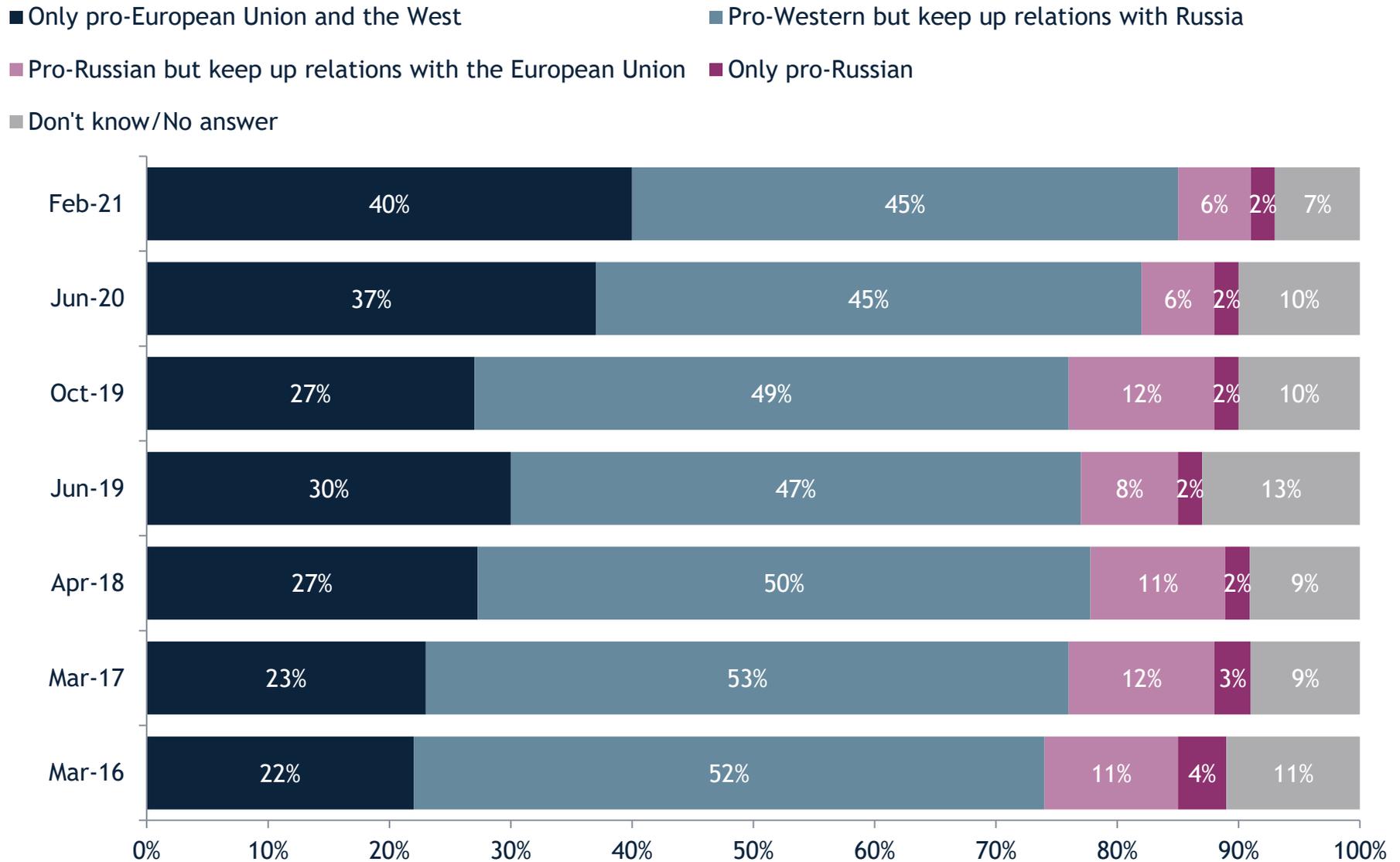


If you support joining the EU, what is the main benefit of joining the EU?

(Respondents allowed to submit a spontaneous response; respondents supporting Georgia joining the EU, n=1,238)

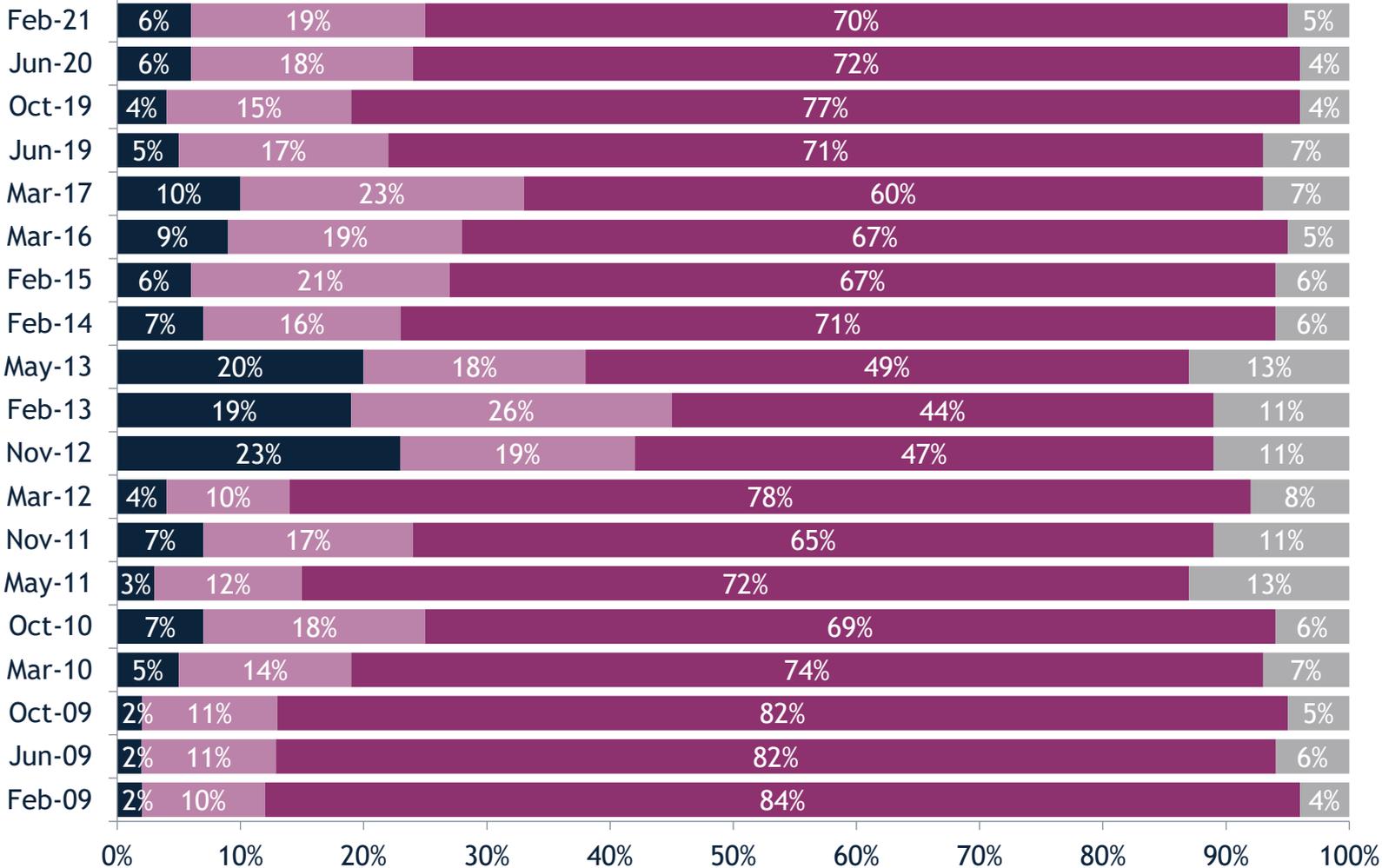


In your opinion, what should Georgia's foreign policy course be?



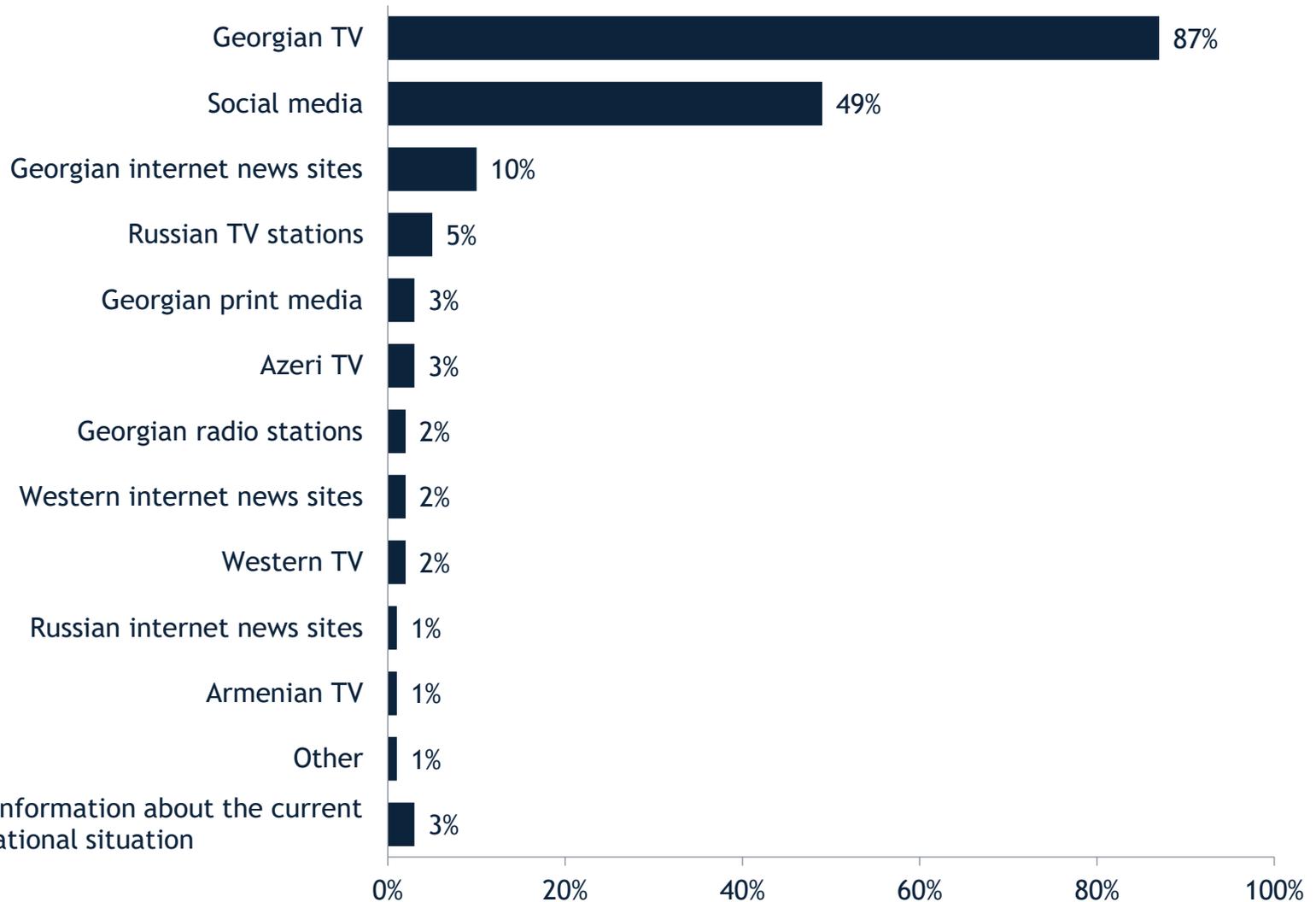
Do you think that Russian aggression towards Georgia is over, or is it still going on?

■ It is over, and unlikely to resume ■ It is over, but likely to resume ■ It is still going on ■ Don't know/No answer

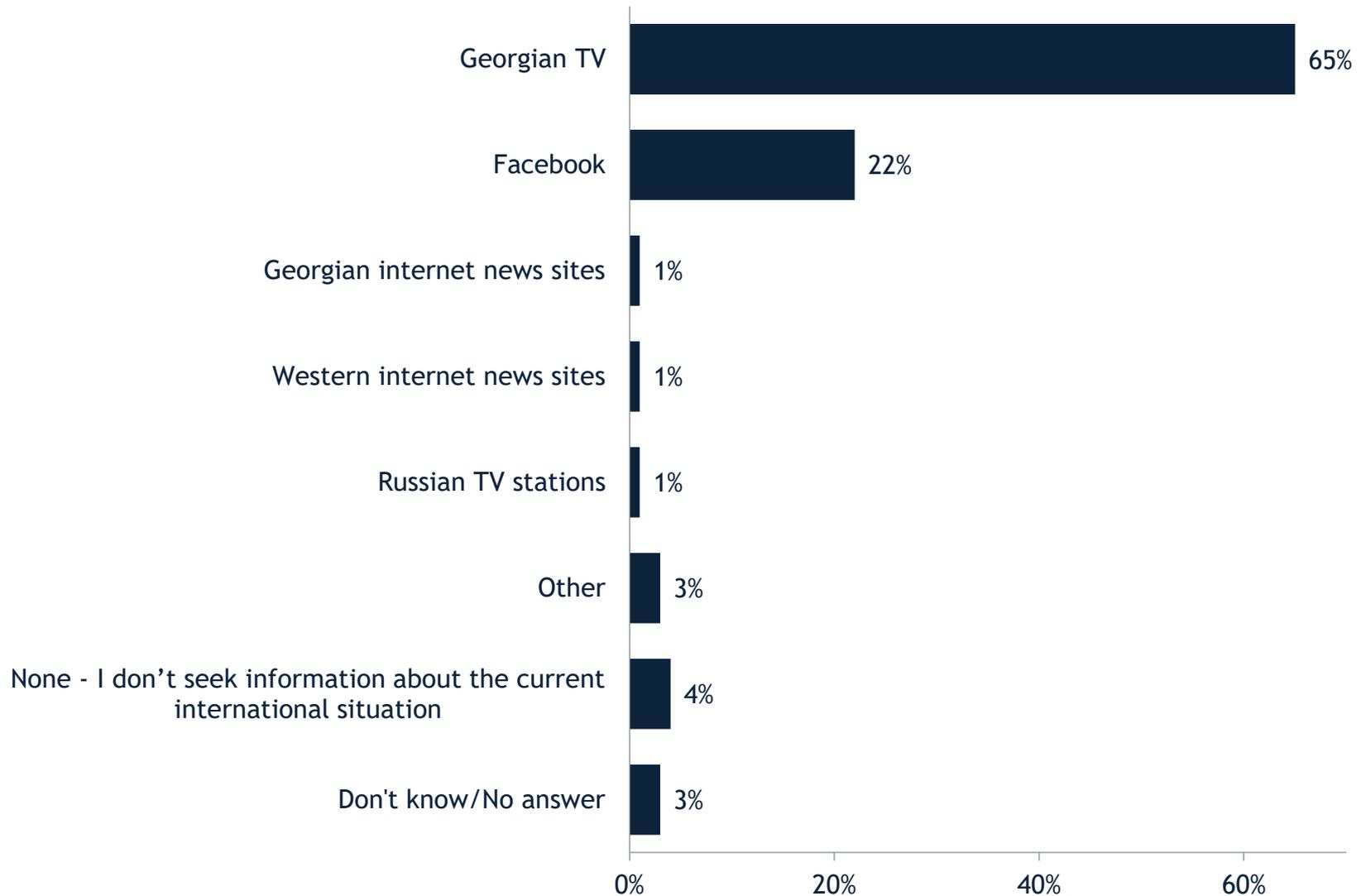


Which sources do you use for information about the current international situation?

(Respondents permitted to supply multiple answers)



Which of these information channels do you trust most for information about the current international situation?

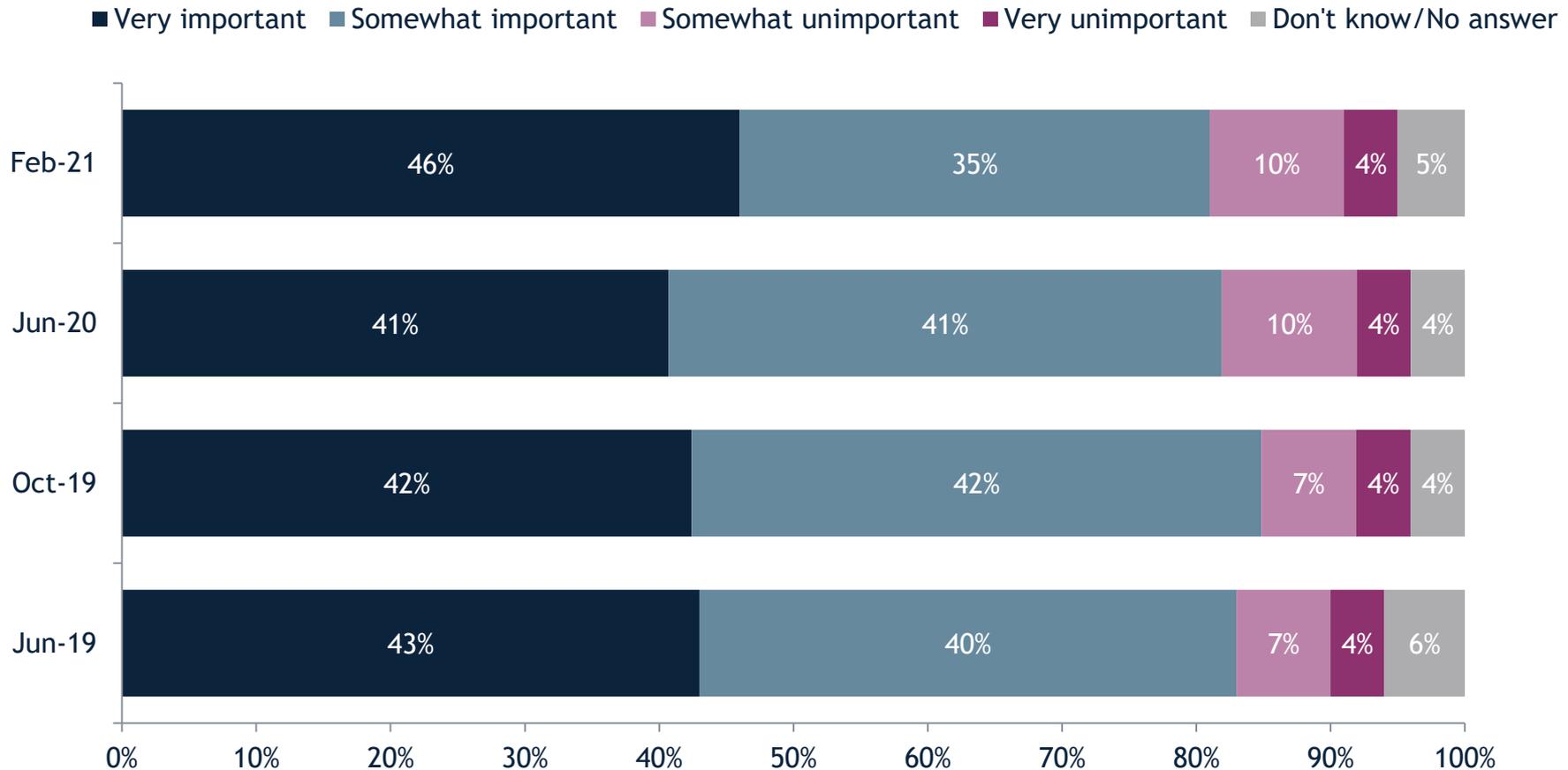




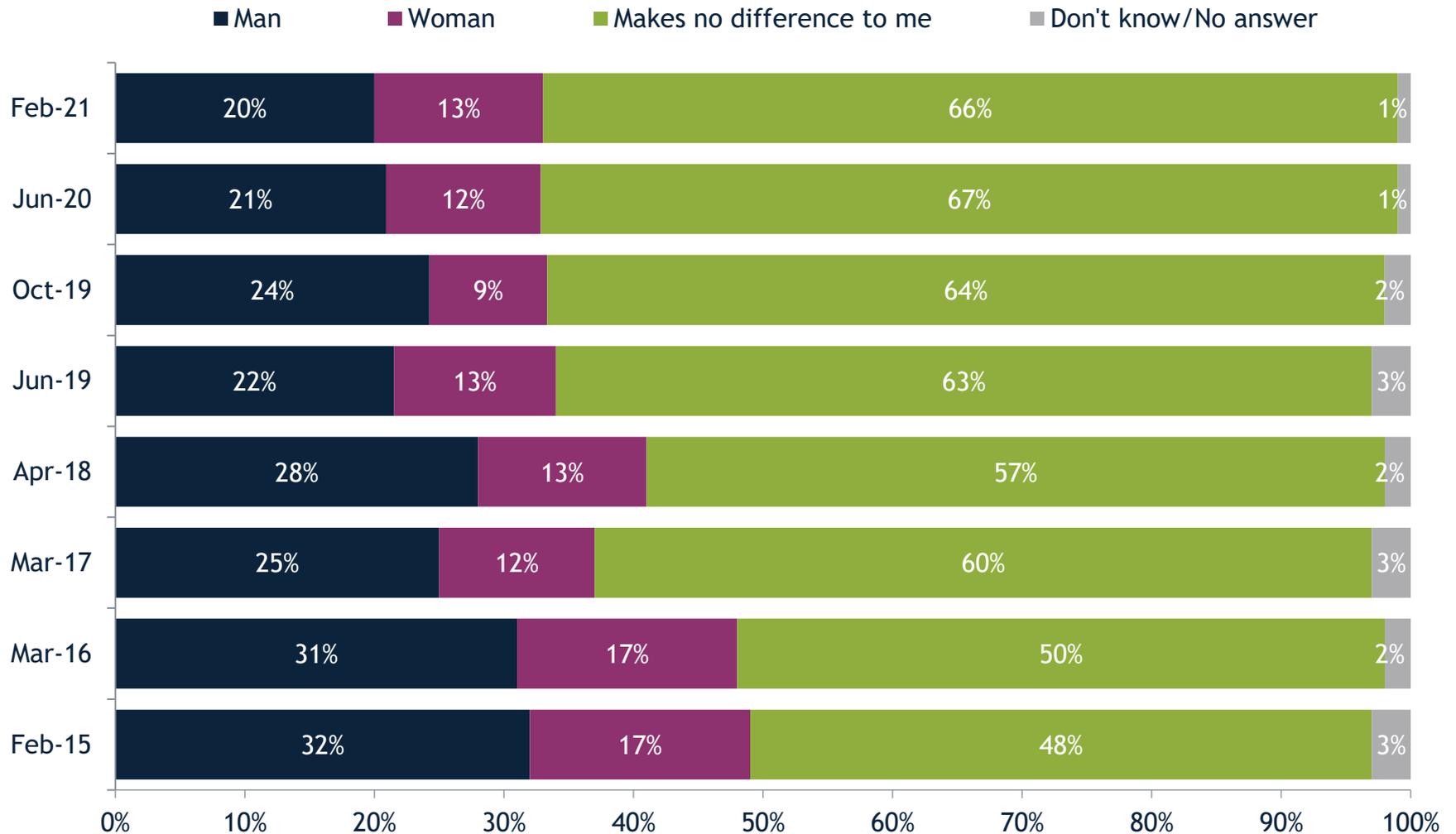
Underrepresented Groups



How important or unimportant is it that all members of our country's adult population, including women, youth, ethnic minorities and people with disabilities, are included in political decision-making?

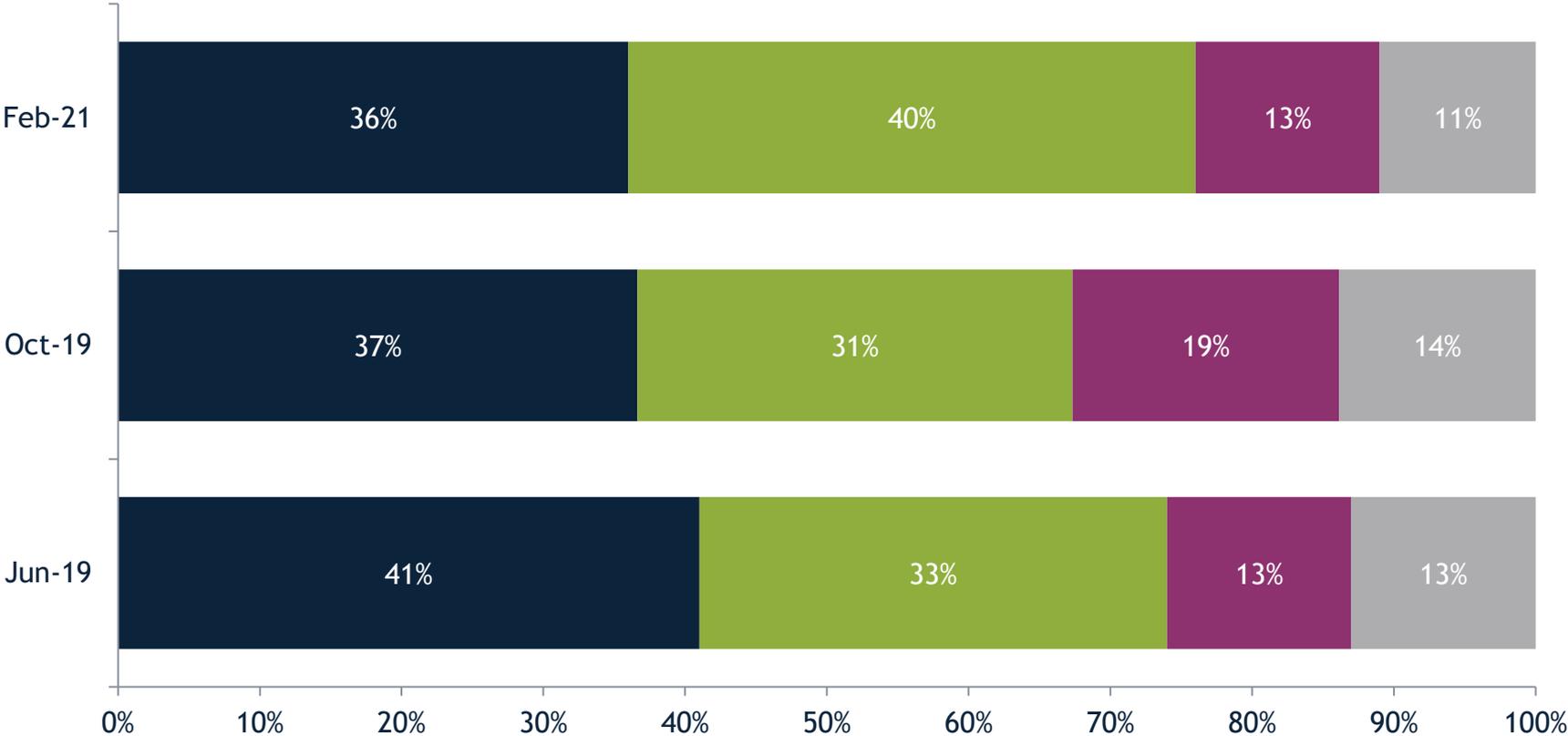


If there are two candidates running for office and they have the same qualifications aside from the fact that one is a man and one is a woman, which candidate are you more likely to support?



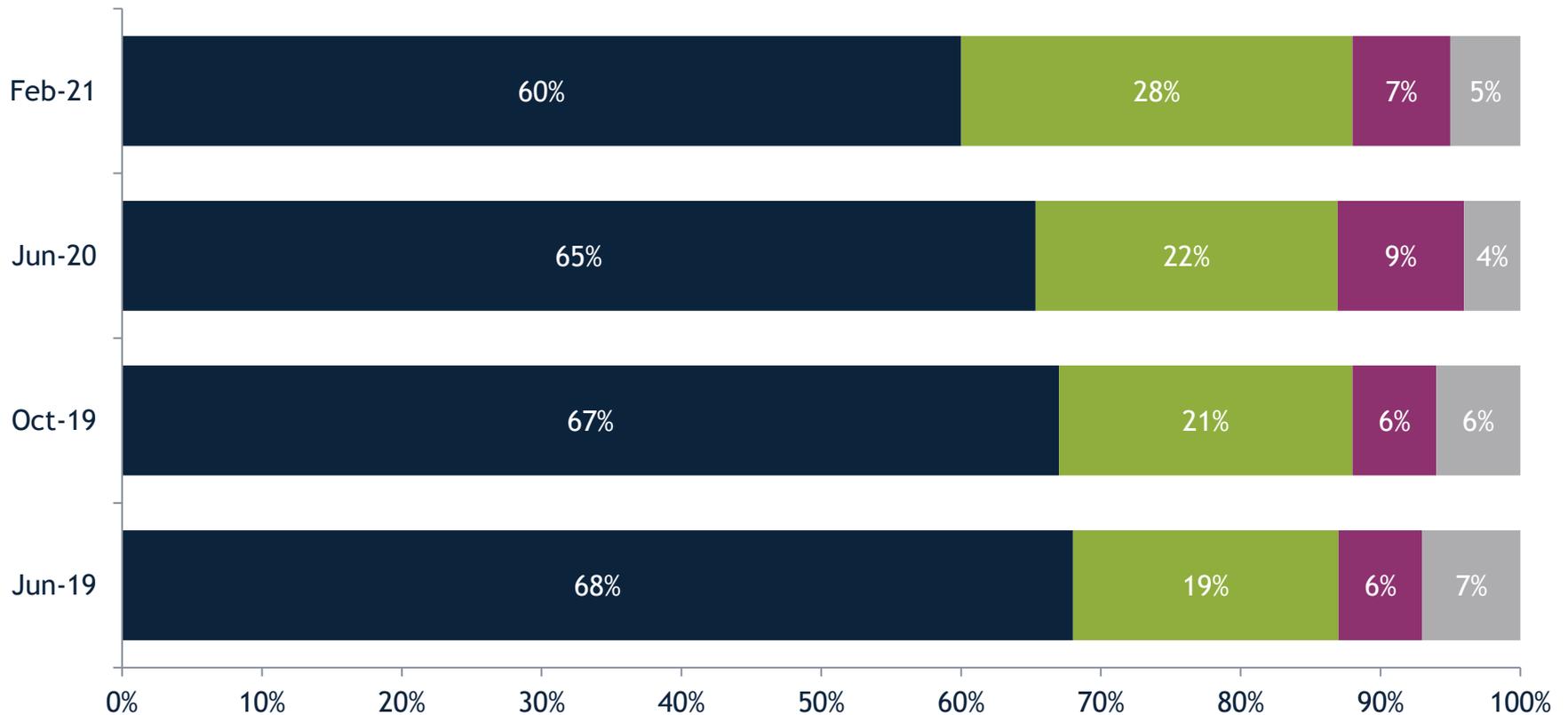
In your opinion, should there be more women in Georgian politics?

- Yes, there should be more women in Georgian politics
- There should be the same level of women as there currently is
- No, there should be less women in Georgian politics
- Don't know/No answer

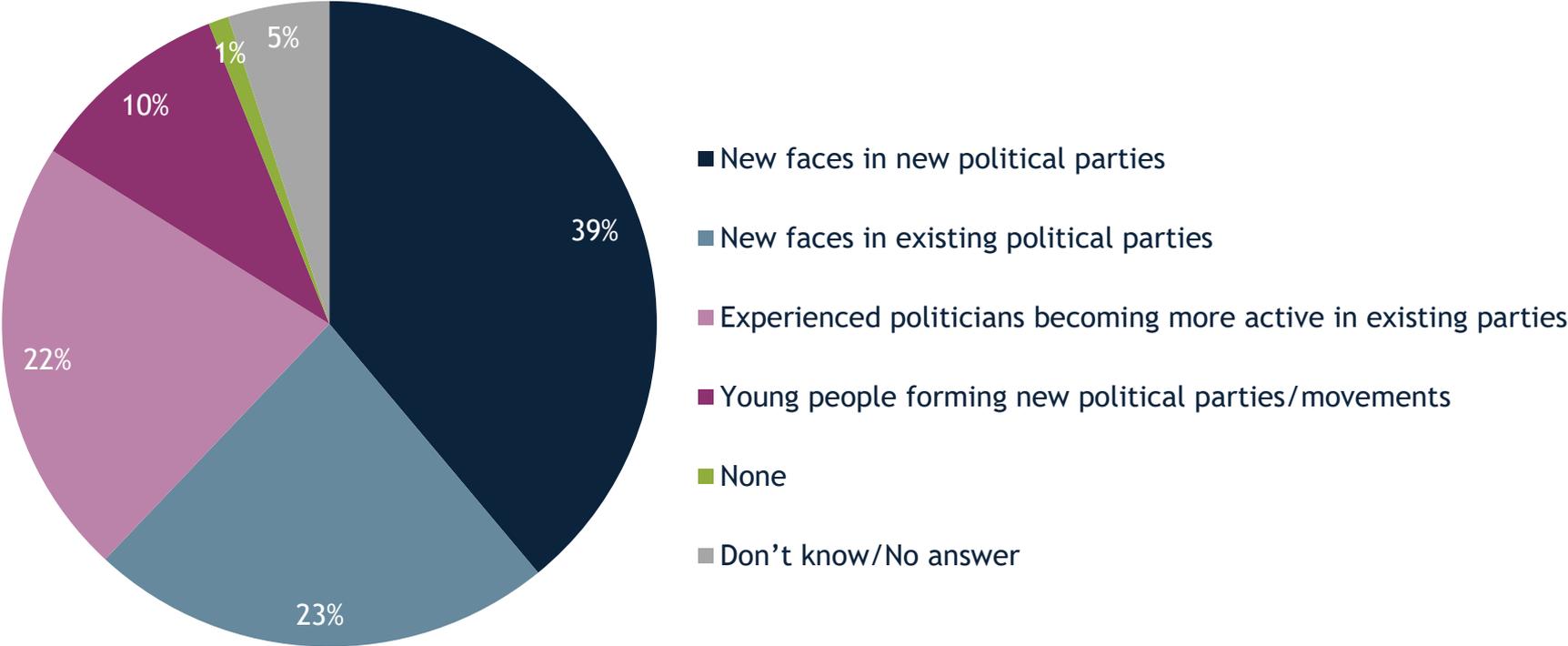


In your opinion, should there be more youth in Georgian politics?

- Yes, there should be more youth in Georgian politics
- There should be the same level of youth as there currently is
- No, there should be less youth in Georgian politics
- Don't know/No answer



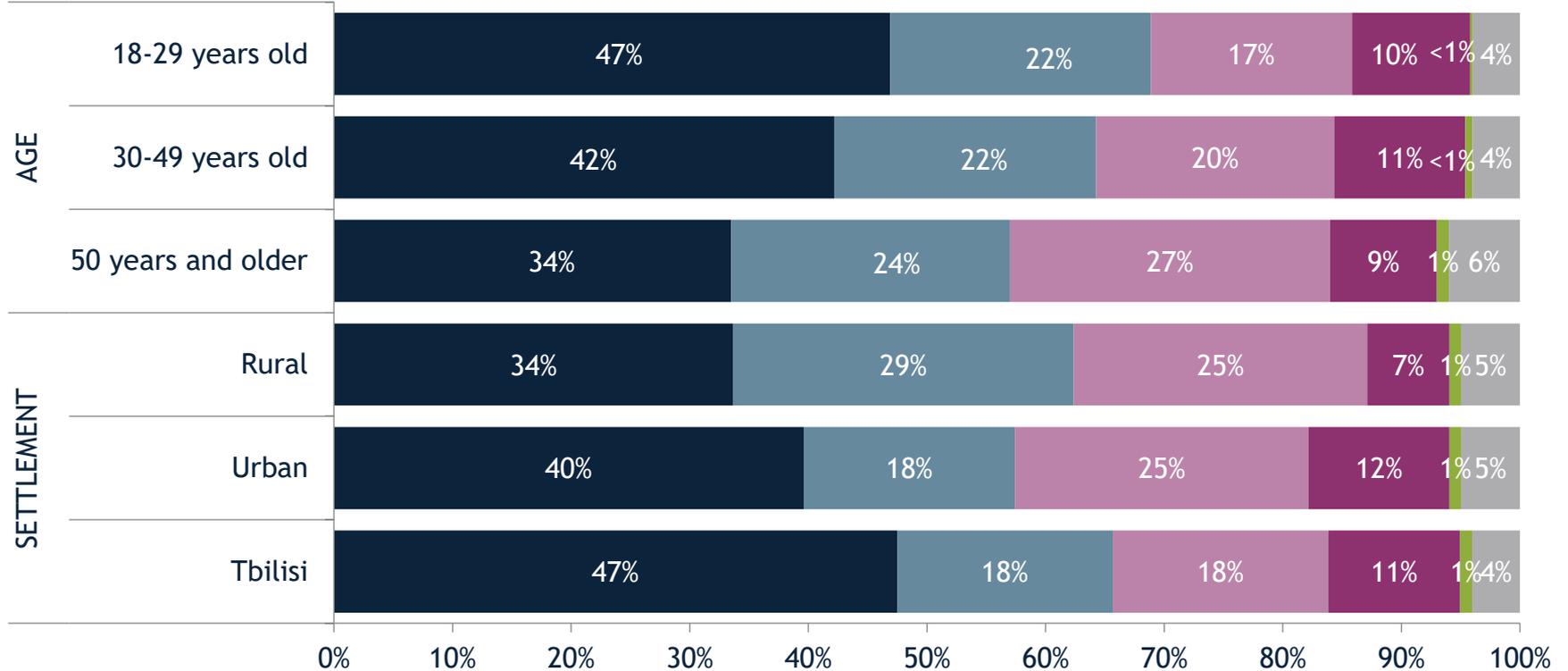
Which of the following, if any, would be most appealing to you?



Which of the following, if any, would be most appealing to you?

(Disaggregated by age and settlement)

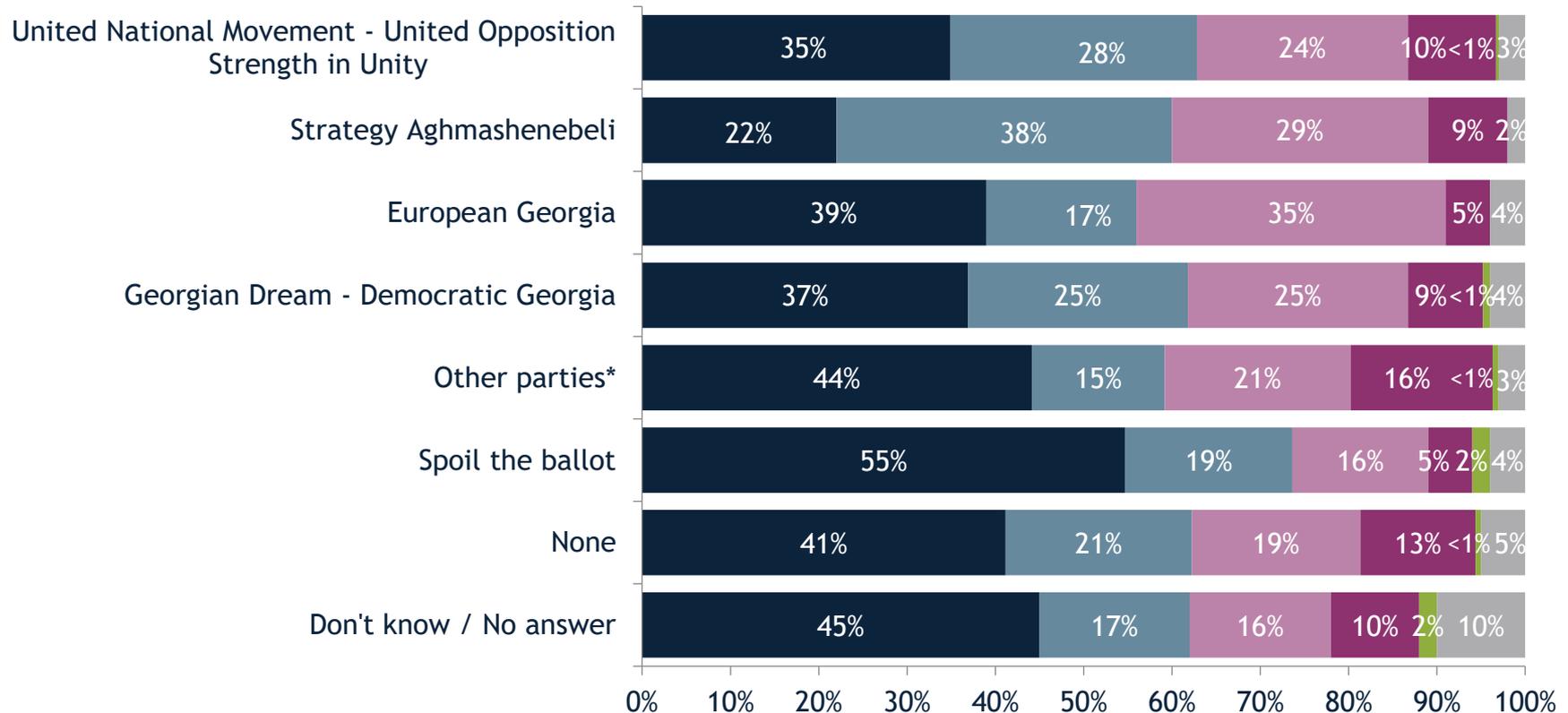
- New faces in new political parties
- New faces in existing political parties
- Experienced politicians becoming more active in existing parties
- Young people forming new political parties/movements
- None
- Don't know/No answer



Which of the following, if any, would be most appealing to you?

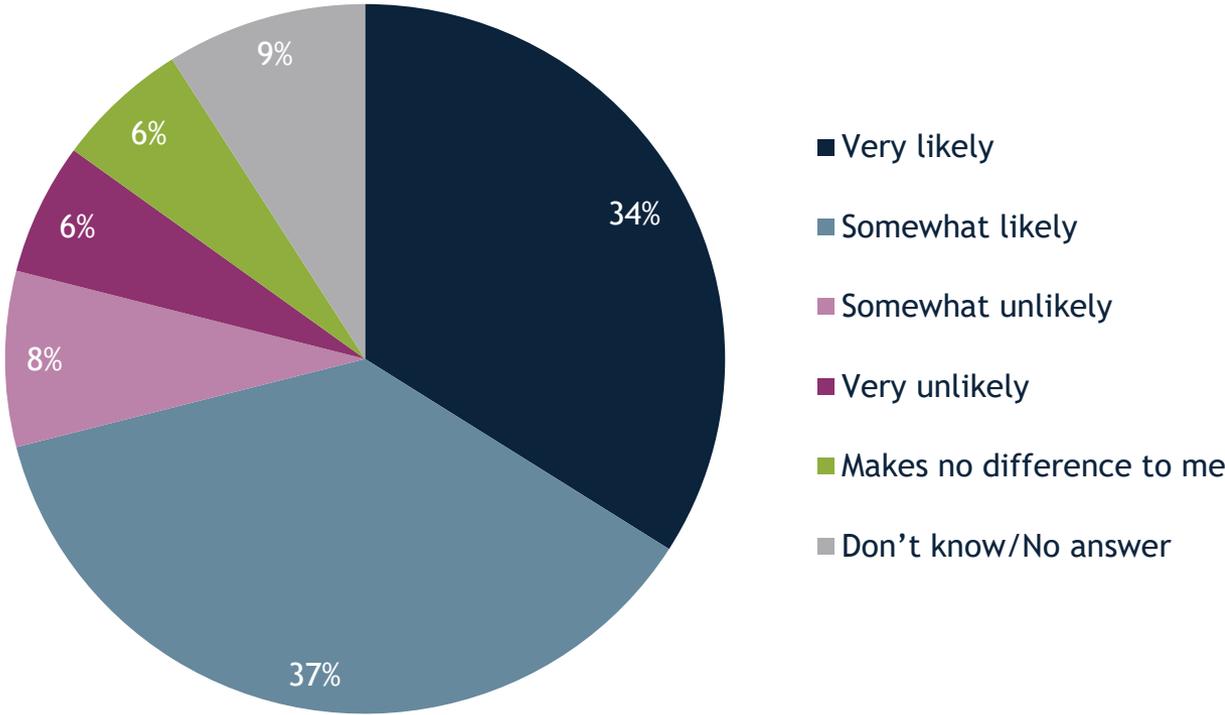
(Disaggregated by party preference)

- New faces in new political parties
- New faces in existing political parties
- Experienced politicians becoming more active in existing parties
- Young people forming new political parties/movements
- None
- Don't know/No answer



*"Other parties" includes parties selected by fewer than 3 percent of respondents: Citizens, United Georgia, For Justice, Republican Party, Girchi, Labor Party, Lelo, Free Democrats, Patriotic Alliance, European Socialists

Would you be more likely or less likely to vote for a political party that had a high number of youth on the party list?



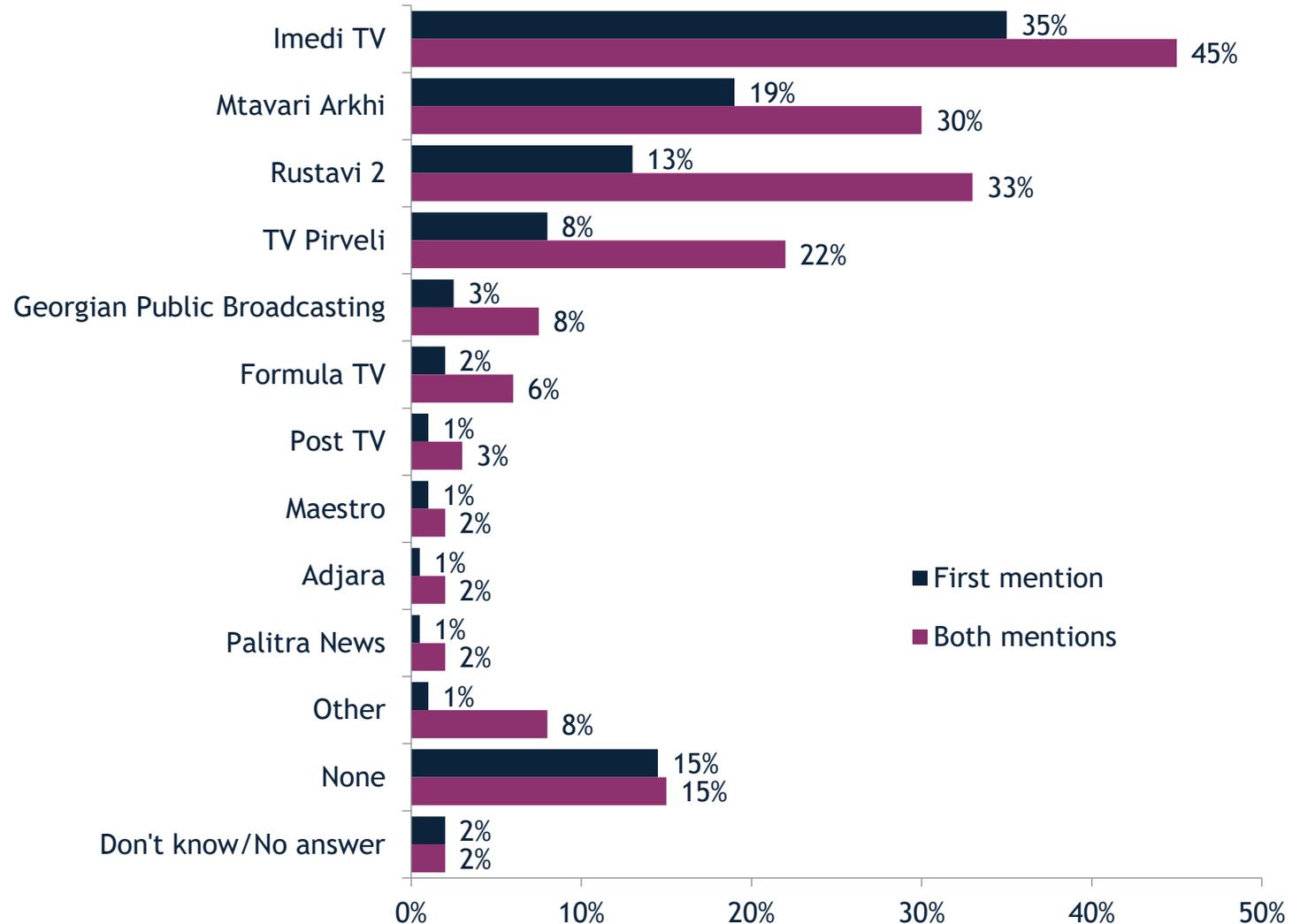


Media



Which Georgian TV station's news and political information do you trust the most?

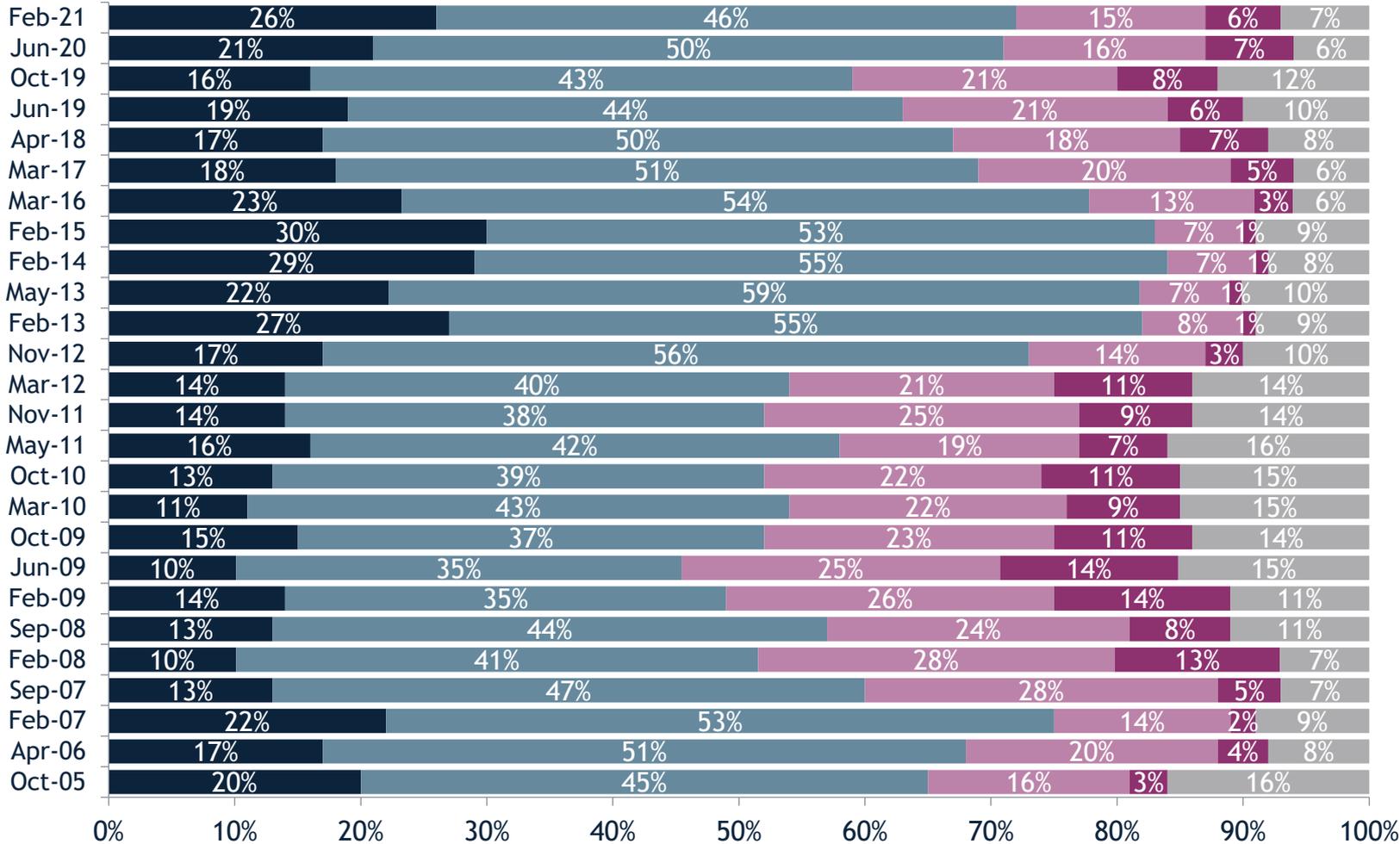
(Respondents permitted to supply two spontaneous answers)



* Responses named by less than one percent merged into "Other."

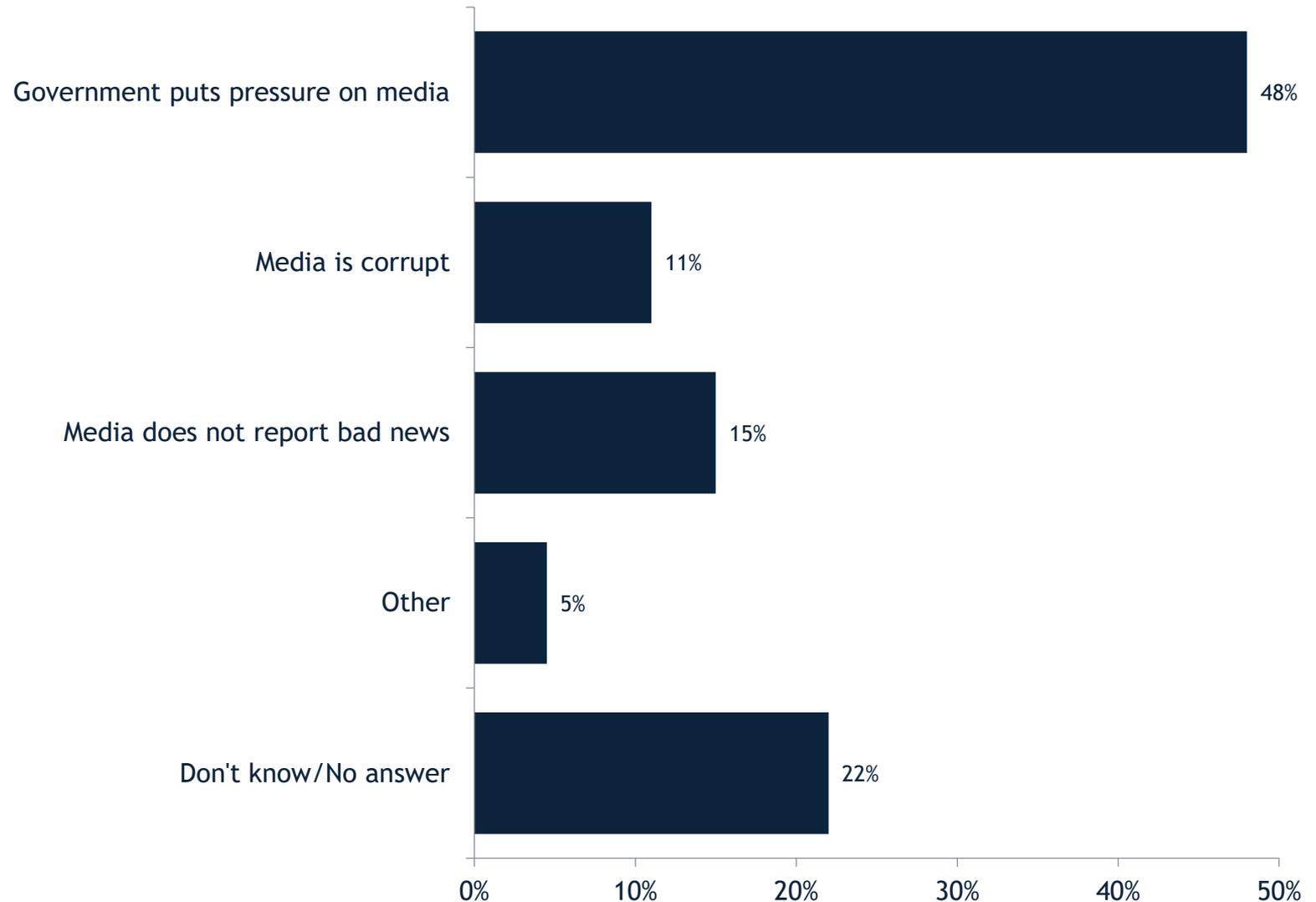
In your opinion, is Georgian mass media (TV, radio and press) free to express various political views?

Totally free
 Somewhat free
 Not very free
 Not free at all
 Don't know/No answer

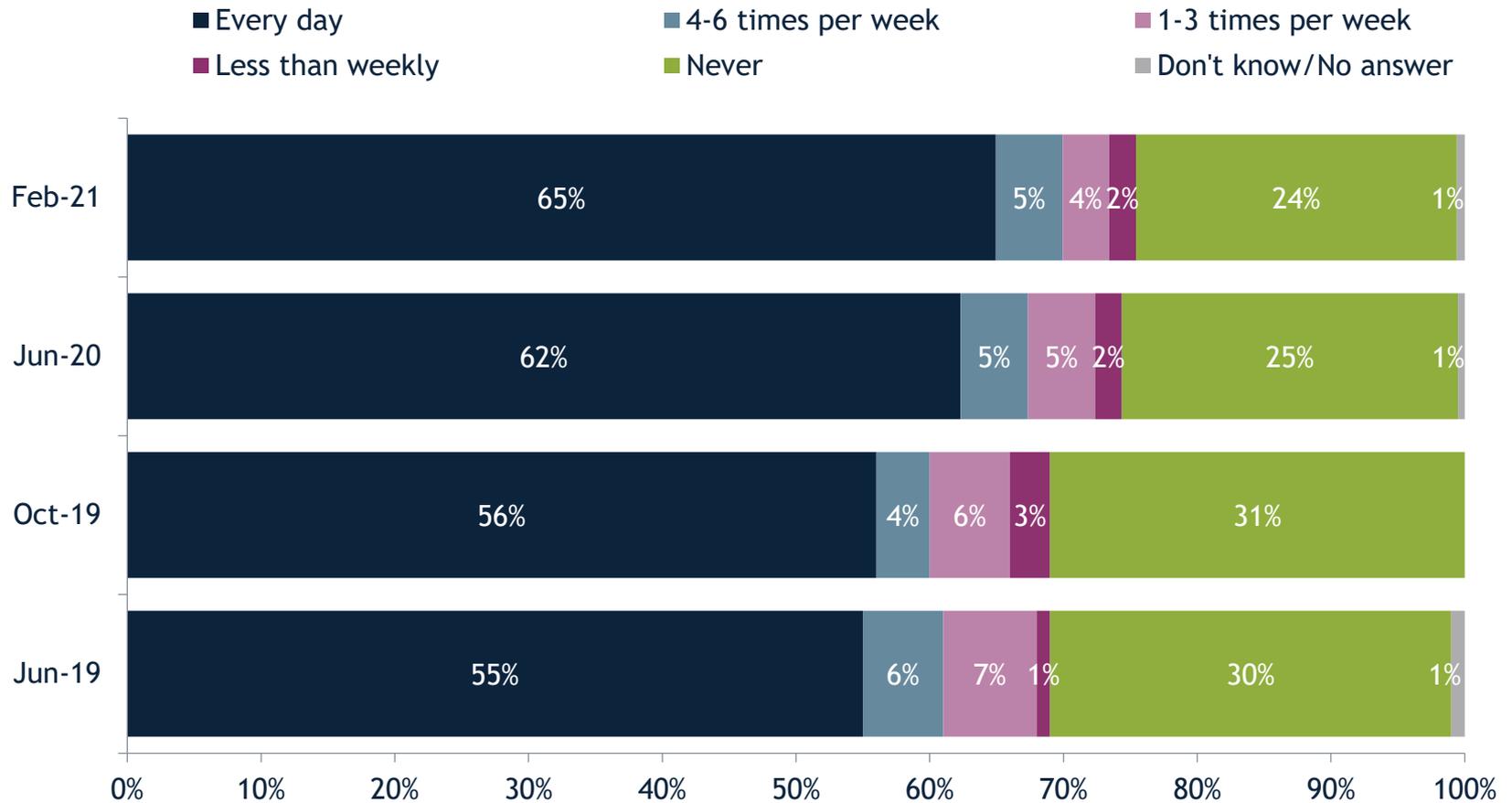


Why do you think that Georgian mass media is not free to express various political views?

(Respondents who answered Georgian media is not very free or not free at all, n=306; percentage of respondents having such opinion)

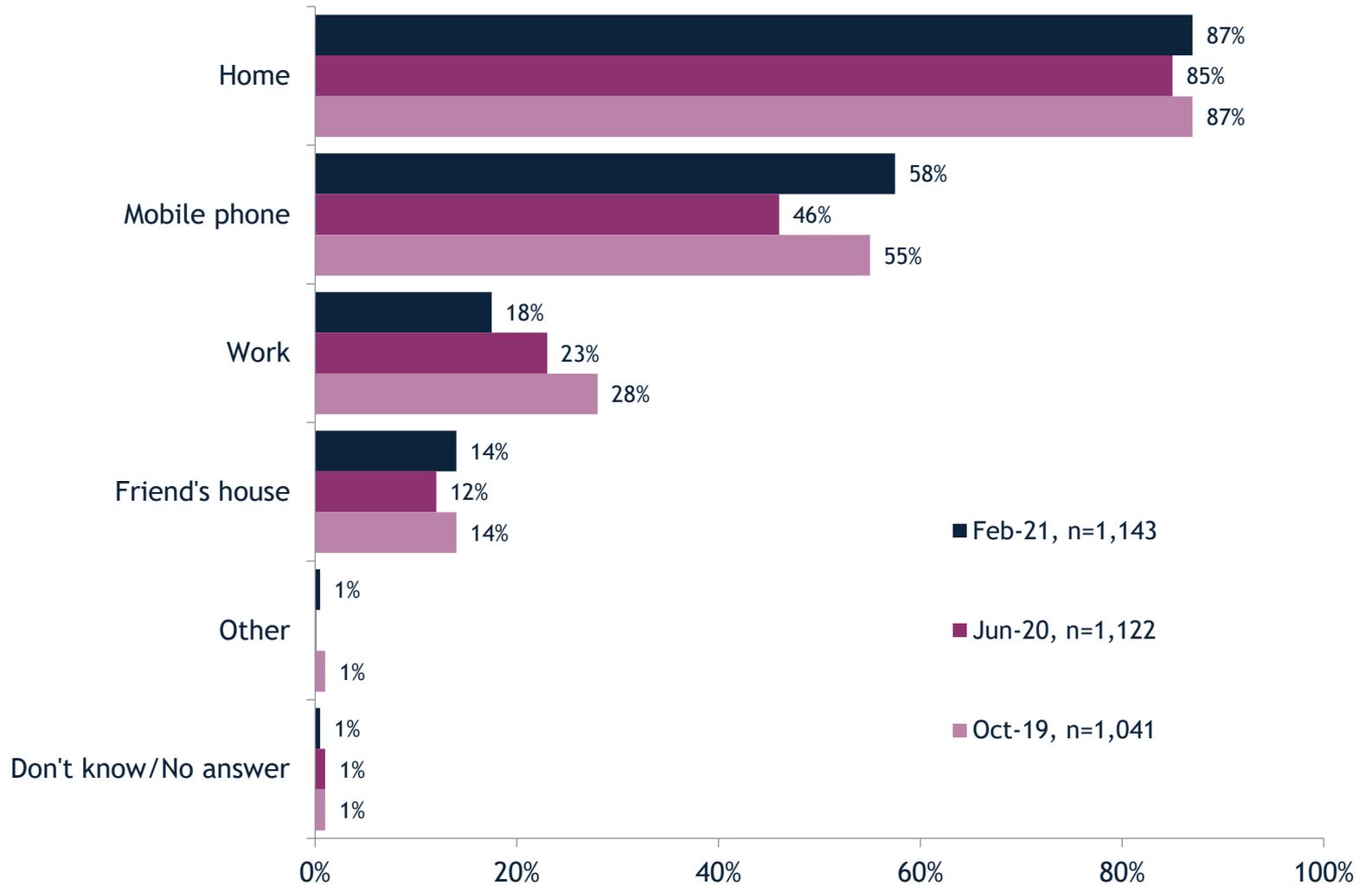


How many times per week do you access the internet?



Where do you access the internet?

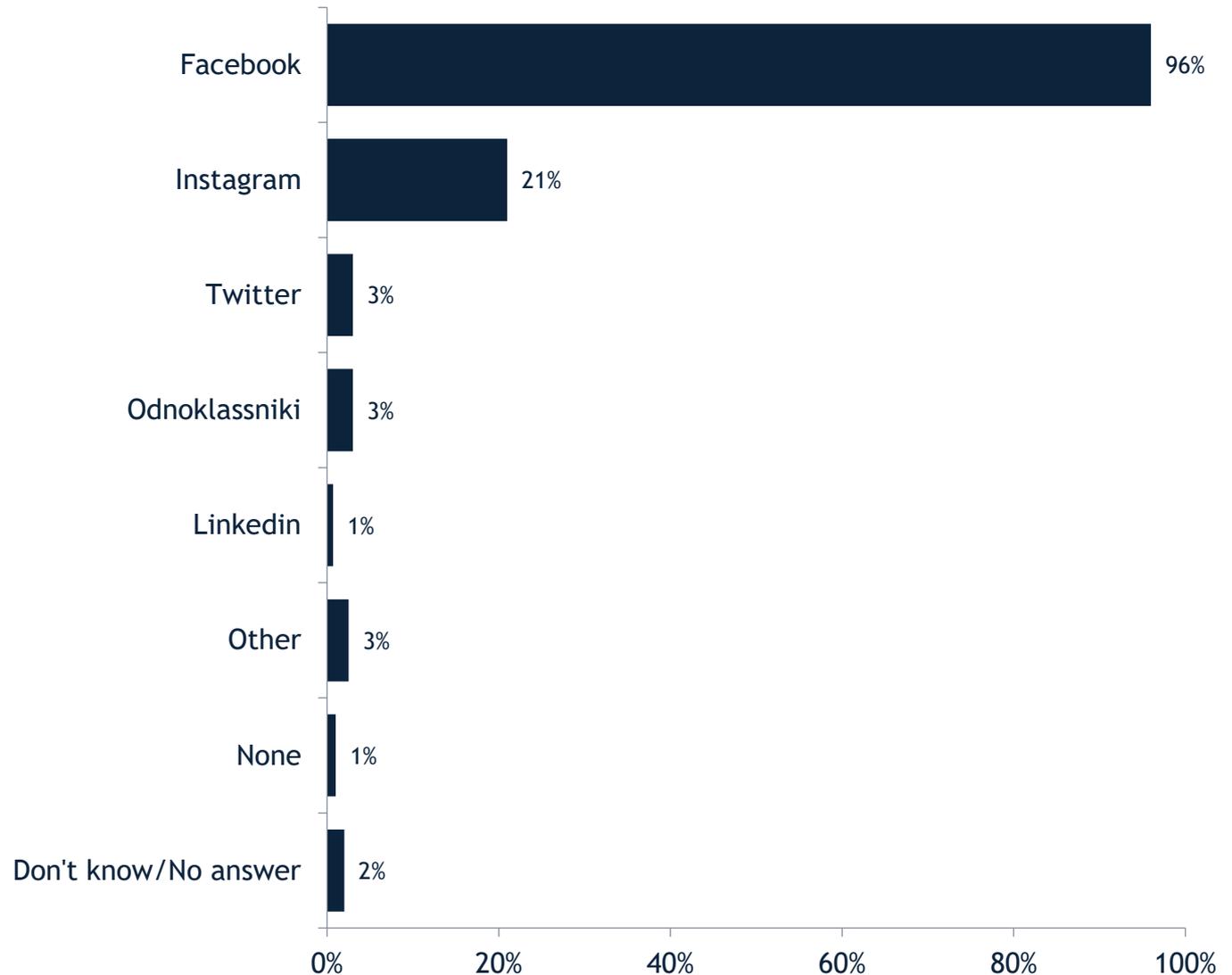
(Internet users, n=1,143; multiple responses)



Which social media sites do you use most often?

(Respondents permitted to supply three spontaneous answers)

Internet users, n=1,143

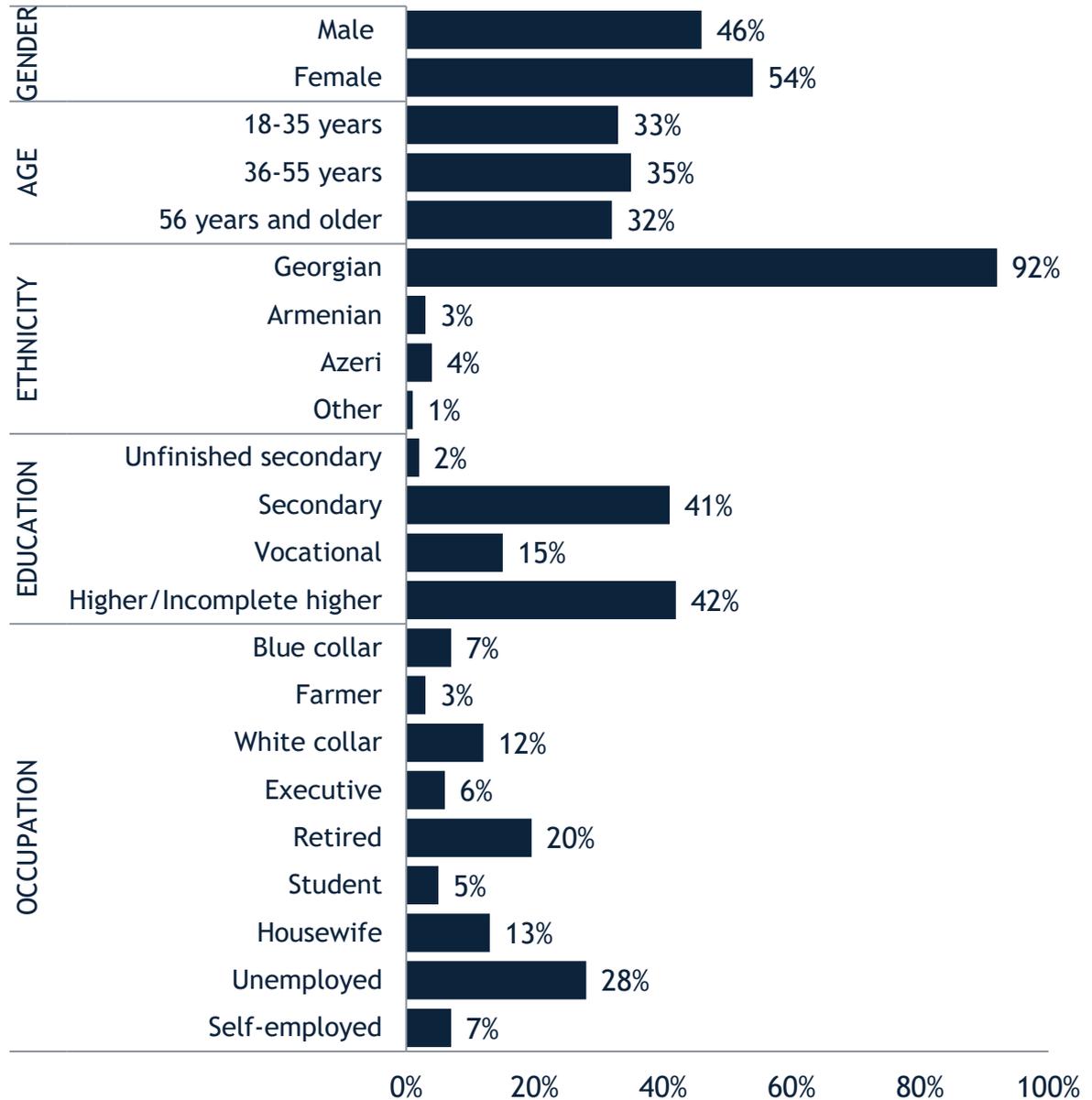




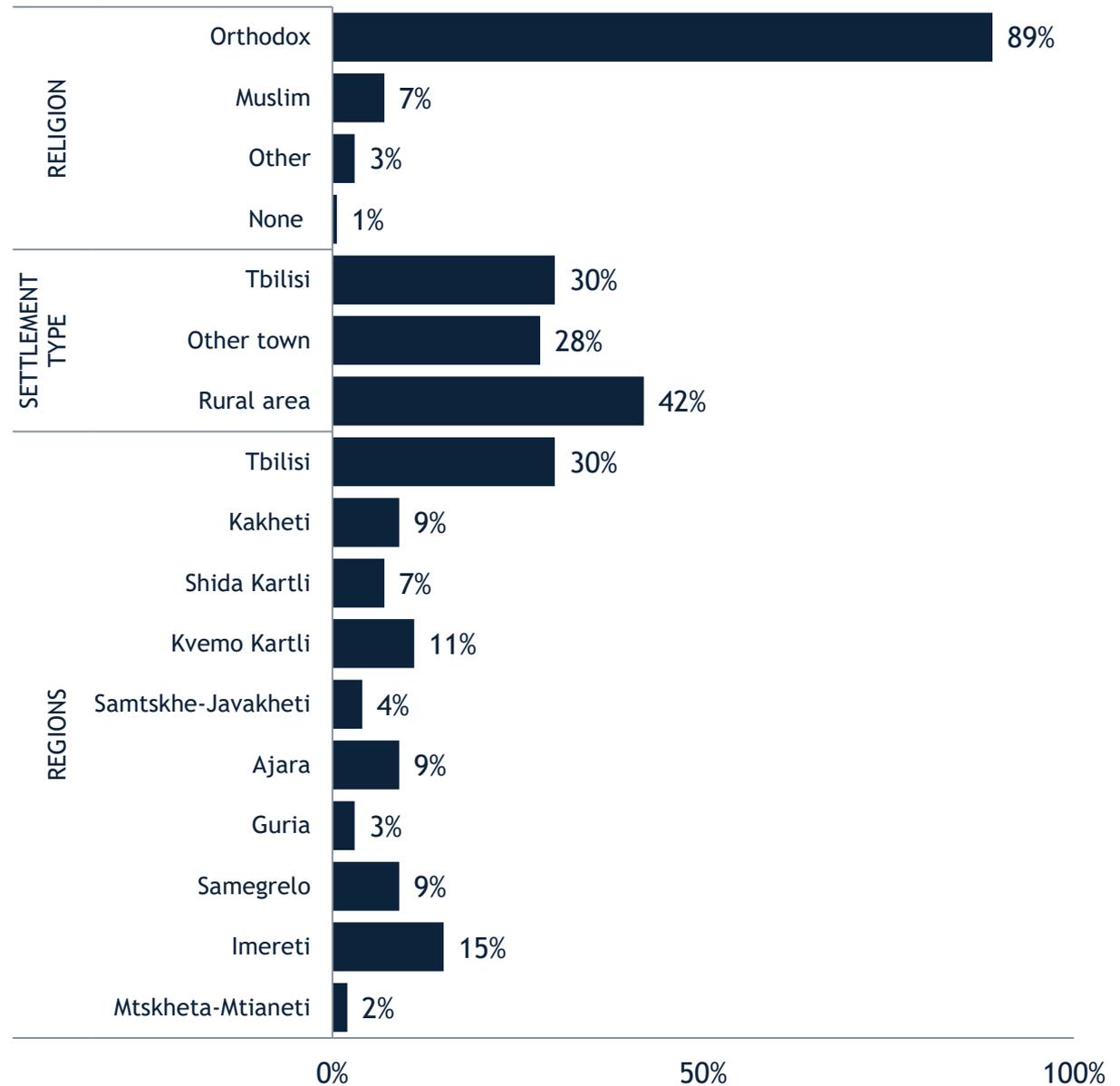
Demographics



Demographics



Demographics



Center for Insights in Survey Research
202.408.9450 | info@iri.org
www.IRI.org | @IRIglobal

