



Bangladesh Survey of Public Opinion

October 30 - November 19, 2015

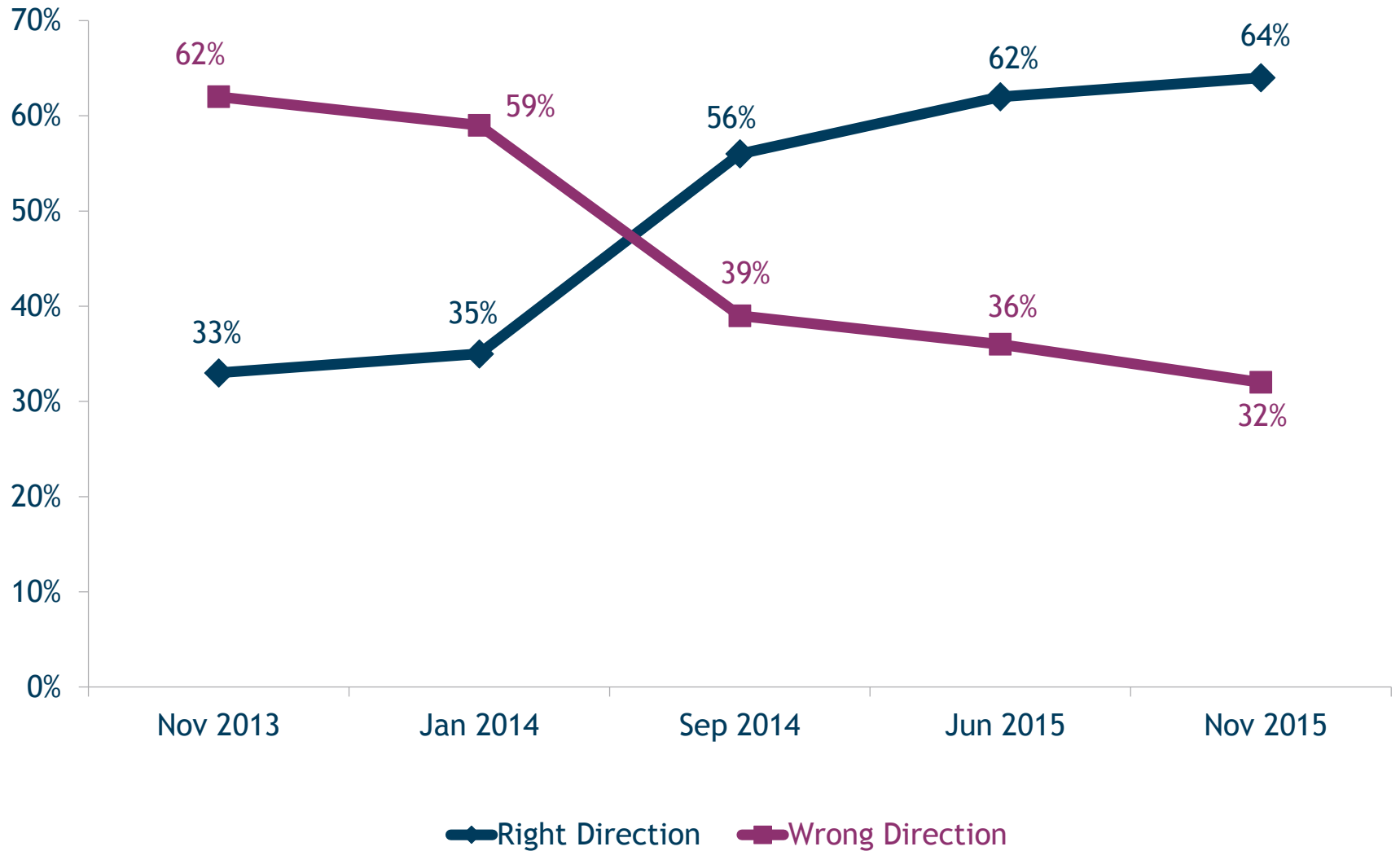
Detailed Methodology

- The survey was conducted by [Nielsen-Bangladesh](#) under the supervision of Mr. Rob Varsalone of [Global Strategic Partners](#) and the International Republican Institute between October 30 - November 19, 2015.
- Data was collected using a multi-stage stratified probability sample and through in-person, in-home interviews. The sample was stratified by the seven administrative divisions, by district and by urban and rural locations.
- The sample consisted of 2,550 respondents (response rate: 43 percent) aged 18 and older, and was representative of voting-age adults nationally.
- The sample was distributed into 255 primary sampling units (PSU) from all 64 districts of all seven divisions. PSUs were defined as *mouza* in rural areas and as *mahalla* in urban areas.
- The probability-proportional-to-size method was used to select localities. After identifying a centrally located starting point, the Date Method was used to select the first house and then Systematic Random Sampling was used to select the appropriate household. Within each household, the Kish Grid was then used to select respondents 18 years and older.
- Interview teams were comprised of both males and females.
- The margin of error does not exceed plus or minus two percent at the mid-range with a confidence level of 95 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.



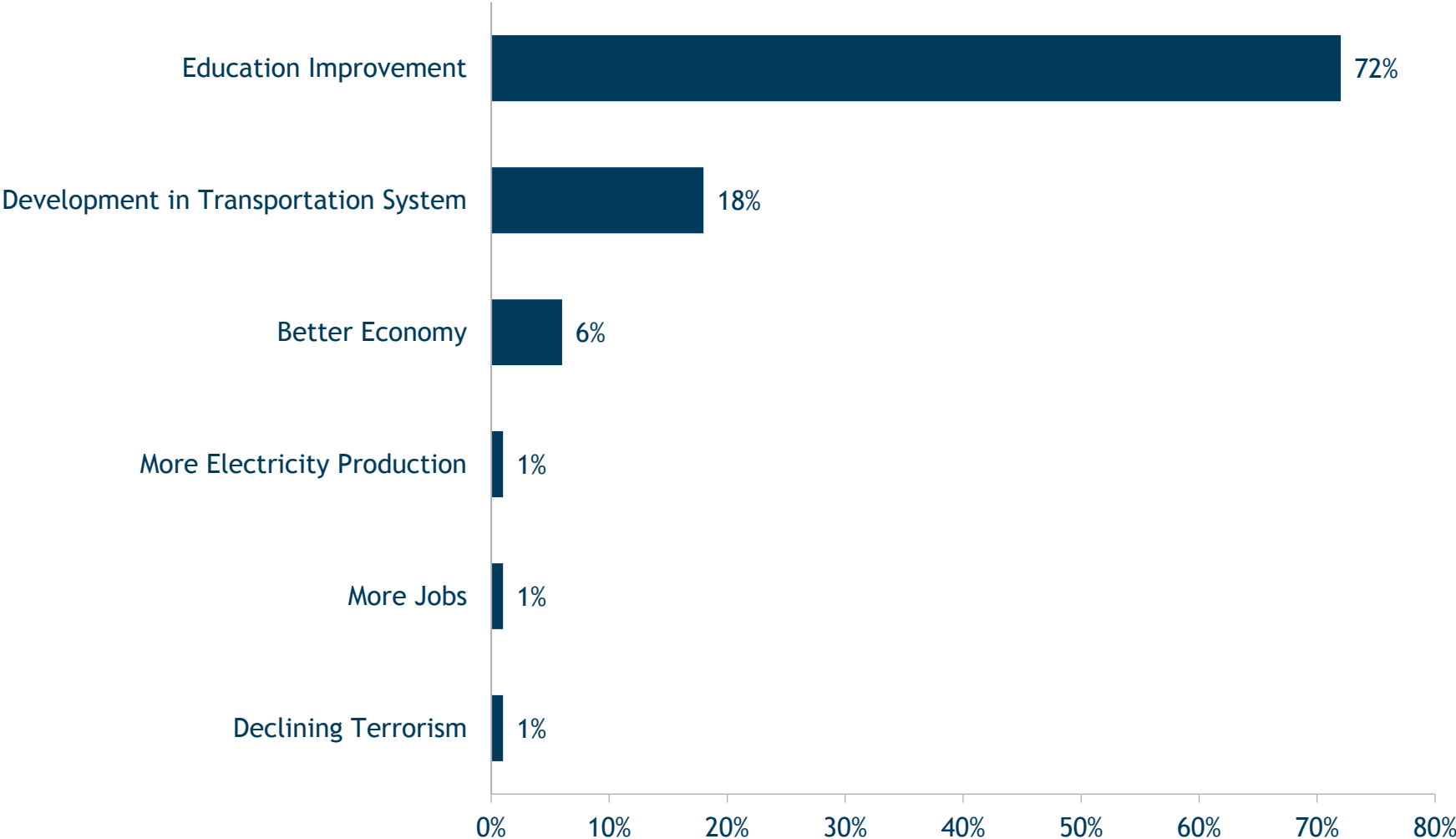
A Majority Believe Bangladesh is Headed in the Right Direction

Do you believe things in Bangladesh are heading in the right direction, or are they heading in the wrong direction?



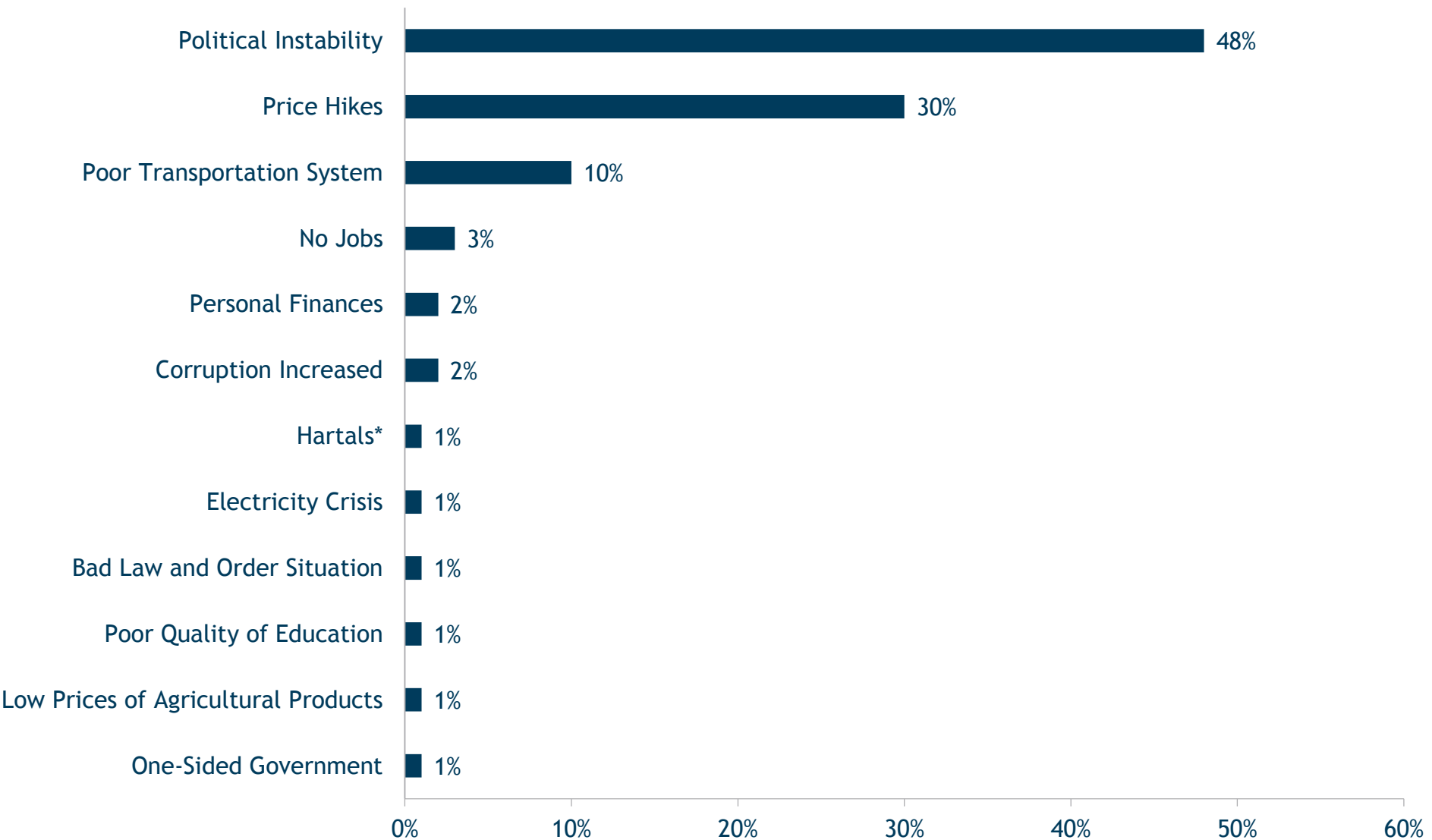
Why do you say right direction?

(Those responding right direction, n=1,639)



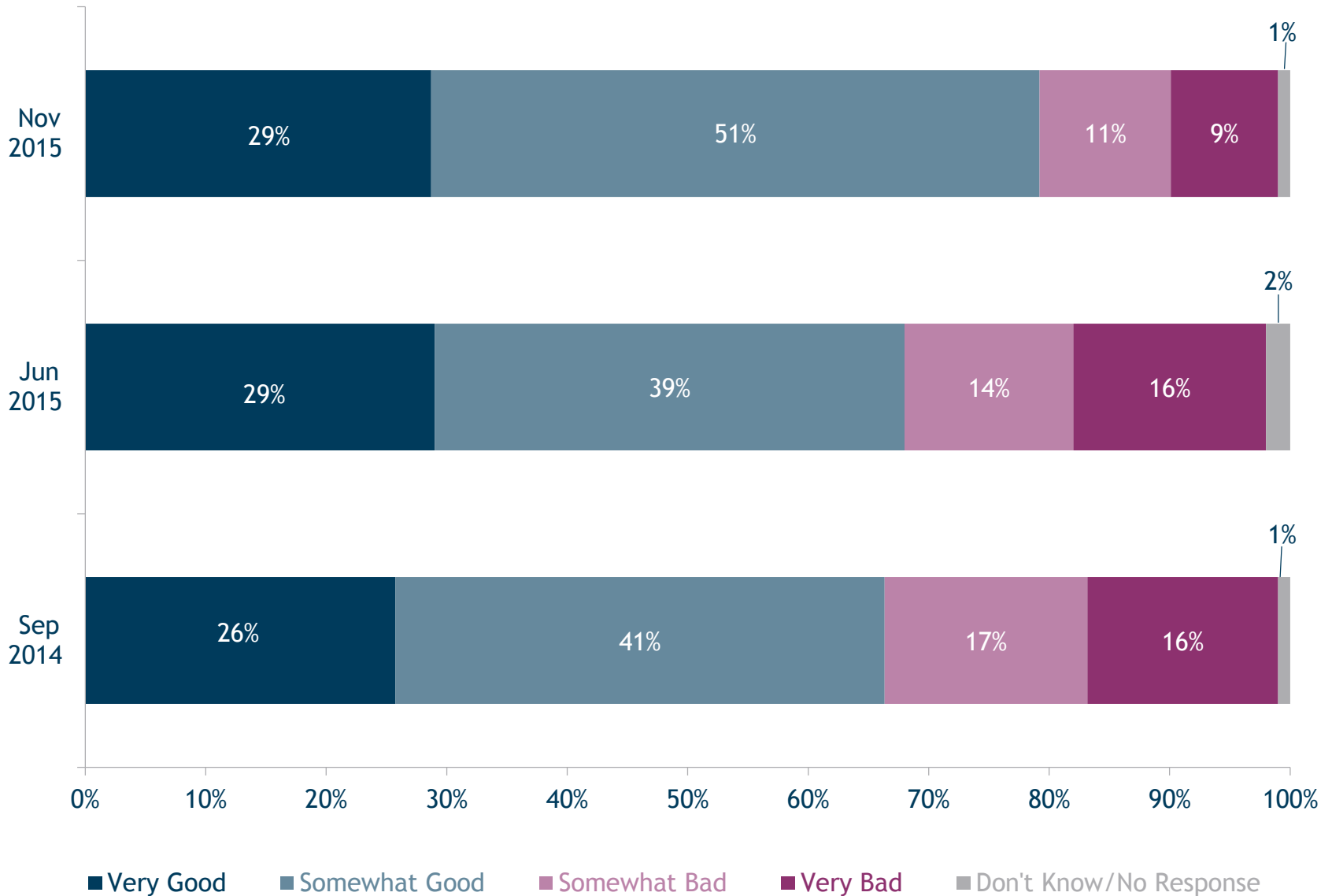
Why do you say wrong direction?

(Those responding wrong direction, n=804)

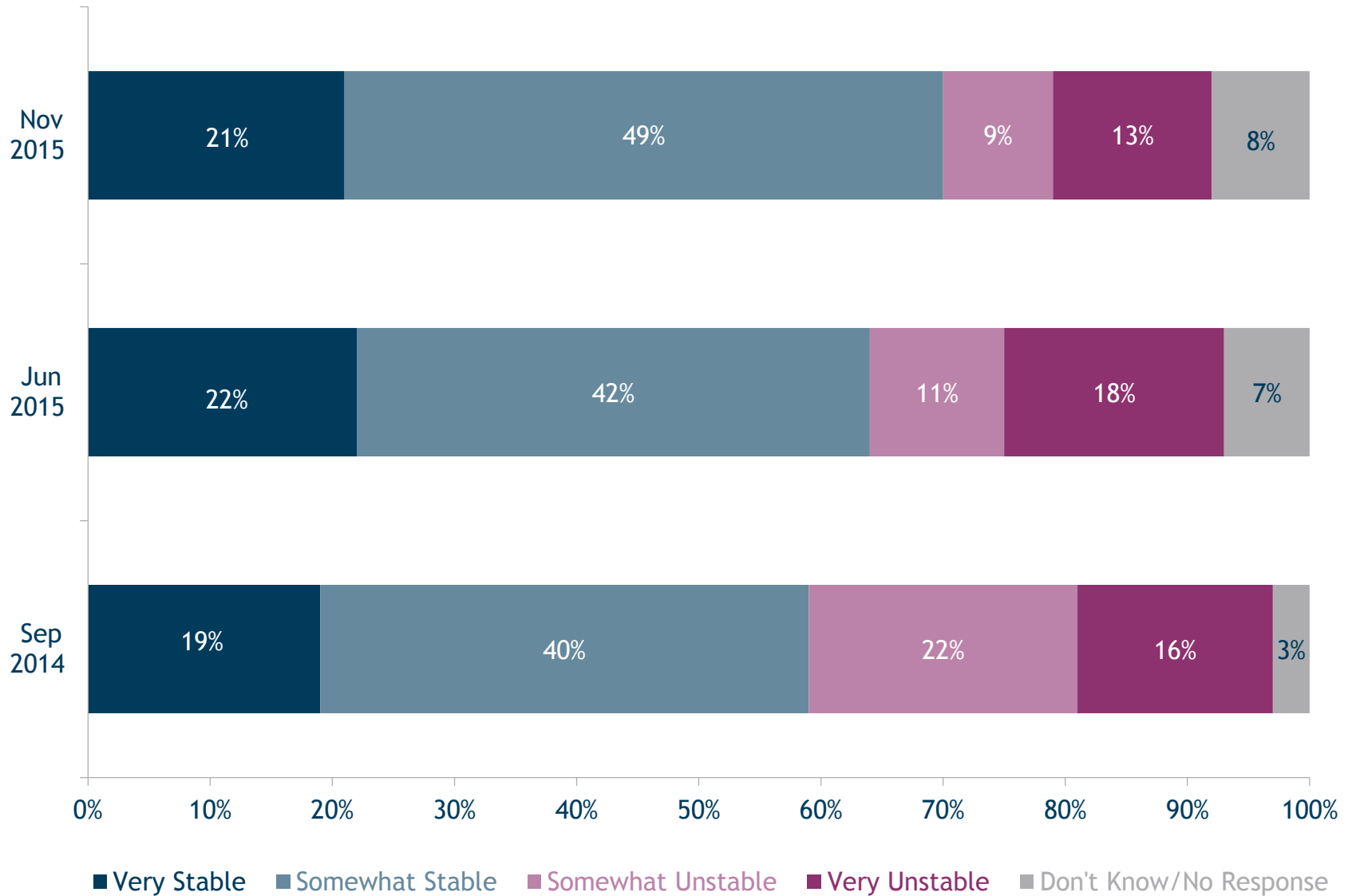


*Hartals refer to violent protests that cause sectors of the economy to close down.

Overall, how would you rate the current security conditions in Bangladesh?

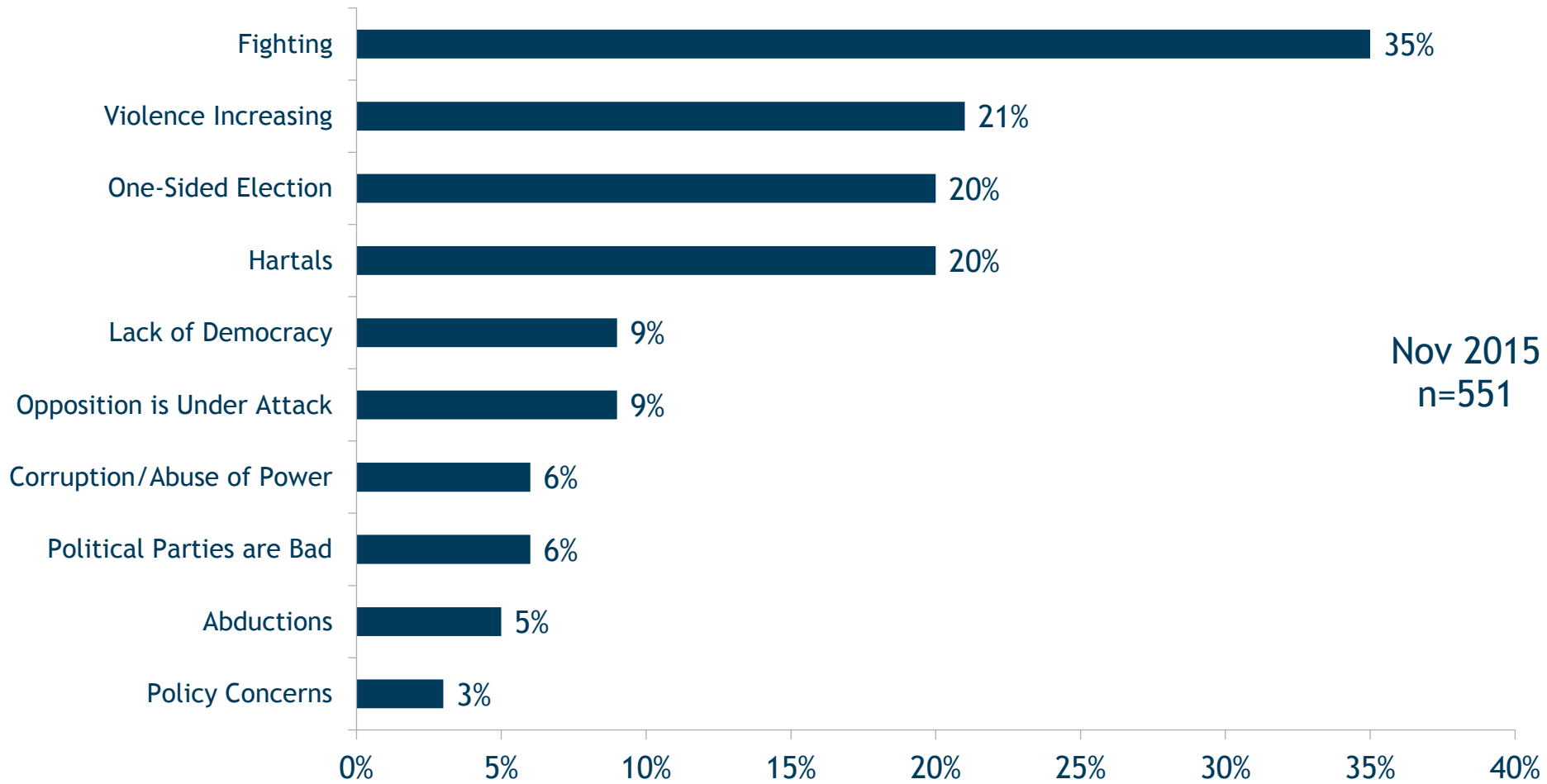


Overall, how would you rate the current political stability in Bangladesh?



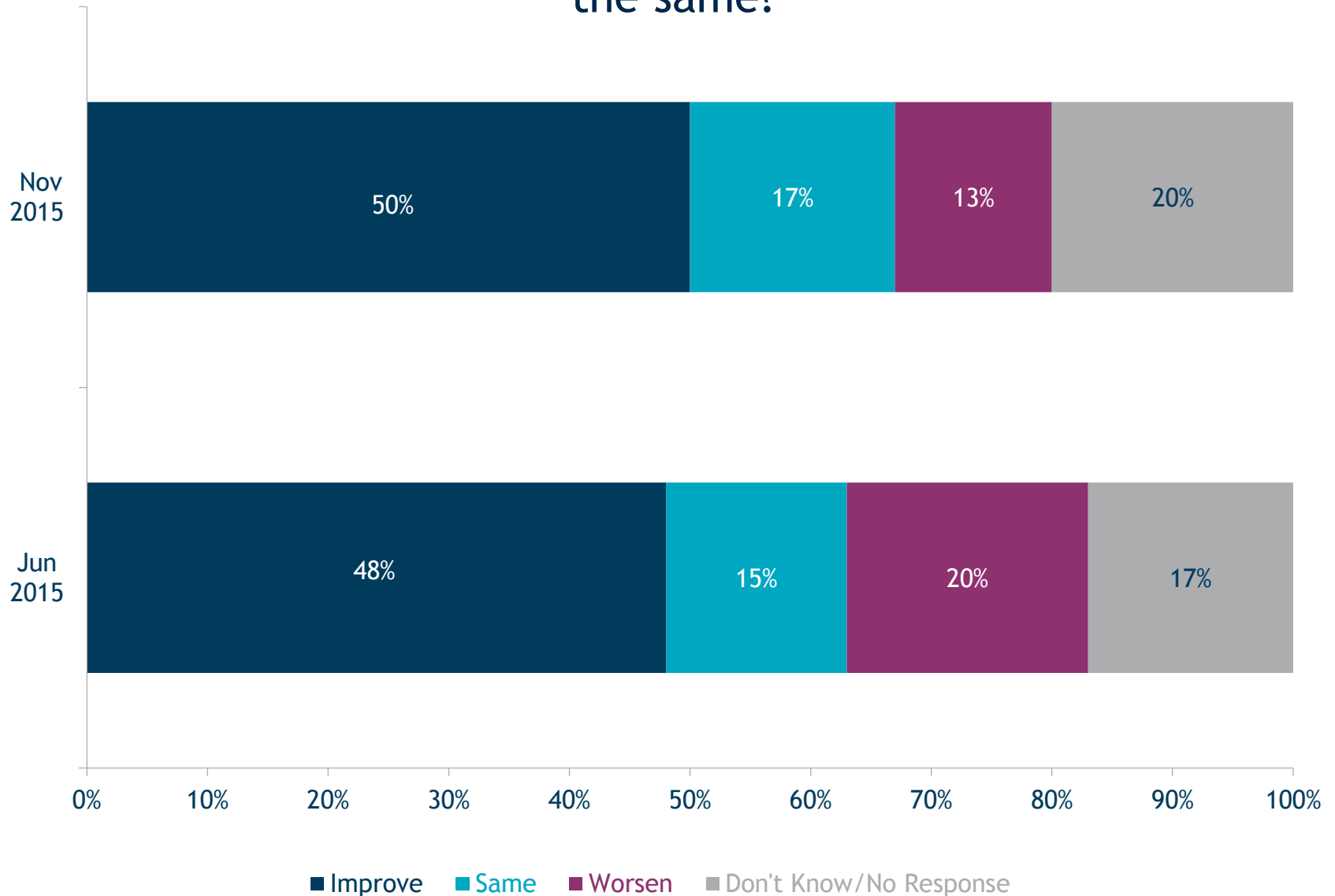
Why do you think the situation is unstable?

(Those responding unstable, open-ended)



Multiple responses were allowed.

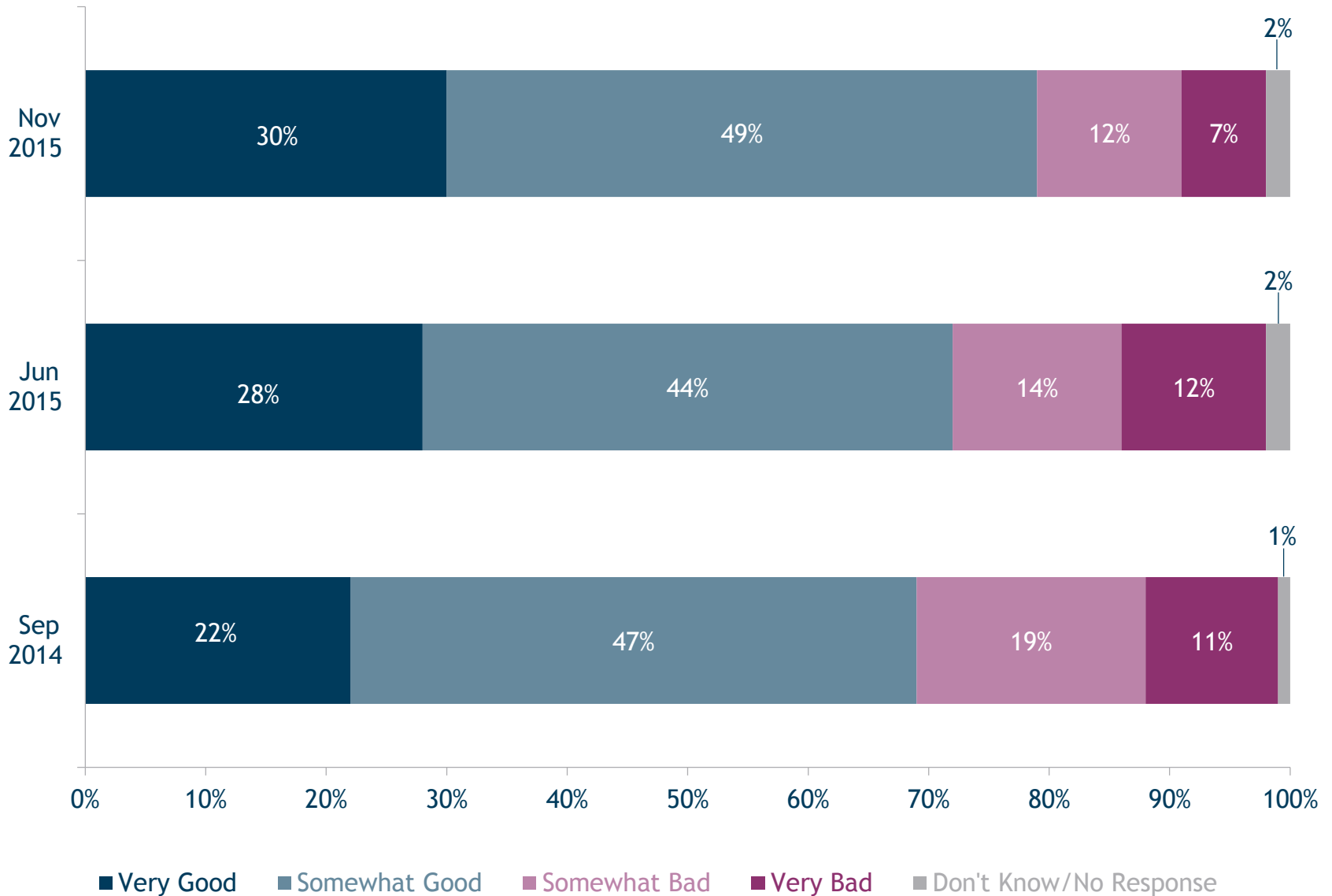
Thinking some more about the political stability of Bangladesh, in the year ahead do you think that it will improve, worsen or stay the same?



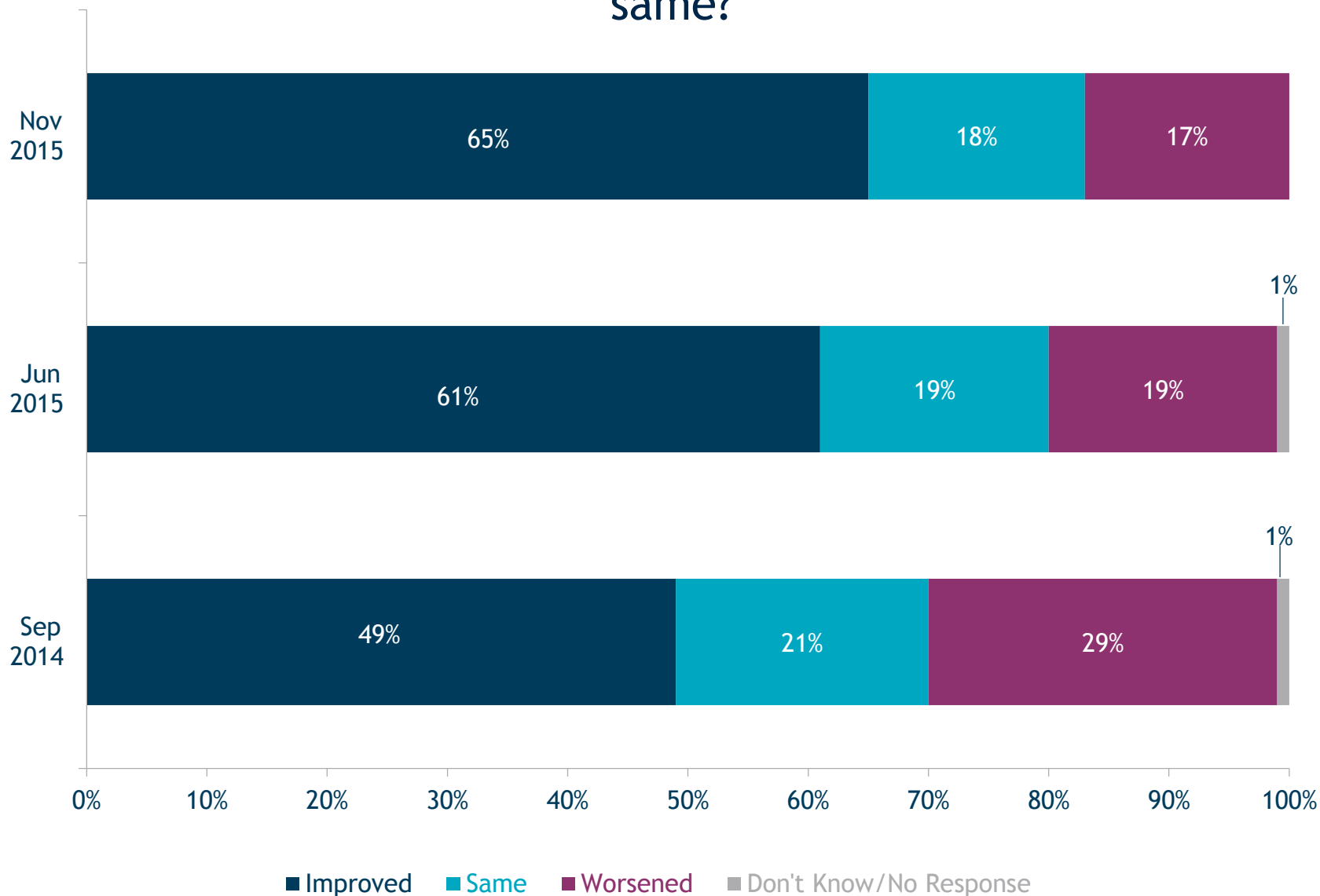


People Are Increasingly Optimistic about Their Economic Future

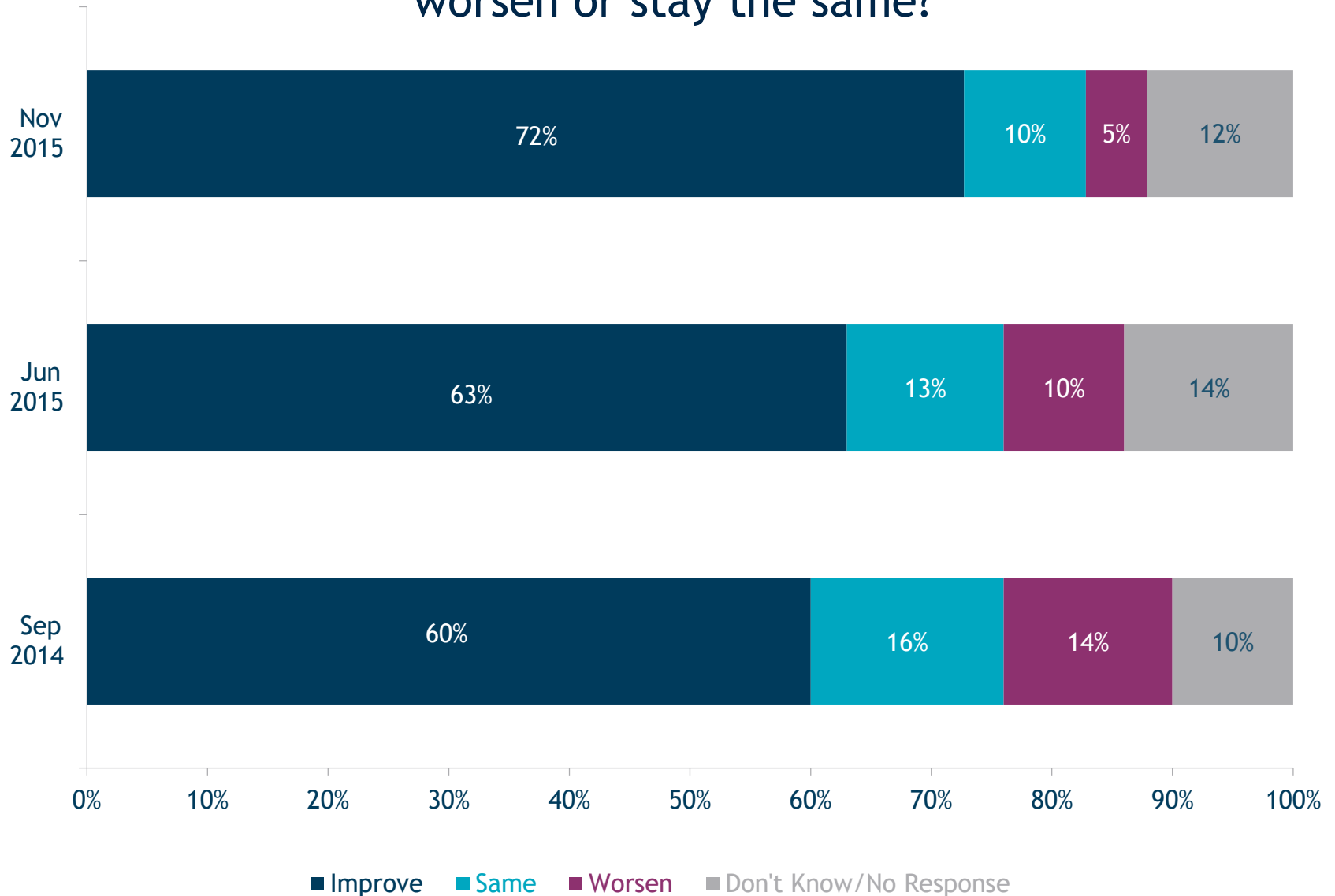
Overall, how would you rate the current economic conditions in Bangladesh?



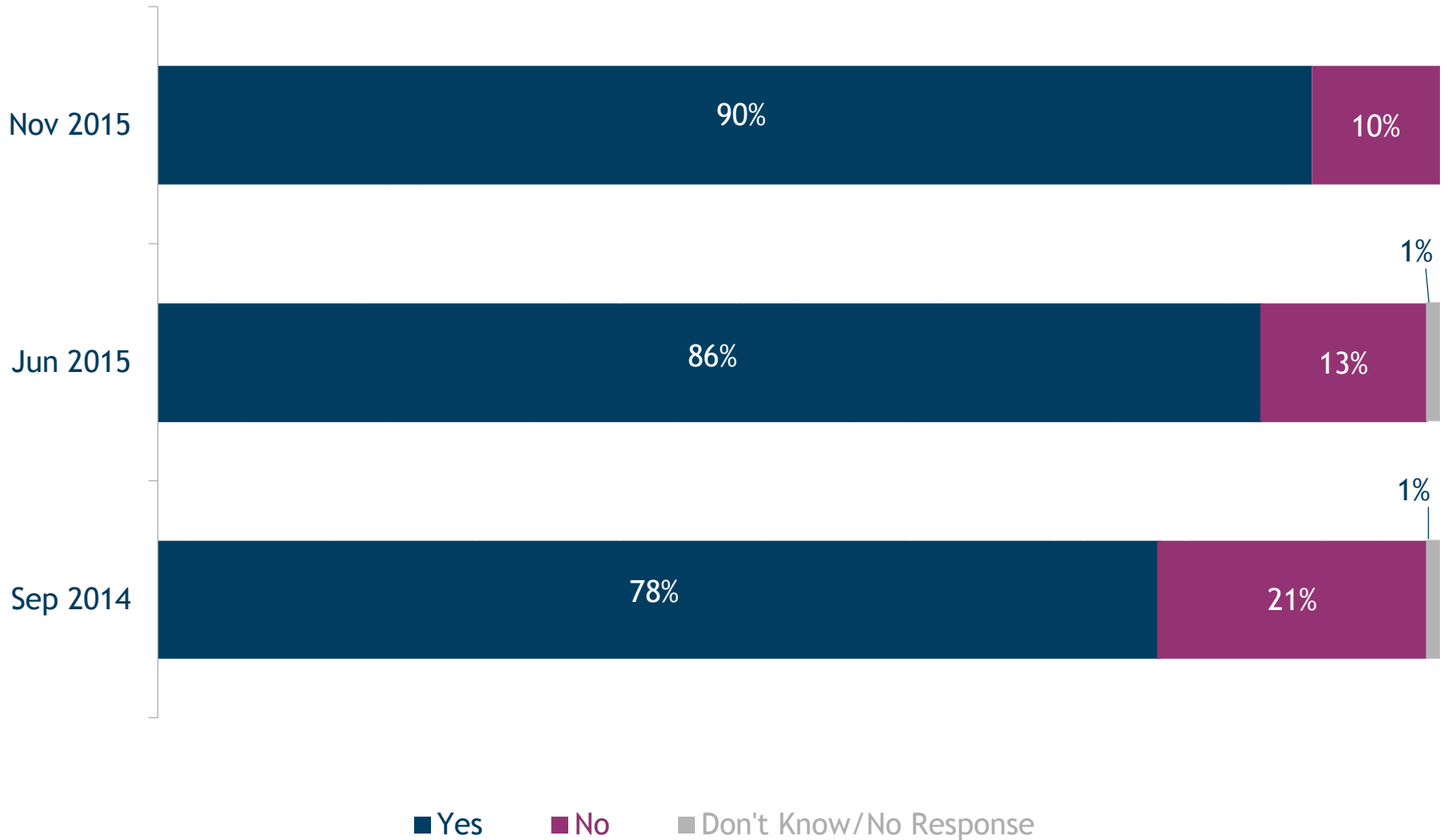
Thinking about the personal economic situation of you and your family, in the past year has it improved, worsened or stayed the same?



Thinking some more about the personal economic situation of you and your family, in the coming year do you think it will improve, worsen or stay the same?

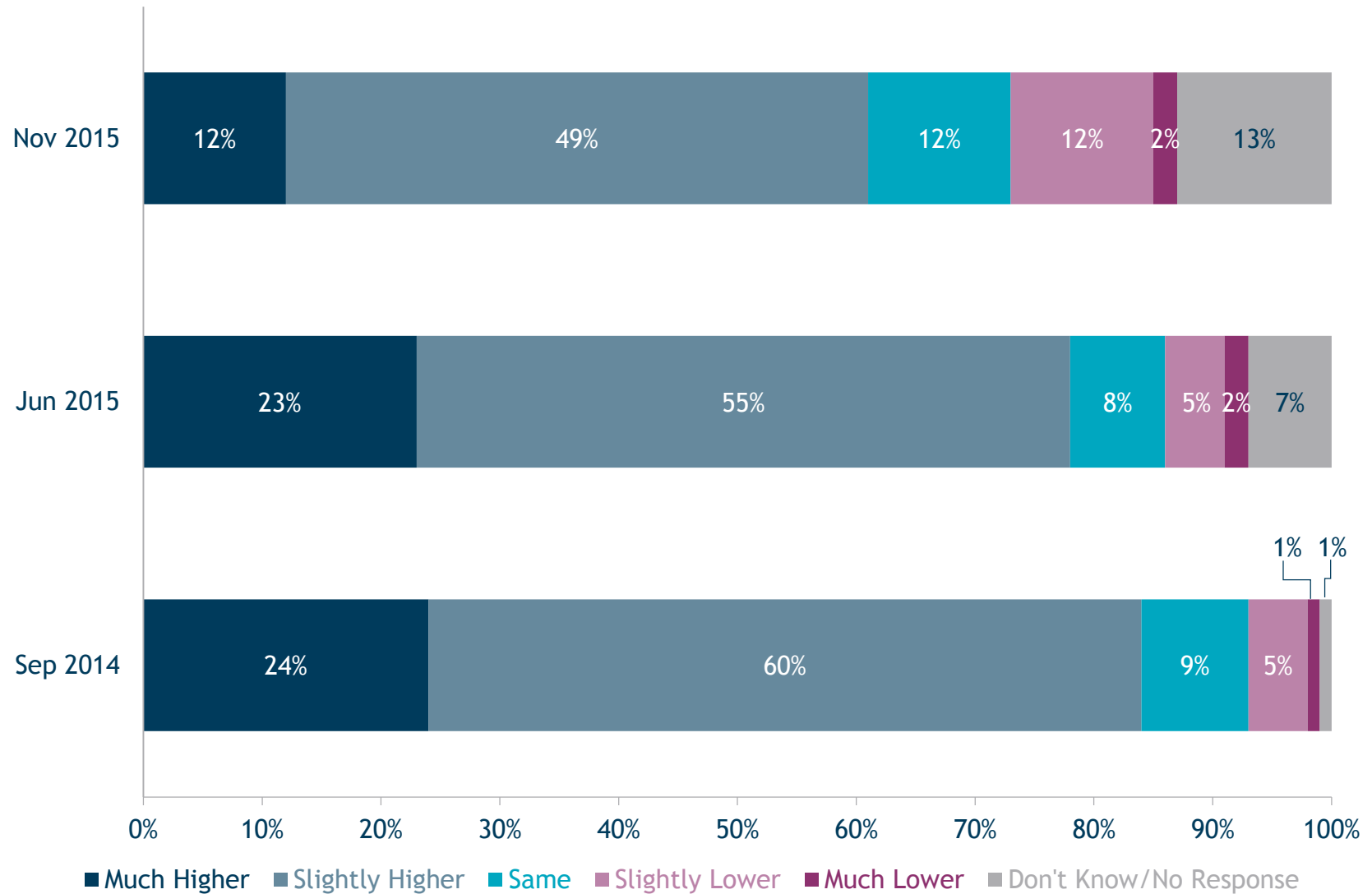


Do you and your family have enough income to afford basic commodities (rice, milk, eggs, fish, *dhal**, etc.) in the market?



**Dhal* is the Bengali term for lentils, a regional dietary staple.

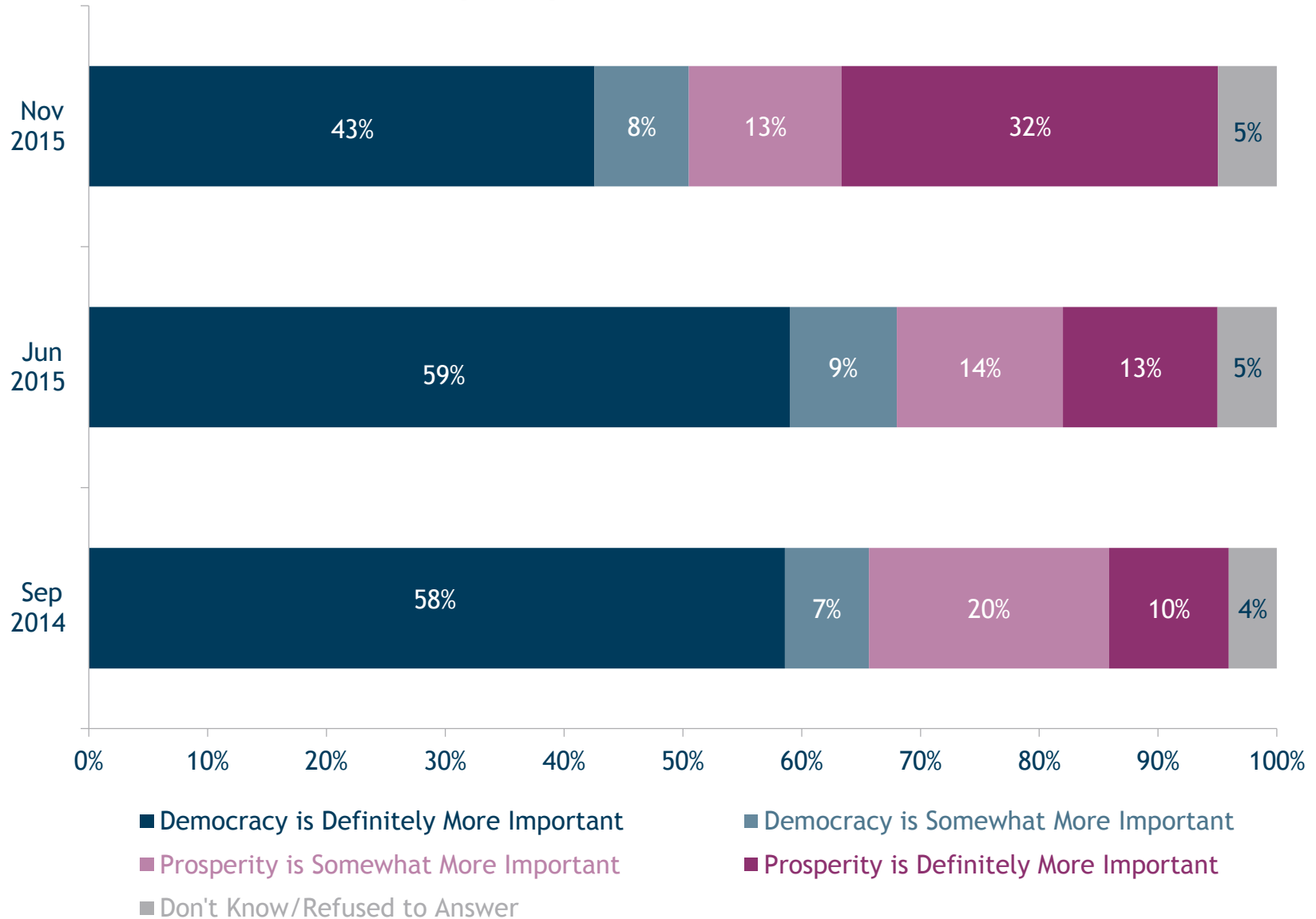
Do you expect the price of basic commodities to be higher or lower six months from now?





As the Economy Improves, Democracy Endures

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



In Bangladesh, if you could only have one or the other, which is more important to you: a democratic system of government or a prosperous economy?
 (Disaggregated by Age and Gender)

	Prosperity is Definitely More Important to Me	Prosperity is Somewhat More Important to Me	Democracy is Somewhat More Important to Me	Democracy is Definitely More Important to Me	Don't Know/Refused
Male	27%	13%	7%	49%	4%
Female	37%	12%	9%	37%	6%
18-30	33%	15%	6%	41%	5%
31-40	31%	13%	9%	43%	4%
41-50	35%	11%	8%	41%	6%
51-60	26%	10%	10%	45%	8%
61+	33%	6%	5%	48%	8%

When you hear the word democracy, what first comes to your mind? (Open-ended)

Response	Percent
Ensuring the Rights of All Parties	16%
Holding of Elections	15%
Freedom of Expression	11%
Bangladesh Is an Independent Country	6%
Freedom of Movement	2%
Other	10%
Don't Know/Refused to Answer	40%

Of the following statements, would you say you agree or disagree?

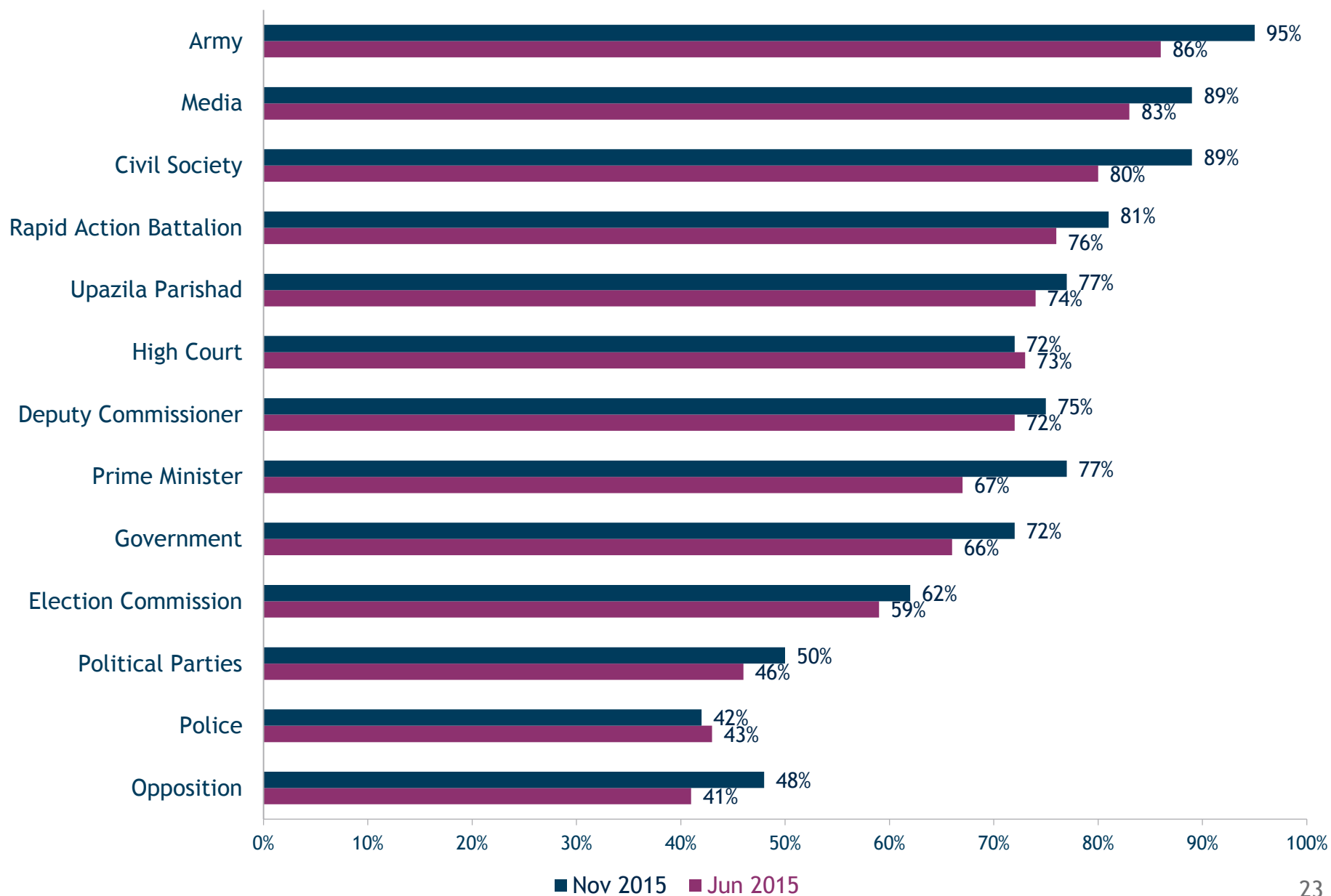
November 2015	Strongly Agree	Somewhat Agree	Somewhat Disagree	Strongly Disagree	Don't Know/No Response
In a democracy the economic system runs badly.	11%	29%	36%	24%	-
Democracies are indecisive & have too much quarreling.	17%	36%	32%	14%	1%
Democracies aren't good at maintaining law & order.	10%	28%	39%	22%	1%
Democracy might have problems, but it is still better than any other form of government.	58%	30%	9%	3%	-



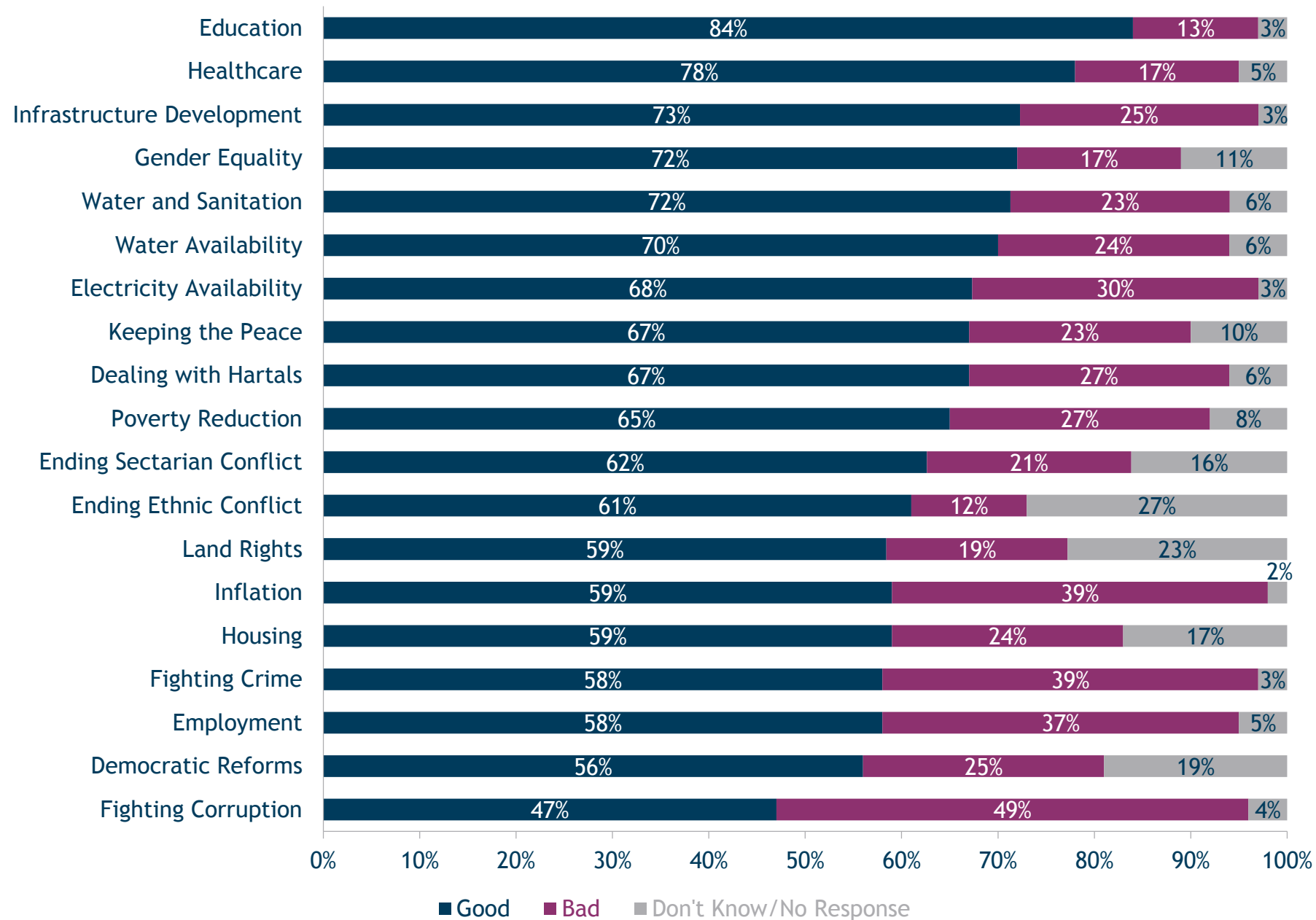
Government Maintains Support

Do you approve or disapprove of the job being done by the...?

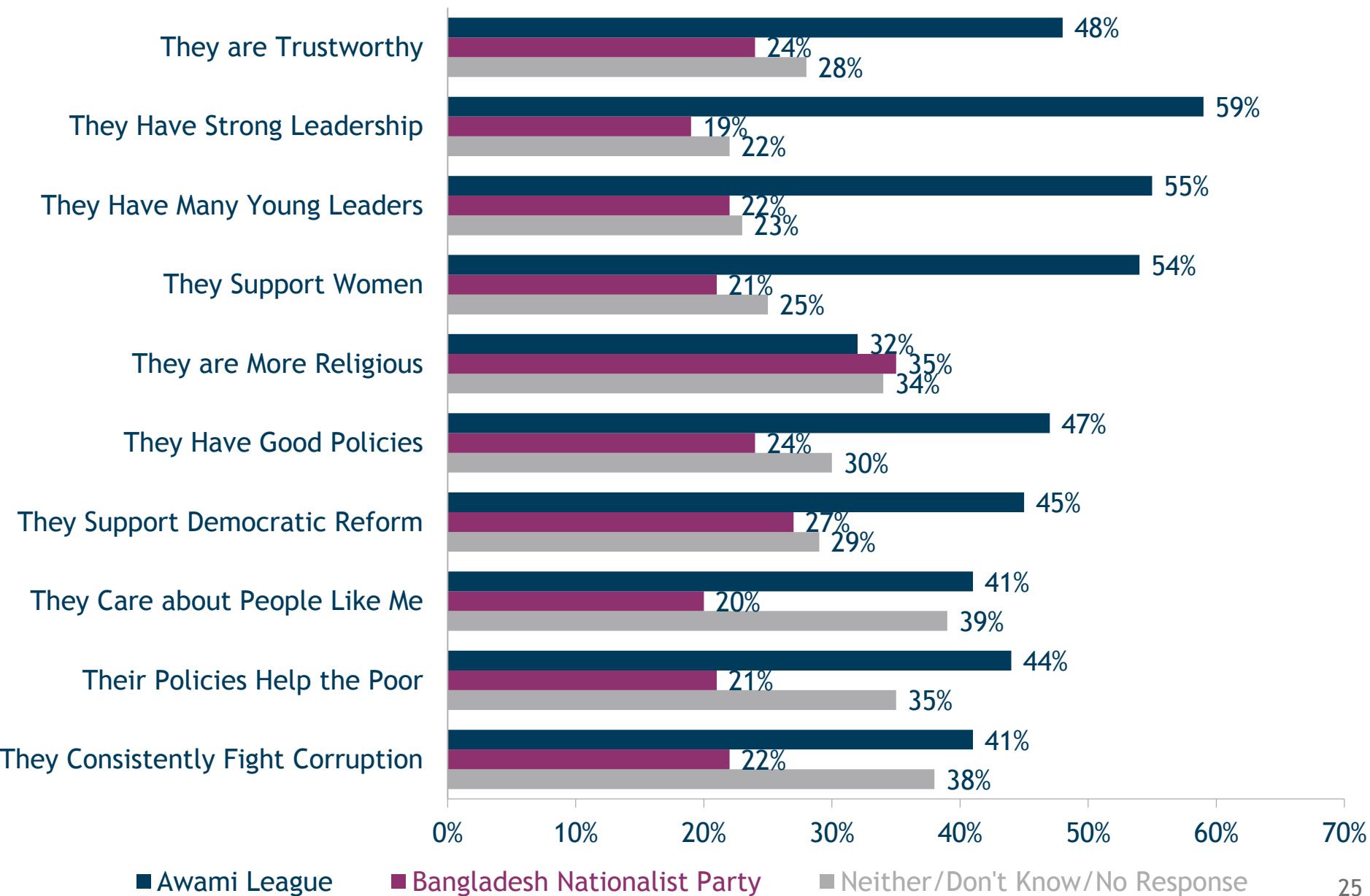
(Favorability)



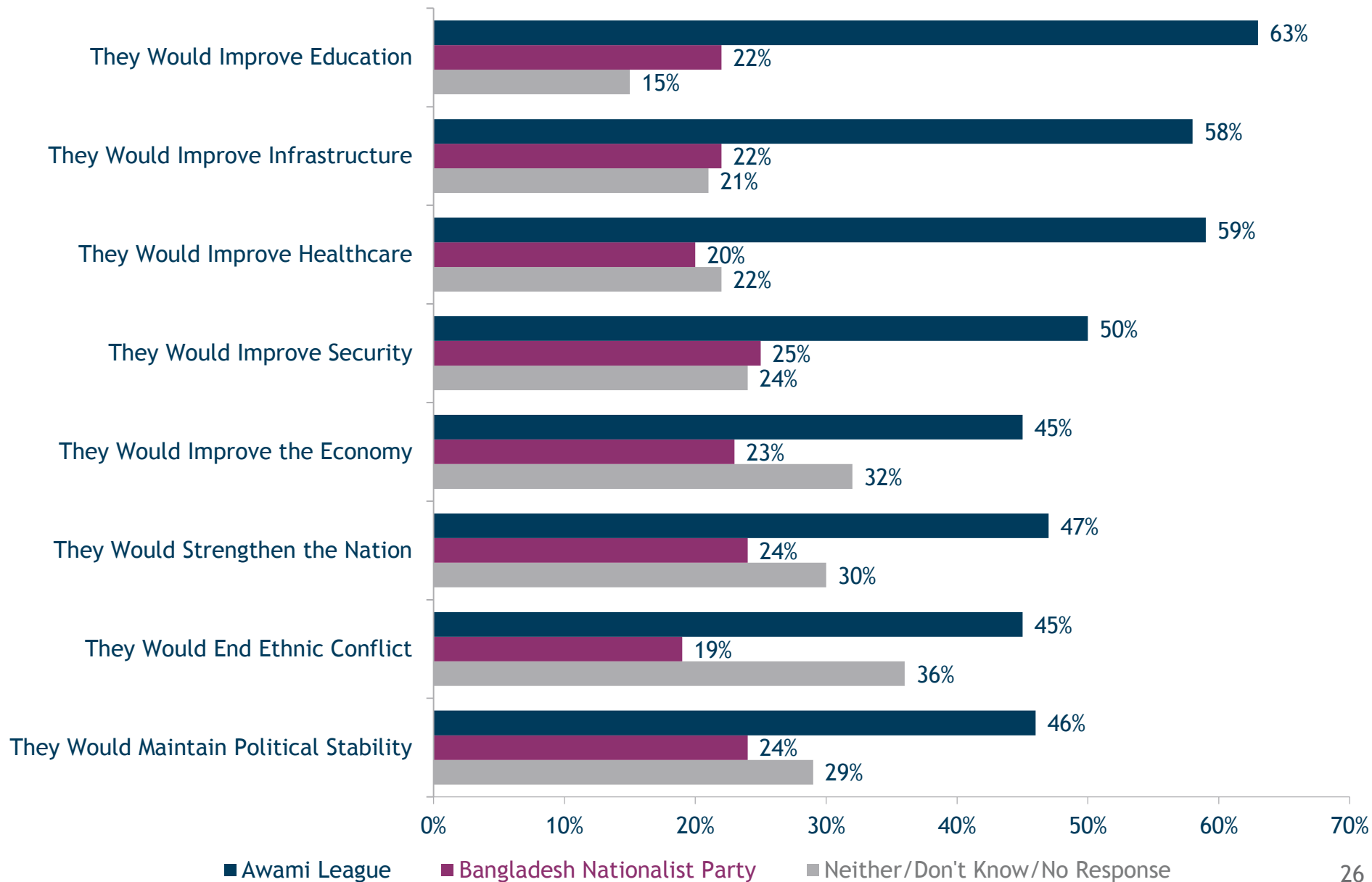
For each of the following issues, how would you rate the national government's performance?



Can you tell me which party best reflects each of the statements below?



Can you tell me which party best reflects each of the statements below?



What are the three most important problems facing Bangladesh? (Open-ended)

Issue	First Mention	Second Mention	Third Mention	Total
Corruption	18%	8%	6%	32%
Security/Law and Order	13%	8%	4%	25%
Unemployment	13%	13%	7%	33%
Political Instability	11%	6%	4%	21%
Transportation/Traffic	11%	10%	7%	28%
Electricity/Gas	5%	6%	4%	15%
Political Reforms	2%	3%	3%	8%
Poverty	2%	4%	5%	11%
Price Hikes	1%	1%	1%	3%
Low Prices for Commodities	1%	1%	0%	2%
Extremism	1%	1%	1%	3%
Don't Know/Refused to Answer	9%	20%	46%	-

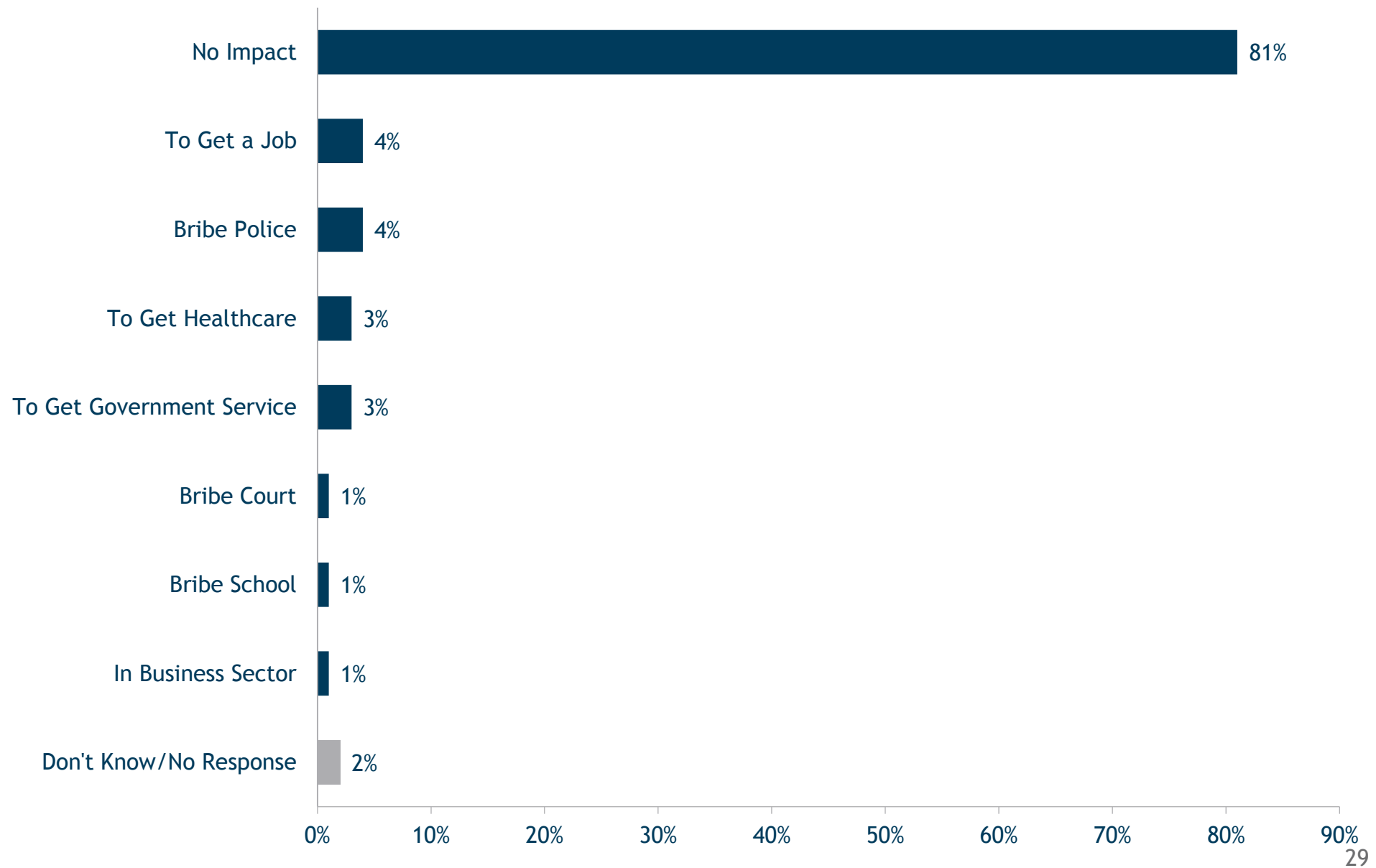
What are the three most important problems facing Bangladesh? (Open-ended)

Comparison of Previous Survey Data

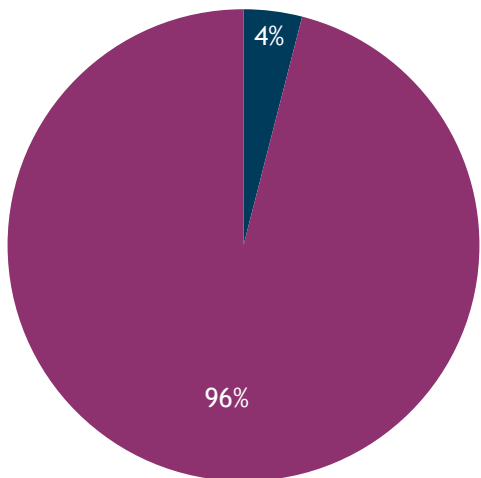
Issue	Nov 2015	Jun 2015	Sep 2014	Jan 2014	Nov 2013
Corruption	18%	24%	20%	36%	20%
Economy*	17%	11%	13%	7%	23%
Security/Law and Order	13%	15%	9%	11%	11%
Political Instability	11%	16%	13%	39%	34%
Transportation/Traffic/Infrastructure	11%	6%	17%	1%	3%

*Economy includes unemployment, poverty, price hikes, and low prices for commodities the from previous slide.

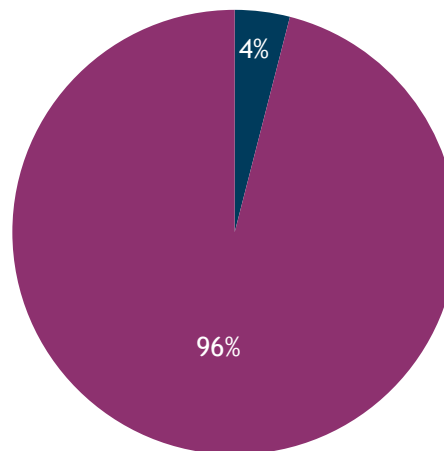
Thinking now about the problem of corruption, can you give me an example of how it impacts your daily life?



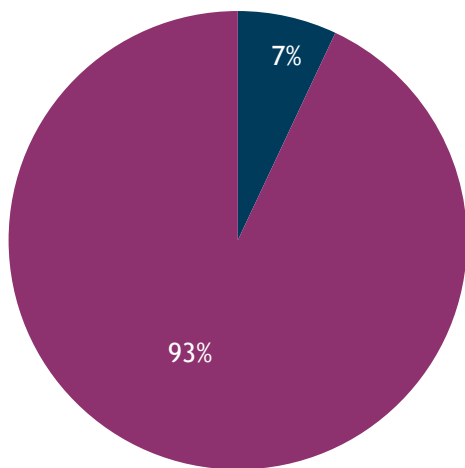
Have you ever paid a bribe or given a gift to a government employee or official in order to obtain a license, permit, or service?



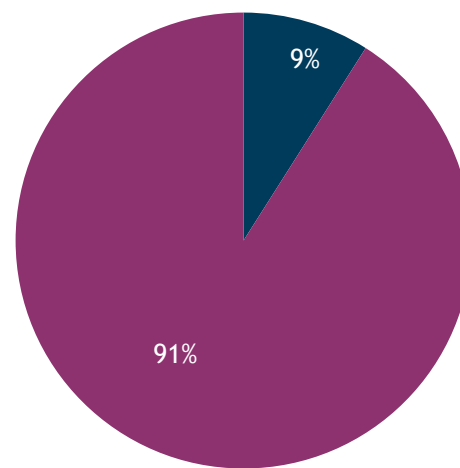
Have you ever paid a bribe or given a gift to a government employee or official so as to receive job consideration?



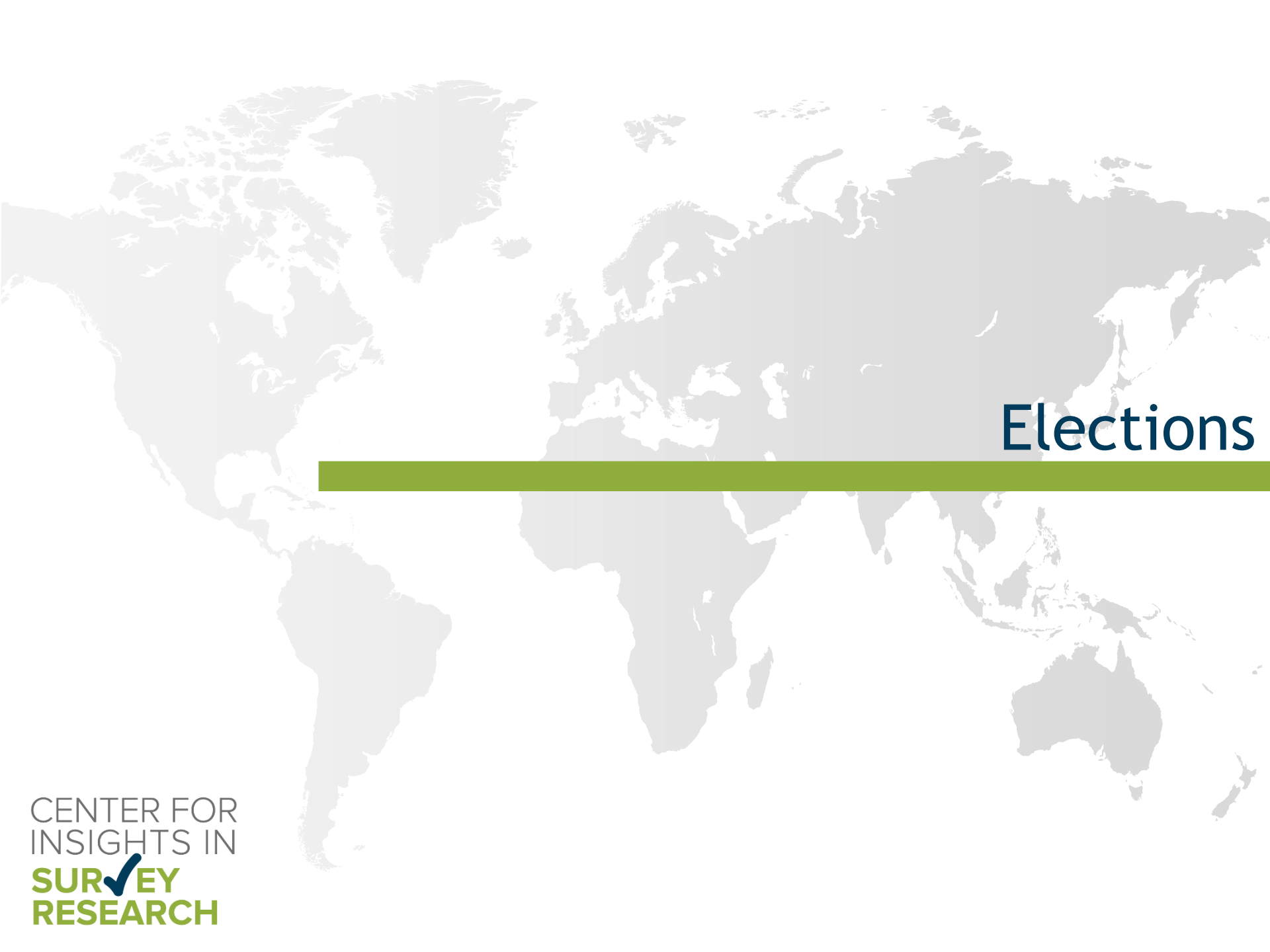
Have you ever paid a bribe or given a gift to obtain health services in a public clinic or hospital?



Have you ever paid a bribe or given a gift to the police or a court?

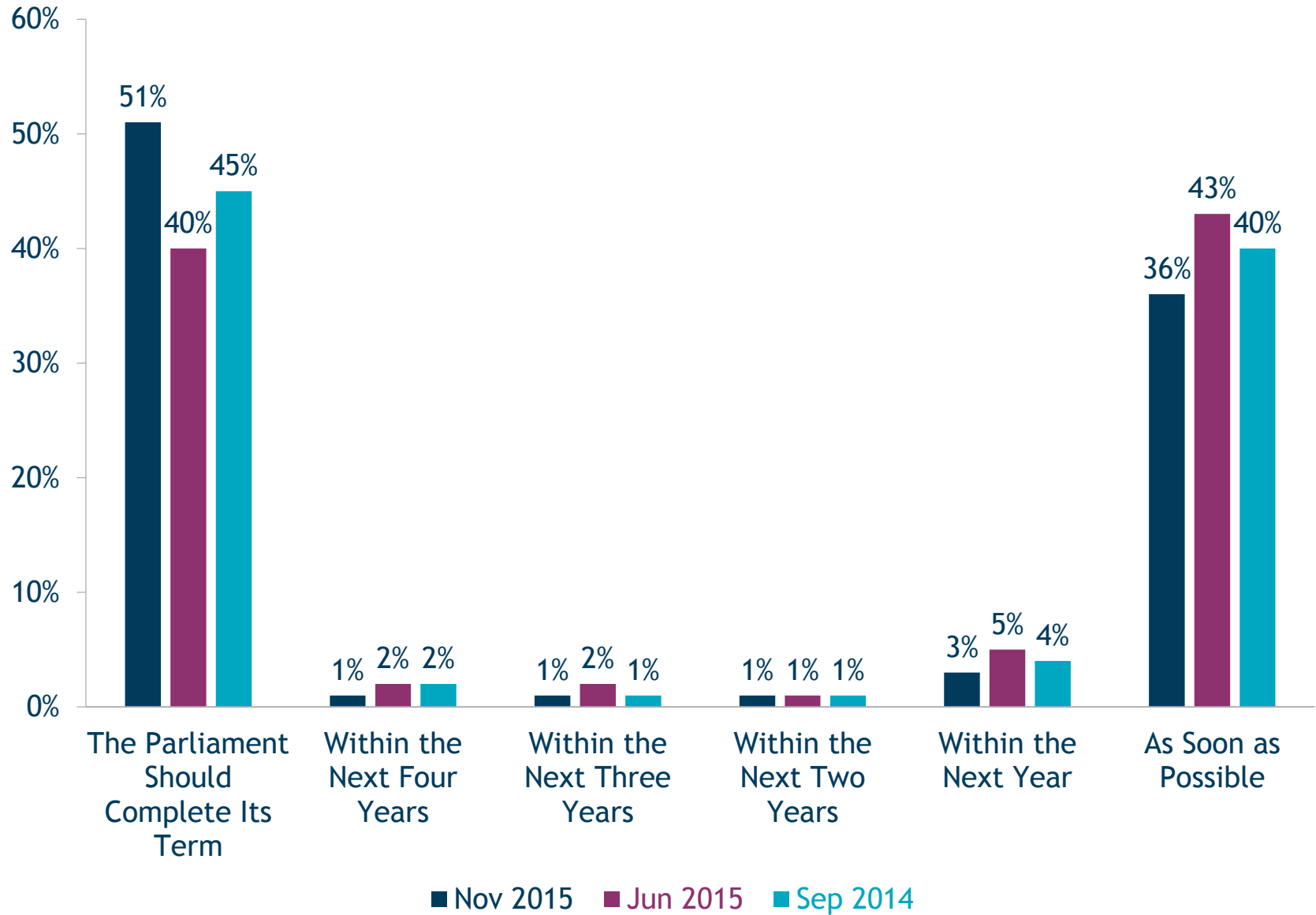


■ Yes ■ No



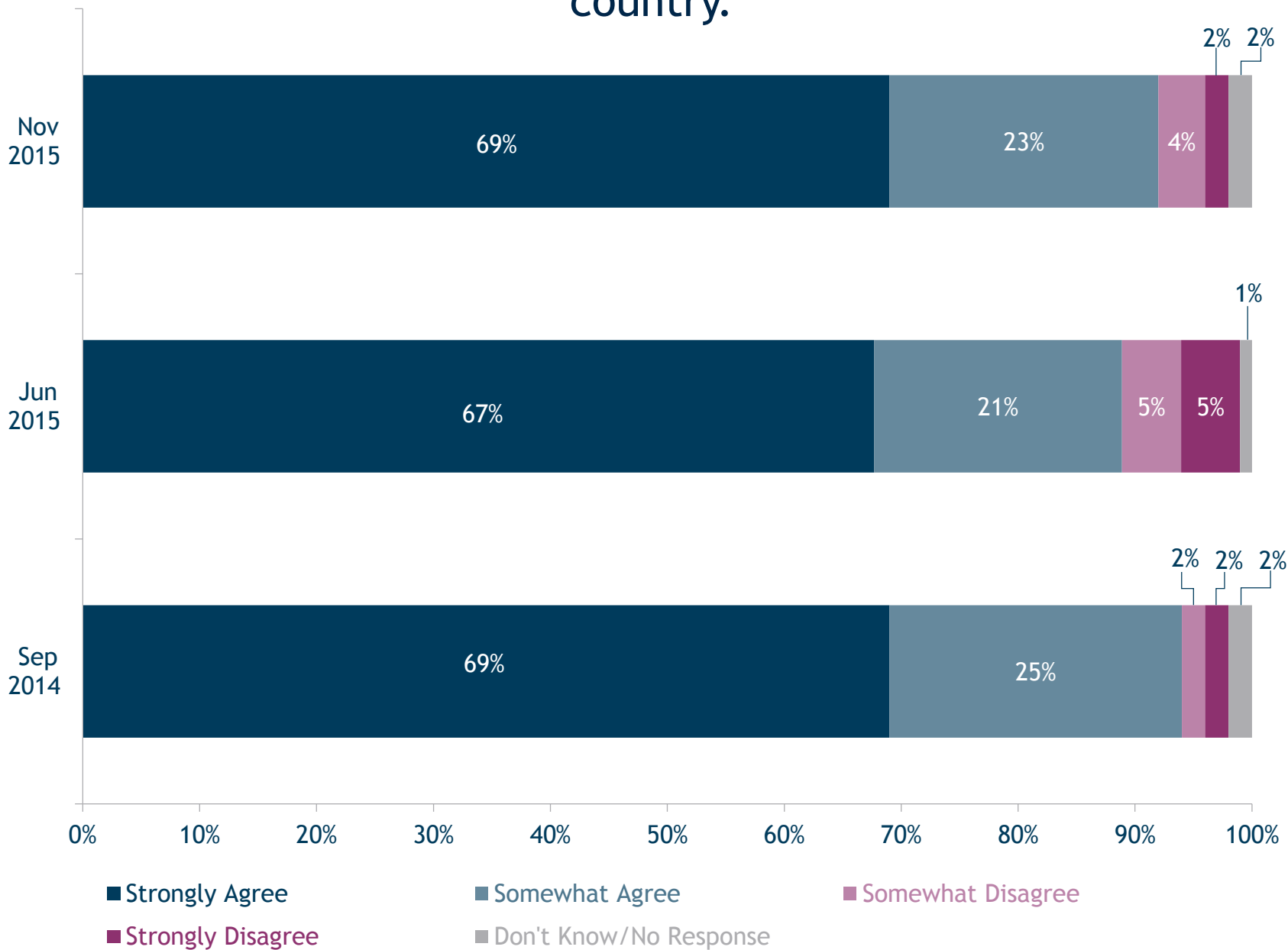
Elections

Thinking now about elections, when would you like to see the next national parliamentary elections occur?

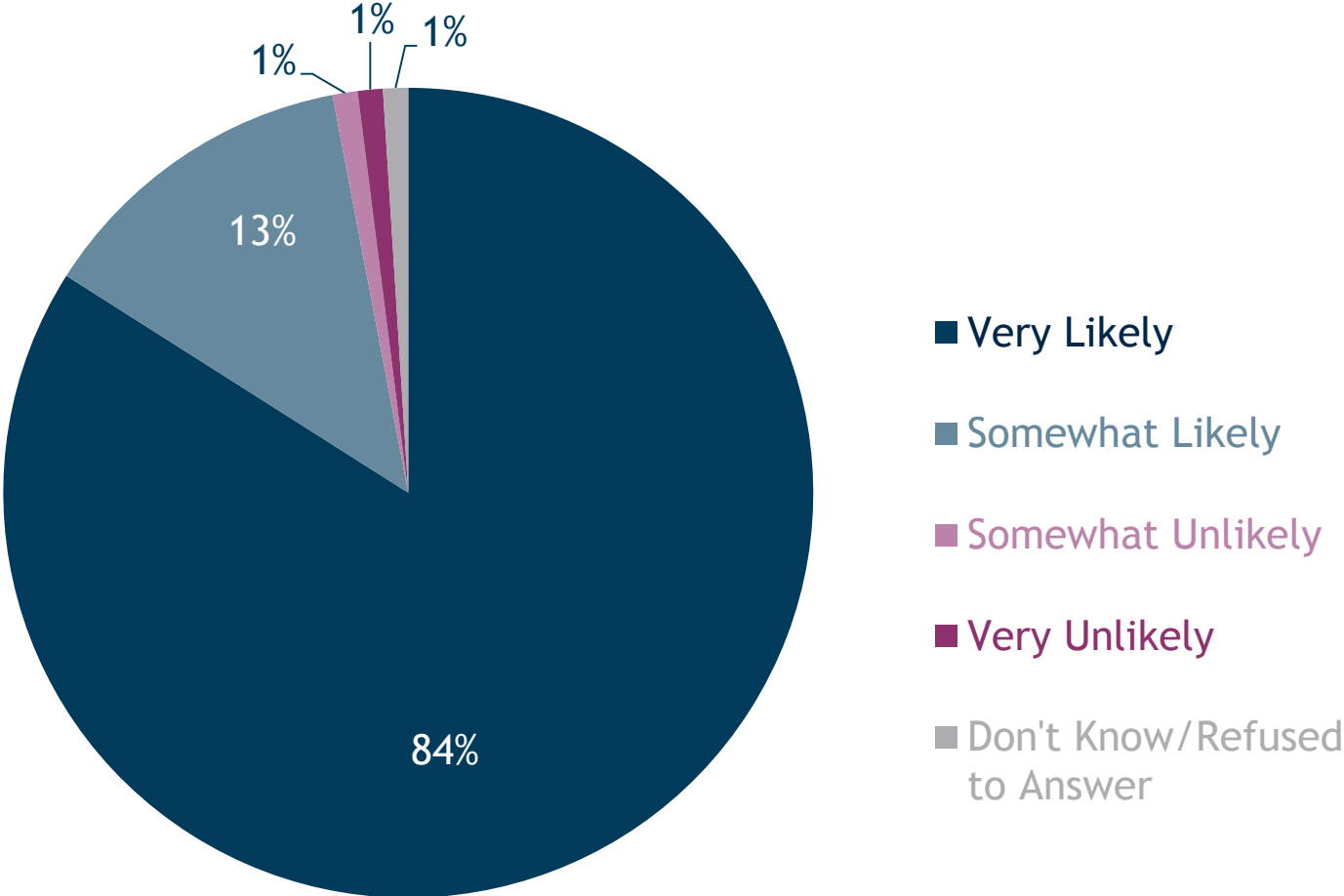


Agree or Disagree?

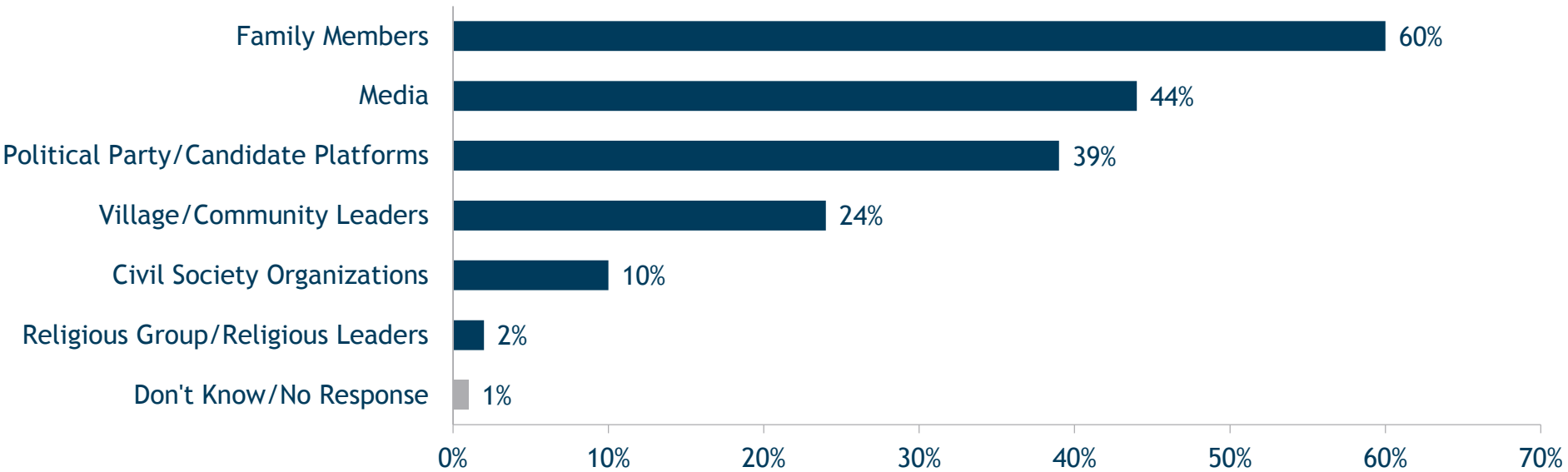
Voting gives me a chance to influence decision-making in the country.



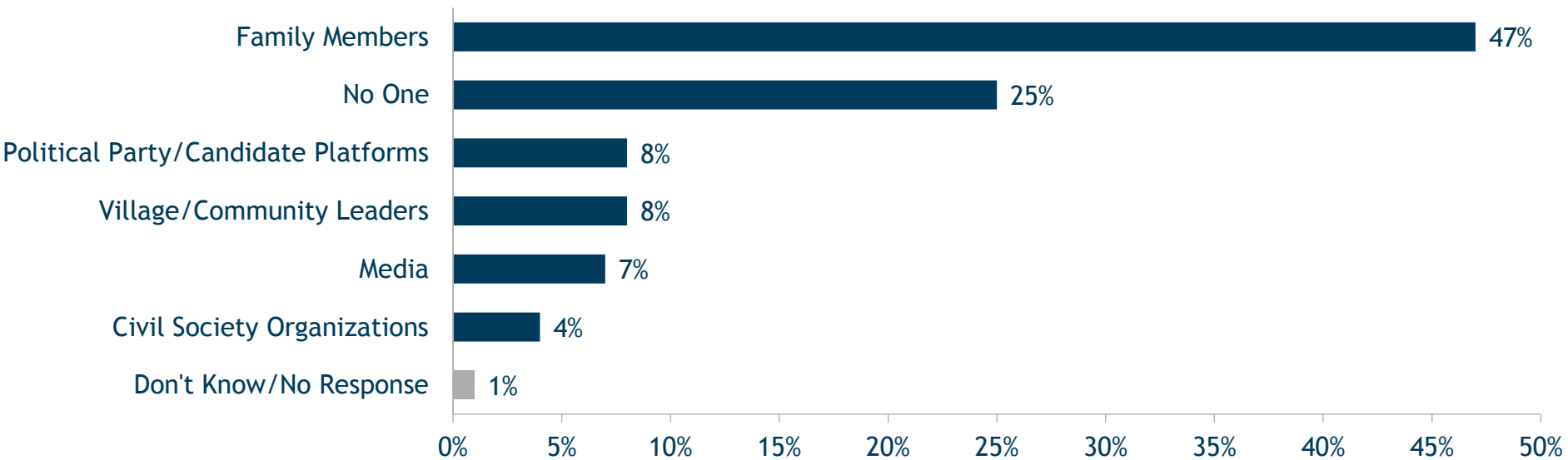
How likely are you to vote in the next elections?



Where do you get information related to candidates and political parties?



What or who influences your voting decision the most?



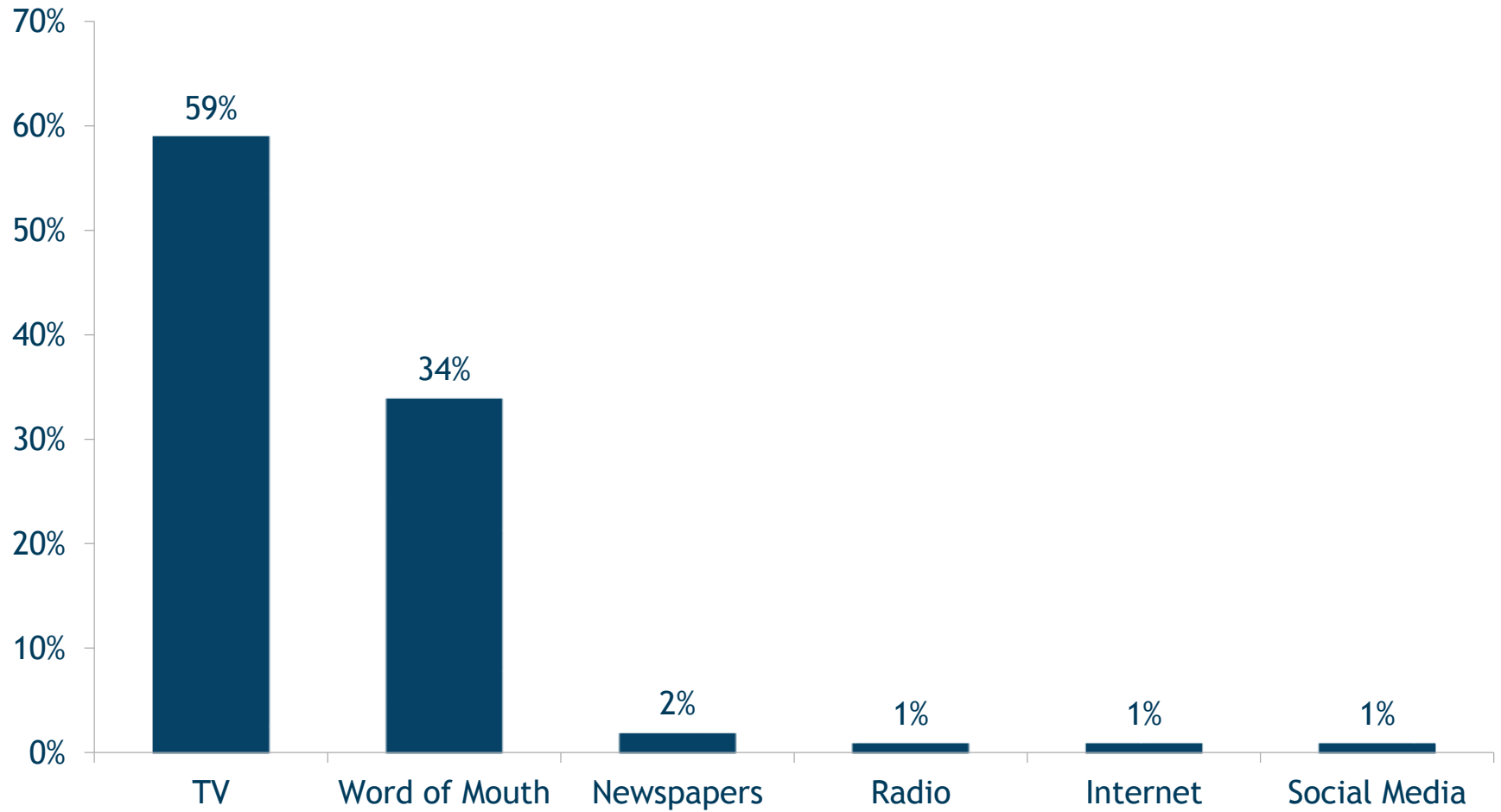
Where do you get information related to candidates and political parties? (Disaggregated by Gender and Age)

	Male	Female	18-30	31-40	41-50	51-60	61+
Political Party Platforms	53%	25%	36%	39%	42%	44%	42%
Civil Society	13%	8%	12%	9%	9%	9%	10%
Family	39%	80%	63%	62%	55%	54%	47%
Village/Community Leaders	33%	15%	22%	23%	24%	28%	32%
Religious Groups	3%	1%	2%	2%	2%	2%	3%
Media	49%	37%	44%	42%	47%	43%	34%
Social Media	1%	1%	2%	1%			
Don't Know/No Response	0%	1%	0%	1%	1%	1%	2%

What or who influences your voting decision the most? (Disaggregated by Gender and Age)

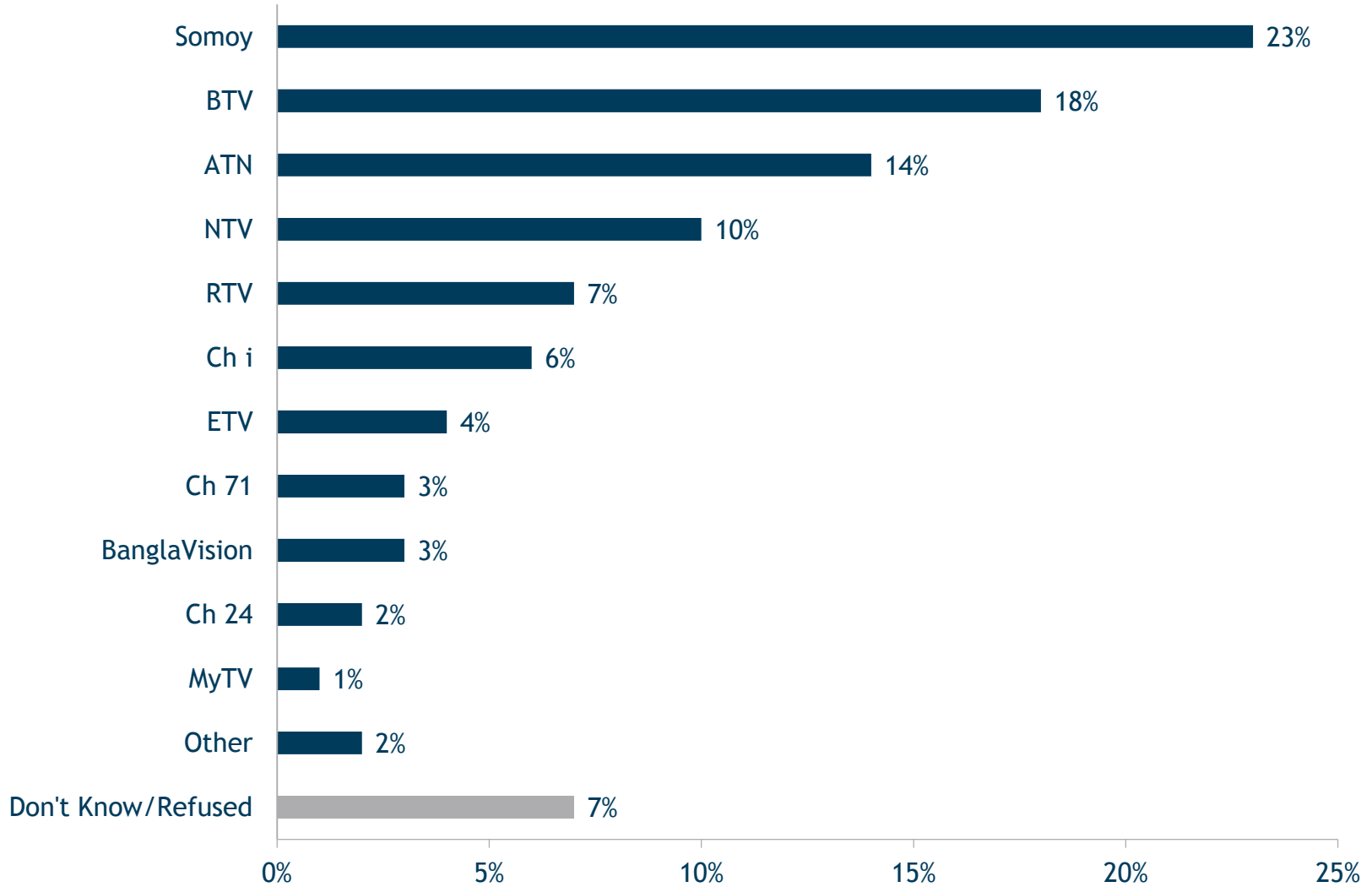
	Male	Female	18-30	31-40	41-50	51-60	61+
Political Party Platforms	12%	4%	6%	9%	8%	9%	12%
Civil Society	6%	2%	4%	4%	4%	3%	4%
Family	23%	71%	51%	49%	47%	40%	28%
Village/Community Leaders	13%	2%	6%	7%	8%	11%	11%
Religious Groups	0%	0%	0%	0%	0%	0%	1%
Media	12%	3%	8%	7%	8%	7%	7%
No One	34%	18%	24%	23%	24%	30%	35%
Don't Know/Refused	2%	1%	2%	1%	1%	1%	4%

From which type of media are you most likely to get your news?

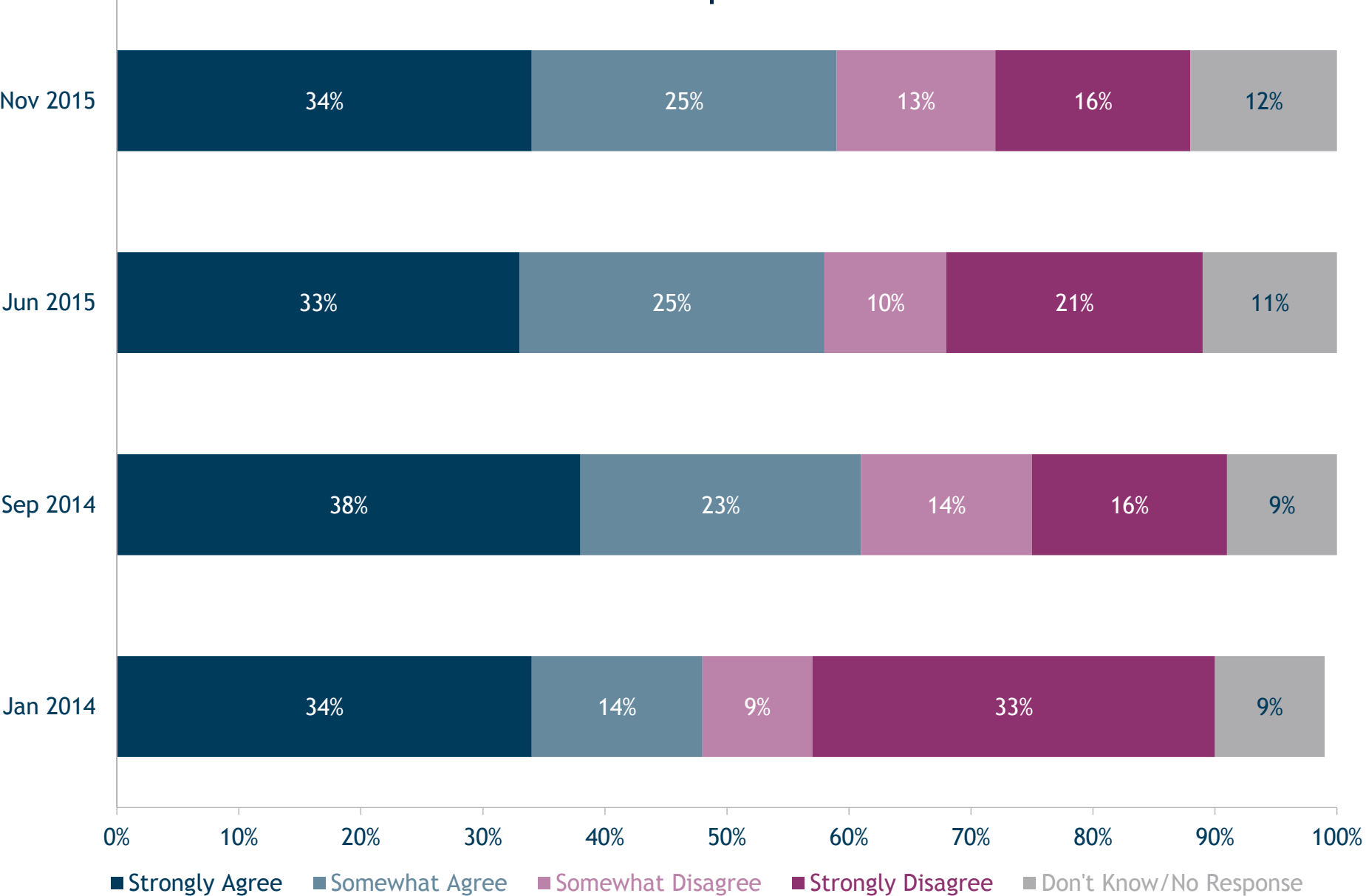


Which TV station do you most often watch?

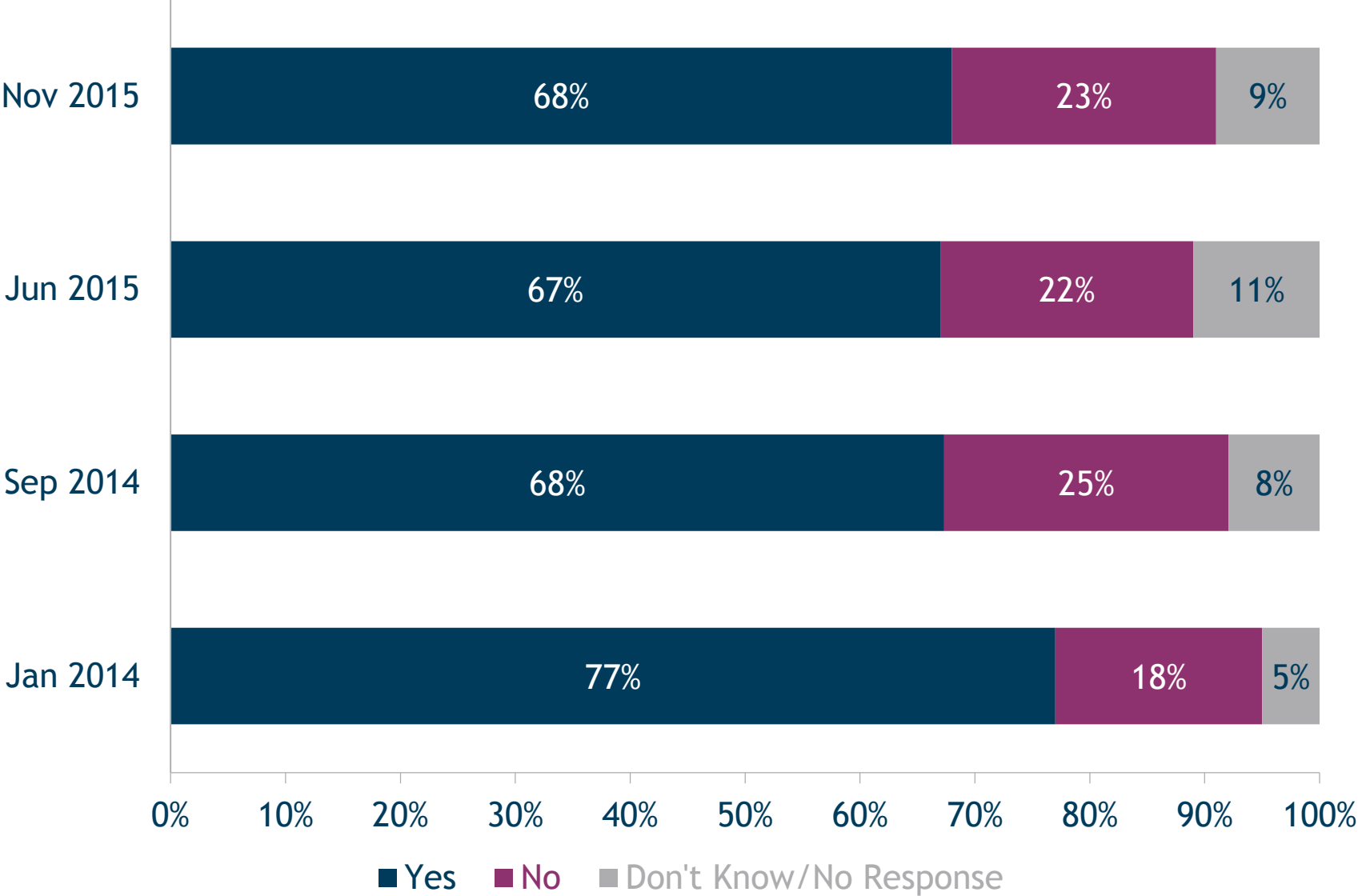
(Those answering TV, n=1,498)



Do you believe the Bangladesh Election Commission is completely fair and independent?



Should a non-party, caretaker government be brought back before the next parliamentary elections?

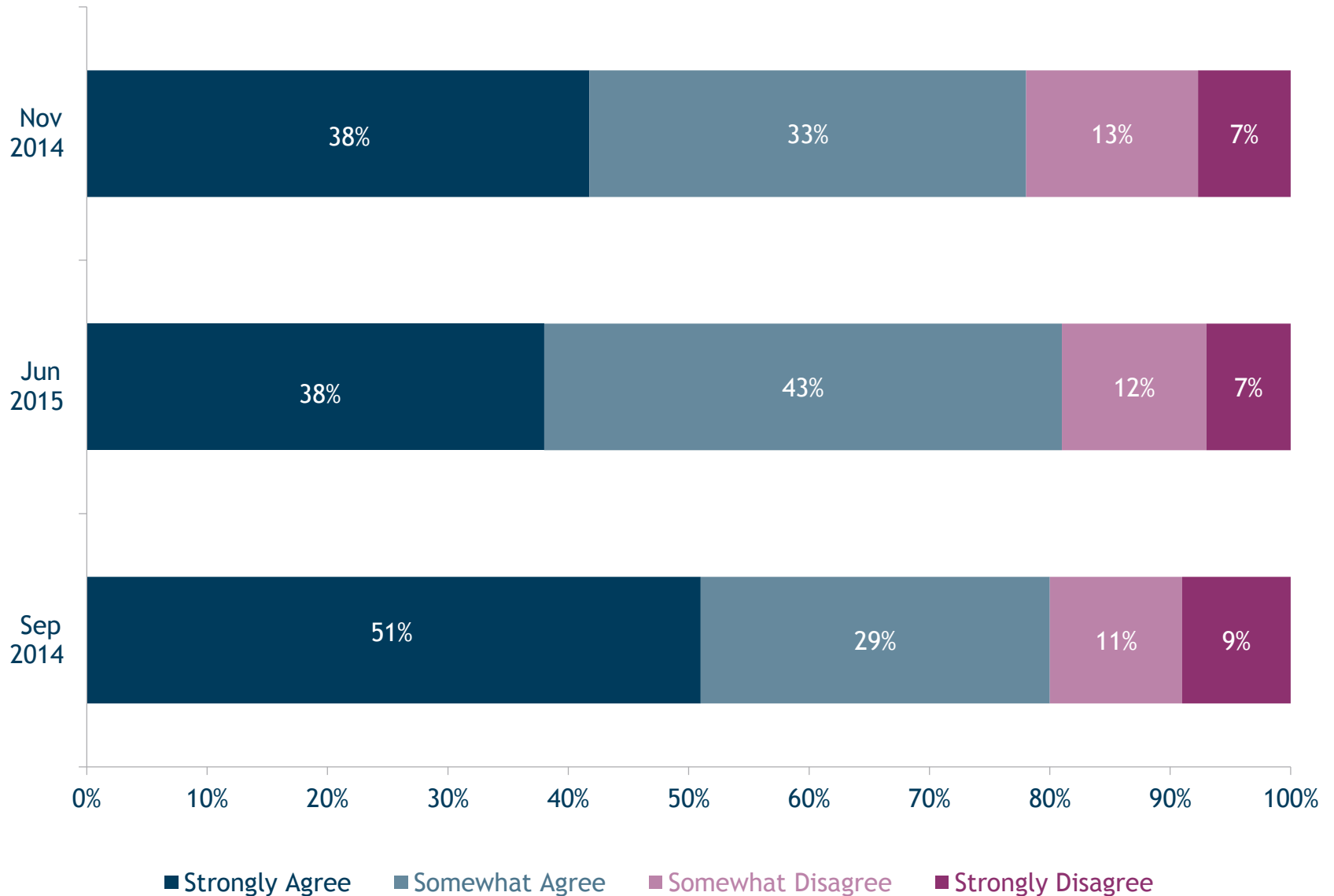




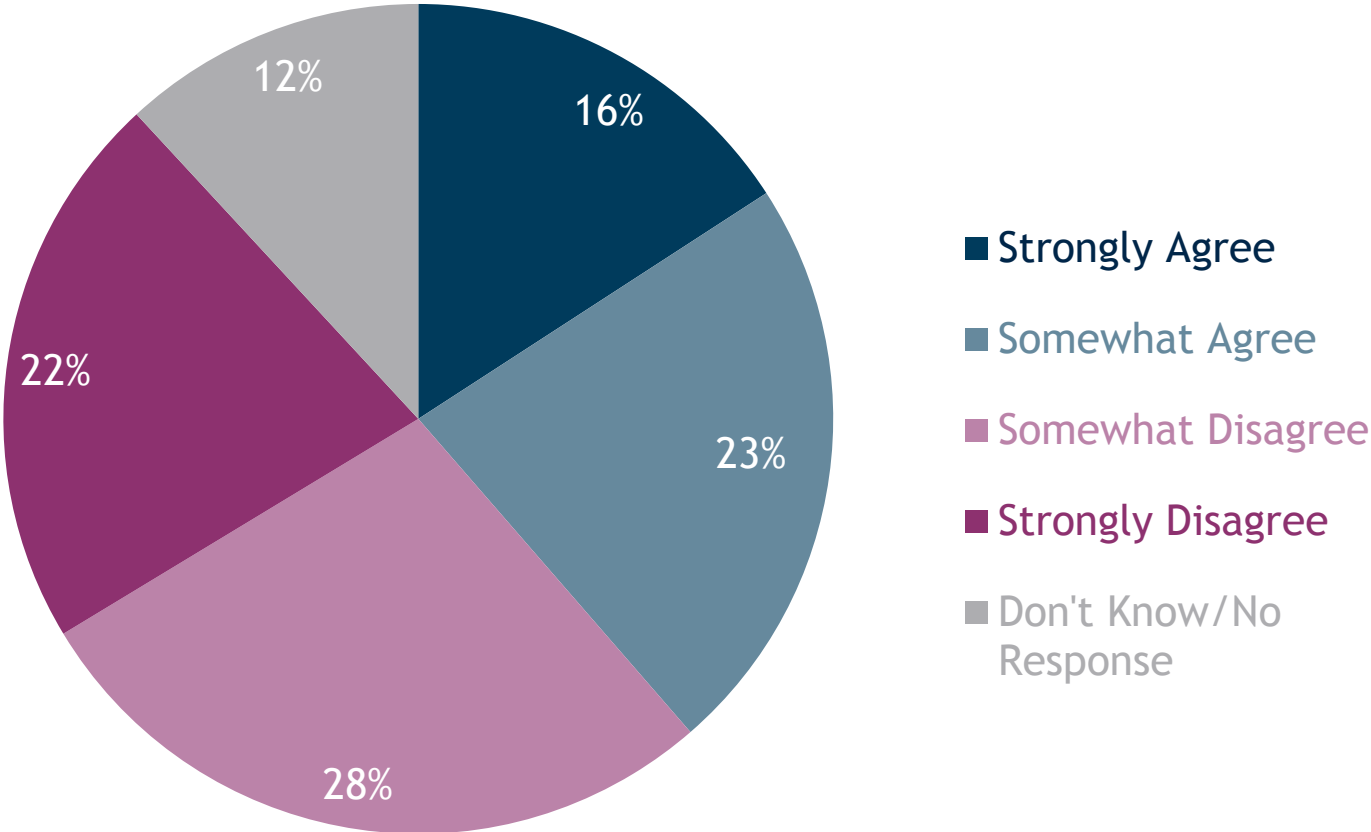
Women & Youth

Agree or Disagree?

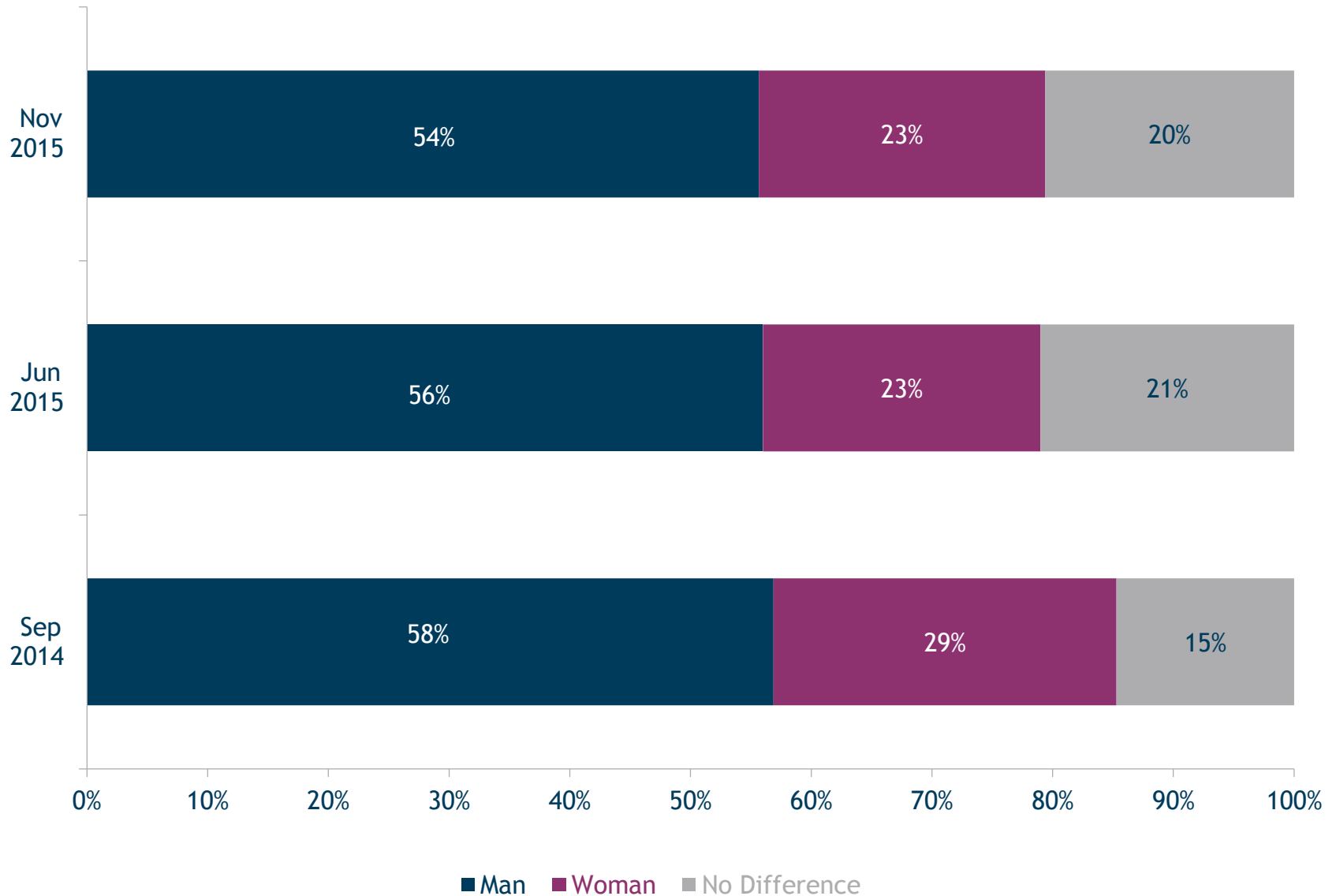
Women are equally represented in political decision-making positions in Bangladesh.



Agree or disagree? Politicians don't listen to the needs and ideas of women.



If there are two candidates running for office and they are exactly the same aside from the fact that one is a man and one is a woman, which candidate would you prefer?

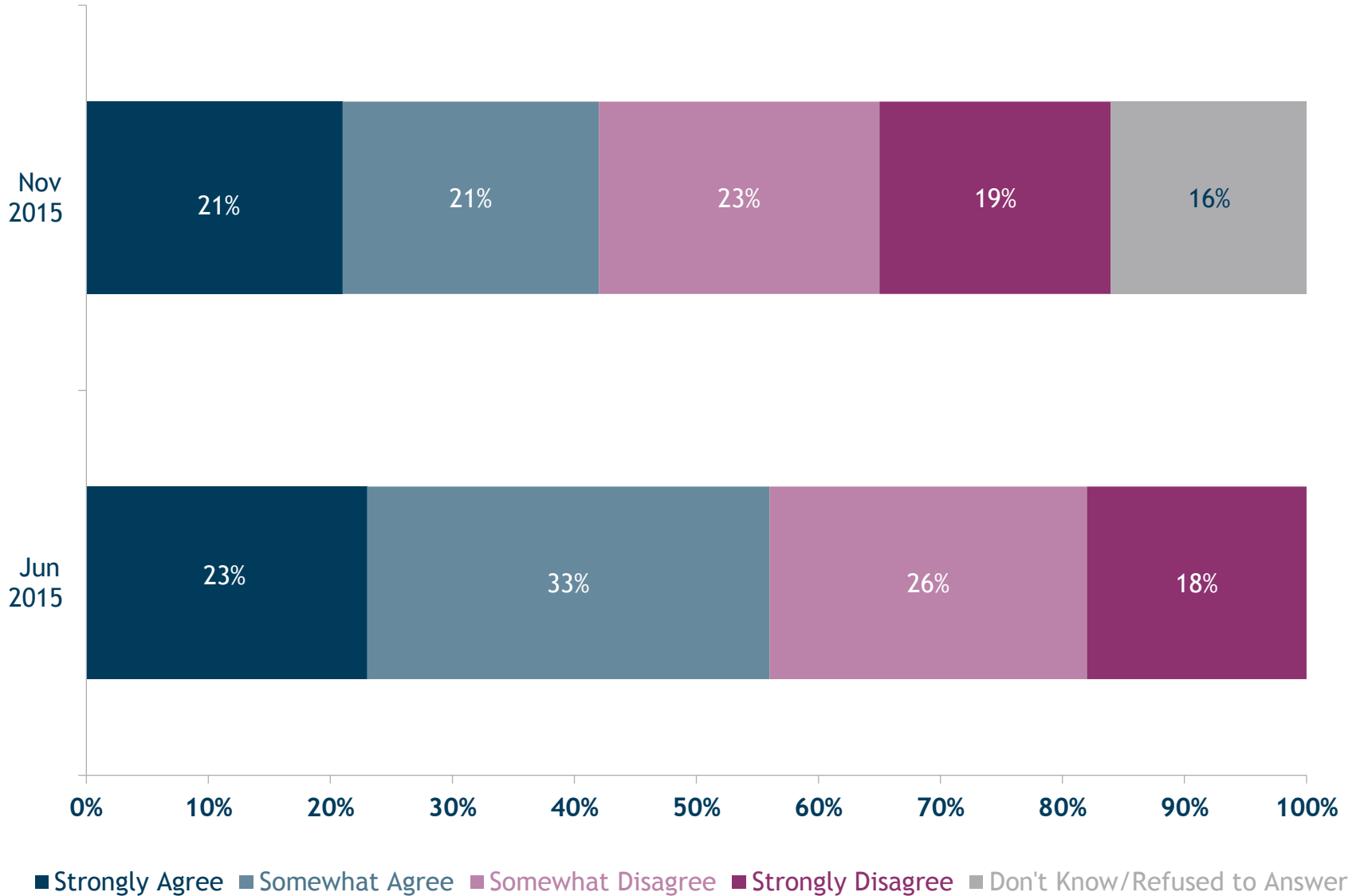


If there are two candidates running for office and they are exactly the same aside from the fact that one is a man and one is a woman, which candidate would you prefer?

By Gender	Nov 2015	Jun 2015	Sep 2014
Men/Prefer Man	77%	69%	79%
Men/Prefer Woman	5%	10%	7%
Men/No Difference	16%	21%	14%
Women/Prefer Man	31%	42%	34%
Women/Prefer Woman	41%	37%	51%
Women/No Difference	24%	32%	16%

Agree or Disagree?

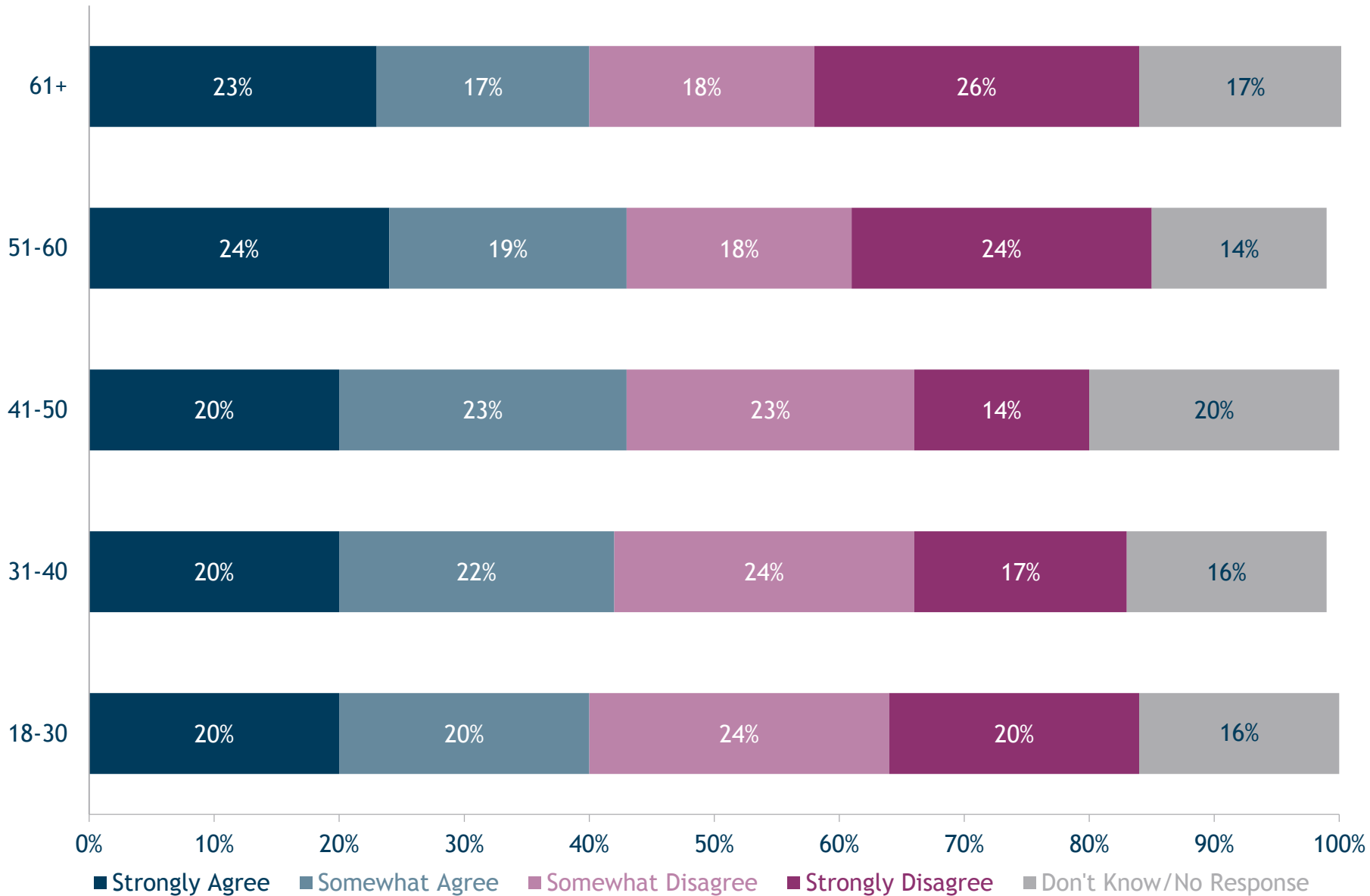
Politicians listen to the needs and ideas of young people.



Agree or Disagree?

Politicians listen to the needs and ideas of young people.

Disaggregated by age



Demographics

Monthly Household Income

Less Than 5,000 <i>taka</i> *	5%
5,001-10,000 <i>taka</i>	35%
10,001-15,000 <i>taka</i>	29%
15,001-20,000 <i>taka</i>	15%
20,001-25,000 <i>taka</i>	7%
25,001-30,000 <i>taka</i>	5%
30,001-35,000 <i>taka</i>	1%
35,001 <i>taka</i> or Greater	3%

Division

Dhaka	32%
Chittagong	20%
Rajshahi	13%
Khulna	11%
Rangpur	11%
Sylhet	7%
Barisal	6%

Education

Illiterate	22%
Literate/No Formal Schooling	7%
Class 1-4	15%
Class 5-9	35%
Secondary School	9%
Certificate/ <i>Dakhil</i>	
Higher Secondary Certificate	8%
Bachelor of Arts/Bachelor of Science	3%
Graduate Degree	1%

Age

18-30 years	39%
31-40 years	24%
41-50 years	18%
51-60 years	11%
61 Years and Older	8%

Religion

Muslim	87%
Hindu	12%
Buddhist	1%

Gender

Male	50%
Female	50%

Area

Urban	27%
Rural	73%

*At the time of survey release, one Bangladeshi *taka* was equivalent to \$0.013 USD.

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UNDERSTANDING PUBLIC OPINION

