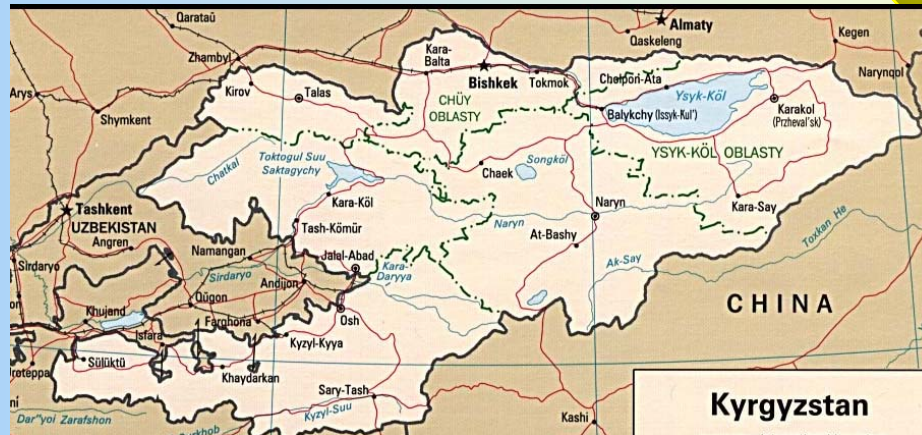




Kyrgyz Republic National Opinion Poll

March 2006



International Republican Institute

Baltic Surveys Ltd. / The Gallup Organization

Agency SIAR-Bishkek

**United States Agency for International
Development**



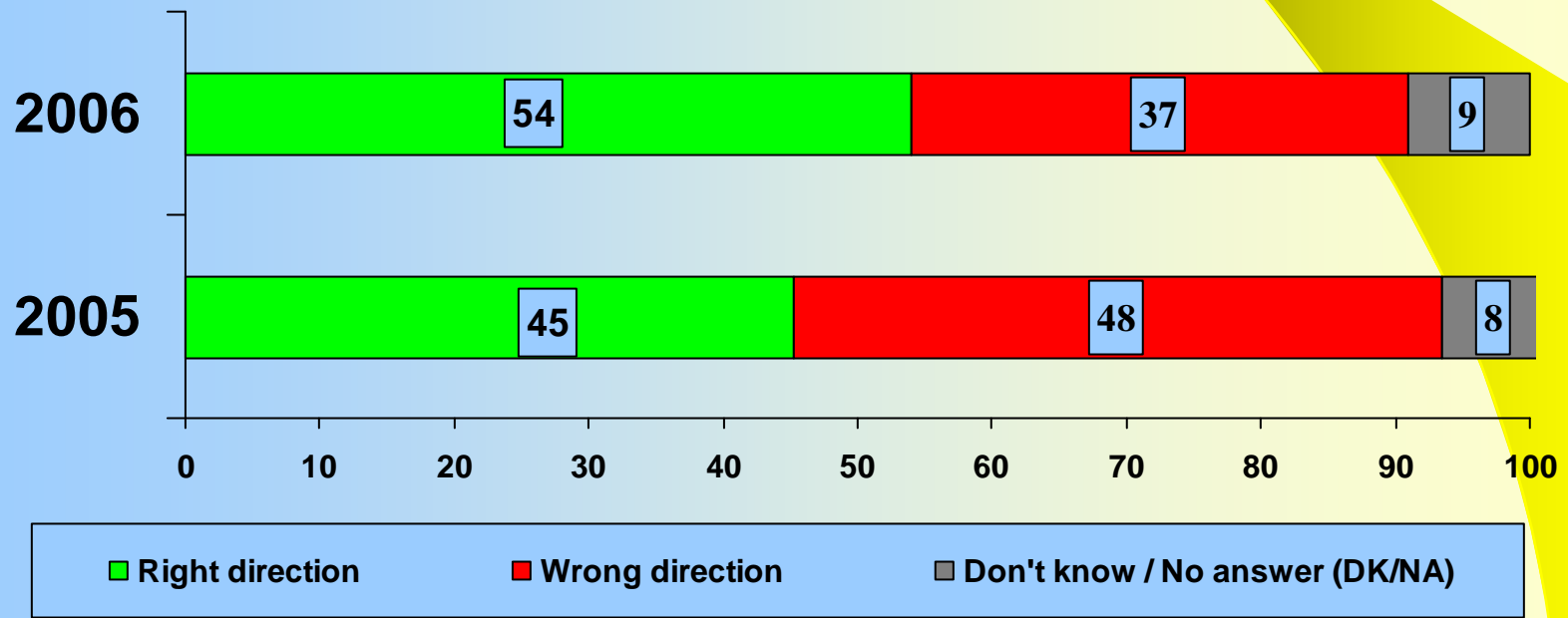
INFORMATION ABOUT THE SURVEY

- This national representative survey was carried out March 9-28, 2006.
- 1,500 Kyrgyz Republic residents aged 18 years and older were interviewed face-to-face.
- The margin of error does not exceed +/- 3%.
- The survey was carried out on behalf of IRI and was funded by USAID.
- The study was designed, coordinated, and analyzed by Baltic Surveys / The Gallup Organization (Dr. R. Alisauskiene).
- The fieldwork was carried out by SIAR-Bishkek.
- The government of the Kyrgyz Republic contributed to the questionnaire with policy related questions.
- For more detailed methodology, please contact Ainoura Sagynbaeva, SIAR Bishkek, ainouras@siar-consult.com or 996-312-66-36-37.

MOOD OF THE COUNTRY

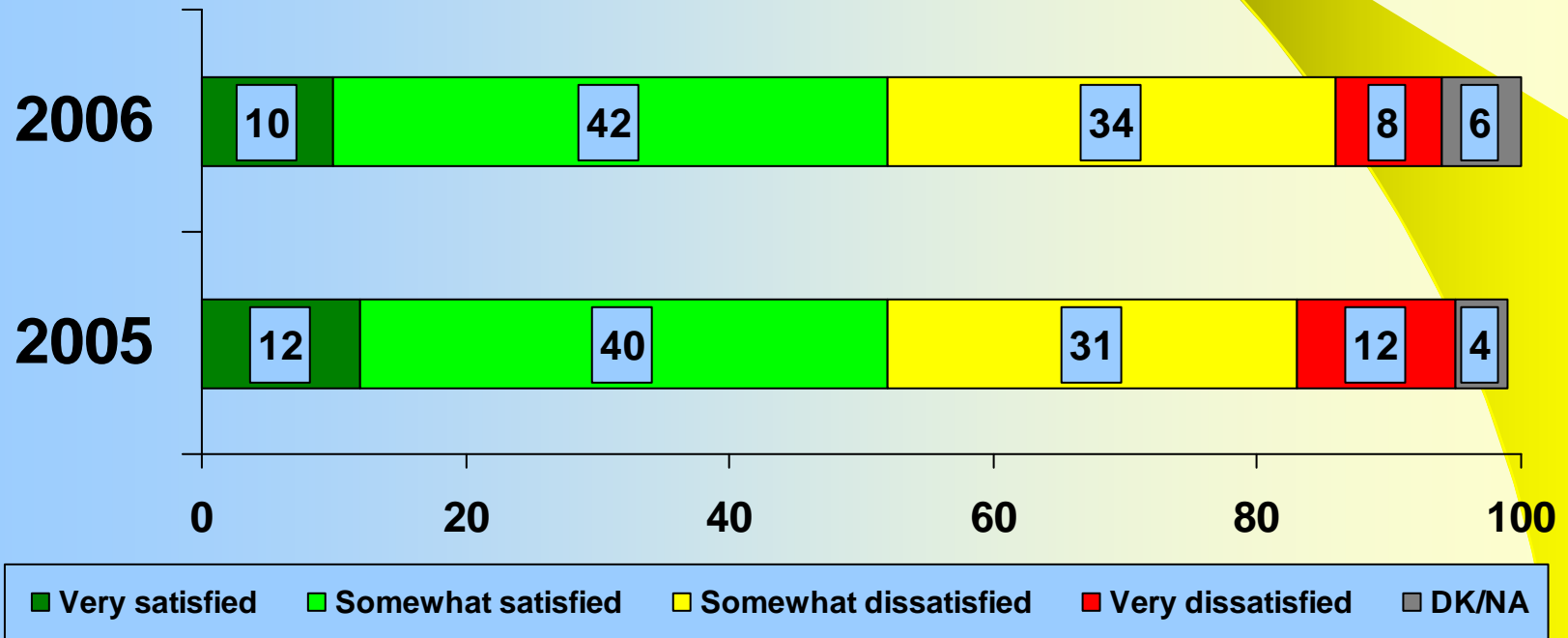
Mood of the country: in 2006, 54% say that Kyrgyz Republic is on the right track, while 37% say it is on the wrong track. In comparison to 2005, 9 % more say the country is heading in the right direction. People in the North are most pessimistic (48% say wrong direction), while in the South people are more optimistic (72% say right direction). People on lower incomes and living in rural areas are much more optimistic than residents of Bishkek.

Generally speaking, things in the Kyrgyz Republic are going in the



Mood of the country: in 2006, 52% of the respondents are satisfied with the way democracy is developing. There is no change compared to spring 2005. In the North, 54% are not satisfied, while in the South 69% are satisfied. Bishkek residents are more often dissatisfied with the development of democracy, while dwellers in rural areas and towns express a positive attitude.

How satisfied are you with the way democracy is developing in the Kyrgyz Republic?



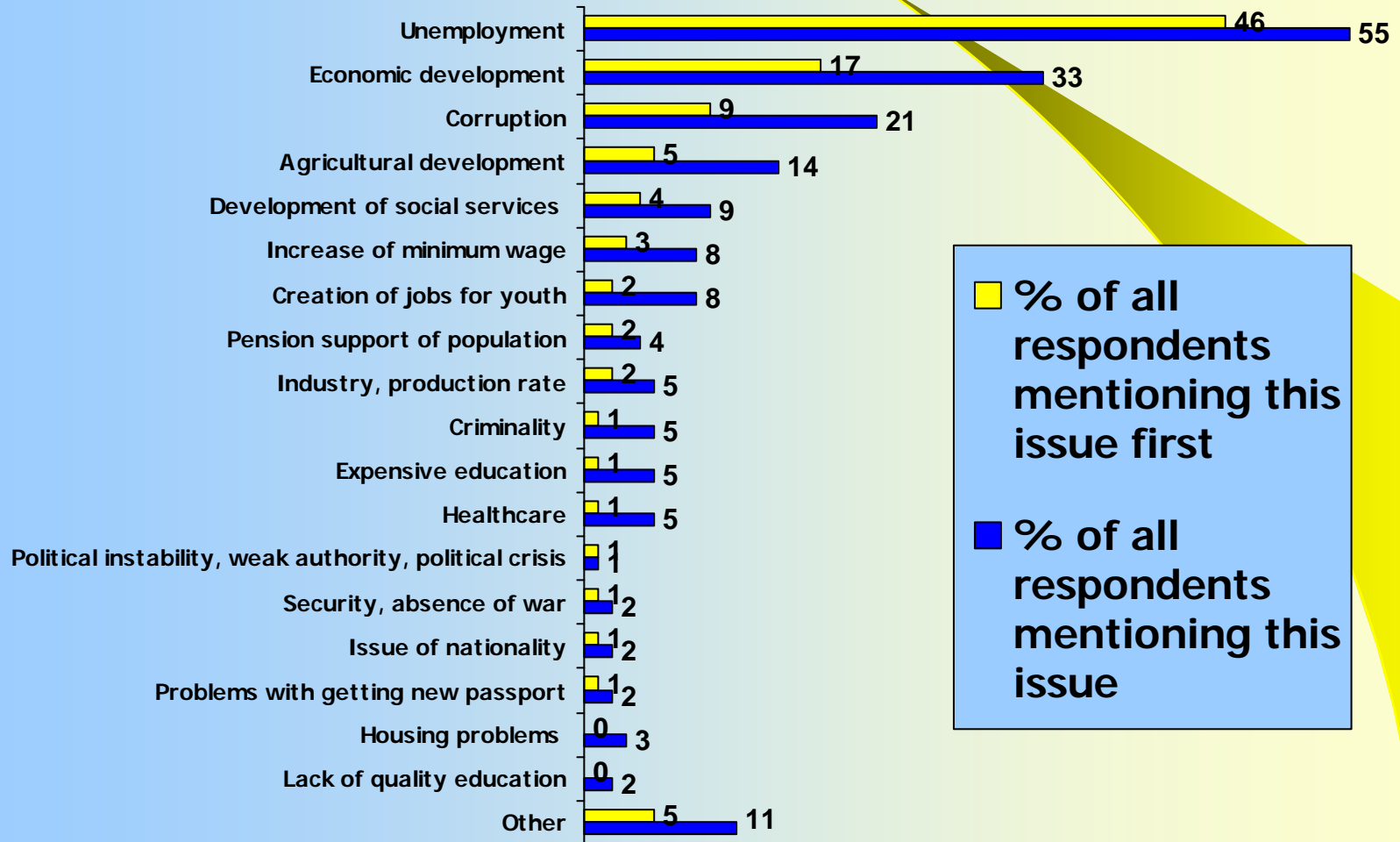
Mood of the country: 53% say their financial situation did not change in the last 12 months, the same number as 2006. But during the last year, there was an increase in the number of people who said that their financial situation had improved. Rural residents more often than urban dwellers noticed improvement. In the South 43% said their financial situation had improved, while in the North only 19% said their financial situation had improved.

Over the last 12 months, the financial situation of your household has ...

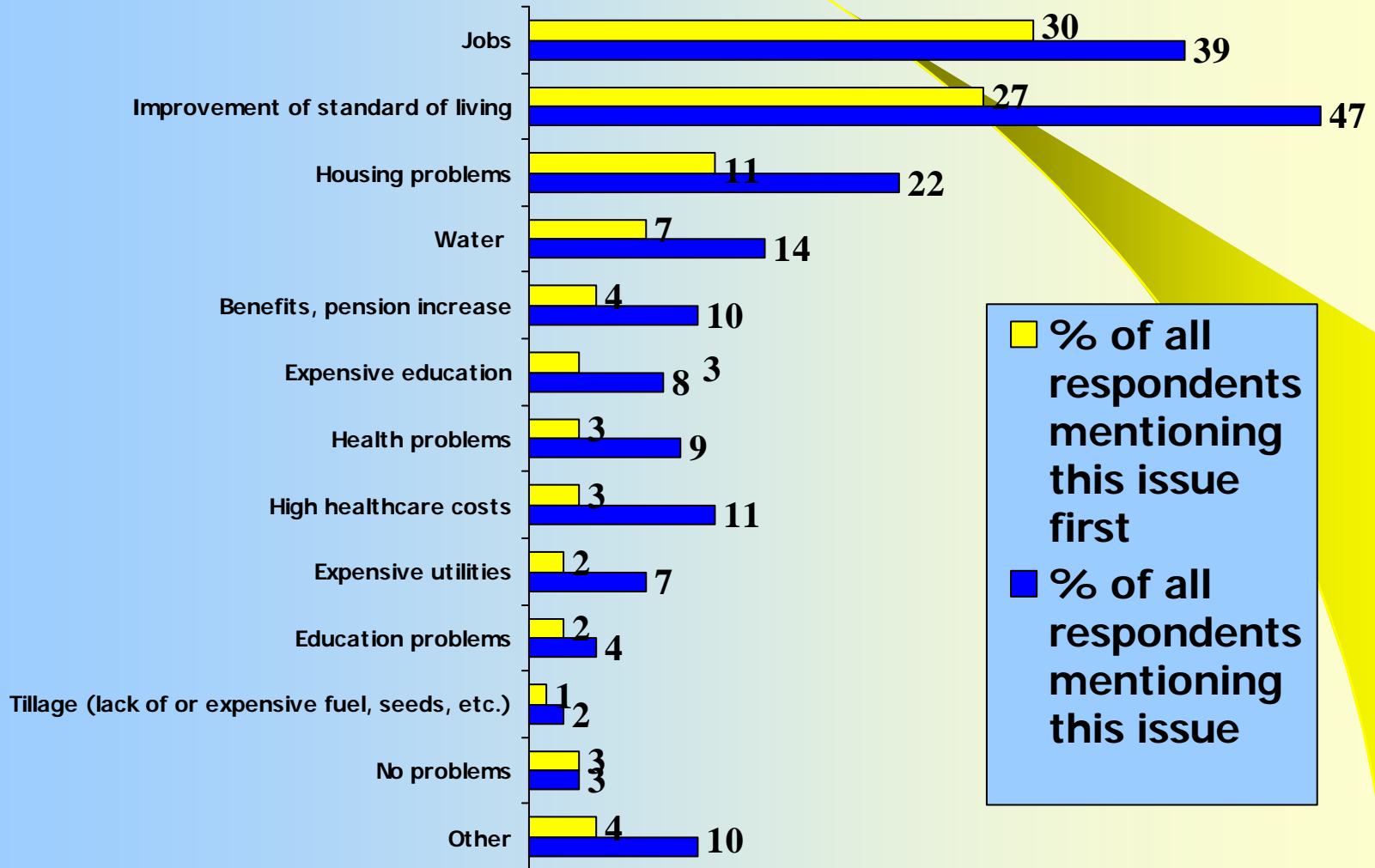


ISSUES

Most important issues the Kyrgyz Republic is facing - 2006 (two answers allowed)



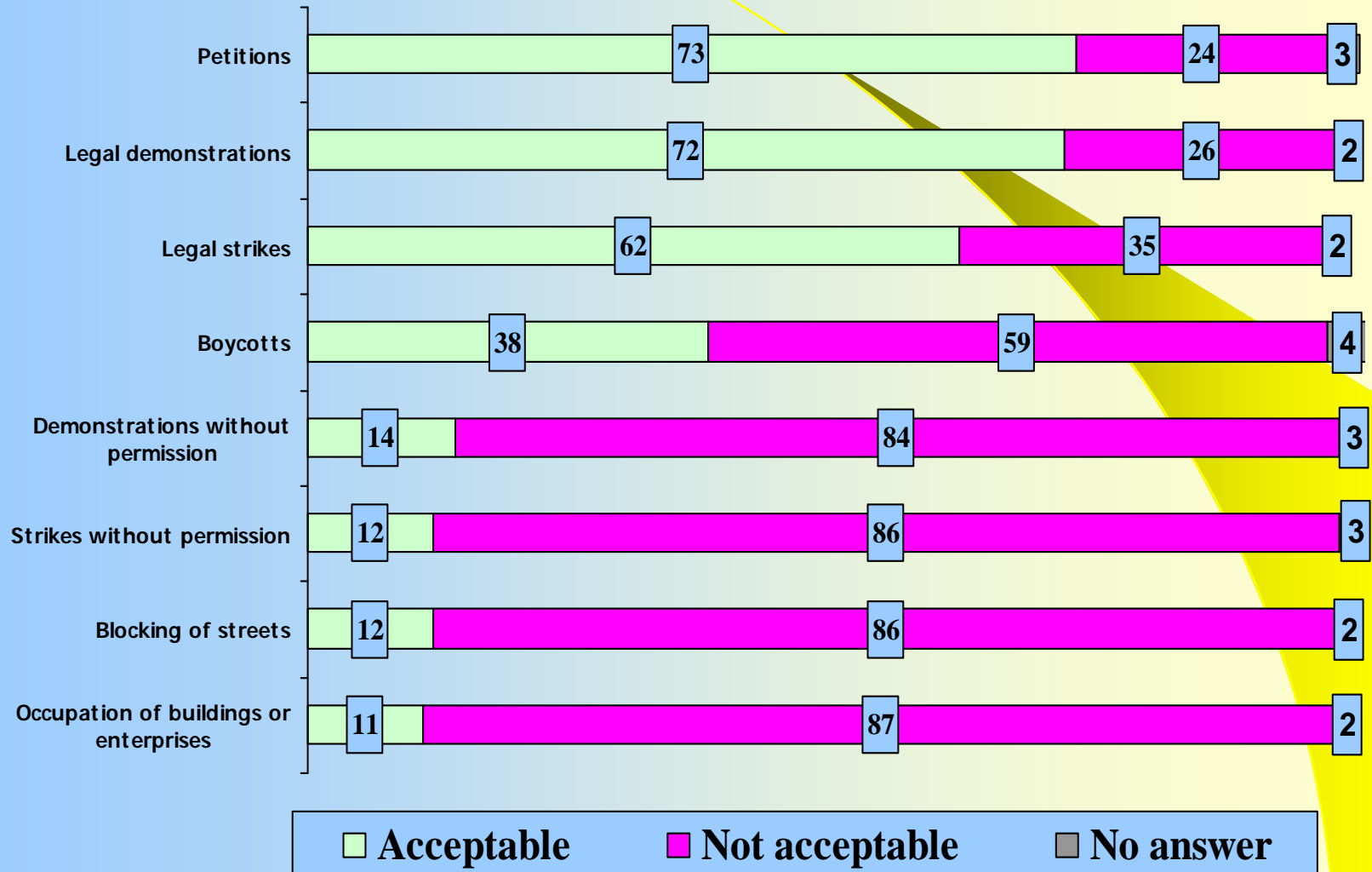
Most important issue households are facing - 2006 (two answers allowed)



Issues

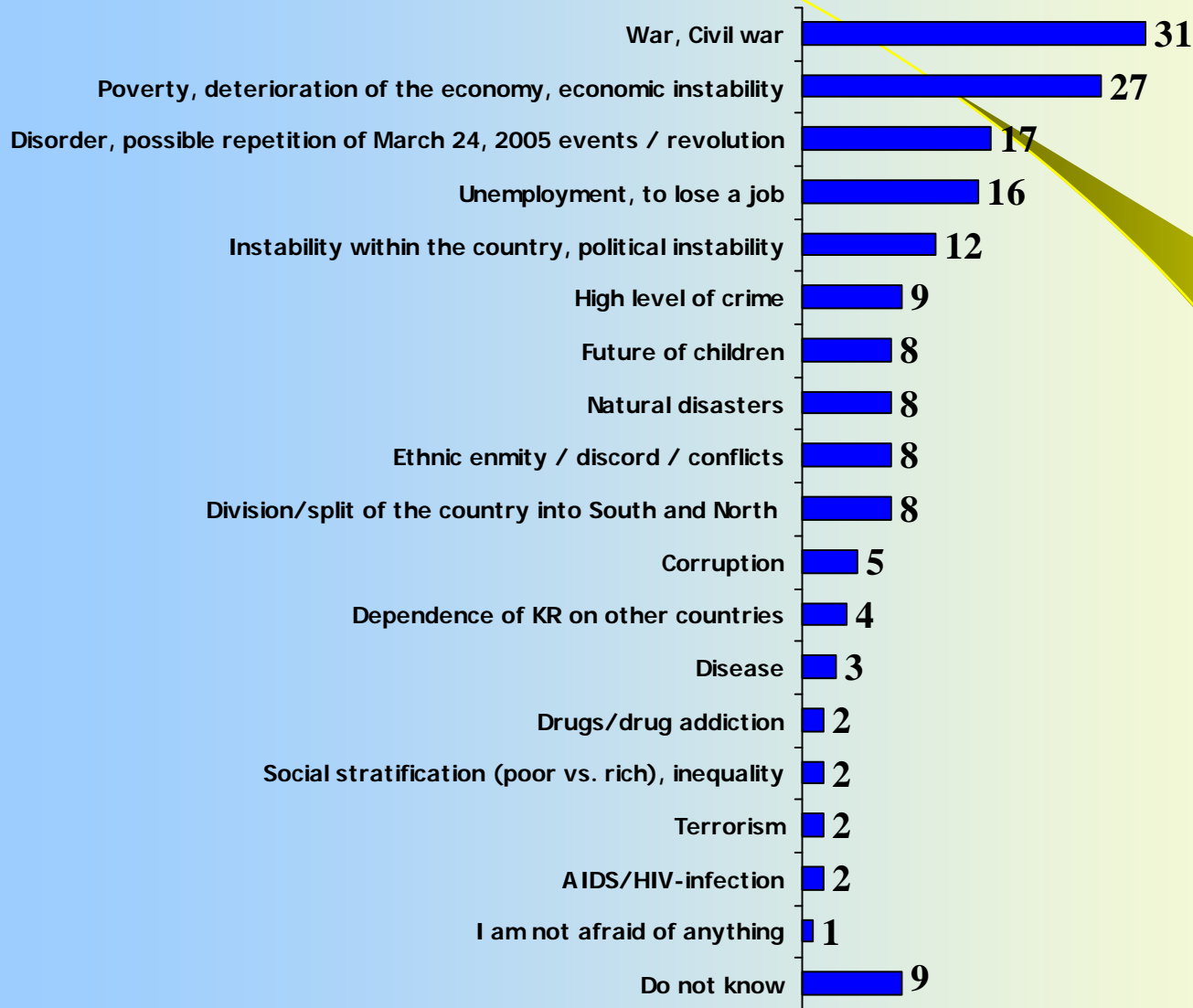
- The most pressing issues in the country, as they were the year before, are unemployment, economic development and corruption. There is consensus among all groups that these are the three most important issues.
- On the personal/household level, social issues are the most pressing. Unemployment is emphasized in rural areas and medium-size towns; improvement of material conditions is emphasized in urban areas.

Acceptability of social protest forms (2006)



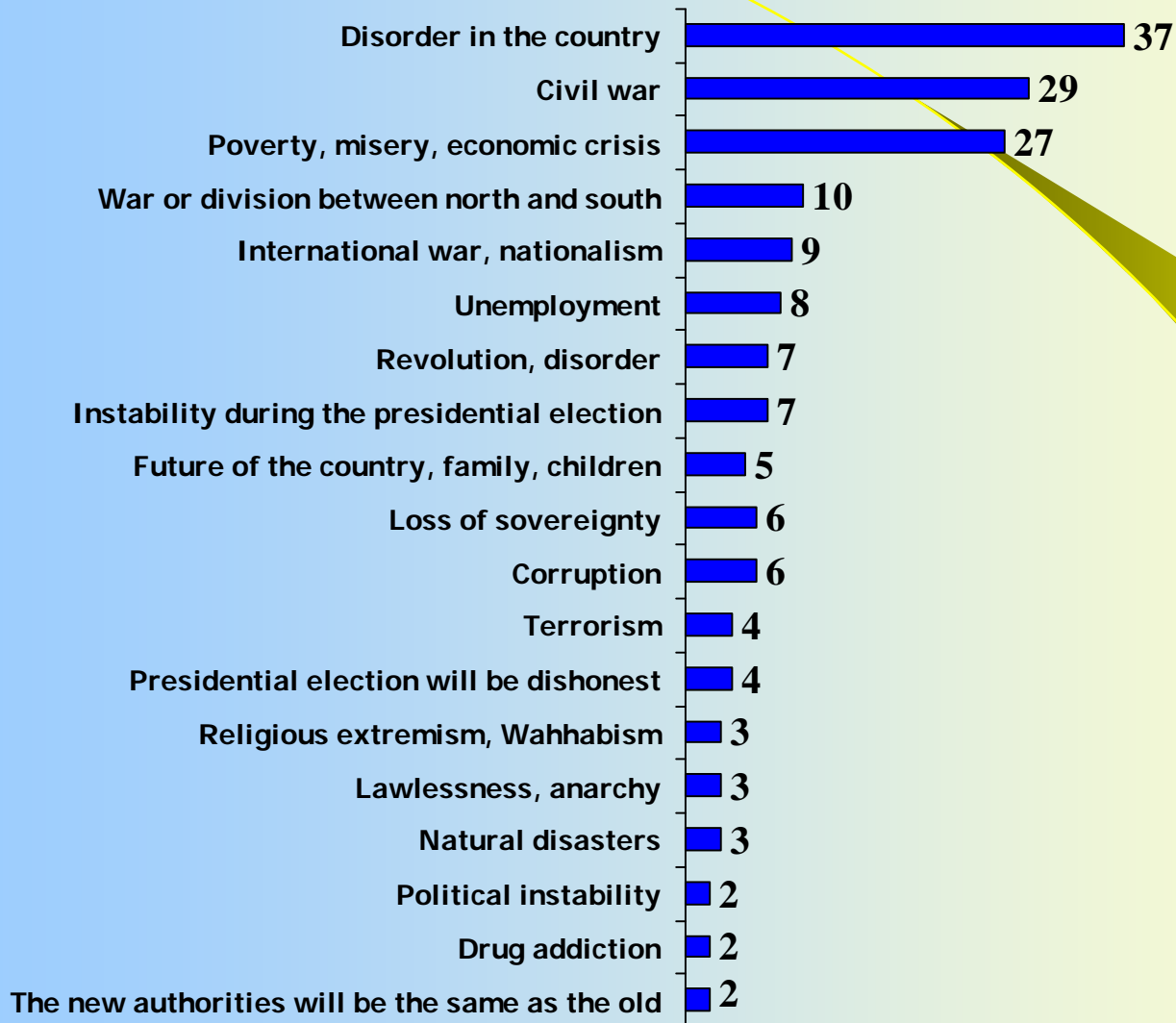
Fear the most (2006)

(% of all respondents mentioning this issue – three answers allowed)



Fear the most (2005)

(% of all respondents mentioning this issue – three answers allowed)



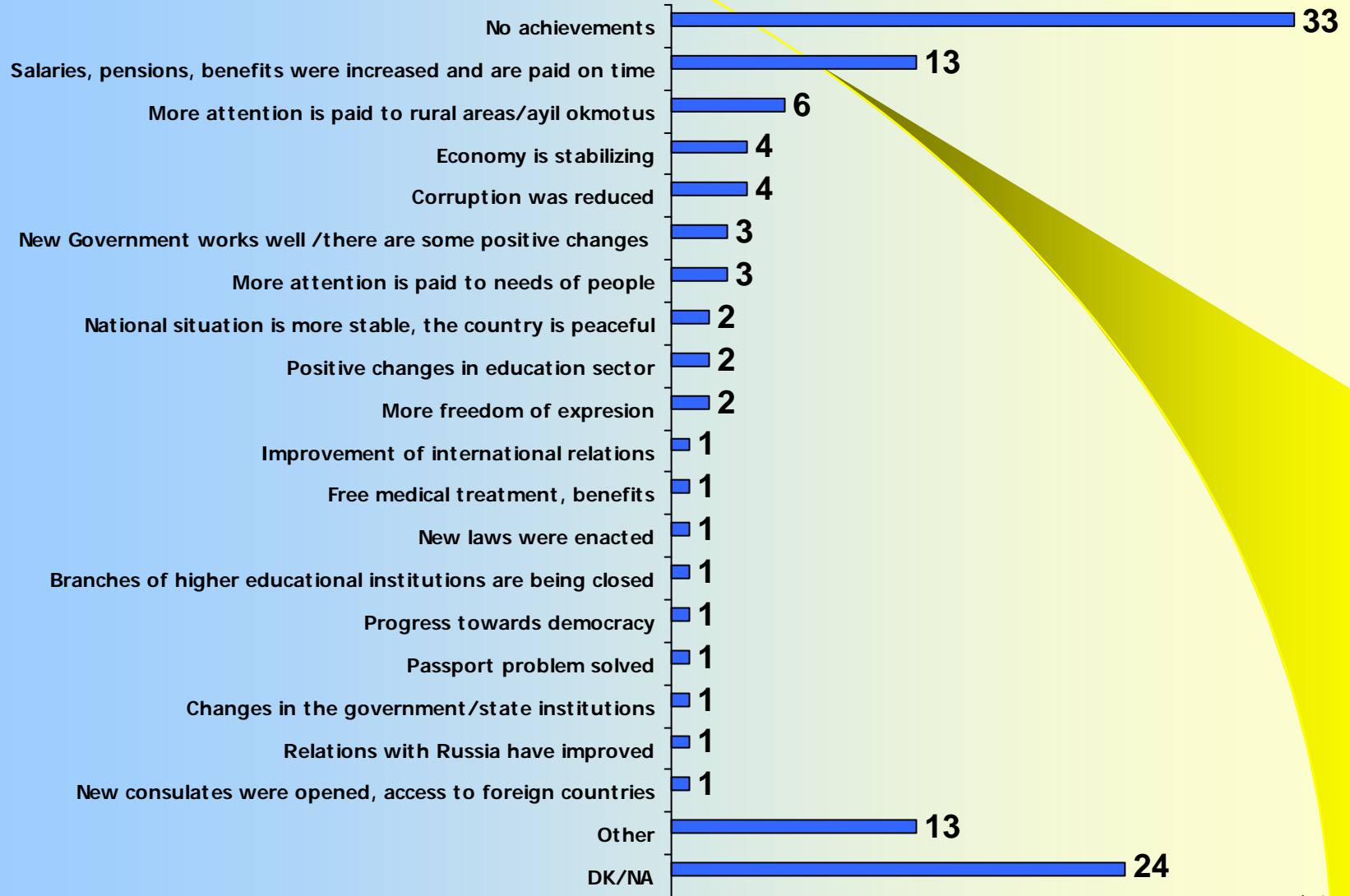
Fears of people

- In 2006 people continue to be worried about war, economic instability and disorder. People at the higher income levels and residents of Bishkek are more worried about possible disorder and political instability than other groups.

POLITICS

Most important achievements of the new government - 2006

(% of all respondents mentioning this issue – two answers allowed)

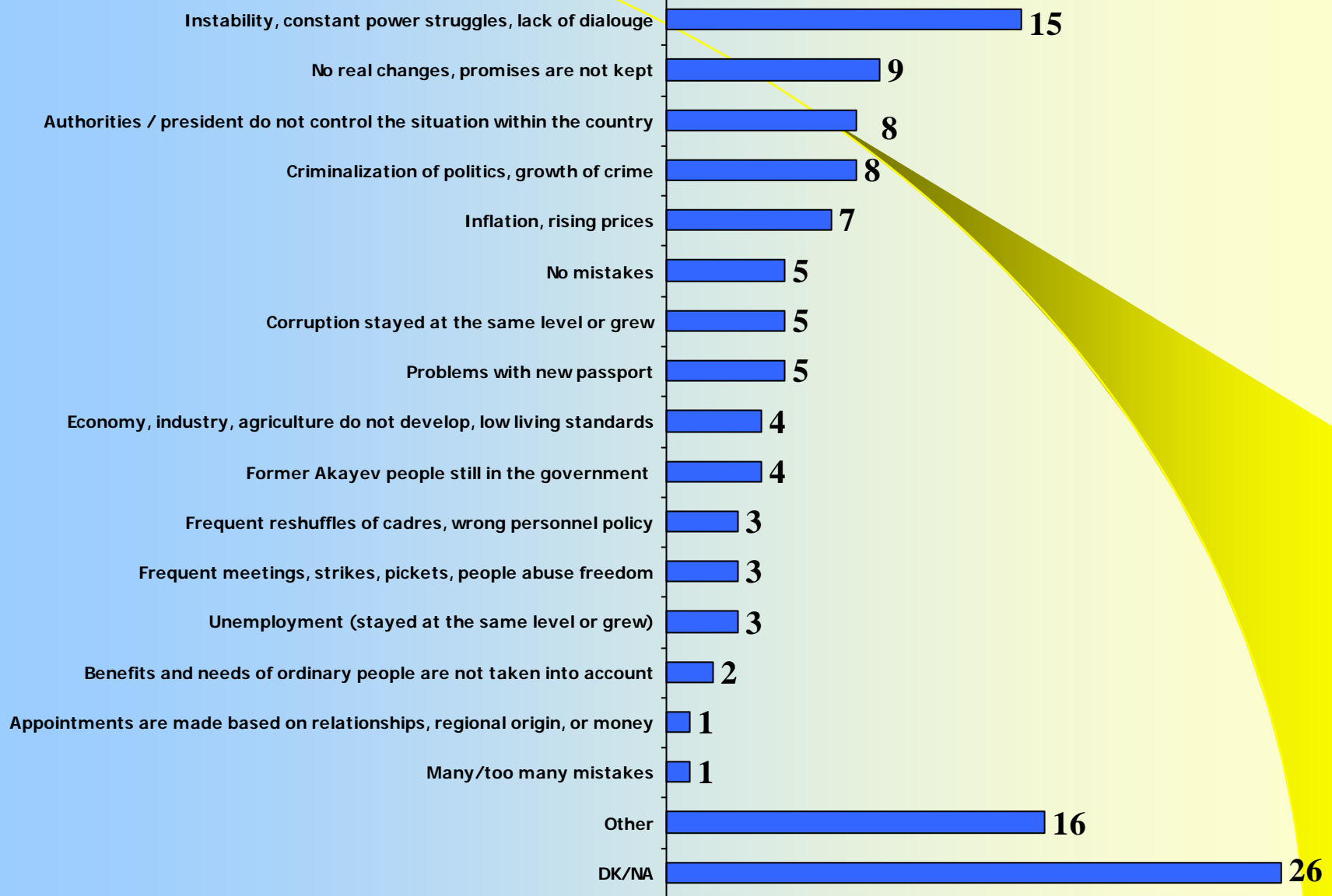


Achievements

- A majority (57%) of all respondents couldn't mention any important achievements of the new government. Northerners especially have difficulties naming any important achievements.
- Timely payment of salaries, pensions and other benefits are perceived as the major achievement of the new government. Another important achievement is the attention paid to the needs of rural residents.
- People also notice economic improvement and the fight against corruption.

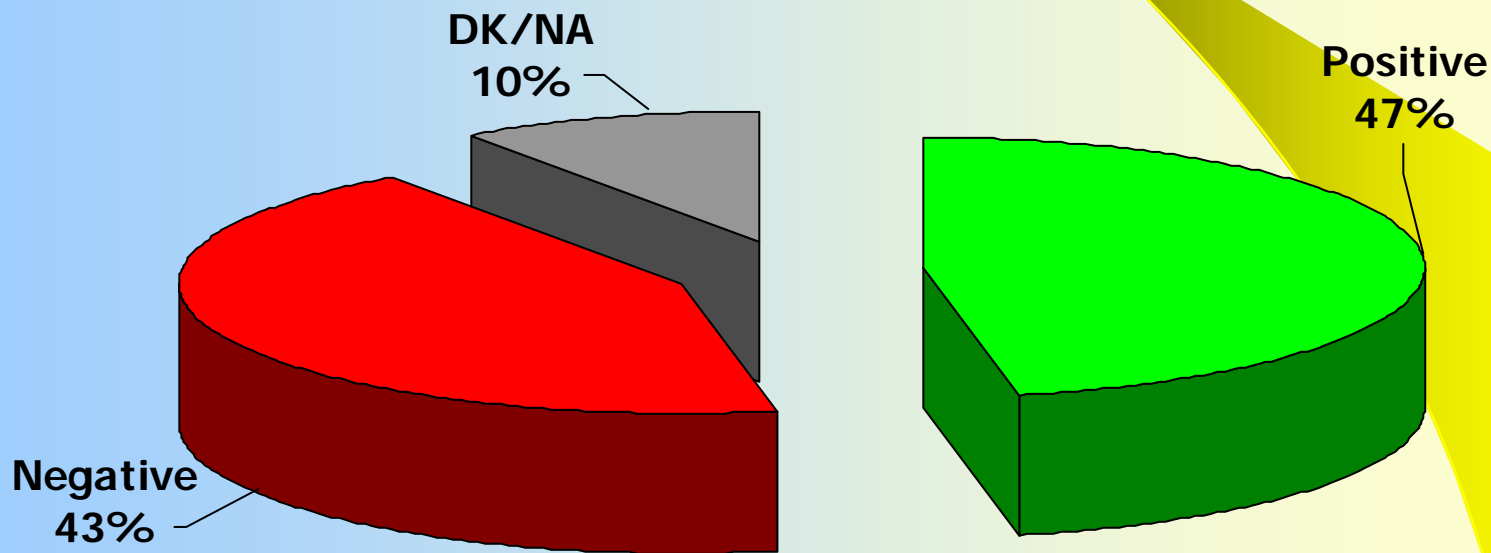
Biggest mistakes of the new government - 2006

(% of all respondents mentioning this issue – two answers allowed)



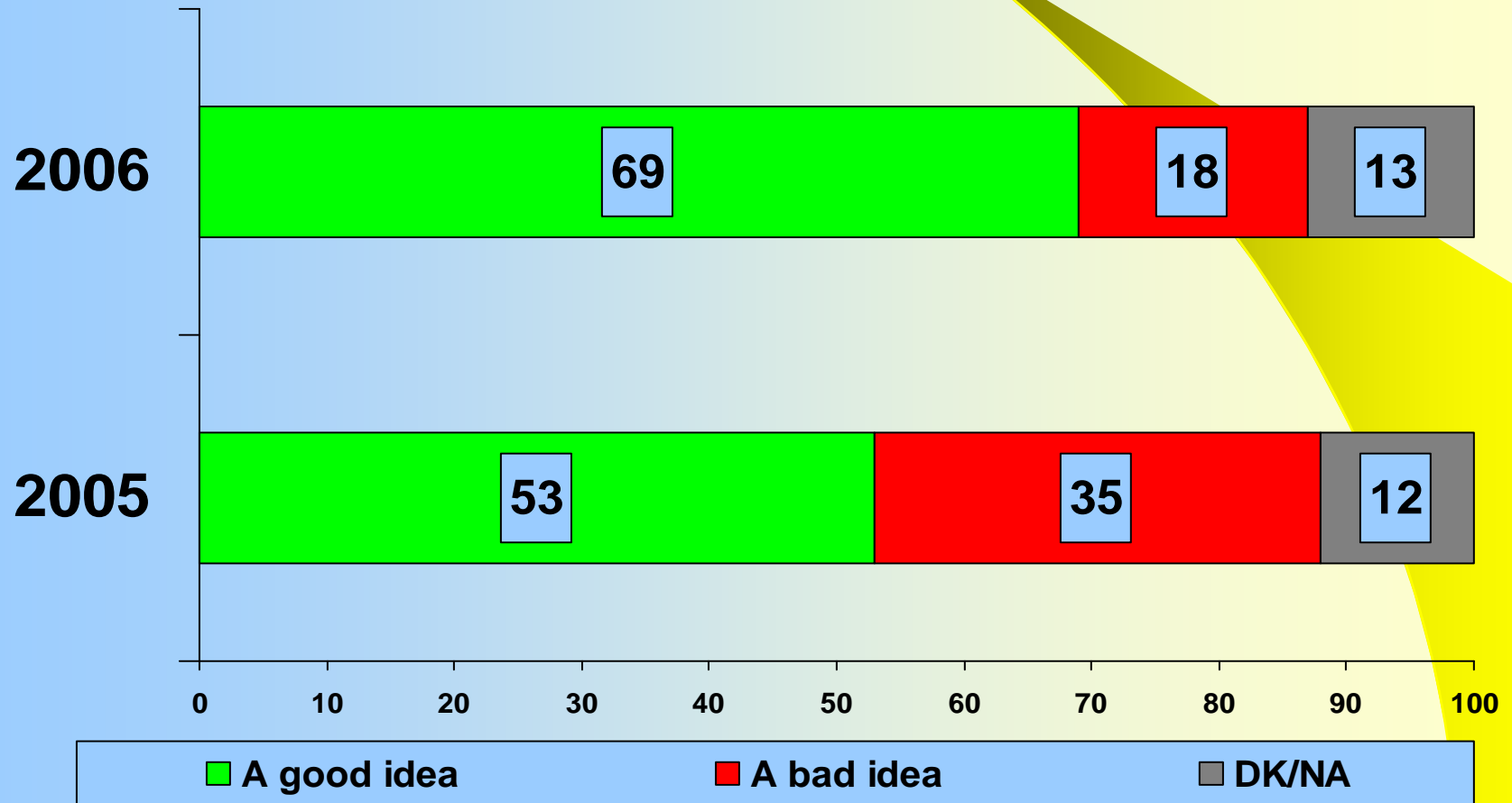
Evaluation of the current government personnel policy in Kyrgyz Republic

How would you evaluate the current personnel policy in the Kyrgyz Republic?



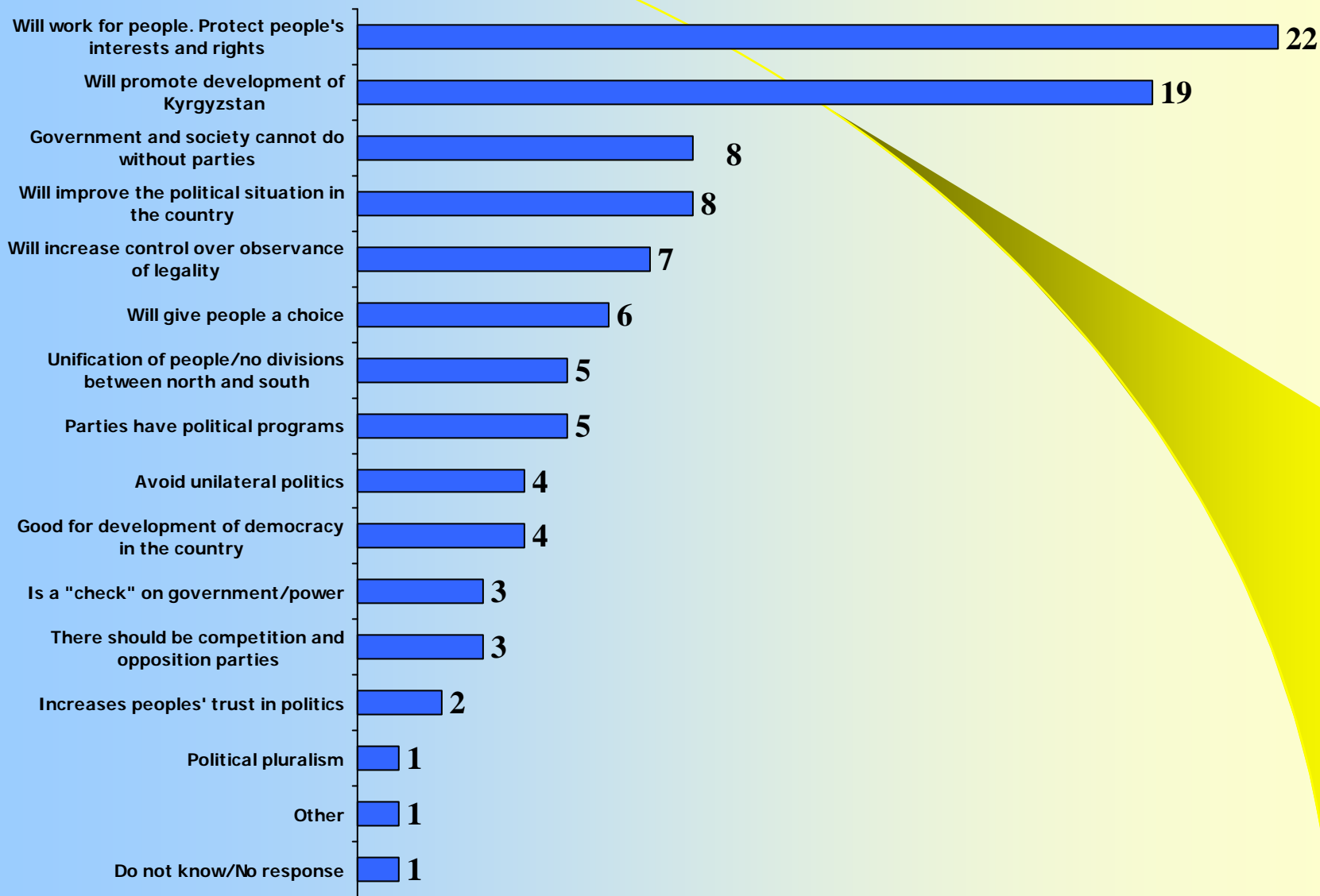
Opinion about party-list and proportional representation

Do you think a party-list is a good or bad idea in elections to Parliament in the Kyrgyz Republic?



Why is party-list a good idea for elections to Parliament in the Kyrgyz Republic?

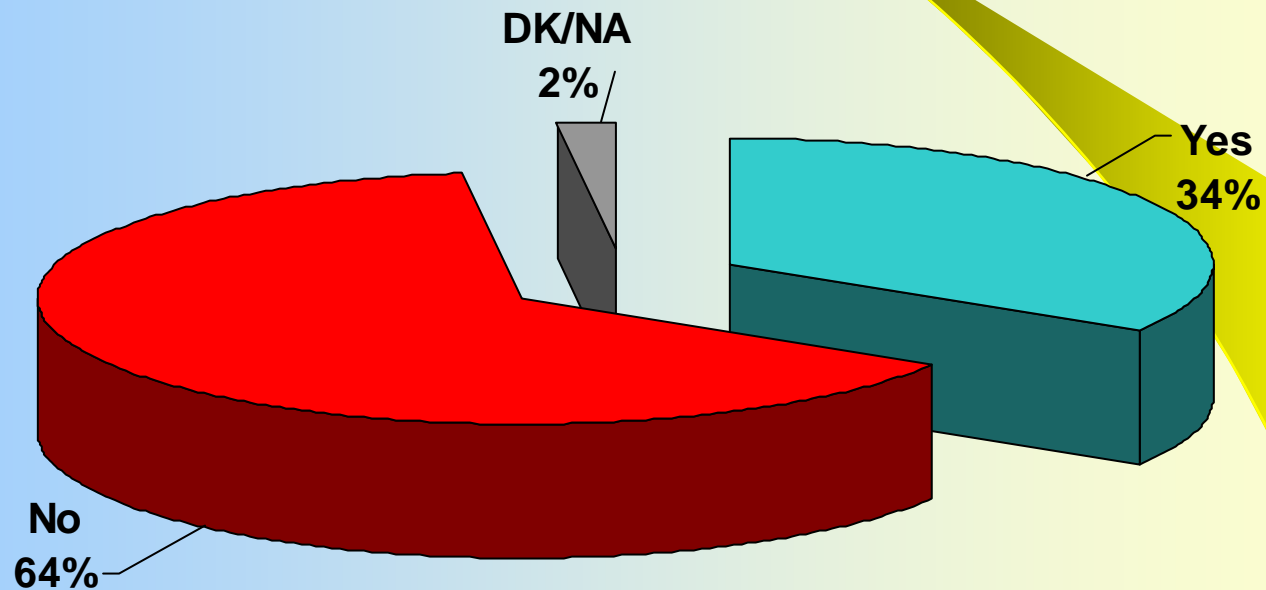
(% of respondents thinking that it is a good idea. N=1029)



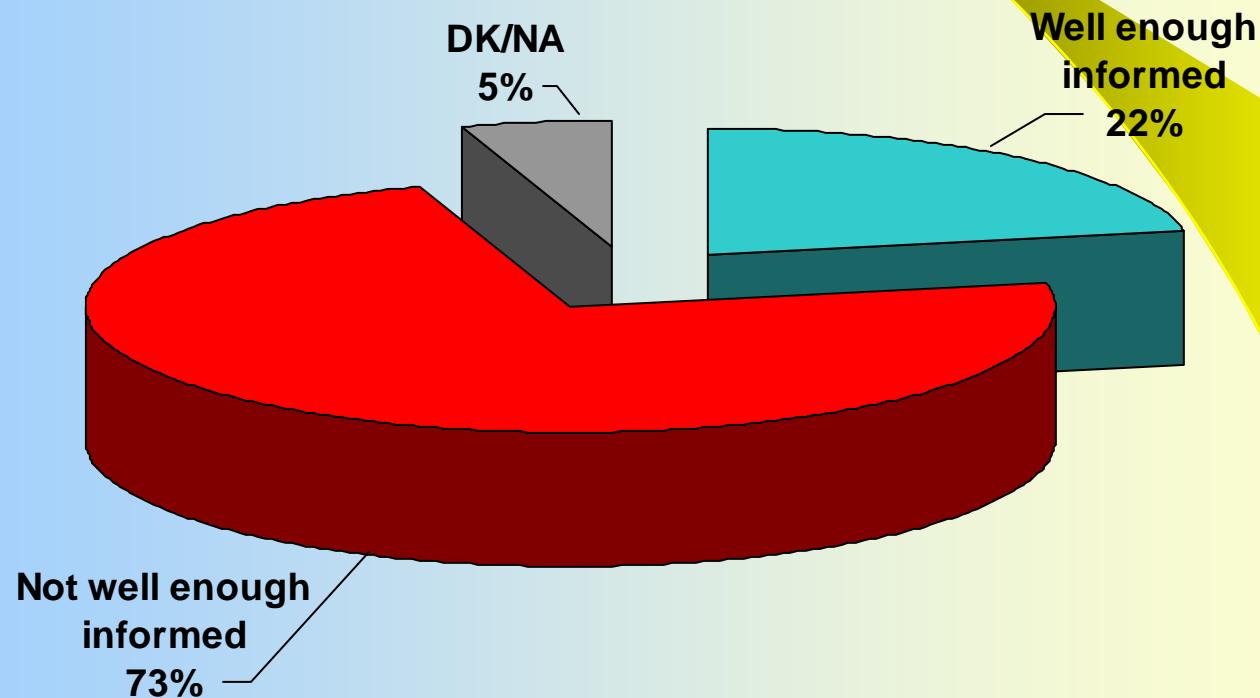
Party-list and proportional representation

- Since 2005, the attitude towards party-list proportional representation became even more positive with 69% of the respondents supporting this idea in 2006.
- The supporters think party-list elections will produce political parties that work for the people, promote development of the country and improve the political situation.

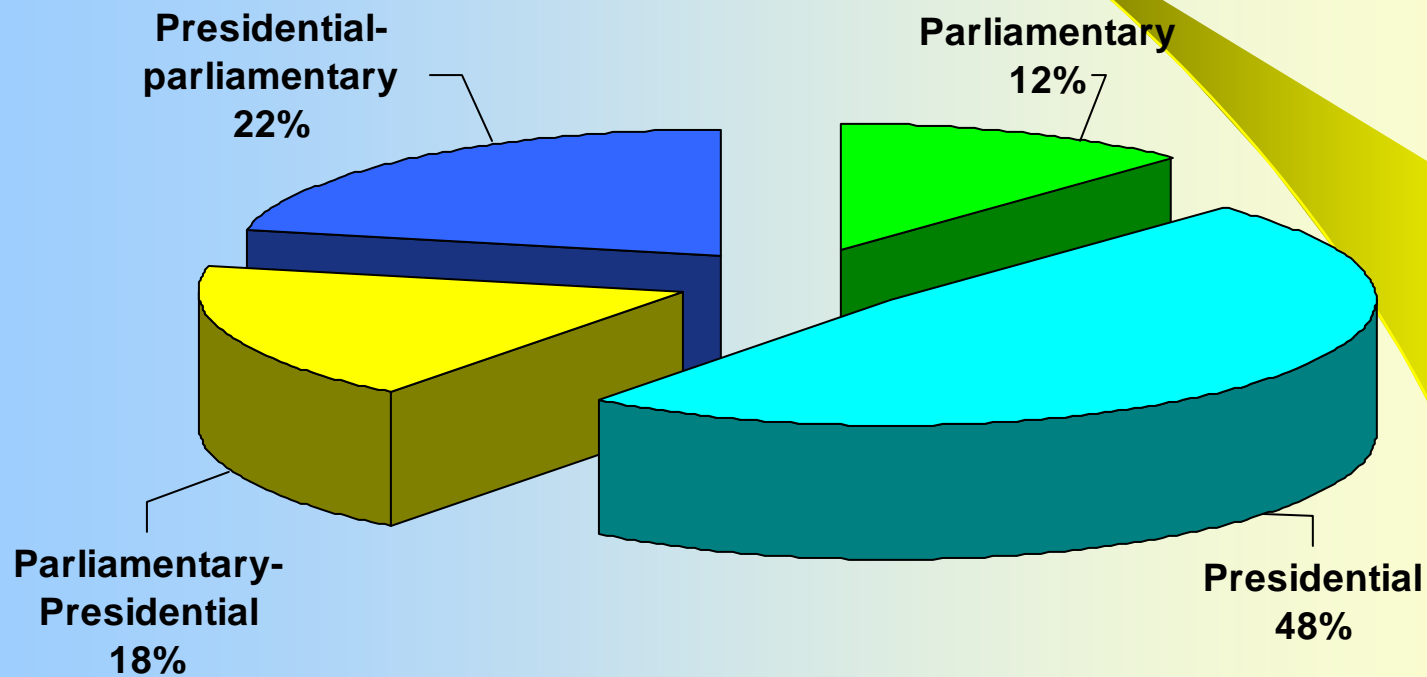
Have you heard that the President has signed a decree about holding a national referendum on basic constitutional issues in the fourth quarter of this year?



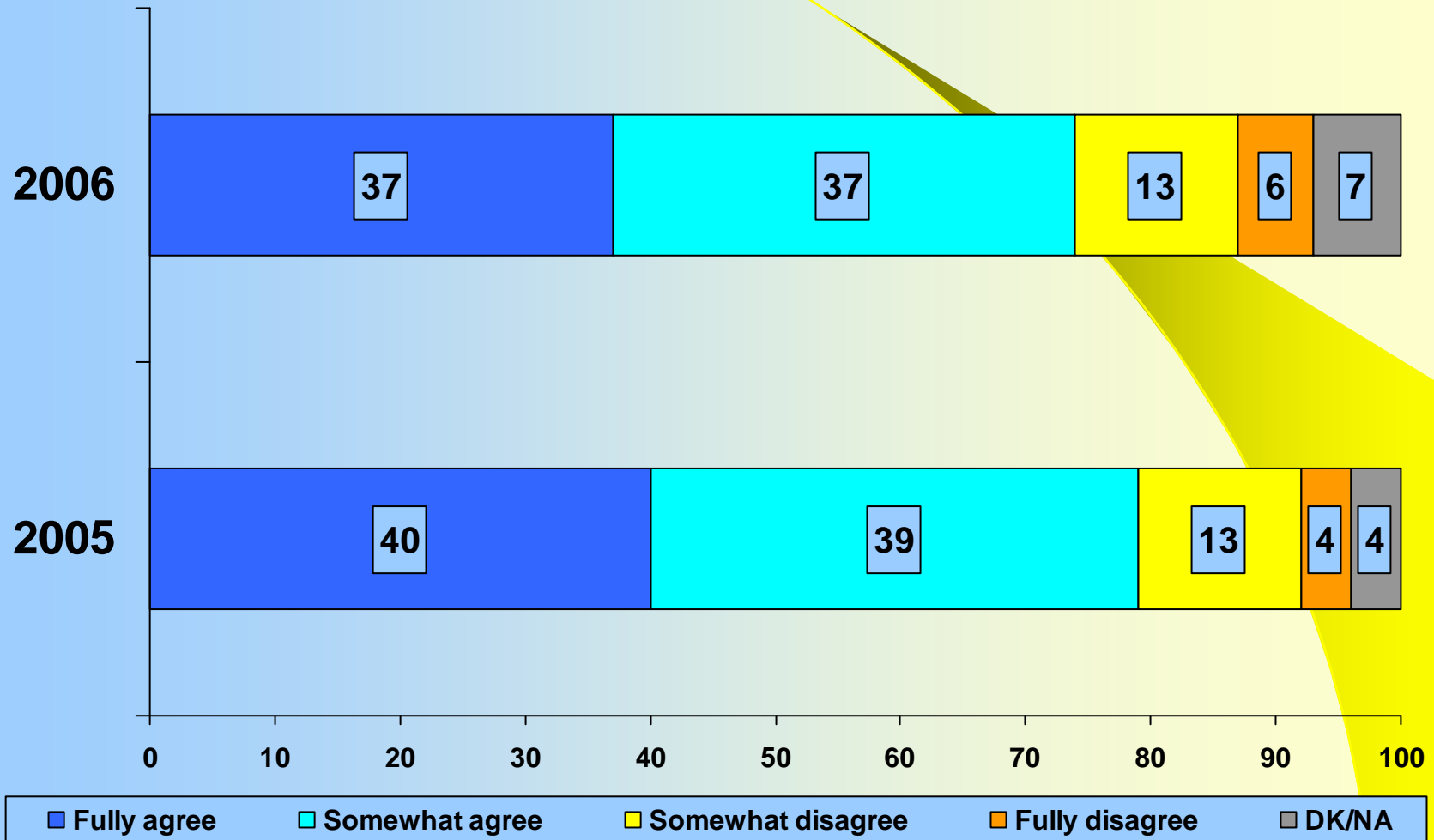
One of questions in the referendum will be devoted to the form of government in the Kyrgyz Republic. Do you think you are well enough informed or not well enough informed to decide on what form of government is most suitable for the Kyrgyz Republic?



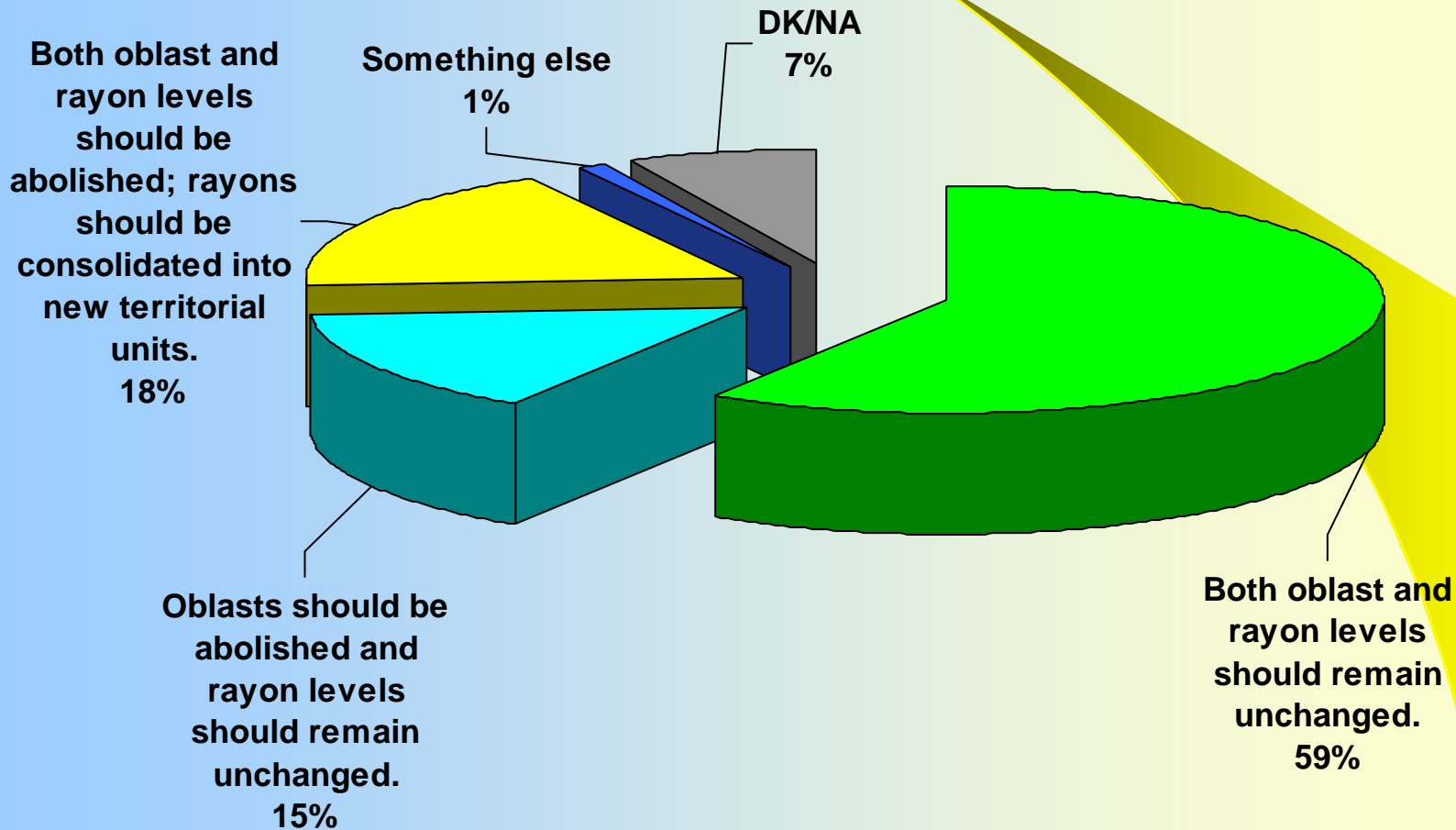
What form of government is best for the Kyrgyz Republic? (Respondents were asked to choose from a list with short descriptions of four forms of government)



**Do you agree or disagree with the following statement:
"It is healthy for the Kyrgyz Republic to have an active opposition."**

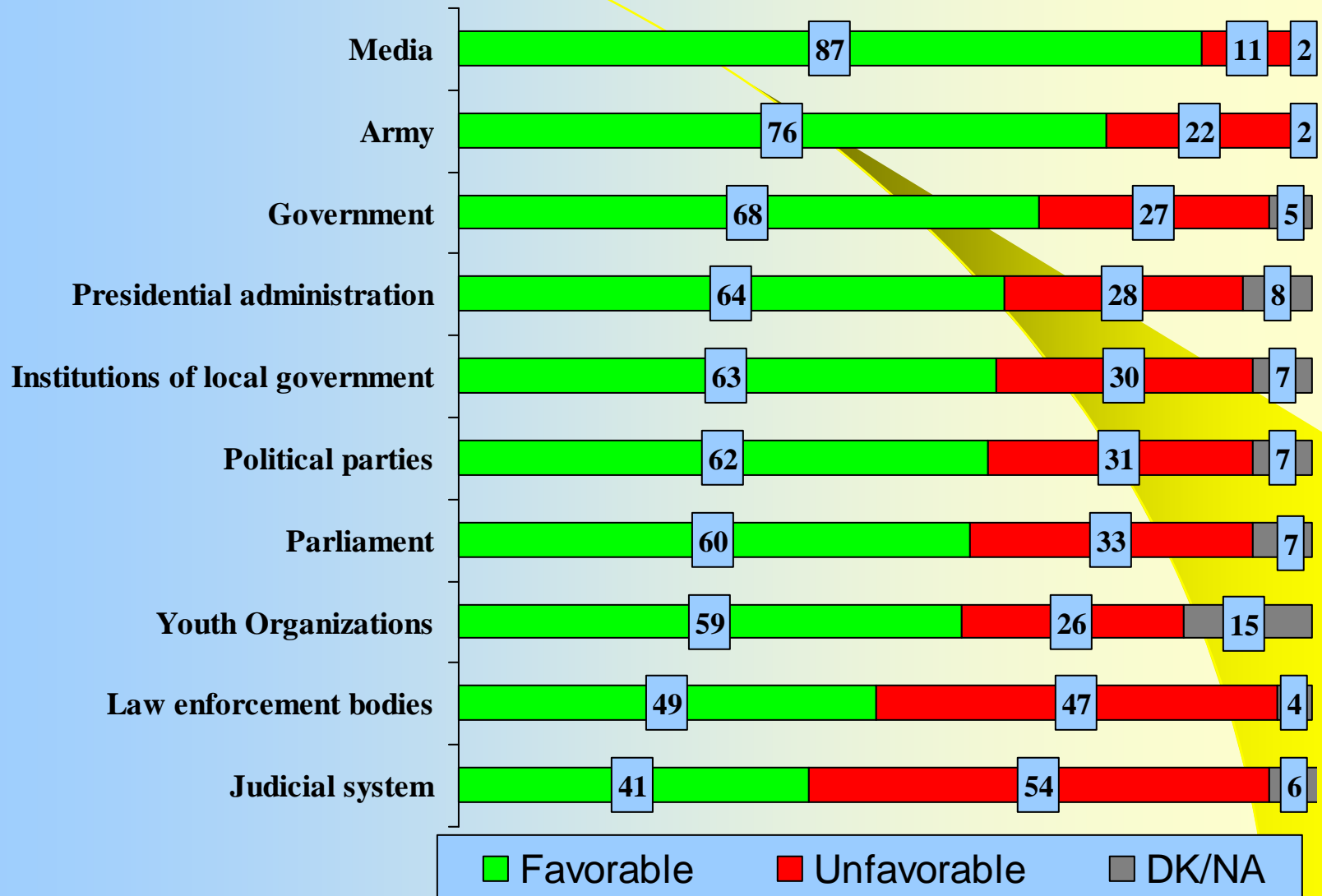


Opinion of population on the issue of amending the existing administrative-territorial structure of the country



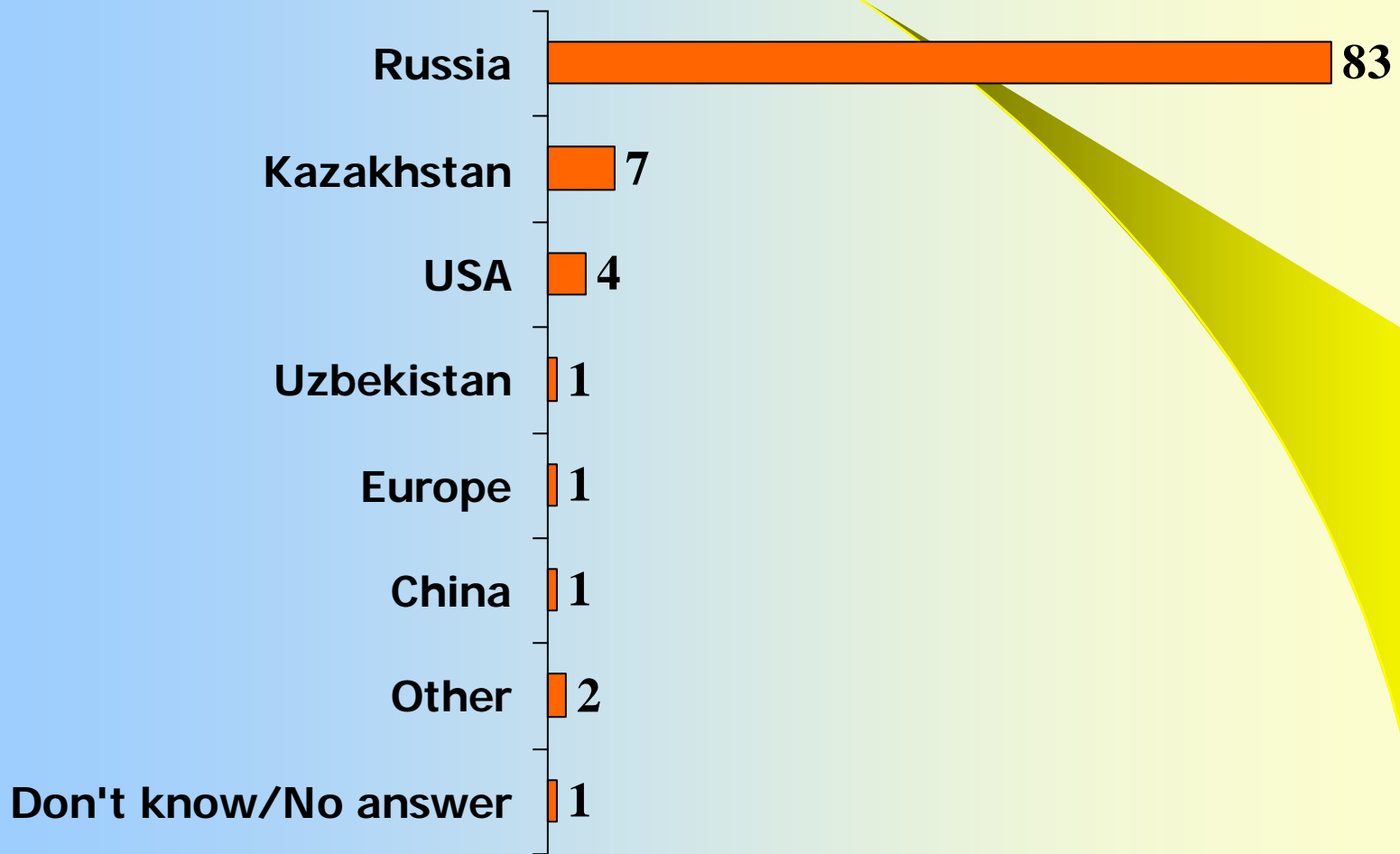
INSTITUTIONS

Confidence in institutions - 2006

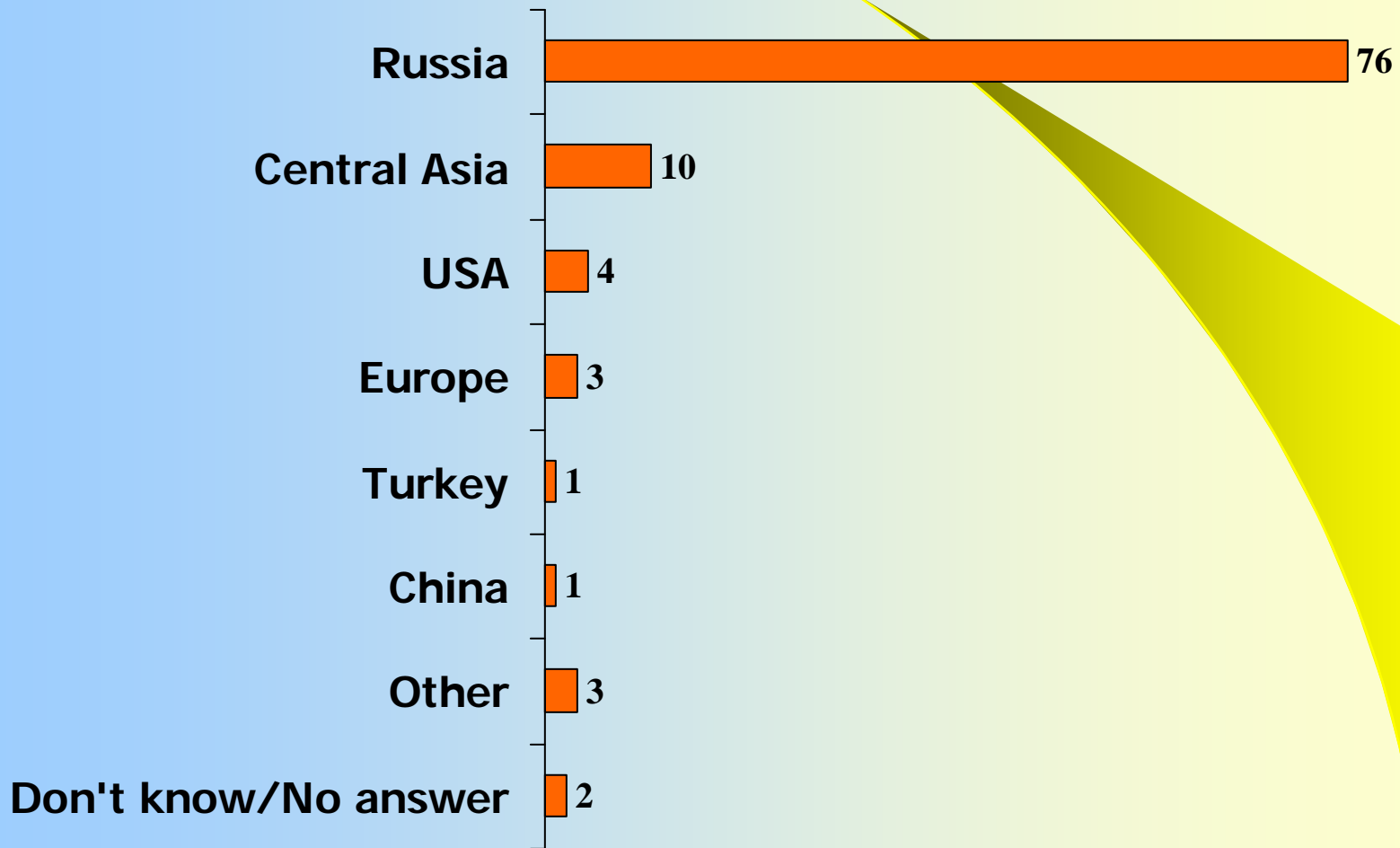


INTERNATIONAL RELATIONS

Which country should the Kyrgyz Republic give priority to in its international relations? (2006)

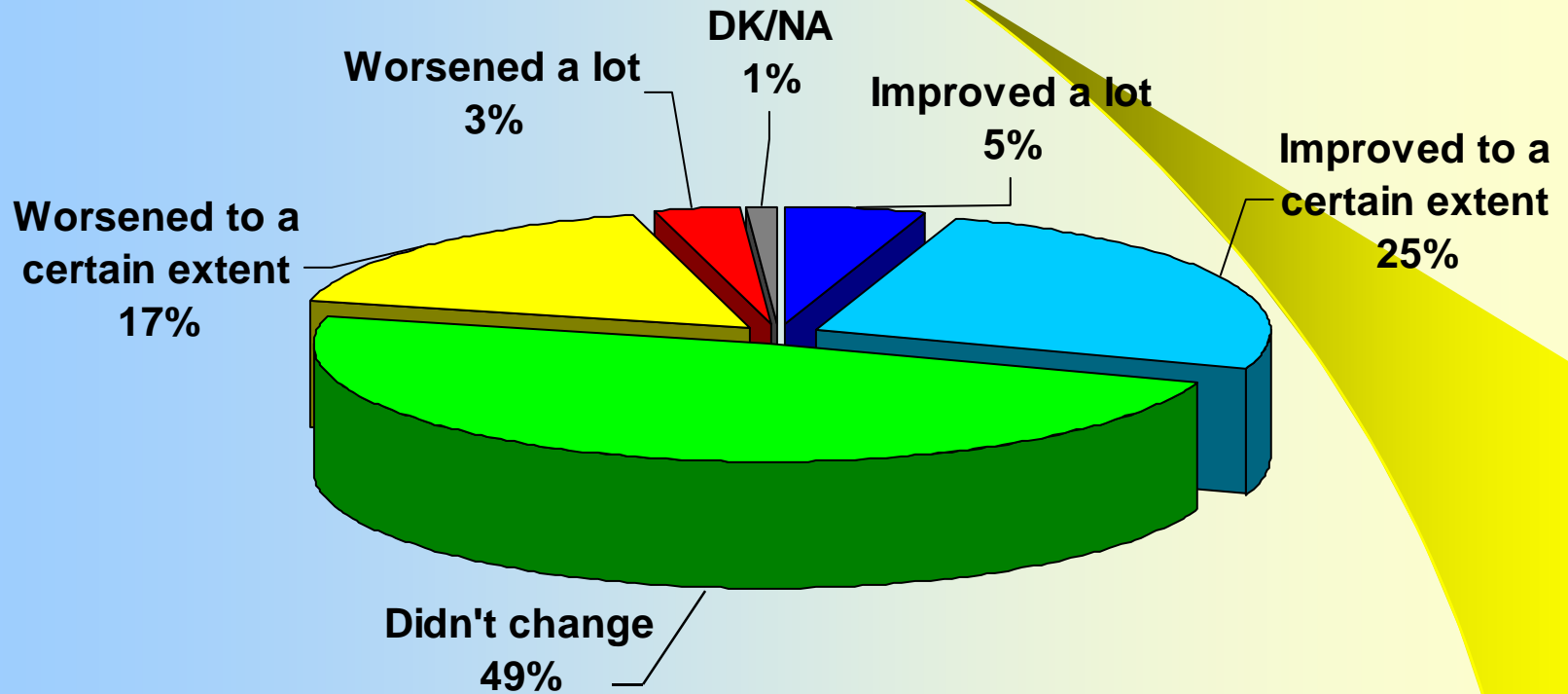


Which country should the Kyrgyz Republic give priority to in its international relations? (2005)



ECONOMY

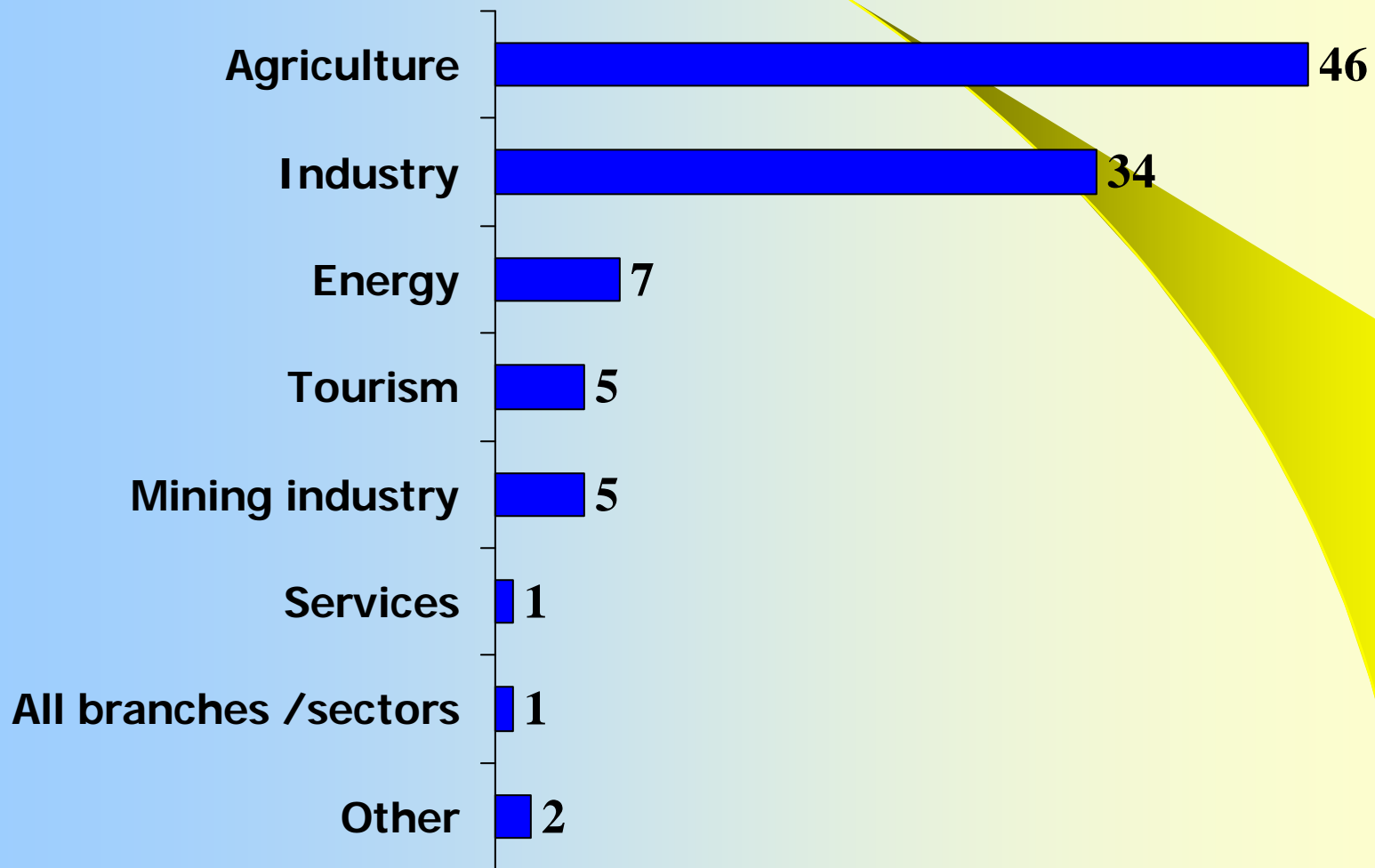
The economic situation in the Kyrgyz Republic after March 24, 2005 ...



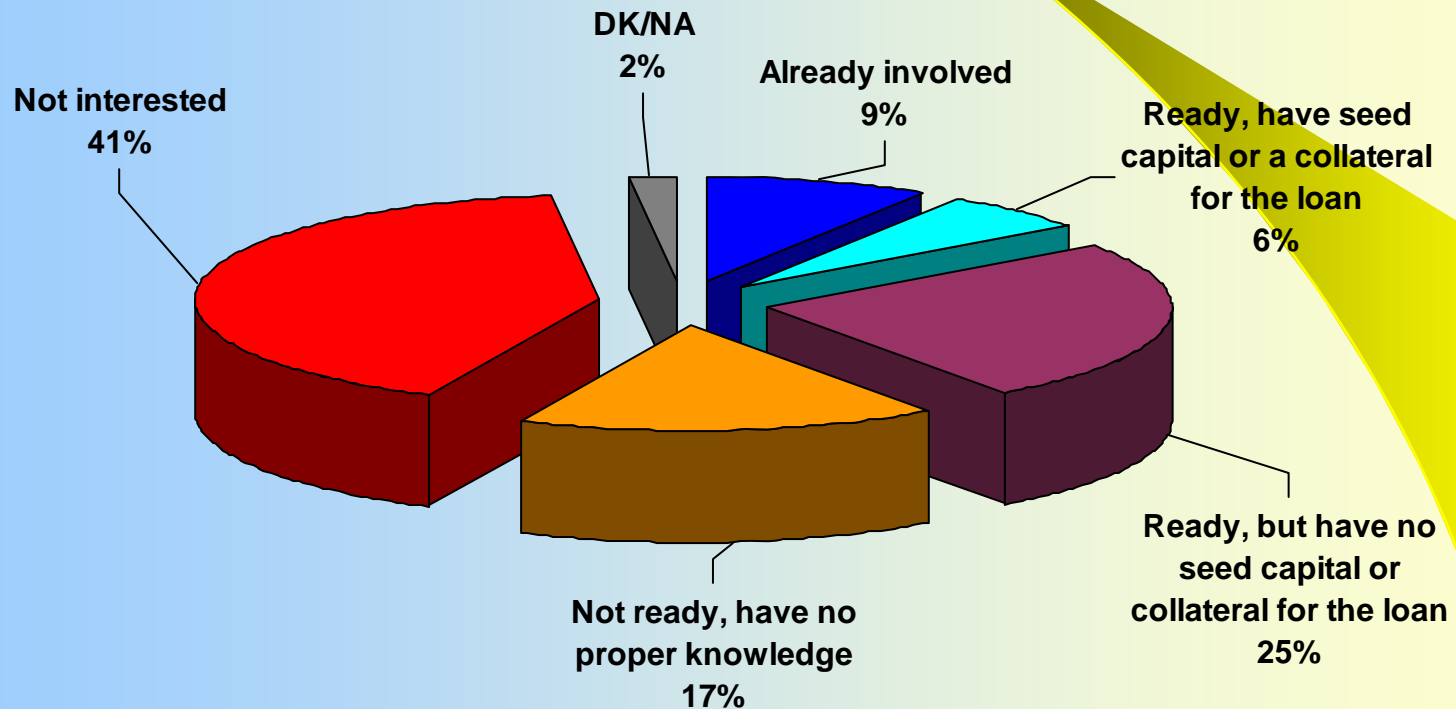
Economic situation

- 30% of respondents say the economy has improved since March 24, 2005.
- 37% of the rural population sees improvement compared to only 18% of the urban population. In the South 44% saw improvement in the economy, while only 17% in the North found that the economy had improved.
- Russians are most negative about economic development and only 8% saw improvement over the last year. This may explain why Russians are more pessimistic about the direction in which the country is heading. (68% say wrong direction).

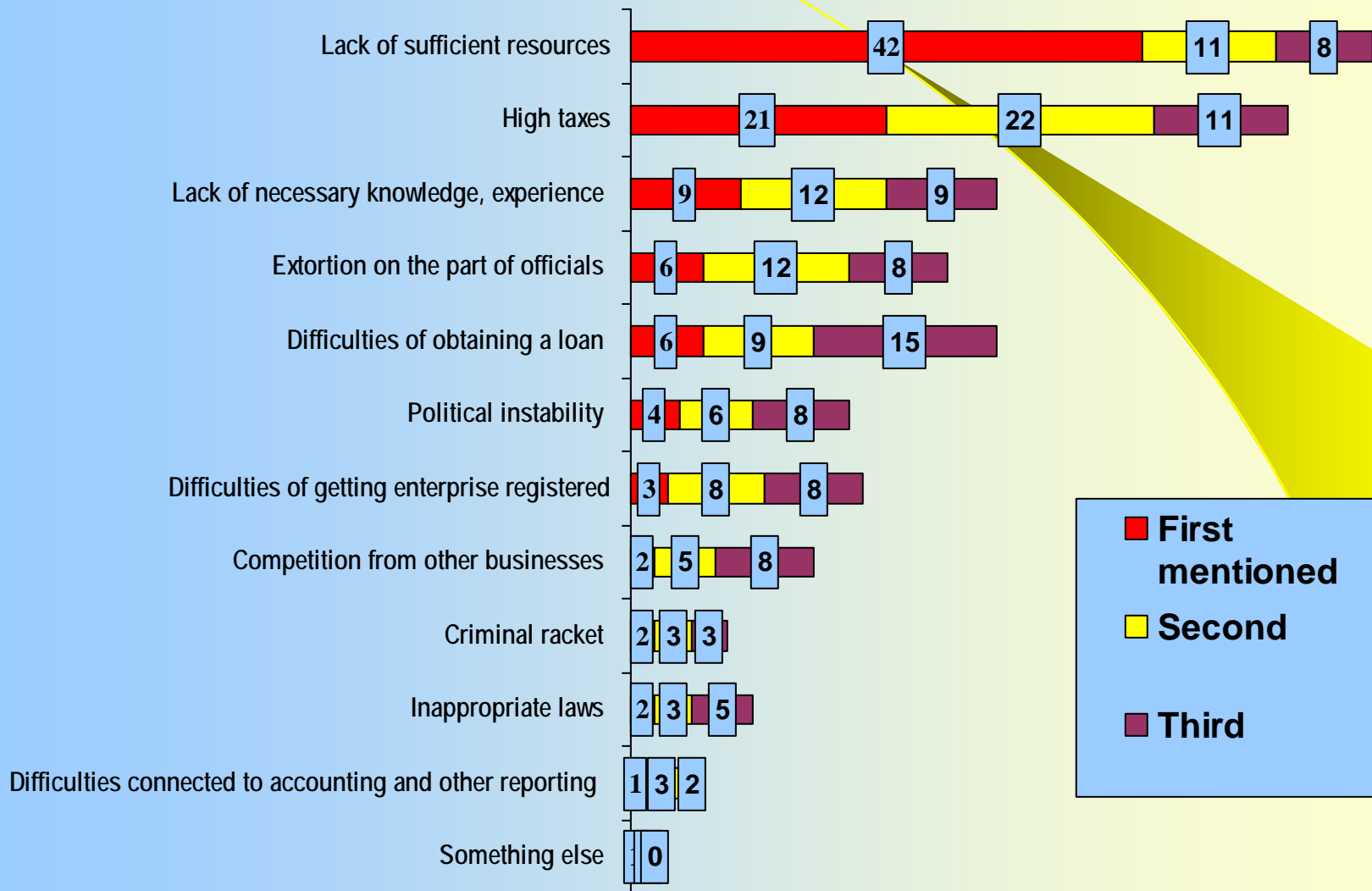
In your opinion, what sector should have priority in development of the national economy?



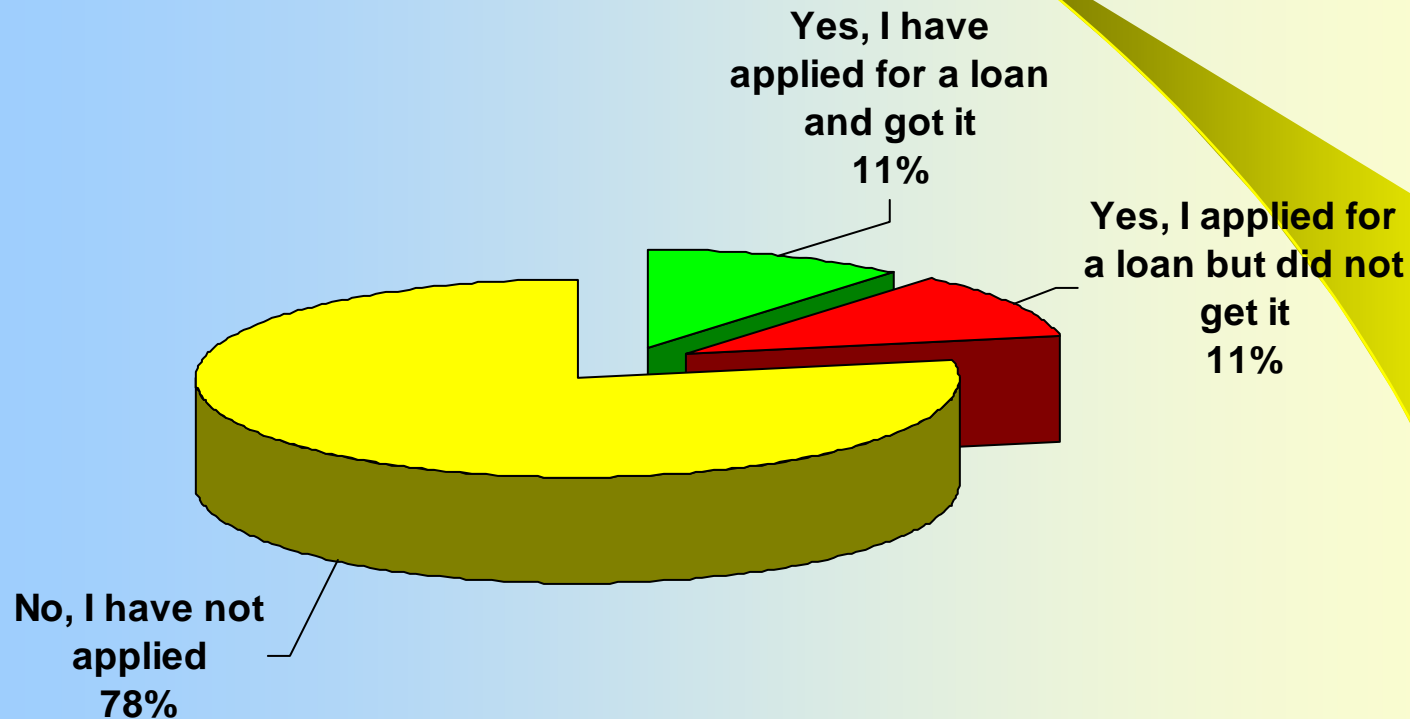
Readiness of population to get involved in entrepreneurial activities



Which basic difficulties prevent you from being engaged in business in the Kyrgyz Republic? (Choose the three most important issues)

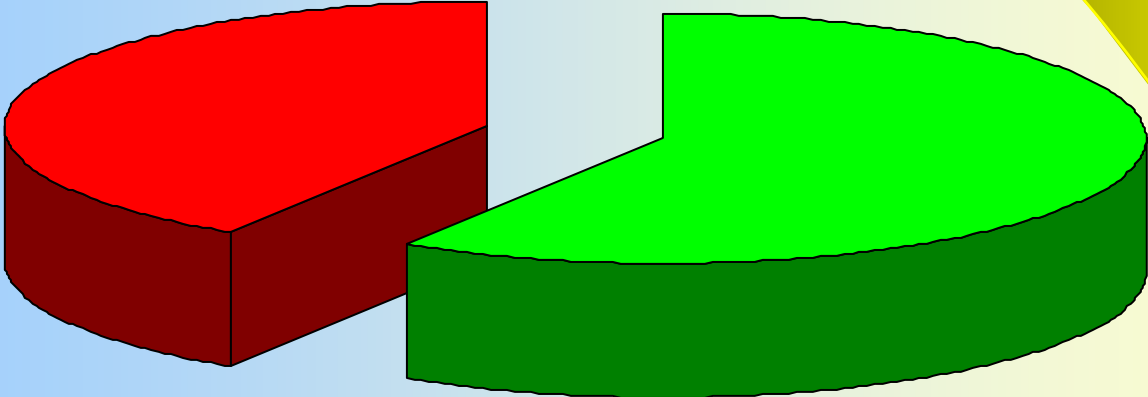


Have you ever applied for a loan?



Has your family been granted a plot of land?

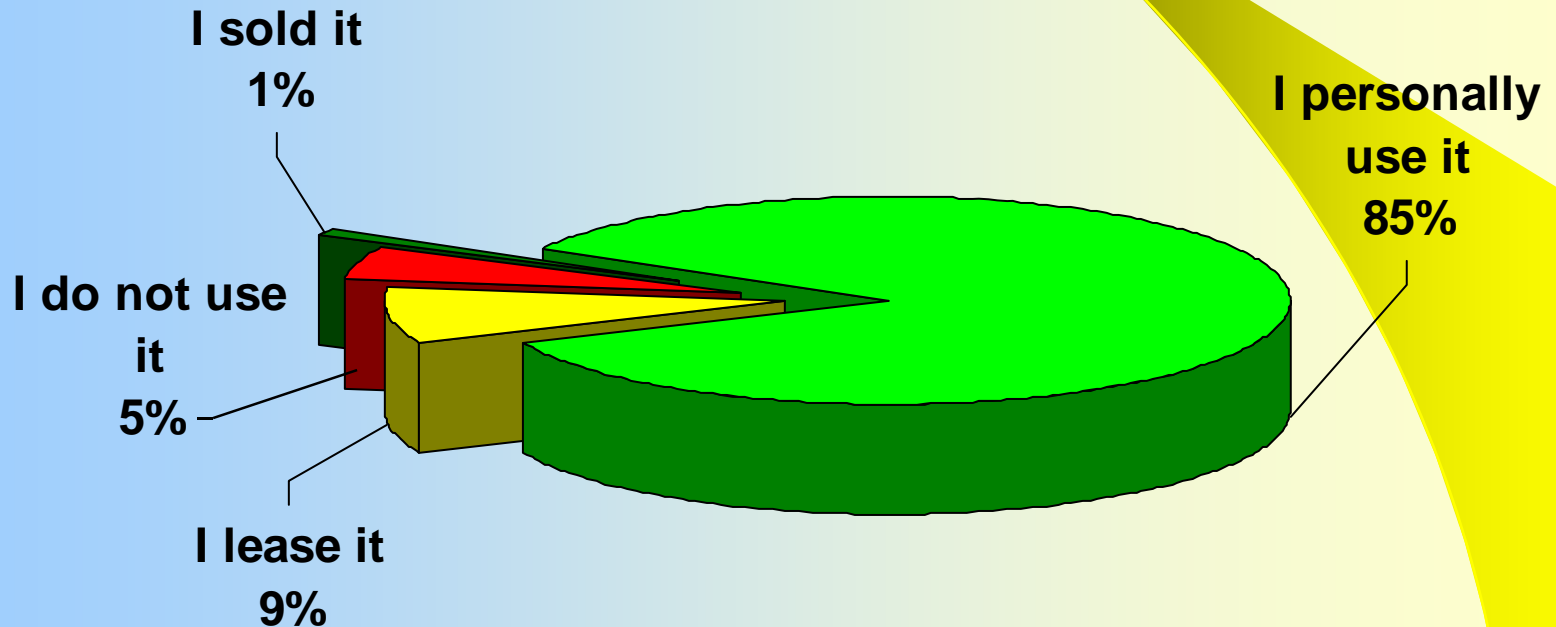
No
41%



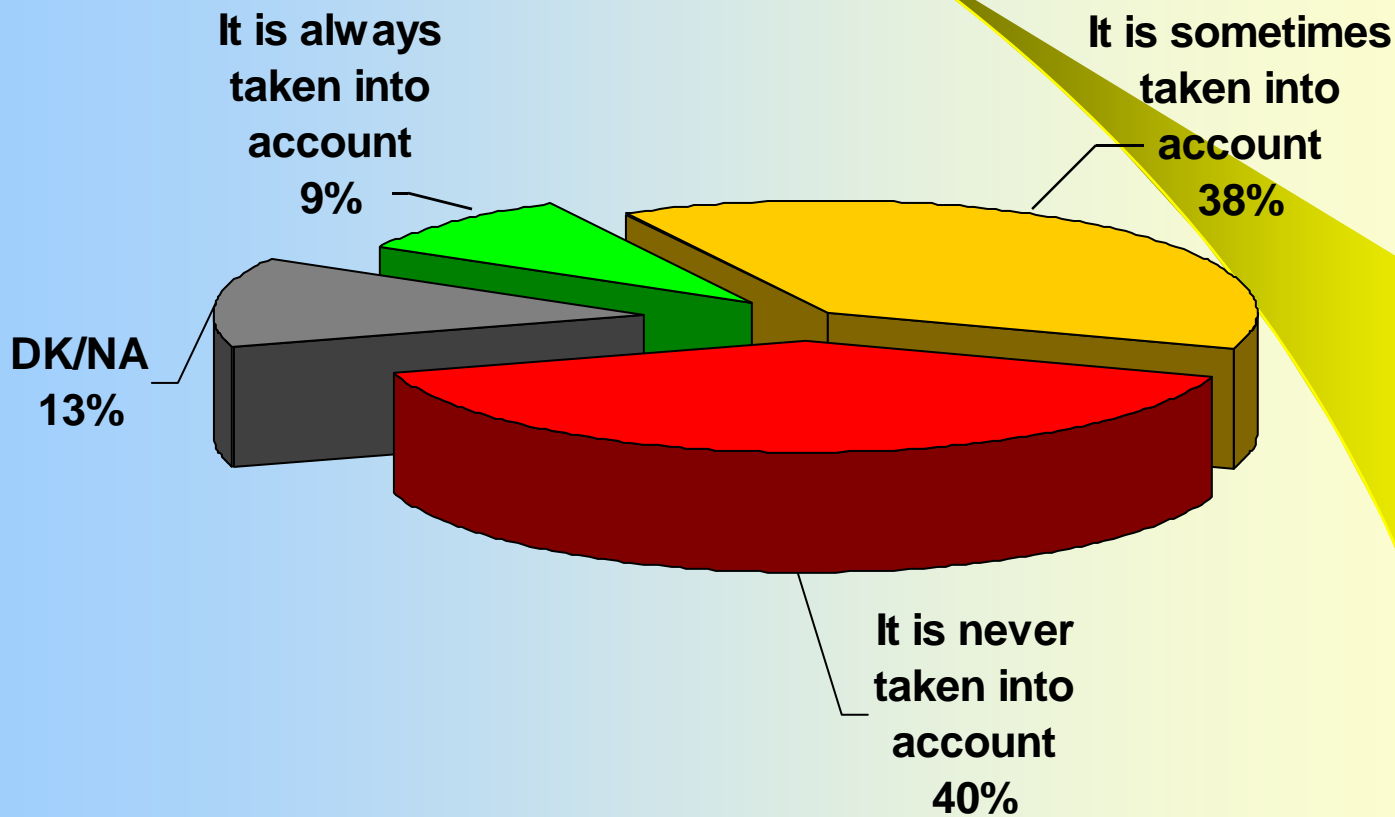
Yes
59%

How do you use your plot of land?

(respondents whose families were granted a plot of land N=886)

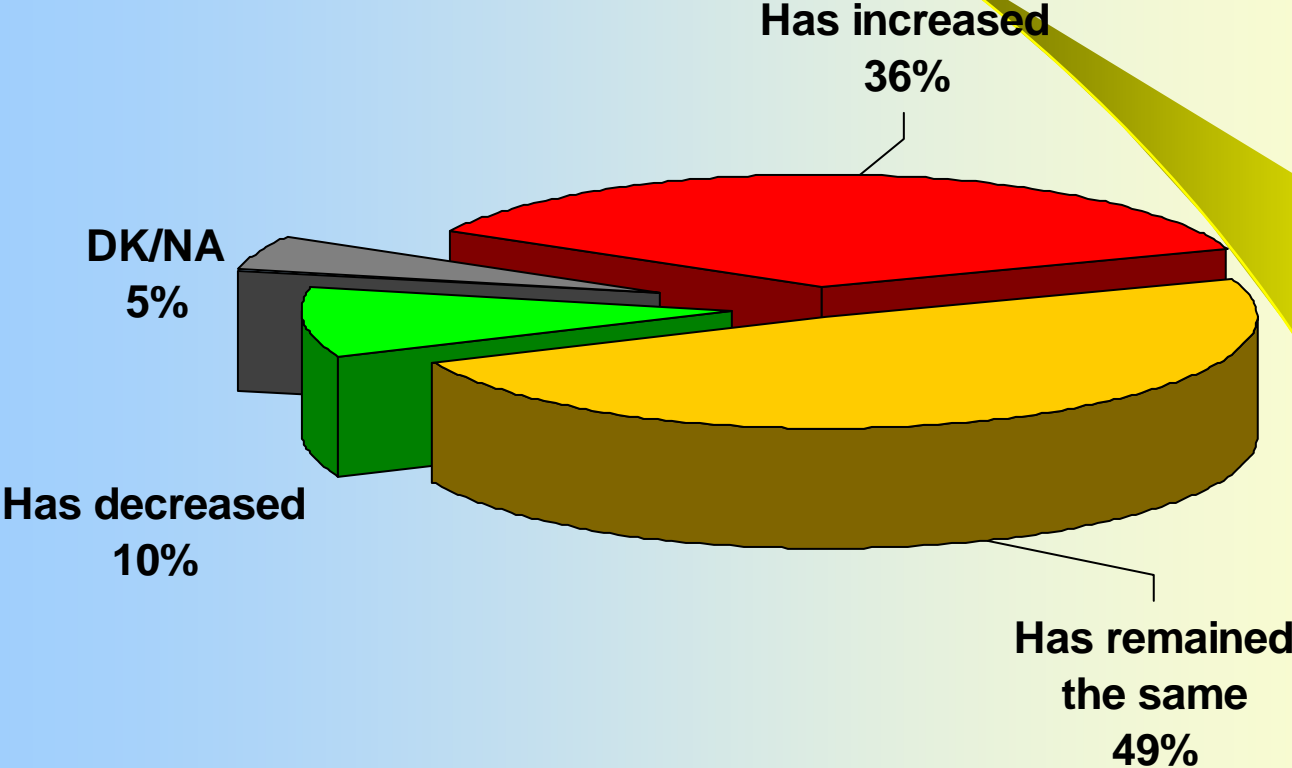


Is the opinion of the population taken into account by institutions of local government when they make local decisions?

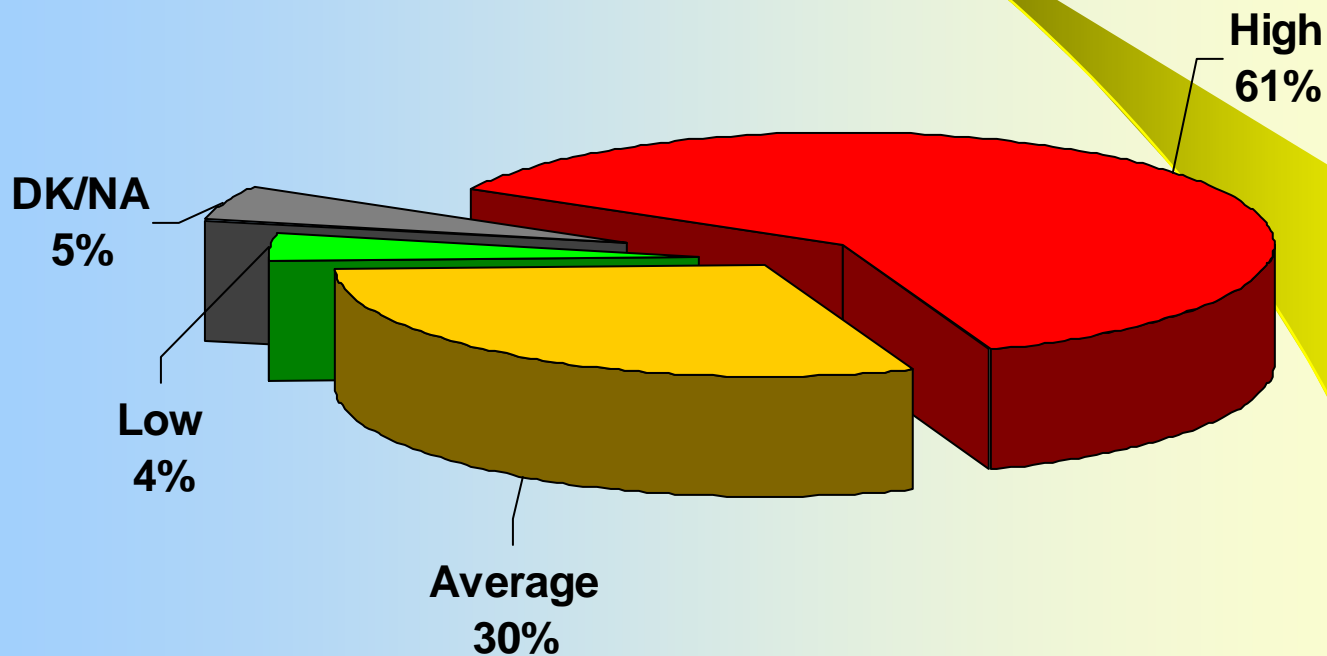


CORRUPTION

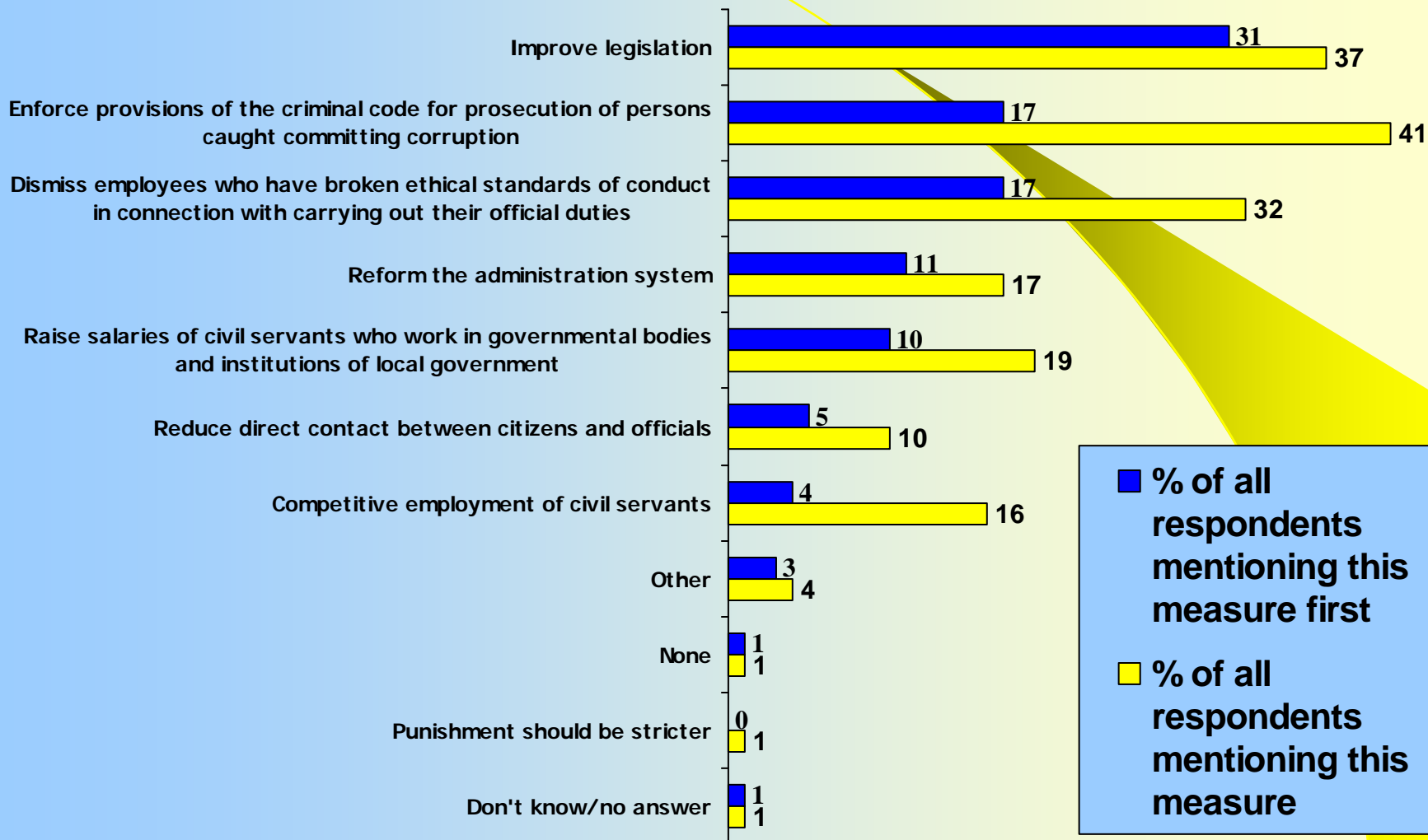
After the March 24, 2005 events corruption in the Kyrgyz Republic...



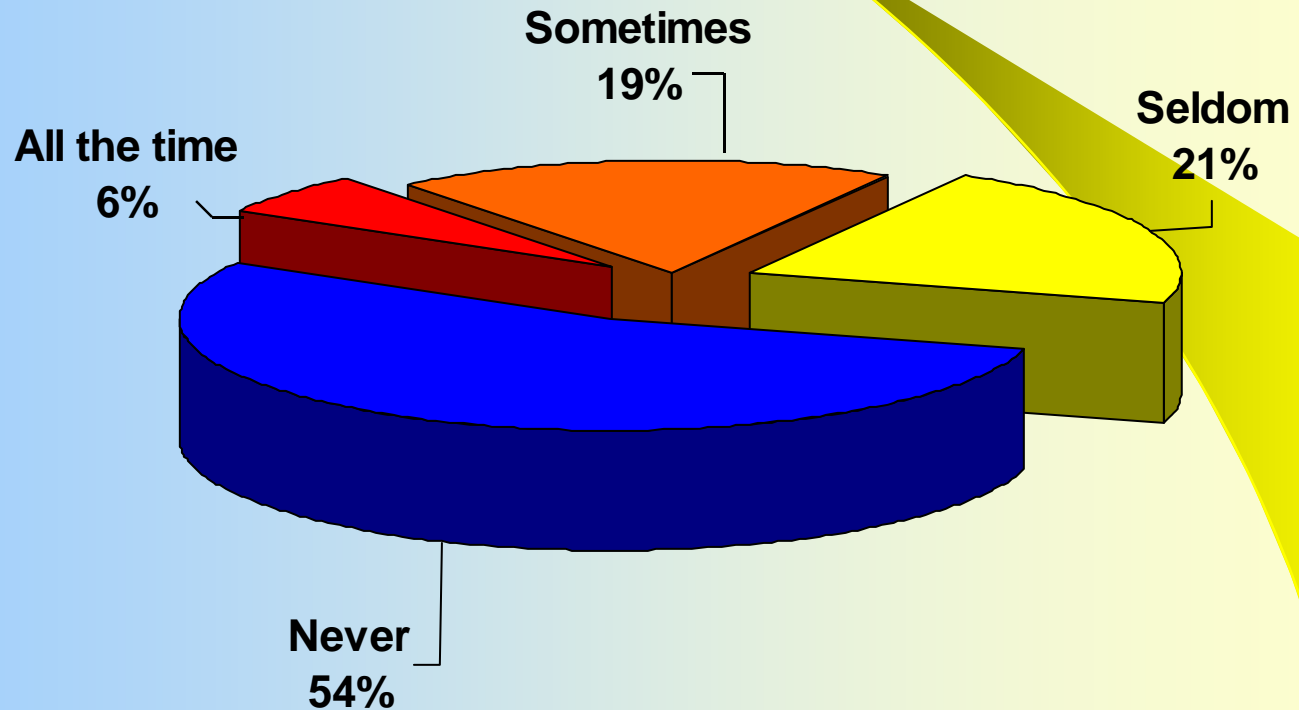
Assess the current level of corruption in the Kyrgyz Republic.



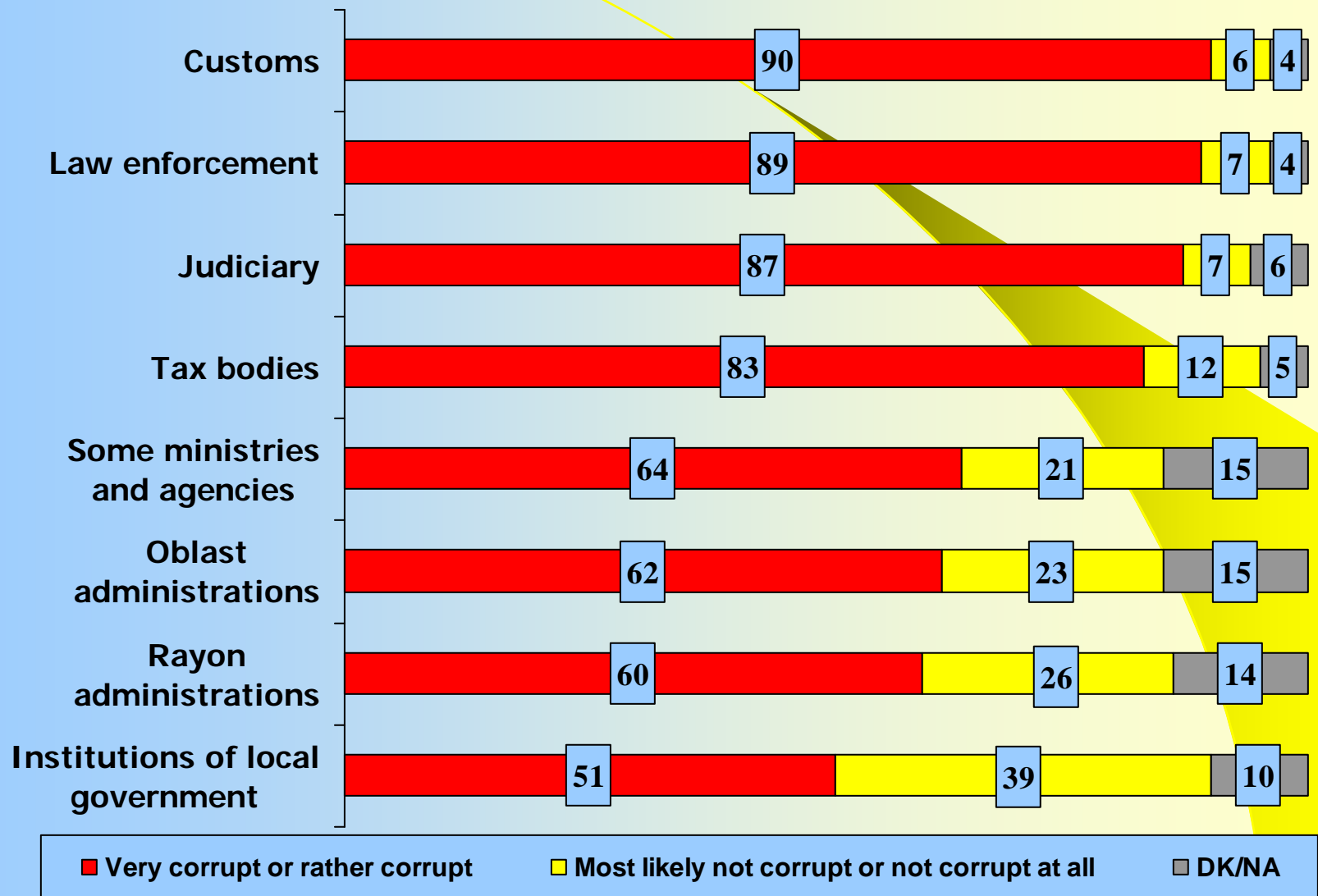
What measures should be undertaken to fight corruption in the Kyrgyz Republic?



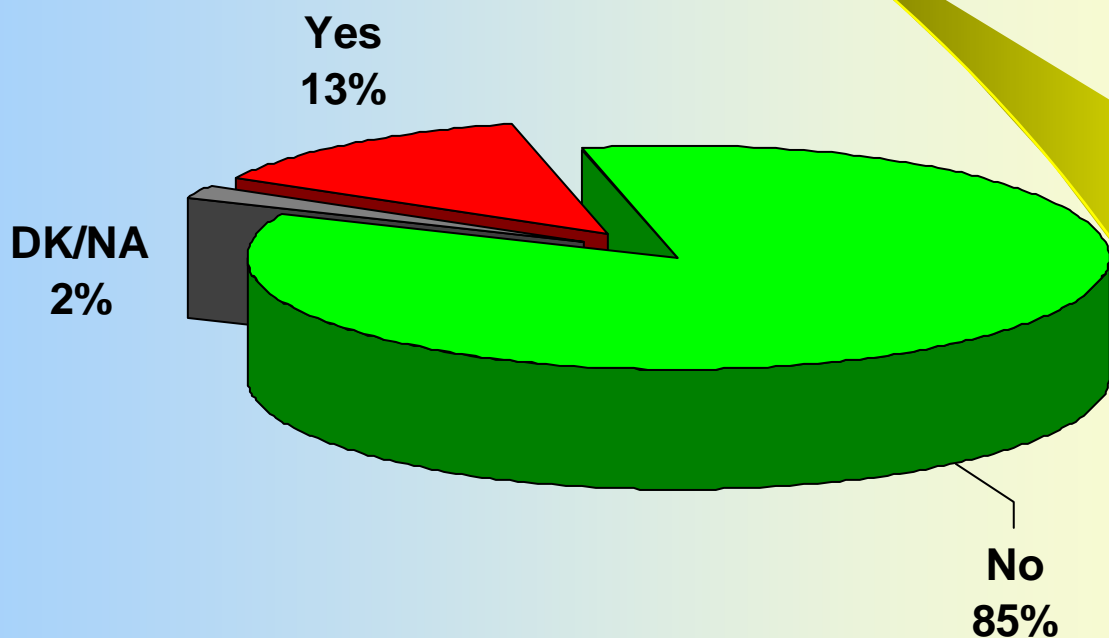
Have you personally faced corruption in dealing with the government?



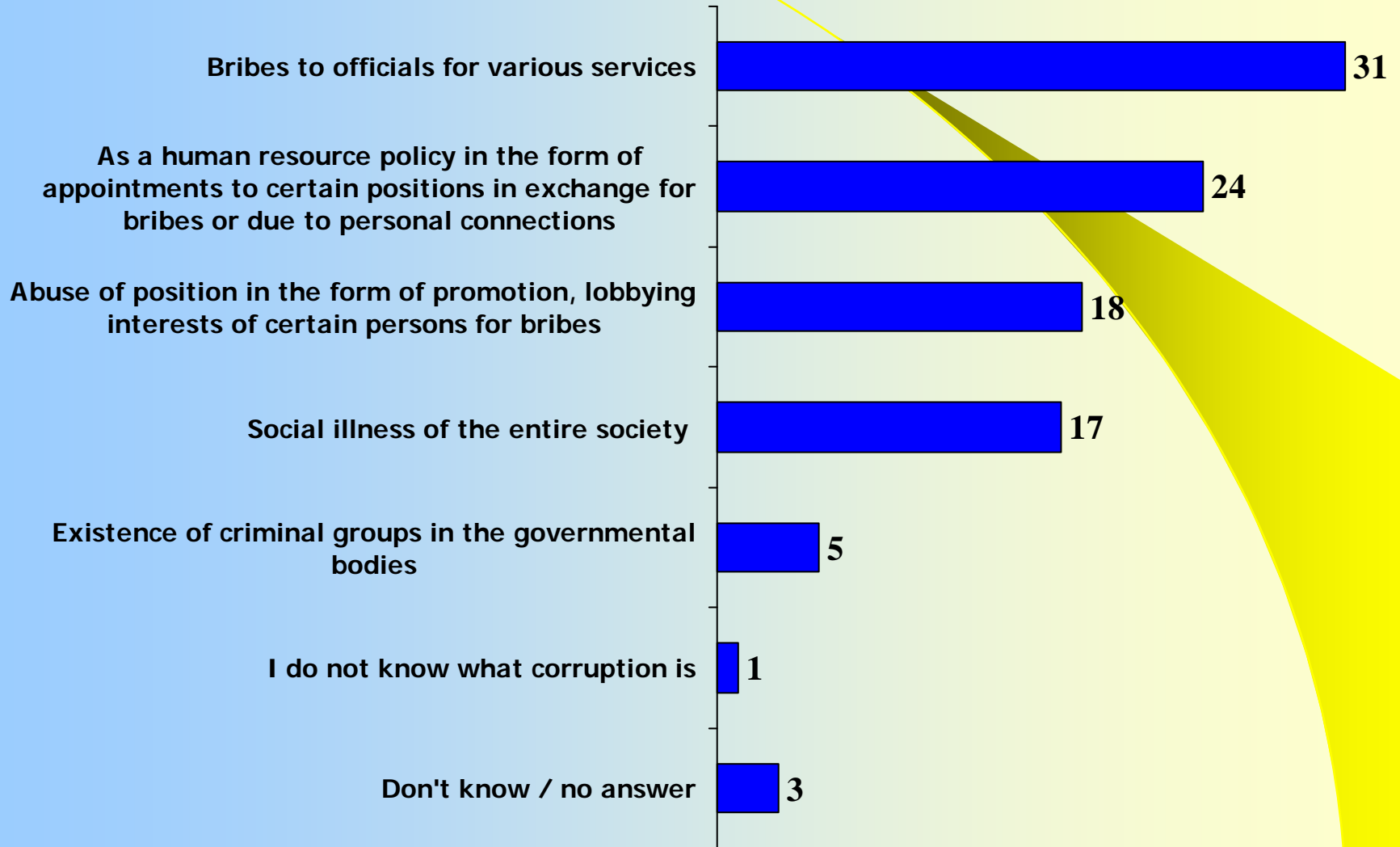
Perceived level of corruption of institutions



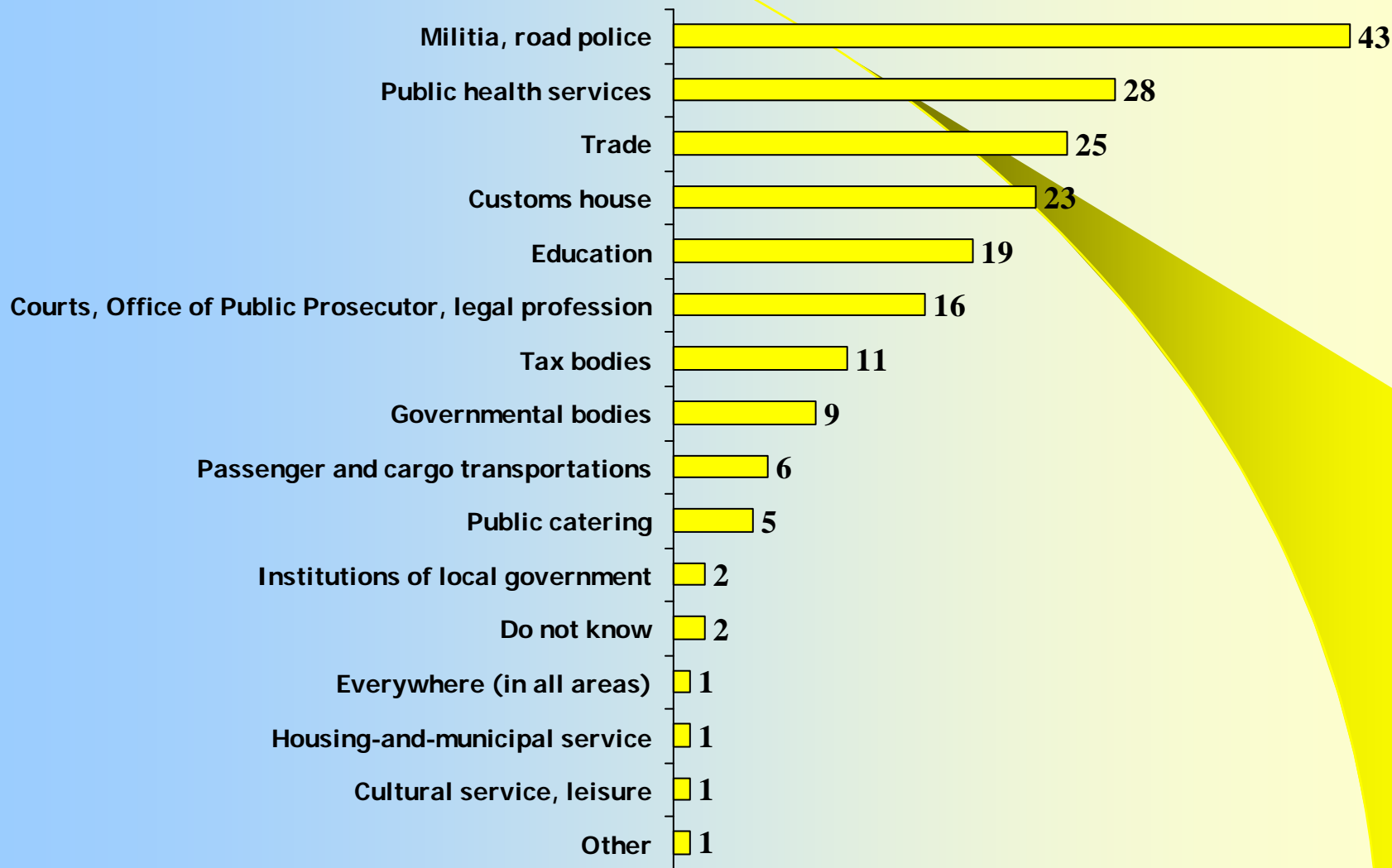
Have you personally had to give money or gifts to various officials after the March 24, 2005 events in order to solve issues connected to business activity?



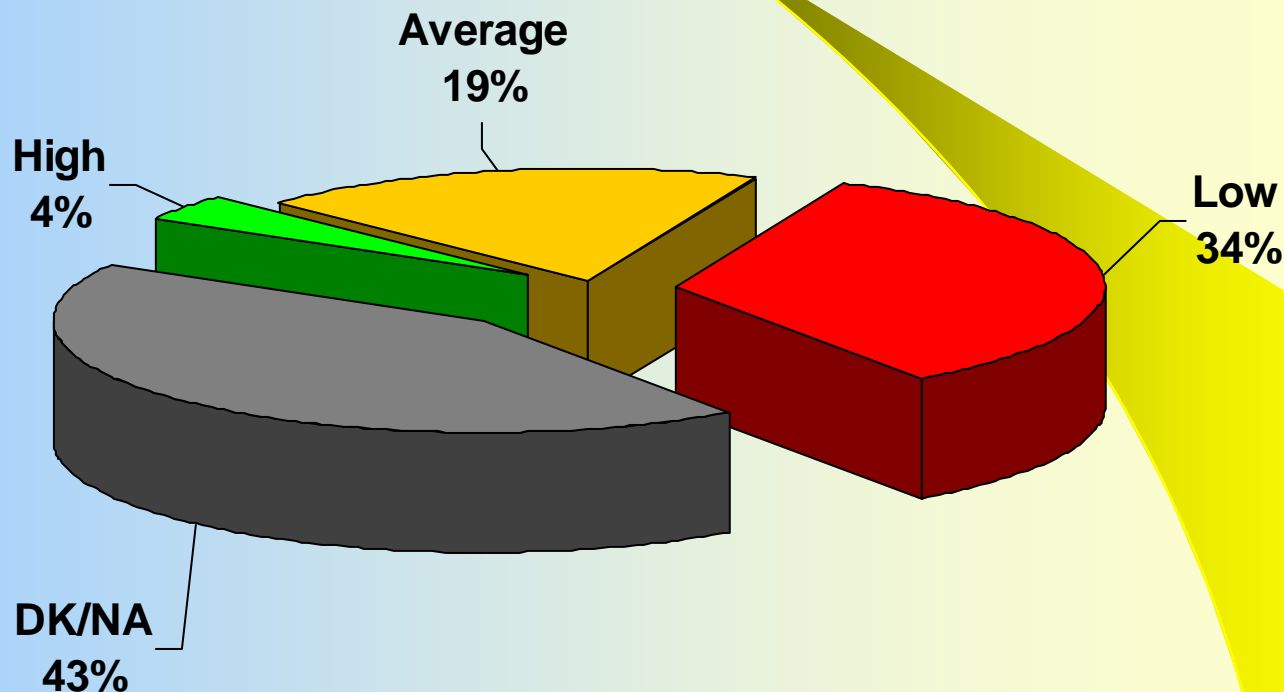
In your opinion, in which ways does corruption manifest itself in society?



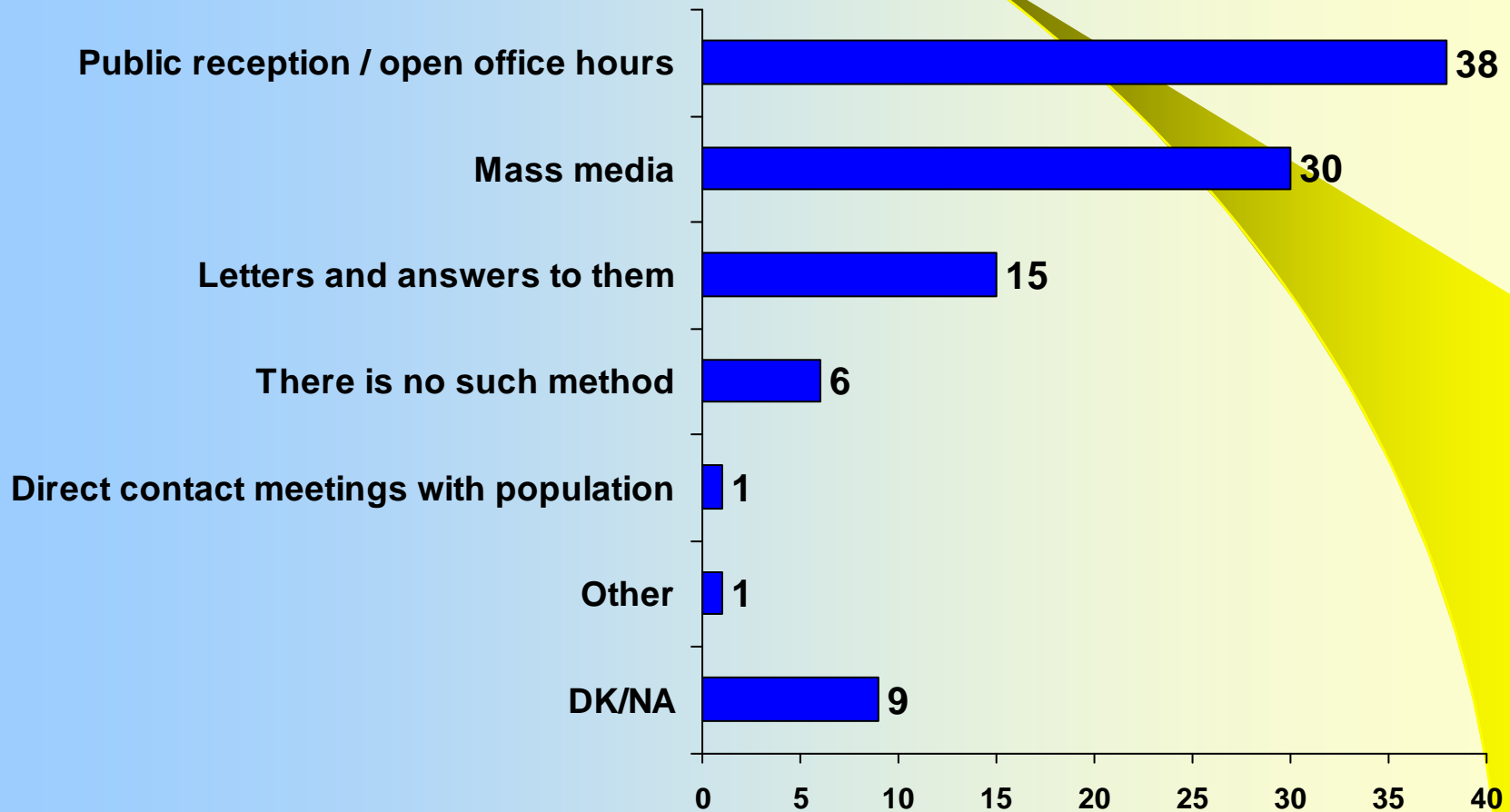
In what areas of life are paid services most often rendered informally, bypassing official accounting procedures? (% of all respondents mentioning this issue - two answers allowed)



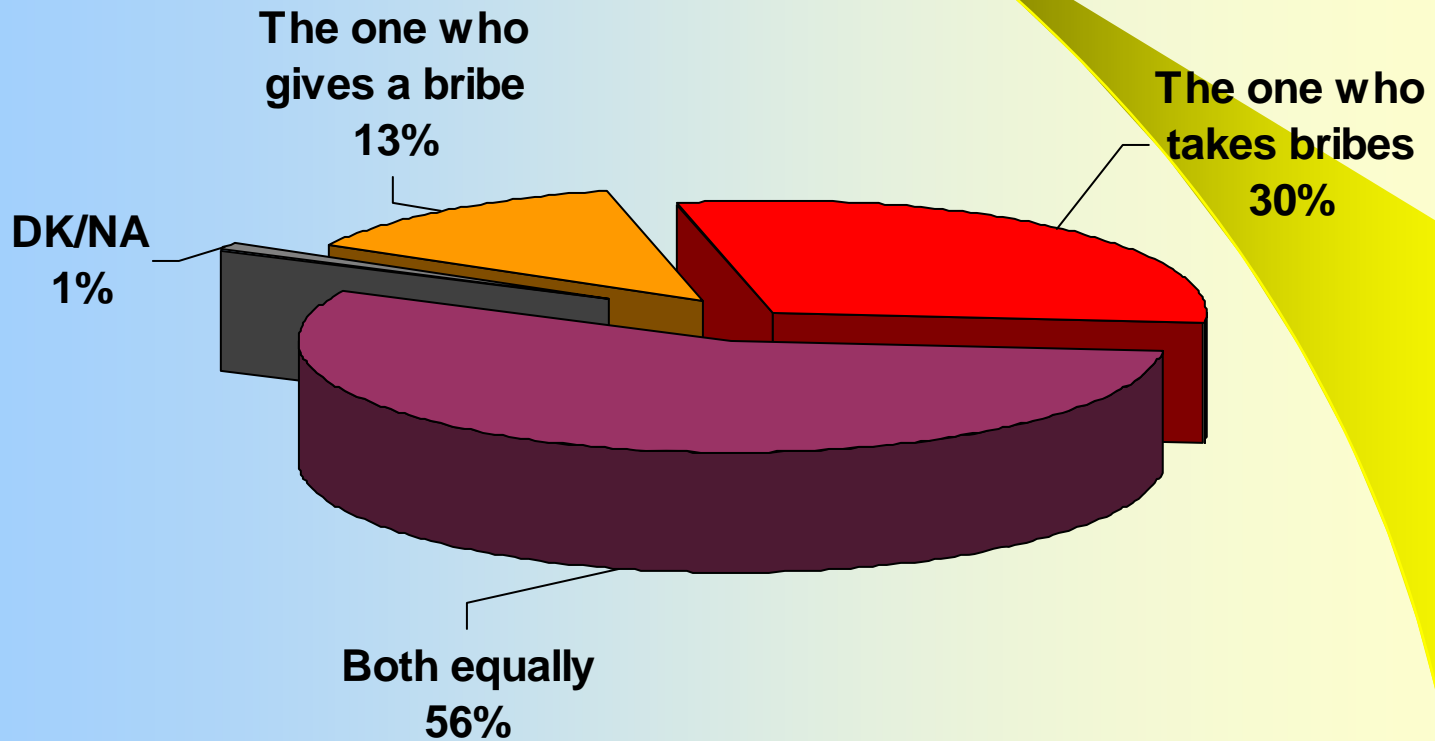
How do you assess the overall performance in combating corruption of “telephone hotlines” in official bodies, institutions and local government and other organizations?



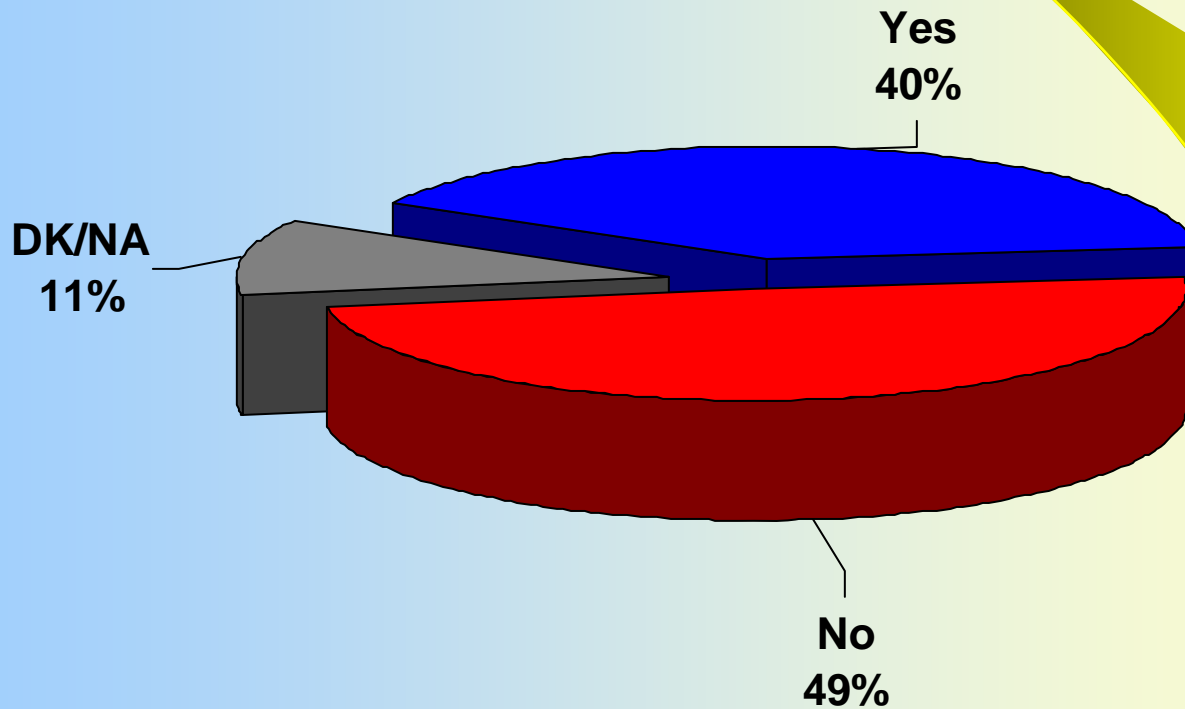
What method is most effective and convenient in setting up communication channels between citizens and state bodies/officials?



In your opinion, who promotes corruption?

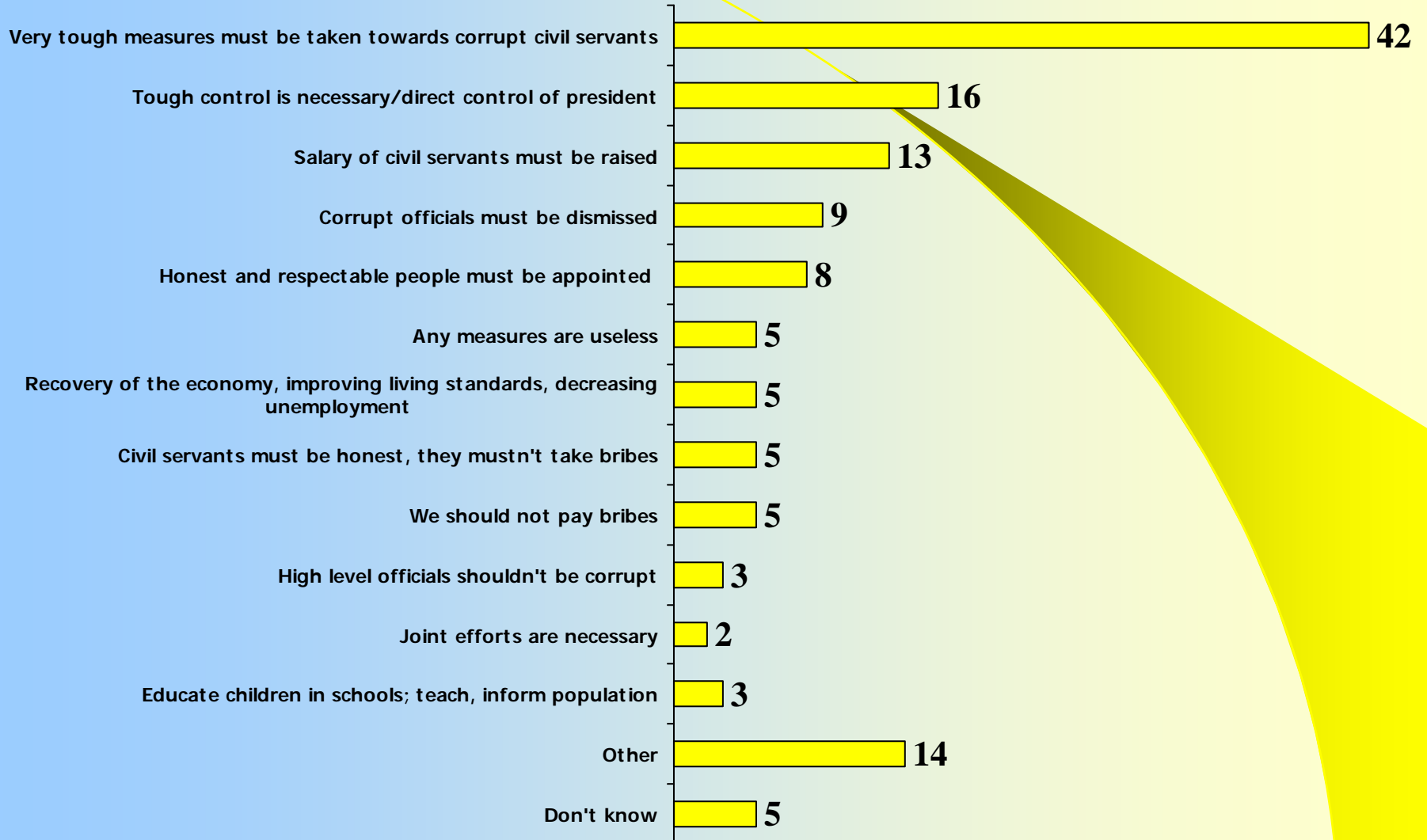


Do you believe that corruption in the Kyrgyz Republic can be eradicated?



In your opinion, what measures would promote eradication of corruption in the Kyrgyz Republic?

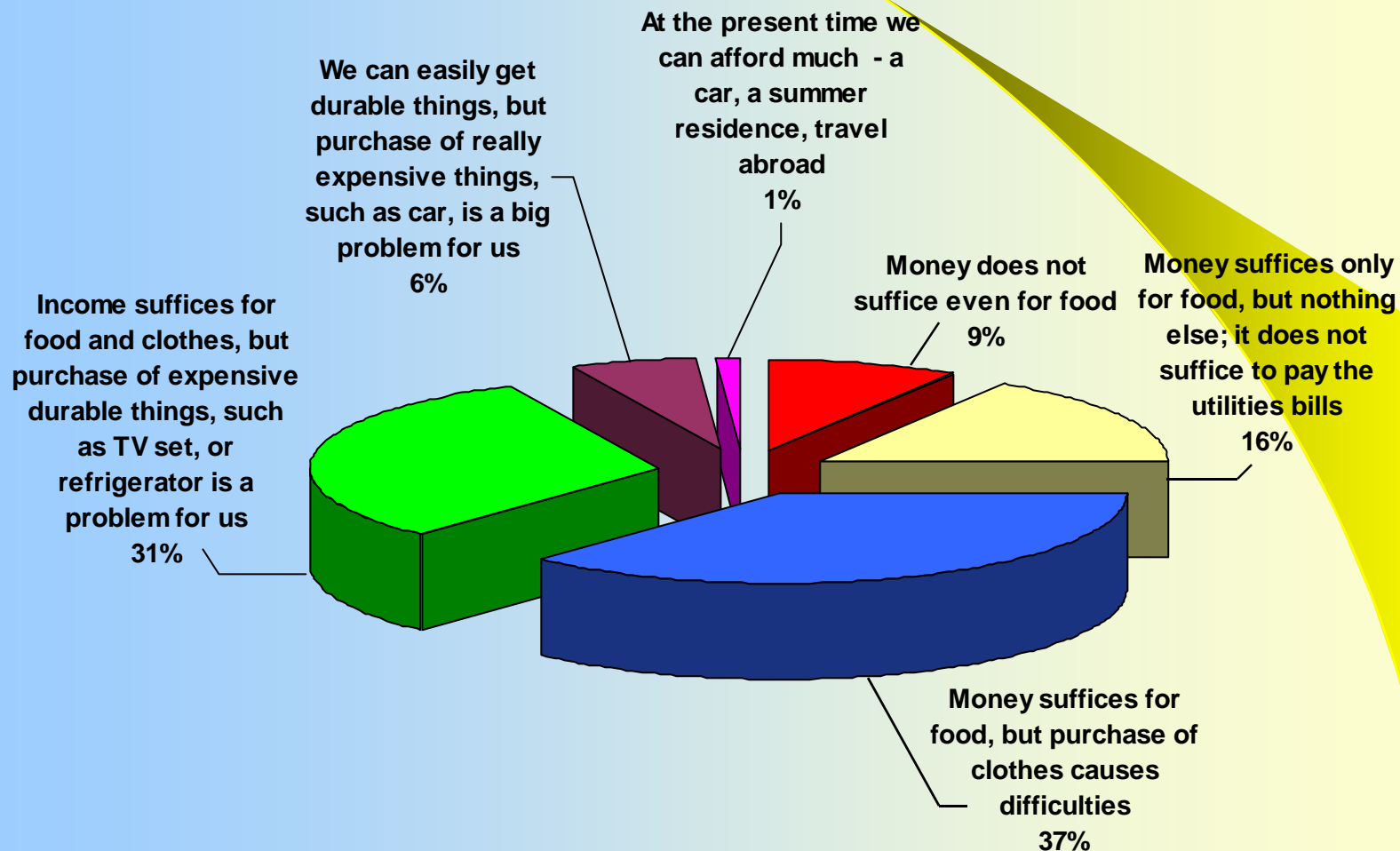
(% of all respondents mentioning this issue - two answers allowed)



VALUES

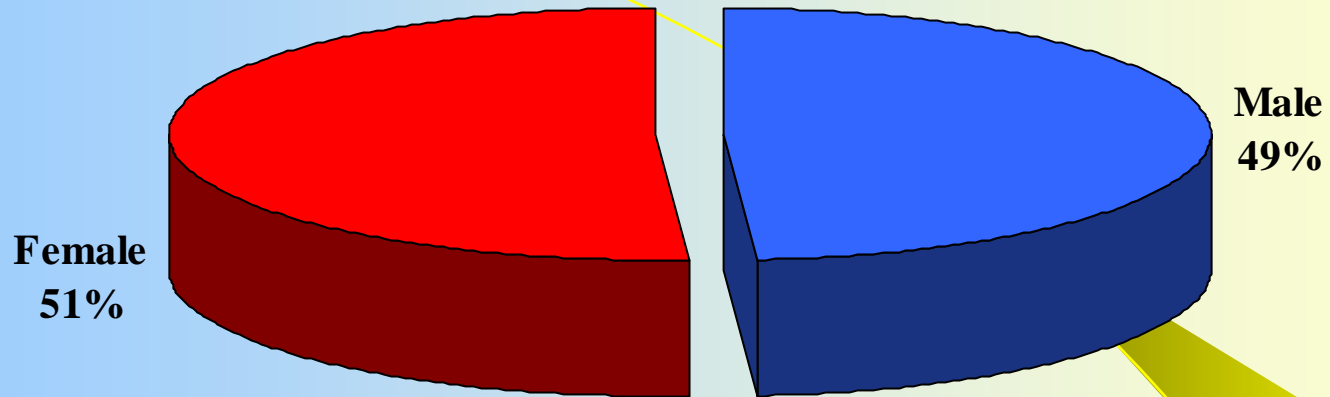
MEANS OF SUBSISTENCE

Estimation of financial position of households

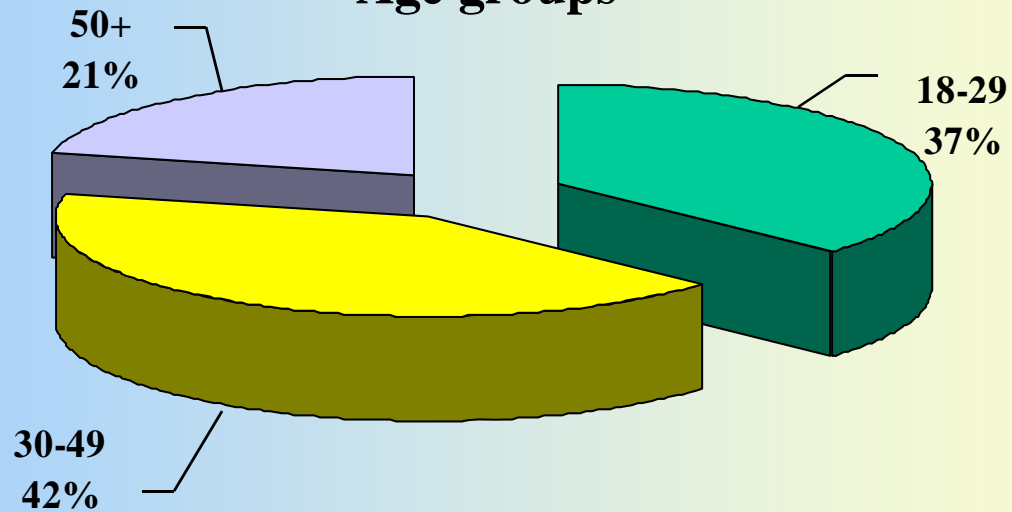


SOCIO-DEMOGRAPHICS

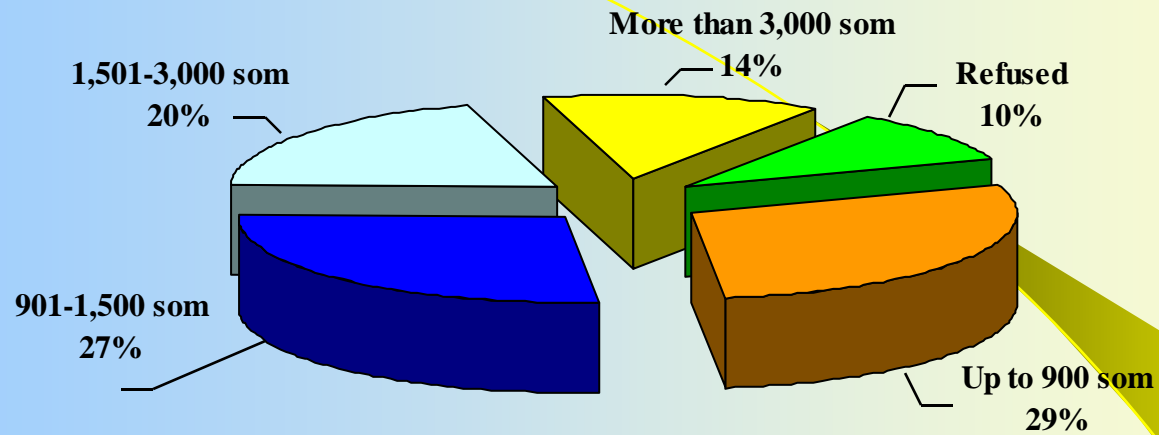
Gender



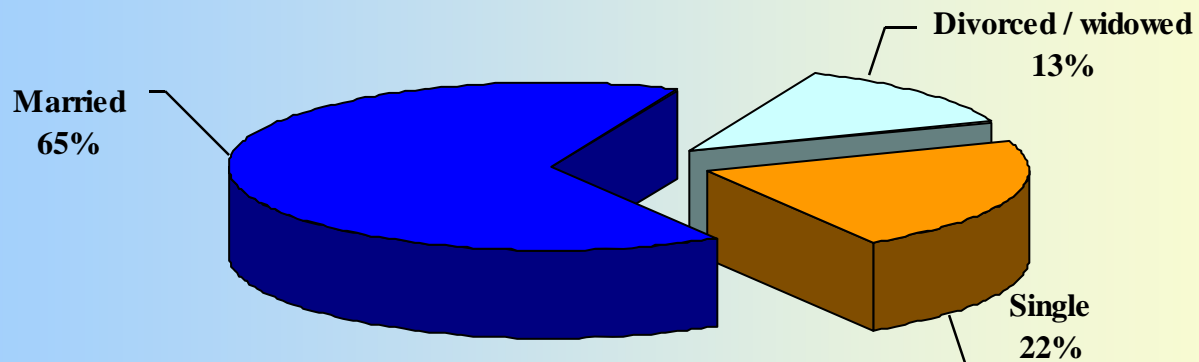
Age groups



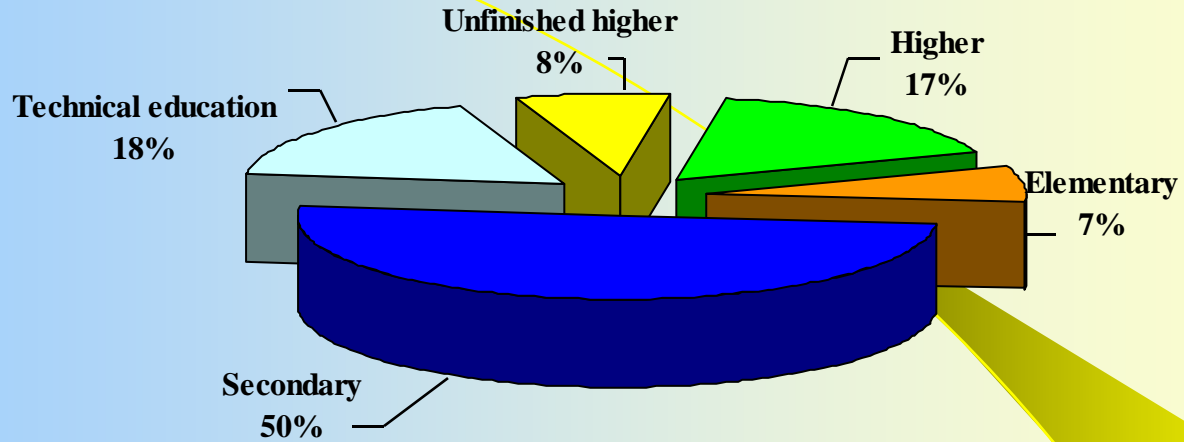
Household income



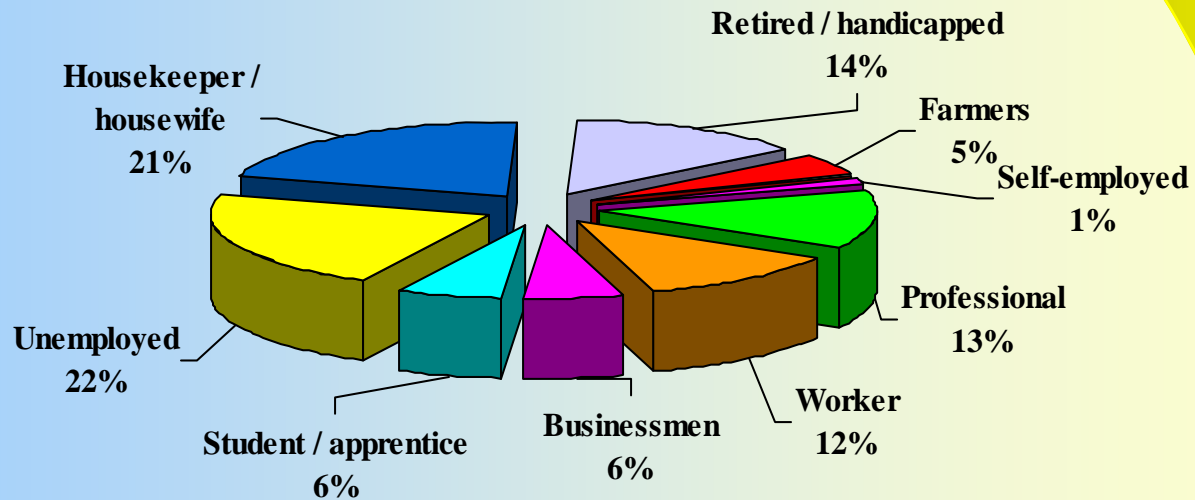
Marital status



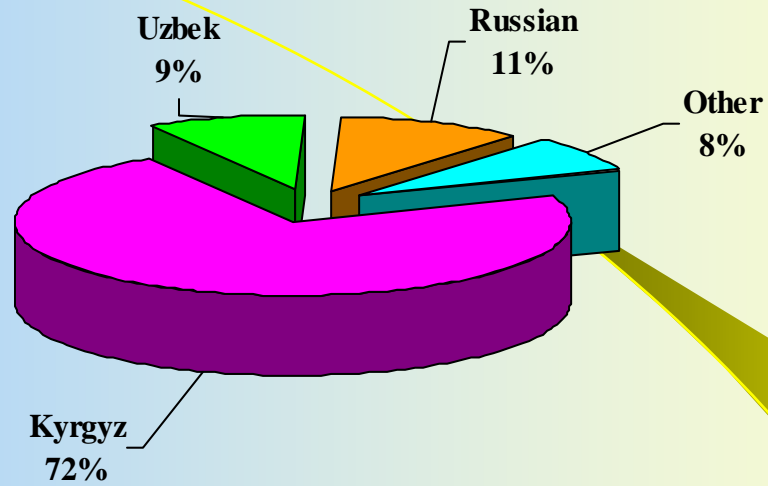
Education



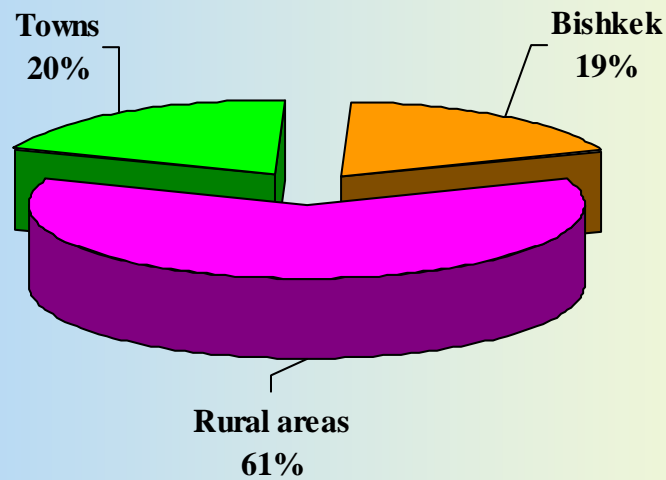
Occupation



Nationality



Size of settlement



Regions

