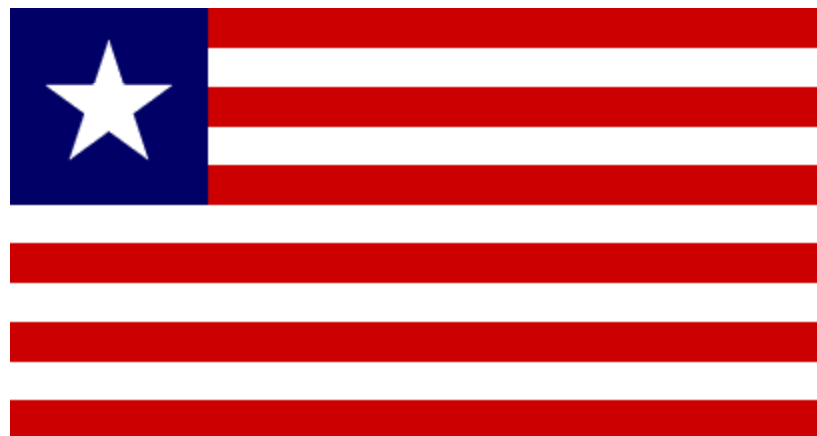# Republic of Liberia Public Opinion Poll

Margibi County, July 13-14, 2008
Grand Bassa County, July 15-16, 2008
Nimba County, July 17-18, 2008

Methodology

- The surveys were conducted on July 13 & 14 in Margibi county; on July 15 & 16 in Grand Bassa county; and on July 17 & 18 in Nimba County.

- The study was designed, coordinated and analyzed by American Viewpoint, Inc. in consultation with IRI's Monrovia and Washington, D.C. offices.

- A total of 395 interviews were conducted in Margibi county, 406 interviews in Grand Bassa county, and 505 interviews in Nimba county.

- The margin of error for this study is +/- five percent in Grand Bassa and Margibi and +/- four percent in Nimba. All margins of error are based on a 95 percent confidence interval.

- The results presented in the following slides have been rounded to the nearest whole number.

Methodology

- [ ] A total of 15 interviewers were recruited with social science backgrounds. Prior to conducting the poll, all interviewers were given extensive training on the survey instrument and participated in a mock administration of the poll.

- [ ] The interviewers were randomly dropped off in various parts of the county and each interviewer was given a specific number of interviews to complete based on the number of votes cast in that particular area in the 2005 presidential election.

- [ ] Only respondents with a valid voter registration card were included in the survey. No other factors were used to exclude respondents.

- [ ] All interviews were conducted face-to-face on a household basis.

- [ ] The interviewers alternated between men and women and interviewed a range of ages.

- [ ] There were no quotas based on gender, age, marital status or region.

- [ ] Slight errors may result due to rounding.

Demographic Information

Gender

	Grand Bassa	Margibi	Nimba
Male	59%	63%	62%
Female	41%	37%	38%
Total	**406** 100%	**395** 100%	**505** 100%

Age

	Grand Bassa	Margibi	Nimba
18 to 30	31%	41%	35%
31 to 40	35%	23%	33%
41 to 50	20%	21%	19%
50+	13%	15%	13%
Total	**406** 100%	**395** 100%	**505** 100%

Marital Status

	Grand Bassa	Margibi	Nimba
Married	69%	57%	63%
Single	22%	28%	22%
Living together	4%	8%	11%
Widowed	3%	4%	2%
Separated	3%	3%	2%
Total	**406** 100%	**395** 100%	**505** 100%

Region

	Grand Bassa	Margibi	Nimba
Urban	28%	26%	17%
Rural	72%	74%	83%
Total	**406** 100%	**395** 100%	**505** 100%

In general, are you interested in following the news about government, politics and current events?
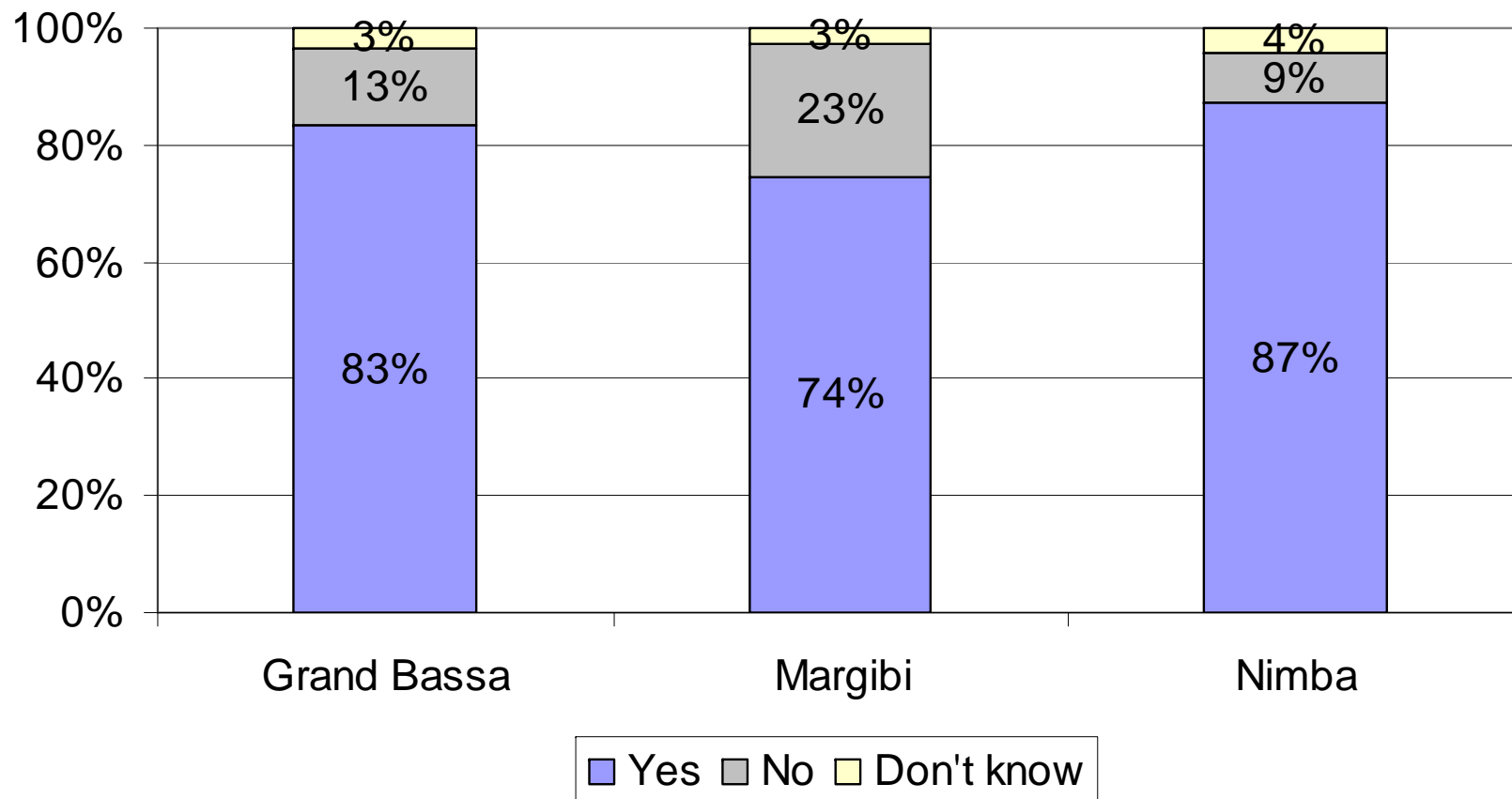
Would you say things in Liberia have improved over the last year, stayed the same or worsened?

	Grand Bassa	Margibi	Nimba
Don't know	3%	1%	2%
Worsened	24%	25%	31%
Stayed same	26%	25%	22%
Improved	48%	49%	45%

Legend: ☐ Improved ☐ Stayed same ☐ Worsened ☐ Don't know
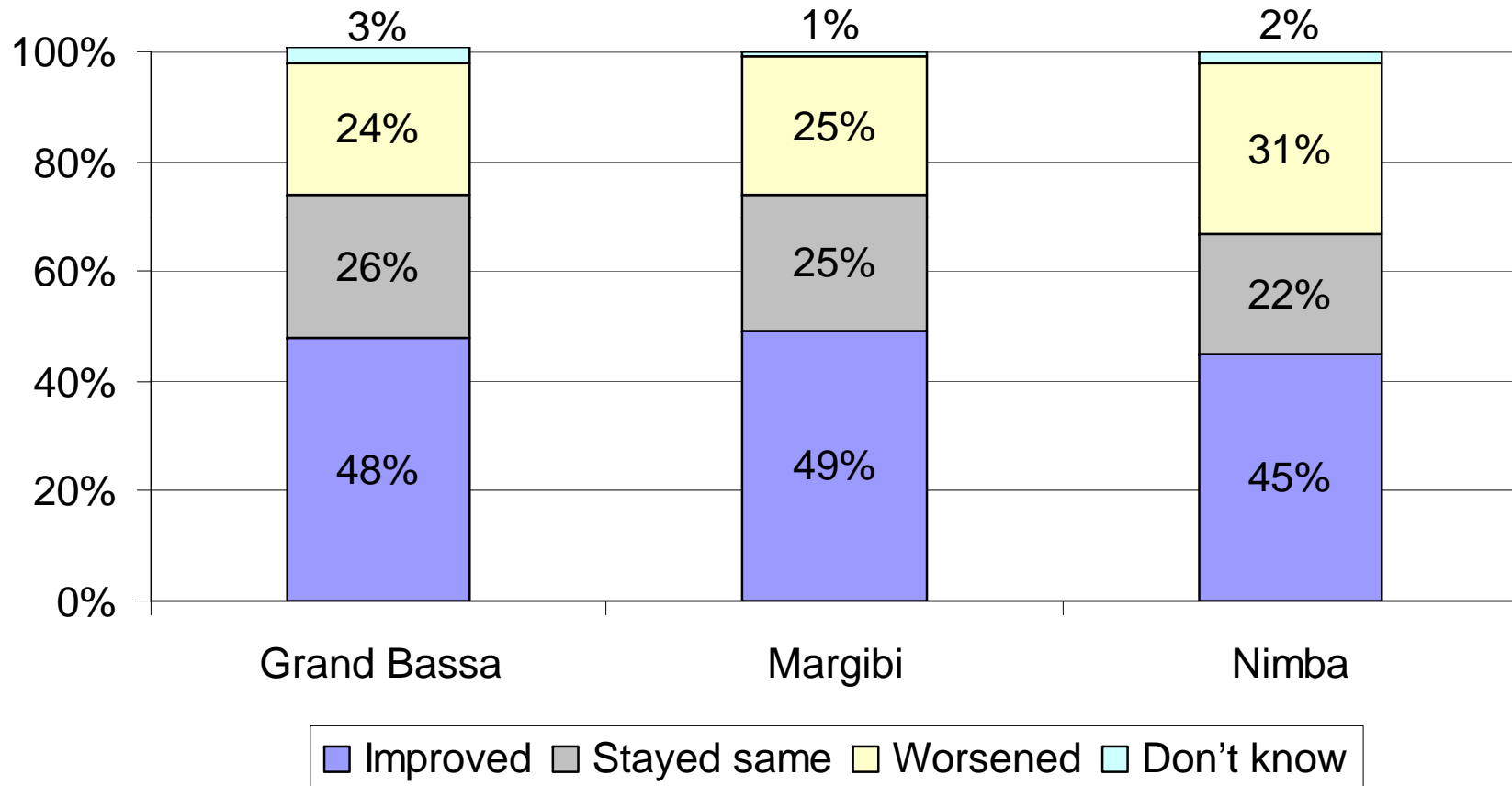
Grand Bassa: Would you say things in Liberia have improved over the last year, stayed the same or worsened?

	Gender		Difference
	Male	Female	
Improved	50%	44%	-6%
Stayed the same	28%	23%	-5%
Worsened	21%	29%	+8%
Don't know	2%	4%	+2%
Total	100.0%	100.0%	

Margibi: Would you say things in Liberia have improved over the last year, stayed the same or worsened?

	Gender		Difference
	Male	Female	
Improved	53%	42%	-11%
Stayed the same	26%	22%	-4%
Worsened	21%	32%	+11%
Don't know	0%	3%	+3%
Total	100.0%	100.0%	

Nimba: Would you say things in Liberia have improved over the last year, stayed the same or worsened?

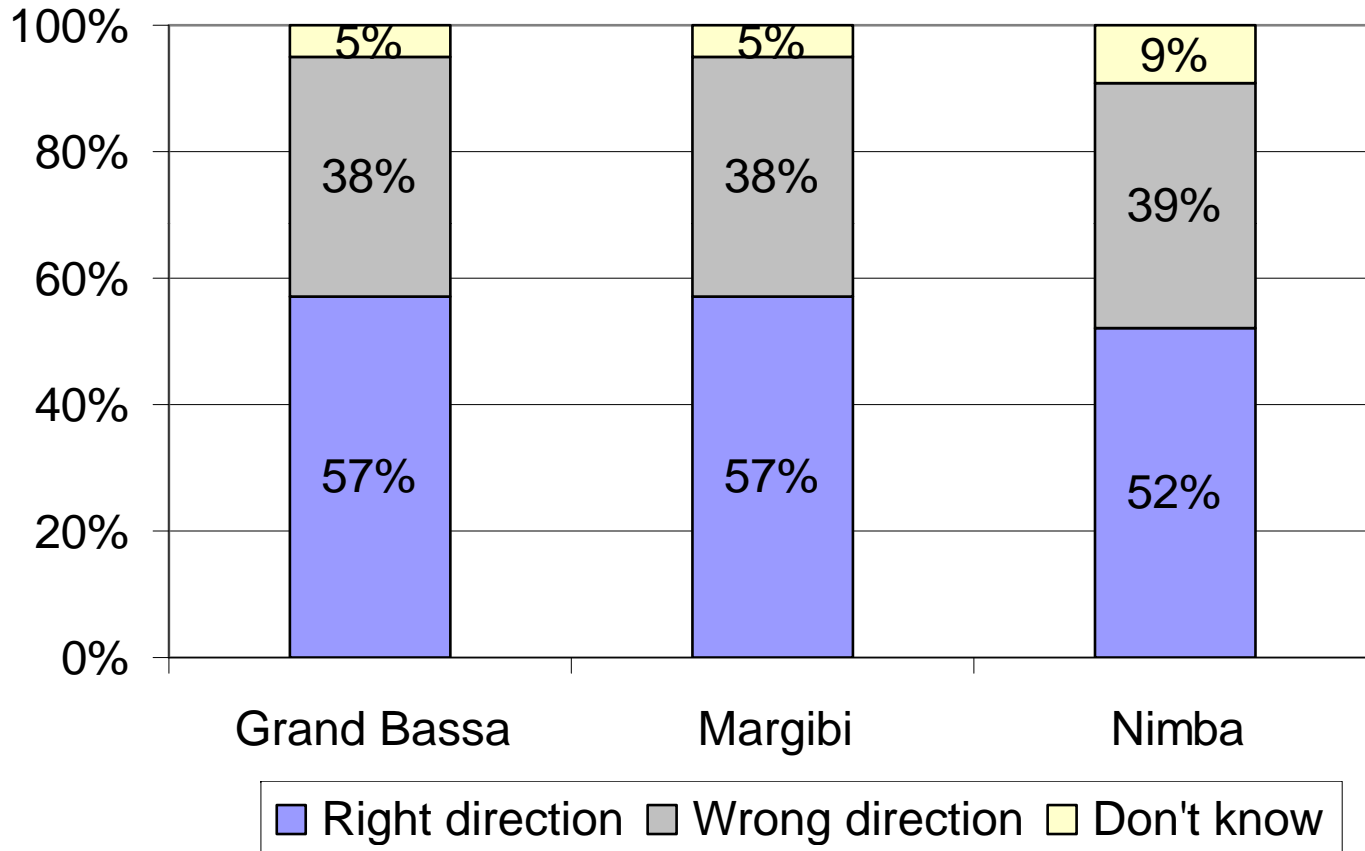|	Gender		Difference
	Male	Female	
Improved	49%	38%	-11%
Stayed the same	21%	25%	+4%
Worsened	29%	36%	+7%
Don't know	2%	2%	0%
Total	100.0%	100.0%	

Do you think Liberia today is headed in the right direction, or do you think that Liberia is moving in the wrong direction?

	Grand Bassa	Margibi	Nimba
Don't know	5%	5%	9%
Wrong direction	38%	38%	39%
Right direction	57%	57%	52%

■ Right direction ■ Wrong direction □ Don't know

Grand Bassa: Do you think Liberia today is headed in the right direction, or do you think that Liberia is moving in the wrong direction?

	Gender		Difference
	Male	Female	
Right direction	62%	48%	-14%
Wrong direction	34%	44%	+10%
Don't know	5%	7%	+2%
Total	100.0%	100.0%	

Margibi: Do you think Liberia today is headed in the right direction, or do you think that Liberia is moving in the wrong direction?

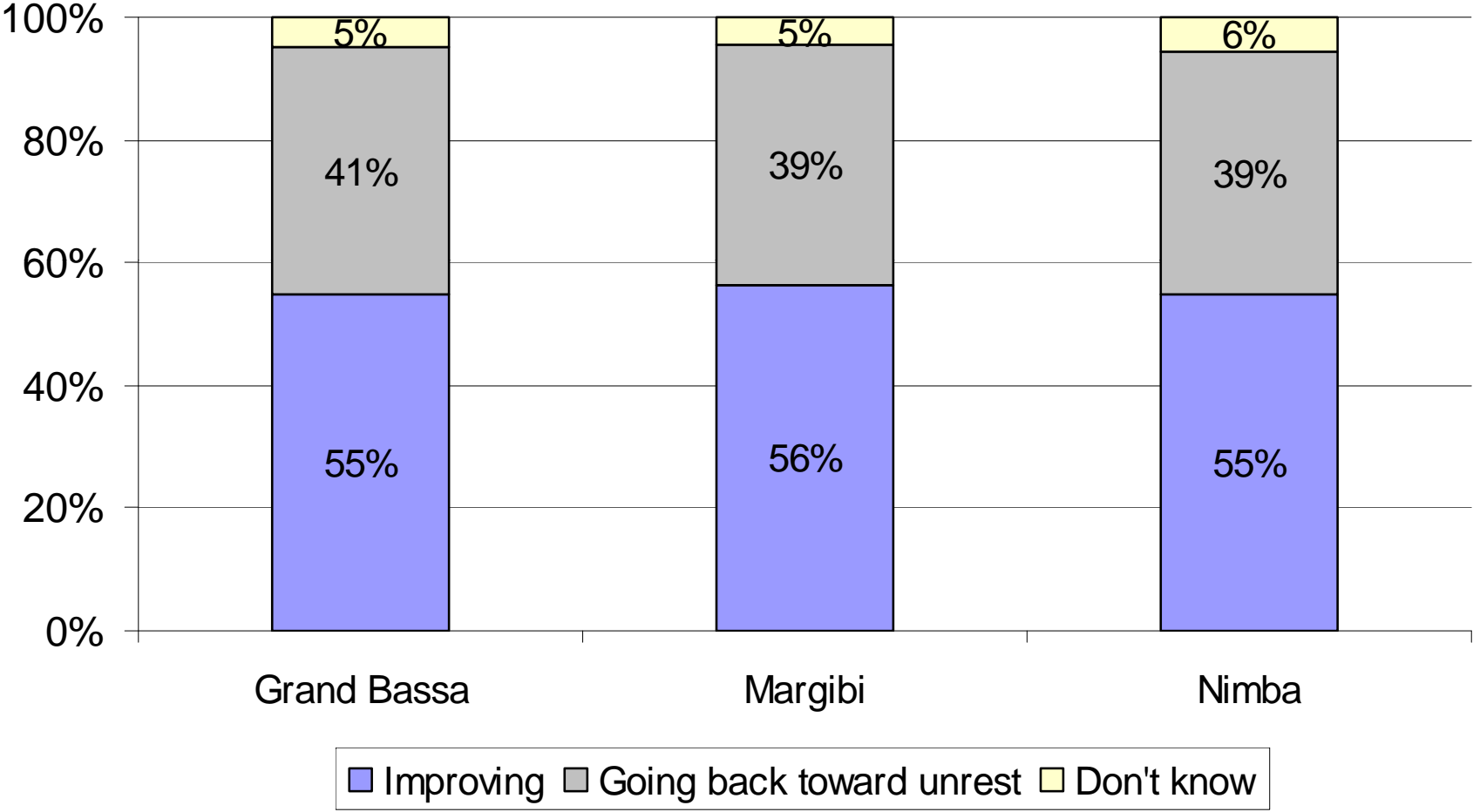|	Gender		Difference
	Male	Female	
Right direction	63%	47%	-16%
Wrong direction	34%	45%	+11%
Don't know	3%	7%	+4%
Total	100.0%	100.0%	

Nimba: Do you think Liberia today is headed in the right direction, or do you think that Liberia is moving in the wrong direction?

	Gender		Difference
	Male	Female	
Right direction	56%	44%	-12%
Wrong direction	40%	51%	+11%
Don't know	4%	5%	+1%
Total	100.0%	100.0%	

Based on what you see in your community, is Liberia improving or going back toward unrest?

	Grand Bassa	Margibi	Nimba
Don't know	5%	5%	6%
Going back toward unrest	41%	39%	39%
Improving	55%	56%	55%

■ Improving ■ Going back toward unrest □ Don't know

Would you say that Liberia is more democratic than it was 5 years ago, less democractic or about the same?

	Grand Bassa	Margibi	Nimba
Don't know	6%	4%	2%
About the same	4%	10%	9%
Less democratic	21%	18%	24%
More democratic	68%	68%	65%

■ More democratic ■ Less democratic ☐ About the same ☐ Don't know
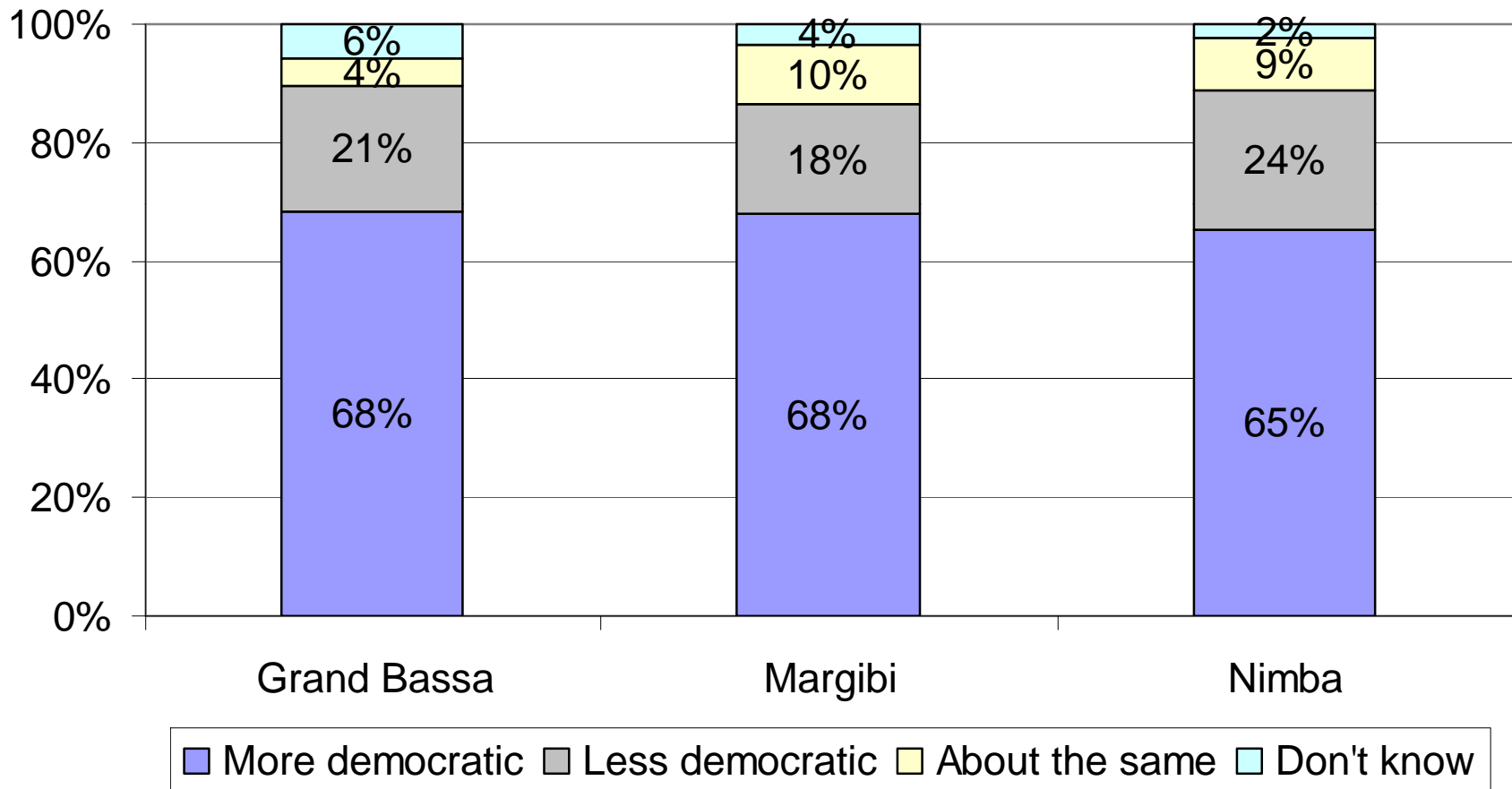
Overall, do you approve or disapprove of the job that President Ellen Johnson-Sirleaf is doing?

	Grand Bassa	Margibi	Nimba
Don't know	5%	8%	10%
Disapprove	20%	24%	27%
Approve	75%	68%	63%

Legend: ■ Approve ■ Disapprove ■ Don't know
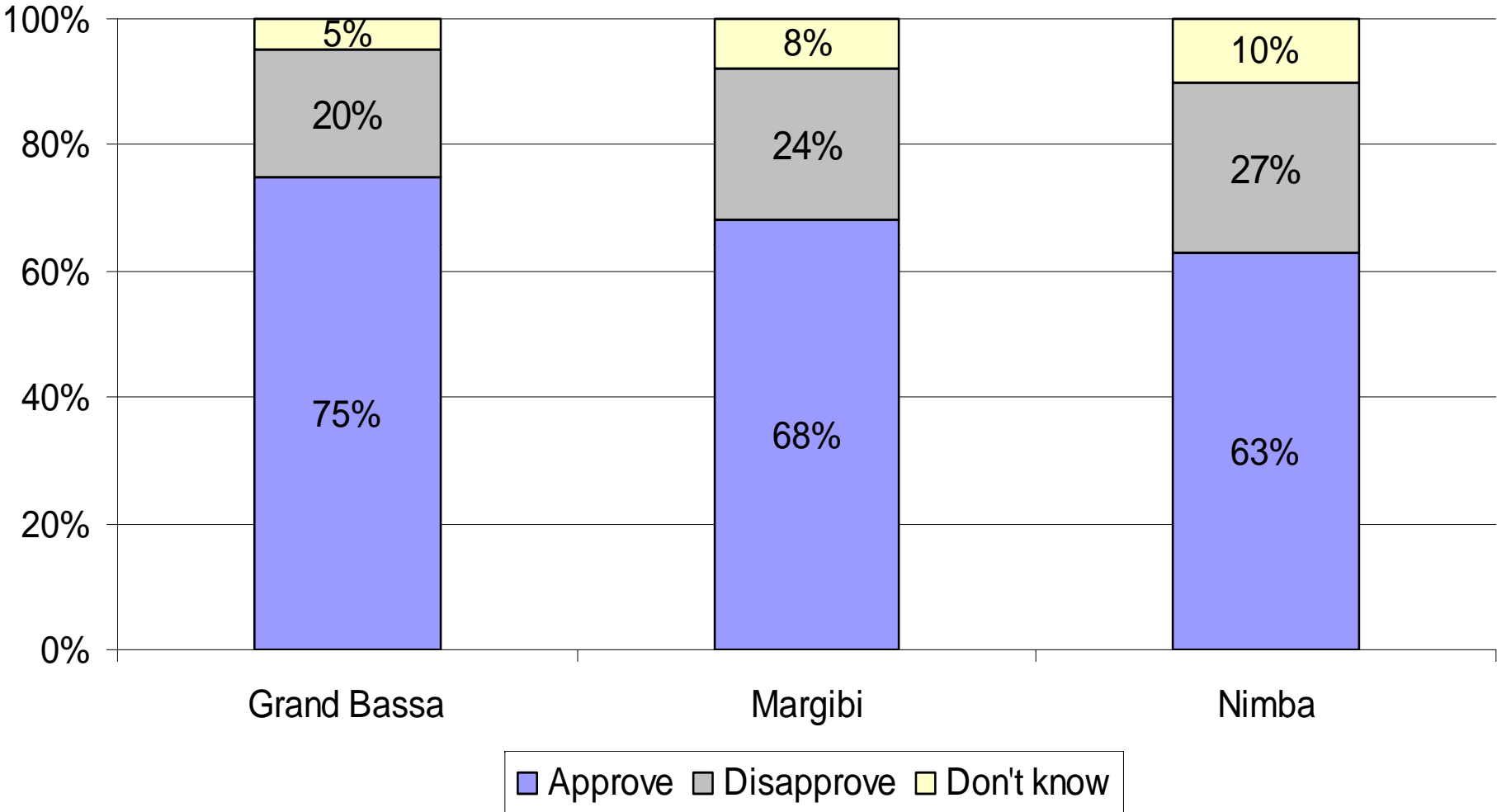
Overall, do you approve or disapprove of the job that the National Legislature is doing?

	Grand Bassa	Margibi	Nimba
Don't know	7%	8%	11%
Disapprove	43%	46%	49%
Approve	50%	46%	40%

Legend: ■ Approve ■ Disapprove □ Don't know
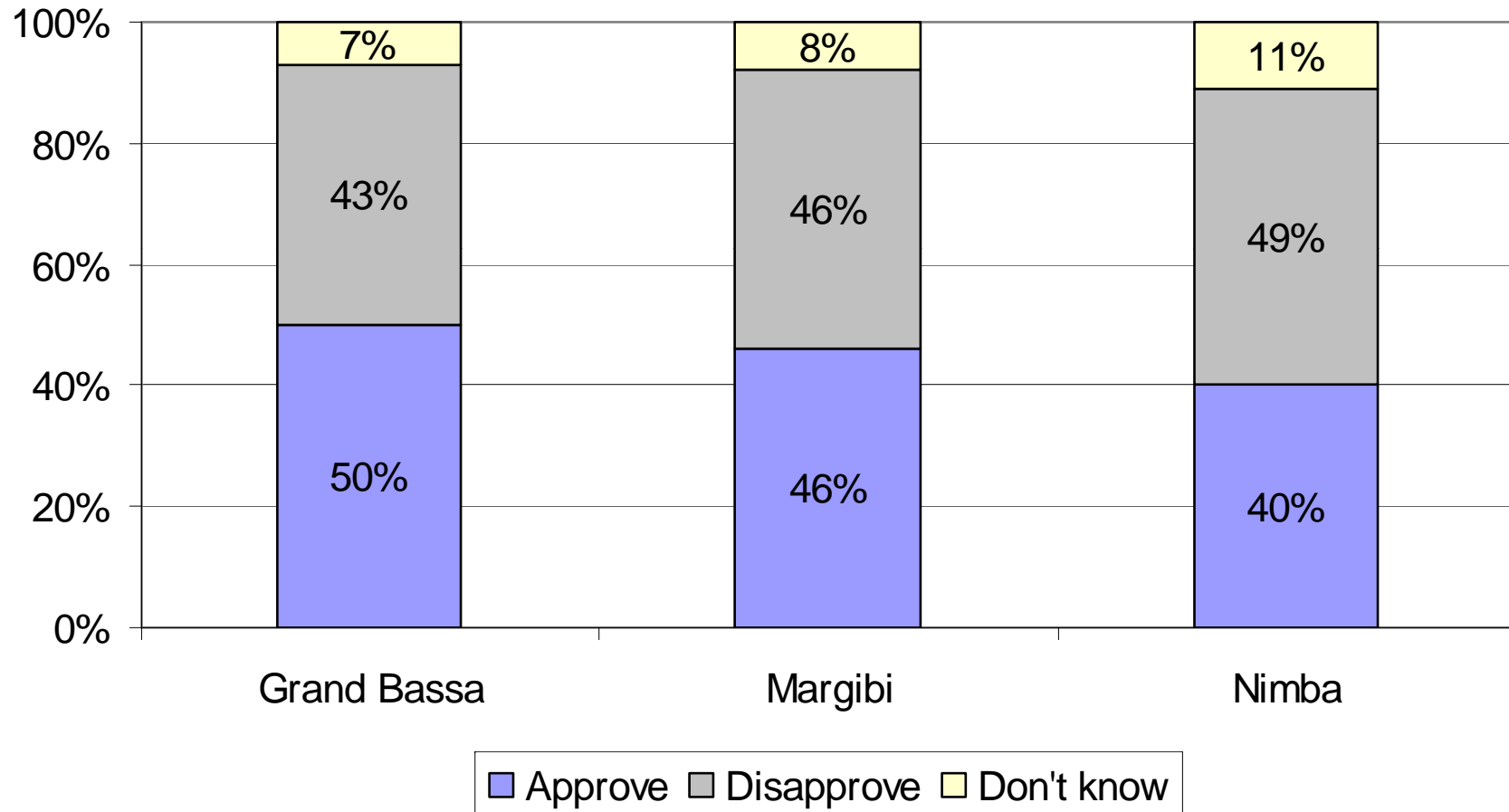
Aggregated awareness and favorability ratings for six political parties.

Nimba	Awareness 90%
	Favorable 29%
	Unfavorable 48%
	Don't know 14%
Margibi	Awareness 86%
	Favorable 32%
	Unfavorable 39%
	Don't know 16%
Grand Bassa	Awareness 90%
	Favorable 30%
	Unfavorable 46%
	Don't know 14%

■ Don't know ■ Unfavorable □ Favorable □ Awareness
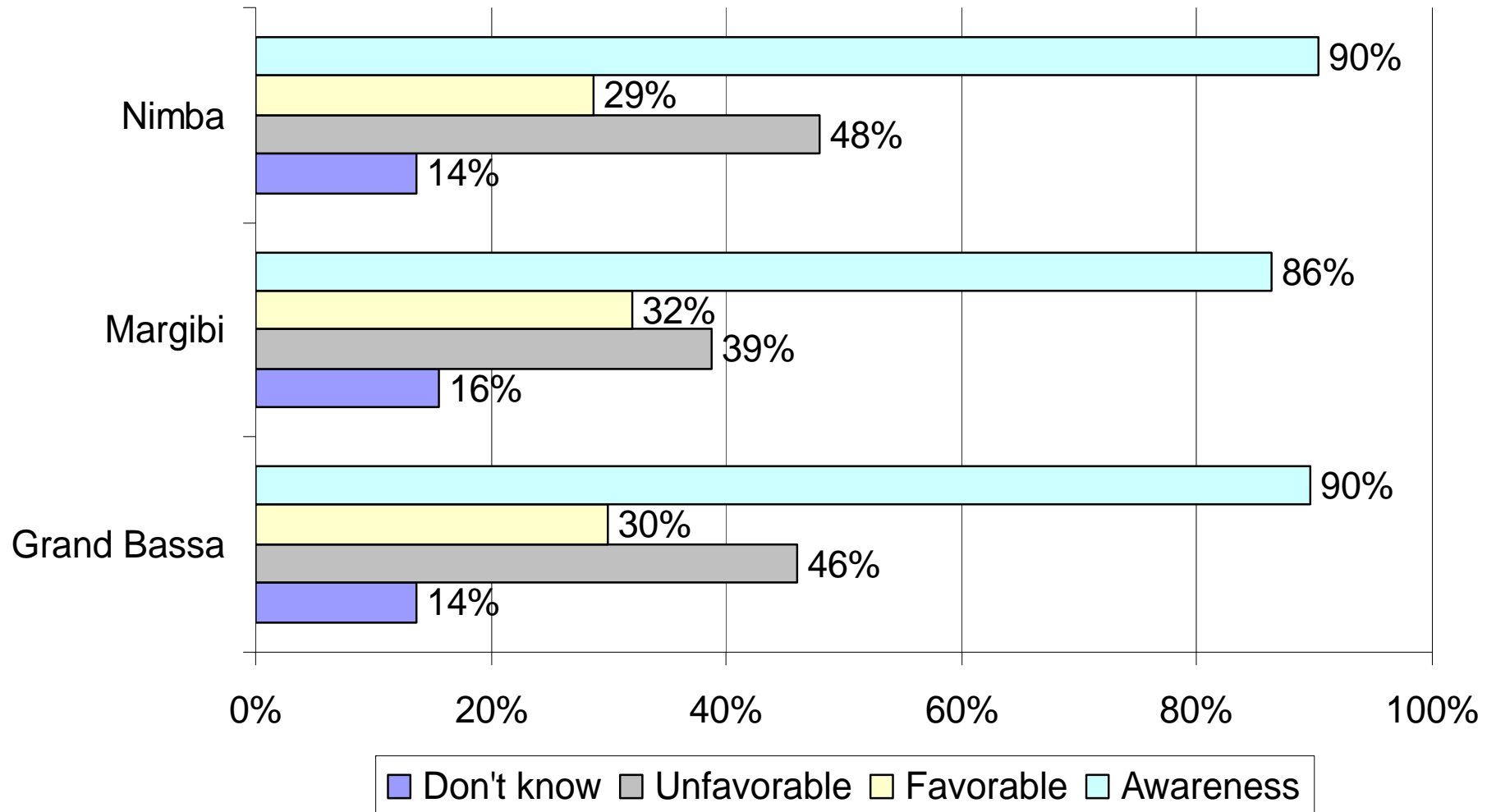
Unity Party, Congress for Democratic Change, Liberty Party, Liberia Action Party, National Patriotic Party and National Democratic Party of Liberia. Questions were asked to determine ratings for each political party however IRI policy is not to publically release information specific to individual political parties therefore the information has been aggregated.

Thinking now about the various political parties, rank how much time they spend discussing the issues important to you and your family?
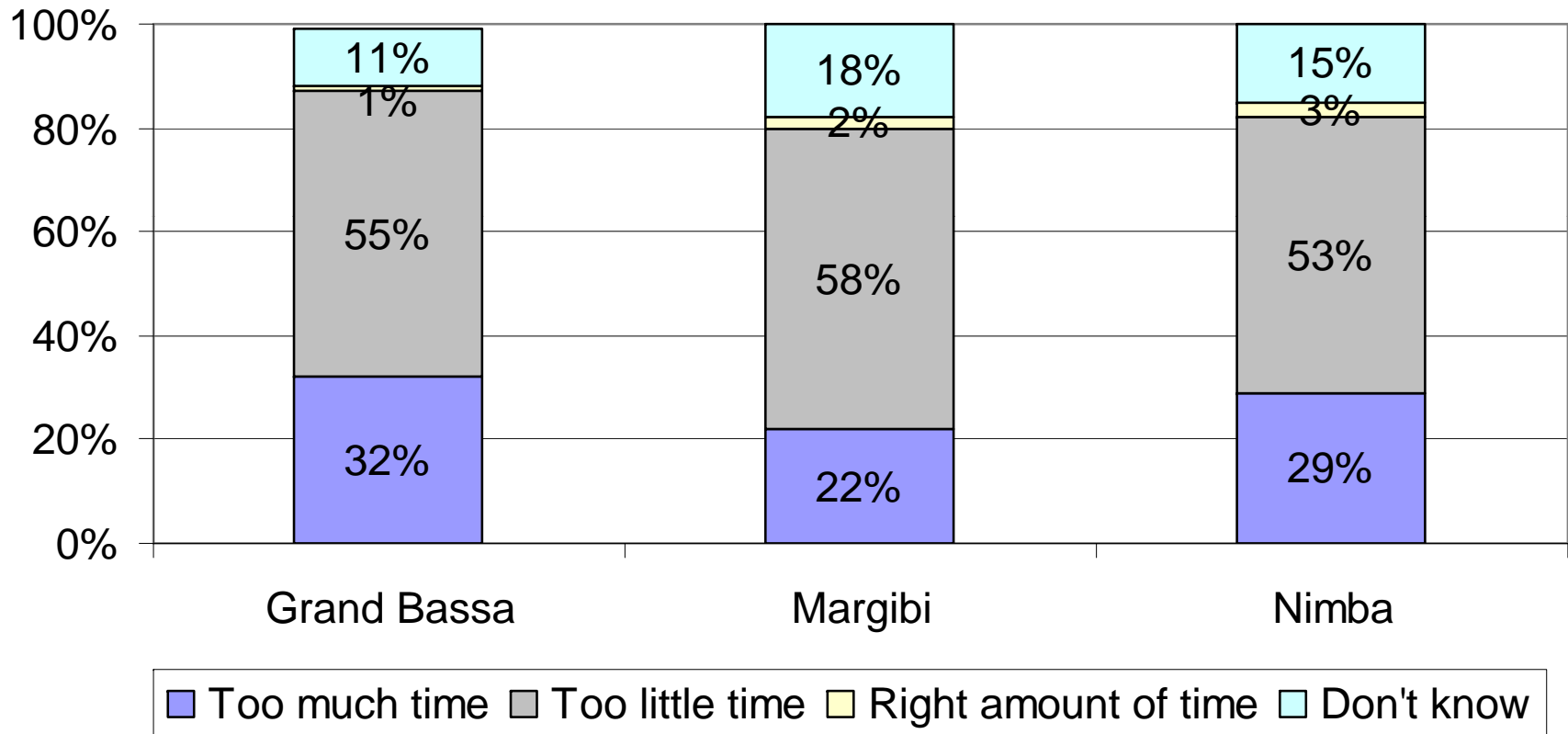
	Grand Bassa	Margibi	Nimba
Don't know	11%	18%	15%
Right amount of time	1%	2%	3%
Too little time	55%	58%	53%
Too much time	32%	22%	29%

Legend: ☐ Too much time ☐ Too little time ☐ Right amount of time ☐ Don't know

In your opinion what is the biggest problem facing Liberia today?

	Nimba	Margibi	Grand Bassa
Food/Hunger	54%	52%	60%
Unemployment/Jobs	19%	27%	21%
Roads/Transportation	8%	3%	4%
Crime	6%	3%	4%
Education	4%	4%	4%
Corruption	5%	5%	3%
Other	4%	6%	6%

Legend:
■ Food/Hunger ■ Unemployment/Jobs ■ Roads/Transportation ■ Crime
■ Education ■ Corruption ■ Other

In your opinion what is the biggest problem facing Liberia today?

Male / Female

	Grand Bassa	Margibi	Nimba
Food/Hunger	56% / 67%	44% / 65%	46% / 68%
Unemployment/Jobs	23% / 19%	32% / 19%	21% / 16%
Education	5% / 2%	5% / 1%	5% / 2%

In general, do you think political parties spend too much, too little or the right amount of time talking about education?
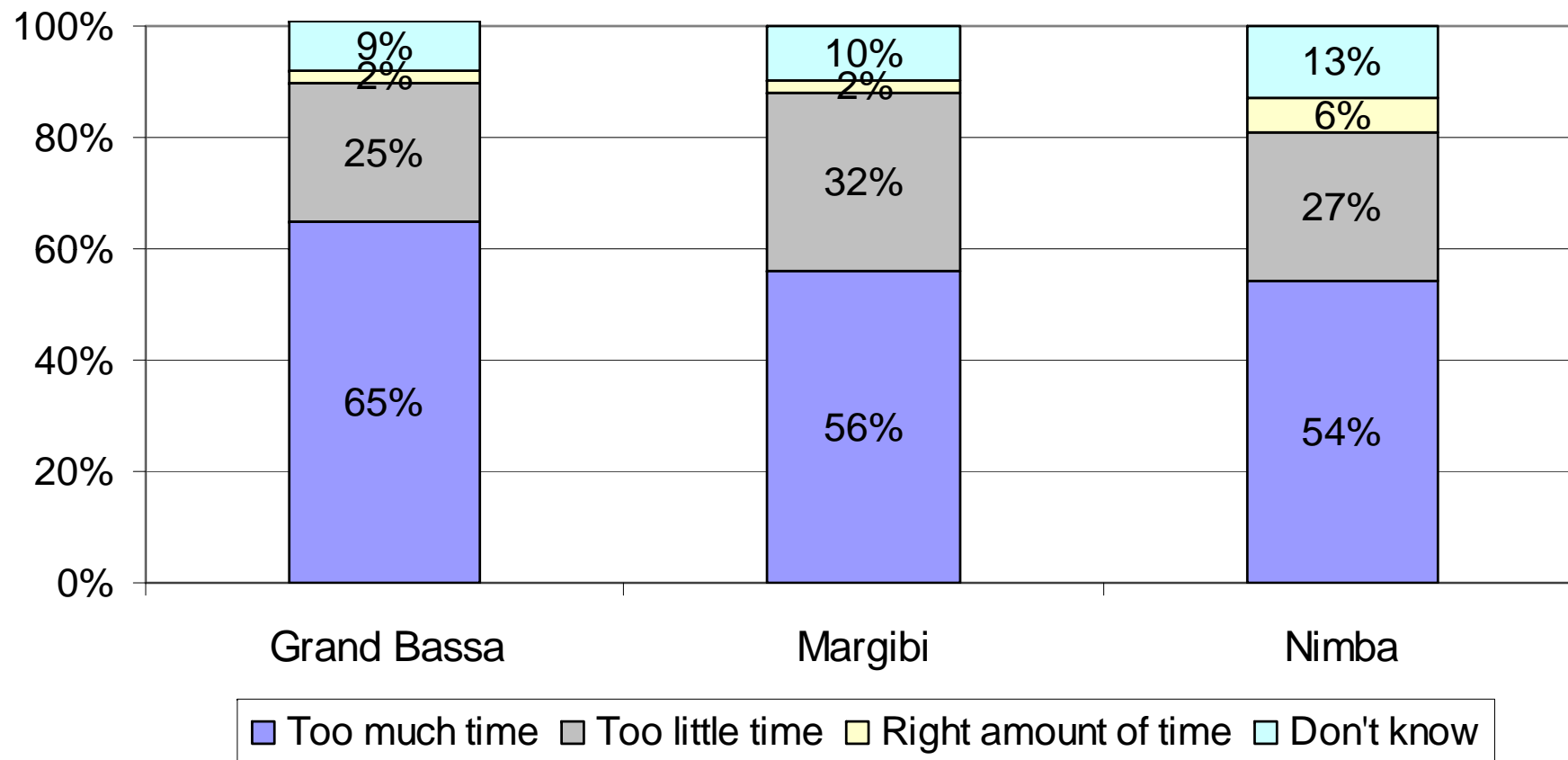
Legend: Too much time | Too little time | Right amount of time | Don't know

	Grand Bassa	Margibi	Nimba
Don't know	9%	10%	13%
Right amount of time	2%	2%	6%
Too little time	25%	32%	27%
Too much time	65%	56%	54%

In general, do you think political parties spend too much, too little or the right amount of time talking about unemployment/jobs?
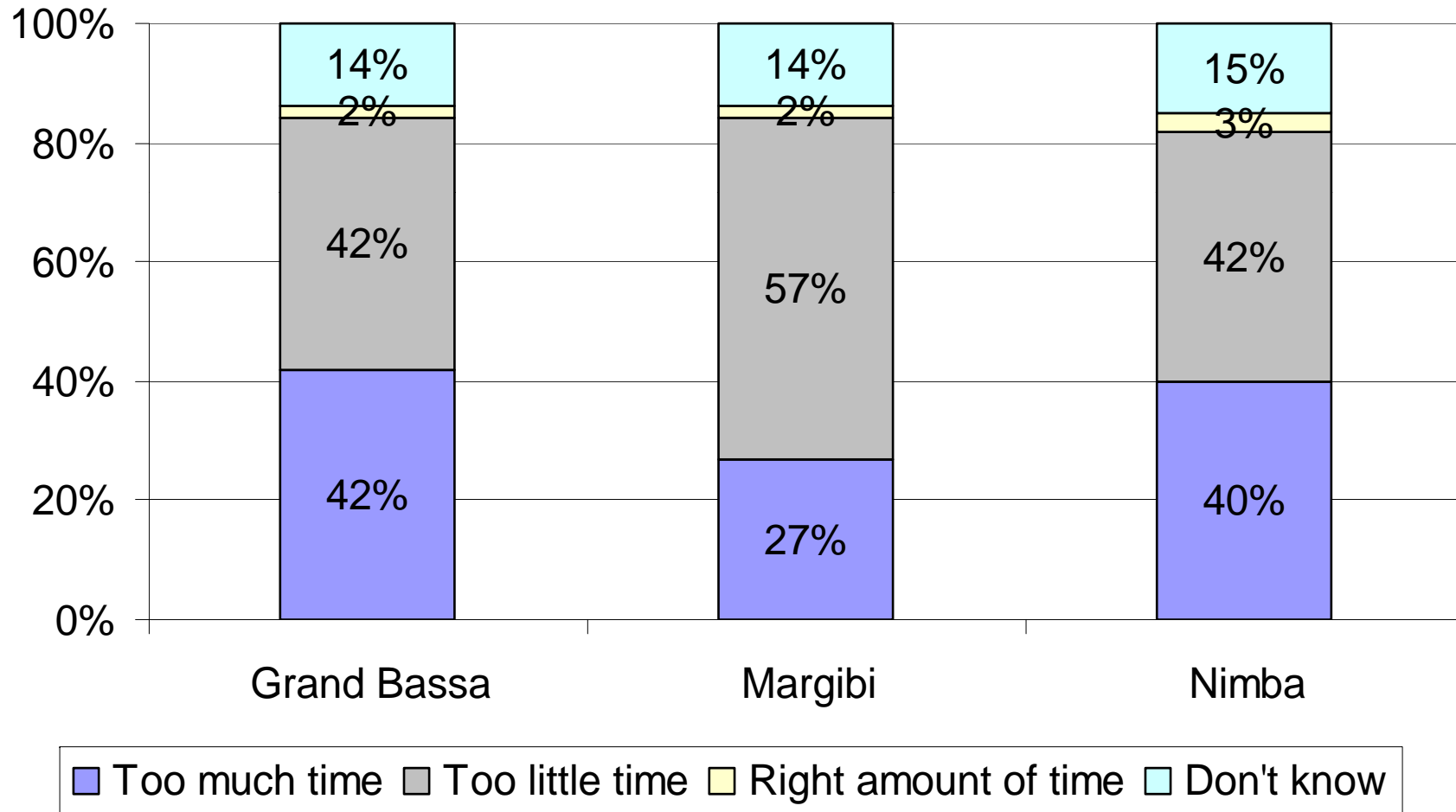
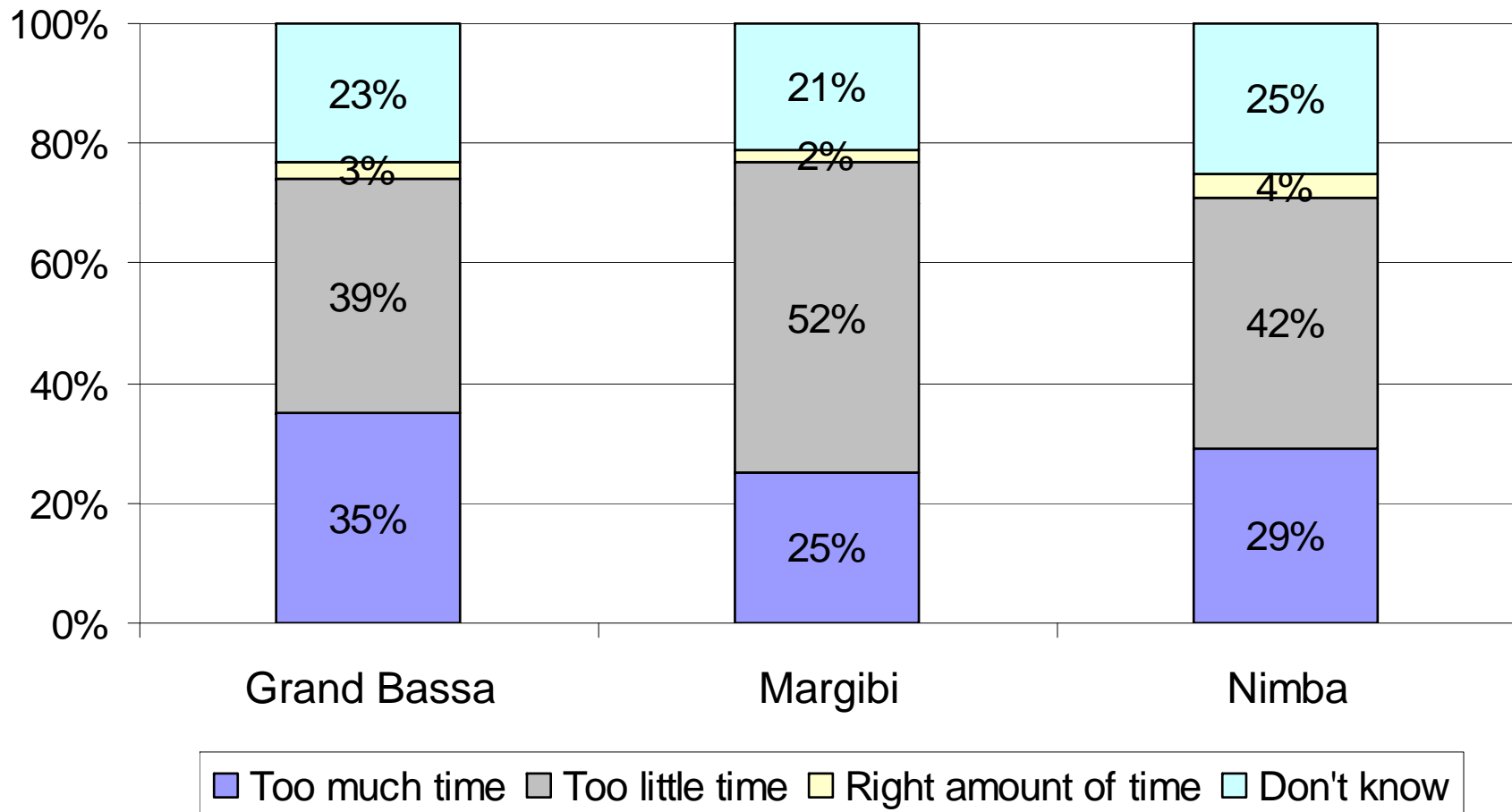|	Grand Bassa	Margibi	Nimba
Don't know	14%	14%	15%
Right amount of time	2%	2%	3%
Too little time	42%	57%	42%
Too much time	42%	27%	40%

Legend: ☐ Too much time ☐ Too little time ☐ Right amount of time ☐ Don't know

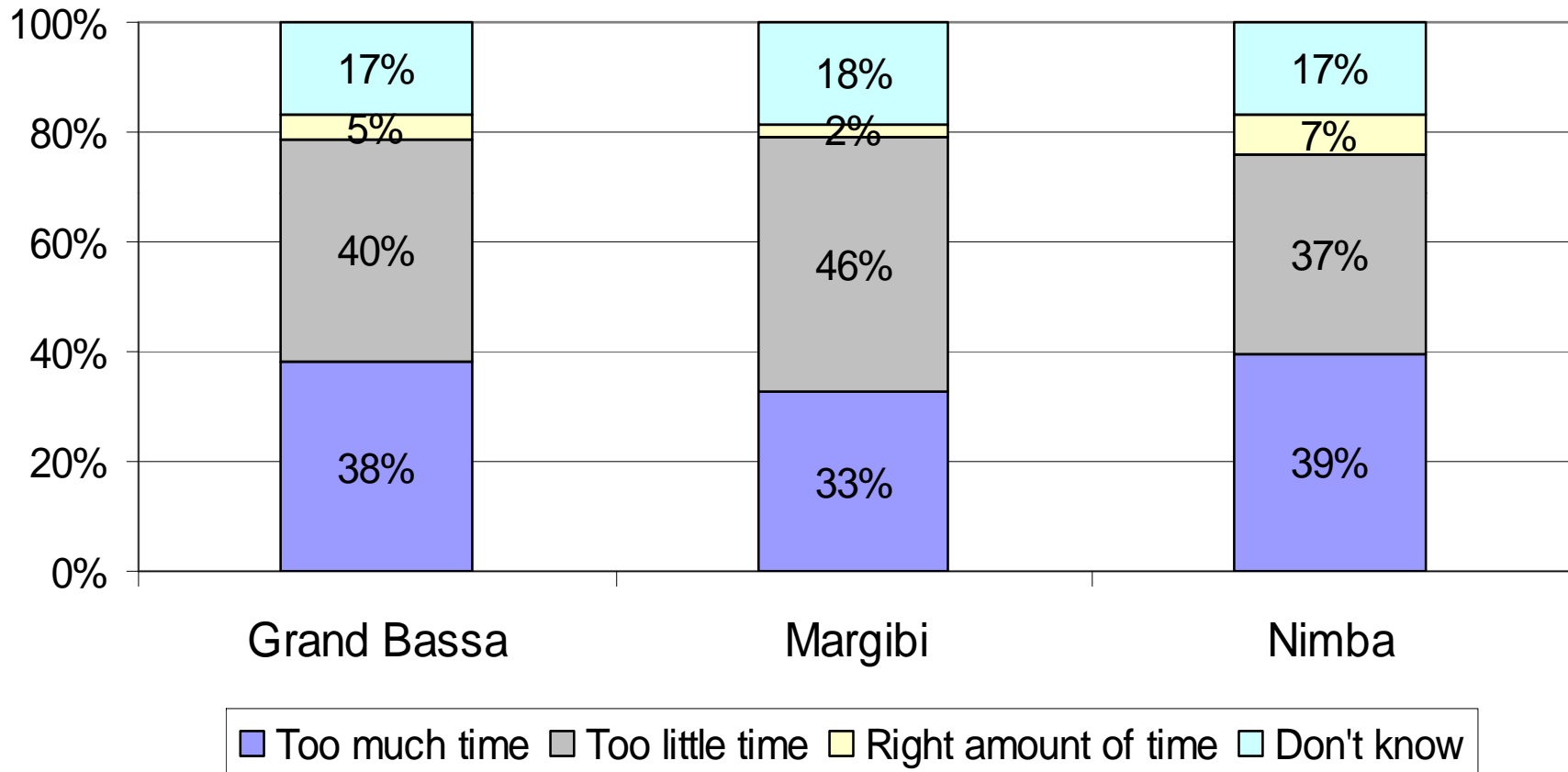# In general, do you think political parties spend too much, too little or the right amount of time talking about food/hunger?

	Grand Bassa	Margibi	Nimba
Don't know	23%	21%	25%
Right amount of time	3%	2%	4%
Too little time	39%	52%	42%
Too much time	35%	25%	29%

☐ Too much time ☐ Too little time ☐ Right amount of time ☐ Don't know

In general, do you think political parties spend too much, too little or the right amount of time talking about clean and safe water?

	Grand Bassa	Margibi	Nimba
Don't know	17%	18%	17%
Right amount of time	5%	2%	7%
Too little time	40%	46%	37%
Too much time	38%	33%	39%

Legend: ■ Too much time ■ Too little time □ Right amount of time □ Don't know

In general, do you think political parties spend too much, too little or the right amount of time talking about providing electricity?

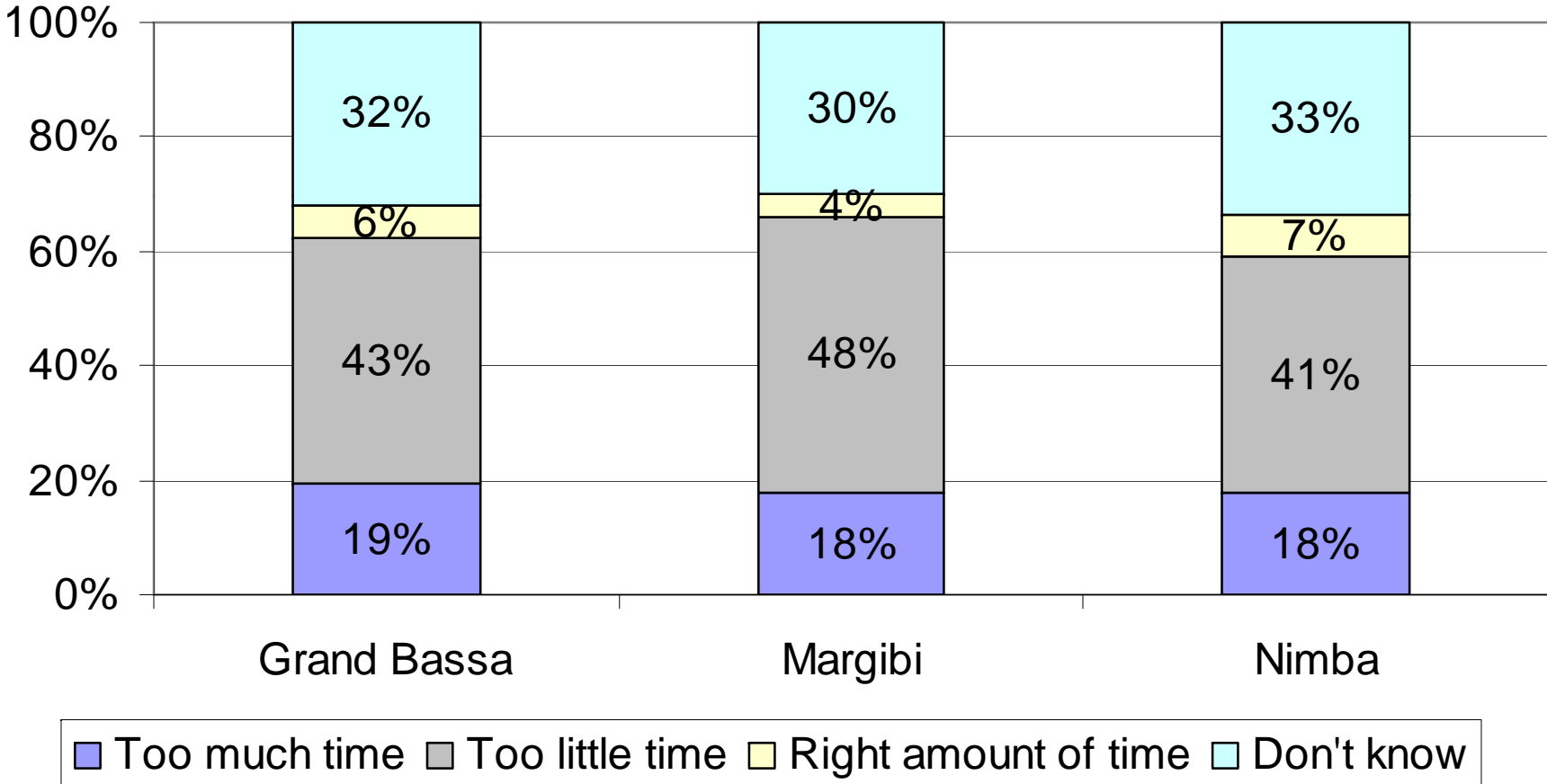Legend: Too much time ■ Too little time ■ Right amount of time □ Don't know

Grand Bassa: 32% Don't know, 6% Right amount of time, 43% Too little time, 19% Too much time

Margibi: 30% Don't know, 4% Right amount of time, 48% Too little time, 18% Too much time

Nimba: 33% Don't know, 7% Right amount of time, 41% Too little time, 18% Too much time

In general, do you think political parties spend too much, too little or the right amount of time talking about providing healthcare?

Chart data:
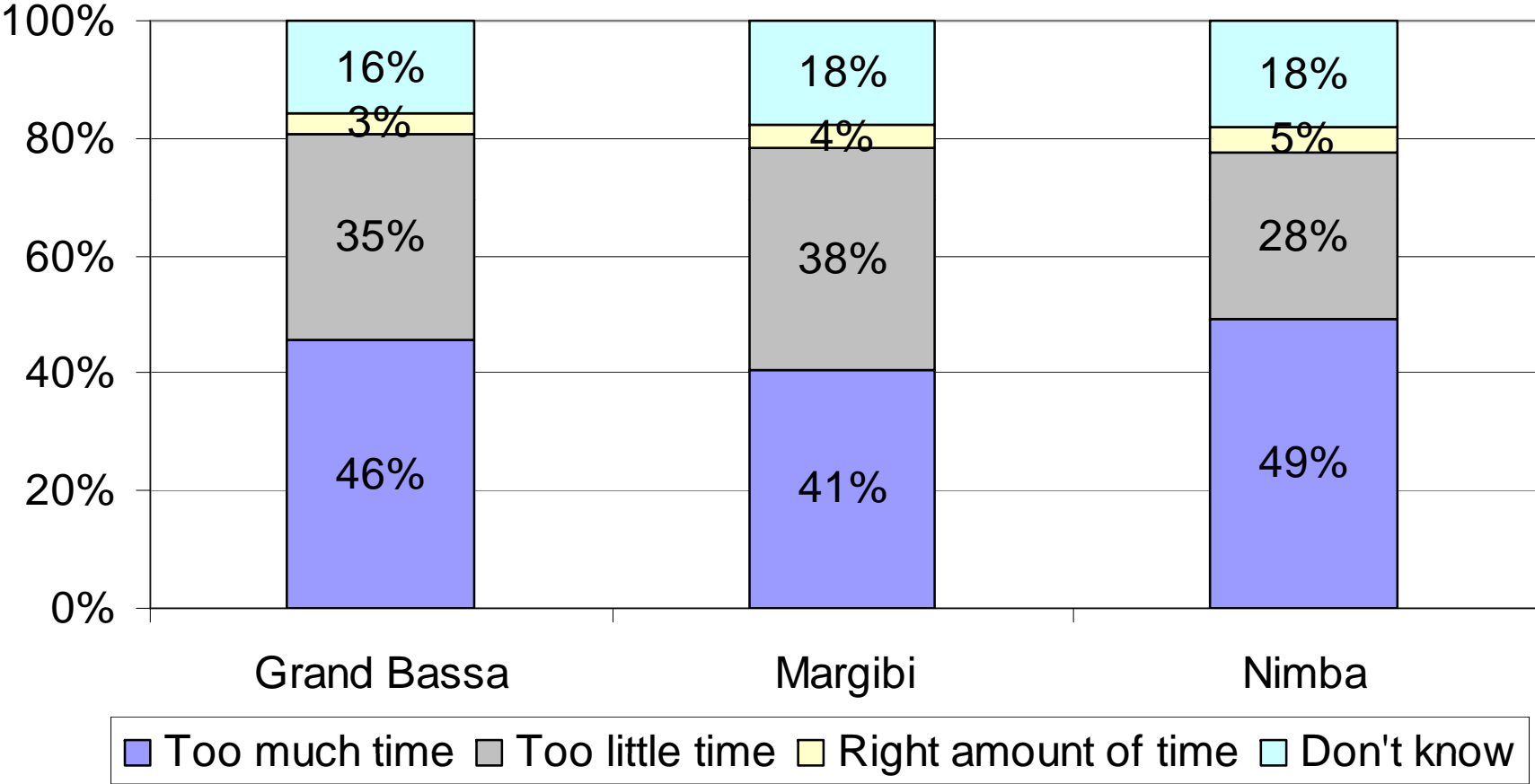
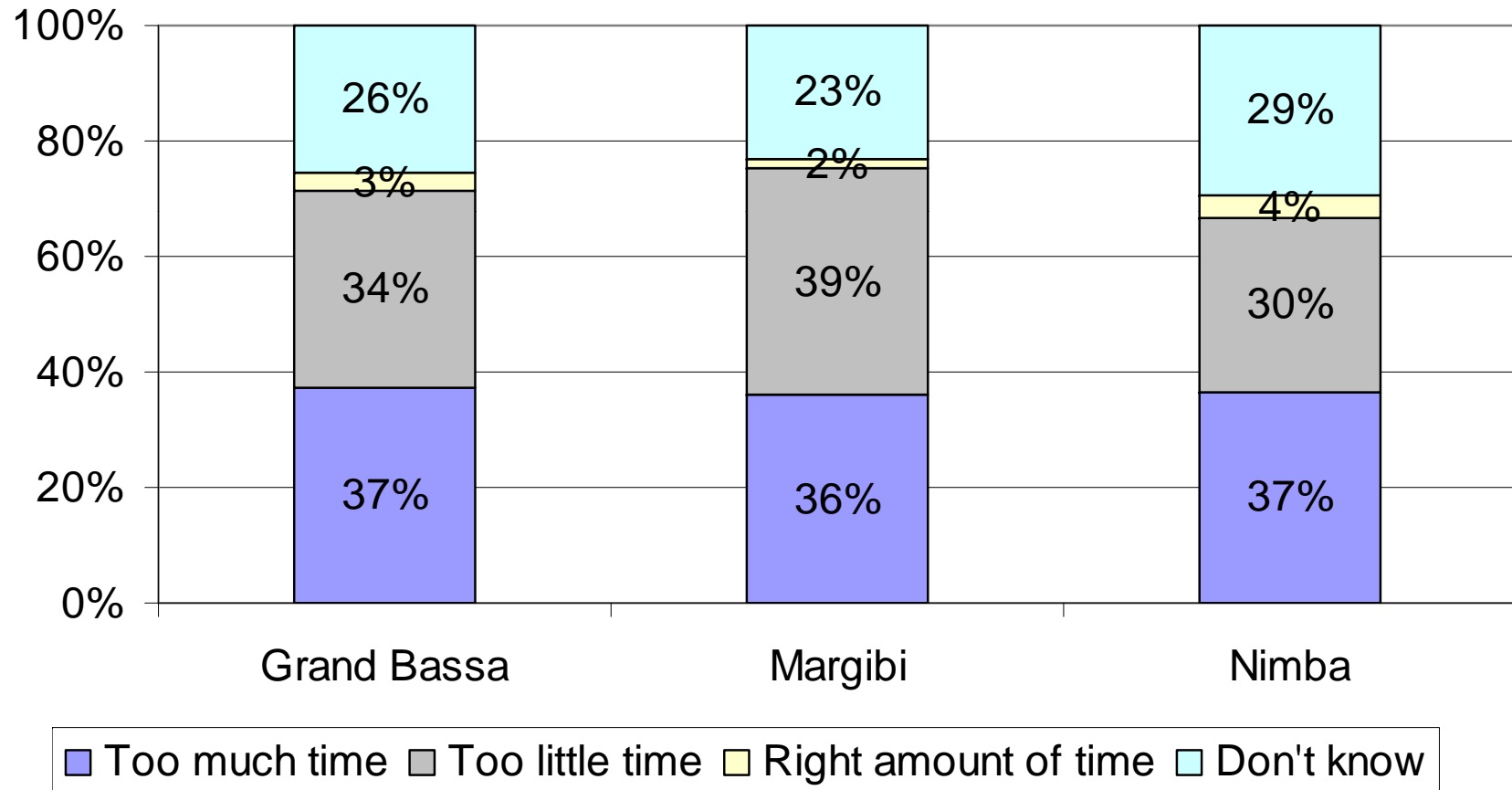|	Grand Bassa	Margibi	Nimba
Don't know	16%	18%	18%
Right amount of time	3%	4%	5%
Too little time	35%	38%	28%
Too much time	46%	41%	49%

Legend: ■ Too much time ■ Too little time □ Right amount of time □ Don't know

In general, do you think political parties spend too much, too little or the right amount of time talking about eliminating corruption?

	Grand Bassa	Margibi	Nimba
Don't know	26%	23%	29%
Right amount of time	3%	2%	4%
Too little time	34%	39%	30%
Too much time	37%	36%	37%

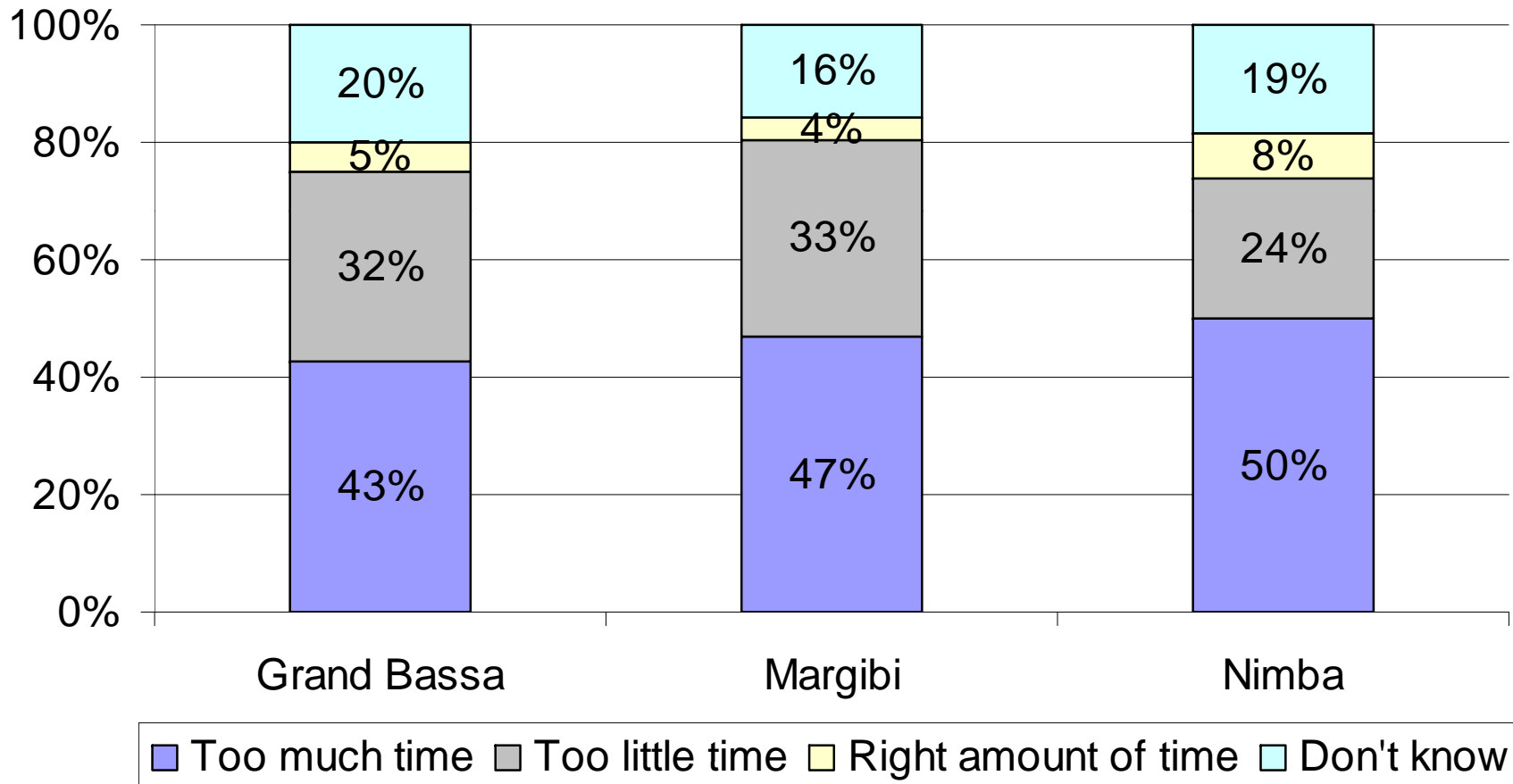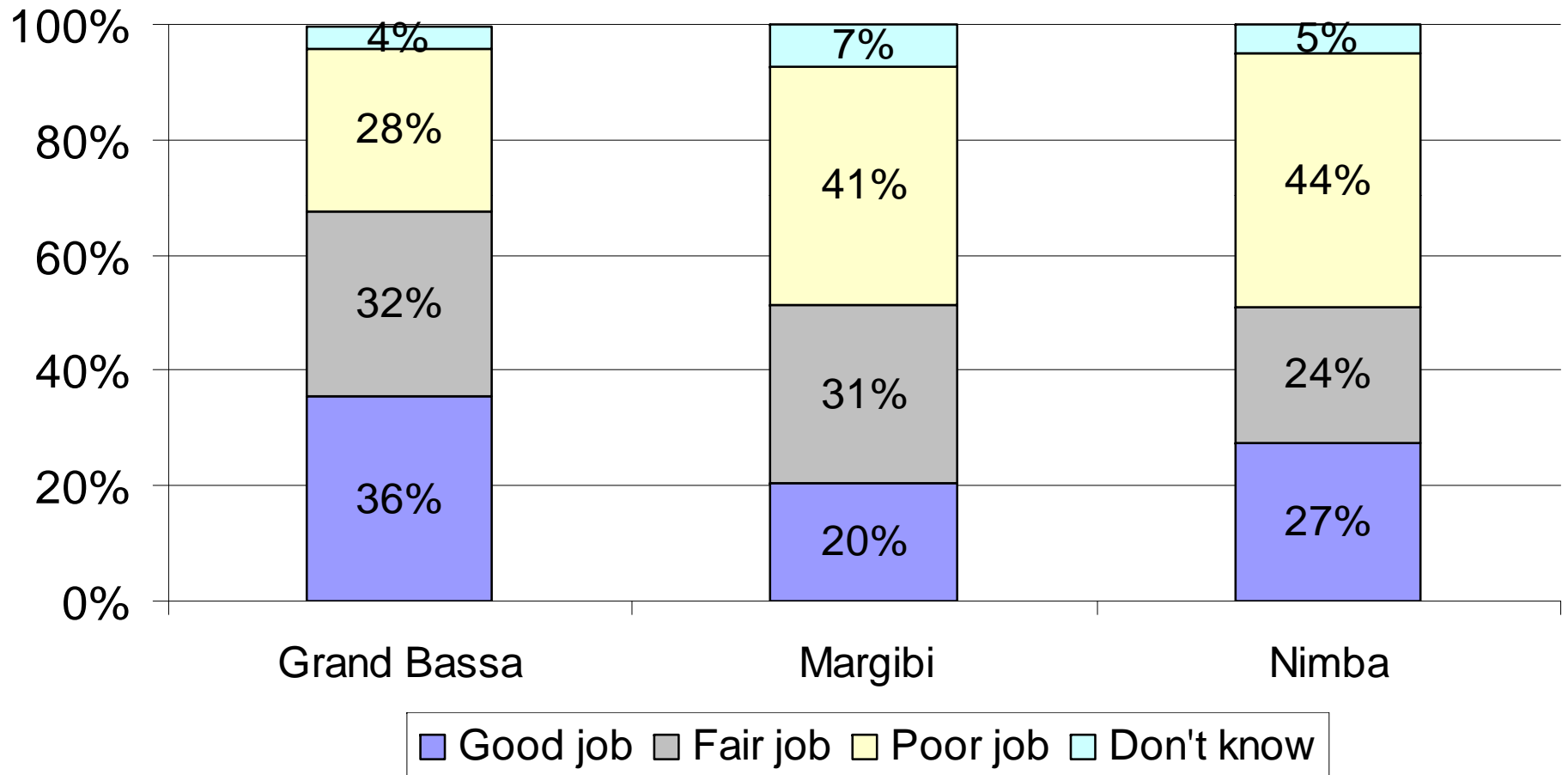Legend: ☐ Too much time ☐ Too little time ☐ Right amount of time ☐ Don't know

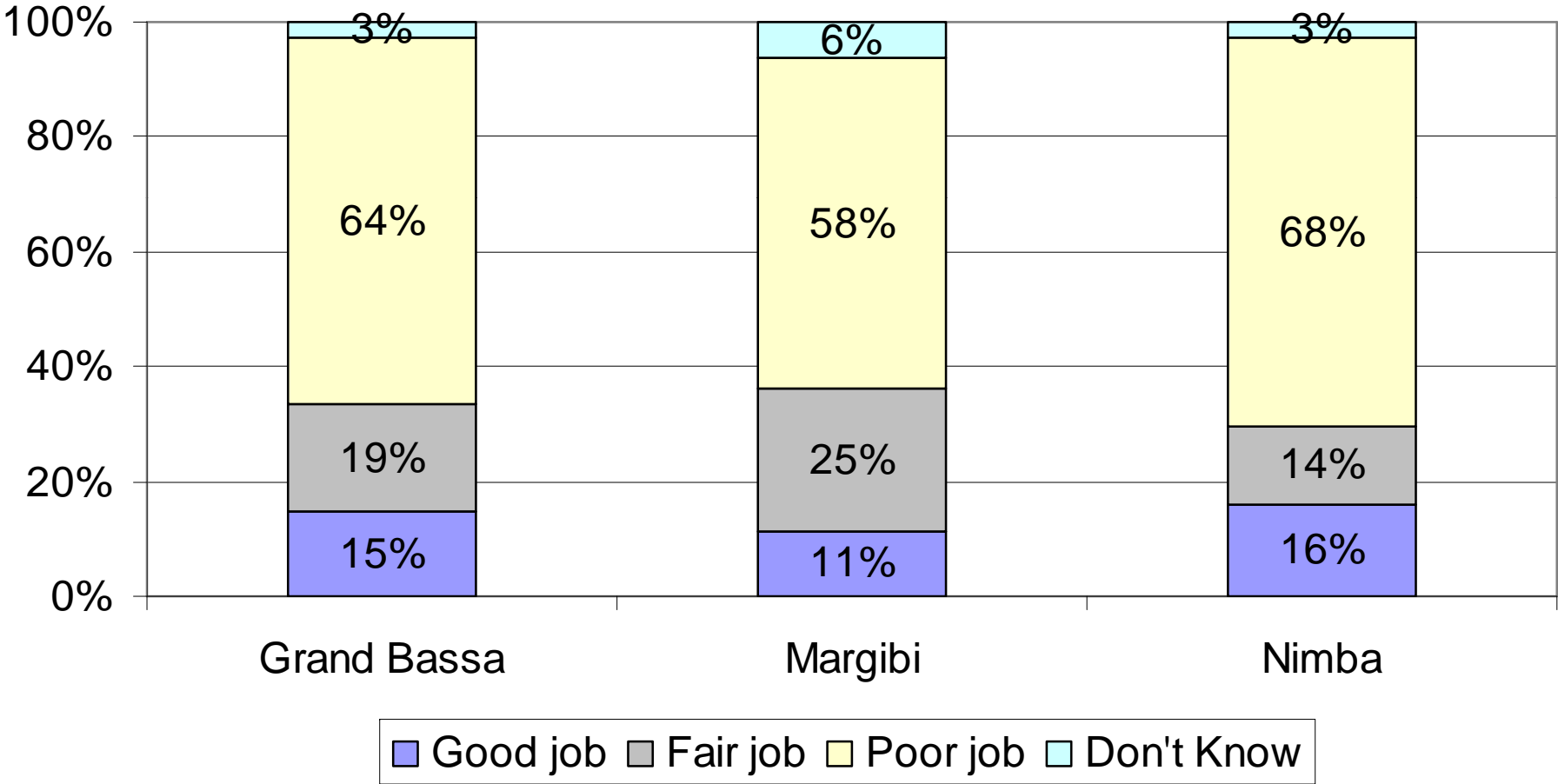# In general, do you think political parties spend too much, too little or the right amount of time talking about reconciliation and healing of the country?

	Grand Bassa	Margibi	Nimba
Don't know	20%	16%	19%
Right amount of time	5%	4%	8%
Too little time	32%	33%	24%
Too much time	43%	47%	50%

□ Too much time □ Too little time □ Right amount of time □ Don't know

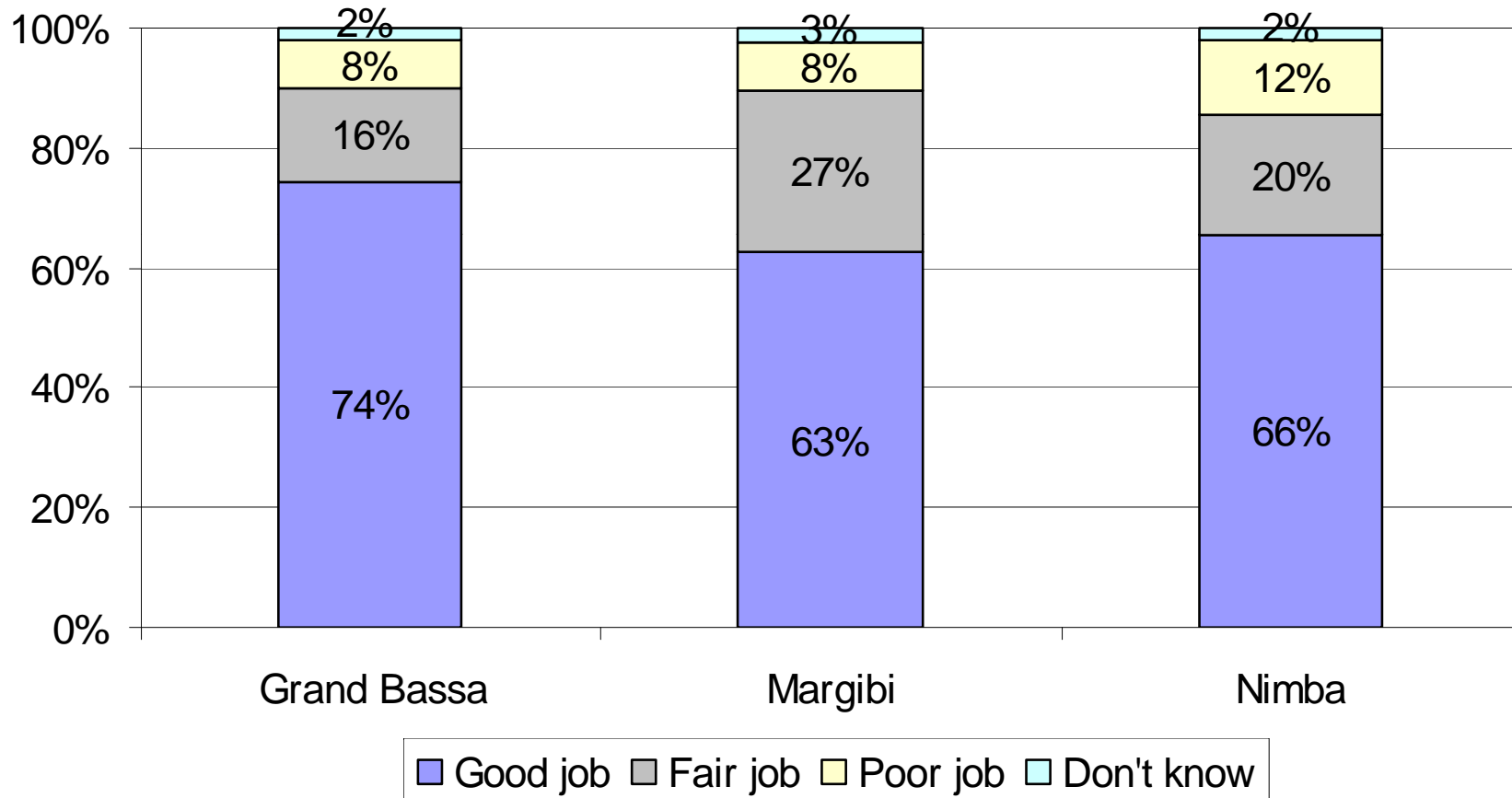# Would you say the government has done a good job, a fair job or a poor job solving the problem of unemployment/creating jobs?

	Grand Bassa	Margibi	Nimba
Don't know	4%	7%	5%
Poor job	28%	41%	44%
Fair job	32%	31%	24%
Good job	36%	20%	27%

Legend: ■ Good job ■ Fair job □ Poor job □ Don't know

Would you say the government has done a good job, a fair job or a poor job solving the problem of food and hunger?

	Grand Bassa	Margibi	Nimba
Don't Know	3%	6%	3%
Poor job	64%	58%	68%
Fair job	19%	25%	14%
Good job	15%	11%	16%

☐ Good job ☐ Fair job ☐ Poor job ☐ Don't Know

Would you say the government has done a good job, a fair job or a poor job solving the problem of education?

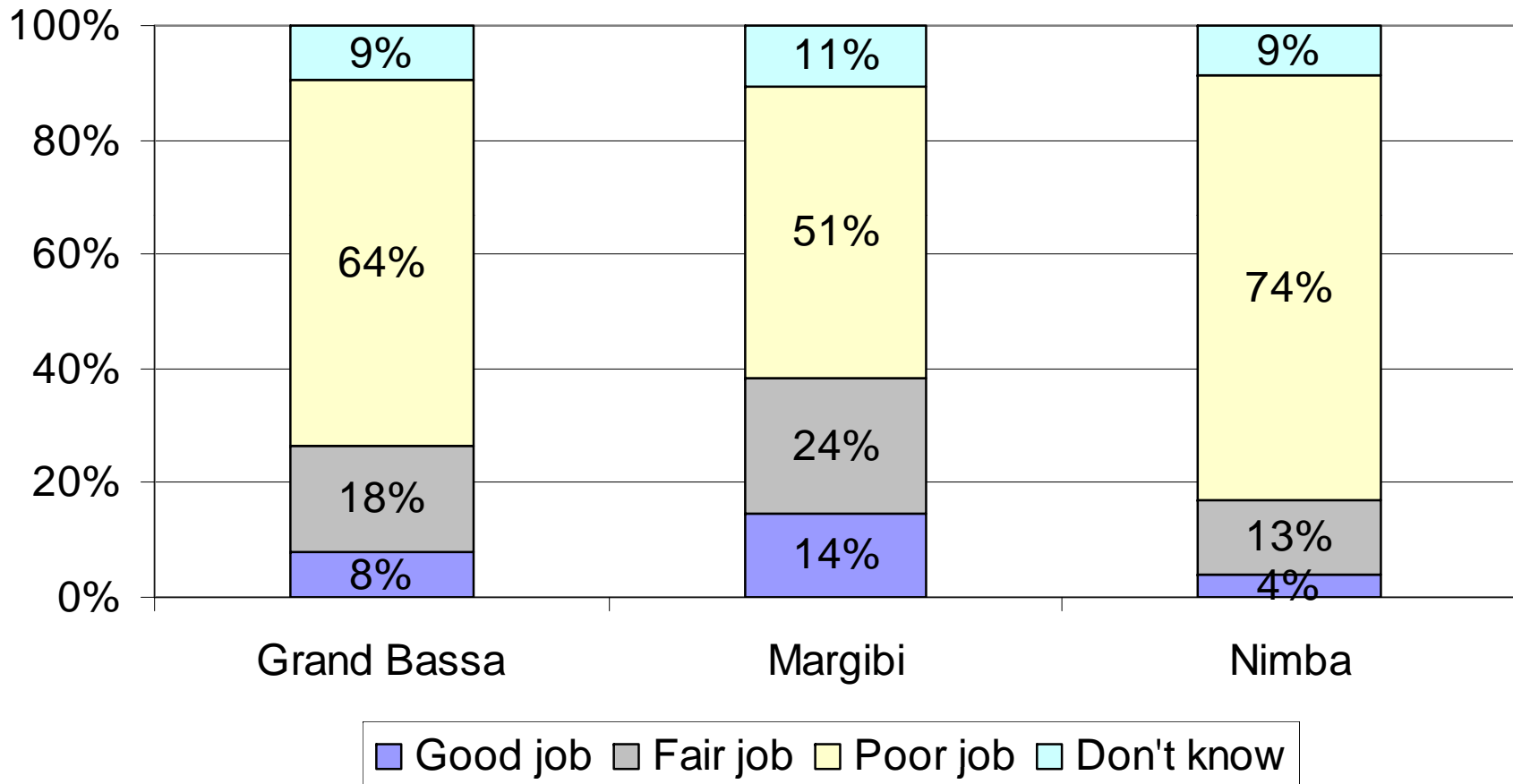|	Grand Bassa	Margibi	Nimba
Don't know	2%	3%	2%
Poor job	8%	8%	12%
Fair job	16%	27%	20%
Good job	74%	63%	66%

Legend: ■ Good job ■ Fair job □ Poor job □ Don't know

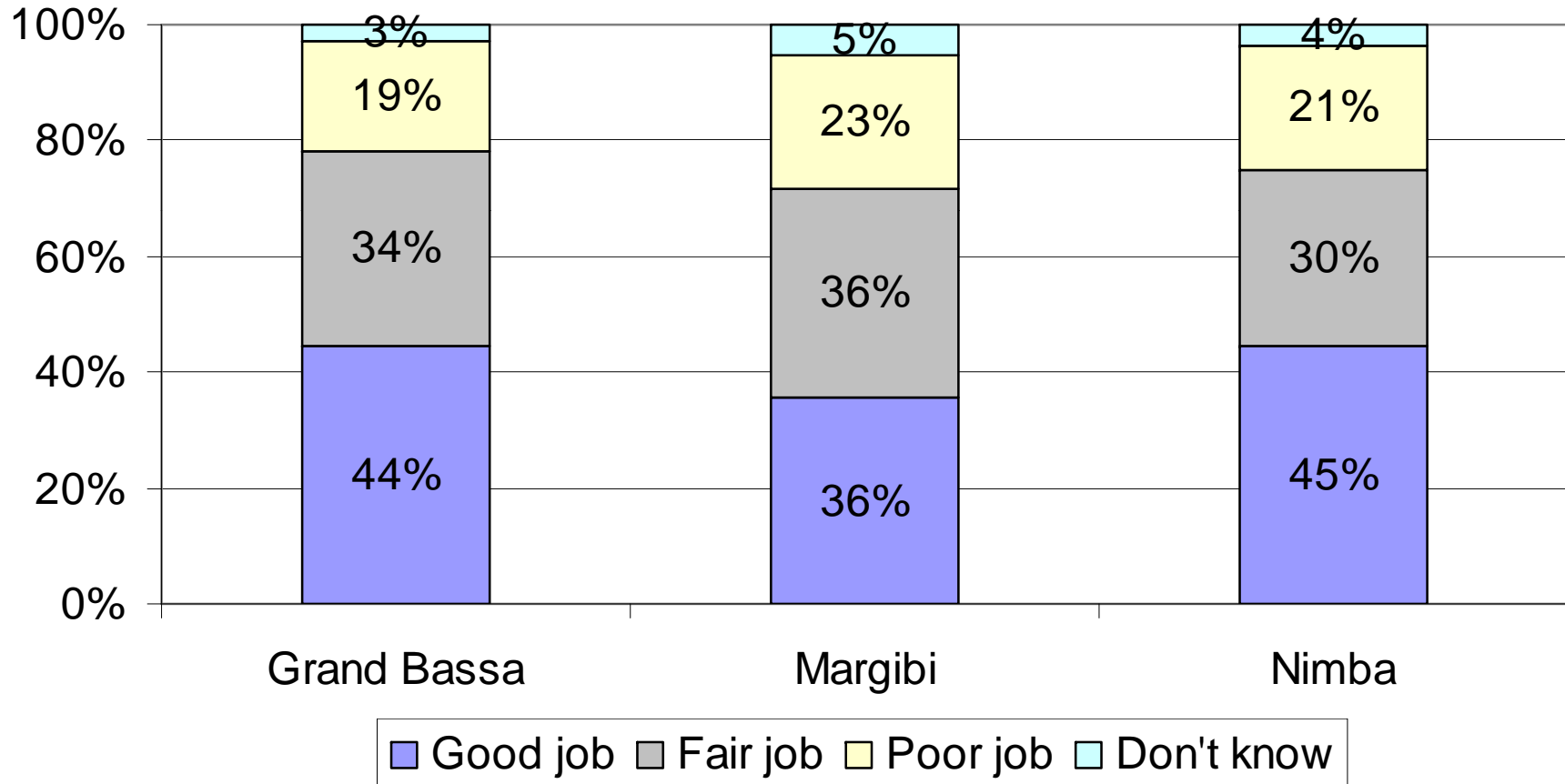# Would you say the government has done a good job, a fair job or a poor job solving the problem of providing clean and safe water?
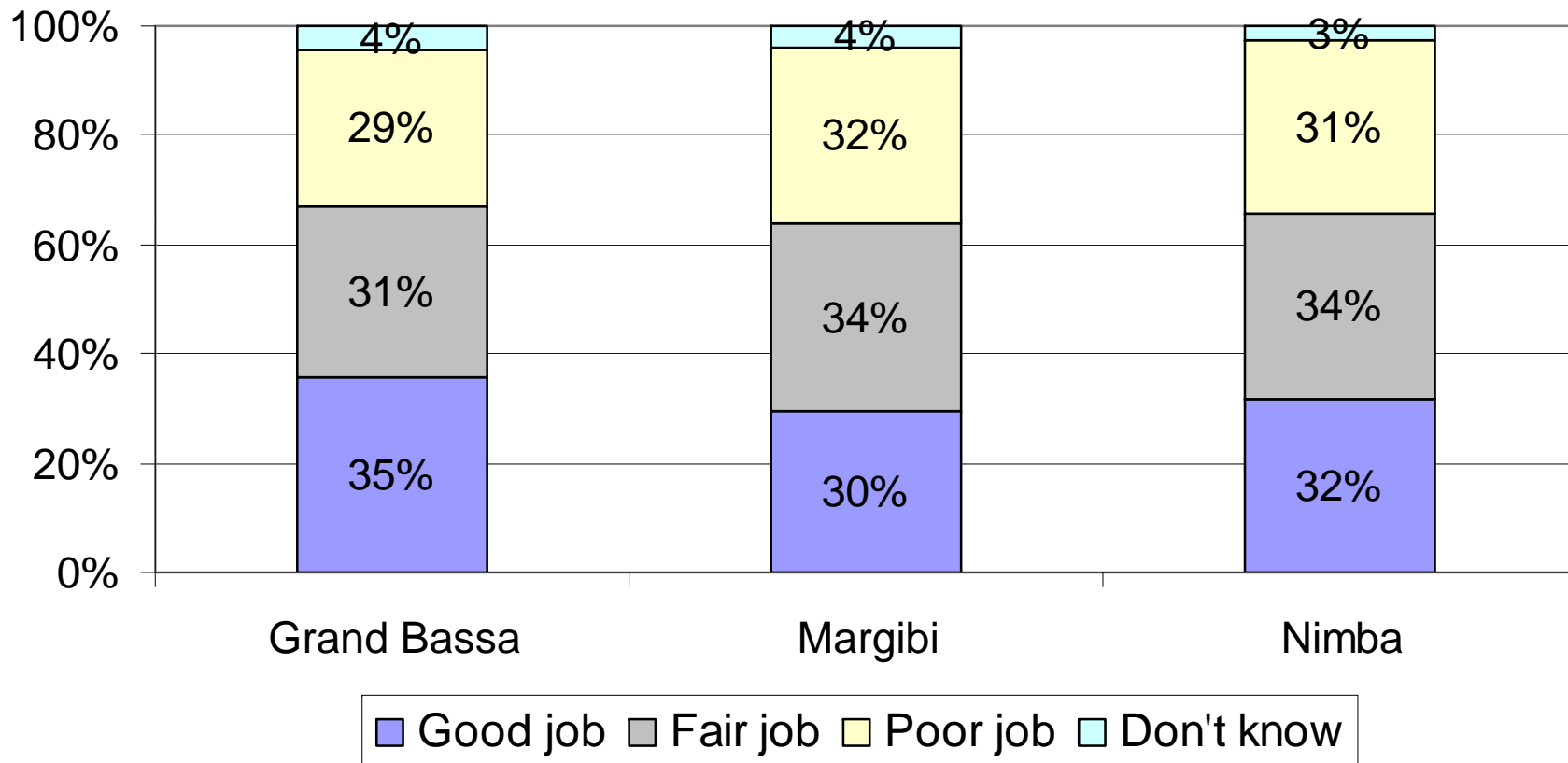
Grand Bassa: Good job 35%, Fair job 31%, Poor job 29%, Don't know 4%
Margibi: Good job 30%, Fair job 34%, Poor job 32%, Don't know 4%
Nimba: Good job 32%, Fair job 34%, Poor job 31%, Don't know 3%

☐ Good job ☐ Fair job ☐ Poor job ☐ Don't know

Would you say the government has done a good job, a fair job or a poor job solving the problem of providing electricity?

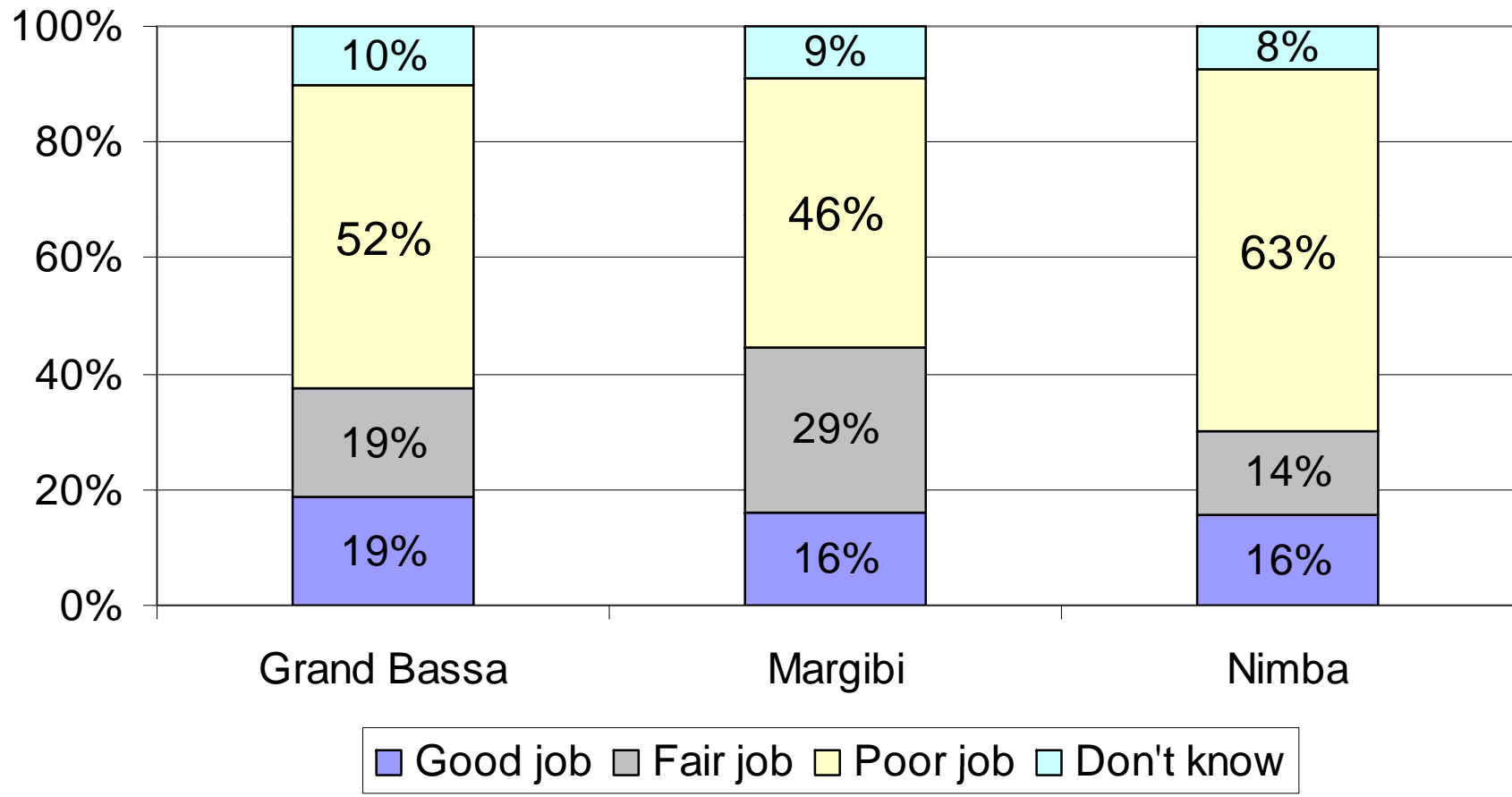|	Grand Bassa	Margibi	Nimba
Don't know	9%	11%	9%
Poor job	64%	51%	74%
Fair job	18%	24%	13%
Good job	8%	14%	4%

Legend: ■ Good job ■ Fair job □ Poor job □ Don't know

Would you say the government has done a good job, a fair job or a poor job solving the problem of providing healthcare?

	Grand Bassa	Margibi	Nimba
Don't know	3%	5%	4%
Poor job	19%	23%	21%
Fair job	34%	36%	30%
Good job	44%	36%	45%

■ Good job ■ Fair job □ Poor job □ Don't know

Would you say the government has done a good job, a fair job or a poor job solving the problem of reducing or eliminating corruption?

	Grand Bassa	Margibi	Nimba
Don't know	10%	9%	8%
Poor job	52%	46%	63%
Fair job	19%	29%	14%
Good job	19%	16%	16%

Legend: ■ Good job ■ Fair job □ Poor job □ Don't know

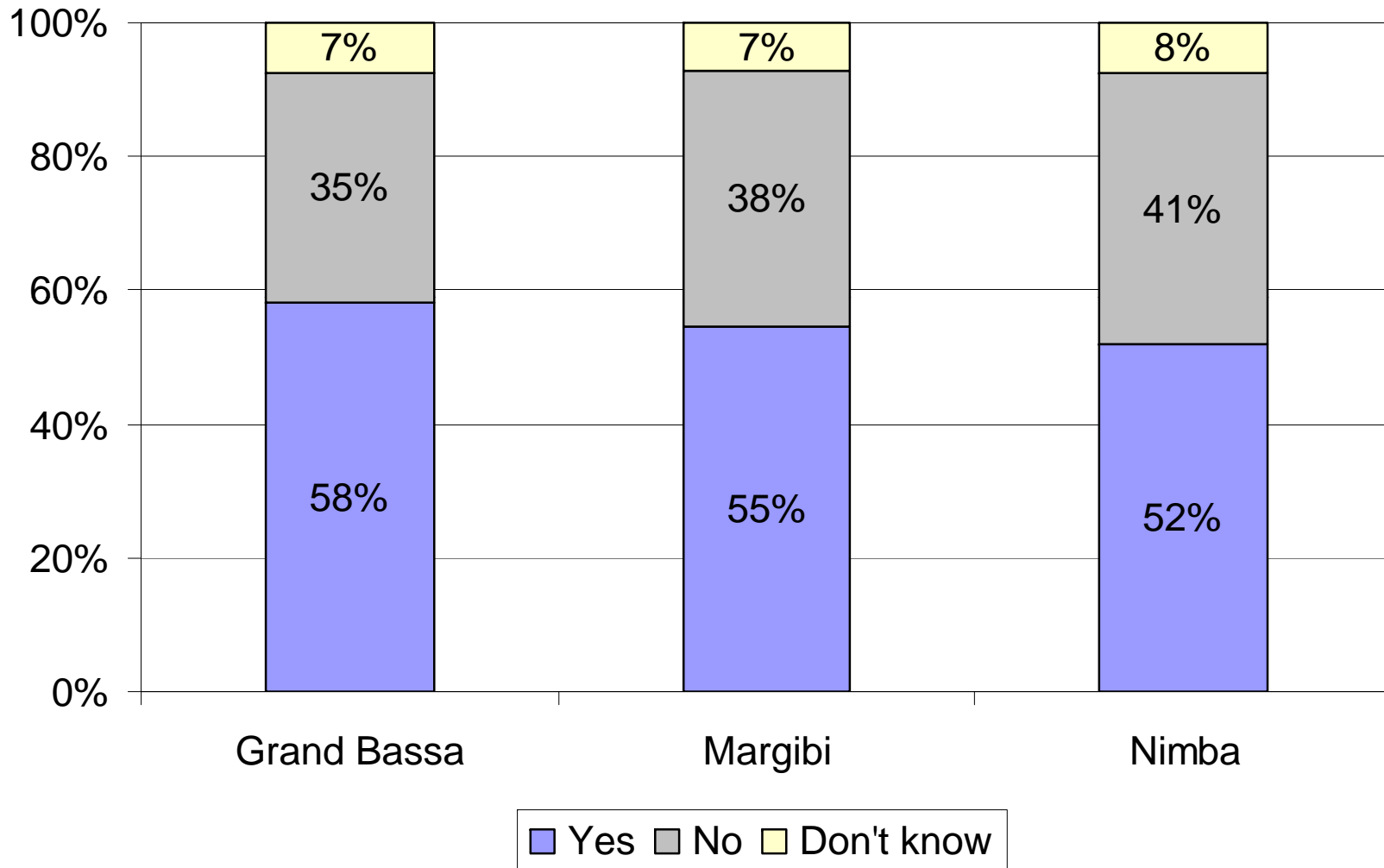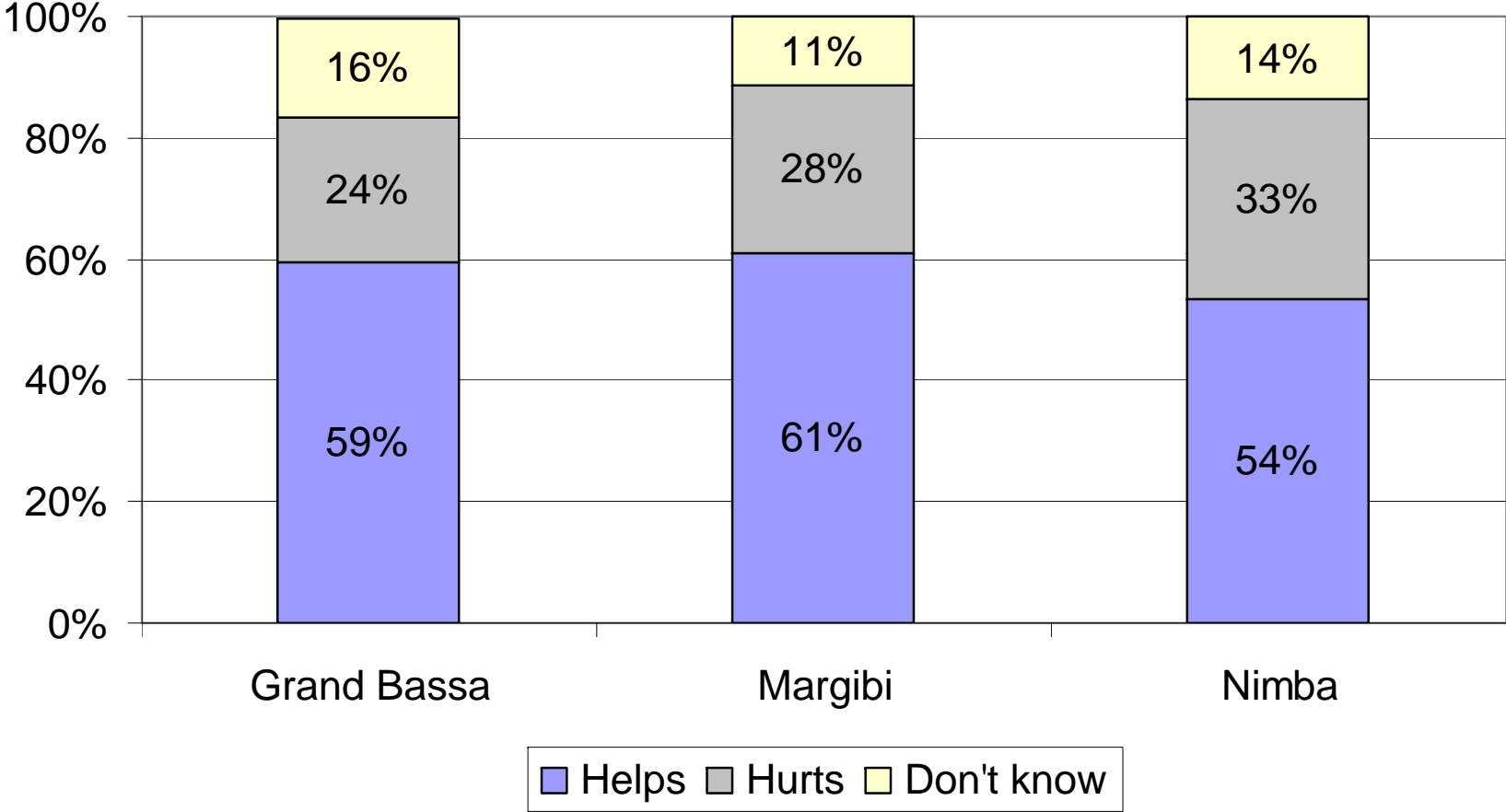**Would you say the government has done a good job, a fair job or a poor job solving the problem of reconciliation and healing of the country?**

	Grand Bassa	Margibi	Nimba
Don't know	12%	6%	6%
Poor job	16%	11%	13%
Fair job	26%	38%	27%
Good job	46%	45%	54%

Legend: ☐ Good job ☐ Fair job ☐ Poor job ☐ Don't know
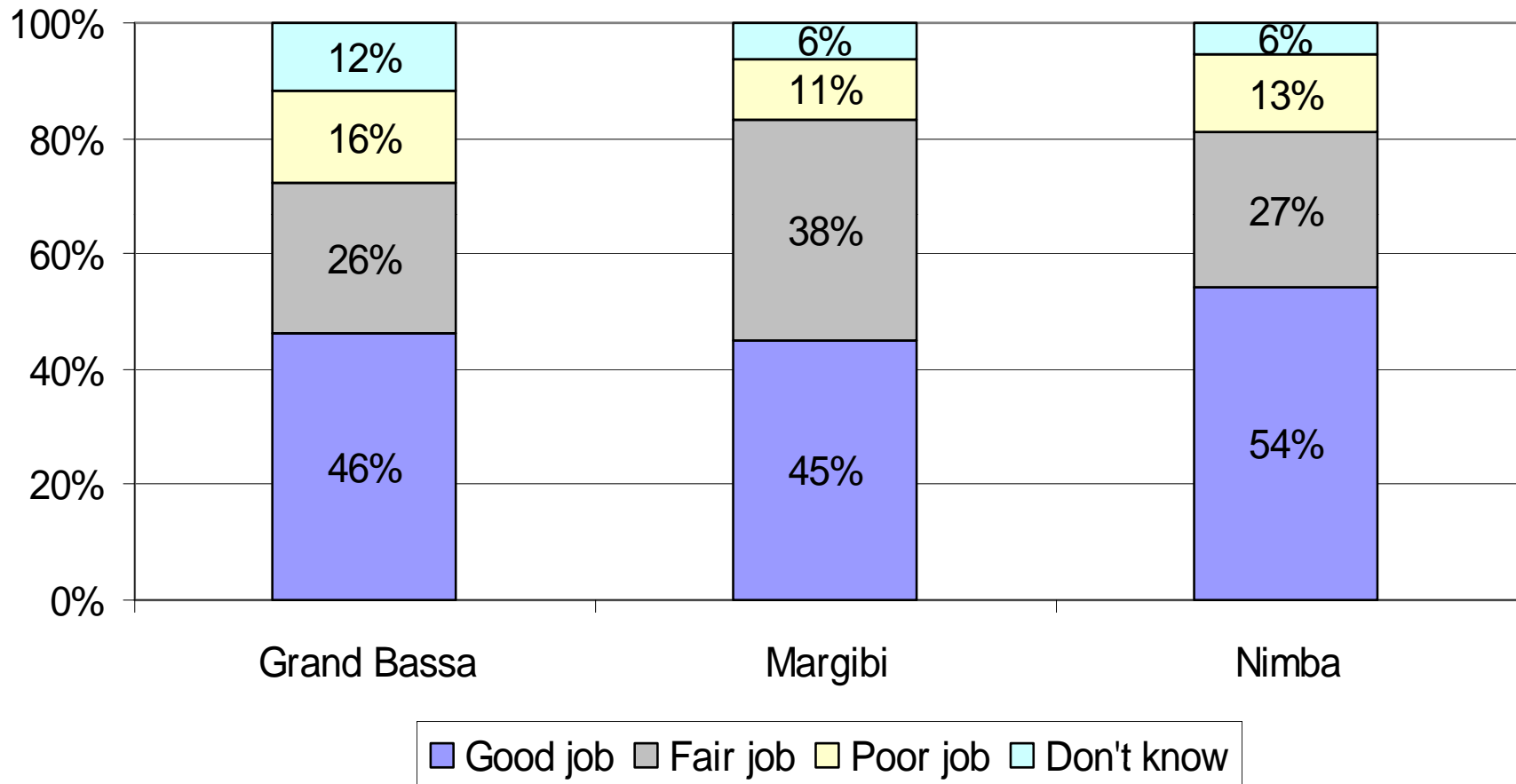
Would you vote for a female candidate?

	Grand Bassa	Margibi	Nimba
Don't know	7%	7%	8%
No	35%	38%	41%
Yes	58%	55%	52%

■ Yes ■ No □ Don't know

Do you think being a female candidate helps or hurts a candidate for the National Legislature?

	Grand Bassa	Margibi	Nimba
Don't know	16%	11%	14%
Hurts	24%	28%	33%
Helps	59%	61%	54%

Legend: ■ Helps ■ Hurts □ Don't know

Where do you get your information about candidates, political parties and elections?

	Grand Bassa	Margibi	Nimba
Don't know	1%	3%	1%
Other	7%	9%	4%
Friends	12%	12%	10%
Radio	80%	75%	85%

Legend: ■ Radio ■ Friends □ Other □ Don't know
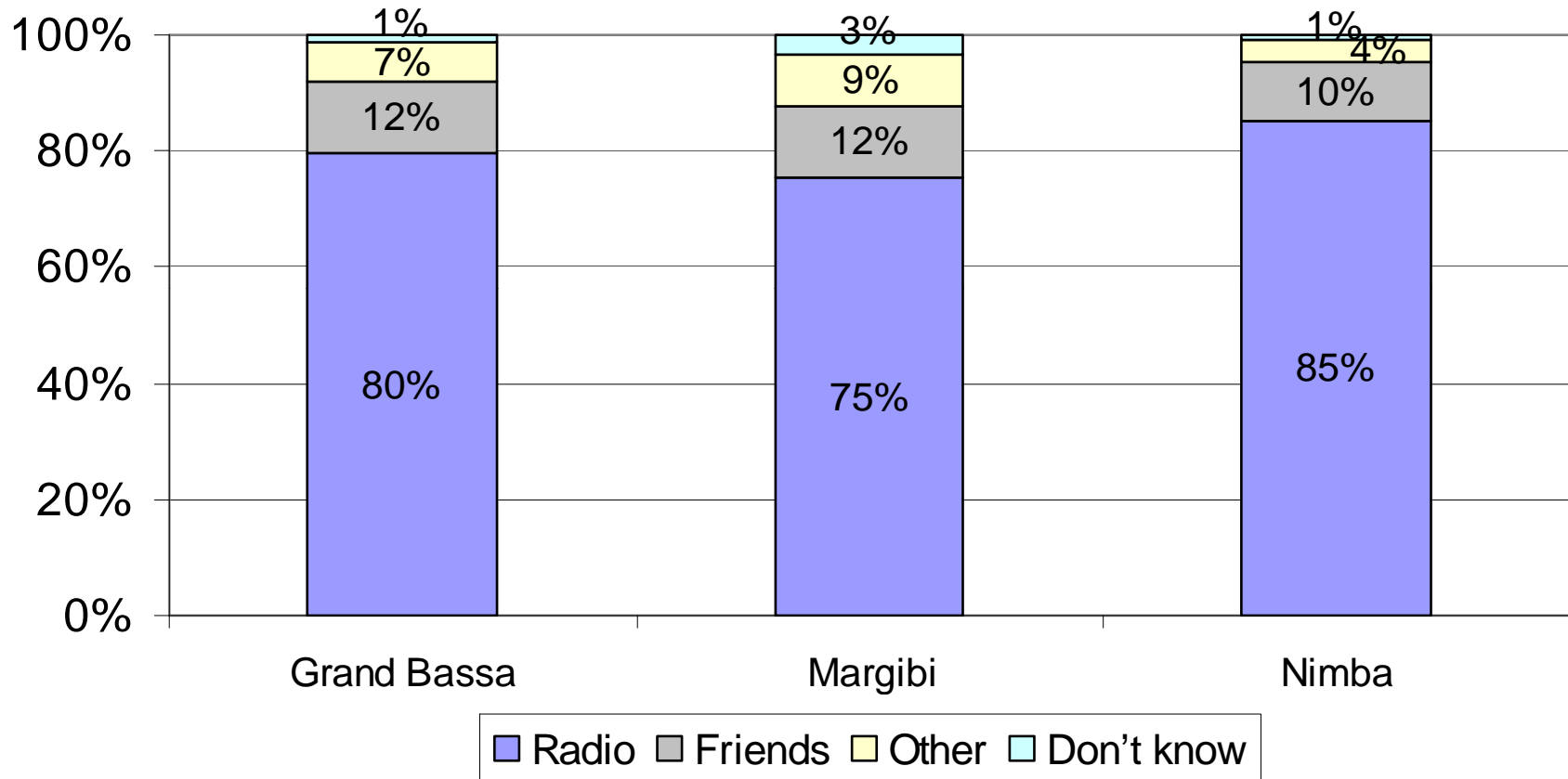
How reliable do you think your information source is in terms of being able to trust what they say?

Legend: ■ Reliable ■ Not all □ Not reliable □ Don't know

Region	Reliable	Not all	Not reliable	Don't know
Grand Bassa	42%	49%	4%	6%
Margibi	47%	40%	5%	9%
Nimba	39%	53%	5%	3%

How often do you get news?

	Grand Bassa	Margibi	Nimba
Don't know	3%	8%	4%
Daily	37%	33%	36%
Regularly	23%	25%	22%
Once in a while	37%	35%	39%

Once in a while ■ Regularly ■ Daily ■ Don't know