

Survey of Bangladeshi Public Opinion

April 17 – 22, 2009





Survey Methodology



These results reflect a nationwide public opinion survey conducted April 17-22, 2009, with additional information compiled from a series of nationwide polls conducted between May and December 2008.

The fieldwork was conducted by Nielsen Bangladesh based in Dhaka, Bangladesh. Oversight and analysis was provided by the International Republic Institute and David Williams of Williams and Associates of Salem, Massachusetts.

The research was conducted via face-to-face interviews in respondents' homes.

The sample was distributed at the administrative division level, rural and urban, in all six administrative divisions of Bangladesh (Dhaka 38%, Rajshahi 20%, Chittagong 19%, Khulna 12%, Sylhet 6%, Barisal 6%). The sample was then post-weighted to make it proportionate to national representation by administrative division.

In rural areas, the survey team visited the central part of each selected cluster and randomly chose a direction from there by randomly selecting starting points from a number of starting points or by spinning a bottle. The first sample household was selected from among the households located along the chosen direction. From each starting point, the field team followed the left/right hand rule (depending on the availability of additional households). One of the first five houses in a row was selected randomly. After that, the team selected every second house.



Survey Methodology



In urban areas, the same methodology was followed. However, if the urban cluster area was divided into different portions by roads, lanes or by-lanes, with each portion containing an approximately equal population, all such portions were then listed serially.

Within each selected household, the names of all household members were listed in descending order of their age. Serial numbers were provided to all members aged 18 years and older in the descending order of age. One respondent (voter) was selected randomly from each household.

The research was conducted using a sample size of 1,530 in all surveys with the exception of the May 2008 survey which used a sample size of 5,400. All respondents were older than the age of 18.

Maximum sampling error for this survey is +/- 2.58 percent.

The urban sample accounts for 30 percent of respondents; the rural sample accounts for 70 percent of respondents.

The male-to-female ratio was 50 percent male to 50 percent female.

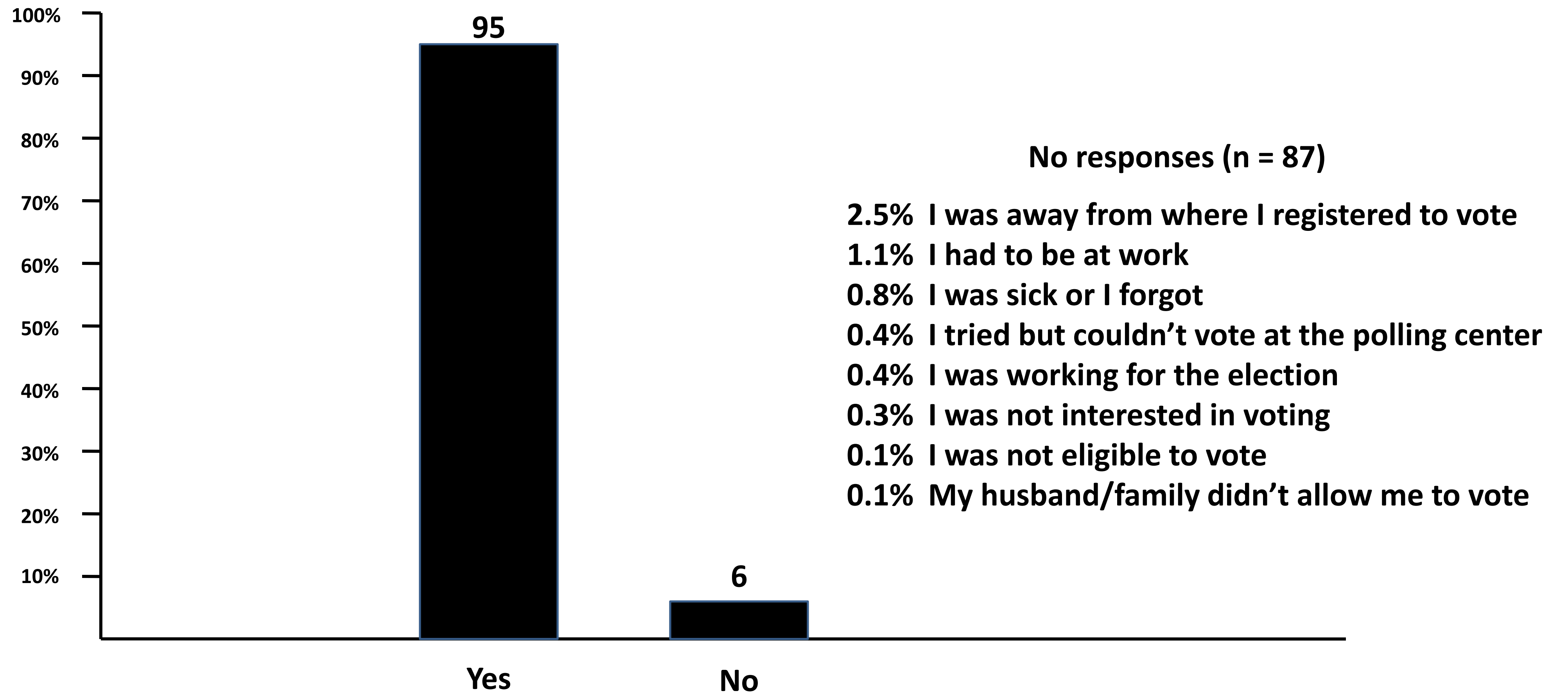
Figures in charts and tables may not sum to 100 percent due to rounding error.



Parliamentary and Local Elections

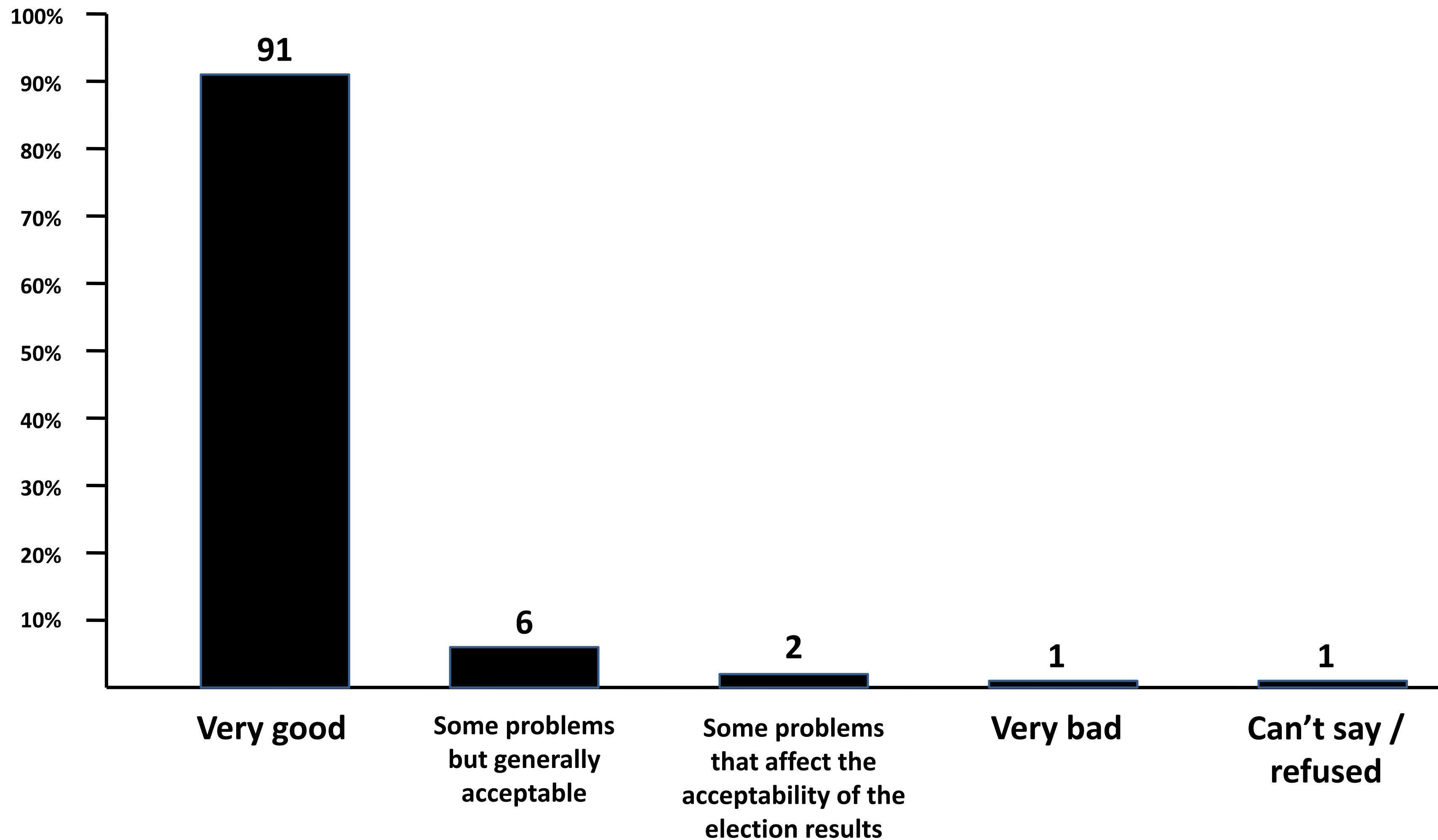


Did you vote in the December 29, 2008, parliamentary elections? If not, why not?



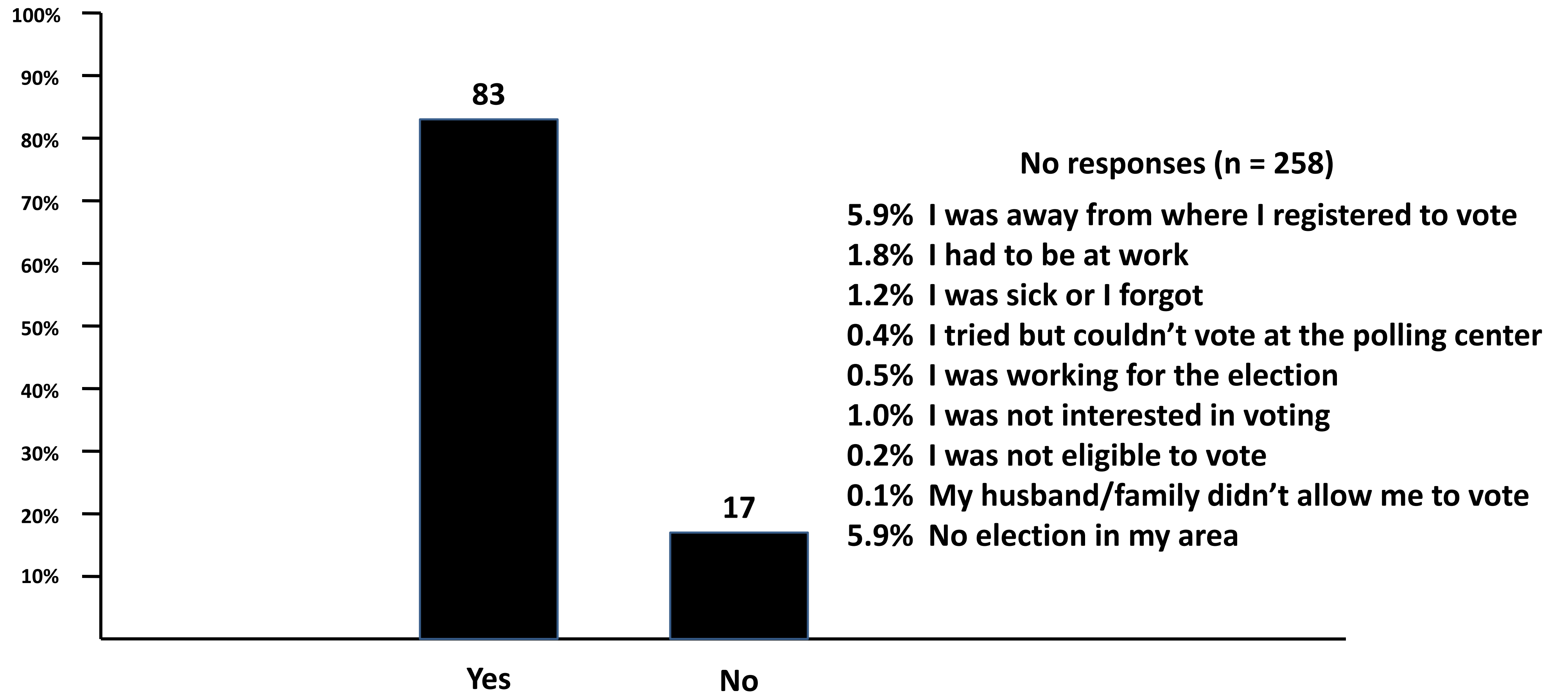


Overall, how would you describe the election environment for the parliamentary elections?





Did you vote in the January 22, 2009, *upazila parishad* (subdistrict council) elections? If not, why not?

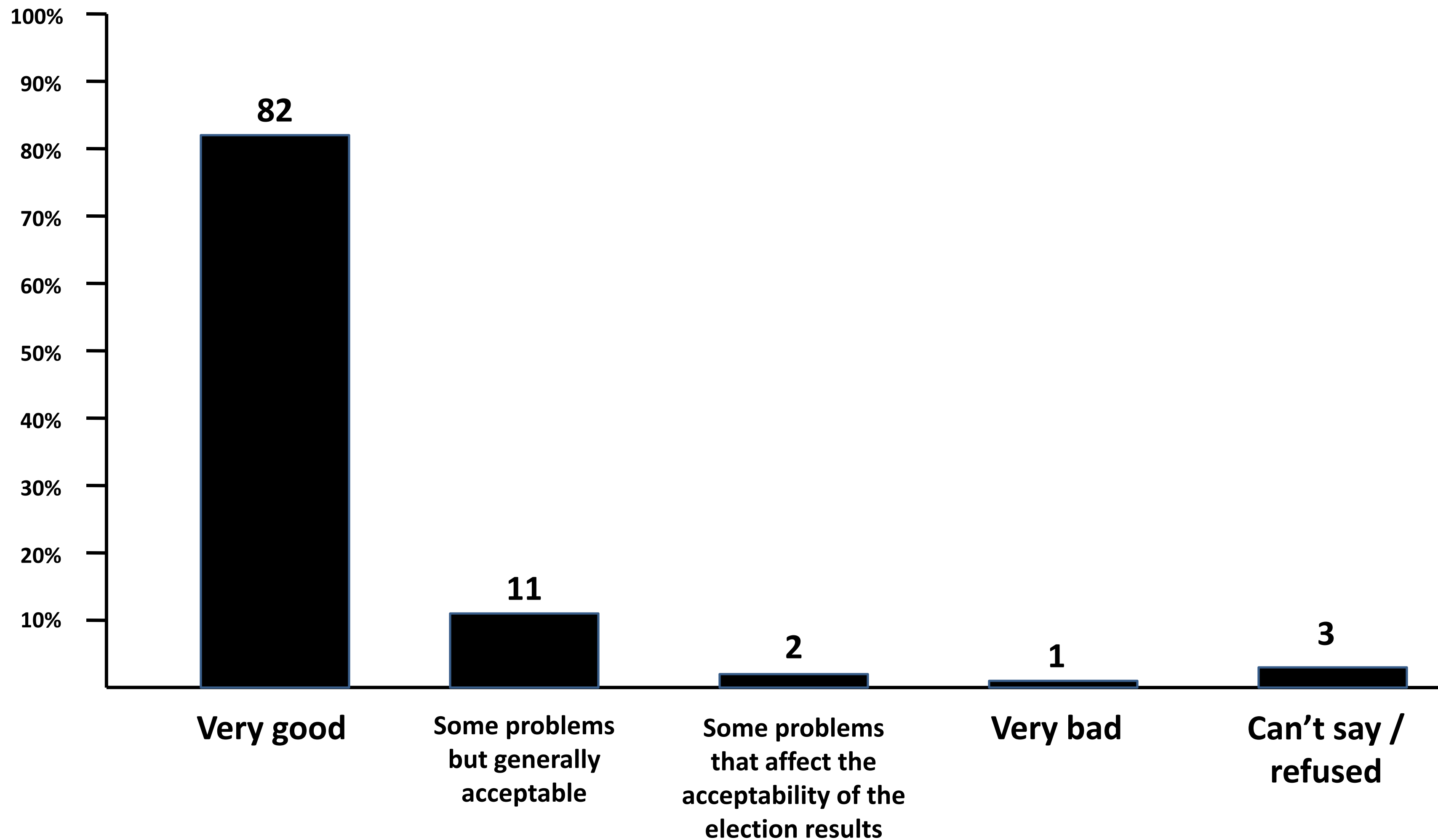




Overall, how would you describe the election environment for these *upazila parishad* (subdistrict council) elections?

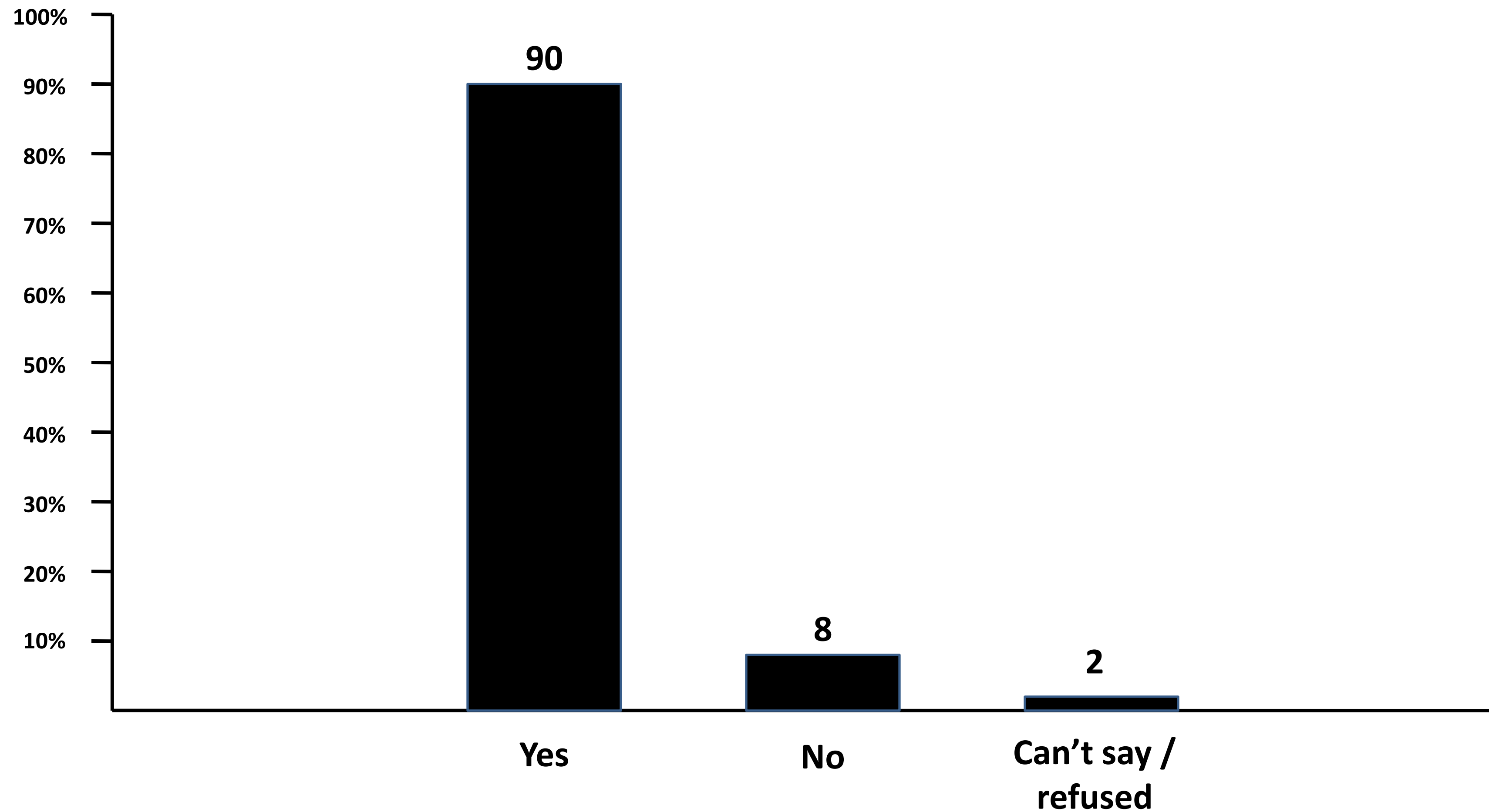


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Overall, do you think the outcome of these recent elections in Bangladesh accurately reflects the collective will of the population?

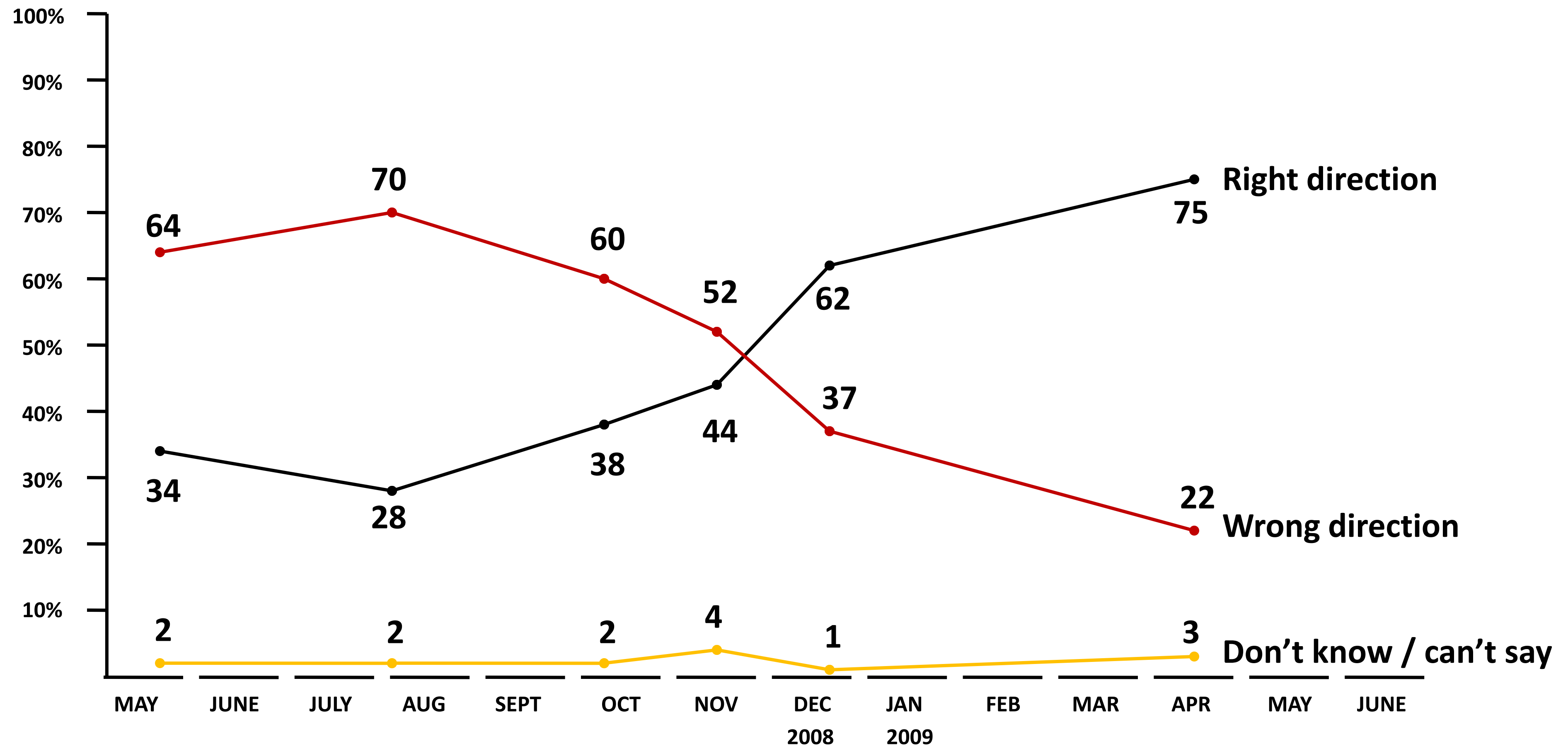




Issues Facing Bangladesh Today



Overall, do you think things in Bangladesh are headed in the right direction, or are they headed in the wrong direction?





Why do you say that?



(top answers, multiple responses)

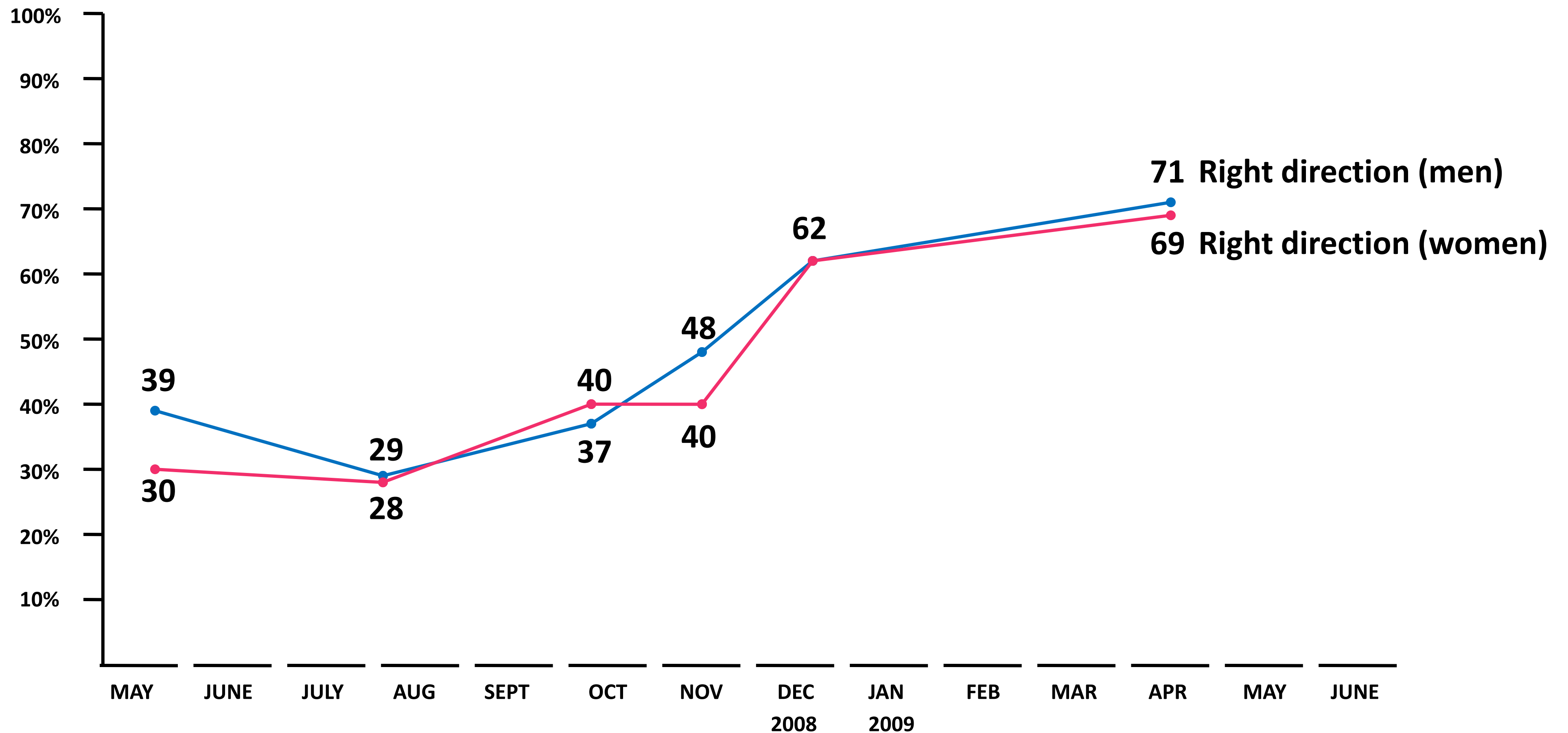
	Right direction (n = 1,069)	Wrong direction (n = 310)
Prices	66%	48%
Law and order	37%	33%
Development	10%	7%
Corruption	0%	10%
Bangladesh Rifles (BDR) mutiny	0%	7%



Overall, do you think things in Bangladesh are headed in the right direction, or are they headed in the wrong direction?

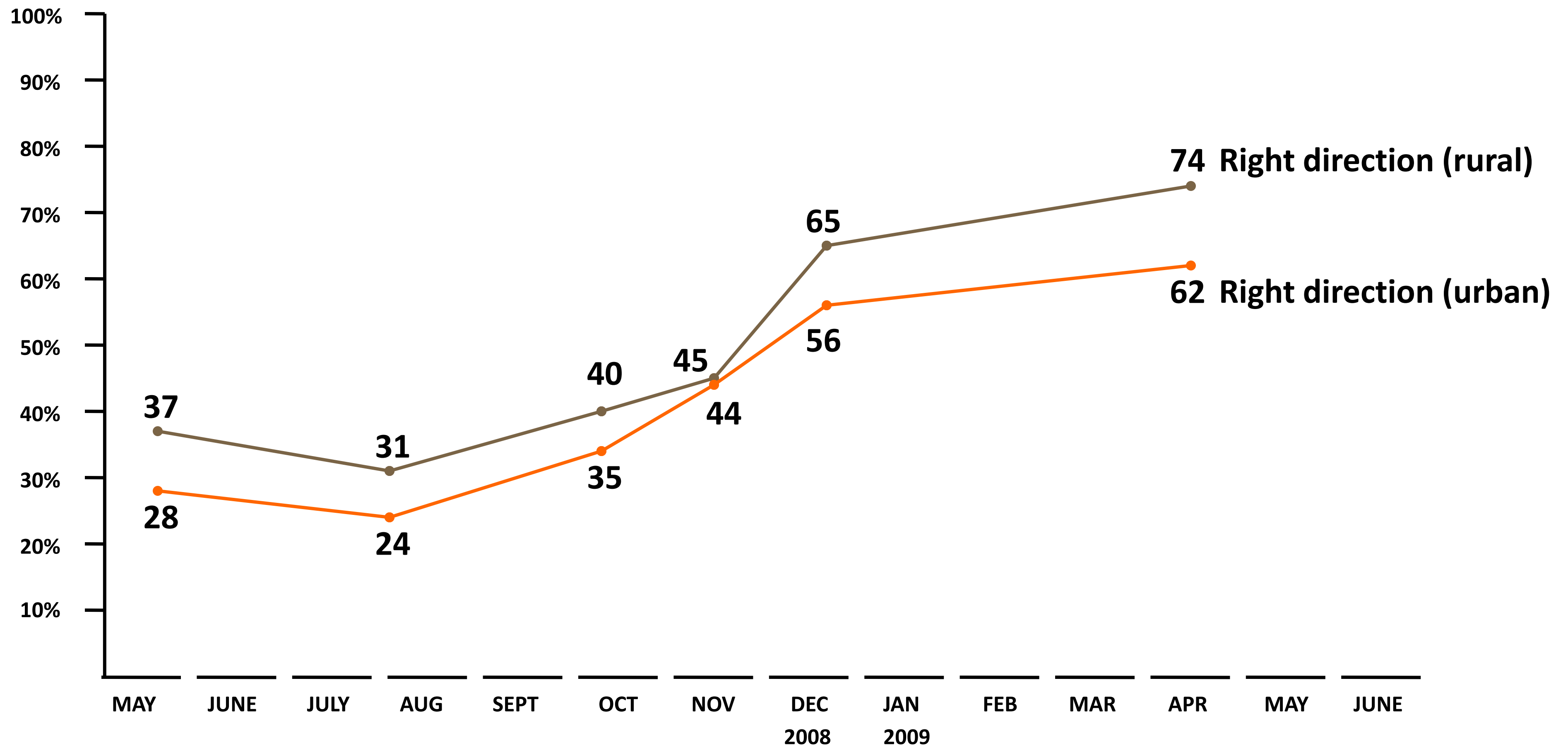


(Right direction responses by gender)
(n = 1,069)



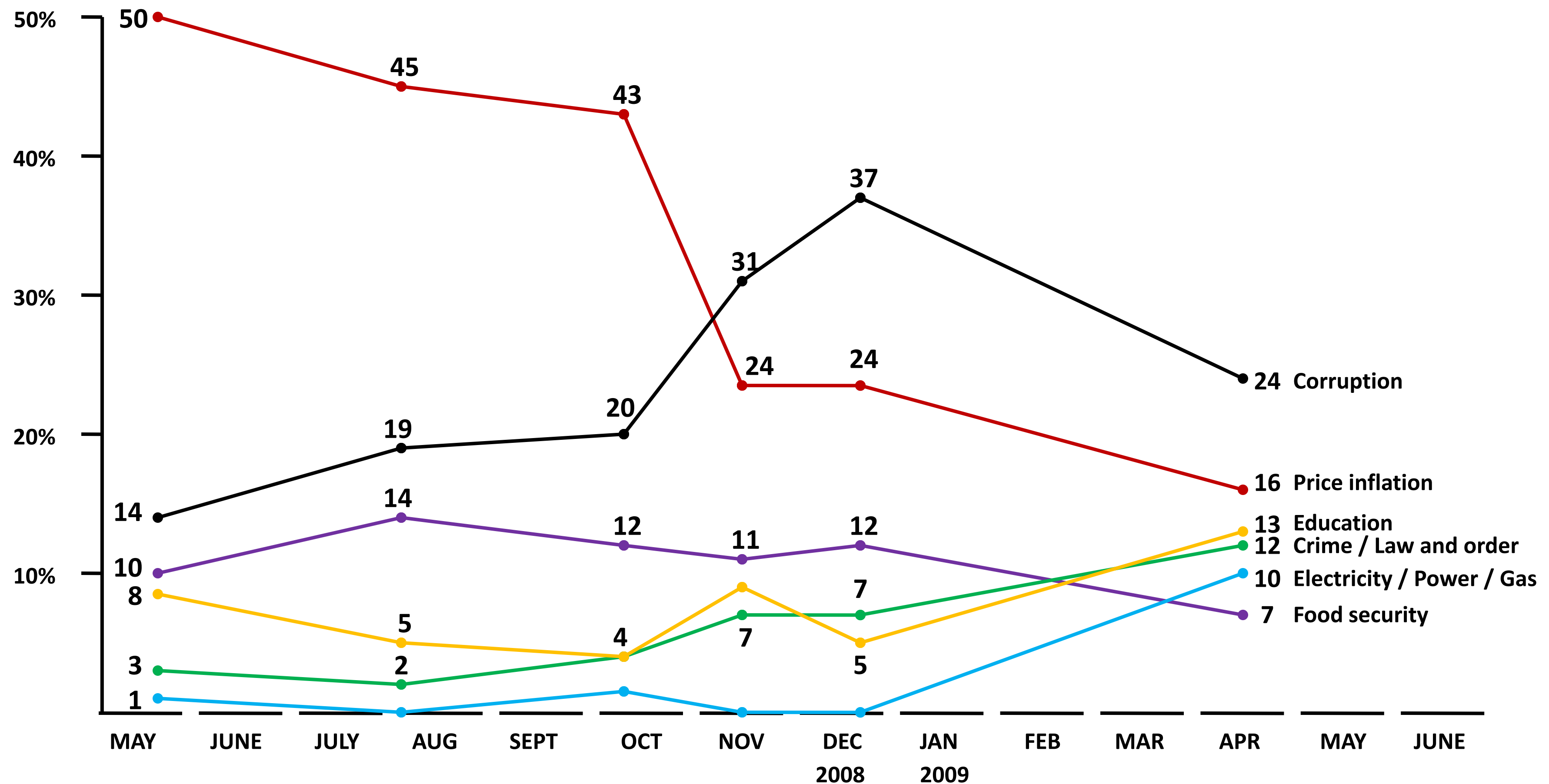


**Overall, do you think things in Bangladesh are headed in the right direction, or are they headed in the wrong direction?
(Right direction responses by urban/rural)
(n = 1,069)**



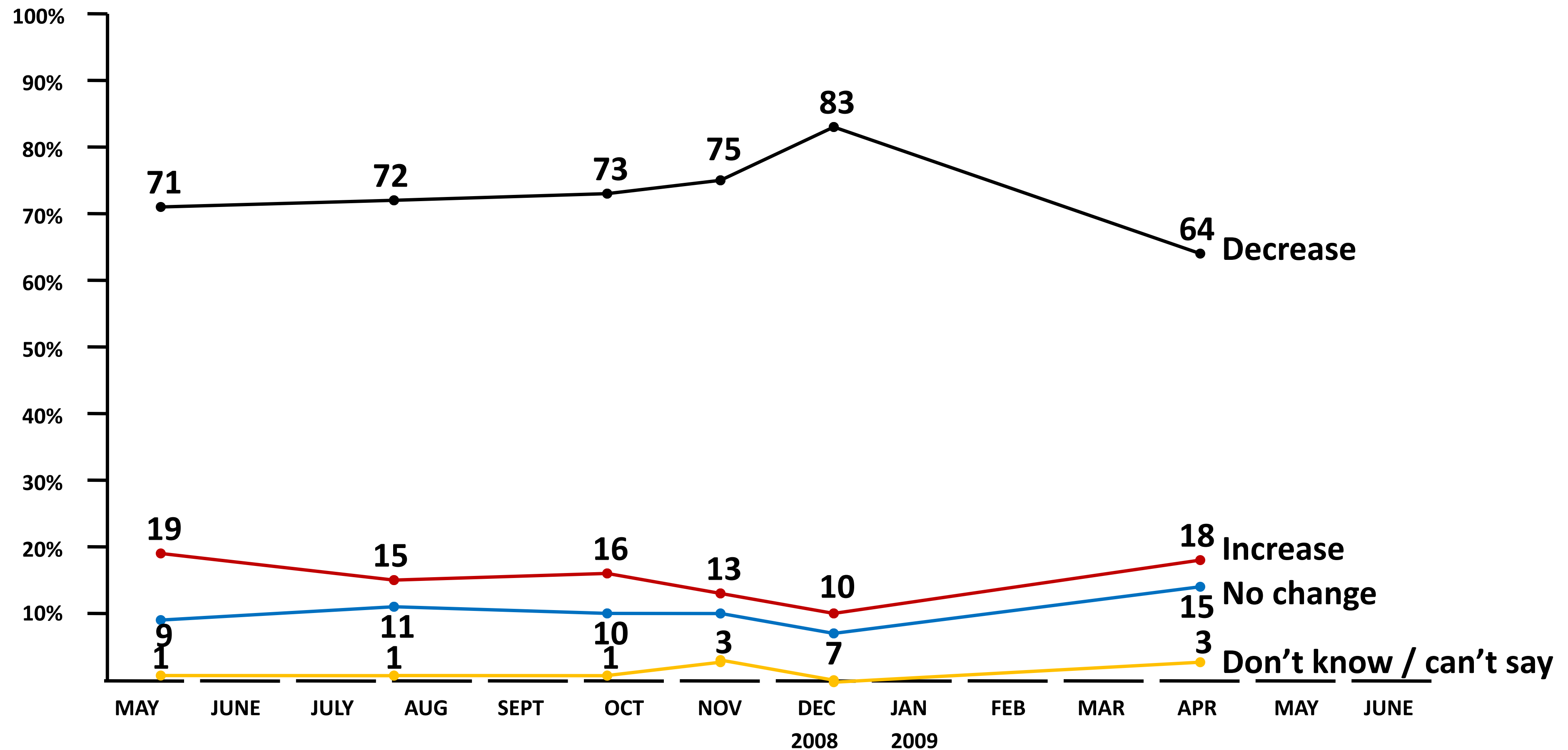
Which issue do you think needs the greatest attention from the government at the present time?

(top six responses)





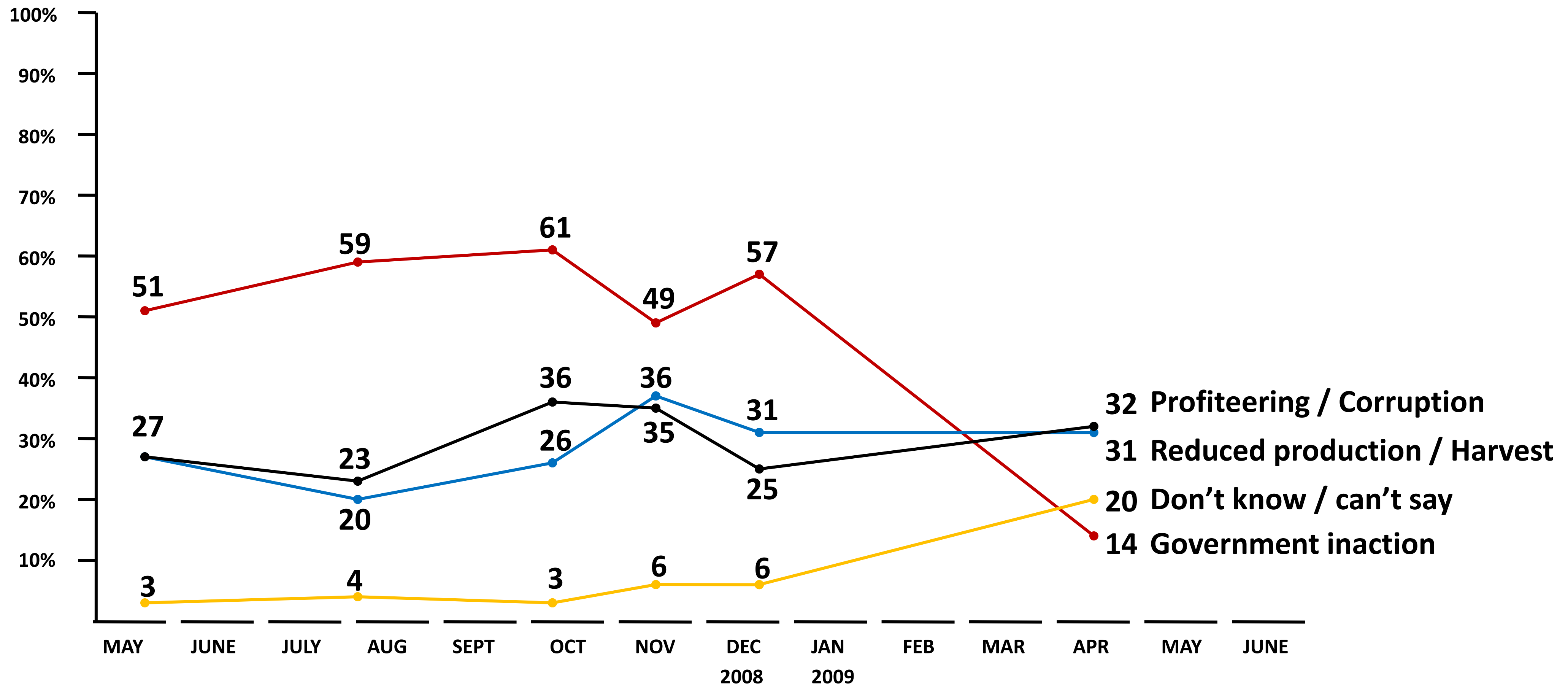
Since the anti-corruption campaign began at the beginning of 2007, have you seen an increase, a decrease or no change in the level of corruption you yourself encounter in your daily life?





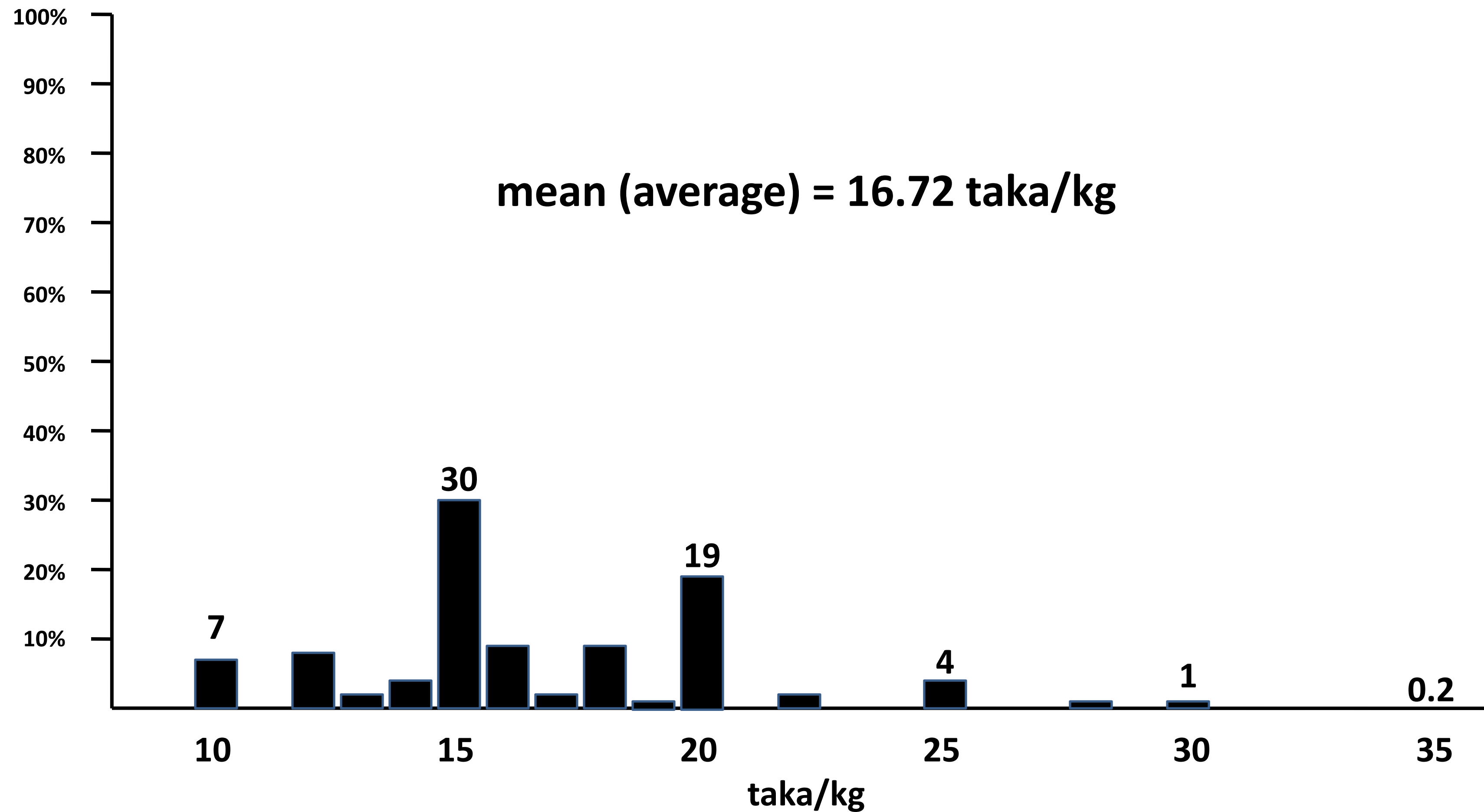
Why do you think the prices of essential food commodities are rising?

(top four responses)



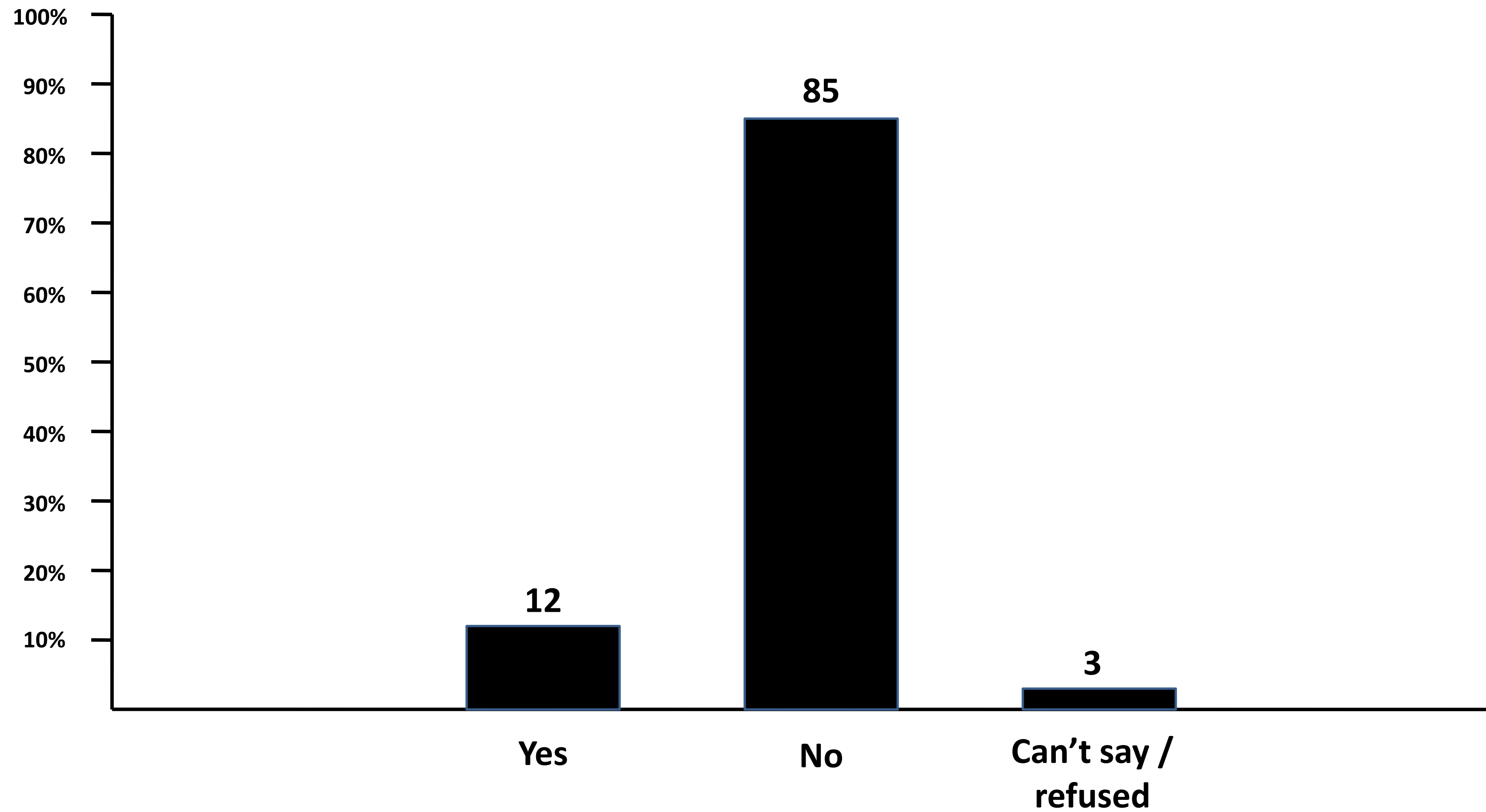


What do you think would be the fair and reasonable price for you to pay for a kilogram of rice?





Do you think those involved in the BDR mutiny should be punished without trial?

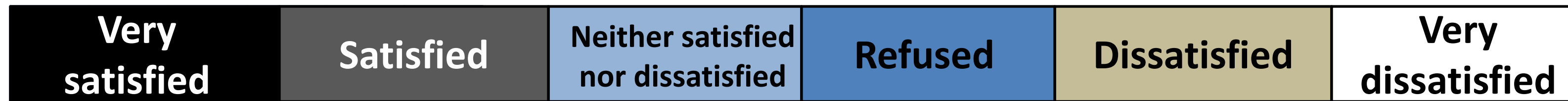




Performance of the Government and Opposition



How satisfied are you with the government's handling of these current matters?



Corruption



Prices of essentials



Education

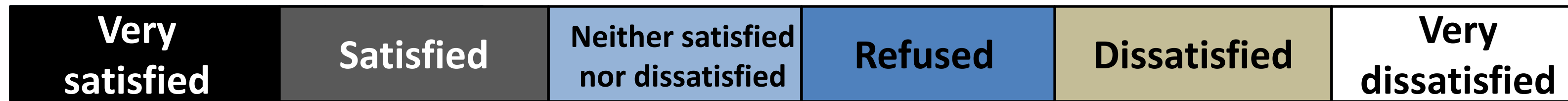


Law and order





How satisfied are you with the government's handling of these current matters?



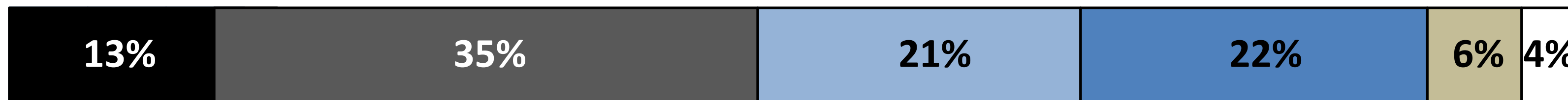
BDR mutiny



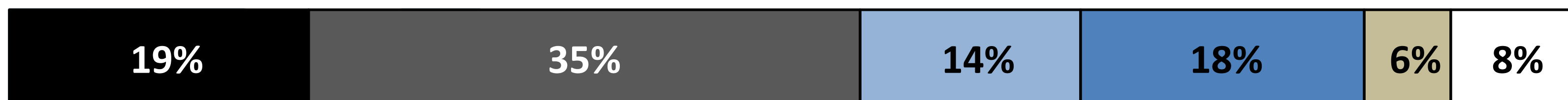
National budget



Organization of parliament and fairness to the opposition

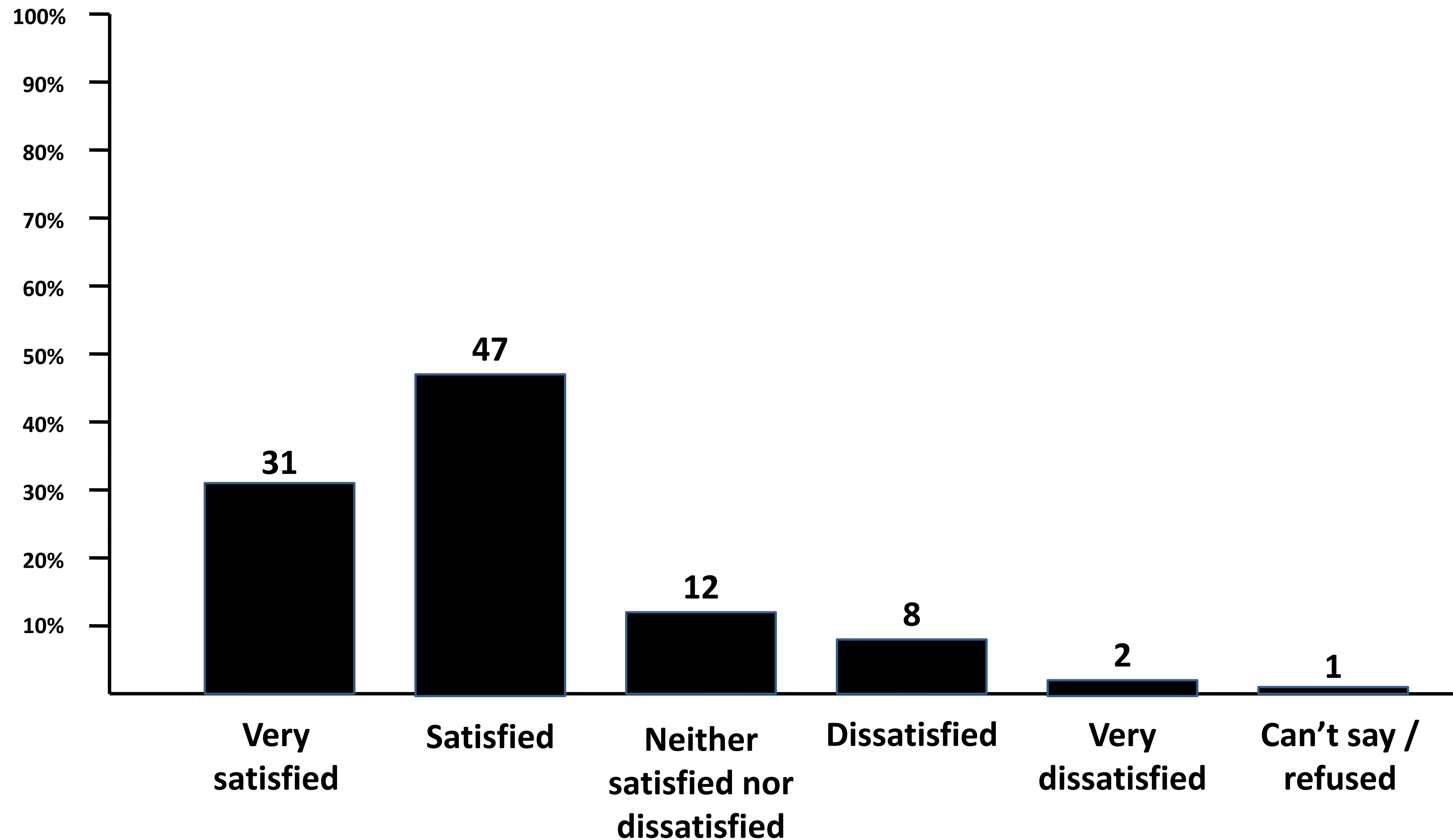


Militant extremism



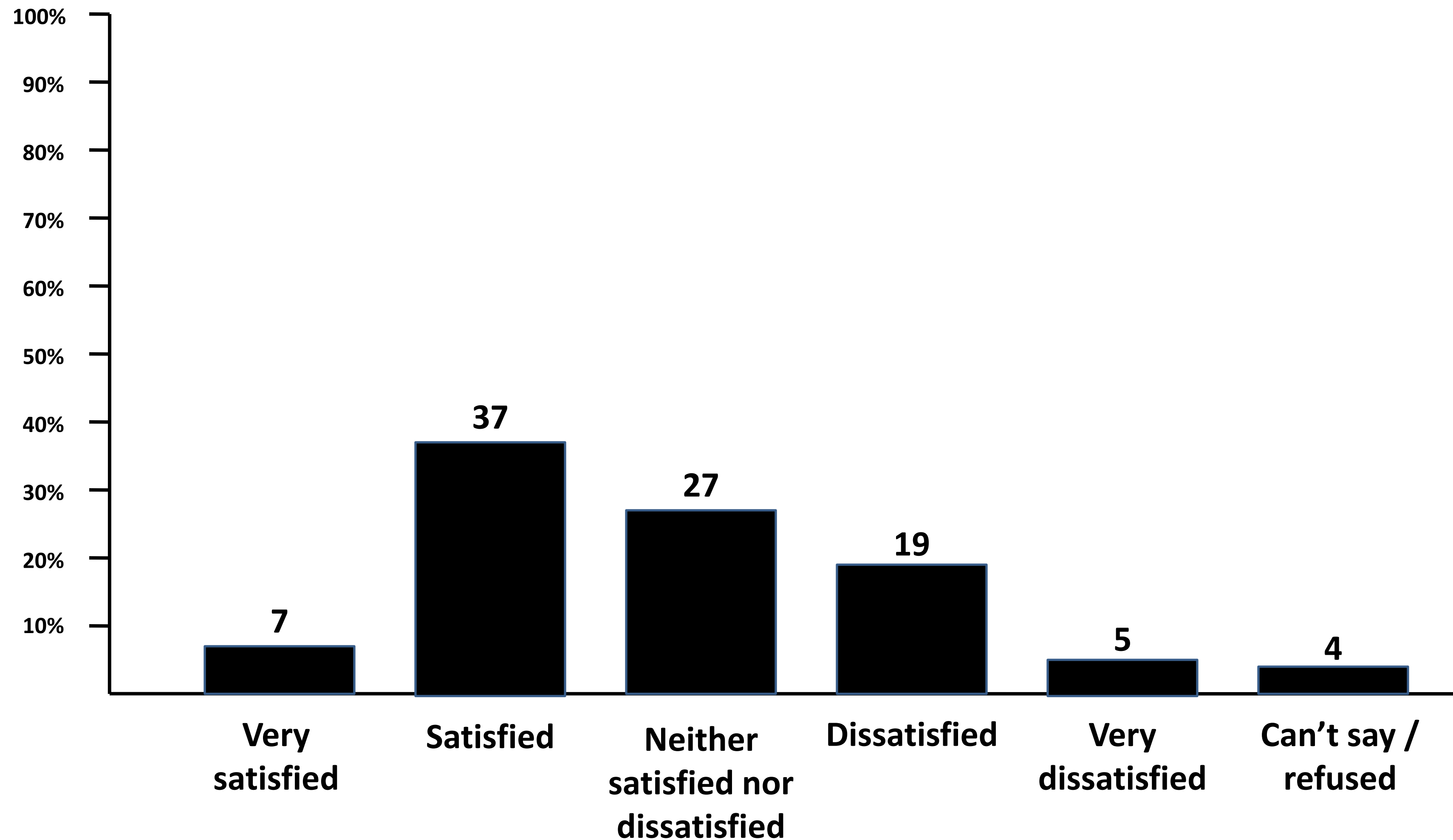


What do you think about the job performance of the Prime Minister right now?



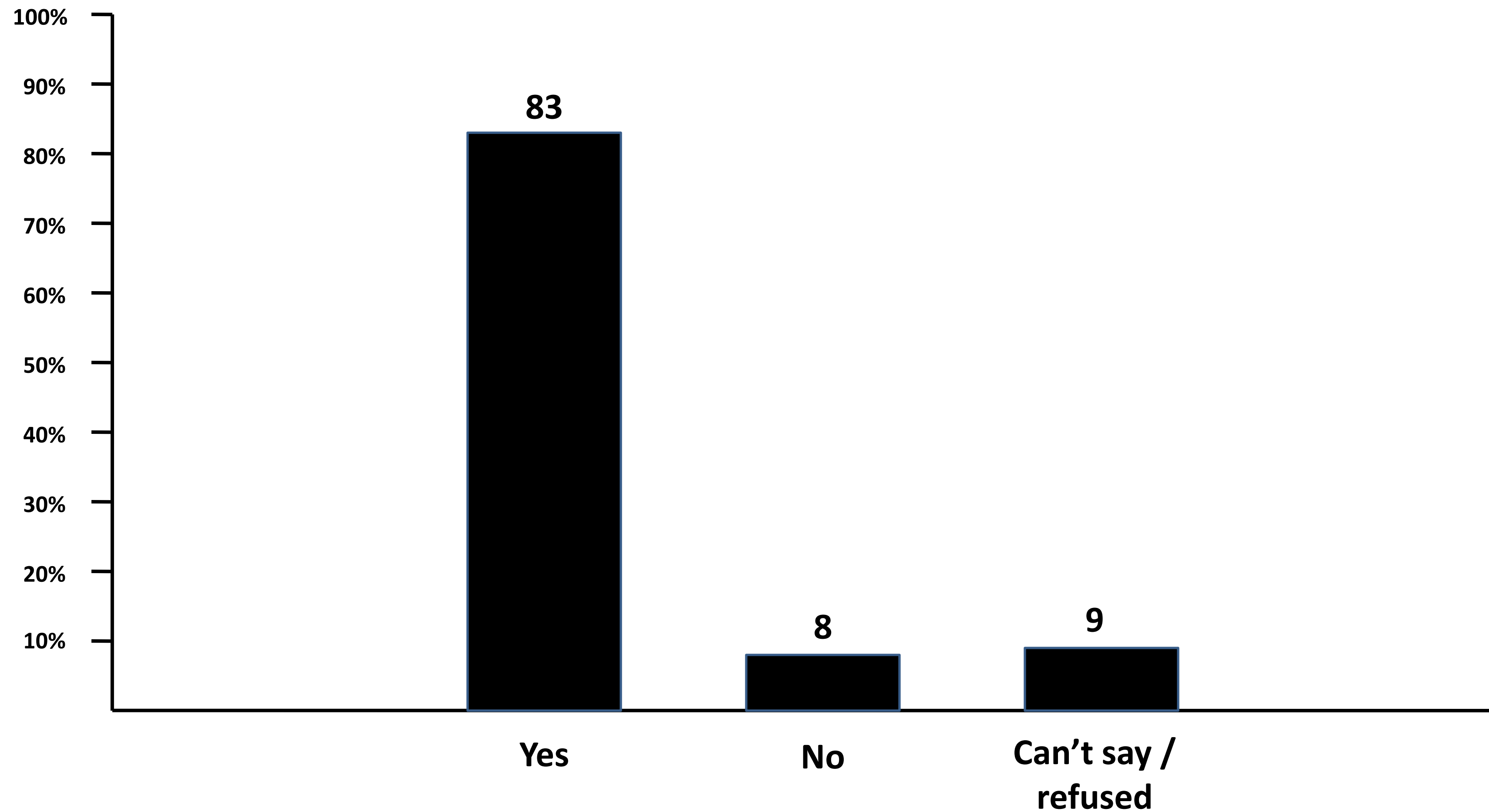


What do you think about the job performance of the Leader of the Opposition right now?



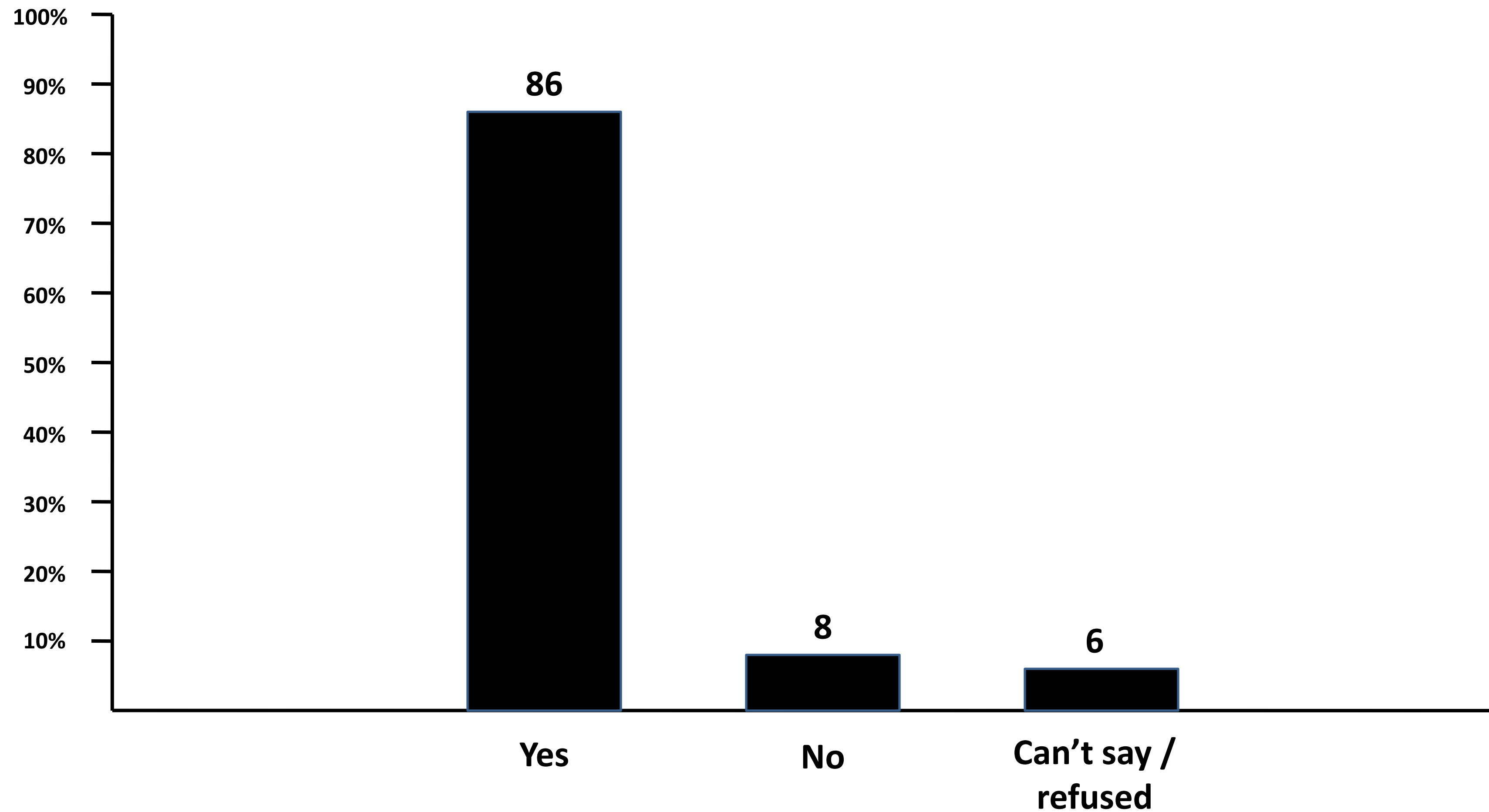


In your opinion, is it important to have an active opposition party participating in debate, committees and other parliamentary proceedings at all times?



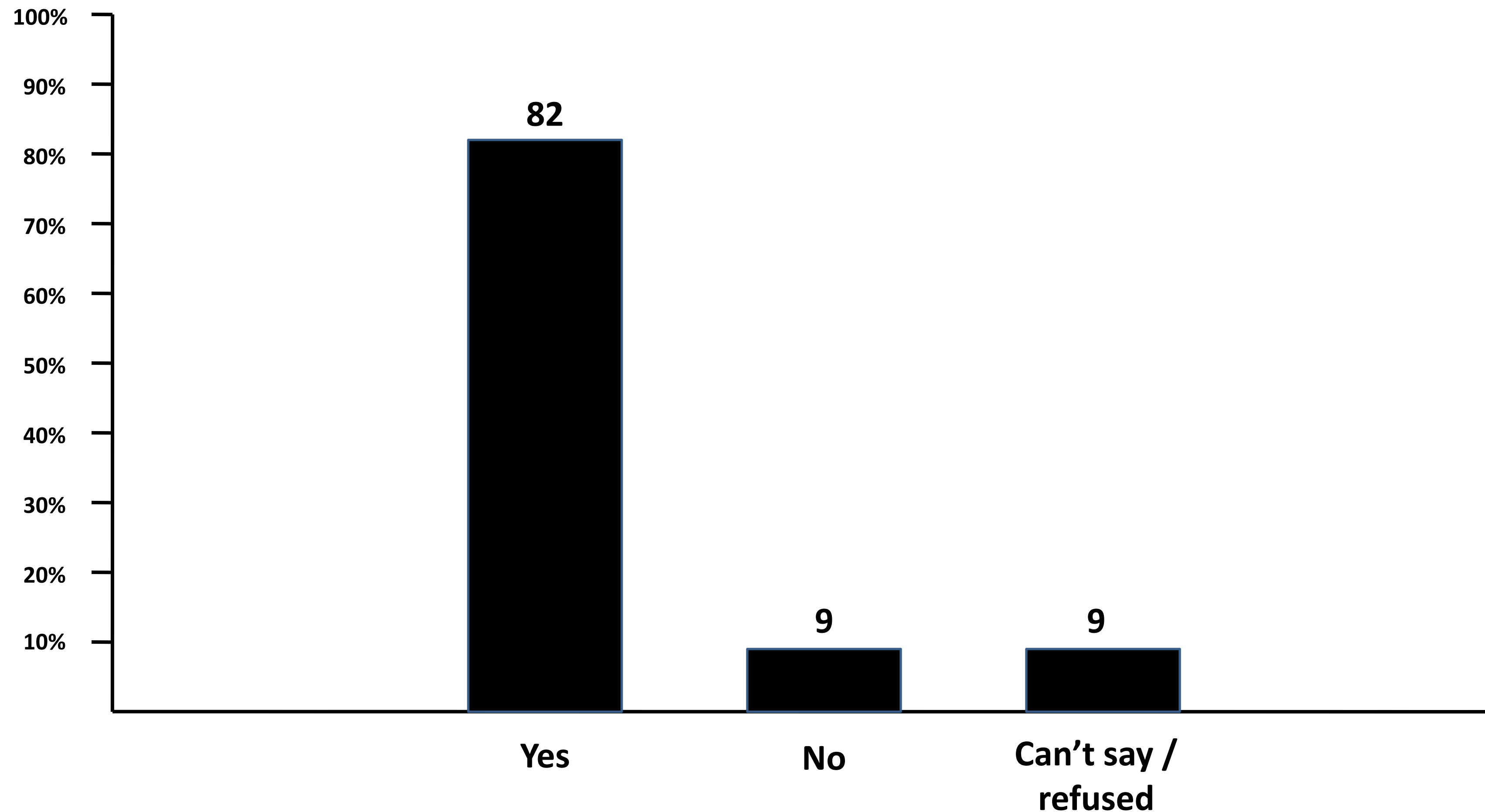


**In your opinion, is it important to have an active opposition party participating in debate, committees and other parliamentary proceedings at all times?
(responses of Four Party Alliance (opposition) voters)**





**In your opinion, is it important to have an active opposition party participating in debate, committees and other parliamentary proceedings at all times?
(responses of Grand Alliance (government) voters)**





**If you could ask one question to Sheikh Hasina, Khaleda Zia
or the same question to both of them,
what would your question be?**



(top questions for Sheikh Hasina)

	All respondents	Grand Alliance voters	Four Party Alliance voters
Will you reduce the prices of everyday goods?	14%	14%	13%
How long will it take to solve the water and power crisis?	10%	11%	6%
Are you thinking of any law to save the country from corruption?	6%	6%	9%



**If you could ask one question to Sheikh Hasina, Khaleda Zia
or the same question to both of them,
what would your question be?
(top questions for Khaleda Zia)**



	All respondents	Grand Alliance voters	Four Party Alliance voters
Will you two work together for the betterment of the country?	11%	10%	14%
Are you thinking of any law to save the country from corruption?	6%	6%	5%
Why was corruption so high during your tenure?	5%	4%	3%



**If you could ask one question to Sheikh Hasina, Khaleda Zia
or the same question to both of them,
what would your question be?**



(top questions for both)

	All respondents	Grand Alliance voters	Four Party Alliance voters
Will you two work together for the betterment of the country?	28%	27%	35%
What programs have been undertaken for the country's development?	3%	4%	2%
Do you two consider yourself as friends?	2%	2%	3%



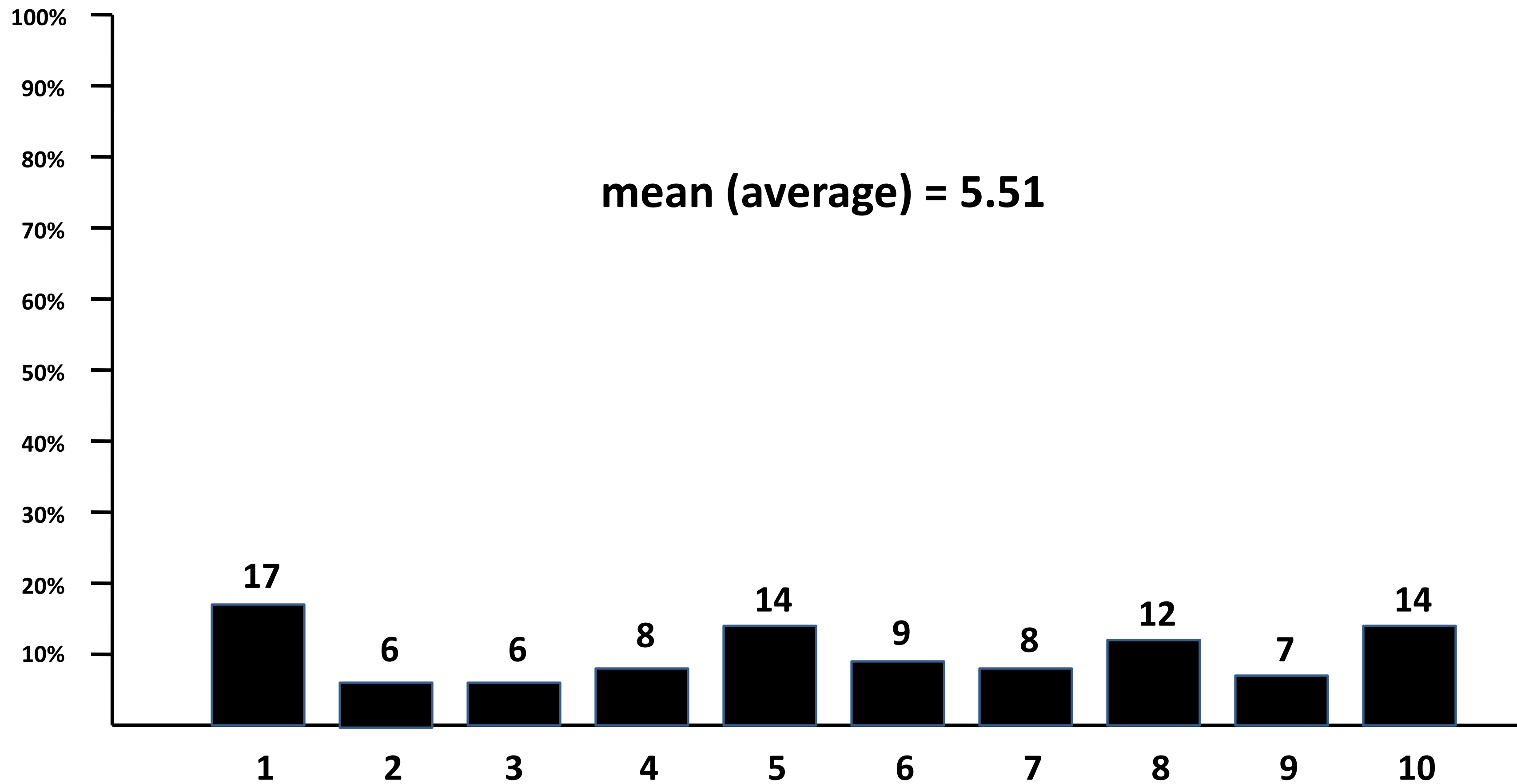
Governance and Services in the Community



**Thinking about where you live, how satisfied are you with the following services in your community?
Please tell me, on a scale of one to 10, how satisfied you are with your community's roads?**



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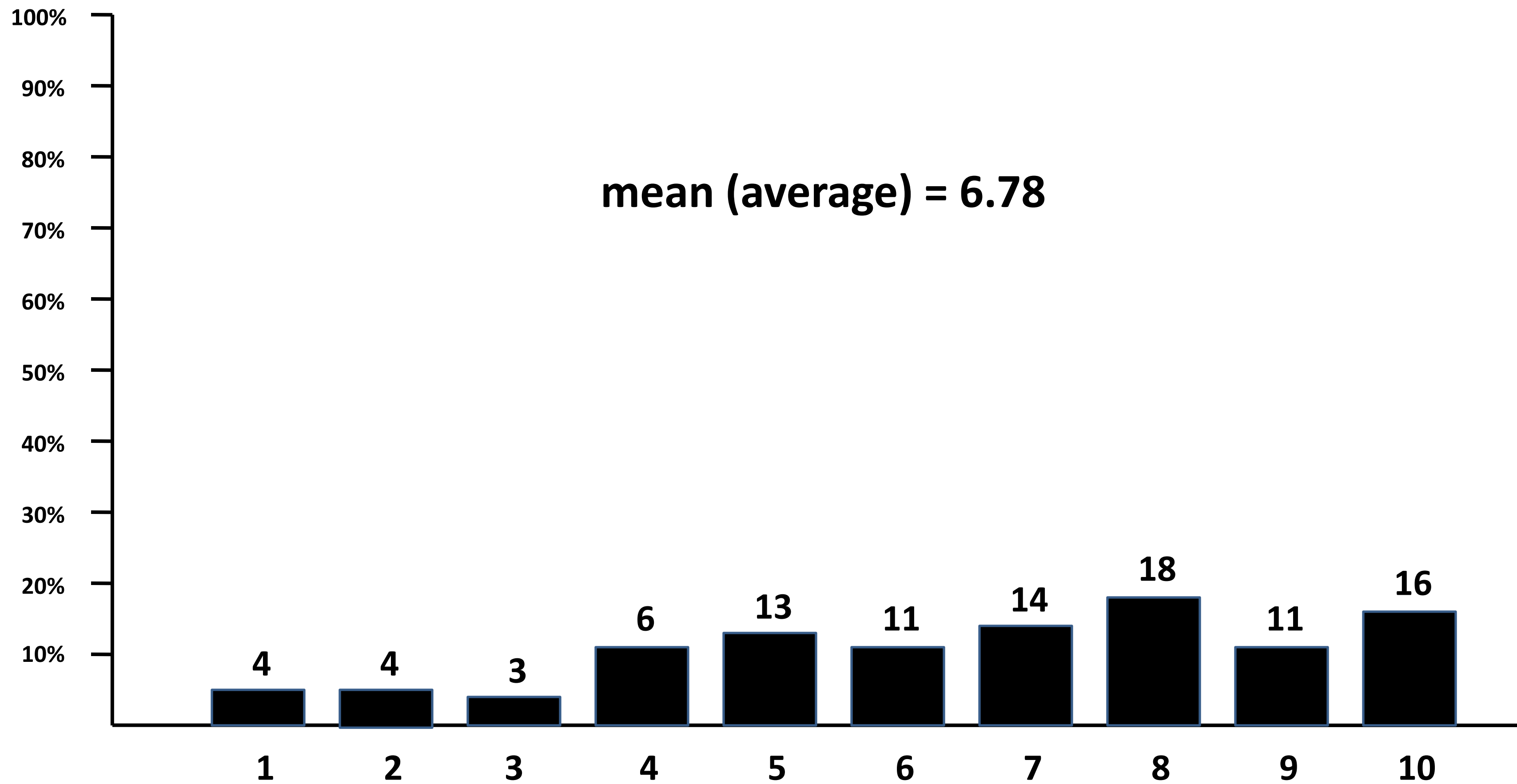




**Thinking about where you live, how satisfied are you
with the following services in your community?
Please tell me, on a scale of one to 10, how satisfied you are
with your community's schools?**



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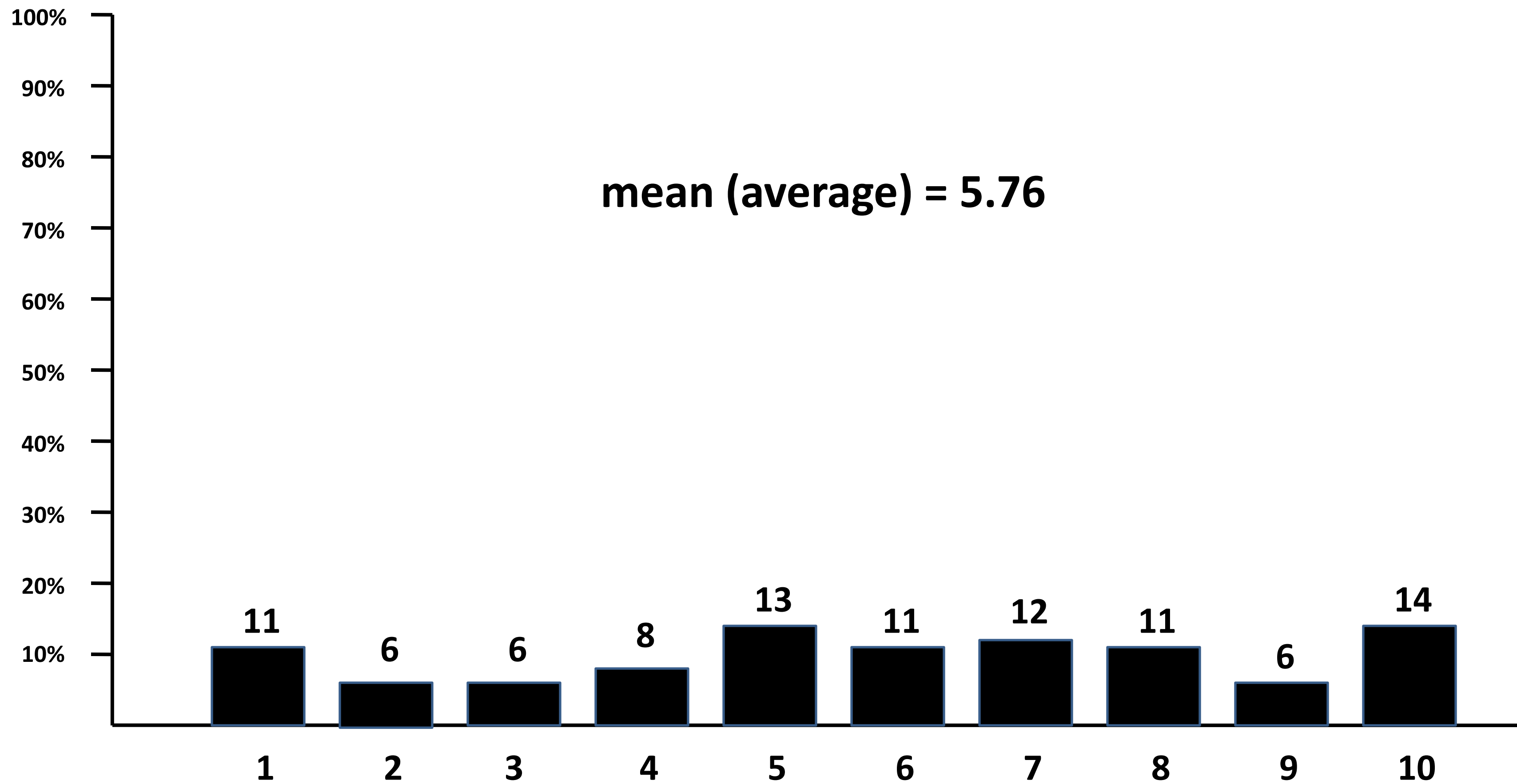




**Thinking about where you live, how satisfied are you with the following services in your community?
Please tell me, on a scale of one to 10, how satisfied you are with your community's water and sanitation?**



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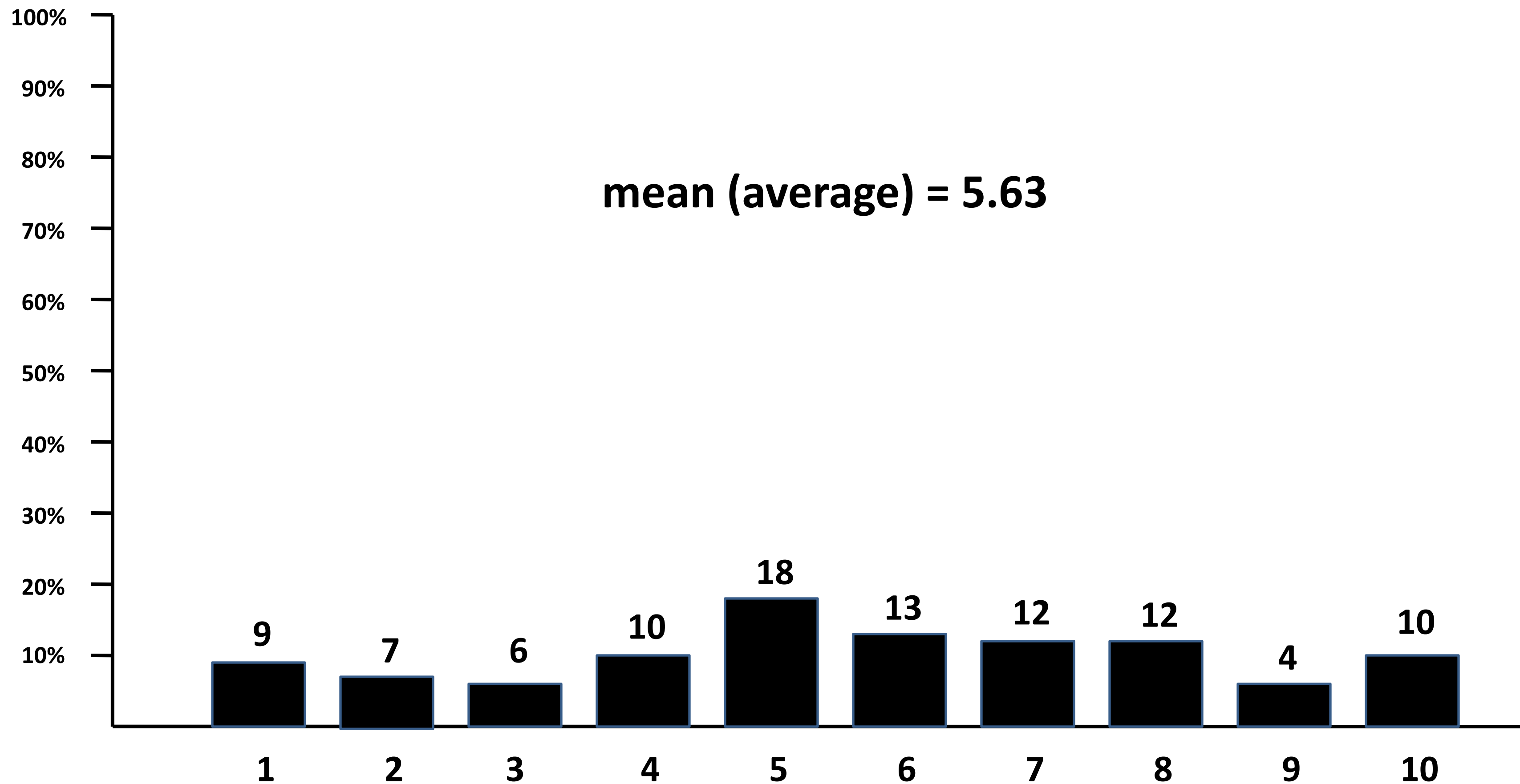




**Thinking about where you live, how satisfied are you with the following services in your community?
Please tell me, on a scale of one to 10, how satisfied you are with your community's health care facilities?**



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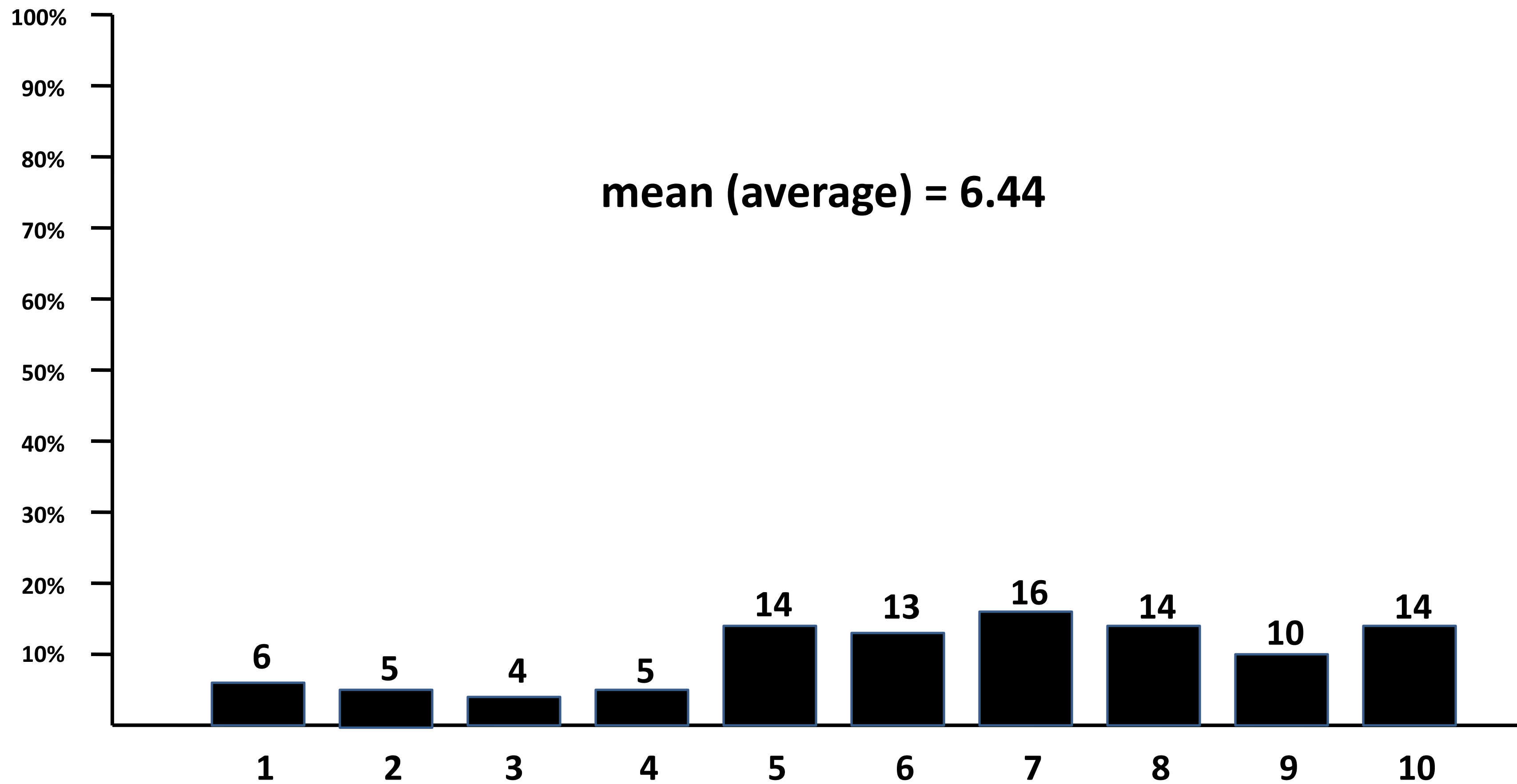




**Thinking about where you live, how satisfied are you
with the following services in your community?
Please tell me, on a scale of one to 10, how satisfied you are
with your community's safety?**



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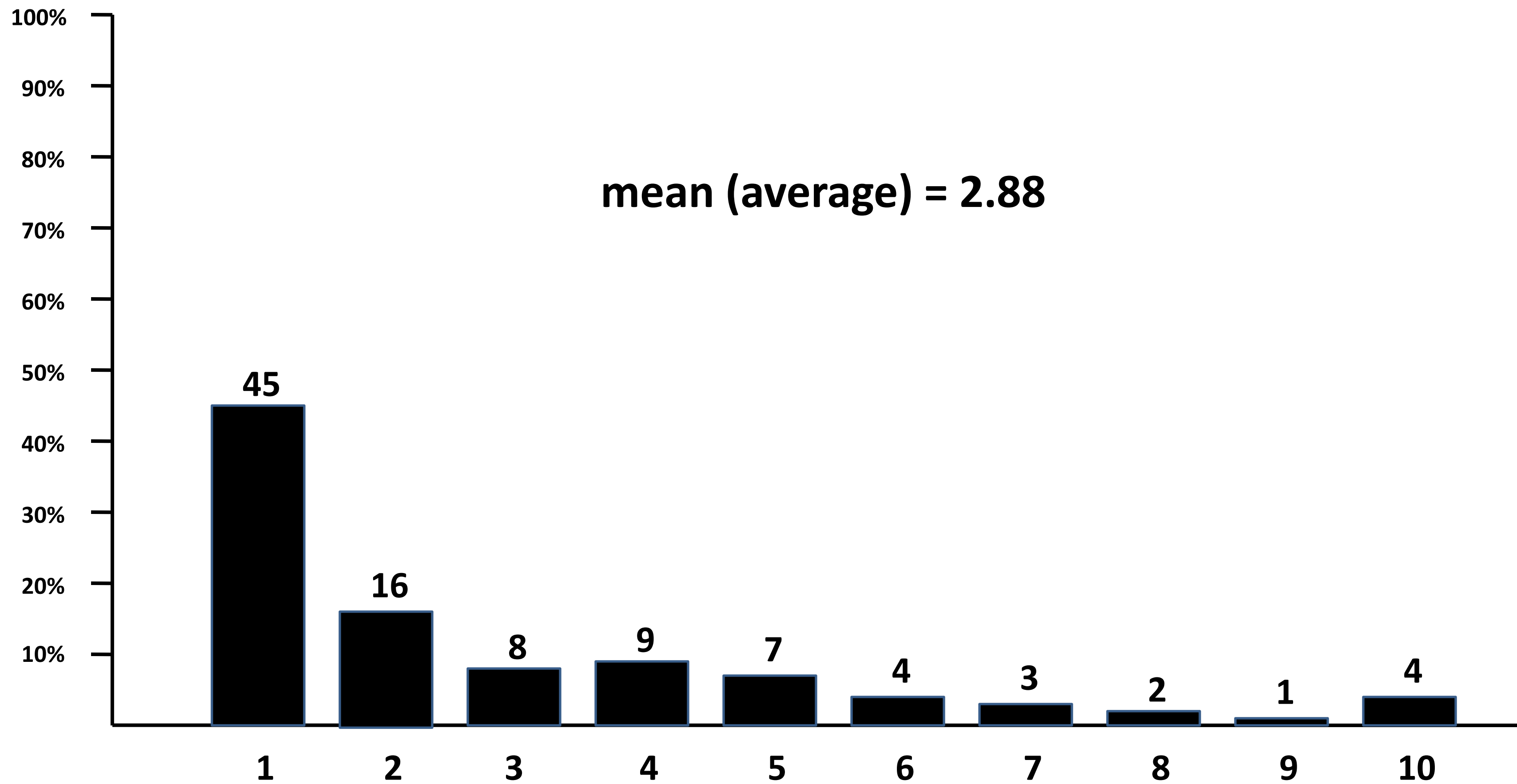




**Thinking about where you live, how satisfied are you with the following services in your community?
Please tell me, on a scale of one to 10, how satisfied you are with your community's electricity?**



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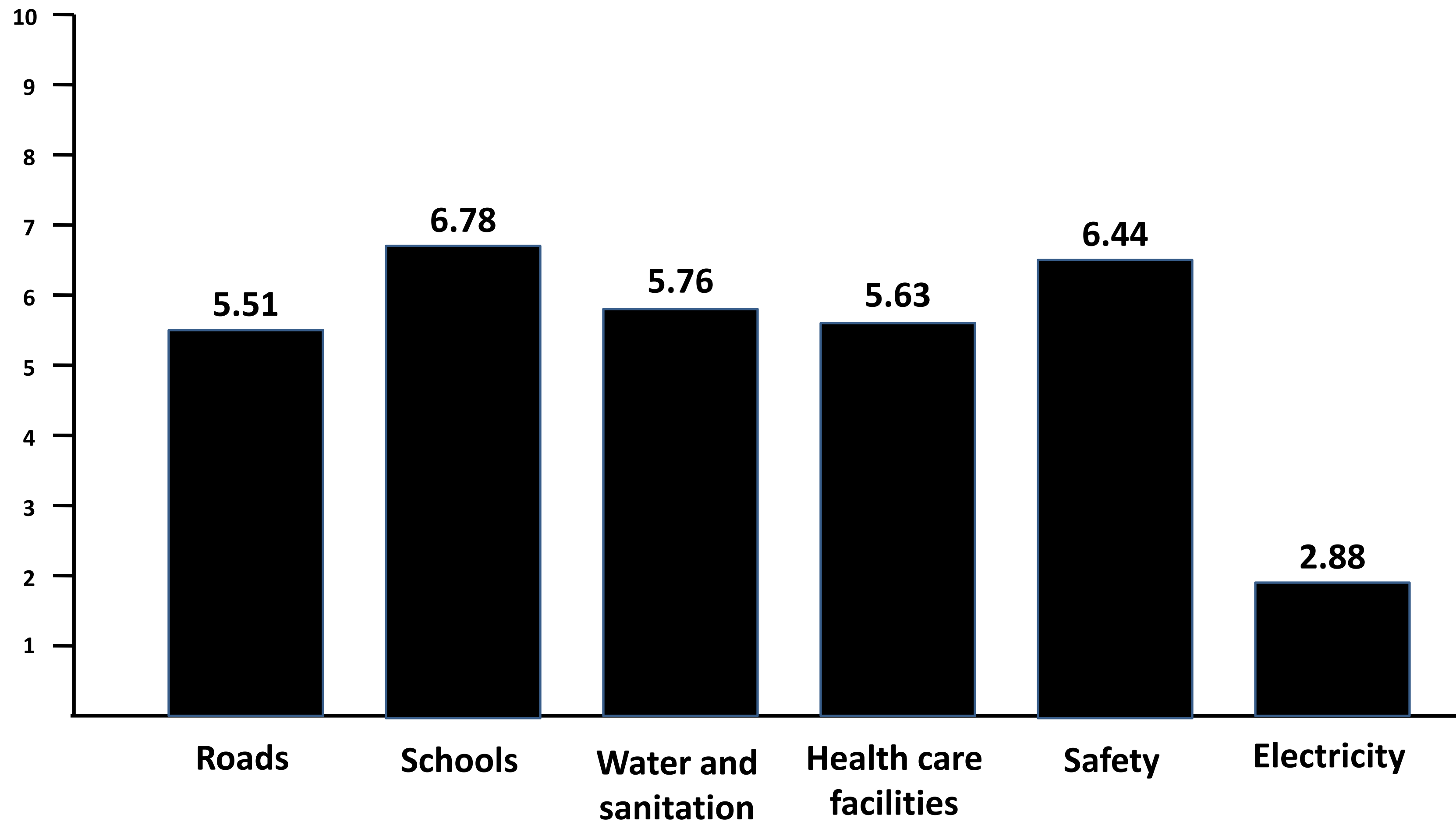




**Thinking about where you live, how satisfied are you with the following services in your community?
Please tell me, on a scale of one to 10,
how satisfied you are with your community's . . .
(means)**

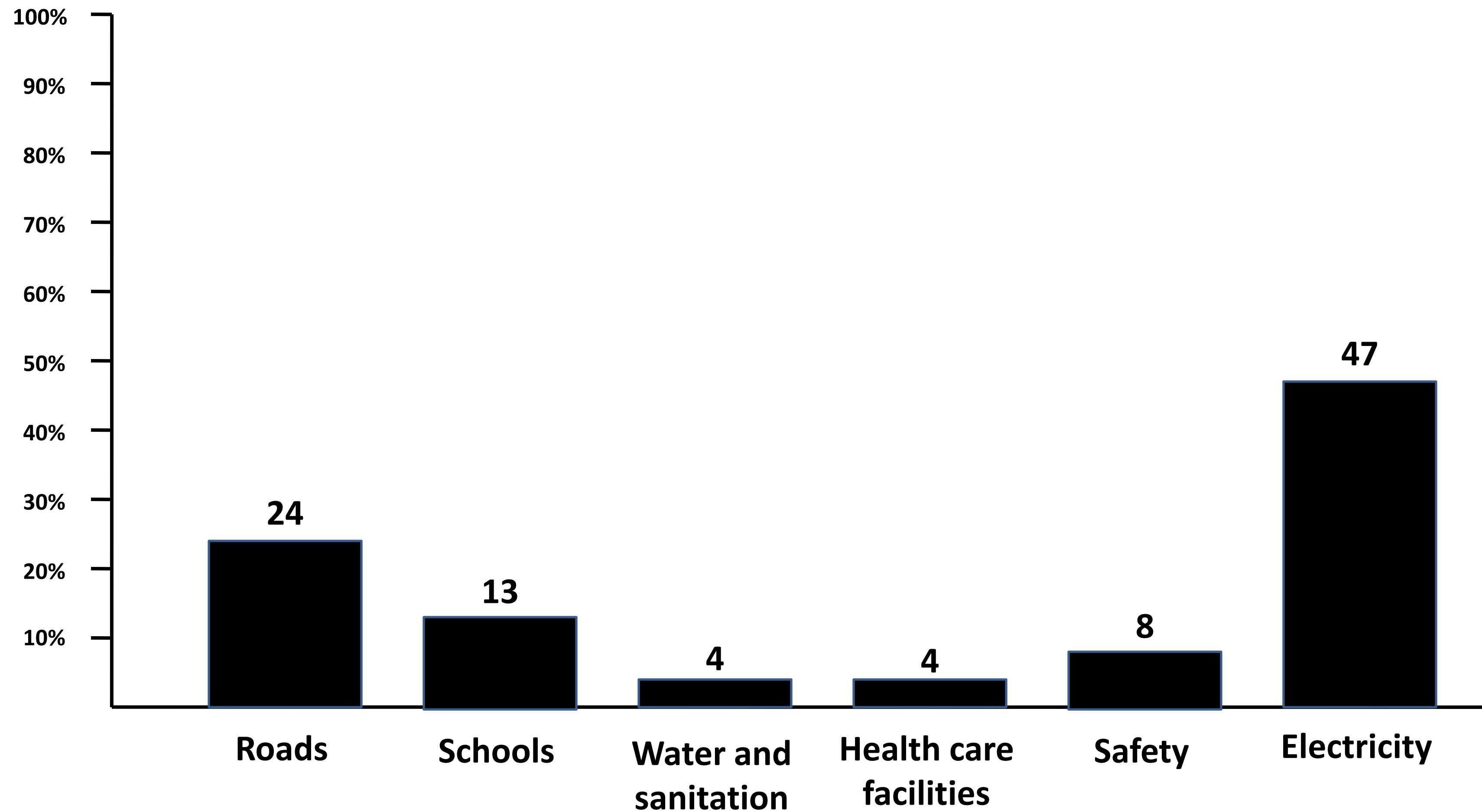


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If you could only pick one, which one of these services do you most want to see the government improve in your community: roads, schools, water and sanitation, health care, safety or electricity?

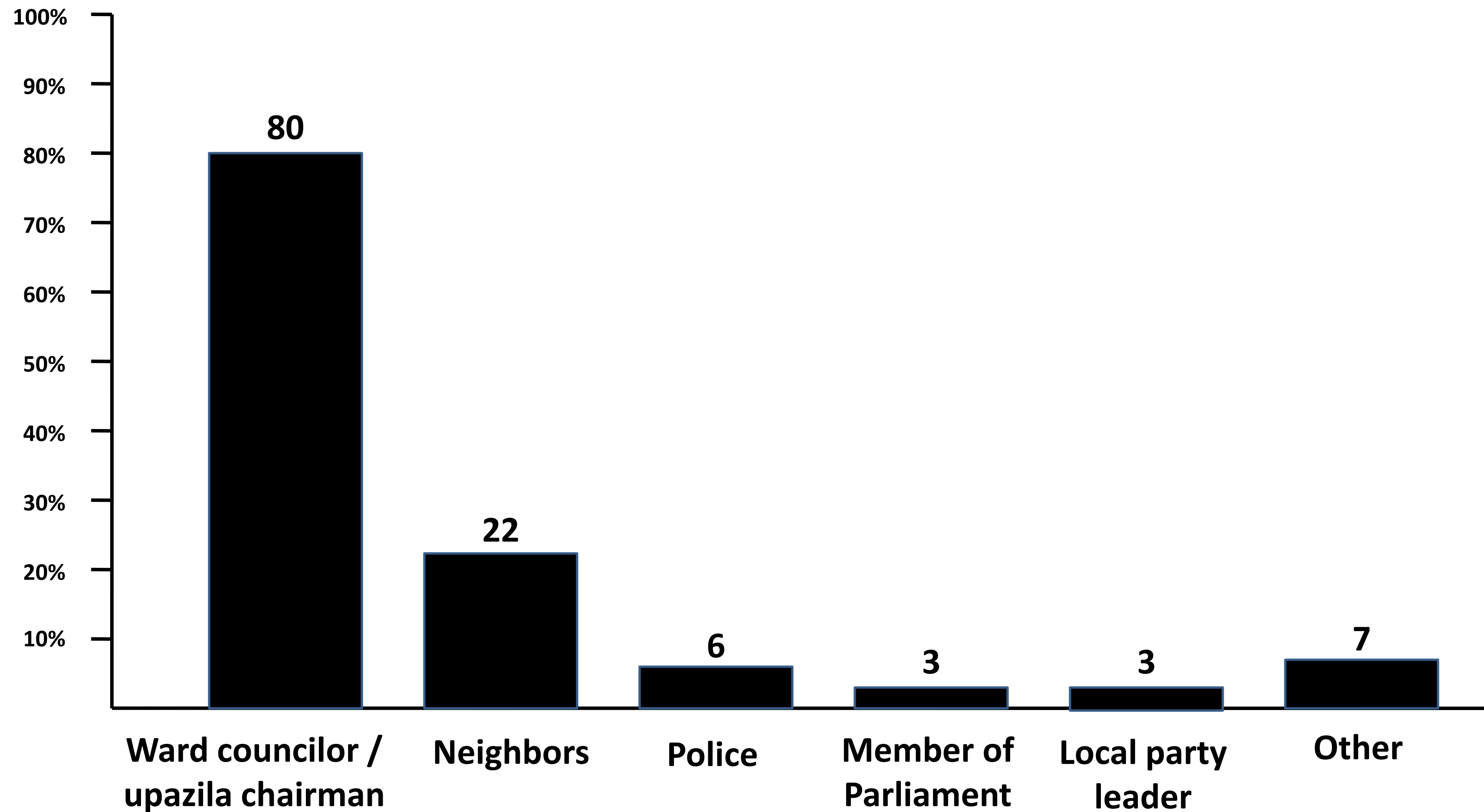




When you have a problem in your community, who do you go to for help in resolving it?



(multiple responses)



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