



# Public Opinion Survey: Residents of Malaysia

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June 2020



# Detailed Methodology

- The survey was conducted on behalf of the International Republican Institute's [Center for Insights in Survey Research](#) by Central Force under the supervision of Redstone Scientific.
- [Central Force](#) contracted with [Designs, Data, Decisions \(D3\)](#) to provide sampling, data quality assurance and reporting support.
- This computer-assisted telephone interviewing (CATI) survey was conducted across Malaysia from June 4 - June 15, 2020 and is a nationally-representative sample of 1,207 mobile or landline-owning Malaysian citizens aged 18+.
- The sample was drawn using dual-frame (landline and mobile) Random-Digit-Dialing (RDD). The sampling frames for both landlines and mobile phones were structured according to the National Numbering Plans from the Malaysian Communications and Multimedia Commission (MCMC). These frames are maintained and updated by D3 for national CATI surveys in Malaysia.
- The method of respondent selection varied by mode: Landline respondents were selected using the Last Birthday method, while mobile phones were assumed to be personal devices and the person who answered was selected if he/she fit the eligibility criteria.
- After the data collection, the file was post-weighted, using design weights (non-response and dual frame adjustment) and post-stratification weights (state, gender, age, ethnicity and urban/rural location based upon the 2019 estimates of the Malaysia Department of Statistics). In addition, excessive weights were trimmed and the sample was rescaled.
- The margin of error at the midrange does not exceed 3.9 percent with a confidence level of 95 percent, which takes into account the design effect.
- The response rate was 14.1 percent. While this response rate falls outside the parameters generally accepted by IRI, additional data checks did not reveal any particular bias associated with nonresponse.
- Charts and graphs may not add up to 100 percent due to rounding.

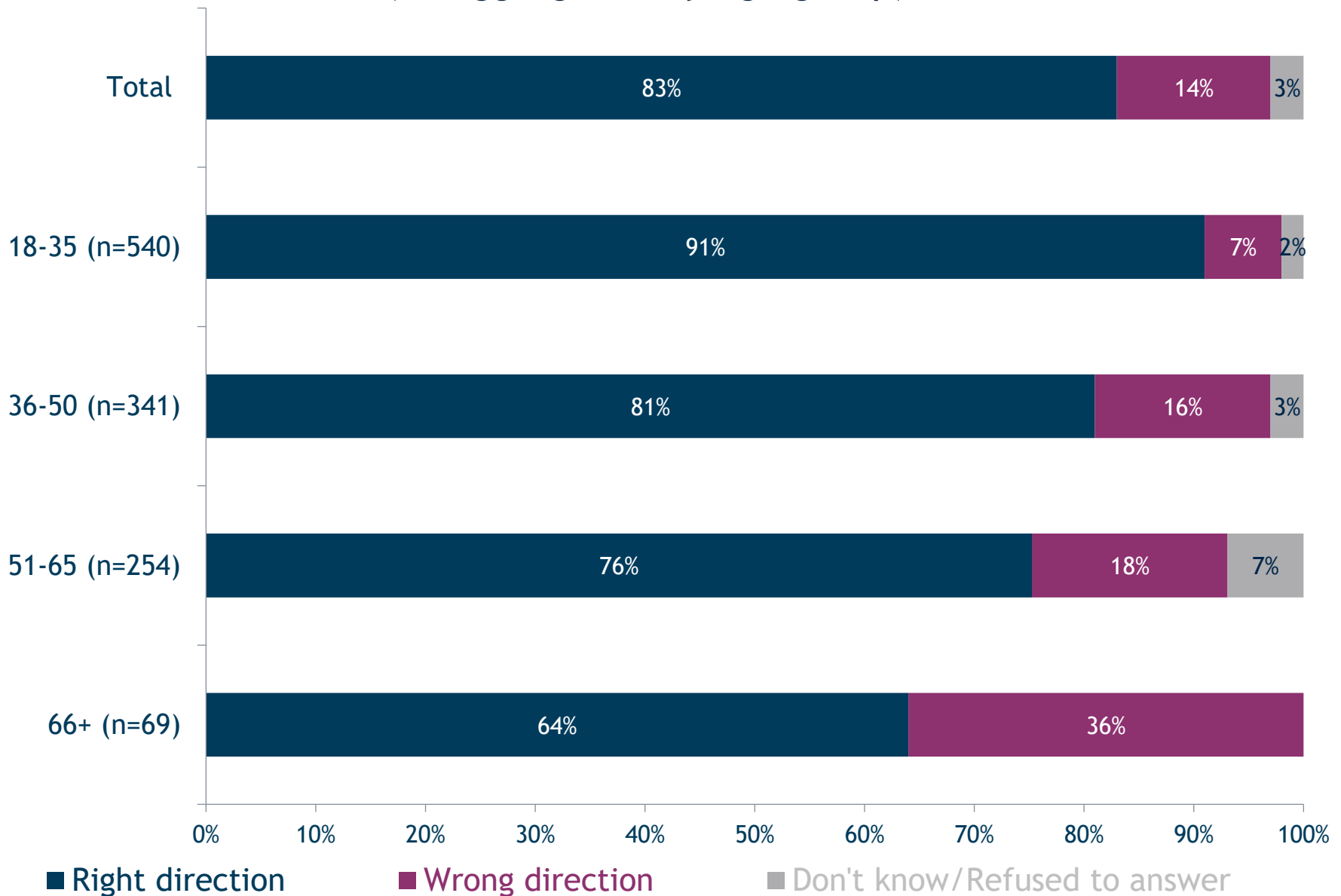


# National Outlook

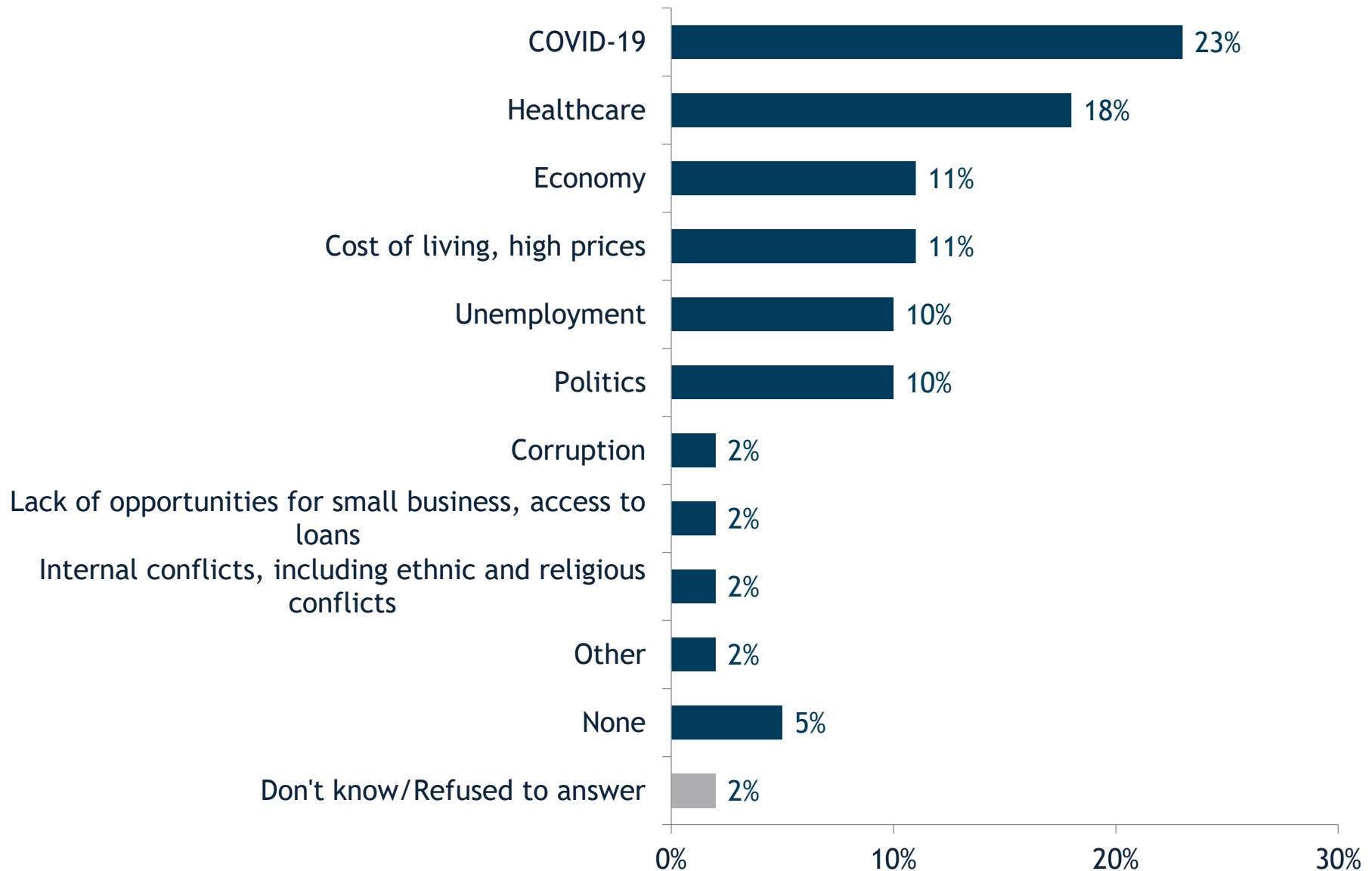
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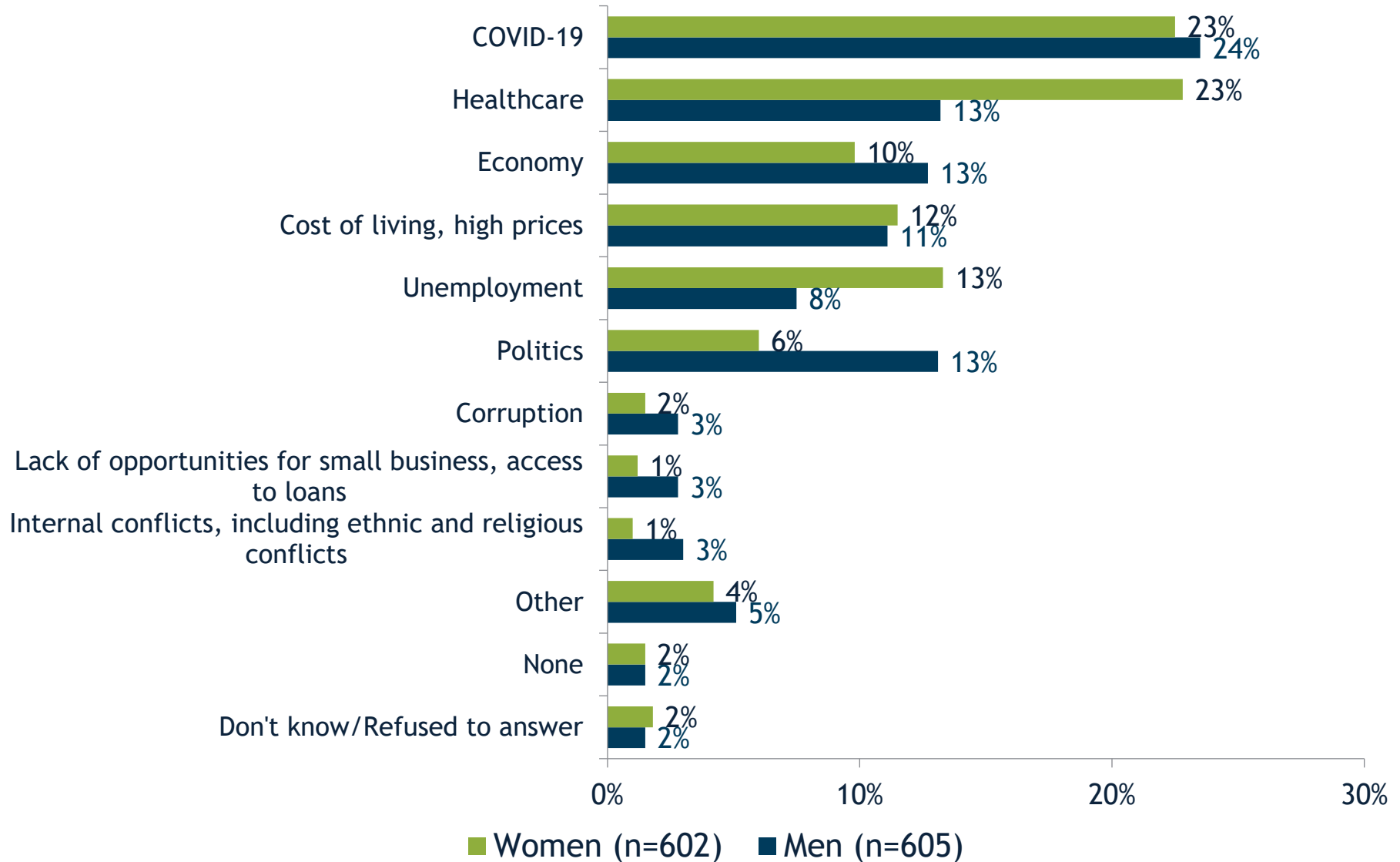
# In general, would you say that our country is heading in the right direction or in the wrong direction? (Disaggregated by age group)



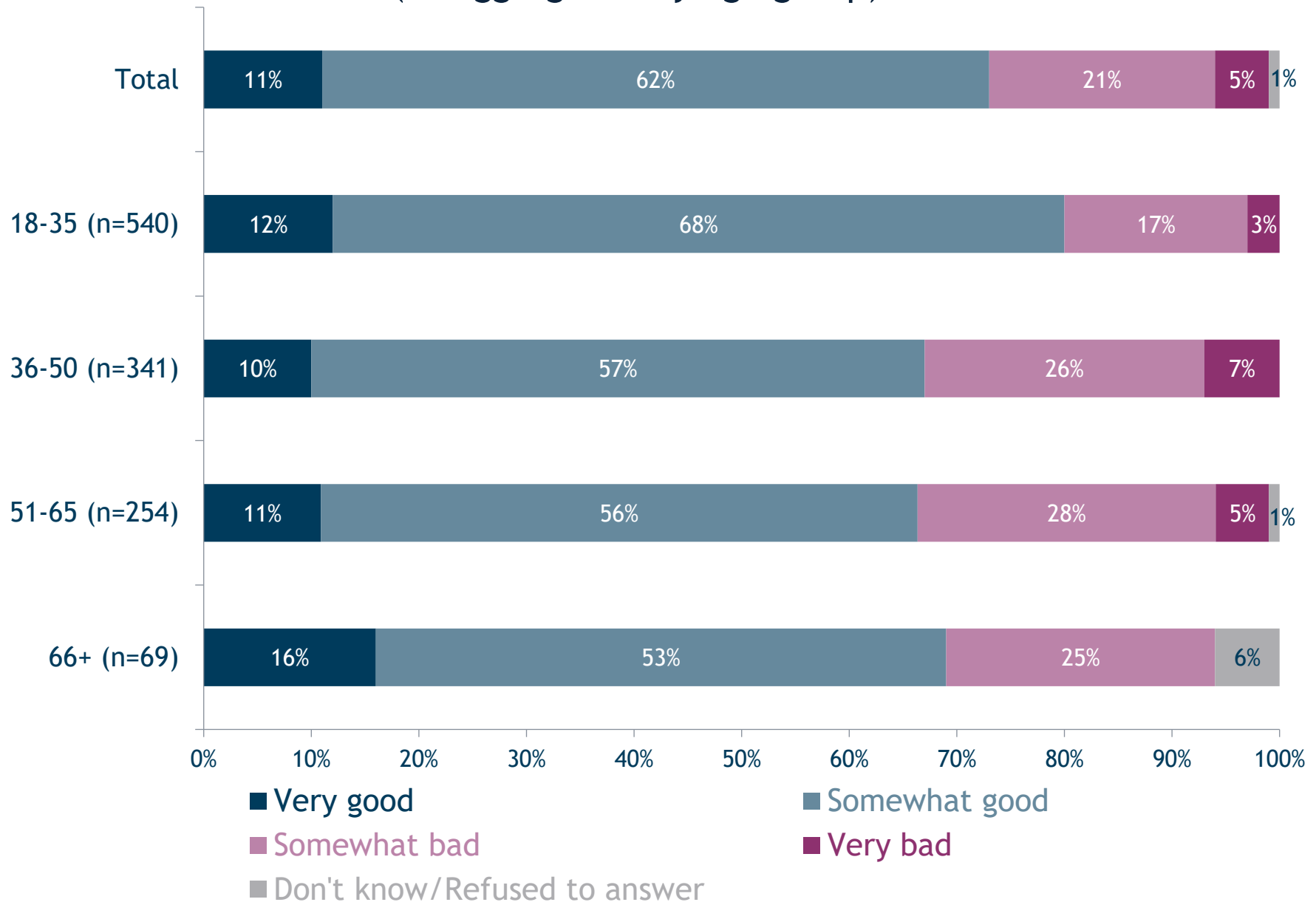
# What is the most important problem facing our country today? (Spontaneous response; first choice recorded)



# What is the most important problem facing our country today? (Spontaneous response; first choice recorded; disaggregated by gender)



# How would you describe the current economic situation of your household? (Disaggregated by age group)





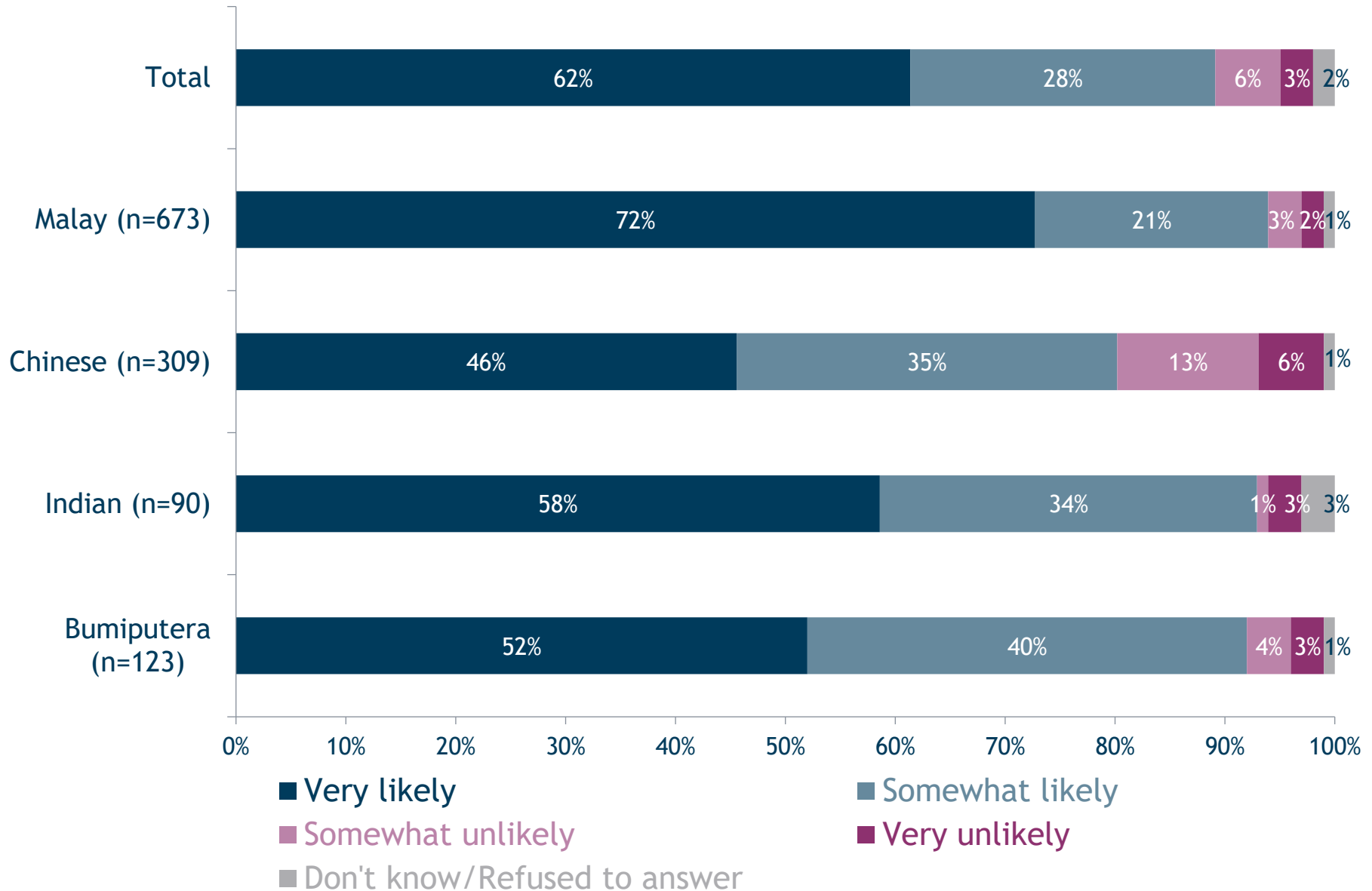
# Elections and Politics

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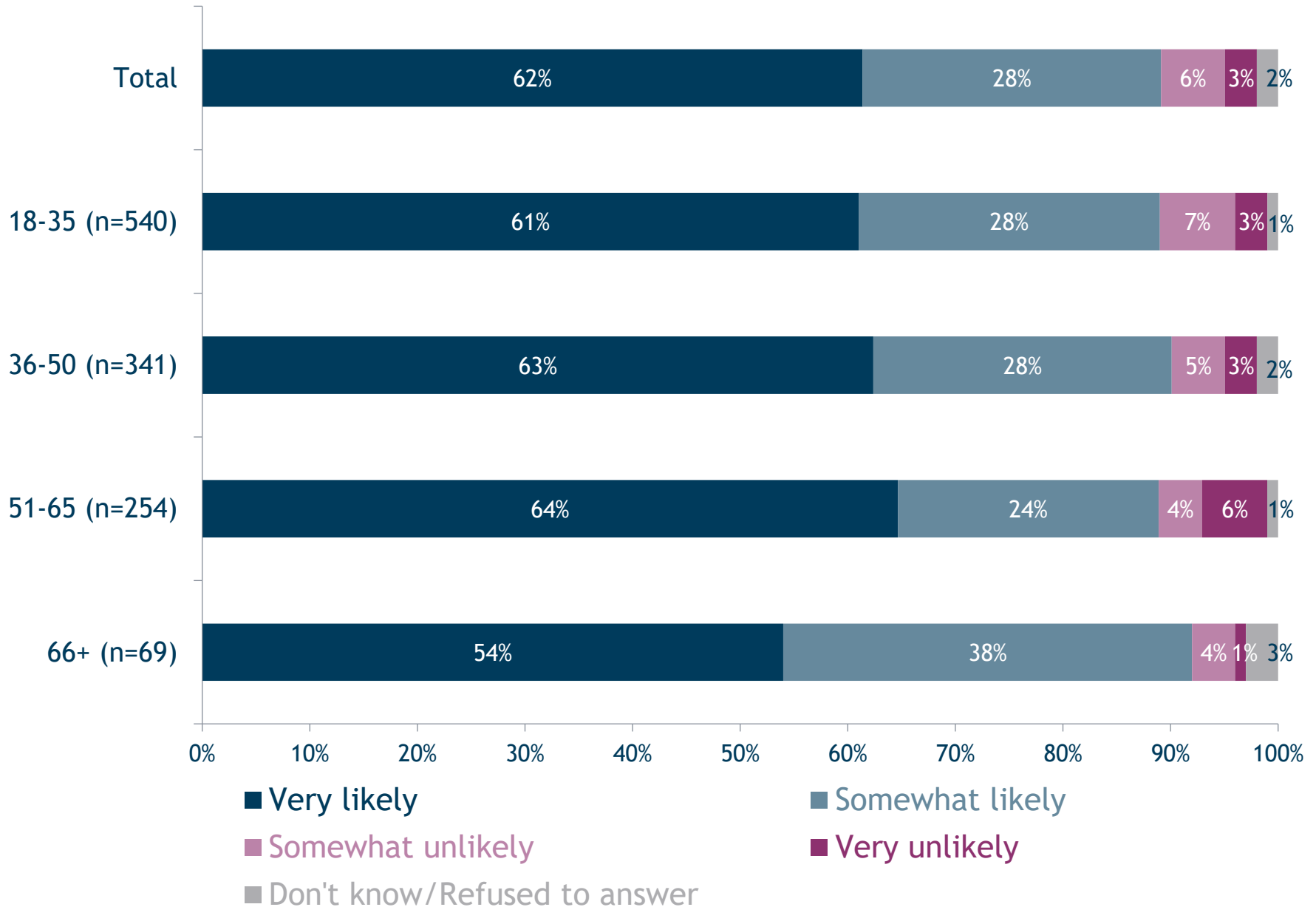




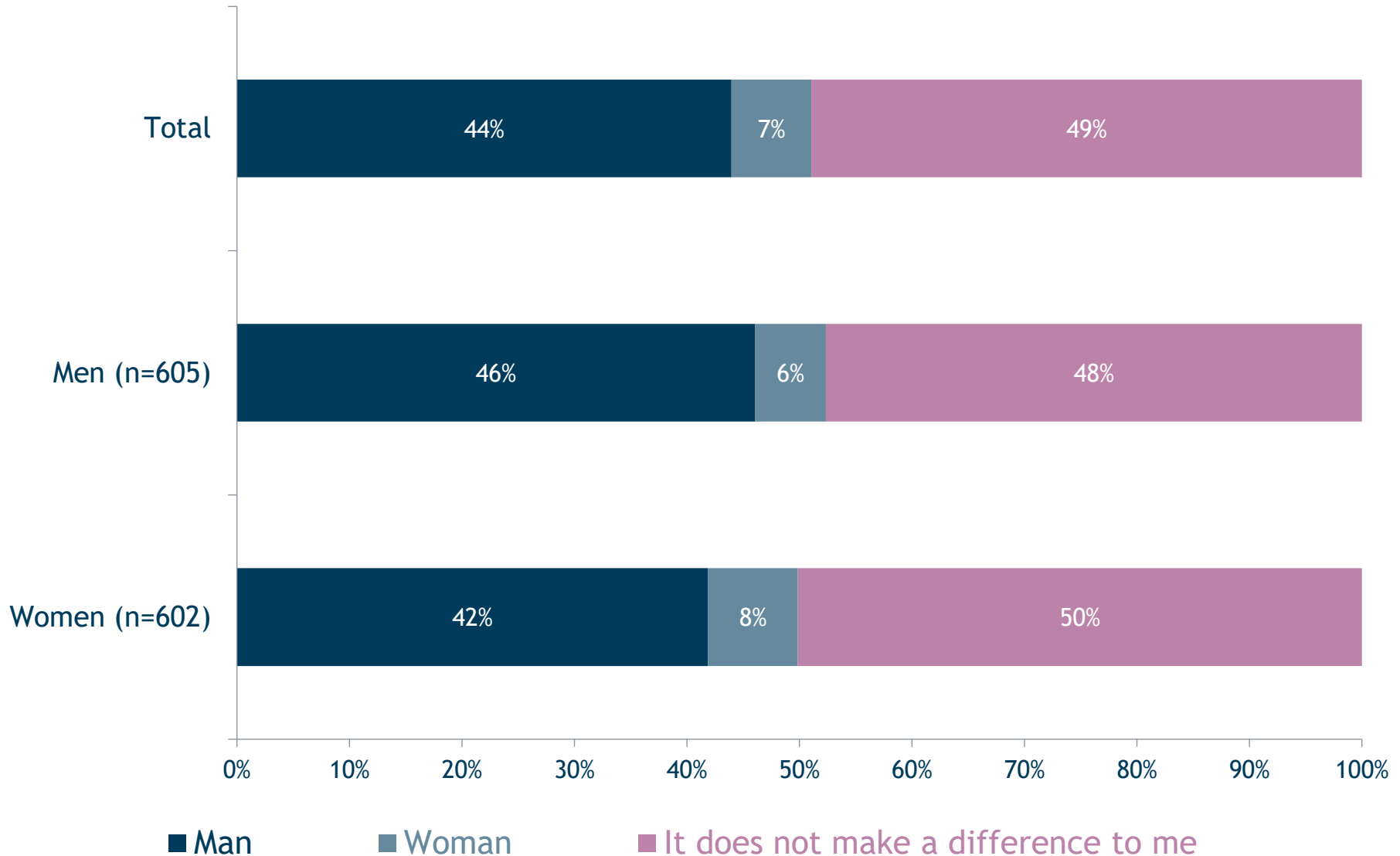
# How likely, if at all, are you to vote in the next general election? (Disaggregated by ethnicity among respondents who declared themselves belonging to a particular ethnicity)



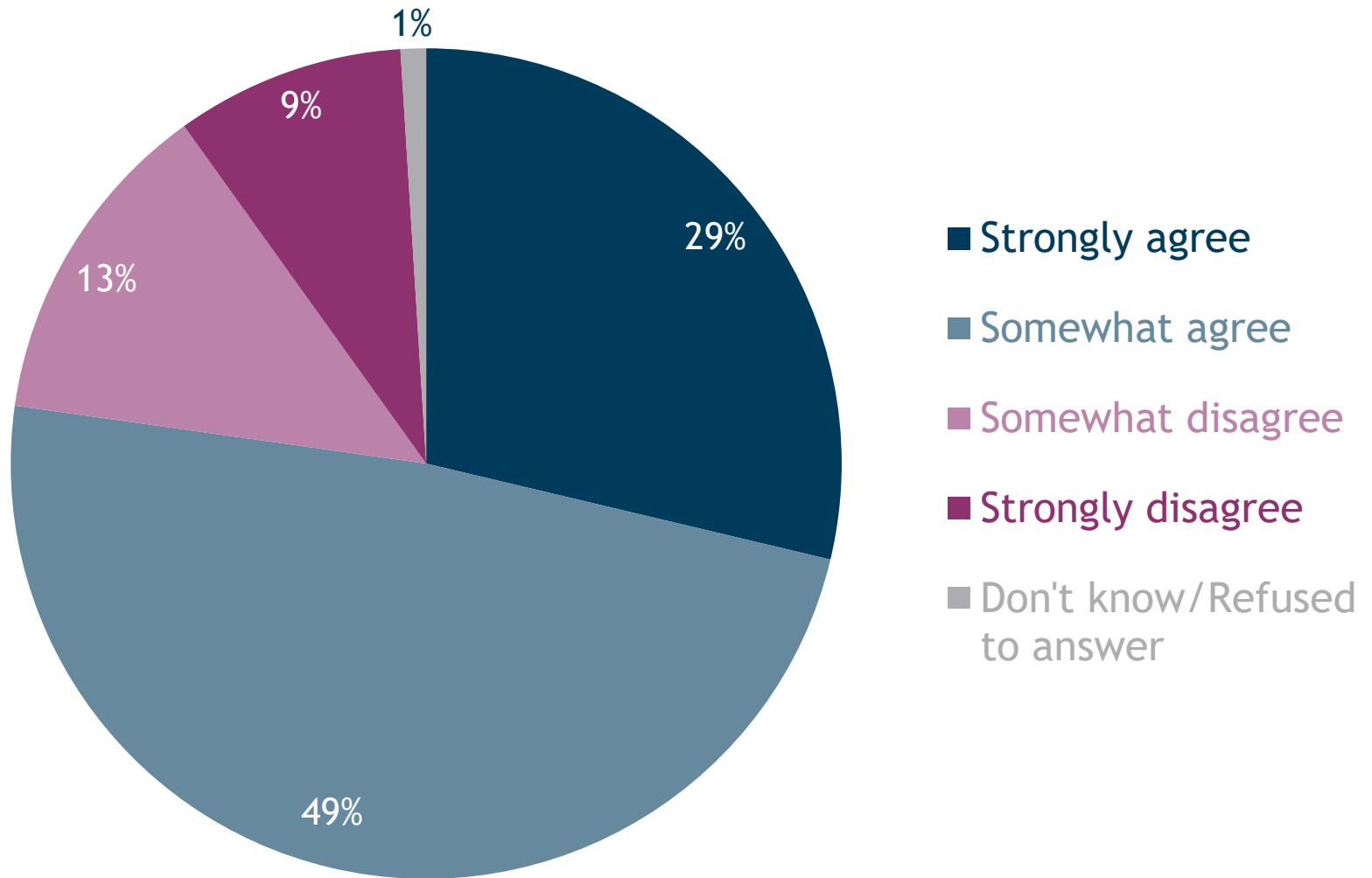
# How likely, if at all, are you to vote in the next general election? (Disaggregated by age group)



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?  
(Disaggregated by gender)

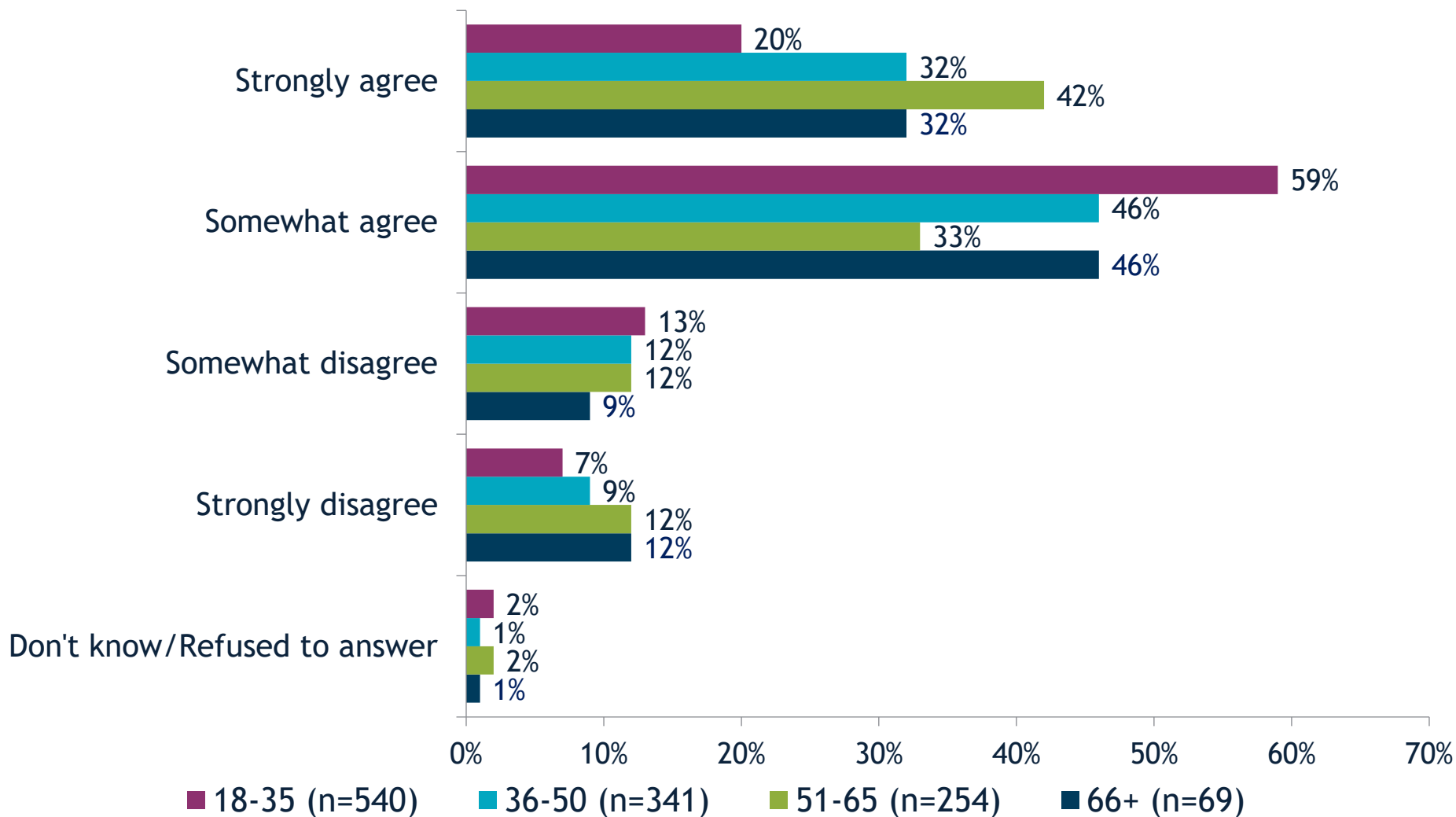


Some people argue that the party choices in our country's politics are too limited and that new political forces should provide other alternatives in future elections. To what extent do you agree or disagree with this statement?

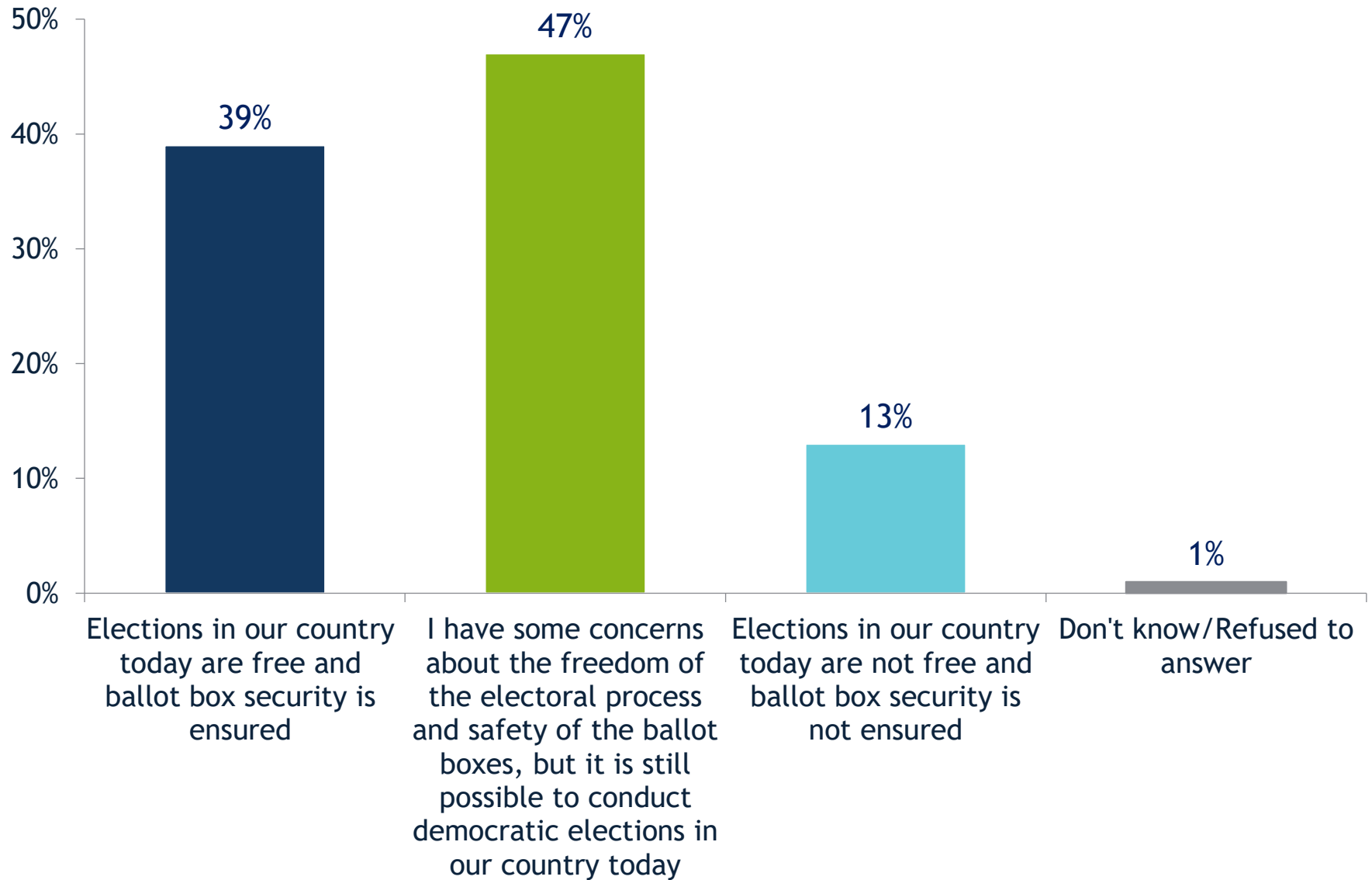


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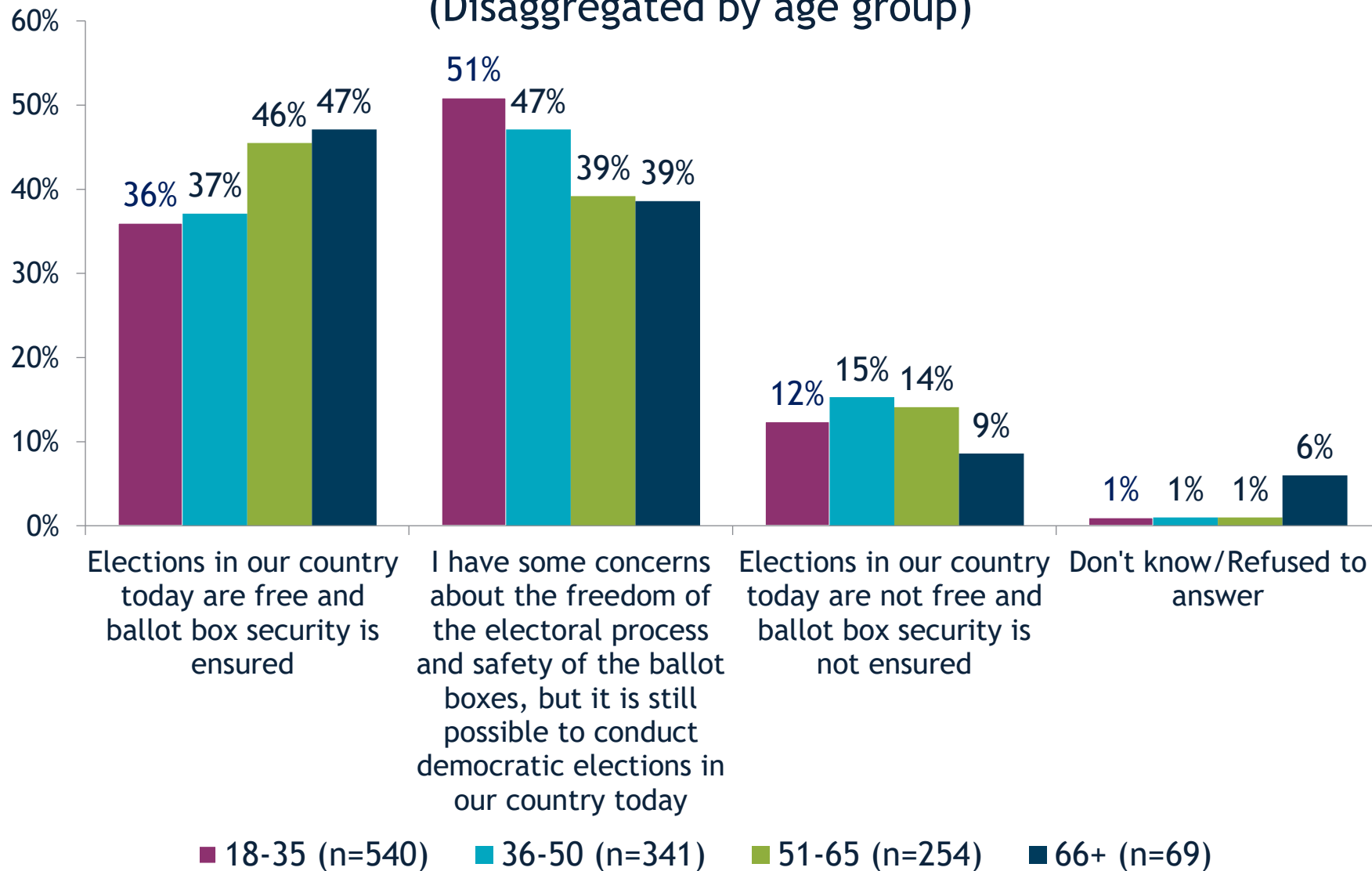


Some people are concerned about freedom of elections and ballot box security in our country. Which of the following statements comes closest to your personal opinion regarding this matter?



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(Disaggregated by age group)





# Democracy and Political Freedom

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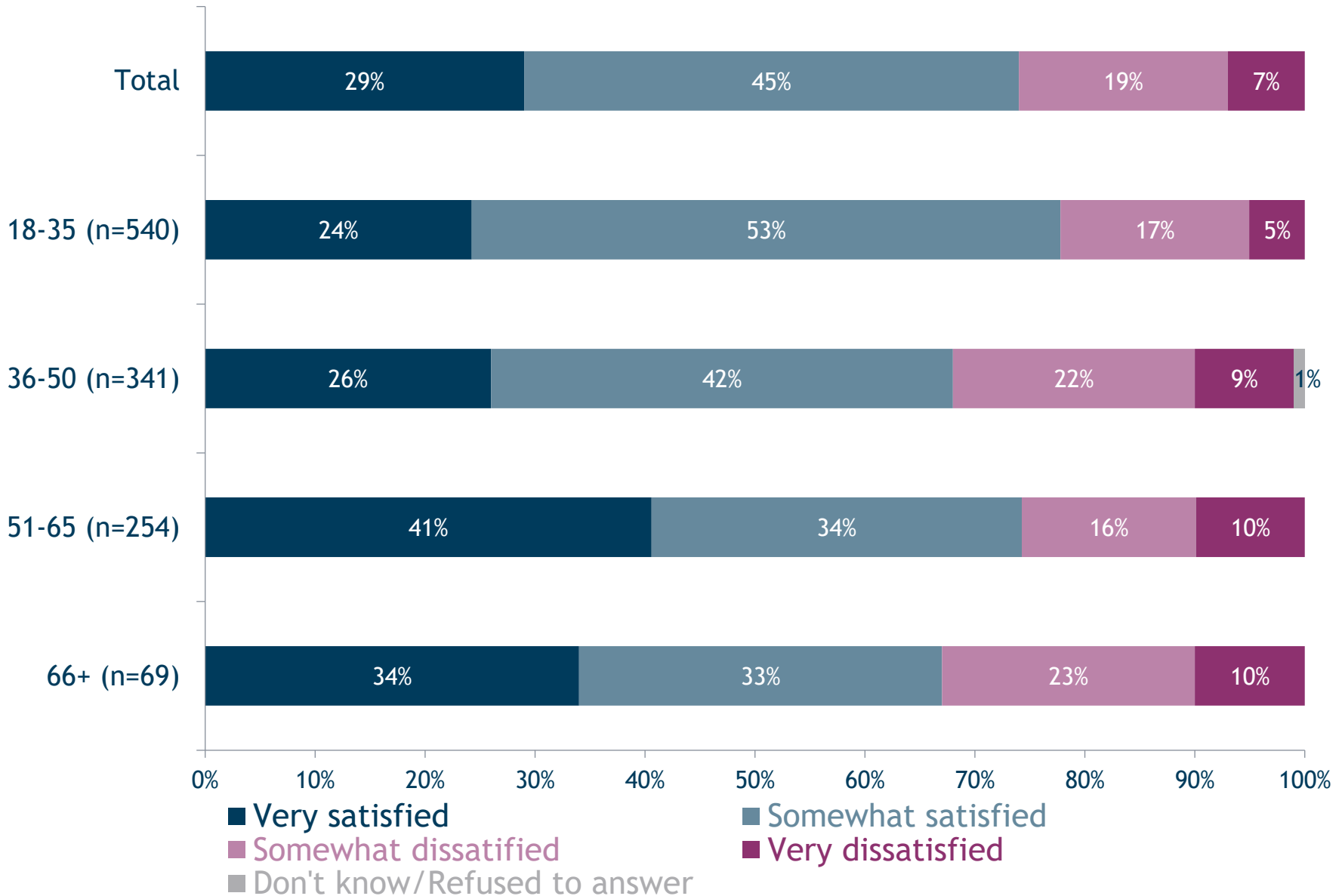




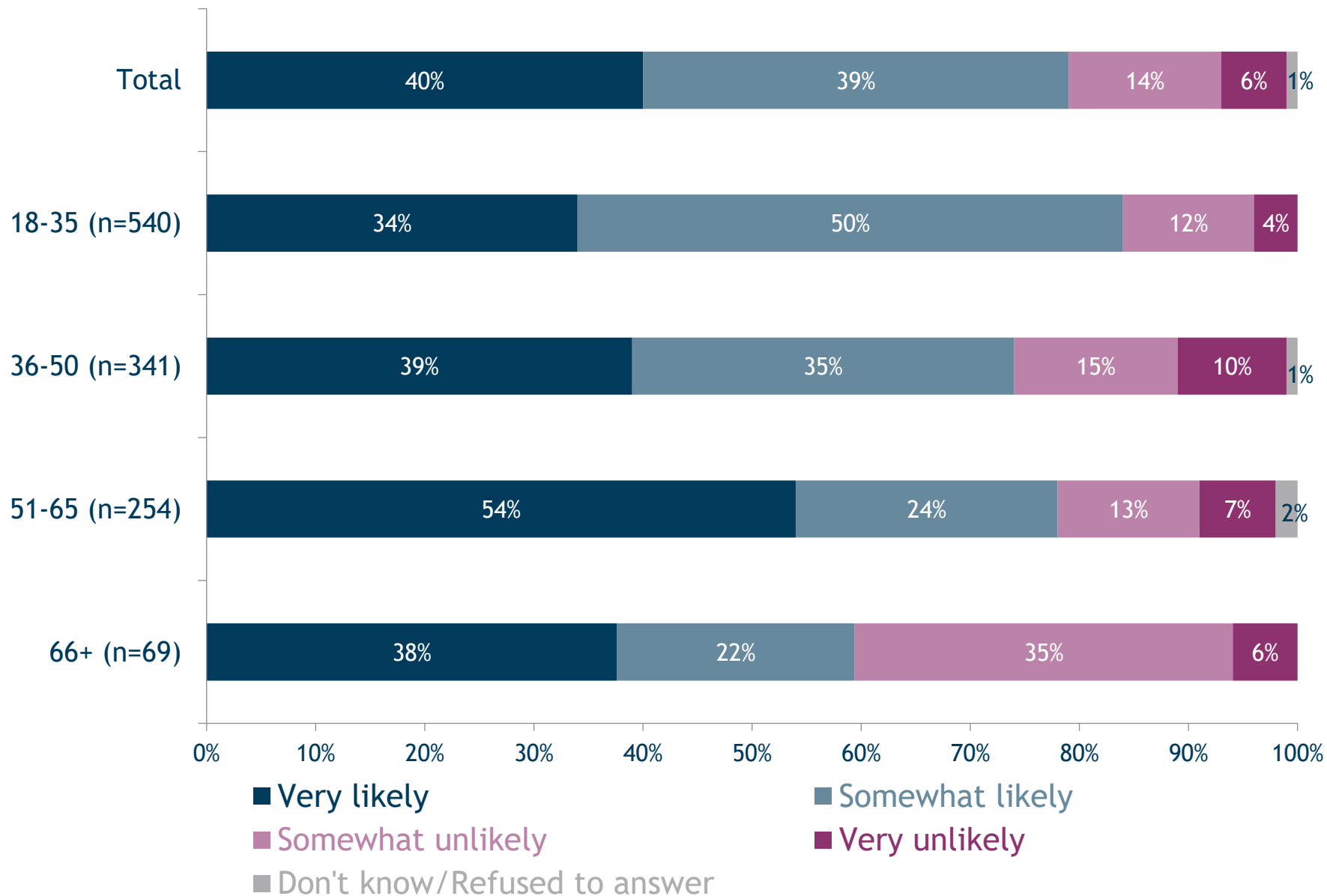
# How satisfied or dissatisfied are you with the way democracy is developing in our country? (Disaggregated by gender)



# How satisfied or dissatisfied are you with the way democracy is developing in our country? (Disaggregated by age group)

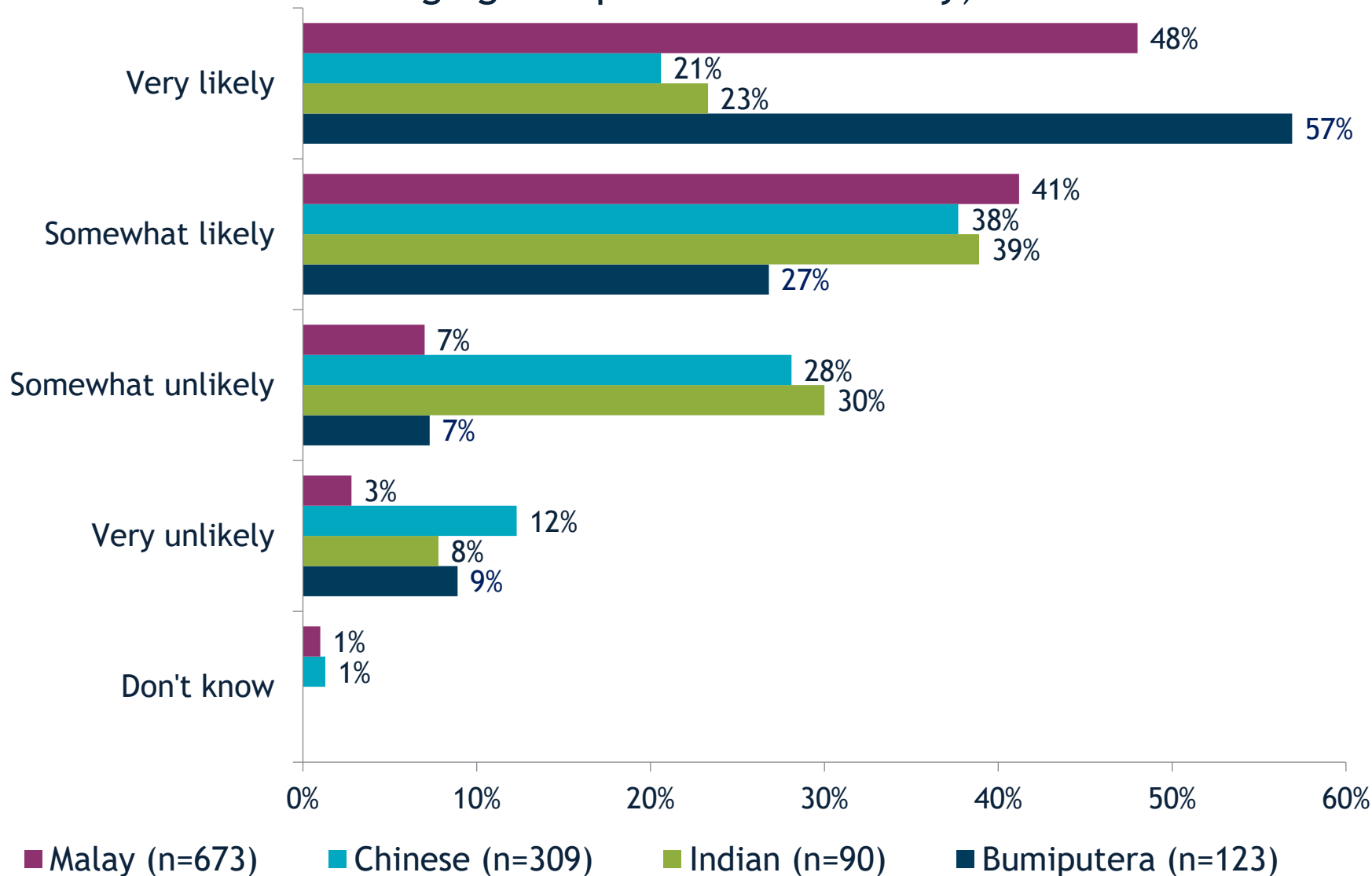


# How likely or unlikely is it that ordinary people are able to influence decisions made in our country? (Disaggregated by age group)

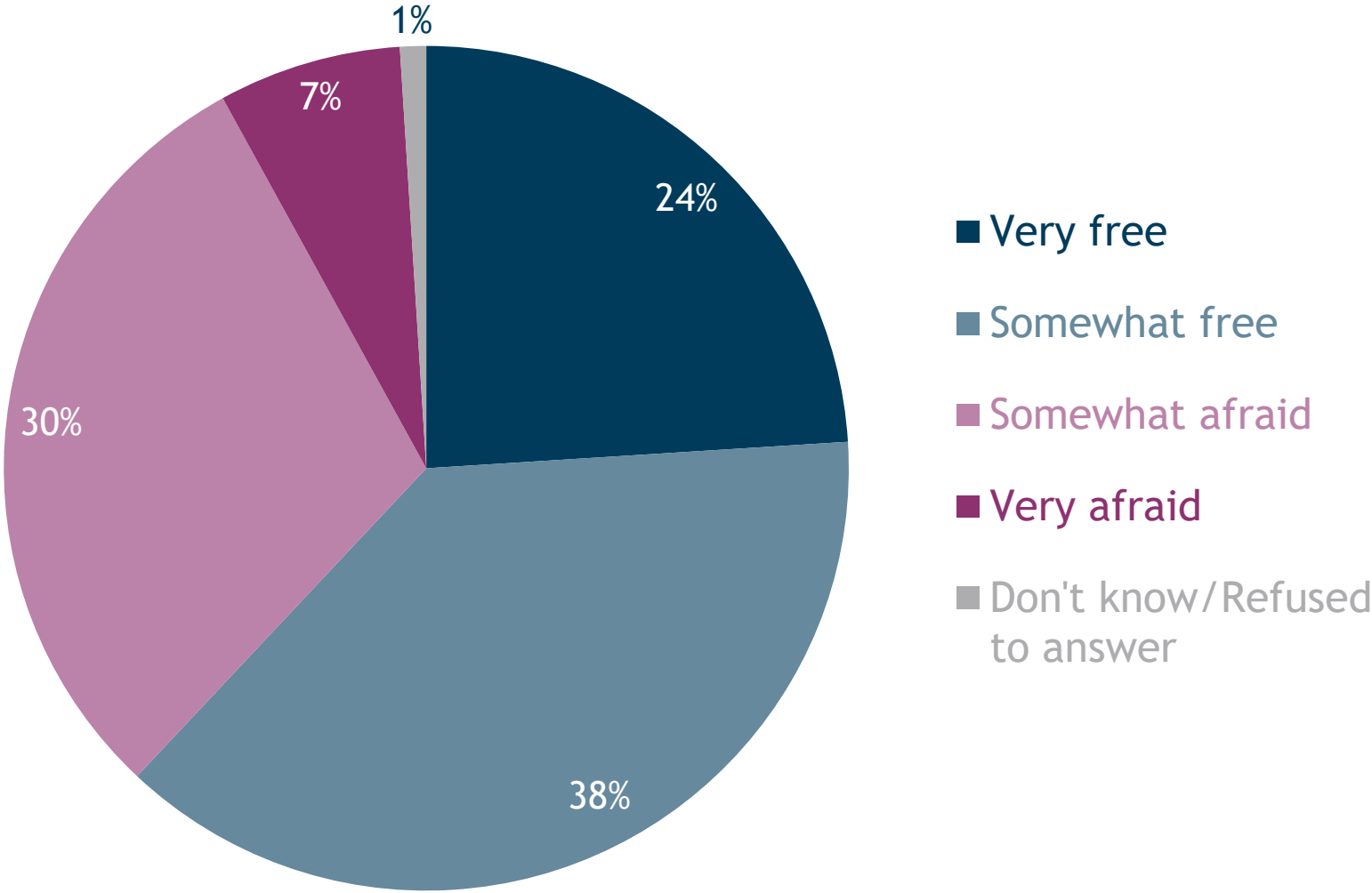


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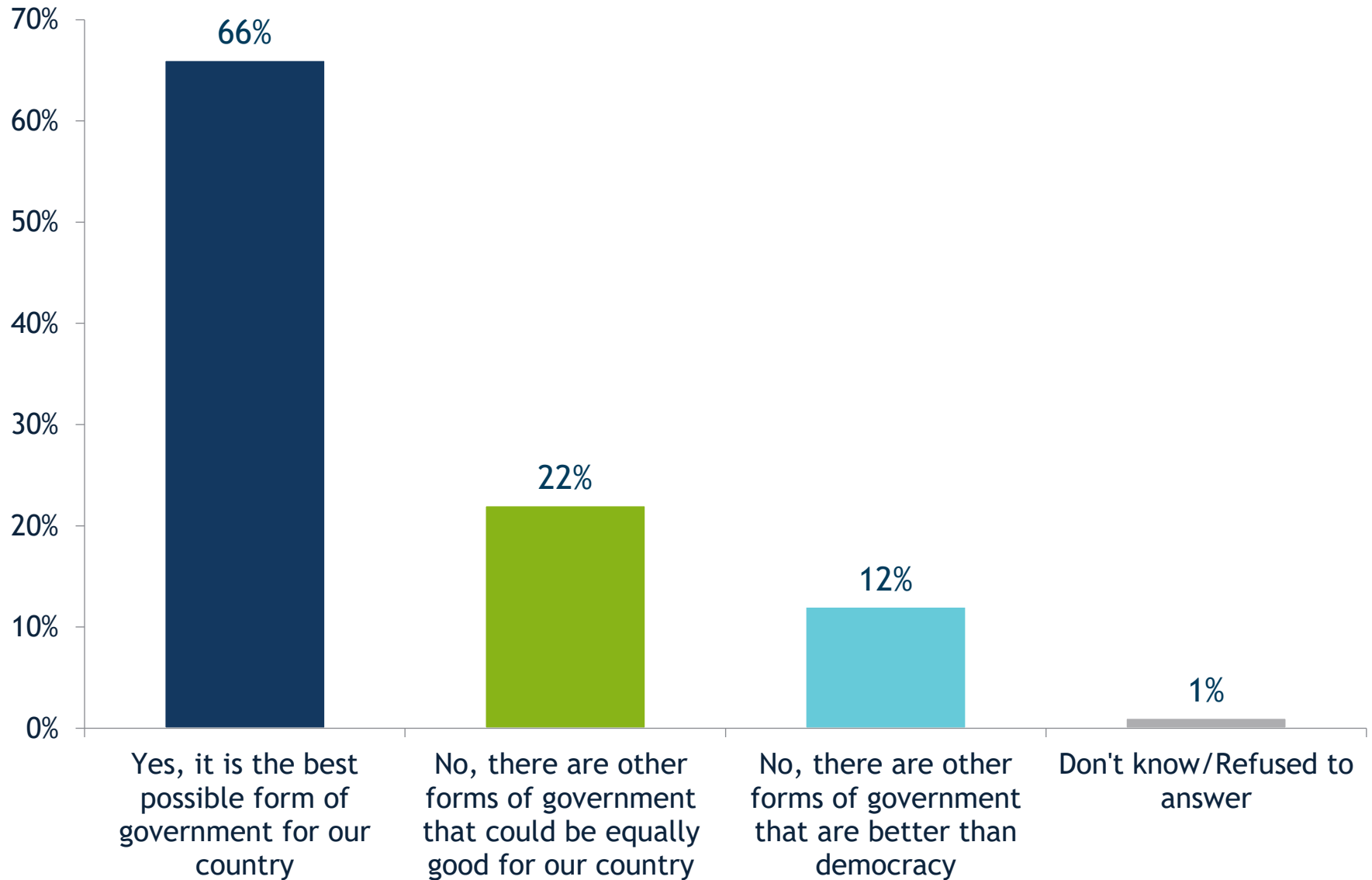
(Disaggregated by ethnicity among respondents who declared themselves belonging to a particular ethnicity)



# Do people in our country feel free to openly express their opinions or are they afraid?



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



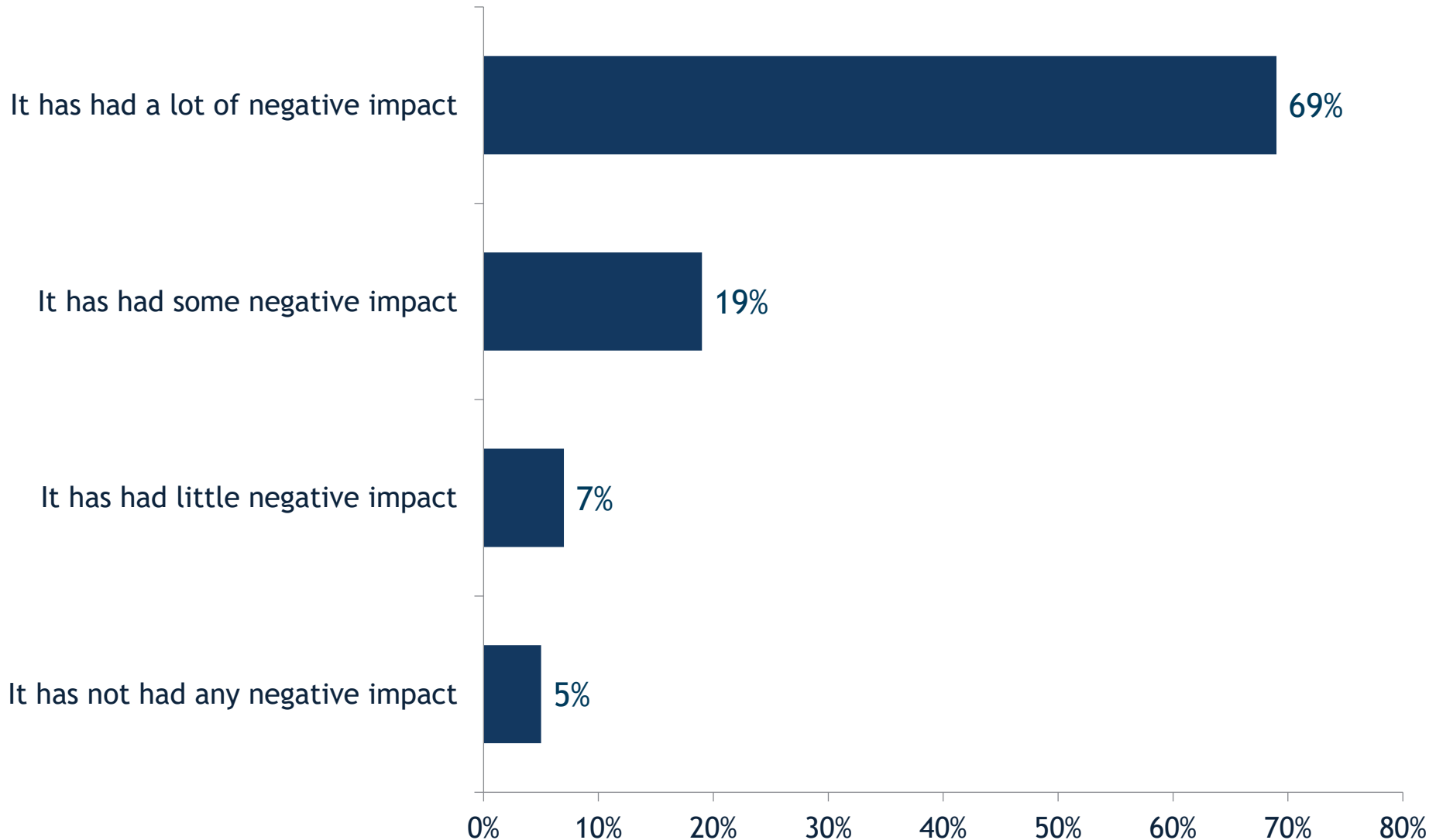


# Corruption

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Now I would like to discuss corruption with you. When I say corruption, I mean having to do a favor, give a gift or pay a bribe because someone misuses their position for personal gains. To what extent, if any, has corruption had a negative impact on you?





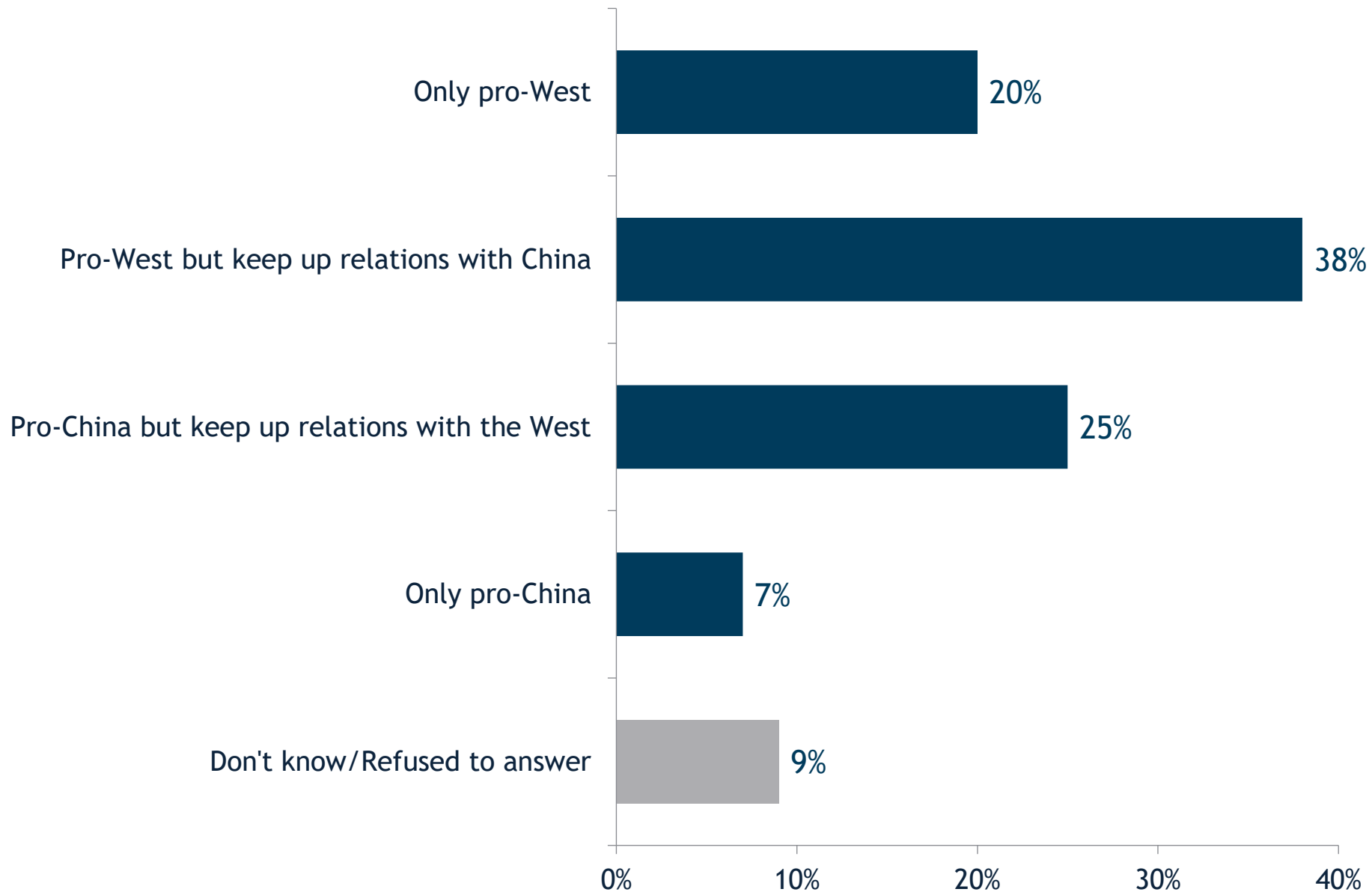


# Foreign Relations

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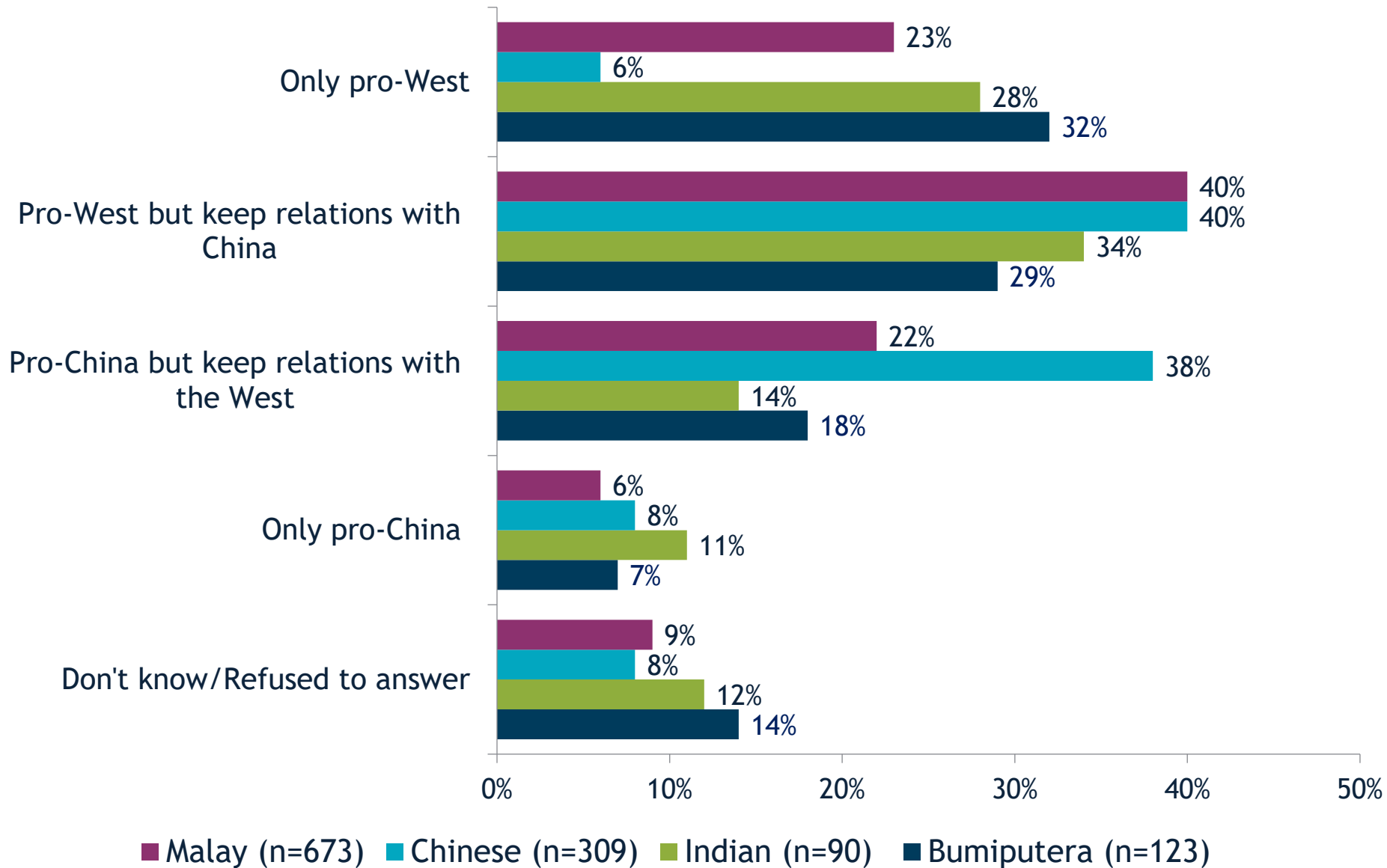


# What should our country's foreign policy course be?

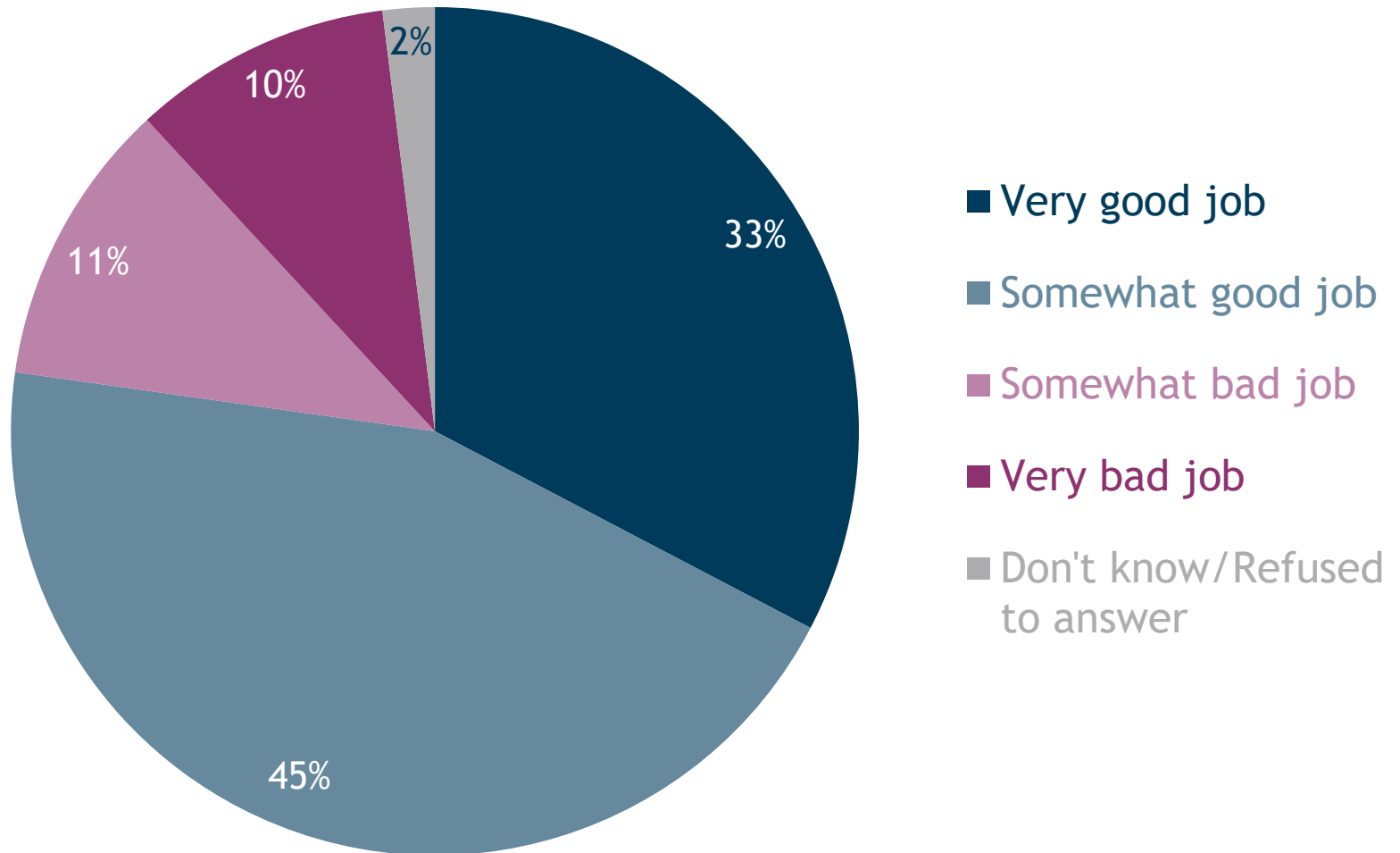


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(Disaggregated by ethnicity among respondents who declared themselves belonging to a particular ethnicity)

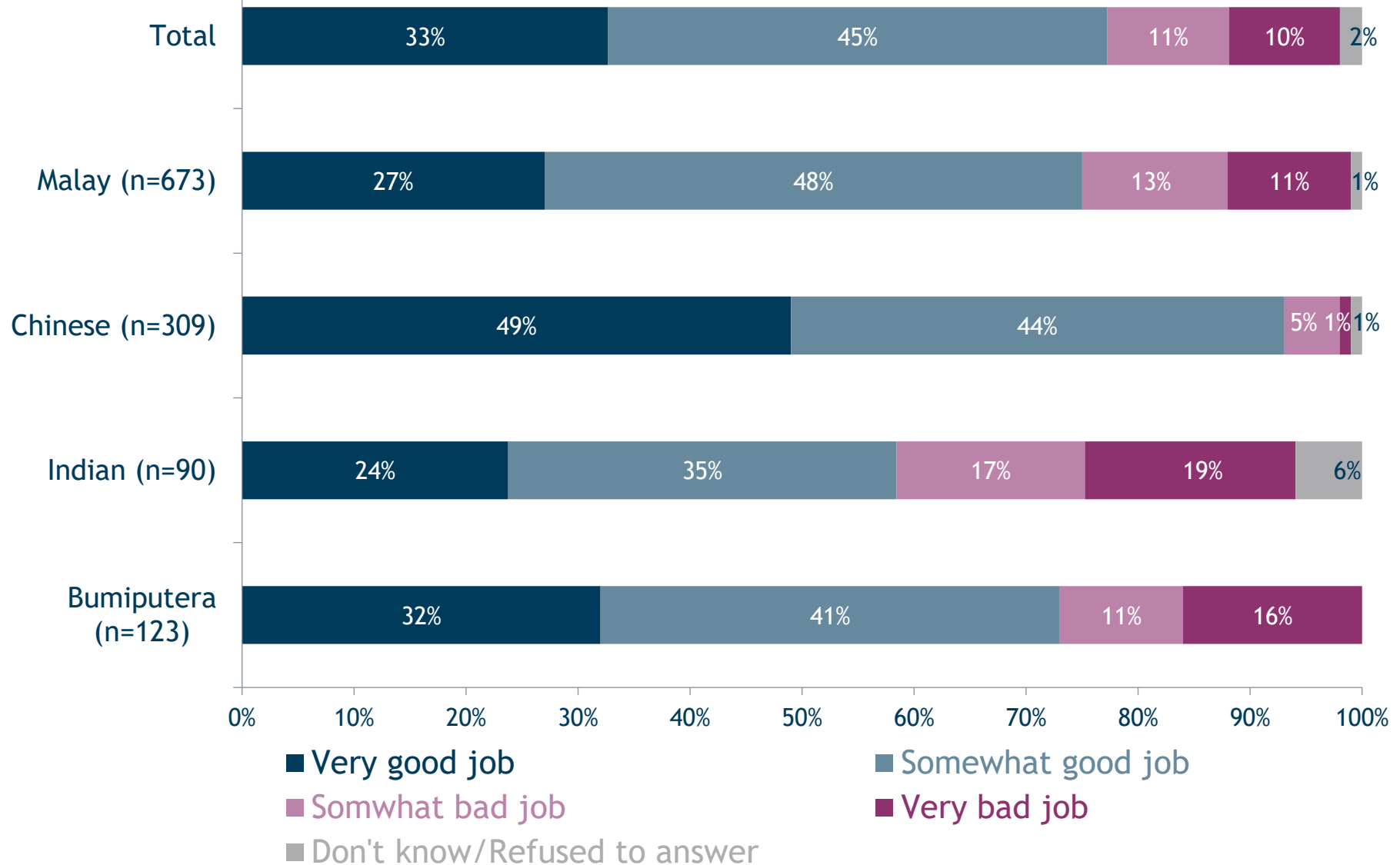


As you may have heard, there is an outbreak of a new disease called Coronavirus that originated in Wuhan, China. Thinking now about how the Chinese government handled the situation, would you say that they did a very good, somewhat good, somewhat bad or very bad job?

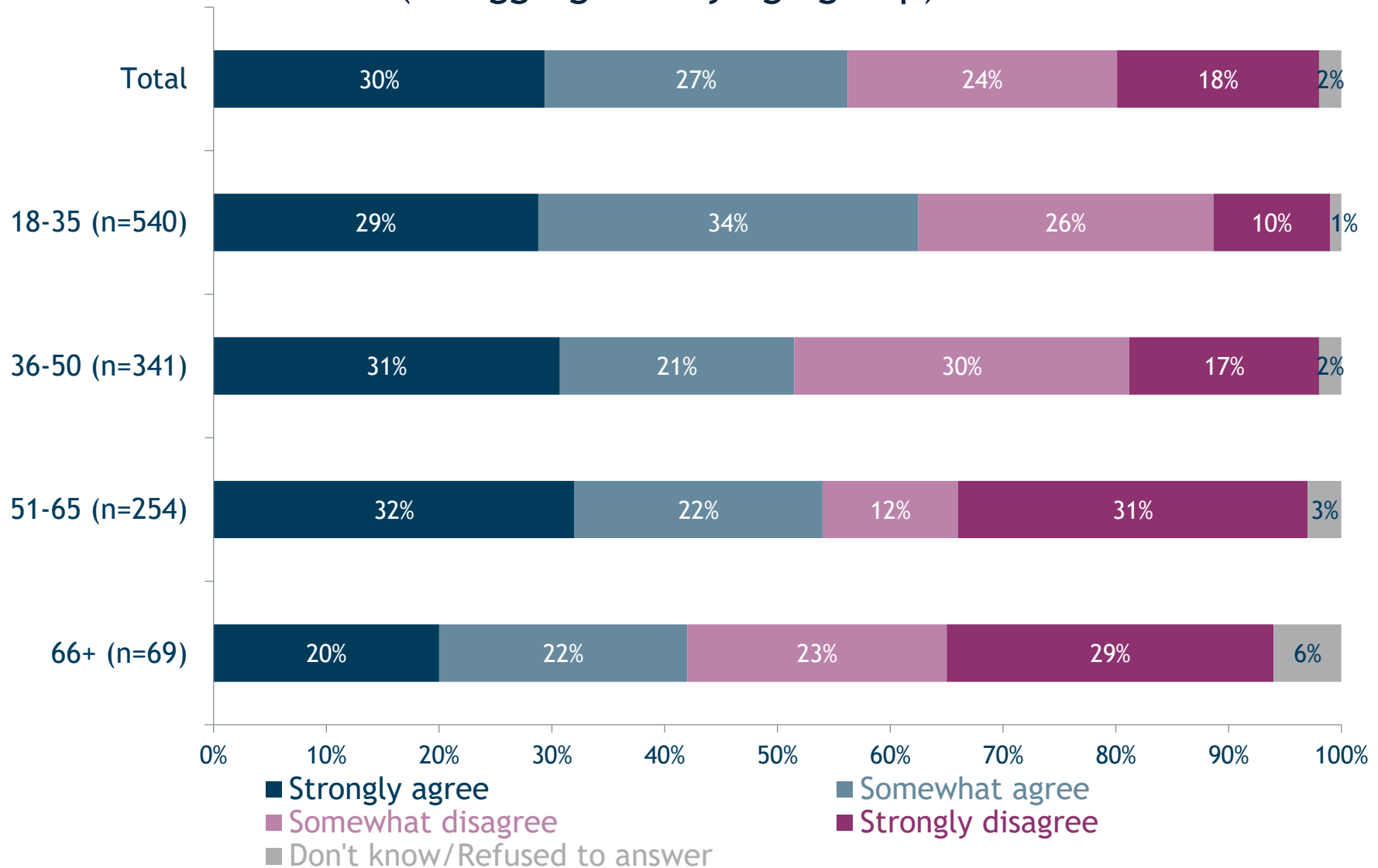


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(Disaggregated by ethnicity among respondents who declared themselves belonging to a particular ethnicity)



Would you say you agree or disagree with the following statement:  
“Malaysia is facing a cultural invasion by the West and it is one of the most serious problems facing Malaysia.” And would you say you strongly or somewhat agree/disagree?  
(Disaggregated by age group)



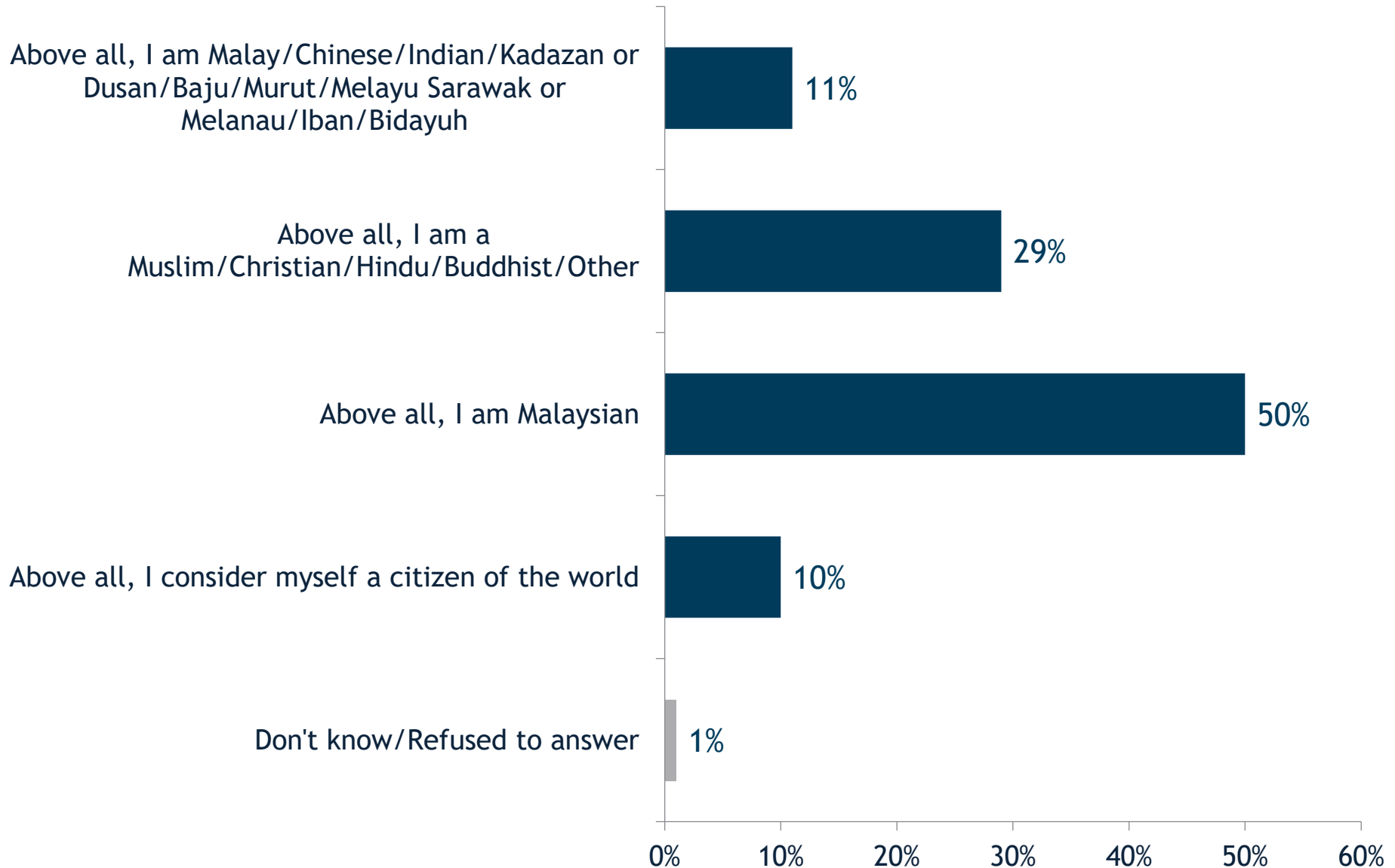


# Personal Identity and Values

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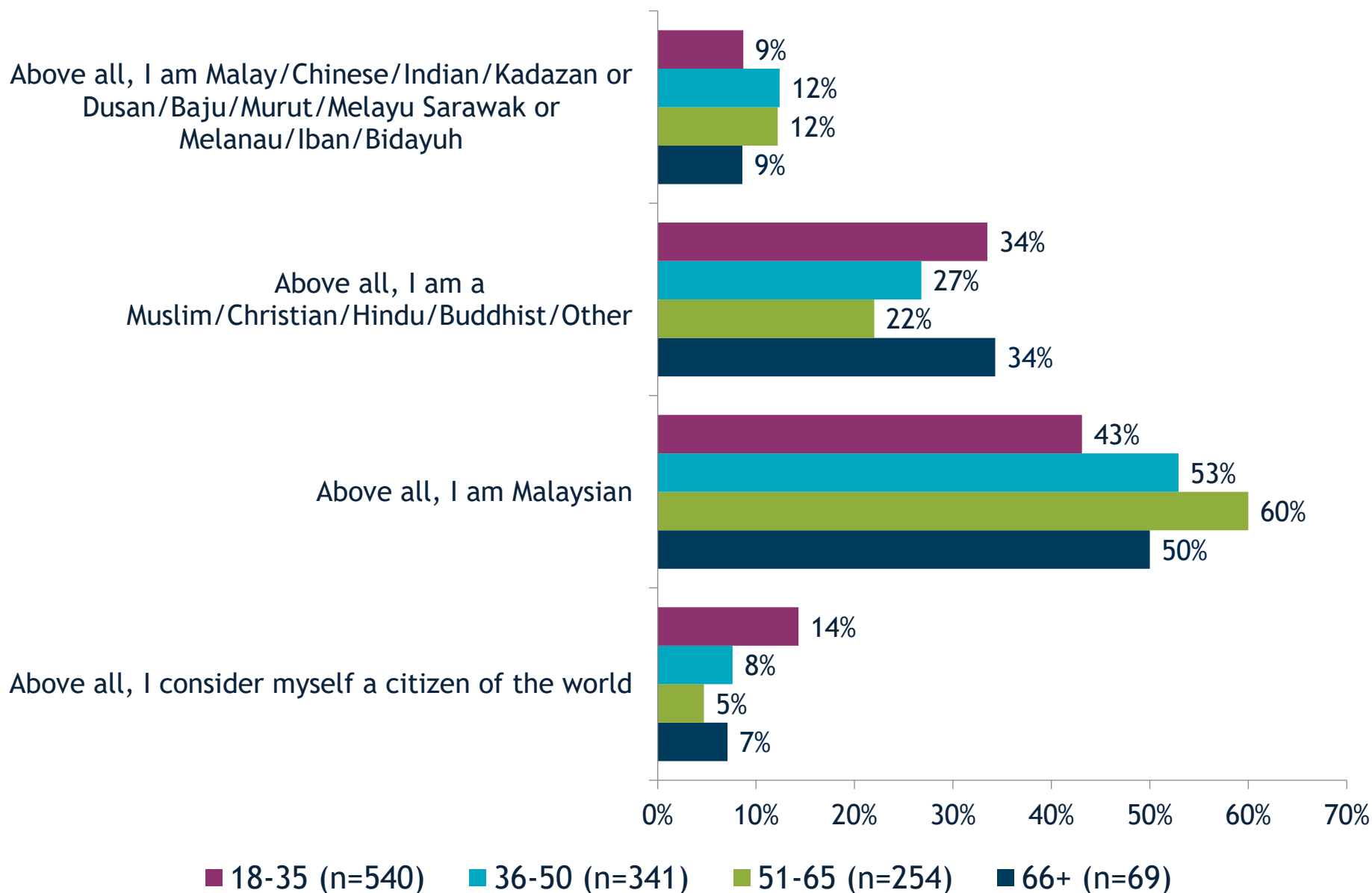


When it comes to identity, people have different ways of thinking about themselves. Which of the following best describes you?

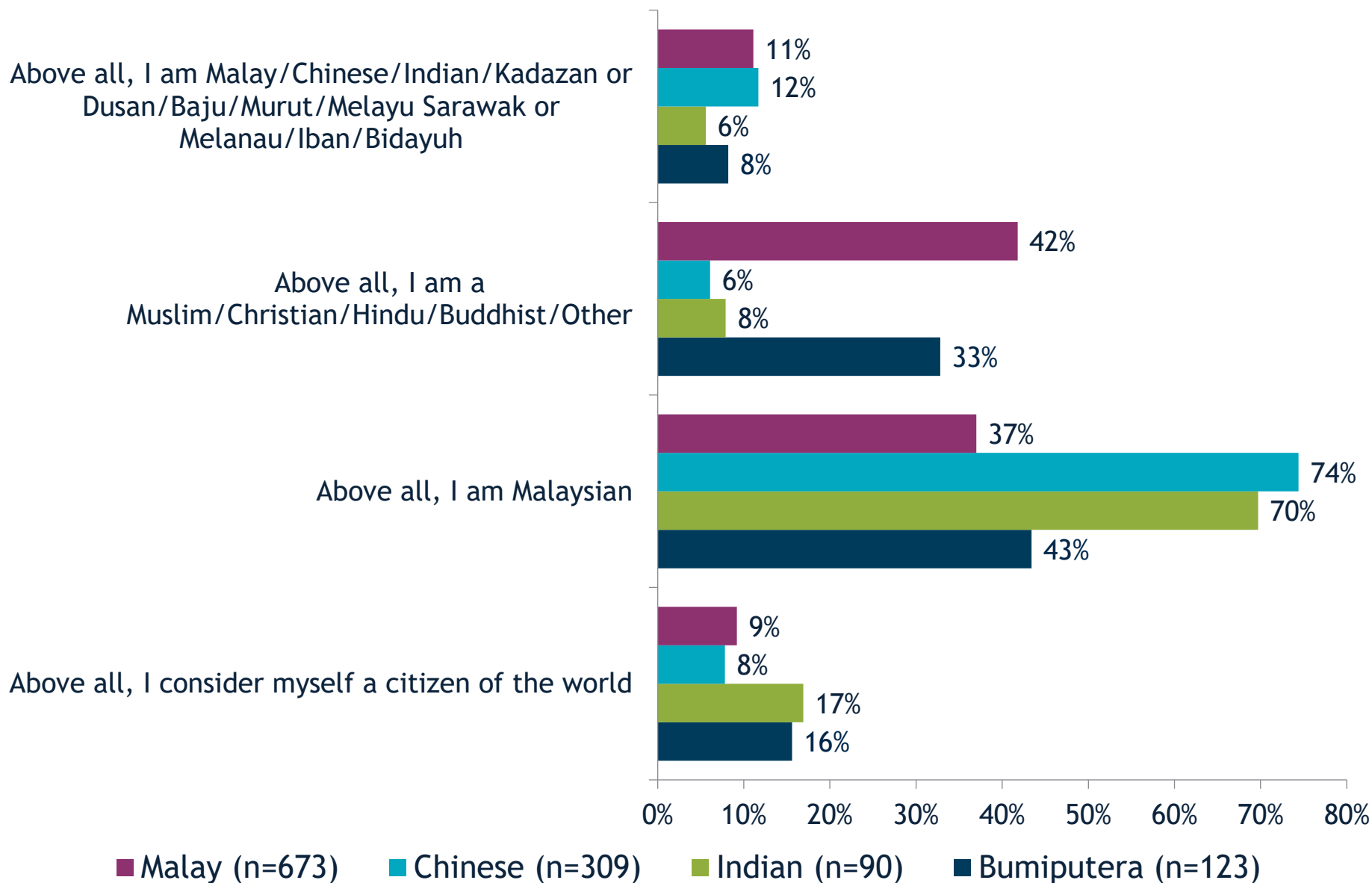




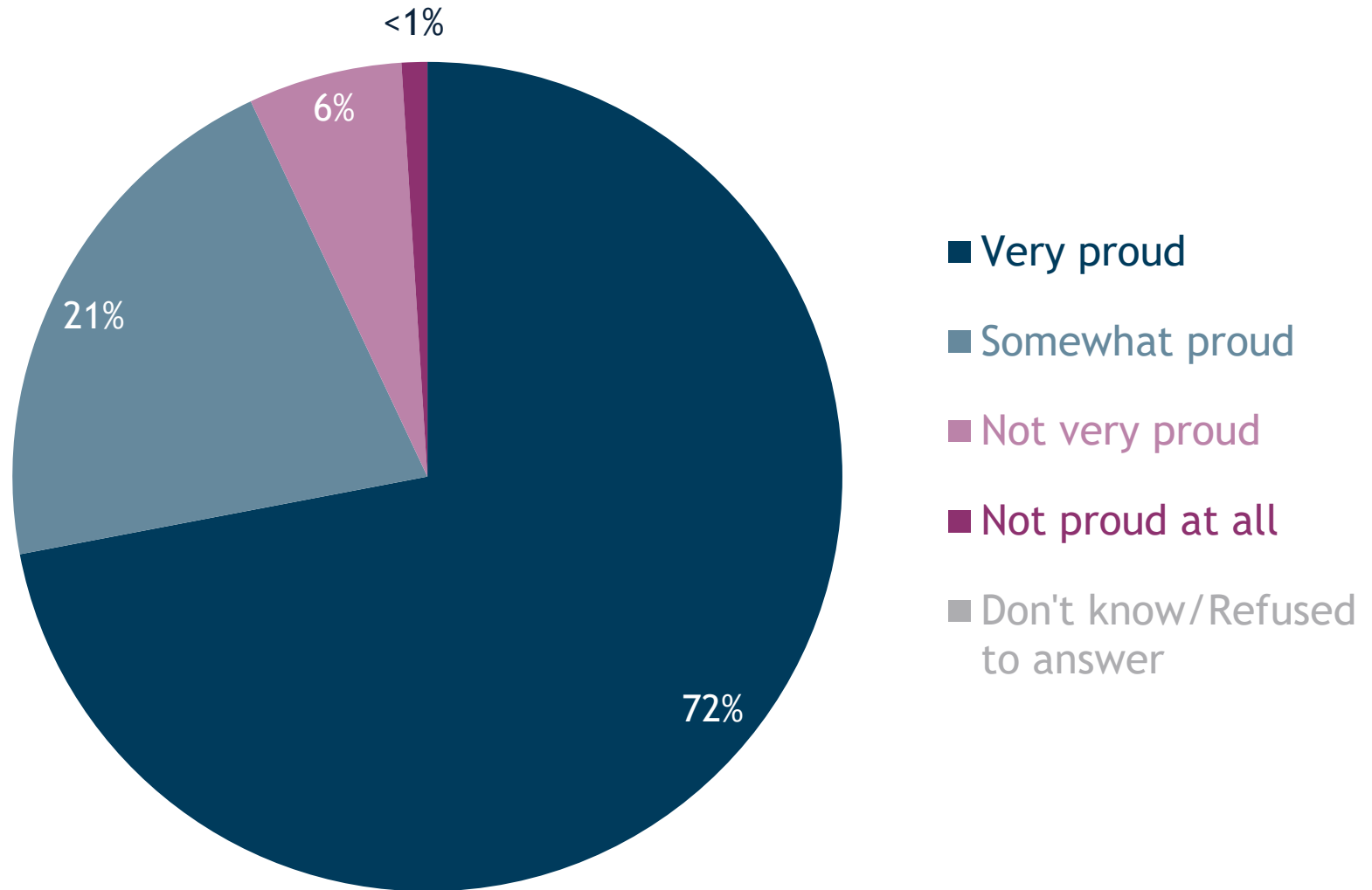
# When it comes to identity, people have different ways of thinking about themselves. Which of the following best describes you? (Disaggregated by age group)



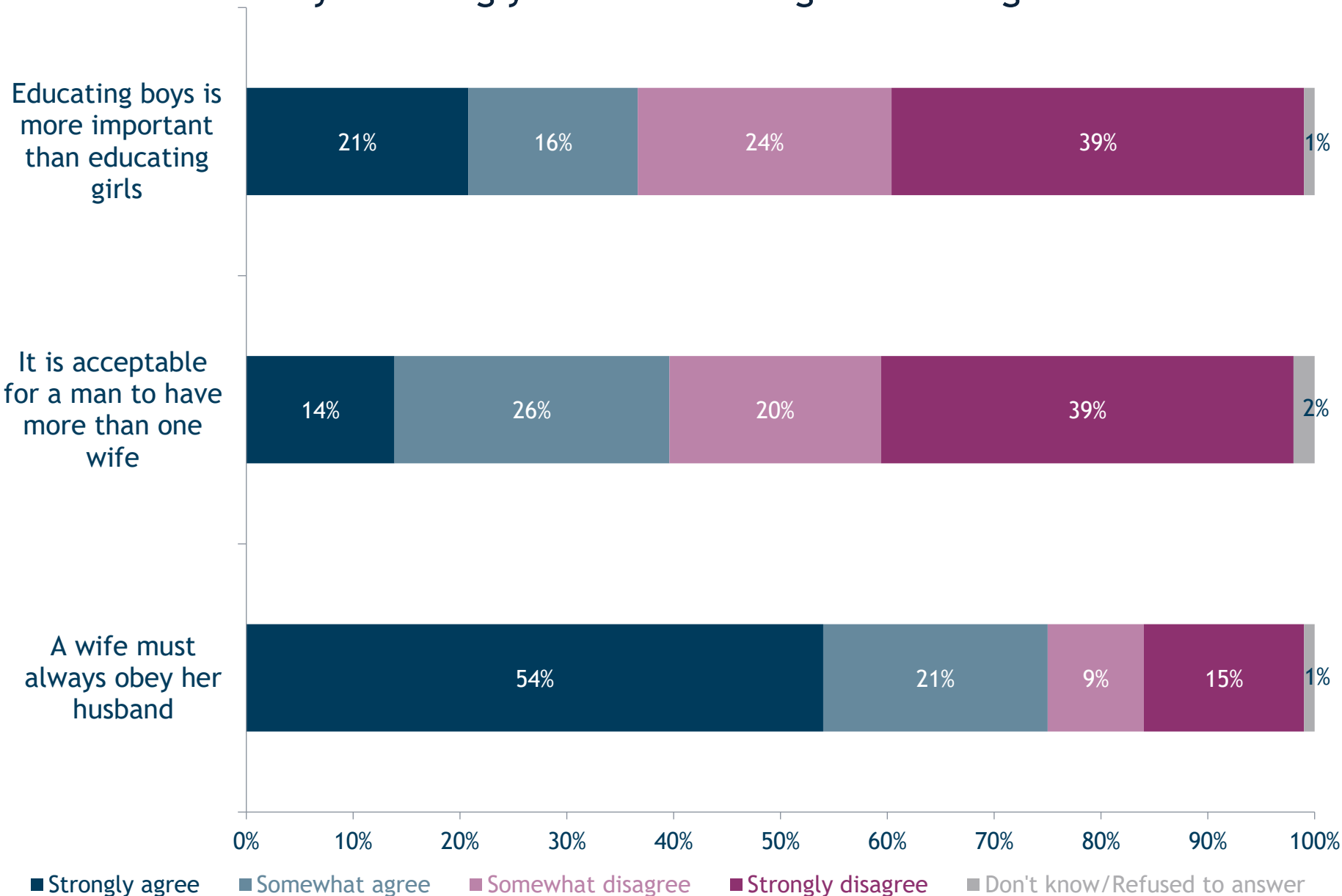
# When it comes to identity, people have different ways of thinking about themselves. Which of the following best describes you? (Disaggregated by ethnicity)



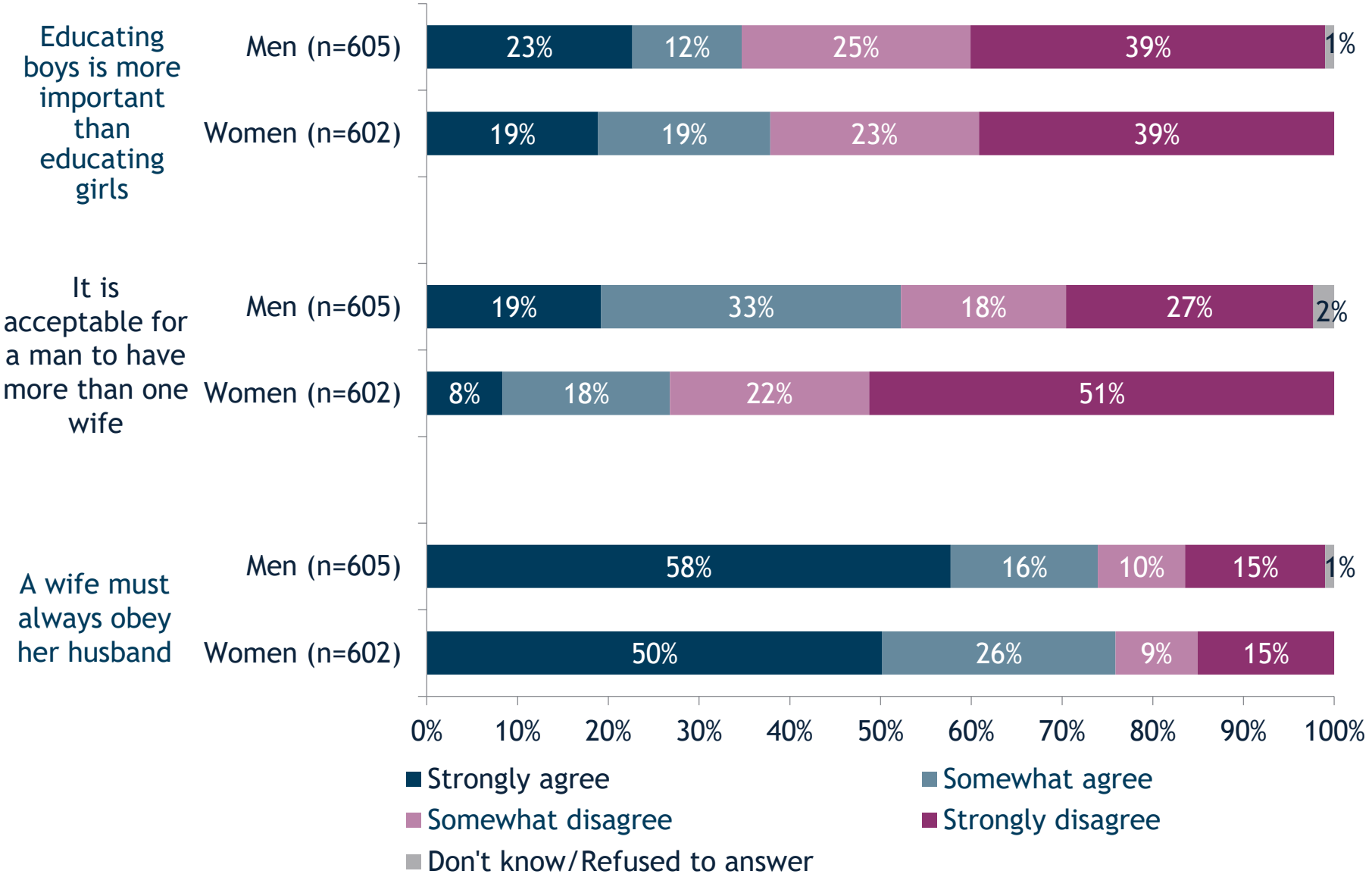
To what extent would you say you are proud to be a Malaysian, if at all?



# Would you say you agree or disagree with the following statements? And do you strongly or somewhat agree or disagree?

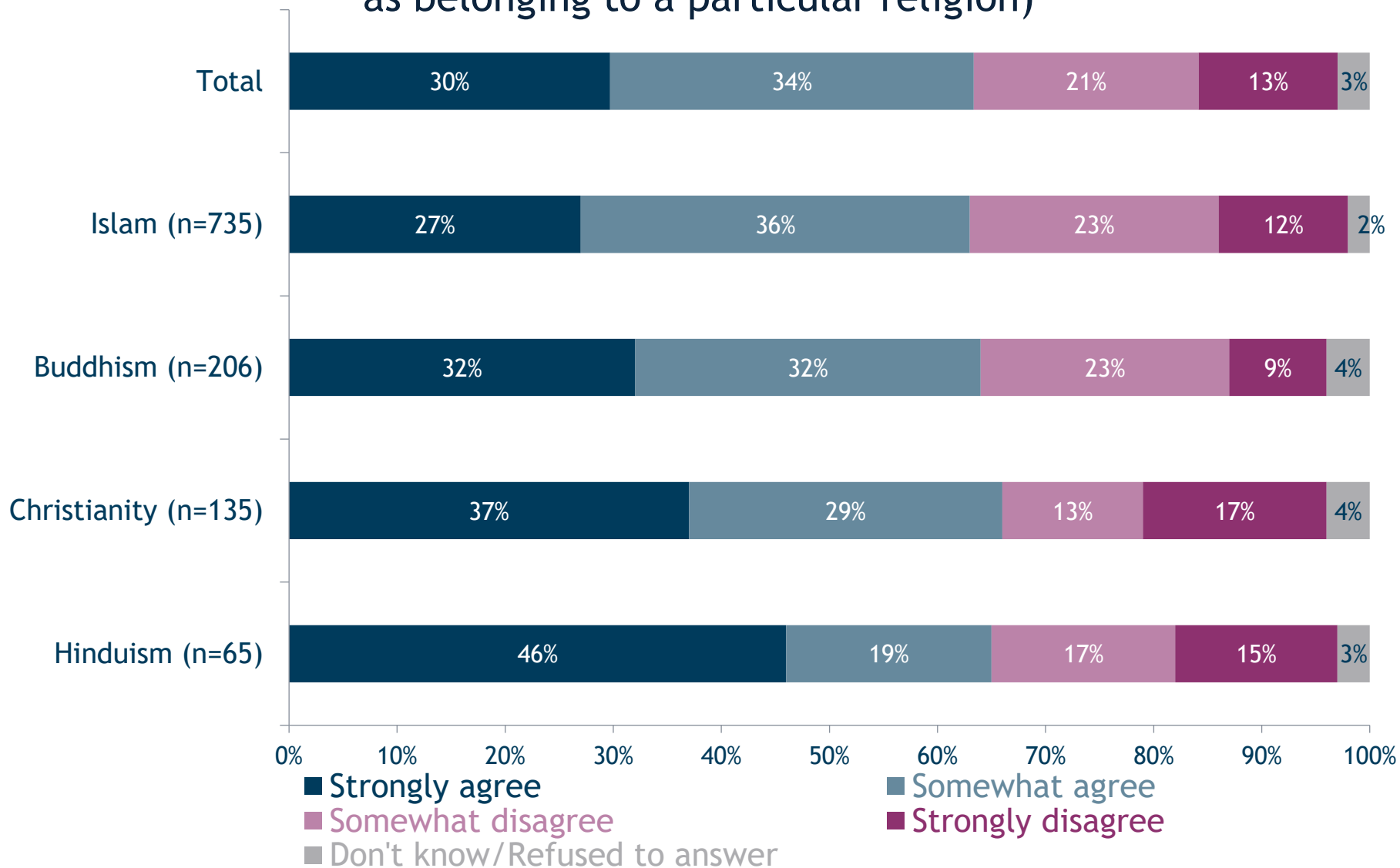


# Would you say you agree or disagree with the following statements? And do you strongly or somewhat agree or disagree? (Disaggregated by gender)

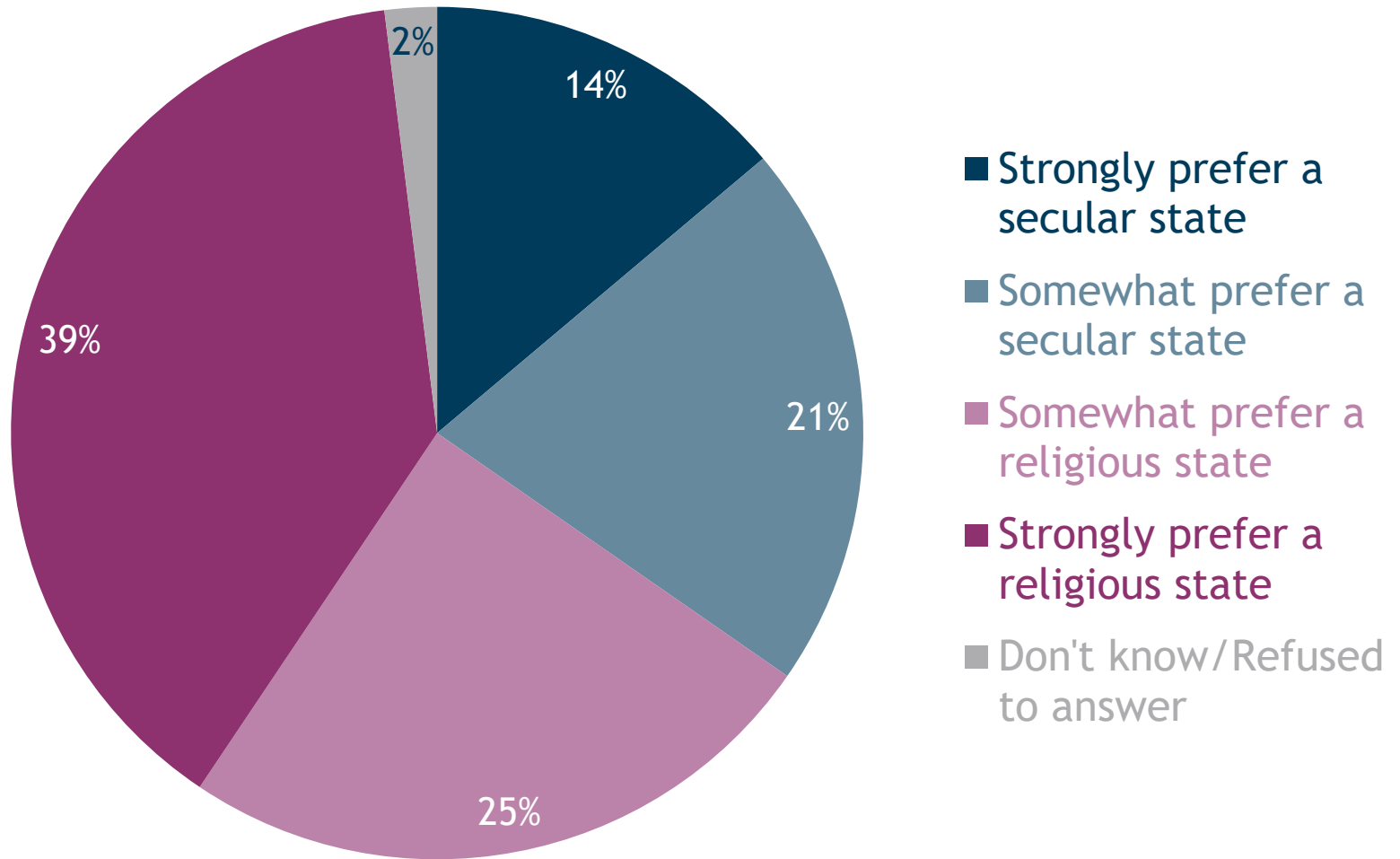


Would you say you agree or disagree with the following statement:  
“Having people with different religious and political beliefs makes  
Malaysia stronger.”

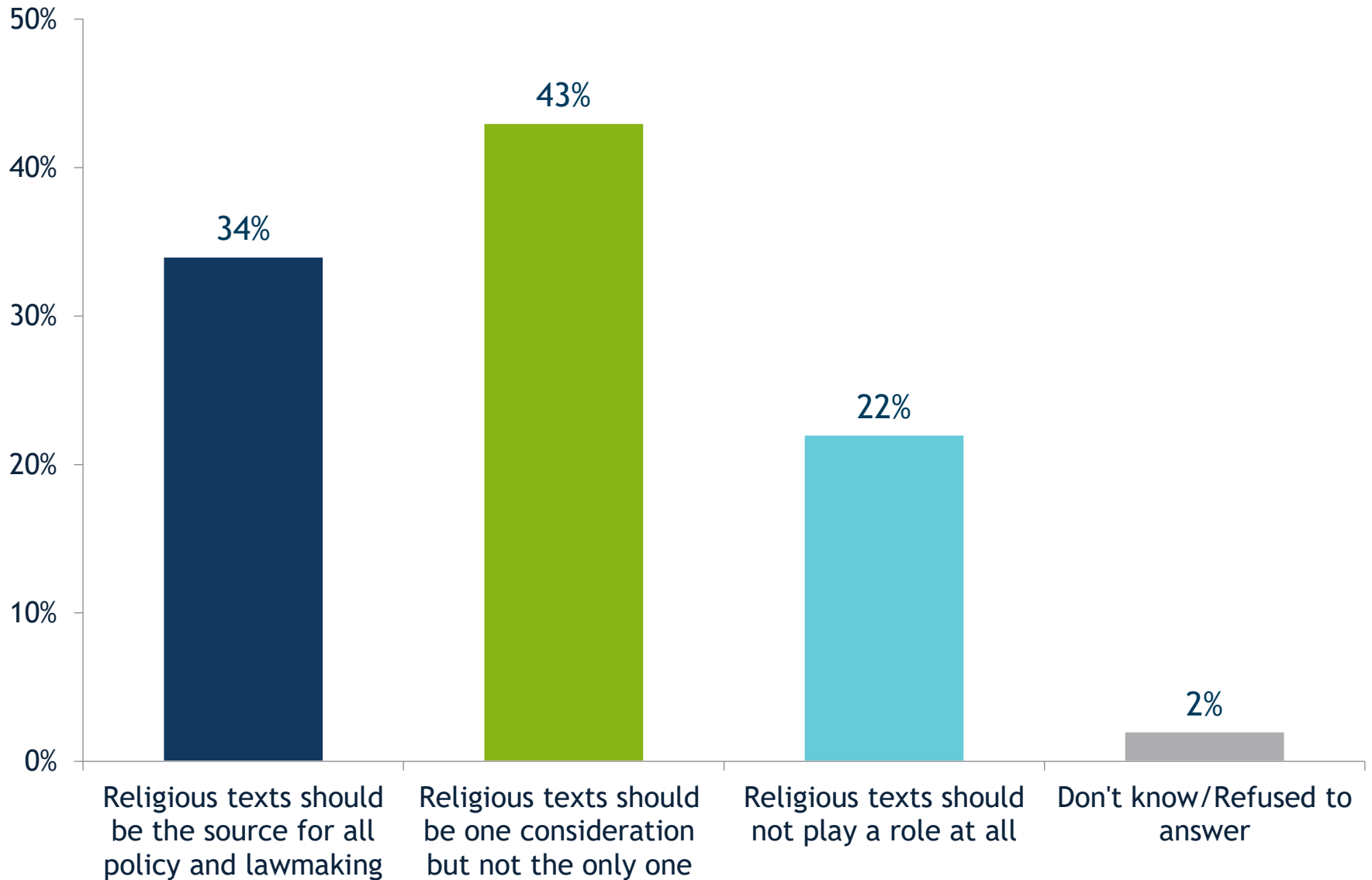
(Disaggregated by religion among respondents who declared themselves  
as belonging to a particular religion)



If you had a choice between a secular civic state or a religious state, which would you prefer to live in?



# Which of the following statements best matches your own opinion of the role that religion should play in government and law making?





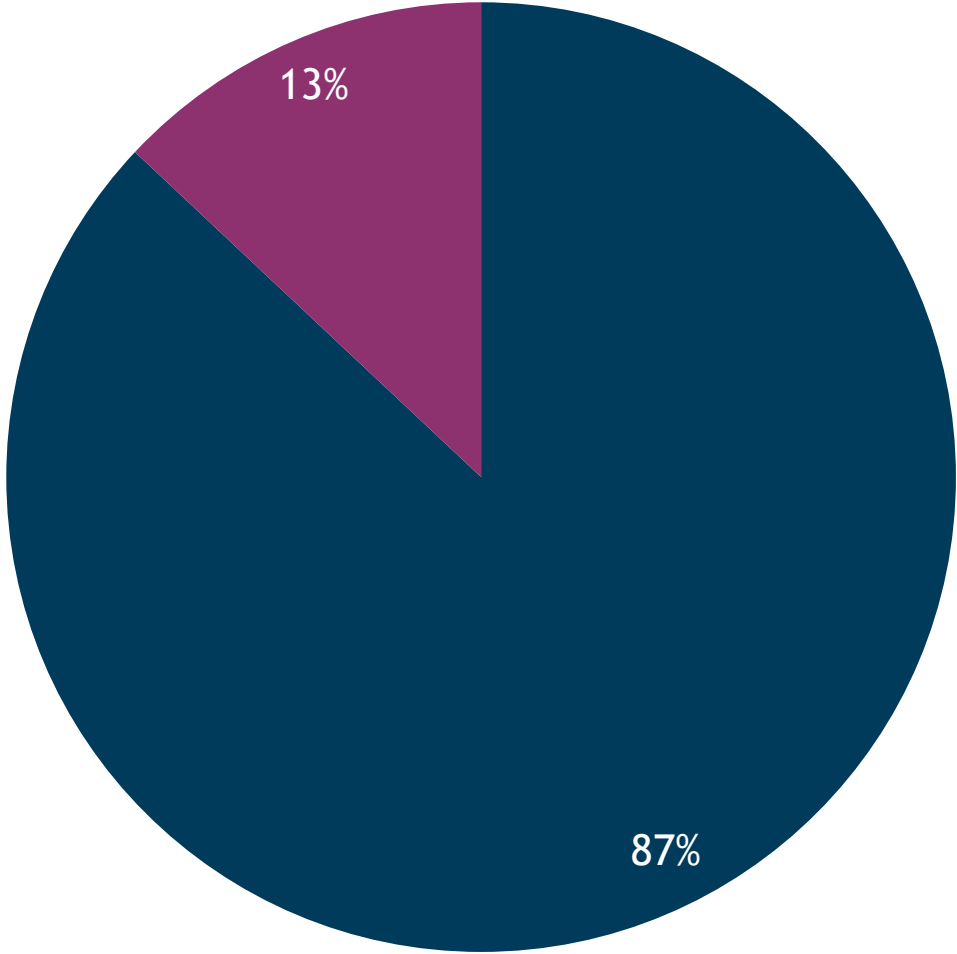


# Media Habits

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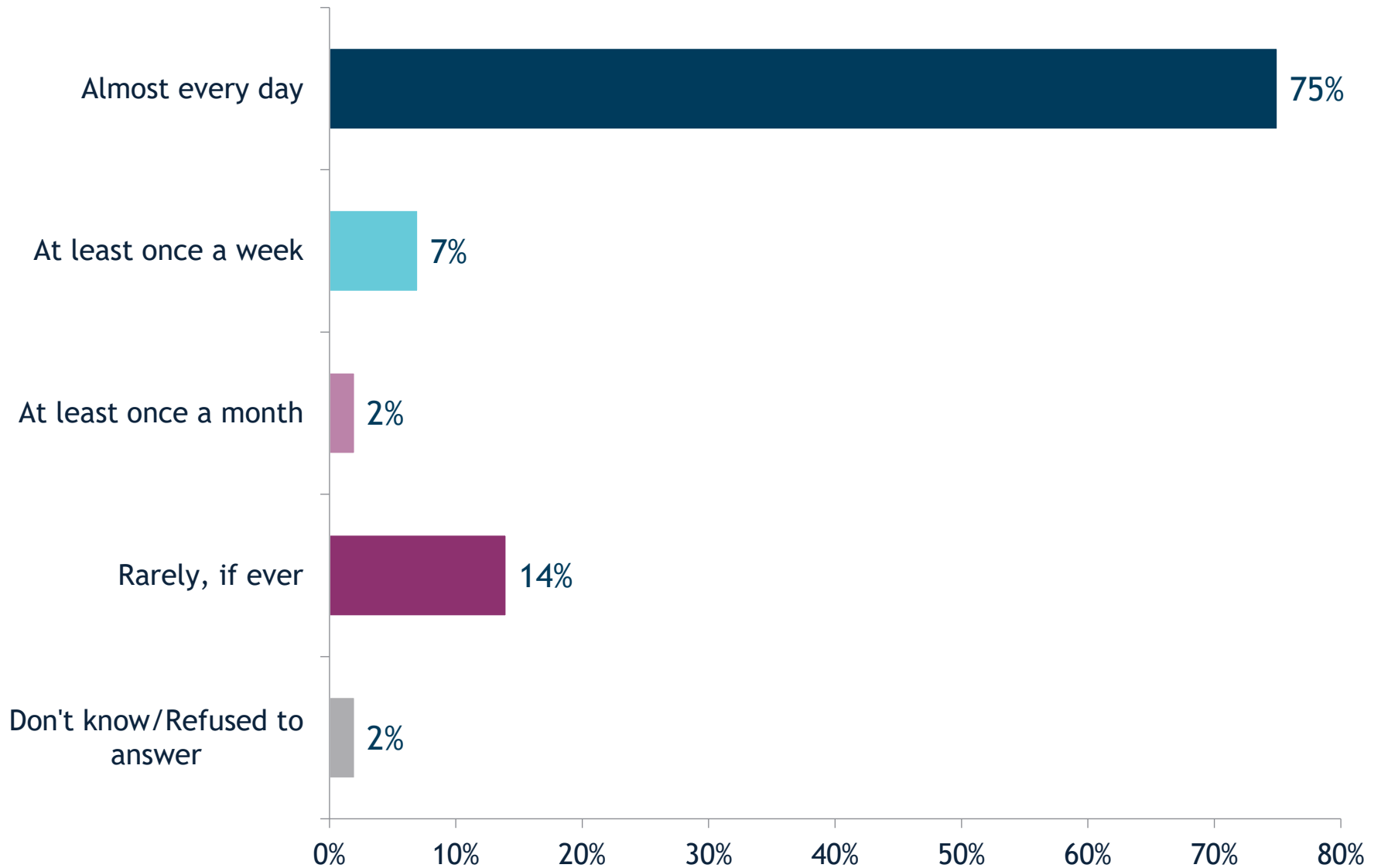


Now I am going to ask you some questions about the internet. To start, do you have access to the internet?

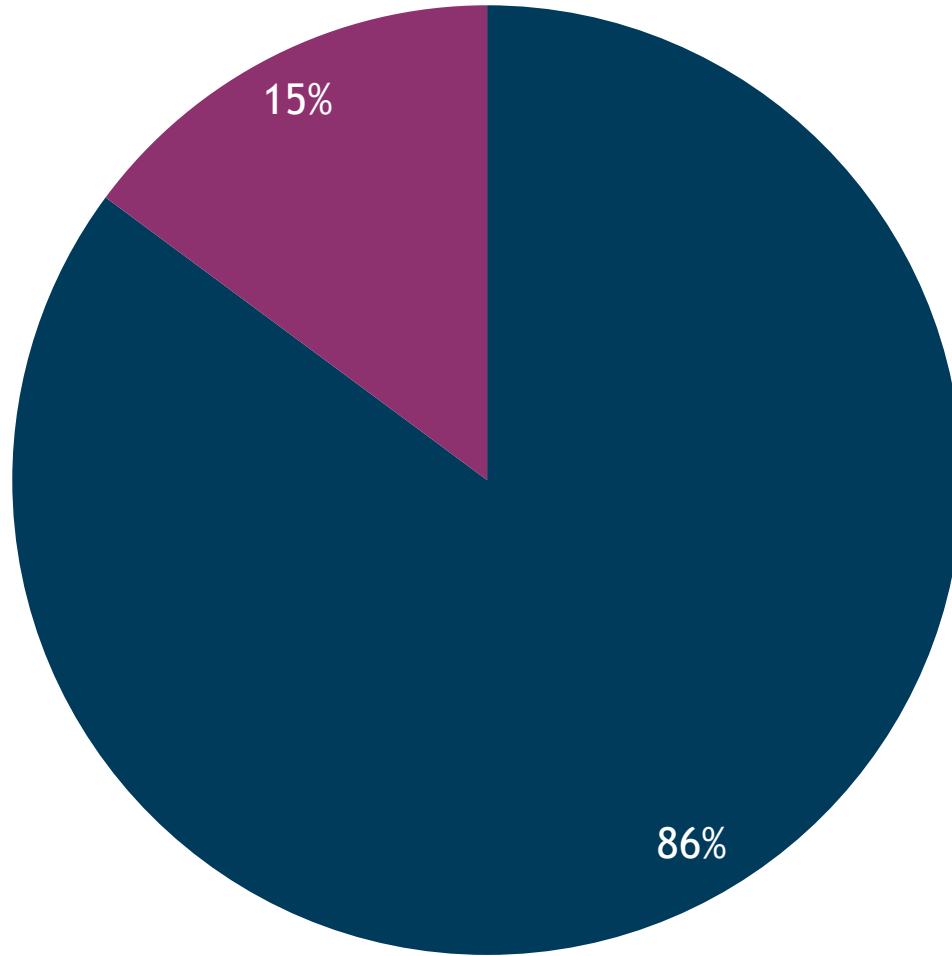


■ Yes ■ No

# How often do you use the internet?

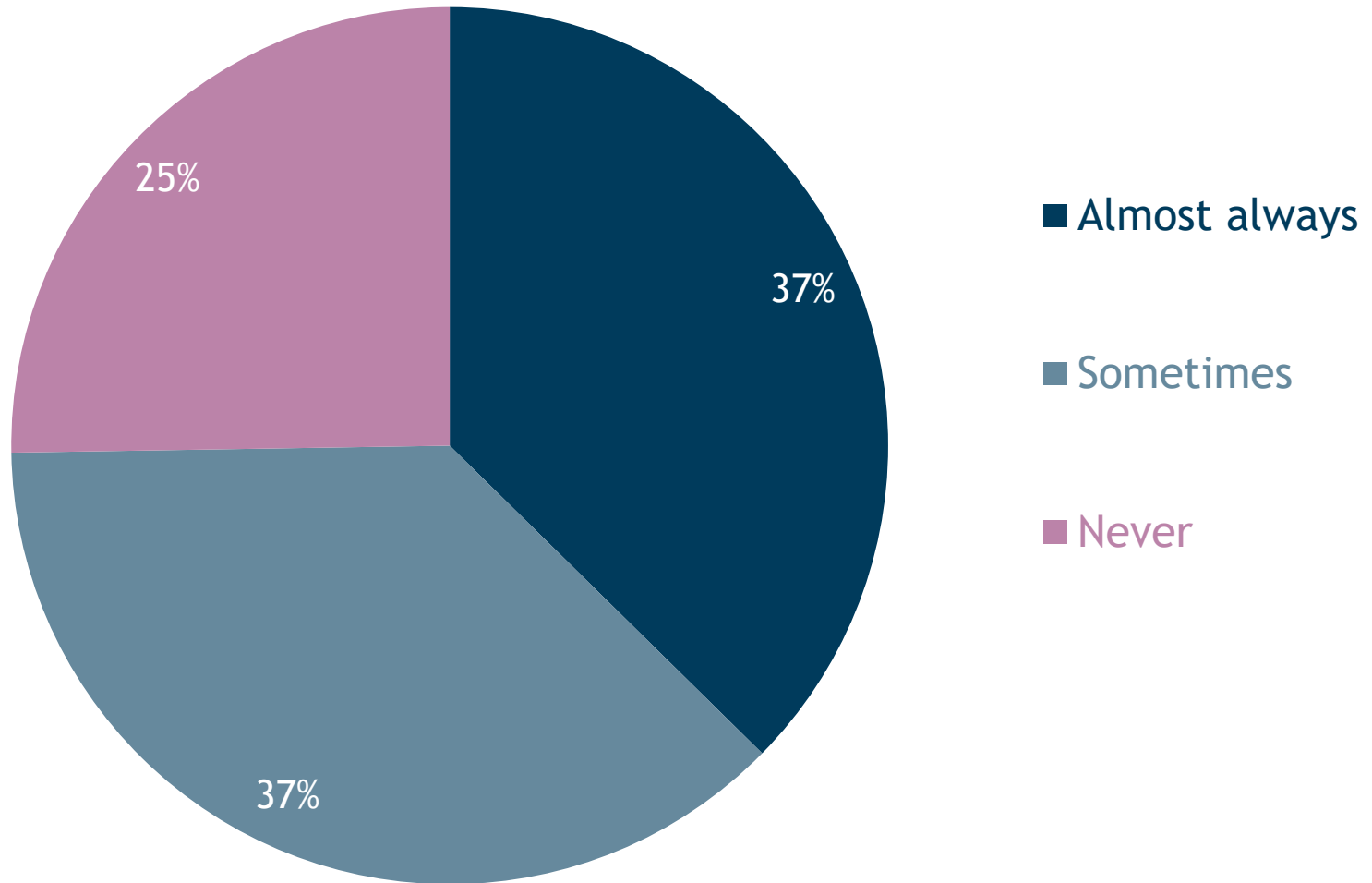


# Have you ever used Facebook?

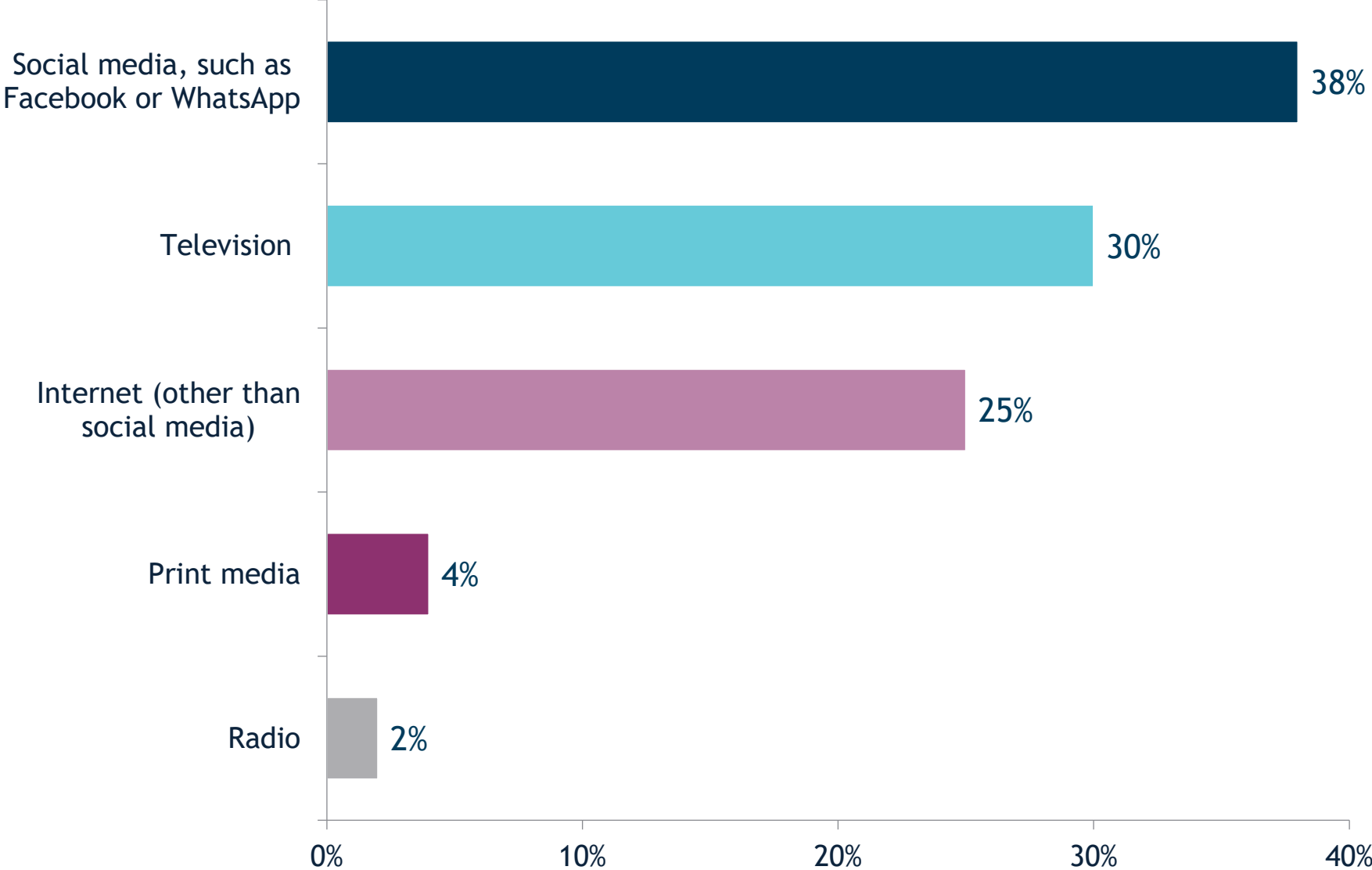


■ Yes ■ No

When you are using Facebook, how often do you do so in English?  
(Asked of those who have ever used Facebook; n=1,031)



# Which media platform do you use most frequently to gain political news and information?



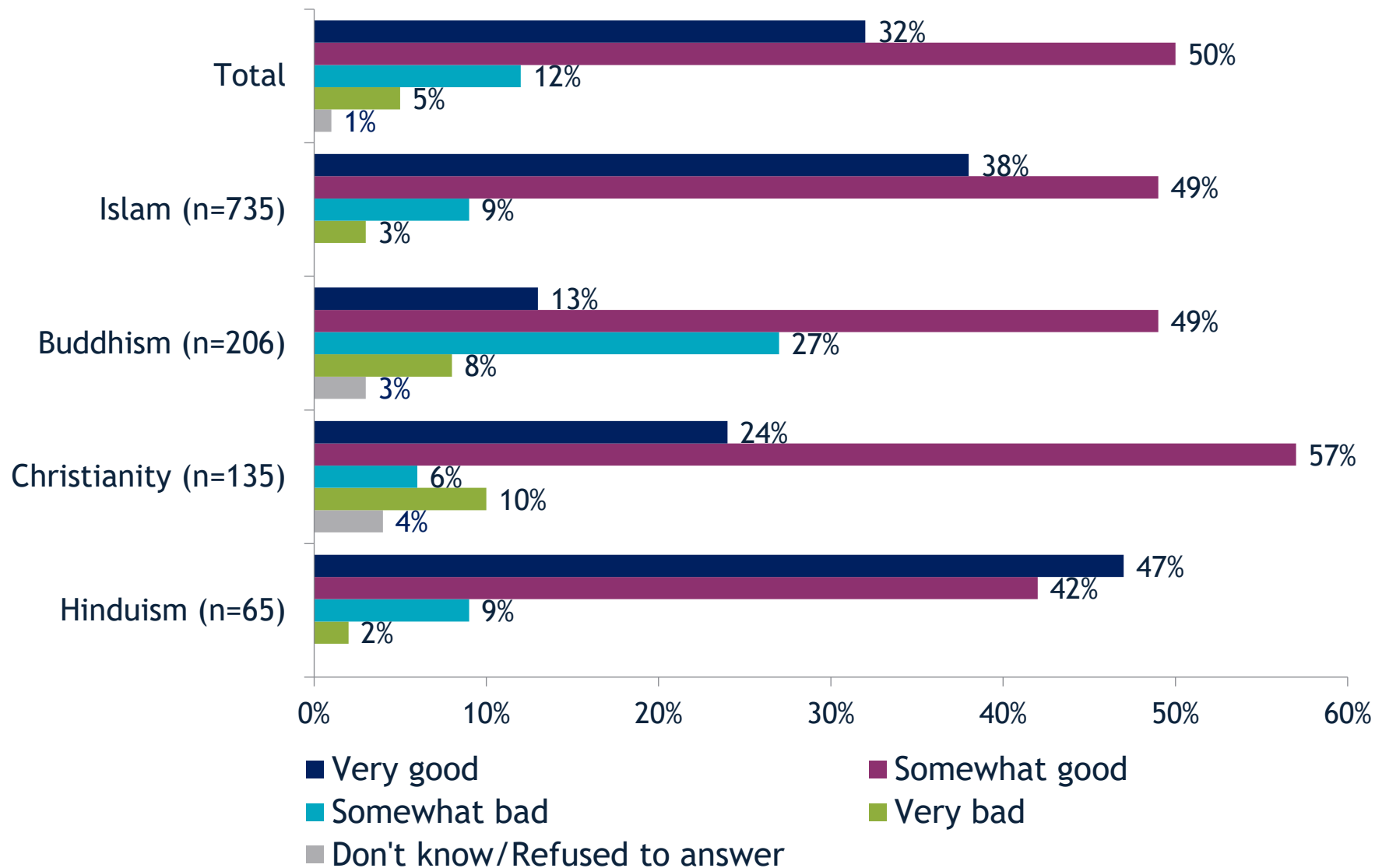


# Intercommunal Harmony

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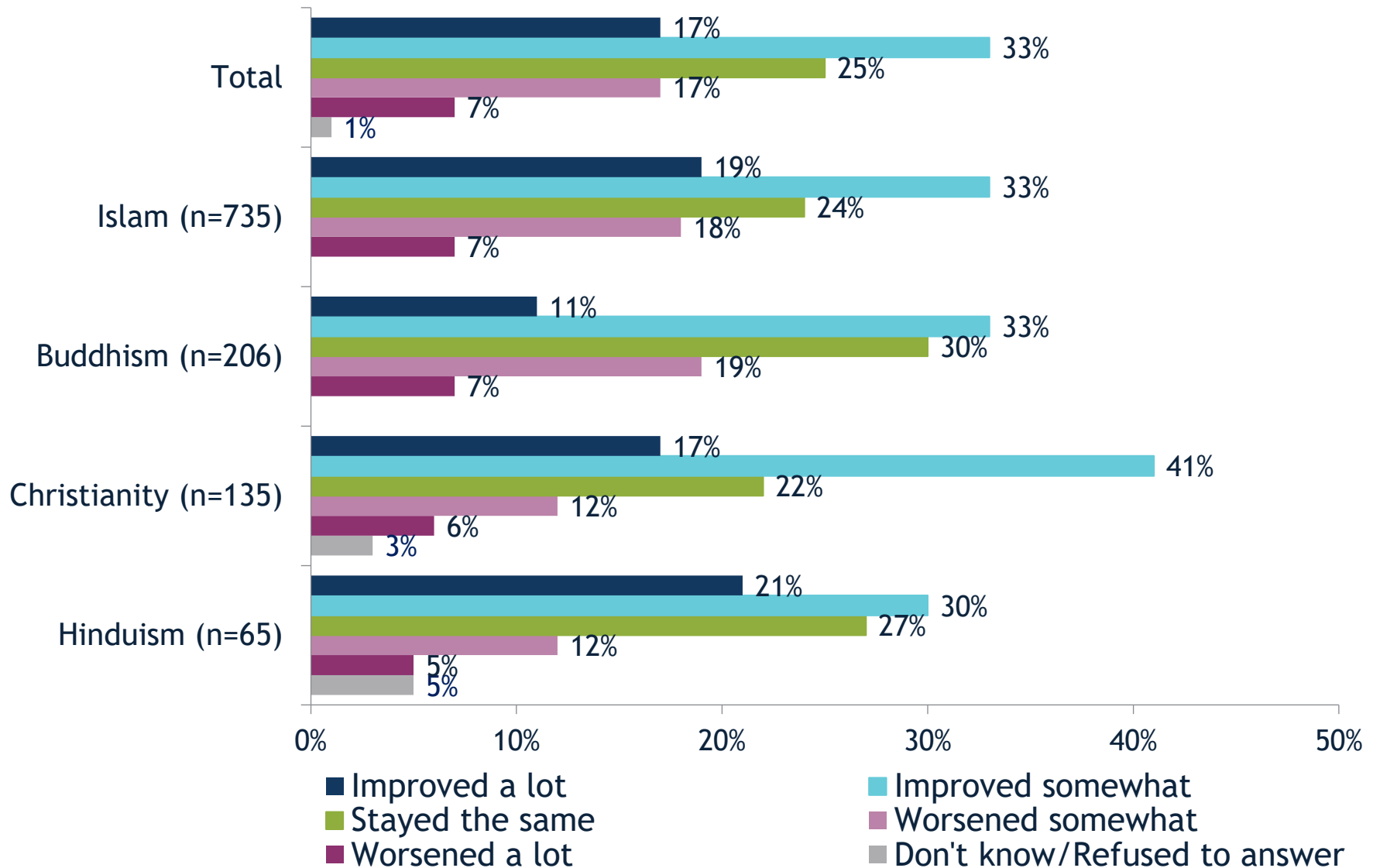


At the current time, how do you rate the level of harmony between different religious communities in Malaysia?  
(Disaggregated by religion among respondents who declared themselves belonging to a particular religion)





Compared to five years ago, how has the level of harmony between different religious communities in Malaysia changed?  
 (Disaggregated by religion among respondents who declared themselves belonging to a particular religion)



In the next five years, how do you expect the level of harmony between different religious communities in Malaysia to change?  
 (Disaggregated by religion among respondents who declared themselves belonging to a particular religion)



# Demographics

## Gender

Female	50%
Male	50%

## Age

18-35 years old	45%
36-50 years old	28%
51-65 years old	21%
66+ years old	6%

## Monthly Income\*

Less than RM1,000	18%
RM1,001 - 2,000	30%
RM2,001 - 4,000	25%
RM4,001 - 7,000	15%
RM7,001 - 12,000	7%
RM12,001 or above	4%
Don't know/Refused	3%

## Religion

Muslim	61%
Buddhist	17%
Christian	11%
Hindu	5%
Other or none	5%

## Education

Primary education or less	11%
Secondary school	45%
Higher education	43%

## Married

Yes	56%
No	43%

## Employment Status

Employed full-time	56%
Unemployed	7%
Homemaker	12%
Retired	9%
Employed part-time	8%
Student	8%

## Ethnicity

Malay	56%
Chinese	26%
Indian	7%
Bumiputera	10%
Other	1%

## Location

Perlis	1%
Kedah	7%
Kelantan	6%
Terengganu	4%
Penang	6%
Perak	9%
Pahang	5%
Selangor	20%
Kuala Lumpur	6%
Negeri Sembilan	4%
Melaka	3%
Johor	12%
Sabah	9%
Sarawak	9%

\*At the time of survey release 1 Malaysian Ringgit was equivalent to 0.238 US Dollars

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