GEORGIAN SURVEY OF PUBLIC OPINION

March 2023



Detailed Methodology

- The fieldwork was carried out by the <u>Institute of Polling & Marketing</u>. The survey was coordinated by Dr. Rasa Alisauskiene of the public and market research company <u>Baltic Surveys/The Gallup Organization</u> on behalf of the <u>Center for Insights in Survey Research</u>.
- Data was collected throughout Georgia between March 4 and 23, 2023, through CAPI administered face-to-face interviews in respondents' homes.
- The sample consisted of n=1,500 permanent residents of Georgia aged 18 and older and eligible to vote. It is representative of the general population by age, gender, region and settlement size.
- A multistage probability sampling method was used with a "random route" protocol to select households and the "last birthday" method to select respondents
 - Stage one: All districts of Georgia are grouped into 10 regions. All regions of Georgia were surveyed (Tbilisi city as separate region) except for Abkhazeti and Samachablo (South Ossetia), which were excluded due to the political situation.
 - Stage two: selection of the settlements cities and villages.
 - Settlements were selected at random. The number of selected settlements in each region was proportional to the share of population living in a particular type of settlement in each region.
 - Stage three: primary sampling units were randomly drawn.
- The achieved sample was weighted by gender, age groups, size of the settlement, and region using 2019 Census data.
- The response rate was 63 percent.
- The margin of error for the mid-range full sample does not exceed ±2.5 percentage points.
- Charts and graphs may not add up to 100 percent due to rounding.
- The survey was funded by the U.S. Agency for International Development.

Frequently Cited Disaggregate Bases

Disaggregate	Category	Base
	Tbilisi city	n=453
	Kakheti	n=132
	Shida Kartli	n=108
	Kvemo Kartli	n=167
Regions	Samtskhe-Javakheti	n=64
	Ajara	n=134
	Guria*	n=42
	Samegrelo	n=139
	Imereti	n=222
	Mtskheta-Mtianeti*	n=38
Margin of error will vary with sample size n.		

*Cited bases are weighted. Margin of error will vary with sample size n. Results for bases with fewer than 50 should be interpreted with caution. Disaggregates for Guria and Mtskheta-Mtianeti should be interpreted with caution due to very small sample sizes.

Poll	Fieldwork Dates	Total Sample Size	
Georgian survey of public opinion	September 13 - October 2, 2022	n = 1,500	
Georgian survey of public opinion	March 4 - March 24, 2022	n = 1,486	
Georgian survey of public opinion	June 15 - June 30, 2021	n = 1,500	
Georgian survey of public opinion	February 2 - February 26, 2021	n = 1,500	
Georgian survey of public opinion	August 4 - August 21, 2020	n = 1,500	

About the Center for Insights In Survey Research (CISR)



Research and qualitative and quantitative public opinion data is a cornerstone of IRI's approach to programming. Our data ensures citizens' needs are at the center of the political debate and guide our projects' goals. To date, IRI has conducted more than 1,000 polls in over 100 countries, surveying more than 1.5 million people and measuring community attitudes on a wide range of issues.

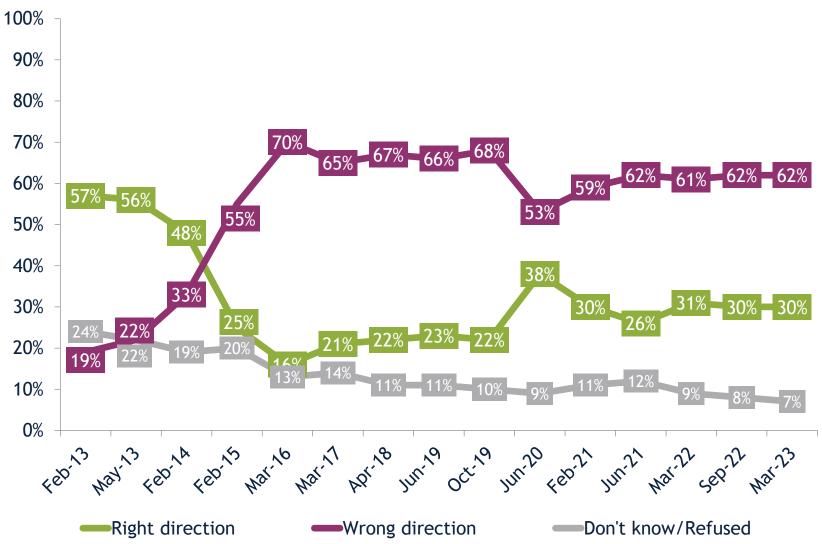
IRI's research approach integrates CISR's methodological polling best practices protocol and field partner in-depth knowledge of the local research environment. This close collaboration begins at project design, with carefully calibrated sampling and instrument development, and continues throughout the entire fieldwork cycle to ensure the collection of reliable qualitative and quantitative data.

← For more of IRI's public opinion research, see <u>CISR's content</u>.

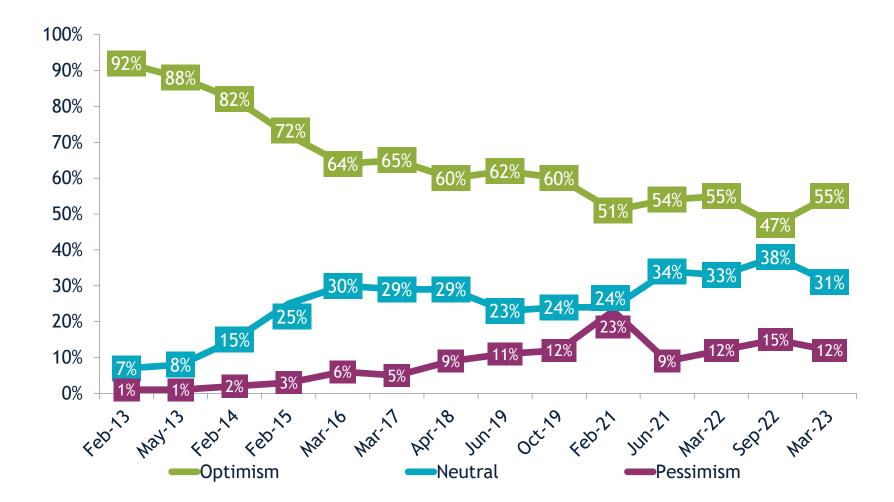
National Outlook



In general, would you say that our country is heading in the right direction or in the wrong direction?



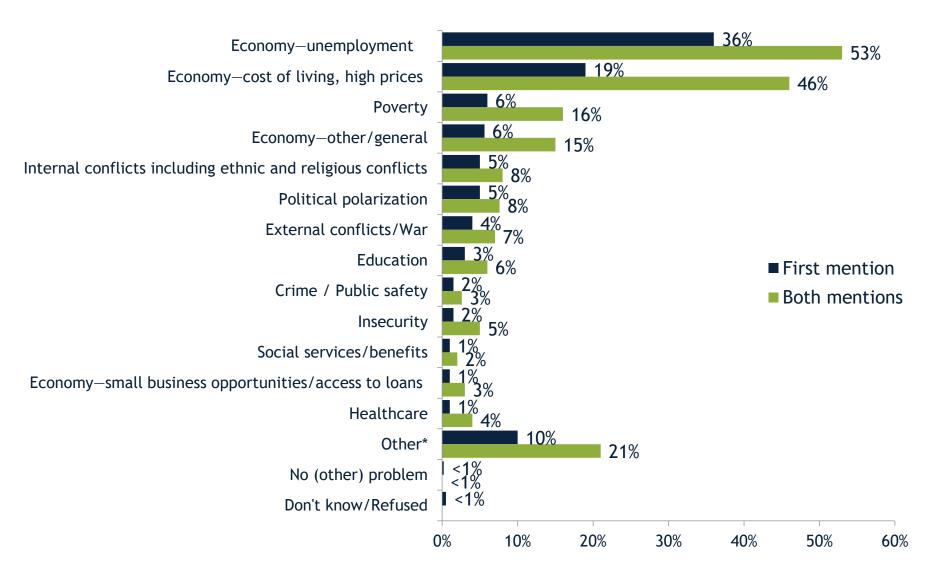
How would you evaluate the prevailing mood of the Georgian population?*



* Under "Optimism," responses "Belief that the future will definitely be better" and "Hope that the future will be somewhat better" are combined. Responses "Not much hope for a better future" and "Apathy, belief in fate" are grouped under "Neutral." Responses "Insecurity, worry, fear for the future" and "Total disappointment, disbelief in any improvement" are combined under "Pessimism." Don't know/No answer is not displayed.

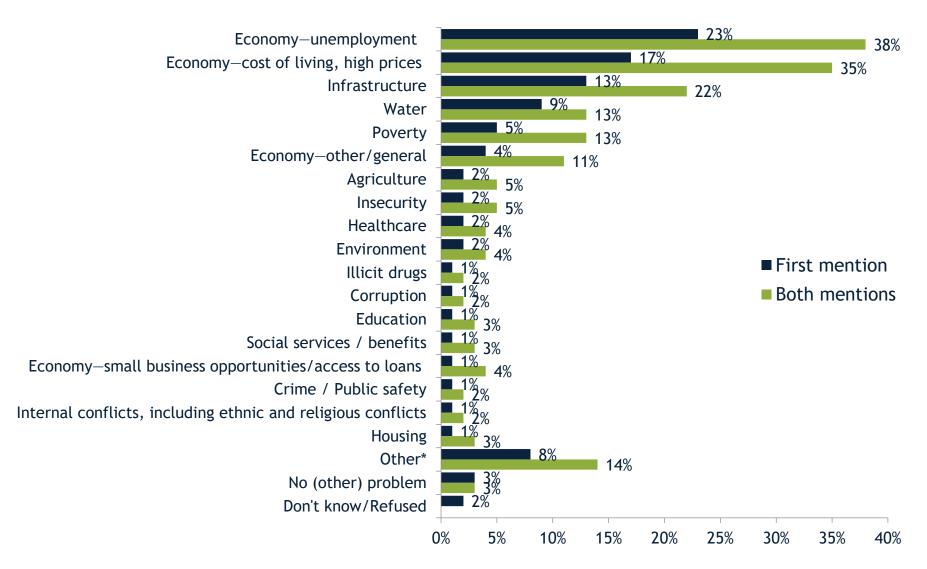
What is the most important problem facing our country today?

(Spontaneous response, up to two responses permitted)



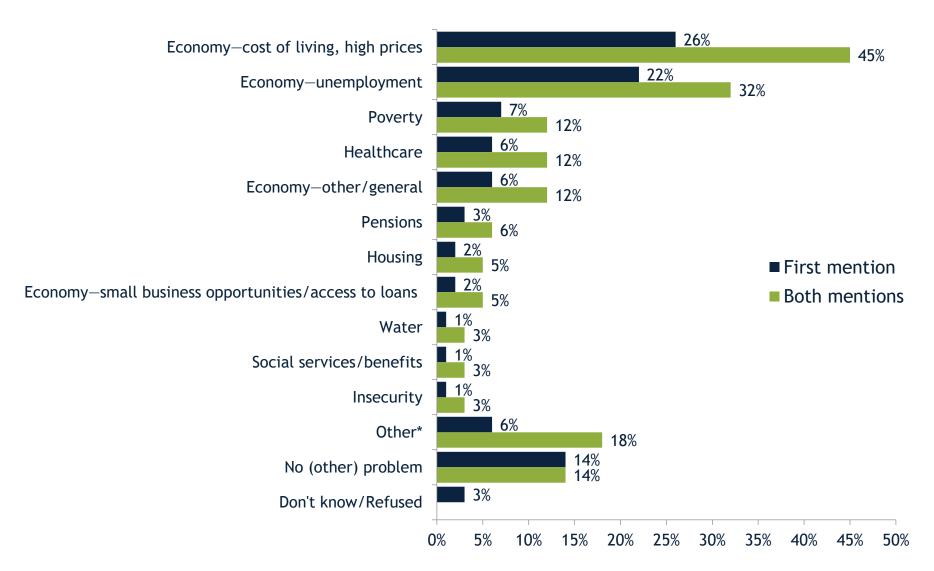
What is the most important problem facing your town/village today?

(Spontaneous response, up to two responses permitted)



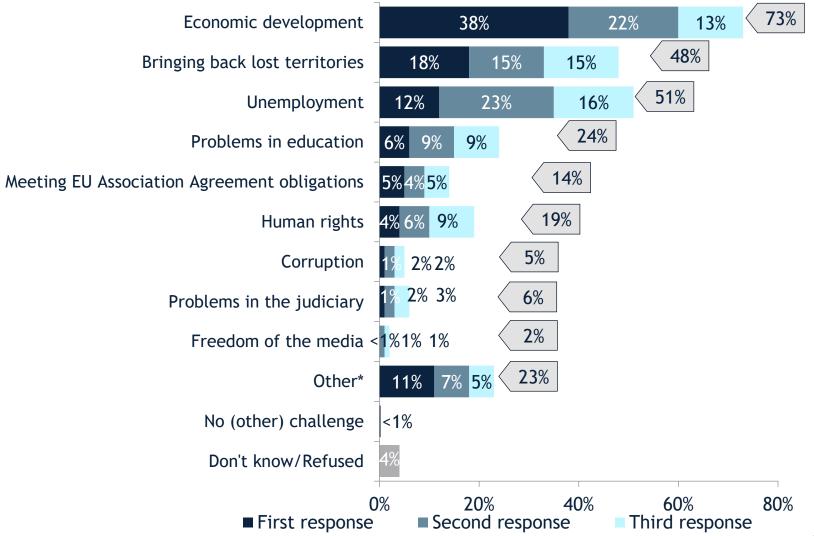
What is the most important problem facing your household today?

(Spontaneous response, up to two responses permitted)

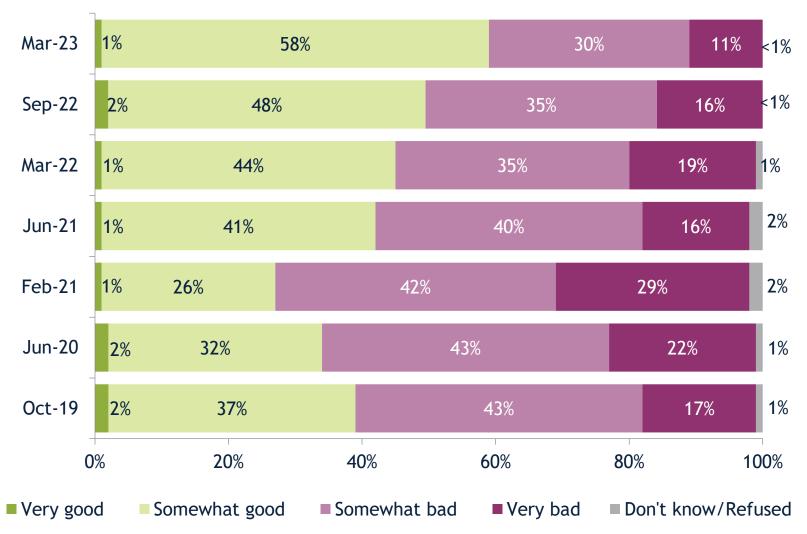


What do you think are the three biggest challenges for Georgia's democratic development and future?

(Spontaneous response, up to three responses permitted)



How would you describe the current economic situation of your household?



Over the last 12 months, how has the economic situation in Georgia changed?

Mar-23	<mark>2</mark> % 16	%	29%	29%		23%	
Sep-22	1% 12%	26%		31%		30%	1%
Mar-22	<mark>1% 5%</mark>	18%	31%		45%		1%
Feb-21	1 <mark>%5%</mark>	18%	37%		39 %		1%
Oct-19	<mark>2% 8</mark> %	24%		35%		2 9 %	2 %
Jun-19	2% 7%	28%		31%	3	80%	2 %
Apr-18	1% 7%	27%		28%	35%	6	2 %
Mar-17	1% 7%	21%	34	34%		36%	
Mar-16	1%6%	25%	3	31%	34%	,)	3%
Feb-15	0% 7%	29 %		33%		29%	
Feb-14	1% 15%		52%		22%		7 % 3%
May-13	1%	26%		53%		12%	3% 5%
Feb-13	1%	26%		58%		10)% 1 <mark>%</mark> 4%
0% 20% Improved a lot Worsened somewhat		•	40% 60% mproved somewhat Vorsened a lot		80% 100% Stayed the same Don't know/Refused		

How do you feel about the direction of each of the following issues? Have they progressed or regressed over the past year?

Freedom of expression	3	32%	37%				30%	/ D	2 %
Media independence	27	7 %	39%			30%			4%
Individual human rights	22%		39%			37%			2 %
Education	20%		36%			40%			4%
Democracy	19%		41%			37%			4%
Fighting crime	19%		36%			40%			5%
National security	16%		42%			37%			5%
Economy	15%	24%			60%				1%
Fighting corruption	14%	39%			35%		11	%	
EU accession	14%	38%				40%		ç	9%
Reducing political polarization	8%	35%	47%				11%		
0	% 10%	20% 30%	% 40 %	50%	60%	70%	80%	90%	100%
Progressed Neither progressed nor regressed Regressed Don't know/Refused							ed		

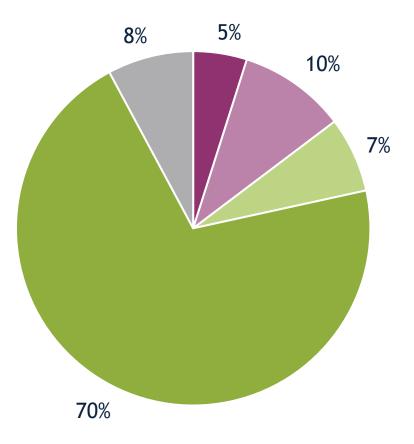
*Responses "Progressed a lot" and "Progressed" combined under "Progressed." Responses "Regressed a lot" and "Regressed" combined under "Regressed".

Corruption



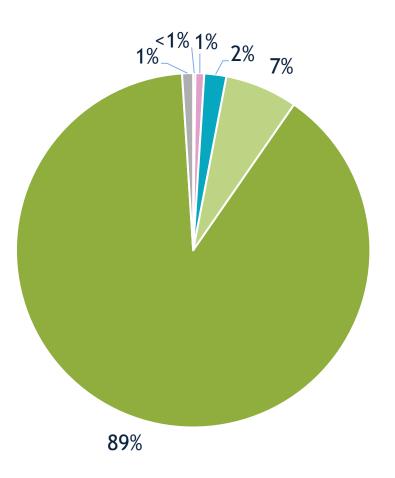


Now I would like to discuss corruption with you. When I say corruption, I mean having to do a favor, give a gift or pay a bribe because someone misuses their position for personal gains. To what extent, if any, has corruption had a negative impact on you?



- It has had a lot of negative impact
- It has had some negative impact
- It has had little negative impact
- It has not had any negative impact
- Don't know/Refused

In the past 12 months, how often, if at all, have you had to do a favor, give a gift or pay a bribe?

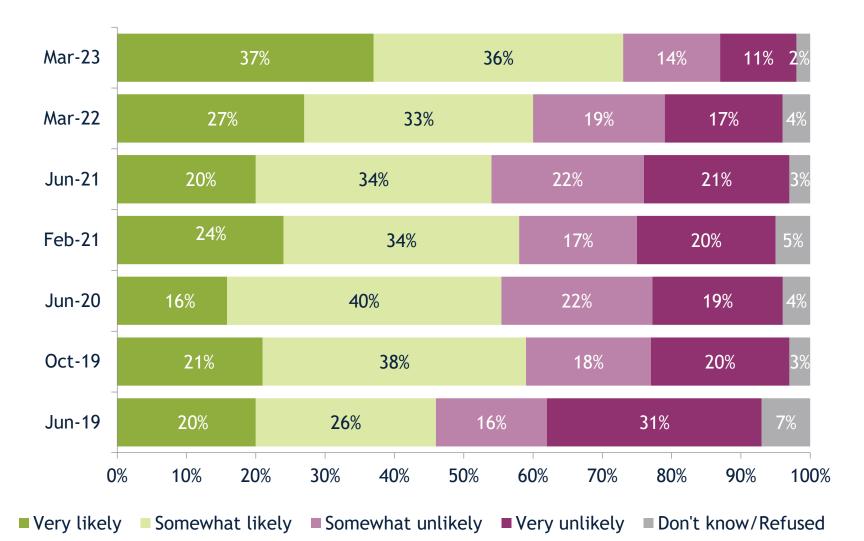


- Daily
- Weekly
- Monthly
- Less frequently
- Not at all
- Don't know/Refused

Elections

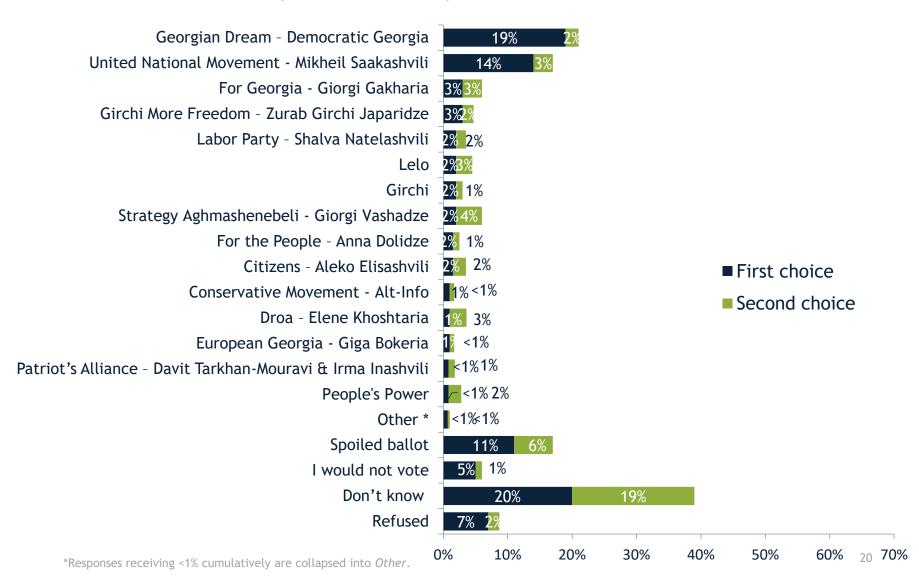


How likely or unlikely are ordinary people able to influence decisions made in our country?



19

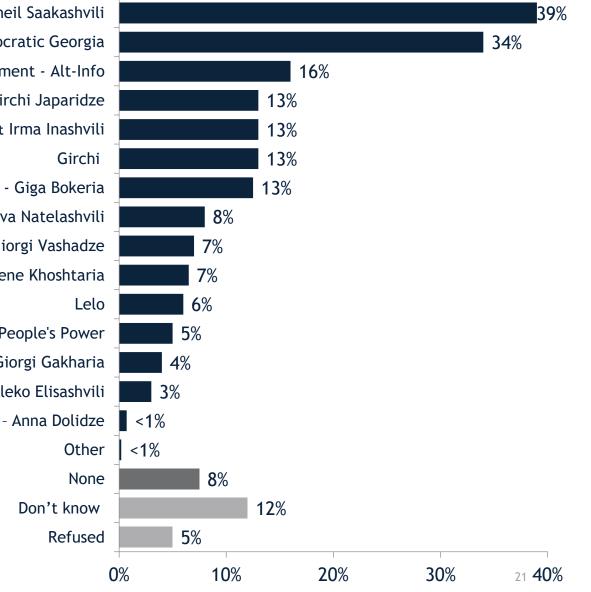
If Parliamentary Elections were held this coming Saturday, for which party, if any, would you vote? (First choice) If your first-choice party would not be on the ballot, who would you vote for instead? (Second choice)



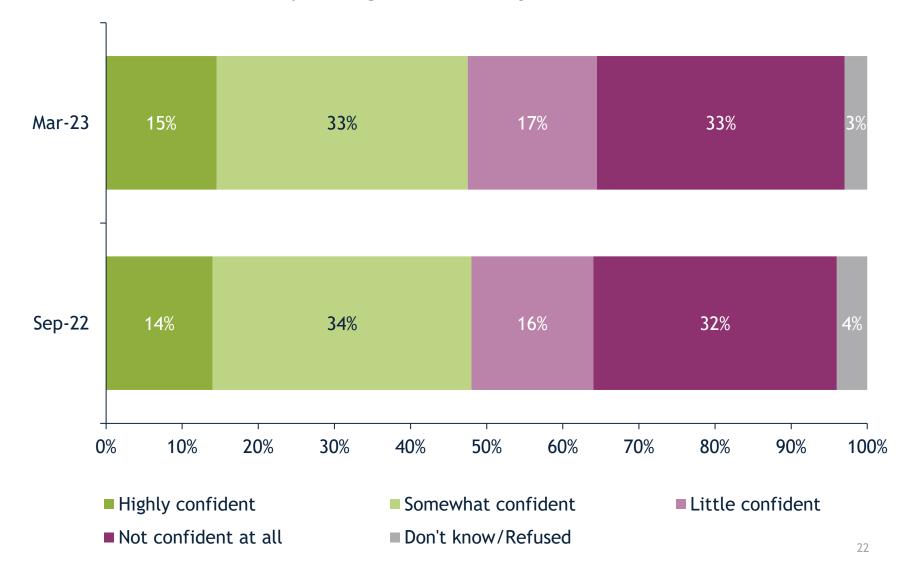
Which parties, if any, would you not vote for under any circumstances?

(Up to three responses permitted)

United National Movement - Mikheil Saakashvili Georgian Dream - Democratic Georgia **Conservative Movement - Alt-Info** Girchi More Freedom - Zurab Girchi Japaridze Patriotic Alliance - Davit Tarkhan-Mouravi & Irma Inashvili Girchi European Georgia - Giga Bokeria Labor Party - Shalva Natelashvili Strategy Aghmashenebeli - Giorgi Vashadze Droa - Elene Khoshtaria Lelo **People's Power** For Georgia - Giorgi Gakharia Citizens - Aleko Elisashvili For the People - Anna Dolidze Other None Don't know Refused

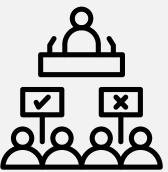


As you may know, the Central Election Commission, also known as CEC or CESKO, is the body responsible for conducting national elections in Georgia. How confident, if at all, are you in the Central Election Commission's ability to organize and supervise credible elections?

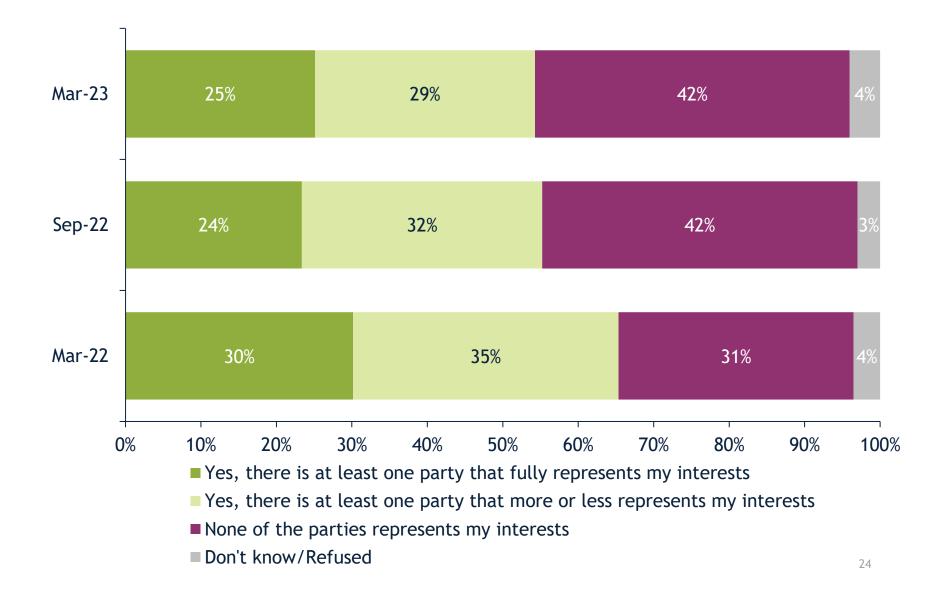


Political parties

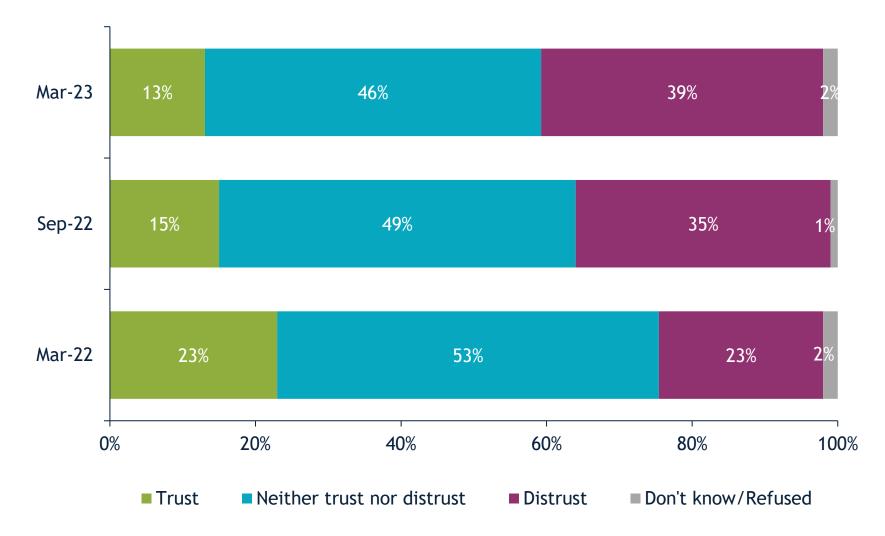




Do you believe that at least one political party in Georgia represents your interests?

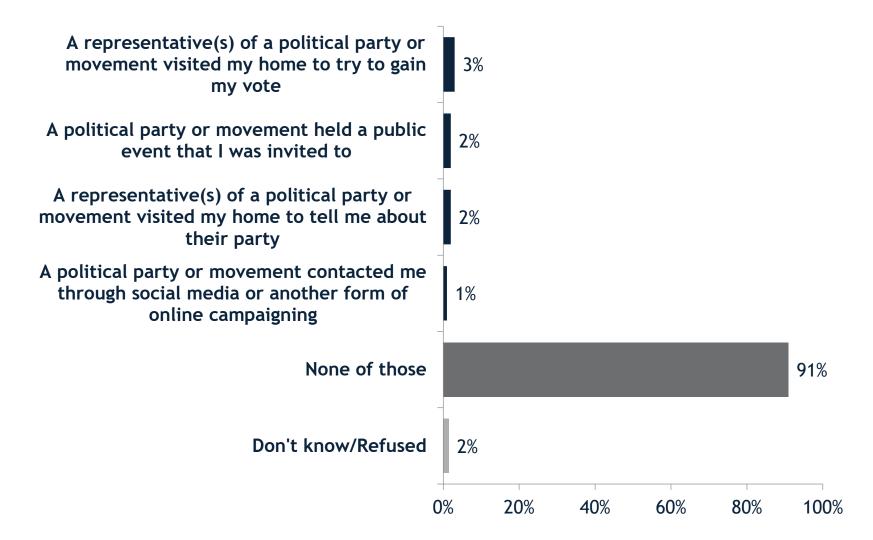


Please tell me: Do you trust or distrust Georgia's political parties?



In the past six months, have any of the following happened to you?

(Multiple responses permitted)



Public Figures & Institutions





I will read you a list of names. For each, please tell me if you have a highly favorable, somewhat favorable, somewhat unfavorable or highly unfavorable opinion of this individual. If you have not heard of this person, please tell me*

Patriarch Ili Kakha Kala Salome Zurabish Irakli Gharibash Giorgi Gakha Mikheil Saakash Bidzina Ivanish Shalva Natelash Elene Khoshta Giorgi Vashad Aleko Elisash Irakli Kobakhi Mamuka Khazarad Shalva Papuash Levan Khabeish Badri Japarid Zurab Girchi Japari Petre Tsiskarish Giga Boke Paata Manjgala

Ilia II				9	01%		<mark>6%<1</mark> %	3%
ladze	52%				44%			
shvili	48%				47%			
shvili	43%				53%			5
haria	36%				56%	1 <mark>%</mark> 7%		
shvili		3	6%		59	<1% 6%		
shvili	35%				58%			
shvili	35%				58%	%	1% 6%	
taria	33%				56%			
adze	33%				58%			
shvili	31%				56%			
nidze	31%				62%			
adze		29 %			53%	4	1% 15%	
shvili		27%			46%	12%	14%	
hvili		27%			56%		6 % 11%	
idze		26%			51%	6%	17%	
ridze		26%			64%		3% 8%	
shvili	19	9%		42%		22%	17%	
keria	17	%			74%		1% 7%	
ladze	9%		21%		52%		19%	
0	%		20%	40%	60%	80%	10	0%
Favo	rable	∎ Un	favorable	■ Have I	not heard the n	ame 🔳 Don'	t know/Refu	ised

*Responses "Very favorable" and "Somewhat favorable" combined under "Favorable." Responses "Very unfavorable" and "Somewhat unfavorable" combined under "Unfavorable."

What is your opinion of each of the following institutions?*

Georgian army 77% 16% 7% The Patriarchate of Georgia 72% 8% 20% Police 63% 33% 4% Georgian media 62% 34% 5% Local authorities 57% 38% **4**% **Education system** 48% 45% 7% Central Election Commission 43% 51% 6% 11% Prime Minister's Office 41% 48% President's Office 39% 12% 49% 16% Courts 39% 46% National Bank 36% 47% 17% **Georgian Parliament** 36% 6% **59**% 42% 26% **Prosecutor's Office** 33% **Political parties** 32% 58% 10% Trade unions 41% 27% 33% 0% 20% 40% 60% 80% 100% Favorable Unfavorable Don't know/Refused

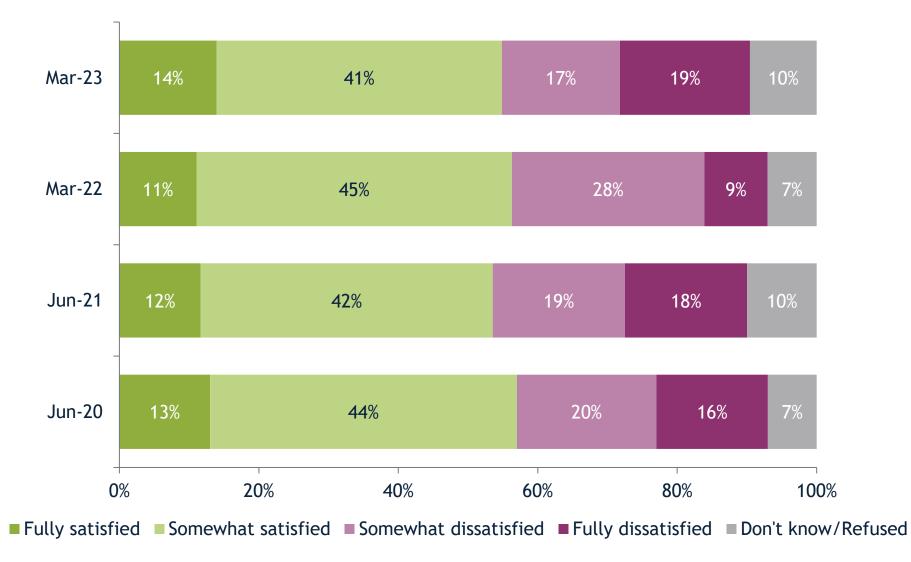
*Responses "Very favorable" and "Somewhat favorable" combined under "Favorable." Responses "Very unfavorable" and "Somewhat unfavorable" 29 combined under "Unfavorable."

Local Governance



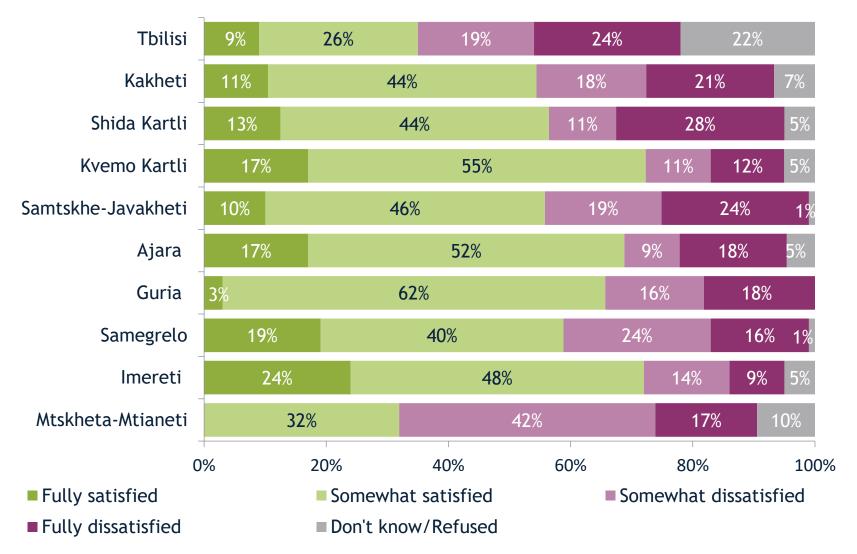


How satisfied or dissatisfied are you with your local *sakrebulo*'s* performance?

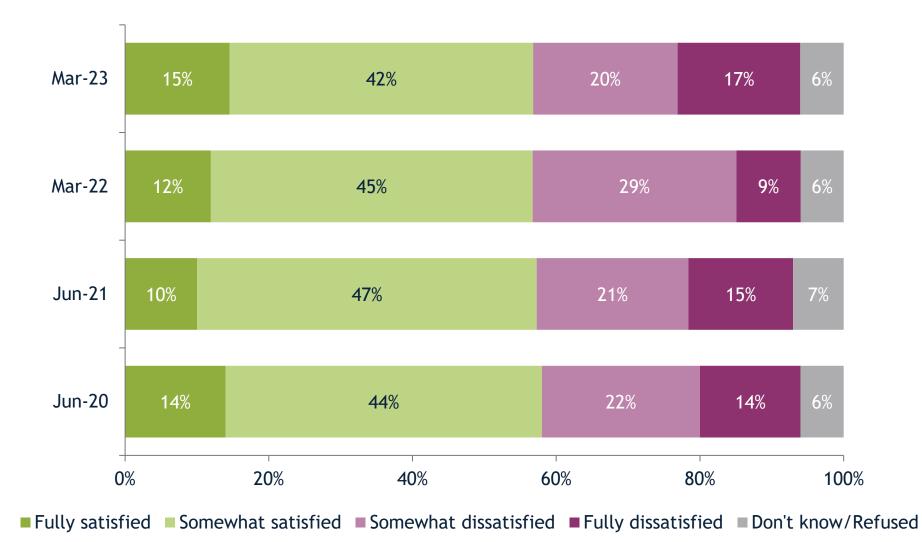


How satisfied or dissatisfied are you with your local *sakrebulo*'s performance?

(Disaggregated by region)



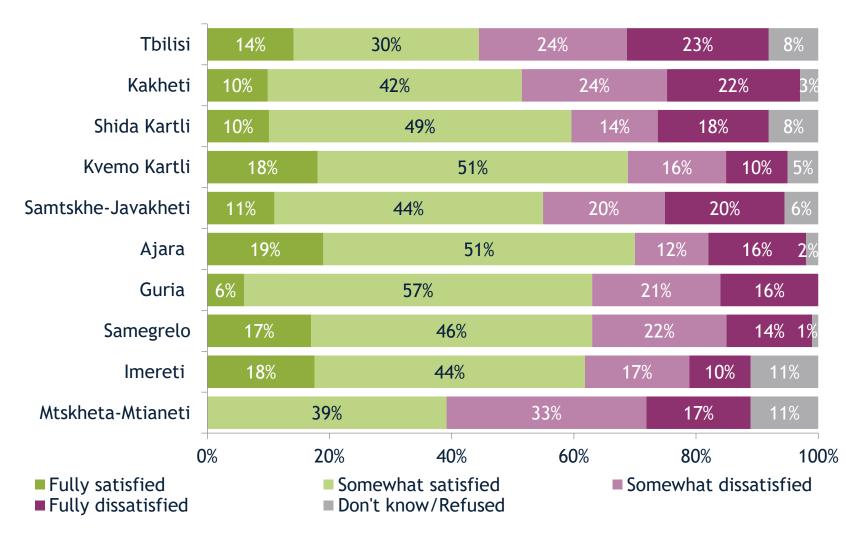
How satisfied or dissatisfied are you with your local Mayor's office's performance?



33

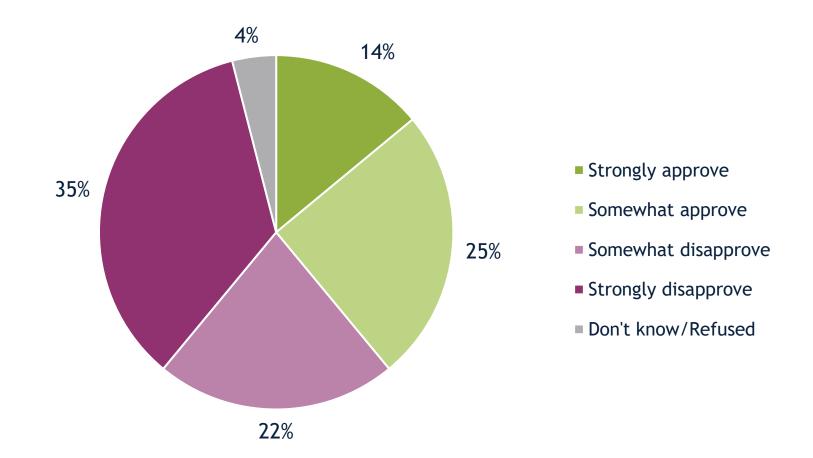
How satisfied or dissatisfied are you with your local Mayor's office's performance?

(Disaggregated by region)



Do you approve or disapprove of Tbilisi's new transport policy?

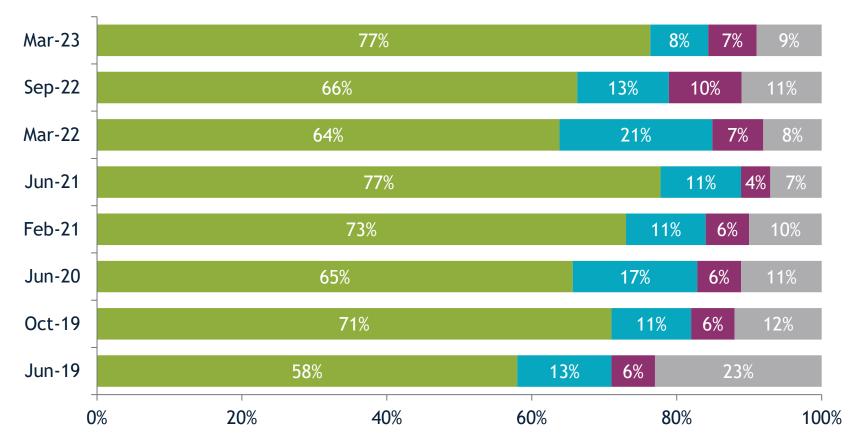
(Among residents of Tbilisi, n=453)



Values and Ideology



Do you believe that democracy is the best possible form of government for our country?



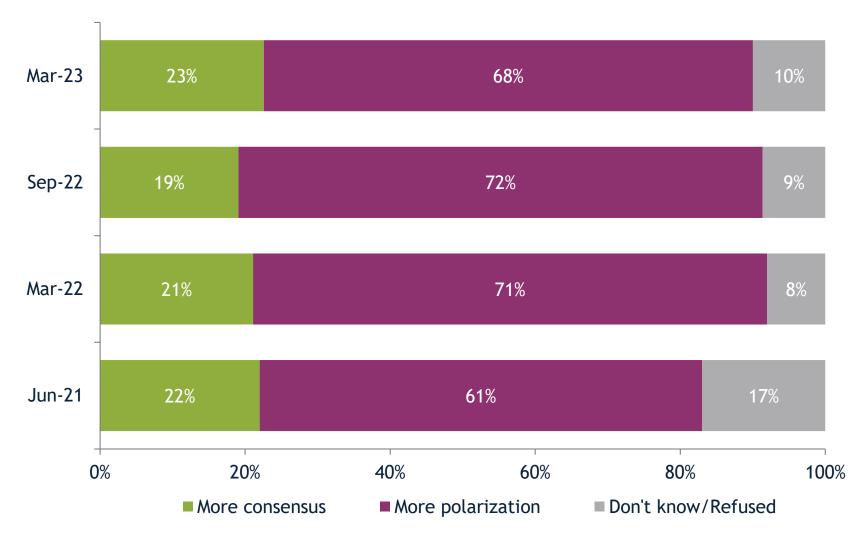
Yes, it is the best possible form of government for our country

No, there are other forms of government that could be equally good for our country

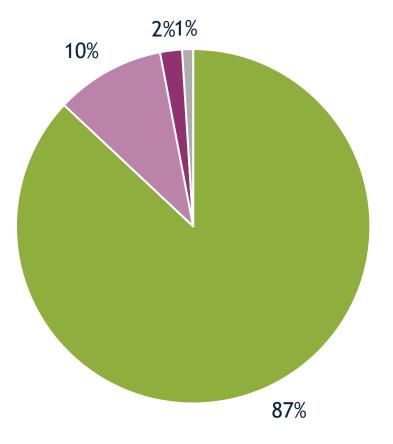
■ No, there are other forms of government that are better than democracy

Don't know/Refused

Would you say that our country's politics are moving toward consensus or more polarization?



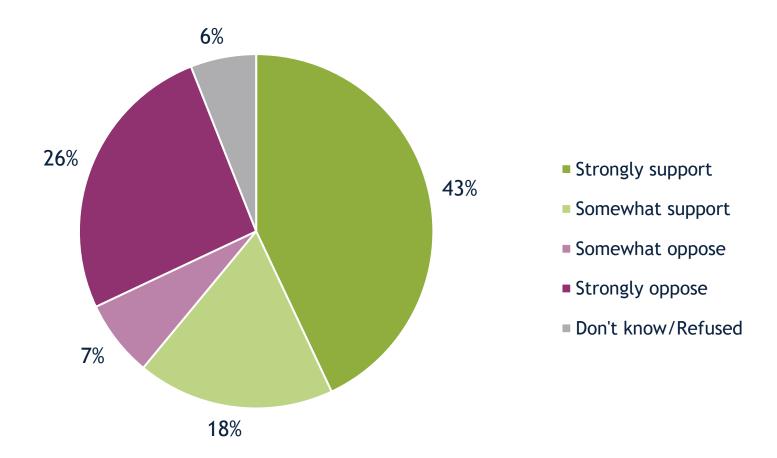
Have you heard anything or not about Mikheil Saakashvili's health?



- Yes
- Yes, but don't know much about it
- No No
- Don't know/Refused

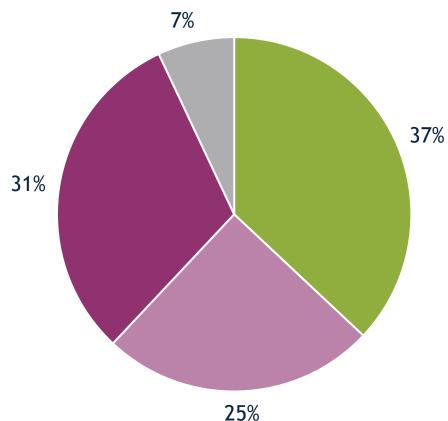
Would you support or oppose transferring Mikheil Saakashvili to another country for medical treatment?

(Have heard about Mikheil Saakashvili's health, n=1,460)



Please read the following statements and choose the option that most closely aligns with your opinion

(Have heard about Mikheil Saakashvili's health, n=1460)



- Mikheil Saakashvili should serve his full sentence in Georgia receiving medical treatment while in the Georgian prison
- Mikheil Saakashvili's sentence should be suspended, allowing him to be transferred to another country for medical treatment and to return to complete his sentence after recovering
 - Mikheil Saakashvili's current convictions should be pardoned by the President on humanitarian grounds

Don't know/Refused

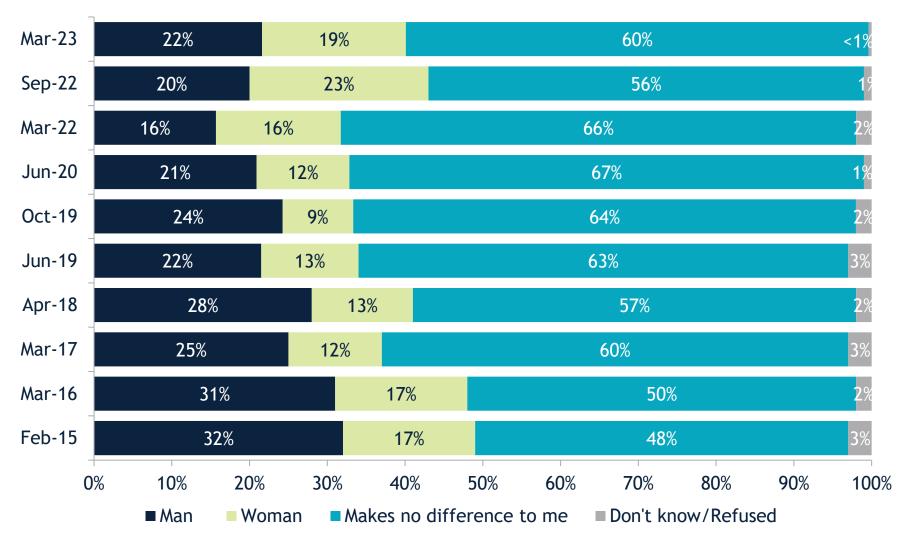
Inclusion and Civic Engagement



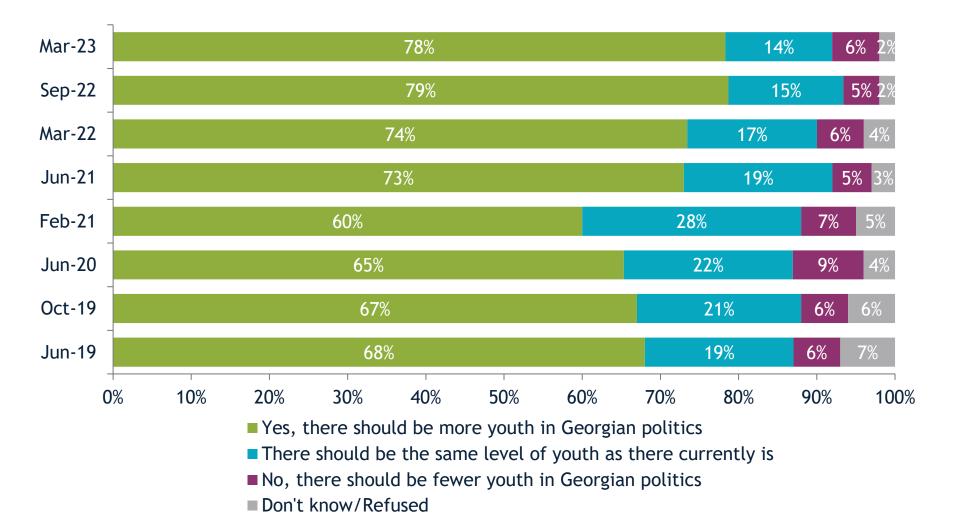
A PROJECT OF THE INTERNATIONAL REPUBLICAN INSTITUTE



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?



In your opinion, should there be more youth in Georgian politics?



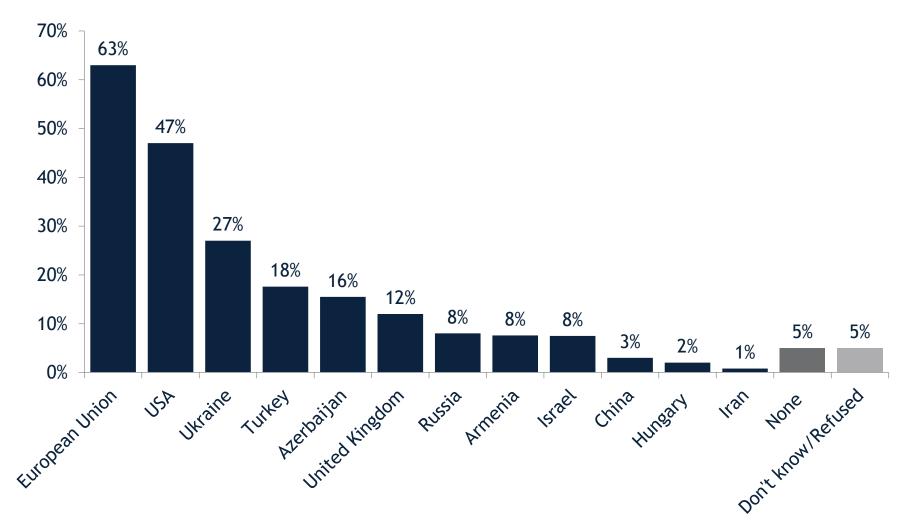
International Relations



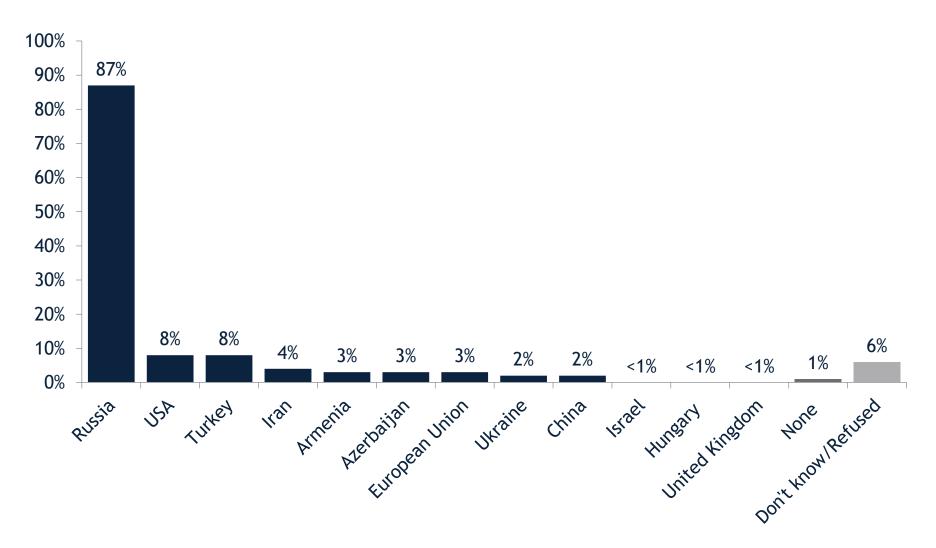
A PROJECT OF THE INTERNATIONAL REPUBLICAN INSTITUTE



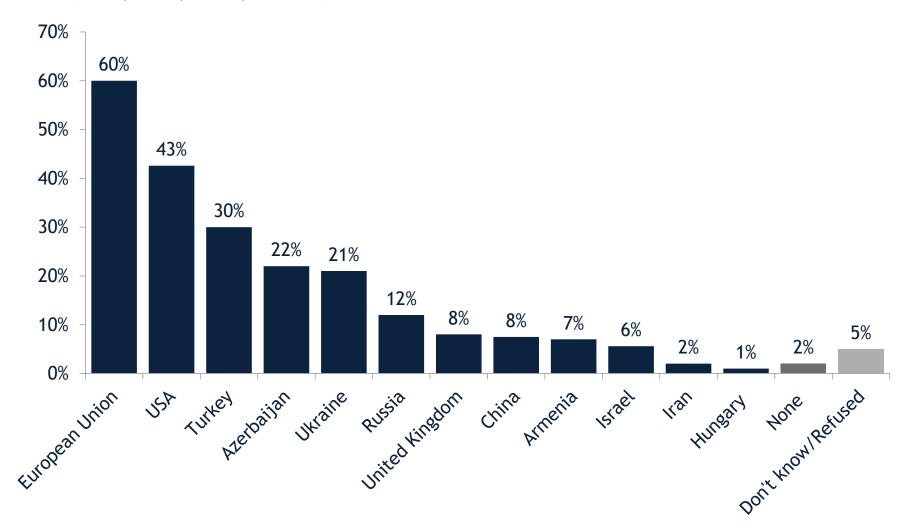
Which of these countries do you consider the most important political partners for Georgia?



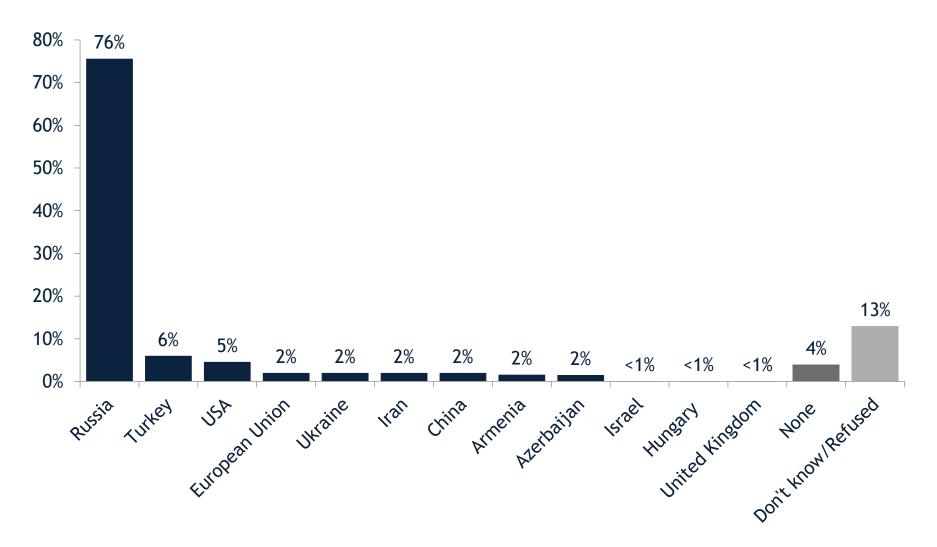
Which of these countries poses the greatest political threat of Georgia?



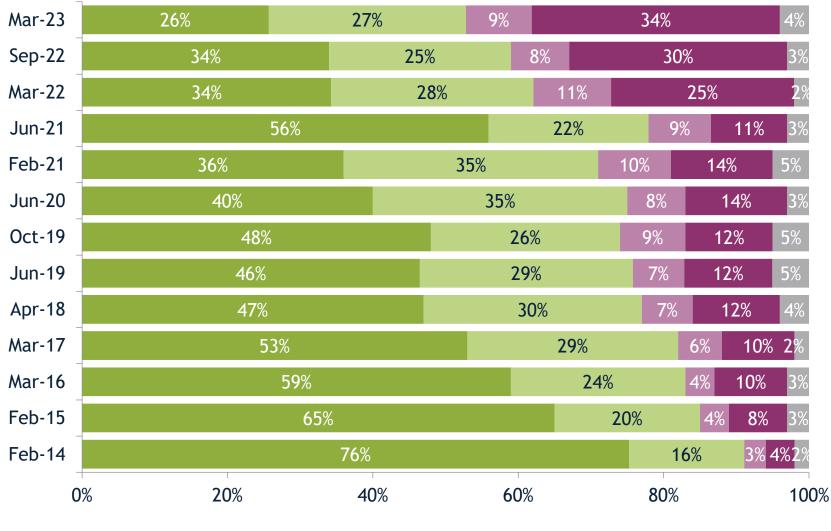
Which of these countries do you consider the most important economic partners for Georgia?



Which of these countries poses the greatest economic threat of Georgia?

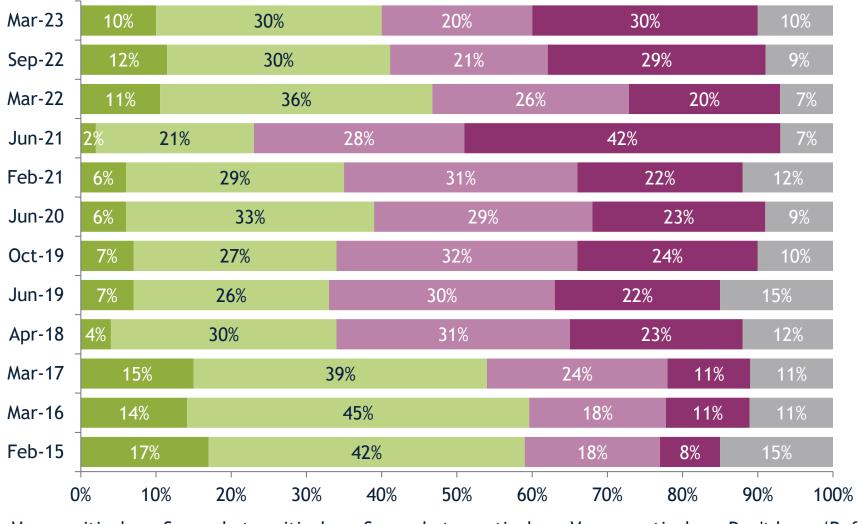


Do you support or oppose further dialogue with Russia?



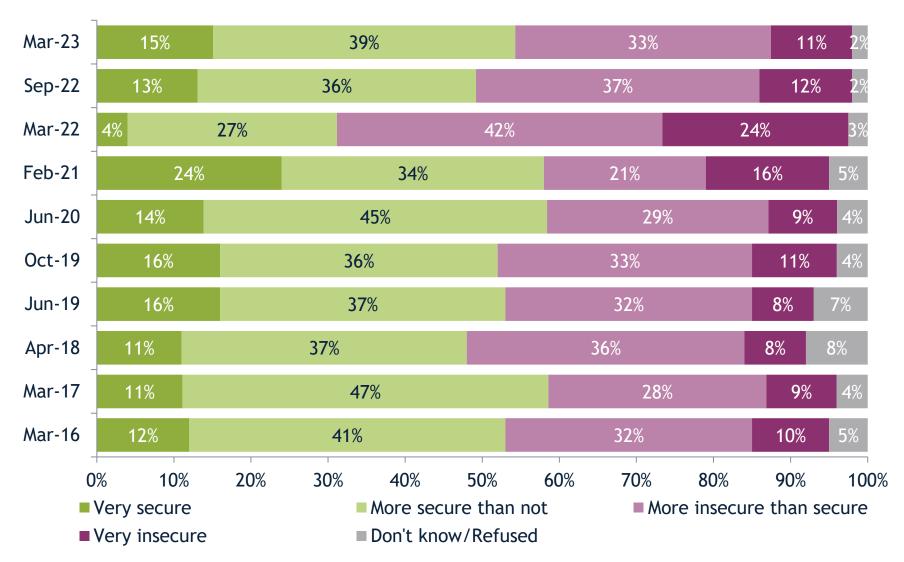
Fully support Somewhat support Somewhat oppose Strongly oppose Don't know/Refused

How do you rate the current government's handling of Georgia's relationship with Russia?

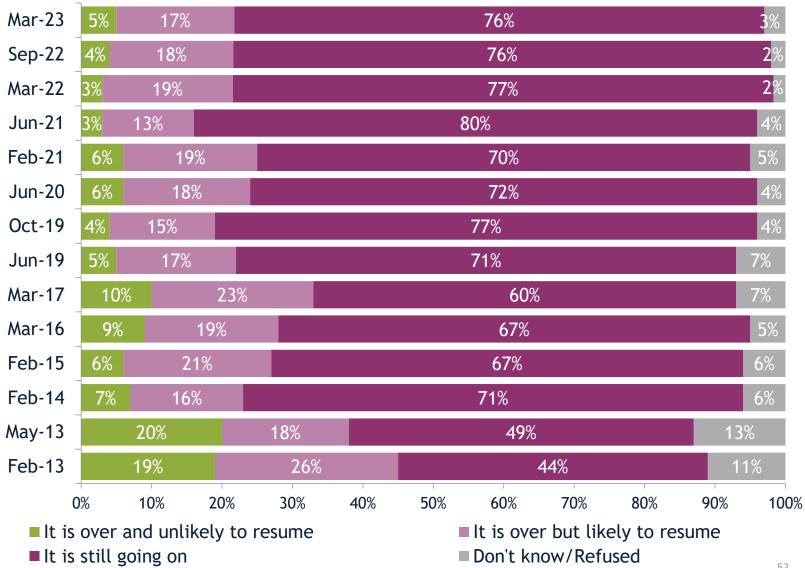


■ Very positively ■ Somewhat positively ■ Somewhat negatively ■ Very negatively ■ Don't know/Refused

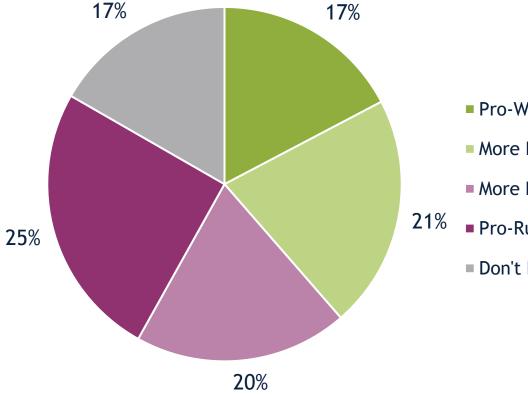
Given the current state of Georgia's relationship with Russia, how secure do you feel living in Georgia?



Do you think that Russian aggression towards Georgia is over or is it still going on?

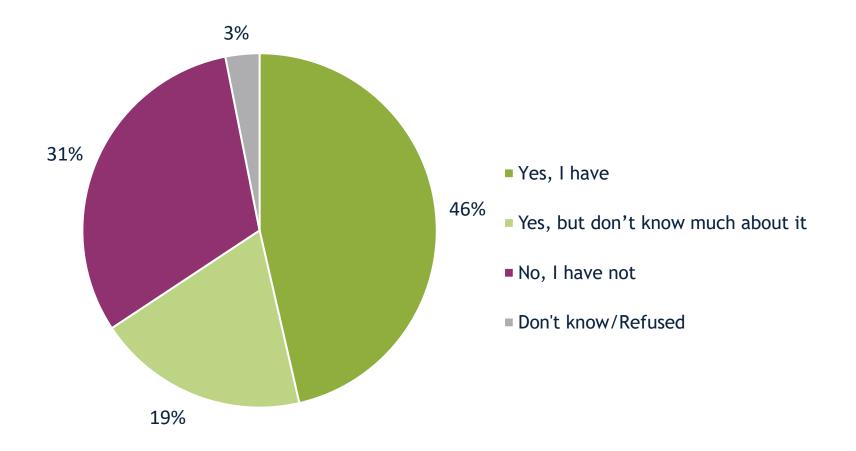


From your point of view, what is the current foreign policy course of our government?



- Pro-Western
- More Pro-Western than Pro-Russian
- More Pro-Russian than Pro-Western
- Pro-Russian
 - Don't know/Refused

Have you heard about the Draft Law on "Foreign Agents"?



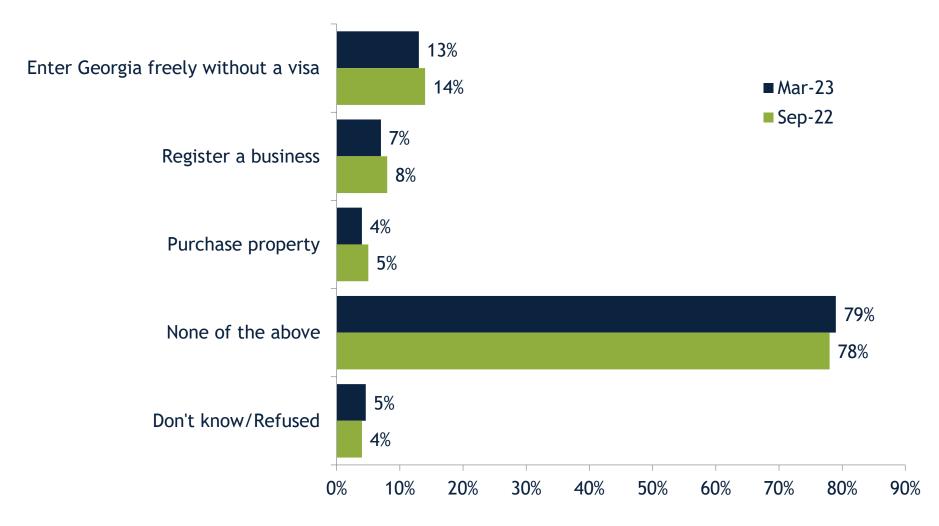
I will now read you a list of statements. For each, please tell me if you agree or disagree with the statement

(Respondents who have heard about the draft law on "Foreign Agents", n=986)

Adoption of the Law on "Foreign Agents" will undermine Georgia's western aspirations	42%			18%	18% 7%		18%	
Adoption of the Law on "Foreign Agents" is intended to silence CSOs (civil society organizations) and media in Georgia		38%		18%	7%	15%	21%	
Adoption of the Law on "Foreign Agents" brings Georgia closer to Russia		38%		18%	7%	15%	22%	
Adoption of the Law on "Foreign Agents" is in Georgia's national interests	13%	13%	10%	40	9%		26%	
0	%	20%		40%	60%	8	0%	100%

56

Do you support allowing Russian citizens to do any of the following:

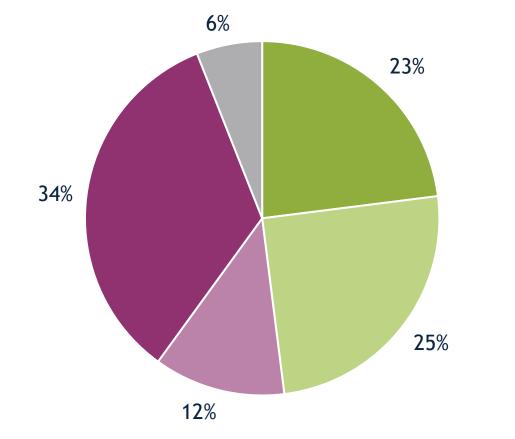


Which of the following statements, if any, best characterizes your opinion on Russians who arrived in Georgia since the start of the war in Ukraine?



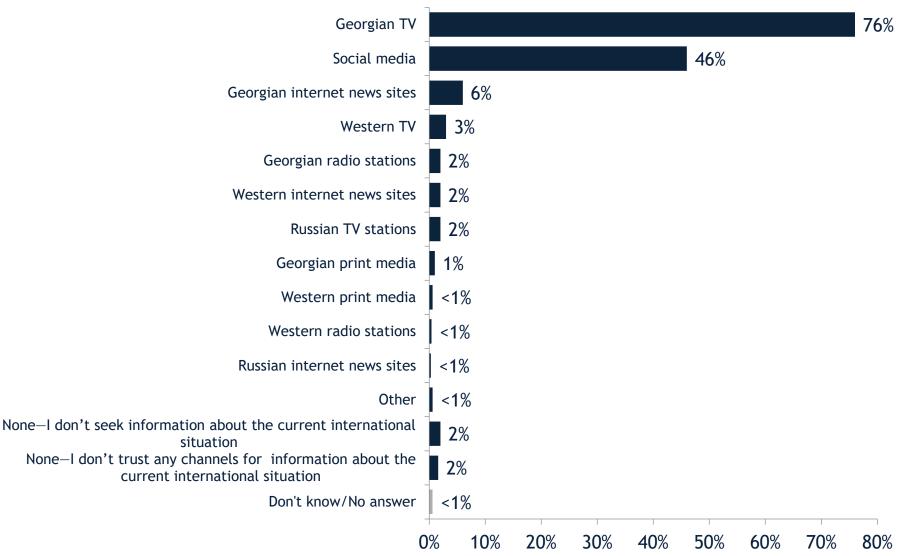
- They are very much welcome in Georgia
- We tolerate them because they are essential to our economy
- We would prefer they leave
- Russian citizens should not be allowed in Georgia until they return our occupied territories
- Other
- Don't know/Refused

Do you support or oppose Georgia resuming direct flights to Russia?



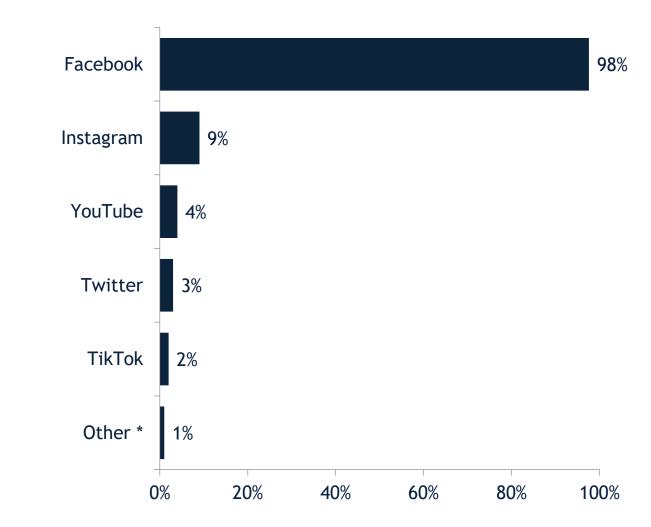
- Strongly support
- Somewhat support
- Somewhat oppose
- Strongly oppose
- Don't know/Refused

Which sources do you use for information about the current international situation?

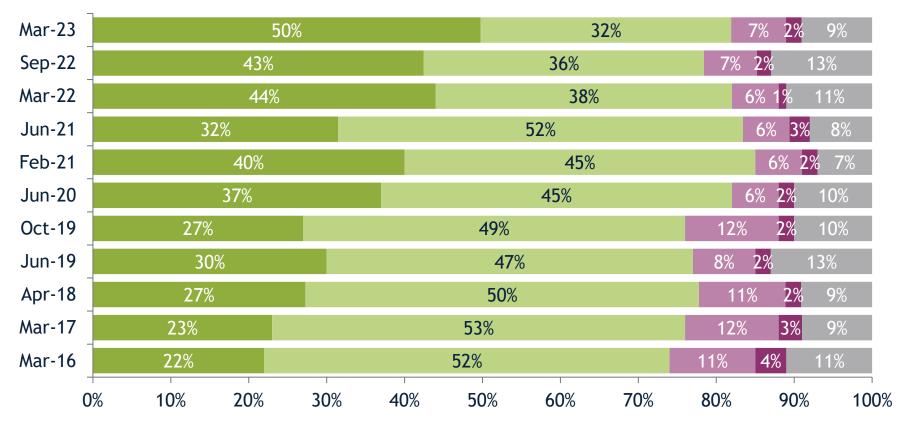


Which sources do you use for information about the current international situation?

(Multiple responses accepted, among users of social media, n=690)

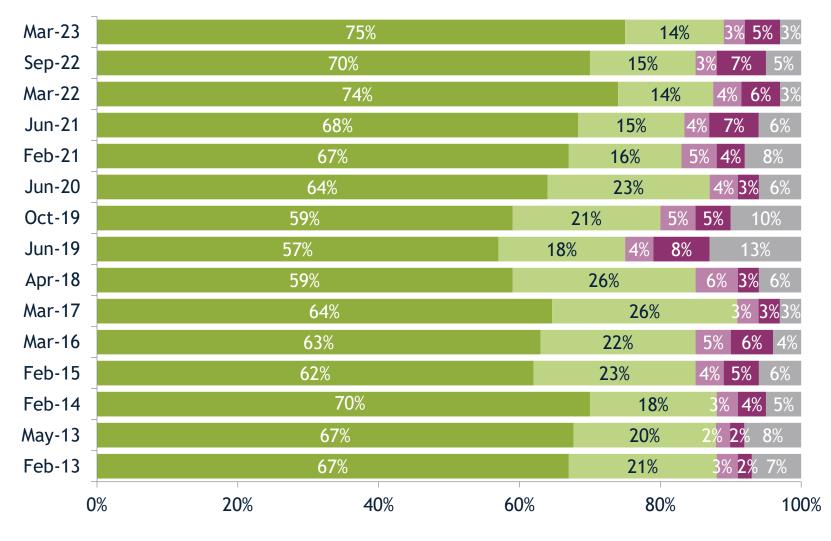


What should our country's foreign policy course be?



- Only pro-European Union and the West
- Pro-Western but keep up relations with Russia
- Pro-Russian but keep up relations with the European Union and the West
- Only pro-Russian
- Don't know/Refused

Do you support or oppose Georgia joining the EU?



Fully support Somewhat support Somewhat oppose Strongly oppose Don't know/Refused

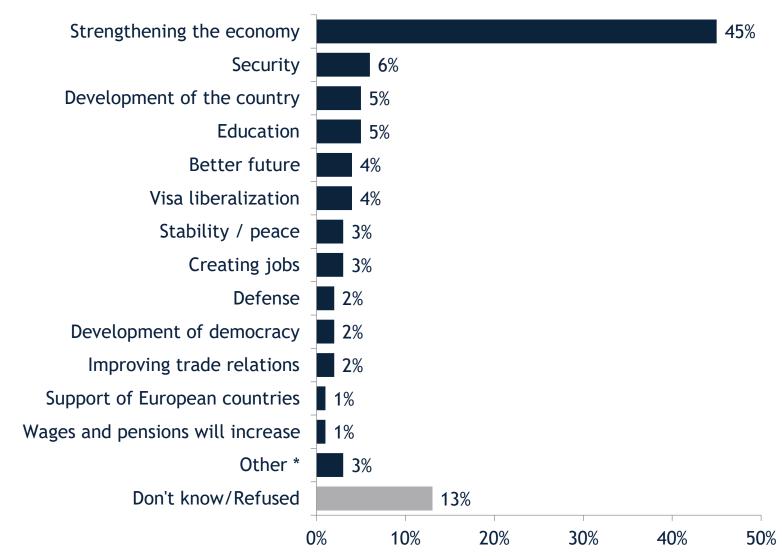
If you support joining the EU, would you still support this if it meant cutting trade relations with Russia?

(Among respondents supporting Georgia joining the EU, n=1,336)

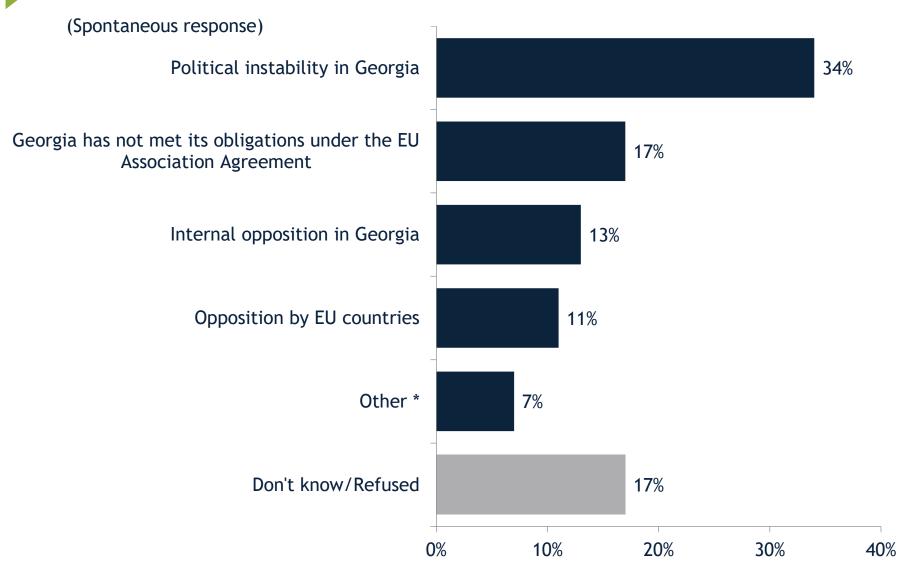


If you support joining the EU, what is the main benefit of joining the EU?

(Among respondents supporting Georgia joining the EU, n=1,336; spontaneous response)



What is biggest obstacle in the way of Georgia joining the EU?



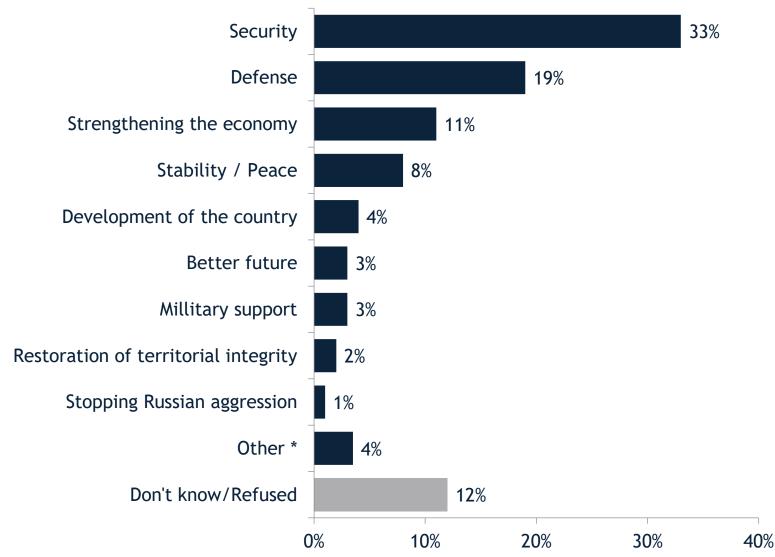
Do you support or oppose Georgia joining NATO?

Mar-23	65%	15%	5%	9 %	6%	
Sep-22	64%	14%	5%	12%	5%	
Mar-22	60%		15%	8%	12%	5%
Jun-21	61%		16%	6%	11%	6%
Feb-21	59%		19 %	6%	8%	8%
Jun-20	56%	56%			7%	8%
Oct-19	51%	20%	6 8%	5 11	%	10%
Jun-19	49%	1 9 %	6%	13%	1.	3%
Apr-18	50%	2	26%		9 %	6%
Mar-17	56%		26%		% 7%	5%
Mar-16	55%		24%		9 %	5%
Feb-15	57%		21%		9 %	7%
Feb-14	58%		22%		8%	7%
May-13	61%		19 %	5%	6%	8%
Feb-13	63%		19 %	6	% 5%	7%
0	% 20% 40%	60%		80%		100

Fully support Somewhat support Somewhat oppose Strongly oppose Don't know/No answer

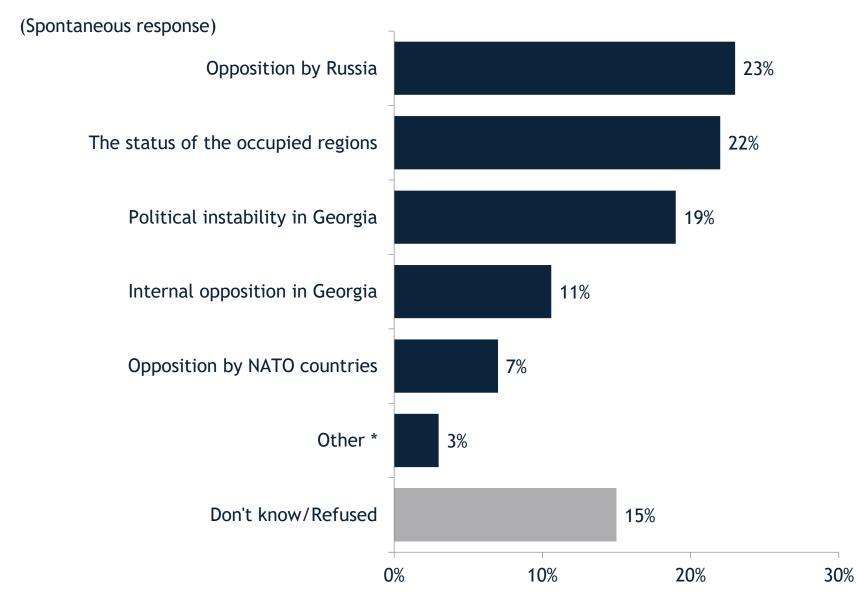
If you support joining NATO, what are the main benefits of joining NATO?

(Among respondents supporting Georgia joining NATO, n=1,207; spontaneous response)



*Responses receiving <1% cumulatively are collapsed into Other.

What is biggest obstacle in the way of Georgia joining NATO?



*Responses receiving <1% cumulatively are collapsed into *Other*.

Media & Sources of Information

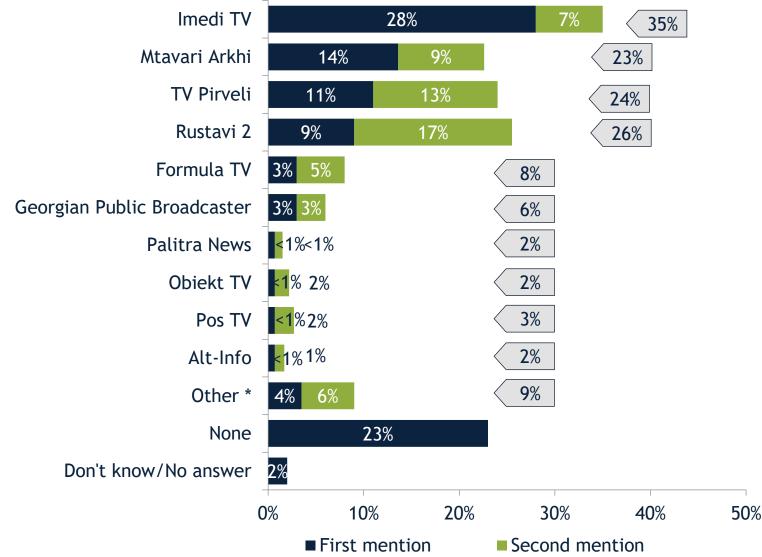


A PROJECT OF THE INTERNATIONAL REPUBLICAN INSTITUTE



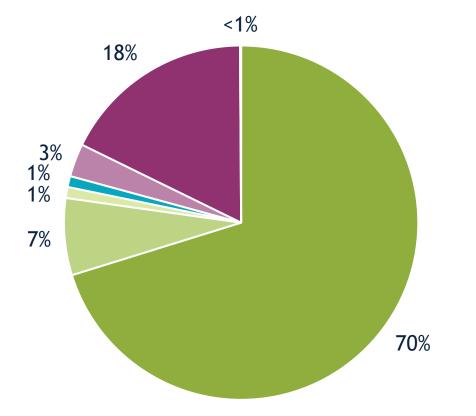
Which Georgian TV station's news and political information do you trust the most?

(Two responses permitted)



*Responses receiving <1% cumulatively are collapsed into Other.

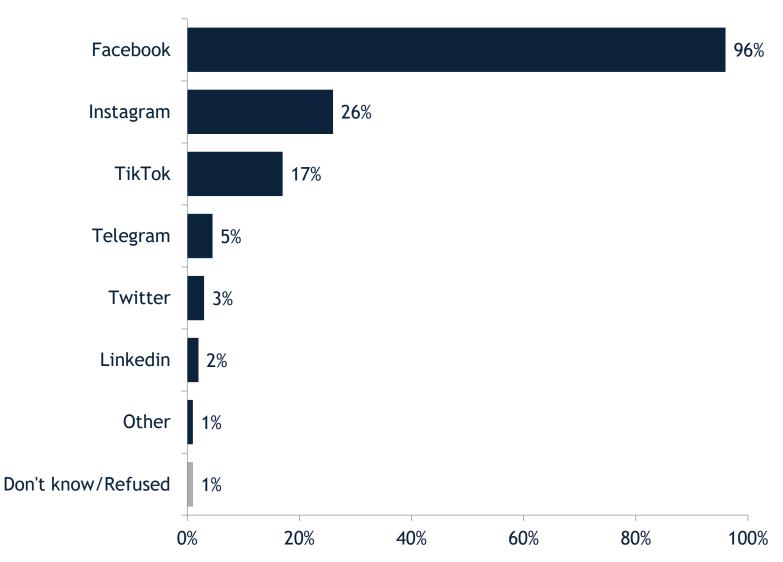
How often, if ever, do you use the internet or social media?



- Daily or almost daily
- Several times a week
- Weekly
- Monthly
- Less often
- Never
- Don't know/Refused

Which social media sites do you use most often?

(Among internet users, n=1,236; spontaneous response; up to three responses permitted)

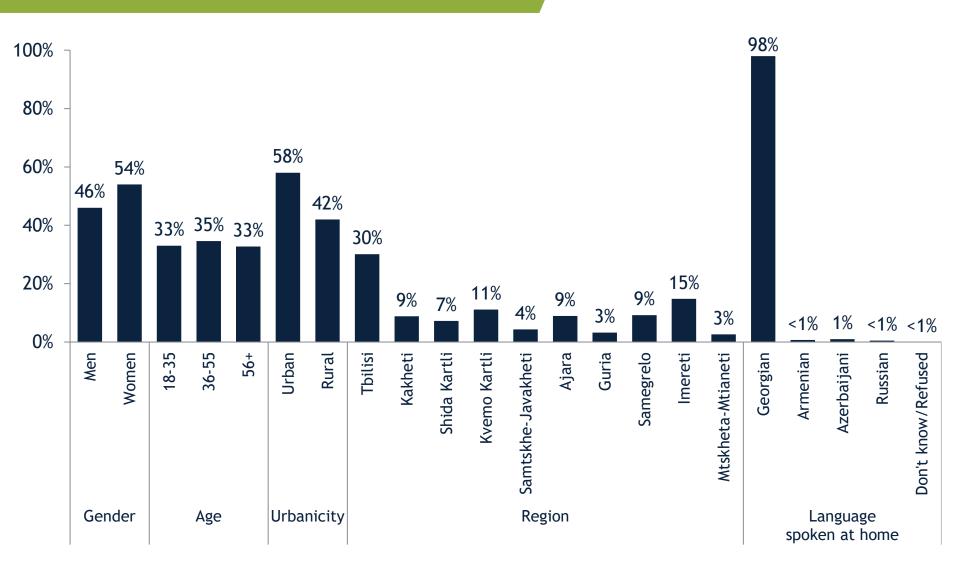


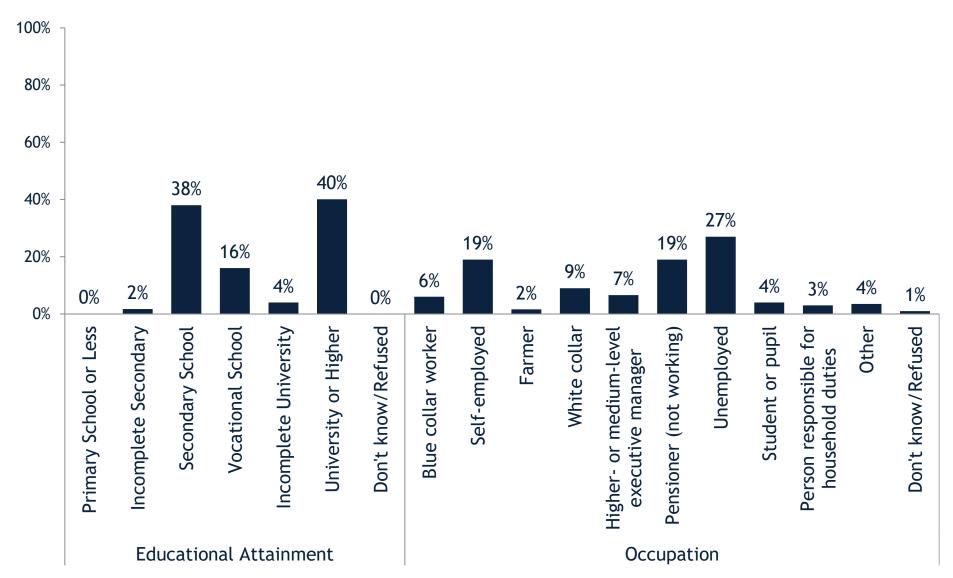
*Responses receiving <1% cumulatively are collapsed into *Other*.

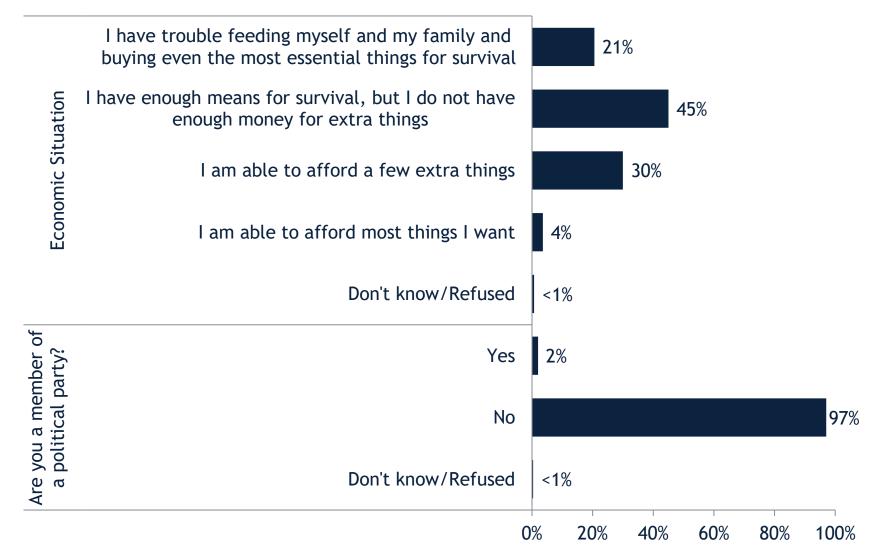


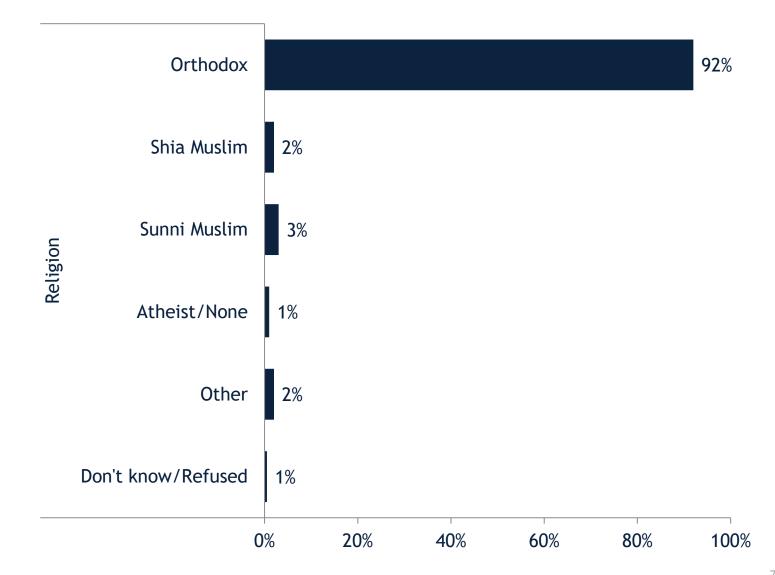
A PROJECT OF THE INTERNATIONAL REPUBLICAN INSTITUTE











Center for Insights in Survey Research 202.408.9450 | info@IRI.org

www.IRI.org







BALTIC SURVEYS

The Gallup Organization

A PROJECT OF THE INTERNATIONAL REPUBLICAN INSTITUTE