

# GEORGIAN SURVEY OF PUBLIC OPINION

March 2023



A PROJECT OF THE INTERNATIONAL REPUBLICAN INSTITUTE

## Detailed Methodology

- The fieldwork was carried out by the [Institute of Polling & Marketing](#). The survey was coordinated by Dr. Rasa Alisauskiene of the public and market research company [Baltic Surveys/The Gallup Organization](#) on behalf of the [Center for Insights in Survey Research](#).
- 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  $\pm 2.5$  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
Regions	Tbilisi city	n=453
	Kakheti	n=132
	Shida Kartli	n=108
	Kvemo Kartli	n=167
	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.

## Previous IRI Georgia polls

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.

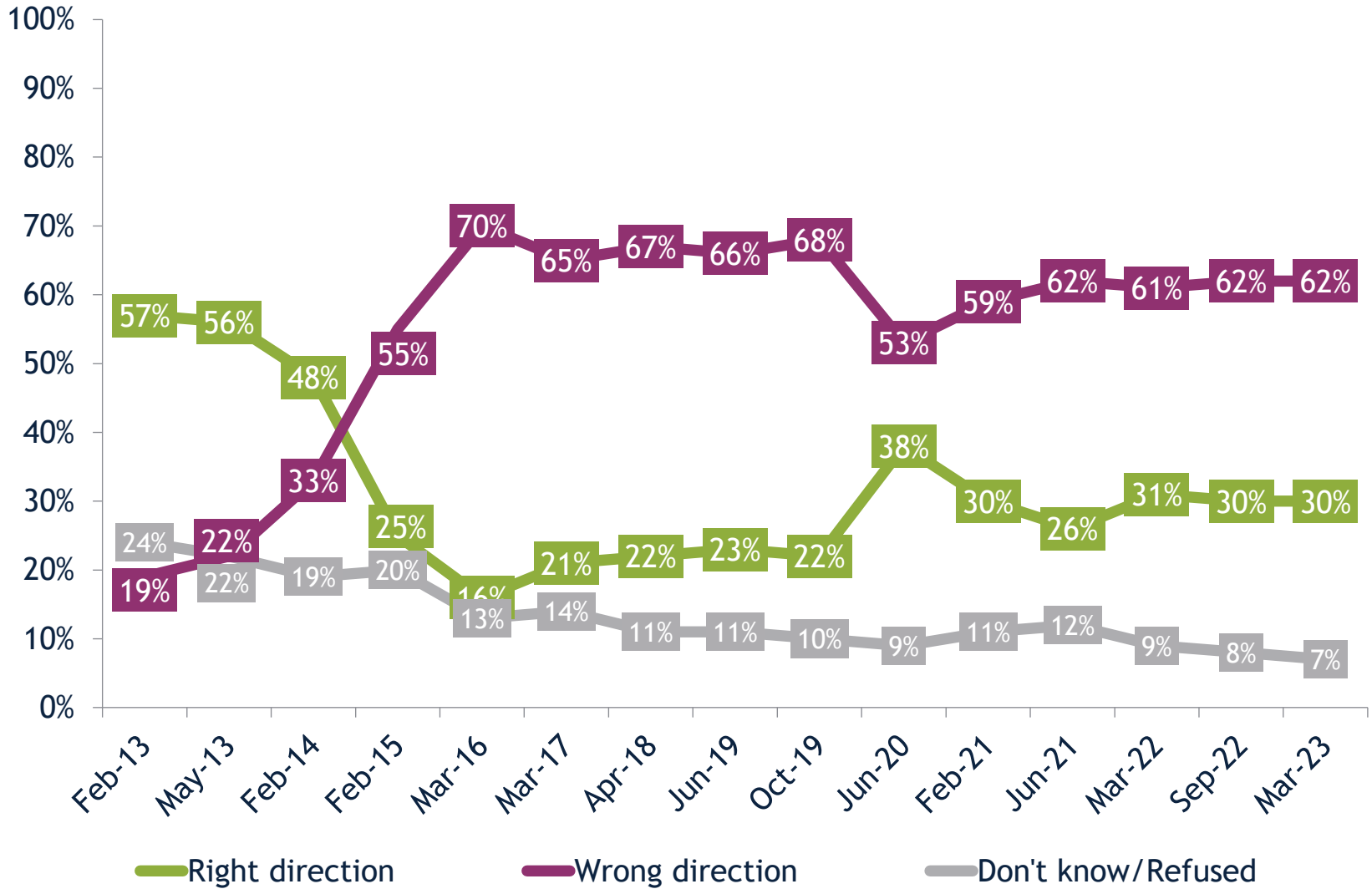
IRI's research approach integrates CISR's methodological polling best practices protocol and field partner in-depth knowledge of the local research environment. This close collaboration begins at project design, with carefully calibrated sampling and instrument development, and continues throughout the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

← For more of IRI's public opinion research, see [CISR's content](#).

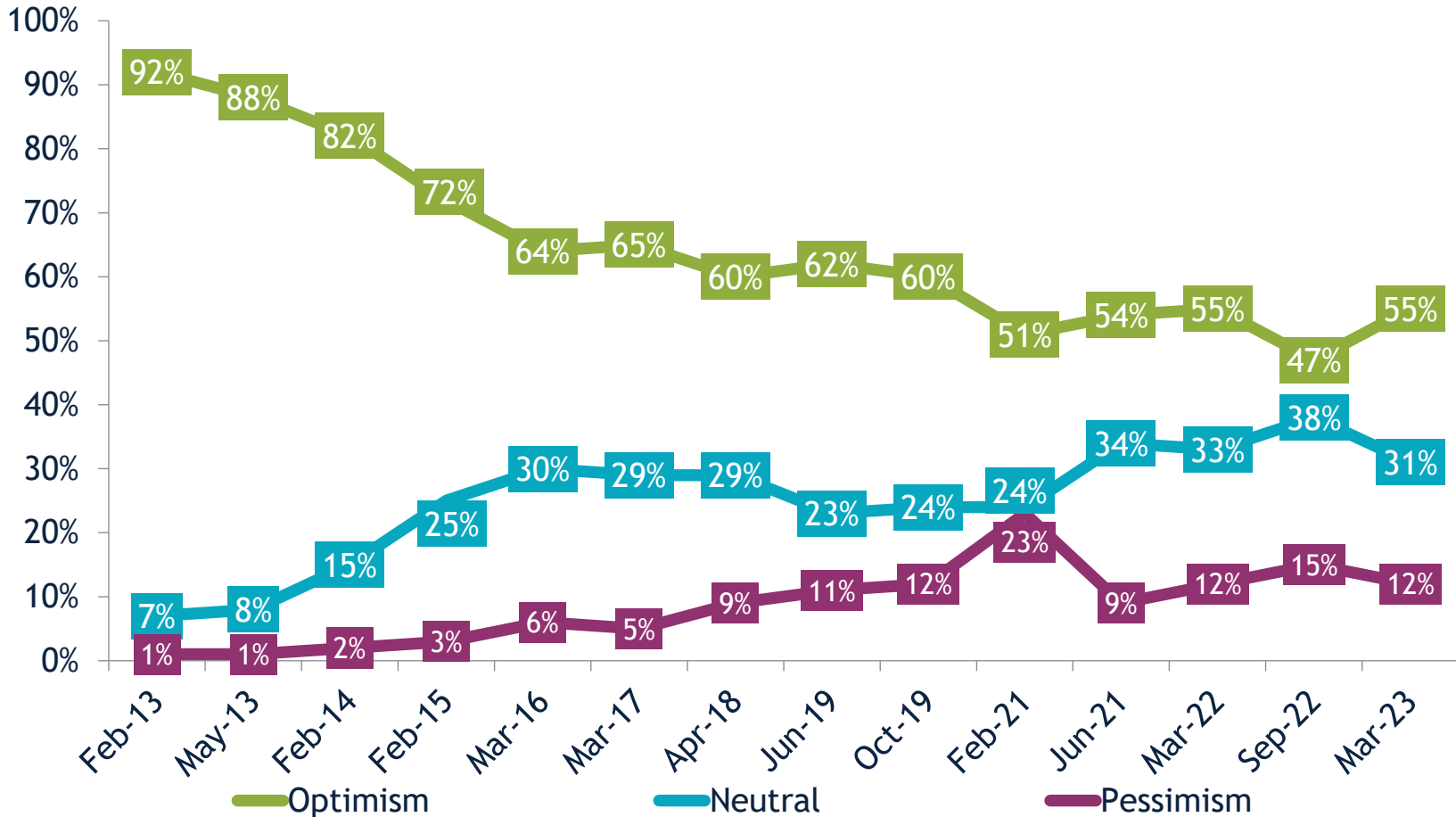
# National Outlook



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



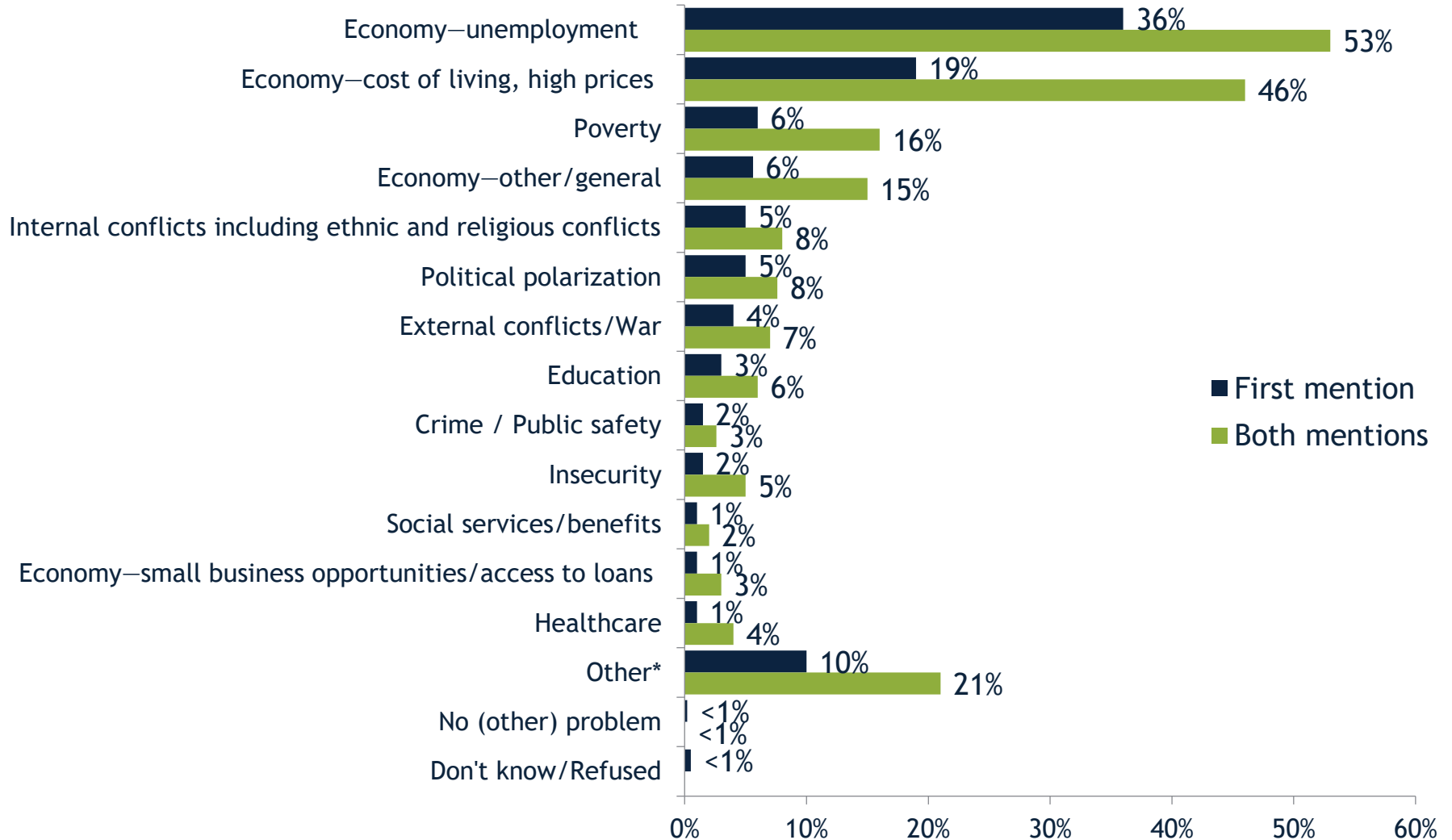
# How would you evaluate the prevailing mood of the Georgian population?\*



\* 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)

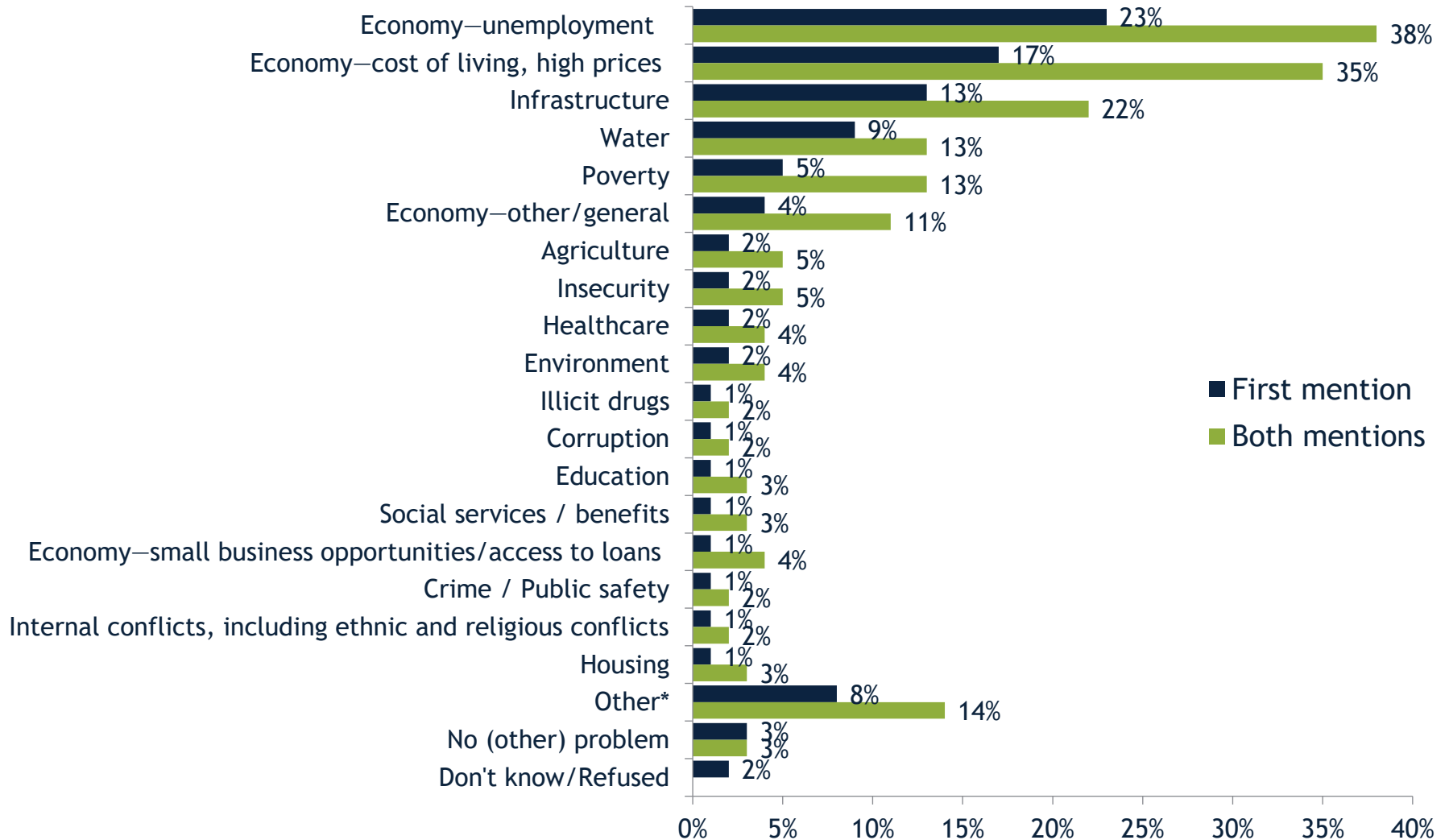


\*Responses receiving <1% cumulatively are collapsed into *Other*.



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

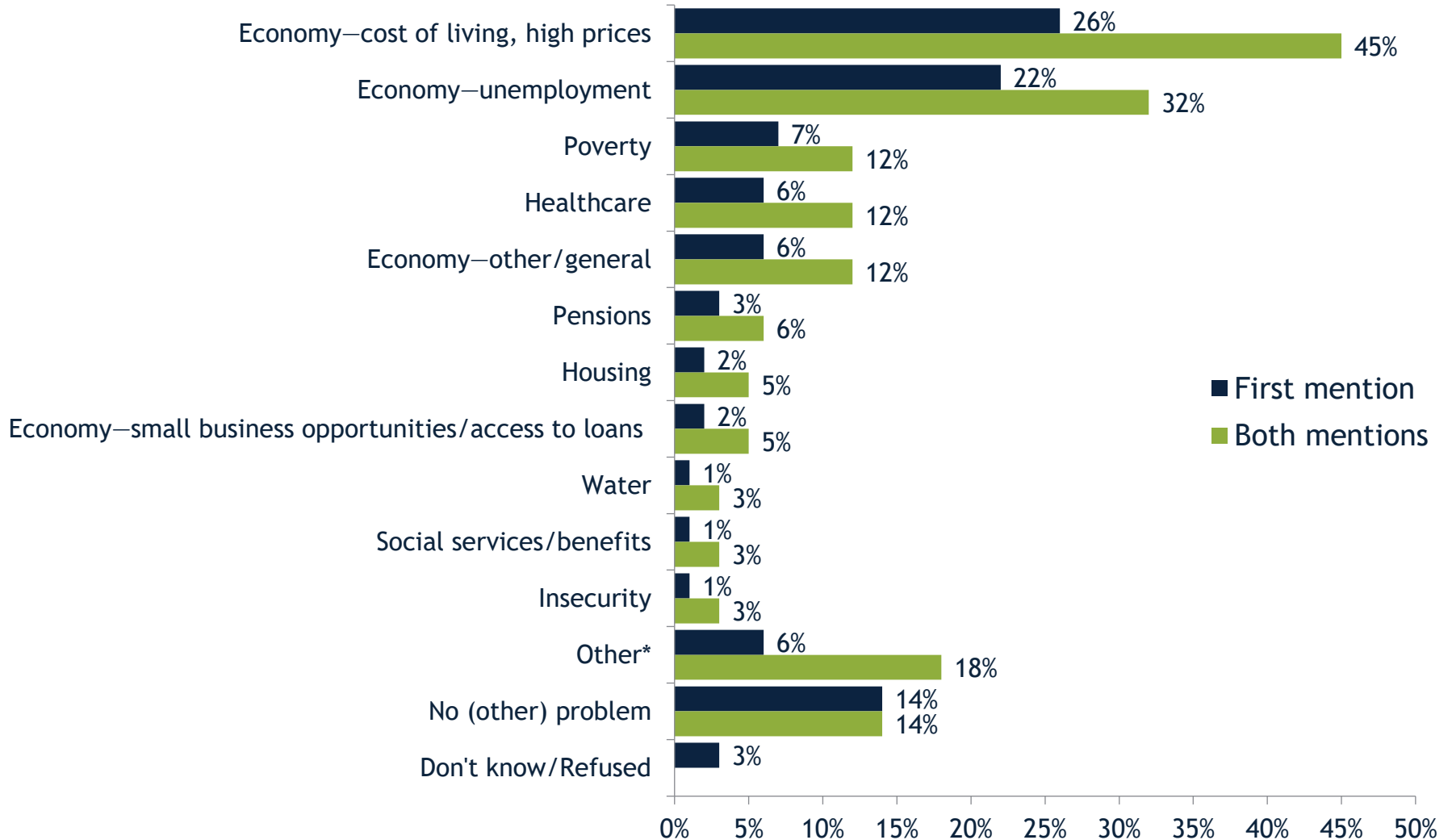
(Spontaneous response, up to two responses permitted)



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

# What is the most important problem facing your household today?

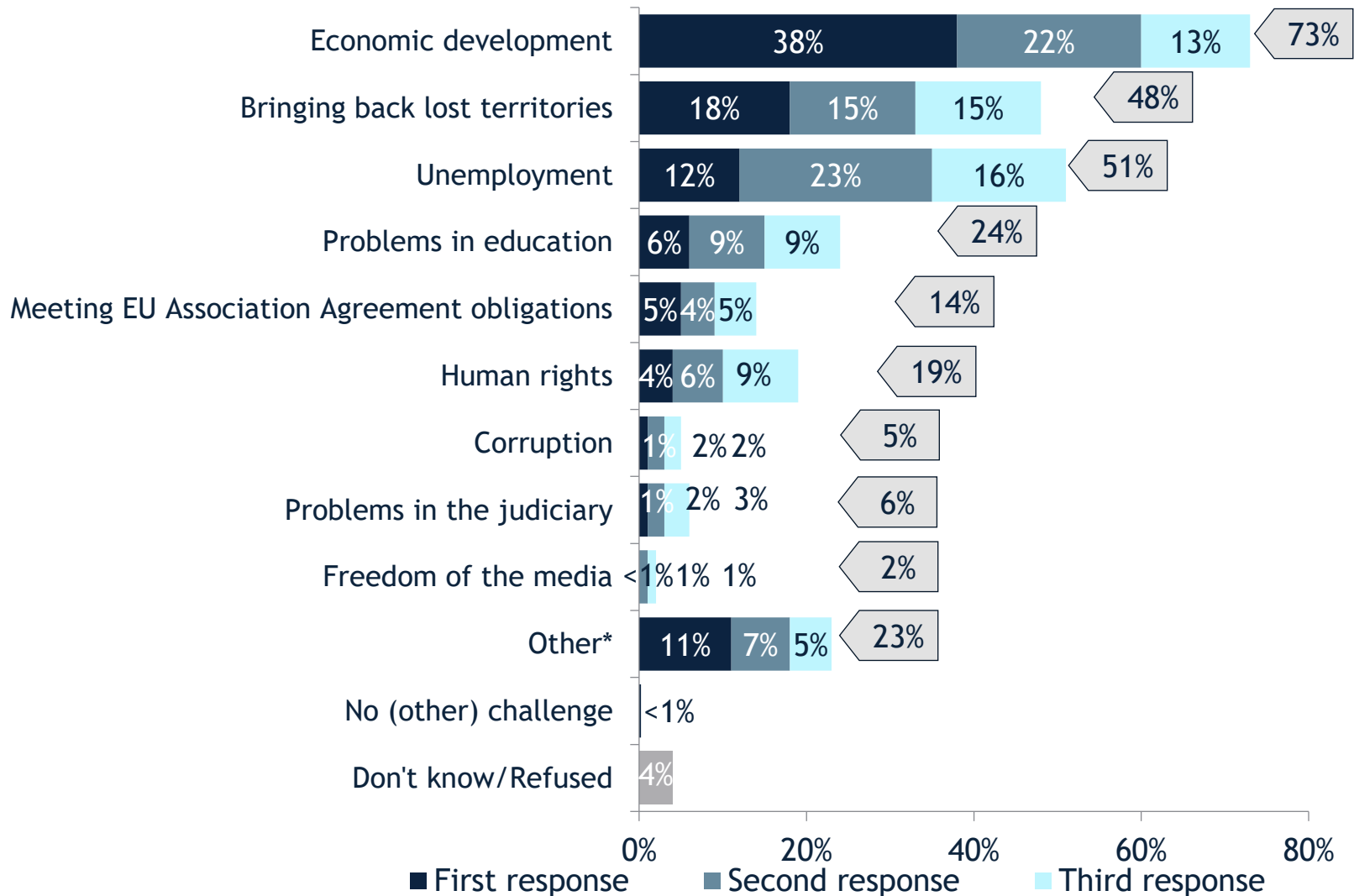
(Spontaneous response, up to two responses permitted)



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

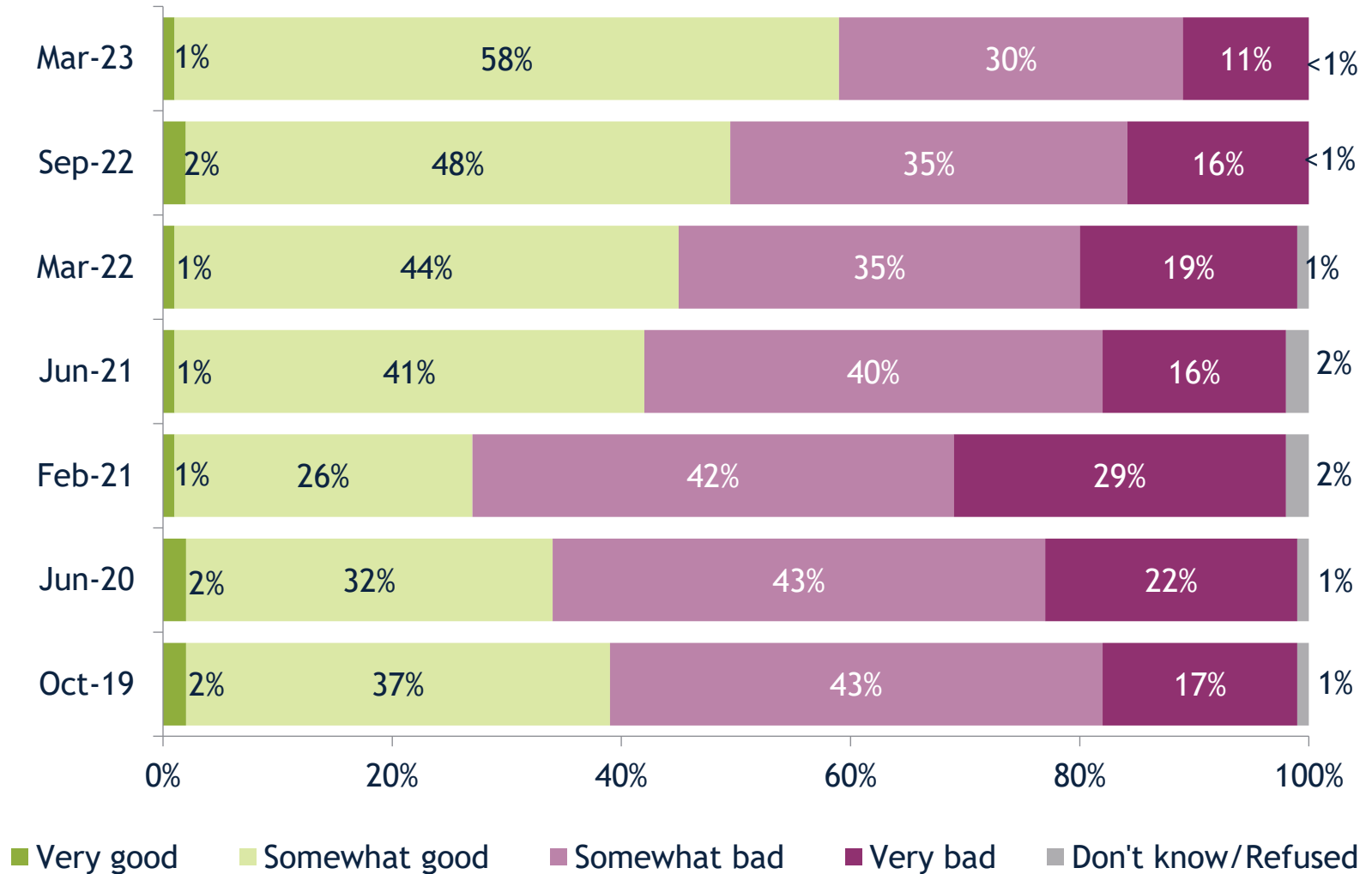
# What do you think are the three biggest challenges for Georgia's democratic development and future?

(Spontaneous response, up to three responses permitted)

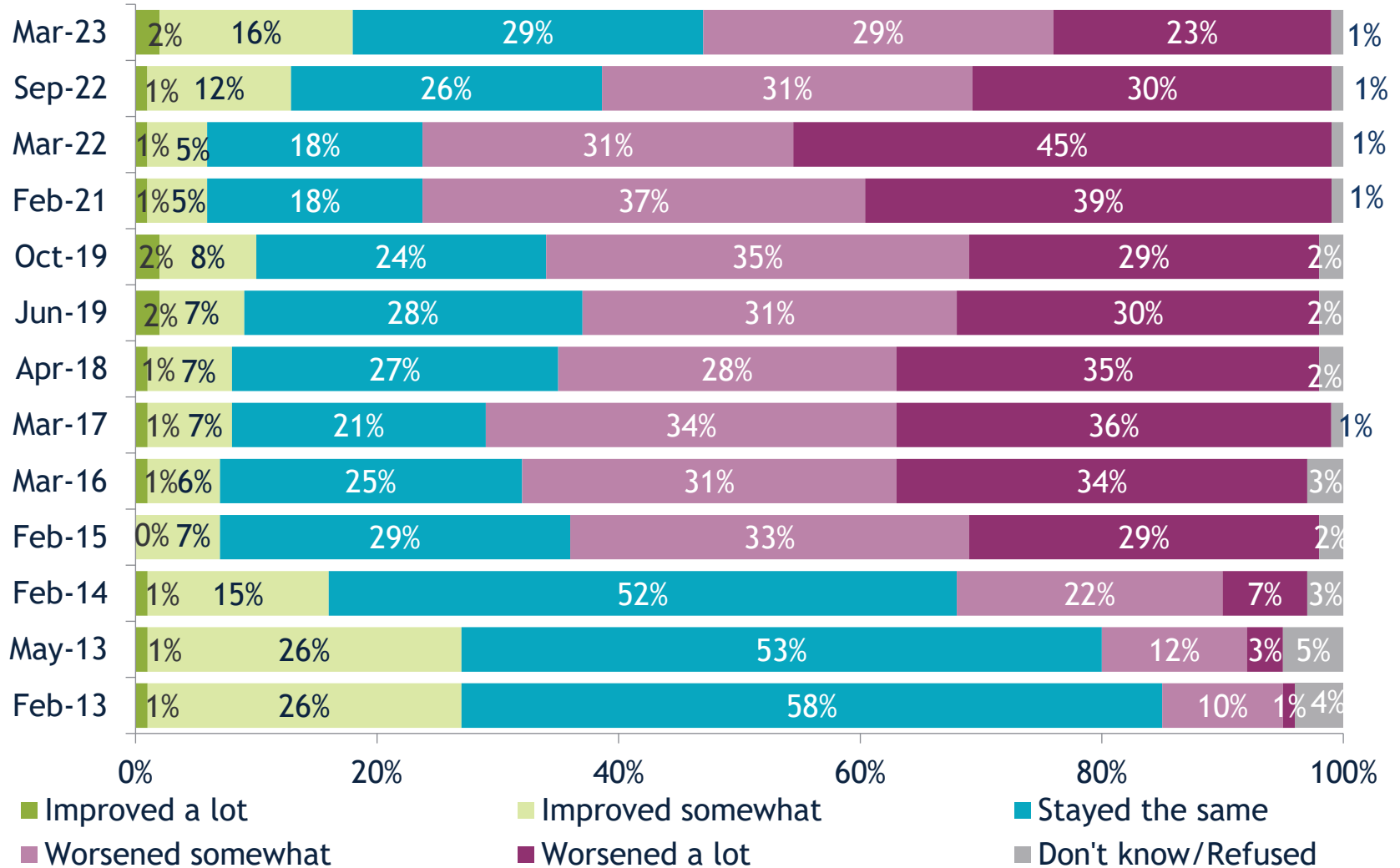


\*Responses receiving <1% cumulatively are collapsed into *Other*.

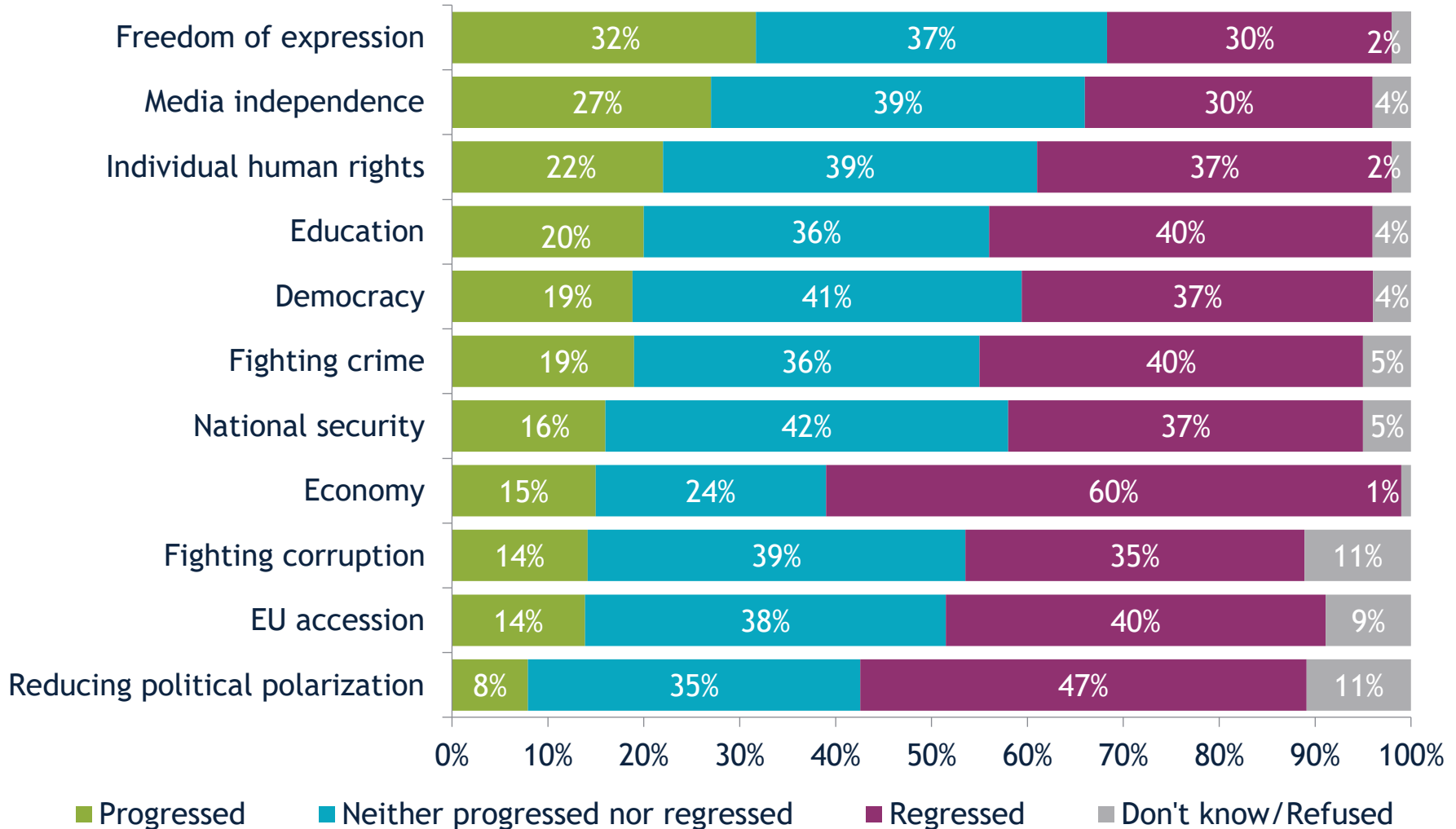
# How would you describe the current economic situation of your household?



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



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

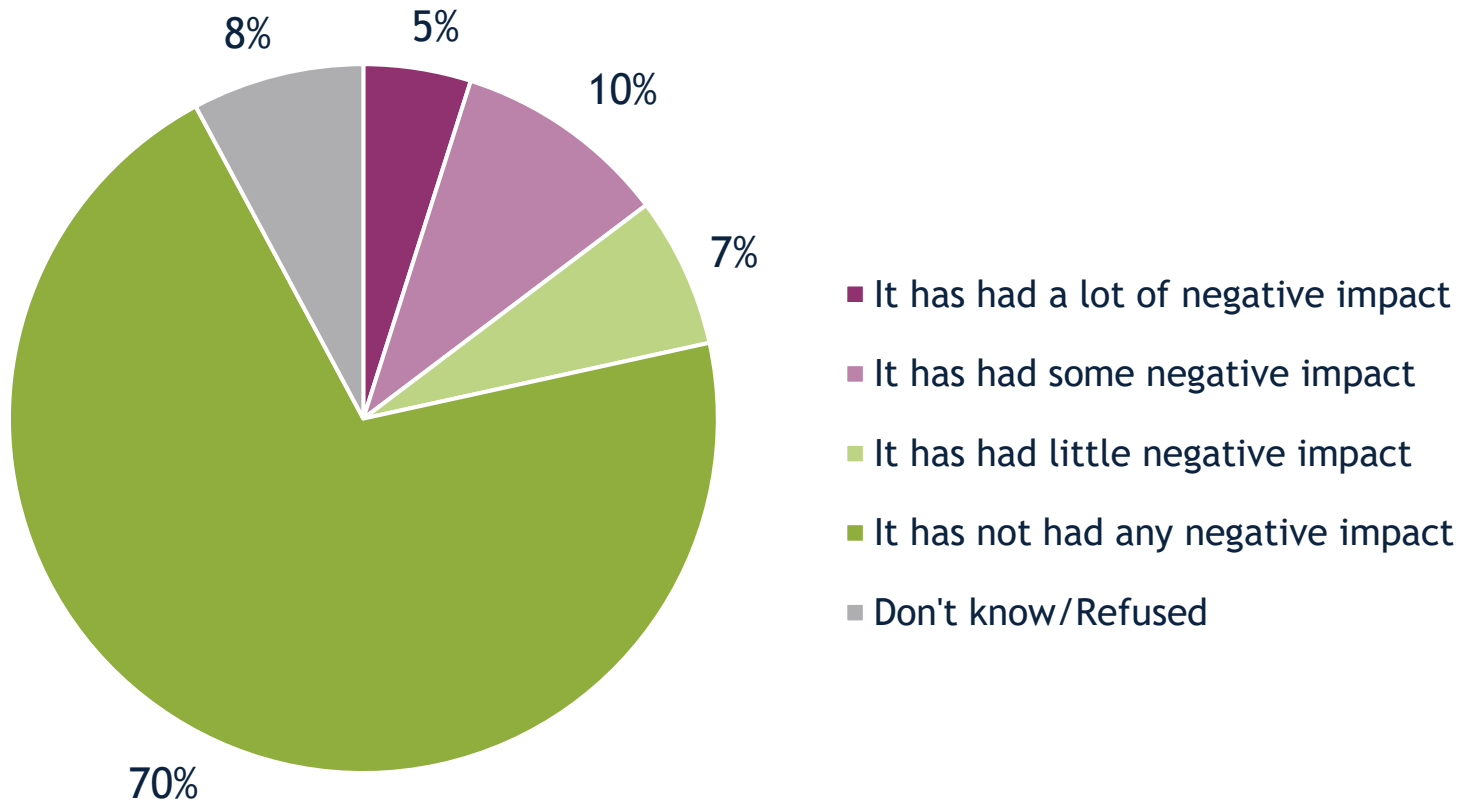


\*Responses “Progressed a lot” and “Progressed” combined under “Progressed.” Responses “Regressed a lot” and “Regressed” combined under “Regressed”.

# Corruption

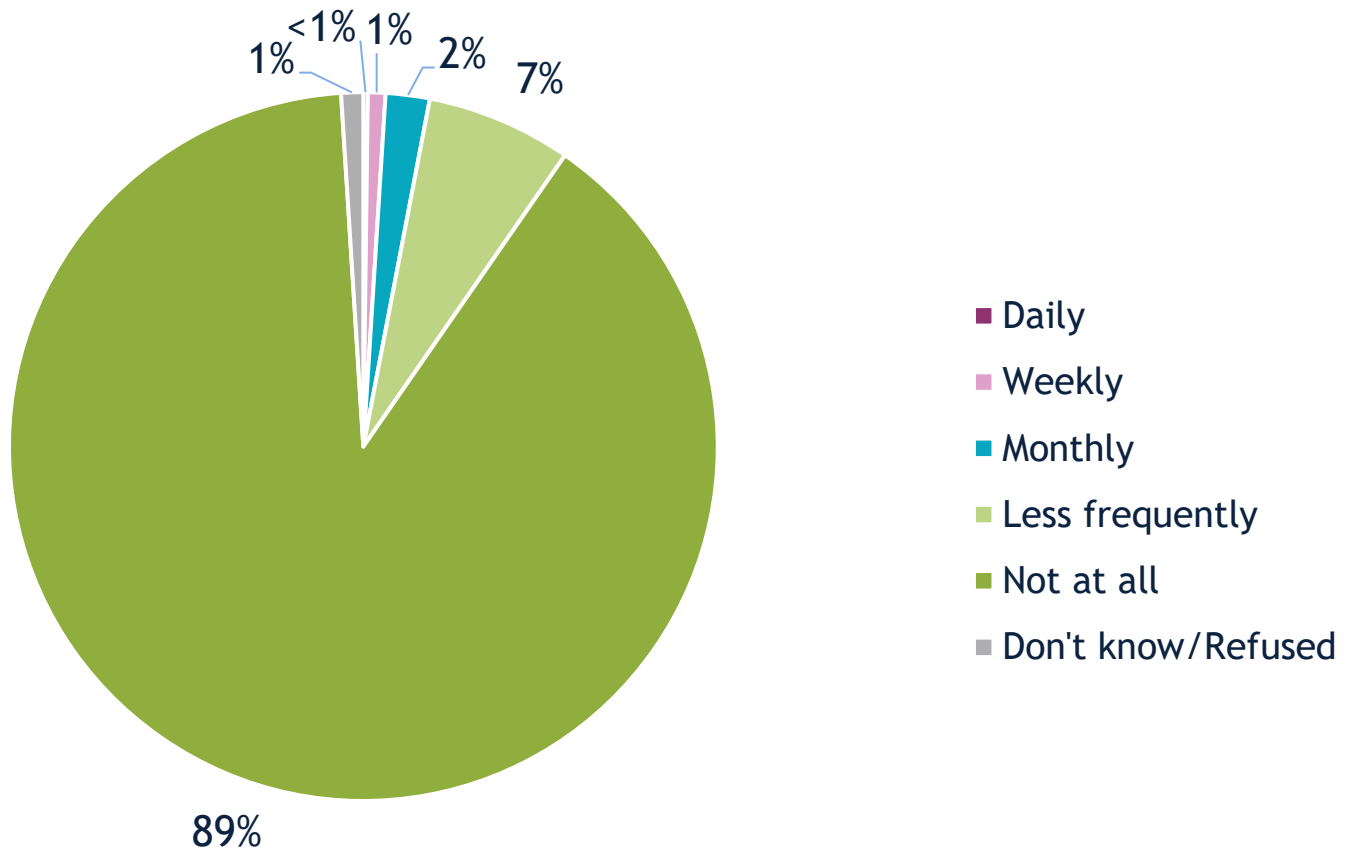


Now I would like to discuss corruption with you. When I say corruption, I mean having to do a favor, give a gift or pay a bribe because someone misuses their position for personal gains. To what extent, if any, has corruption had a negative impact on you?





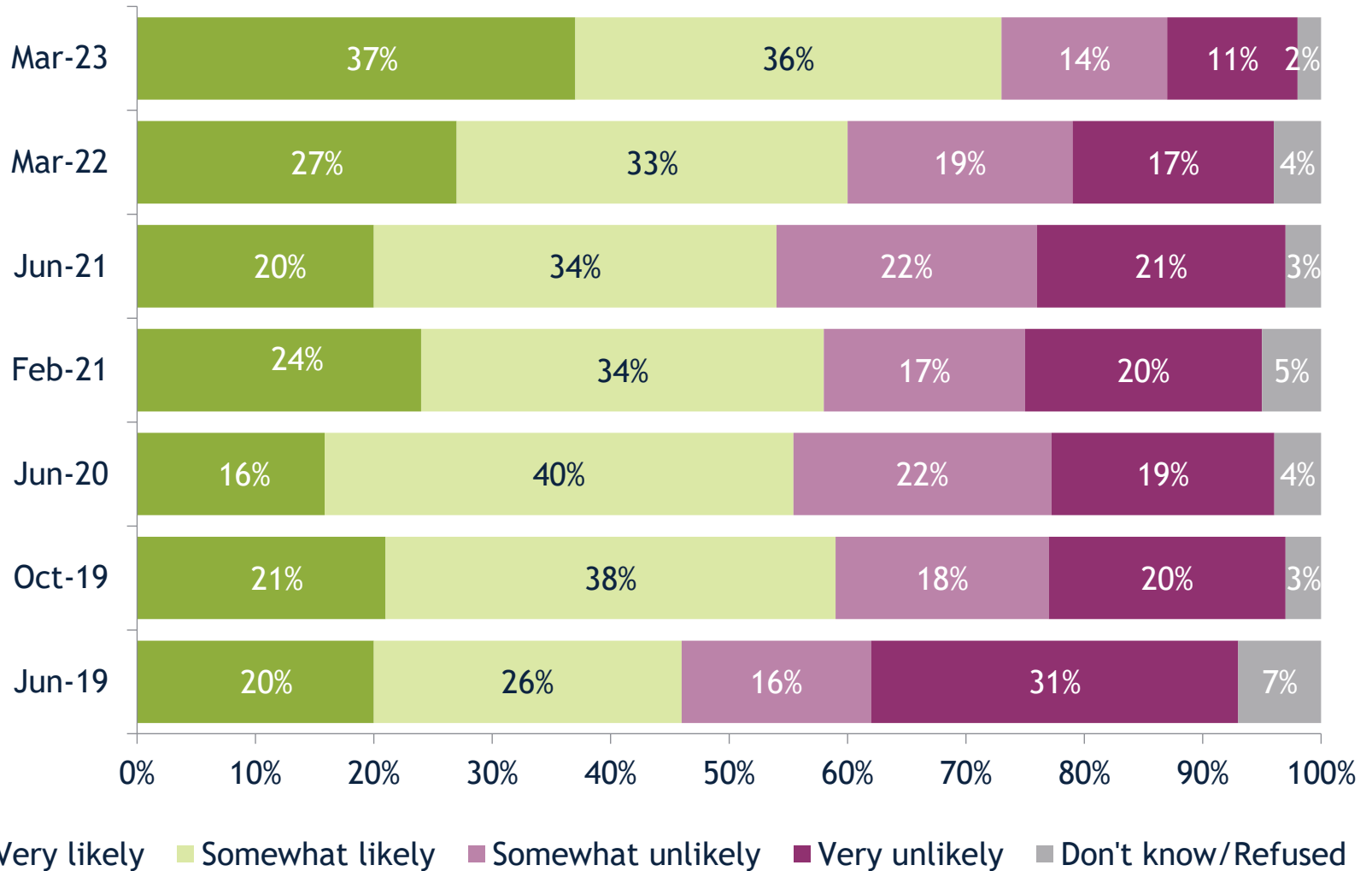
In the past 12 months, how often, if at all, have you had to do a favor, give a gift or pay a bribe?



# Elections

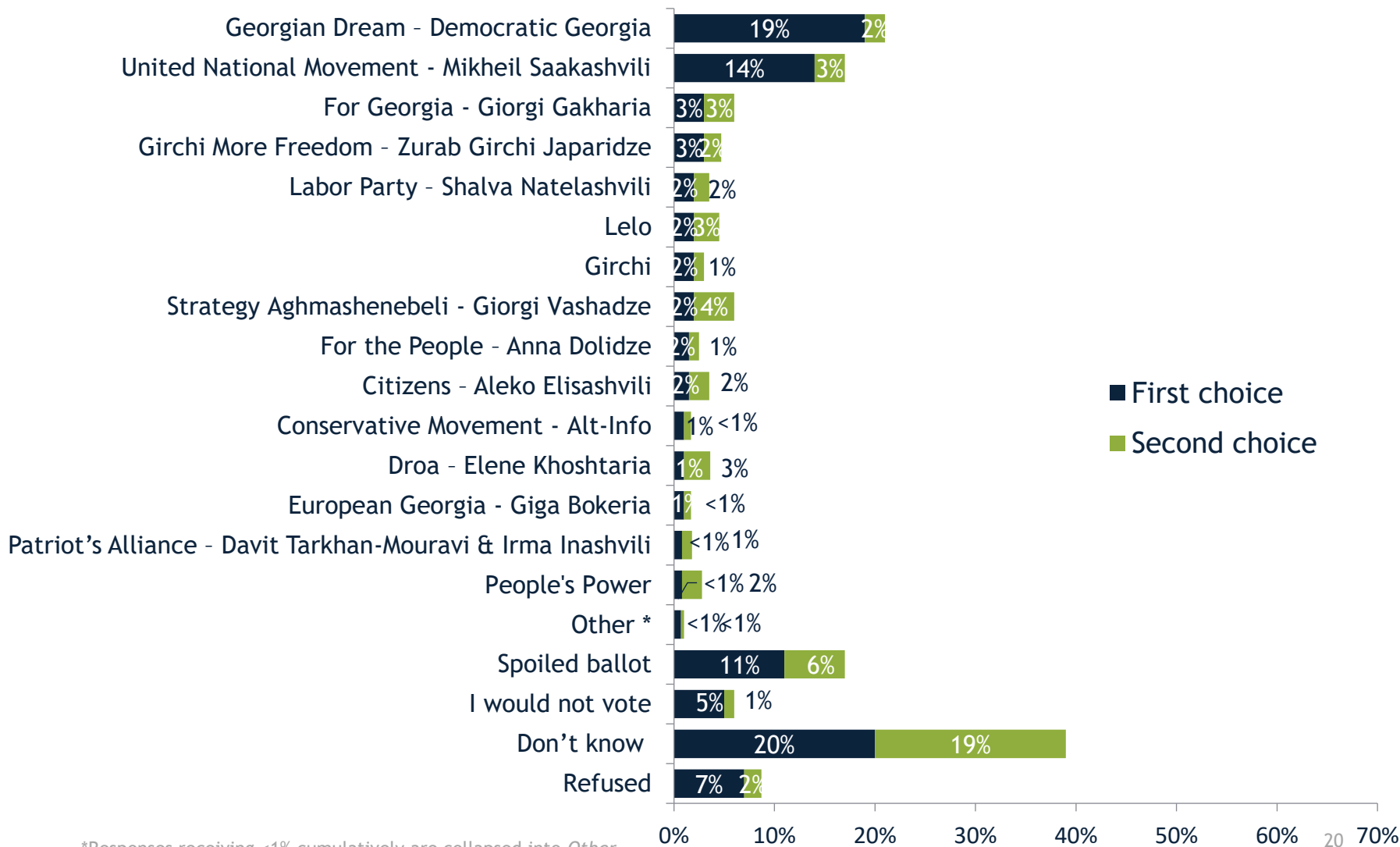


# How likely or unlikely are ordinary people able to influence decisions made in our country?



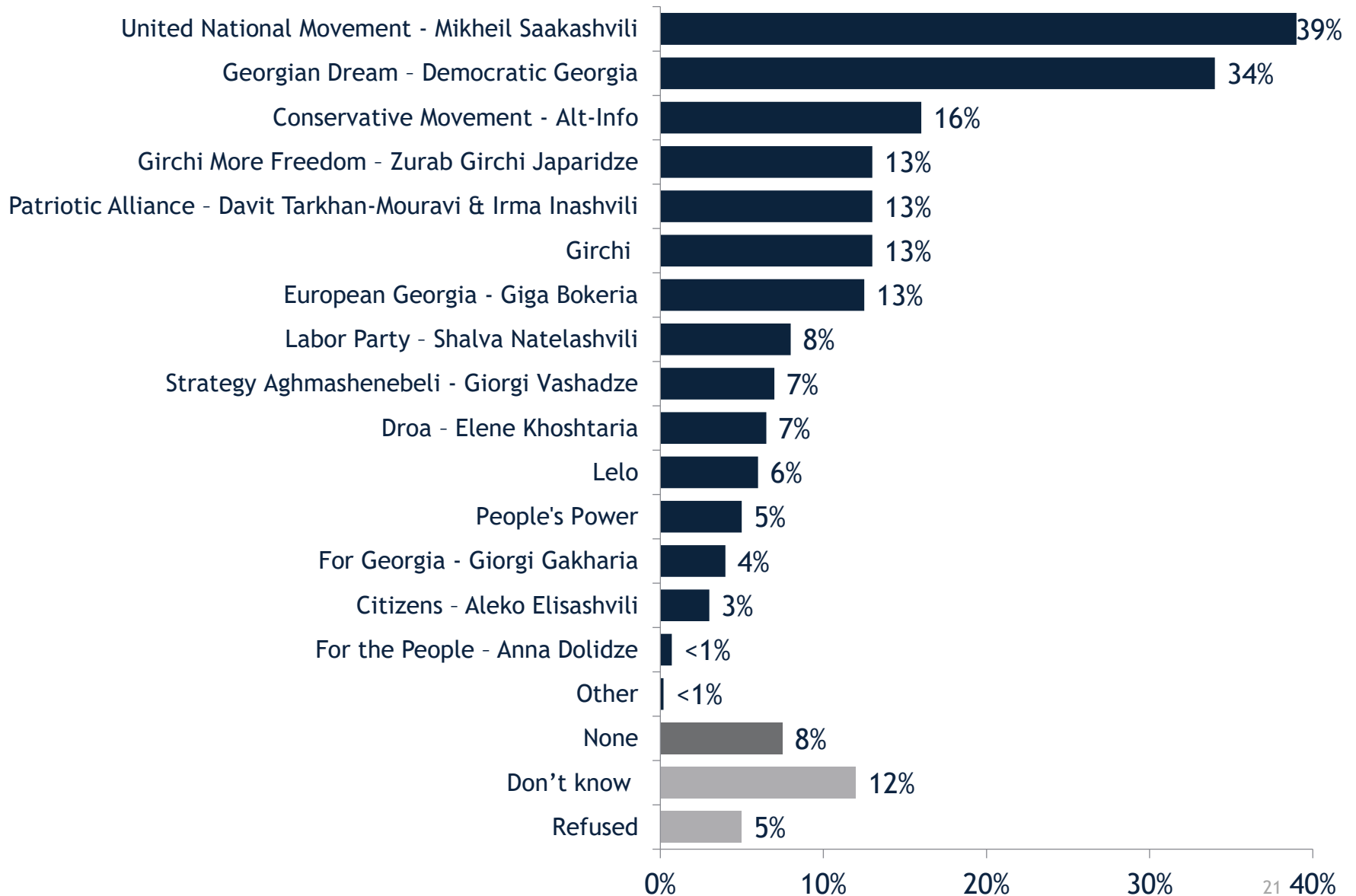
# If Parliamentary Elections were held this coming Saturday, for which party, if any, would you vote? (First choice)

## If your first-choice party would not be on the ballot, who would you vote for instead? (Second choice)



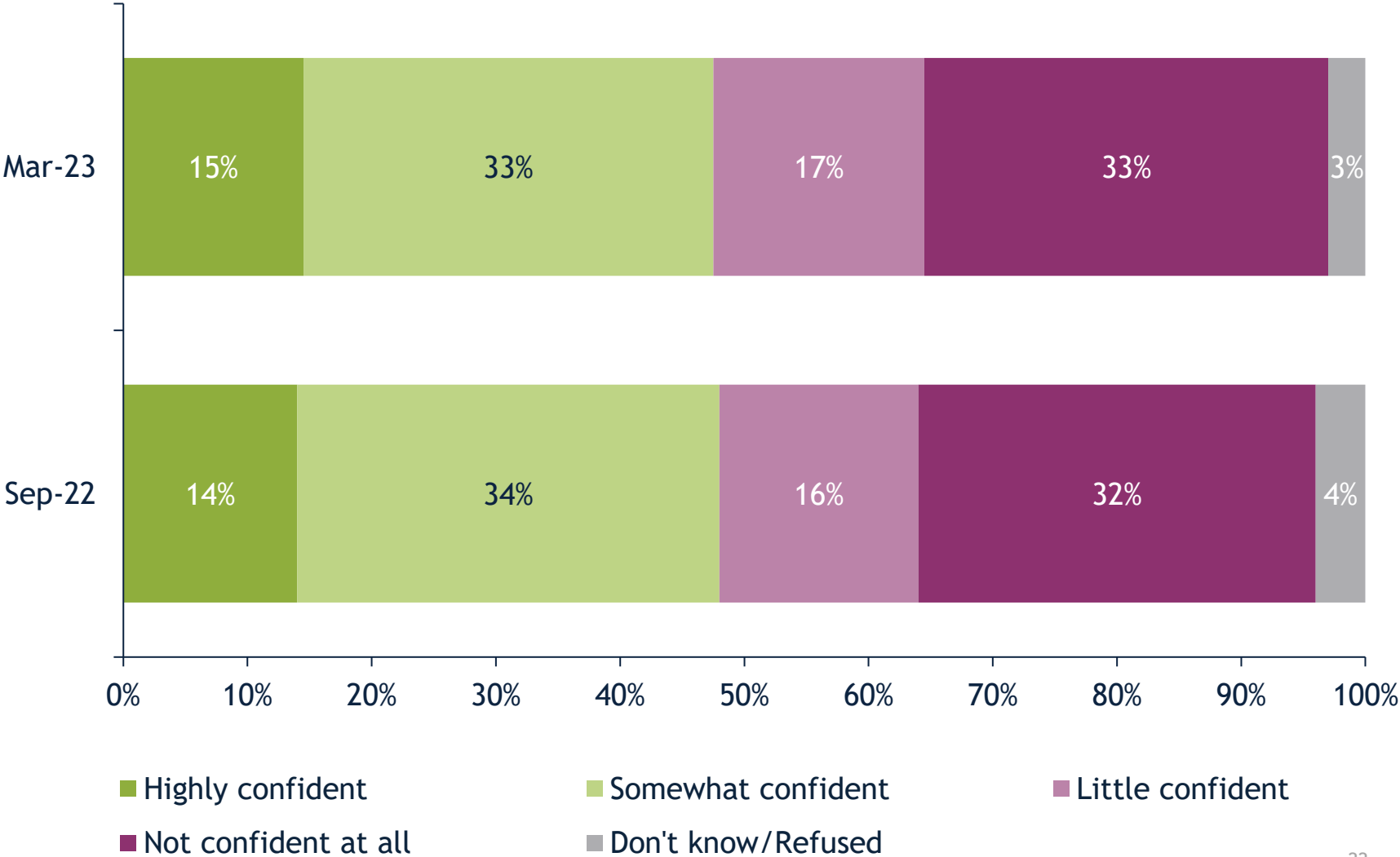
# Which parties, if any, would you not vote for under any circumstances?

(Up to three responses permitted)





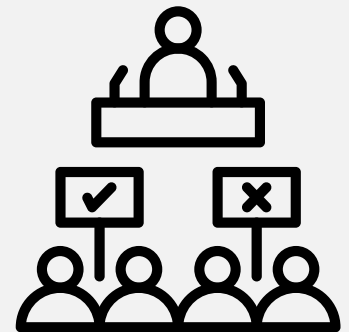
As you may know, the Central Election Commission, also known as CEC or CESCO, is the body responsible for conducting national elections in Georgia. How confident, if at all, are you in the Central Election Commission's ability to organize and supervise credible elections?



# Political parties

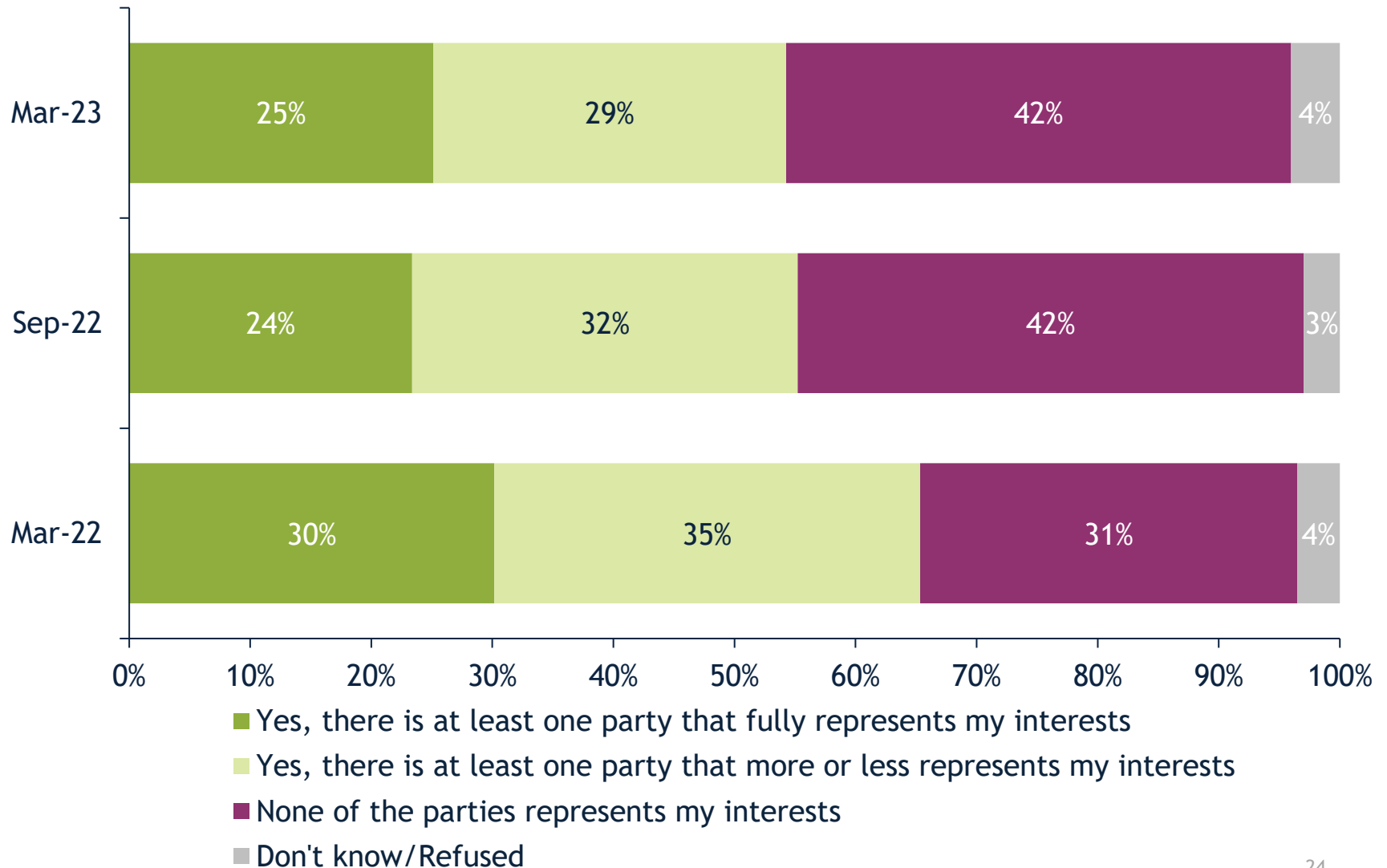


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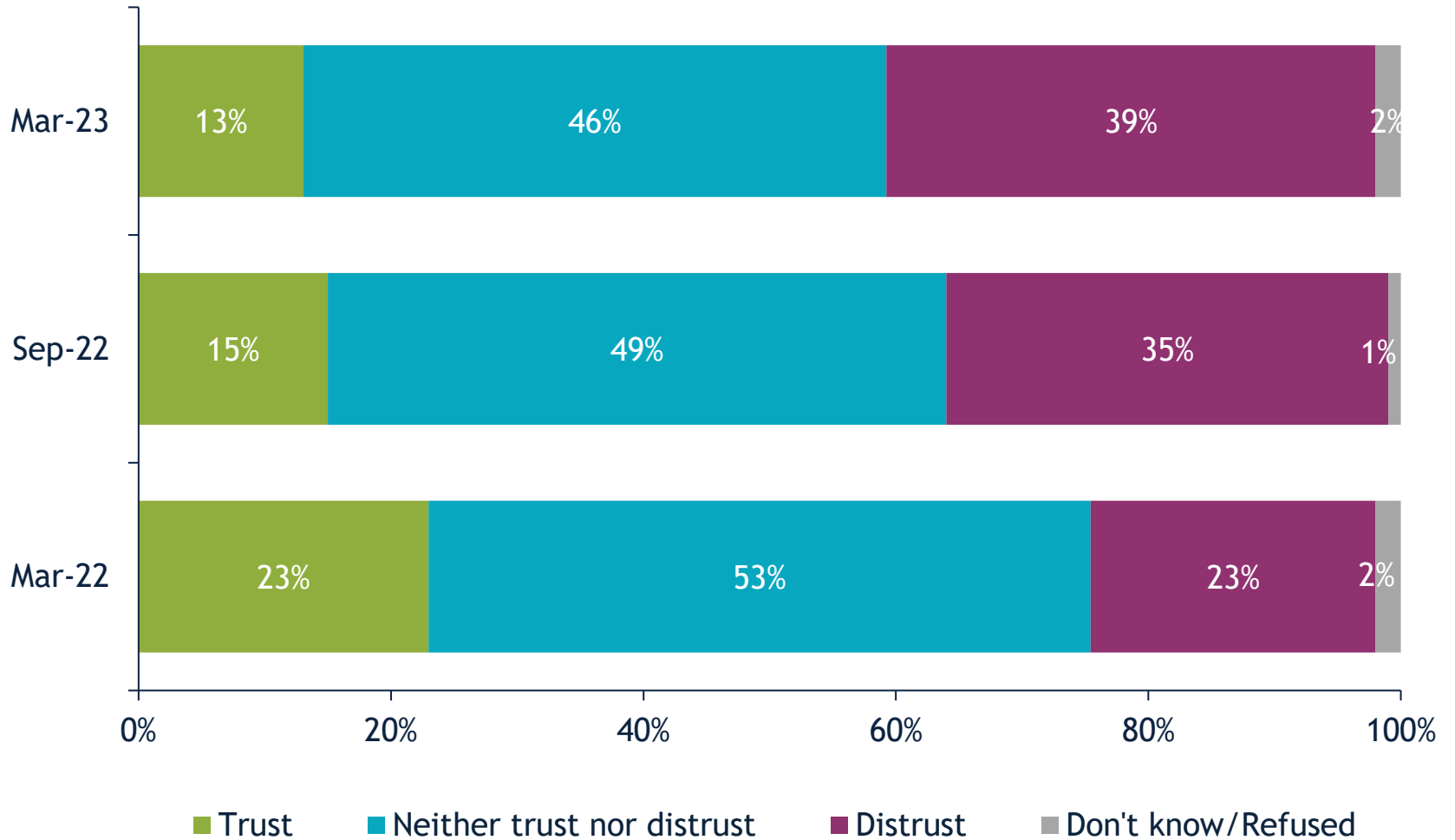
# Do you believe that at least one political party in Georgia represents your interests?







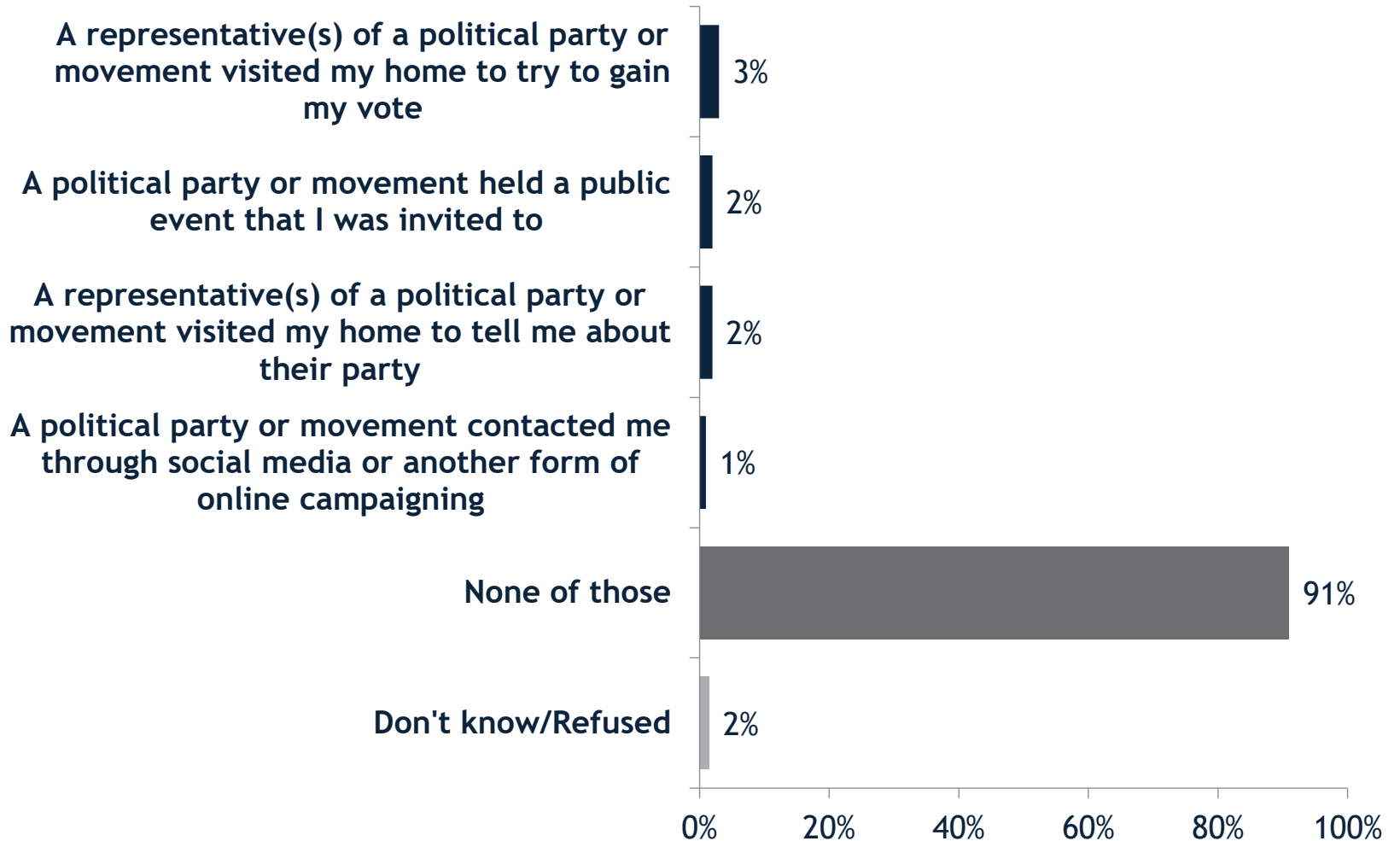
# Please tell me: Do you trust or distrust Georgia's political parties?



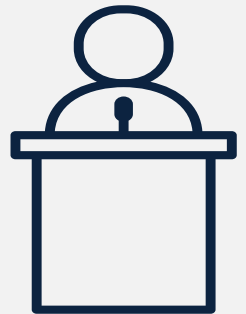


# In the past six months, have any of the following happened to you?

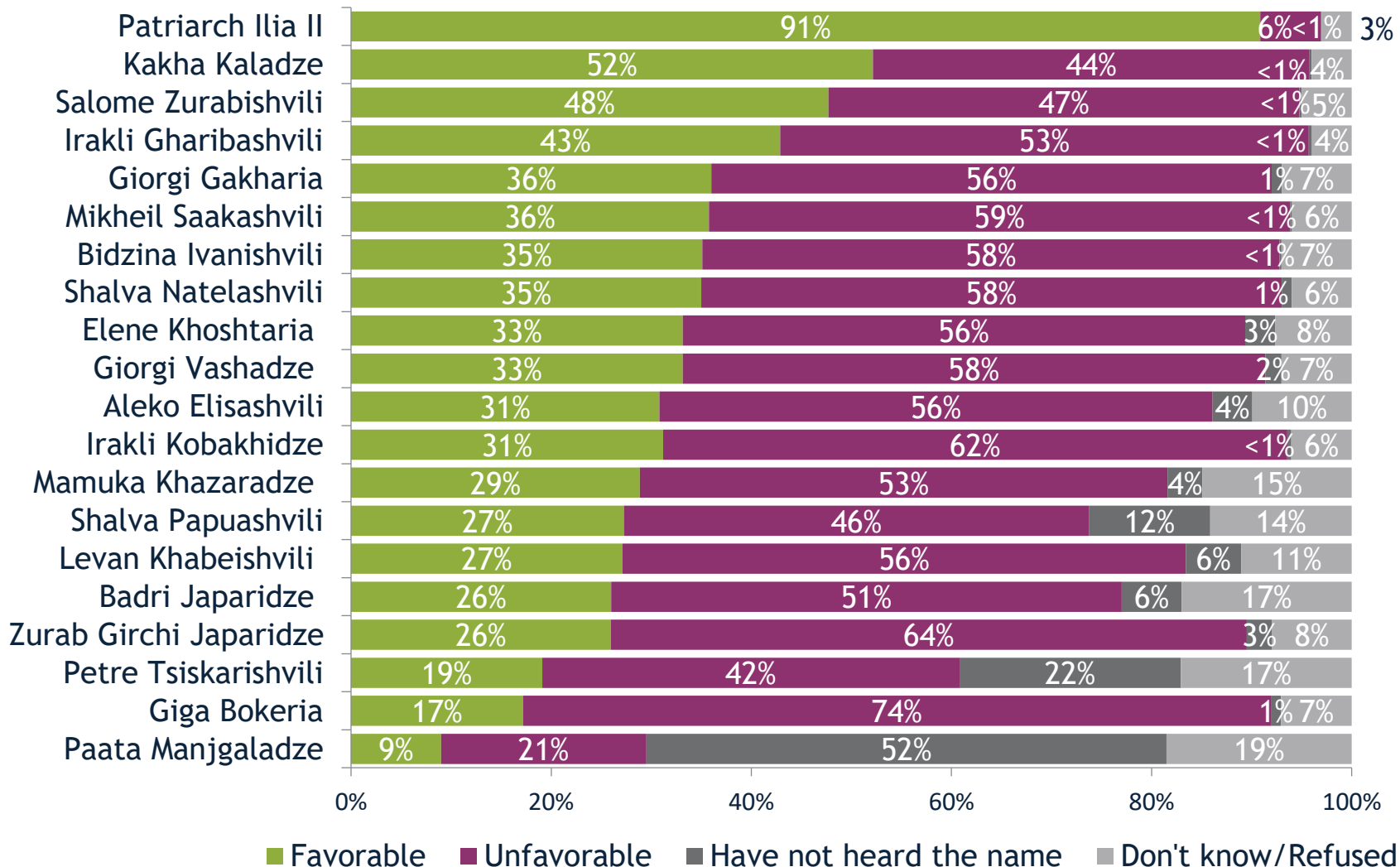
(Multiple responses permitted)



# Public Figures & Institutions

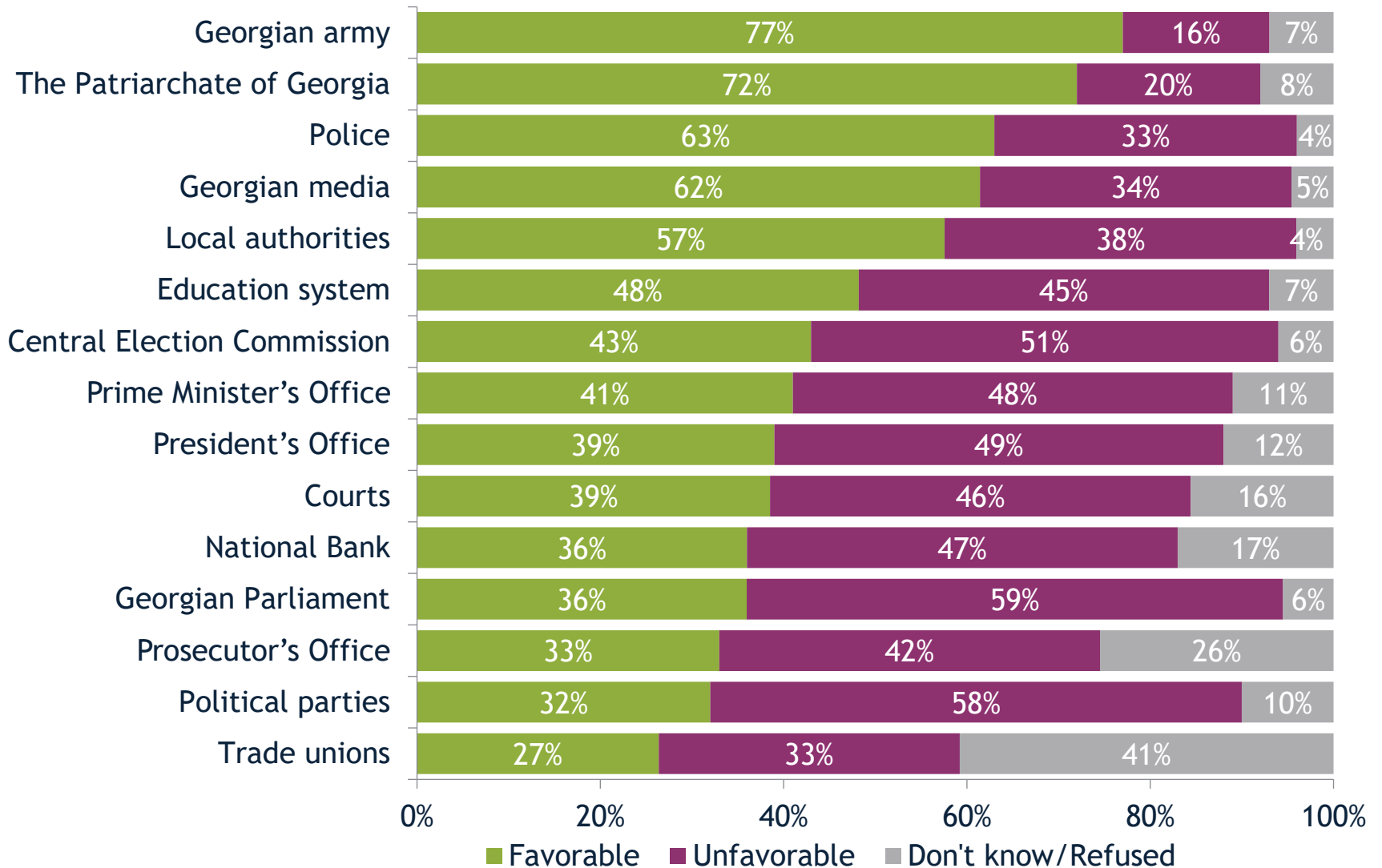


I will read you a list of names. For each, please tell me if you have a highly favorable, somewhat favorable, somewhat unfavorable or highly unfavorable opinion of this individual. If you have not heard of this person, please tell me\*



\*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?\*

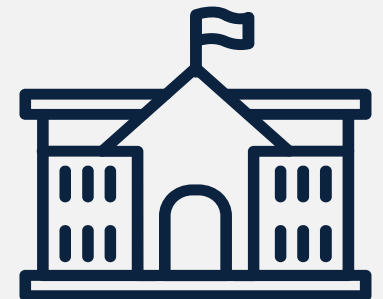


\*Responses "Very favorable" and "Somewhat favorable" combined under "Favorable." Responses "Very unfavorable" and "Somewhat unfavorable" combined under "Unfavorable."

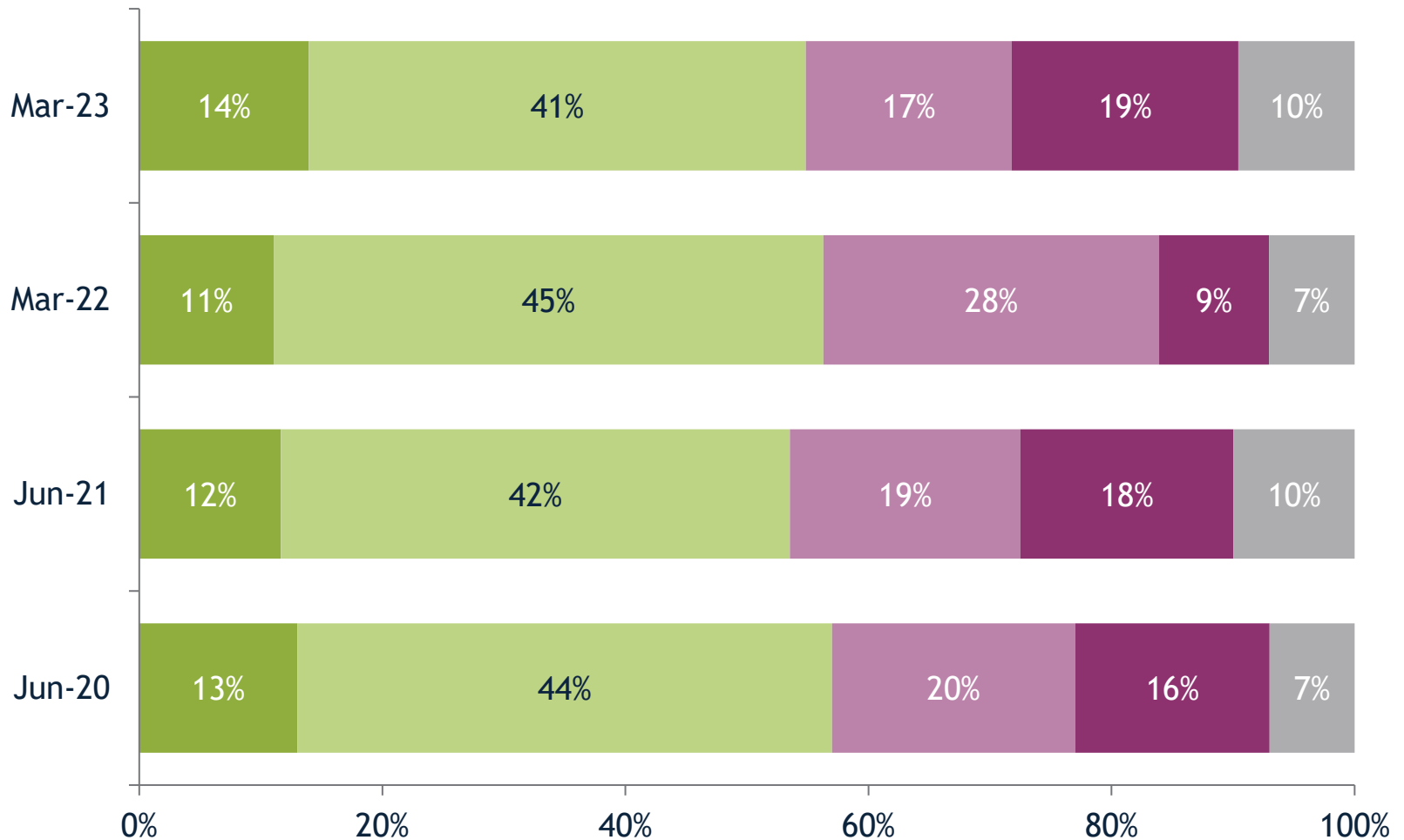
# Local Governance



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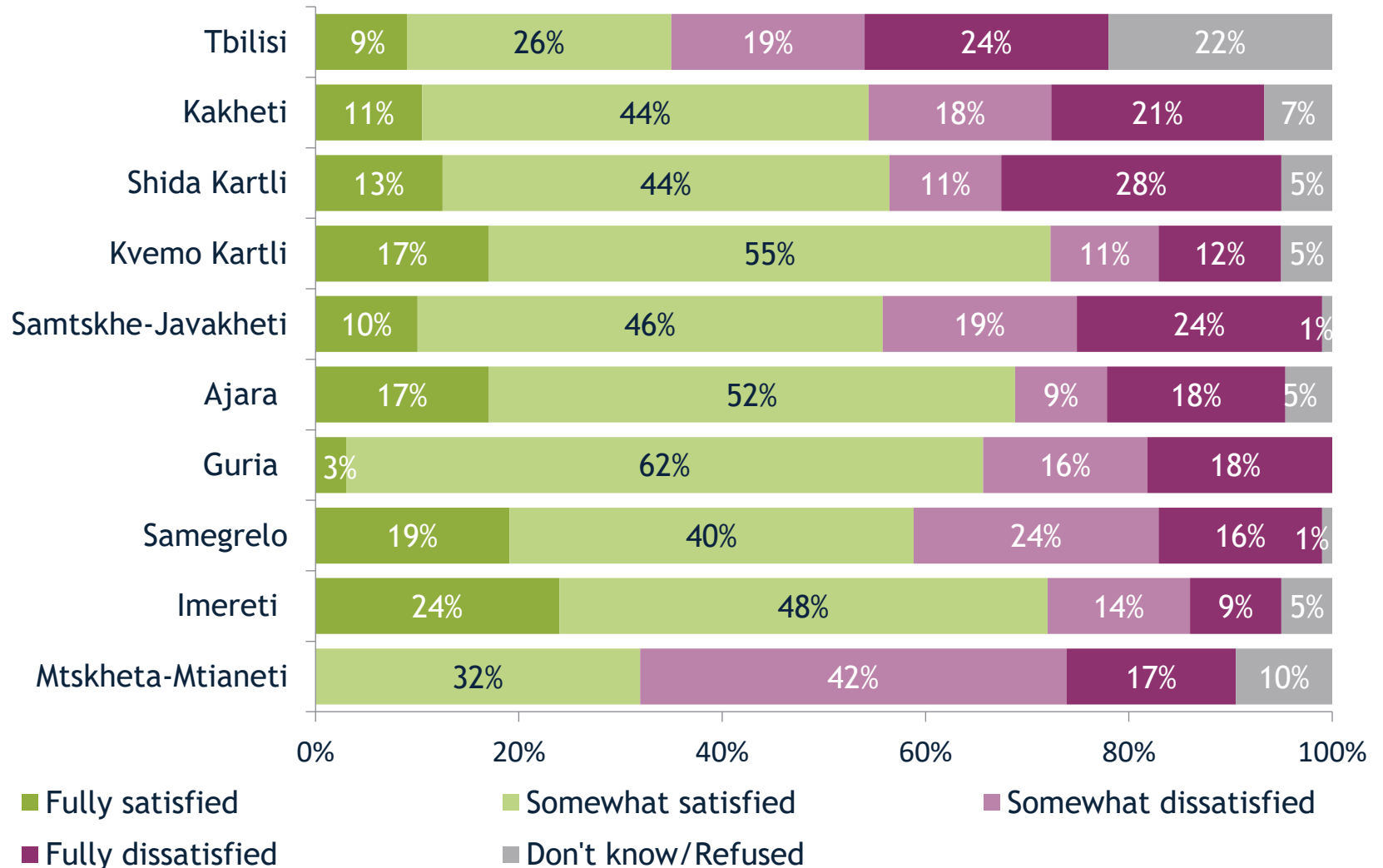
# How satisfied or dissatisfied are you with your local *sakrebulo's*\* performance?



■ Fully satisfied ■ Somewhat satisfied ■ Somewhat dissatisfied ■ Fully dissatisfied ■ Don't know/Refused

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

(Disaggregated by region)

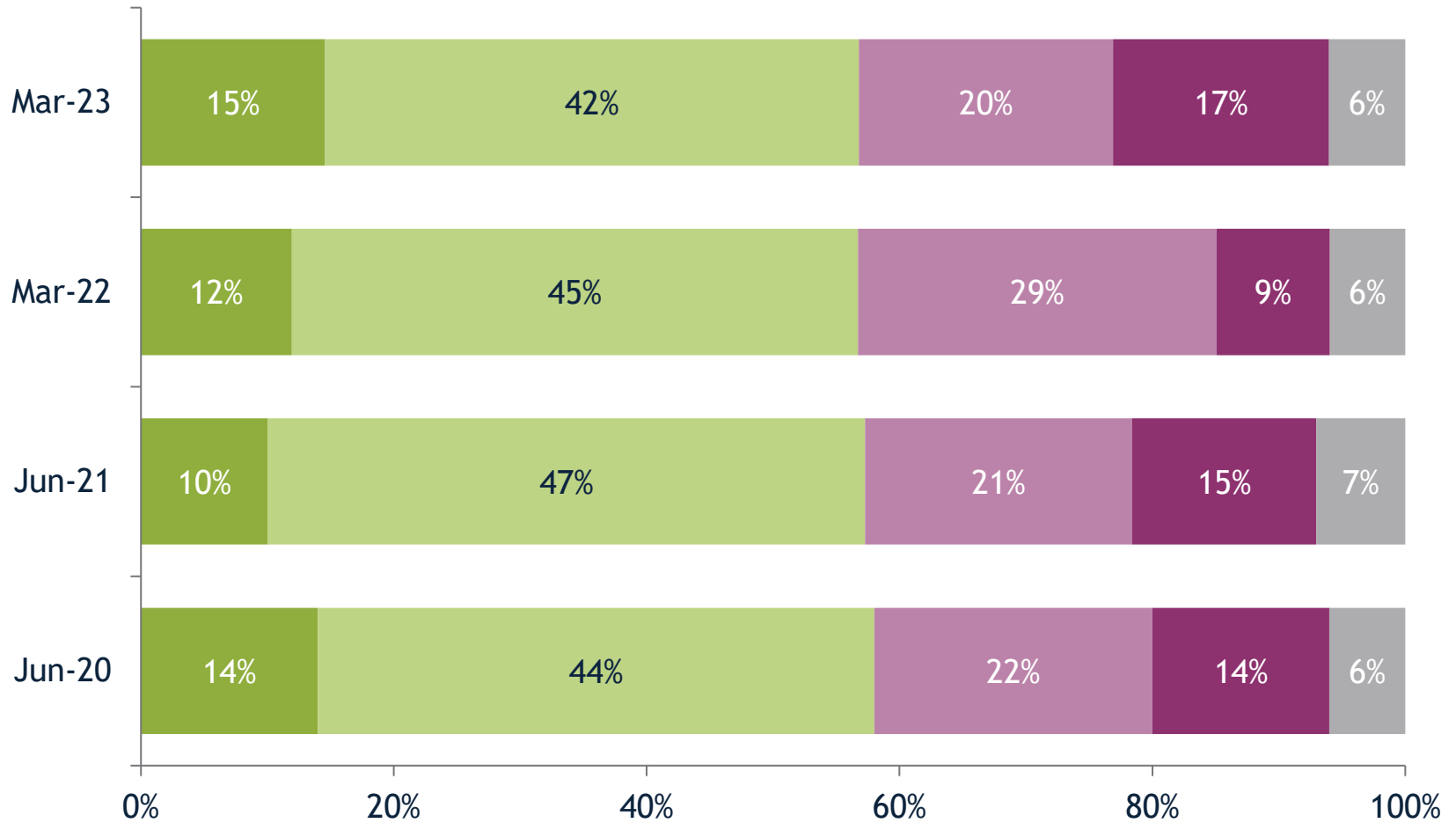


\*Disaggregates for Guria and Mtskheta-Mtianeti should be interpreted with caution due to very small sample sizes.





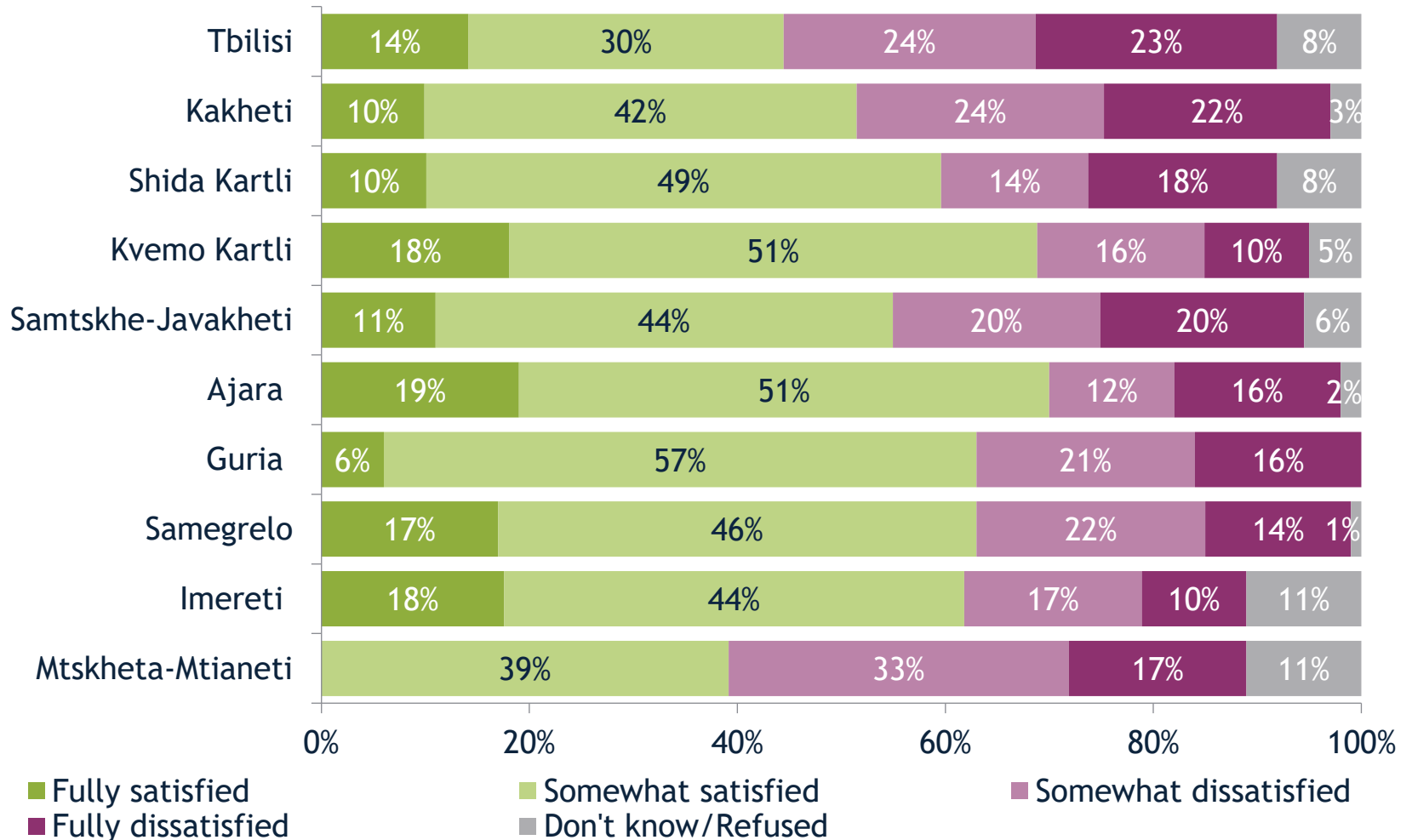
# How satisfied or dissatisfied are you with your local Mayor's office's performance?



■ Fully satisfied ■ Somewhat satisfied ■ Somewhat dissatisfied ■ Fully dissatisfied ■ Don't know/Refused

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

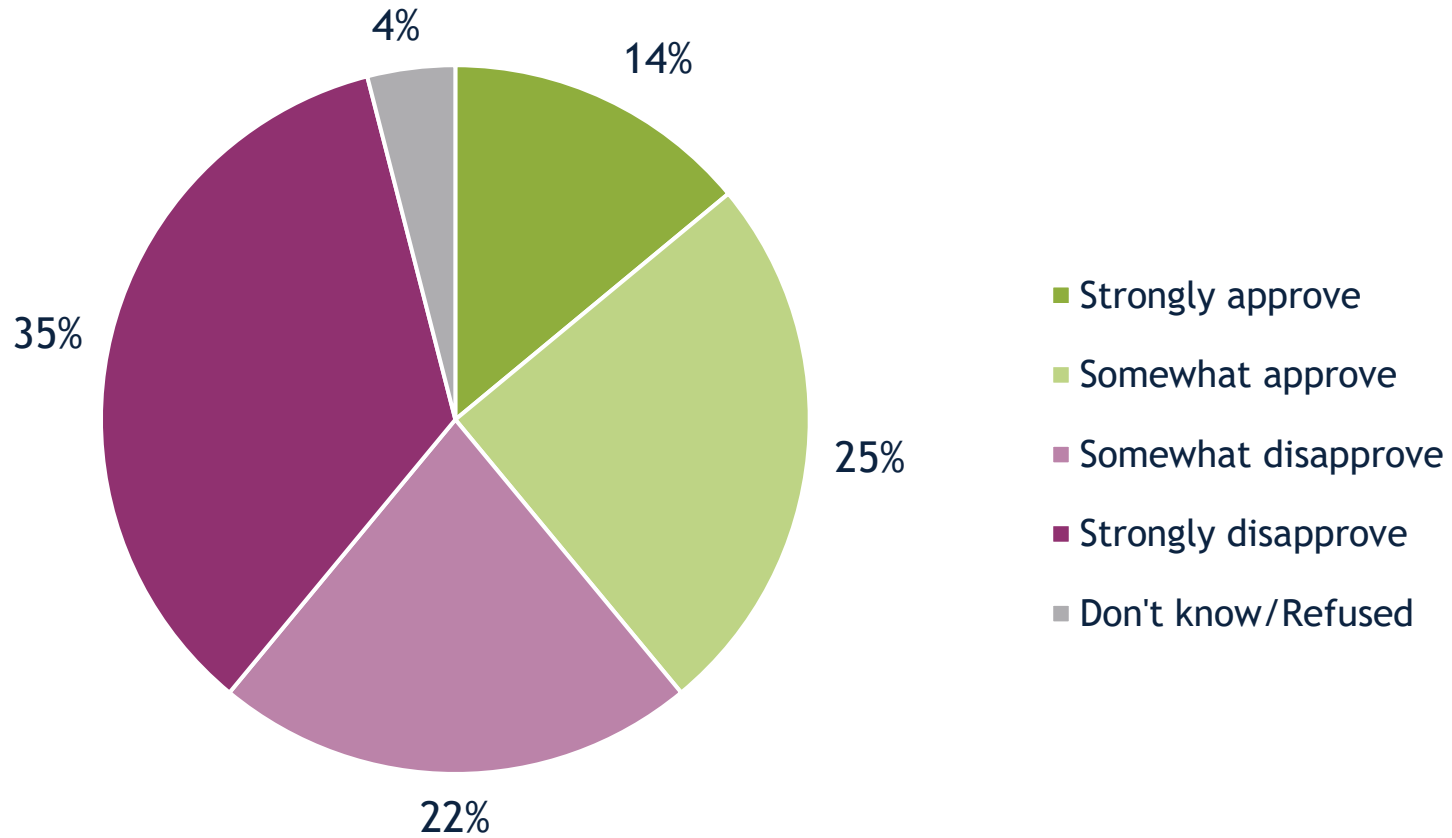
(Disaggregated by region)



\*Disaggregates for Guria and Mtskheta-Mtianeti should be interpreted with caution due to very small sample sizes.

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

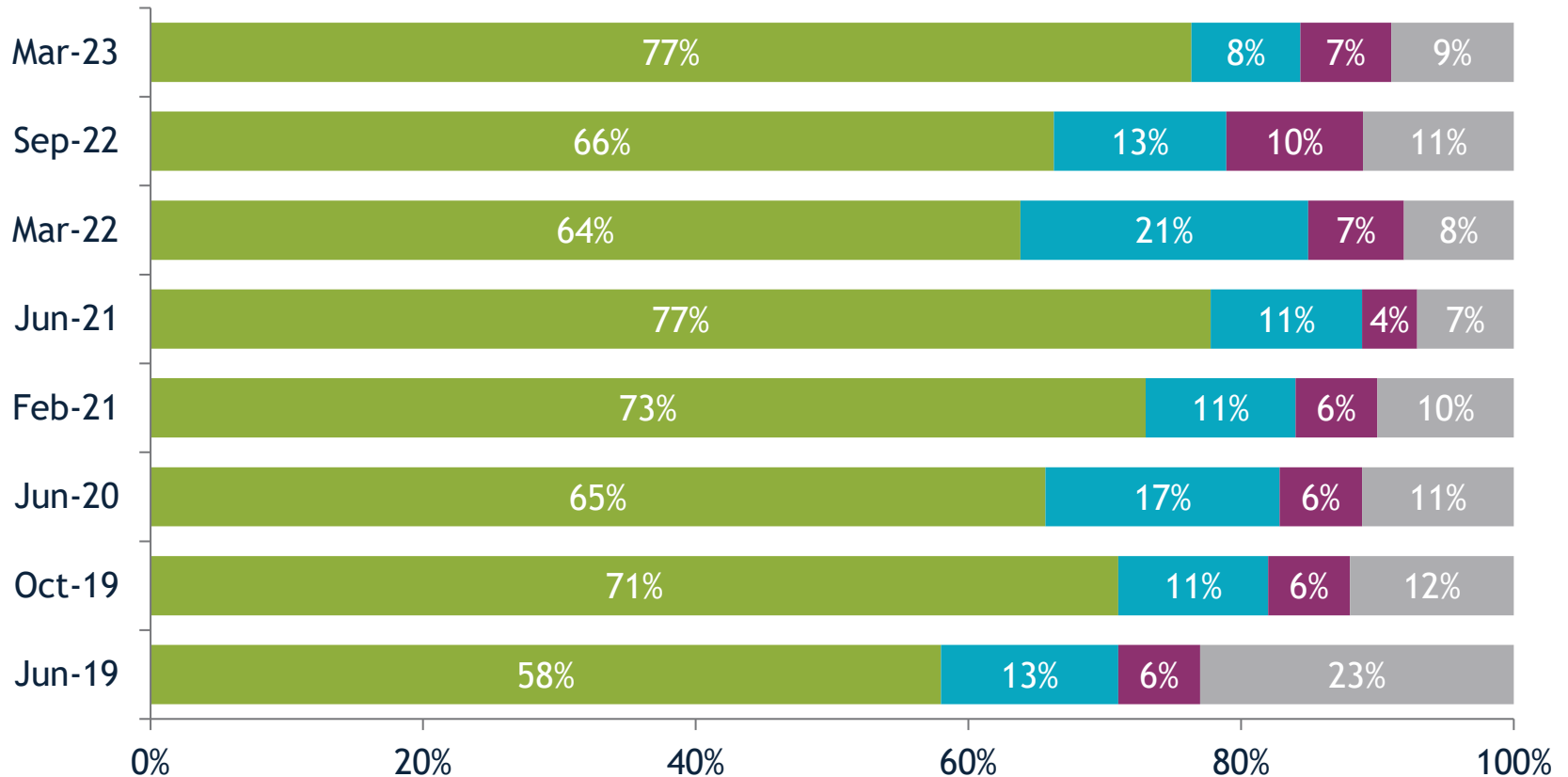
(Among residents of Tbilisi, n=453)



# Values and Ideology



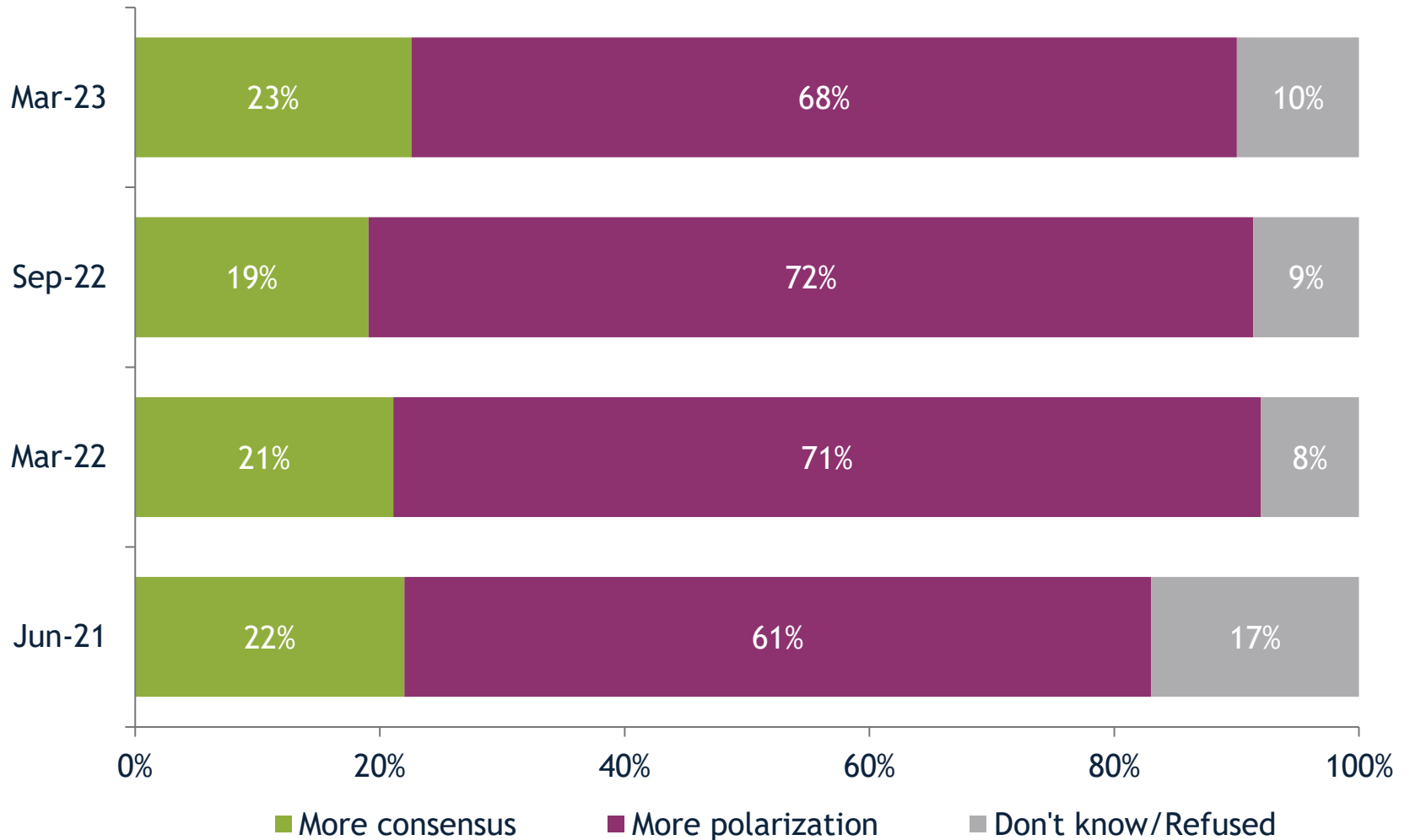
# Do you believe that democracy is the best possible form of government for our country?



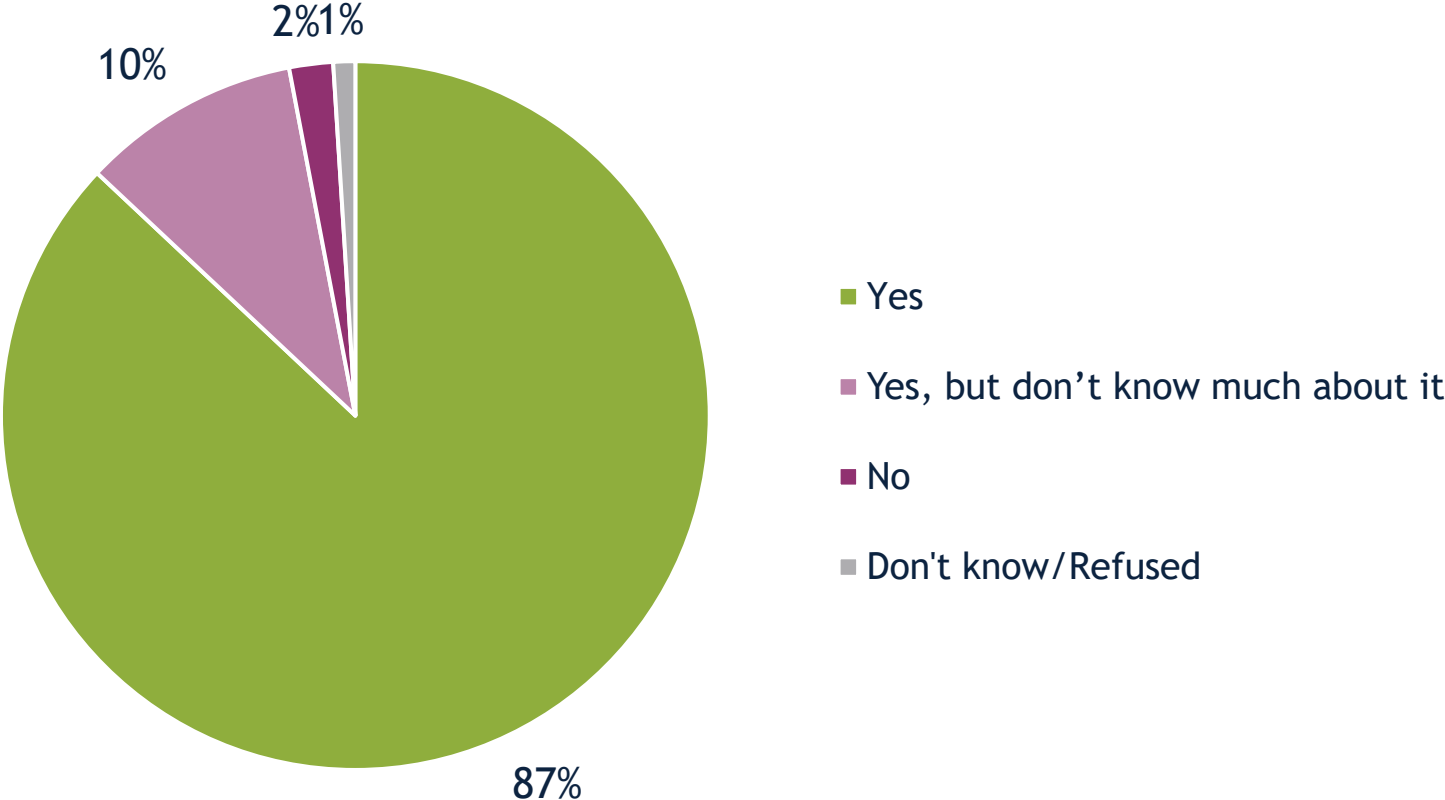
- Yes, it is the best possible form of government for our country
- No, there are other forms of government that could be equally good for our country
- No, there are other forms of government that are better than democracy
- Don't know/Refused



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

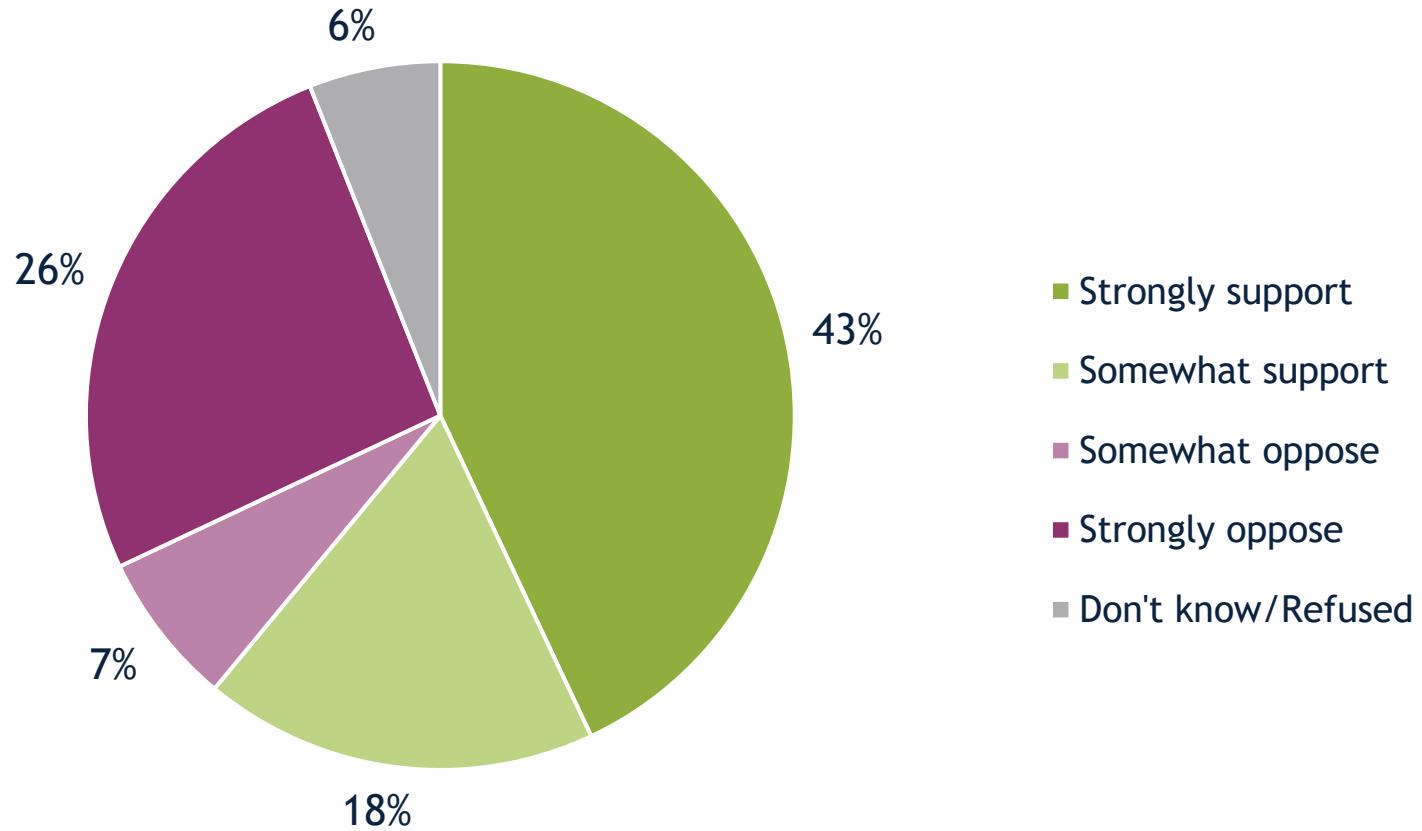


# Have you heard anything or not about Mikheil Saakashvili's health?



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

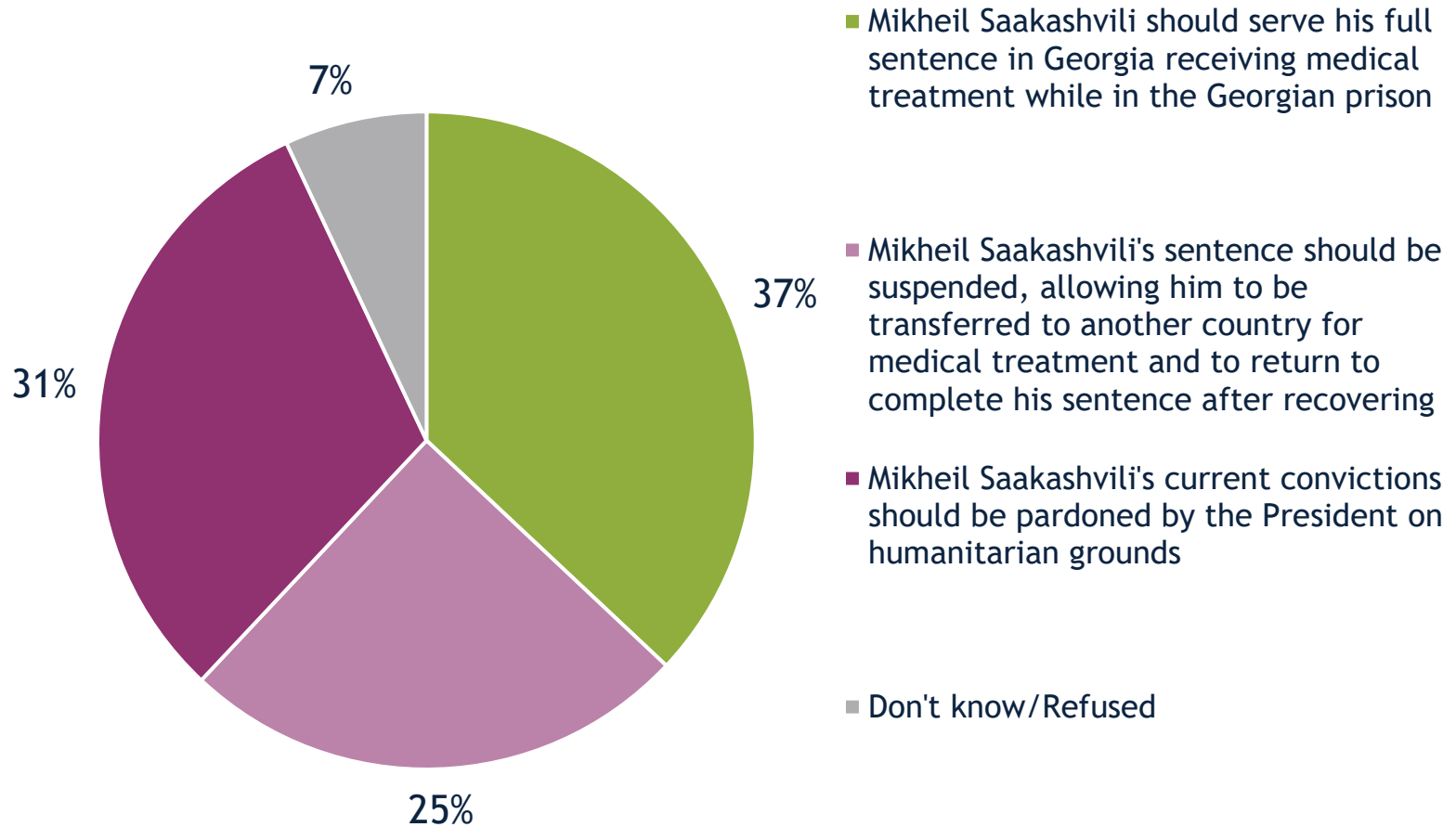
(Have heard about Mikheil Saakashvili's health, n=1,460)





## 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)



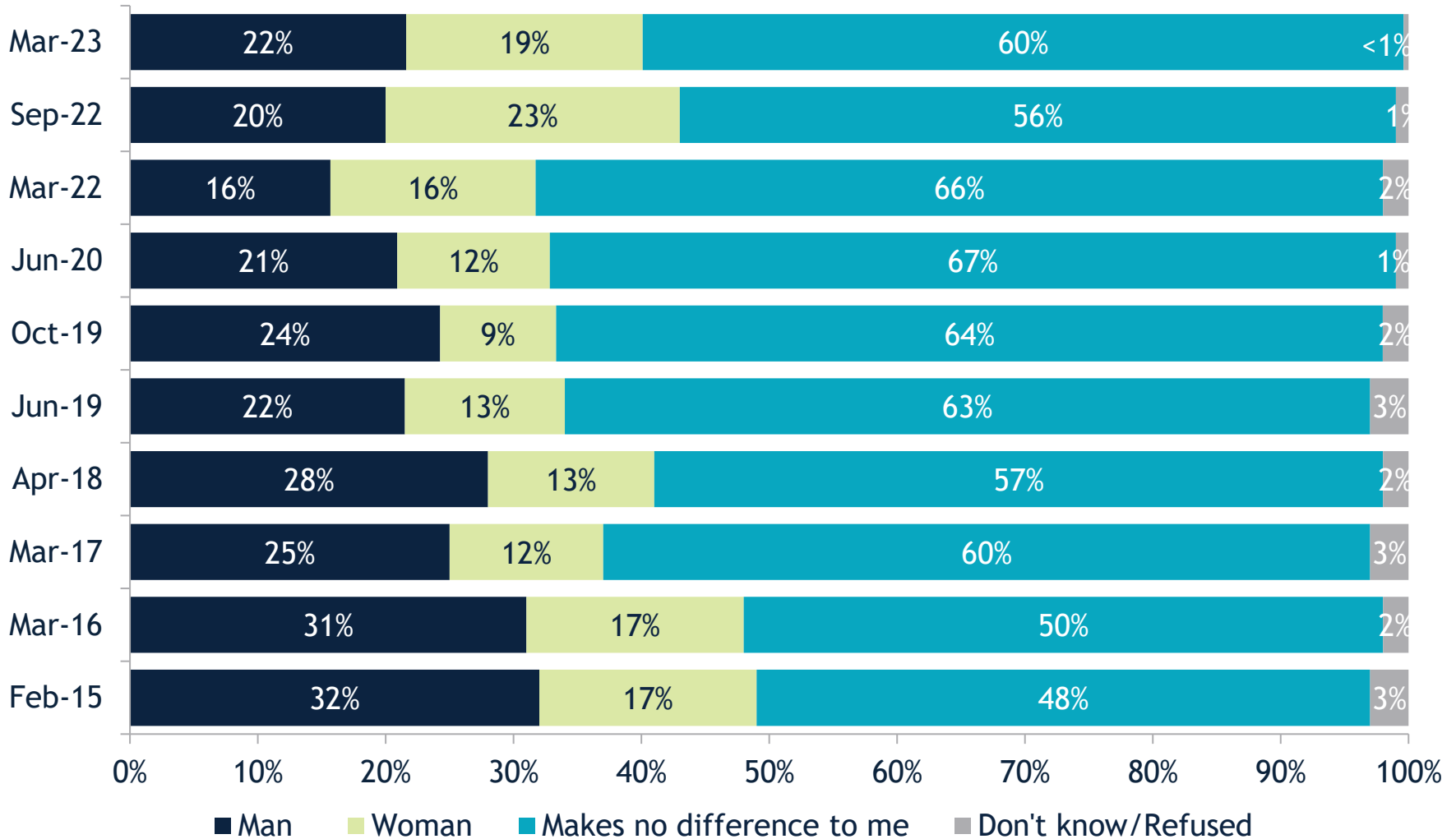
# Inclusion and Civic Engagement



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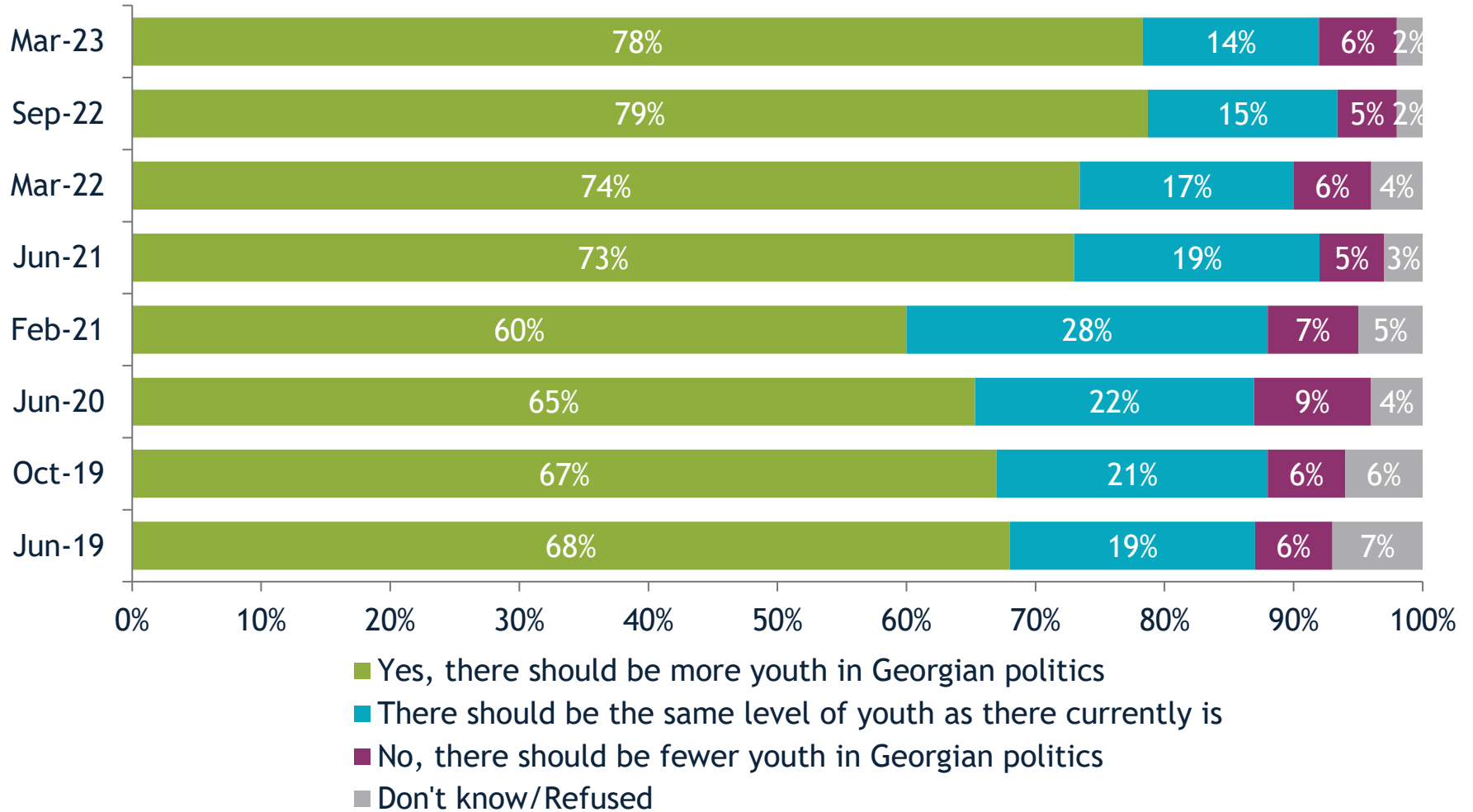


If there are two candidates running for office and they have the same qualifications aside from the fact that one is a man and one is a woman, which candidate are you more likely to support?





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



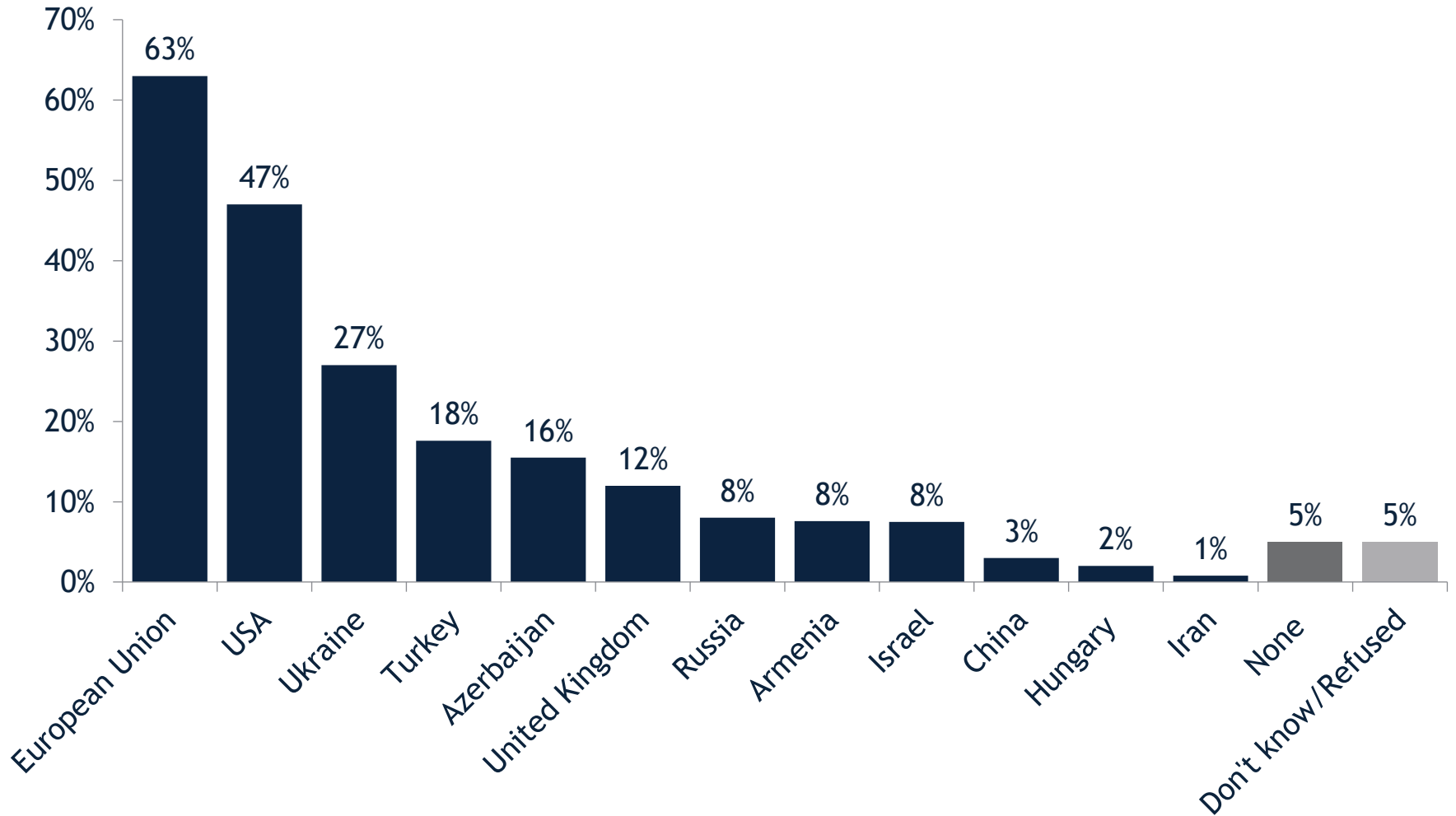
# International Relations





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

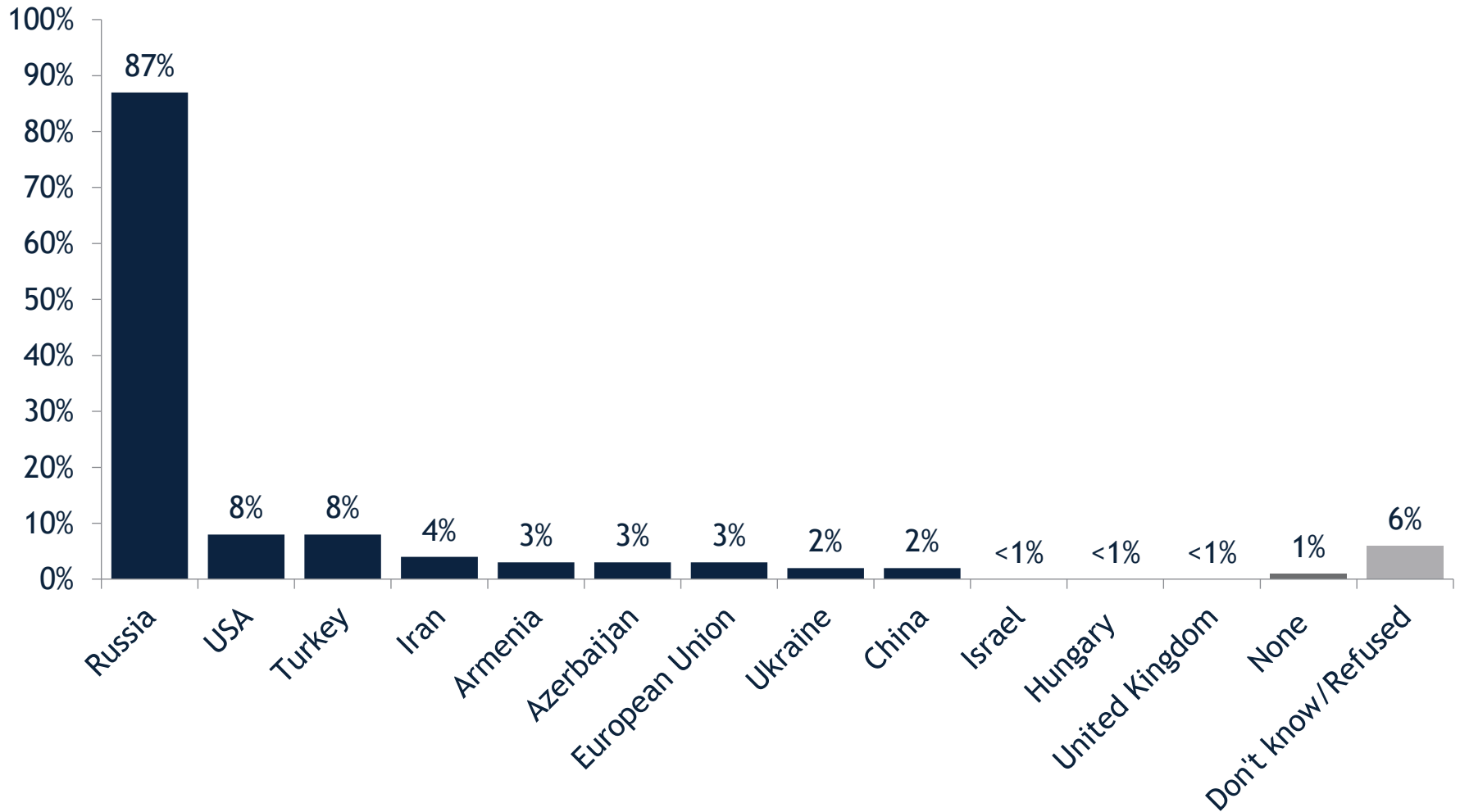
(Multiple responses permitted)





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

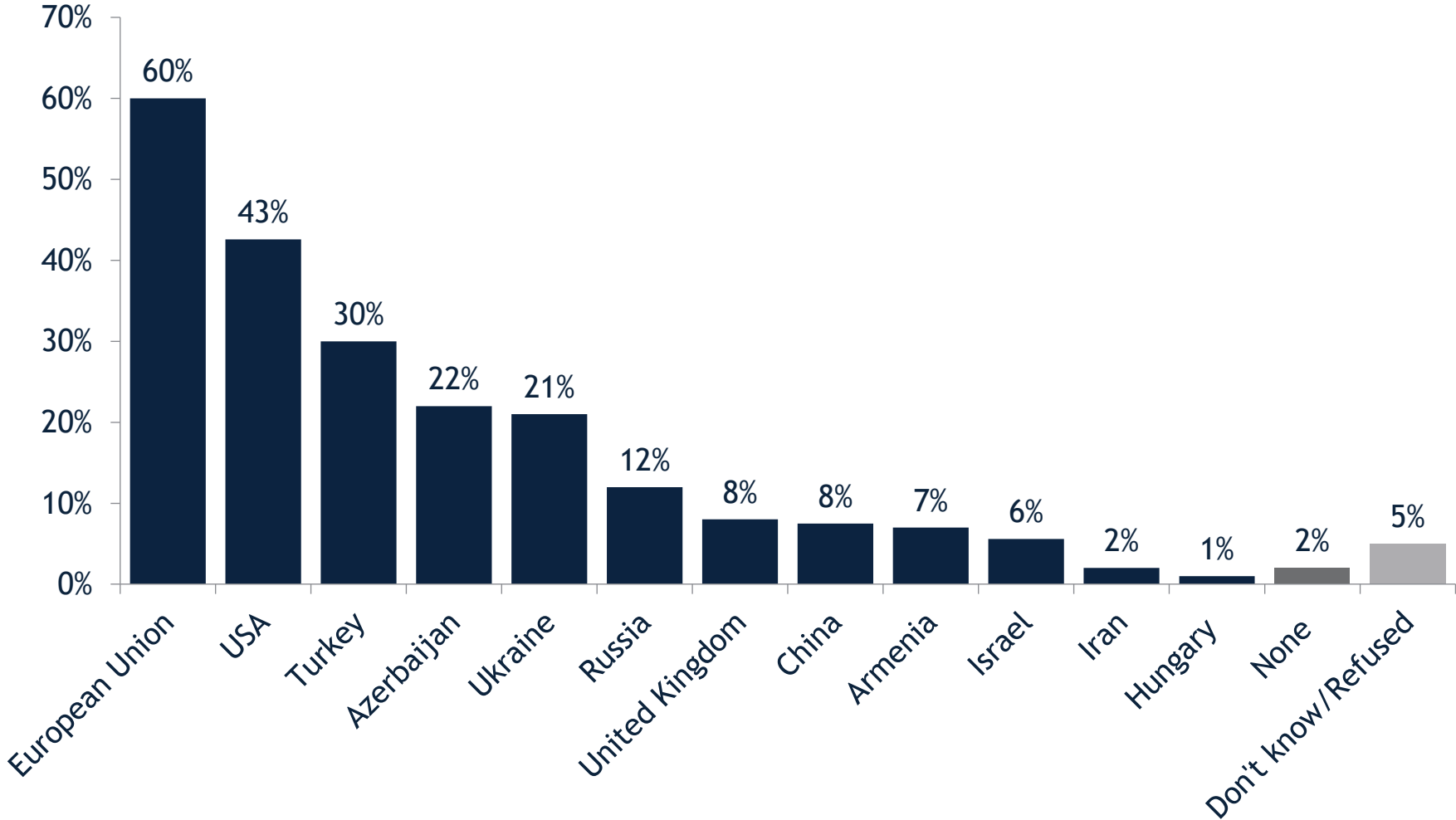
(Multiple responses permitted)





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

(Multiple responses permitted)

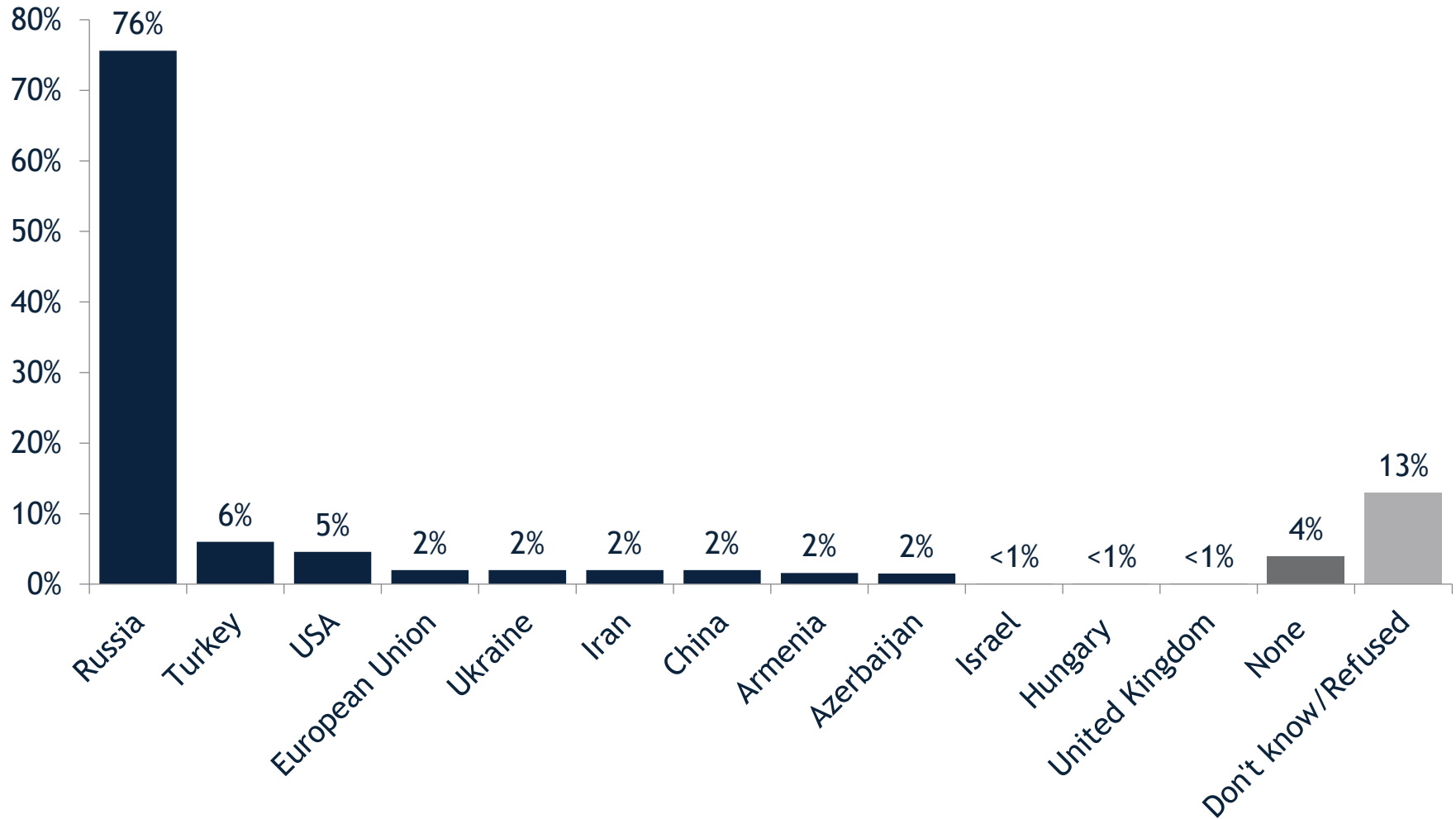




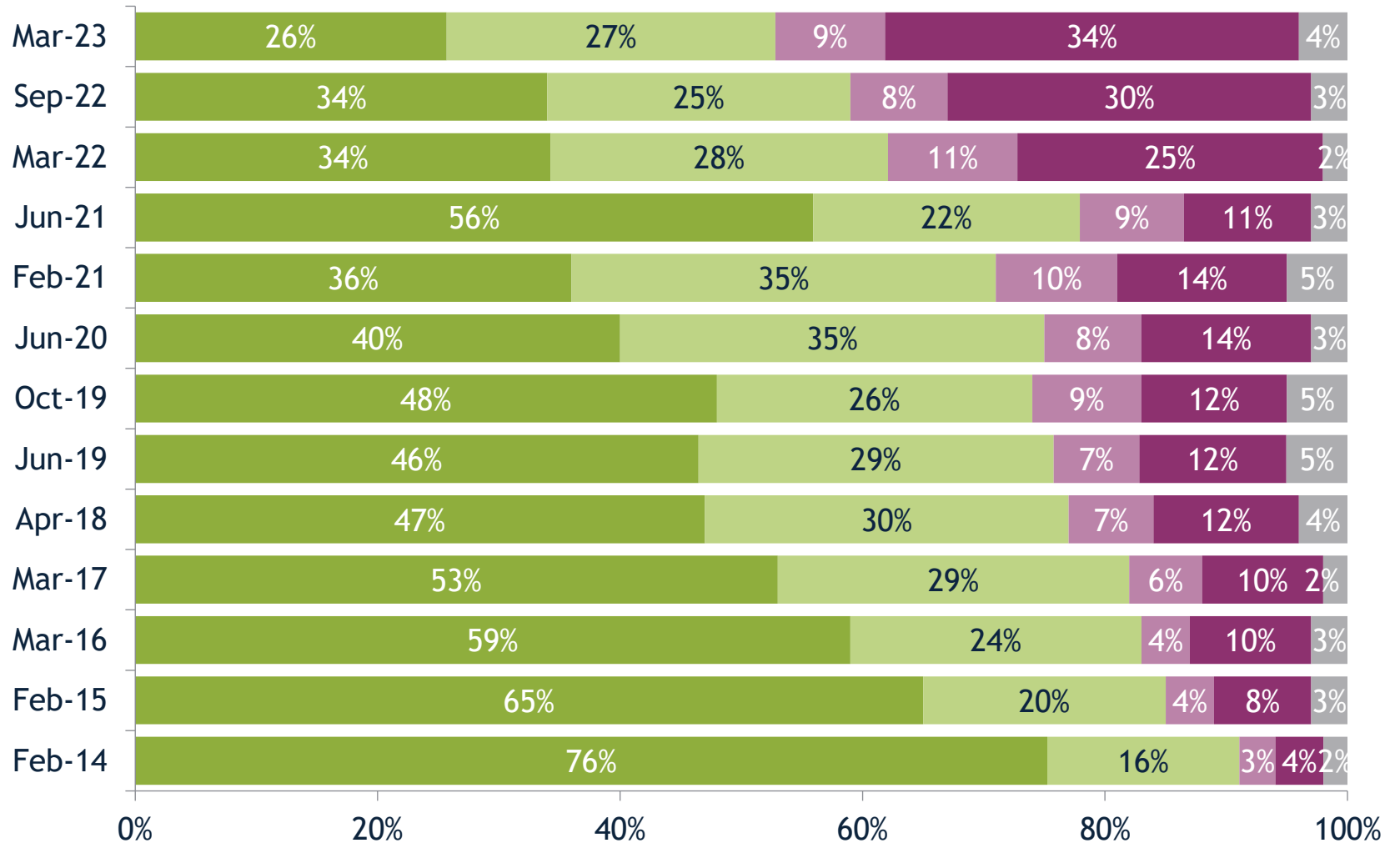


# Which of these countries poses the greatest economic threat of Georgia?

(Multiple responses permitted)

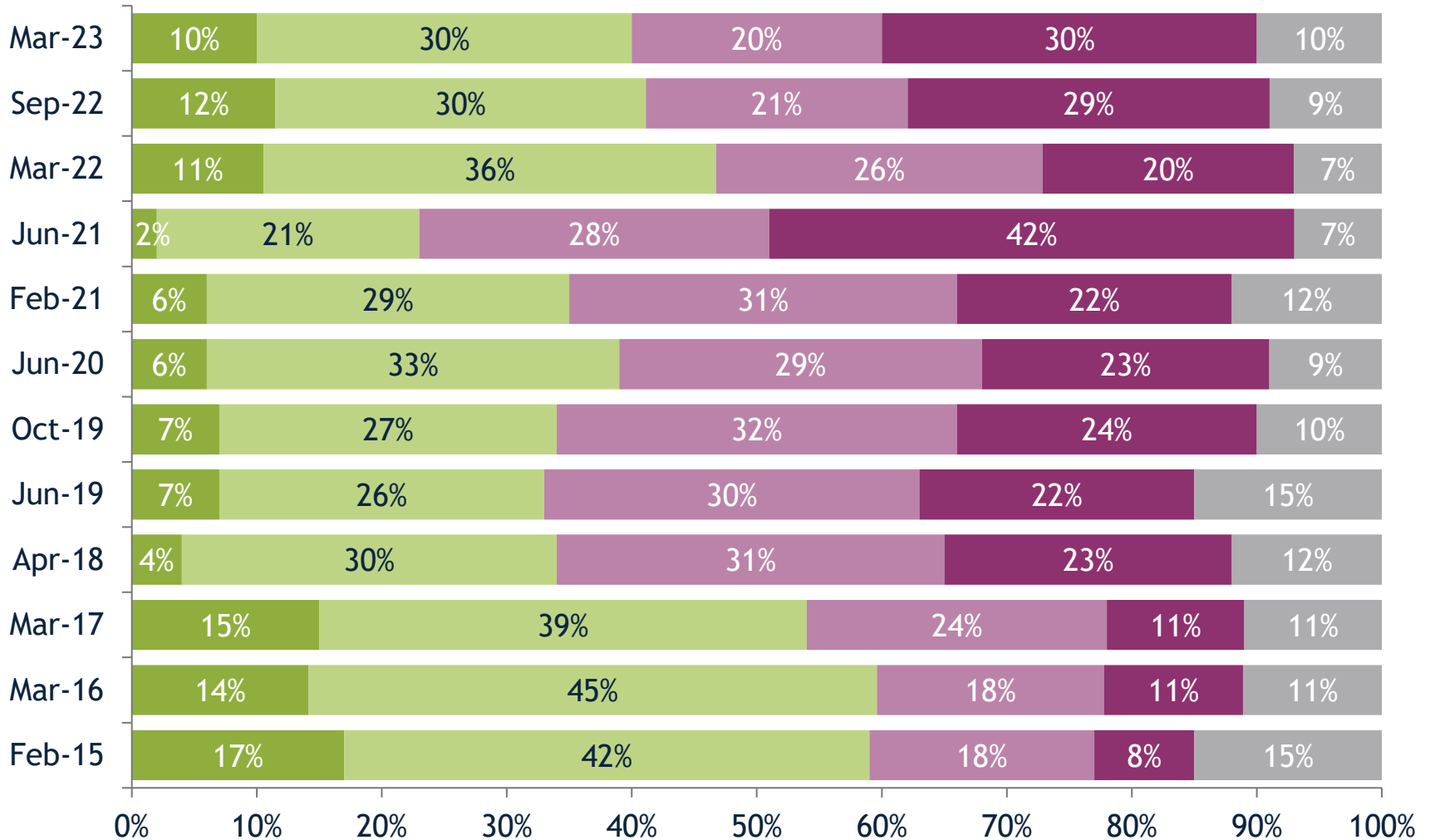


## Do you support or oppose further dialogue with Russia?



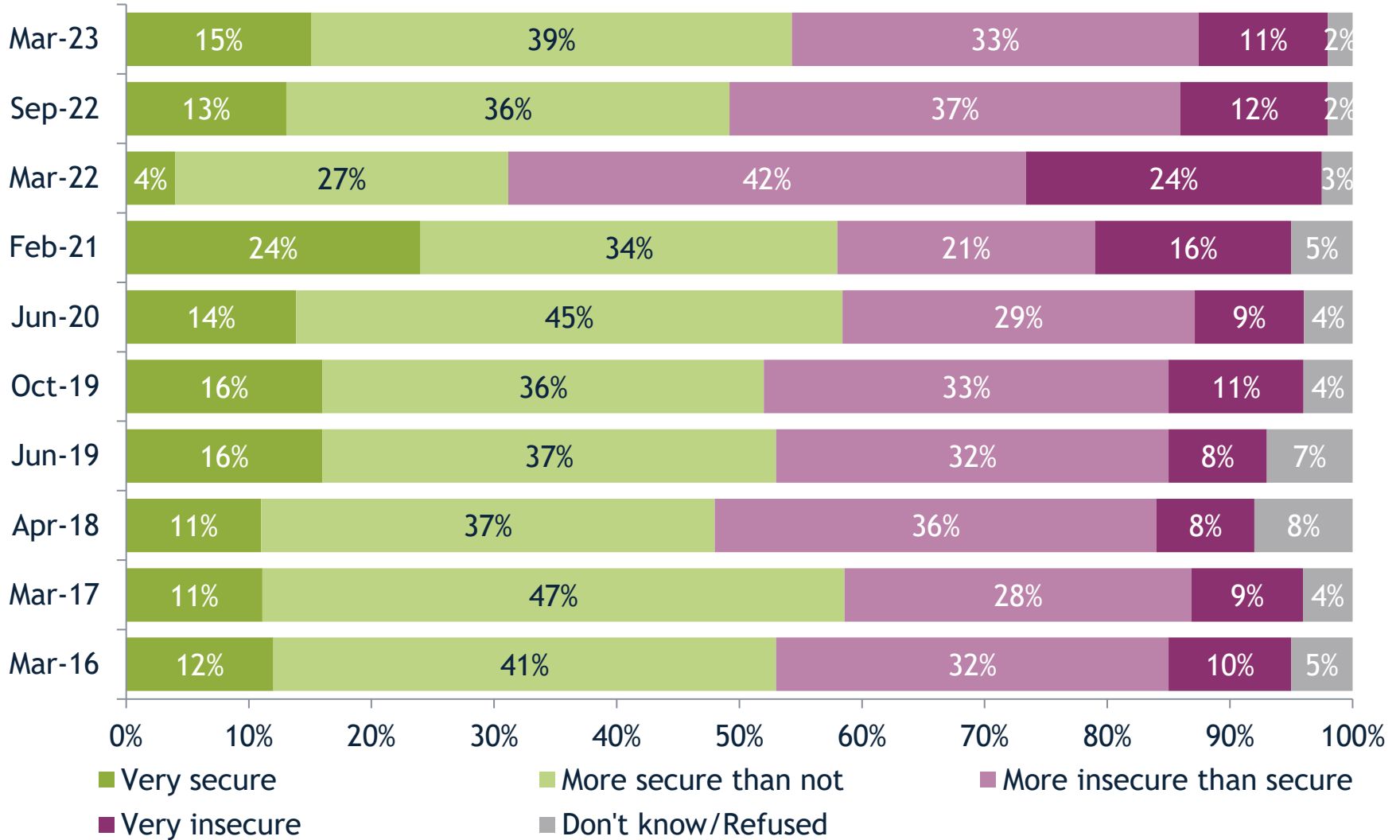
■ Fully support 
 ■ Somewhat support 
 ■ Somewhat oppose 
 ■ Strongly oppose 
 ■ Don't know/Refused

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

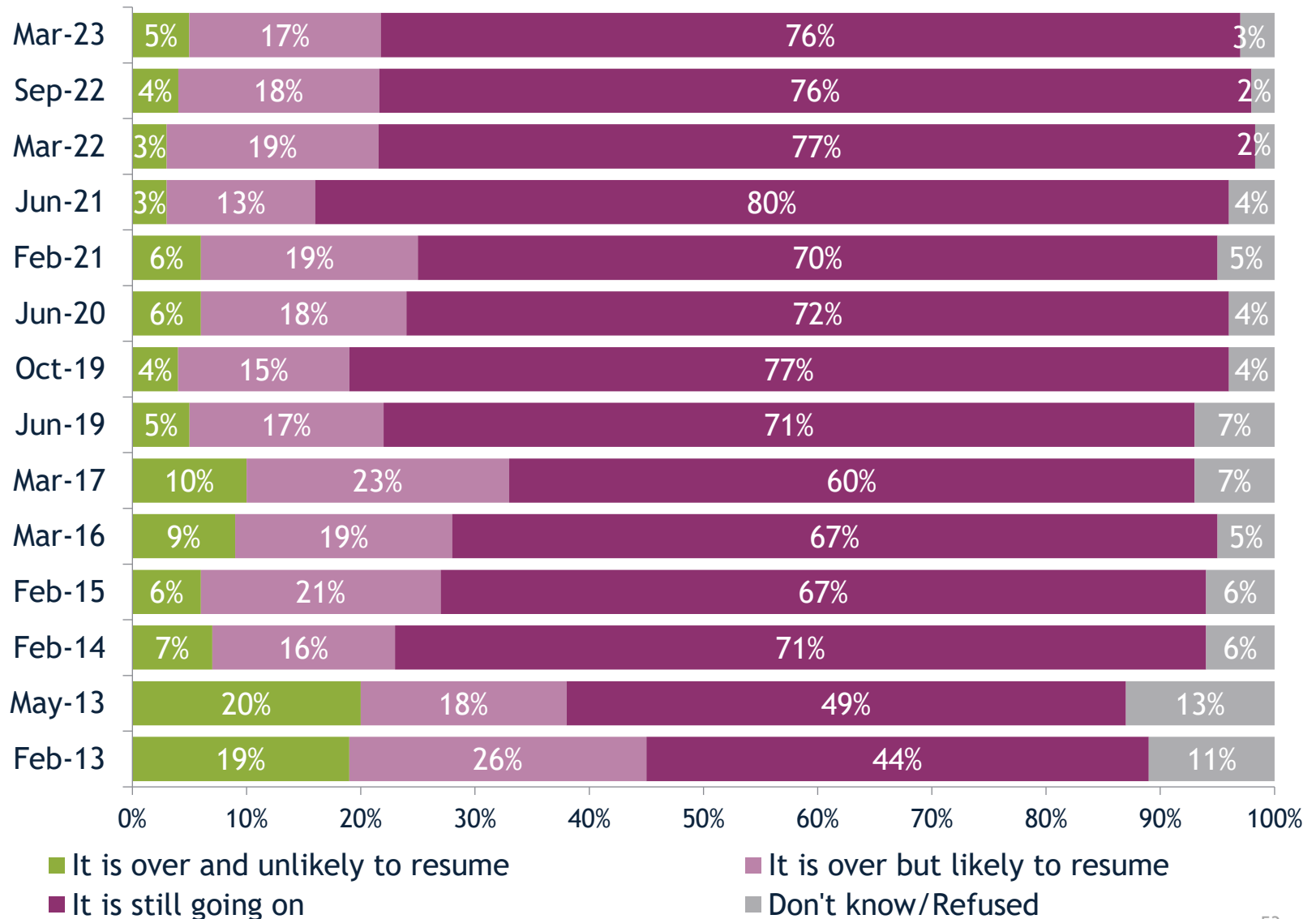


■ Very positively 
 ■ Somewhat positively 
 ■ Somewhat negatively 
 ■ Very negatively 
 ■ Don't know/Refused

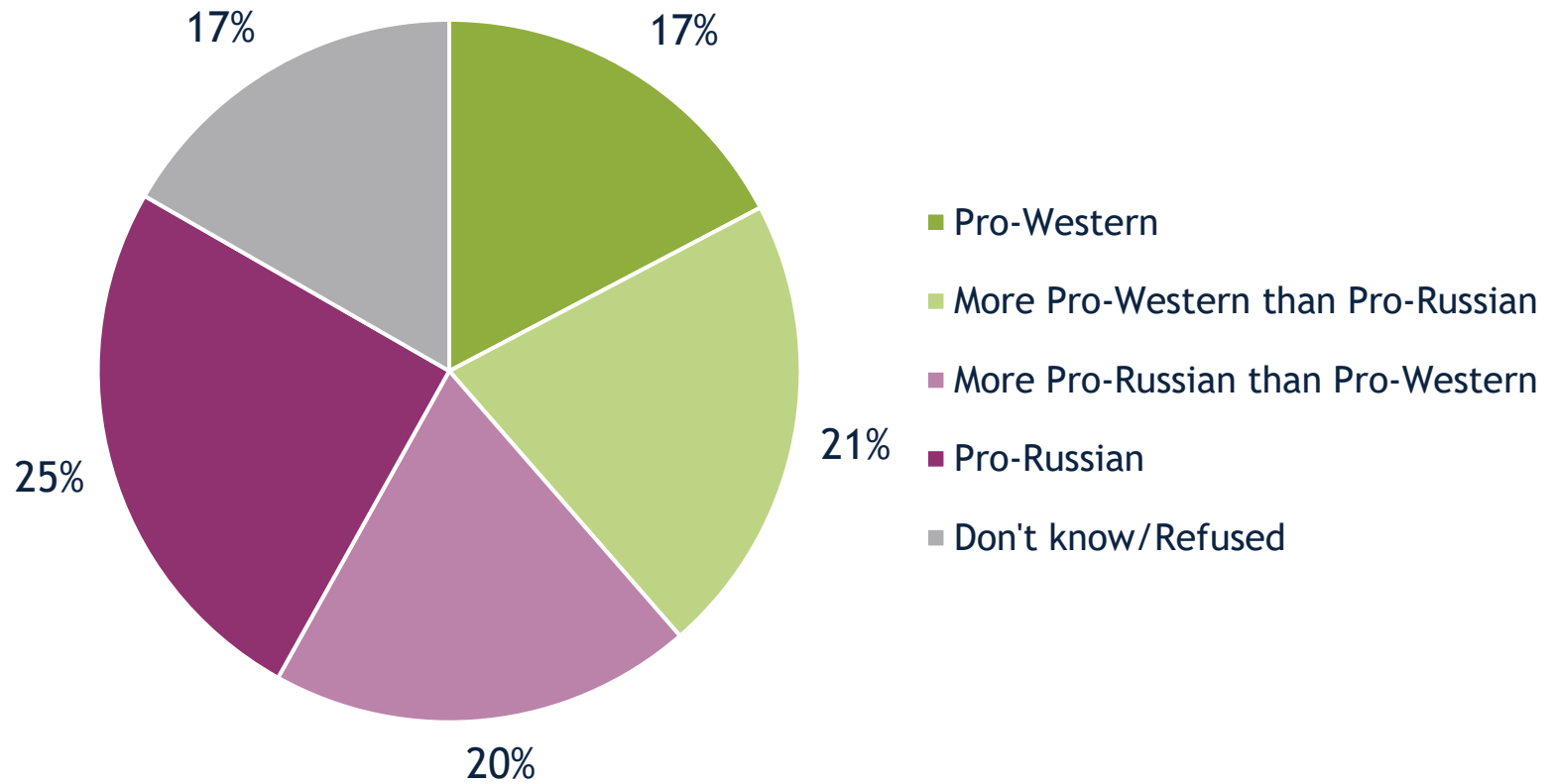
# Given the current state of Georgia's relationship with Russia, how secure do you feel living in Georgia?



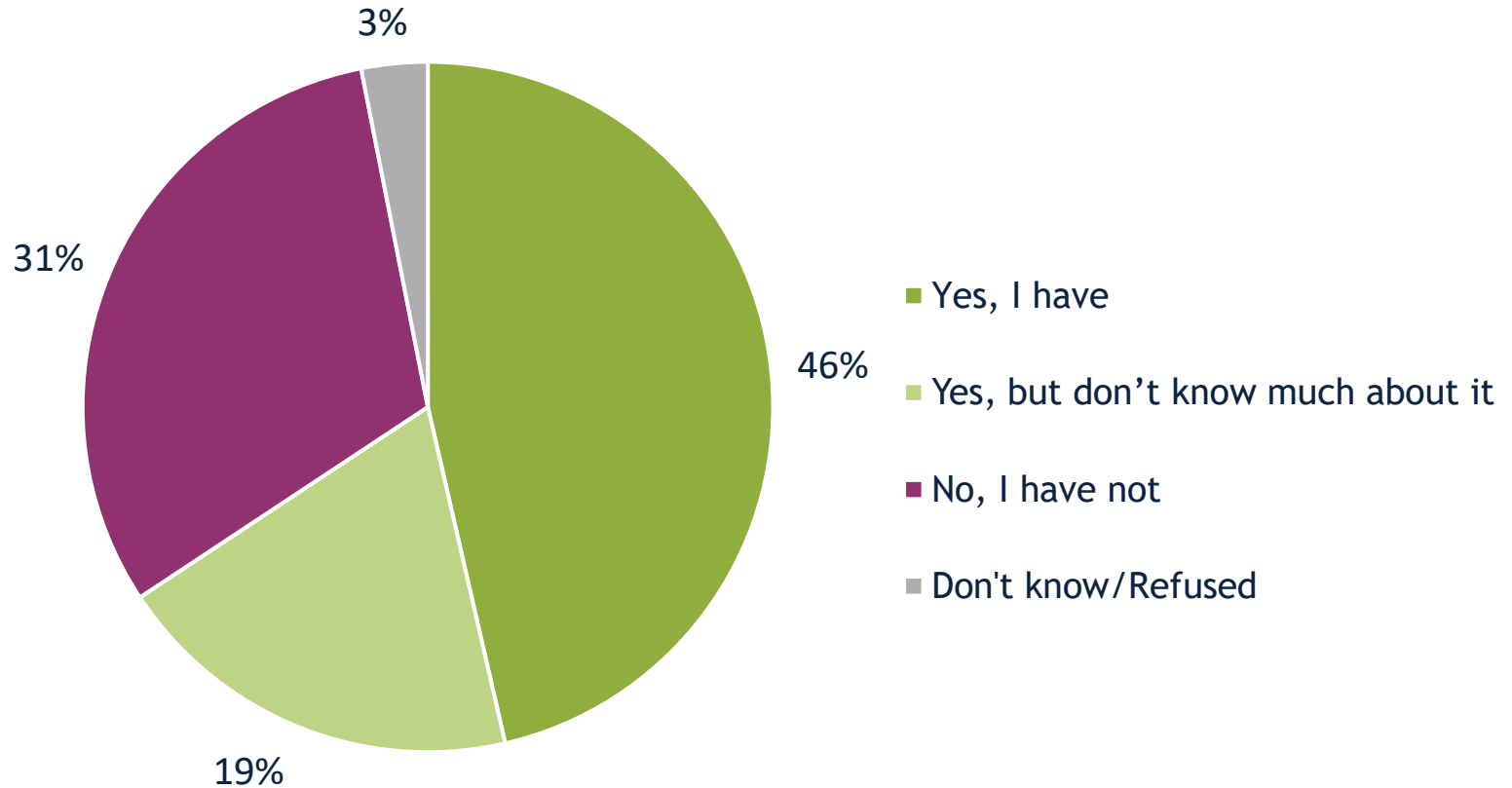
# Do you think that Russian aggression towards Georgia is over or is it still going on?



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



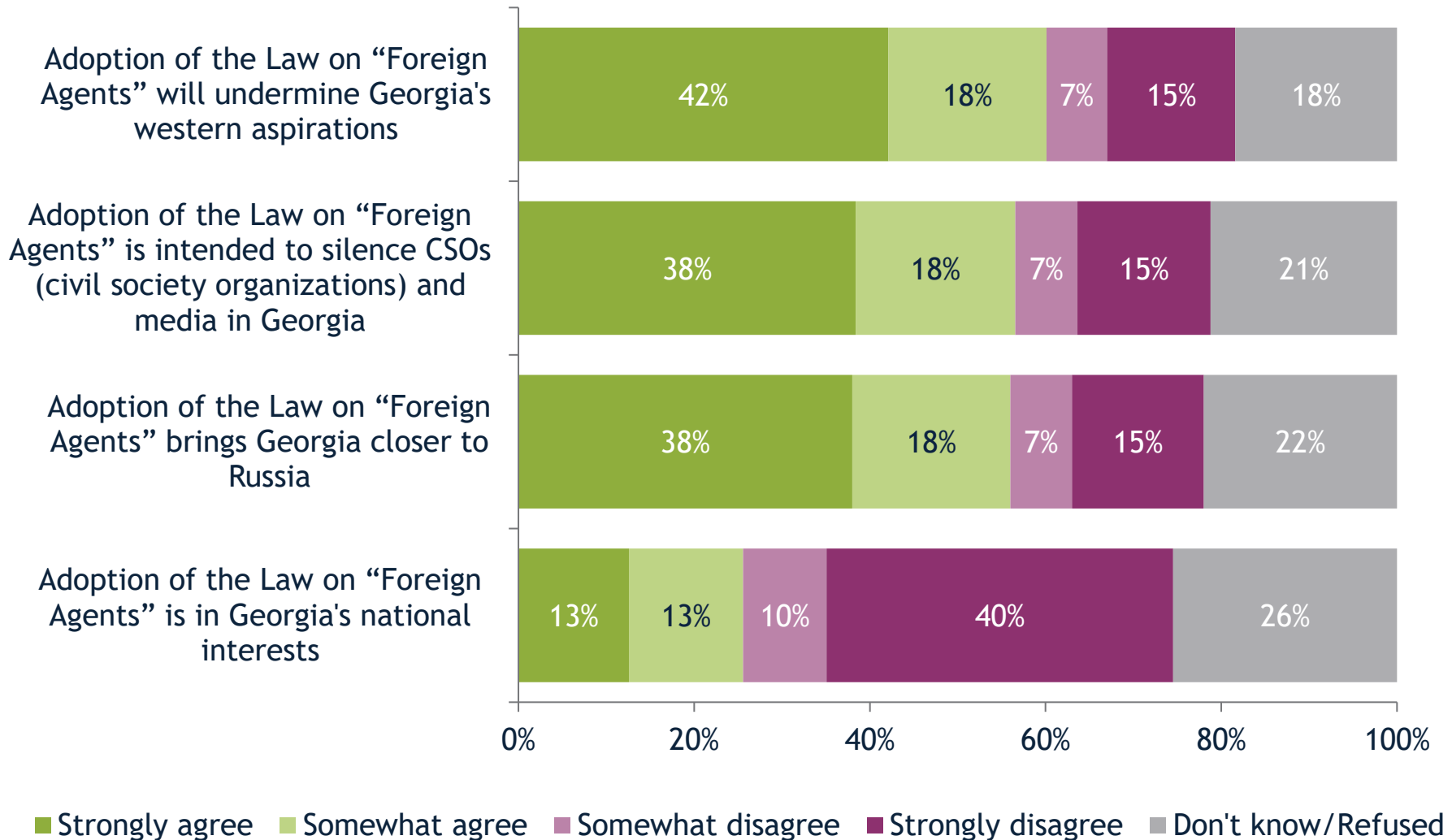
## Have you heard about the Draft Law on “Foreign Agents”?





# 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)

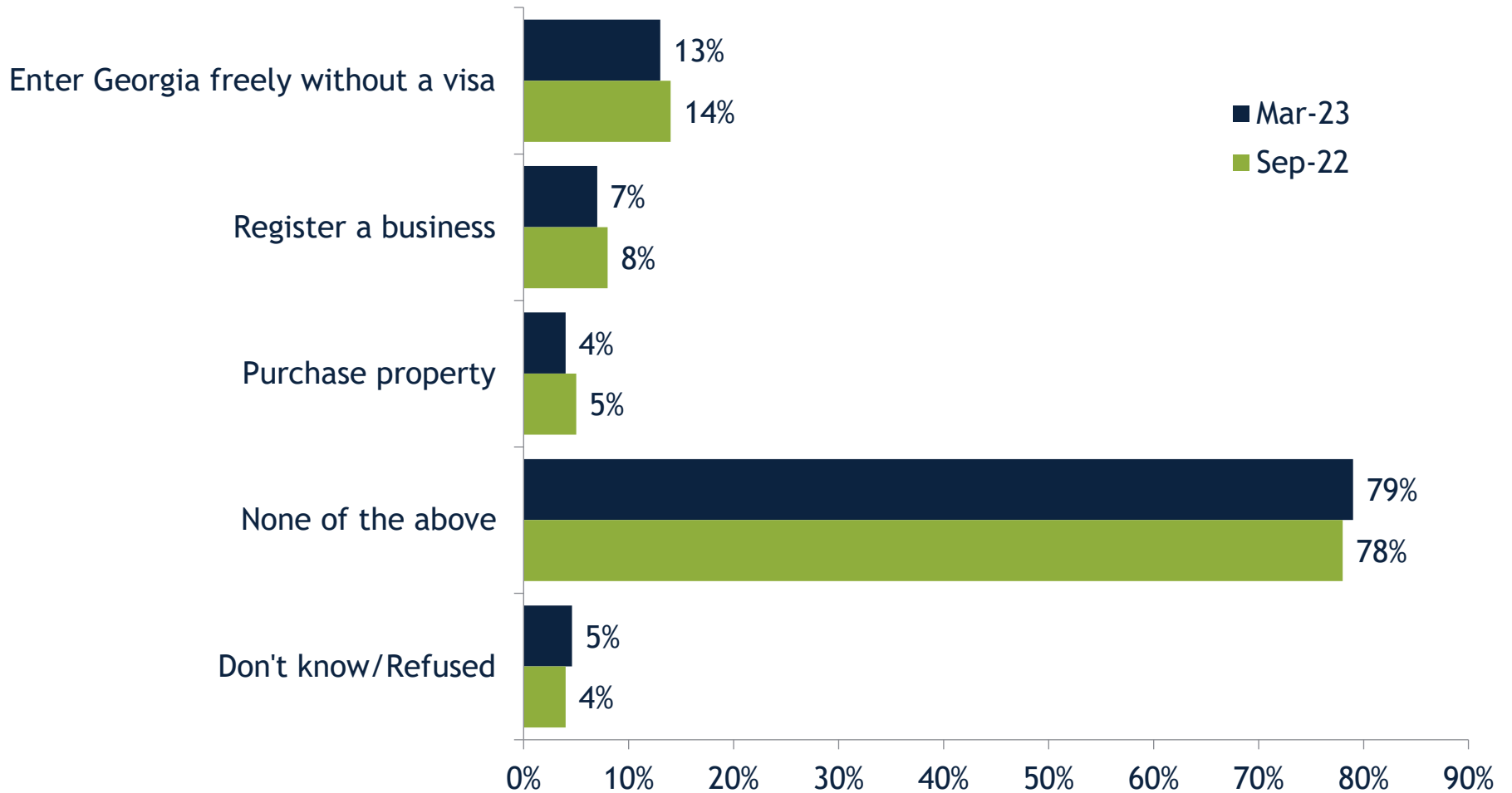




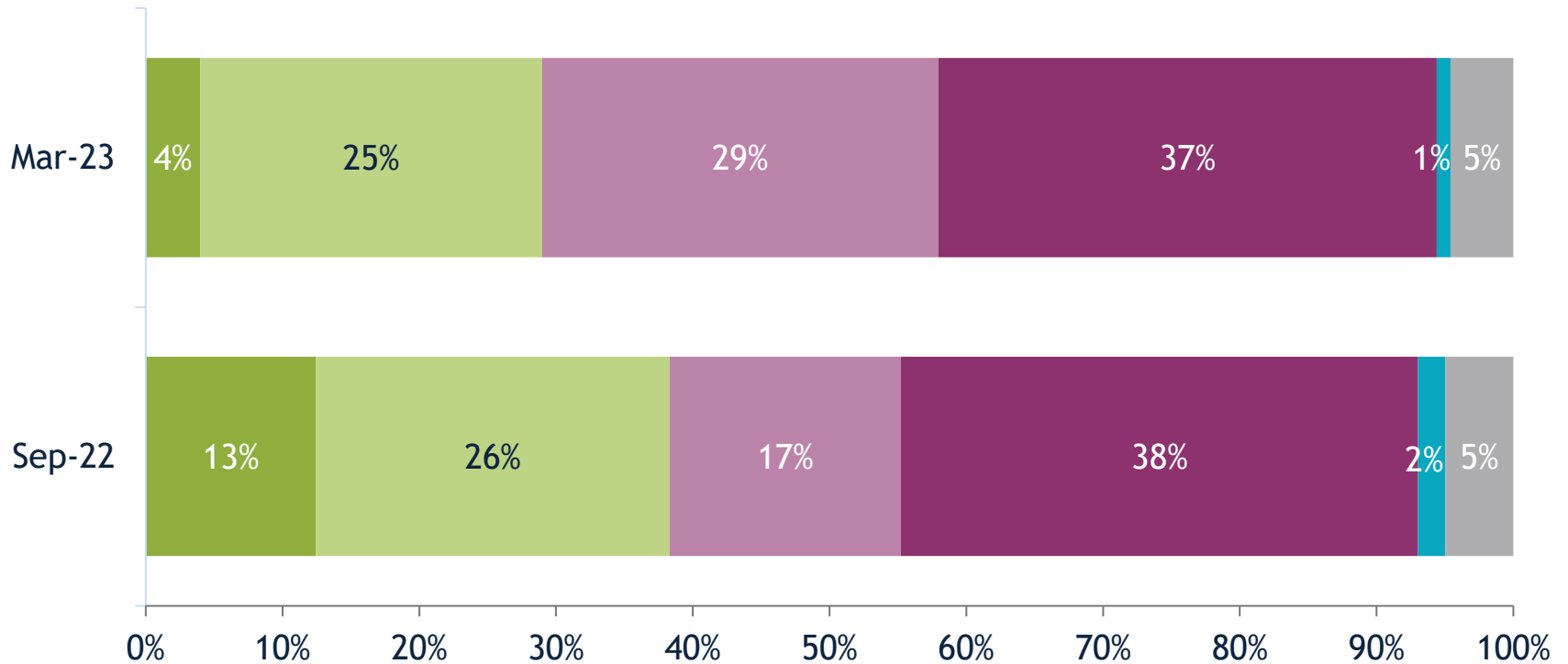


# Do you support allowing Russian citizens to do any of the following:

(Multiple responses permitted)

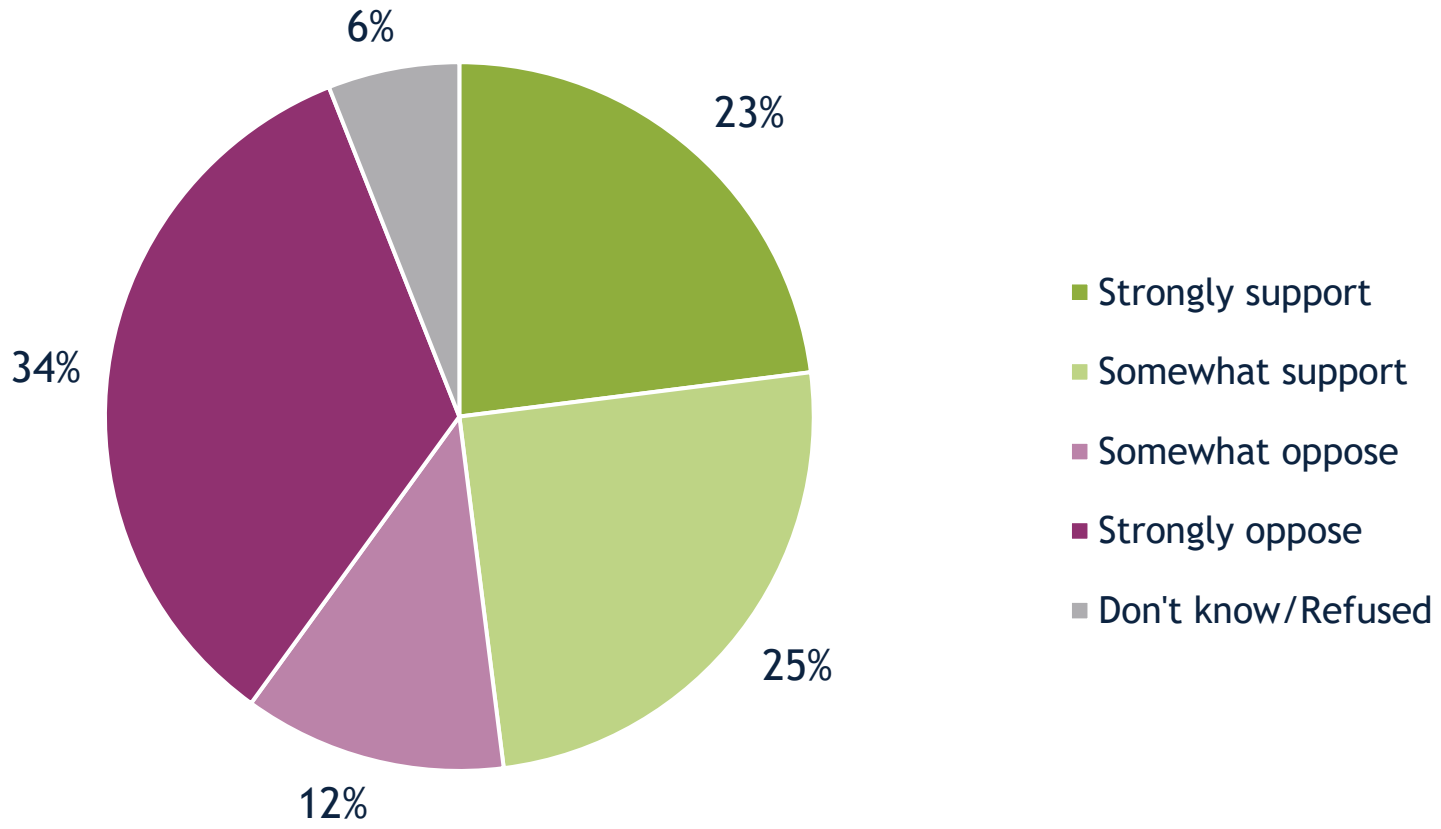


# Which of the following statements, if any, best characterizes your opinion on Russians who arrived in Georgia since the start of the war in Ukraine?



- 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

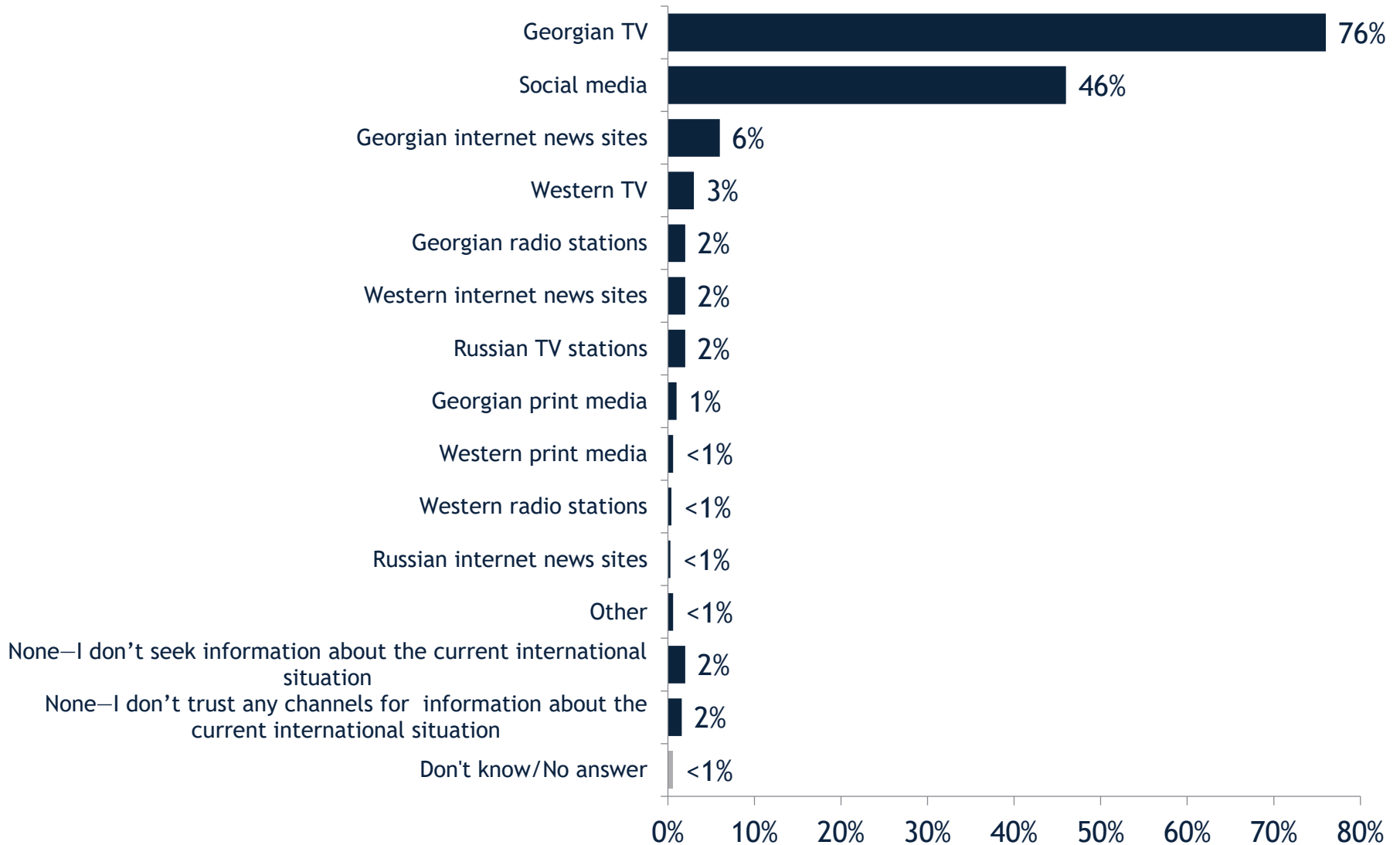
# Do you support or oppose Georgia resuming direct flights to Russia?





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

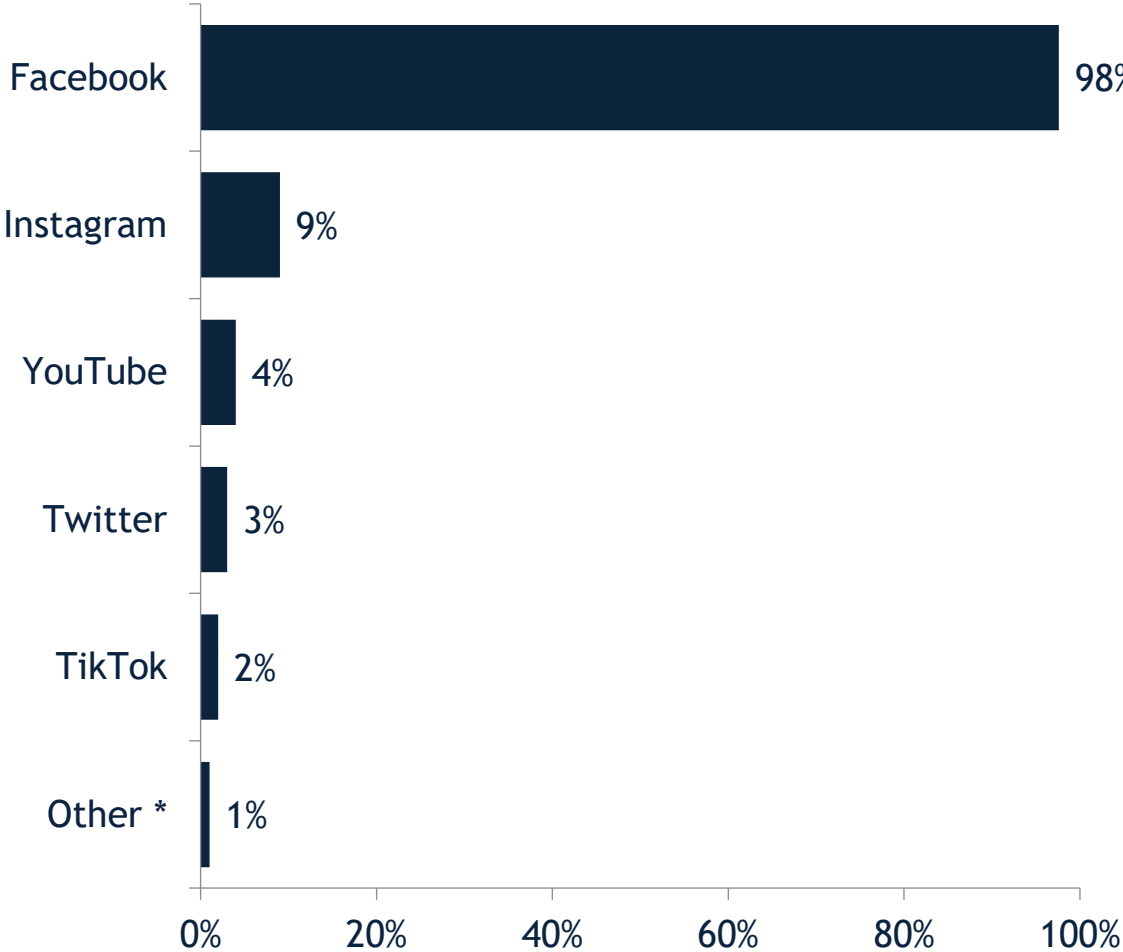
(Multiple responses permitted)





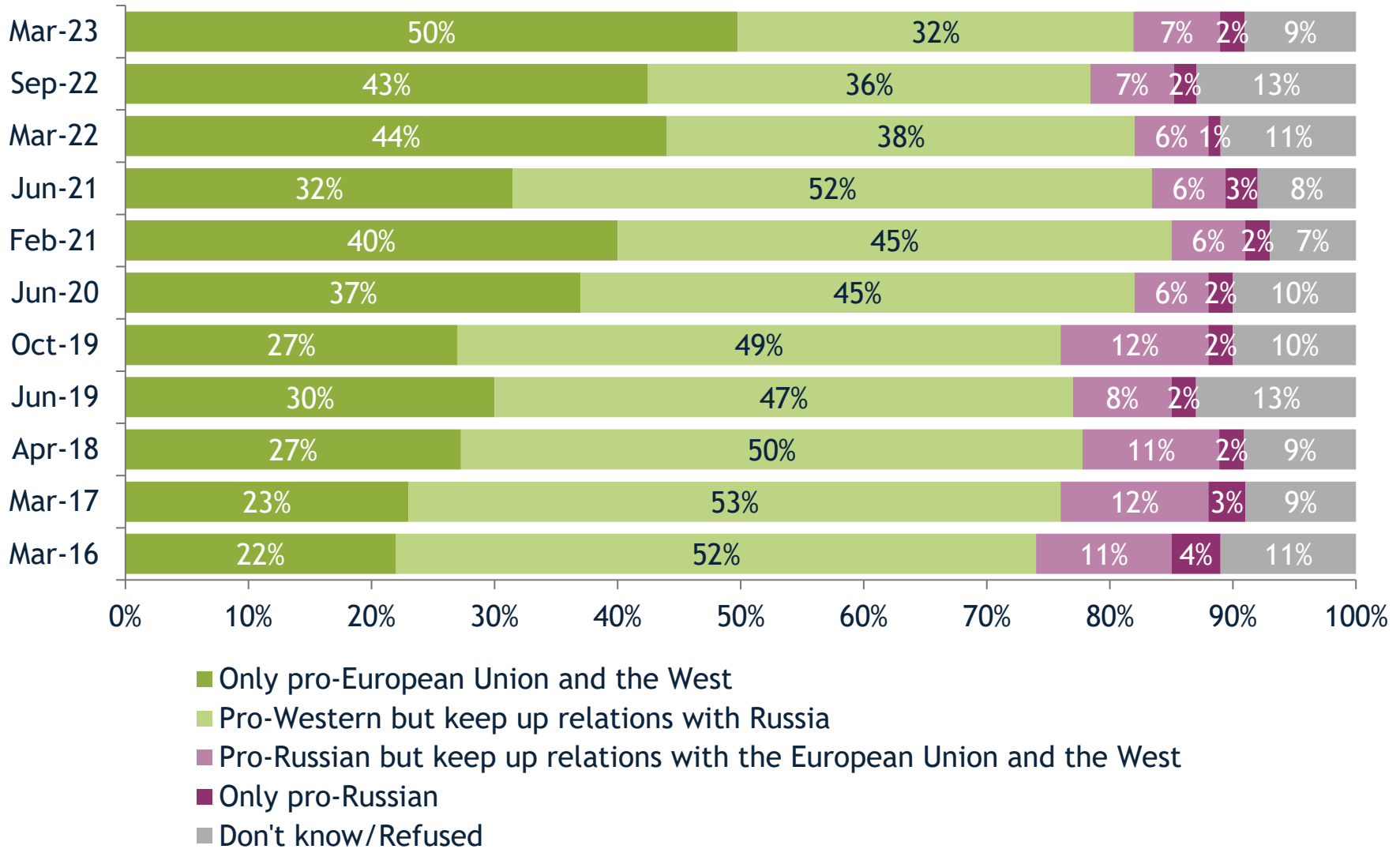
# Which sources do you use for information about the current international situation?

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

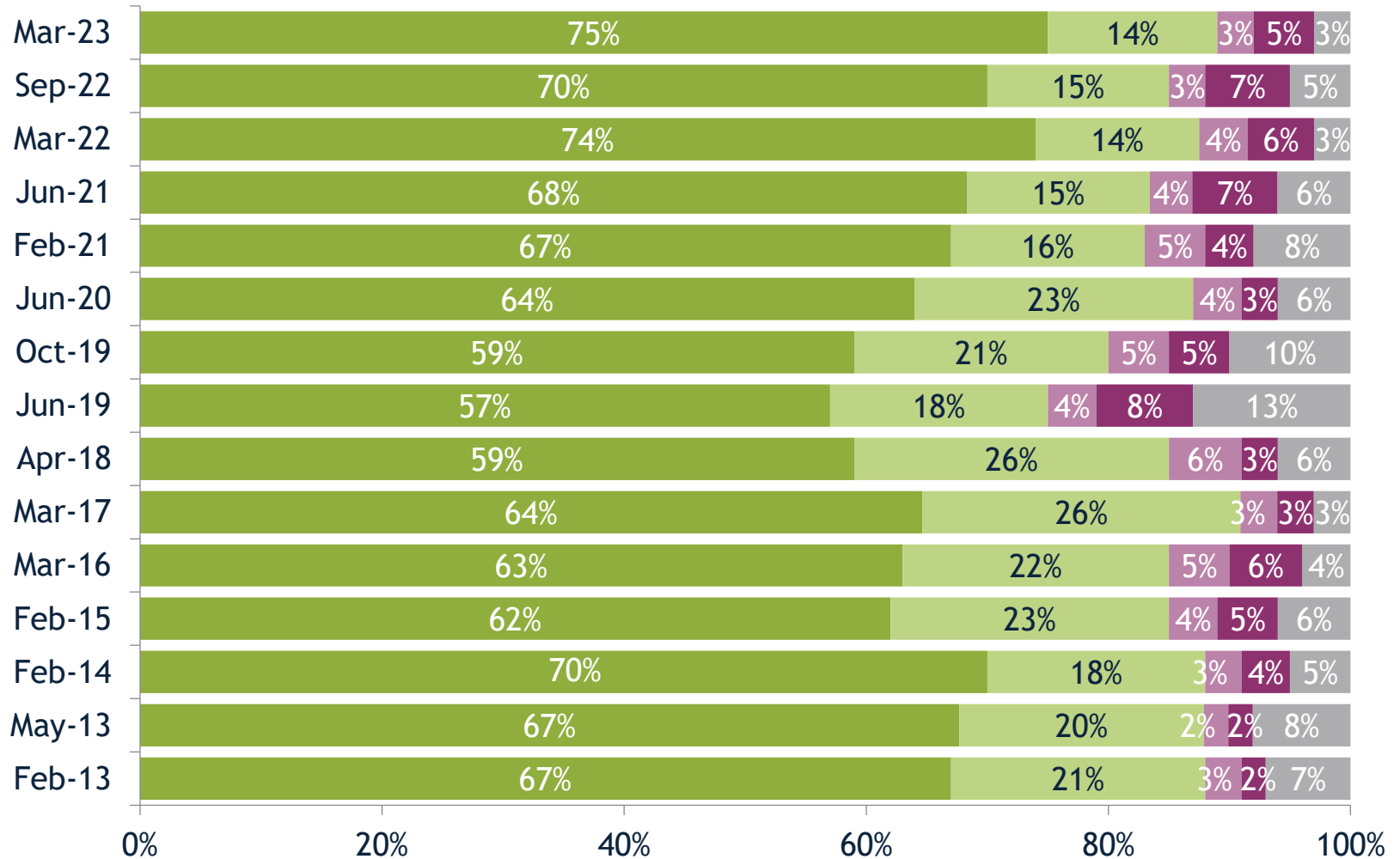


\*Responses receiving <1% cumulatively are collapsed into *Other*.

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



## Do you support or oppose Georgia joining the EU?

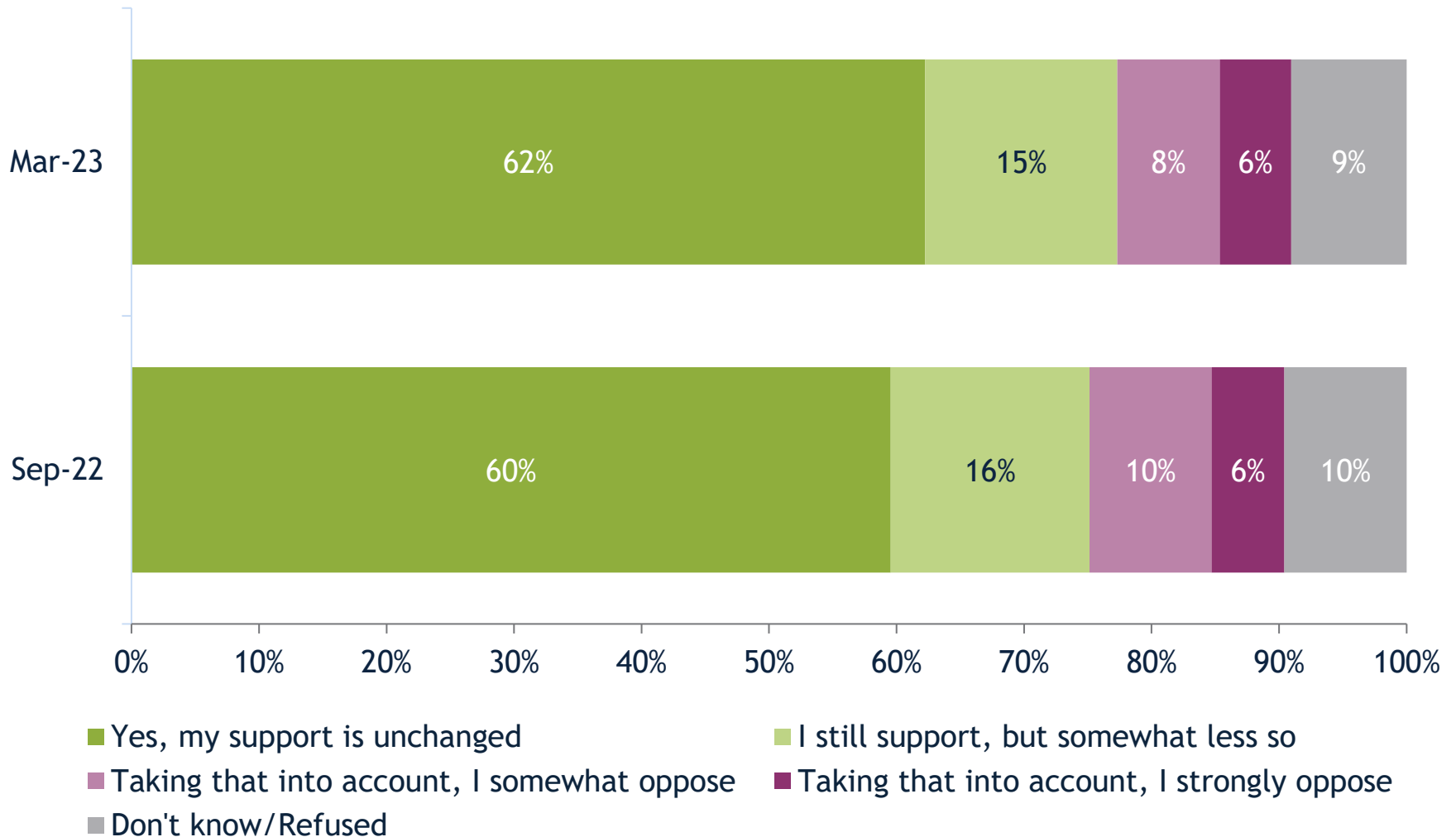


■ Fully support 
 ■ Somewhat support 
 ■ Somewhat oppose 
 ■ Strongly oppose 
 ■ Don't know/Refused



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

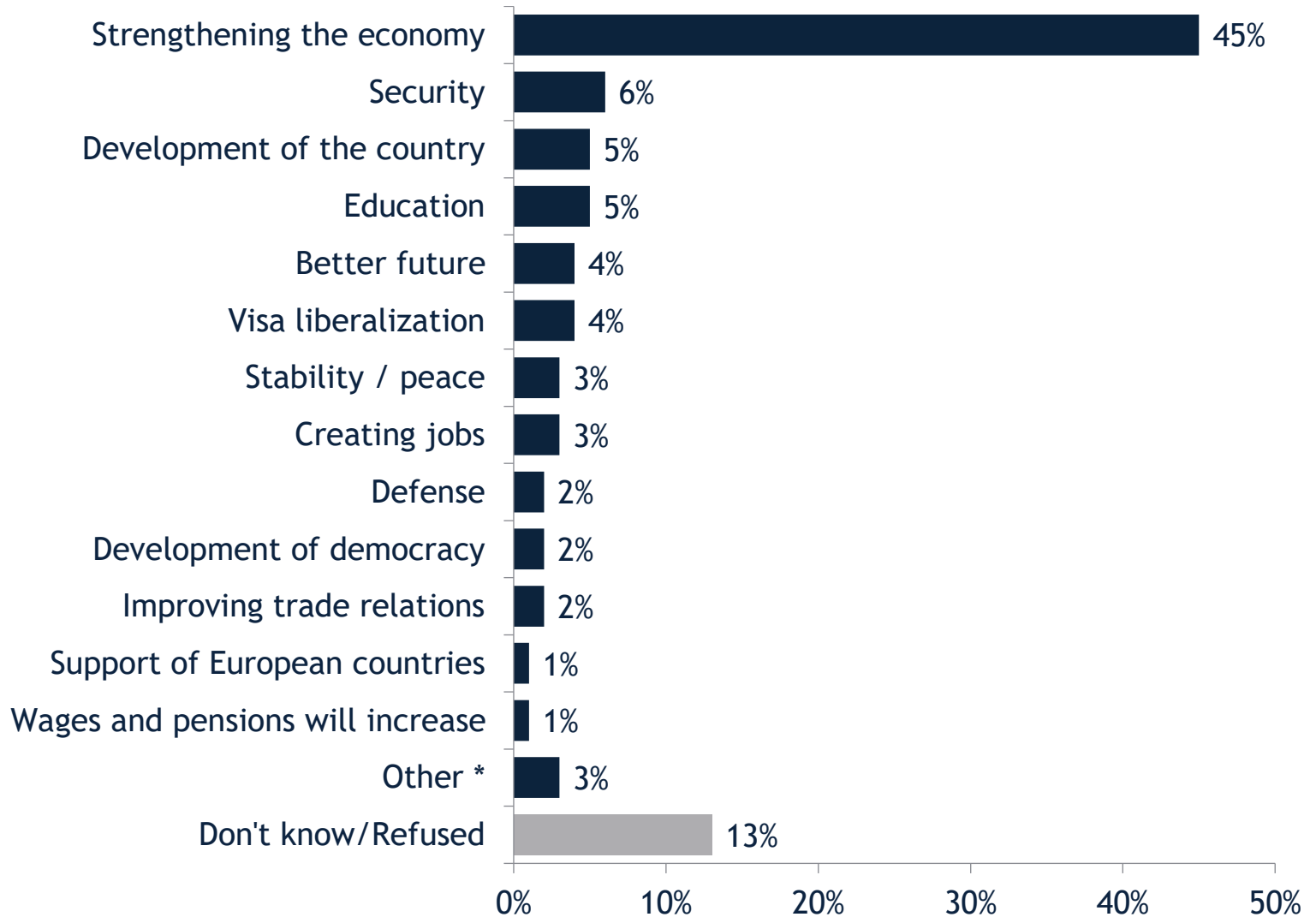
(Among respondents supporting Georgia joining the EU, n=1,336)





# 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)

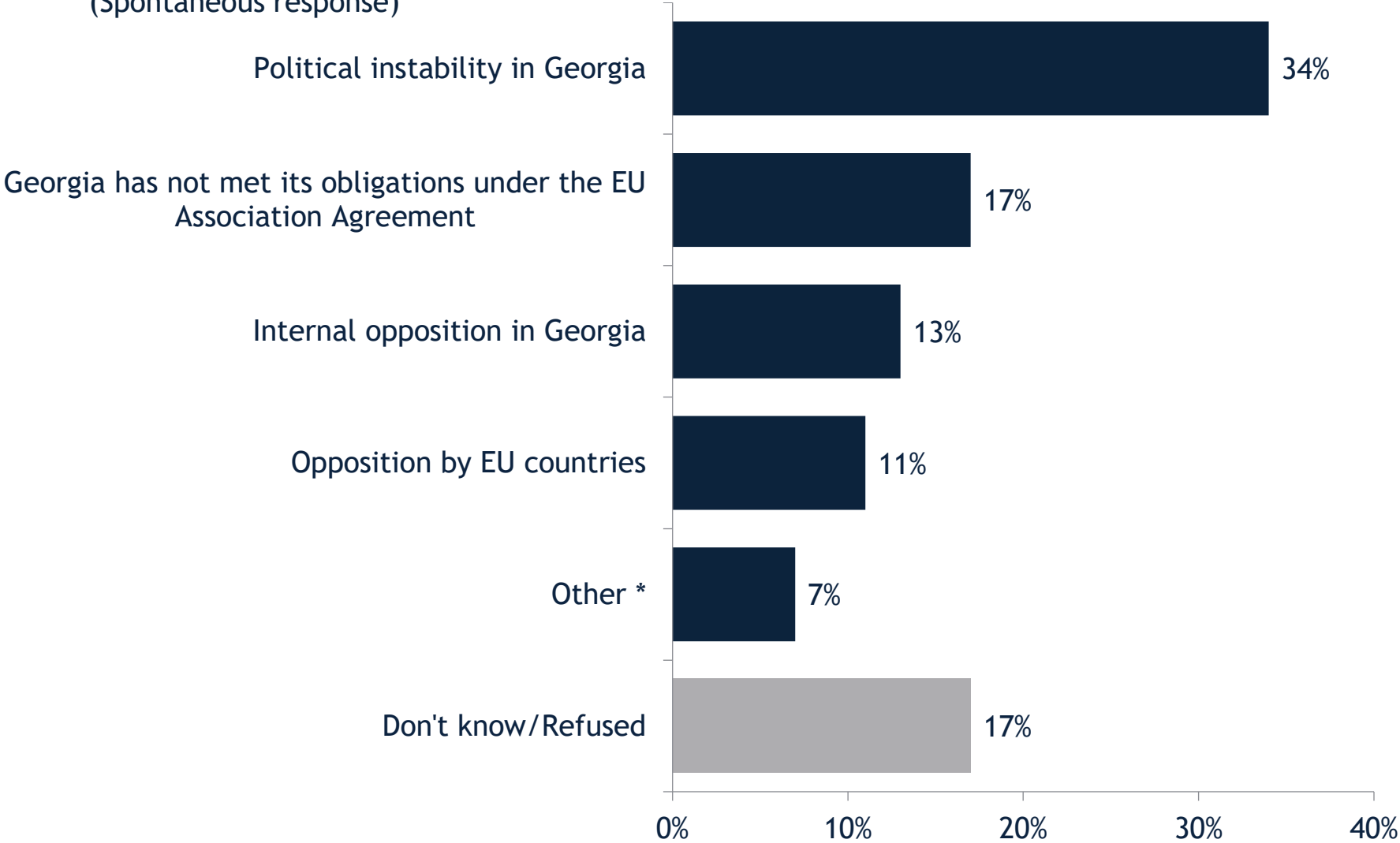


\*Responses receiving <1% cumulatively are collapsed into *Other*.



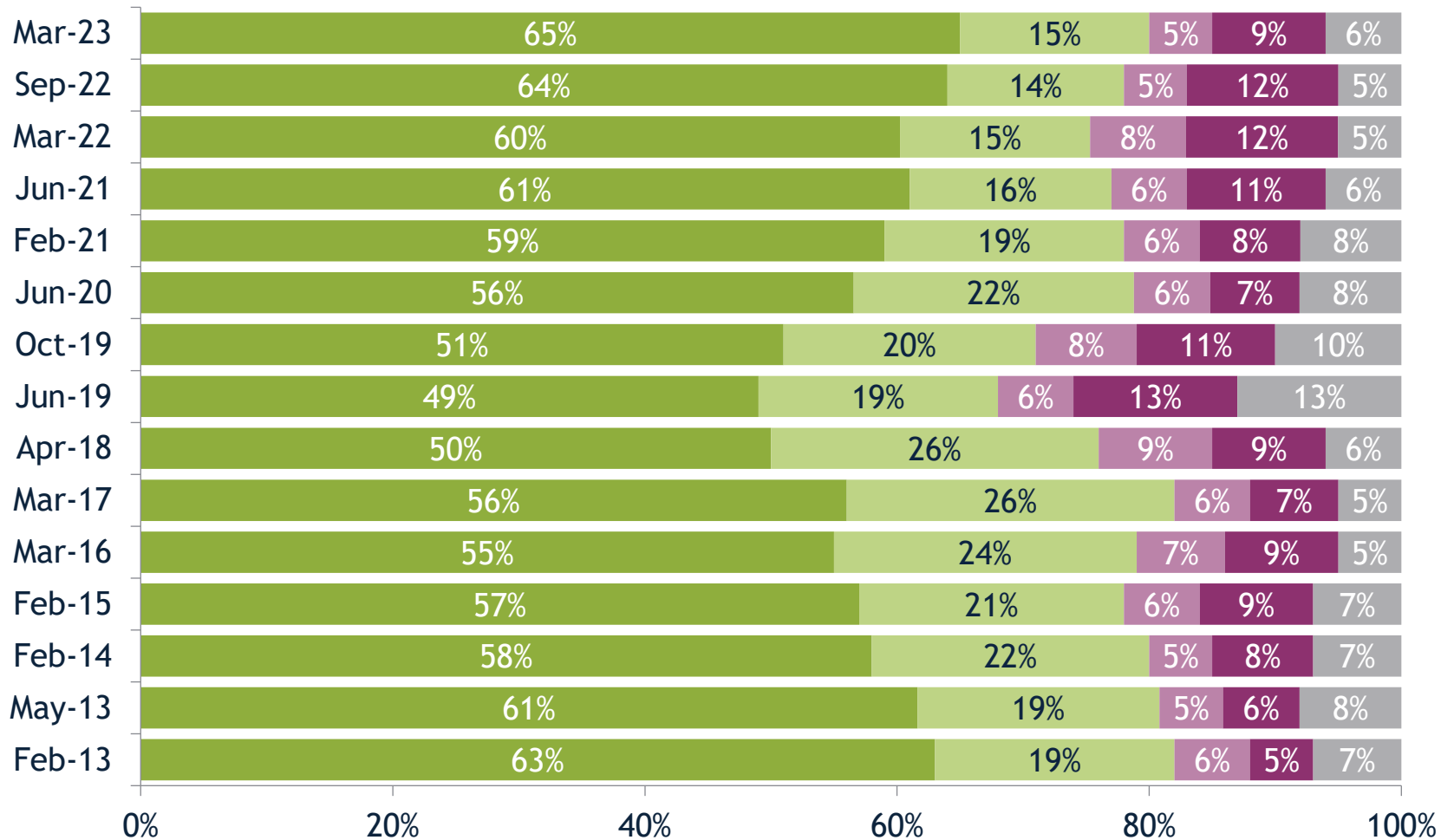
# What is biggest obstacle in the way of Georgia joining the EU?

(Spontaneous response)



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

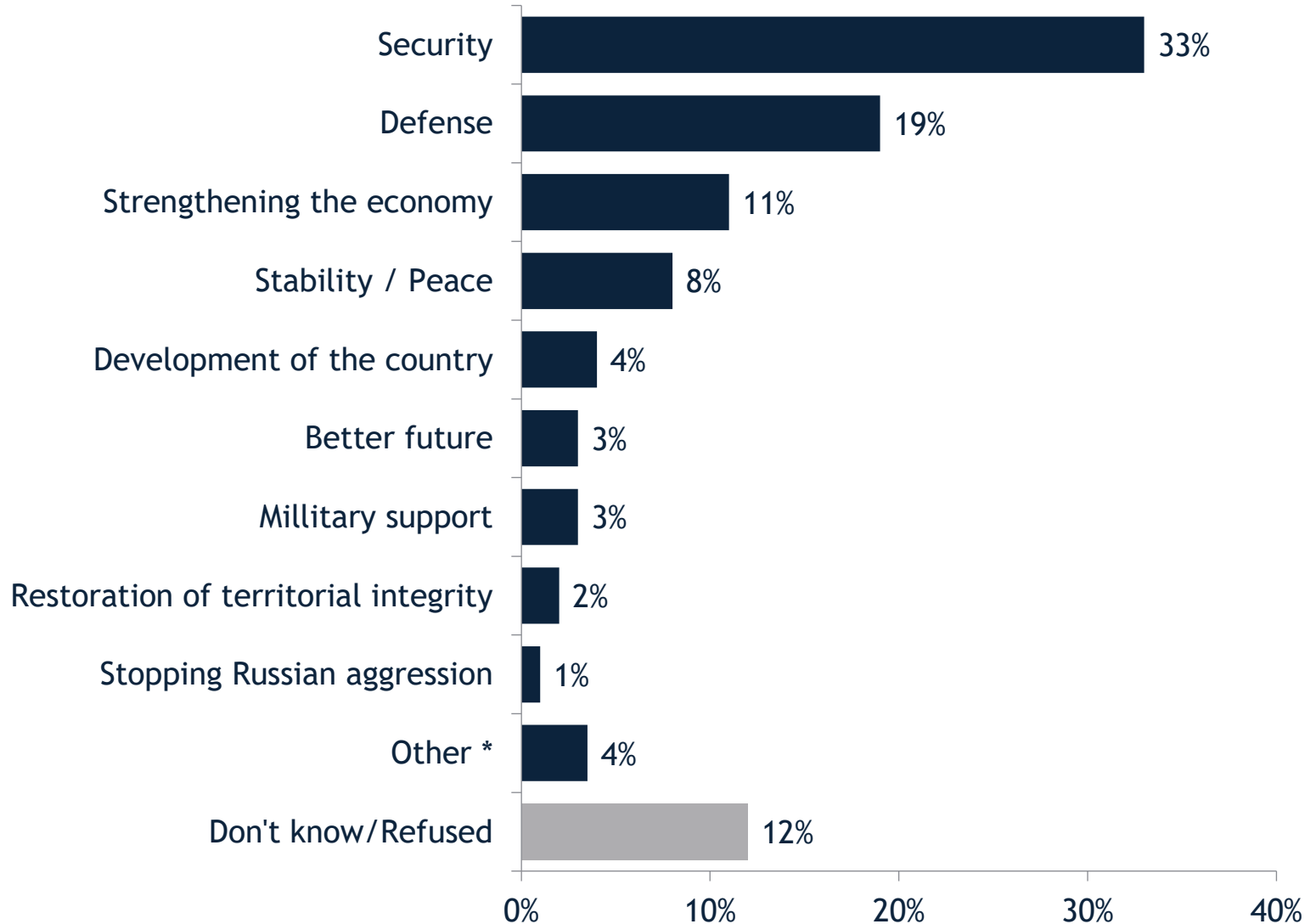
## Do you support or oppose Georgia joining NATO?



■ 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)

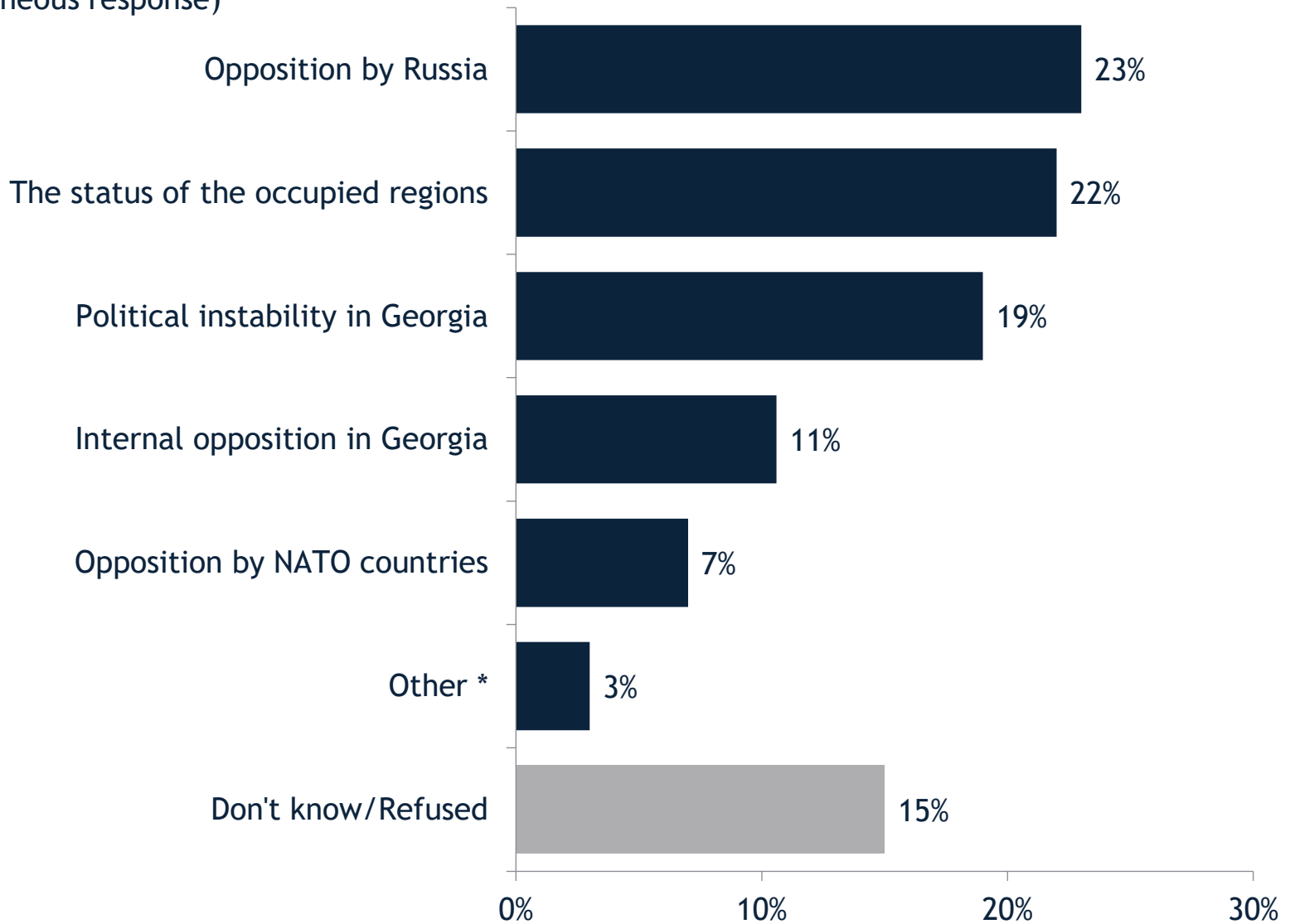


\*Responses receiving <1% cumulatively are collapsed into *Other*.



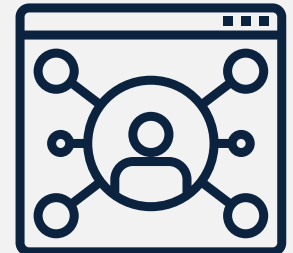
# What is biggest obstacle in the way of Georgia joining NATO?

(Spontaneous response)



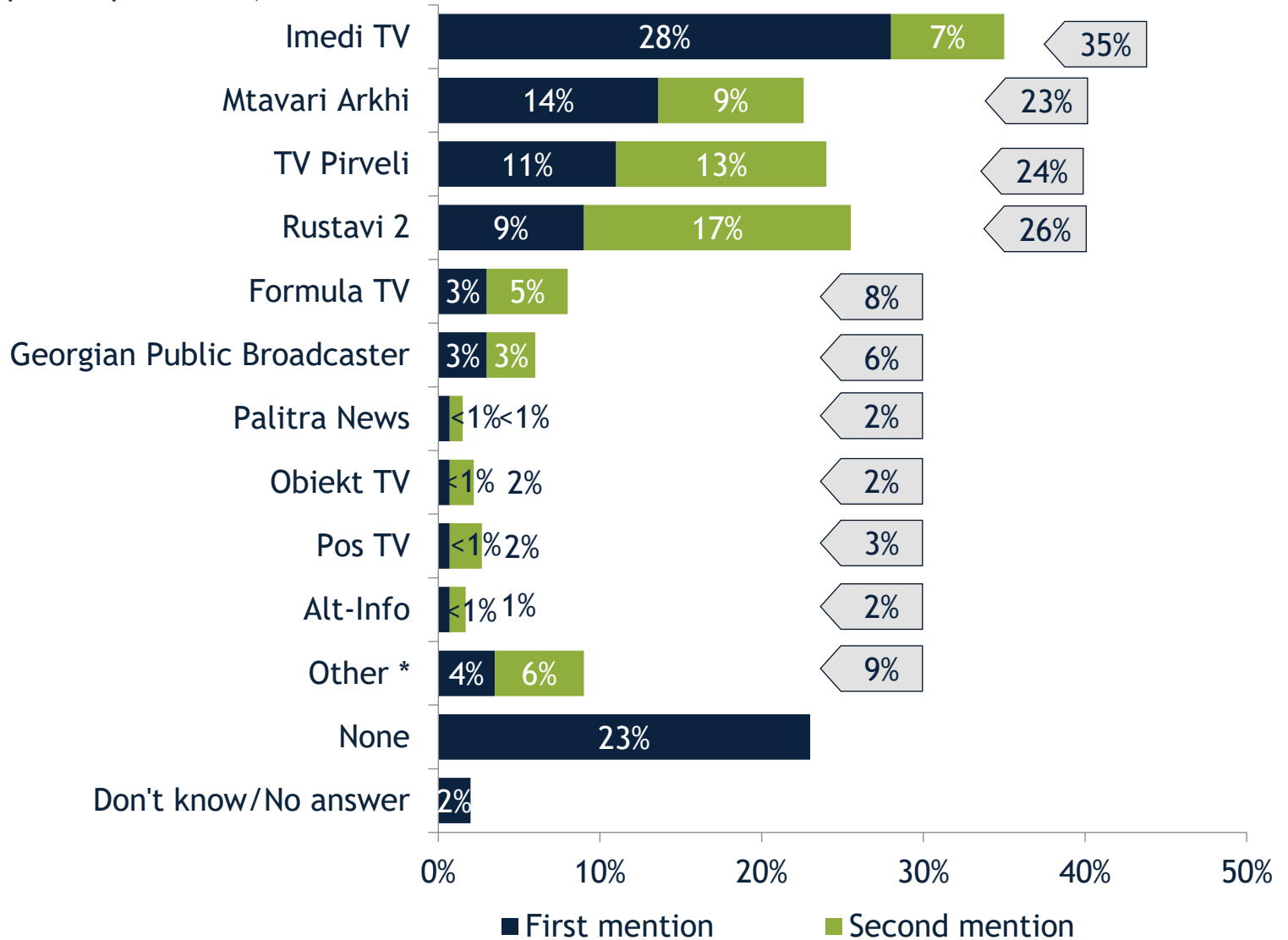
\*Responses receiving <1% cumulatively are collapsed into *Other*.

# Media & Sources of Information



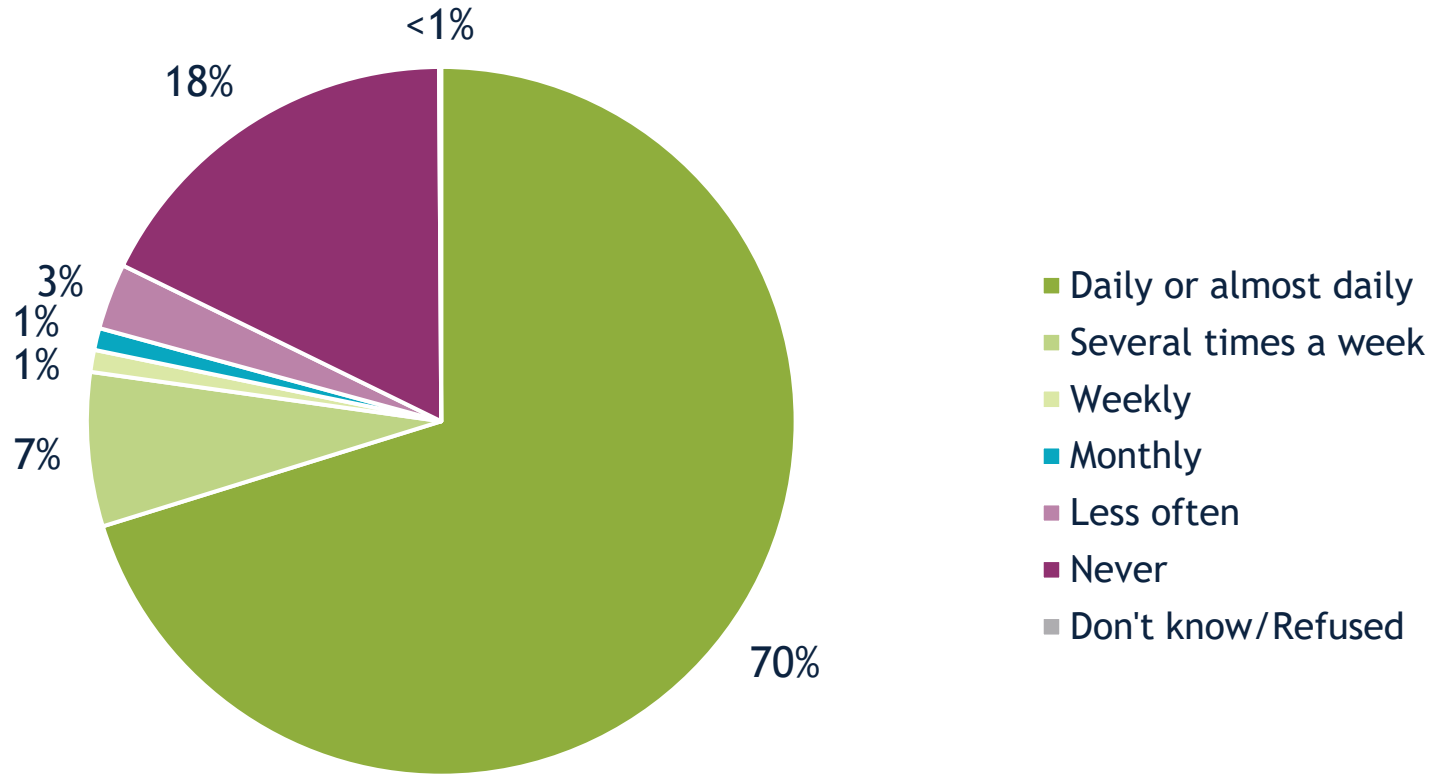
# Which Georgian TV station's news and political information do you trust the most?

(Two responses permitted)



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

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

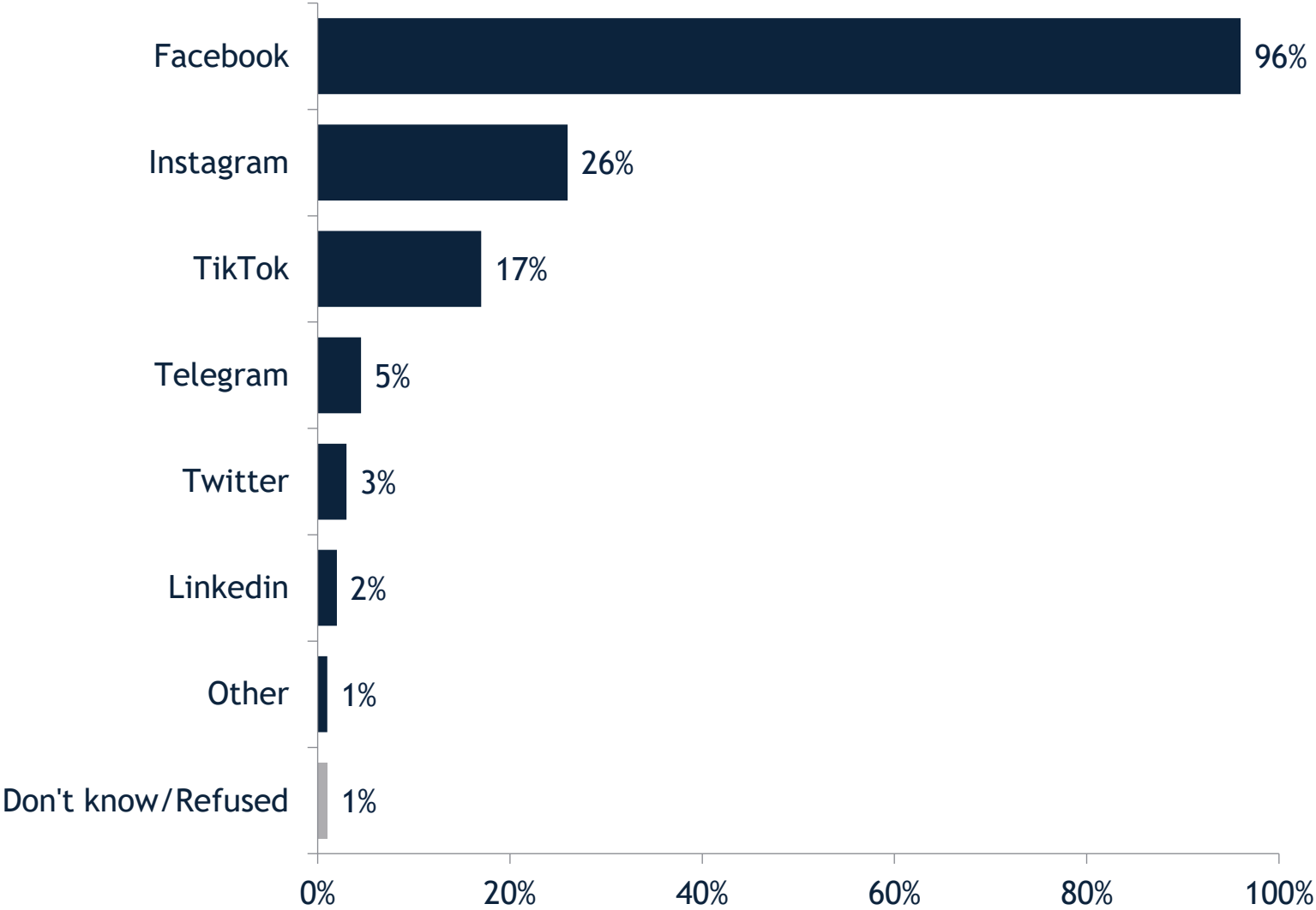






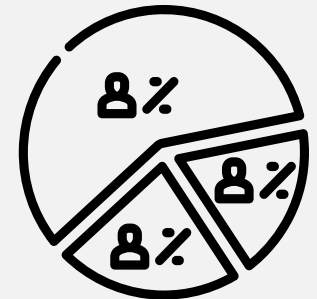
# Which social media sites do you use most often?

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

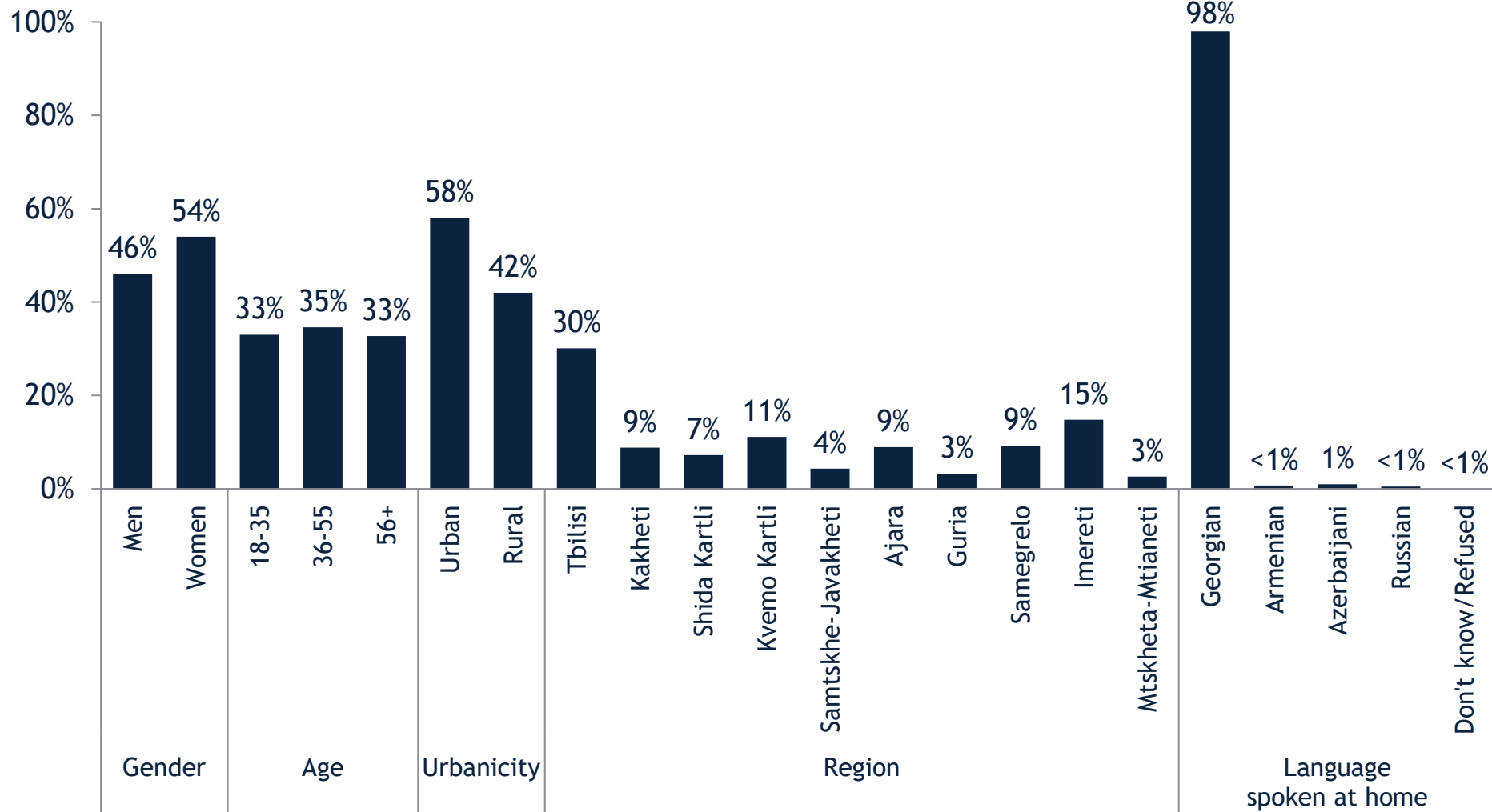


\*Responses receiving <1% cumulatively are collapsed into *Other*.

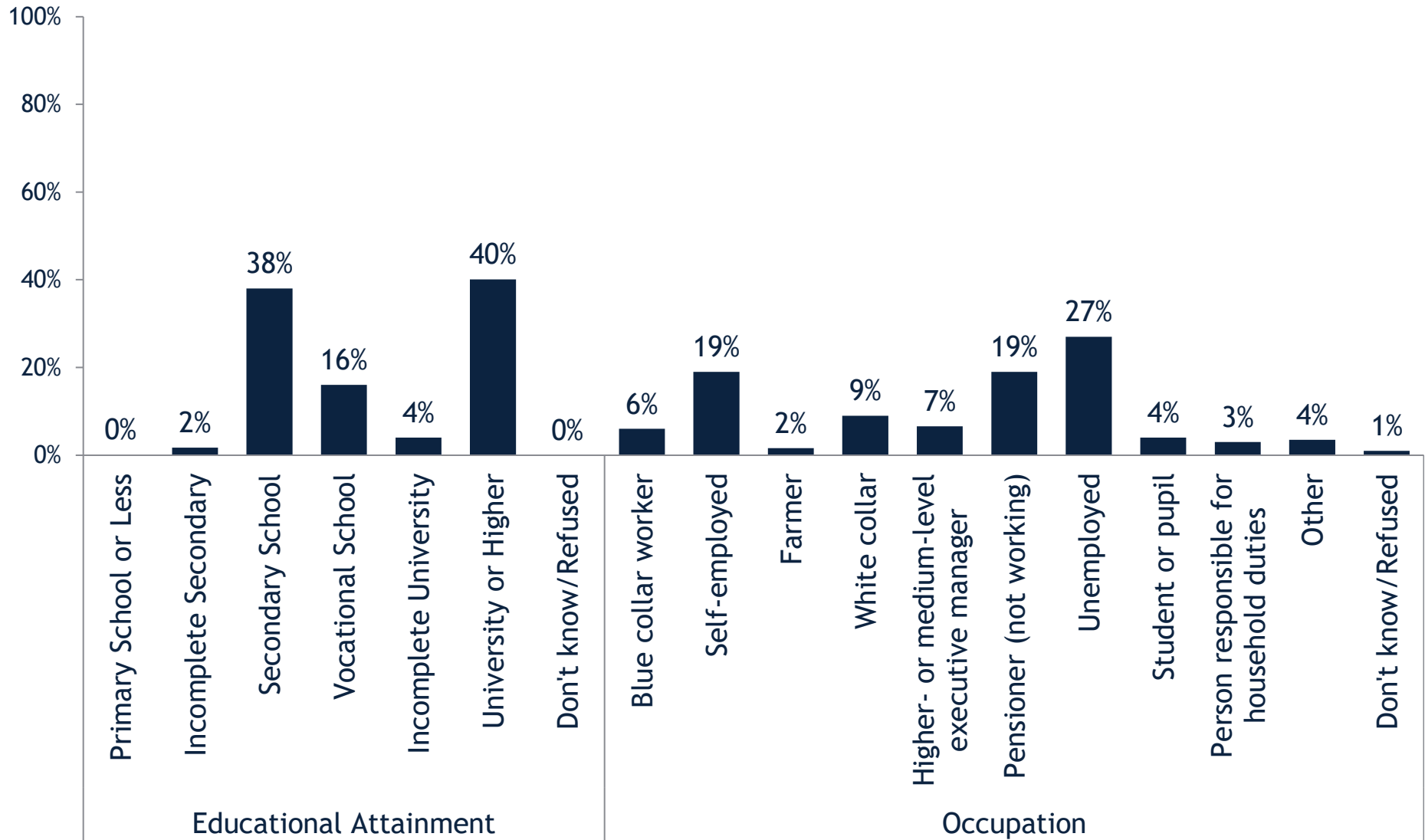
# Demographics



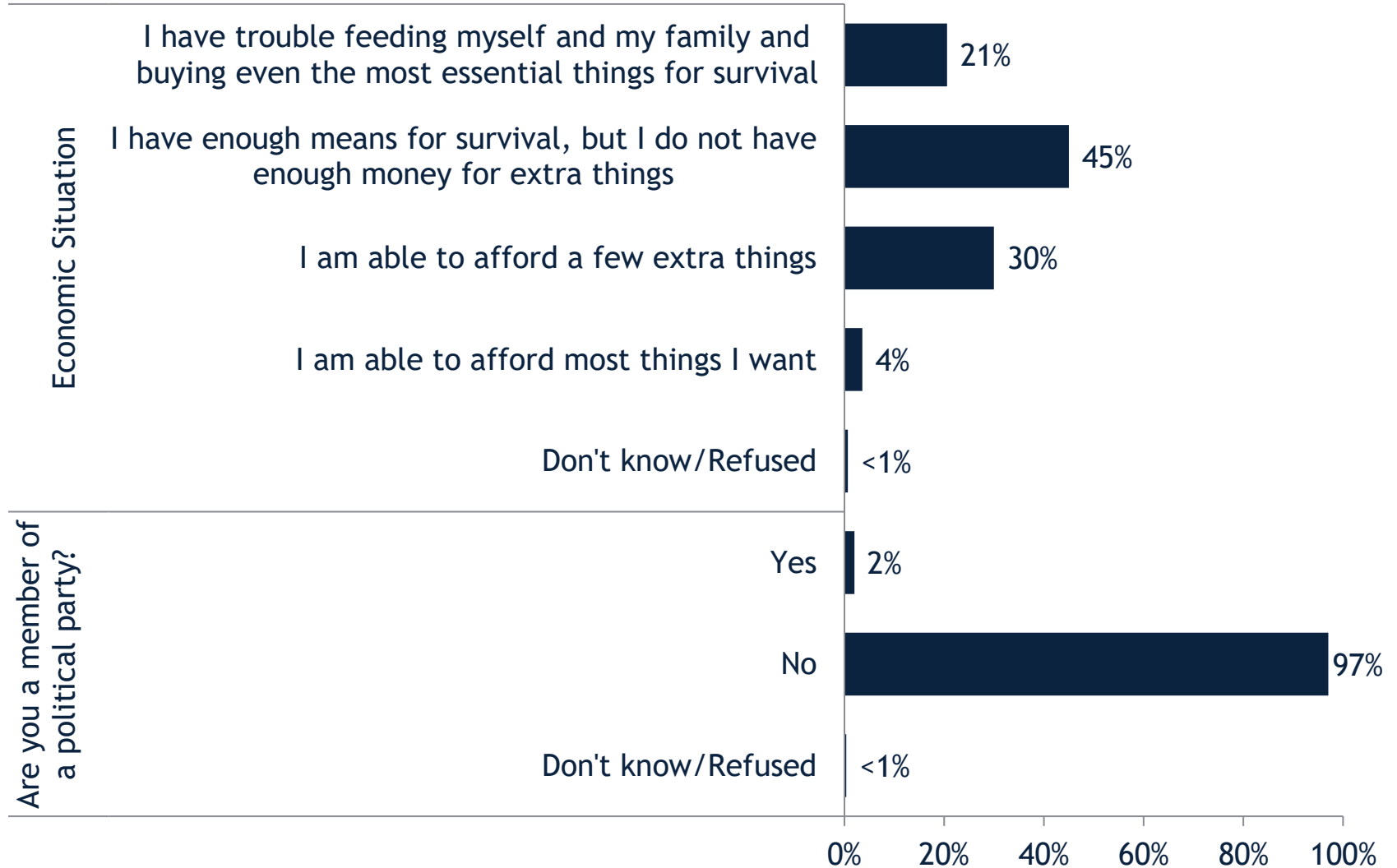
# Demographics



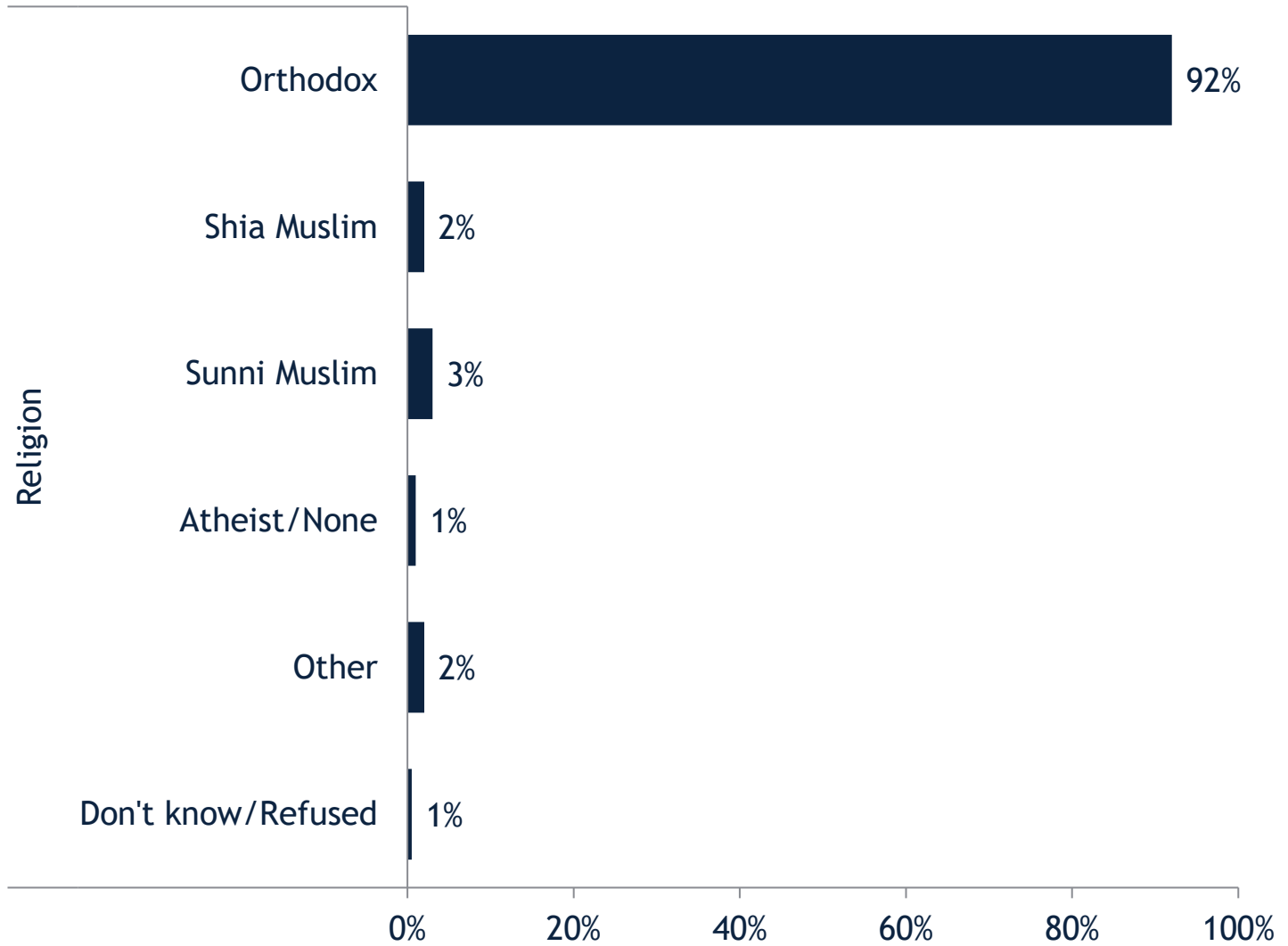
# Demographics



# Demographics



## Demographics



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

[www.IRI.org](http://www.IRI.org)

