

National Survey of The Republic of Maldives

November-December 2023



A PROJECT OF THE INTERNATIONAL REPUBLICAN INSTITUTE

Detailed Methodology

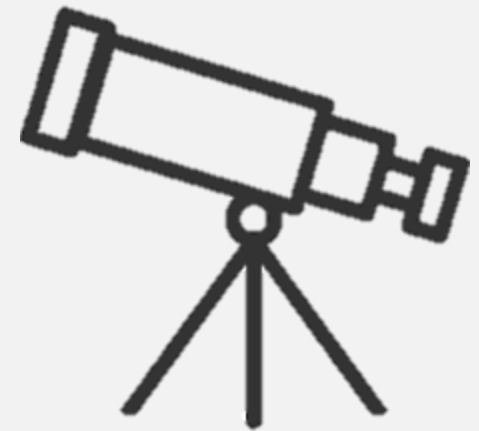
- The survey was conducted on behalf of the International Republican Institute's [Center for Insights in Survey Research](#) by the [Institute for Research and Innovation, Villa College](#).
- Data was collected between November 21 and December 24, 2023 through face-to-face interviews in respondents' homes administered by the Computer-Assisted Personal Interviewing (CAPI) method.
- The sample consisted of n=1,266 respondents aged 18 and older and is representative of resident Maldivian adults nationally. The sample excludes those living on resort islands (6% of the total adult population).
- A multi-stage stratified probability sampling approach with clusters was used, and the sample was first stratified by atolls, then by urbanicity (urban, semi-urban, and rural). Islands within each stratum were randomly selected. In total, 42 islands were sampled, with 28 in the rural stratum, 9 in the semi-urban stratum, and 5 in the urban stratum (see next slide for definitions of urbanization levels.) The sample was drawn based on the 2022 census. The capital was further subdivided into wards and sampling points that were selected by probability proportionate to size (PPS). Other islands were subdivided into zones and sampling points were drawn at random. Within each sampling point, random walk was used to select the appropriate household and respondents were selected with the "last birthday" method.
- The achieved sample was weighted for atoll, gender, age groups, and education level. The weighting targets were based on the 2022 census.
- The response rate was 71 percent.
- The margin of error for the mid-range of the full sample does not exceed ± 2.7 points at the 95% confidence level.
- The information in this report has been compiled in accordance with international standards for market and social research methodologies. Figures in charts and tables may not add up to 100 percent due to rounding.

Frequently Cited Disaggregate Bases

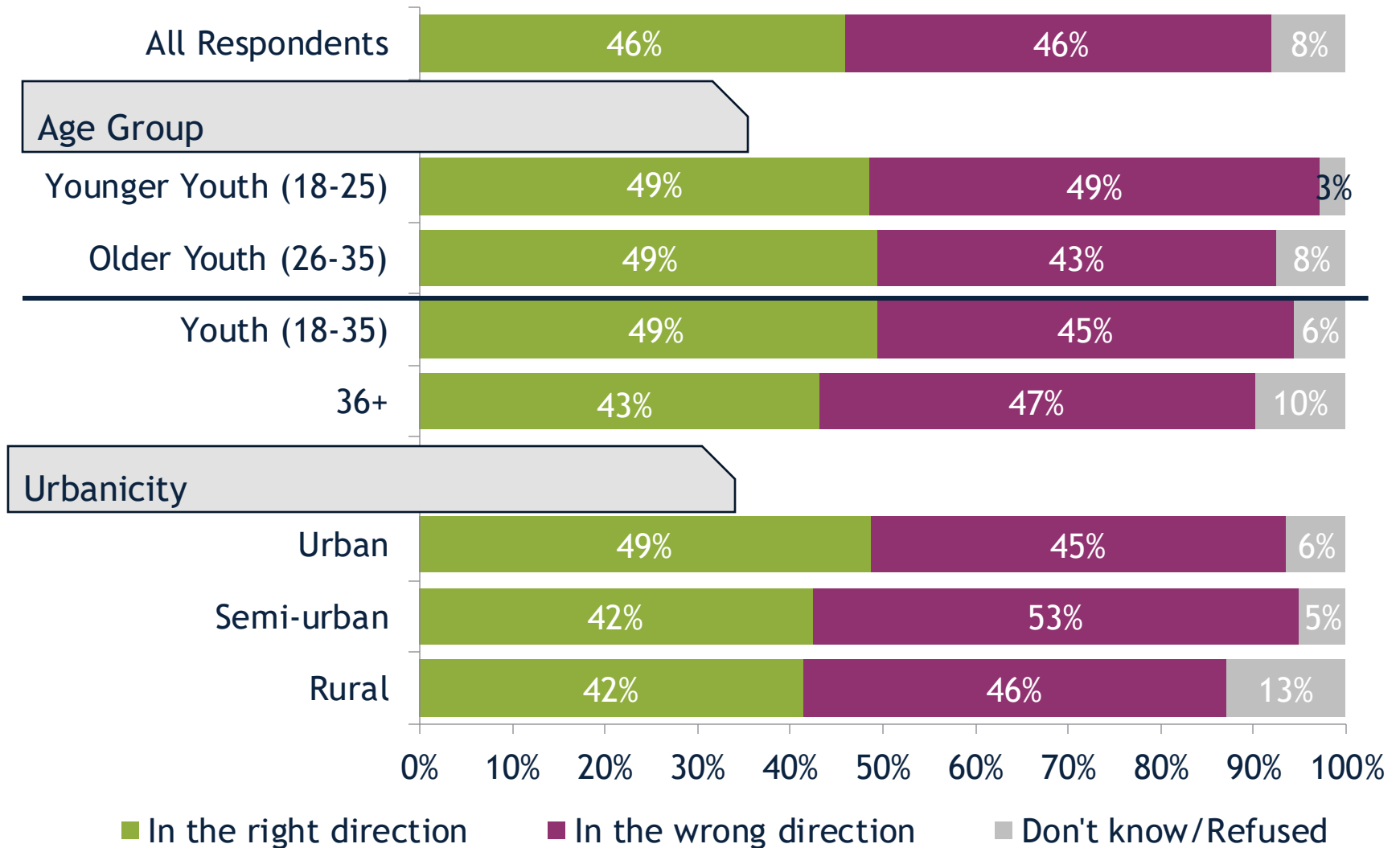
Disaggregate	Category	Base
Age Groups	Younger Youth (18-25)	n = 214
	Older Youth (26-35)	n = 359
	Youth (18-35)	n = 573
	36+	n = 693
Gender	Men	n = 646
	Women	n = 620
Urbanicity	Urban (<i>Islands designated with “City” status as per the Decentralization Act</i>)	n = 748
	Semi-Urban (<i>Atoll capital islands and islands with a population of 4000 and above, excluding islands designated with “City” status</i>)	n = 179
	Rural (<i>Islands with a population below 4000, excluding atoll capital islands</i>)	n = 339

Margin of error will vary with sample size n. Cited bases are weighted.

General Outlook



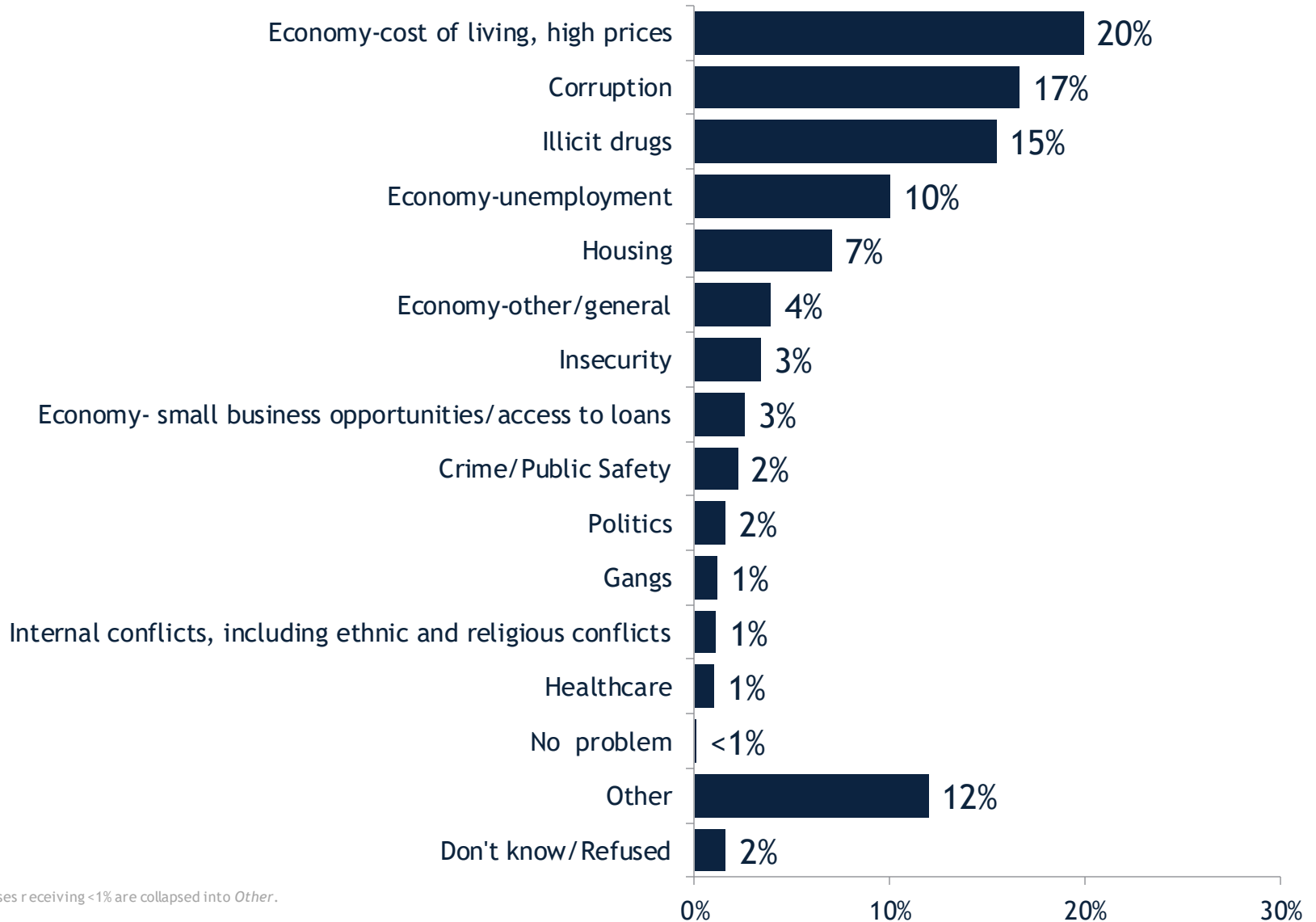
In general, would you say that our country is heading in the right direction or the wrong direction?





What is the most important problem facing our country today?

(Spontaneous response)

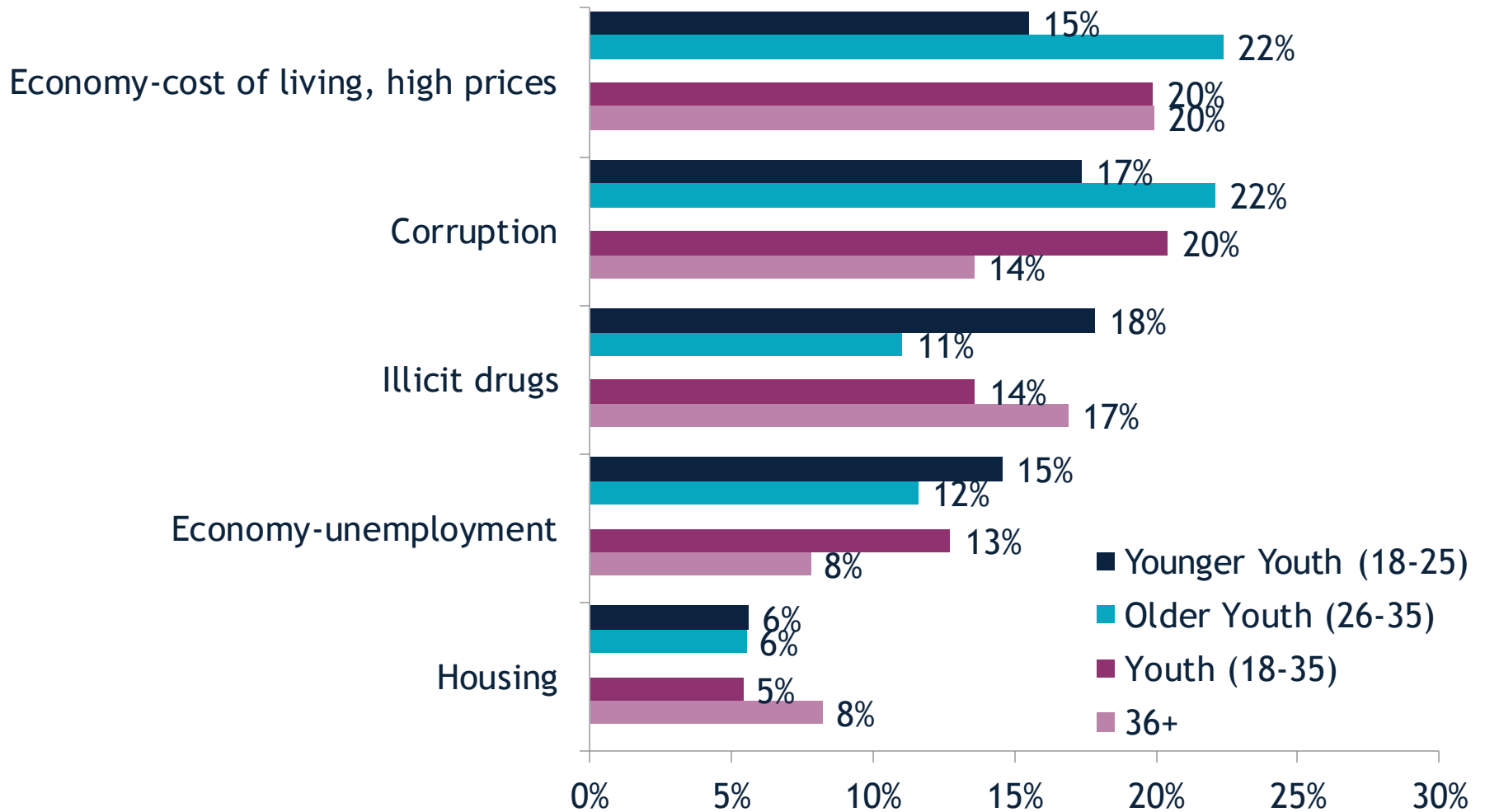


*Responses receiving <1% are collapsed into *Other*.



What is the most important problem facing our country today?

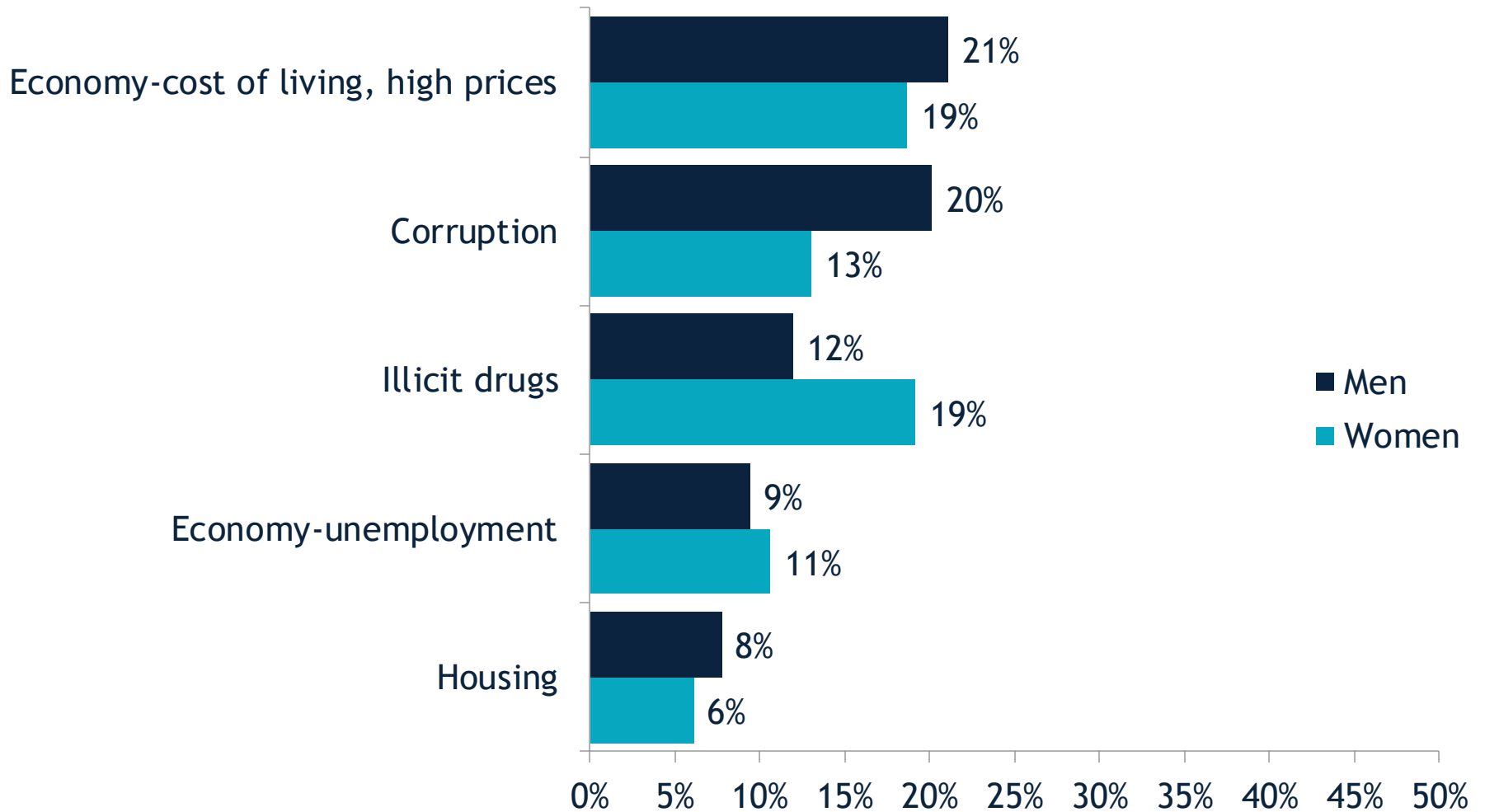
(Spontaneous response; disaggregated by age group; top 5 responses displayed)





What is the most important problem facing our country today?

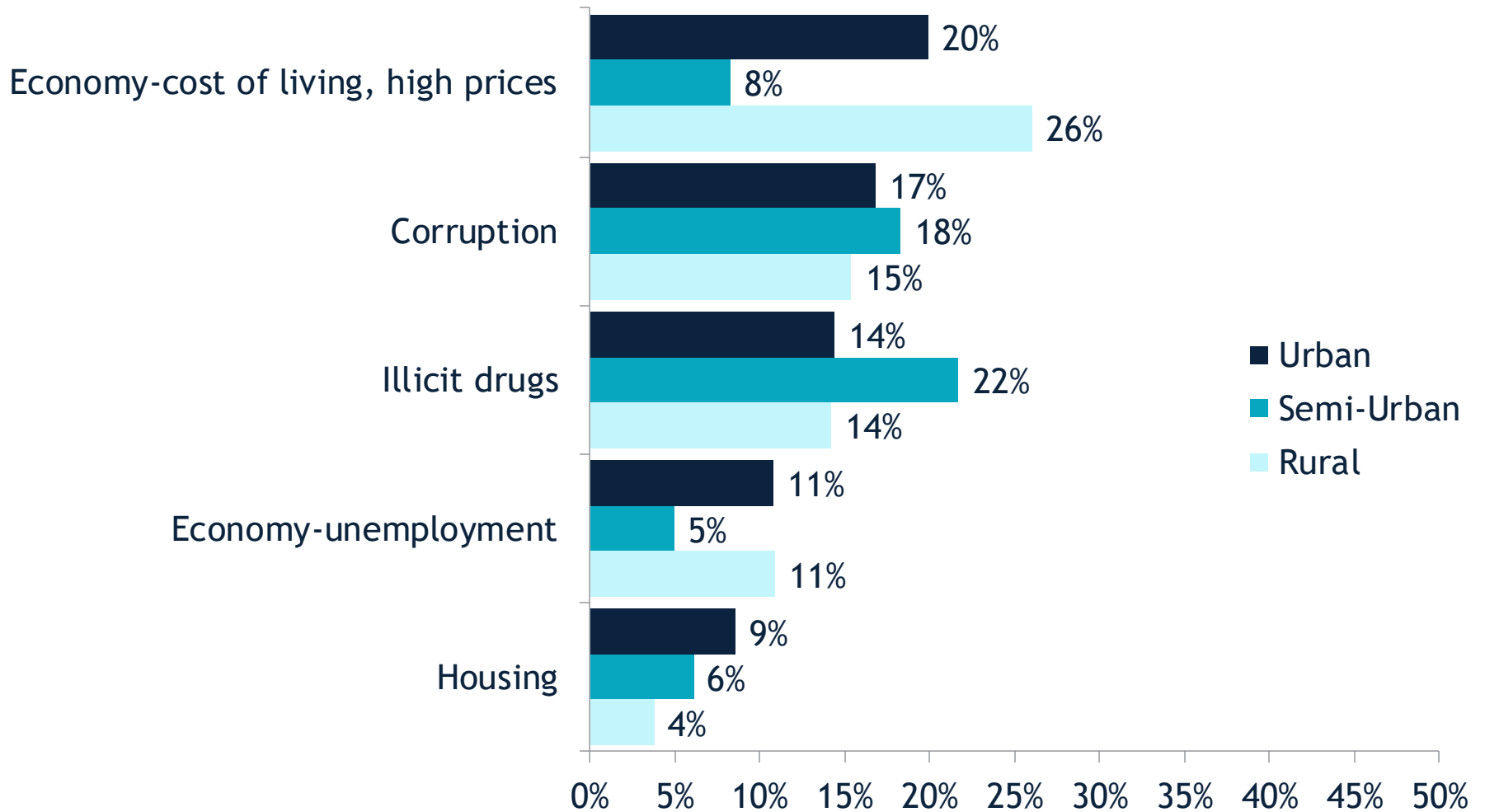
(Spontaneous response; disaggregated by gender; top 5 responses displayed)





What is the most important problem facing our country today?

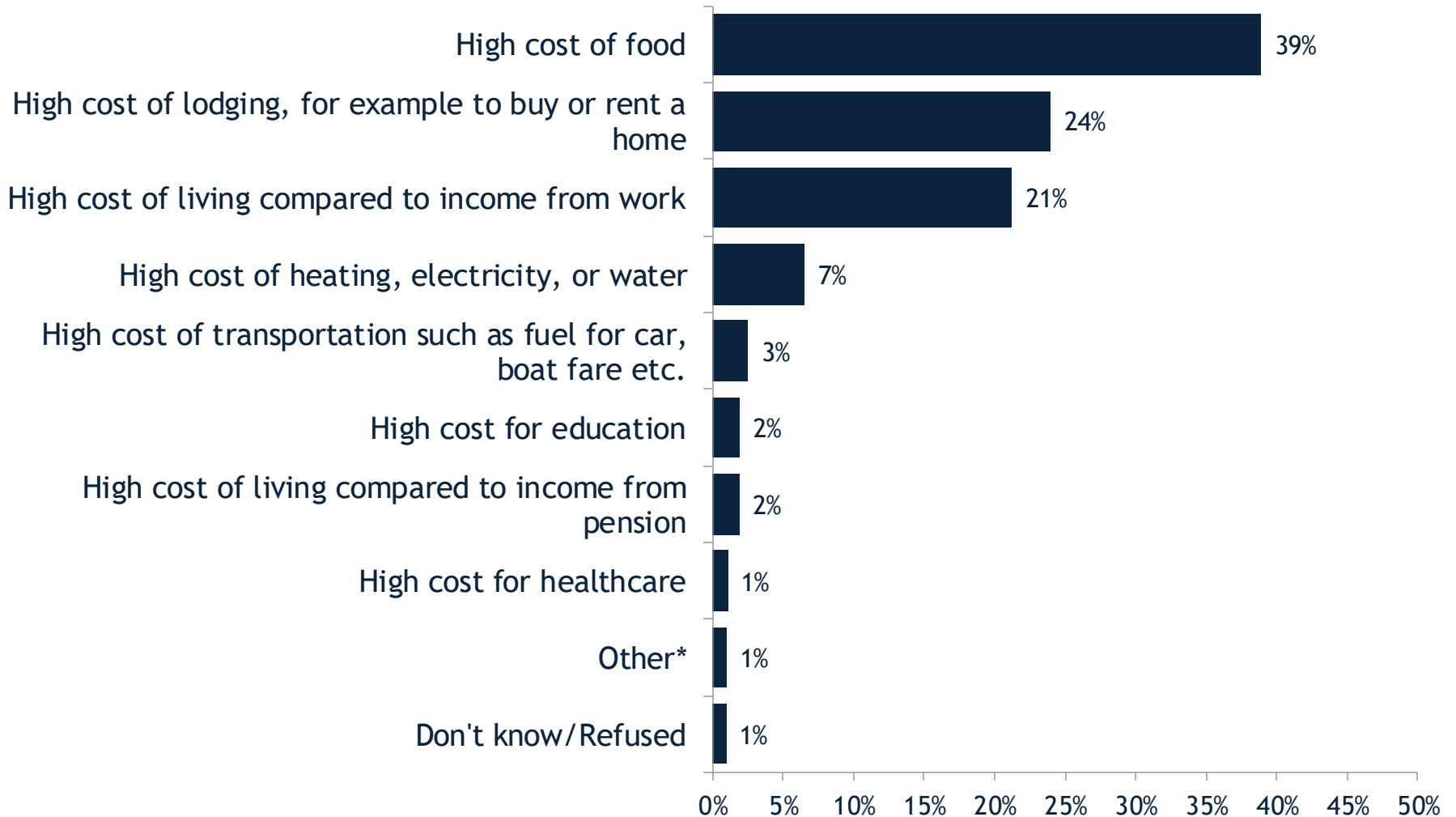
(Spontaneous response; disaggregated by urbanicity; top 5 responses displayed)





You mentioned the **economy, specifically the cost of living or high prices**, as the most important problem in the Maldives. Which aspect of cost of living or high prices is most important?

(Among those who said cost of living or high prices are the most important problem, n=252)

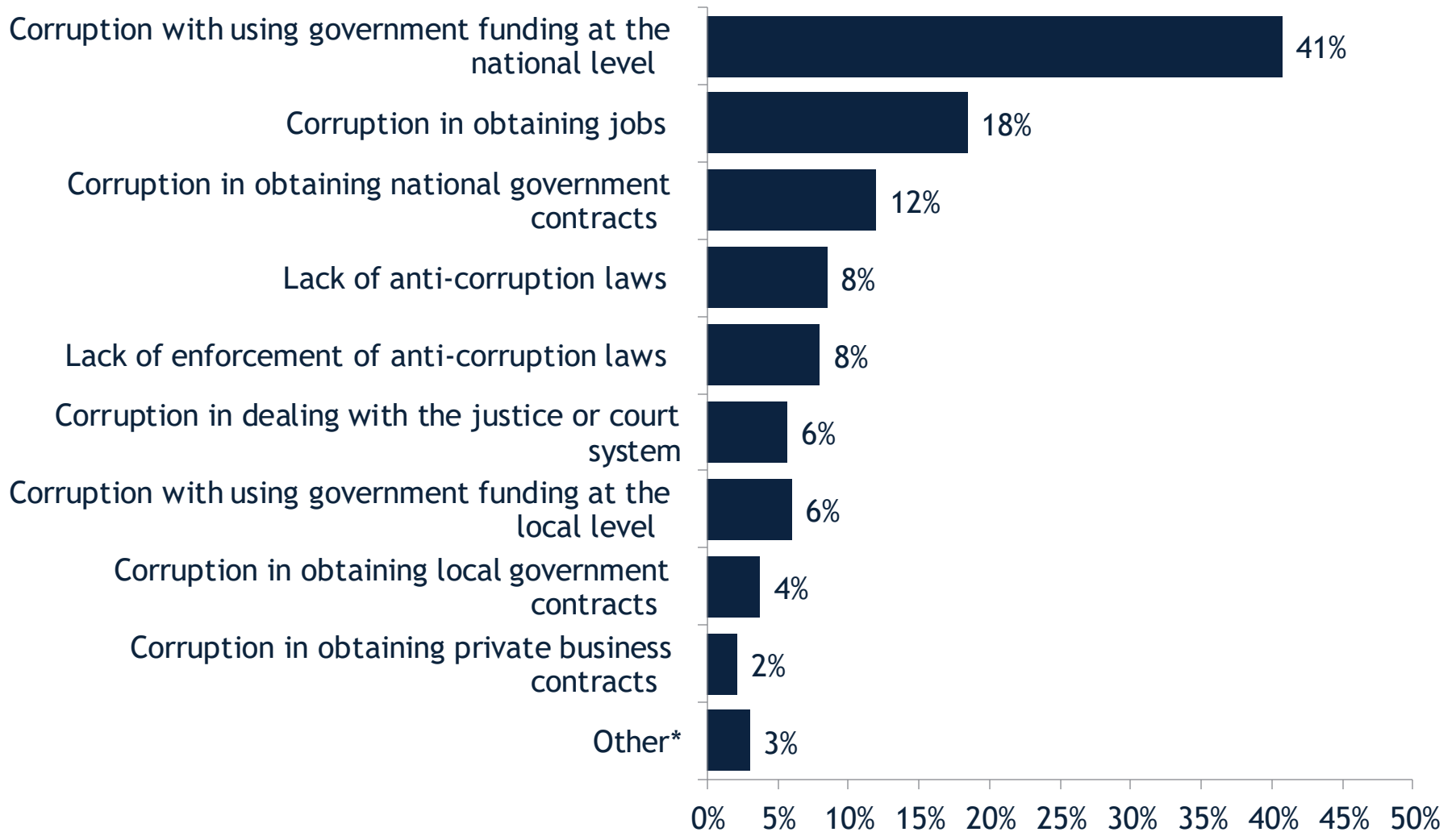


*Responses receiving <1% are collapsed into *Other*.



You mentioned **corruption** as the most important problem in the Maldives. Which aspect of corruption is most important?

(Among those who said corruption is the most important problem, n=211)

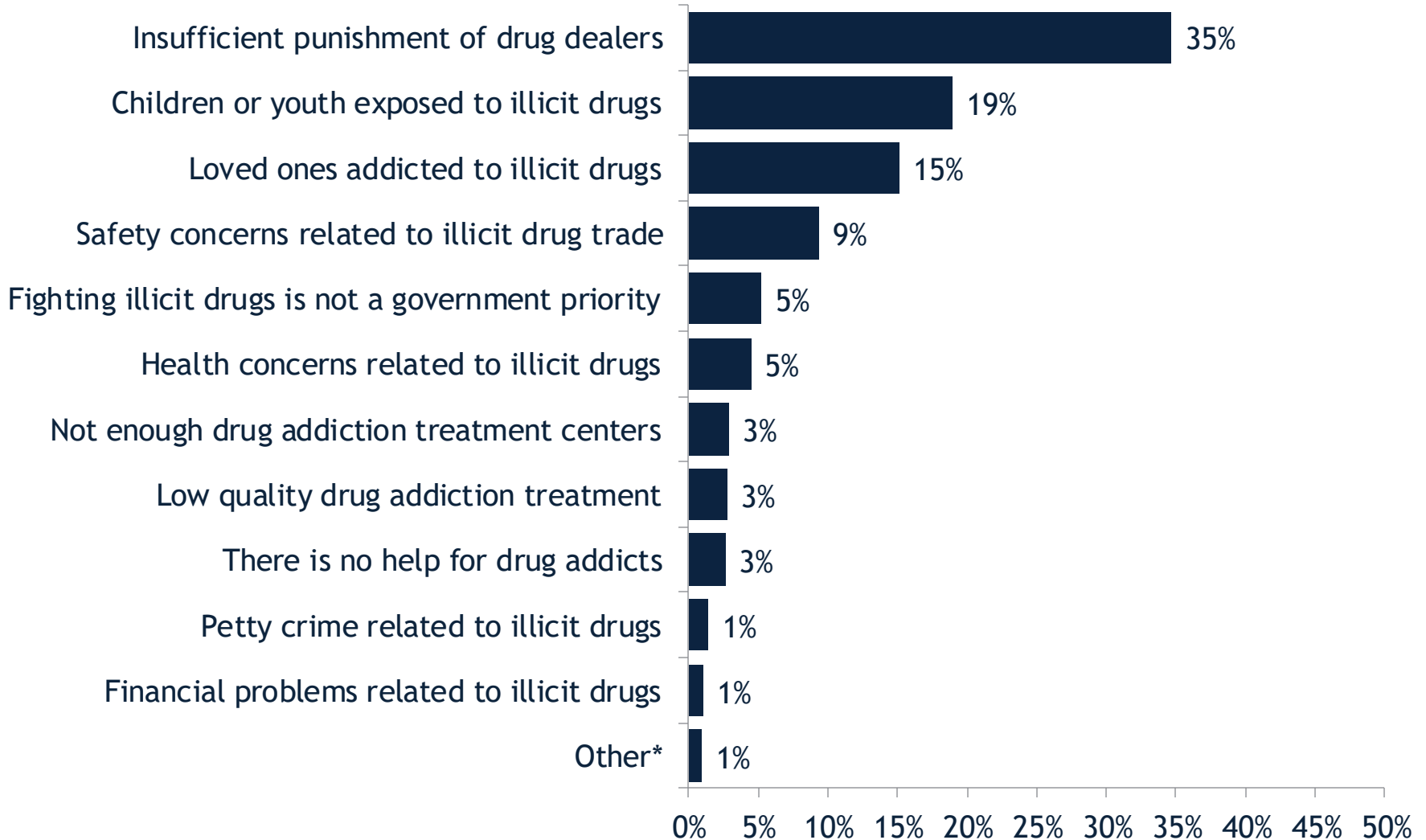


*Responses receiving <1% are collapsed into *Other*.



You mentioned **illicit drugs** as the most important problem in the Maldives. Which aspect of illicit drugs is most important?

(Among those who said illicit drugs is the most important problem, n=195)

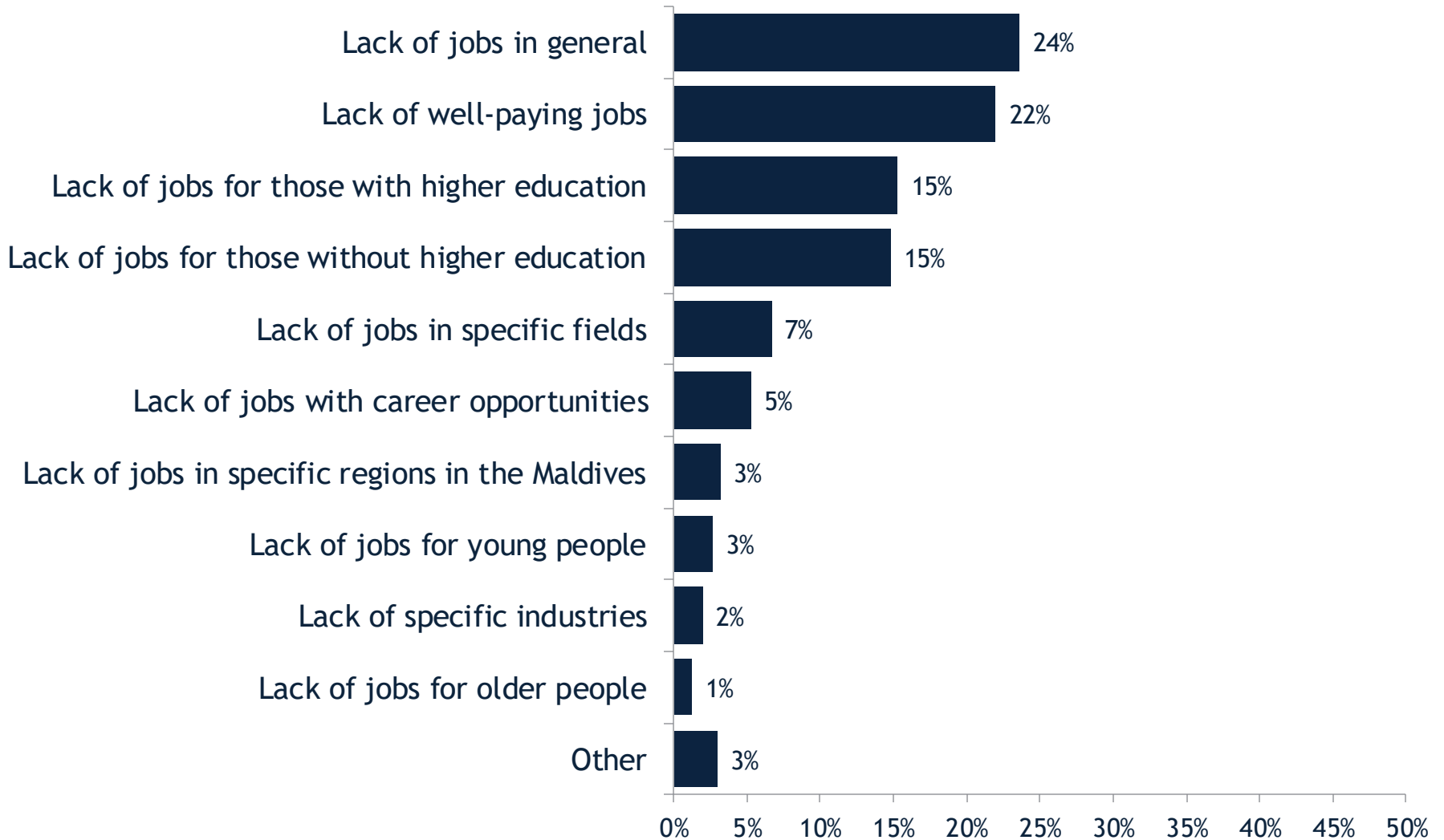


*Responses receiving <1% are collapsed into *Other*.



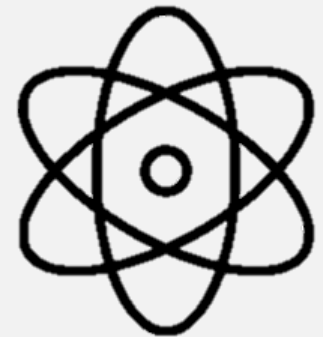
You mentioned **unemployment** as the most important problem in the Maldives. Which aspect of unemployment is most important?

(Among those who said unemployment is the most important problem, n=128)



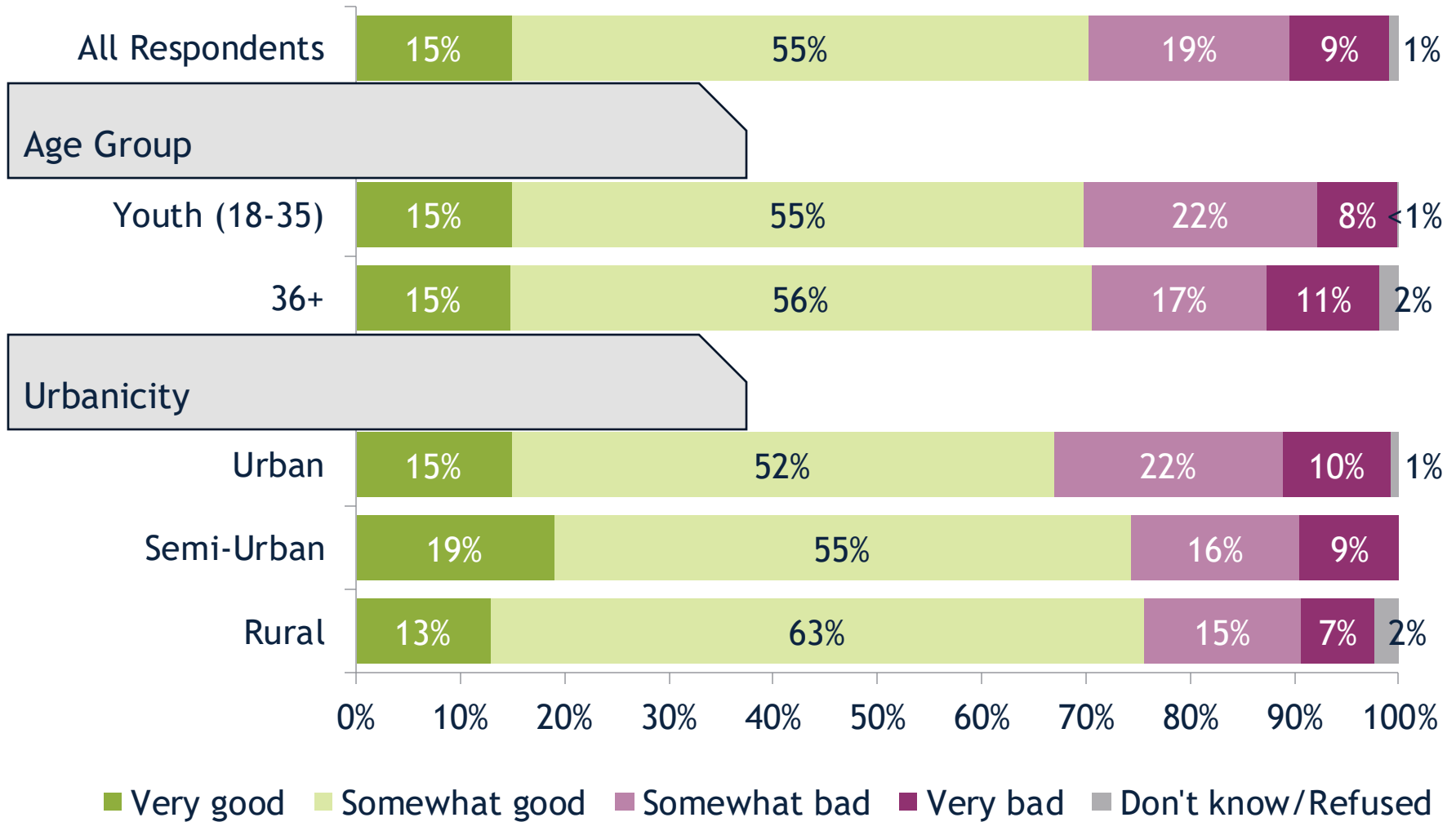
*Responses receiving <1% are collapsed into *Other*.

Values and Ideology

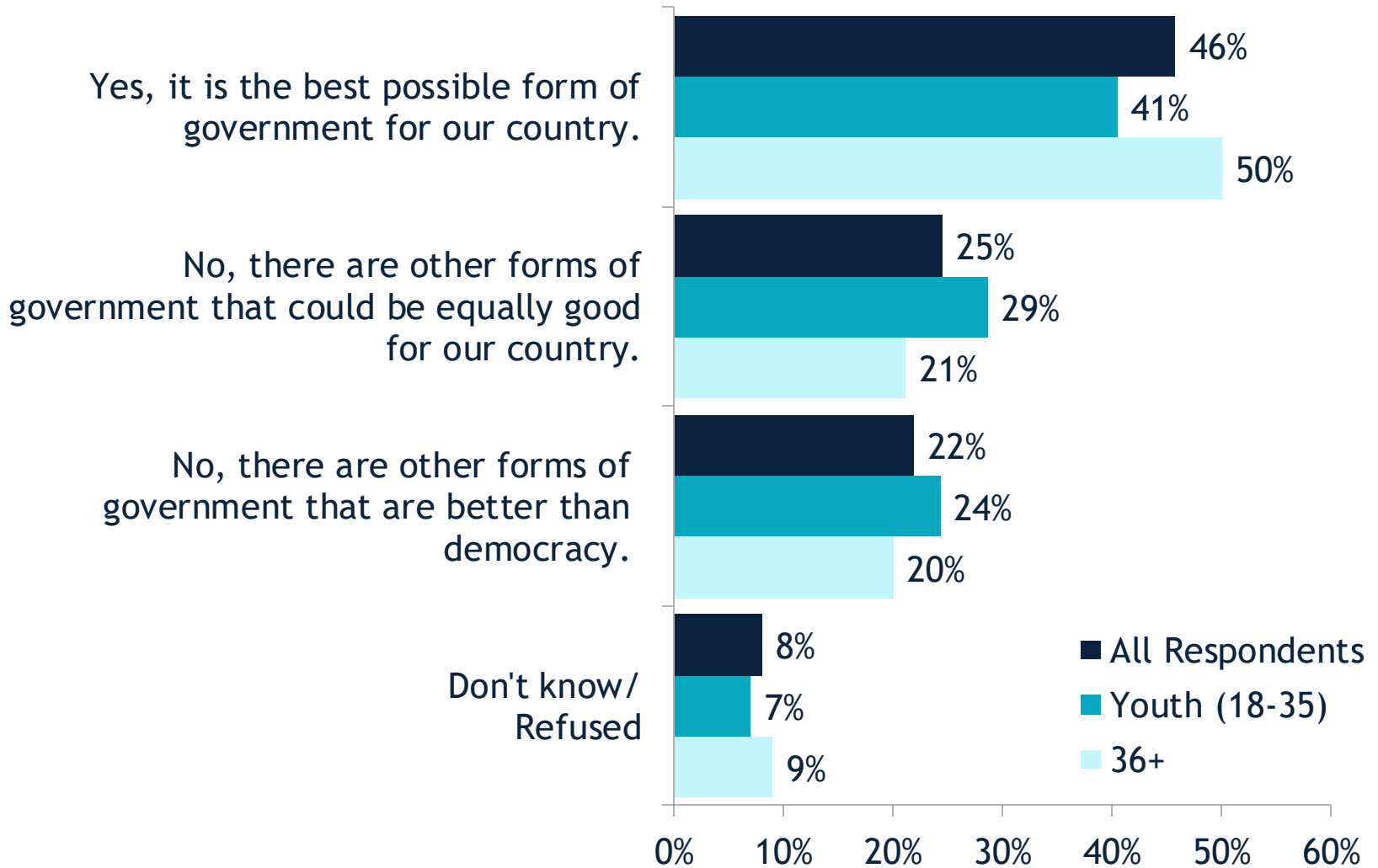




How would you describe the current economic situation of your household?



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





How important or unimportant are each of these elements in making any country a democracy?

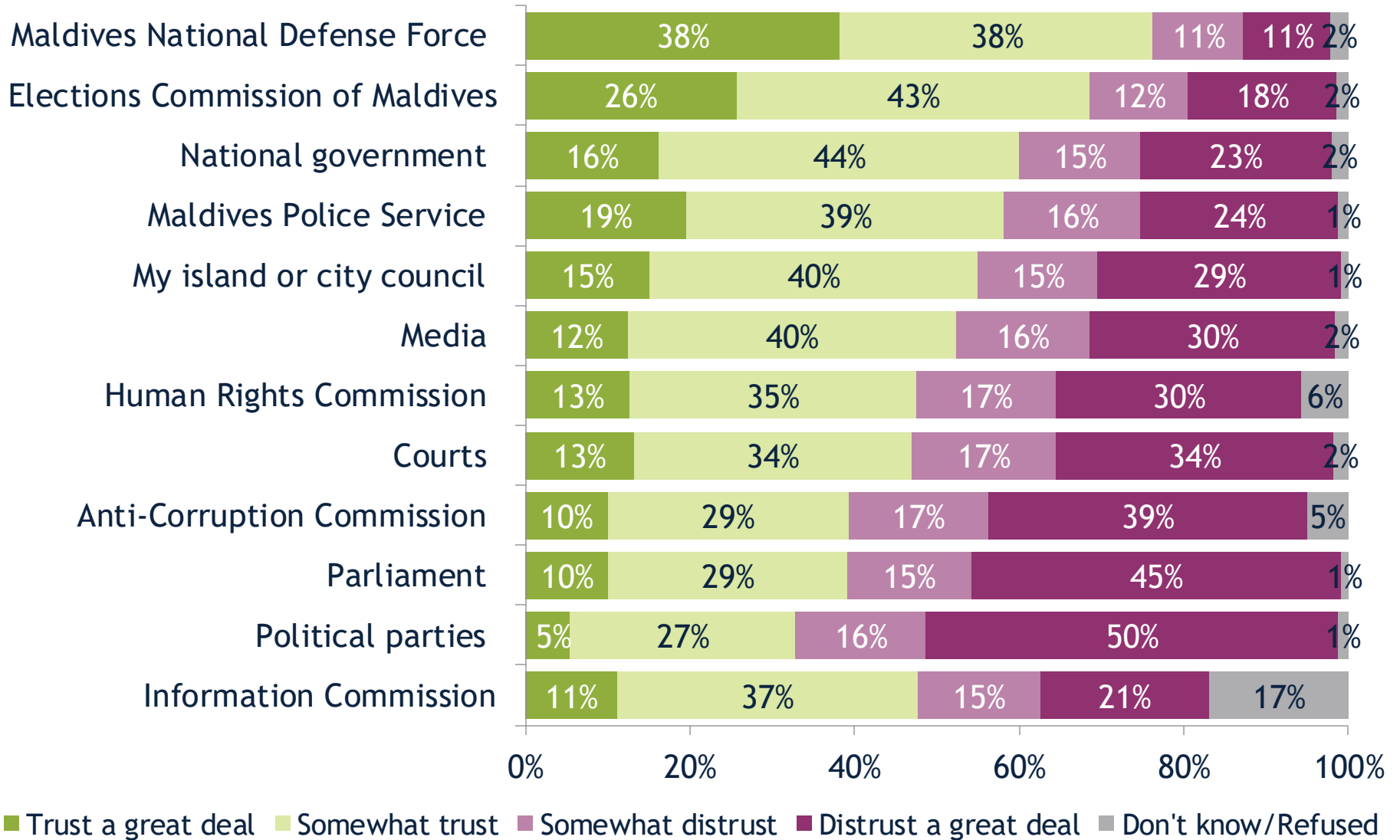


Institutions and Elections

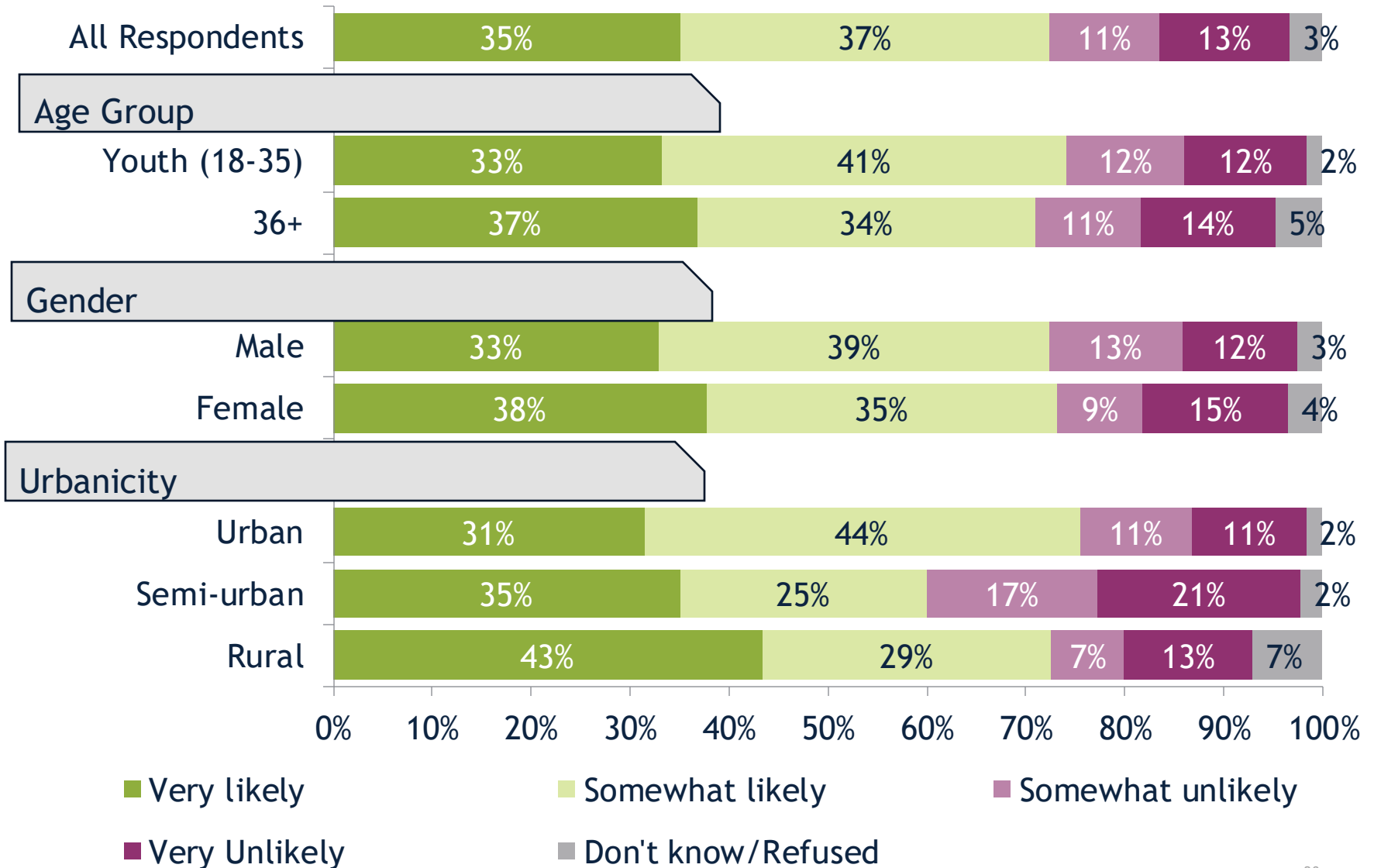




To what extent do you trust or distrust each of the following institutions?



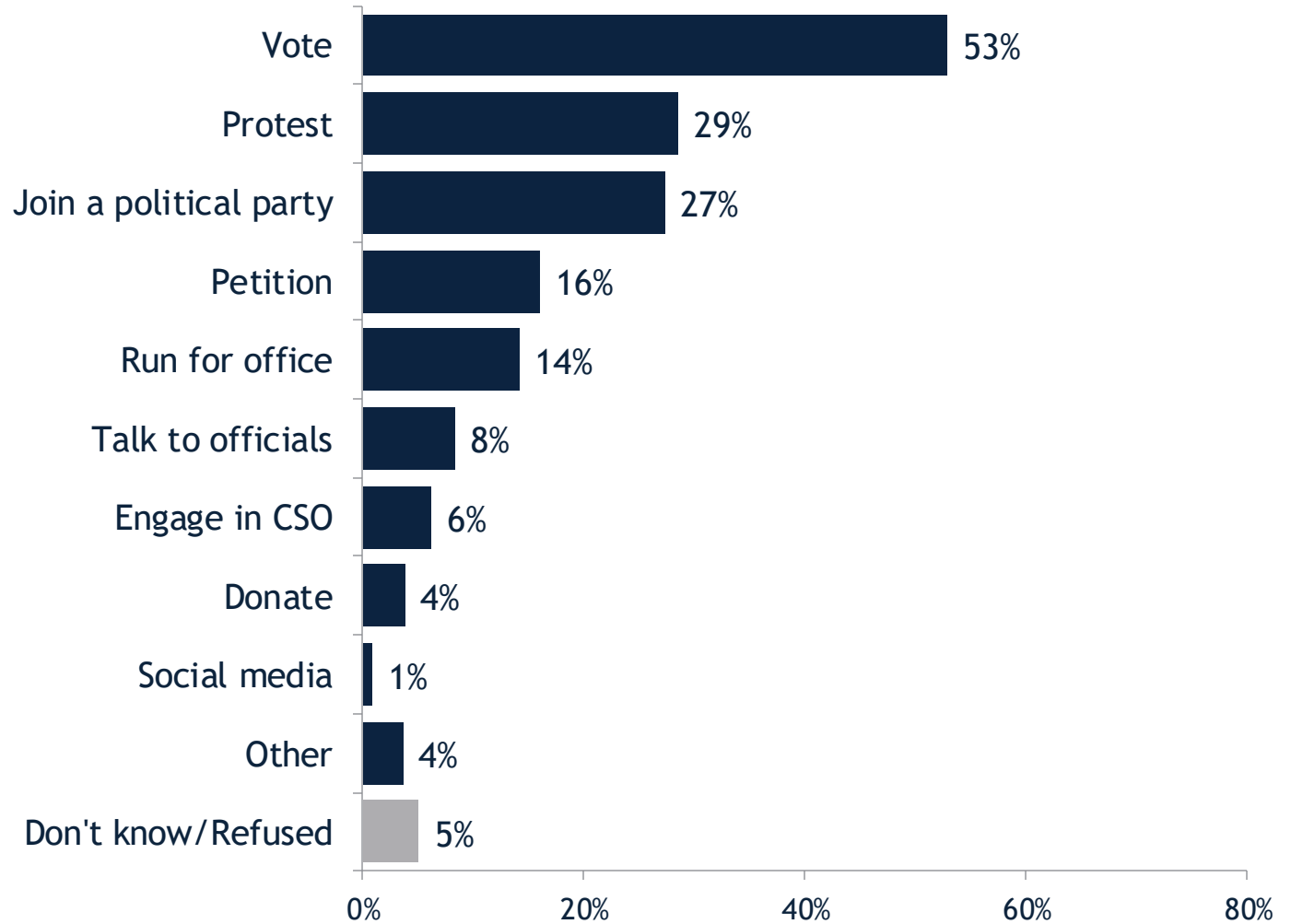
How likely or unlikely are ordinary people able to influence decisions made in our country?





How can ordinary people influence decisions made in our country?

(Spontaneous response, among those who are very or somewhat likely to believe that ordinary people can influence decisions made in their country, n=918)

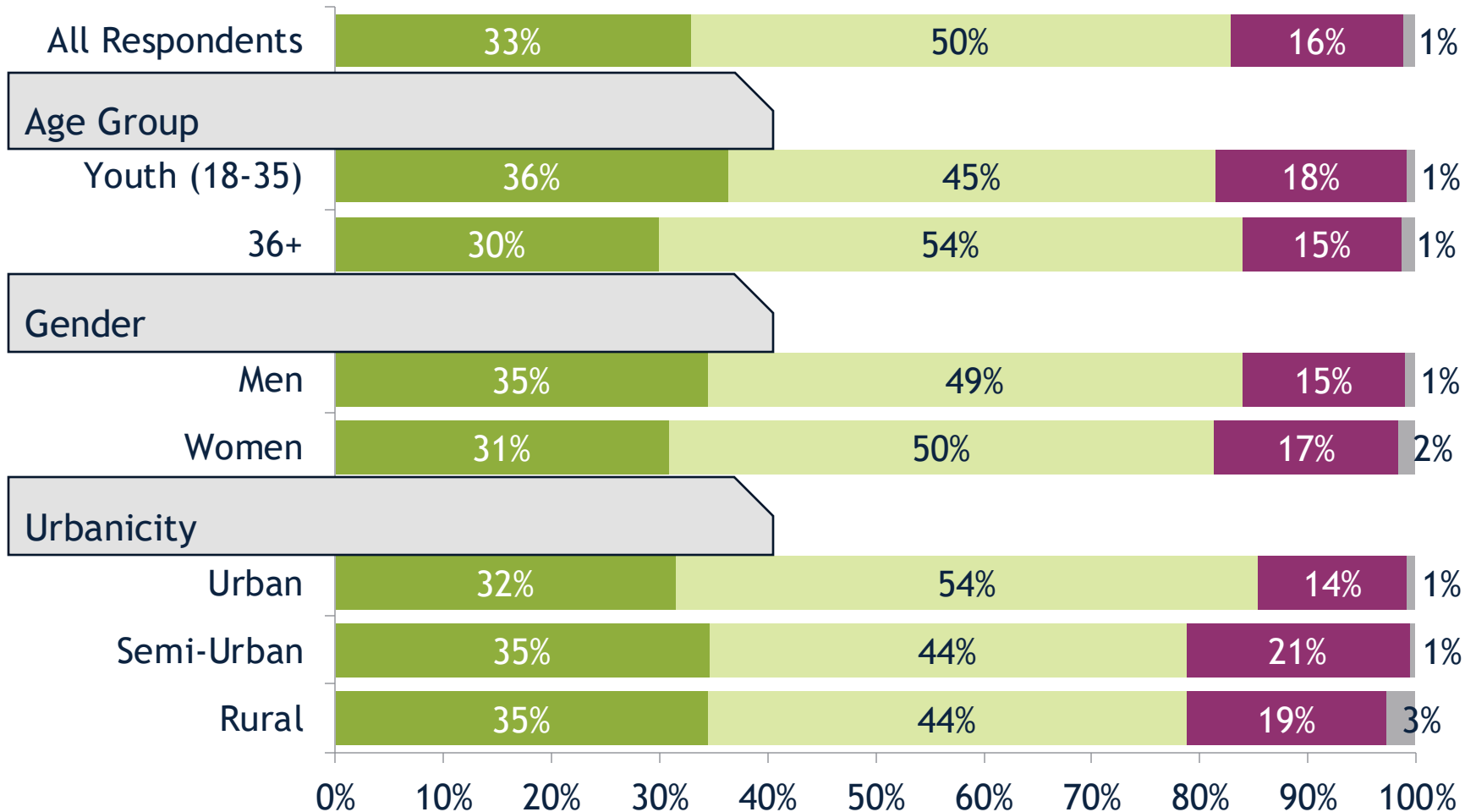


*Engage in a civil society or organization is a local, national or international group of people who organize to support a particular interest, group or issue

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

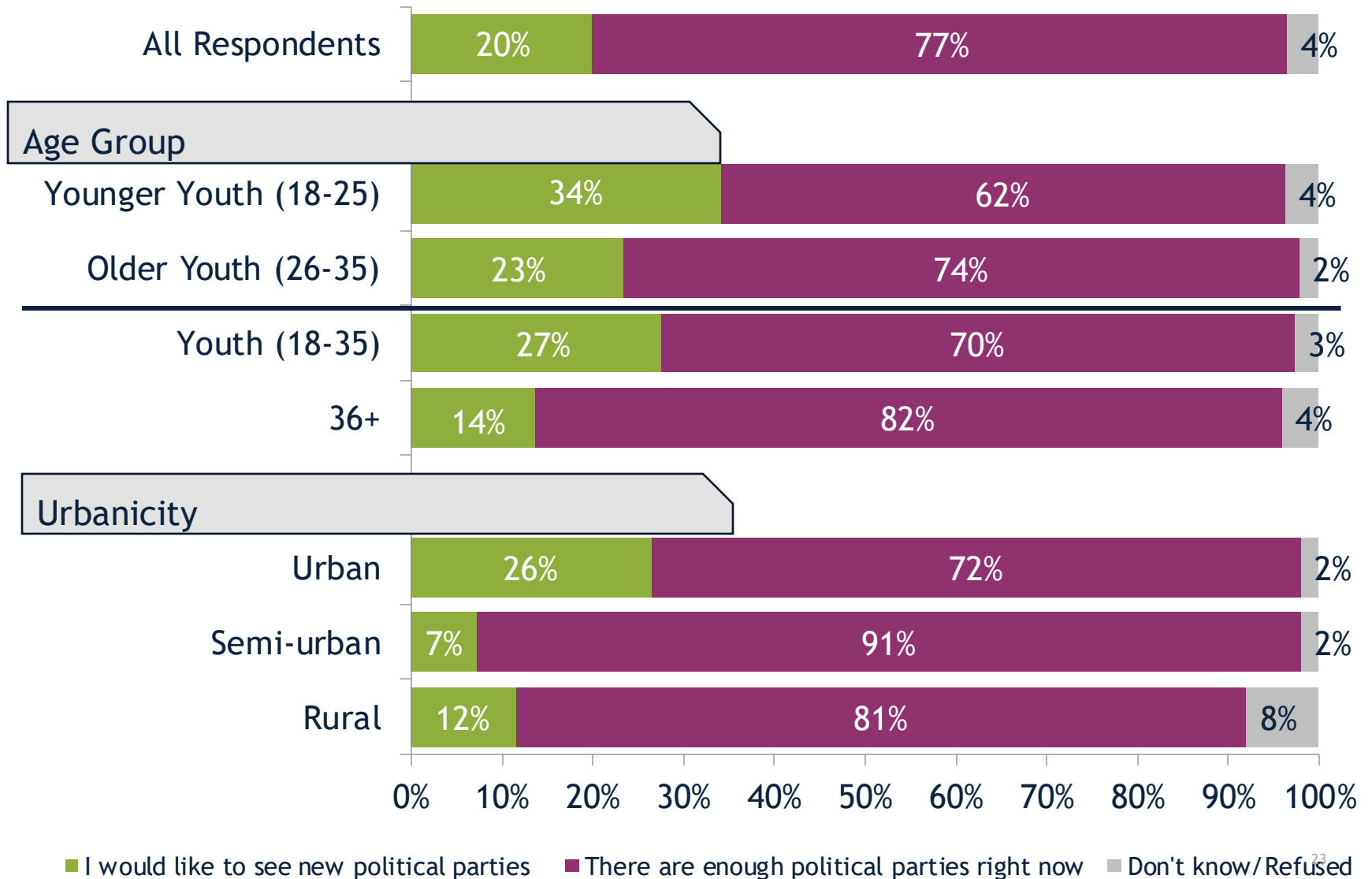


Which statement about voting comes closest to your opinion?



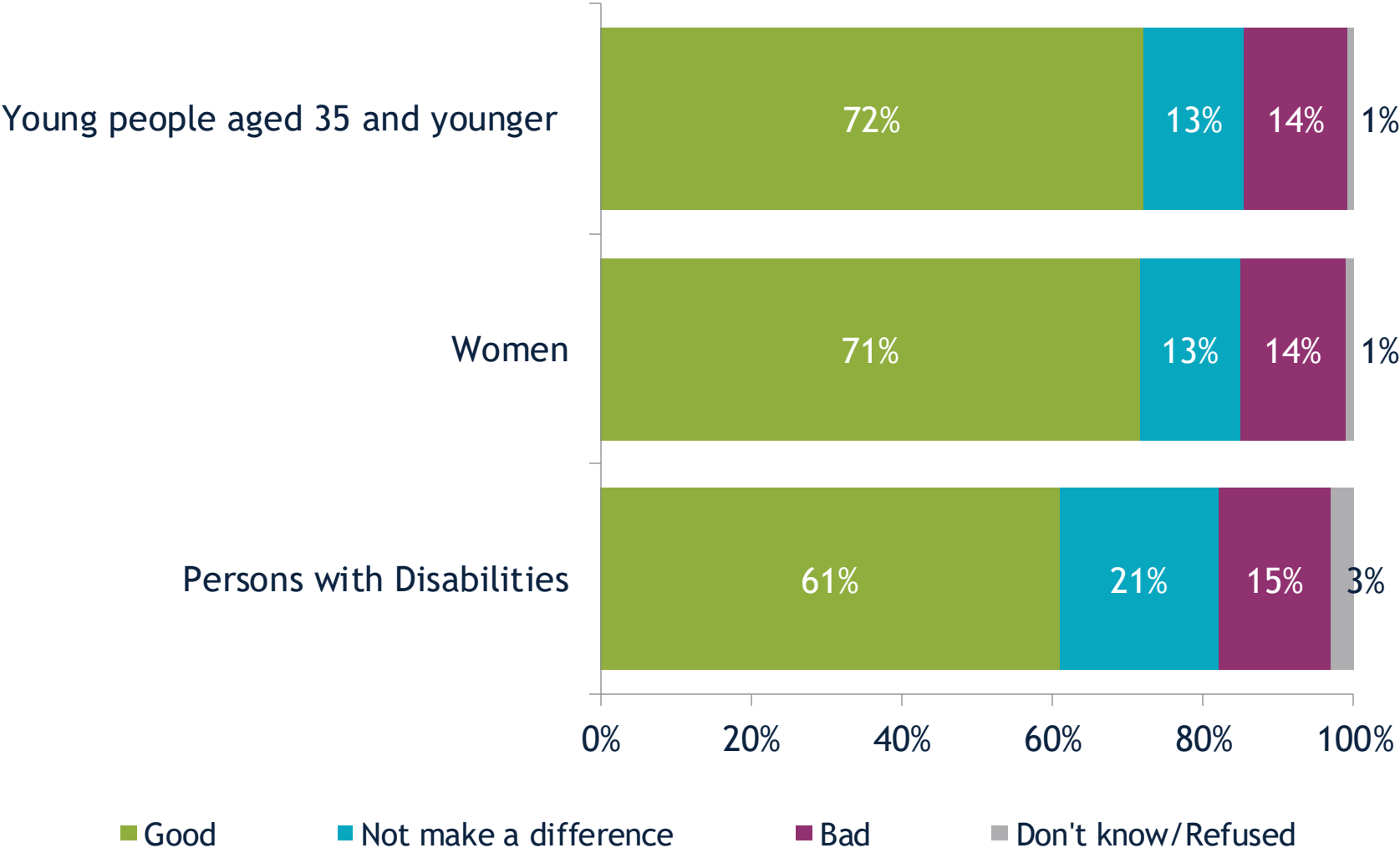
- Gives me some say about how the government runs things.
- Doesn't really affect how the government runs things. But I still believe it's important to vote.
- Doesn't really affect how the government runs things, so for me it's not really important to vote.
- Don't know/Refused

Would you like to see new political parties in future elections or are there enough political parties right now?





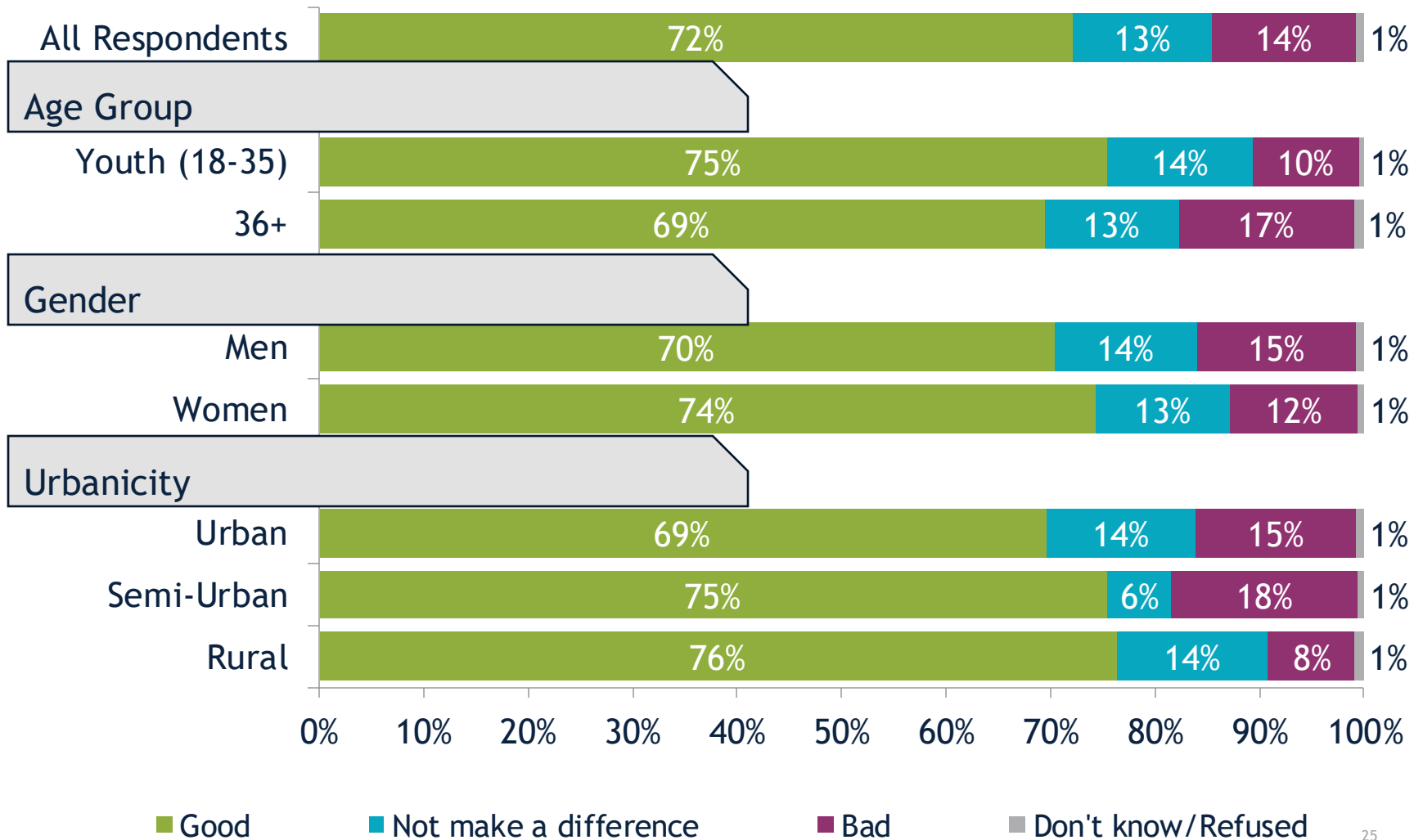
If more people representing the following groups were elected to the government, do you think that would be good, bad or would it not make a difference?





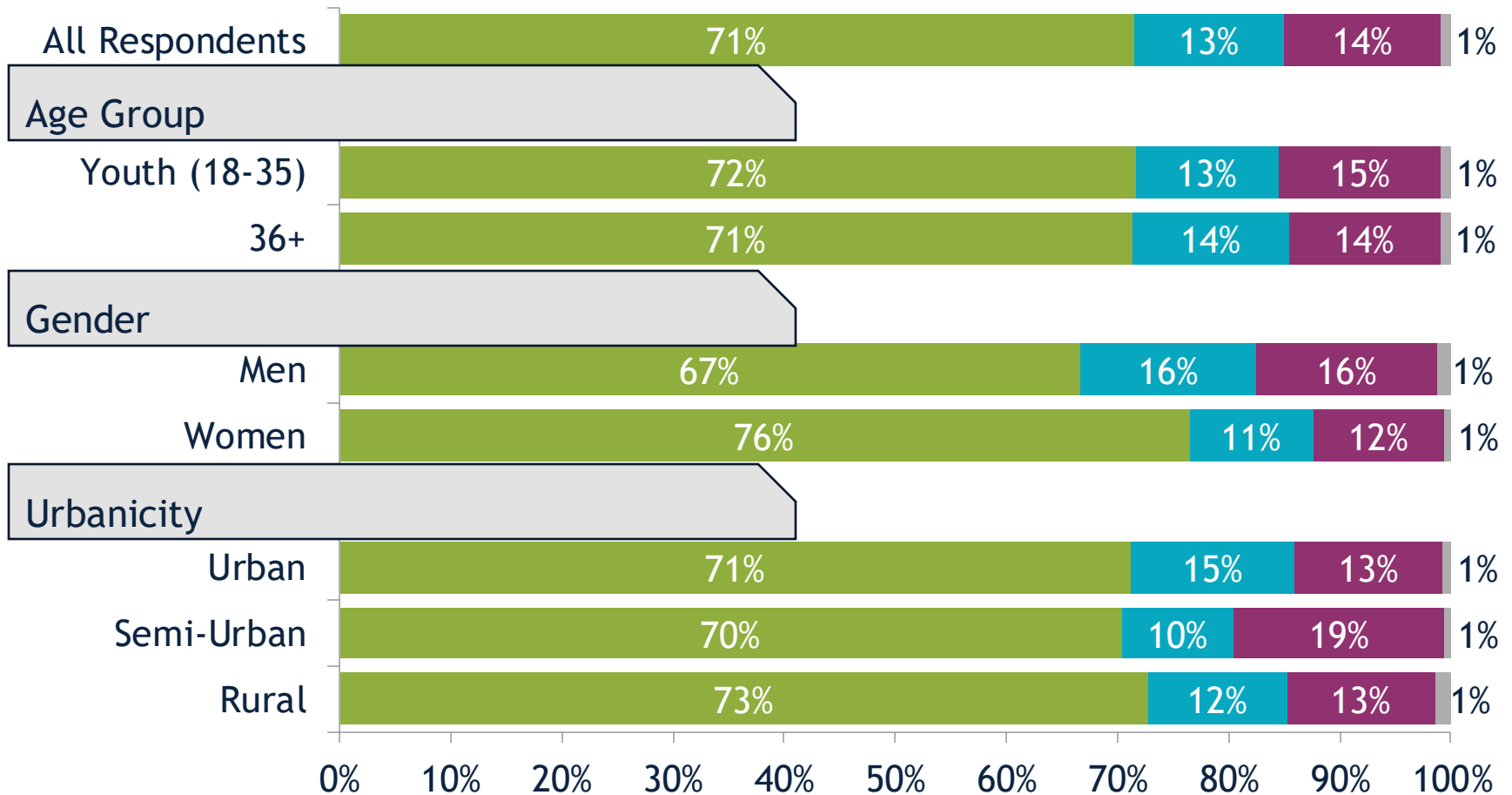
If more people representing the following groups were elected to the government, do you think that would be good, bad or would it not make a difference?

Young people aged 35 and younger



If more people representing the following groups were elected to the government, do you think that would be good, bad or would it not make a difference?

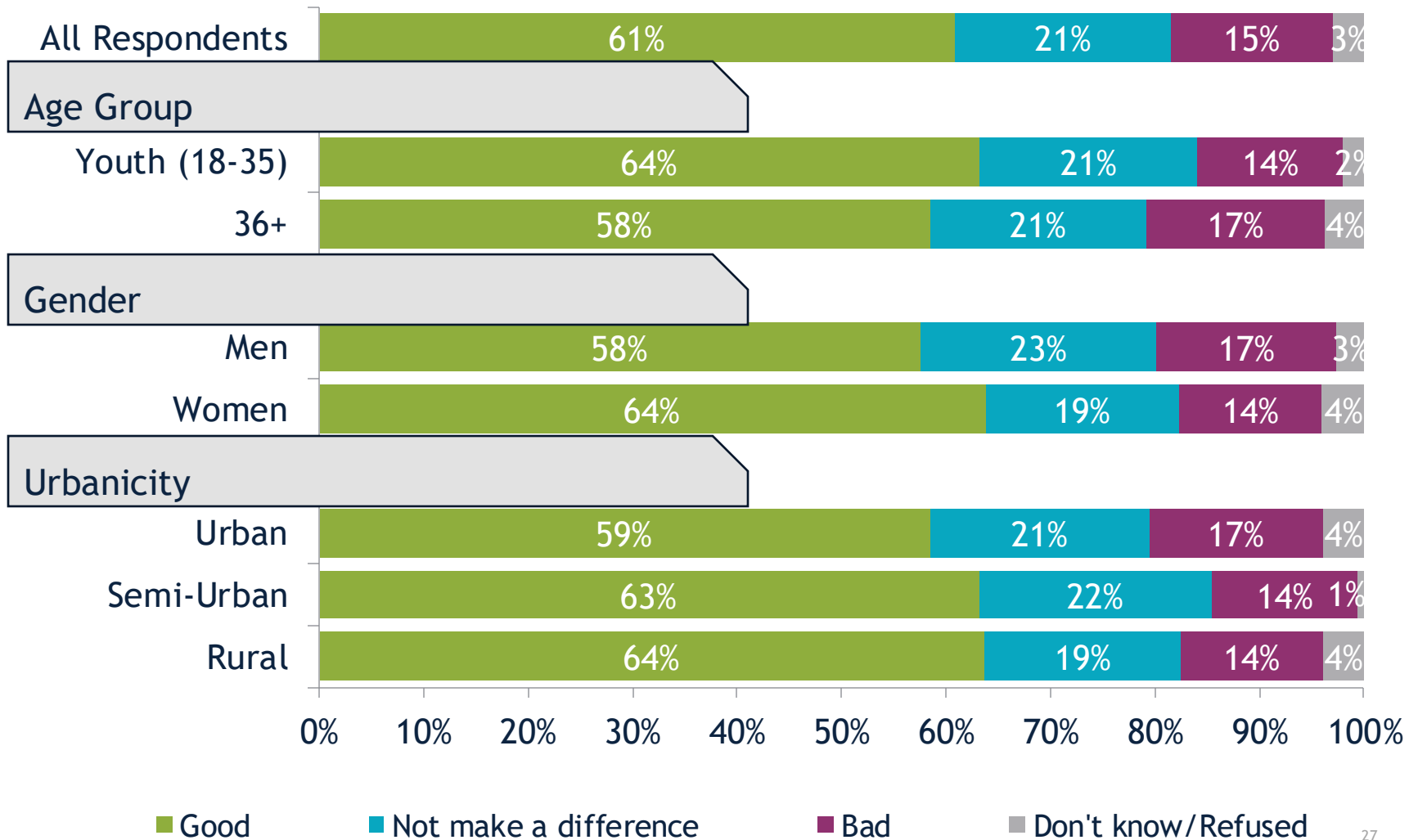
Women



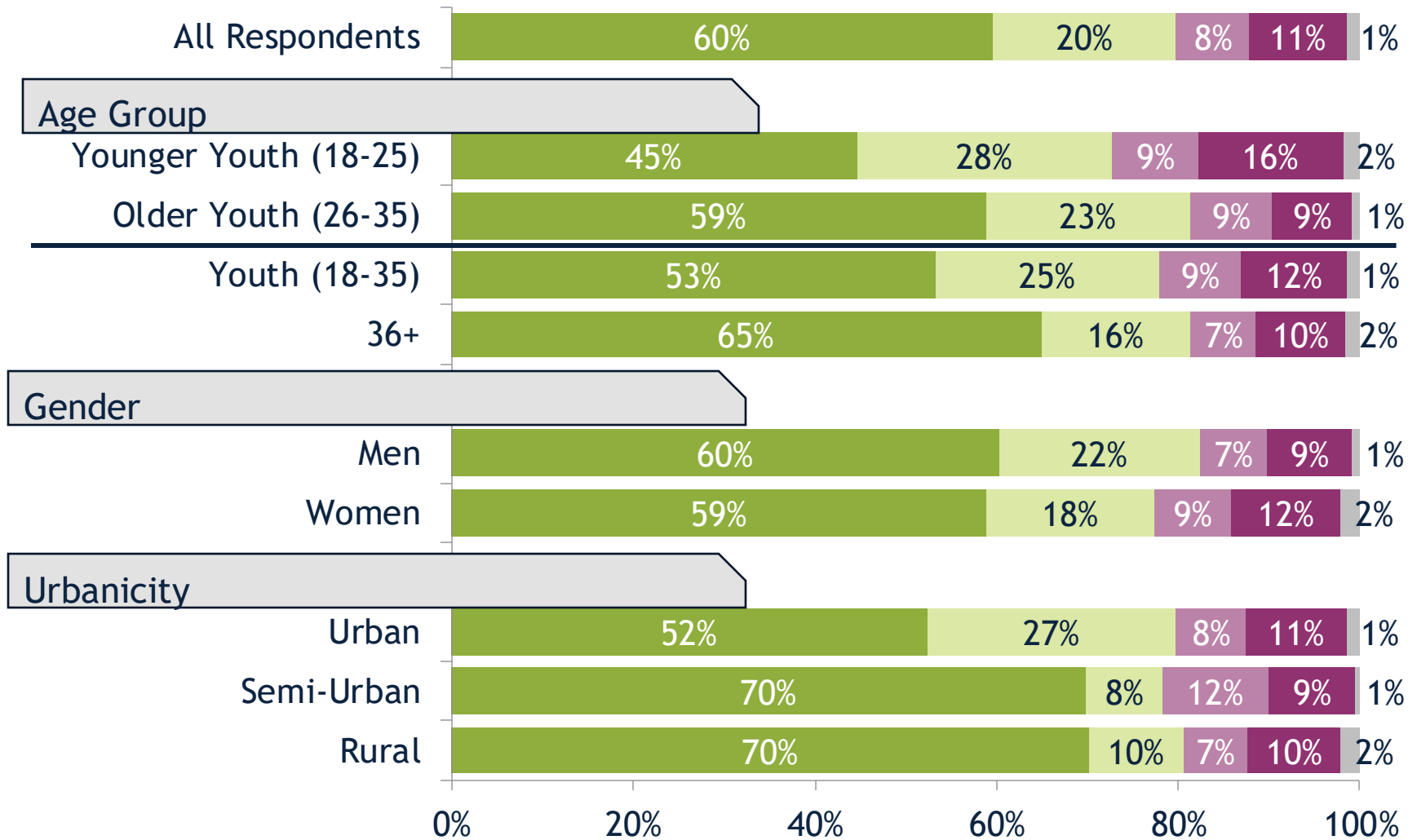
■ Good
 ■ Not make a difference
 ■ Bad
 ■ Don't know/Refused

If more people representing the following groups were elected to the government, do you think that would be good, bad or would it not make a difference?

Persons with Disabilities



How likely or unlikely are you to vote in the 2024 Parliamentary elections?

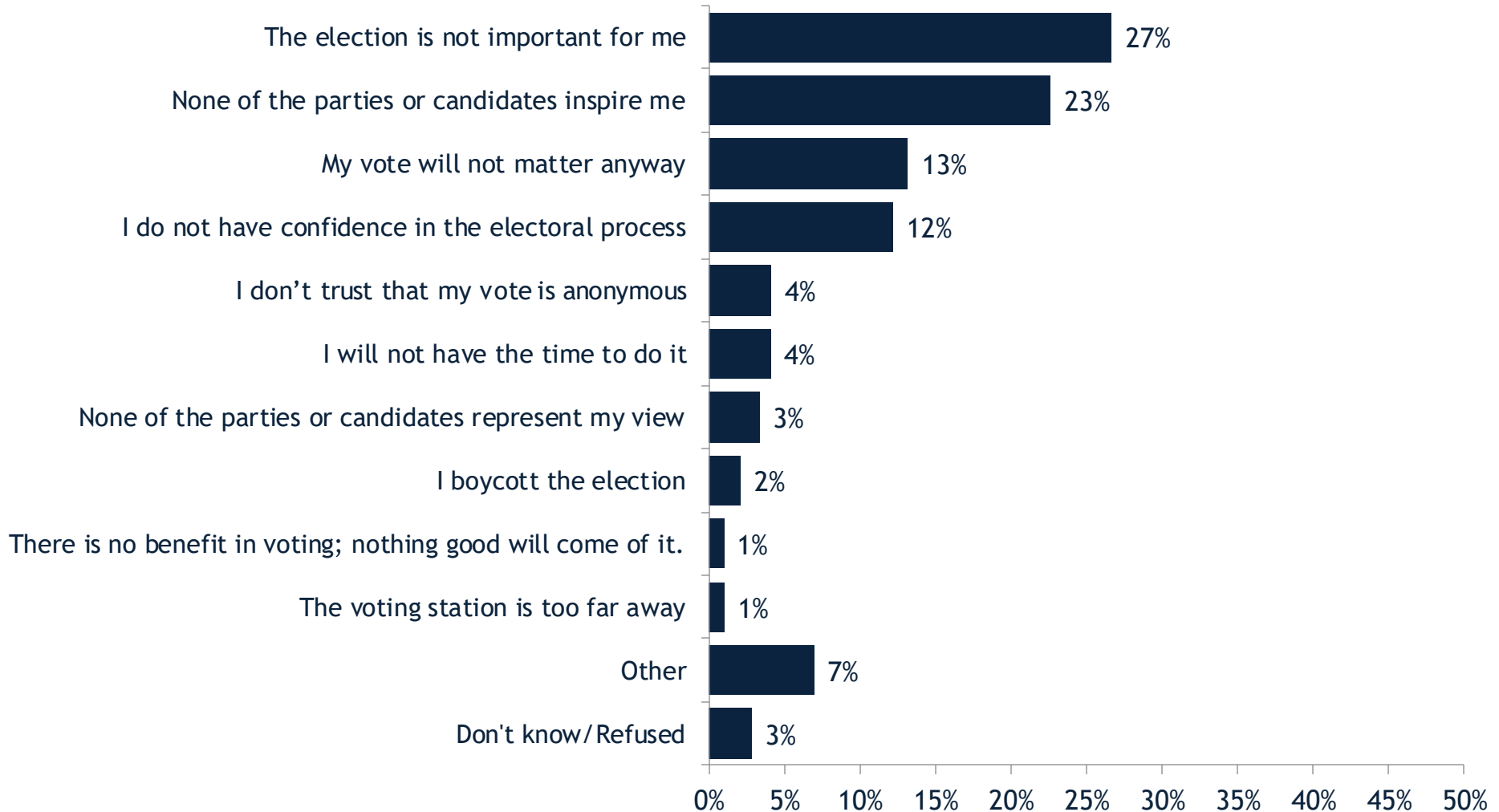


■ Very likely
 ■ Somewhat likely
 ■ Somewhat unlikely
 ■ Very unlikely
 ■ Don't know/Refused



Why are you very unlikely to vote in the 2024 Parliamentary elections?

(Spontaneous response, among those who are very unlikely to vote in the 2024 parliamentary elections, n=134)



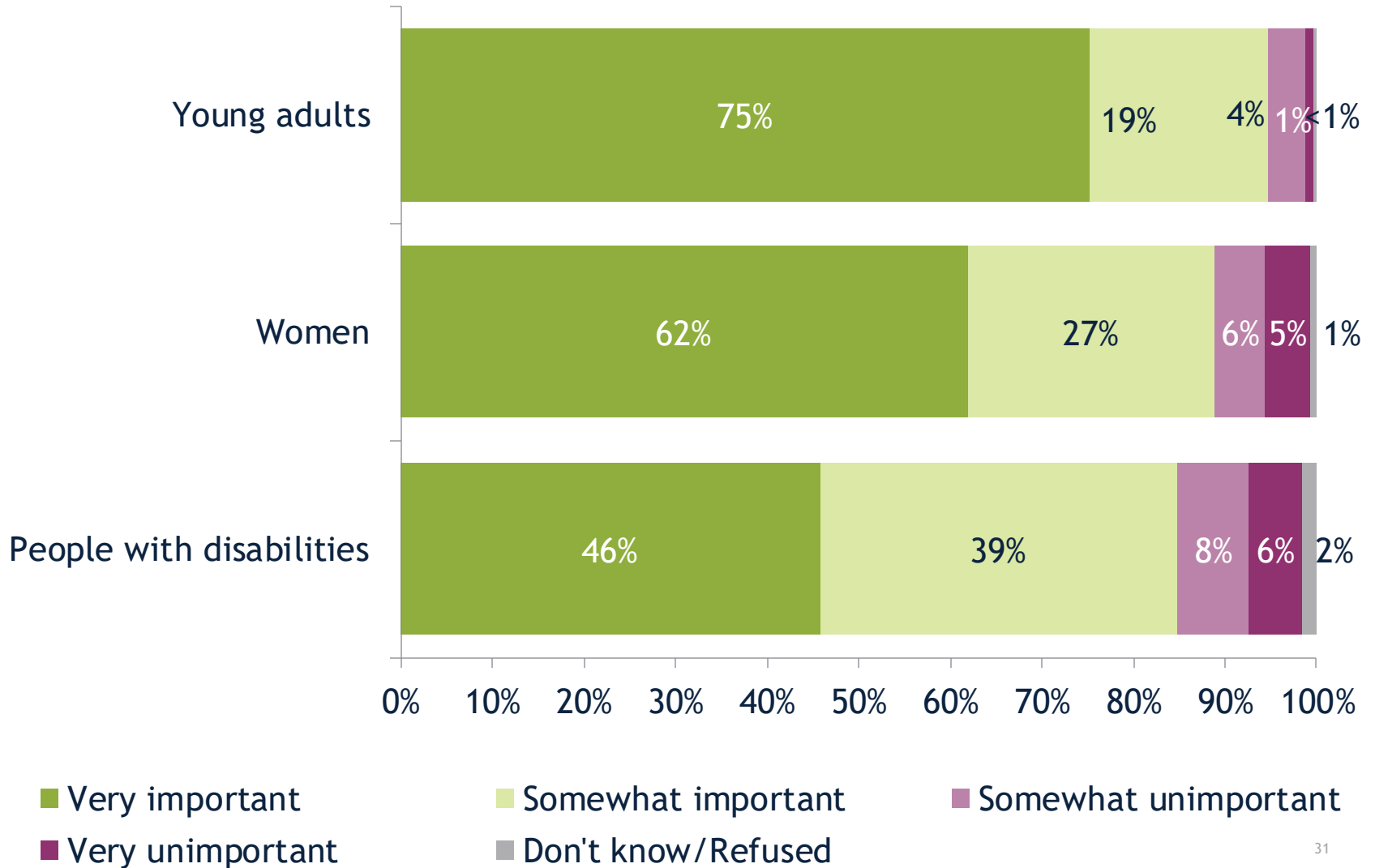
*Responses receiving <1% are collapsed into *Other*.

Inclusion and Civic Engagement

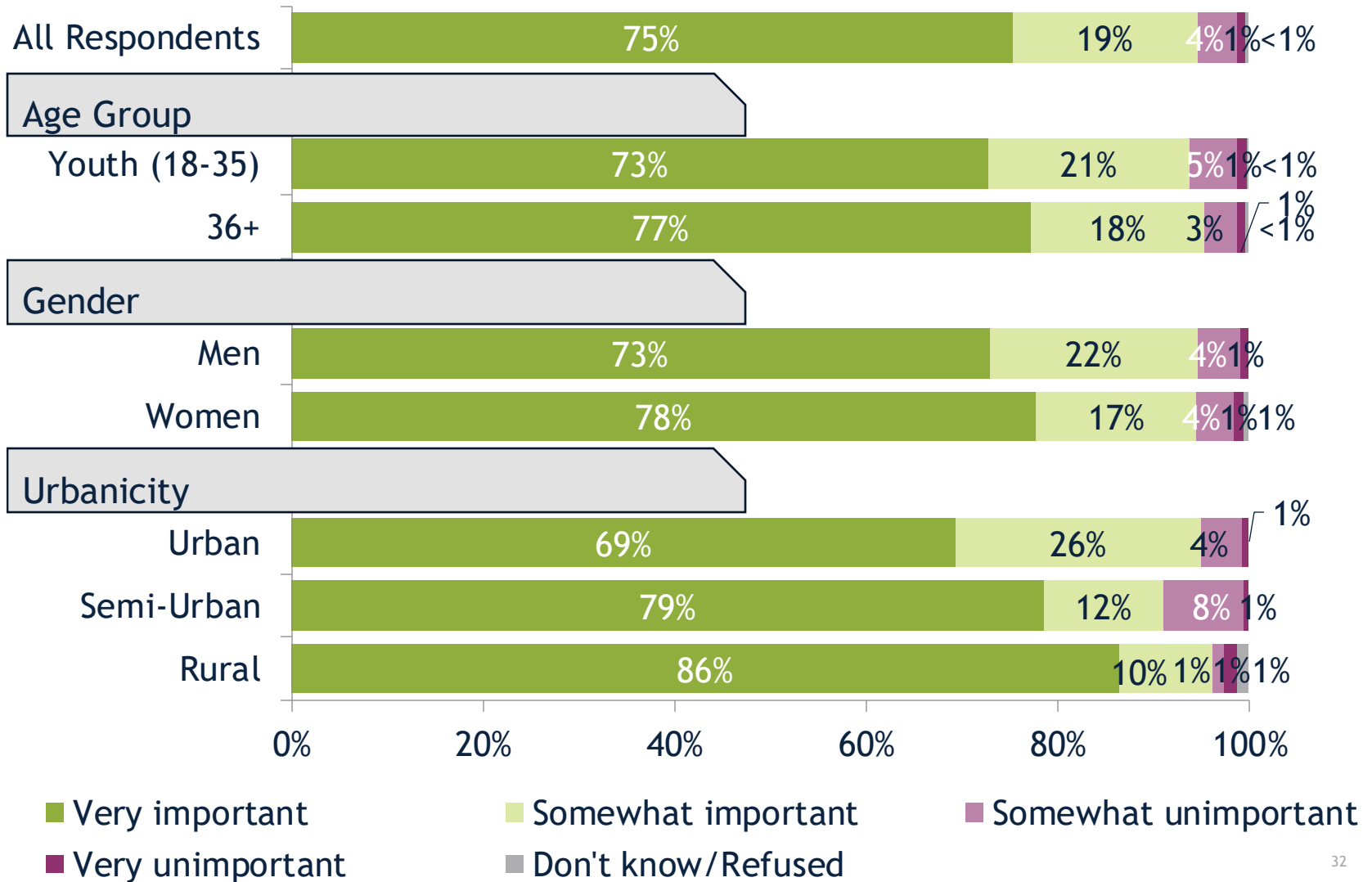




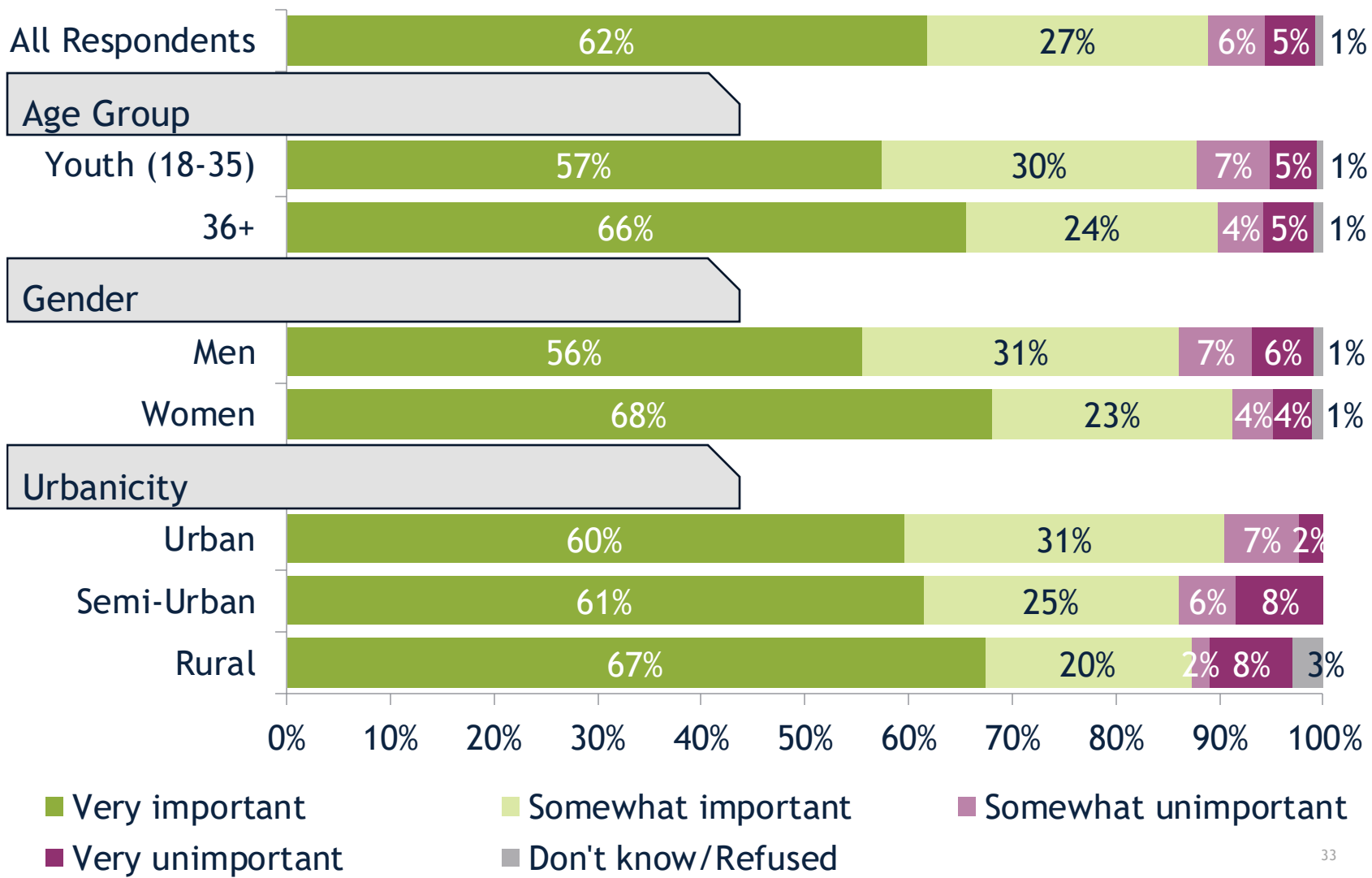
How important or unimportant is it that [...] are included in political decision making?



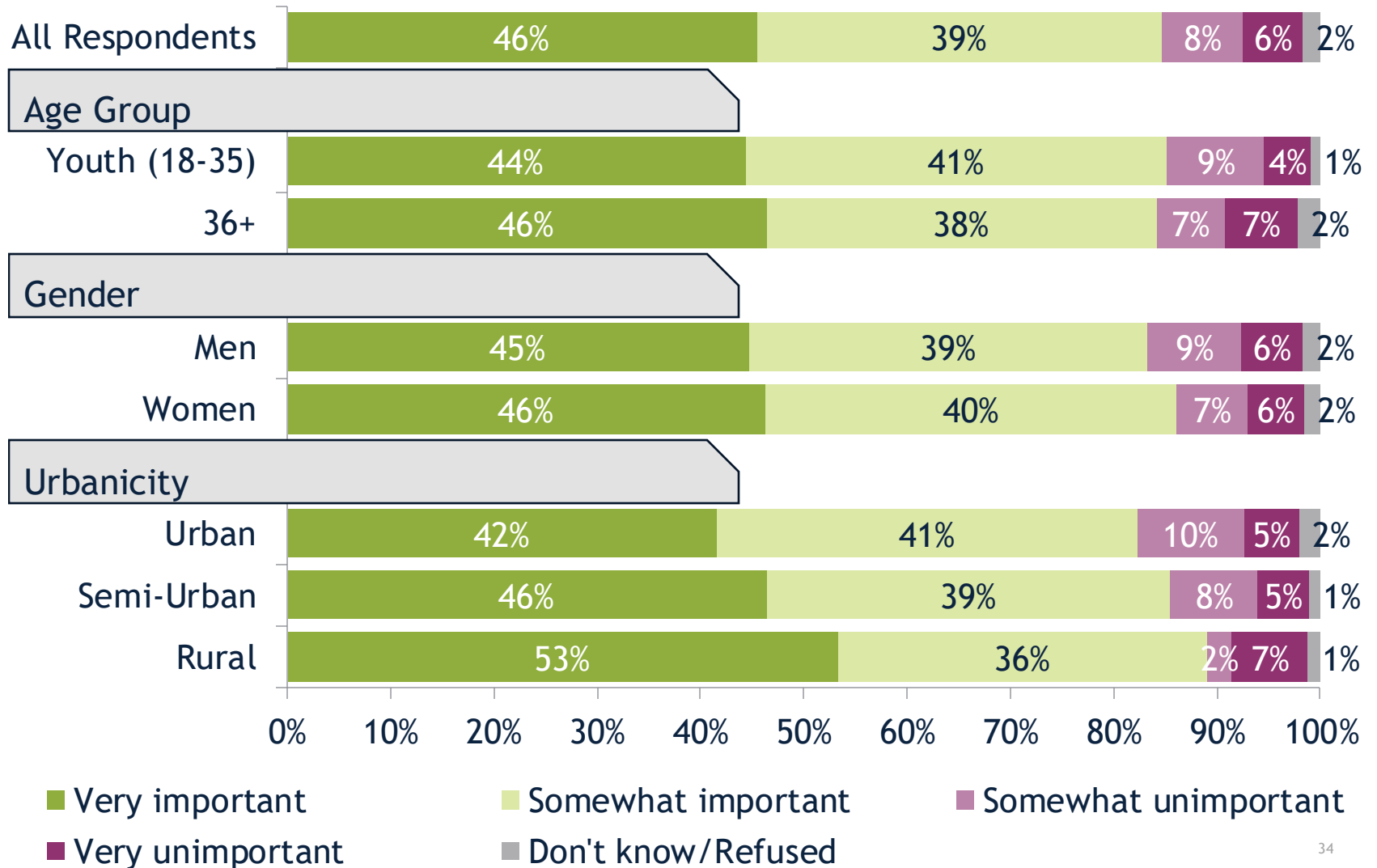
How important or unimportant is it that **young adults** are included in political decision making?



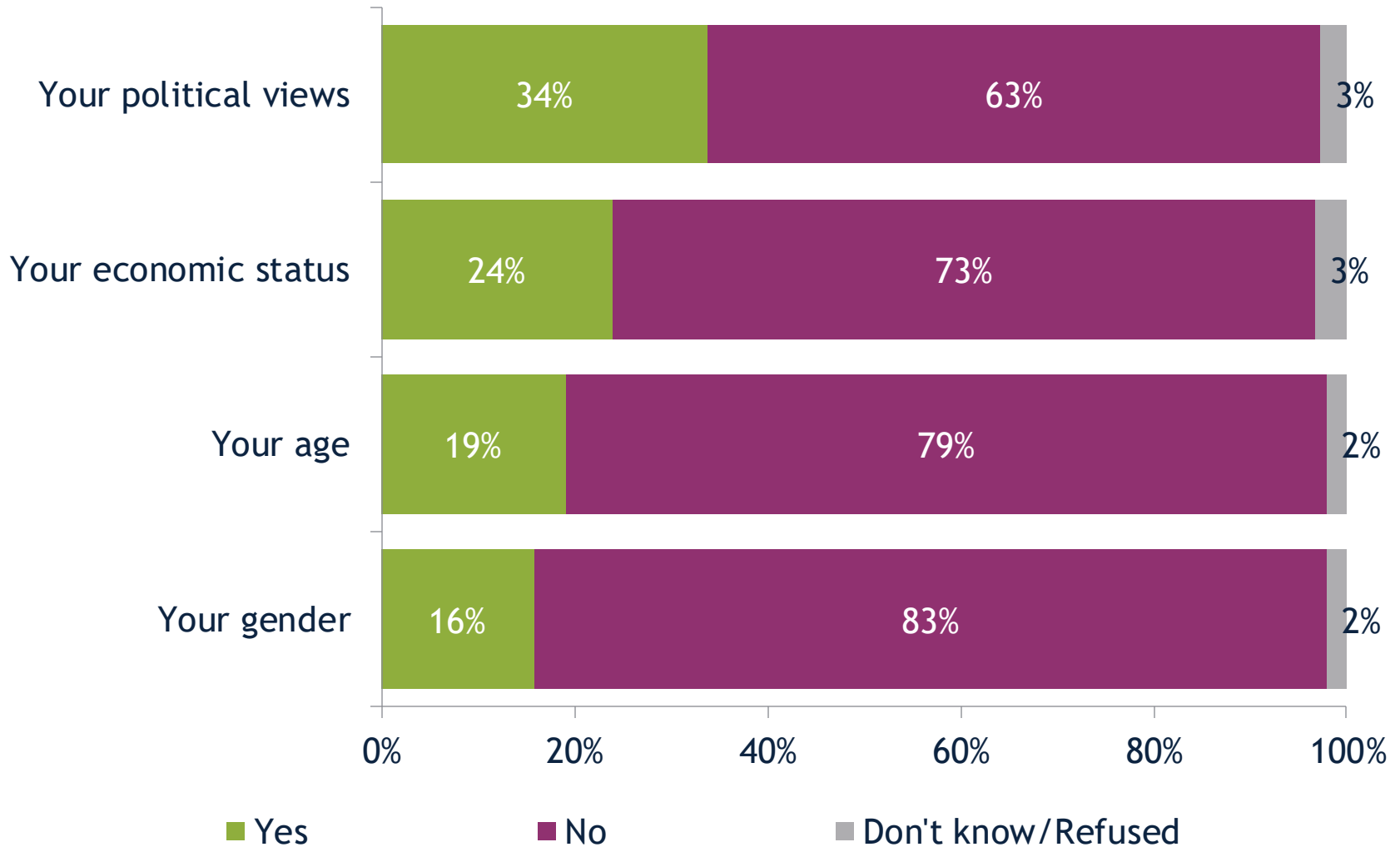
How important or unimportant is it that **women** are included in political decision making?



How important or unimportant is it that **people with disabilities** are included in political decision making?

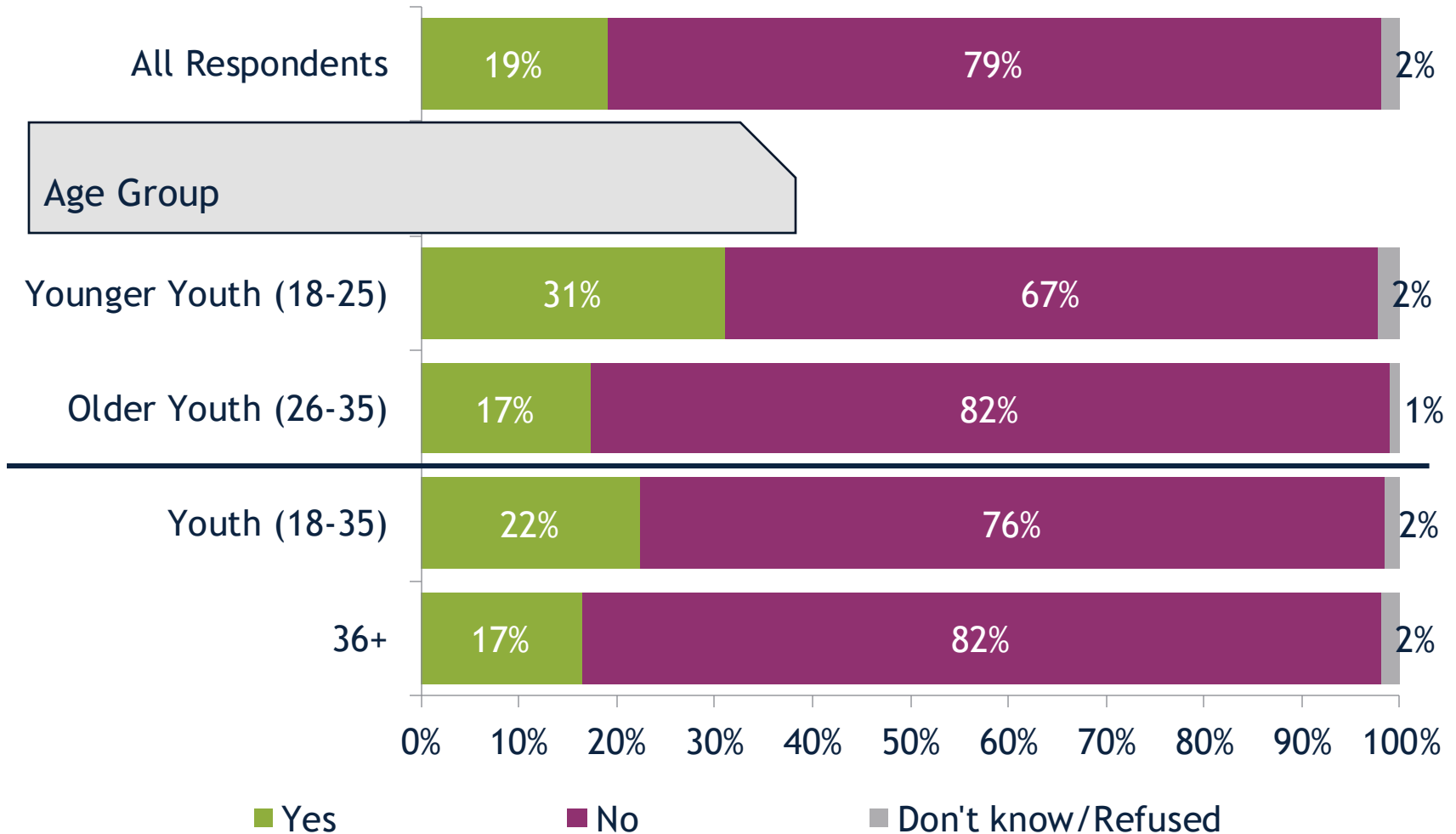


In the past 12 months have you personally felt discriminated against in our country on the basis of one or more of the following grounds? By discrimination, we mean when somebody is treated less favorably than others because of a specific personal feature.



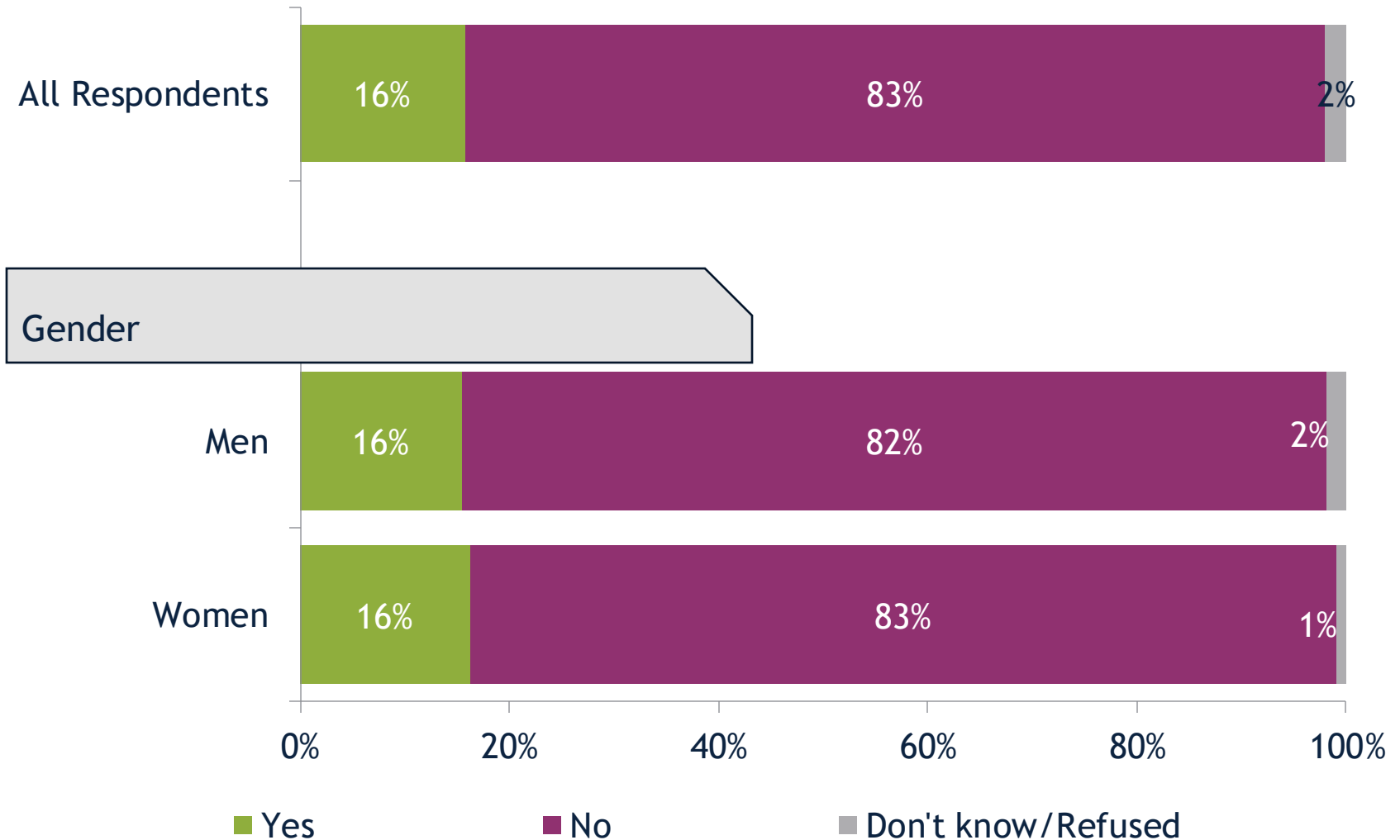
In the past 12 months have you personally felt discriminated against in our country on the basis of one or more of the following grounds? By discrimination, we mean when somebody is treated less favorably than others because of a specific personal feature.

Your age

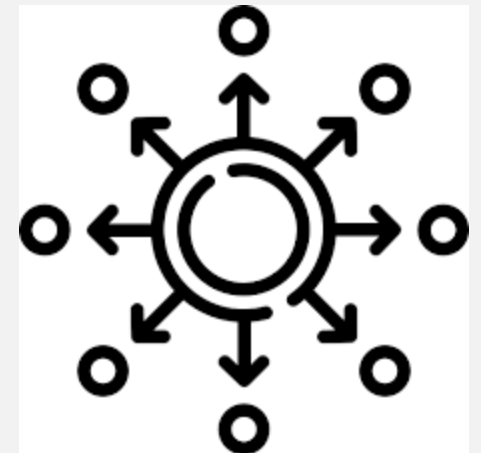


In the past 12 months have you personally felt discriminated against in our country on the basis of one or more of the following grounds? By discrimination, we mean when somebody is treated less favorably than others because of a specific personal feature.

Your gender

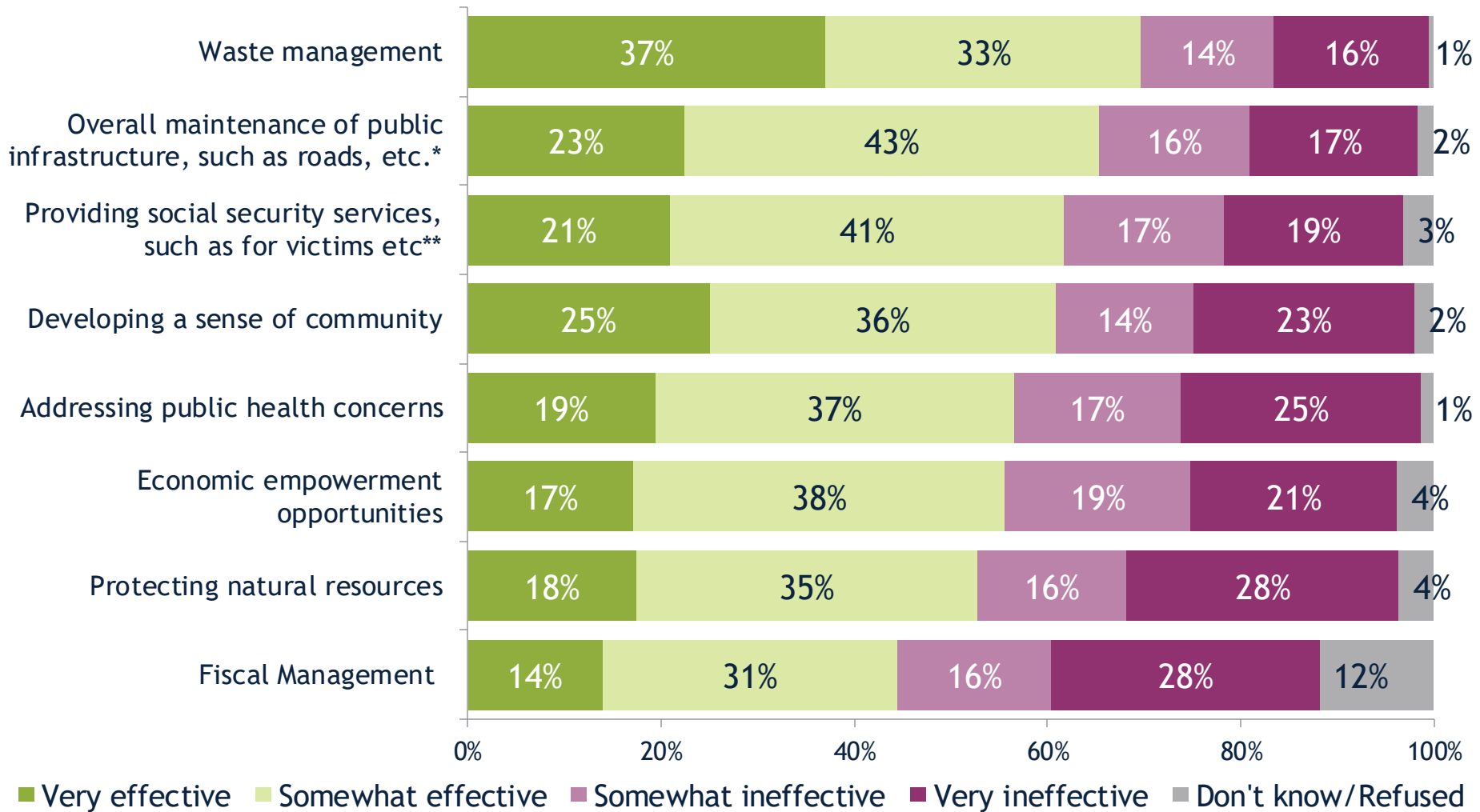


Decentralization





How effective or ineffective is your local council in the following areas?

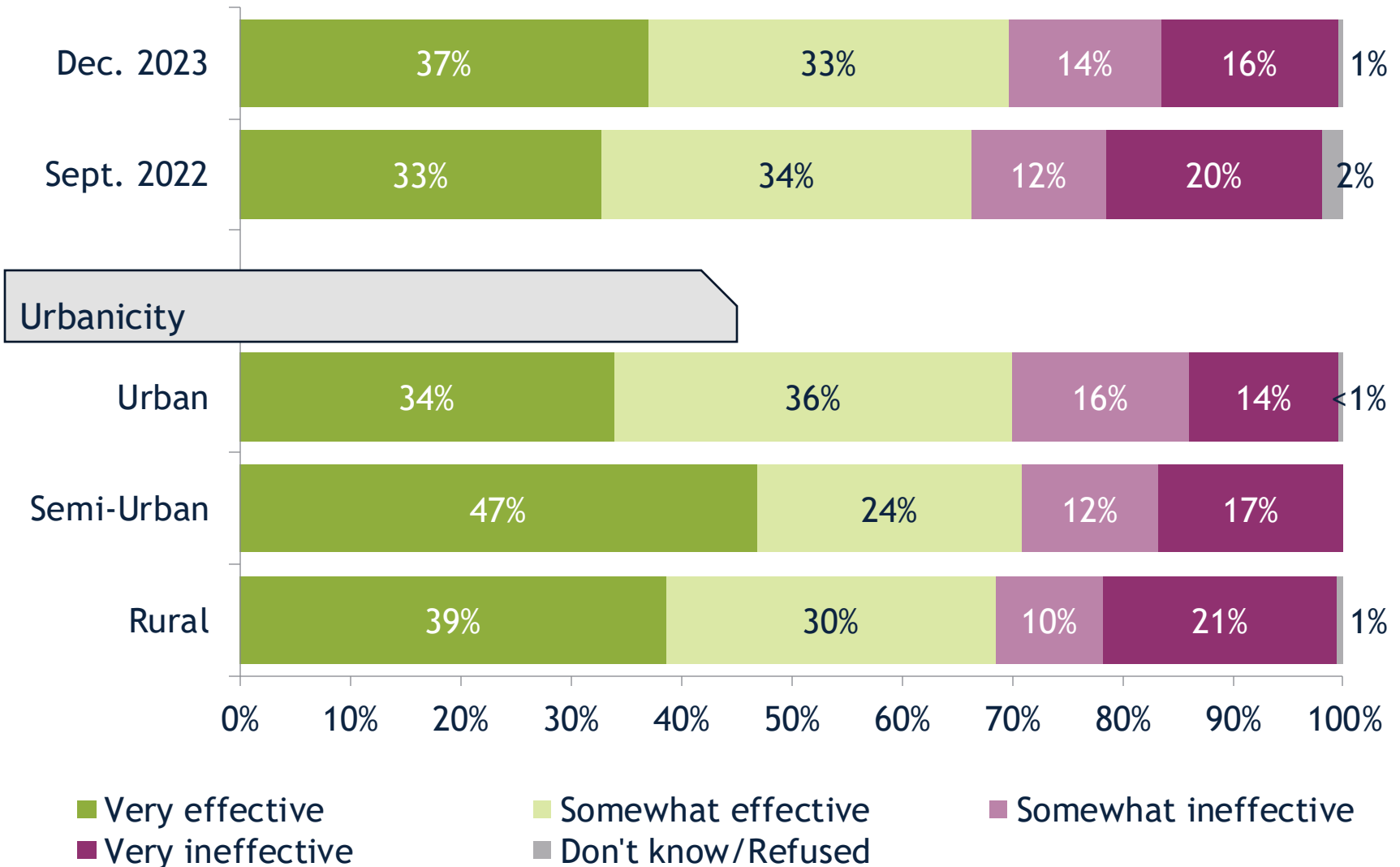


*Full text: Overall maintenance of public infrastructure, such as roads, jetty, social centers, cemeteries, historical sites, library etc.

** Full text: Providing social security services, such as for victims of domestic violence, senior citizens and those with special needs, etc.

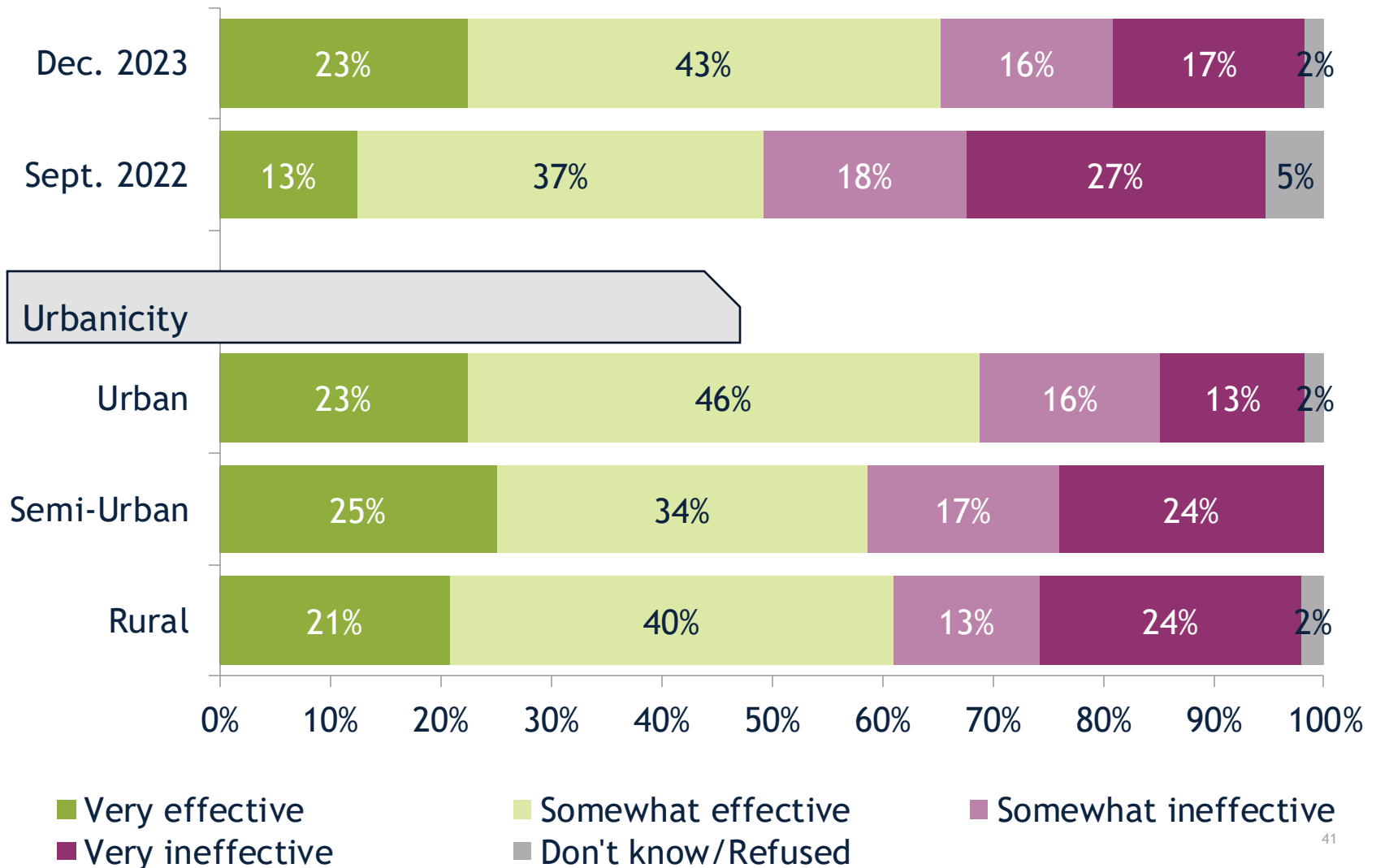
How effective or ineffective is your local council in the following areas?

Waste Management



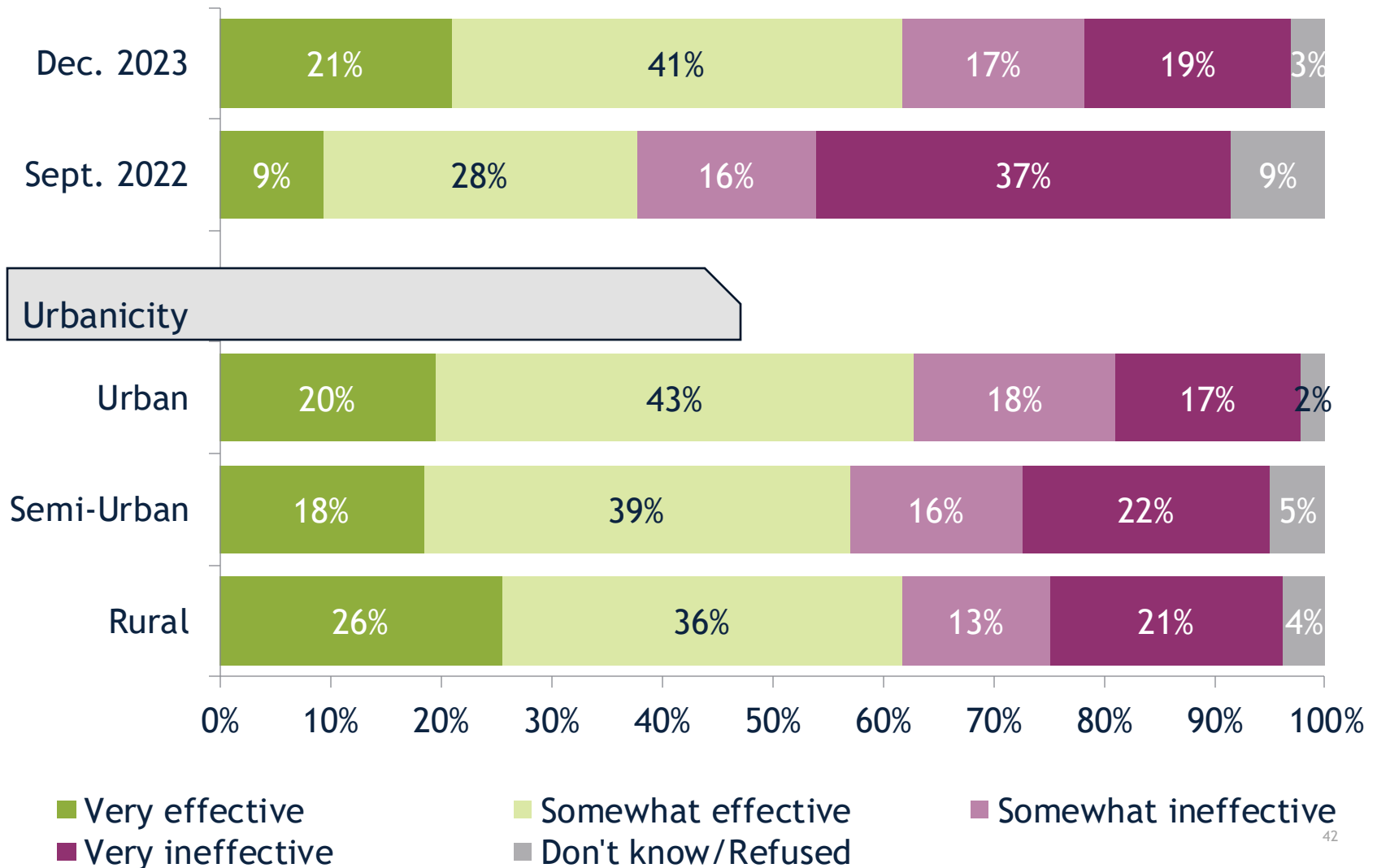
How effective or ineffective is your local council in the following areas?

Overall maintenance of public infrastructure, such as roads, jetty, social centers, cemeteries, historical sites, library etc.



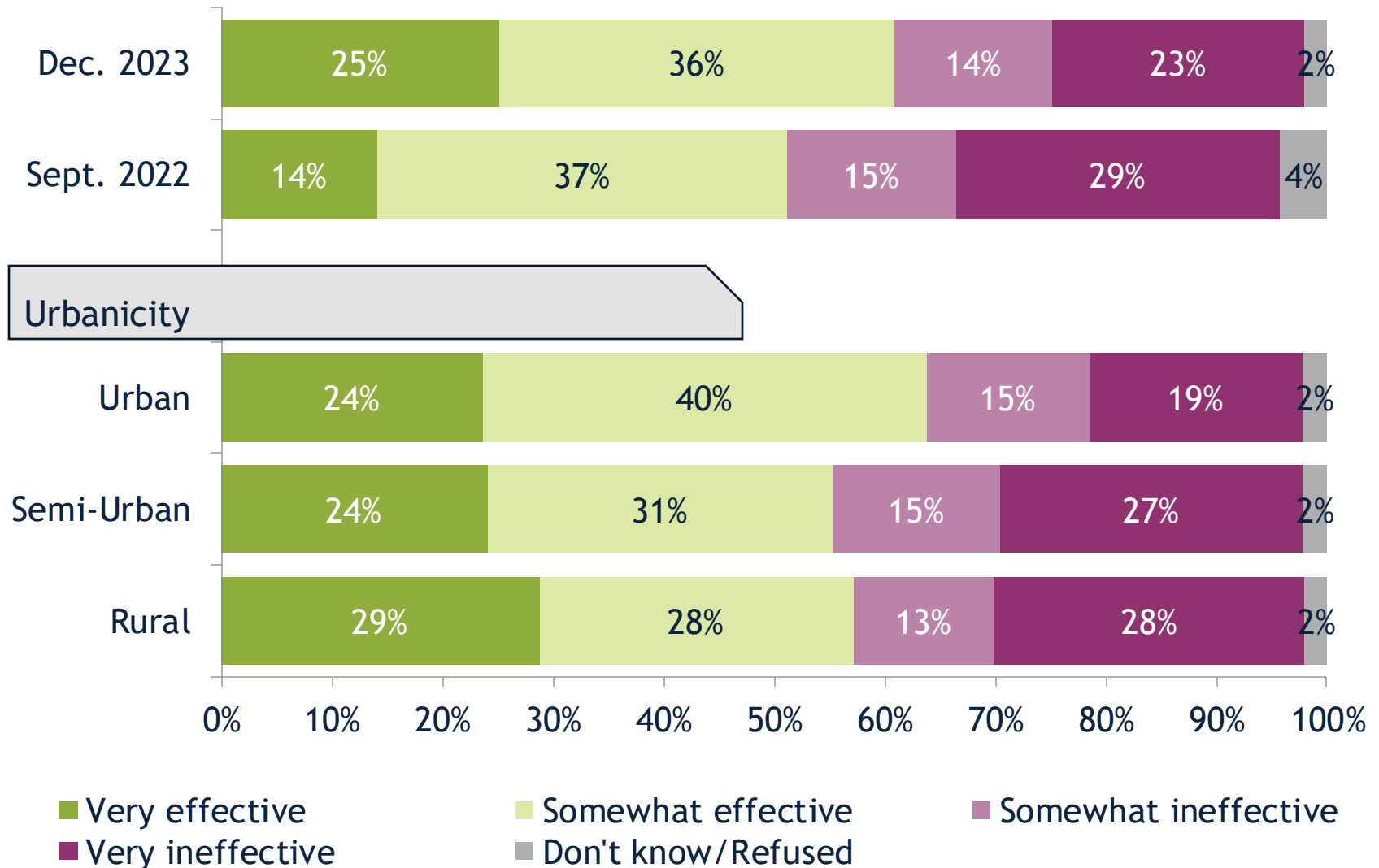
How effective or ineffective is your local council in the following areas?

Providing social security services, such as for victims of domestic violence, senior citizens and those with special needs, etc.



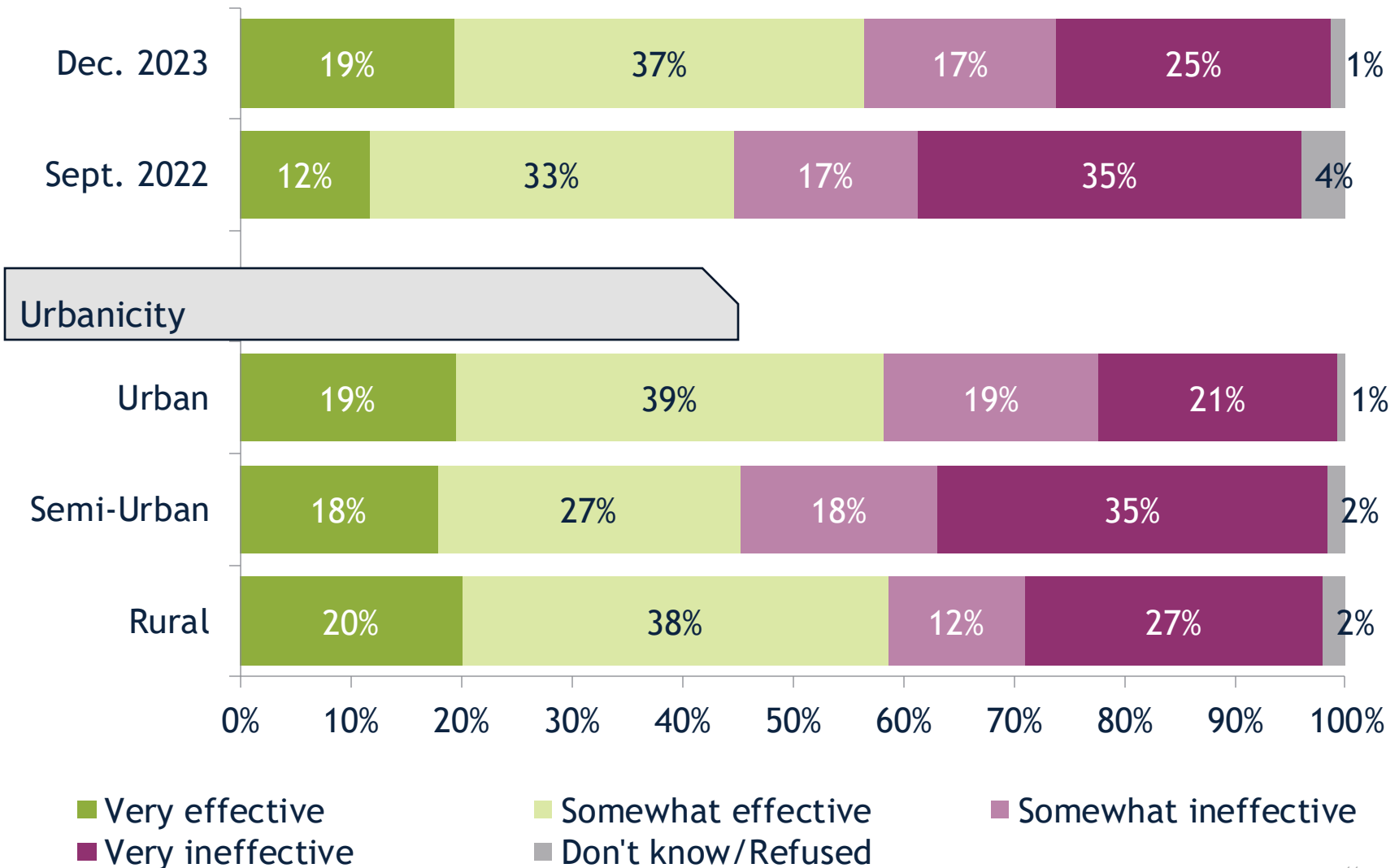
How effective or ineffective is your local council in the following areas?

Developing a sense of community



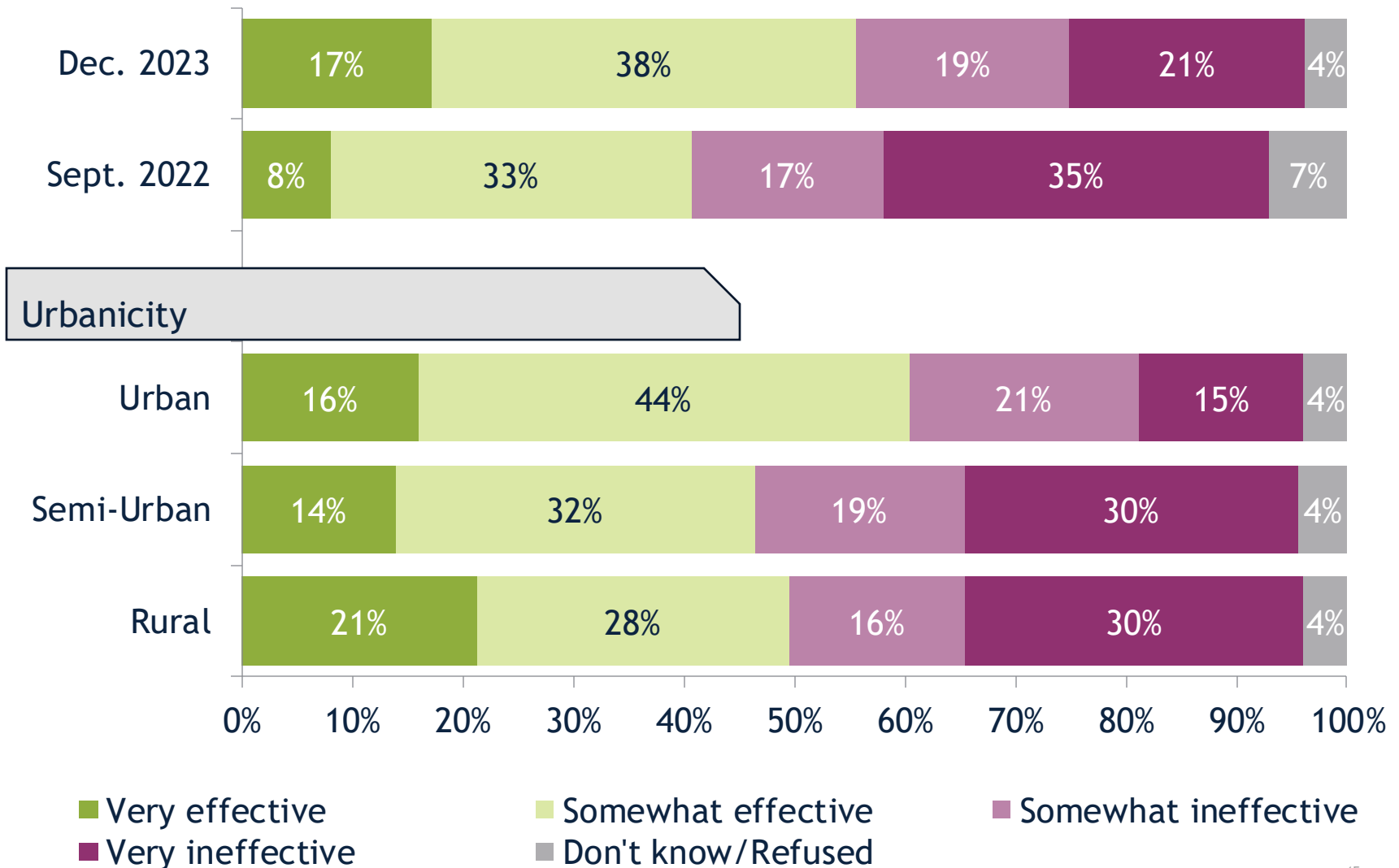
How effective or ineffective is your local council in the following areas?

Addressing public health concerns



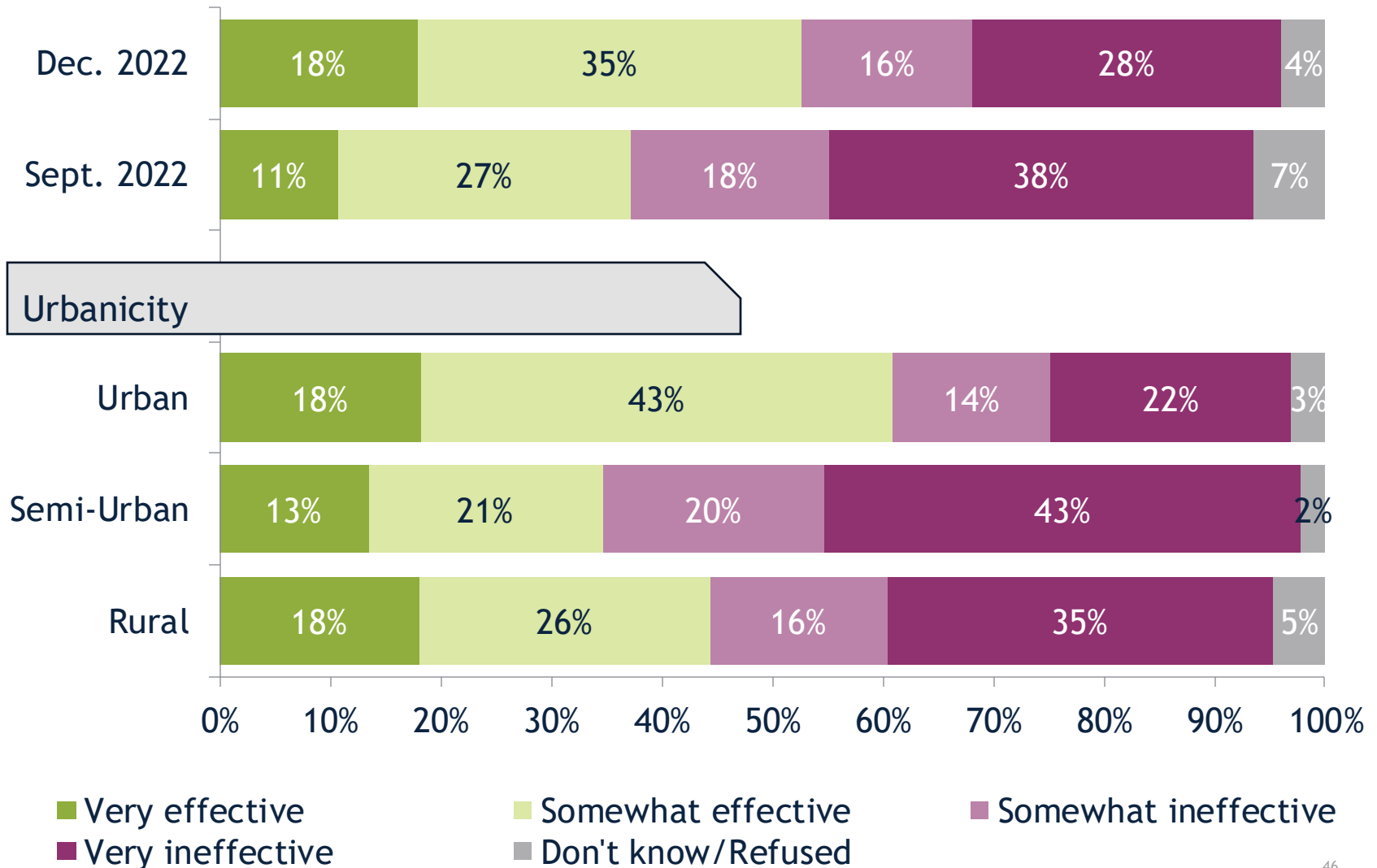
How effective or ineffective is your local council in the following areas?

Economic empowerment opportunities



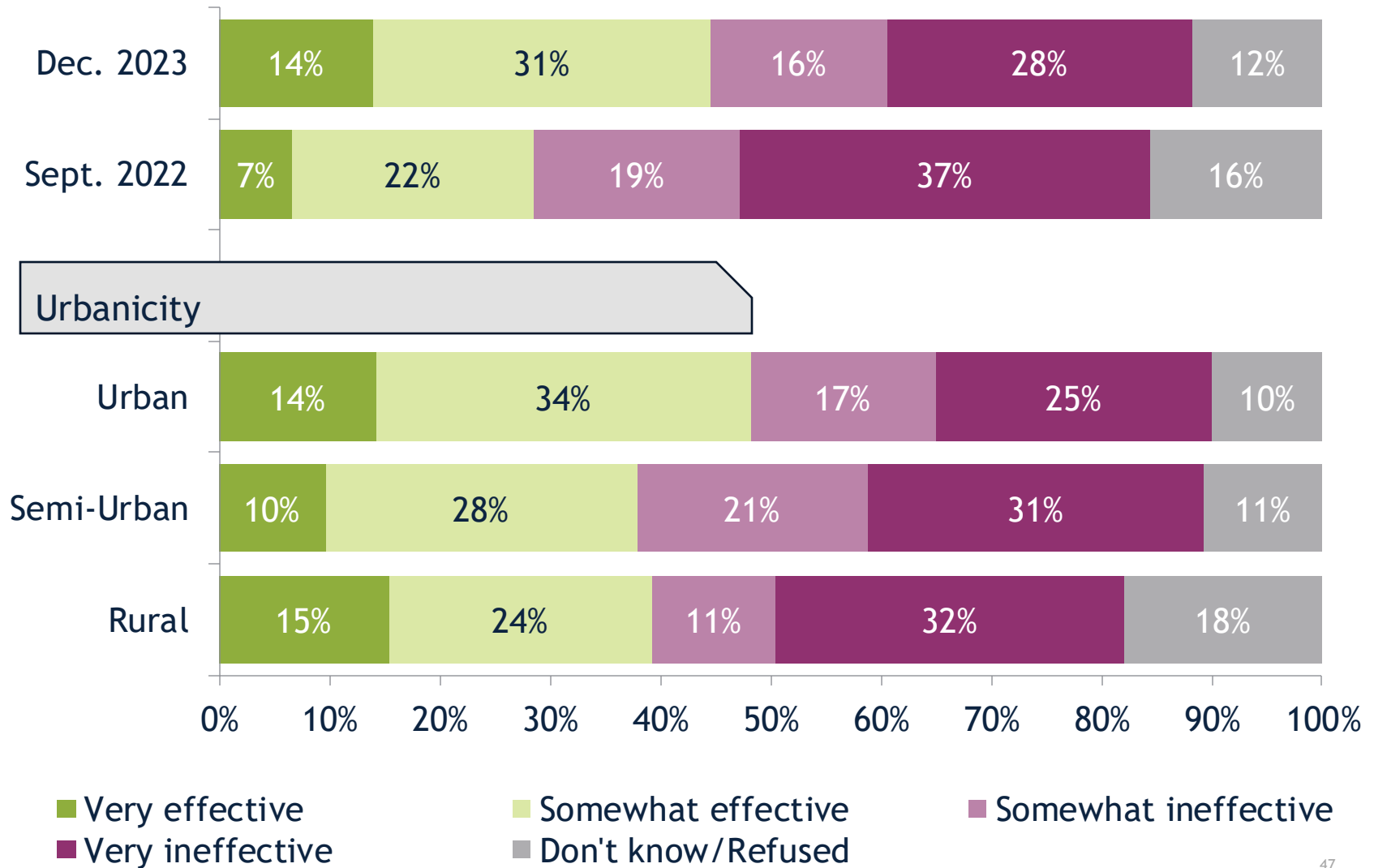
How effective or ineffective is your local council in the following areas?

Protecting natural resources



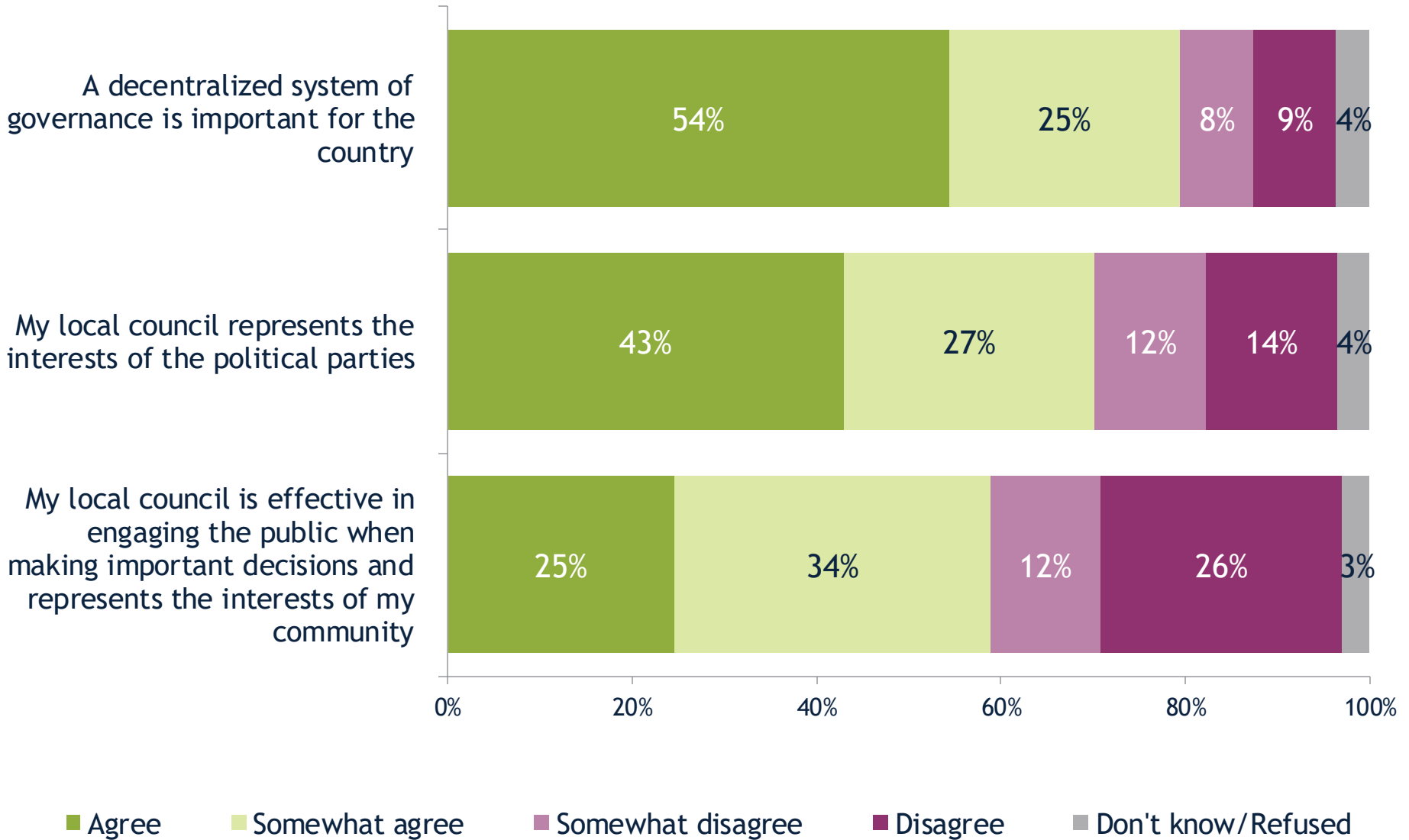
How effective or ineffective is your local council in the following areas?

Fiscal management



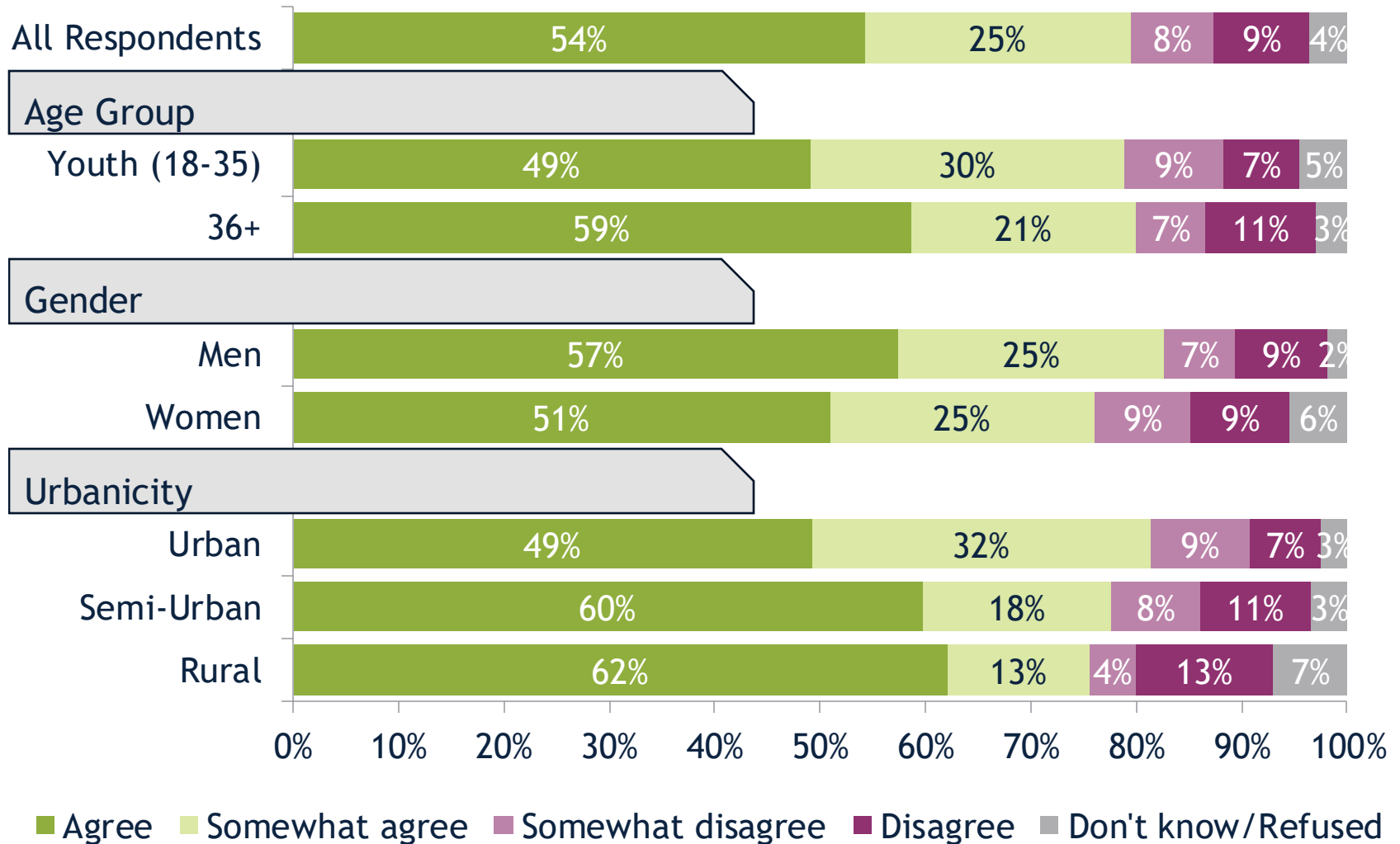


To what extent do you agree or disagree with the following statements?



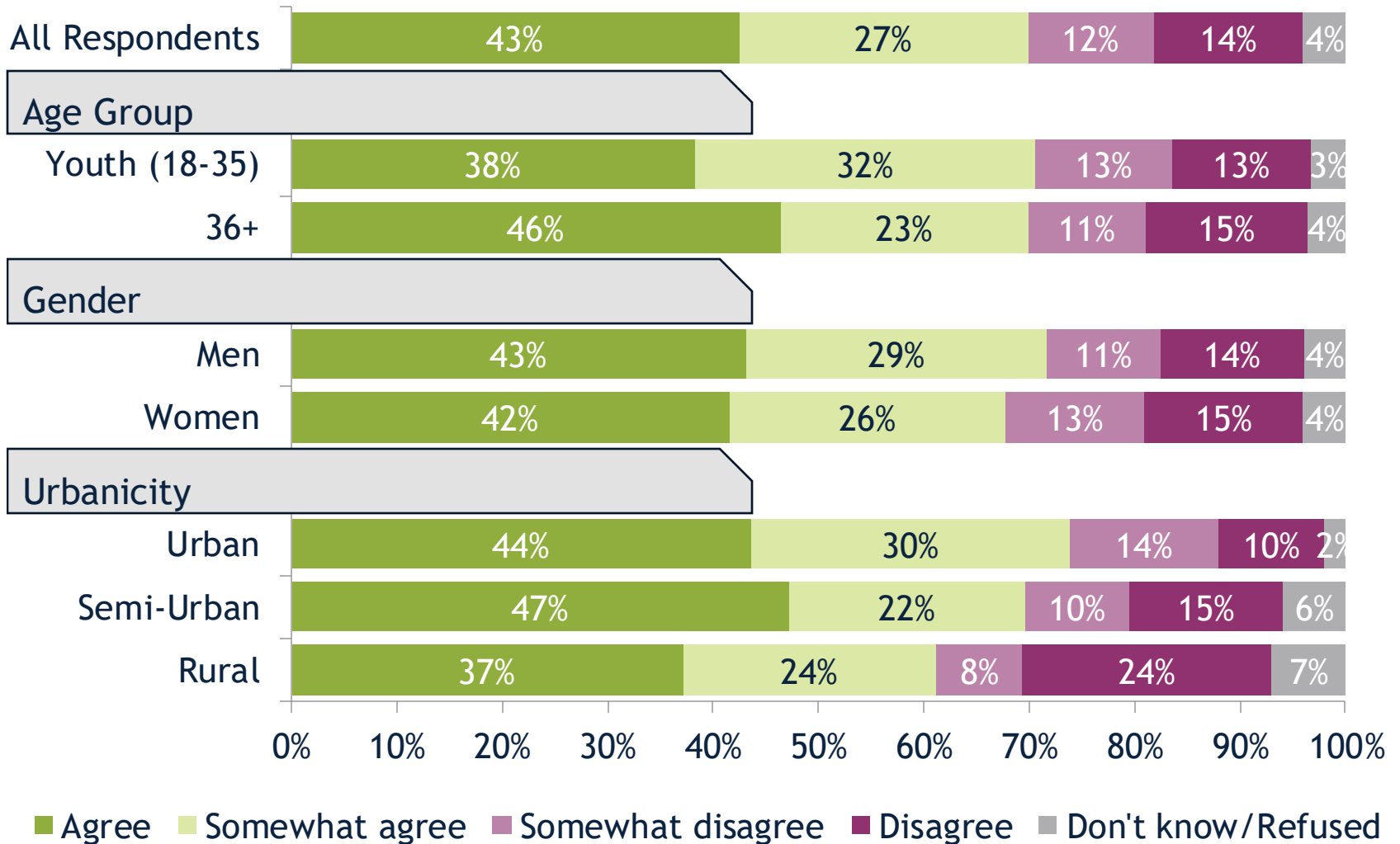
To what extent do you agree or disagree with the following statement?

A decentralized system of governance is important for the country



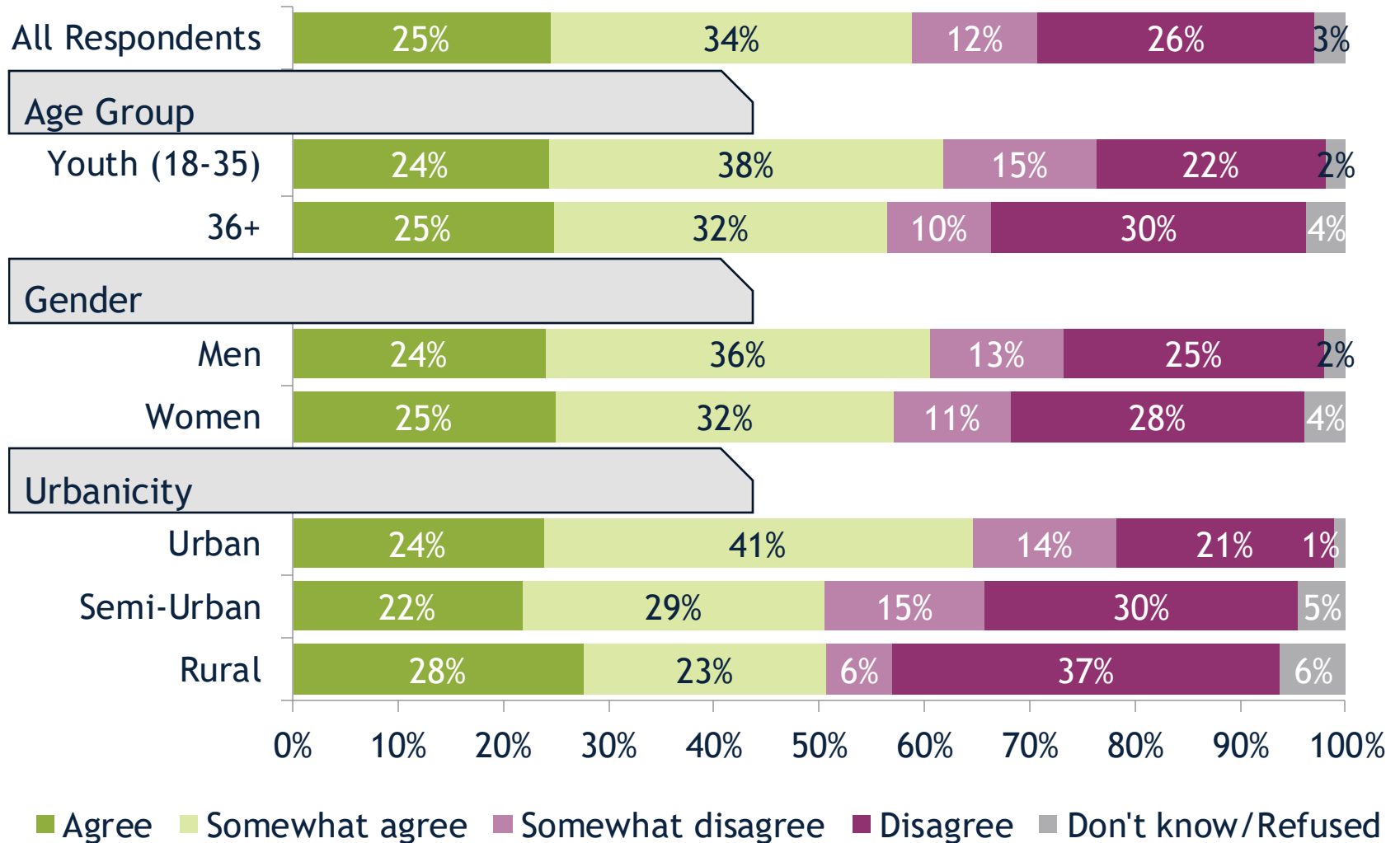
To what extent do you agree or disagree with the following statement?

My local council represents the interests of the political parties



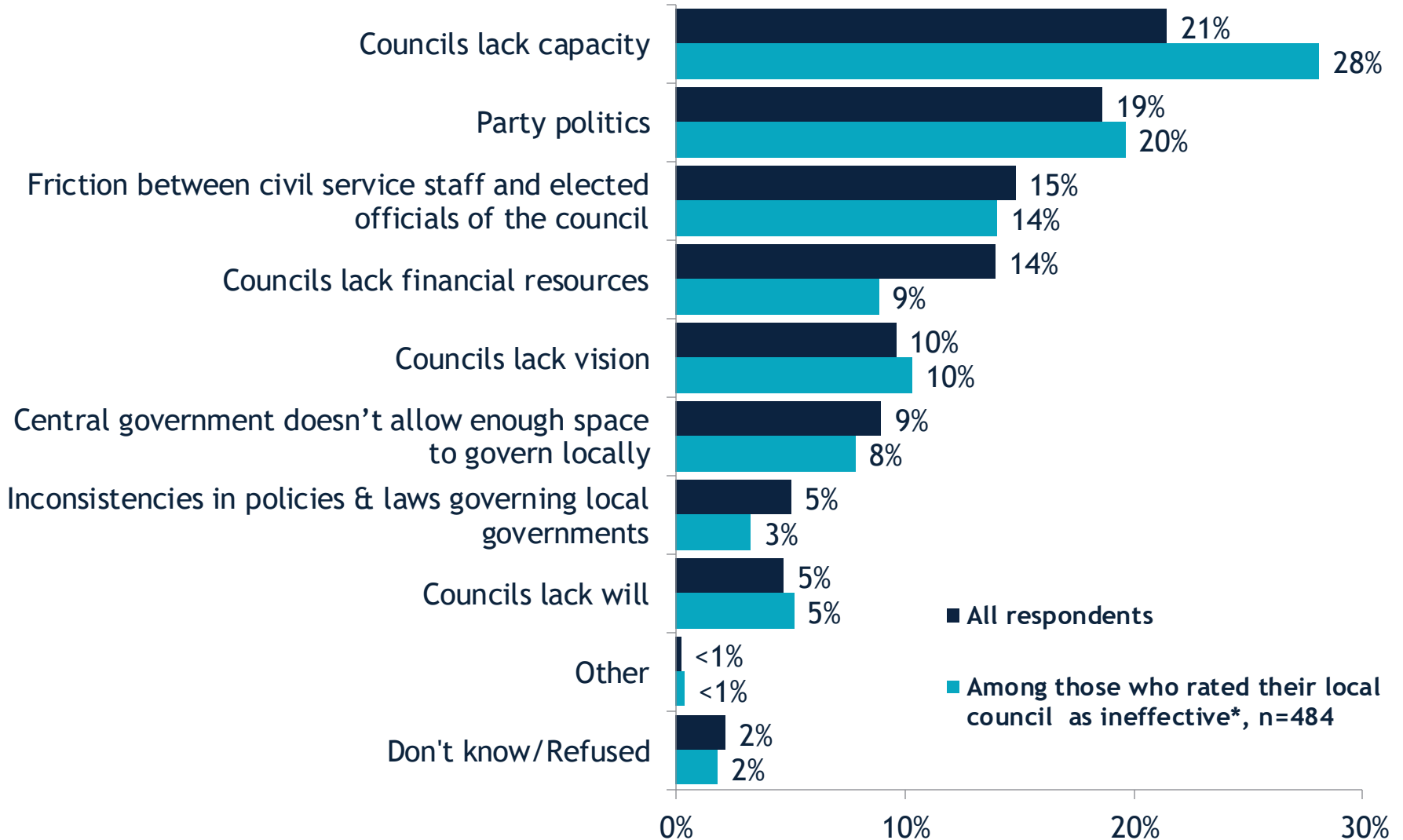
To what extent do you agree or disagree with the following statement?

My local council is effective in engaging the public when making important decisions and represents the interests of my community





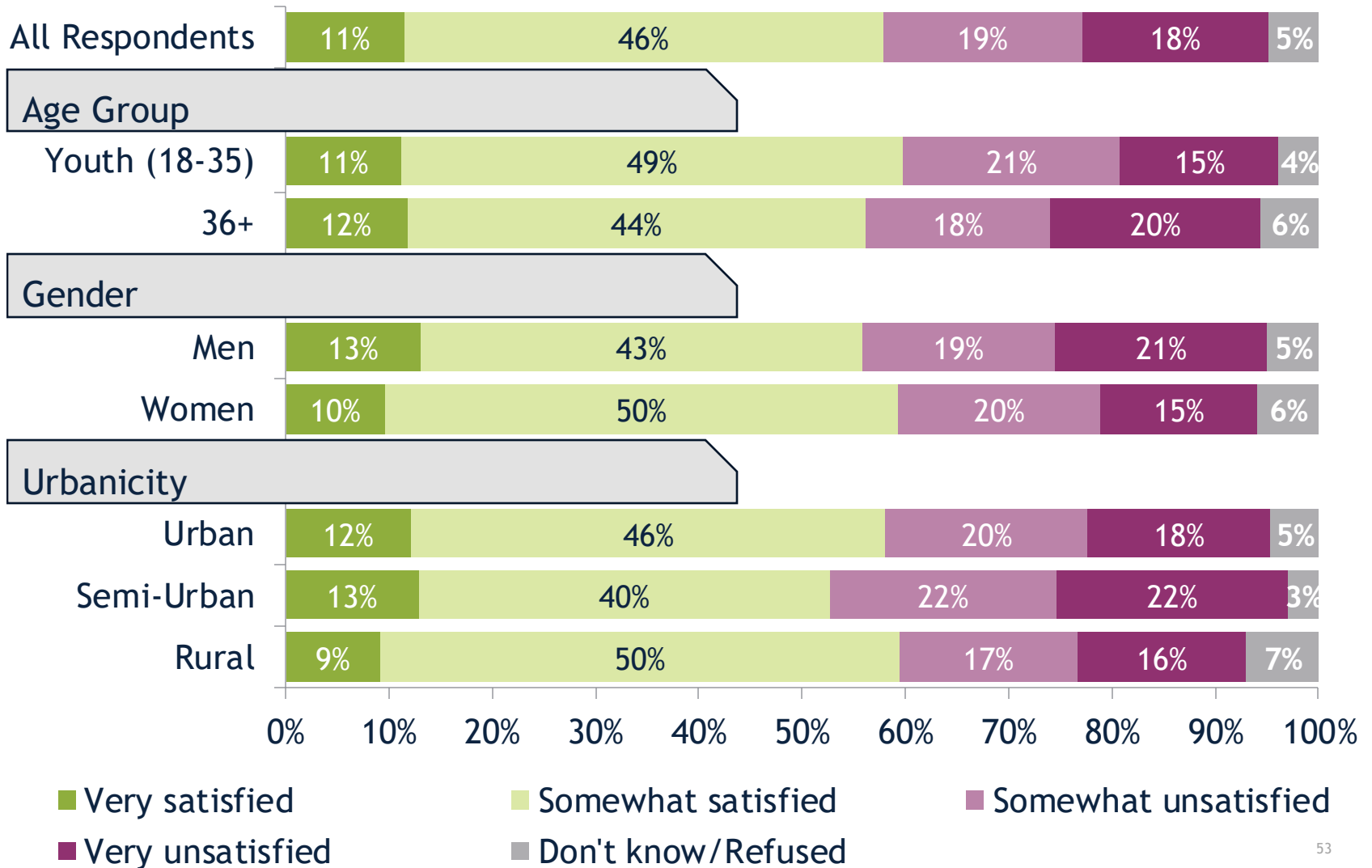
Which among the following is the greatest obstacle local councils face in functioning effectively?



*Among those who rated their local council as ineffective in engaging the public when making important decisions and representing the interests of their community

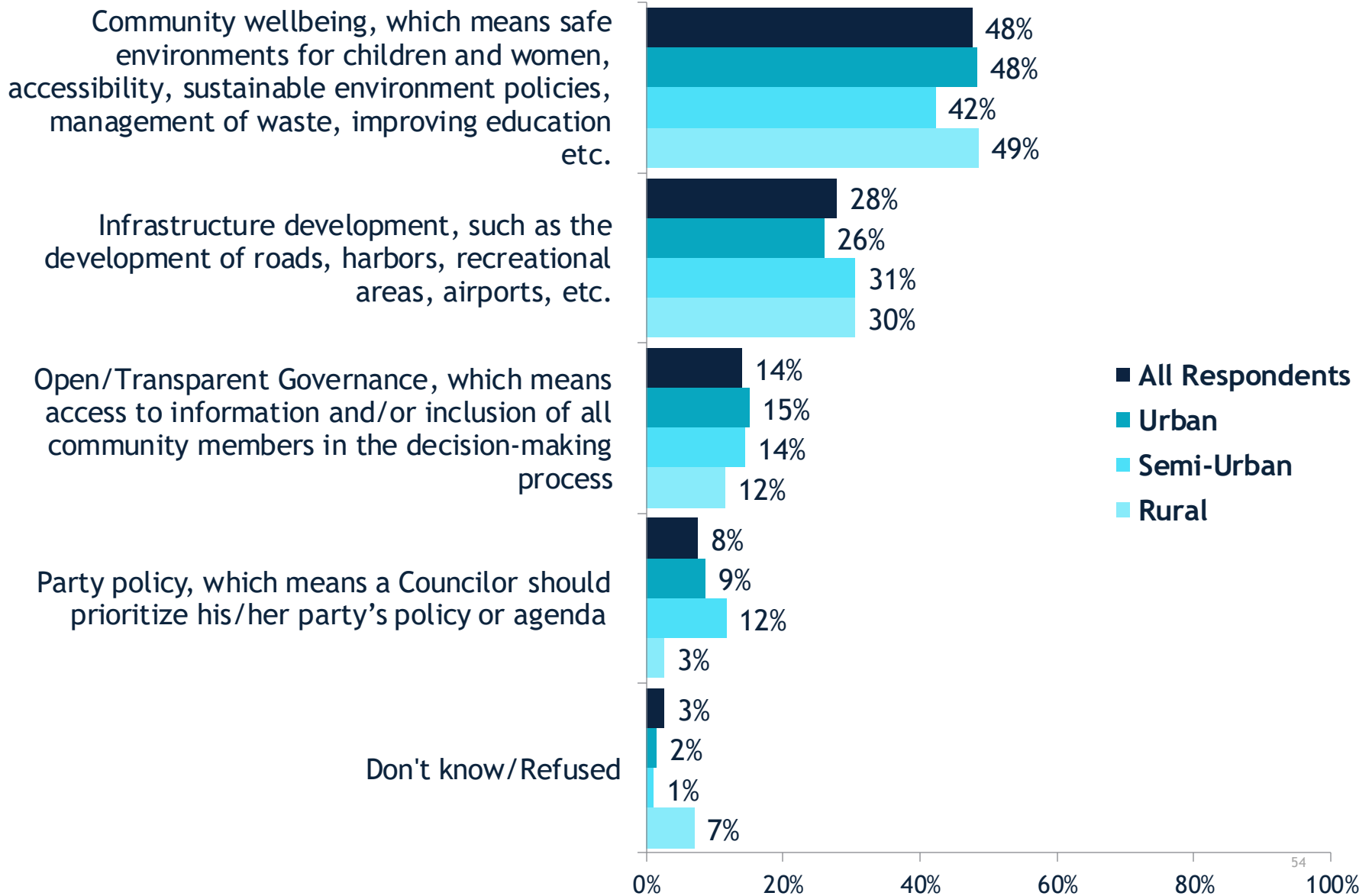


How satisfied or dissatisfied are you with the pace of decentralization in the country?



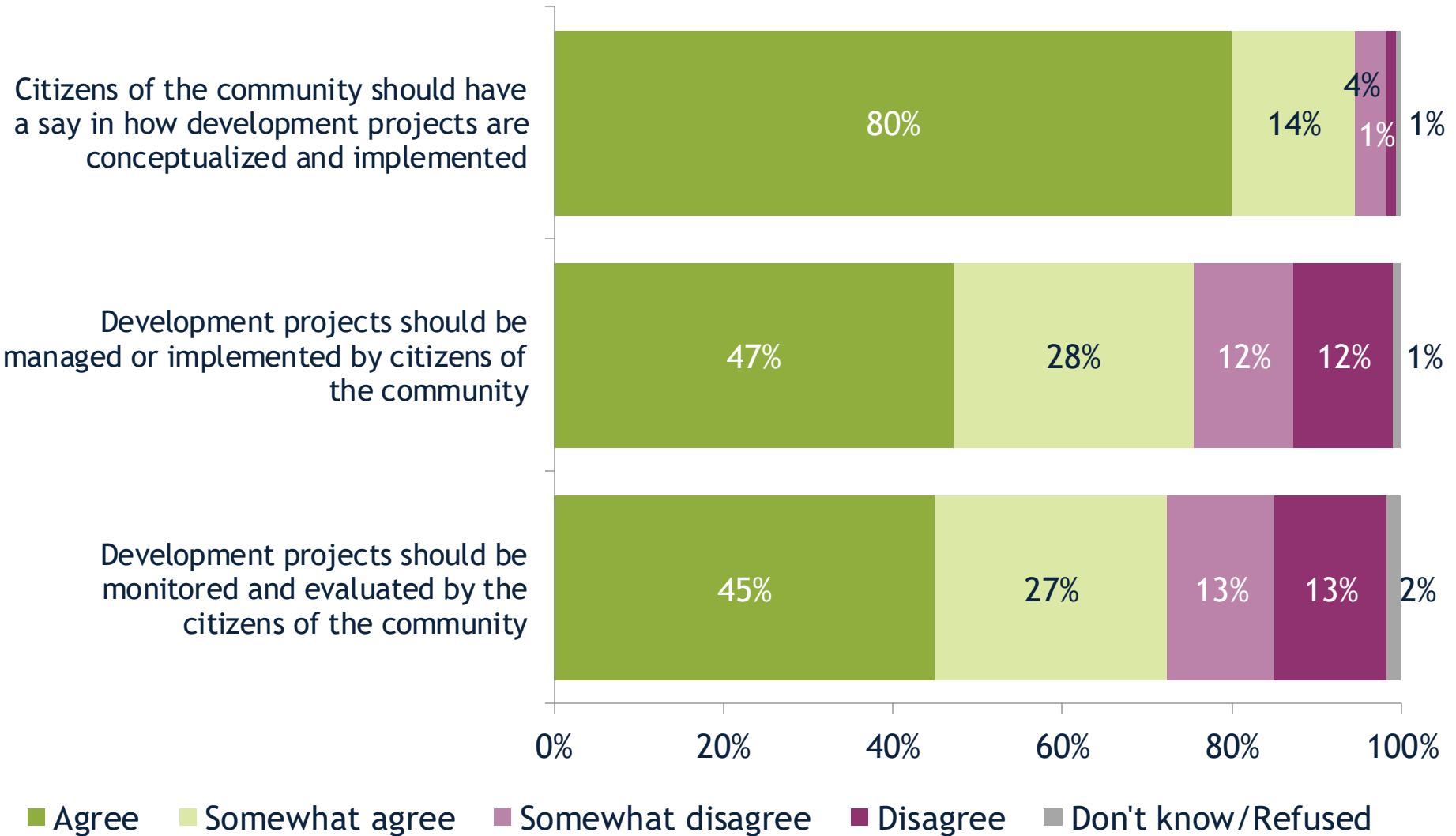


Of the following areas, which do you think your local councilor should prioritize?



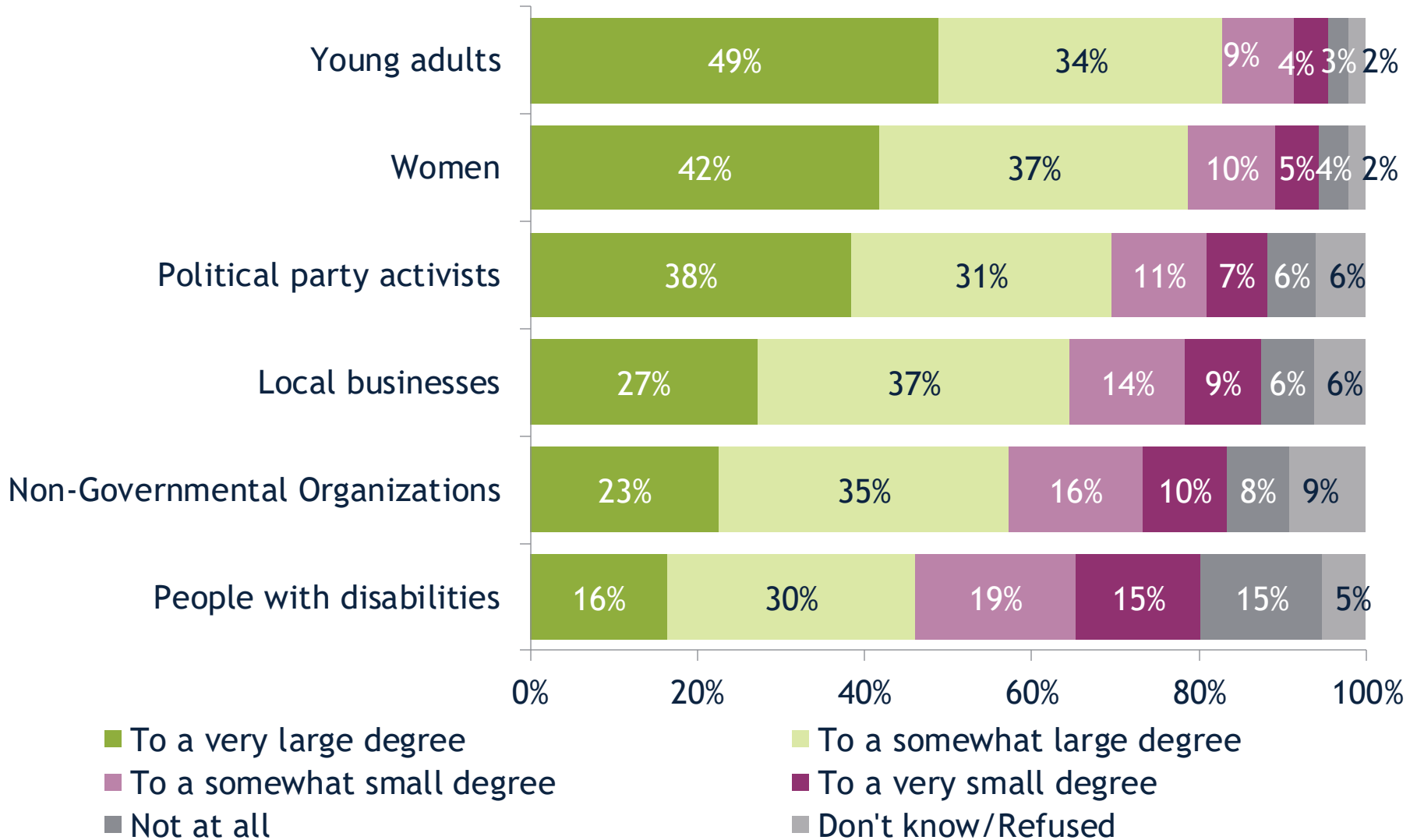


When thinking about community involvement in development projects, to what extent do you agree or disagree with the following statements?

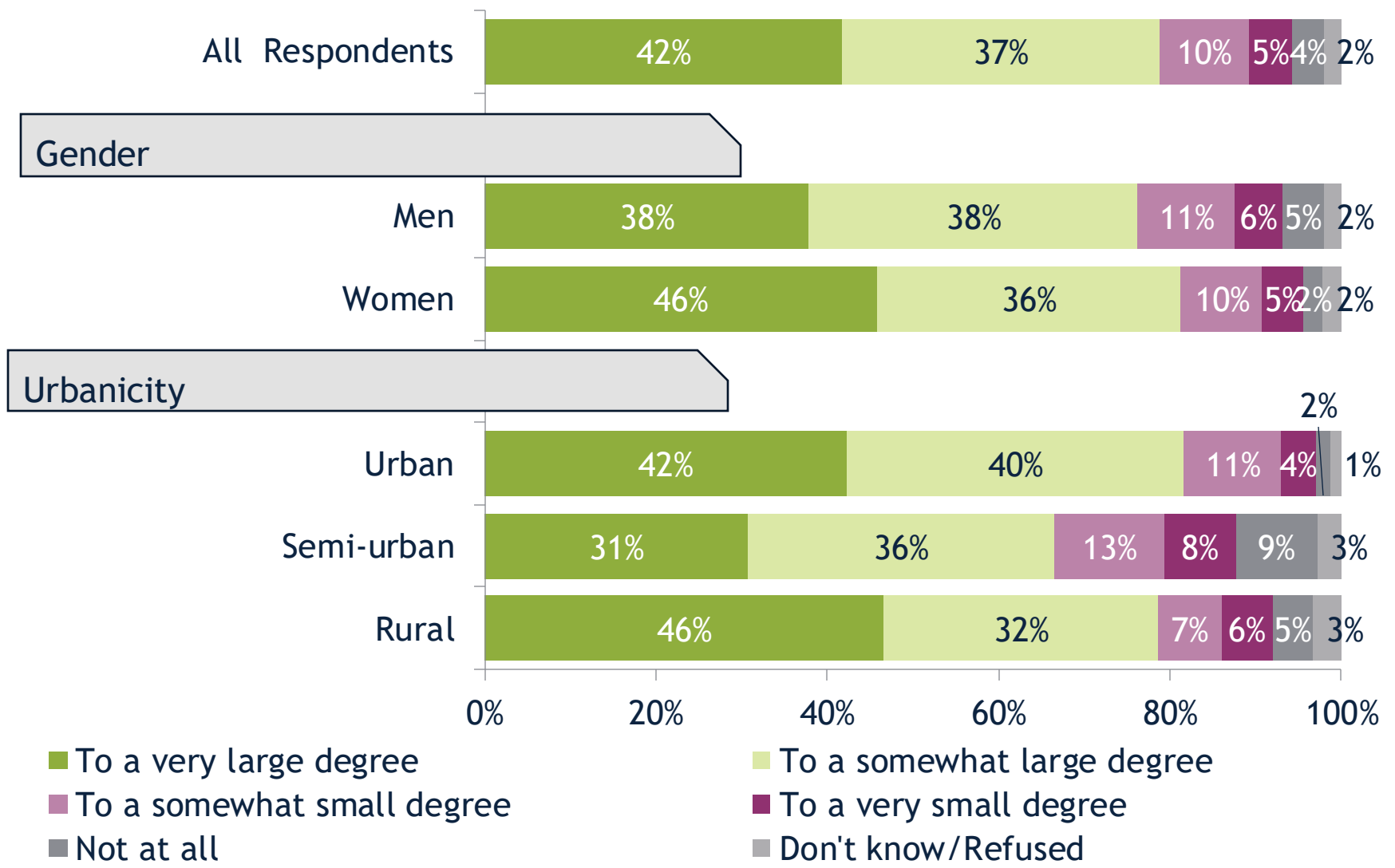




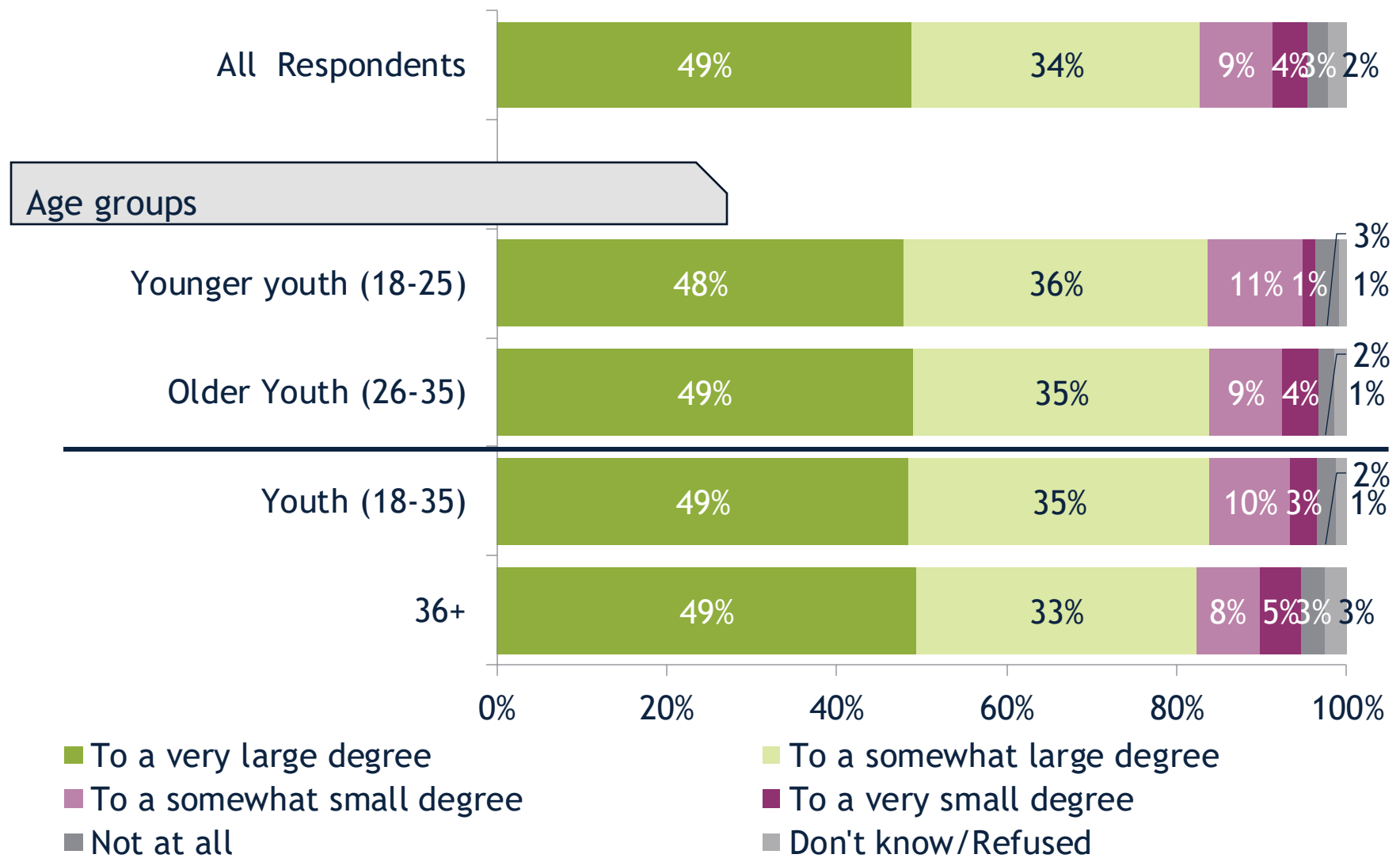
To what degree do local councils involve the following parties in their decision-making processes?



To what degree do local councils involve the following parties in their decision-making processes? **Women**



To what degree do local councils involve the following parties in their decision-making processes? **Young Adults**



Courts

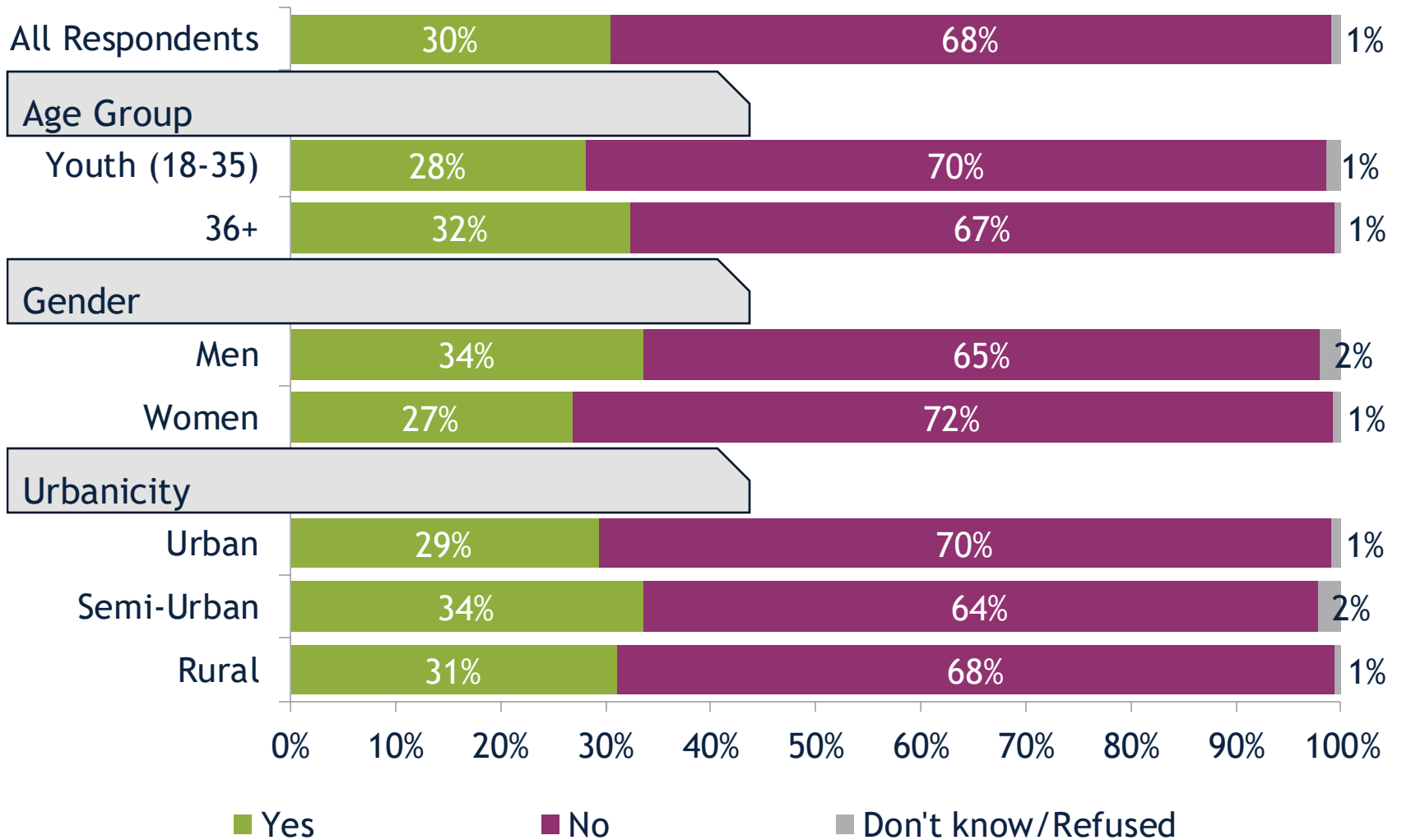


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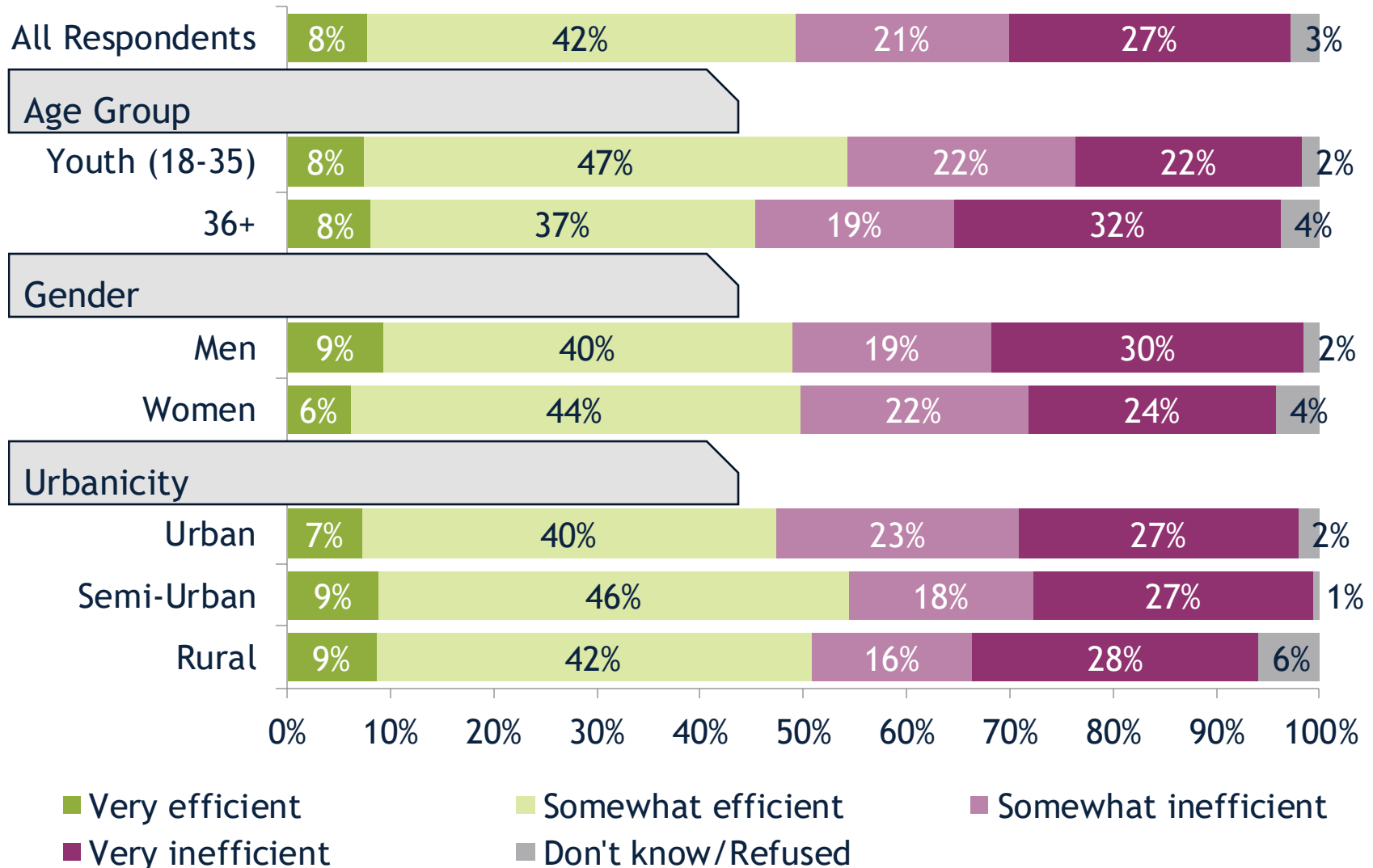




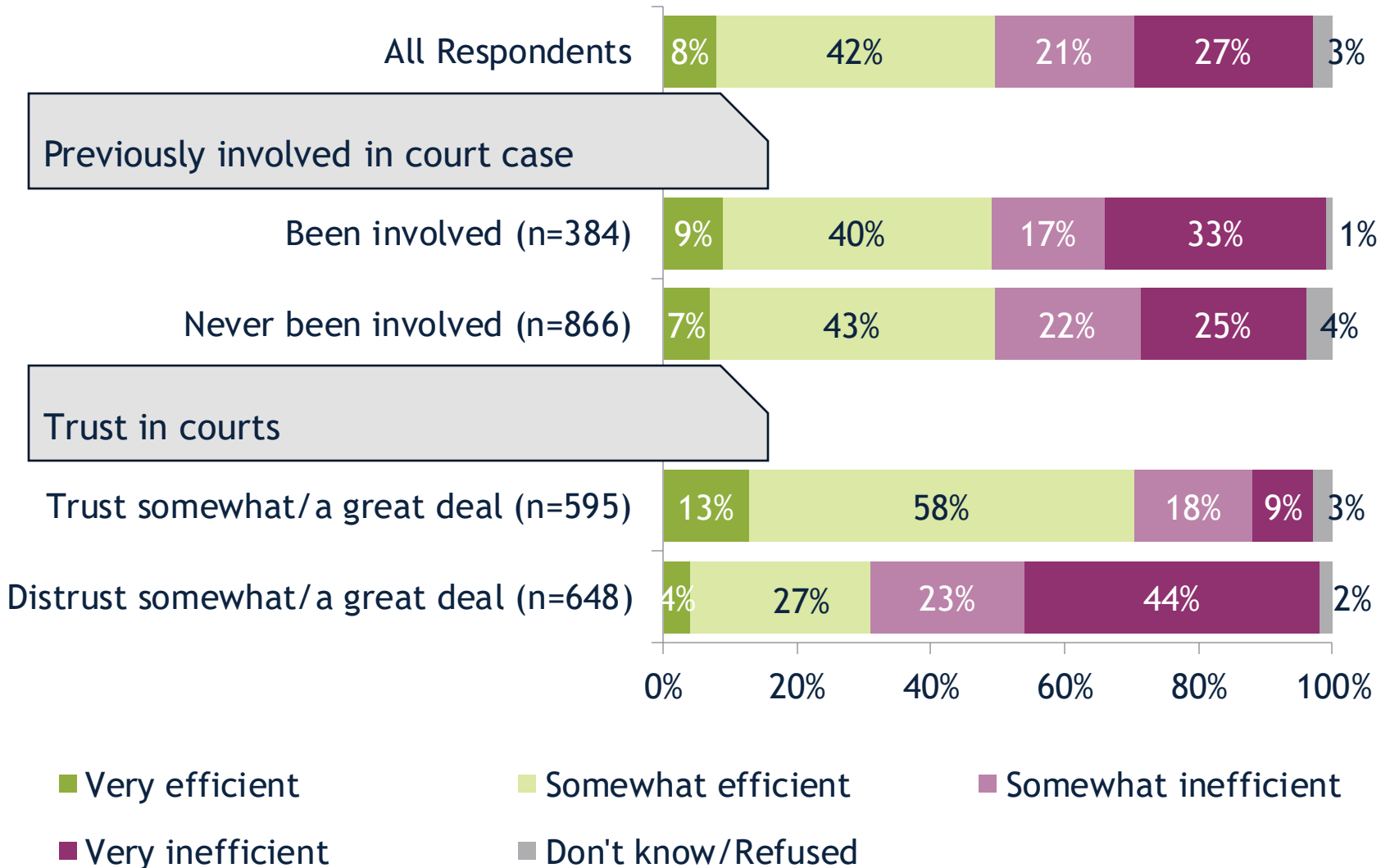
Have you ever been personally involved in a court case?



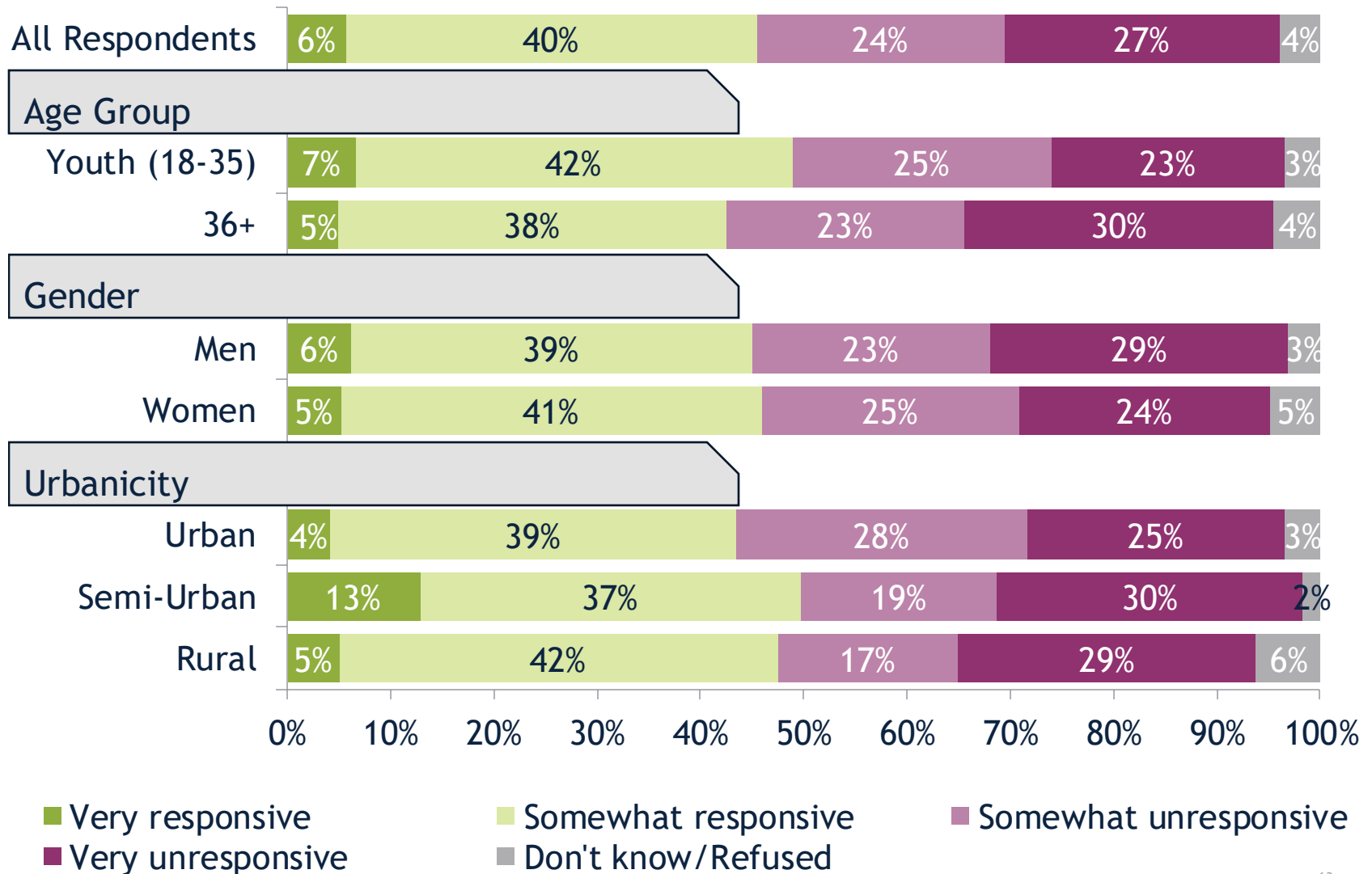
Do you consider the Maldivian courts to be efficient or inefficient?



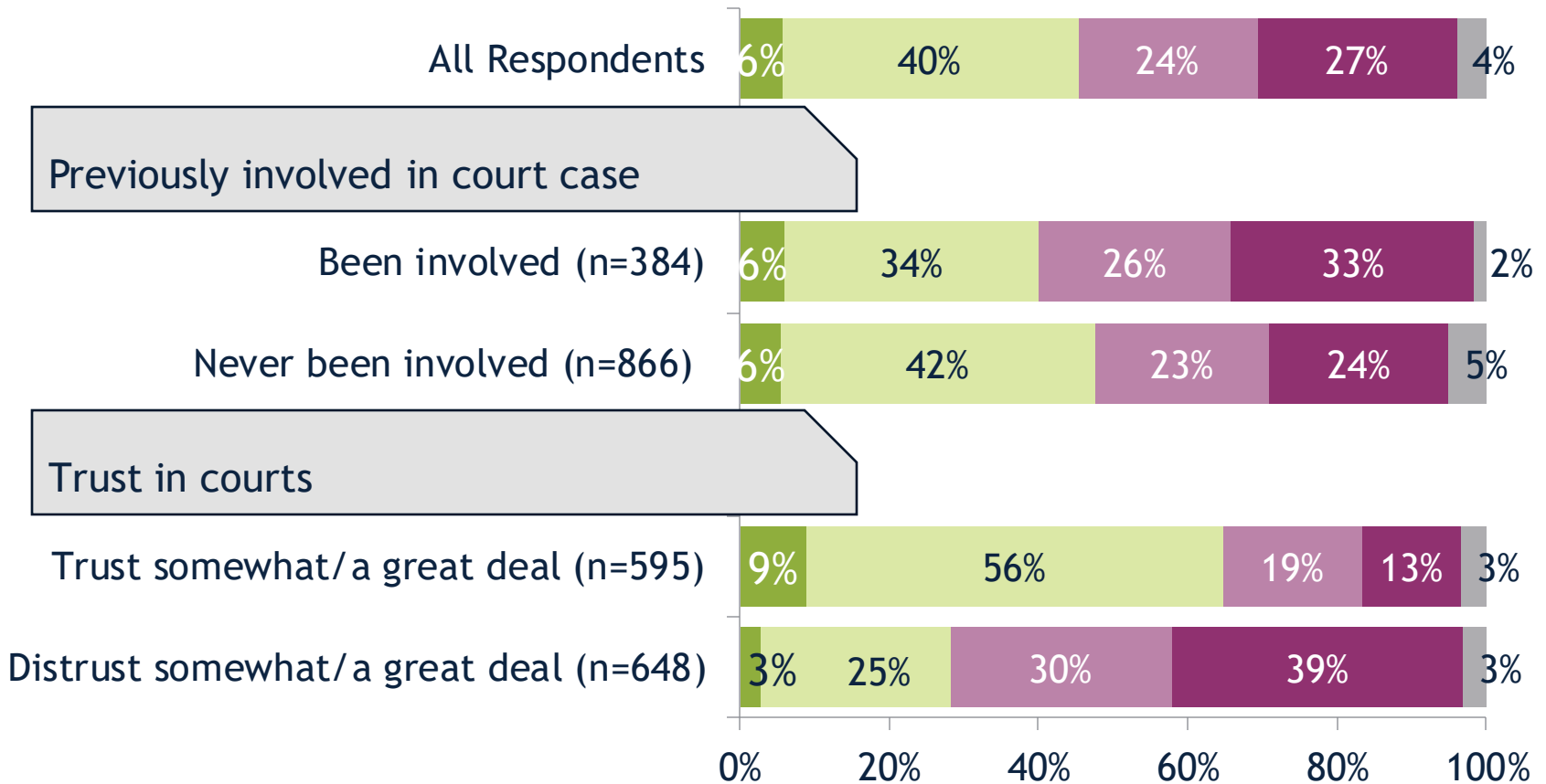
Do you consider the Maldivian courts to be efficient or inefficient?



Do you consider the Maldivian courts to be responsive or unresponsive to citizens' needs?



Do you consider the Maldivian courts to be responsive or unresponsive to citizens' needs?



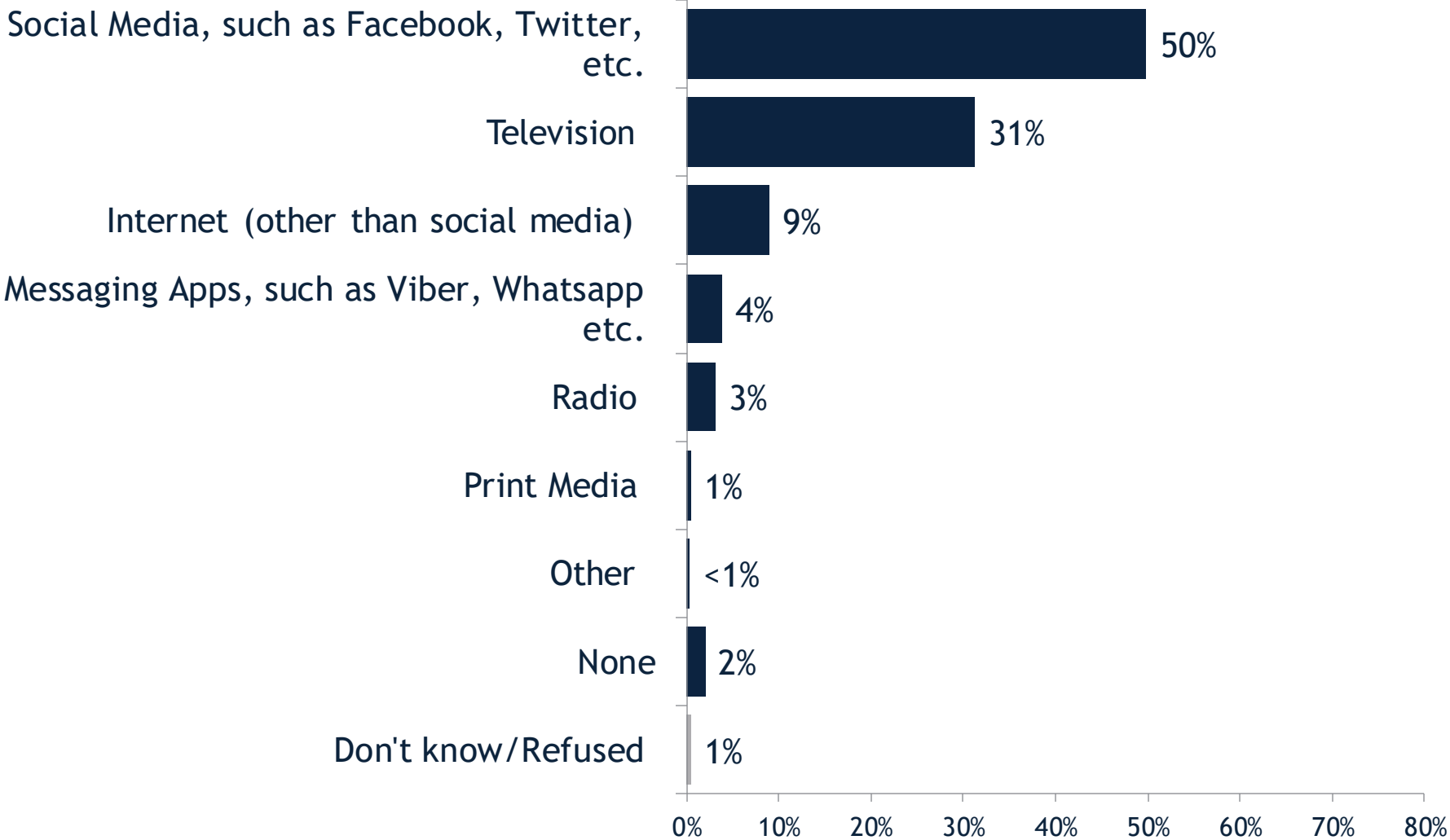
■ Very responsive
 ■ Somewhat responsive
 ■ Somewhat unresponsive
■ Very unresponsive
 ■ Don't know/Refused

Sources of Information



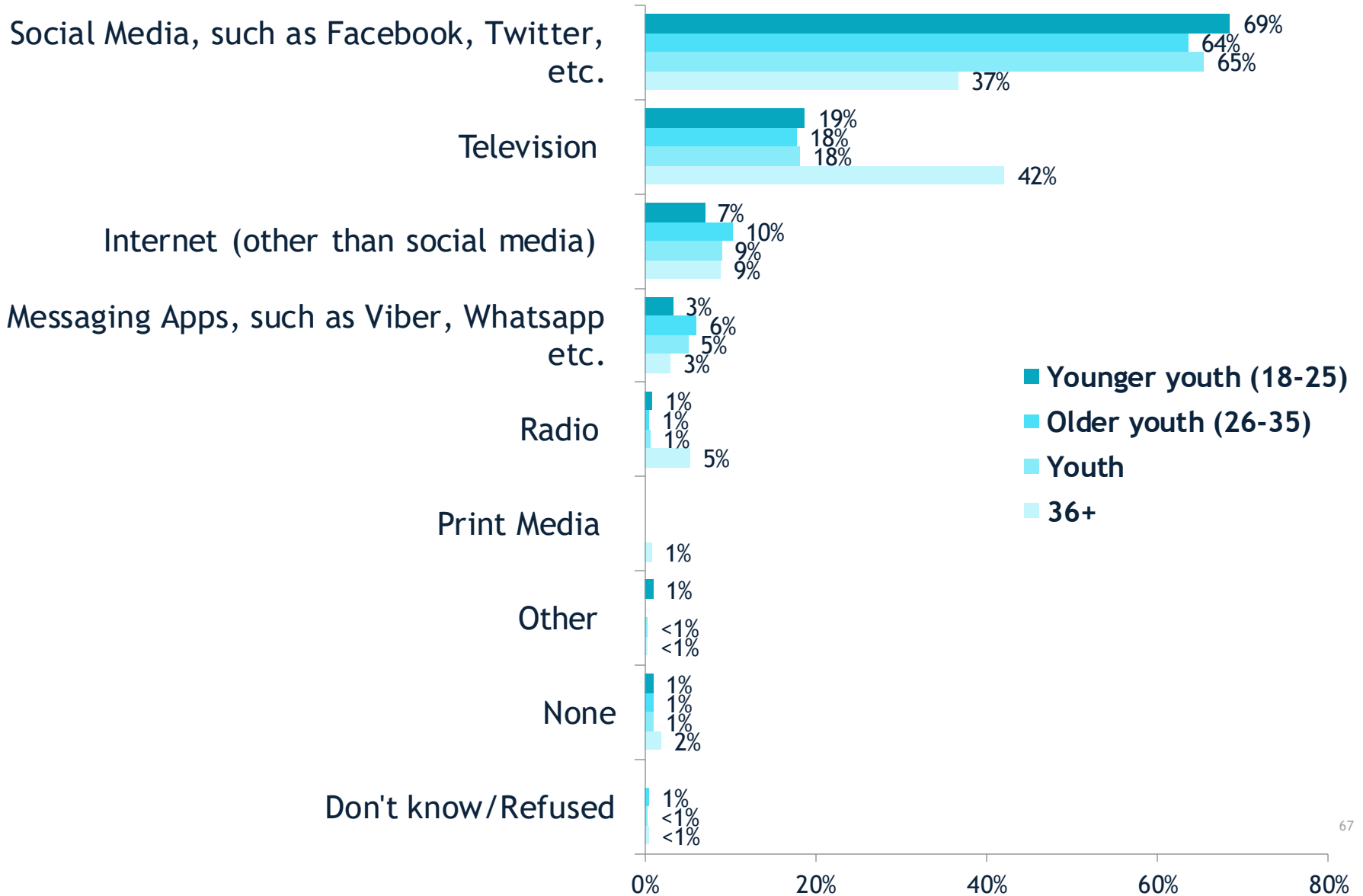


Which media platform do you use most frequently to gain political news and information?



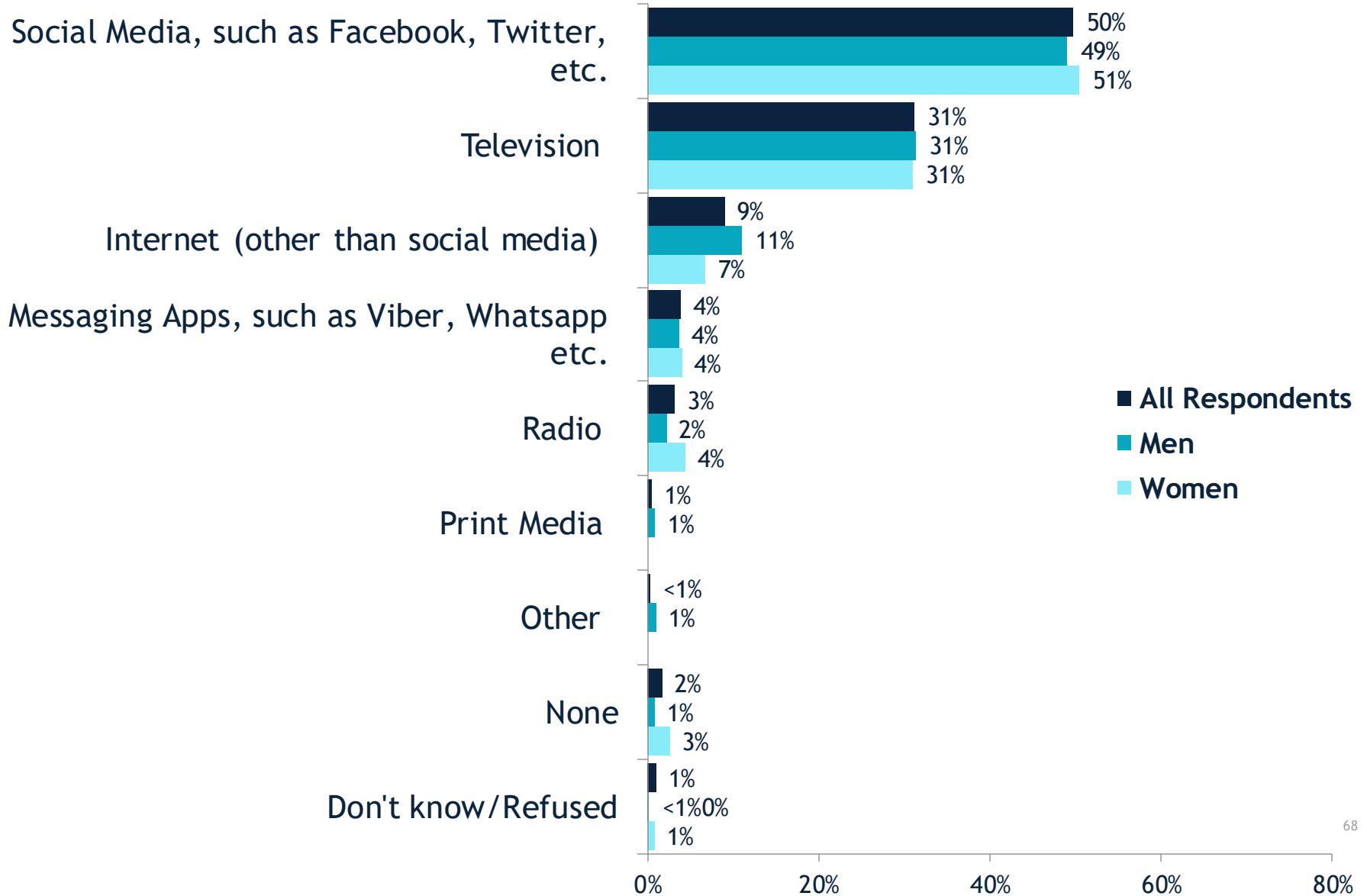


Which media platform do you use most frequently to gain political news and information?





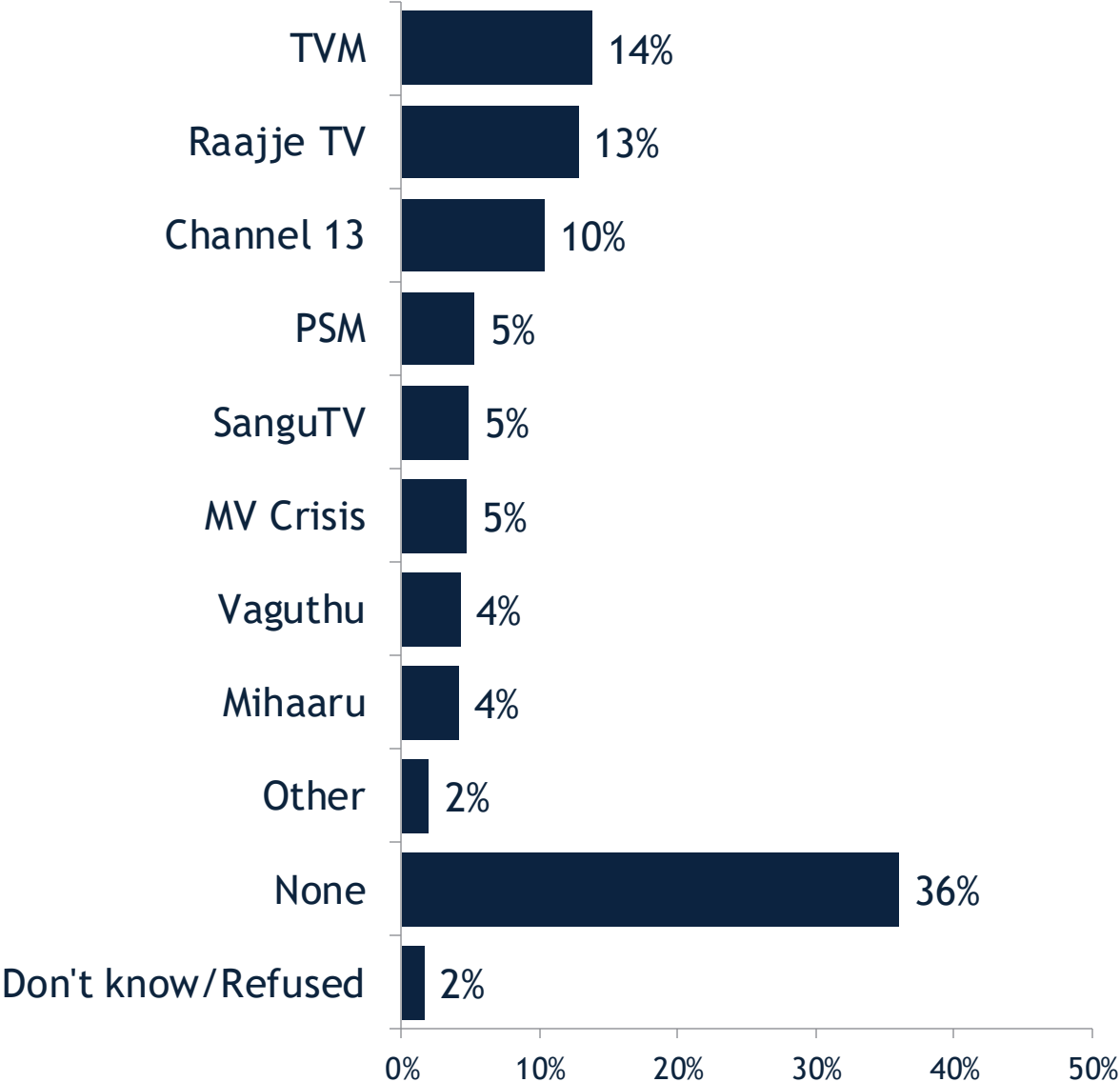
Which media platform do you use most frequently to gain political news and information?





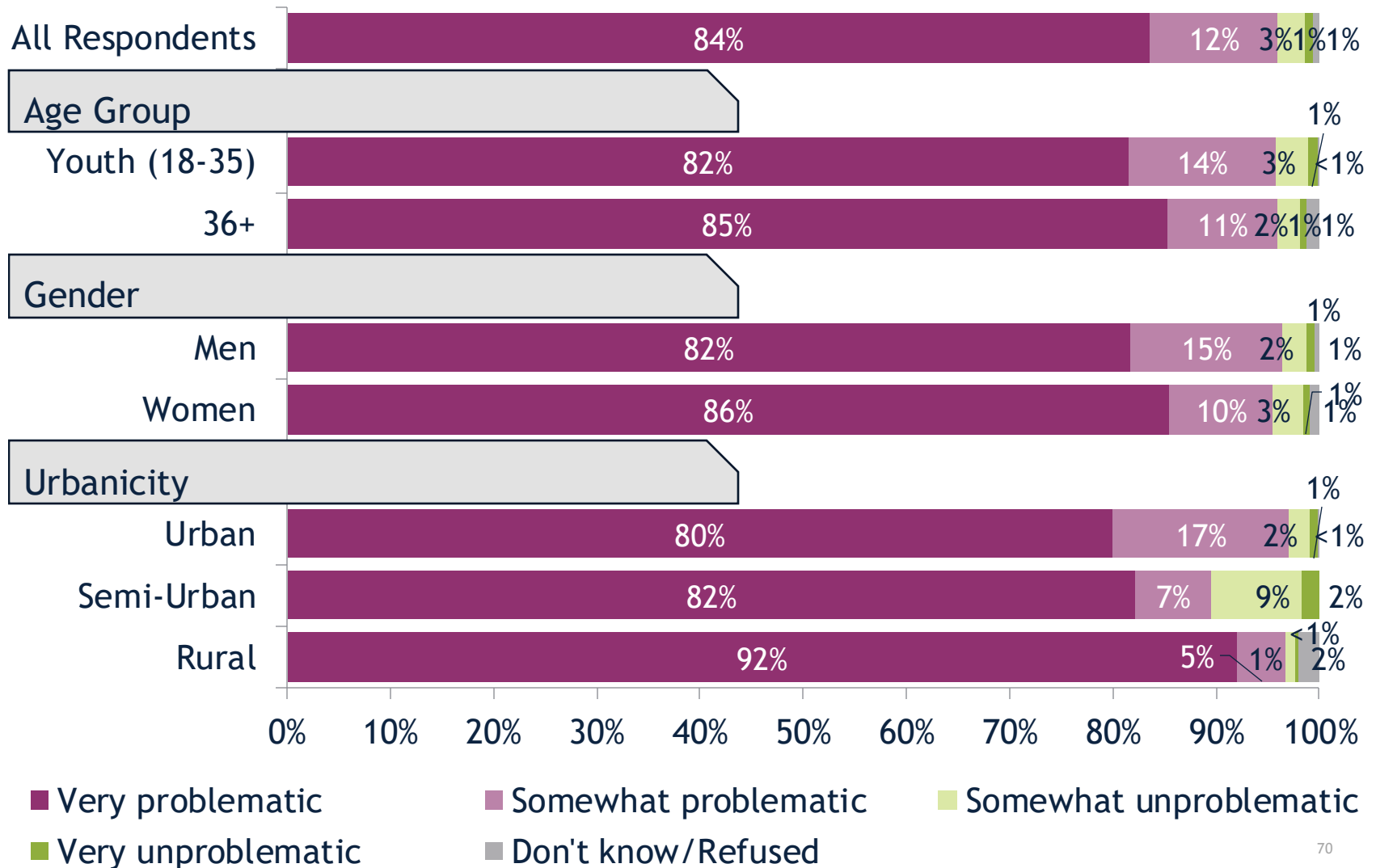
Which specific media outlets, such as a specific TV channel, radio station, newspaper, website etc. do you consider most trustworthy for political news and information?

(Spontaneous response)



*Responses receiving <1% are collapsed into Other.

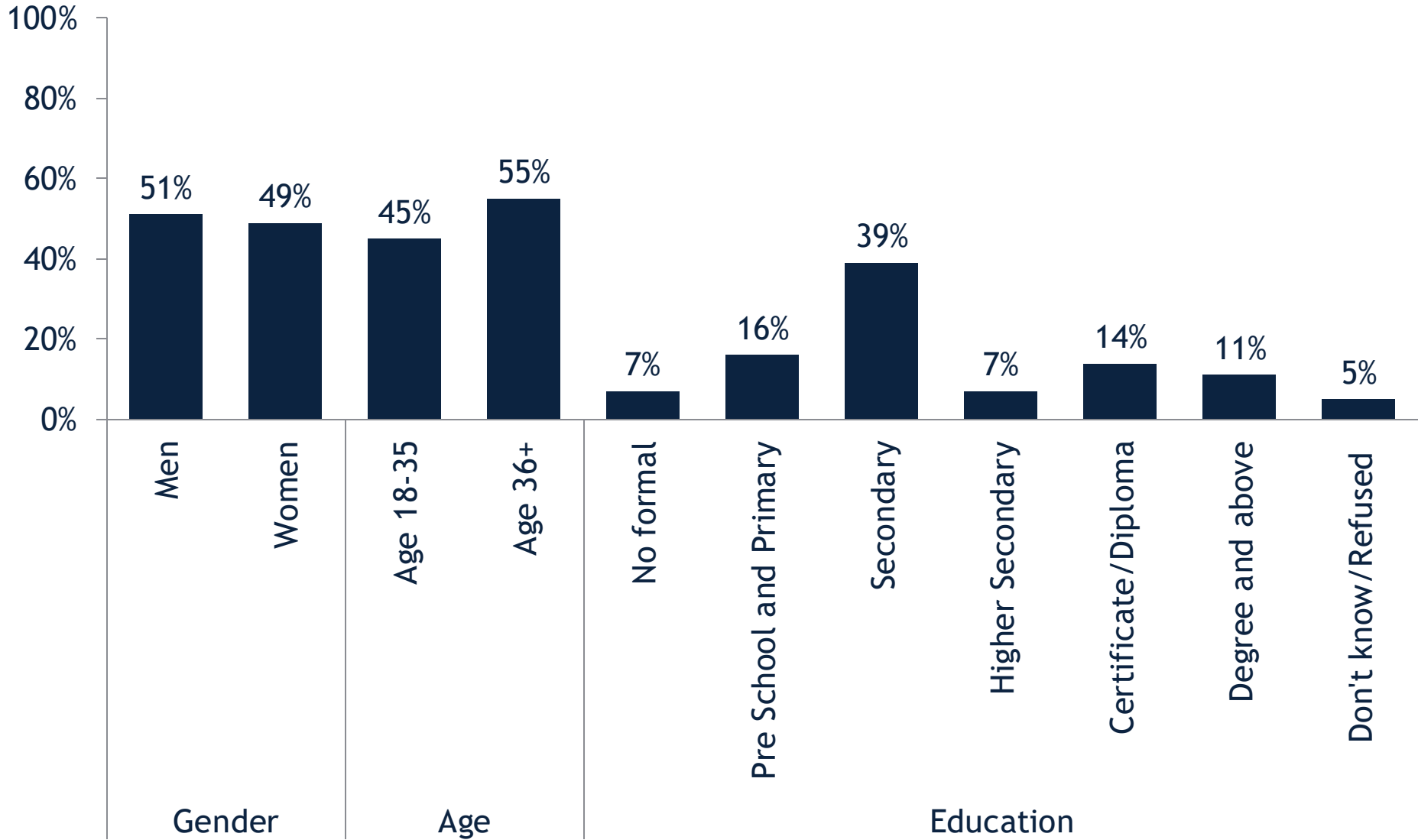
To what extent is misleading or false information in the media problematic for elections in our country?



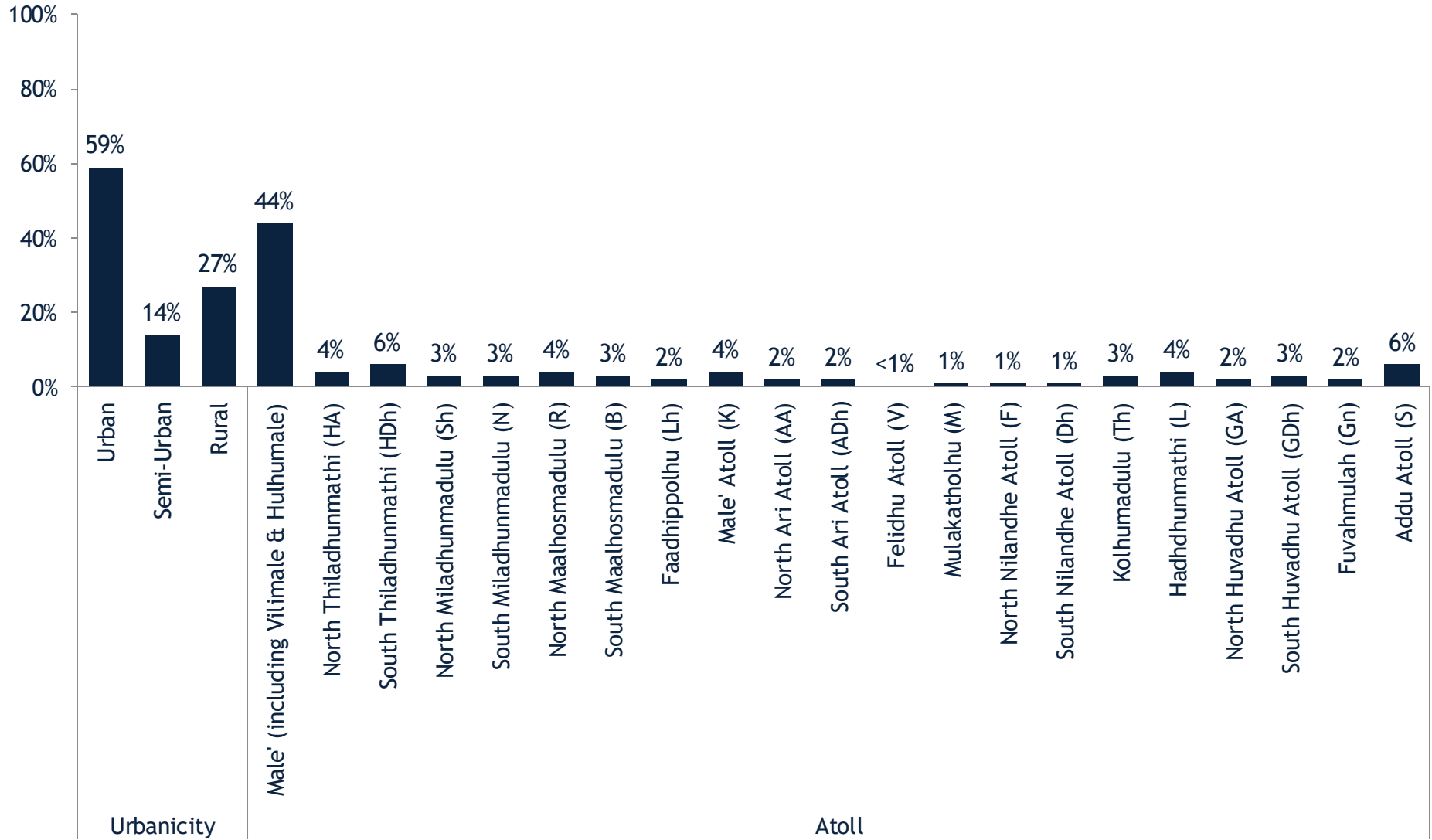
Demographics



Demographics



Demographics



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