

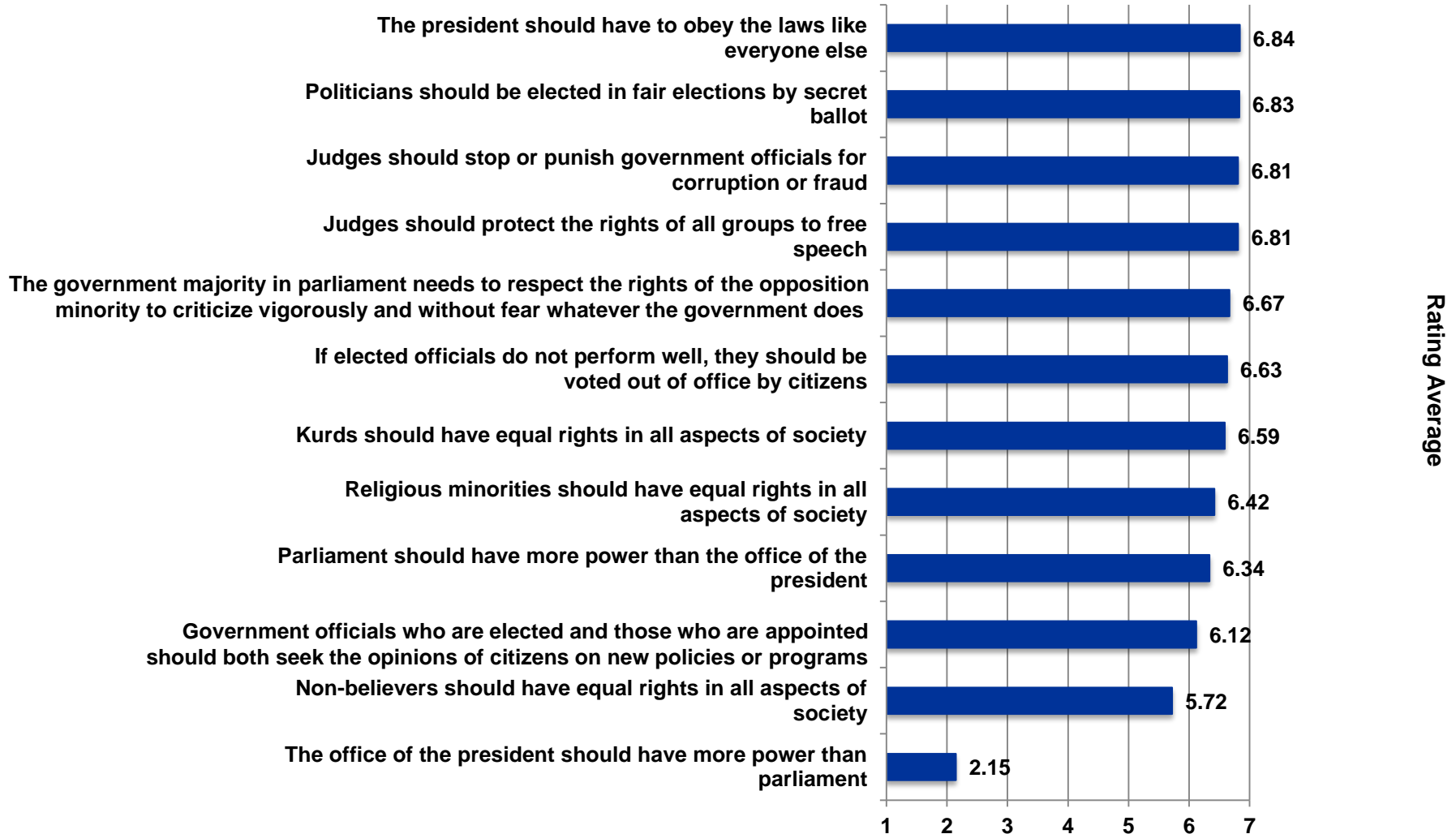
Syrian Opposition Survey

June 1 – July 2, 2012

Democratic Models

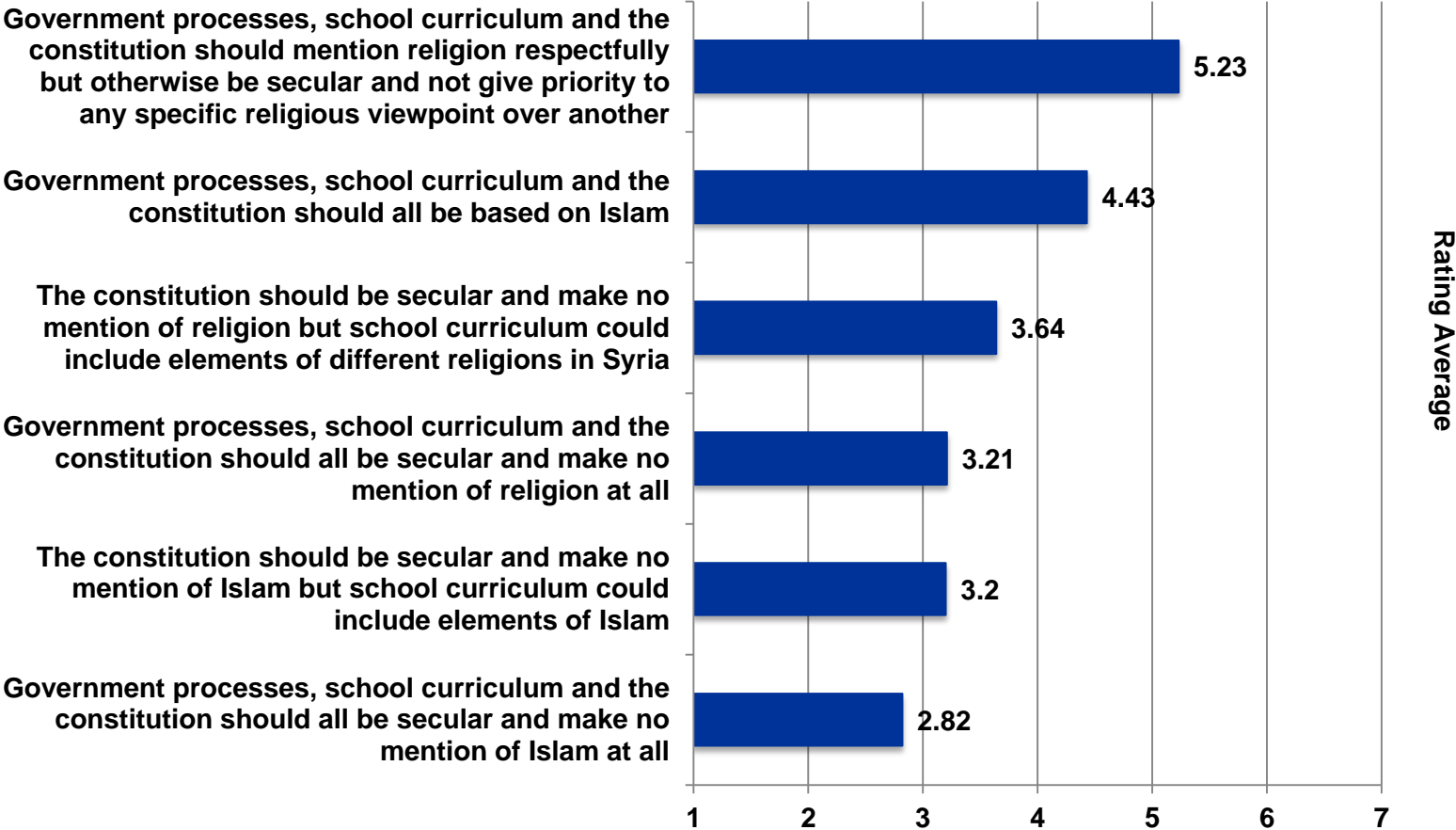


Being democratic sometimes means different things to different people. In your own opinion, how important are each of the following to democracy as you would like to see it develop in Syria? Please use a seven point scale where seven is very important and one means not important.

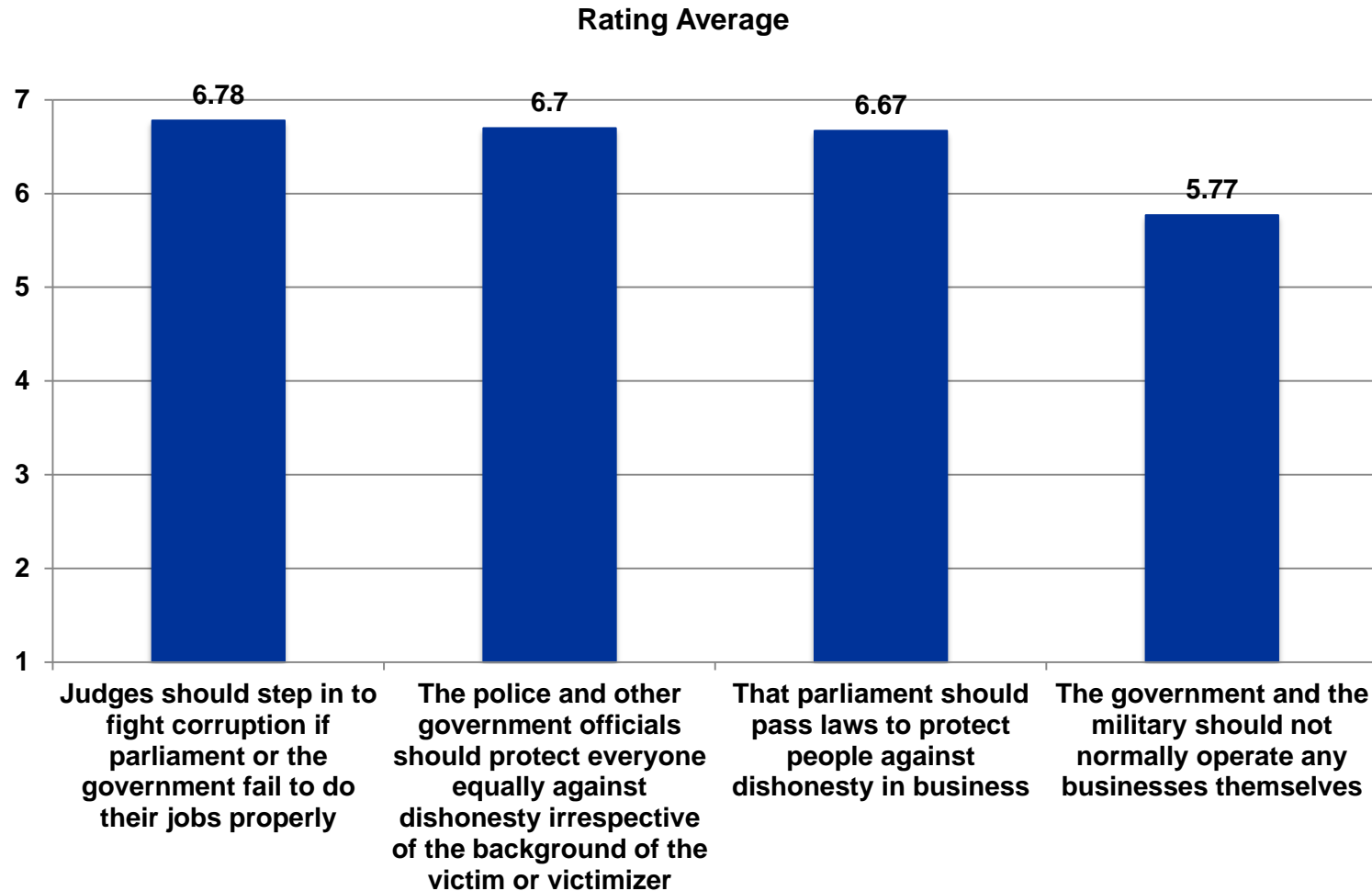


Rating Average

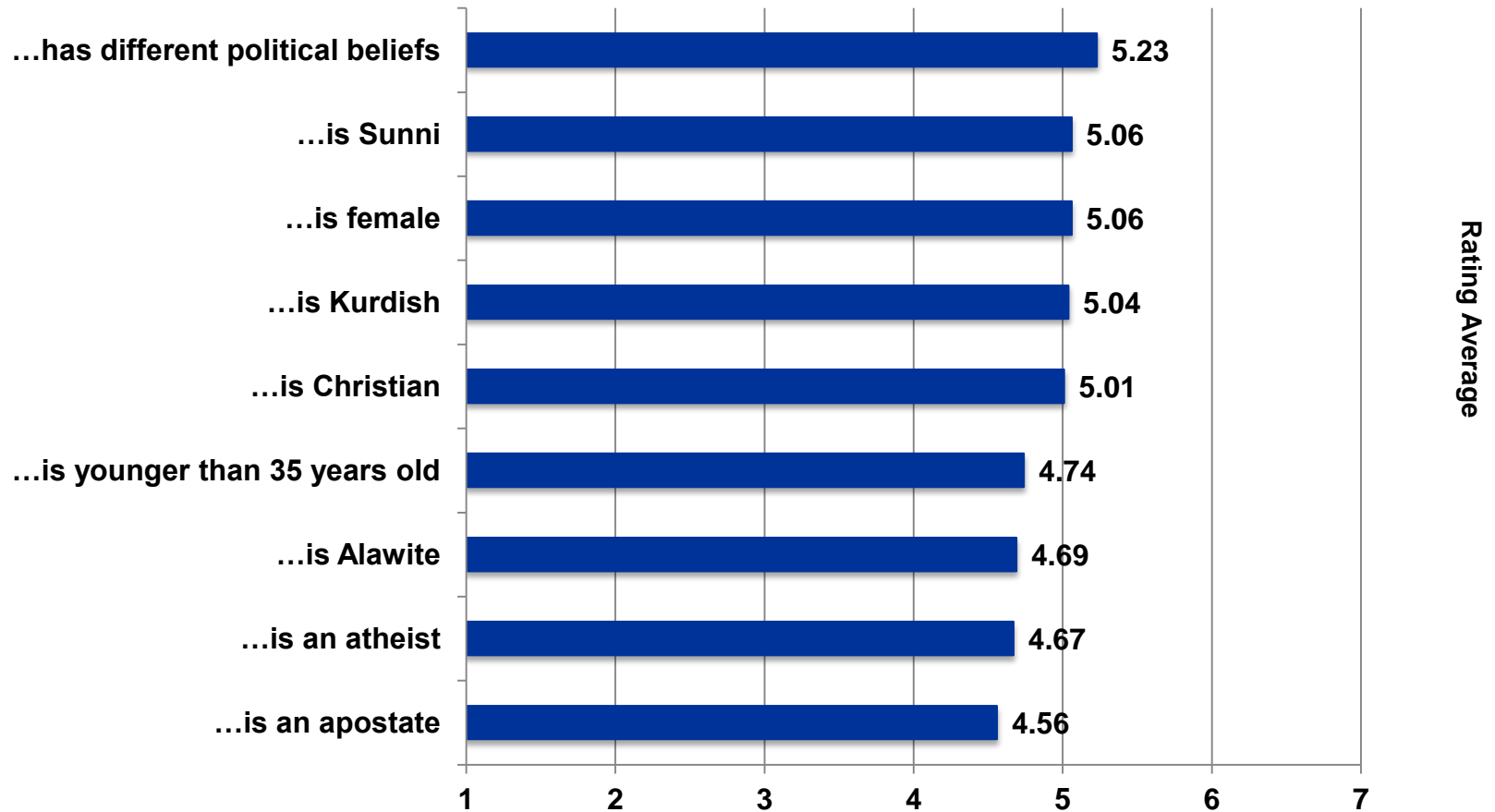
Thinking specifically of the place of religion in a new constitution and society, on a seven point scale where seven means agree strongly and one, disagree strongly, how much do you agree with the following opinions?



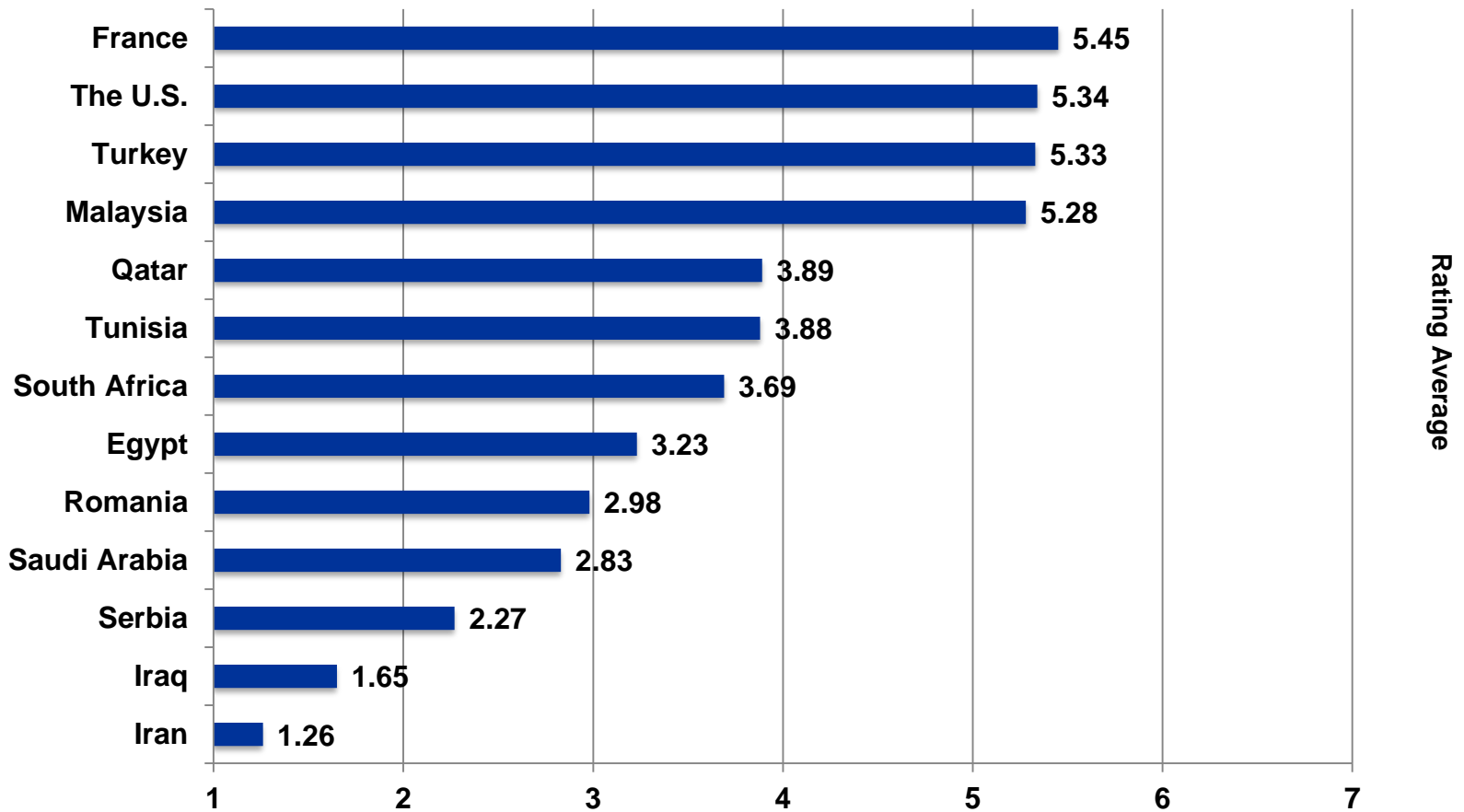
On a seven point scale, how much do you agree with the following opinions about democracy, where seven means agrees strongly, and one, disagree strongly?



For a country to be democratic, on a seven point scale, where seven means agree strongly and one, disagree strongly, how much do you agree that the law should stop the government or the public from depriving someone of a job or place to live or otherwise discriminate against a person because the person...



Rank the following countries according to their desirability as a model for internal Syrian politics where seven is the best possible model and one is the worst possible model.



Survey Methodology



SURVEY METHODOLOGY

- From June 1-July 2, 2012, the International Republican Institute (IRI) and Pechter Polls of Princeton, NJ (P3) surveyed members of the Syrian opposition. P3 provided consultative guidance on the survey's implementation and analysis.
- Due to the logistical and political complexities of the project, several months of preparation were required for both survey development and recruitment of opposition activists who had strong in-country networks that had not been permeated by the regime.
- To minimize the possibility of participants' arrest, or any other form of regime interference, IRI and P3 employed a referral or "snowball" methodology – relying strictly on dissidents who were known to IRI or P3. Thus the survey is not a randomized sample – as would be seen in a public opinion poll – and is also skewed heavily toward men, which is partially a reflection of the opposition's composition.
- The project primarily relied upon five networks to initiate the survey's circulation. From there, activists within and outside of Syria from different ethnic, religious, political and socioeconomic backgrounds were encouraged to circulate the survey amongst their sub-networks.
- The questionnaire was developed with the input of all network leaders, under the guidance of Dr. David Pollock, former chief of Near East/South Asia and Africa Research for the U.S. Information Agency.
- The survey was translated from English into Syrian colloquial Arabic and placed on a secure server outside of Syria with extensive security protocols to mitigate against regime tampering.

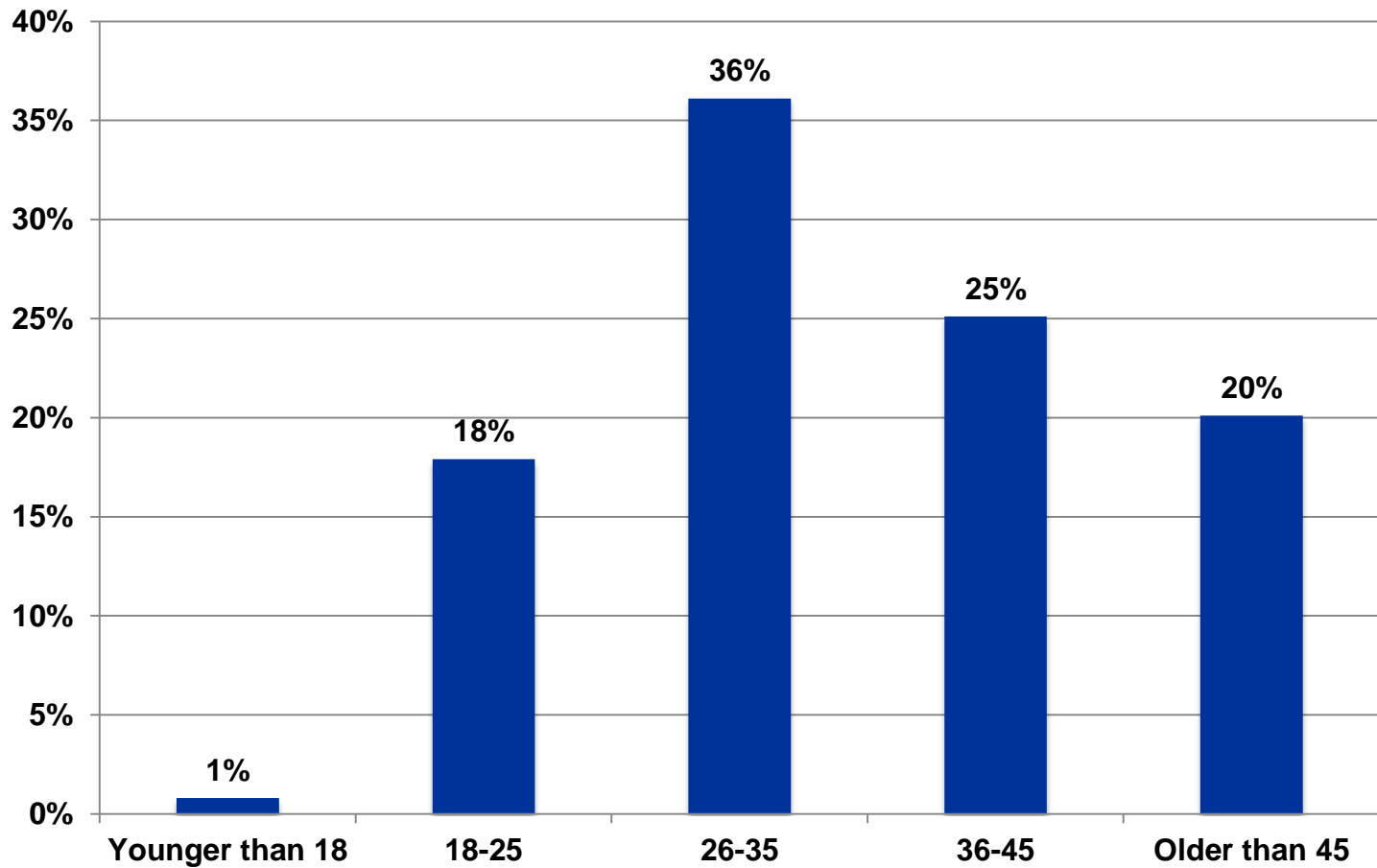
SURVEY METHODOLOGY

- Each of the five trusted network leaders was given an individual link to access the questionnaire, allowing P3 to track progress and observe any suspicious results in real-time throughout the survey's administration.
- Respondents were assured that their responses to the online survey would be anonymous.
- A total of 1,168 interviews were completed by July 2, 2012, 85 percent of respondents were male and 15 percent were female. Margin of error is not strictly applicable to this survey because of the non-random selection of respondents.
- Of the sample of 1,168, approximately 315 of the respondents indicated they were inside Syria when they completed the questionnaire, though there is discrepancy in the survey regarding this figure as some respondents may have inconsistently reported the place where they live versus the place where they were when taking the survey.
- Not all respondents answered every question. Therefore, the number of responses for any question may not total 1,168.
- Figures in charts and tables may not sum to 100 percent due to rounding error.

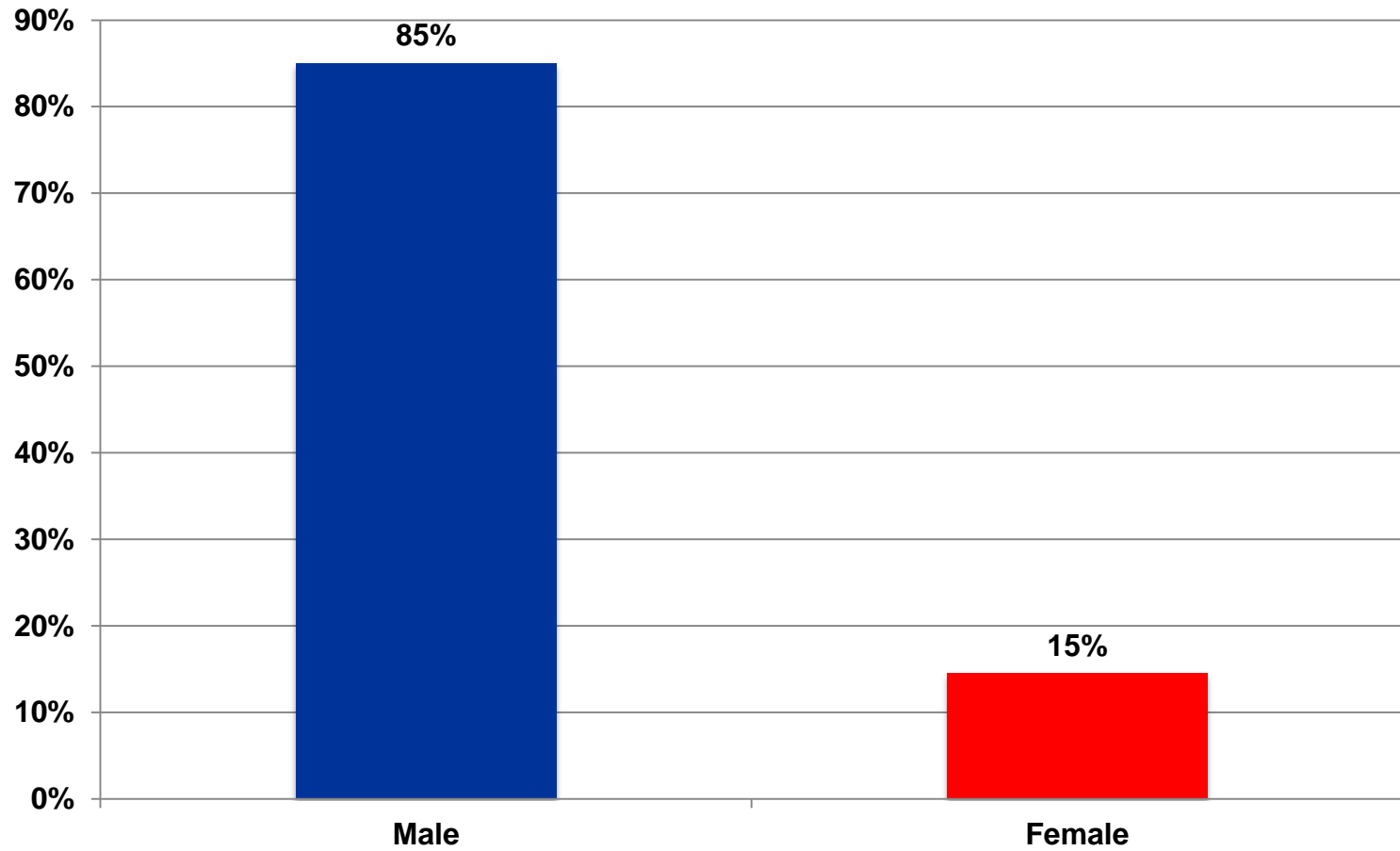
Demographics



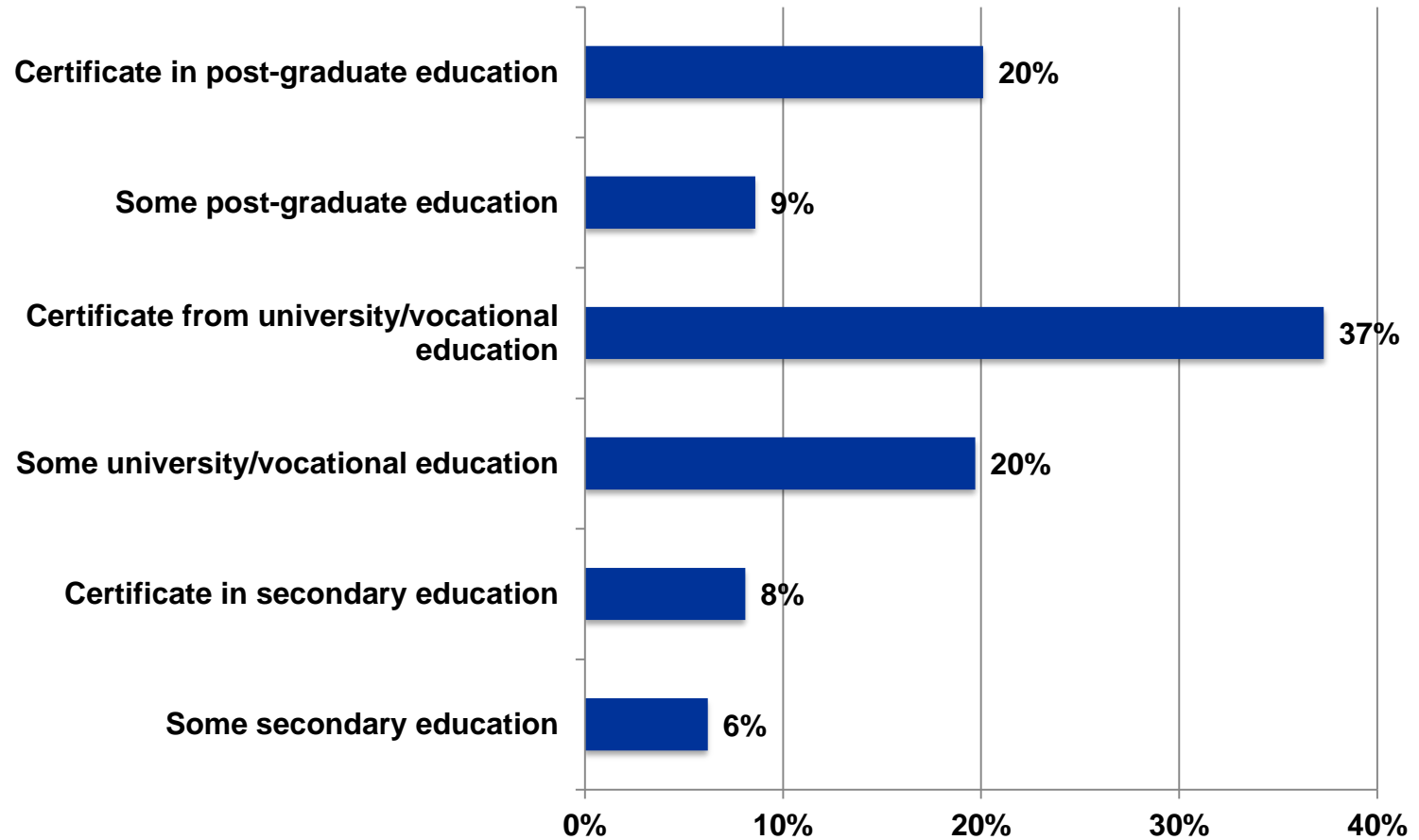
Age



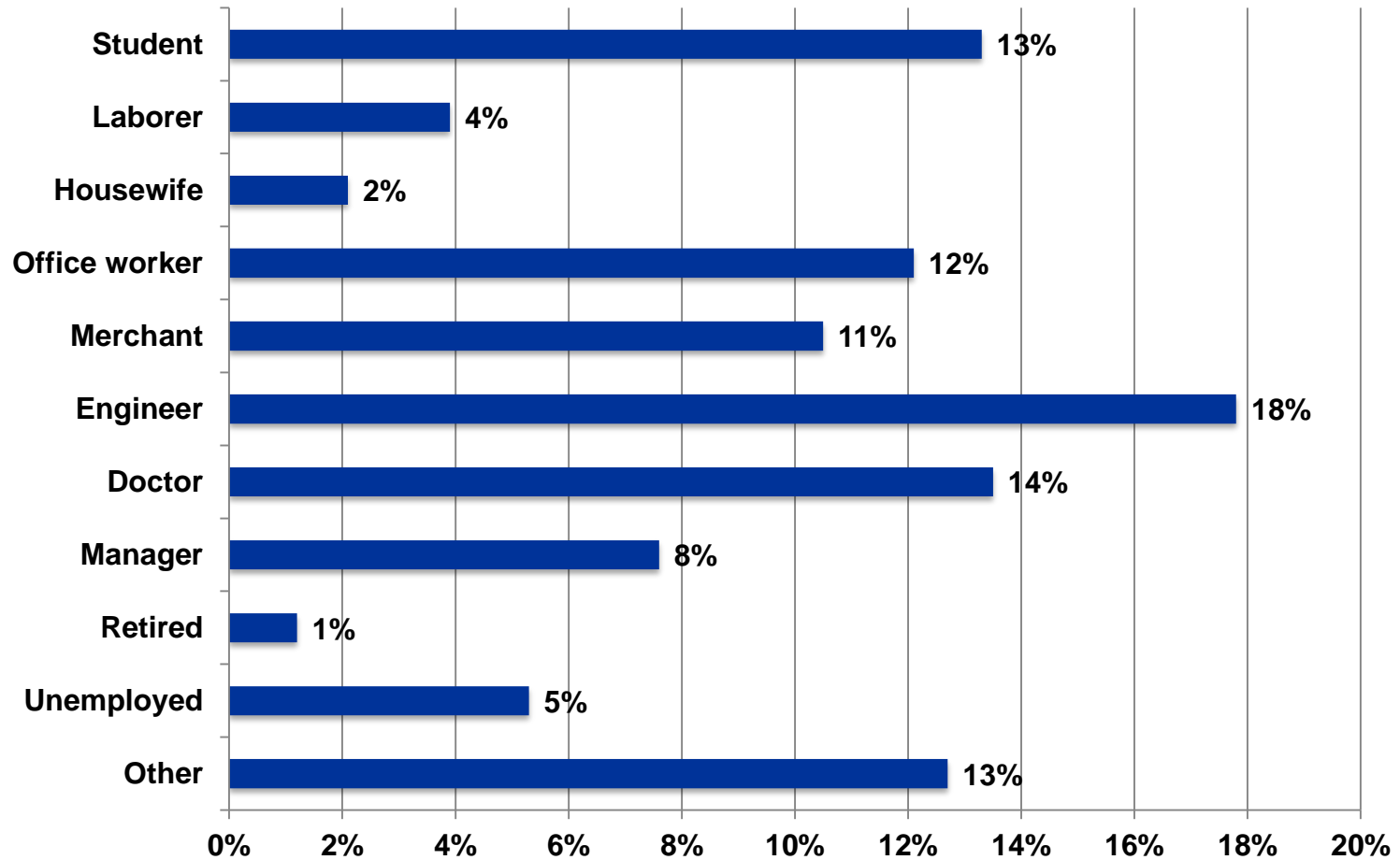
Gender



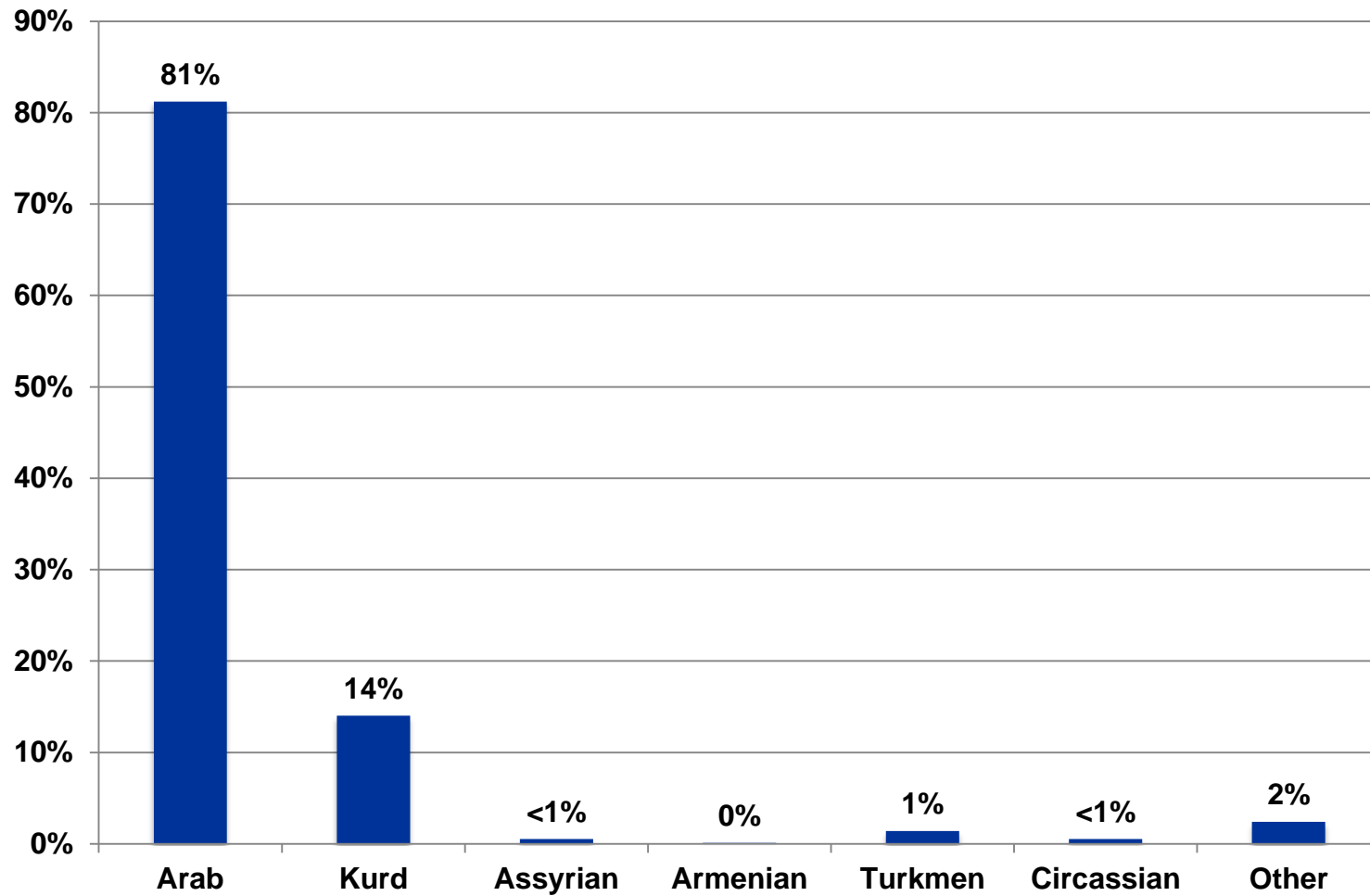
Highest level of education achieved



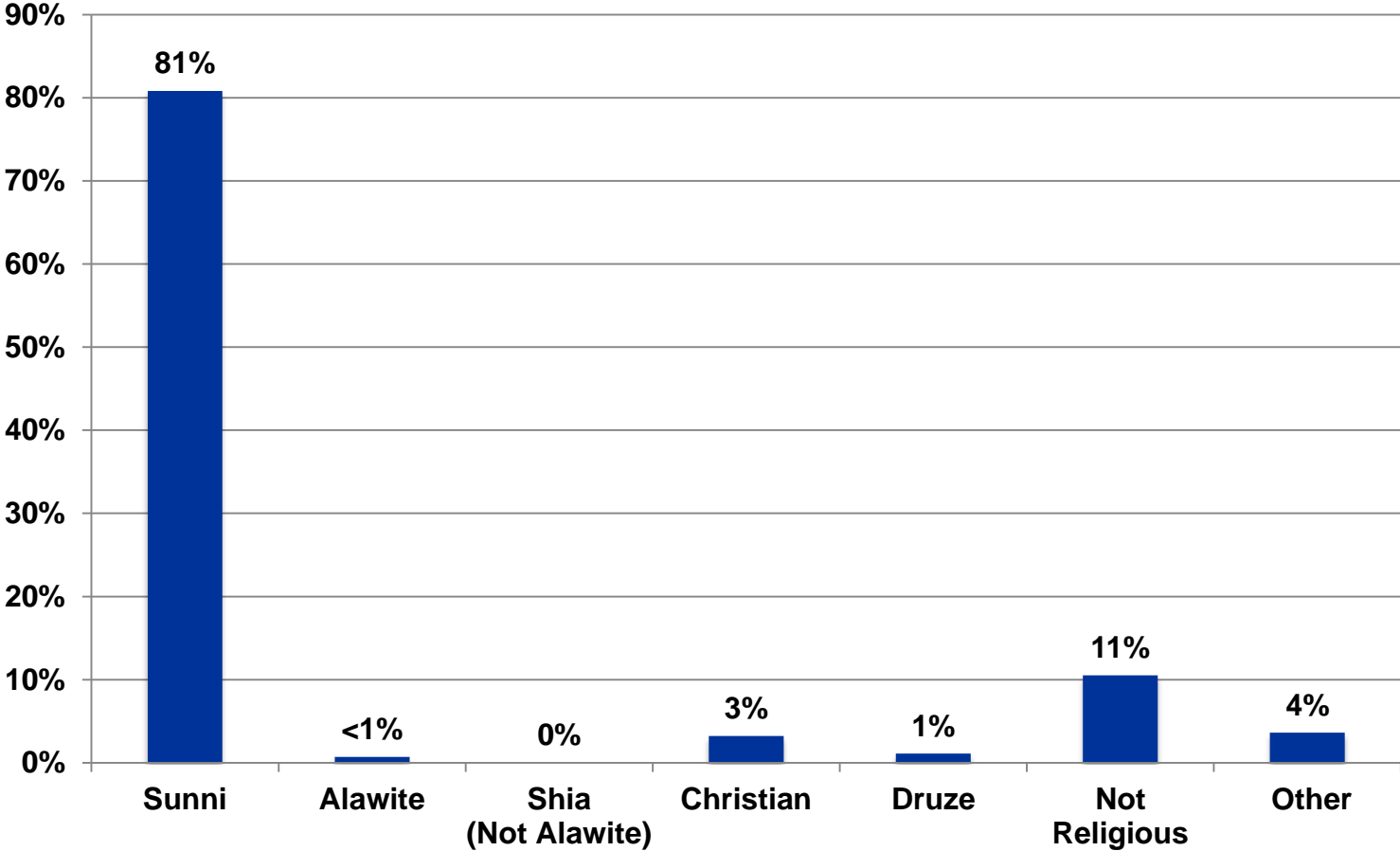
Your normal profession or occupation



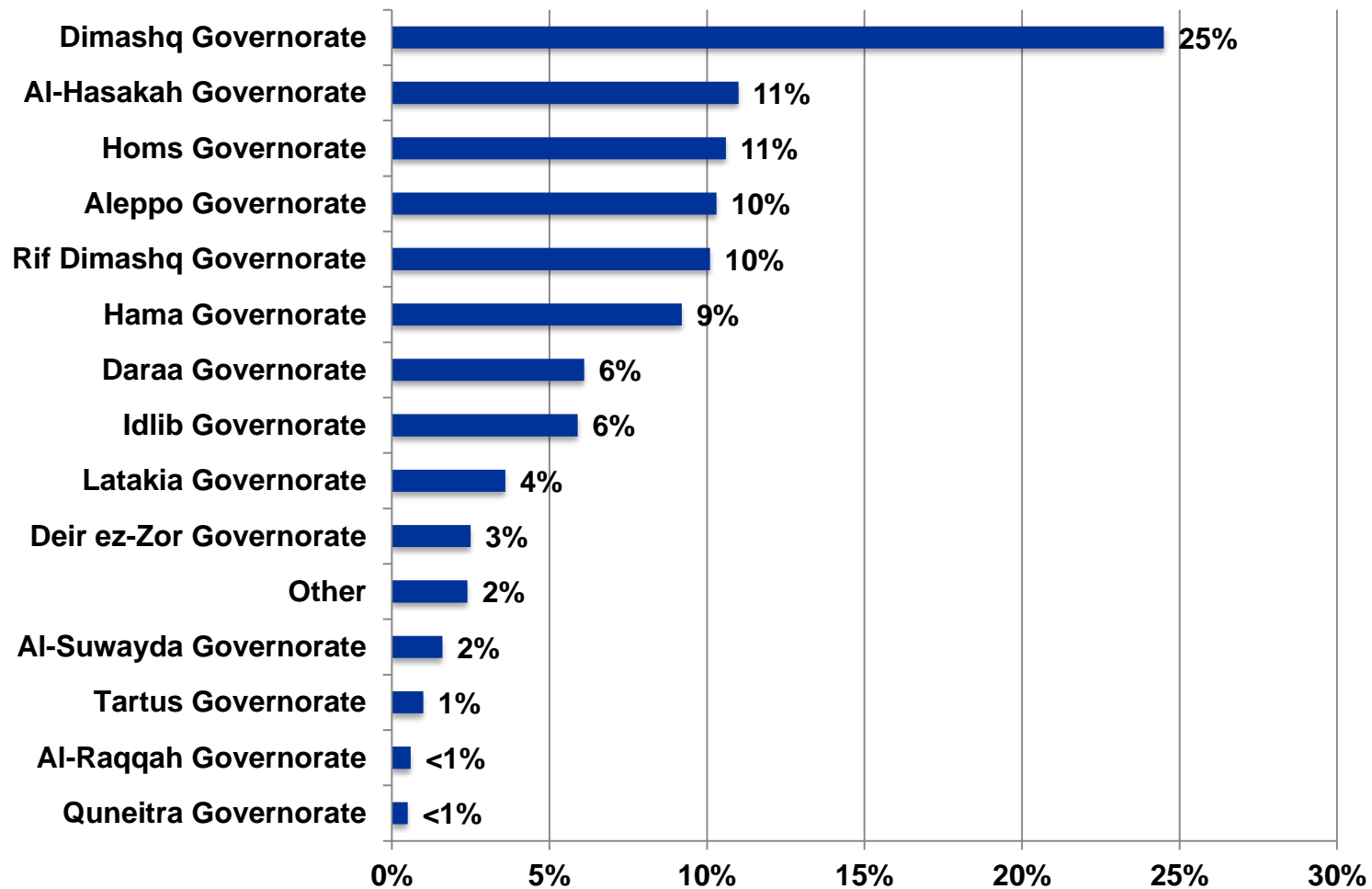
Your ethnic background



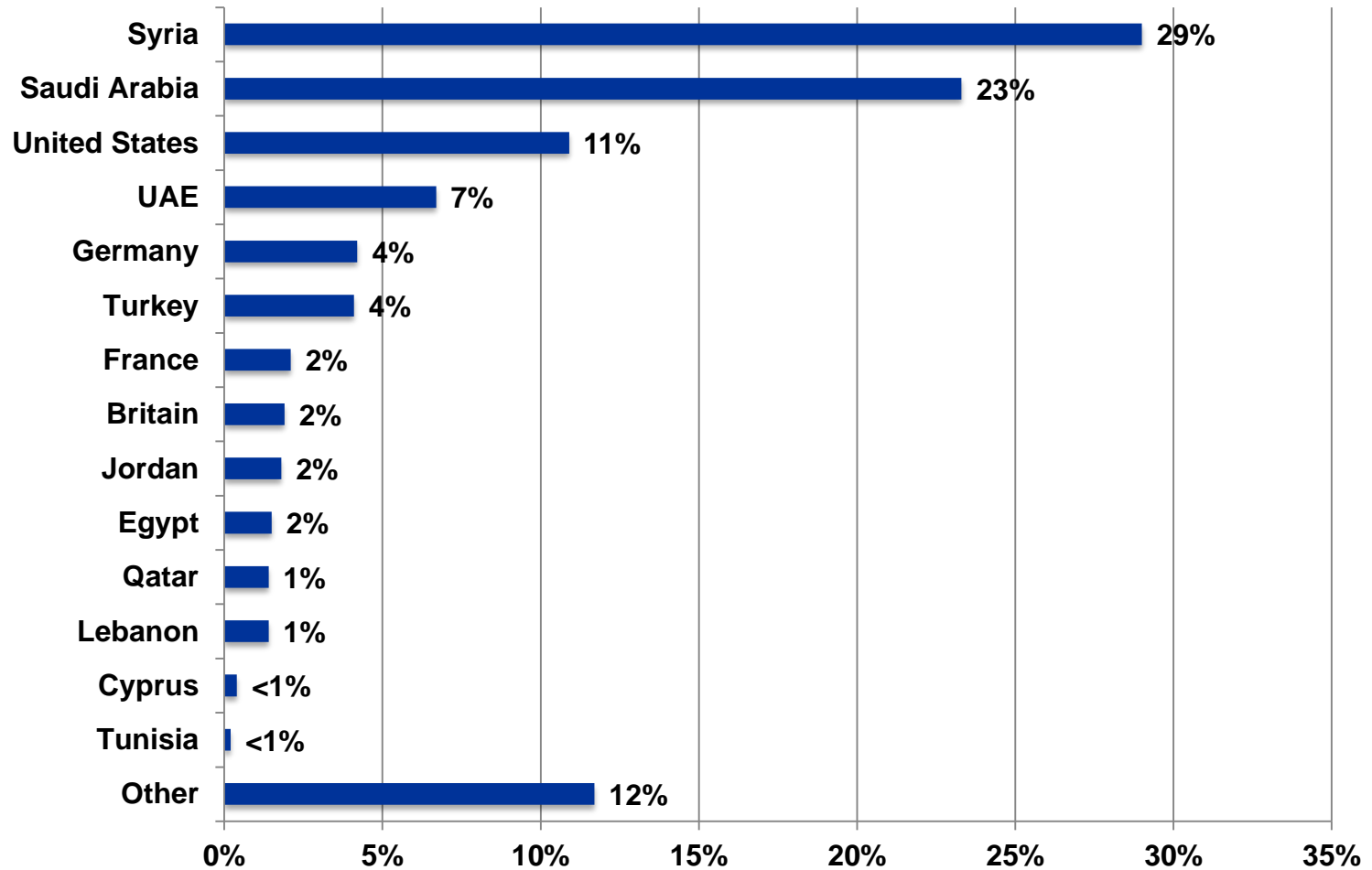
Your religious background



The governorate you consider your home



The place where you now live



If you are now living in Syria, where are you living? (315 of sample living in Syria)

