



# Public Opinion Survey: Residents of Sierra Leone

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March 26 - April 26, 2021



# Detailed Methodology

- This survey was conducted by [Pan African Field Services](#) on behalf of the [Center for Insights in Survey Research](#).
- Data was collected throughout Sierra Leone from March 26 to April 26, 2021 through CAPI administered face-to-face interviews in respondents' homes.
- The sample consisted of n=1,526 adults in Sierra Leone, aged 18 and older.
- A multi-stage probability sampling method was used. The sample was stratified by region and by urban/rural residency, followed by random selection of primary sampling units (PSUs) within each stratum. Households were selected by random walk in each of the 191 PSUs, and respondents were selected by Kish grid. The sampling frame was based on the 2015 Population and Housing Census of the Statistical Office of Sierra Leone and 2017 Sierra Leone National Electoral Commission Constituency and Delimitation report.
- The achieved sample was weighted for gender, age groups, and formal versus no formal education. The n's cited on the slides are unweighted.
- The response rate was 76 percent.
- The margin of error for the full sample is  $\pm 2.5$  points at 95 percent confidence level.
- Charts and graphs may not add up to 100 percent due to rounding.
- The survey was funded by the [United States Agency for International Development](#).

# Frequently Cited Disaggregate Bases

Disaggregate	Disaggregation Category	Base (Unweighted)
Gender	Male	n=758
	Female	n=768
Area	Freetown (Western Urban)	n=224
	Urban	n=430
	Rural	n=872
Age	Age 18-35	n=939
	Age 36+	n=587

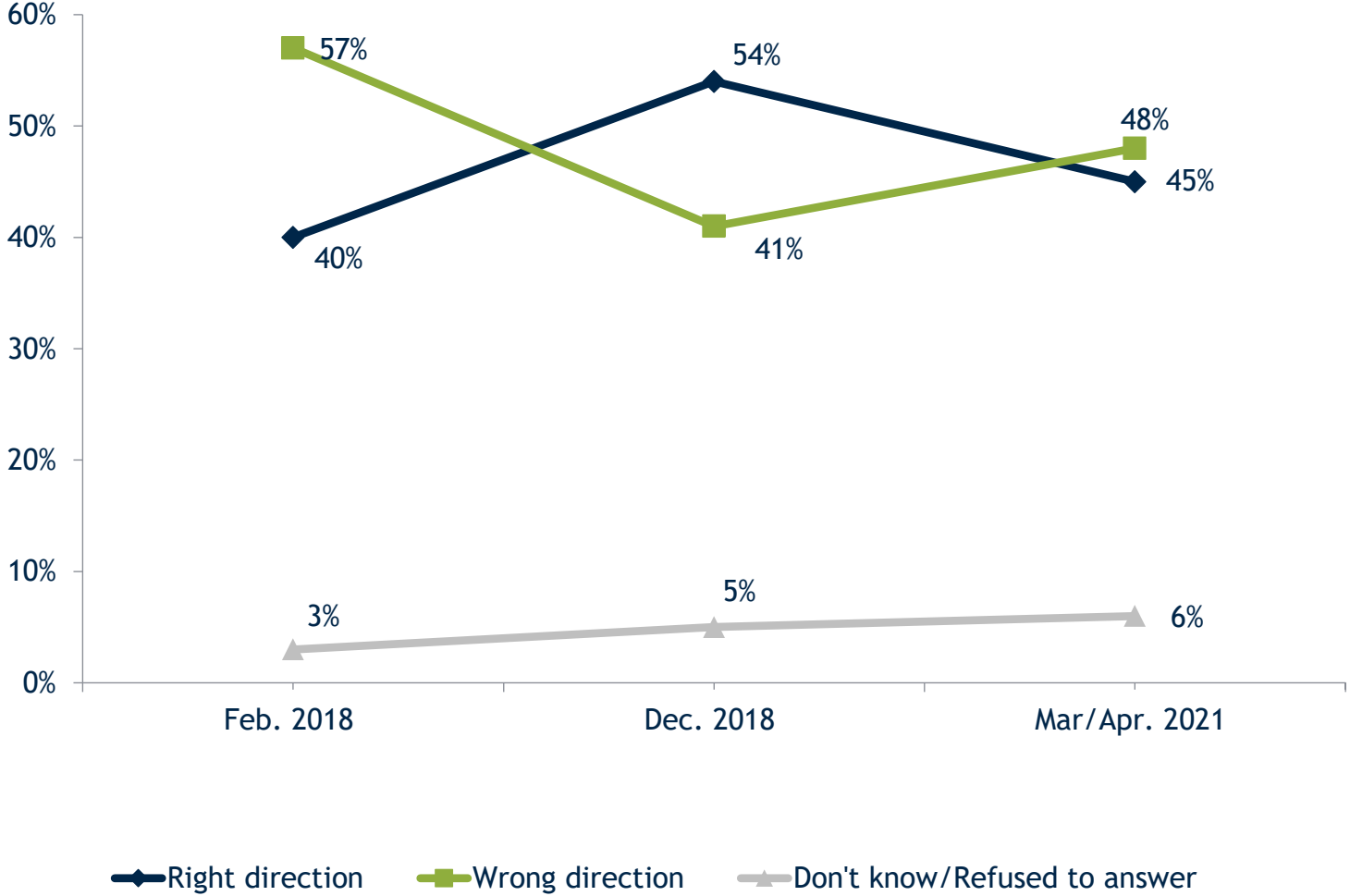


# National Outlook

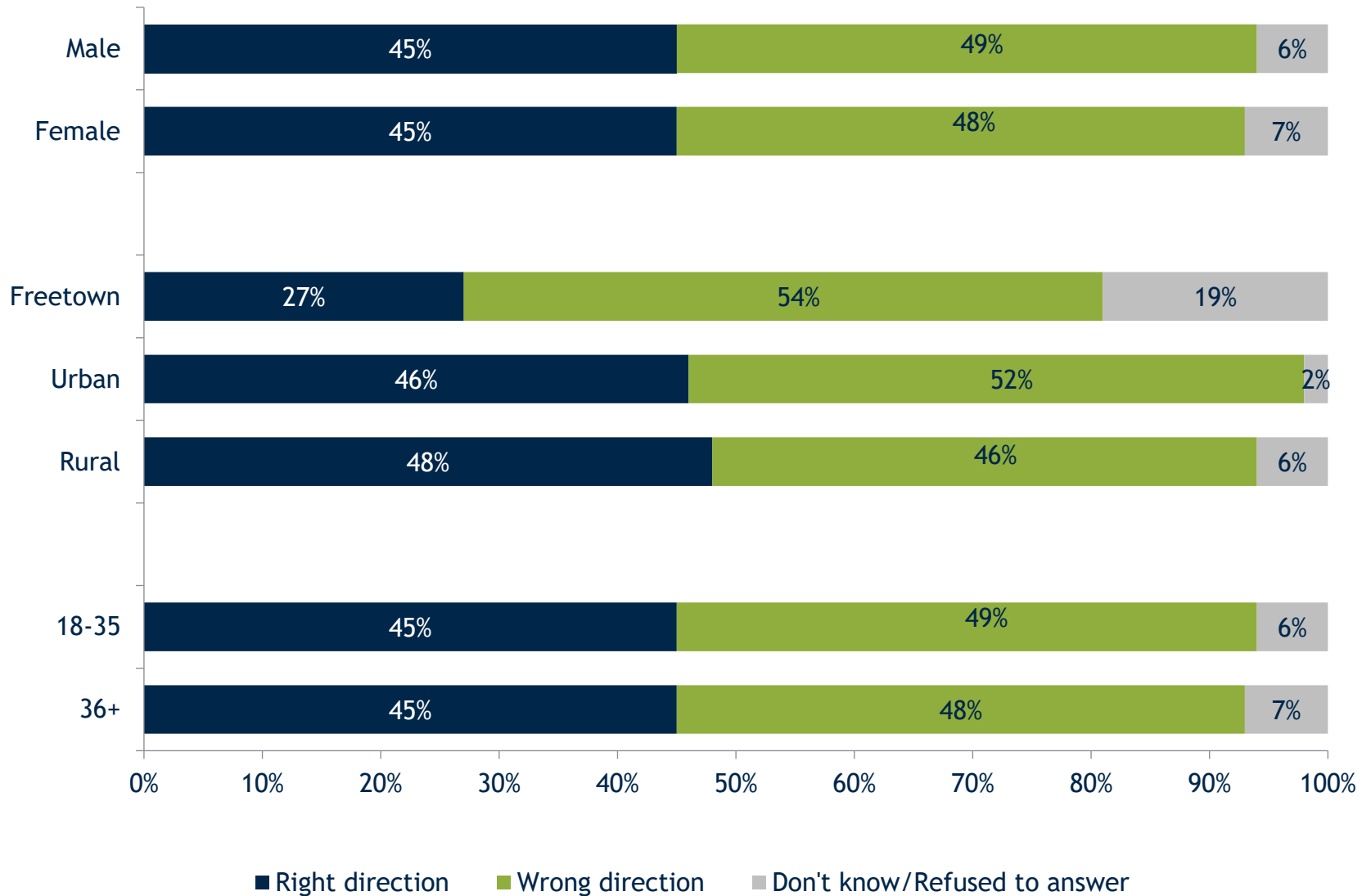
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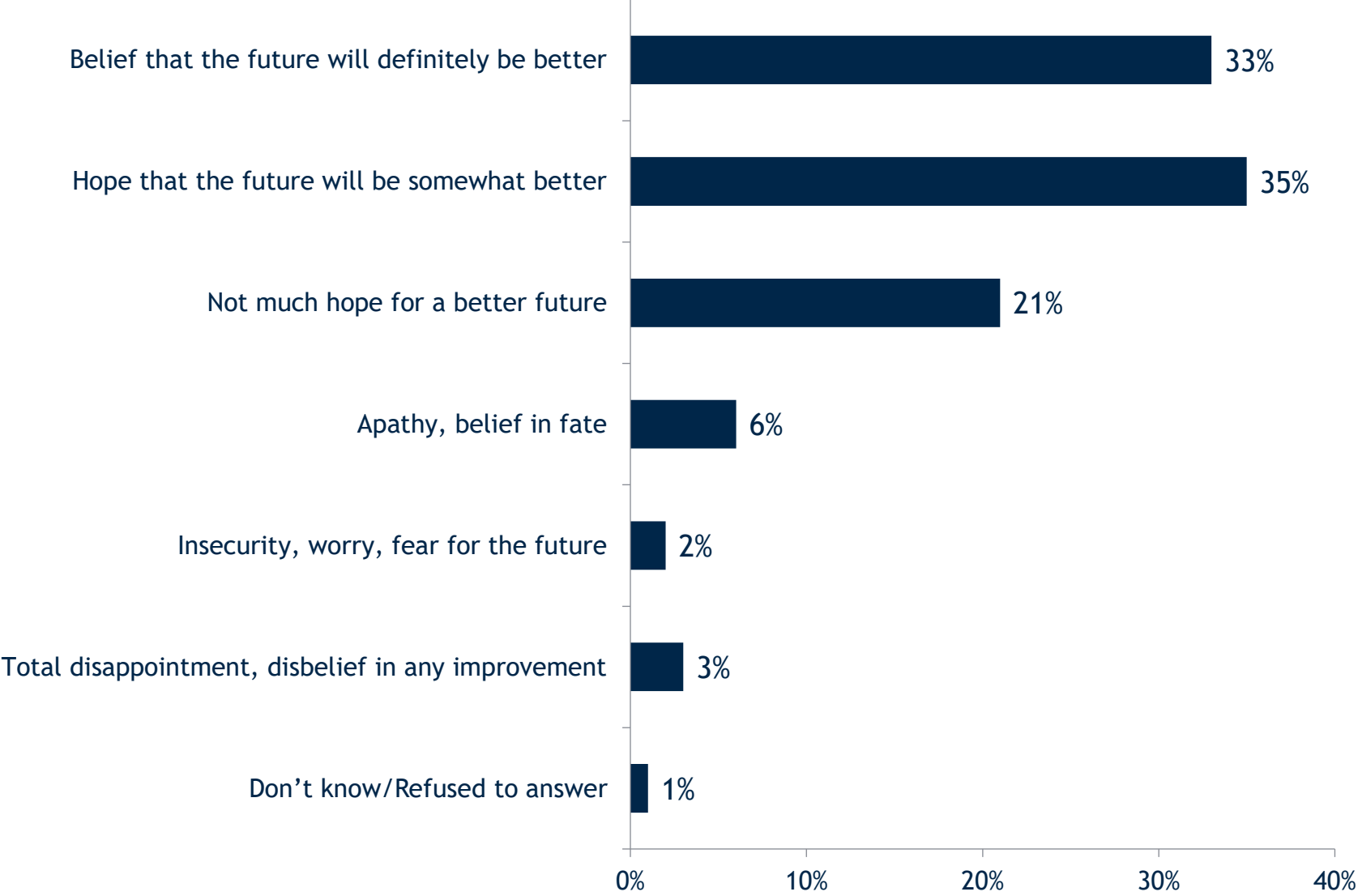
# Generally speaking, would you say that Sierra Leone is heading in the right direction or in the wrong direction?



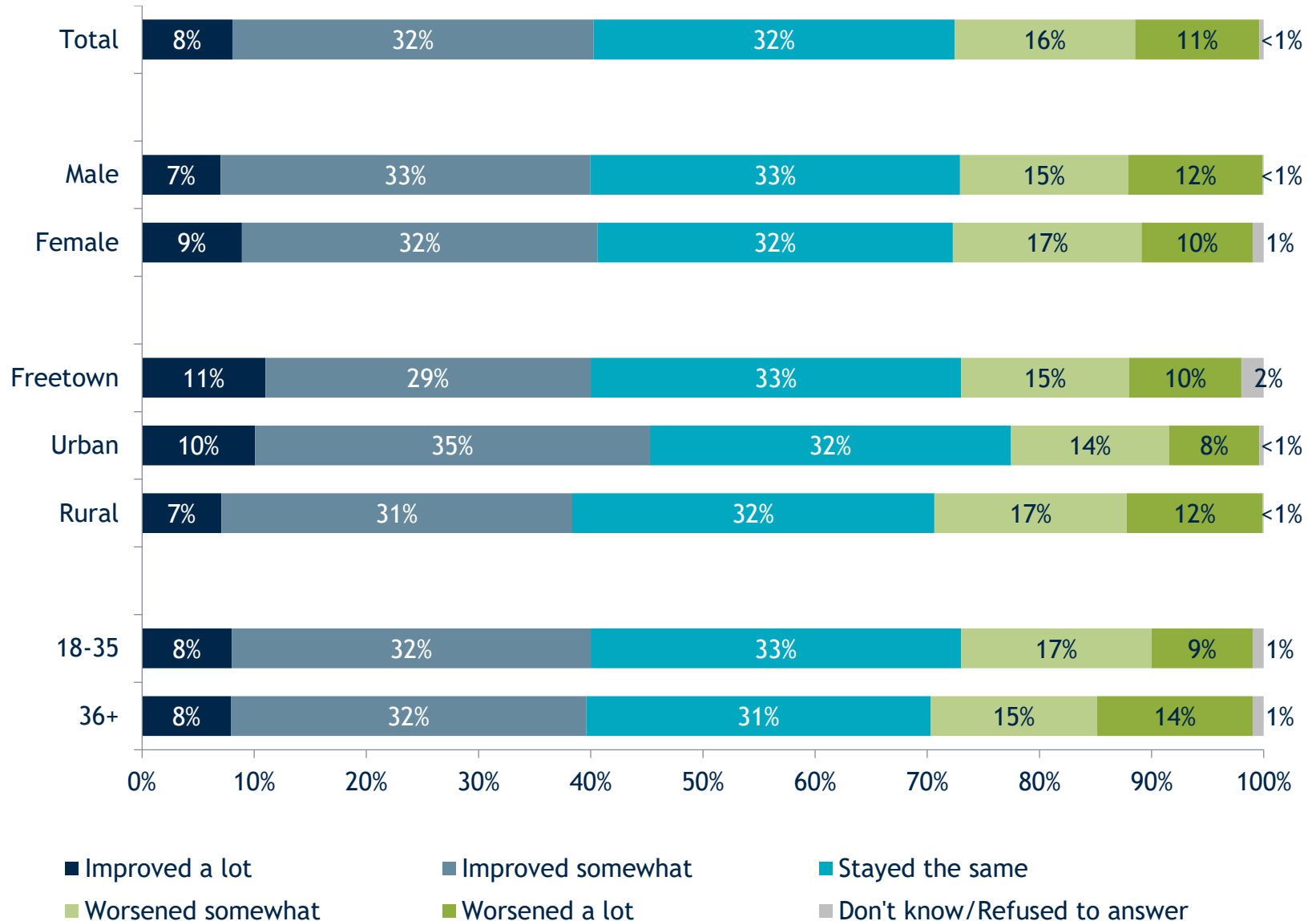
# Generally speaking, would you say that Sierra Leone is heading in the right direction or in the wrong direction?



# How would you evaluate the general mood of our country's population?

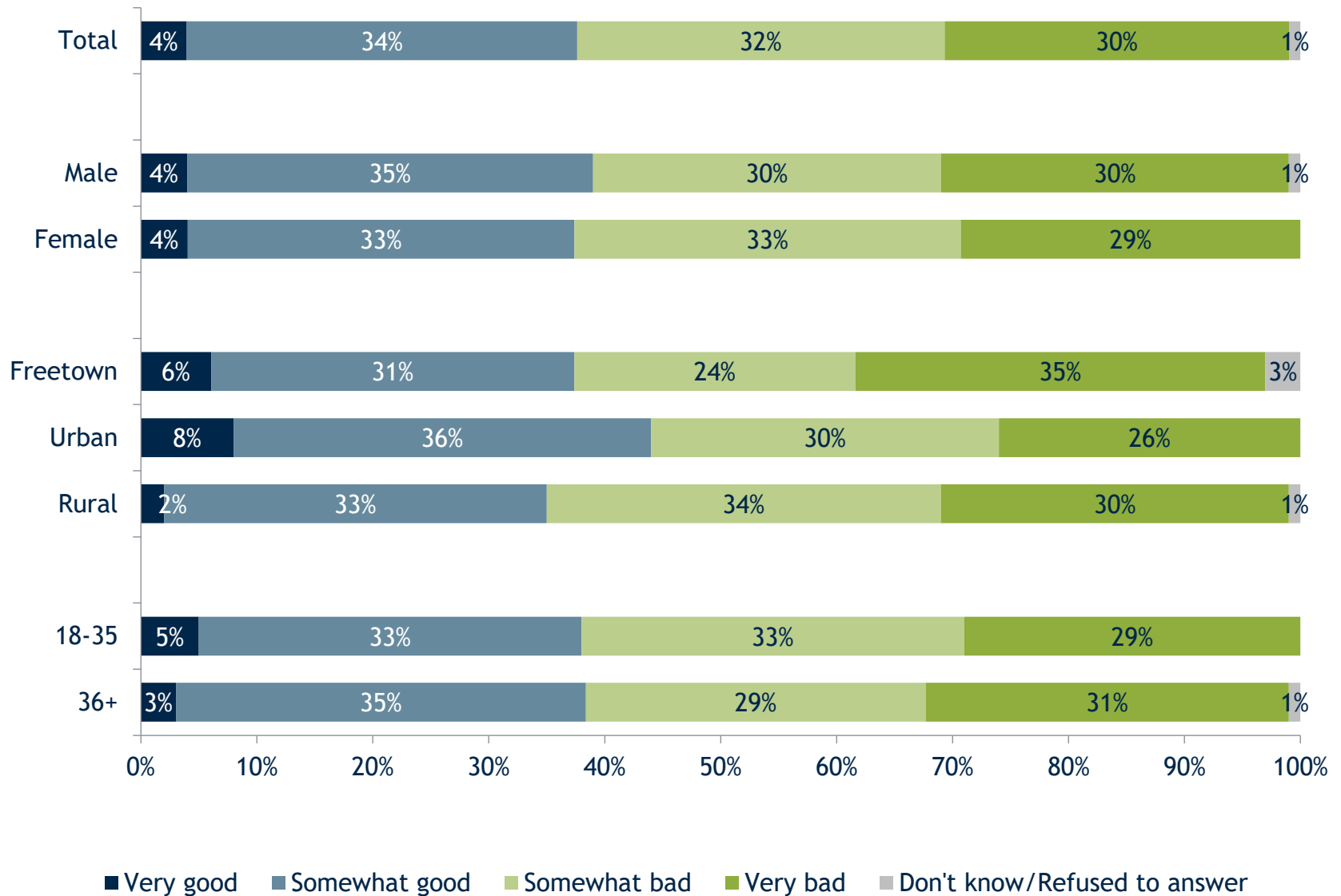


# Speaking personally, over the past 12 months, how has your overall quality of life changed...?

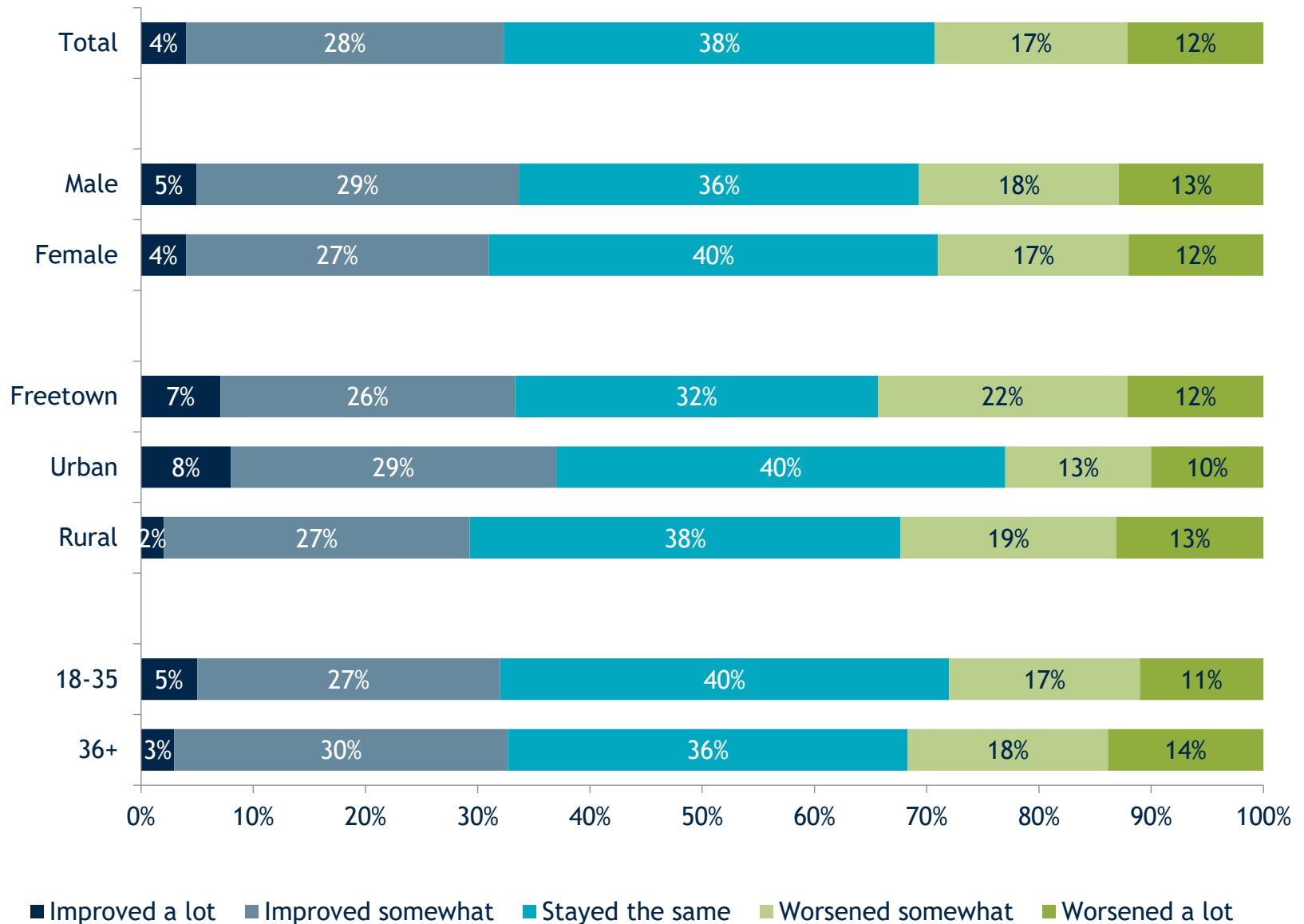




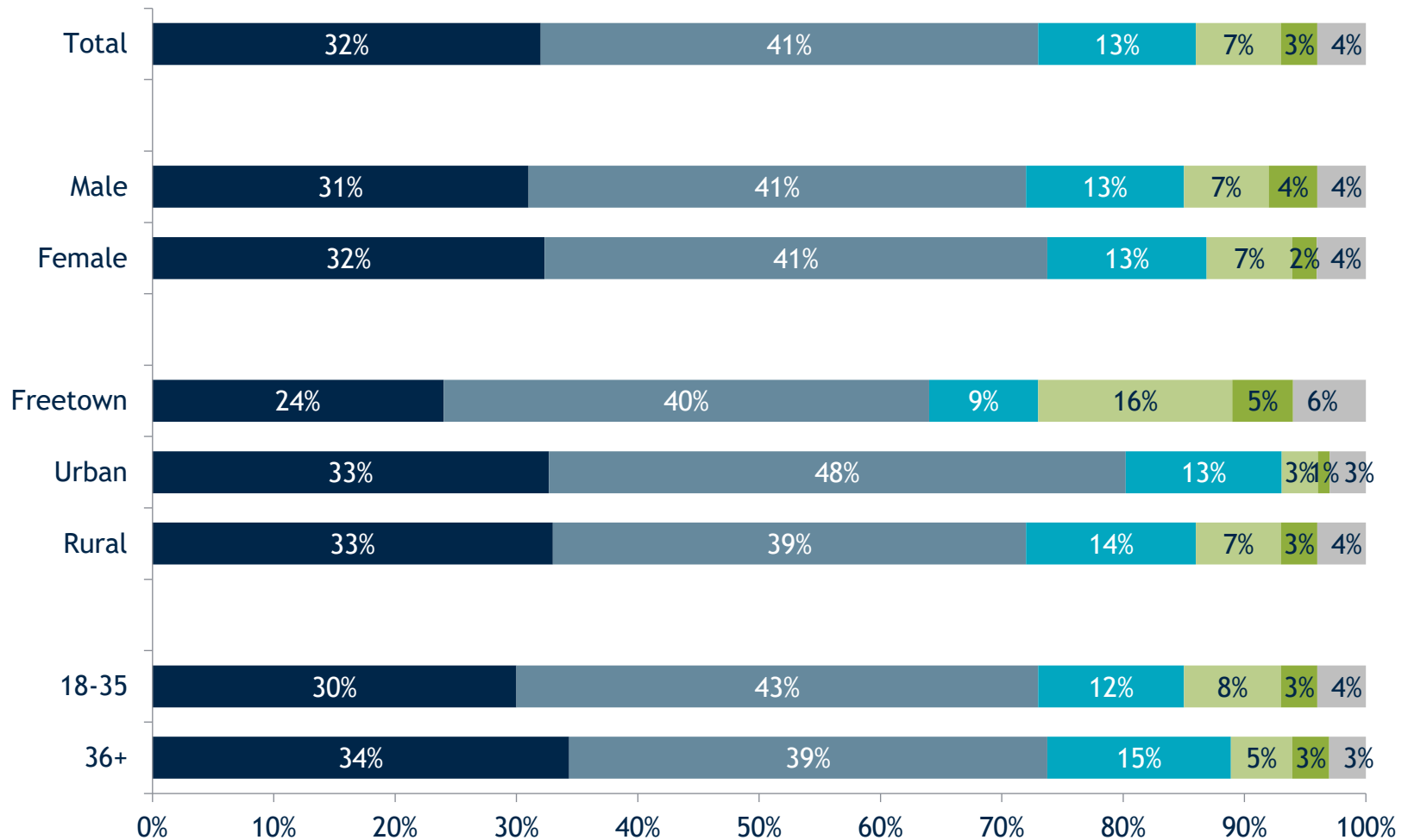
# How would you describe the current economic situation of your household?



# Over the last 12 months, how has the economic situation of your household changed?



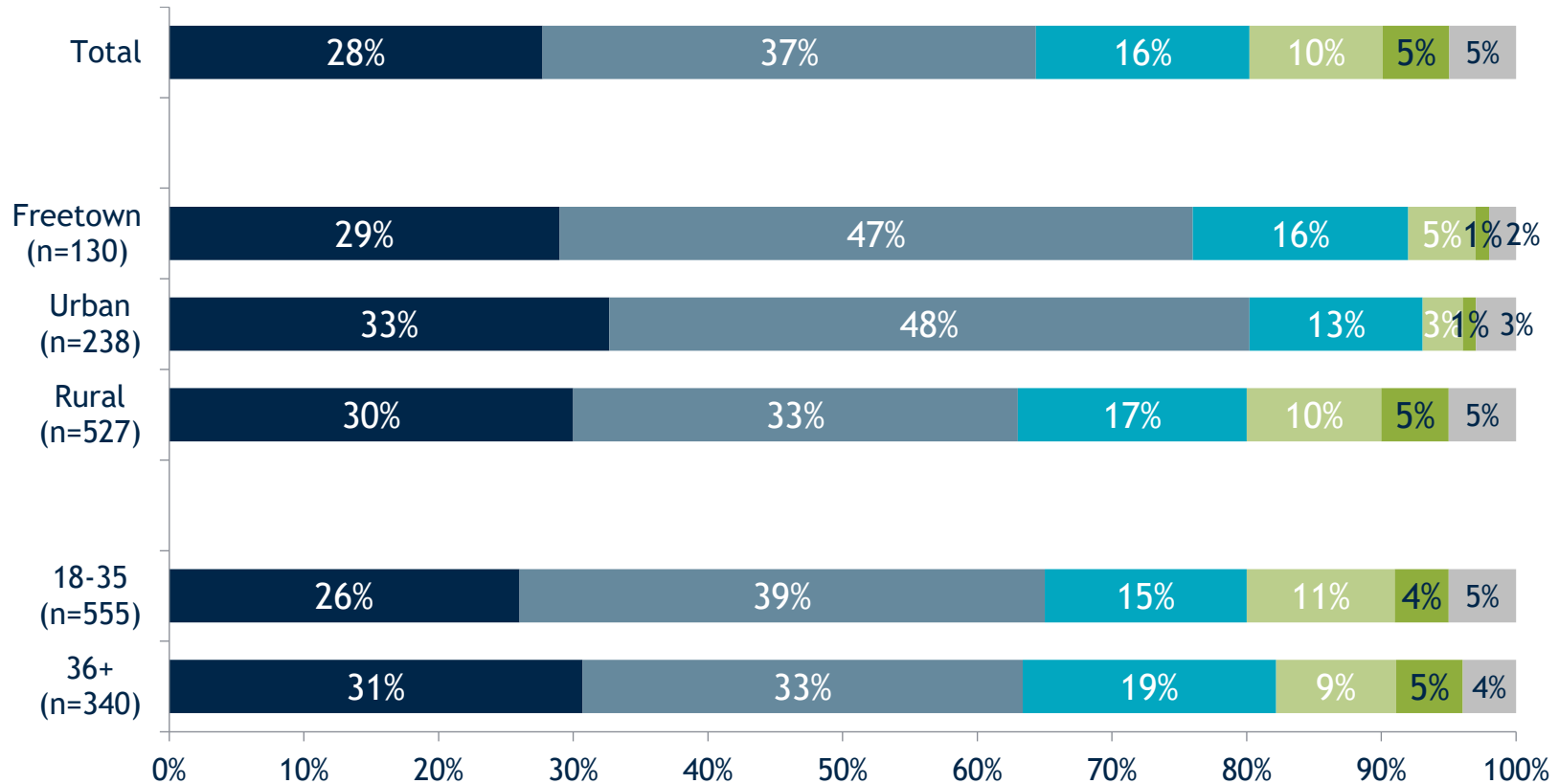
# In the coming 12 months, how do you expect the economic situation of your household to change?



Improve a lot
  Improve somewhat
  Stay the same
  Worsen somewhat
  Worsen a lot
  Don't know/Refused to answer

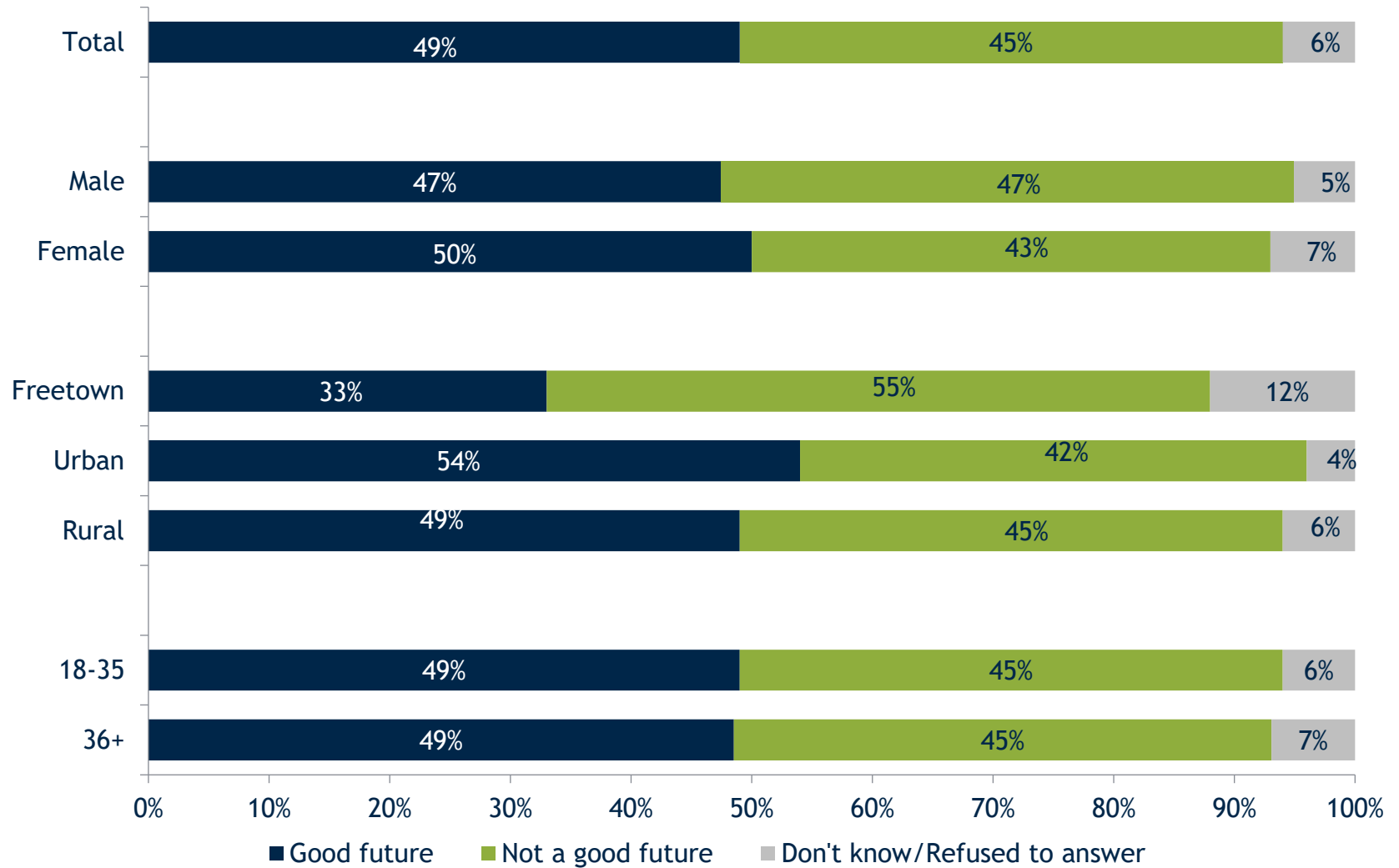
# In the coming 12 months, how do you expect the economic situation of your household to change?

(Among those who described the economic situation of their household as “somewhat bad” or “very bad”, n=895)

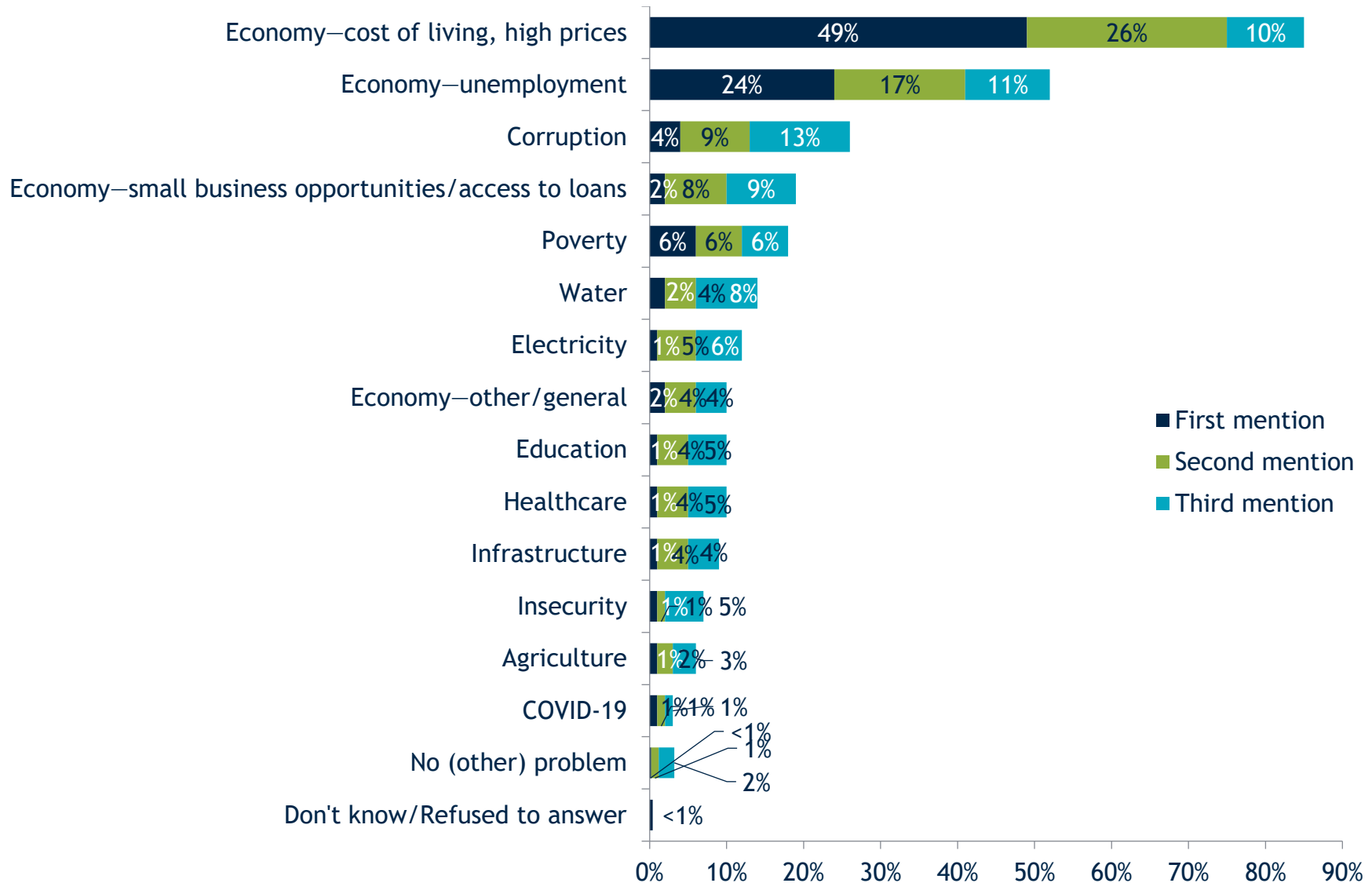


- Improve a lot
- Improve somewhat
- Stay the same
- Worsen somewhat
- Worsen a lot
- Don't know/Refused to answer

# Do you think that today's generation of young people has a good future in our country or not?

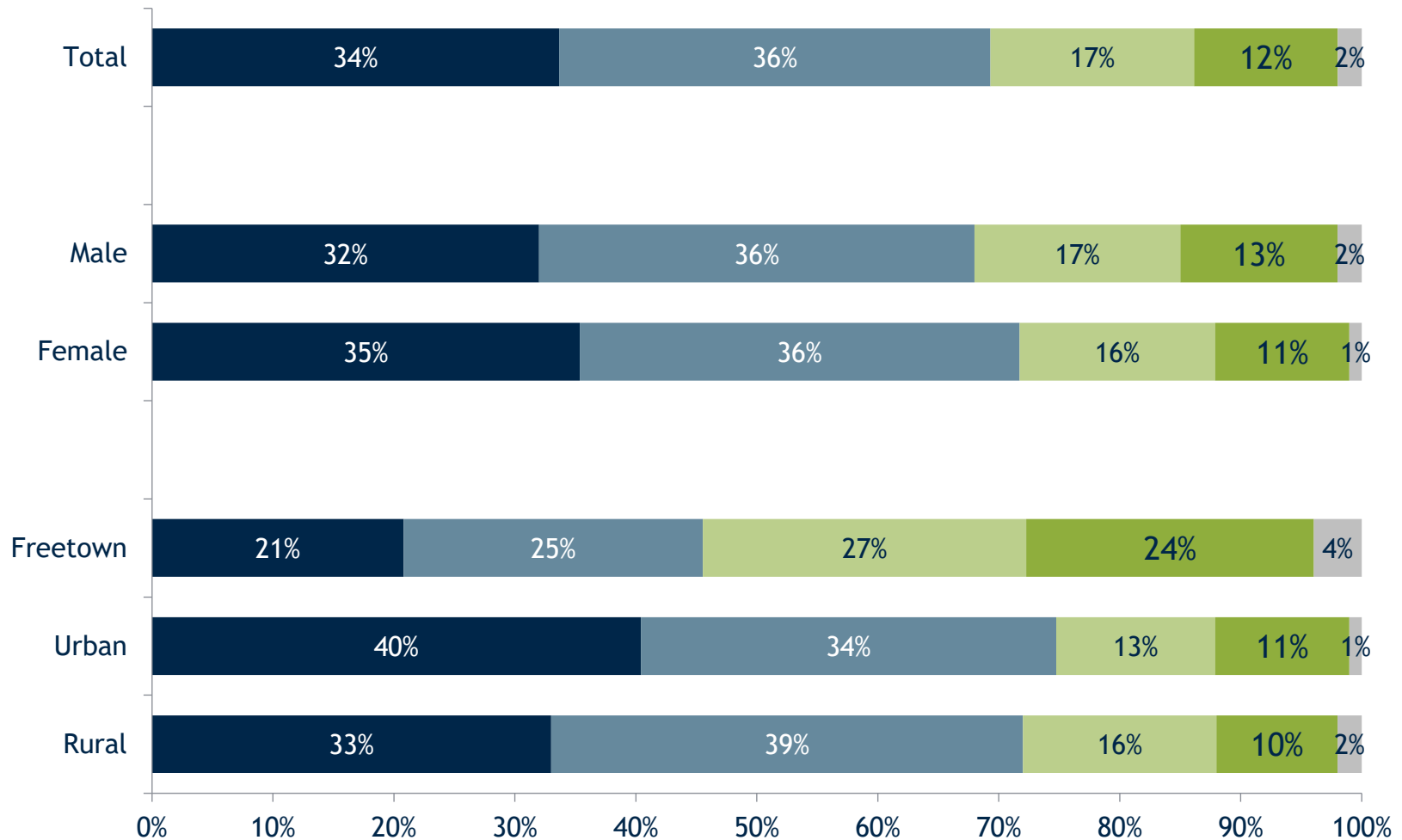


# What is the most important problem facing our country today? (Spontaneous response; up to three responses allowed)



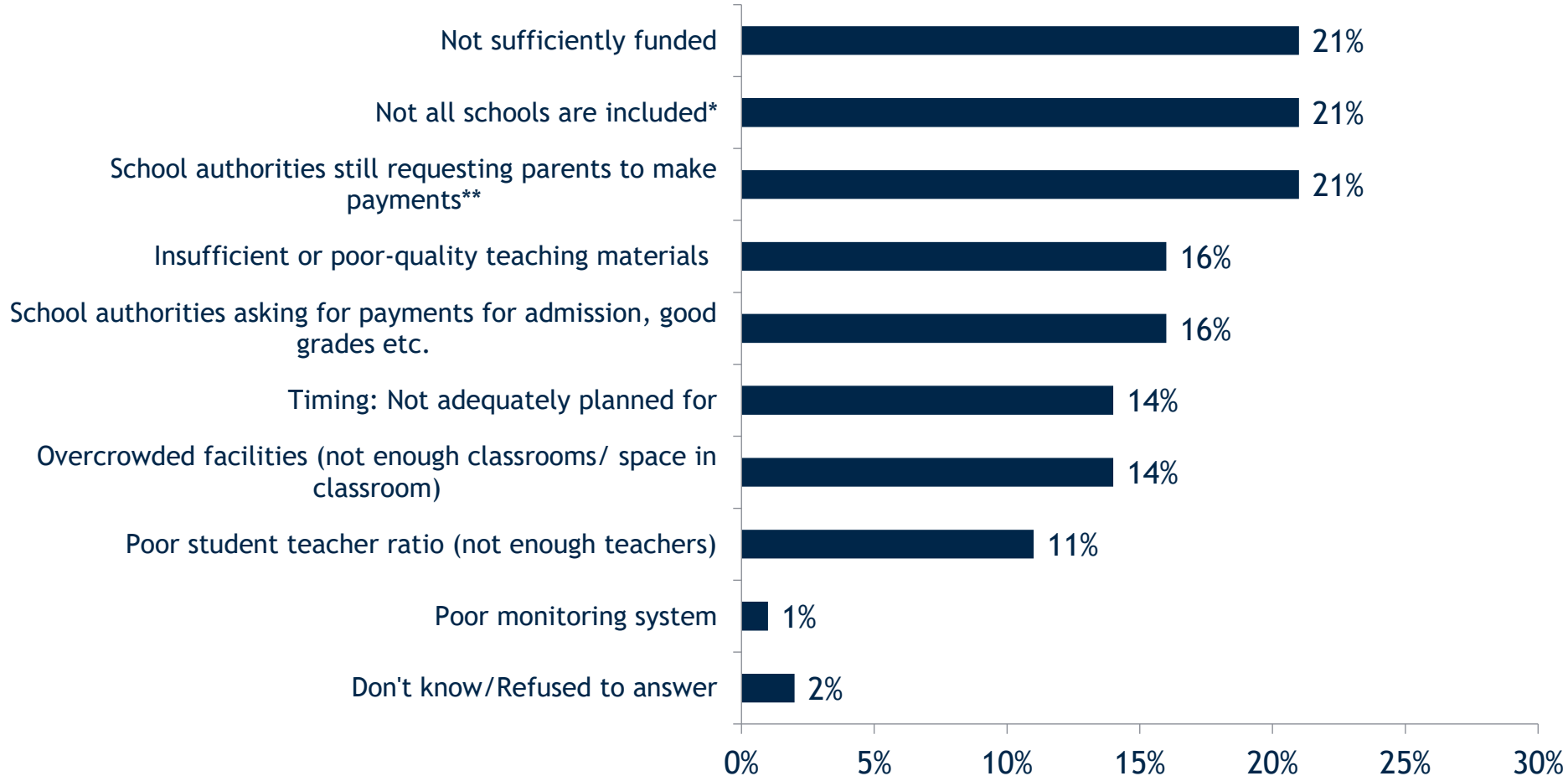
Mentions less than 1% are not displayed.

# Two years in, how would you rate the ‘Free Quality School Education’ program for pre-primary, primary, junior and senior schools for government and government-assisted schools.



# What aspects of the ‘Free Quality School Education’ program for pre-primary, primary, junior and senior schools for government and government-assisted schools are less than very good?

(Among those who rated the ‘Free Quality School Education’ as less than “very good”, n=1,000; spontaneous response; multiple responses accepted)



\*Not all schools are included i.e., limited to only government and government-assisted schools.

\*\*School authorities still requesting parents to make payments (for arts and crafts, flogging canes, drinking bowls, sport days).<sup>16</sup>





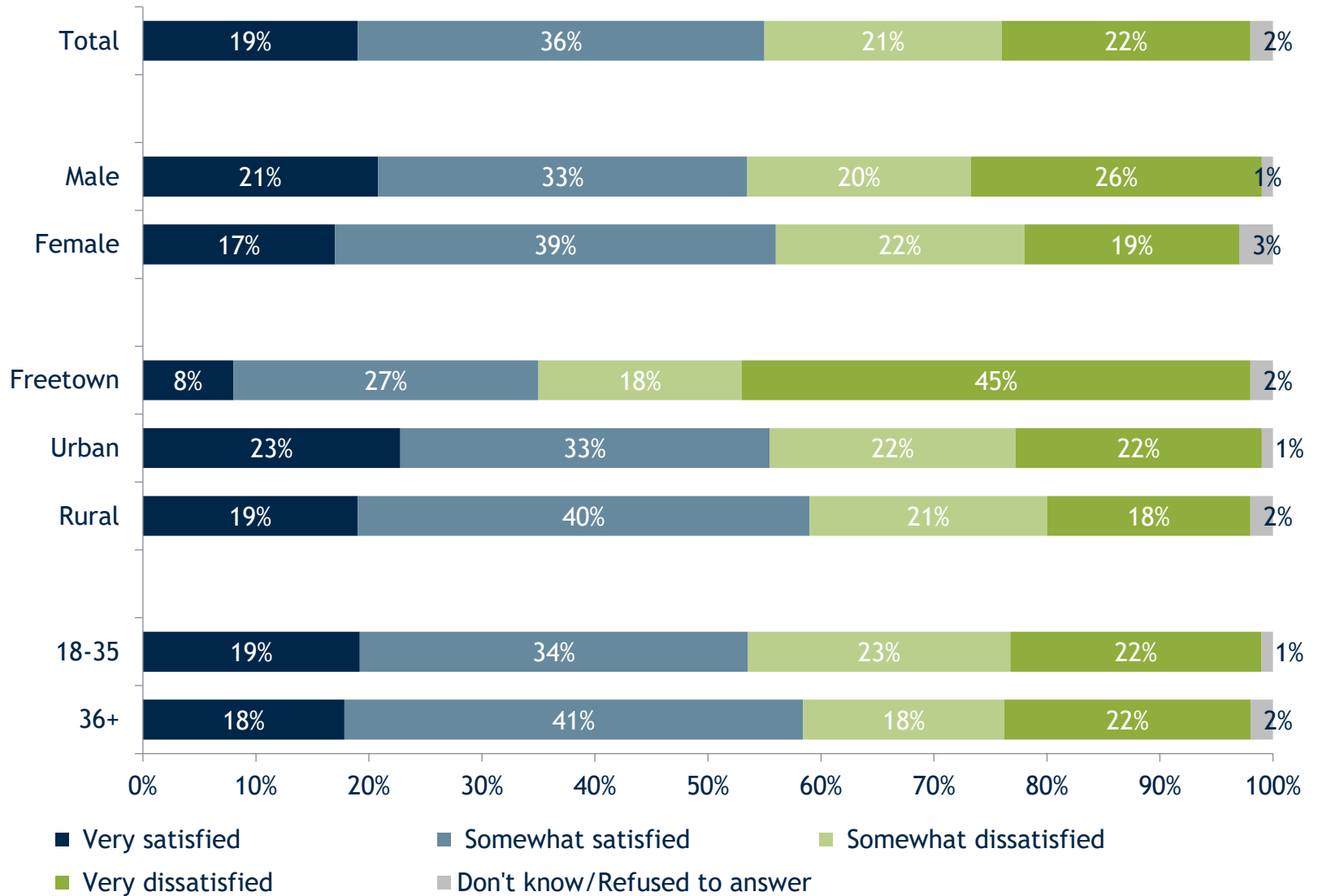
# Democracy

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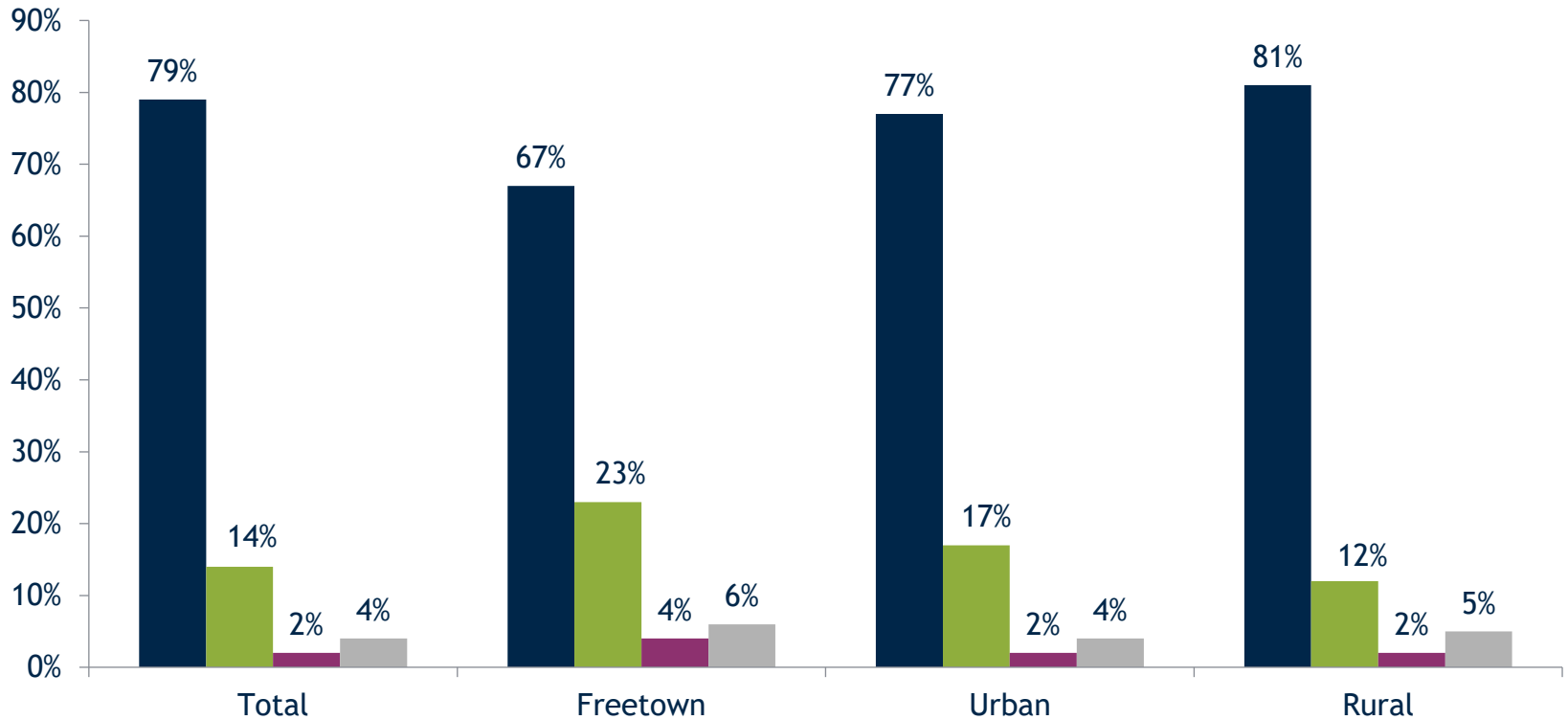


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# How satisfied or dissatisfied are you with the way democracy is developing in our country?

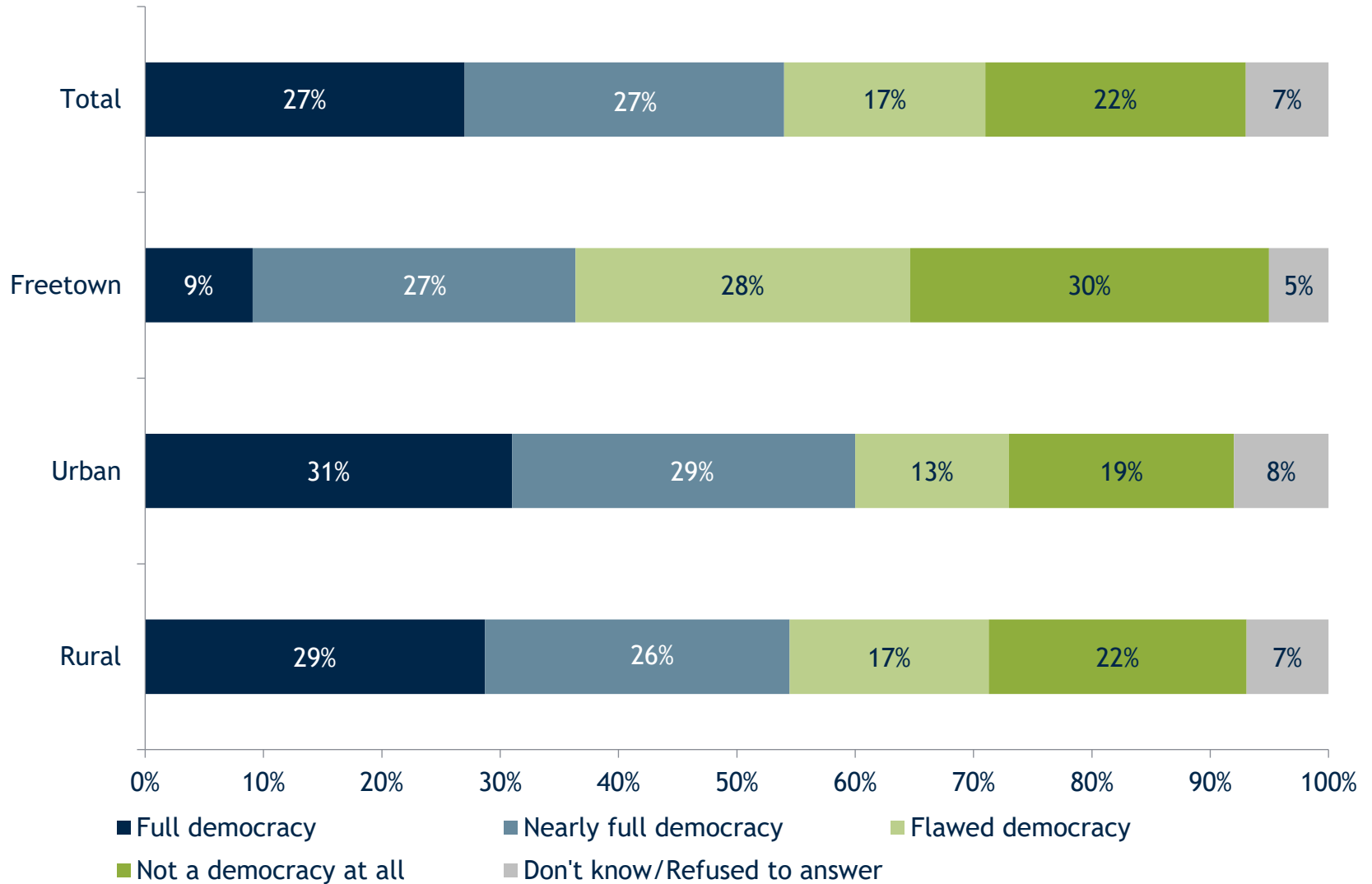


# Do you believe that democracy is the best possible form of government for our country or not?

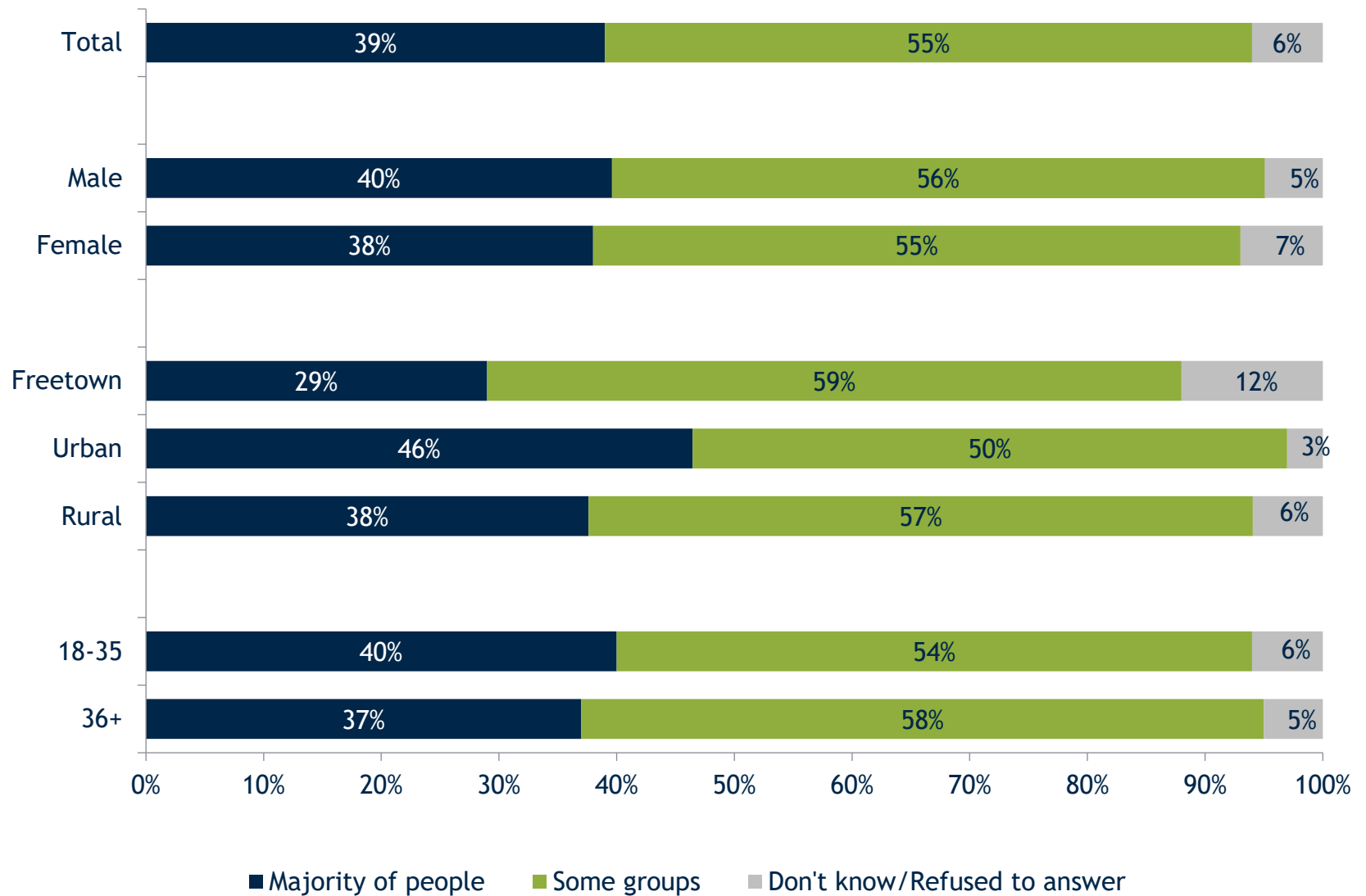


- Yes, it is the best possible form of government for our country.
- No, there are other forms of government that could be equally good for our country.
- No, there are other forms of government that are better than democracy.
- Don't know/Refused to answer

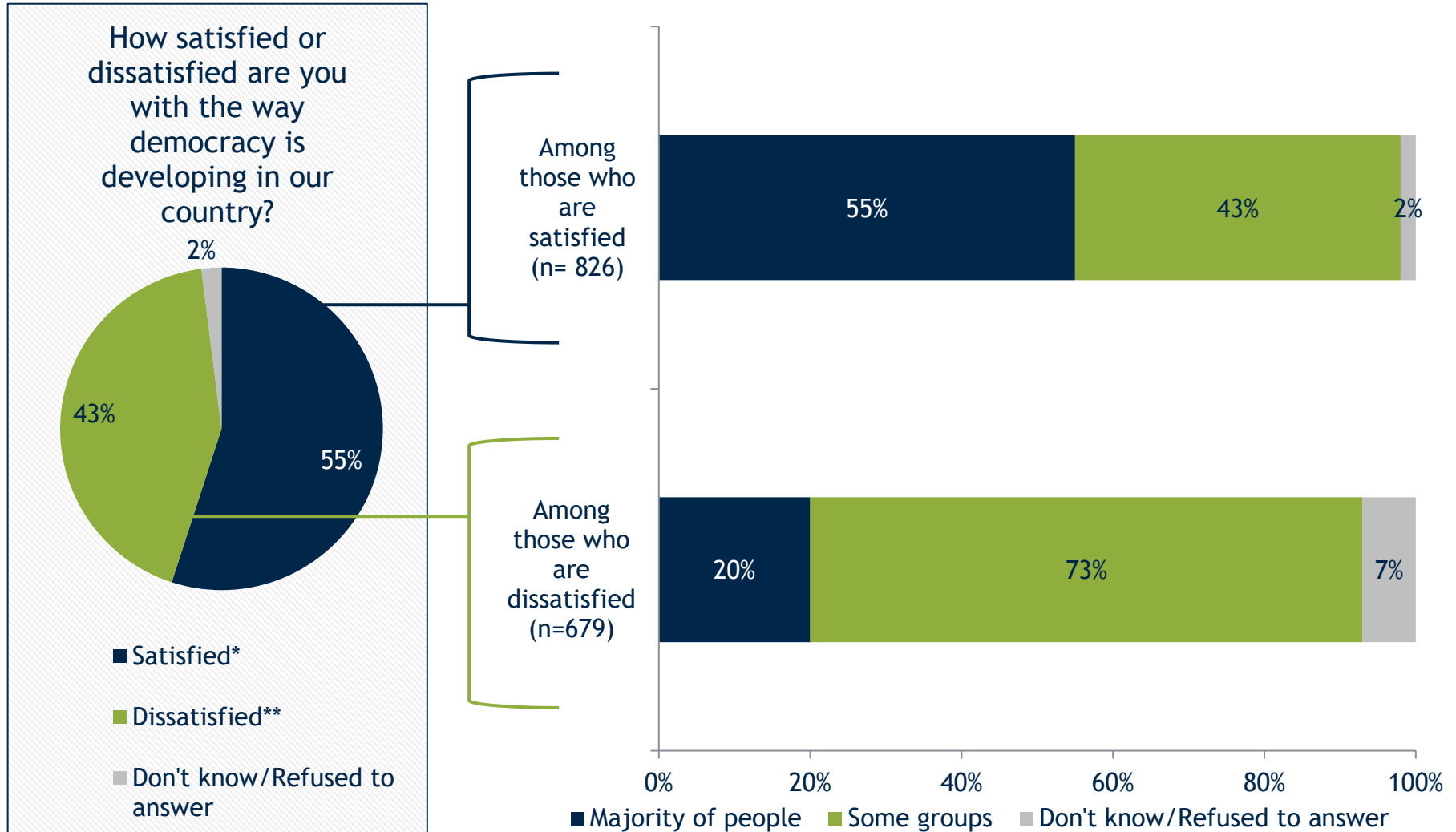
# Thinking about our country's current political system, do you believe it is a...?



# Do you consider our country to be governed in the interest of the majority of people or in the interest of some groups?



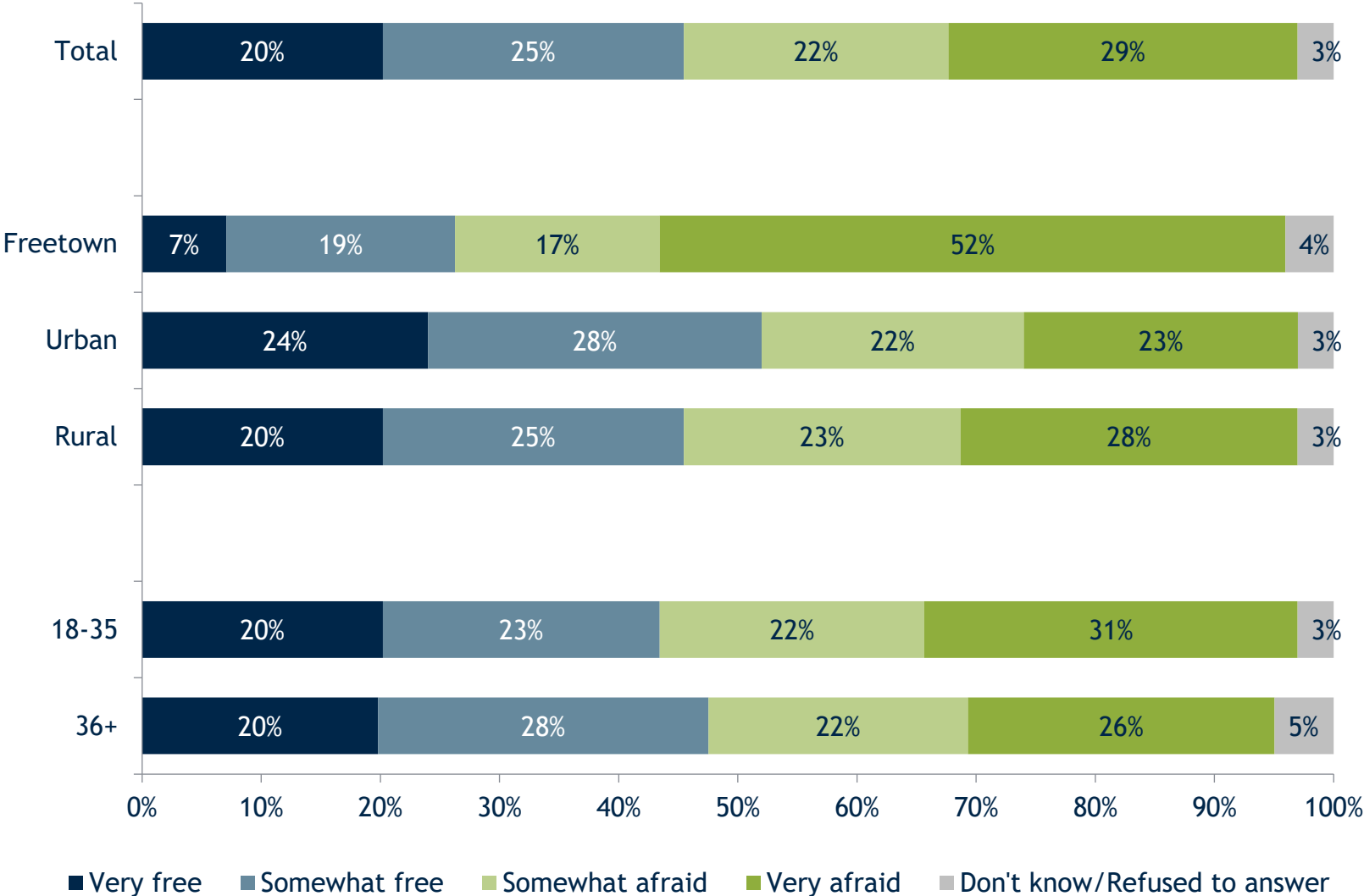
# Do you consider our country to be governed in the interest of the majority of people or in the interest of some groups?



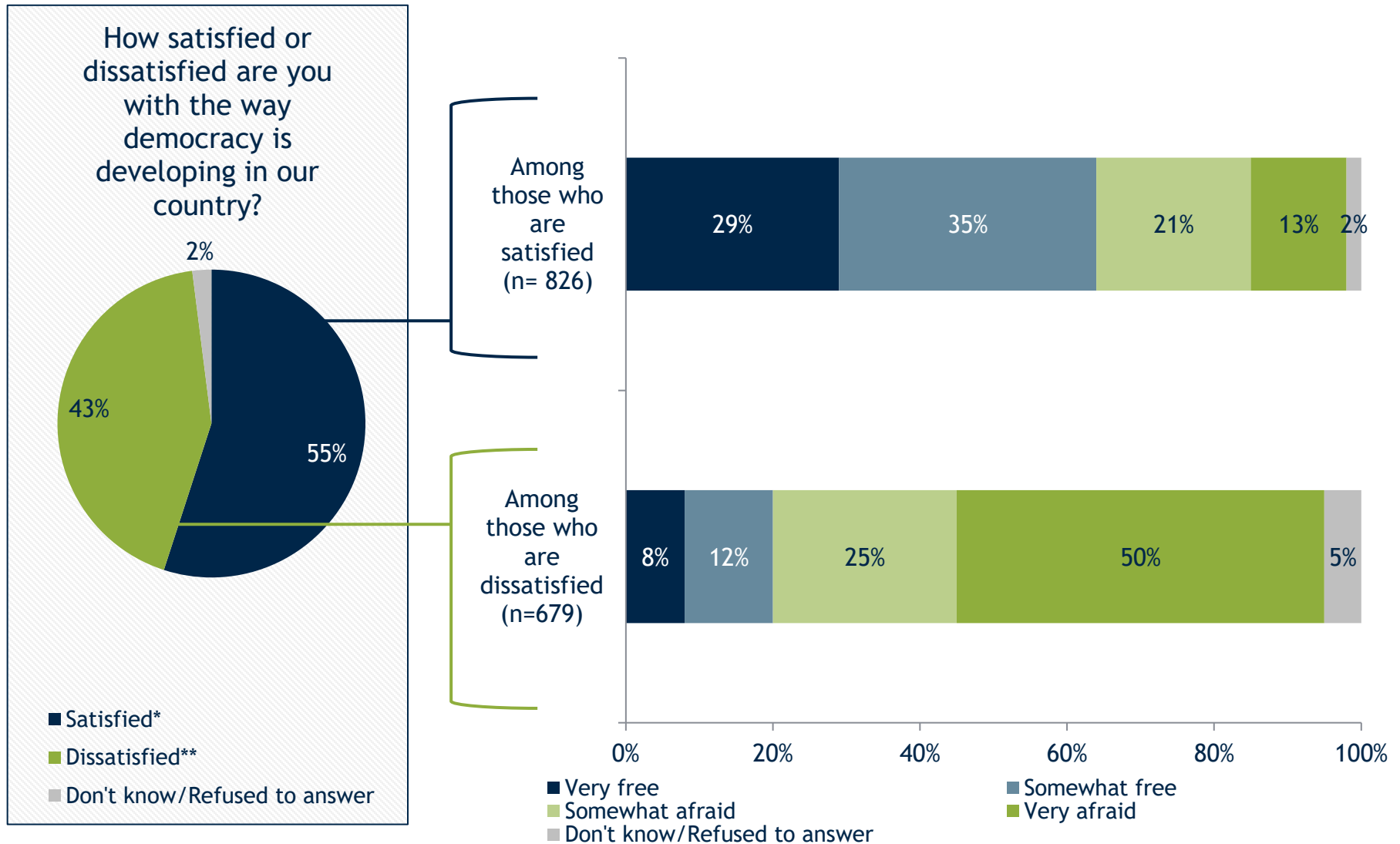
\*Total percentages for *Very satisfied* and *Somewhat dissatisfied*.

\*\*Total percentages for *Somewhat dissatisfied* and *Very dissatisfied*.

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



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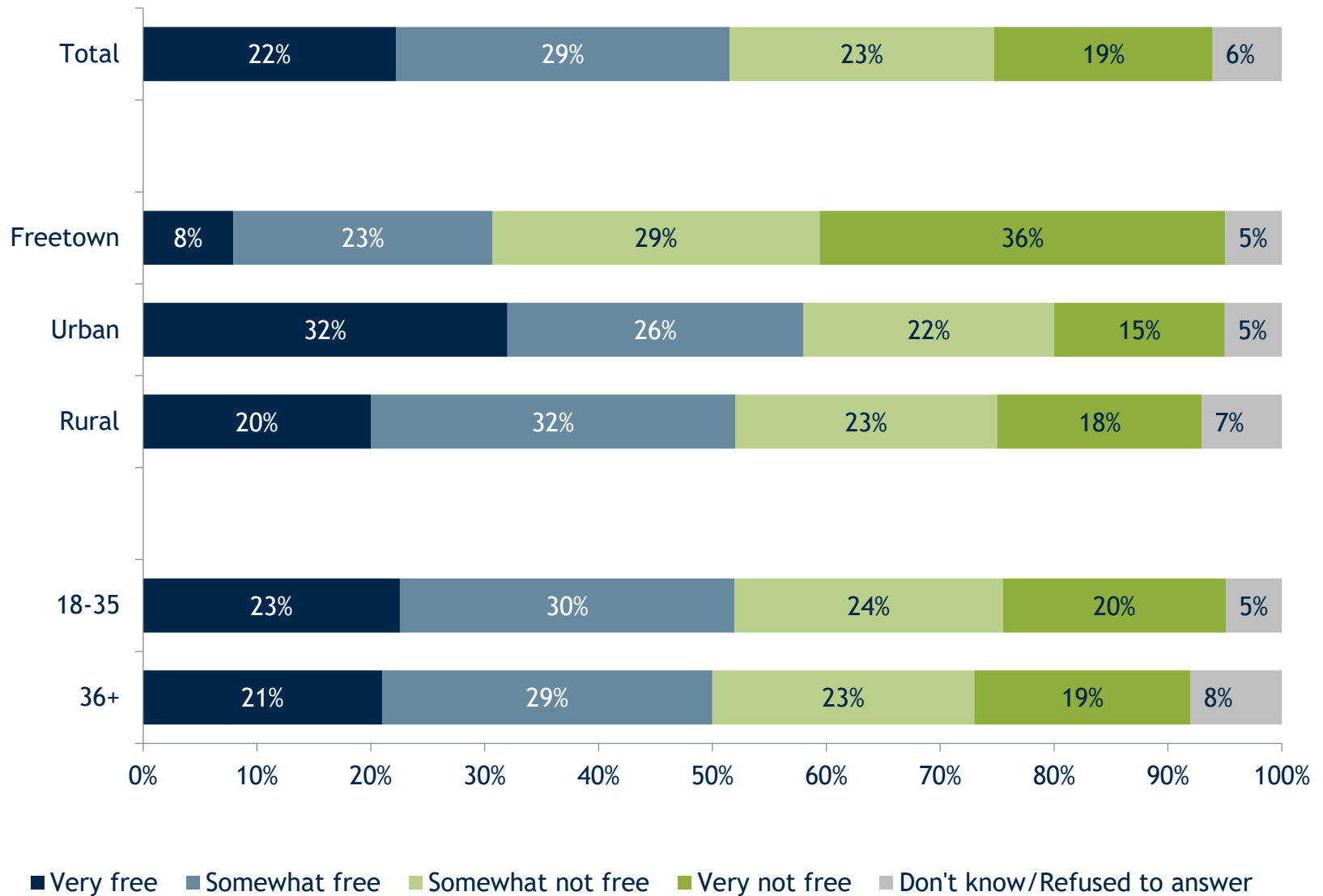


\*Total percentages for *Very satisfied* and *Somewhat dissatisfied*.

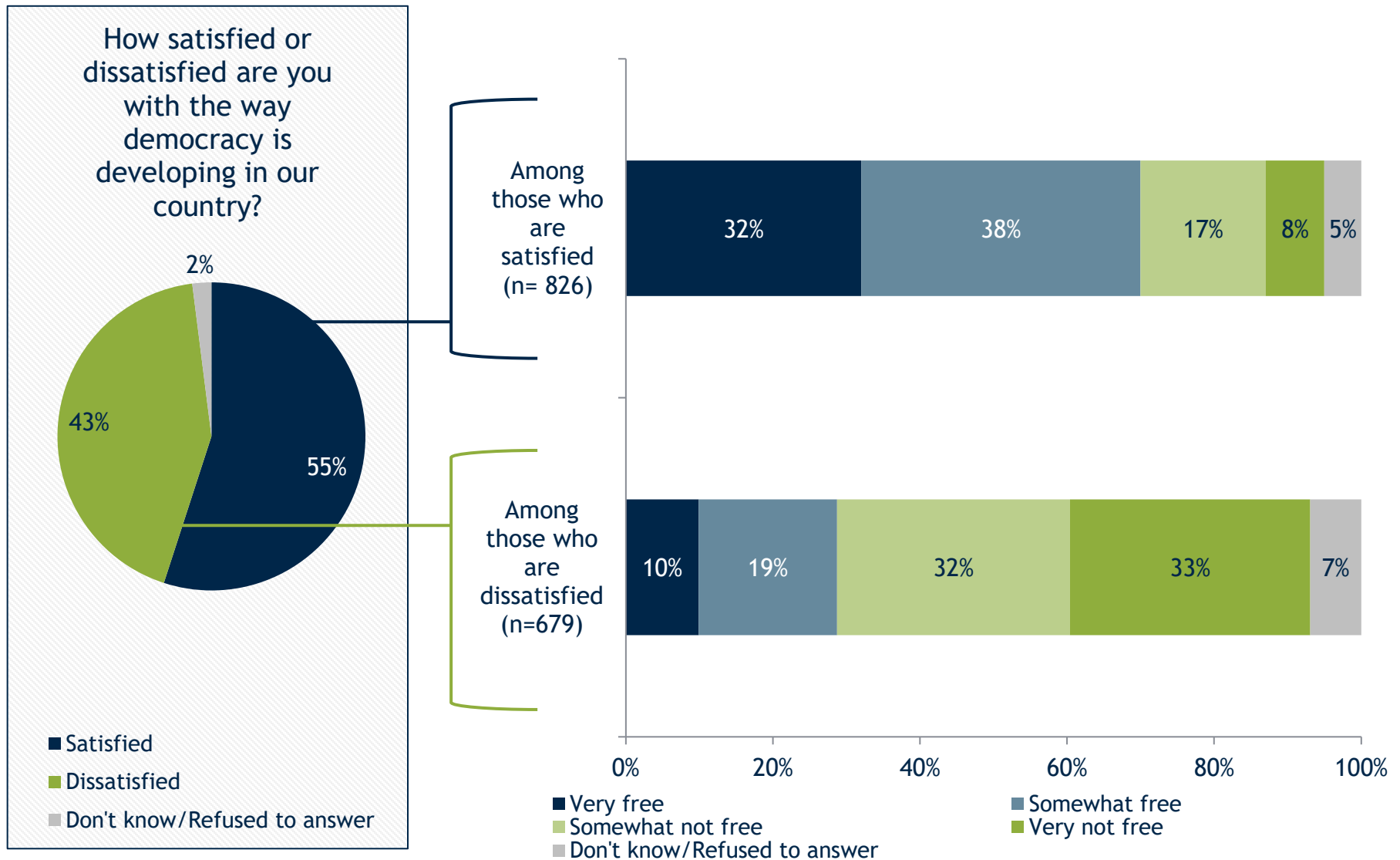
\*\*Total percentages for *Somewhat dissatisfied* and *Very dissatisfied*.



# Are the media in our country free to independently cover any issue or not?



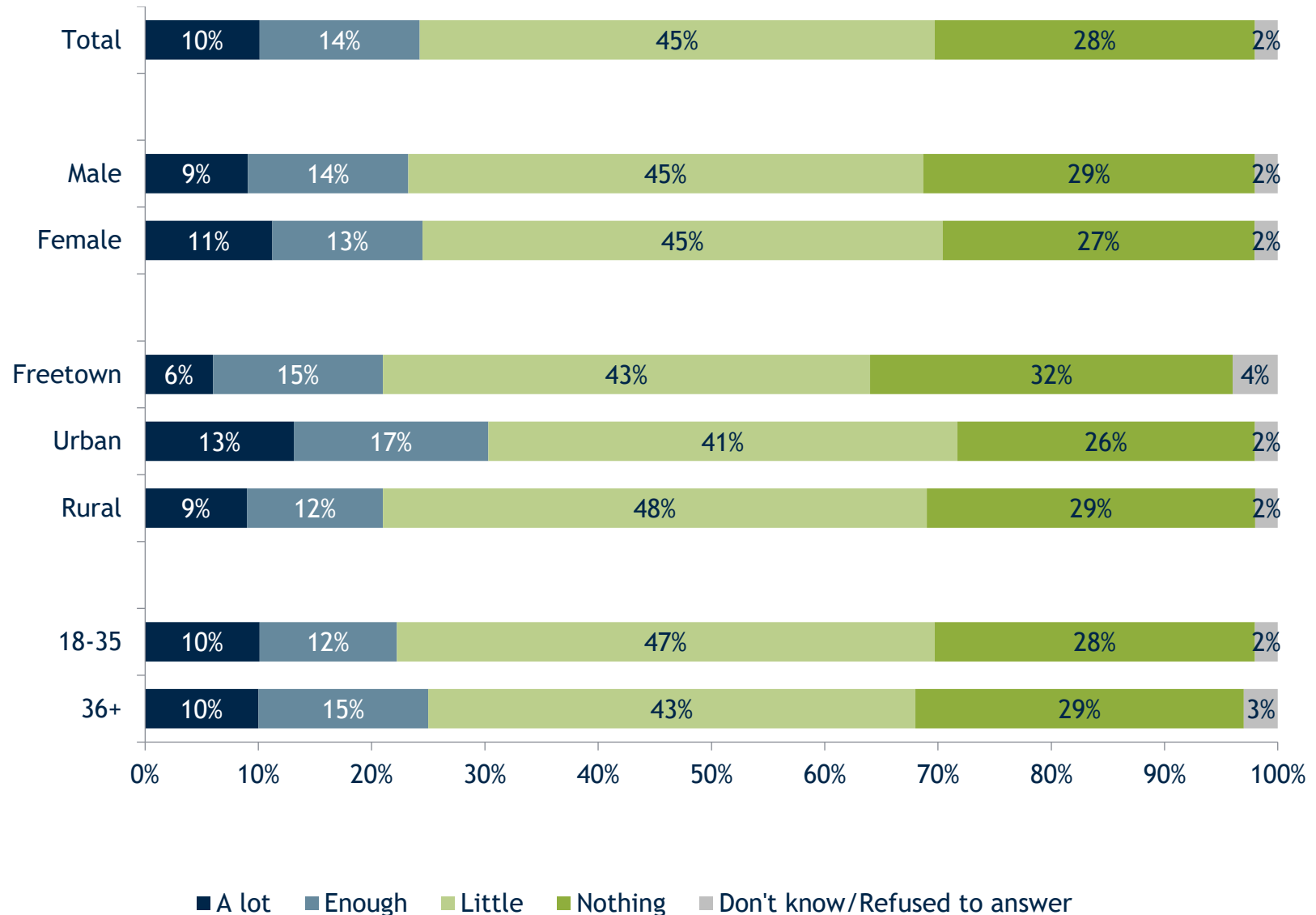
# Are the media in our country free to independently cover any issue or not?



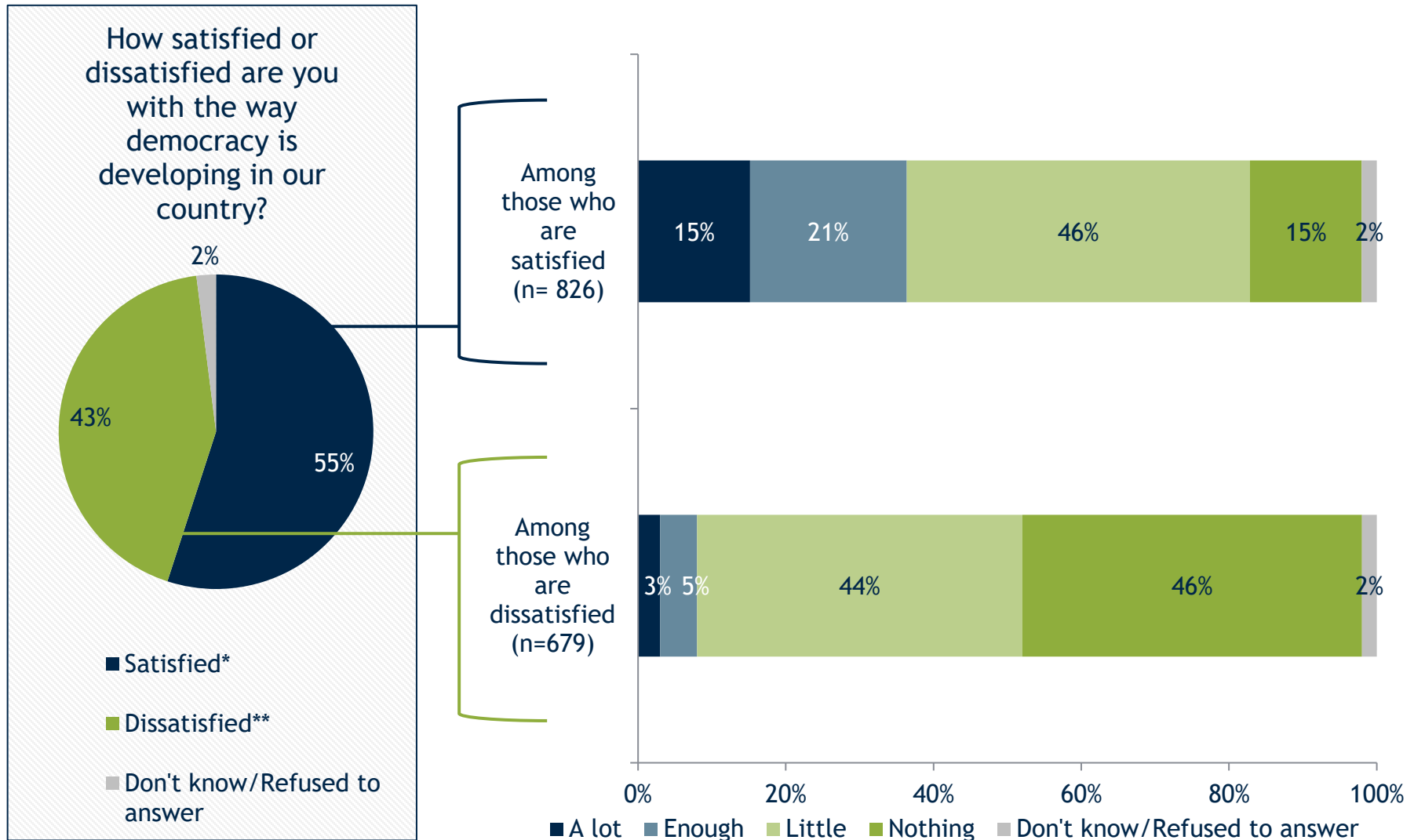
\*Total percentages for *Very satisfied* and *Somewhat dissatisfied*.

\*\*Total percentages for *Somewhat dissatisfied* and *Very dissatisfied*.

# In general, is the national government doing a lot, enough, little, or nothing to address the needs of people like you?



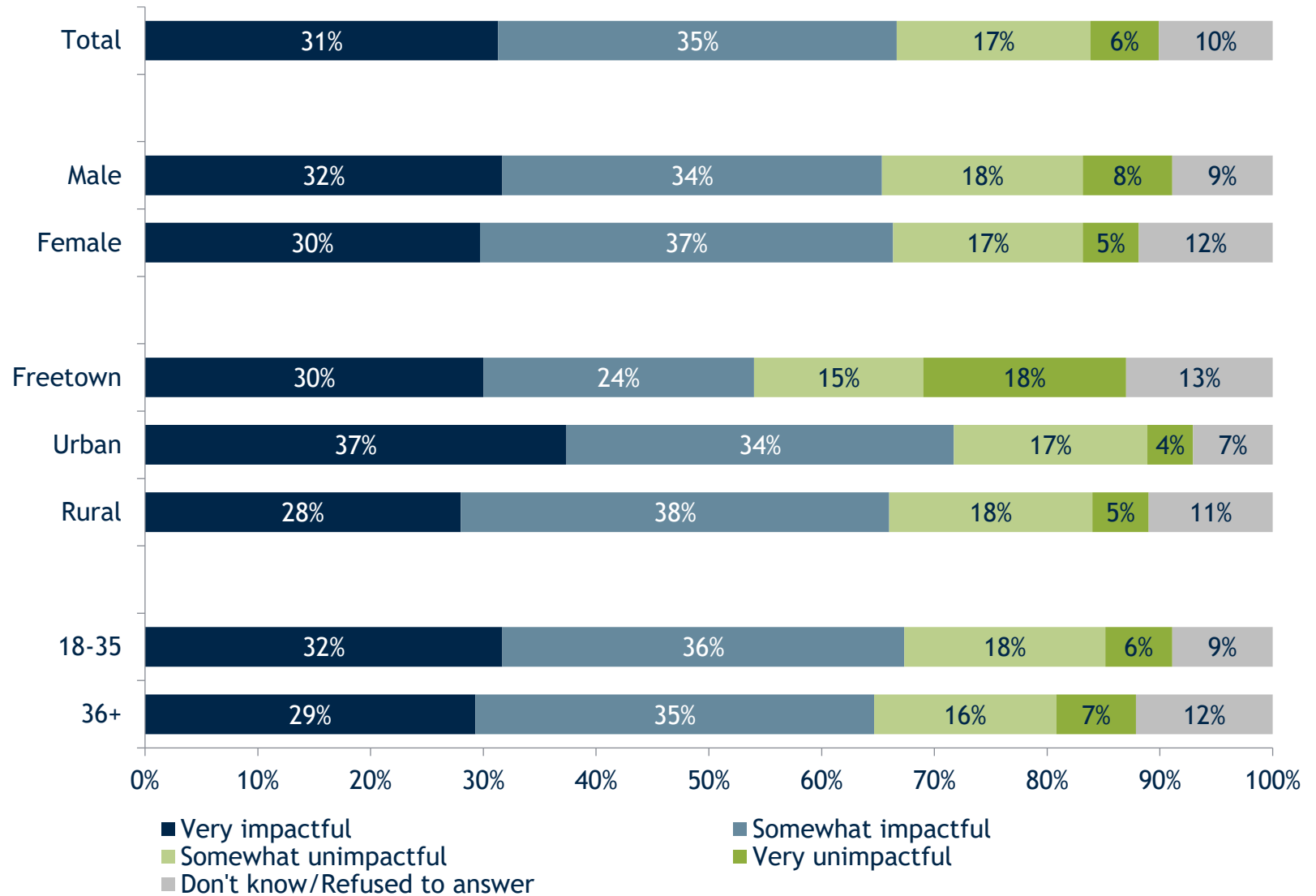
# In general, is the national government doing a lot, enough, little, or nothing to address the needs of people like you?



\*Total percentages for *Very satisfied* and *Somewhat dissatisfied*.

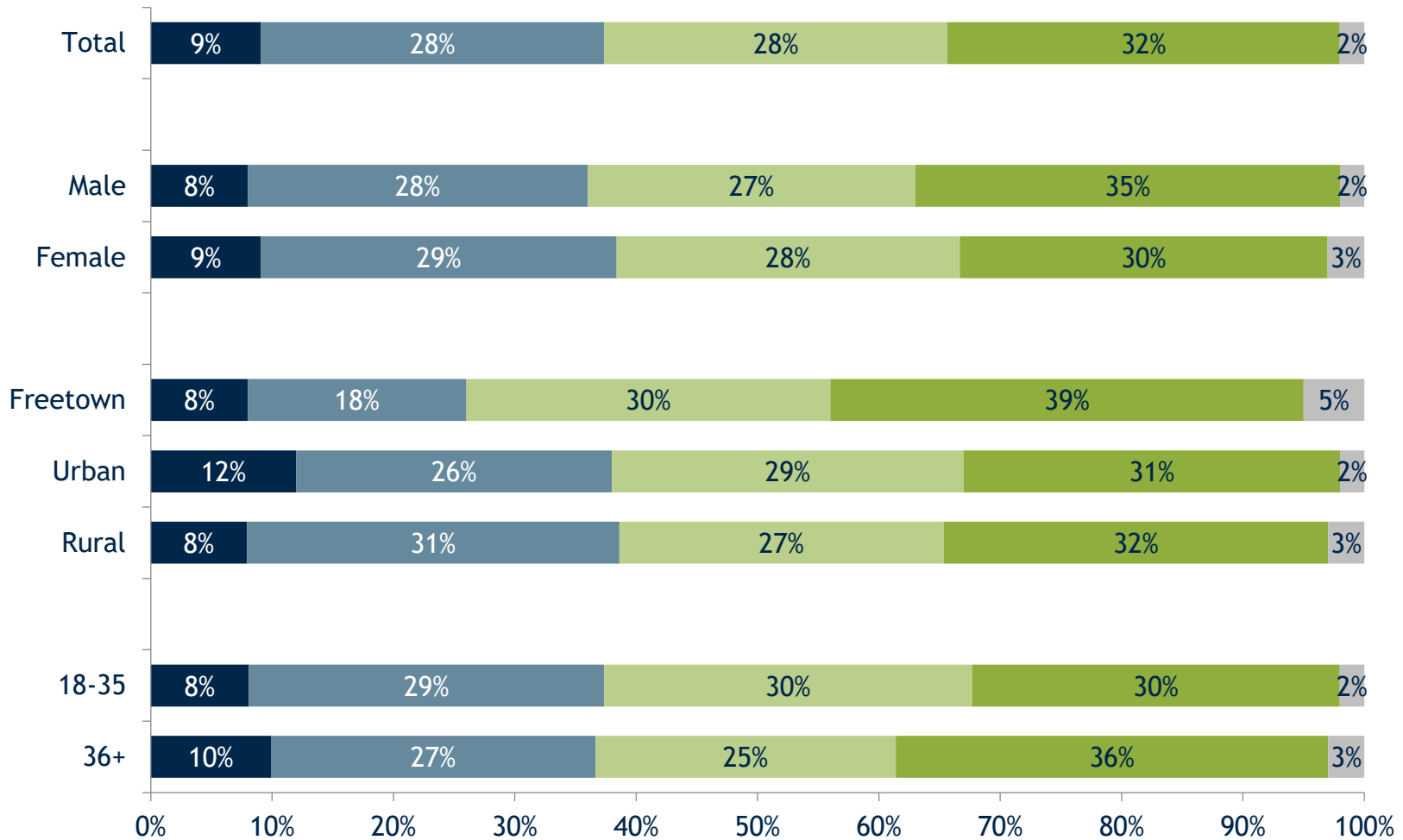
\*\*Total percentages for *Somewhat dissatisfied* and *Very dissatisfied*.

# To what extent do civil society organizations (CSOs\*) impact government policy in our country?



\* CSOs are local, national or international group of people who organize to support a particular interest, group or issue.

# Do you agree or disagree that political parties are doing enough to address the needs of voters like you?



■ Strongly agree 
 ■ Somewhat agree 
 ■ Somewhat disagree 
 ■ Strongly disagree 
 ■ Don't know/Refused to answer

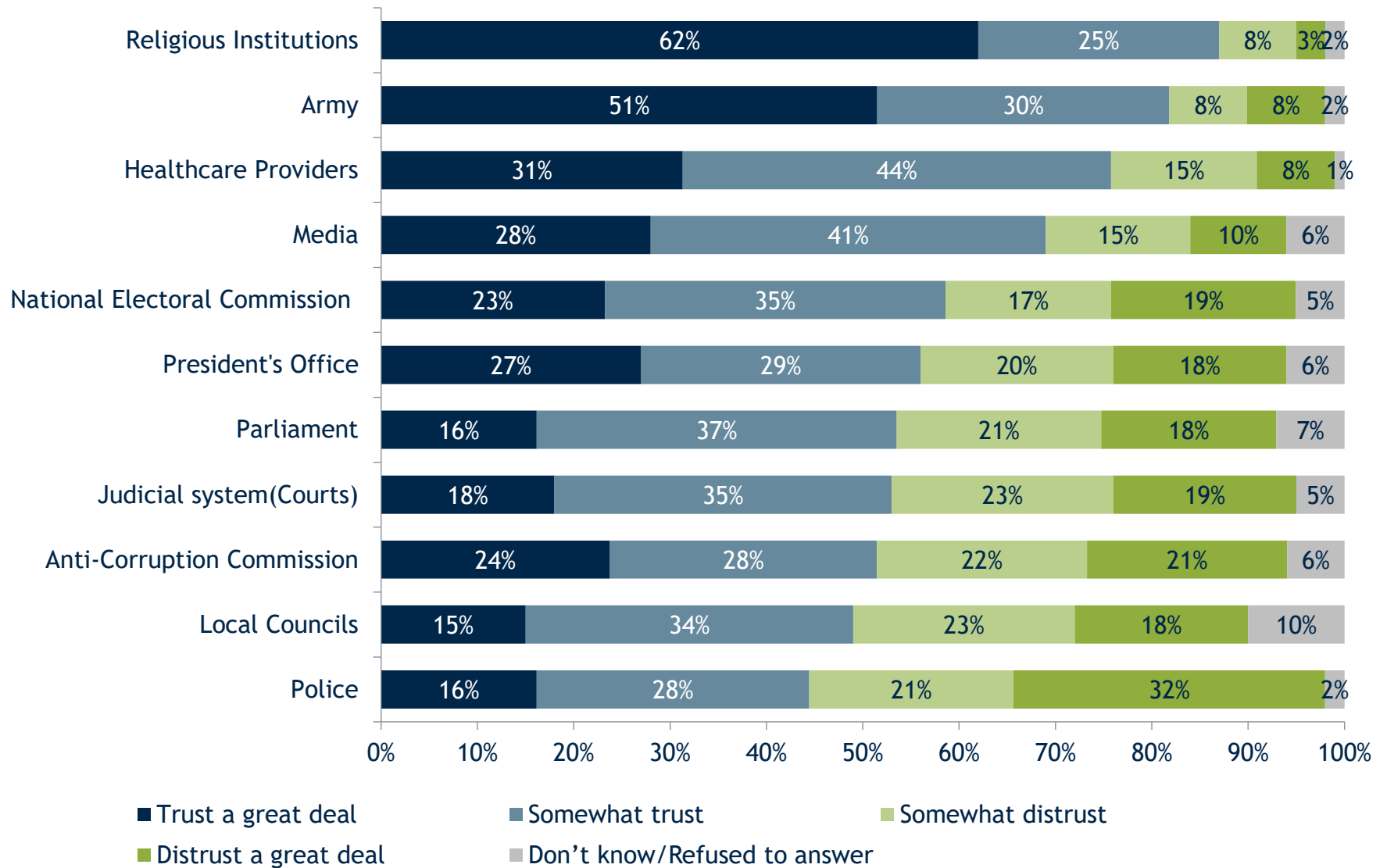


# Trust in Institutions

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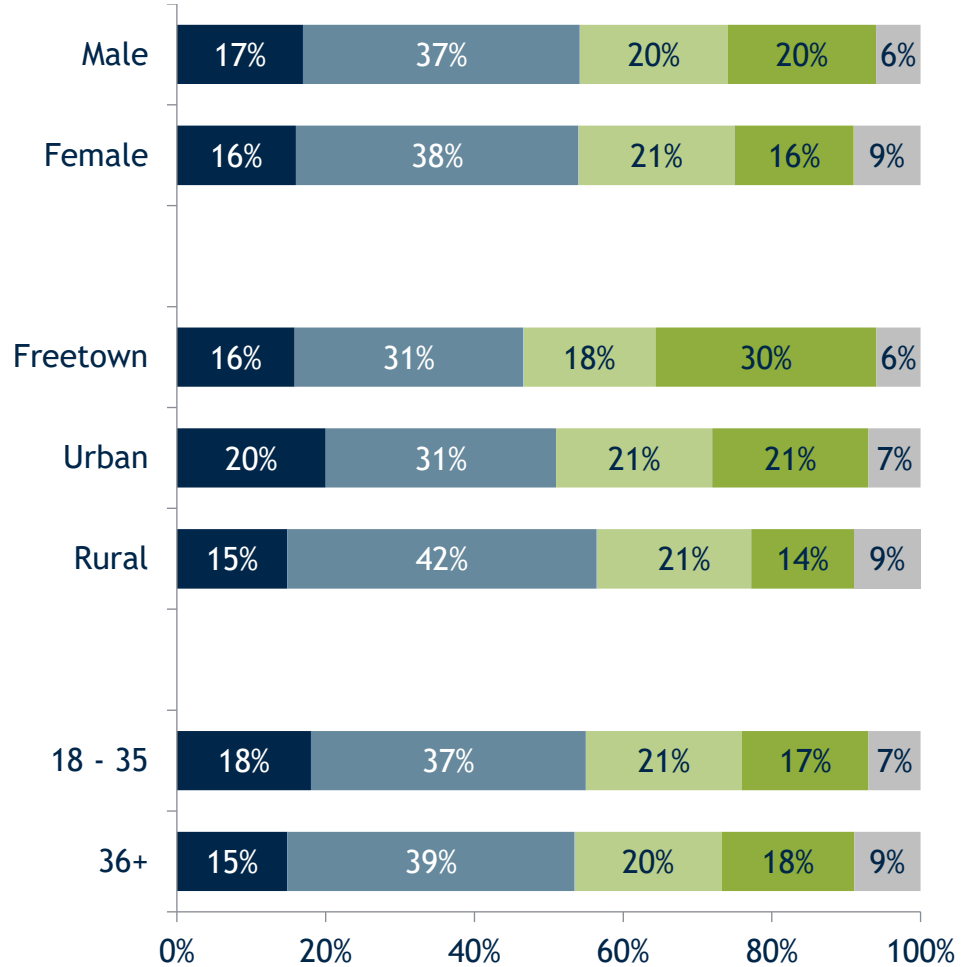
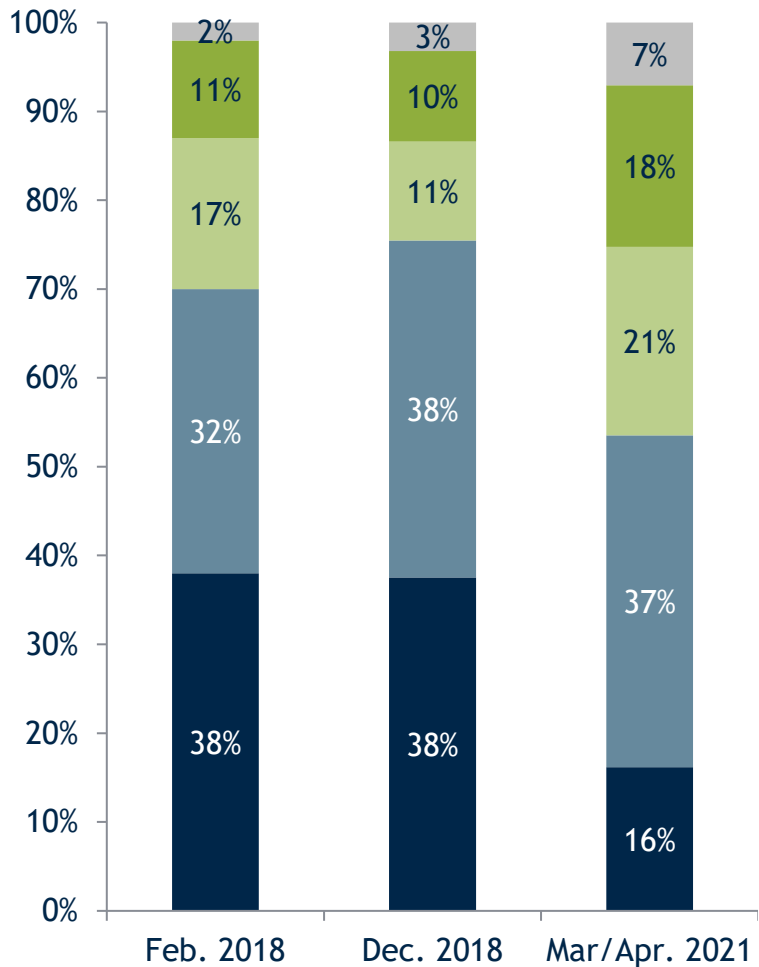
# To what extent do you trust or distrust each of the following institutions?





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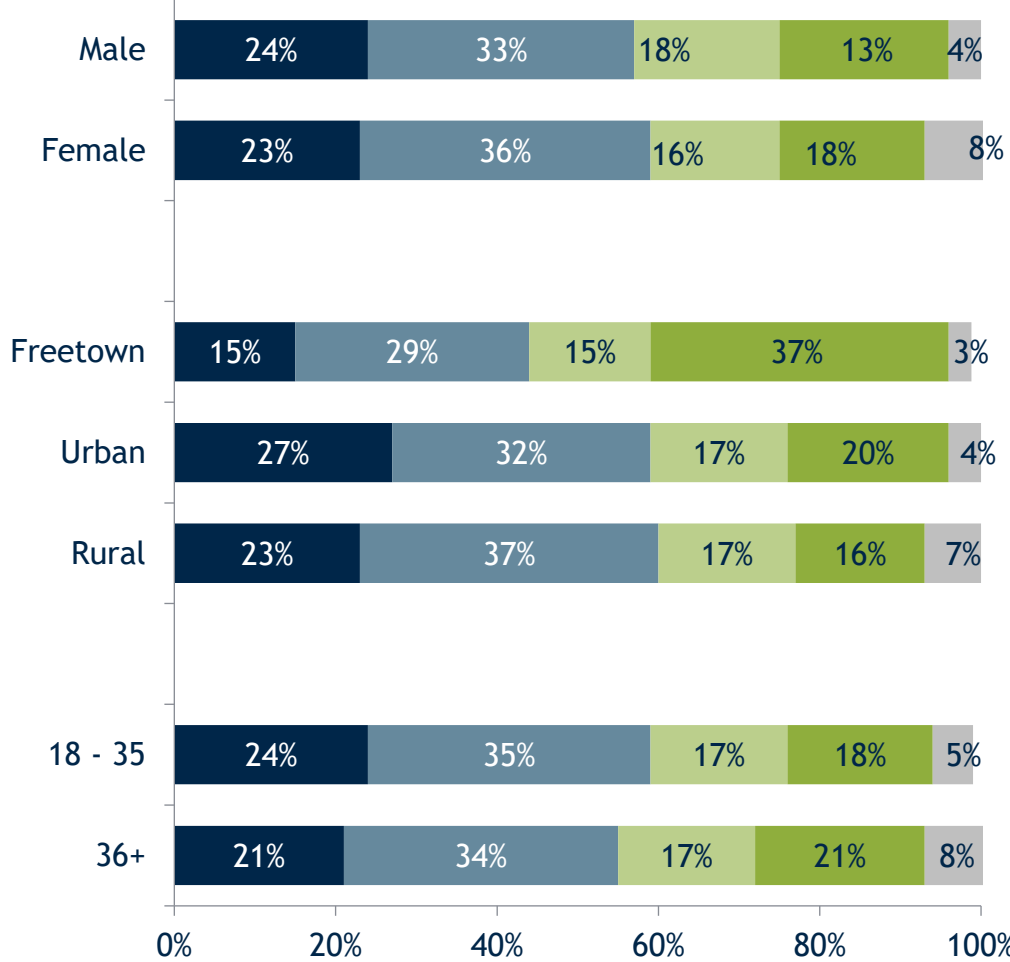
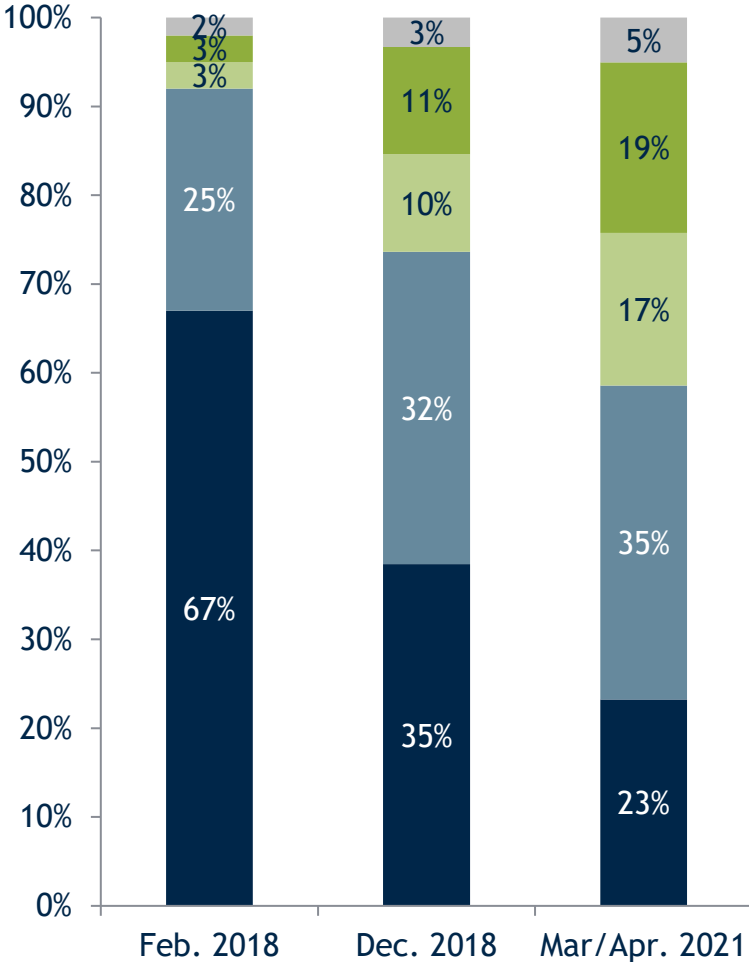
## Parliament



■ Trust a great deal ■ Somewhat trust ■ Somewhat distrust ■ Distrust a great deal ■ Don't know/Refused to answer

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

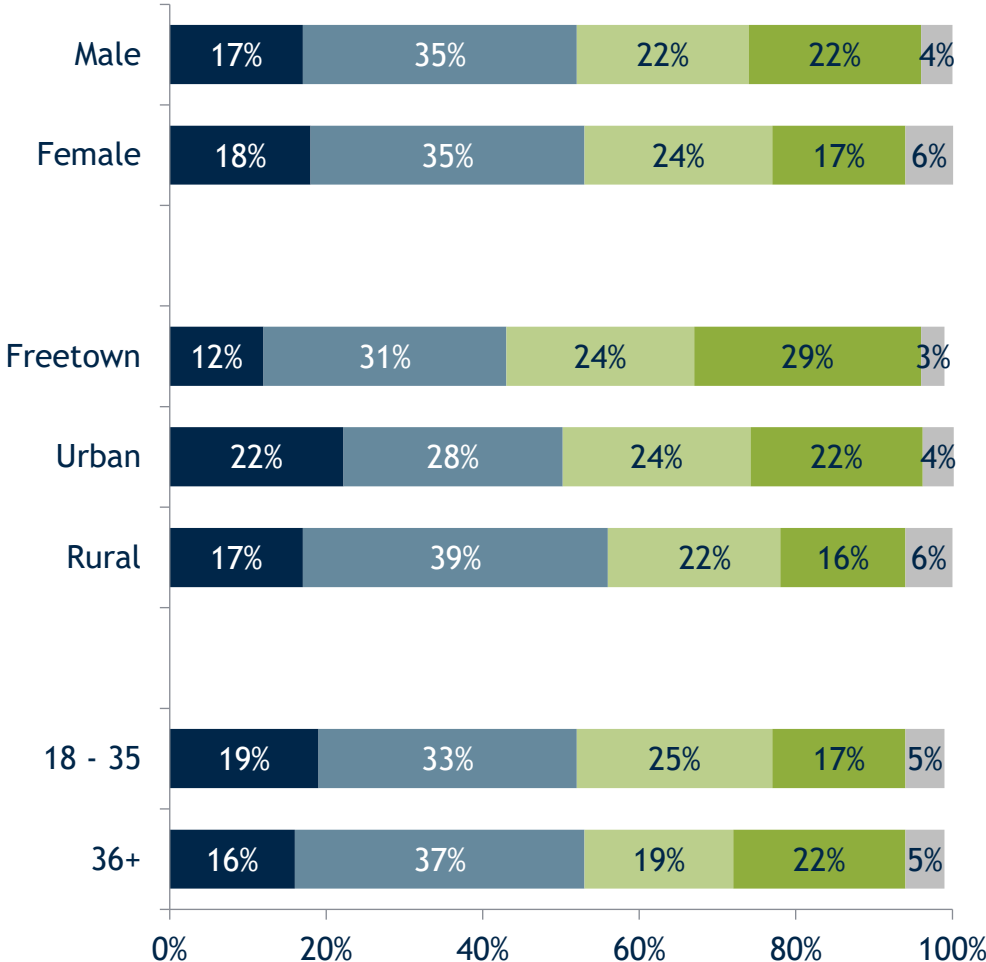
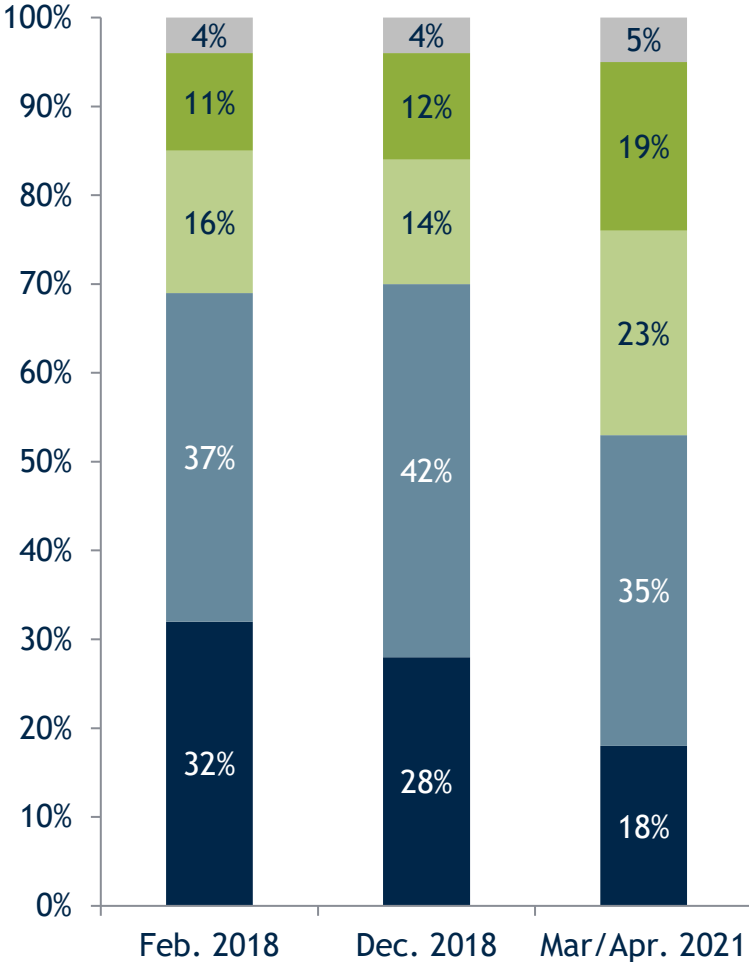
## National Electoral Commission



■ Trust a great deal ■ Somewhat trust ■ Somewhat distrust ■ Distrust a great deal ■ Don't know/Refused to answer

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

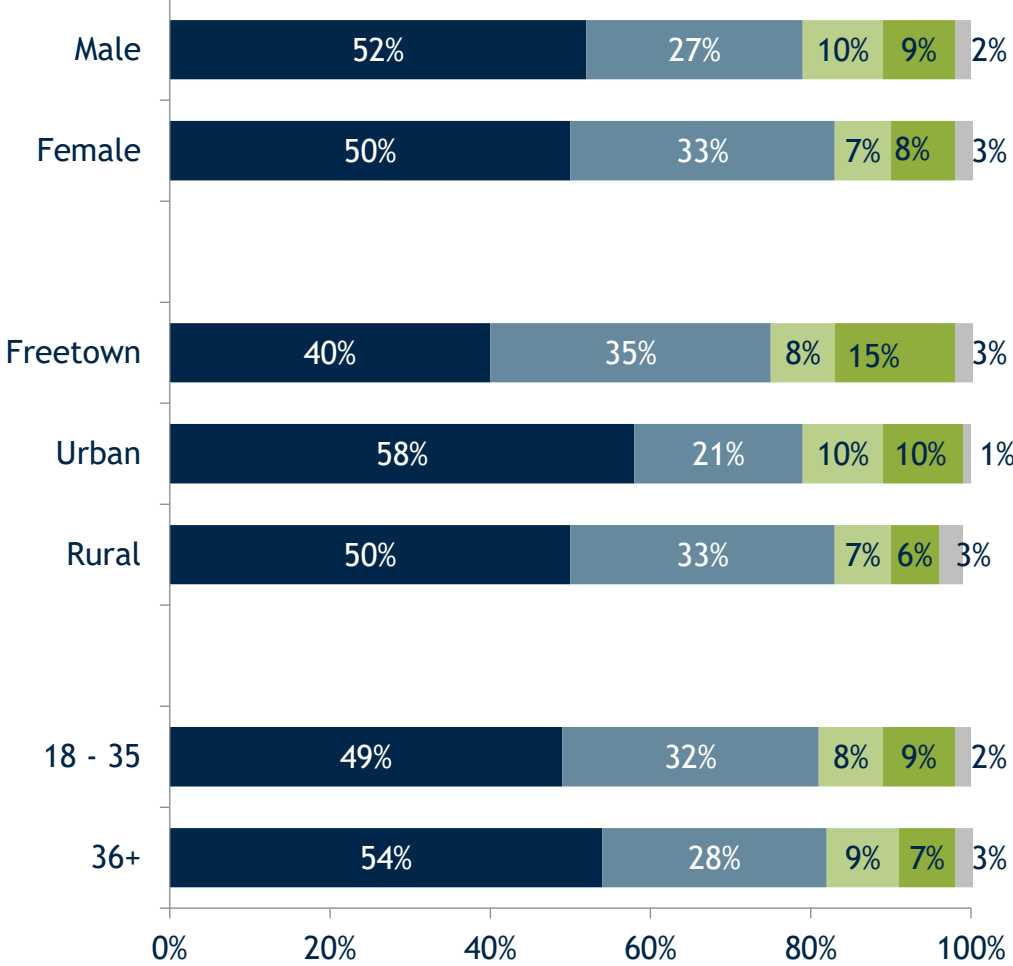
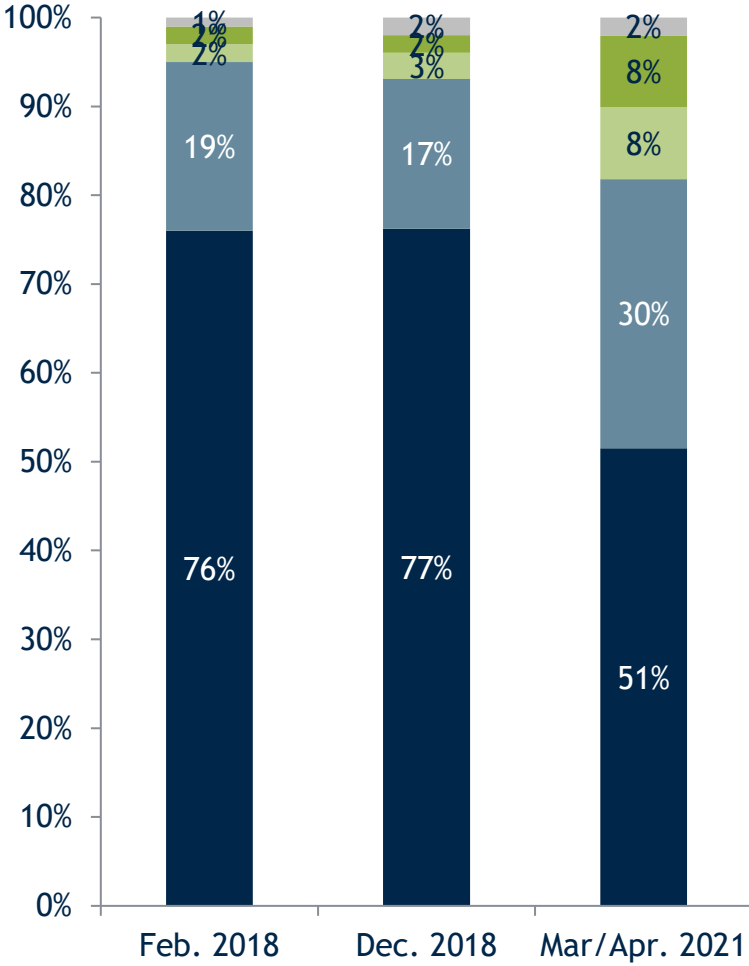
## *Judicial System(Courts)*



■ Trust a great deal 
 ■ Somewhat trust 
 ■ Somewhat distrust 
 ■ Distrust a great deal 
 ■ Don't know/Refused to answer

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

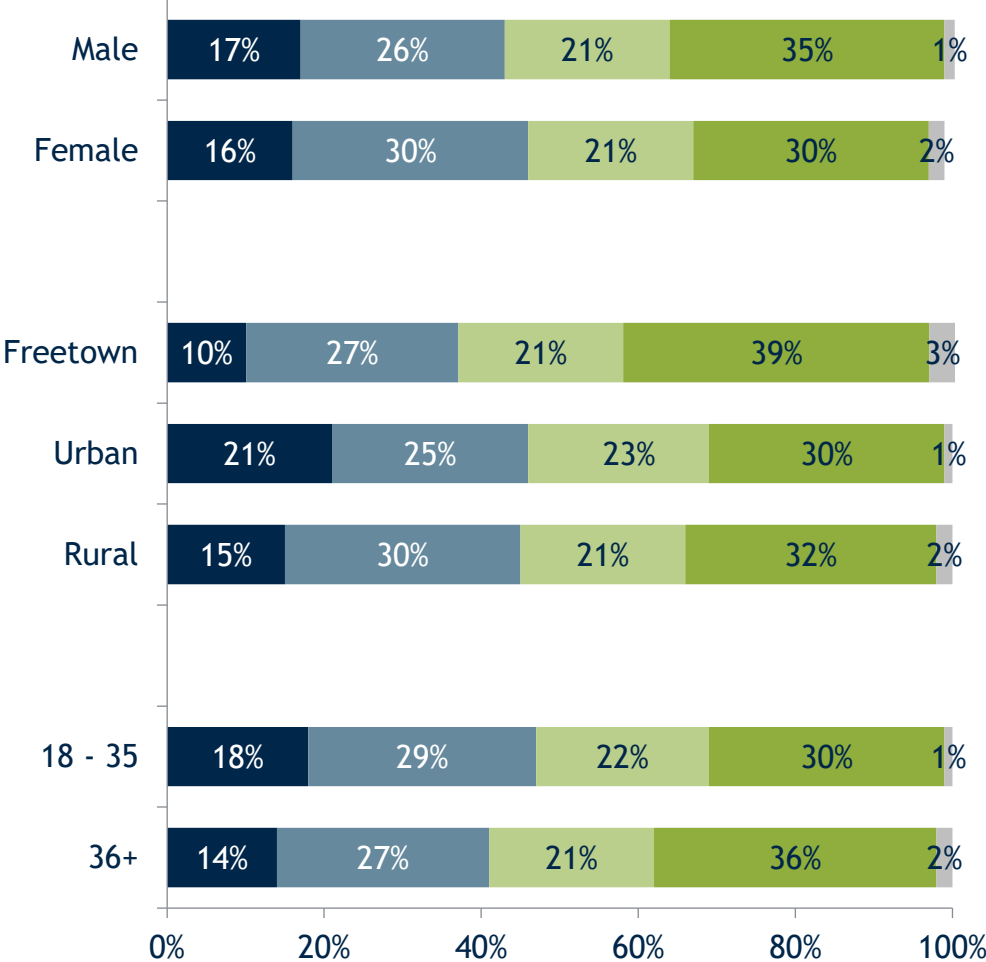
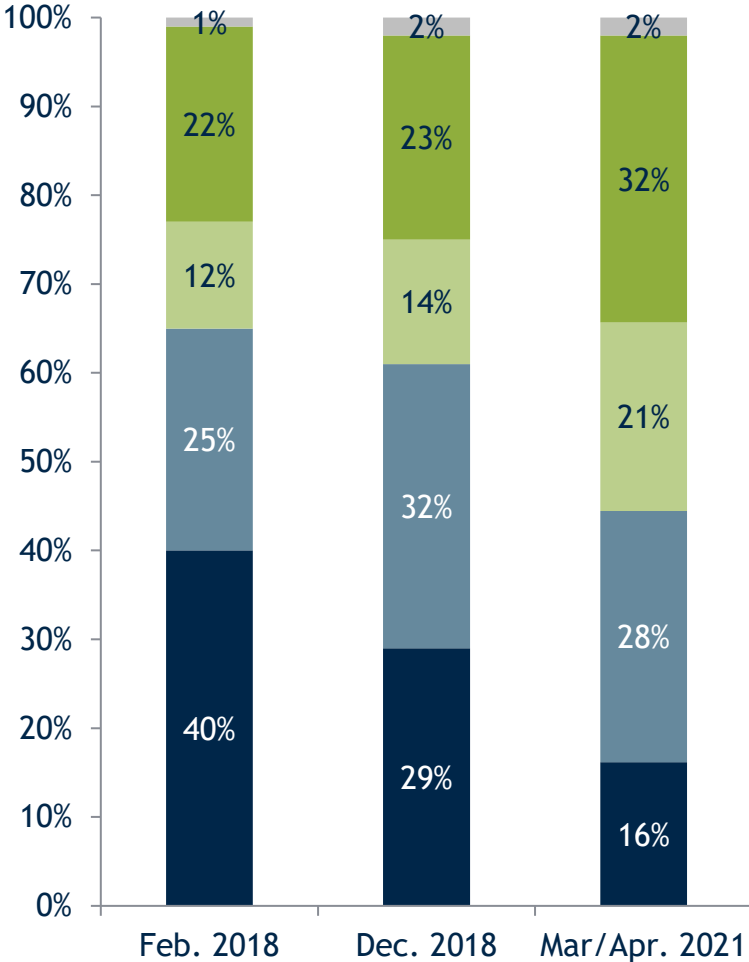
## Military(Army)



■ Trust a great deal 
 ■ Somewhat trust 
 ■ Somewhat distrust 
 ■ Distrust a great deal 
 ■ Don't know/Refused to answer

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

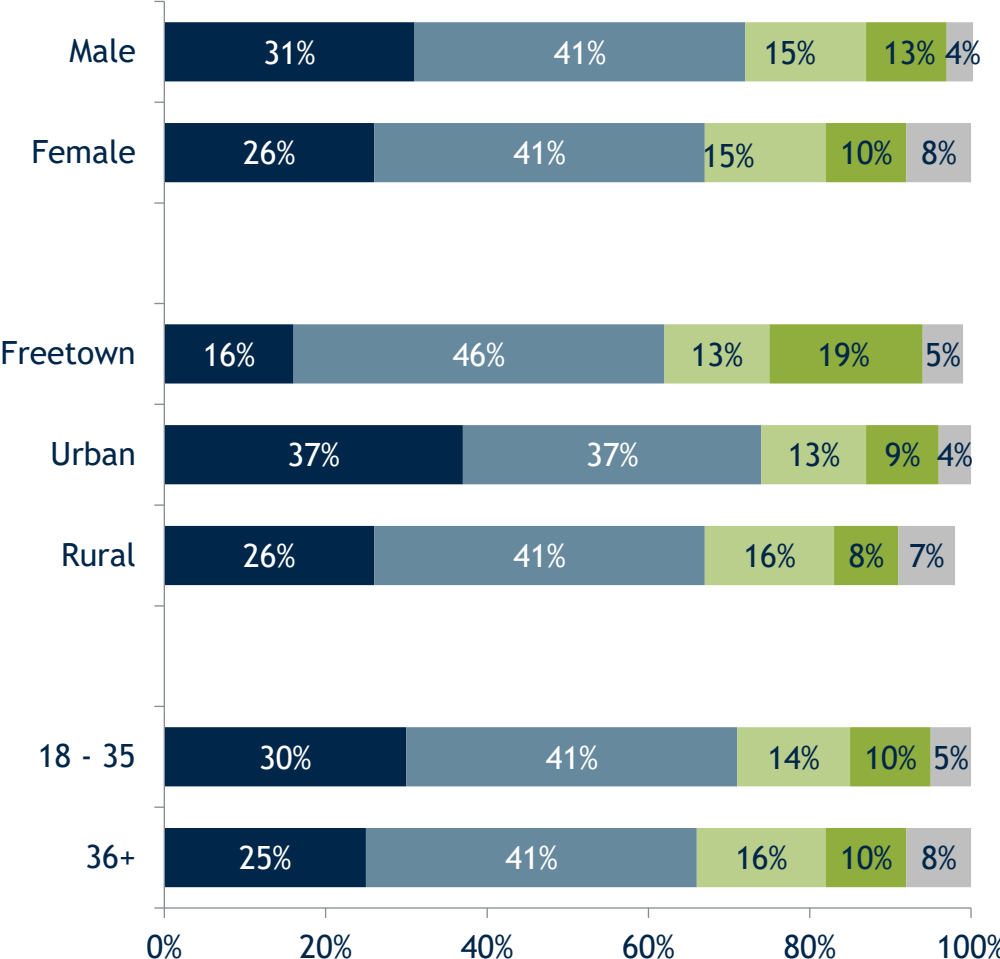
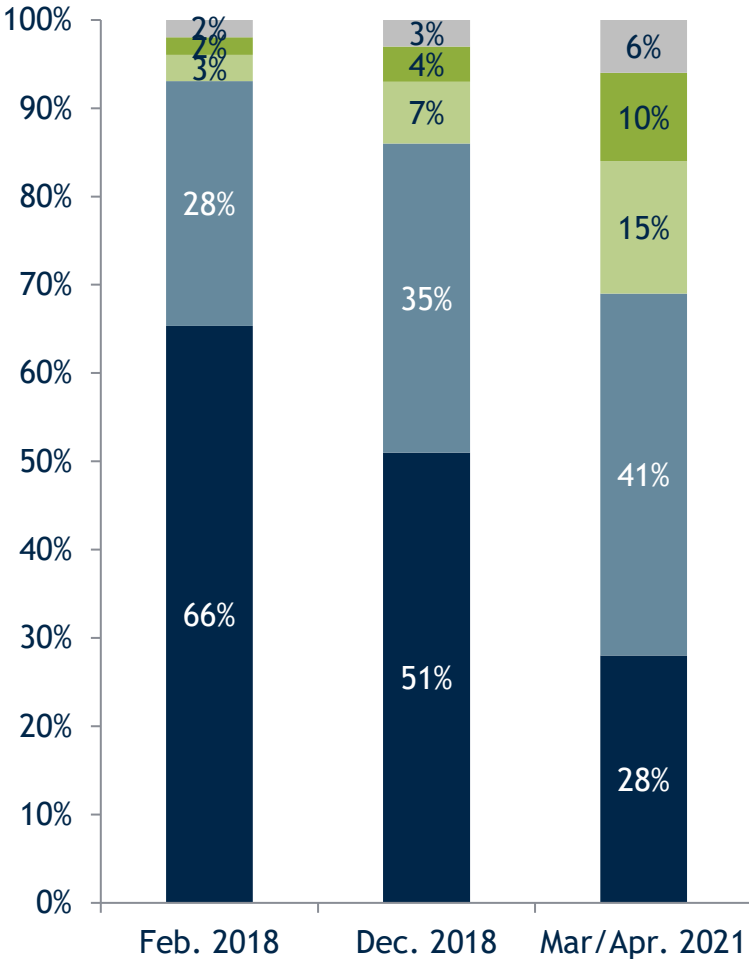
## Police



■ Trust a great deal 
 ■ Somewhat trust 
 ■ Somewhat distrust 
 ■ Distrust a great deal 
 ■ Don't know/Refused to answer

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

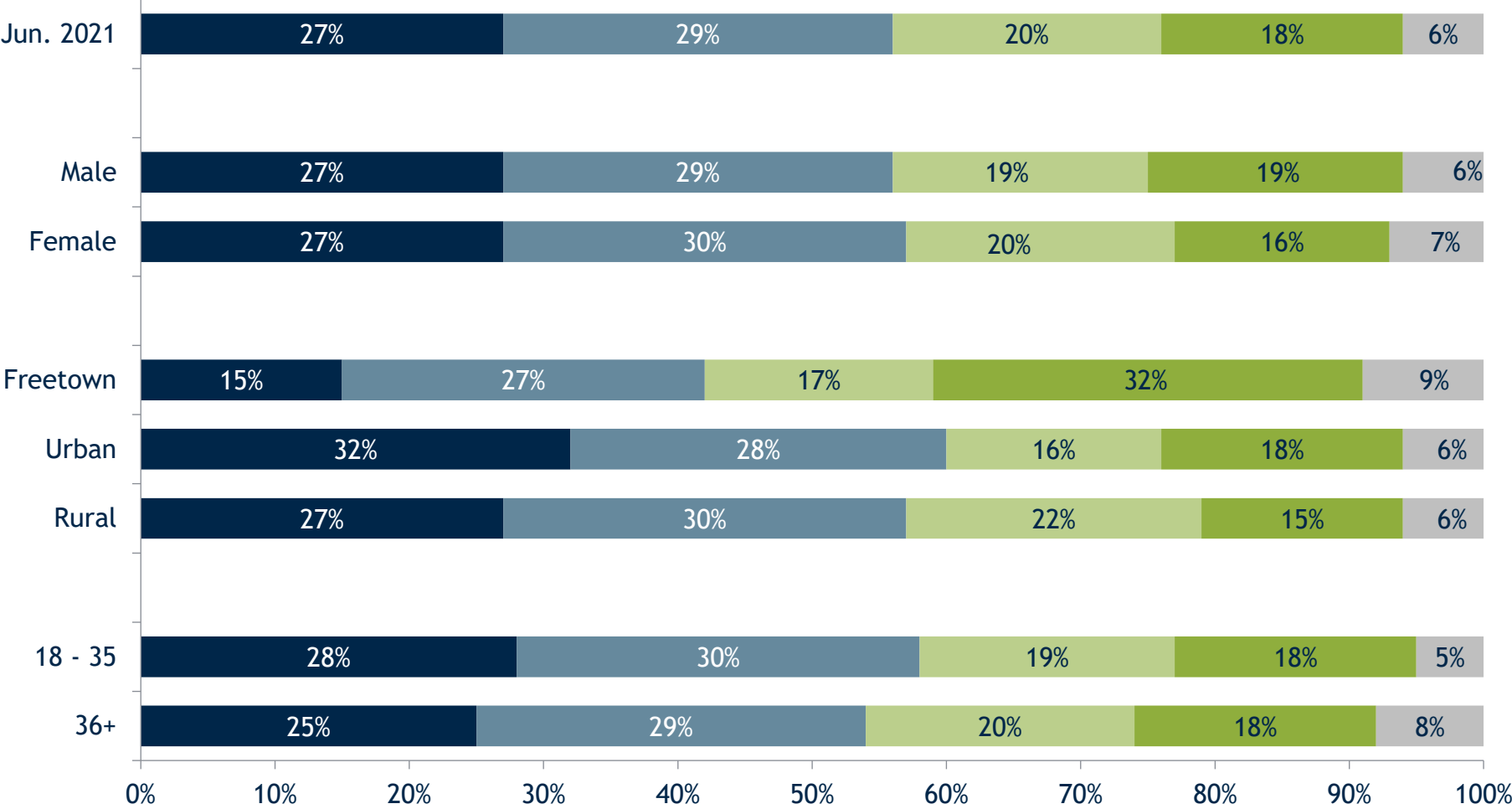
## Media



■ Trust a great deal  
 ■ Somewhat trust  
 ■ Somewhat distrust  
 ■ Distrust a great deal  
 ■ Don't know/Refused to answer

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

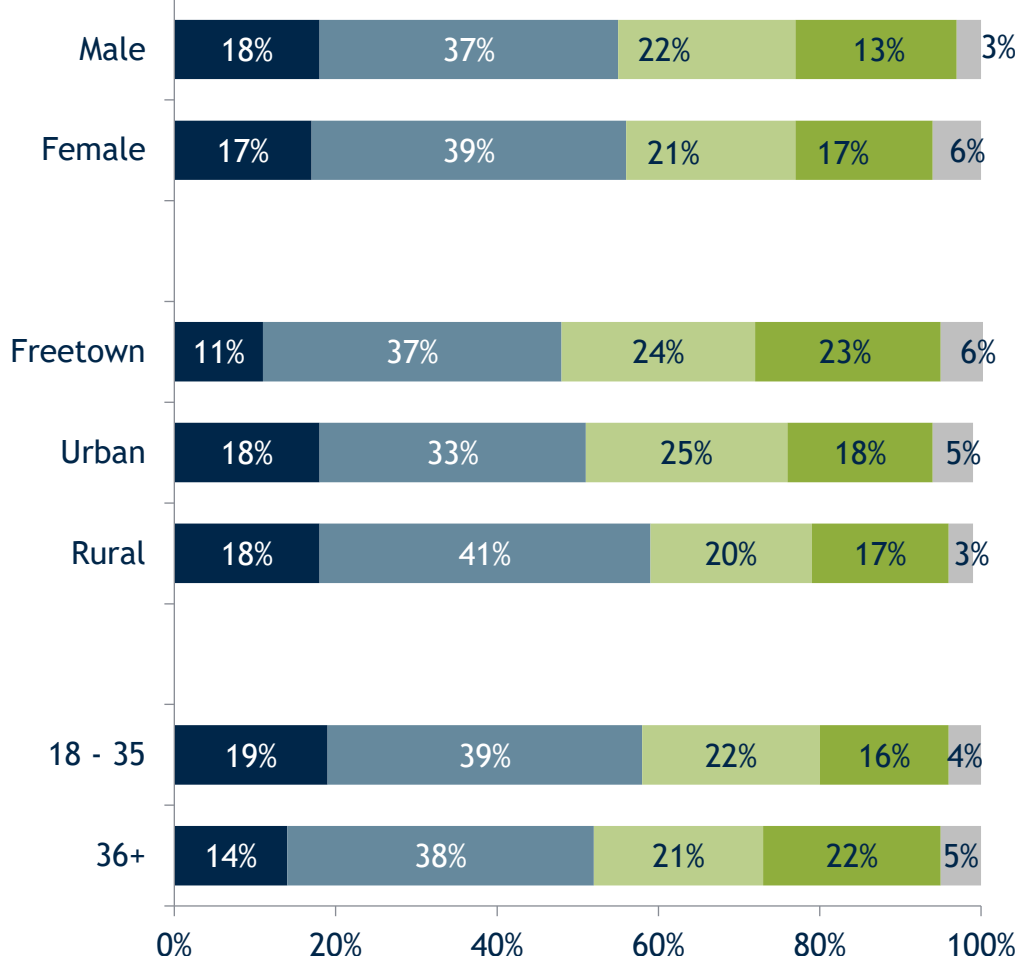
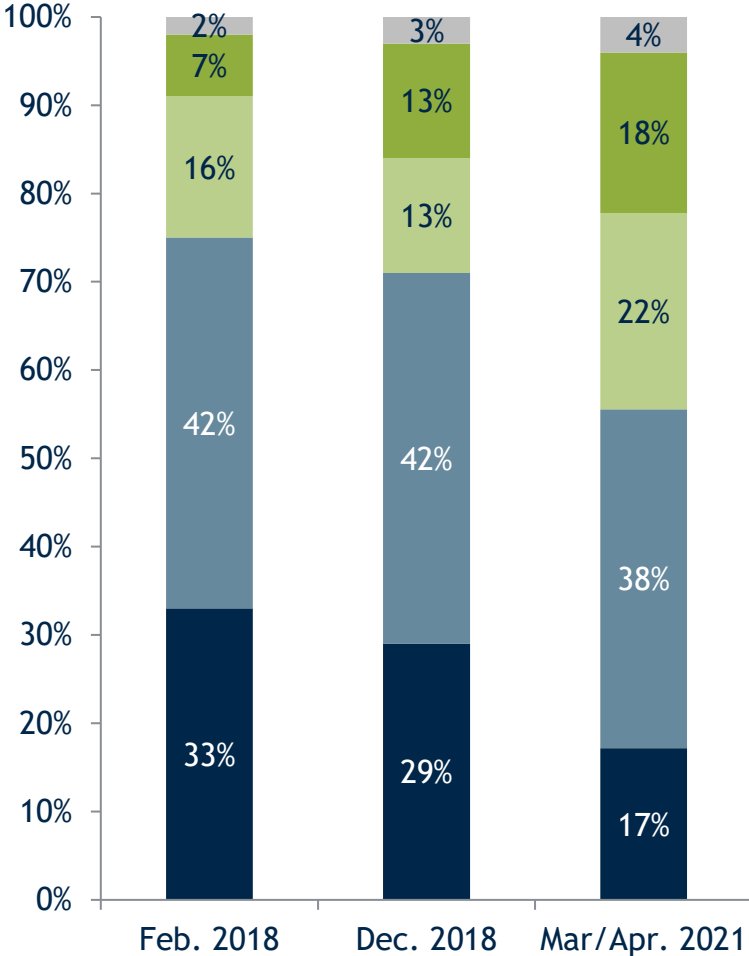
## *President's Office*



Trust a great deal
  Somewhat trust
  Somewhat distrust
  Distrust a great deal
  Don't know/Refused to answer

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

## *Political Parties*

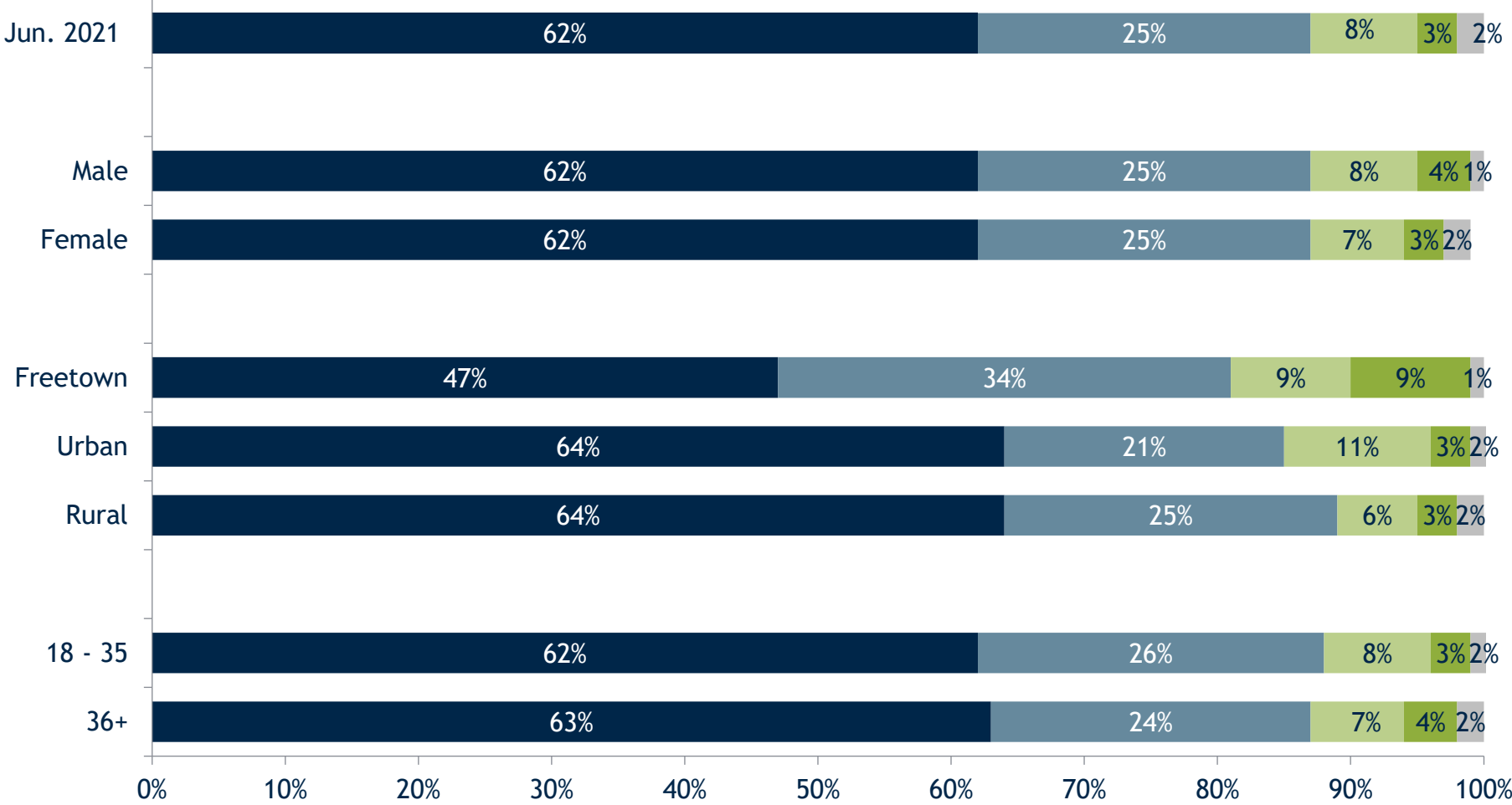


■ Trust a great deal ■ Somewhat trust ■ Somewhat distrust ■ Distrust a great deal ■ Don't know/Refused to answer



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

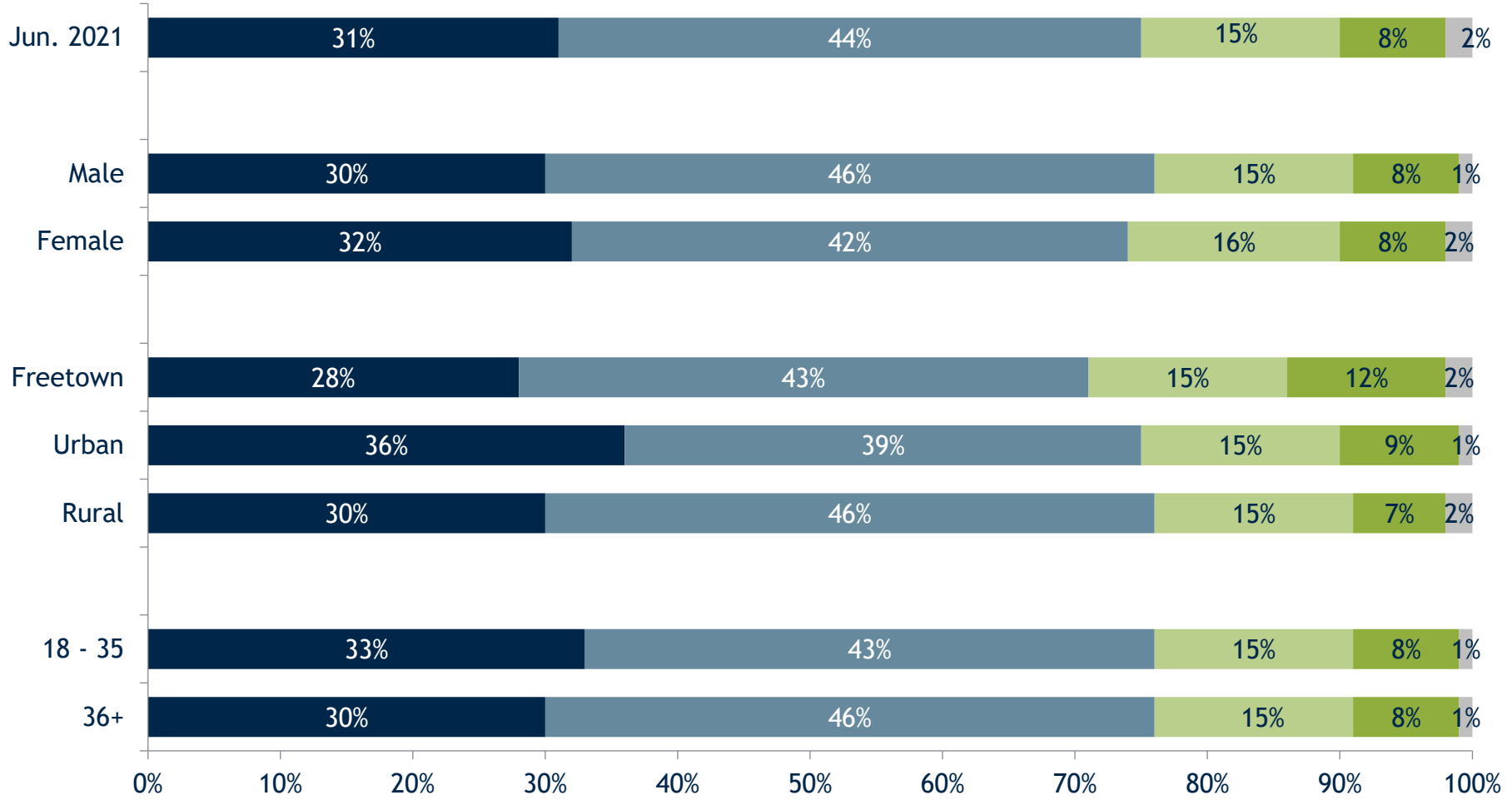
## *Religious Institutions*



■ Trust a great deal 
 ■ Somewhat trust 
 ■ Somewhat distrust 
 ■ Distrust a great deal 
 ■ Don't know/Refused to answer

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

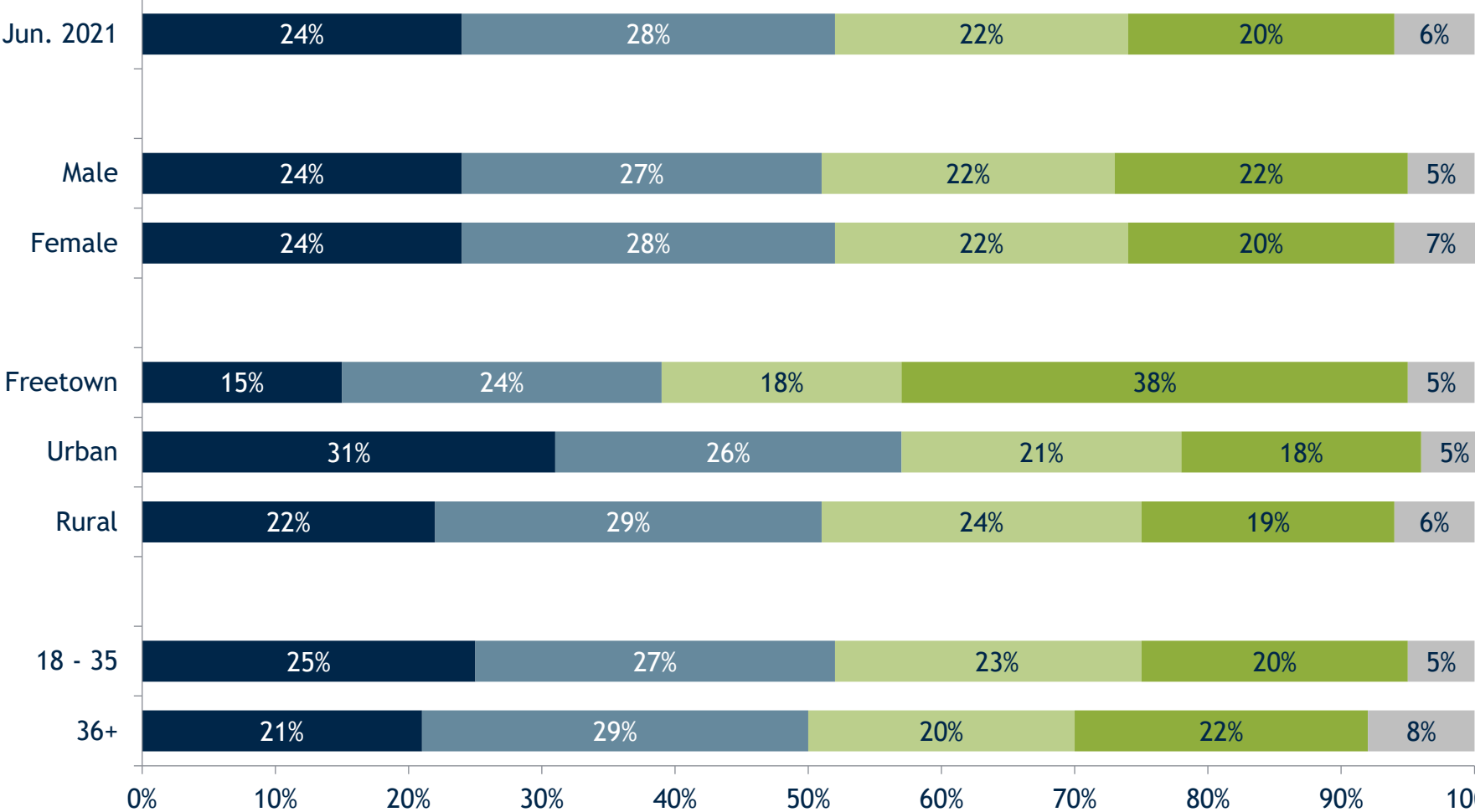
## *Healthcare Providers*



■ Trust a great deal 
 ■ Somewhat trust 
 ■ Somewhat distrust 
 ■ Distrust a great deal 
 ■ Don't know/Refused to answer

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

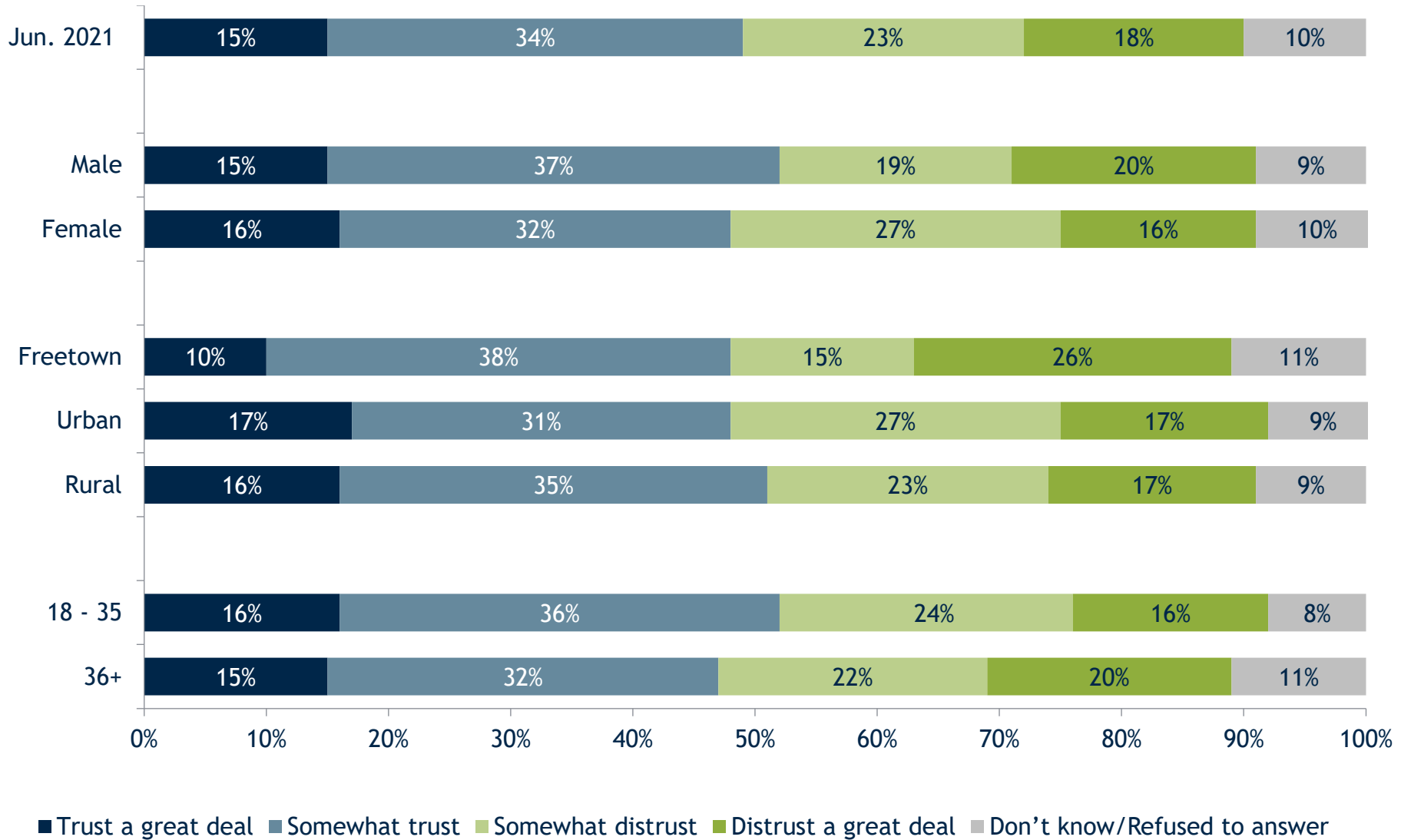
## *Anti-corruption commission*



■ Trust a great deal 
 ■ Somewhat trust 
 ■ Somewhat distrust 
 ■ Distrust a great deal 
 ■ Don't know/Refused to answer

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

## *Local council*





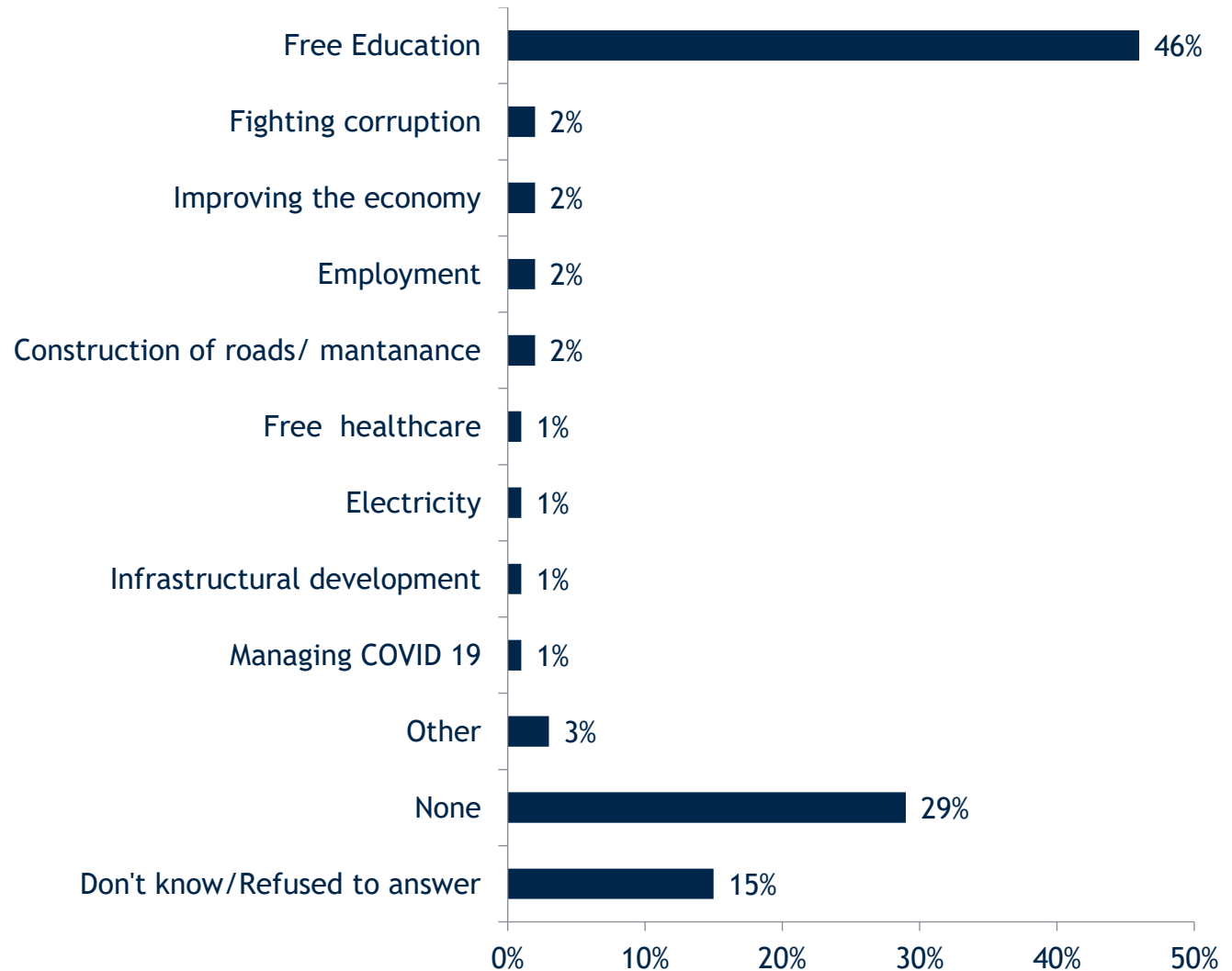
# Political Outlook

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# What is the most important accomplishment of the current national government?

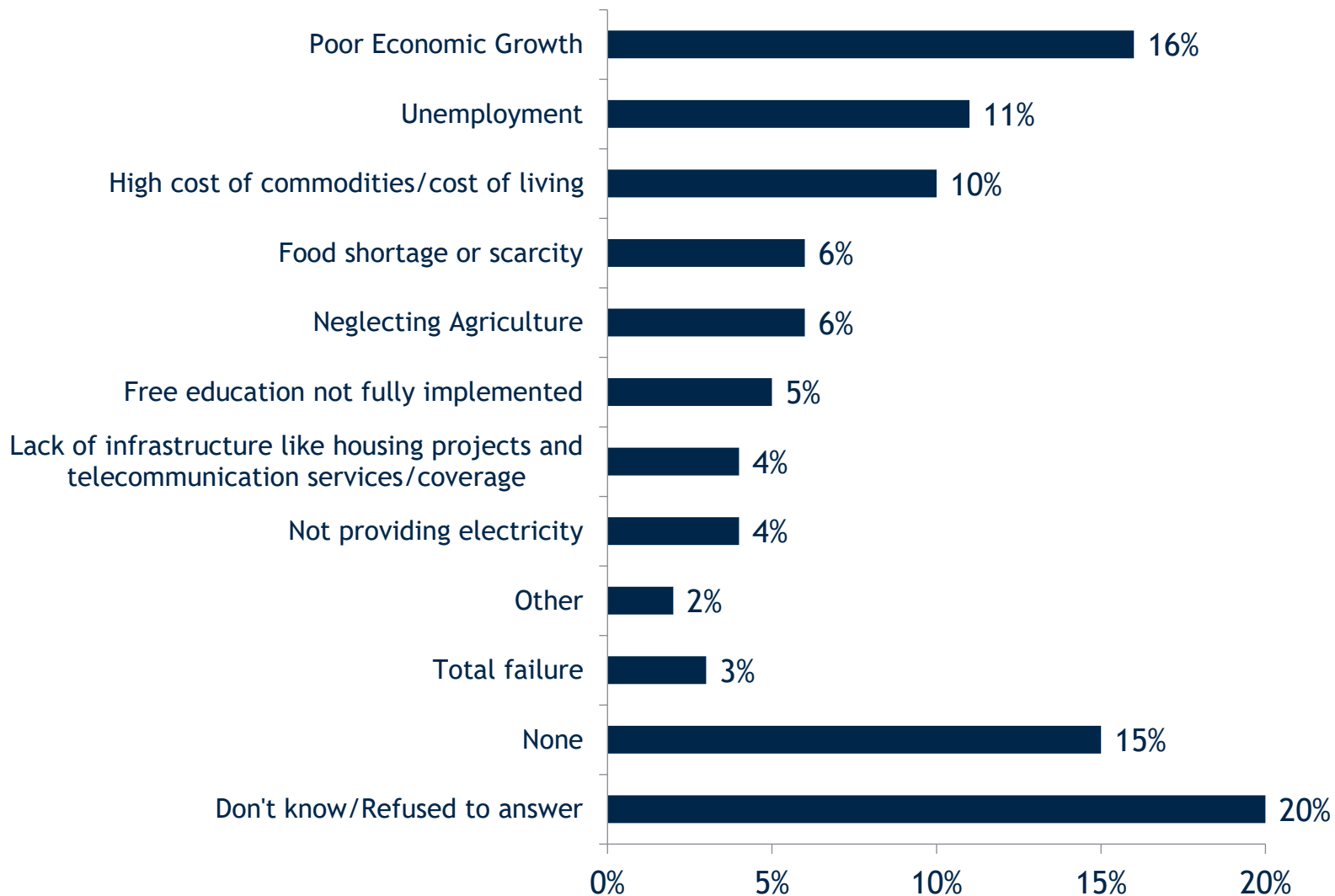
(Spontaneous response)



*Mentions less than 1% have been combined into Other.*

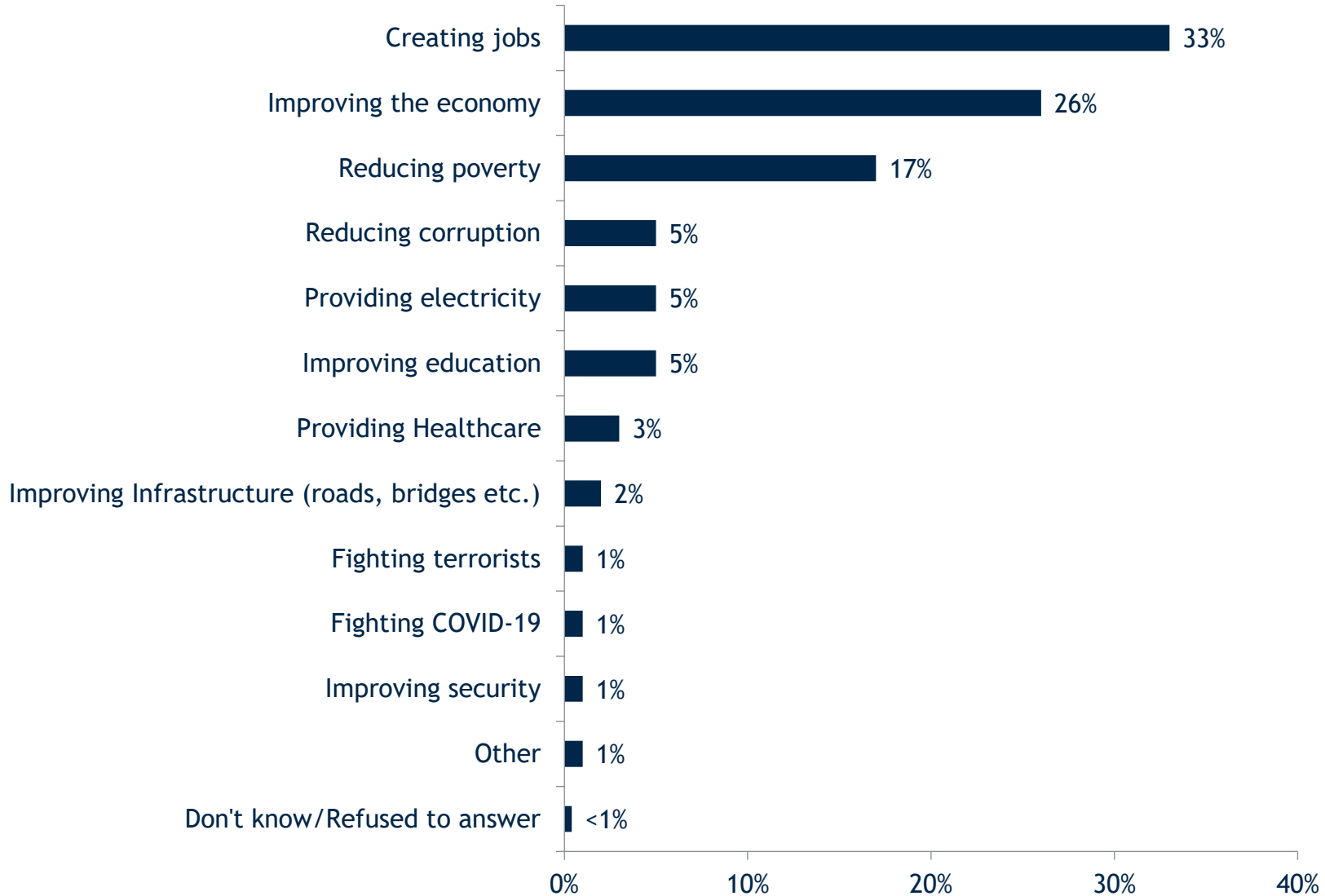
# What is the most important failure of the current national government?

(Spontaneous response)



*Mentions less than 1% have been combined into Other.*

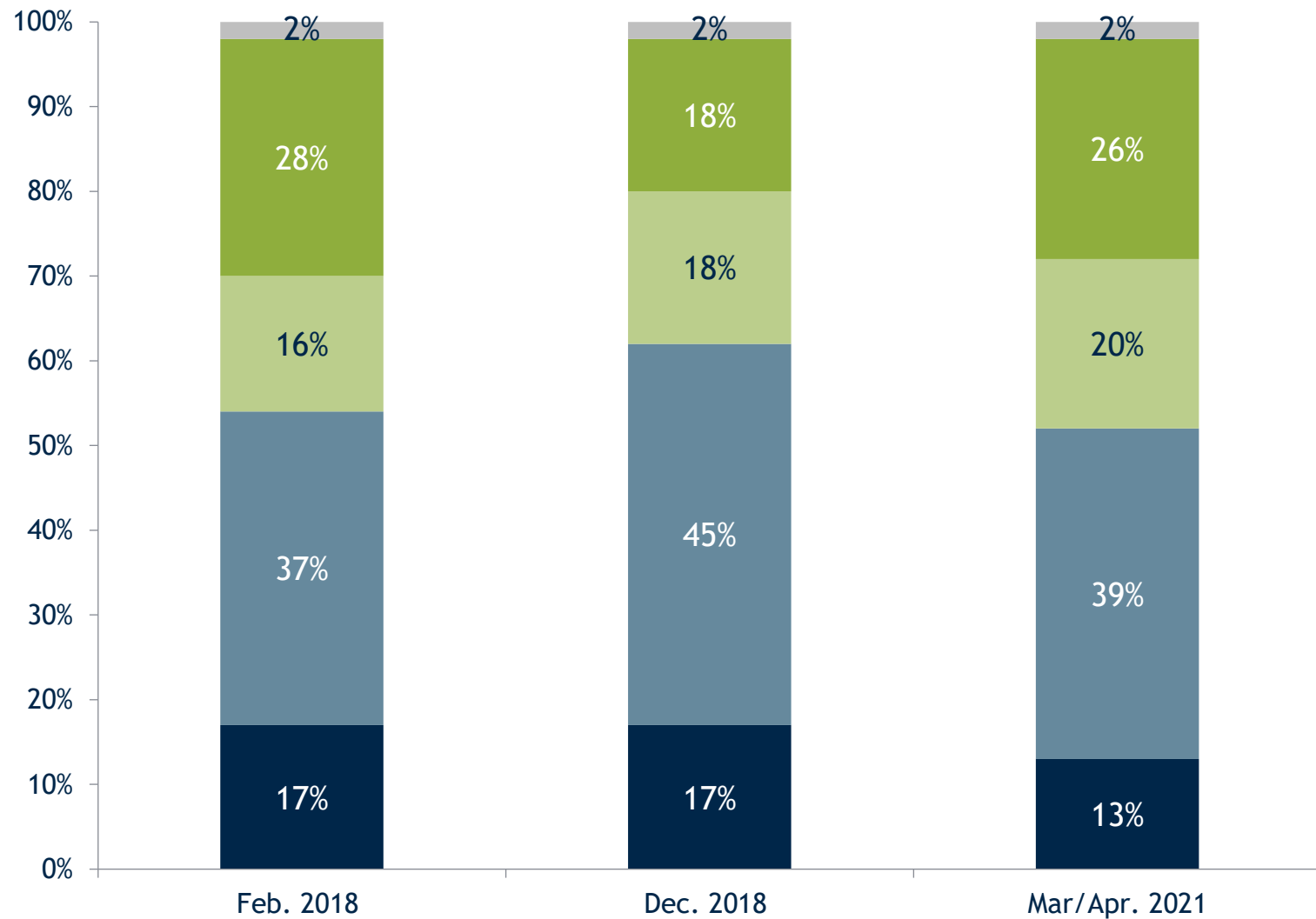
# What specific issue should be the top priority for the government to address? (Spontaneous response)



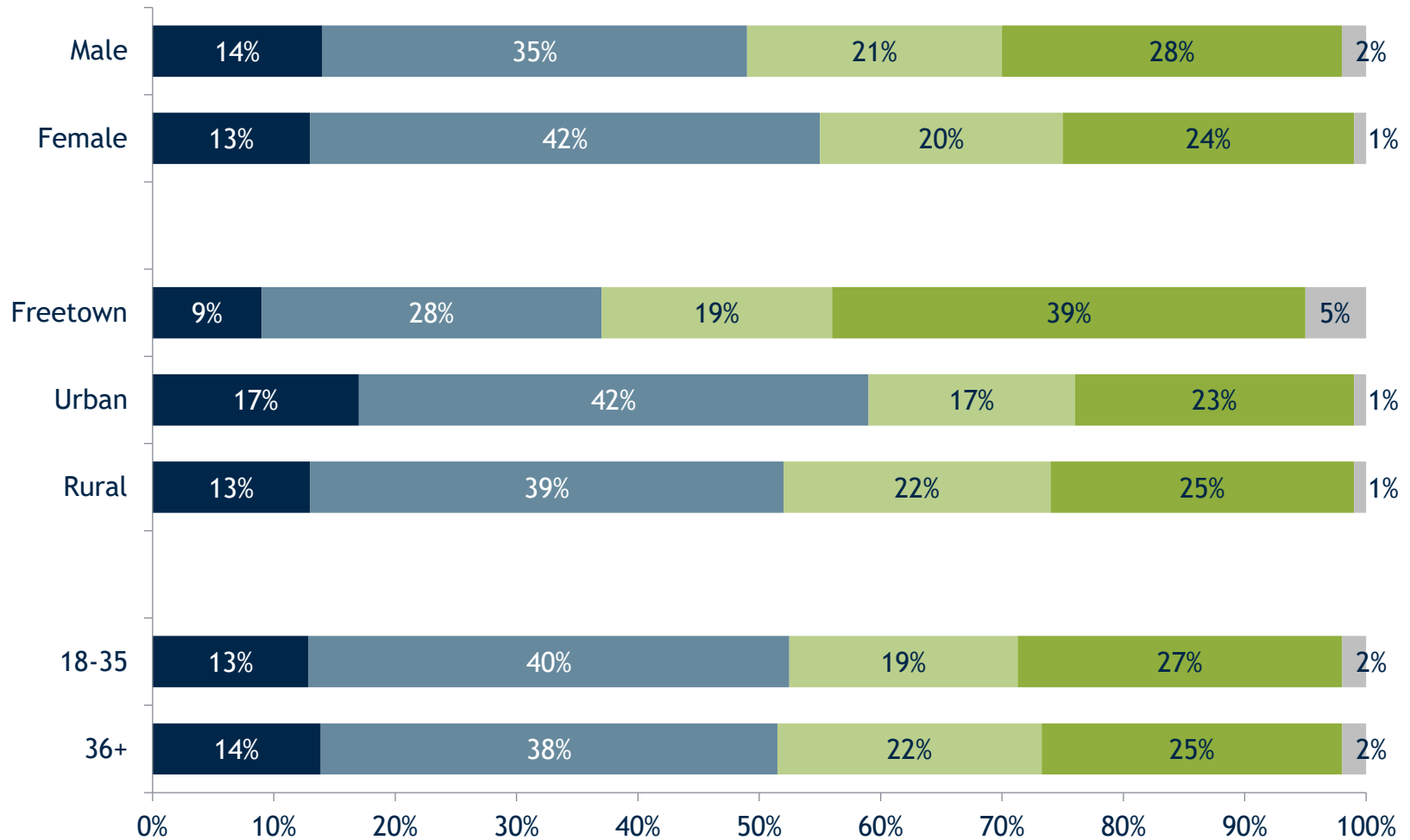
*Mentions less than 1% are not displayed.*



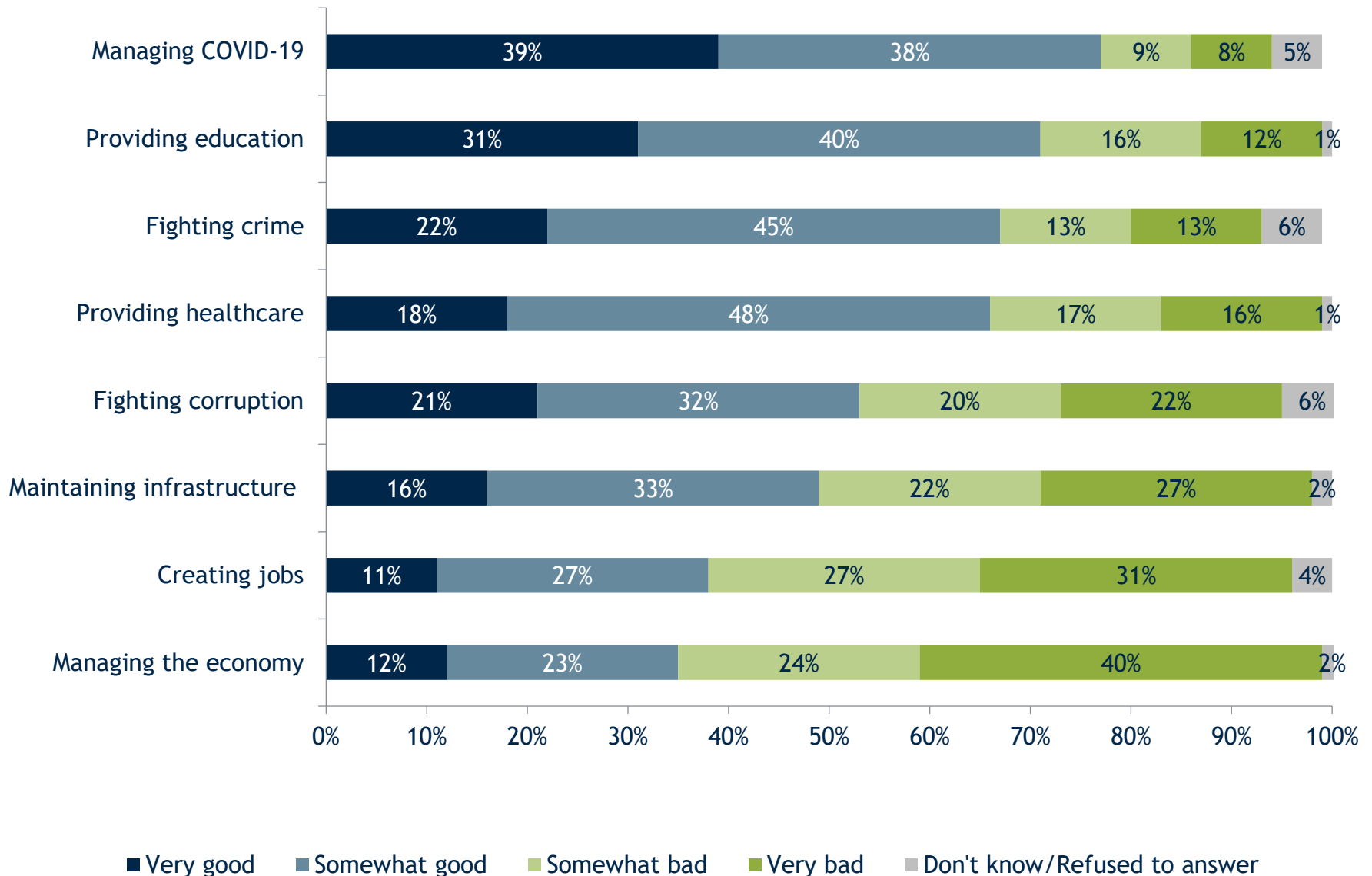
# How would you rate the performance of the current government?



# How would you rate the performance of the current government?

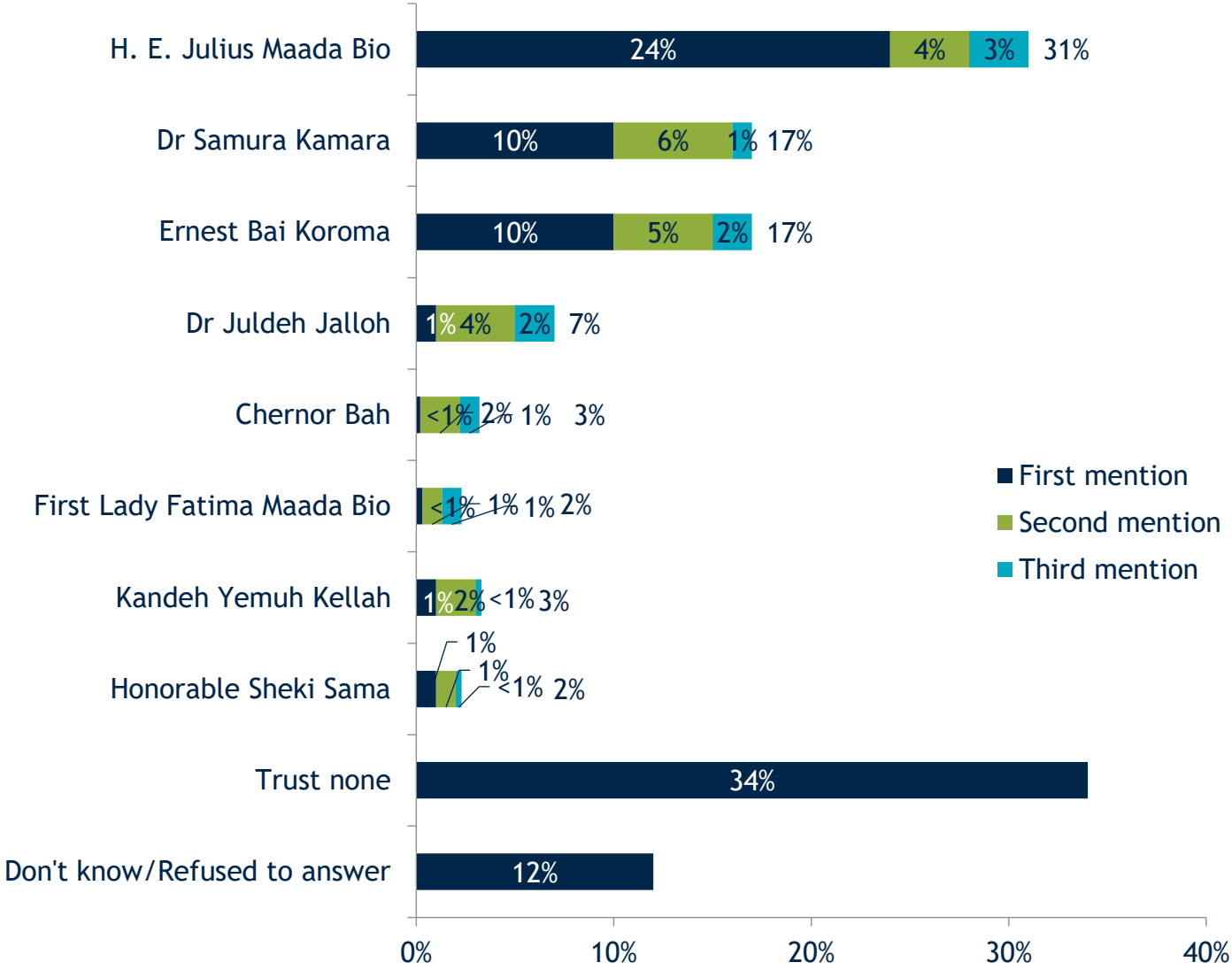


# For the following issues, is the national government doing a very good, somewhat good, somewhat bad, or very bad job?



# Which politician or public person do you trust the most?

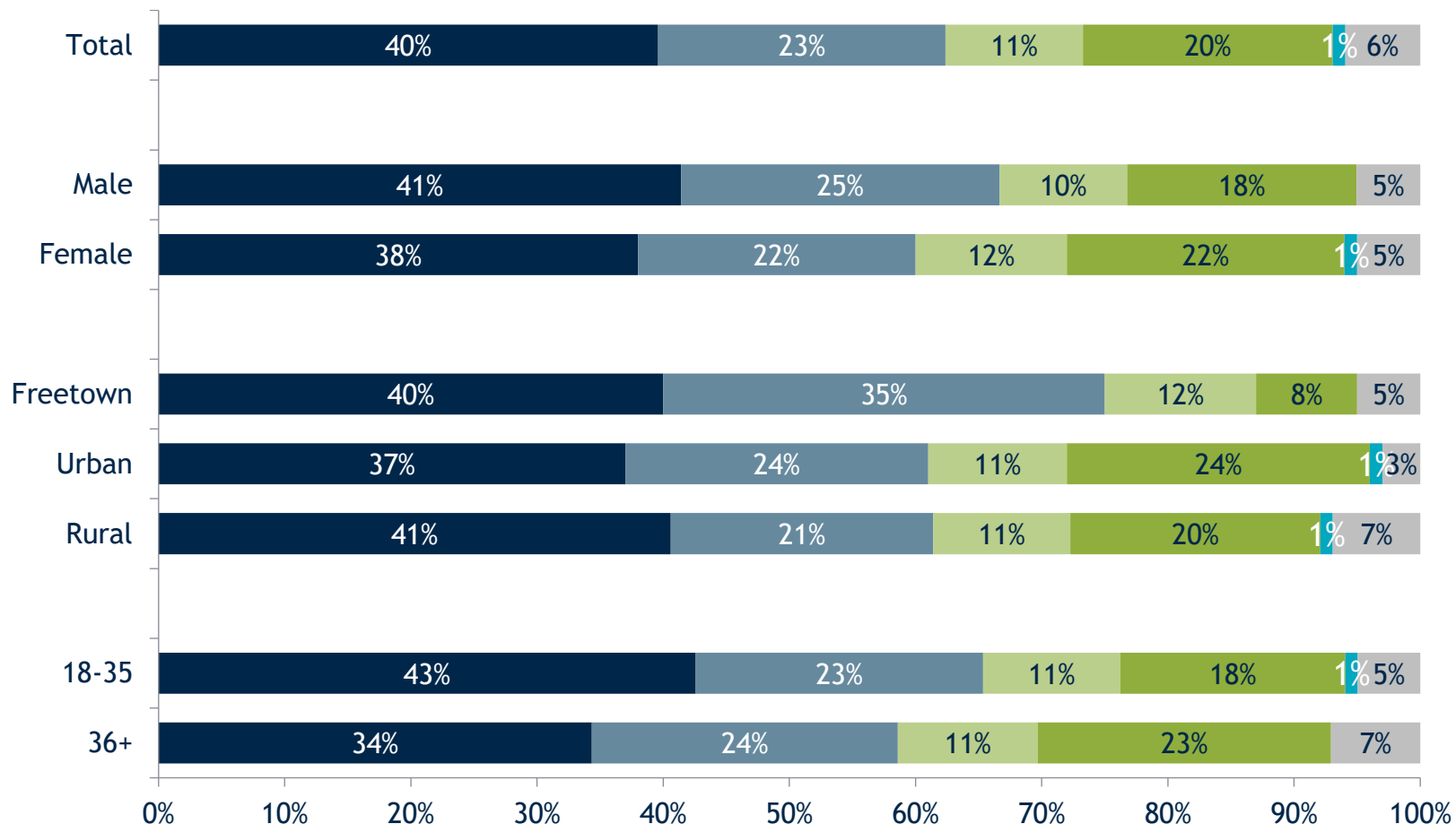
(Spontaneous response; up to three responses accepted)



Mentions less than 1% are not displayed.

For each, please tell me if you have a highly favorable, somewhat favorable, somewhat unfavorable or highly unfavorable opinion of this party. If you have not heard of this party, please tell me.

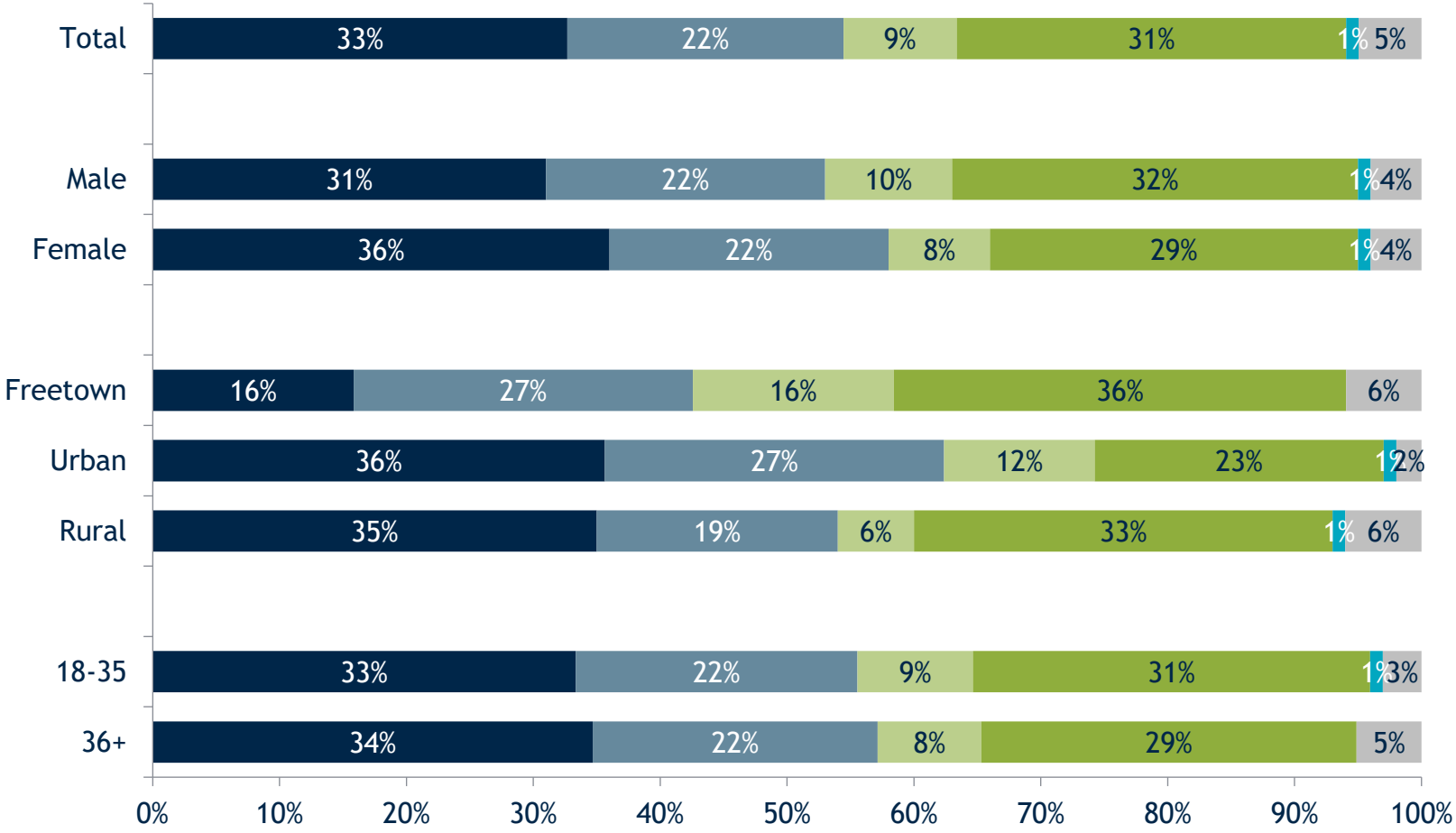
*APC*



Highly favorable
  Somewhat favorable
  Somewhat unfavorable
   
 Highly unfavorable
  Have not heard of this party
  Don't know/Refused to answer

For each, please tell me if you have a highly favorable, somewhat favorable, somewhat unfavorable or highly unfavorable opinion of this party. If you have not heard of this party, please tell me.

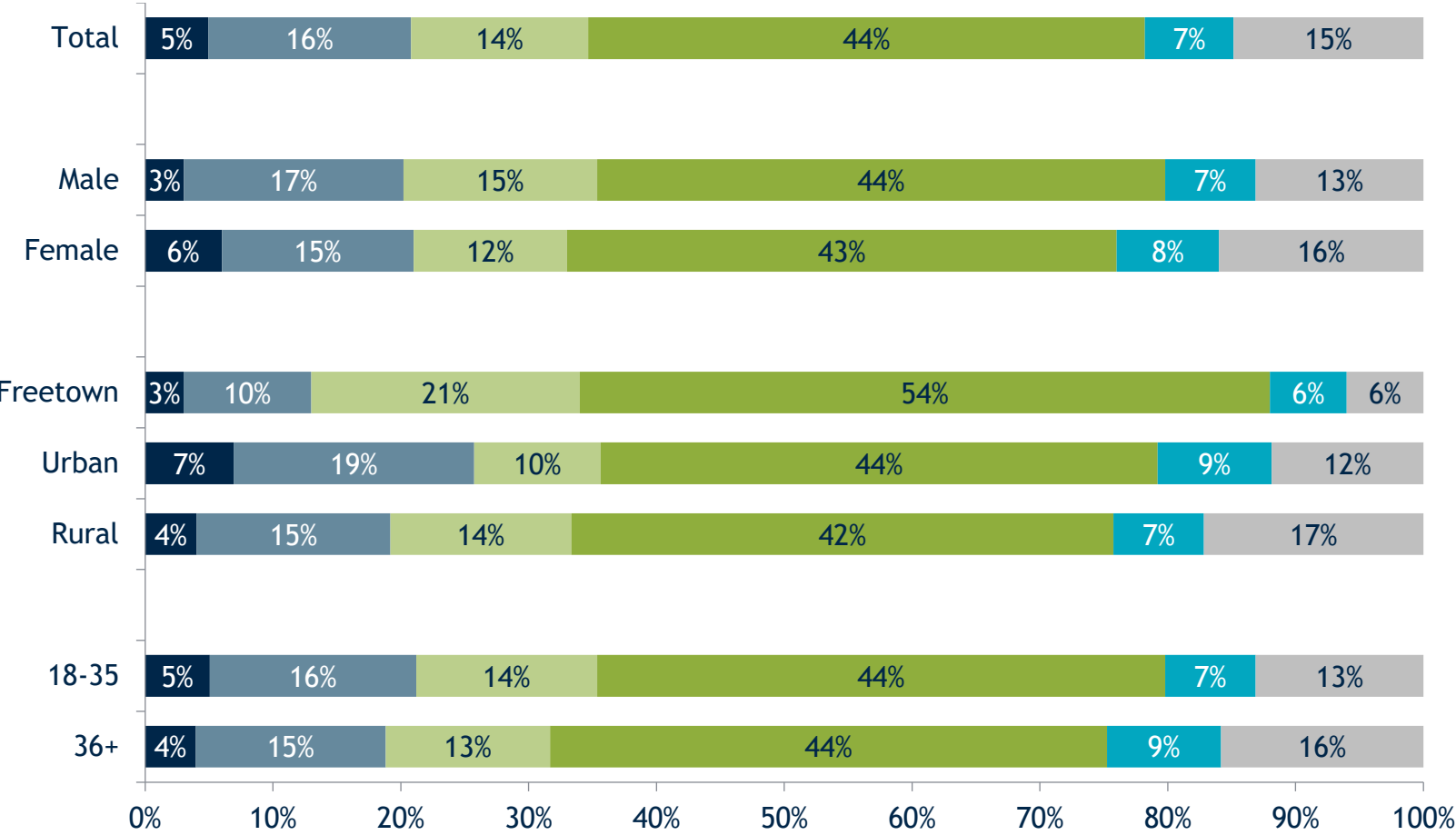
*SLPP*



Highly favorable
  Somewhat favorable
  Somewhat unfavorable
   
 Highly unfavorable
  Have not heard of this party
  Don't know/Refused to answer

For each, please tell me if you have a highly favorable, somewhat favorable, somewhat unfavorable or highly unfavorable opinion of this party. If you have not heard of this party, please tell me.

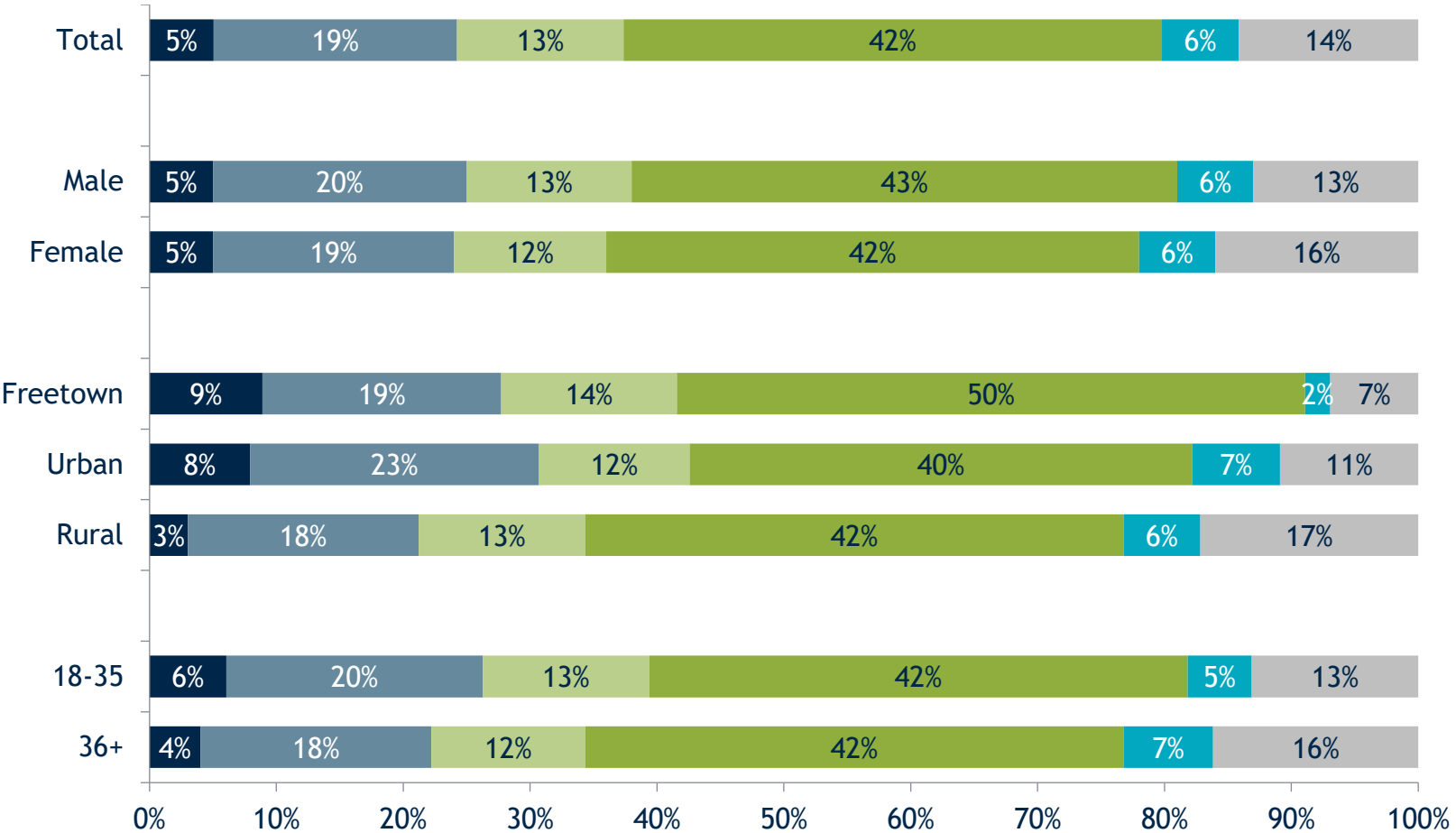
C4C



Highly favorable
  Somewhat favorable
  Somewhat unfavorable
  Highly unfavorable
  Have not heard of this party
  Don't know/Refused to answer

For each, please tell me if you have a highly favorable, somewhat favorable, somewhat unfavorable or highly unfavorable opinion of this party. If you have not heard of this party please tell me.

*NGC*



Highly favorable
  Somewhat favorable
  Somewhat unfavorable
  Highly unfavorable
  Have not heard of this party
  Don't know/Refused to answer



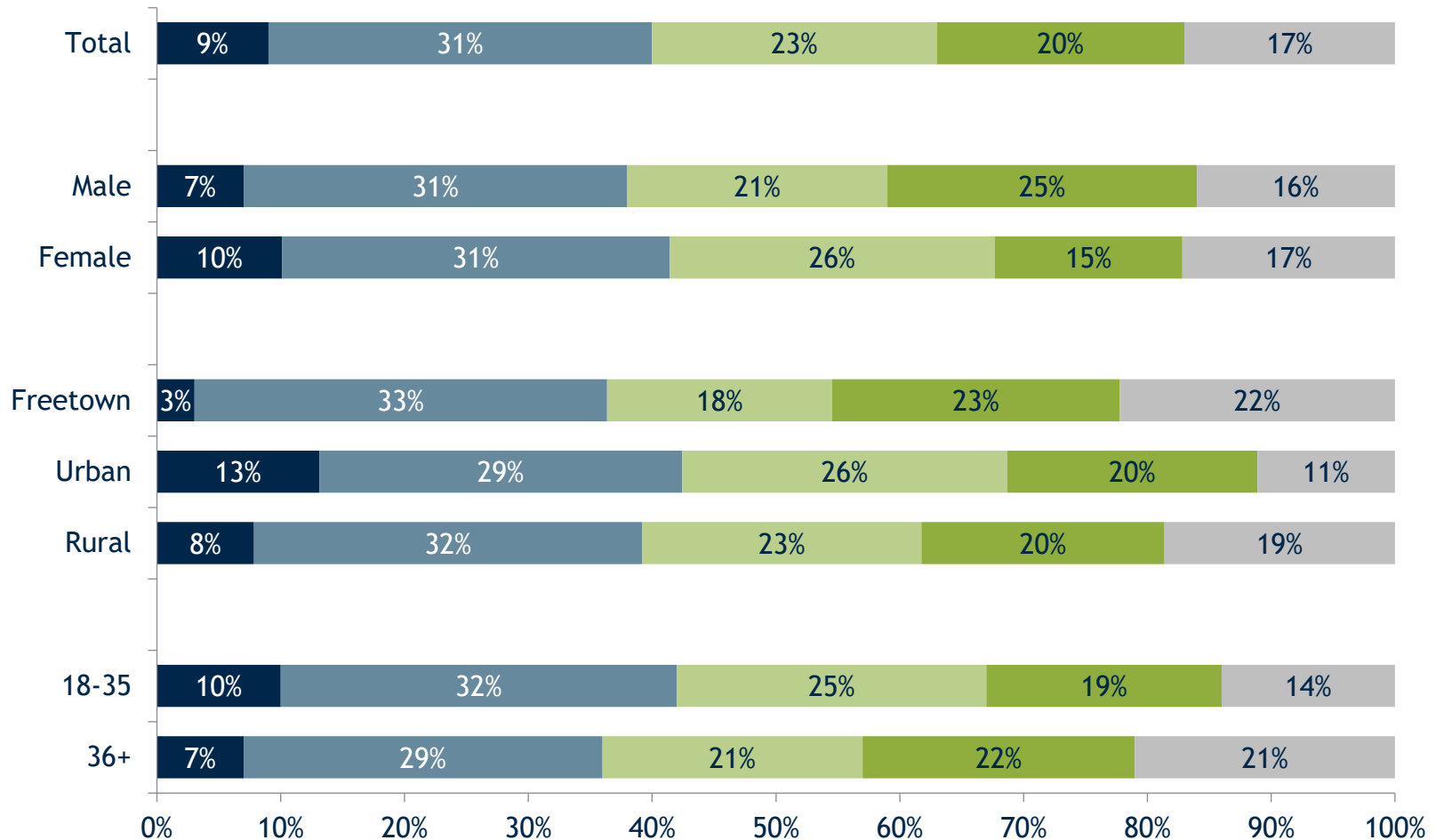


# Local Government

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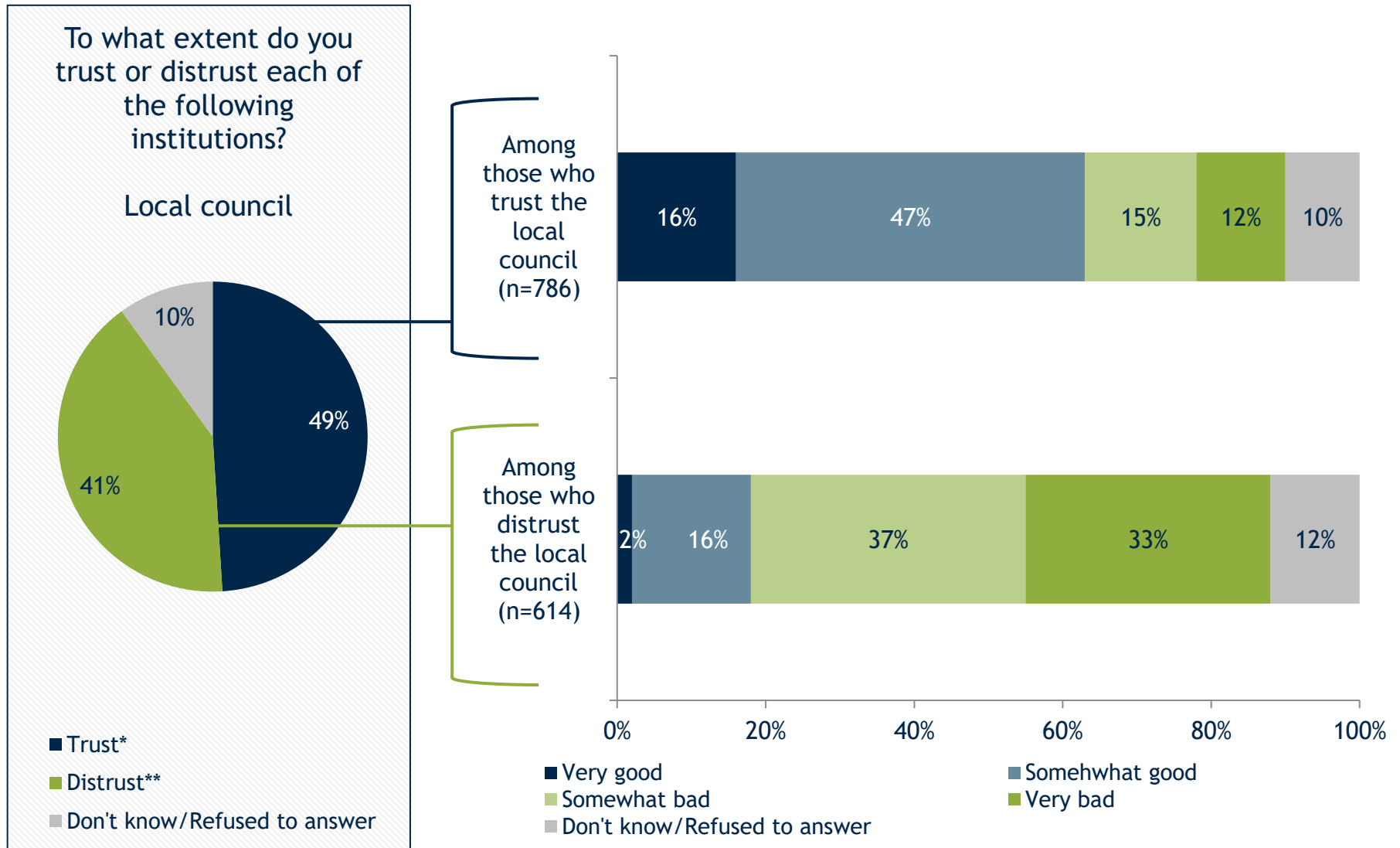


# Is the local council in your district doing a very good, somewhat good, somewhat bad, very bad job?



Very good
  Somewhat good
  Somewhat bad
  Very bad
  Don't know/Refused to answer

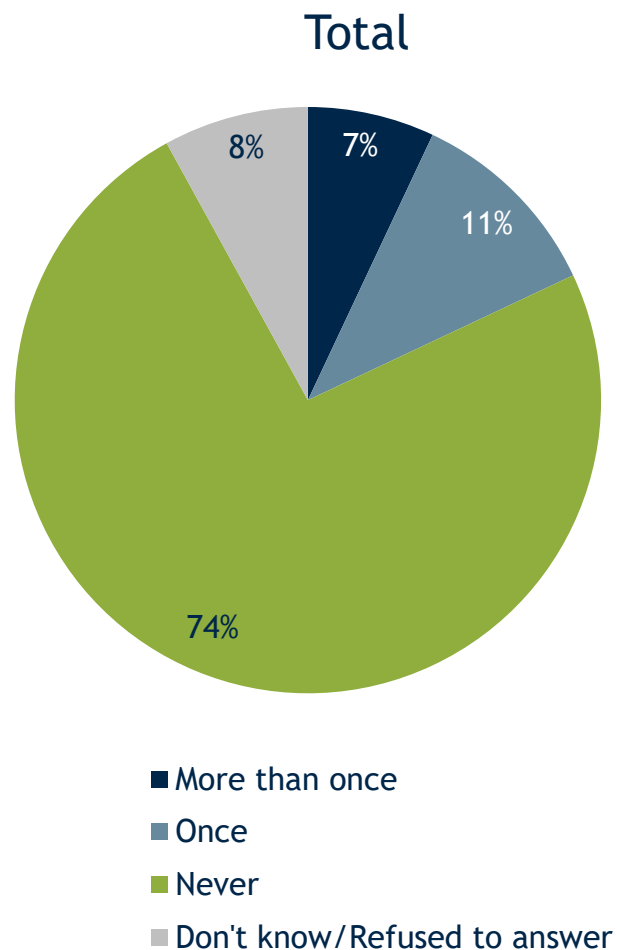
# Is the local council in your district doing a very good, somewhat good, somewhat bad, or very bad job?



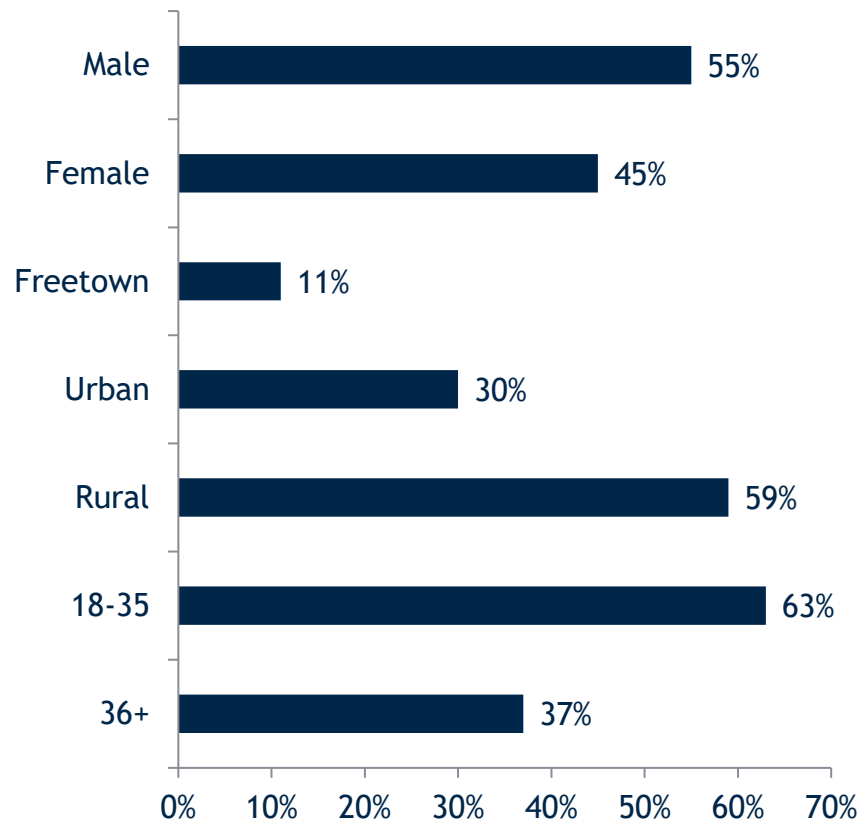
\*Total percentages for *Trust a great deal* and *Somewhat trust*.

\*\*Total percentages for *Somewhat distrust* and *Distrust a great deal*.

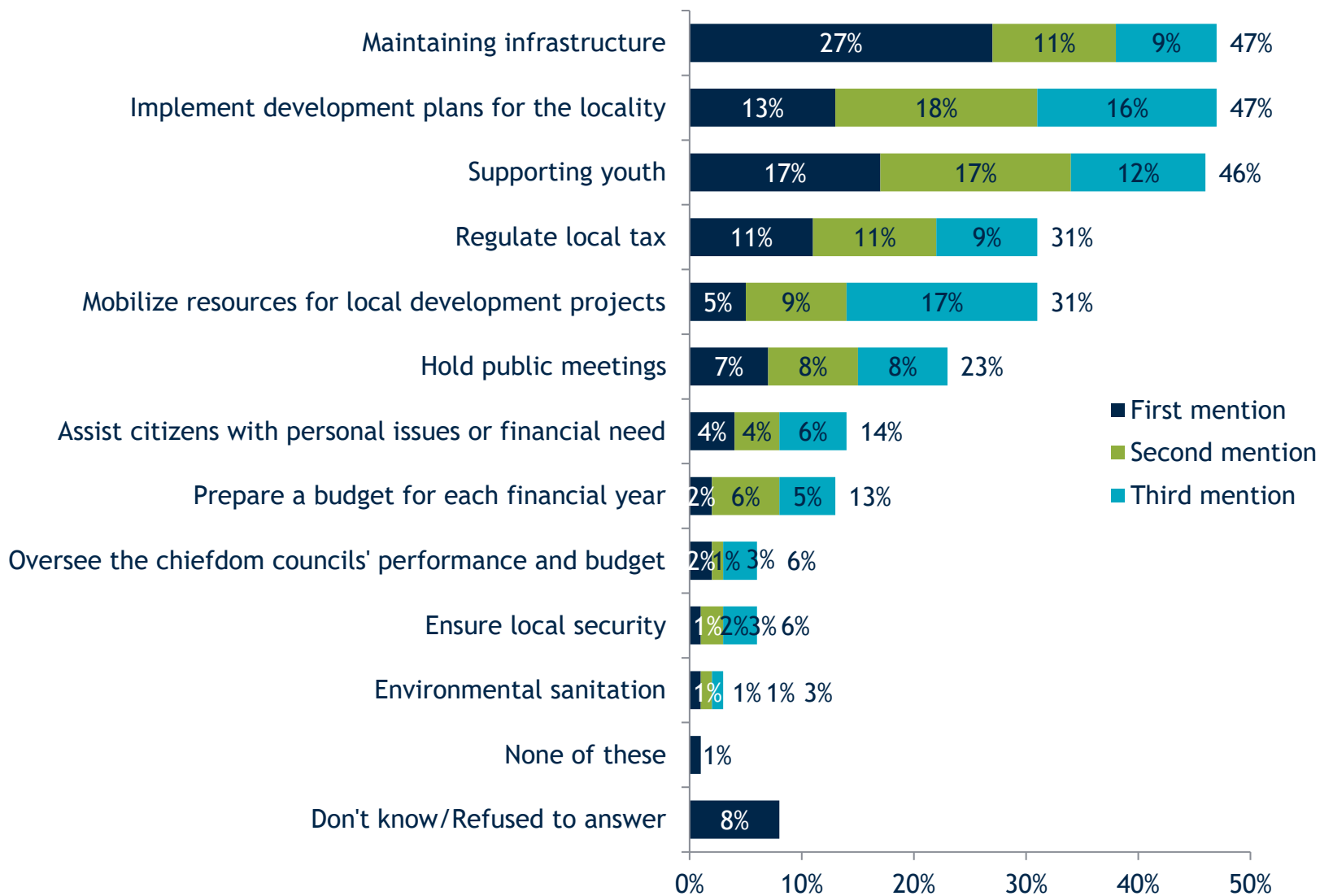
# During the past 12 months, have you attended a local council meeting open to the public?



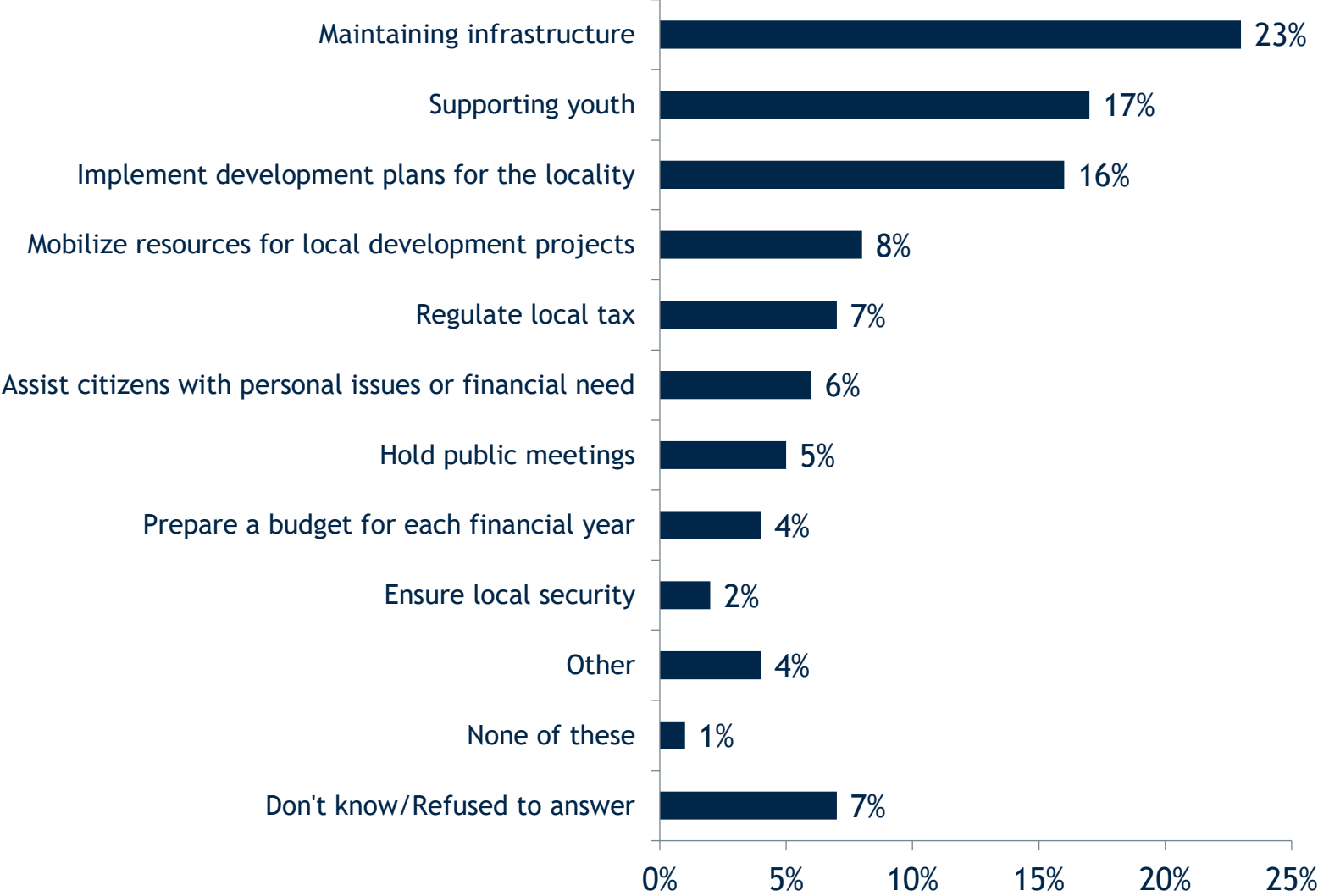
## Of those who attended a local council meeting at least once, n=289



# Of the following, which do you consider the most important responsibility of your local council? (Up to three responses allowed)



# For which of these areas do you think your local council most needs to improve its performance?



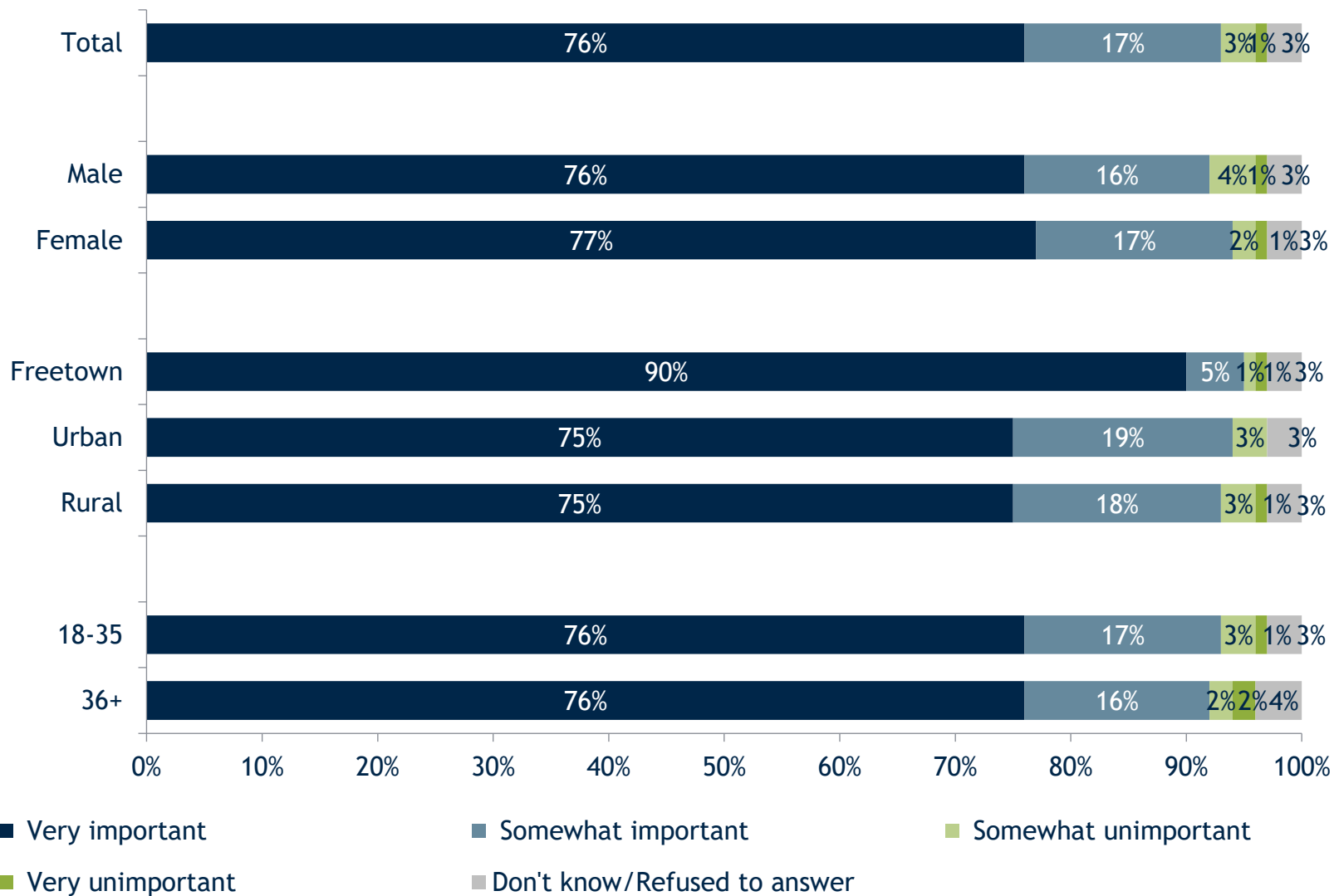


# Inclusion

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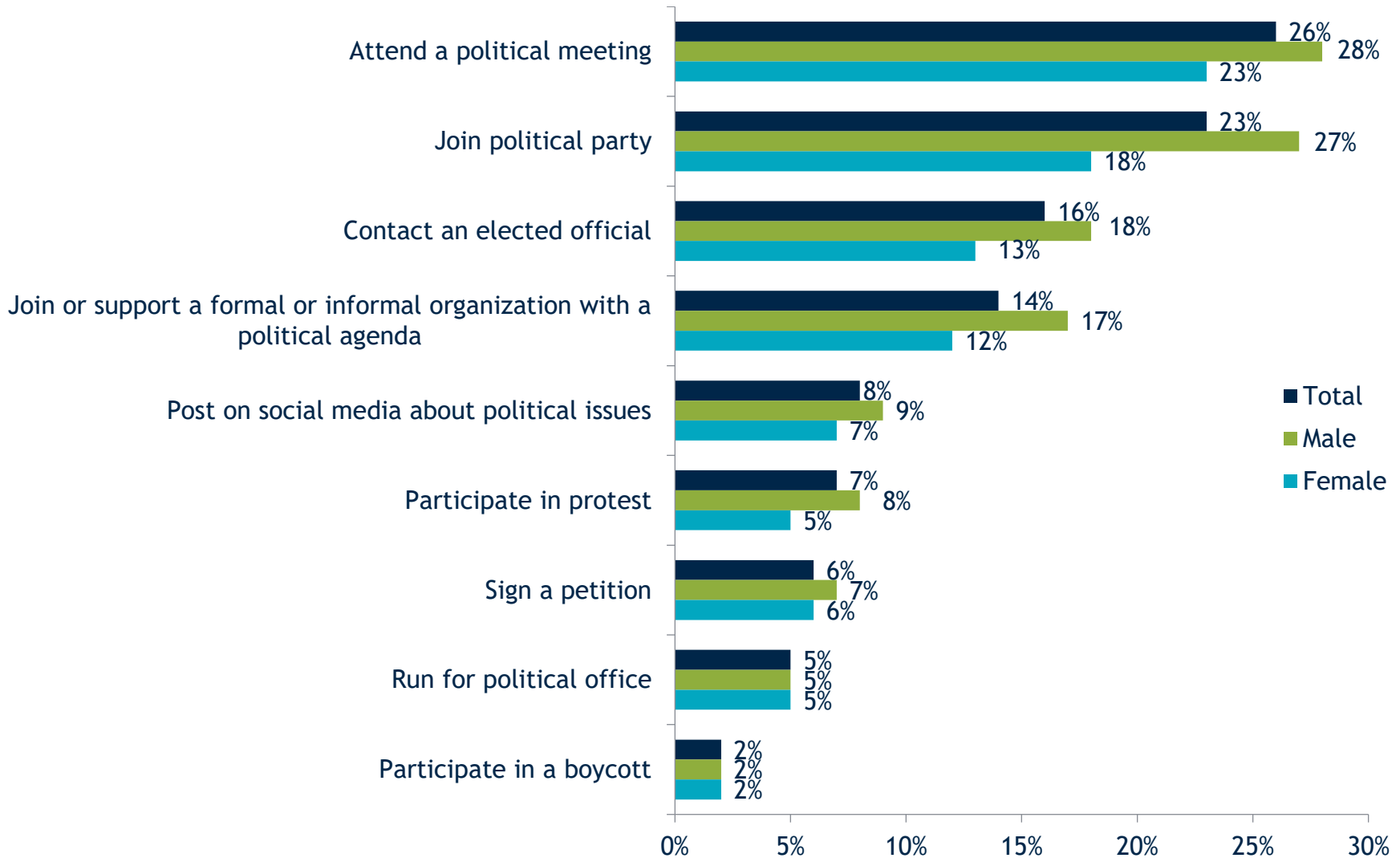


# How important or unimportant is it that all members of our country's adult population, including women, young adults, minorities, and people with disabilities, are included in political decision making?

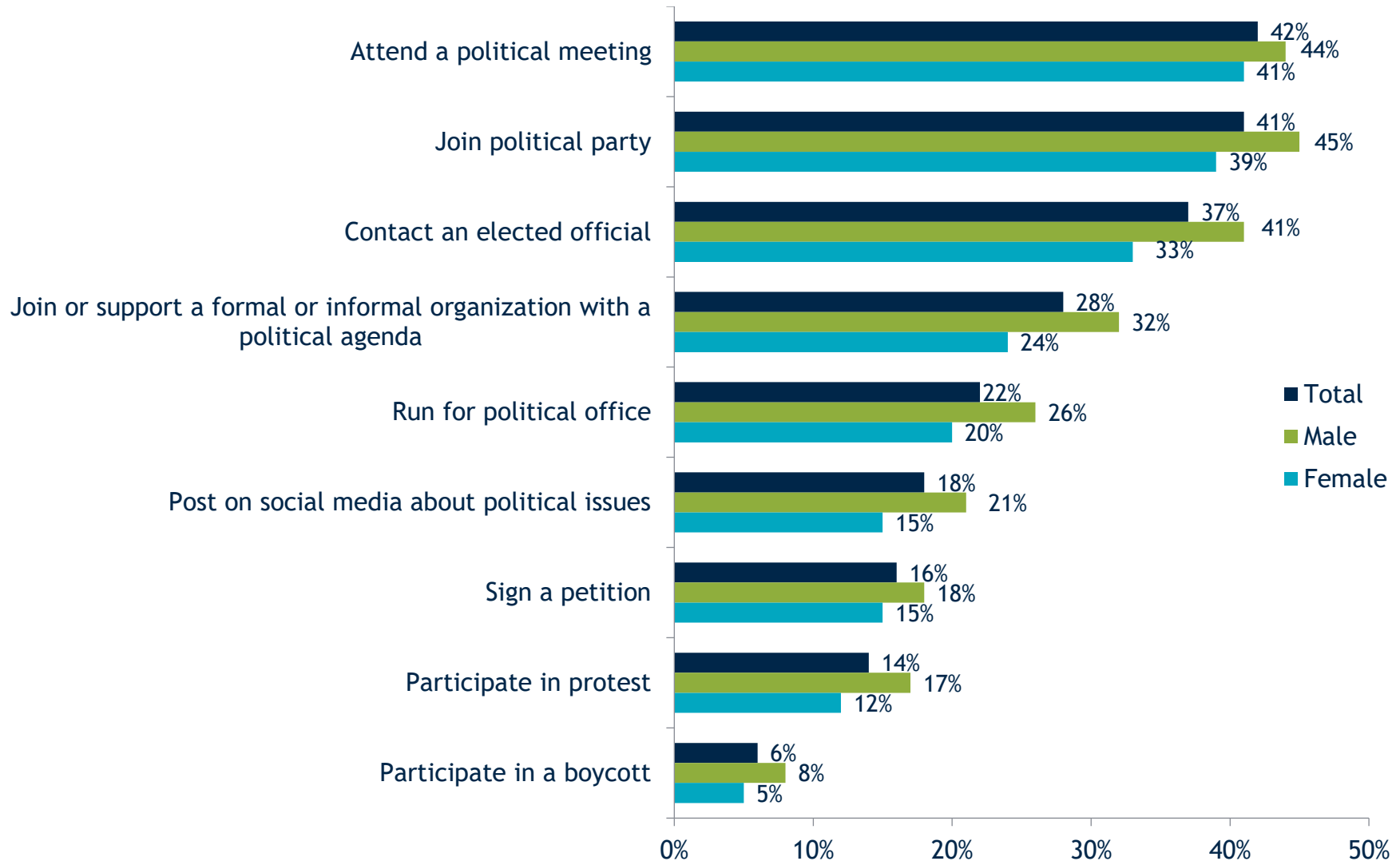




# Have you ever engaged in any of the following activities? (“Yes” answers displayed; multiple responses accepted)

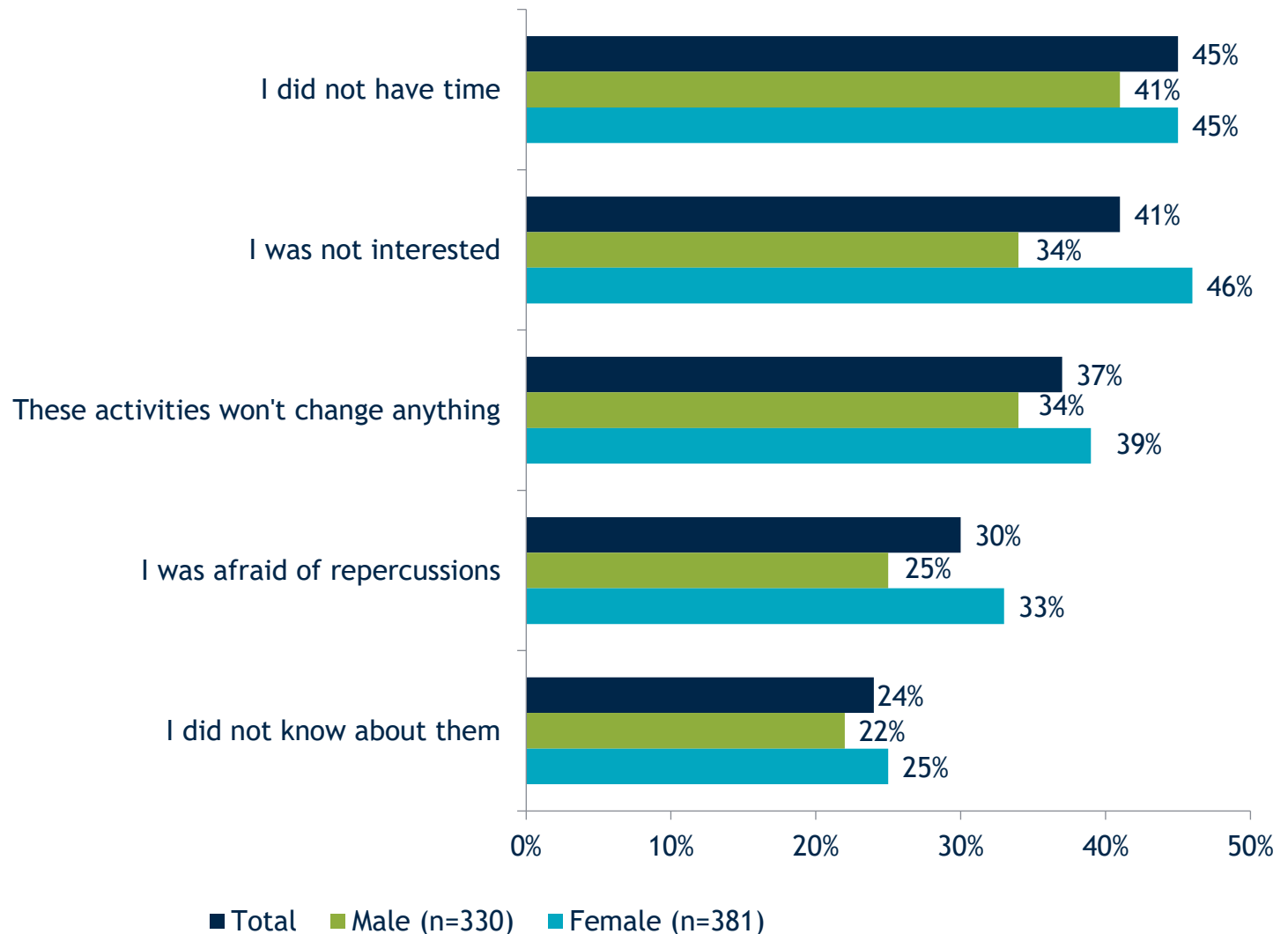


# Are you interested in engaging in any of the following activities within the next several years? (“Yes” answers displayed; multiple responses accepted)



# Why have you never engaged in any of these activities?

(Among those who did not engage in any of the activities, n=711; multiple responses accepted)



# Why are there not more women politically engaged in our country?

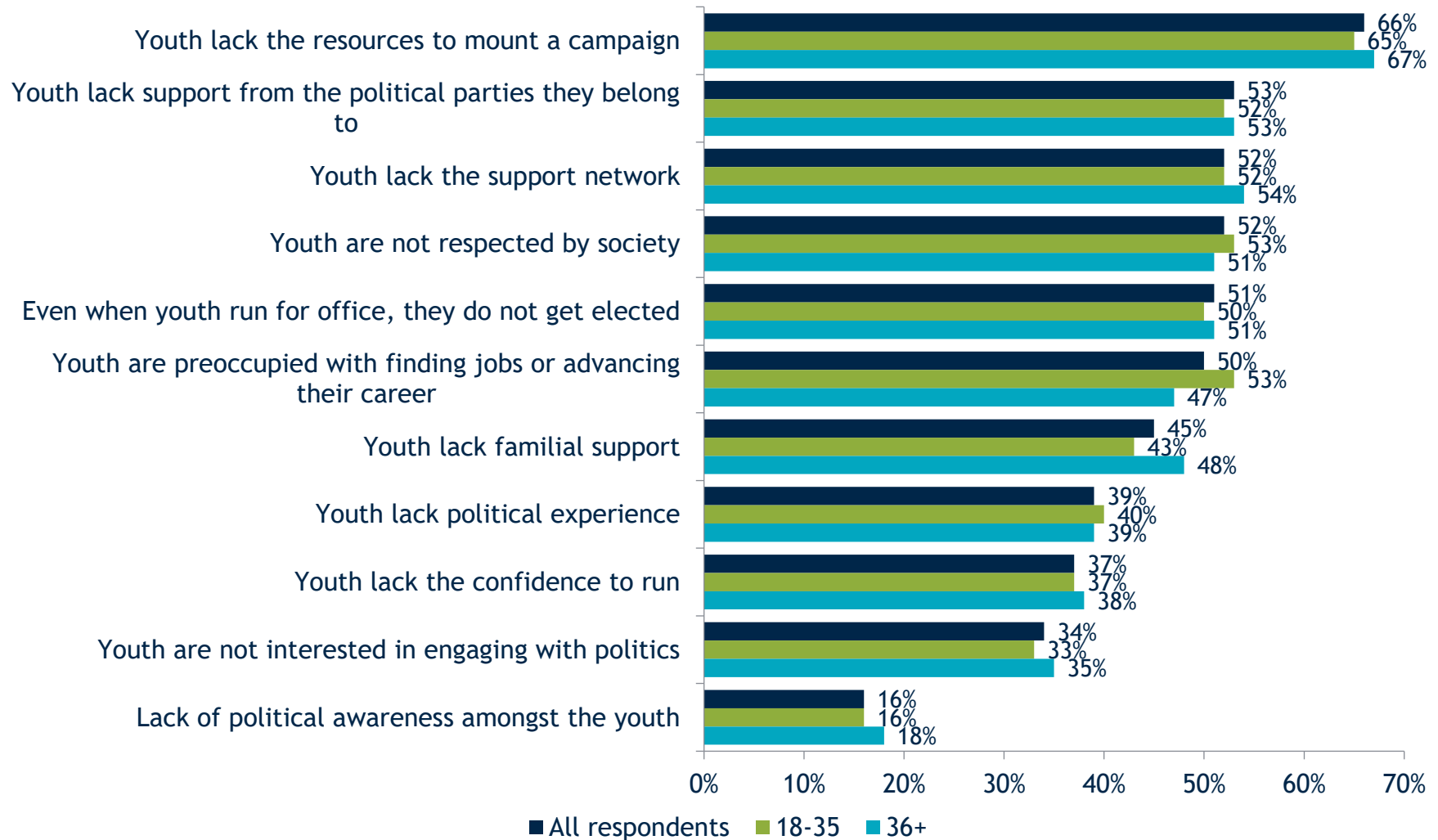
For each potential reason I read you, please tell me if it plays a major role or not.

(Only percentages for “major role” are displayed)



# Why are there not more youth aged 35 and younger politically engaged in our country? For each potential reason I read you, please tell me if it plays a major role or not.

(Only percentages for “major role” are displayed)



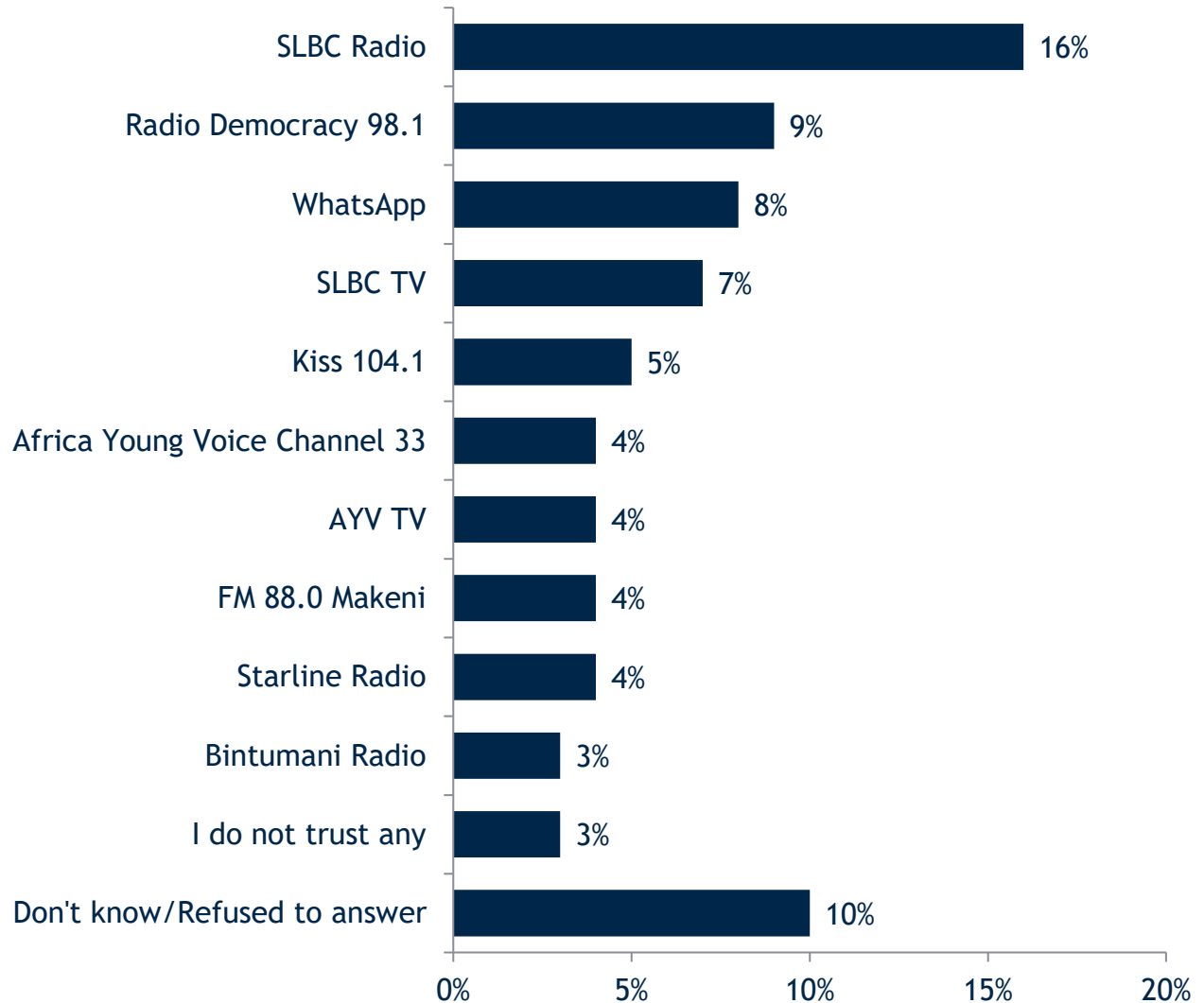


# Sources of Information

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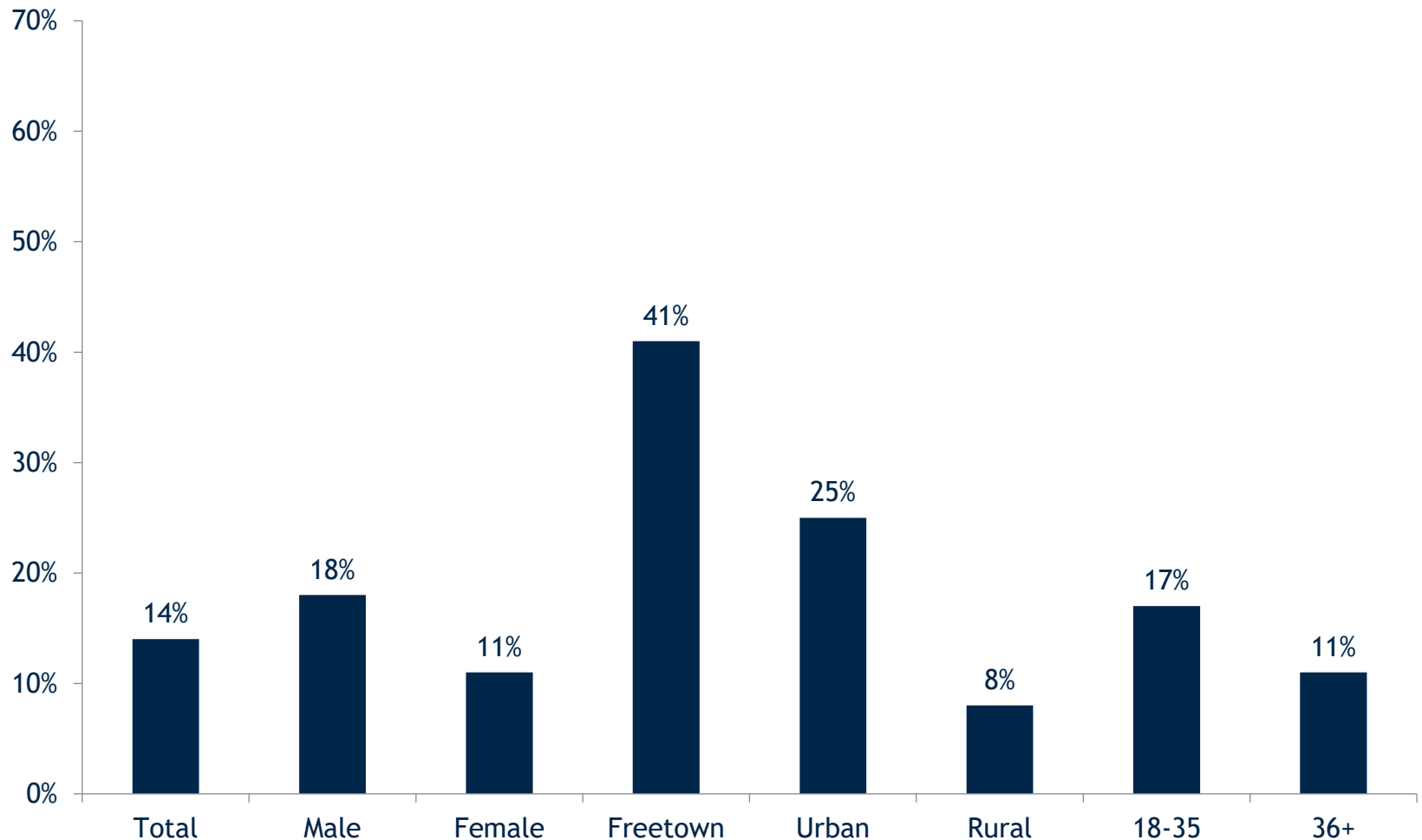


Please name your most trusted source of information. Please give me the specific name of the station, or channel, or publication, or person, or online media outlet  
(Spontaneous response)



*Top ten responses displayed.*

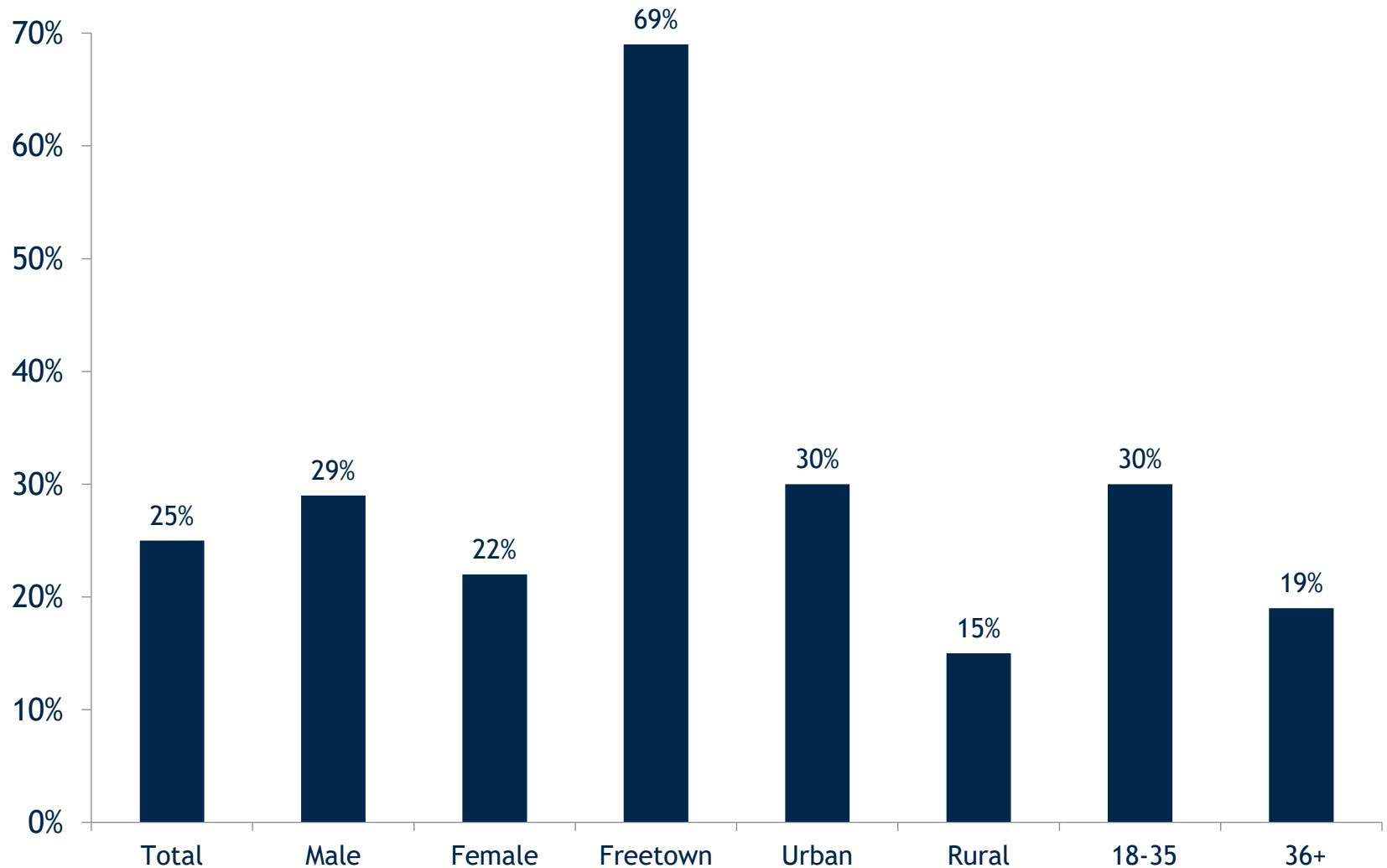
# In the past 7 days, have you used social media, for example WhatsApp or Facebook? ("Yes" answers displayed)



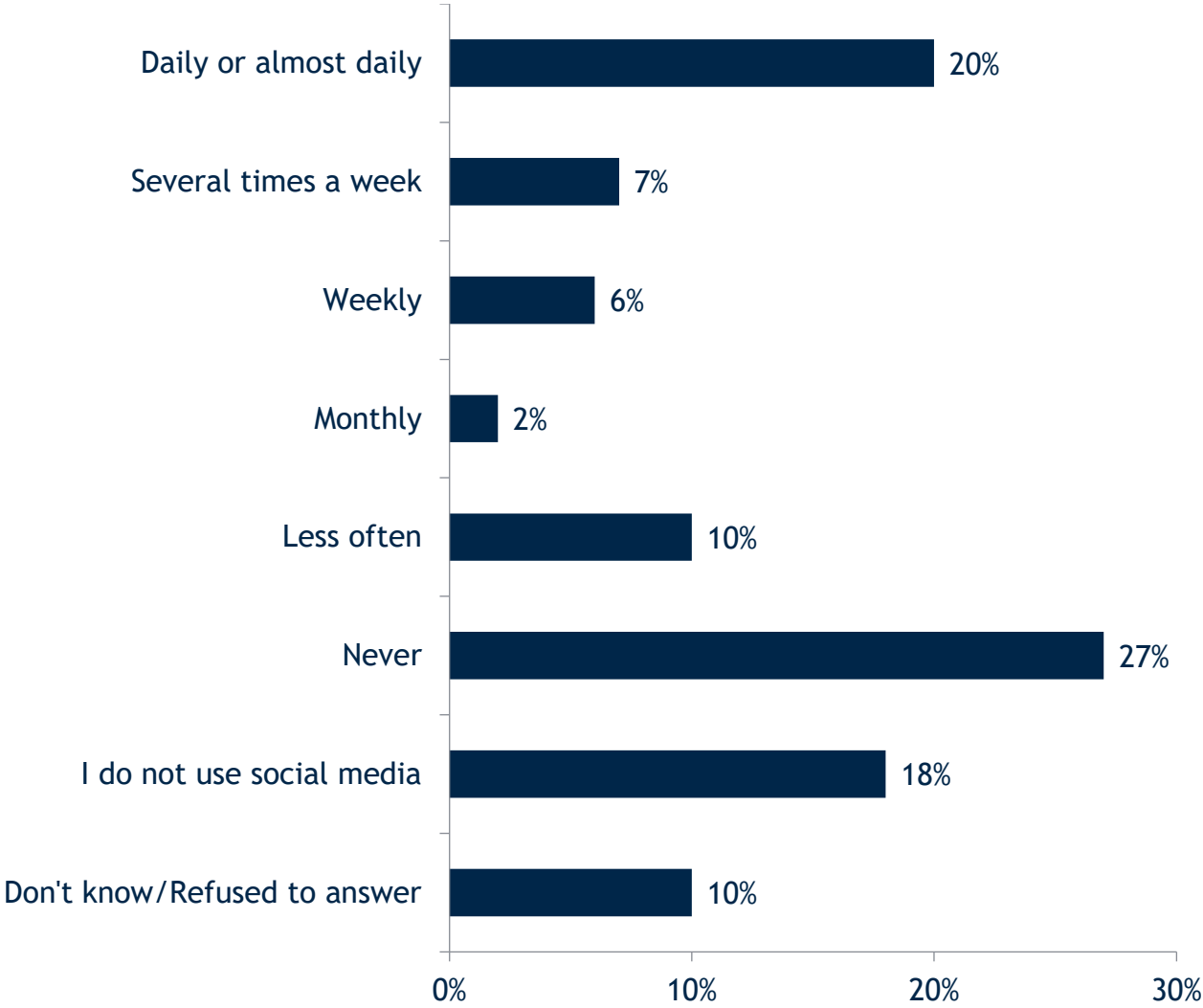


# Do you own a smartphone, which is a mobile phone that allows you to access the internet and use social media such as WhatsApp and Facebook?

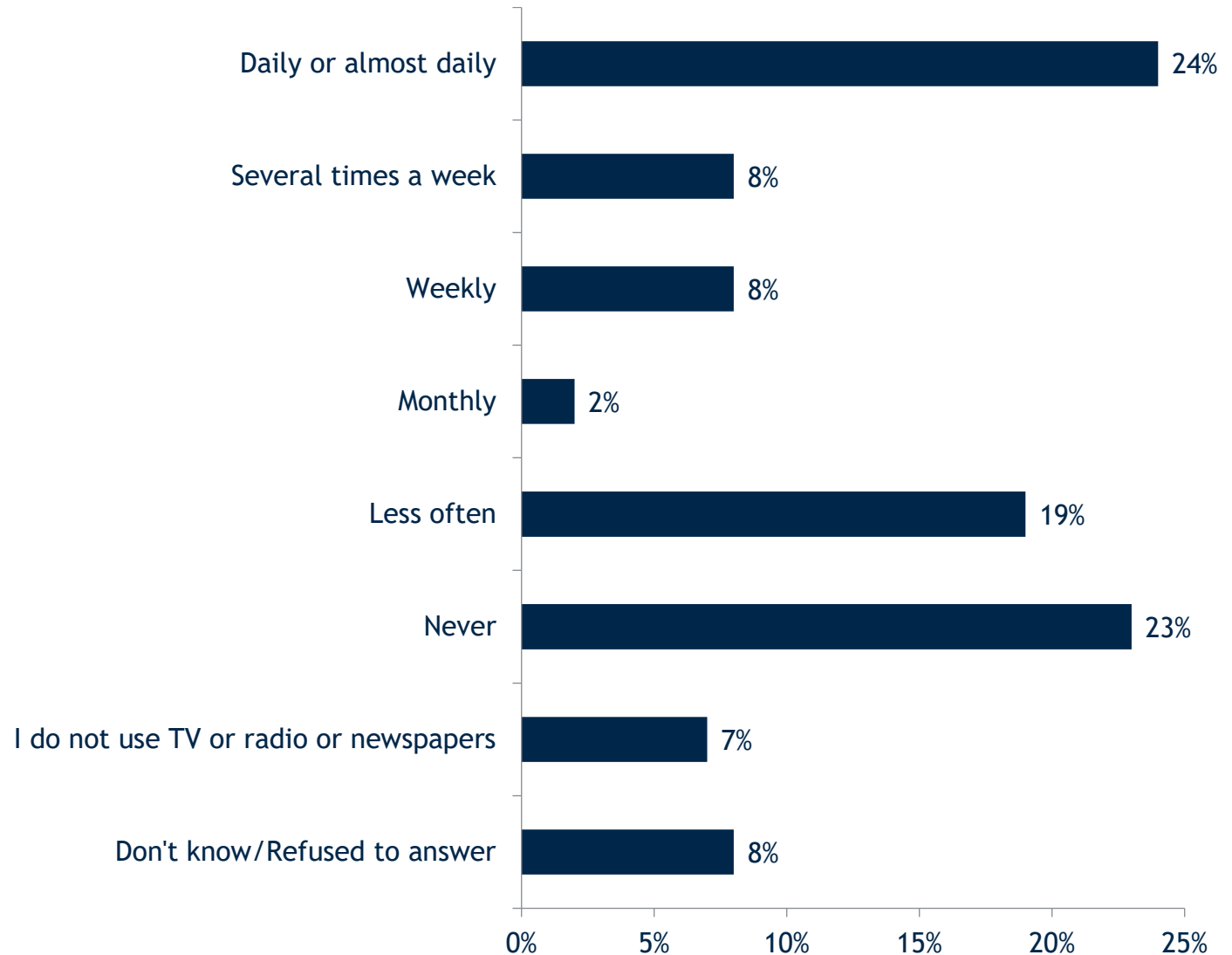
(“Yes” answers displayed)



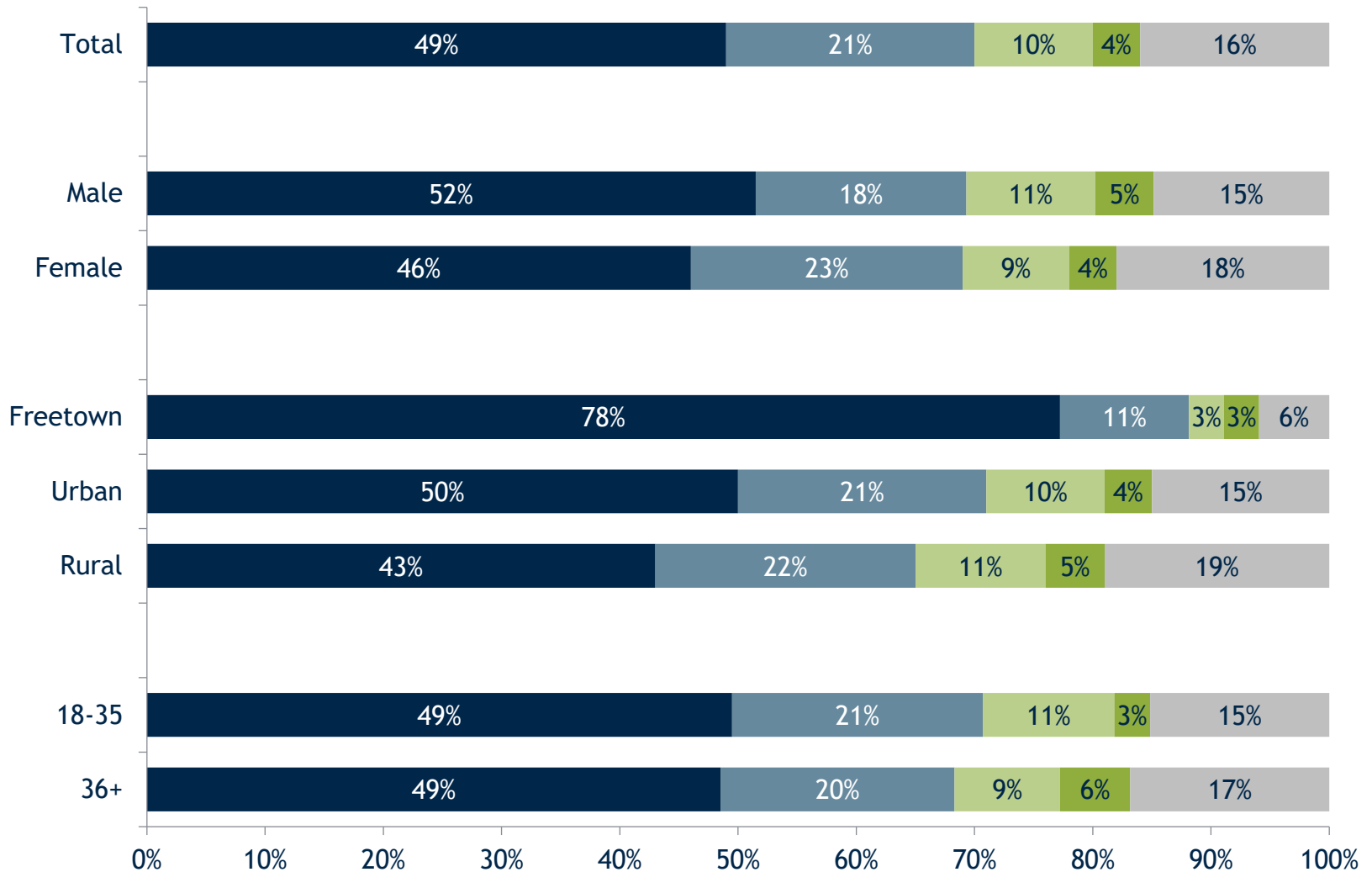
# How frequently do you encounter information in social media, for example WhatsApp or Facebook, that you believe is misleading or false?



# How often do you see or hear information on TV, the radio, or in newspapers, that you believe is misleading or false?

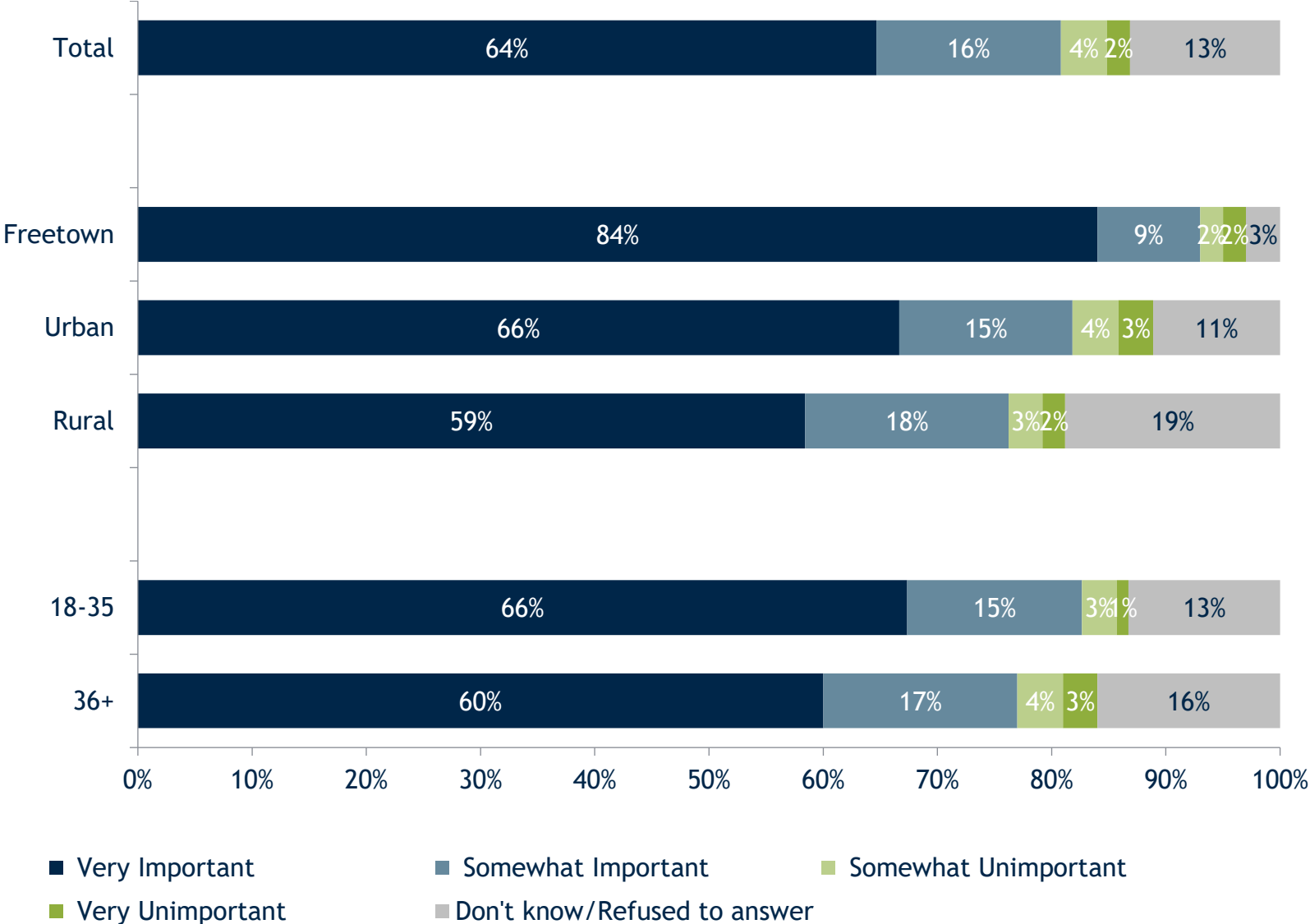


# To what extent is misleading or false information in the media problematic for our country?

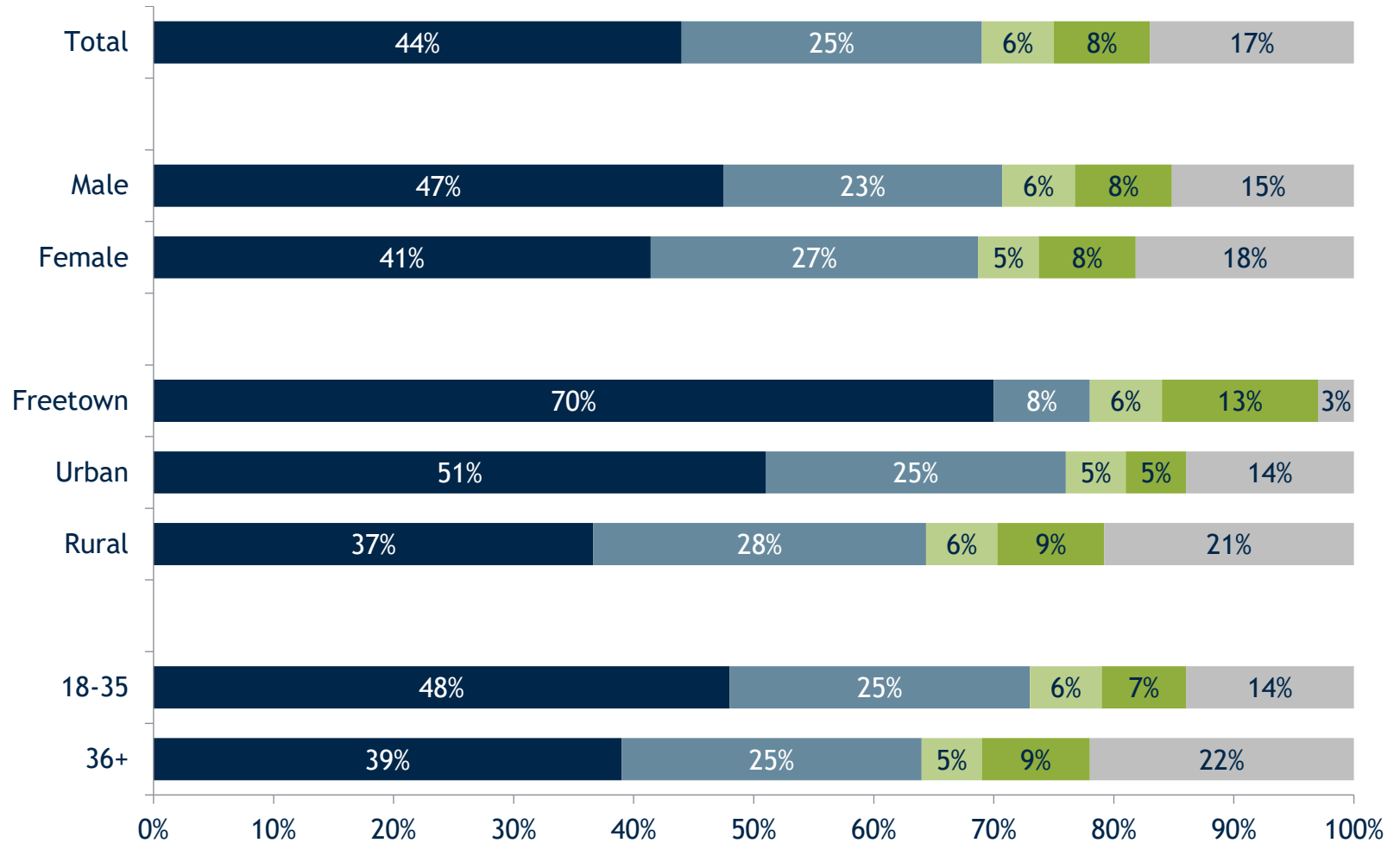


Very problematic
  Somewhat problematic
  Somewhat unproblematic
  Very unproblematic
  Don't know/Refused to answer

# How important or unimportant is it for elected officials and candidates to participate in public debates?



# How likely or unlikely would you watch or listen to such public debates?



■ Very likely 
 ■ Somewhat likely 
 ■ Somewhat Unlikely 
 ■ Very unlikely 
 ■ Don't know/Refused to answer



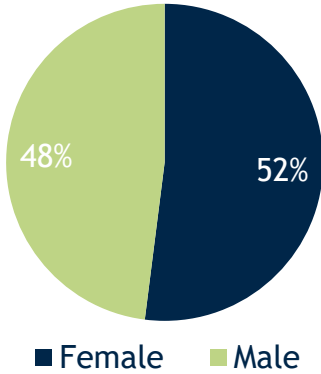
# Demographics

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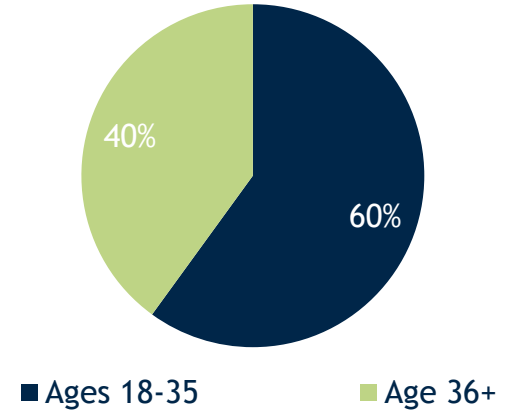


# Demographics

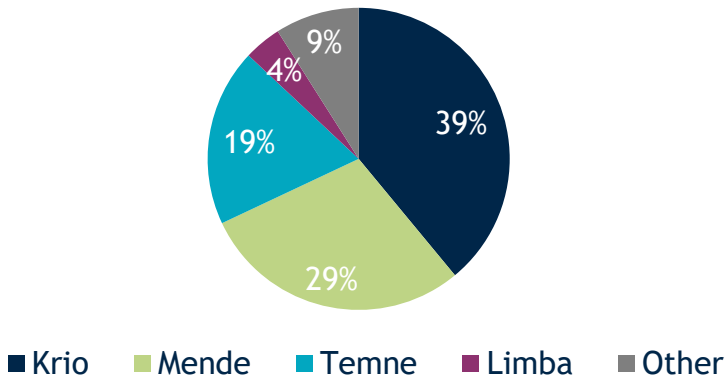
## Gender



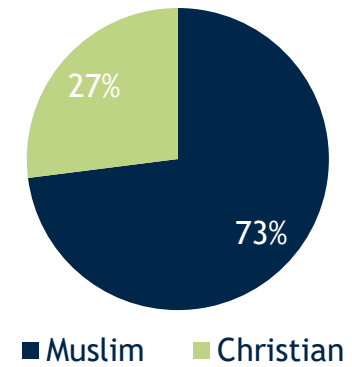
## Age



## Language Spoken at Home



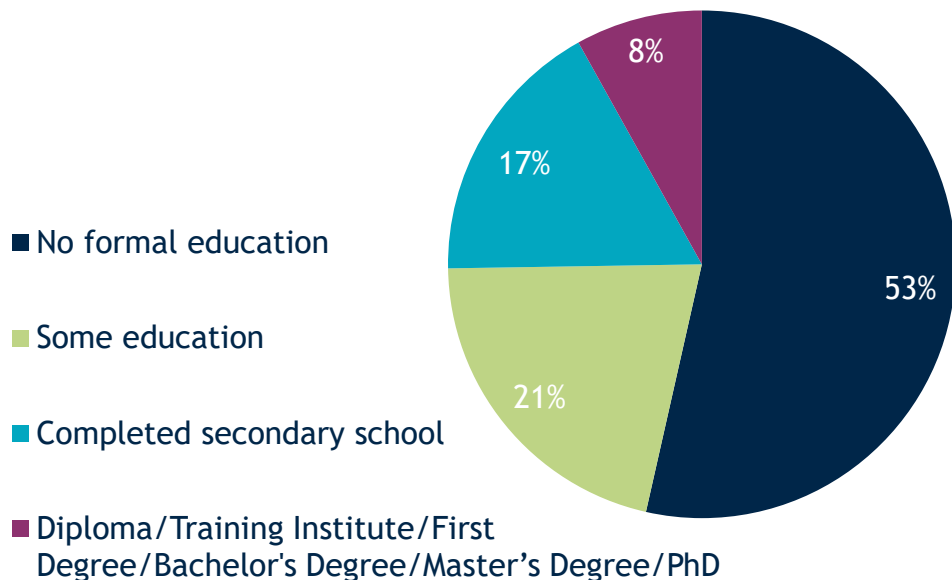
## Religion



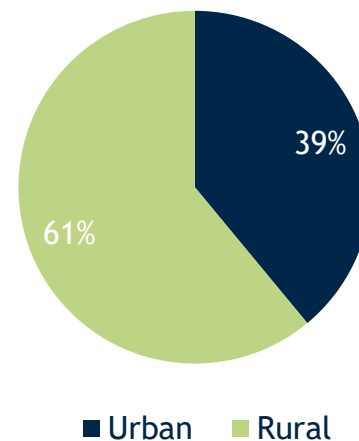


# Demographics

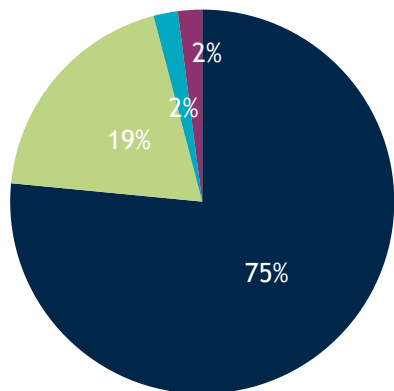
## Education



## Type of Settlement



## Economic Situation



- I have trouble feeding myself and my family and buying even the most essential things for survival
- I have enough means for survival, but I do not have enough money for extra things
- I am able to afford things like new clothes and eating at restaurants but not often
- I am able to afford things like new clothes and eating out and also support other members of my family who are not able to do these things

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