



International Republican Institute Turkey Nationwide Survey



February 1-11, 2009

Presentation and analysis by

James Fisfis

CHARIOT INC

Worldwide Research and Communications

Survey specifications

- The survey was conducted through in-person, in-home interviews by Infakto Research Workshop. Oversight and analysis was provided by Chariot LLC of San Francisco, California
- Target population of the survey was Turks aged 18 and older.
- Sampling framework of the poll is designed to represent Turkish voters through a multi-stage stratified random sampling. In the first stage, the sample has been stratified to 11 NUTS (the Nomenclature of Territorial Units for Statistics) of Turkey and three metropolitan cities (as Self-Representing Units). In the second stage, a province has been selected from each NUTS through the probability proportionate to size (PPS) methodology. In the third stage, the sample has been stratified according to central-other sub-provinces and the urban-rural distribution of the province. Final sampling units were households selected according to the Kish method.
- The sample size is 1,552 with a response rate of 22.5 percent and a cooperation rate of 36.0 percent according to American Association for Public Opinion Research calculation standards. Estimated sampling error under the simple random sampling assumption is ± 2.4 percent at the 95 percent level of confidence. Municipal questions are asked only in urban areas with 1,009 total interviews. Margin of error for the questions asked only in urban areas is ± 3.0 percent at 95 percent level of confidence.
- The fieldwork was completed between February 1 – February 11, 2009.

Survey Specifications – Demographics

- **Gender**
 - Male 50.4%
 - Female 49.6%
- **Religion**
 - Muslim 98.1%
 - Christian 0.4%
 - Jewish 0.0%
 - Other 0.1%
 - No Answer 1.4%
- **Education**
 - Illiterate 6.4%
 - Literate, not graduated from a school 4.8%
 - Primary school 41.6%
 - Secondary school 11.8%
 - High School 24.9%
 - Vocational School (2 years) 2.9%
 - University (4 years) 6.4%
 - Graduate School 0.8%
 - Other 0.1%
 - No Answer 0.3%
- **Working Status**
 - Working – Full Time 27.0%
 - Working – Part Time 2.0%
 - Working – Seasonal 3.6%
 - Working – Unpaid Family Worker 3.7%
 - Not Working – Housewife 36.7%
 - Not Working – Retired 10.3%
 - Not Working – Student 6.7%
 - Not Working – Has other revenues 0.9%
 - Not Working – Unemployed 8.3%
 - Not Working – Because of illness, etc. 0.8%
- **Marital Status**
 - Married 71.7%
 - Single/Never Married 22.9%
 - Divorced/Separated 1.9%
 - Widow 3.4%
 - No Answer 0.1%

POLITICAL ENVIRONMENT

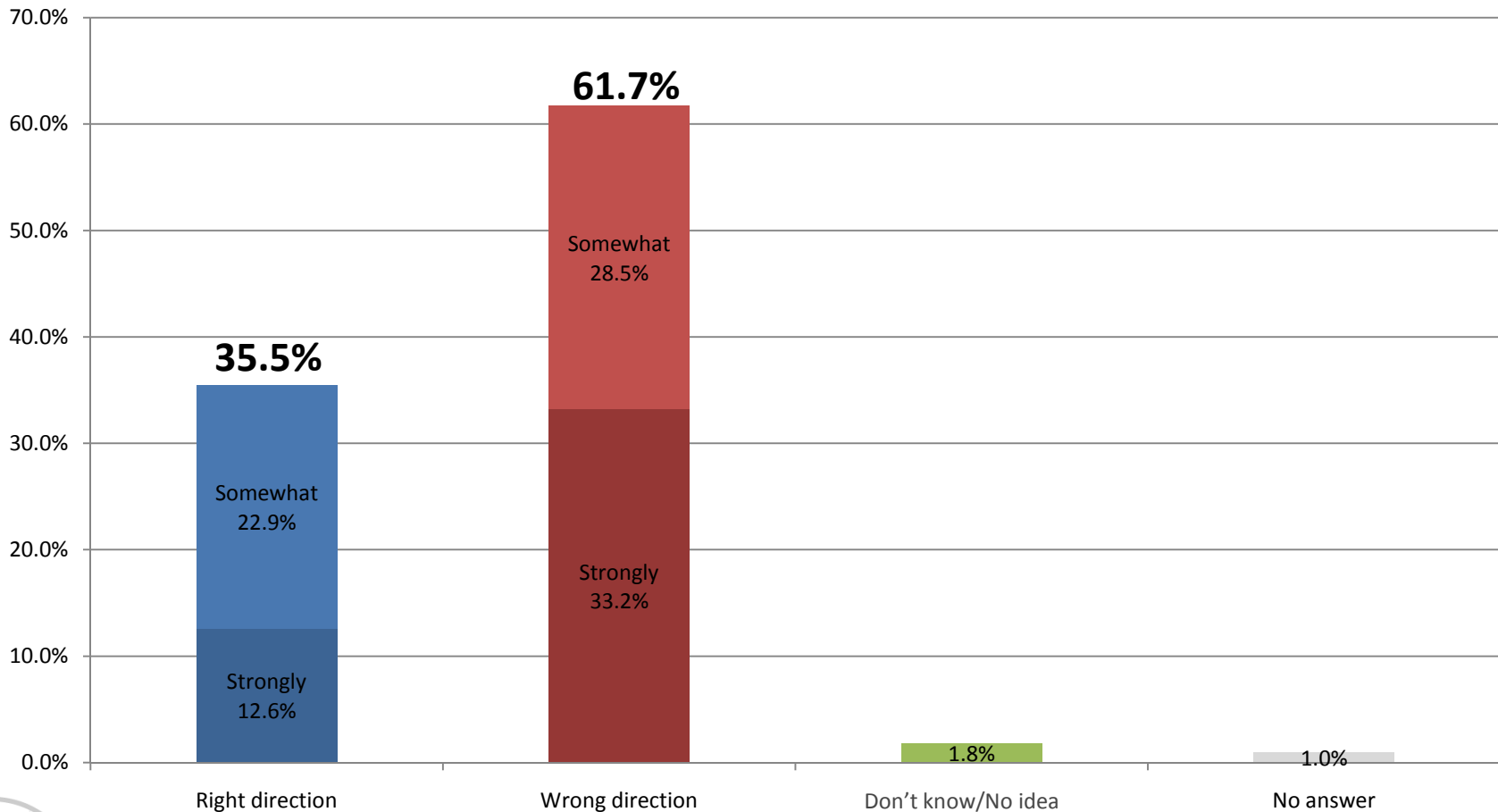


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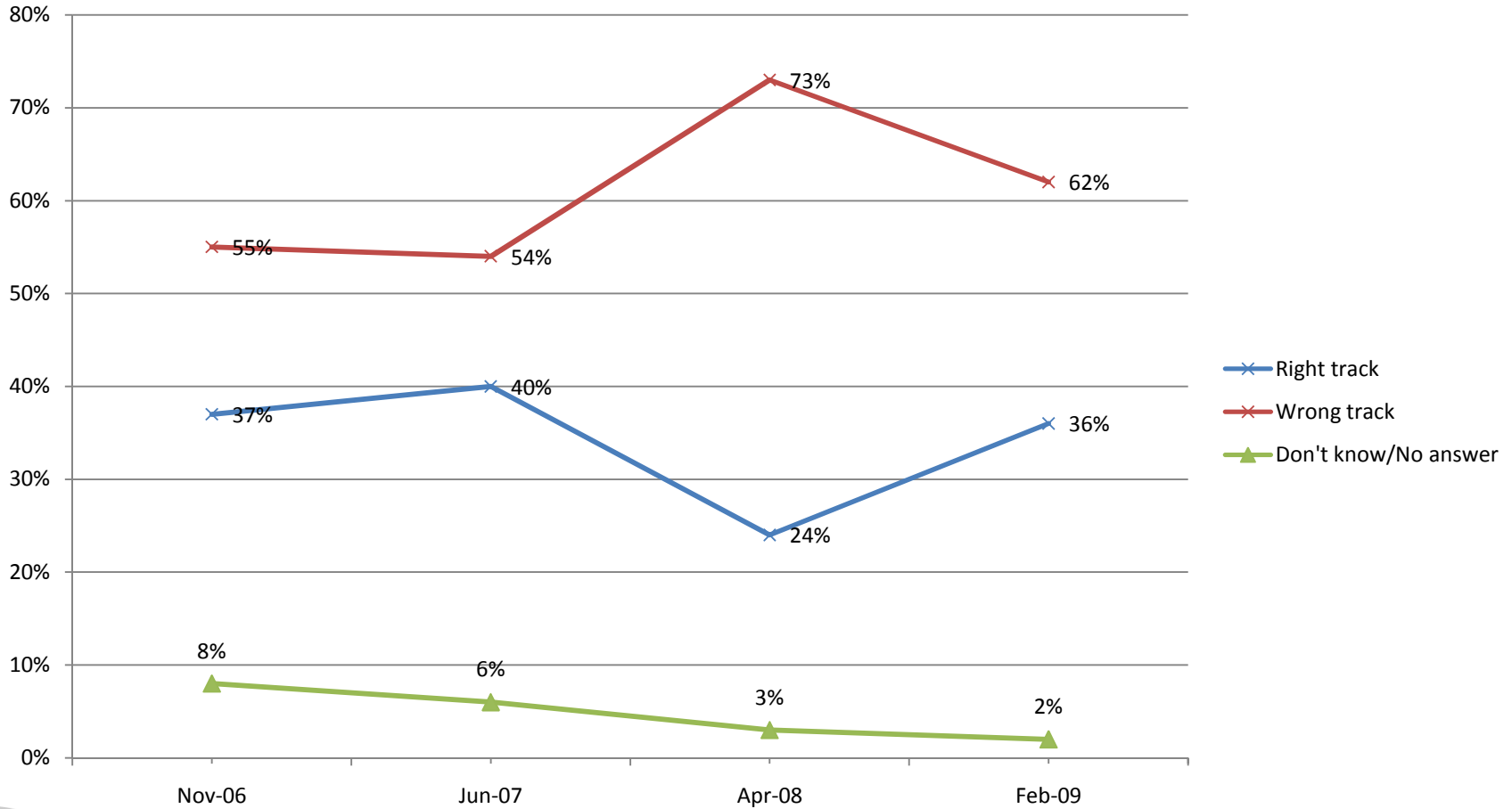
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Overall, do you think Turkey is headed in the right direction or the wrong direction? Would you say that it is strongly in the right/wrong direction or just somewhat?



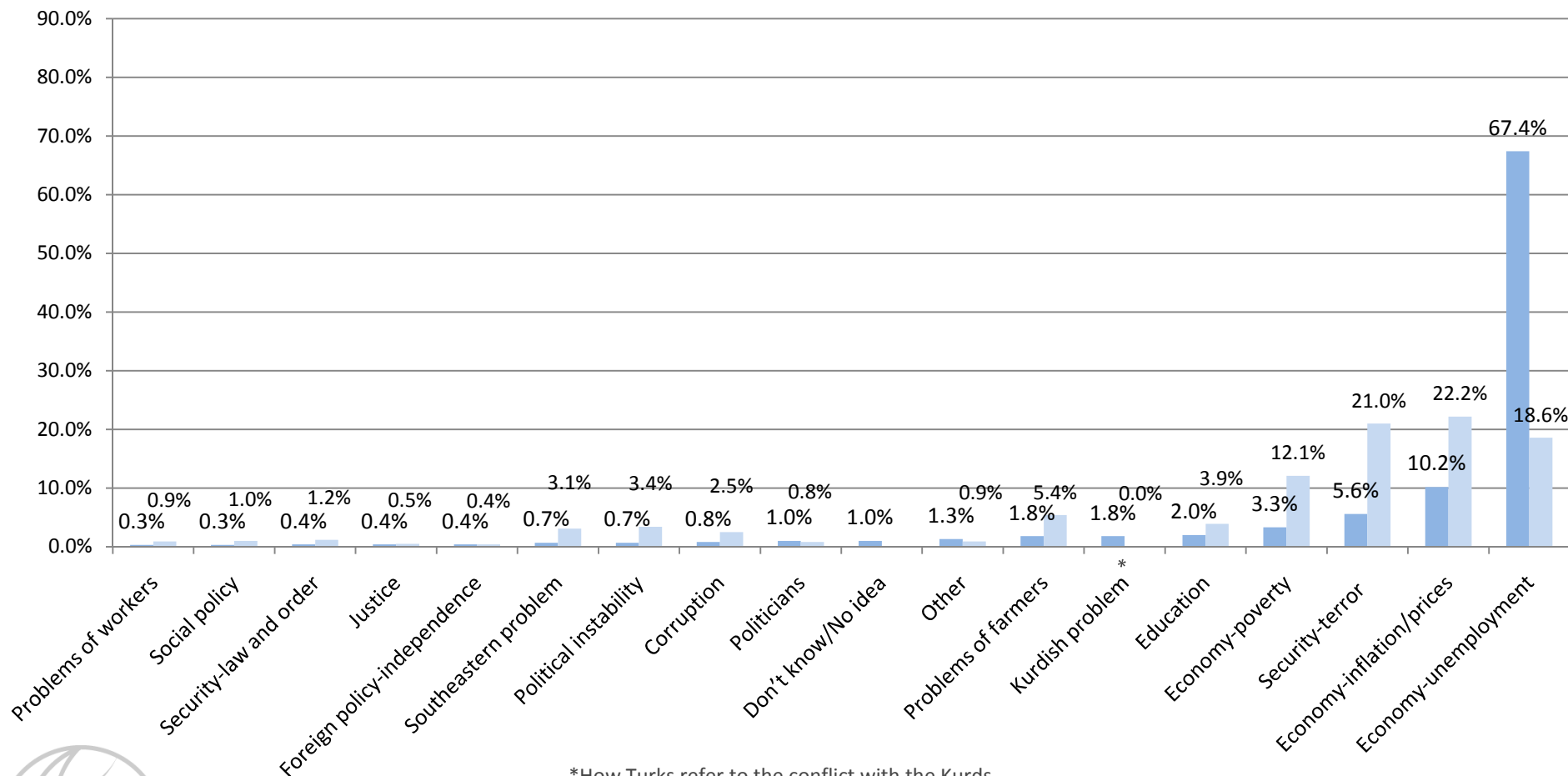
Overall, do you think Turkey is headed in the right direction or the wrong direction?

Wave comparison: Turkey on the right/wrong track



What is the most/second most important issue facing Turkey today?

Responses receiving at least one percent combined first/second choice



*How Turks refer to the conflict with the Kurds

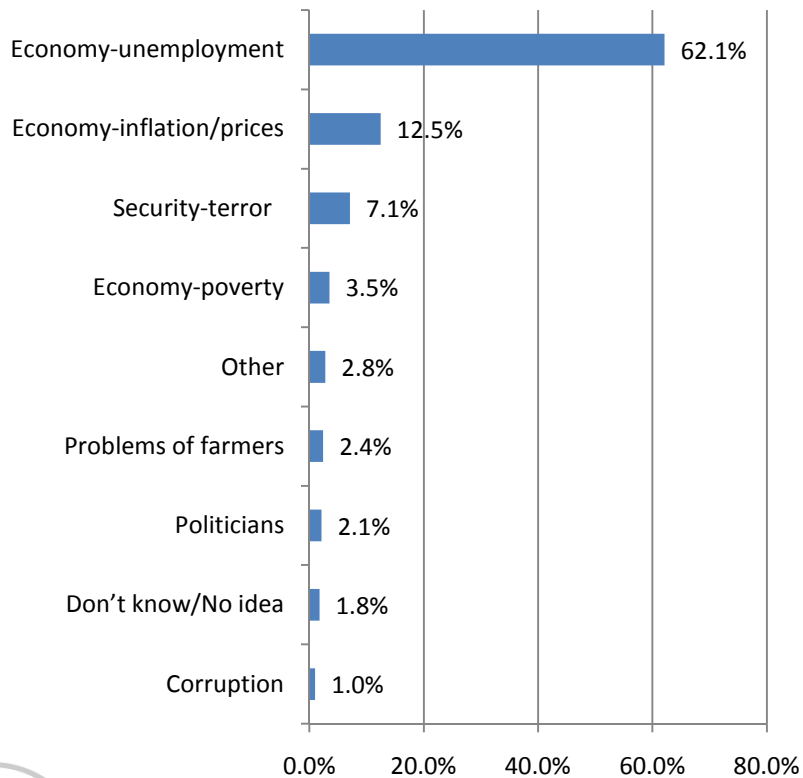
■ Most important problem ■ Second most important problem



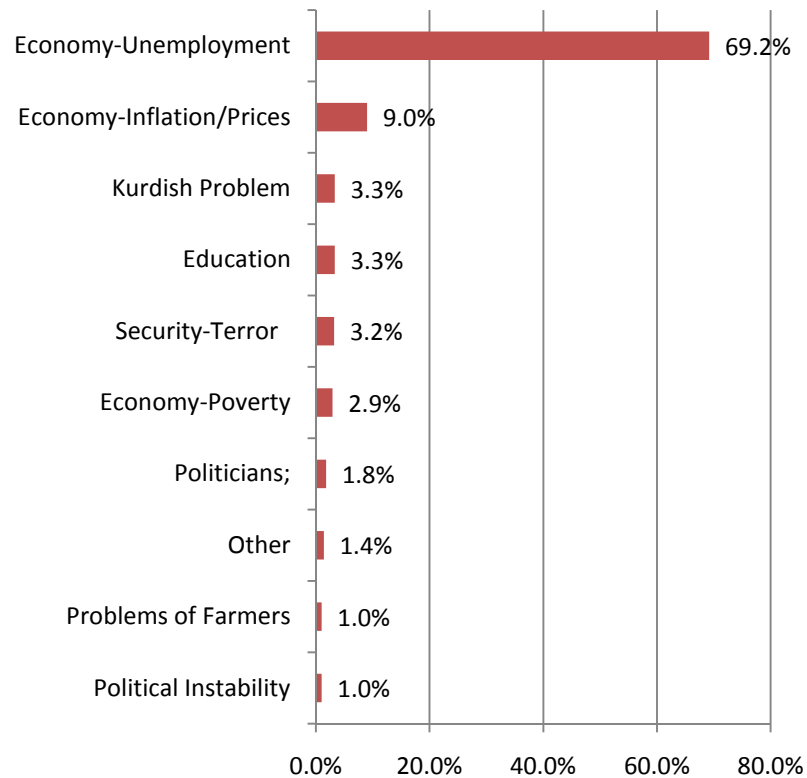
What is the most important issue facing Turkey today?

Responses receiving at least one percent

Turkey on right track (strong)



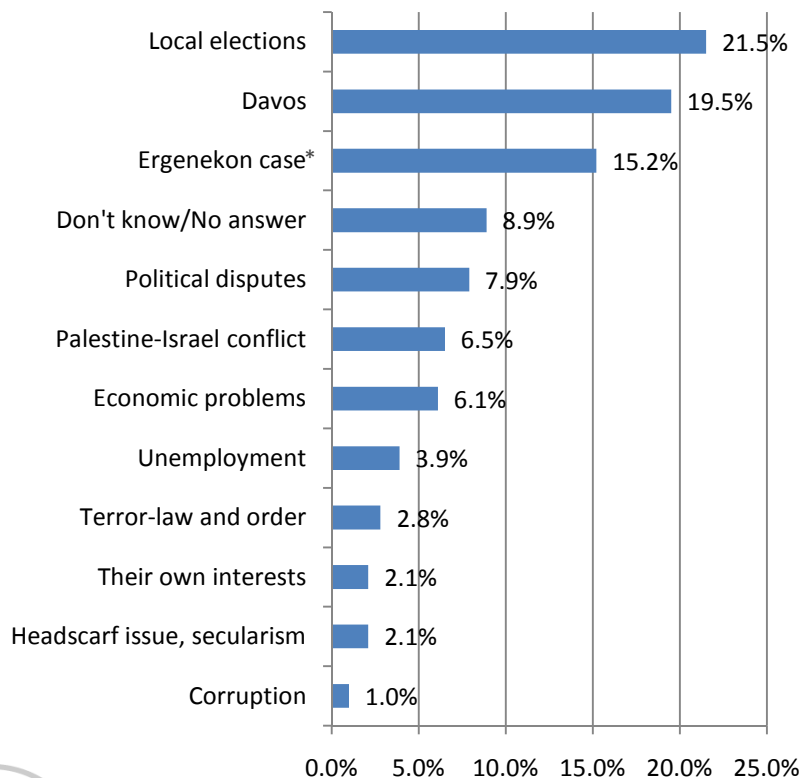
Turkey on wrong track (strong)



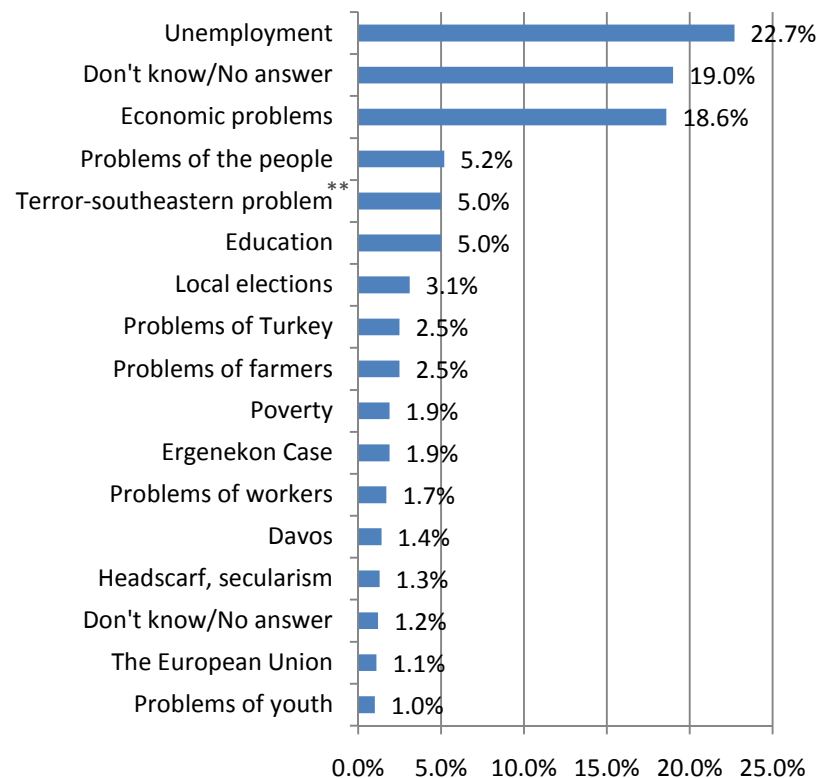
What do politicians talk too much/little about?

Responses receiving at least one percent

What do politicians talk too much about?



What do politicians talk too little about?



*The name given to a group allegedly conspiring to topple the government

**How Turks refer to the conflict with the Kurds



ECONOMIC SITUATION

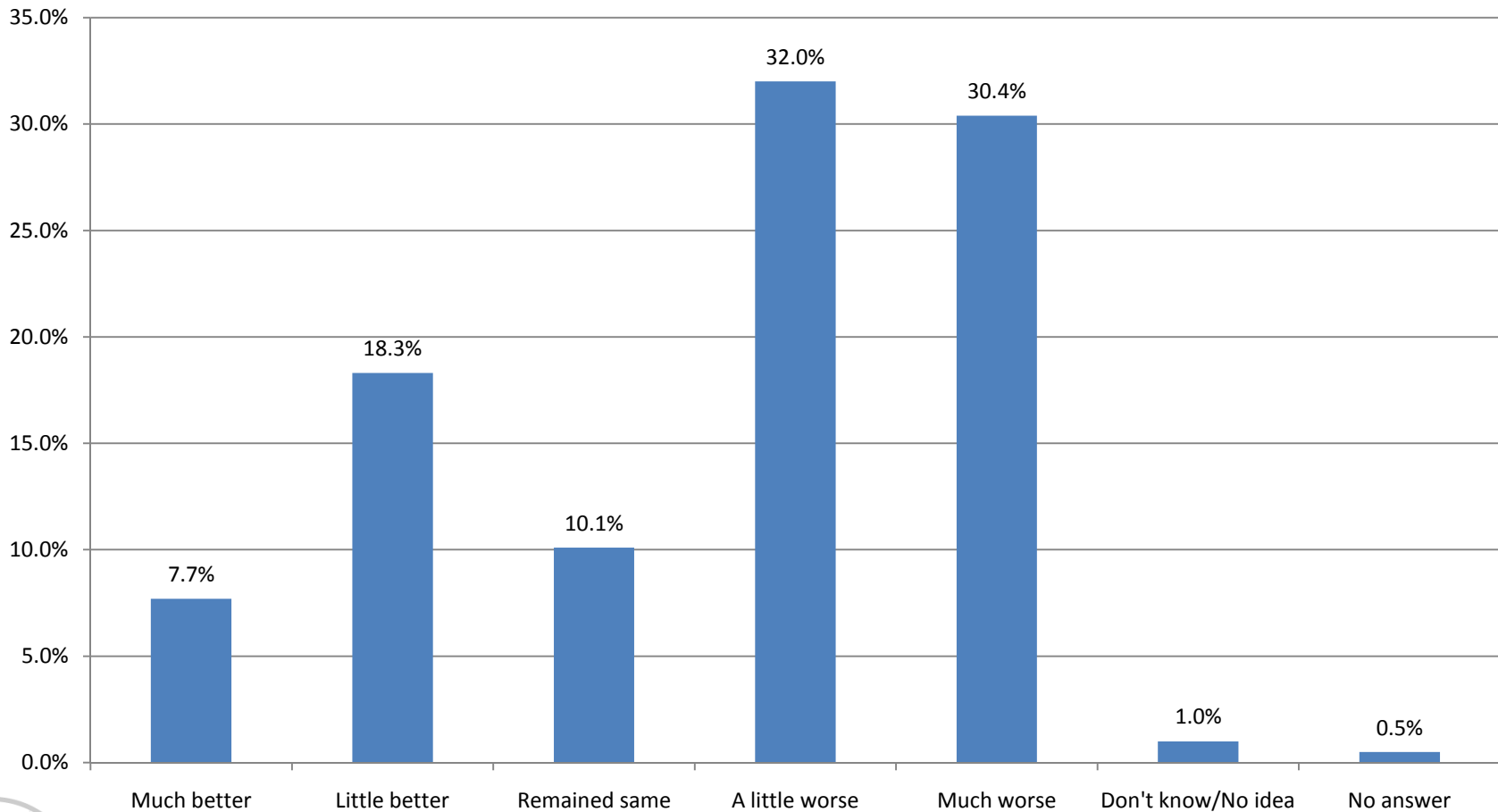


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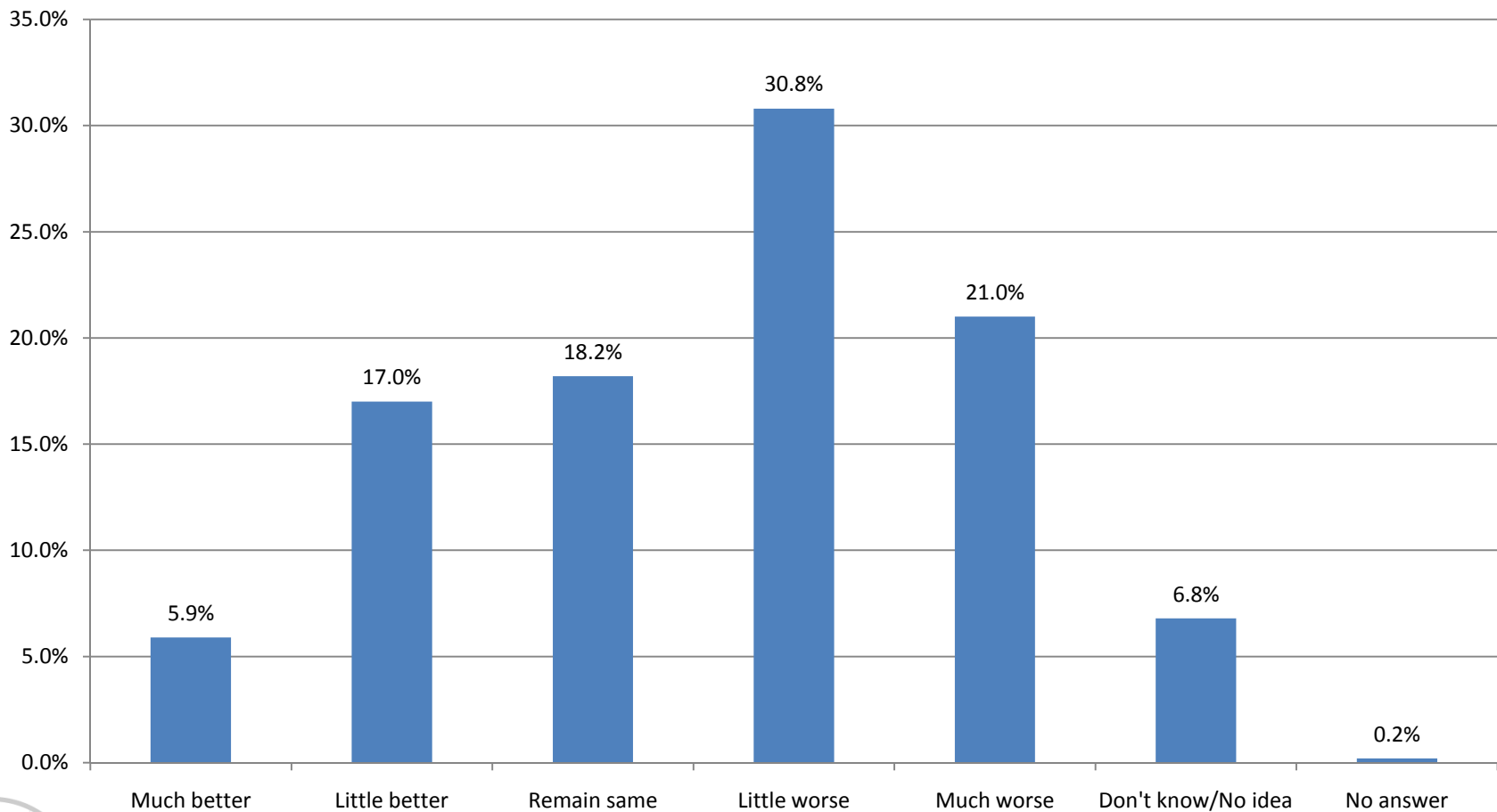
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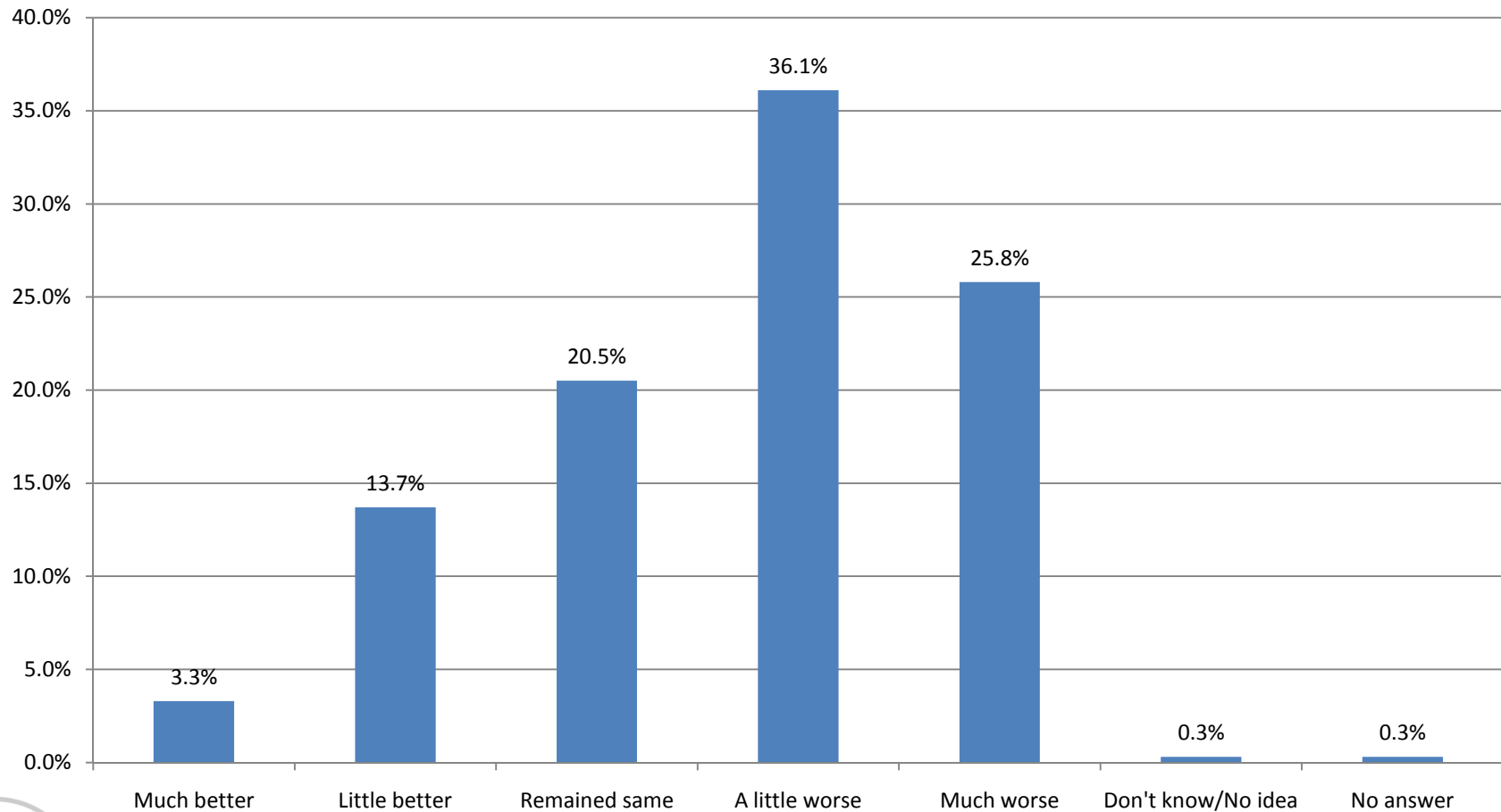
Compared to five years ago, do you think that the economic situation of the country became better or worse?



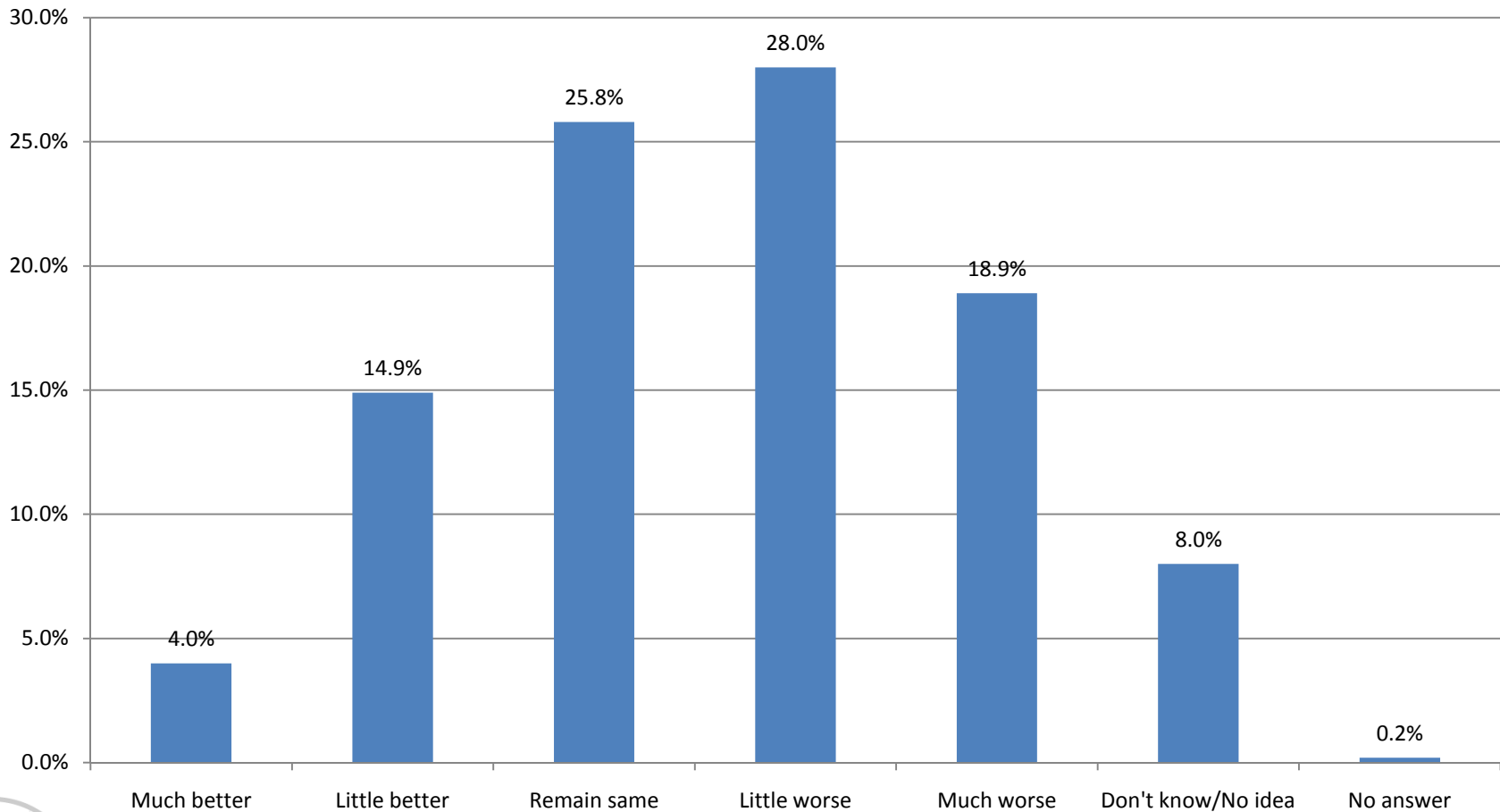
When you think about the next 12 months, what do you expect about the economic situation of Turkey?



Compared to five years ago, do you think that the financial situation of your family became better or worse?

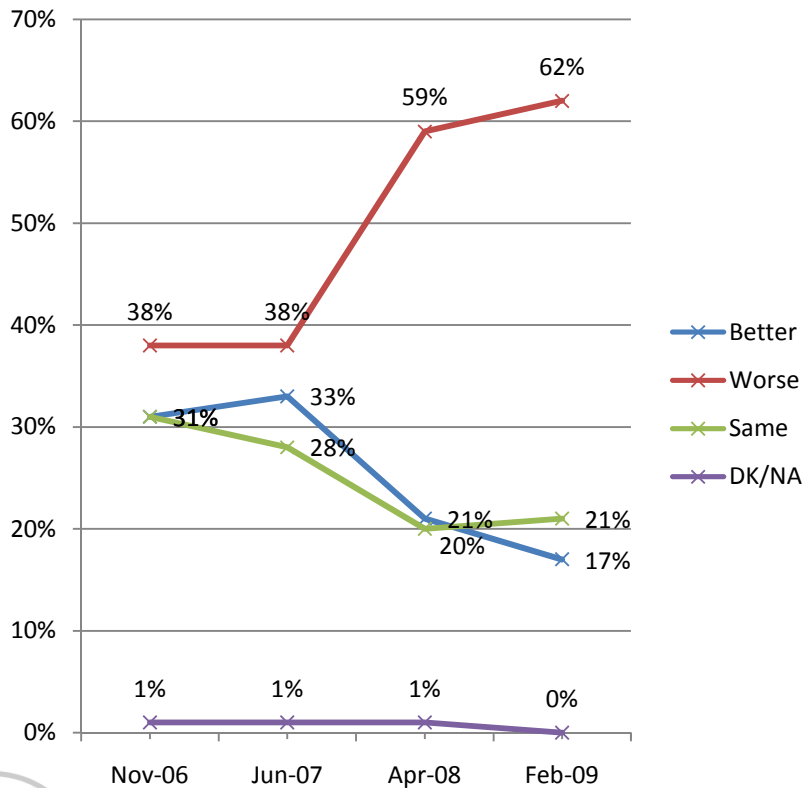


When you think about the next 12 months, what do you expect about the financial situation of your family?

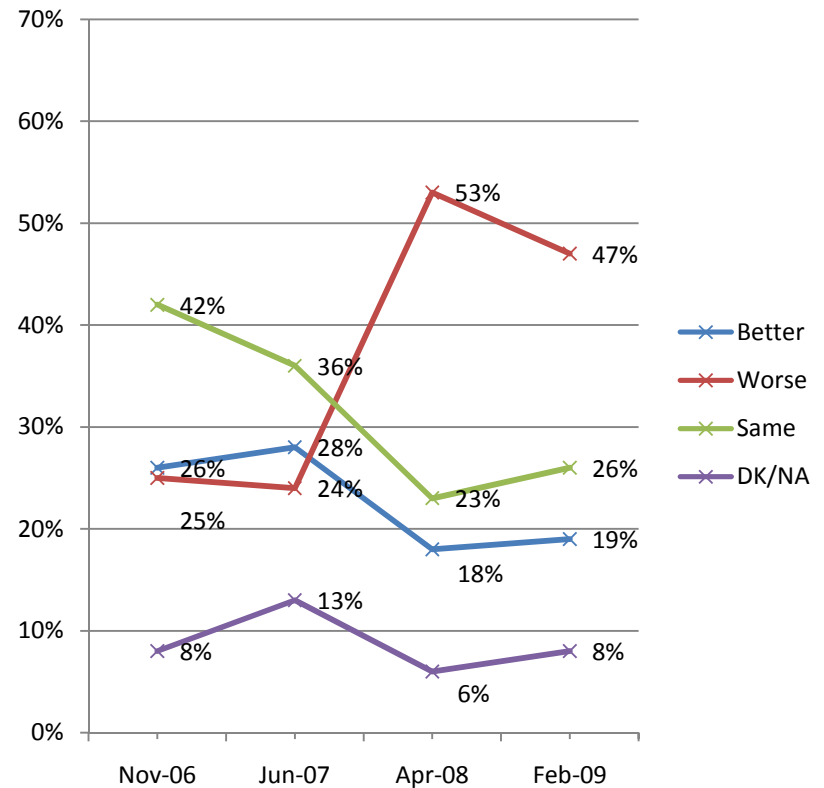


Wave comparison: Family economic situation

Compared to five years ago, do you think that the financial situation of your family became better or worse?

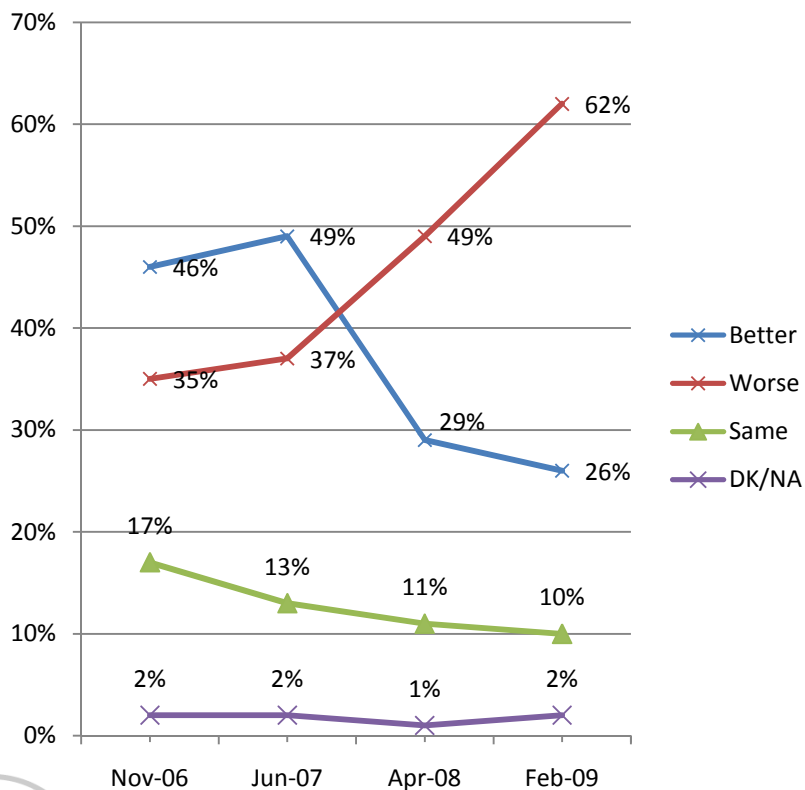


When you think the next 12 months, what do you expect about the financial situation of your family?

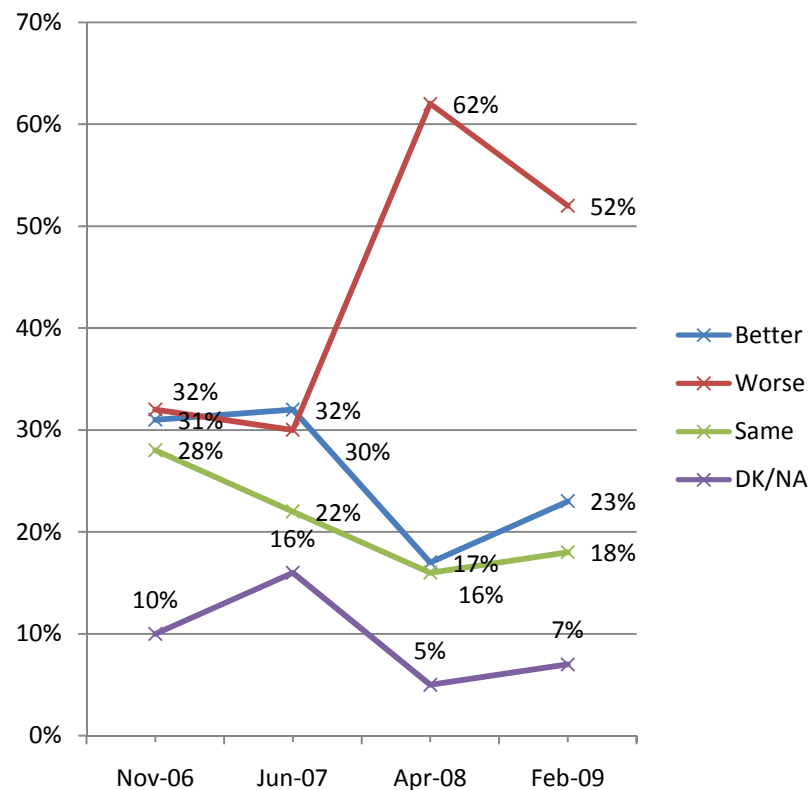


Wave comparison: Turkey's economic situation

Compared to five years ago, do you think that the economic situation of the country became better or worse?



When you think about the next 12 months, what do you expect about the economic situation of Turkey?



POLITICAL VALUES

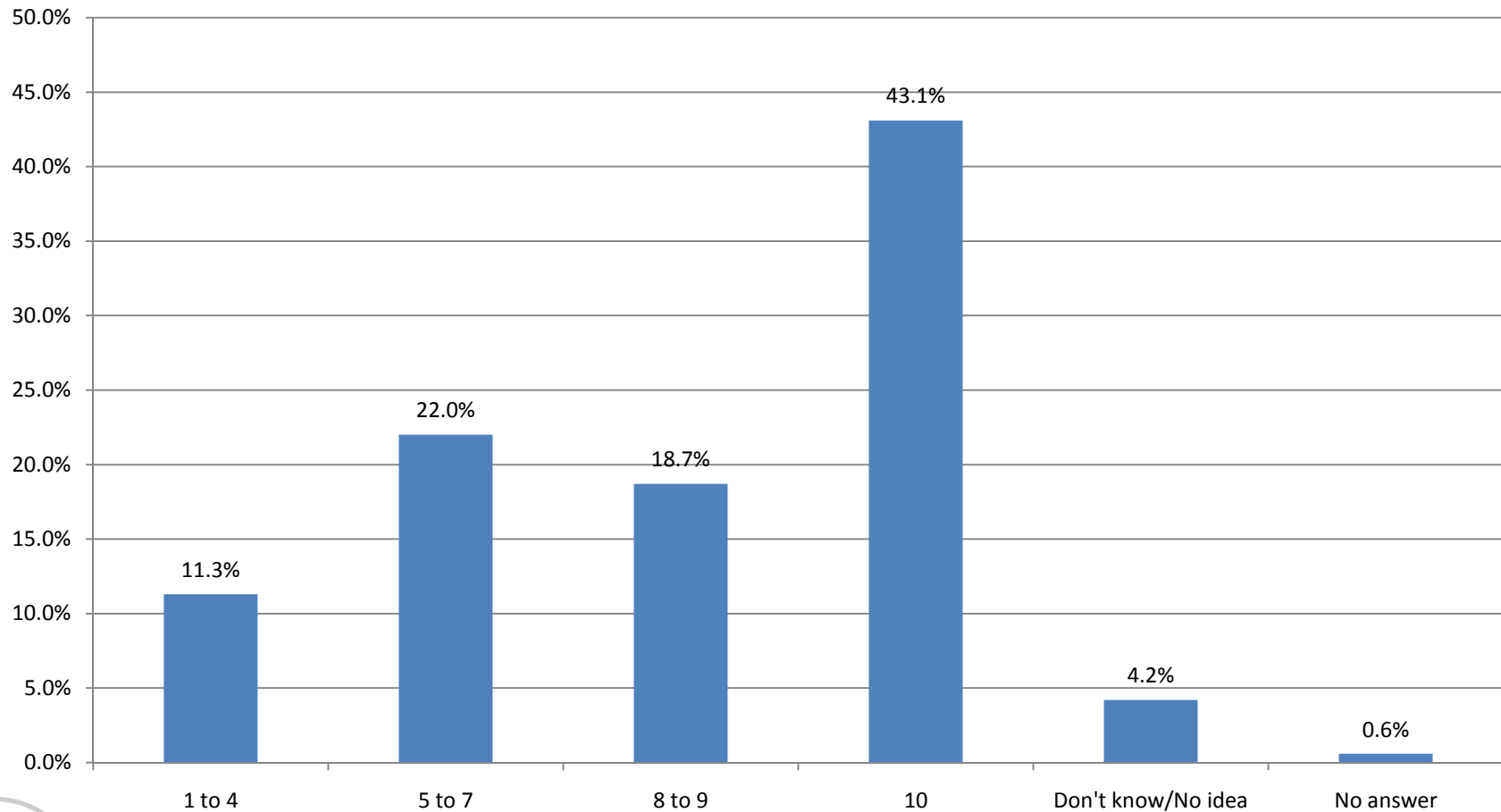


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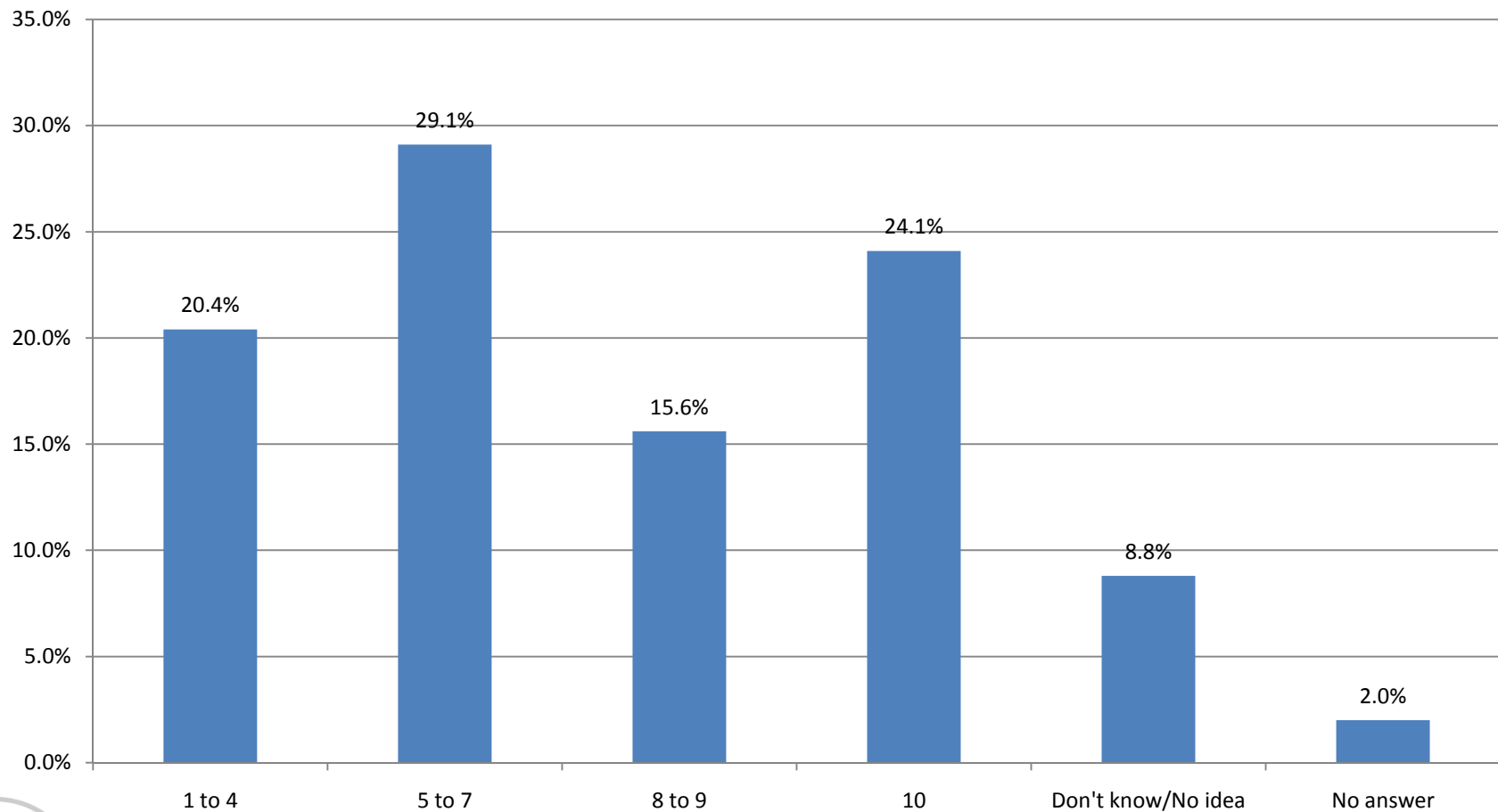
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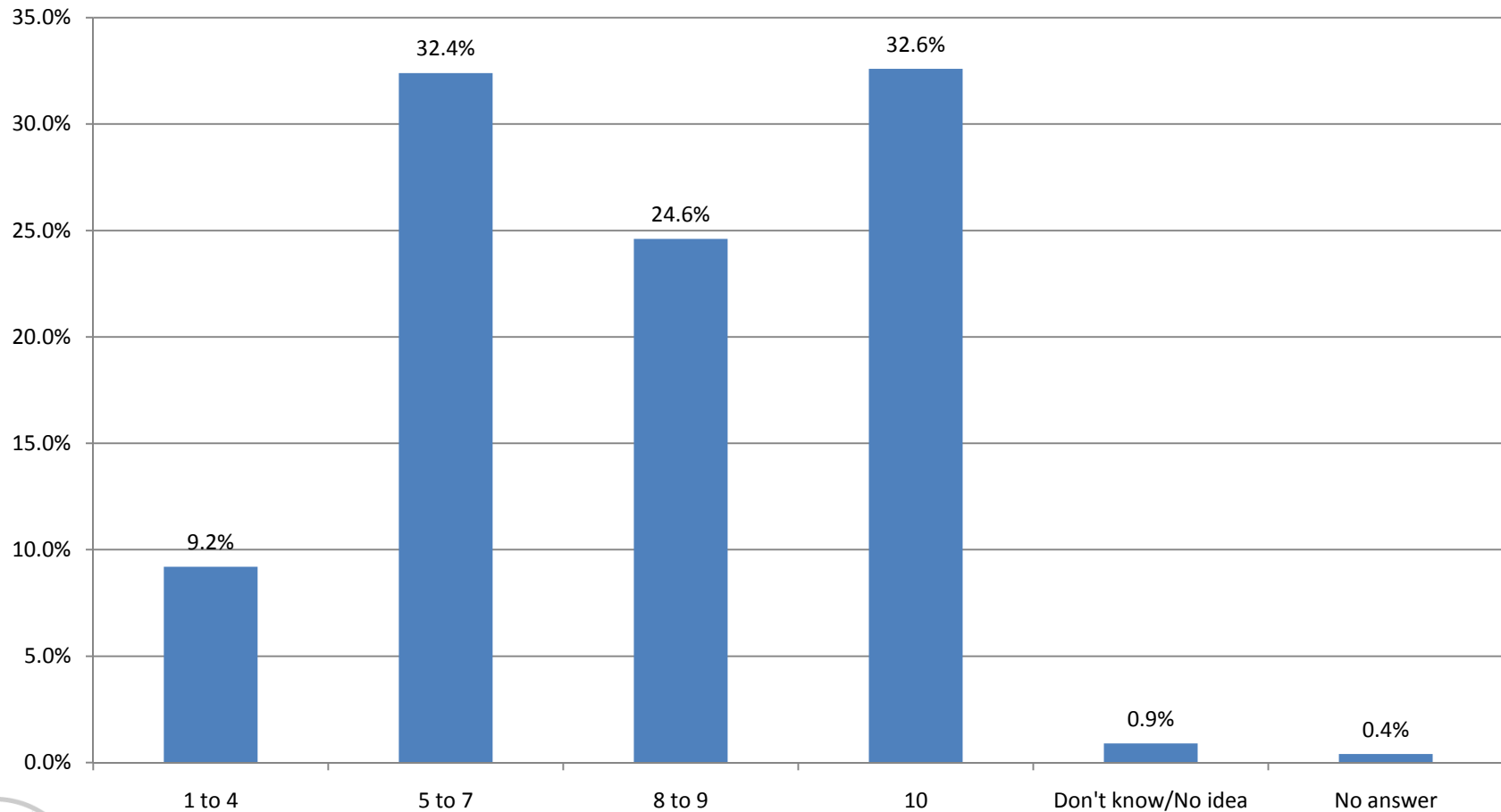
Generally speaking, to what degree are you a Turkish nationalist?
Please state your position in a scale where one indicates not nationalist at all and 10 indicates totally nationalist.



In political matters, people talk of the left and the right. Generally speaking, how would you place your views? Please state your position in a scale where one indicates furthest left and 10 indicates furthest right.

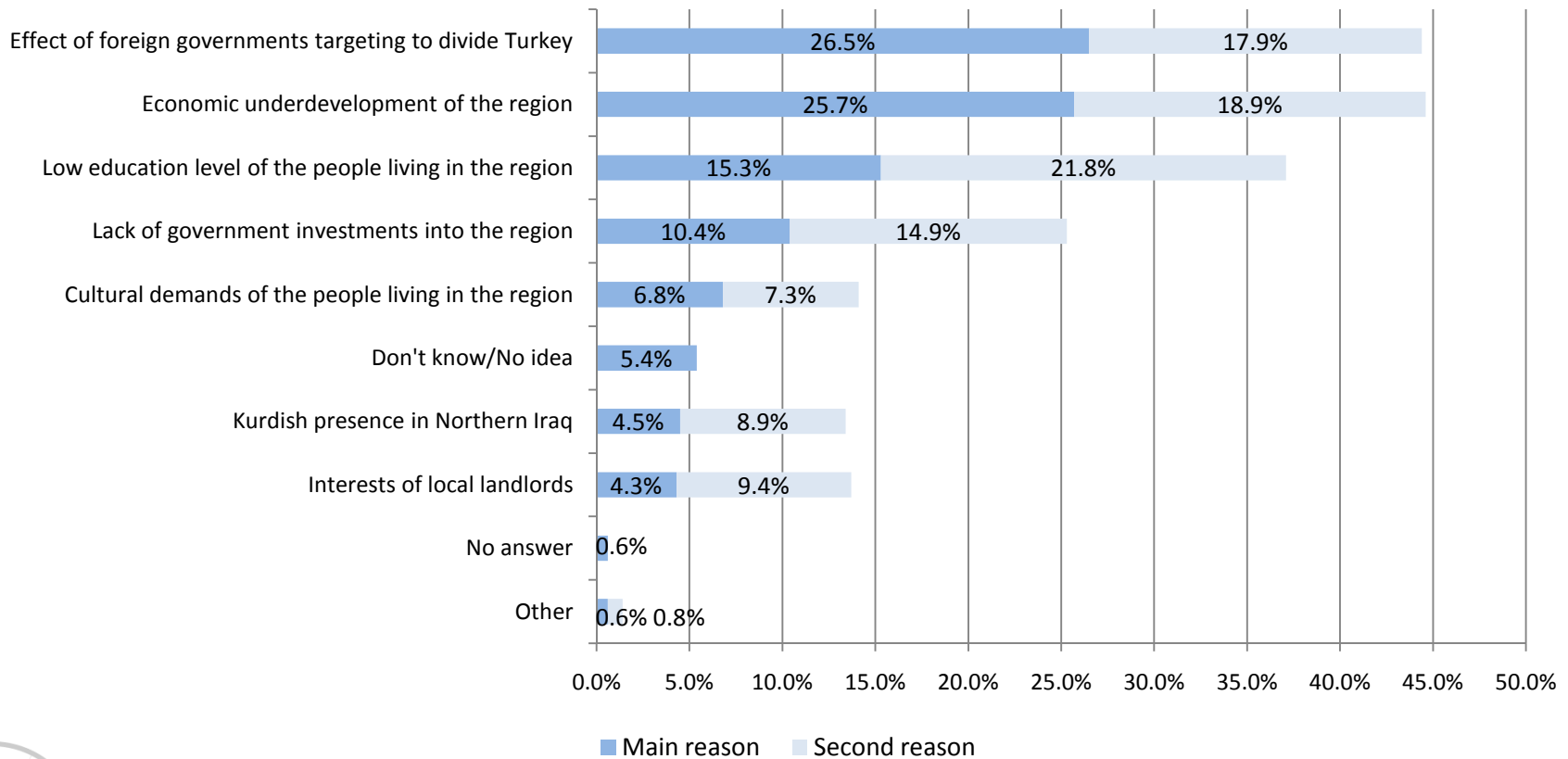


Are you religious? Please state your position in a scale where one indicates not religious at all and 10 indicates totally religious.

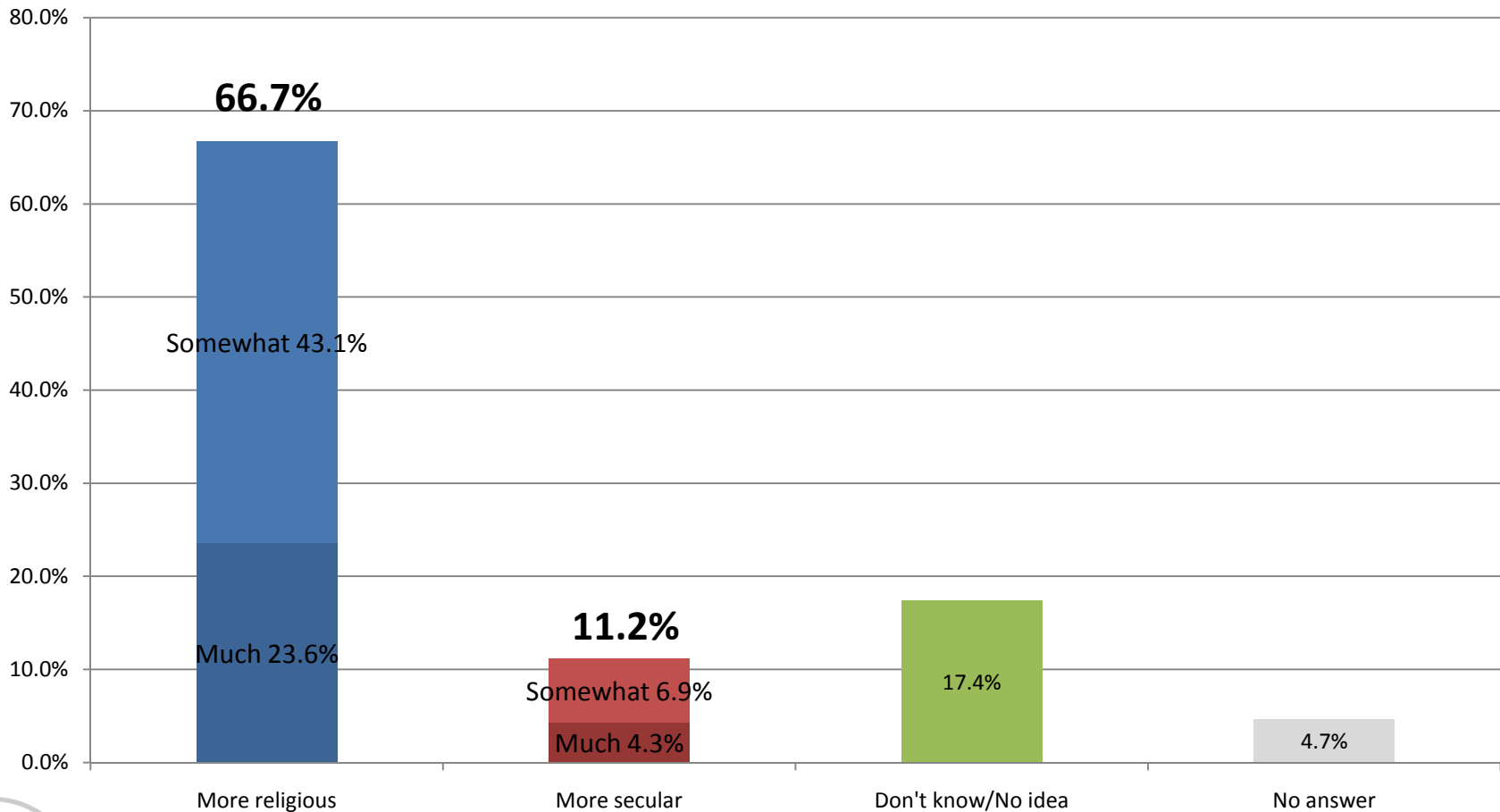


Now I will read some arguments about the reasons behind the Southeastern issue. Which of these reasons is the most important one?

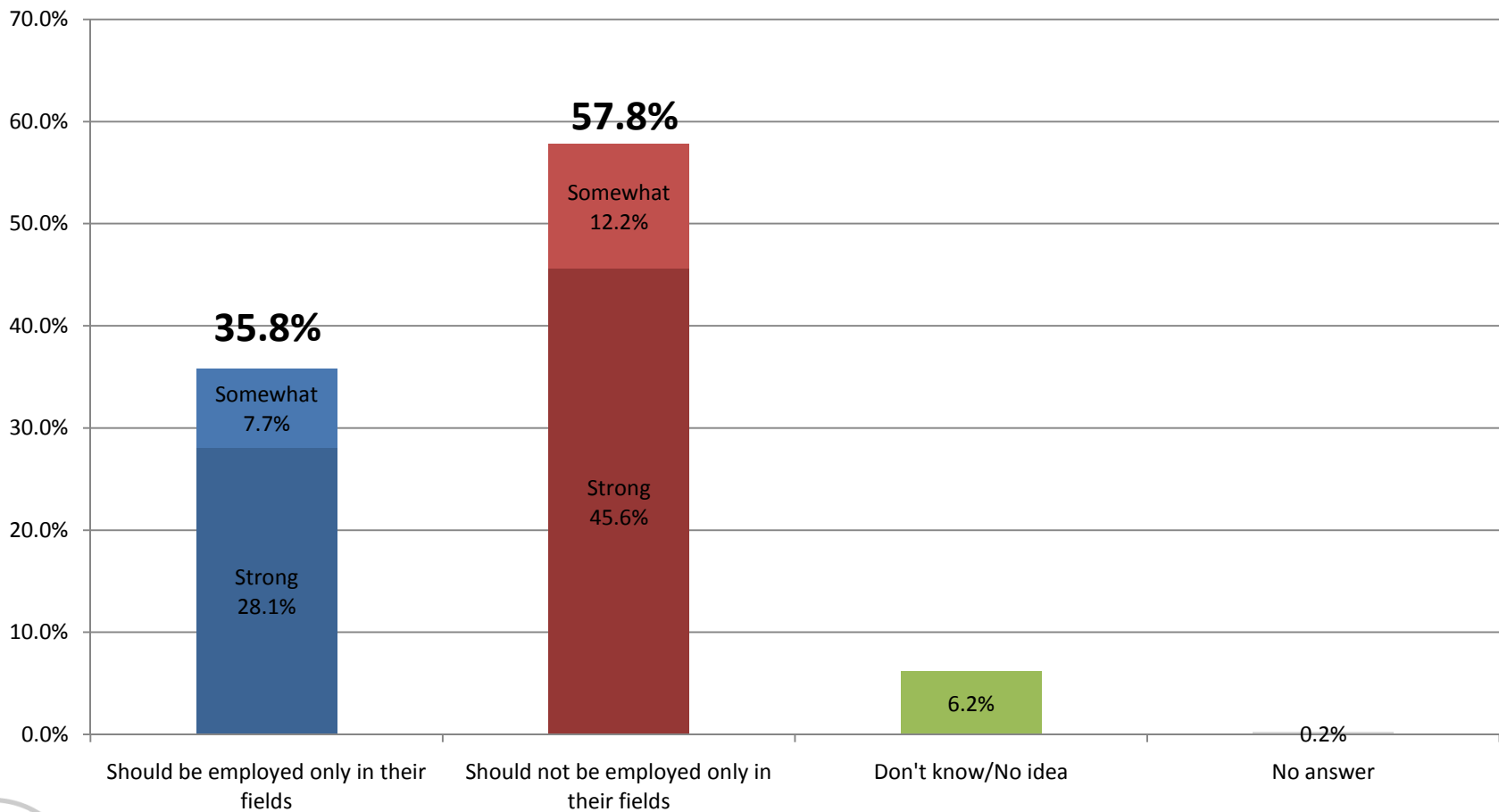
Combined first and second reason



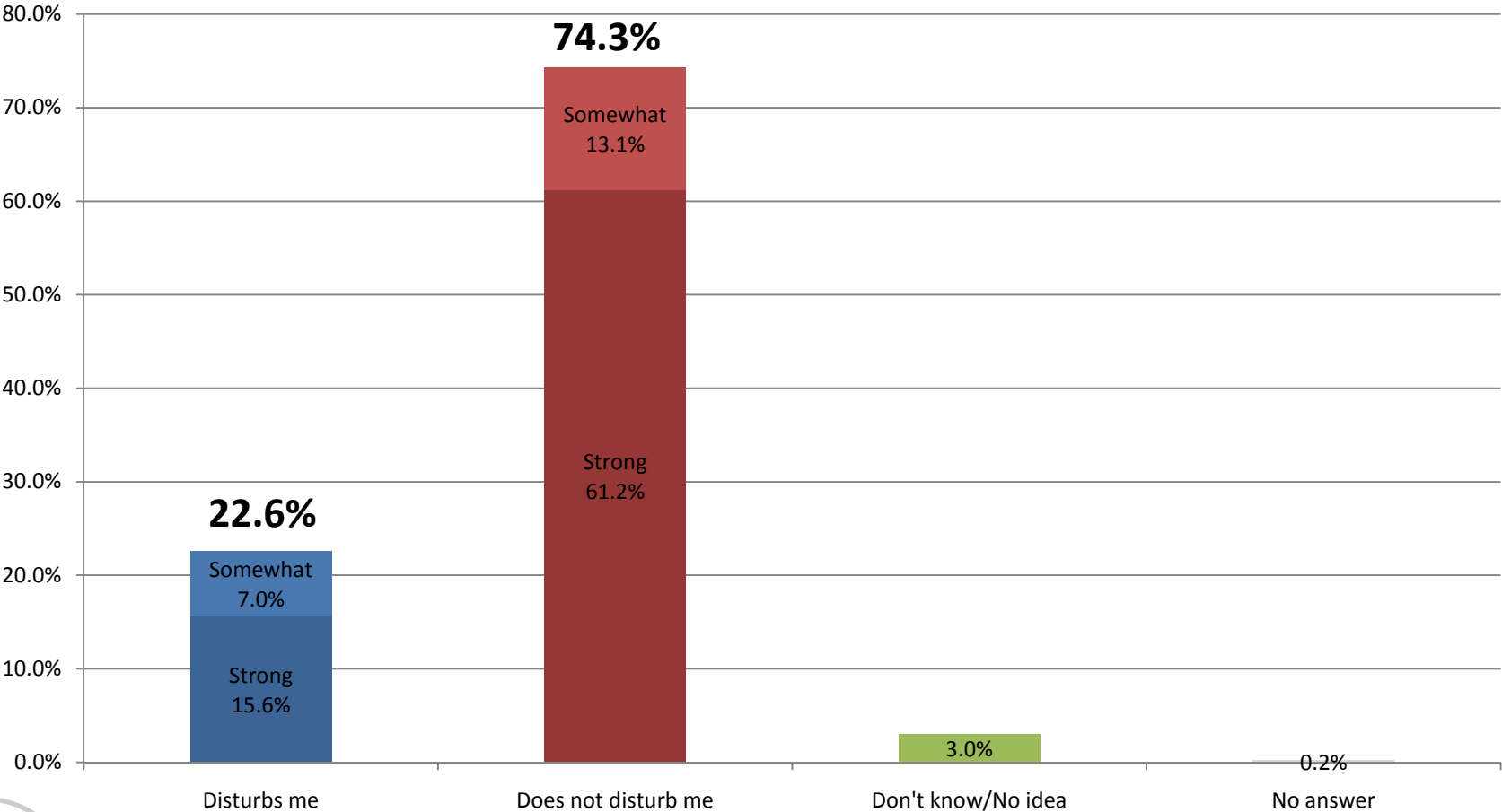
Did Turkey become a more secular country during the government of the Justice and Development Party (AKP), or did it become a more religious one?



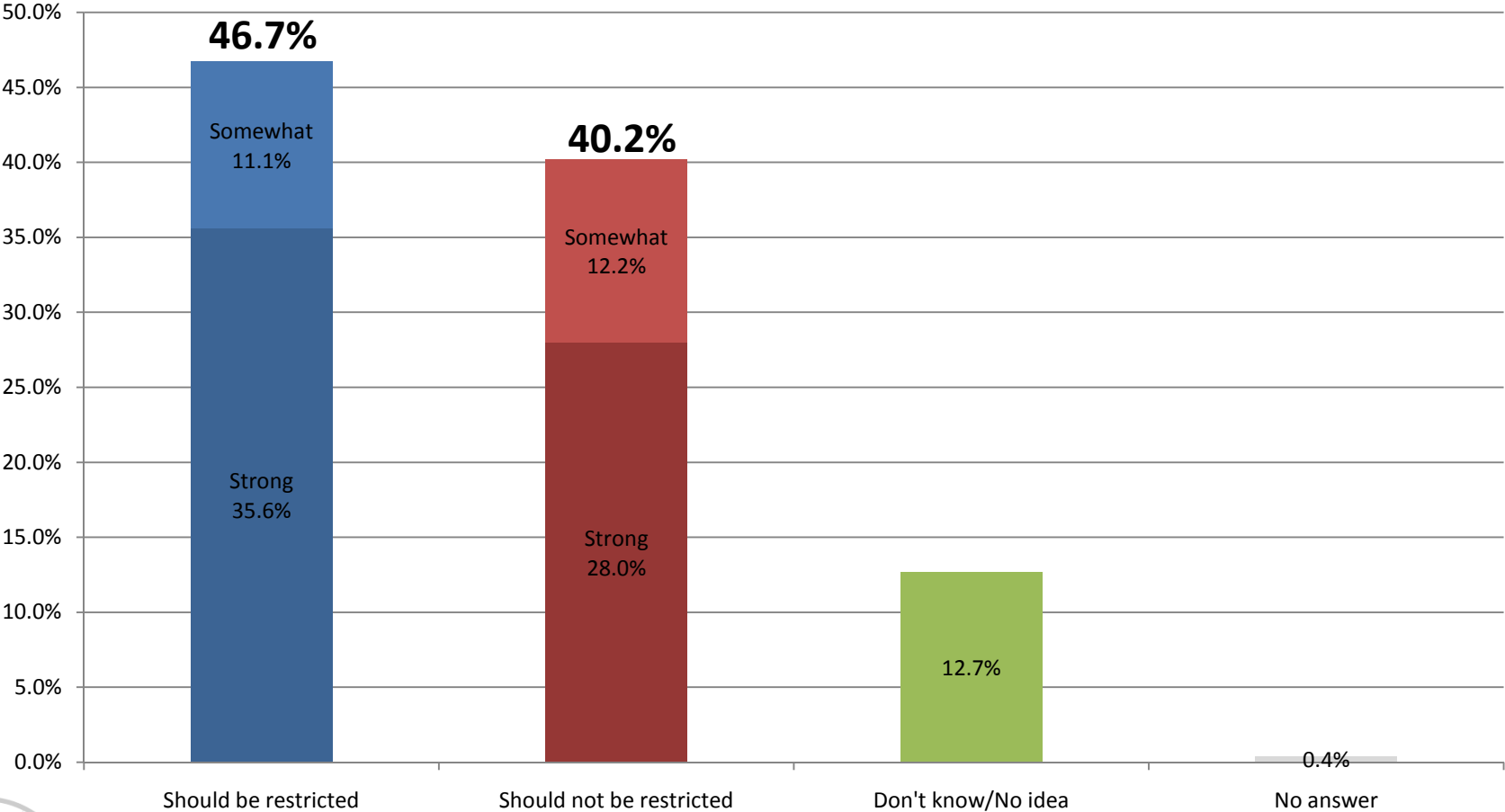
Please state whether you somewhat or strongly agree or disagree with the following statement. Graduates of Imam Hatip schools A. should/B. should not only be employed in their fields?



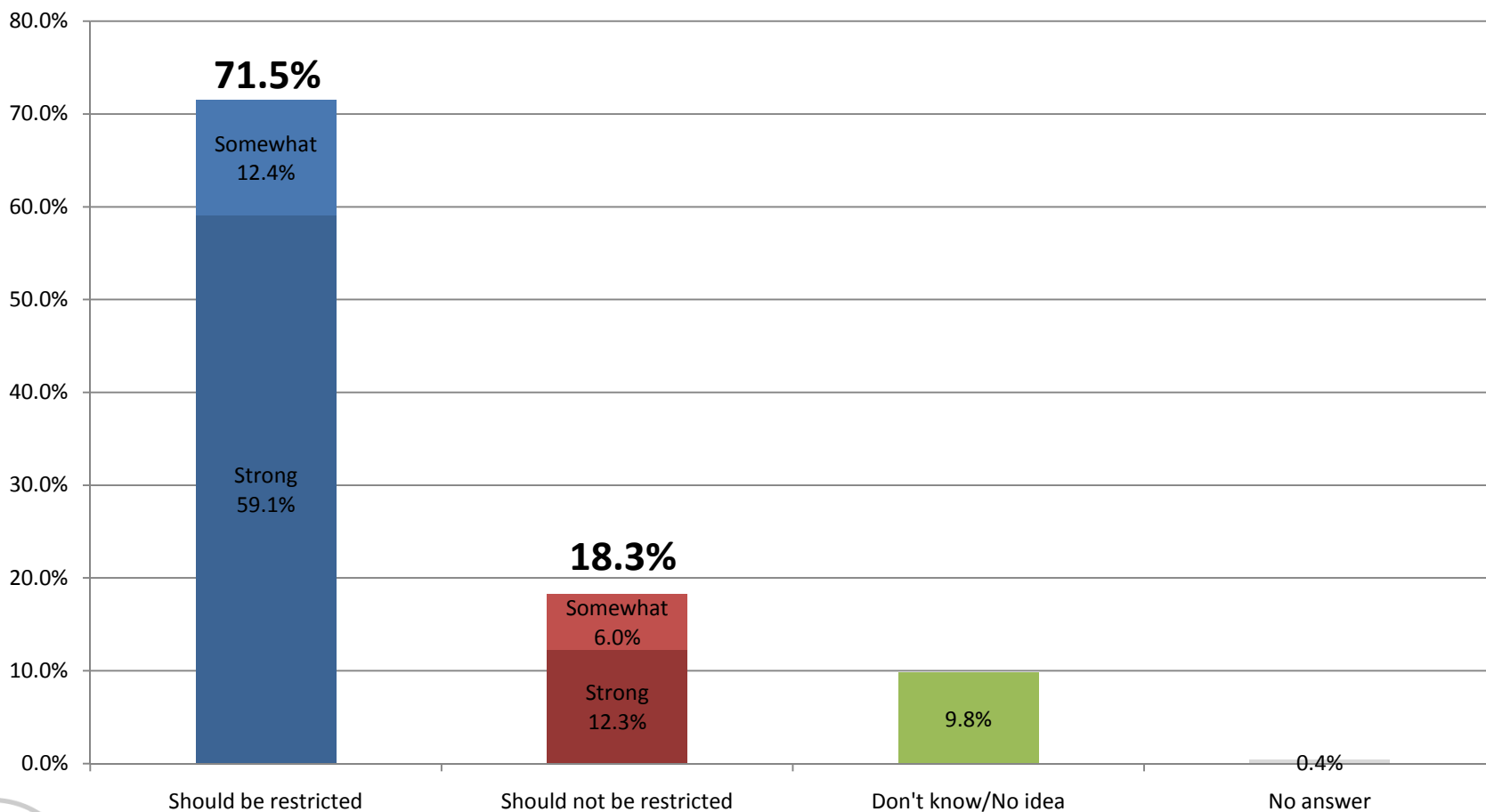
Please state whether you somewhat or strongly agree or disagree with the following statement. A woman who wears a headscarf in my workplace A. does/B. does not disturb me.



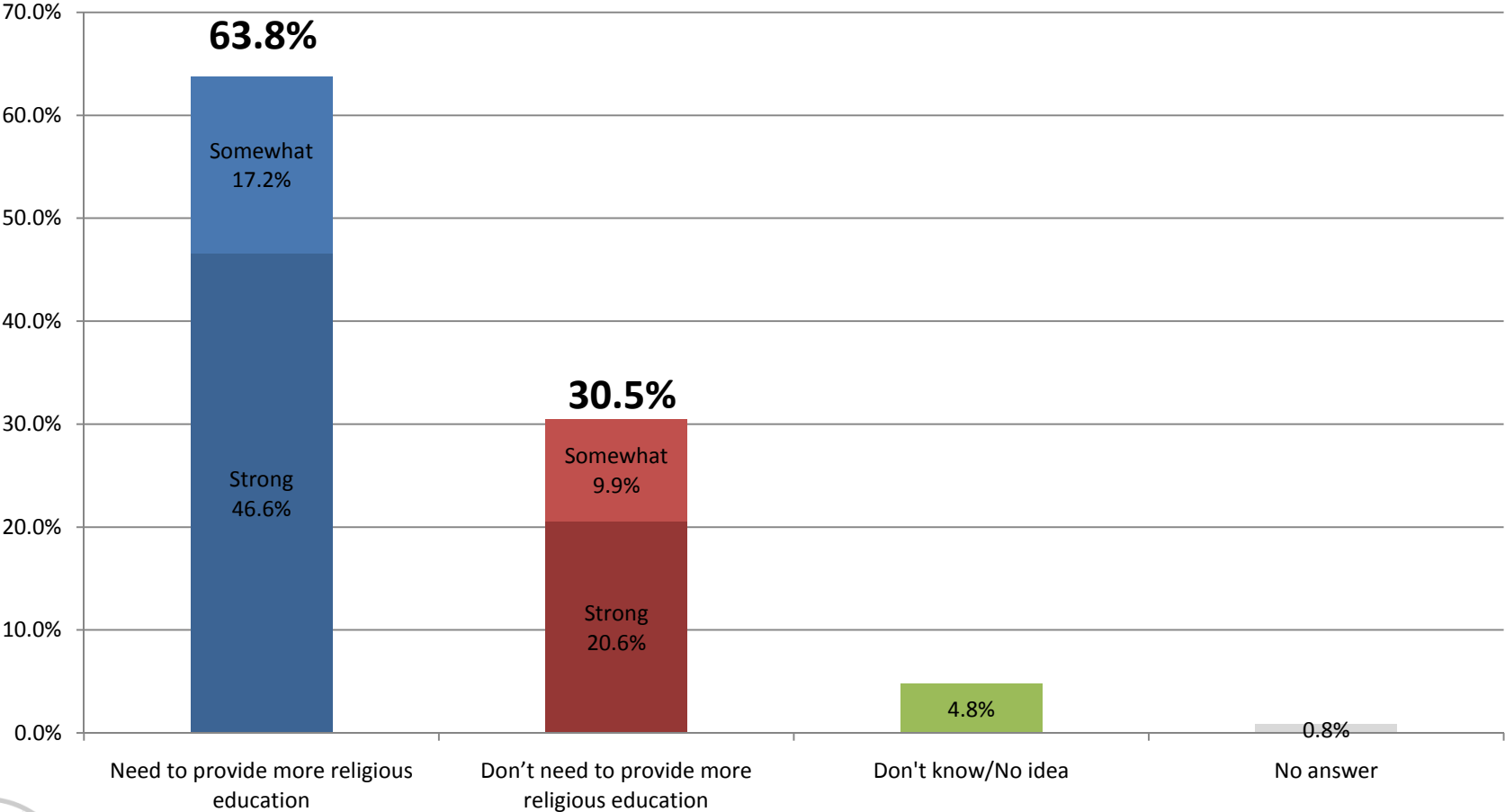
Please state whether you somewhat or strongly agree or disagree with the following statement. Participation of religious leaders or authorities in political life A. should/B. should not be restricted.



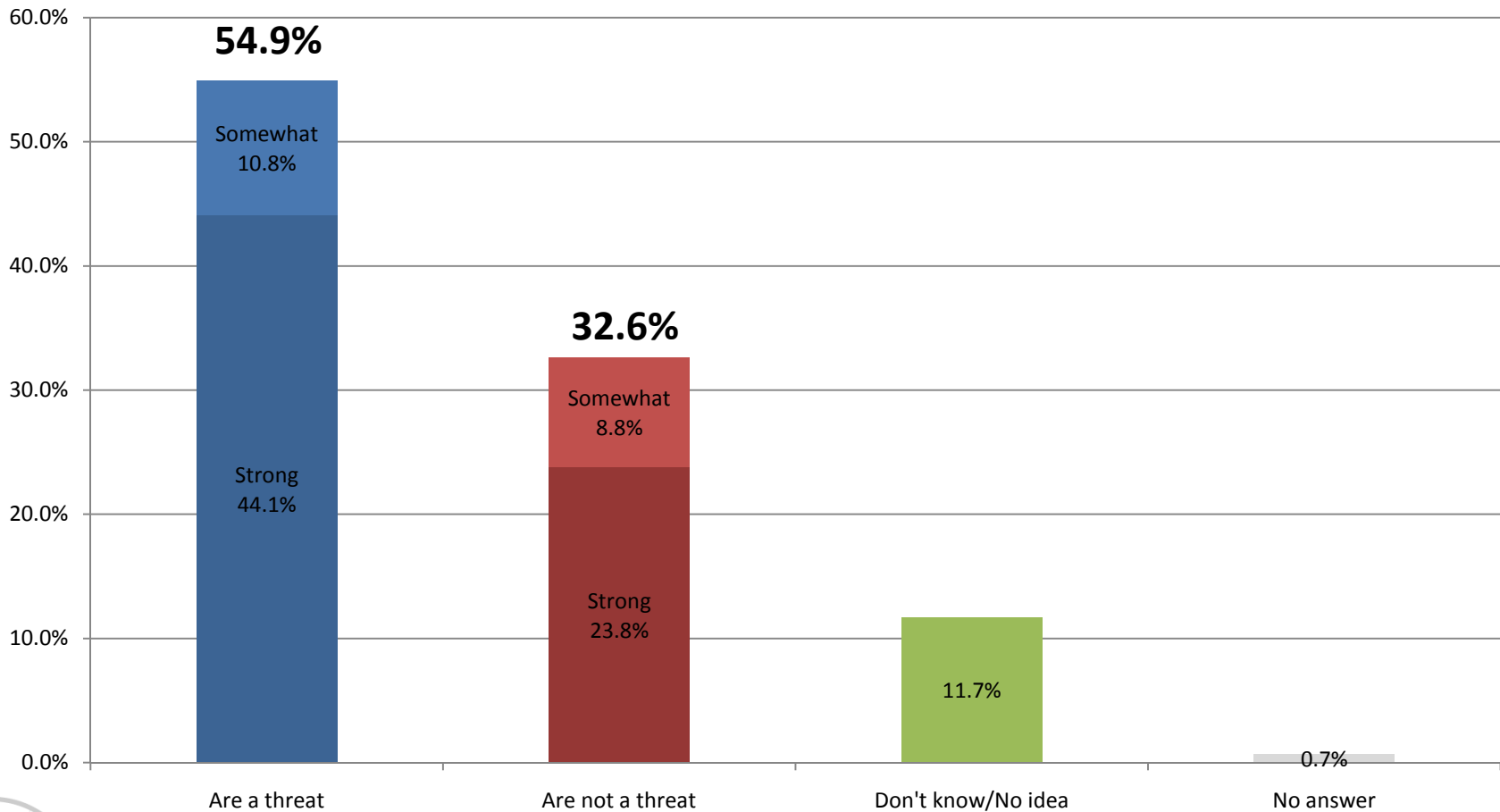
Please state whether you somewhat or strongly agree or disagree with the following statement. I believe that activities of Islamic foundations A. should/ B. should not be closely controlled.



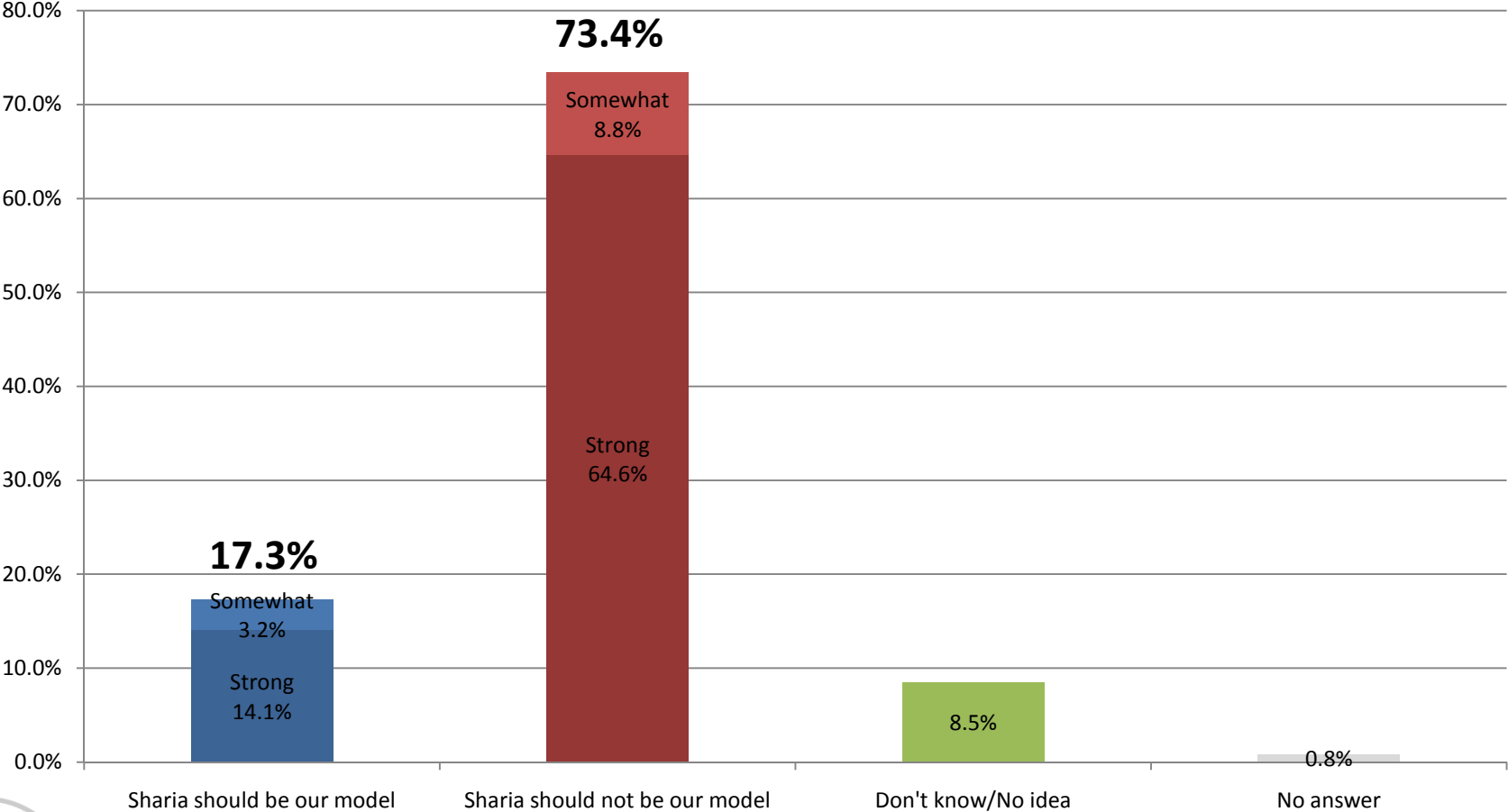
Please state whether you somewhat or strongly agree or disagree with the following statement. Our schools A. need/B. don't need to provide more religious education to our children



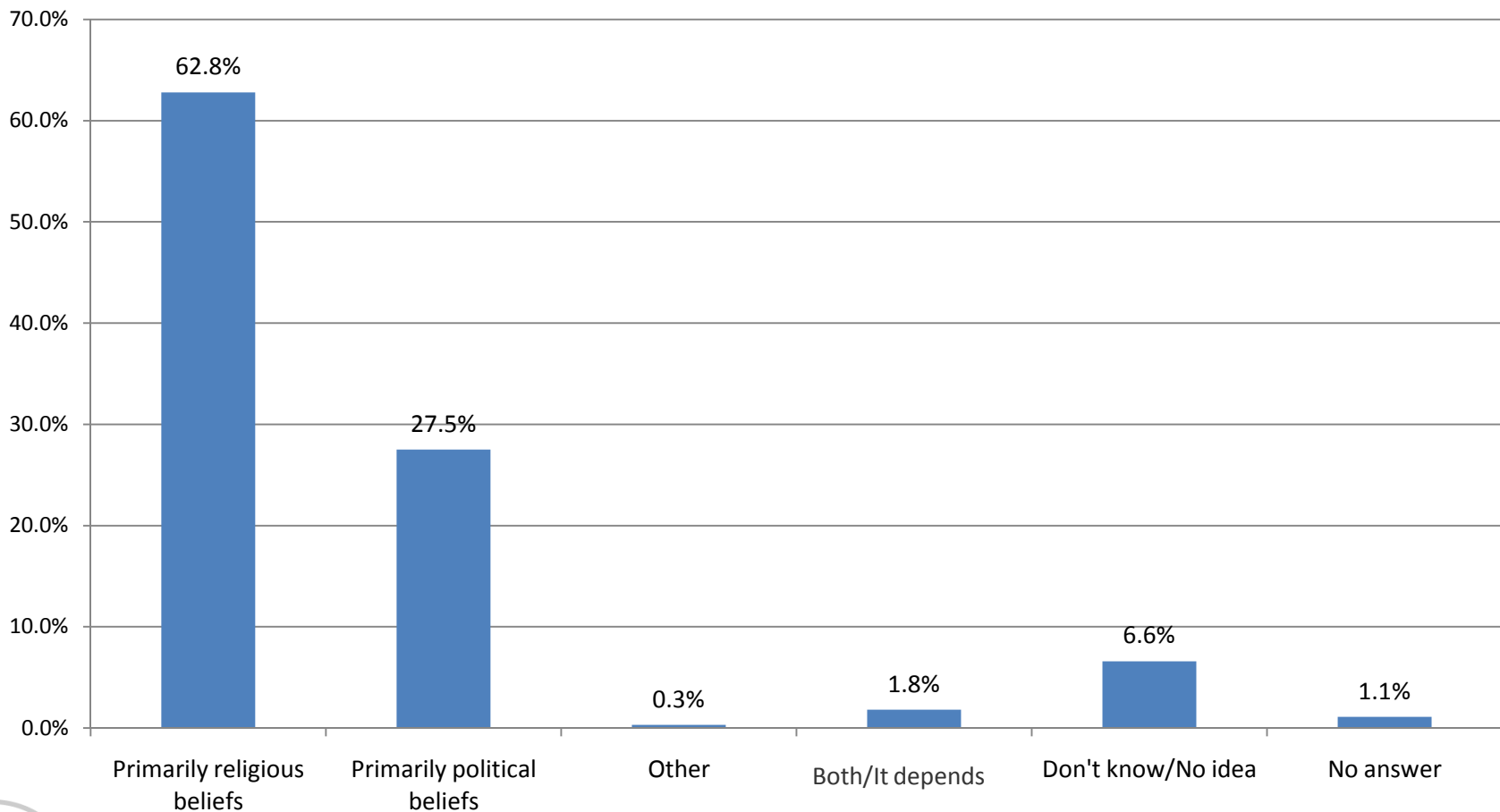
Please state whether you somewhat or strongly agree or disagree with the following statement. Islamic extremists A. are/B. are not a threat to our lives.



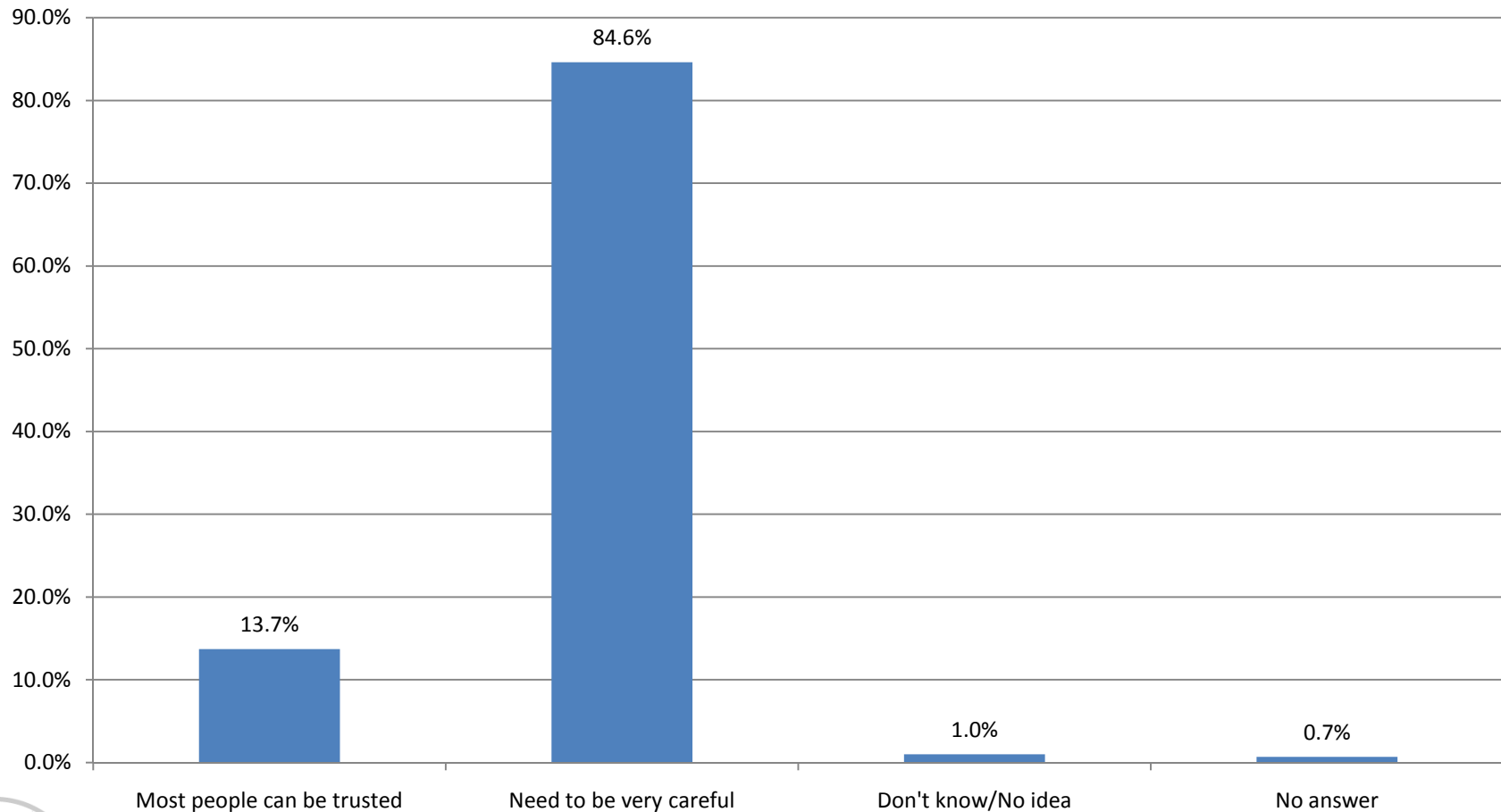
Please state whether you somewhat or strongly agree or disagree with the following statement. Sharia A. should/B. should not be our government model.



Regardless of whether or why/why not you yourself wear a turban, do you think that most of those who wear turbans are primarily expressing religious beliefs or political beliefs?



Generally speaking, would you say that most people can be trusted or that you need to be very careful in dealing with people?



INTERNATIONAL RELATIONS – EUROPEAN UNION

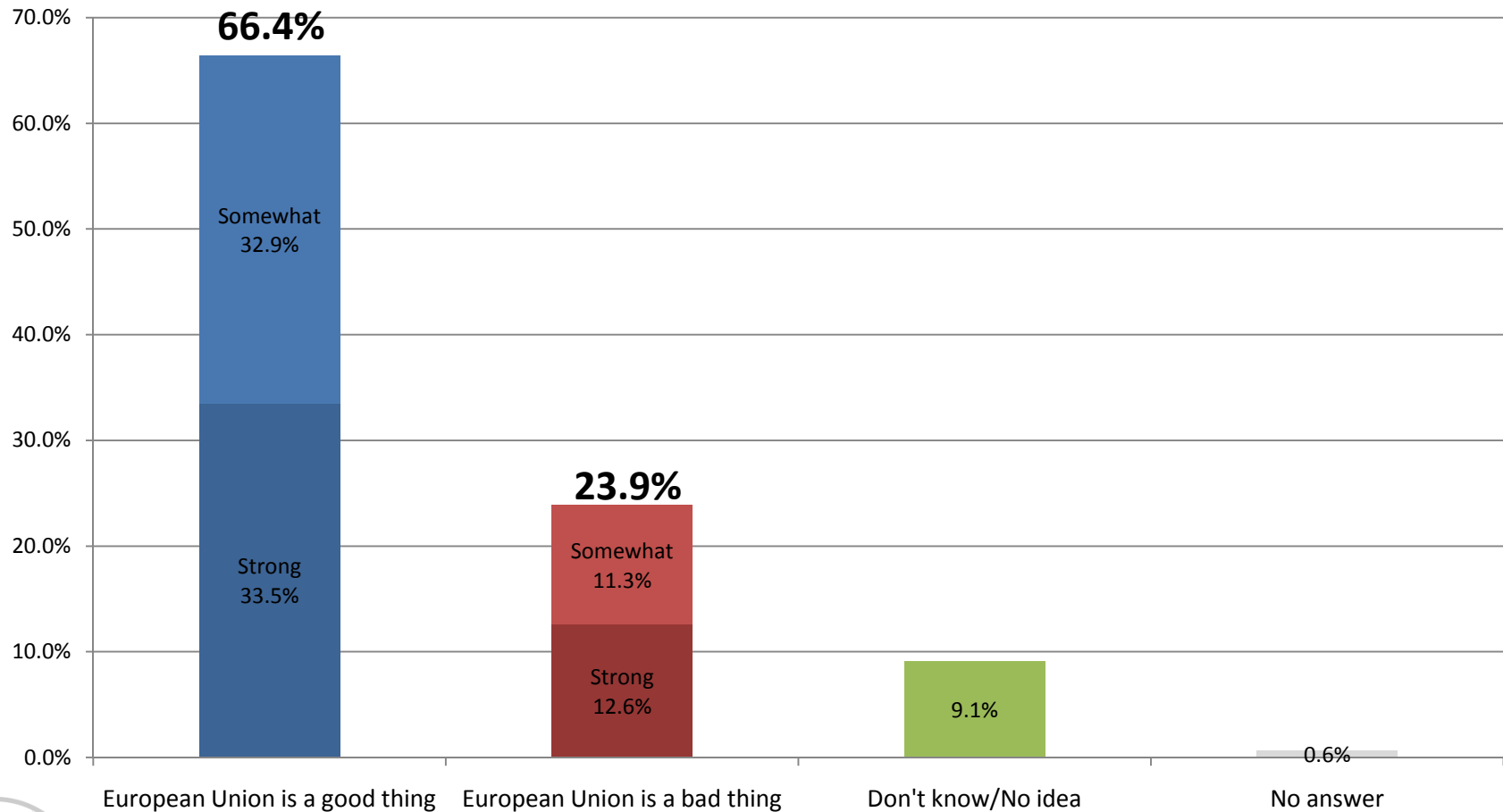


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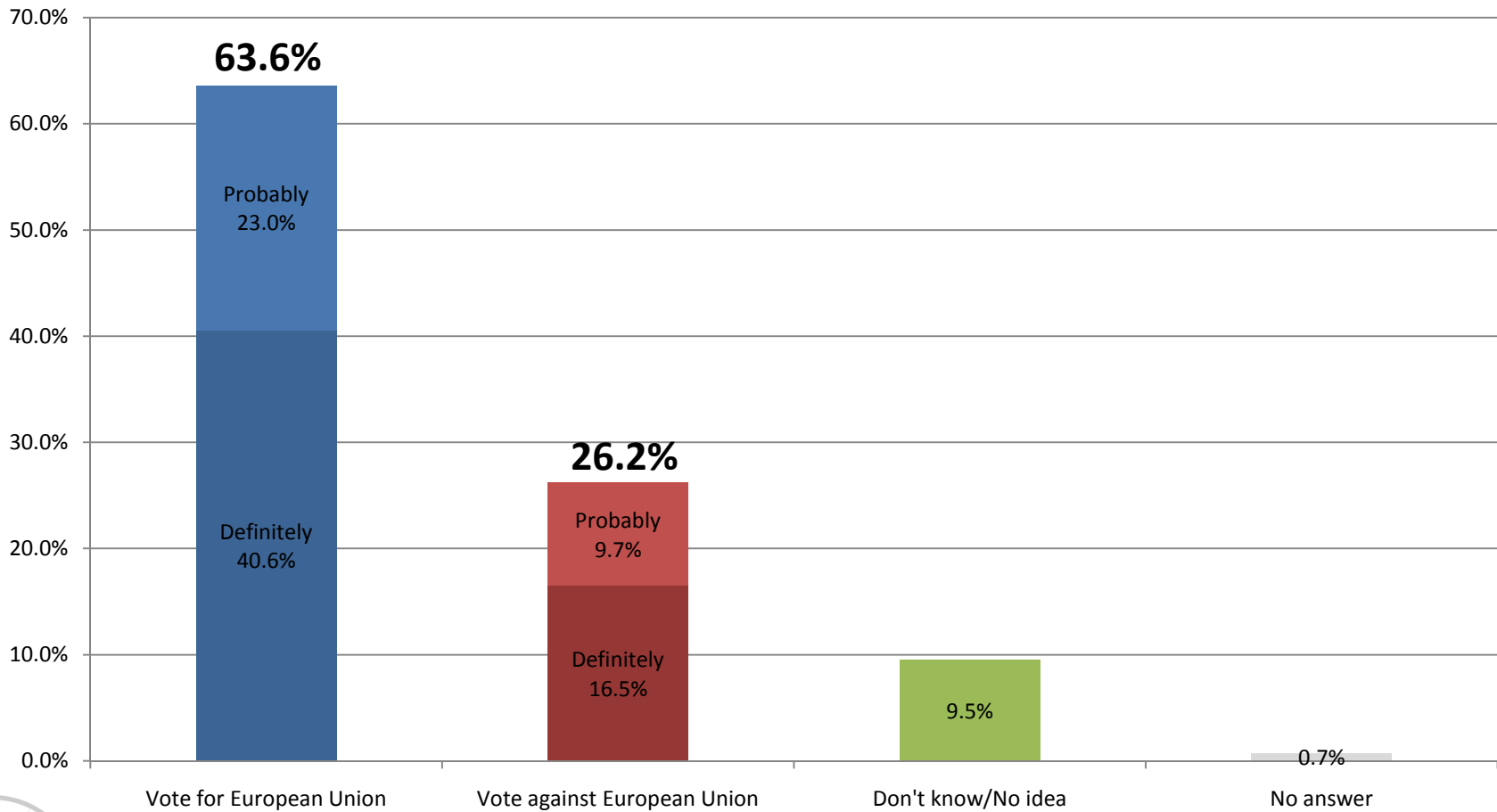
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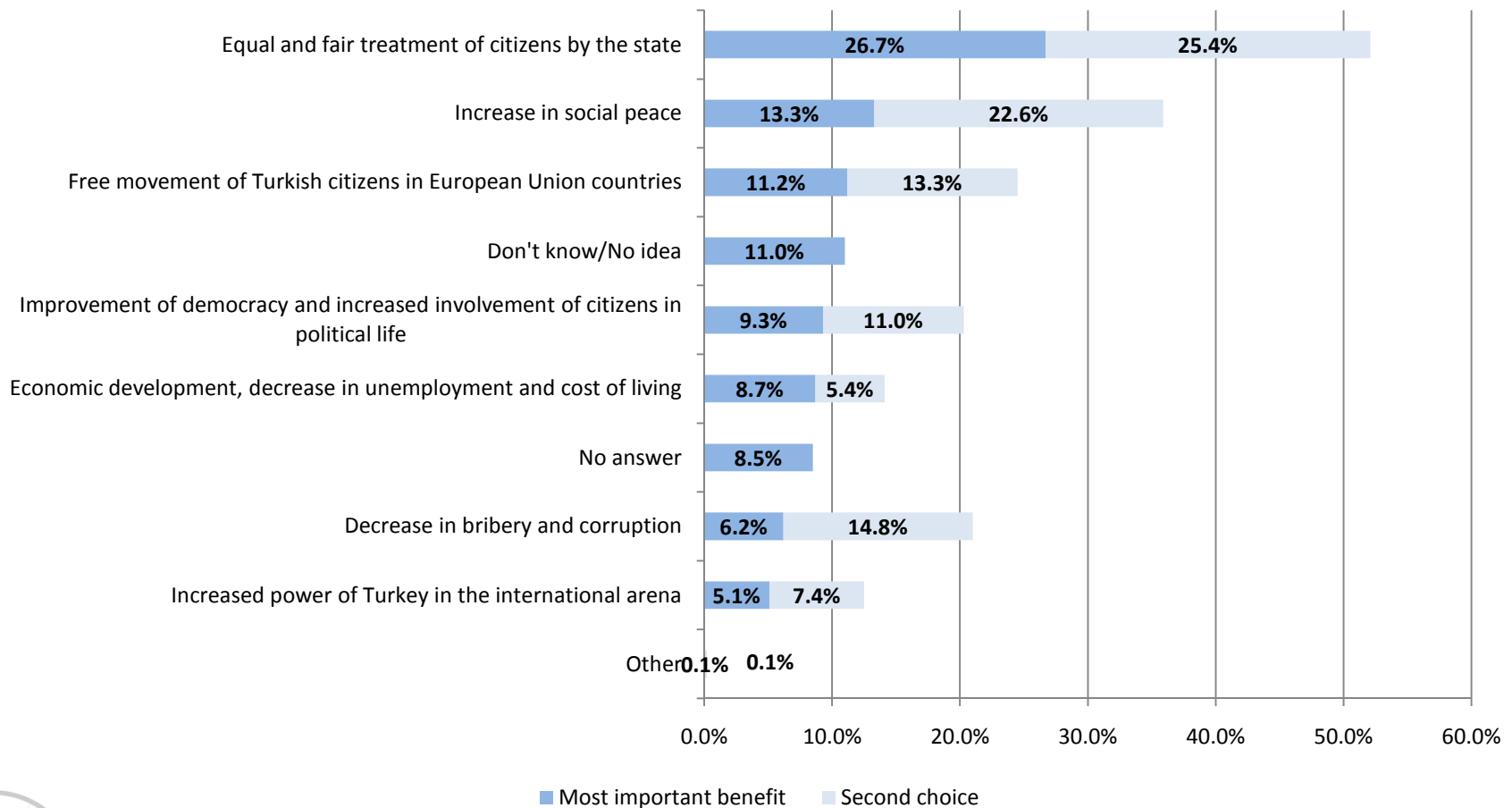
Generally speaking, do you think that Turkey's membership in the European Union is a good thing or a bad thing?



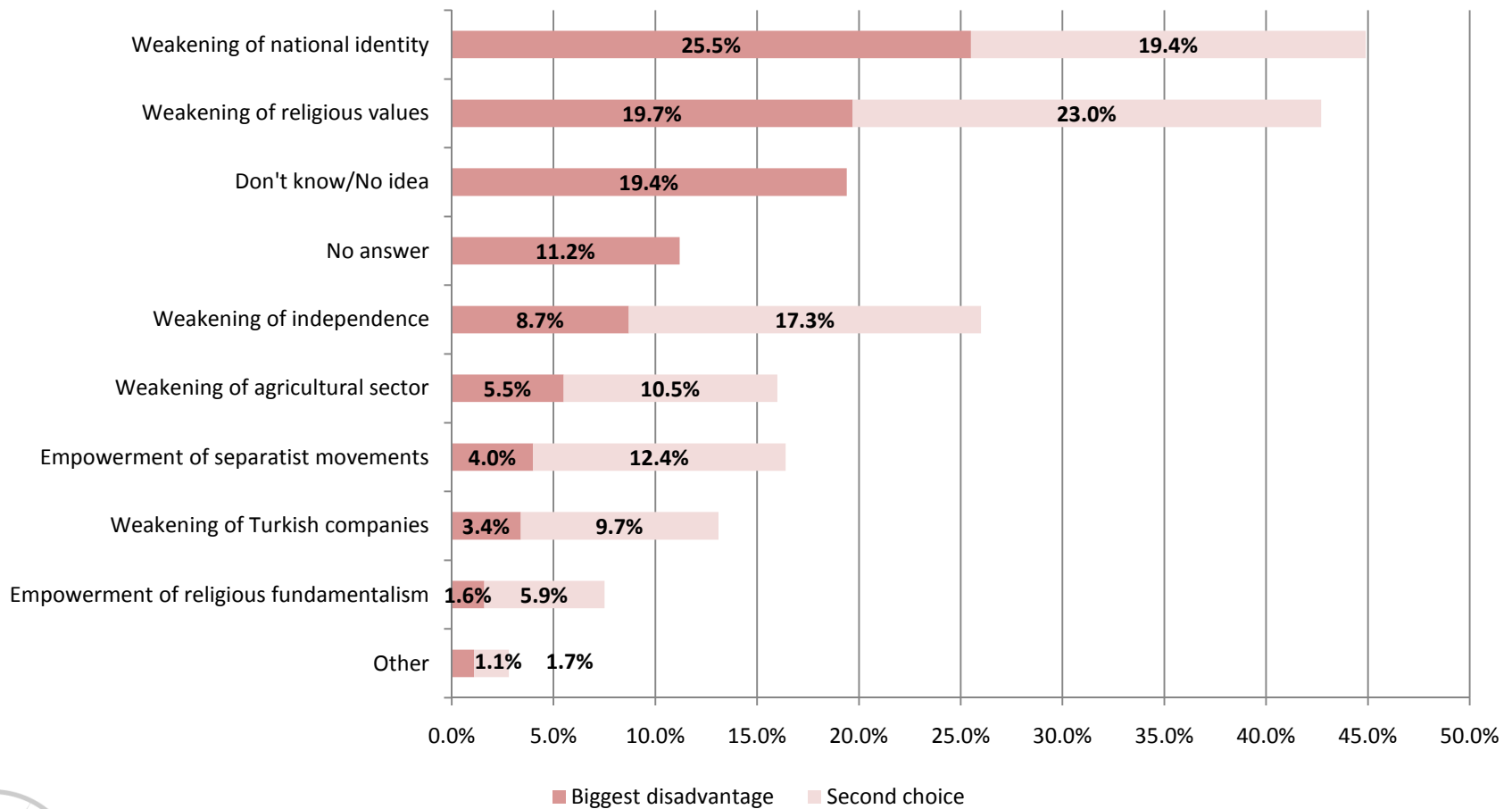
If a referendum were held this Sunday for full membership of Turkey in the European Union, would you vote for or against full membership?



What is the most/second most important benefit of full membership in the European Union?

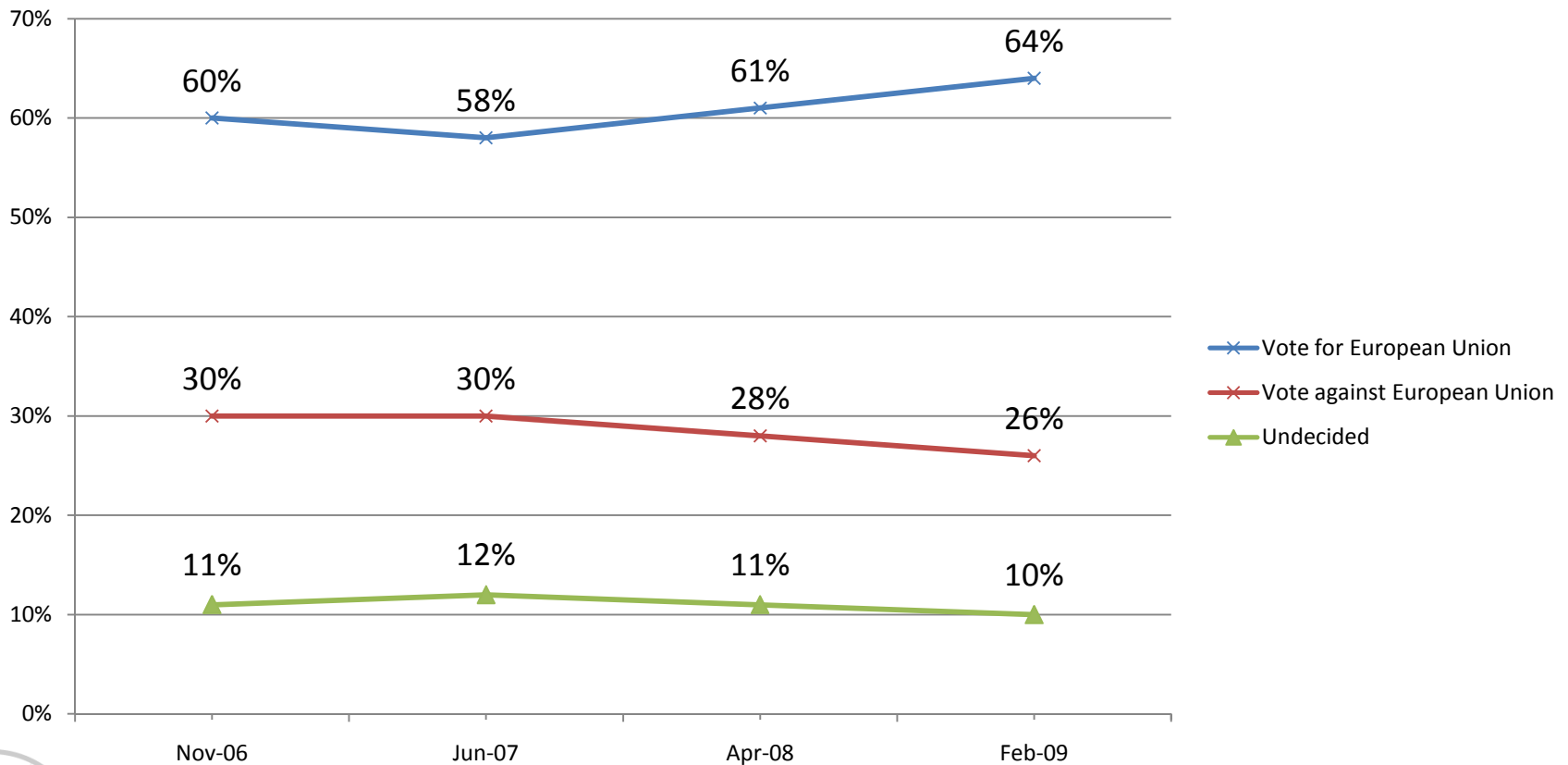


What is the most important disadvantage of full membership in the European Union?



If a referendum were held this Sunday for the full membership of Turkey to the European Union, would you vote for or against the full membership?

Wave comparison: support for European Union referendum



MUNICIPAL ELECTIONS/ISSUES

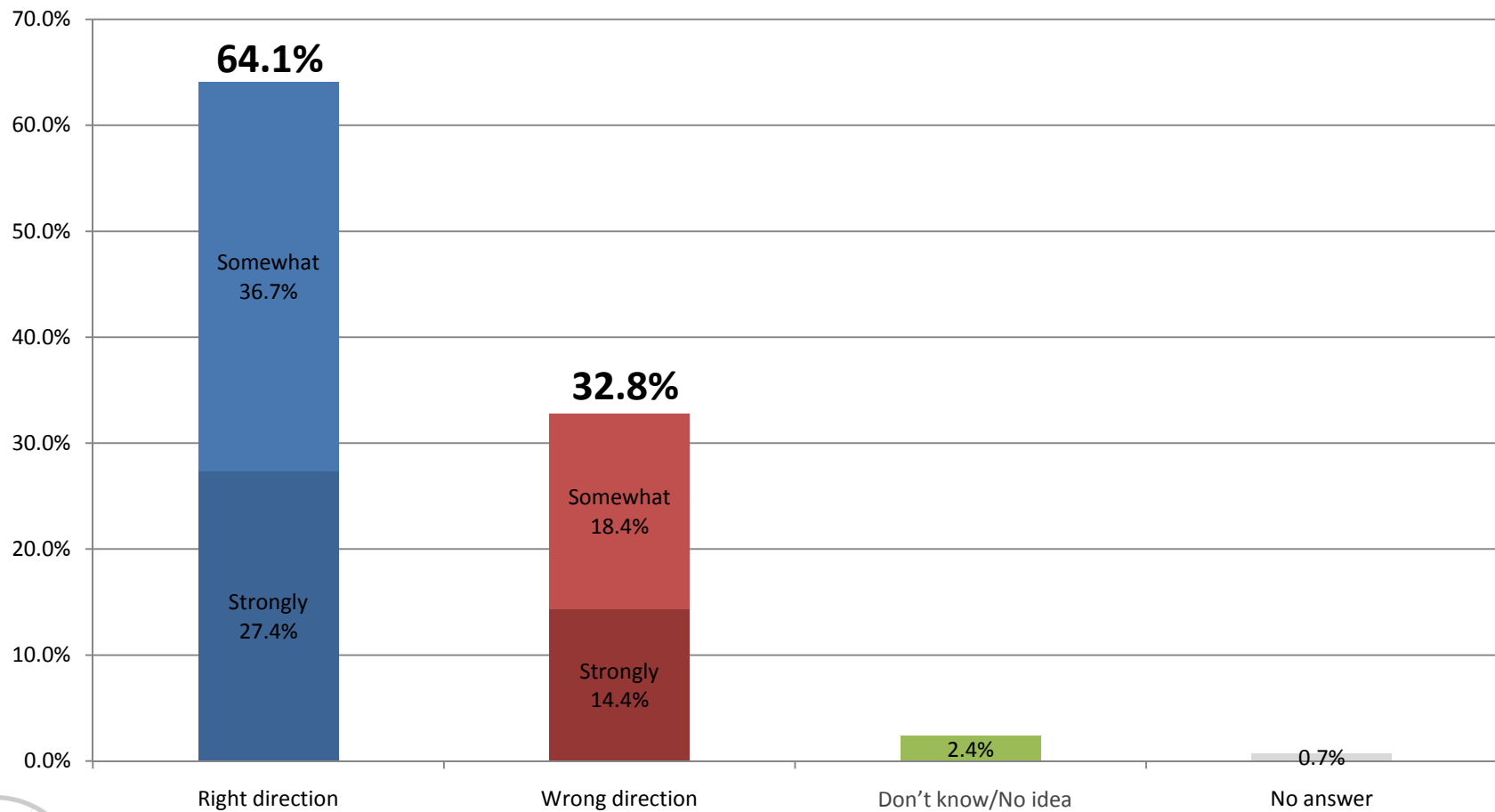


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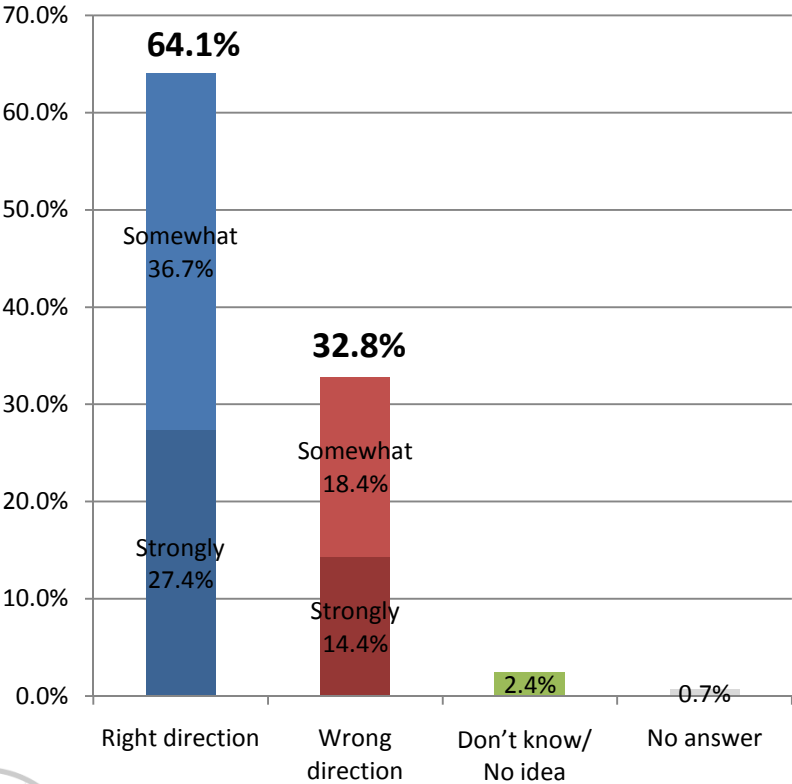
Generally speaking, are things in your municipality heading in the right direction or the wrong direction?



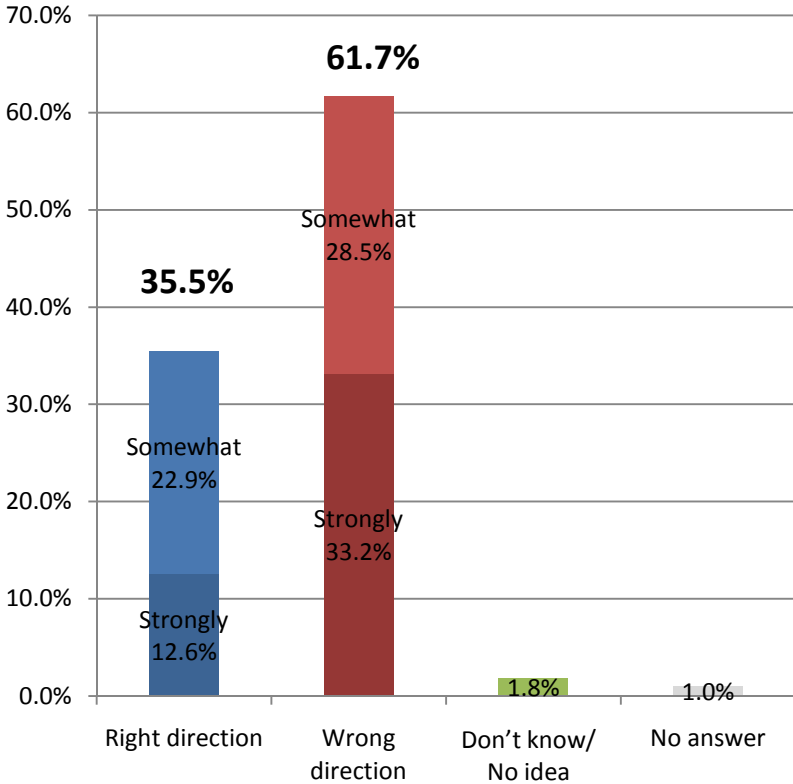
Generally speaking, are things in (Turkey/your municipality) heading in the right direction or the wrong direction?

Compare local versus national attitudes

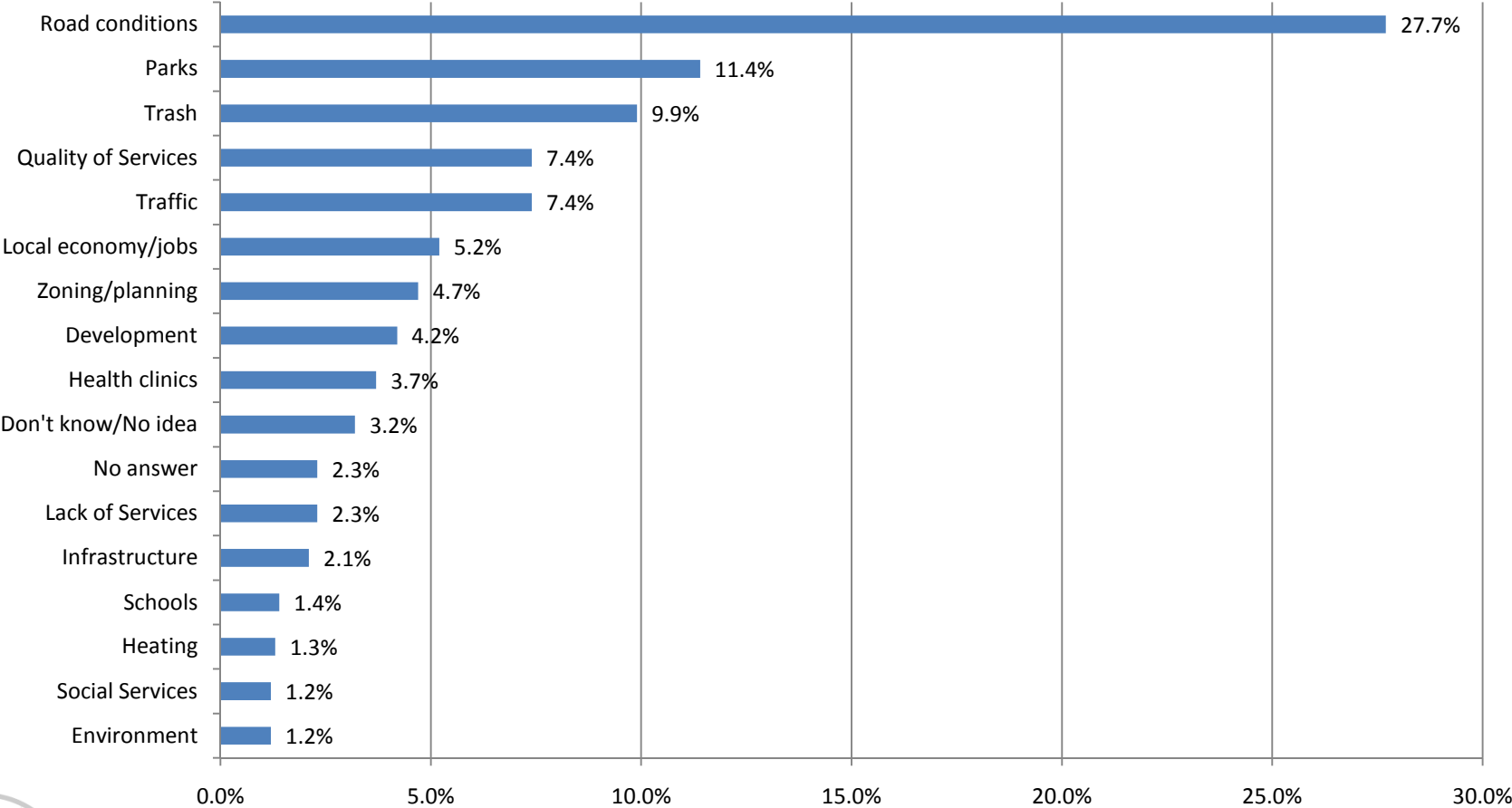
Municipal direction
n=1,009



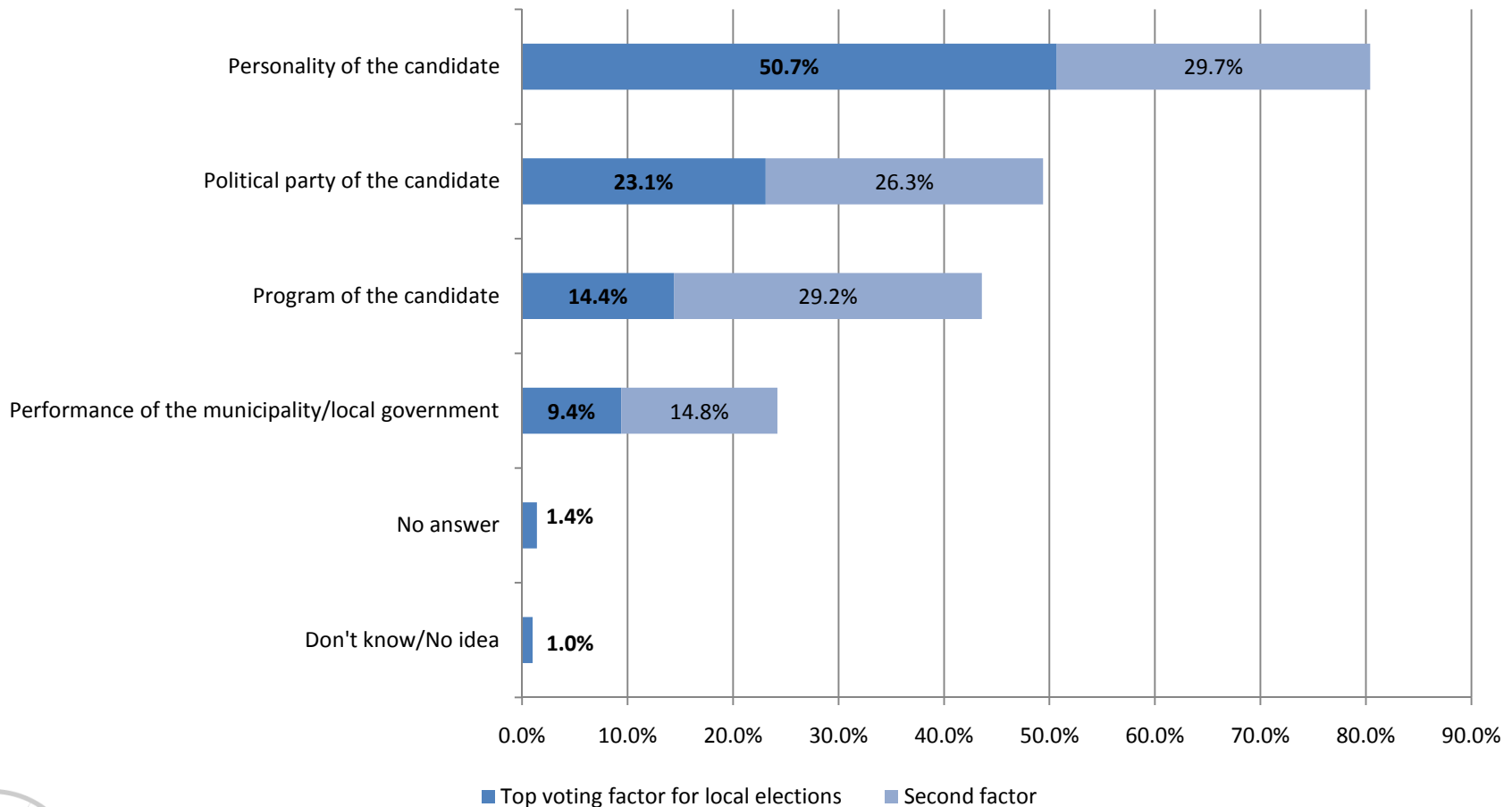
National direction
n=1,552



What is the main reason for your answer as to the direction of your municipality?

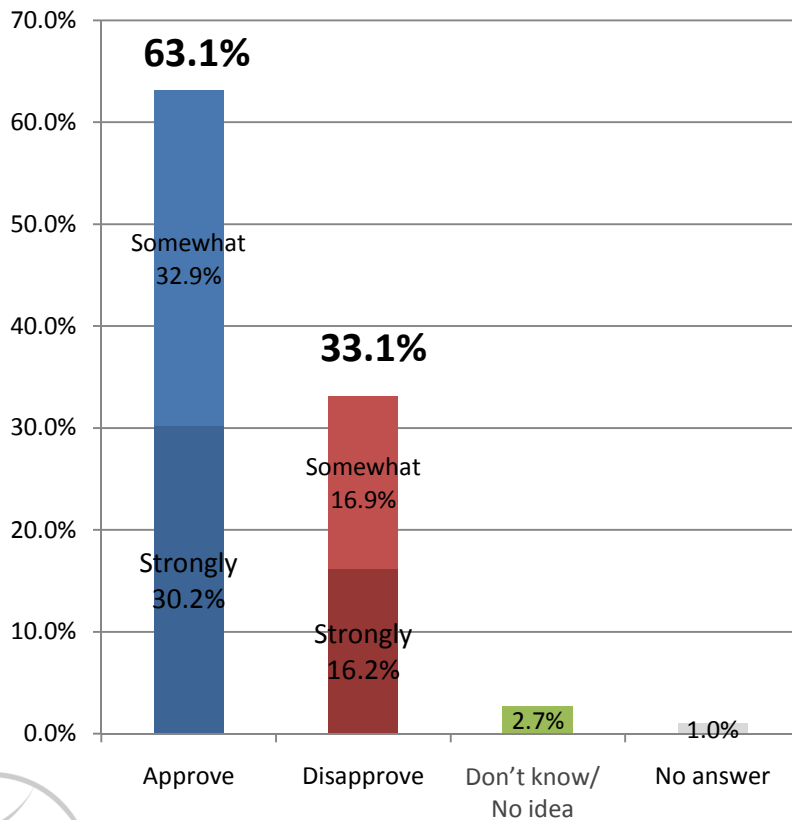


I will read out some factors which may be affecting your decisions in the forthcoming municipal elections. Which of these factors is the most important?

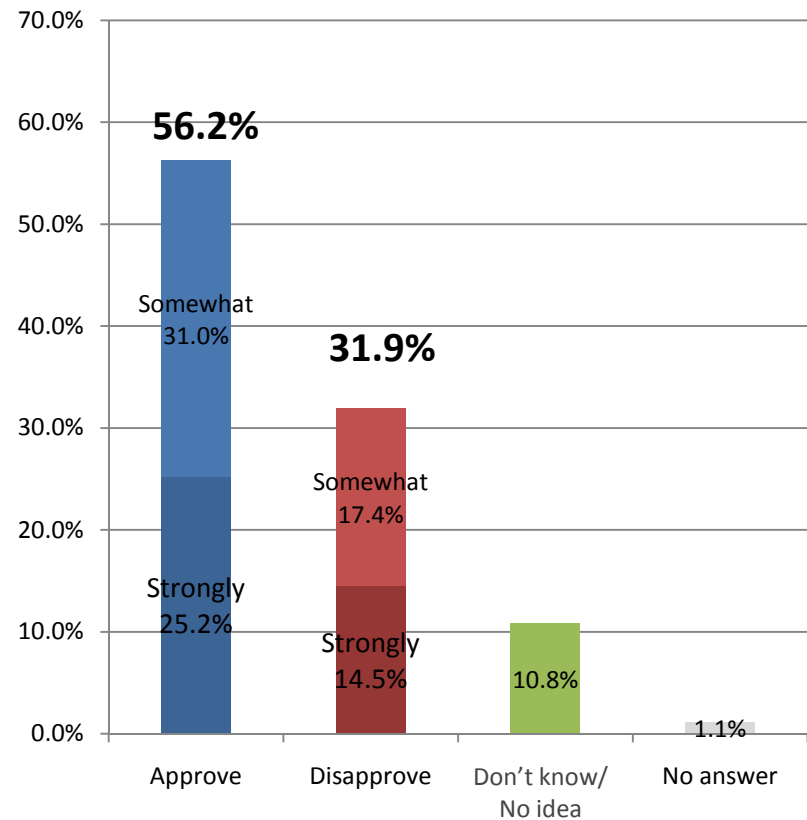


Do you approve or disapprove of the way your local mayor/municipal council has been handling its job?

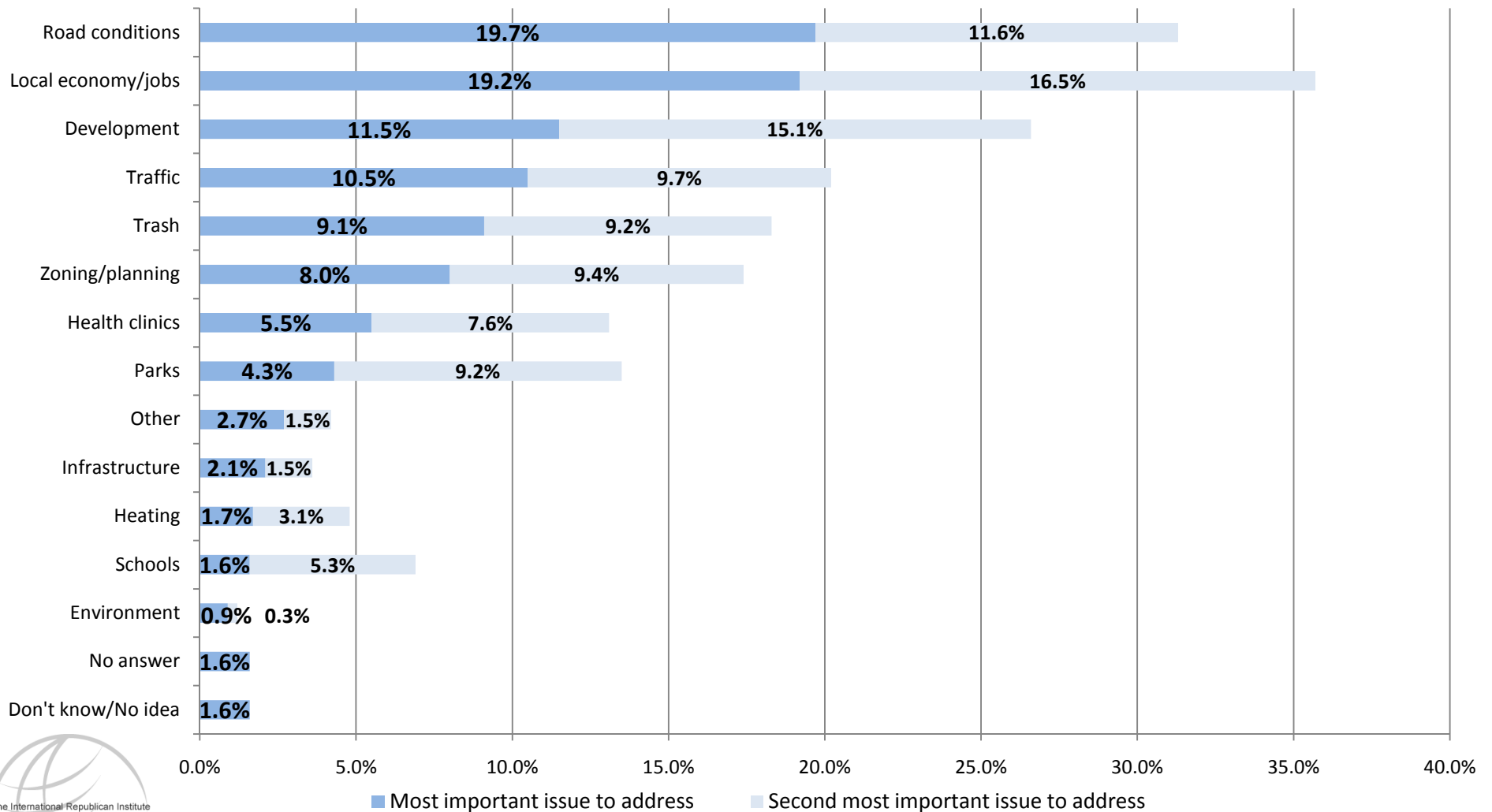
Mayor



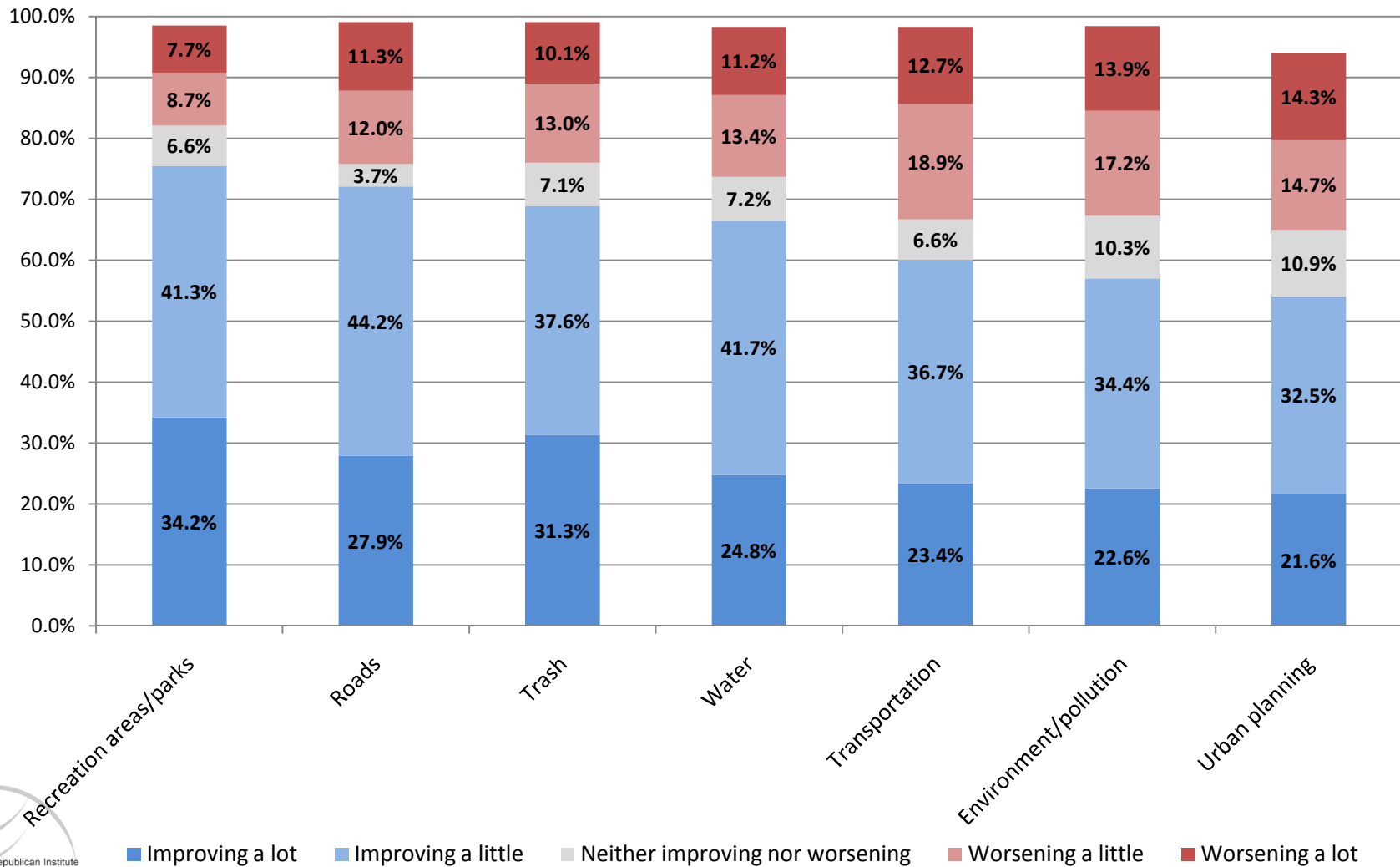
Municipal council



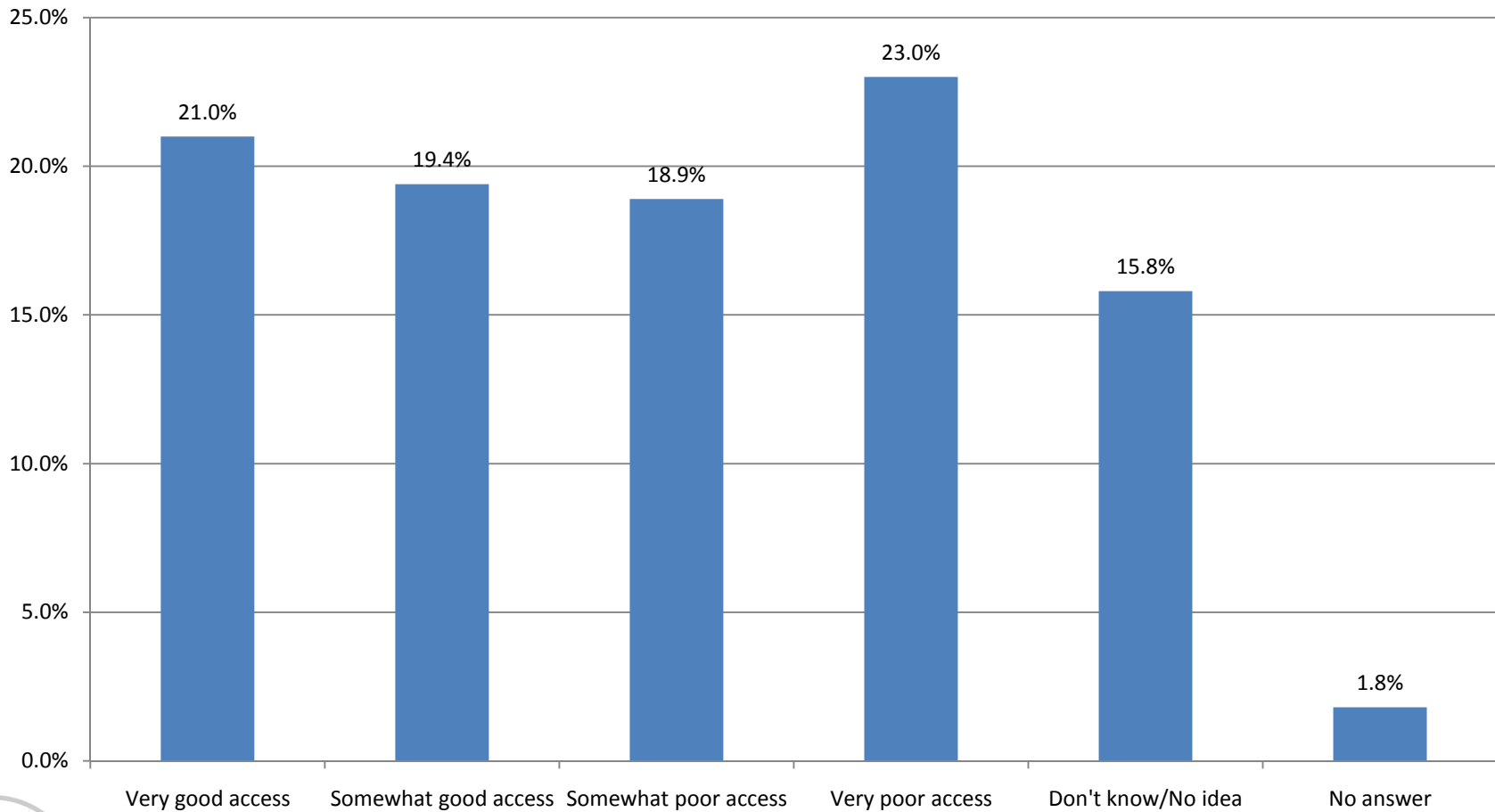
What is the most pressing issue for the local government to address? What is your second choice?



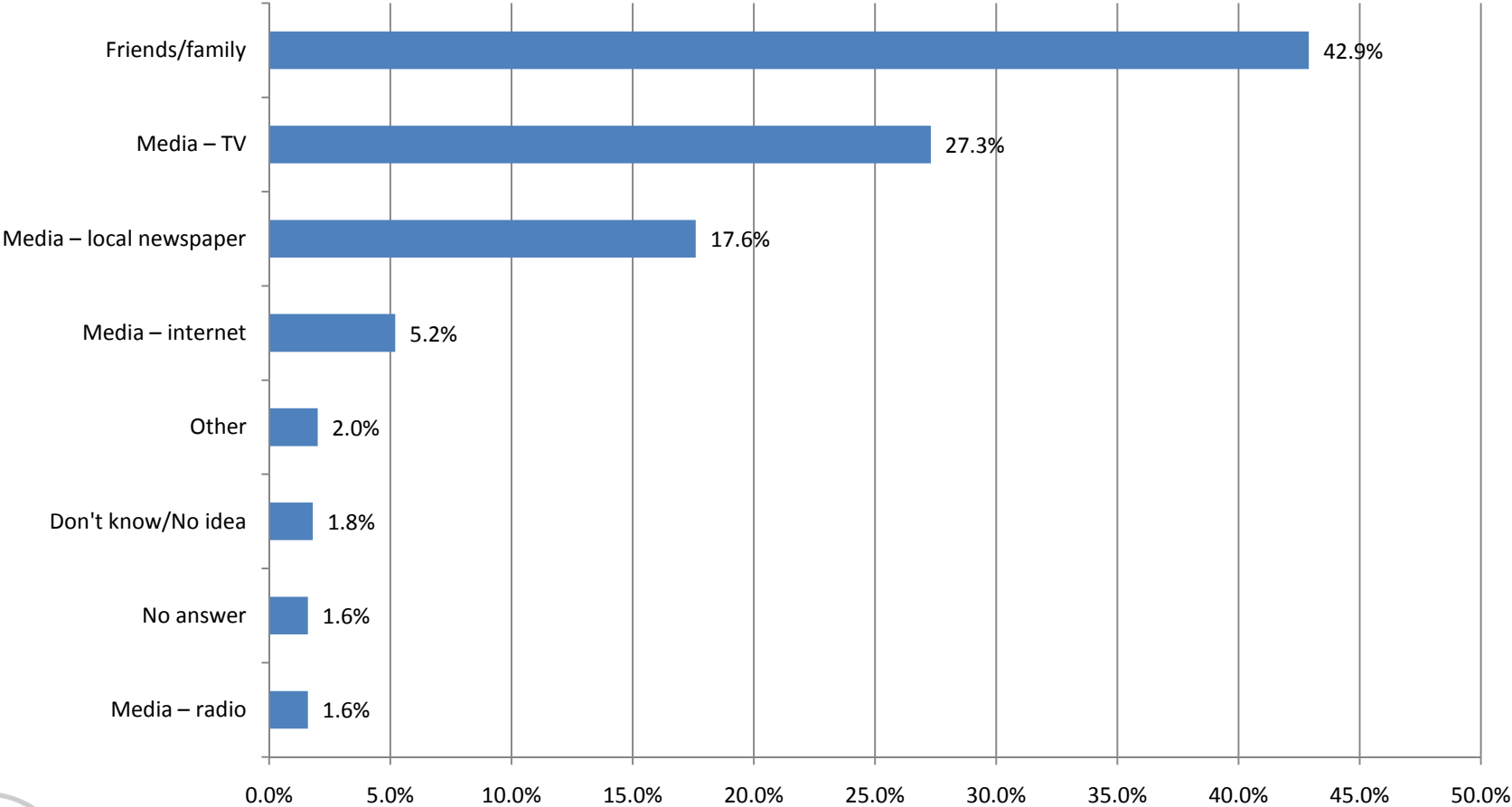
Now, I will read out some local problems and I want you to tell me if they are improving or worsening, and if that is a lot or a little?



As a citizen, do you have good or poor access to your local government elected officials?



Where do you receive information about what is happening in your municipality?



ECONOMIC CRISIS ATTITUDES

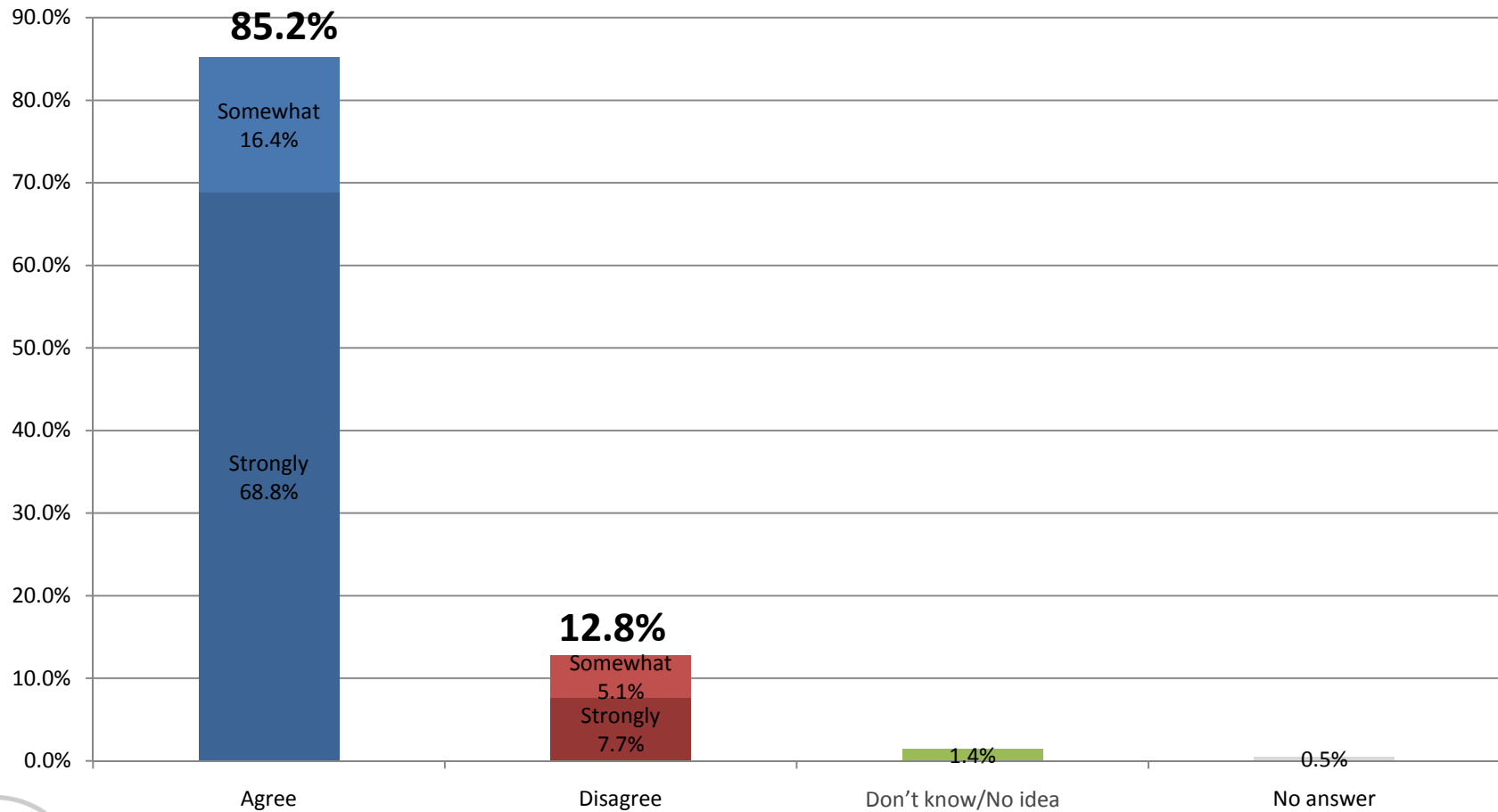


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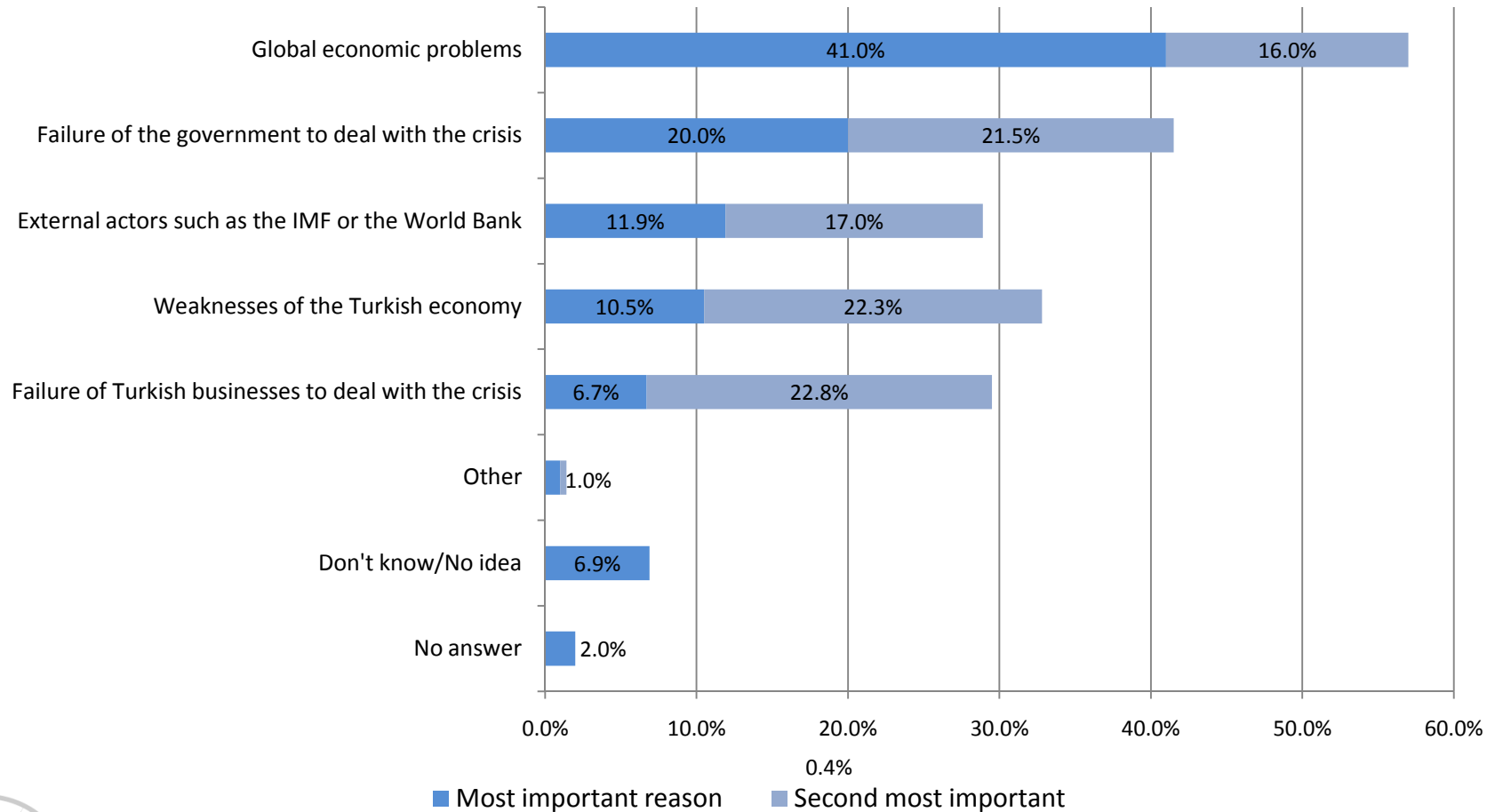
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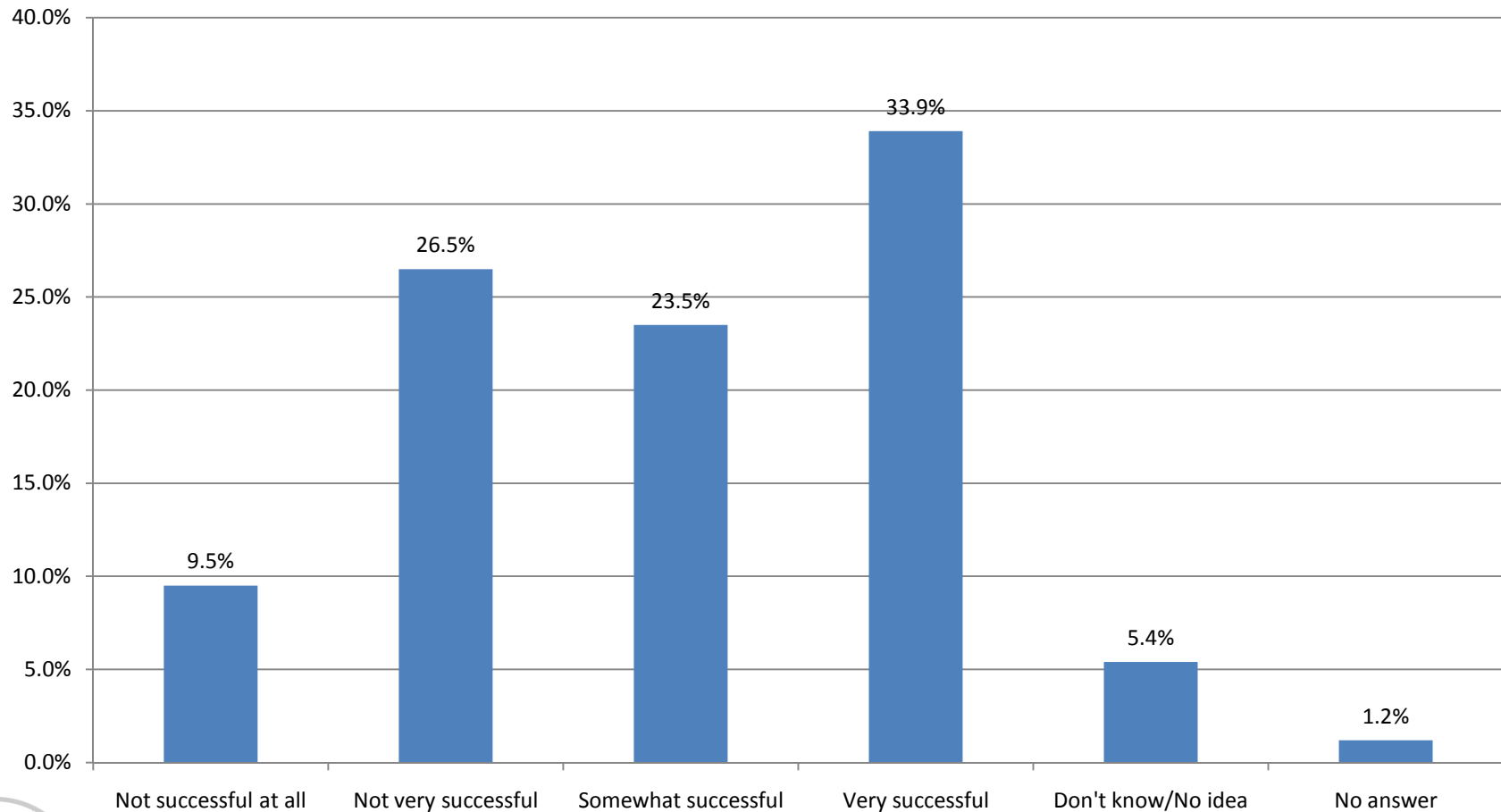
Some argue that Turkey is nowadays experiencing a serious financial crisis. Do you agree or disagree with this idea?



Now I will read out some arguments about reasons for the economic problems. Which of these reasons is the most important/second most important one?



How successful do you think the government has been in dealing with the current economic crisis?



OTHER ISSUES

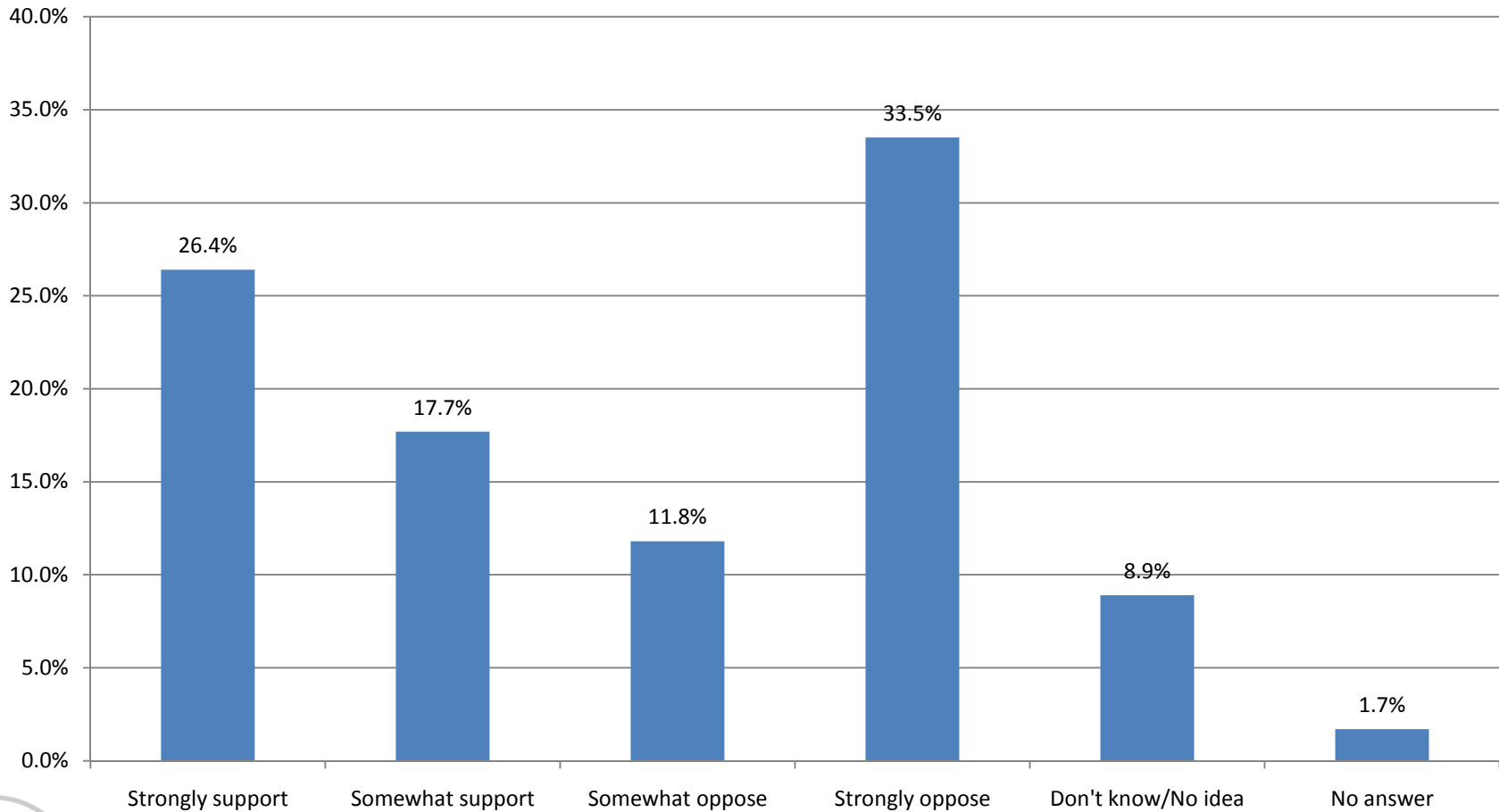


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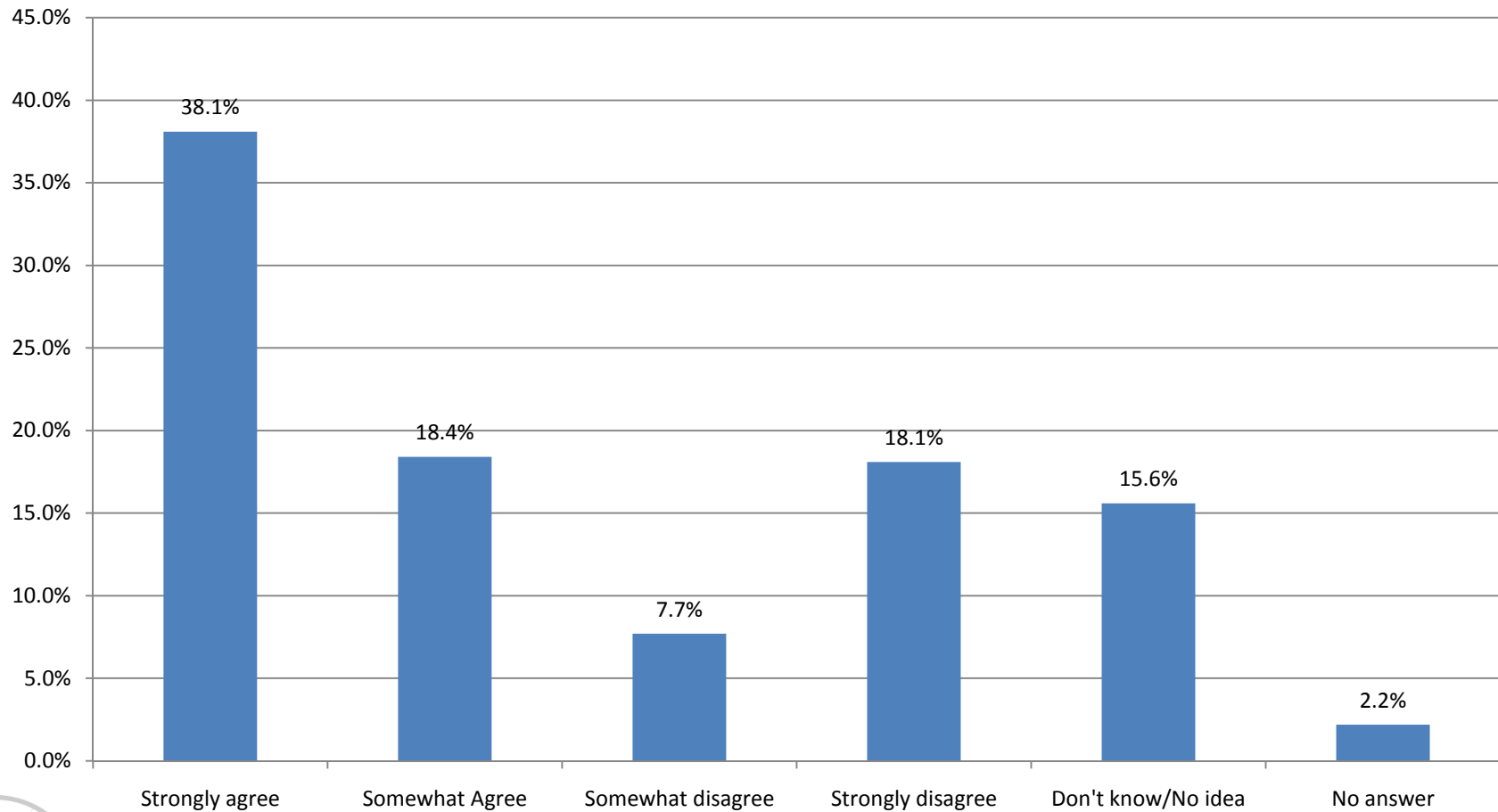
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A recent government policy allowed for the development of a National Kurdish-language TV Channel-TRT ŞEŞ. Do you support or oppose this policy?



Some argue that certain groups have sought to take control of the government through a plan known as Ergenekon. Do you agree or disagree?



Are you satisfied with the way the Ergenekon investigation has been carried out?

