

# Findings of the Research on the Public Opinion on Constitutional Reforms

Armenia 2014-2015

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

# Methodology

▪ **Research type** Quantitative, sampled

▪ **Goal of the Research.** Identify the attitude of the population of Armenia towards to Constitutional reforms, as well as several other processes taking place in Armenia.

▪ **Research objectives:** a) identify to what extent the RA population is aware of the current Constitution and the content of the proposed draft, b) indentify the attitude towards the process of Constitutional reforms and c) identify expectations from Constitutional reforms.

## **Key axes of the research**

**Knowledge** (what people know about the Constitution and proposed draft amendments, what they know about reforms etc)

**Attitude**(what is their attitude towards the process of reforms, what they think about the draft amendments etc)

**Practice** (readiness to participate in the referendum etc).

▪ **Research method:** Semi-structured interviews

▪ **Sampling size-** 1300 quantitative interviews

▪ **Distribution of sampling** – All RA marzes including Yerevan; 130 starting points and 114 communities

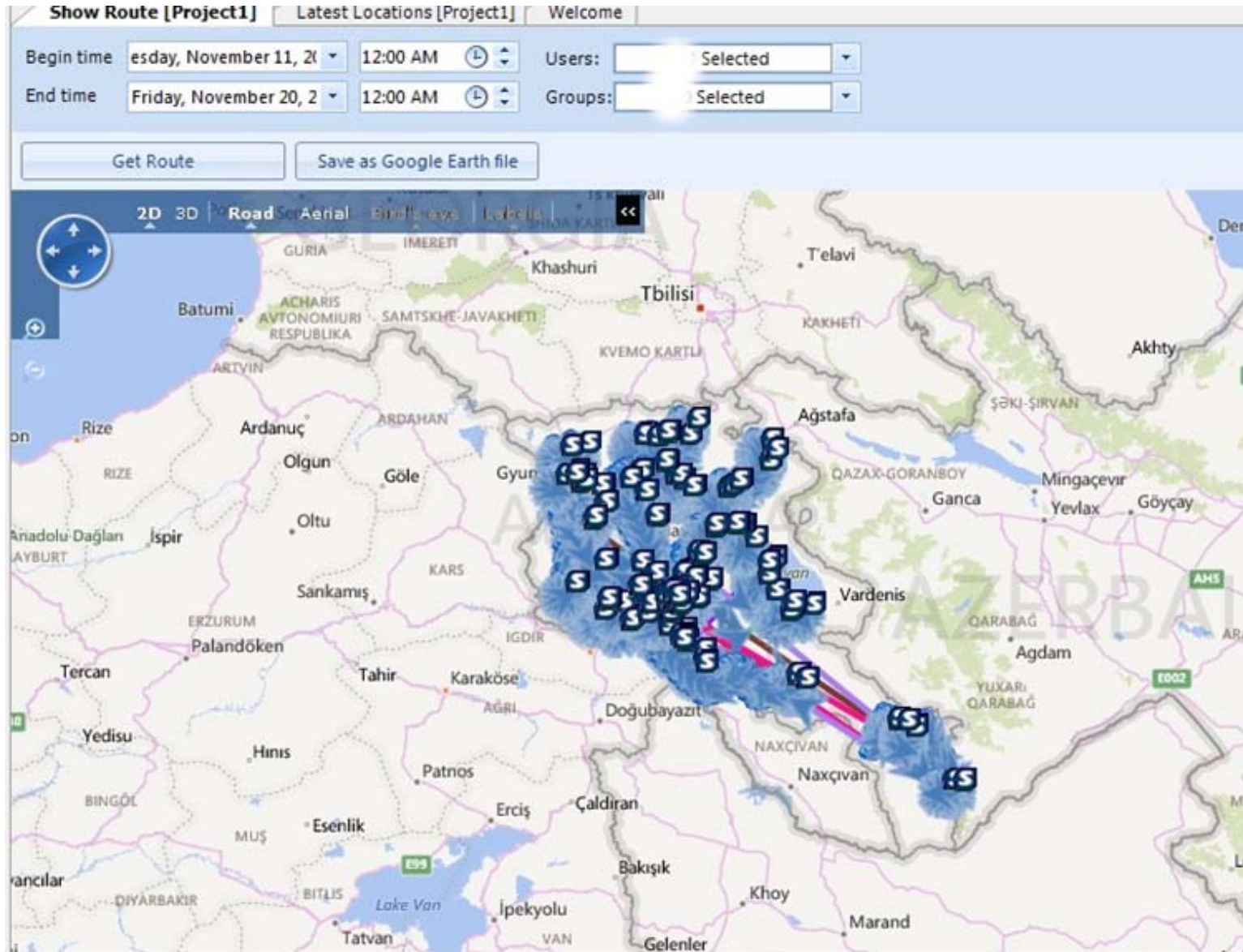
▪ **Statistical features** - 95% reliability,  $\pm 2.7\%$  of margin or error

▪ **Research tools** – Semi structured questionnaire/CAPI

▪ **Research period** – 2014, November 2015

This research has been conducted with the financial support by European Endowment for Democracy.

# Places of interviews



## Sex and age distribution of respondents

| Sex of Respondents | Respondent  | %             |
|--------------------|-------------|---------------|
| Male               | 512         | 39.4%         |
| Female             | 788         | 60.6%         |
| <b>Total</b>       | <b>1300</b> | <b>100.0%</b> |

| Age groups            | Respondents | %             |
|-----------------------|-------------|---------------|
| 18 -25 years old      | 170         | 13.1%         |
| 26 -35 years old      | 256         | 19.7%         |
| 36 – 45 years old     | 237         | 18.2%         |
| 46 – 60 years old     | 333         | 25.6%         |
| 61 years old and over | 304         | 23.4%         |
| <b>Total</b>          | <b>1300</b> | <b>100.0%</b> |

# Content

*Satisfaction from the social and economic state of the country*

*Need for Constitutional reforms*

*Attitude*

*Human rights, Governance system and other related issues KNOWLEDGE*

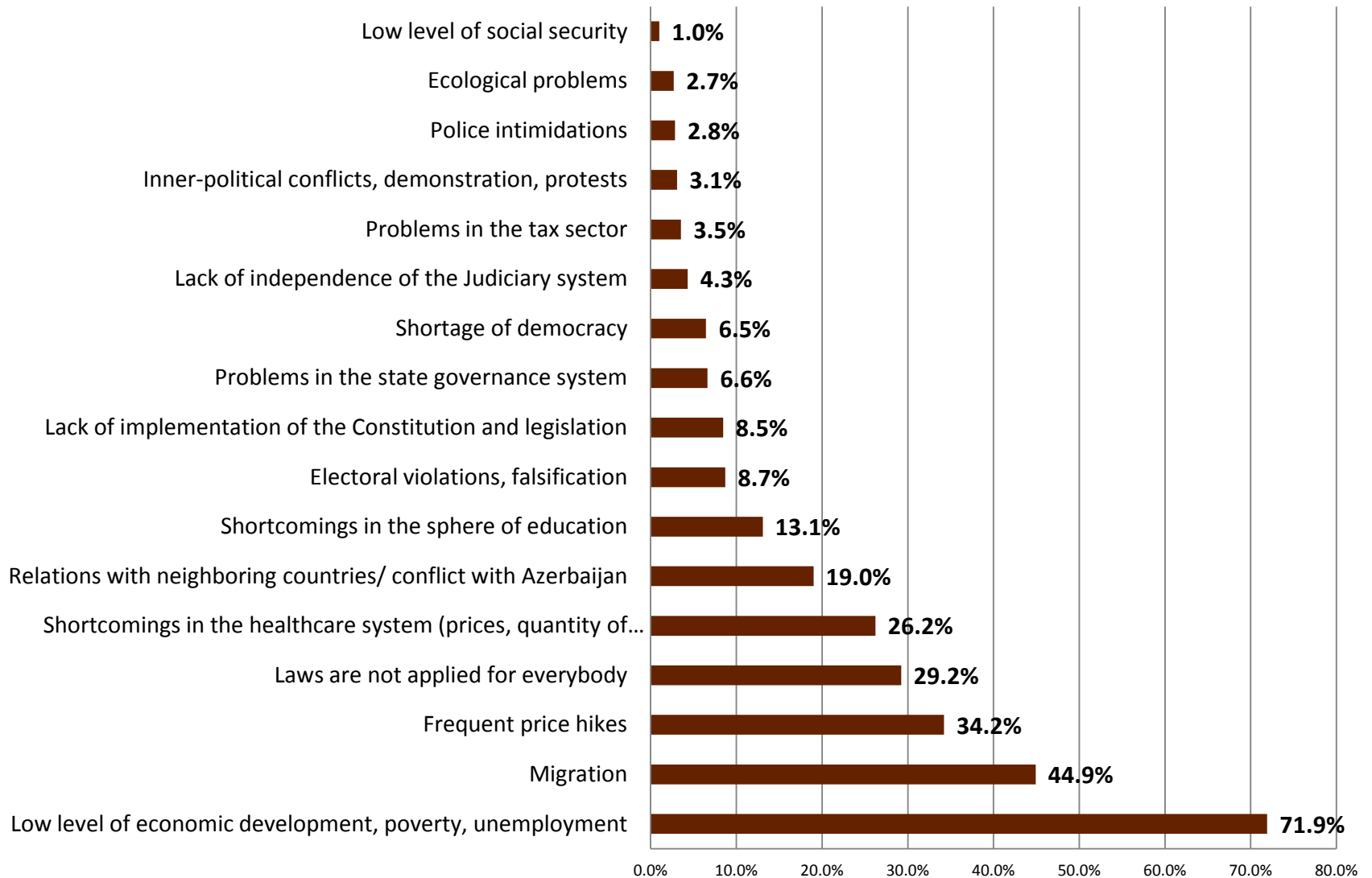
*Governance system*

*Local Self-Government*

*Participation in referendum PRACTICE*

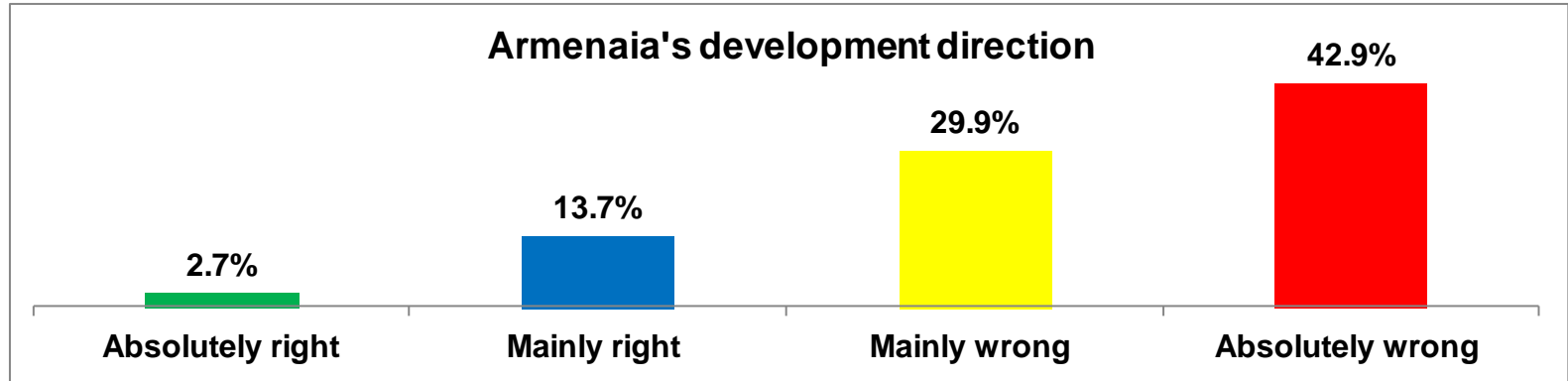
***Satisfaction from the social and economic state of the country***

### Three most important issues requiring immediate solution



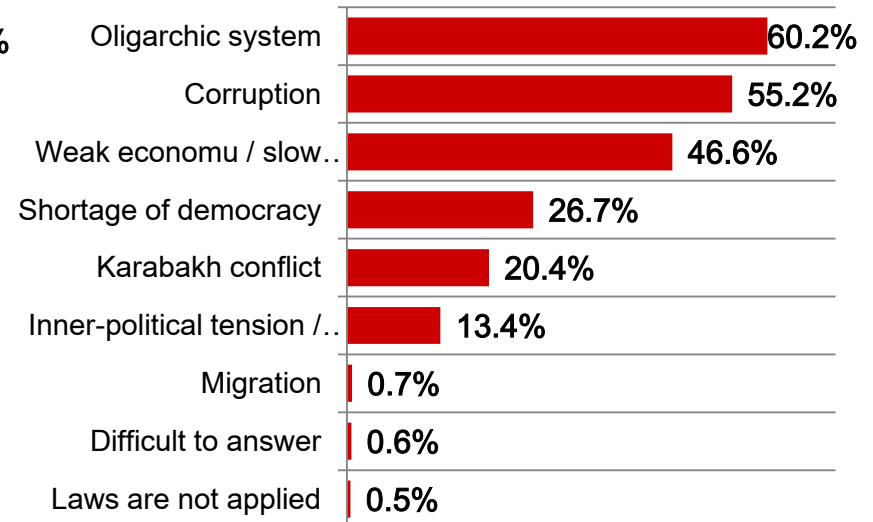
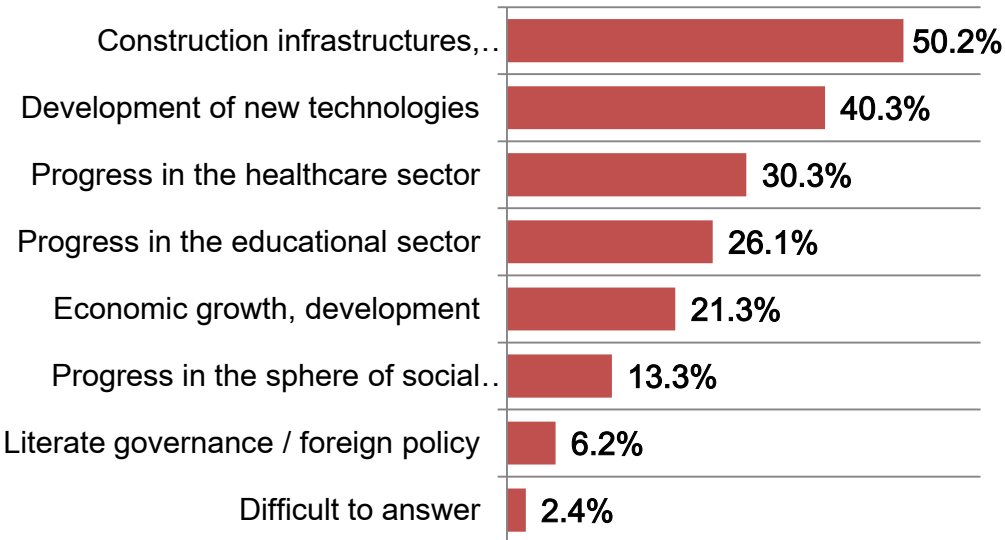
# Armenia's development direction

2015թ.



## Reasons for right direction

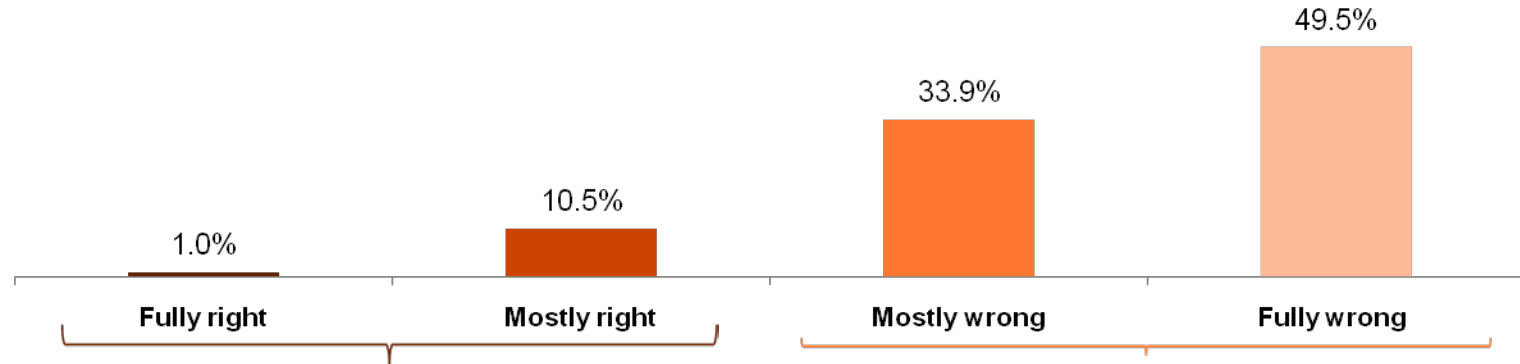
## Reasons for wrong direction



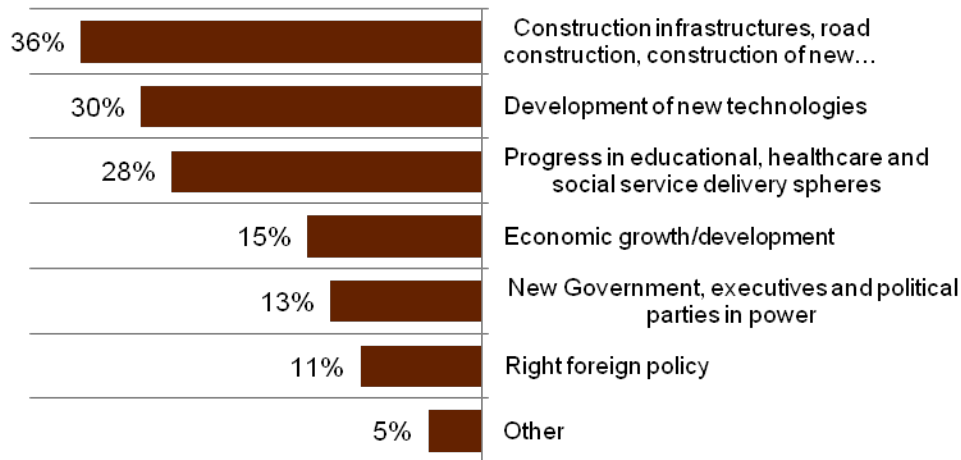
# Armenia's development direction

2014

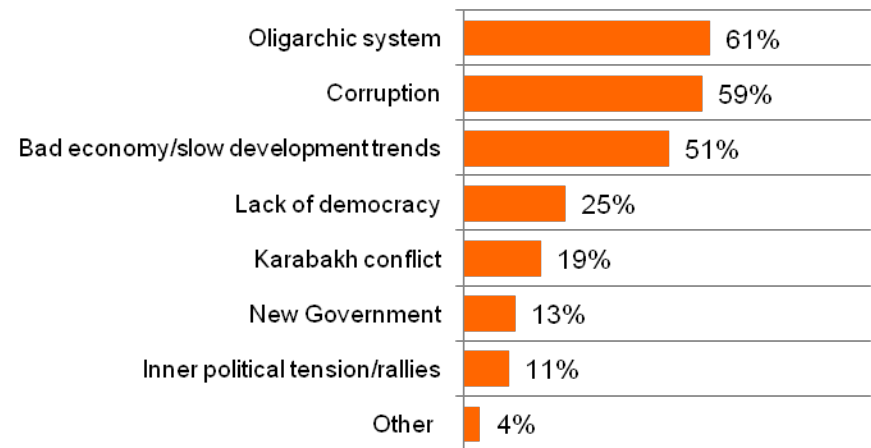
## Gr. A. Development direction of Armenia



## Reasons for moving in right direction



## Reasons for moving in wrong direction

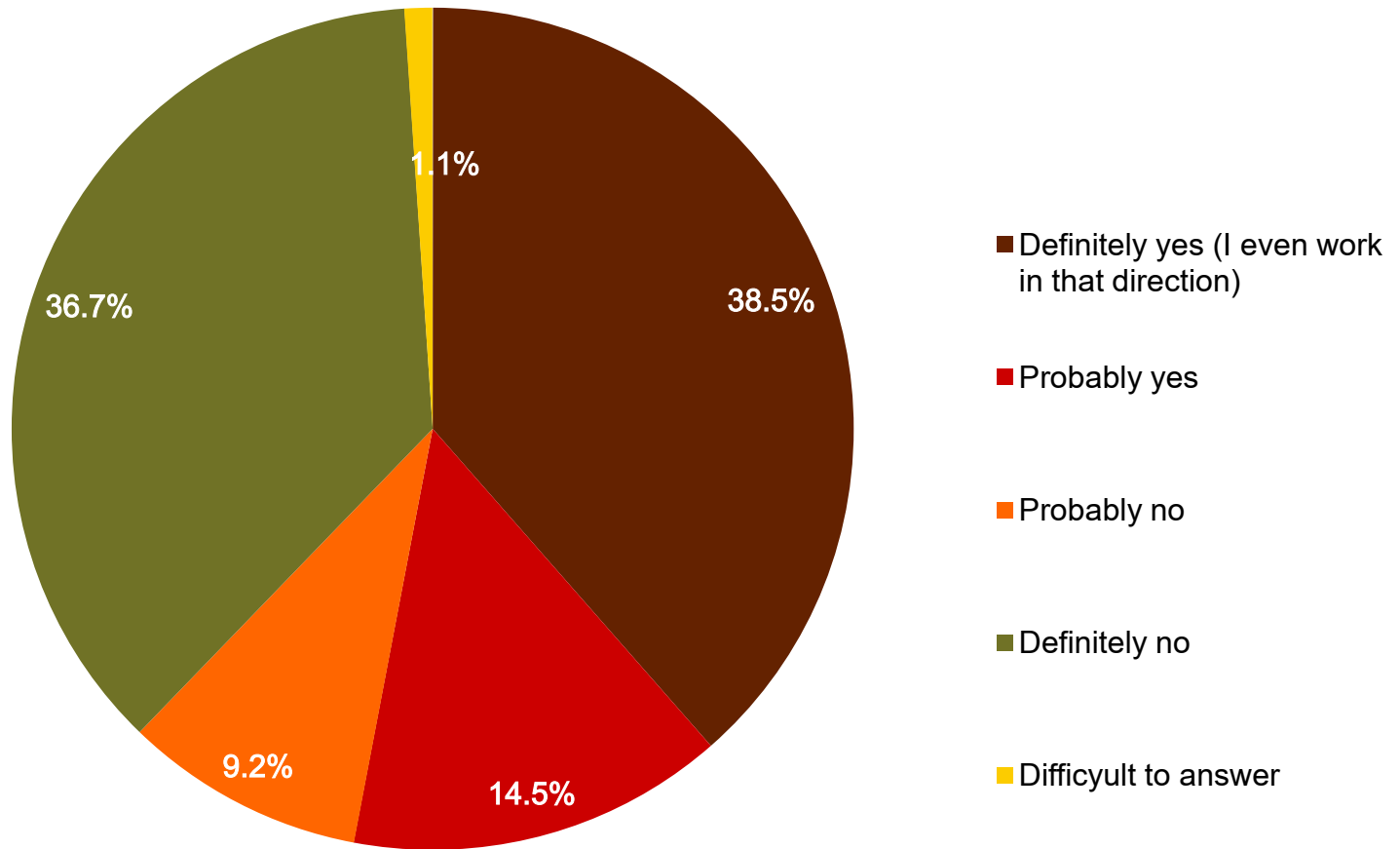


Q4. In your opinion is Armenia moving in wrong or right direction?

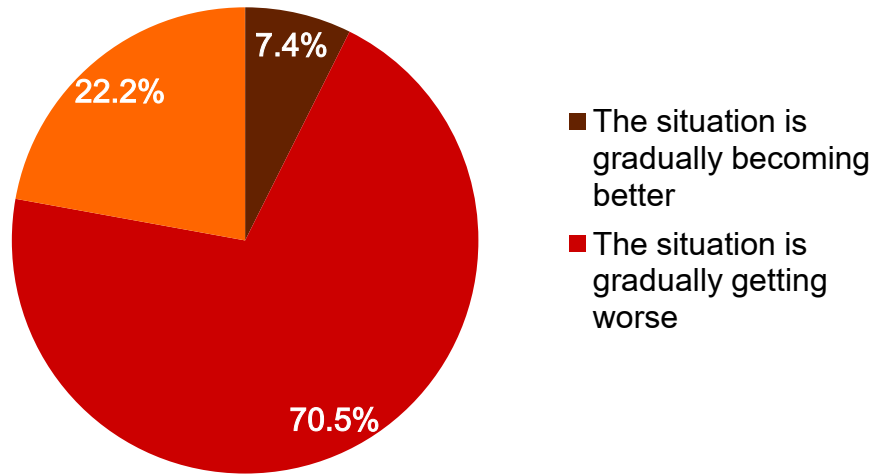
Q5. If moving in the wrong direction what is the reason?

Q6. If Armenia is moving in the right direction what is the reason?

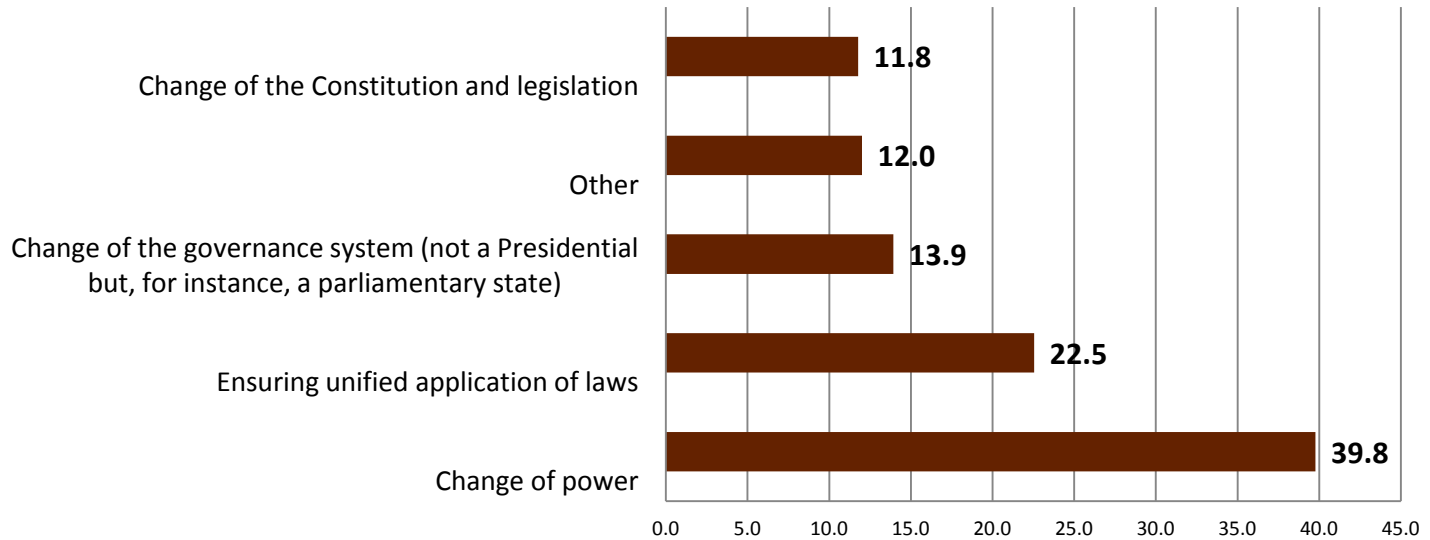
If you had an opportunity would you leave Armenia for permanent residence abroad?



## How do you see the future of the country?

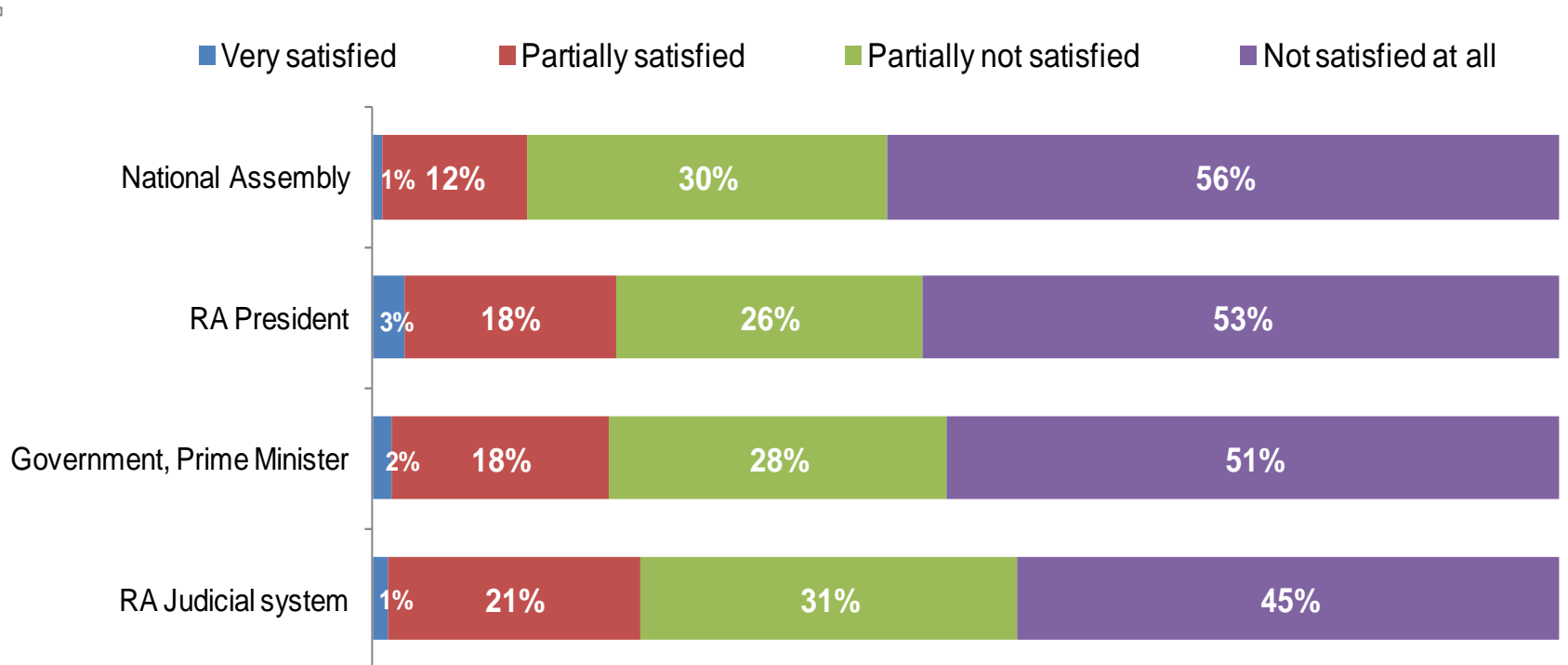


## What should be done firstly to solve the issues the country is facing?



2014

## Satisfaction from state institutions

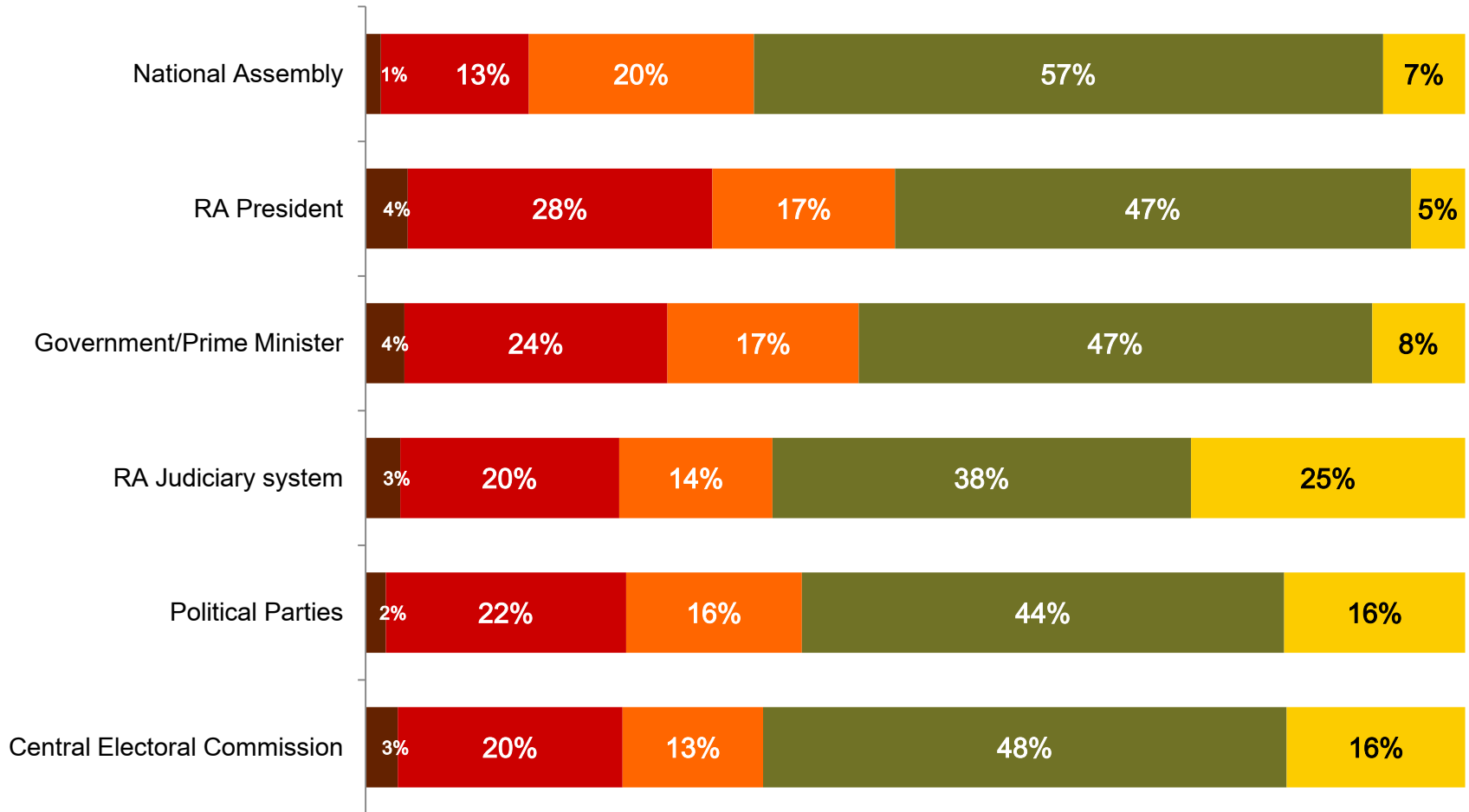


Q10. To what extent are you satisfied with the work of following institutions

2015

## How satisfied are you with the work of following structures?

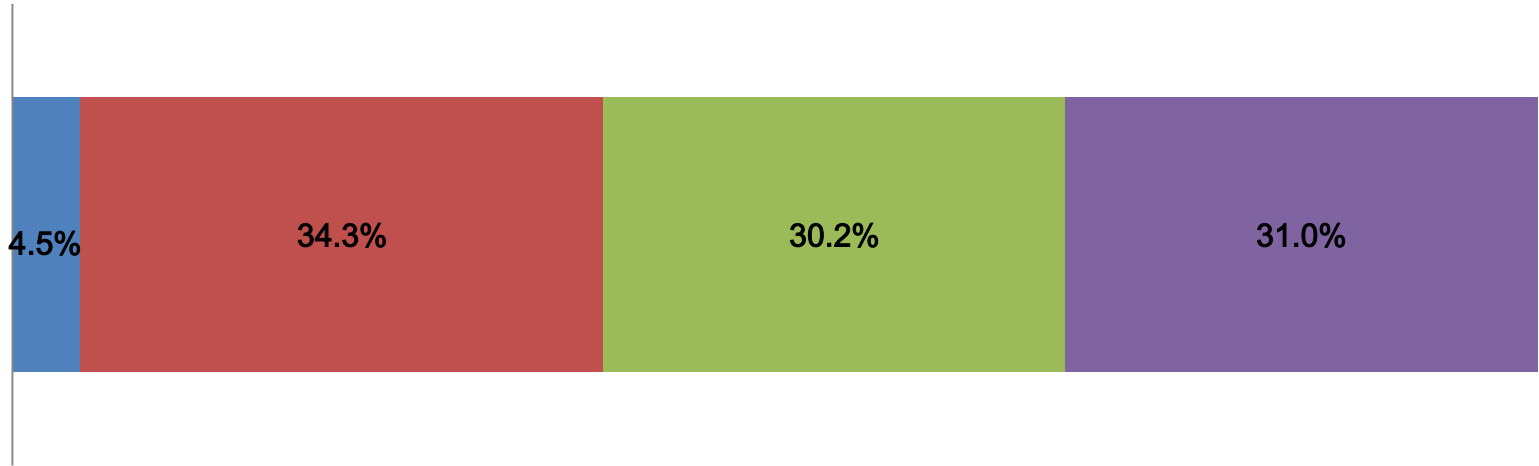
■ Very much satisfied ■ Somewhat satisfied ■ Not that much satisfied ■ Not satisfied at all ■ Difficult to answer



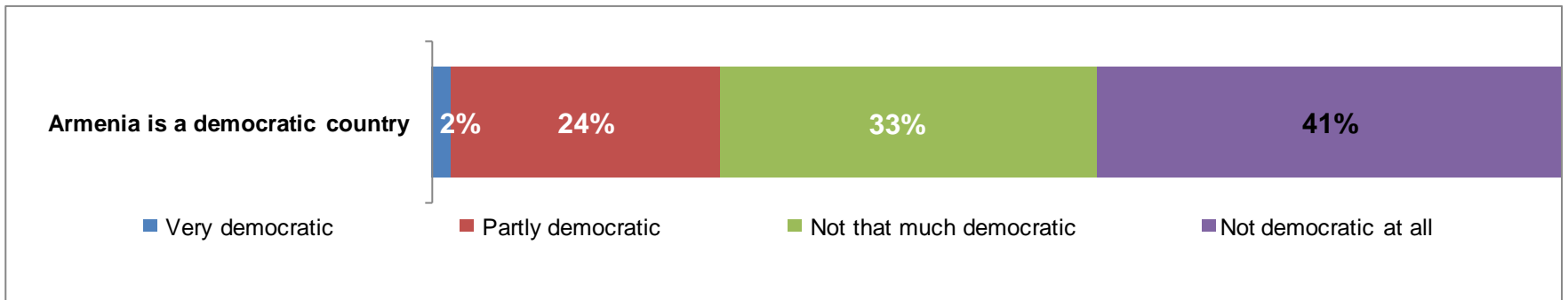
2015

### In your view to what extent is Armenia a democratic country?

■ Very democratic ■ Partly democratic ■ Not that much democratic ■ Not democratic at all



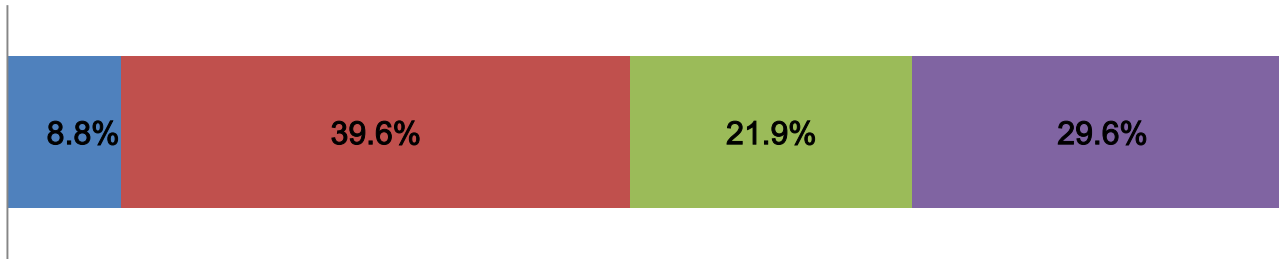
2014



## Interest in politics and participation in political decision

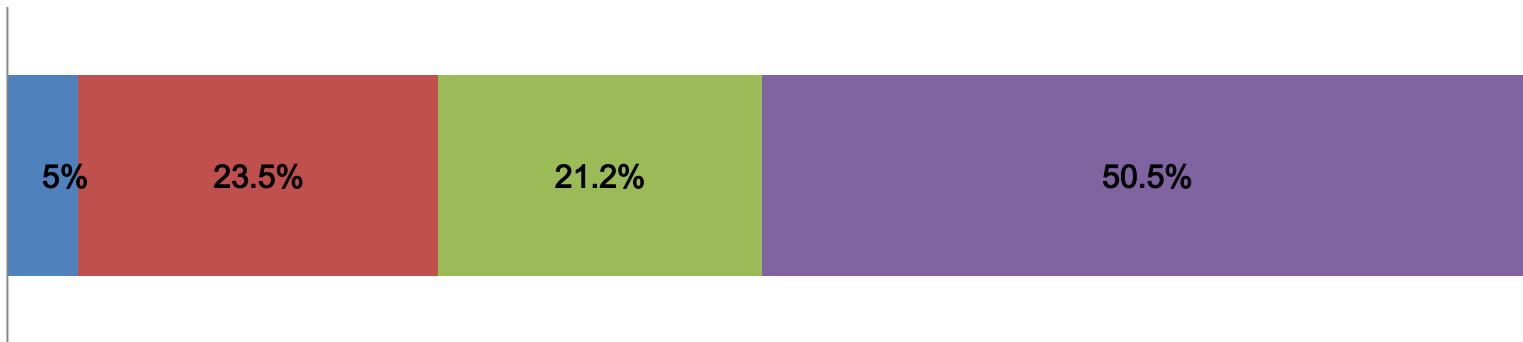
To what extent are you interested in politics?

- Very much interested
- Partly interested
- Not that much interested
- Not interested at all



In your view to what extent can people like you influence on political processes and decisions?

- Can fully influence
- Can partly influence
- Can't influence that much
- Can't influence at all

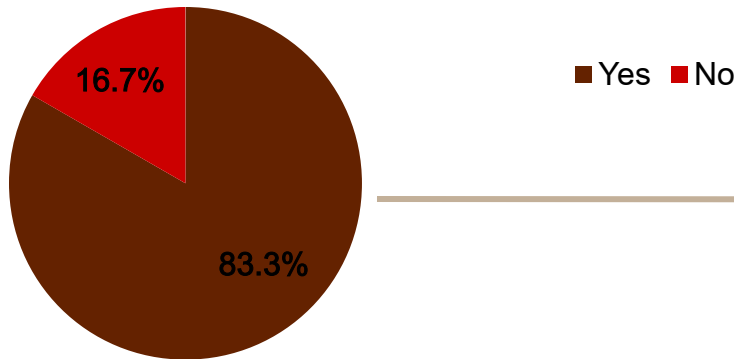


**Need for Constitutional reforms**  
**ATTITUDE**

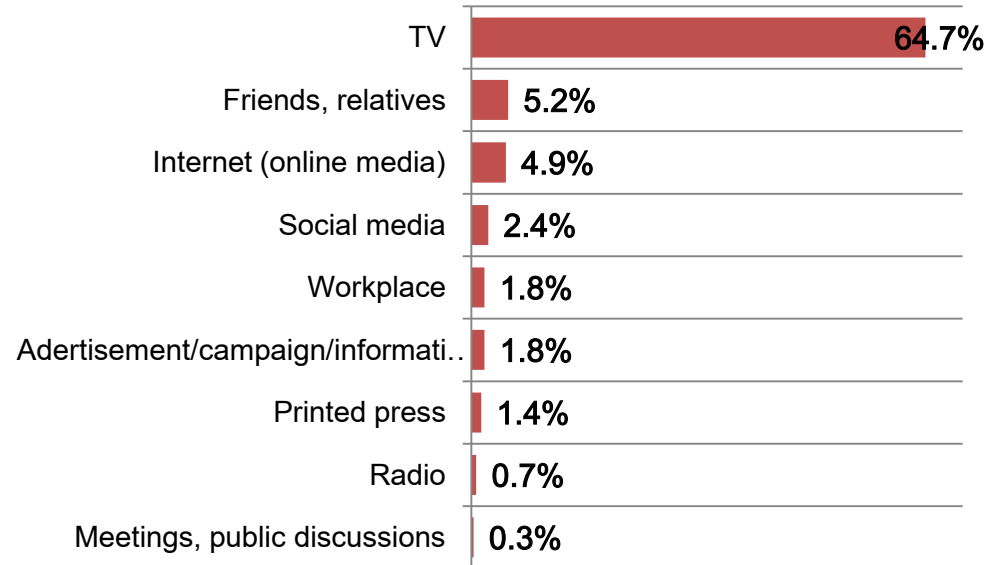
# Awareness on Constitutional reforms

2015

Do you know that amendments planned in the current Constitution?



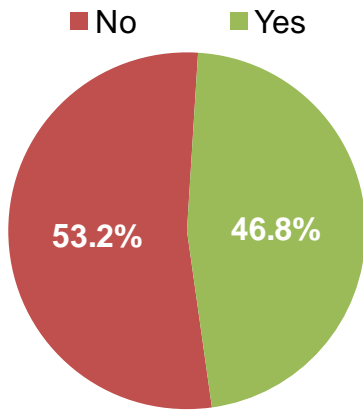
Where have you heard from?



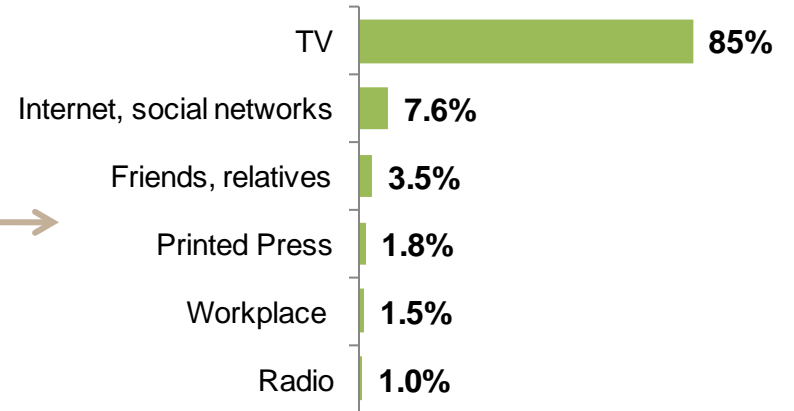
2014

Respondents` 1300

### Awareness of constitutional reforms



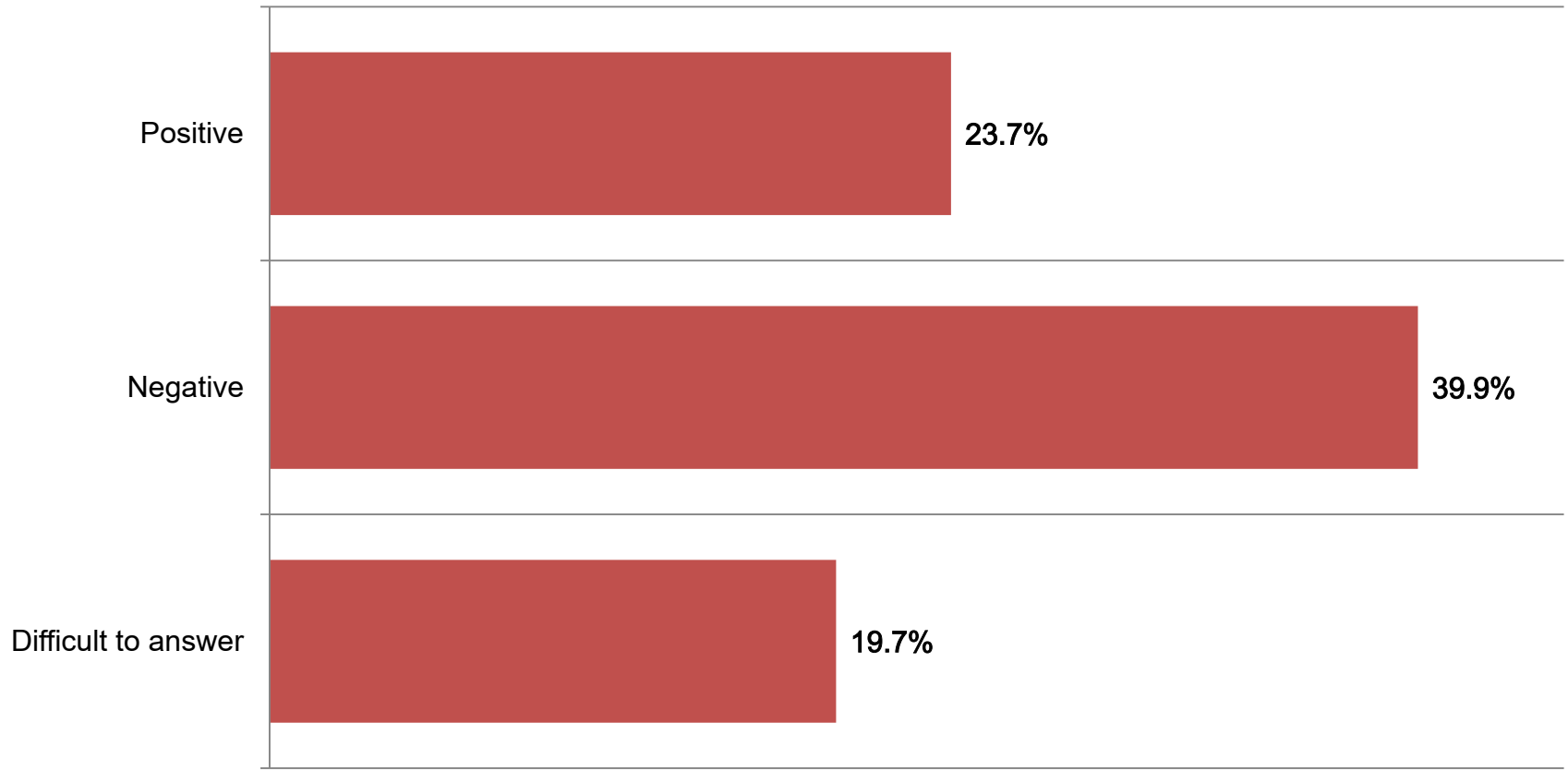
### Sources of awareness



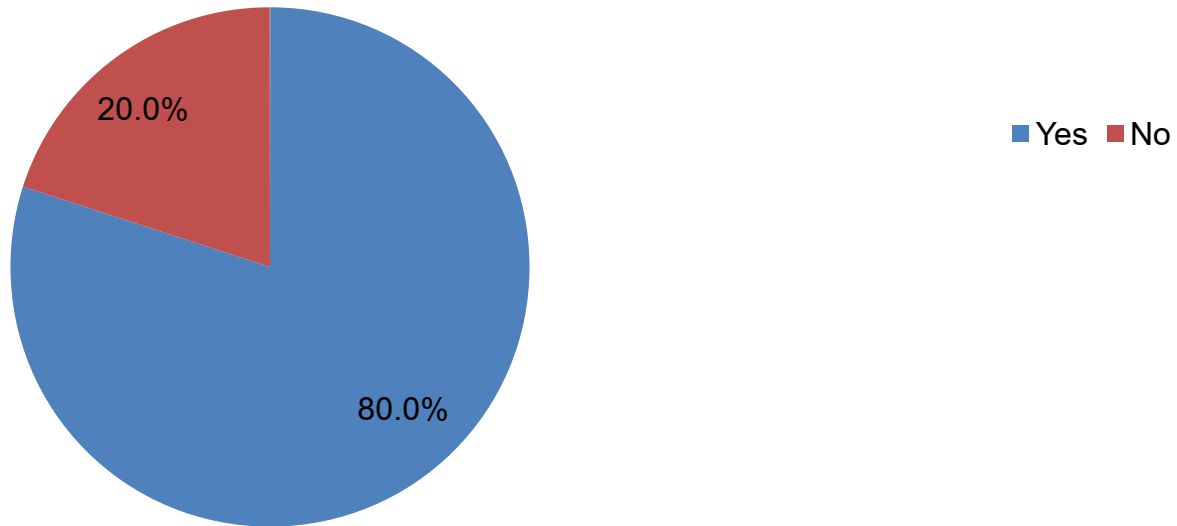
# Positive and negative opinions on Constitutional reforms

Respondents 1083

Have you heard more positive or negative things on the Constitutional reforms?

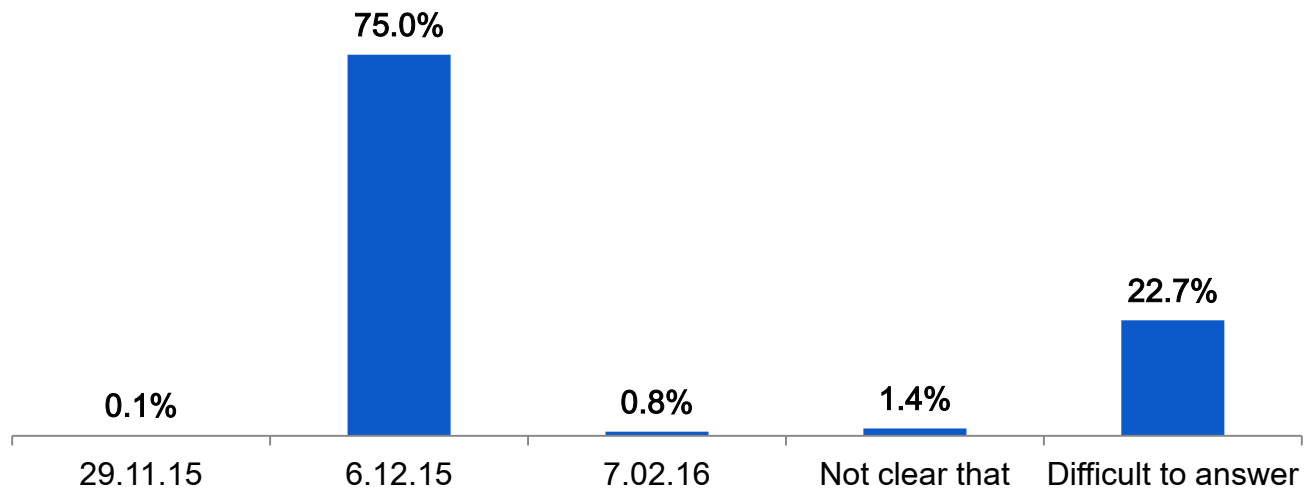


# Do you know that a Constitutional referendum is taking place?



Respondents 1040

### Can you say when?

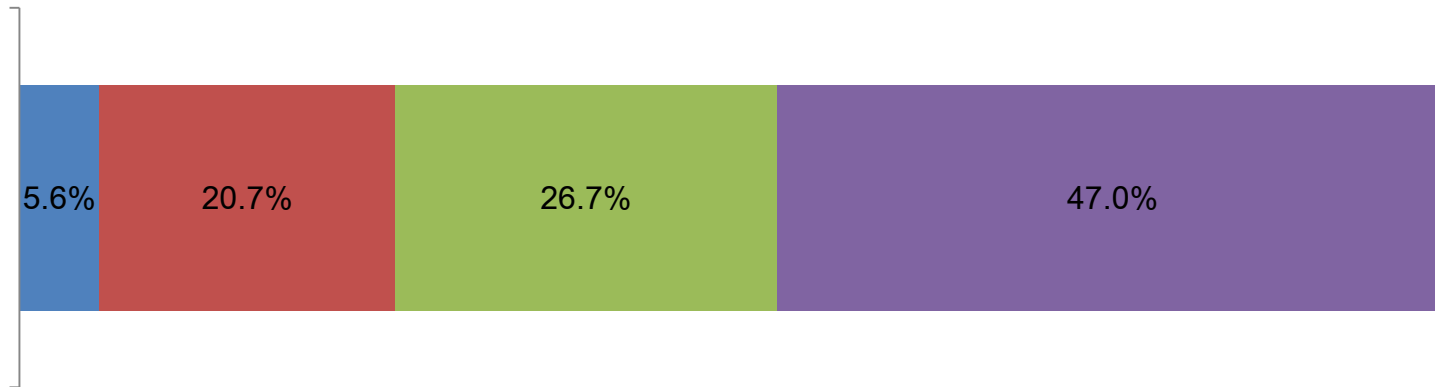


# Level of reliability in the process of Constitutional reforms

2015

To what extent do you trust the process of Constitutional reforms?

■ Fully trust ■ Mostly trust ■ Mostly don't trust ■ Don't trust at all



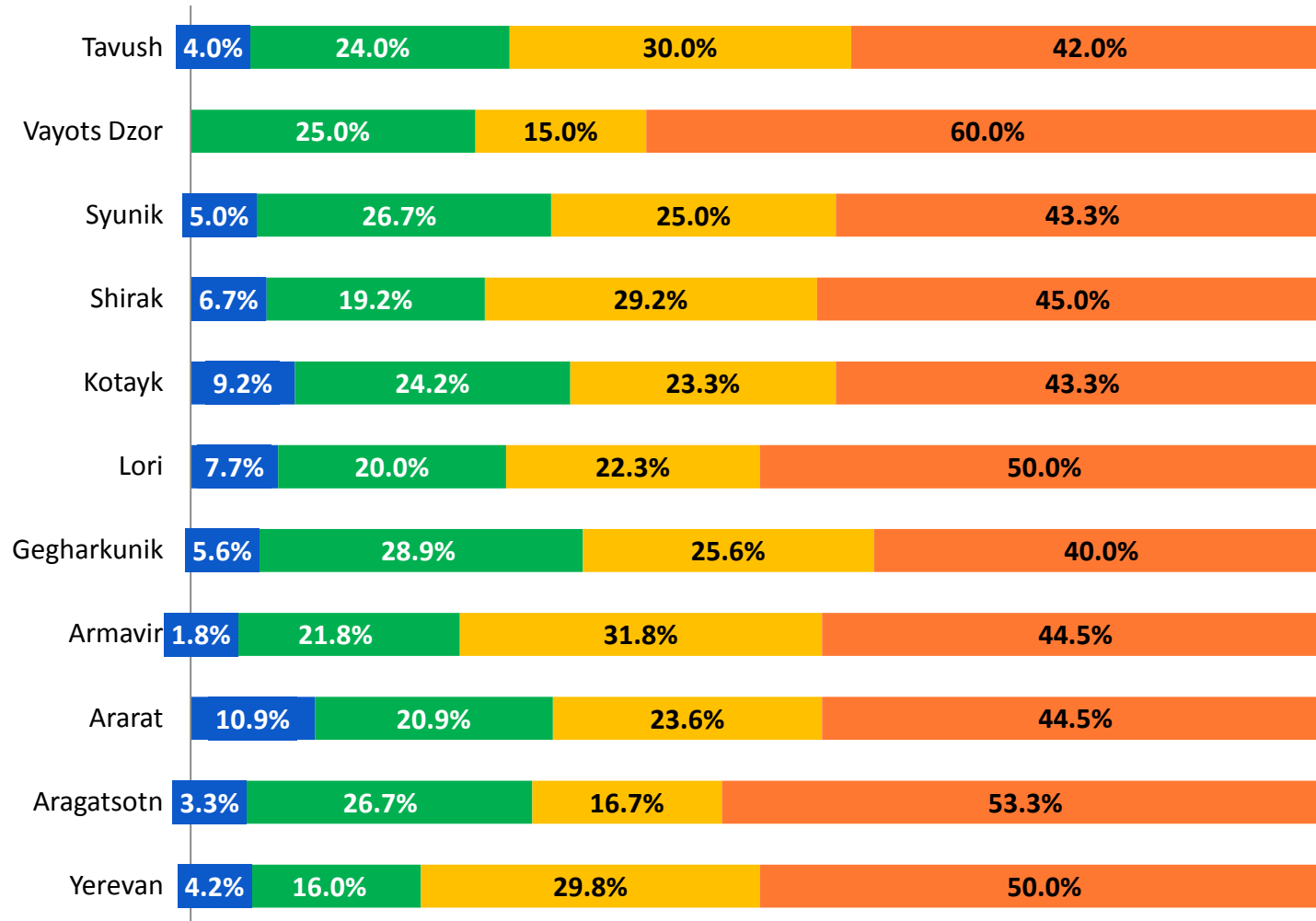
2014

■ Fully trust ■ Mostly trust ■ Mostly don't trust ■ Don't trust at all

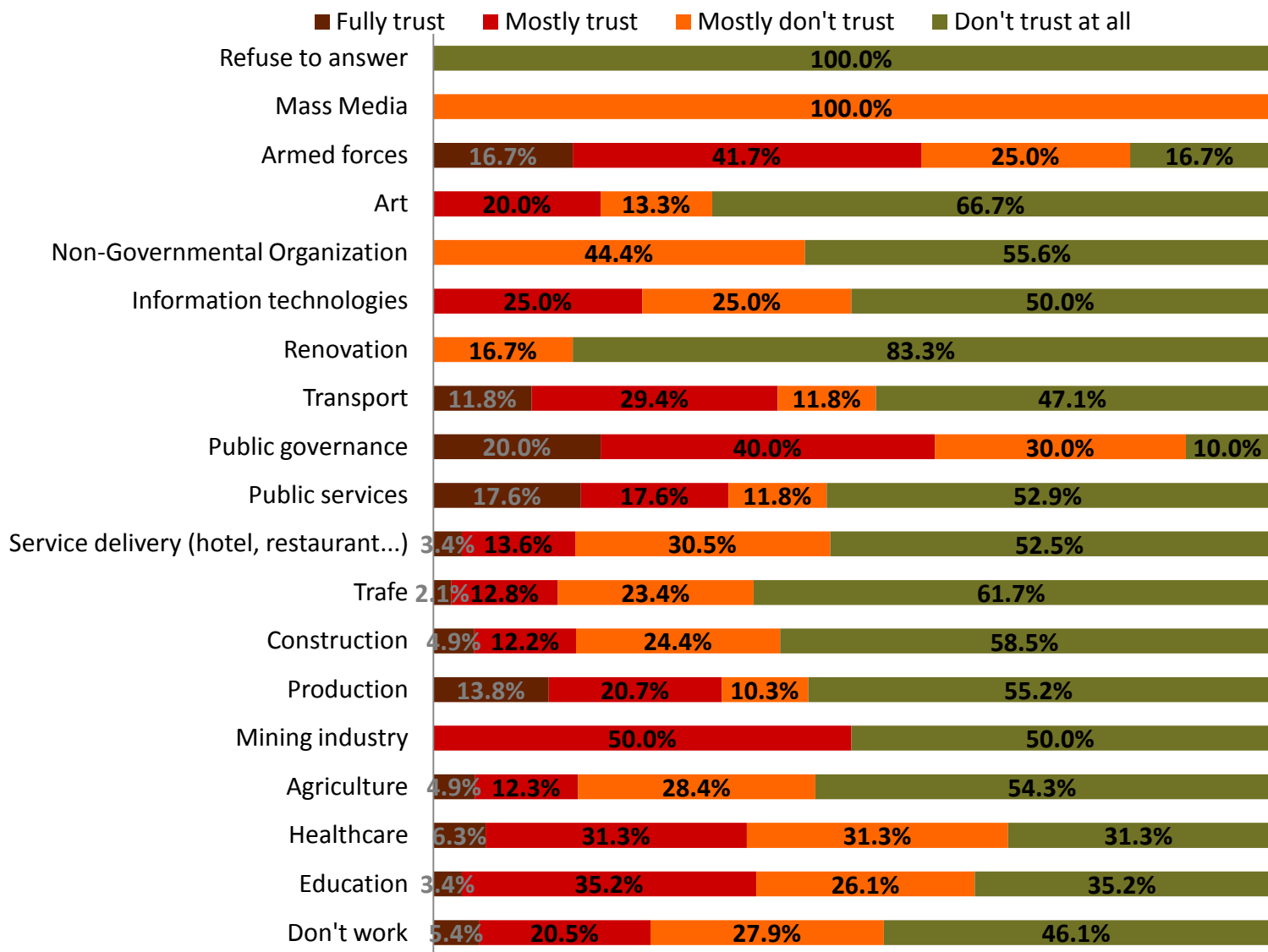


## Participation in the referendum according to marzes

■ Fully trust ■ Mostly trust ■ Mostly don't trust ■ Don't trust at all



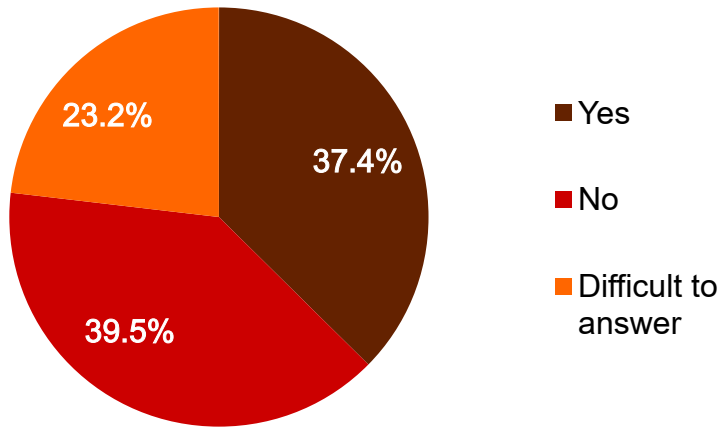
## The level of trust in the process of Constitutional reforms according to the sphere of employment



# Need for Constitutional reforms

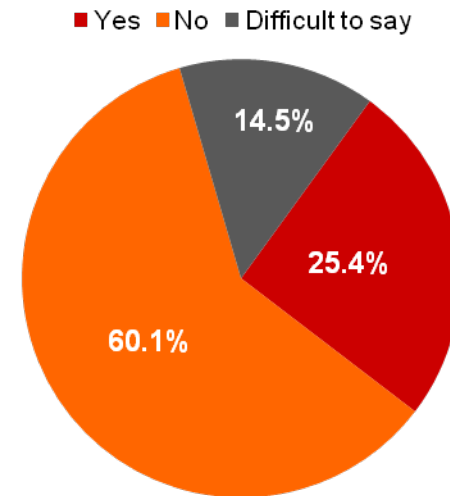
2015

Is there a need to change the current Constitution?



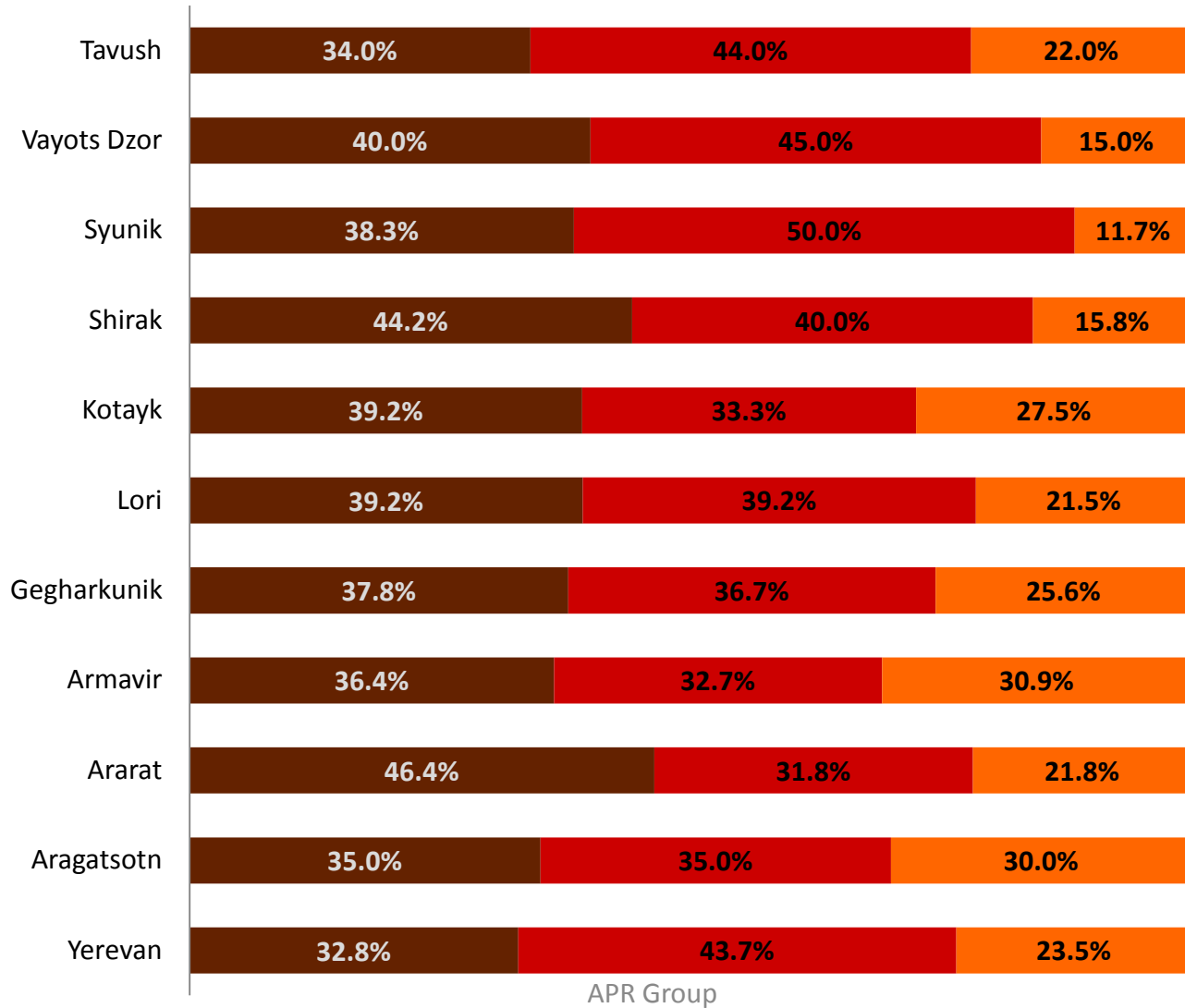
2014

Need to change constitution



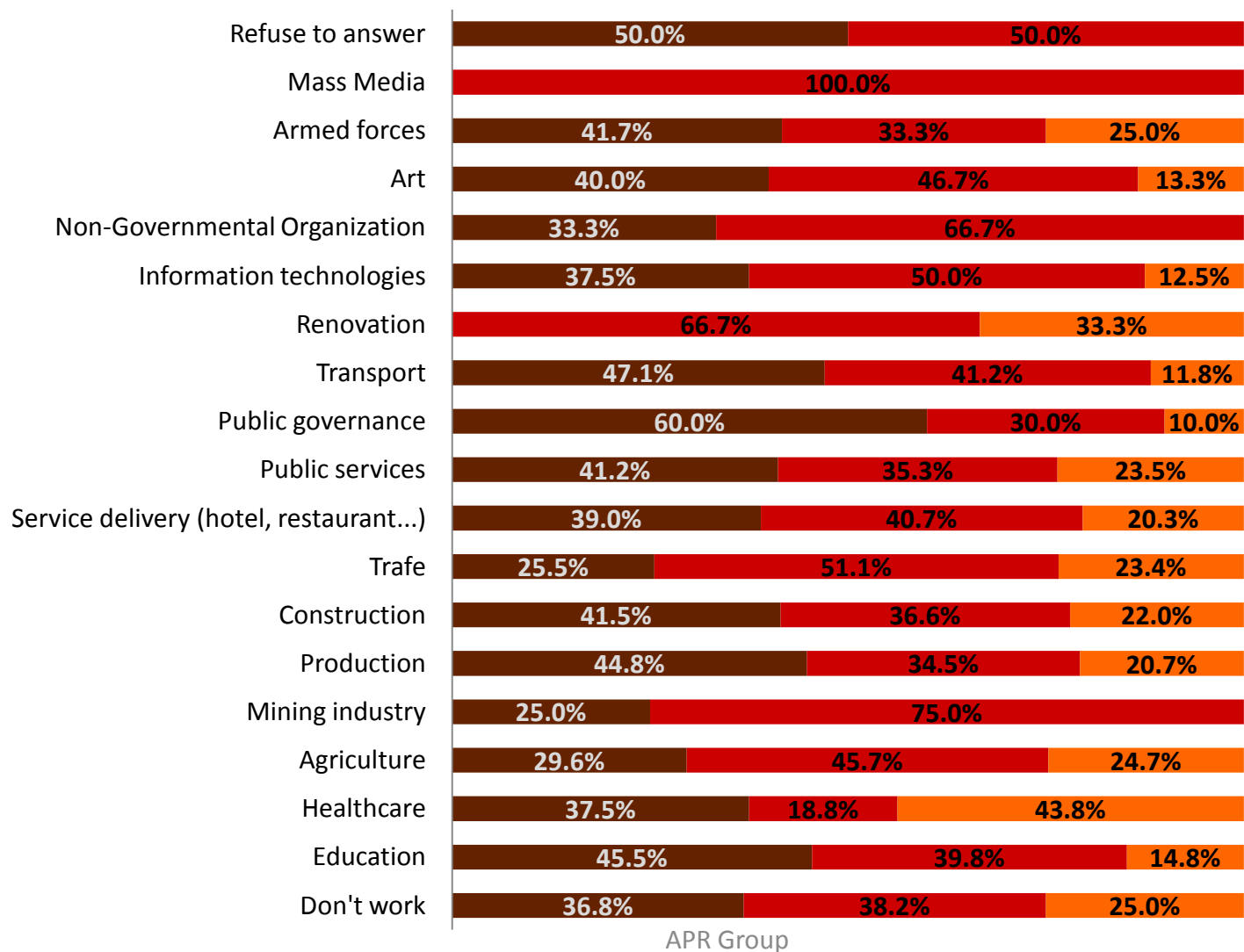
## Need for Constitutional amendments according to marzes

■ Yes ■ No ■ Difficult to answer



## Need for Constitutional reforms according to the sphere of employment

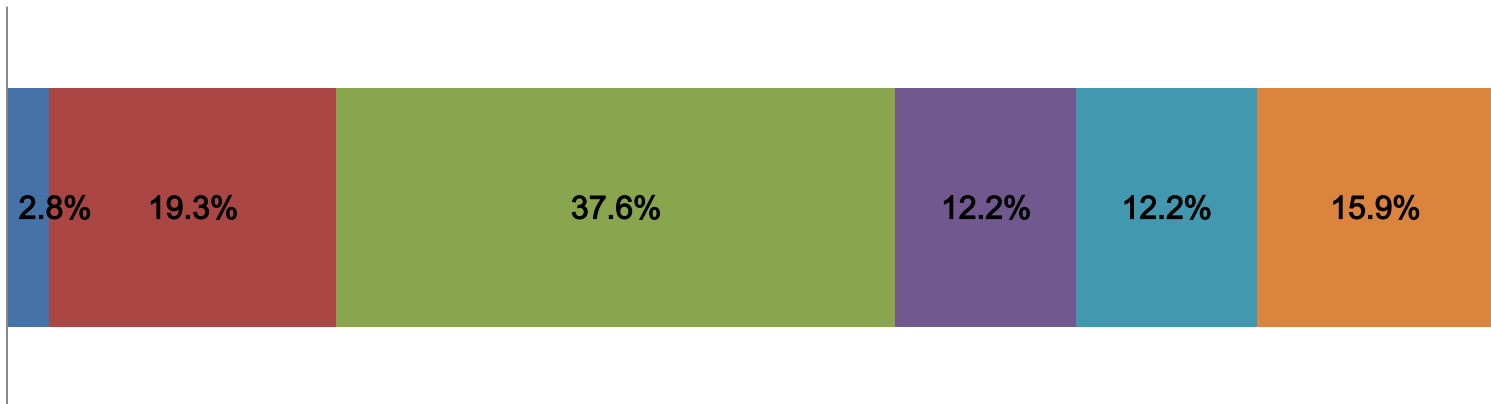
■ Yes ■ No ■ Difficult to answer



# Consequences of Constitutional reforms

In your opinion if the RA Constitution is changes the challenges the country is facing ...

- Will considerably decrease
- Will somewhat decrease
- Will remain the same
- Will somewhat increase
- Will considerably increase
- Difficult to answer



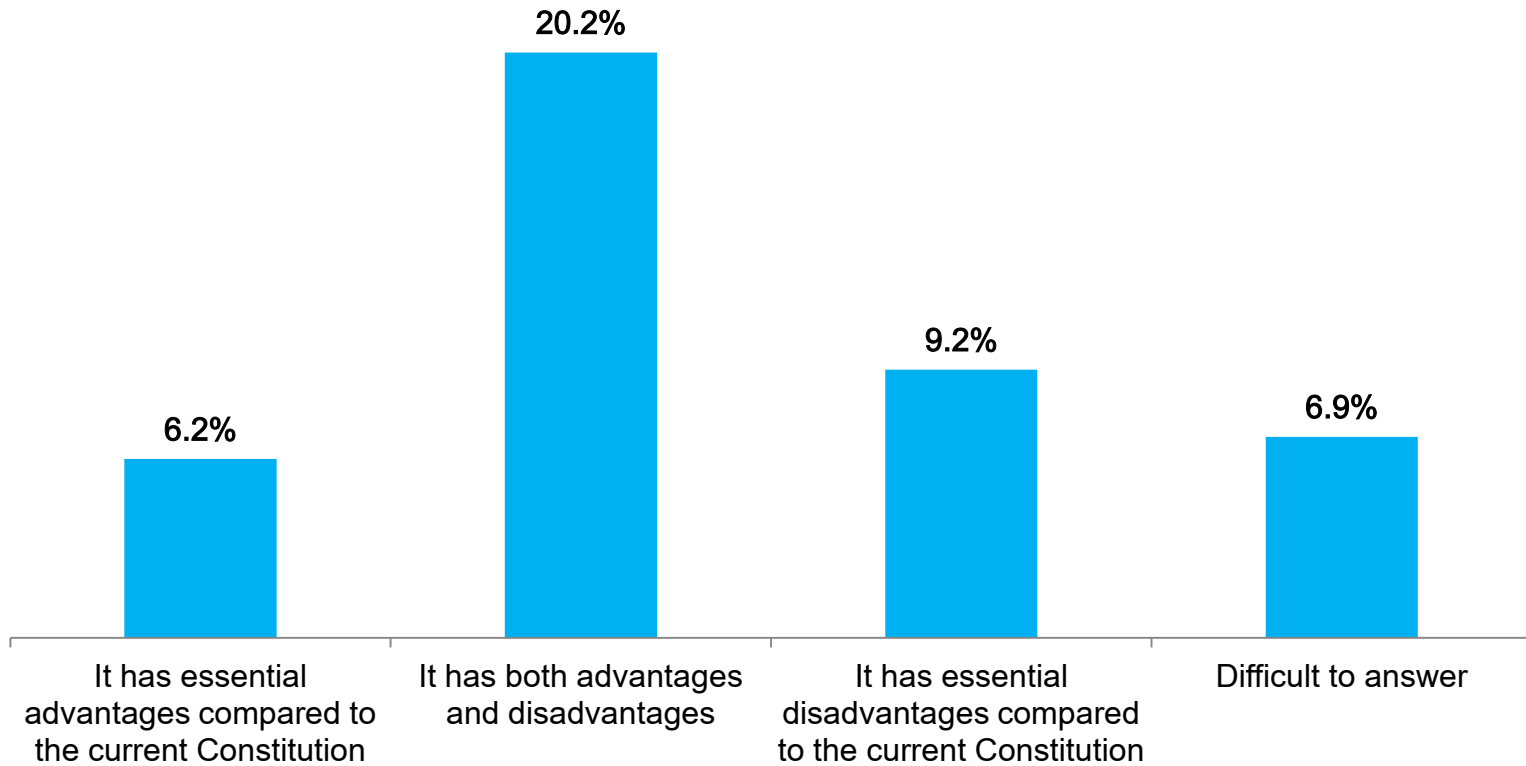
## To what extent are you familiar with?

■ Fully aware ■ Mostly aware ■ Mostly unaware ■ Not familiar at all



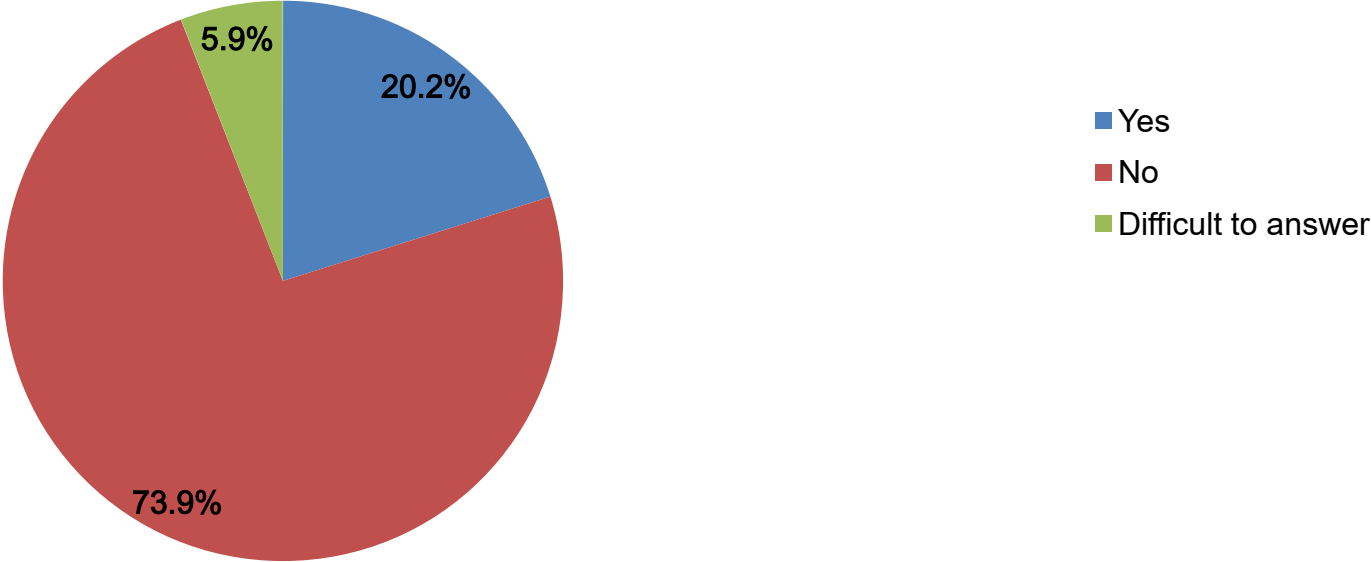
APR Group

**In your view does the proposed draft advantages of disadvantages compared to the current Constitution?**



***On human rights, governance system and other issues***  
***KNOWLEDGE***

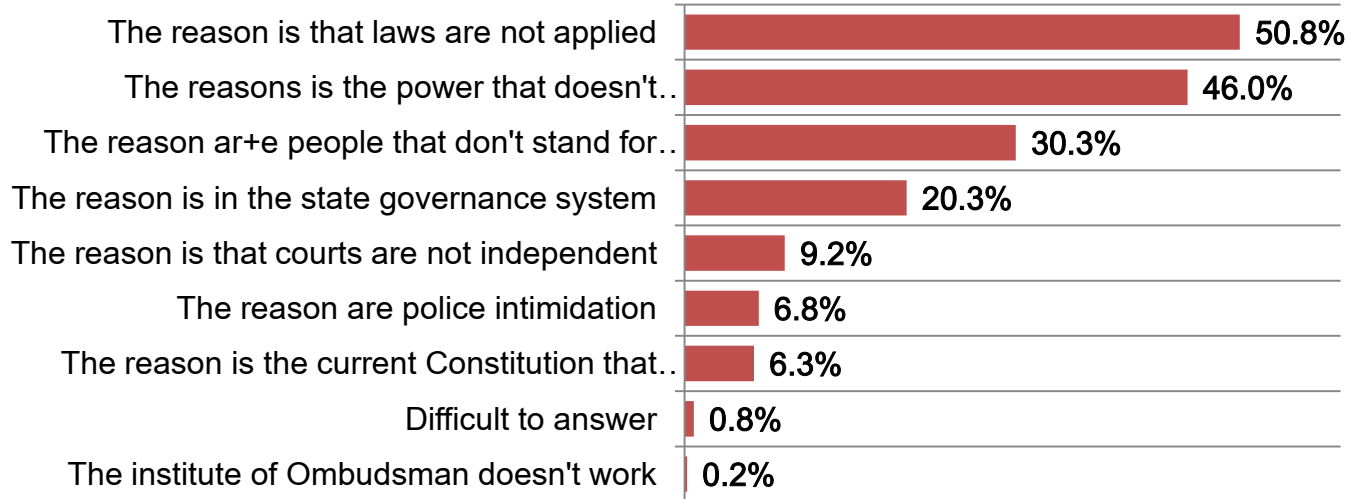
In your opinion, are human rights protected in Armenia?



# Reasons for lack of human rights protection

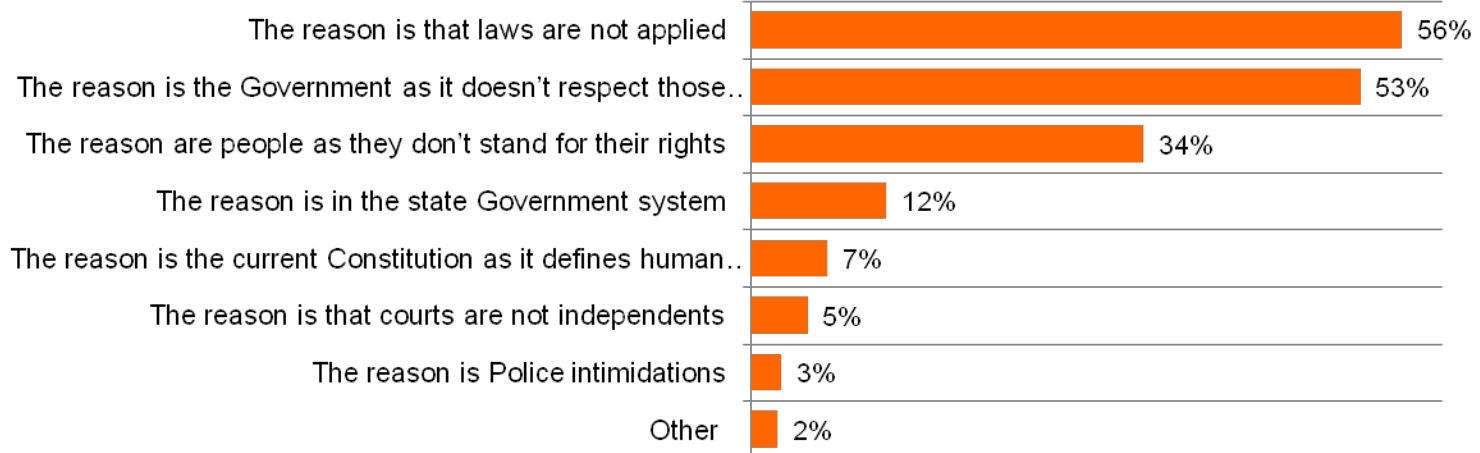
2015

## The reason of lack of human rights protection

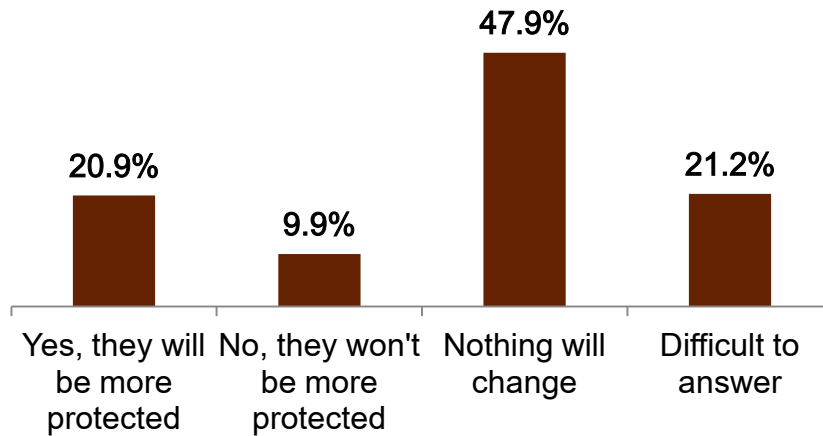


2014

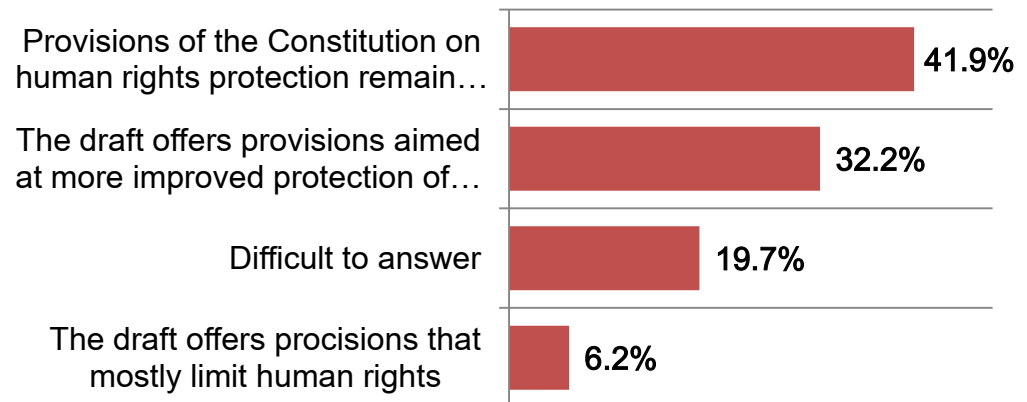
## Reasons for not being protected



## Will human rights be more protected in case of Constitutional reforms?



## Why do you think so?

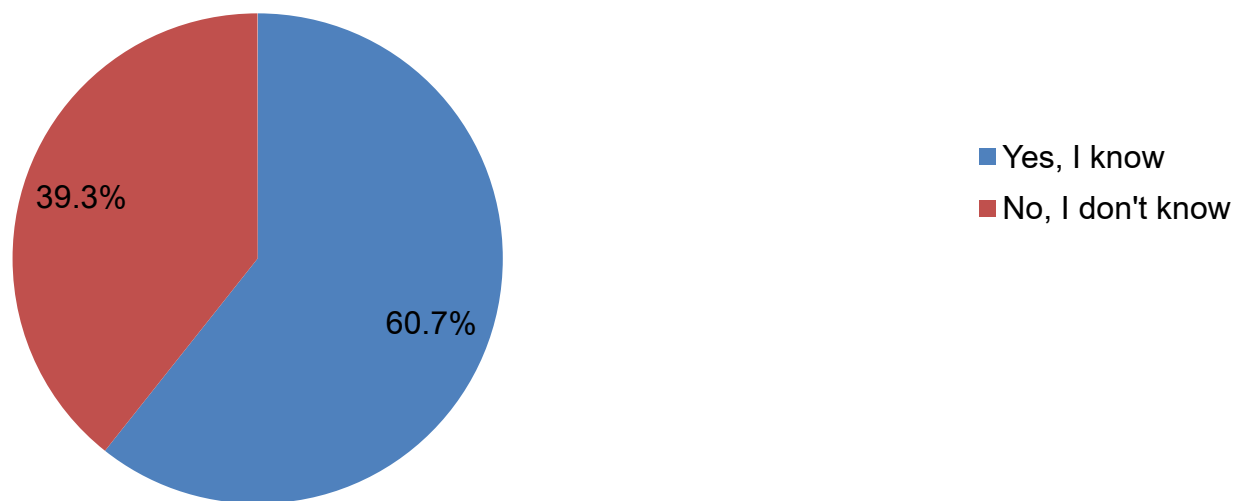


| <b>Are you aware whether the draft Constitutional reforms defined the below mentioned rights or not?</b> | <b>Yes, defined</b> | <b>No, not defined</b> | <b>Difficult to answer</b> |
|--|---------------------|------------------------|----------------------------|
| Right for life   | 37.1%               | 14.1%                  | 48.7%                      |
| Right of ban on torture  | 37.5%               | 15.8%                  | 46.7%                      |
| Right of physical and psychological immunity   | 41.5%               | 14.7%                  | 43.8%                      |
| Personal freedom   | 51.4%               | 12.1%                  | 36.4%                      |
| Freedom of marriage  | 63%                 | 5.1%                   | 31.9%                      |
| Right for respect in personal and family life  | 58.3%               | 6.3%                   | 35.3%                      |
| Freedom of thought, conscience and religion  | 65.4%               | 5.8%                   | 28.8%                      |
| Right to live in the environment promoting health  | 54.5%               | 11.4%                  | 34.1%                      |
| Right of apartment   | 58.5%               | 8.9%                   | 32.6%                      |
| Right of education   | 73.6%               | 4.5%                   | 21.9%                      |
| Labor right  | 64.3%               | 10%                    | 25.7%                      |
| Excluding intimidation   | 52.4%               | 12.5%                  | 35.1%                      |
| Right of voting and being elected  | 73.9%               | 4.7%                   | 21.4%                      |
| Right for founding unions  | 56%                 | 7.1%                   | 37%                        |
| Freedom of rallies   | 57.8%               | 12.3%                  | 29.9%                      |
| Right of fair court hearing  | 59.4%               | 13.4%                  | 27.2%                      |
| Right of healthcare and access to free of charge medical services  | 48.4%               | 20.5%                  | 31.1%                      |
| Right for deserved life  | 56.9%               | 11.1%                  | 32%                        |
| Right for healthy, secure and deserved working conditions  | 51.8%               | 14.4%                  | 33.8%                      |
| Right for social insurance   | 58.5%               | 12.7%                  | 28.7%                      |

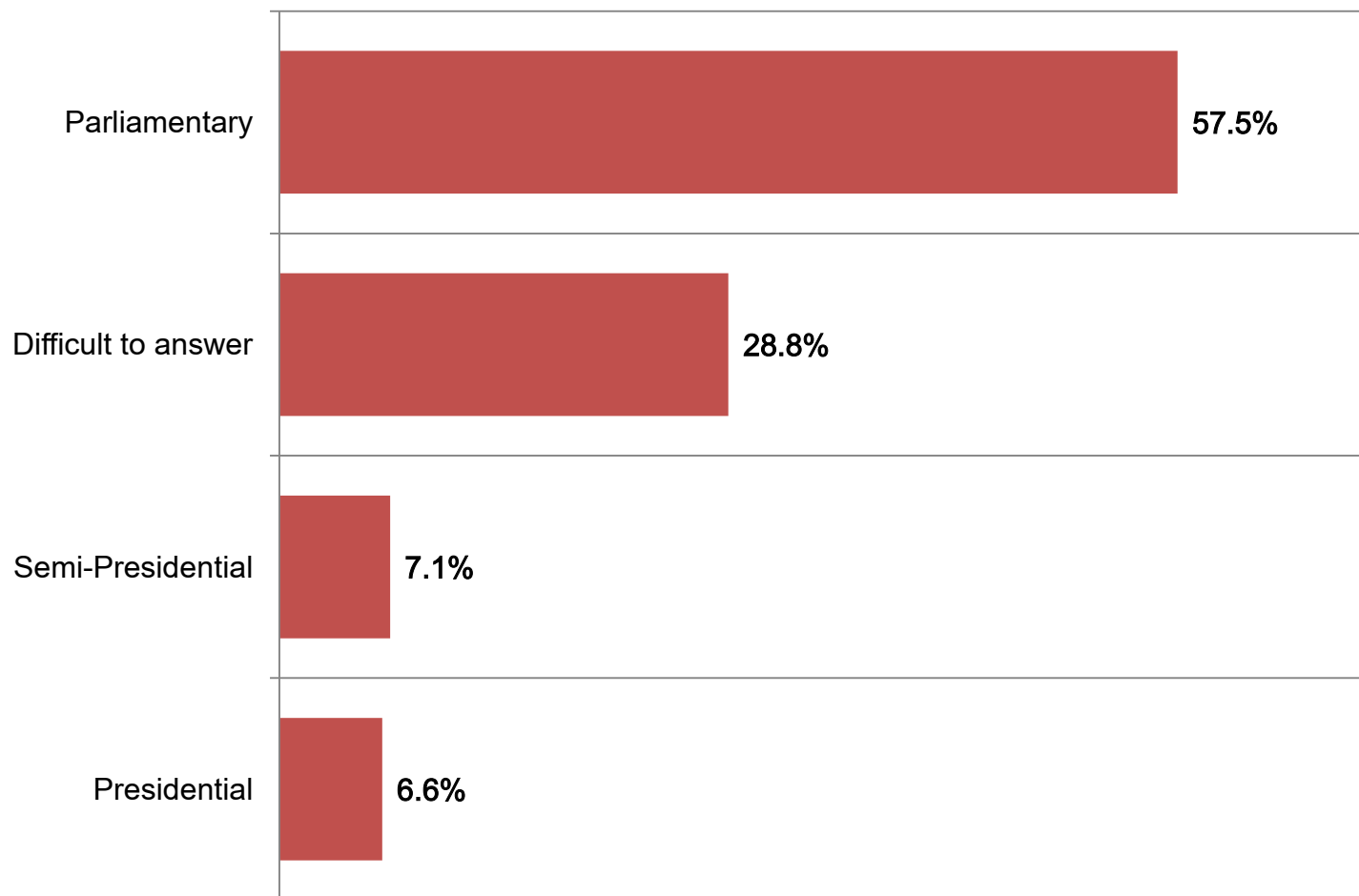
| Should the following rights be defined by the Constitution?       | Should be in the Constitution | No, shouldn't be in the Constitution | Difficult to answer |
|---|-------------------------------|--------------------------------------|---------------------|
| Right of life   | 79.3%                         | 14.7%                                | 6.0%                |
| Right of ban on torture   | 78.5%                         | 15.1%                                | 6.5%                |
| Right of physical and psychological immunity                      | 76.6%                         | 15.0%                                | 8.4%                |
| Personal Freedom  | 83.9%                         | 11.5%                                | 4.5%                |
| Freedom of marriage   | 73.4%                         | 20.8%                                | 5.8%                |
| Right for respect in personal and family life                     | 82.5%                         | 13.7%                                | 3.8%                |
| Freedom of thought, conscience and religion                       | 77.4%                         | 17.9%                                | 4.7%                |
| Right to live in the environment promoting health                 | 88.4%                         | 7.8%                                 | 3.8%                |
| Right of apartment  | 88.2%                         | 8.5%                                 | 3.2%                |
| Right of education  | 93.1%                         | 4.4%                                 | 2.5%                |
| Labor right   | 93.2%                         | 4.2%                                 | 2.7%                |
| Excluding intimidation  | 83.5%                         | 10.8%                                | 5.7%                |
| Right of voting and being elected                                 | 92.5%                         | 4.2%                                 | 3.3%                |
| Right for founding unions   | 74.3%                         | 15.5%                                | 10.2%               |
| Freedom of rallies  | 79.0%                         | 14.9%                                | 6.1%                |
| Right of fair court hearing                                       | 92.9%                         | 3.8%                                 | 3.2%                |
| Right of healthcare and access to free of charge medical services | 93.3%                         | 3.9%                                 | 2.8%                |
| Right for deserved life   | 90.8%                         | 5.5%                                 | 3.6%                |
| Right for healthy, secure and deserved working conditions         | 91.4%                         | 5.8%                                 | 2.9%                |
| Right for social insurance  | 93.1%                         | 3.9%                                 | 3.1%                |

## **Governance system**

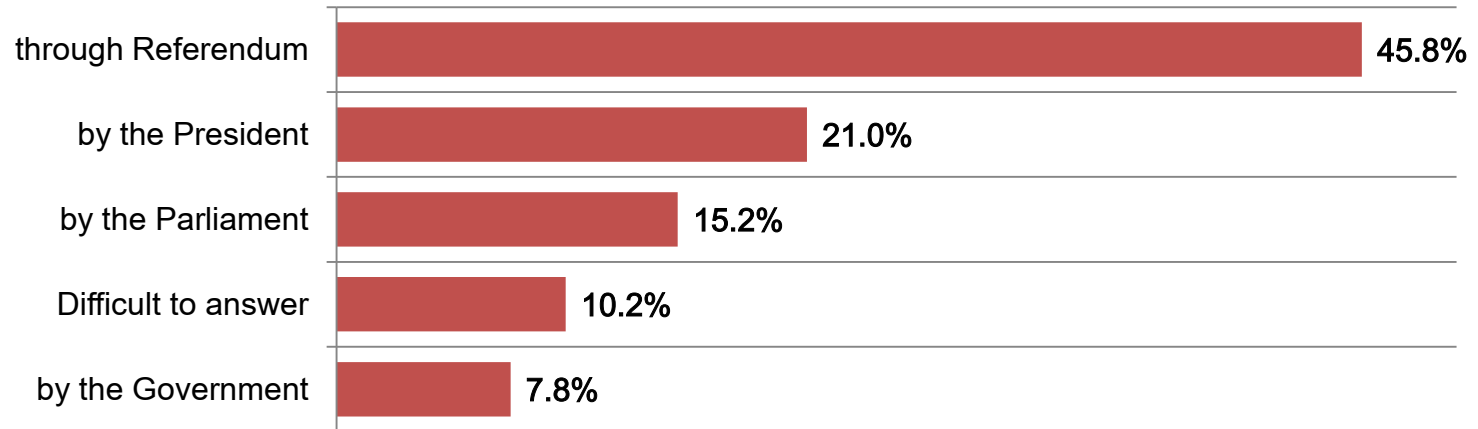
**Do you know that the offered Constitutional amendments plan to change the country's governance system?**



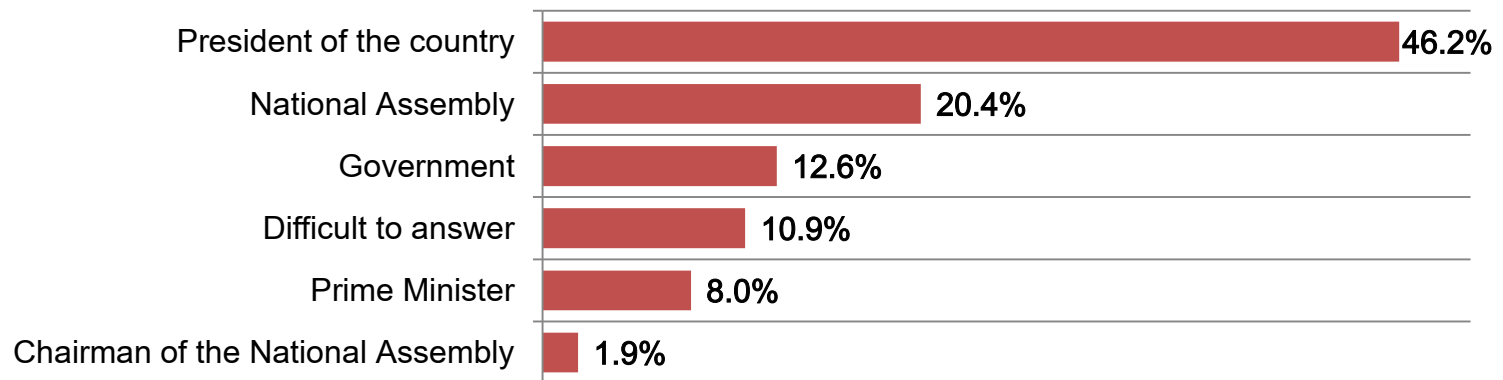
**Do you know what type of governance system is defined by the new draft of the Constitution?**



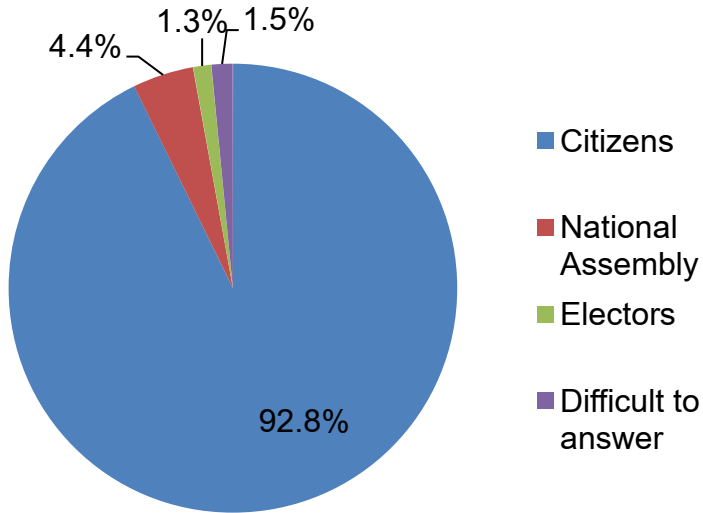
**Would you wish the important issues for the country to be decided...**



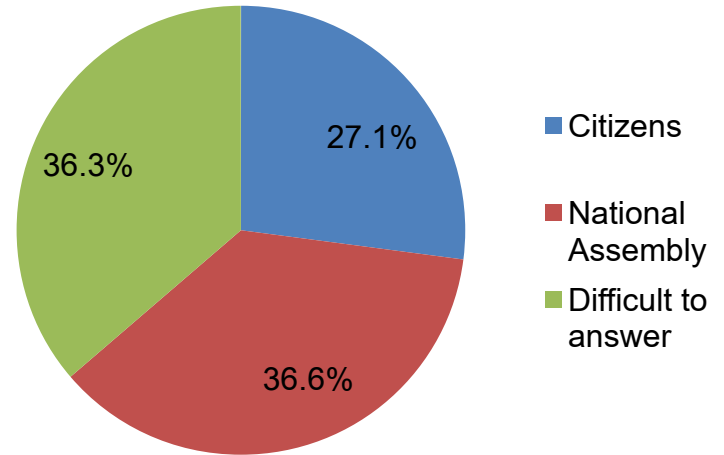
**In your opinion who should perform governance of the country (be the head of the country and executor of power)?**



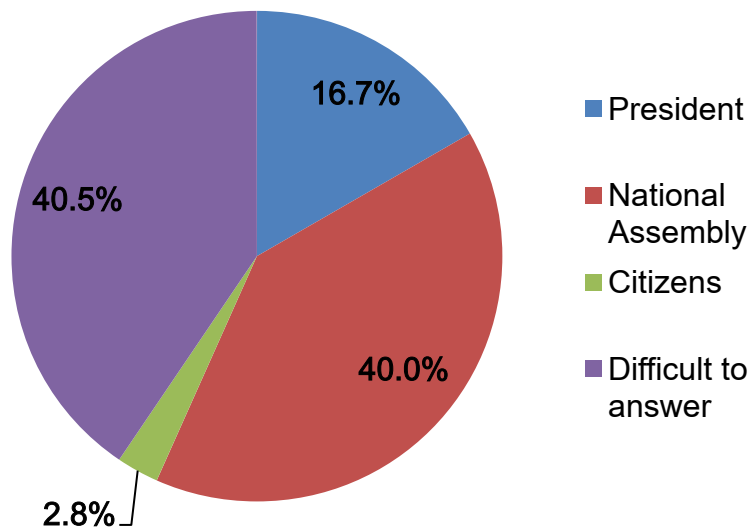
**In your opinion who should elect the President of the country?**



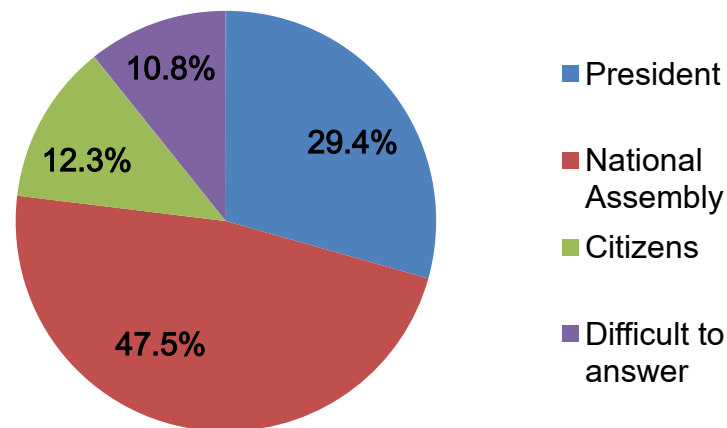
**Do you know who should elect the President of the country according to the draft Constitution?**



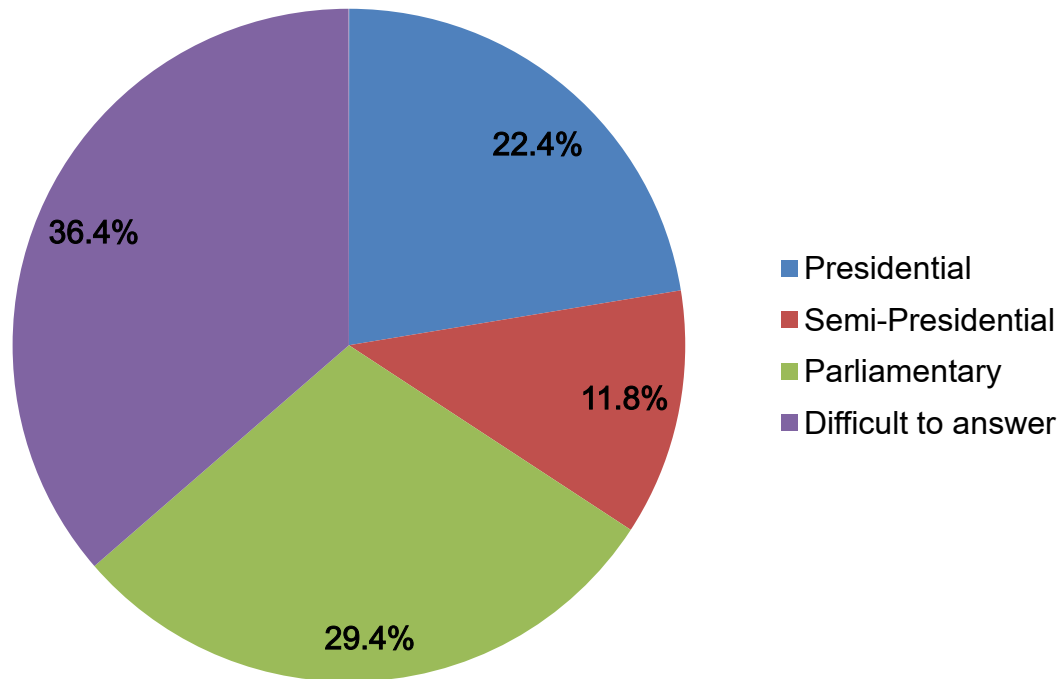
### Do you know who appoints the Prime Minister and form the Government?



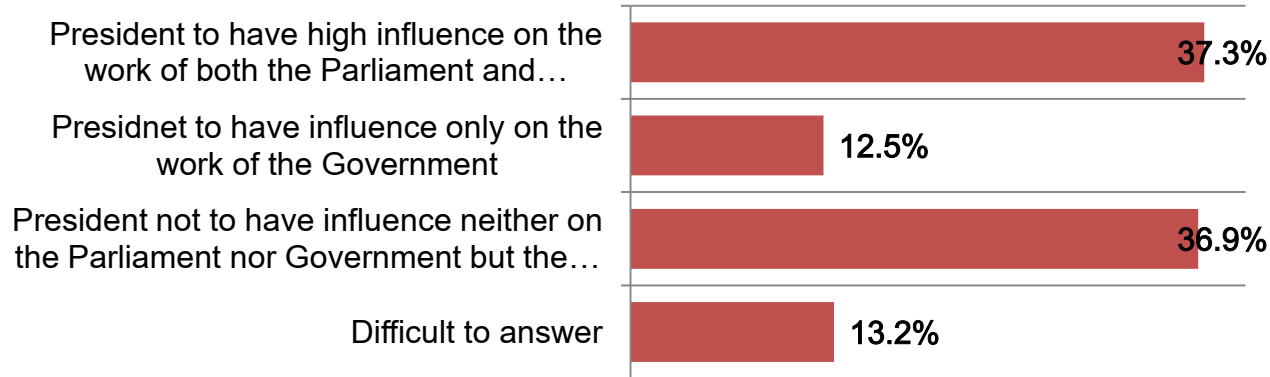
### In your view who should appoint the Prime Minister and for the Government?



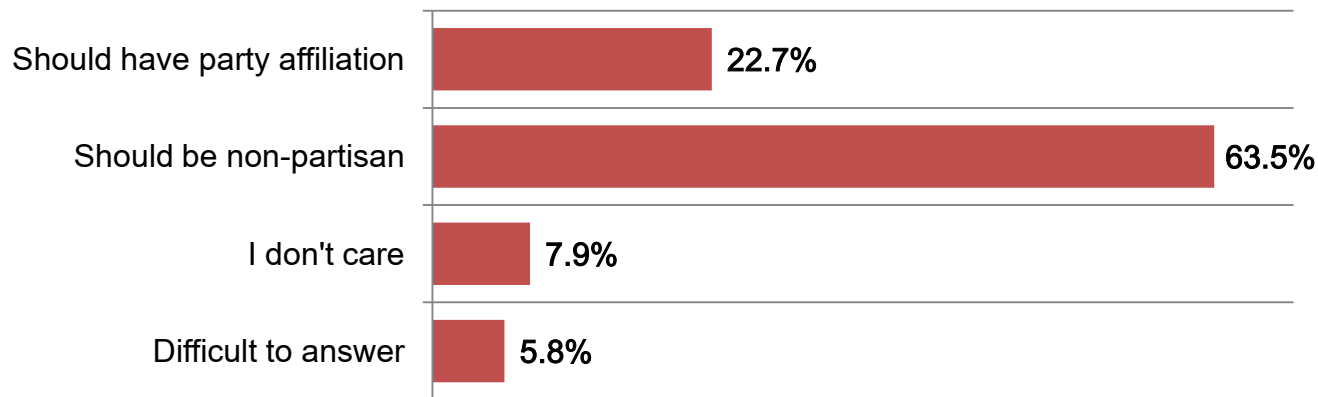
**In your opinion is the population well represented in the Presidential, Semi-Presidential or Parliamentary system?**



## How would you like to see the balance between the President, Parliament and Government?



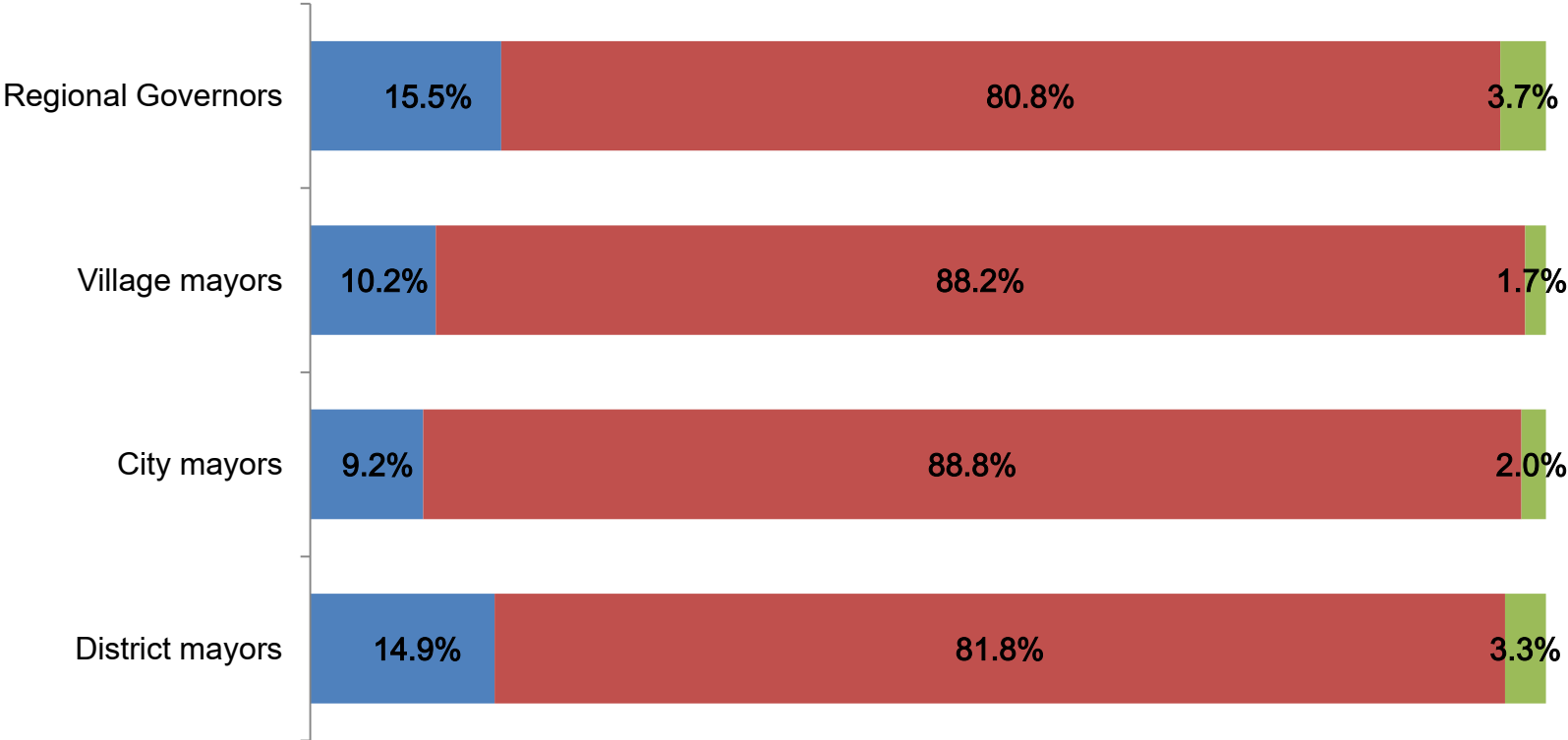
## In your view should the President of the Republic be a member of a party or non-partisan?



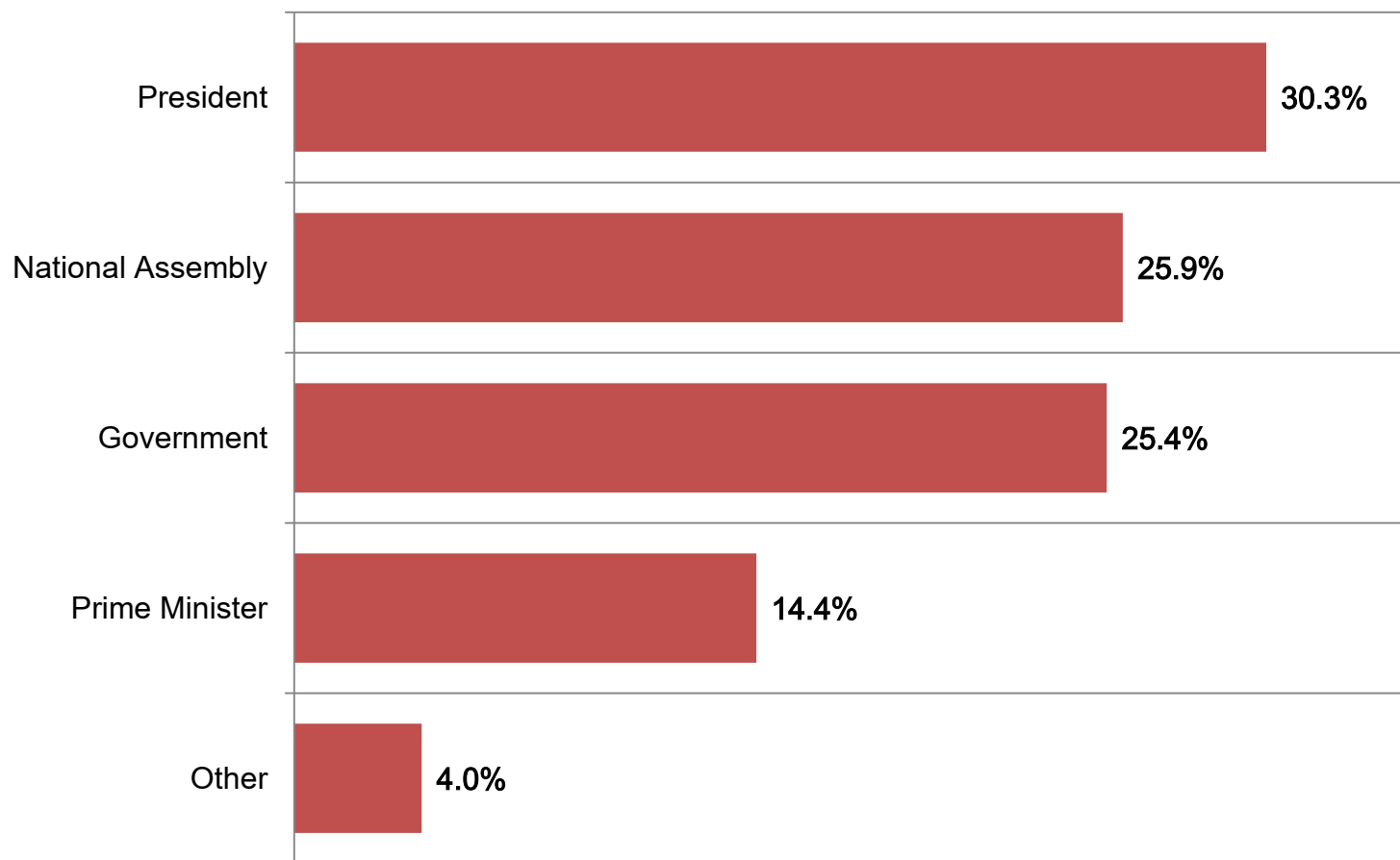
## Local Self-governance

# In your opinion should the following bodies be appointed or elected?

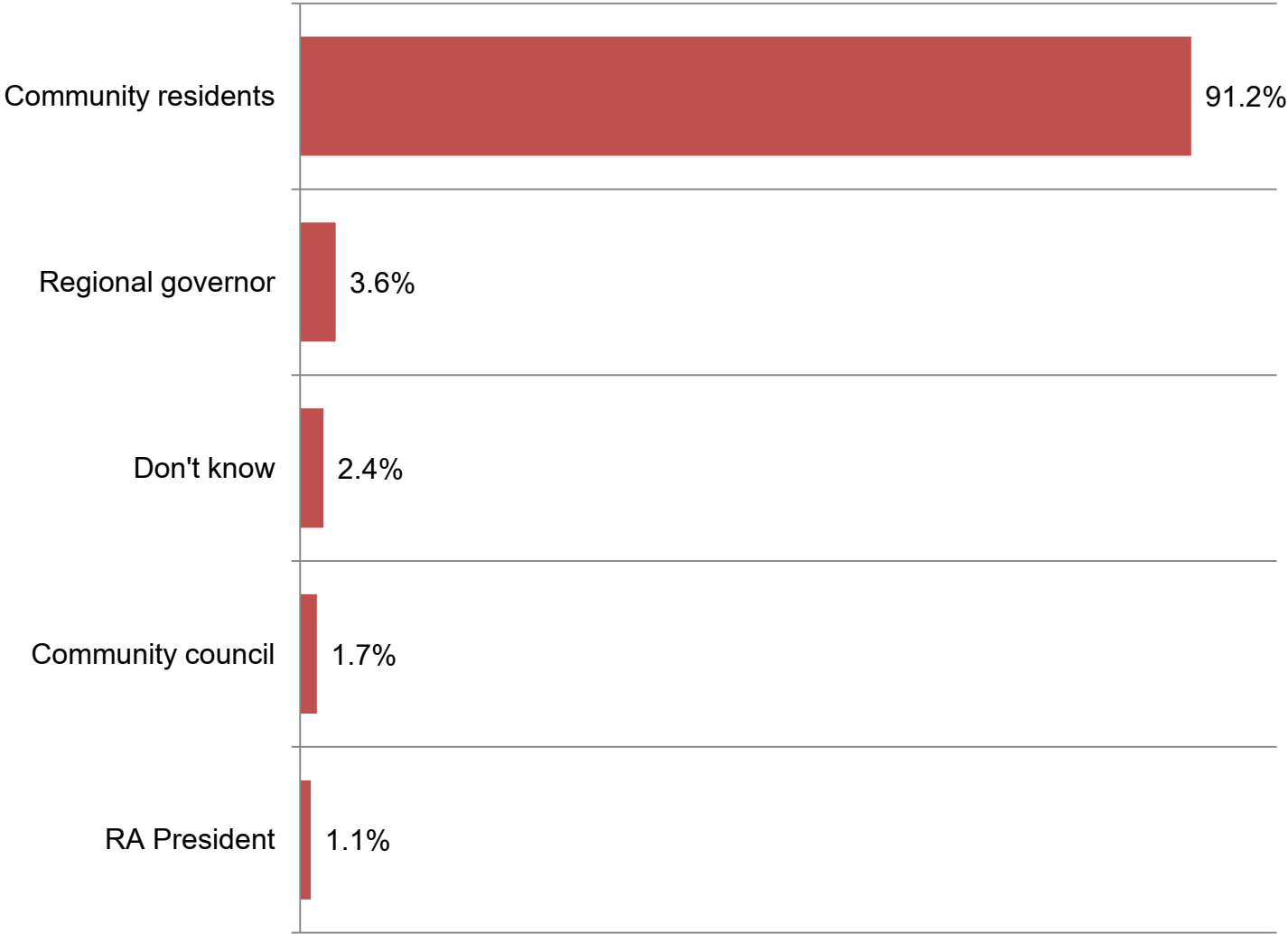
■ Appointed ■ Elected ■ Difficult to answer



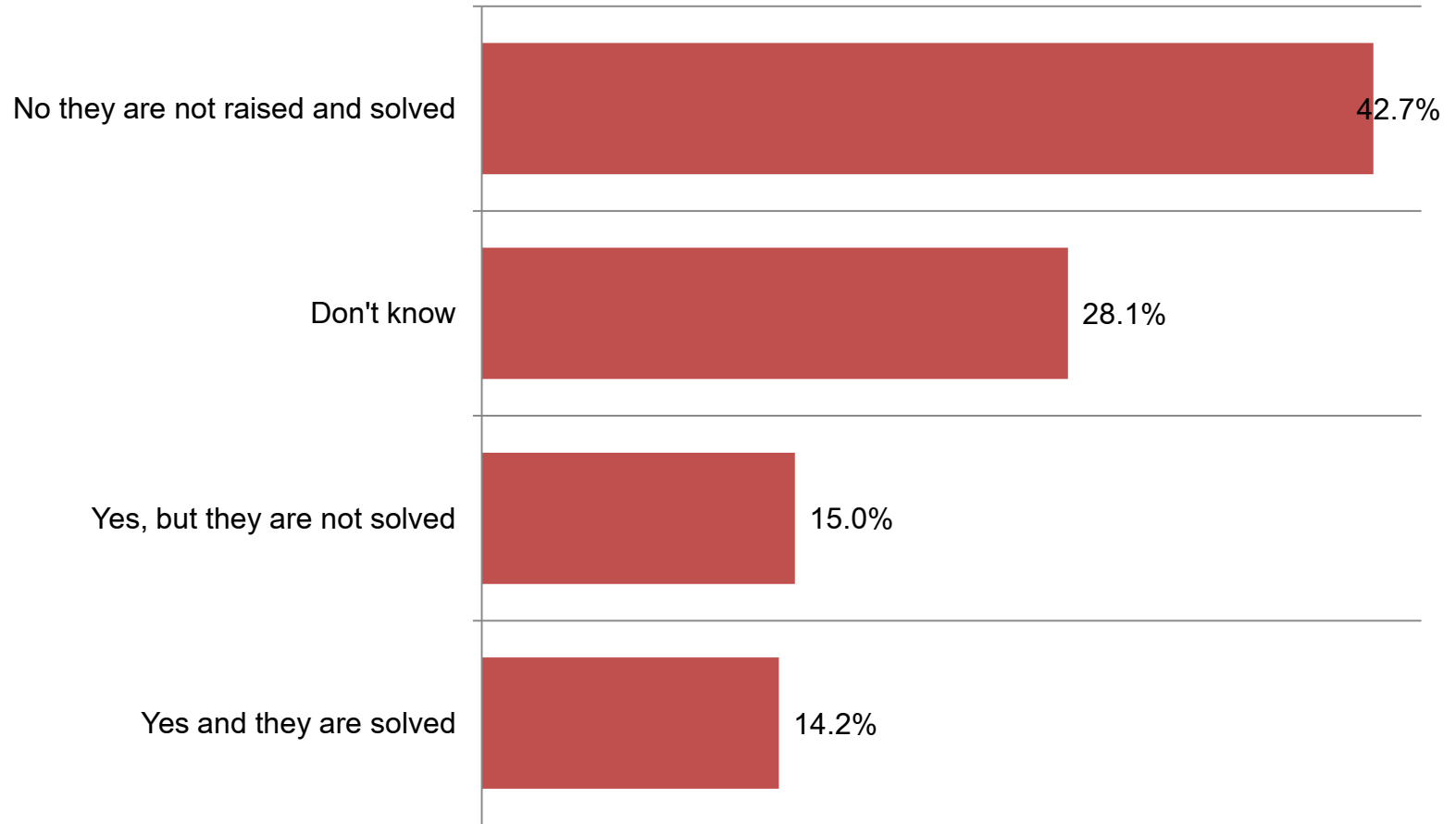
**If you think that regional governors should be appointed, in your view,  
who should appoint them?**



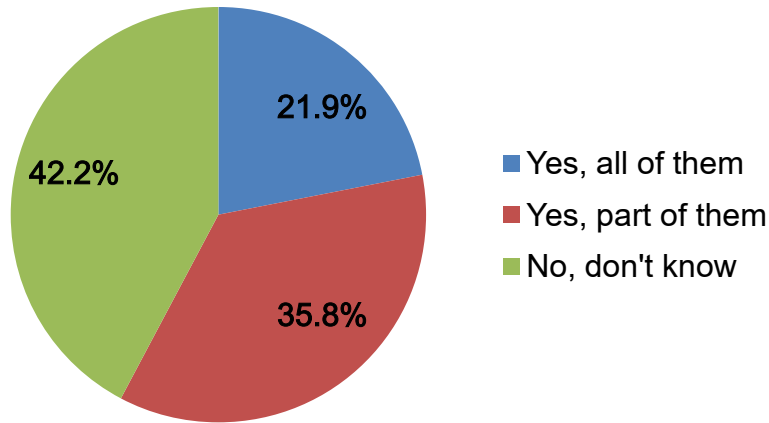
**In your opinion who should elect the community mayor (village mayor, city mayor)?**



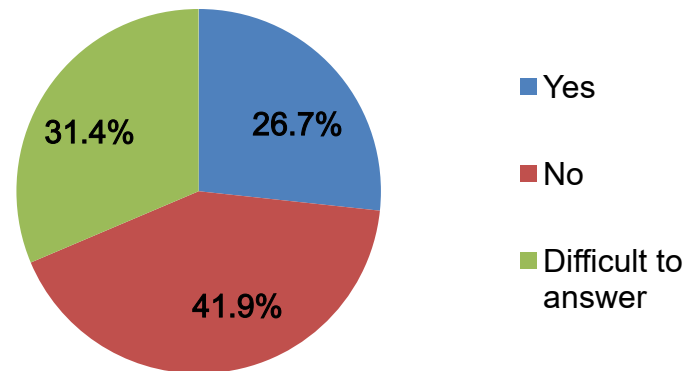
**Are the issues of your community raised at NA by the MP elected from your community?**



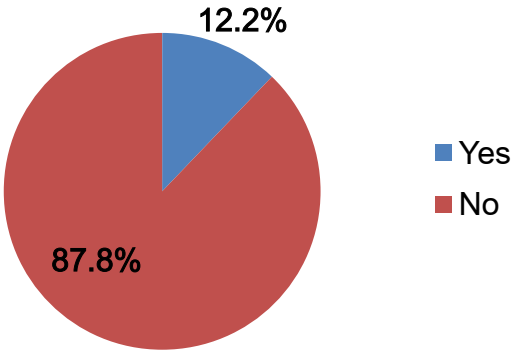
### Do you know members of your community council?



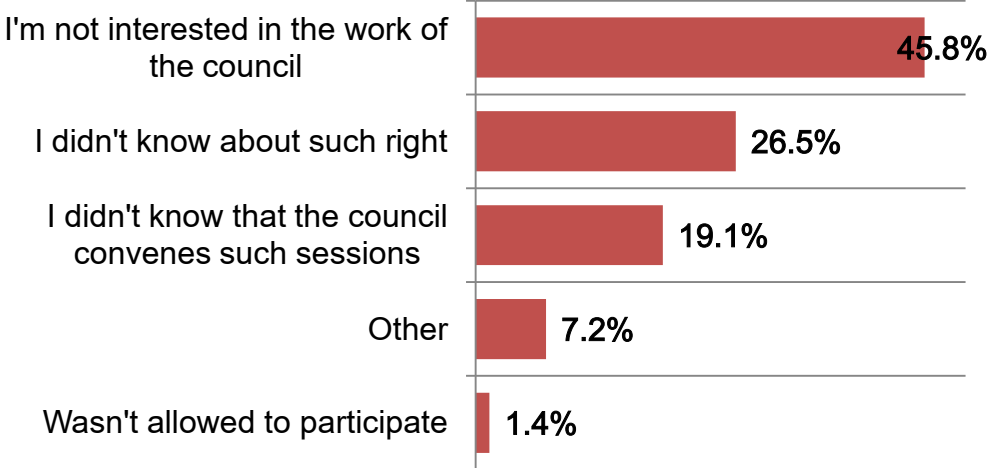
### In your opinion does your community council have enough independence from the mayor?



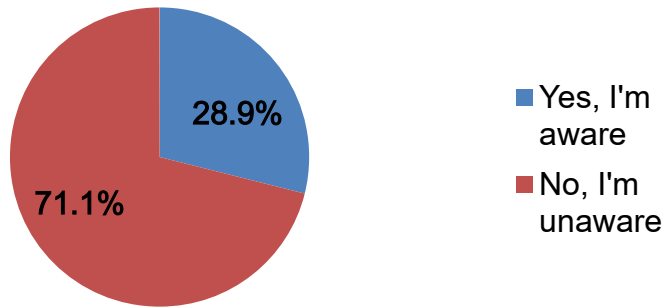
Have you ever participated in sessions of your community council?



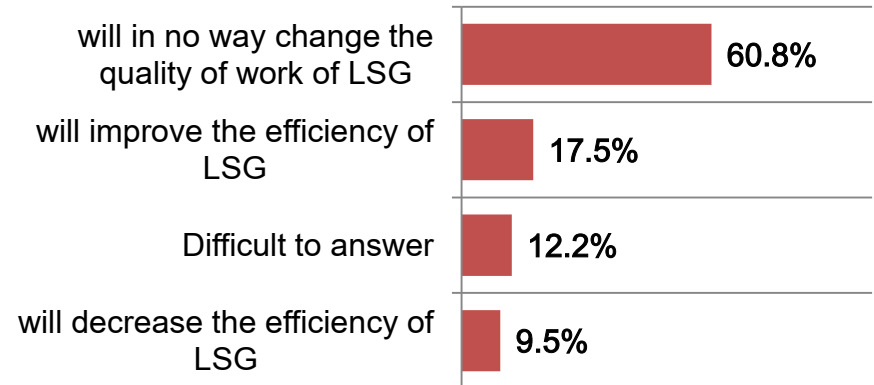
You haven't participated in council sessions because...



Are you aware that the community council and mayor will be elected for 5 and not 4 year term?

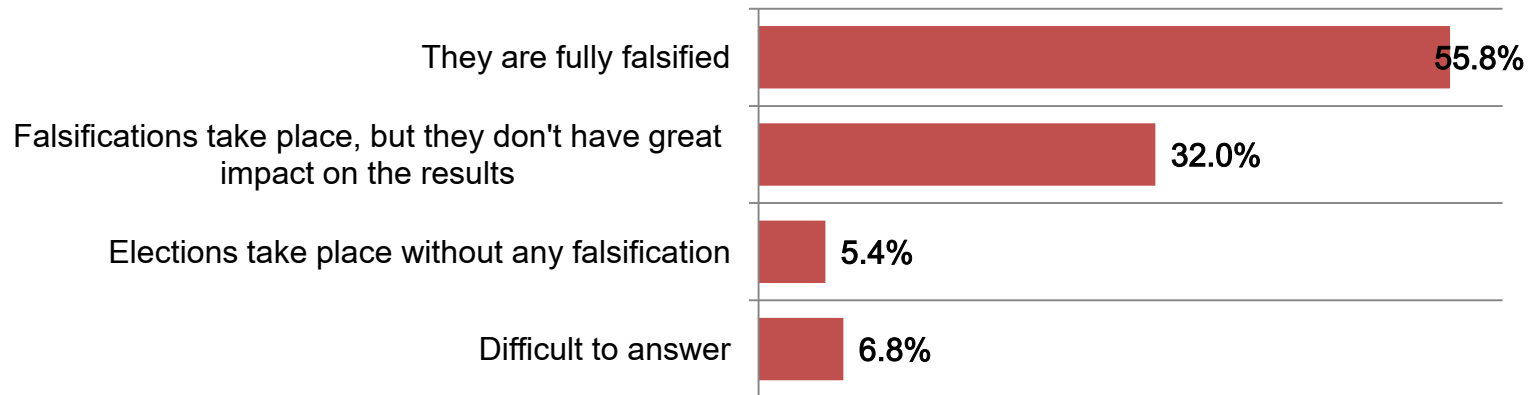


Extending the term of office for the community council and mayor for one year...



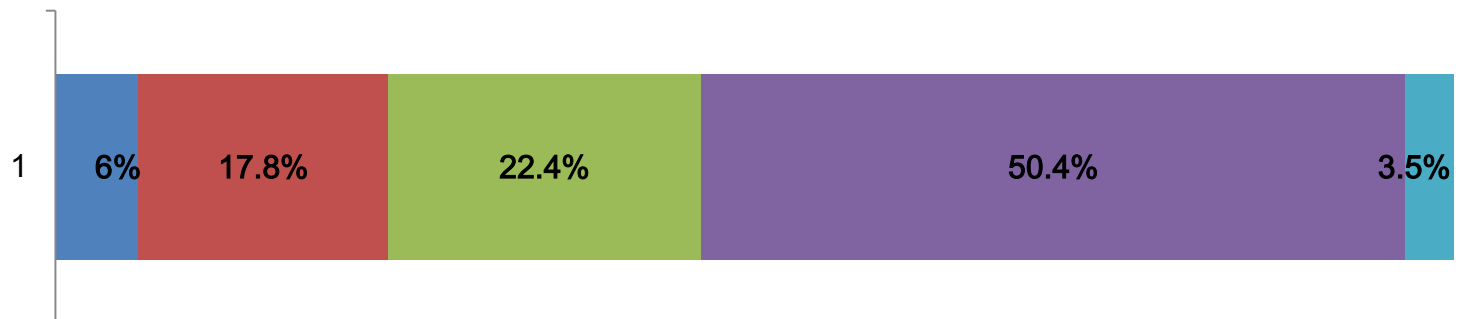
## Participation in the referendum: practice

## In your view to what extent do elections in Armenia correspond to the reality?



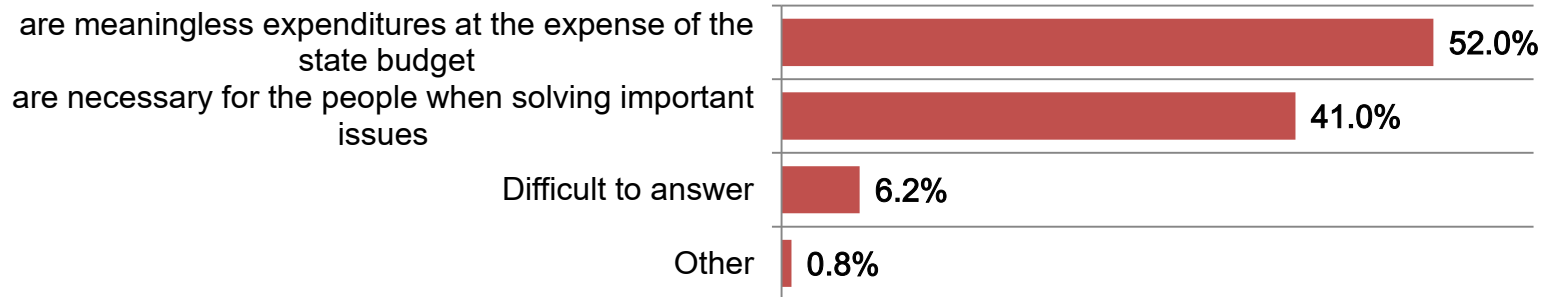
## To what extent do you trust electoral processes in Armenia?

■ Fully trust ■ Mostly trust ■ Mostly don't trust ■ Don't trust at all ■ Difficult to answer



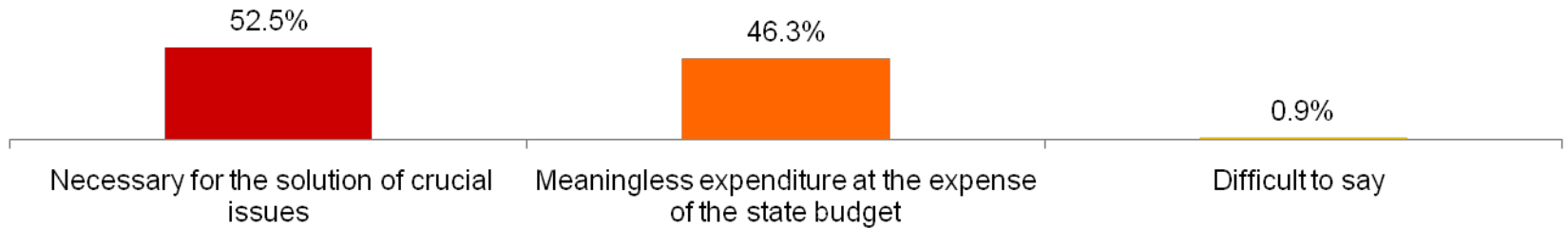
2015

### In your view, referendums...



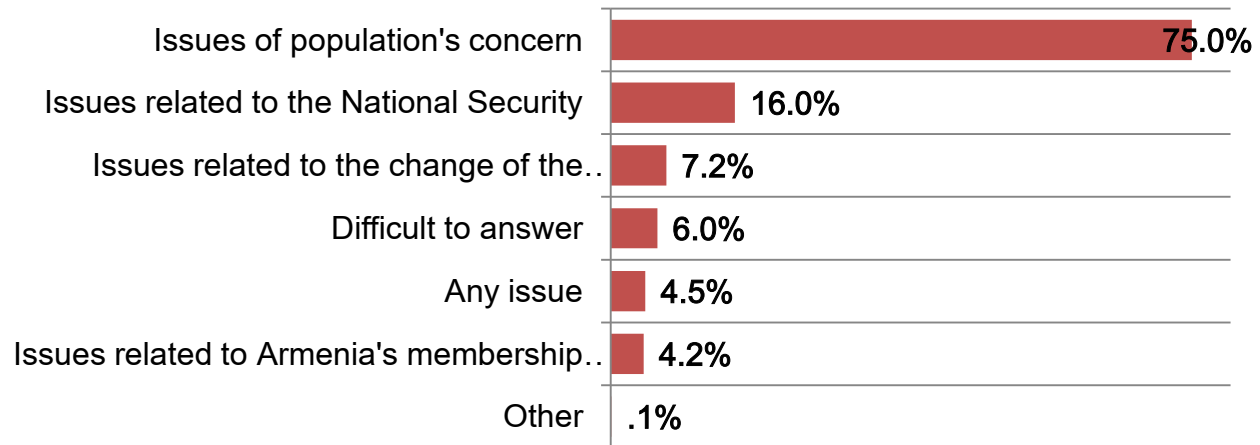
2014

### Gr. 41. Need for the referendum



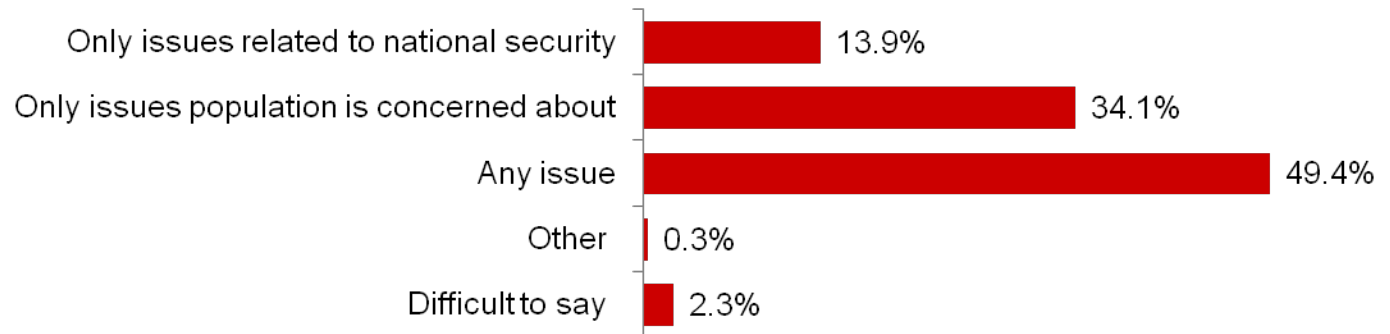
2015

### Issues to be put to referendum

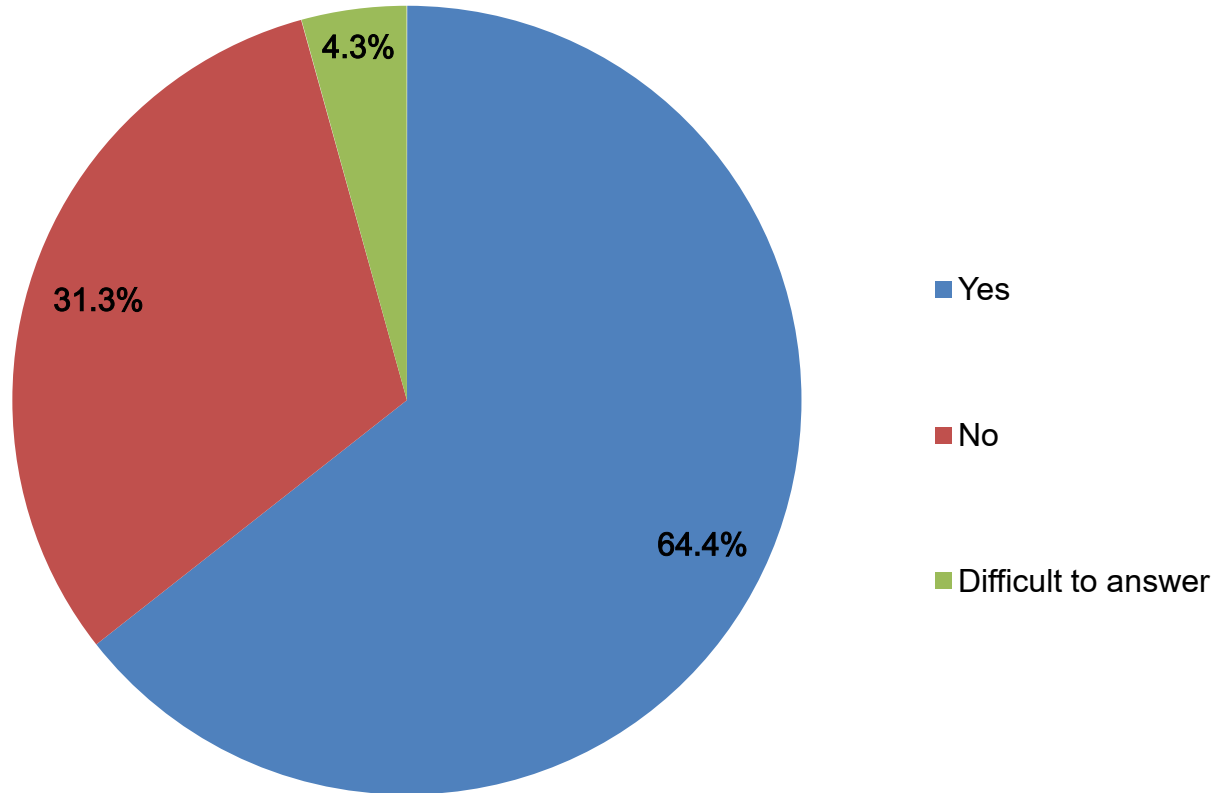


2014

### Gr. 43. Preferable issues put to a referendum

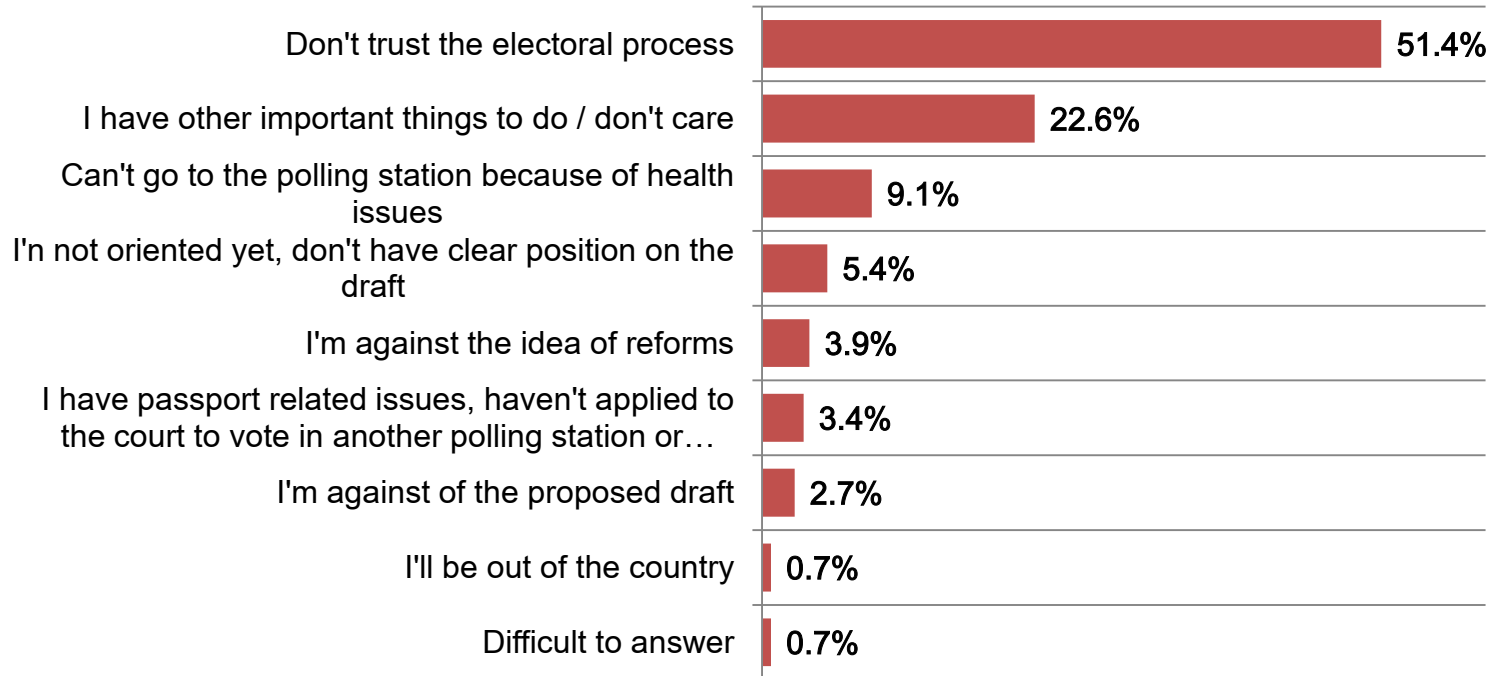


If the Constitutional referendum was to take place this Sunday would you participate?



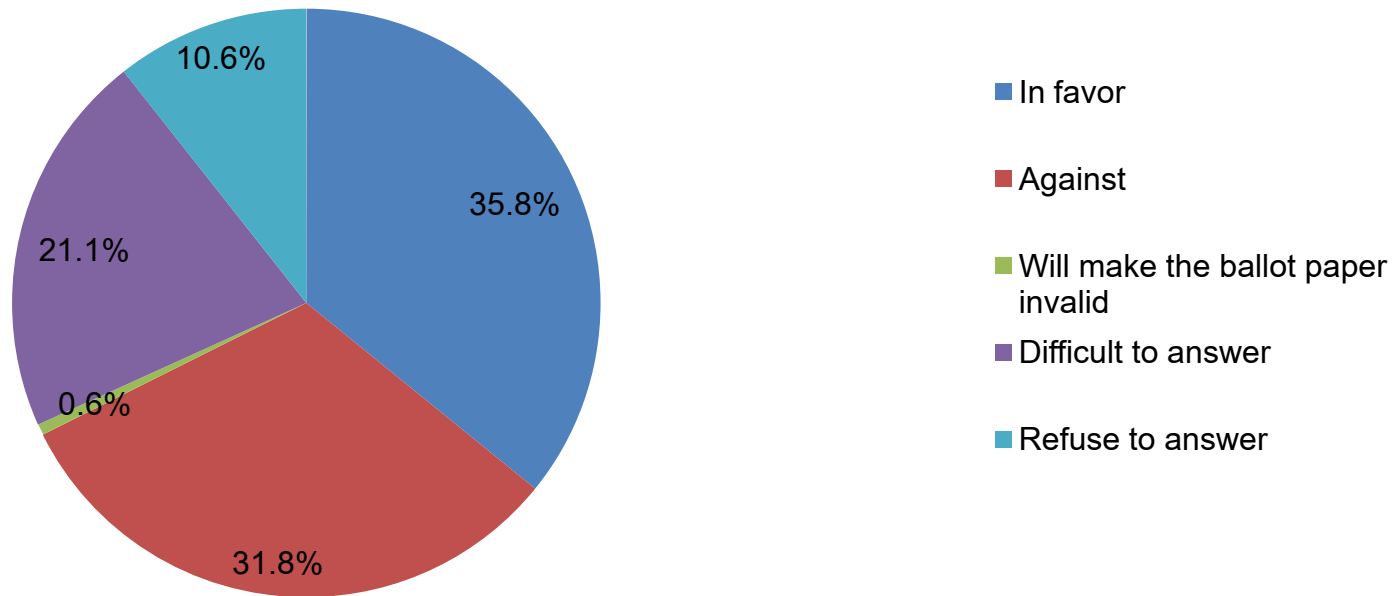
Residents 407

### If no why?

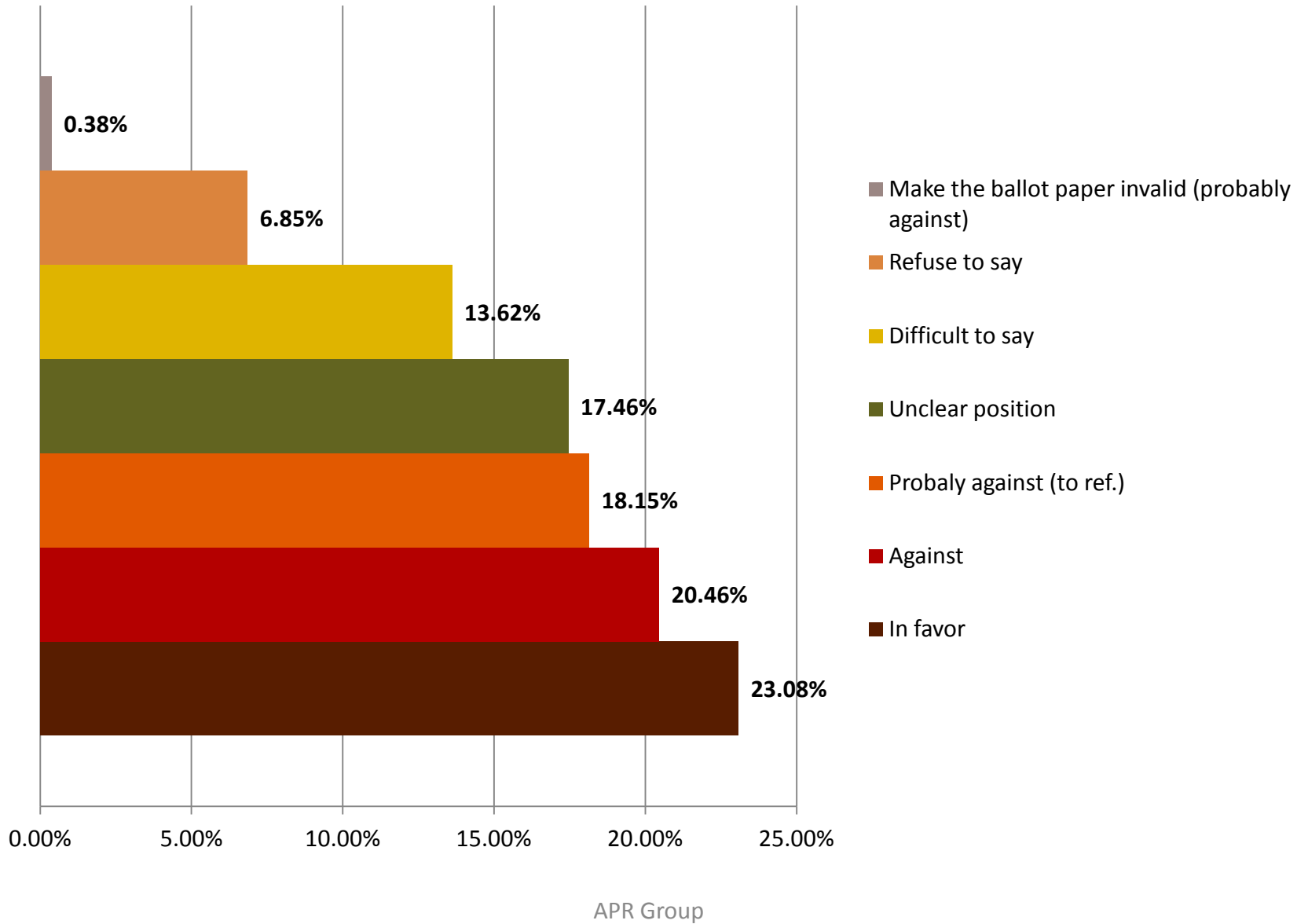


Residents 837

### If yes how would you vote - in favor or against?

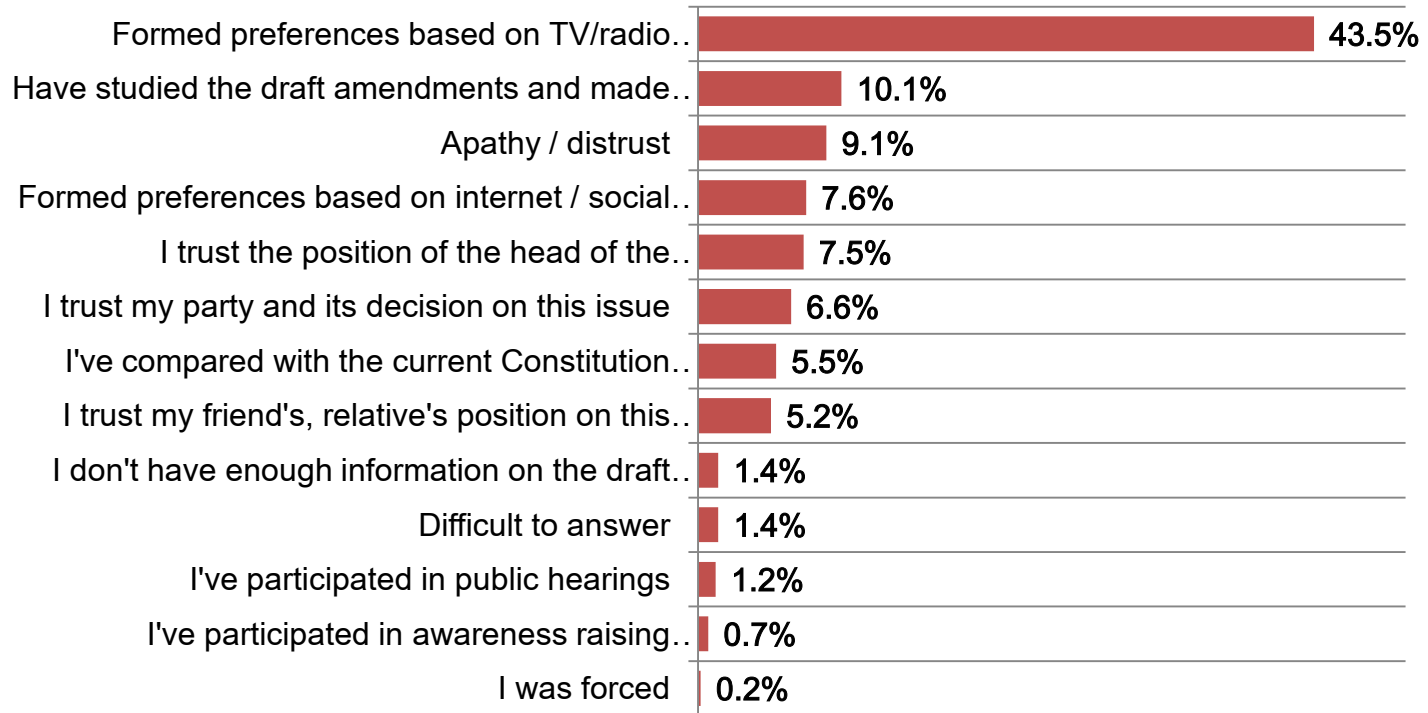


## Probable outcome of the referendum

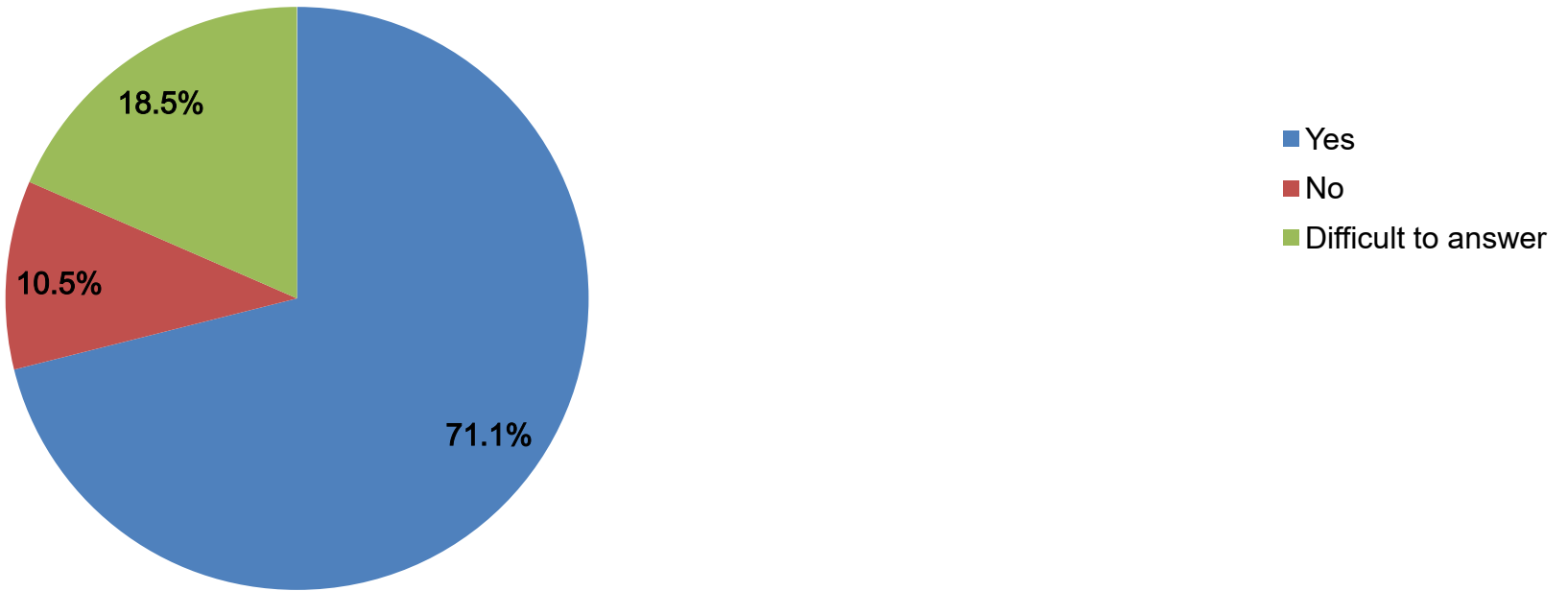


Residents 563

### How/based on what did you make your decision ("in favor" or "against")?



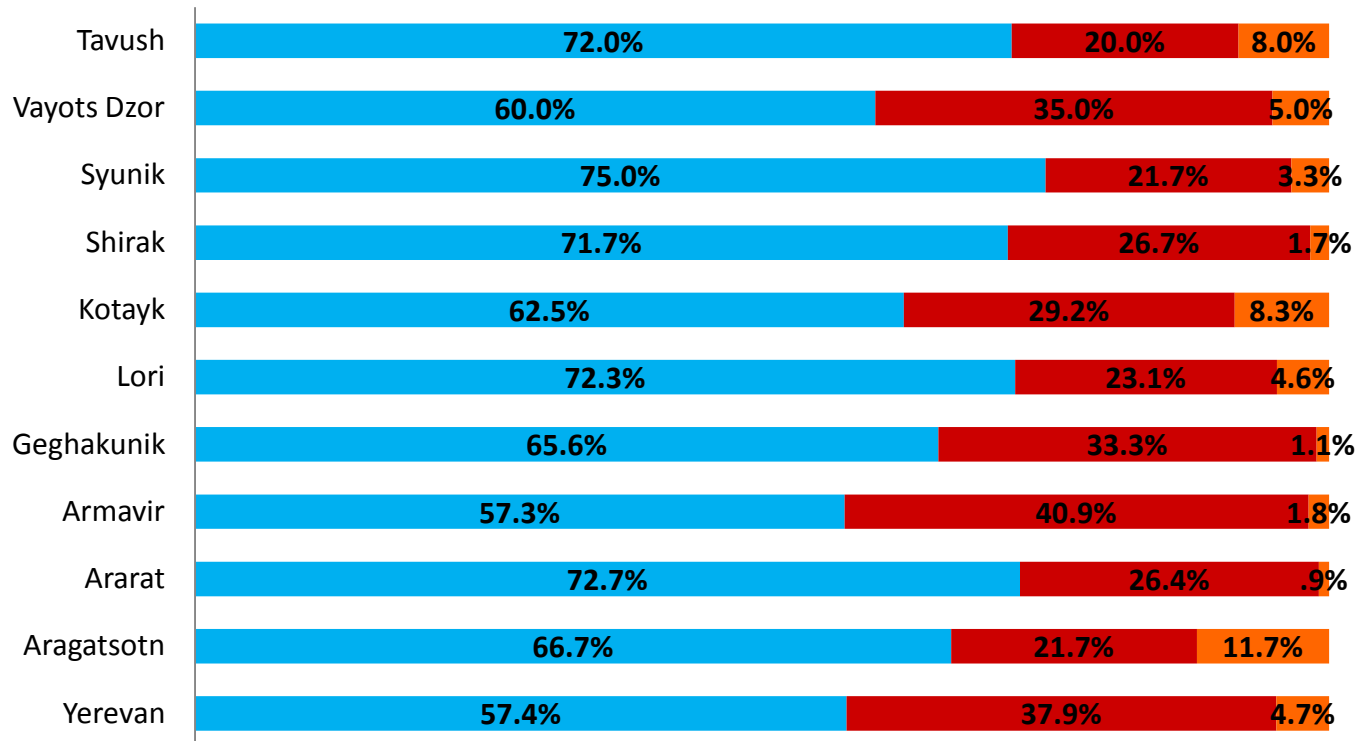
Independent of your position, in your view, will the draft amendments to the Constitution be adopted?



## Participation according to marzes

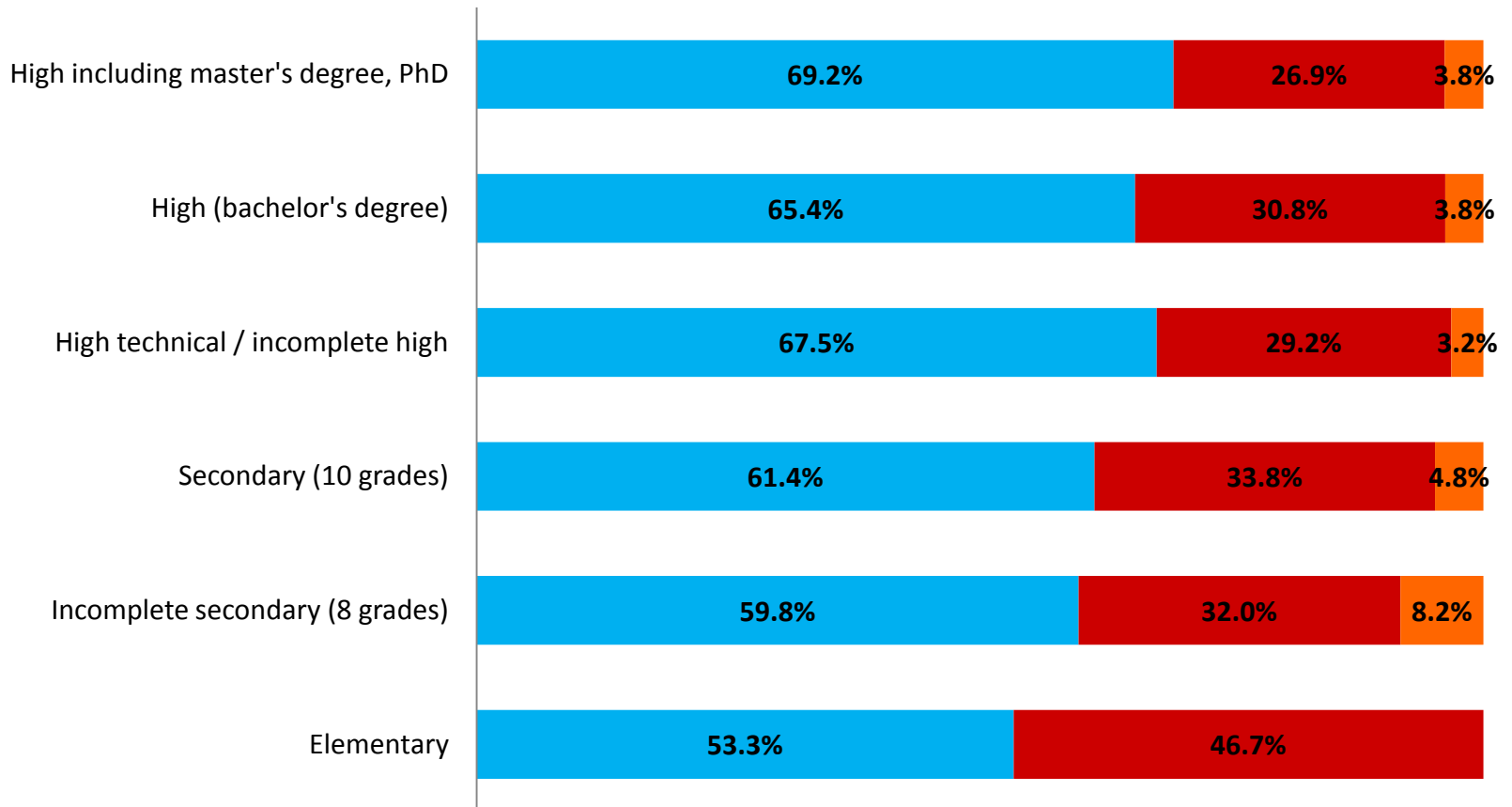
### Participation in the referendum according to marzes

■ Yes ■ No ■ Difficult to answer



### Participation according to education

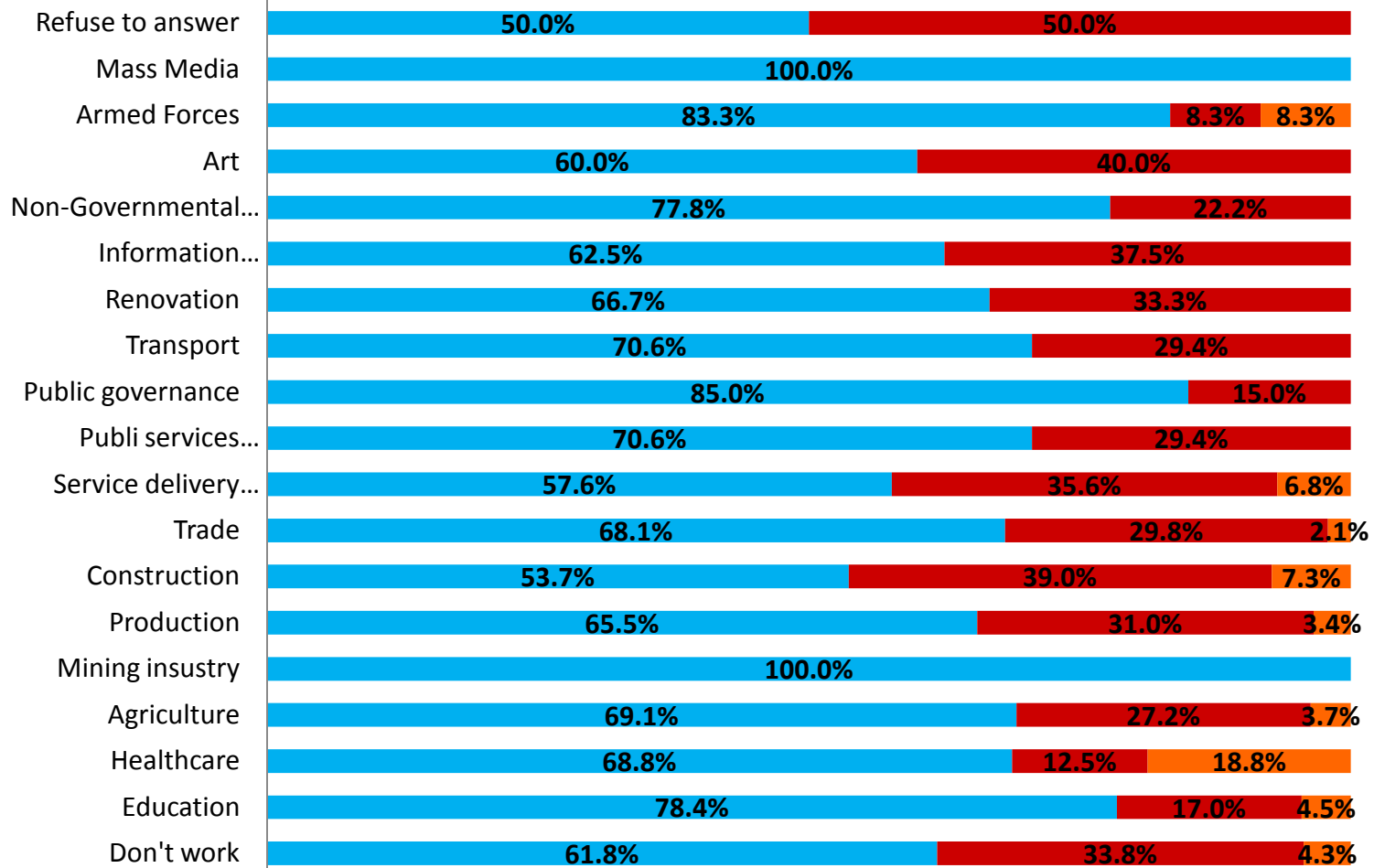
■ Yes ■ No ■ Difficult to say



APR Group

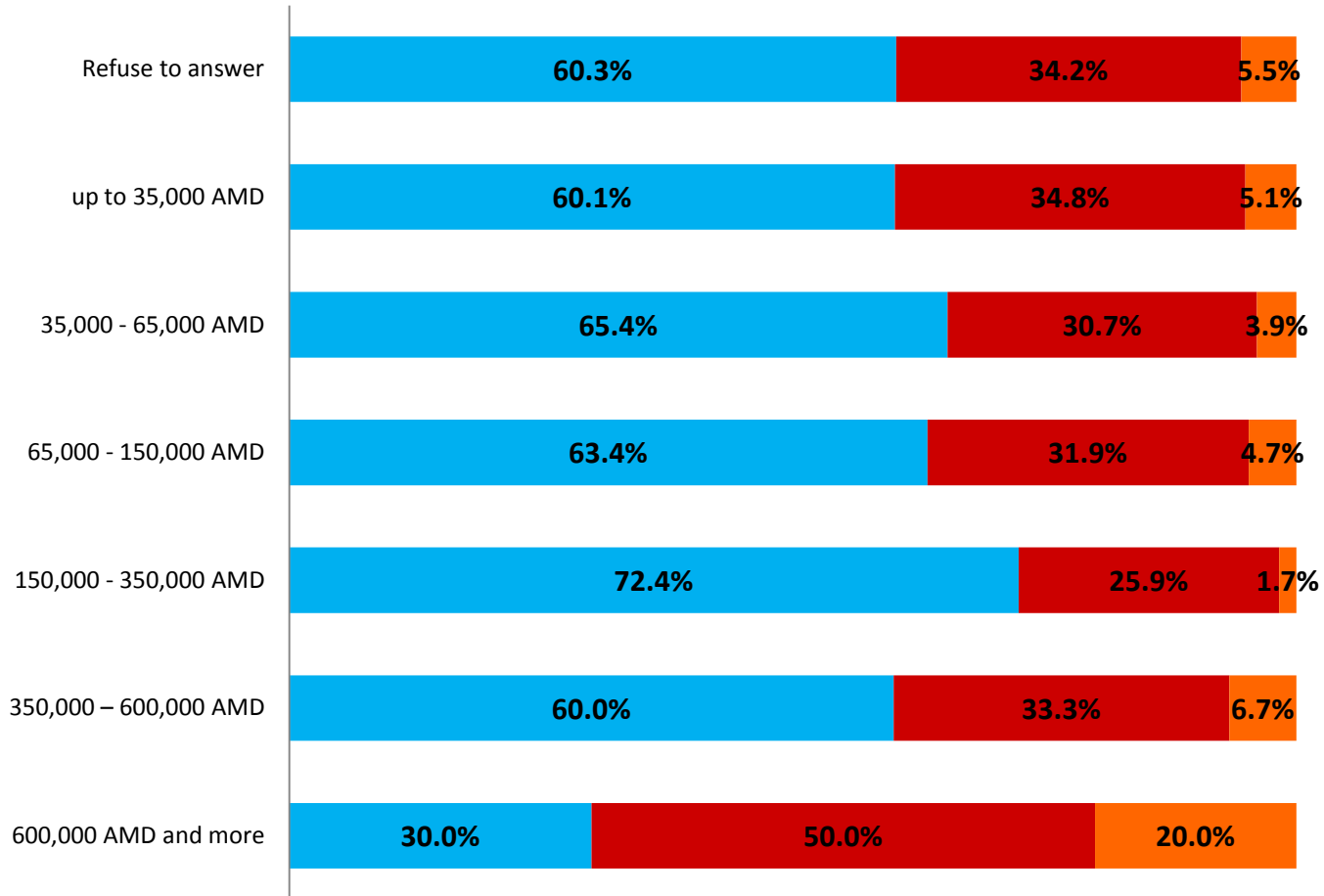
## Participation according to the sphere of employment

■ Yes ■ No ■ Difficult to say



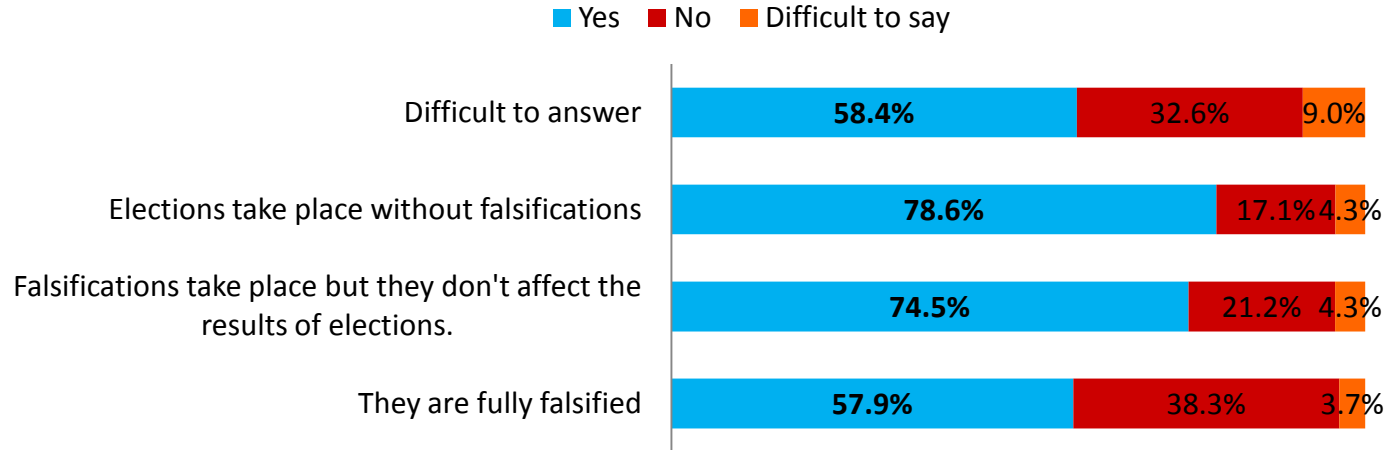
## Participation according to the average monthly income of the family

■ Yes ■ No ■ Difficult to say

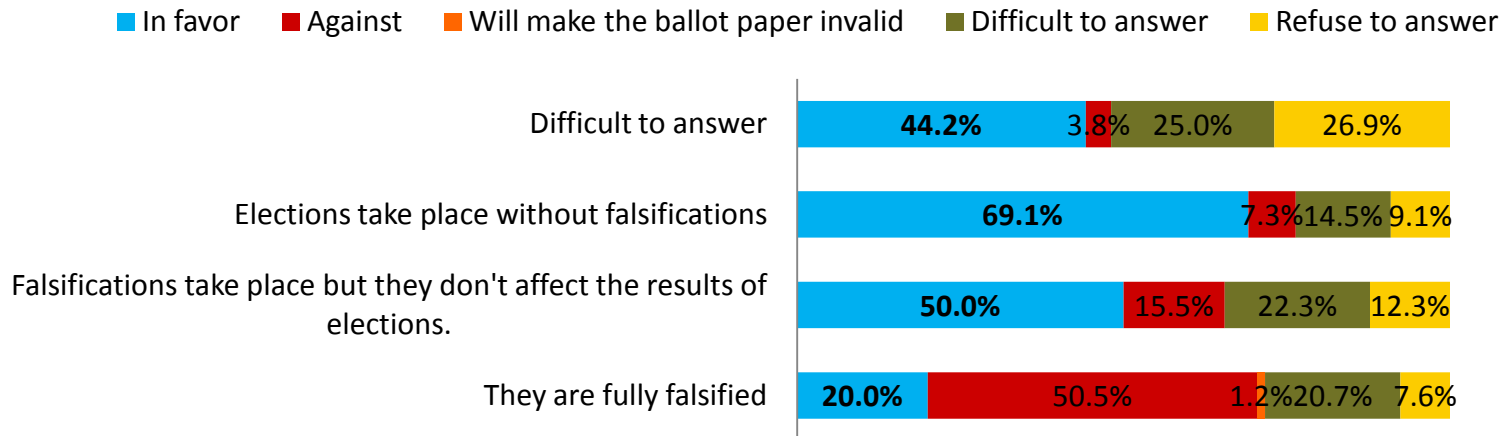


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## Participation according to the attitude towards the results of elections

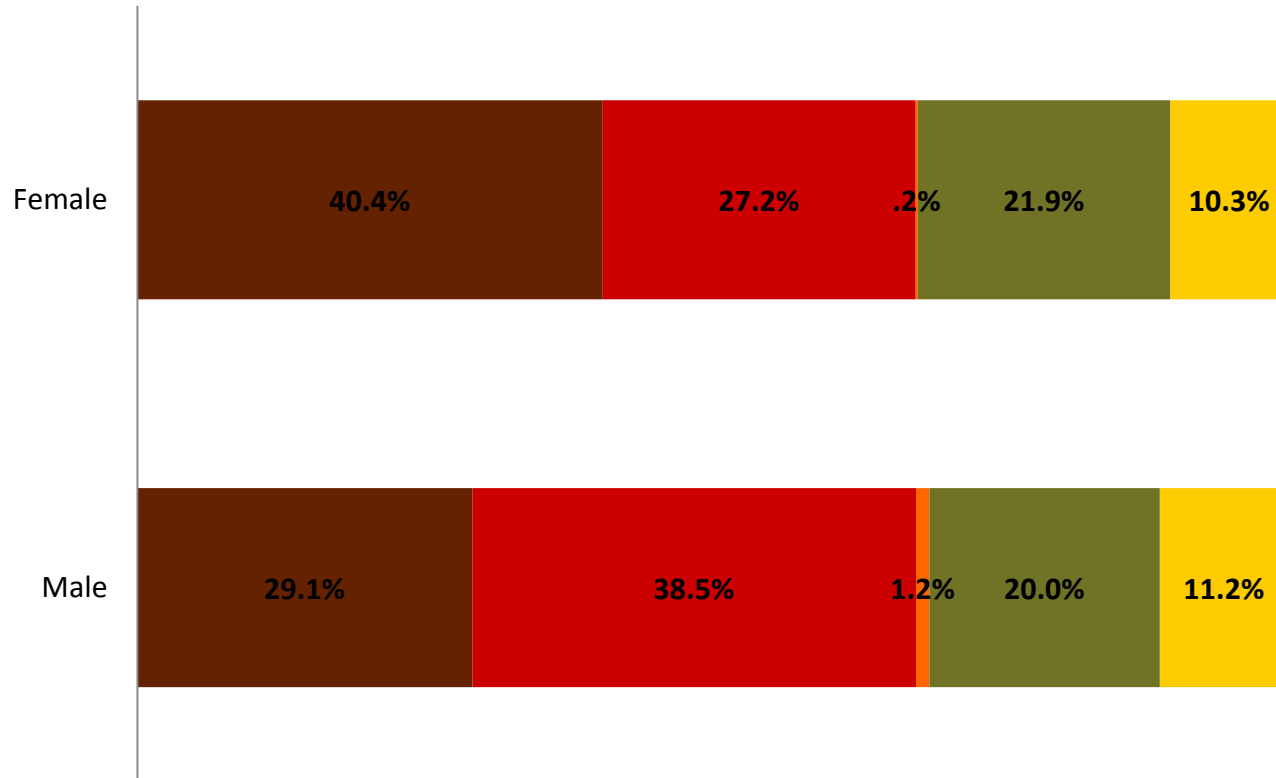


## Voting according to the attitude towards the results of elections



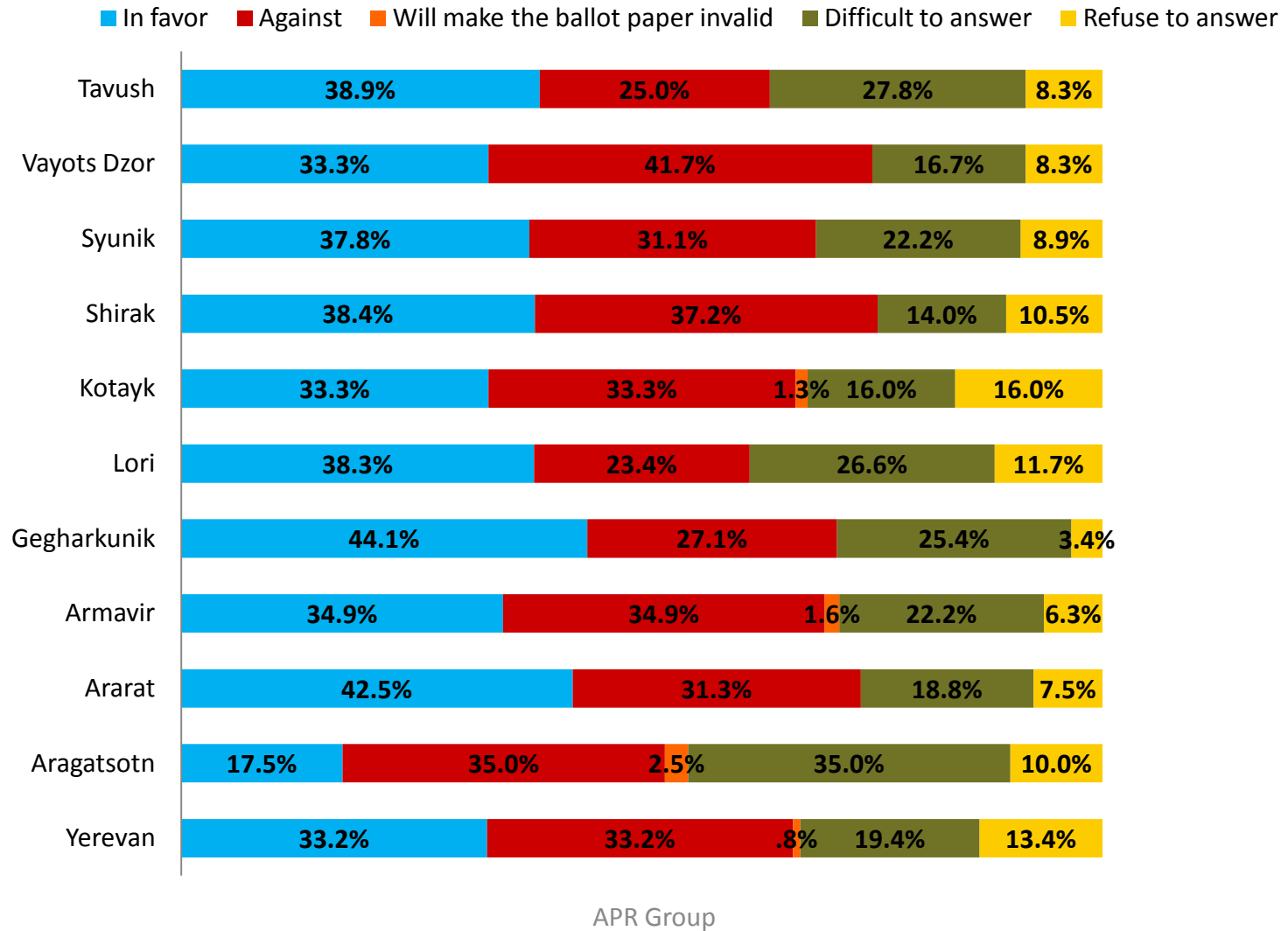
### Voting according to sex

■ In favour ■ Against ■ Will make the ballot paper invalid ■ Difficult to answer ■ Refuse to answer



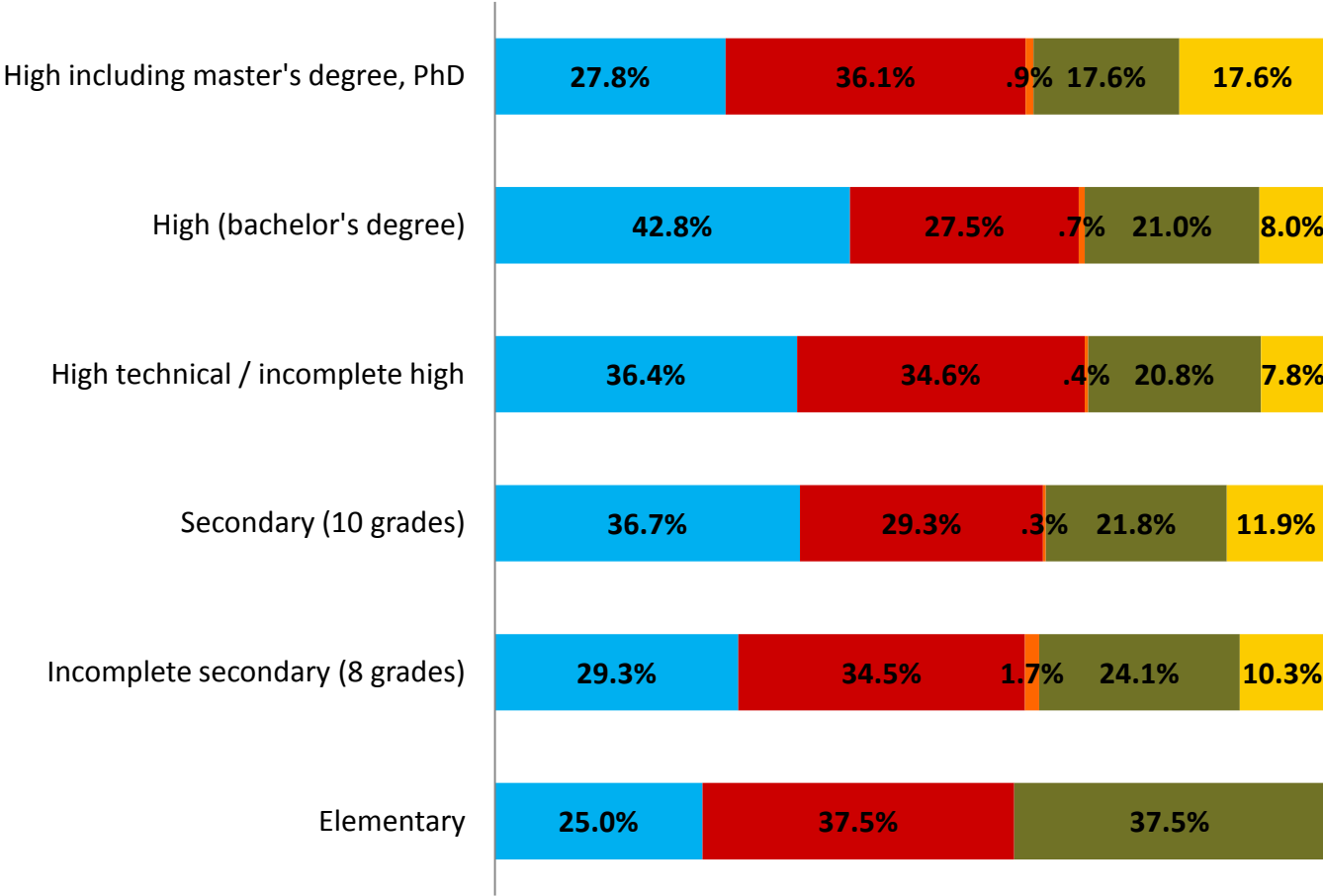
APR Group

## Voting according to marzes



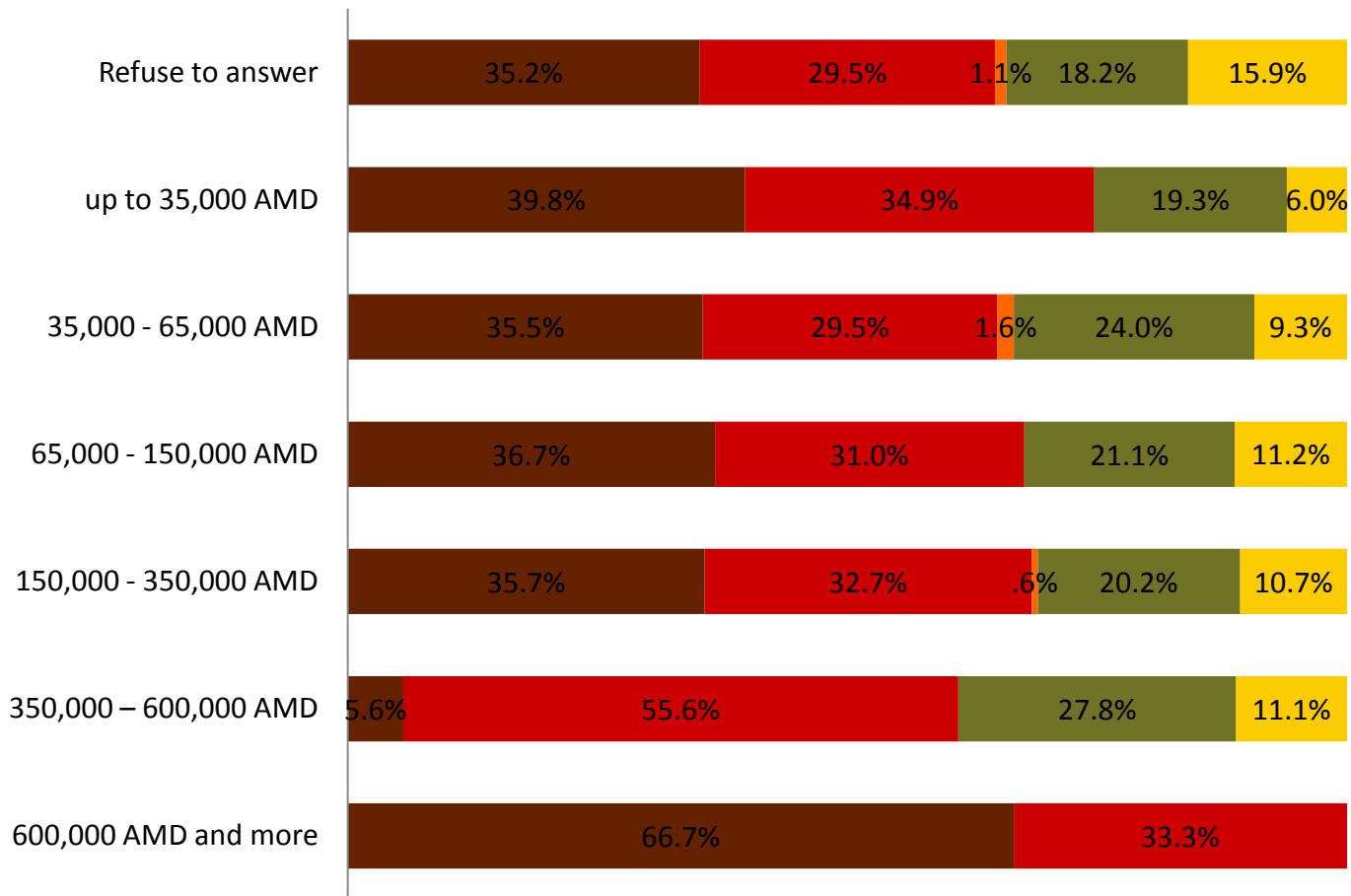
### Voting according to education

■ In favor 
 ■ Against 
 ■ Will make the ballot paper invalid 
 ■ Difficult to answer 
 ■ Refuse to answer



## Voting according to the average monthly income of the family

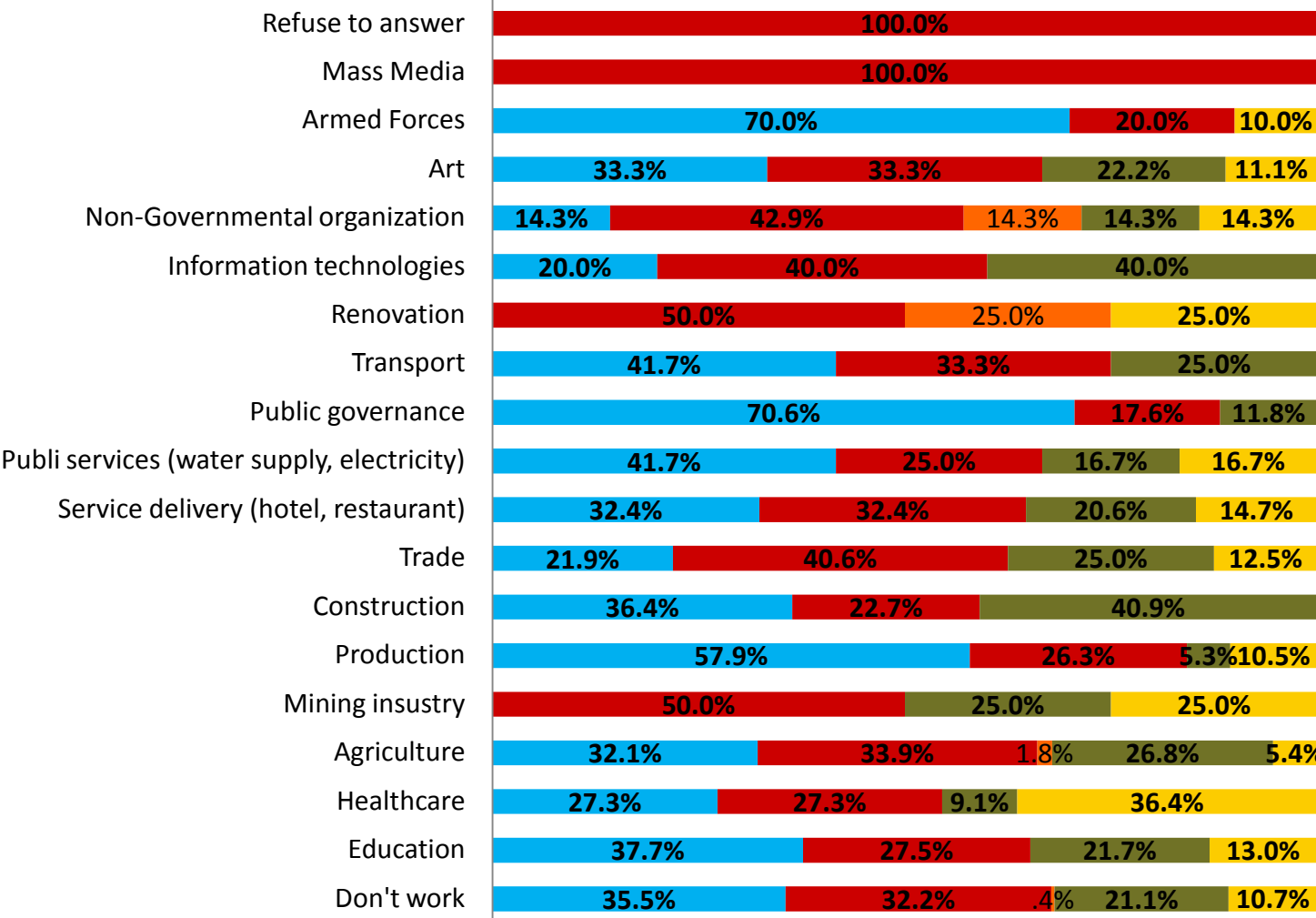
■ In favor   
 ■ Against   
 ■ Will make the ballot paper invalid   
 ■ Difficult to answer   
 ■ Refuse to answer



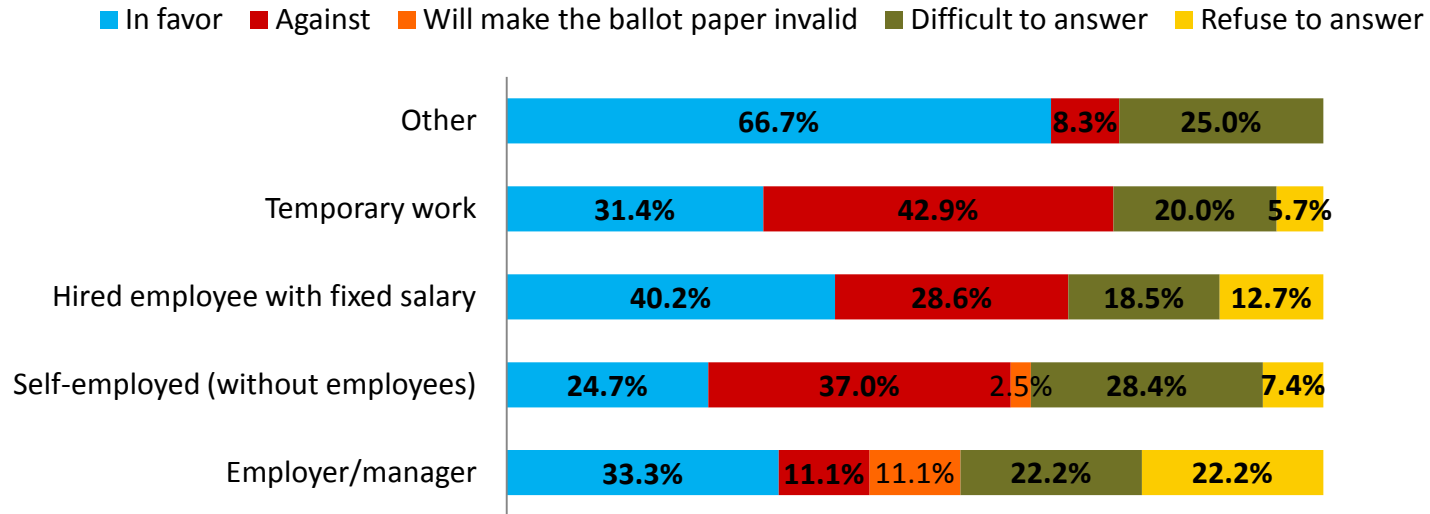
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# Voting according to the sphere of employment

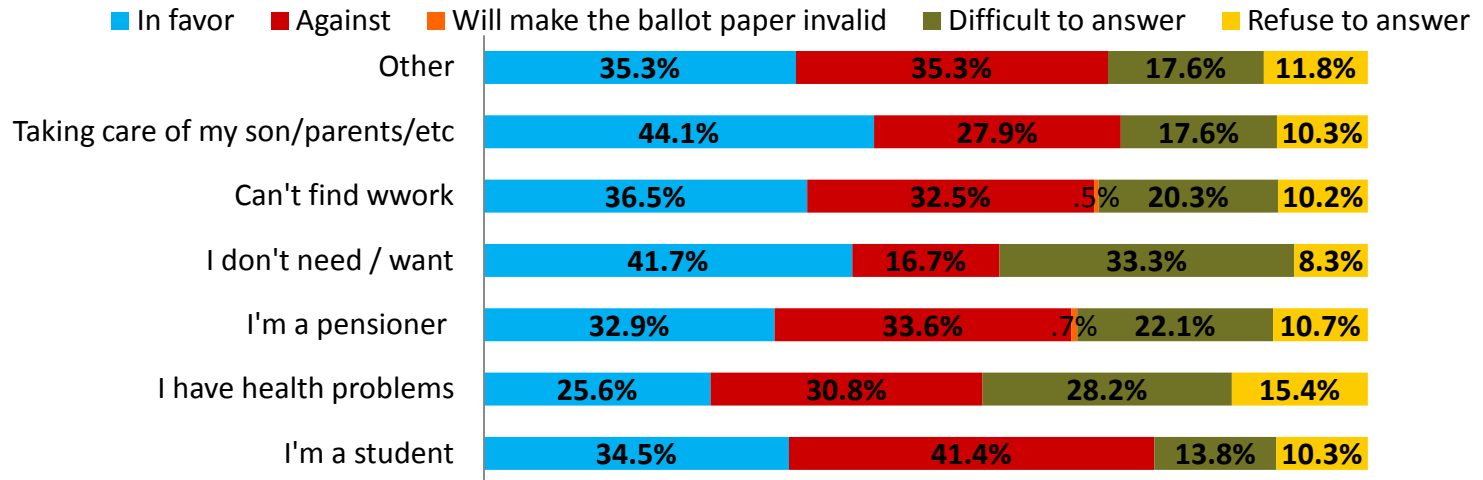
■ In favor   
 ■ Against   
 ■ Will make the ballot paper invalid   
 ■ Difficult to answer   
 ■ Refuse to answer



### Voting according to the nature of the work

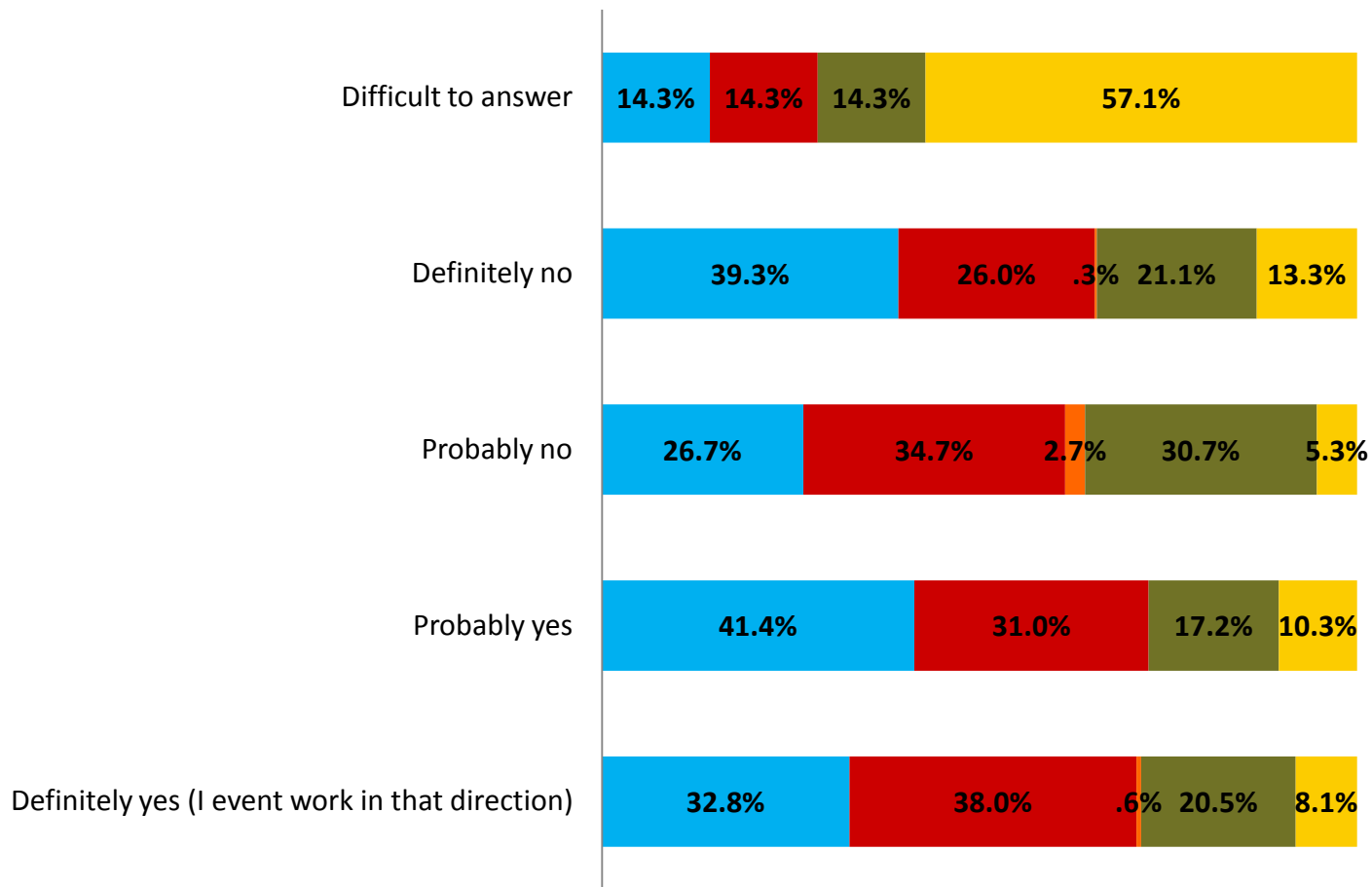


### Voting according to the reason of unemployment



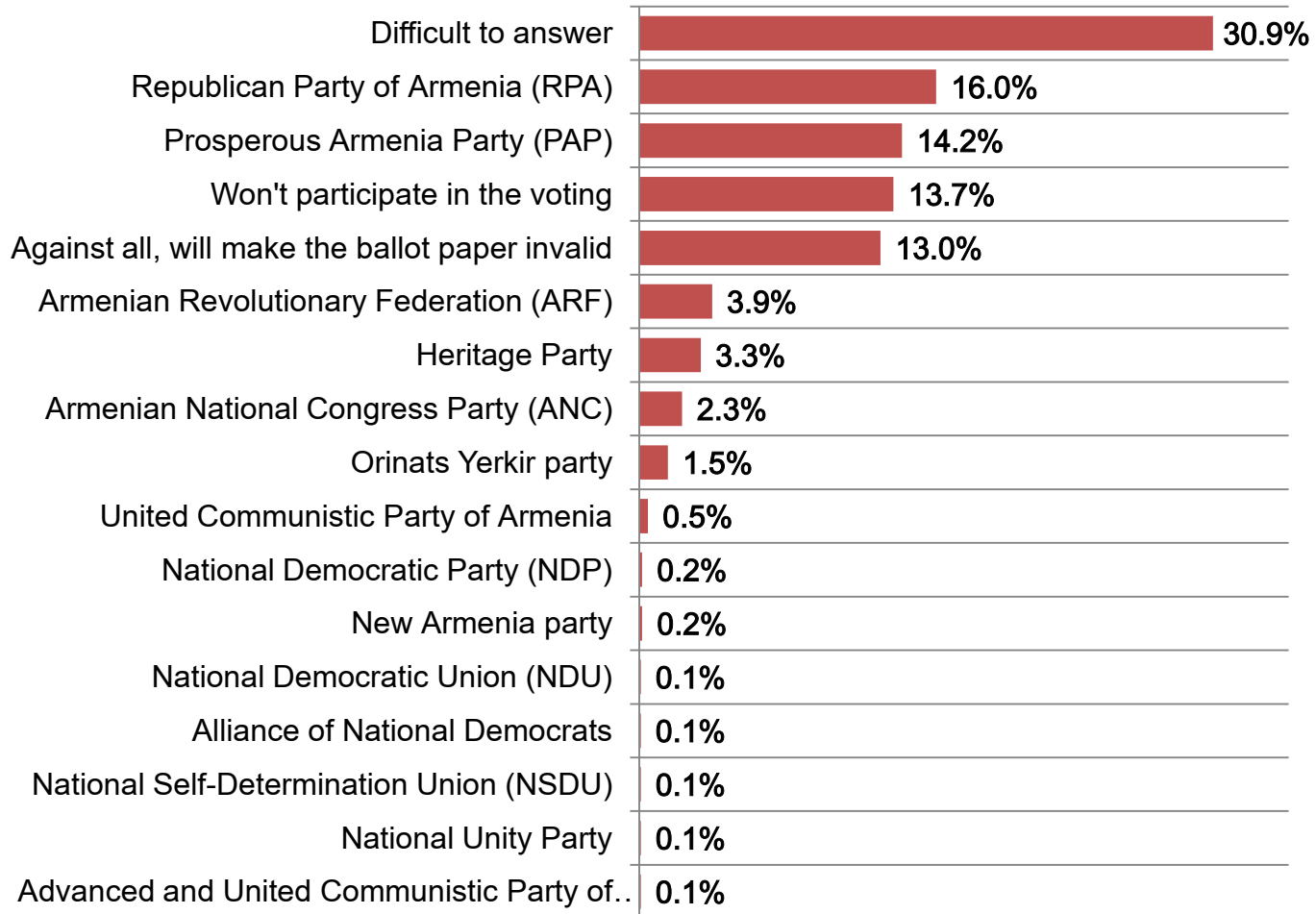
## Voting according to wish to leave Armenia permanently

■ In favor   
 ■ Against   
 ■ Will make the ballot paper invalid   
 ■ Difficult to answer   
 ■ Refuse to answer



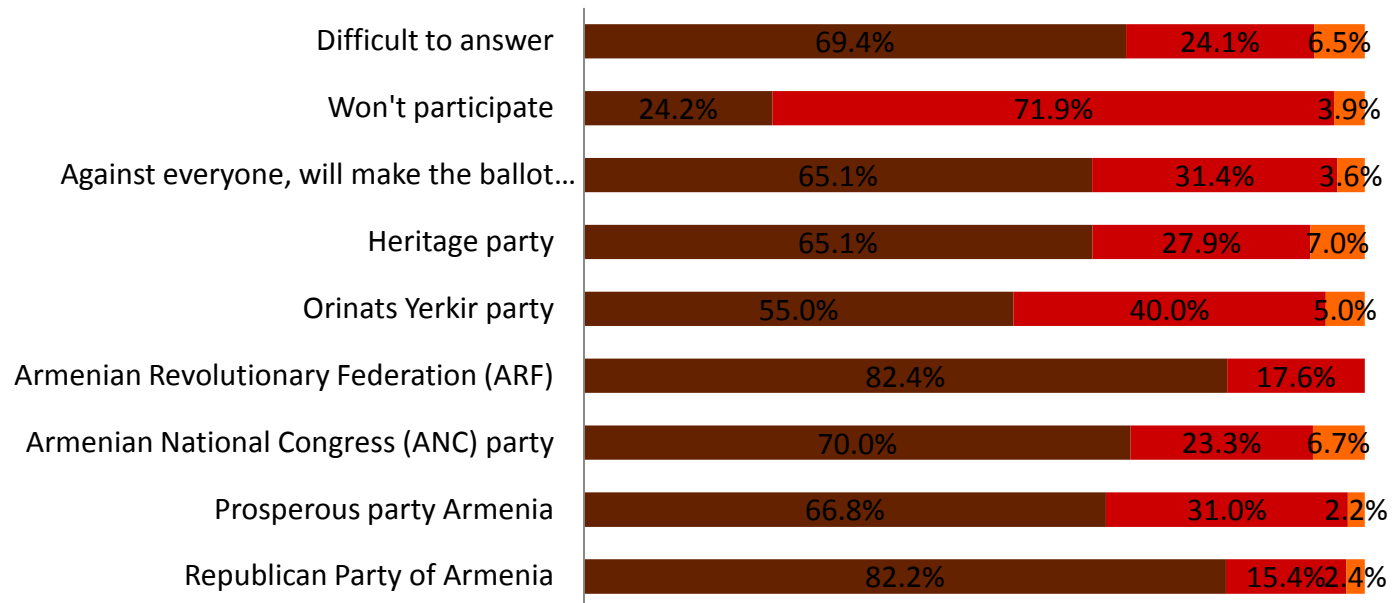
APR Group

## If NA elections were to take place this Sunday which party would you vote for?



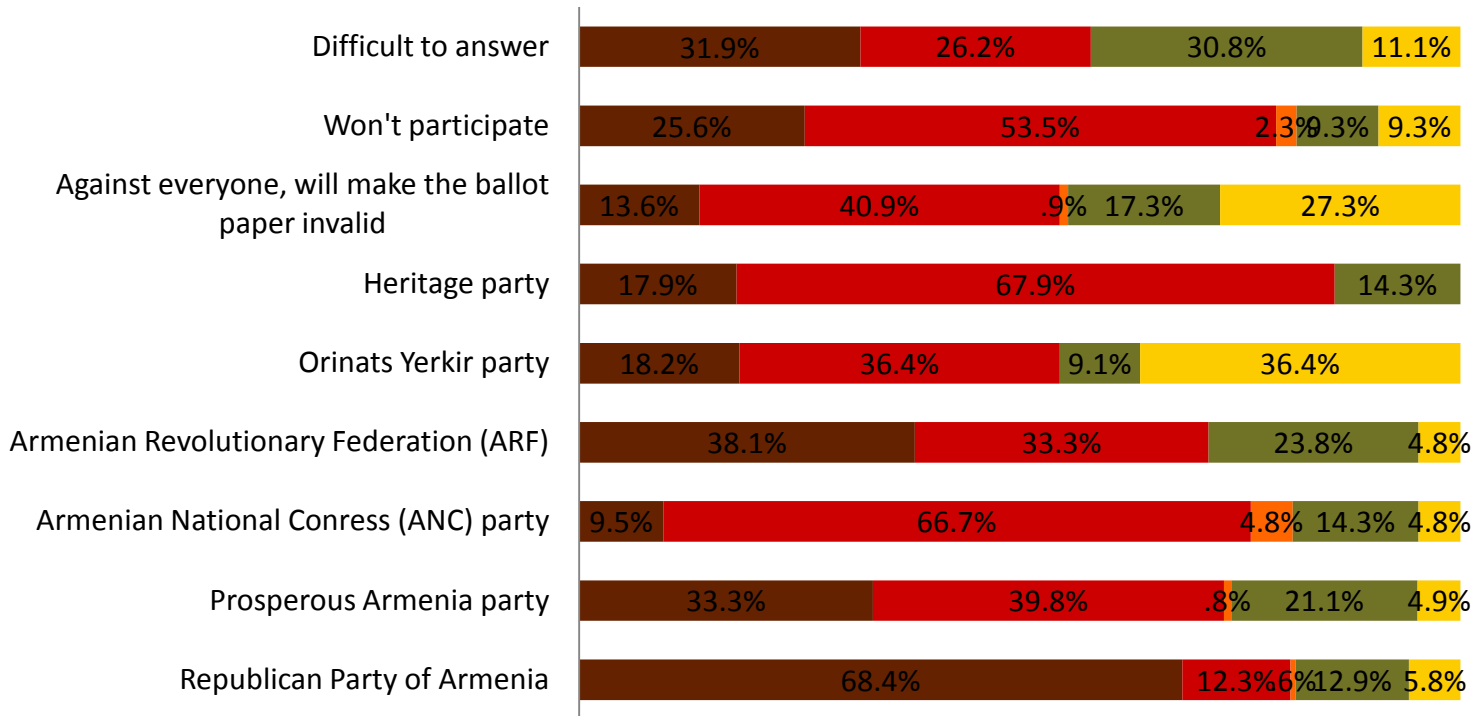
## Participation according to parties

■ Yes ■ No ■ Difficult to say



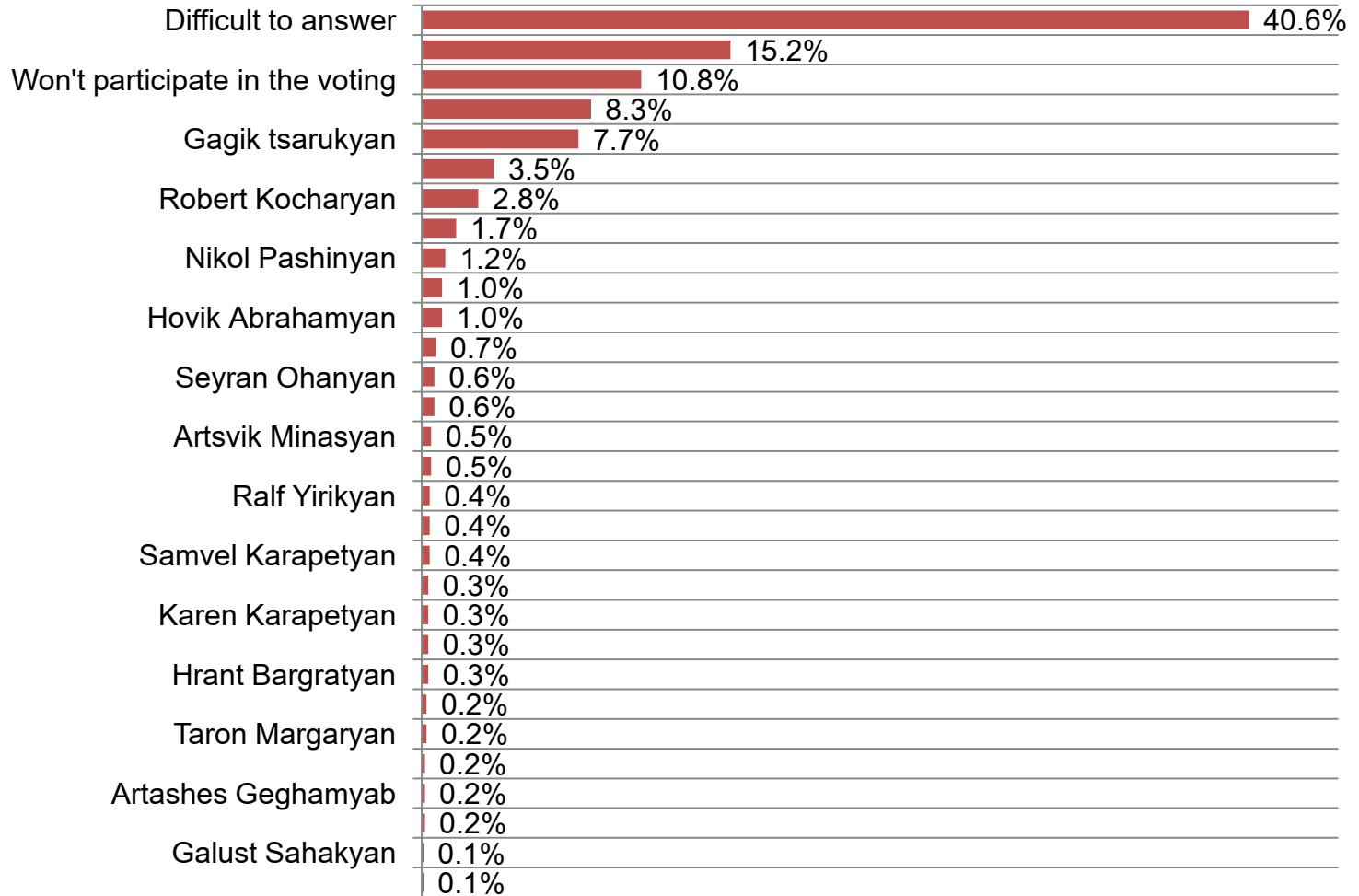
## Voting according to party

■ In favor   
 ■ Against   
 ■ Will make the ballot paper invalid   
 ■ Difficult to answer   
 ■ Refuse to answer

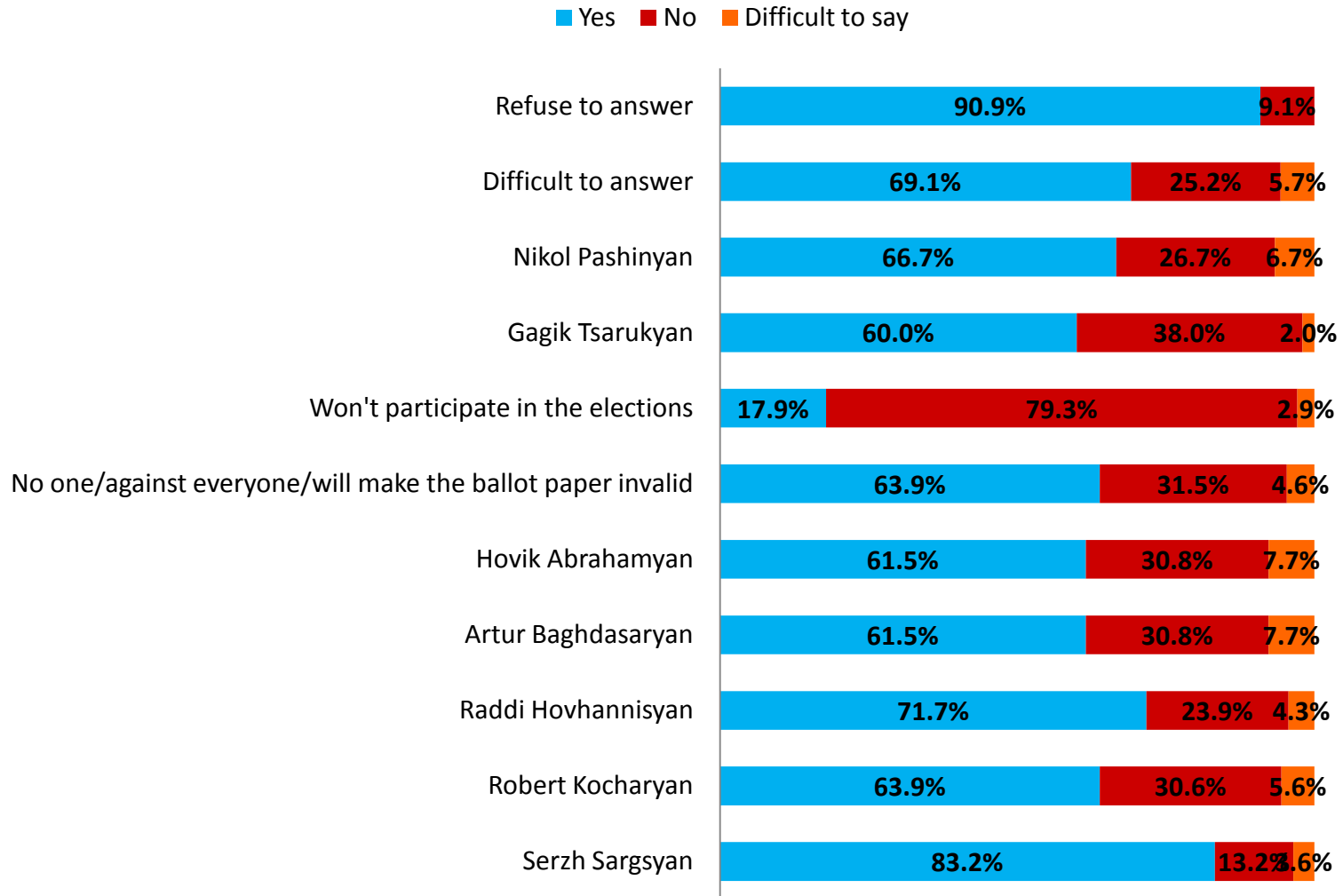


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## If Presidential elections were to take place this Sunday who would you vote for?



## Participation according to the Presidential candidate



## Voting according to Presidential candidates

