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# Public Attitudes in Georgia

Results of July 2019 survey



— Carried out for NDI by CRRC Georgia —

This research project is funded with UK aid from the  
British people

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# WHY WE CONDUCT POLLS?



**To foster the development of more responsive policies and governance;**

**To help stakeholders diagnose and address issues of public concern.**

- ❖ Leaders from across the political spectrum have reported that polls are important to their work and encourage continued polling;
- ❖ Inclusive process: the polling instrument was developed in consultation with political parties, government, and civil society leaders.

# ABOUT THE POLL

- ❖ Fieldwork dates:  
July 13-29, 2019
- ❖ 2,131 completed interviews (41% response rate)
- ❖ The average margin of error is +/- 1.7%
- ❖ **Note: the margin of error is different for every response**

# SAMPLE

- ❖ **A nationally representative sample** (excluding occupied territories) including oversampled areas of the Capital, Large Urban, Small Urban, Rural and Minority Settlements
- ❖ **Large Urban** stratum consists of cities with a population 40K or more: Batumi, Zugdidi, Rustavi, Poti, Gori, and Kutaisi
- ❖ **Small Urban** stratum consists of the rest of the cities/dabas holding urban status, and
- ❖ **Minority stratum** consists of settlements, where ethnic minorities (mostly Armenians & Azerbaijani) compose at least 40% of the voters in given settlement. Settlements within this stratum are dispersed throughout Kvemo Kartli, Samtskhe-Javakheti & Kakheti regions.

# ABOUT THE POLL

## Quality control

- ❖ All interviewers receive special training
- ❖ CRRC central office coordinators conduct quality control interviews



# METHODOLOGY

We use random sampling at all stages. We use a complex survey design:

- ❖ **Stratification** - dividing population in relatively homogenous sub-groups; and
- ❖ **Clustering** - randomly selecting small geographic areas for each sub-group (stratum).
- ❖ Households are selected via random route sampling;
- ❖ Respondents are selected using a Kish table;
- ❖ Randomly selected households and individuals are not substituted; and
- ❖ All interviews were conducted face-to-face with 18+ population, using tablets, in Georgian, Armenian, and Azeri.

# Main findings

- Perception of country direction at its worst in a decade
  - Strong correlation between attitudes towards country's direction and GEL-USD exchange rate
- Extreme dissatisfaction about the state of the country's economy;
  - Top issues economic ones -- jobs, rising prices and inflation, and poverty
  - Only a third feel they are better off economically than their parents' generation
  - Almost half believe they can afford less than five years ago
  - Half of Georgians didn't have enough funds to pay for utilities in the past six months

# Main findings

- Overall, majority of Georgians are satisfied with the quality of healthcare, but high costs
  - Over the past year, half of the population had to postpone medical treatment and couldn't buy medicine because they couldn't afford it
- The vast majority (83 percent) continue to believe that parliament should include at least 30 percent women, and approve of a mandatory gender quota
- Stable support for the country's EU and Euro-Atlantic goals: EU support at 78 percent, NATO support at 71 percent

# Country direction and national issues

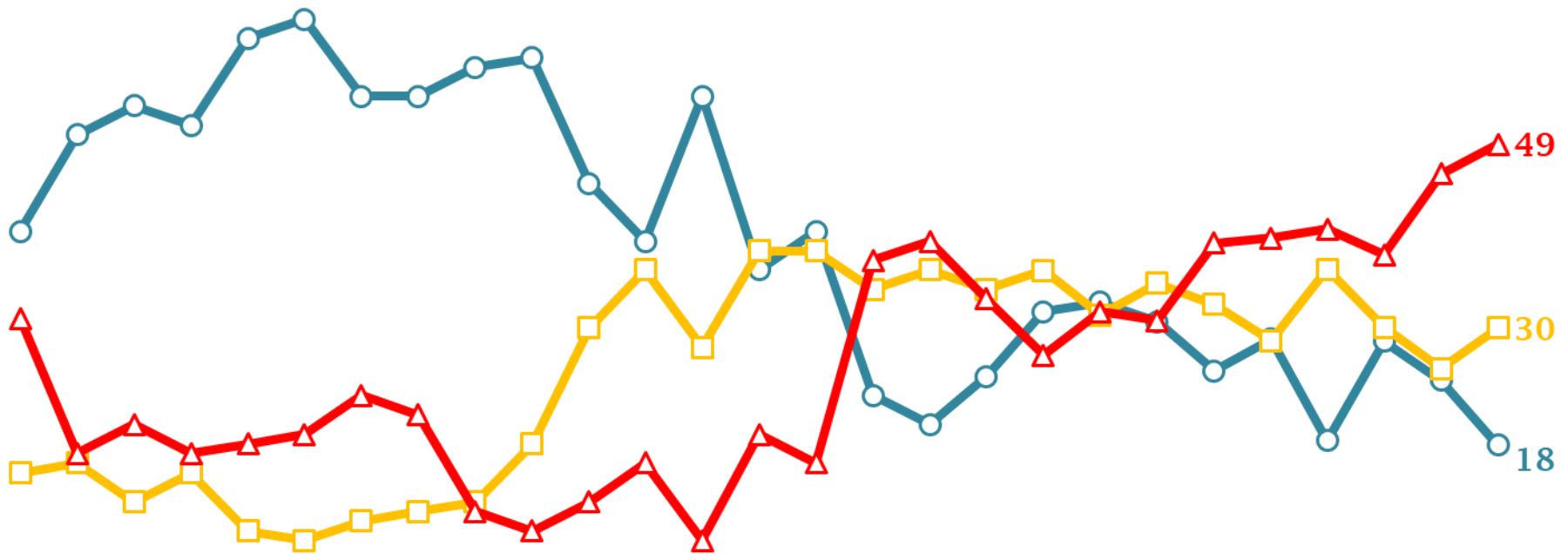
# Country direction

There are different opinions regarding the direction in which Georgia is going. Using this card, please, rate your answer. (q2)

—○— Georgia is going in the right direction

—□— Georgia is not changing at all

—△— Georgia is going in the wrong direction



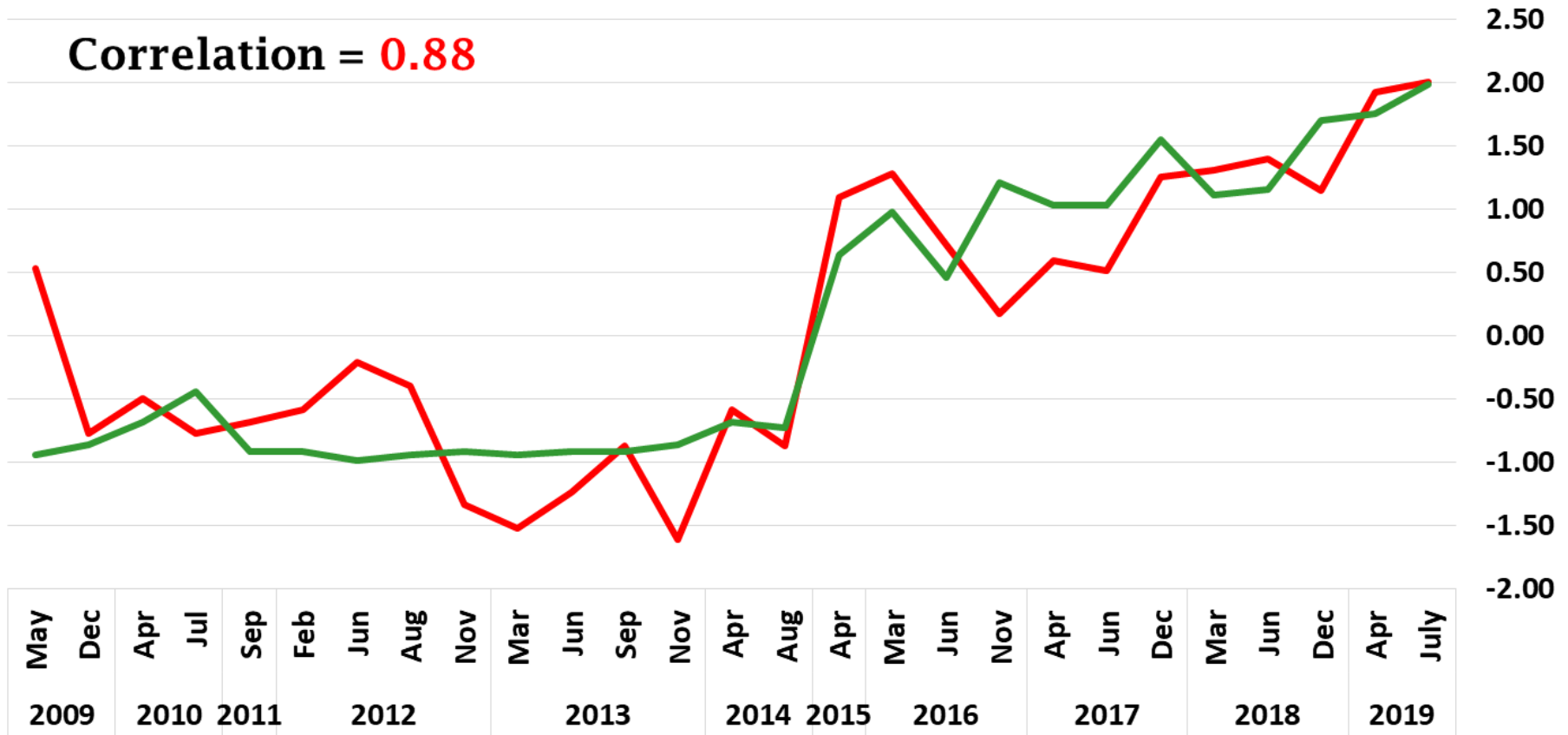
May	Dec	Apr	Jul	Sep	Feb	Jun	Aug	Nov	Mar	Jun	Sep	Nov	Apr	Aug	Apr	Mar	Jun	Nov	Apr	Jun	Dec	Mar	Jun	Dec	Apr	Jul	
2009	2009	2010	2010	2011	2011	2012	2012	2012	2013	2013	2013	2013	2014	2014	2015	2015	2016	2016	2016	2017	2017	2017	2018	2018	2018	2019	2019



# Strong correlation between "Wrong Direction" and Gel to USD exchange rate

— Wrong direction — GEL to USD

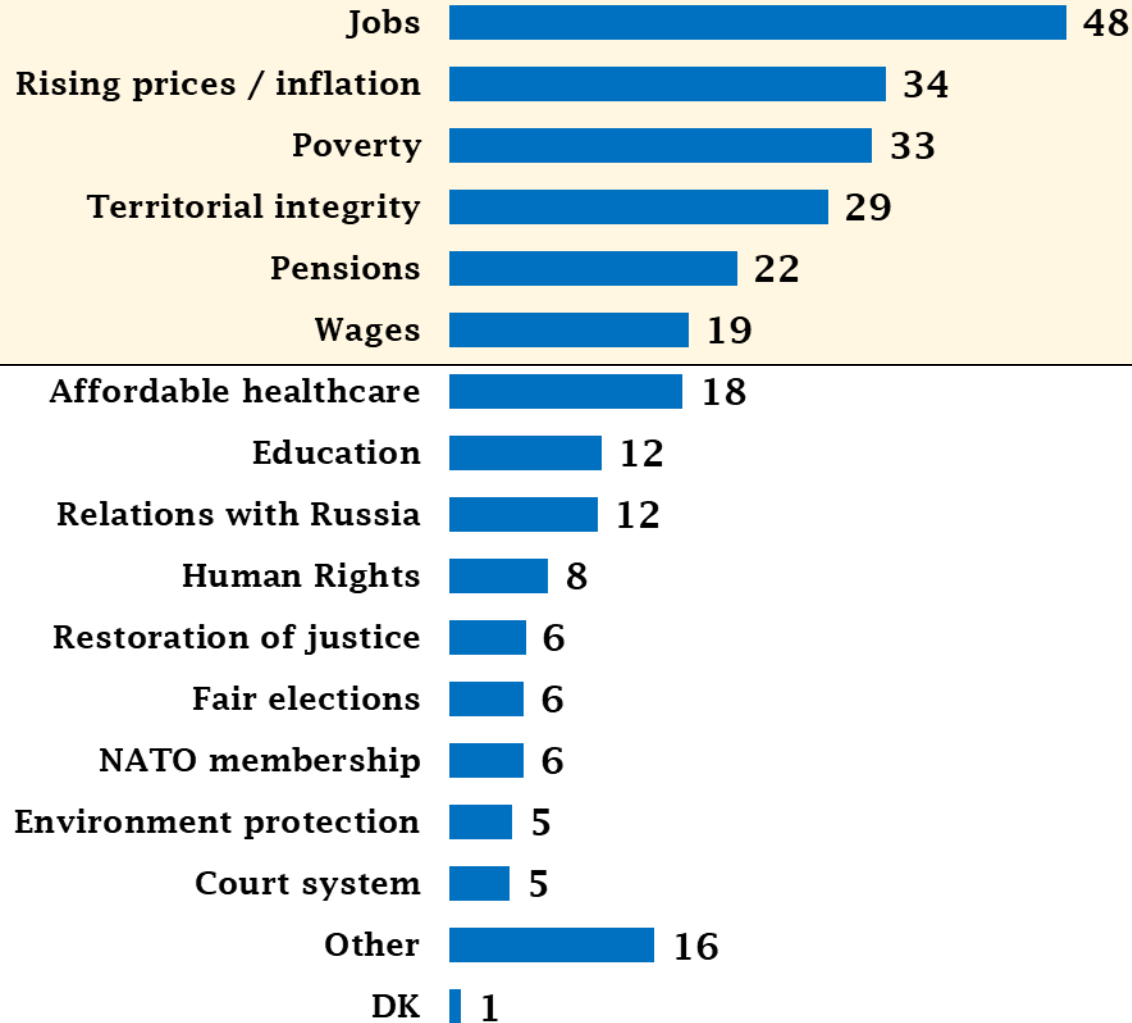
Correlation = **0.88**



Note: all data are standardized for the comparison

# National issues

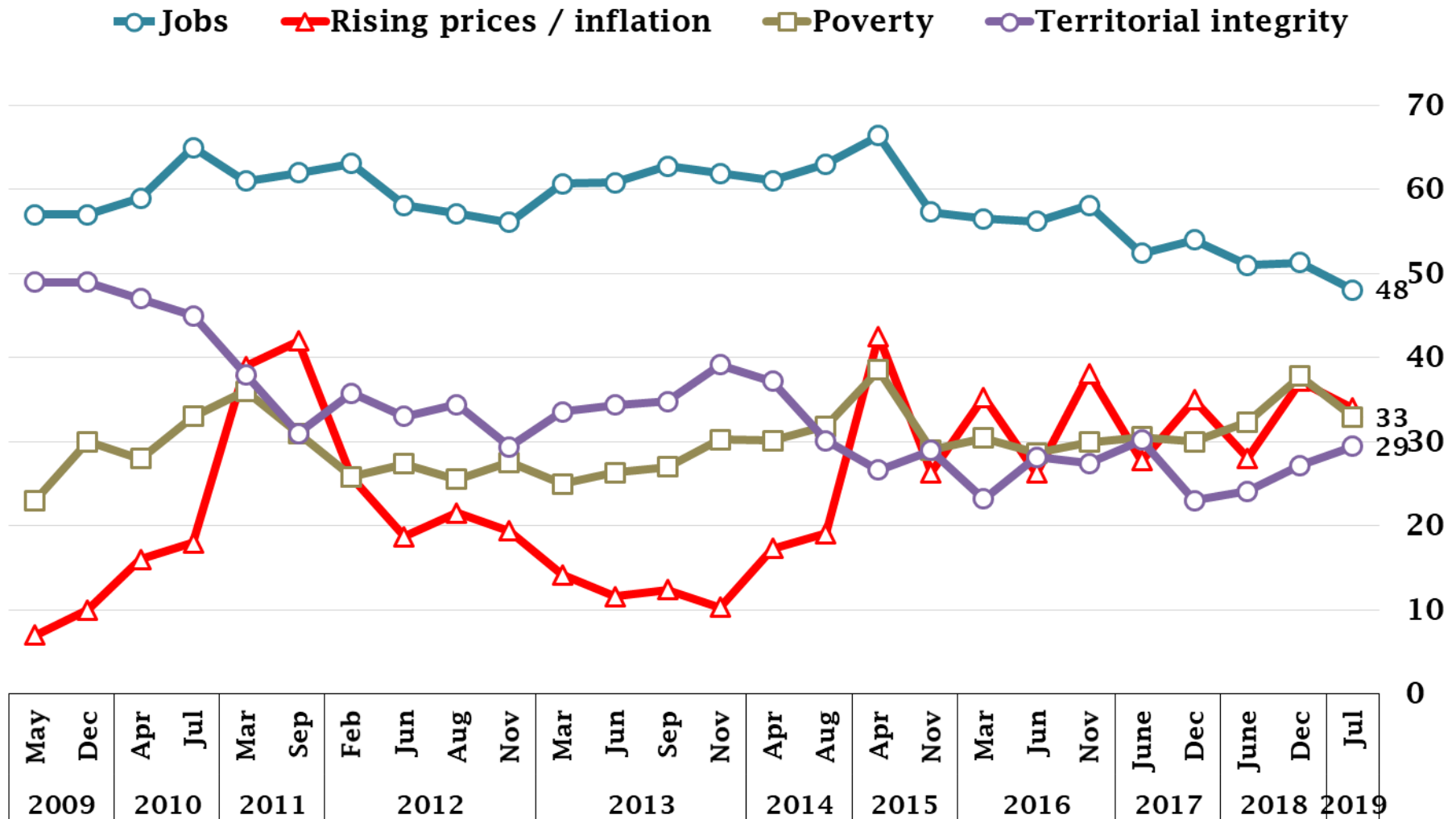
What are the most important national issues facing you and your family?  
Please name up to three (q1)



Top issues  
remain the same  
since 2009

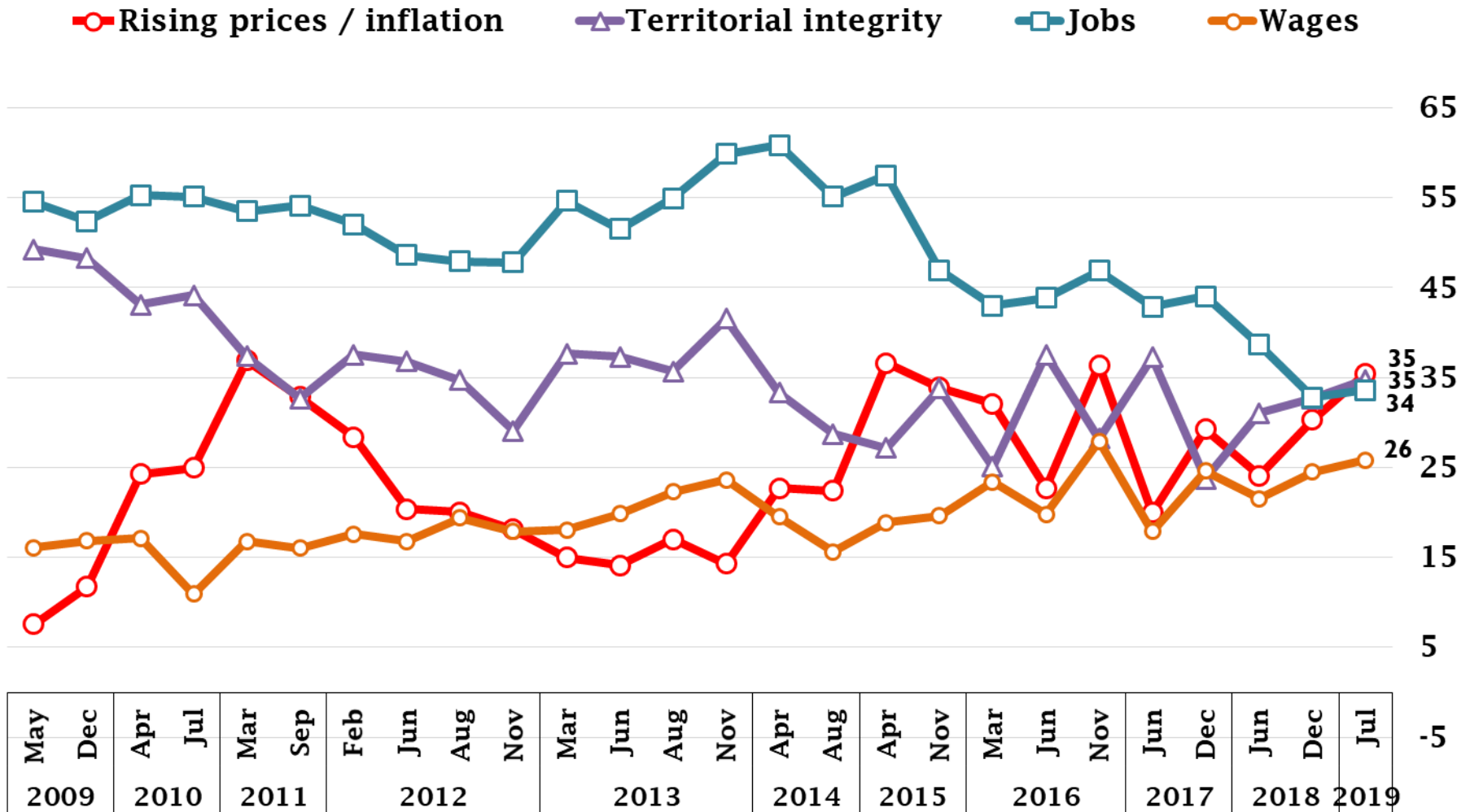
# National issues

What are the most important national issues facing you and your family?  
Please name up to three (q1)



# National issues - Tbilisi

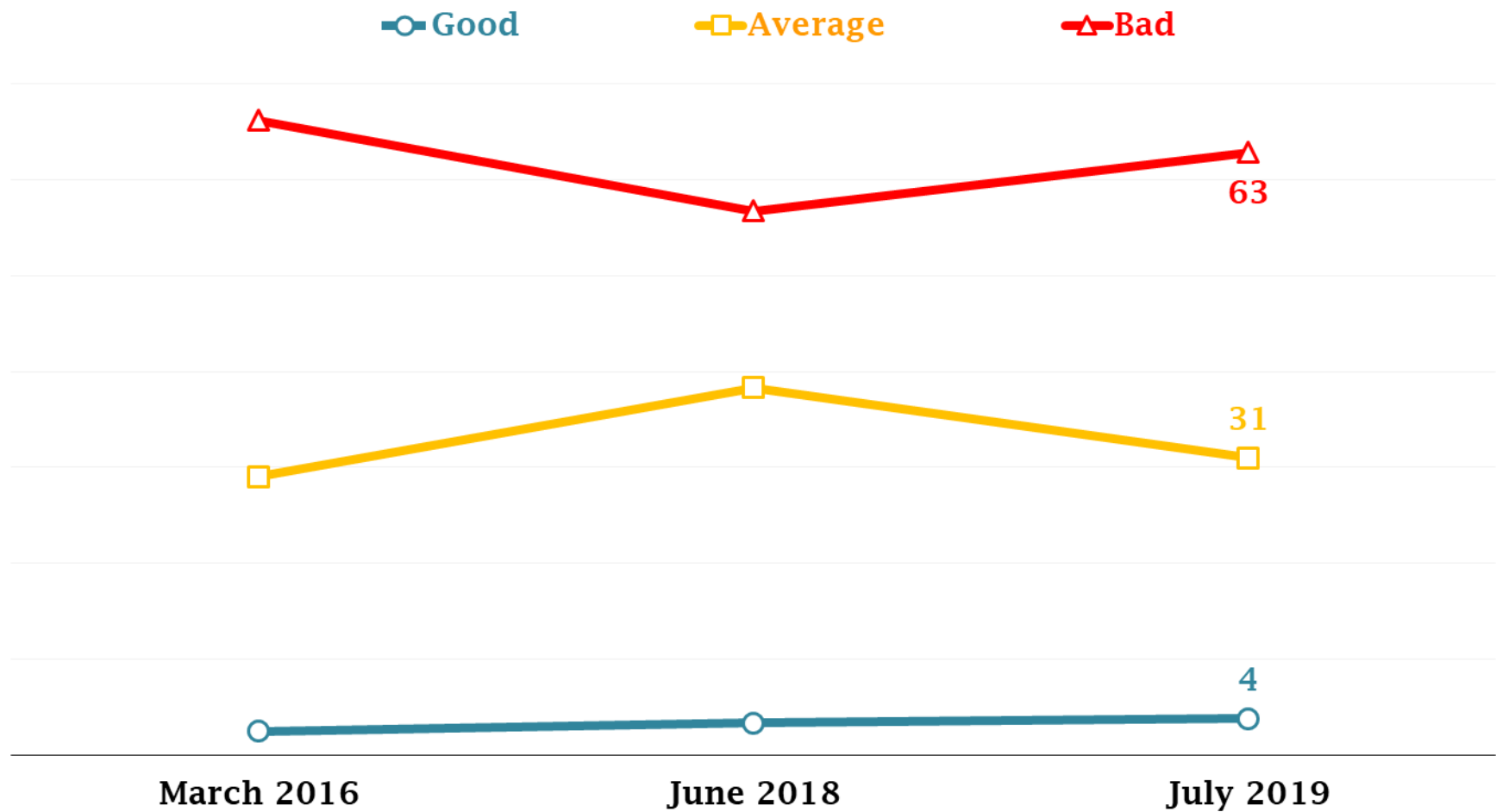
What are the most important national issues facing you and your family?  
Please name up to three (q1)



# Economy

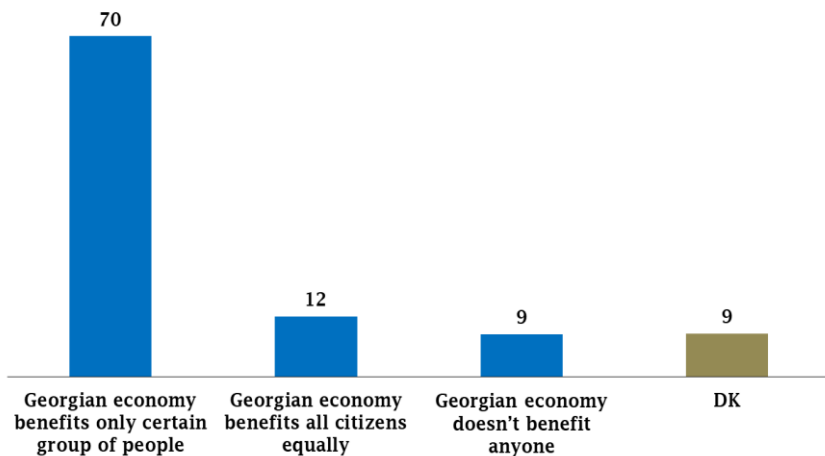
# State of economy

Using this card, please evaluate the current situation of Georgia's economy.  
(q27)

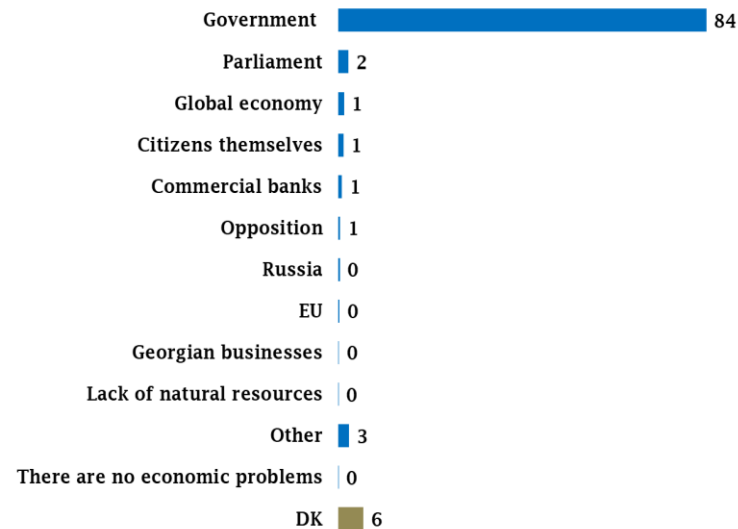


# Economic equality

Which of the following statement do you agree with? (q28)

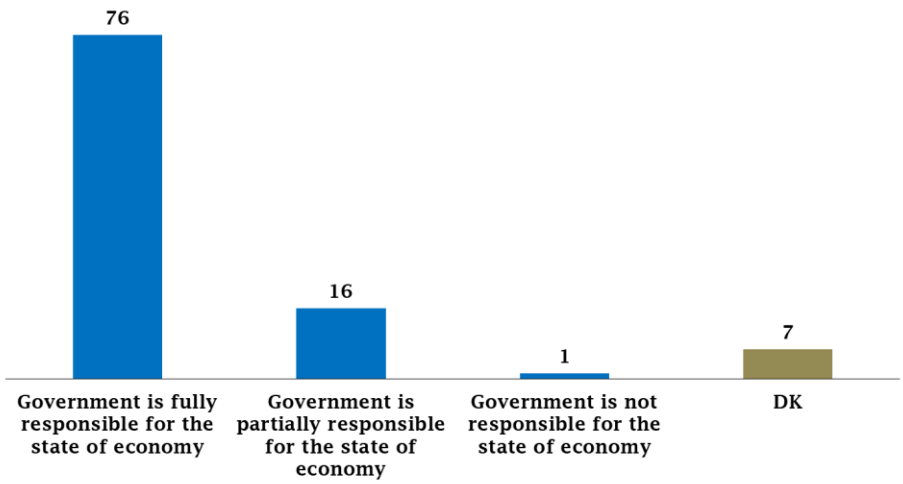


Overall, who do you think is primarily responsible for economic problems in Georgia? (q29)

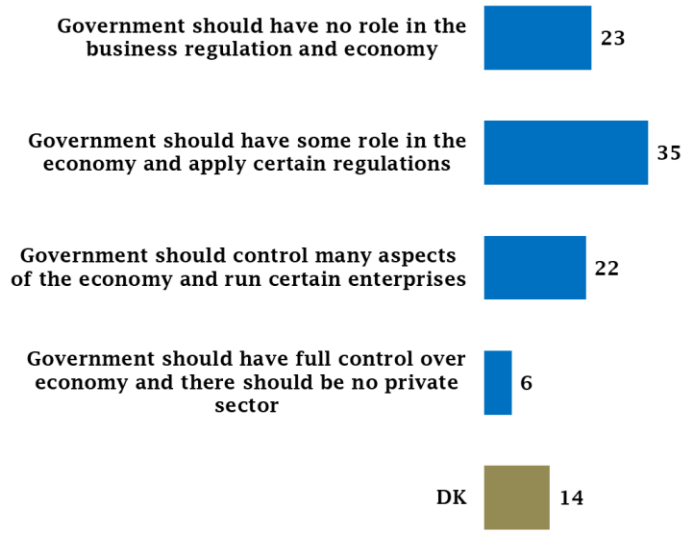


# Economic responsibility

Which of the following statement better represents your opinion? (q30)



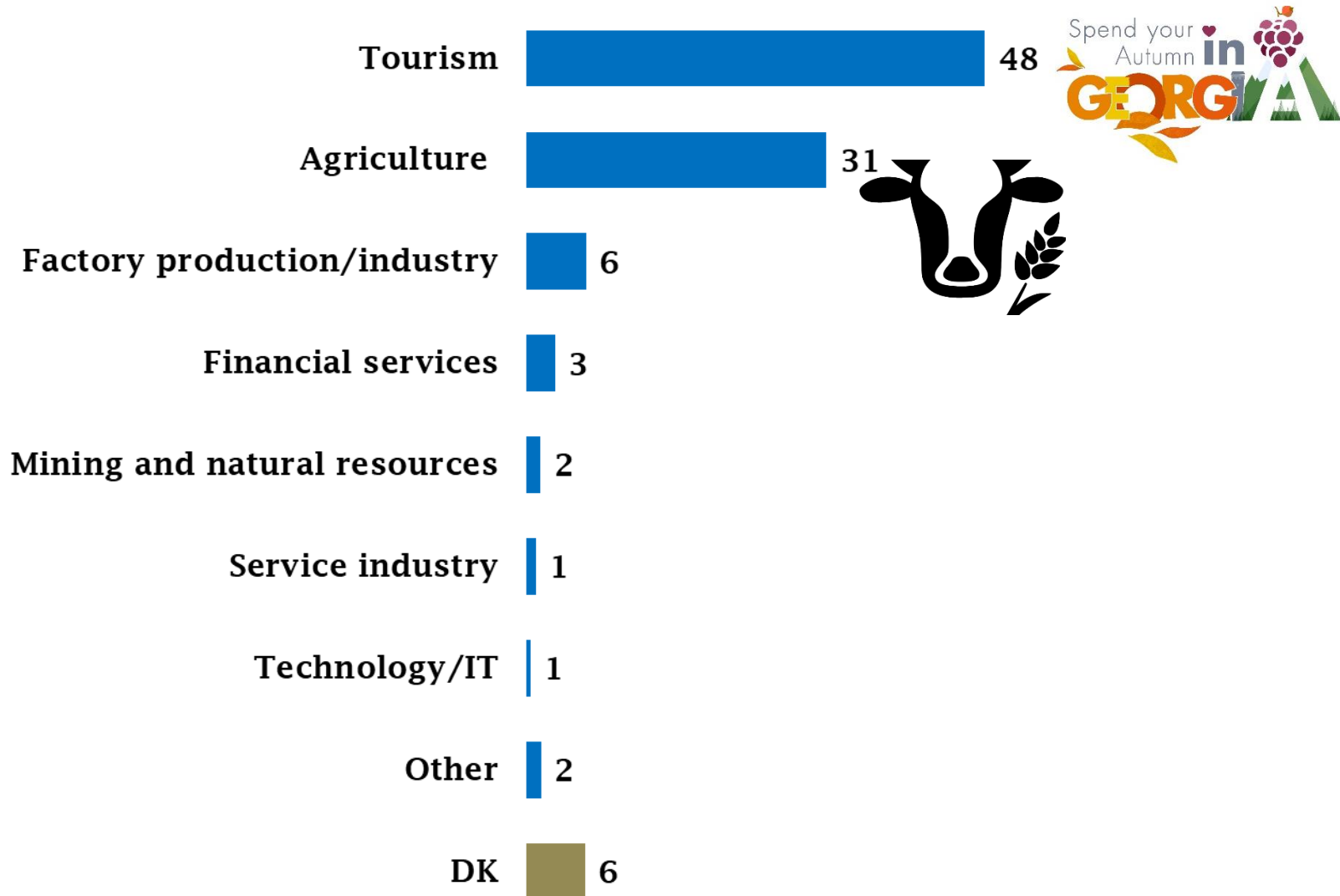
Which of the following statement better represents your opinion? (q31)





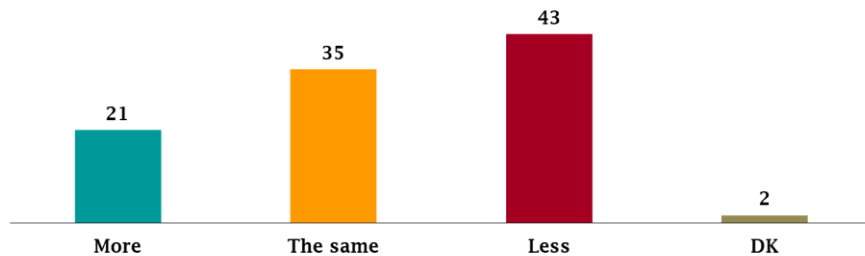
# Georgia's economic assets

What is Georgia's greatest economic asset? (q32)

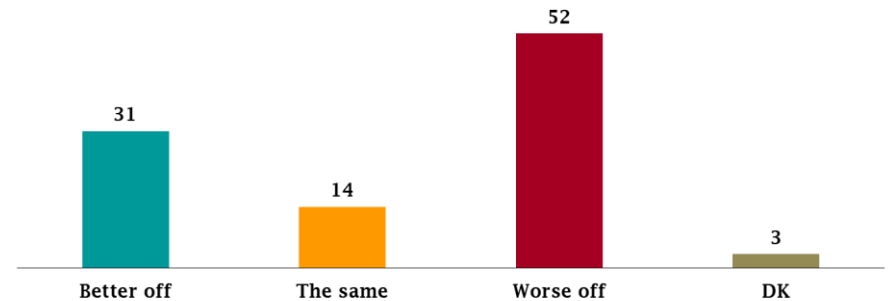


# Assessing current financial standing

Thinking about your current situation, are you personally able to afford more, the same or less than you could 5 years ago? (q36)

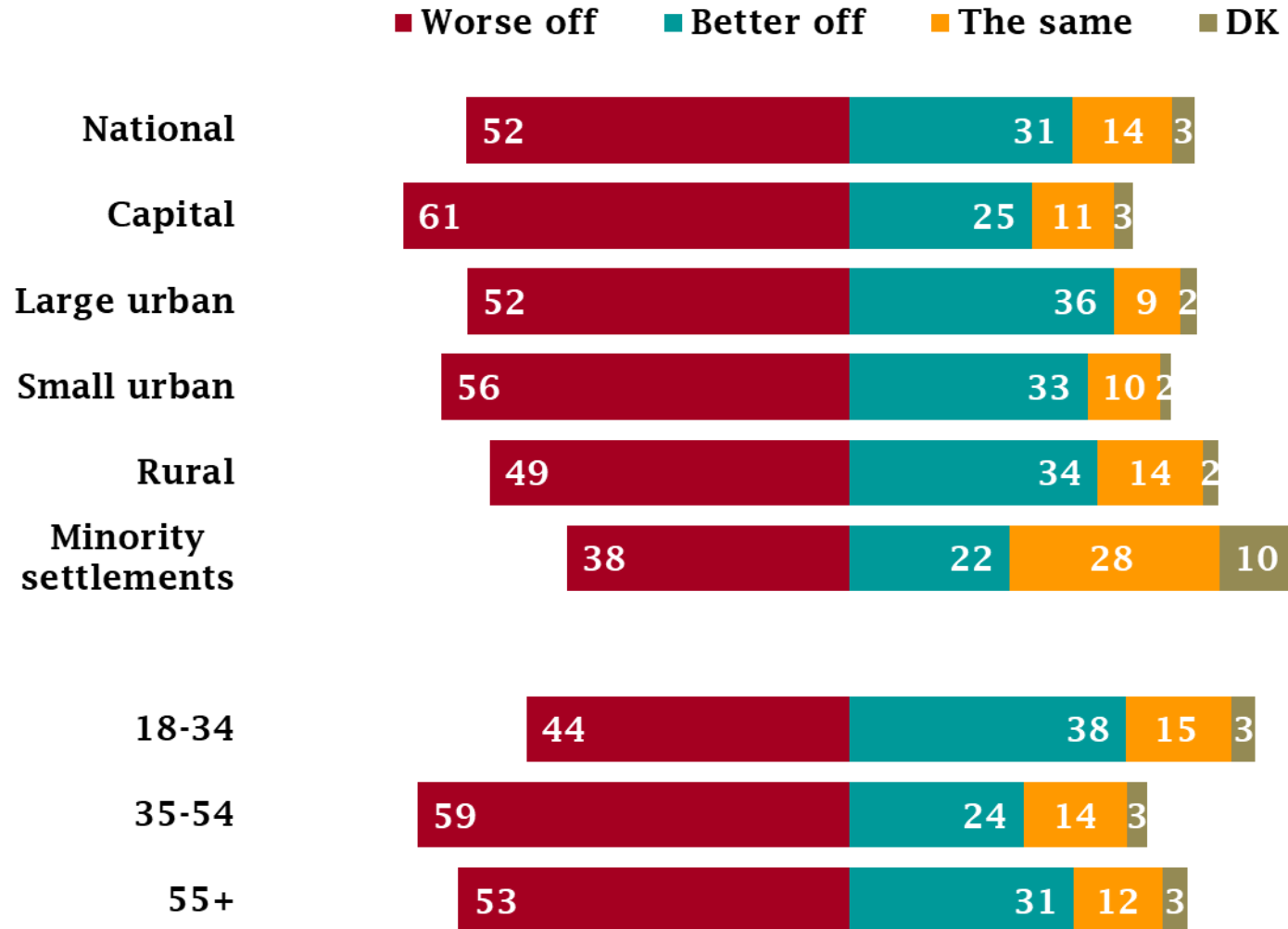


Is your generation worse off, the same or better off economically than your parents' generation? (q37)



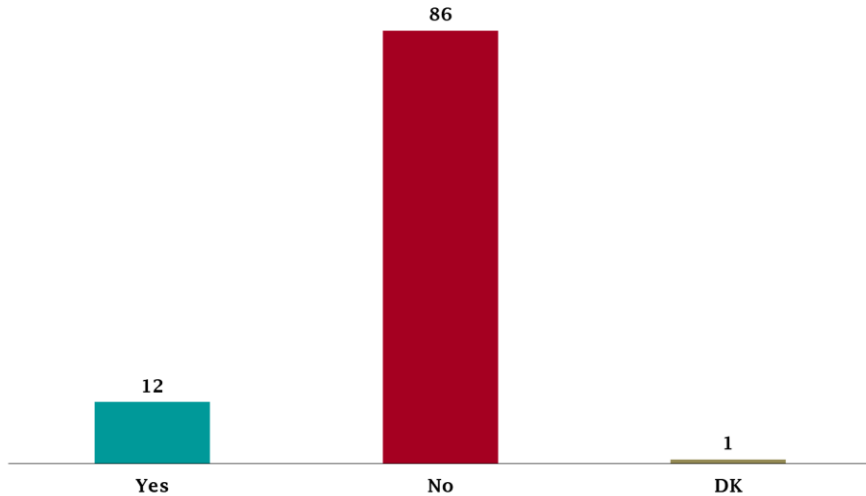
# Economy and generations

Is your generation worse off, the same or better off economically than your parents' generation? (q37 X Settlement, Age)

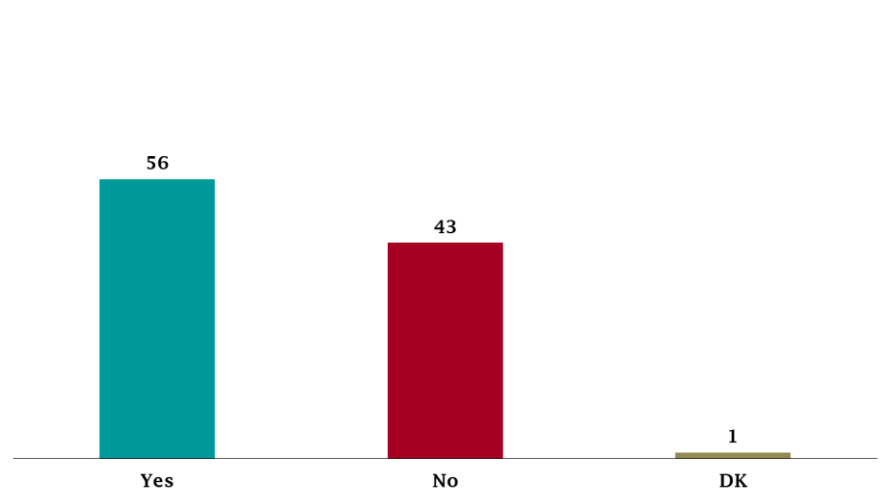


# Labor migration and remittances

Do you currently have a family member working abroad which regularly sends money to your family? (q39)

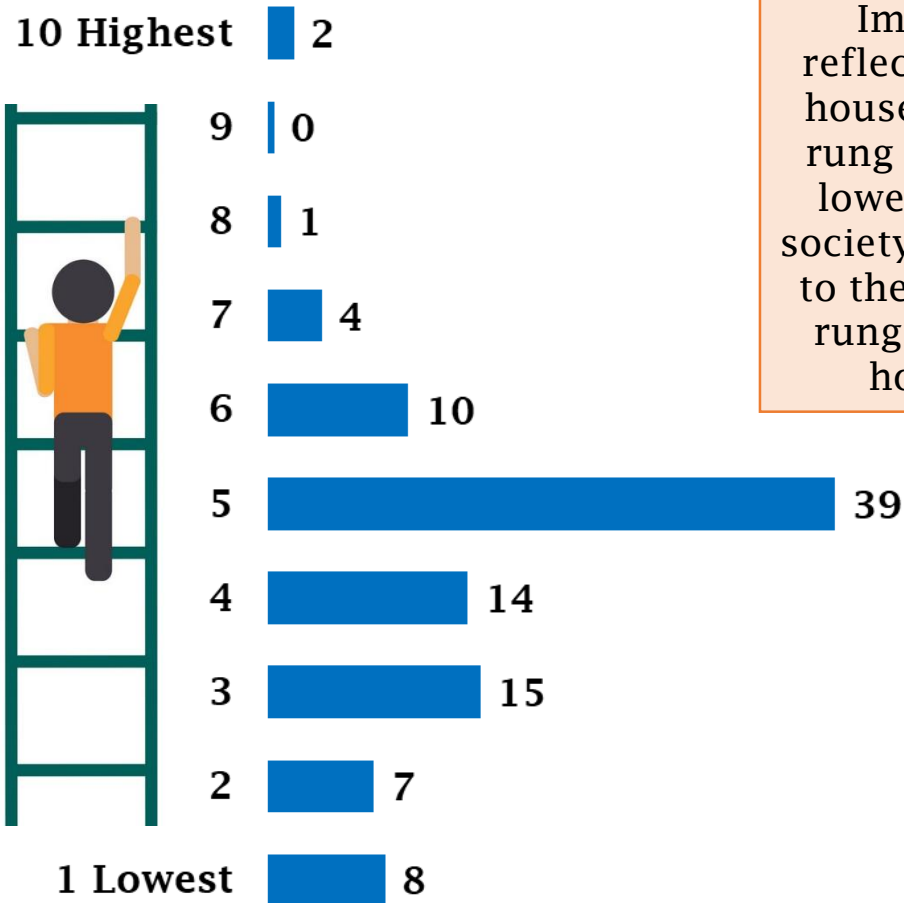


If yes, is this money the main source of income for your family? (q40) - of the 12% who has family member working abroad





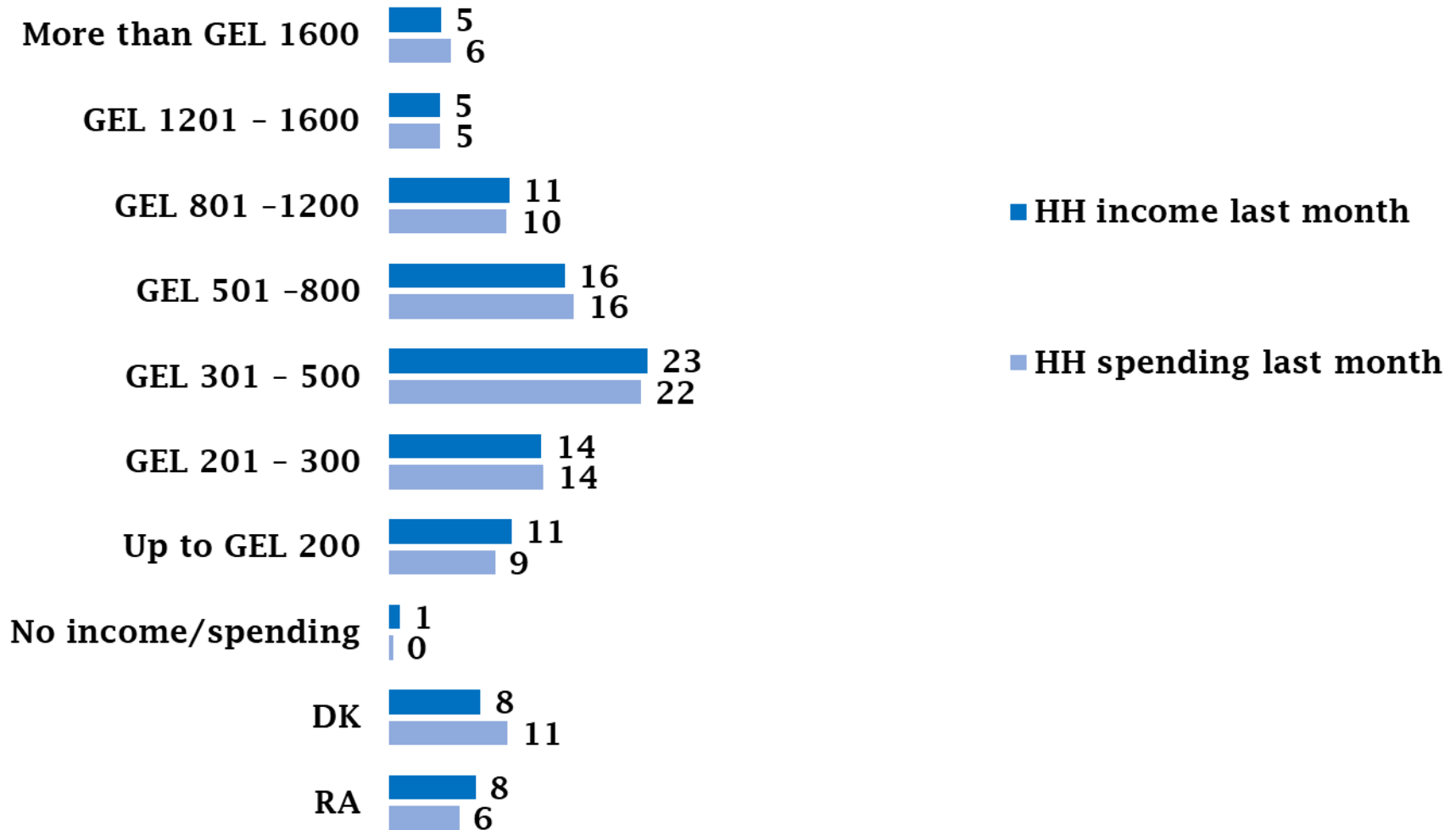
# A hard climb for most Georgians



Imagine there is a 10-step ladder reflecting the economic standing of all households in Georgia today. The first rung of this ladder corresponds to the lowest possible economic position in society, while the 10th rung corresponds to the highest possible position. Which rung of this ladder do you think your household stands on currently?

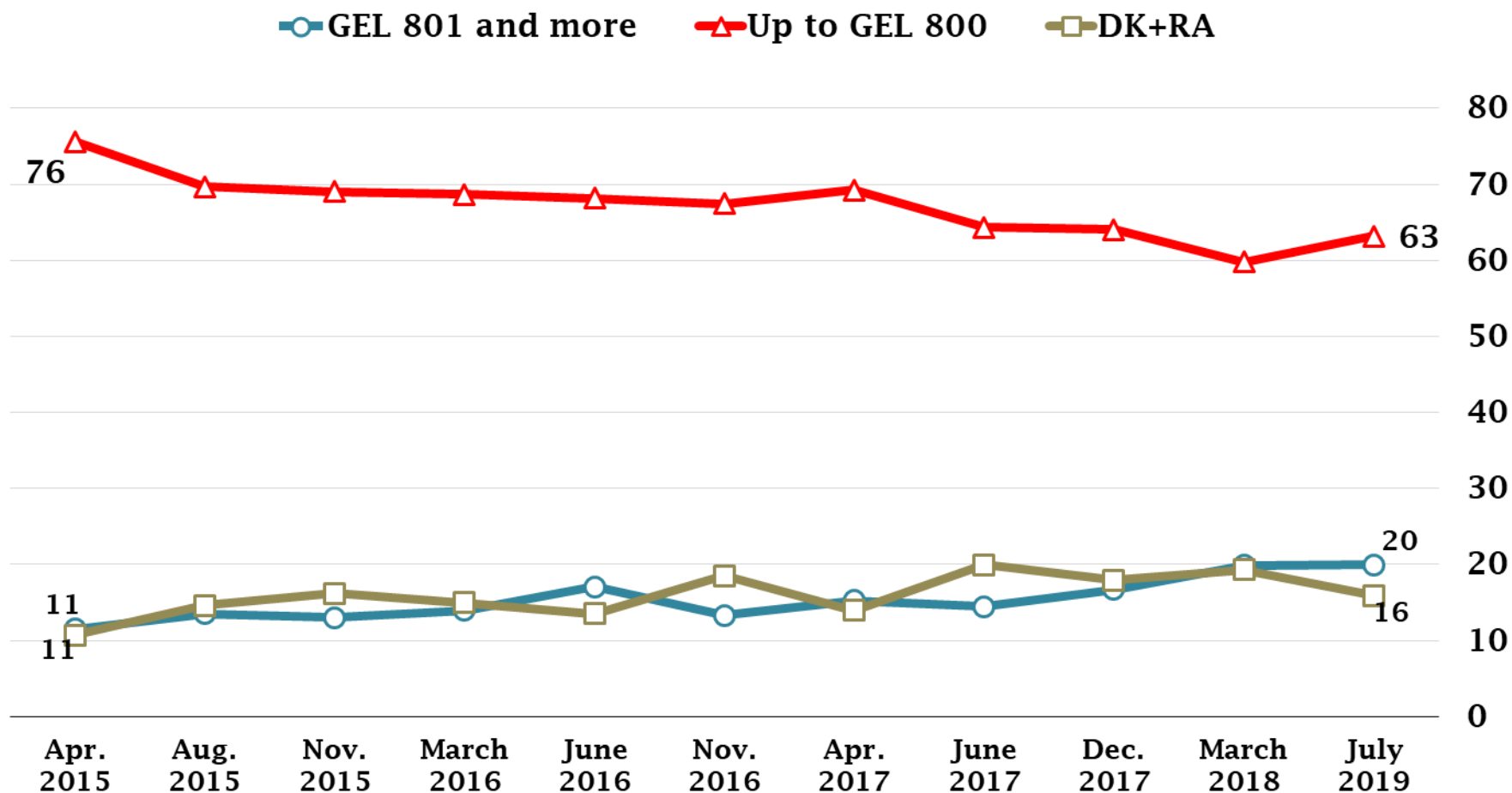
# Household's income/spending

Speaking about a monetary income last month, to which of the following groups does your household belong? Please think of all sources of income that your household had last month./ Using the same CARD, please tell me your household's spending last month? (q38/q47)



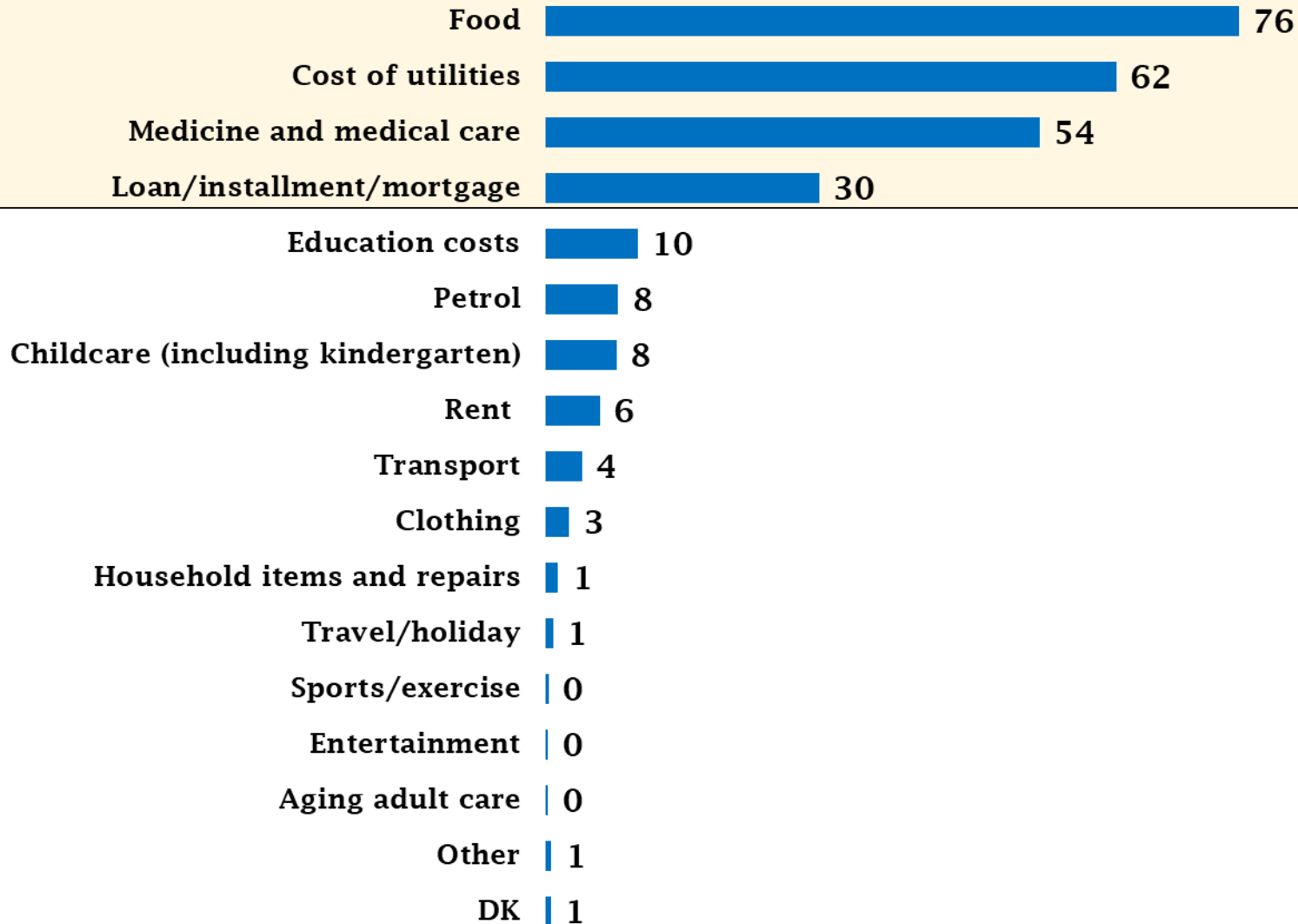
# Household's income

Speaking about a monetary income last month, to which of the following groups does your household belong? Please think of all sources of income that your household had last month (q38)



# Household expenses

What are the biggest monthly expenses for your household? Up to 3 answers (q34)

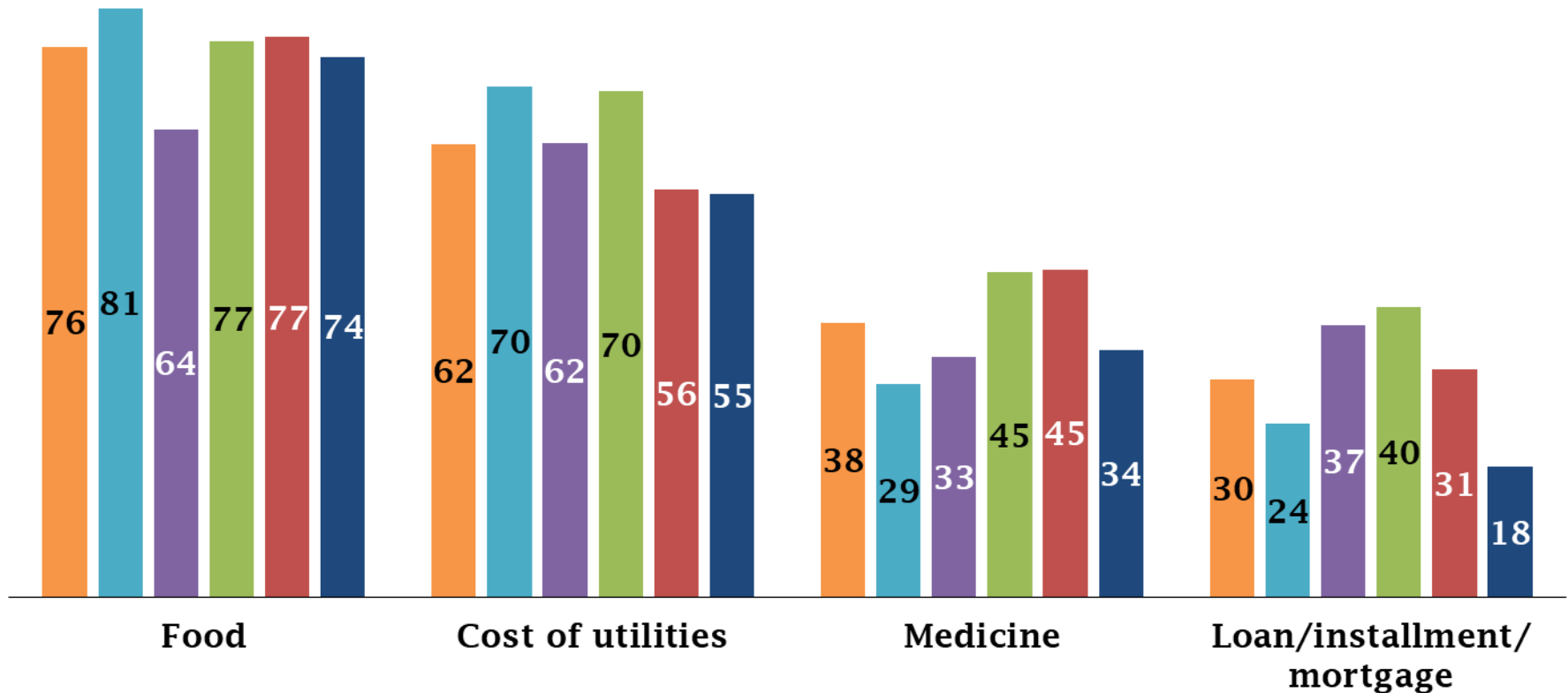




# Household expenses

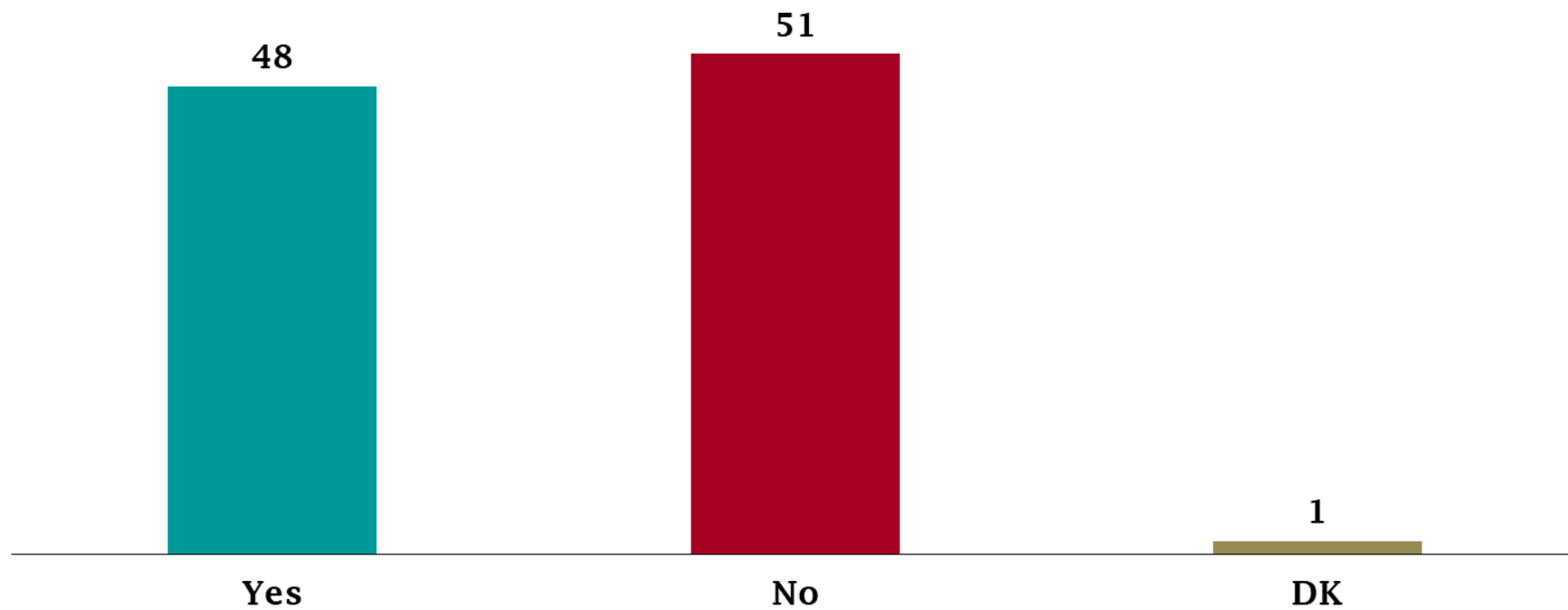
What are the biggest monthly expenses for your household? Up to 3 answers (q34 X Settlement) Part 1

■ National ■ Capital ■ Large urban ■ Small urban ■ Rural ■ Minority settlements



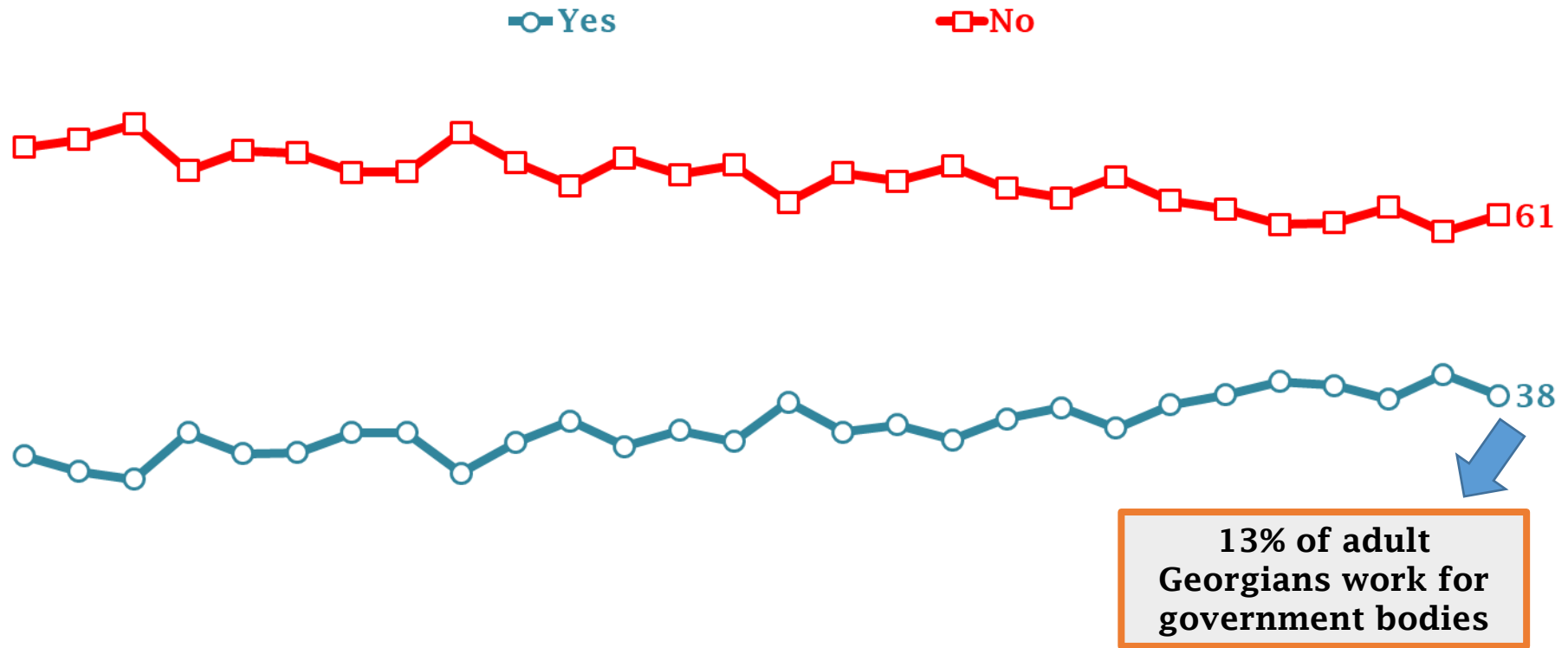
# Utilities

Speaking about the past 6 months, did you ever not have enough money to pay for utilities? (q35)



# Self-reported unemployment

Do you consider yourself to be employed? This employment may be part-time or full-time, you may be officially employed, informally employed, or self-employed, but it brings you monetary income. (q41)



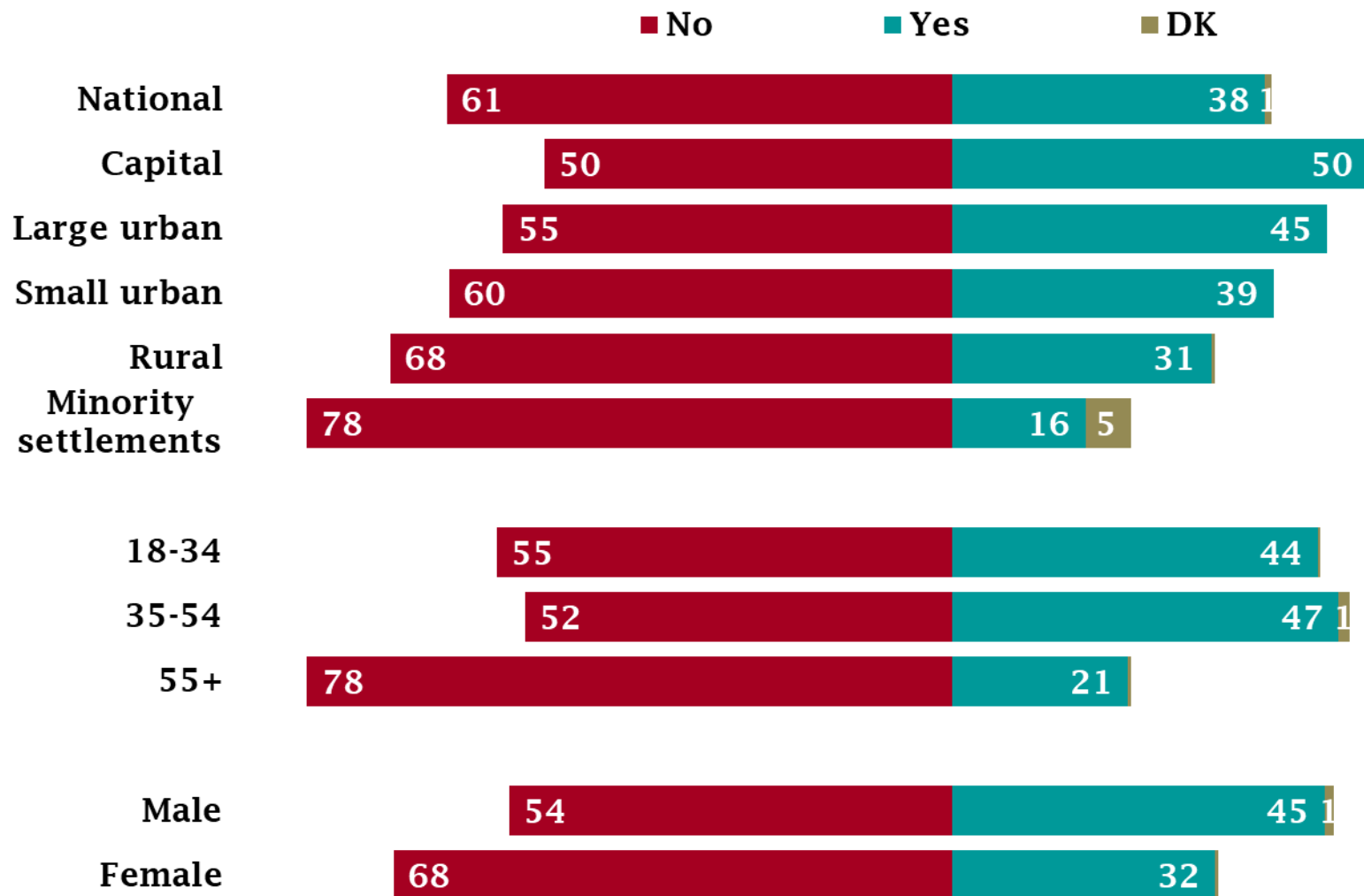
**13% of adult Georgians work for government bodies**

Apr	Jul	Mar	Sep	Feb	Jun	Aug	Nov	Mar	Jun	Sep	Nov	Apr	Aug	Oct	Apr	Aug	Nov	Mar	Jun	Nov	Apr	Jun	Dec	Mar	Dec	Apr	Jul	
2010		2011			2012				2013				2014			2015				2016				2017				2019

# Self-reported unemployment

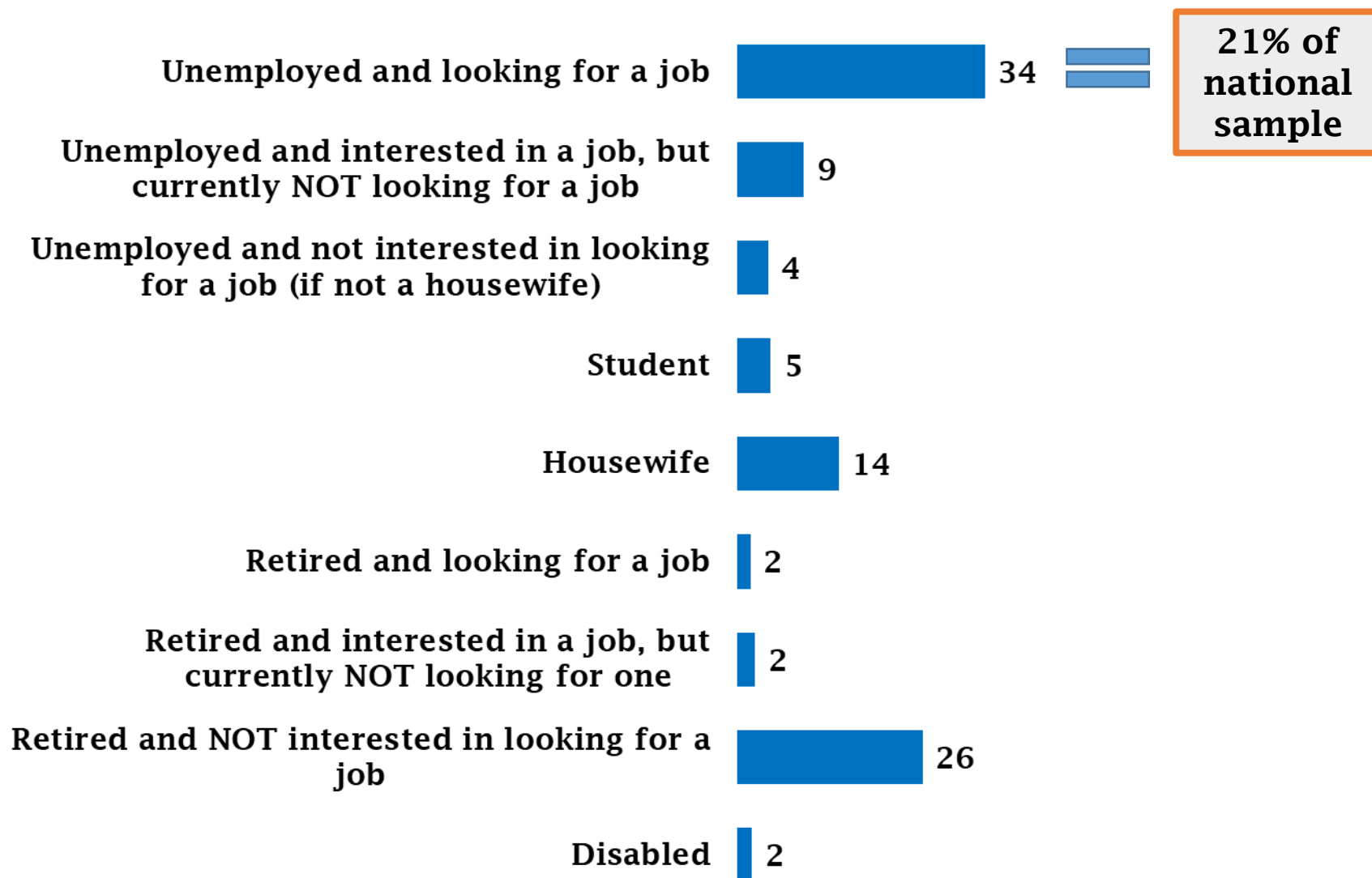
Do you consider yourself to be employed? This employment may be part-time or full-time, you may be officially employed, informally employed, or self-employed, but it brings you monetary income.

(q41 X Settlement, Age, Gender)



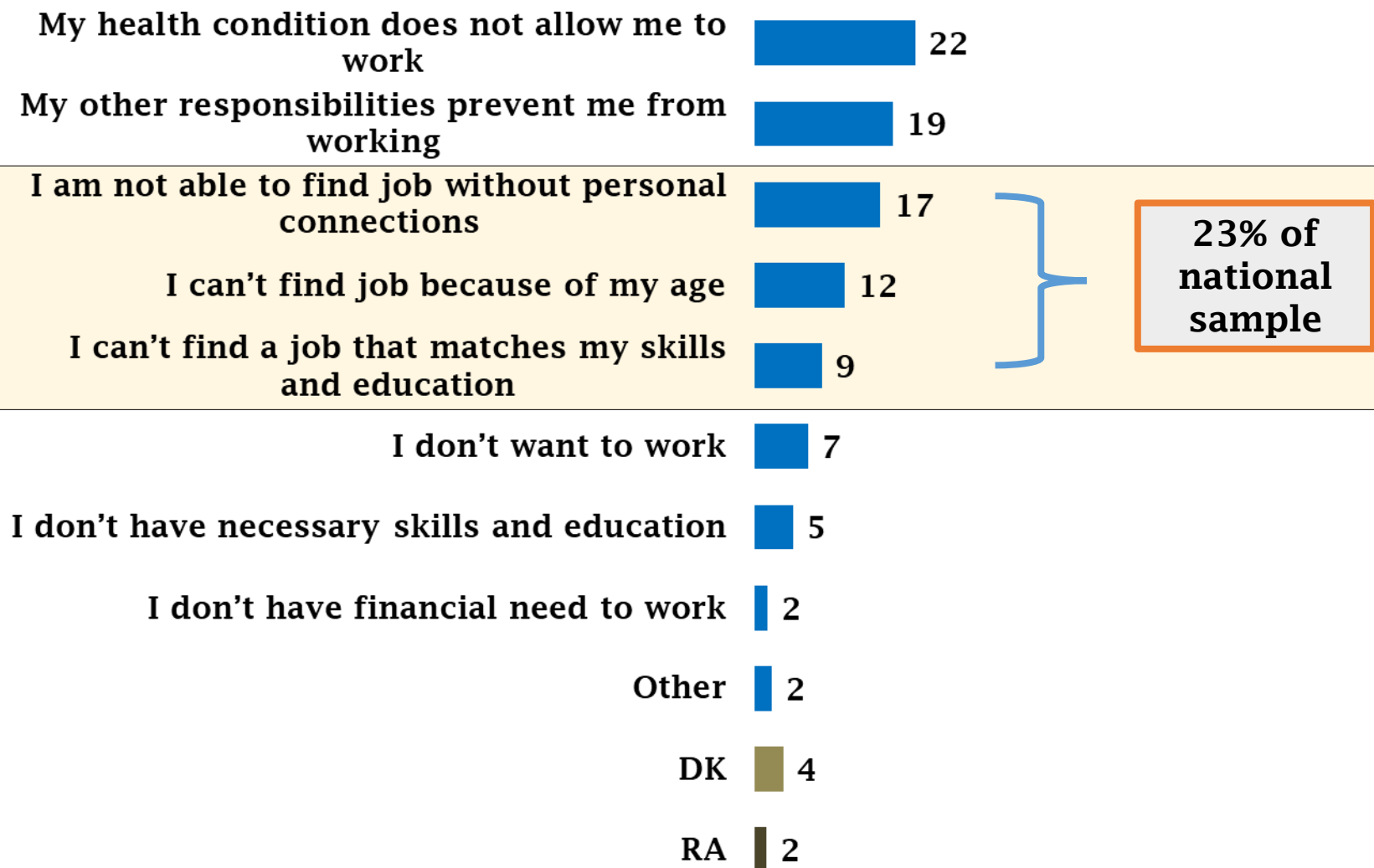
# Unemployment status

Which of the following best describes your situation? (q42) - of the 61% who consider themselves to be unemployed



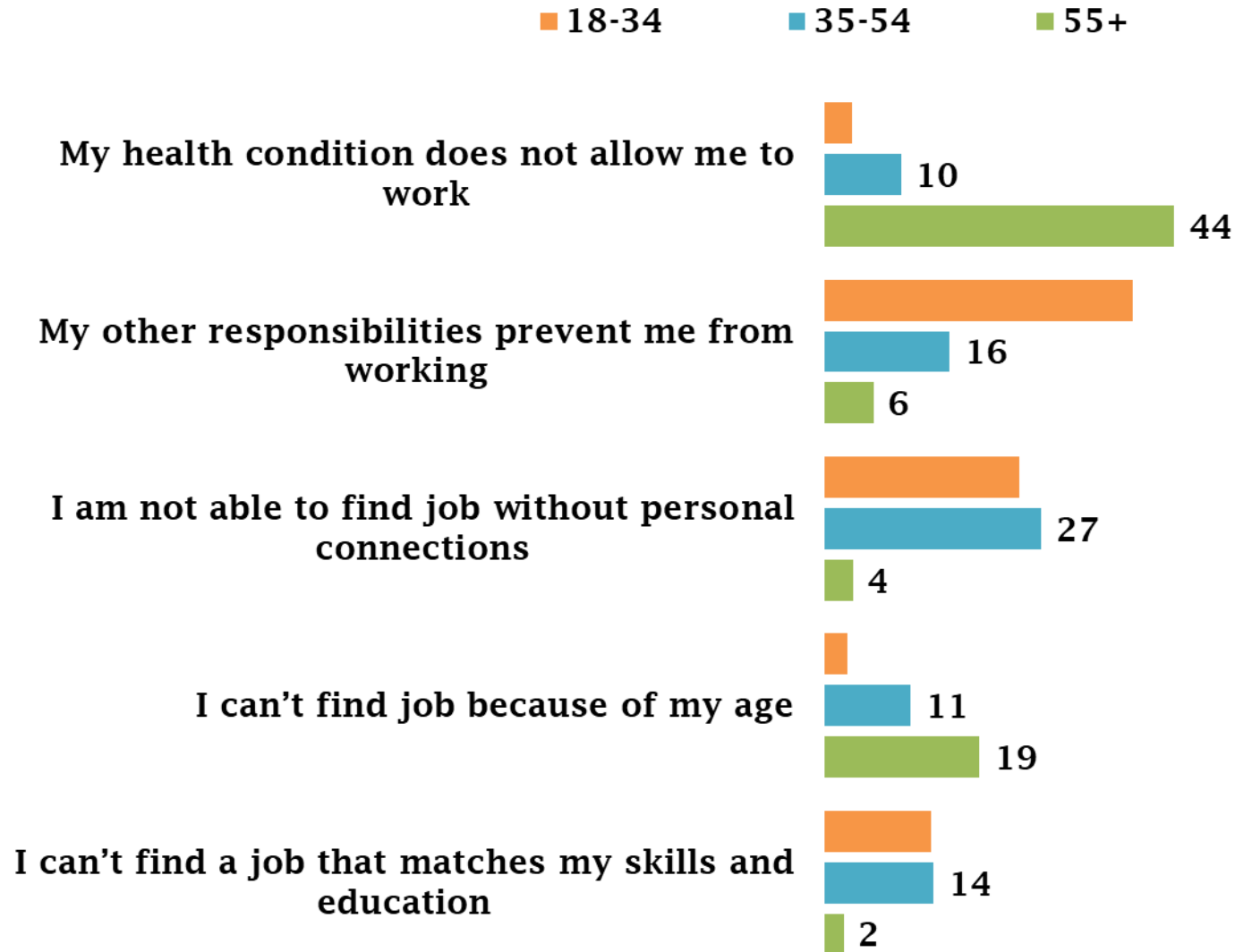
# Reasons for unemployment

If unemployed, which statement applies to you? (q43) - of the 61% who considers themselves unemployed



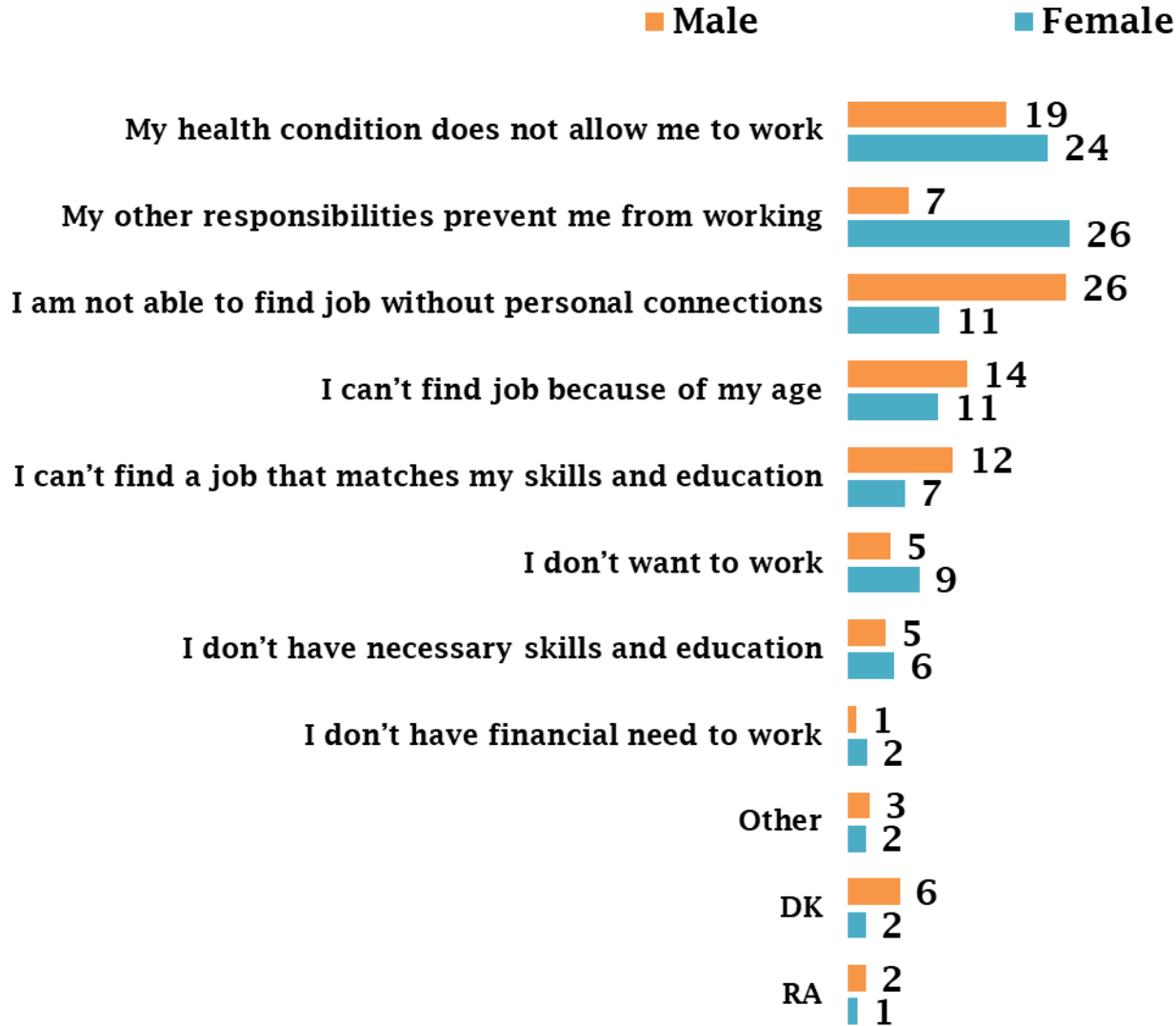
# Reasons for unemployment

If unemployed, which statement applies to you? (q43 X Gender) - of the 61% who consider themselves to be unemployed. Part 1



# Reasons for unemployment

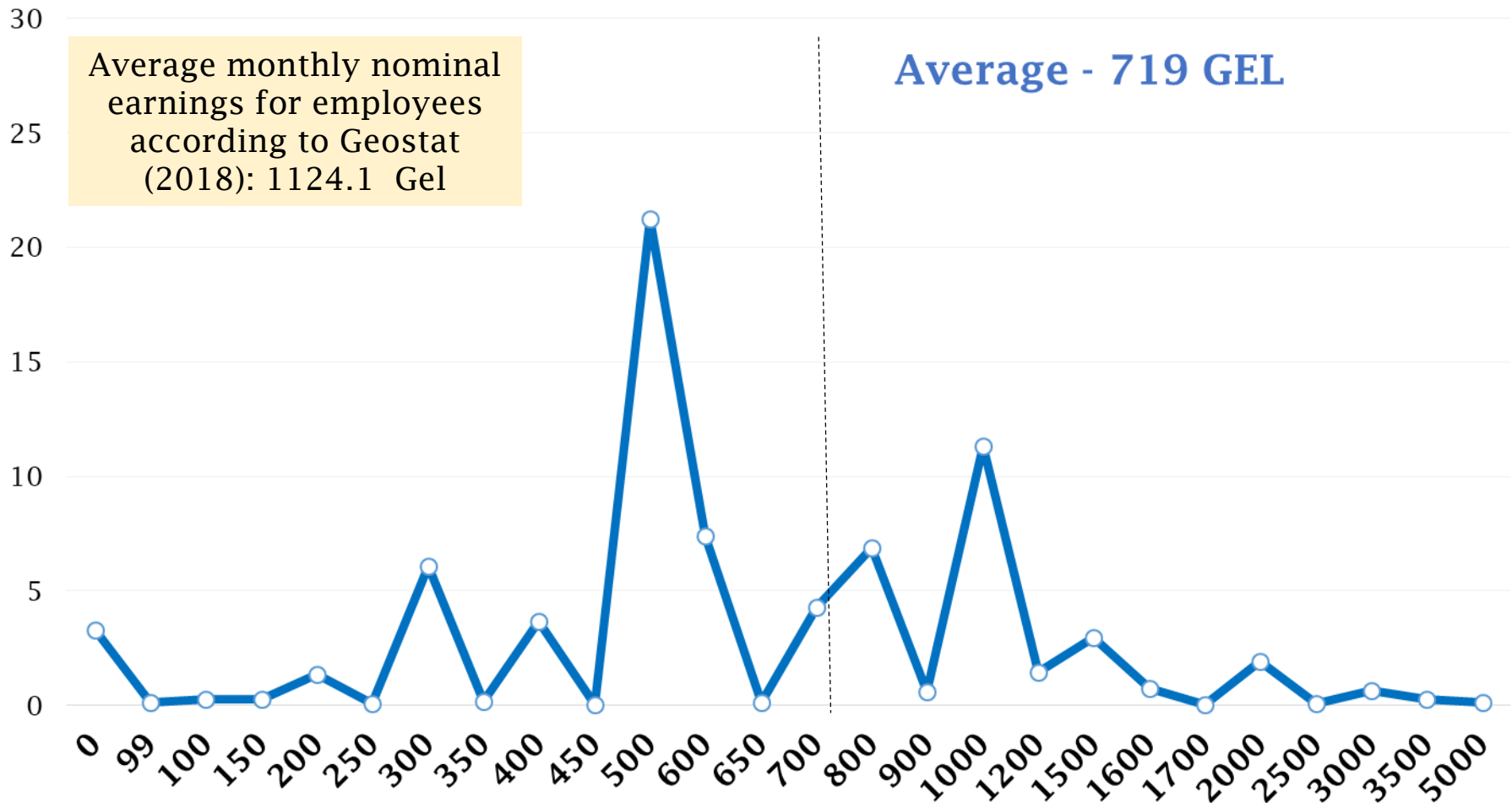
If unemployed, which statement applies to you? (q43 X Gender) - of the 61% who consider themselves to be unemployed





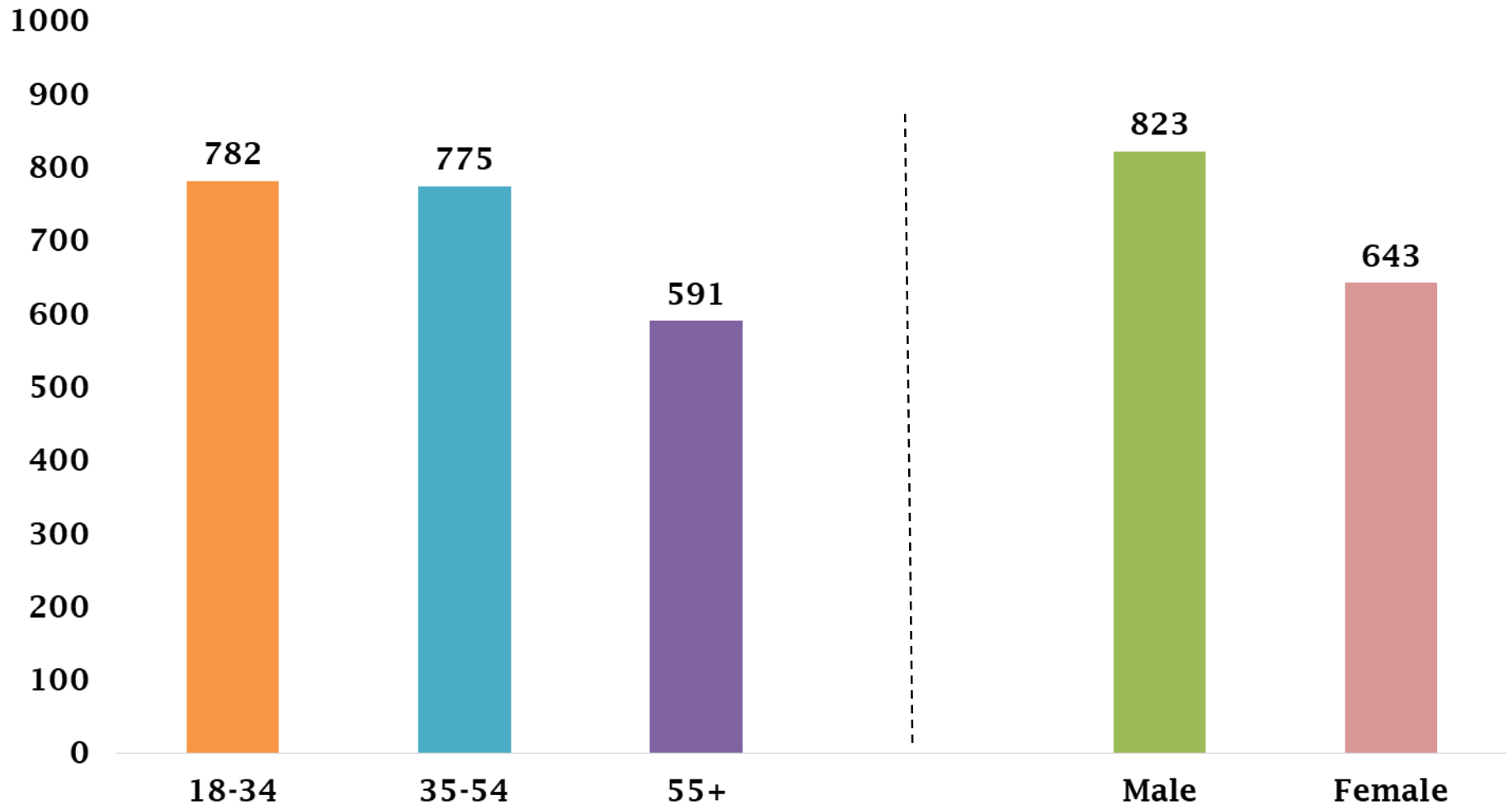
# Acceptable salary (GEL)

Considering your education and skills, what is the minimum salary you would agree to work for? (q44) - of the 61% who consider themselves to be unemployed



# Acceptable salary (GEL) - Average

Considering your education and skills, what is the minimum salary you would agree to work for? (q44 X Age, Gender) - of the 61% who consider themselves to be unemployed



# Work environment

If you think about your current primary job, please tell me do you agree or disagree with the following statement? (q46) - of the 38% who consider themselves to be employed

■ Agree ■ Disagree ■ DK ■ RA ■ Not applicable

My work place/environment is safe



My boss/supervisor treats employees with respect and fairness



I am not afraid to lose my job in the next 6 months



Overall my salary corresponds with the work I do



I have good chances of promotion and career growth at my job



My job offers good health insurance



# Personal safety net

If your household had a sudden need for 300 GEL which you do not have at that moment, would you be able to borrow money without interest rate?

(q48)

■ Yes ■ No ■ DK ■ RA

July 2019



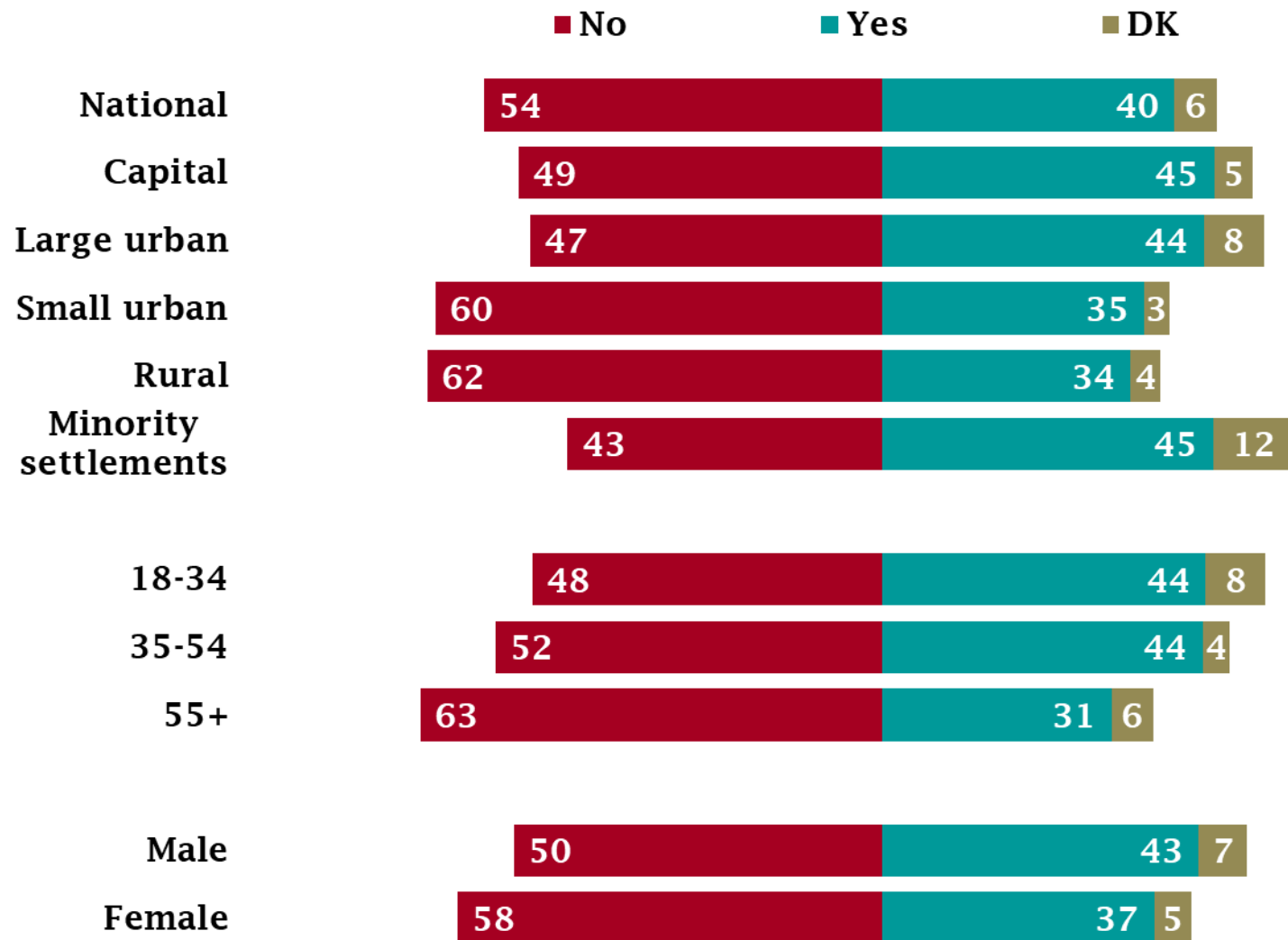
March 2016



# Personal safety net

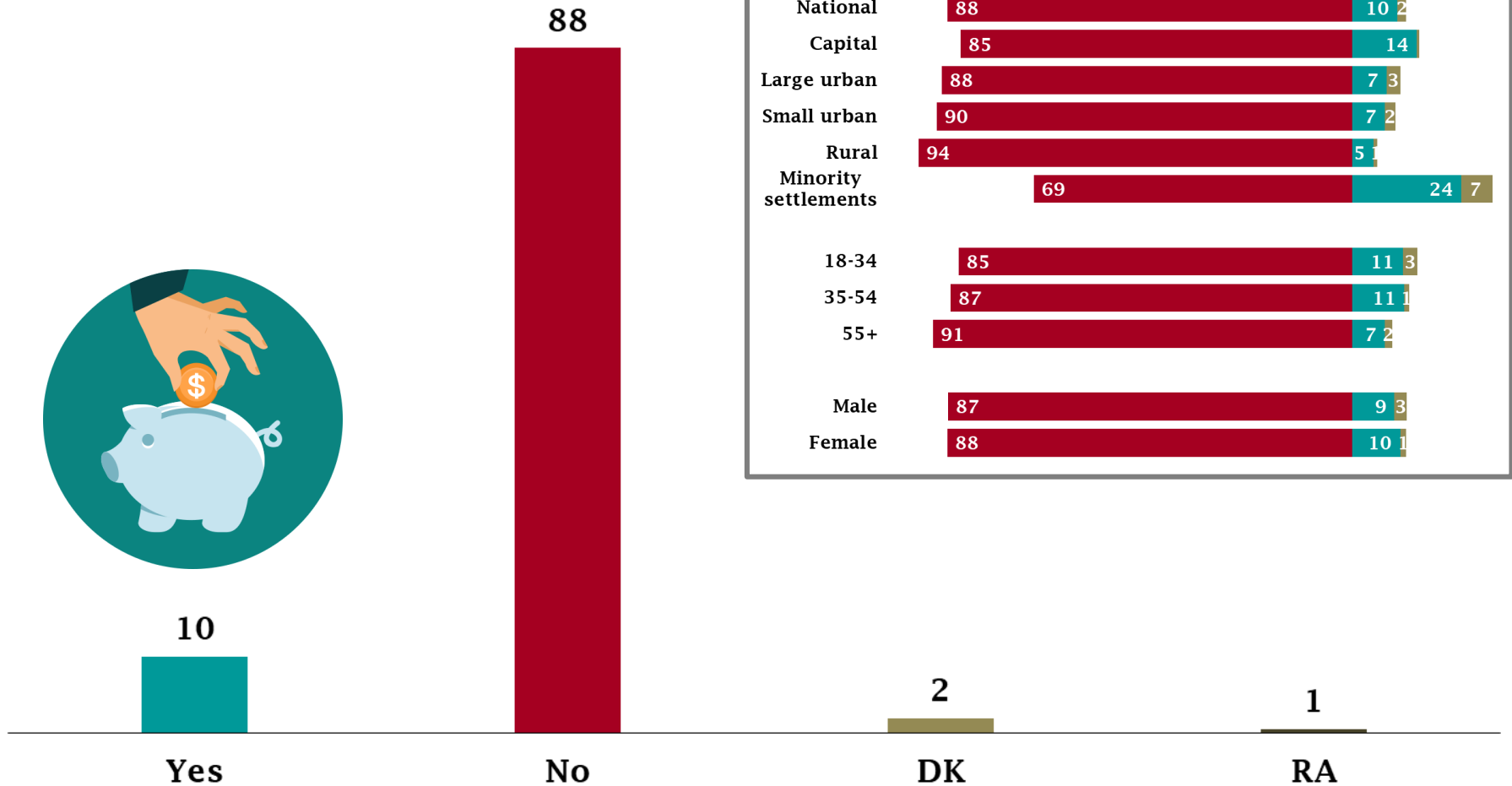
If your household had a sudden need for 300 GEL which you do not have at that moment, would you be able to borrow money without interest rate?

(q48 X Settlement, Age, Gender)



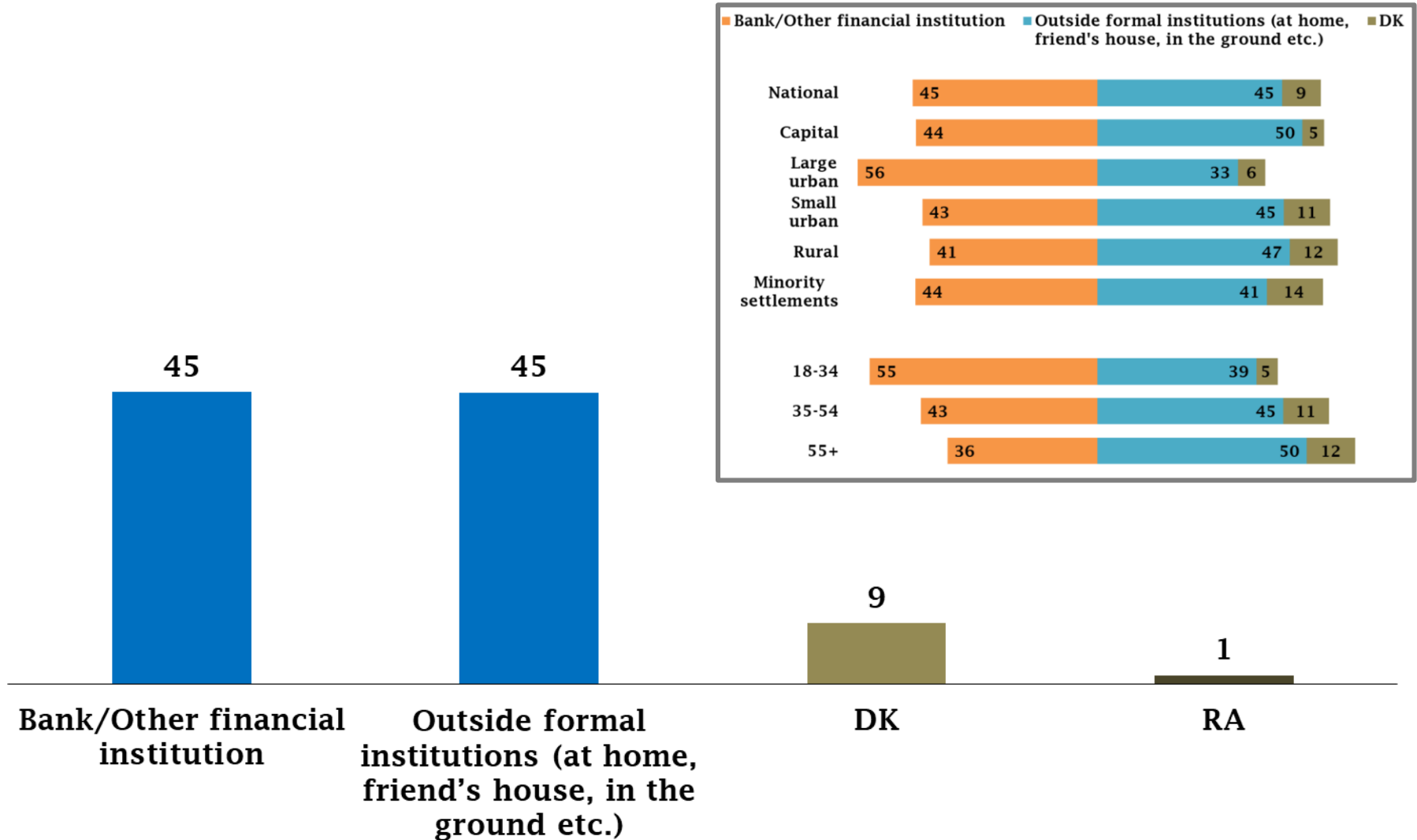
# Current savings

Do you and your household have saving at the moment? (q52)



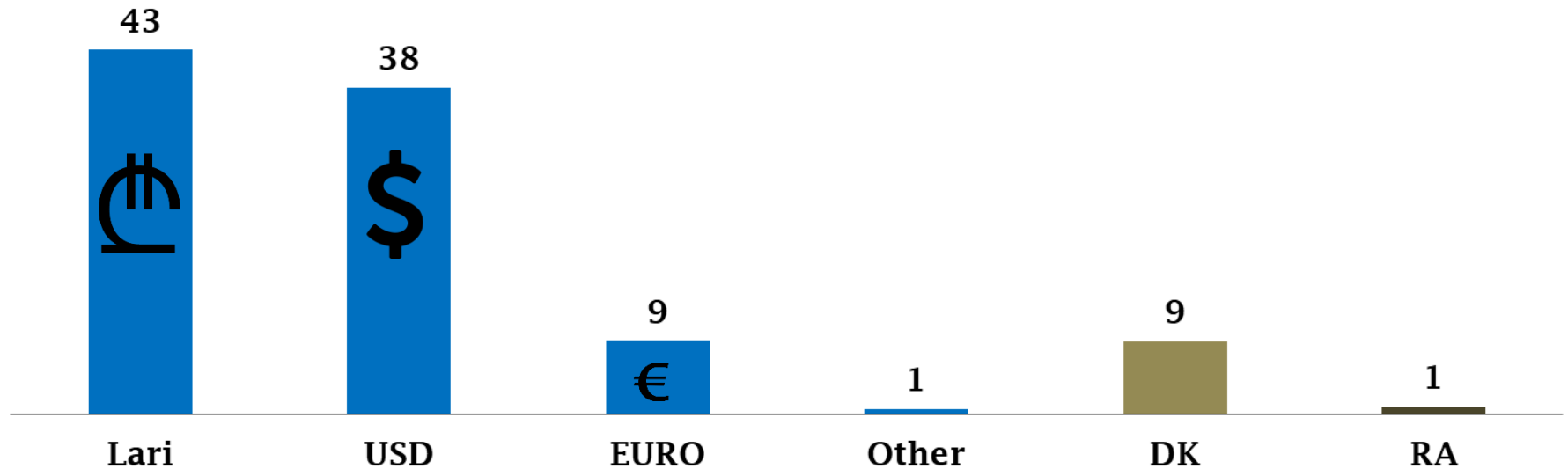
# Savings

If you had extra money for saving each month, where would you save this money? (q49) - Open Question



# Savings - currency preference

If you had extra money for saving each month, in which currency would you prefer to keep this money? (q50) - Open Question

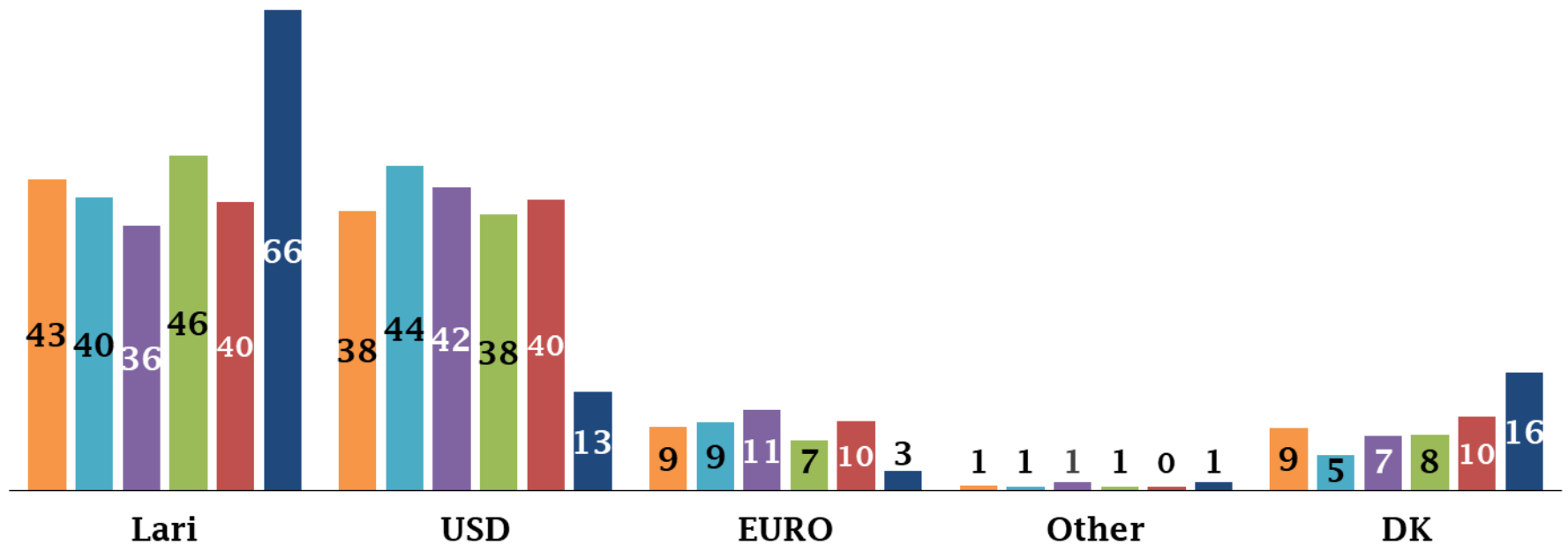




# Savings - currency preference

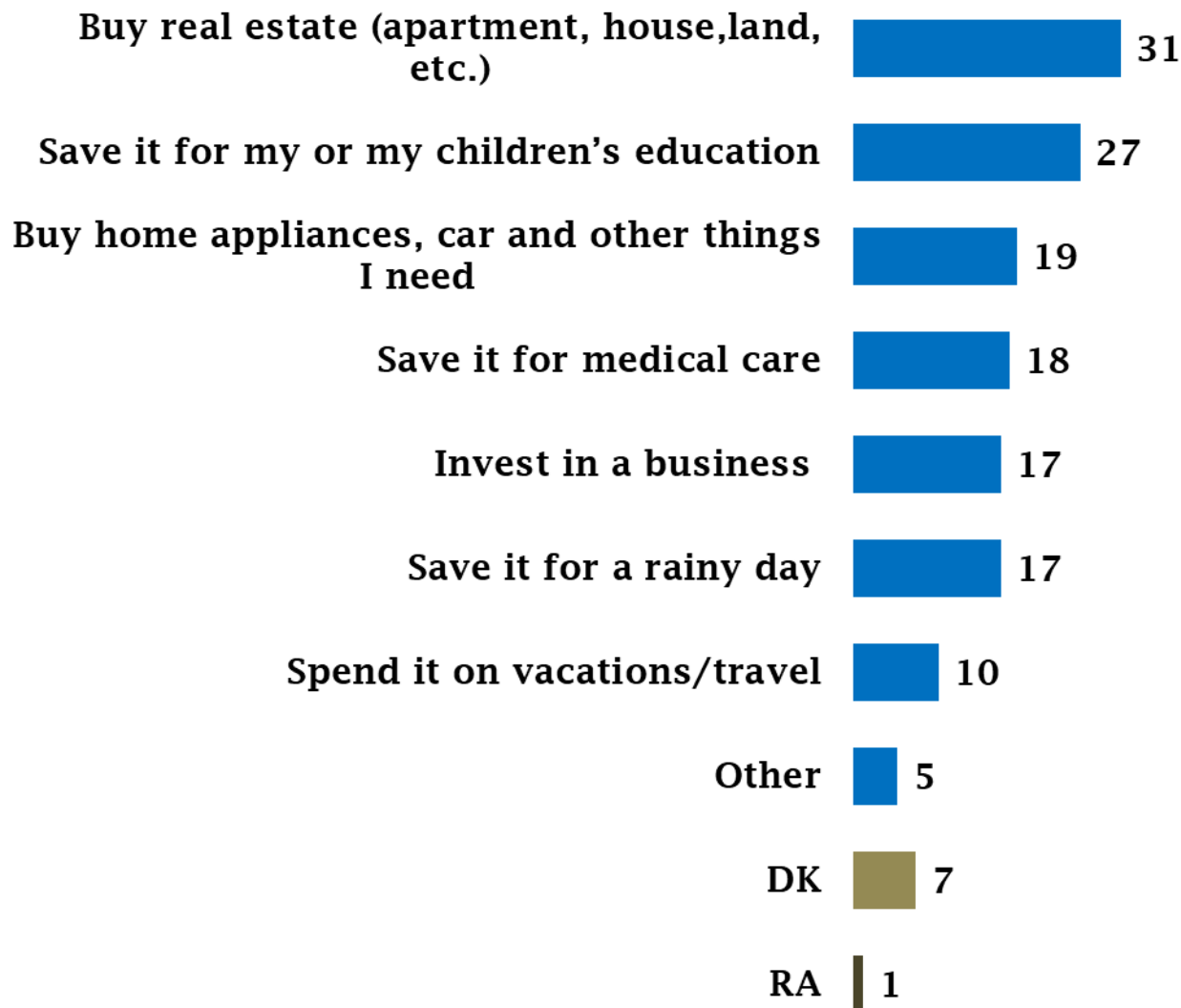
If you had extra money for saving each month, in which currency would you prefer to keep this money? (q50 X Settlement) Open question

■ National ■ Capital ■ Large urban ■ Small urban ■ Rural ■ Minority settlements



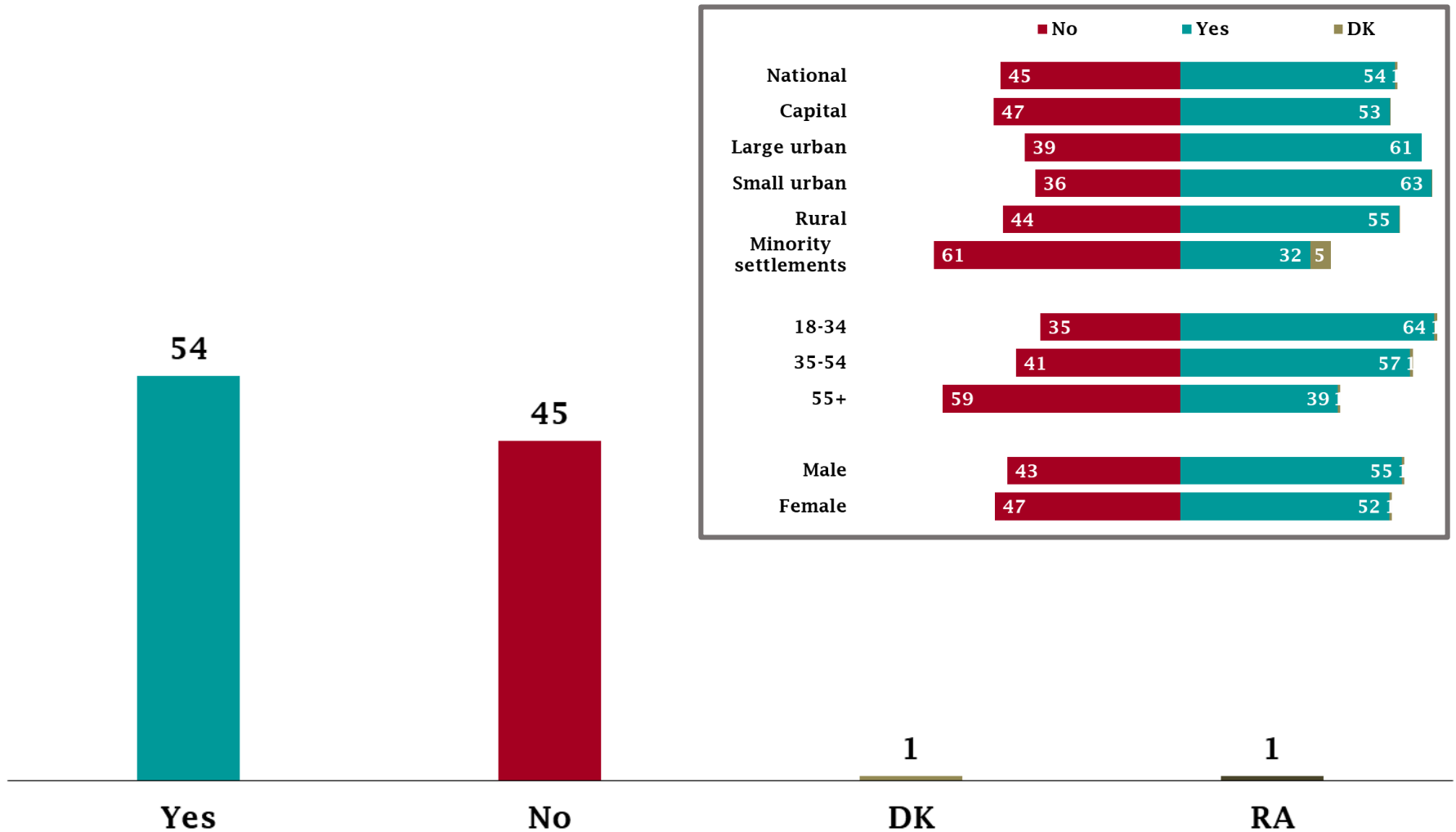
# Savings - what for?

What would you use this saving for? Up to 3 answers (q51) - Open Question



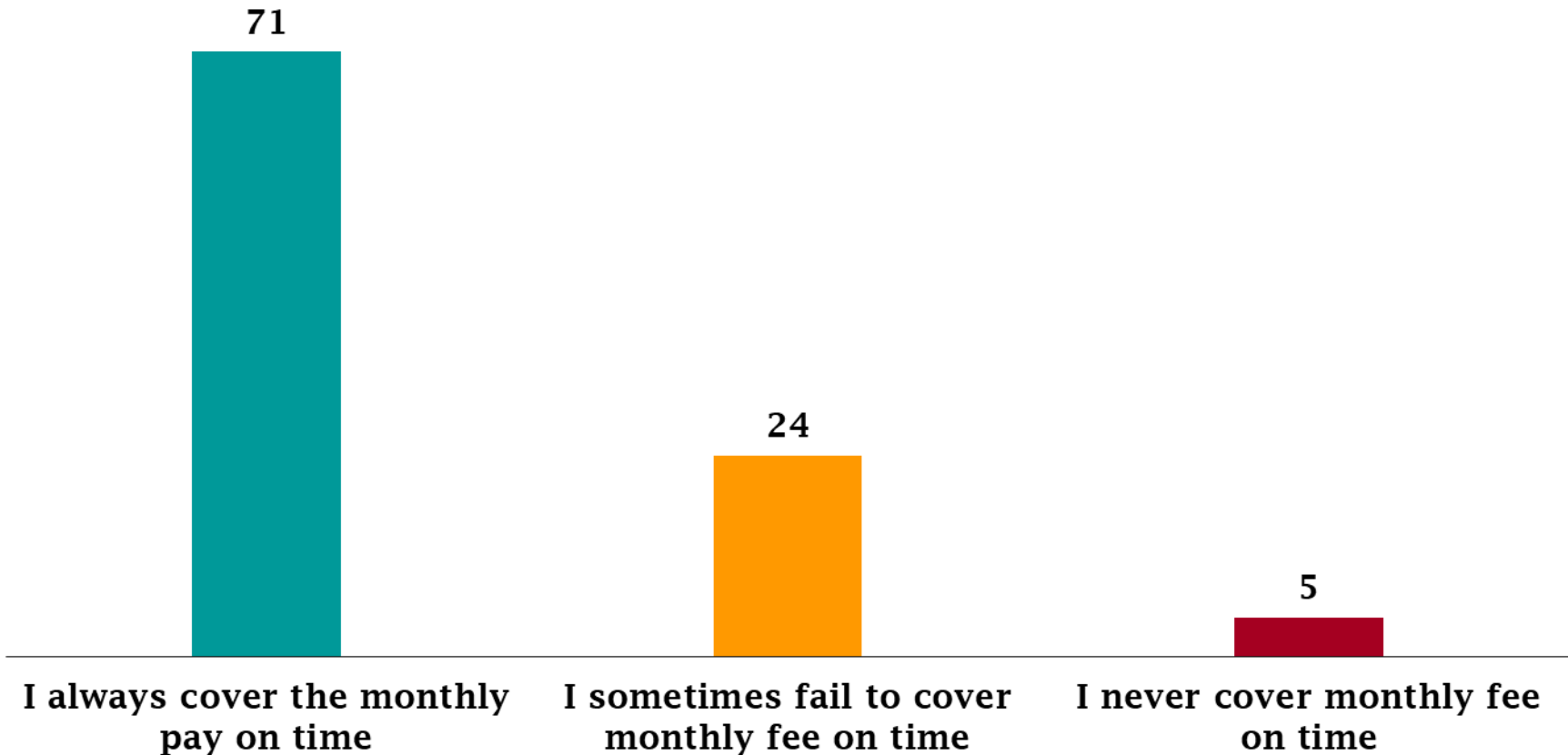
# Current loans

Do you currently have a loan (consumer loan, mortgage, instalments, credit card) in a bank or other financial institutions? (q53)



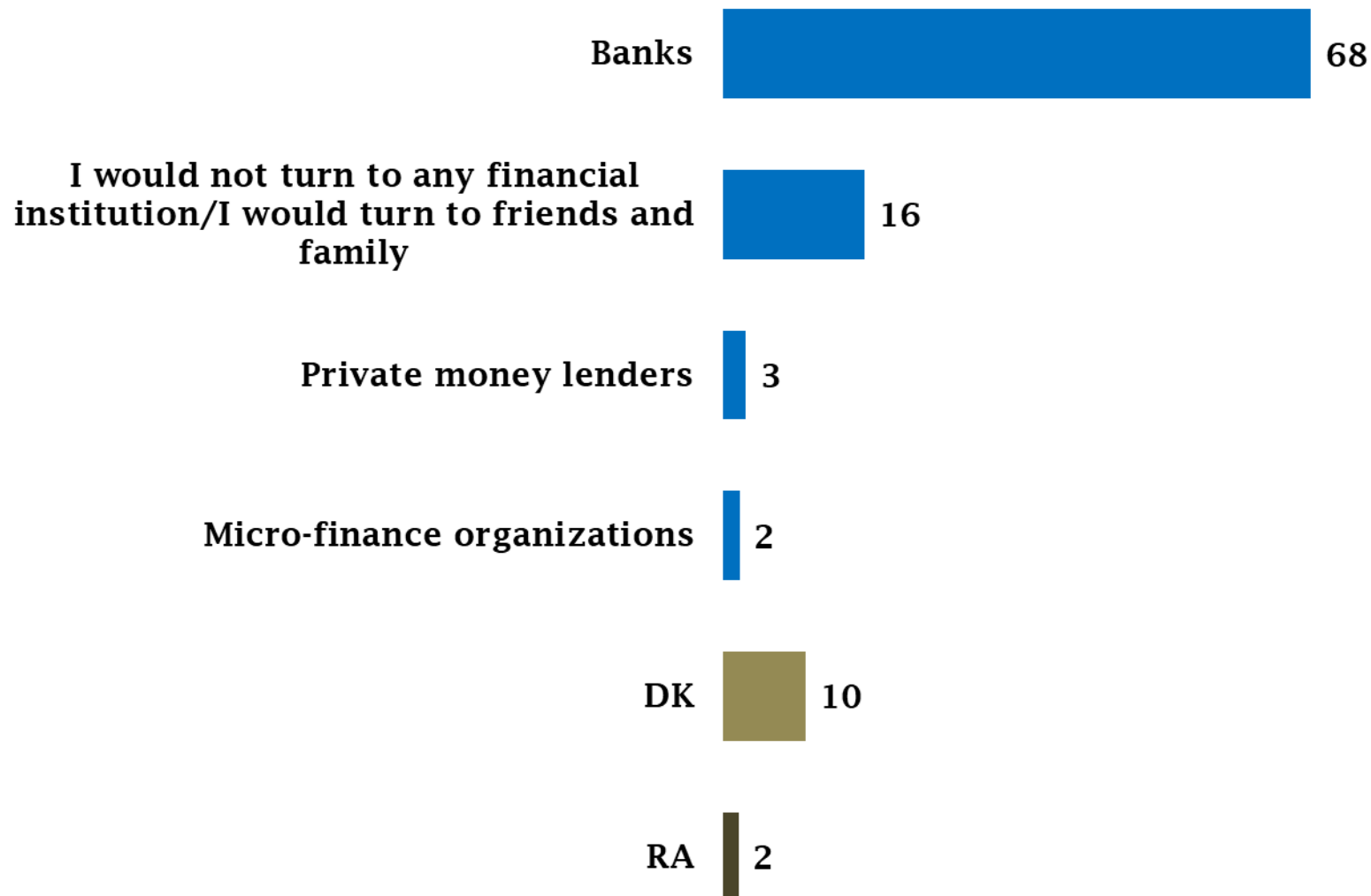
# Paying off loans

If yes, which of the following best describes your situation? (q54) - of the 54% who currently have a loan



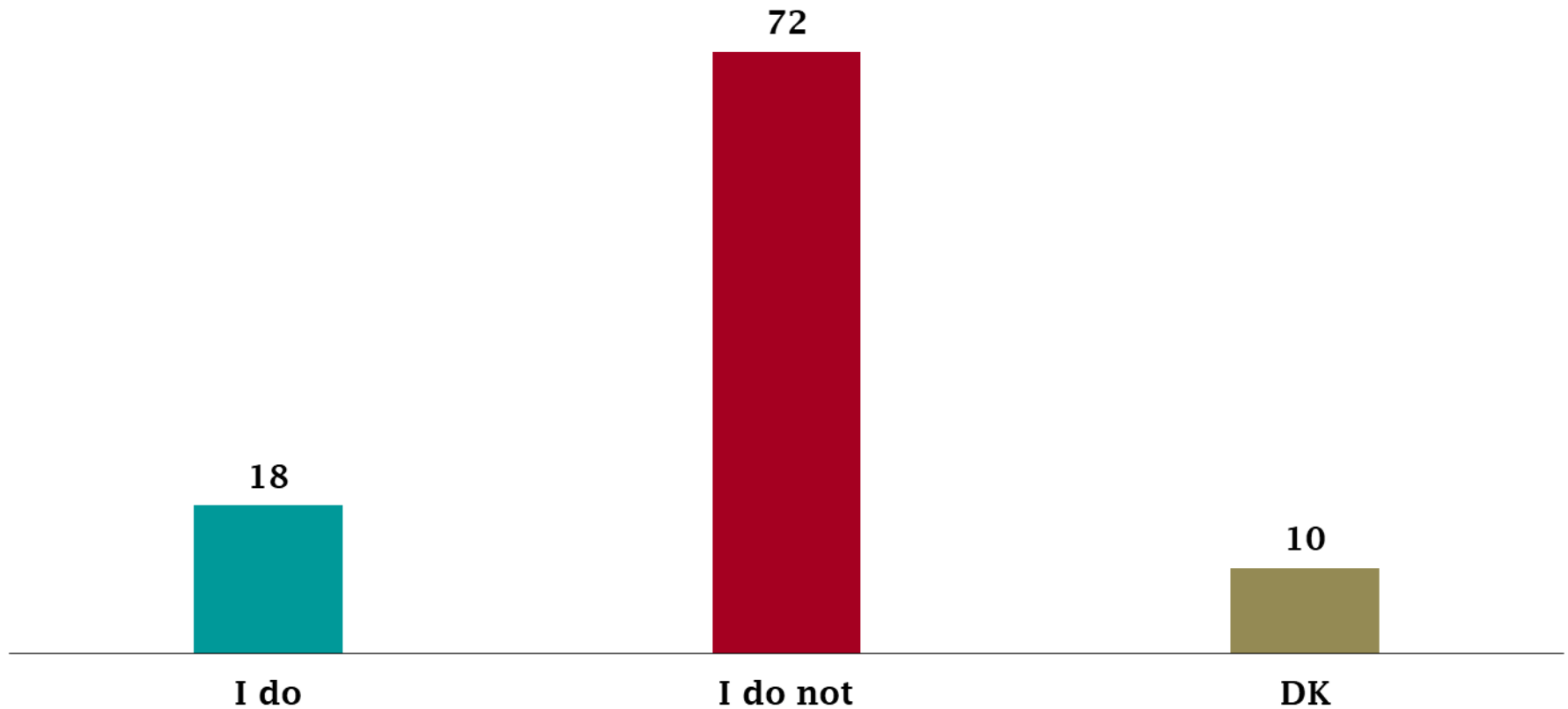
# Sources for a loan

If you were in need for a loan now (big amount of money), who would you address? (q55) - Open Question



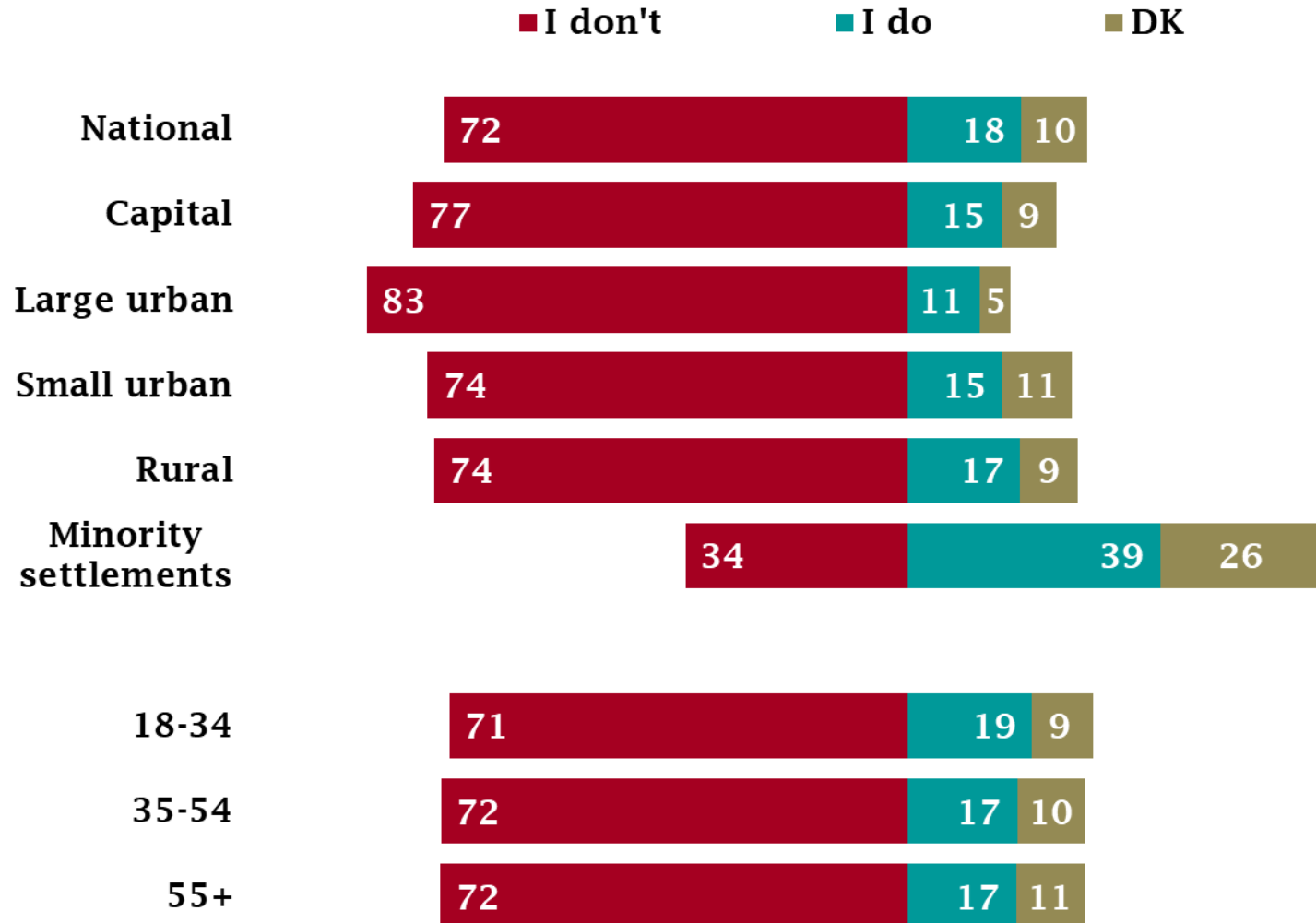
# Commercial bank loan terms

Do you believe or not that the commercial banks in Georgia will give you good terms on a loan (such as comnsumer loan, mortgage, credit card)?  
(q56)



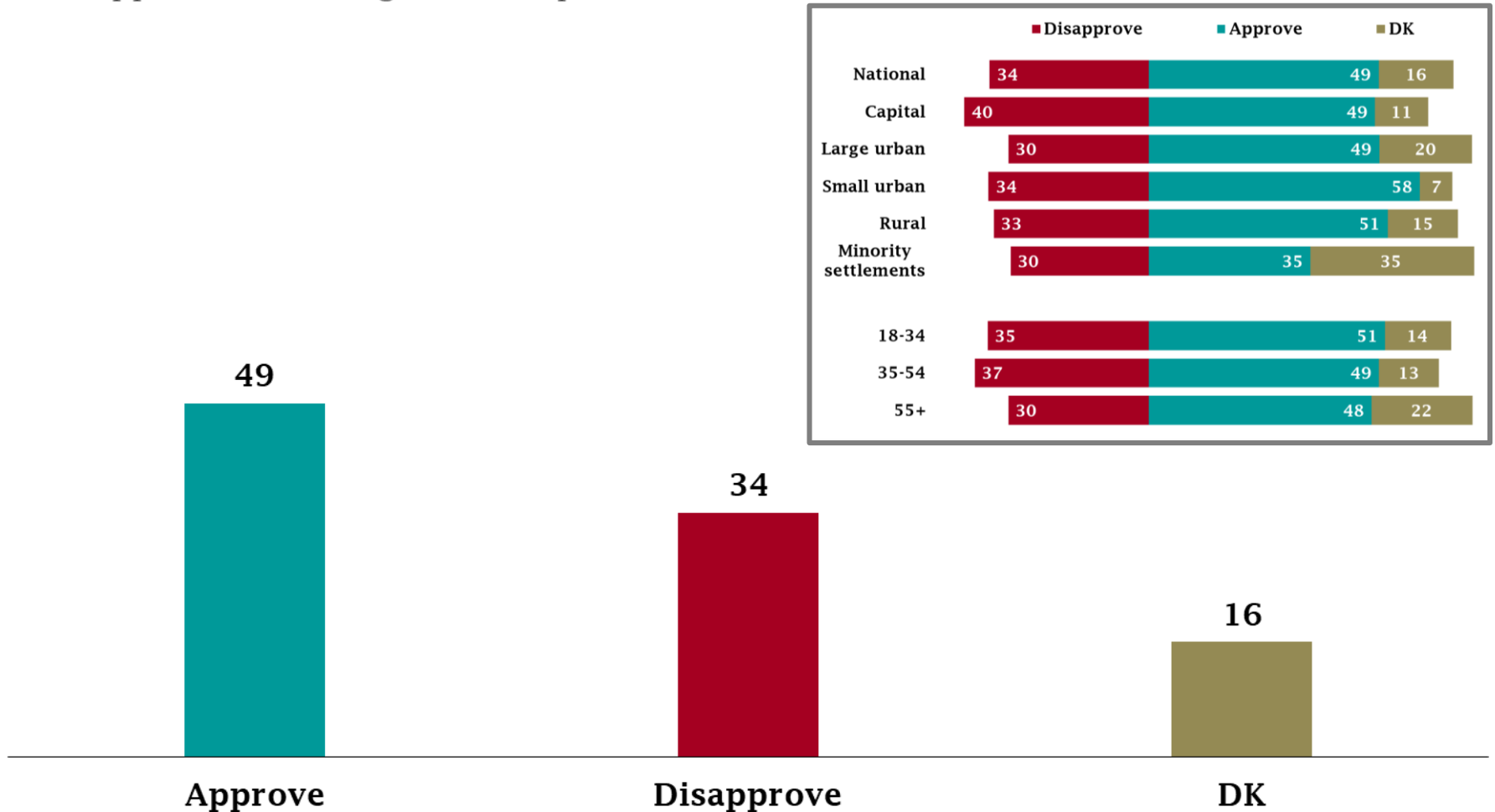
# Commercial bank loan terms

Do you believe or not that the commercial banks in Georgia will give you good terms on a loan (such as consumer loan, mortgage, credit card)?  
(q56 X Settlement, Age)



# Banking regulations

Since January 2019 government introduced new regulations, which demands from the loan-giving companies to assess if the client is solvent and to limit the amount of the loan based on what the person can actually pay. Do you approve or disapprove of this regulation? (q57)

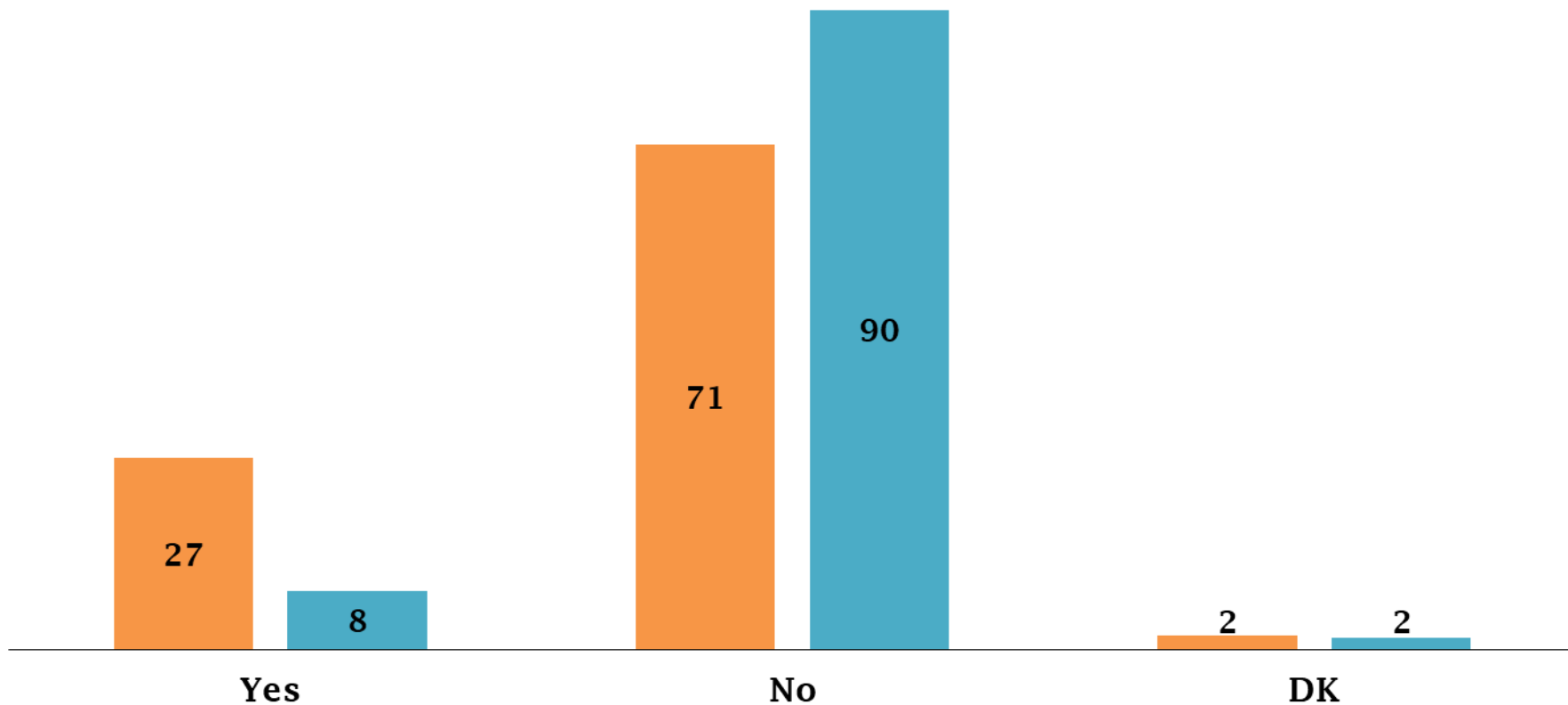




# Pension program

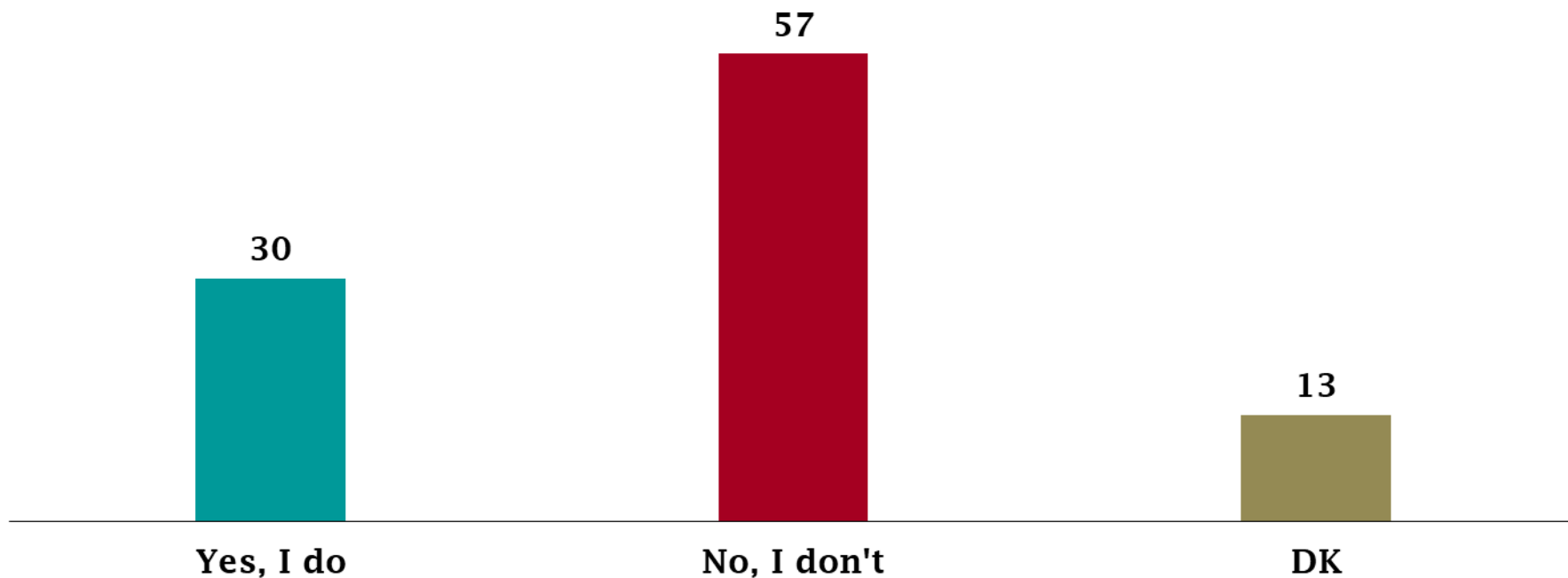
Are you currently involved in the state pension program? (q58)

18-39 40+



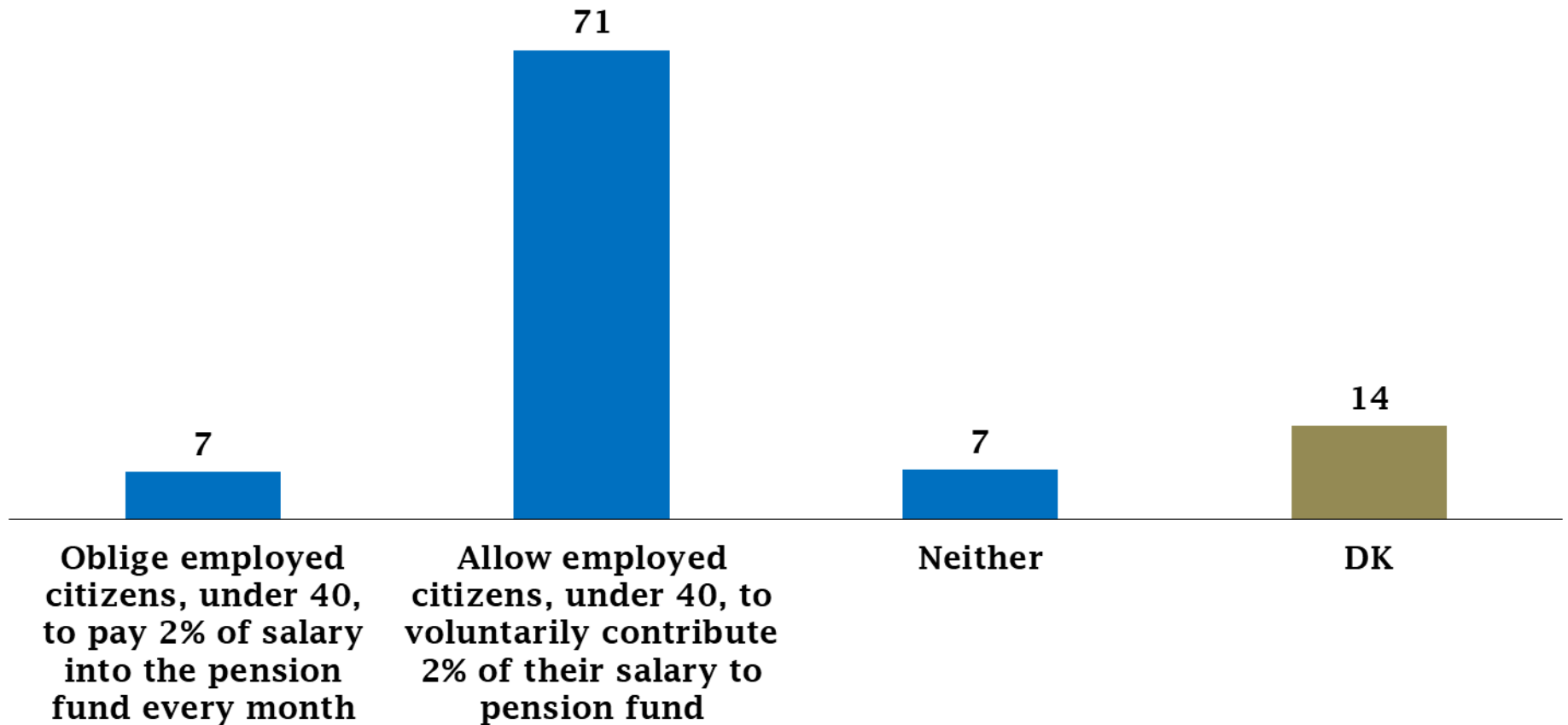
# Trust towards Pension Fund

If yes, do you believe that you will be able to use the saved money once you retire? (q59) - of the 16% who are currently involved



# Pension systems

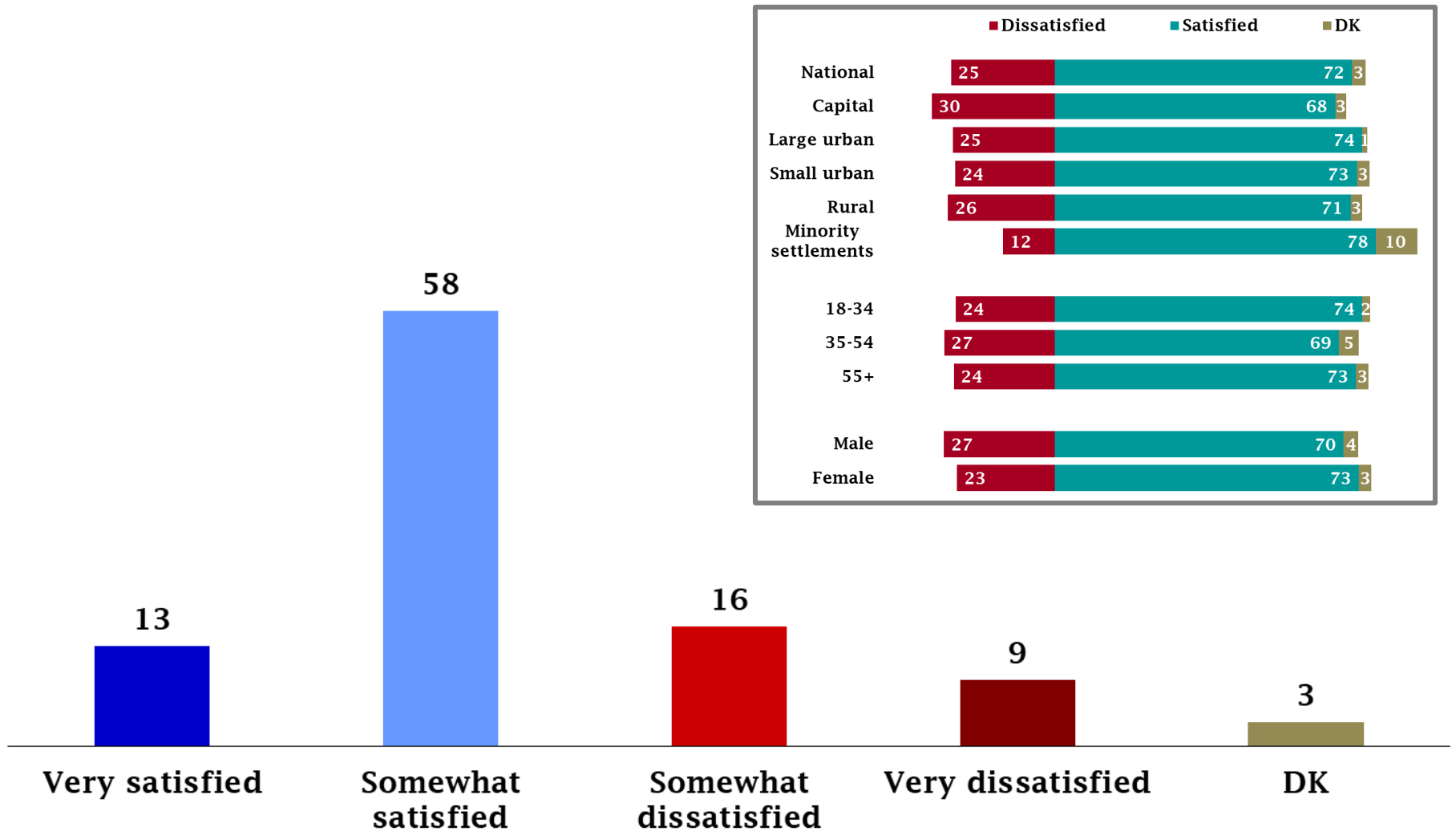
Which of the following two proposals on pension reform do you approve?  
(q60)



# Healthcare

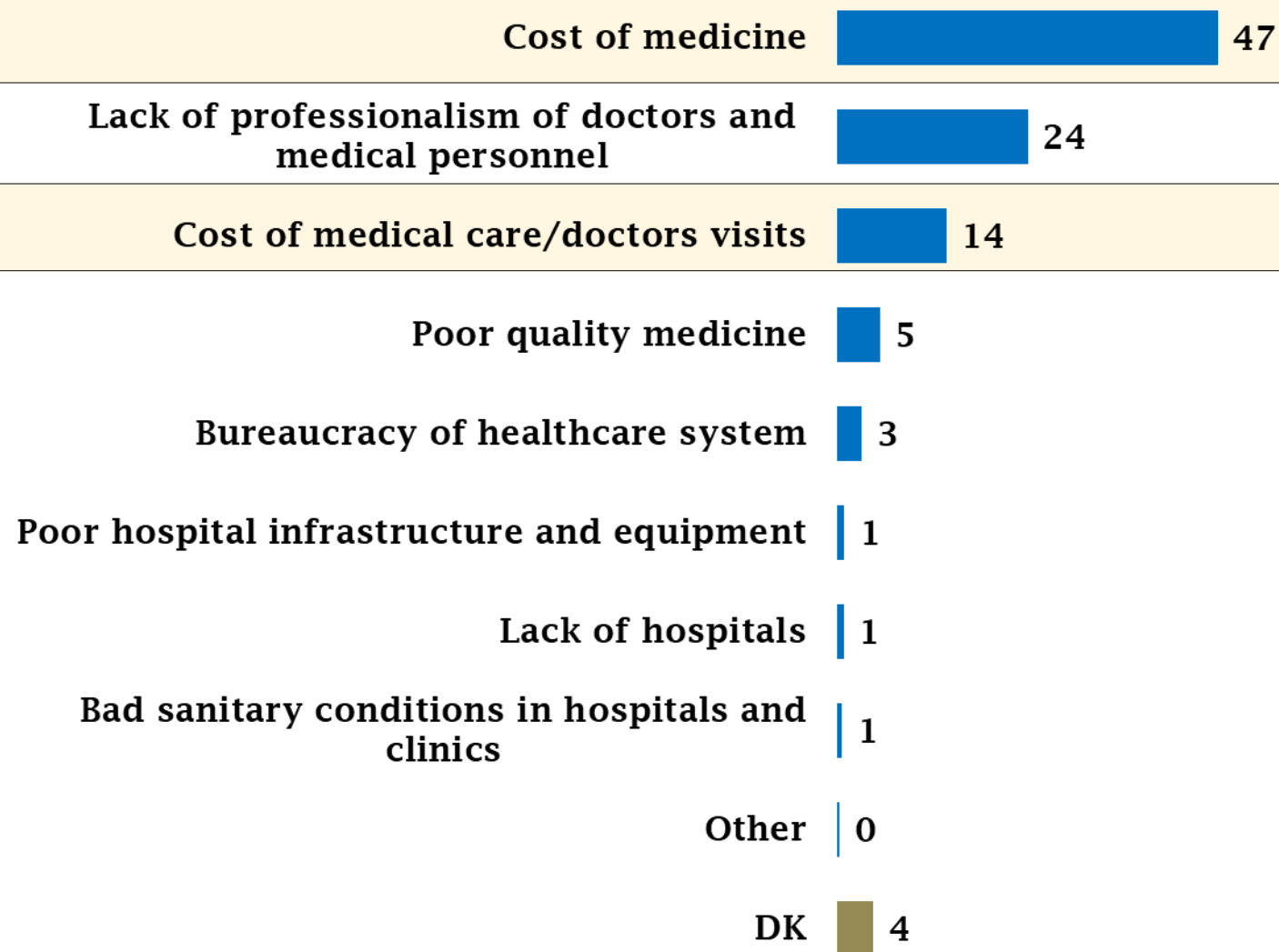
# Quality of healthcare

Overall, how satisfied or dissatisfied are you with the quality of healthcare in Georgia? (q61)



# Healthcare issues

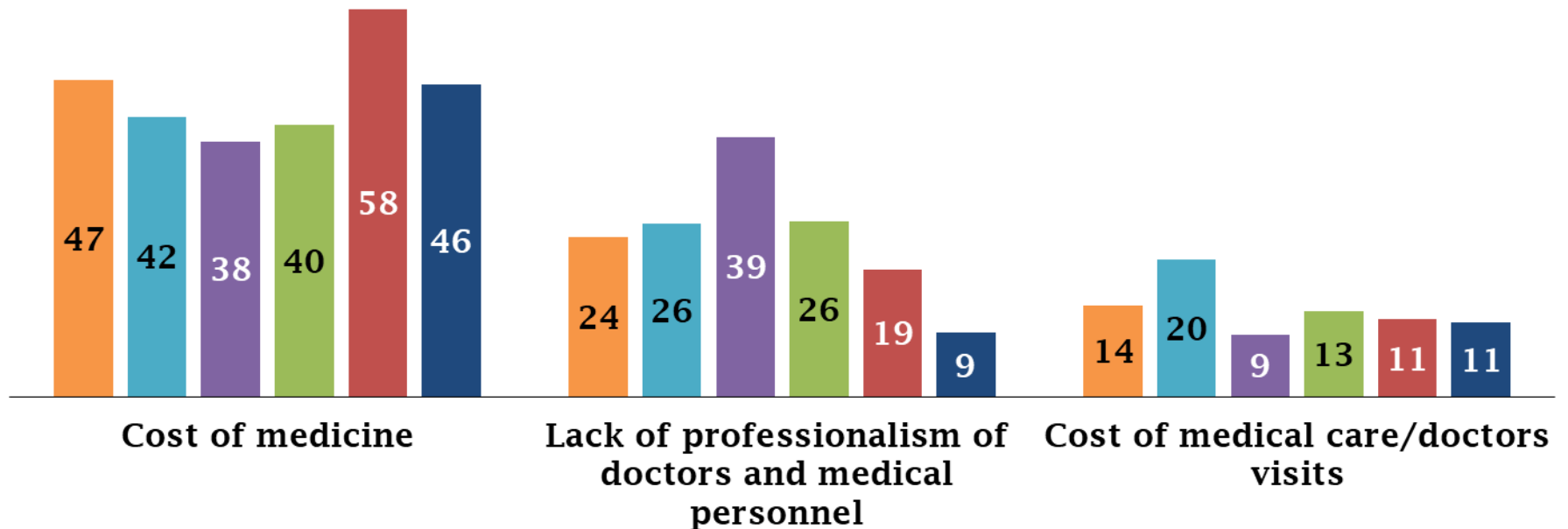
Which of the following would you say is the biggest issue facing healthcare system today? (q62)



# Healthcare issues

Which of the following would you say is the biggest issue facing healthcare system today? (q62 X Settlement)

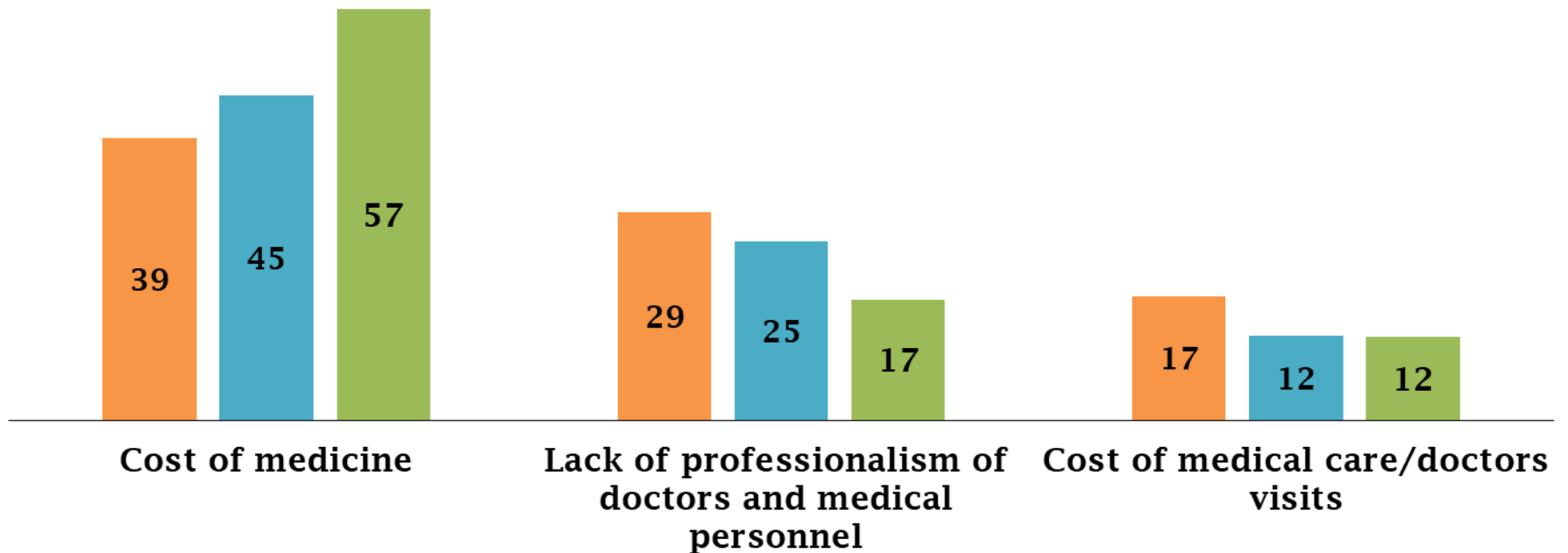
■ National ■ Capital ■ Large urban ■ Small urban ■ Rural ■ Minority settlements



# Healthcare issues

Which of the following would you say is the biggest issue facing healthcare system today? (q62 X Age)

■ 18-34      ■ 35-54      ■ 55+





# Healthcare affordability

■ Yes     ■ No     ■ DK     ■ RA

Over the past year, have you or your household member postponed medical treatment because you couldn't afford it? (q72)

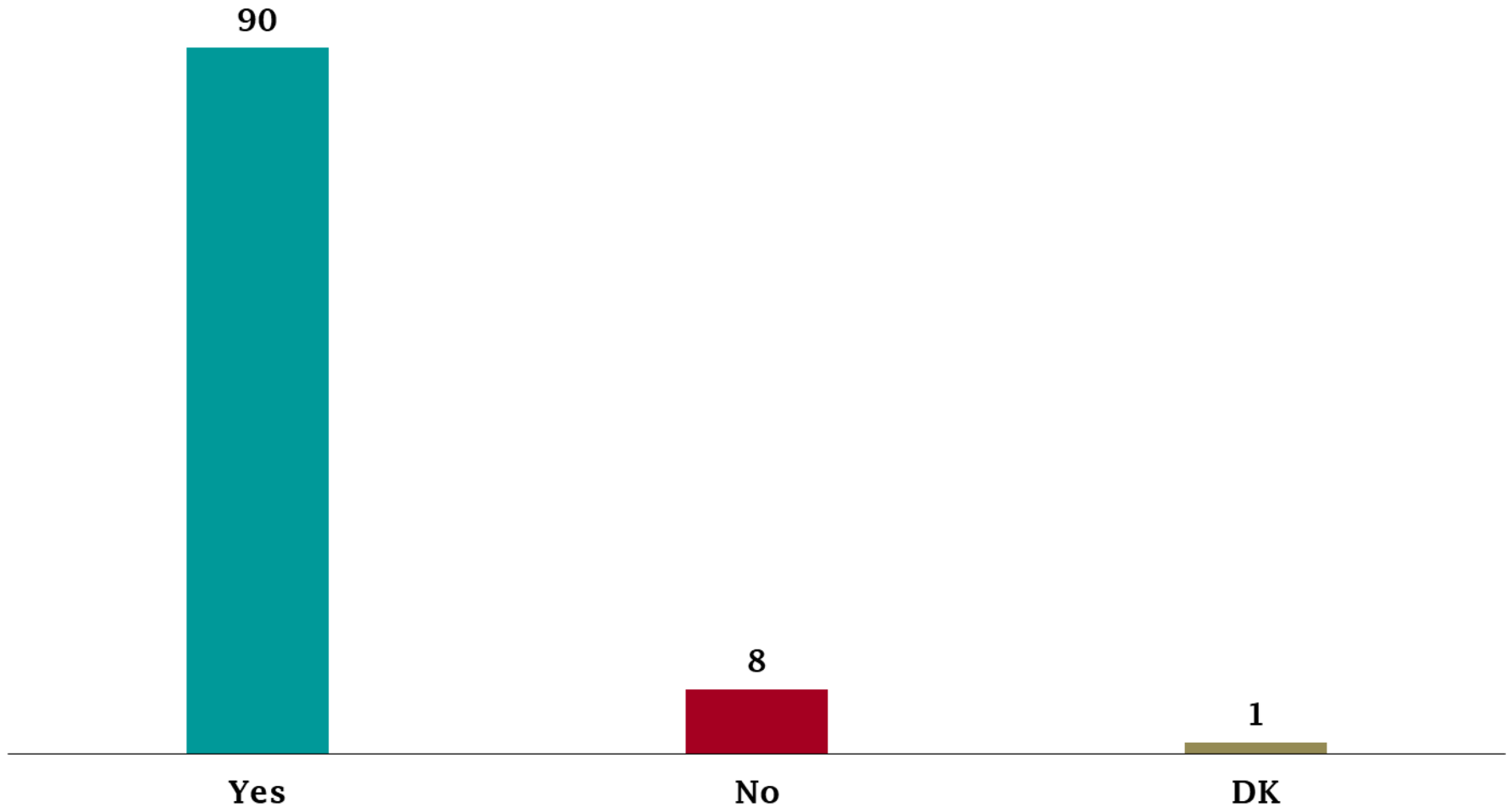


Over the past year, was there a situation when you or your household member needed a medication, but you couldn't afford it? (q73)



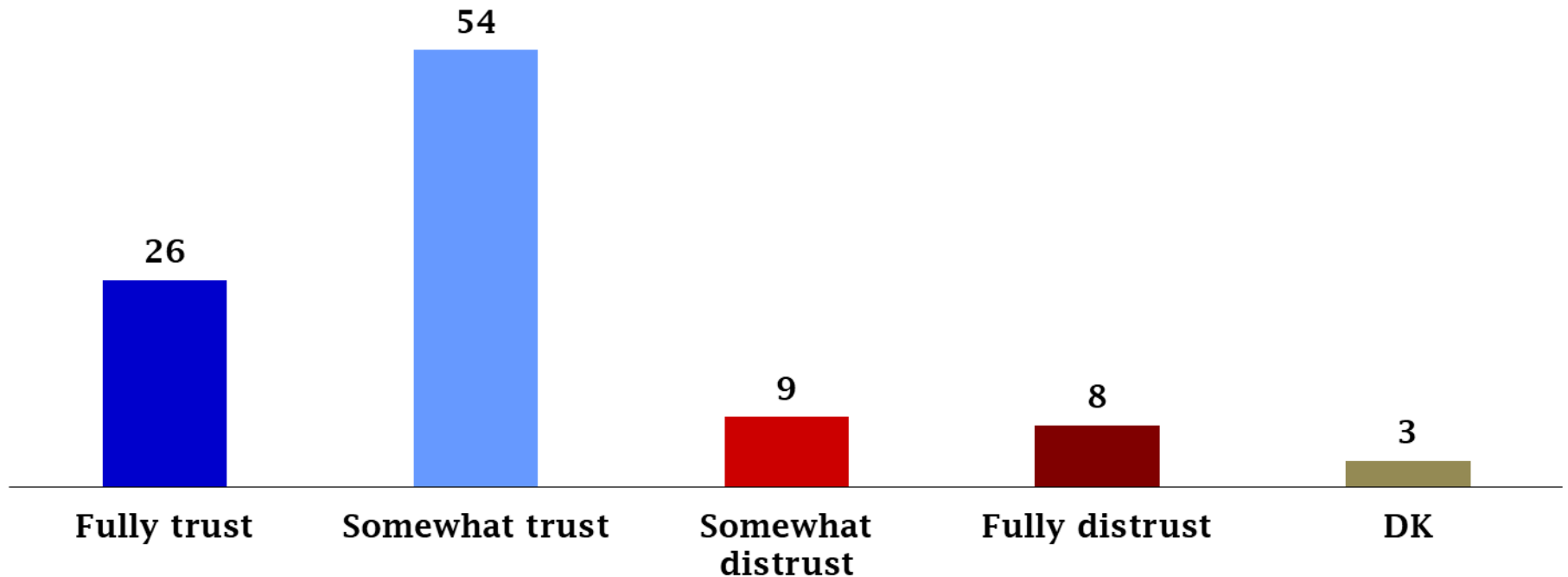
# Availability of medical facilities

Is there a medical facility (clinic, hospital, ambulatory) available in 30 minutes from your home? (q63)



# Trust towards medical facilities

If, yes, how much do you trust this facility to give you the healthcare you need? (q64) - of the 90% who have a medical facility available in 30 minutes from home



# Assessment of medical experience

Think about the last time you visited a doctor/medical professional, do you agree or disagree with the following? (q65)

■ Agree ■ Disagree ■ Not applicable ■ DK ■ RA

I was treated with dignity and respect



All my questions and concerns were answered



I was given correct diagnosis

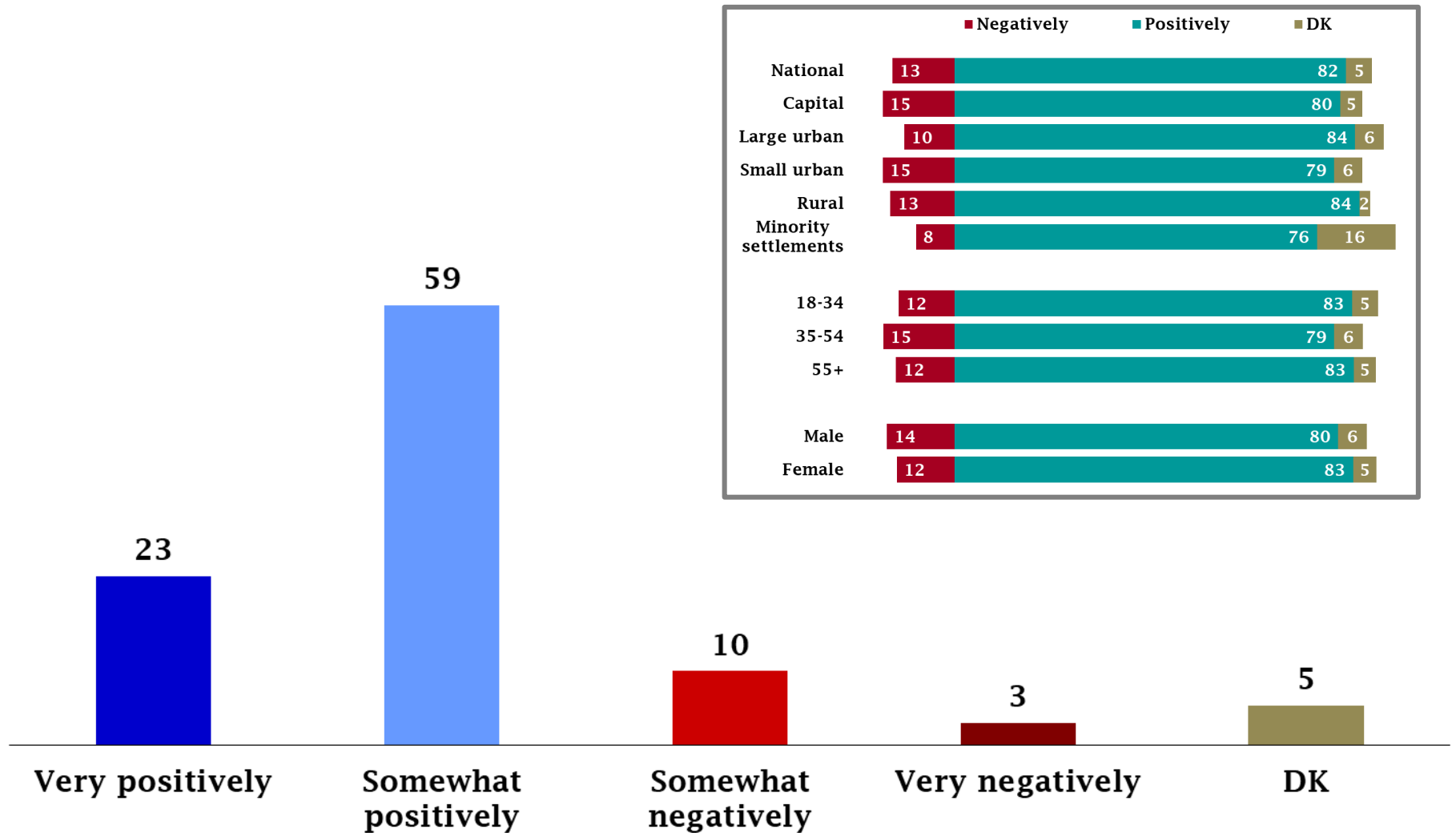


I was given correct treatment



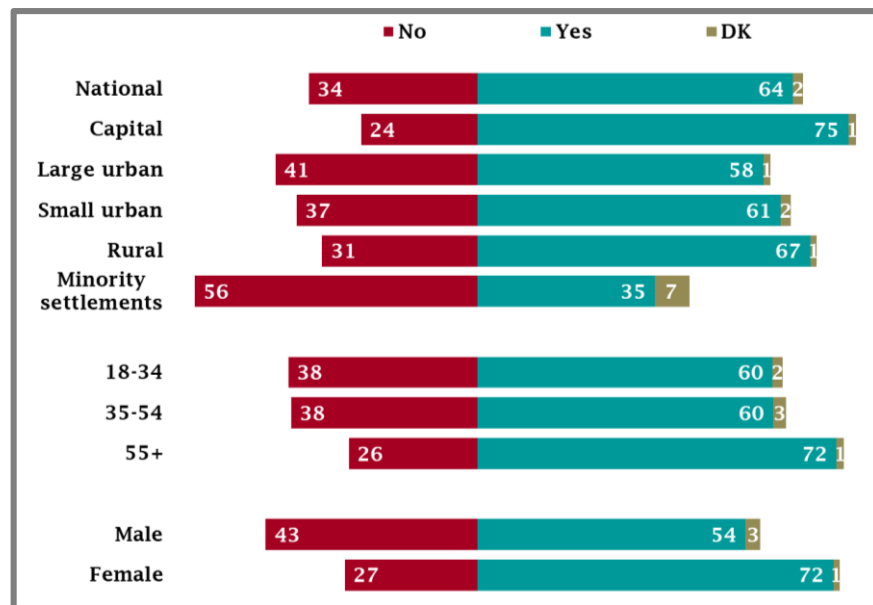
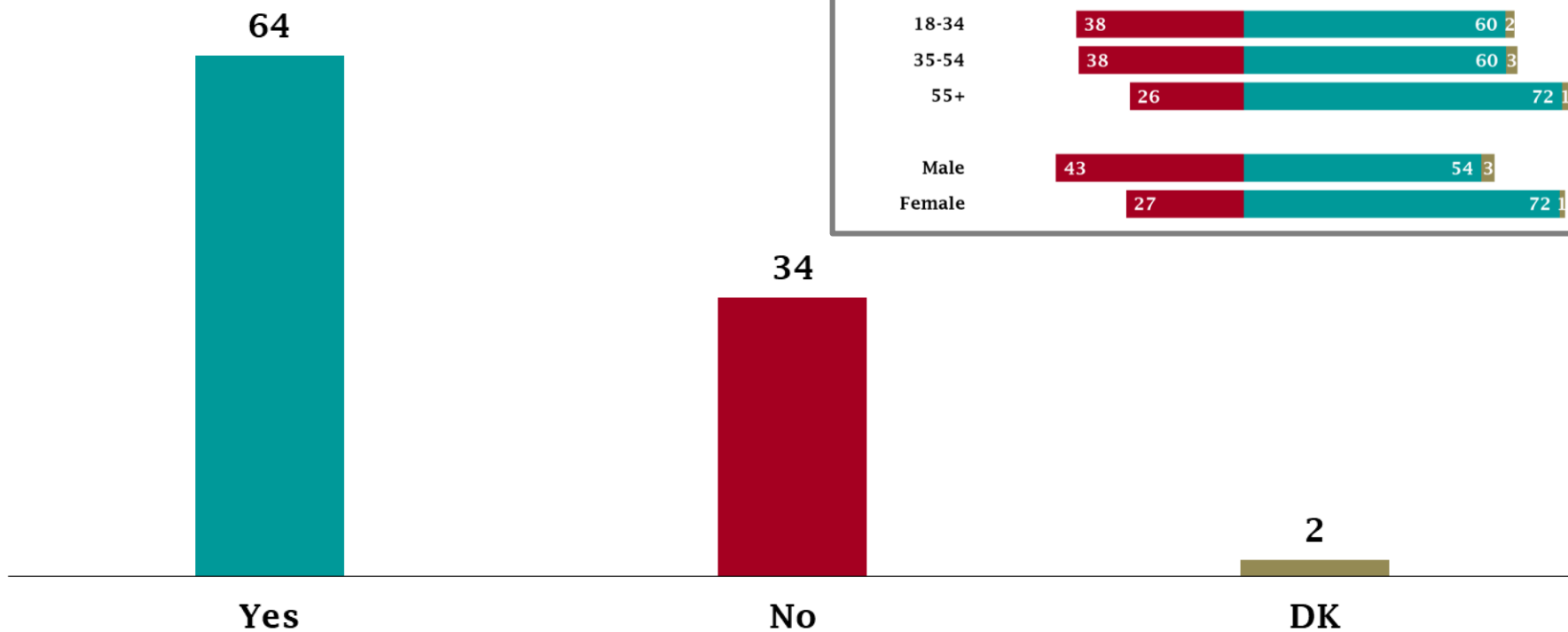
# Universal healthcare

Overall, how would you assess universal healthcare program? (q66)



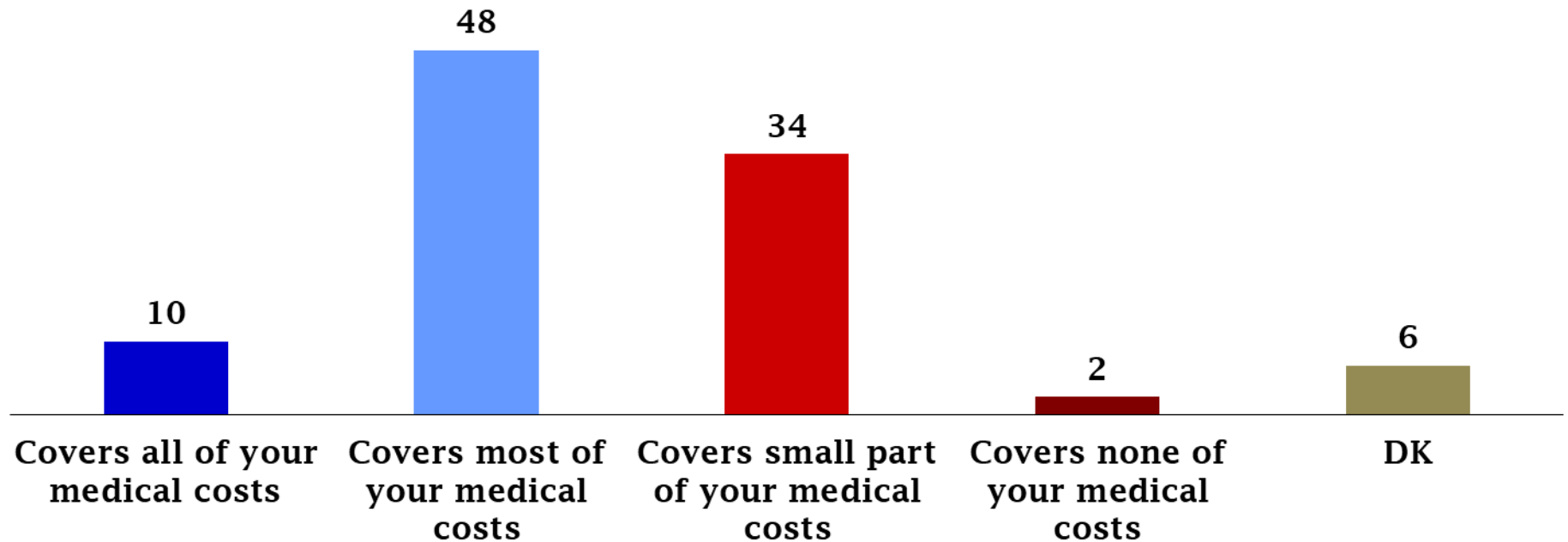
# Universal healthcare

Do you currently use state universal healthcare? (q67)



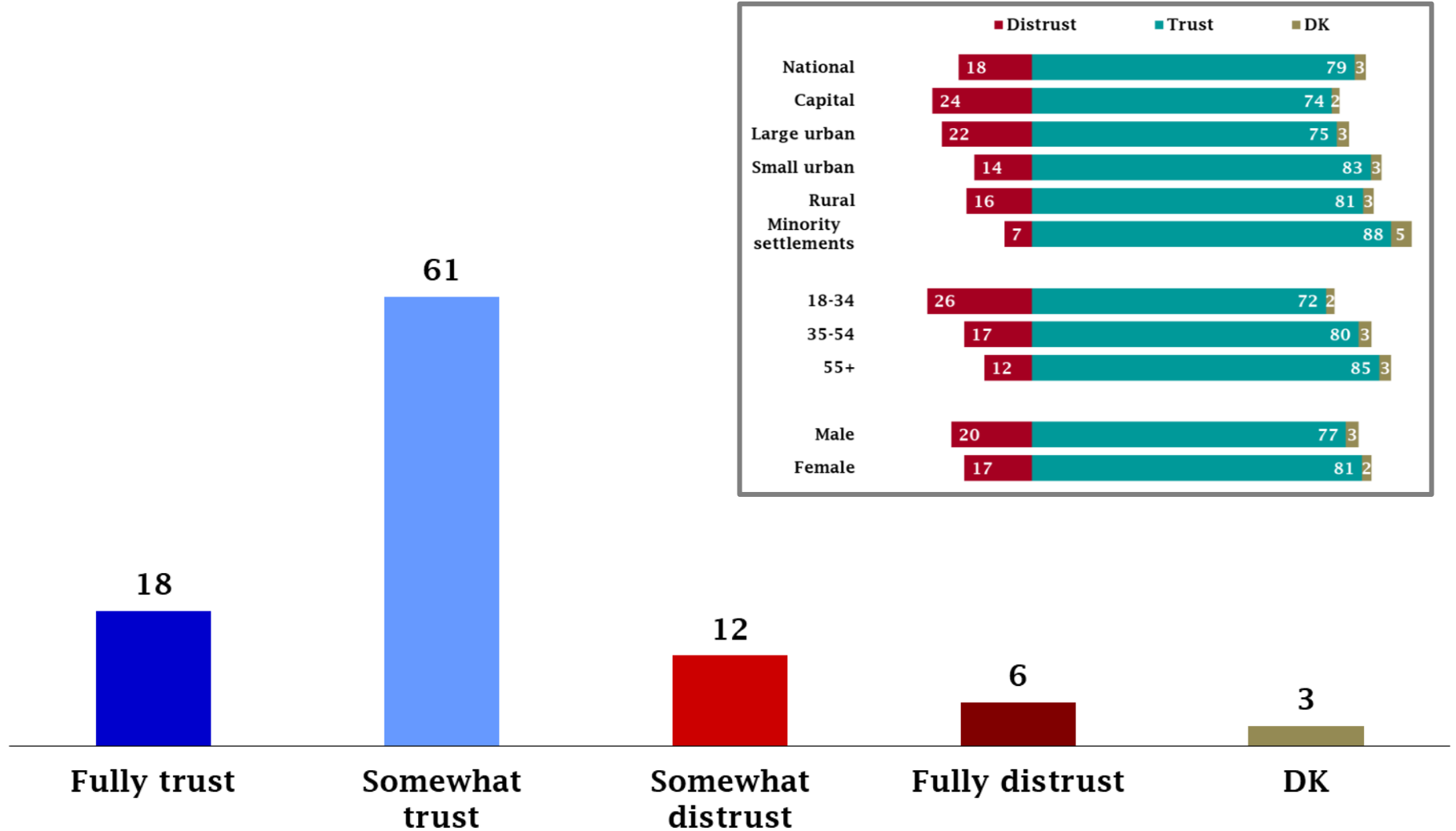
# Universal healthcare

If, yes, which statement do you agree with? Universal healthcare program ... (q68) - of the 64% who use state universal healthcare



# Trust in medical diagnosis

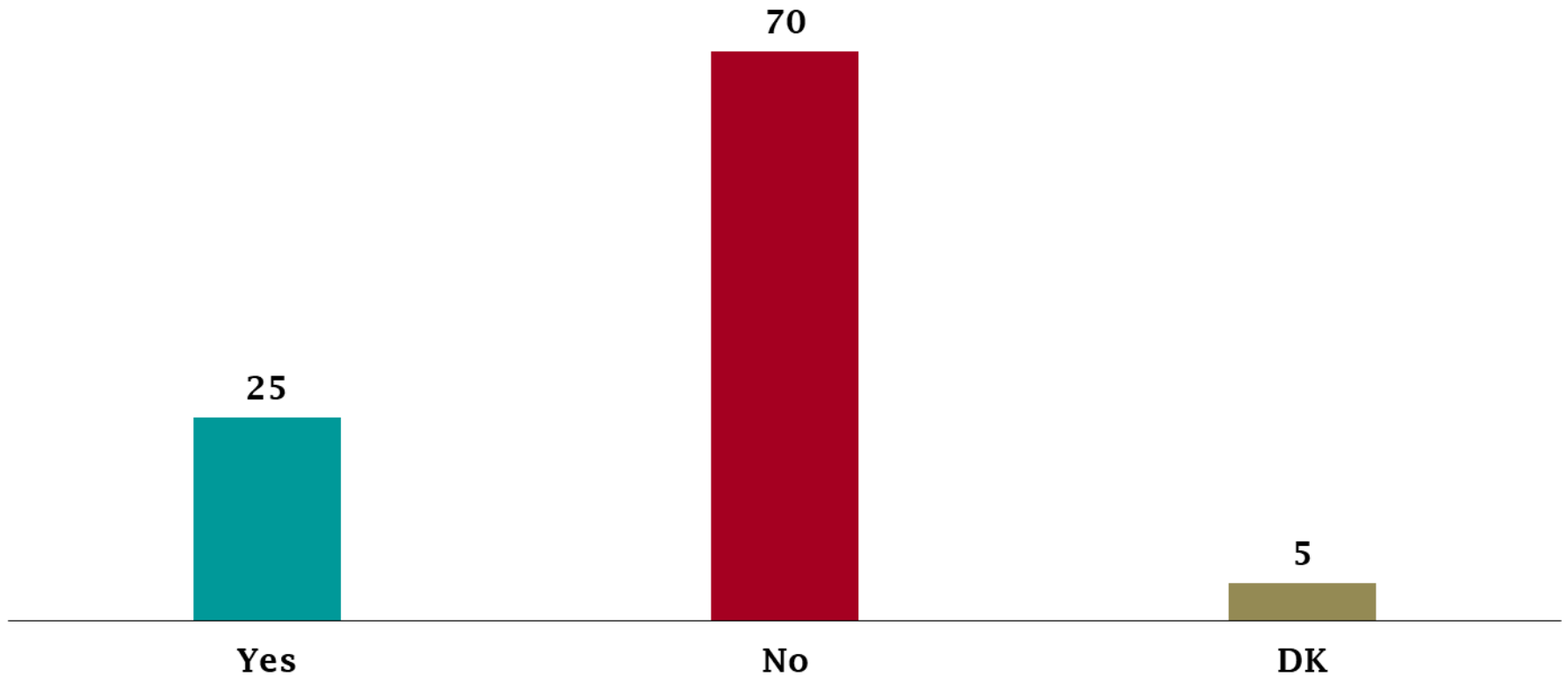
In general how much do you trust or distrust the medical diagnosis that doctors give in Georgia? (q70)





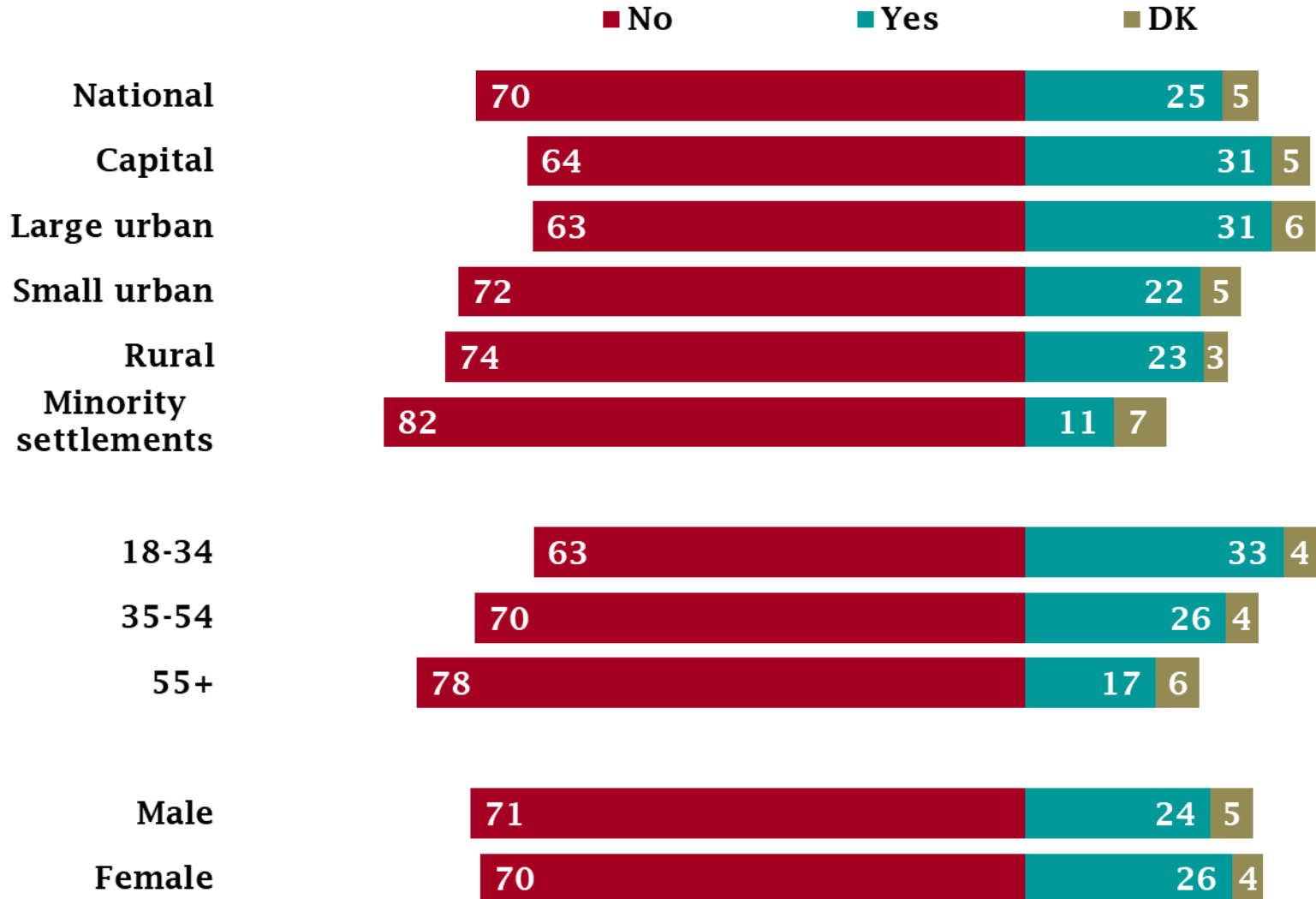
# Unethical financial interest

Have you ever felt like doctor prescribed you medicine you didn't need for the sake of his/her personal financial gain? (q71)



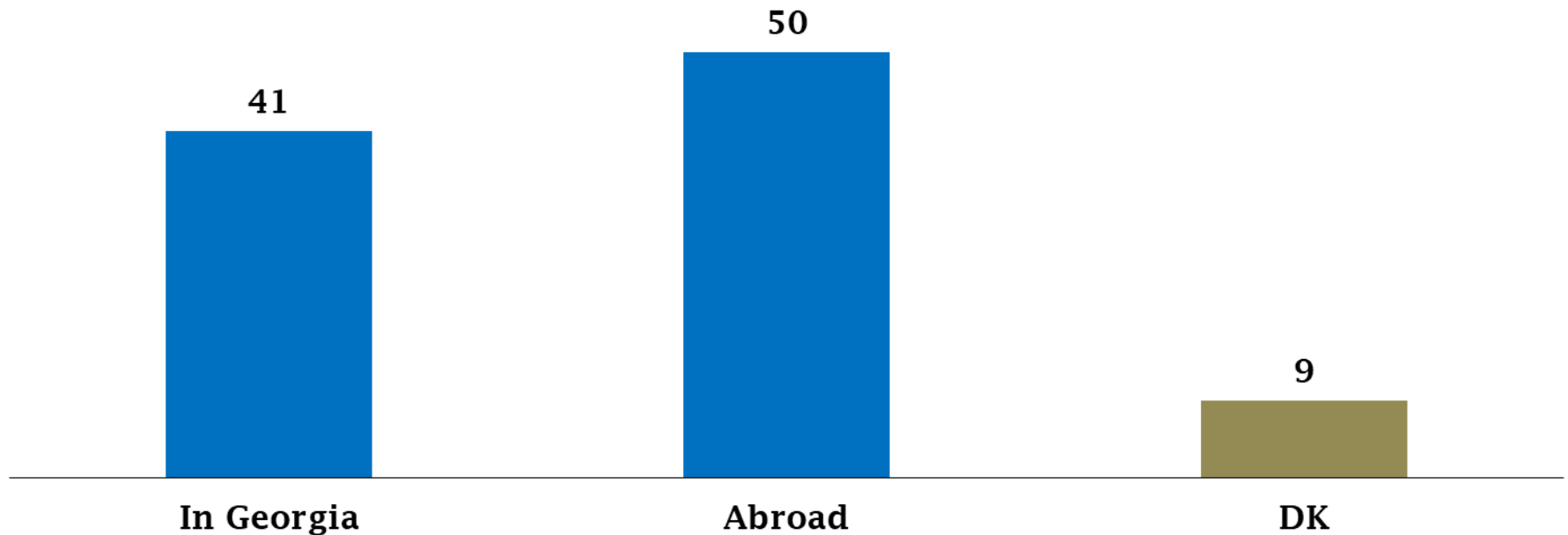
# Unethical financial interest

Have you ever felt like doctor prescribed you medicine you didn't need for the sake of his/her personal financial gain? (q71 X Settlement, Age, Gender)



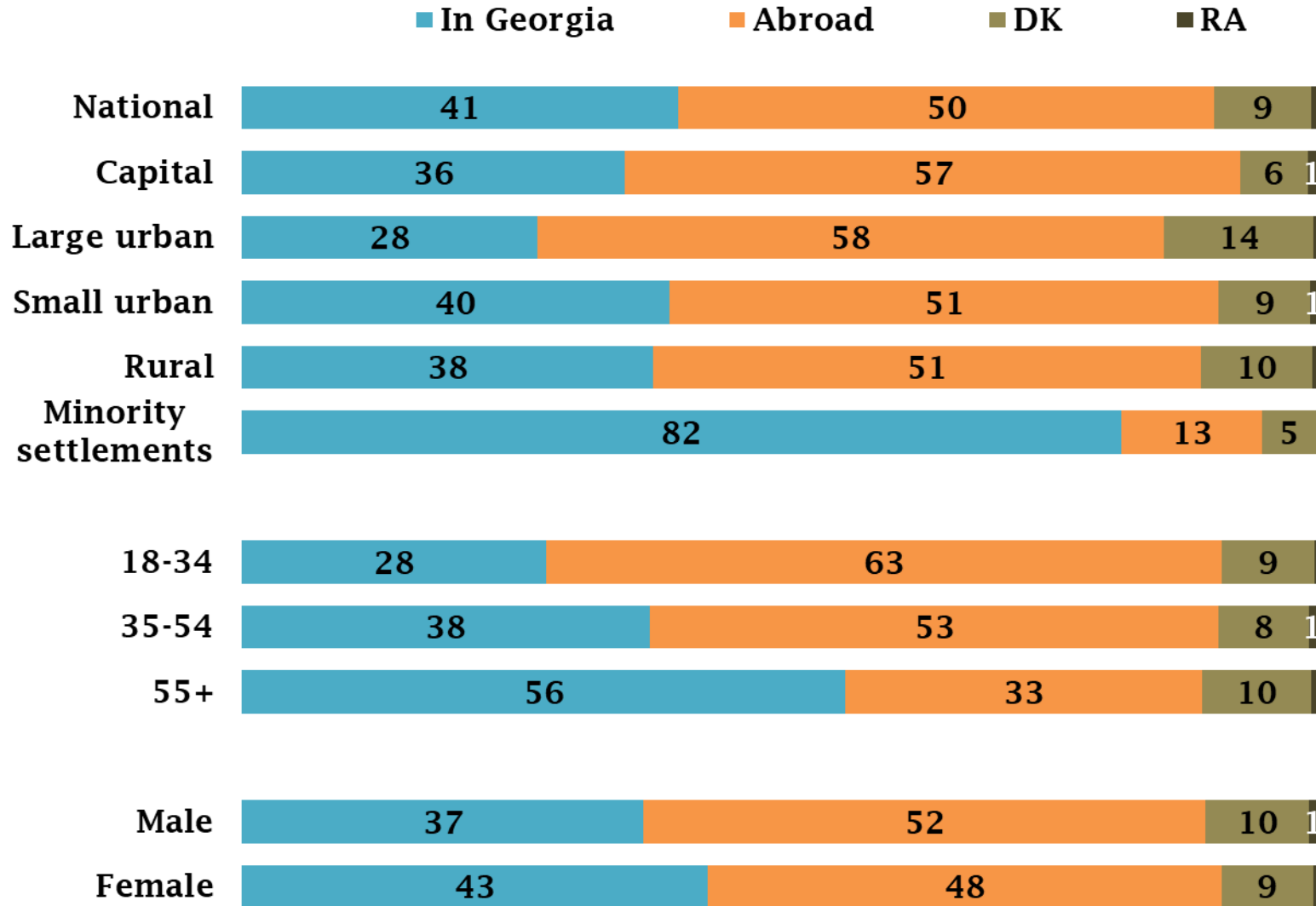
# Georgia or abroad?

If you were in need of a complicated surgery or treatment, would you prefer it done in Georgia or abroad? (q69)



# Georgia or abroad?

If you were in need of a complicated surgery or treatment, would you prefer it done in Georgia or abroad? (q69 X Settlement, Age, Gender)

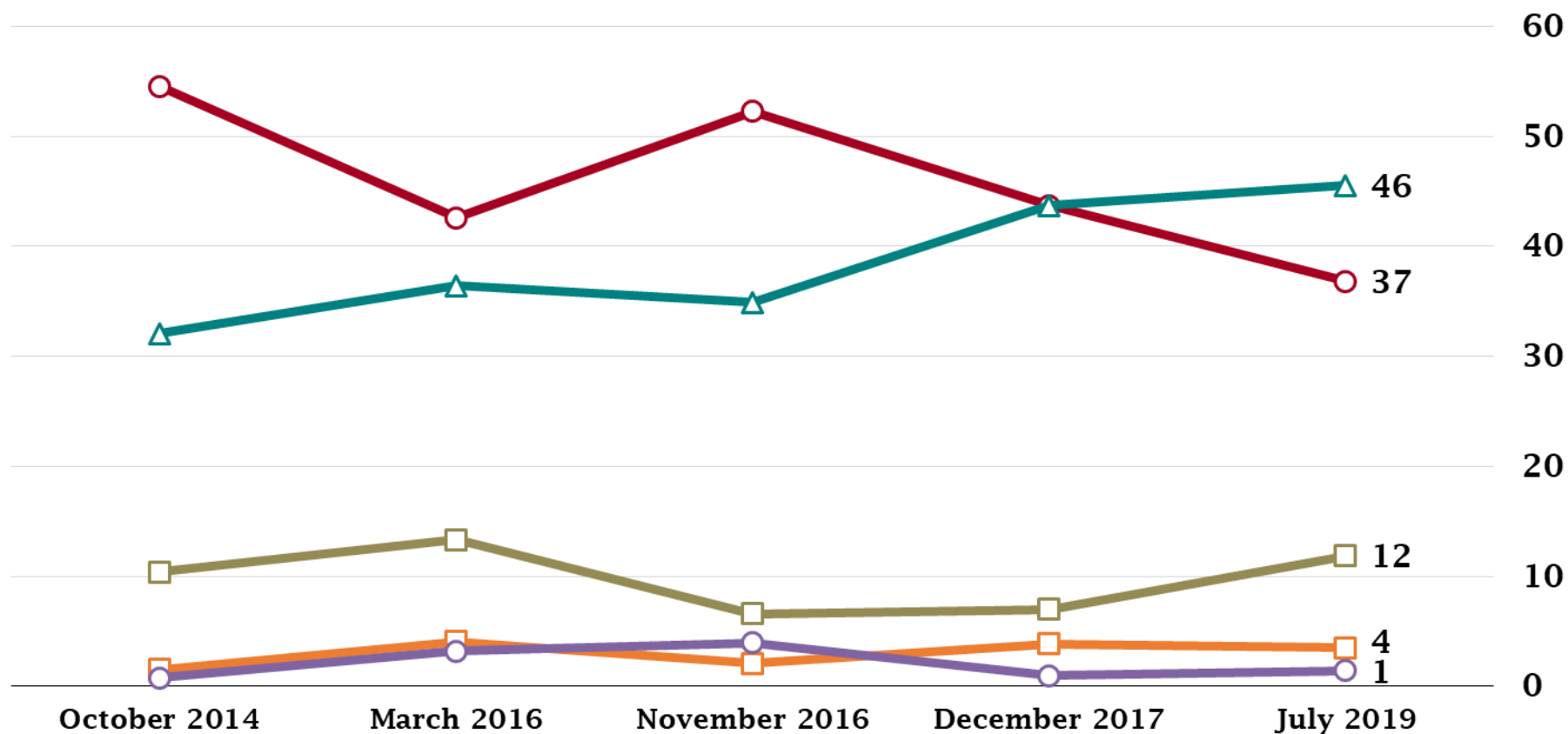


# Women's political participation and minority rights

# Women's political participation

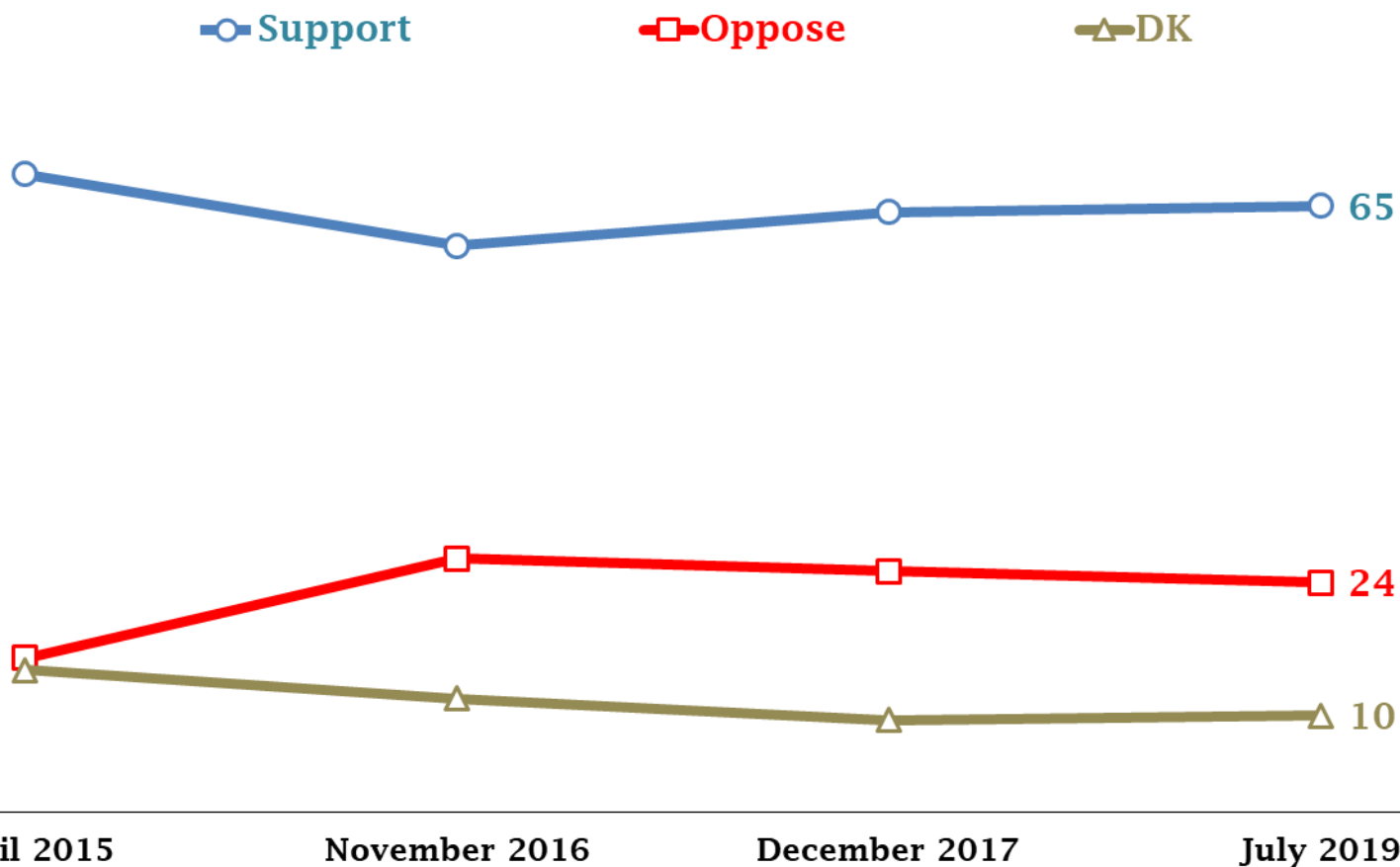
In your opinion, what would be the best proportion of men and women members in parliament? (q25)

- 30% women or less, 70% or more men members
- △ 50% women, 50% men members
- 30% or less men, 70% or more women members
- Other
- DK



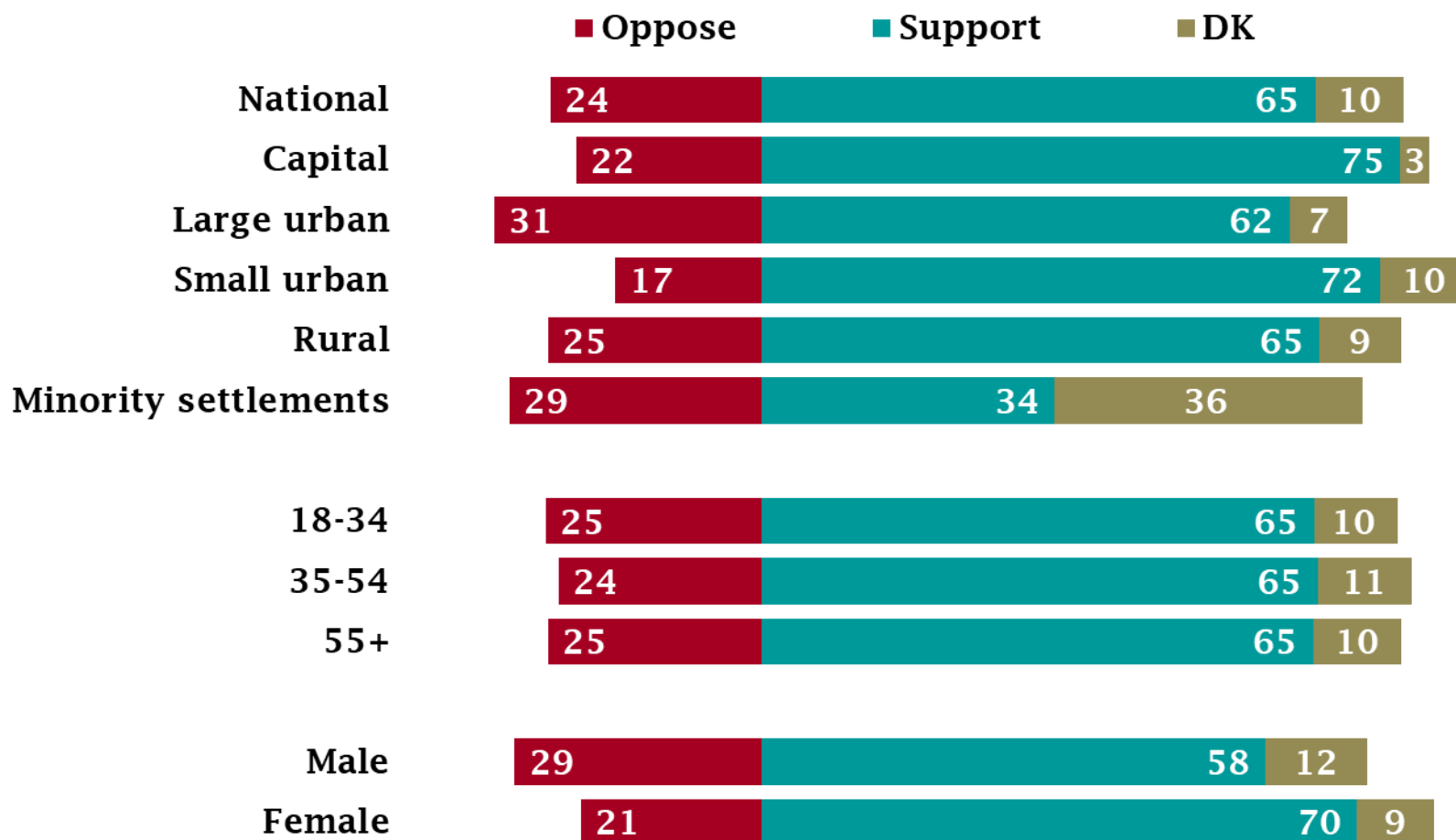
# Gender quota support

Gender quota is a temporary mechanism, which makes it mandatory for Georgian political parties to include a certain number of different gender (mostly women) in their party lists. This mechanism ensures women's better representation in the parliament, as well as at other decision-making levels. Please tell me, to what extent do you support or oppose adopting mandatory quota in the parliament to increase women's participation? (q24)



# Gender quota support

Gender quota is a temporary mechanism, which makes it mandatory for Georgian political parties to include a certain number of different gender (mostly women) in their party lists. This mechanism ensures women's better representation in the parliament, as well as at other decision-making levels. Please tell me, to what extent do you support or oppose adopting mandatory quota in the parliament to increase women's participation? (q24 X Settlement, Age, Gender)





# Minority rights

Using this card, please tell me how important or unimportant is the protection of rights of the following minorities? (q26)

- Very important
- Important
- Neutral
- Not important
- Not important at all
- DK
- RA

## People with disabilities



## Ethnic minorities



## Religious minorities

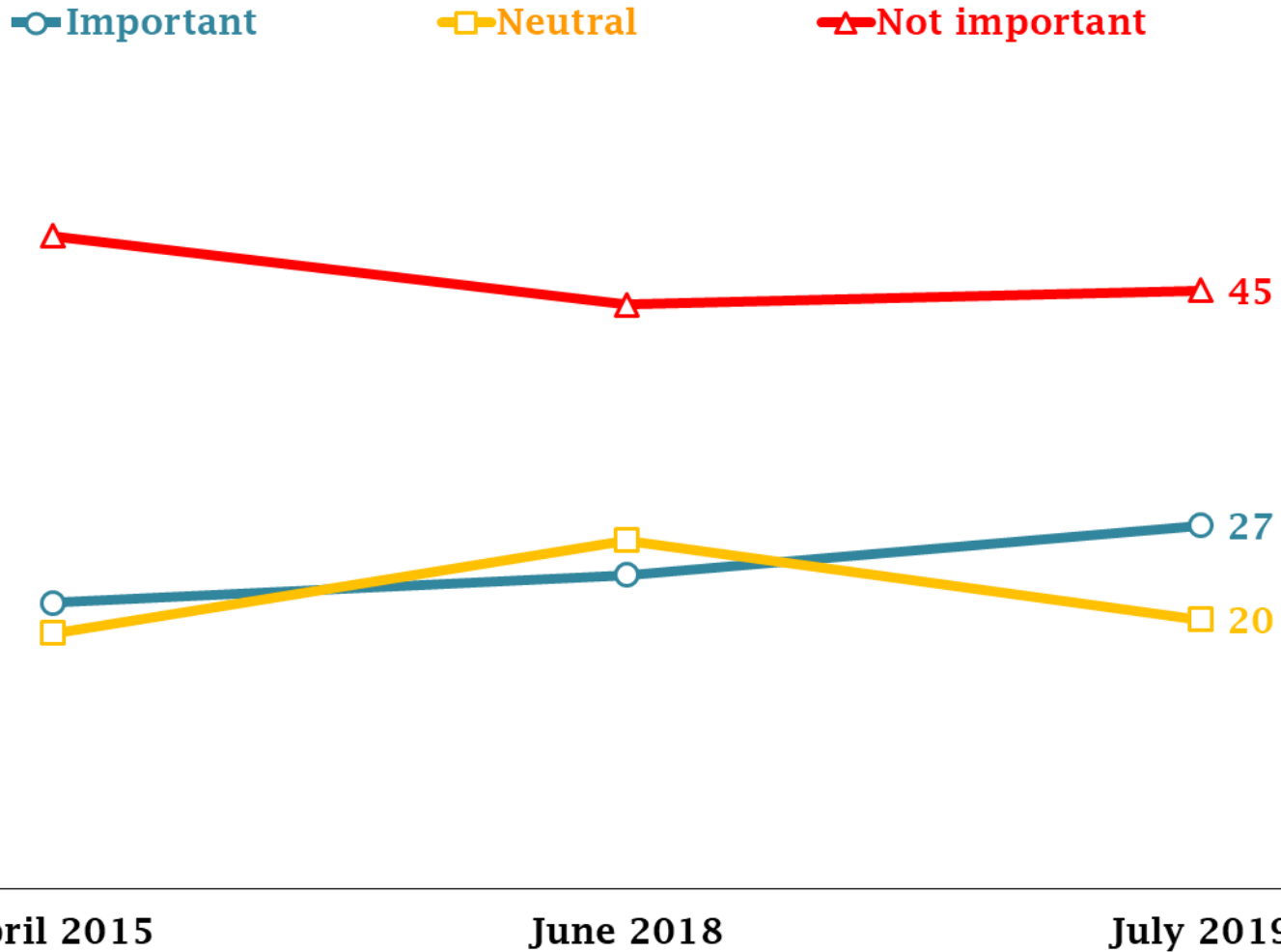


## Sexual minorities (LGBT)



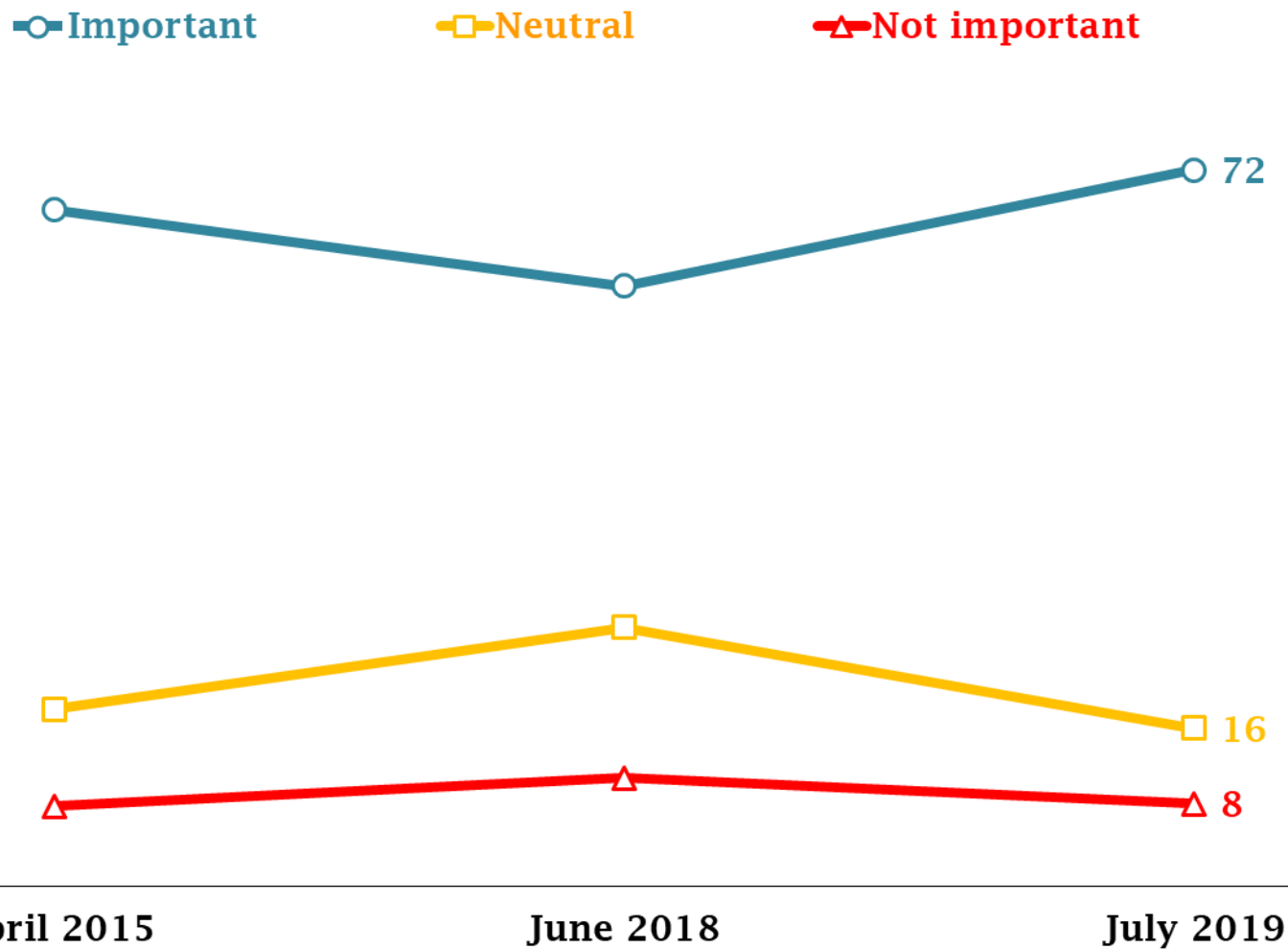
# Minority rights - sexual

Using this card, please tell me how important or unimportant is the protection of sexual minorities (LGBT)? (q26\_1)



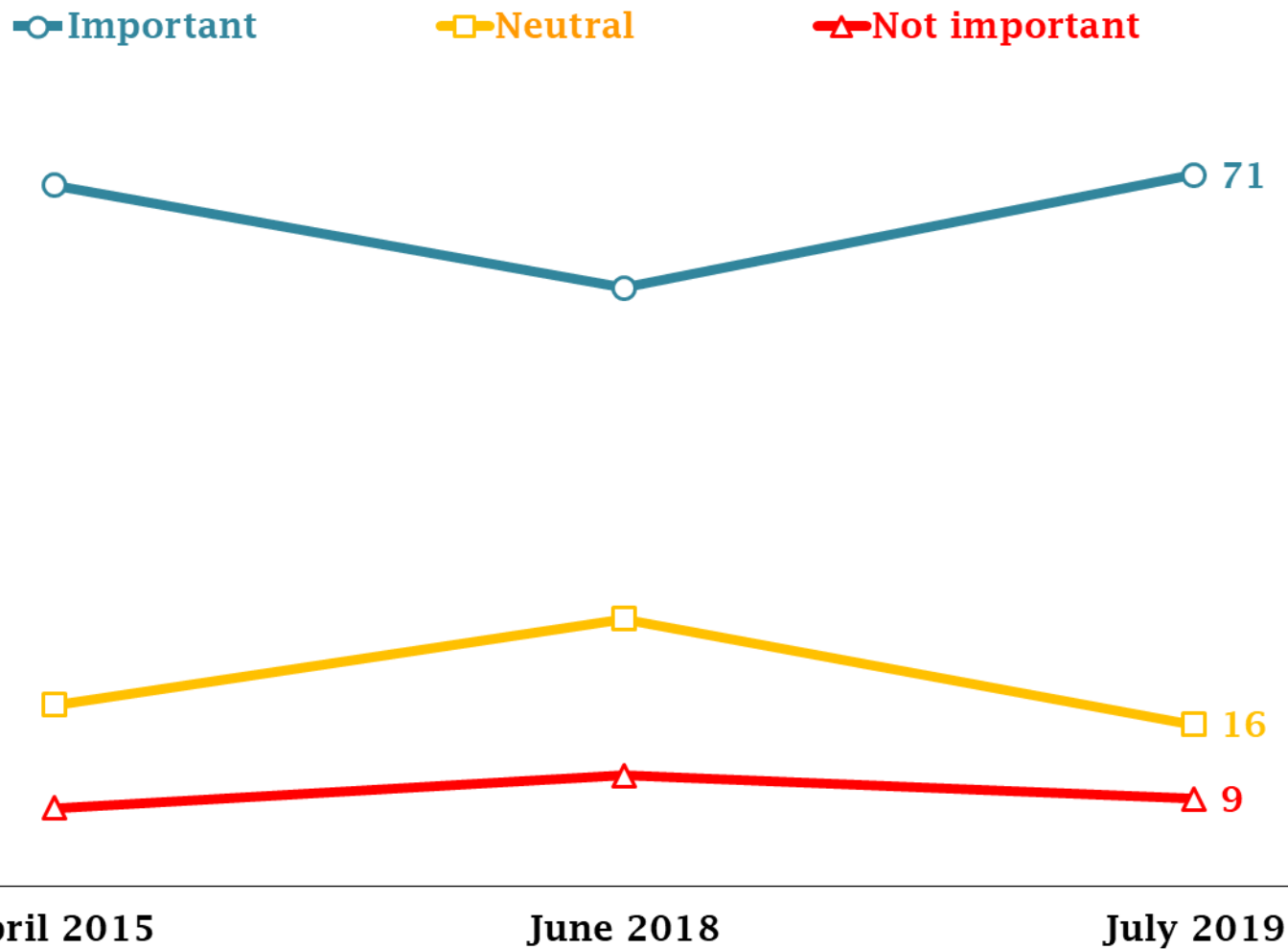
# Minority rights - ethnic

Using this card, please tell me how important or unimportant is the protection of ethnic minorities? (q26\_2)



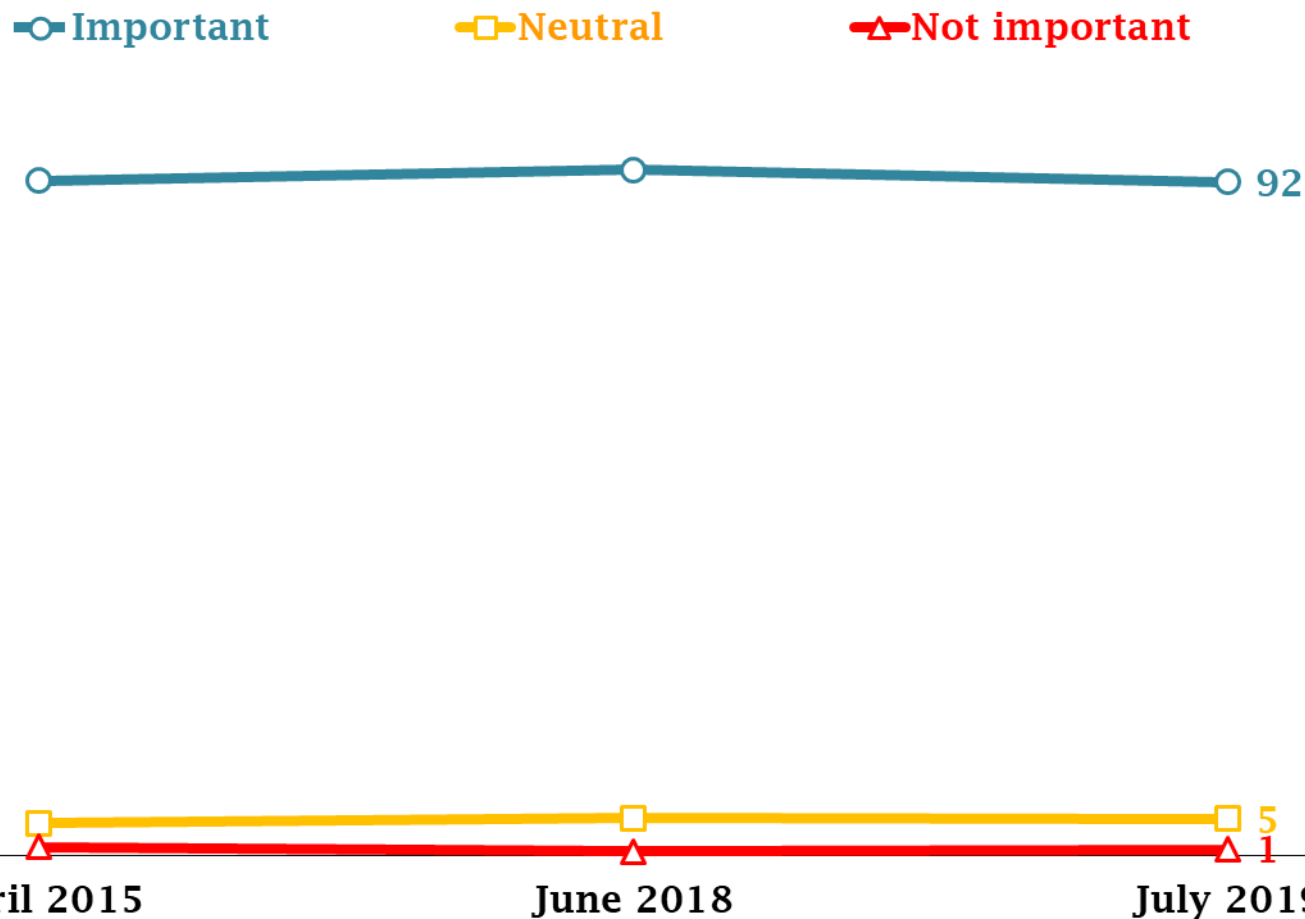
# Minority rights - religious

Using this card, please tell me how important or unimportant is the protection of religious minorities? (q26\_3)



# Minority rights - people with disabilities

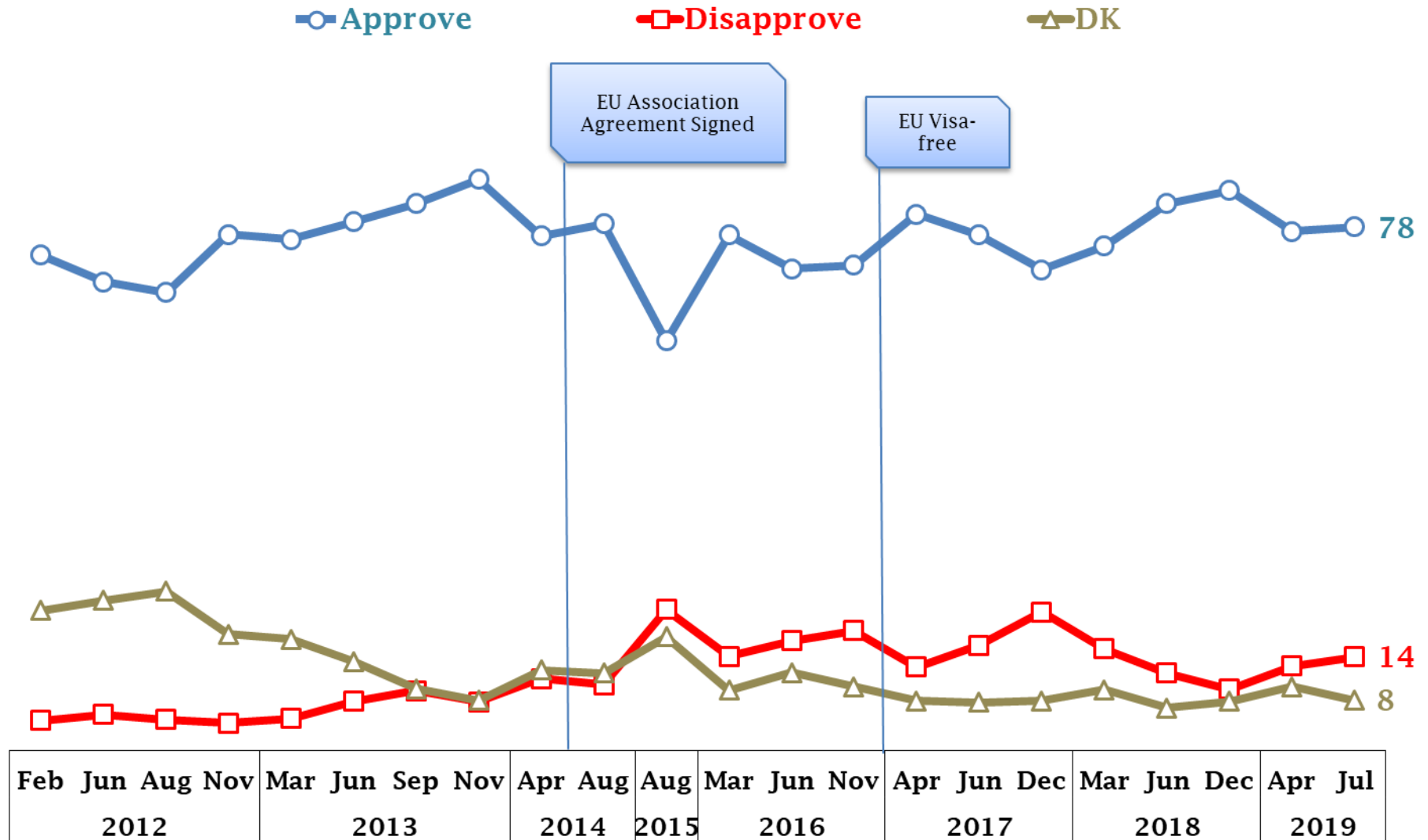
Using this card, please tell me how important or unimportant is the protection of rights of people with disabilities? (q26\_4)



# Foreign Policy

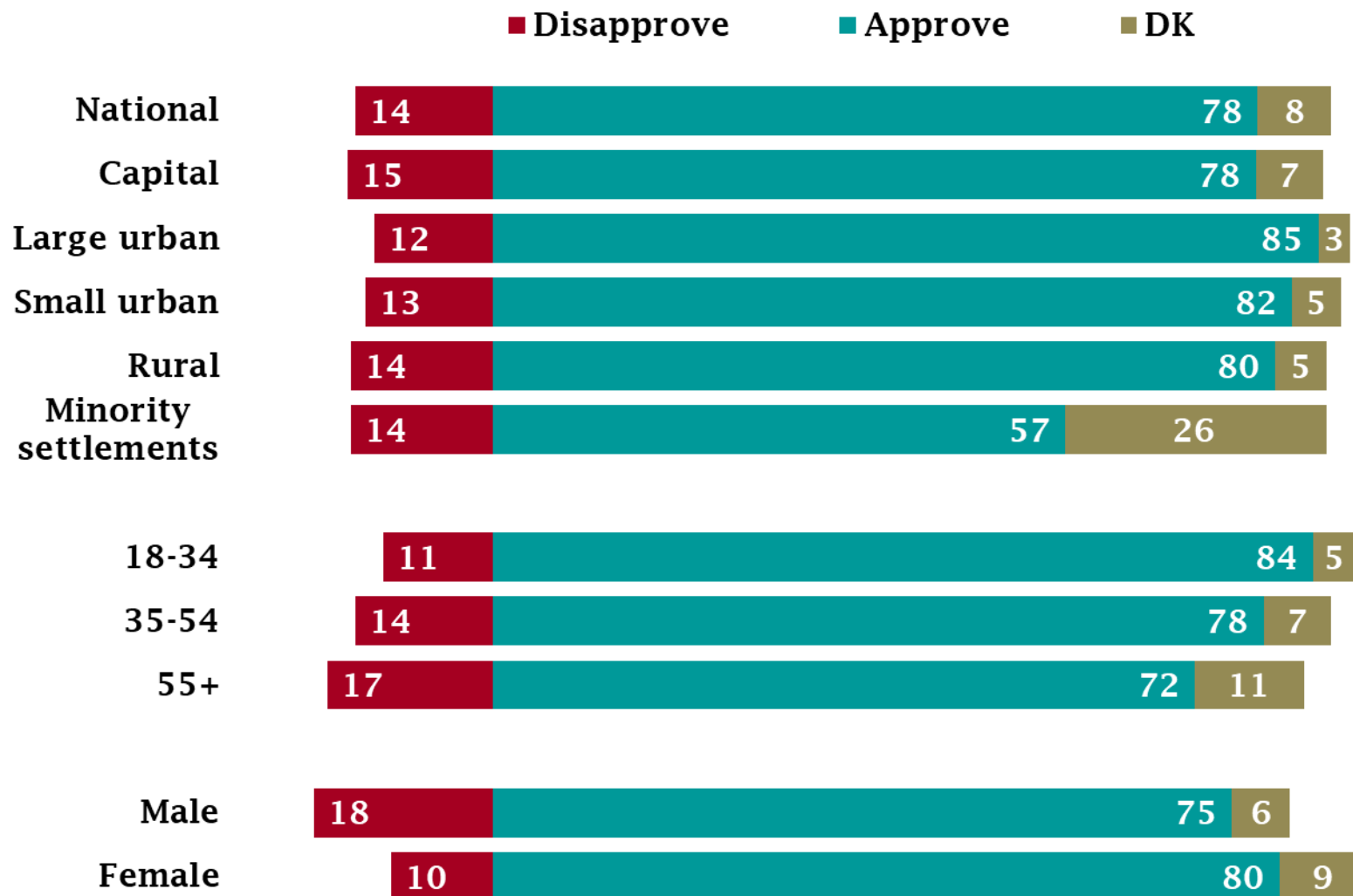
# EU membership support

Do you approve or disapprove of Georgian government's stated goal to join the EU? (q10)



# EU membership support

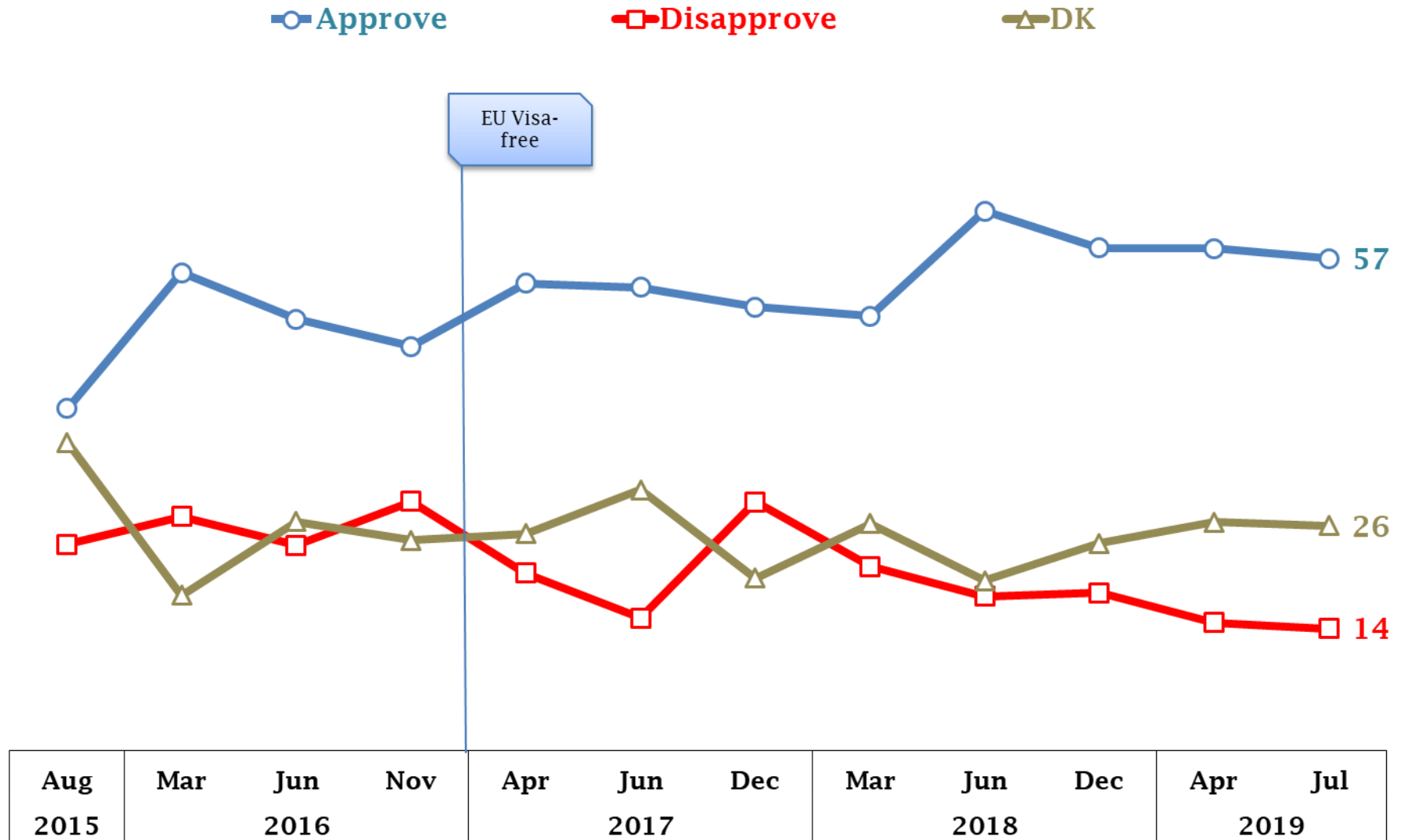
Do you approve or disapprove of Georgian government's stated goal to join the EU? (q10 X Settlement, Age, Gender)





# EU membership support - Minorities

Do you approve or disapprove of Georgian government's stated goal to join the EU? (q10) Minority settlements



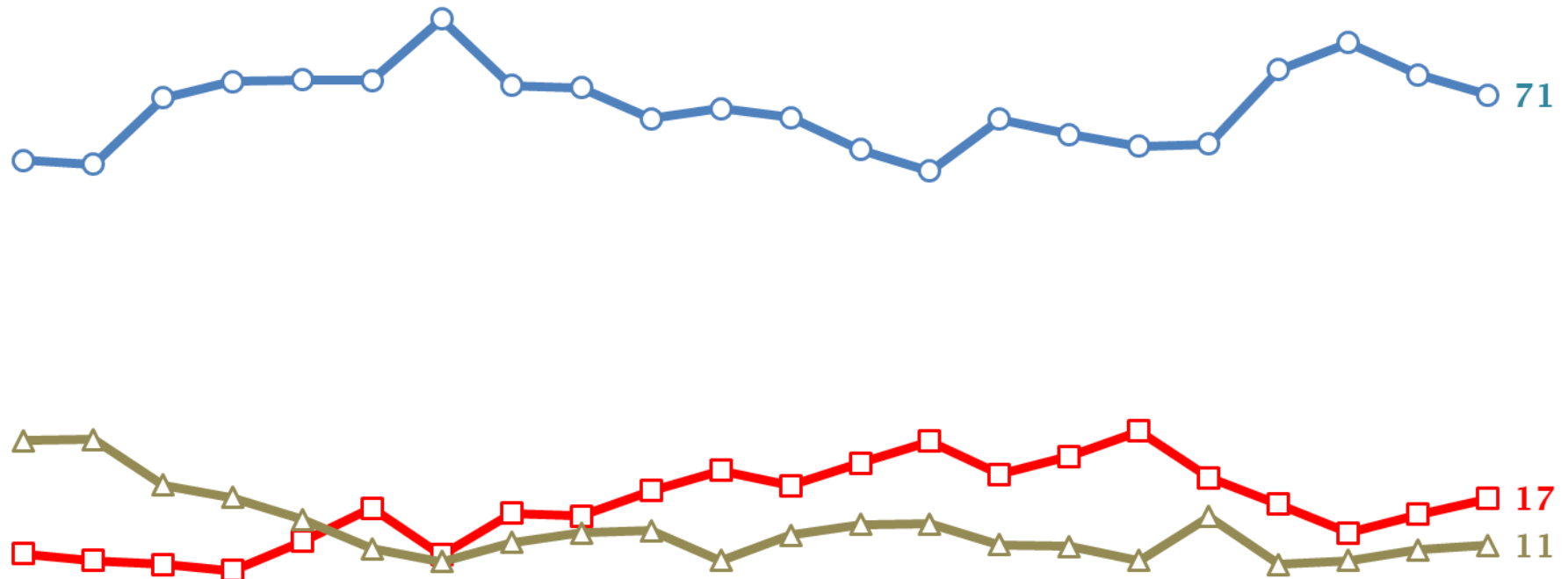
# NATO membership support

Do you approve or disapprove of Georgian government's stated goal to join the NATO? (q11)

○ Approve

□ Disapprove

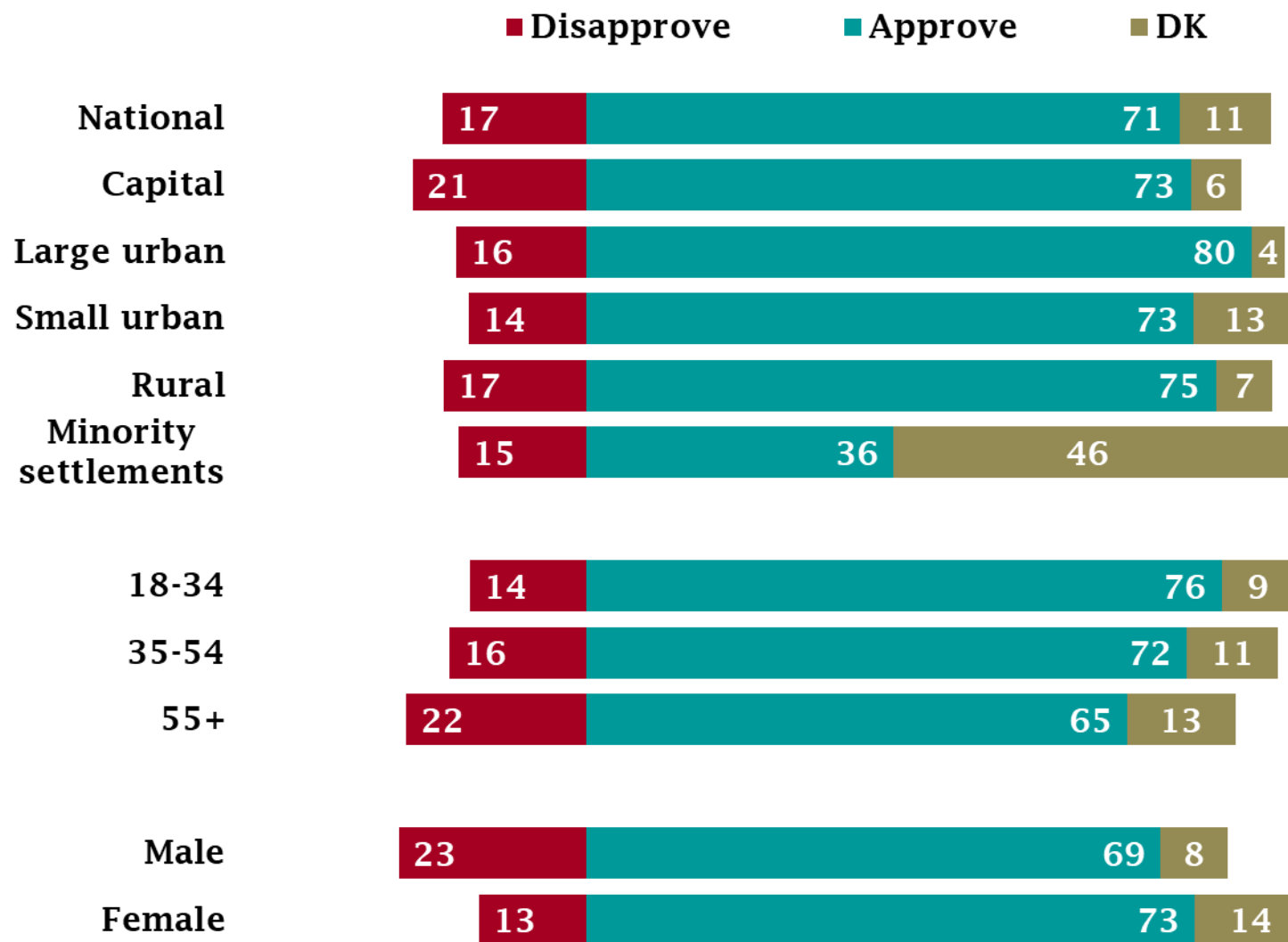
△ DK



Jun	Aug	Nov	Mar	Jun	Sep	Nov	Apr	Aug	Apr	Nov	Mar	Jun	Nov	Apr	Jun	Dec	Mar	Jun	Dec	Apr	Jul	
2012				2013			2014		2015			2016			2017			2018			2019	

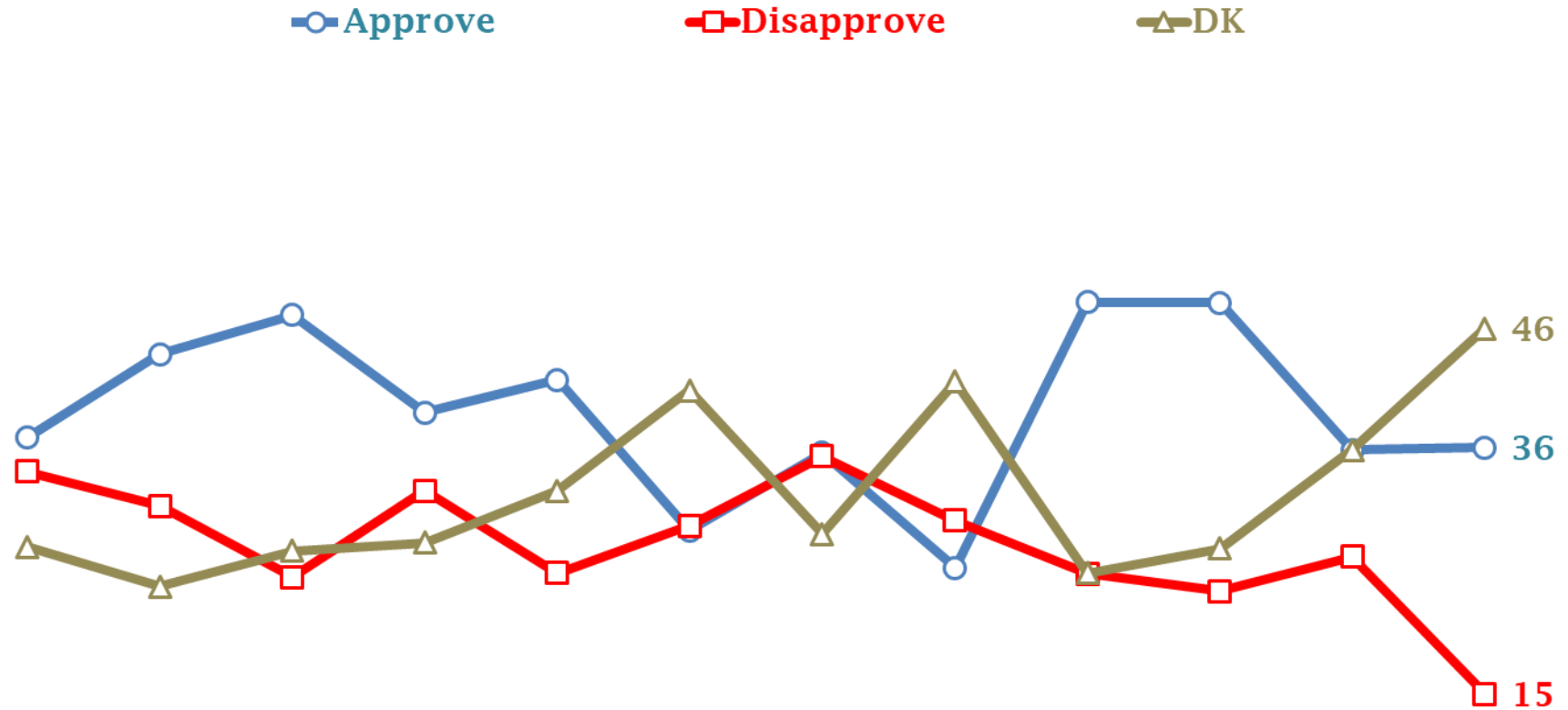
# NATO membership support

Do you approve or disapprove of Georgian government's stated goal to join the NATO? (q11 X Settlement, Age, Gender)



# NATO membership support - Minorities

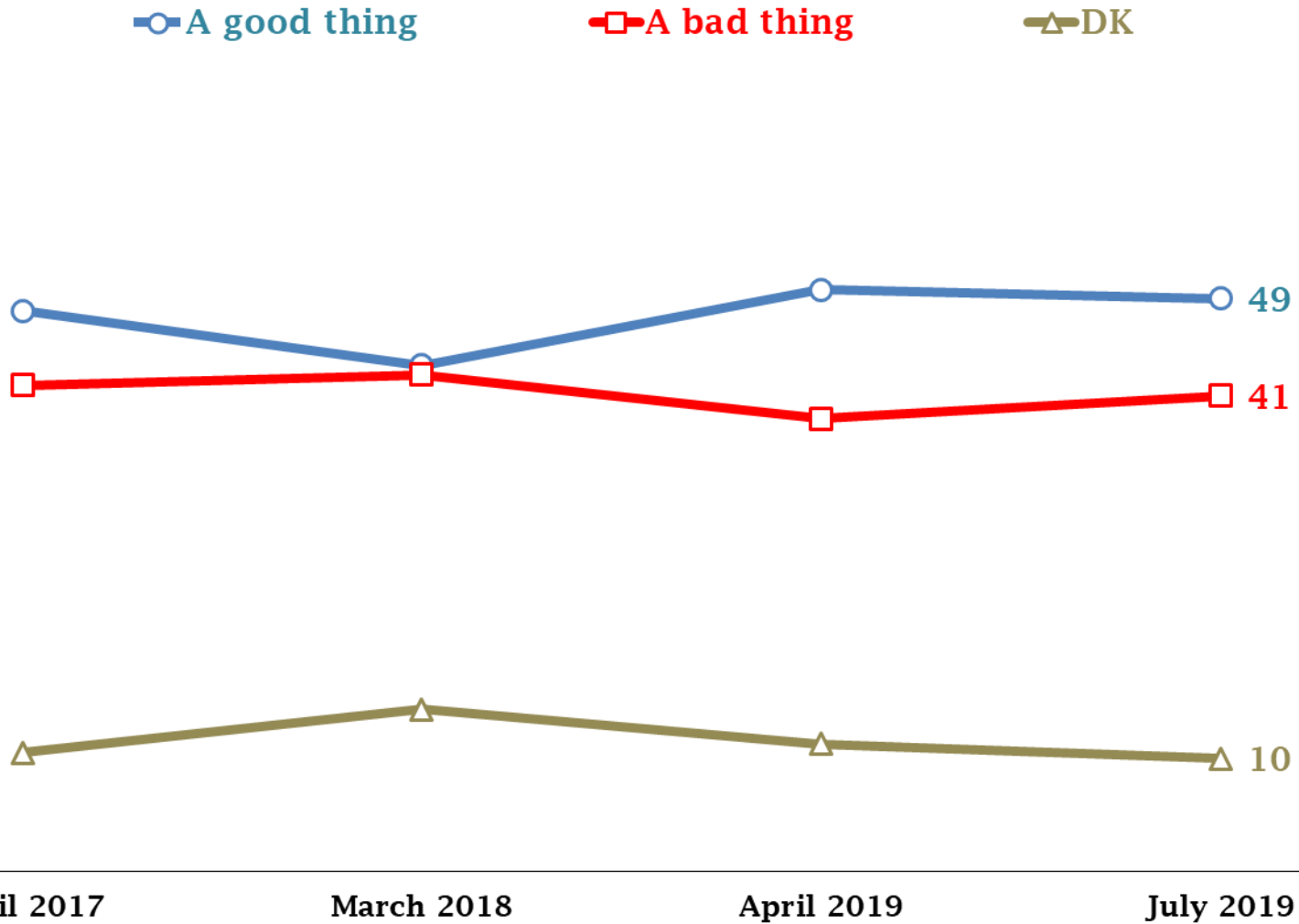
Do you approve or disapprove of Georgian government's stated goal to join the NATO? (q11) Minority settlements



Apr 2015	Mar	Jun 2016	Nov	Apr	Jun 2017	Dec	Mar	Jun 2018	Dec	Apr	Jul 2019
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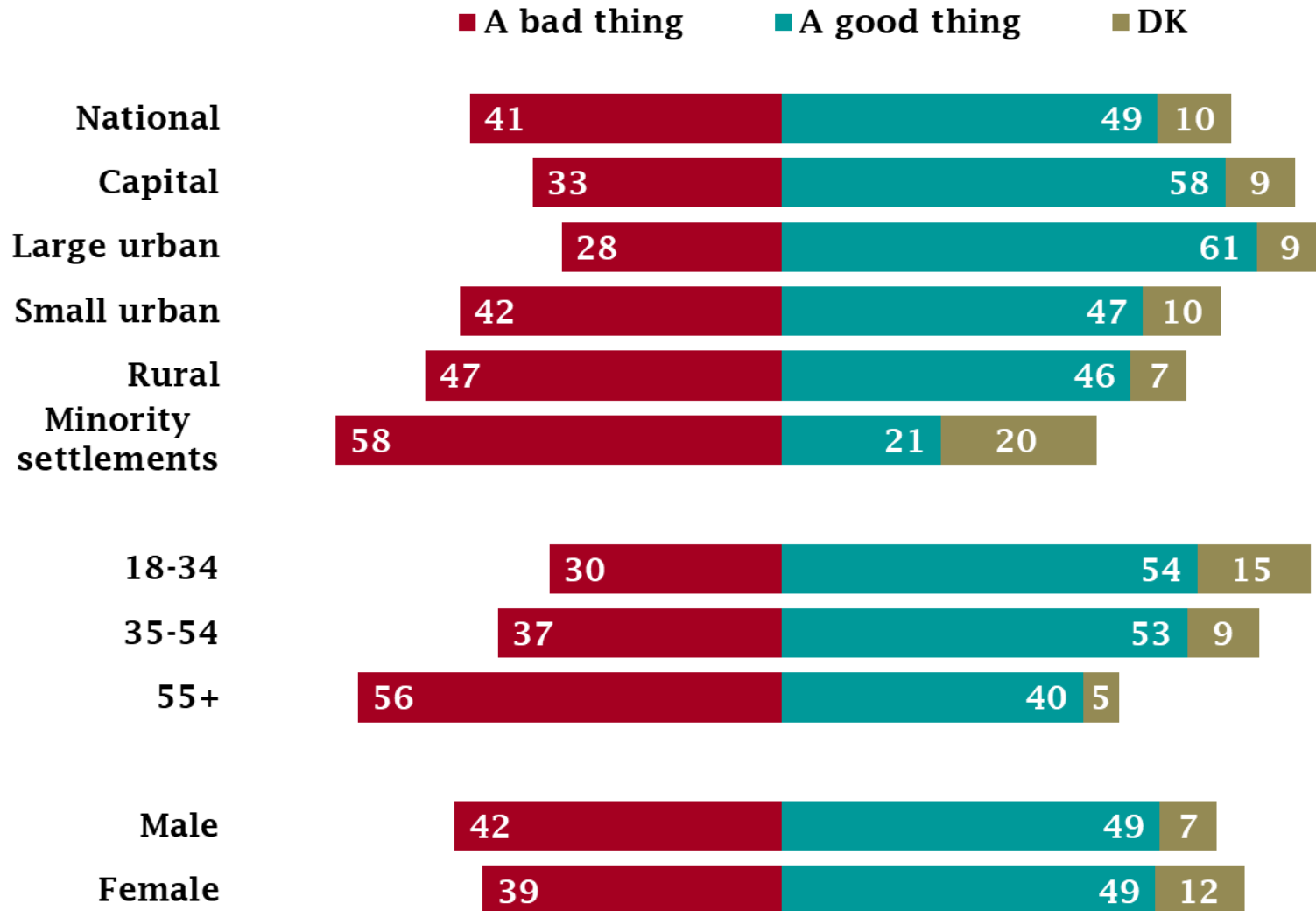
# Dissolution of USSR

In general, do you think the dissolution of the Soviet Union has been a good thing or a bad thing for Georgia? (q12)



# Dissolution of USSR

In general, do you think the dissolution of the Soviet Union has been a good thing or a bad thing for Georgia? (q12 X Settlement, Age, Gender)

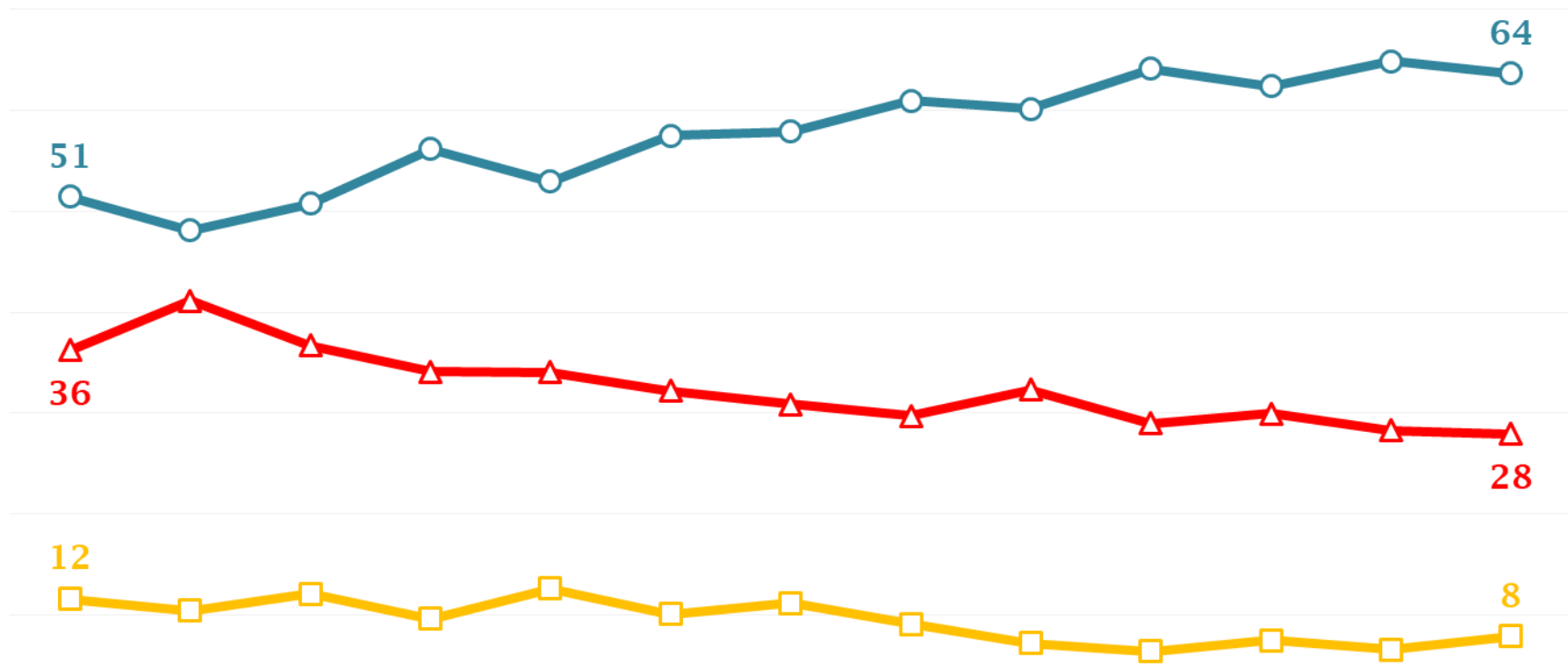


# Access to Internet

# Internet usage

How often do you use the Internet? Do you use the Internet ... (q75)

● At least once a week
 ■ Less often
 ▲ Never

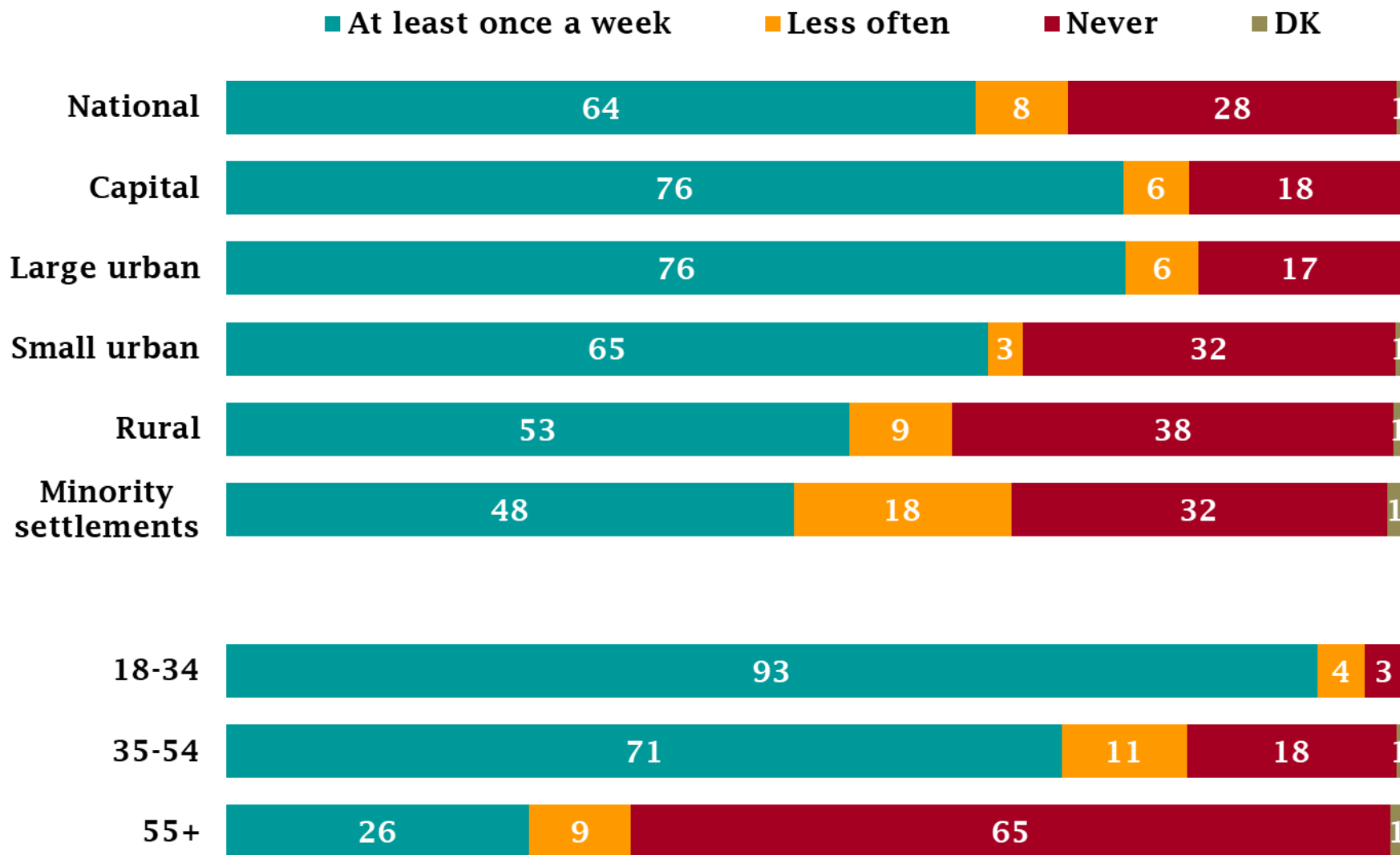


Aug	Nov	Mar	Jun	Nov	Apr	Jun	Dec	Mar	Jun	Dec	Apr	Jul
2015			2016			2017			2018			2019



# Internet usage

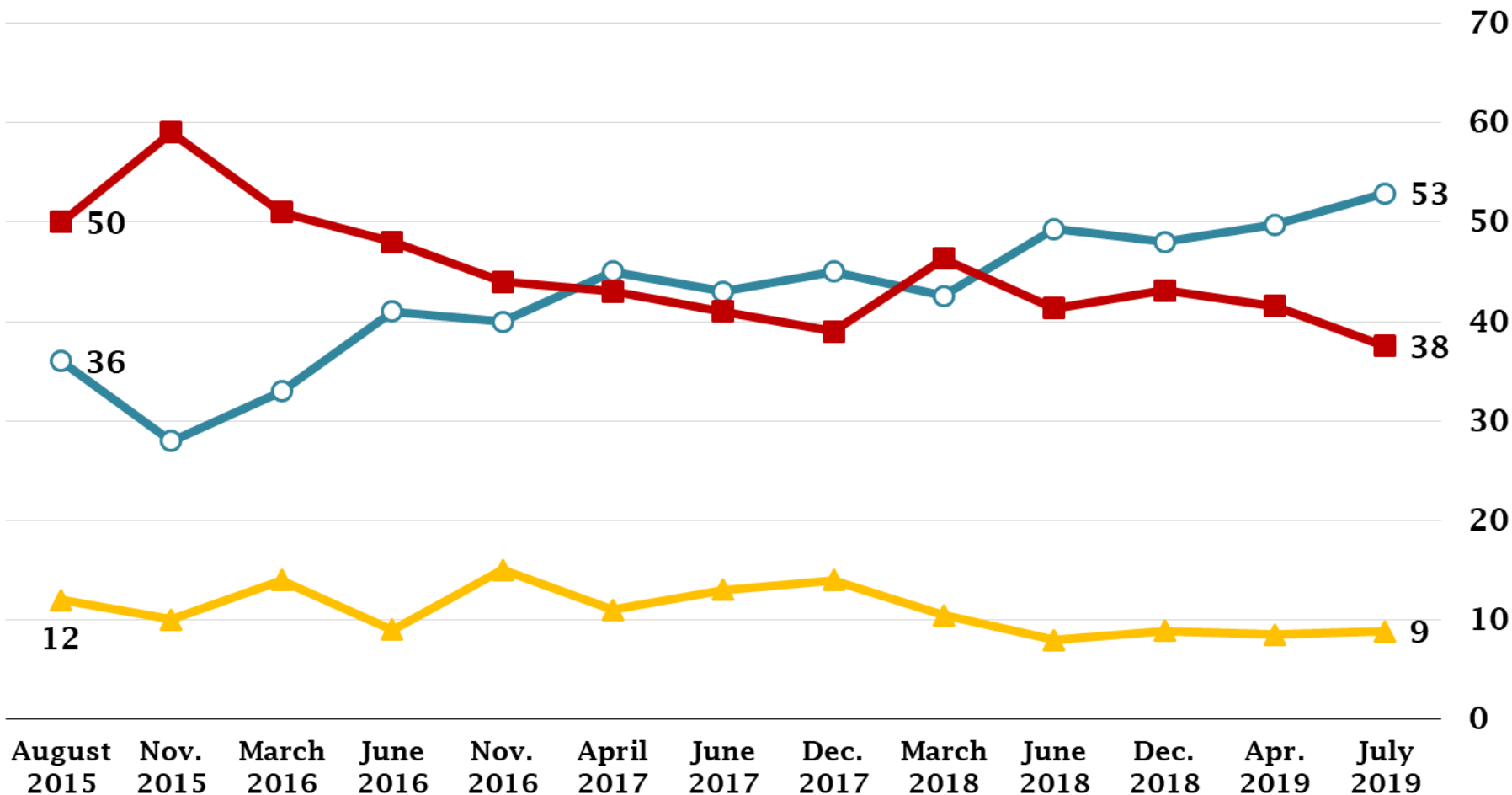
How often do you use the Internet? Do you use the Internet ...  
(q75 X Settlement, Age)



# Internet usage in rural areas

How often do you use the Internet? Do you use the Internet ...  
(q75)

At least once a week    Less often    Never



# NDI-CRRC POLLS AVAILABLE AT:

- [www.ndi.org/georgia-polls](http://www.ndi.org/georgia-polls)
- [ww.caucasusbarometer.org](http://ww.caucasusbarometer.org)