

Common Cause Public Foundation

**Analytical report on the results of the public opinion
poll “CITIZENS’ VIEWS ABOUT THE UPCOMING
PARLIAMENTARY ELECTIONS
ON OCTOBER 4, 2020”**

2nd WAVE OF THE POLL

ABOUT COMMON CAUSE PUBLIC FOUNDATION

The Common Cause Public Foundation is a nonpartisan organization established in March 2019 to monitor elections of various levels in the Kyrgyz Republic, implement voter and civic education projects, public opinion research, and promote greater citizen participation in decision-making processes.

Our mission is to facilitate the creation of opportunities for citizens to influence the quality of decisions made in the country through involvement, discourse and public oversight.

This public opinion poll was conducted as part of the voter education component of the “Independent Observation of Elections in the Kyrgyz Republic” project implemented by the Common Cause Public Foundation with the support from USAID.

The team of Common Cause believes that the results of the public opinion poll will help inform the citizens of the country, media, political parties, civil society institutions, and decision-makers about important issues related to the upcoming elections.

Executive Summary

1st wave of the public opinion poll on the citizens' views about upcoming parliamentary elections was conducted by the public foundation Common Cause from August 21 to September 15, 2020 year.

2nd wave of the public opinion poll on the citizens' views about upcoming parliamentary elections was conducted by the public foundation Common Cause from September 7 to September 15, 2020 year.

3rd wave will be conducted after elections.

The idea behind the public opinion poll was to understand:

- What do citizens think about the upcoming elections?
- Are they willing to participate in the elections?
- How informed are they about the elections?
- Which political parties will they vote for?
- What do they think about the most commonly discussed problems during elections?

Executive Summary

The difference between the two waves of the poll:

During the 2nd wave of the research it was important to monitor the dynamics of some important issues that were measured during the implementation of the 1st wave survey, which are the following:

- Importance of citizens' participation in the parliamentary elections;
- The readiness of citizens to take part in the elections in spite of the possible second wave COVID-19;
- Level of support to political parties in the race among the population;
- Public awareness of the voting procedures related to COVID-19;
- What reasons prompt the decision which party to vote for;
- Public awareness that the use of an administrative resource is a violation of law;
- Probability of using the administrative resource in the parliamentary elections 2020;
- Public awareness that vote buying is a violation of the law;
- Probability of vote buying during the parliamentary elections 2020;

Executive Summary

Advantage of the 2nd wave poll:

During the 2nd wave of the survey, we added most commonly discussed issues, such as administrative resource, vote buying and Form#2 about the change of the electoral address:

- Awareness of the population about the use of administrative resources during the election campaign;
- Awareness of the population about the vote buying during the election campaign;
- What are political parties asking citizens for?;
- What did political parties offer to citizens?;
- Awareness of the population that citizens who have passed biometric registration can apply to change their electoral address;
- If they heard about cases when citizens have changed their electoral address.

Executive Summary

Main results include:

General:

- 77% of respondents are planning to participate in the elections; 62% will go to the polls regardless of the epidemiological situation related to Covid-19. 15% will decide depending on the epidemiological situation. 12% of respondents said that they would not vote in any case.
- 58% of respondents noted high importance of participation in the elections.

Voting preferences

More than half of the respondents (51%) don't know which party they'd like to vote for. The number of undecided voters dropped from 58% to 51%, compared to the first wave. 12% of respondents replied that they're going to vote "None of the above" and this number decreased by 2% from the previous poll. The highest numbers are in Bishkek (18%), Chui oblast (16%), Issyk-Kul oblast (17%). Only 24% of respondents (n = 287) named the political party they'd like to vote for. The top three political parties include Mekenim Kyrgyzstan (4%), Birimdik, and Butun Kyrgyzstan, 3% respectively.

What could influence the decision to vote?

The content of the election platform was among the top three answers to this question (31%). 30% of respondents did not know the answer. The candidate list was named by 25%.

Executive Summary

Administrative resource

53% of respondents said that the use of administrative resources was likely. 37% said the probability is high and 16% assessed it as very high. 21% of respondents heard about instances of the use of administrative resource, 8% - heard something. 63% did not hear about it.

Vote Buying

- 66% of respondents said the probability of vote buying is likely. This probability was assessed as high by 43% and very high by 23%, low (13%), no any (3%) difficult to answer 16%. 35% have heard about the use of vote buying. Of those who had heard of vote buying, 37% were asked to vote for a certain party in exchange for money, 18% were asked to conduct campaigns, 17% were asked to come to another oblast. In most cases, funds or gifts were promised for these actions. This was true for each region. 57% found it difficult to name the actions requested by the parties

Form# 2

39% of respondents are aware of the possibility of changing their electoral address. 14% (n = 168) know residents who changed their electoral addresses before the elections.



THE RESULTS

Октябрь 2020

ПН	ВТ	СР	ЧТ	ПТ	СБ	ВС
			1	2	3	4
5	6	7	8	ЖК ШАЙЛОО ВЫБОРЫ 2020		
12	13	14	15	16	17	18
19	20	21	22	23	24	25
26	27	28	29	30	31	

Are you ready to take part in the parliamentary Elections in spite of a possible second wave of COVID-19?

1st wave of the poll

2nd wave of the poll

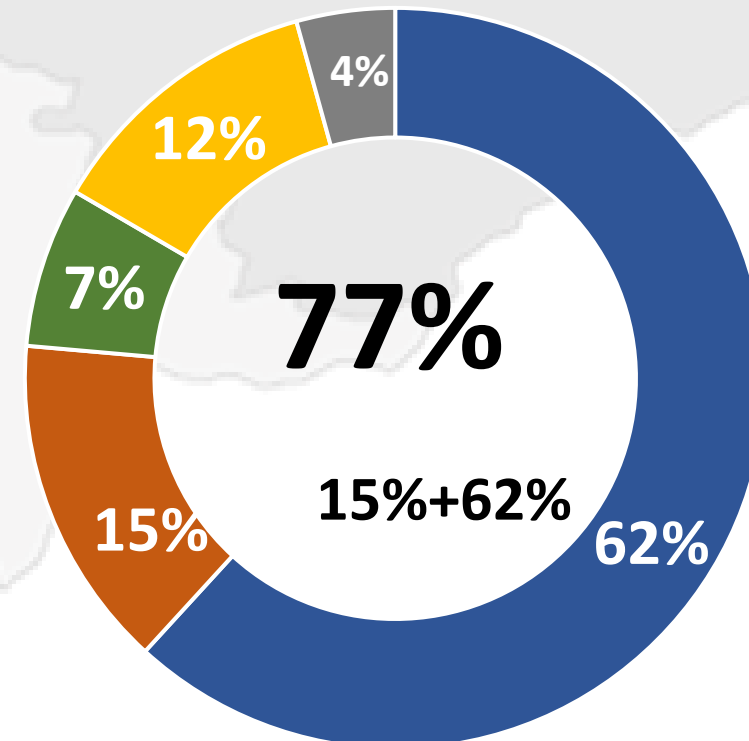
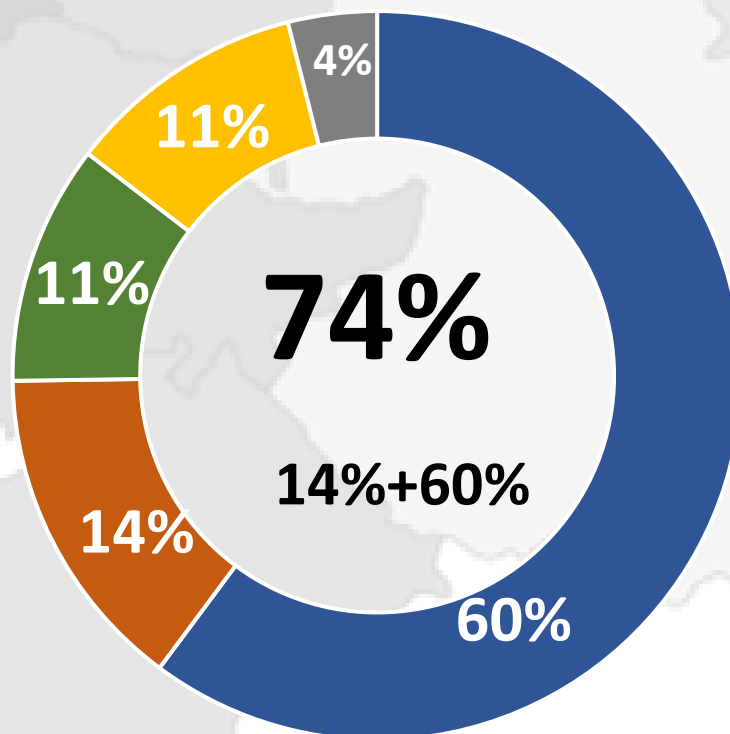
Yes, I will go to the elections in any case

Perhaps I will act according to the epidemiological situation

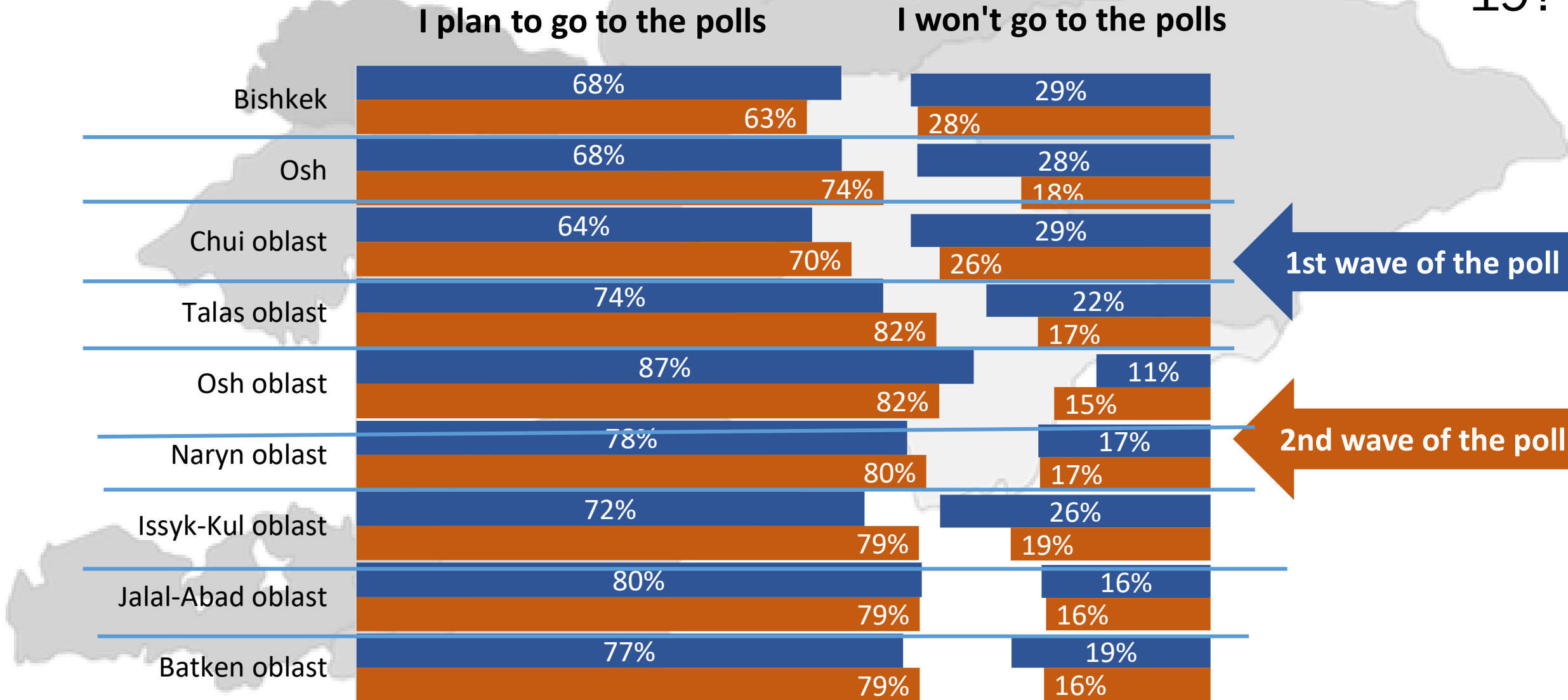
I won't go, I worry for my health

I won't go in any case

Not sure/Don't know



Are you ready to take part in the parliamentary elections in spite of a possible second wave of COVID-19?

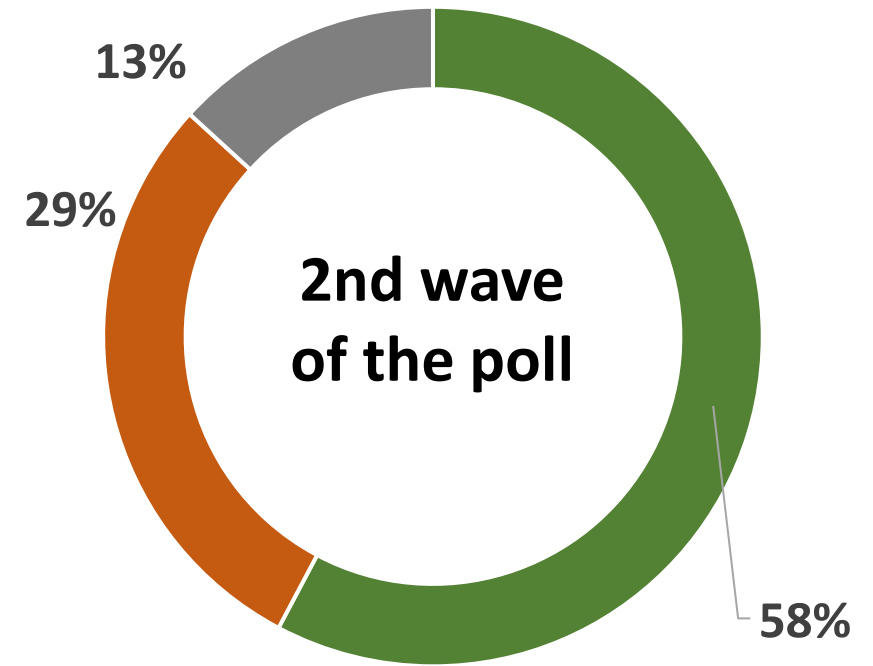
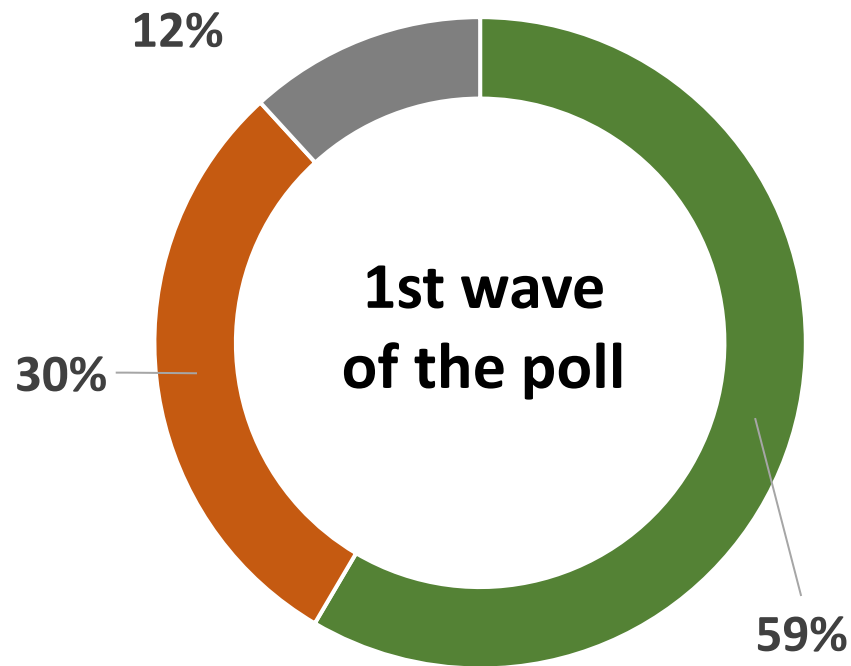


How important is participation in the parliamentary elections on October 4, 2020?

High

Low

Not sure/Don't know



How important is a participation in the parliamentary elections on October 4, 2020?

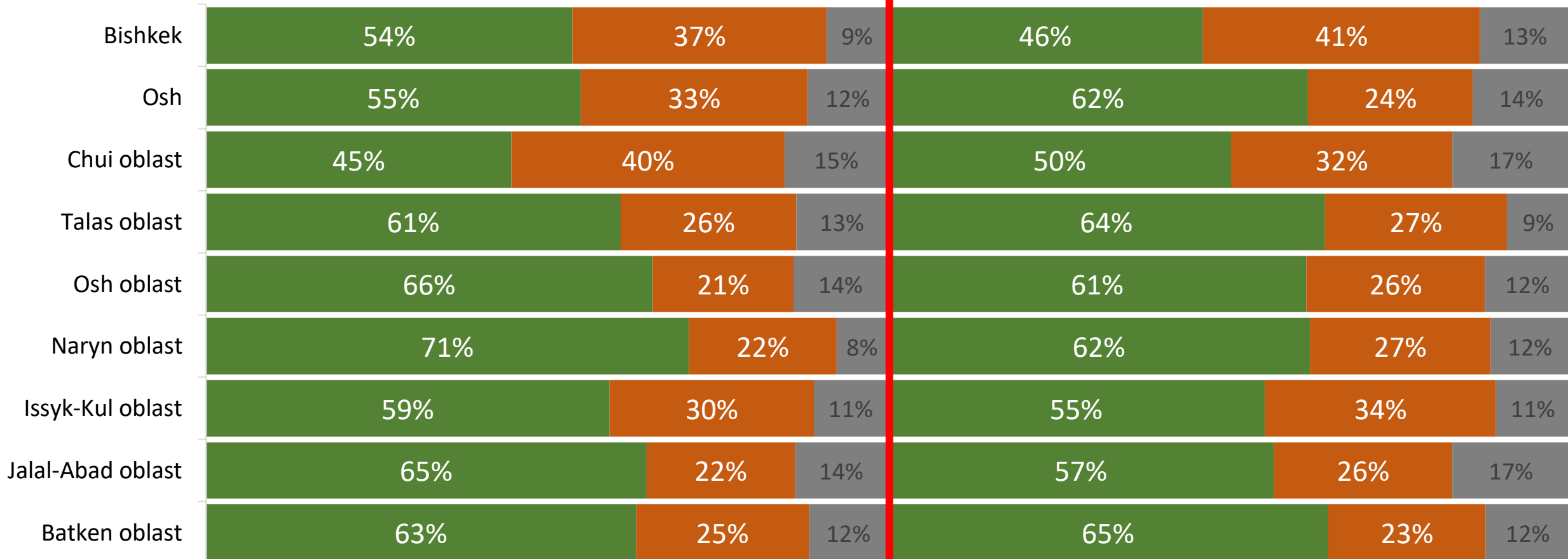
High

Low

Not sure/Don't know

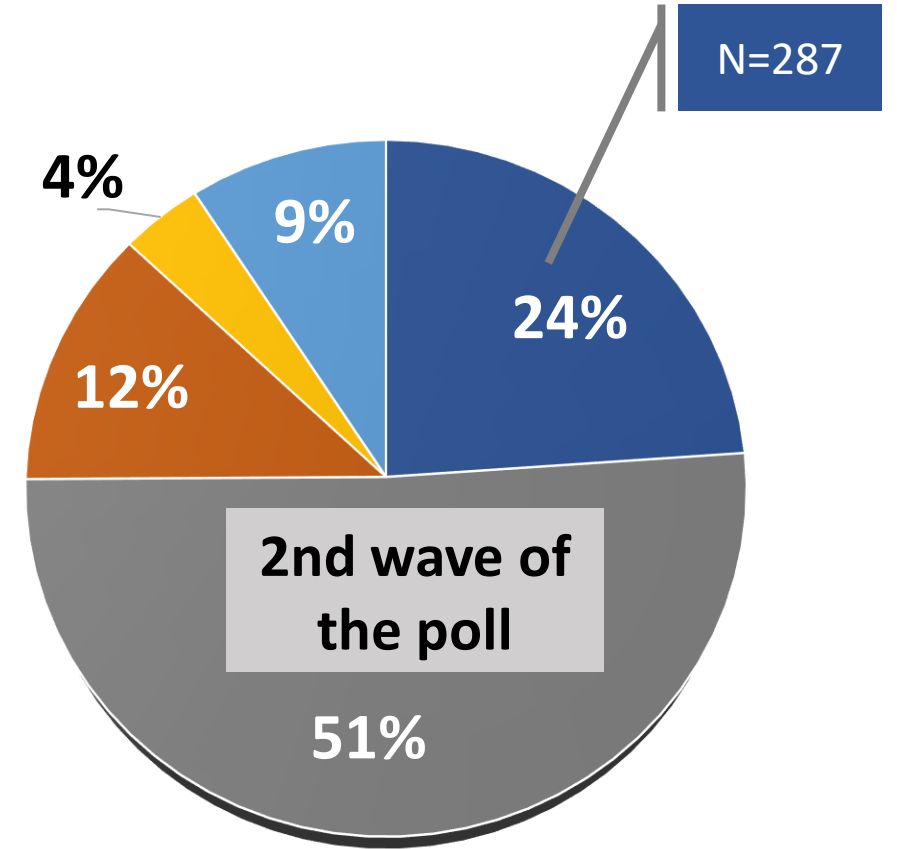
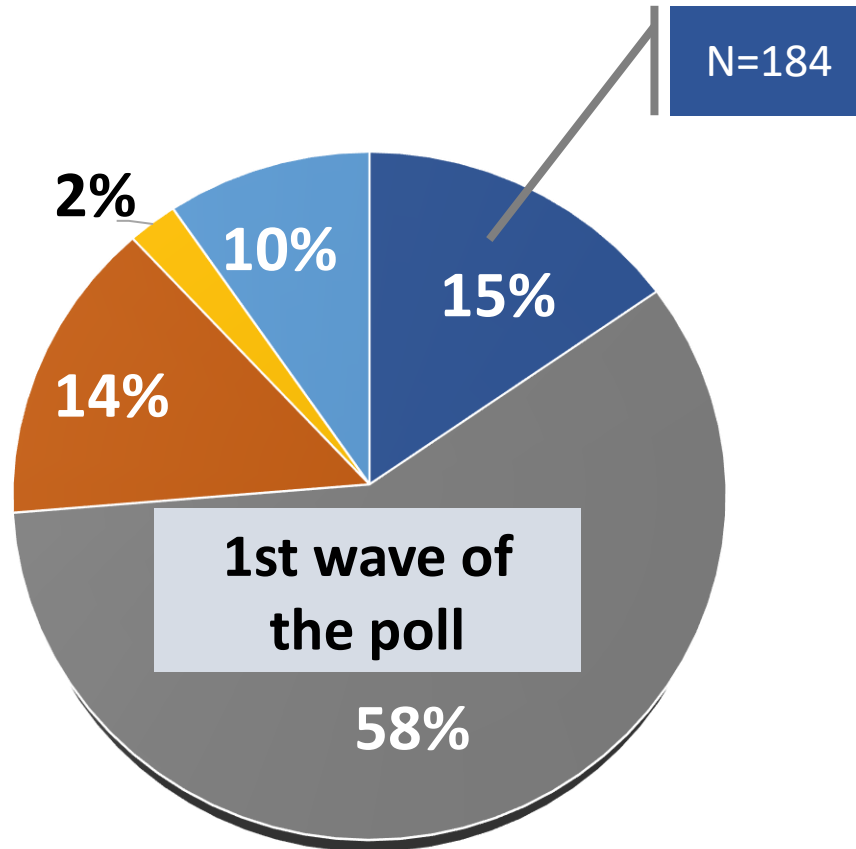
**1st wave
of the poll**

**2nd wave
of the poll**

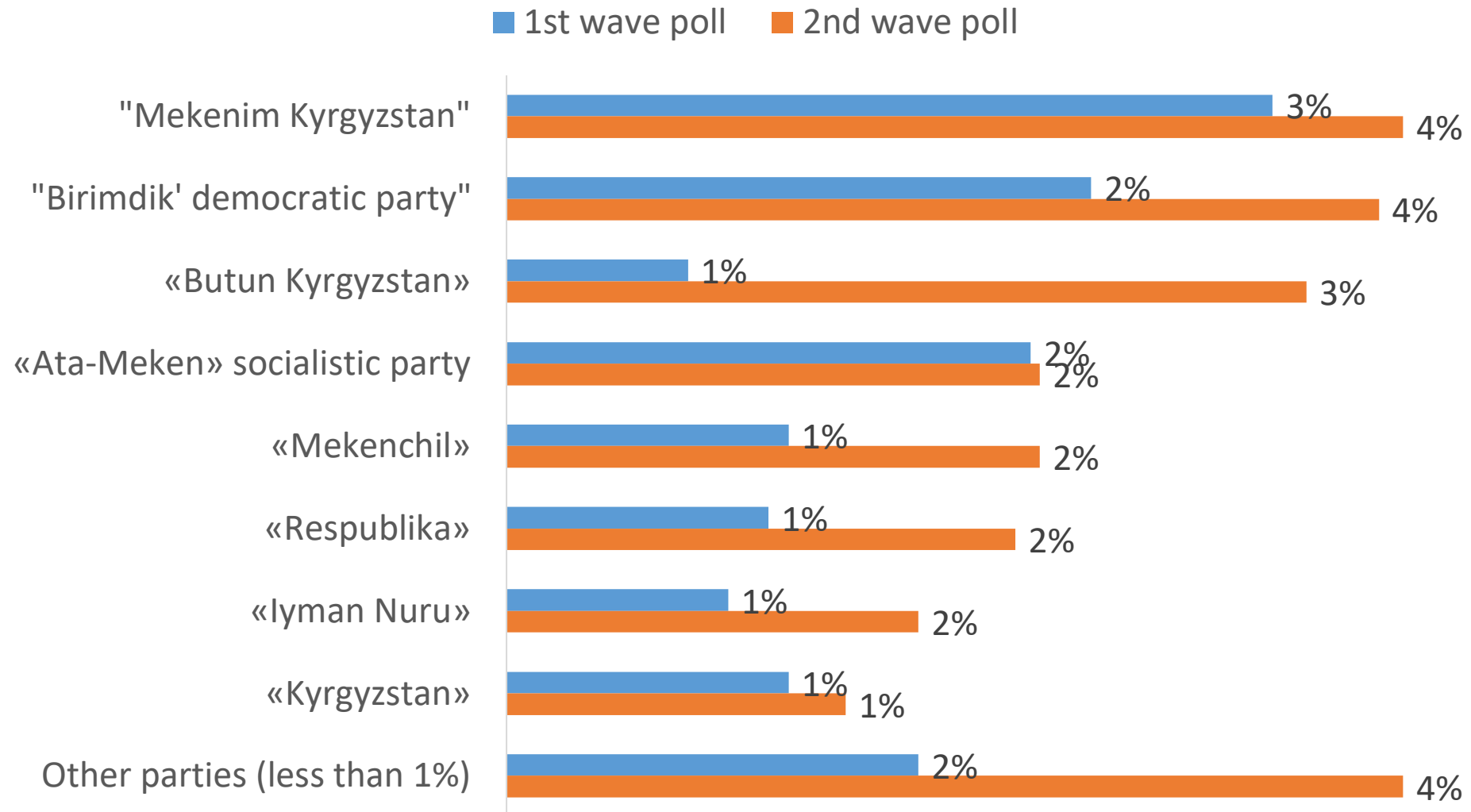


If the elections are held tomorrow do you know which party you would vote for?

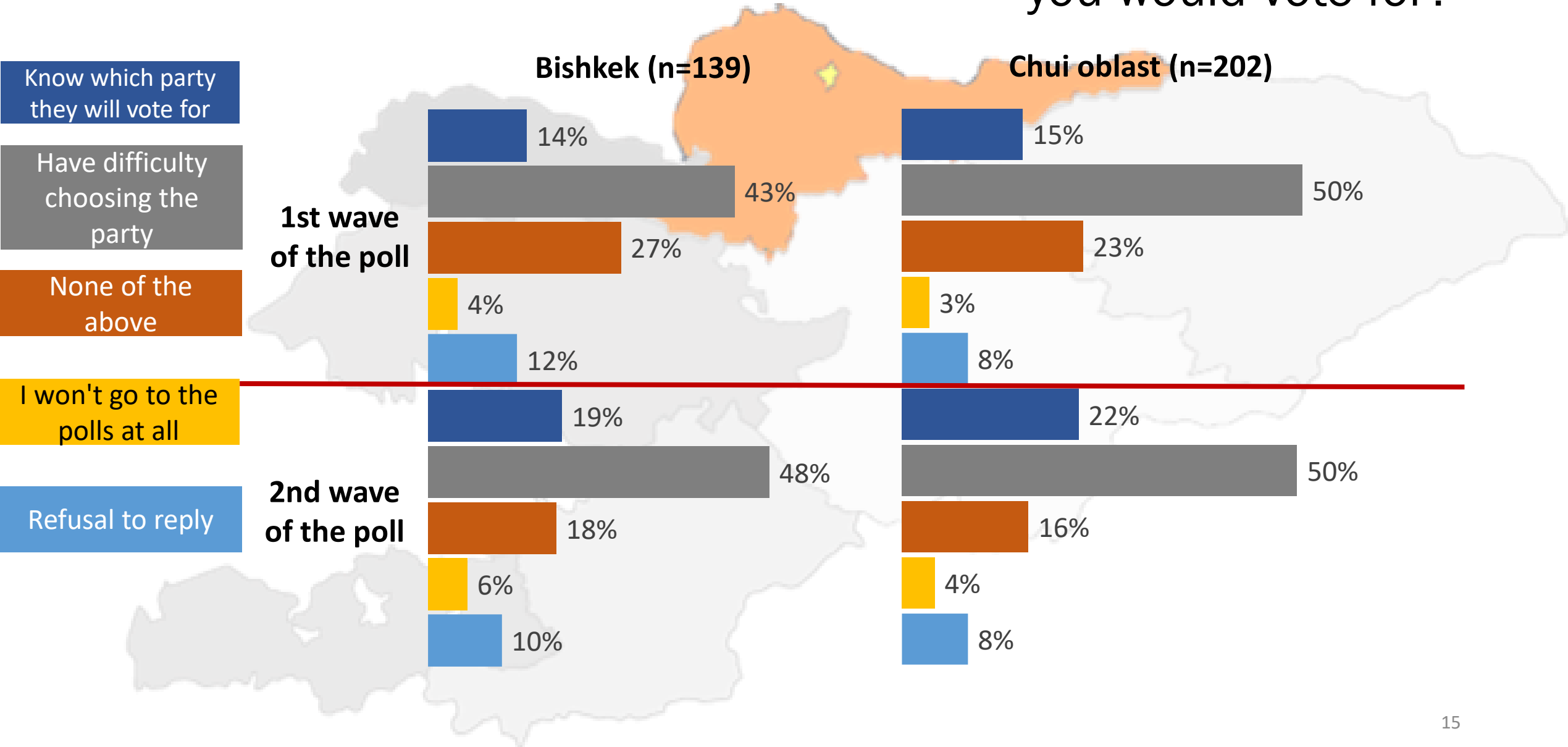
- Know which party they will vote for
- Have difficulty choosing the party
- None of the above
- I won't go to the polls at all
- Refusal to reply



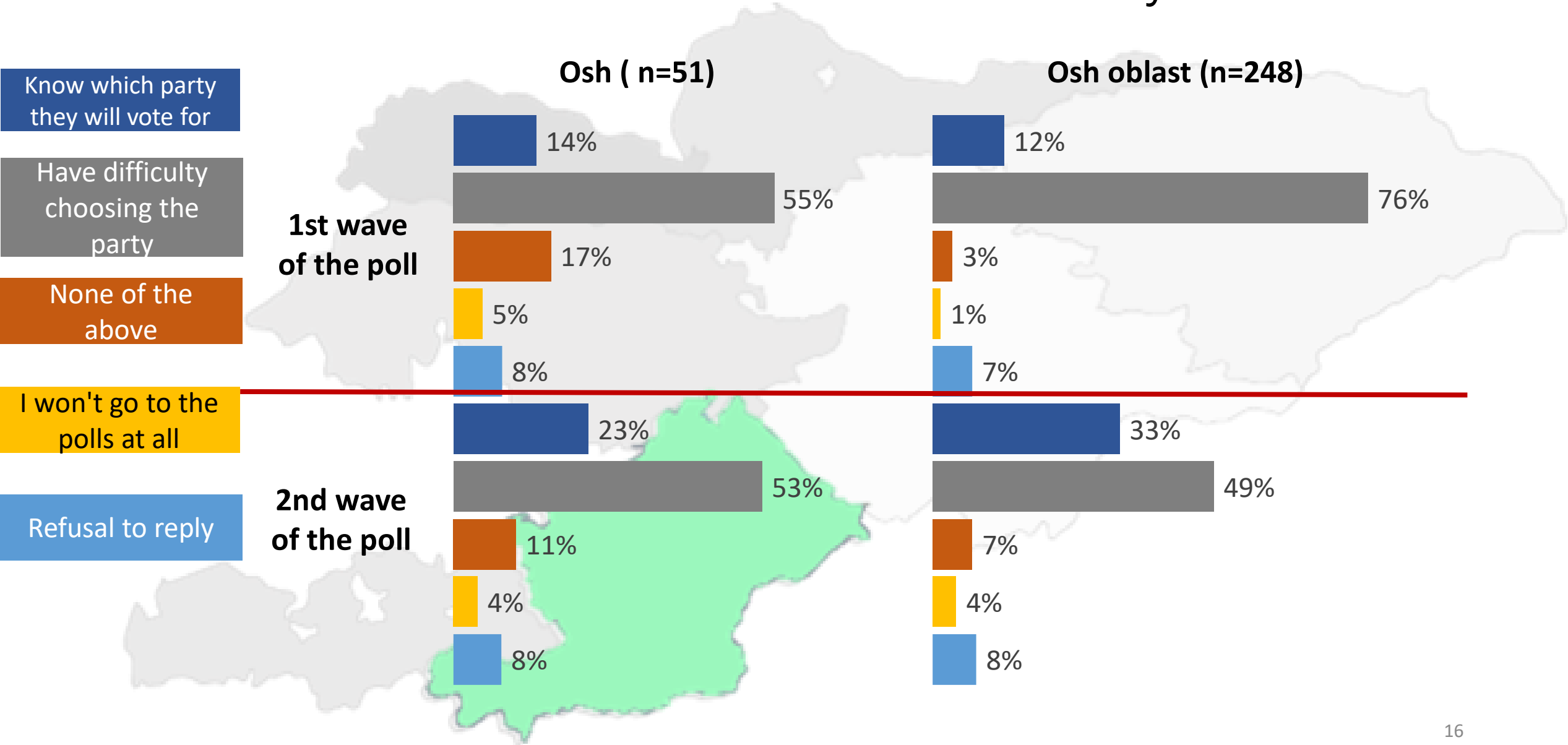
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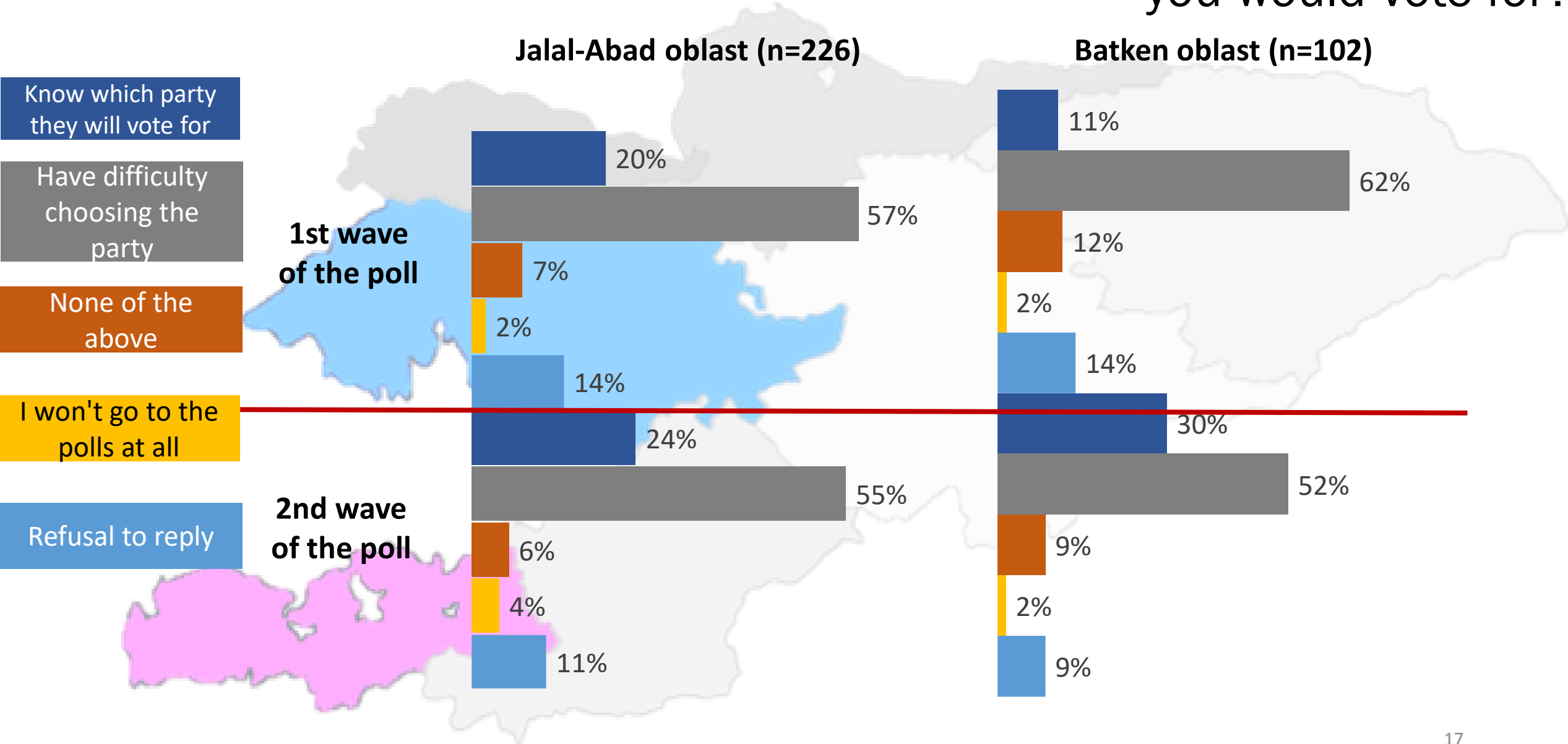
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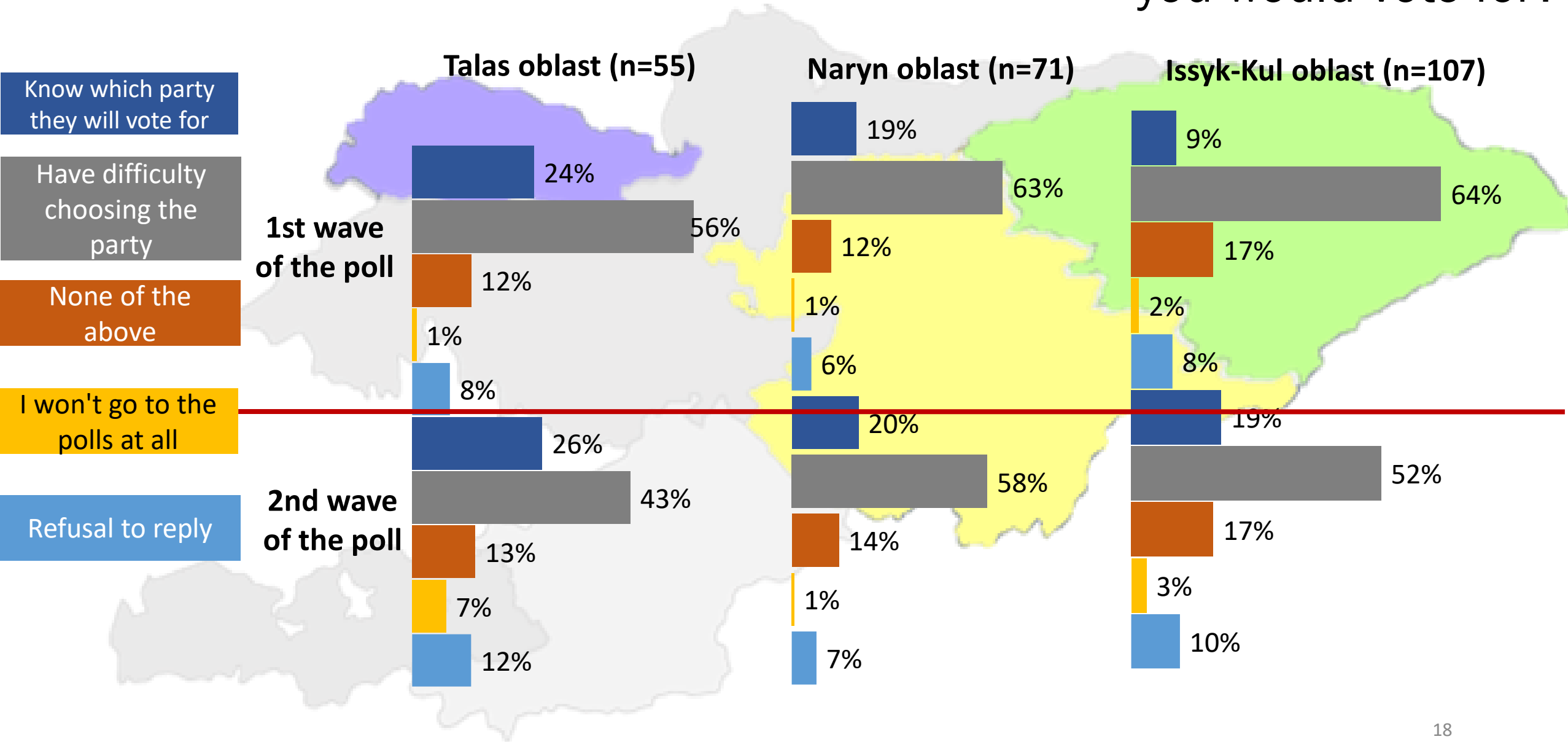
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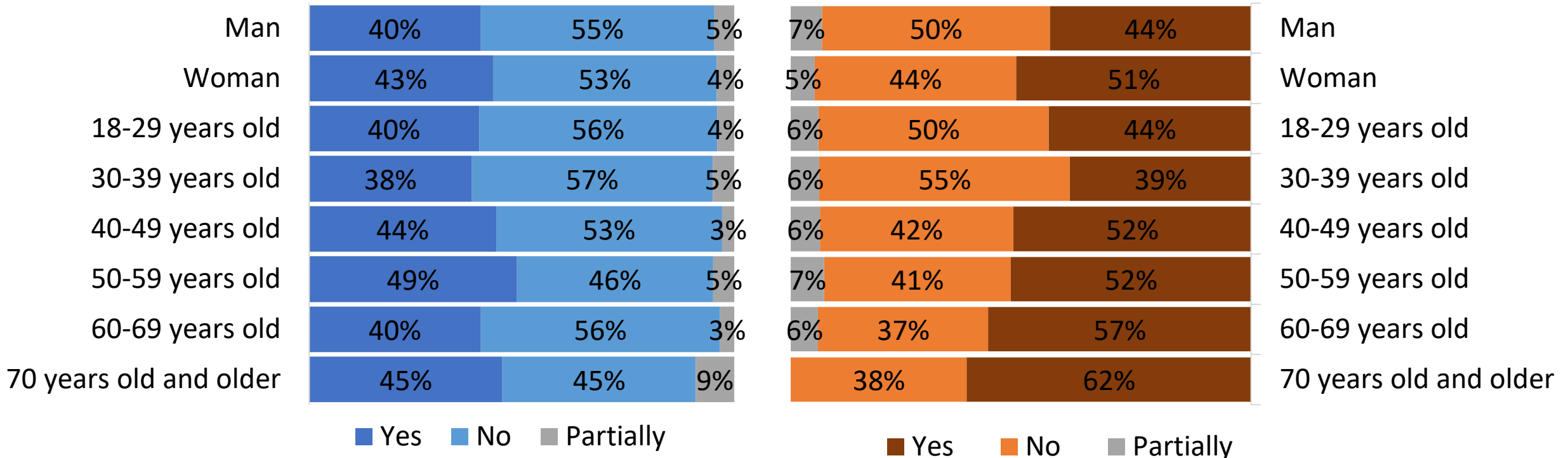
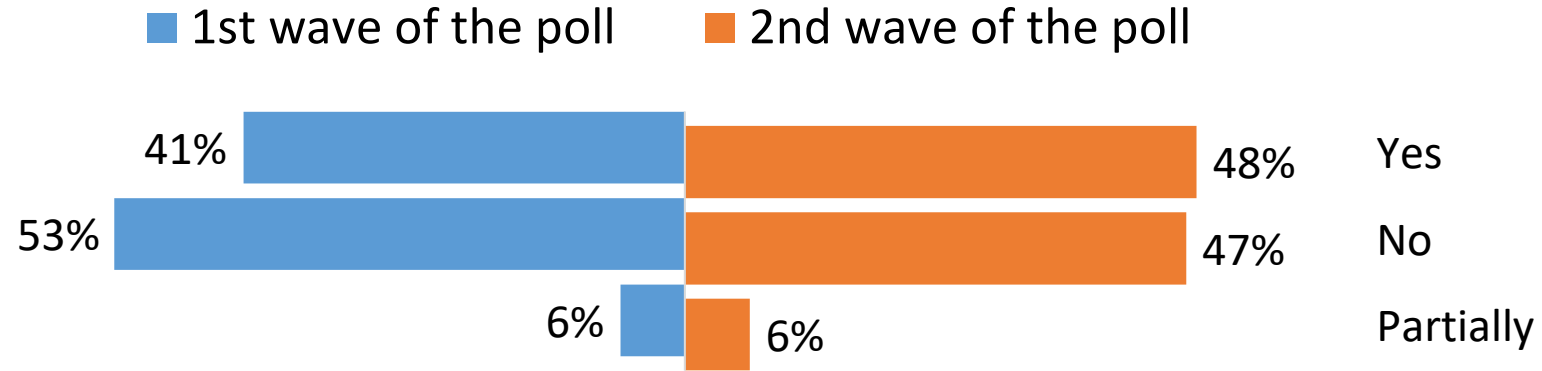
If the elections are held tomorrow do you know which party you would vote for?



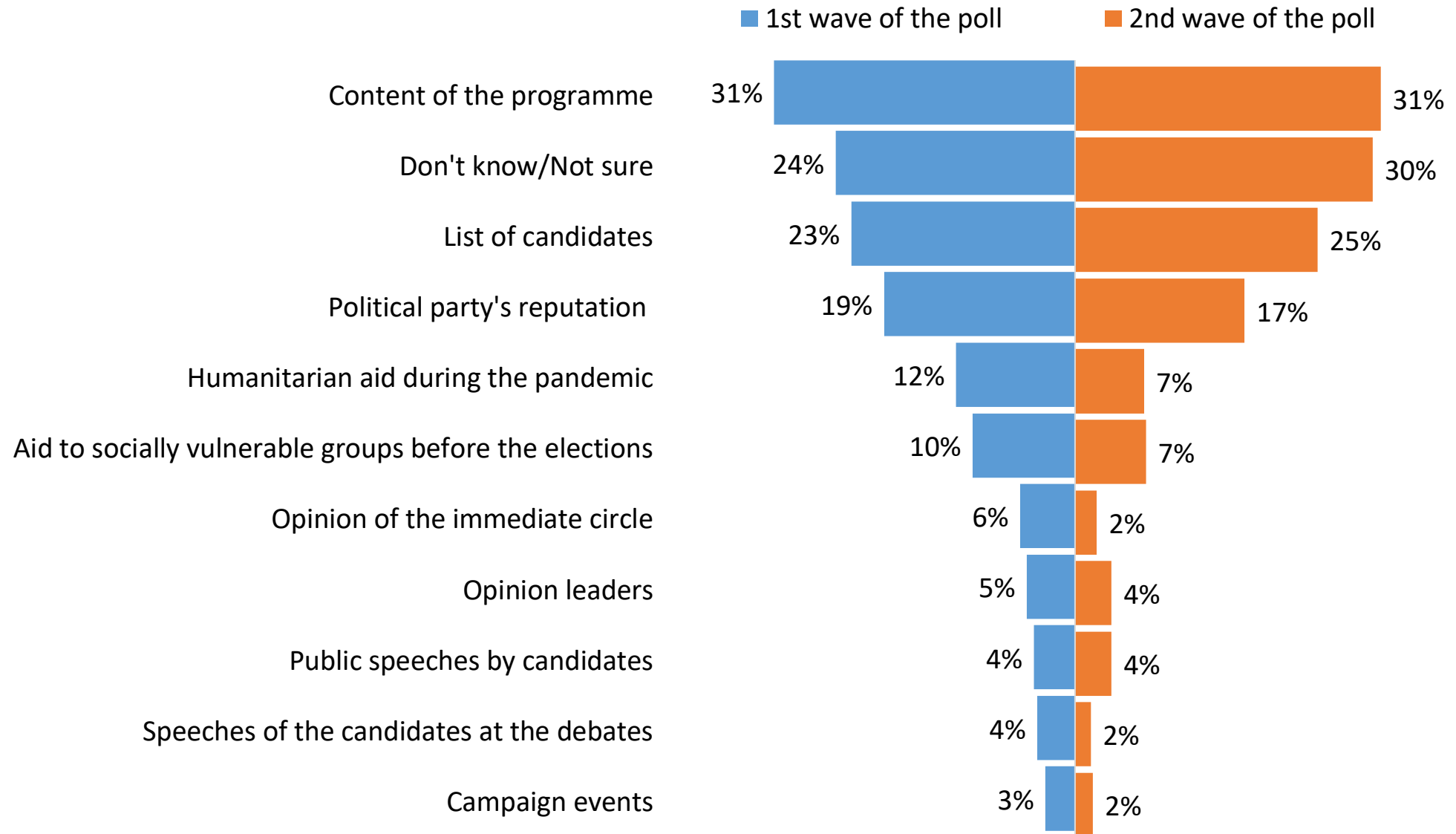
If the elections are held tomorrow do you know which party you would vote for?



Are you informed about the voting procedure on election day during COVID-19 pandemic?



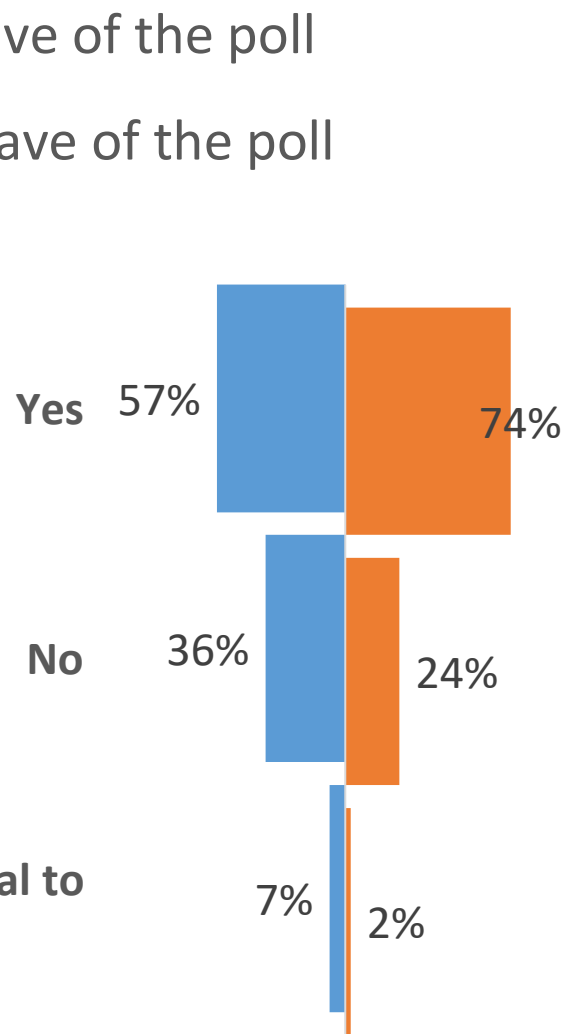
What will most influence your choice of which political party to vote for in the elections on October 4, 2020?



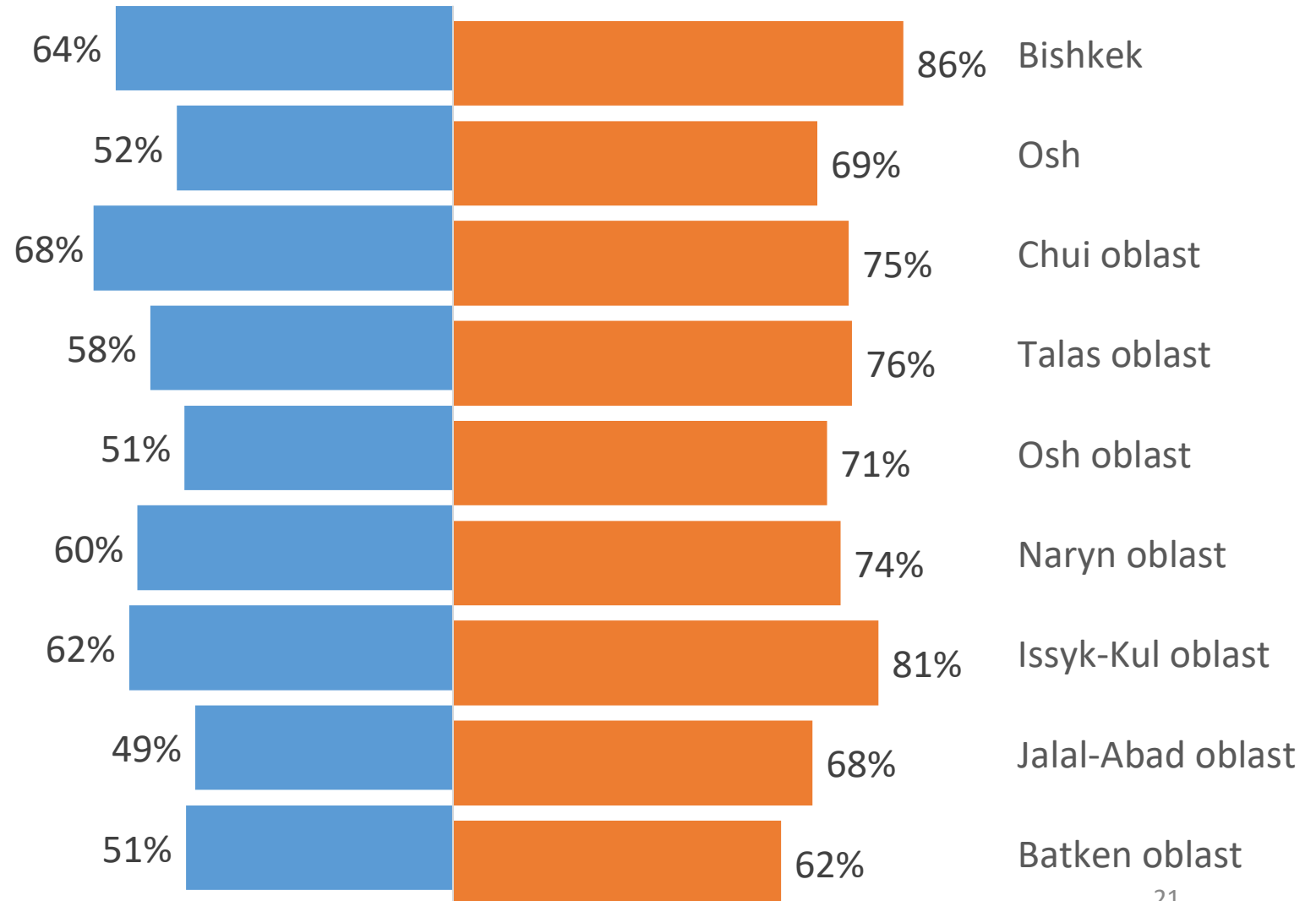
Are you aware that the use of administrative resources is a crime according to the current legislation?

■ 1st wave of the poll

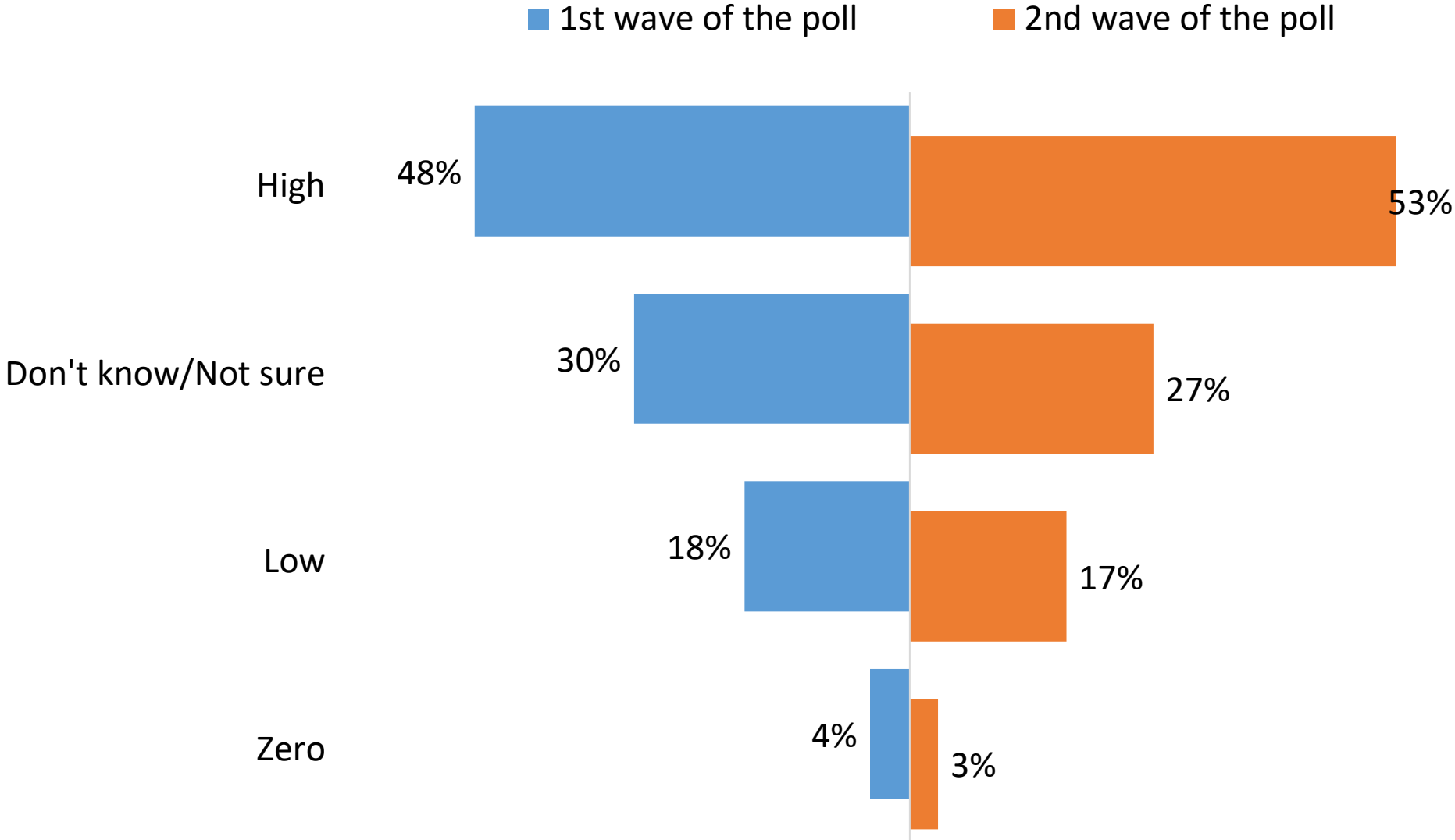
■ 2nd wave of the poll



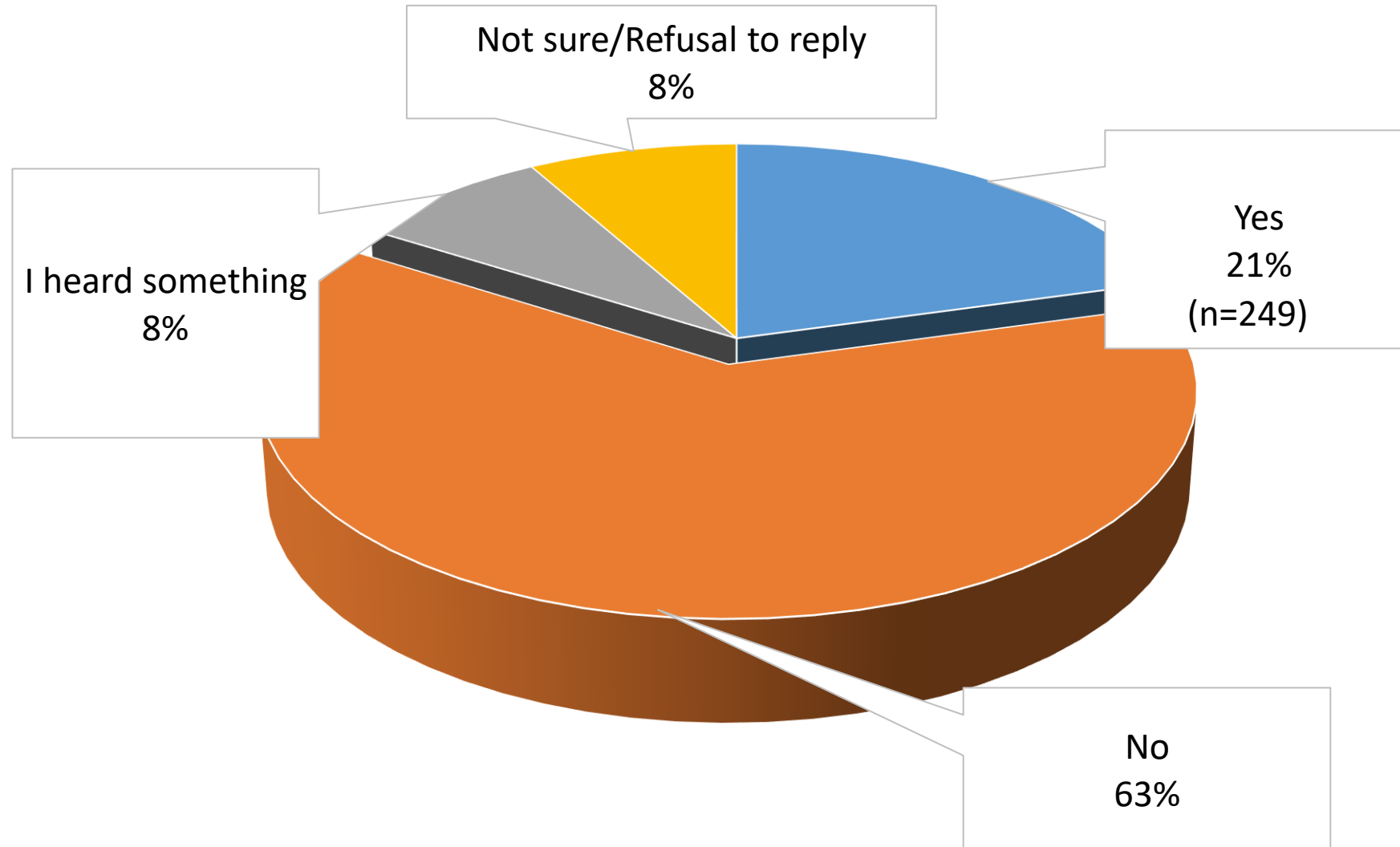
Respondents answered "Yes"



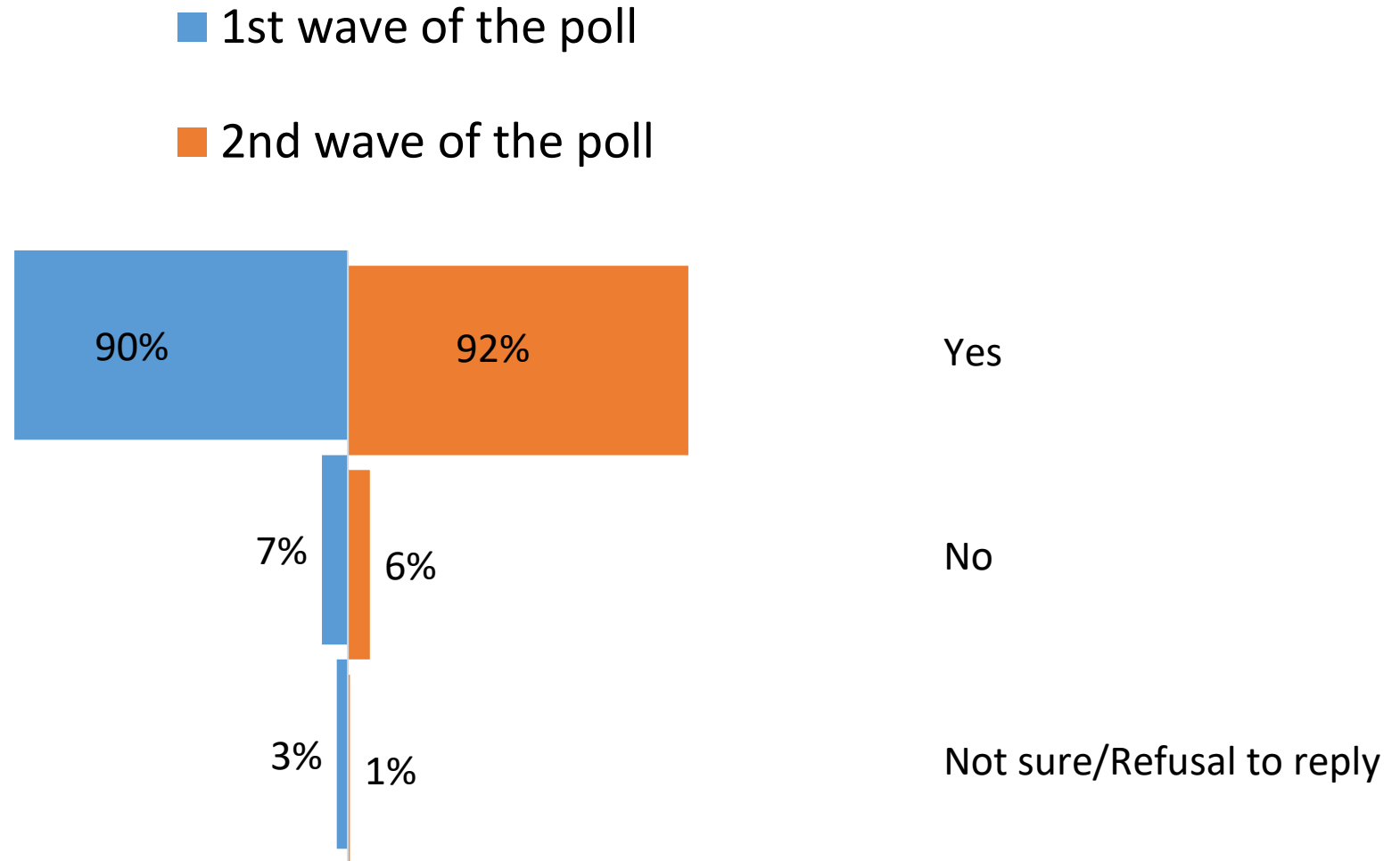
In your opinion, what is the probability of the use of administrative resources in the 2020 parliamentary elections?



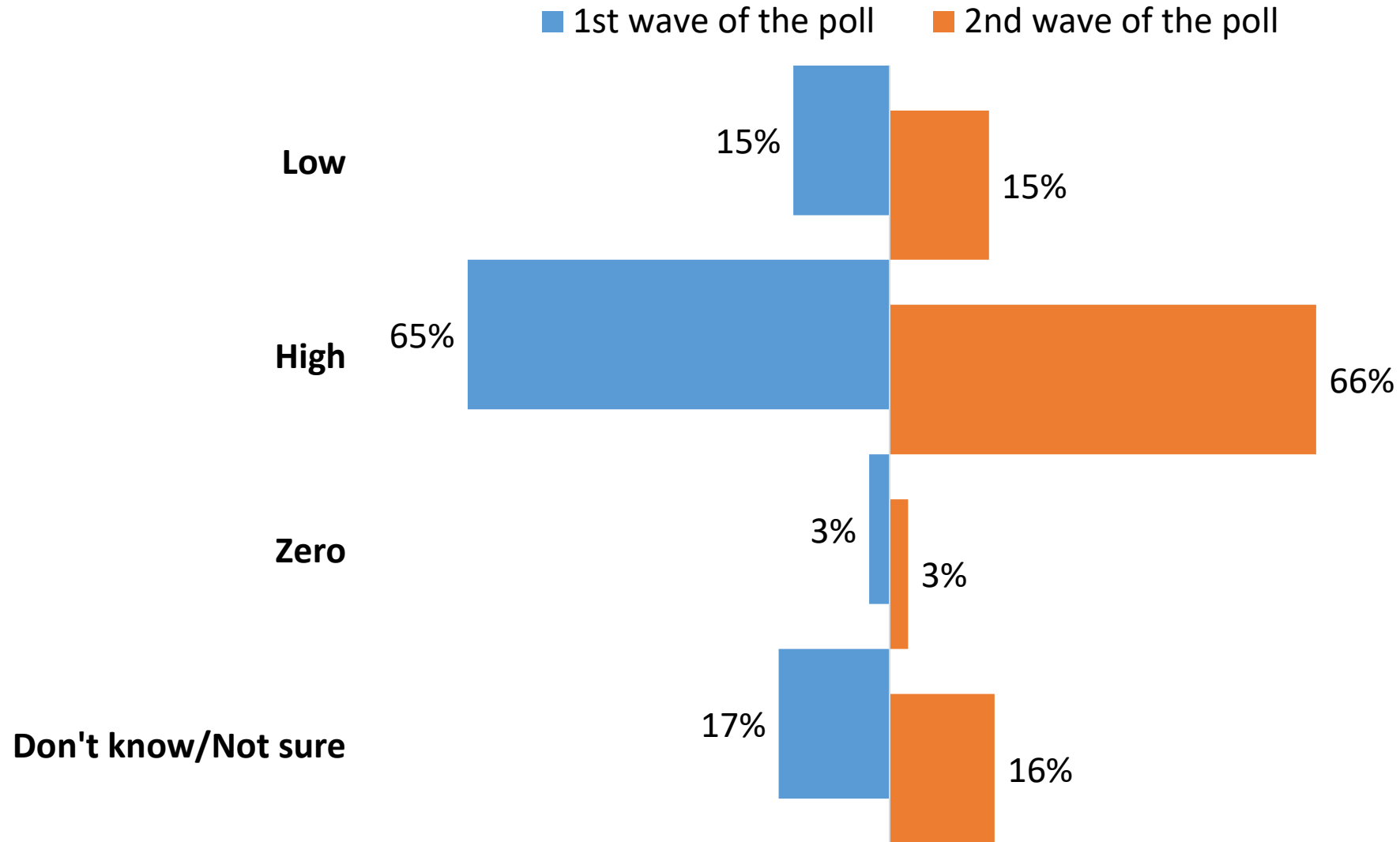
Have you heard about the use of administrative resources during the campaign?



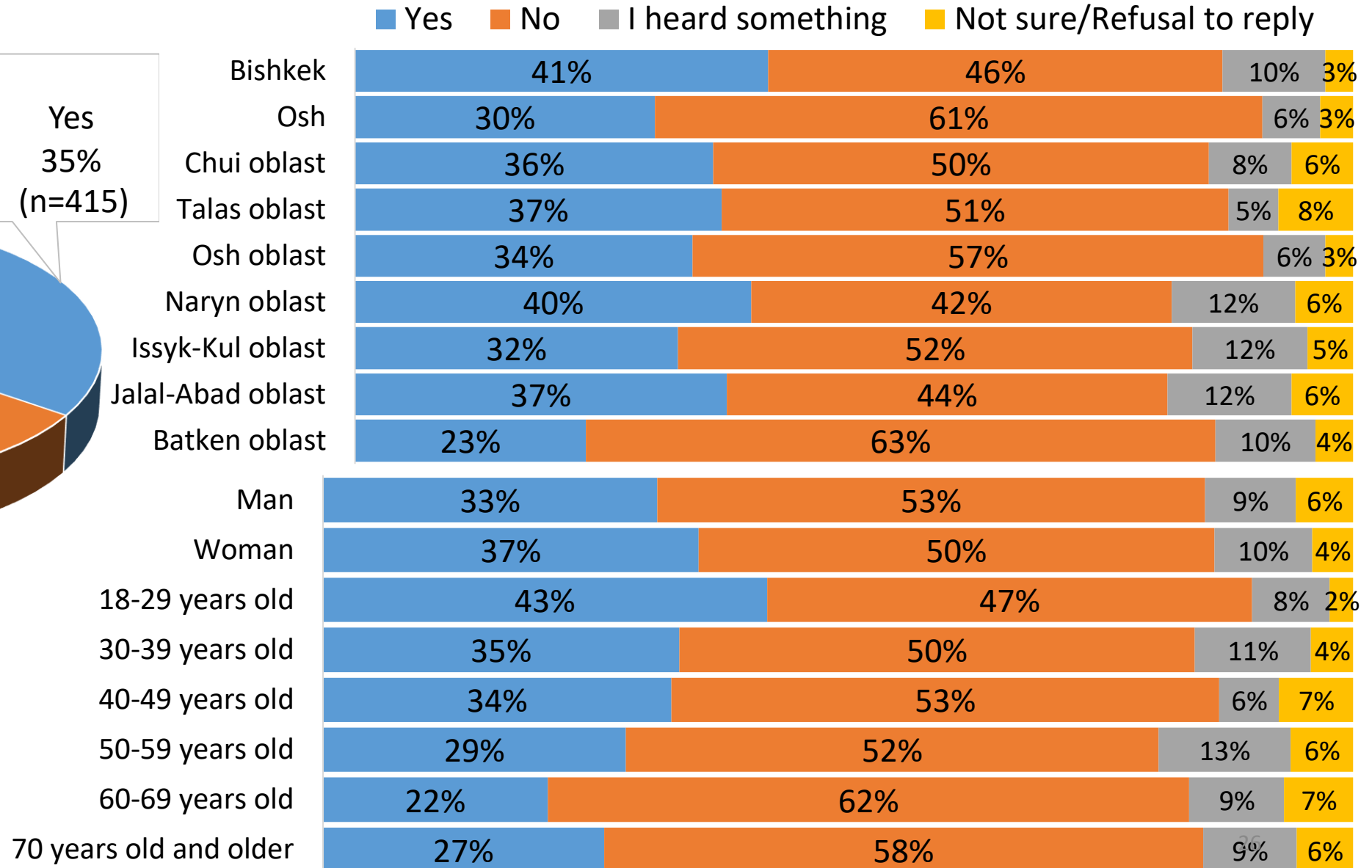
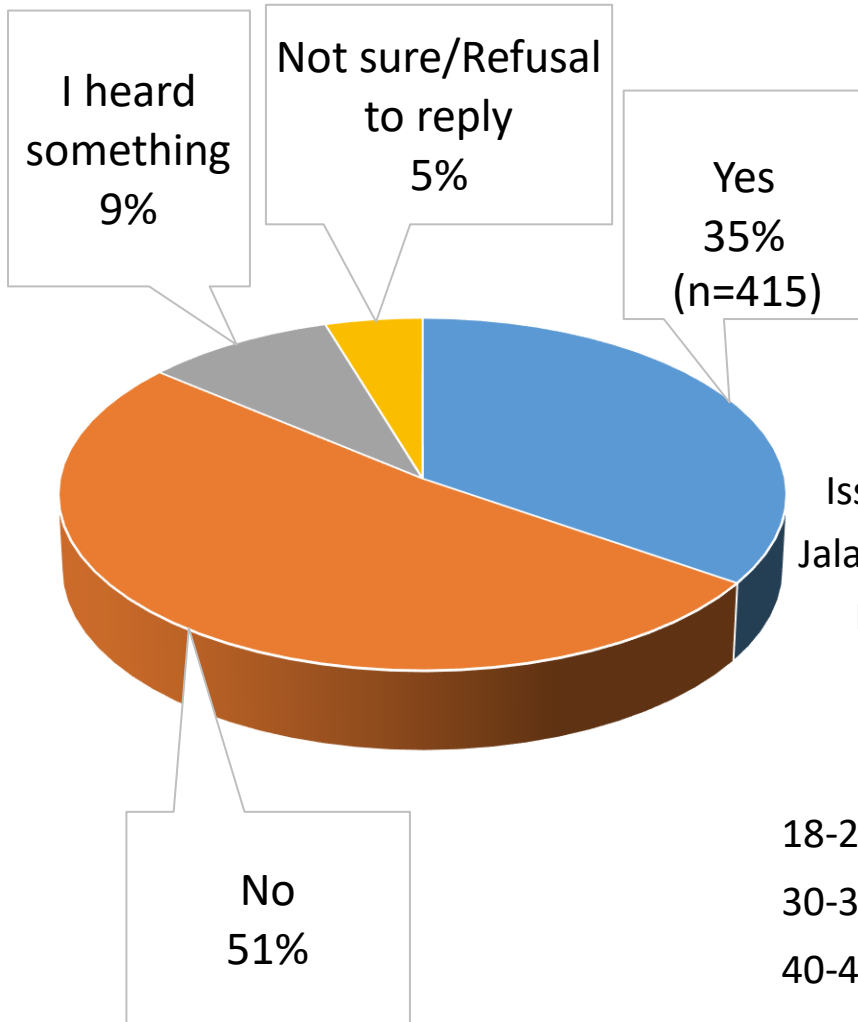
Do you know that vote buying is a crime according to the current legislation?



What is the probability of vote buying in the 2020 parliamentary elections?

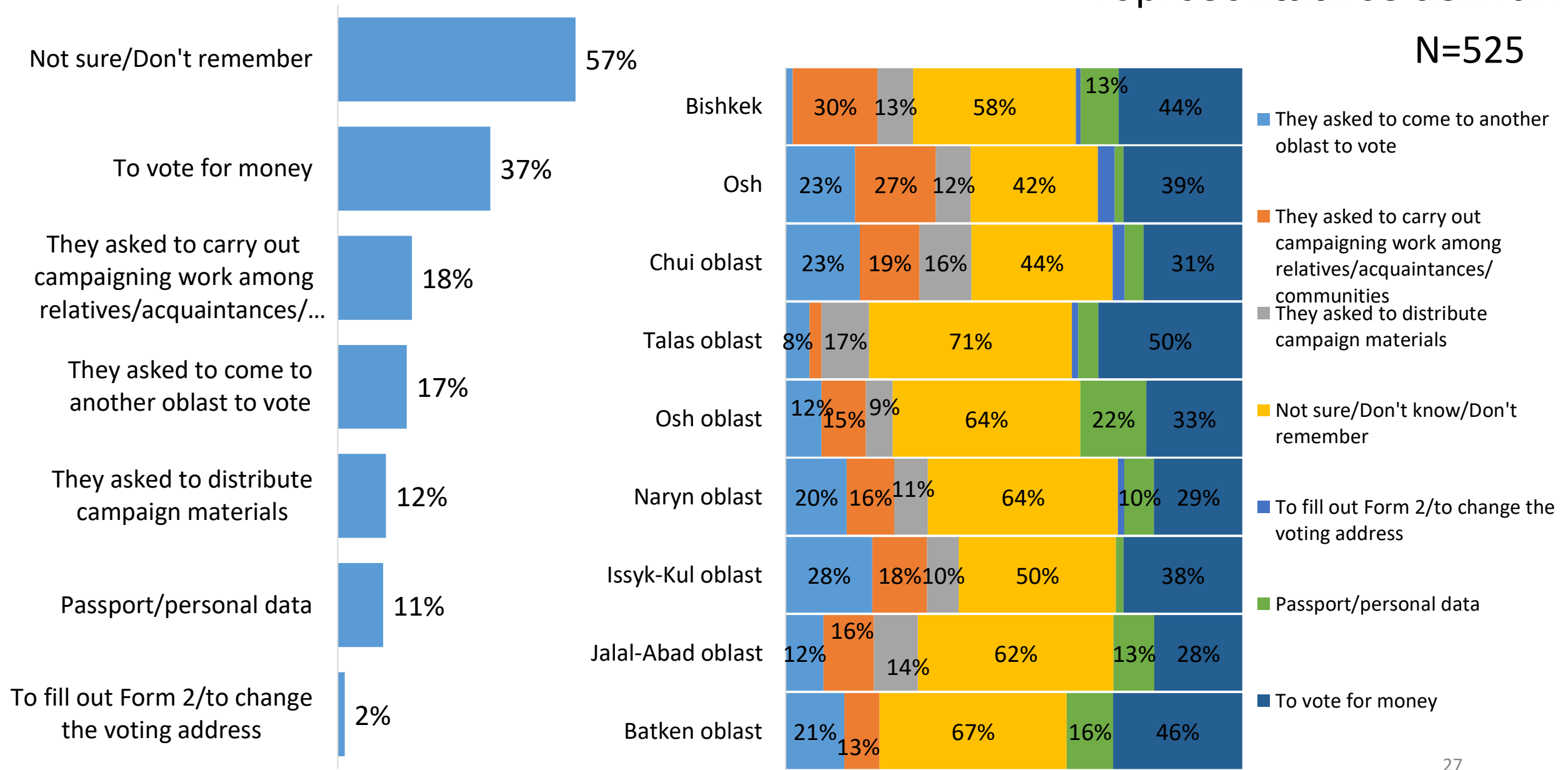


Have you have heard of the current use of vote buying during the campaign?



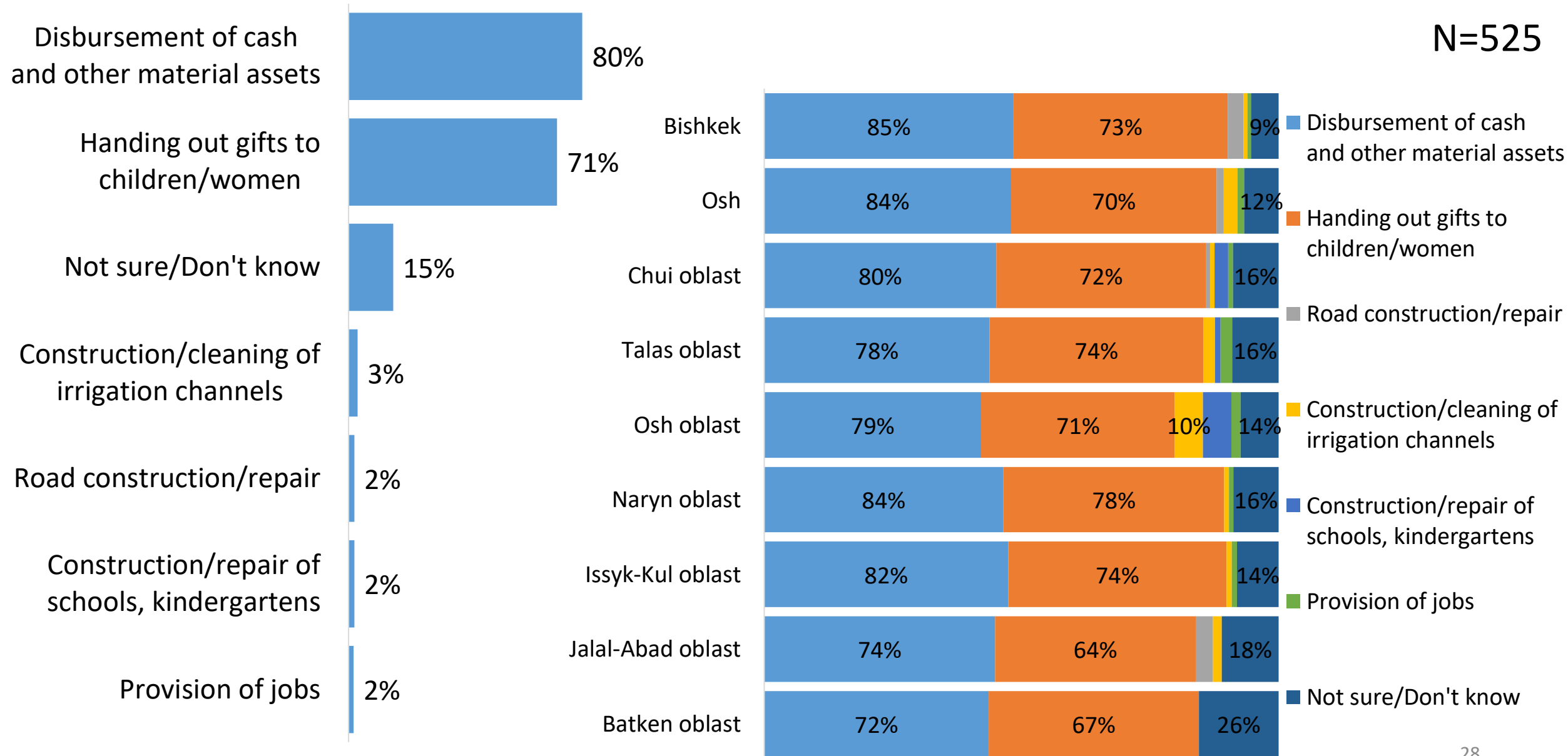
If you know / have heard about vote buying, what did the political party representatives ask for?

N=525

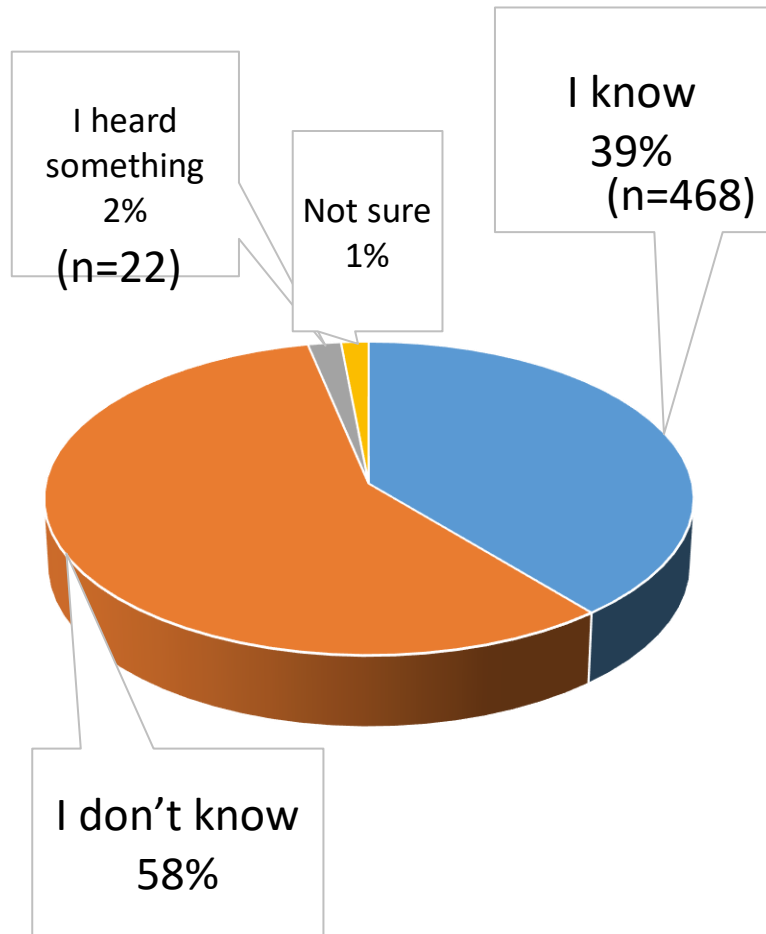


What did the party representatives offer for performing these actions?

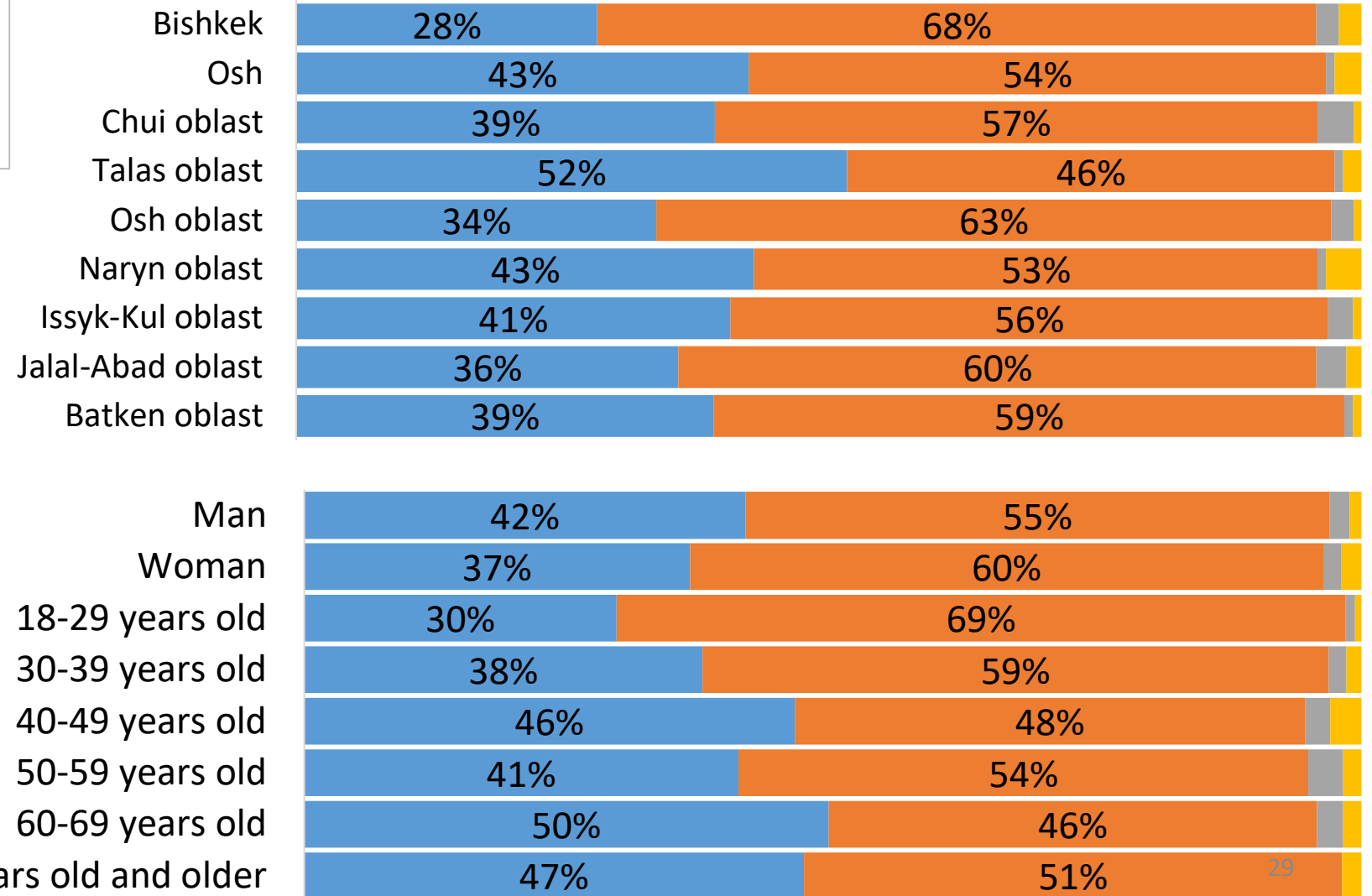
N=525



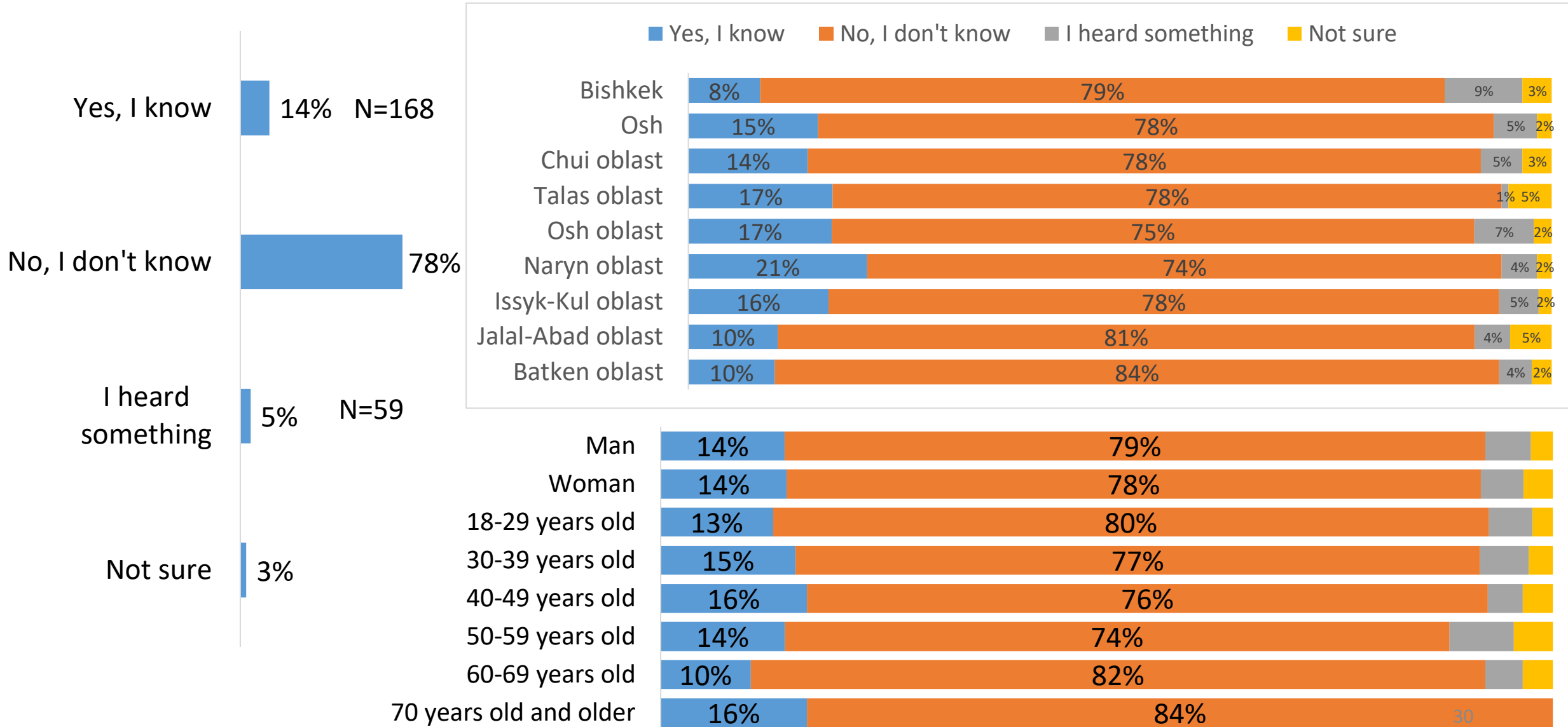
Do you know that the voter who passed biometric registration can apply for a change of the voting address (by Form No. 2)?



■ I know ■ I don't know ■ I heard something ■ Not sure



Perhaps you have heard of cases of changing the voting address among your acquaintances/friends/relatives/neighbors?





Methodology

Methodology

- The survey of respondents was conducted through a personal interview method through phone surveying to cell phone numbers of major mobile operators (O!, Megacom, Beeline). The sociological research was conducted in all oblasts of the Kyrgyz Republic.
- In order to conduct the research and make extrapolations of the results to the entire population, the sample size of 1,202 residents of the Kyrgyz Republic over 18 years old was drawn. The indicated sample size is sufficient and allows drawing conclusions with an accuracy of $\pm 2.8\%$ at a 95% confidence level at the level of the population. The confidence level shows the probability of a random answer falling into a confidence interval. The confidence interval can be understood as a margin of error, setting the range of a part of the distribution curve on both sides of the selected point where the answers can fall.
- A stratified sample was built to conduct the research. 9 strata were identified, including the cities of Bishkek and Osh. The population of the Kyrgyz Republic over 18 years of age was represented as the population, according to the data of the National Statistical Committee and the Central Election Commission for 2020.
- When distributing the numbers among the strata, preference was given to equal-size/non-proportional distribution of sample. Such sample distribution allowed increasing the otherwise underrepresented number of respondents in strata with small population size.
- When applying the equal-size sampling, after data collection, a proportional weighting procedure was applied that made it possible to adjust the equal-size sample, which is close to the population, by increasing the weight of underrepresented observations and addressing overrepresentation.

Random selection of respondents

- Inside each stratum (oblast), a simple random selection of respondents was carried out by generating random numbers. Random numbers were generated in electronic form and assembled into random phone numbers of users of different mobile network operators.
- Interviews were conducted in Kyrgyz, Russian and Uzbek languages.



Socio-demographic section

Socio-demographic indicators

Area of residence	Bishkek	N=139
	Osh	N=51
	Chui oblast	N=202
	Talas oblast	N=55
	Osh oblast	N=248
	Naryn oblast	N=71
	Issyk-Kul oblast	N=107
	Jalal-Abad oblast	N=226
	Batken oblast	N=102
	Total	N=1202
Type of settlement	City	N=571
	Village	N=631
Sex	Man	N=570
	Woman	N=632
Age	18-29 years old	N=348
	30-39 years old	N=293
	40-49 years old	N=207
	50-59 years old	N=180
	60-69 years old	N=119
	70 years old and older	N=55

Ethnicity	Kyrgyz	N=1005
	Russian	N=45
	Uzbek	N=95
	Tajik	N=7
	Other	N=43
	Refusal to reply	N=6
	Education	No education
Primary / Incomplete secondary education		N=24
Secondary / Vocational secondary education		N=719
Incomplete higher education		N=75
Higher / Academic degree		N=373
	Refusal to reply	N=3

CONTACT US

- 141/1 Toktogul Street, Bishkek, Kyrgyz Republic. Tel.: 0312-979 205
- Website: www.commoncause.kg
- SMM: www.instagram.com/commoncause312 | www.facebook.com/commoncause312 | <https://twitter.com/commoncause312>