

# A Tumultuous 2020: Views and Values in Georgia



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# Caucasus Barometer

- Representative survey of the populations of Georgia and Armenia
- Data from 10 waves of Caucasus Barometer surveys, from 2008 up to now are available on our website ([caucasusbarometer.org](http://caucasusbarometer.org))
- Caucasus Barometer is cited in over 3,200 academic and policy papers

# Caucasus Barometer

- Caucasus Barometer Georgia is representative of the adult population of the country, excluding the occupied territories
- In addition to being nationally representative, it is representative of Tbilisi, other urban, and rural settlements
- On average, 2,100 respondents are surveyed in each wave, and the average margin of error ranges between 2.2% and 2.8%
- In 2004-2019, interviews were conducted face-to-face, and from 2015 using tablet computer. The 2020 wave was conducted using the telephone interviewing method

# Caucasus Barometer: 2020

- Fieldwork dates: December 8-14, 2020
- Response rate: 29%
- Sample size: 1,504 respondents selected through random digit dialing were interviewed using the telephone interviewing method
- Interview languages: Azerbaijani, Armenian, Georgian, and Russian
- Margin of error:
  - *For proportions near 5% and 95%: +/-0.7%*
  - *For proportions near 10% and 90%: +/-2.7%*
  - *For proportions near 25% and 75%: +/-3.7%*
  - *For proportions near 40% and 60%: +/-6.4%*
  - *For proportions near 50%: +/-7.4%*

# The coronavirus pandemic and health

## Generally, how would you rate your health? As...

Answer options "Don't know" and "Refuse to answer" are not presented on the chart

Very bad

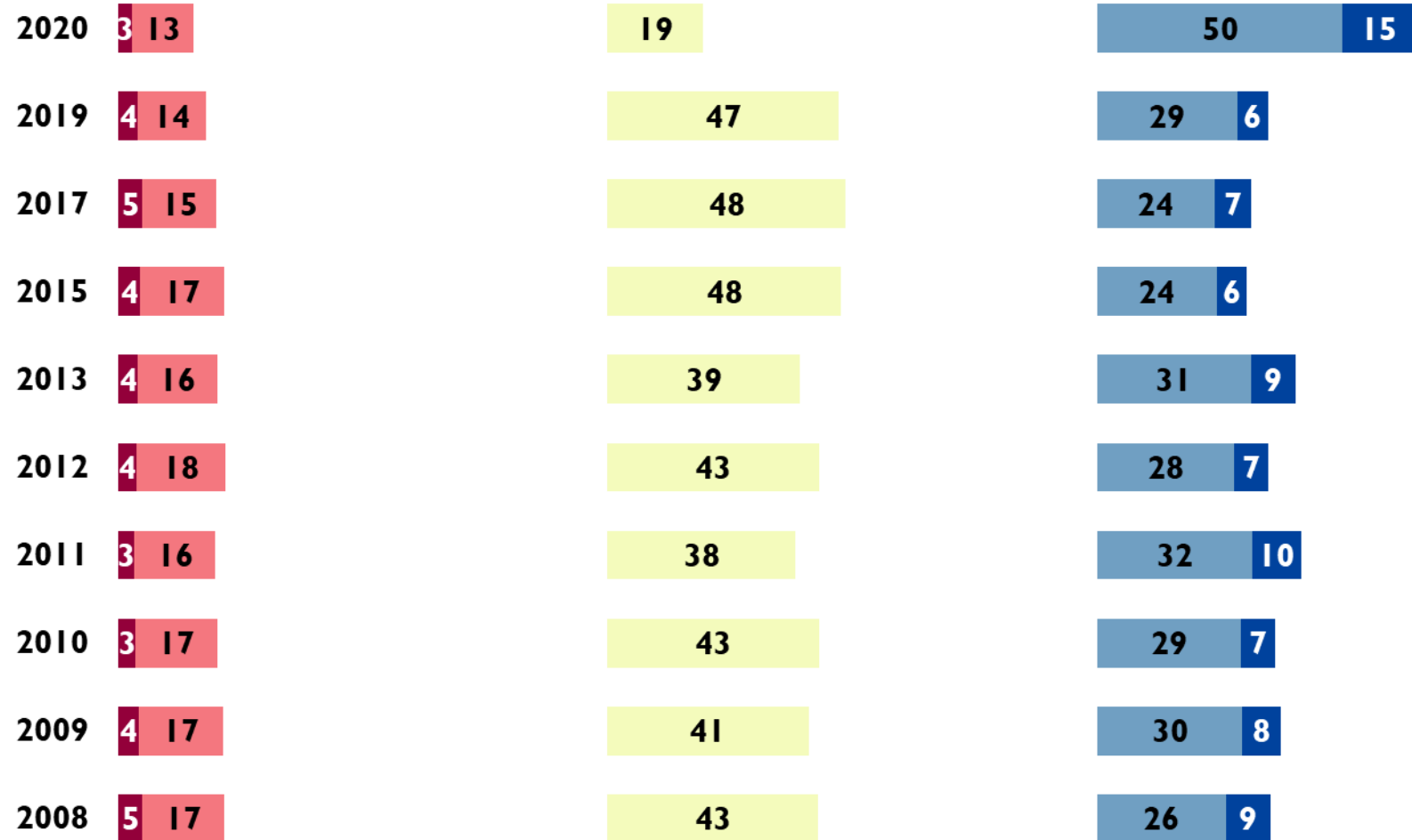
Bad

Average

Good

Very good?

Compared to past years, the number of those who assess their health condition as good has increased





## In the last 7 days, have you had the following symptoms?

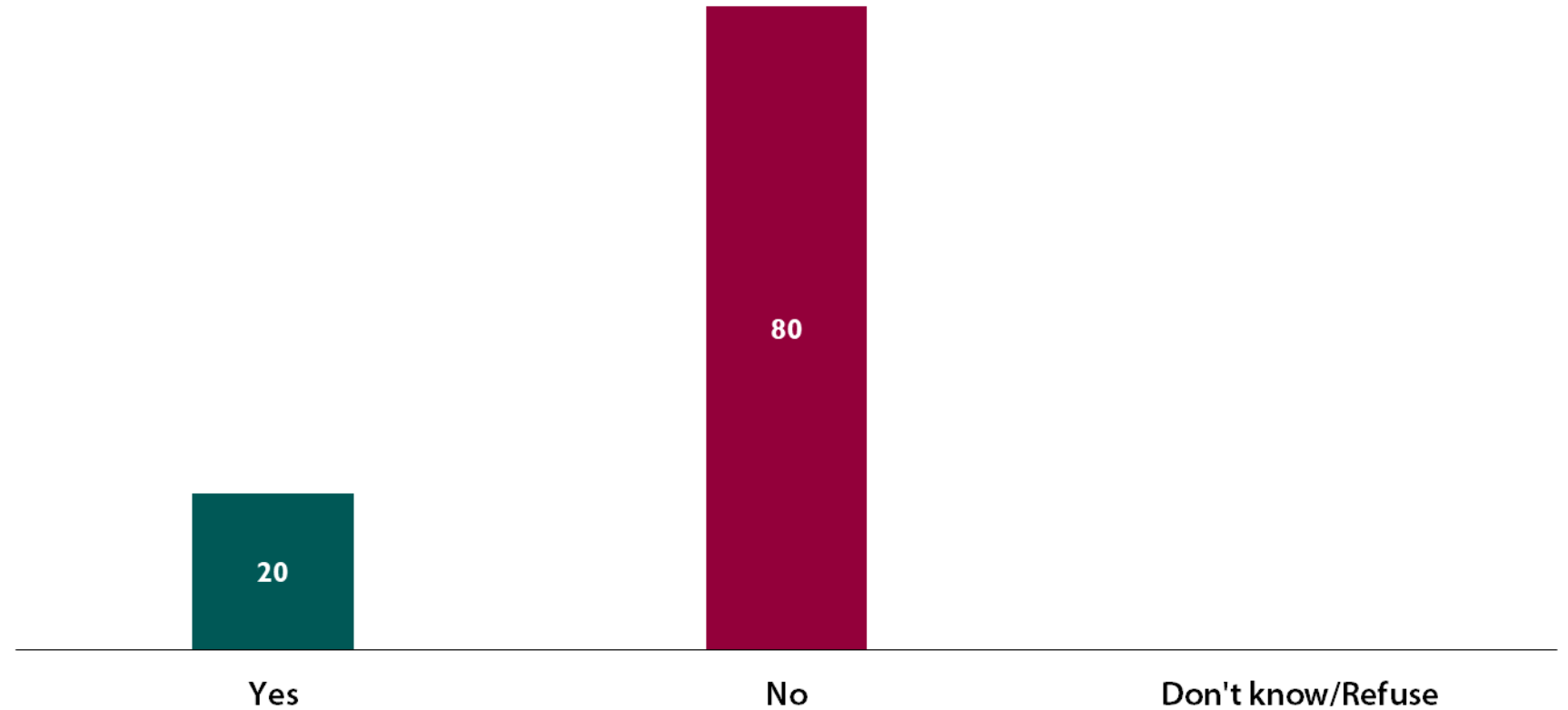
Fieldwork took place between December 8-14 2020

A significant share of the population has experienced symptoms characteristic of Coronavirus (as well as other diseases)

Fatigue or tiredness	9
Headaches	8
Muscle or body aches	7
Cough	6
Chest congestion	5
Runny or stuffy nose	5
Shortness of breath	5
Sneezing	4
Fever or chills	4
Lost sense of smell	4
Sore throat	3
High body temperature	3
Abdominal discomfort	2
Diarrhea	1
Vomiting	1

# Have you ever been tested for Covid-19?

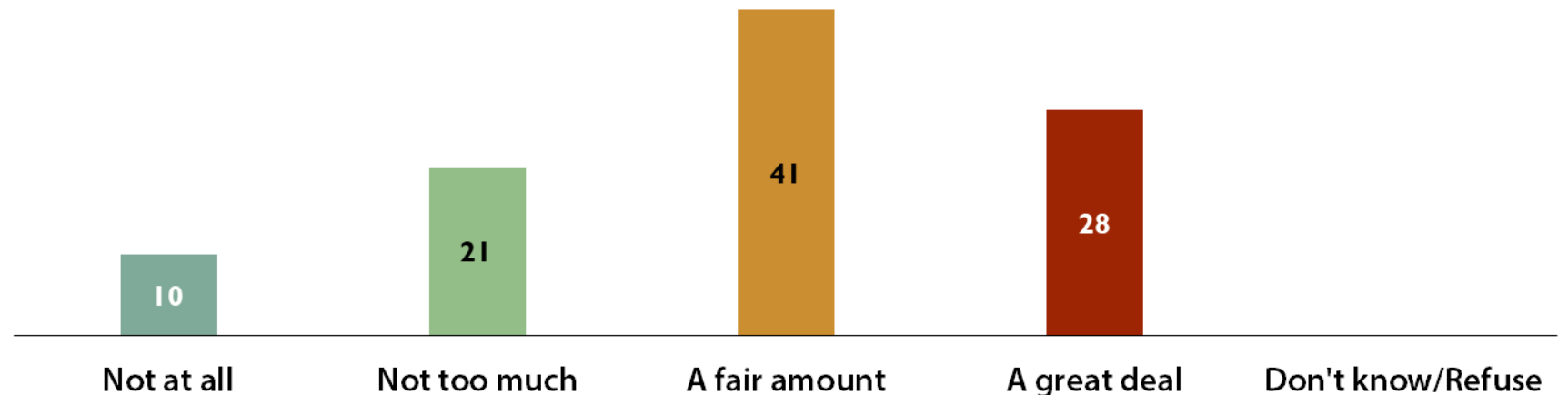
20% of the population has been tested for Covid-19





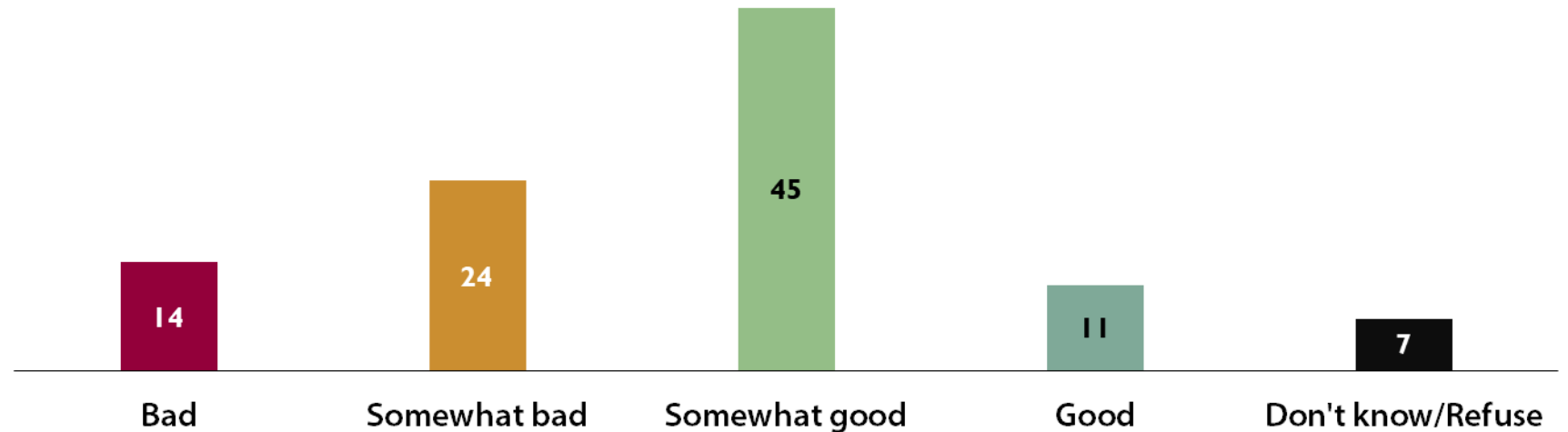
## As a result of the outbreak, did your life change a great deal, a fair amount, not too much, or not at all?

A large share of the population says that their life changed a fair amount or a great deal as a result of the pandemic. About 69% report changes, while life has not changed too much or at all for 31%



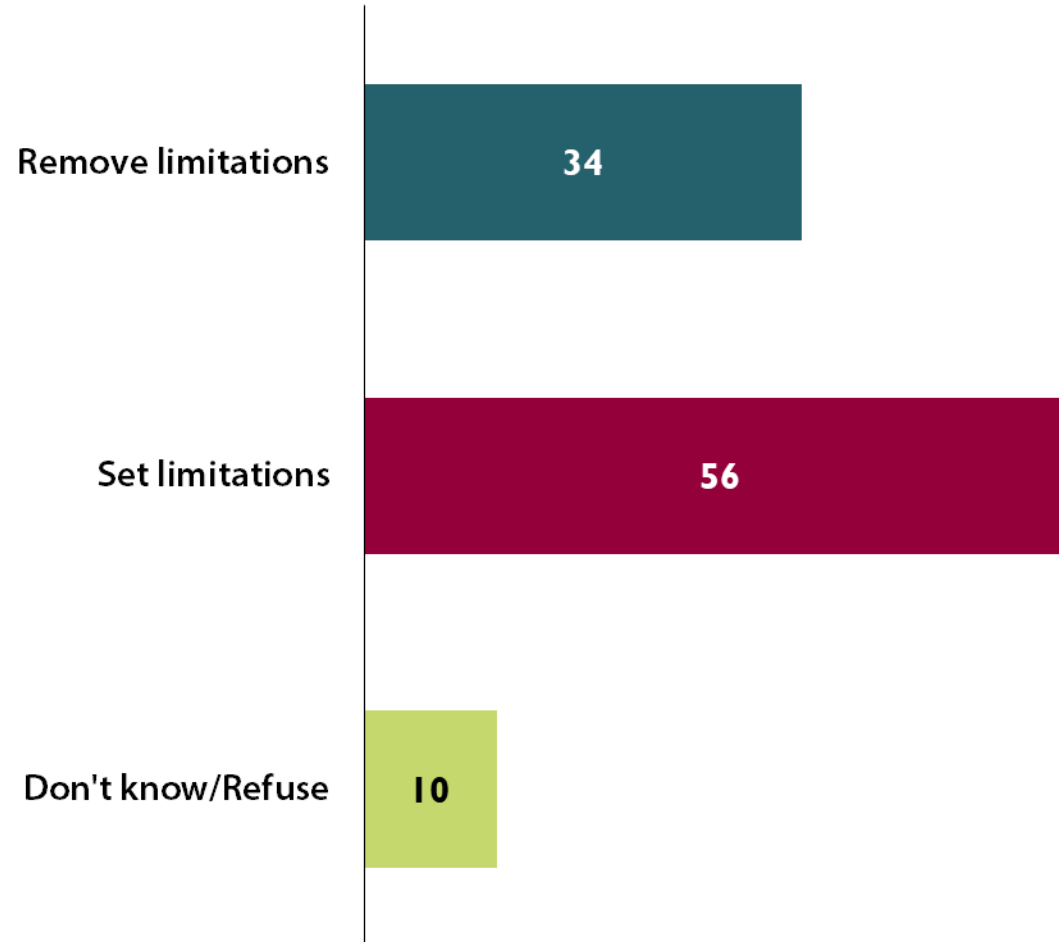
**In your opinion, has our country done a good, somewhat good, somewhat bad, or bad job in dealing with coronavirus outbreak?**

Over half of the population believes that the country has done a somewhat good or a good job in dealing with the coronavirus outbreak



Views are split on regulations. The majority supports regulations/limitations. About a third would support removing them.

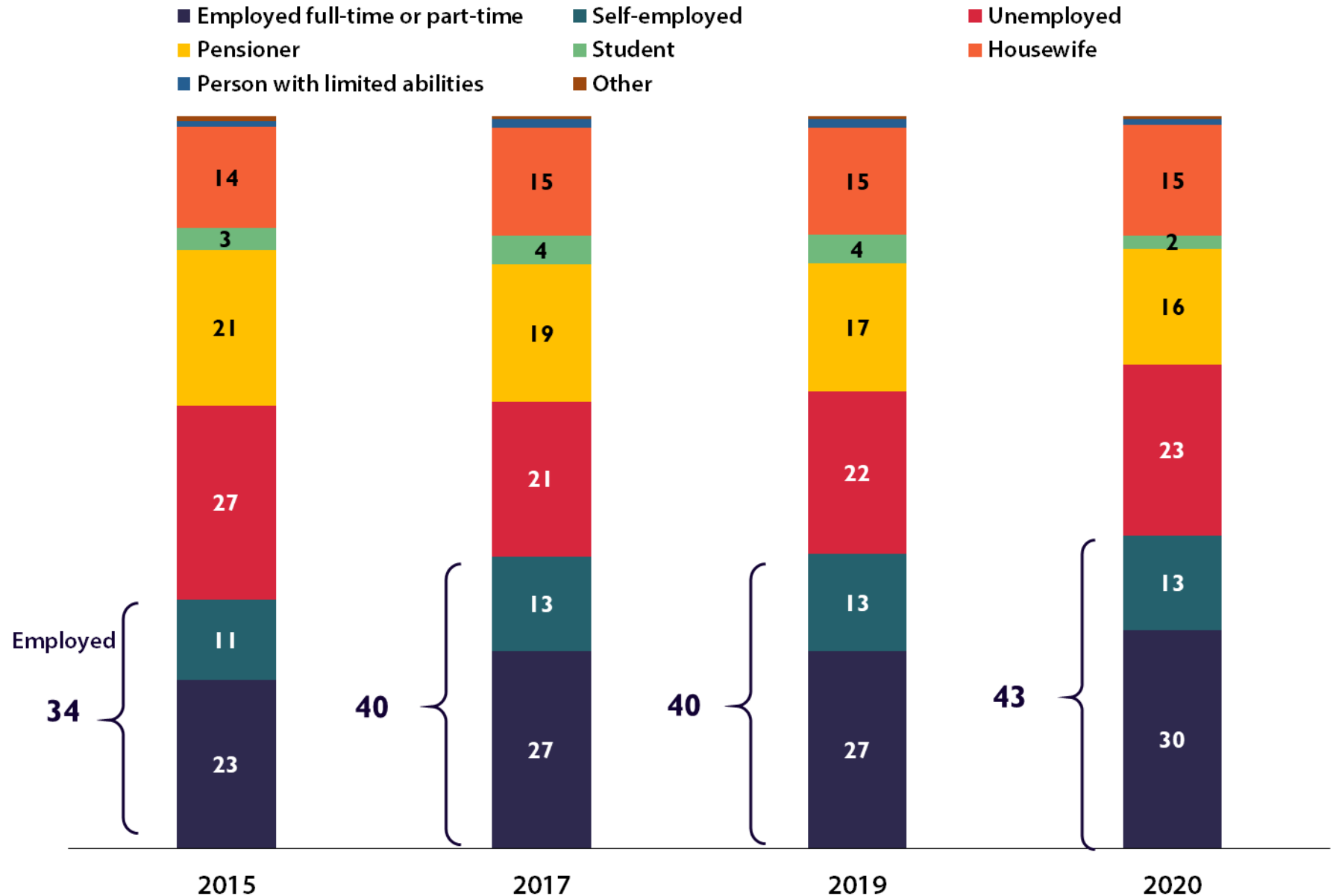
**Despite the spread of Covid-19, would it be better to remove existing limitations in order to improve the economic situation, or would it be better to set limitations to prevent the spread of Covid-19, despite economic losses?**



# Employment and the economic situation

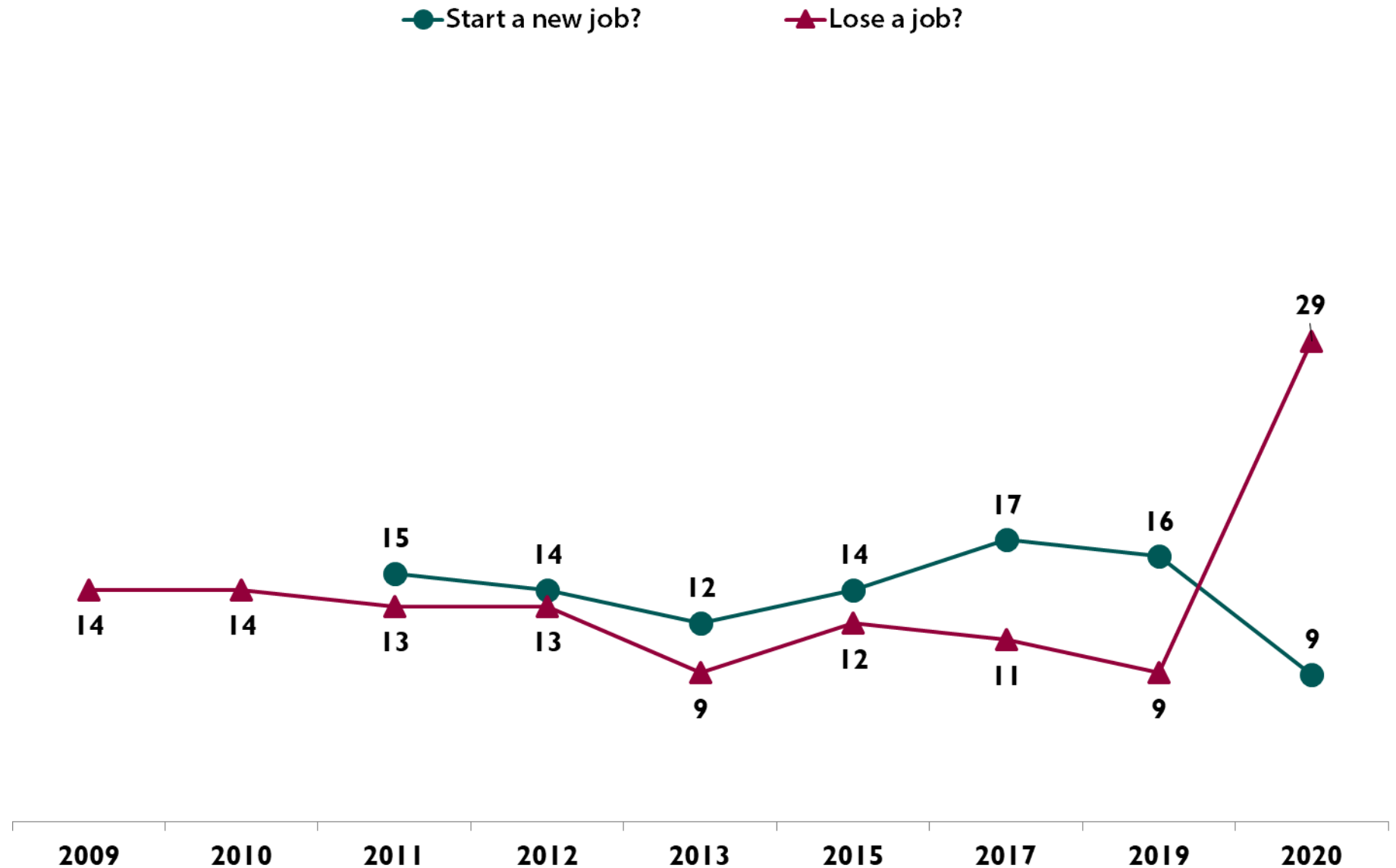
## Which of the following best describes your situation?

About 43% of the population says they are employed, which is consistent with data from previous waves



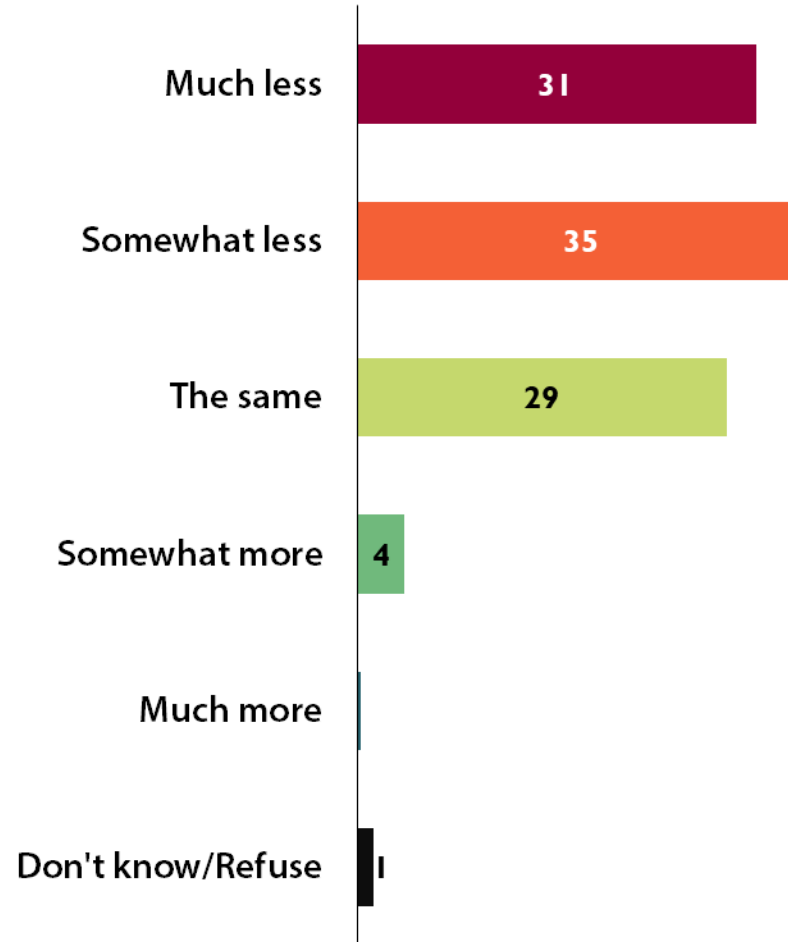
## In the last 12 months did anyone in your family...

9% of respondents say that in the last 12 months someone in their family started a new job. 29% say someone in their family lost a job.



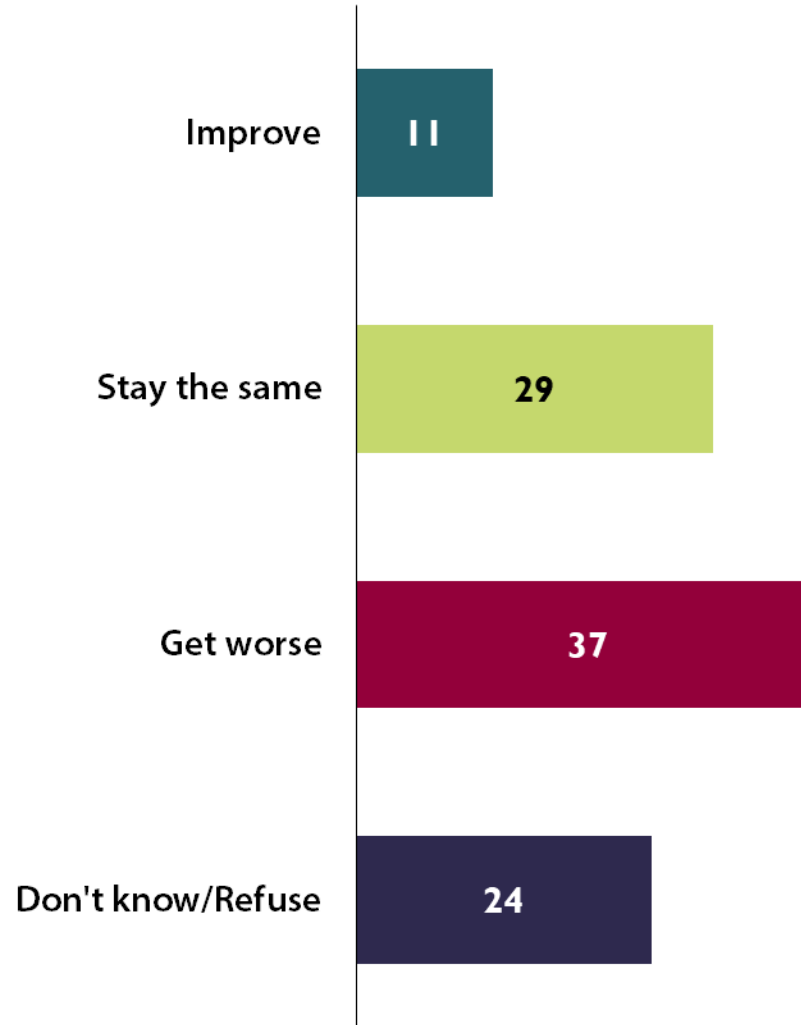
## Does your family earn much less, somewhat less, somewhat more or much more than at this time last year?

Two thirds of the population says that their family earns less than last year



**In your opinion, financial situation of your family will improve, stay the same, or get worse in a year's time?**

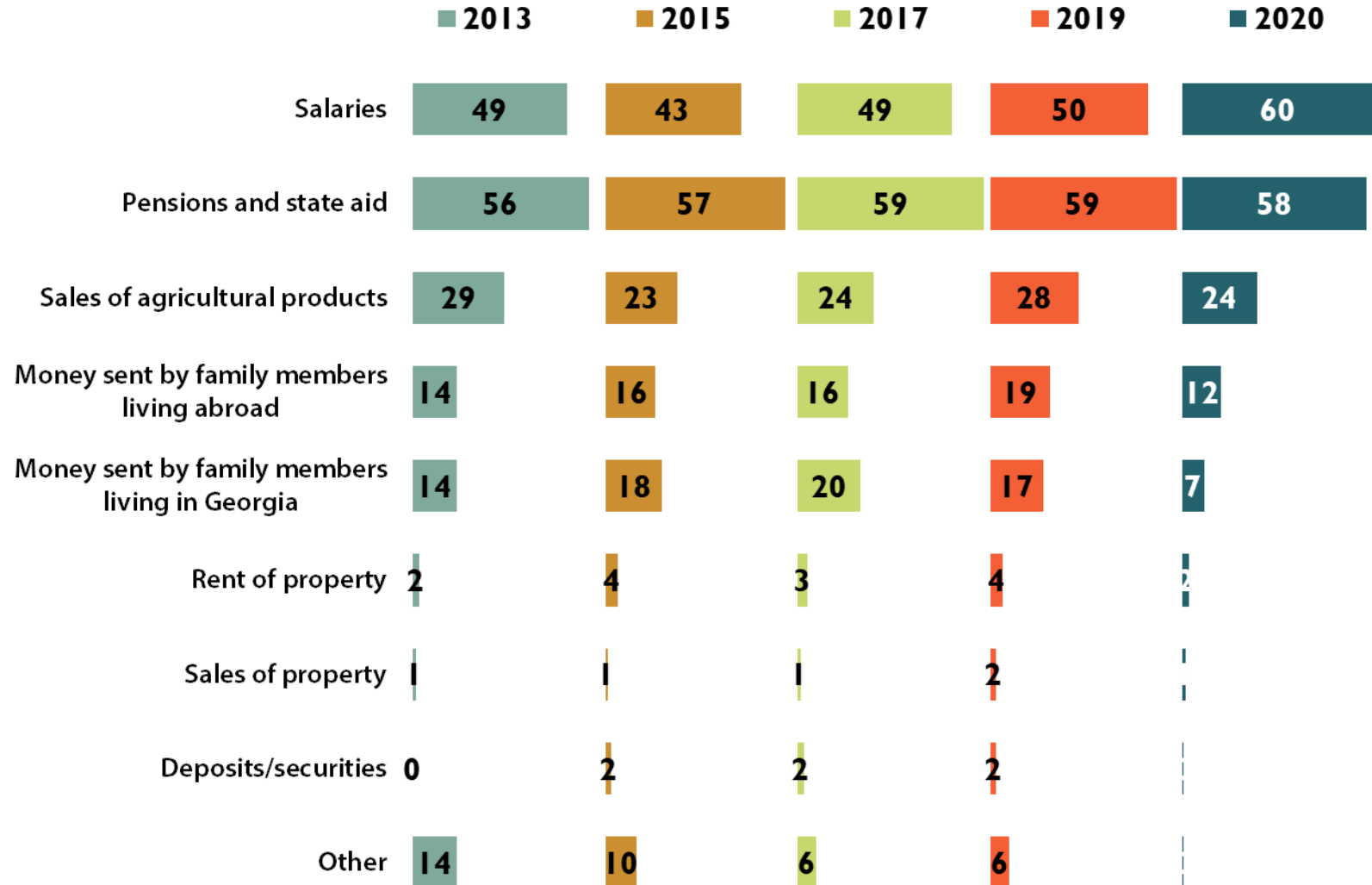
Over one third of the population is pessimistic about their financial situation. A quarter is not certain about it.





## Please tell me which of the following are sources of your family's income

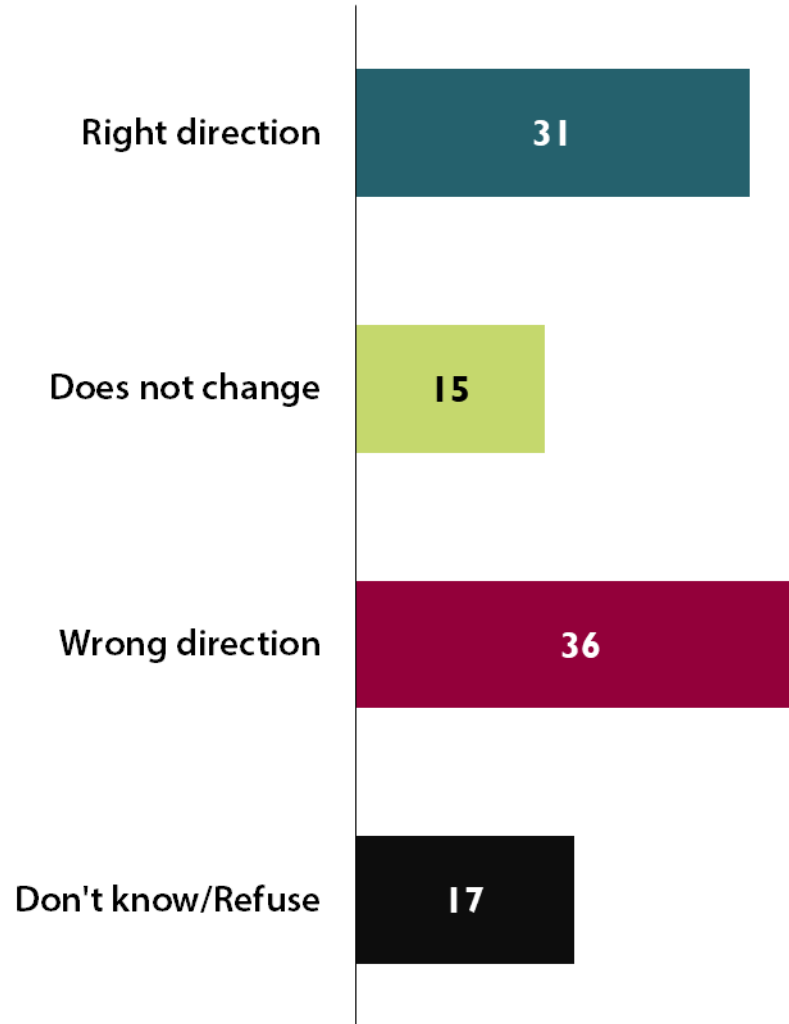
For the majority of the population, salaries, pensions, and state aid are the main sources of income. The share receiving remittances has decreased.



# Politics and institutions

## In your opinion, is Georgia going in the right direction or in the wrong direction?

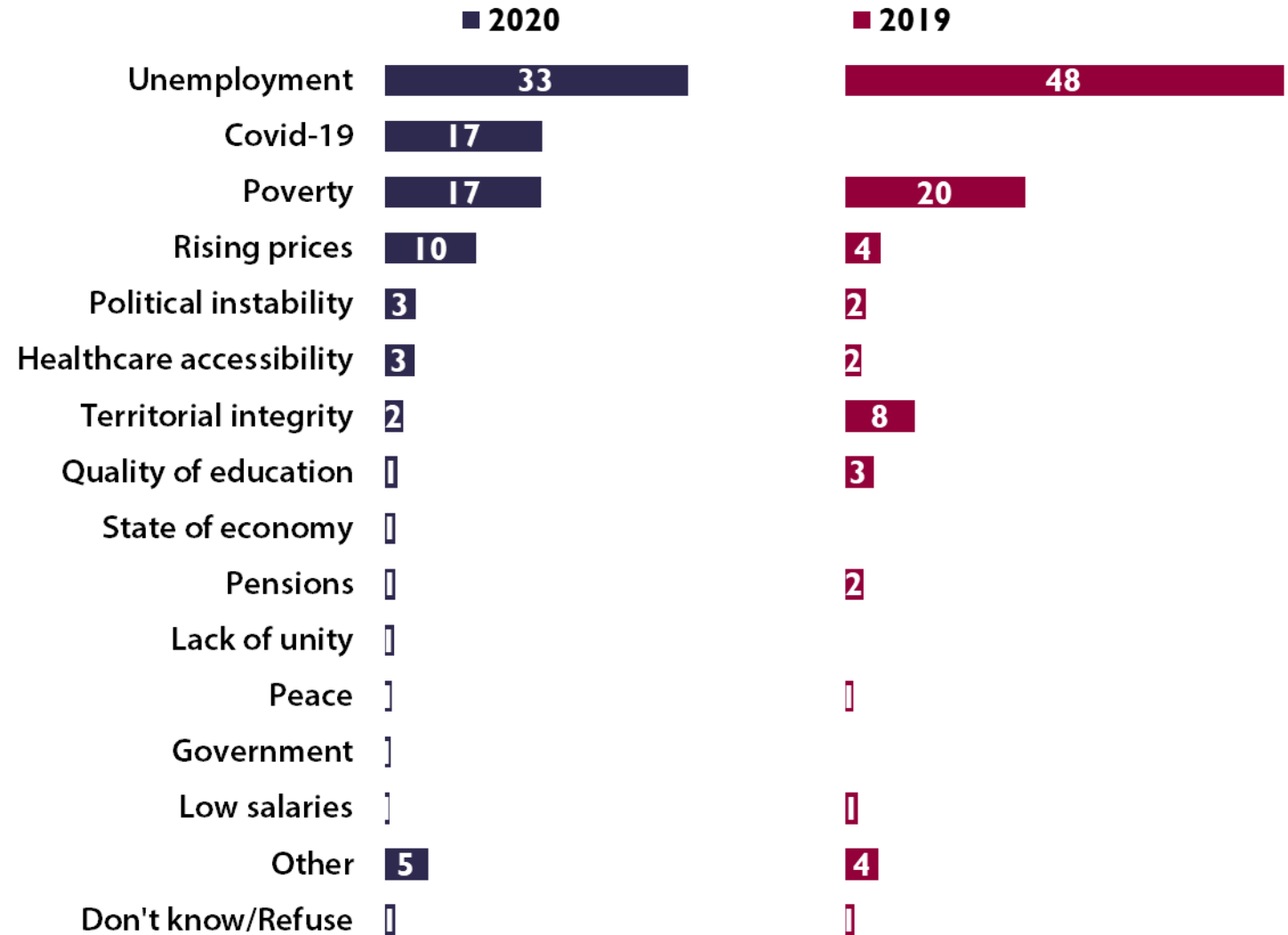
A slightly larger share of the population believes the country is going in the wrong direction than in the right direction.



## In your opinion, what is the most important issue in Georgia currently?

Answer options named by less than 1% of respondents are not presented on the chart (~2%)

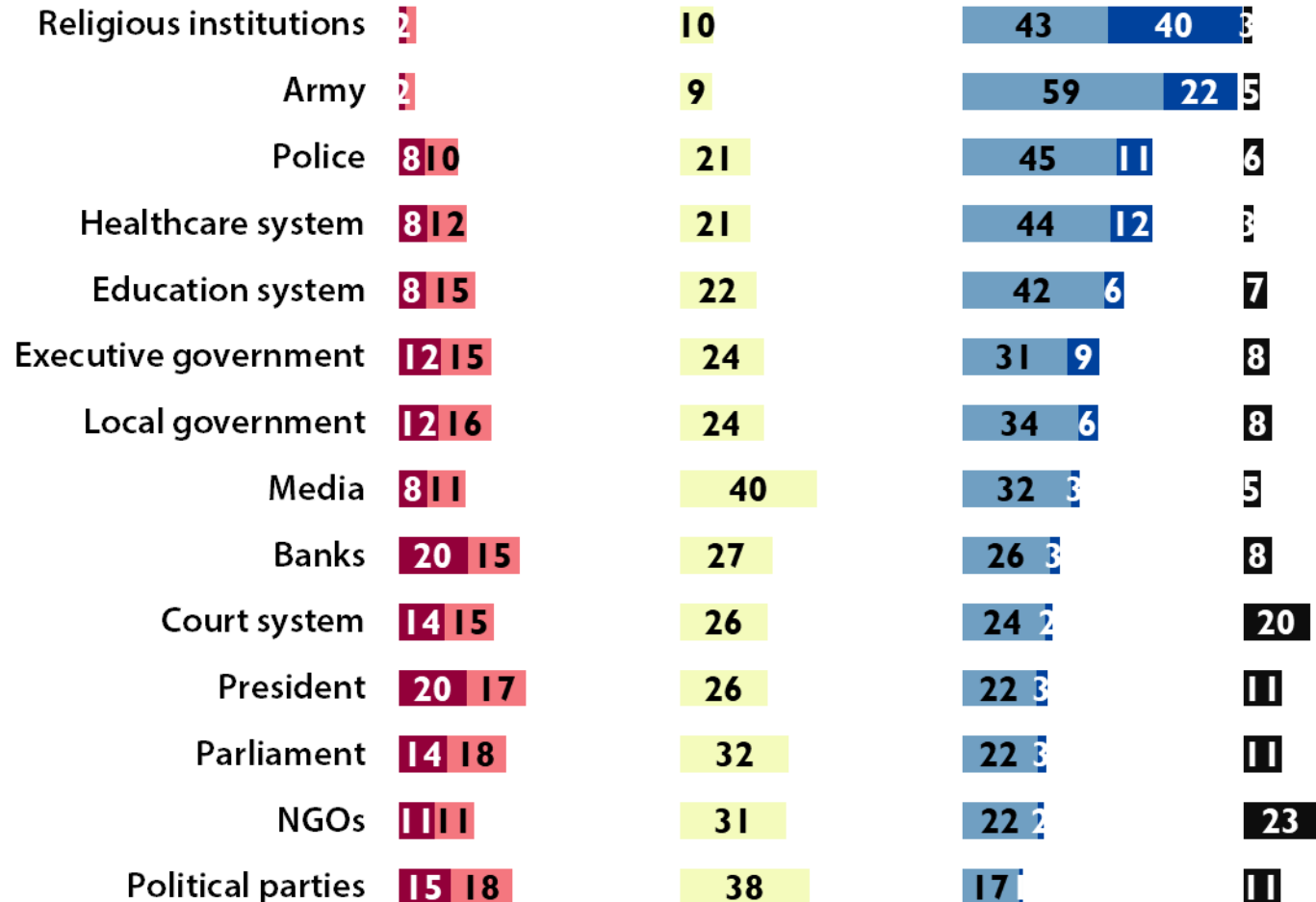
As in previous years, people consider unemployment to be the main problem, which is followed by Covid-19. The share of other economic problems is also quite high.



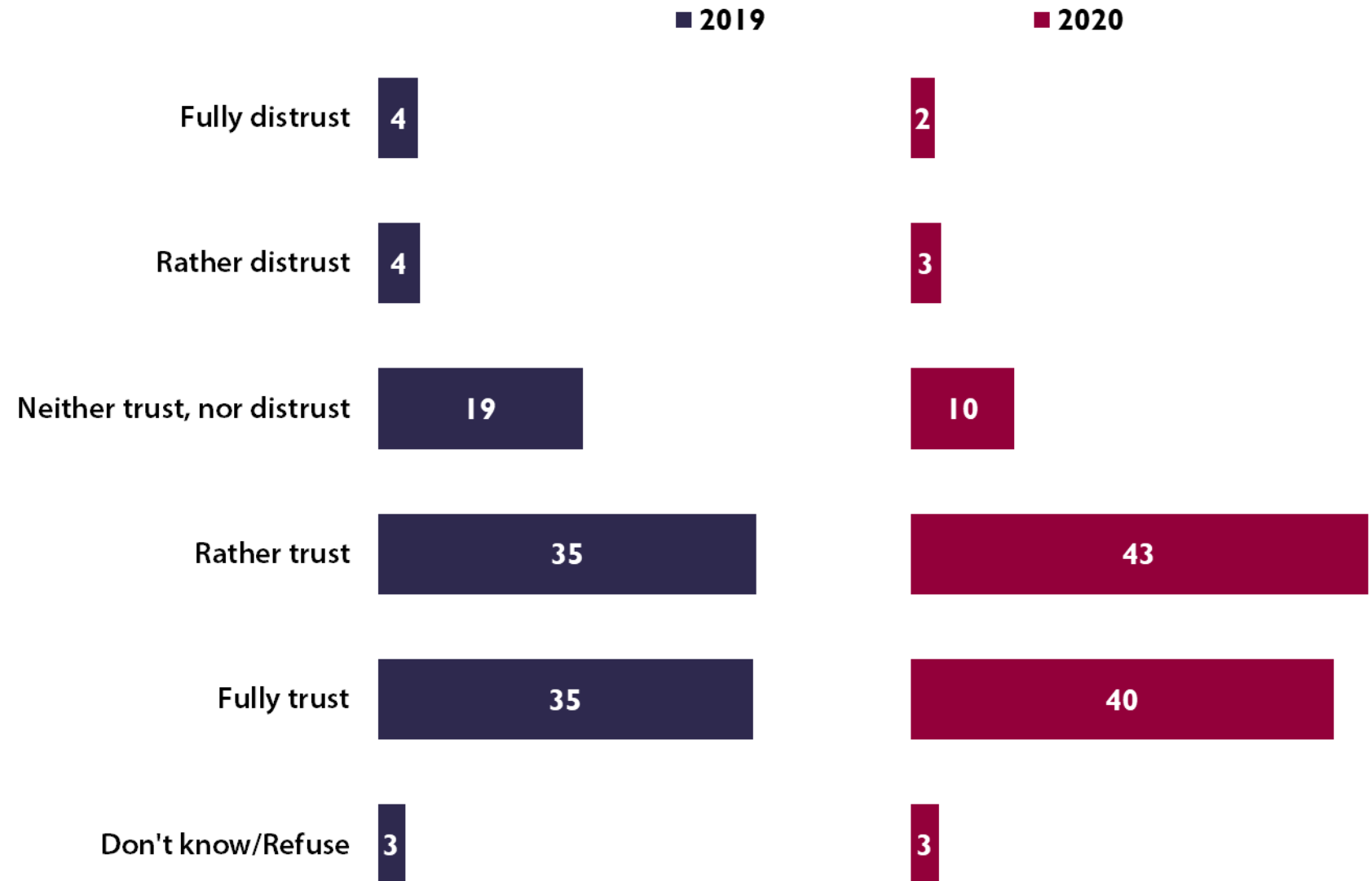
## Now I will name several social institutions and political unions. Please tell me how much you trust or distrust them.

■ Fully distrust ■ Rather distrust ■ Neither trust nor distrust ■ Rather trust ■ Fully trust ■ Don't know/Refuse

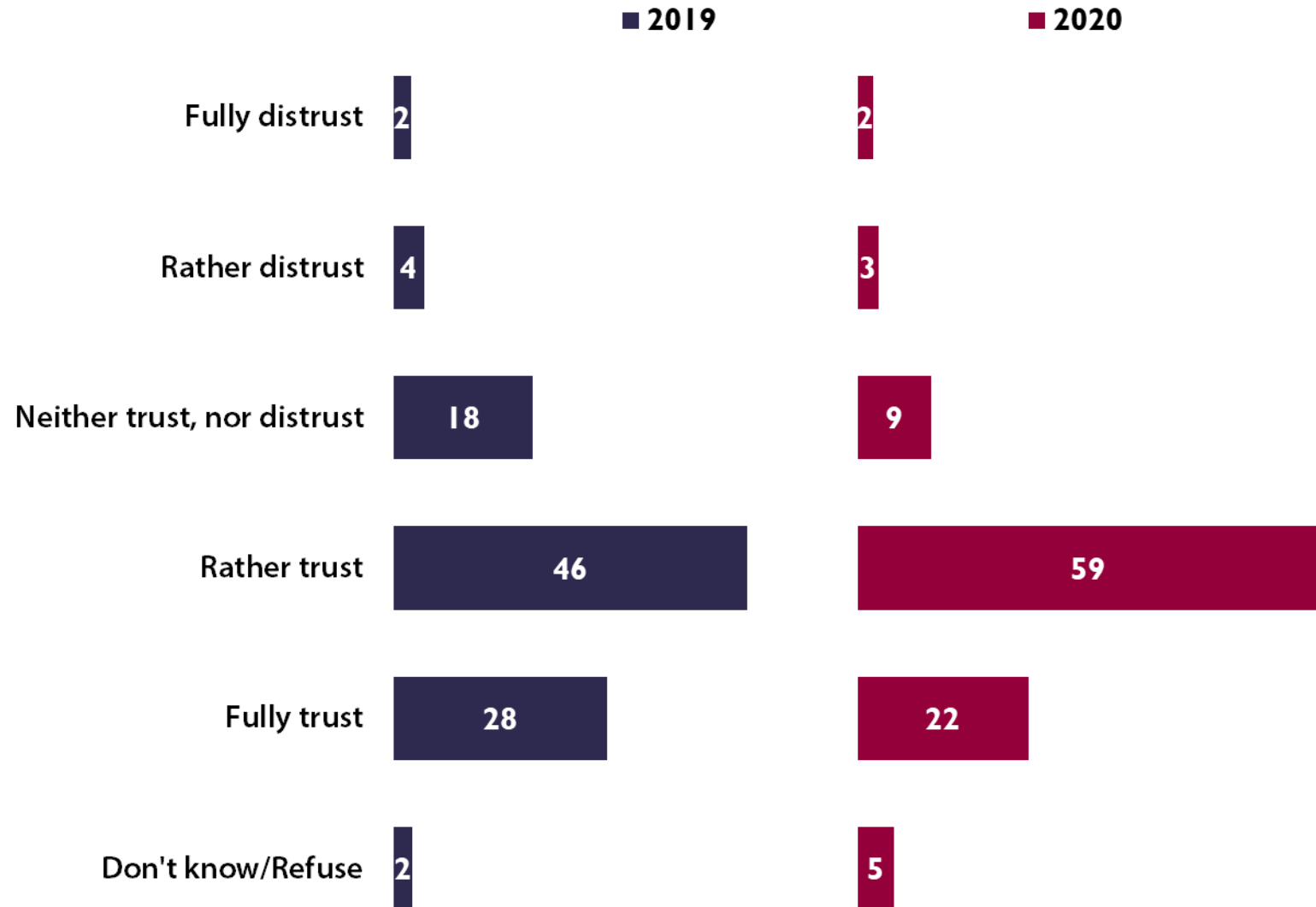
People trust religious institutions and the army the most. The least trusted institutions are political parties and non-governmental organizations



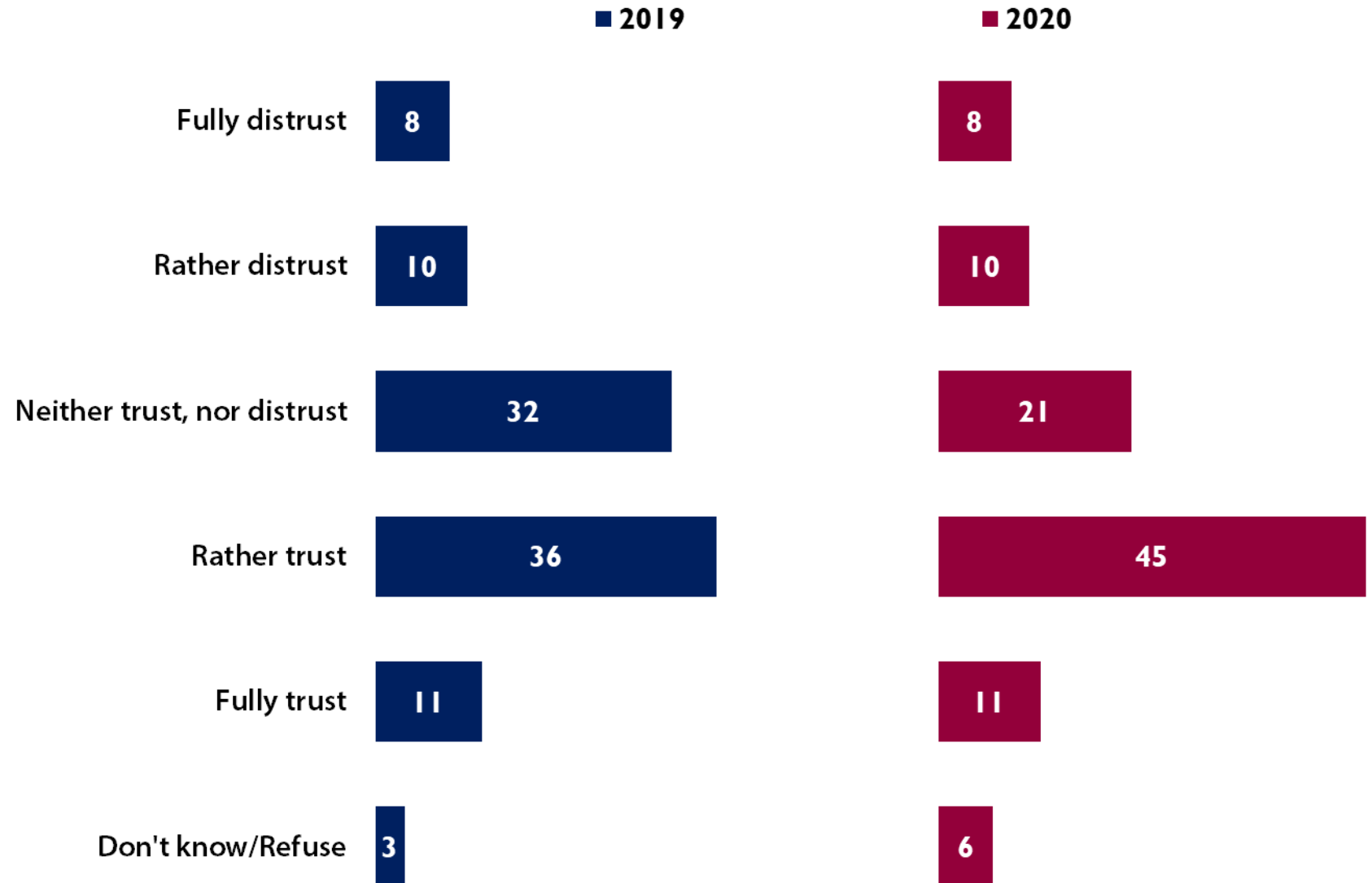
## Please tell me how much you trust or distrust religious institutions, to which you belong?



## Please tell me how much you trust or distrust the Georgian army?

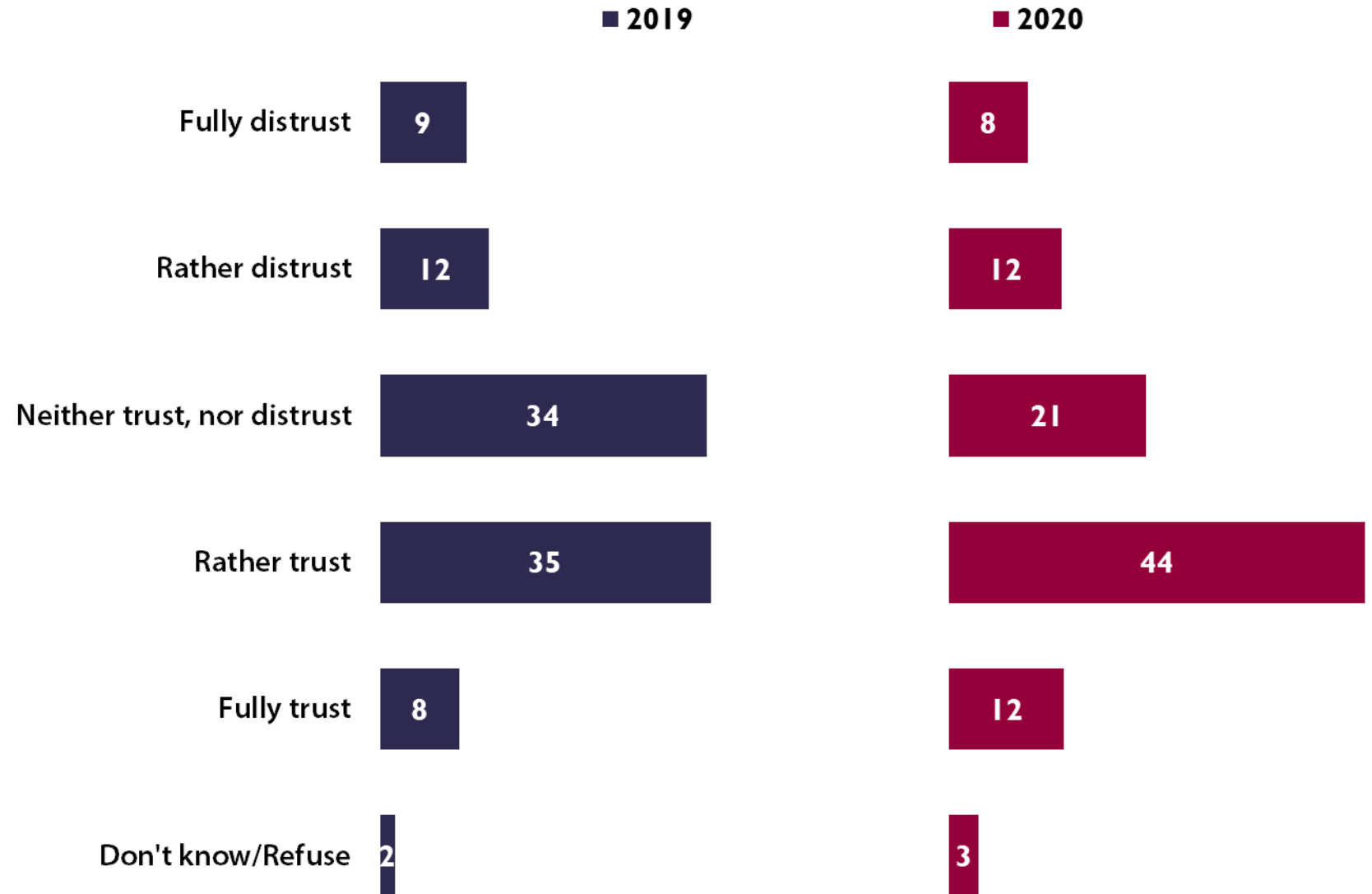


## Please tell me how much you trust or distrust the police?

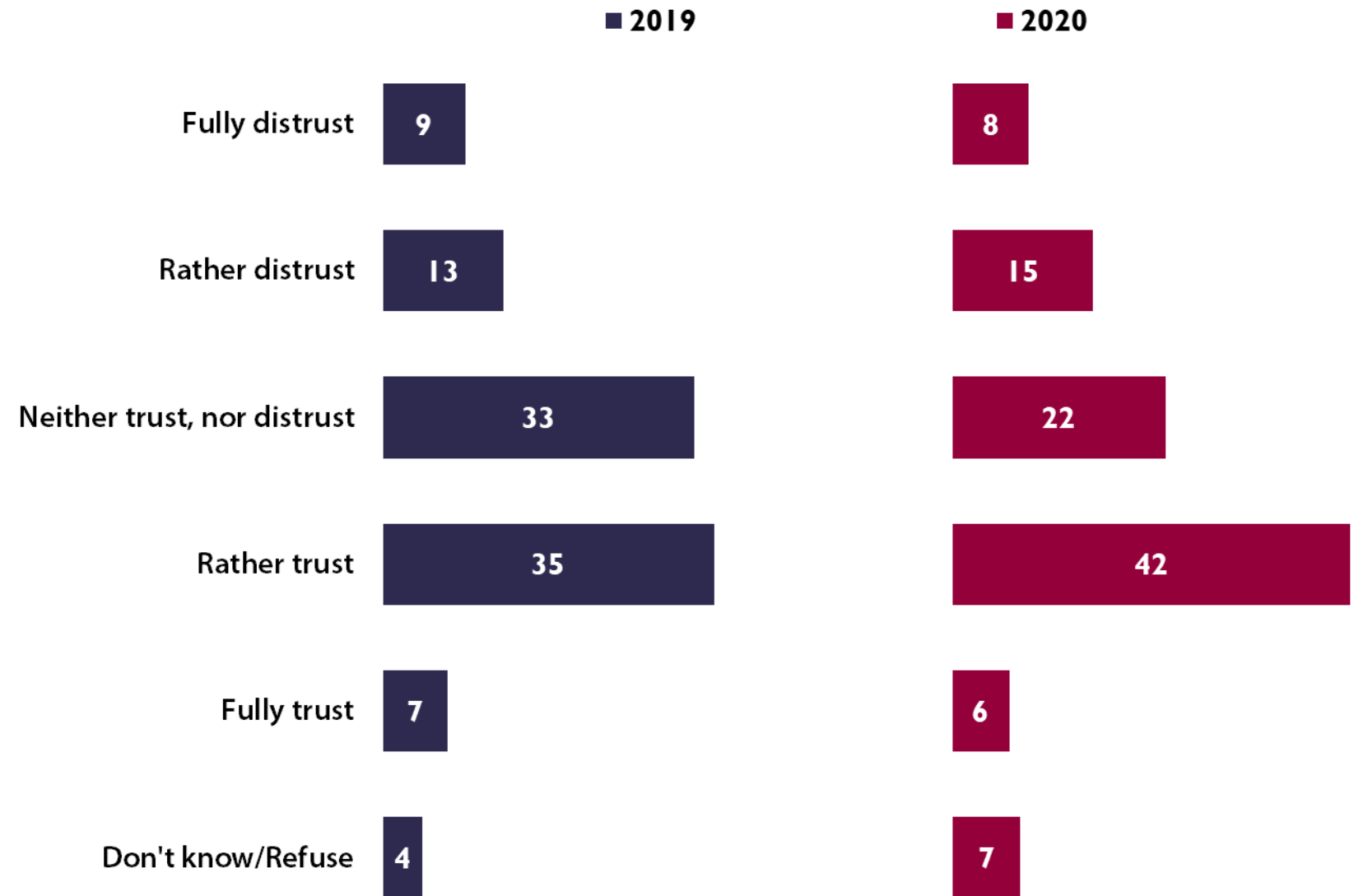




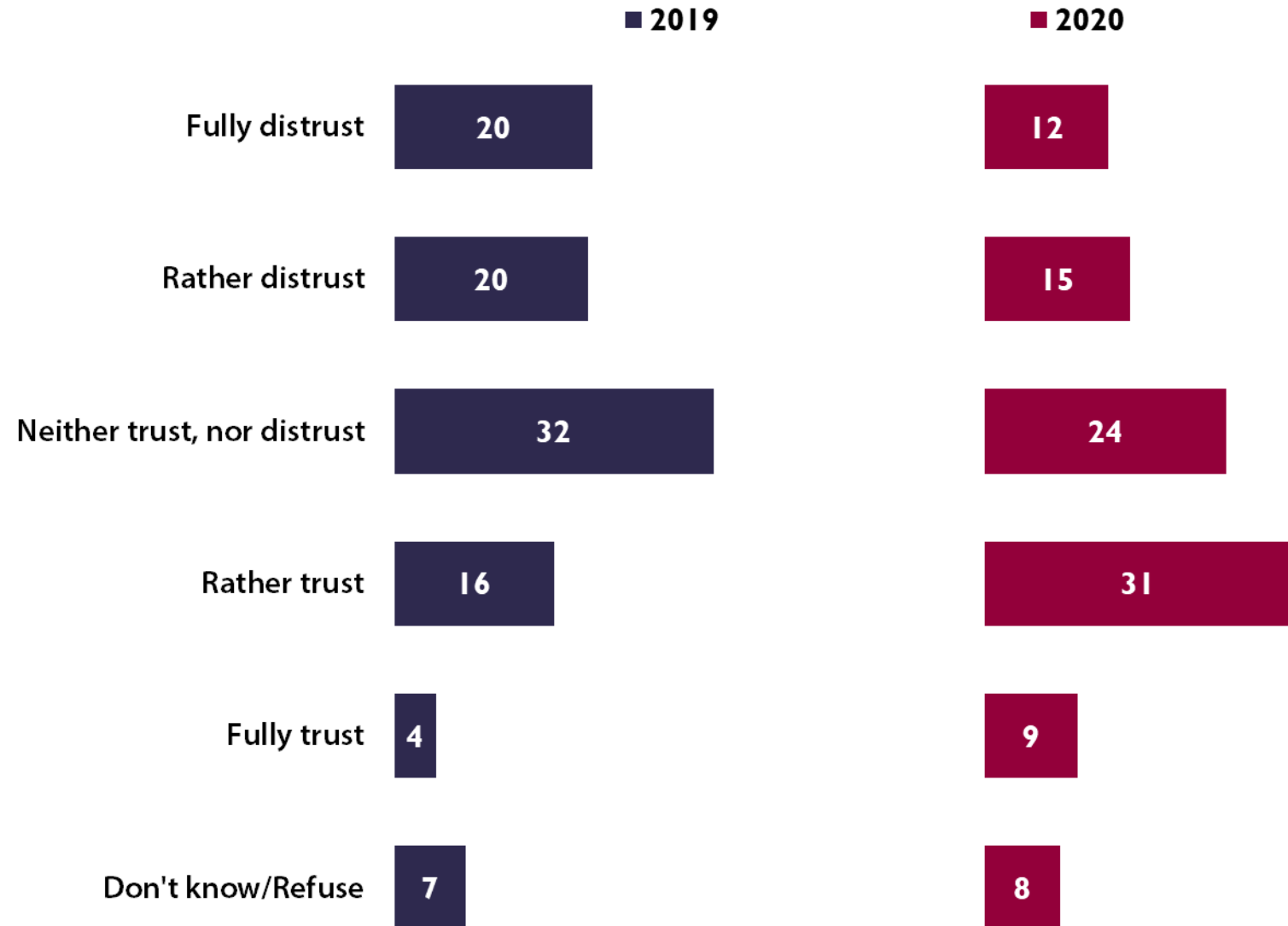
## Please tell me how much you trust or distrust the healthcare system?



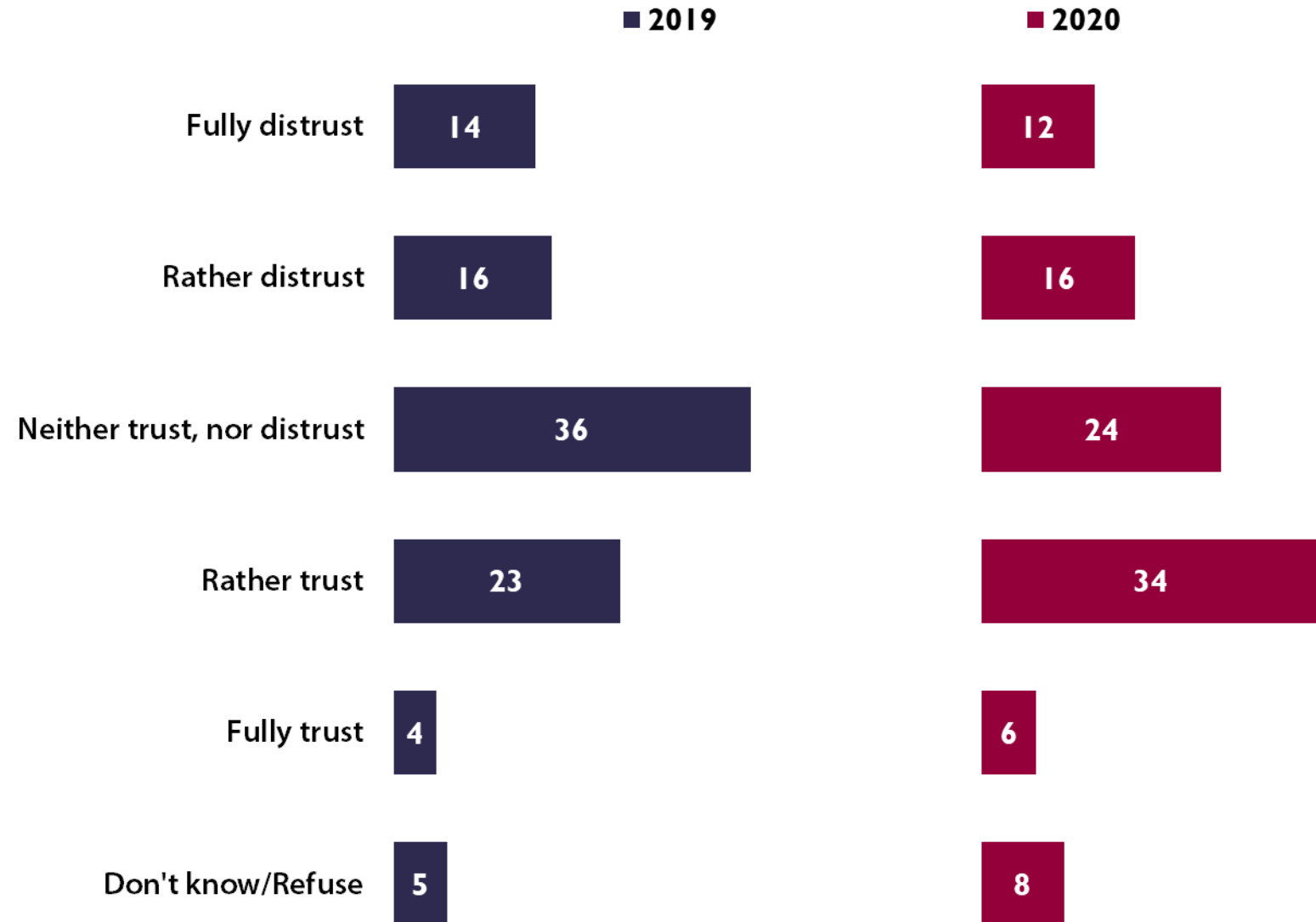
## Please tell me how much you trust or distrust the education system?



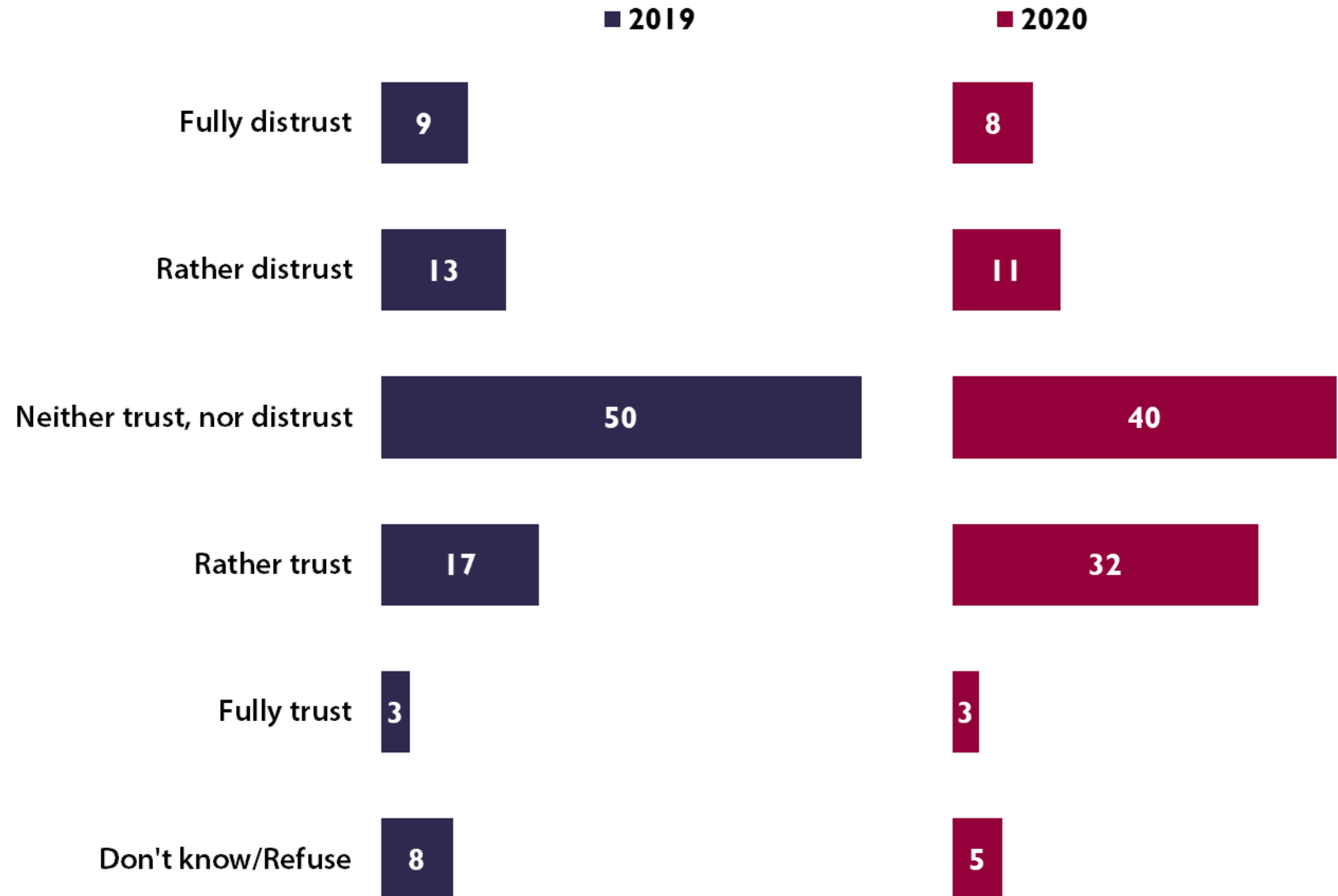
## Please tell me how much you trust or distrust the executive government?



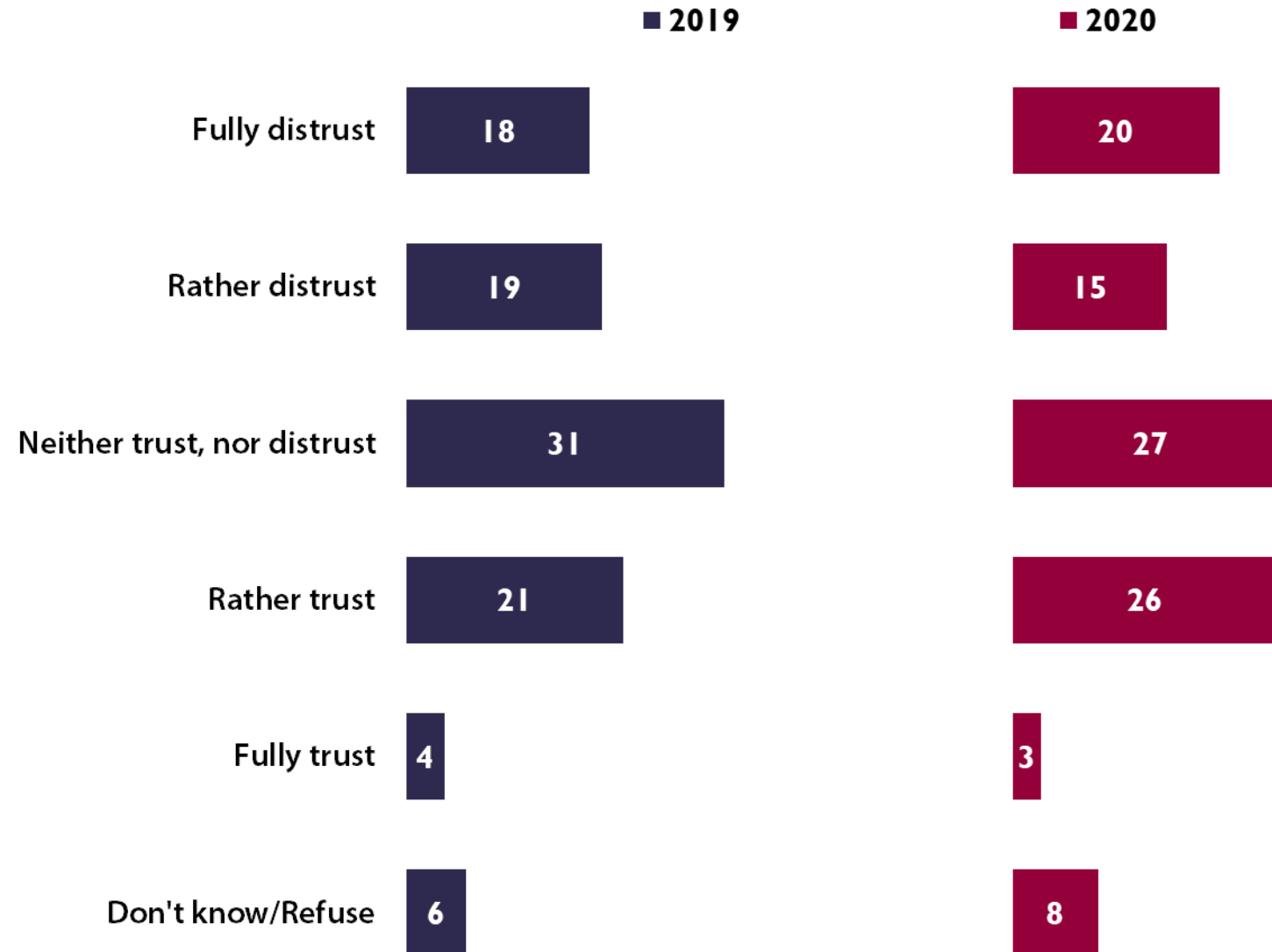
## Please tell me how much you trust or distrust the local government?



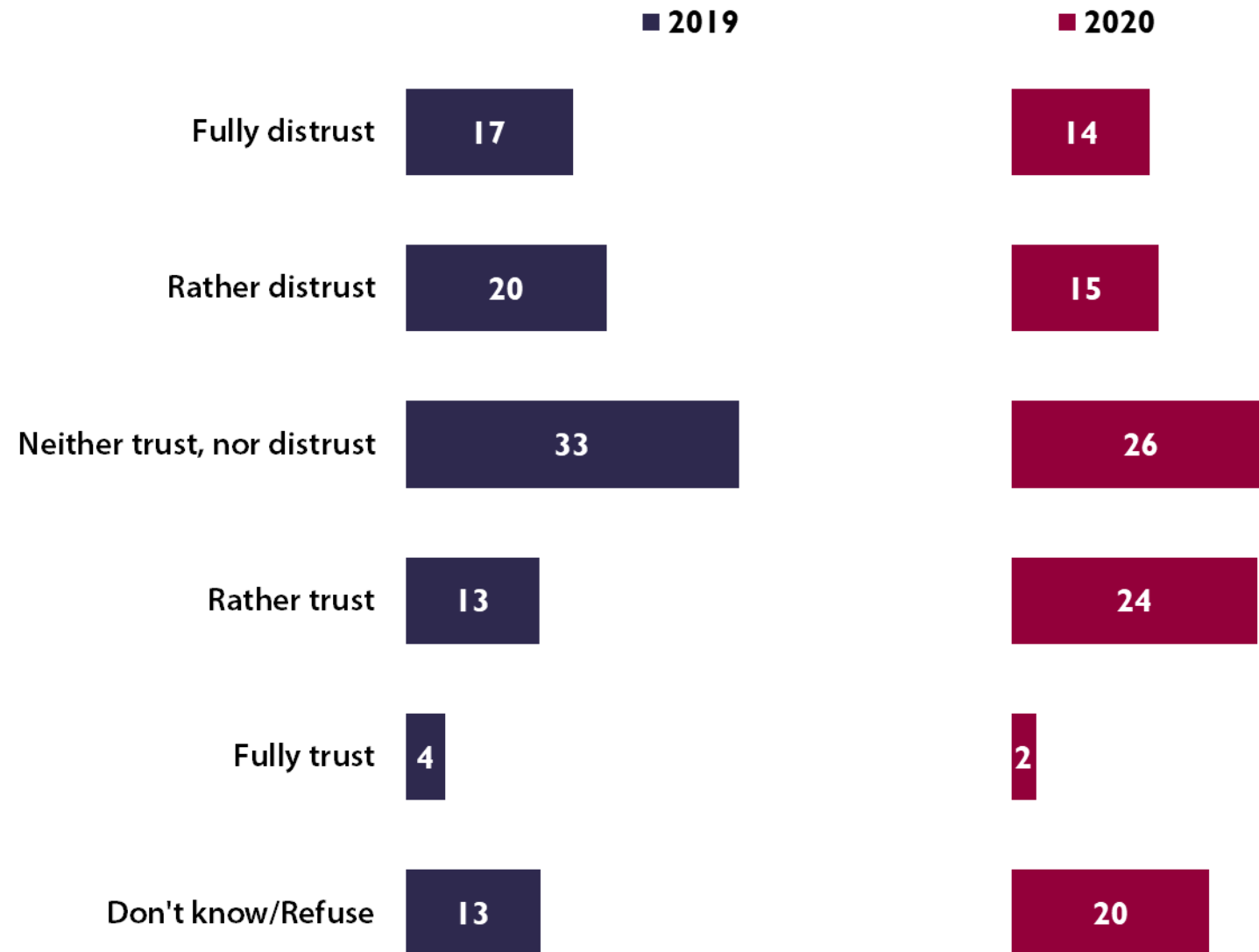
## Please tell me how much you trust or distrust media?



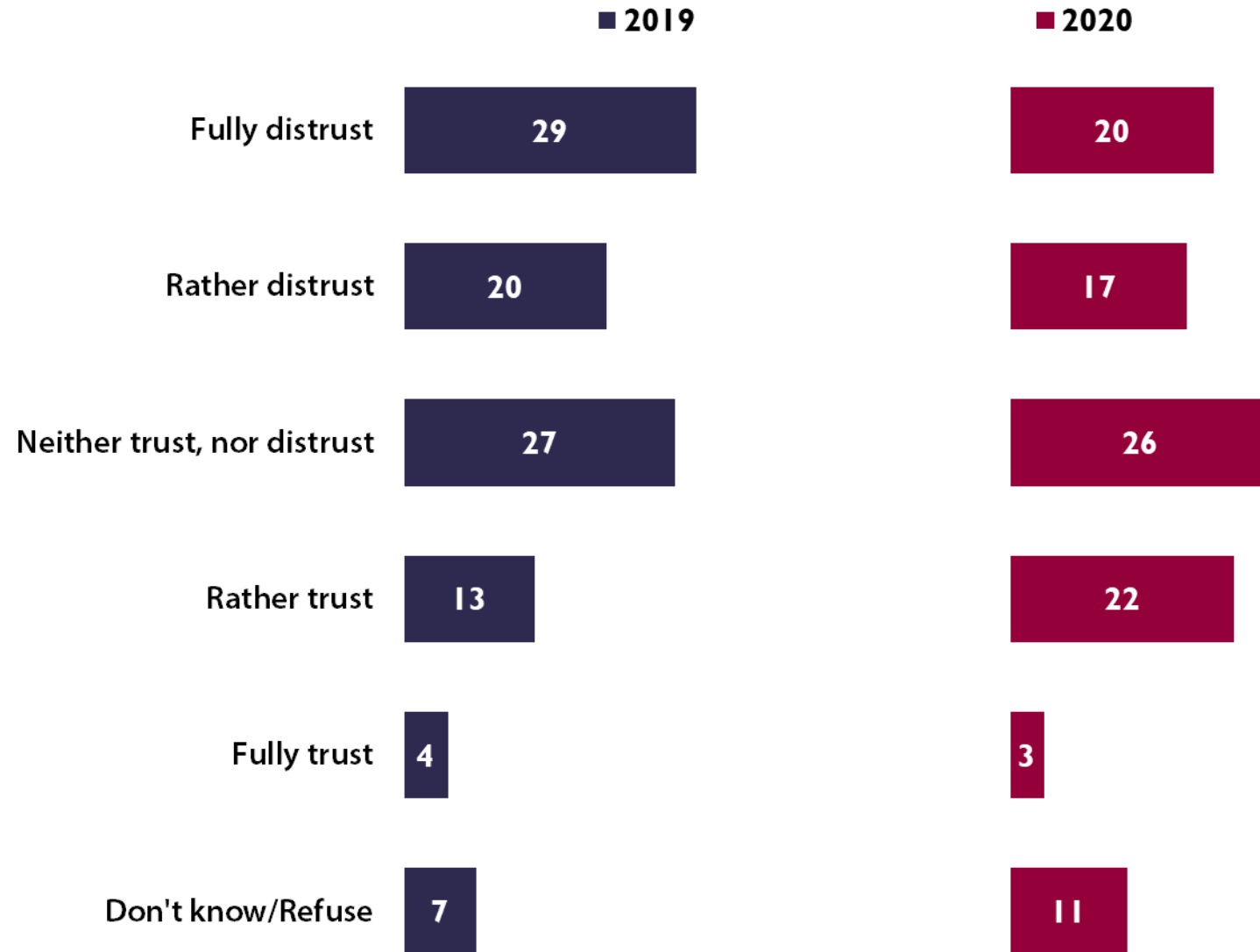
## Please tell me how much you trust or distrust banks?



## Please tell me how much you trust or distrust the court system?

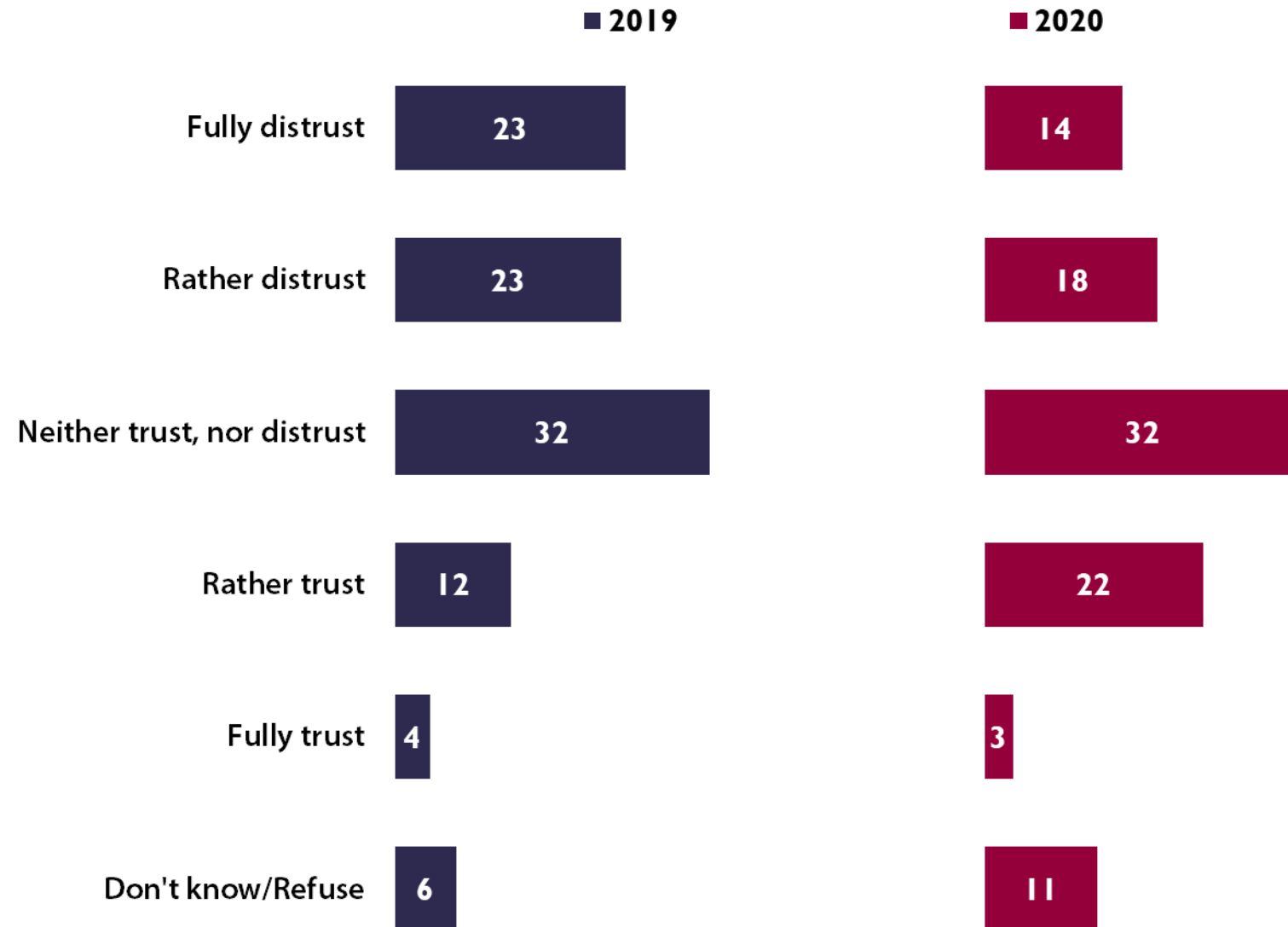


## Please tell me how much you trust or distrust the president?

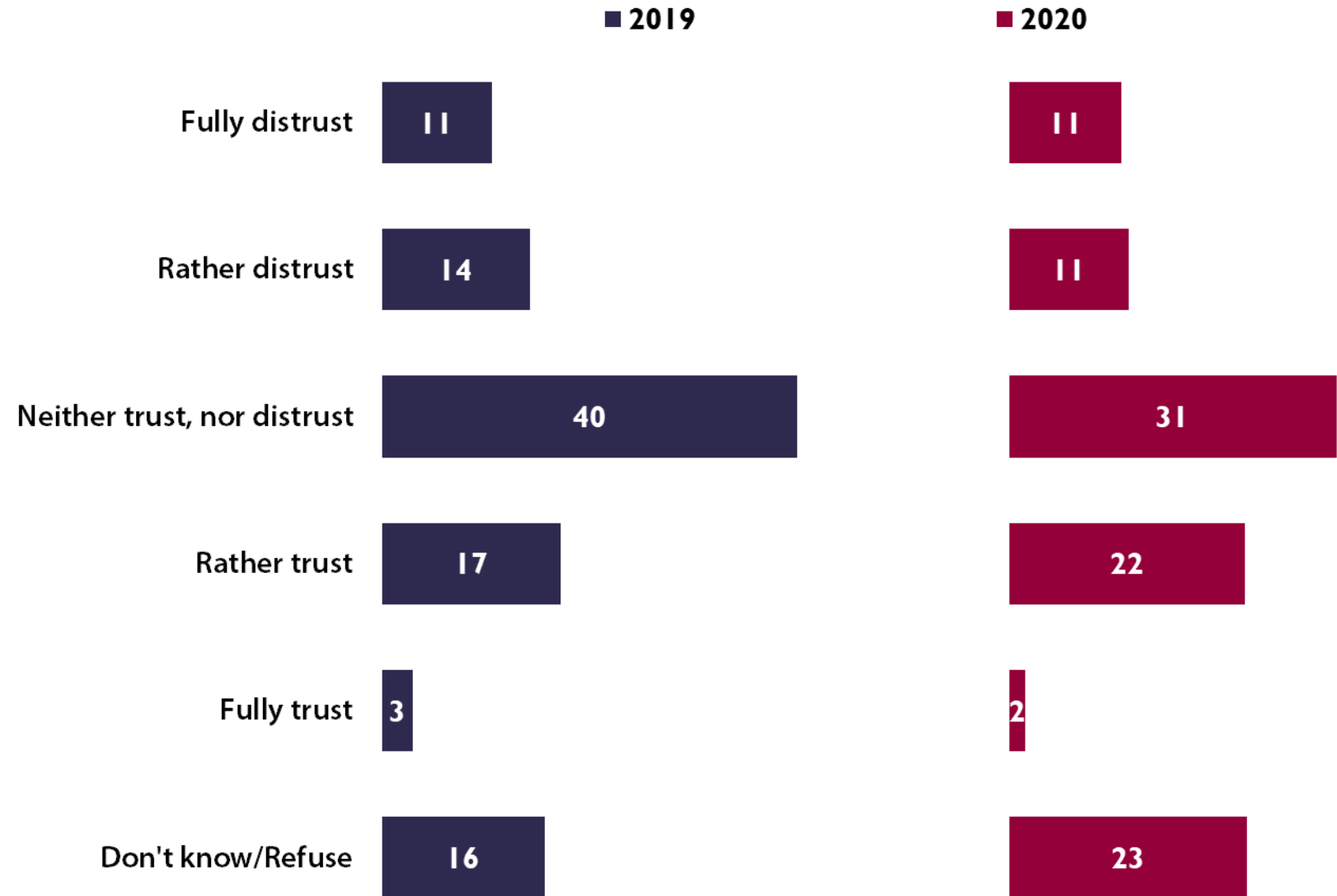




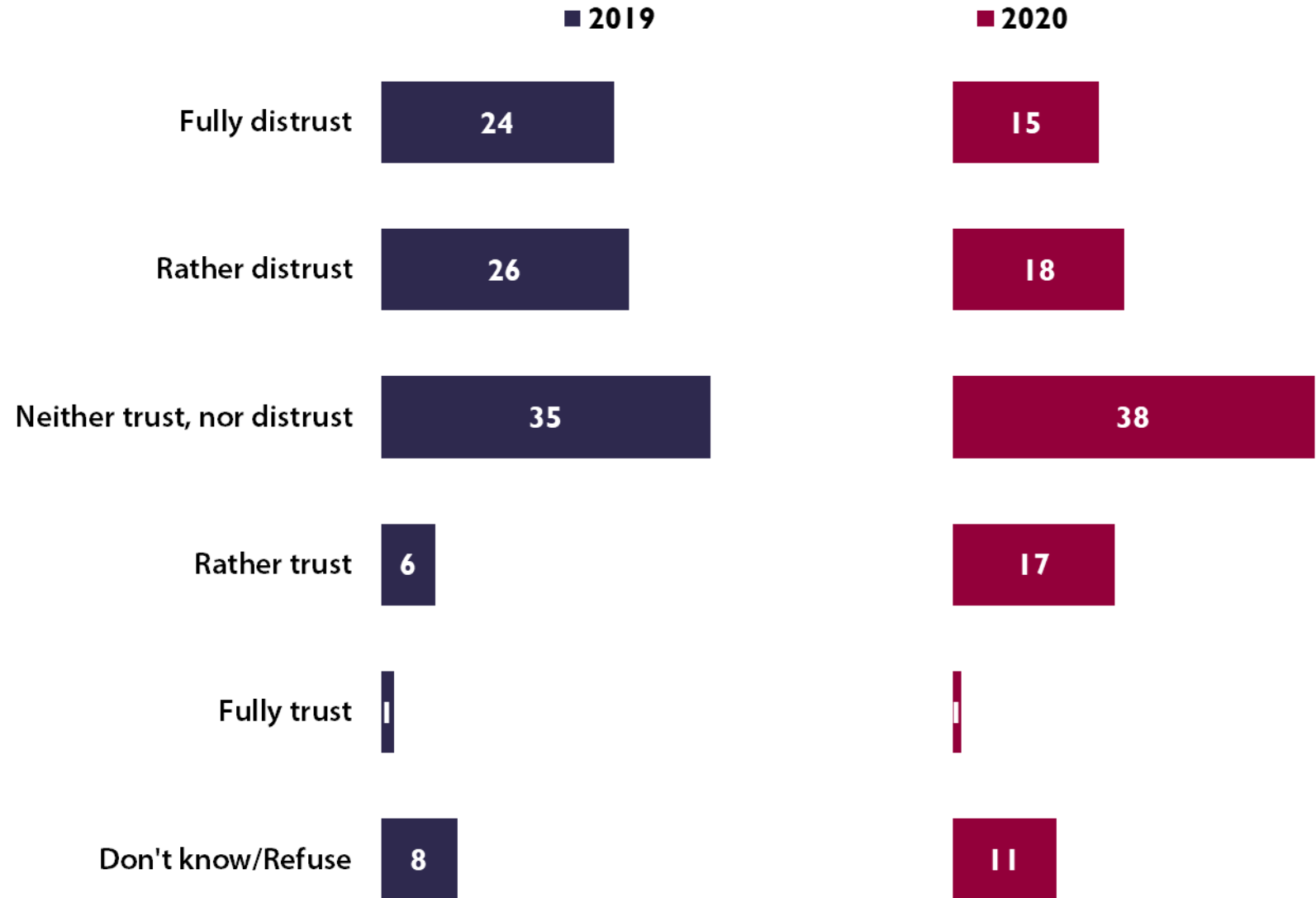
## Please tell me how much you trust or distrust the Parliament?



## Please tell me how much you trust or distrust non-governmental organizations?

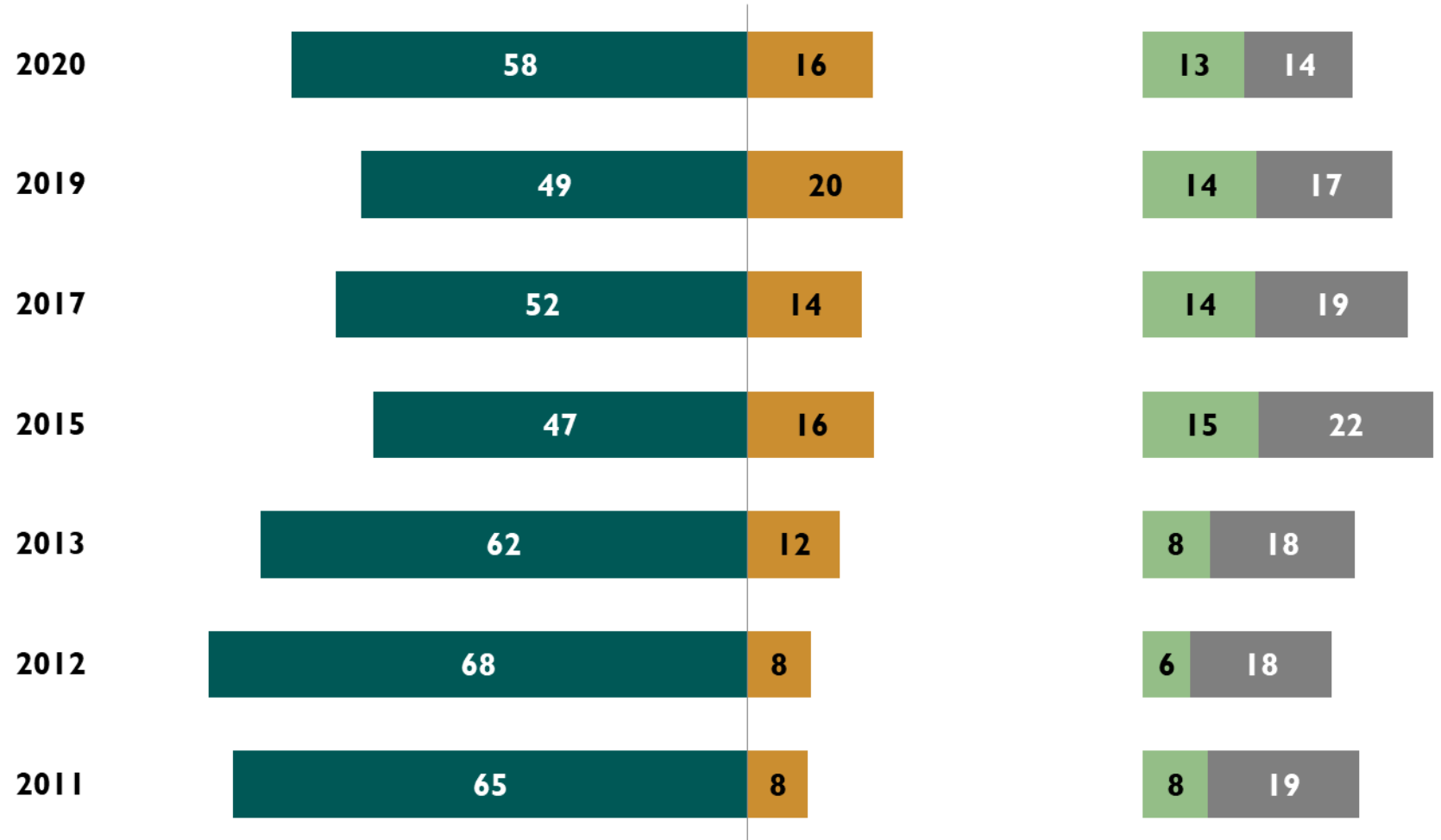


## Please tell me how much you trust or distrust political parties?



## Which of these statements is closest to your opinion?

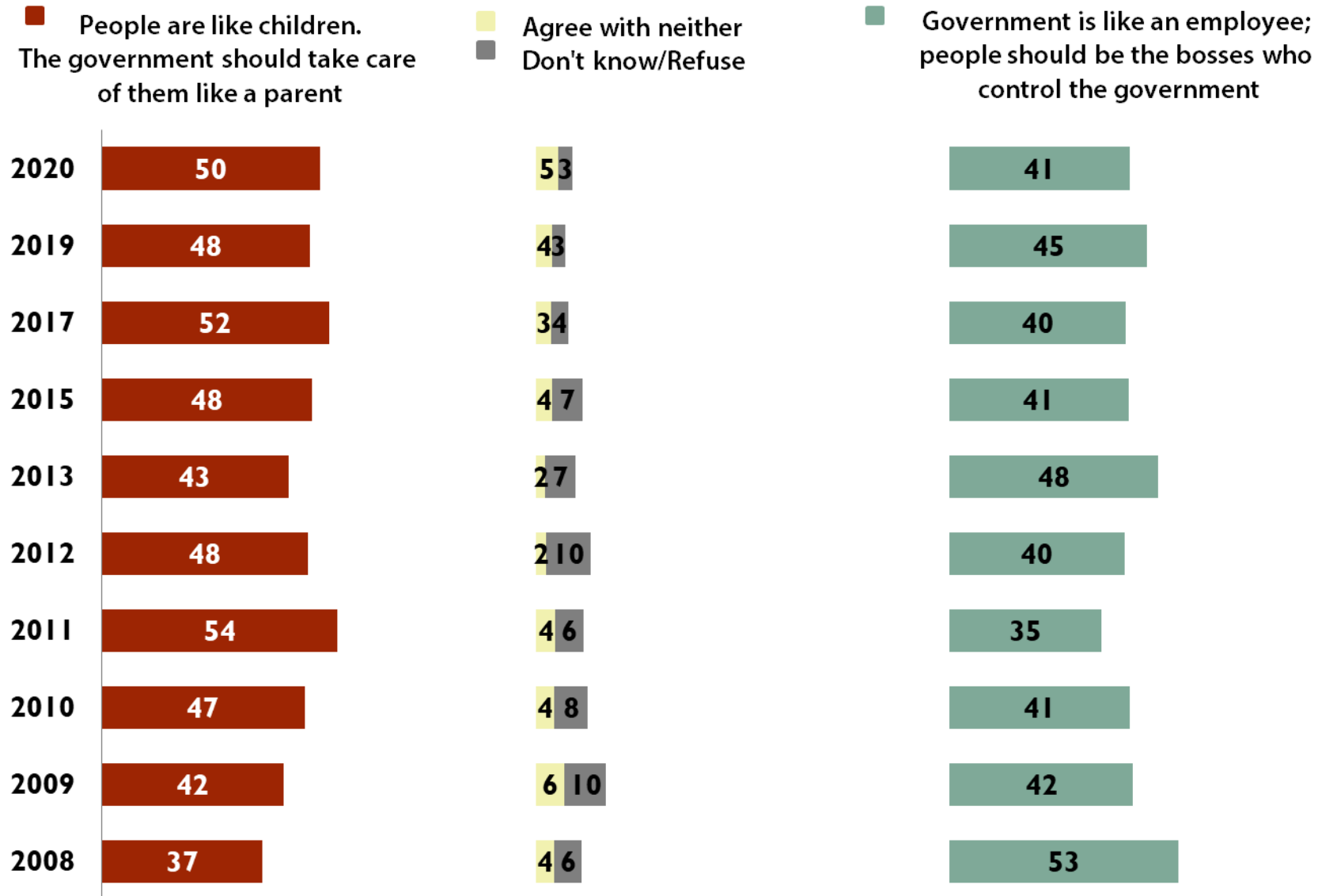
- Democracy is preferable to any other kind of government
- In some circumstances, a non-democratic government can be preferable
- It does not matter
- Don't know/Refuse



Over half of the population believes that democracy is preferable to any other kind of governance. This is the highest rate of democracy support since 2013.

# Views on the role of the government

Half the population supports a paternalistic role for government



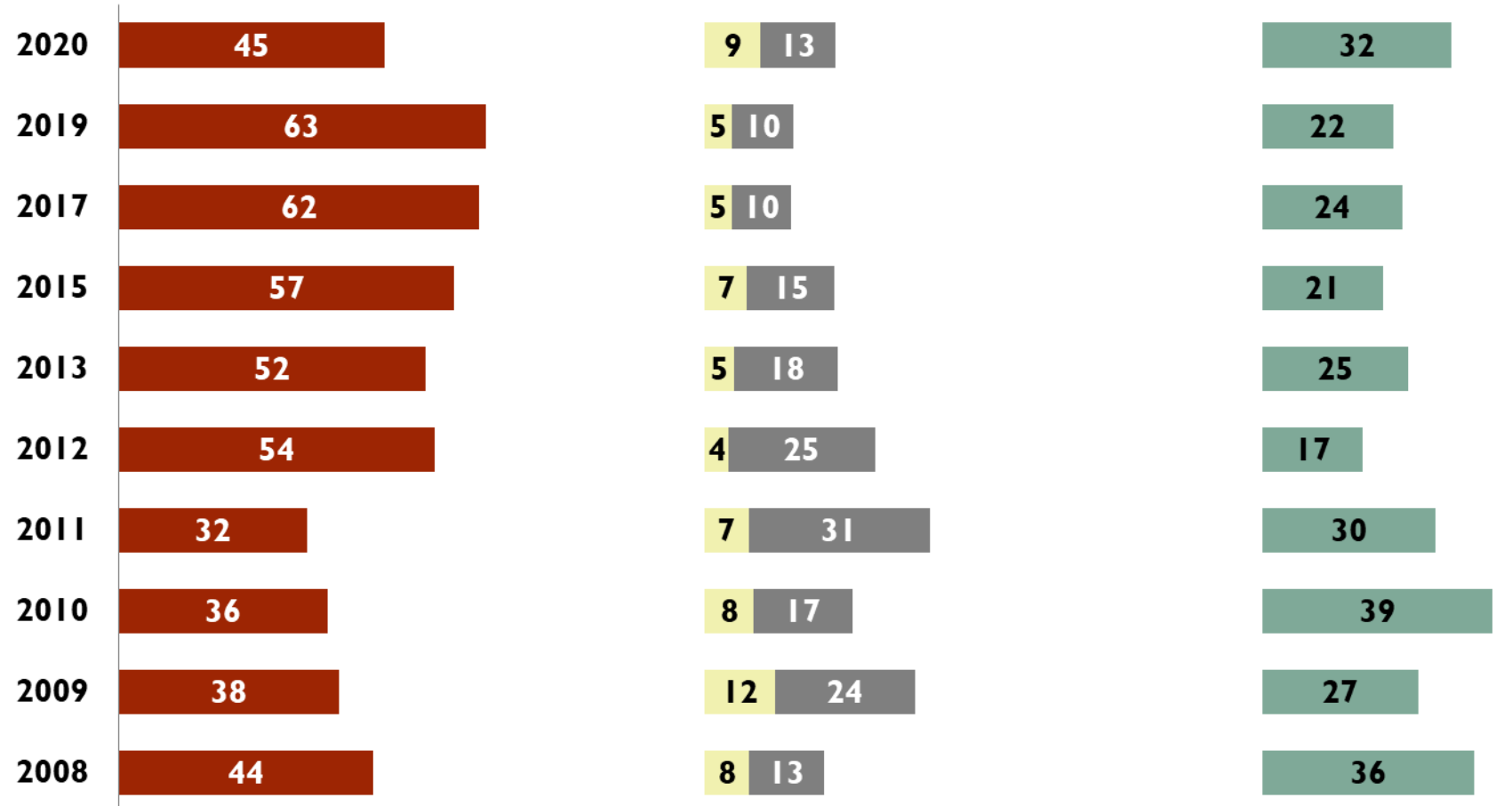
## Views on protest actions

■ People should participate in protest actions against the government as this shows the government that

■ Agree with neither  
■ Don't know/Refuse

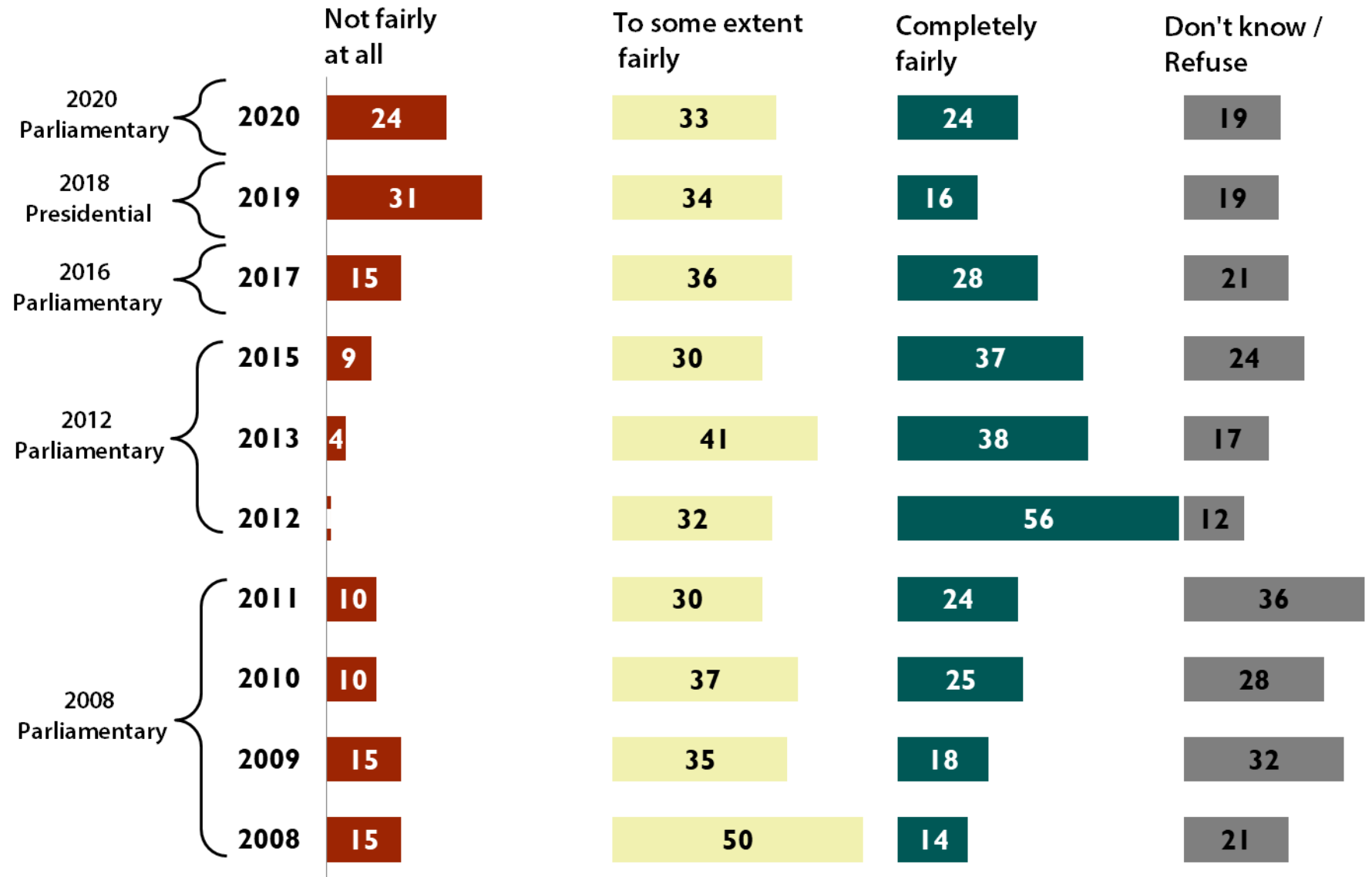
■ People should not participate in protest actions against the government as this threatens stability in the country

45% of the population believe that people should participate in protest actions; 32% do not.



## Would you say that those elections were conducted ...

Respondents' views are split over the 2020 Parliamentary Elections.

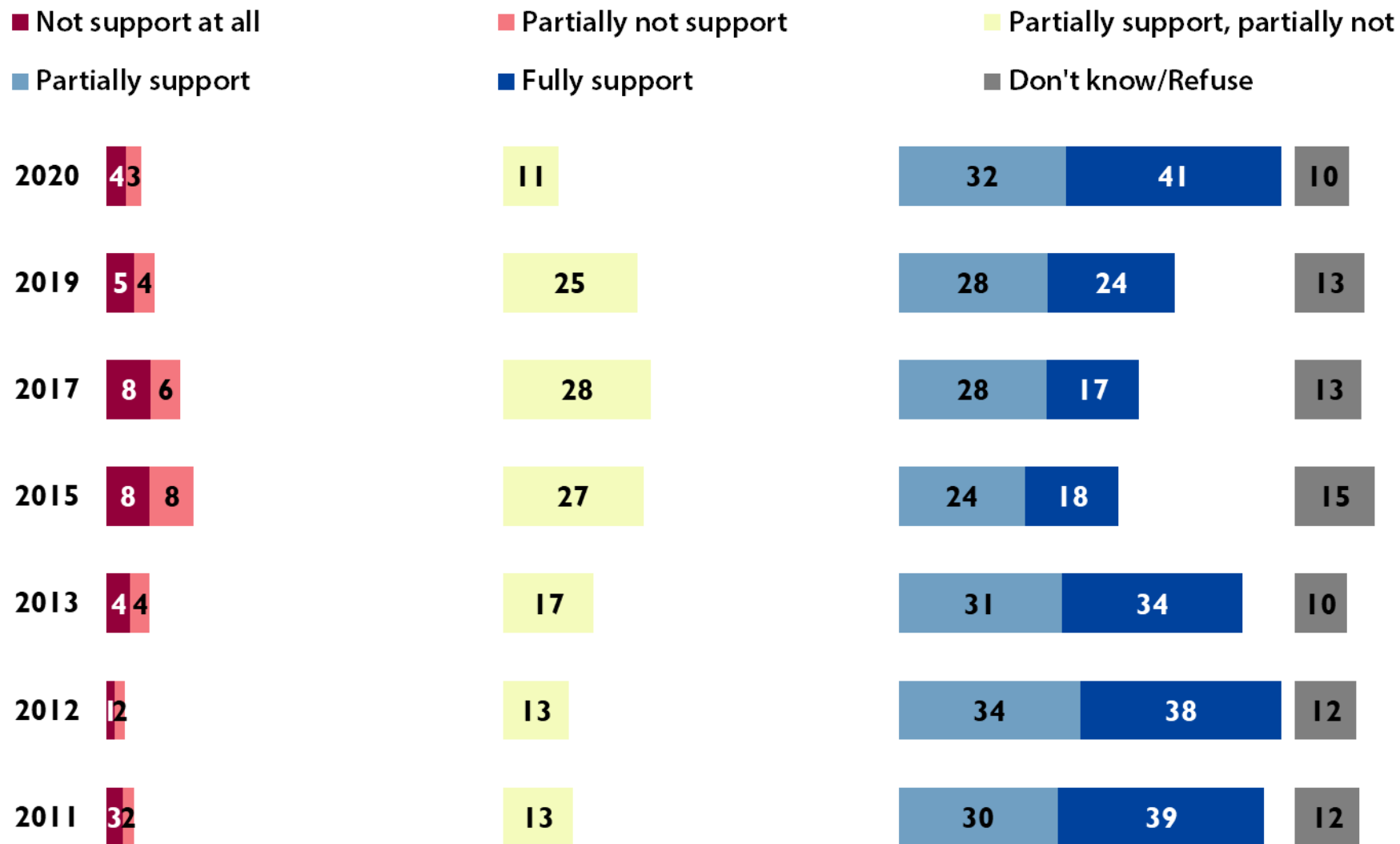


# International issues



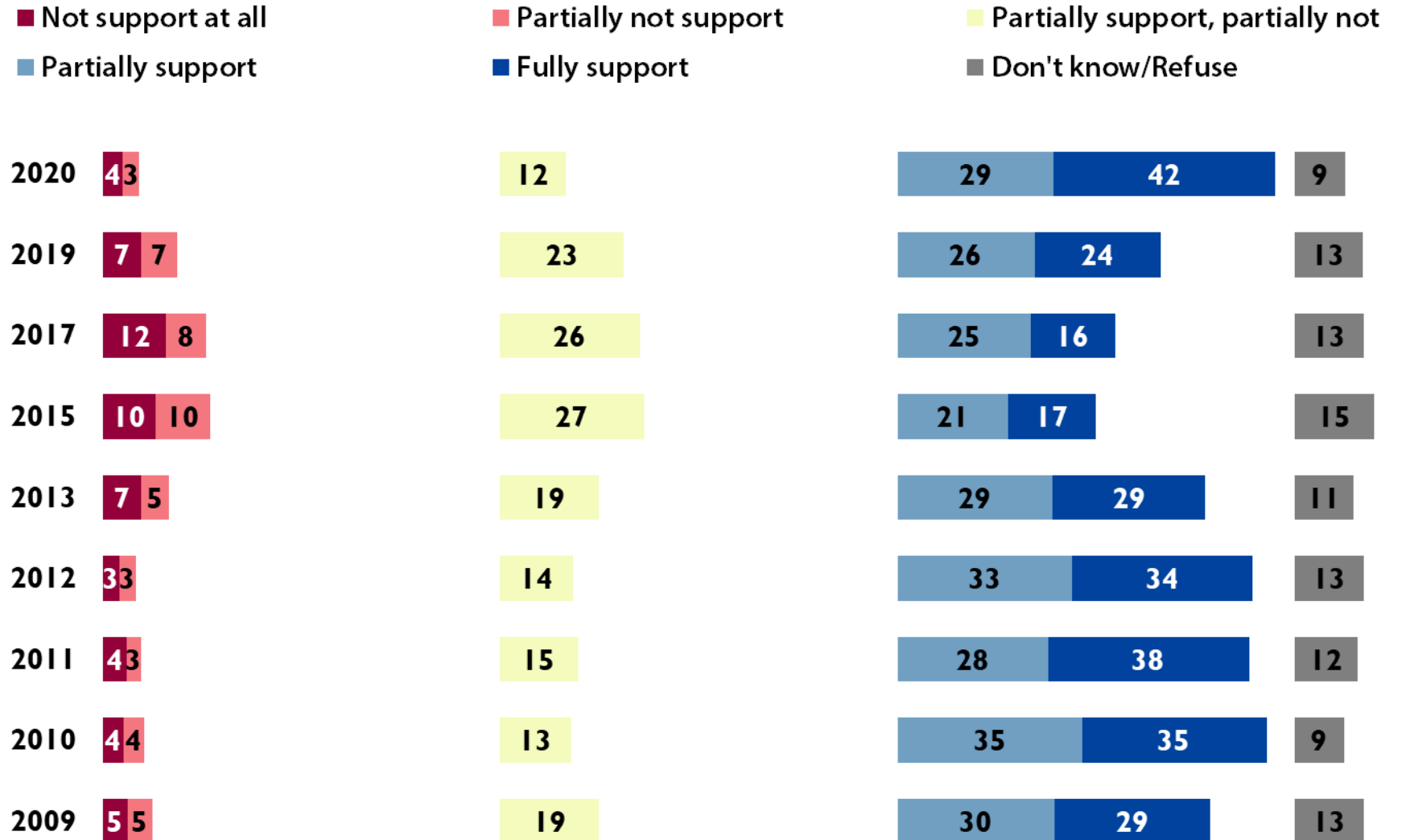
## To what extent do you support Georgia's membership in the EU?

An absolute majority of the population supports Georgia's membership in the EU. This rate has been one of the highest in recent years



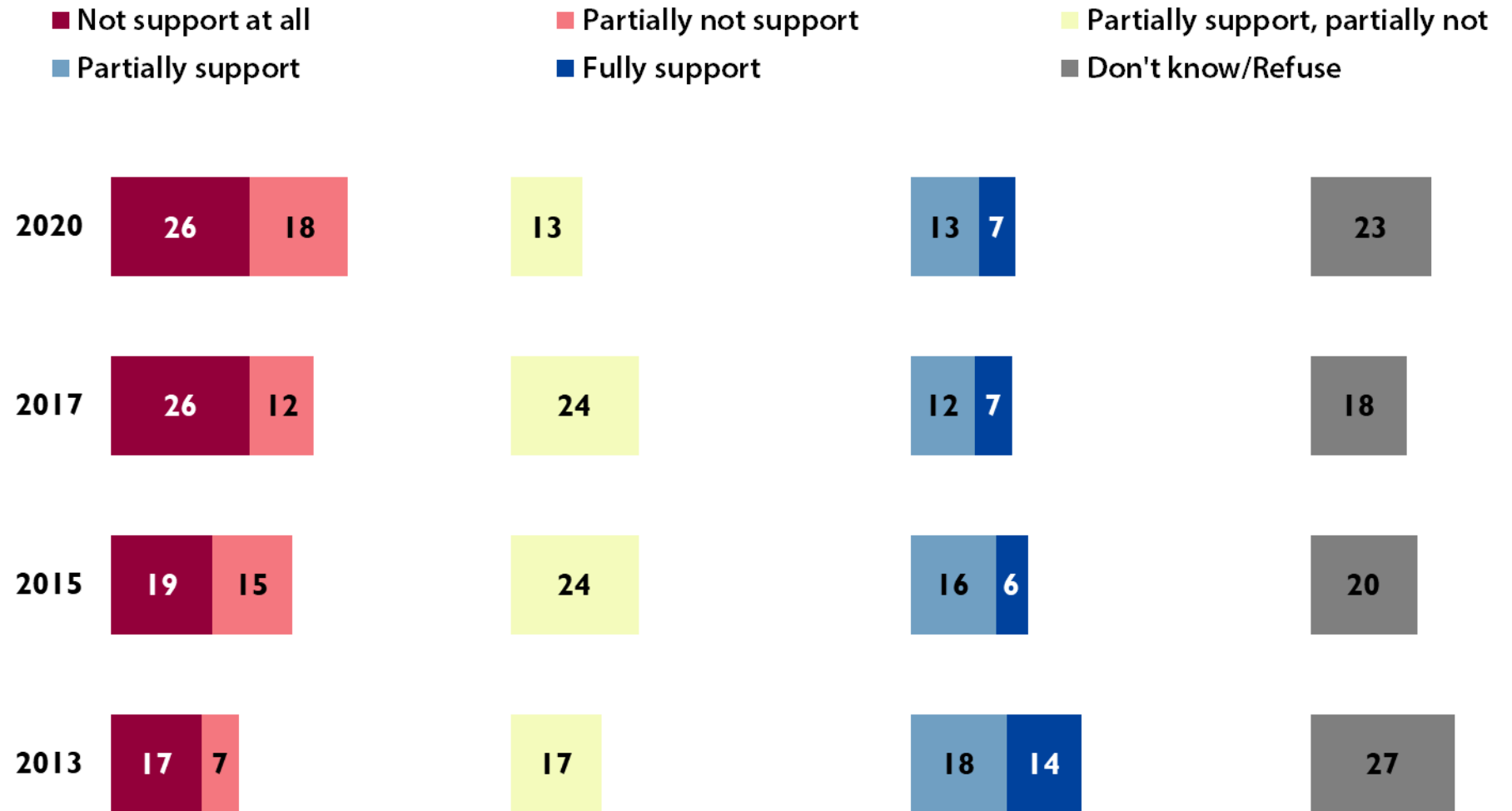
# To what extent do you support Georgia's membership in NATO?

A large share of the population supports Georgia's membership in NATO as well



## To what extent do you support Georgia's membership in the Eurasian Union?

Only one fifth of the population supports Georgia's membership in the Eurasian Union



# Have you heard of the Nagorno-Karabakh conflict?

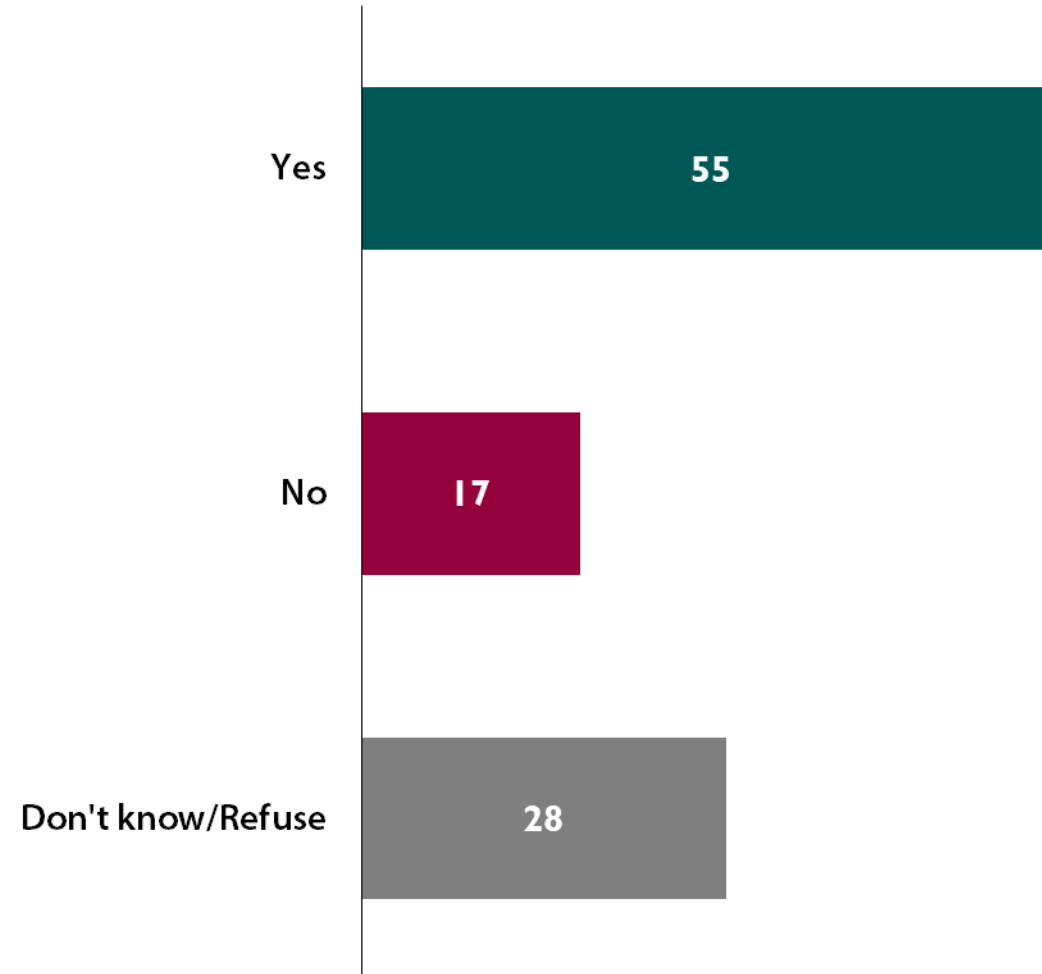
70% of the population has heard of the Nagorno-Karabakh conflict



# Do you agree or disagree that the recent conflict in Nagorno-Karabakh was avoidable?

Of those respondents who have heard of the conflict (70%)

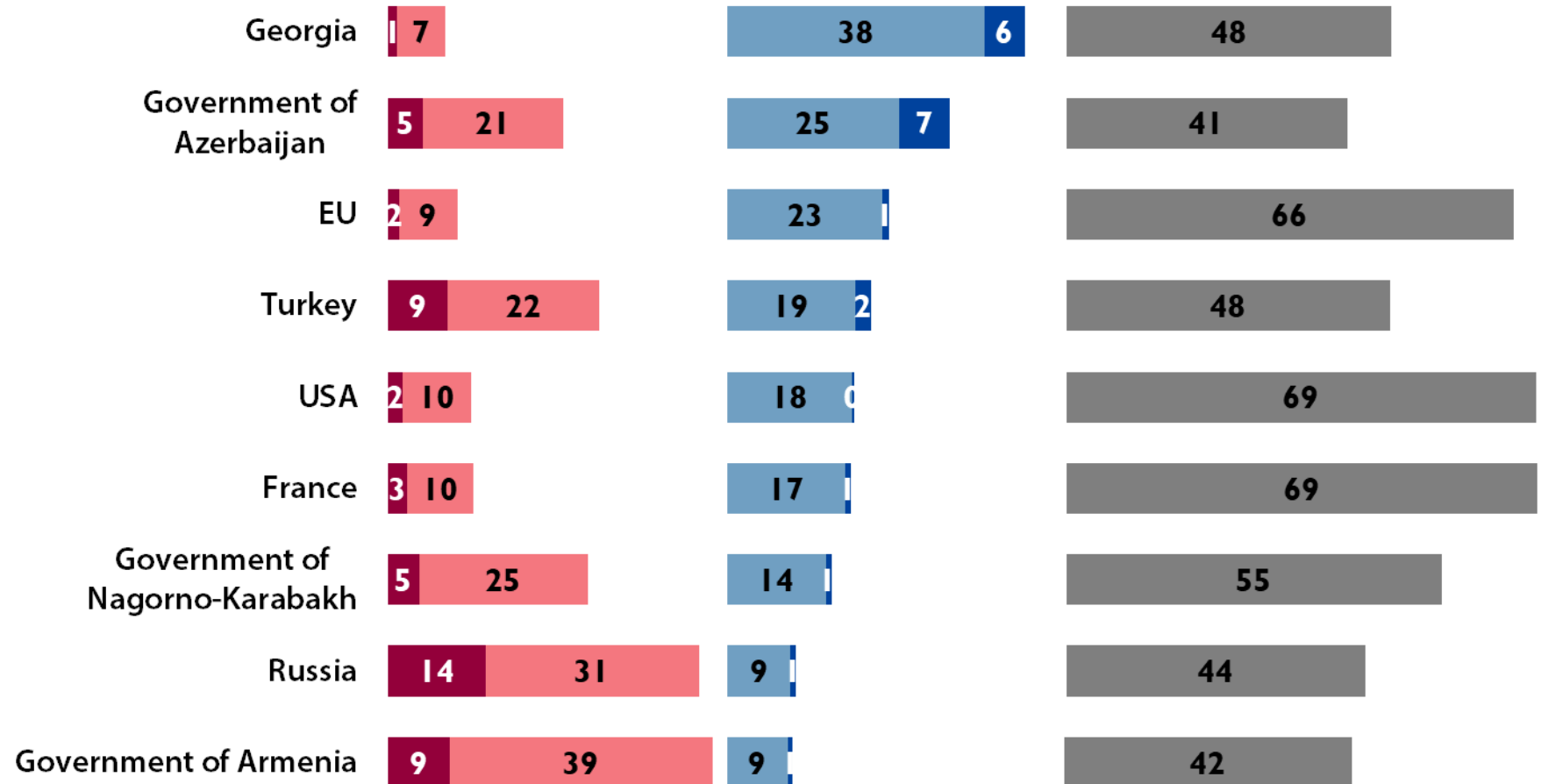
Respondents think it was possible to avoid the war



## How would you assess the role of the following in the recent conflict in Nagorno-Karabakh?

■ Very negatively
 ■ Negatively
 ■ Positively
 ■ Very positively
 ■ Don't know/Refuse

The majority of respondents found it hard to assess the roles of different sides in the conflict



# In Georgia We Count



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