



Civil liberties, attitudes towards same sex relationship and media

Findings from Afrobarometer Round 6 Surveys in BOTSWANA

At a Glance



- **Civil Liberties**

- Most citizens confirm that they enjoy their freedoms and are free to say what they think as well as free to choose who to vote for without being pressured by anybody. Botswana ranks higher in these freedoms compared to nine other Southern African countries and it is second to Tanzania for freedom of speech.
 - There is however, a noticeable decline with respect to the identified freedoms of expression, association and who to vote for in the last three rounds of opinion surveys since 2008.
- **Same sex relationship** : Botswana came strongly on opposing same sex relationship even though they show support for other individual freedoms.

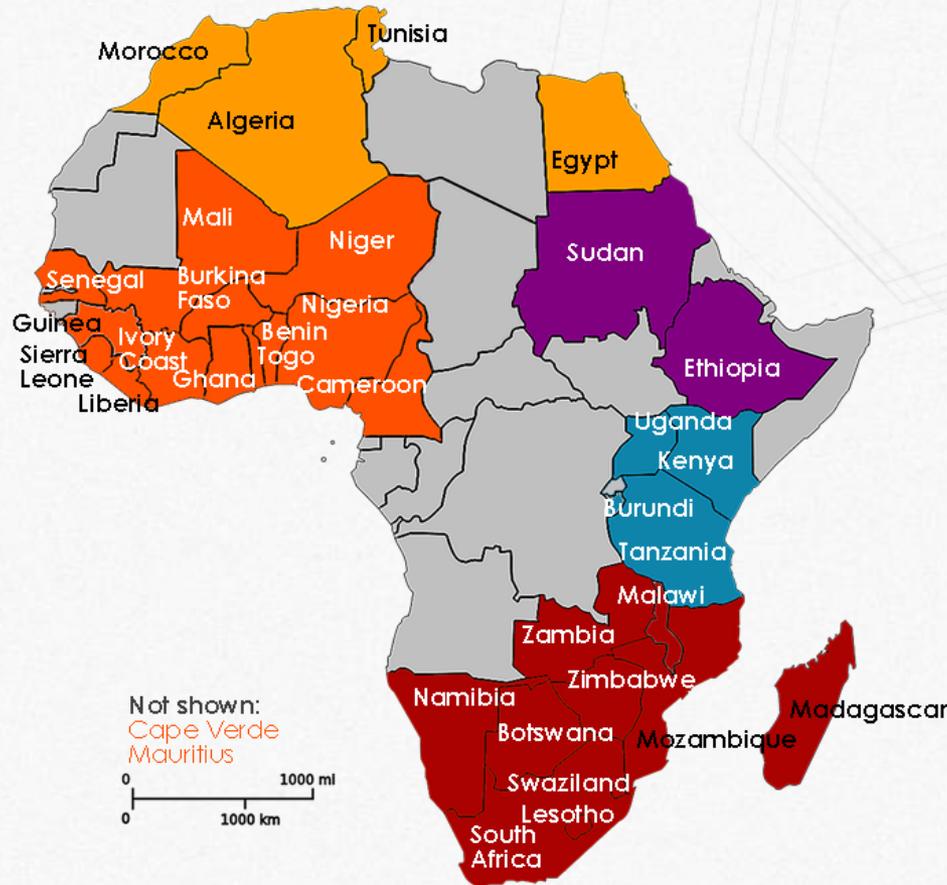


What is Afrobarometer?

- An African-led, non-partisan survey research project that measures citizen attitudes on democracy and governance, the economy, civil society, and other topics.
- Started in 12 countries in 1999, expanded to 35 African countries in Round 5 (2011-2013).
- **Goal:** To give the public a voice in policymaking by providing high-quality public opinion data to policymakers, policy advocates, civil society organizations, academics, news media, donors and investors, and ordinary Africans.
- National Partners in each country conduct the survey. In Botswana, Afrobarometer Round 6 survey was conducted by Star Awards.

Where Afrobarometer works

Face-to-Face Interviews | 35 Countries
Surveys by state, region



Methodology



- Nationally representative sample of adult citizens
 - ❑ All respondents are *randomly* selected.
 - ❑ Sample is distributed across **districts** and **urban/rural** areas in proportion to their share in the national population.
 - ❑ Every adult citizen has an **equal** chance of being selected.
- Face-to-face interviews In the language of the respondent's choice.
- Standard questionnaire allows comparisons across countries and over time.
- Sample size in Botswana of **1,200** adult citizens yields a margin of error of **+/-3%** at a **95%** confidence level.
- Fieldwork for Round 6 in Botswana was conducted between **28 June and 13 July 2014**.

Enumerator Map



Survey Demographics

Gender

	Un-weighted	Weighted
Male	50%	50%
Female	50%	50%

Location

Urban	21%	20%
Semi-urban	43%	43%
Rural	36%	37%

Education

No formal schooling	12%	13%
Primary	22%	21%
Secondary	47%	44%
Post secondary	19%	22%

Survey Demographics



Age

	Un-weighted	Weighted
18 to 29	36%	36%
30 to 49	39%	40%
50 to 64	16%	16%
65+	9%	9%

Employment

No (not looking)	25%	25%
No (looking)	43%	44%
Yes, part time	8%	8%
Yes, full time	23%	24%





RESULTS





CIVIL LIBERTIES

Key Findings



- Almost nine in ten (86%) affirm their freedom to say what they think. There is however, a steady decline in 2008, where 94% said so, that dropped to 90% in 2012.
- Exactly nine in ten (90%) of Botswana say they are free to join any political organisation without hindrance.
- Above nine in ten (97%) report that they are free to exercise their choice of who to vote for without coercion. The ratings are among the highest in the SADC region, second only to Tanzania which stood at 98% in 2012.

Figure 1: Civil Liberties | 2008-2014 |

Q: In this country, how free are you: To say what you think, to join any political organization you want, to choose who to vote for without feeling pressured?

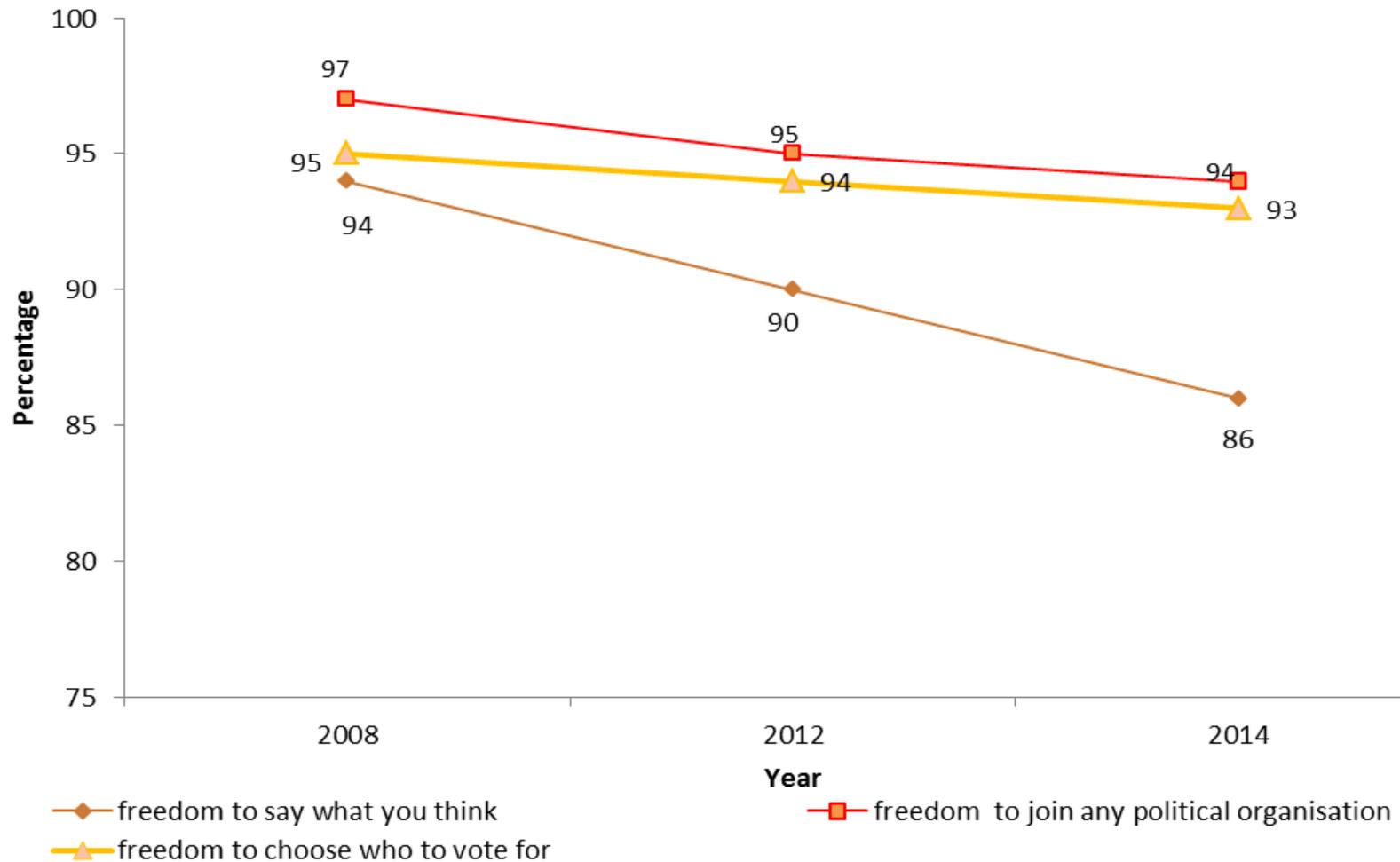


Figure 2: Freedom of Expression by location | 2014 |

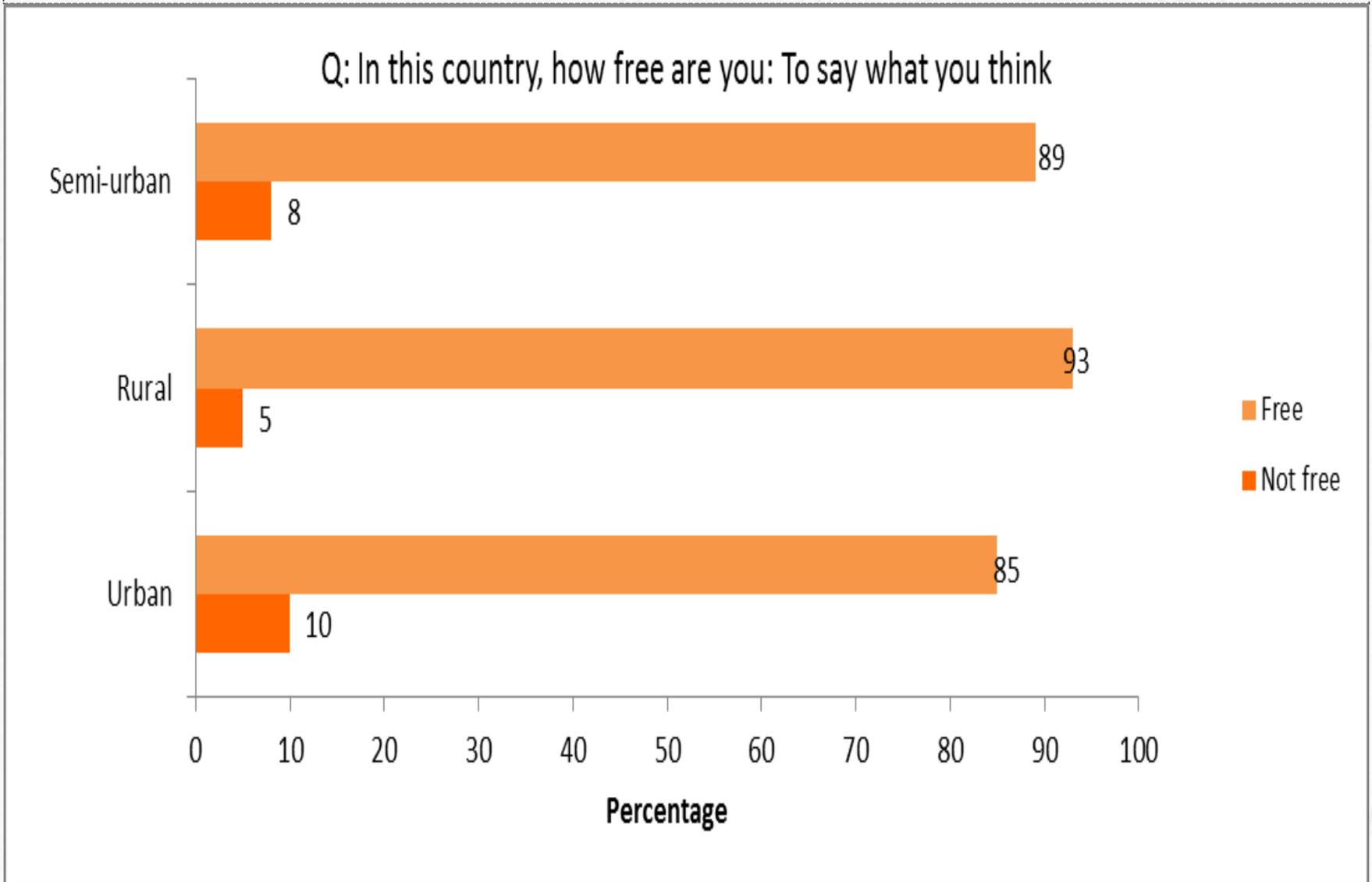


Figure 3: Freedom of Association | 2008-2014 |

Q: In this country, how free are you: To join any political organization you want?

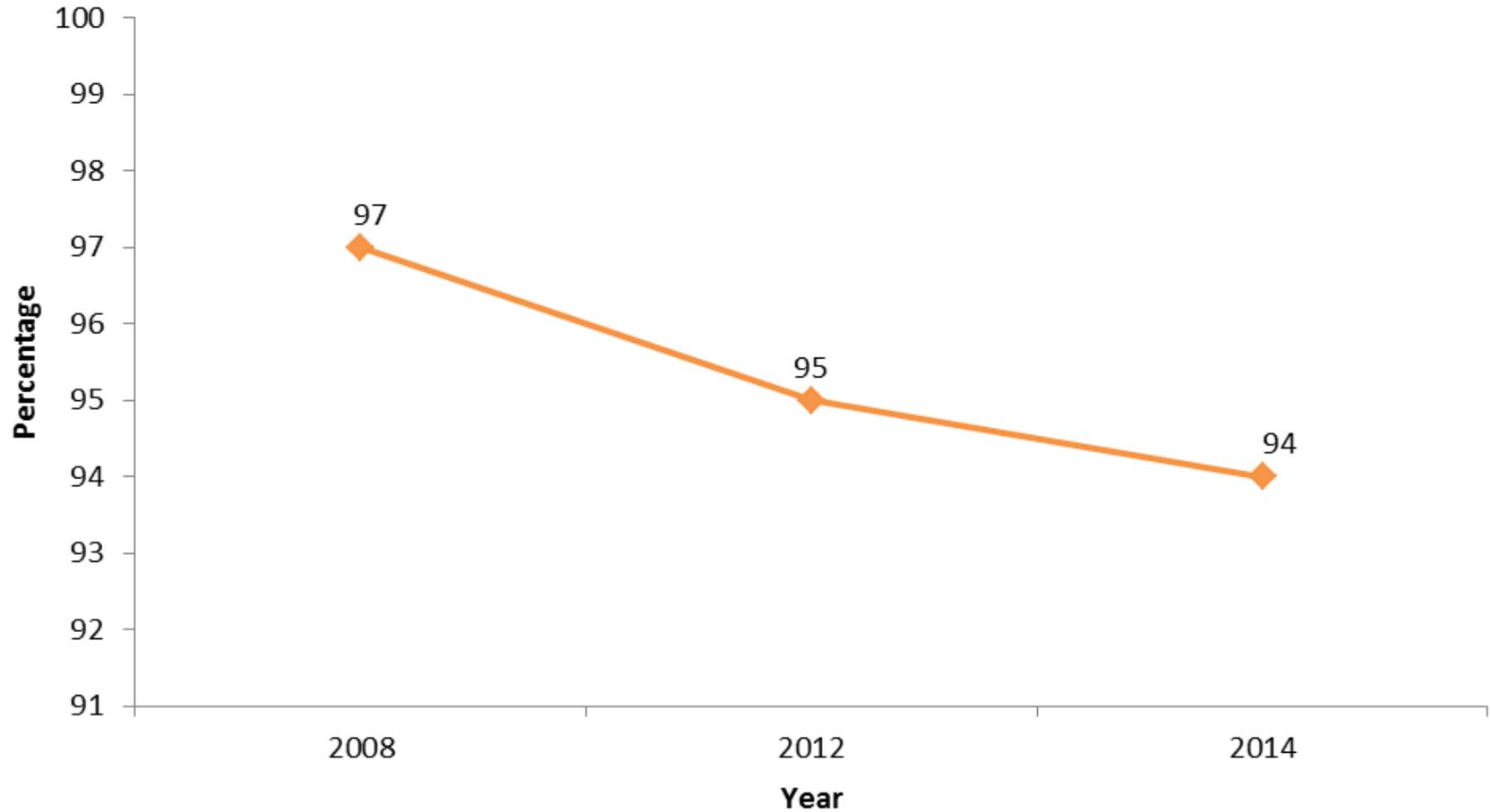


Figure 4: Freedom of association by location | 2014 |

Q: In this country, how free are you: To join any political organisations?

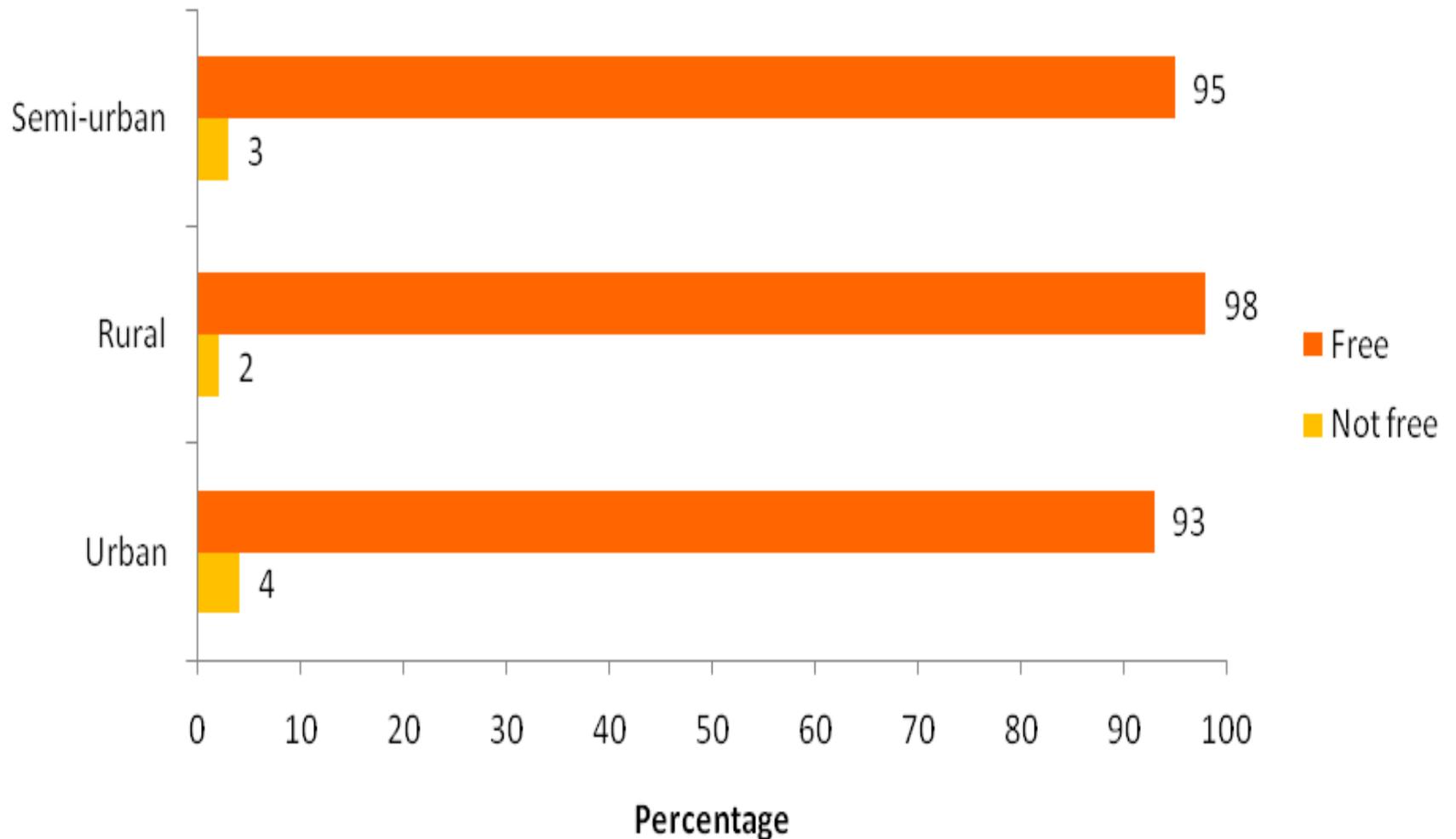


Figure 5: Freedom to choose who to vote for | 2012 |

Q: In this country, how free are you: To choose who to vote for without feeling pressured?

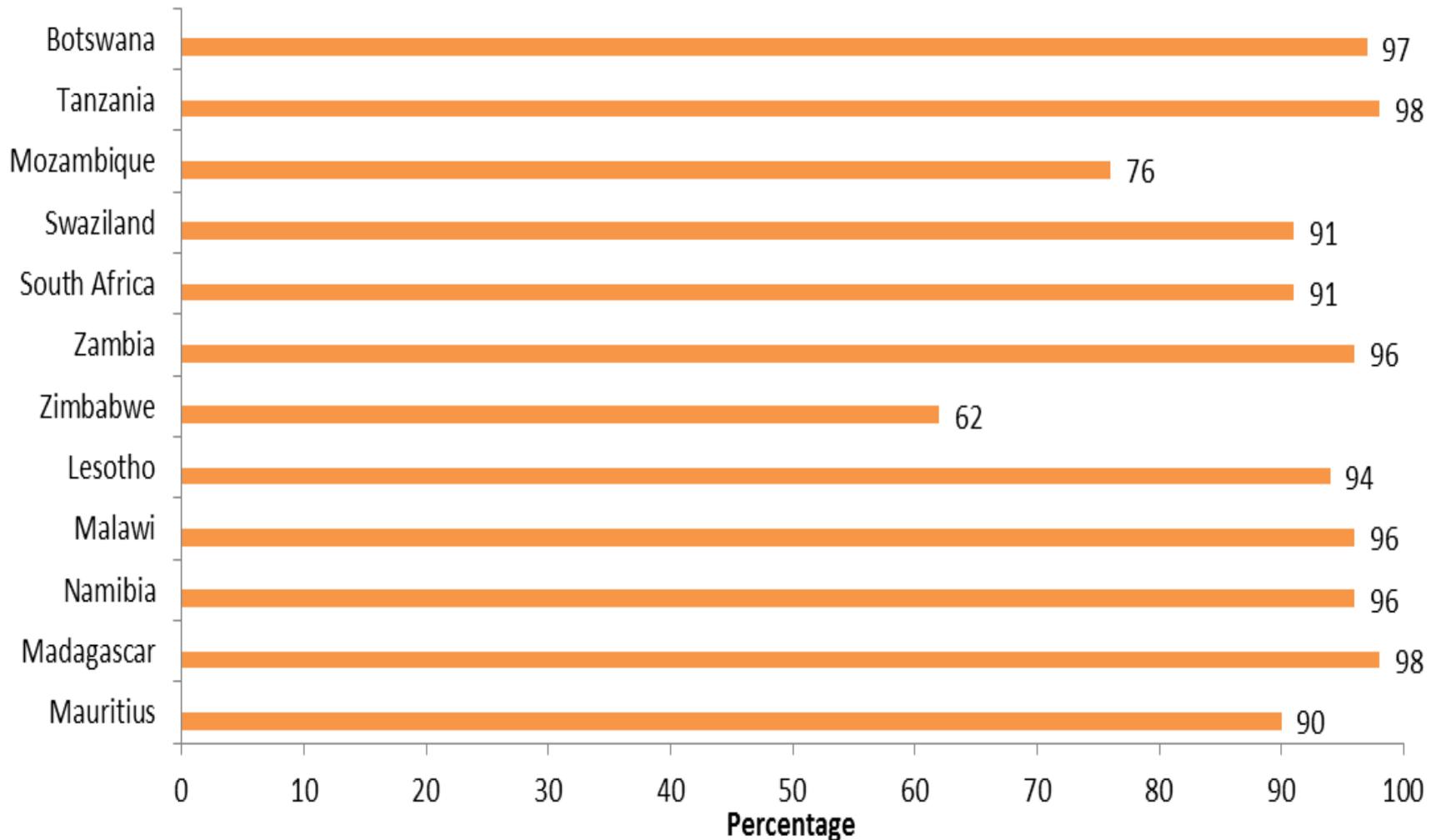


Figure 6: Freedom of association in SADC

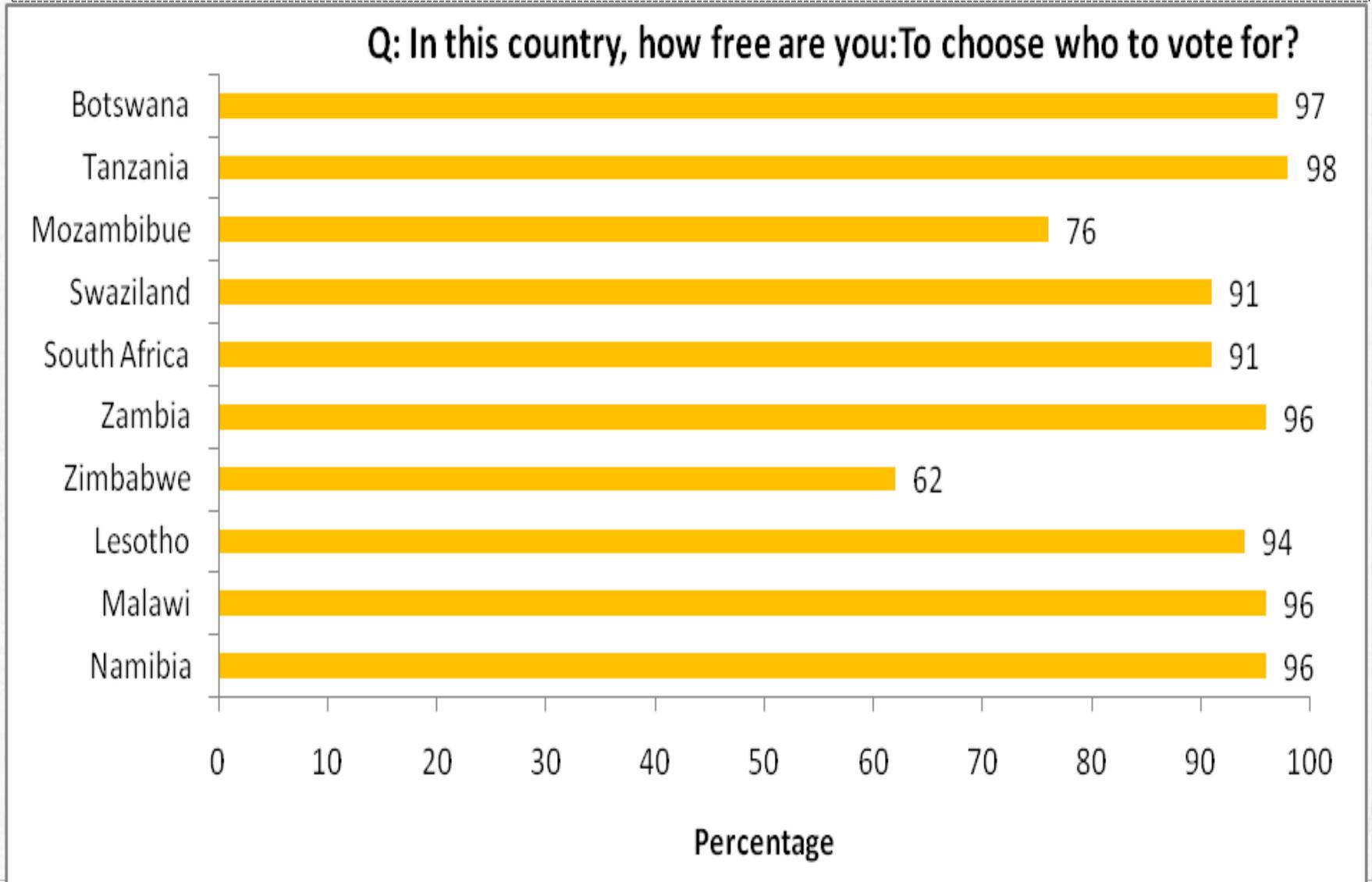


Figure 7: Freedom of association by gender | 2014

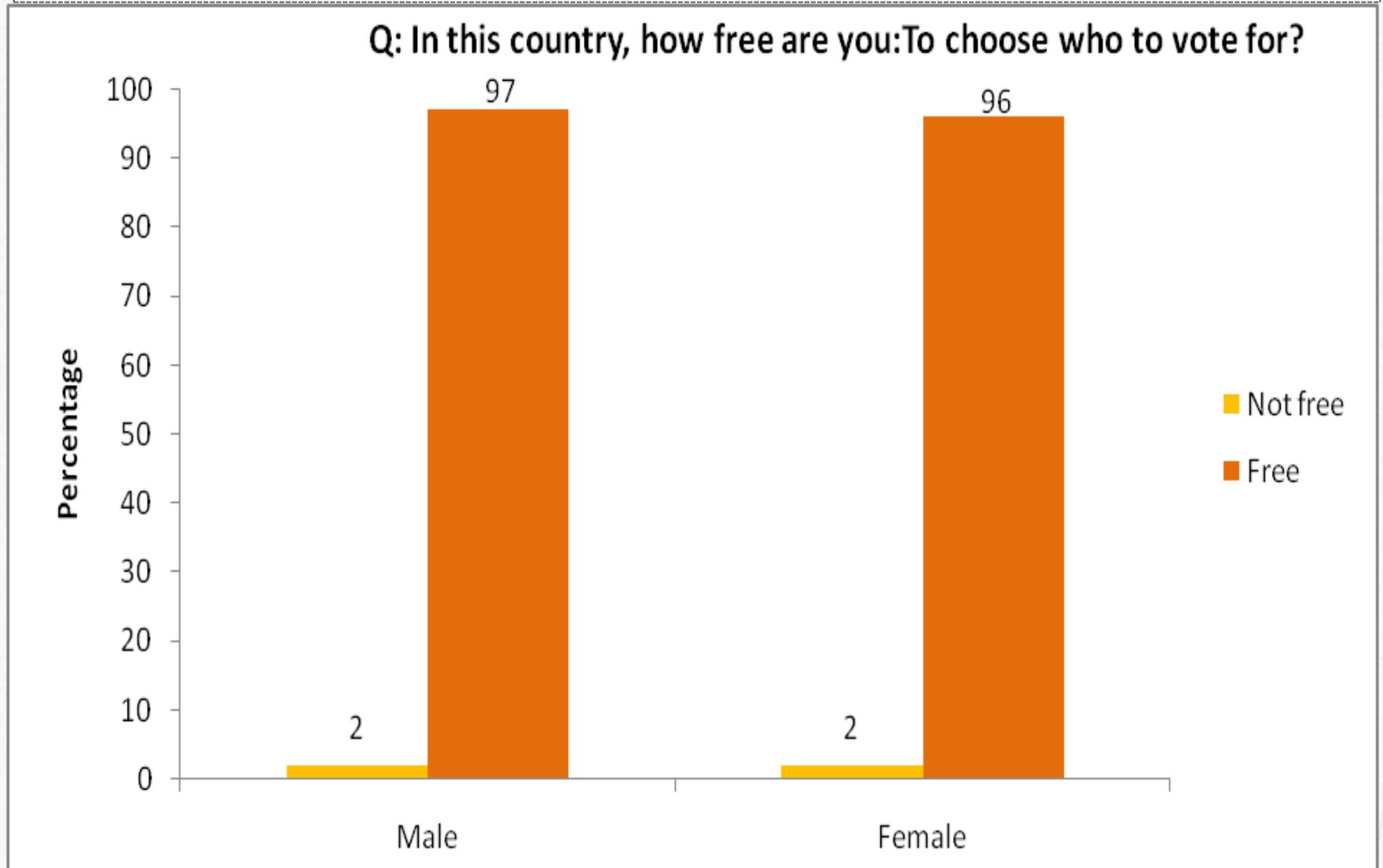


Figure 8: Freedom to choose who to vote for by gender | 2012

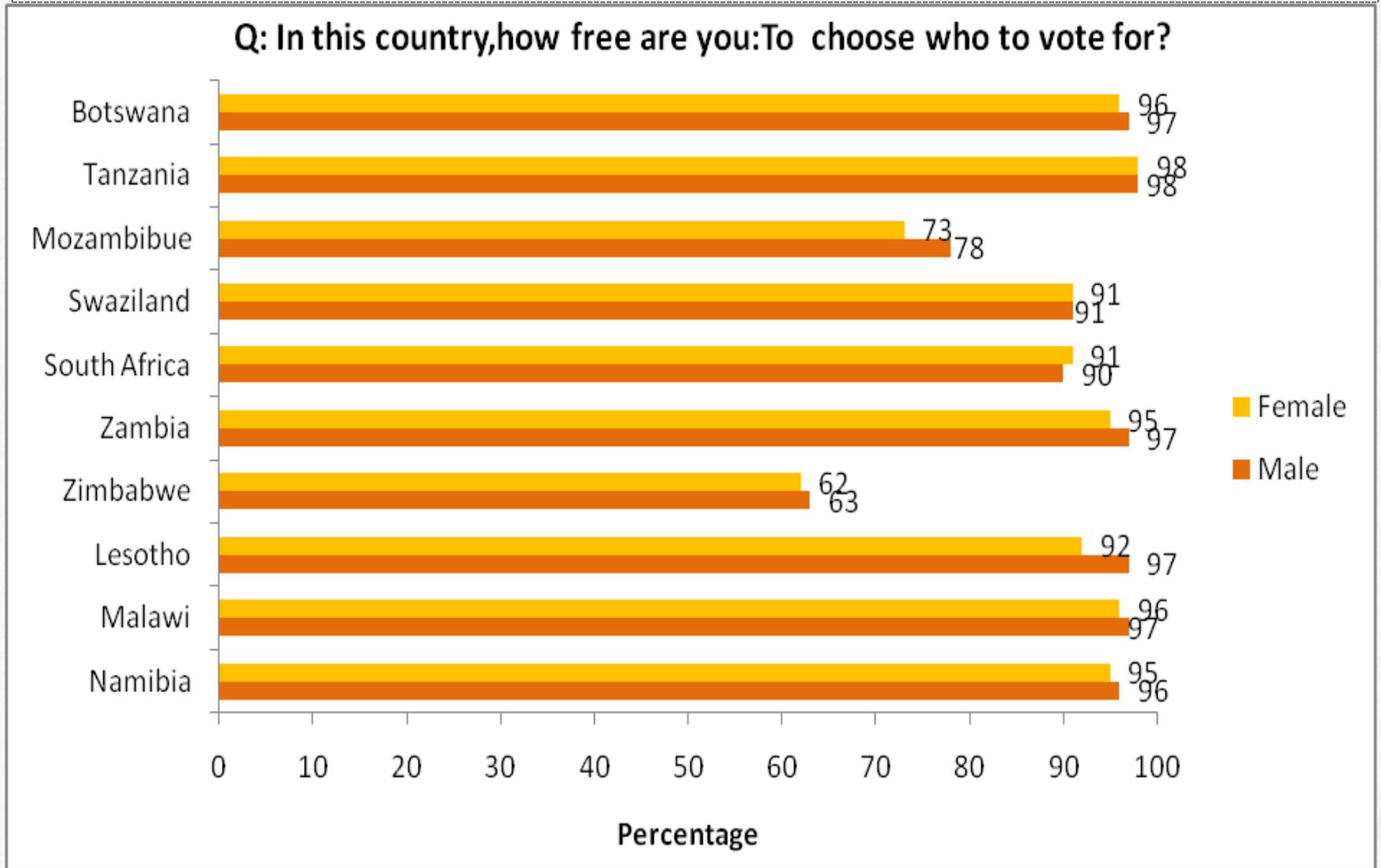
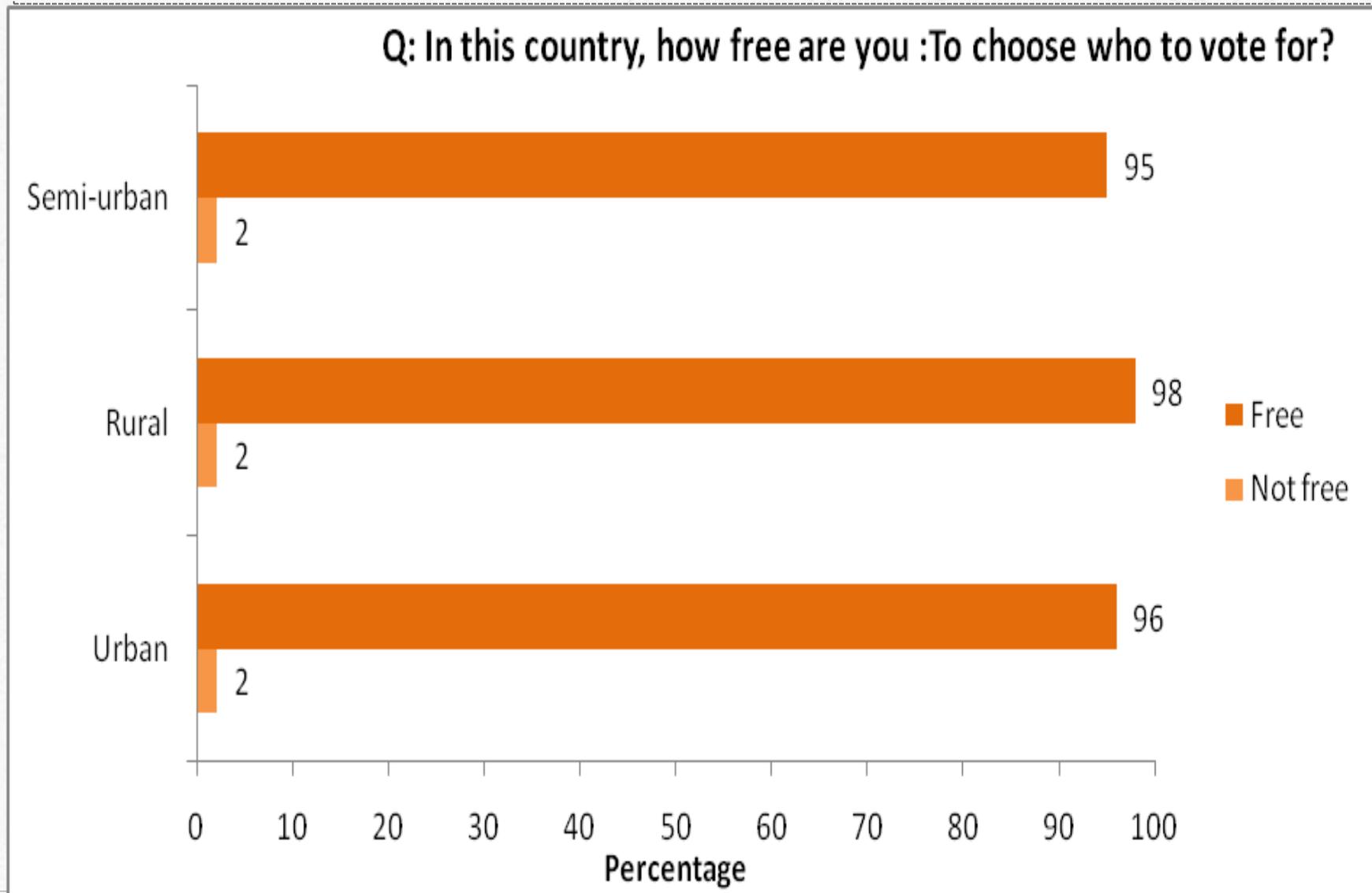


Figure 9: Freedom to choose who to vote for by location | 2014





Attitudes towards same sex relationship

Key Findings



- More than five in ten (59%) of Botswana say they would not tolerate having someone who is in a same sex relationship as a co-worker. This practice is rejected by Botswana across the board, including location, age and gender. In terms of locality this is rejected by 67% of rural residents, 57% semi-urban and 48% in urban areas.
- 48% of the youth aged 18-29 reject this sexual orientation. The emphatic rejection of homosexuality can be observed among the elderly where 74% of those aged 50-64 strongly disagree/disagree with the statement, with those aged 65+ reported at 59%.
- Generally over 50% of Botswana say action must be taken against same sex relationship.

Figure 10: Having co-worker involved in same sex relationship | 2014 |

Q: For each of the statements below, please tell me whether you disagree or agree. Do you agree or agree very strongly? I would not mind having someone in a same-sex relationship as a co-worker in my workplace

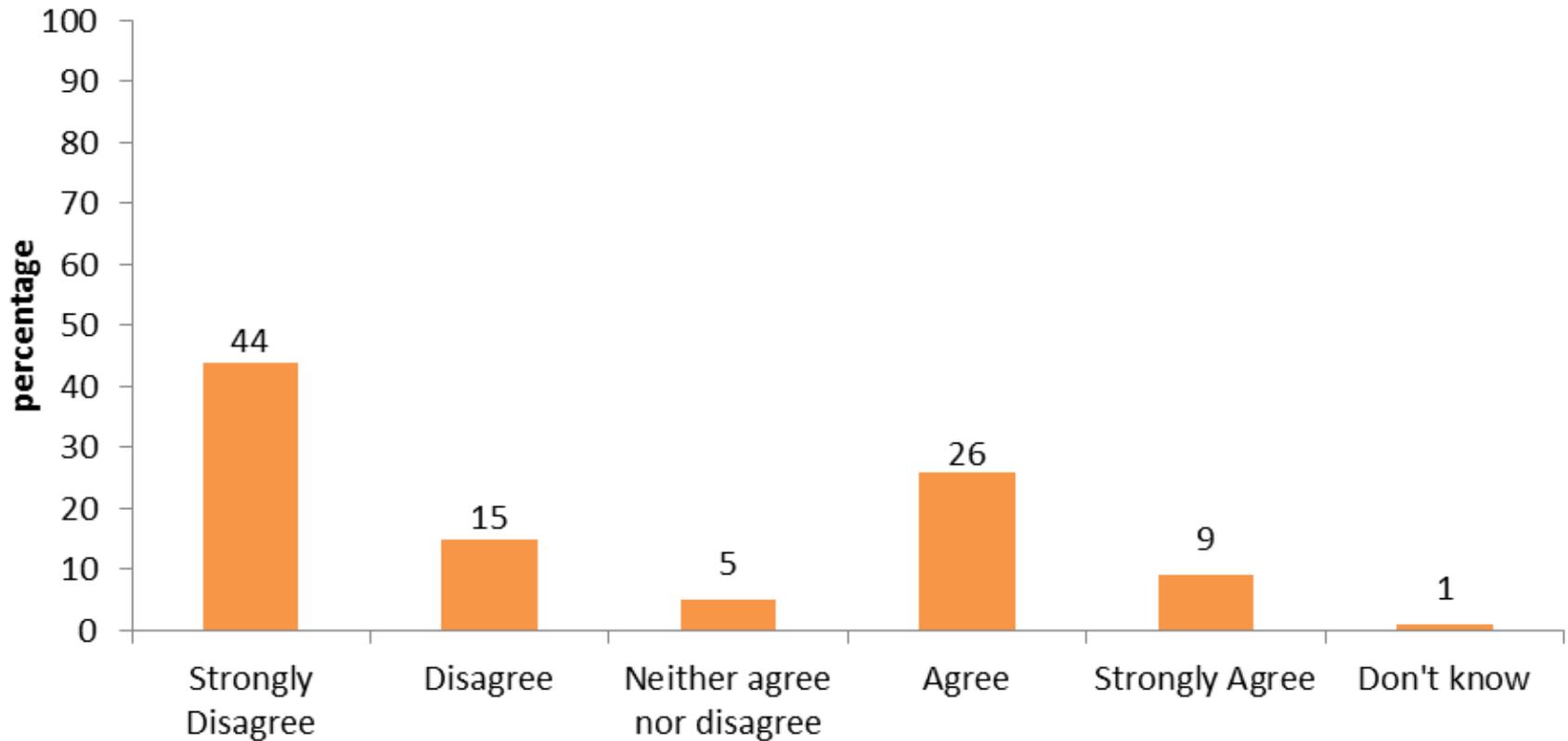


Figure 11: Having co-worker involved in same sex relationship by location | 2014 |

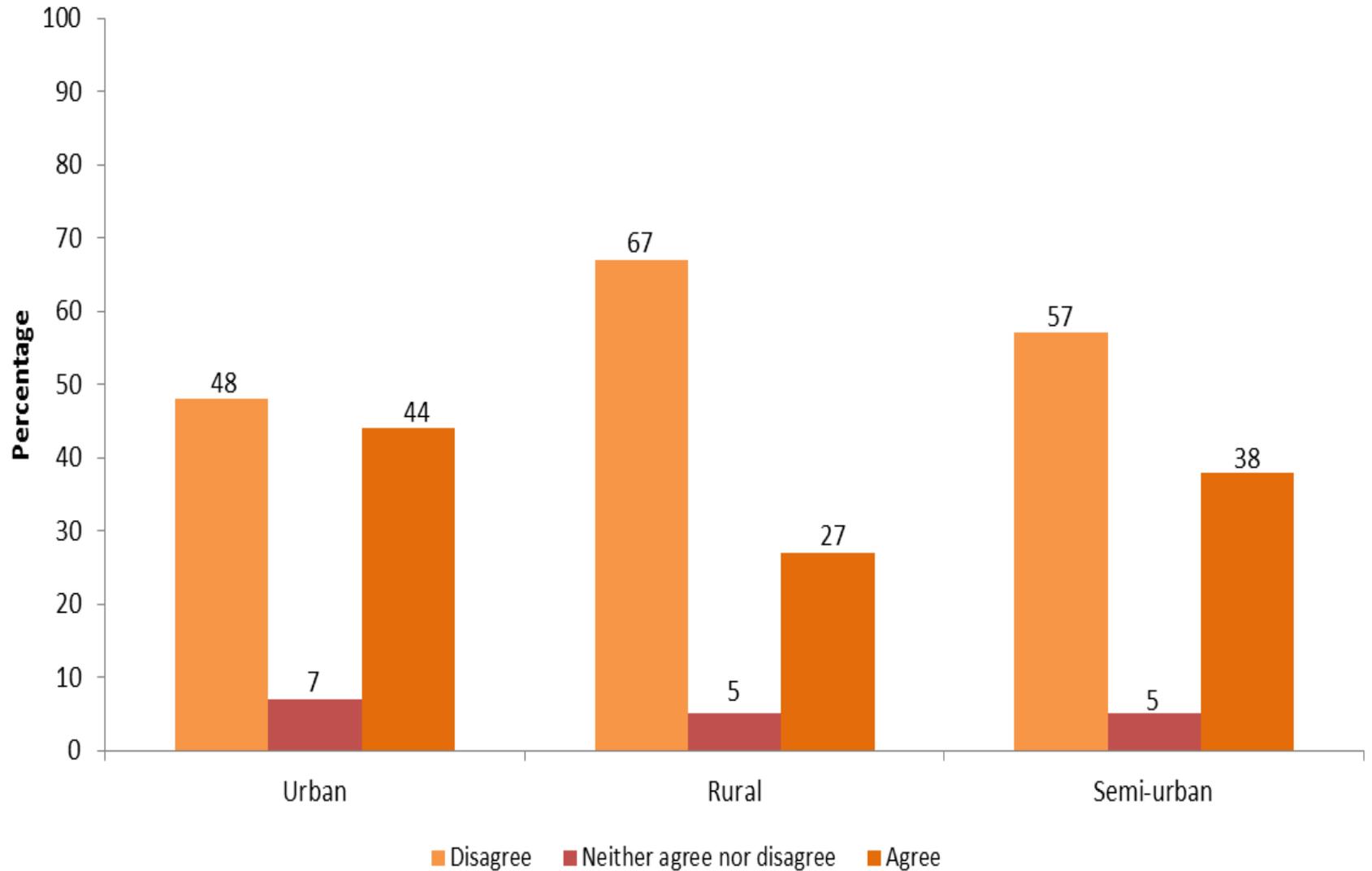


Figure 12: Having co-worker involved in same sex relationship by age | 2014 |

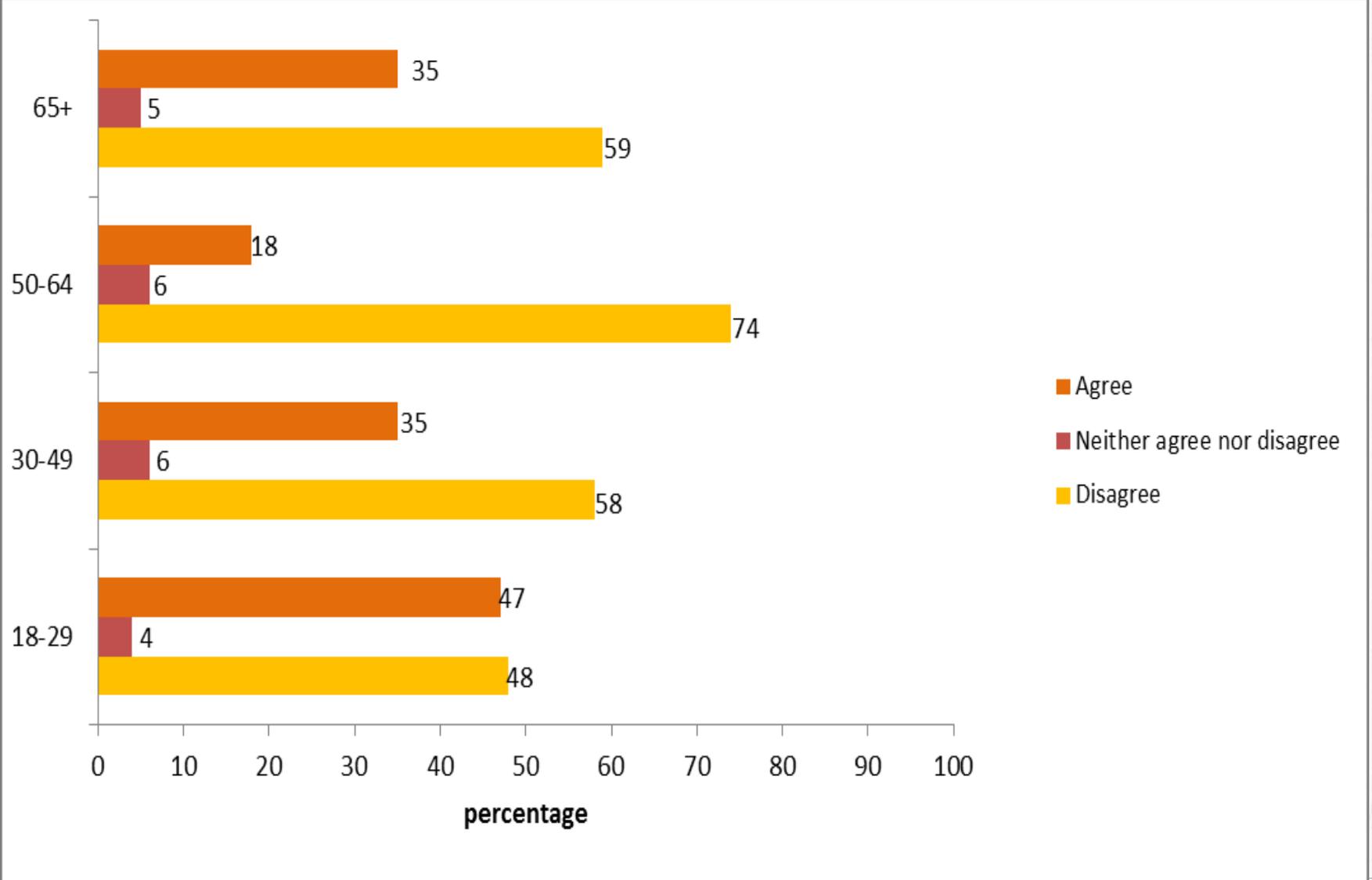


Figure 13: Supervisor in same sex relationship | 2014 |

Q: For each of the statements below, please tell me whether you disagree or agree. Do you agree or agree very strongly? I would not mind having someone in a same-sex relationship as my supervisor in my workplace

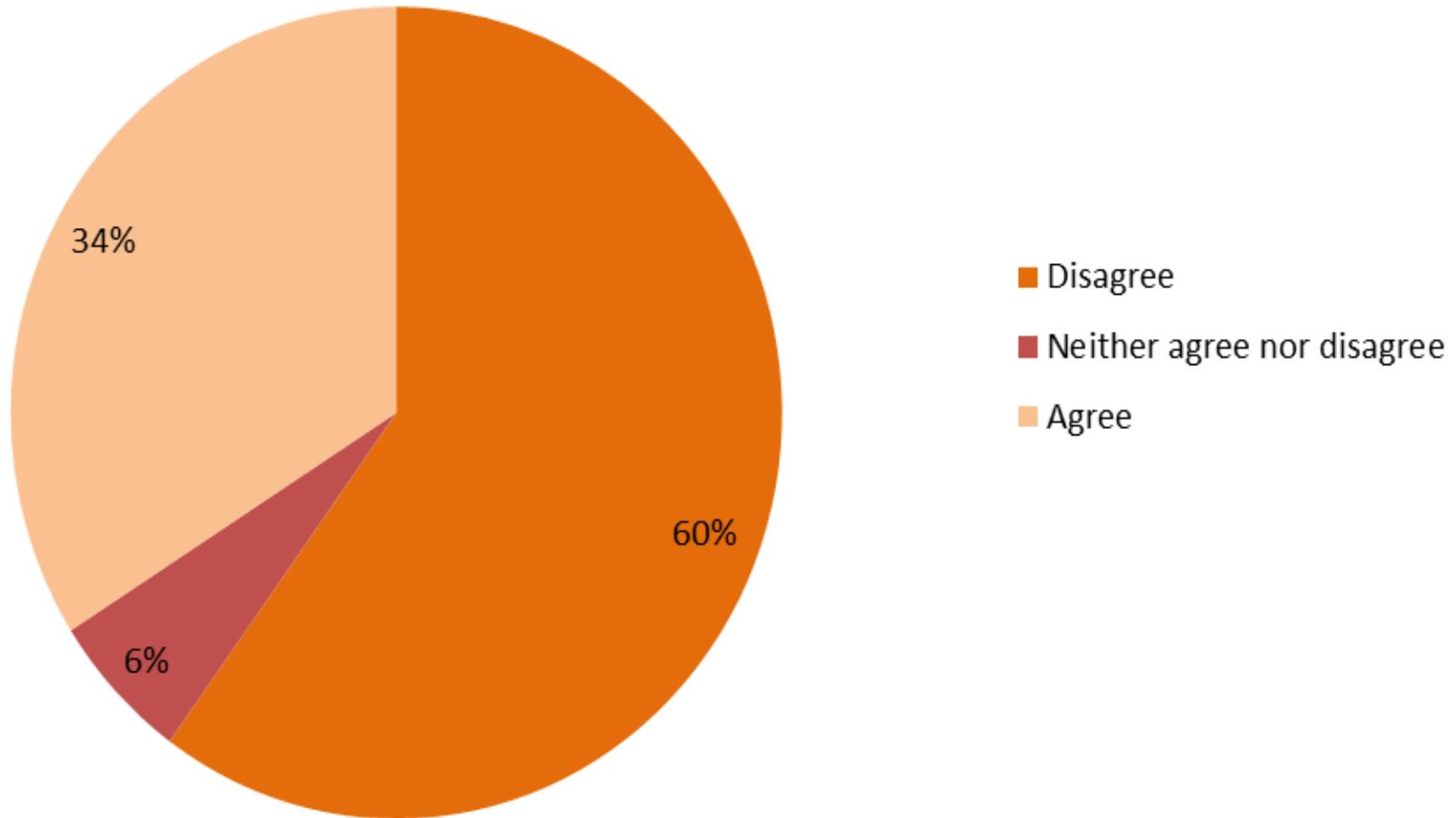


Figure 14: Supervisor in same sex relationship by location | 2014 |

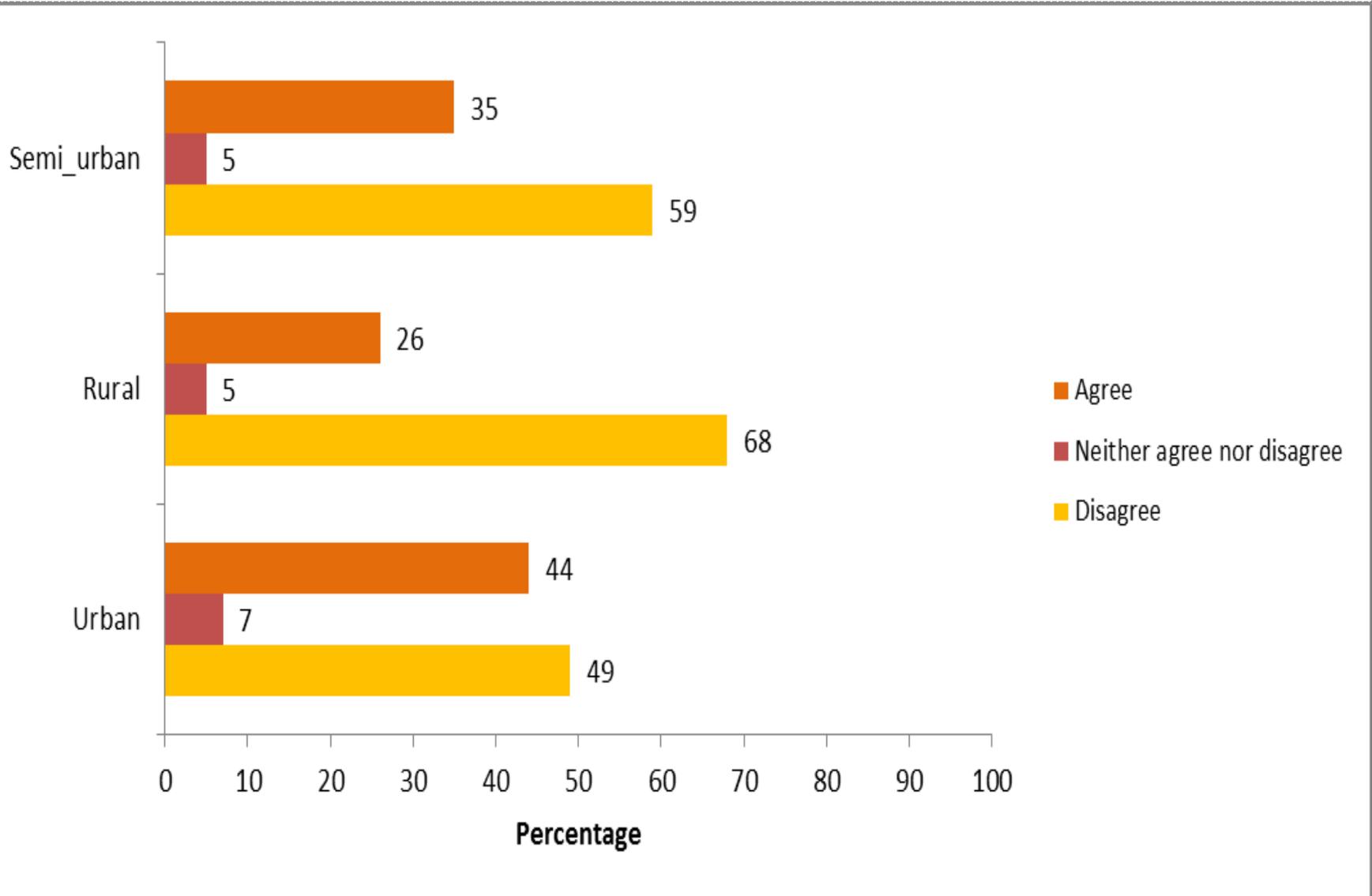


Figure 11: Supervisor in same sex relationship by age | 2014 |

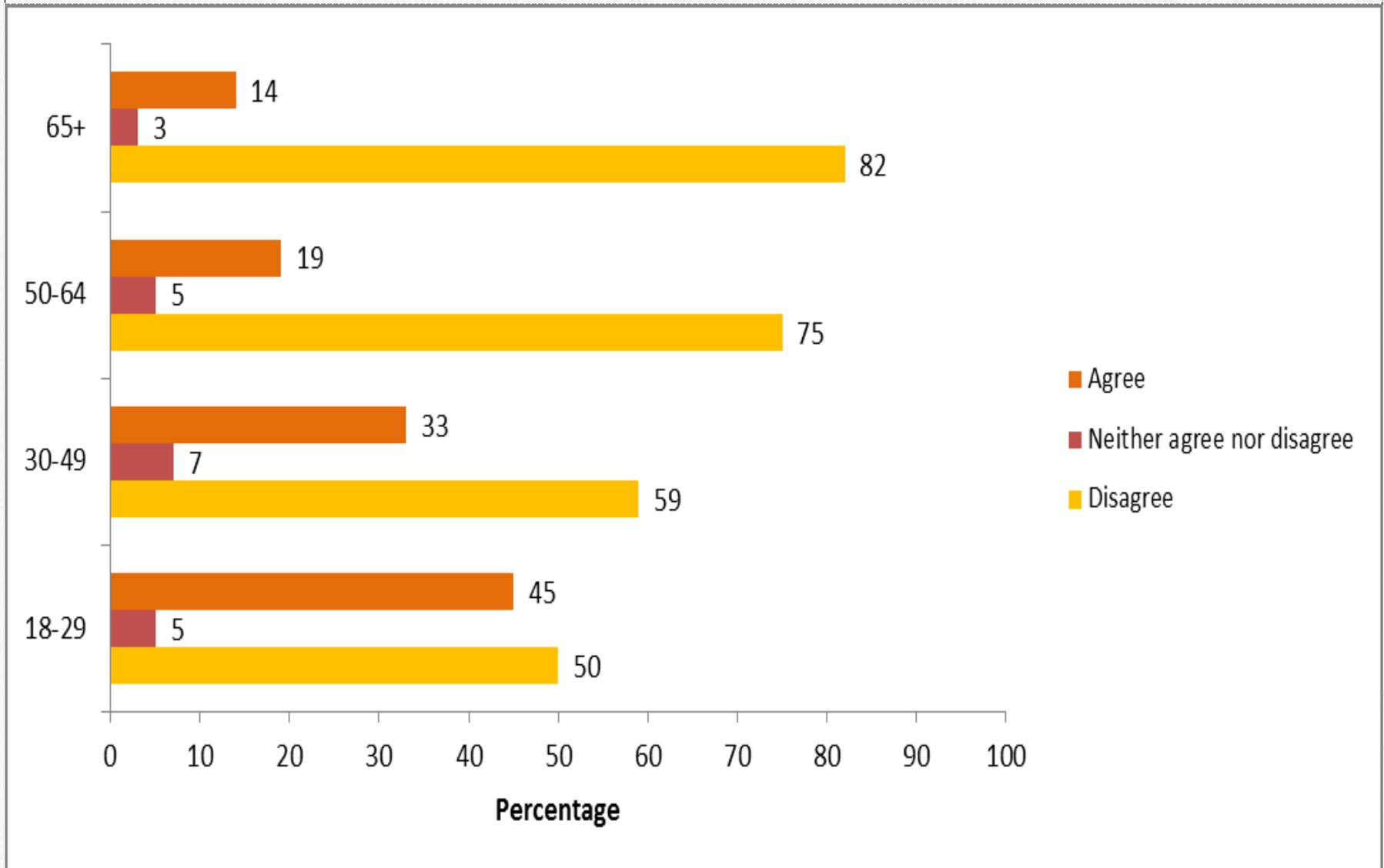


Figure 12: Religious member in same sex relationship | 2014 |

Q: For each of the statements below, please tell me whether you disagree or agree. Do you agree or agree very strongly? I would not mind having someone in a same-sex relationship as a member in my religious community

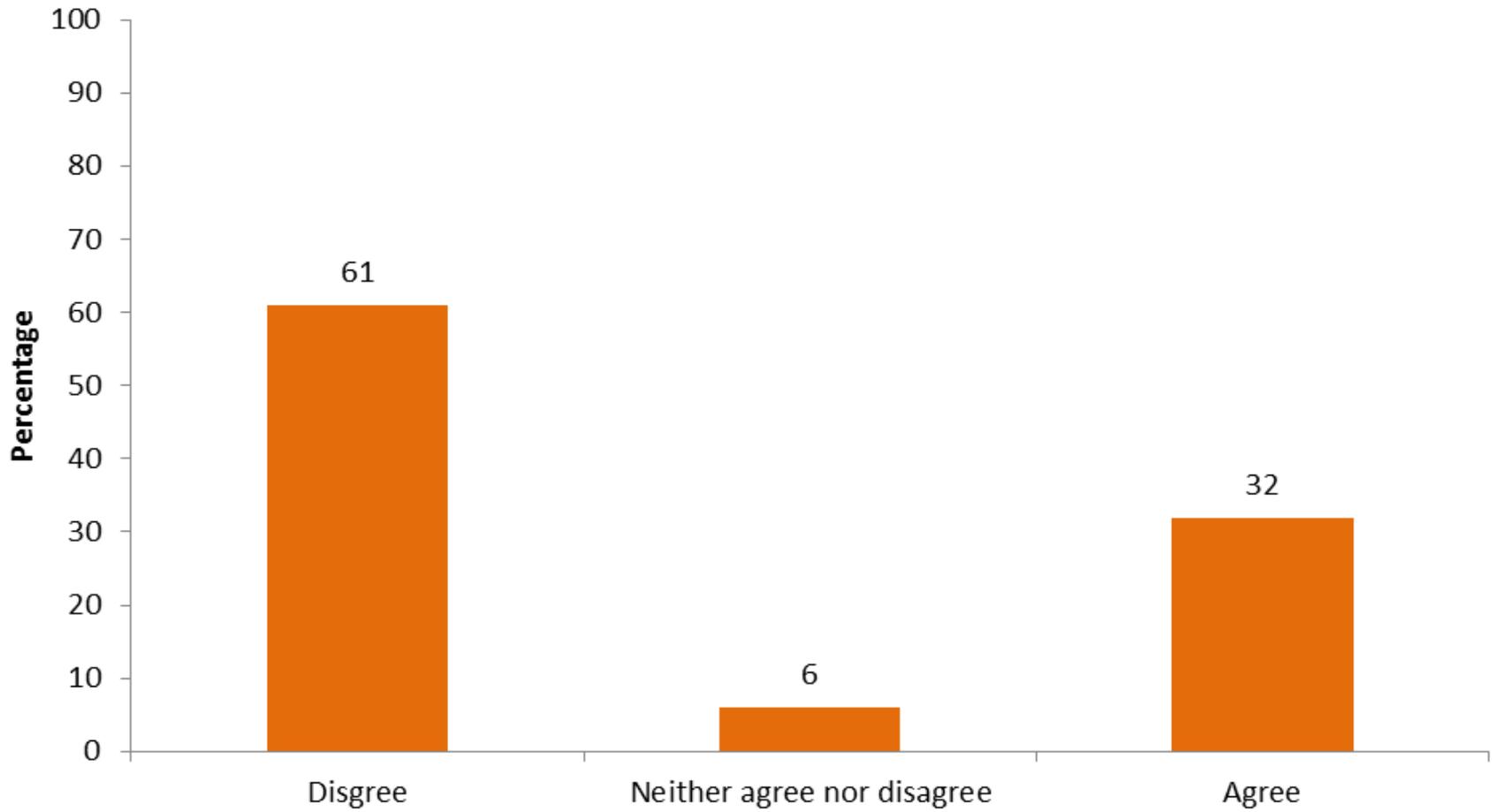


Figure 13: Religious member in same sex relationship by location | 2014 |

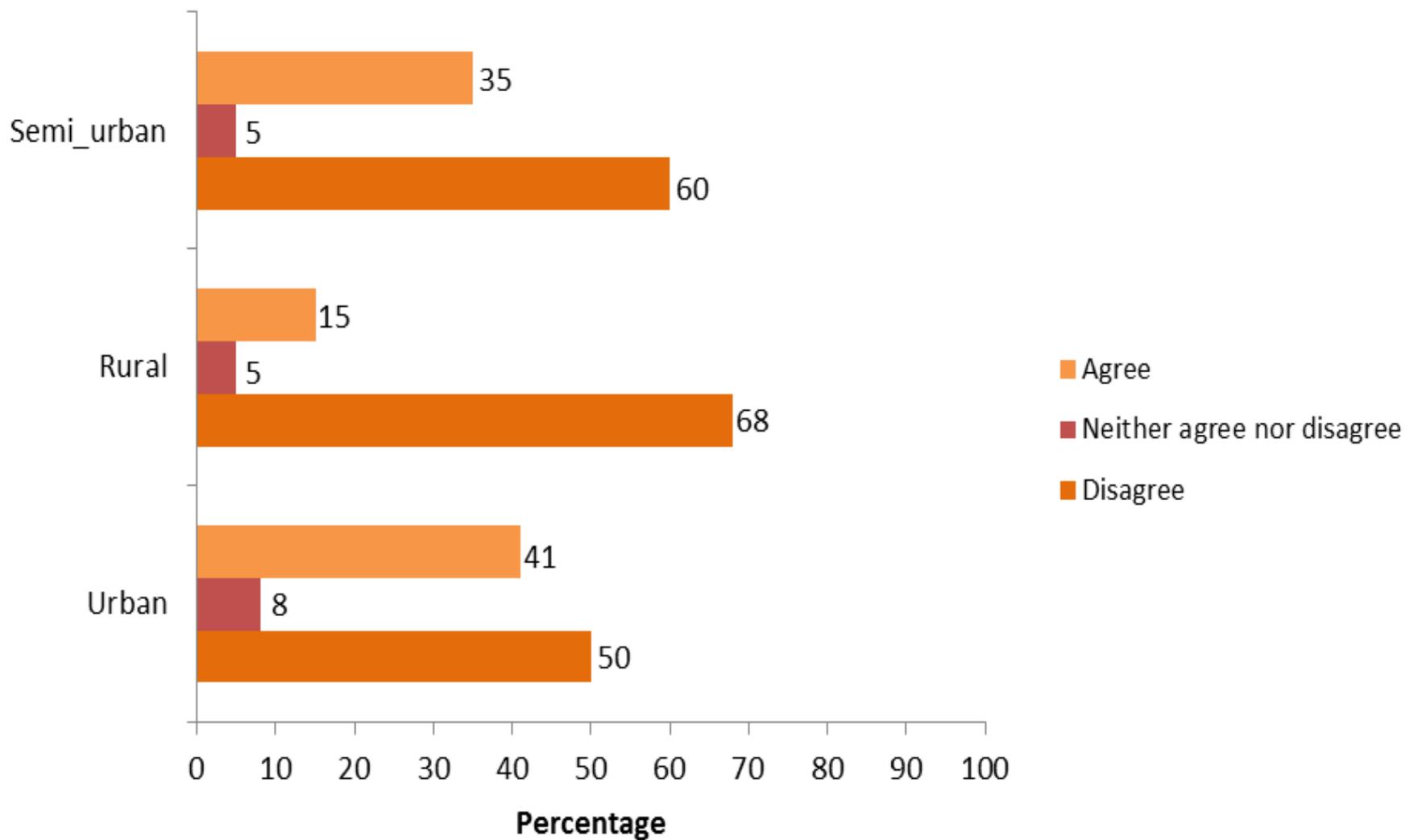


Figure 14: Religious member in same sex relationship by age | 2014 |

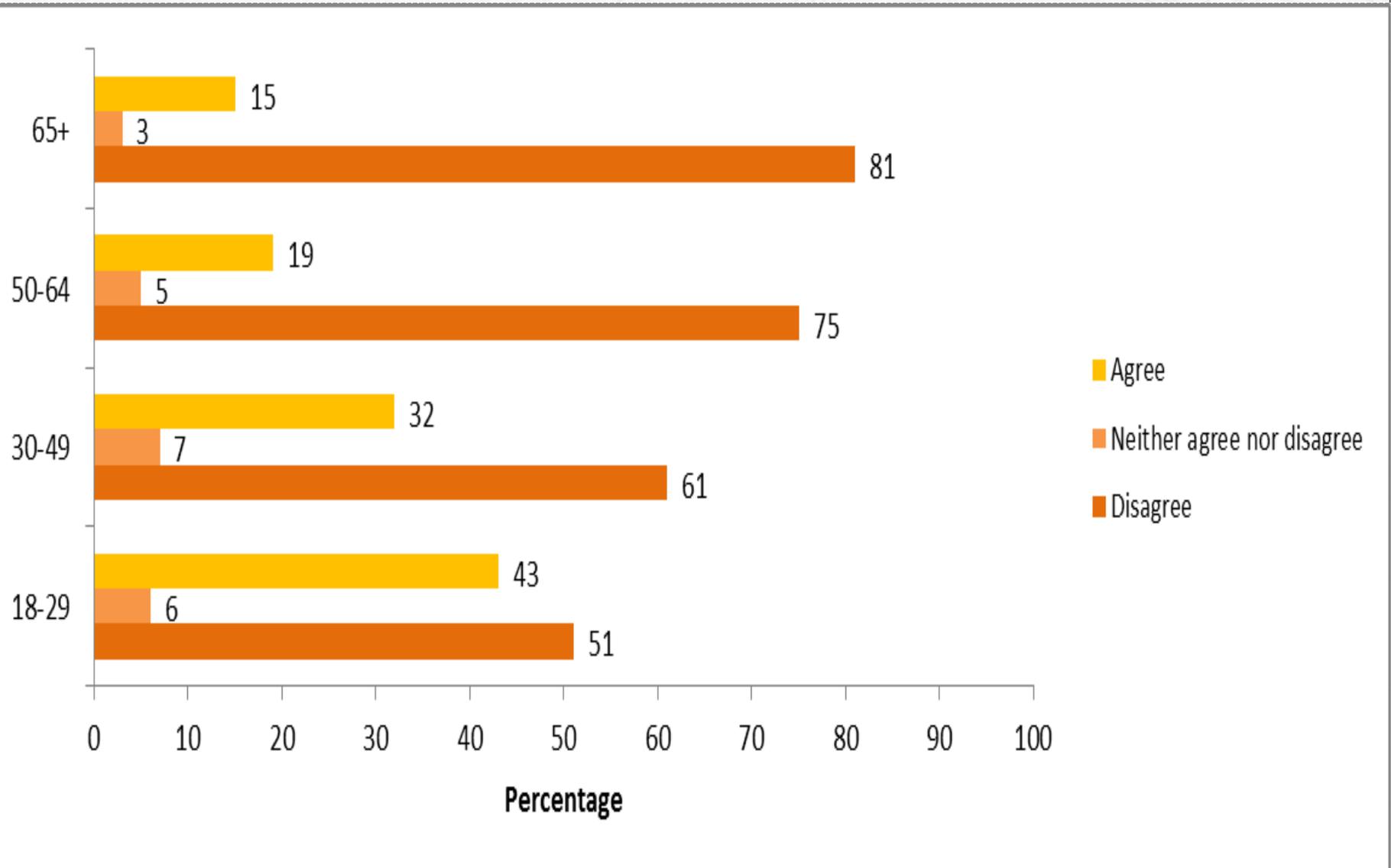


Figure 15: Action taken against same sex relationship

Q: Would you be inclined to report to the police or official if you discover that the following individual is in a same sex relationship?

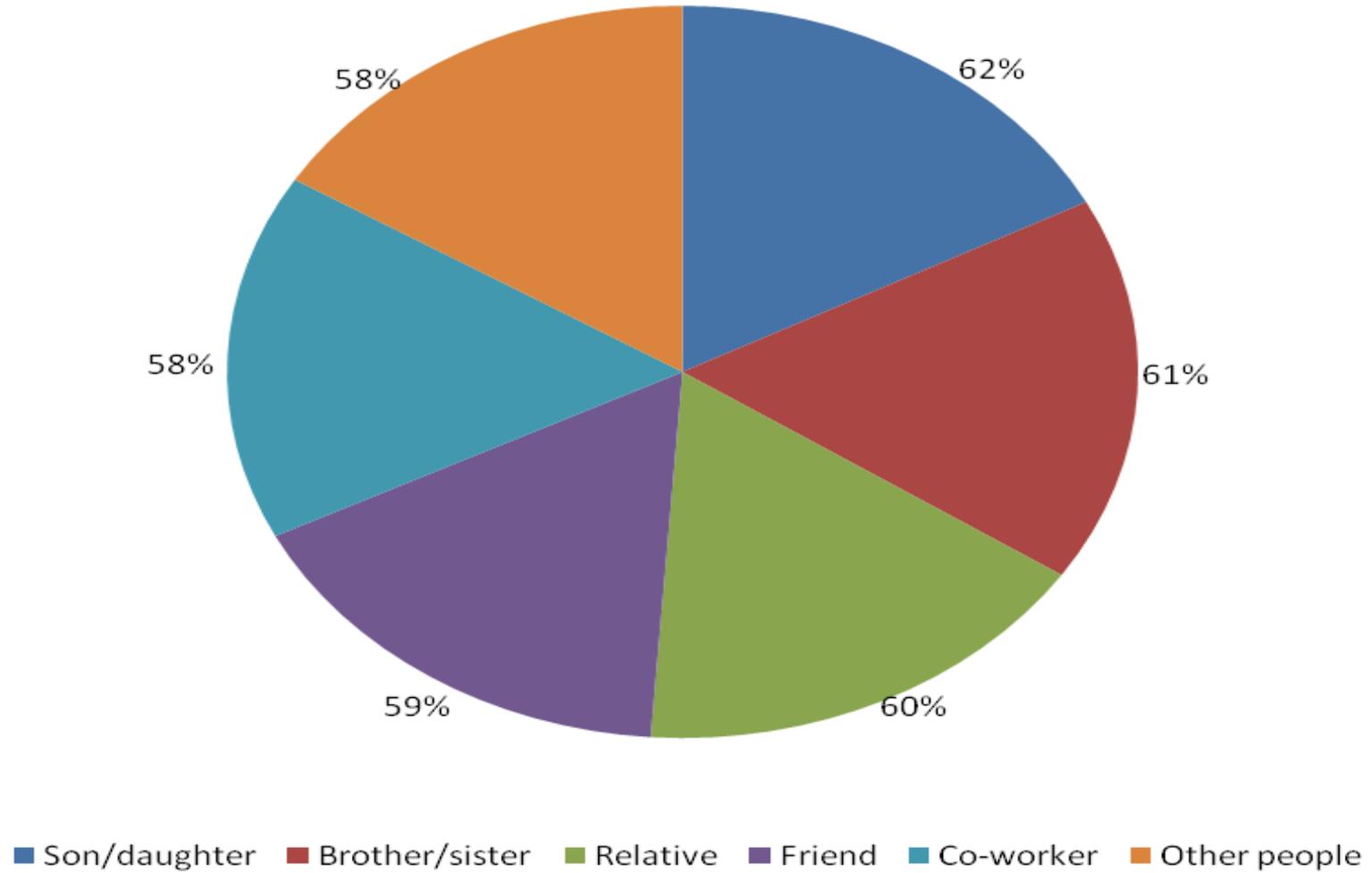
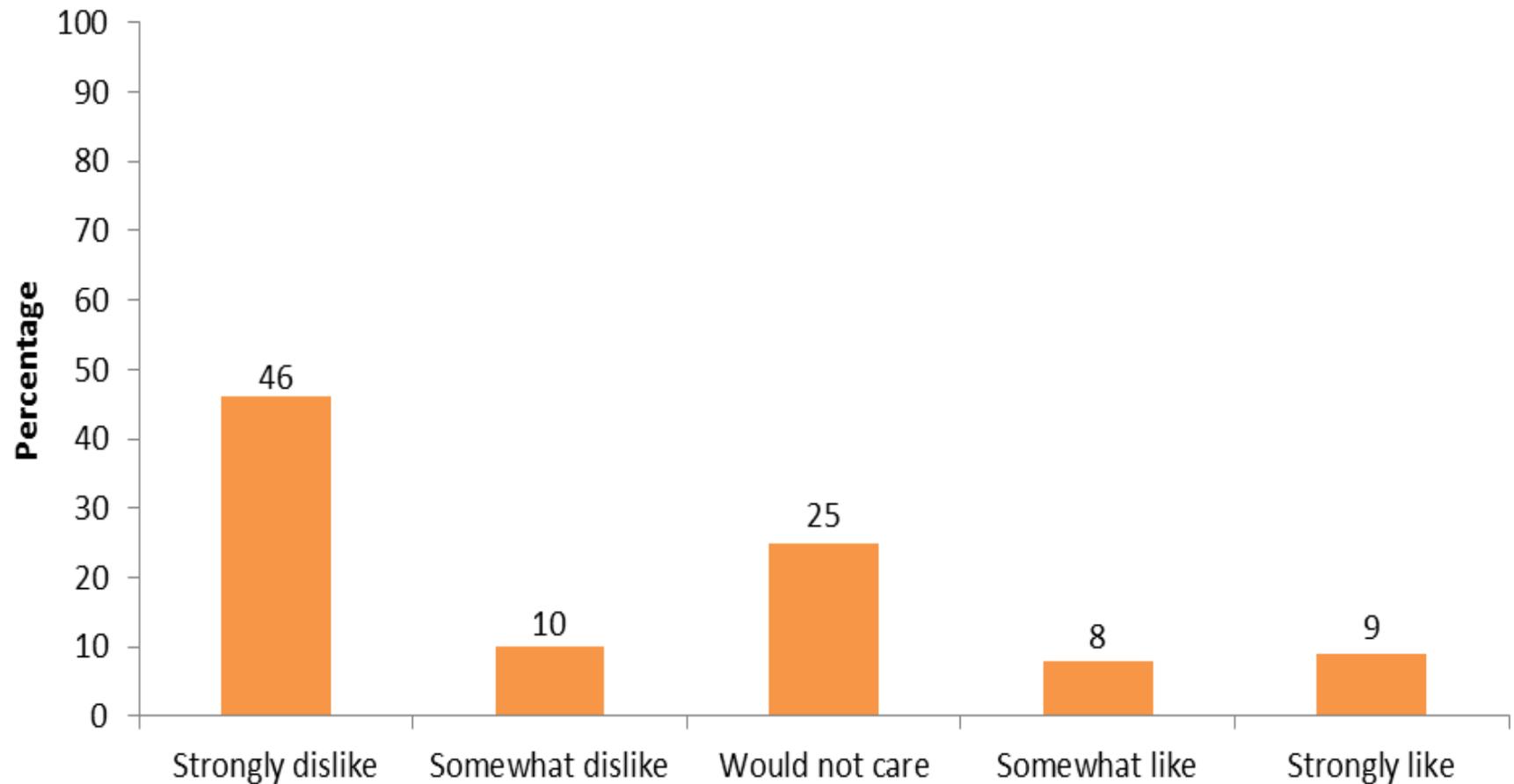


Figure 16: Being neighbours to homosexuals | 2014 |

Q: For each of the following types of people, please tell me whether you would like having people from this group as neighbours, dislike it or not care:
Homosexuals



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Media Freedom

Key Findings

-
- Three in four (75%) of Batswana in 2008 said that the news media should constantly investigate and report on government mistakes and corruption, while 71% agreed strongly in 2014.
- There are growing sentiments between 2008 and 2014 that too much reporting on negative events like government mistakes and corruption harm the country, this is said by 23% of citizens in 2008 and this increased by three percentage points to 26% in 2014.
- In 2012, 74% of respondents said the media is somewhat /very effective in revealing government mistakes and corruption, it dropped by 2% in 2014.
- Above one in four(30%) of respondents believed that the news media never abuses its freedom while in 2014 the proportion reduced to 26%.

Figure 17: Media checks government (stat 1) versus Avoid negative reporting(stat 2) | 2008-2014 |

Q:Do you agree or agree very strongly? Stat 1: The news media should constantly investigate and report on government mistakes and corruption. Stat 2: Too much reporting on negative events,like government mistakes and corruption, only harms the country

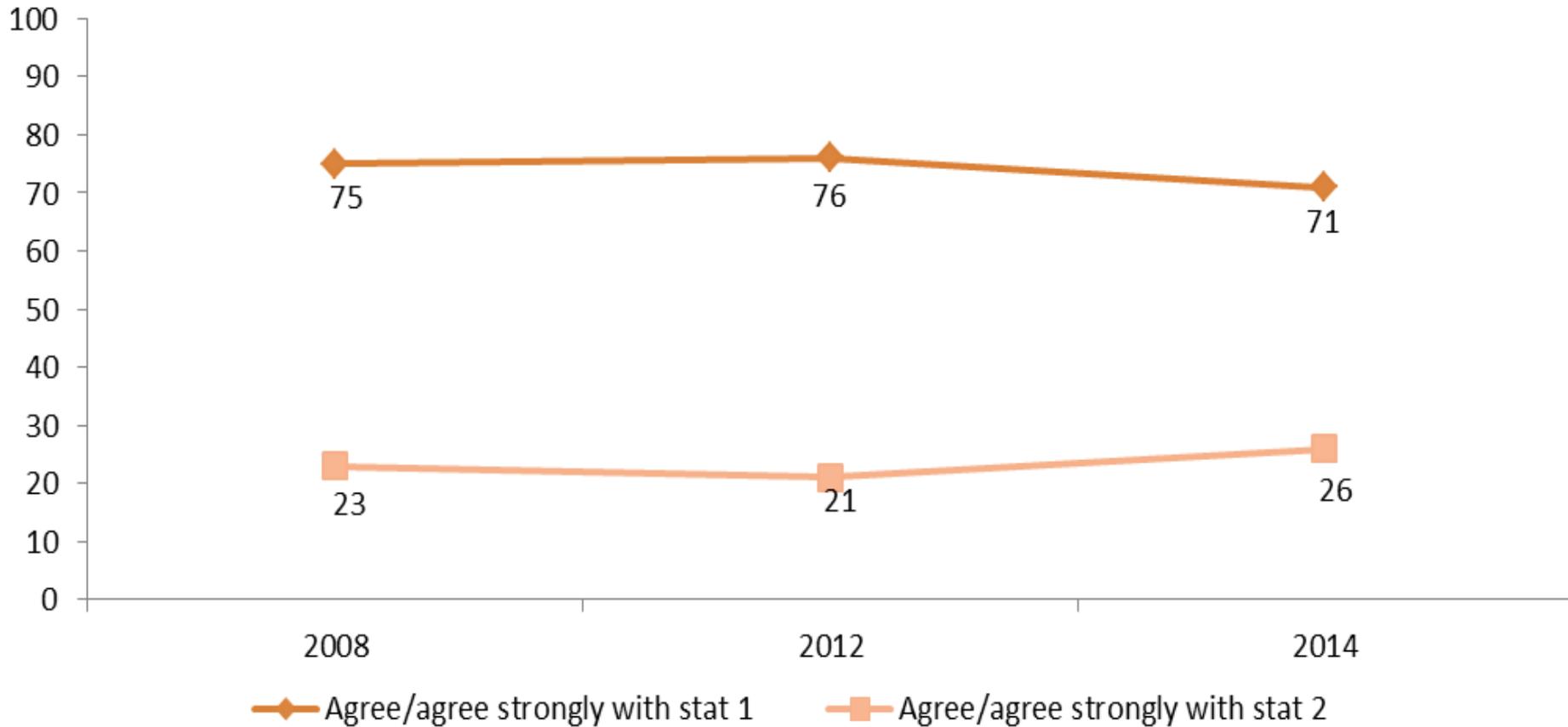


Figure 18: How effective news media reveals government mistakes and corruption | 2012-2014 |

Q: In this country, how effective is the news media in revealing government mistakes and corruption?

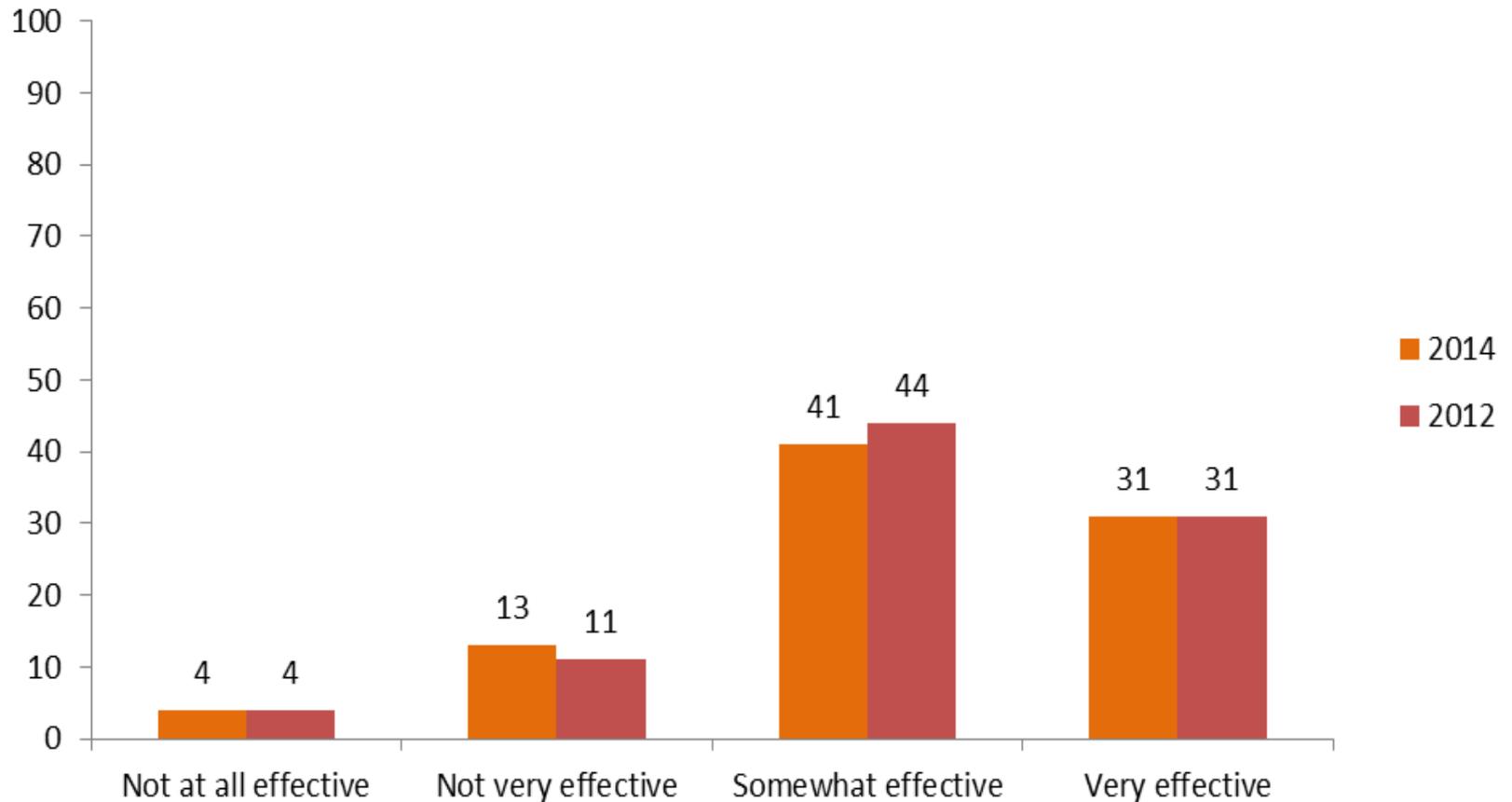
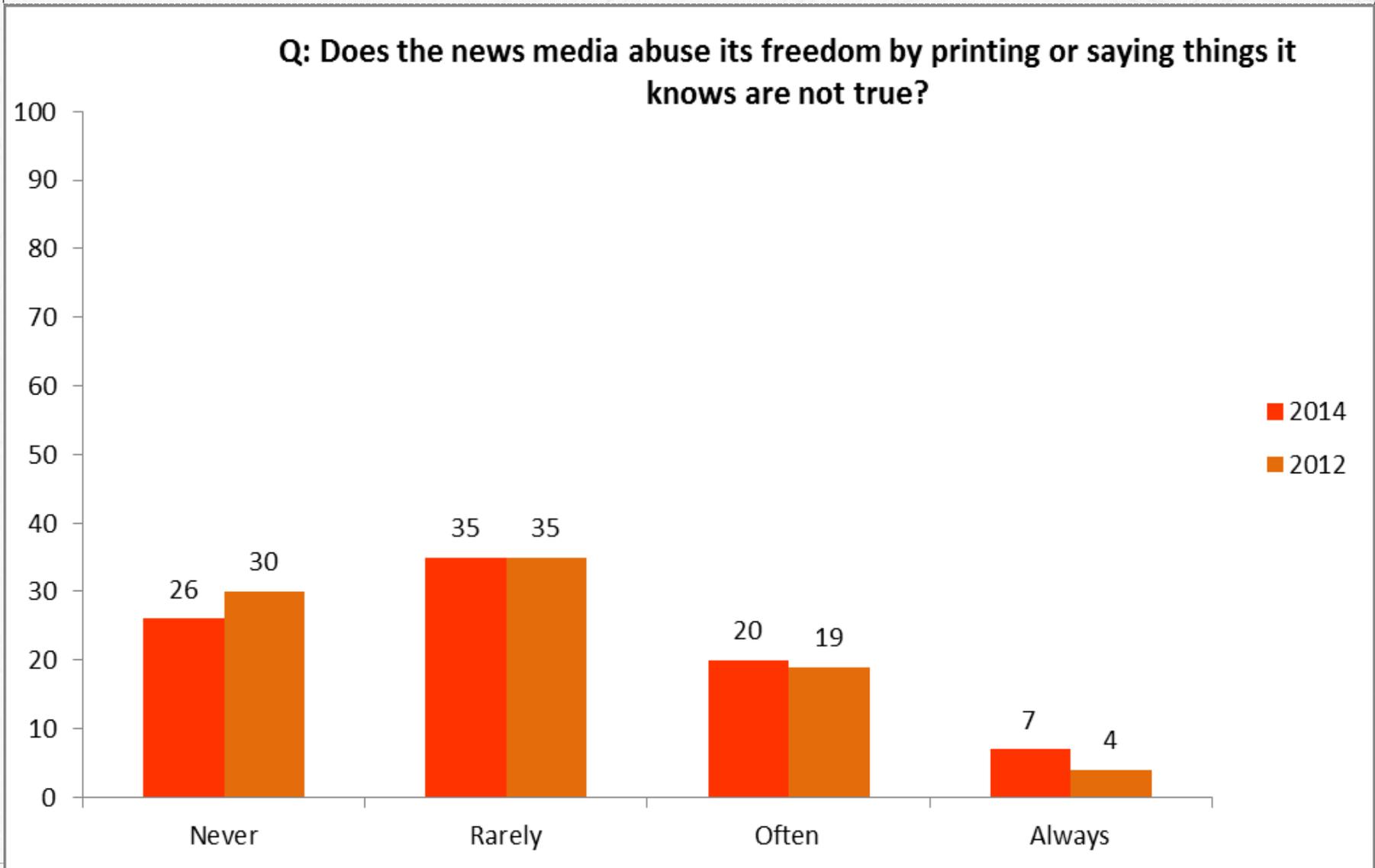


Figure 19: How often does media abuses its freedom | 2012-2014 |





Thank you