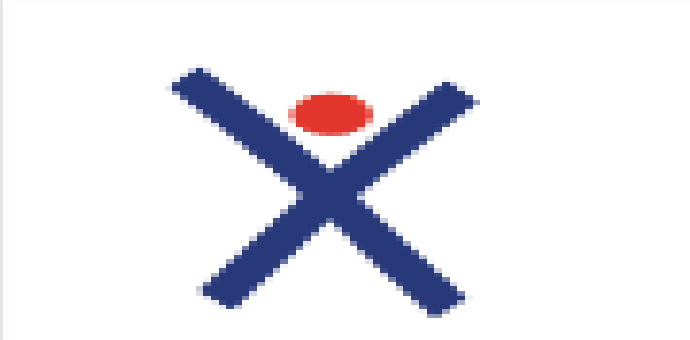


# Results from the Afrobarometer Round 5 Survey in **Namibia** 14 March 2013



Institute for **P**ublic **P**olicy **R**esearch



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

[www.ippr.org.na](http://www.ippr.org.na)



# What is the Afrobarometer?



## Institute for Public Policy Research

- The Afrobarometer (AB) is a comparative series of public opinion surveys that measure public attitudes toward democracy, governance, the economy, leadership, identity, and other related issues.
- The AB is an independent, non-partisan, African-based network of researchers.
- The first round of surveys took place in 1999-2001 in 12 countries. The Network is now conducting “Round 5” surveys in up to 35 countries during 2011-2012.
- **Purpose:** To measure popular perspectives on the social, political, and economic environments in each country where it is implemented and across Africa.
- **Goal:** To give the public a *voice* in policy making processes by providing high-quality public opinion data to policy-makers, policy advocates and civil society organizations, academics, media, donors and investors, and ordinary Africans.



## Country Coverage: 1999-2012

- **Round 1, 1999-2001, 12 countries**
  - *Southern Africa: Botswana, Lesotho, Malawi, **Namibia**, South Africa, Zambia, Zimbabwe*
  - *West Africa: Ghana, Mali, Nigeria*
  - *East Africa: Tanzania, Uganda*
  
- **Round 2, 2002-2003, 16 countries**
  - *Cape Verde, Kenya, Mozambique, Senegal*
  
- **Round 3, 2005-2006, 18 countries**
  - *Benin, Madagascar*
  
- **Round 4, 2008-2009, 20 countries**
  - *Burkina Faso, Liberia*
  
- **Round 5, 2011-2013, up to 35 countries**
  - *Algeria, Burundi, Cameroon, Cote d'Ivoire, Egypt, Guinea, Mauritius, Morocco, Niger, Togo, Tunisia, Sierra Leone, Sudan*



# Country Coverage Round 5: 2011-2013



Institute for Public  
Policy Research





# Who is the Afrobarometer?



- A Pan-African Network of survey researchers and analysts.
- In each country there is a ***National Partner*** responsible for survey implementation. In Namibia, the National Partner is the **Institute for Public Policy Research**.
  - Four ***Core Partners*** provide technical assistance and Network management:
    - *Center for Democratic Development (CDD), Ghana*
    - *Institute for Democracy in South Africa (Idasa), South Africa*
    - *Institute for Development Studies (IDS), University of Nairobi, Kenya*
    - *Institute for Empirical Research in Political Economy (IREEP), Benin*
  - Two ***Support Units*** for capacity building and quality assurance
    - *Michigan State University*
    - *University of Cape Town*
  - Round 5 ***Core Funders*** include
    - *DFID*
    - *SIDA*
    - *USAID*
    - *Mo Ibrahim Foundation*



# Survey Methodology

- Nationally representative sample of adult citizens
  - *all respondents are randomly selected*
  - *every adult citizen has an equal and known chance of being selected*
- Face-to-face interviews in the language of the respondent's choice
- Standard survey instrument across all countries for comparability
- The survey interviewed 1200 adult Namibians; A sample of this size yields results with a margin of error of +/- 3 % at a 95% confidence level.
- Field work for Round 5 in Namibia will be conducted between 19 November and 15 December in 2012.
- Afrobarometer's work in Namibia is coordinated by the **Institute for Public Policy Research** and field work was carried out by **Survey Warehouse**.



# Survey Demographics



|           | Weighted | Un-weighted |
|-----------|----------|-------------|
| Mean Age  | 32       | 32          |
| Gender    |          |             |
| Male      | 50       | 50          |
| Female    | 50       | 50          |
| Location  |          |             |
| Urban     | 42       | 42          |
| Rural     | 58       | 58          |
| Education |          |             |
| None      | 9        | 8           |
| Primary   | 22       | 23          |
| Secondary | 57       | 57          |
| Higher    | 12       | 12          |



# Survey Demographics



|              | Weighted | Un-weighted |
|--------------|----------|-------------|
| Caprivi      | 4%       | 5%          |
| Erongo       | 7%       | 7%          |
| Hardap       | 4%       | 3%          |
| Karas        | 4%       | 4%          |
| Kavango      | 11%      | 11%         |
| Khomas       | 16%      | 16%         |
| Kunene       | 4%       | 4%          |
| Ohangwena    | 12%      | 12%         |
| Omaheke      | 3%       | 3%          |
| Omusati      | 12%      | 12%         |
| Oshana       | 8%       | 8%          |
| Oshikoto     | 9%       | 9%          |
| Otjozondjupa | 6%       | 7%          |





# Summary

- Economic Issues
- Government policies
- Youth apathy



# Economic Condition Issues

- Employment
- National Economic Conditions
- Lived poverty

# Key findings on Employment

- ❑ Unemployment in the survey remains the same as 2008.
- ❑ Unemployment rate of the active workforce is up to 54%.
- ❑ Over the five survey rounds employment has declined from 49% to 34%.
- ❑ Those looking for work increased from 30% to 40%.
- ❑ Those not looking increased from 20% to 26%



# Unemployment 2012

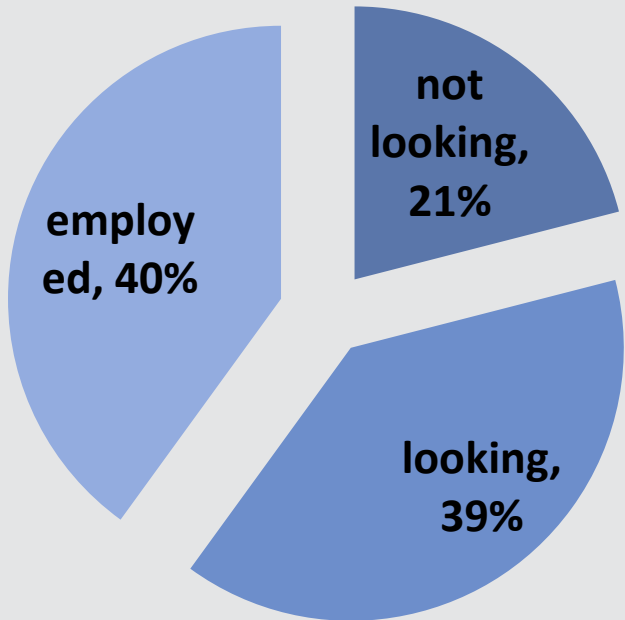
Q96. Employment status : *Do you have a job that pays you a cash income?*

|          | No (not looking) | No (looking) | Yes, part time | Yes, full time |
|----------|------------------|--------------|----------------|----------------|
| Urban %  | <b>18</b>        | <b>37</b>    | <b>10</b>      | <b>35</b>      |
| Rural %  | <b>32</b>        | <b>41</b>    | <b>8</b>       | <b>19</b>      |
| Male %   | <b>25</b>        | <b>33</b>    | <b>9</b>       | <b>33</b>      |
| Female % | <b>28</b>        | <b>46</b>    | <b>9</b>       | <b>17</b>      |
| Total %  | <b>26</b>        | <b>40</b>    | <b>9</b>       | <b>25</b>      |

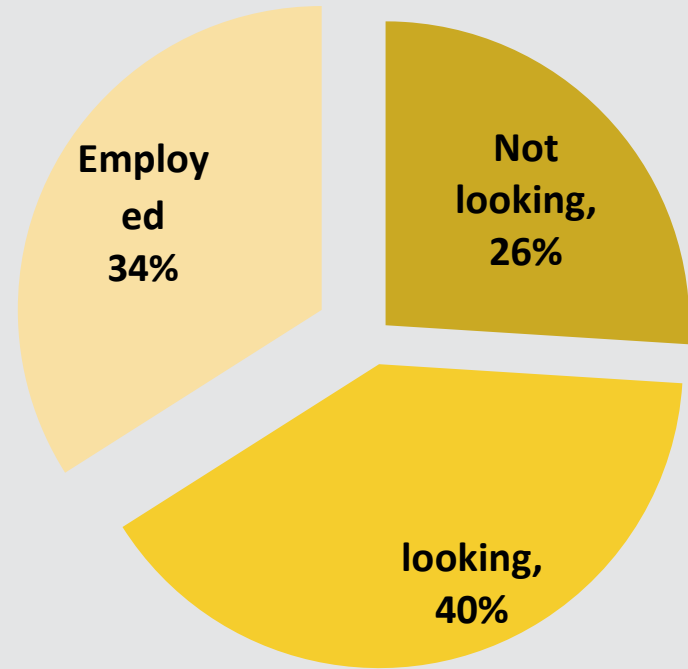


# Employment comparison 2008-2012

**2008**



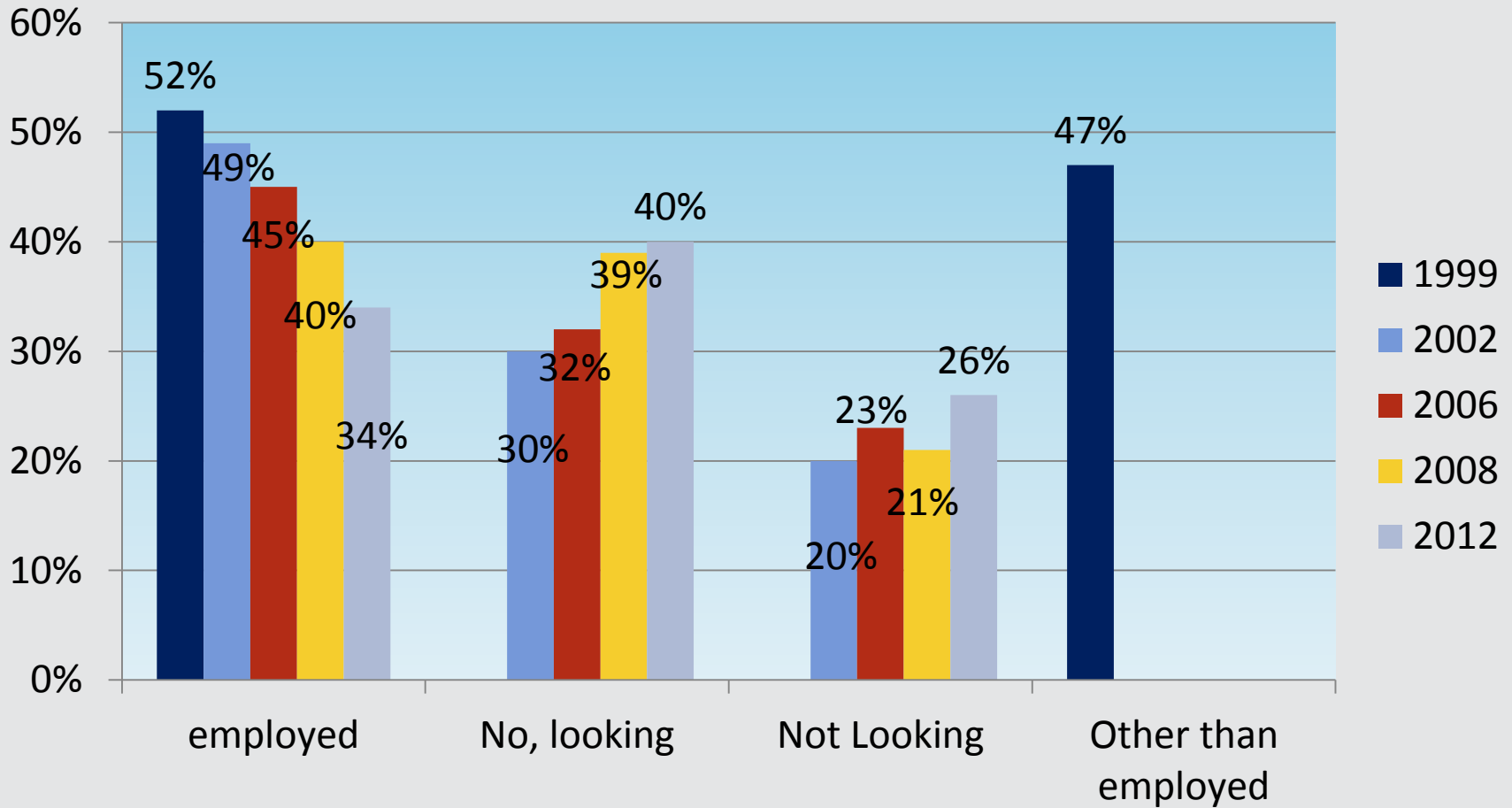
**2012**





# Unemployment Trends 1999-2012

*Do you have a job that pays a cash income?*



# Key Findings on National Economic Conditions 2012

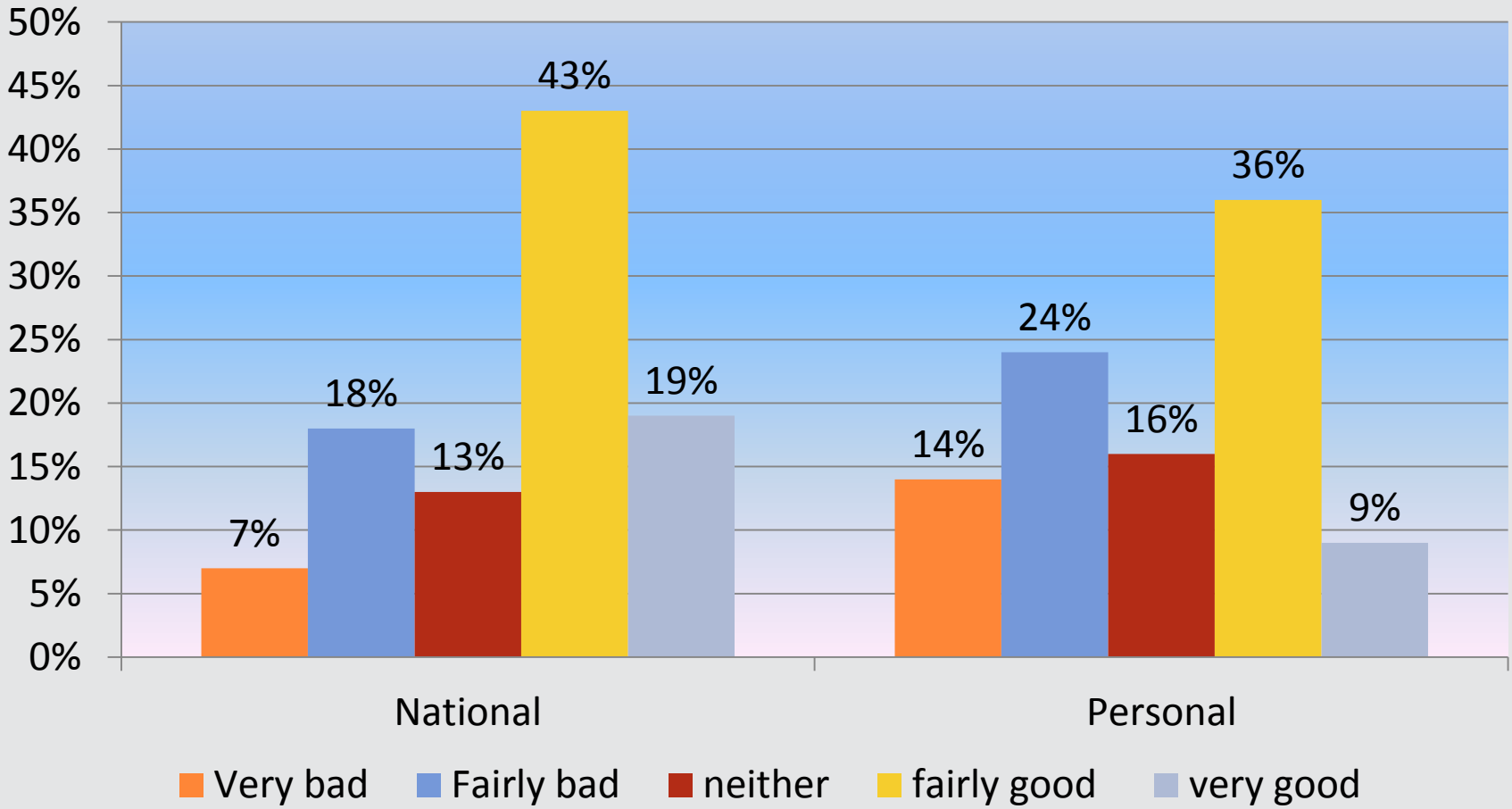
- Economic conditions: 61% of national and 45% of personal responses were “fairly good to very good”.**
- Overall a positive trend remains around 52% to 61% over the 1999 to 2012 period.**
- In 2006 and 2008 Namibia had the highest ranking on this question of all Afrobarometer countries surveyed.**
- By contrast 71% of respondents felt that government was “heading in the right direction”.**
- Urban centres and Eastern regions were less positive.**
- Seventy-one % felt that government should focus more on the rural poor rather than urban poor.**
- Eighty-two % of the rural respondents “agreed or agreed strongly” and a majority 57% of urban respondents supported this idea.**



# National Economic Conditions 2012

*"In general, how would you describe the present economic conditions of this country?"*

*"In general, how would you describe your own economic conditions at present?"*

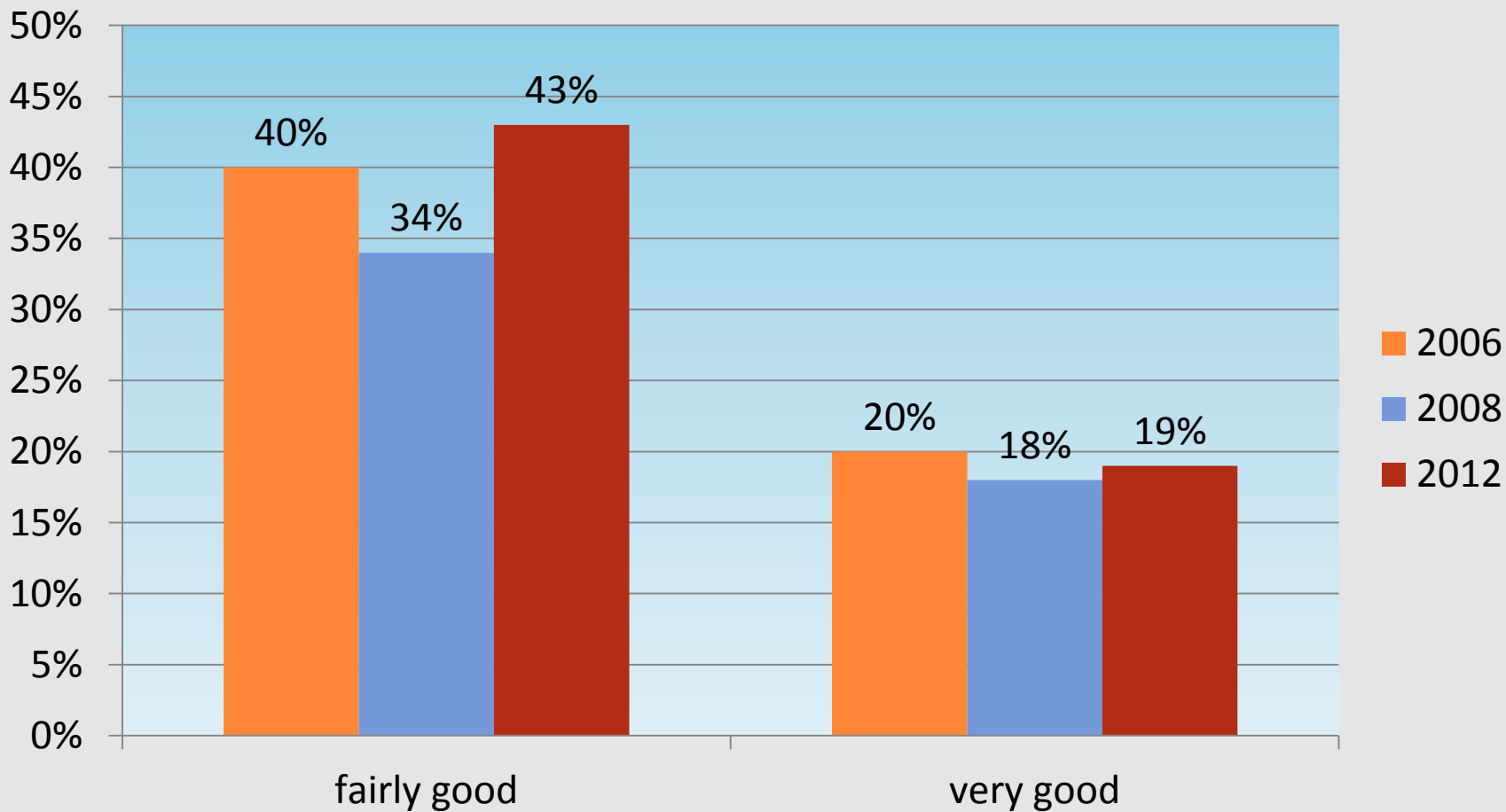






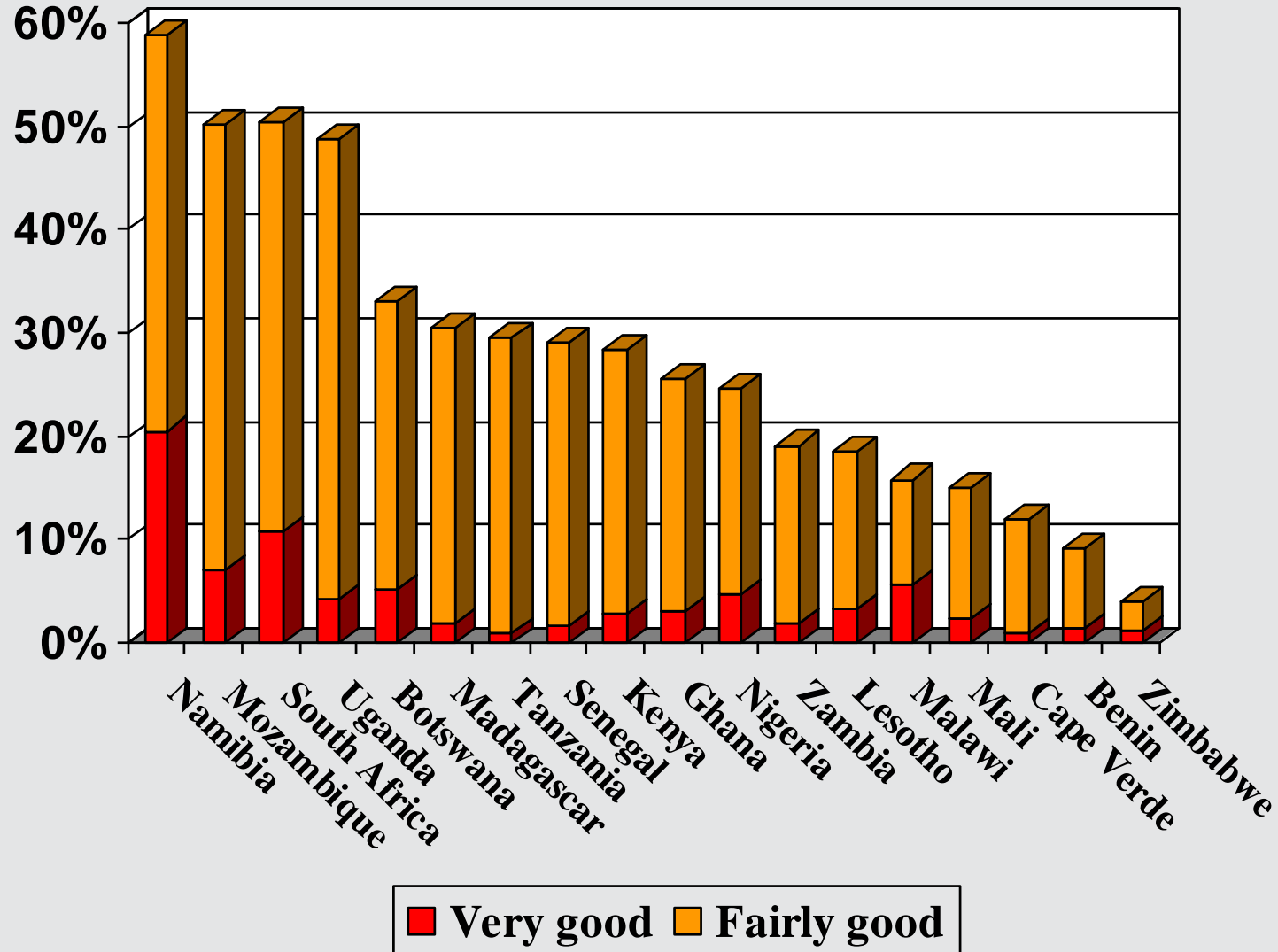
# Economic Conditions 2006/08/12

*"In general, how would you describe the present economic conditions of this country?"*





# Present National Economic Conditions 2006





# Is the country headed in the right direction?

| Q7. Overall direction of the country | Urban % | Rural % | Male % | Female % | Total % |
|--------------------------------------|---------|---------|--------|----------|---------|
| Going in the wrong direction         | 27      | 22      | 25     | 24       | 24      |
| Going in the right direction         | 69      | 73      | 71     | 72       | 71      |
| Don't know                           | 5       | 5       | 5      | 4        | 5       |



# Q7. Overall direction of the country 2012 by region

| Region       | Going in the wrong direction | Going in the right direction |
|--------------|------------------------------|------------------------------|
|              | Caprivi                      | 16 %                         |
| Erongo       | 11 %                         | 88 %                         |
| Hardap       | 18 %                         | 80 %                         |
| Karas        | 2 %                          | 98 %                         |
| Kavango      | <b>31 %</b>                  | <b>66 %</b>                  |
| Khomas       | <b>34 %</b>                  | <b>59 %</b>                  |
| Kunene       | 8 %                          | 85%                          |
| Ohangwena    | 24%                          | 74 %                         |
| Omaheke      | <b>38 %</b>                  | <b>58 %</b>                  |
| Omusati      | 20 %                         | 73 %                         |
| Oshana       | 25 %                         | <b>66 %</b>                  |
| Oshikoto     | 25 %                         | 72 %                         |
| Otjozondjupa | 28%                          | <b>66 %</b>                  |
| Total        | 24 %                         | 72 %                         |



# Urban or Rural Focus?

| <b>Q79_NAM.<br/>Government should<br/>spend more to help<br/>rural poor vs urban<br/>poor</b> | <b>Urban %</b> | <b>Rural %</b> | <b>Male %</b> | <b>Female %</b> | <b>Total %</b> |
|---|----------------|----------------|---------------|-----------------|----------------|
| Agree very strongly<br>with 1   | <b>29</b>      | <b>50</b>      | <b>41</b>     | <b>42</b>       | <b>41</b>      |
| Agree with 1  | <b>28</b>      | <b>32</b>      | <b>30</b>     | <b>30</b>       | <b>30</b>      |
| Agree with 2  | <b>20</b>      | <b>10</b>      | <b>14</b>     | <b>15</b>       | <b>14</b>      |
| Agree very strongly<br>with 2   | <b>20</b>      | <b>7</b>       | <b>13</b>     | <b>12</b>       | <b>13</b>      |

# Key Findings on Lived Poverty

- Food shortage is a major indicator of poverty with 53% of respondents reporting some experience of deprivation.
- Urban respondents indicated a lower rate of food shortage with only 46% reporting some deprivation.
- Cash shortage has consistently been in the high 70% range over the past three surveys putting pressure on businesses, especially in rural areas.
- However, Namibia does not rank very high on the lived poverty “without cash” question at 13<sup>th</sup> highest in 2008.
- Other deprivations such as water, fuel or health care are experienced by only about 50% or less of respondents.
- Only about ten % experience food shortage “many times or always”.



# Lived poverty 2012

| <b>Q8a. How often gone<br/>without food</b> | <b>Urban<br/>%</b> | <b>Rural %</b> | <b>Male %</b> | <b>Female<br/>%</b> | <b>Total %</b> |
|---|--------------------|----------------|---------------|---------------------|----------------|
| <b>Never</b>                                | <b>54</b>          | <b>42</b>      | <b>48</b>     | <b>46</b>           | <b>47</b>      |
| <b>Just once or twice</b>                   | <b>16</b>          | <b>19</b>      | <b>20</b>     | <b>15</b>           | <b>18</b>      |
| <b>Several times</b>                        | <b>21</b>          | <b>28</b>      | <b>22</b>     | <b>27</b>           | <b>25</b>      |
| <b>Many times</b>                           | <b>7</b>           | <b>9</b>       | <b>8</b>      | <b>8</b>            | <b>8</b>       |
| <b>Always</b>                               | <b>2</b>           | <b>2</b>       | <b>2</b>      | <b>3</b>            | <b>2</b>       |



# Poverty trend

*“Over the past year, how often, if ever, have you or anyone in your family gone without ...”  
“once to always”*

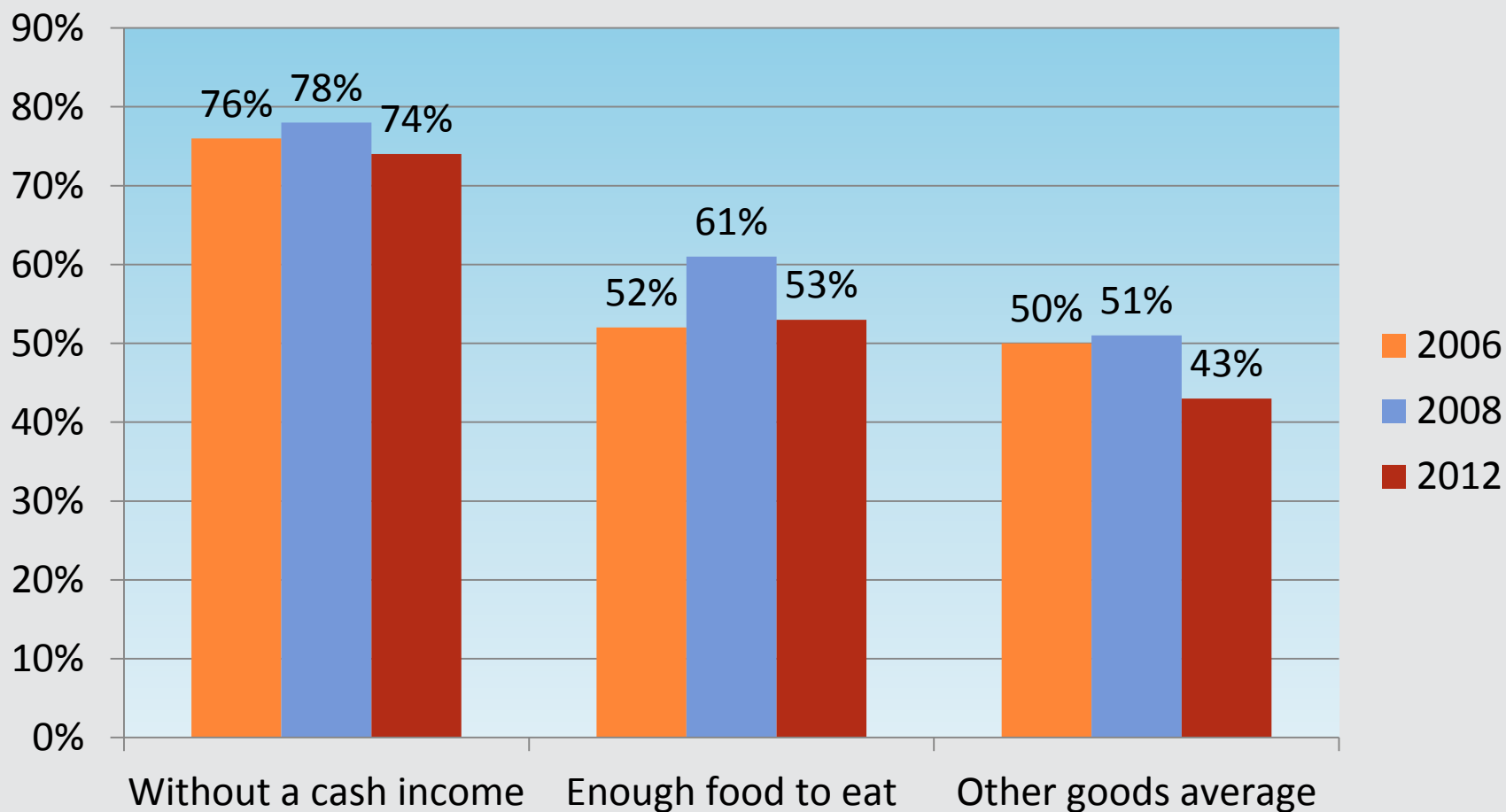
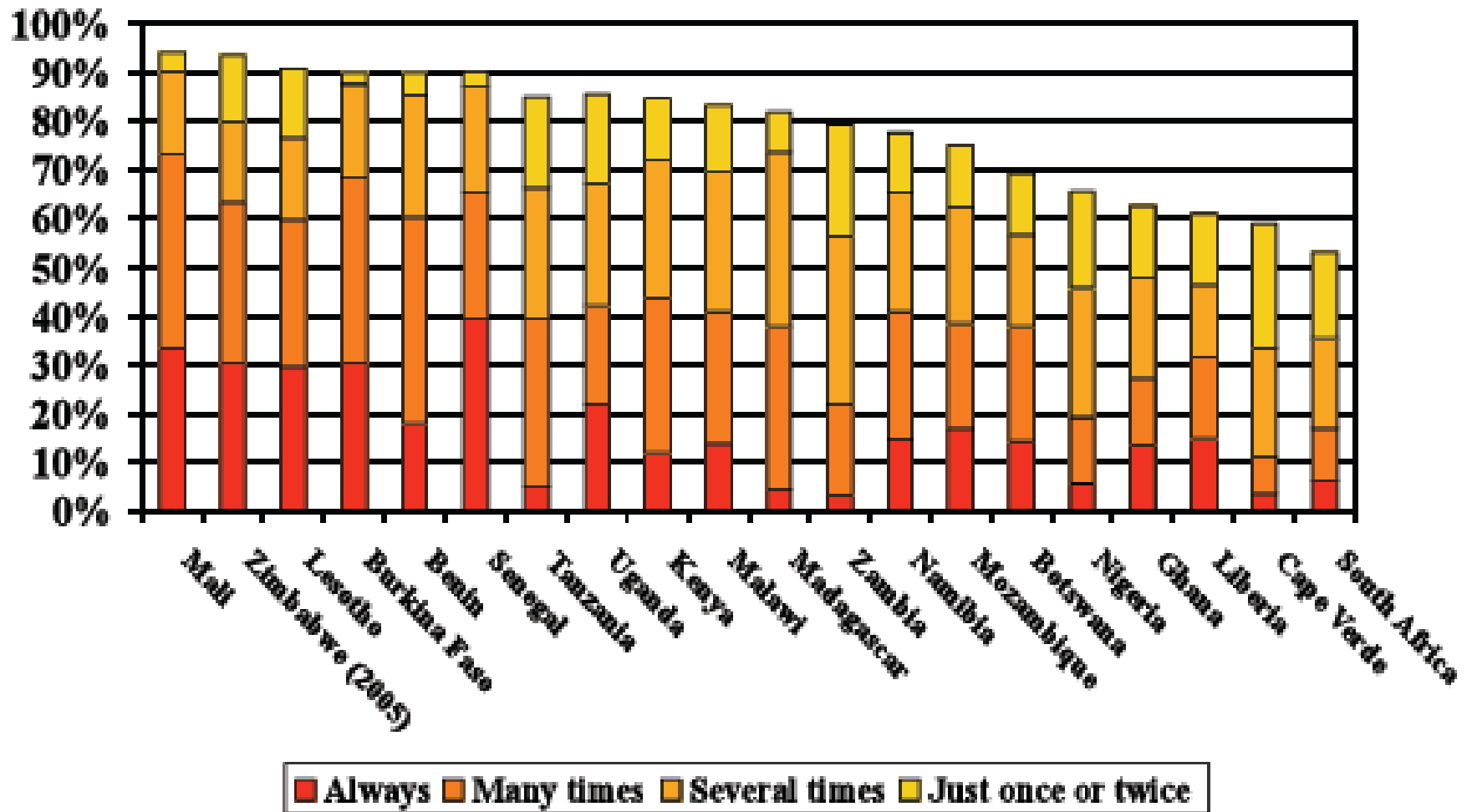






Figure 2: Lived Poverty: Going Without Cash Income, by Country, 2008



# Key Findings on Attitudes toward Government Policies

- Namibian respondents continue to rate unemployment and poverty as the most important problems facing the country. These are the only two issues that received double digit responses.
- Respondents continue to give the most negative evaluations to Government responses to these two problems.
- Sixty-one % of respondents feel the Government policies hurt most people and only help a few.



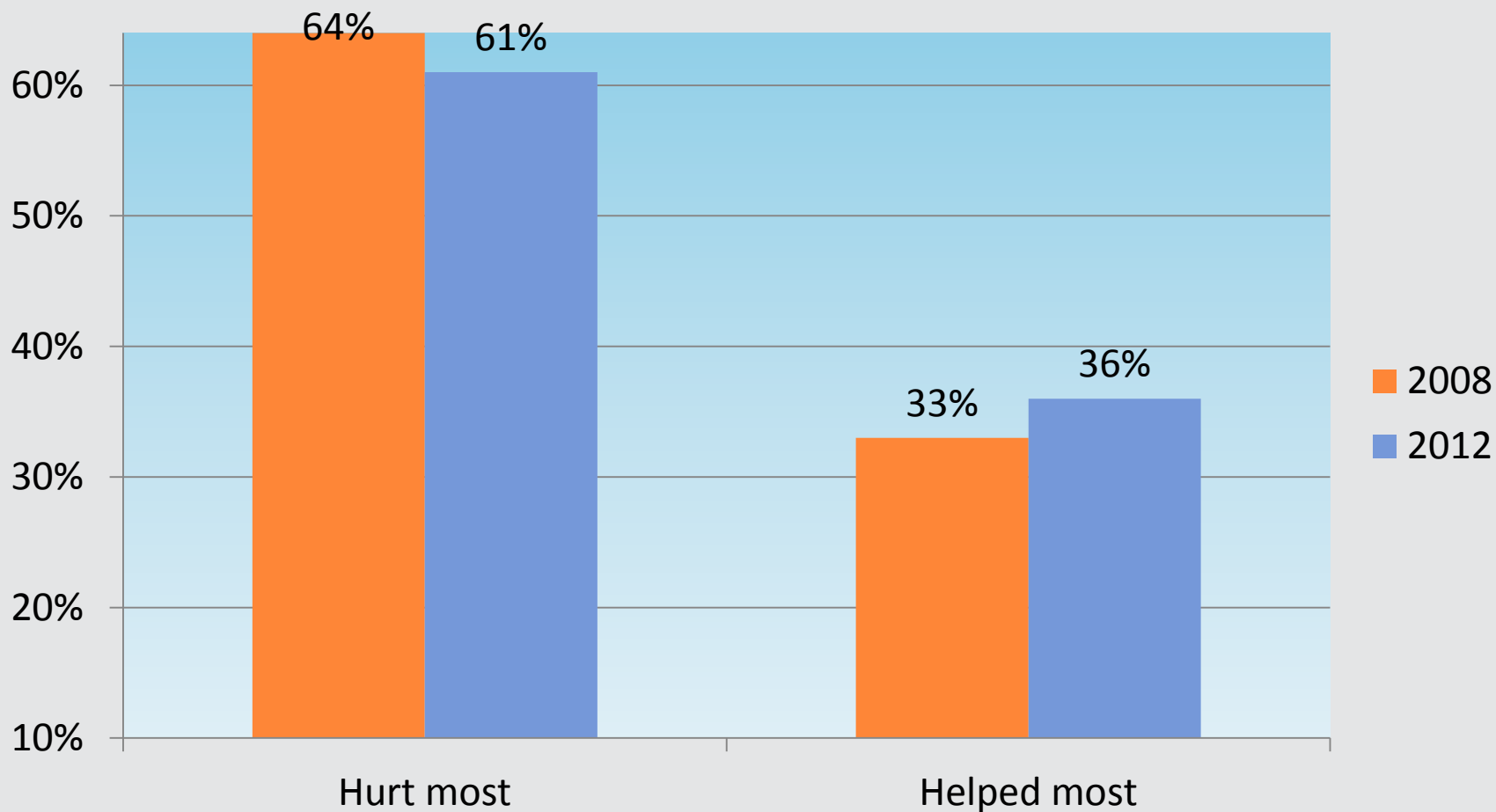
# Most important problem in 2012

## Q63pt1. Most important problems - 1st response

|                                 | Urban %   | Rural %   | Male %    | Female %  | Total %   |
|---------------------------------|-----------|-----------|-----------|-----------|-----------|
| <b>Unemployment</b>             | <b>43</b> | <b>31</b> | <b>34</b> | <b>37</b> | <b>36</b> |
| <b>Poverty/<br/>destitution</b> | <b>10</b> | <b>10</b> | <b>10</b> | <b>10</b> | <b>10</b> |



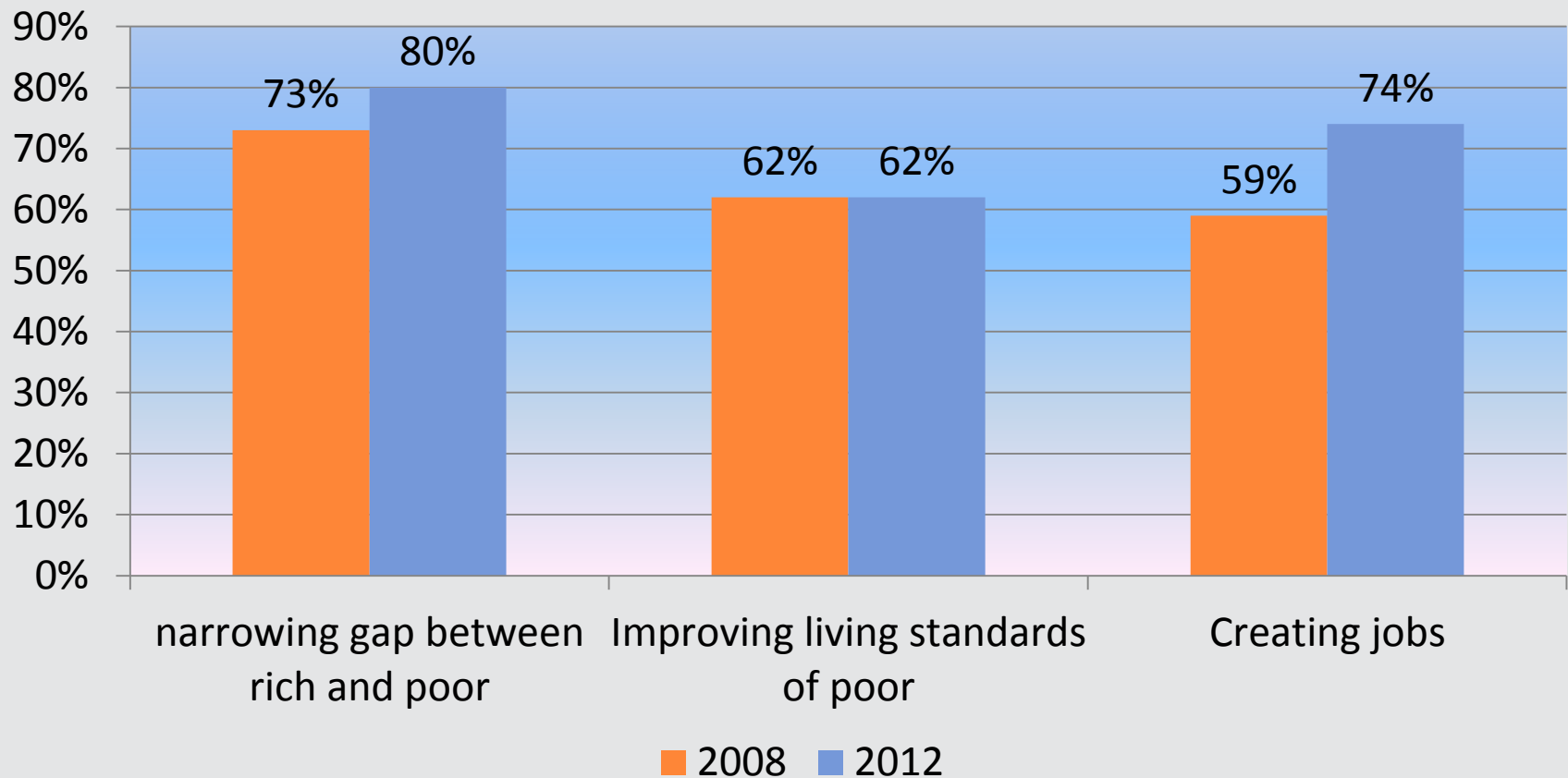
# Government Policies Help or Hurt Most People





# GRN Policies with negative Views 2008/2012

*How well or badly does government handle...*  
% “Fairly badly/Very badly”



# Key Findings on Youth Apathy Issues 2008/2012

## *Are 'Born Frees' different?*

- Born Free (18-24 year olds) respondents consistently had less preference for democracy, had less interest in public affairs, discussed public affairs less, and felt close to political parties substantially less than other age groups.
- Born Frees also voted less (60% rate) than others (high 70-90% range) in 2009.
- On the other hand, they had similar feelings of the importance of religion in their lives, so they are more apathetic about politics rather than being alienated from society.



# 2008 Youth Opinions “Born Free” ? (18-24)

## Would Vote for a party                      Close to a party

- Yes, a Party            70% (78% all others)    55% (71% all others)
- Undetermined            30%    (22% all others)            45% (29% all others)

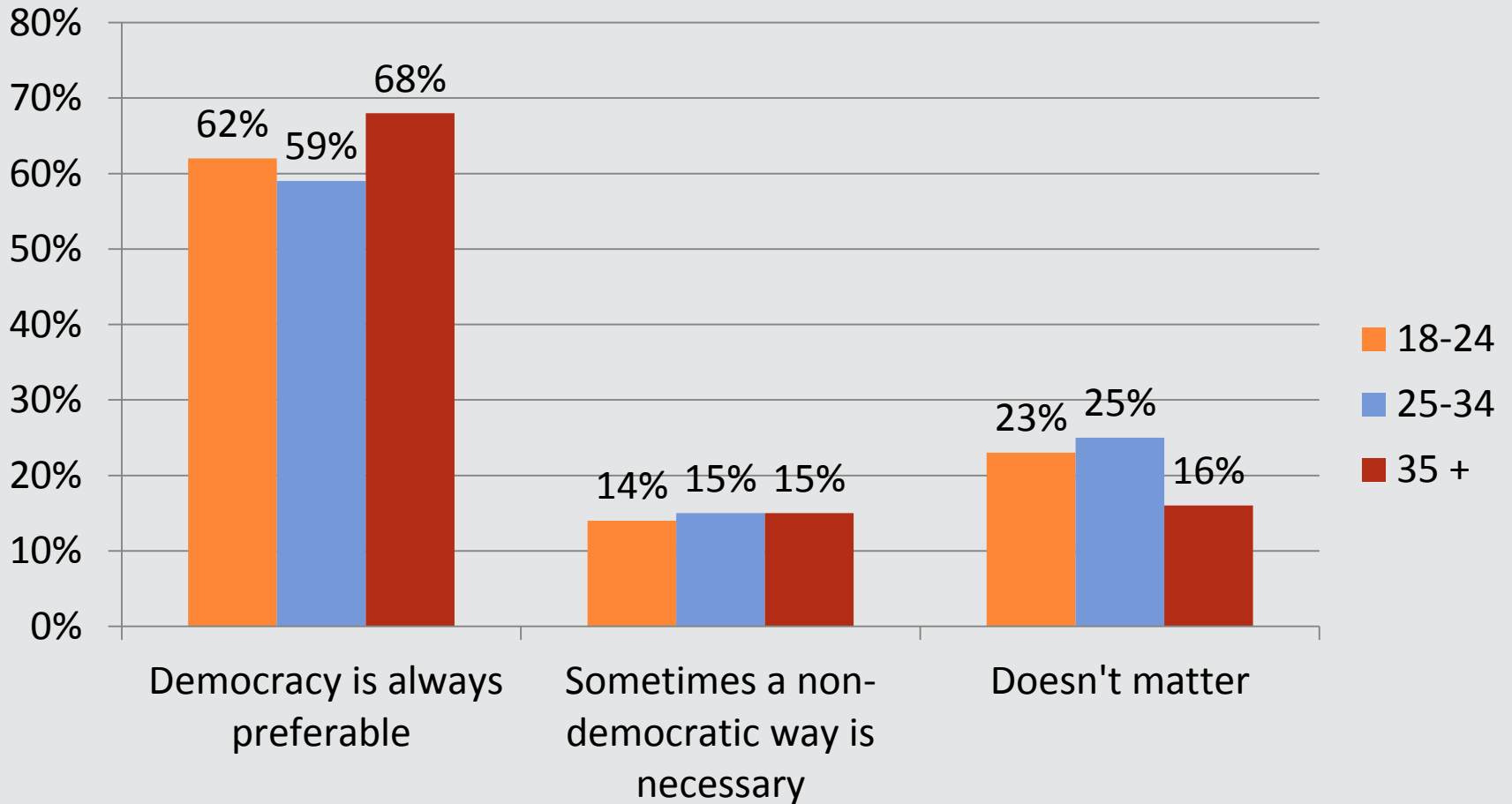
Democracy is preferable = 54%    (68% all others)

### Interest in Public Affairs

Not at all = 33%    (16% all others)

Very =            21%    (32% all others)

# Youth preference for Democracy 2012

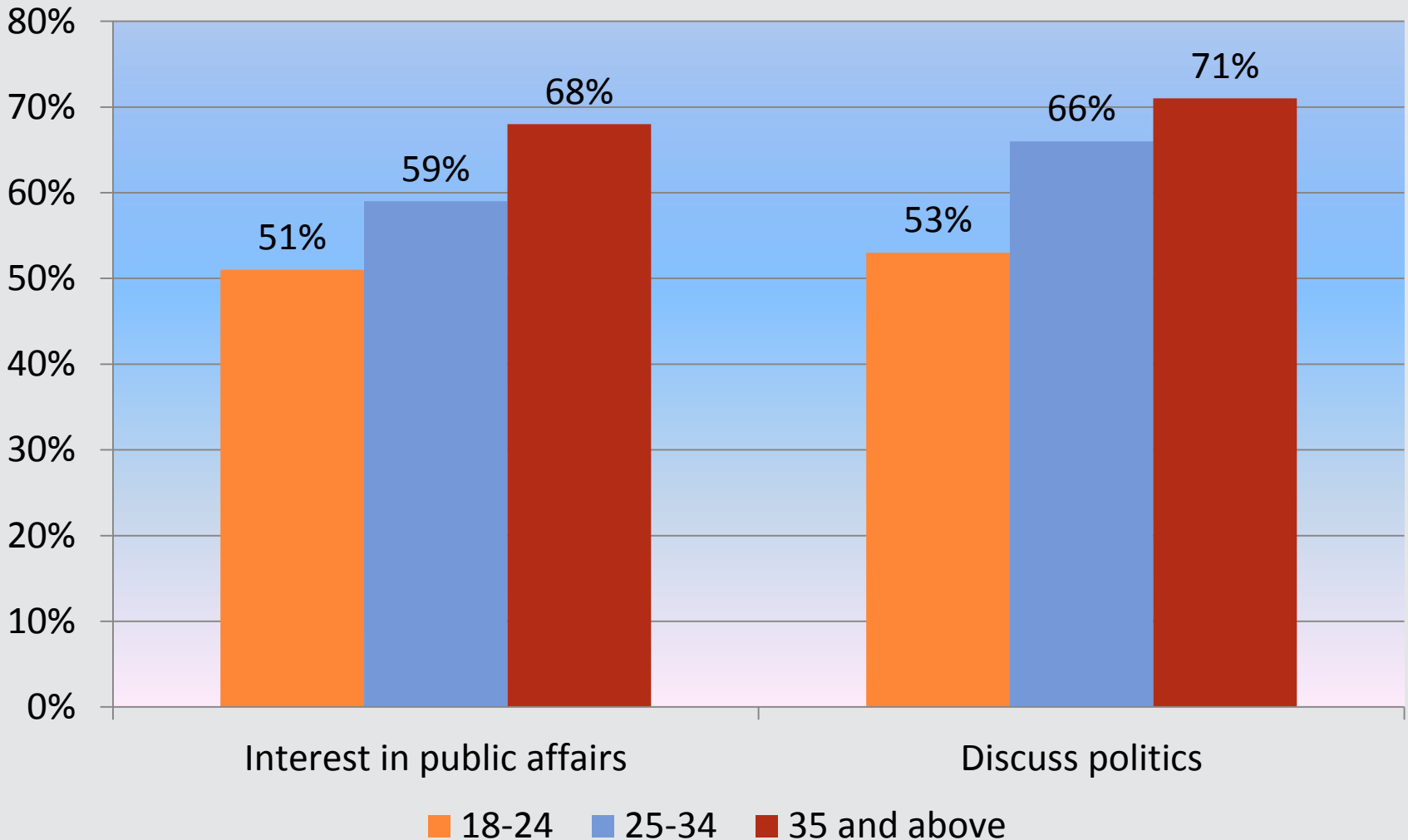




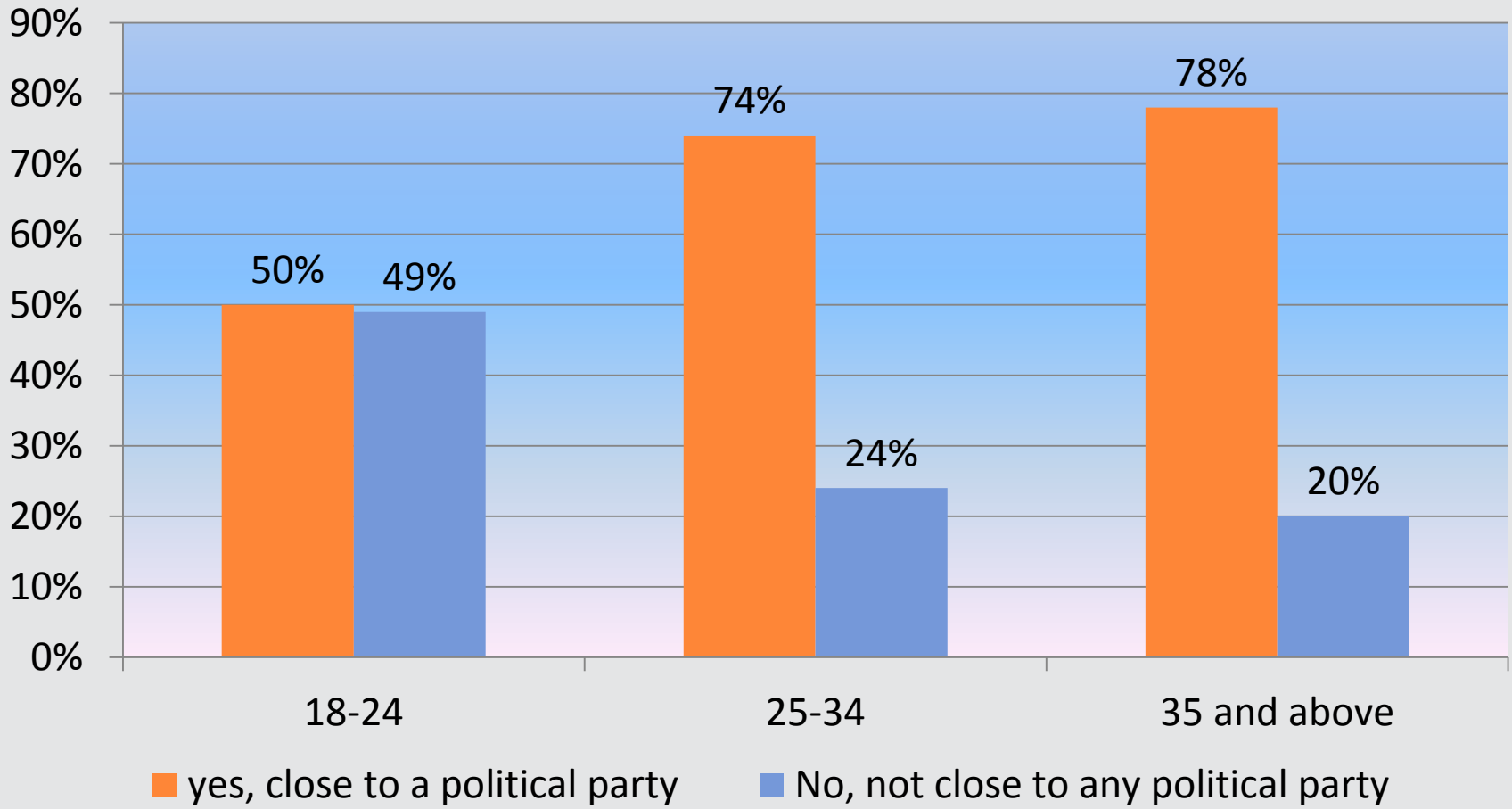
# Youth Interest in public affairs

“Somewhat or very interested in public affairs”

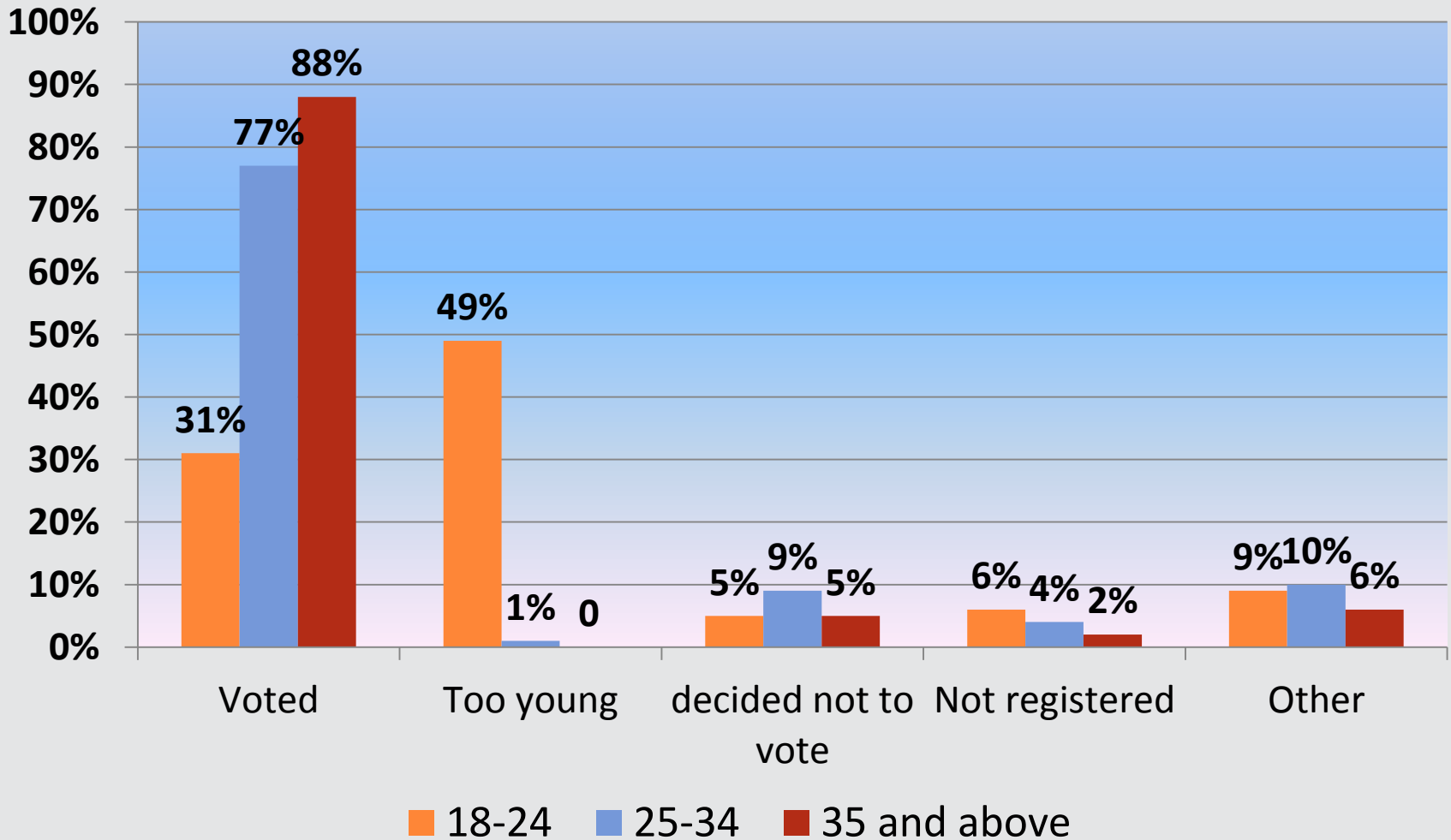
“Discuss politics occasionally or frequently”



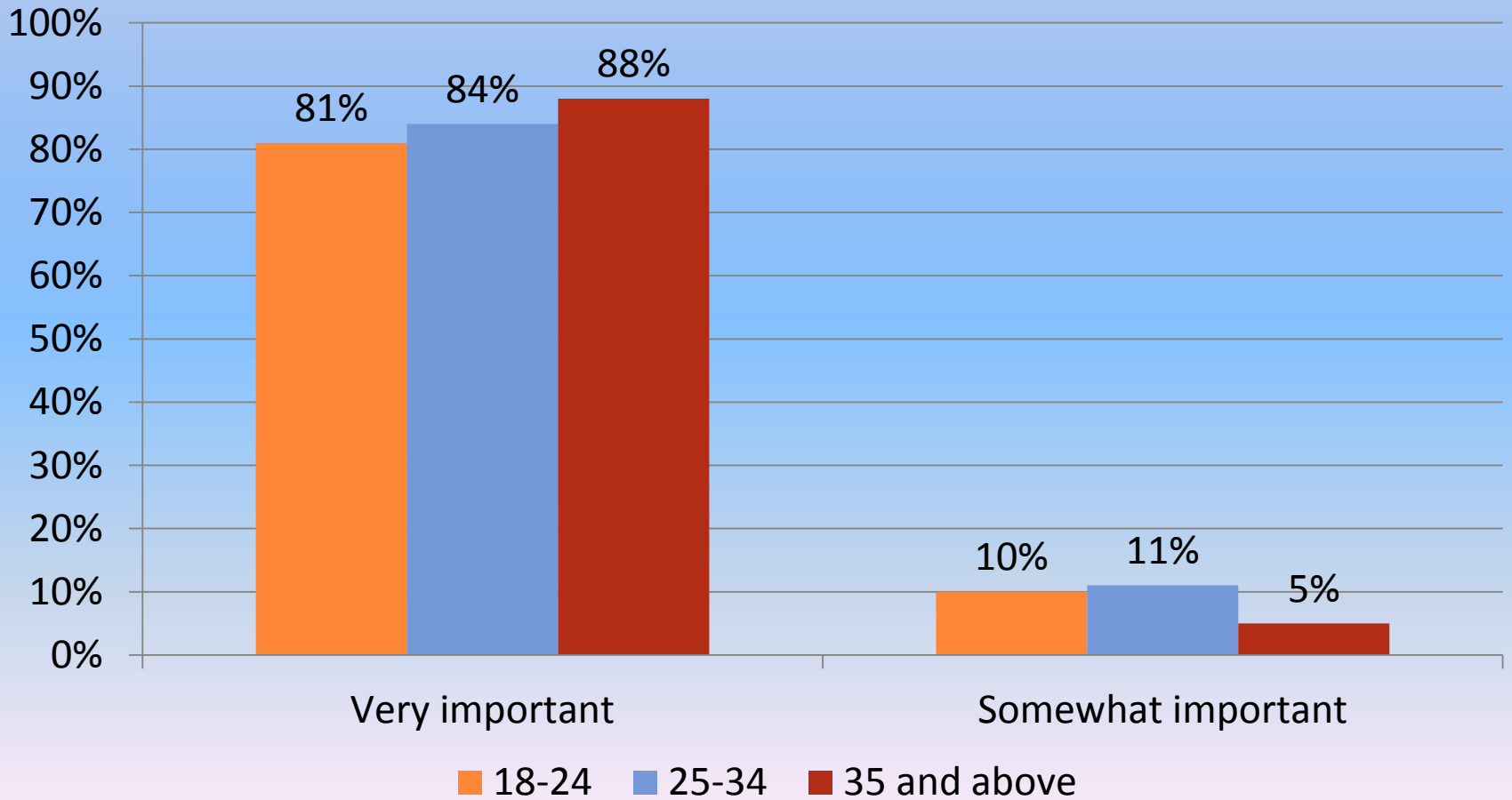
# Close to a political party



# Voting national elections 2009



# Religion important in life





# AFRO BAROMETER

For more information and publications, please contact the **Institute for Public Policy Research** [www.ippr.org.na](http://www.ippr.org.na) and visit the Afrobarometer website at: [www.afrobarometer.org](http://www.afrobarometer.org) or follow us on Facebook (coming soon) and Twitter (@afrobarometer).



# Future Rolling releases:

- ❑ 1<sup>st</sup> 14 March [Topics: economic conditions; youth apathy]
- ❑ 2<sup>nd</sup> Around 8 April [Governance; corruption]
- ❑ 3<sup>rd</sup> **SOR** around 24 April [Democratic values; modern life]
- ❑ 4<sup>th</sup> Briefing papers around 15 May [Democratic values; ethnicity; corruption ]