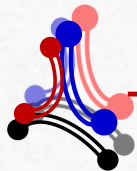




# Disgruntled opposition or disillusioned Democrats: Who is for electoral reforms?

Findings from Afrobarometer Round 6 Survey in Uganda



**HATCHILE CONSULT LTD**

Social Research and Integrated Business Consultancy

# At a glance



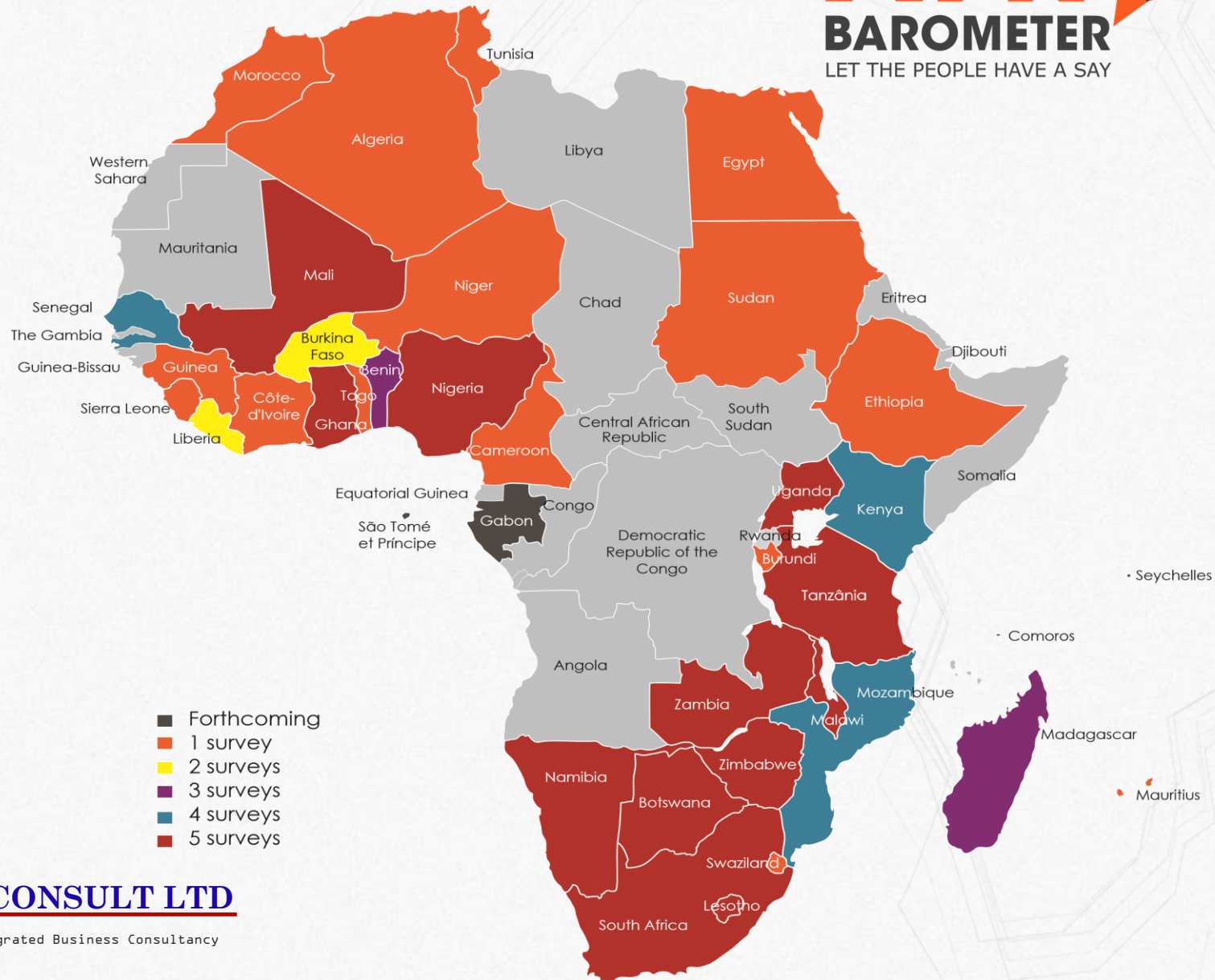
- High Support for elections since 2000
- Trust in elections as a tool for removing leaders from office is low
- Trust in Electoral Commission has been decreasing since 2000
- Strong support for electoral reforms cutting across political divide

# 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 policy-making by providing high-quality public opinion data to policy makers, policy advocates, civil society organizations, academics, news media, donors and investors, and ordinary Africans.
- National Partners in each country conduct the survey. In Uganda, Afrobarometer Round 6 survey was conducted by Hatchile Consult Ltd.

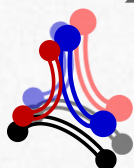
# Where Afrobarometer works





# Methodology

- Nationally representative sample of adult citizens
  - ❑ All respondents are *randomly* selected.
  - ❑ Sample is distributed across 5 regions (Kampala, Central, West, North, and East) 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 Uganda of 2,400 adult citizens yields results with a margin of error of  $\pm 2\%$  at a 95% confidence level.
- Fieldwork for Round 6 in Uganda was conducted May 8-26, 2015.



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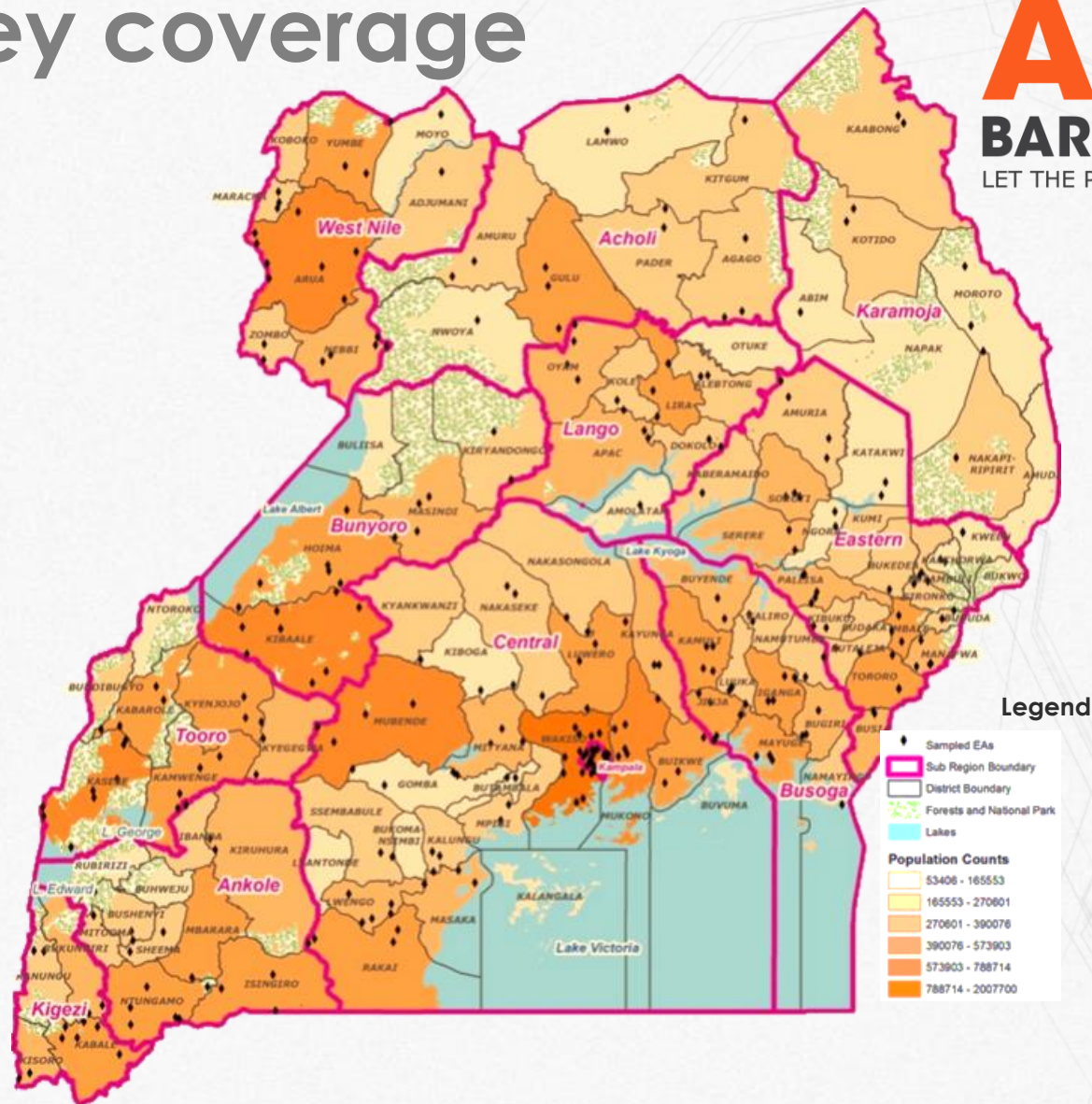
[WWW.AFROBAROMETER.ORG](http://WWW.AFROBAROMETER.ORG)

# Funding



## Core donors for Afrobarometer Rounds 5 and 6 include:

- Mo Ibrahim Foundation
- Swedish International Development Cooperation Agency
- Department for International Development
- United States Agency for International Development
- World Bank
- Institute for Security Studies (South Africa)
- United States Institute of Peace
- Transparency International
- Bill & Melinda Gates Foundation
- Duke University China Research Center





# Survey demographics

Region	%
Central	23
West	26
North	21
East	26
Kampala	4
Residence	
Urban	19
Rural	81
Gender	
Male	50
Female	50

Age	%
18 - 25	27
26 - 35	30
36 - 45	19
46 - 55	11
56 - 65	6
Over 65	5
Educational attainment	
No formal education	16
Primary	43
Secondary	31
Post-secondary	10

NB: Figures do not add to 100% because "Don't know" category is excluded





# Results and Analysis



## Understanding Demand for and Supply of Elections in Uganda

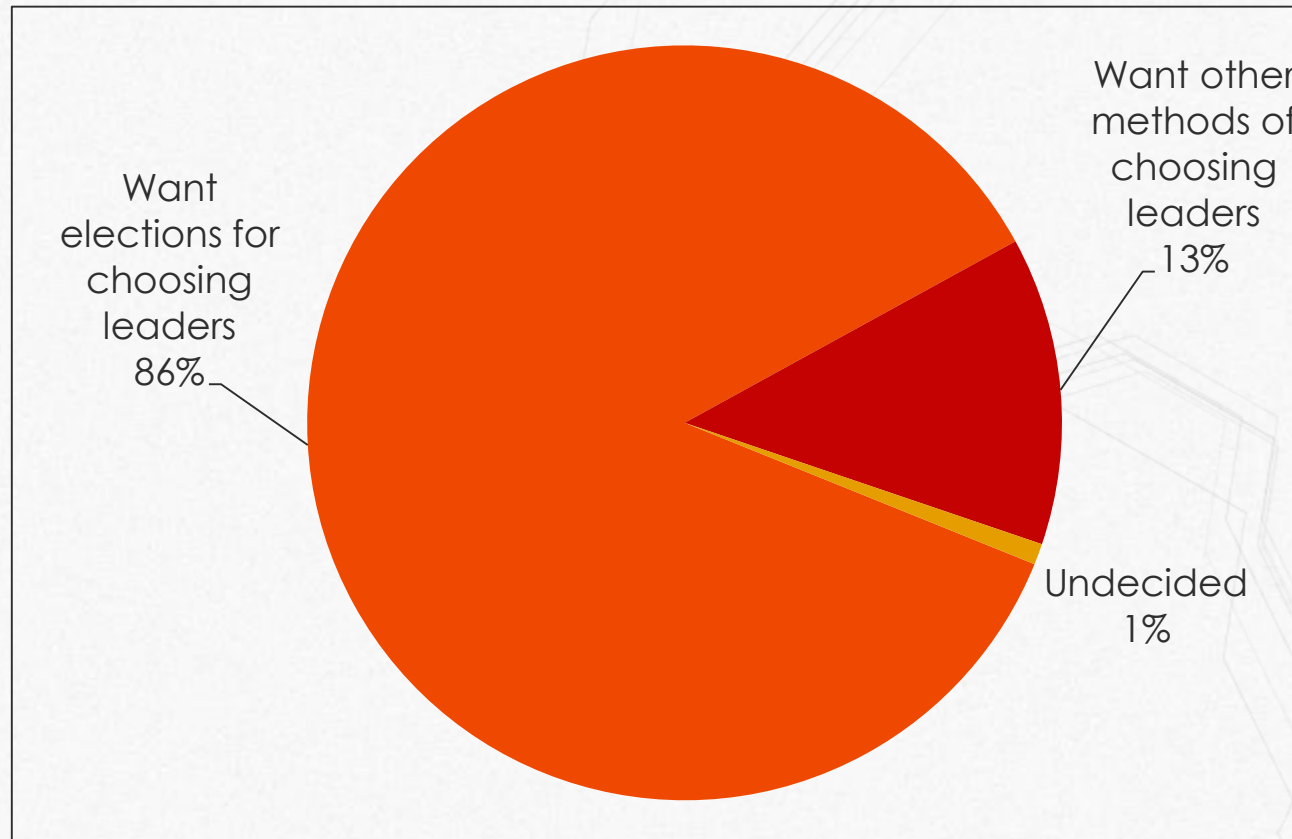
# SUPPORT FOR ELECTIONS

# Key findings

- 9 in 10 adult Ugandans prefer to choose leaders through regular, open and honest elections.
- Over the last decade and a half, support for elections in Uganda has averaged 88%, among the top 10 on the continent.
- Majority not satisfied with quality of elections
- *Majority demand for electoral reform*



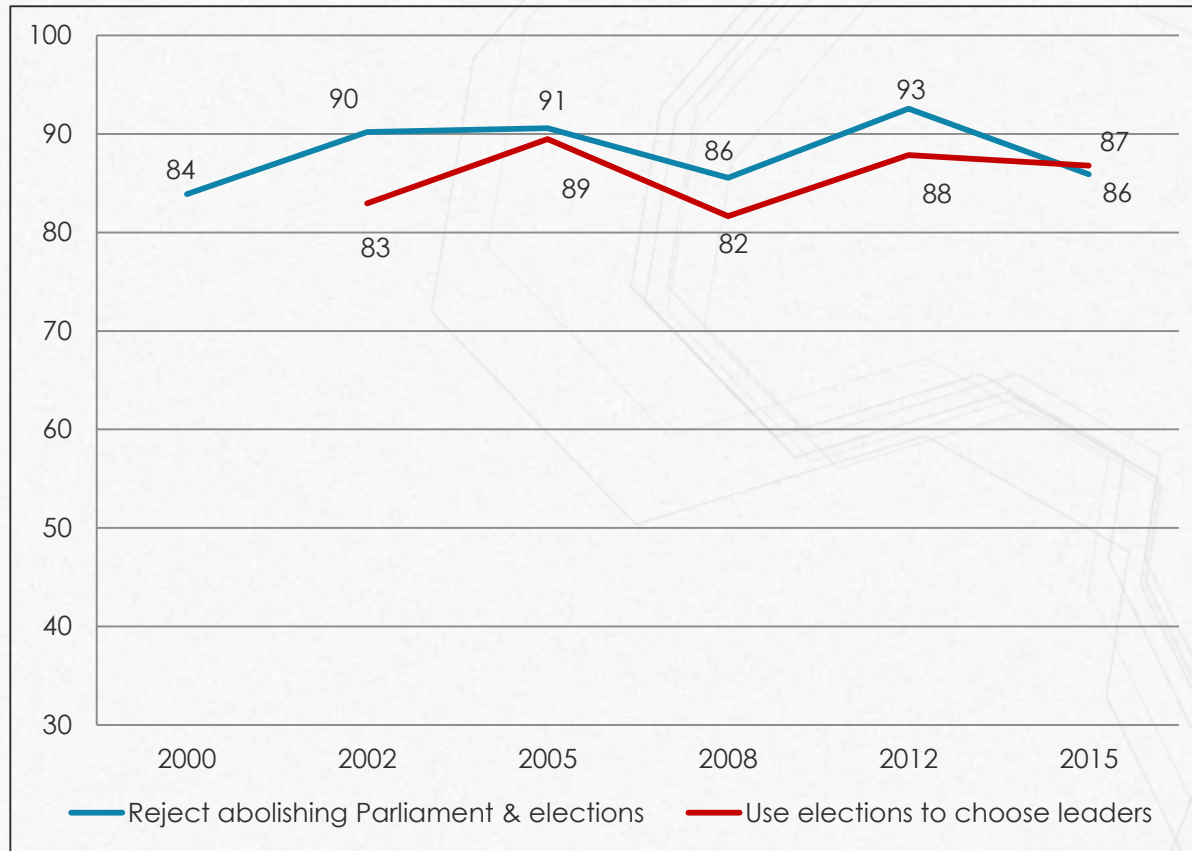
## Support Elections for Choosing Leaders | 2015



**Respondents were asked:** Which of the following statements is closest to your view. Choose Statement 1 or Statement 2. Statement 1: We should choose our leaders in this country through regular, open and honest elections. Statement 2: Since elections produce bad results, we should adopt other methods of choosing this country's leaders.



## Support for elections | Uganda | 2000-2015



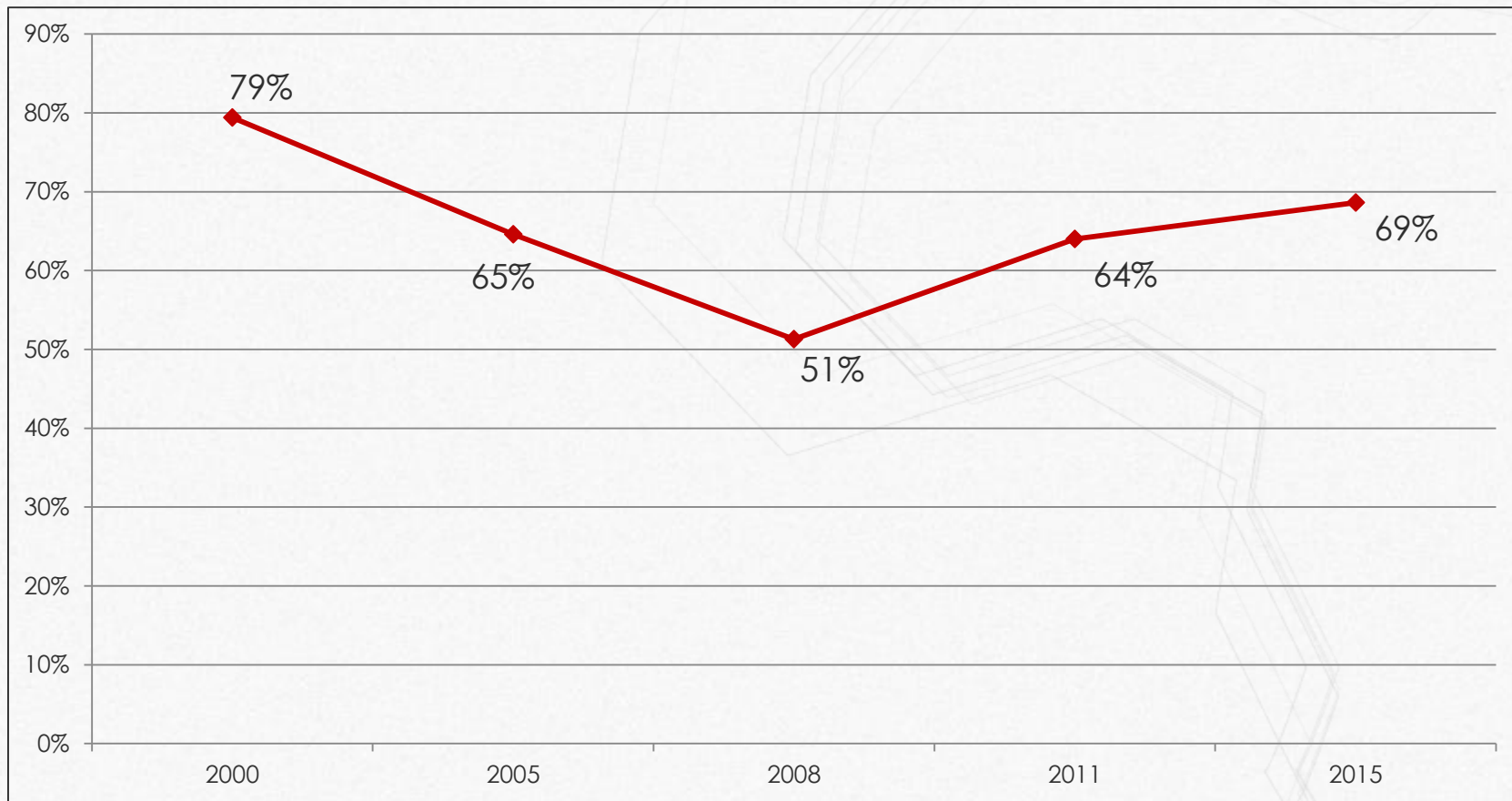
### Respondents were asked two questions:

1. There are many ways to govern a country. Would you disapprove or approve of the following alternative: Elections and Parliament are abolished so that the president can decide everything? (% who "approve" or "strongly approve")
2. Which of the following statements is closest to your view? Choose Statement 1 or Statement 2. **Statement 1:** We should choose our leaders in this country through regular, open, and honest elections. **Statement 2:** Since elections sometimes produce bad results, we should adopt other methods for choosing this country's leaders. (% who "agree" or "strongly agree")



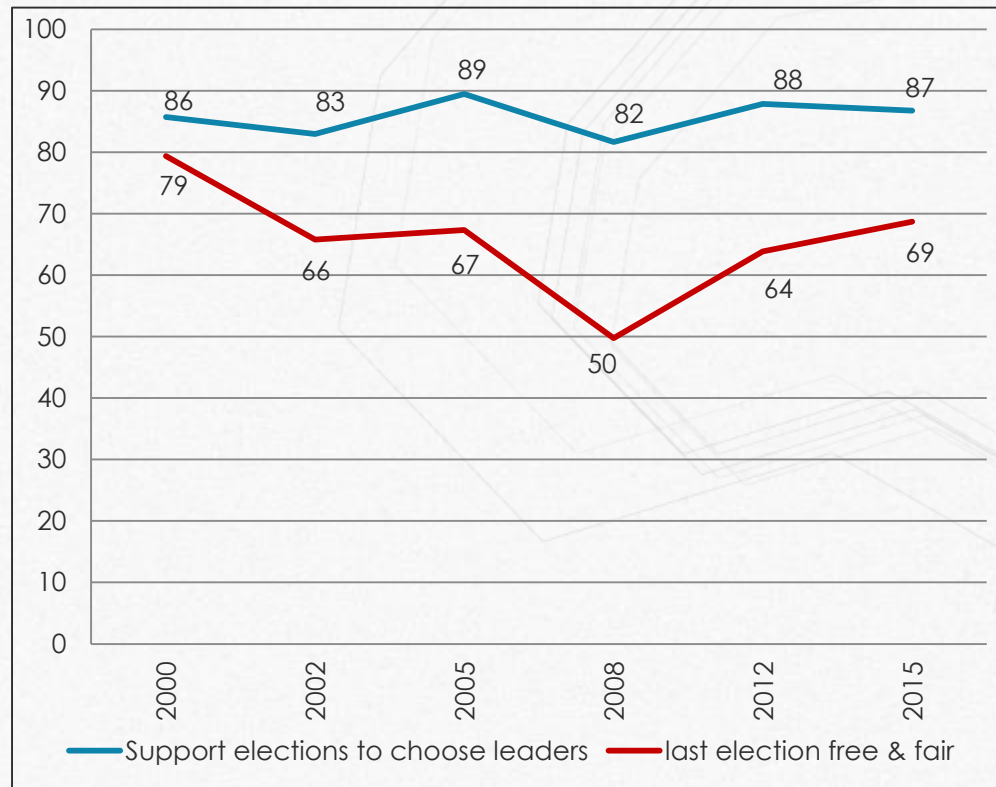
# Satisfaction with elections

## Free and fair? Assessment of previous elections | 2000-2015



**Respondents were asked:** *On the whole, how would you rate the freeness and fairness of last national election? (Percent who say “free and fair, with minor problems” and “completely free and fair”)*

## Support for vs Quality of elections | 2000-2015

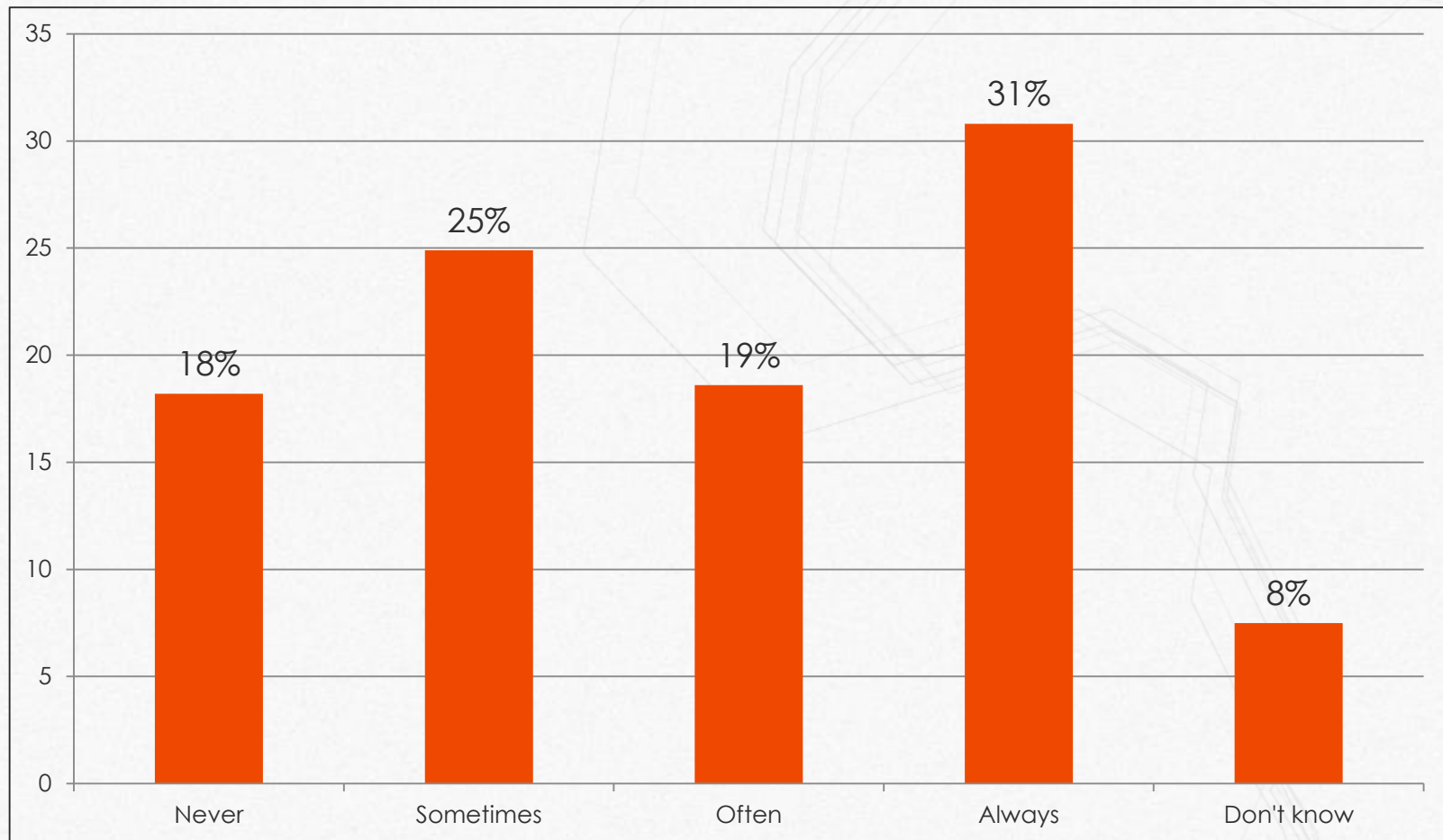


**Respondents were asked:** Which of the following statements is closest to your view? **Statement 1:** We should choose our leaders in this country through regular, open, and honest elections. **Statement 2:** Since elections sometimes produce bad results, we should adopt other methods for choosing this country's leaders. (% who "agree" or "strongly agree")

On the whole, how would you rate the **freeness** and fairness of last national election? (Percent who say "free and fair, with minor problems" and "completely free and fair")

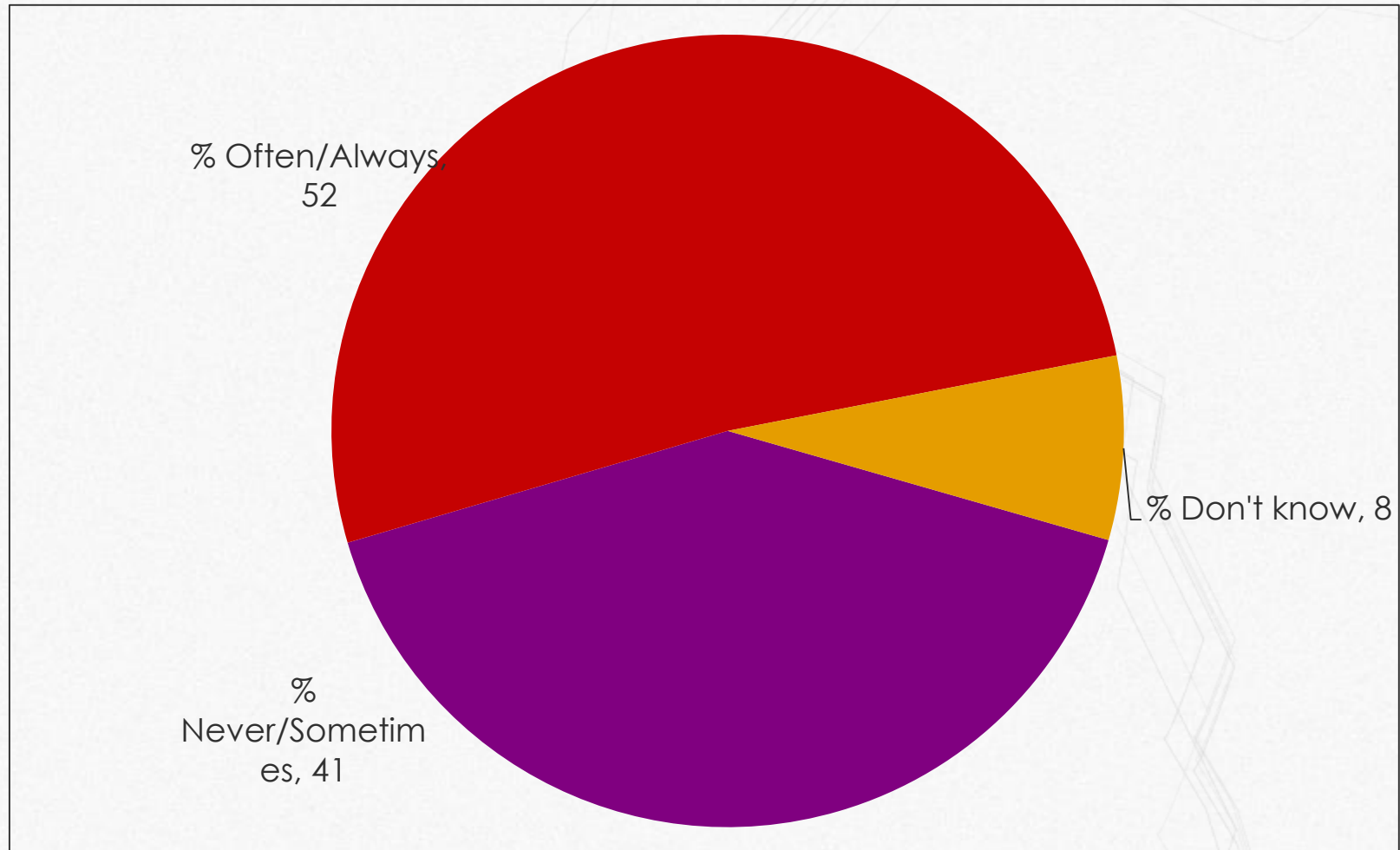


## Perceived bribery of voters during elections | 2015



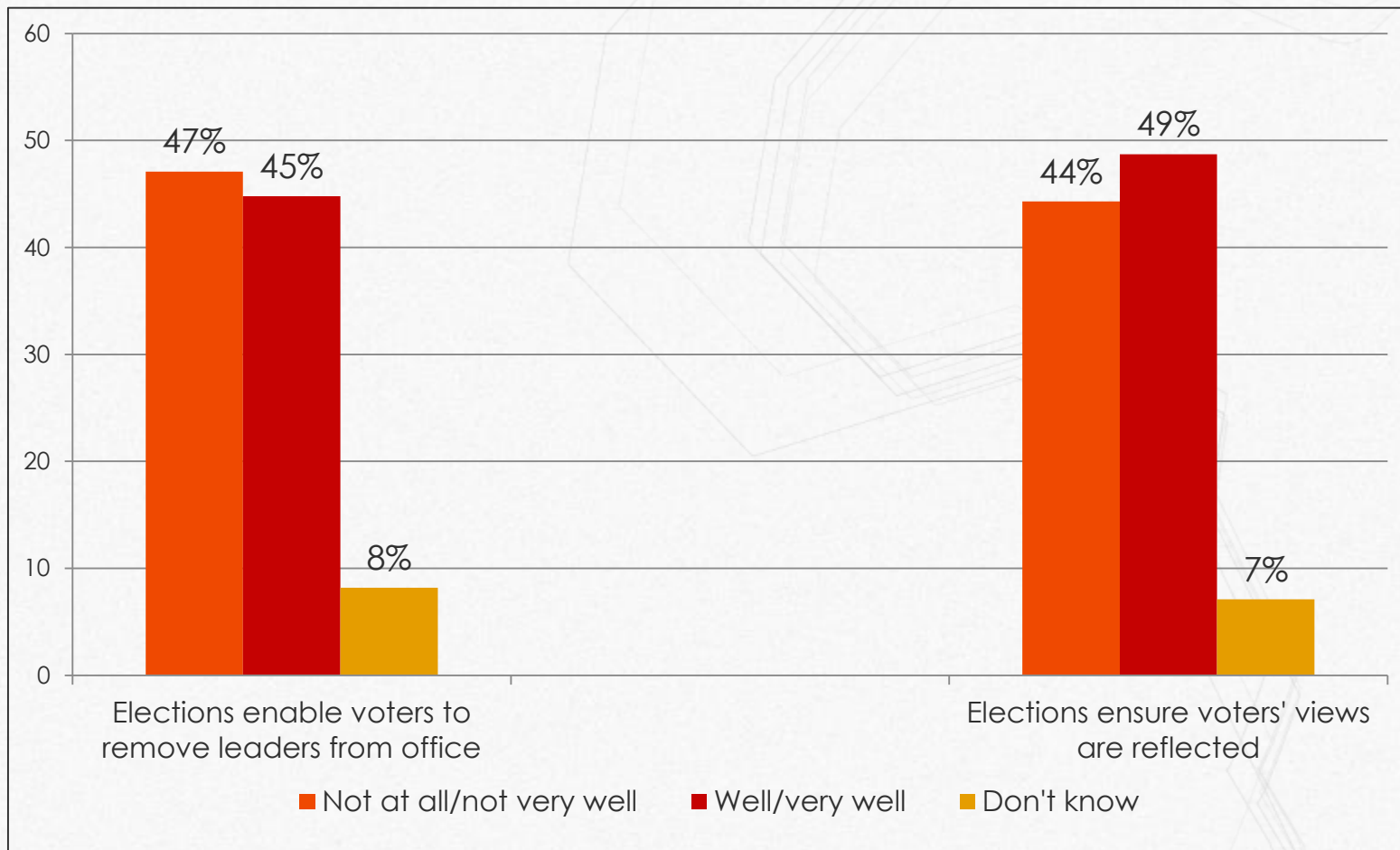
**Respondents were asked:** In your opinion, how often do these things occur in this country's elections: Voters are bribed (Note: Total more is than 100% due to rounding off numbers)

## Perceptions of fair vote count during elections | 2015



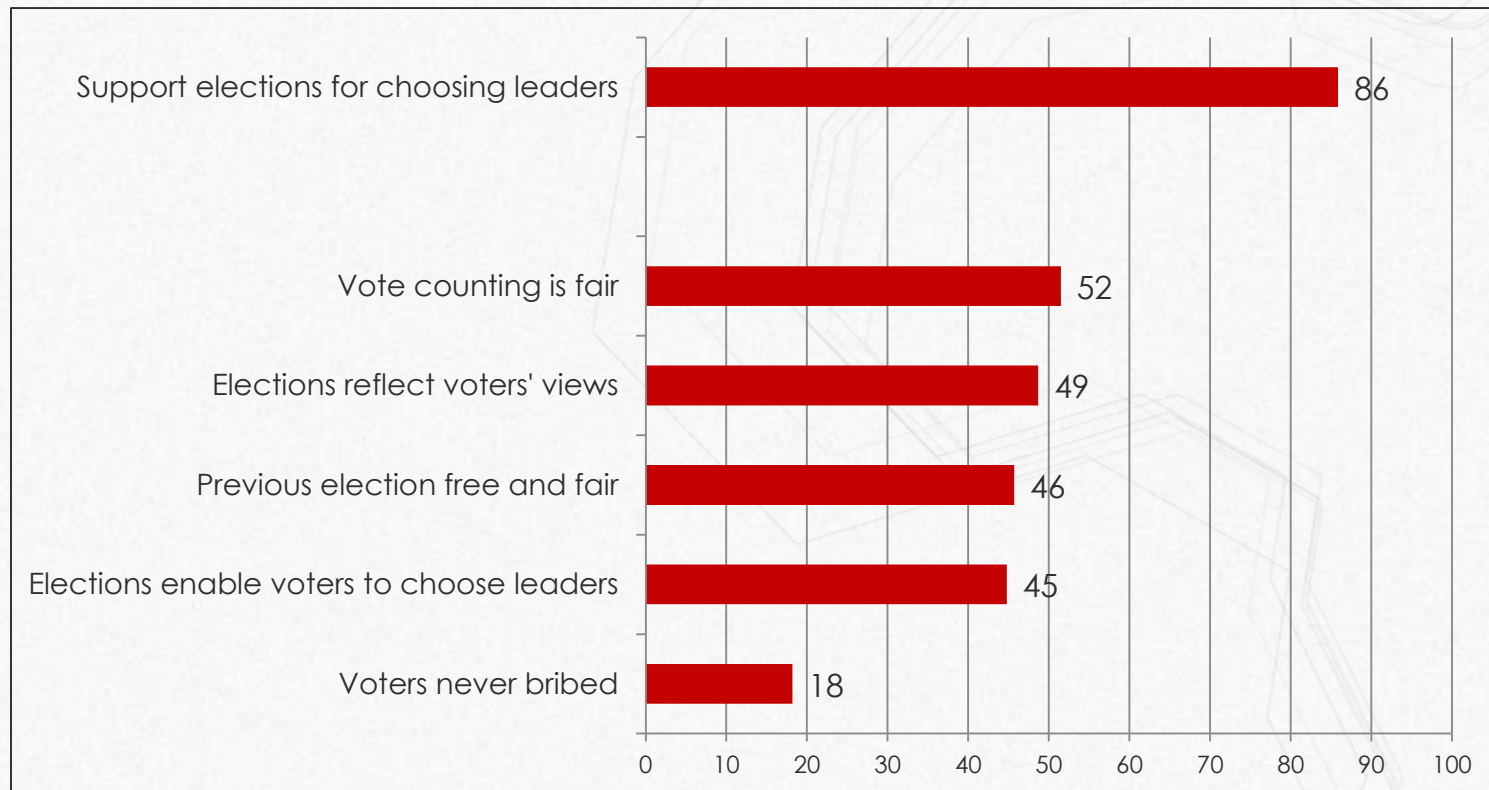
**Respondents were asked:** In your opinion, how often do the following things occur in this country's elections? Votes are counted fairly (Note: Total is more than 100% due to rounding)

## Elections decide leaders and reflect voters' will | 2015



**Respondents were asked:** Think about how elections work in practice in this country. How well do elections enable voters to remove from office leaders who do not do what they want? How well do elections ensure that the Member of Parliament reflect the views of voters?

## Comparing Support for and Quality of Elections | 2015

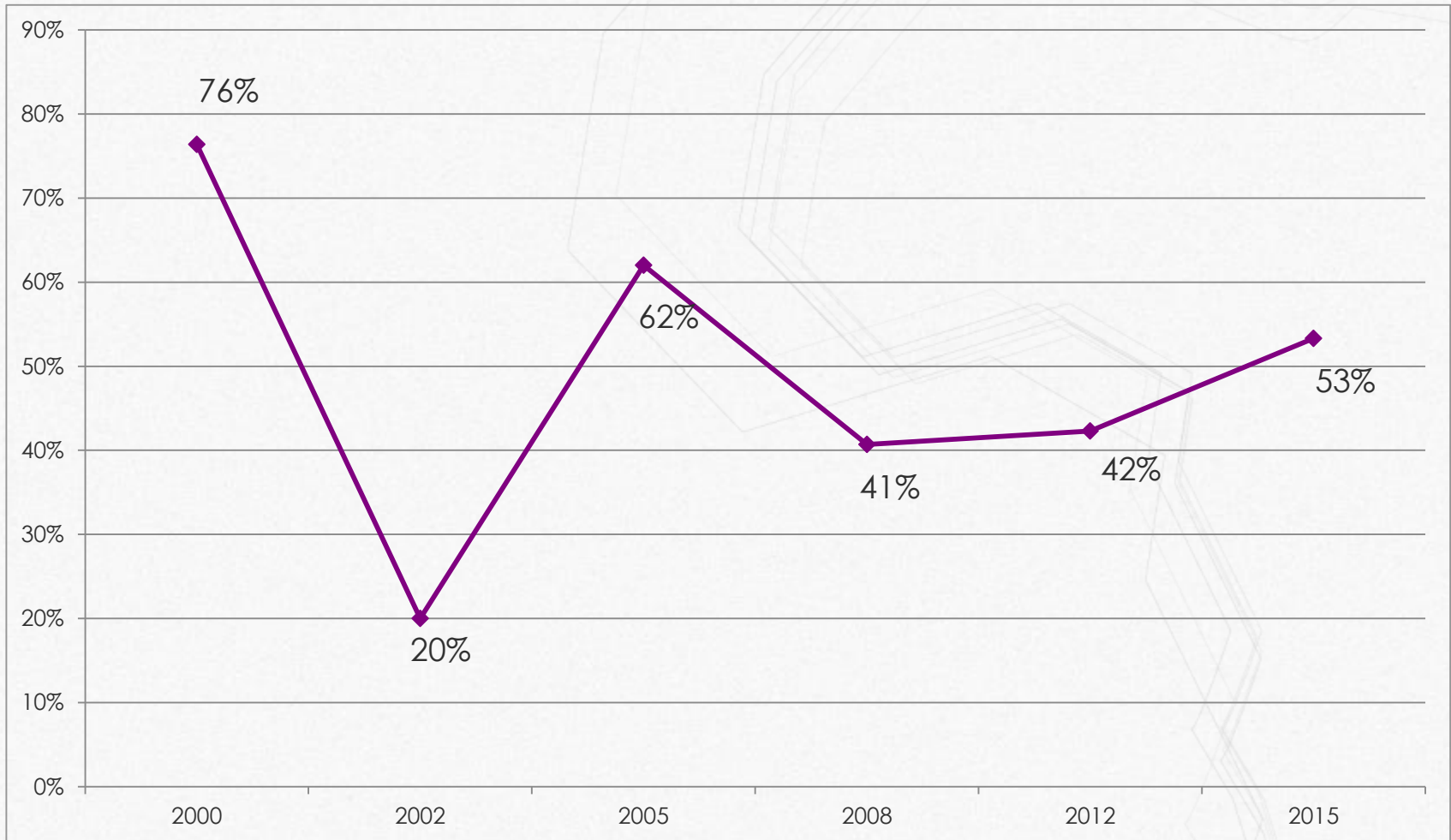


### Respondents were asked:

1. We should choose our leaders in this country through regular, open and honest elections.
2. In your opinion, how often are votes counted fairly in this country's elections?
3. How well do elections Ensure that the Member of Parliament reflect the views of voters.
4. On the whole, how would you rate the freeness and fairness of the last national election, held in 2011
5. Elections enable voters to remove from office leaders who do not do what the people want.
6. In your opinion, how often are voters bribed in this country's elections?



## Trust in the Electoral Commission | 2000-2015

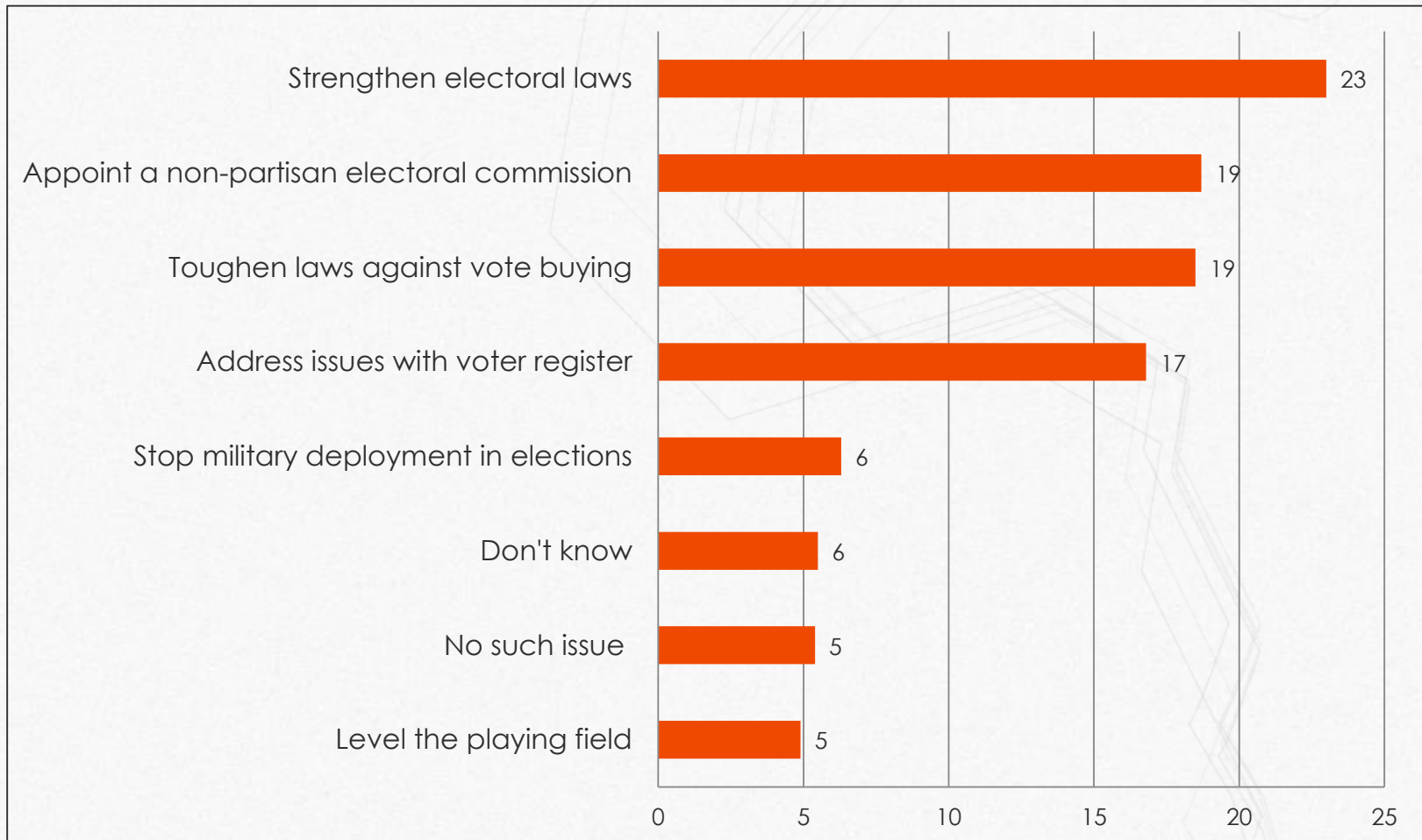


**Respondents were asked:** How much do you trust each of the following or haven't you heard enough about them to say: The Uganda Electoral Commission?



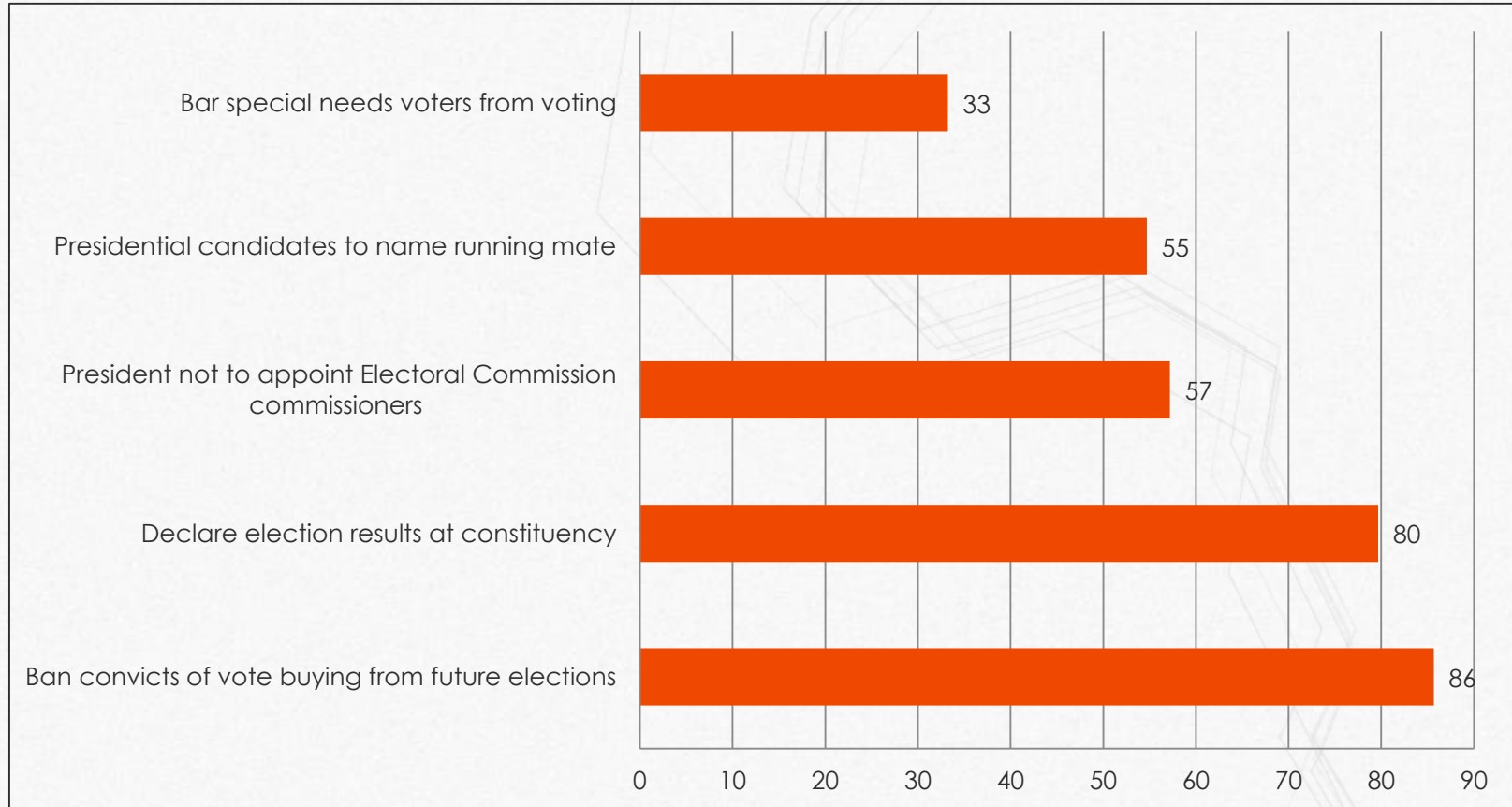
# Support for electoral reforms

## Important issues ahead of 2016 elections | 2015



**Respondents were asked:** Which of the following do you see as the most important issue that should be addressed ahead of the 2016 general elections?

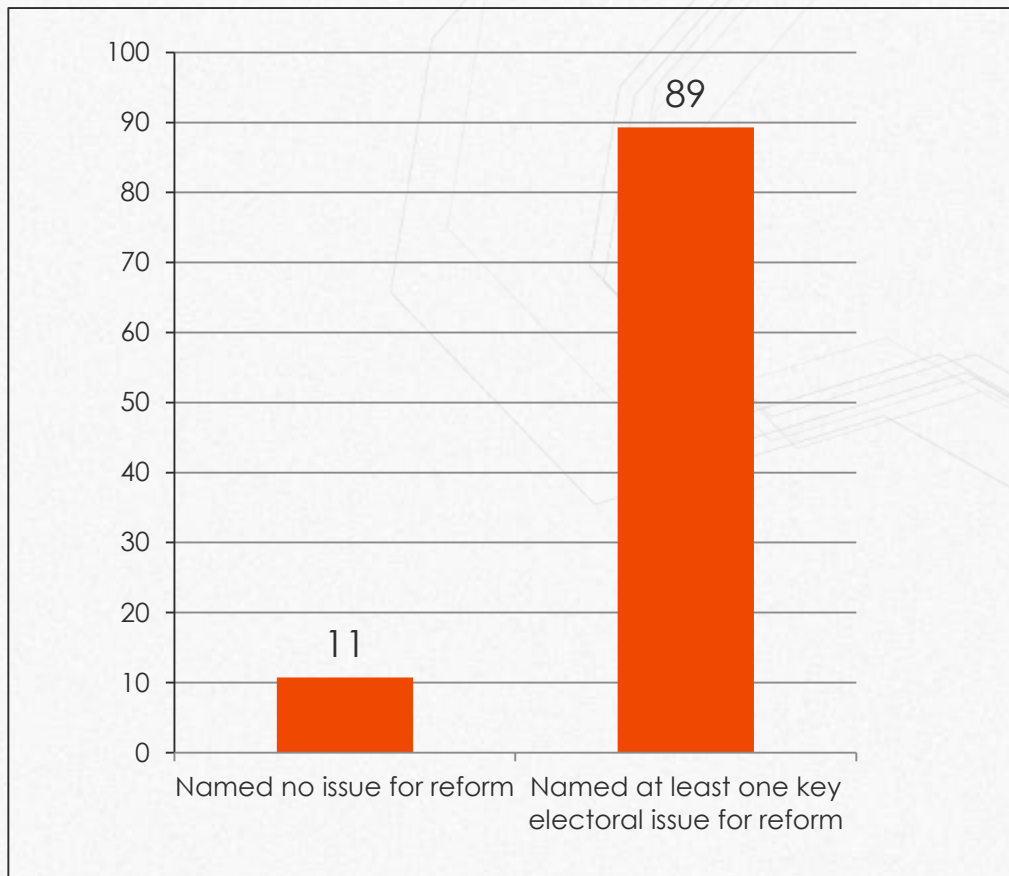
## Support for various electoral reforms ahead of the 2016 elections | 2015



**Respondents were asked:** Do you agree or disagree with the following suggestions for electoral reforms ahead of the 2016 general elections in Uganda? (% who "agree" or "strongly agree")

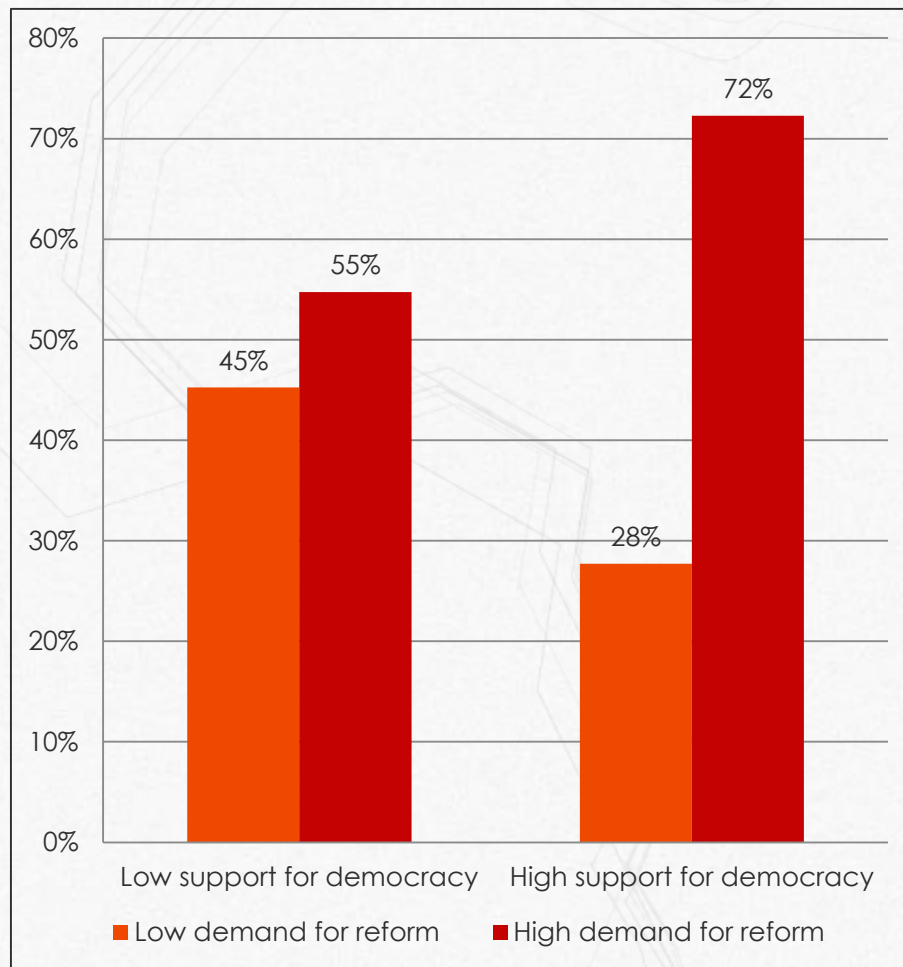
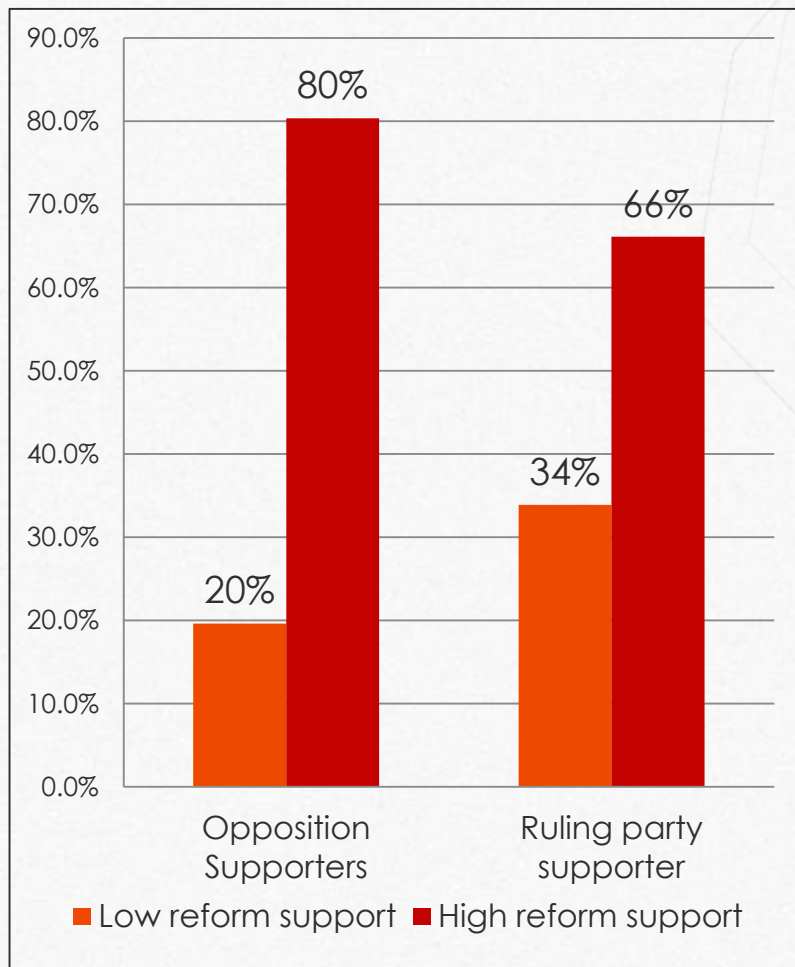


## Awareness of Issues for Reform | 2015



**Respondents were asked:** Which of the following do you see as the most important issue that should be addressed ahead of the 2016 general elections? (% who provided substantive response)

## Political Identity, Support for democracy and Demand for Reforms | 2015



**Figure shows:** A cross-tabulation of those who feel close to political party (Which political party do you feel close to?) and support for electoral reforms (support for reforms rescaled into two trunks, those who support 0 to 3 reforms scaled into "Low Support" and those who support 4 to 6 reforms into "High Support" for reforms; quality of election gap scaled into 3 trunks, those scored negative, neutral and positive)



# Who wants electoral reforms in Uganda?

## Conclusions

## Who is for electoral reforms in Uganda?



- Afrobarometer data show that the demand for electoral reforms appears related to the gap between *Support for Elections* and *Quality of Elections* in Uganda.
- Demand for reforms appears mostly based on political party support, cognitive ability, trust (in the electoral commission), support for democracy and on perceived quality of elections in Uganda.
- Satisfaction with quality of elections is strongly related with public trust in the electoral commission.





Thank you