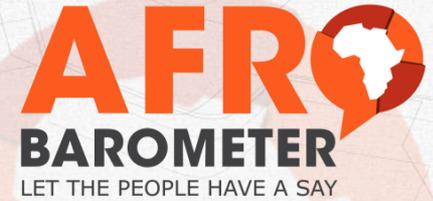




# President's performance, citizenship, land ownership and the TRC's mandates: What do Liberians say?

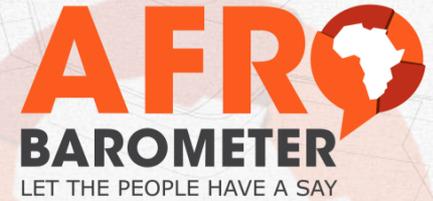
## Findings from Afrobarometer Round 7 survey in Liberia

# At a glance



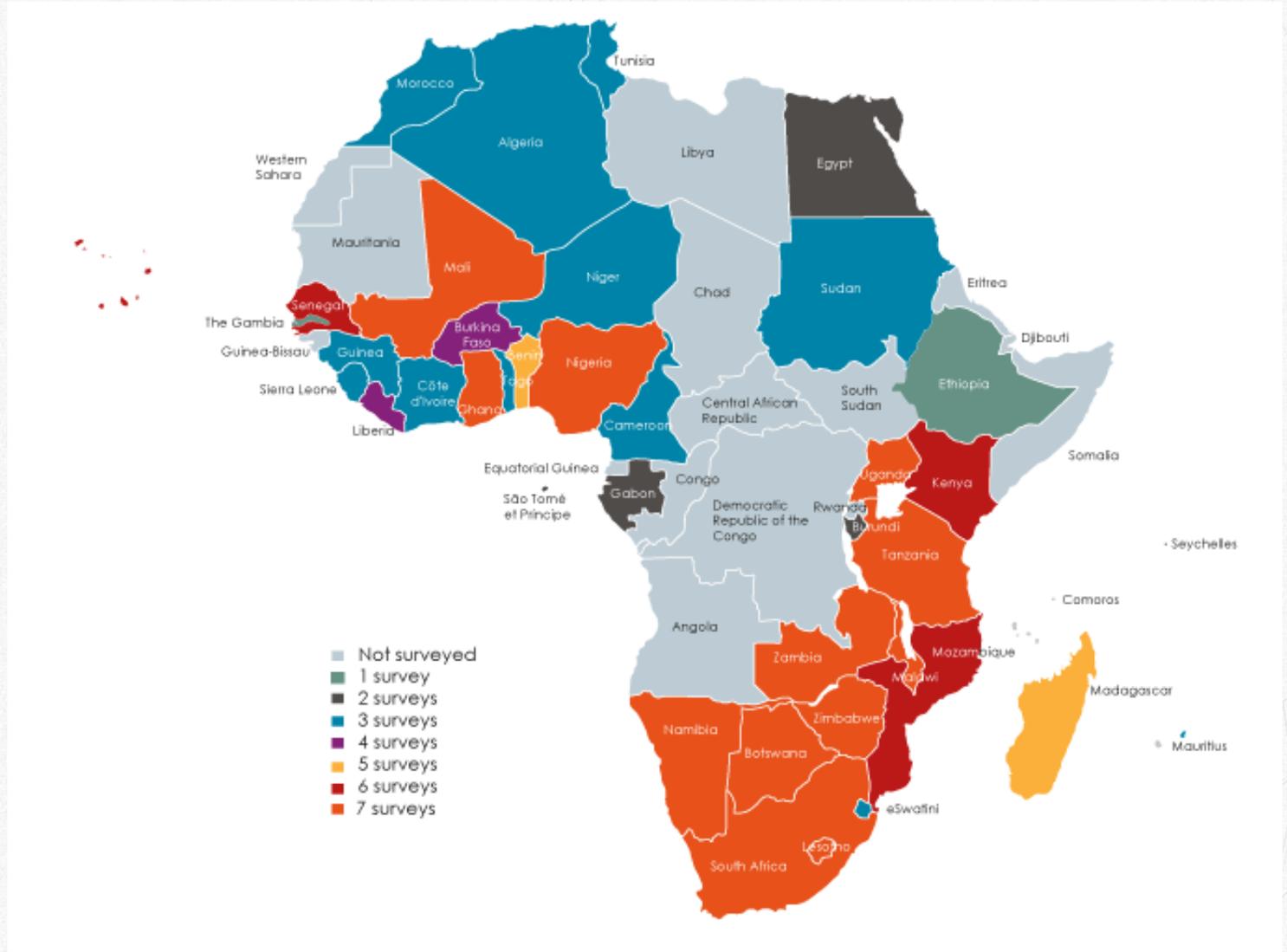
- **Performance of President Weah:** 56% of Liberians approve of His Excellency President George Weah's job performance since he assumed office in January 2018.
- **Citizenship:** 68% of Liberians want the exclusive black citizenship law to be maintained. The same proportion say only Liberian citizens should be allowed to own land.
- **Truth and Reconciliation Commission's recommendations:** Six in 10 Liberians (58%) say they are "fairly satisfied" or "very satisfied" with government's efforts at implementing the TRC's recommendations.
- **Most important problems:** The most important problems that Liberians want government to address are rates and taxes (55%), food shortage/famine (38%), and infrastructure/roads (38%).

# What is Afrobarometer?



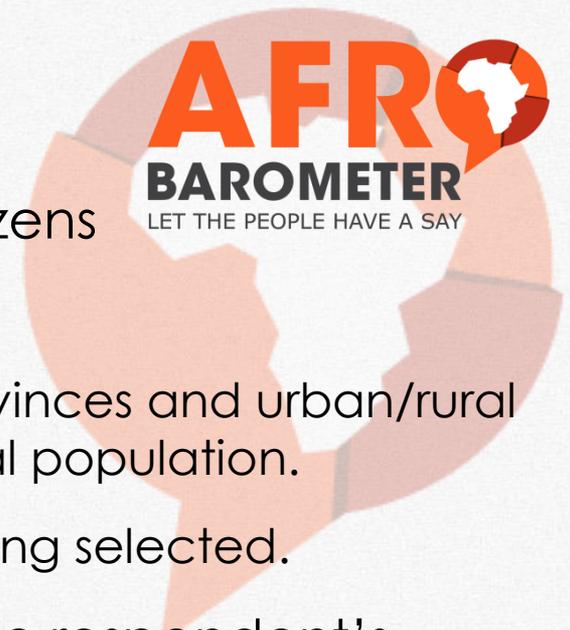
- A pan-African, non-partisan survey research project that measures citizen attitudes on democracy and governance, the economy, civil society, and other topics.
- Started in 12 African countries in 1999, expanded to 36 countries in Round 6 (2014/2015). Round 7 surveys are being completed in 2018.
- **Goal:** 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.
- A national partner in each country conducts the survey. In Liberia, the Afrobarometer Round 7 survey was conducted by The Khana Group.

# Where Afrobarometer works



# Methodology

- Nationally representative sample of adult citizens
  - ❑ All respondents are *randomly* selected.
  - ❑ Sample is distributed across regions/states/provinces 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 Liberia of 1,200 adult citizens yields a margin of error of +/-3 percentage points at a 95% confidence level.
- Fieldwork for Round 7 in Liberia was conducted between 19 June and 16 July 2018.



# Survey Demographics

| Gender              | %    |
|---------------------|------|
| Men                 | 50   |
| Women               | 50   |
| Residence           | %    |
| Urban               | 47.5 |
| Rural               | 52.5 |
| Education           | %    |
| No formal education | 12.0 |
| Primary             | 31.0 |
| Secondary           | 44.0 |
| Post-secondary      | 13.0 |
| Religion            | %    |
| Christian           | 87.0 |
| Muslim              | 10.0 |
| Other               | 3.0  |

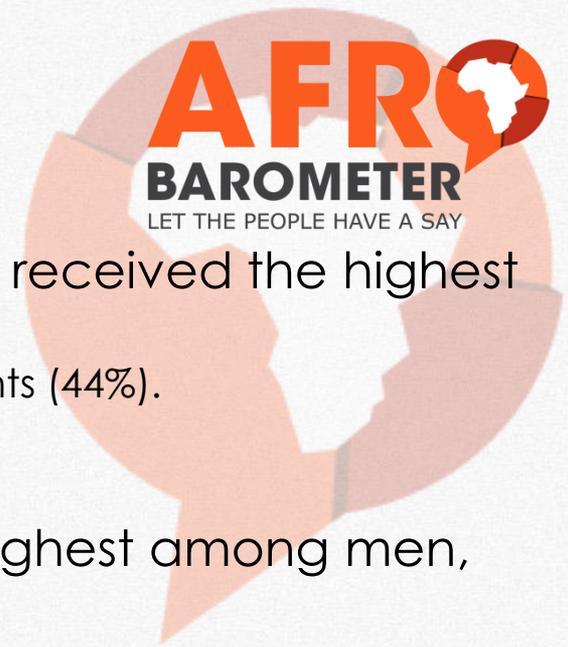


# Findings



# President's performance

# Key findings



- Among political leaders in Liberia, the president received the highest rate of performance approval (56%).
  - It is followed by mayors (47%) and county superintendents (44%).
  - Senators received the lowest performance rating (39%).
- Approval of President Weah's performance is highest among men, the elderly, and citizens in rural areas.
- A majority of Liberians approve of the president's performance in handling national security issues (70%), domestic policy issues (57%), and foreign policy issues (55%).
- Government is rated poorly for its economic performance:
  - Only one-third (34%) of Liberians say government is performing "fairly well" or "very well" in managing the economy and creating jobs.
  - Only one in 10 (12%) say government is doing "fairly well" or "very well" at keeping prices stable.

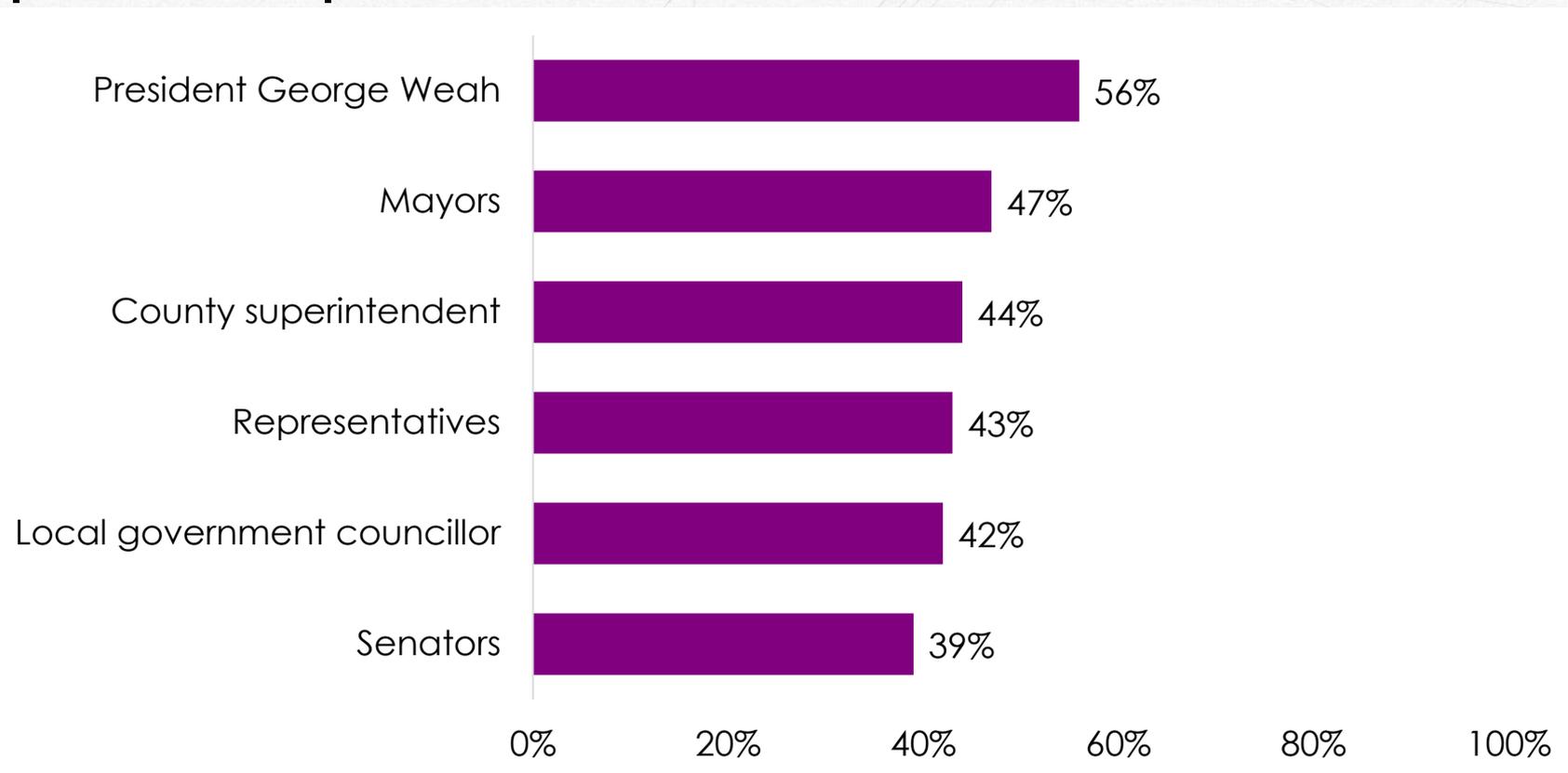
# Key findings



- Government is more favourably rated for providing infrastructure and basic needs:
  - About half or more Liberians say government is performing “fairly well” or “very well” in addressing educational needs (59%), maintaining roads and bridges (52%), providing water and sanitation services (51%), and improving basic health services (49%).
  - Four in 10 (40%) say government is doing well in providing reliable electricity.
- The most important problems that Liberians want government to address are rates and taxes (55%), food shortage/famine (38%), and infrastructure/roads (38%).
  - Management of the economy (36%) and education (34%) rank fourth and fifth, respectively.
- Two-thirds of Liberians (66%) say government is addressing the most important problems “fairly badly” or “very badly.”

# Assessment of political leaders' performance

## | Liberia | 2018

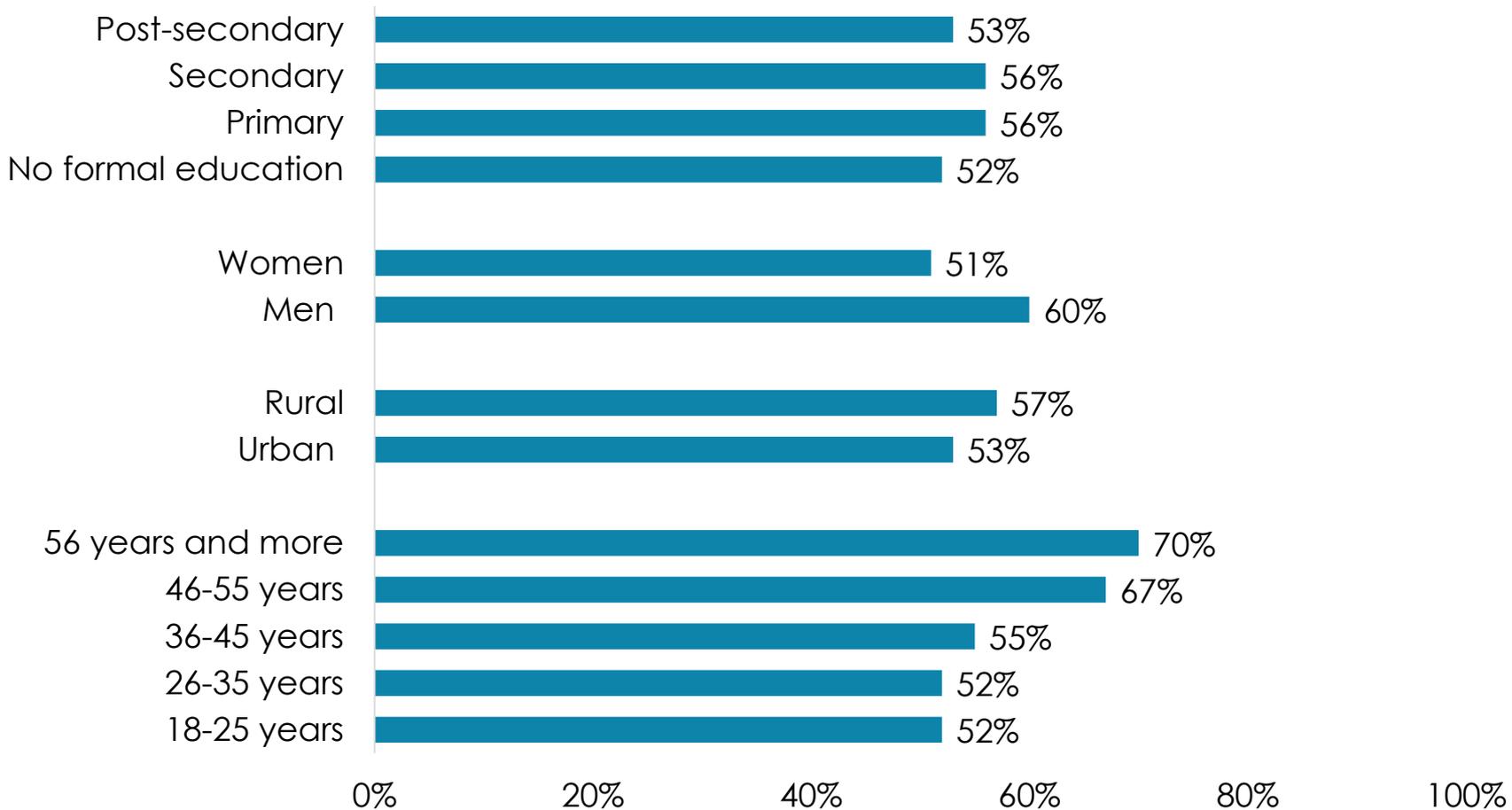


### Respondents were asked:

- Do you approve or disapprove of the way that president George Weah has performed his job since he assumed office in January 2018, or haven't you heard enough about them to say?
- Do you approve or disapprove of the way that the following people have performed their jobs over the past 12 months, or, if a new person was elected to the position in the last election in October 2017, do you approve or disapprove of the way they have performed since assuming office, or haven't you heard enough about them to say?"

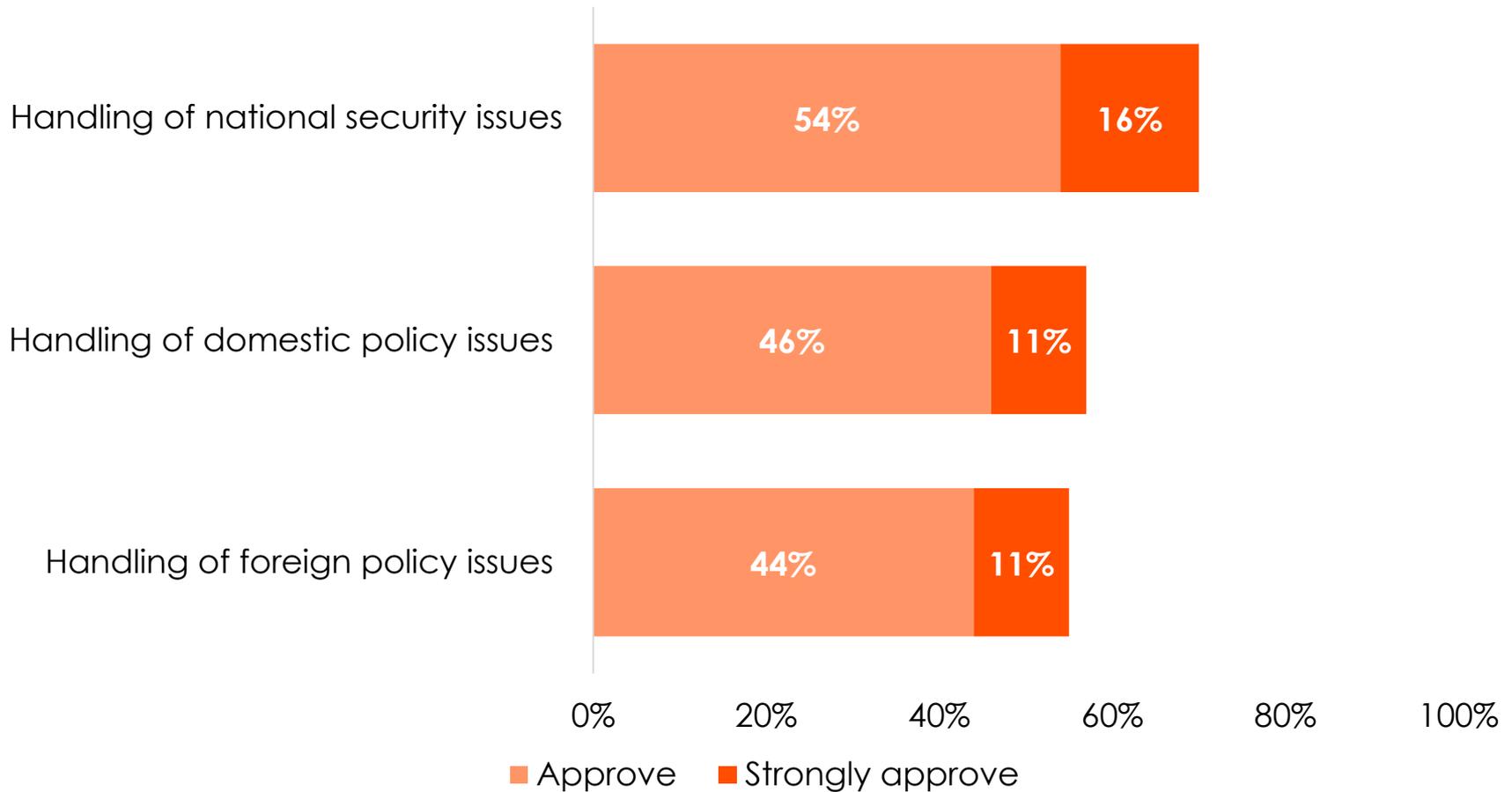
(% who "approve" or "strongly approve")

# Positive assessment of President Weah's job performance | Liberia | 2018



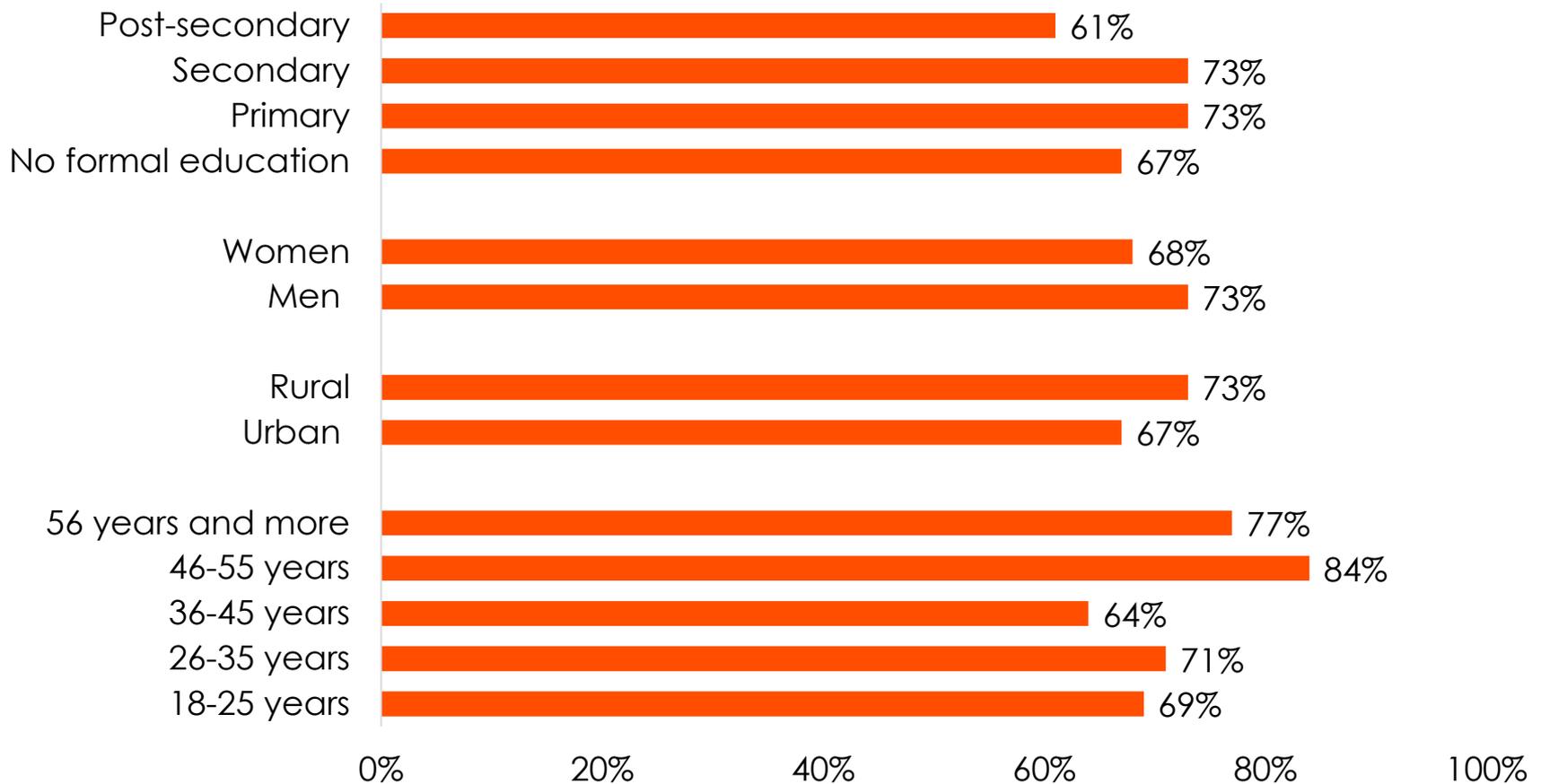
**Respondents were asked:** Do you approve or disapprove of the way that president George Weah has performed his job since he assumed office in January 2018, or haven't you heard enough about them to say? (%who "approve" or "strongly approve")

# How well is the president handling security, domestic, foreign policy issues? | Liberia | 2018



**Respondents were asked:** Please tell me whether you approve or disapprove of the way President George Weah is handling the following?

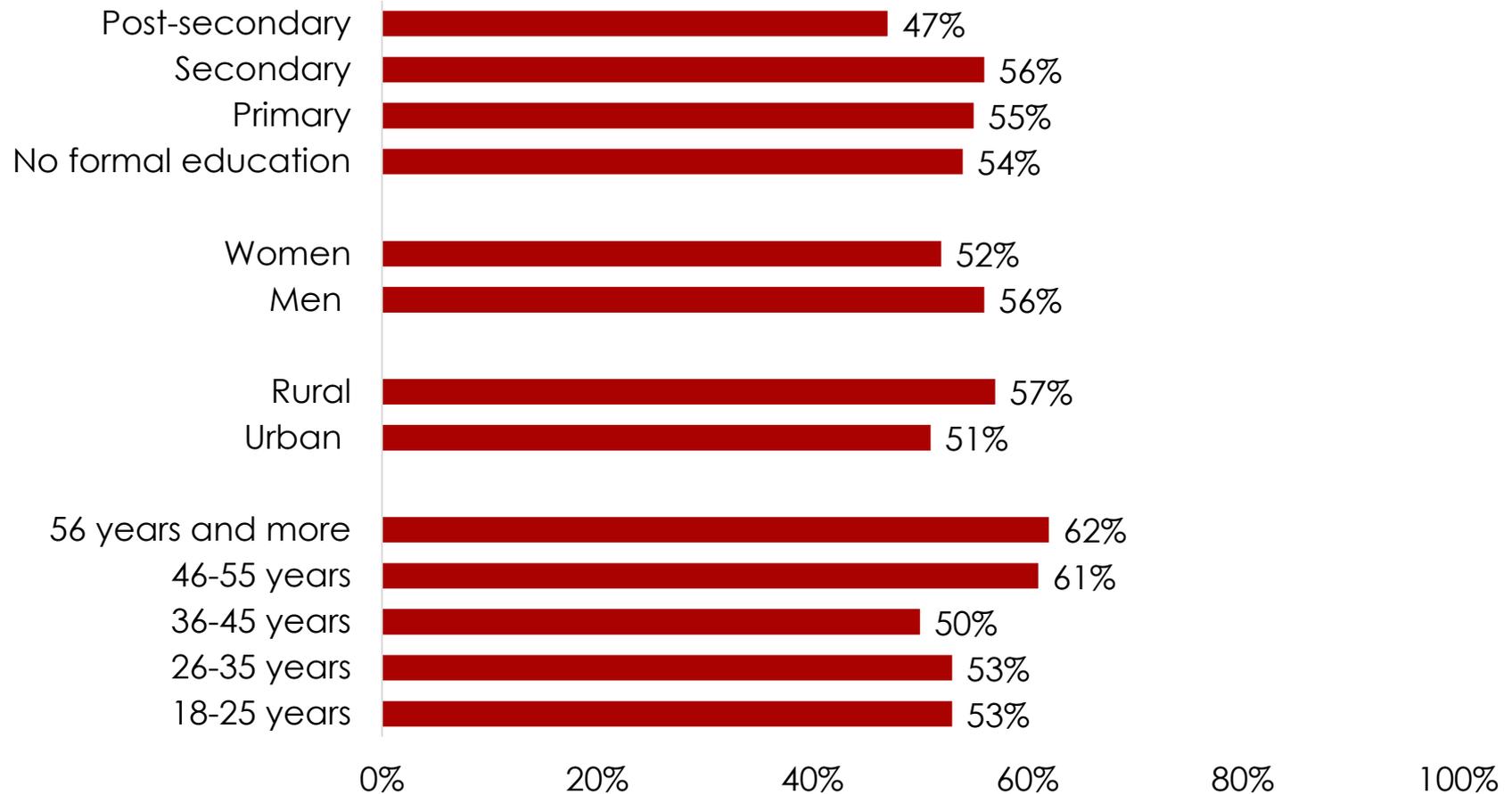
# Approval of president's handling of national security issues | by socio-demographics | Liberia | 2018



**Respondents were asked:** Please tell me whether you approve or disapprove of the way President George Weah is handling the following: Handling national security issues? (% who "approve" or "strongly approve")

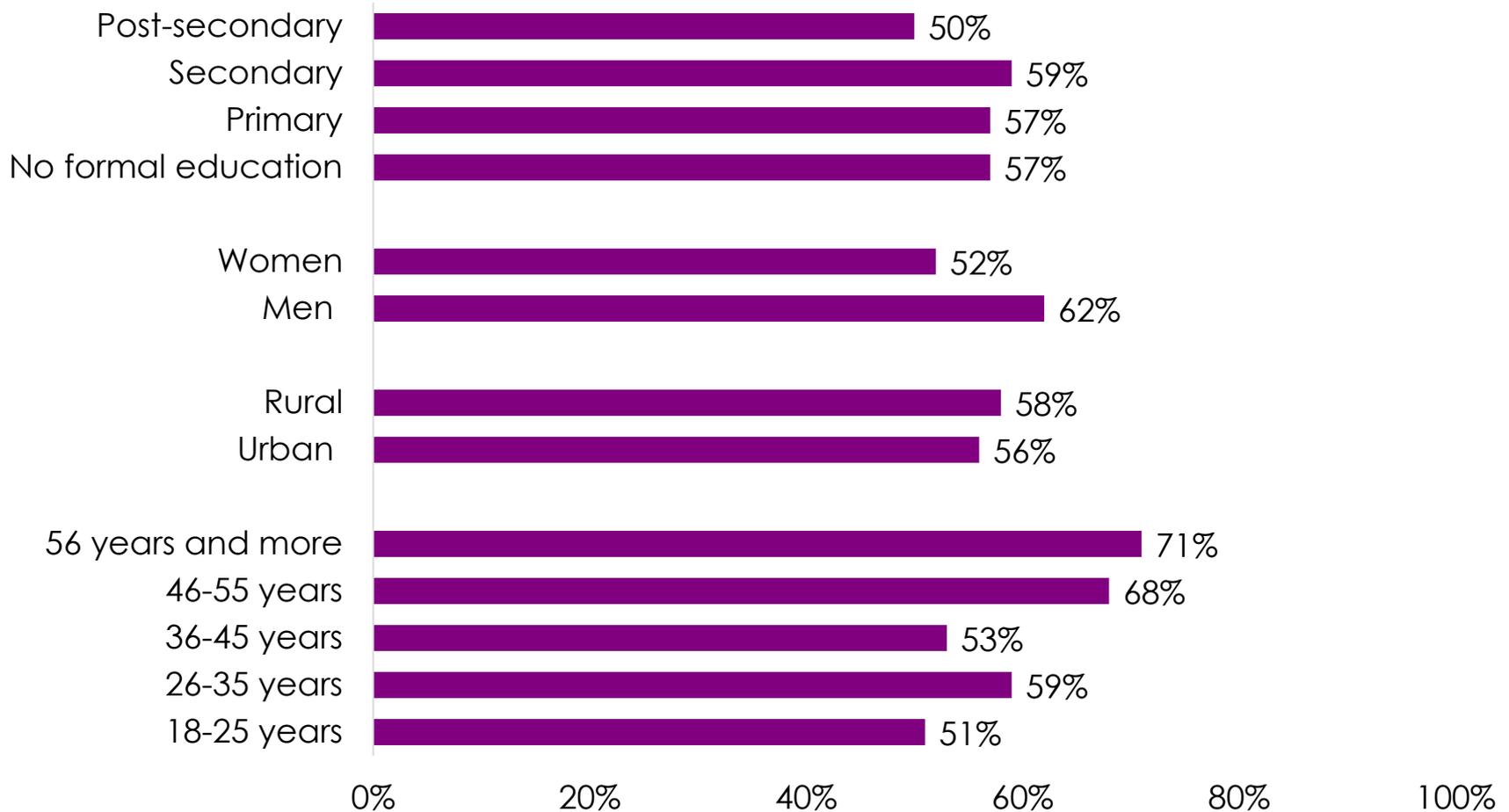
# Approval of president's handling of foreign policy issues

| by socio-demographics | Liberia | 2018



**Respondents were asked:** Please tell me whether you approve or disapprove of the way President George Weah is handling the following: Handling foreign policy issues? (% who "approve" or "strongly approve")

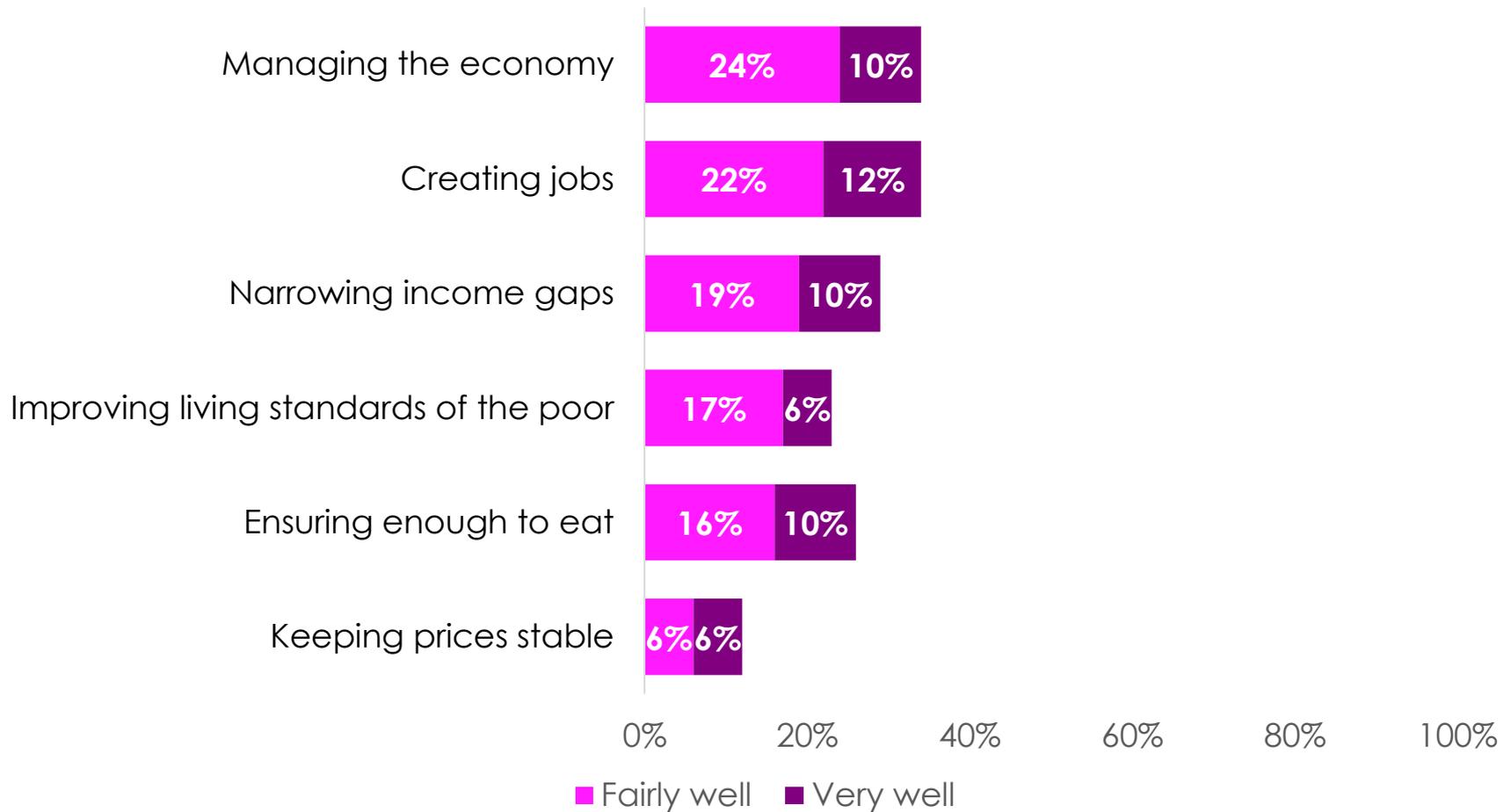
# Approval of president's handling of domestic policy issues | by socio-demographics | Liberia | 2018



**Respondents were asked:** Please tell me whether you approve or disapprove of the way President George Weah is handling the following: Handling foreign policy issues?

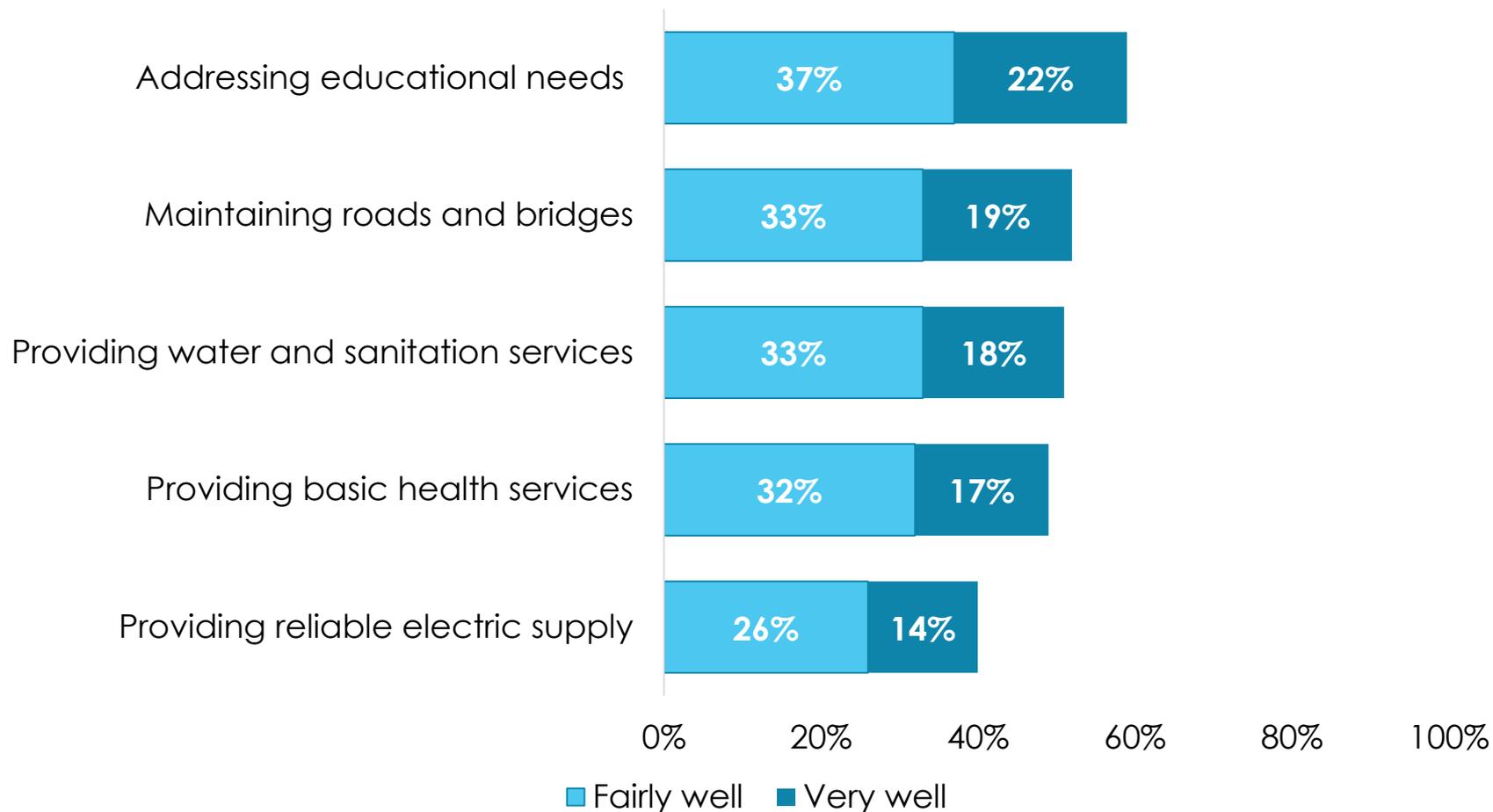
# Government's economic performance

## | Liberia | 2018



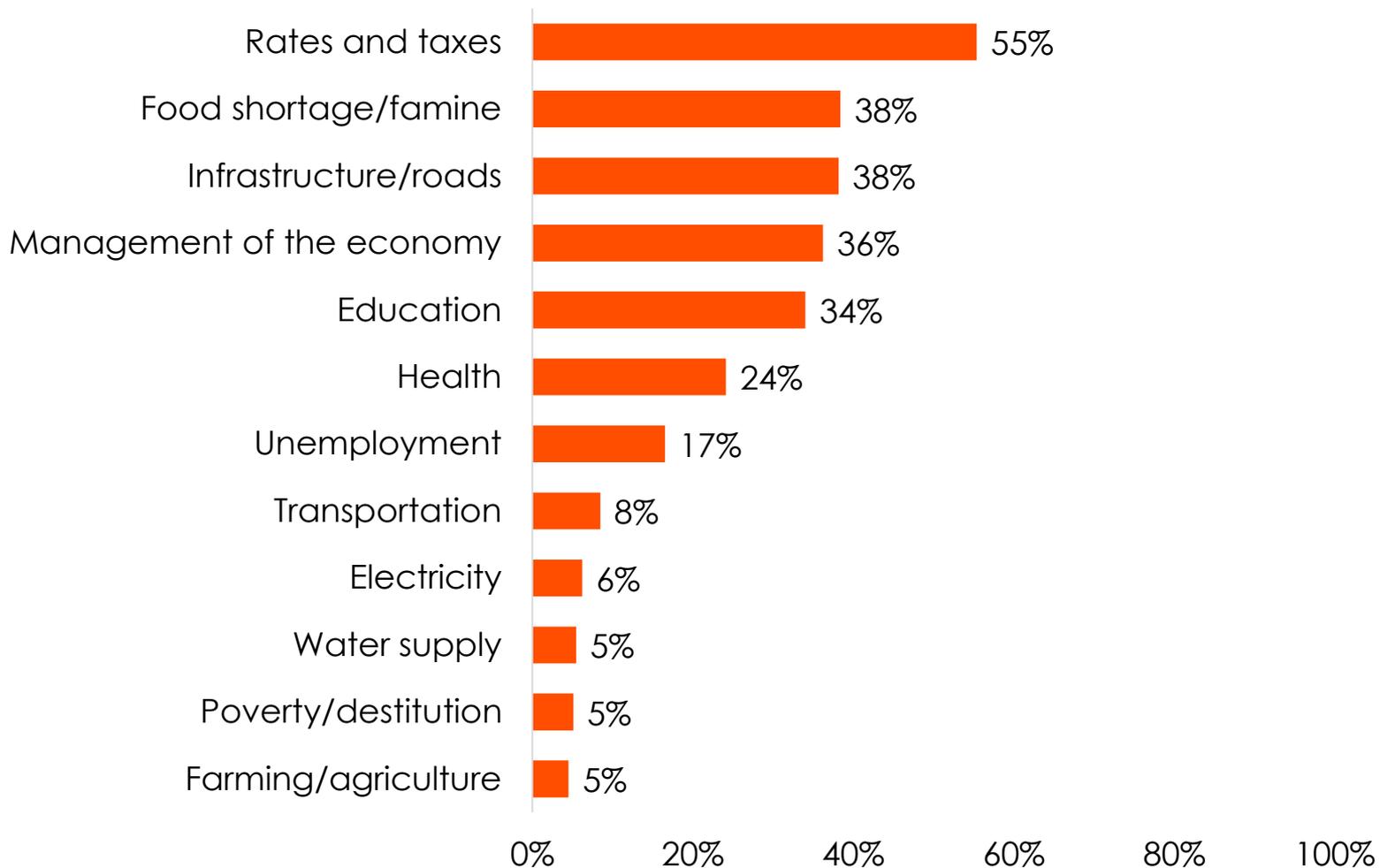
**Respondents were asked:** How well or badly would you say the current government is handling the following matters, or haven't you heard enough to say?

# Government's performance in providing infrastructure and basic services | Liberia | 2018



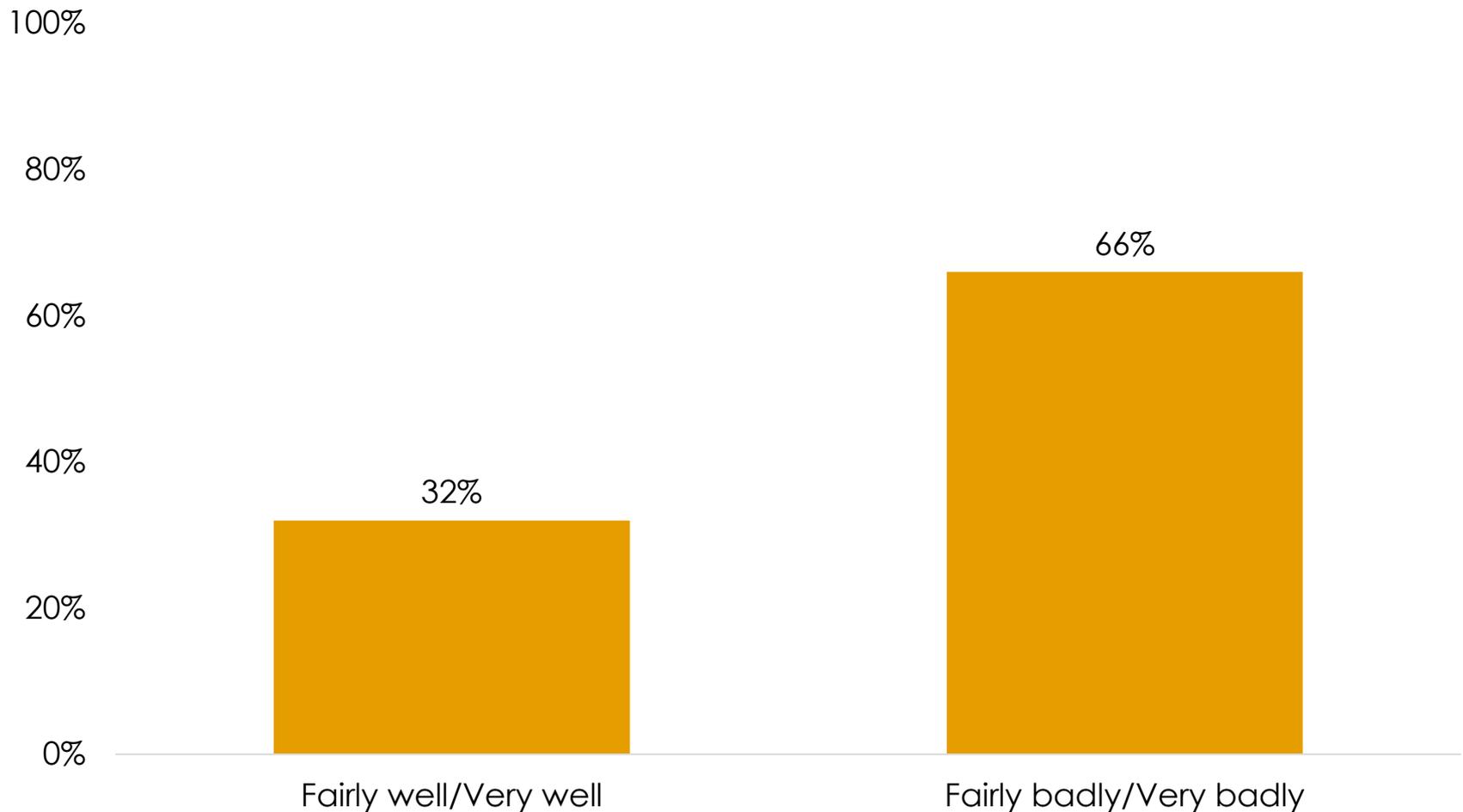
**Respondents were asked:** How well or badly would you say the current government is handling the following matters, or haven't you heard enough to say?

# Most important problem | Liberia | 2018



**Respondents were asked:** *In your opinion, what are the most important problems facing this country that government should address? (Respondents were allowed up to three responses.)*

# Government's performance in handling most important problem | Liberia | 2018

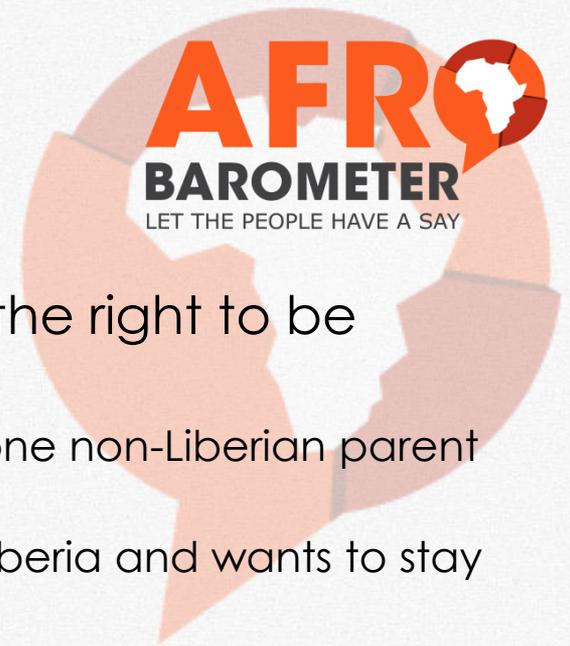


**Respondents were asked:** Thinking of the problem you mentioned first, in your opinion, how well or badly would you say the current government is handling this problem, or haven't you heard enough to say?

# Citizenship

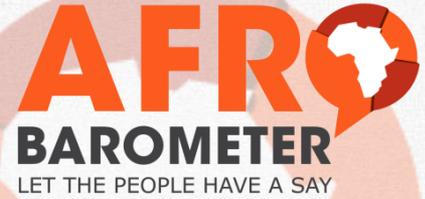


# Key findings



- A majority of Liberians say the following have the right to be Liberian citizens:
  - Persons born in Liberia with one Liberian parent and one non-Liberian parent (77%)
  - A person from another country who has worked in Liberia and wants to stay (59%)
  - A person born in Liberia with two non-Liberian parents (53%)
  
- Liberians perceive widespread discrimination against people in the following groups:
  - Native Liberians or country people (68%)
  - Their own ethnic group (65%)
  - Muslims (63%)
  - Settlers or Congo people (58%)
  - Christians (57%)

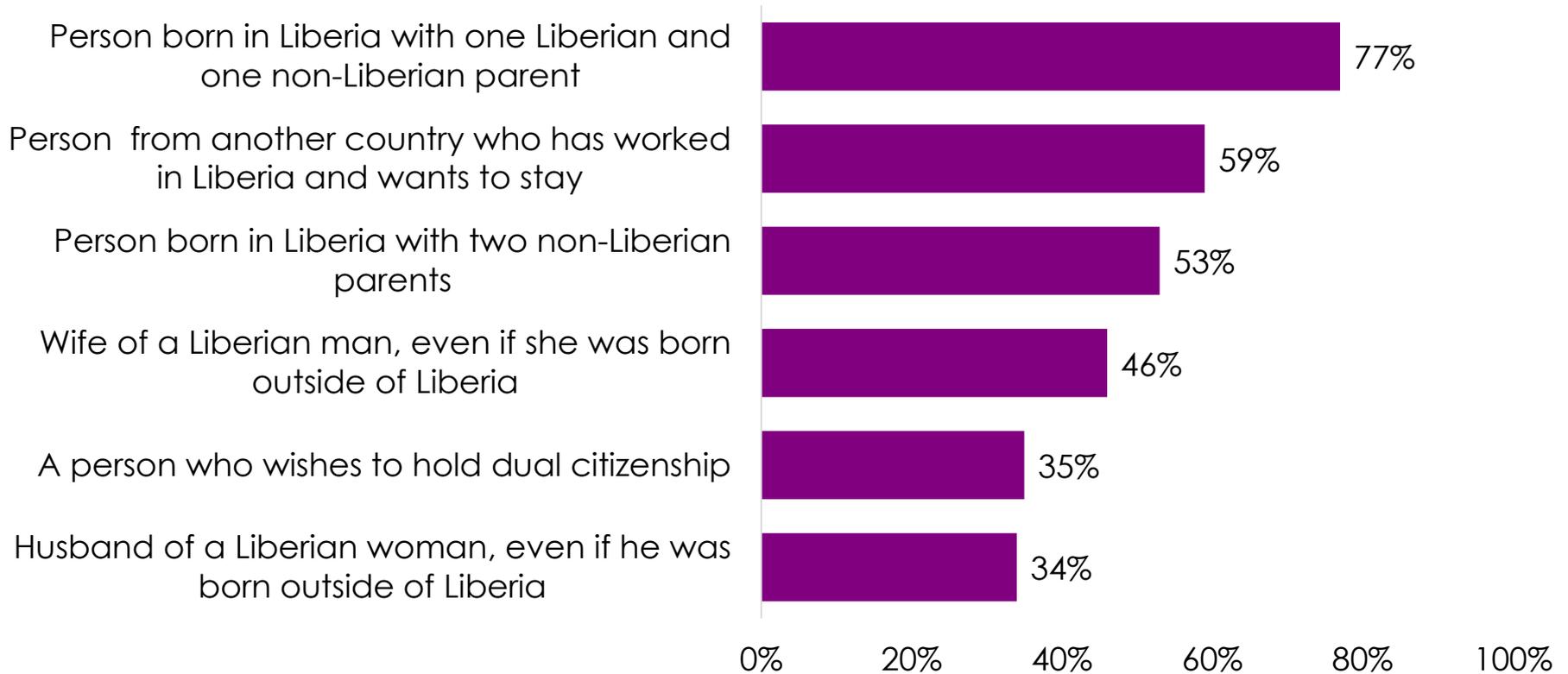
# Key findings



- Seven in 10 Liberians (68%) “agree” or “strongly agree” that the law stating that only black people or persons of negro descent should be allowed to acquire Liberian citizenship should be maintained.
- The same proportion (68%) “agree” or “agree very strongly” that the law stating that only Liberian citizens can own land and property in the country should be maintained.

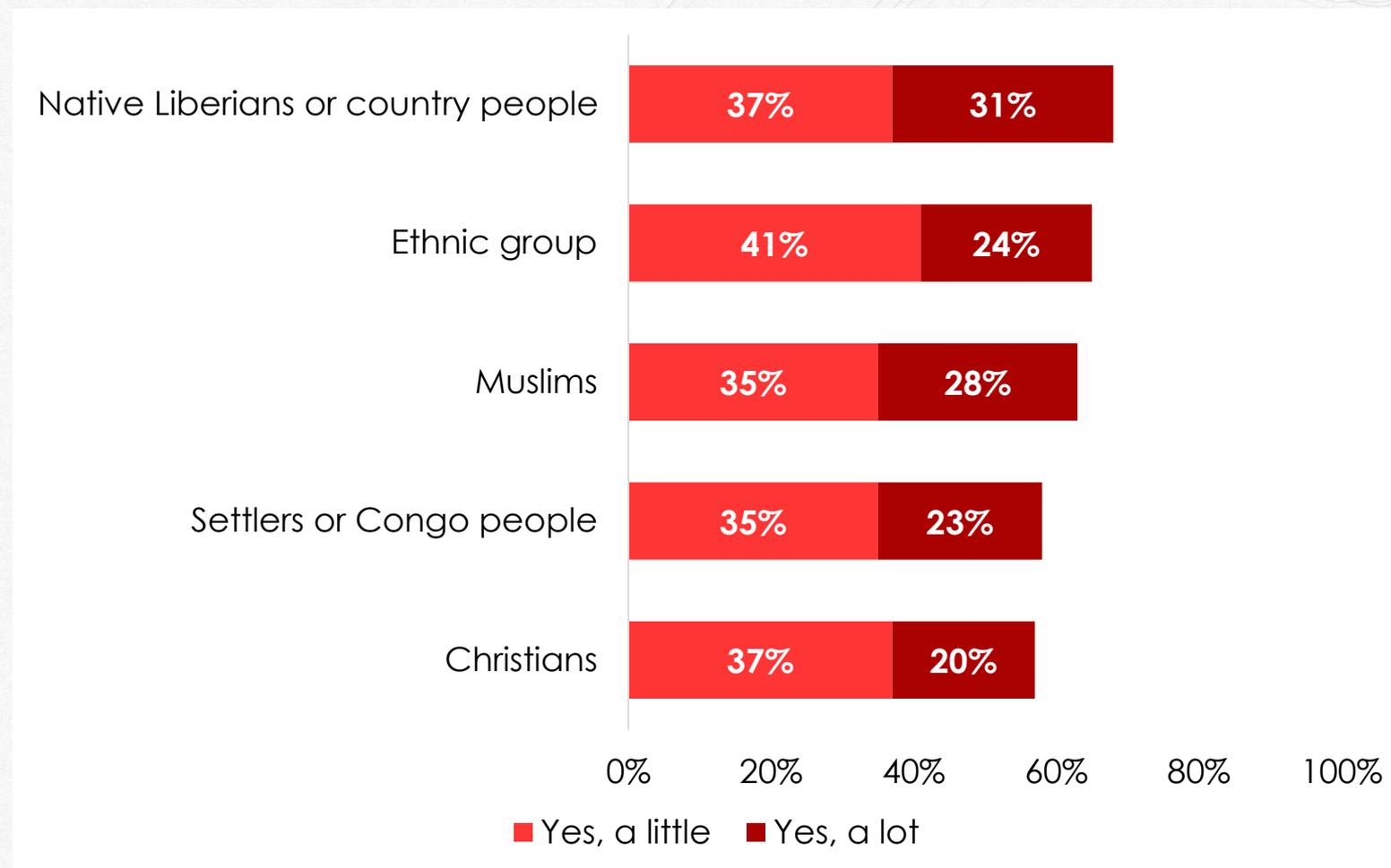
# Who has the right to be a Liberian citizen?

| Liberia | 2018



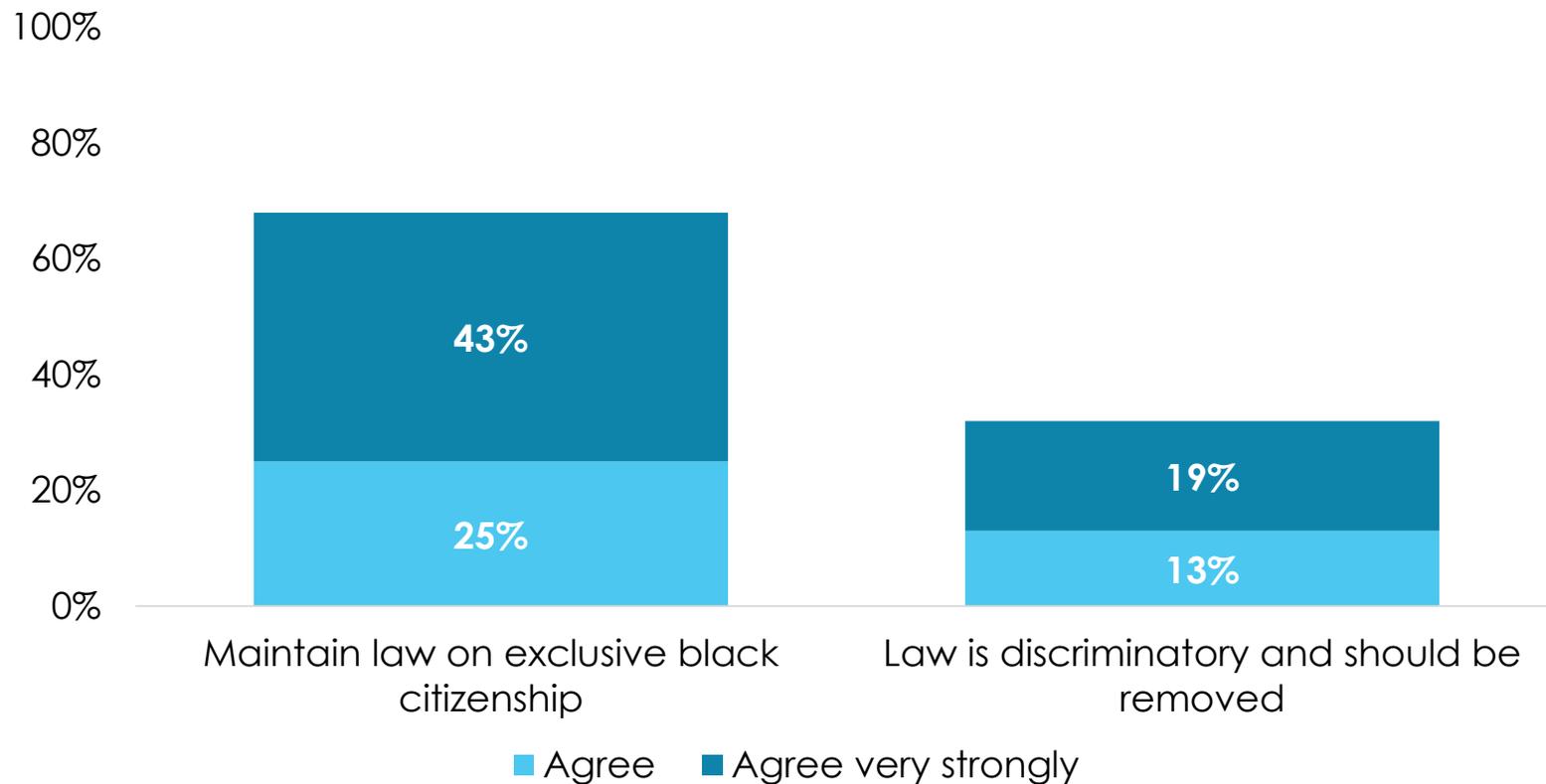
**Respondents were asked:** *In your opinion, which of the following people have a right to be a citizen of Liberia?*

# Experiencing discrimination | Liberia | 2018



**Respondents were asked:** *In your opinion, how much, if any, discrimination do you think is experienced by the following groups in Liberian society today?*

# Perception of the exclusive black citizenship law | Liberia | 2018

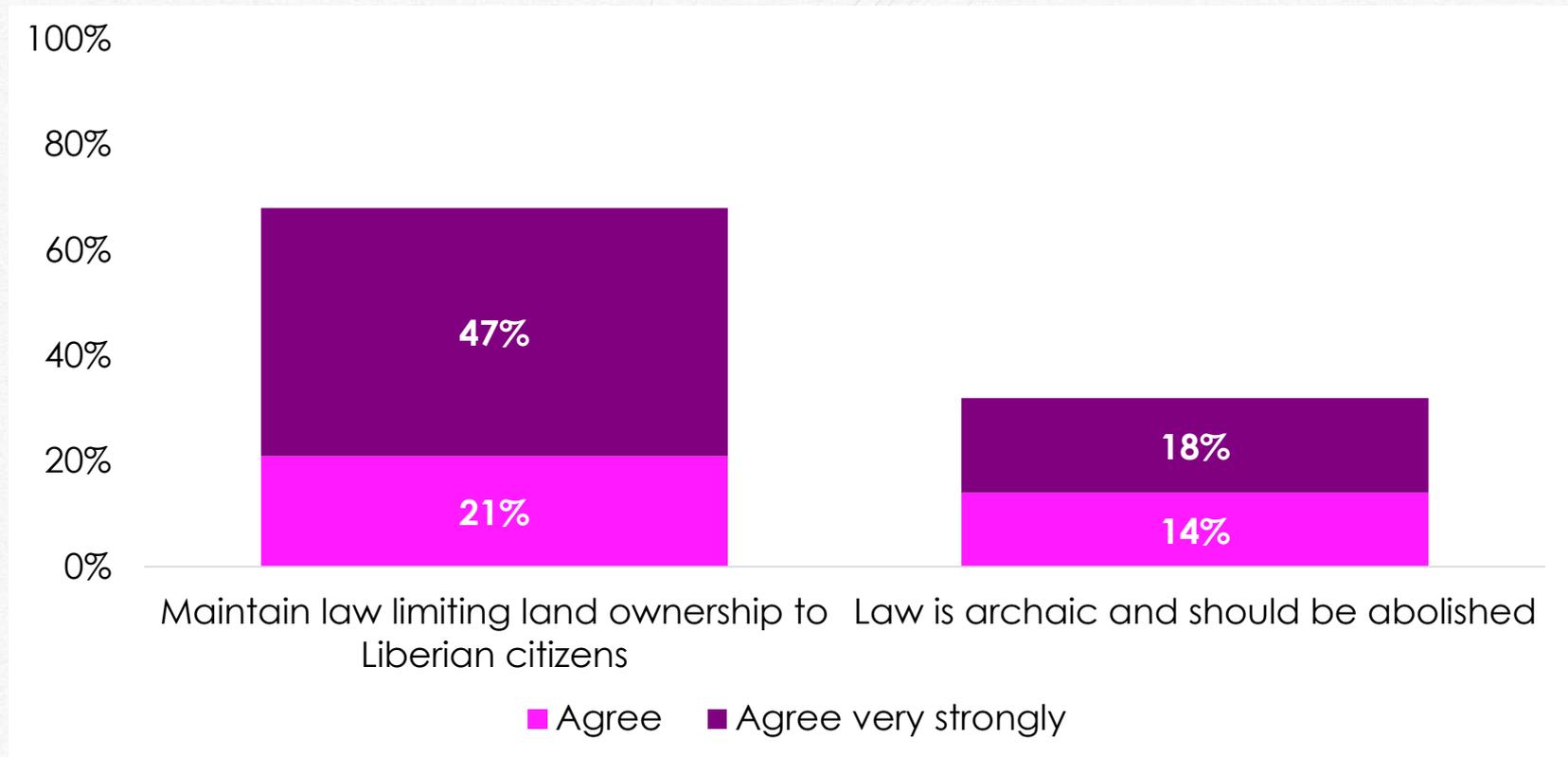


**Respondents were asked:** Which of the following statements is closest to your view?

*Statement 1: The current law which states that only black people or persons of negro descent should be allowed to acquire Liberian citizenship has served the country well and should be maintained.*

*Statement 2: The current law which states that only black people or persons of negro descent should be allowed to acquire Liberian citizenship is discriminatory and should be removed.*

# Should only Liberian citizens be allowed to own land? | Liberia | 2018



**Respondents were asked:** Which of the following statements is closest to your view:

Statement 1: The current law which states that only Liberian citizens can own land and property in the country has served the country well and should be maintained.

Statement 2: The current law which states that only Liberian citizens can own land and property in the country is archaic and should be abolished.

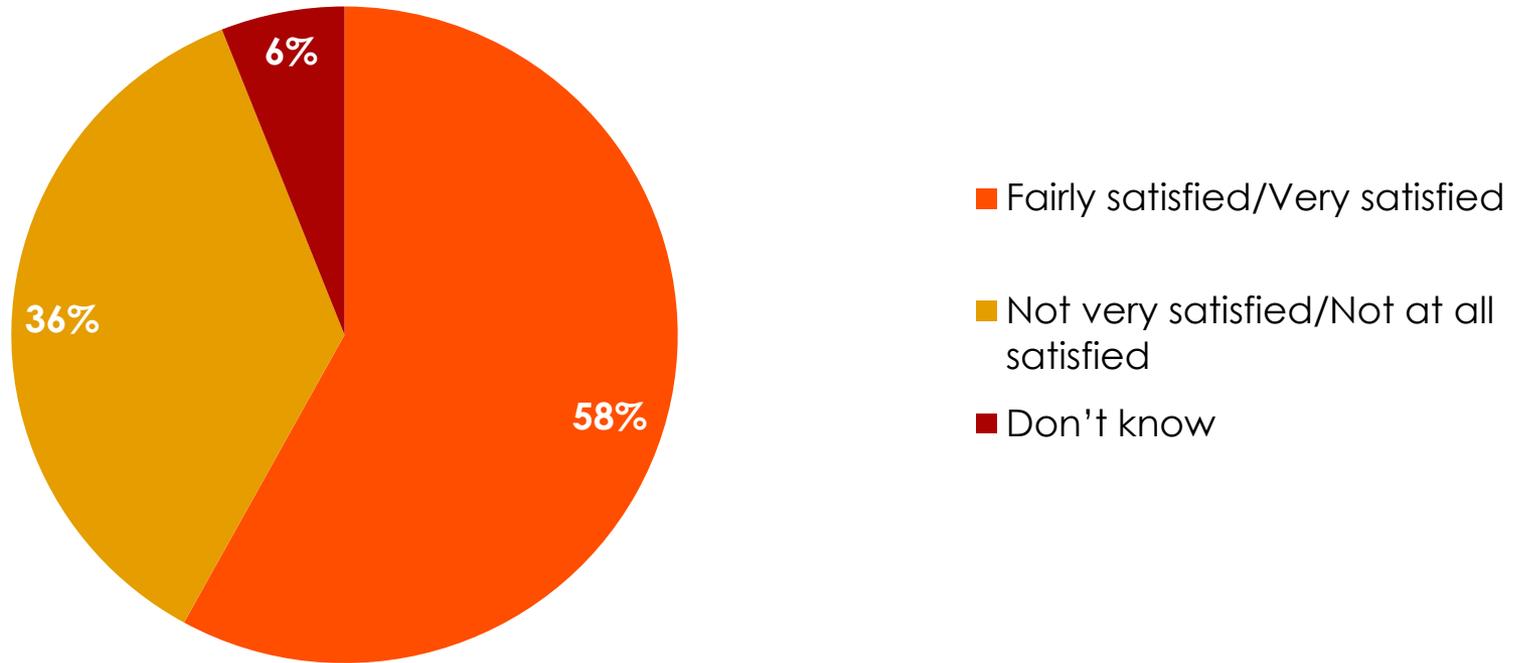
# Implementation of the Truth and Reconciliation Commission's recommendations

# Key findings



- Six in 10 of Liberians (58%) say they are “fairly satisfied” or “very satisfied” with government’s efforts at implementing the recommendations of the Truth and Reconciliation Commission (TRC).
- Satisfaction with the implementation is widespread among key demographic groups but is highest among men, respondents in rural areas, and those with primary and secondary education.

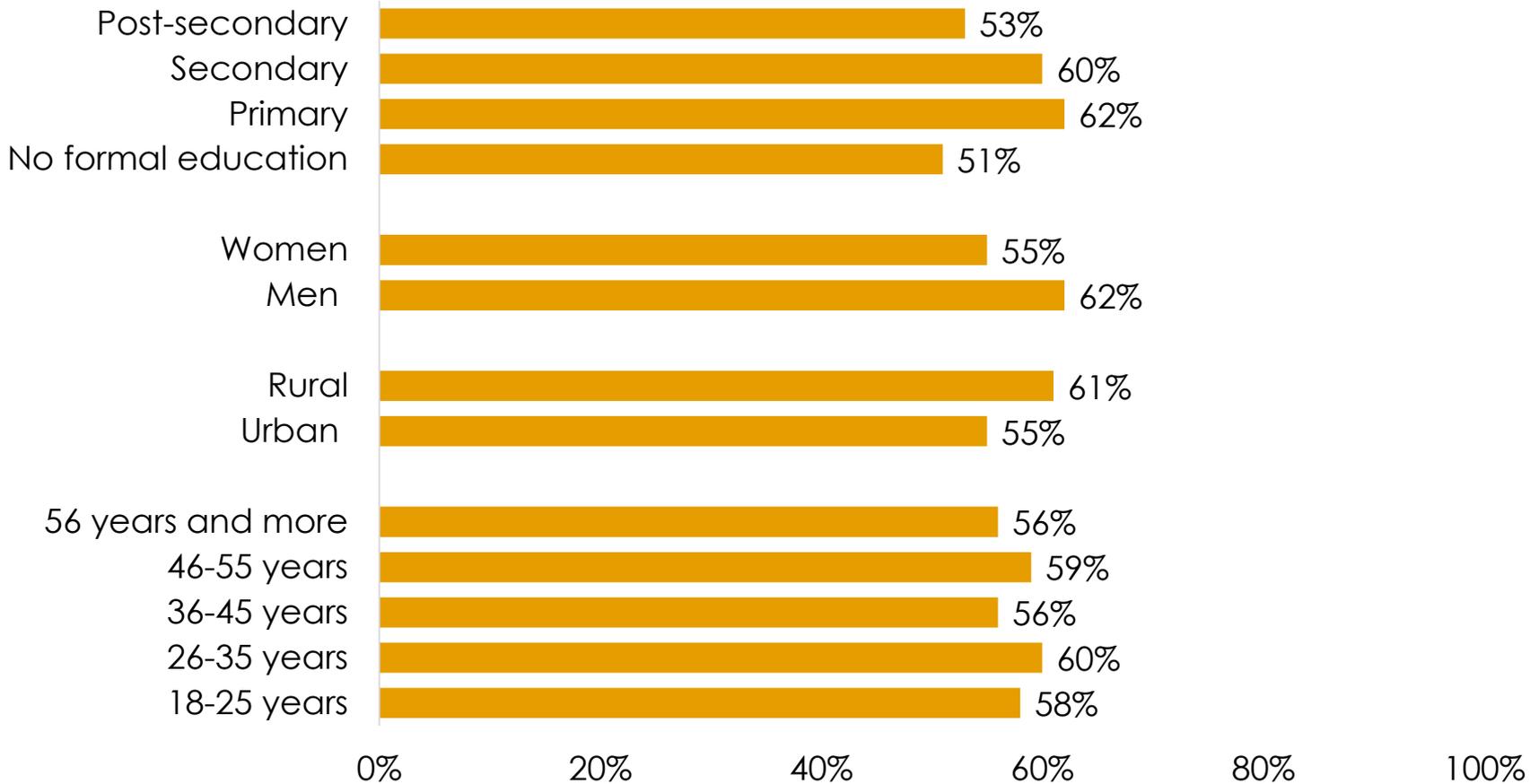
# Perception of the implementation of the TRC recommendations | Liberia | 2018



**Respondents were asked:** How satisfied or dissatisfied are you with the government's efforts at implementing the recommendations of the Truth and Reconciliation Commission (TRC)?

# Satisfied with implementation of TRC recommendations

| by socio-demographics | Liberia | 2018



**Respondents were asked:** How satisfied or dissatisfied are you with the government's efforts at implementing the recommendations of the Truth and Reconciliation Commission (TRC)?  
(% who say "fairly satisfied" or "very satisfied")

# Conclusions



# Conclusion



- Among political leaders in Liberia, the president received the highest rate of performance approval (56%)
- The most important problems that Liberians want government to address are rates and taxes (55%)
- Government is rated poorly for its economic performance:
  - Only one-third (34%) of Liberians say government is performing “fairly well” or “very well” in managing the economy and creating jobs
- Six in 10 of Liberians (58%) say they are “fairly satisfied” or “very satisfied” with government’s efforts at implementing the recommendations of the TRC.
- Persons born in Liberia with one Liberian parent and one non-Liberian parent (77%)
- Seven in 10 Liberians (68%) “agree” or “strongly agree” that the law stating that only black people or persons of negro descent should be allowed to acquire Liberian citizenship should be maintained.

Thank you