



Gambians' perception on emigration and the works of TRRC, CRC and ECOMIG

Findings from Afrobarometer Round 7 survey in the Gambia

At a glance



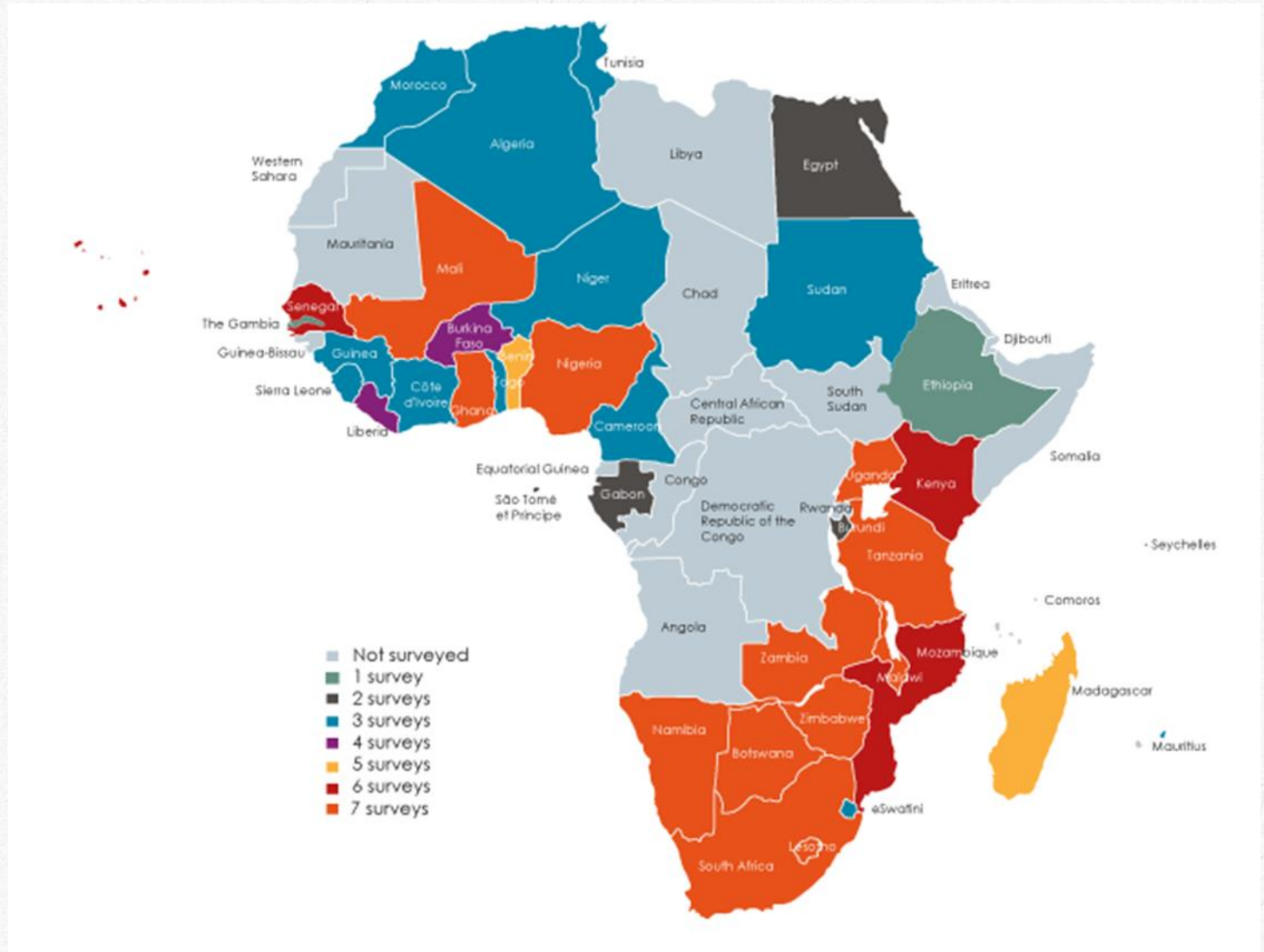
- **Human-rights abuses under the Jammeh regime:** More than one in four Gambians (28%) say they or a member of their family suffered at least one form of human-rights abuse.
- **Truth, Reconciliation and Reparations Commission (TRRC):** Fewer than half (46%) of Gambians say they trust the TRRC “a lot” or “somewhat.” Seven in 10 (68%) say perpetrators of crimes and human-rights abuses during President Yahya Jammeh’s regime should be tried in court, irrespective of the work of the TRRC.
- **Time for ECOMIG to leave?:** Gambians are split on whether the ECOWAS Military Intervention in the Gambia (ECOMIG) should leave and let Gambians take charge of security matters in the country.
- **Emigration:** Eight in 10 (83%) Gambians say irregular migration has decreased over the past year; almost half (44%) say internal rural-to-urban migration has increased.

What is Afrobarometer?

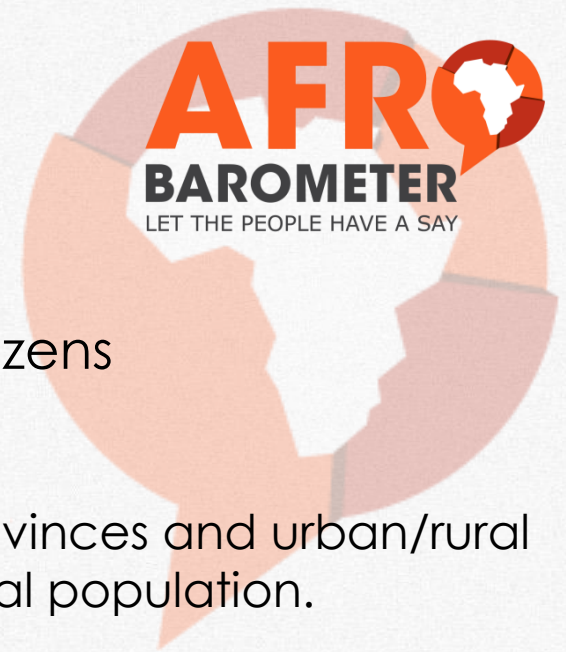


- A pan-African, non-partisan survey research project that measures citizen attitudes on democracy and governance, the economy, civil society, and other topics.
- Started in 12 African countries in 1999, expanded to 36 countries in Round 6 (2014/2015). Round 7 surveys have been completed in 2018.
- **Goal:** 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 the Gambia, Afrobarometer Round 7 survey was conducted by the Center for Policy, Research and Strategic Studies (CepRass).

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 the Gambia of 1,200 adult citizens yields a margin of error of +/-3 percentage points at a 95% confidence level.
- Fieldwork for Round 7 in the Gambia was conducted between 23 July and 12 August 2018.

Survey demographics

Gender	%
Men	51
Women	49
Residence	
Urban	62
Rural	38
Education	
No formal education	40
Primary	9
Secondary	33
Post-secondary	17
Religion	
Christian	3
Muslim	96
Other	<1



Findings



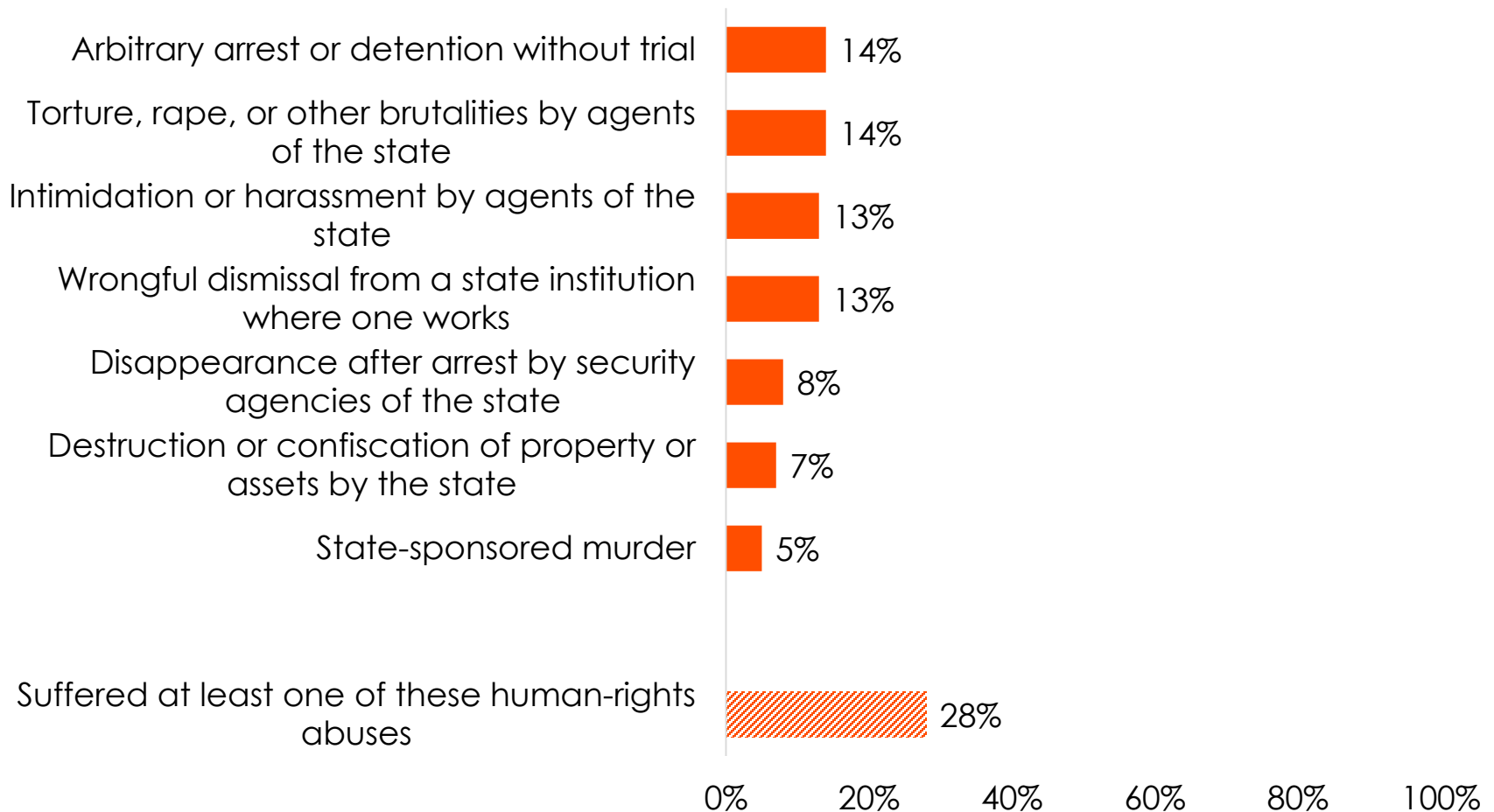
Truth, Reconciliation and Reparations Commission (TRRC)

Key findings



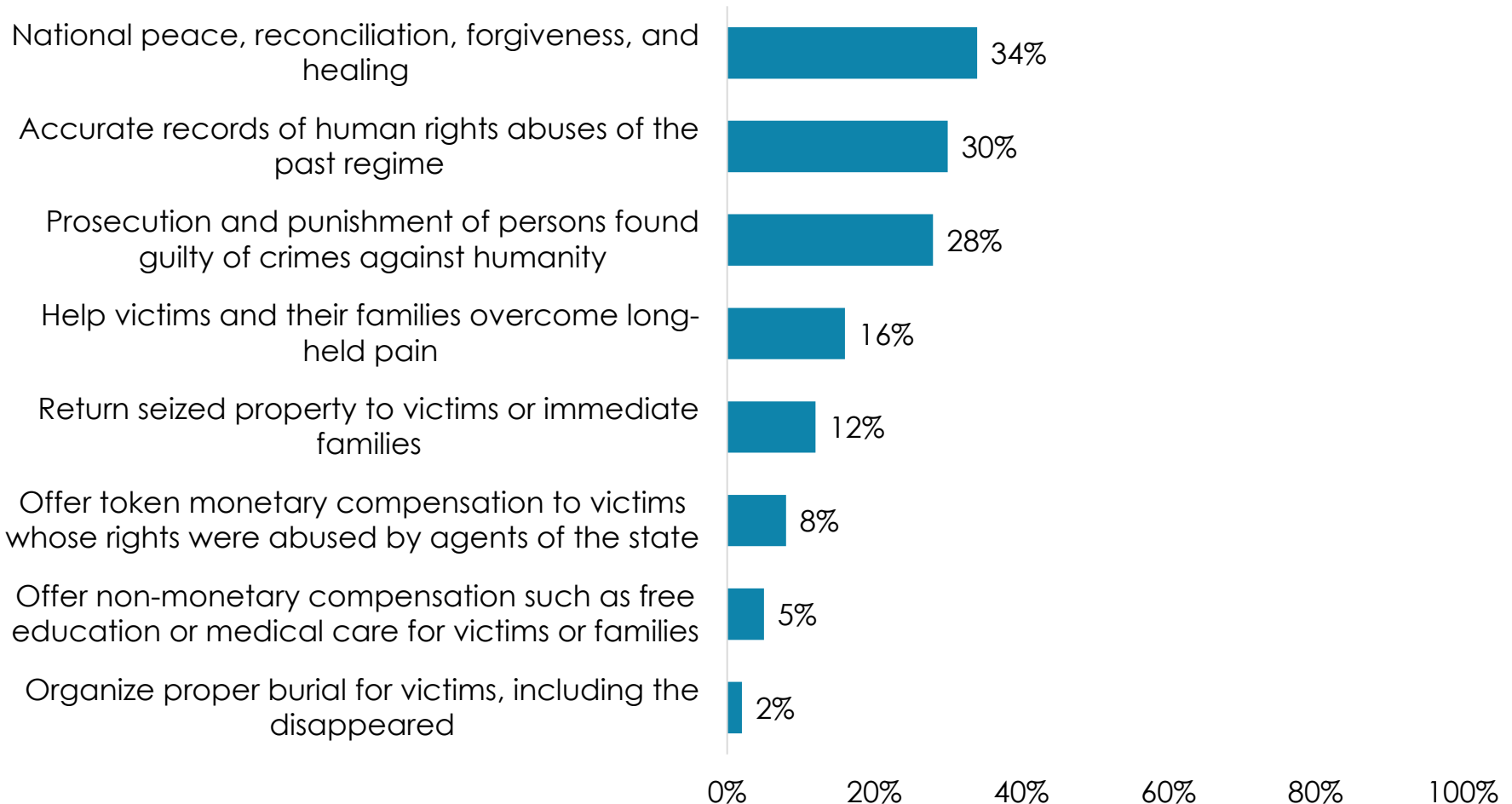
- More than one in four Gambians (28%) say they or a member of their family suffered at least one form of human-rights abuse under the regime of former President Yahya Jammeh.
- The outcomes that citizens expect of the TRRC's work range from national peace, reconciliation, forgiveness, and healing (34%) to accurate records of human-rights abuses of the previous regime (30%), prosecution of accused perpetrators (28%), and support and reparations for victims.
- Fewer than half (46%) of Gambians say they trust the TRRC “a lot” or “somewhat.”
- Seven in 10 Gambians (68%) say perpetrators of crimes and human-rights abuses during Jammeh’s regime should be tried in court, irrespective of the work of the TRRC.
- Six in 10 Gambians (60%) recommend a collaborative effort between the government of Ghana and the Gambia to ascertain the truth about 44 Ghanaians who were murdered in the Gambia.
- Half (51%) of Gambians say the former president should face prosecution for crimes and human-rights abuses.

Suffered human-rights abuse during Jammeh's regime | The Gambia | 2018



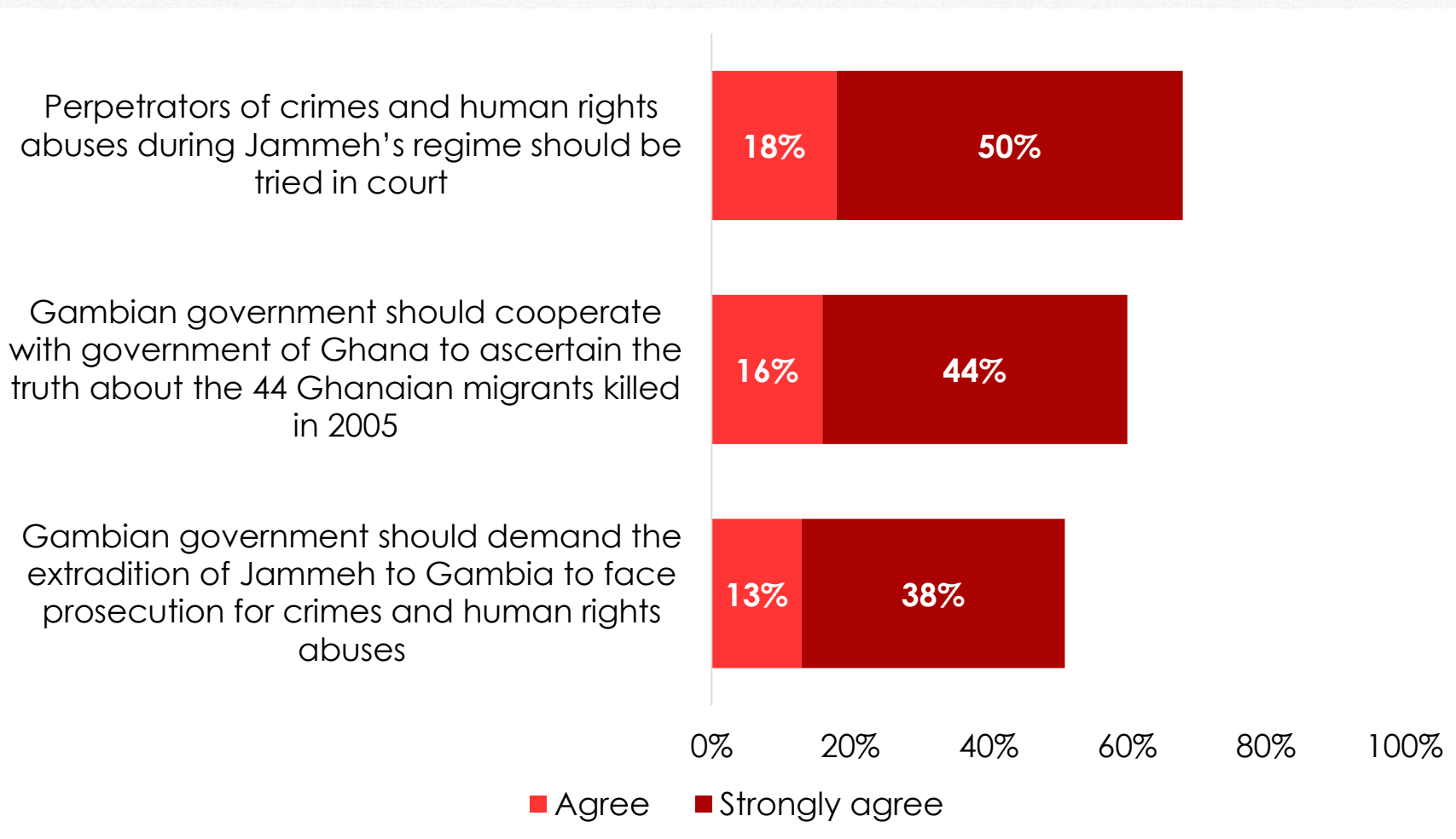
Respondents were asked: *Some people suffered various human rights abuse under Yahya Jammeh's regime. Please tell me whether you or any member of your family suffered the following human rights abuse?*

Expectations from the TTRC's work | The Gambia | 2018



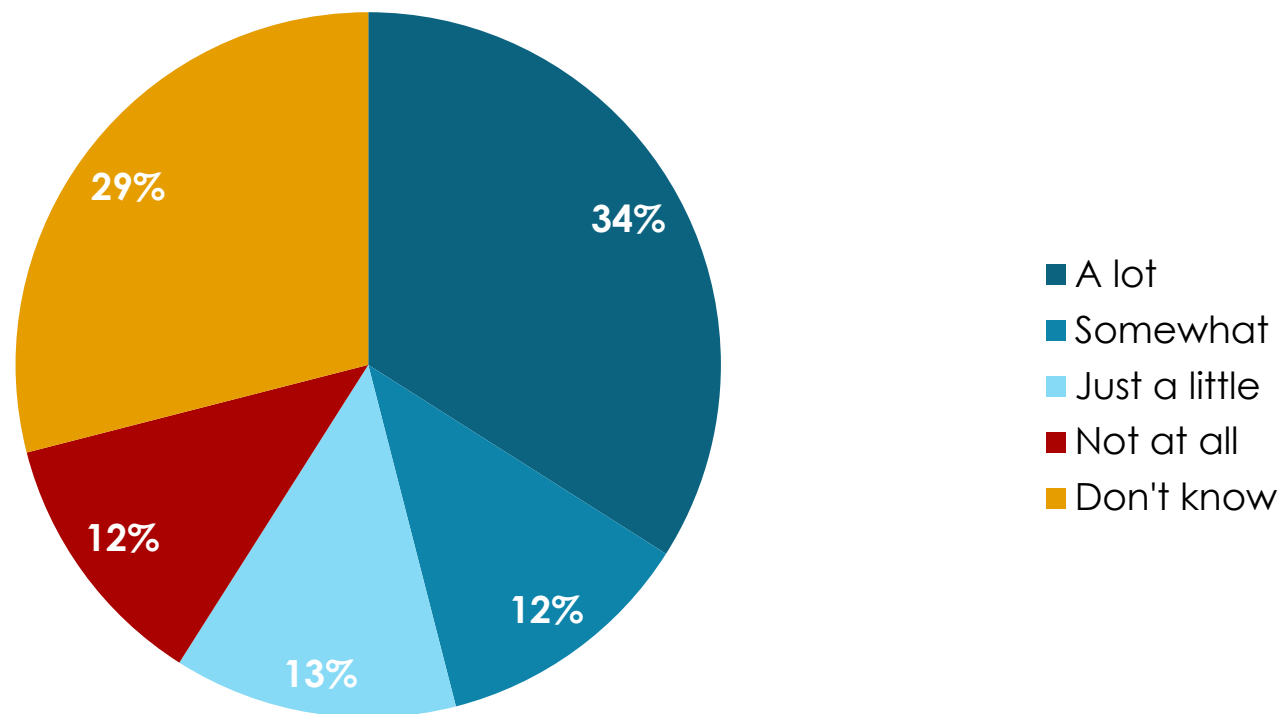
Respondents were asked: Please tell me two most important outcomes you expect from the commission's work? (Respondents gave up to two responses each.)

Jammeh to justice | The Gambia | 2018



Respondents were asked: For each of the following statements, please tell me whether you disagree or agree or haven't you heard enough to say?

Popular trust in the TRRC | The Gambia | 2018



Respondents were asked: How much do you trust each of the following, or haven't you heard enough about them to say: The Truth, Reconciliation and Reparations Commission (TRRC)?

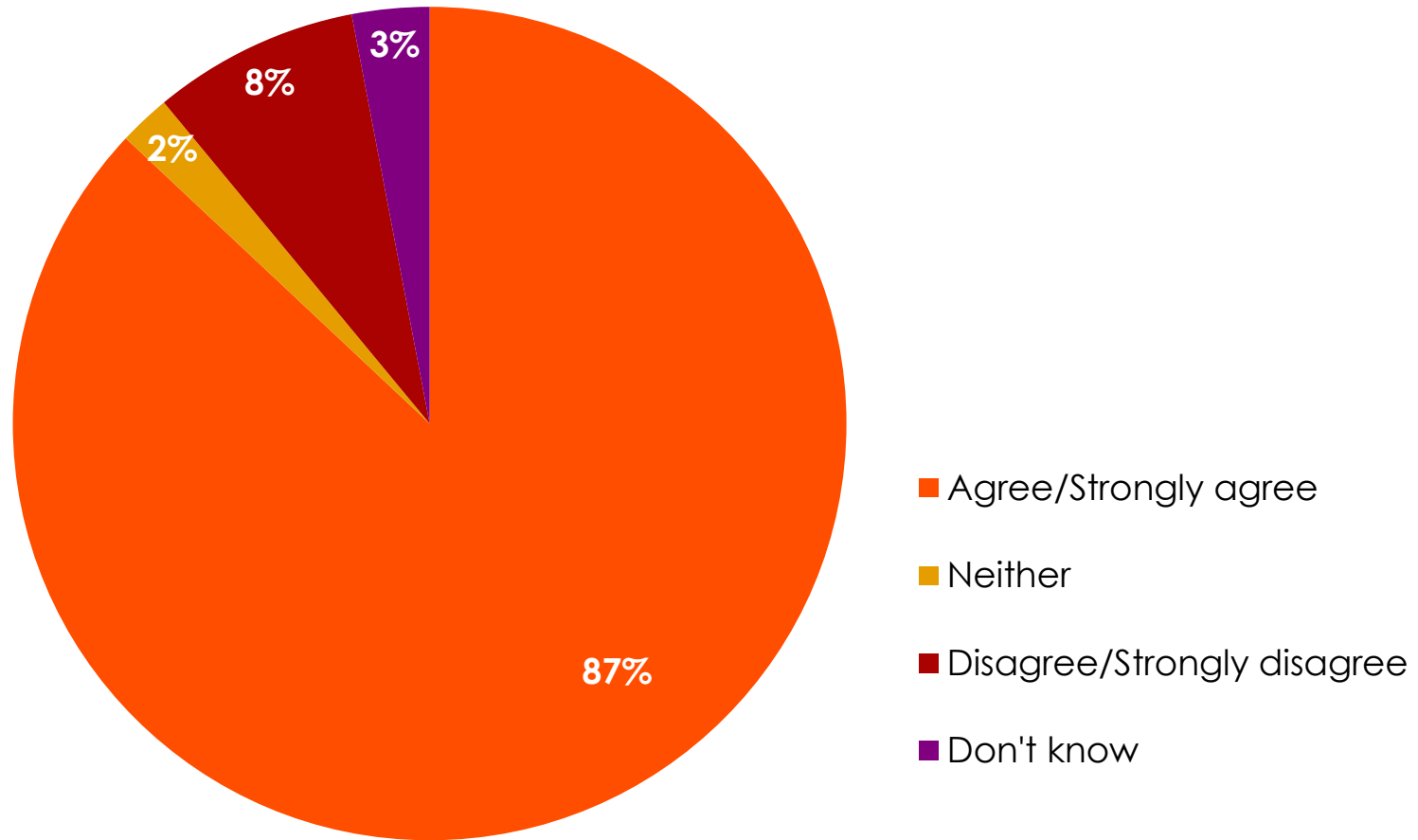
Issues related to the Constitutional Review Commission (CRC)

Key findings



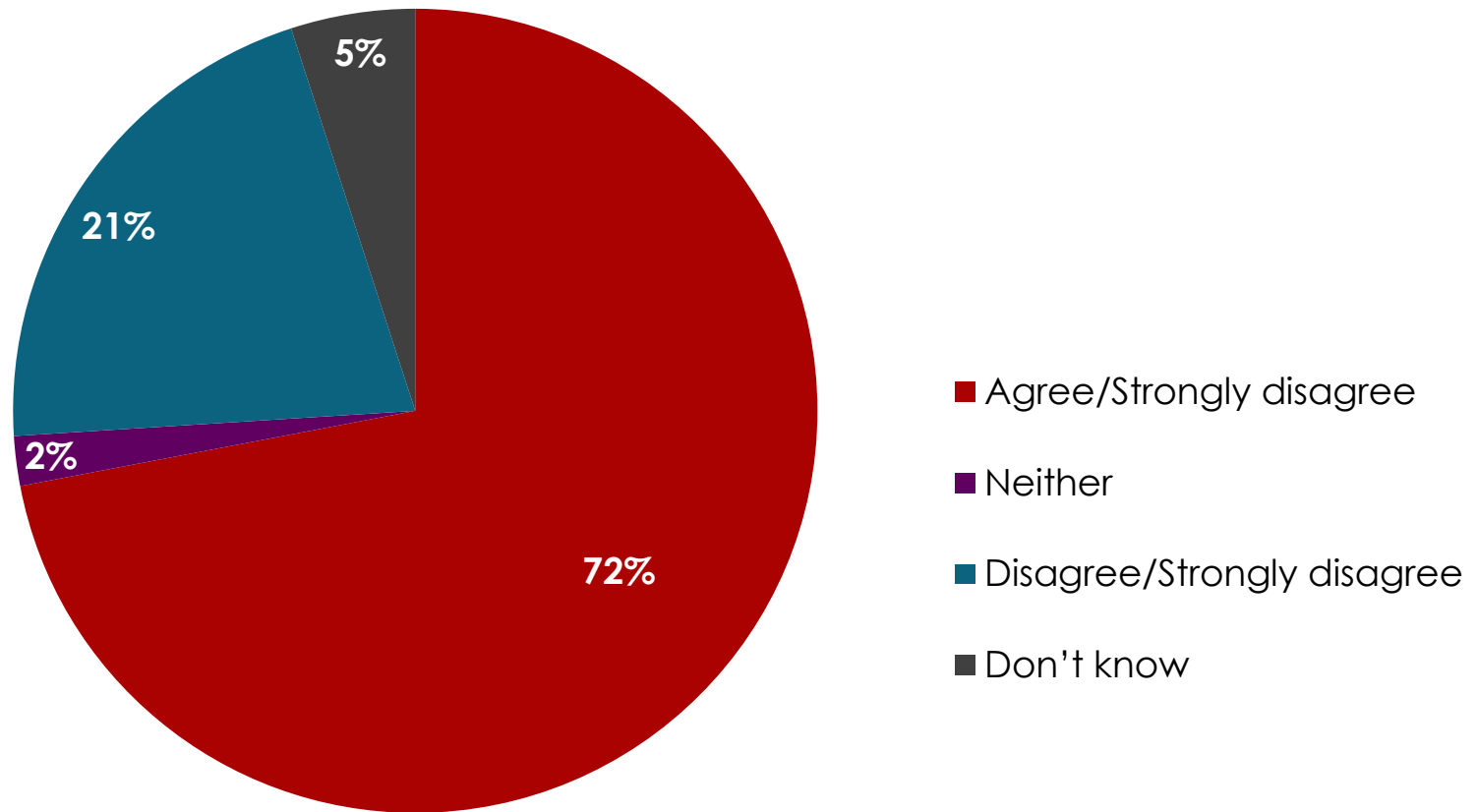
- Large majorities of Gambians “agree” or “strongly agree” that the new Constitution of the Gambia should:
 - Provide for a limit of two five-year terms for presidents (87%).
 - Make it mandatory for the National Assembly to vet and approve all nominees for ministerial appointments (86%)
 - Include a quota system for women’s representation in the National Assembly (85%)
 - Stipulate that to be elected as president, a candidate must receive at least 50% of the valid votes (72%)
 - Prohibit presidents from unilaterally removing commissioners of the Independent Electoral Commission from office (71%)
- Three-quarters (75%) agree – including 66% who agree “very strongly” – that provincial governors should be elected by voters in the provinces.

New constitution should limit presidents to two five-year terms | The Gambia | 2018



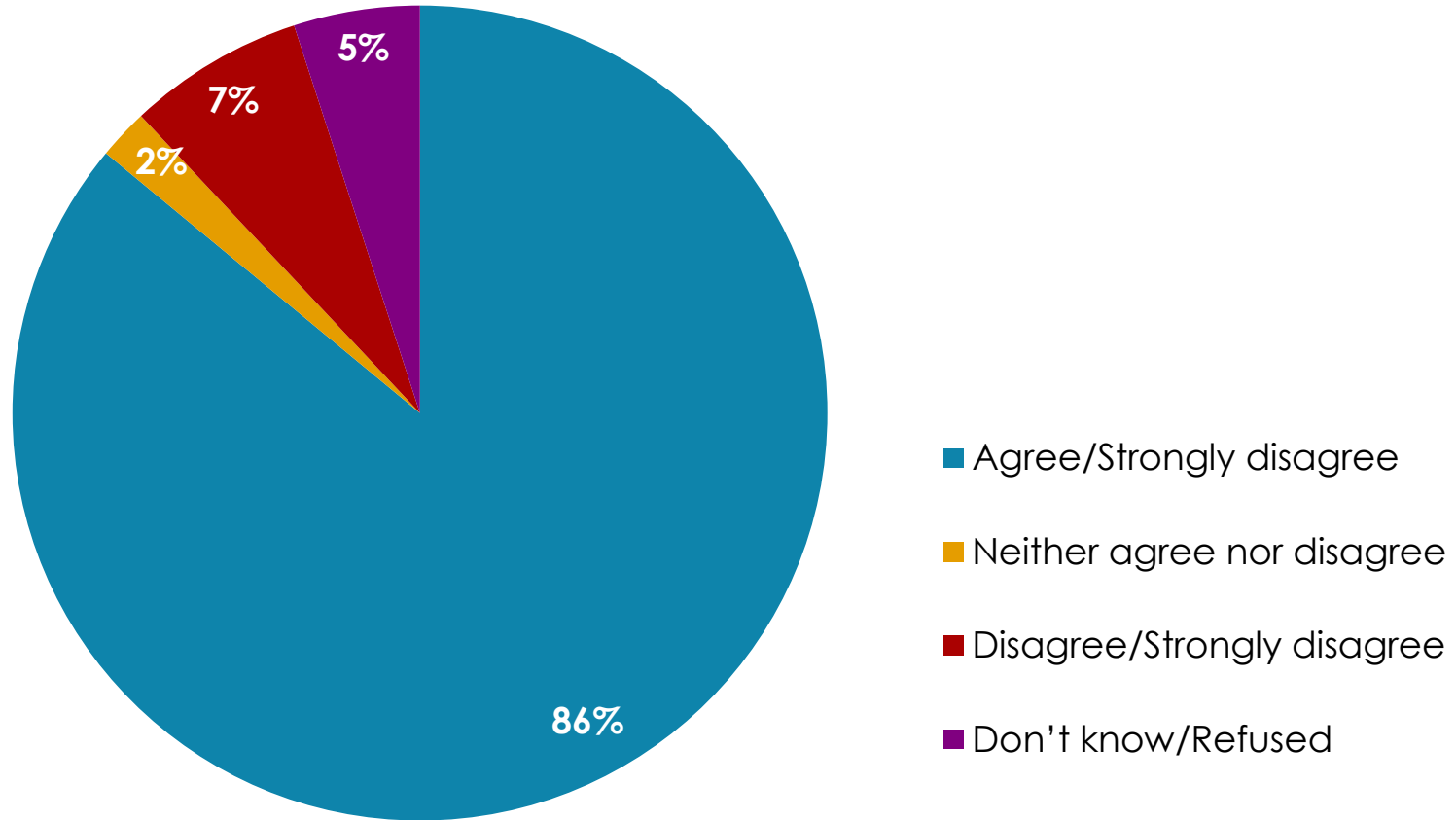
Respondents were asked: Please tell me whether you disagree or agree with the following statements or haven't you heard enough to say: The new Constitution of the Gambia should provide for the introduction of a two five-year presidential term limit.

At least 50% of valid votes required to be elected president | The Gambia | 2018



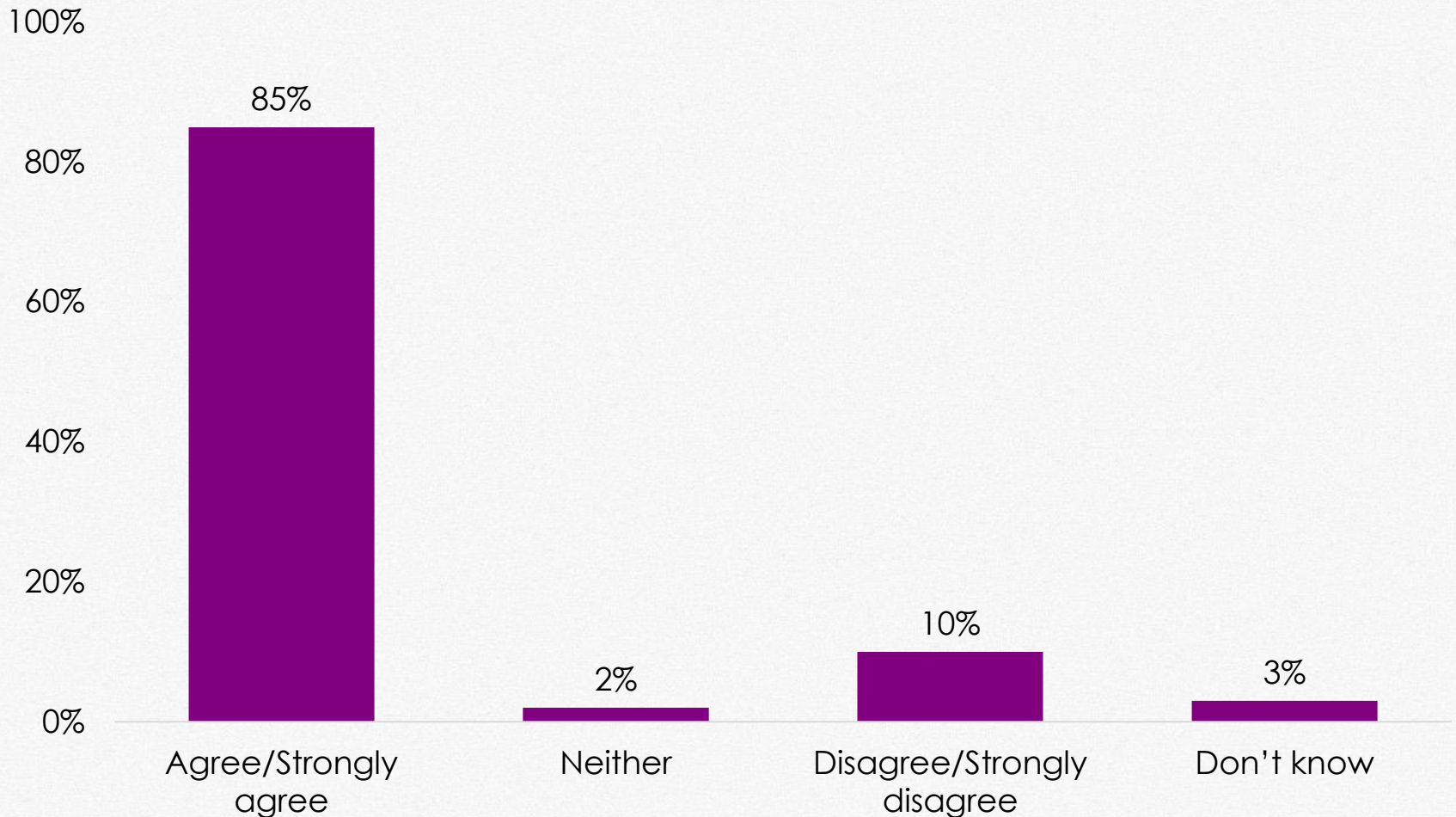
Respondents were asked: Please tell me whether you disagree or agree with the following statements or haven't you heard enough to say: The new Constitution of the Gambia should stipulate that to be elected as president, a candidate should receive at least 50% of the valid votes?

National Assembly to vet and approve all nominees for ministerial appointments | The Gambia | 2018



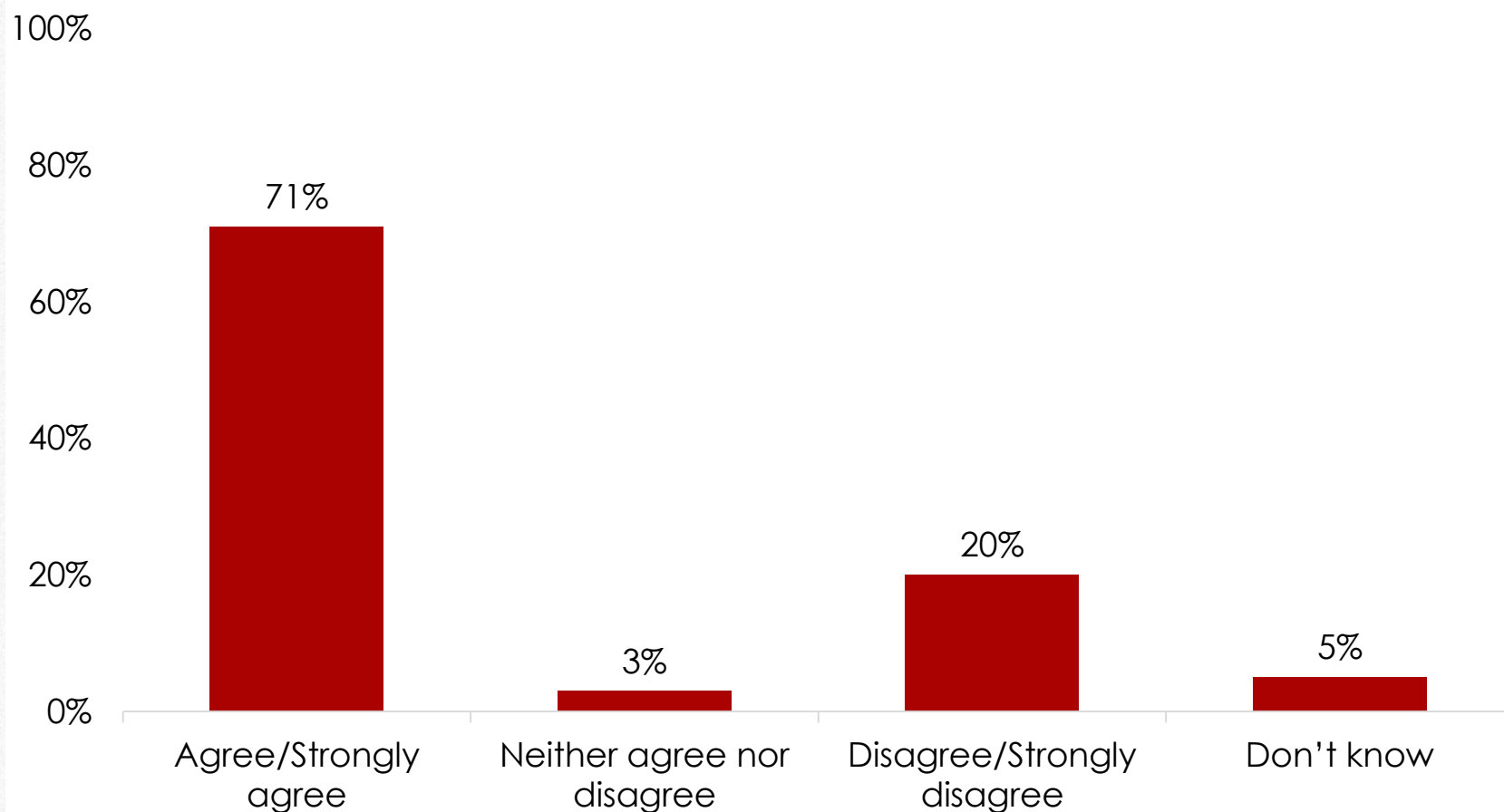
Respondents were asked: Please tell me whether you disagree or agree with the following statements or haven't you heard enough to say: The new Constitution of the Gambia should make it mandatory for the National Assembly to vet and approve all nominees for ministerial appointments?

Include quota system for women's representation in the National Assembly | The Gambia | 2018



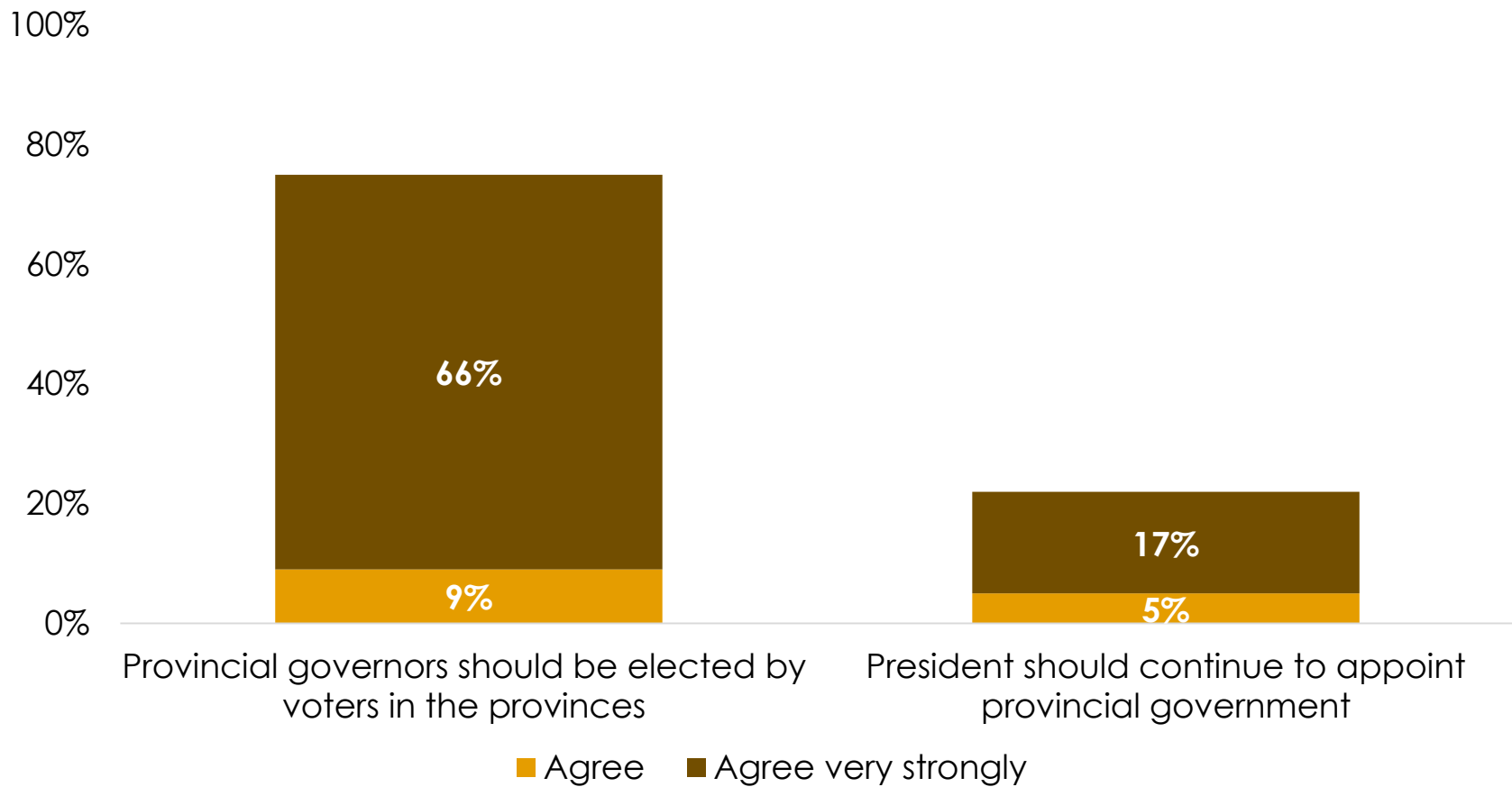
Respondents were asked: Please tell me whether you disagree or agree with the following statements or haven't you heard enough to say: The new Constitution of the Gambia should include a quota system for women representation in the National Assembly?

Prohibit presidents from removing members of the Electoral Commission from office | The Gambia | 2018



Respondents were asked: Please tell me whether you disagree or agree with the following statements or haven't you heard enough to say: The new Constitution of the Gambia should prohibit presidents from unilaterally removing commissioners of the Independent Electoral Commission from office?

Election of provincial governors | The Gambia | 2018



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

Statement 1: Provincial governors should be elected by voters in the provinces.

Statement 2: The president should continue to appoint provincial governors for all provinces.

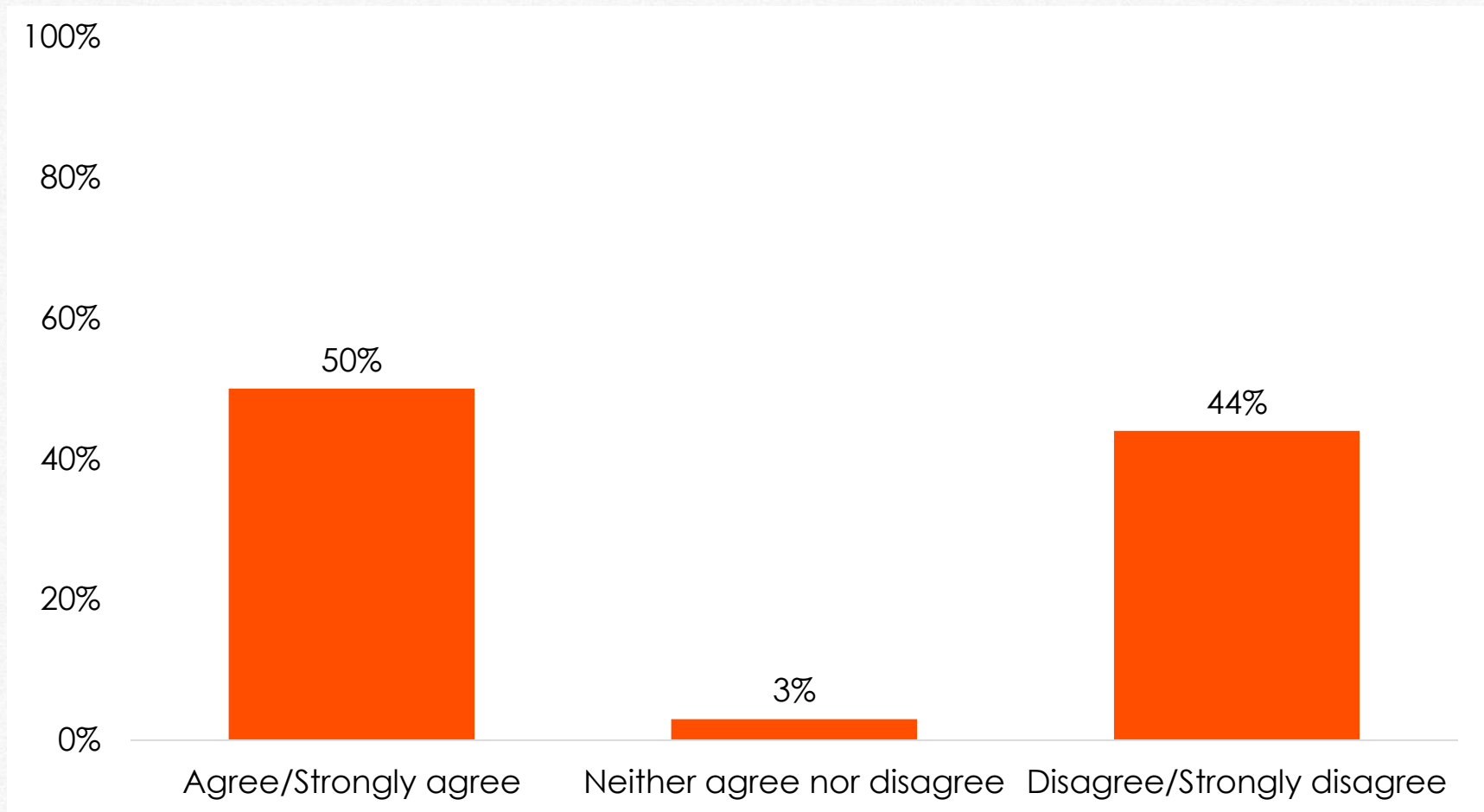
Security and the work of ECOMIG

Key findings



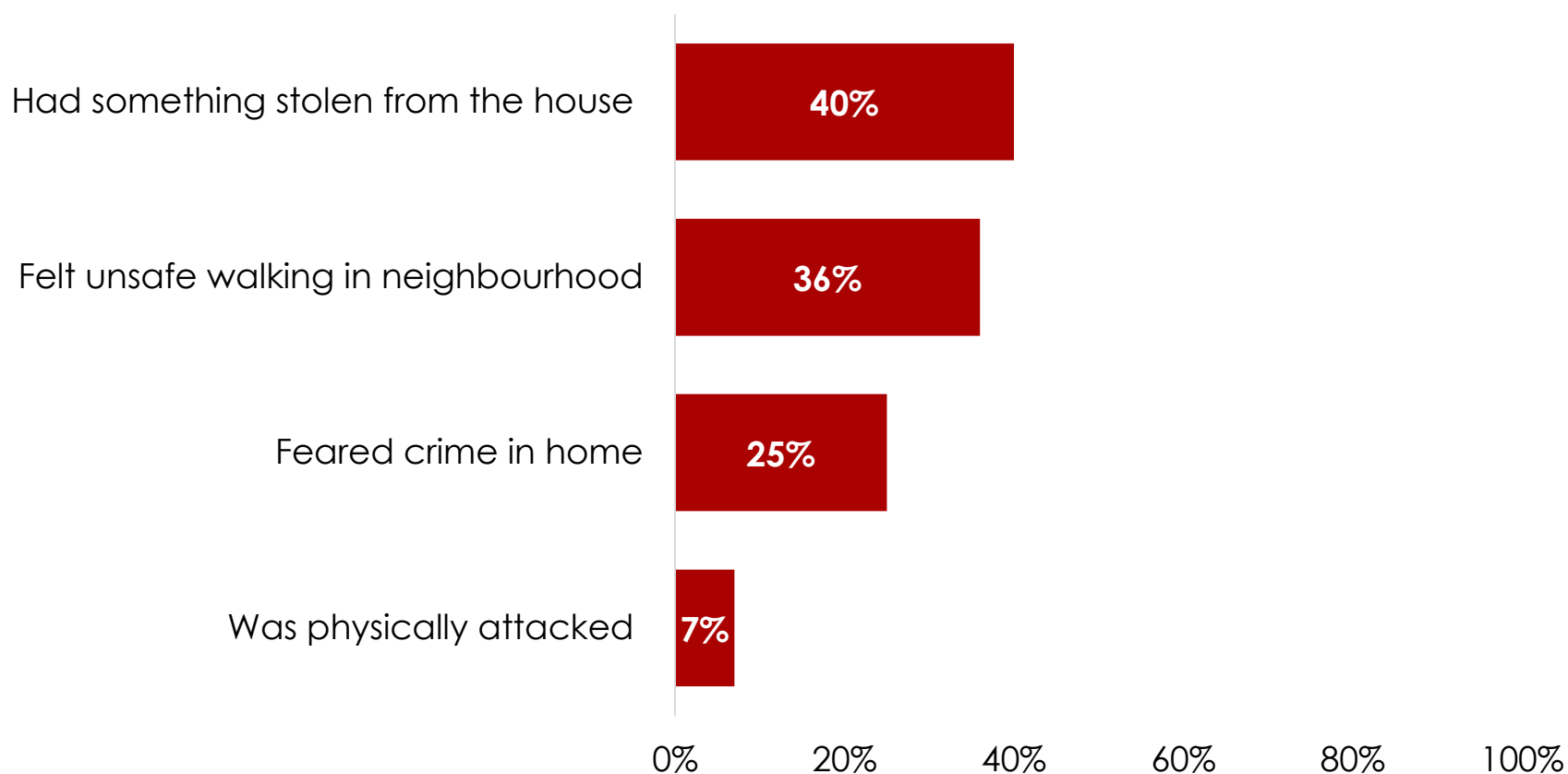
- Gambians are split on whether the ECOWAS Military Intervention in the Gambia (ECOMIG) should leave for the Gambia Armed Forces and Police to take charge of security matters in the country.
- A majority (61%) say the armed forces “often” or “always” protect the country from security threats, and half (50%) say they are respectful to citizens.
- But only 37% say the armed forces get the resources they need to be effective.
- Over the past year:
 - Four in 10 Gambians had something stolen from their house (40%) or felt unsafe walking in their neighbourhood (36%).
 - One in four (25%) feared crime in their home.
 - One in 14 (7%) were physically attacked.

Time for ECOMIG to leave? | The Gambia | 2018



Respondents were asked: Please tell me whether you agree or disagree with the following statement: The ECOWAS Military Intervention in the Gambia (ECOMIG) has served its purpose. It is time they leave for the Gambia Armed Forces and Police to take charge of security matters of the country.

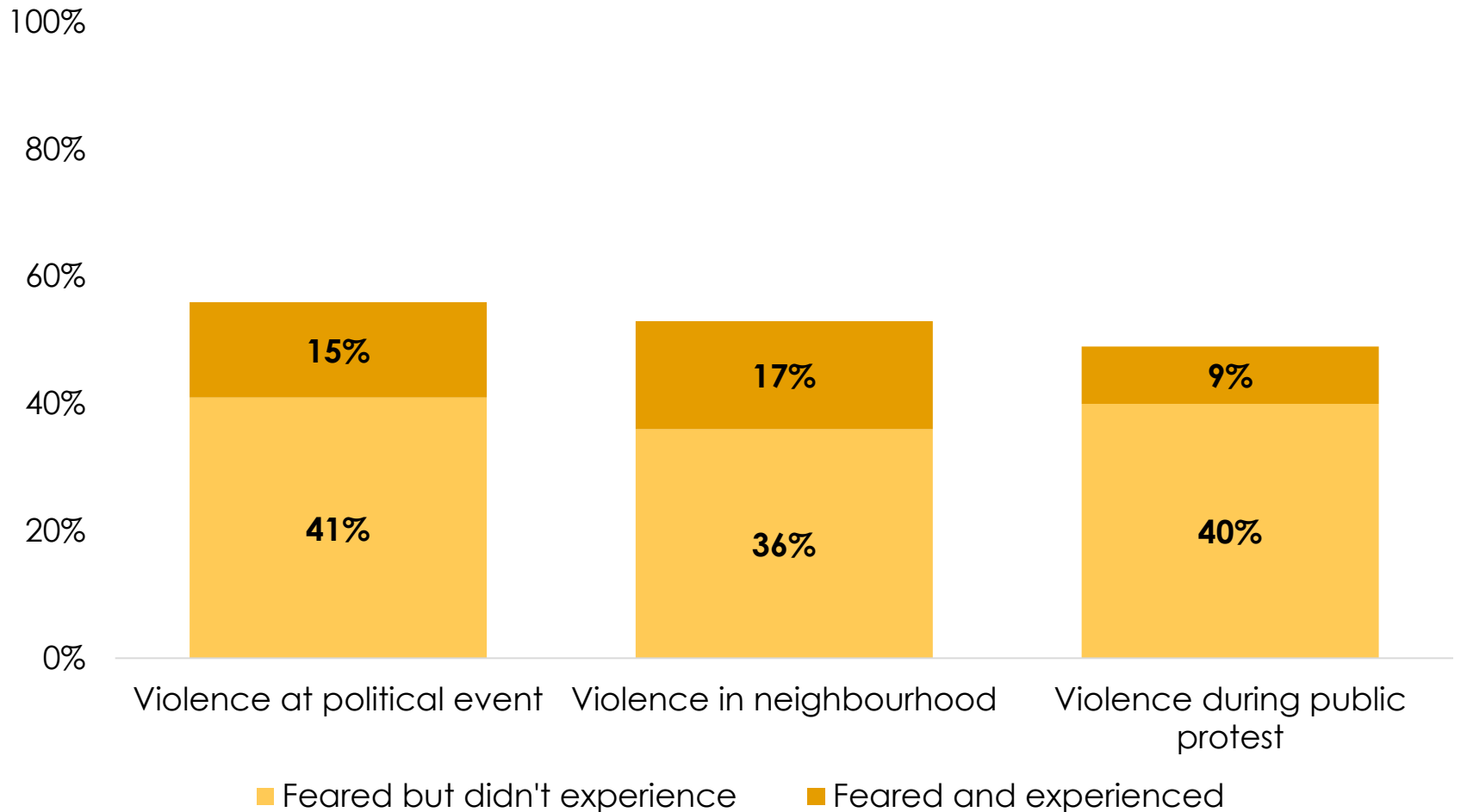
Feeling unsafe | The Gambia | 2018



Respondents were asked:

- Over the past year, how often, if ever, have you or anyone in your family: Felt unsafe walking in your neighbourhood? Feared crime in your home? (% who say "just once or twice," "several times," "many times," or "always")
- During the past year, have you or anyone in your family: Had something stolen from the house? Been physically attacked? (% who say "once," "twice," or "three or more times")

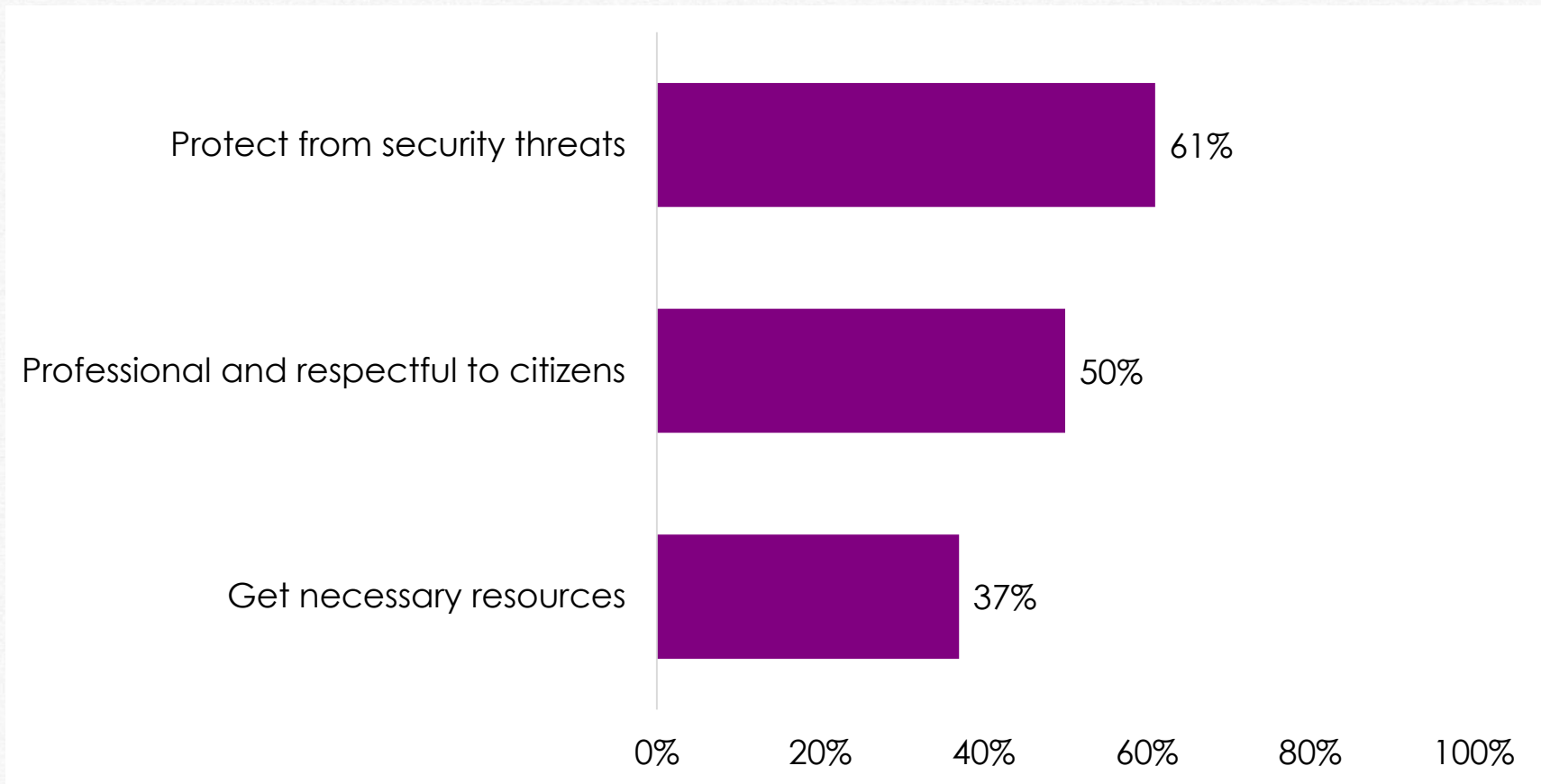
Fear and experience of violence | The Gambia | 2018



Respondents were asked: Please tell me whether, in the past two years, you have ever personally feared any of the following types of violence. [If yes:] Have you actually personally experienced this type of violence in the past two years?

Performance of armed forces | The Gambia

| 2018



Respondents were asked: In your opinion, to what extent do the armed forces of our country:

- Keep our country safe from external and internal security threats?
- Get the training and equipment needed to be effective?
- Operate in a professional manner and respect the rights of all citizens?

(% who say "often" or "always")

Emigration

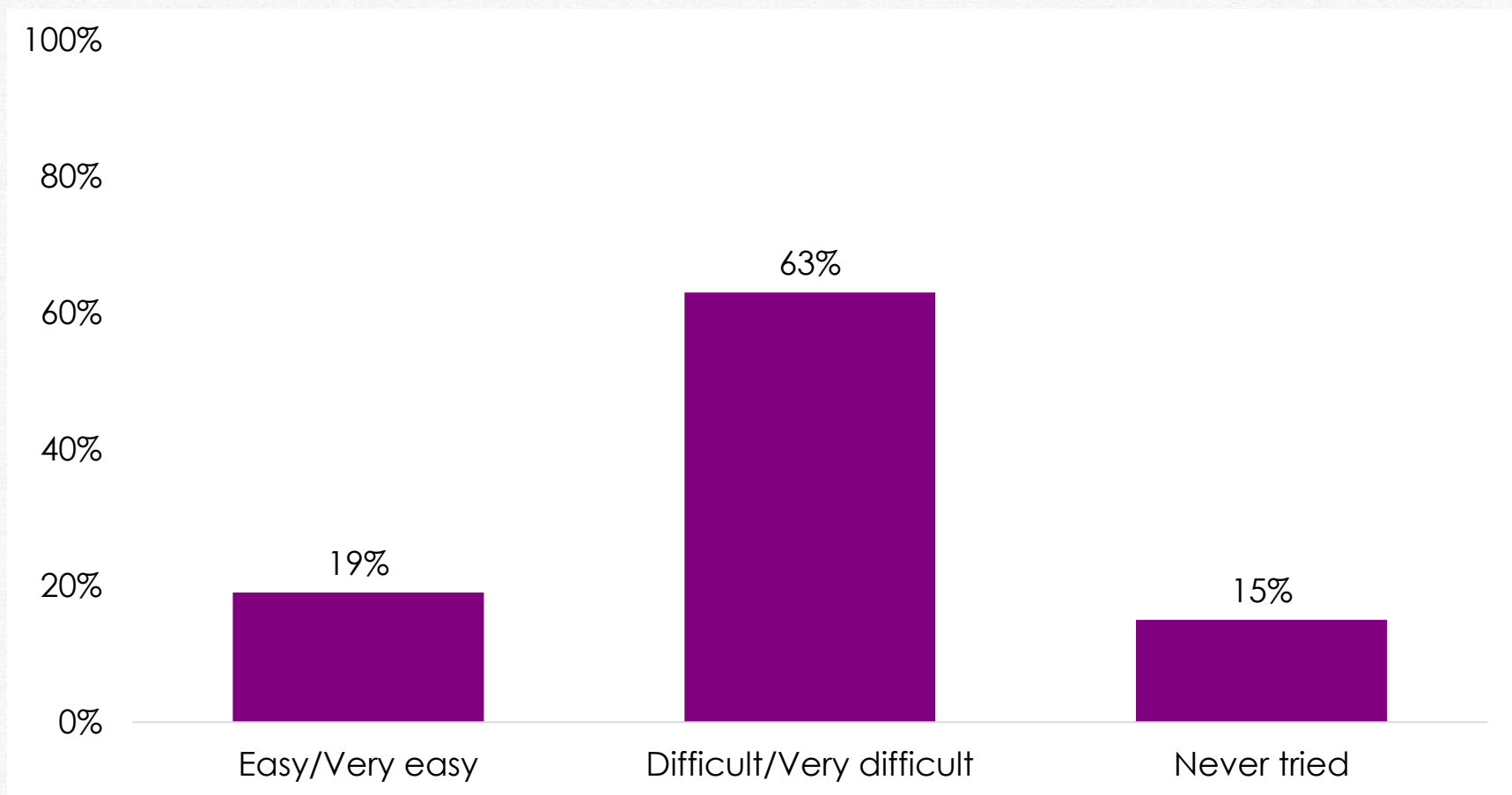


Key findings



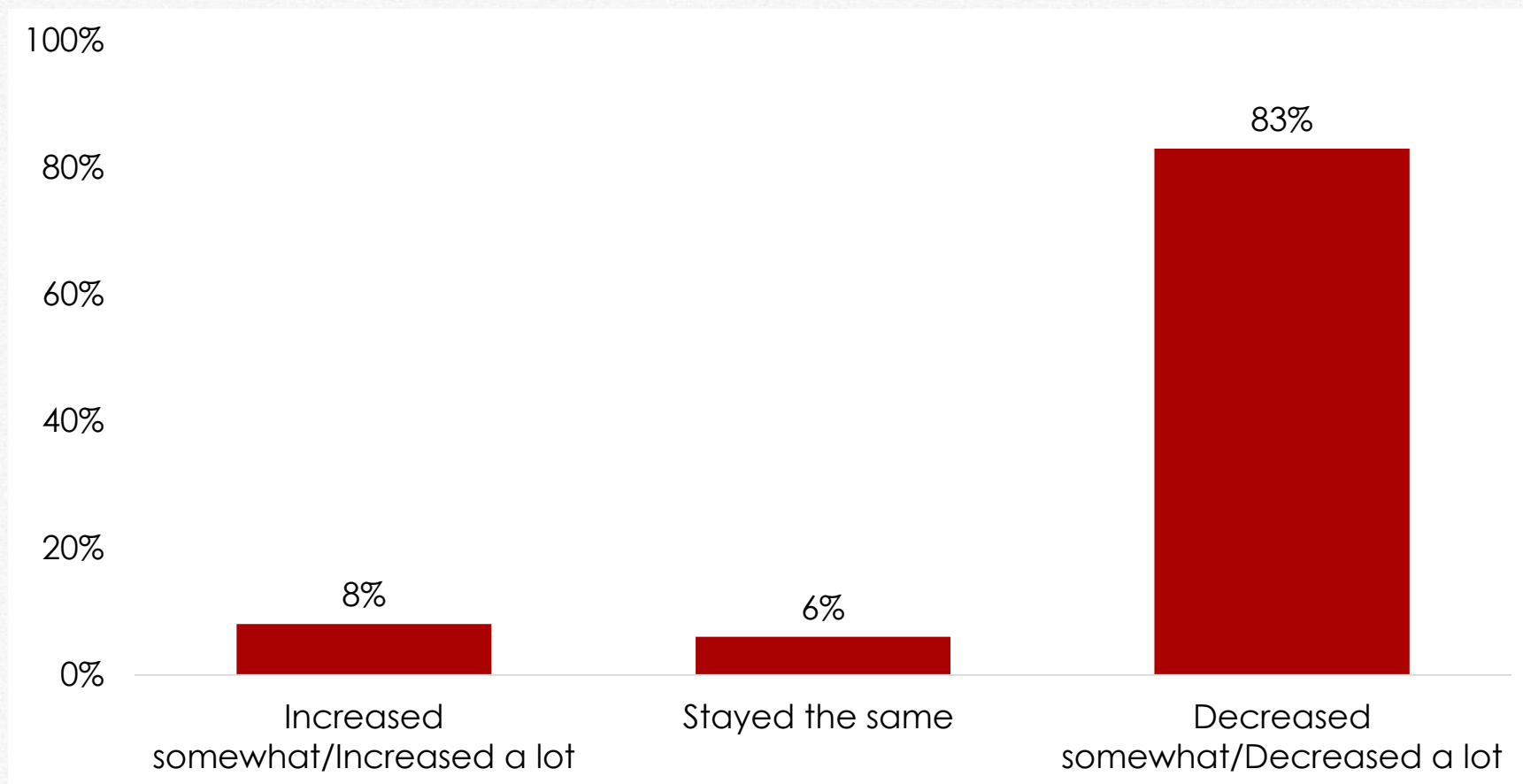
- A majority (63%) of Gambians say it is difficult for people in West Africa to cross international borders to work or trade in other countries.
- Eight in 10 Gambians (83%) say irregular migration has decreased over the past year; almost half (44%) say internal rural-to-urban migration has increased.
- Four in 10 Gambians (38%) have lived in other countries for more than three months during the past three years.
- A majority (56%) say they have considered emigrating, including 29% who say they have given “a lot” of thought to the idea.
- Among those who have considered emigrating:
 - About one in 10 (11%) say they are taking concrete steps to emigrate, such as seeking a visa; 66% say they have considered emigrating but have not made specific plans yet.
 - The most popular destinations are Europe (48%) and North America (39%).
 - The most common reasons for considering emigration are to find work (40%) or to escape economic hardship (30%).

Ease or difficulty of crossing international borders in West Africa | The Gambia | 2018



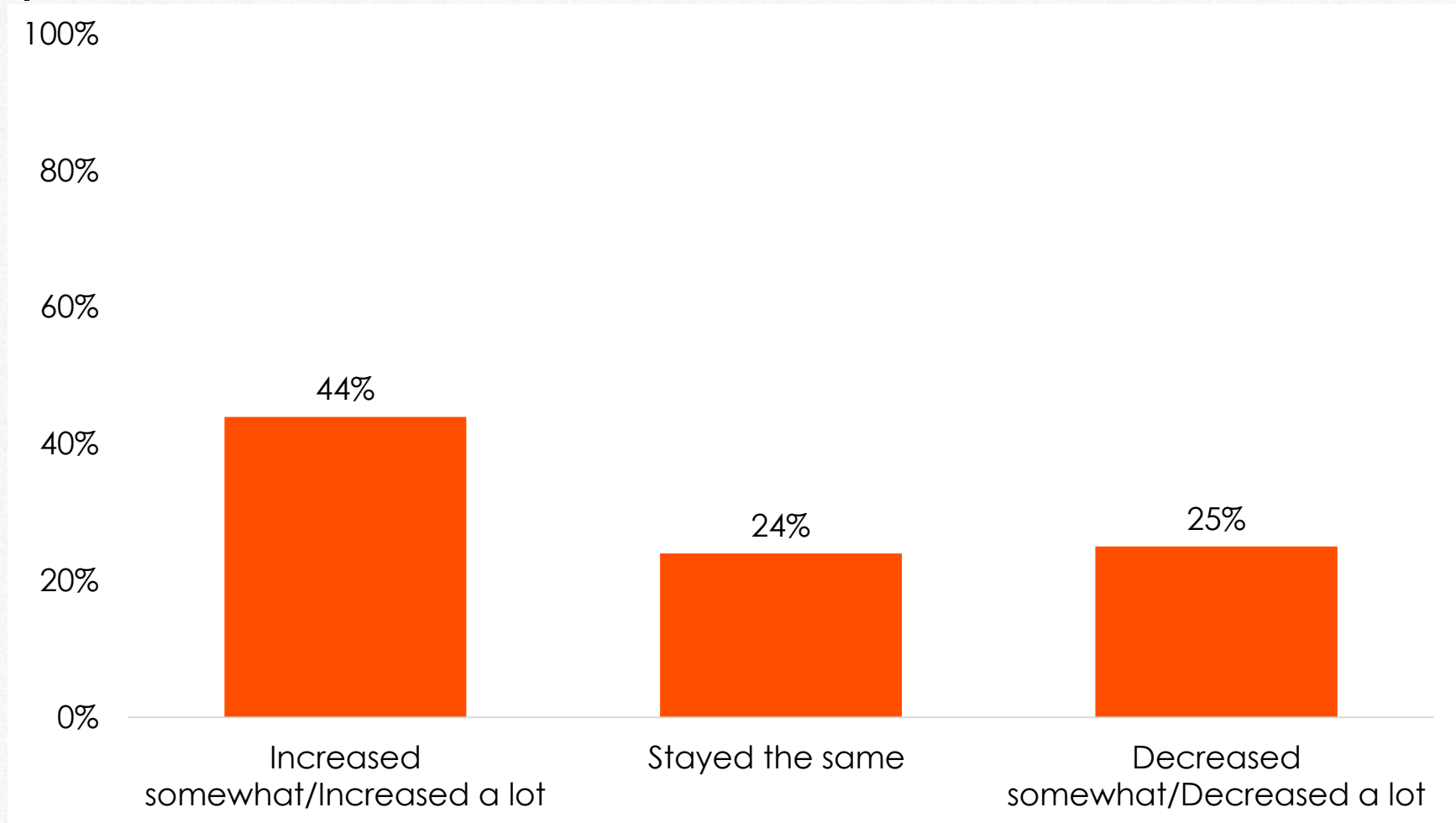
Respondents were asked: *In your opinion, how easy or difficult is it for people in West Africa to cross international borders in order to work or trade in other countries, or haven't you heard enough to say?*

Irregular migration | The Gambia | 2018



Respondents were asked: *In your opinion, would you say the following have increased, stayed the same, or decreased compared to a year ago: Irregular migration or back way?*

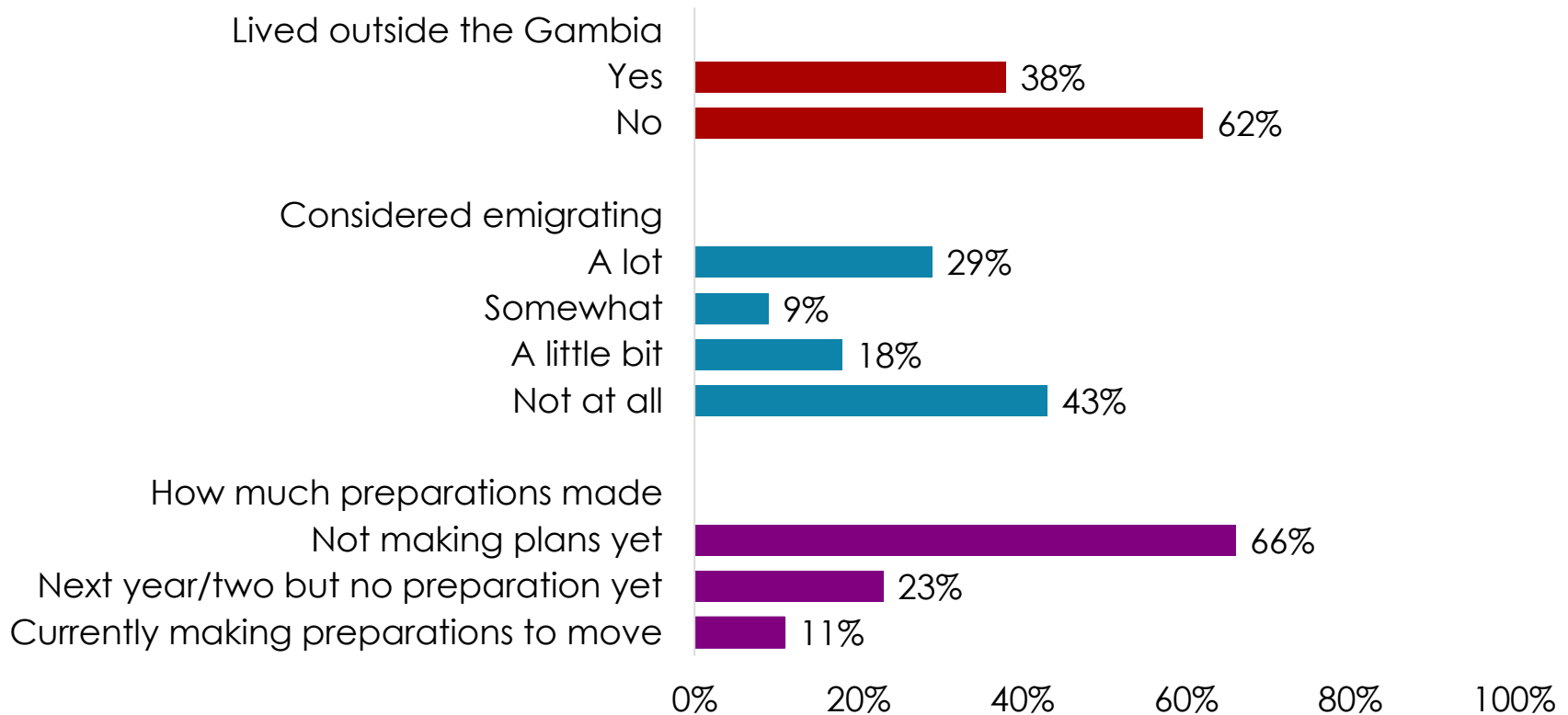
Internal rural-to-urban migration | The Gambia | 2018



Respondents were asked: *In your opinion, would you say the following have increased, stayed the same, or decreased compared to a year ago: Internal rural-to-urban migration?*

Attitudes toward emigration | The Gambia

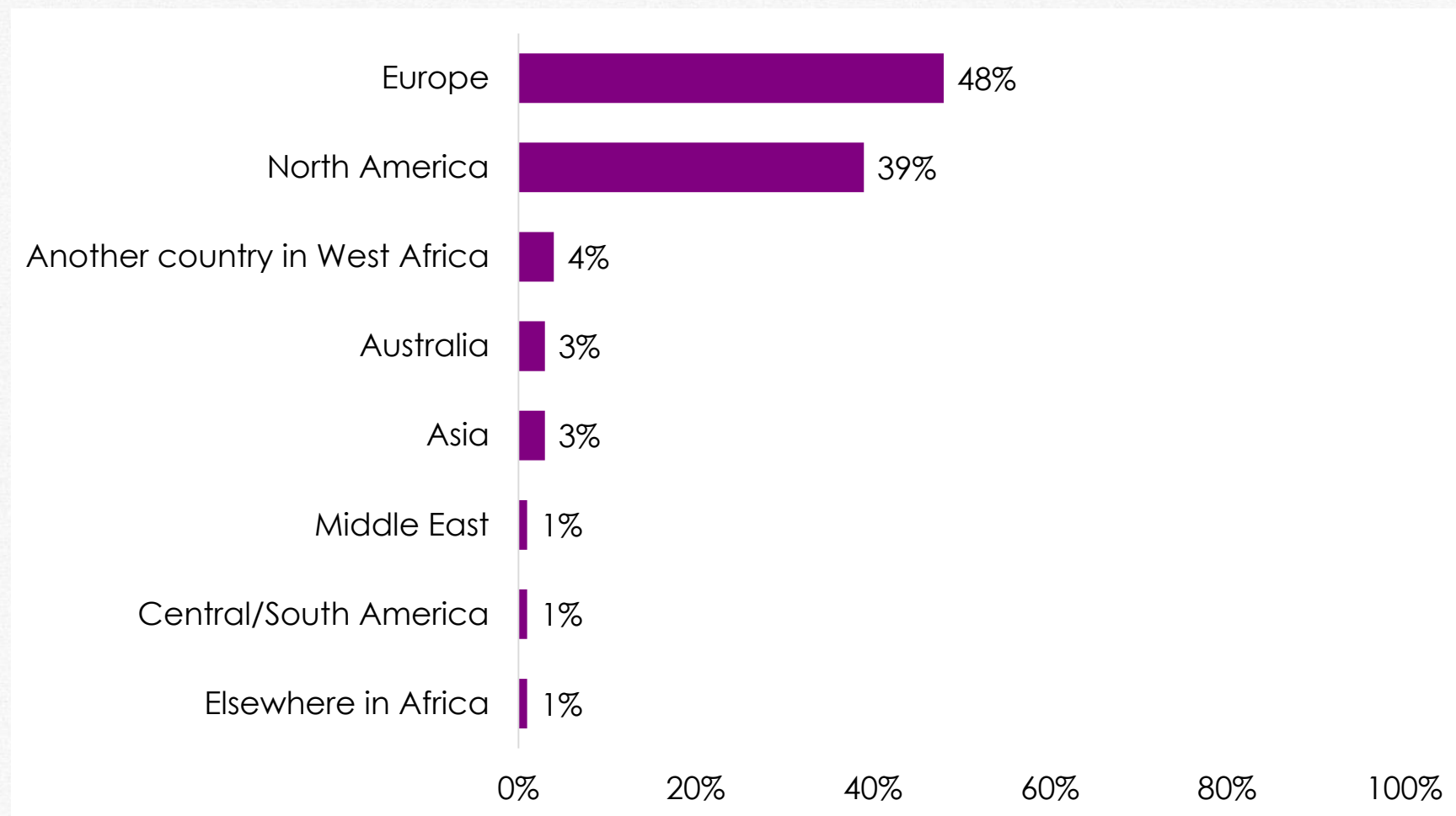
| 2018



Respondents were asked:

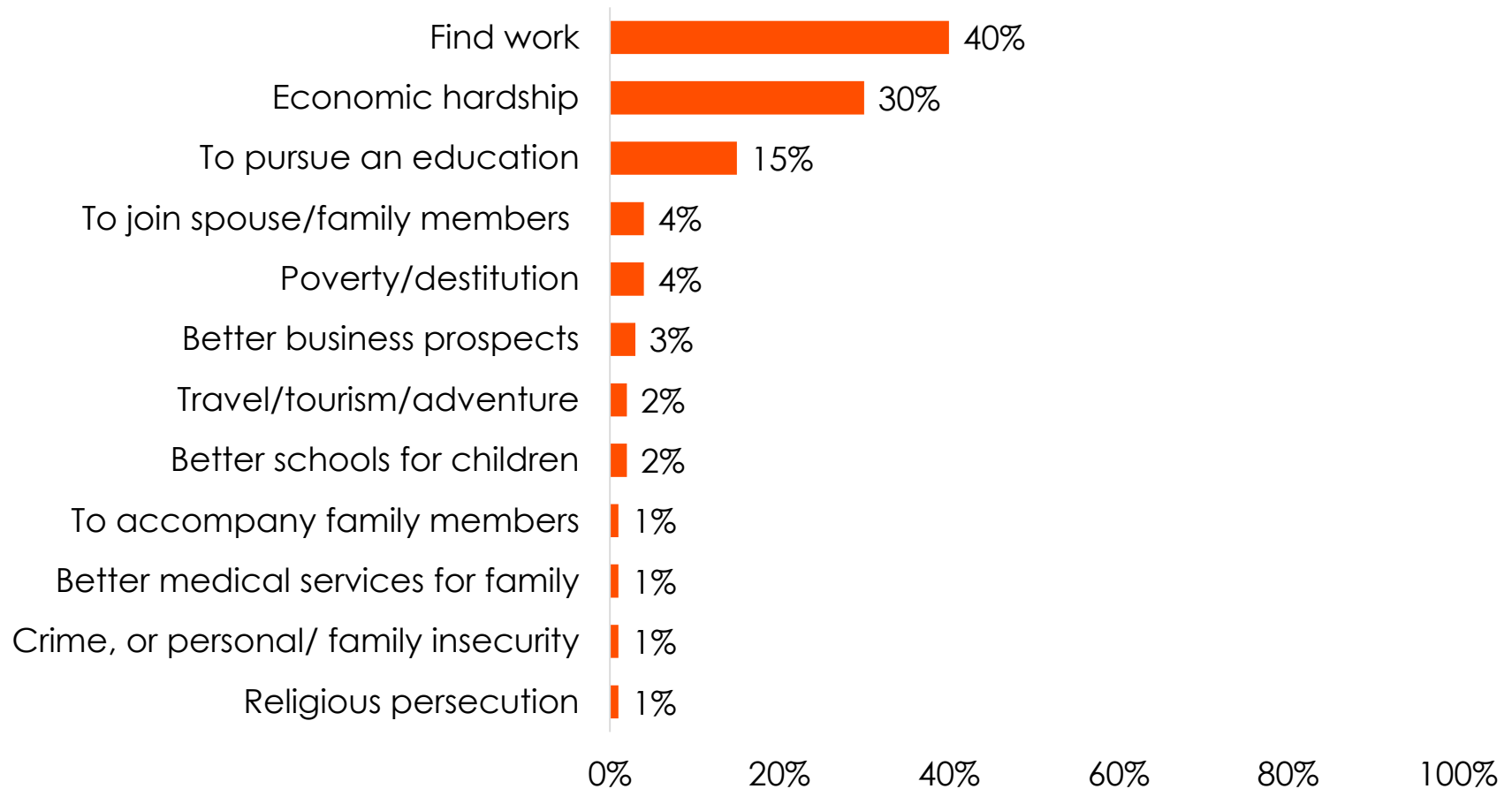
- During the past three years, have you or anyone in your household gone to live in another country outside the Gambia for more than three months?
- How much, if at all, have you considered moving to another country to live?
- How much planning or preparation have you done in order to move to another country to live? (Figures exclude those who said they had not considered emigrating.)

Preferred destination | The Gambia | 2018



Respondents who said they had considered emigrating were asked: *If you were to move to another country, where would you be most likely to go? (Figures exclude those who said they had not considered emigrating.)*

Reason to consider emigration | The Gambia | 2018



Respondents who said they had considered emigrating were asked: What is the most important reason why you would consider moving from the Gambia? (Figures exclude those who said they had not considered emigrating.)

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