

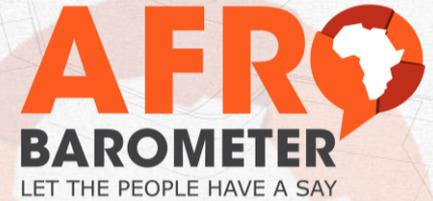


Economic performance: More positive outlook despite economic insecurity

Findings from Afrobarometer Round 7 survey in Kenya

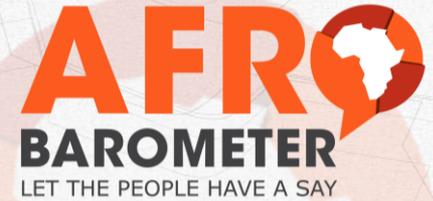


At a glance



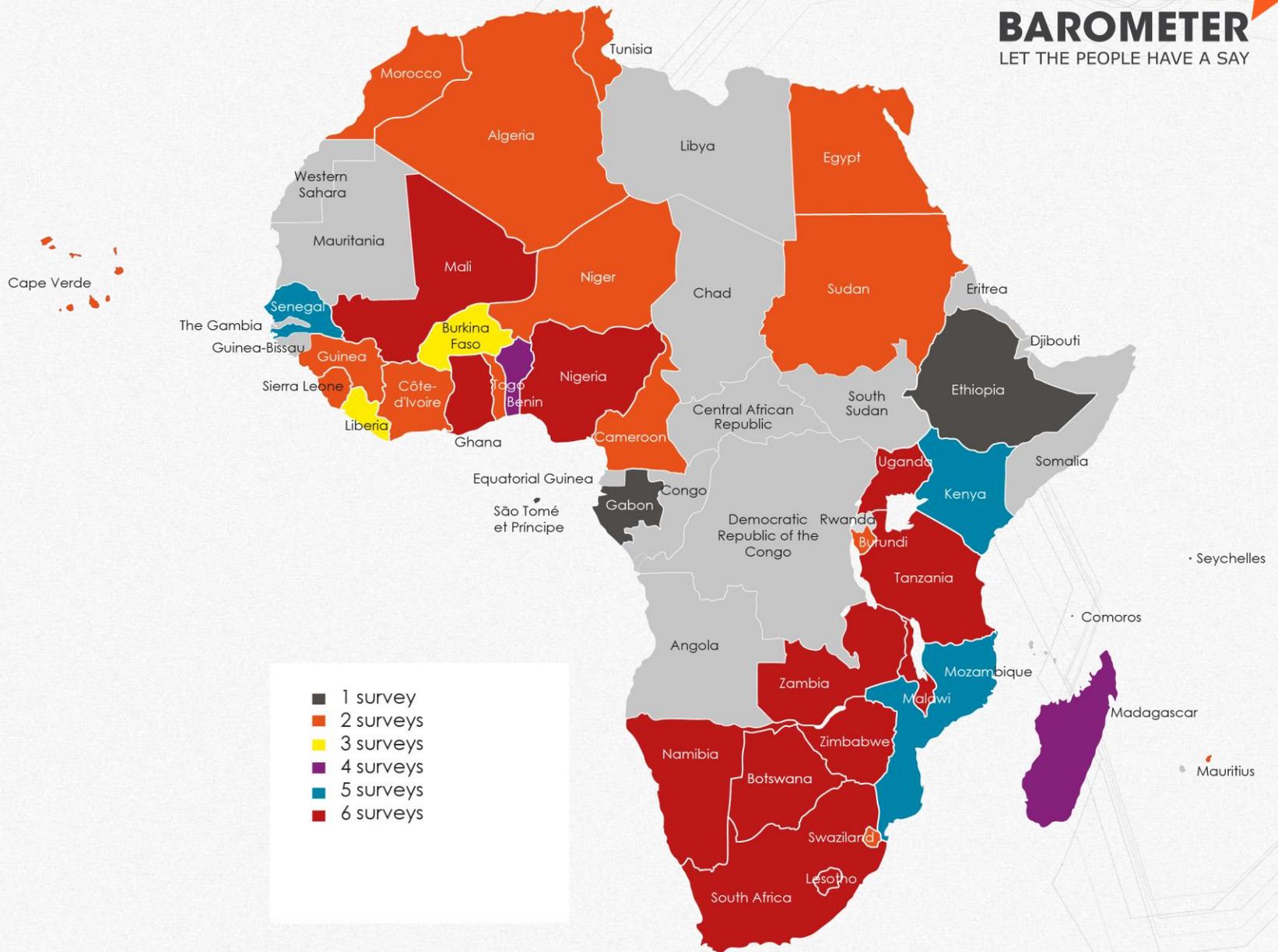
- **Right direction:** A plurality (48%) of Kenyans say the country is going in the right direction – double the optimistic response in 2011. But a majority (55%) still describe economic conditions as bad.
- **Improved living conditions:** Perceptions of personal living conditions are the most positive since 2005. But economic insecurity remains high.
- **Disapproval of government economic management:** Most Kenyans are not happy with the way the Jubilee government is managing the economy, creating jobs, and stabilizing prices.
- **Support for infrastructure investments:** By a 15-percentage-point margin, Kenyans favour investments in infrastructure. Support is especially strong among young and educated citizens.

What is Afrobarometer?

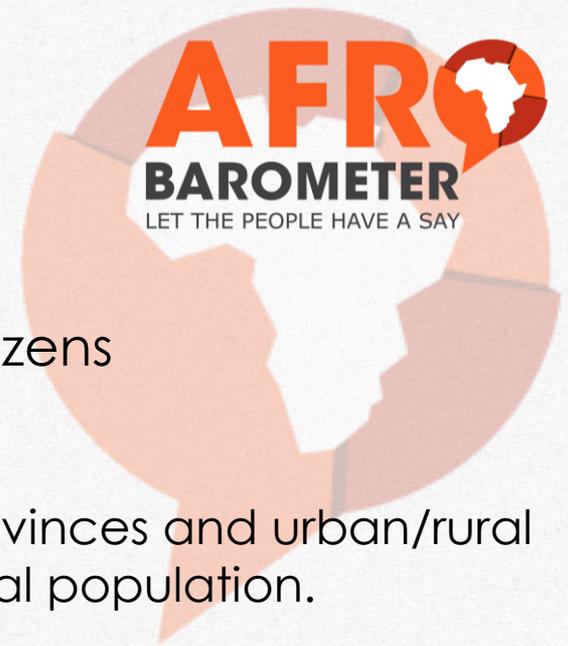


- A pan-African, non-partisan survey research project that measures citizen attitudes on democracy and governance, the economy, civil society, and other topics.
- Started in 12 African countries in 1999, expanded to 36 countries in Round 6 (2014/2015). Round 7 surveys are being conducted in 2016/2017.
- **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.

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 Kenya of 1,599 adult citizens yields a margin of error of +/-3% at a 95% confidence level.
- Fieldwork for Round 7 in Kenya was conducted in September-October 2016.

Survey demographics

Gender		%
	Men	50
	Women	50
Residence		
	Urban	36
	Rural	64
Education		
	No formal education	7
	Primary	38
	Secondary	36
	Post-secondary	19
Religion		
	Christian	82
	Muslim	10
	Other	8

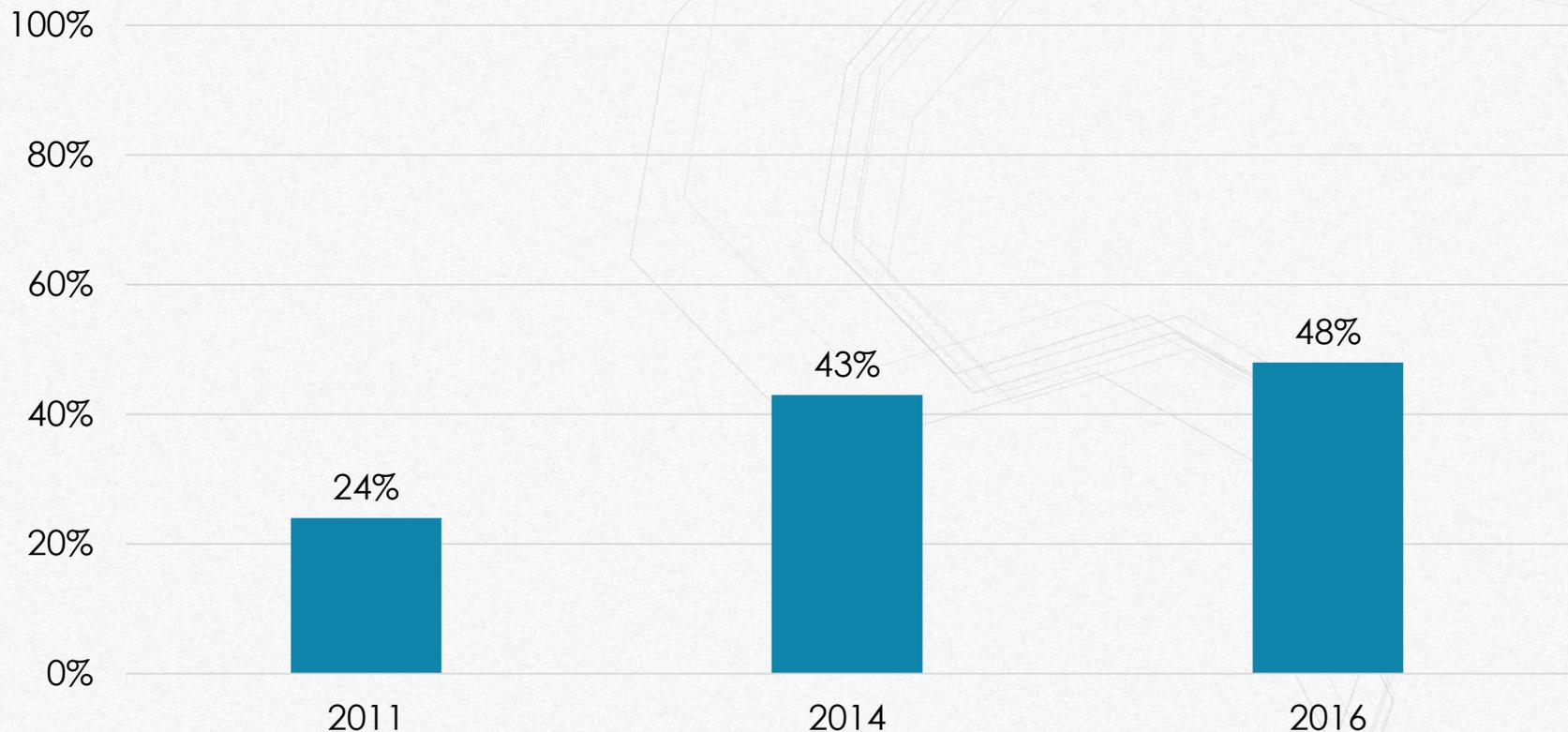


Findings



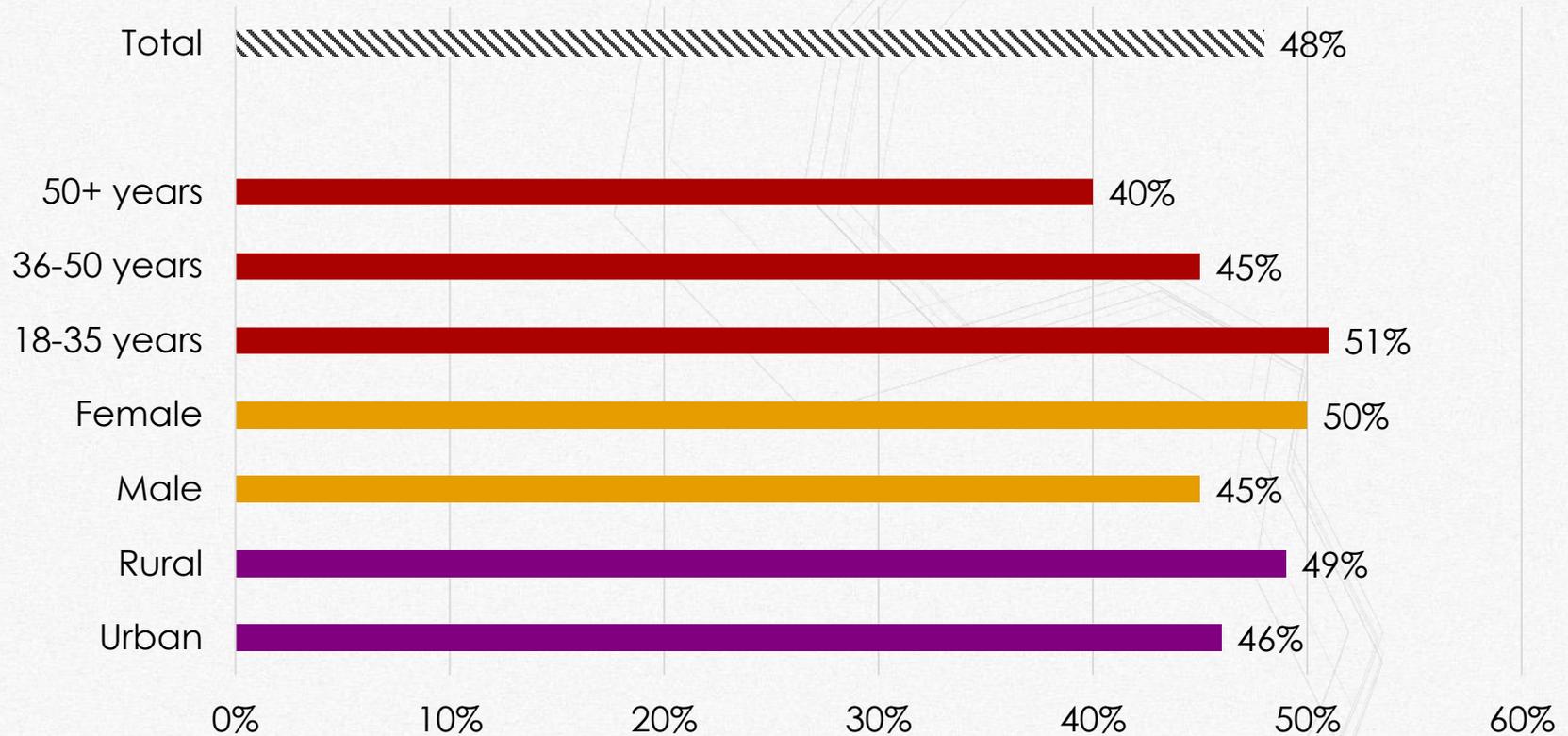
Country going in the right direction | Kenya

| 2011-2016



Respondents were asked: *Let's start with your general view about the current direction of our country. Some people might think the country is going in the wrong direction. Others may feel it is going in the right direction. So let me ask YOU about the overall direction of the country: Would you say that the country is going in the wrong direction or going in the right direction? (% who say "right direction")*

Country going in the right direction | by age, gender, and rural-urban location | Kenya | 2016



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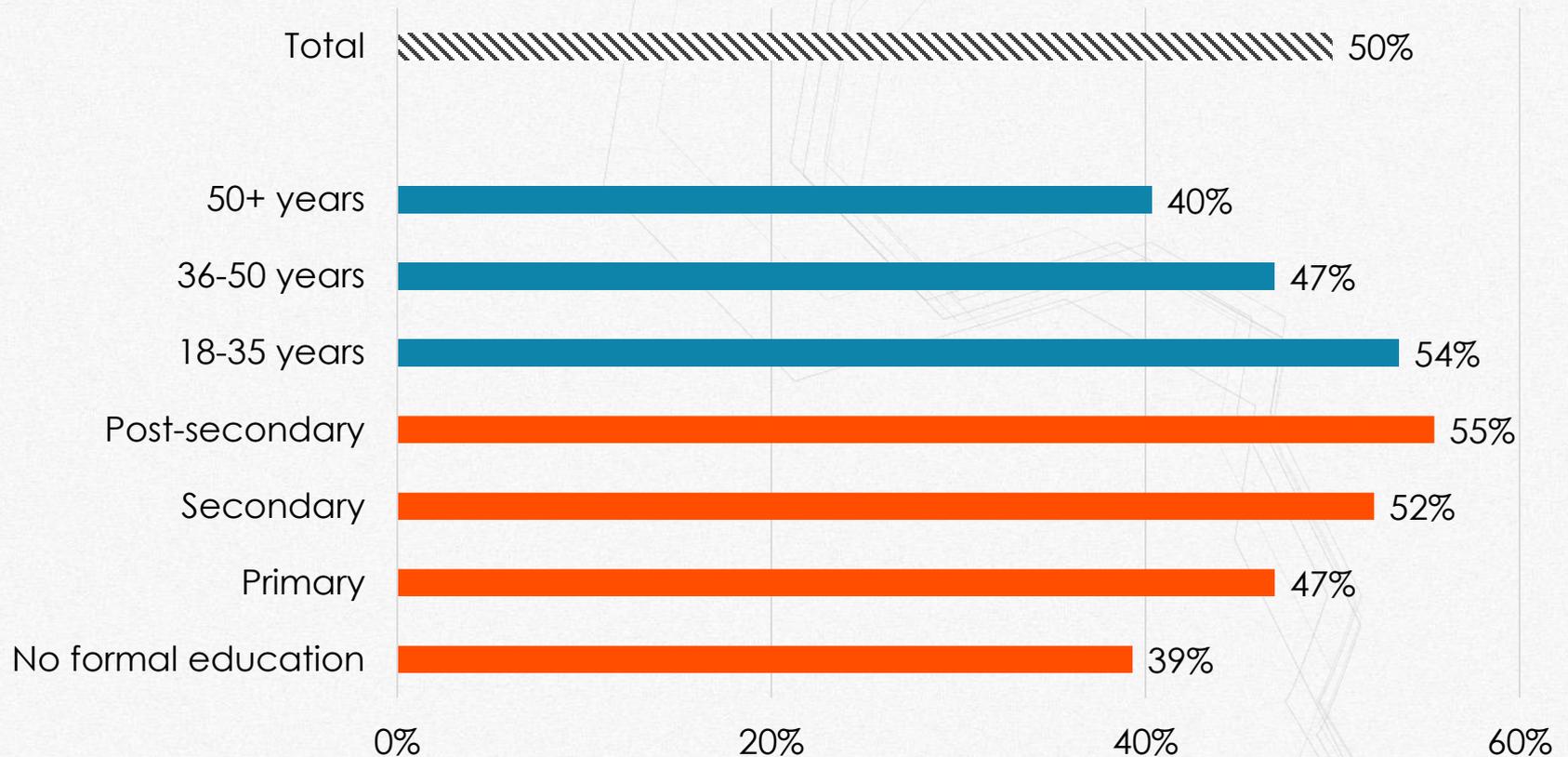
Country's present economic condition | Kenya

| 2005-2016

	2005	2008	2011	2014	2016
Very good/Fairly good	28%	12%	10%	27%	30%
Neither good nor bad	16%	10%	6%	14%	14%
Very bad/Fairly bad	54%	78%	84%	59%	55%
Don't know	1%	<1%	1%	<1%	1%

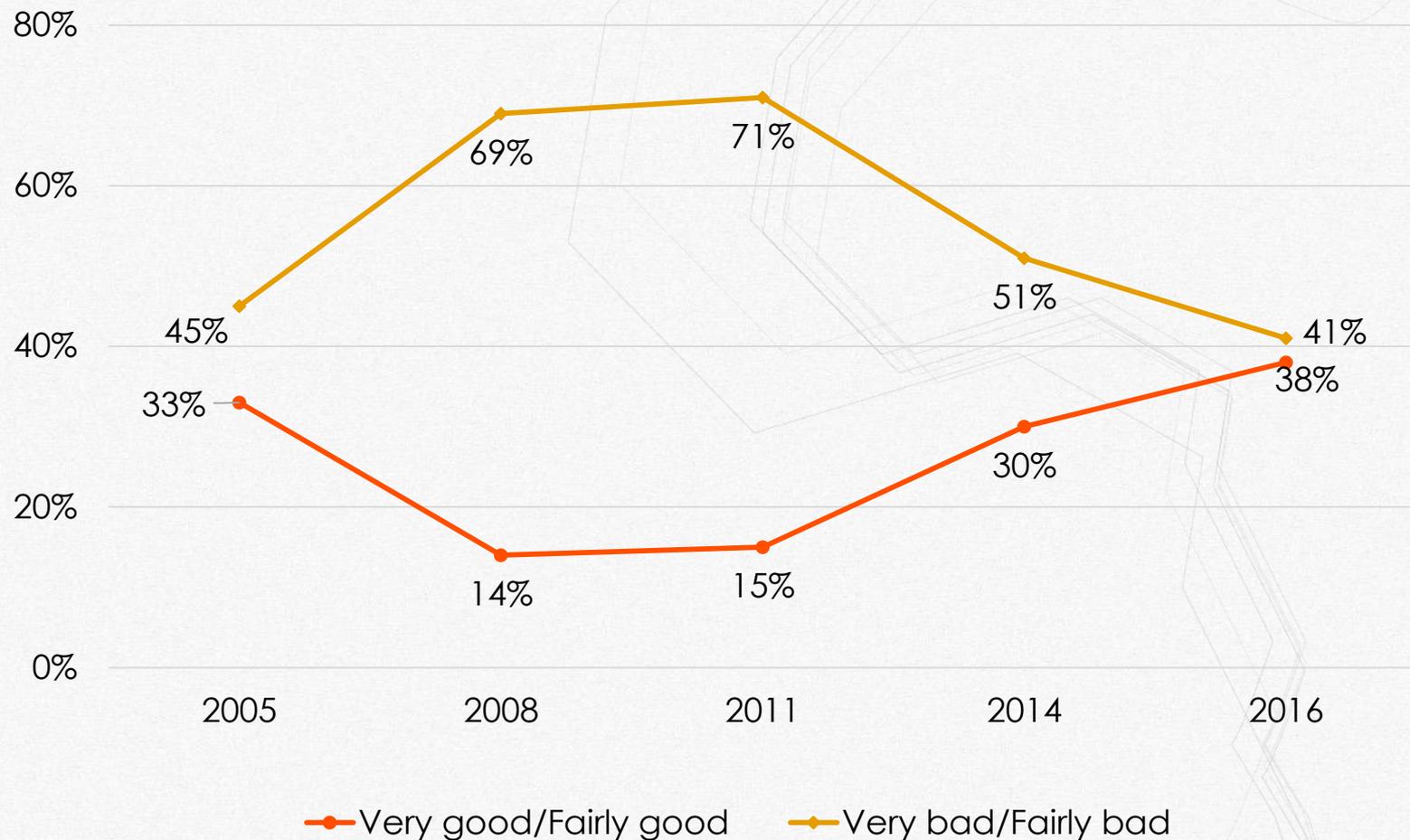
Respondents were asked: *In general, how would you describe the present condition of this country?*

Country's economic condition better in 12 months' time | by age and education | Kenya | 2016



Respondents were asked: *Looking ahead, do you expect economic conditions in this country to be better or worse in 12 months' time? (% who say "better" or "much better")*

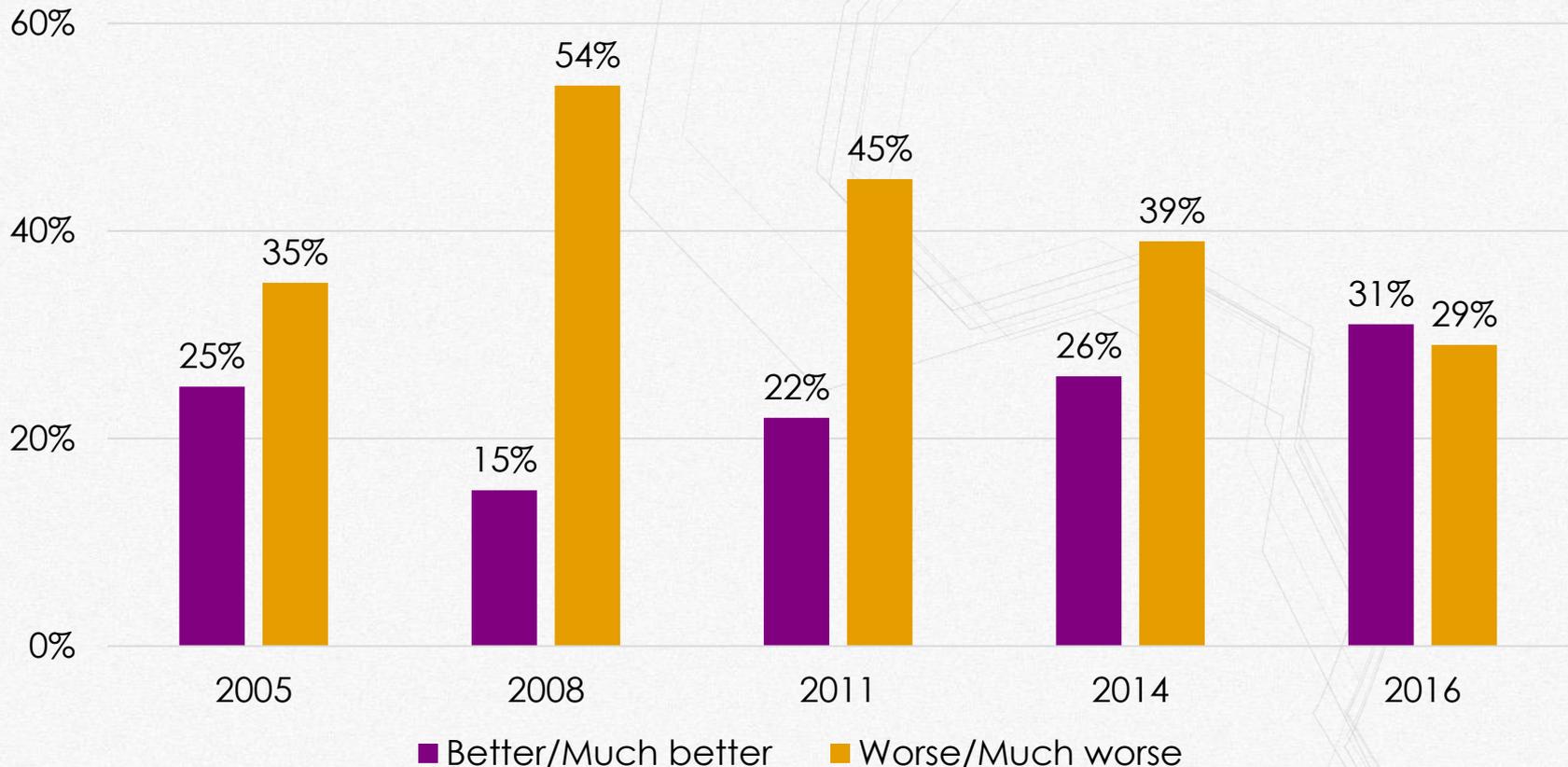
Personal living conditions | Kenya | 2005-2016



Respondents were asked: *In general, how would you describe your own present living conditions?*

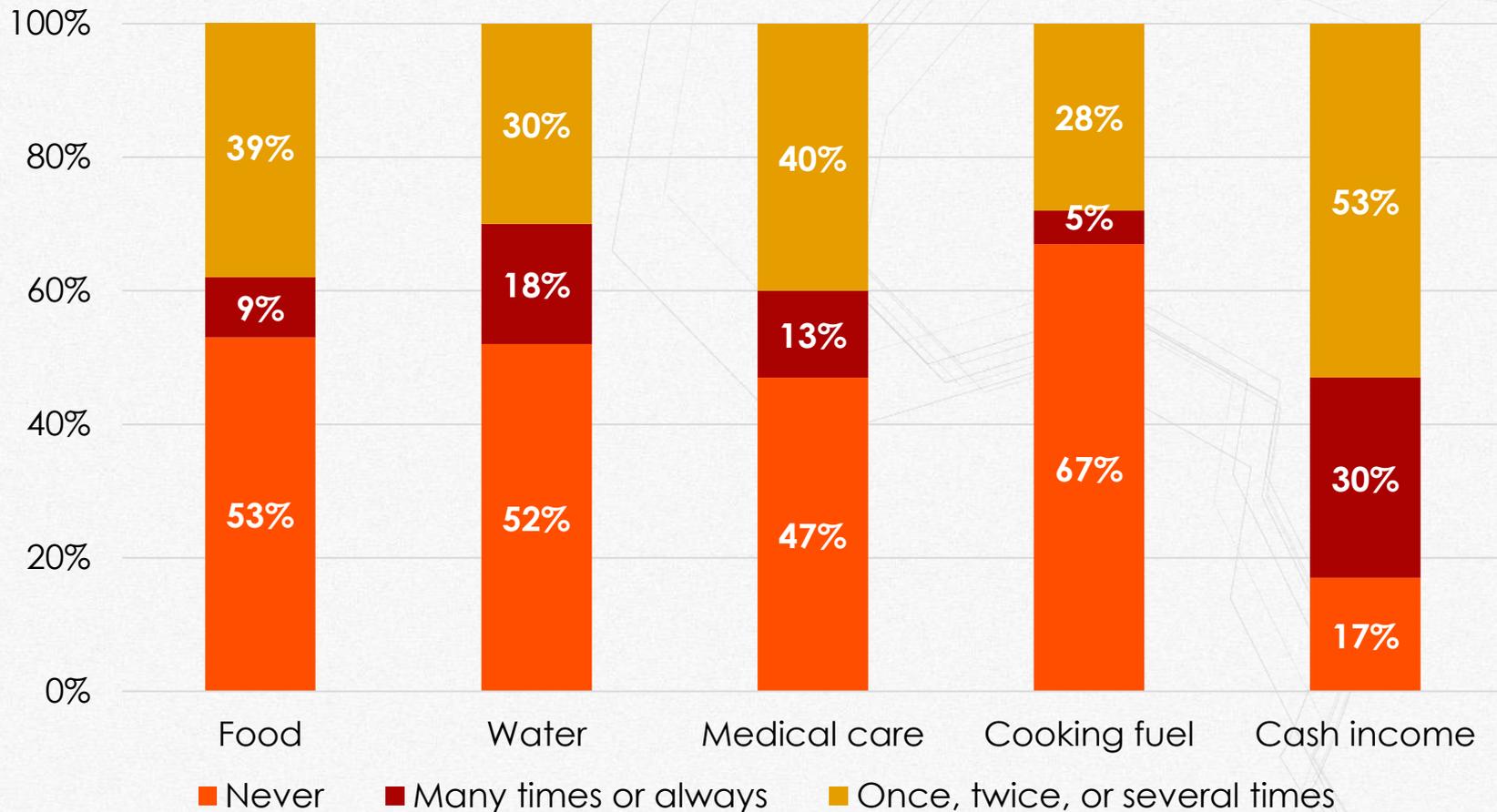
Personal living conditions compared to others

| Kenya | 2005-2016



Respondents were asked: *In general, how do you rate your living conditions compared to those of other Kenyans?*

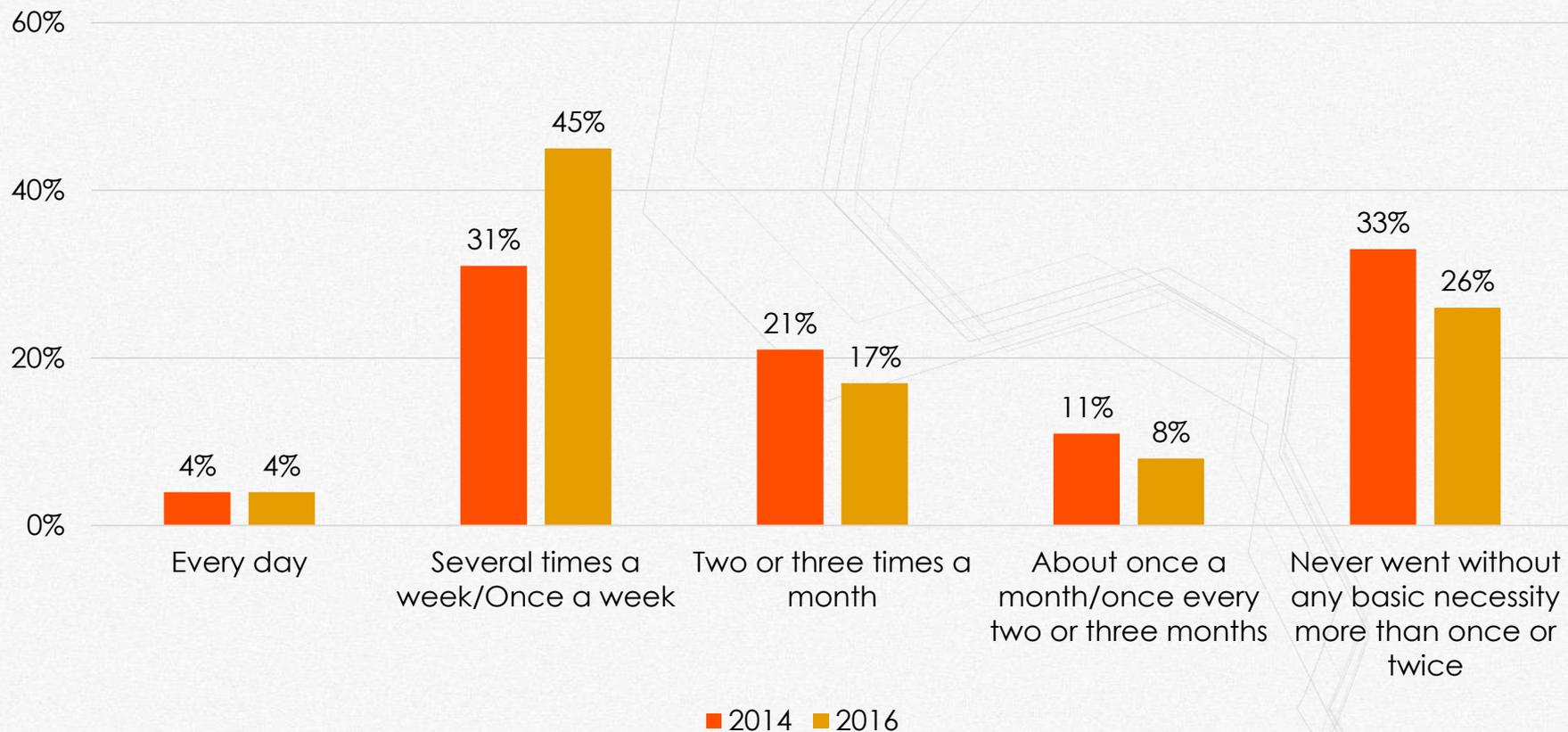
Going without basic necessities | Kenya | 2016



Respondents were asked: Over the past year, how often, if ever, have you or anyone in your family gone without: Enough food to eat? Enough clean water for home use? Medicines or medical treatment? Enough fuel to cook your food? A cash income?

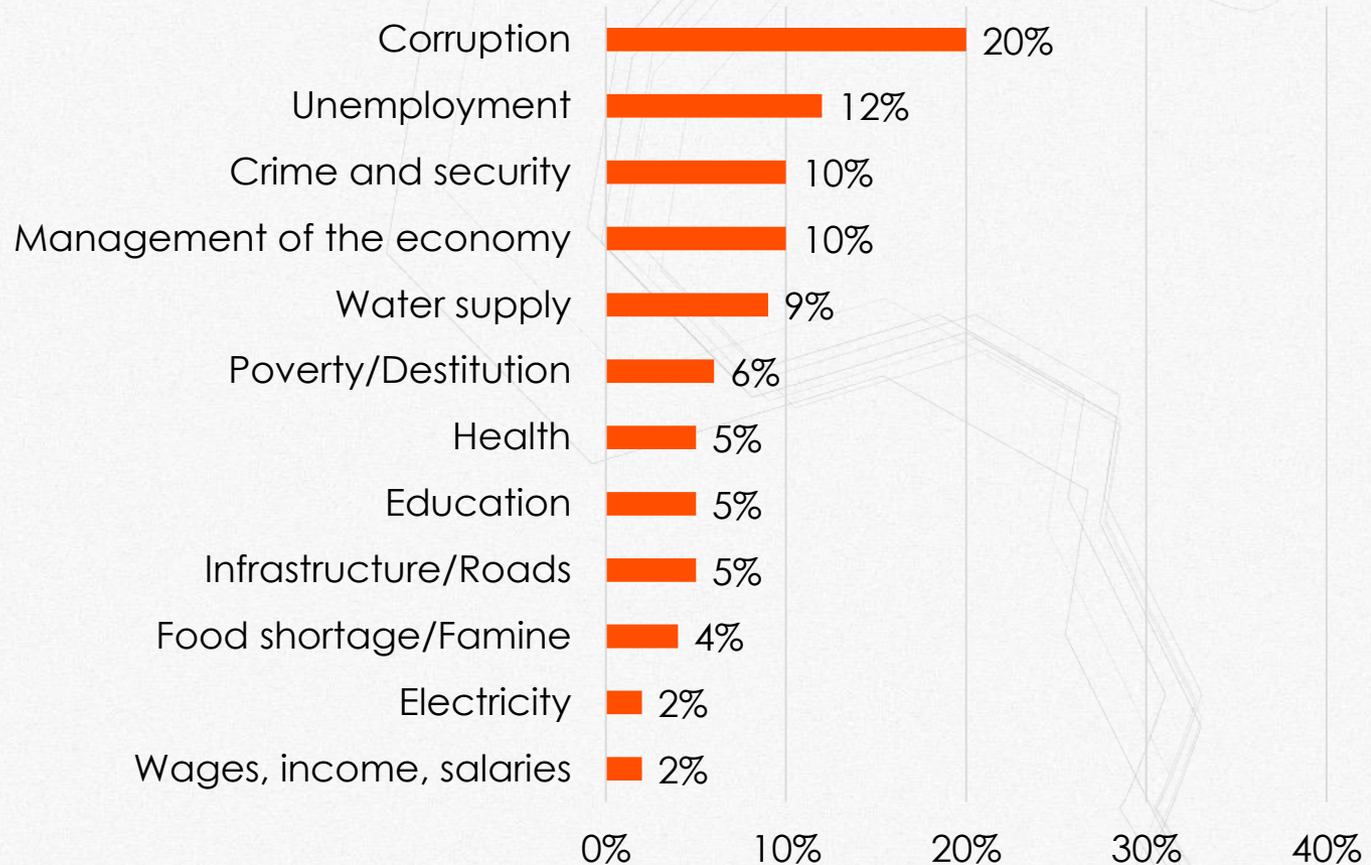
Frequency of going without basic necessities

| Kenya | 2014-2016



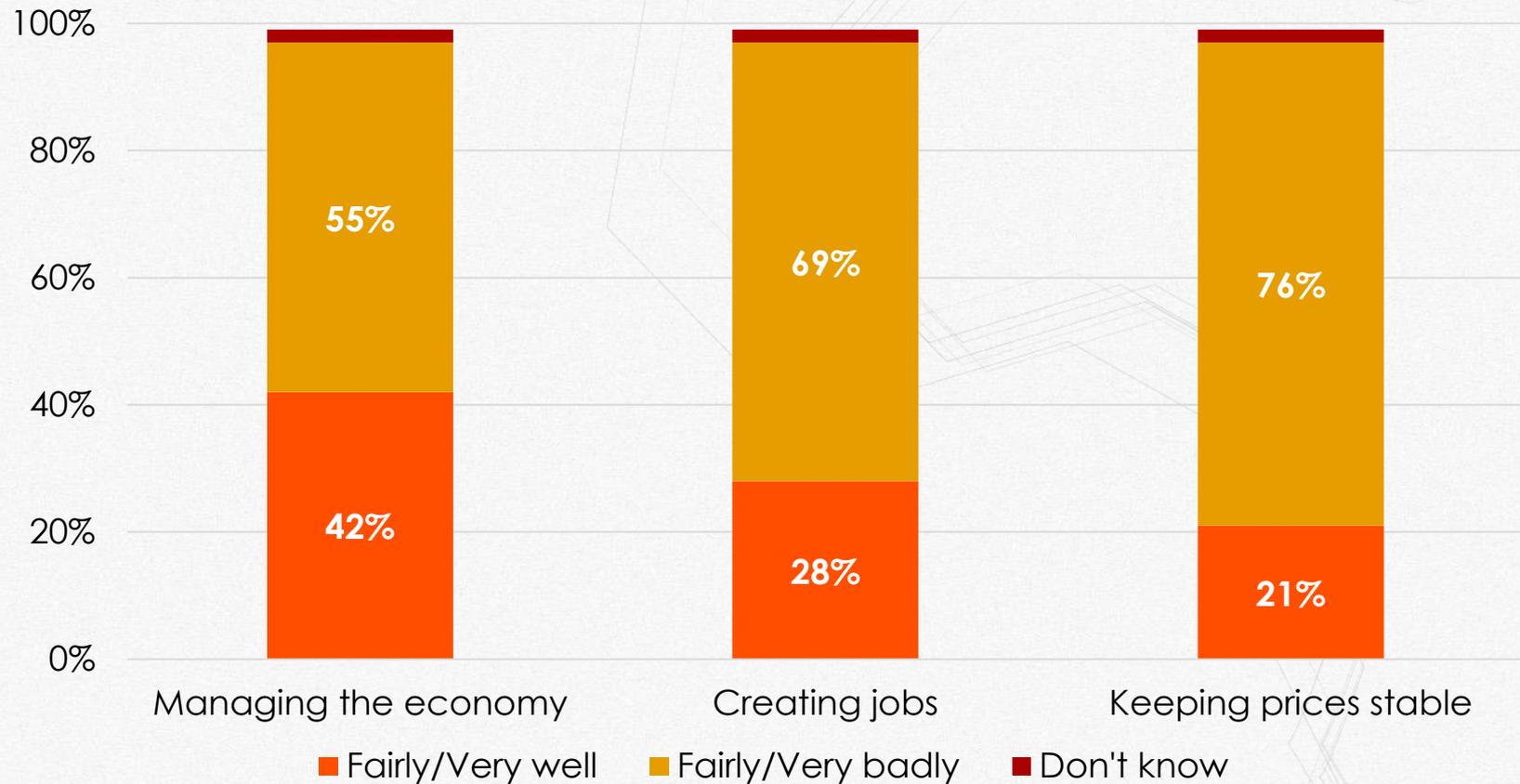
Respondents who went without one of five basic necessities more than once or twice in the previous year were asked: *When you say you went without [respondent's most frequent unmet basic need], would you say this occurred about once every two or three months, about once a month, two or three times a month, about once a week, several times a week, or every day?*

Most important problem | Kenya | 2016



Respondents were asked: *In your opinion, what are the most important problems facing this country that the government should address? (First response)*

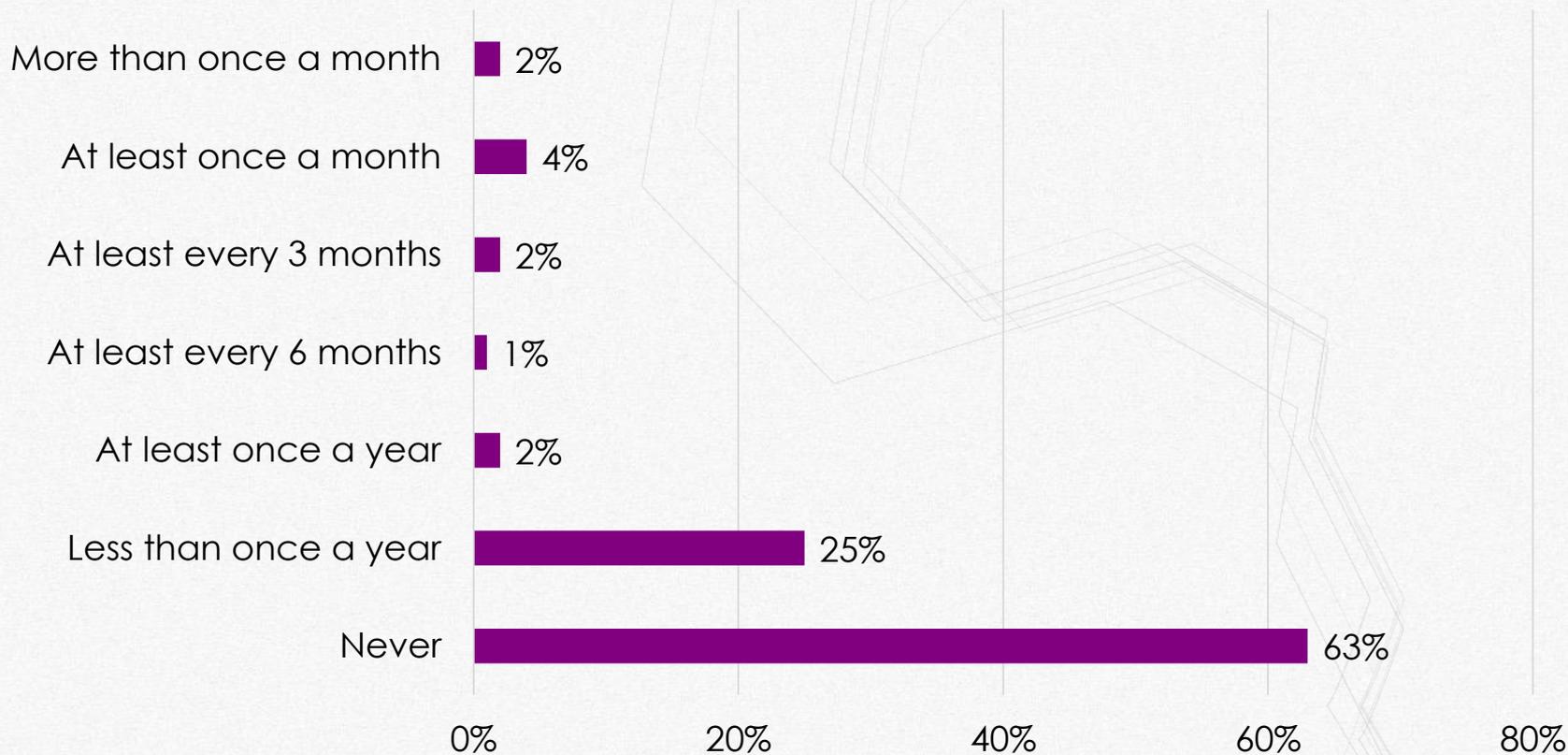
Government handling of issues | Kenya | 2016



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?*

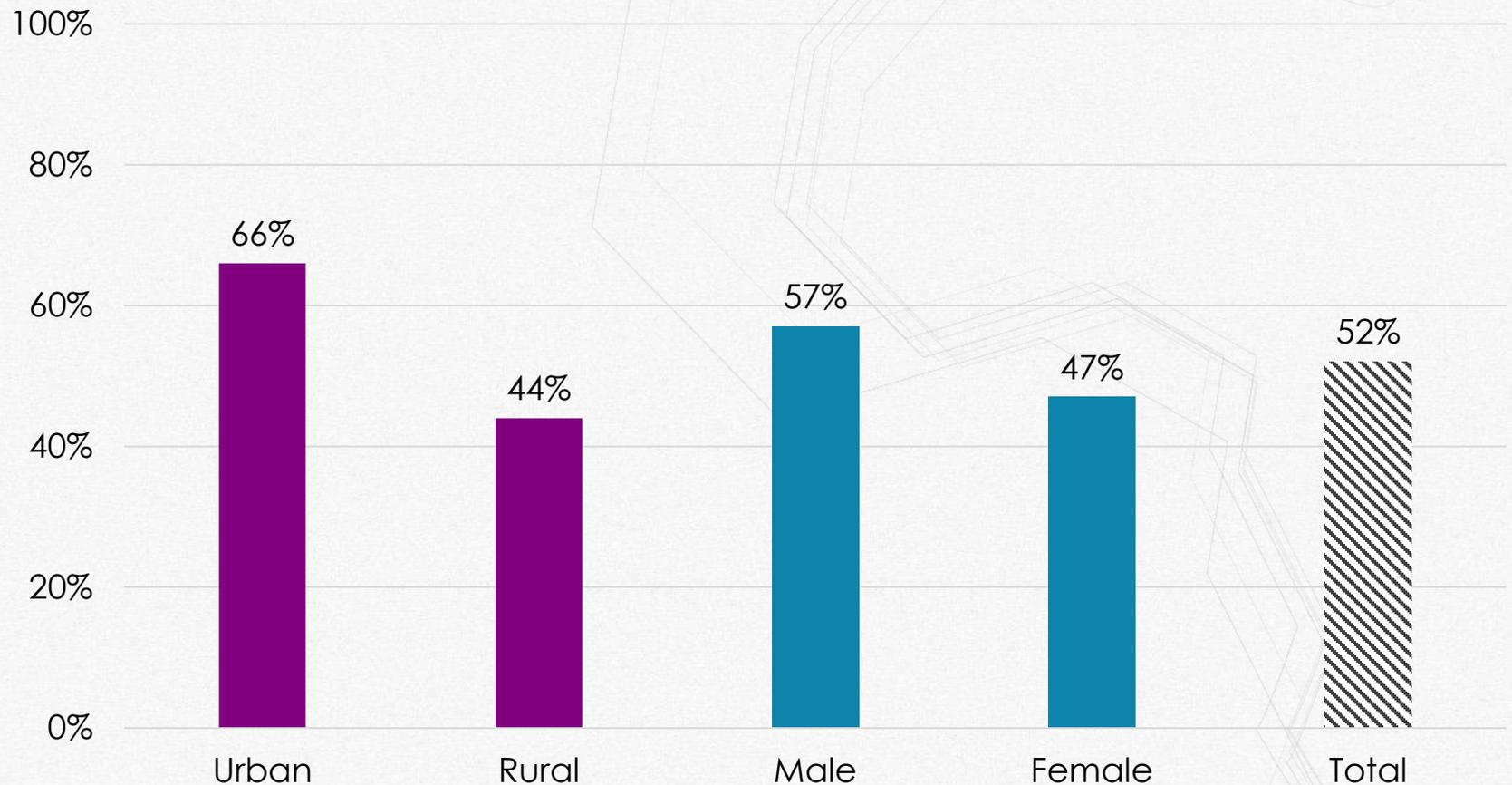
Receive money remittances from abroad

| Kenya | 2016



Respondents were asked: *How often, if at all, do you or anyone in your household receive money remittances from friends or relatives living outside of the country?*

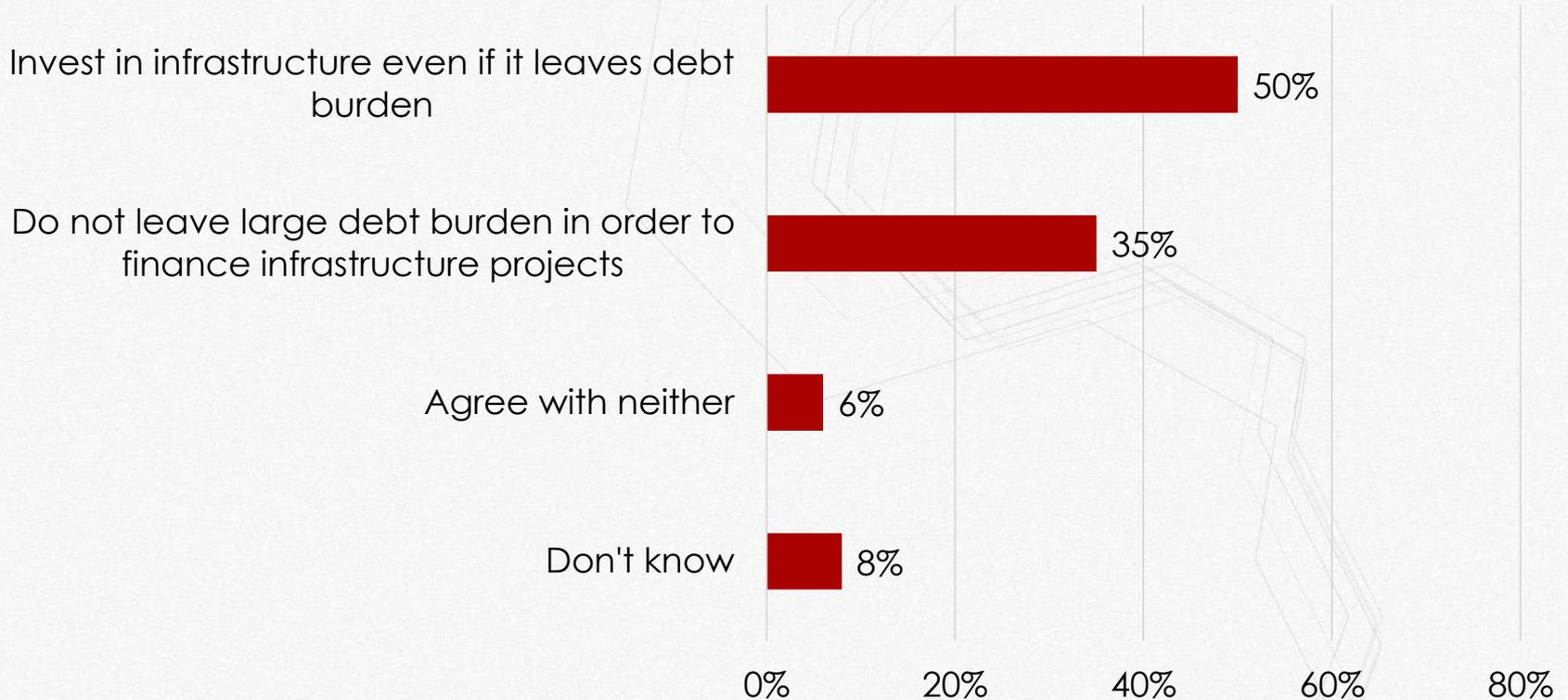
Own a bank account | Kenya | 2016



Respondents were asked: Which of these things do you or anyone in your household own: A bank account? (% who say "yes")

Invest in infrastructure vs. avoid debt | Kenya

| 2016



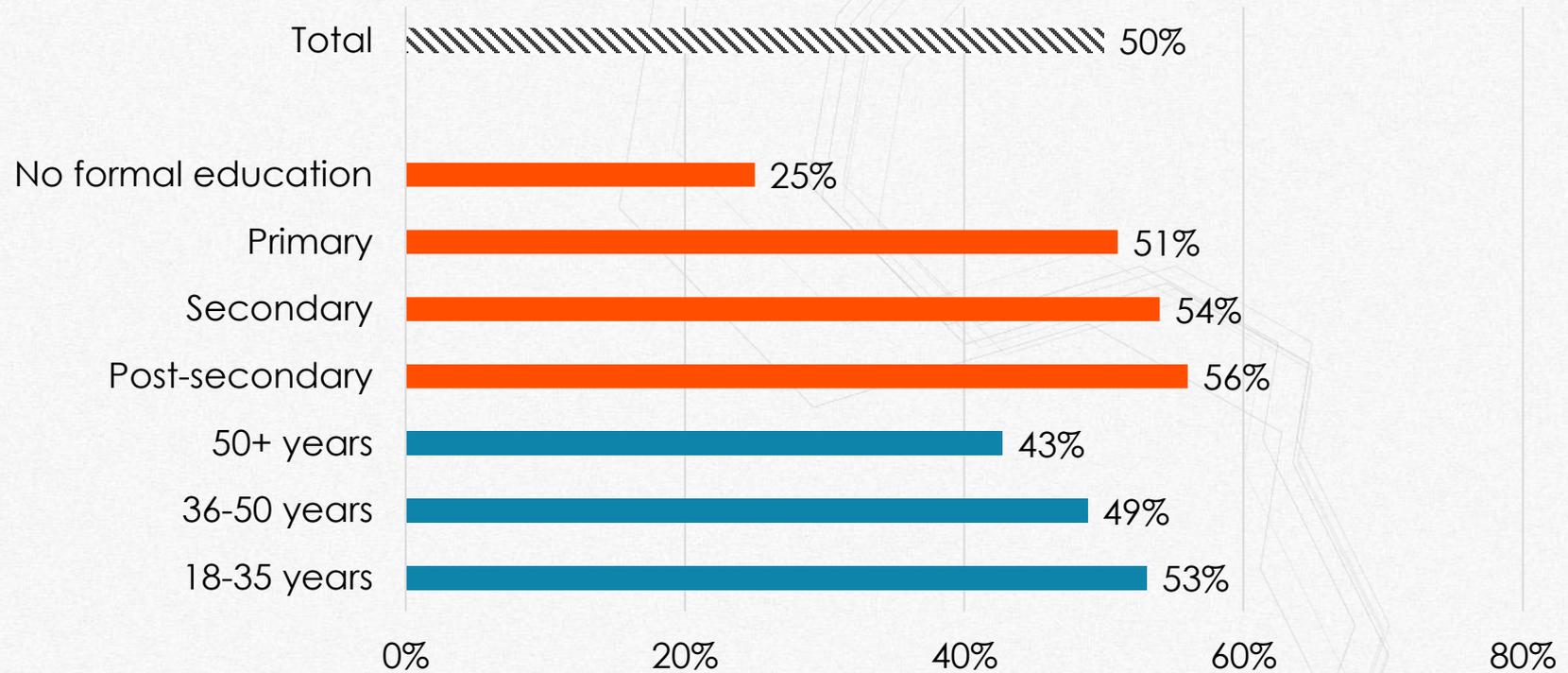
Respondents were asked: Which of the following statements is closest to your view?

Statement 1: It is more important for government to invest in good infrastructure such as roads even if this is costly to the country and leaves a large debt burden to future generations.

Statement 2: Government should not finance new infrastructural projects at the expense of bequeathing future generations a large debt burden.

Invest in infrastructure | by education and age

| Kenya | 2016



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Statement 2: Government should not finance new infrastructural projects at the expense of bequeathing future generations a large debt burden.

(% who say government should invest in infrastructure even if it leaves a large debt burden)

Conclusions



- Economy is going in the right direction – is devolution working?
- Kenya is doing better than in 2014.
- More Kenyans are living in better conditions and are optimistic about future economic conditions – in line with other studies and predictions. Young, better-educated, and female Kenyans are more optimistic.
- But more Kenyans are going without basic necessities compared to 2014, and majorities say the government is performing badly on managing the economy, creating jobs, and stabilizing prices.
- Half of Kenyans favour government investments in infrastructure even if it means a large debt burden for future generations.

Thank you

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