

PENINSULA MALAYSIA VOTER OPINION POLL

Perspectives on
Issues, the
Economy,
Leadership
and Voting
Intentions

14th – 21st March 2008

Survey supported by
Friedrich Naumann Stiftung

Friedrich Naumann
STIFTUNG **FÜR DIE FREIHEIT**

“All rights reserved. This report is published by proprietary subscription. No parts of this publication may be distributed, reproduced, copied or transmitted in any form or by any means including photocopying without the permission of the copyright owner, application for which should be addressed to the same. The distribution, reproduction, copying or transmission including the quotation of a part of the whole thereof by a non-customer is strictly prohibited”

MERDEKA CENTER FOR OPINION RESEARCH
901B Diamond Complex, 43650 Bangi,
Selangor, MALAYSIA

Tel: 603 8210 1488/1499 Fax: 603 8210 1466
Email: info@merdeka.org
Web: www.merdeka.org

Contents

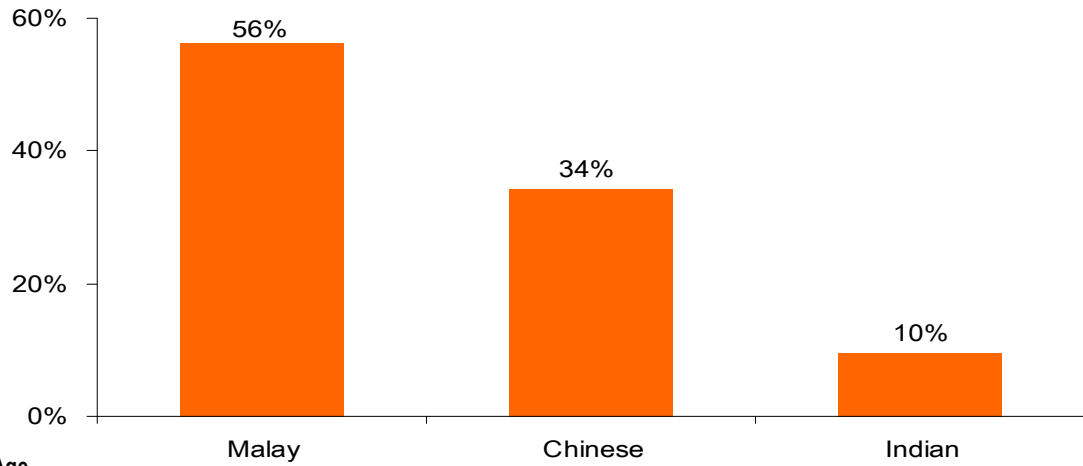
- 1 Introduction
 - 2 Methodology
 - 3 Respondent Profile
 - 4 Issues
 - 5 Approval Rating and Expectations on PM
 - 6 Perceptions on the Conduct of the Elections
 - 7 Expectations on Election Results
 - 8 Perceptions of Barisan Rakyat States
 - 9 Voting Motivations
 - 10 Outlook on Political Parties
-

Methodology

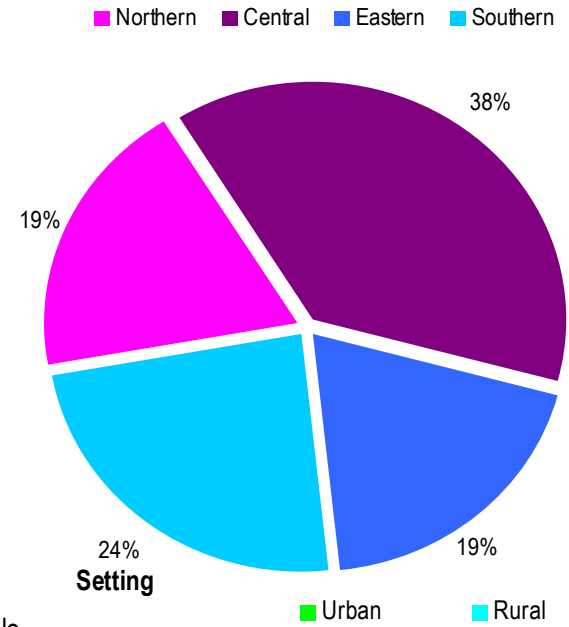
- 1024 randomly selected registered voters aged 21+ were interviewed via telephone for the survey
- Respondents were selected via random stratified sampling method along the lines of parliamentary district of residence, ethnicity, gender and age.
- Survey was carried out between 14th – 21st March 2008
- Survey margin of error estimated at $\pm 3.10\%$

Respondent Profile

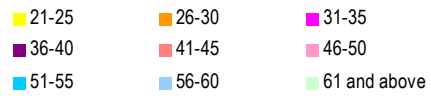
Ethnicity



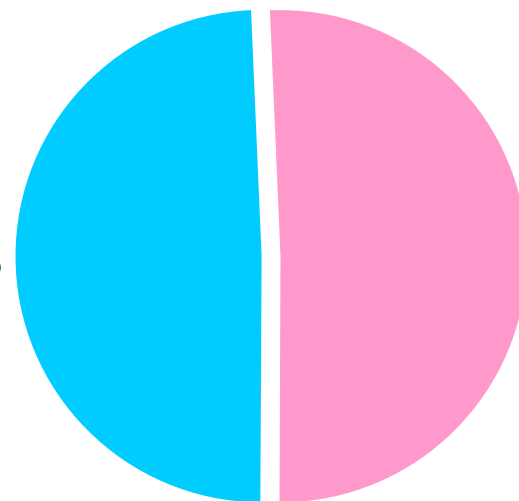
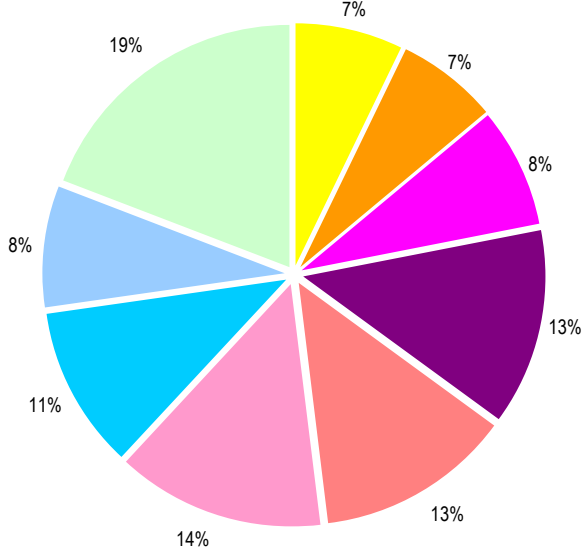
Region



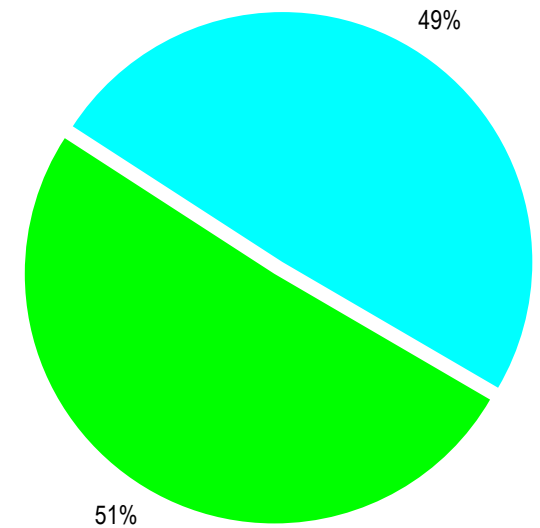
Age



Gender



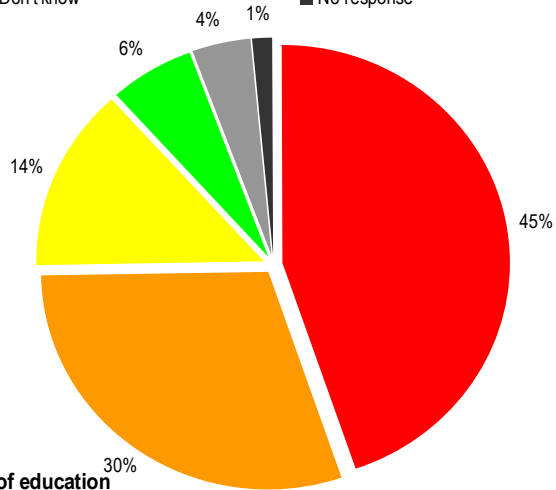
Setting



Respondent Profile

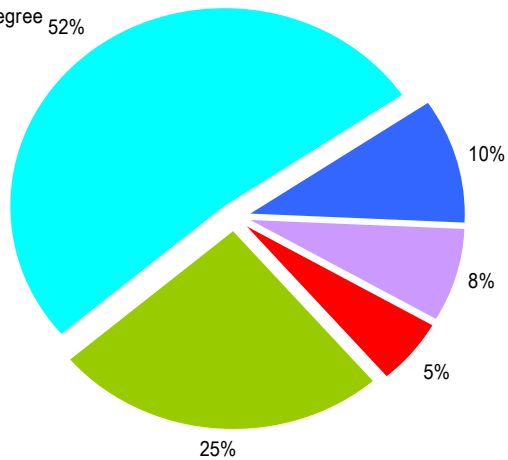
Total of household income

- < RM 1500 per month
- RM 1501 - RM 3000 per month
- RM 3001 - RM 5000 per month
- > RM 5000 per month
- Don't know
- No response

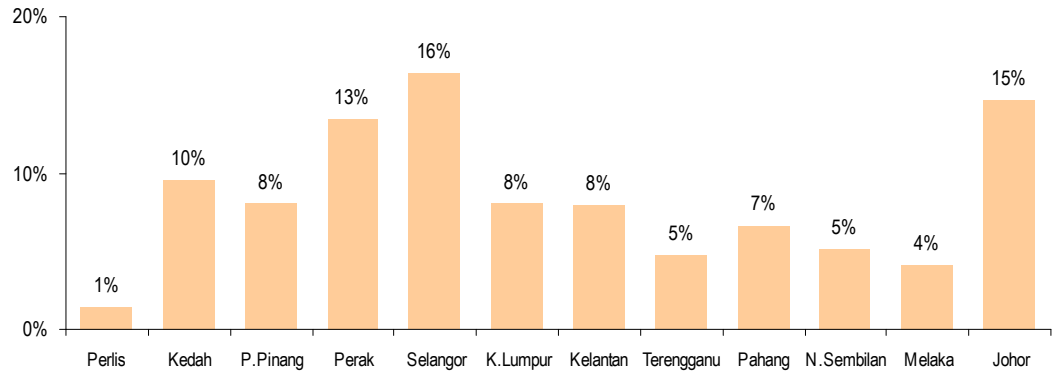


Level of education

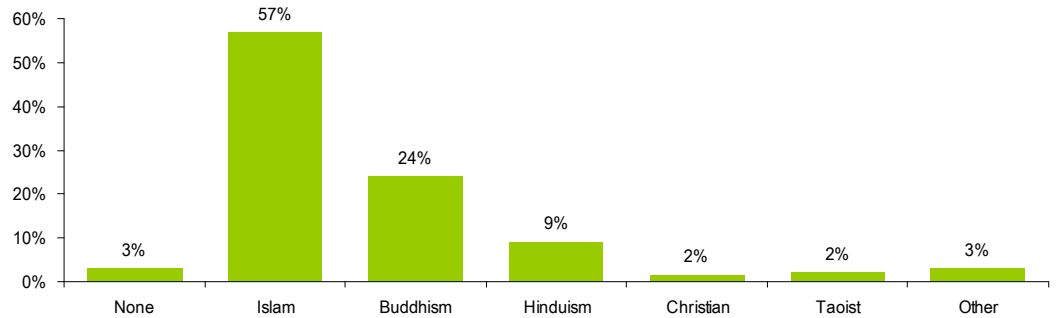
- No formal education
- Primary school
- Secondary school
- Diploma/ Polytechnics/ Teacher's College/ Vocational Institutes
- Degree 52%



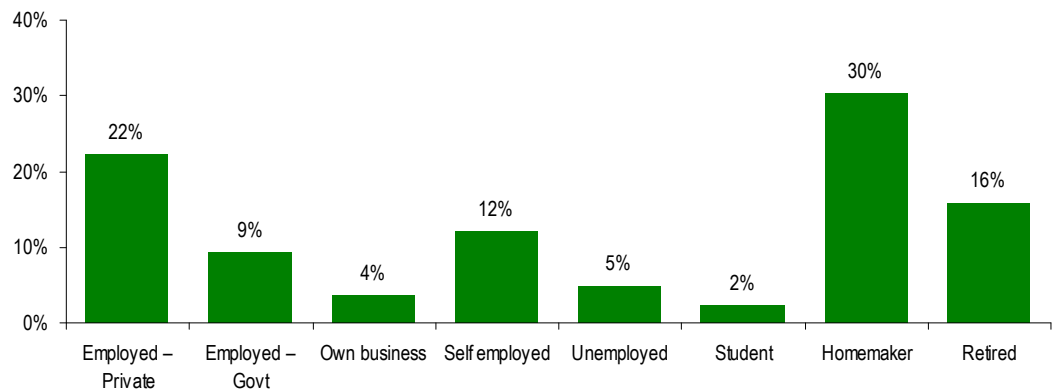
States



Religion

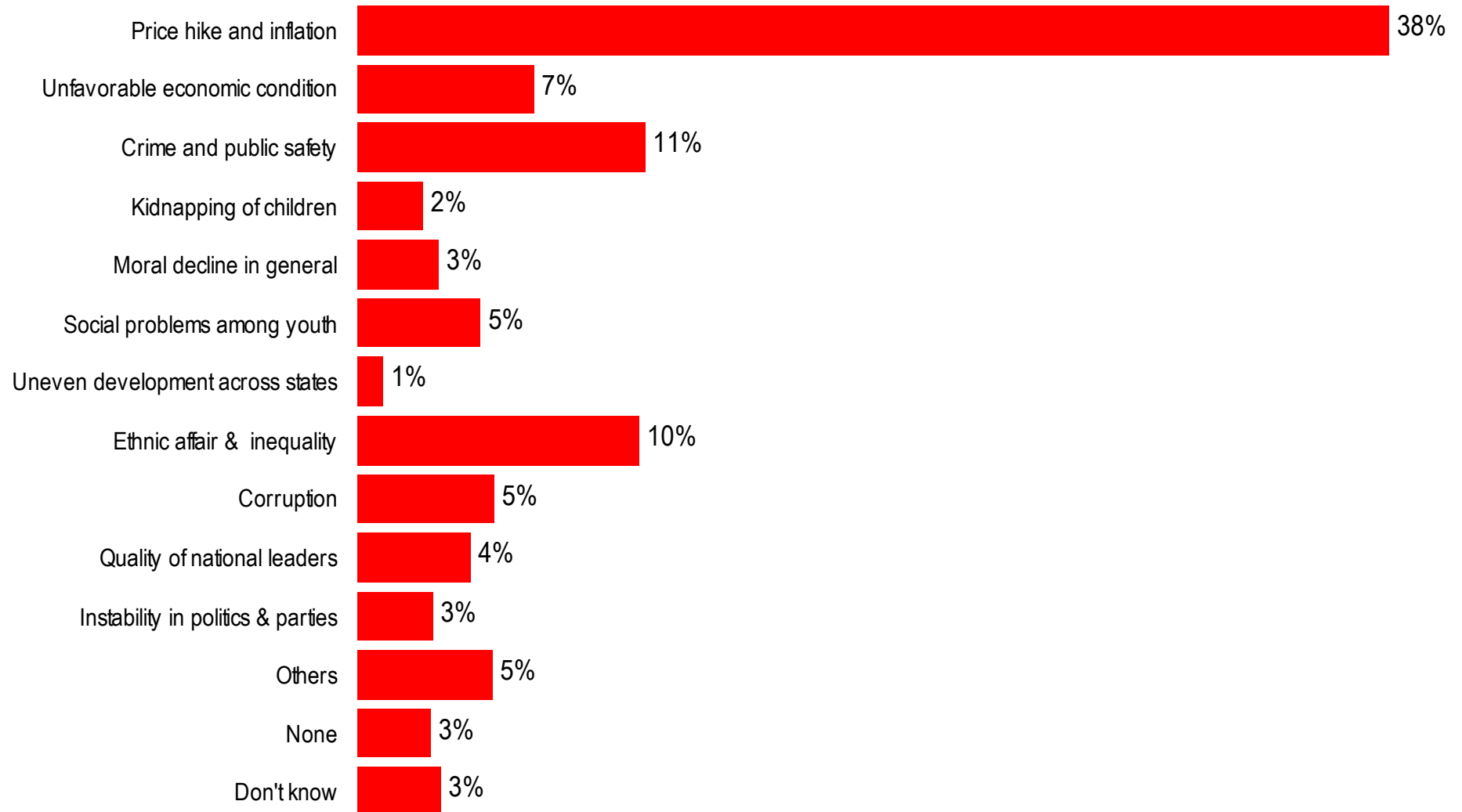


Occupation



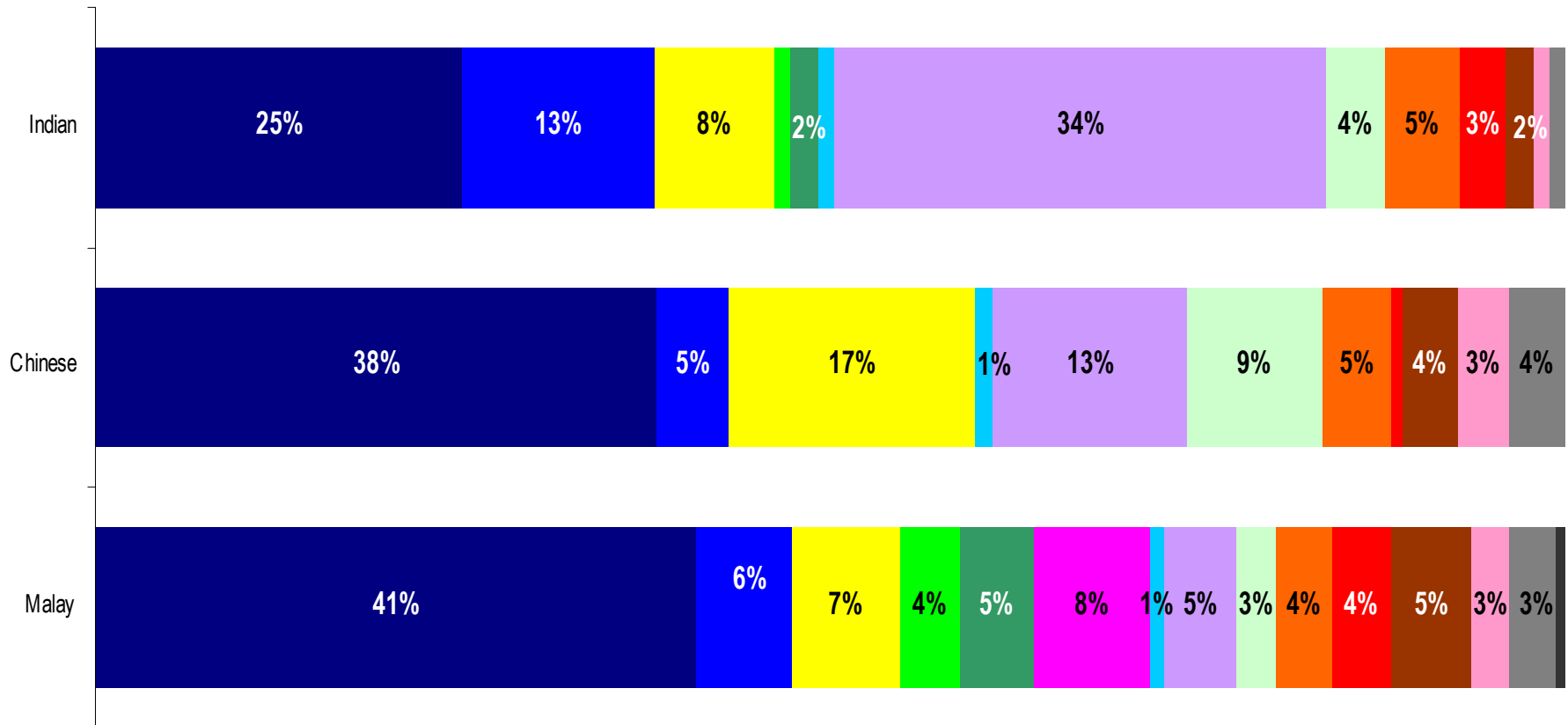
Survey Results Overview

Q6. What in your view, is the most important problem in the country today?



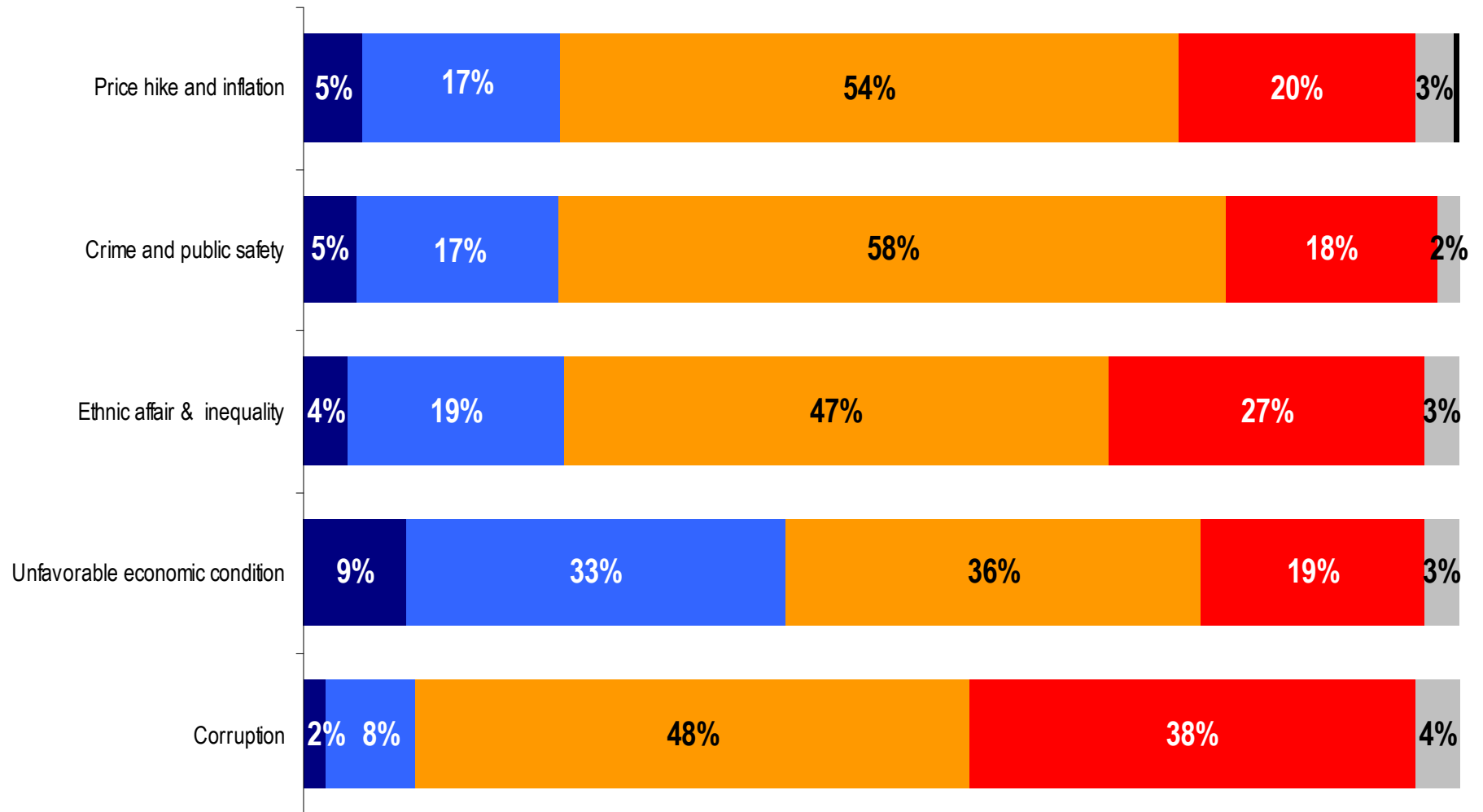
Q6. What in your view, is the most important problem in the country today?

- Price hike and inflation
- Kidnapping of children
- Uneven development across states
- Quality of national leaders
- None
- Unfavorable economic condition
- Moral decline in general
- Ethnic affair & inequality
- Instability in politics & parties
- Don't know
- Crime and public safety
- Social problems among youth
- Corruption
- Others
- No response



Q6 x Q7 crosstab: Issues vs Satisfaction with Govt. Resolution of the Issue

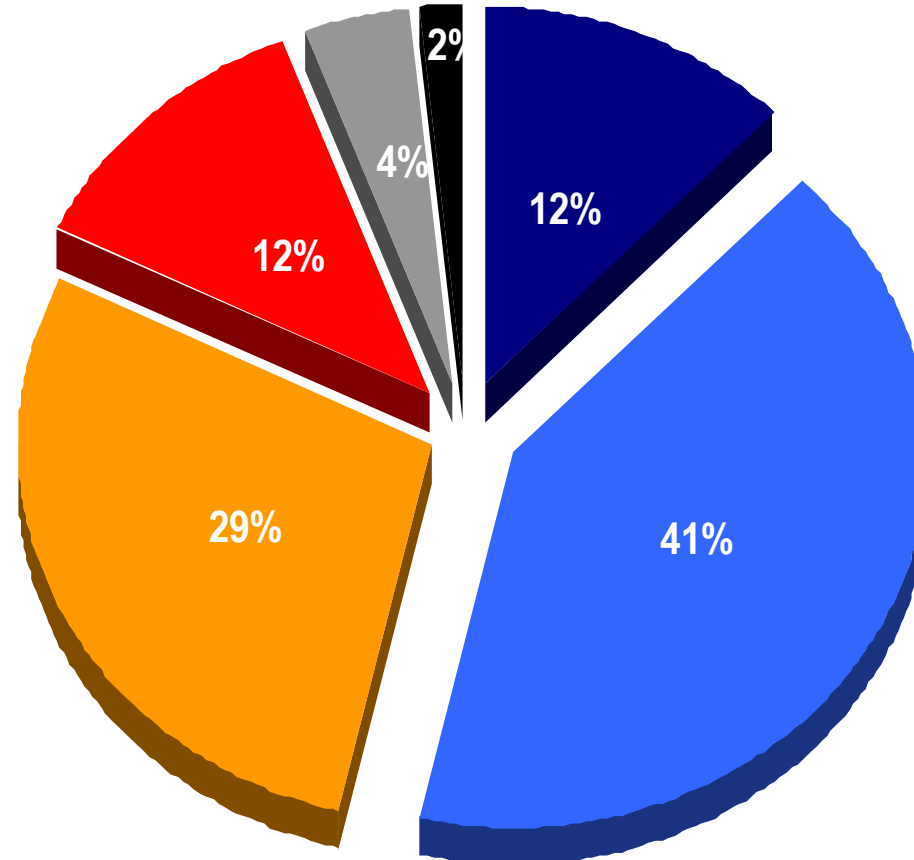
Very satisfied Somewhat satisfied Somewhat dissatisfied Very dissatisfied Don't know No response



Approval Rating and Expectations on PM

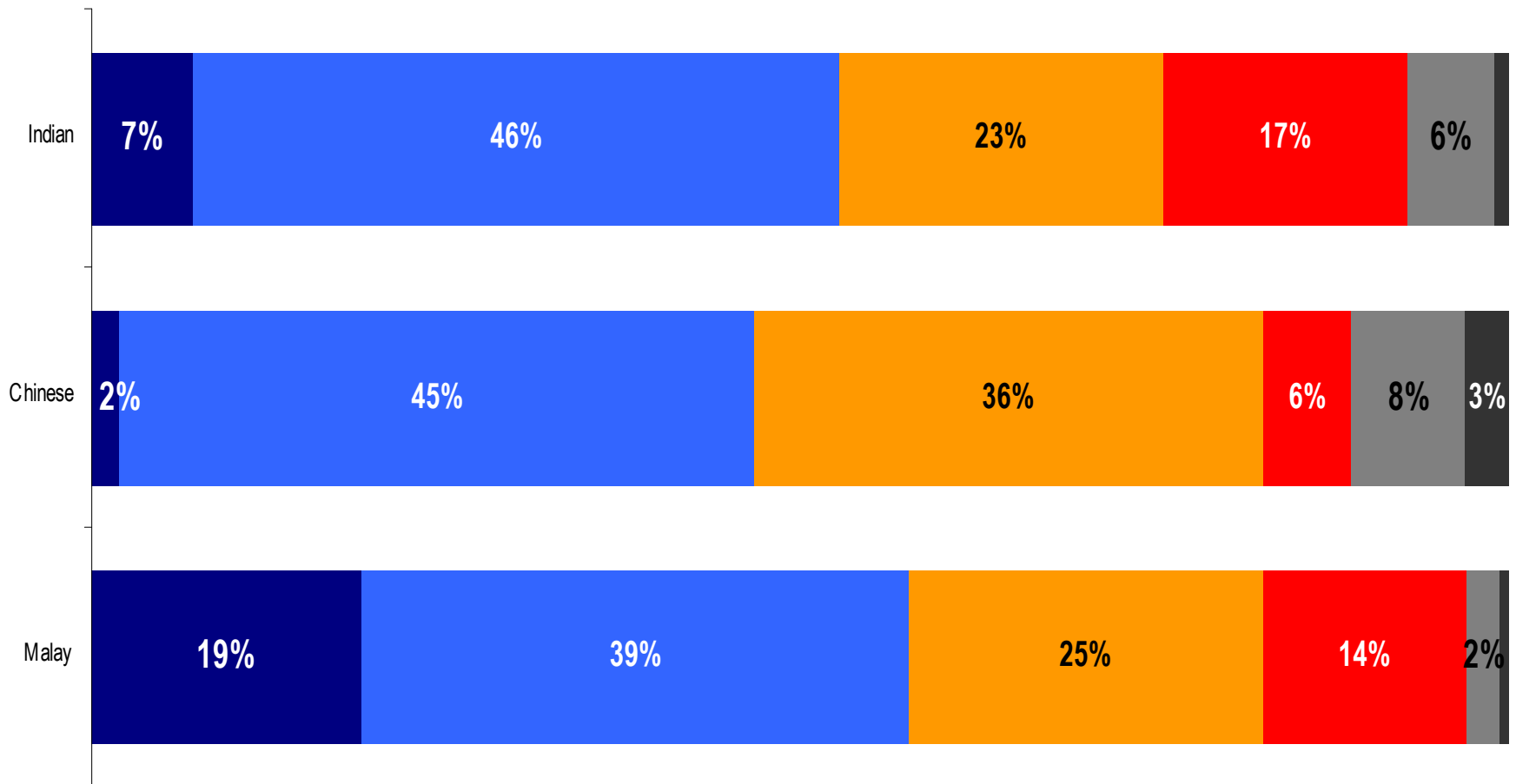
Q8. How satisfied or dissatisfied are you with the way Abdullah Ahmad Badawi is performing his job as the prime minister?

- Strongly approve
- Somewhat approve
- Somewhat disapprove
- Strongly disapprove
- Don't know
- No response



Q8. How satisfied or dissatisfied are you with the way Abdullah Ahmad Badawi is performing his job as the prime minister?

■ Strongly approve
 ■ Somewhat approve
 ■ Somewhat disapprove
 ■ Strongly disapprove
 ■ Don't know
 ■ No response

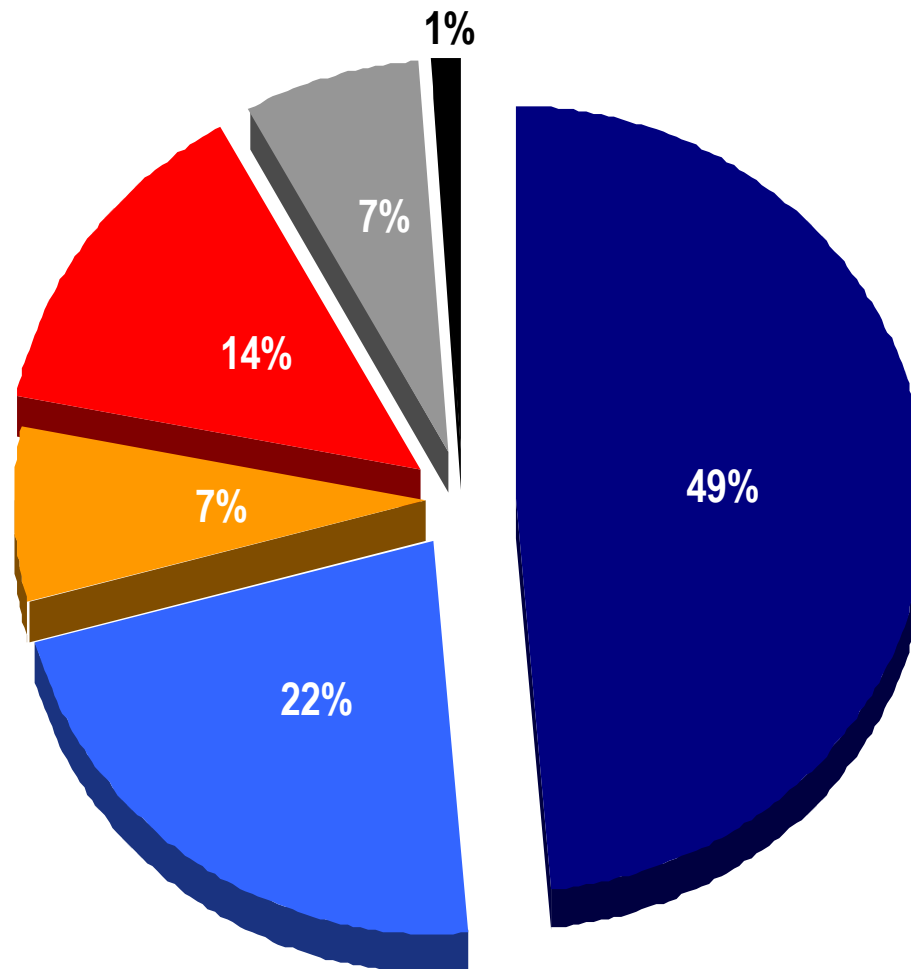


Q9.What are the 2 most important items you want to see PM do after election?

ITEM	1	2	ITEM	1	2
Fair treatment to all races	10%	8%	None	2%	14%
Fight corruption, cronyism & nepotism	4%	4%	Others	5%	2%
Eradicate poverty & provide job opportunities	3%	3%	Don't know	5%	22%
Fulfill it responsibility as PM & coherent in administration	5%	4%	No response	1%	4%
Listen to the public	2%	2%			
Strengthen public safety & reduce crime	6%	8%			
Control & reduce prices	23%	13%			
Stabilize/develop the economy	9%				
Change in government administration & leadership	12%				
Fulfill promises made during election	4%				
Resign as PM	3%				
Focus on Malay issues	2%				
Pay attention to education issues	2%				
Maintain unity among races	1%				
Apply Islam in administration	1%				
Pay attention to national education system		2%			
Efficiency & transparency in gov administration & leadership		5%			
Economic development & stability		3%			
Preserve Islamic & Malay rights		2%			
Maintain racial harmony		2%			
Infrastructure & public amenities		2%			
Fulfill promises/Serve the needy		1%			

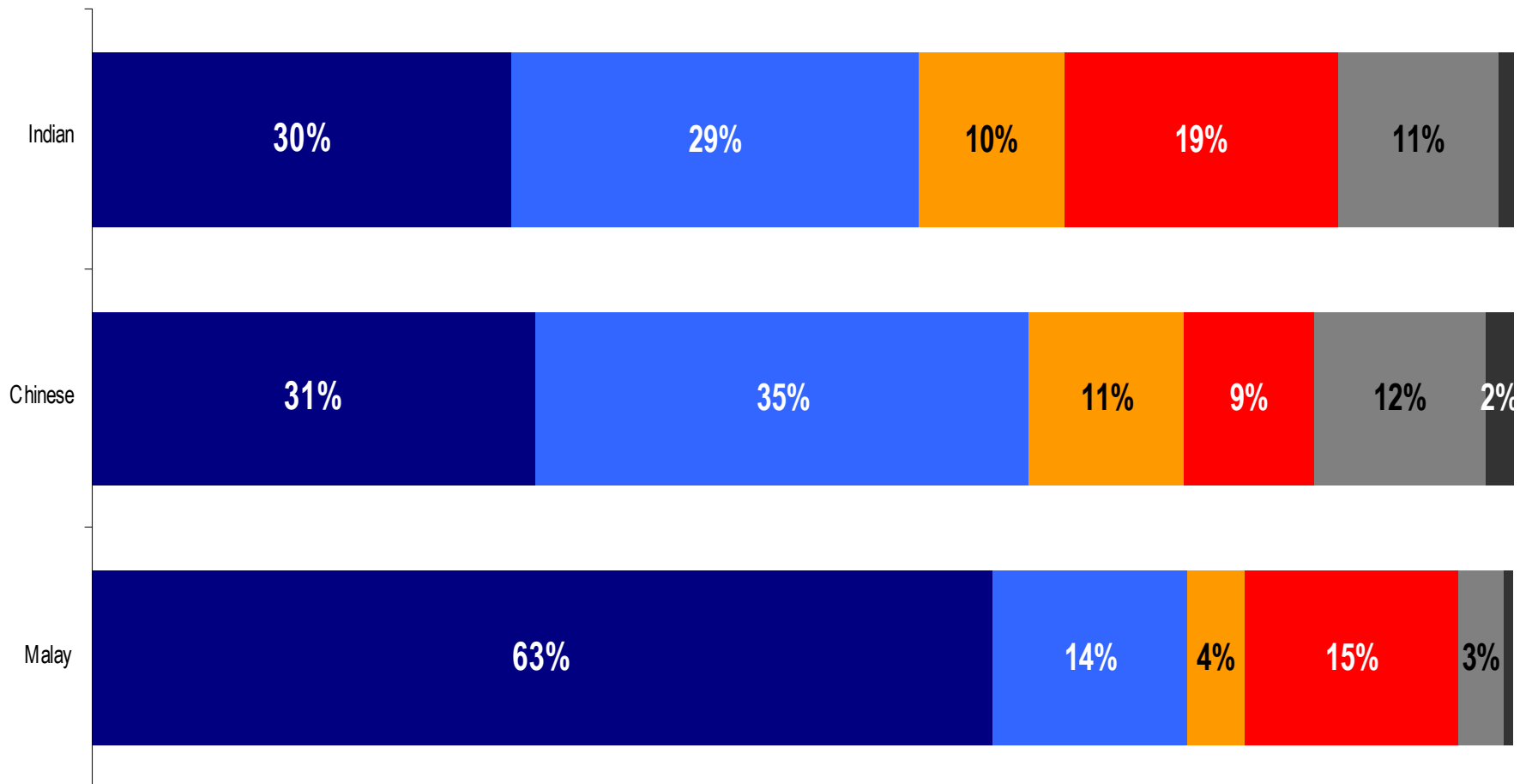
Q10. In your view, should Abdullah Badawi continue to be prime minister after the 12th General Election?

■ Yes ■ Maybe Yes ■ Maybe No ■ No ■ Don't know ■ No response



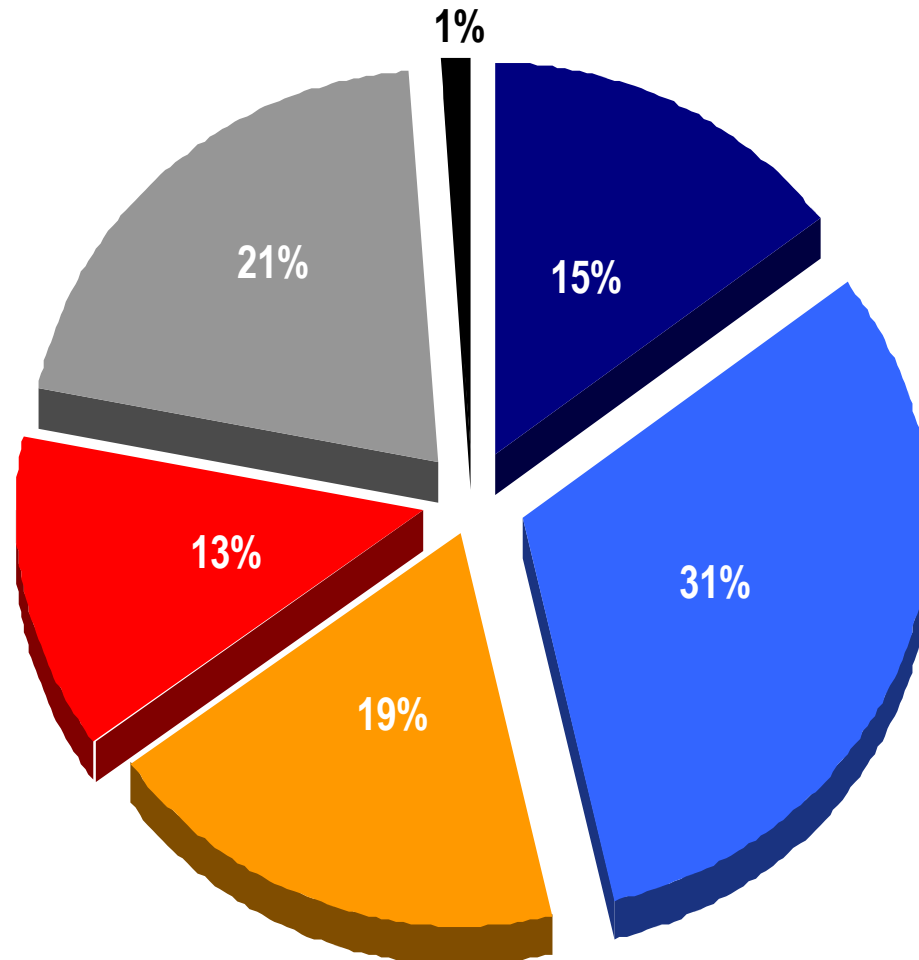
Q10. In your view, should Abdullah Badawi continue to be prime minister after the 12th General Election?

■ Yes ■ Maybe Yes ■ Maybe No ■ No ■ Don't know ■ No response



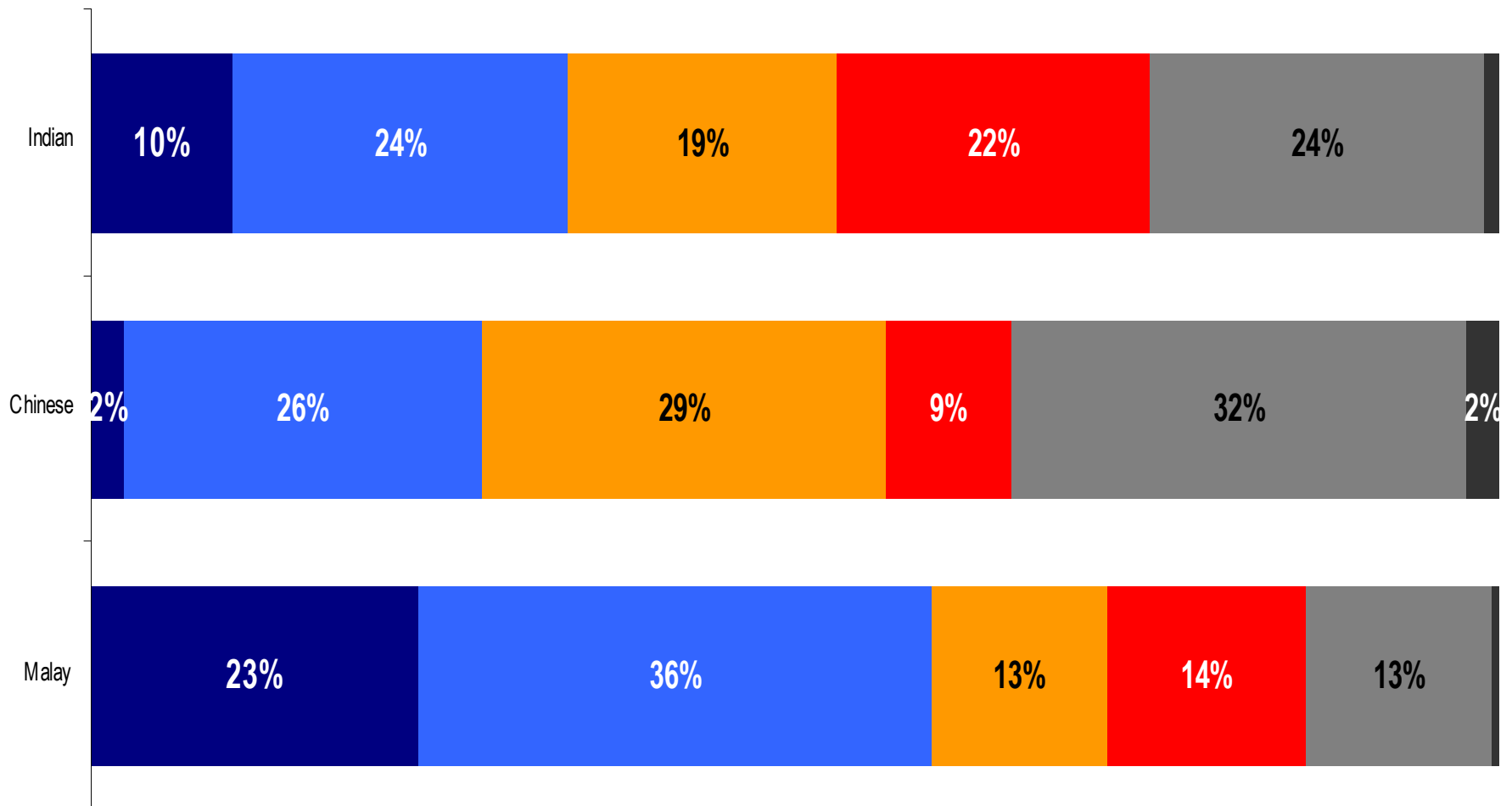
Q11. In your view, would Najib Tun Razak make a good prime minister?

- Strongly agree
- Somewhat agree
- Somewhat disagree
- Strongly disagree
- Don't know
- No response



Q11. In your view, would Najib Tun Razak make a good prime minister?

■ Strongly agree
 ■ Somewhat agree
 ■ Somewhat disagree
 ■ Strongly disagree
 ■ Don't know
 ■ No response



Sources of Information

Q12. How have you been getting most of your news/information on the recent elections? Please name three(3):

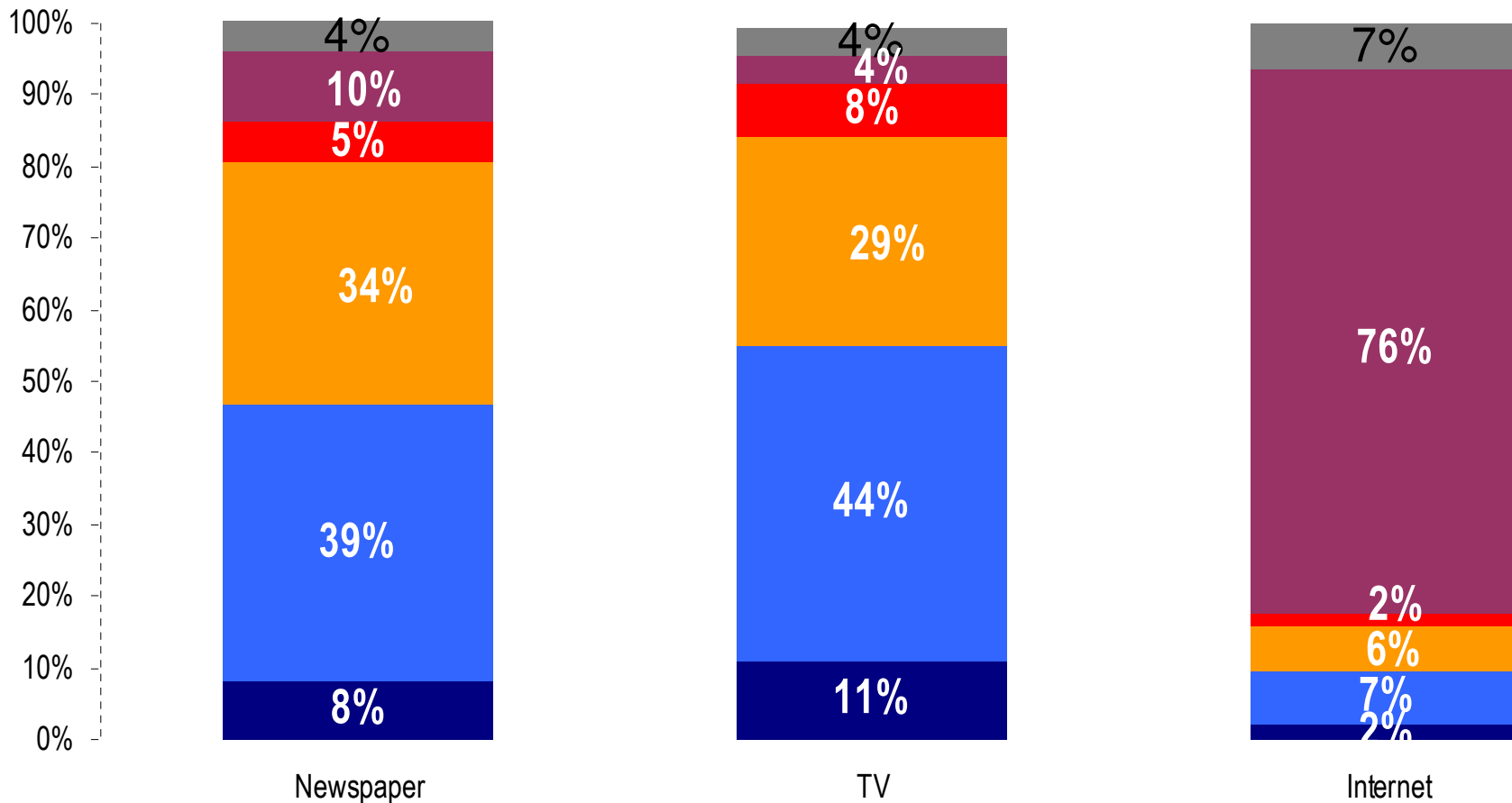
Source	1	2	3	
Newspapers	55.0%	26.8%	1.9%	83.7
TV	36.7%	50.7%	3.0%	90.4
Internet/political party websites/blogs/emails	3.8%	2.7%	6.4%	12.9
Leaflet	0.9%	1.3%	11.5%	13.7
Speeches at ceramah or rallies	1.2%	2.3%	6.9%	10.4
Face to face interact with candidate	0.1%	0.3%	1.9%	2.3
Face to face interact with party workers	0.5%	0.5%	2.2%	3.2
Events other than mentioned above	0.1%		0.2%	0.3
Speeches at mosque/religious sites		0.4%	0.4%	0.8
Telephone/SMS/MMS	0.2%	1.0%	3.1%	4.3
Discussion/information from family, friends & people around			6.9%	6.9
Radio			2.9%	2.9
Other	1.3%	2.2%	0.7%	4.2
None	0.2%	11.5%	52.0%	
No response	0.1%	0.2%		

Q13.If internet is involved, please name 3 portals you frequented for news on the recent election:

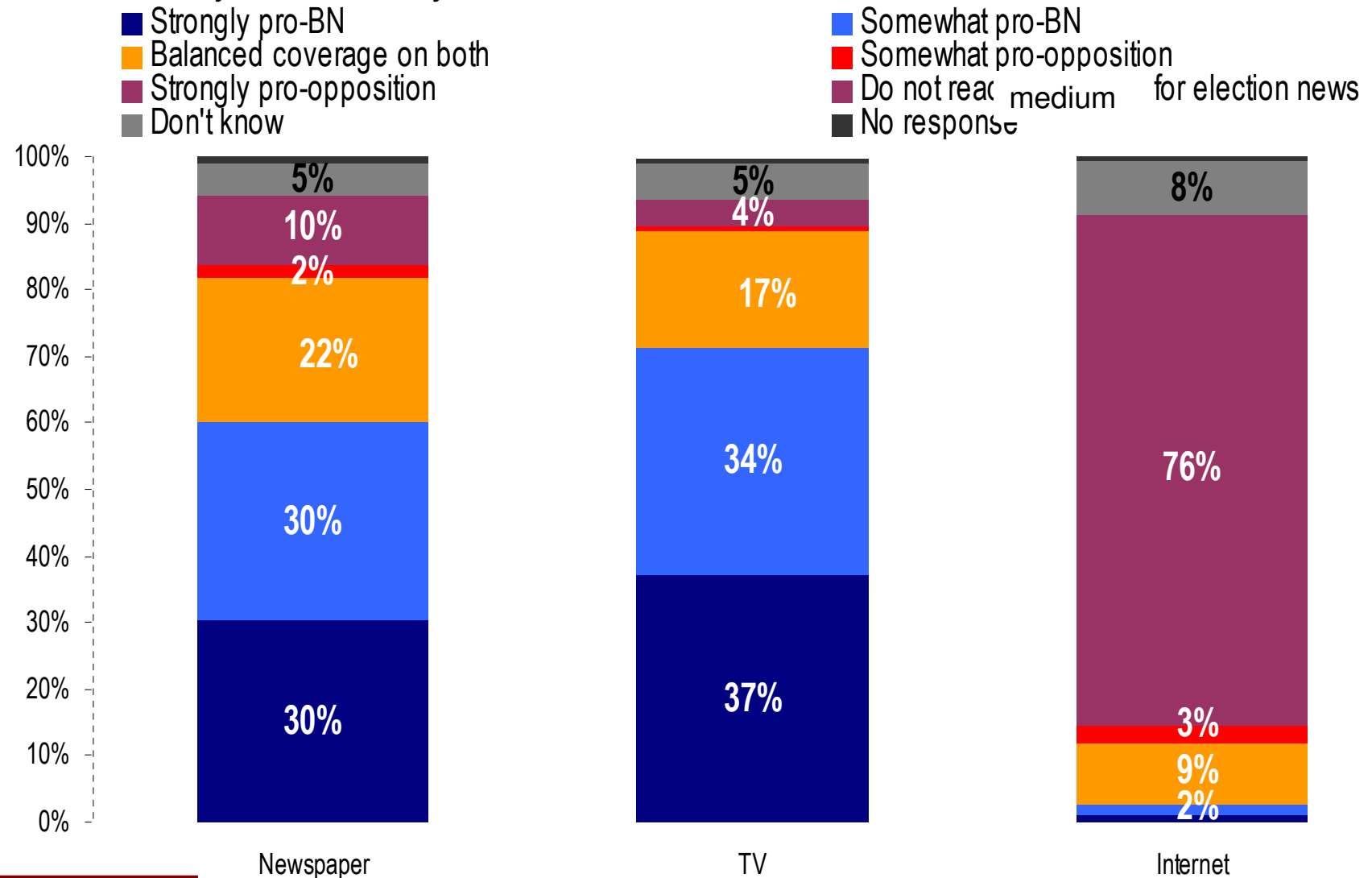
Source	1	2	3
Blogs	0.3%	0.4%	0.3%
Malaysia Today	0.2%	0.3%	0.3%
Malaysiakini	4.3%	0.7%	0.2%
Youtube	0.8%	0.2%	0.3%
Utusan Malaysia	0.5%	0.4%	
Email	0.3%	0.5%	
Harakah daily	0.7%	0.6%	
Berita Harian	0.3%	0.2%	
Google	0.4%	0.2%	
Yahoo	1.2%	0.5%	
The Star		0.3%	0.2%
Other online versions of mainstream newspapers	0.4%		
SPR	0.7%		
Others	0.8%	1.8%	1.0%
Internet not a source of election news	87.0%	93.8%	97.6%
No response	2.2%	0.2%	0.2%

Q14 summary. To what extent do you trust the coverage on elections by the media?

- Very trustworthy
- Somewhat trustworthy
- Somewhat untrustworthy
- Not trustworthy at all
- Do not read medium for election news
- Don't know



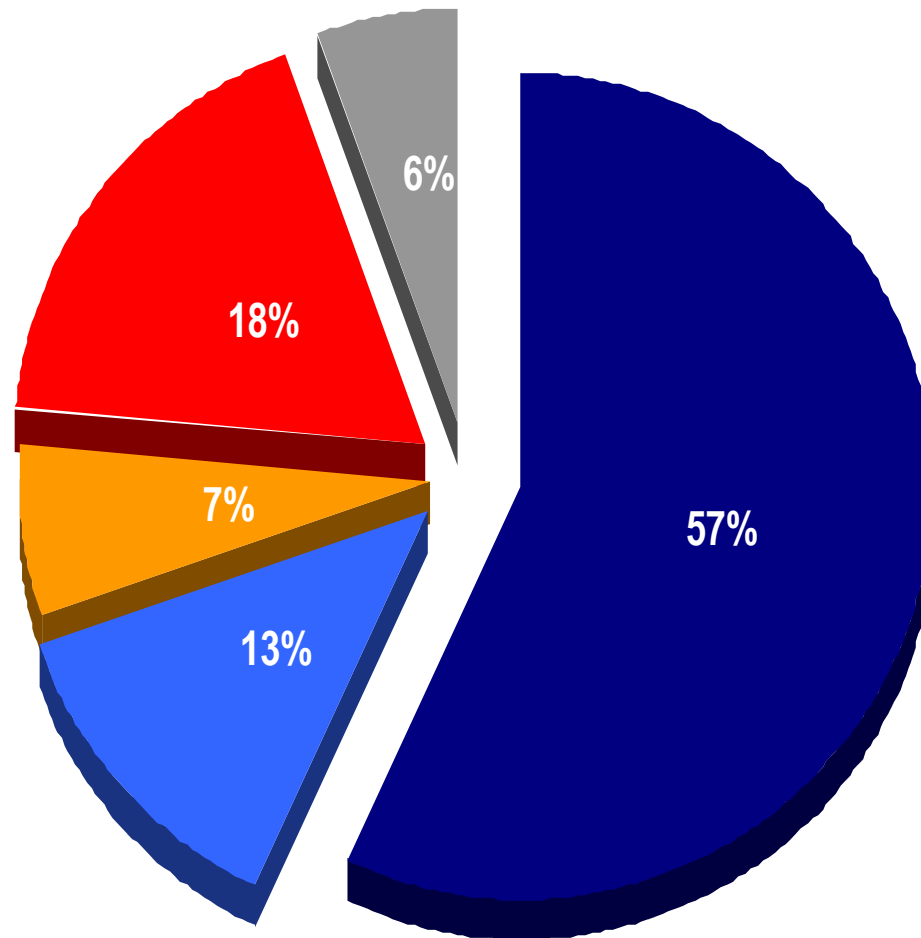
Q14iisummary.And how do you rate the slant of these media?



Perceptions on the Conduct of the Elections

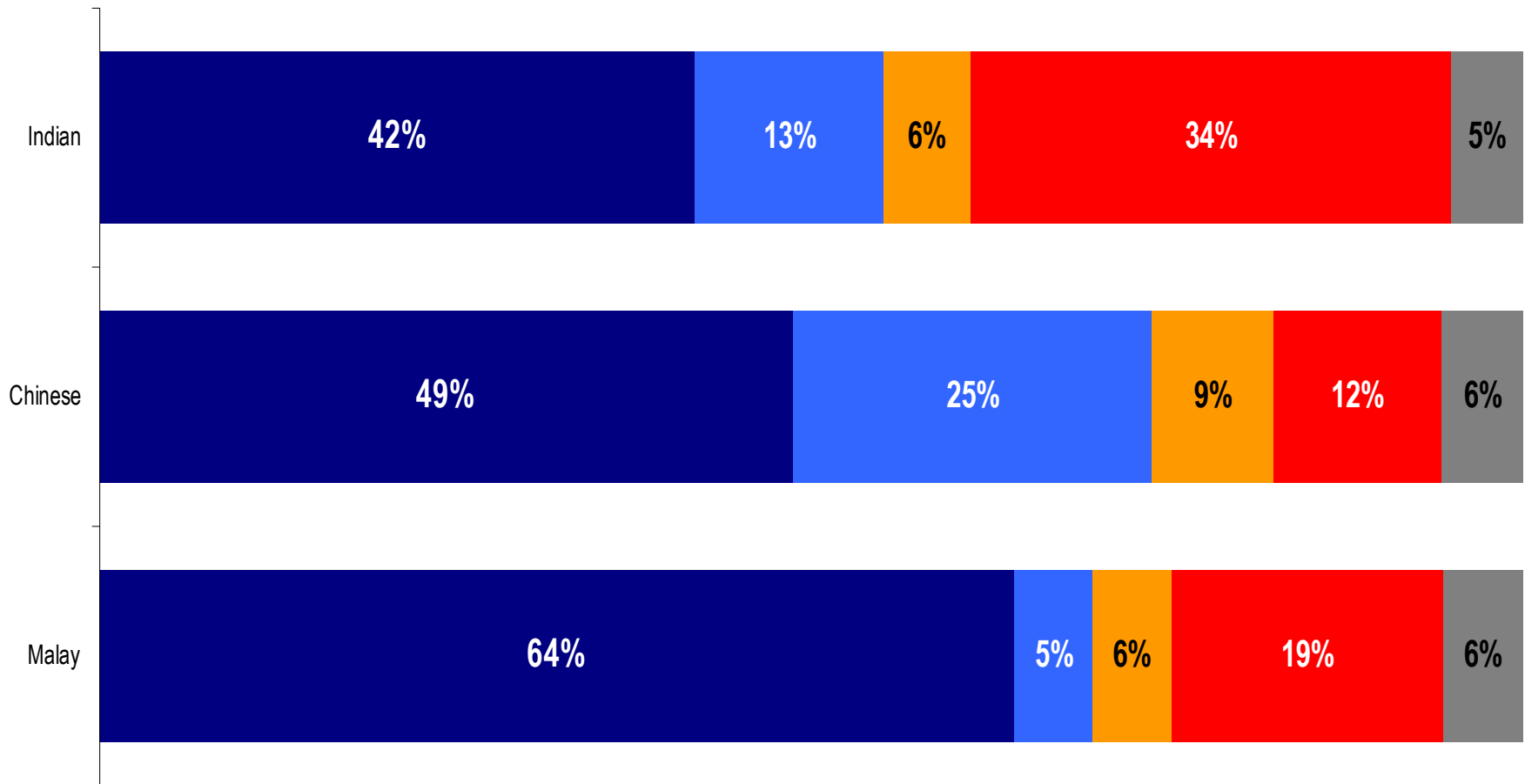
Q15. Do you think the political parties were able to campaign freely in the recent elections?

■ Yes ■ Maybe Yes ■ Maybe No ■ No ■ Don't know



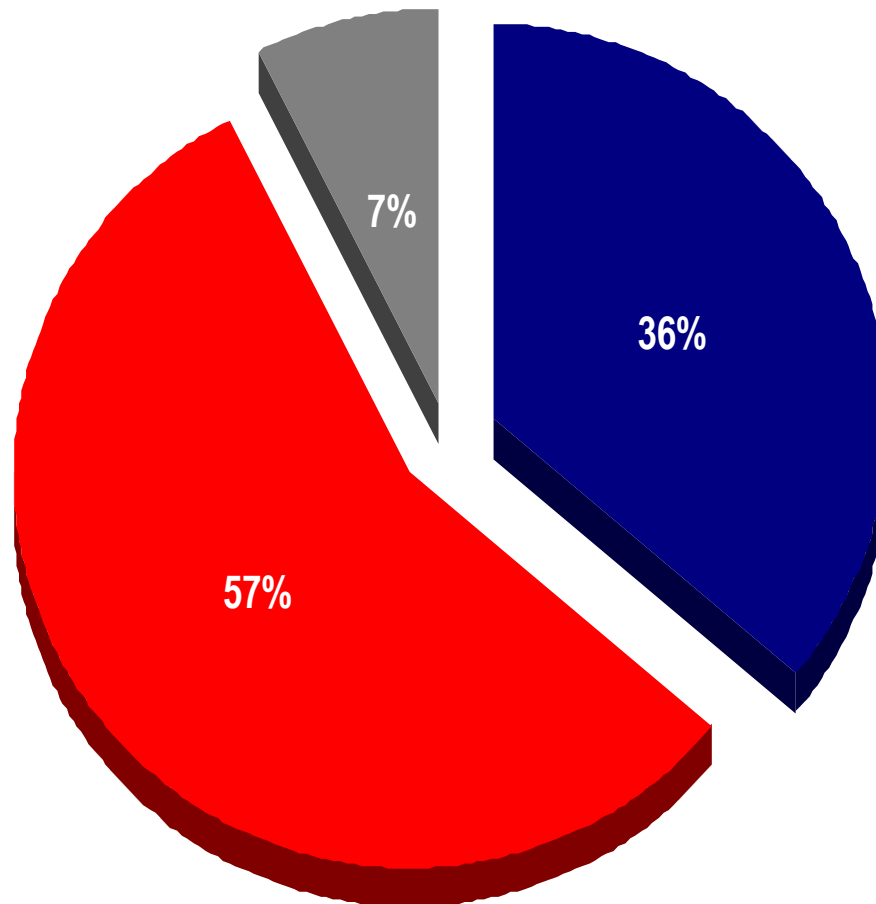
Q15. Do you think the political parties were able to campaign freely in the recent elections?

■ Yes ■ Maybe Yes ■ Maybe No ■ No ■ Don't know



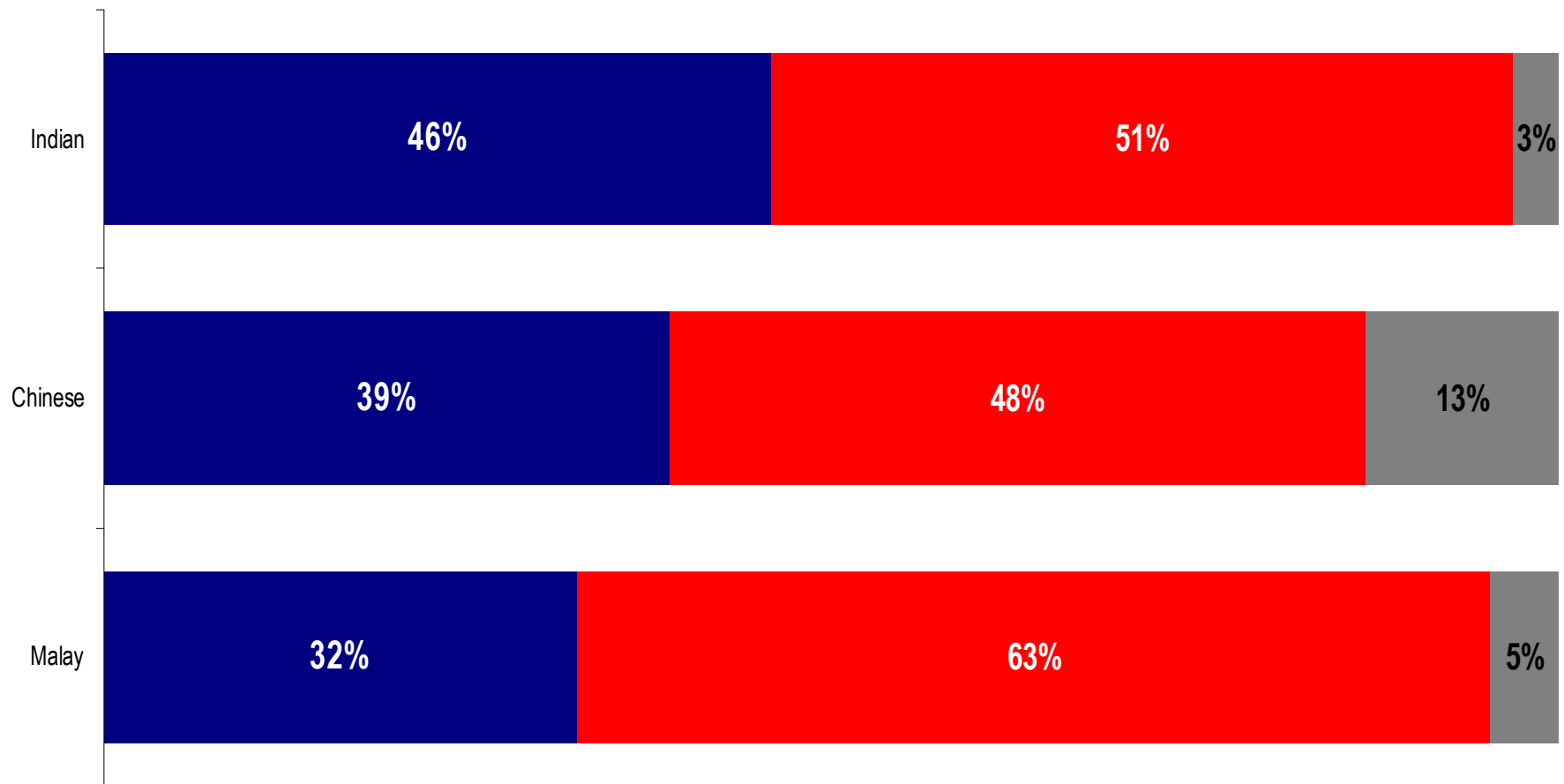
Q16. Did you know of any irregularities/doubtful/illegal conduct during the recent elections?

■ Yes ■ No ■ Don't know



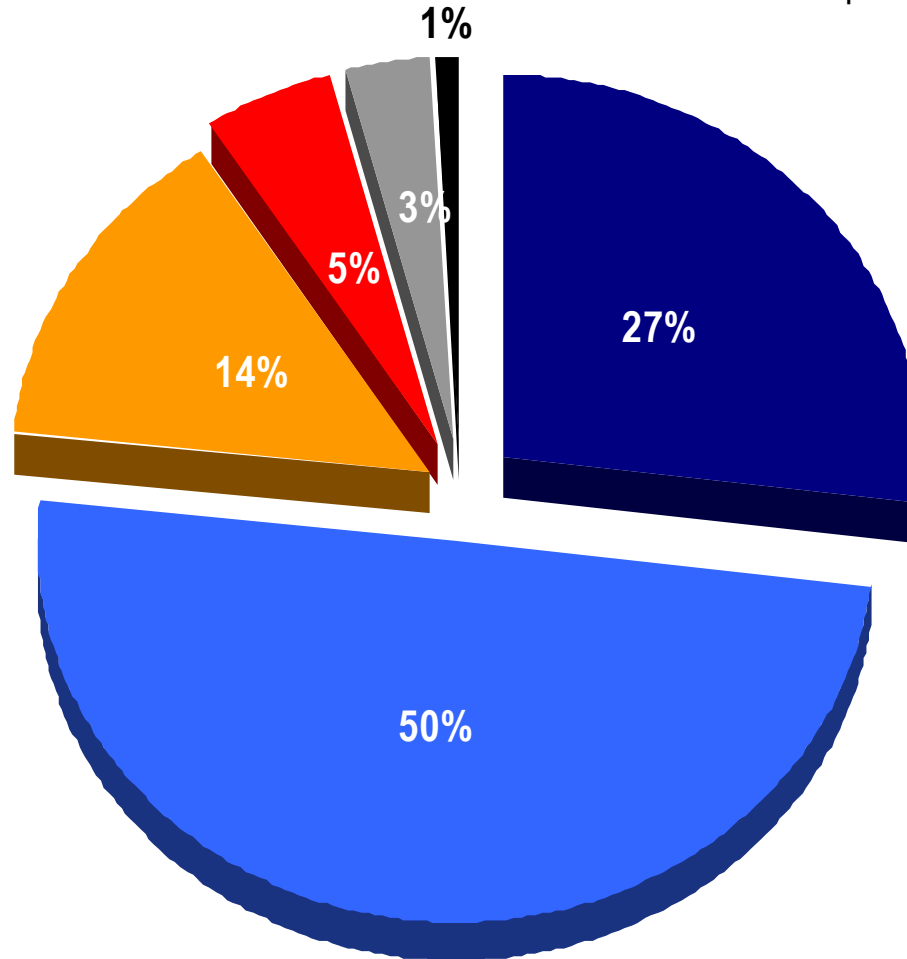
Q16. Did you know of any irregularities/doubtful/illegal conduct during the recent elections?

■ Yes ■ No ■ Don't know



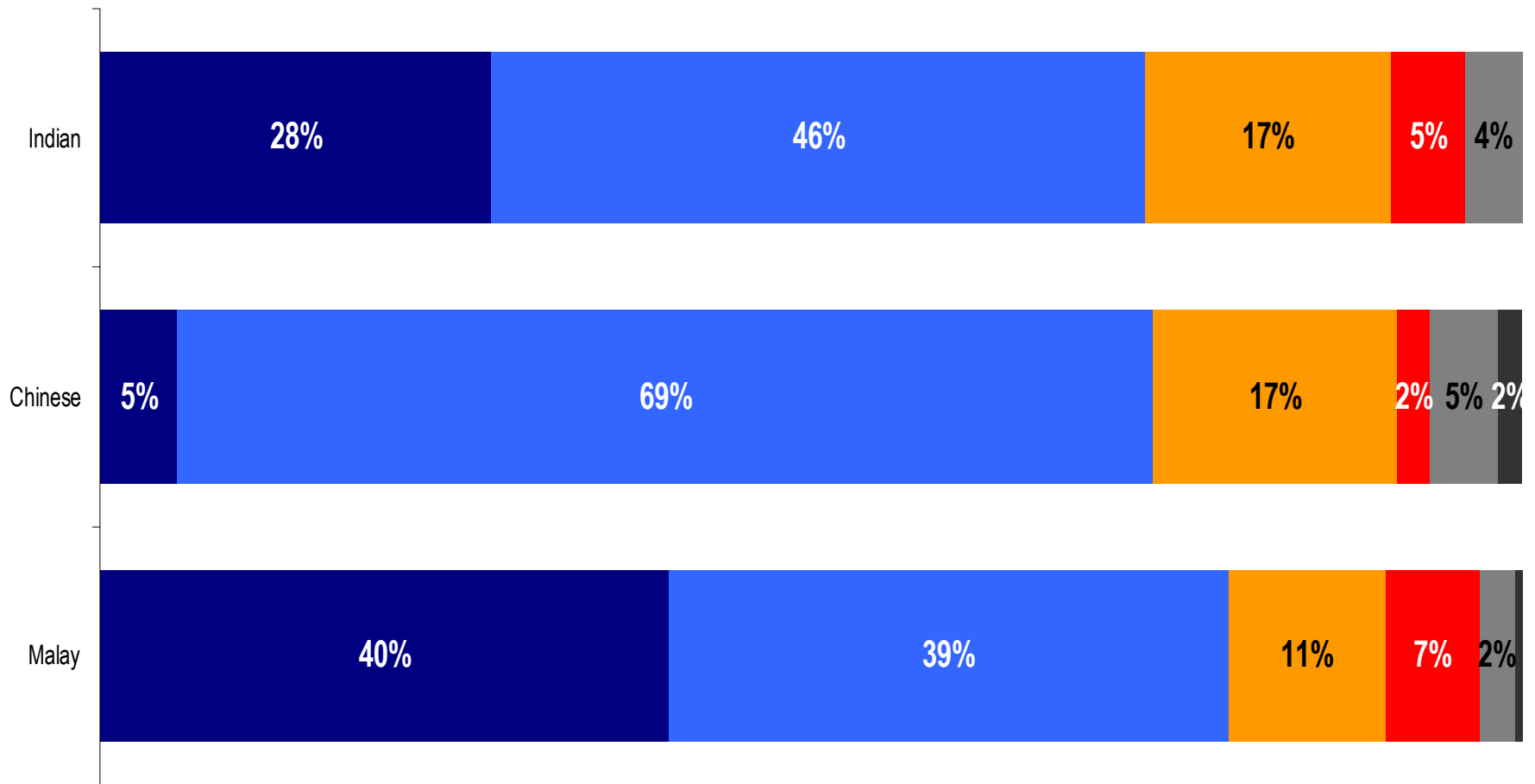
Q17. How satisfied or dissatisfied are you with the conduct of the Elections Commission during the campaigning period and Election Day?

- Very satisfied
- Somewhat satisfied
- Somewhat dissatisfied
- Very dissatisfied
- Don't know
- No response



Q17. How satisfied or dissatisfied are you with the conduct of SPR during the campaigning period and Election Day?

■ Very satisfied
 ■ Somewhat satisfied
 ■ Somewhat dissatisfied
 ■ Very dissatisfied
 ■ Don't know
 ■ No response

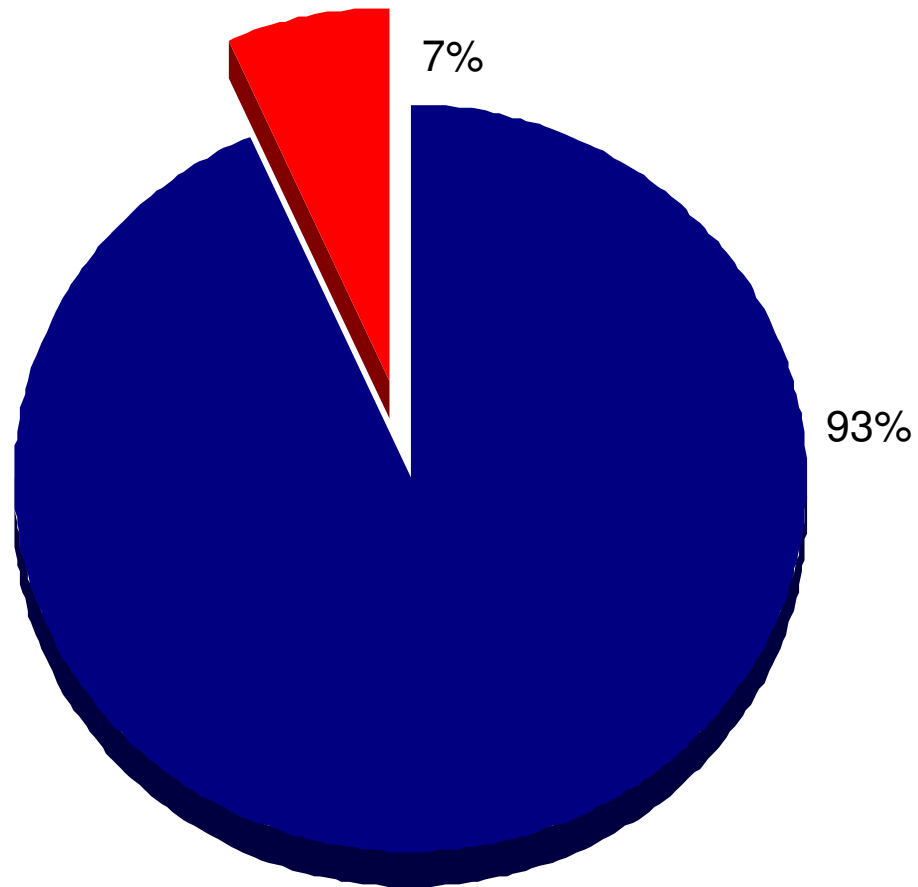


Expectations and Perceptions on the Election Results

Q18. Did you vote in the March 8th elections?

■ Yes

■ No



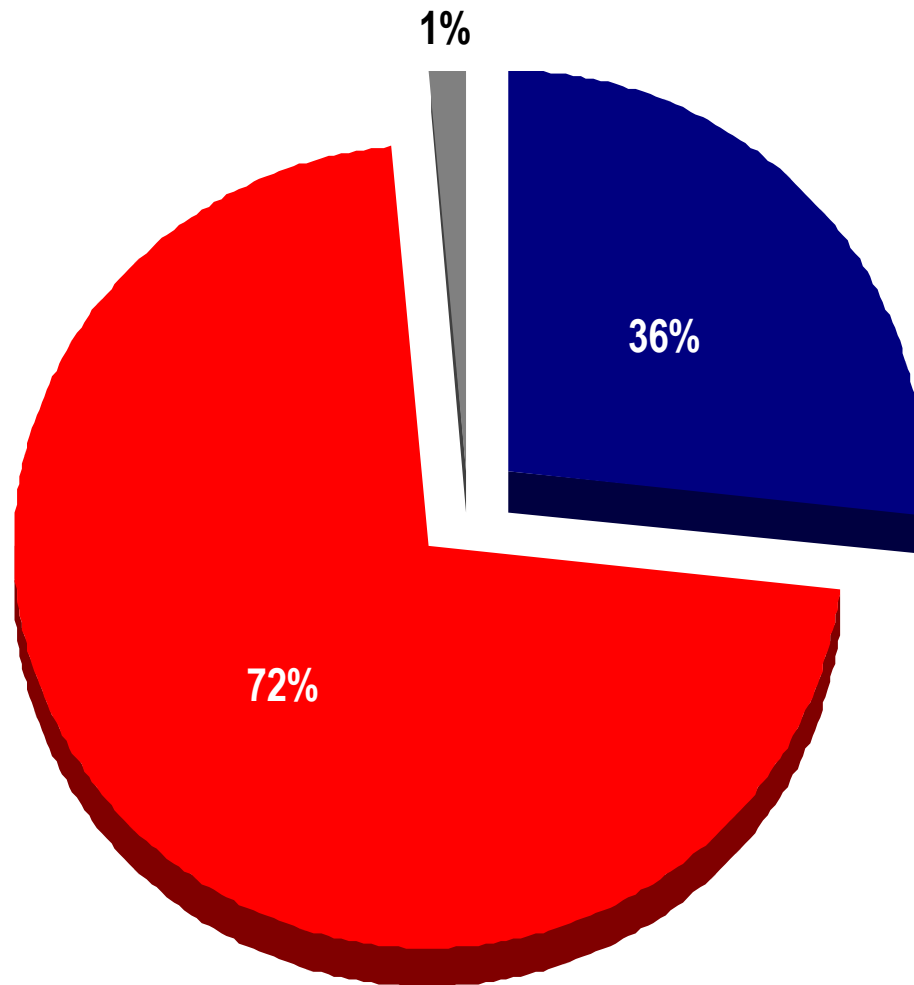
Q18. Did you vote in the March 8th elections?

■ Yes ■ No



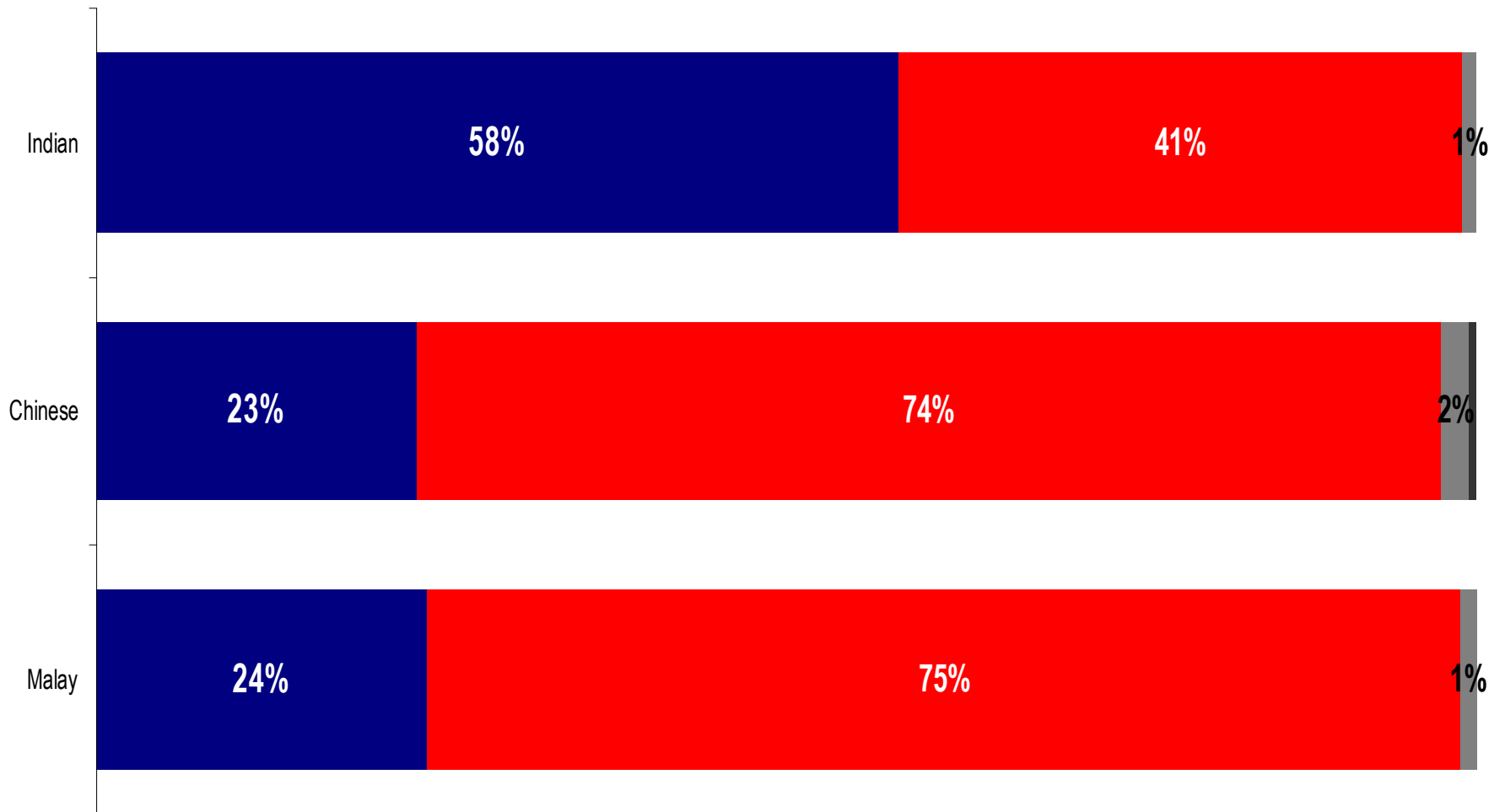
Q19. Did you expect the election results to turn out to be like this?

■ Yes ■ No ■ Don't know



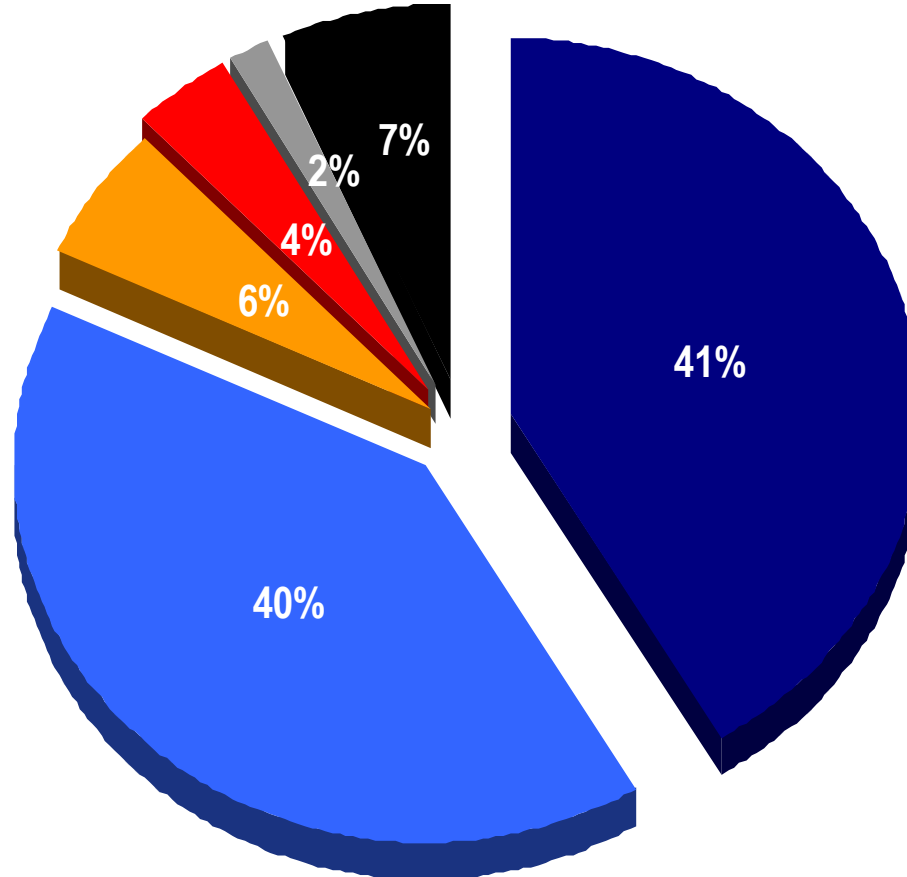
Q19. Did you expect the election results to turn out to be like this?

■ Yes ■ No ■ Don't know ■ No response



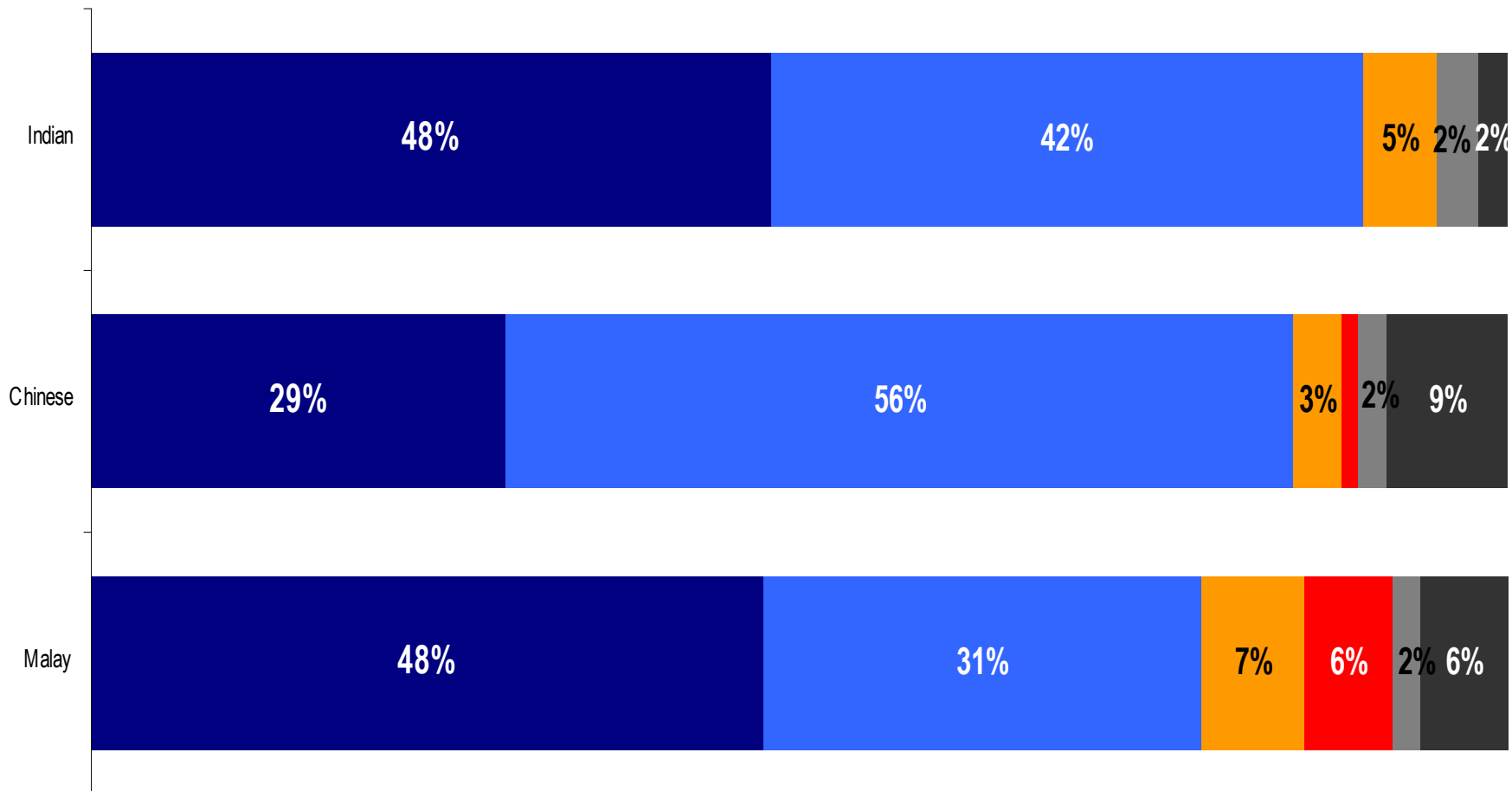
Q20. Looking at the election results, how satisfied or dissatisfied are you with the choice you made when voting last Saturday?

- Very satisfied
- Somewhat satisfied
- Somewhat dissatisfied
- Very dissatisfied
- Don't know
- No response



Q20. Looking at the election results, how satisfied or dissatisfied are you with the choice you made when voting last Saturday?

■ Very satisfied
 ■ Somewhat satisfied
 ■ Somewhat dissatisfied
 ■ Very dissatisfied
 ■ Don't know
 ■ No response



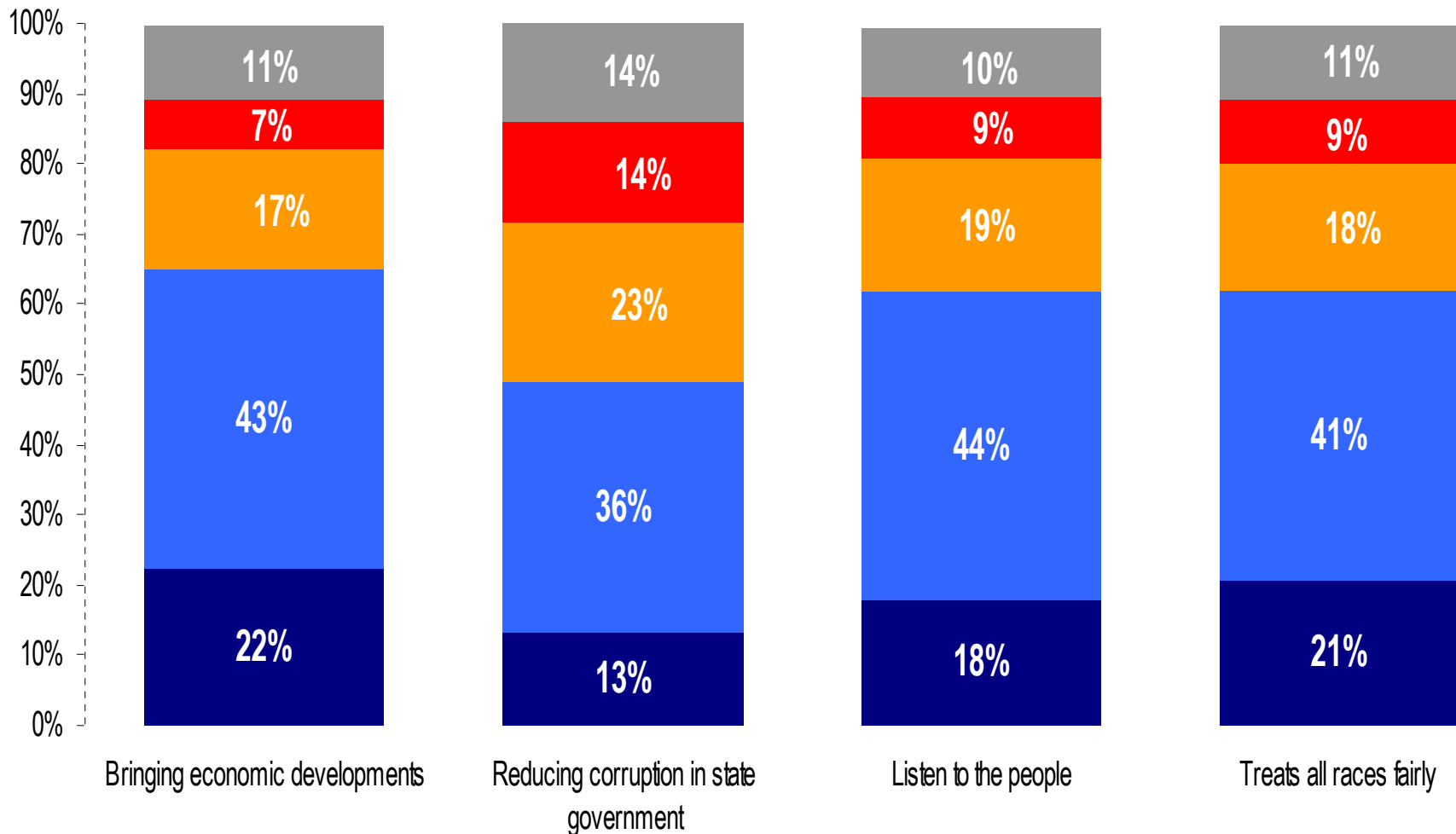
Confidence in BR States

Q21. What are the 2 most important items you want to see in the new opposition controlled states?

Items	1	2
Fulfill the promises made	16%	6%
Control & reduce prices	6%	5%
Strengthen public safety & reduce crime	3%	3%
Fair & equal treatment to all races	12%	7%
Peace & stability	4%	3%
Fight corruption	2%	3%
Bring development & economic growth	8%	6%
Good, fair, responsible governance	10%	4%
Take care of Malay interest	2%	2%
Listen to the public & take care of people's interest	6%	3%
Maintain unity among races	1%	2%
Bring change to administration	3%	
Do better than previous government	4%	
Apply Islam in administration	1%	
Remain status quo	2%	
Eradicate poverty & provide job opportunities		2%
Pay attention to education issues		1%
Others	5%	4%

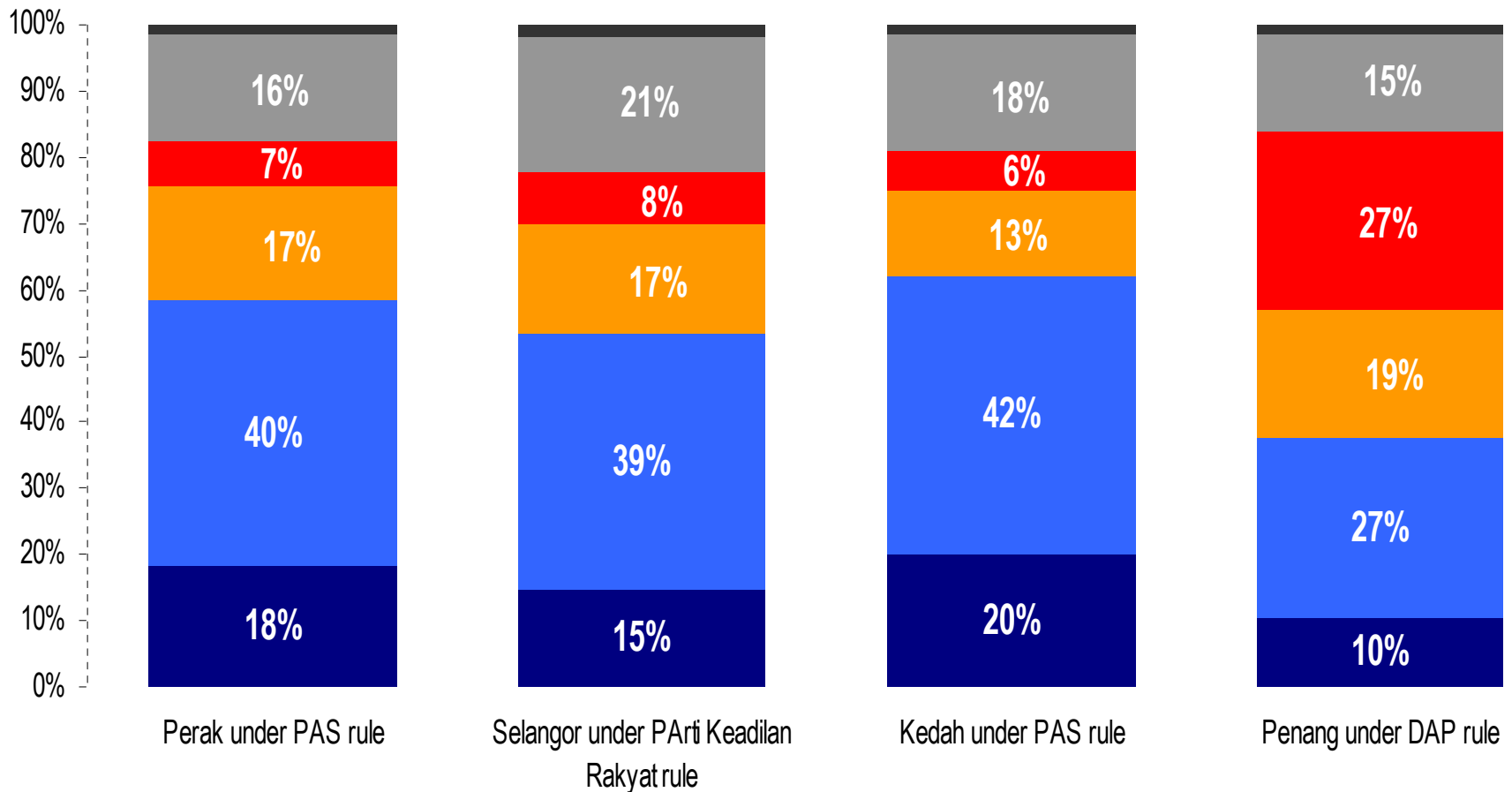
Q23summary.How confident or not confident are you with your state government in...

Very confident Somewhat confident Somewhat not confident Not confident at all Don't know



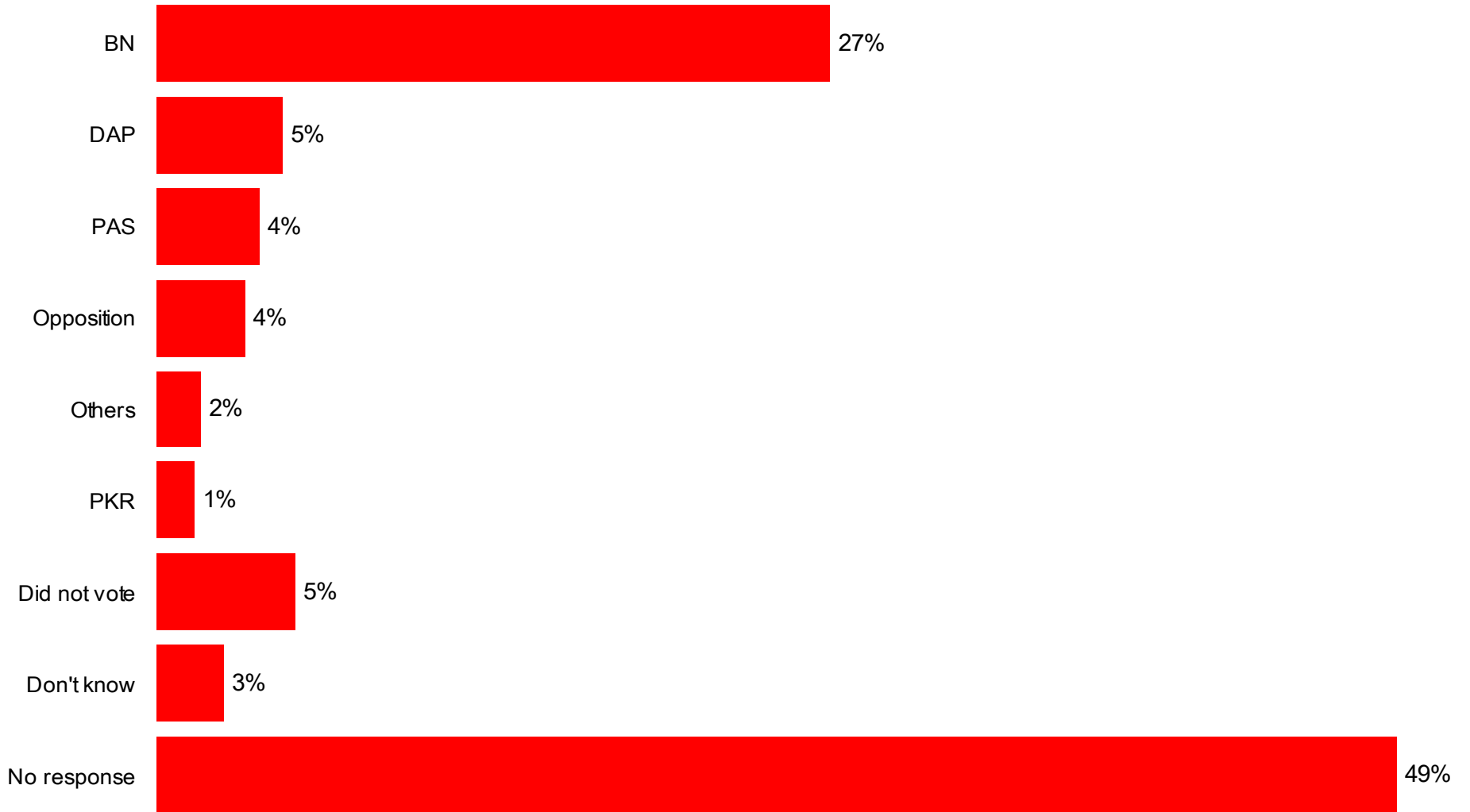
Q24summary.How confident or not confident are you that the rights of the Malays will be protected in..

- Very confident
- Somewhat confident
- Somewhat not confident
- Not confident at all
- Don't know
- No response

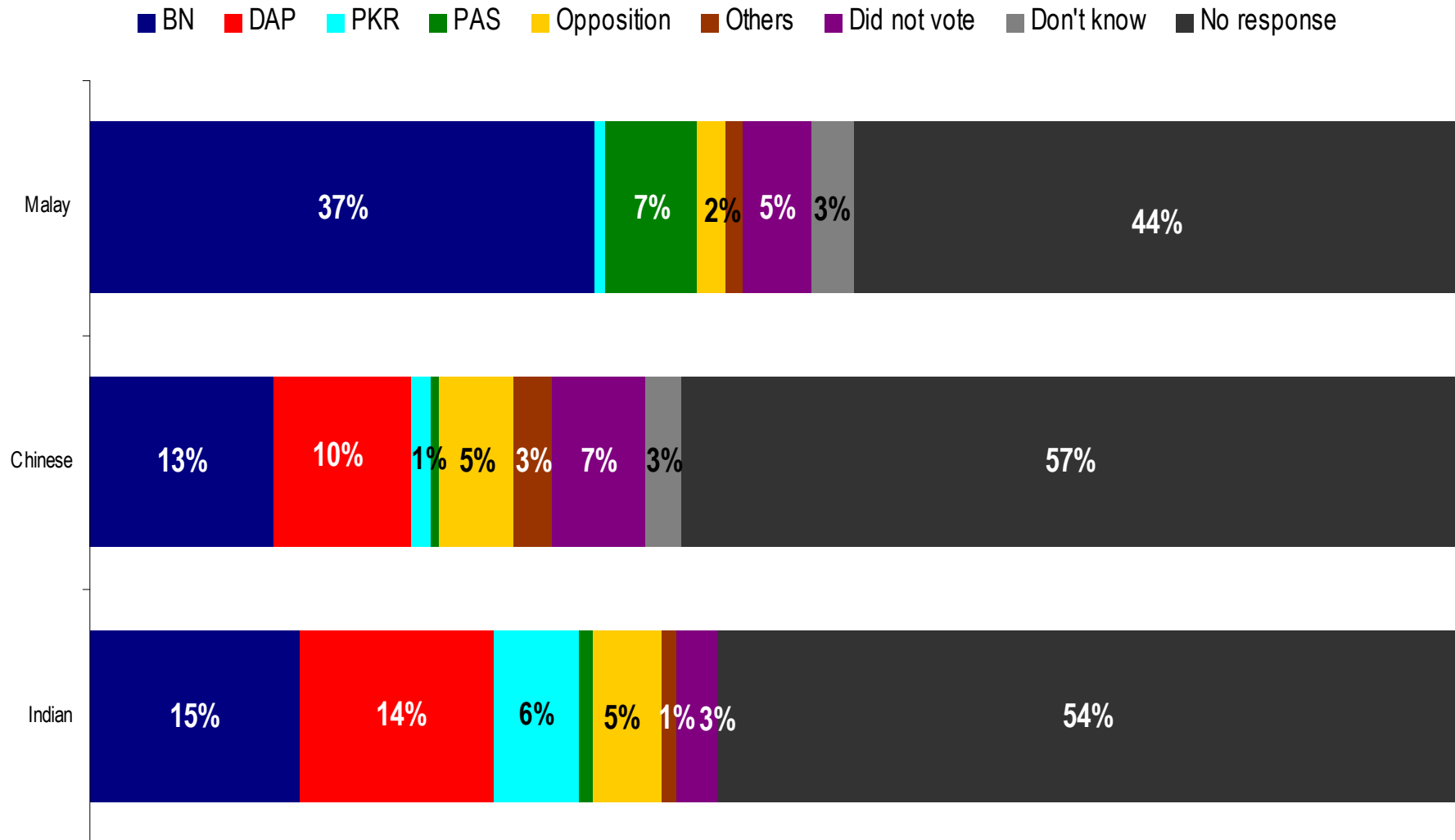


Voting Motivations

Q27. Which party did you vote for in the recent elections?

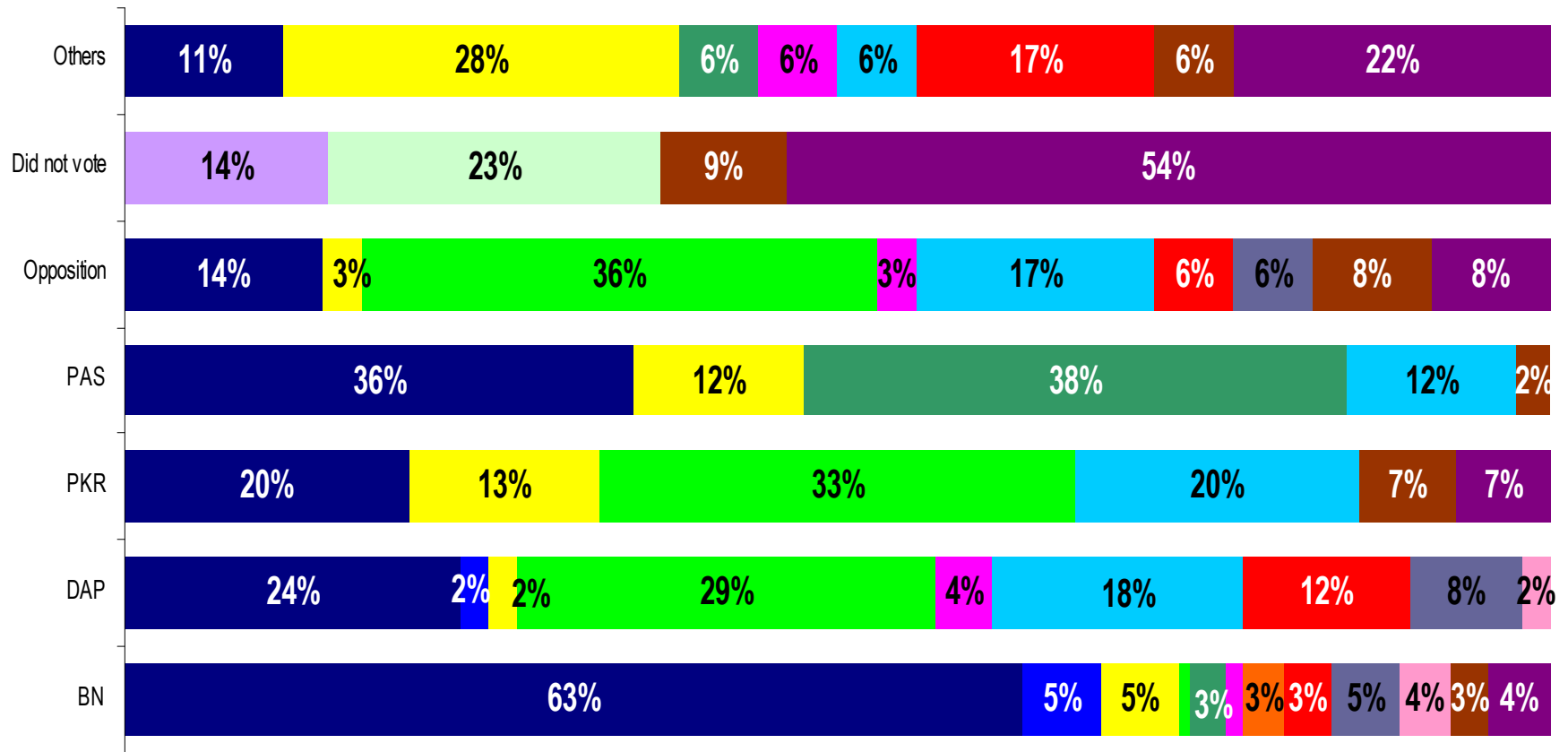


Q27. Which party did you vote for in the recent elections?

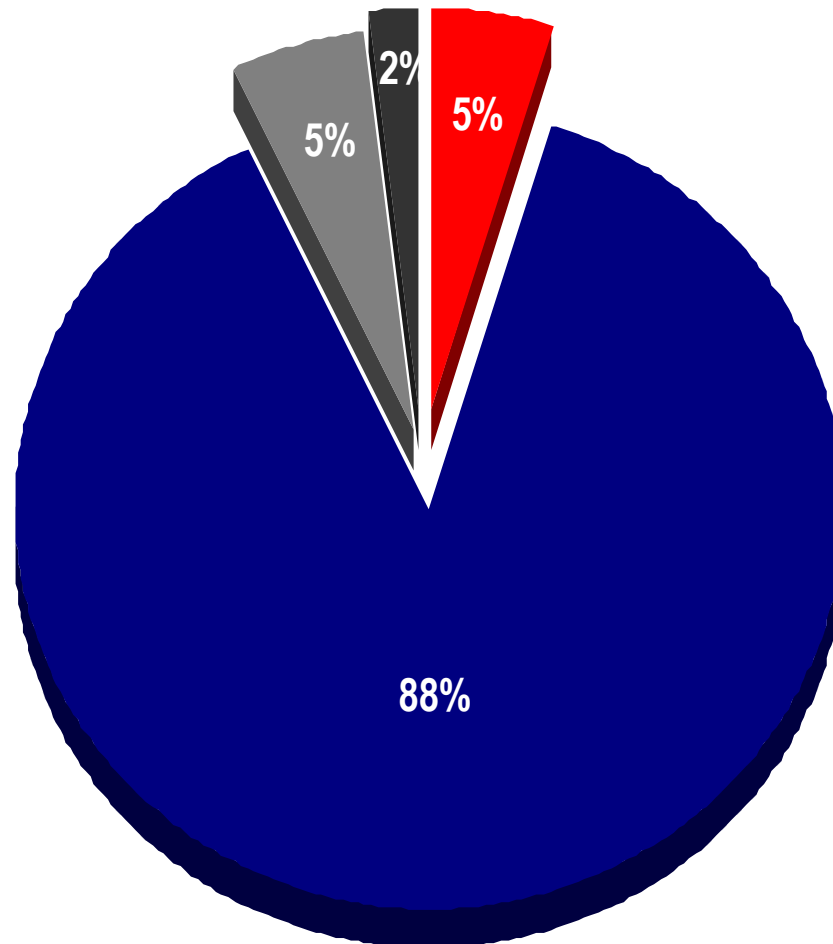


Q27Q28crosstab: Party Chosen vs Reasons for Voting

- Party members/Loyal & confident to the party
- Vote for change
- Dissatisfied with party's performance
- Civil servants
- Influenced by family & friends
- Continuous development
- Preserve Islamic & Malay rights
- Not free during polling day
- Able to fulfill people aspiration
- Others
- The candidate factor
- Fair treatment across race & religion
- Problem with registration
- Stability/Economic stability
- Refuse to answer Q27



Q29. How do you want the federal government to treat these new opposition controlled states? ■ Punish them ■ Cooperate with them ■ Don't know ■ No response



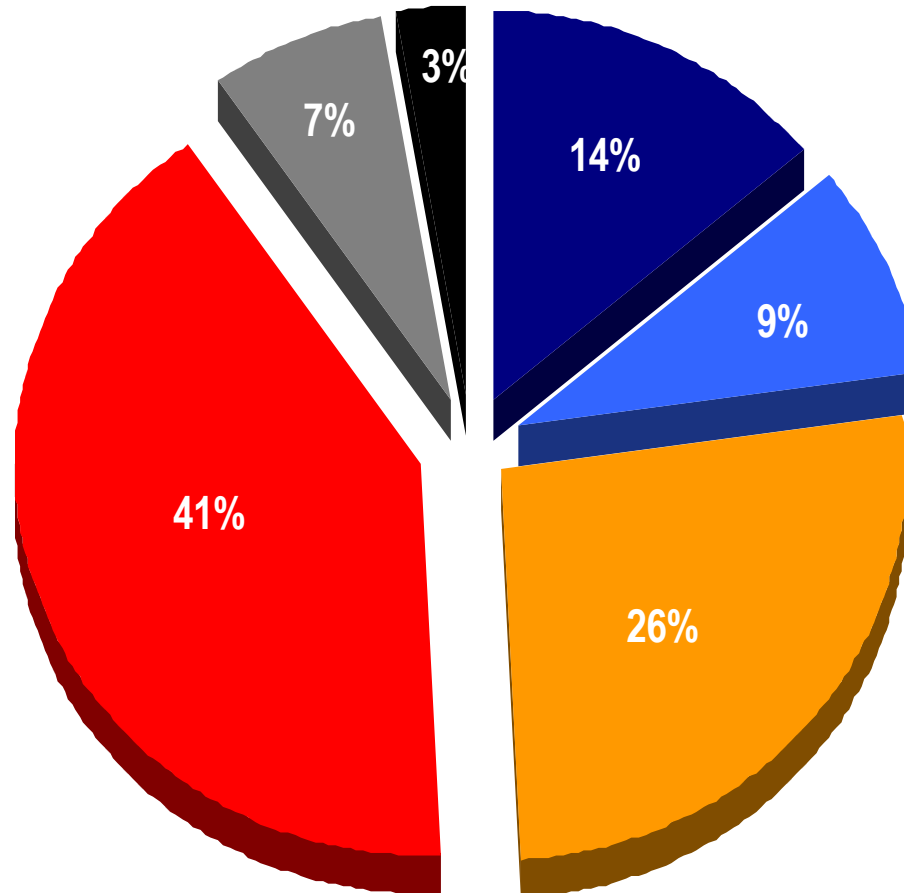
Q29. How do you want the federal government to treat these new opposition controlled states?

■ Punish them
 ■ Cooperate with them
 ■ Don't know
 ■ No response



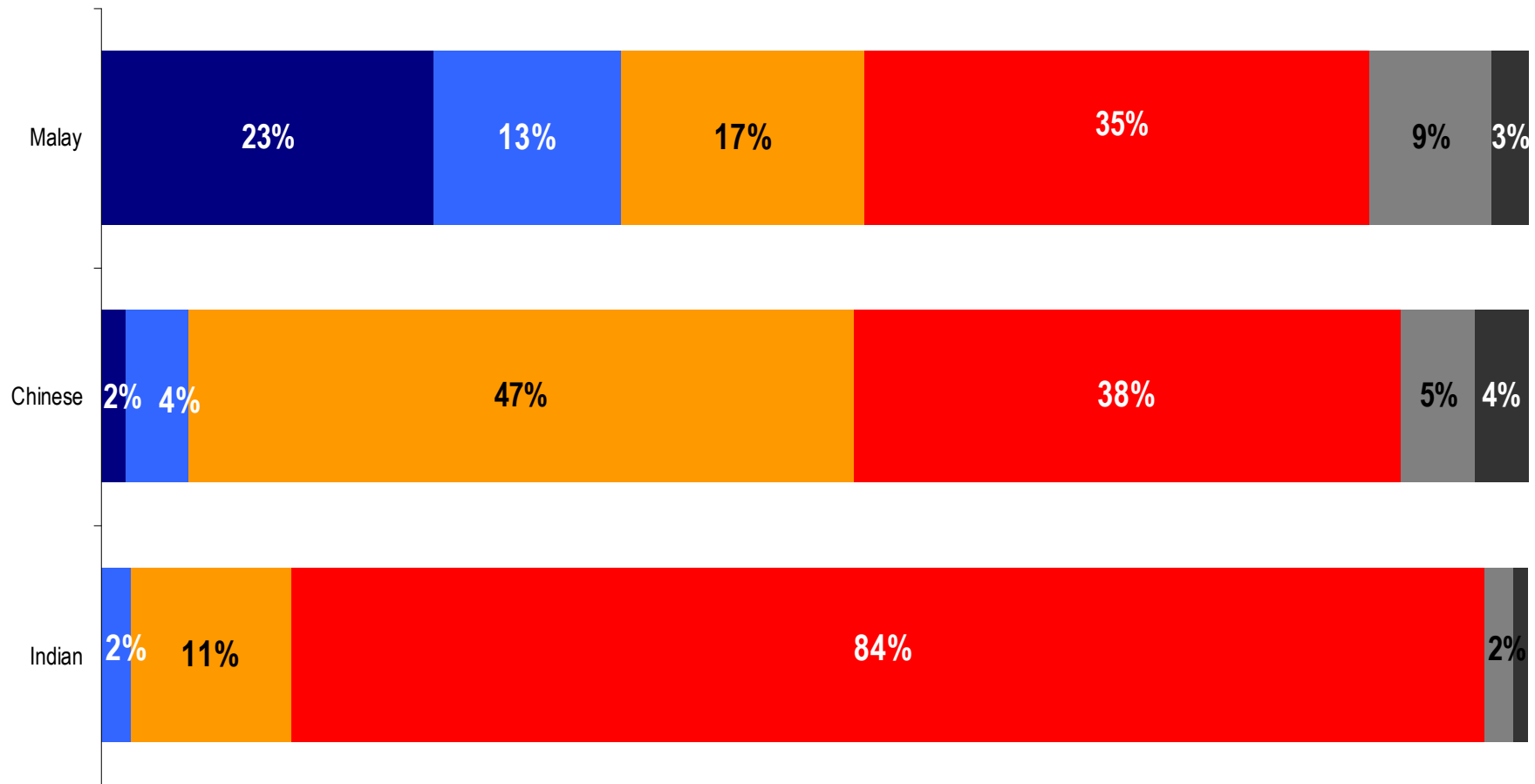
Q30. Some said that Malays who voted DAP were traitors. How strongly do you agree or disagree with the statement?

■ Strongly agree ■ Somewhat agree ■ Somewhat disagree
■ Strongly disagree ■ Don't know ■ No response

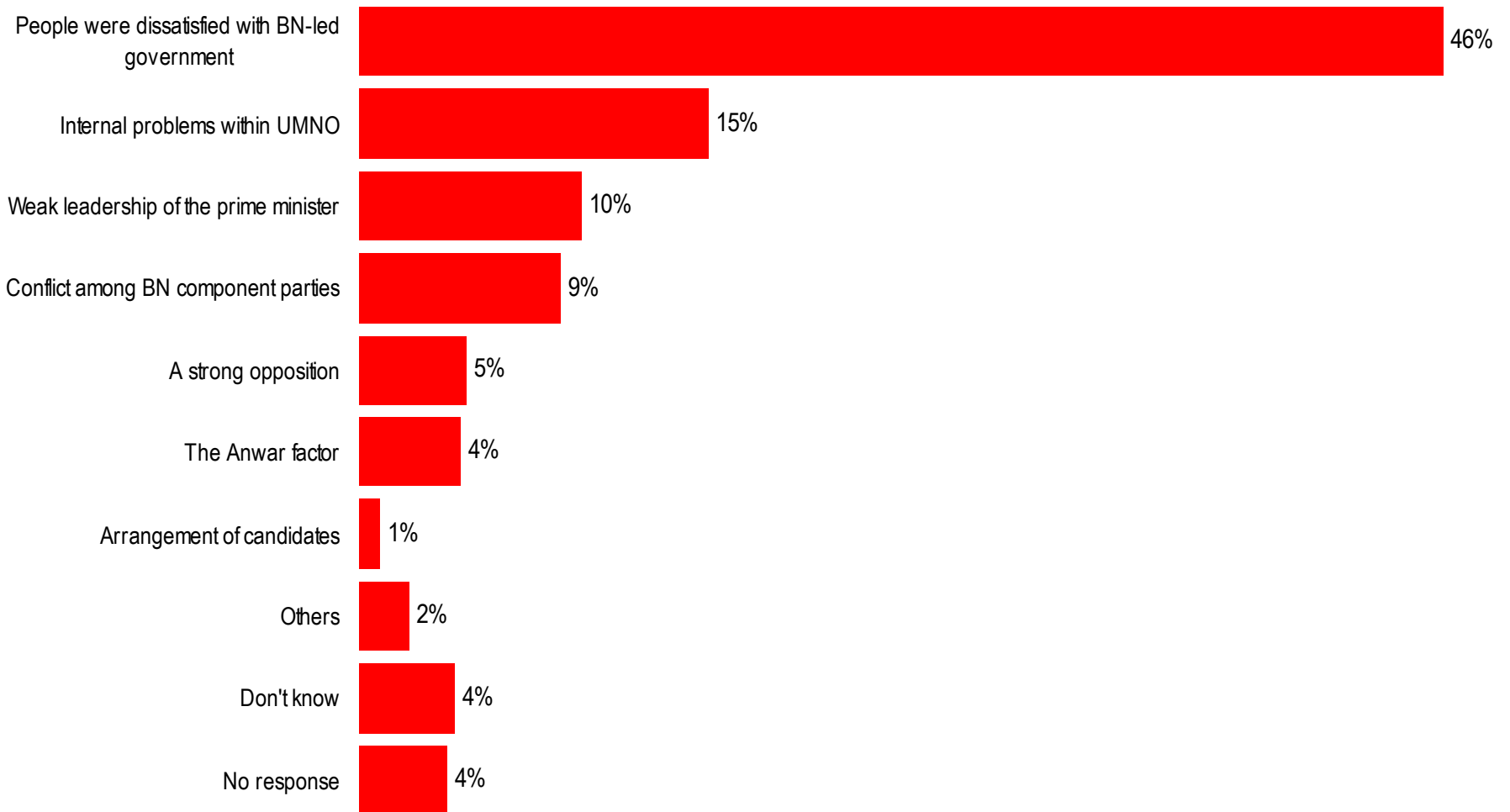


Q30. Some said that Malays who voted DAP were traitors. How strongly do you agree or not agree with the statement?

■ Strongly agree
 ■ Somewhat agree
 ■ Somewhat disagree
 ■ Strongly disagree
 ■ Don't know
 ■ No response

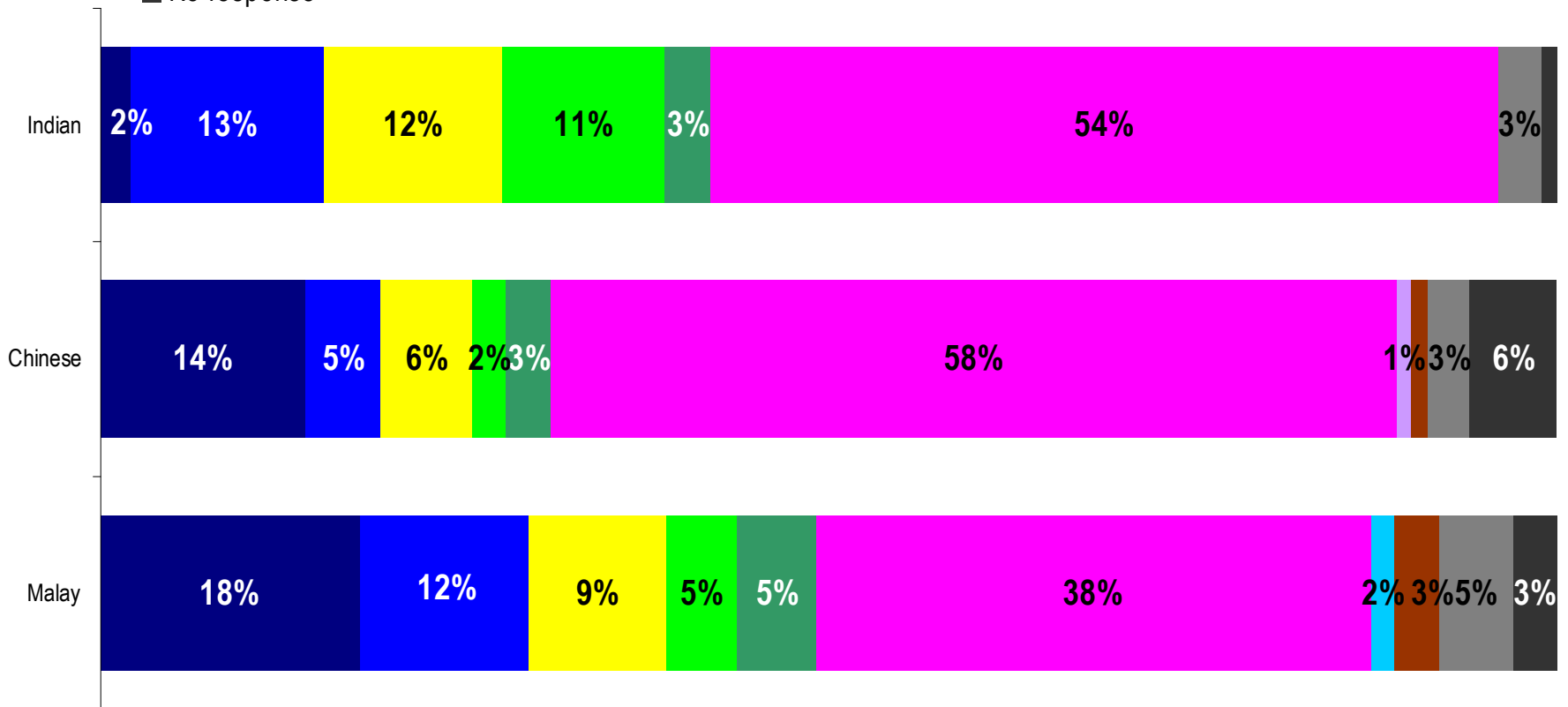


Q31. Barisan Nasional has lost many seats in the recent general elections, what do you think was the main factor that caused them to lose?



Q31. Barisan Nasional has lost many seats in the recent general elections, what do you think is the main factor that caused them to lose?

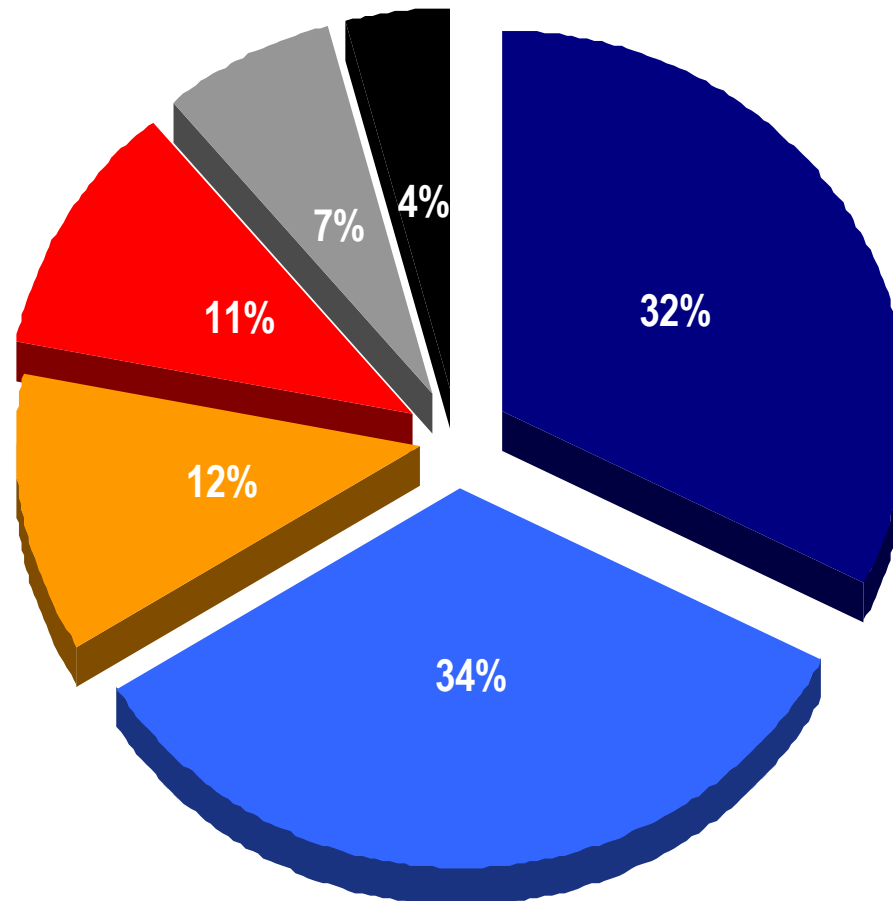
- Internal problems within UMNO
- Conflict among BN component parties
- The Anwar factor
- Arrangement of candidates
- Others
- No response
- Weak leadership of the prime minister
- A strong opposition
- People were dissatisfied with BN-led government
- Current economic depression
- Don't know



Outlook on Political Parties

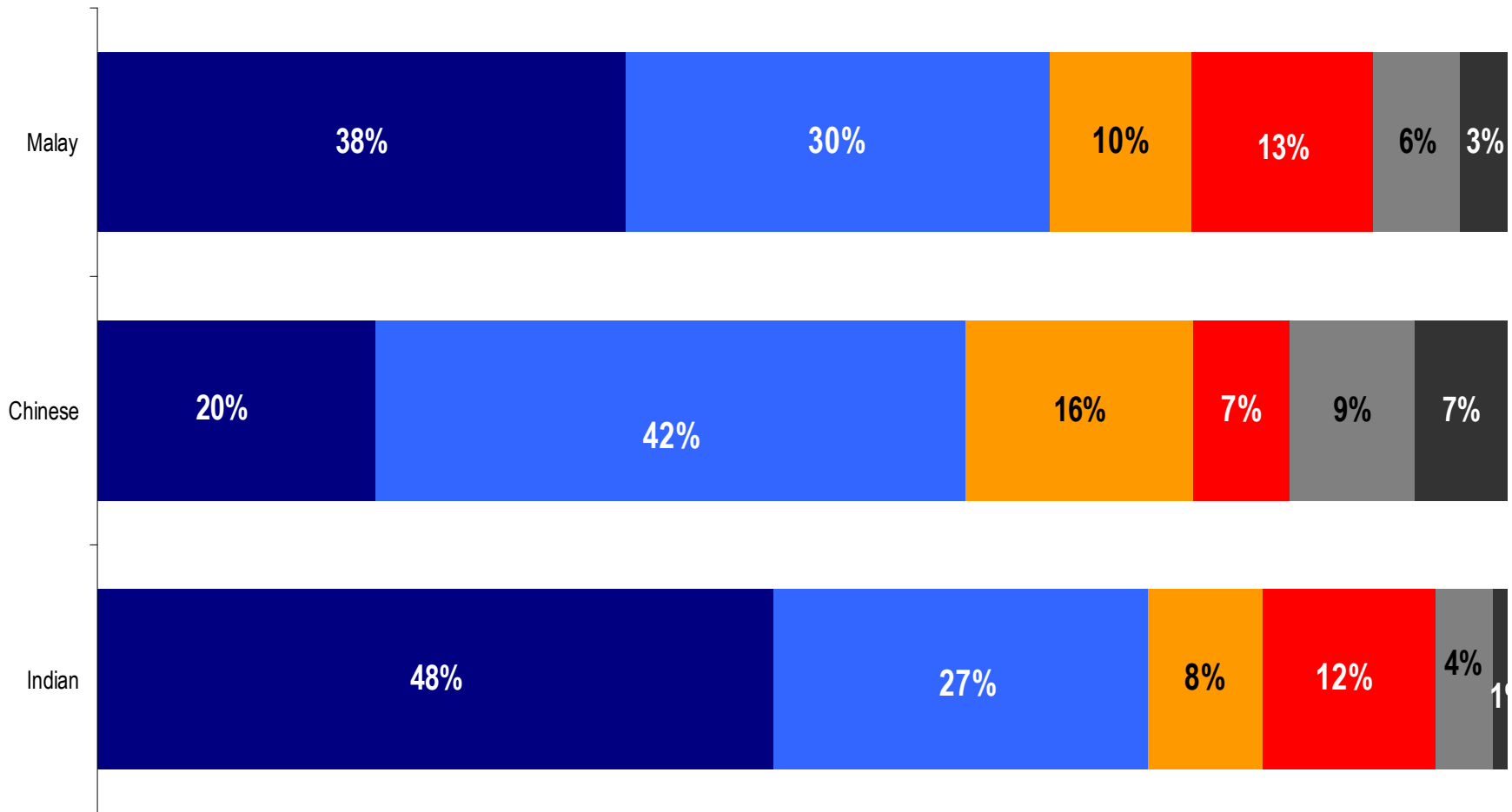
Q33. How strongly do you agree or disagree for BN component parties, such as UMNO, MCA, MIC etc. to become a party in the future?

- Strongly agree
- Somewhat agree
- Somewhat disagree
- Strongly disagree
- Don't know
- No response



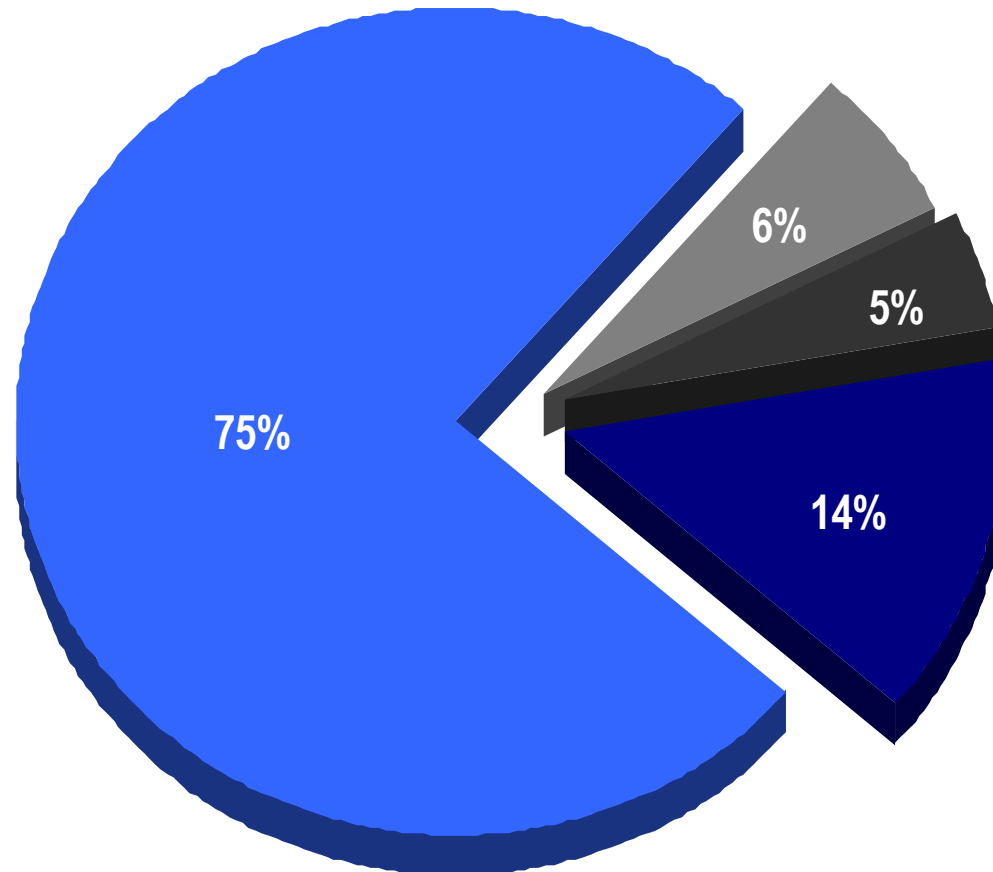
Q33. How strongly do you agree or disagree for BN component parties, such as UMNO, MCA, MIC etc. to become a party in the future?

■ Strongly agree
 ■ Somewhat agree
 ■ Somewhat disagree
 ■ Strongly disagree
 ■ Don't know
 ■ No response



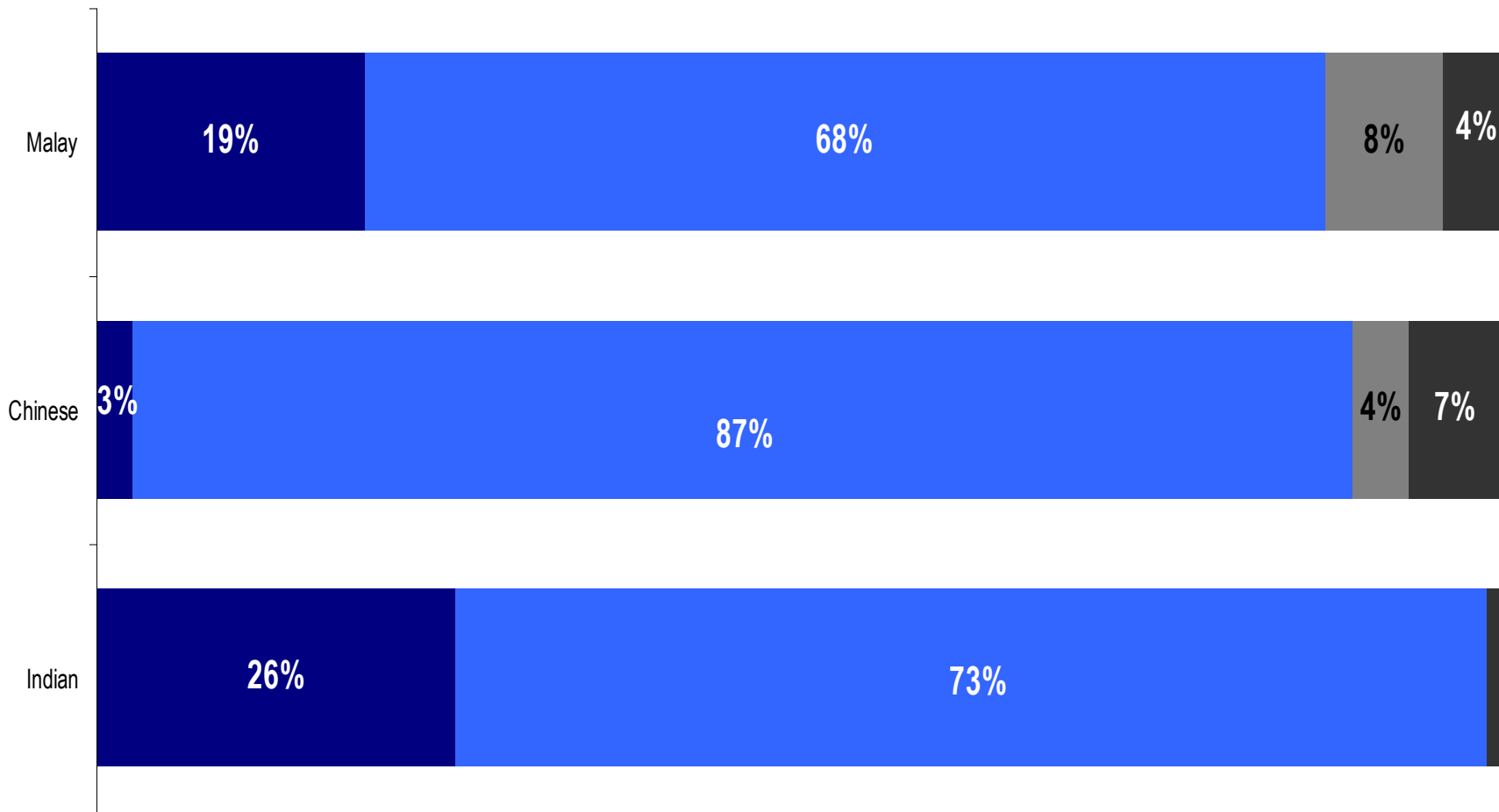
Q34. What do you want to see from BN after the March 8th elections?

- Tightening their control on the media and opposition movement
- Loosen the control on media and opposition movement
- Don't know
- No response



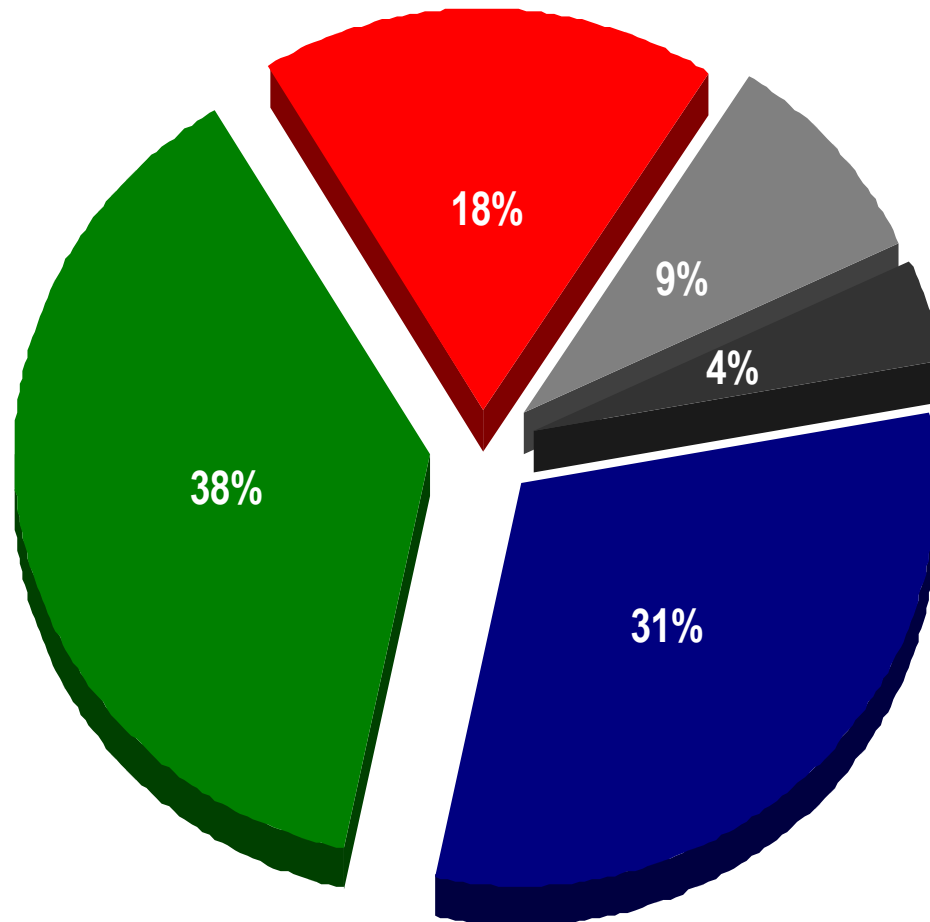
Q34. What do you want to see from BN after the March 8th elections?

■ Tightening their control on the media and opposition movement
 ■ Loosen the control on media and opposition movement
■ Don't know ■ No response



Q35. What do you think of the current position of the opposition in the parliament?

- There is room for improvement
- It is enough
- The opposition is too strong
- Don't know
- No response



Q35. What do you think of the current position of the opposition in the parliament?

■ There is room for improvement ■ It is enough ■ The opposition is too strong ■ Don't know ■ No response

