

Covid-19 Monitor: Knowledge, Attitudes, Practices, and Impacts of Covid-19 Wave 3



Kingdom of the Netherlands

Today

- Methodology
- Results
- Questions and answers

Note: Please keep the contents of this presentation and the report you will receive within government and international organization circles for the time being. The contents will eventually be made public, but are aimed at supporting government and donor decision making.

Methodology

- Data was collected using the random digit dialing method from May 14-May 17, via cell phone. Overall, 1053 respondents were interviewed; the minimum response rate was 38.6%;
- Data are representative of the adult population of Georgia, excluding Abkhazia and South Ossetia. The theoretical margin of error does not exceed 3.0%;
- Interviews were conducted in Georgian, Armenian, Azerbaijani, and Russian languages;
- Results are weighted using demographic information from the 2014 Georgian National Census adjusting on respondents' gender, age, ethnic identity, education, and residence.

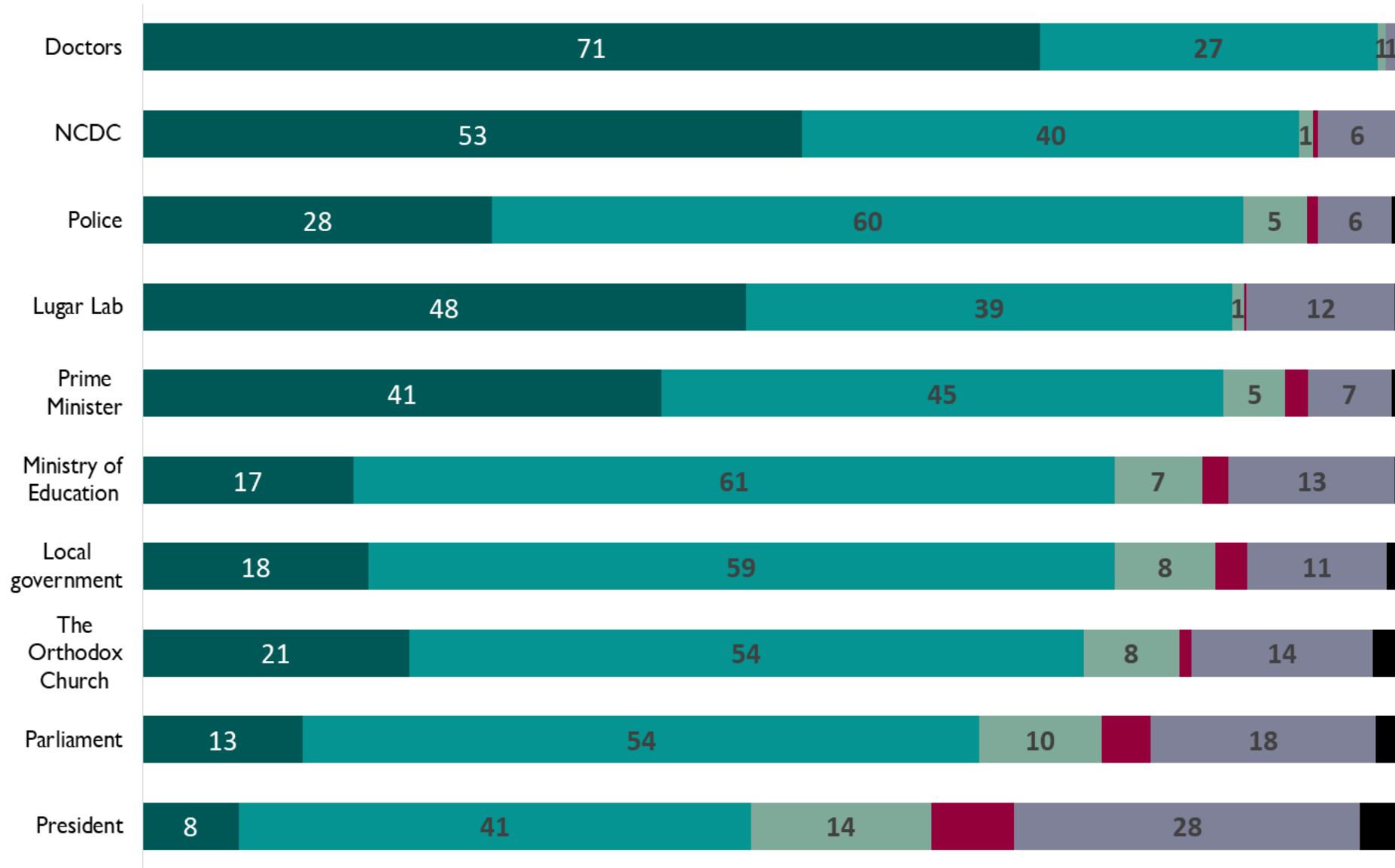
Attitudes towards institutional response and policy approval

Institutional performance (%)

Very well Well Badly Very badly Don't know Refuse to answer

Generally, performance assessments remain high.

The only substantively important change is that the Church's approval rating has improved by 10 percentage points since the first wave of the survey, 3 weeks ago.



Approval of different policies (%)

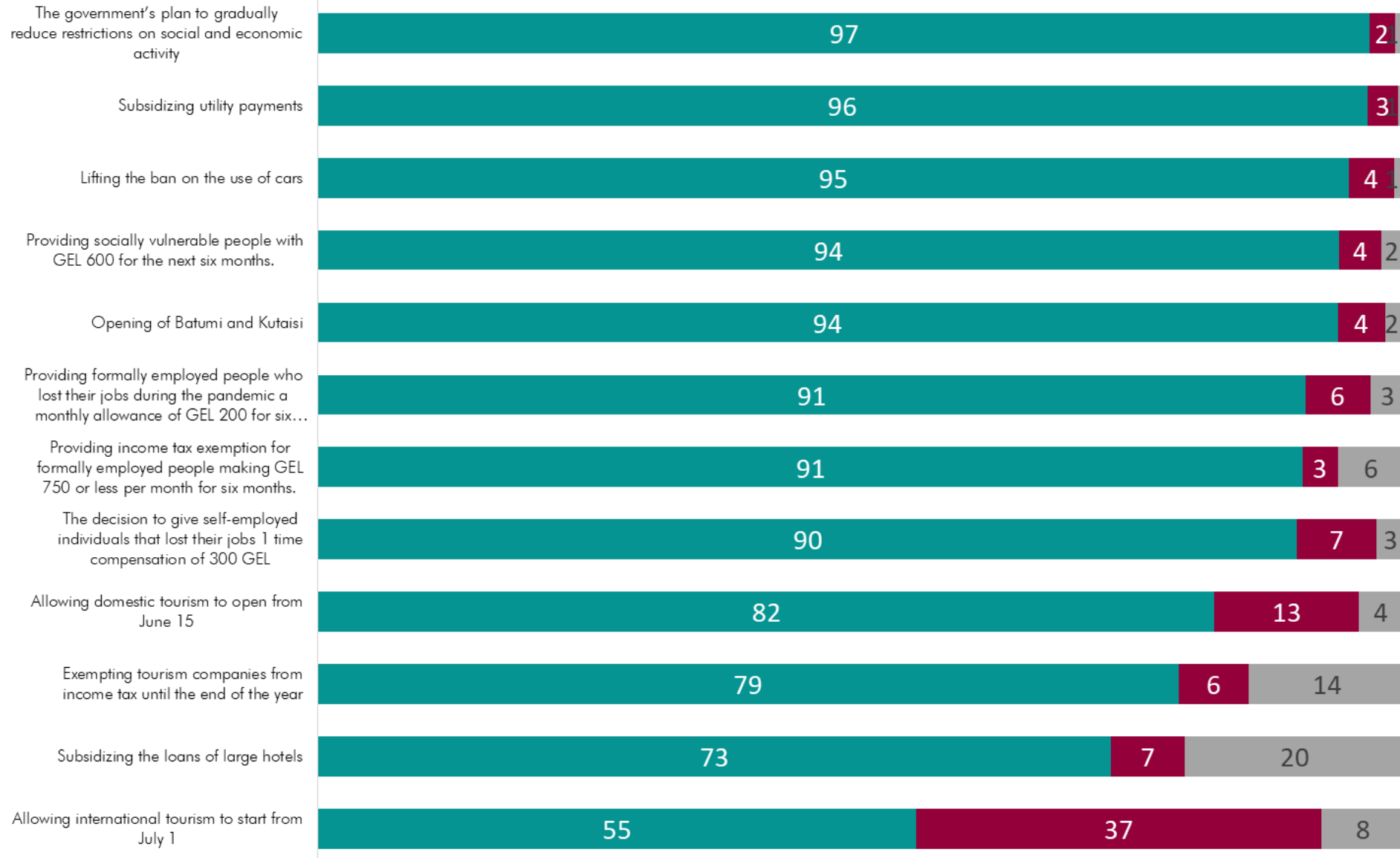
■ Approve

■ Disapprove

■ DK

Women and young people are more likely to oppose the opening up of international tourism.

A third of the public has benefited from debt relief (34%) and a large majority (89%) from subsidized utility payments.



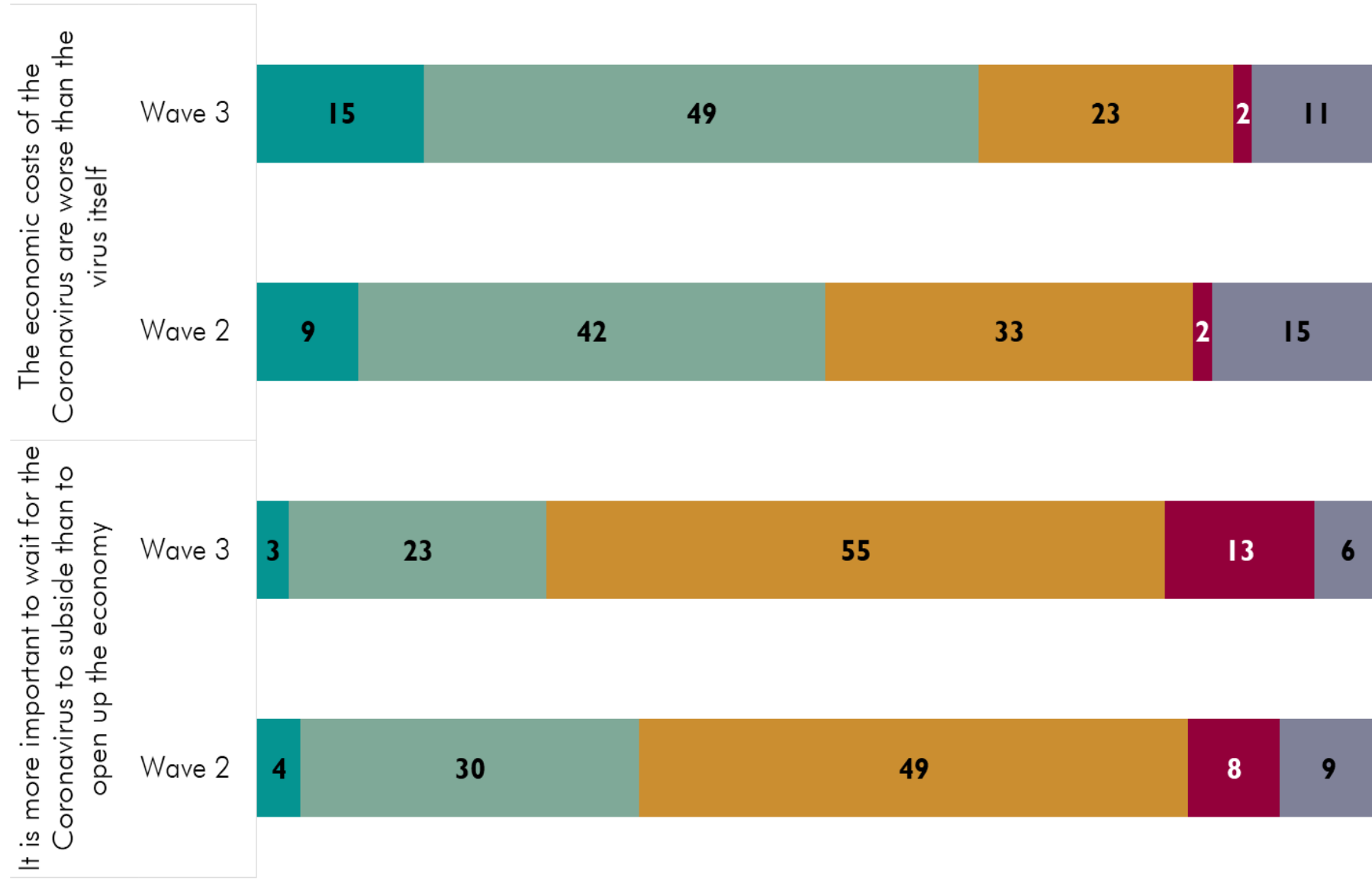
**Balancing the economy and
controlling the spread of the virus**

Opening the economy versus letting the virus subside(%)

Strongly agree Agree Disagree Strongly disagree DK

People tend to think opening up the economy needs to be more important than letting the virus subside.

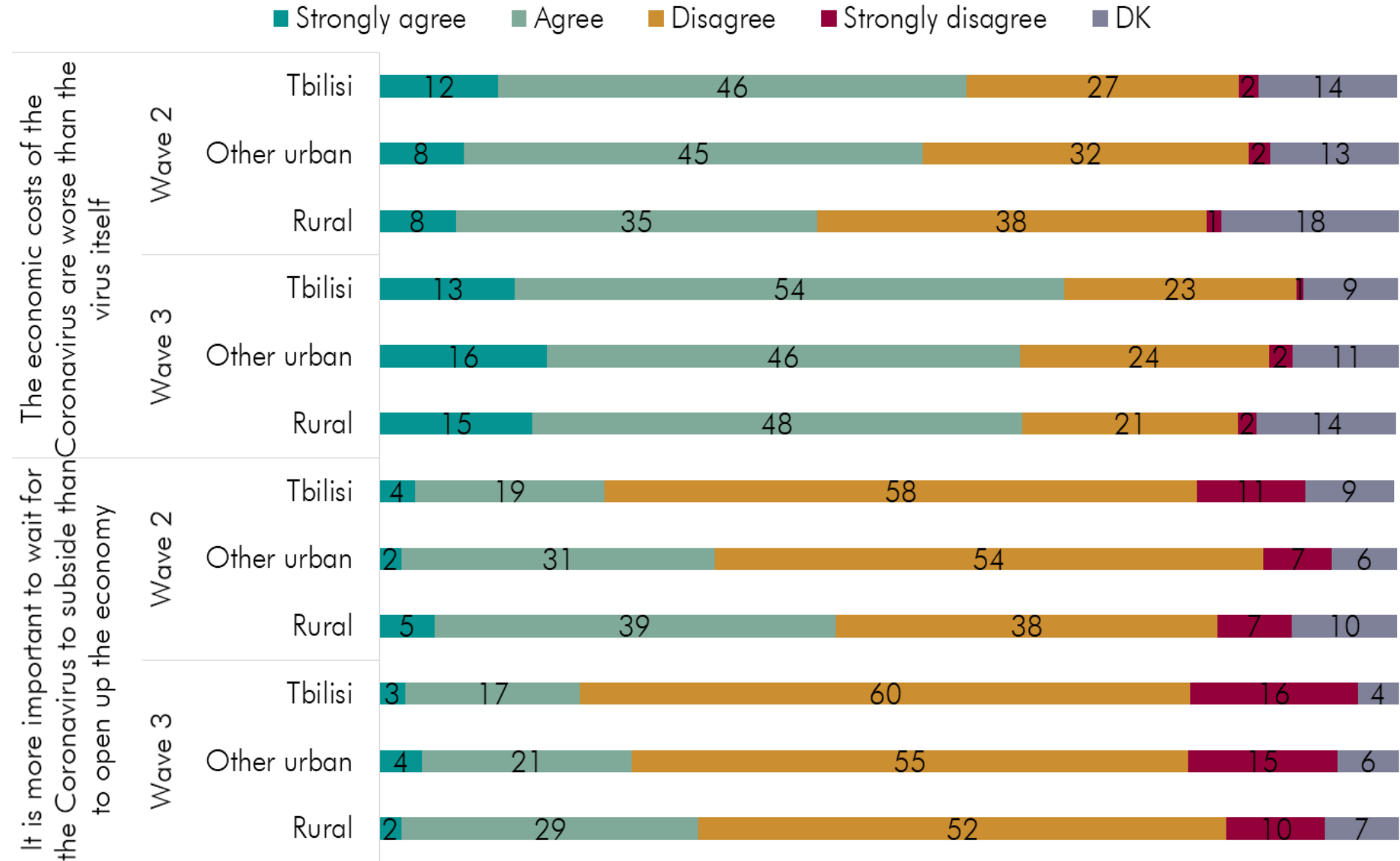
This sentiment is on the rise.



Attitudes towards the economy and virus by settlement type(%)

People in Tbilisi are more likely to favor opening up the economy.

Questions about how long people believe the crisis will last and how long they are willing to wait gave similar answers to last week.

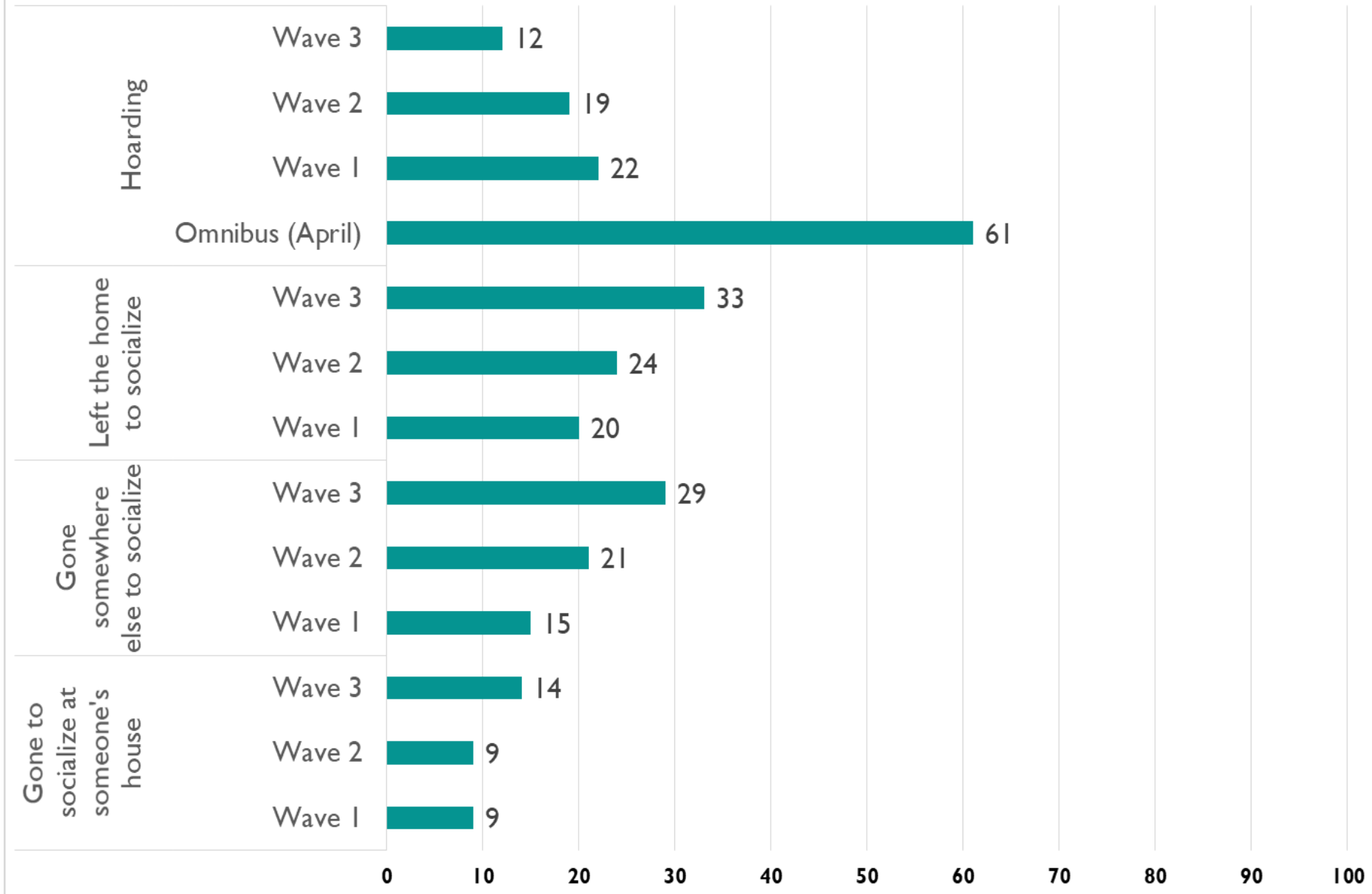


Practices

Share of the public engaged in hoarding and socializing (%)

Men and young people remain more likely than women to have gone out to socialize.

A thirteen percentage point rise in the number of people leaving the house to socialize suggests approximately 400,000 additional adults are out socializing.



Agriculture



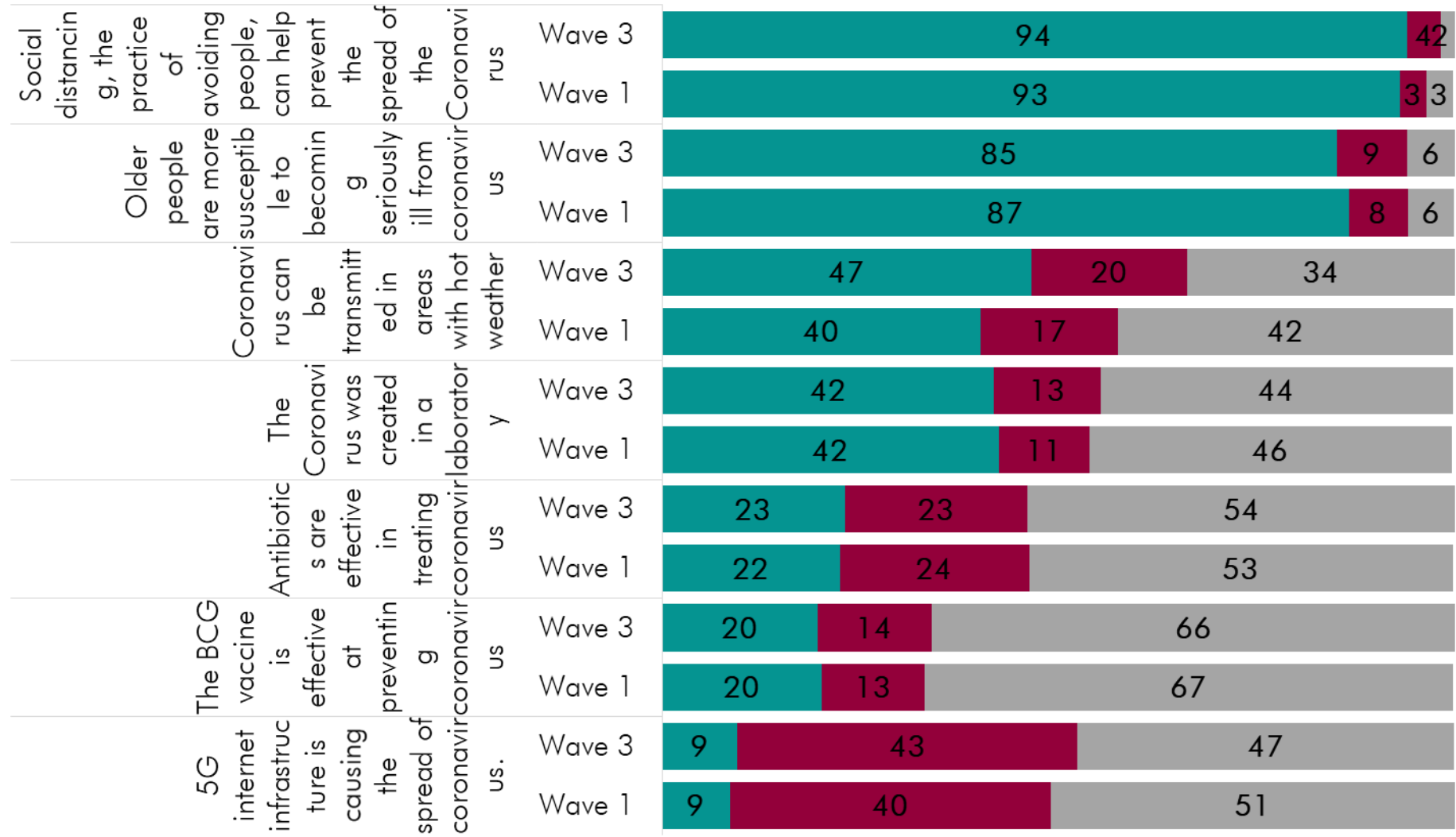
- Most farmers report they've been able to engage in normal activities during the last month.
- Those who have had interruptions in activity report they stem from the restrictions on movement.
- In terms of expectations for the harvest 27% think it will be better than last year, 34% the same, 12% worse, and 27% are uncertain.

Information security

Please tell me whether you think [the following statements] are true or false. (%)

Data is generally similar since the first wave of data collection when it comes to knowledge of the Coronavirus.

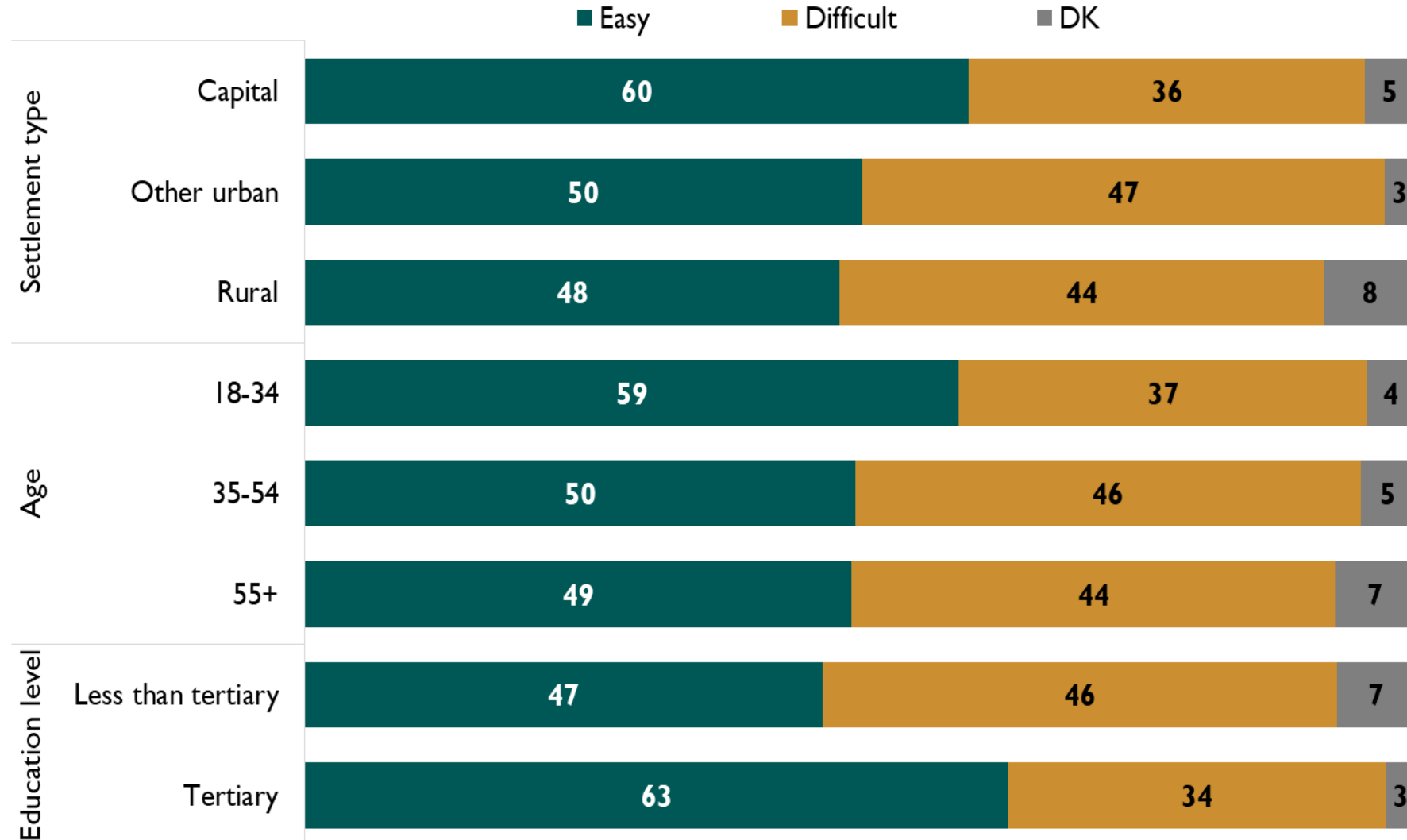
Knowledge has improved slightly in terms of whether or not the Coronavirus can be transmitted in hot climates



When you get news and information about the coronavirus outbreak in Georgia, do you generally find it [easy or difficult to determine what is true]? (%)

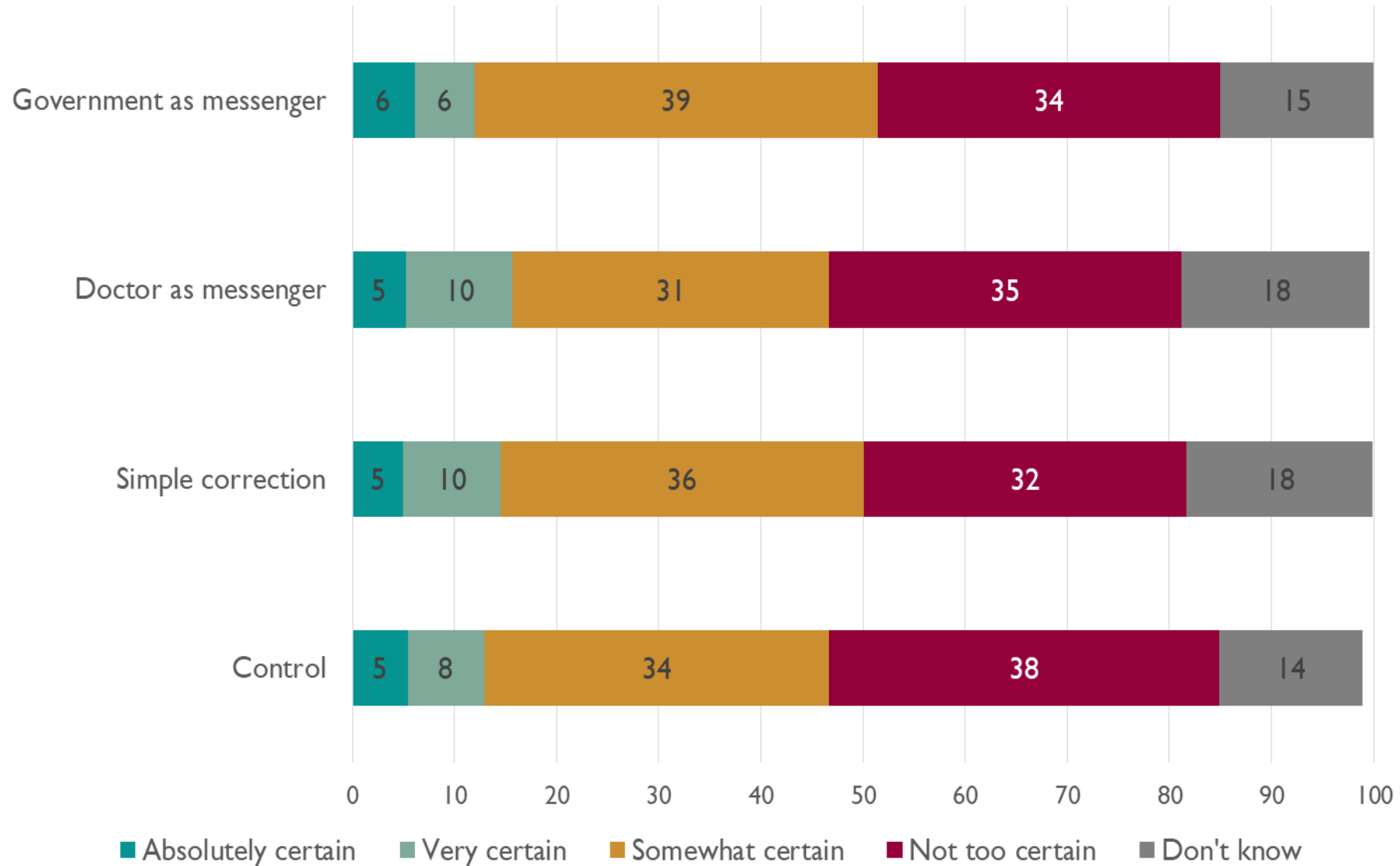
The public is generally split in terms of whether they think it is easy or difficult to tell whether the news is true;

People who think that the news is easy to understand tend to have worse knowledge of the facts shown on the previous slide.



How certain would you say you are in the fact that Covid-19 is not deadlier than the seasonal flu? (%)

An experiment testing whether government, doctors, or a simple information correction changes attitudes more effectively shows no effect;



Conclusions

Institutional performance and prevention measures

- Approval of most institutions remains high;
- The church has experienced a rebound in terms of performance assessment.
- Policy approval generally remains high, with the exception of re-opening for international tourism;
 - Women and young people are less likely to support this policy.
- Most of the public has benefited from the utility subsidies and a third from debt relief measures.

Balancing the economy and controlling the spread of the virus

- The public tends towards favoring opening the economy rather than continuing prevention measures;
- This sentiment is increasingly common, more intense in degree, and spreading more widely outside Tbilisi.

Practices

- A third of the public reports they have socialized outside the home in the week prior to the survey;
- Approximately 400,000 more adults have gone out to socialize than two weeks prior to this survey;
- Men and young people are more likely than women and older people to leave the house to socialize;
- Hoarding behavior has declined.

Agriculture

- Most farmers report they have been able to perform normal agricultural activities during the last month;
- Movement restrictions were the primary barrier among those that experienced issues.

Information security

- Misinformed beliefs are persistent, with little change over the last two weeks;
- Most of the public has encountered information they think is fake, with only 27% reporting they have not.
- A test of whether different actors are more effective at correcting misinformation shows no effect.

Thank you for your time.
Questions?

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