

Armenia National Voter Study

August 2006



International Republican Institute,
Baltic Surveys Ltd. / The Gallup Organization,
Armenian Sociological Association

with funding from the
United States Agency for International Development



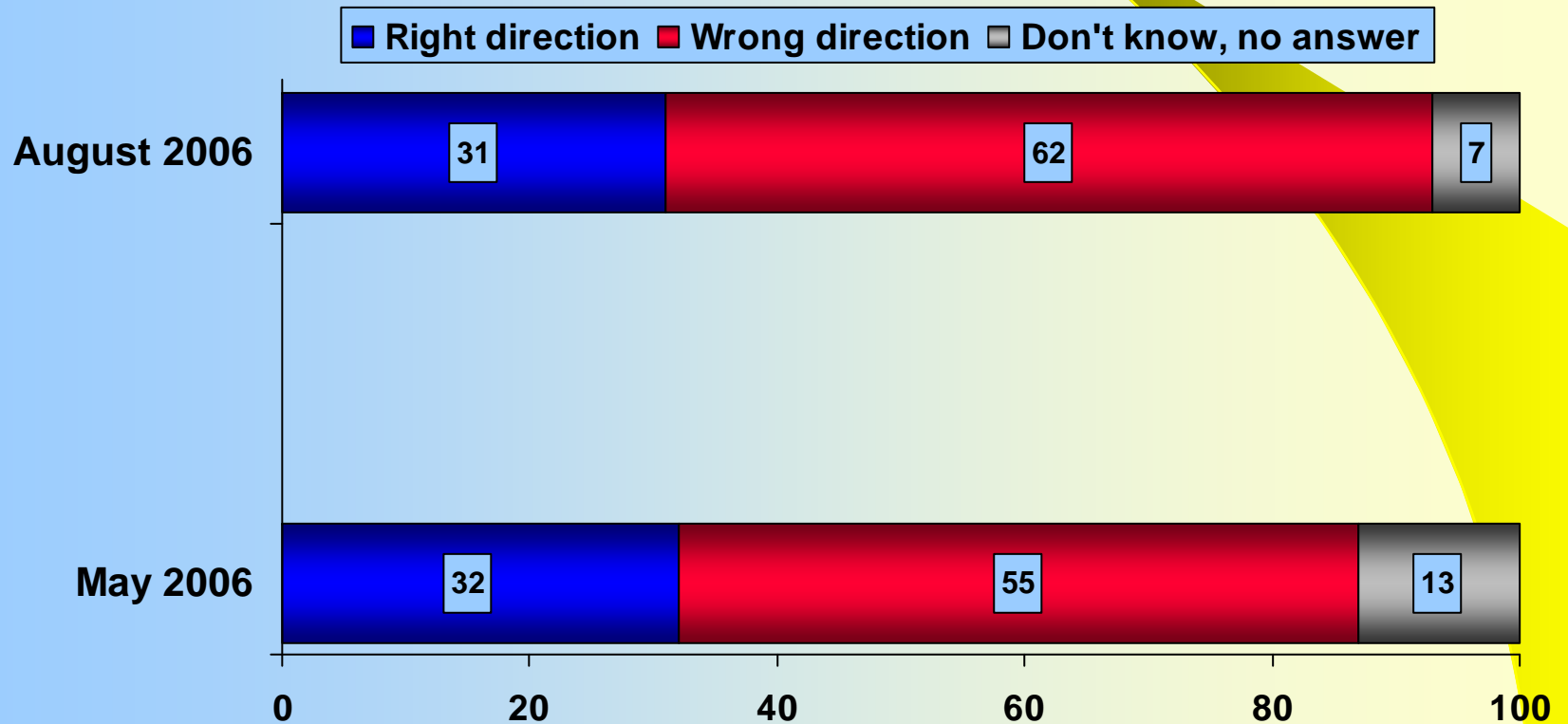
INFORMATION ABOUT THE SURVEY

- This national representative survey was conducted from July 31 to August 10, 2006.
- 1,200 Armenian residents (voters) aged 18 years and over were interviewed face-to-face. The margin of error does not exceed 3 percent.
- The survey was carried out on behalf of IRI.
- It was funded by the United States Agency for International Development. The study was designed, coordinated and analyzed by Baltic Surveys/The Gallup Organization (Dr. R. Alisauskiene).
- The fieldwork was carried out by the Armenian Sociological Association (ASA).

MOOD OF THE COUNTRY

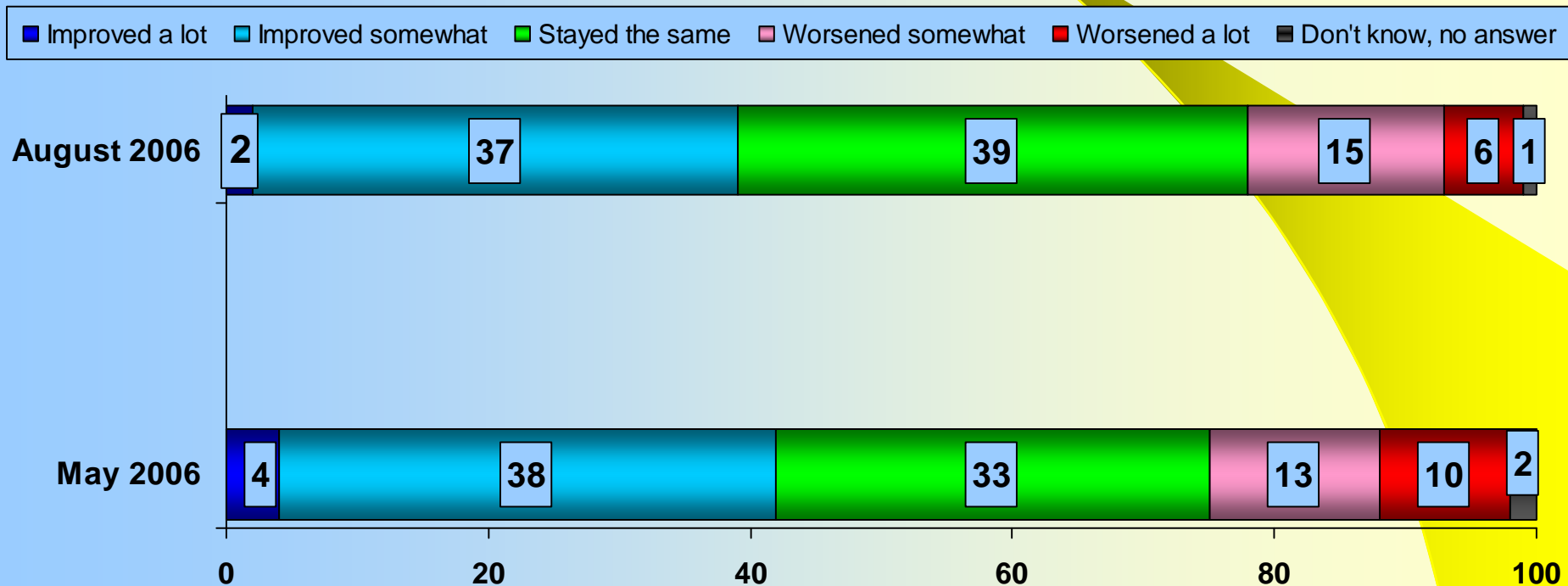
Mood of the country: 62 percent of Armenians think that the country is on the wrong track, while 31 percent think that the country is going in the right direction

Do you think that things in Armenia are going in the....



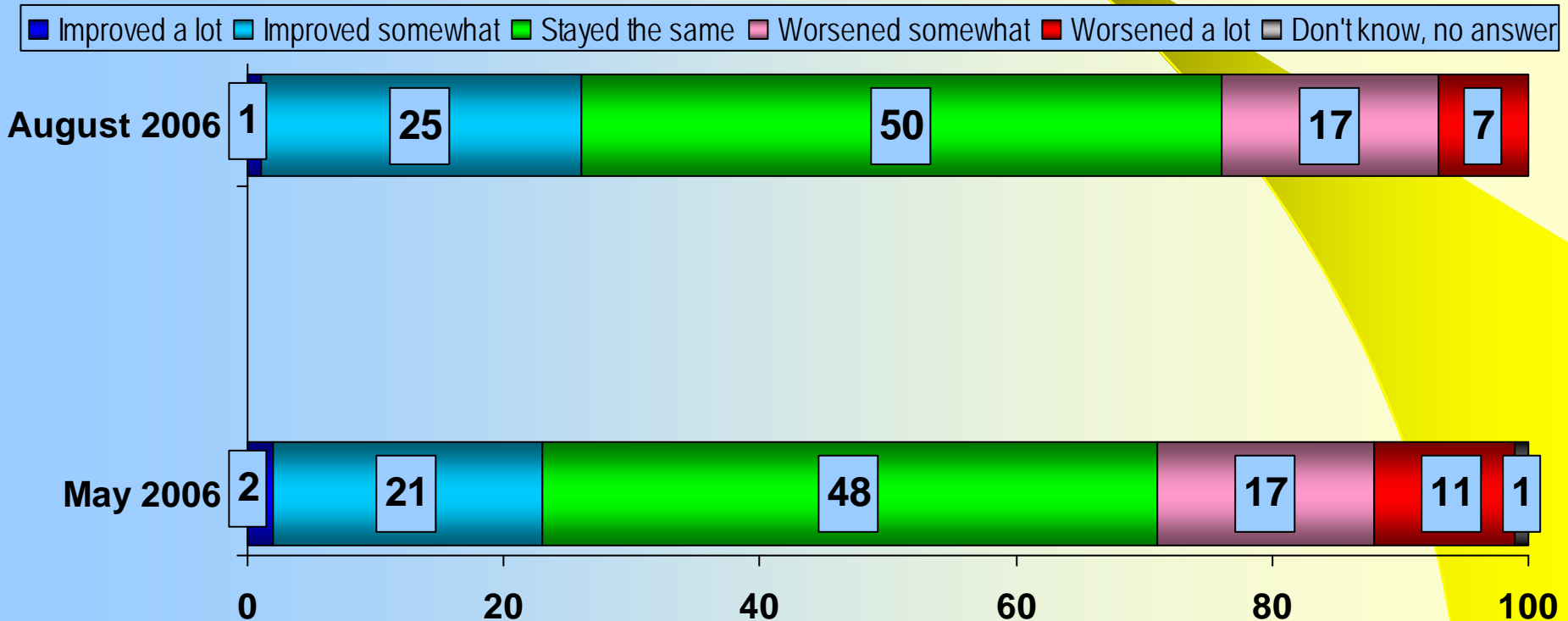
Mood of the country: 39 percent of Armenians see improvement in the country's economy, while 21 percent think it is declining

Over the last 12 months, the economic situation in Armenia has ...



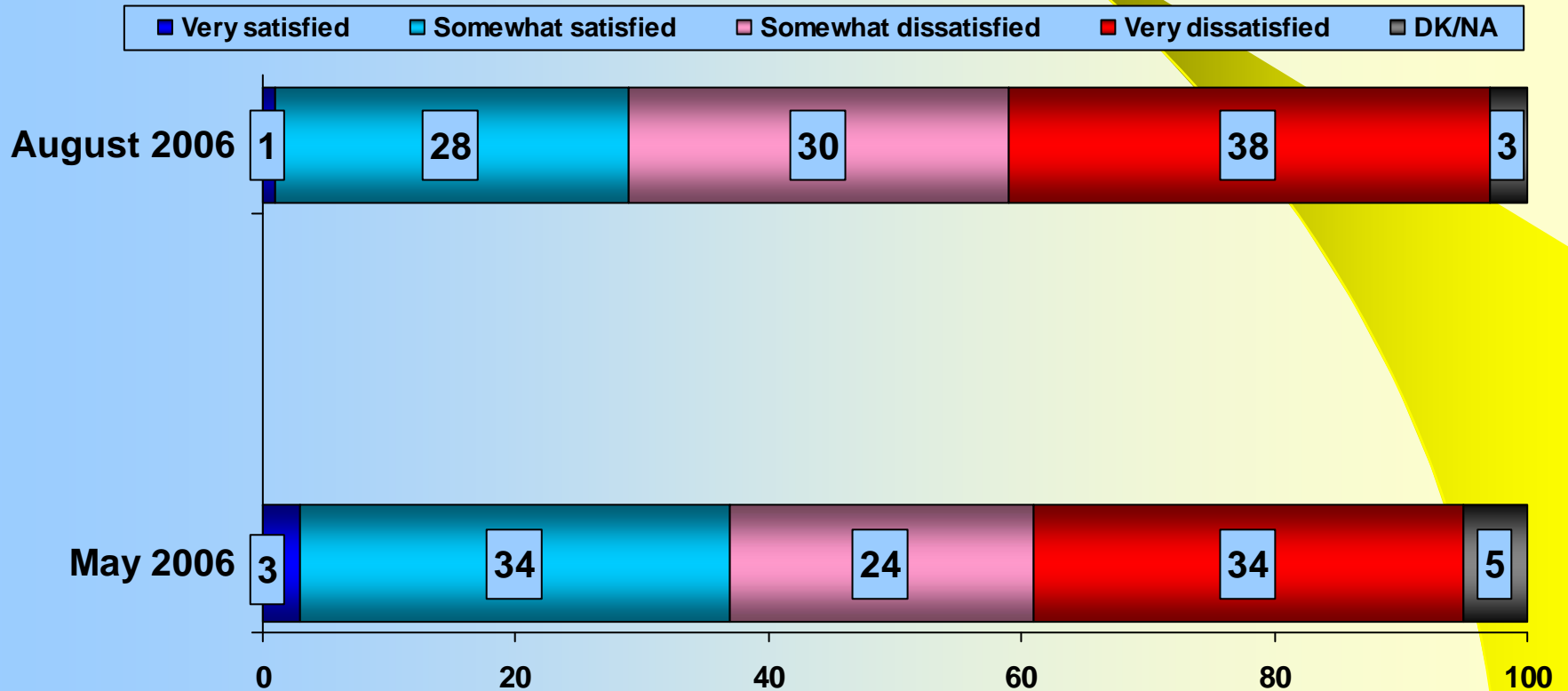
Mood of the country: 26 percent of Armenians say their household's financial situation has improved, while 24 percent say it has declined

Over the last 12 months, the financial situation of your household has...



Mood of the country: 29 percent of Armenians are satisfied with the development of democracy, while 68 percent are not

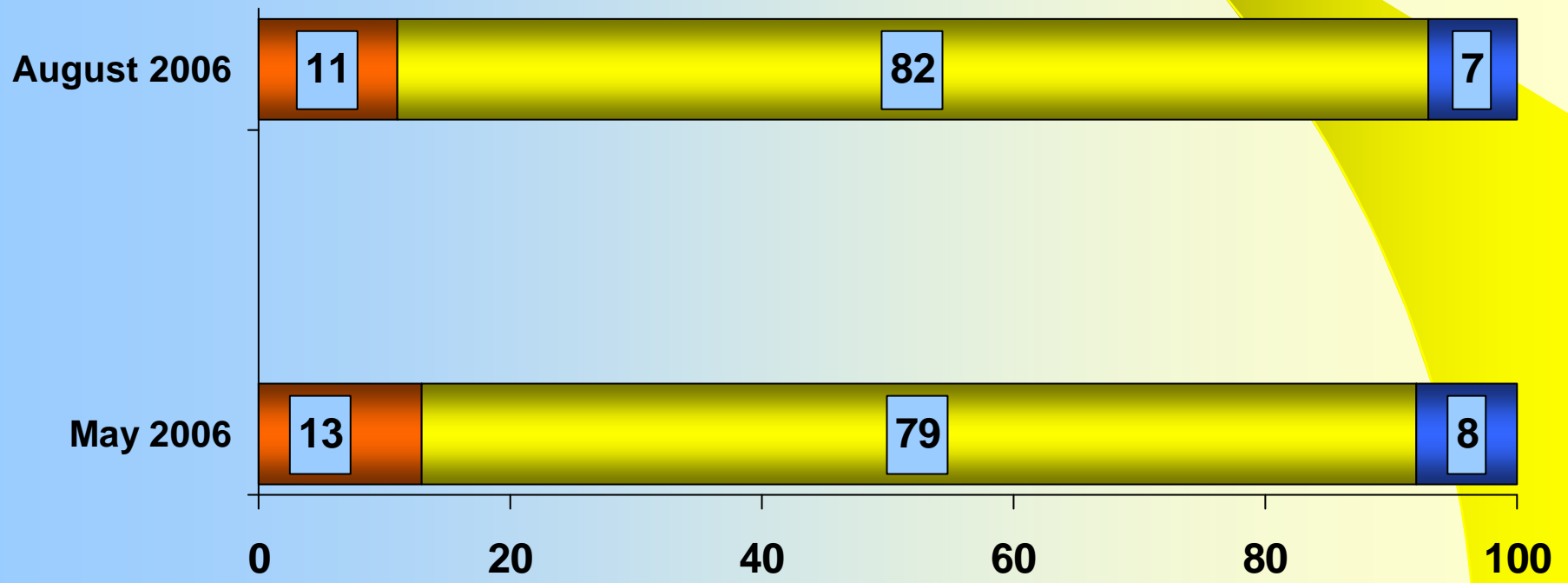
How satisfied are you with the way democracy is developing in Armenia?



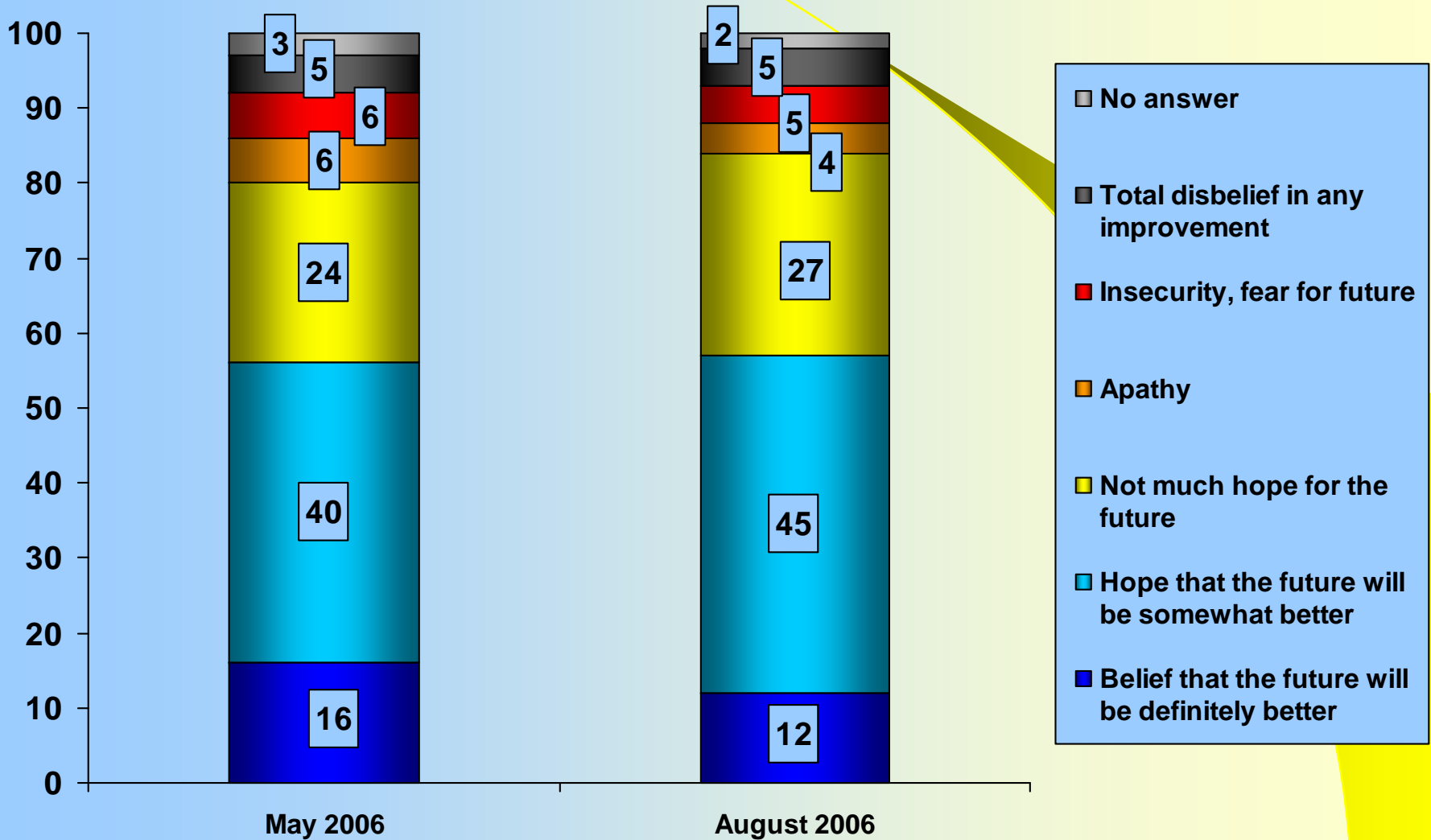
Mood of the country: An overall majority of Armenians think that it will take a long time to improve things in their country

Do you believe that things will get better in a short time, or will it take a long time for things to get better in the country?

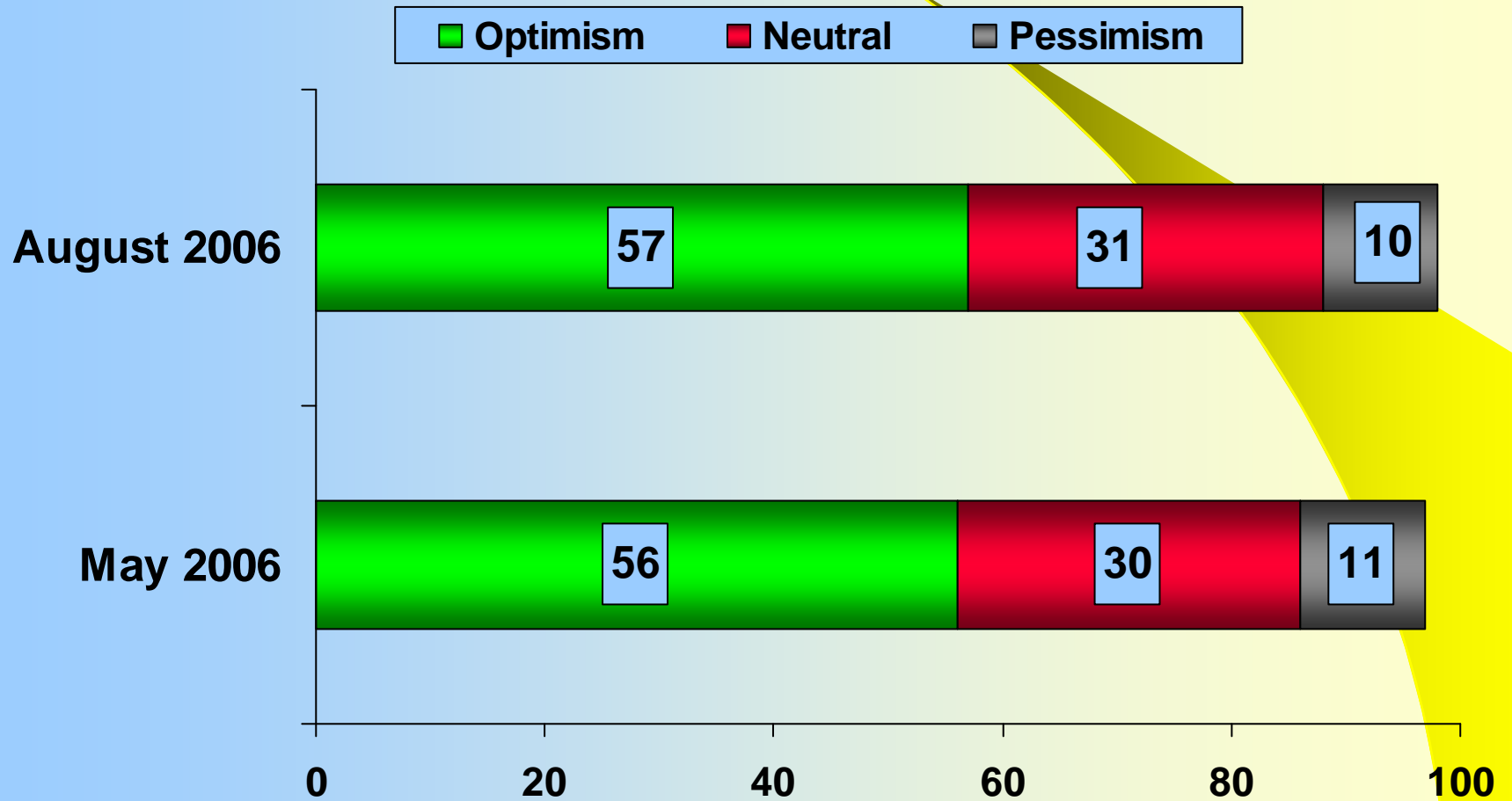
Short time Long time Not sure/refused to answer



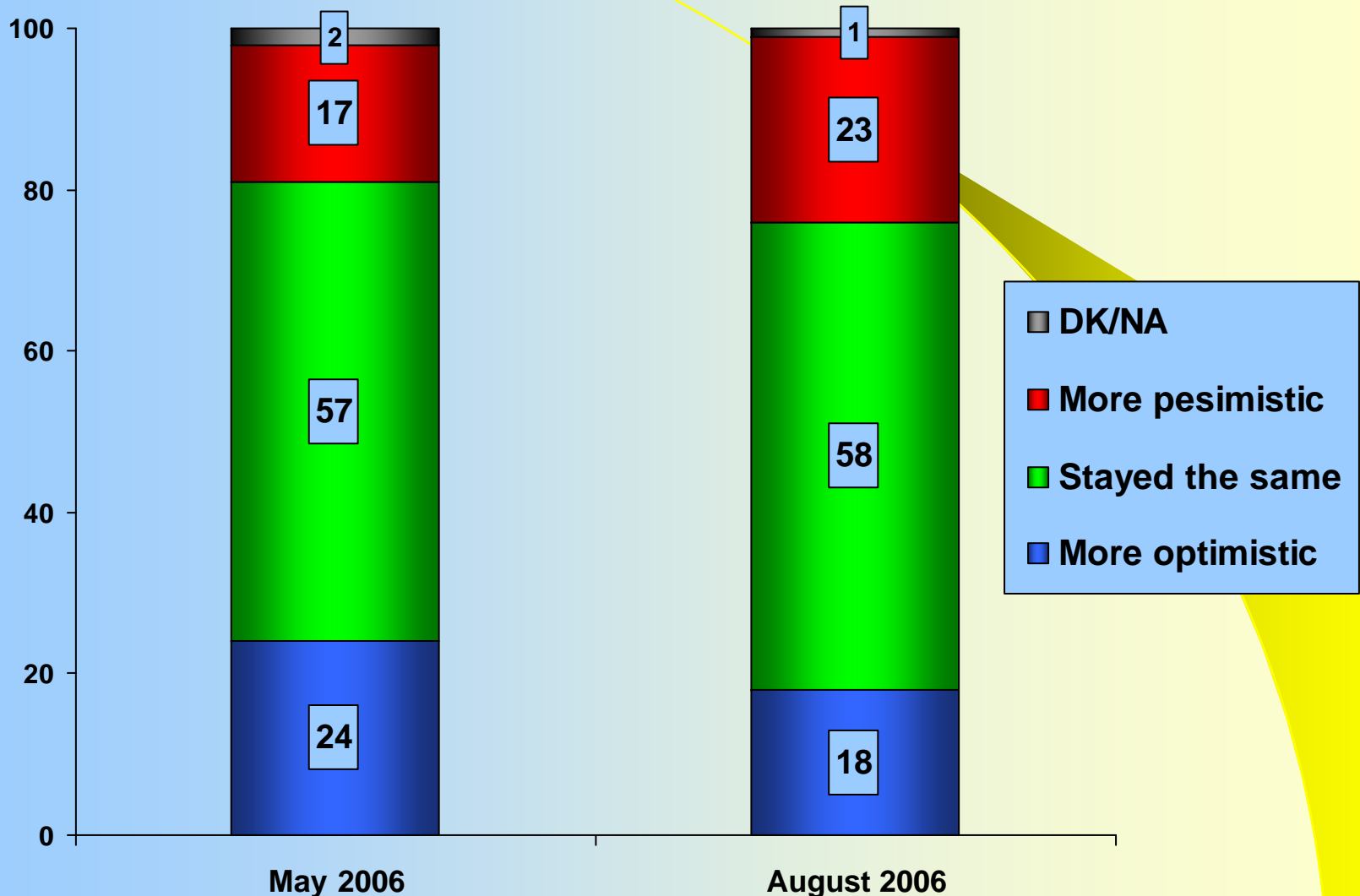
Mood of the nation: expectations



Mood of the nation

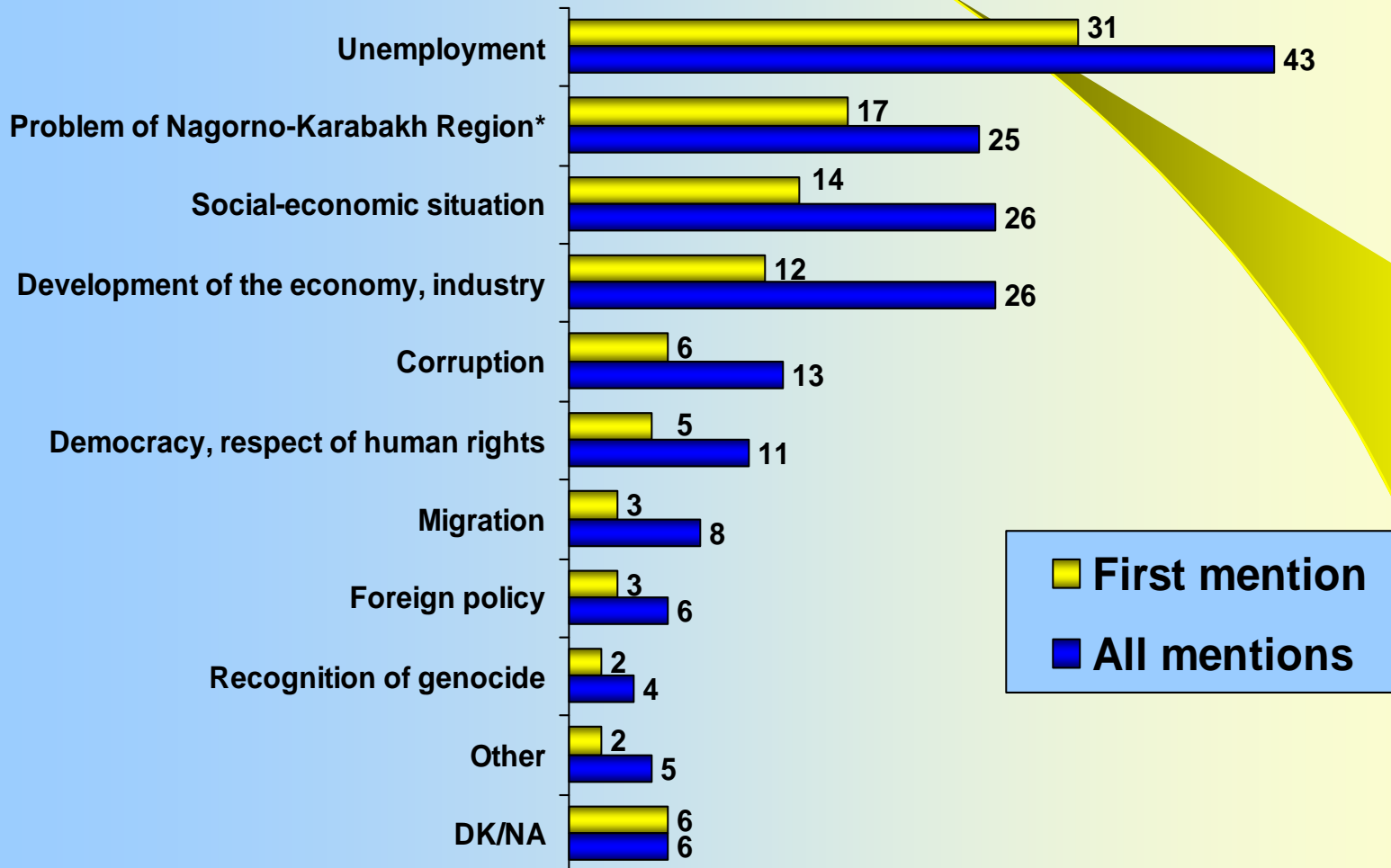


Over the last year attitude towards the way things are developing in Armenia has become:



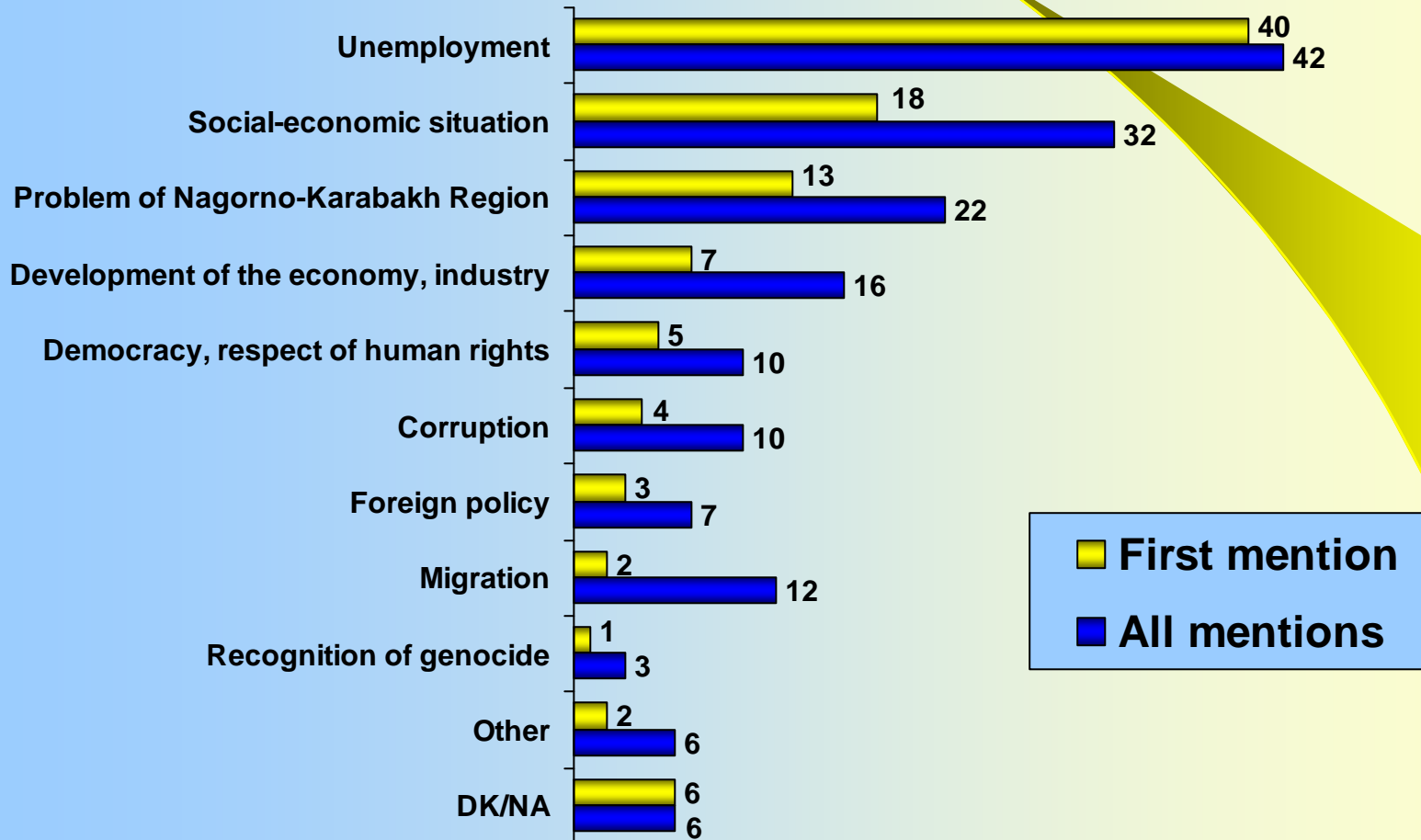
ISSUES

Most important issues facing Armenia, May 2006 (response in %)

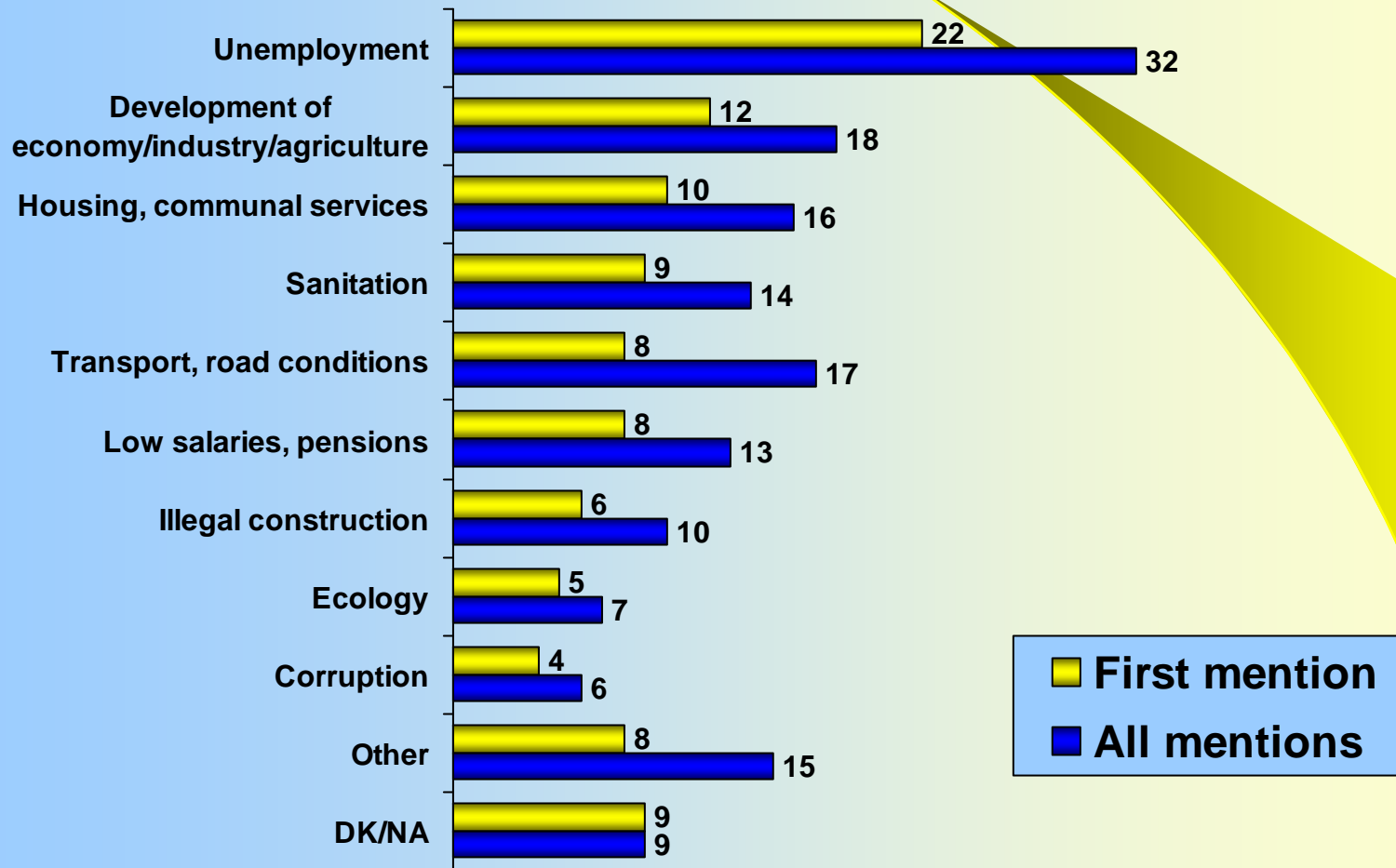


* Between 1991-1994 Armenia and Azerbaijan engaged in military conflict for possession of this disputed territory

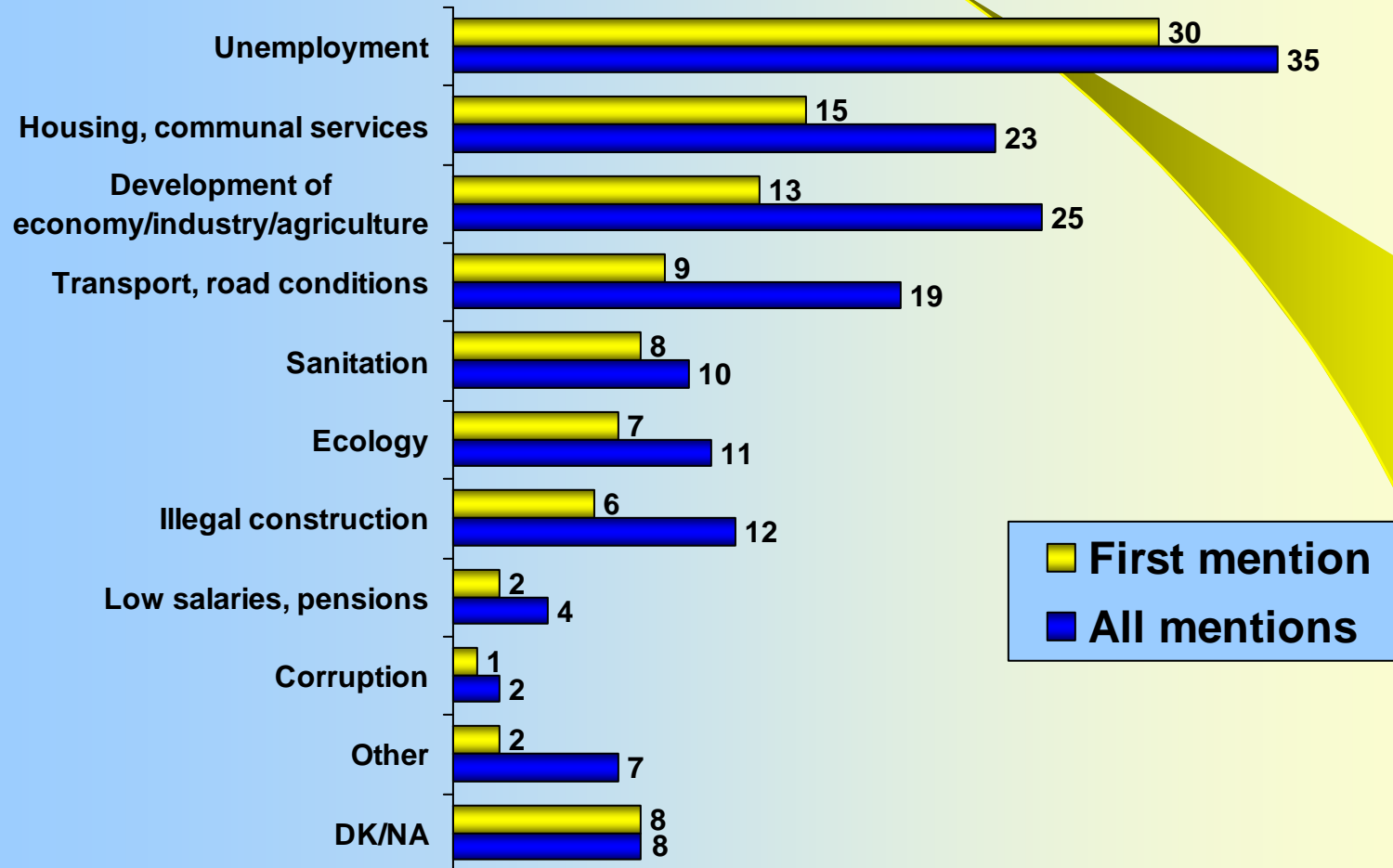
Most important issues facing Armenia. August 2006 (response in %)



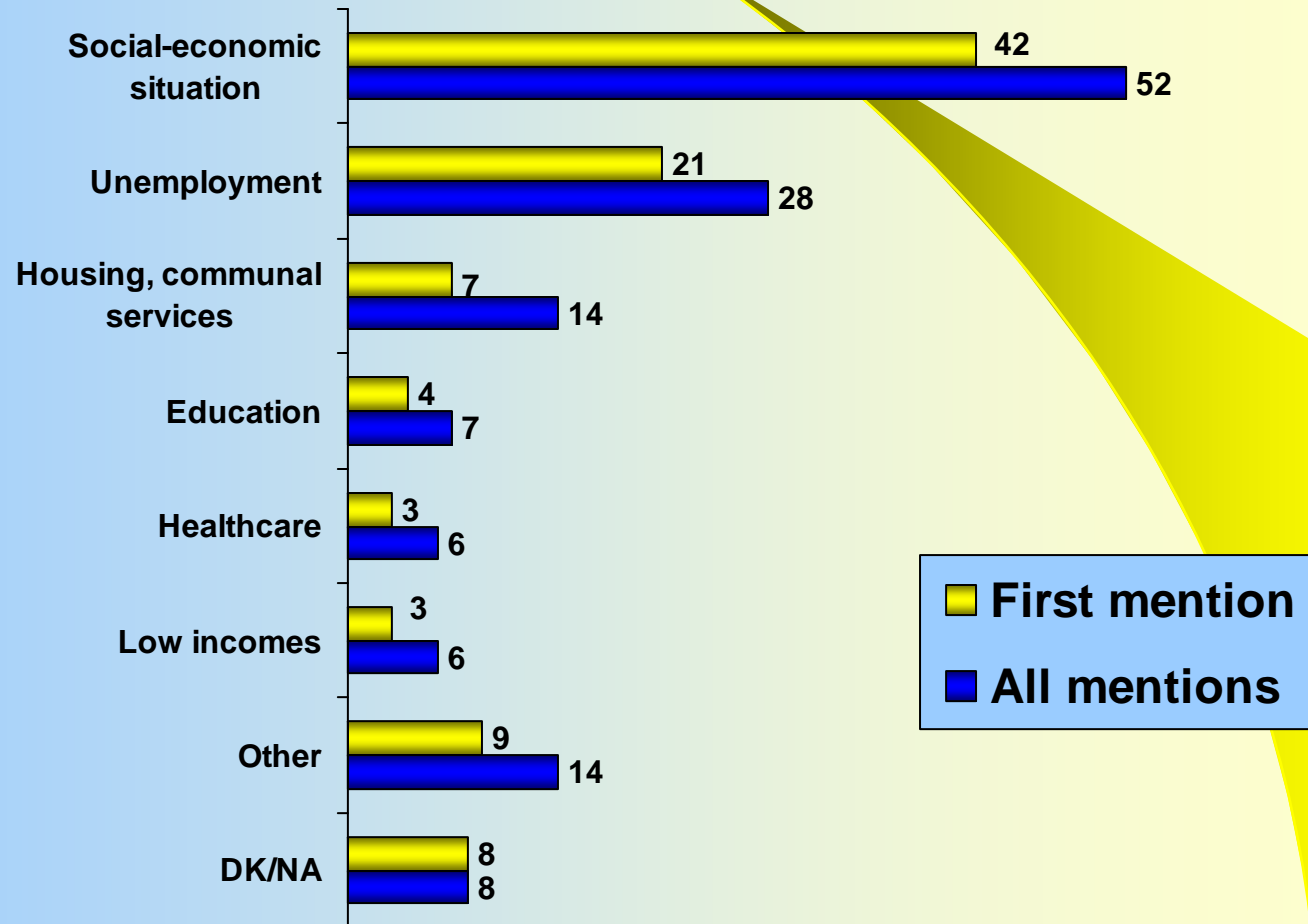
Most important issue facing towns/villages in Armenia. May 2006 (%)



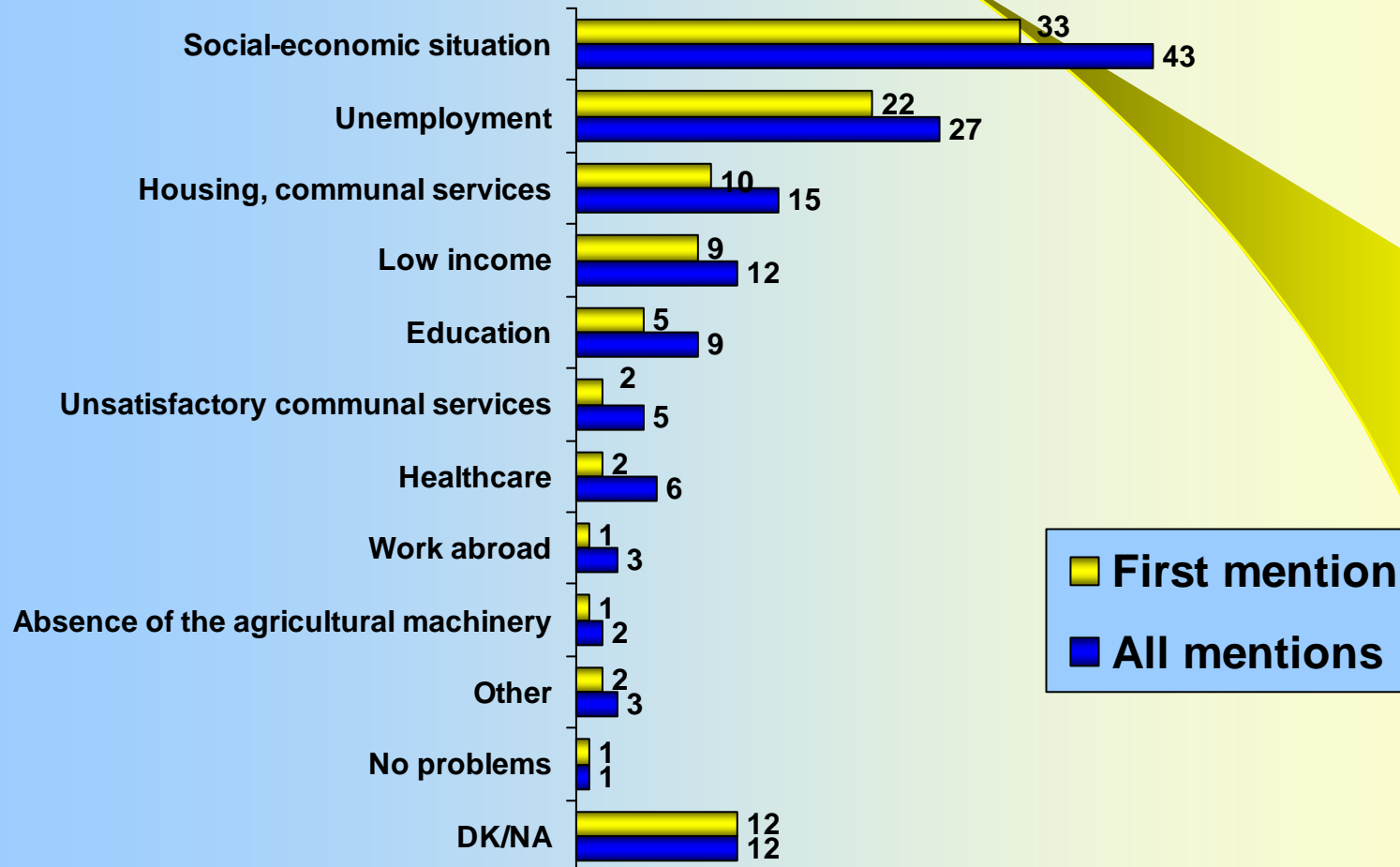
Most important issue facing towns/villages in Armenia. August 2006 (%)



Most important issue facing households in Armenia. May 2006 (%)



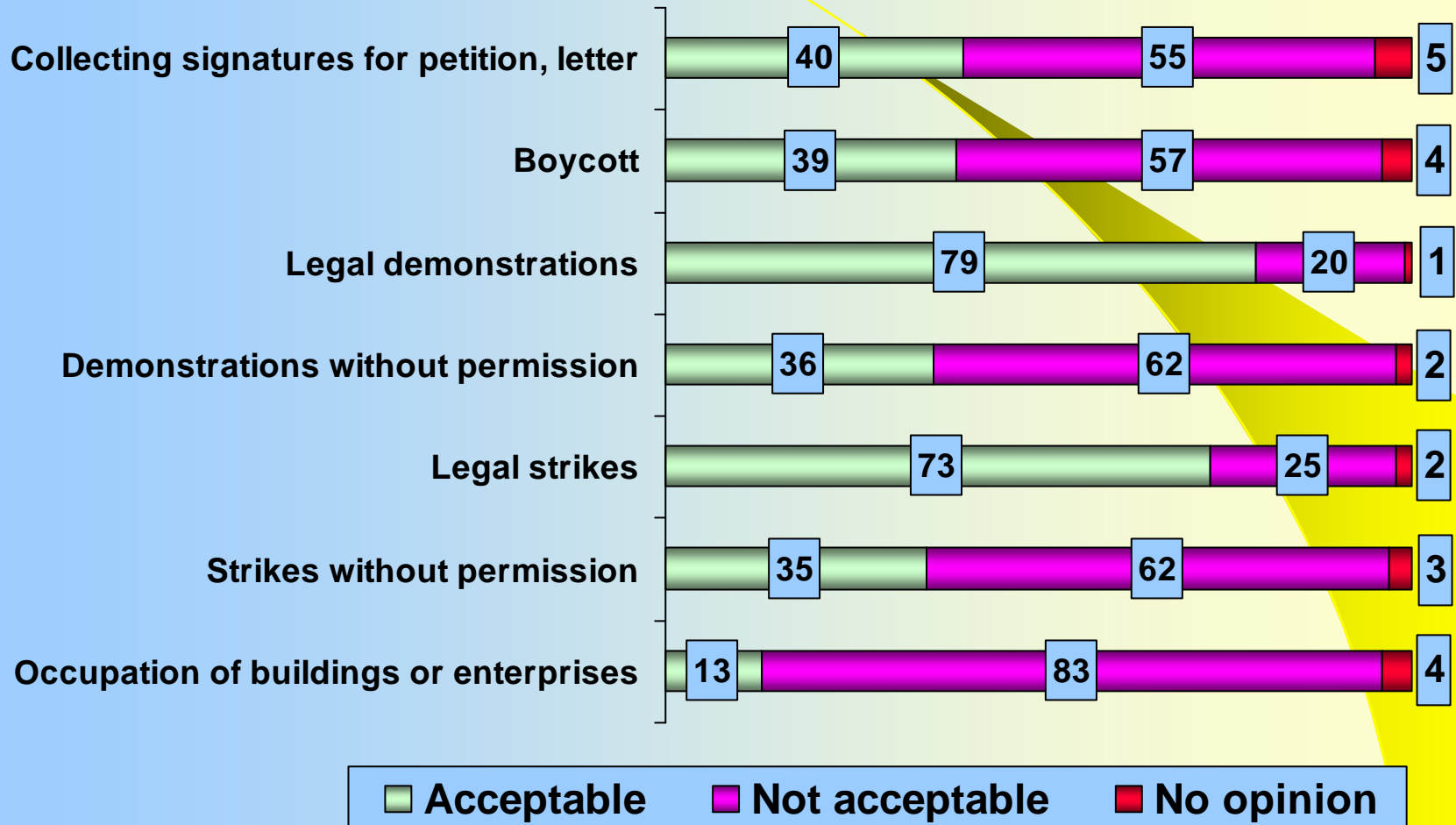
Most important issue facing households in Armenia. August 2006 (%)



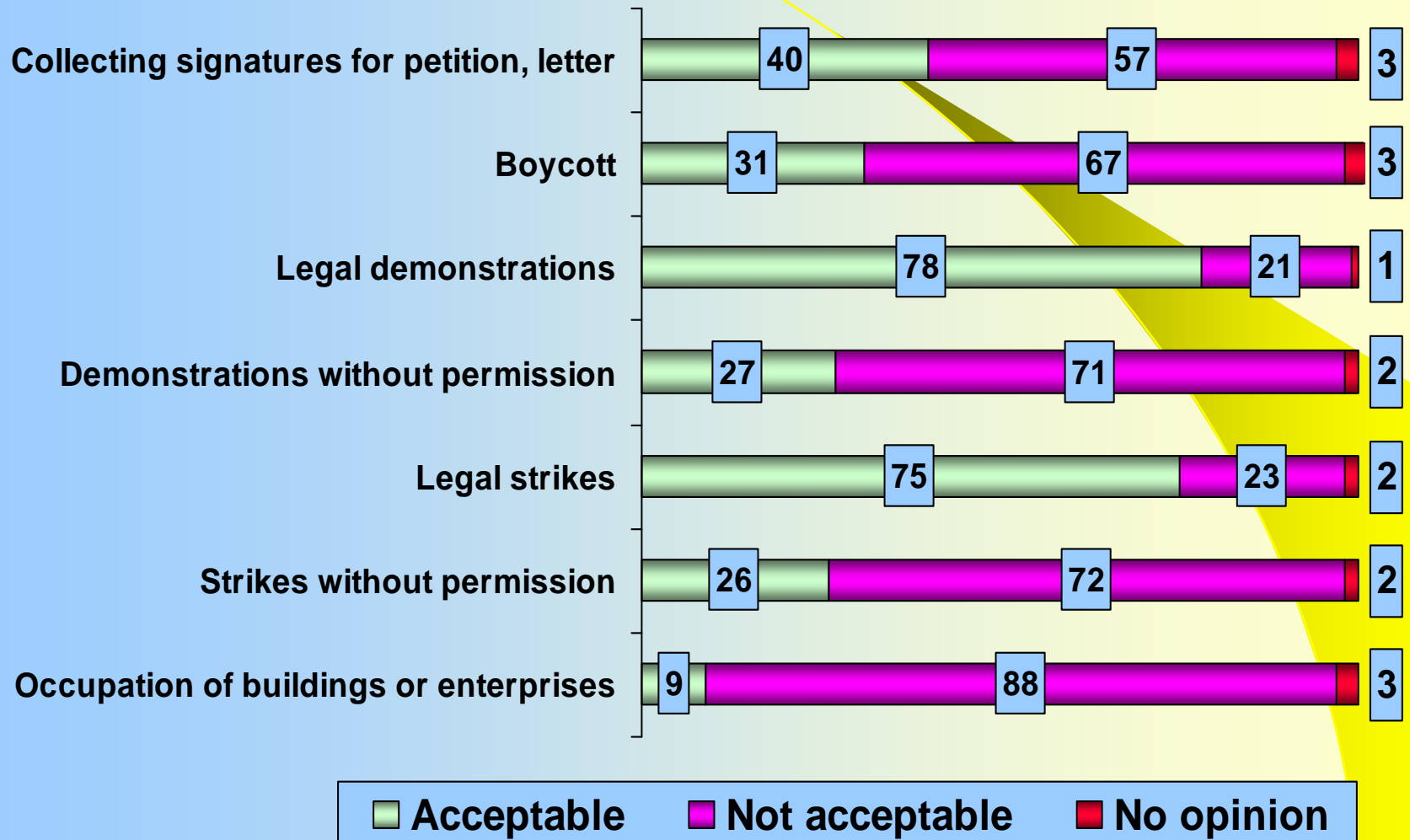
Issues

- At the personal/household level, social issues are most pressing.
- At community level, the most important problem is unemployment.
- At the national level, social problems and territorial integrity/security issues are most important.

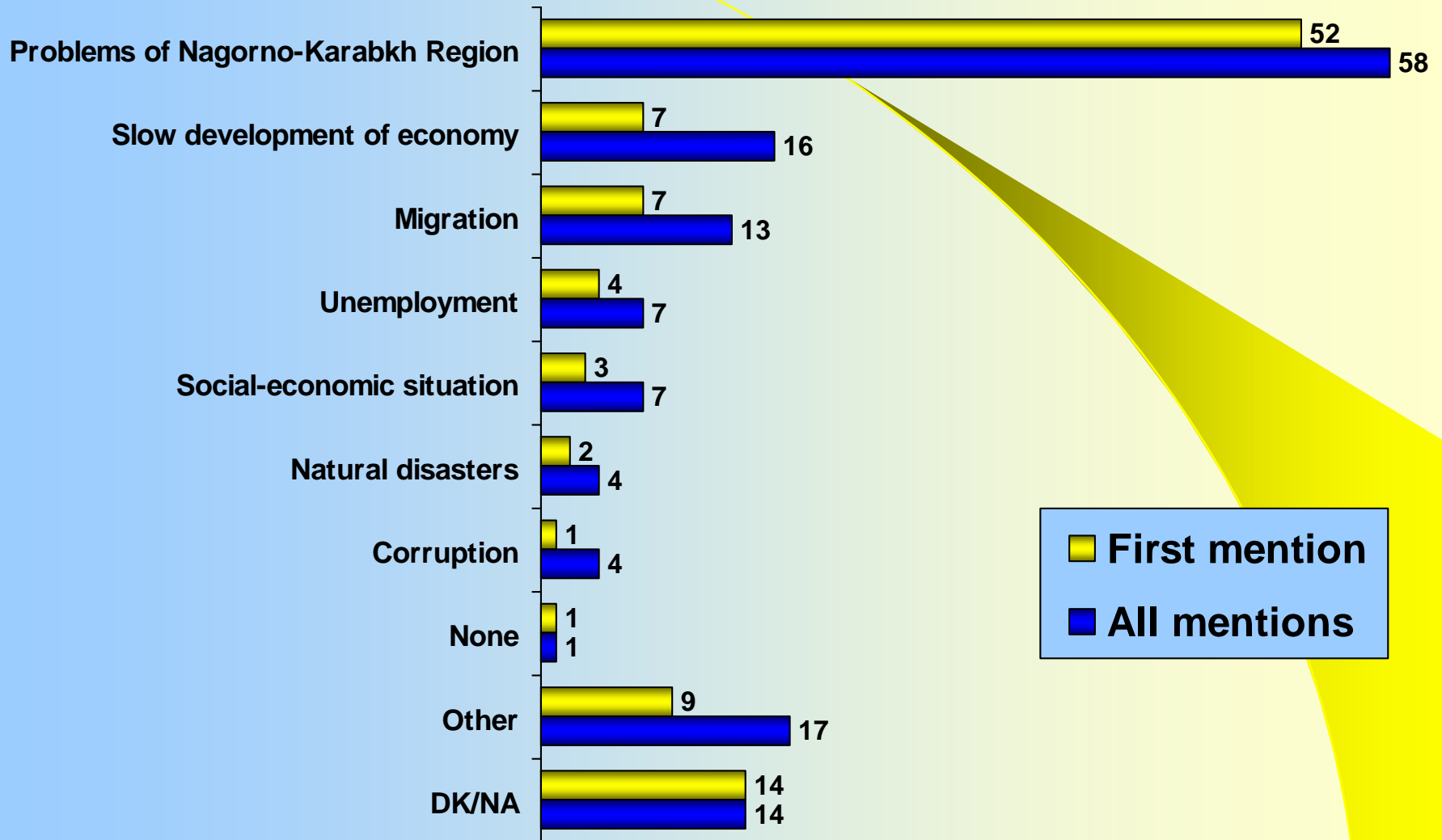
Acceptability of forms of social protest May 2006 (%)



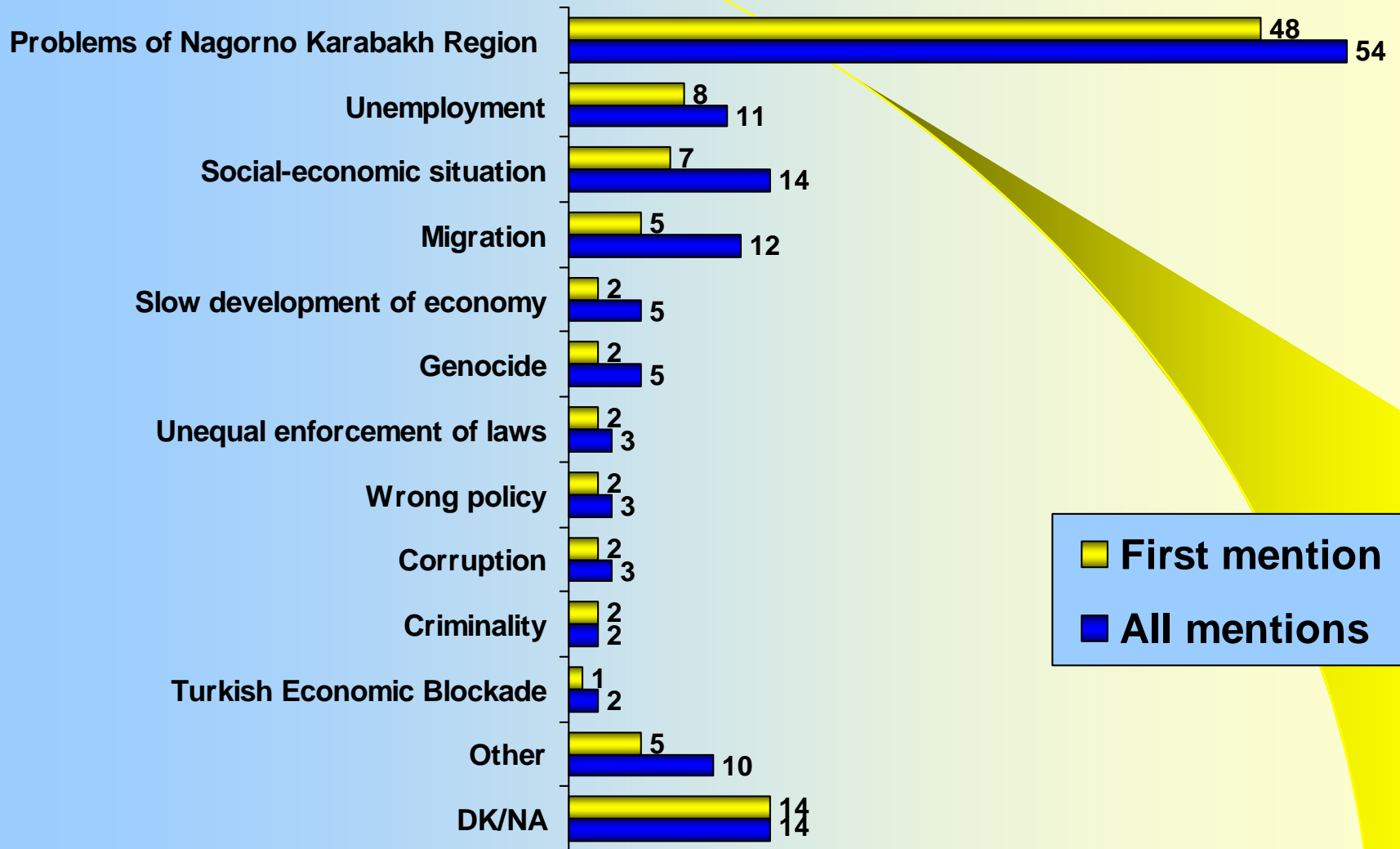
Acceptability of forms of social protest August 2006 (%)



People's Fears May 2006 (%)



People's Fears August 2006 (%)



First mention
 All mentions

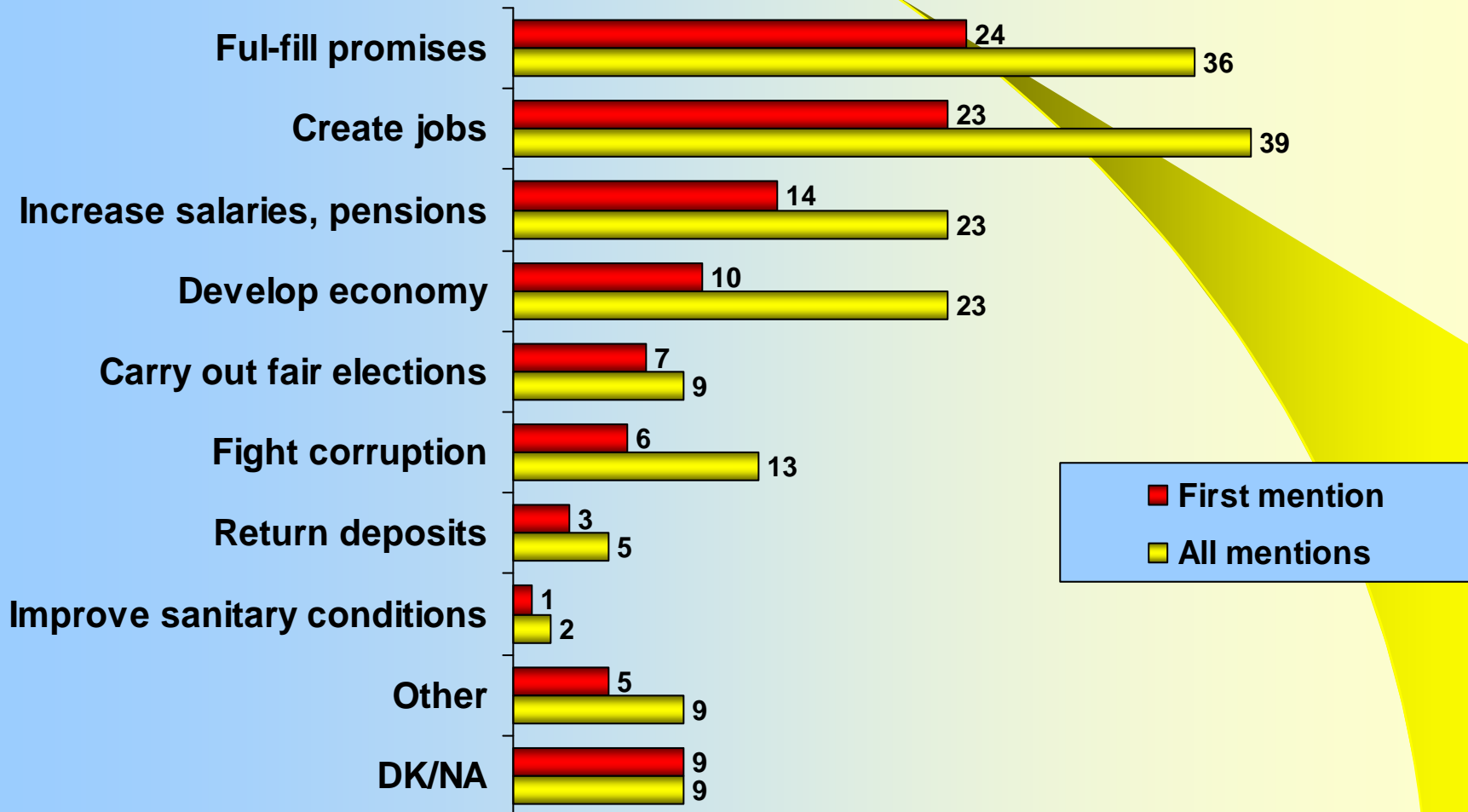
People's Fears

- The biggest fears are related to instability/security: territorial integrity of the country, war and social instability, unemployment, social-economic problems.

POLITICS

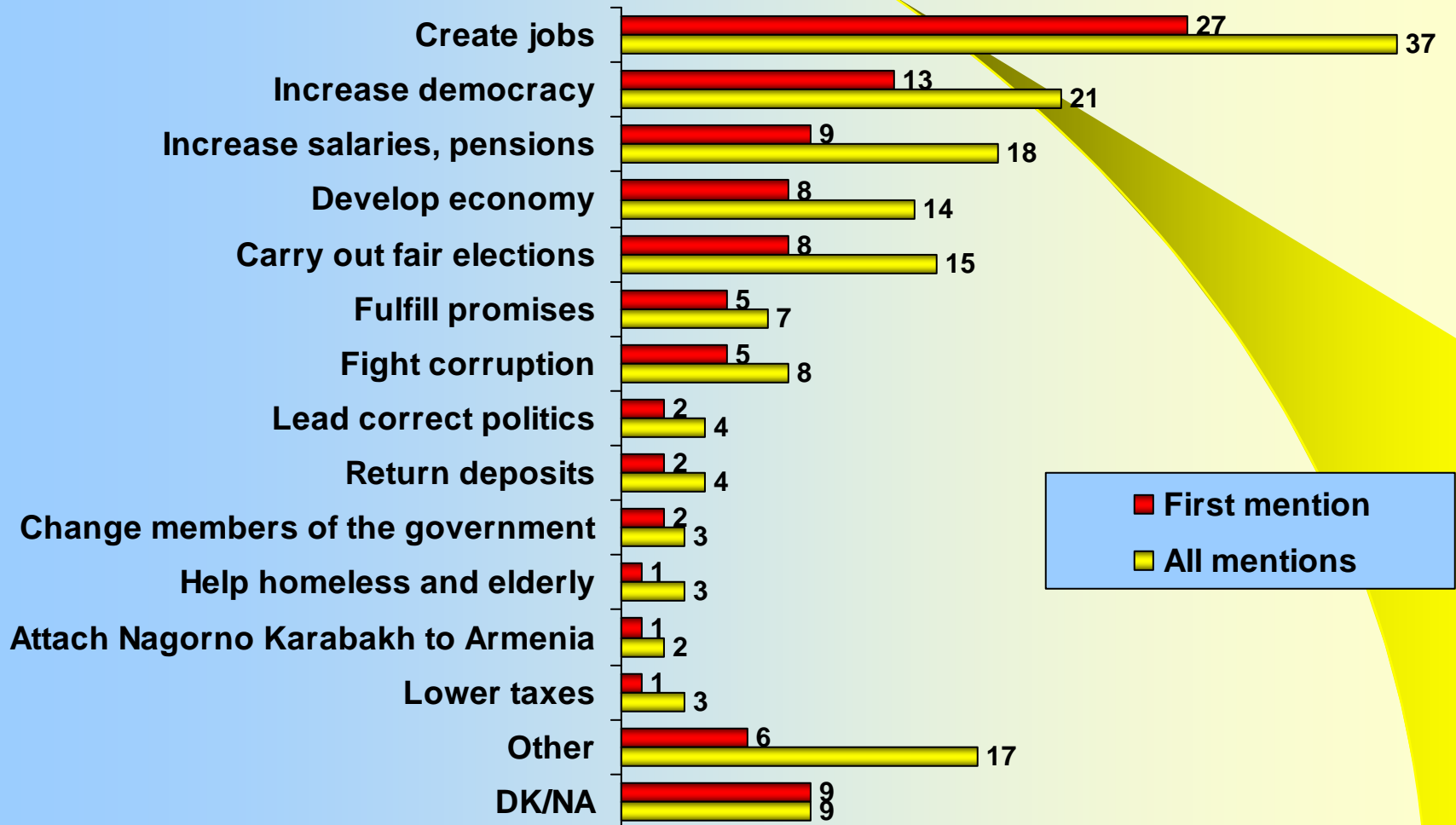
What should the Armenian government do first of all to attract the support of the majority of the Armenian population?

May 2006 (%)



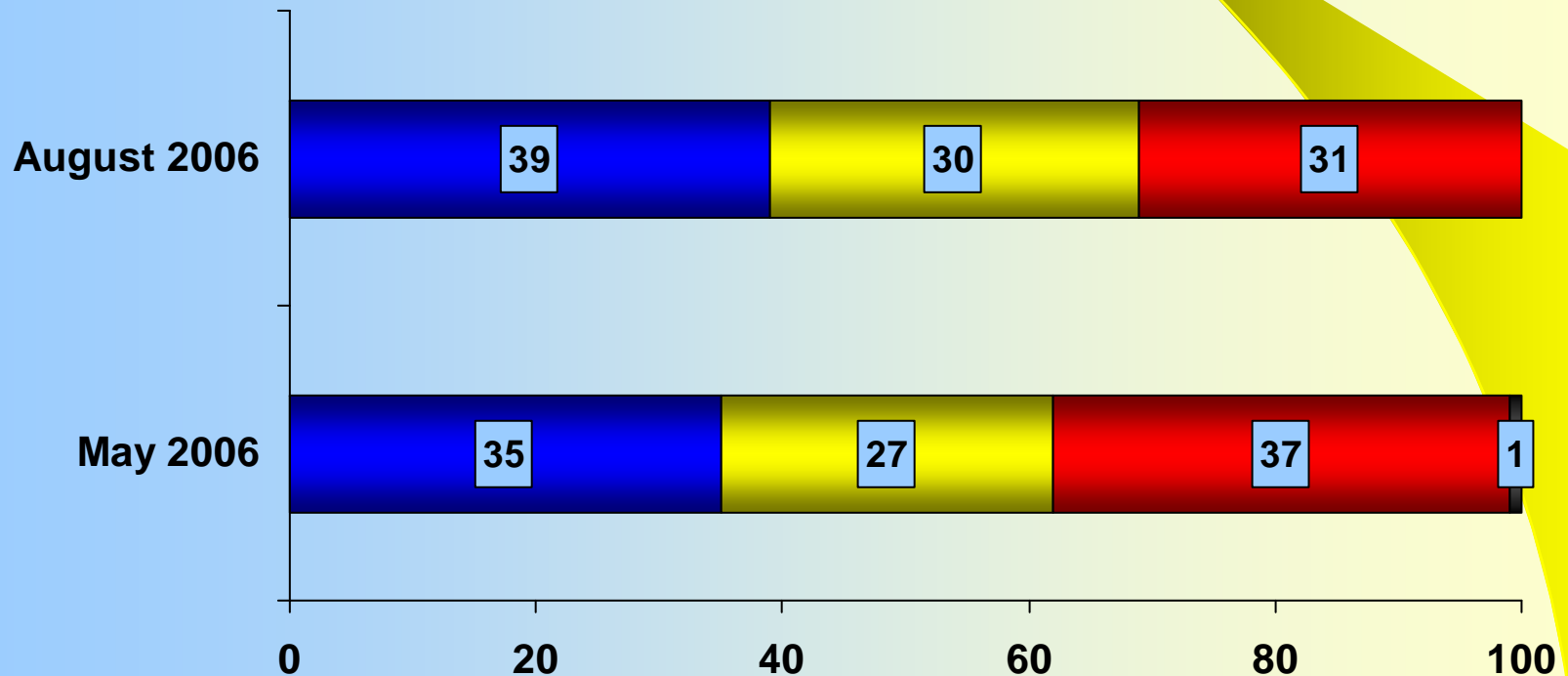
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August 2006 (%)



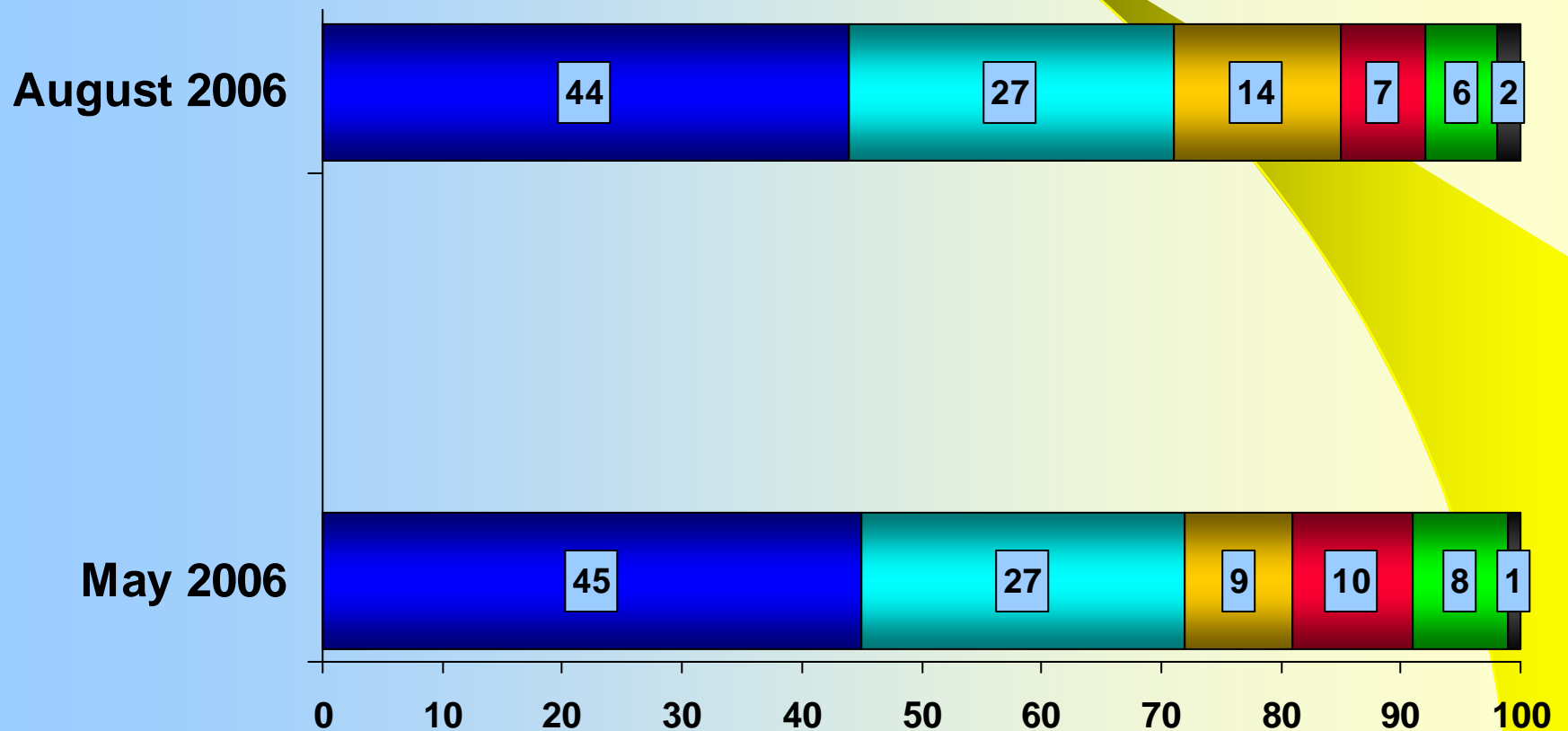
Interest in politics (%)

■ Low interest ■ Medium interest ■ High interest ■ DK/NA

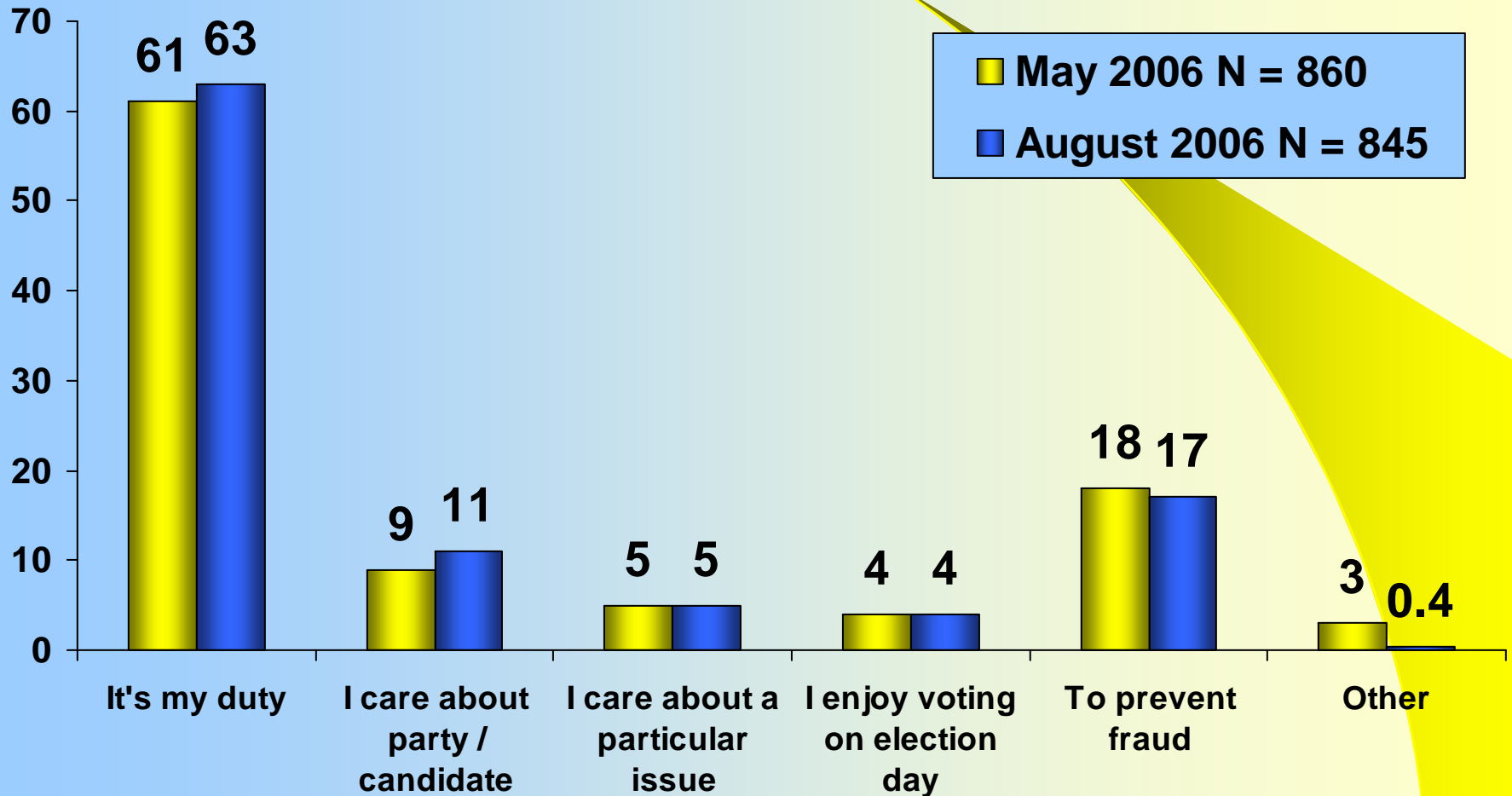


Do you plan to vote in the next Parliamentary elections or not?

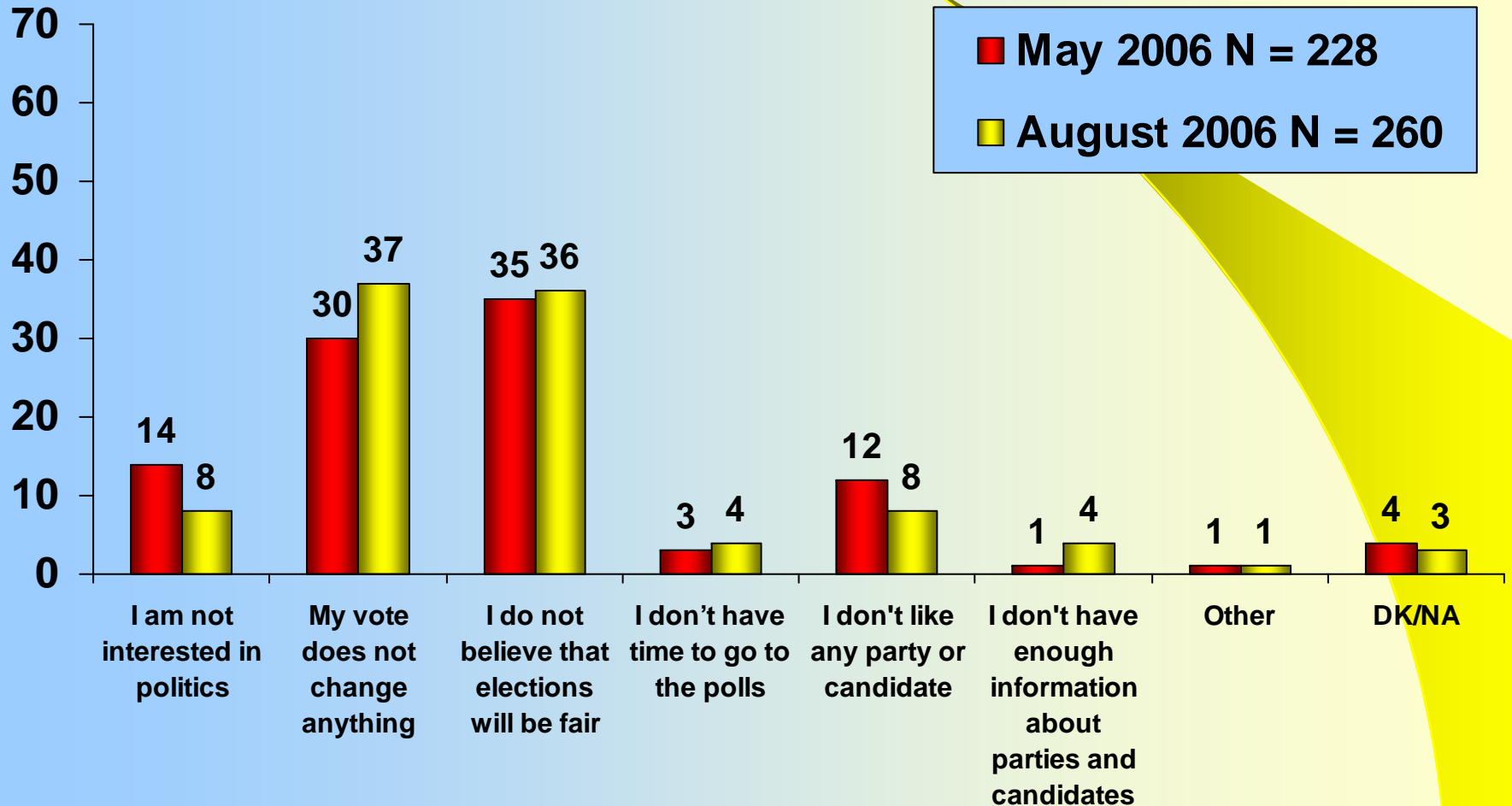
■ Definitely yes ■ Probably yes ■ Probably no ■ Definitely no ■ Have not decided yet ■ DK/NA



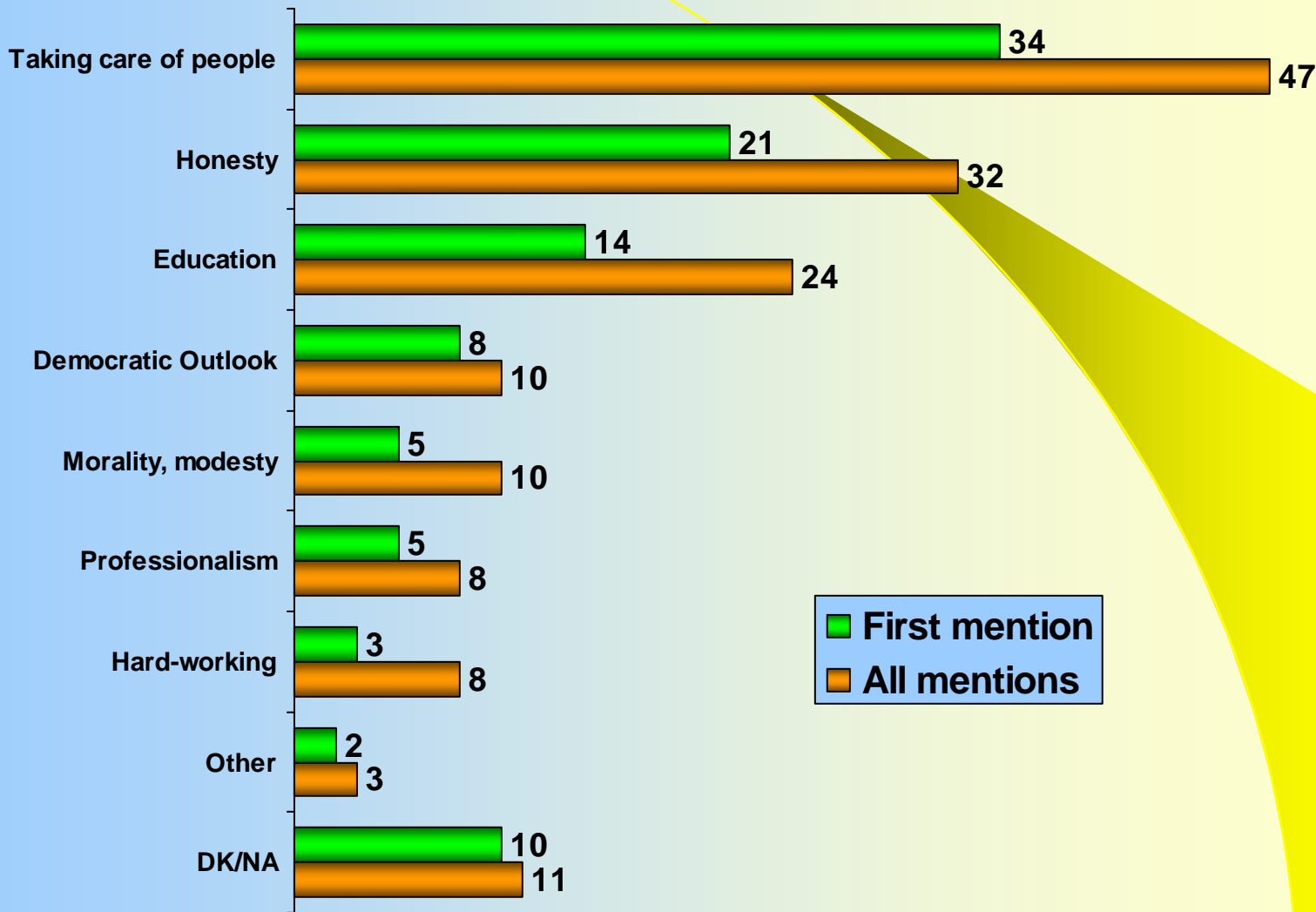
Why do you plan to vote? (Planning to vote %)



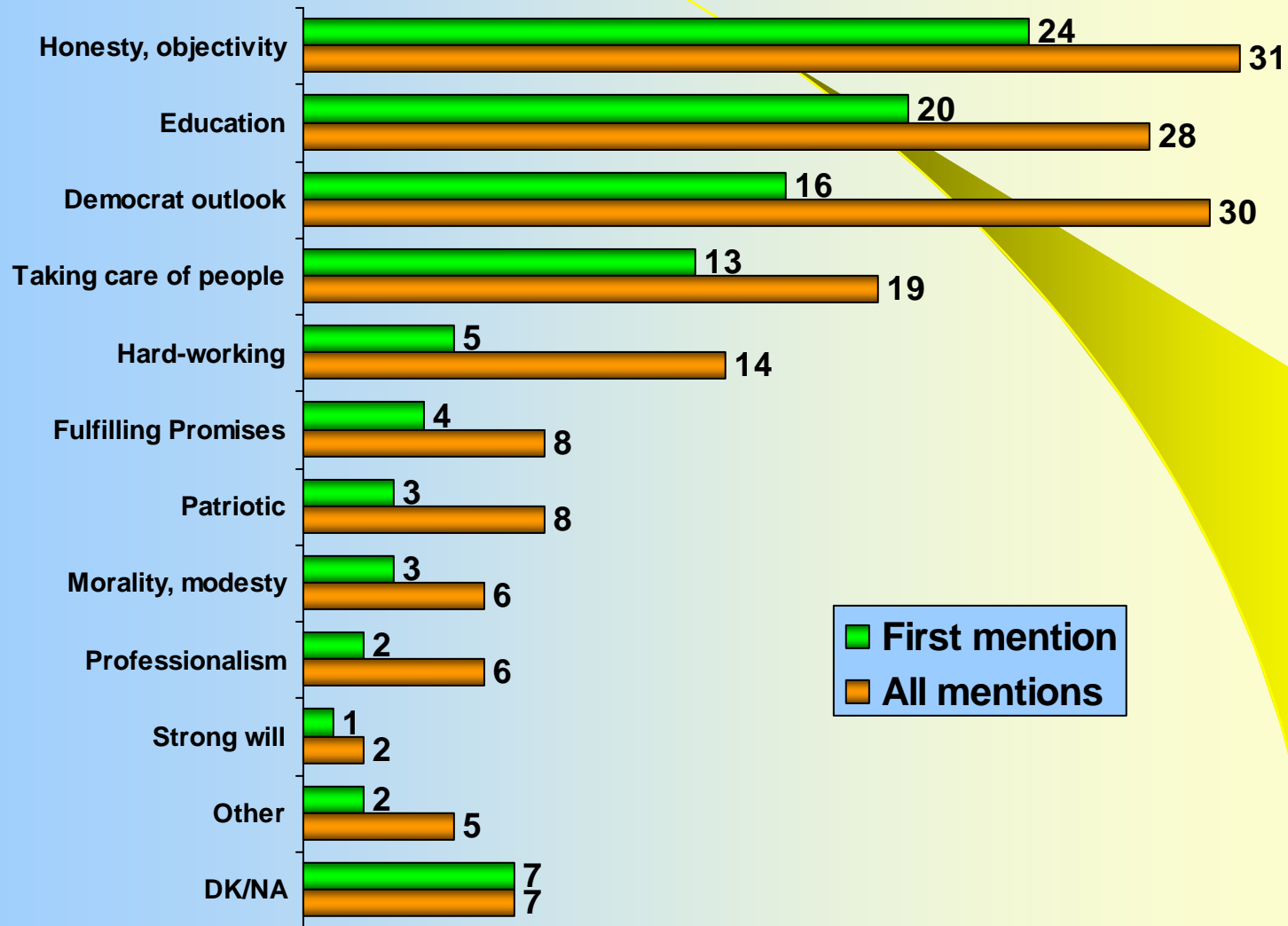
Why do you plan not to vote? (Not planning to vote %)



Characteristics/Attributes Most Important in a Parliamentary Candidate May 2006 (%)

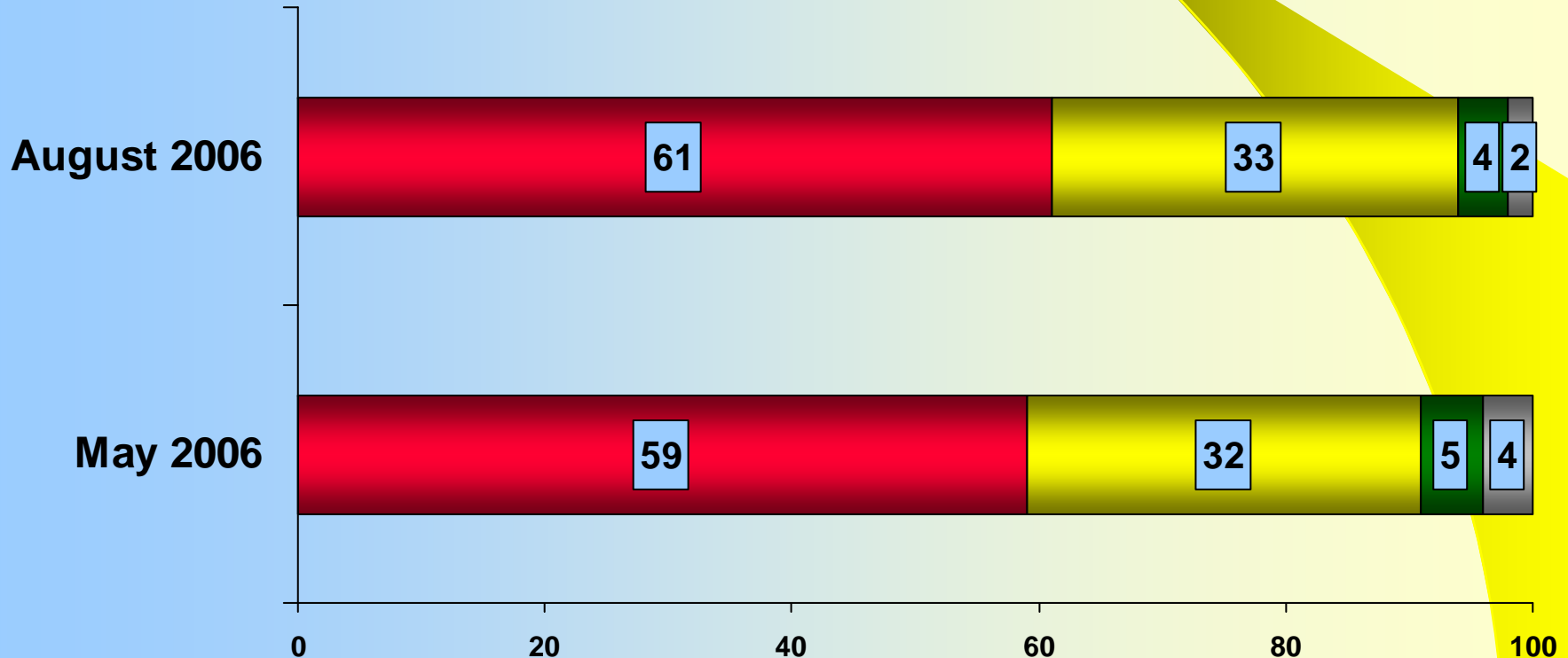


Characteristics/Attributes Most Important in a Parliamentary Candidate August 2006 (%)

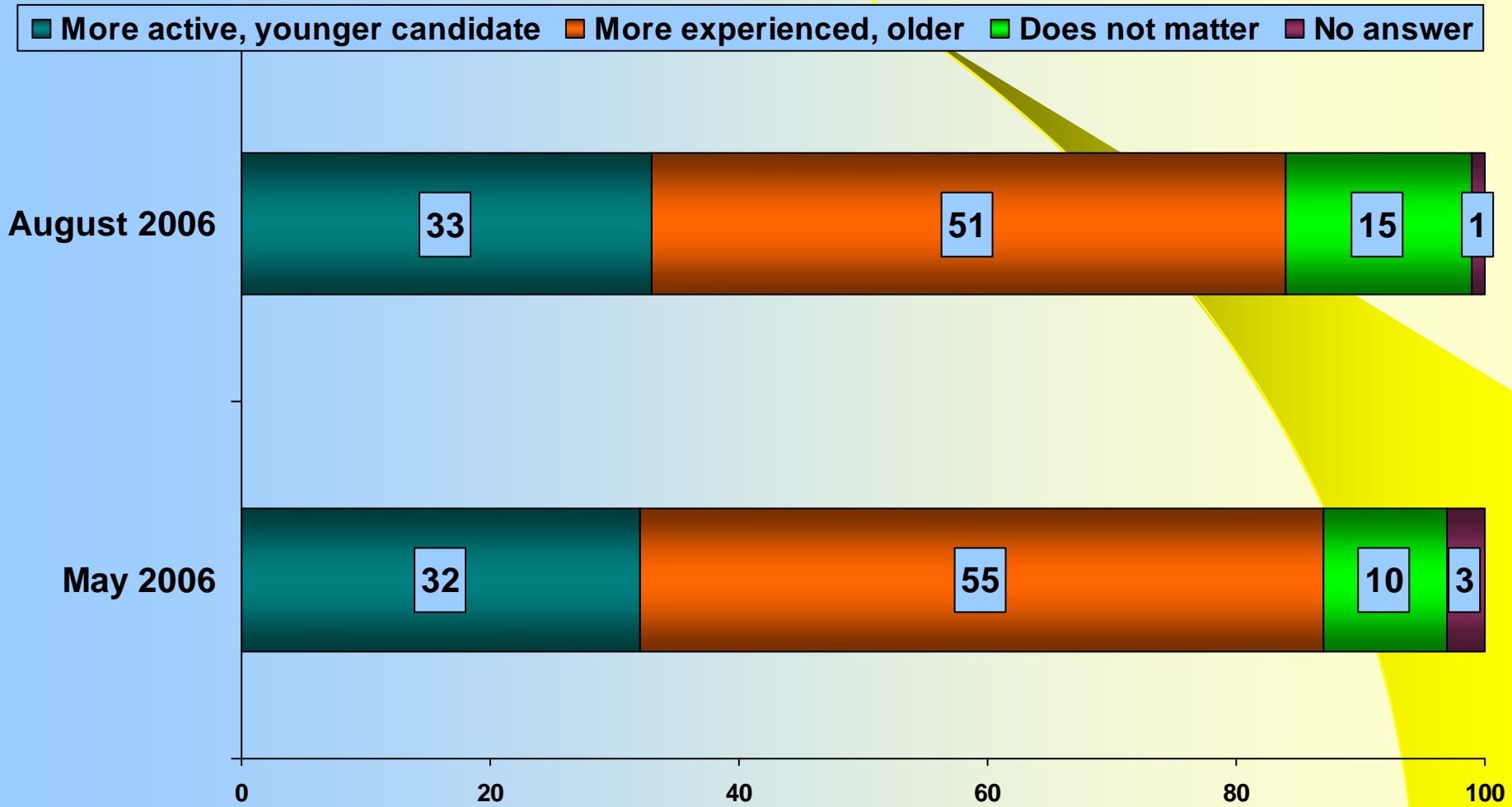


When considering which party to vote for what is more important:

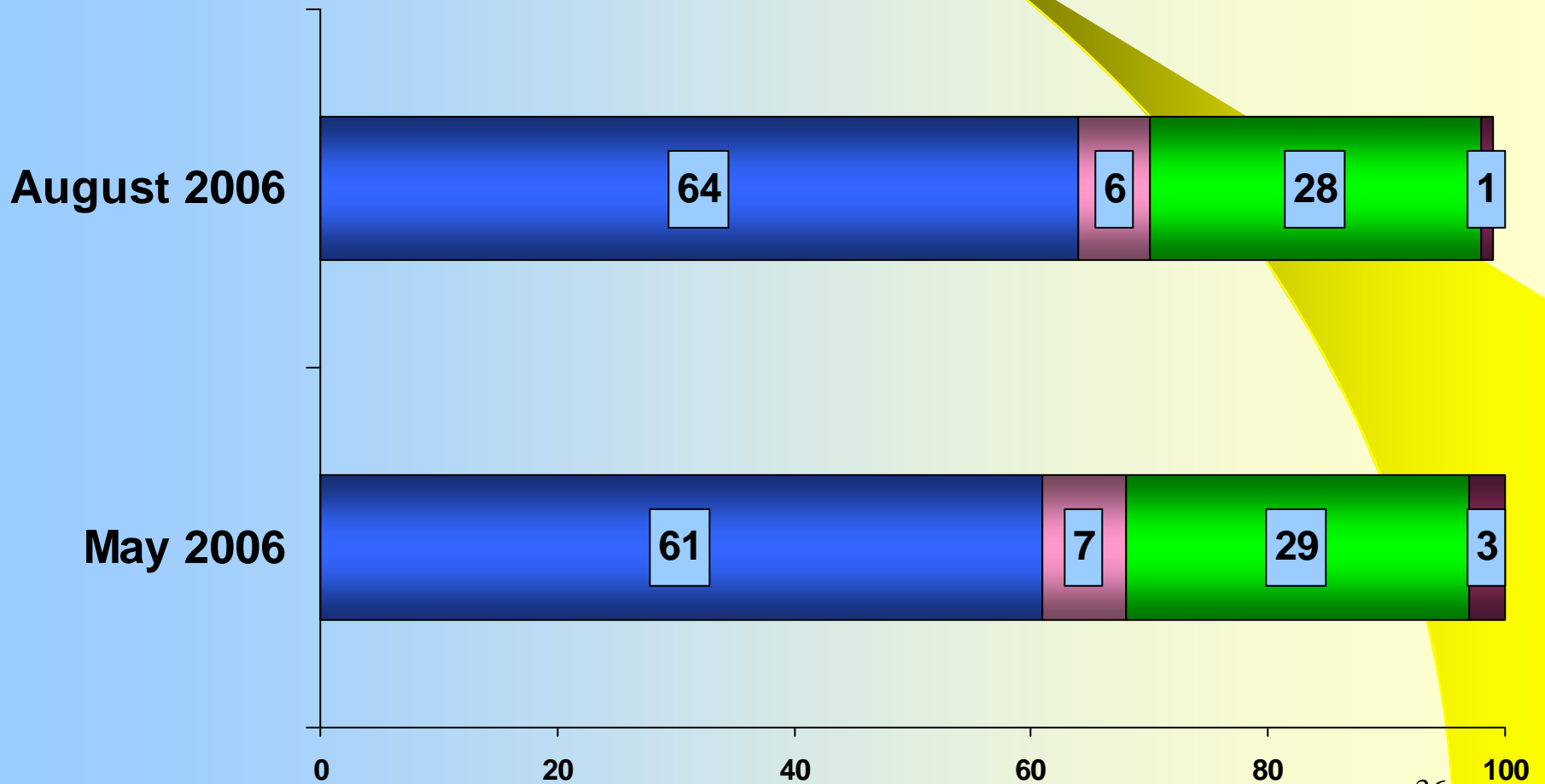
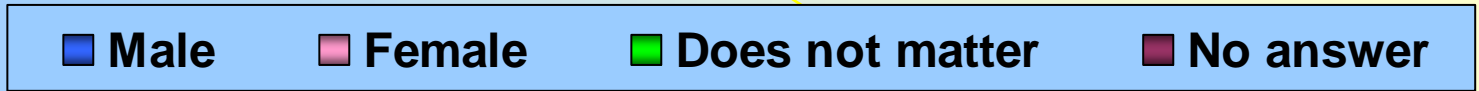
■ Leader is more important ■ Party is more important ■ None ■ No answer



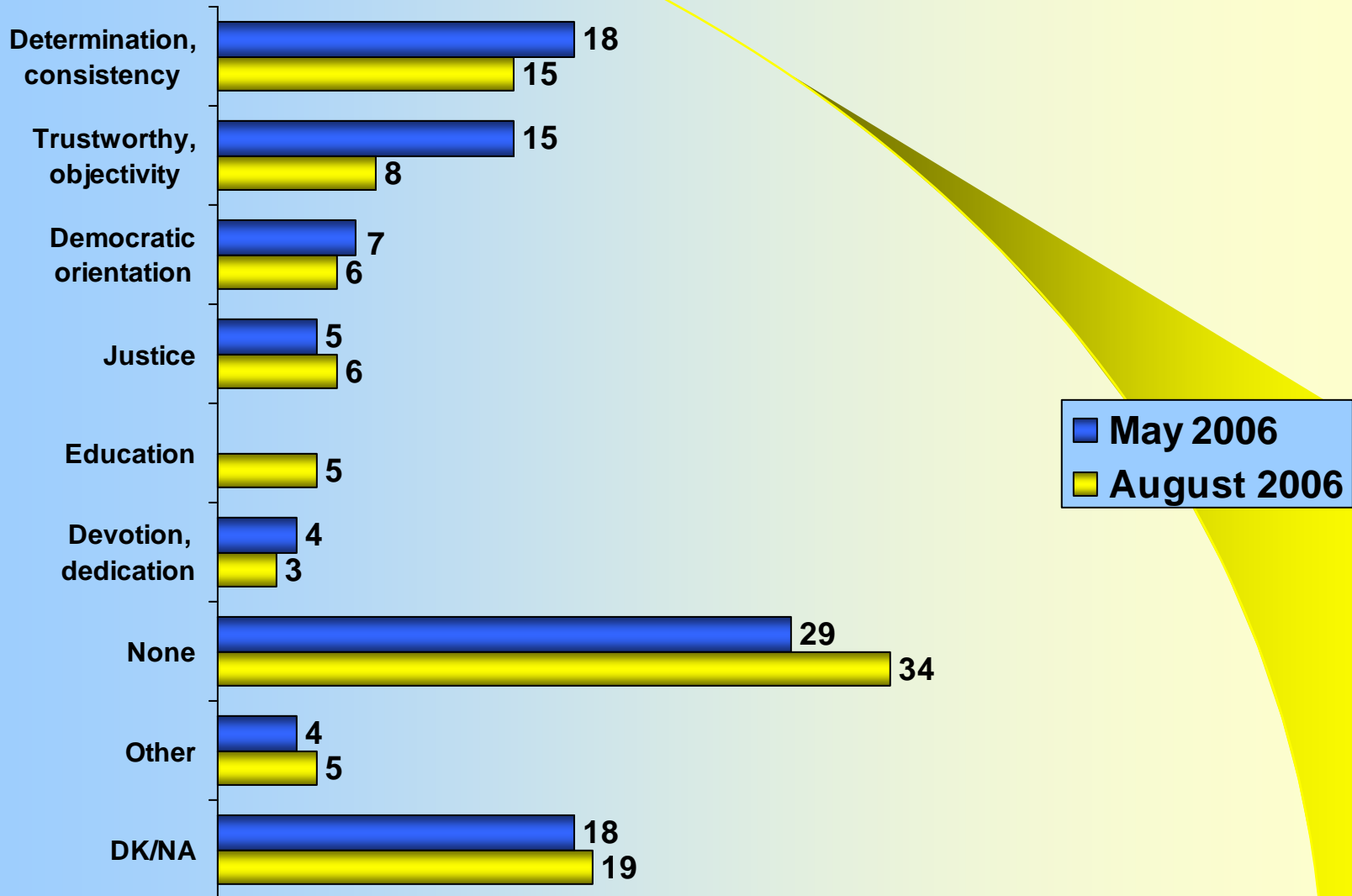
All other things equal, would vote for:



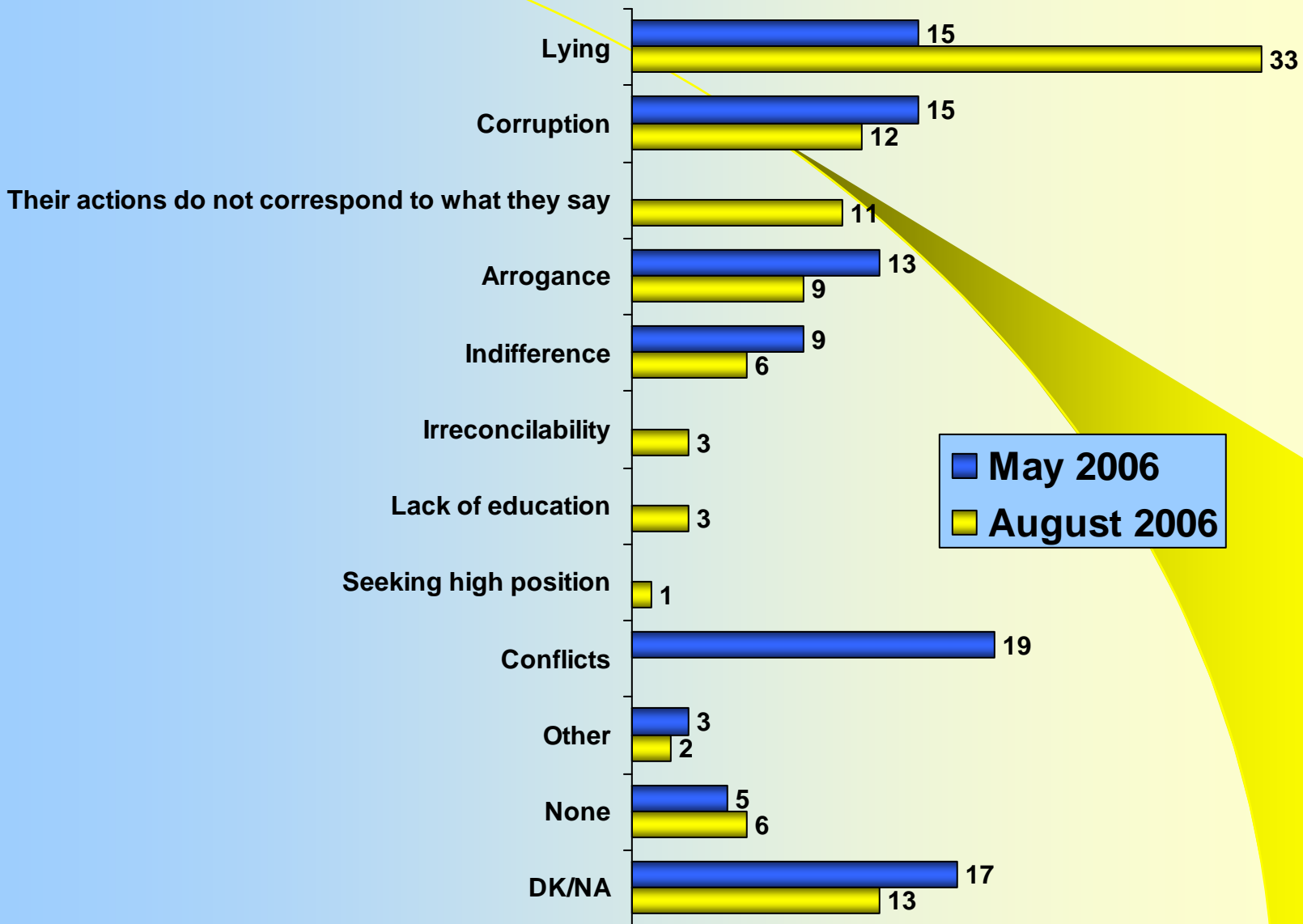
All other things equal, would vote for:



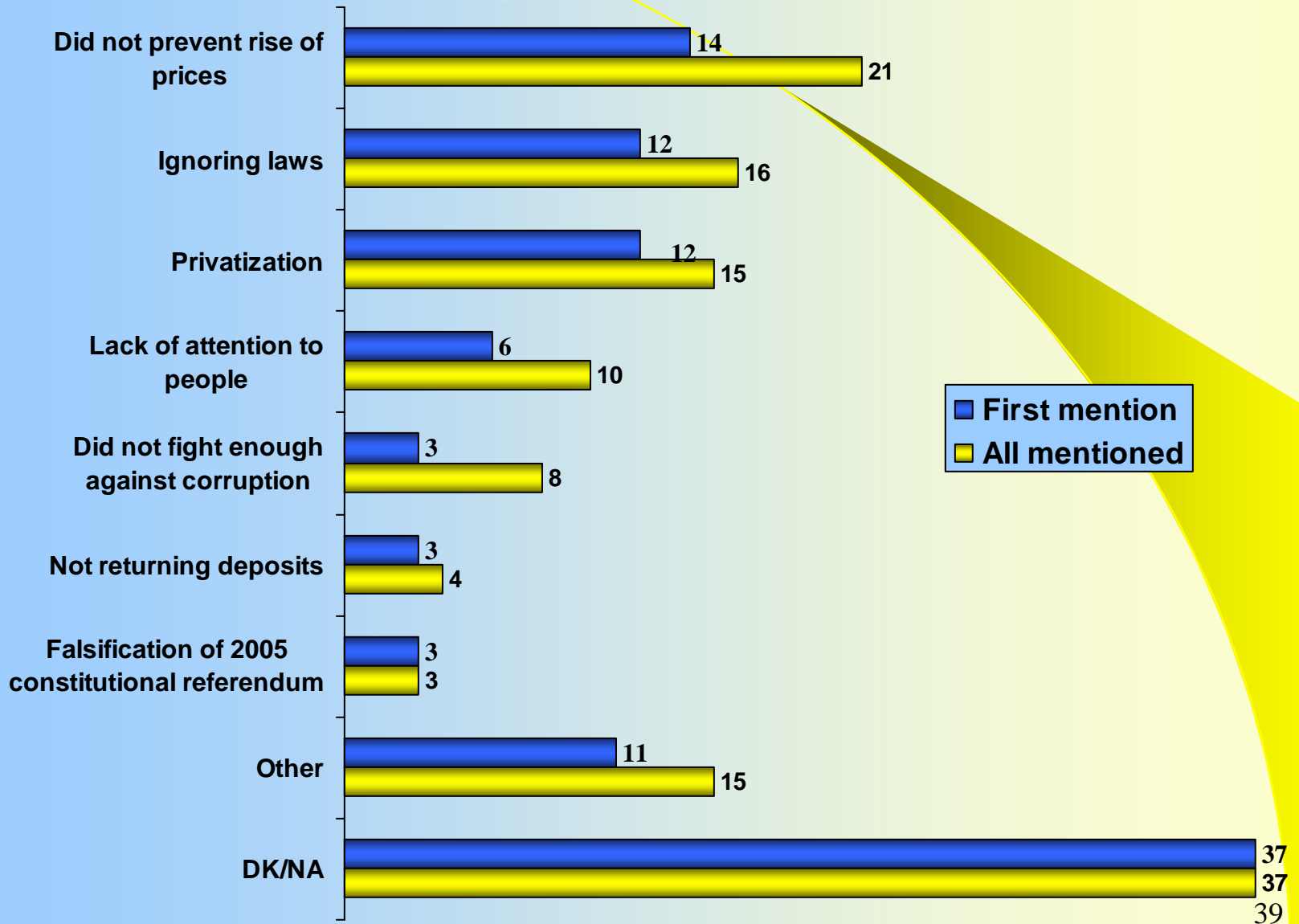
Most liked features of Armenian politicians or parties (%)



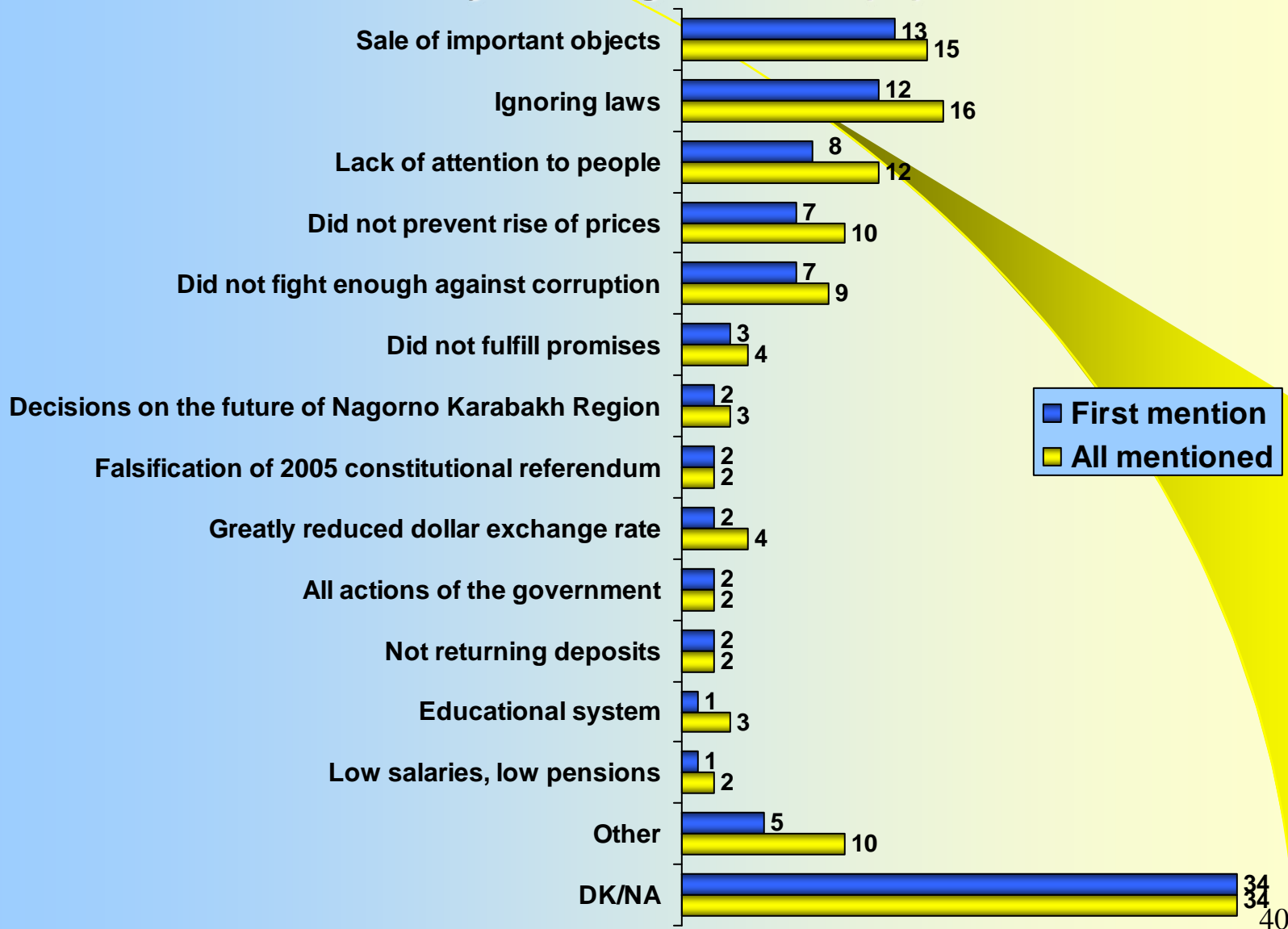
Most disliked features of Armenian politicians or parties (%)



Major mistakes and failures of Armenian authorities over the last year. May 2006 (%)

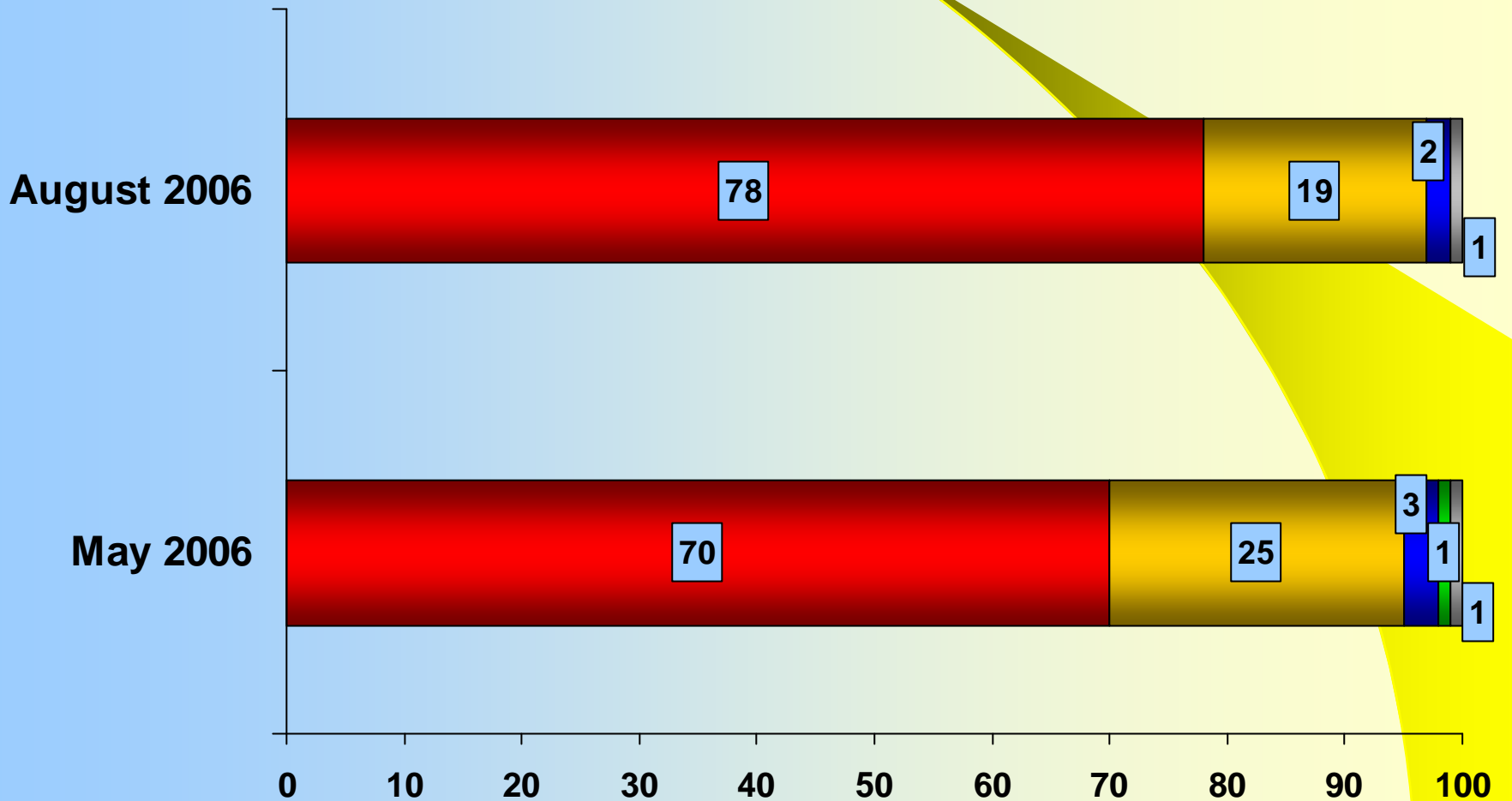


Major mistakes and failures of Armenian authorities over the last year. August 2006 (%)



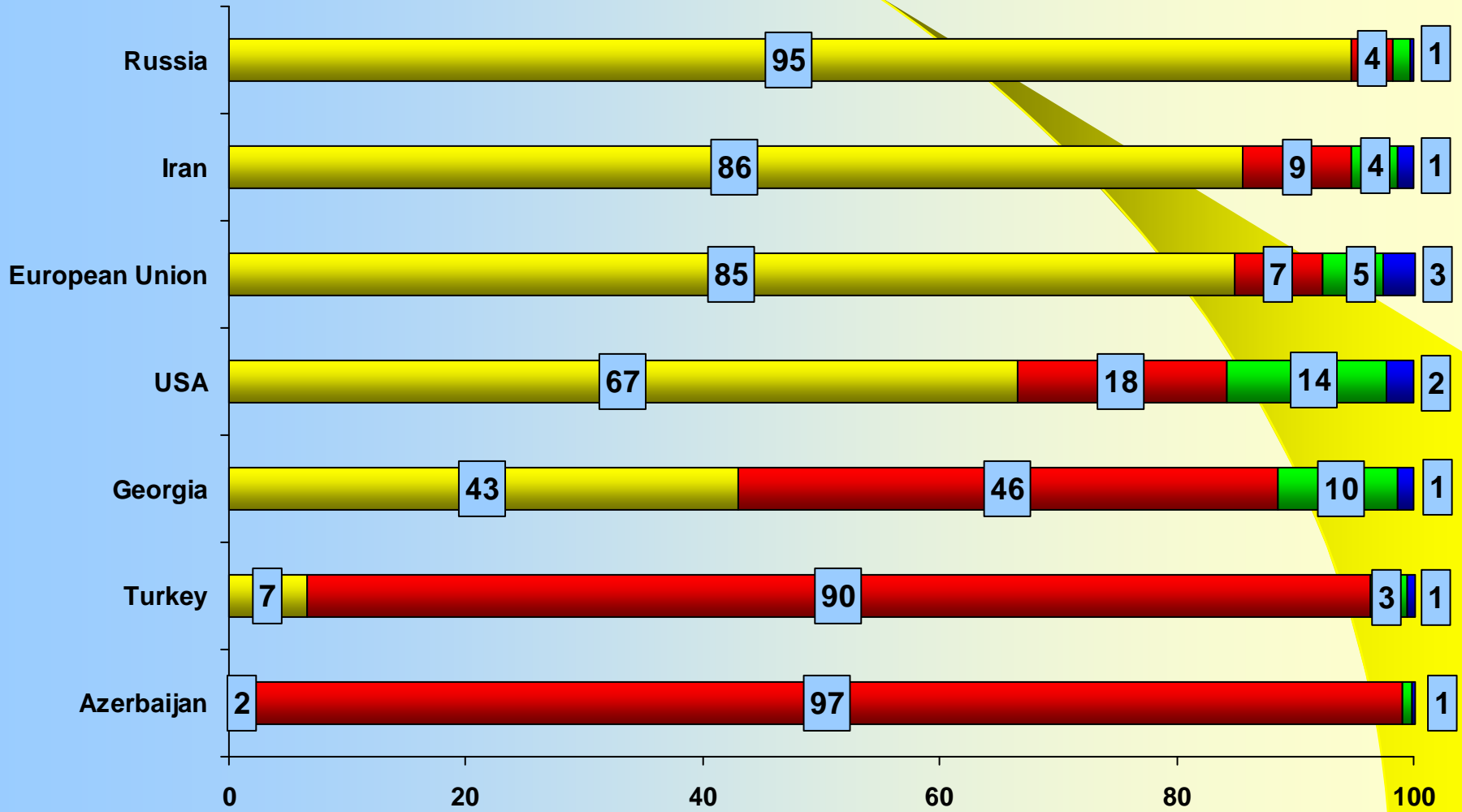
The wrong doing and corruption of political leaders and authorities is ... (%)

■ Very serious problem ■ Rather serious problem ■ Not very serious problem ■ Not a problem at all ■ DK/NA

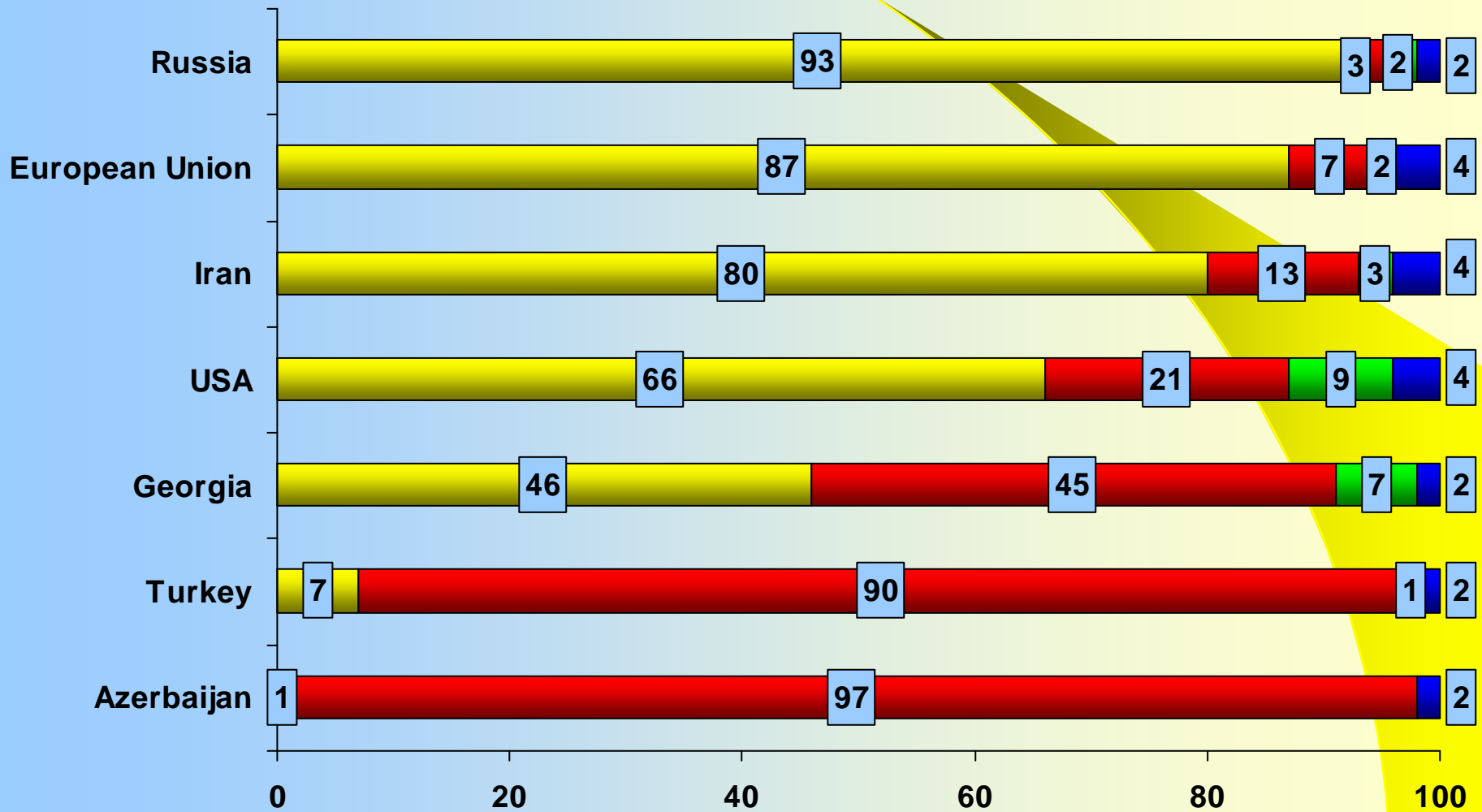


INTERNATIONAL RELATIONS

Evaluation of relations with... May 2006 (%)



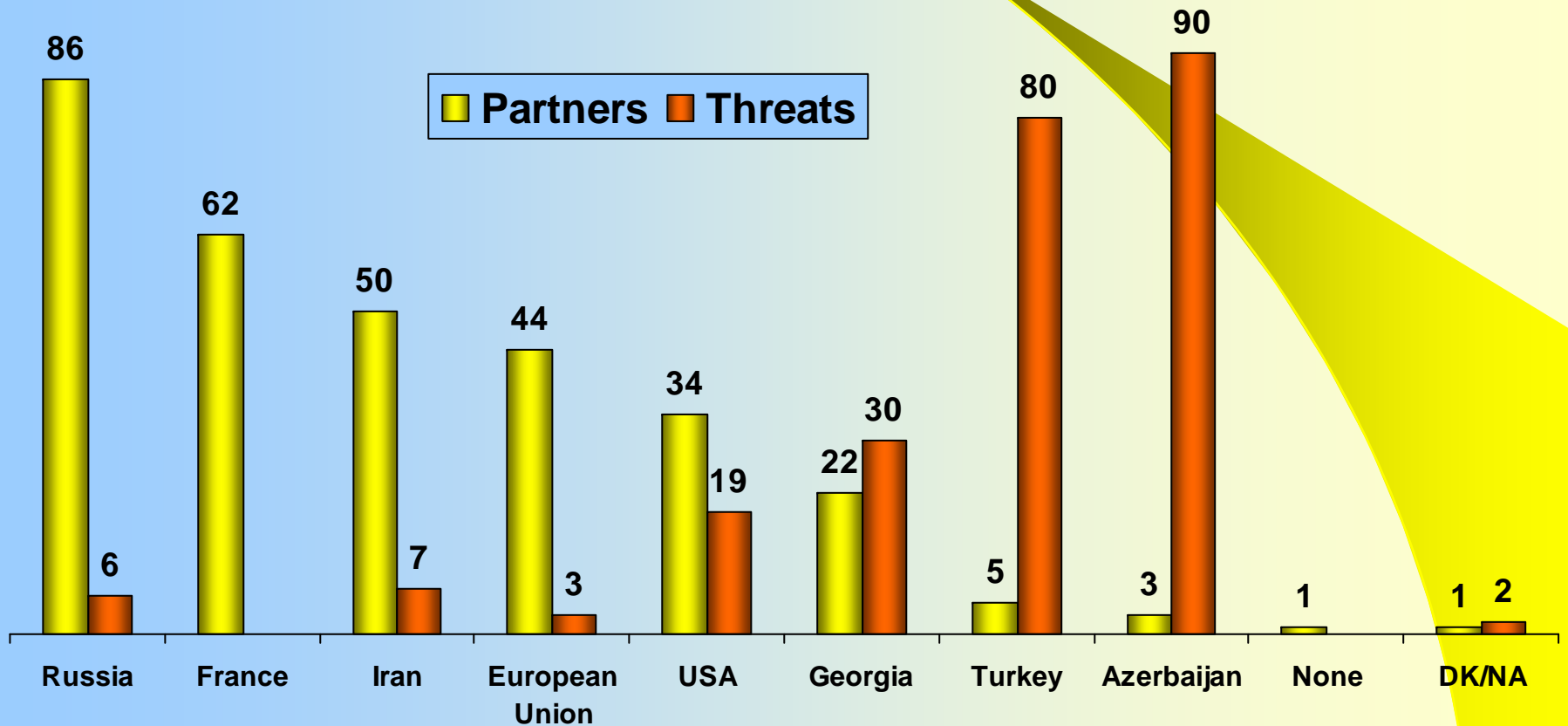
Evaluation of relations with... August 2006 (%)



International relations: partners and threats

May 2006 (%)

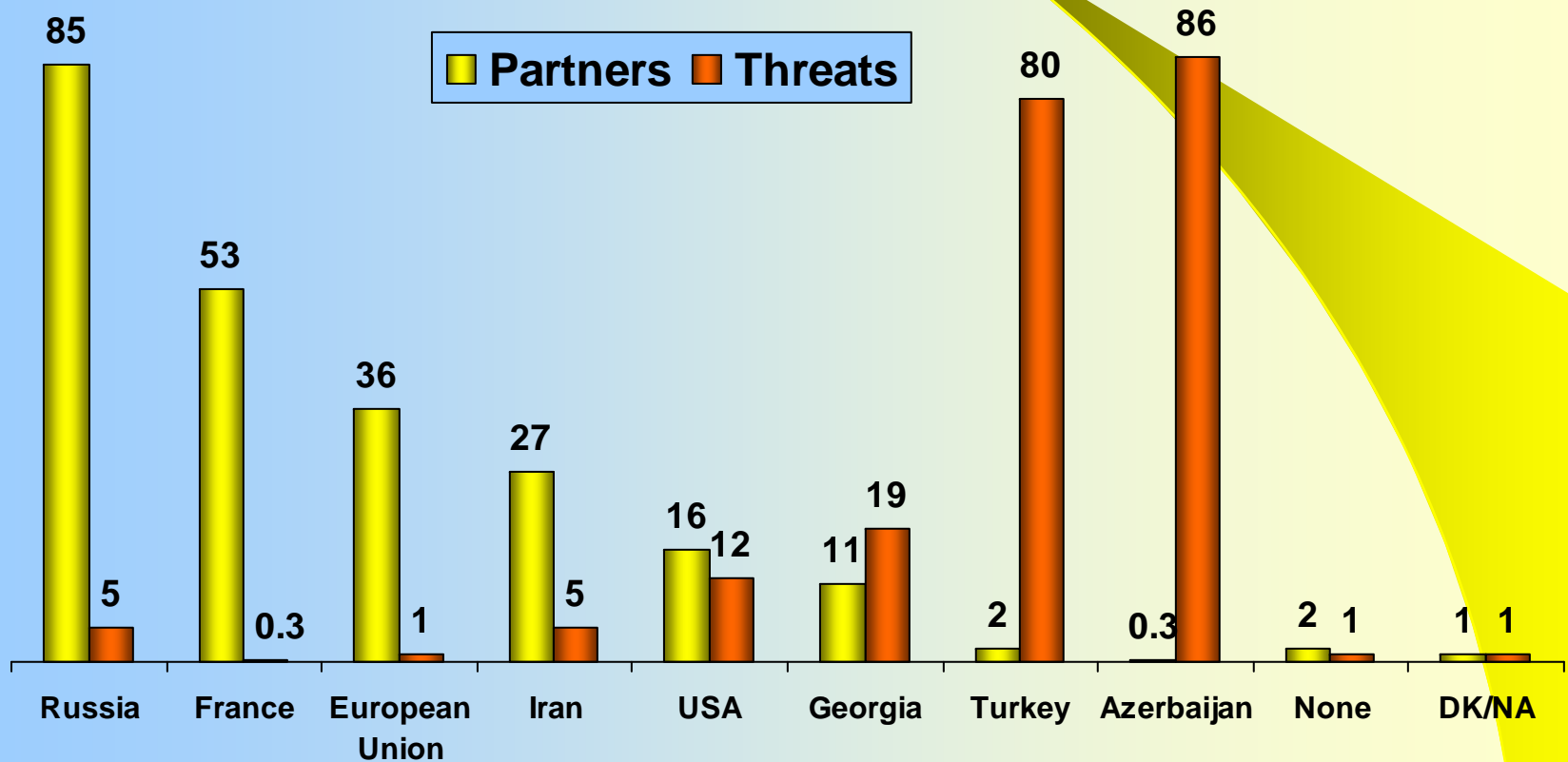
Which countries are the most important partners for Armenia?
And which comprise the greatest political and economic threat?



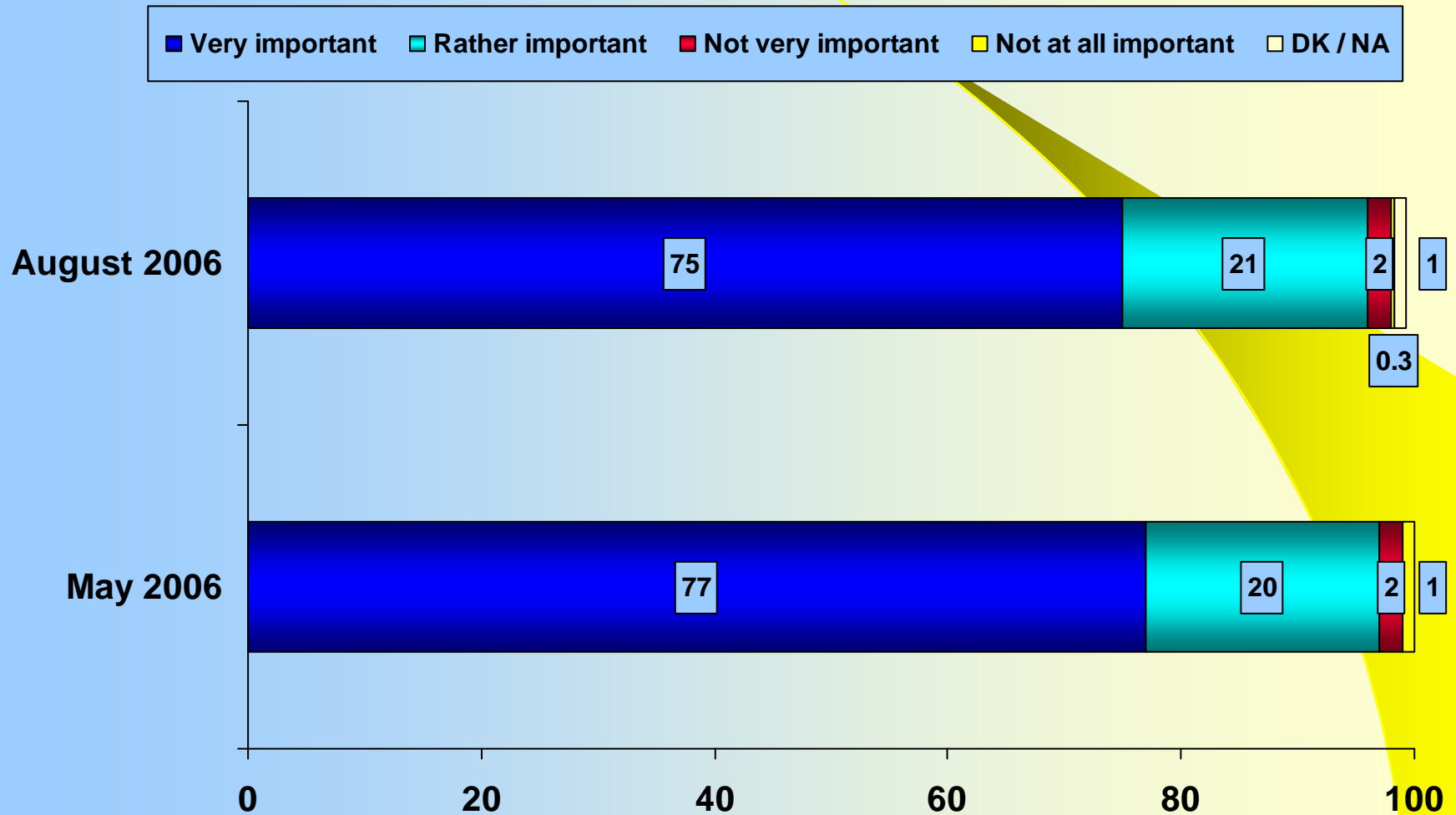
International relations: partners and threats

August 2006 (%)

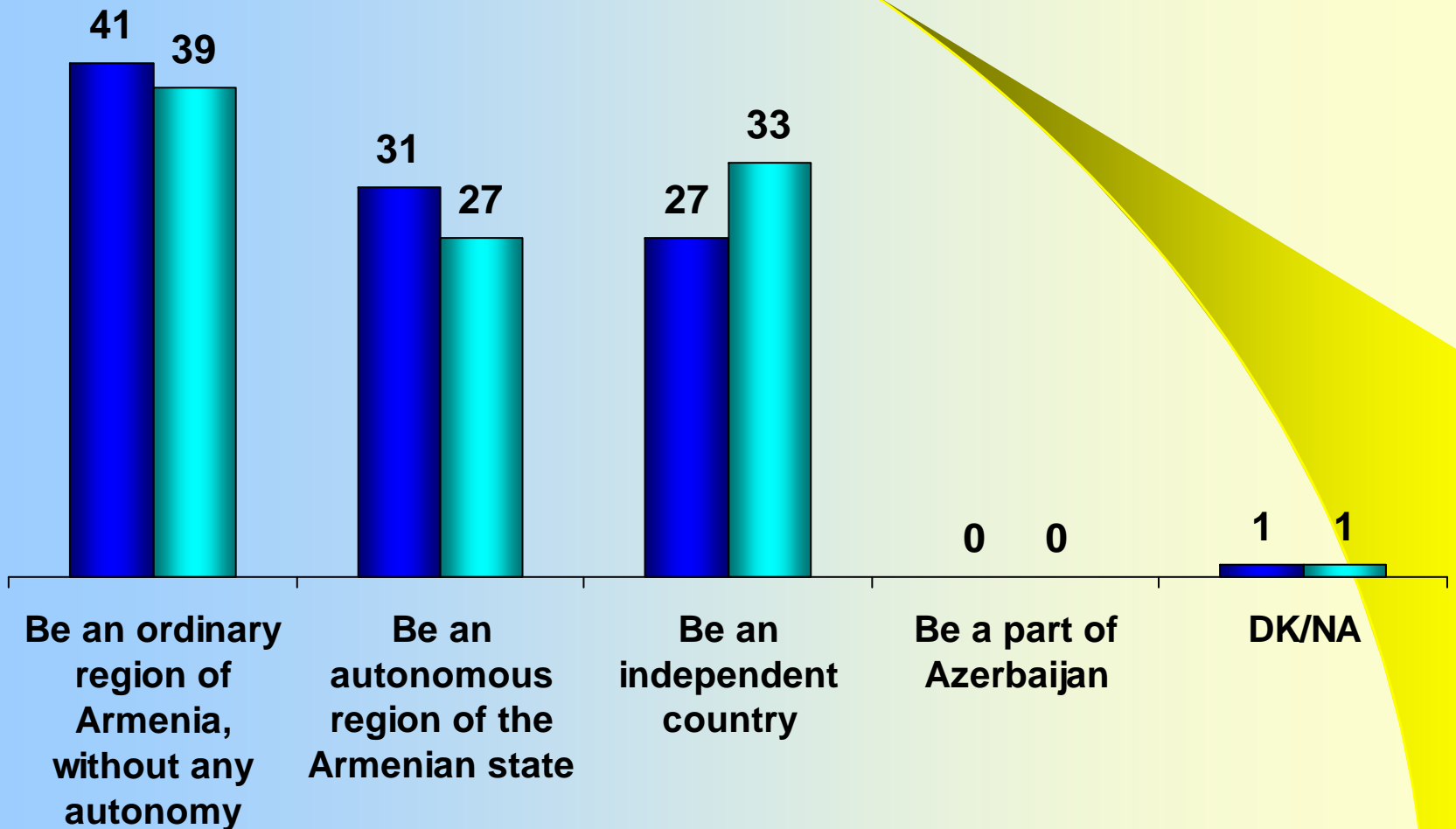
Which countries are the most important partners for Armenia?
And which comprise the greatest political and economic threat?



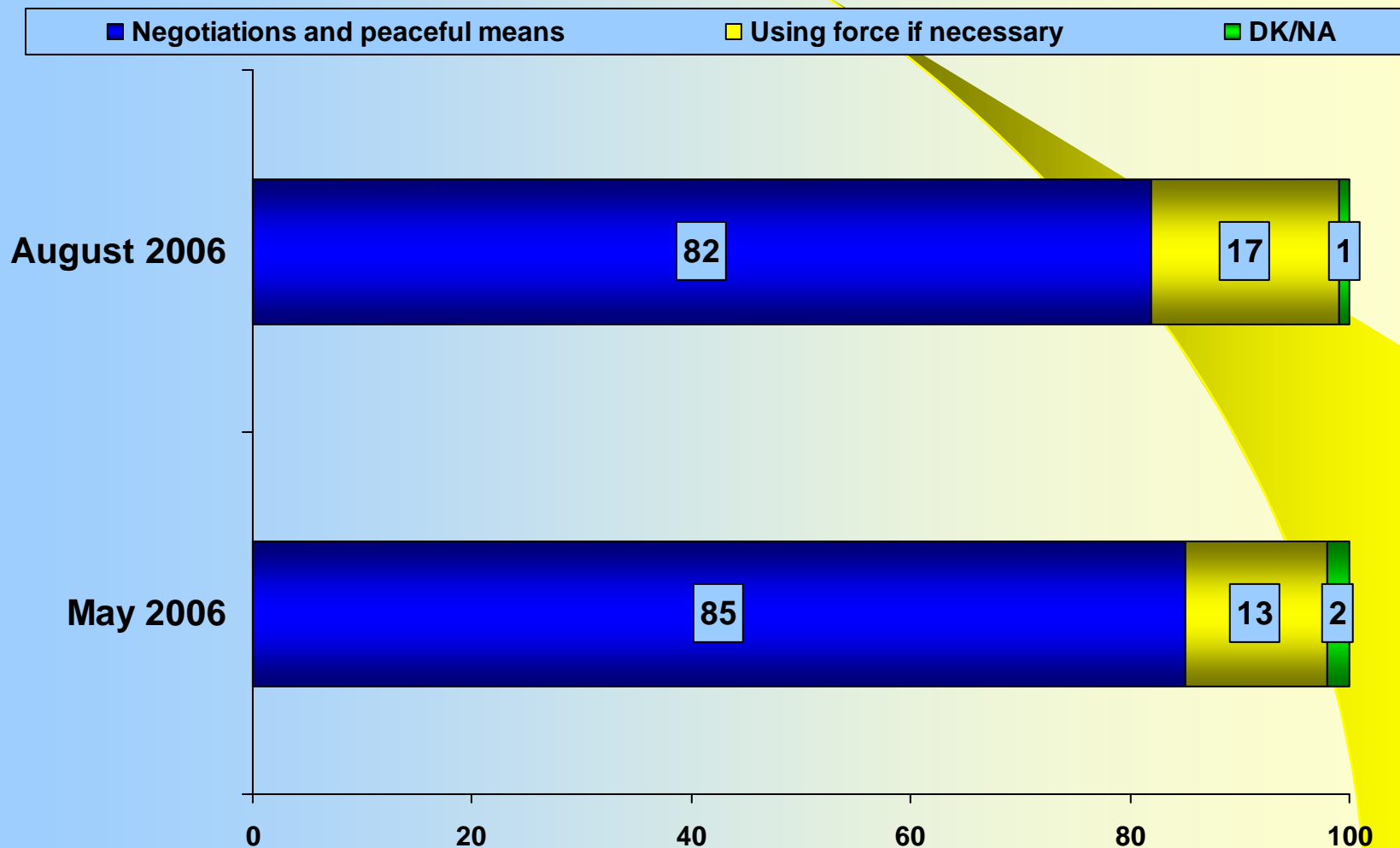
How important is it for Armenia to solve the problems related to Nagorno Karabakh in the near future? Is it.... (%)



Thinking about the future of Nagorno Karabakh, do you think it should ... (%)

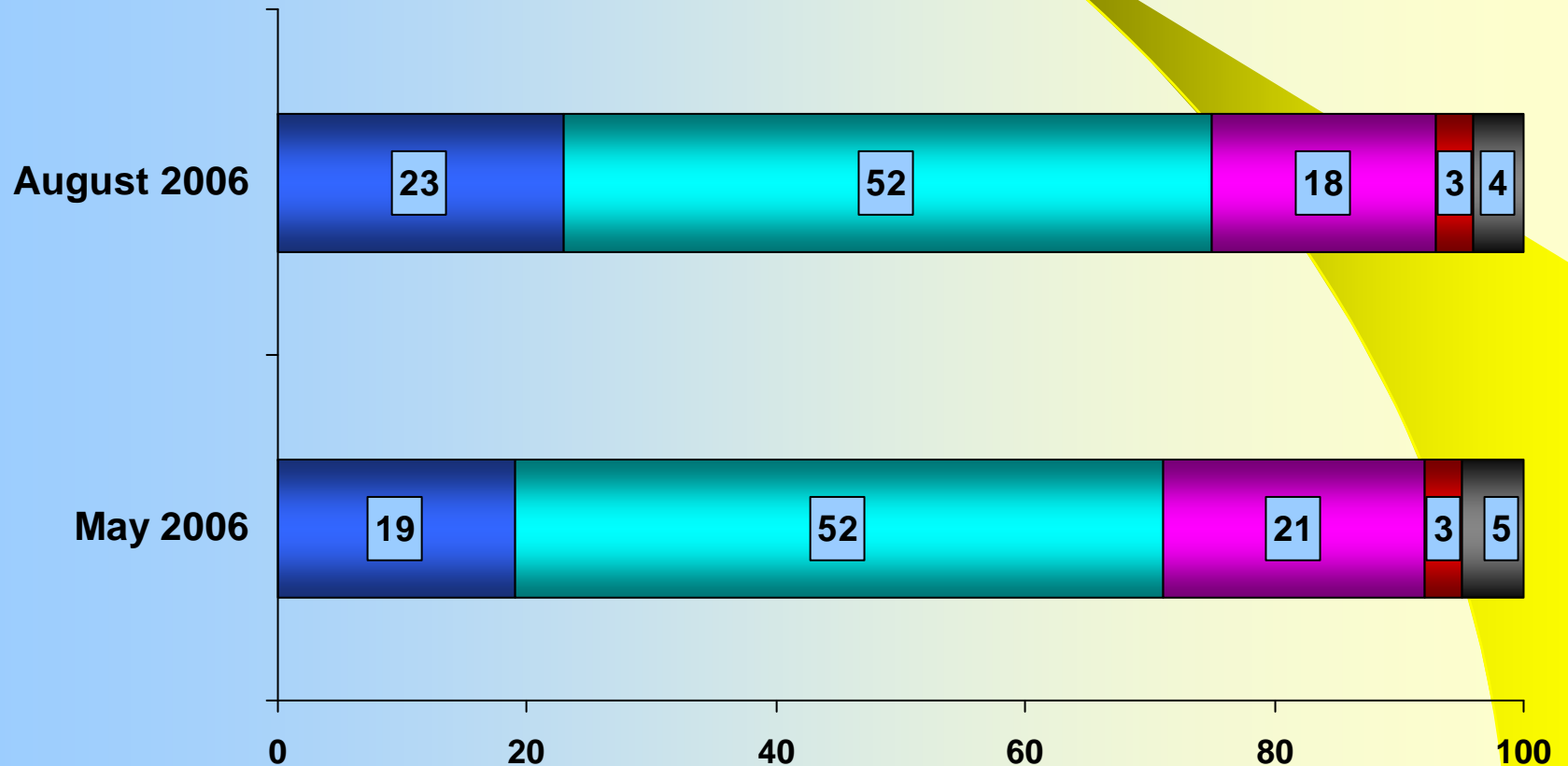


Do you think that the current situation in regard to the status of Nagorno Karabakh should be resolved by using negotiations and peaceful means, or should some force should be used if necessary? (%)

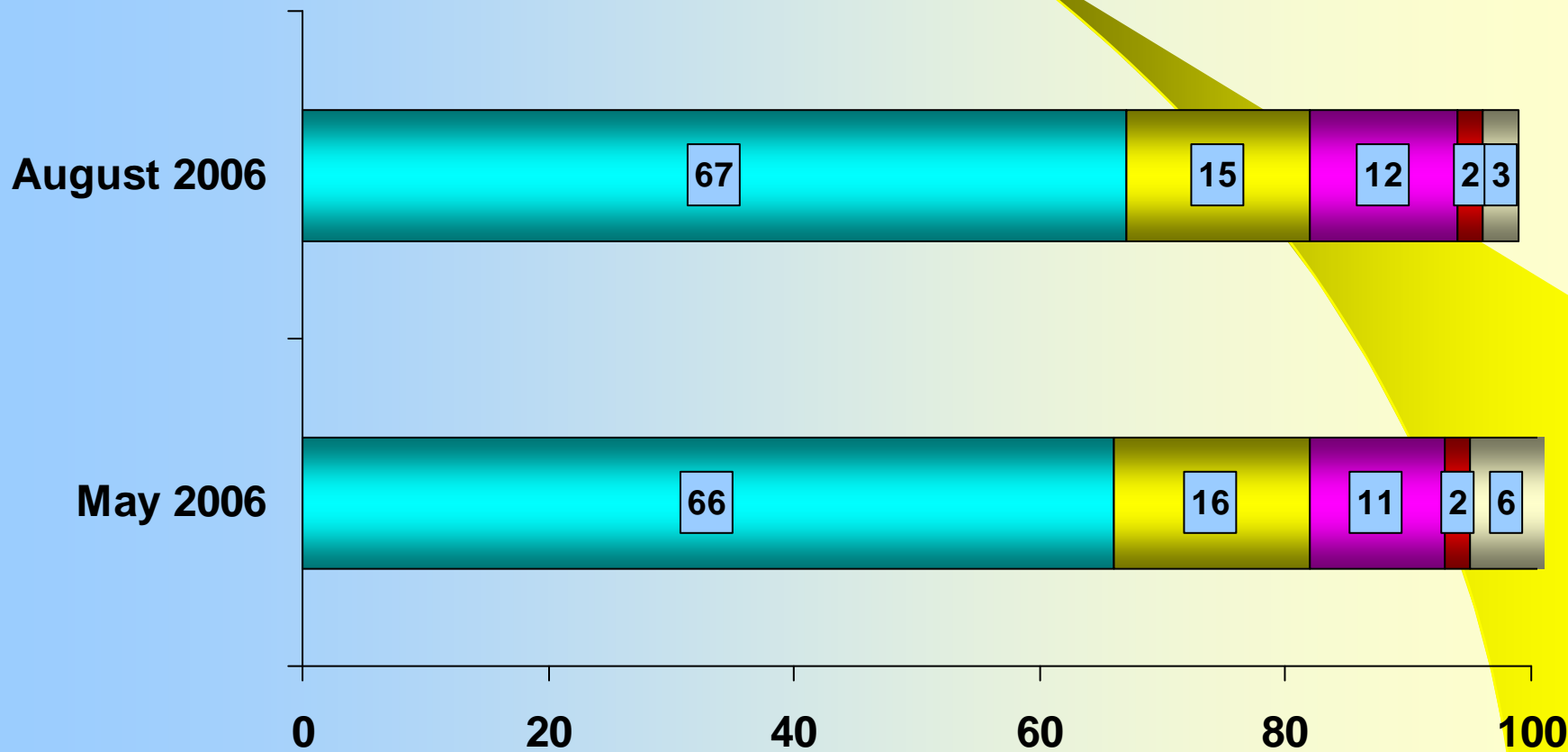


Do you think that a peaceful settlement on Nagorno Karabakh can be reached with Azerbaijan without military force being used?

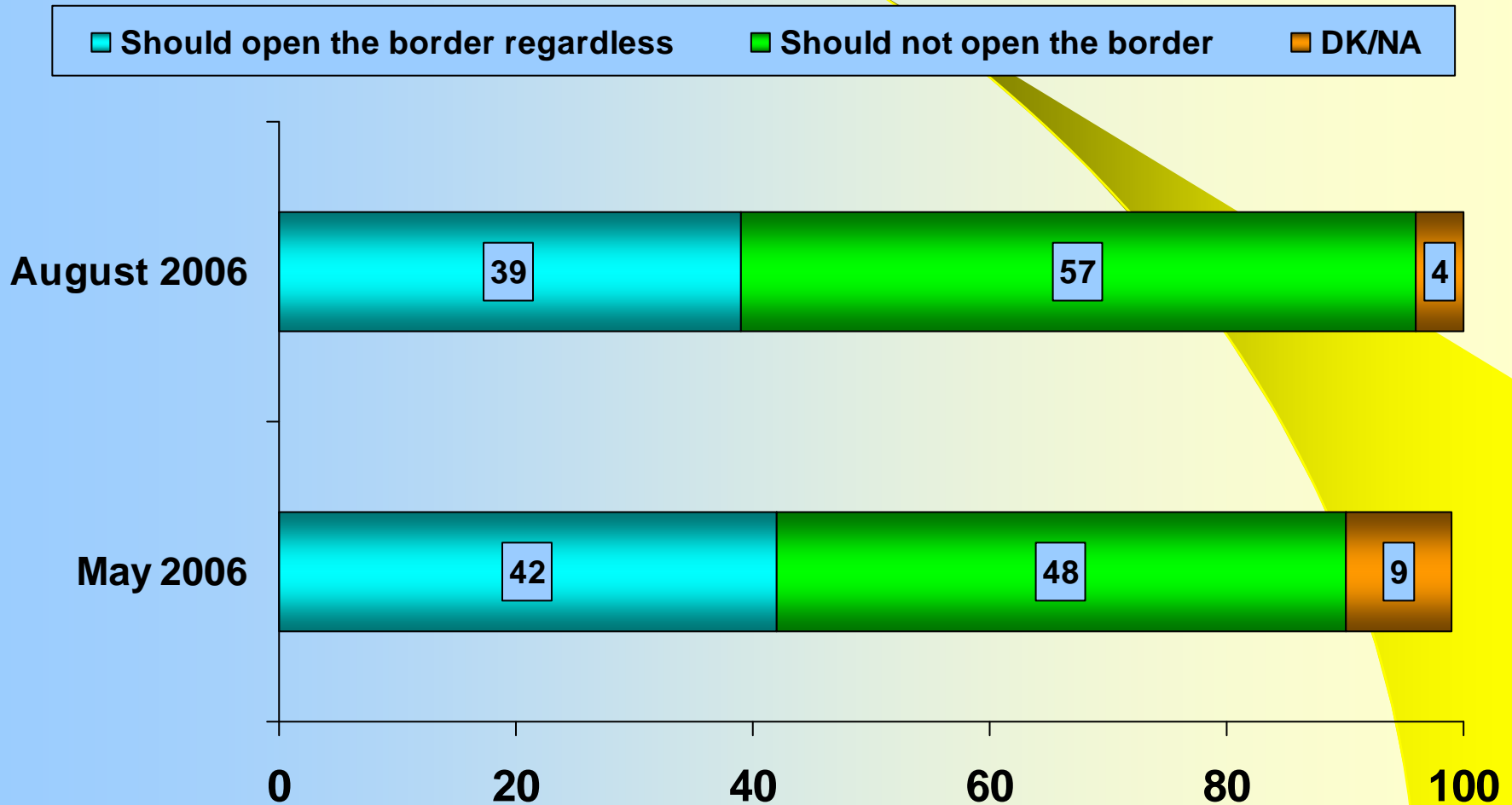
■ Definitely yes ■ Probably yes ■ Probably no ■ Definitely no ■ DK/NA



In your opinion, does the presence of a Russian military base in Armenia have a positive or negative influence on Armenian independence and stability in the country?

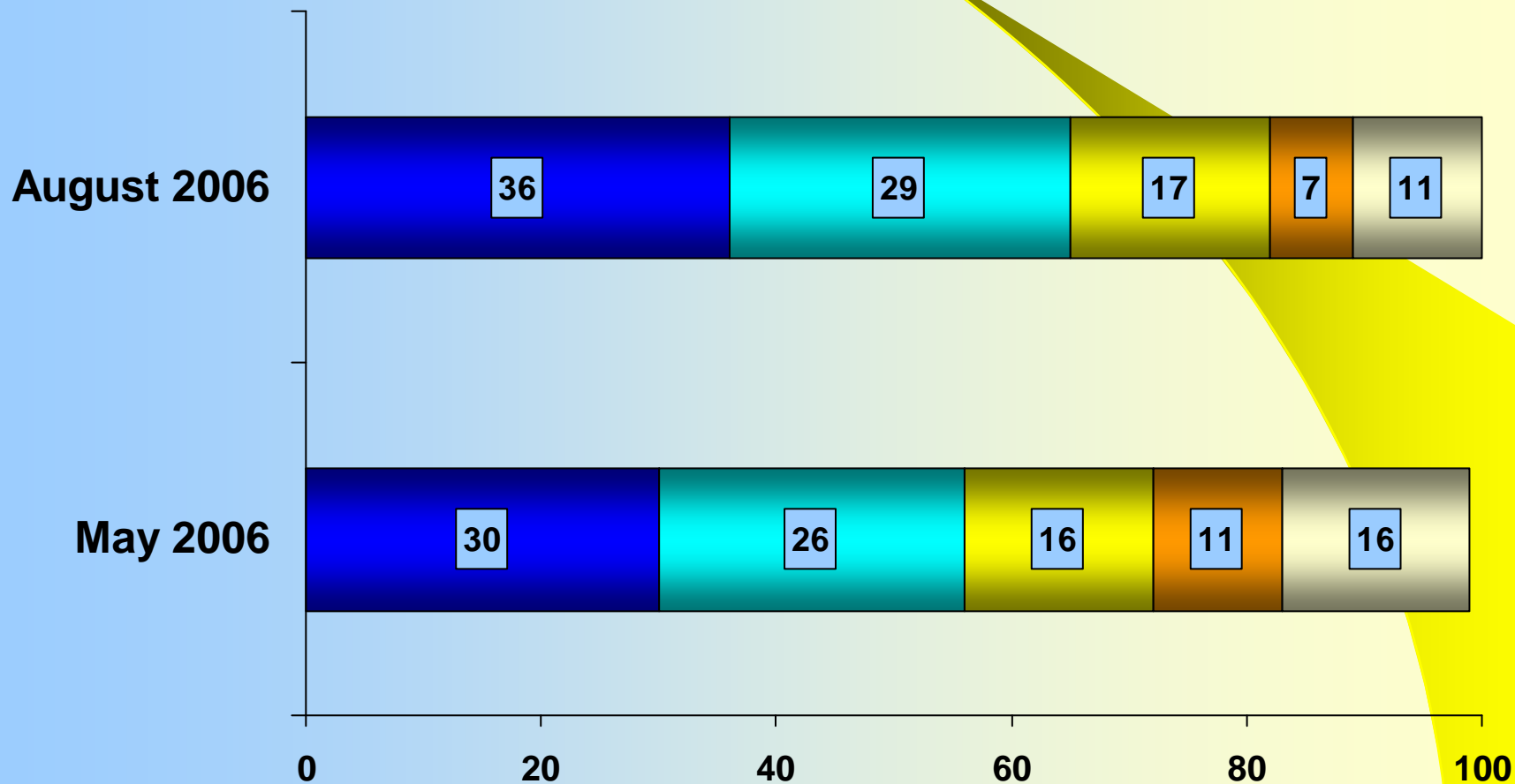


Should the government of Armenia agree to open the border for trade, etc. with Turkey – even if the Turks do not recognize the genocide?

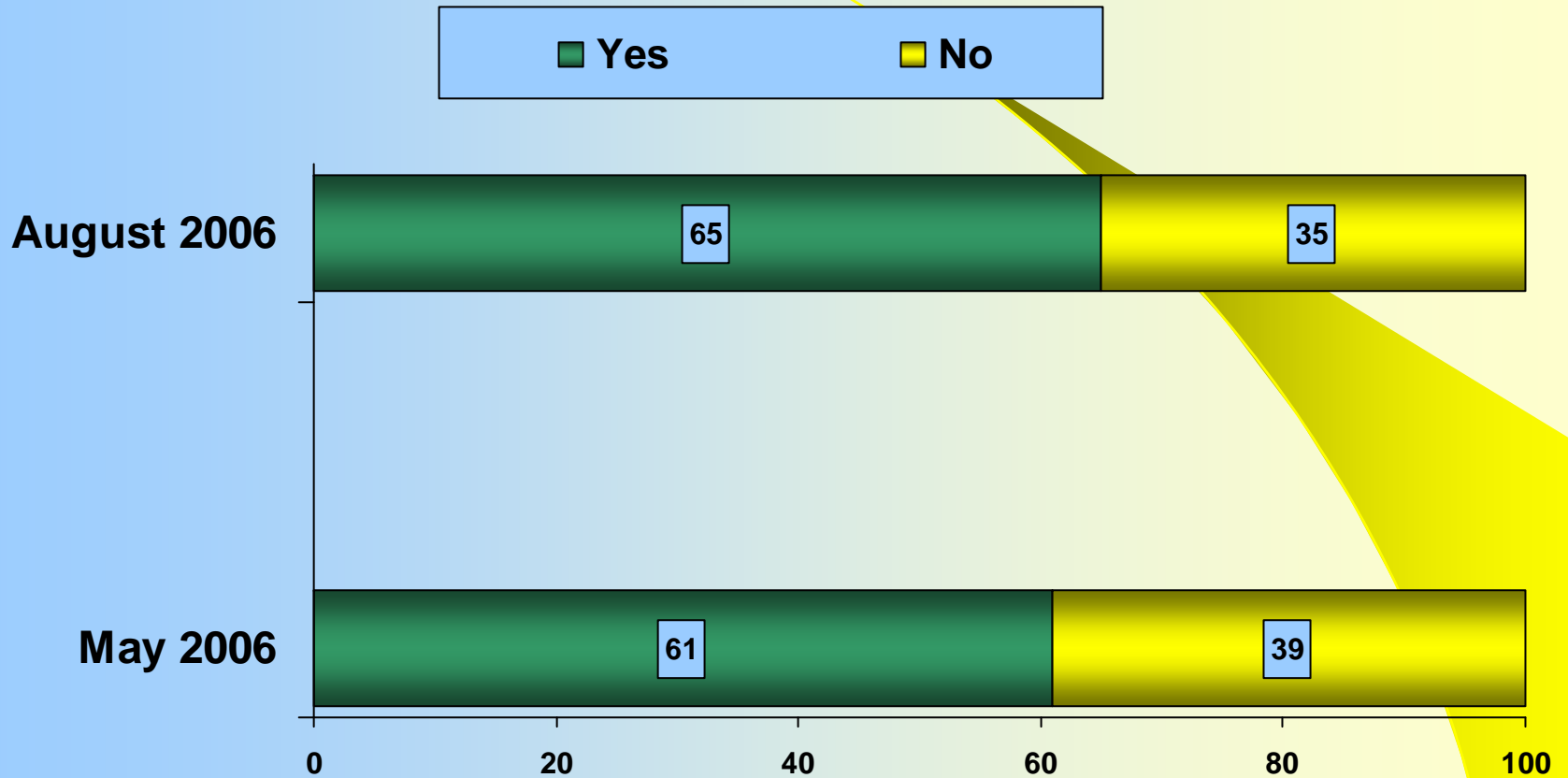


Do you support US, EU and Russian efforts to prevent Iran from having nuclear weapons?

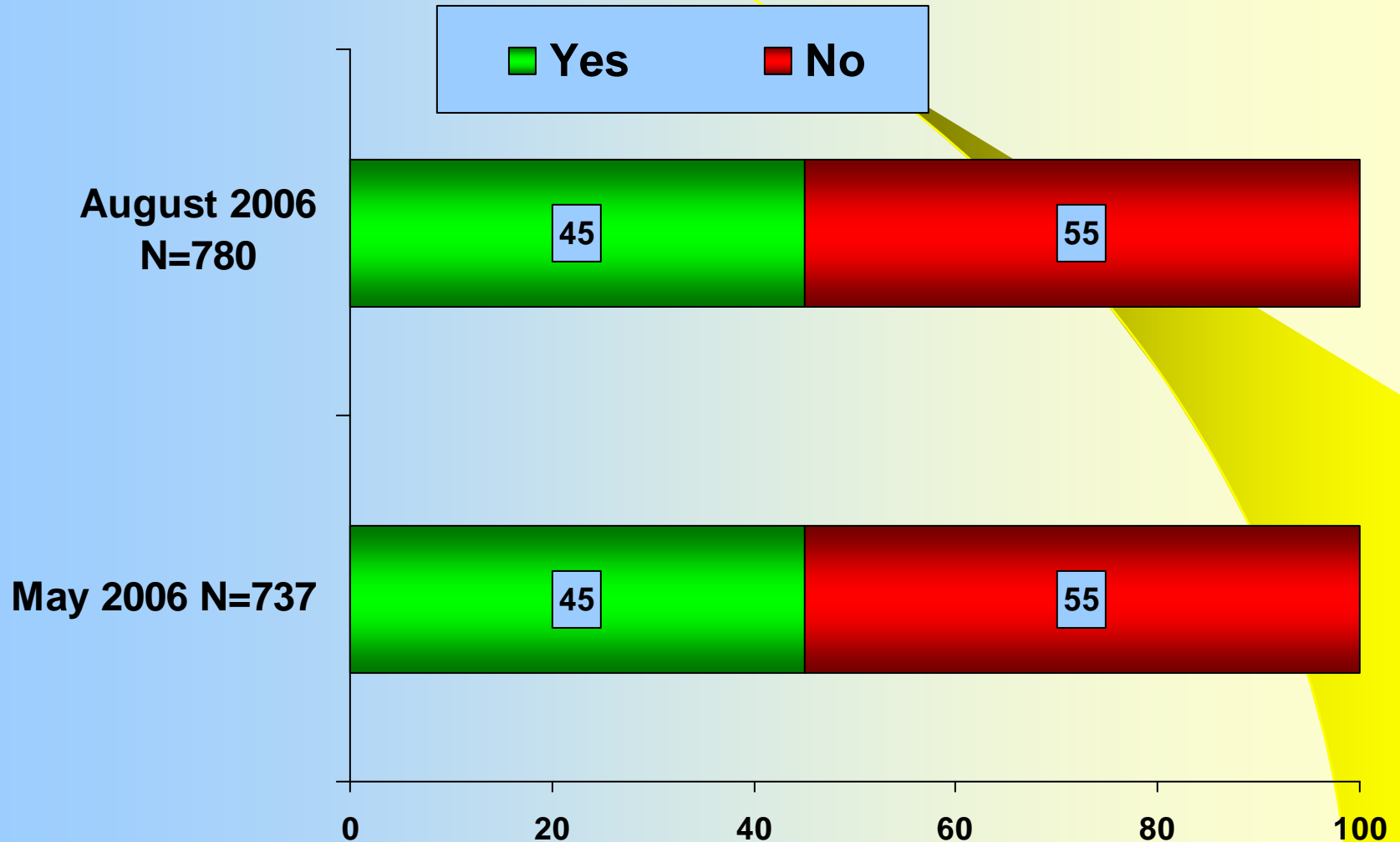
■ Definitely agree ■ Somewhat agree ■ Somewhat disagree ■ Definitely disagree ■ DK/NA



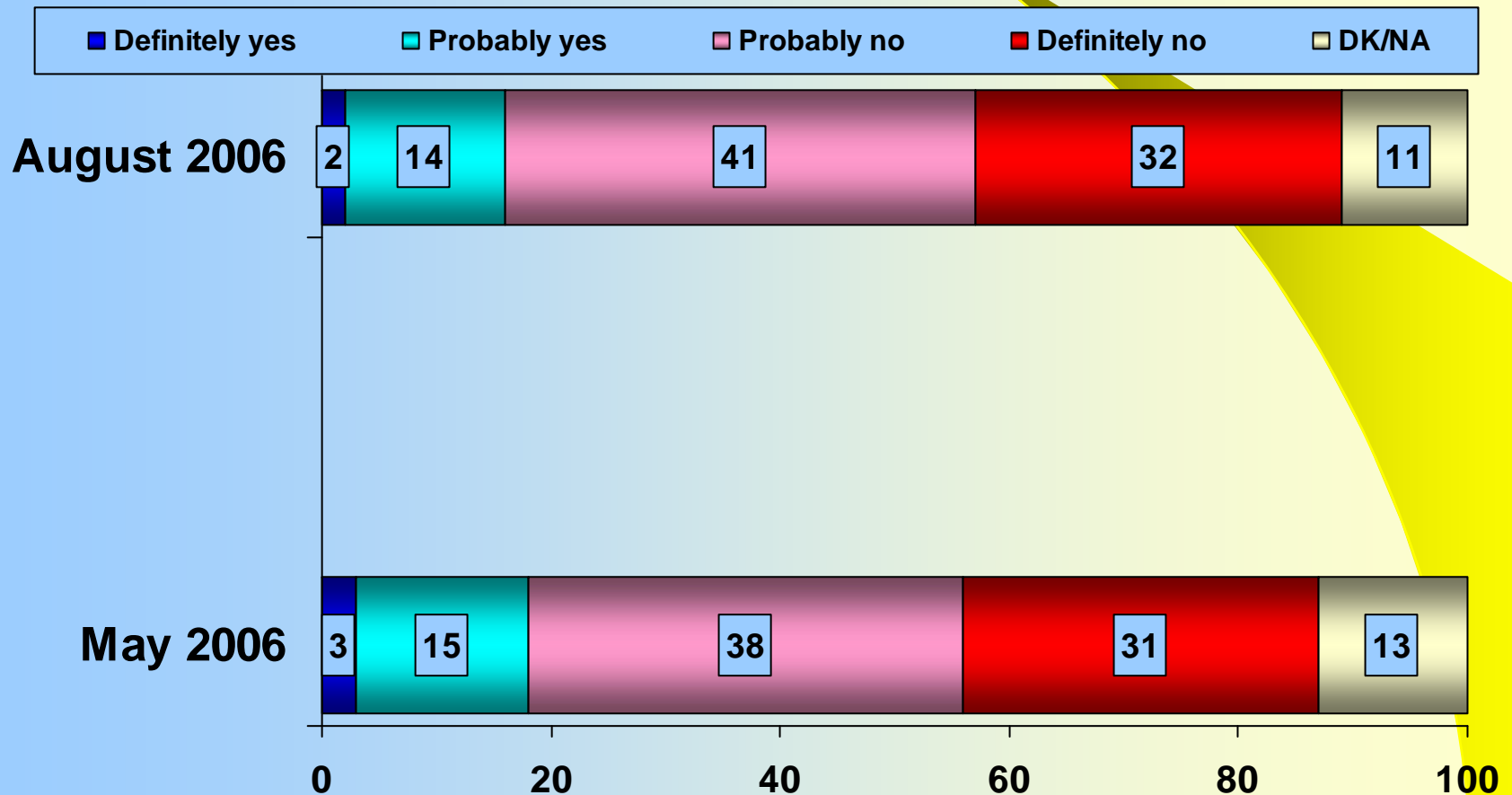
Do you have friends or relatives working abroad?



Do you personally benefit from remittances being sent from friends or relatives working abroad? (Those who have friends or relatives abroad, %)

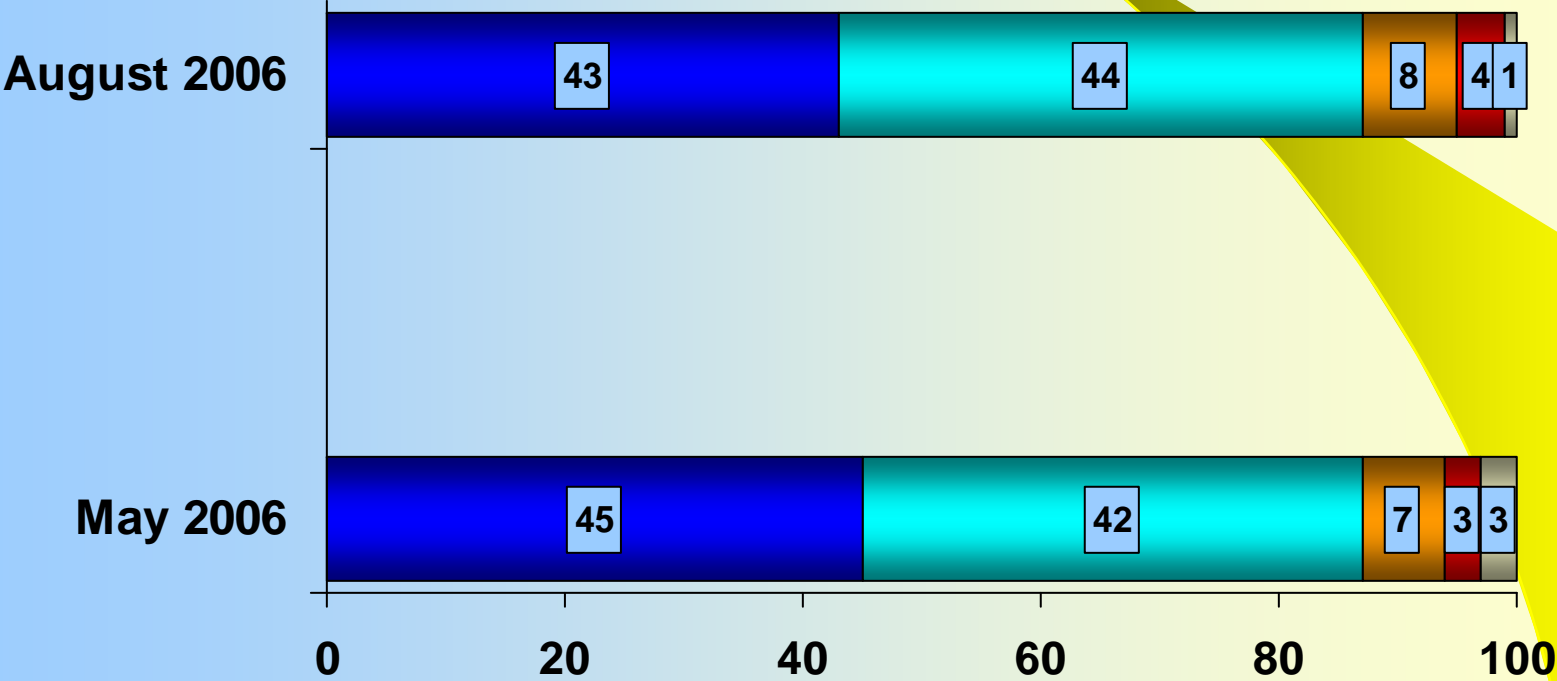


Is a “colored revolution” – like what happened in other Commonwealth of Independent States countries – likely in Armenia? (%)

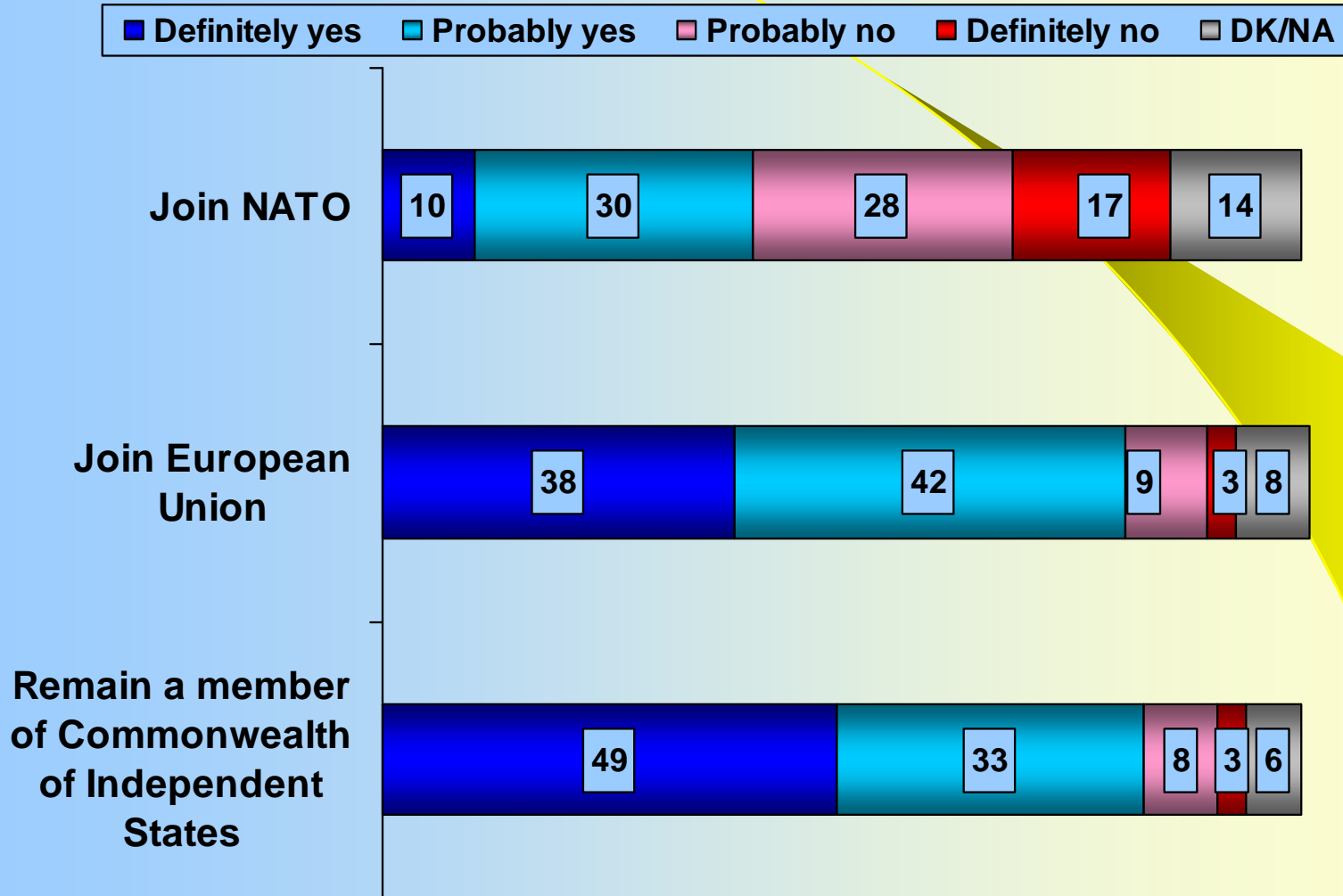


Do you think Russia is a trustworthy ally of Armenia? (%)

■ Definitely yes
 ■ Probably yes
 ■ Probably no
 ■ Definitely no
 ■ DK/NA

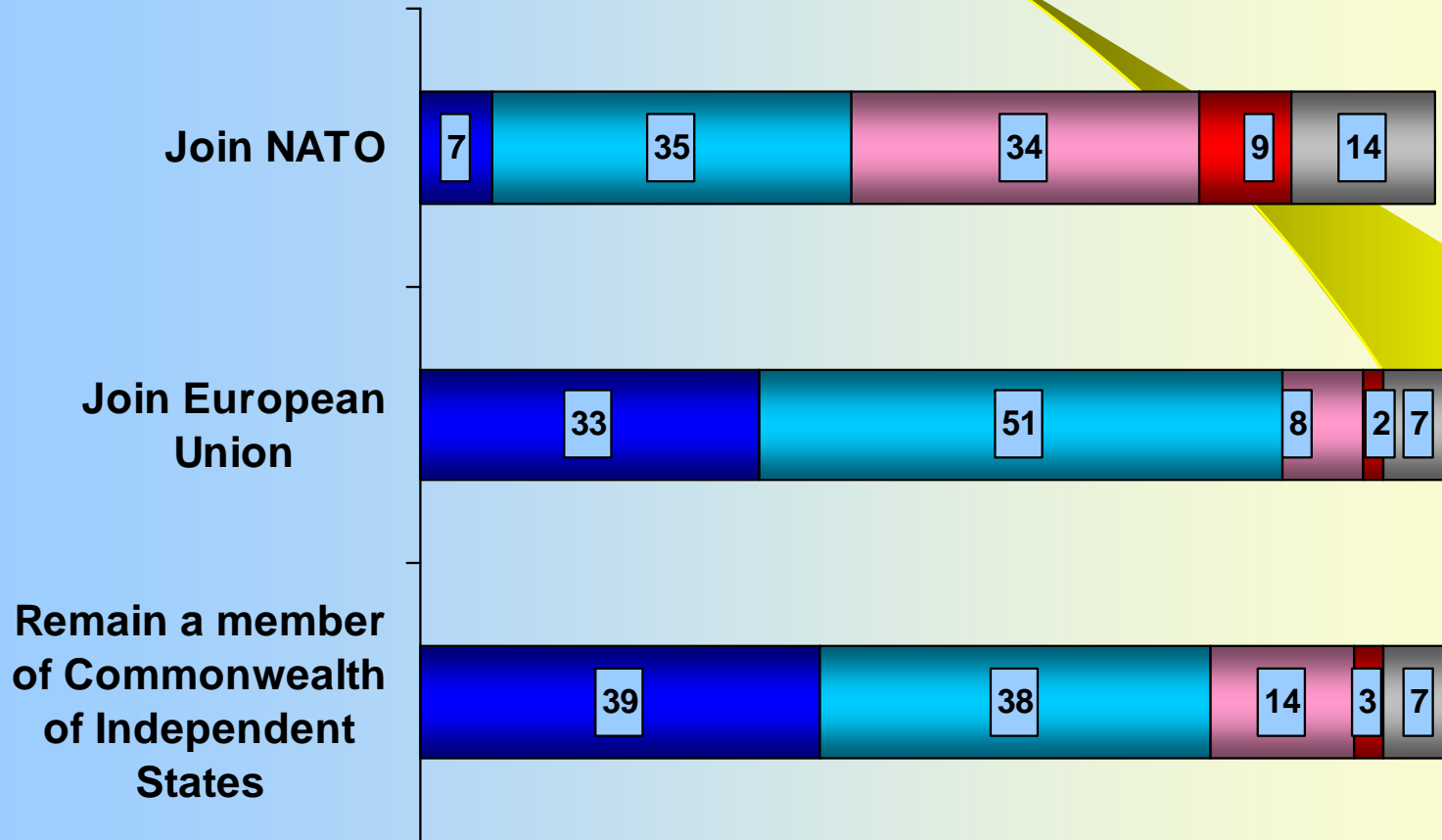


Should Armenia in the future... May 2006 (%)



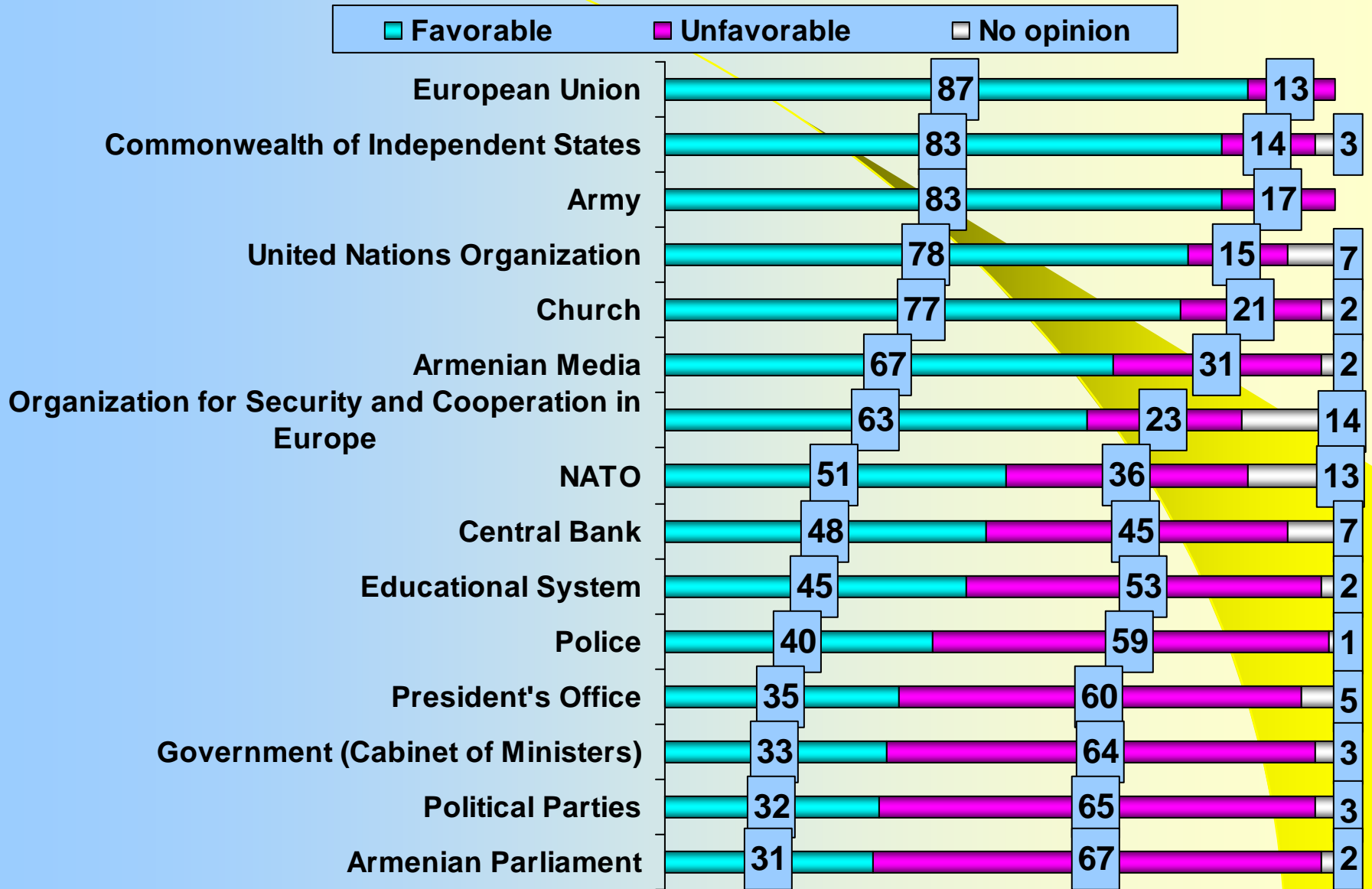
Should Armenia in the future... August 2006 (%)

■ Definitely yes
 ■ Probably yes
 ■ Probably no
 ■ Definitely no
 ■ DK/NA

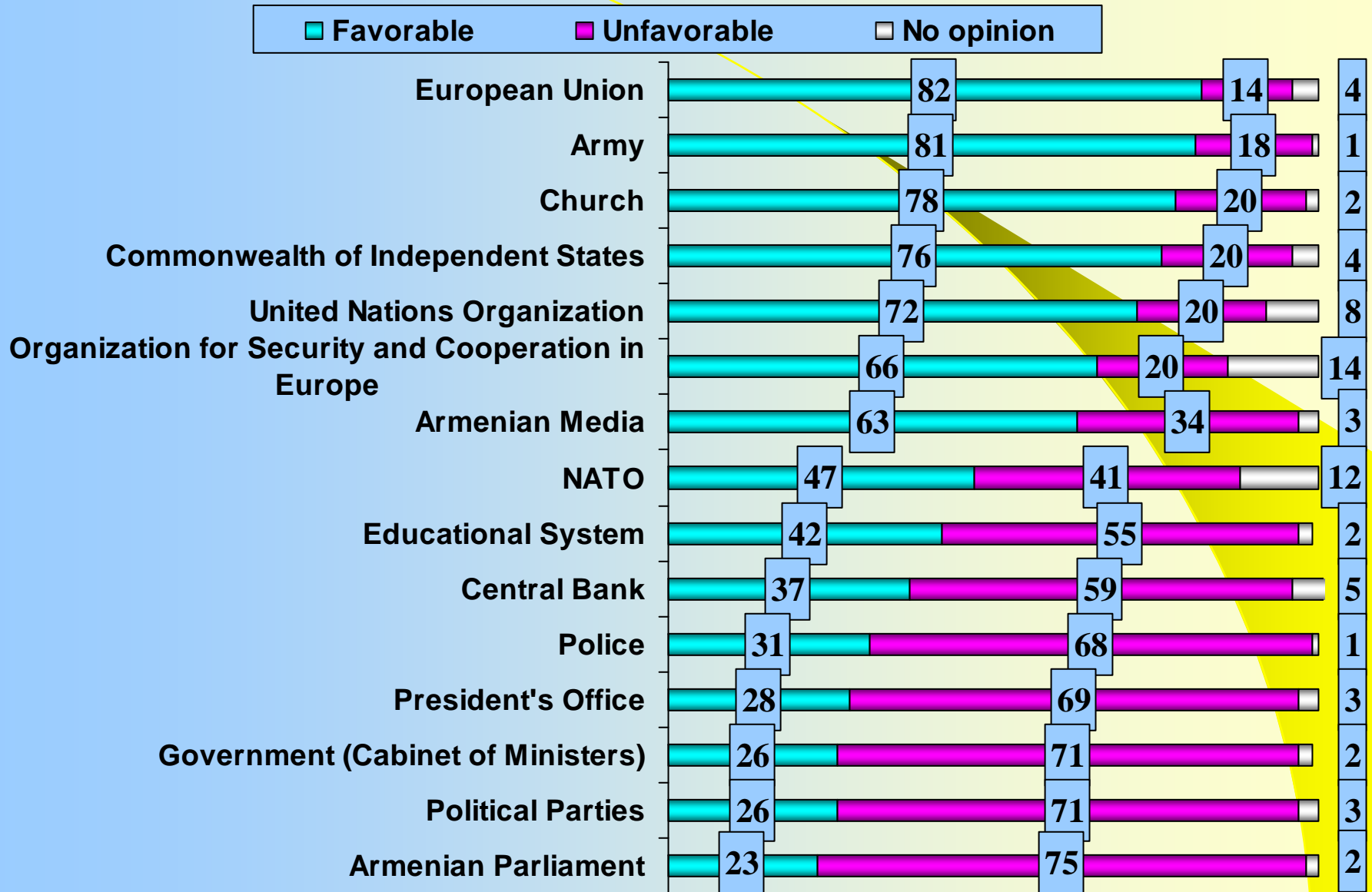


INSTITUTIONS

Confidence in institutions, May 2006 (%)



Confidence in institutions, August 2006 (%)

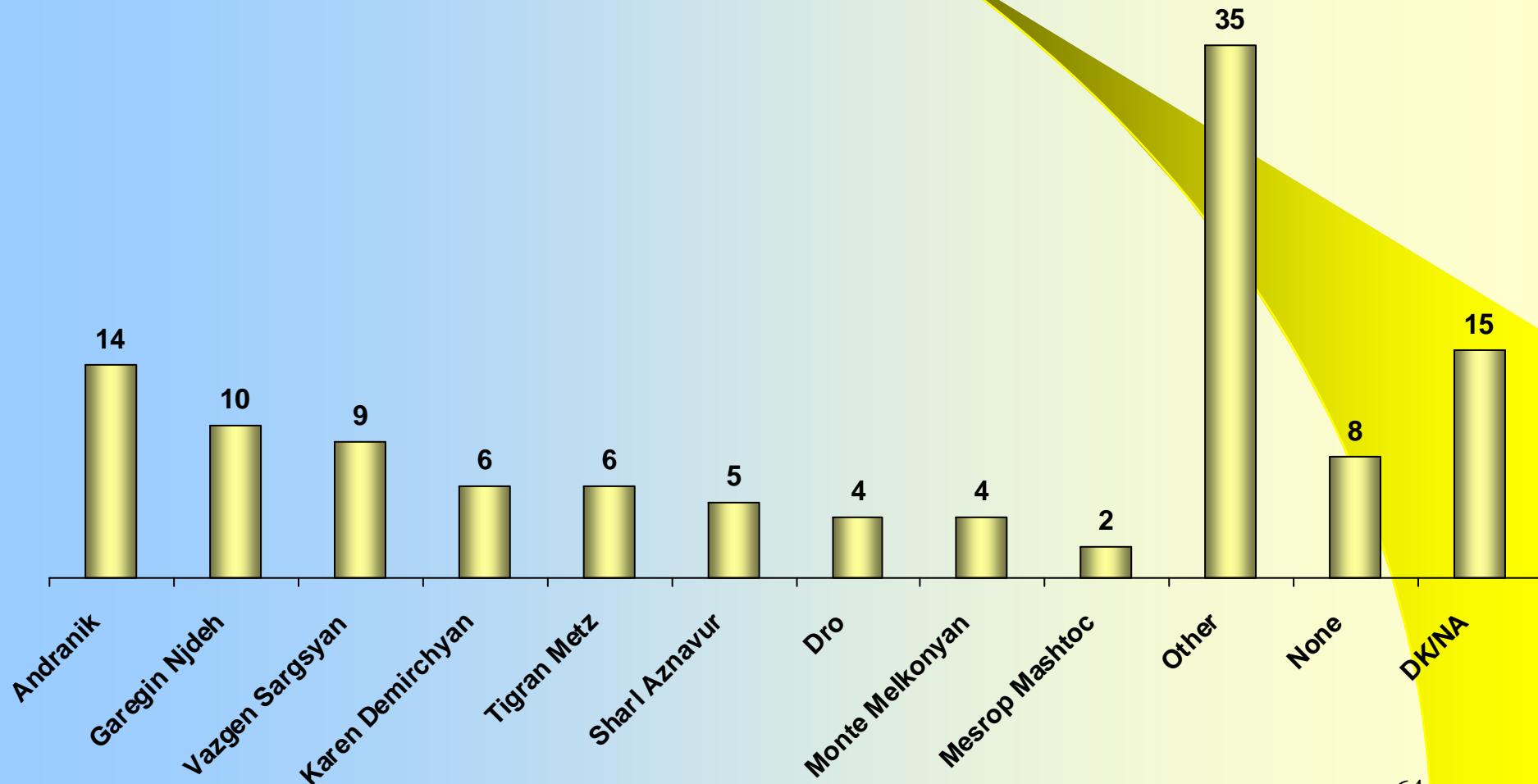


HEROES OF OUR TIMES

Heroes for our times

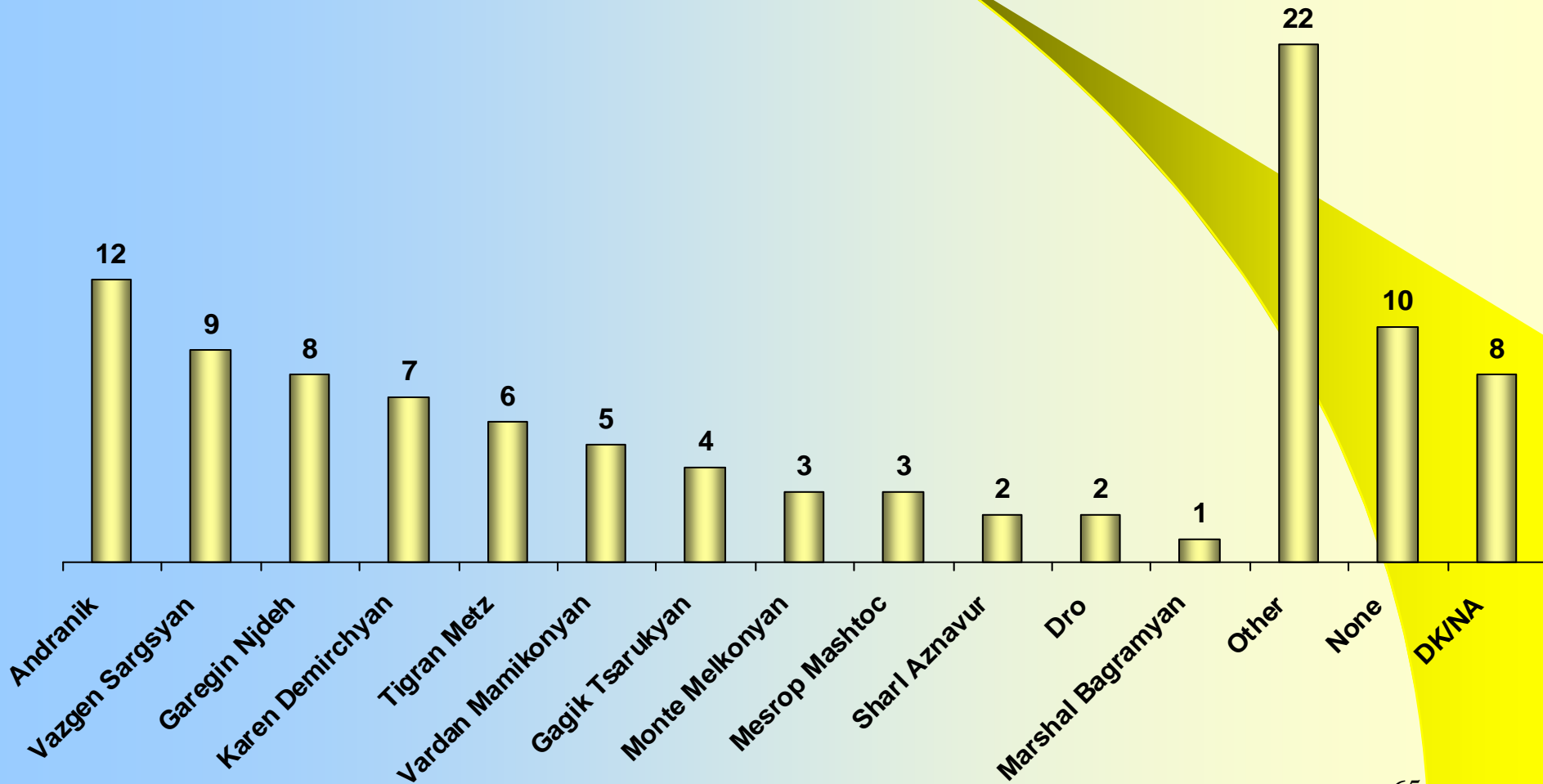
Of the prominent Armenian people and characters in Armenian history and folk culture, who is most suitable to be a national hero or leader in the present time?

(Open-ended question %) May 2006



Heroes for our times

Of the prominent Armenian people and characters in Armenian history and folk culture, who is most suitable to be a national hero or leader in the present?
(Open-ended question %) August 2006



VALUES OF ARMENIAN PEOPLE, May 2006

(Mean scores, 1 - "Important to me," 9 - "Most important to me")



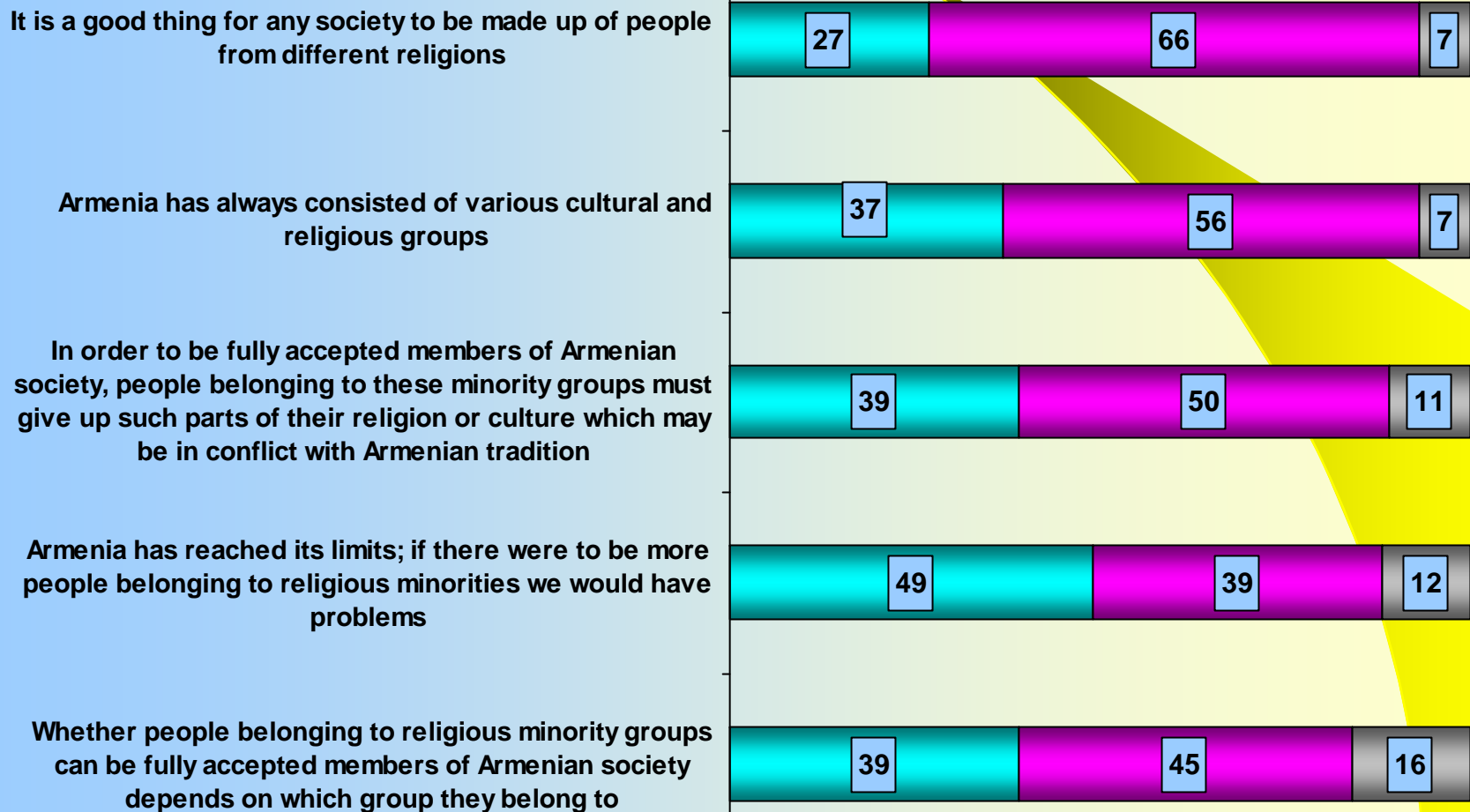
VALUES OF ARMENIAN PEOPLE. August, 2006

(Mean scores, 1 - "Important to me," 9 - "Most important to me")



Tolerance May 2006 (%)

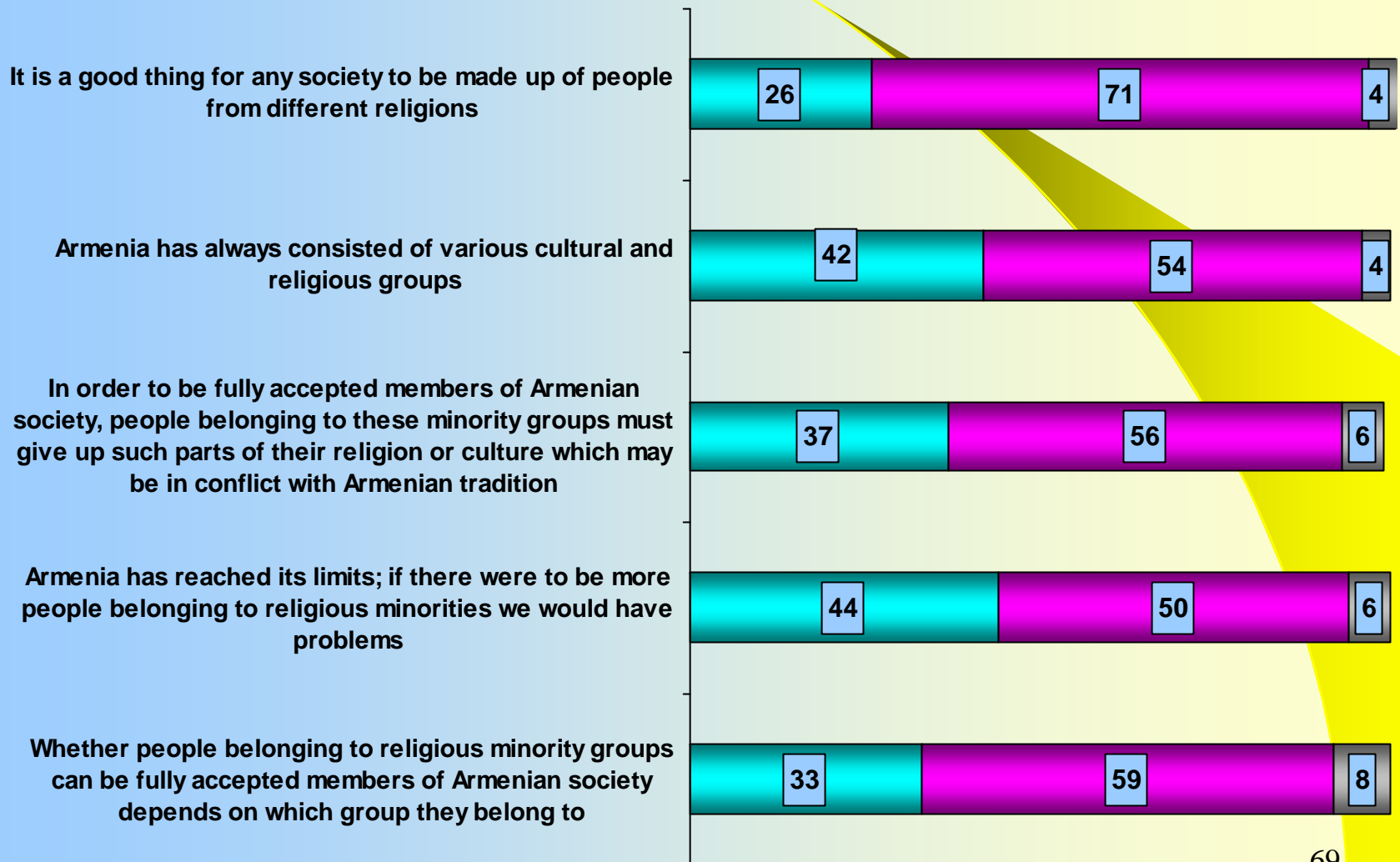
■ Tend to agree ■ Tend to disagree ■ DK/NA



Tolerance

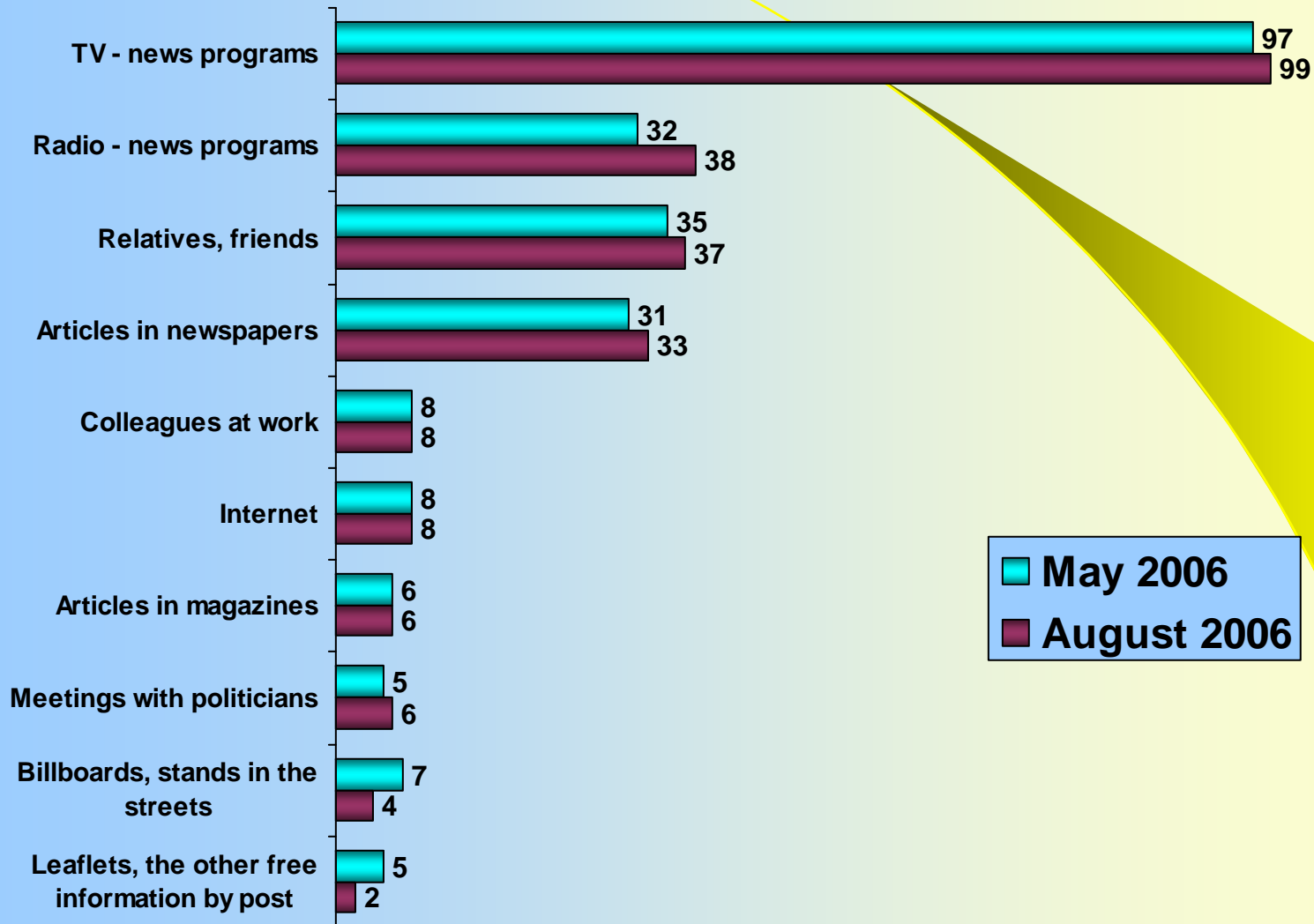
August 2006 (%)

■ Tend to agree ■ Tend to disagree ■ DK/NA



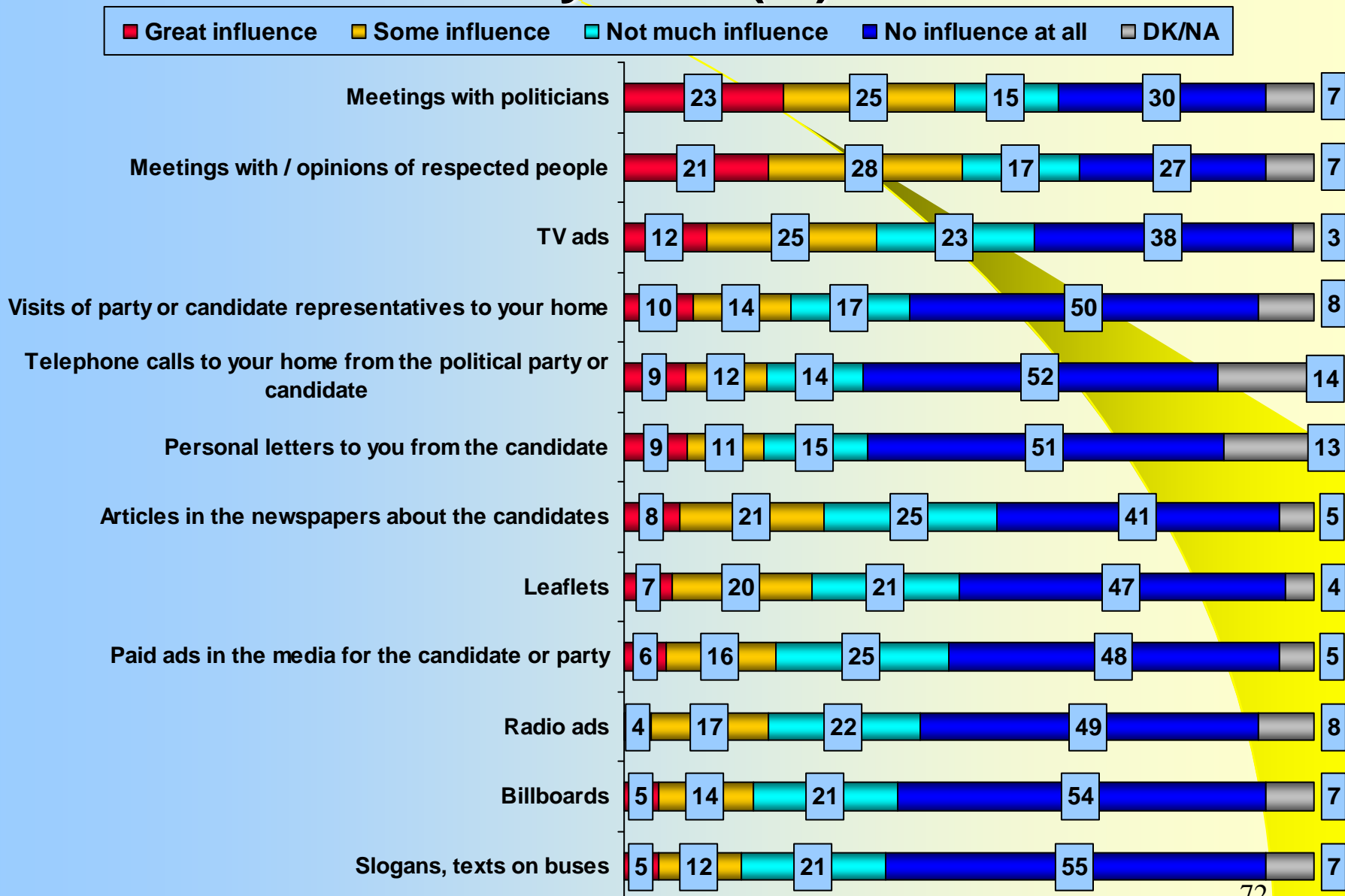
SOURCES OF INFORMATION

Sources of political information (%)



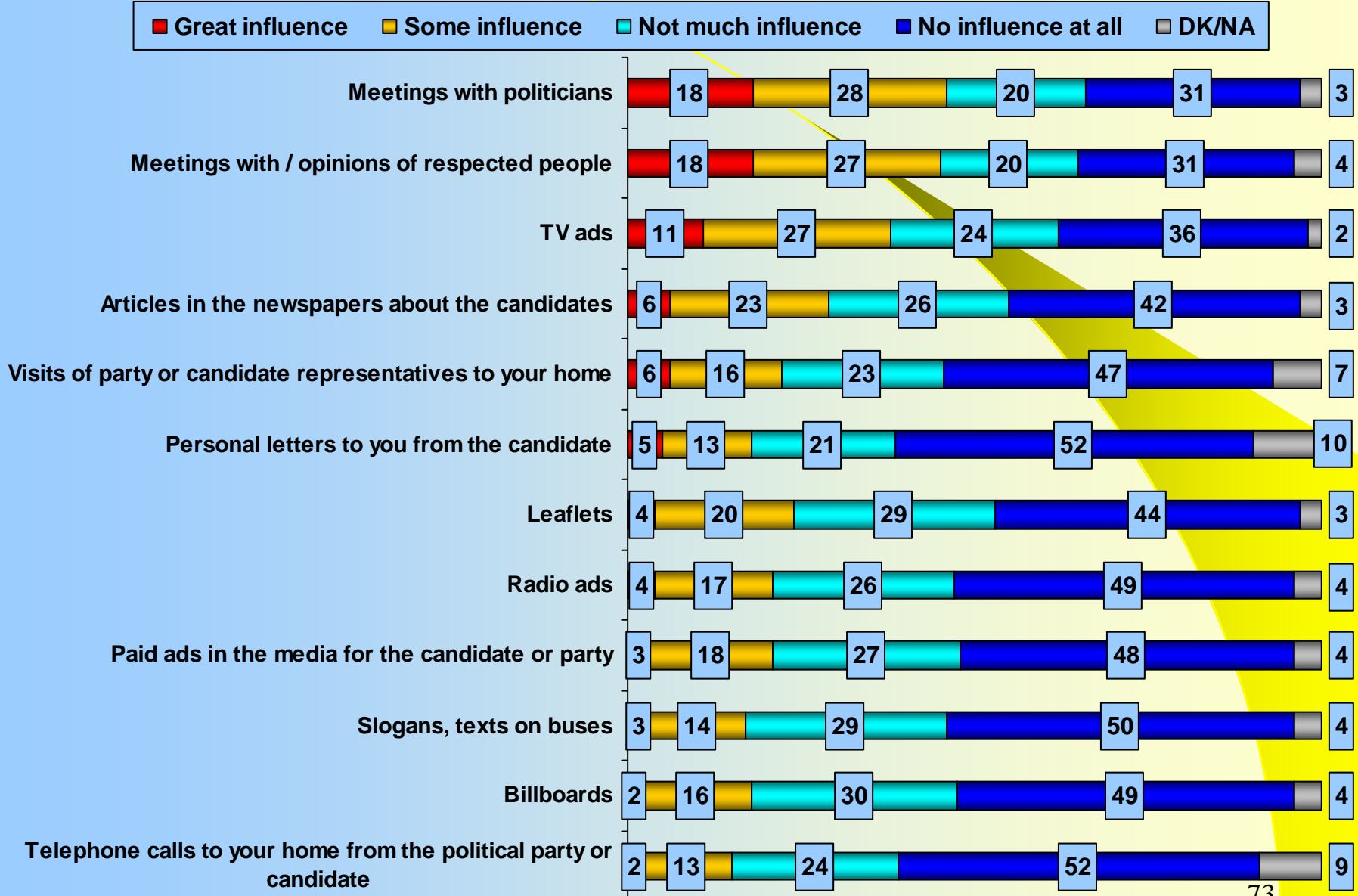
Sources of information in election campaign

May 2006 (%)



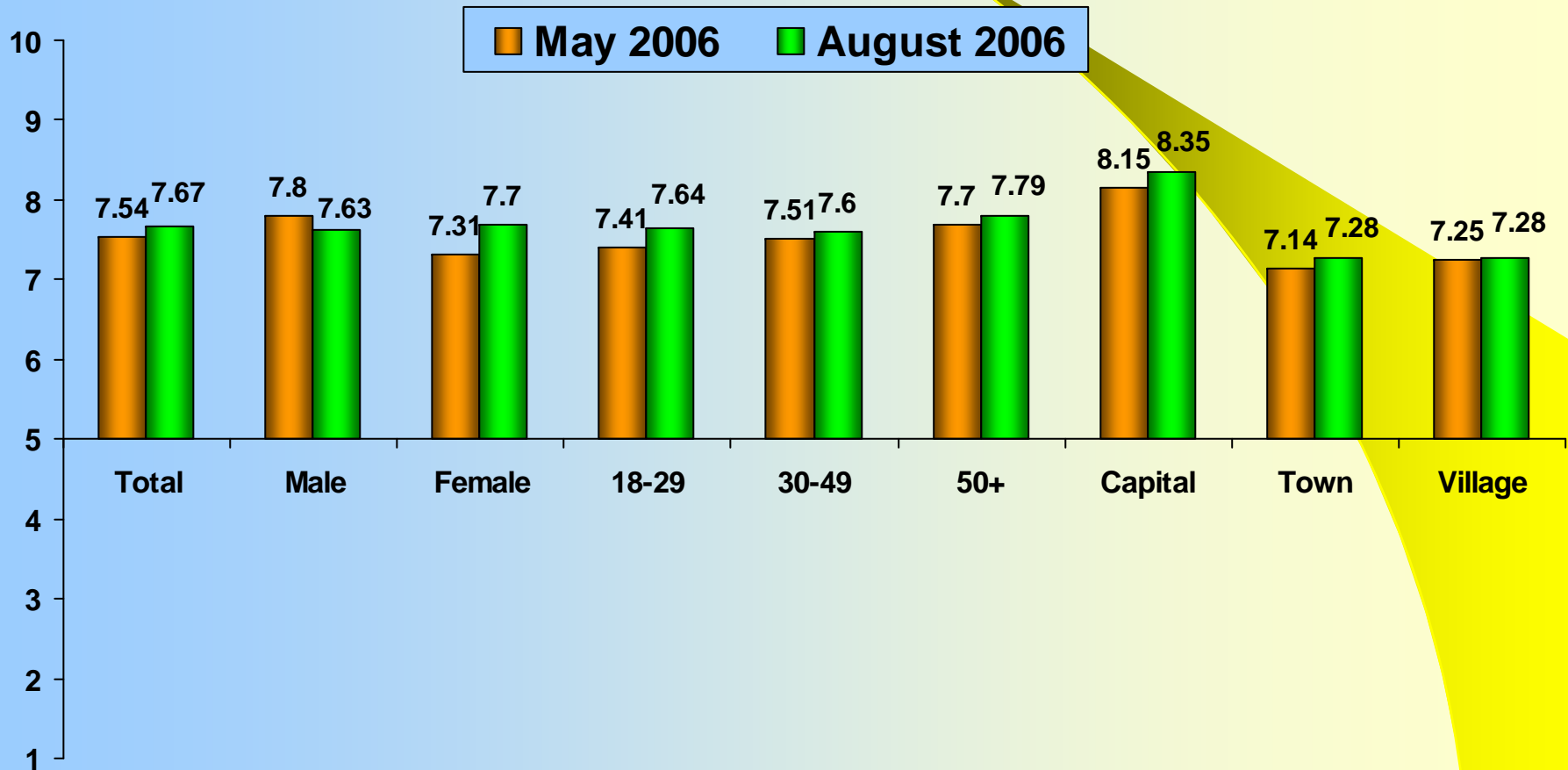
Sources of information in election campaign

August 2006 (%)



Trust in elections

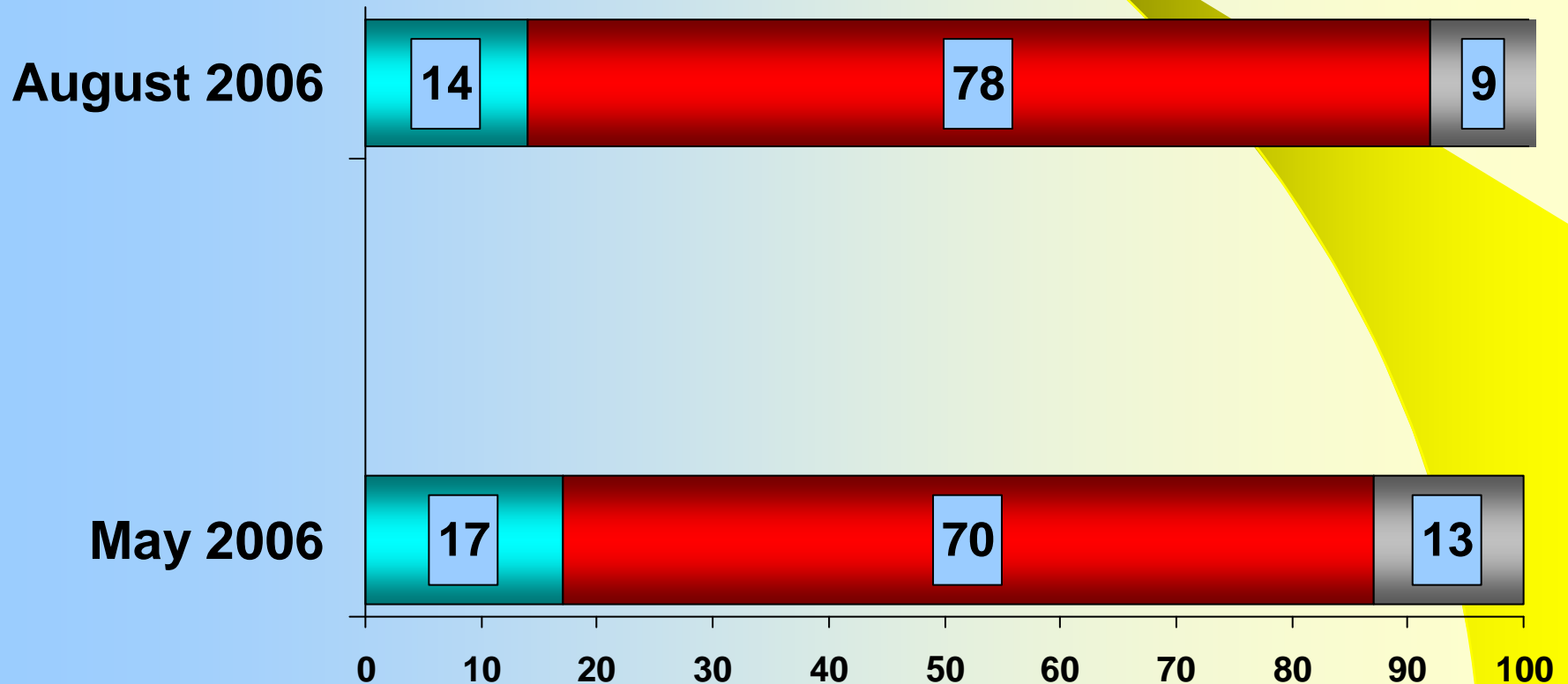
How fraudulent was the referendum of 2005?
(10 - very fraudulent, 1 - not at all fraudulent)



Trust in elections

The next parliamentary elections will be (%)

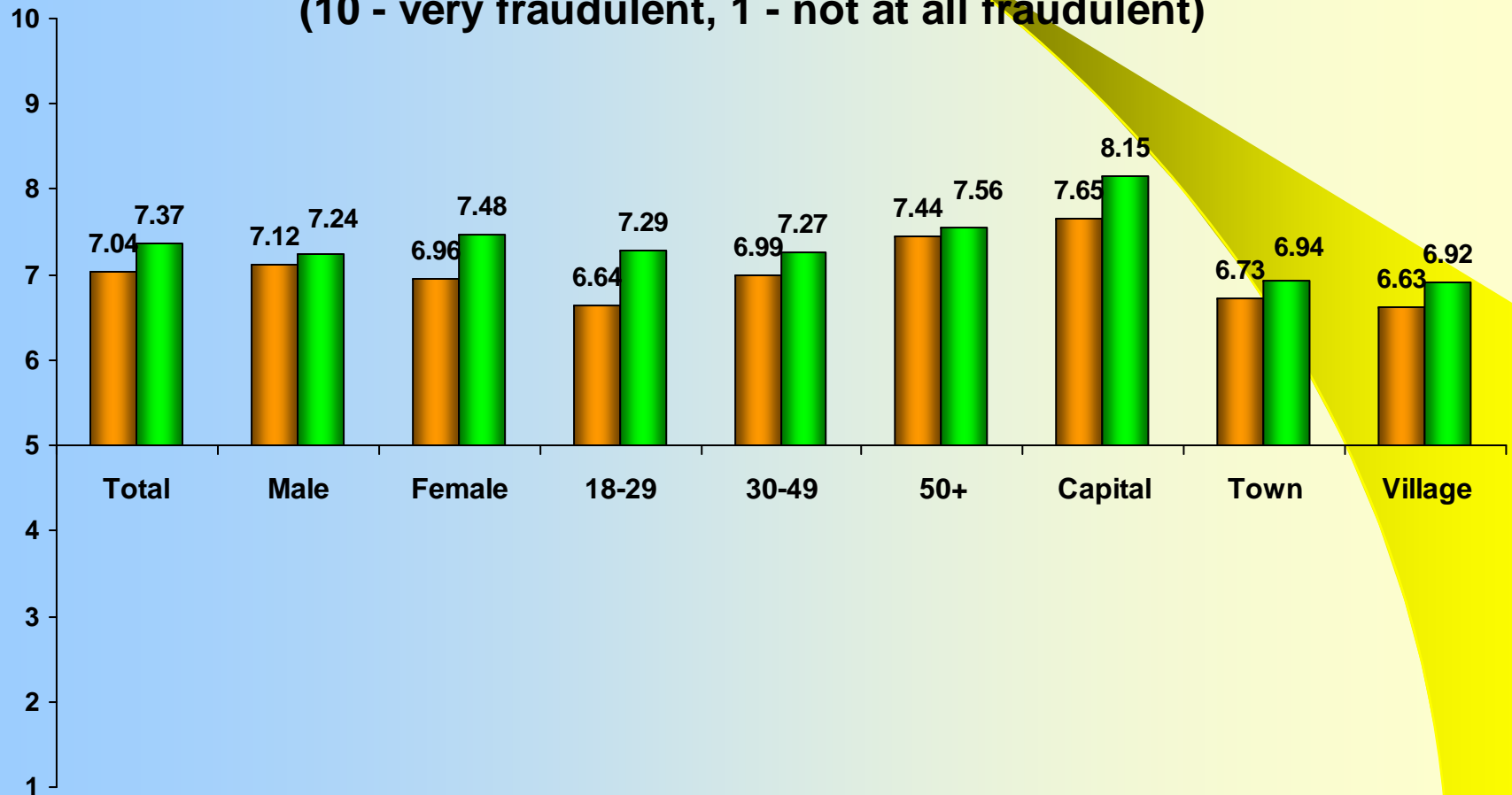
Free and fair Not free and fair No opinion



Trust in elections

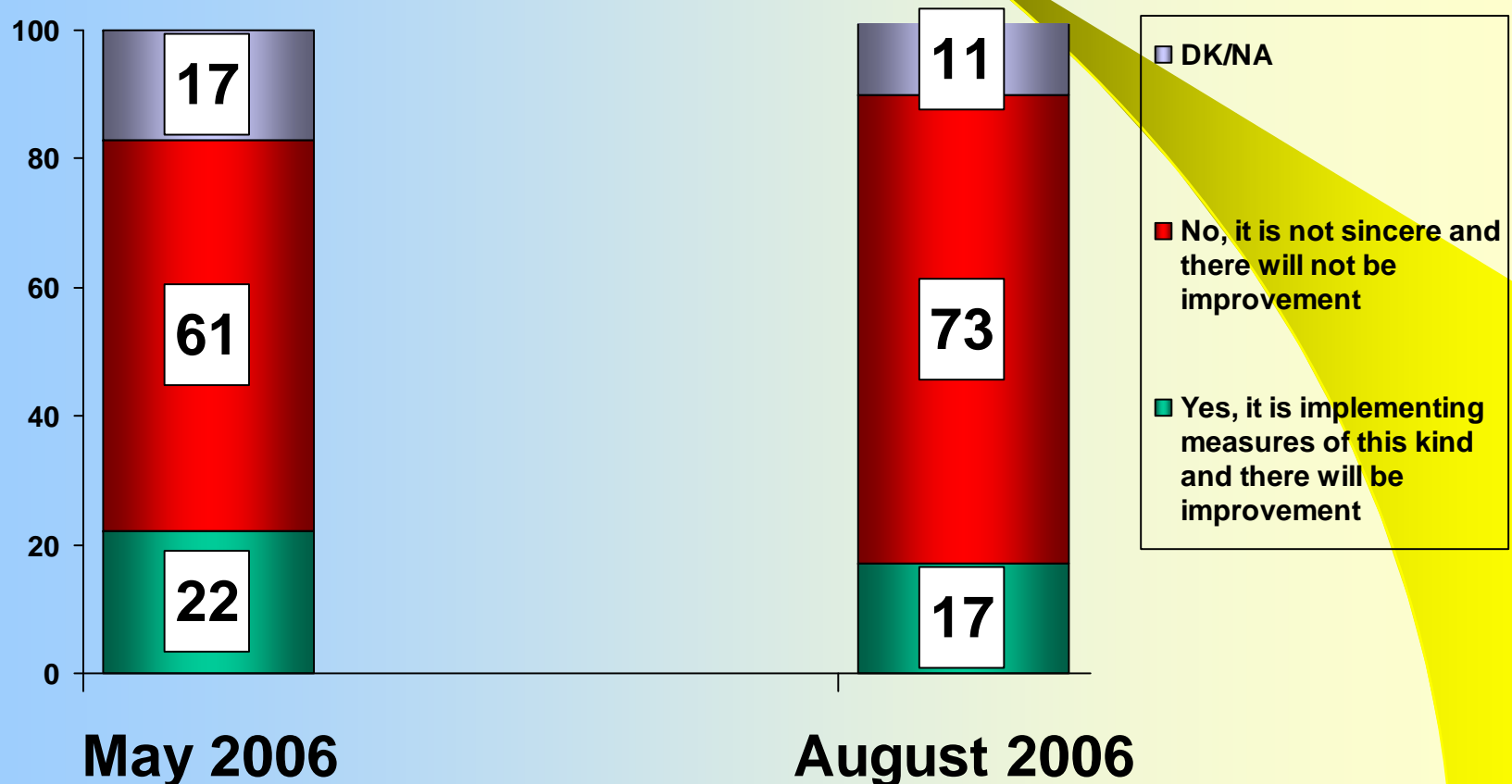
How fraudulent will the upcoming Parliamentary elections be?

(10 - very fraudulent, 1 - not at all fraudulent)



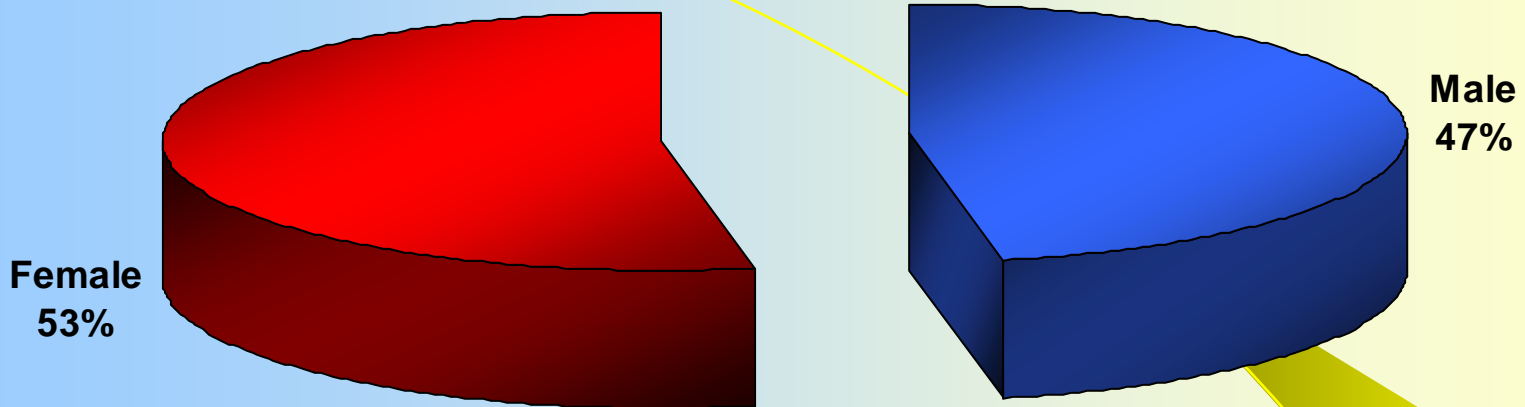
Trust in elections

Do you think that the Armenian Government is implementing anti-fraud measures for the Parliamentary elections and that they will indeed be free and fair?

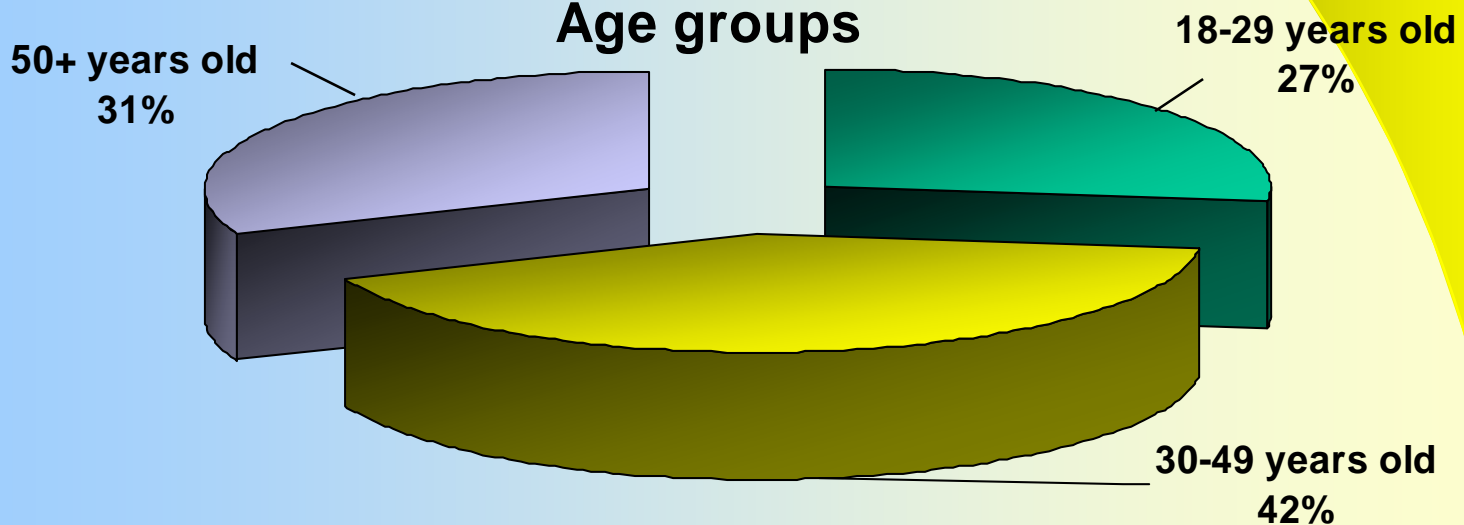


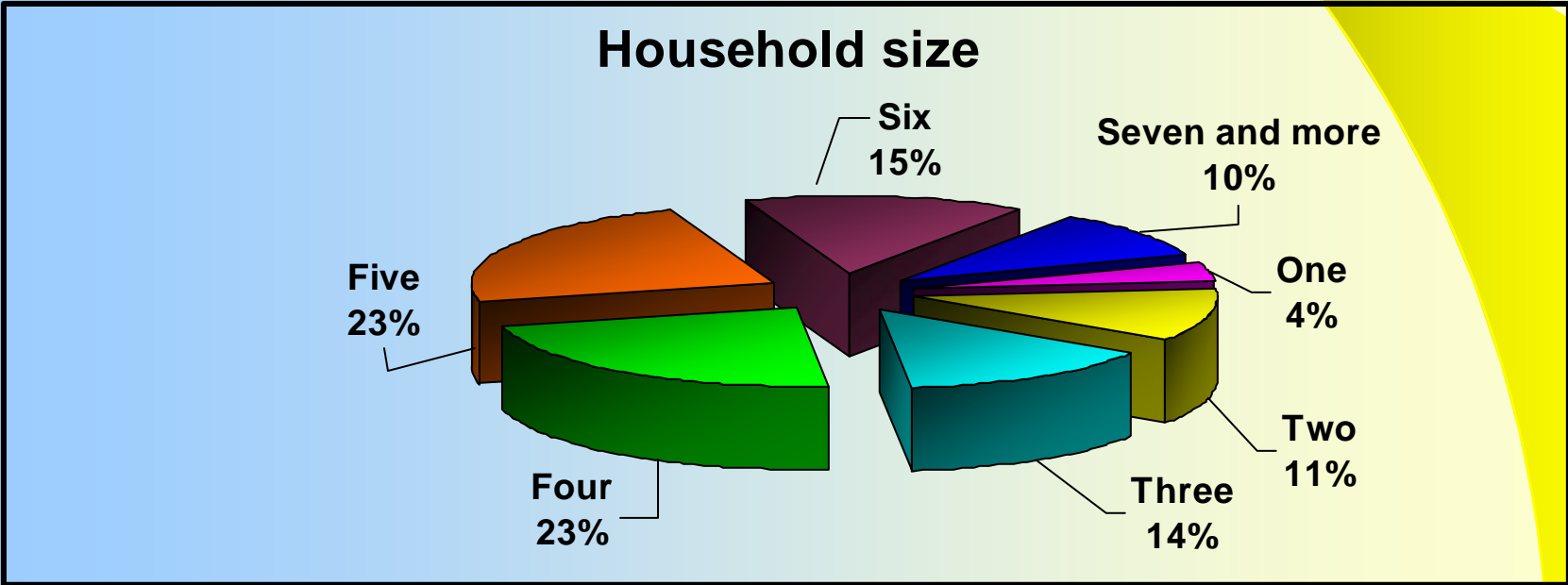
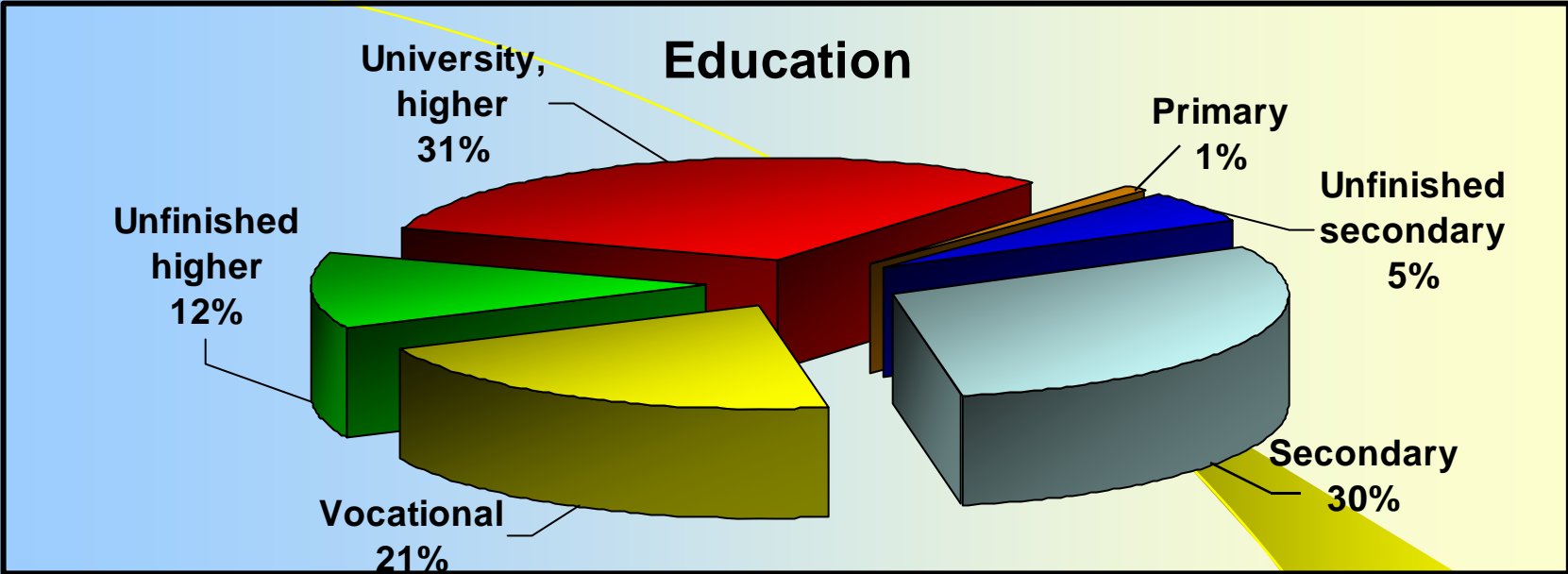
SOCIO-DEMOGRAPHICS

Gender

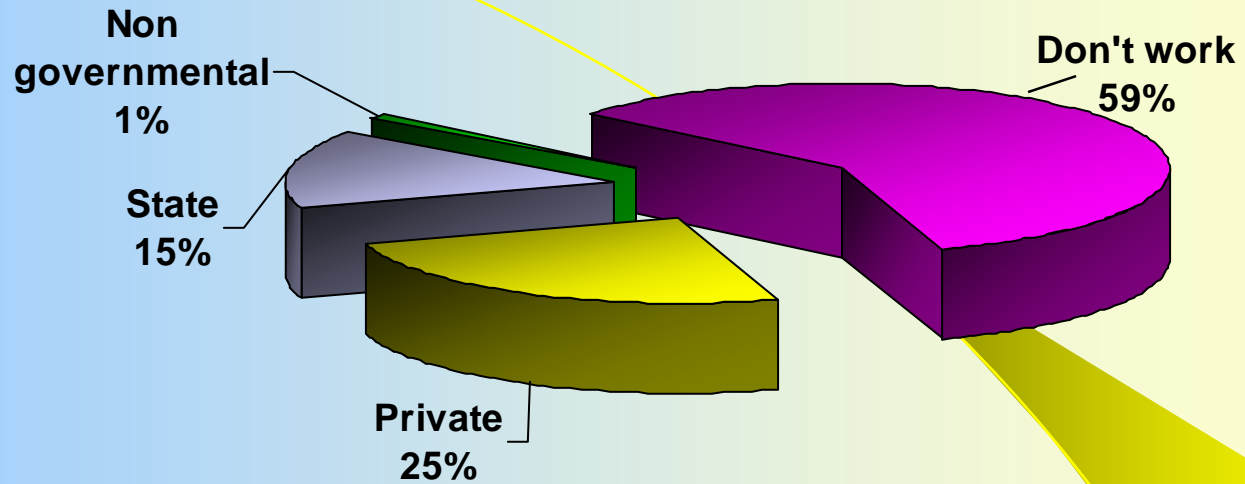


Age groups





Sector of employment



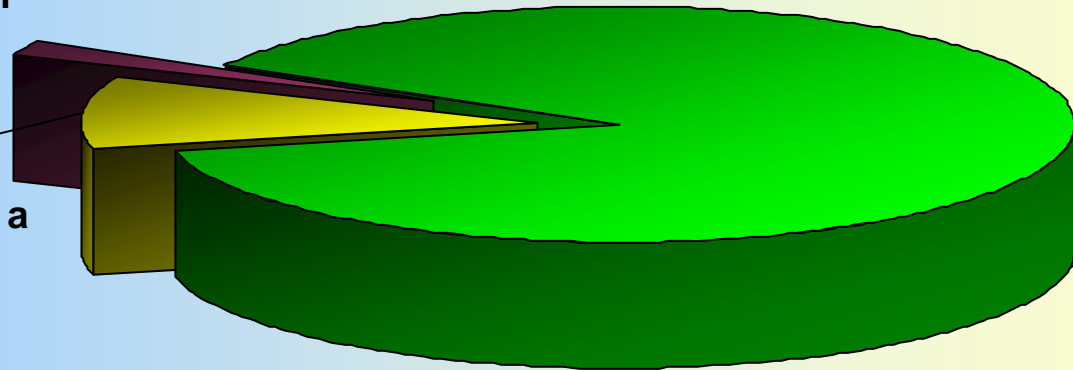
Membership in organizations

Member of Non-Governmental Organization

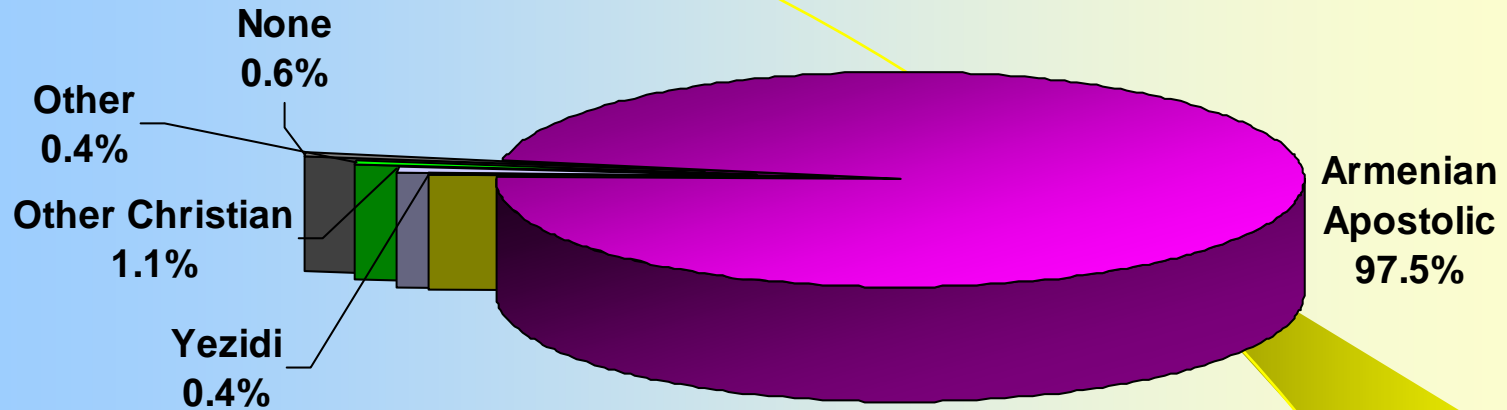
2.0%

Member of a party
10.0%

None
88.0%



Religion



Attendance of religious service

