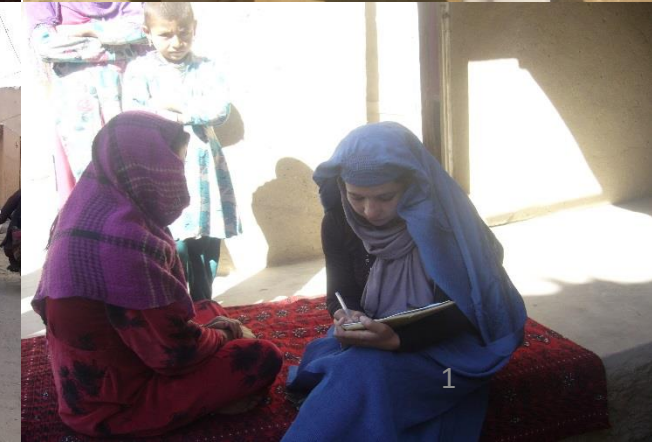


AFGHANISTAN

Afghan Futures December 2016

Prepared and Presented by:

Matthew Warshaw





ACSOR was founded in 2003 by D3 Systems, Inc. to create Afghan market and opinion research capacity

ACSOR conducts both small and large research programs





SELECT PAST PERFORMANCE



A DIFFICULT ENVIRONMENT FOR RESEARCH

Killed to date:

- **2,392** U.S. soldiers
- **Over 1,130** other NATO soldiers
- **Over 21,000** ANDSF personnel
- **Potentially over 35,000** Taliban and other AGE
- ***Estimates of up to 60,000 civilians***

KEY FINDINGS FROM AFGHAN FUTURES WAVE 10

December 2016



Prepared and Presented by:
Matthew Warshaw
D3 | Designs, Data, Decisions



MAJOR EVENTS THAT HAVE IMPACTED PUBLIC OPINION

NATO opens investigation into claim that 22 civilians were killed in Helmand airstrike.

Pakistan shelled its border with Afghanistan in response to uptick in bombings in Pakistan.

Pakistan reopened border crossings with Afghanistan after month-long closure.

Taliban attacked military base in Balkh province, killing over 100.

Feb

May

Afghan soldiers surrounded house of Vice President Dostum in attempt to arrest aides accused of kidnapping political opponent.

Gunmen stormed Kabul military hospital, killing at least 30 people.

The U.S. dropped 'MOAB' bomb on Islamic State cave complex in Nangarhar.

Feb
2017

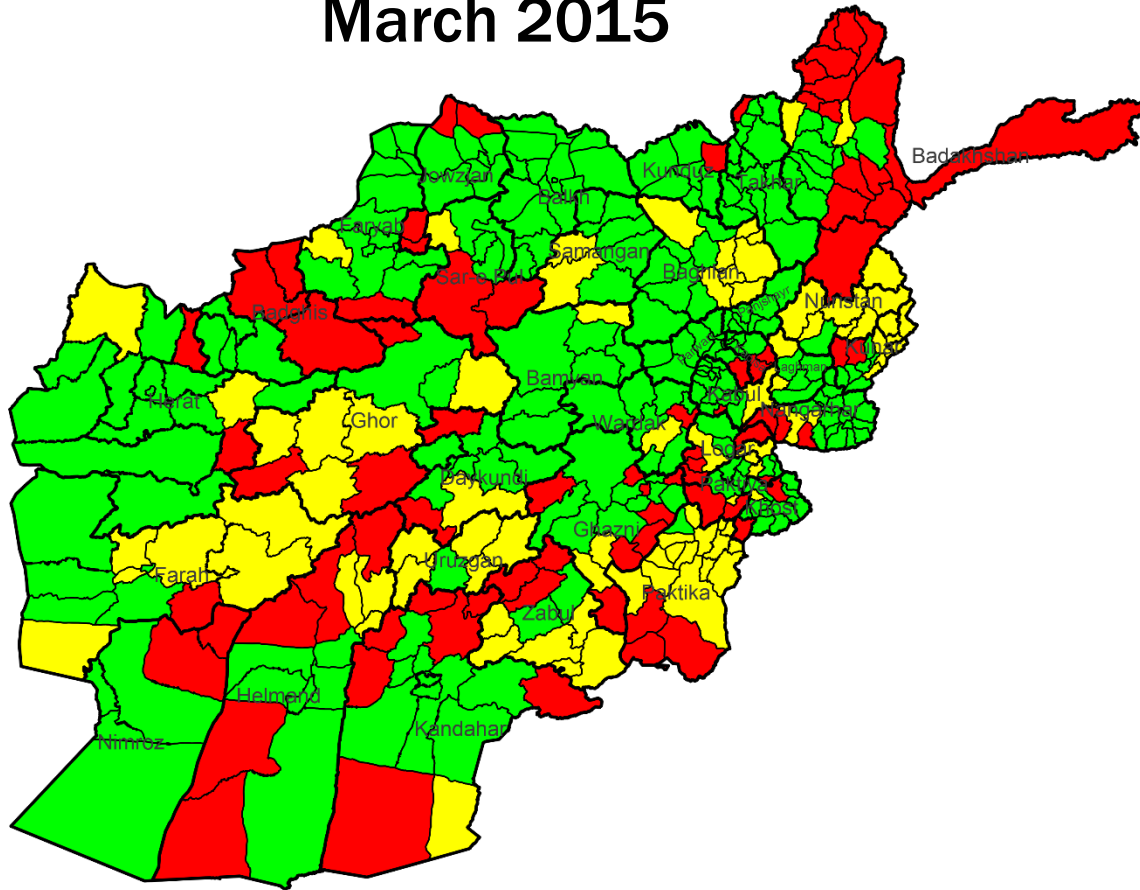
Mar
2017

Apr
2017

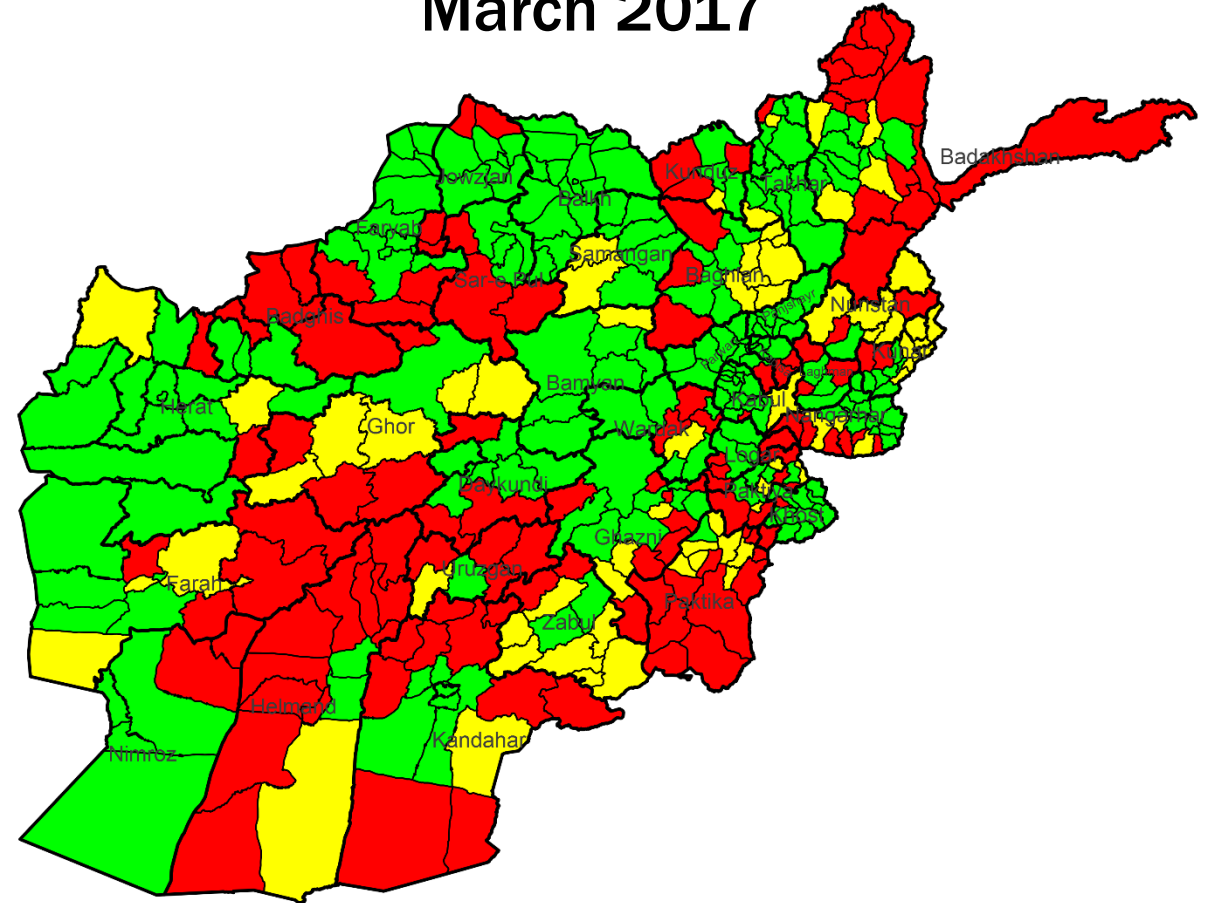
May
2017

WORSENING SECURITY EFFECTS ACCESS

Afghanistan Accessibility:
March 2015



Afghanistan Accessibility:
March 2017



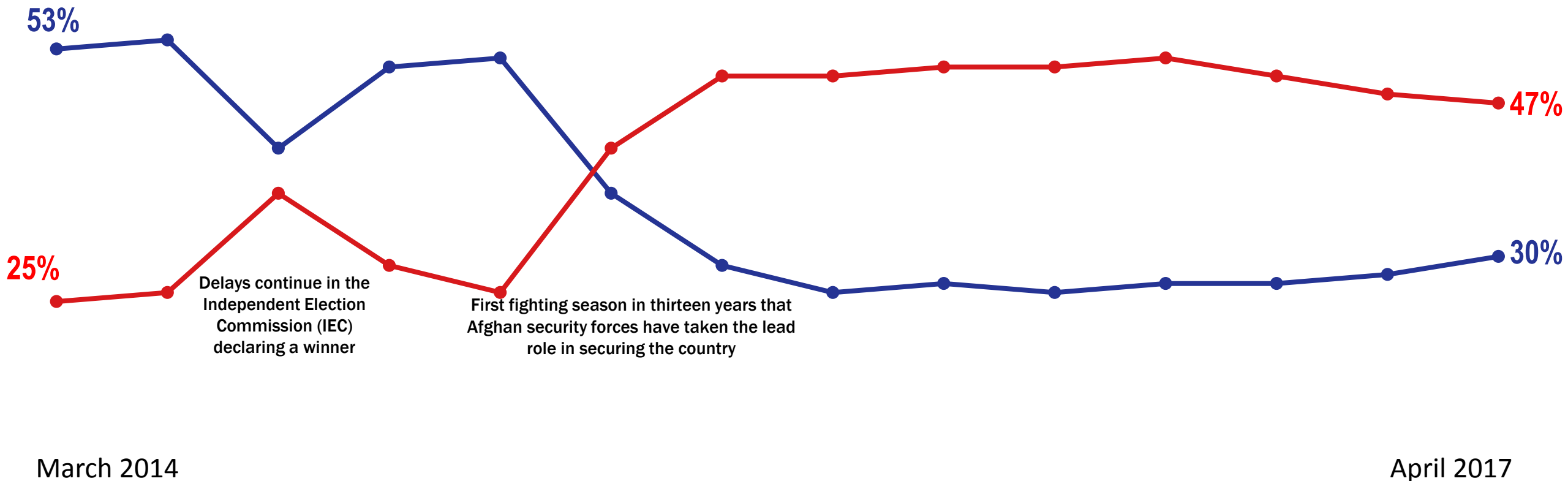
 Inaccessible

 Men only

 Accessible

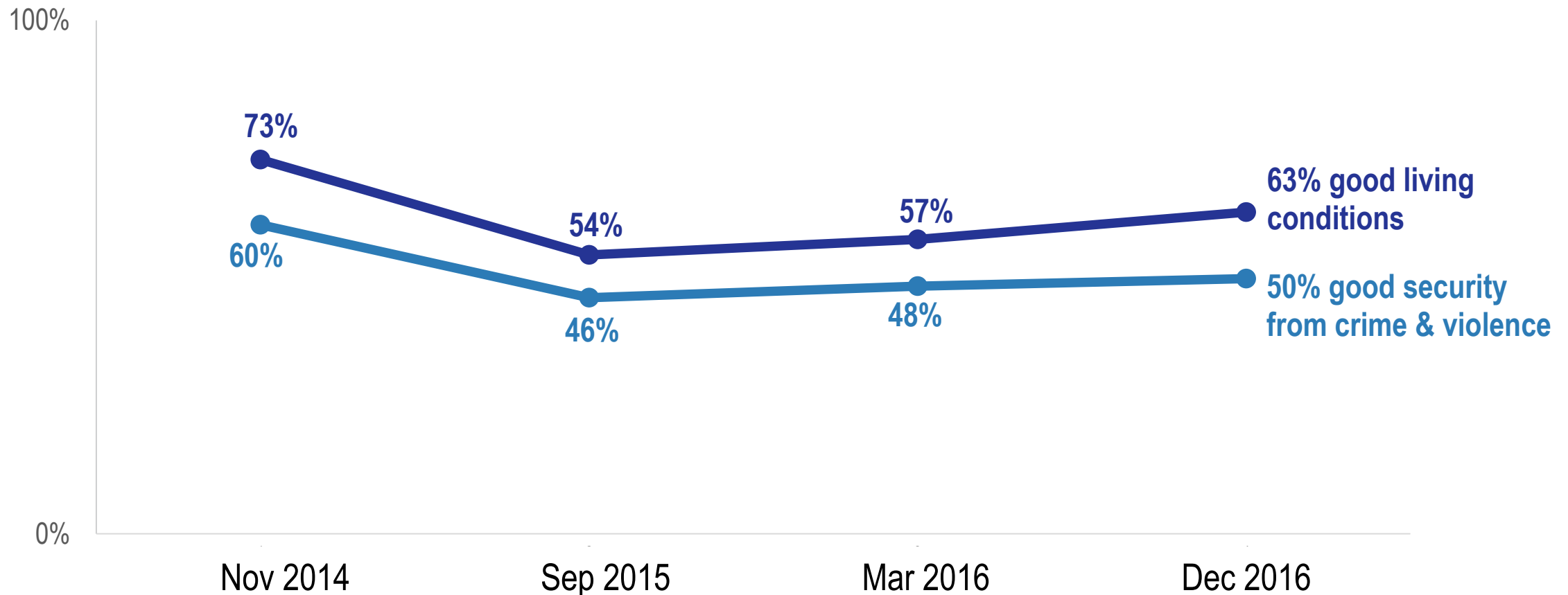
POST-ELECTION OPTIMISM, FOLLOWED BY REALITY CHECK

Right direction numbers have been upside-down since June 2015, and show no signs of improving anytime soon.



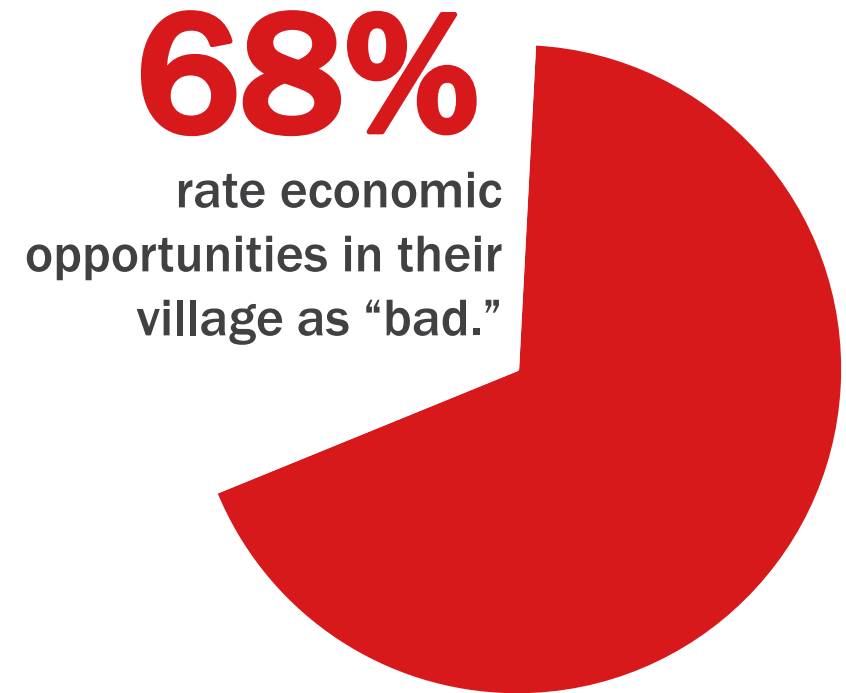
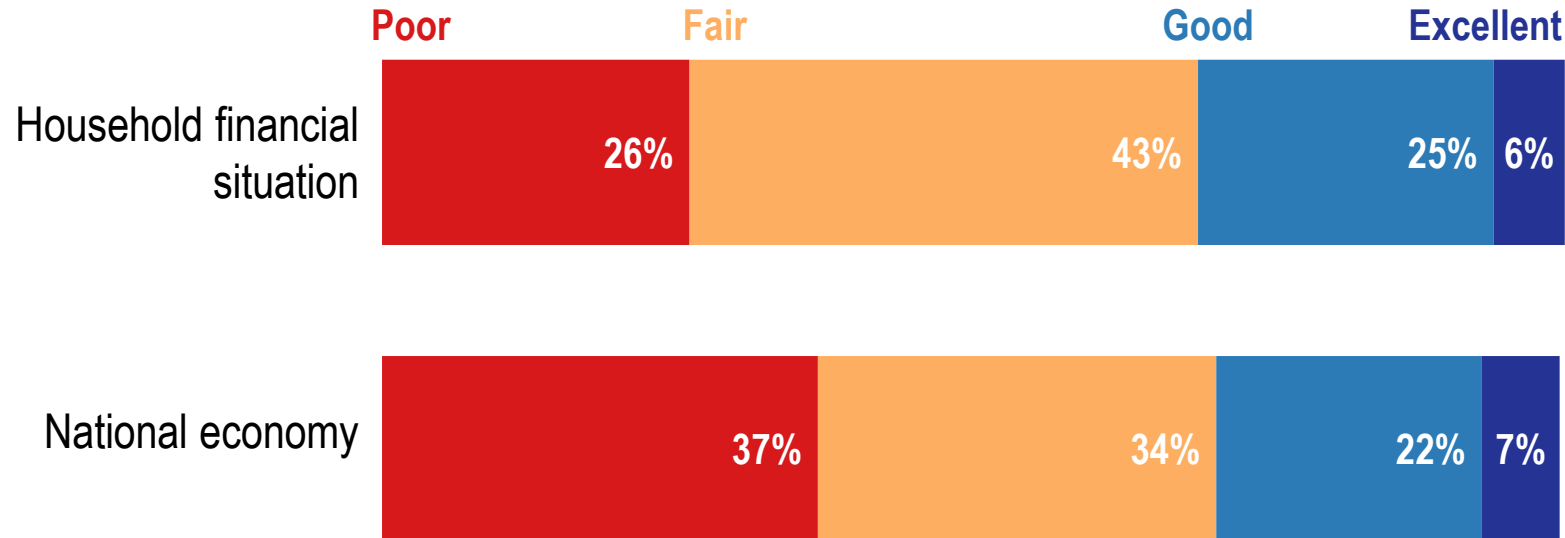
TRENDS IMPROVING, BUT STILL 10% DOWN FROM 2014

In the year following the election, there was also a decline in perceptions of “good” **living conditions overall** and **security from crime & violence**.



WARY PERCEPTIONS OF THE ECONOMY

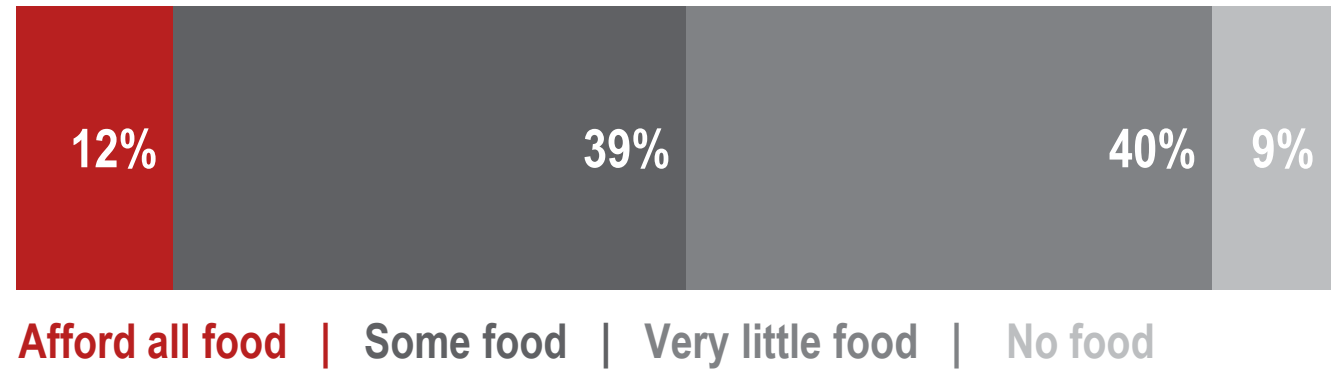
The majority of Afghans believe the national economy and their household financial situation are either "poor" or "fair."



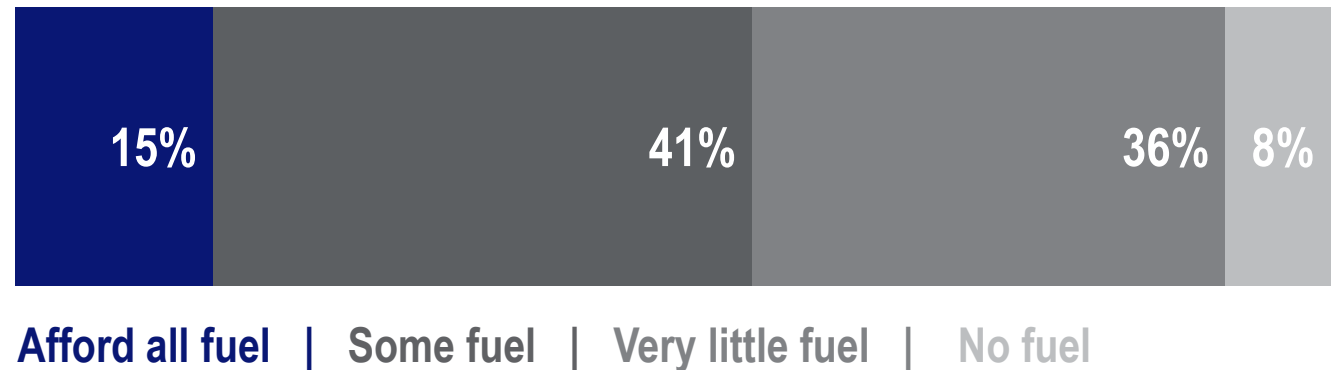
MAJORITY CANNOT AFFORD ALL FOOD & FUEL NEEDED



Only 12% can afford to buy all the food their family needs.

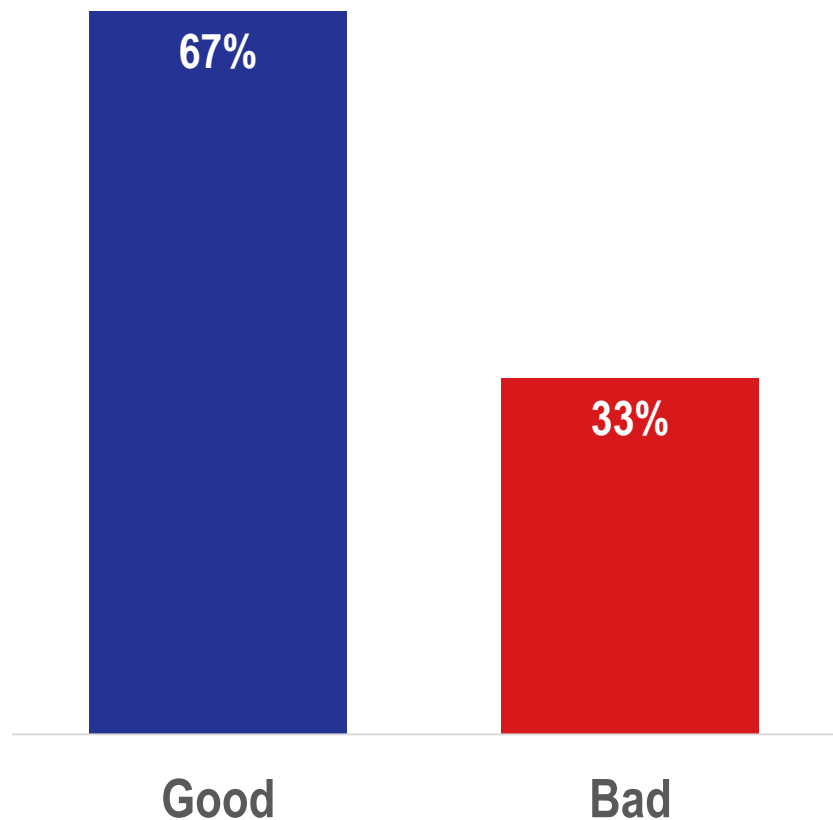


Only 15% can afford to buy all the fuel their family needs.

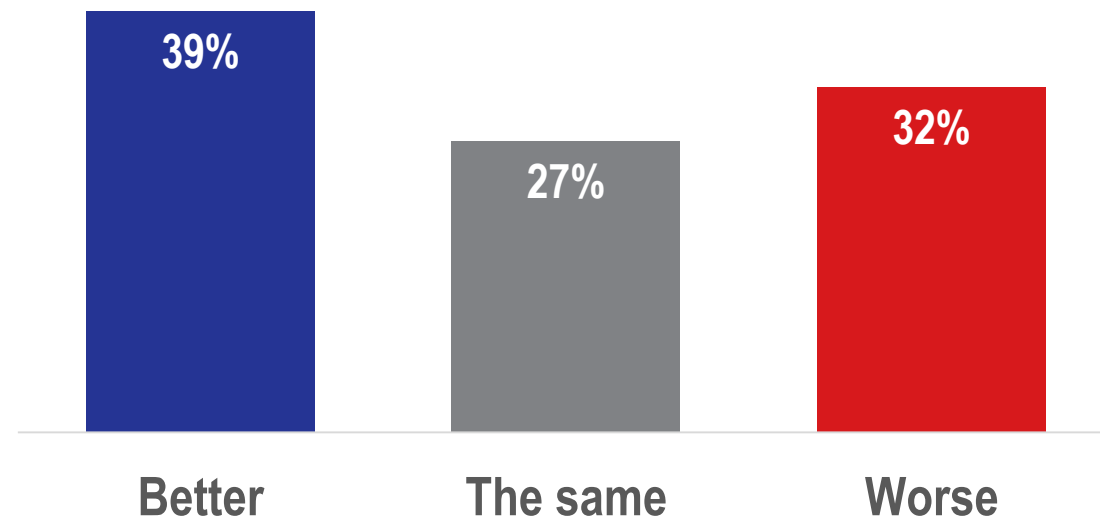


SOME PROMISE FOR CHILDREN'S FUTURE

Two-thirds believe education for children in their neighborhood is **good**.



Afghans are slightly more likely to believe their children will live **better** lives than their parents.



URGE TO FLEE

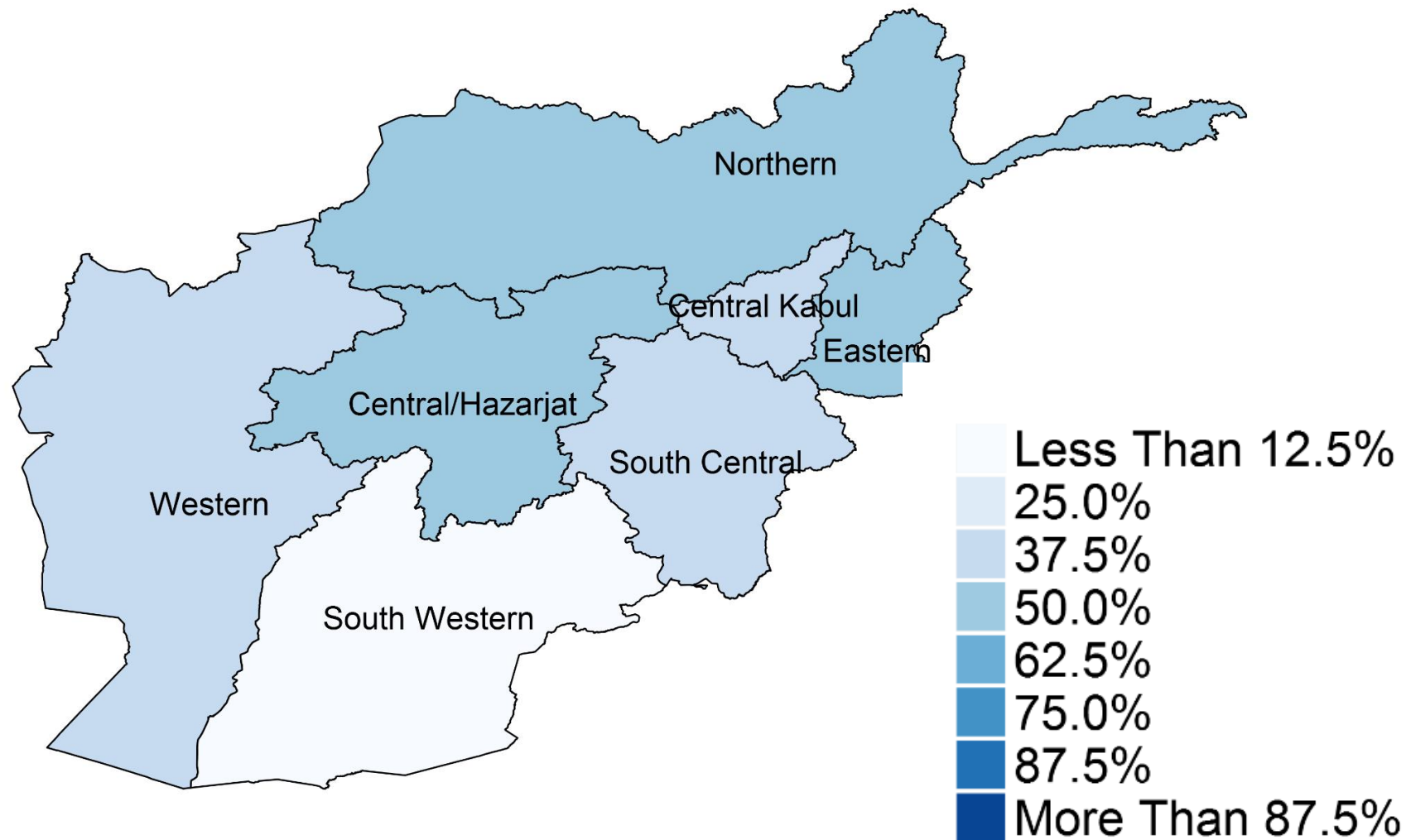
One in three*

Afghans said they or a family member is likely to leave Afghanistan in the next six months.

***This percentage has not changed since it was first asked in September 2015.**

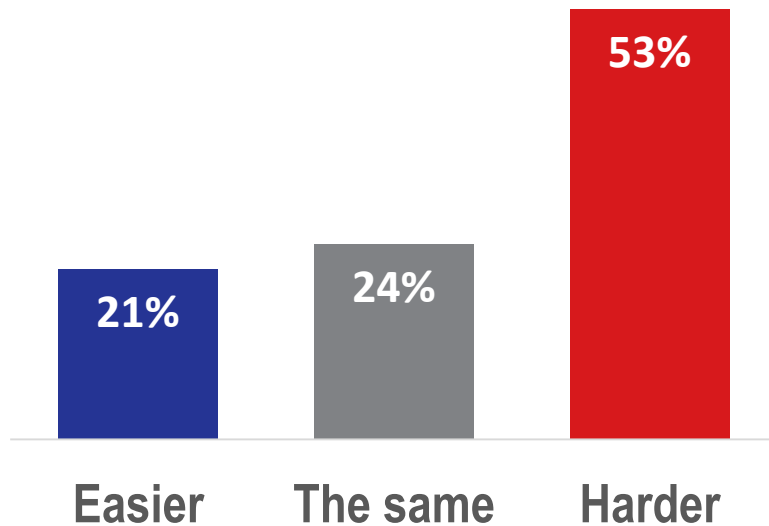


THOSE IN NORTH & EAST ARE MOST LIKELY TO LEAVE



IT IS HARDER TO LEAVE AFGHANISTAN THIS YEAR

Compared to last year, 53% believe it is **harder** to make arrangements to leave the country.



Majorities have heard about the following problems when Afghans try to start a new life in Europe.

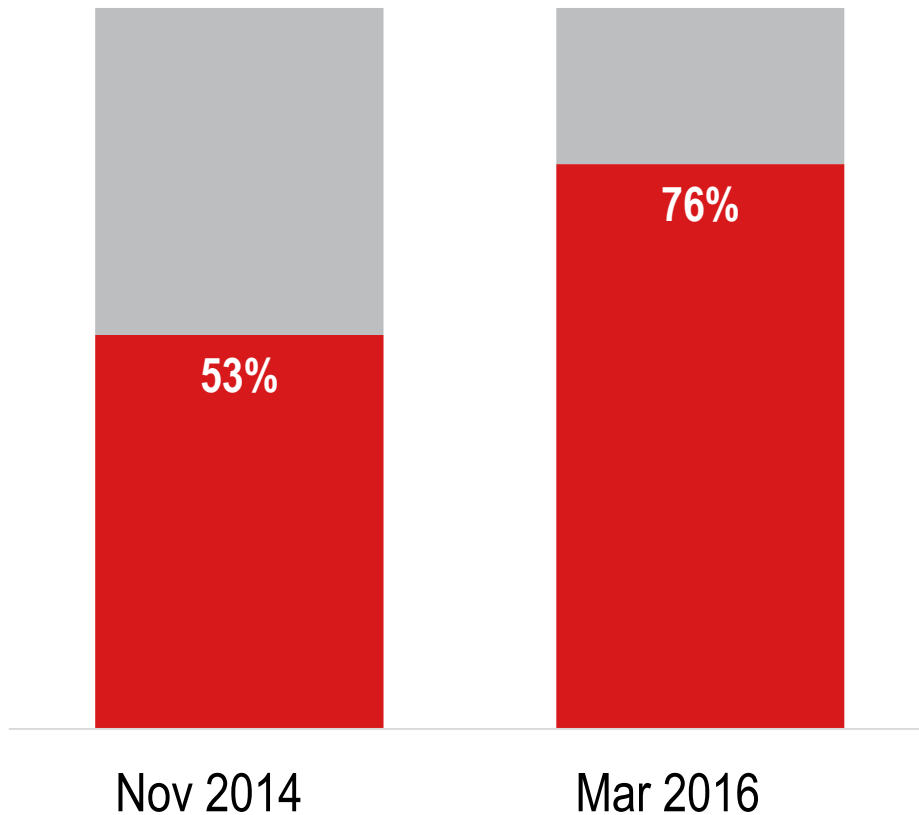
77% heard Afghans are unable to find work

85% heard Afghans are being sent back to Afghanistan

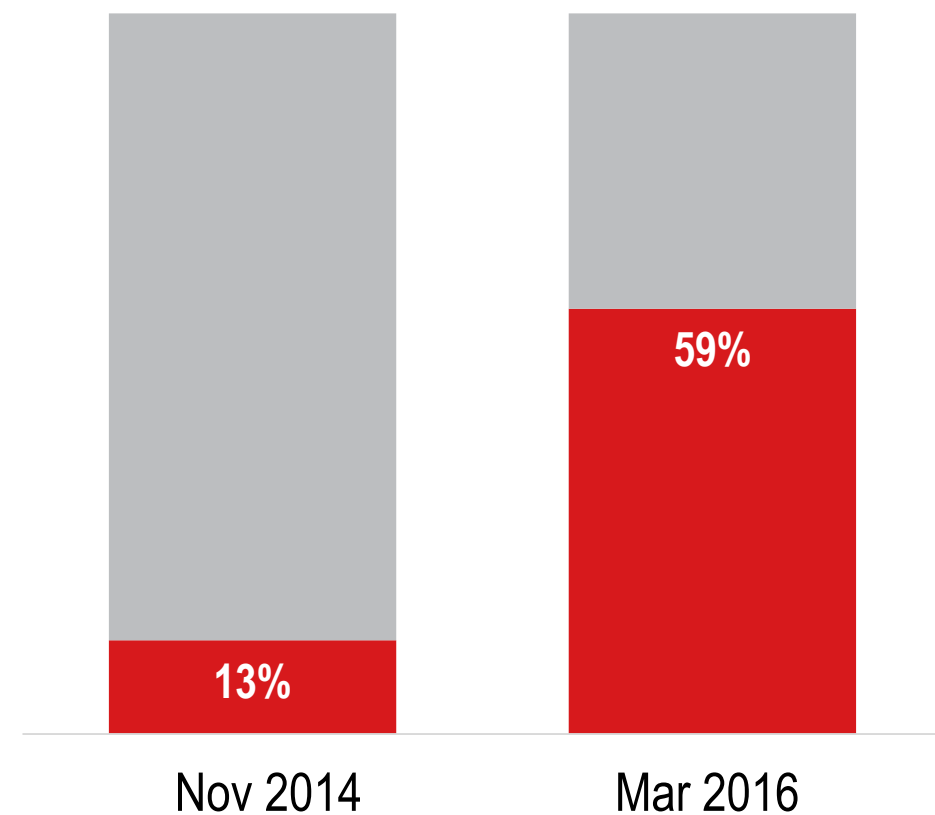
94% heard Afghans are dying on the way to Europe

FAITH IN THE NEW GOV'T DECLINED FROM 2014 to 2016

From November 2014 to March 2016, Afghans who said the 2014 presidential run-off election was “**fraudulent**” increased by 23 percent.



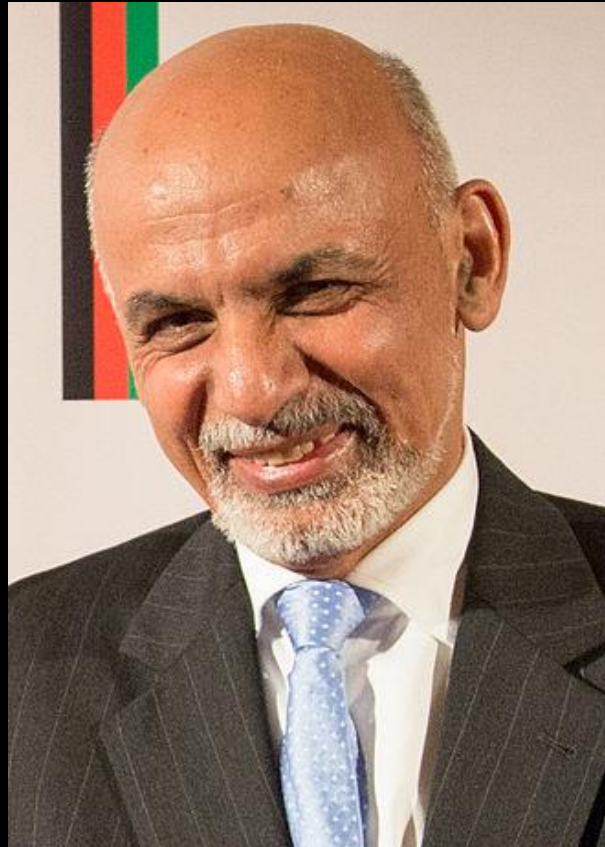
Those who “**disapprove**” of the power sharing agreement increased by 46 percent.



AFGHANS BELIEVE GHANI IS MORE EFFECTIVE

When asked who can get the most done in Afghanistan, 58 percent say Ashraf Ghani, 23 percent say Abdullah Abdullah, and 4 percent mention Hamid Karzai (volunteered).

58%:
Ghani



23%:
Abdullah



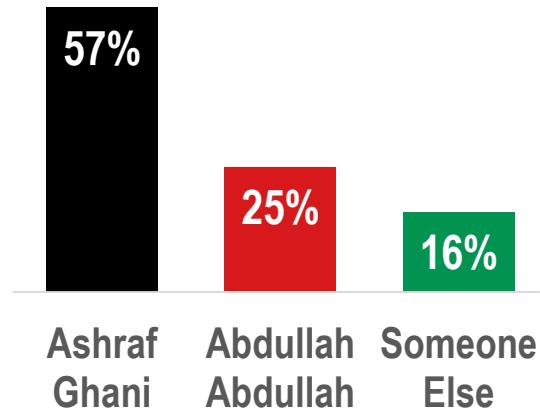
4%:
Karzai



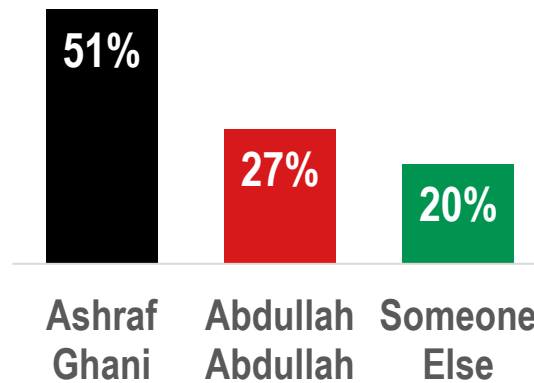
AFGHANS BELIEVE GHANI IS MORE CAPABLE

Respondents believe Ghani is more capable of accomplishing the following tasks.

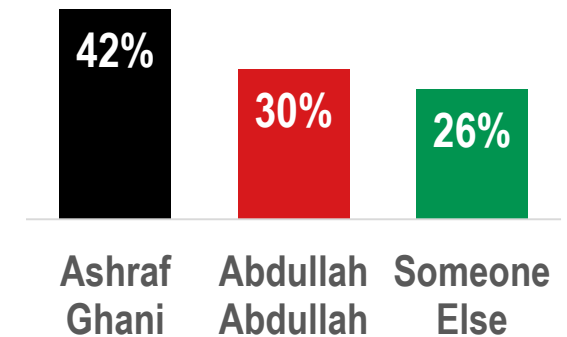
CREATE JOBS



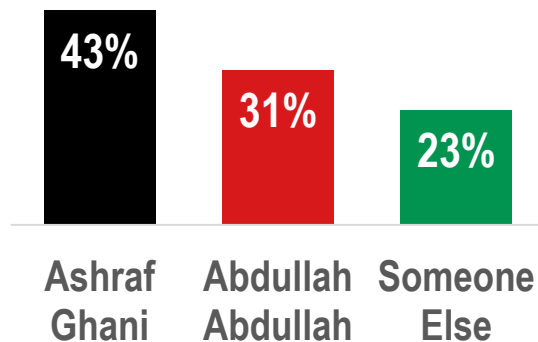
COMBAT CORRUPTION



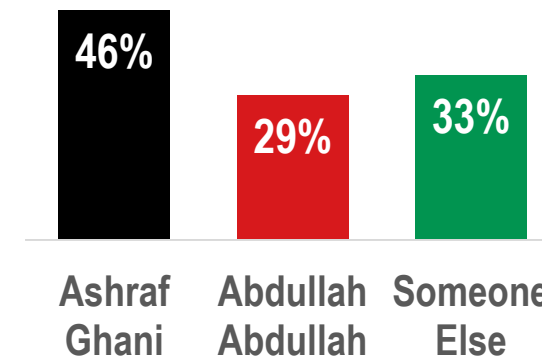
REDUCE CRIME



RESOLUTION W/ ANTI-GOVT GROUPS



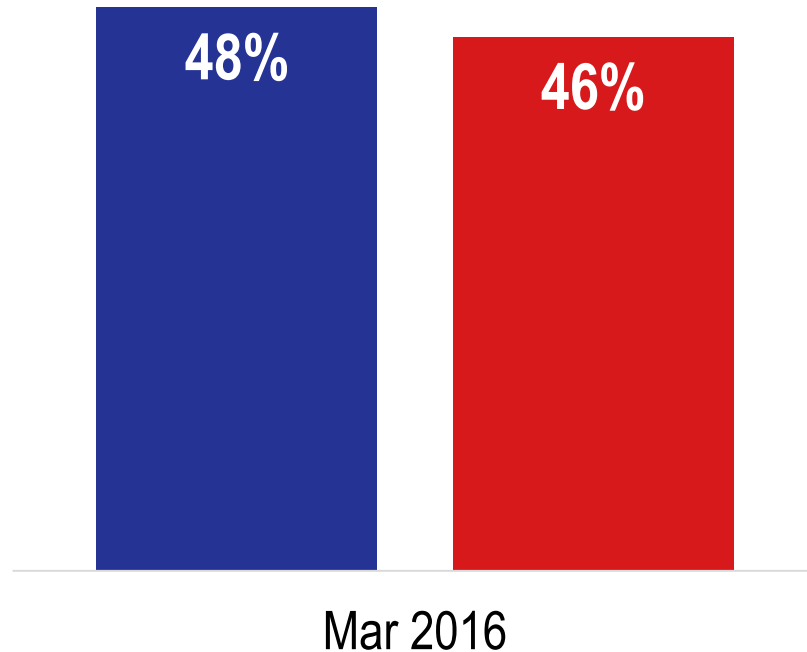
REPRESENT AFGHANISTAN AMONG FOREIGN LEADERS



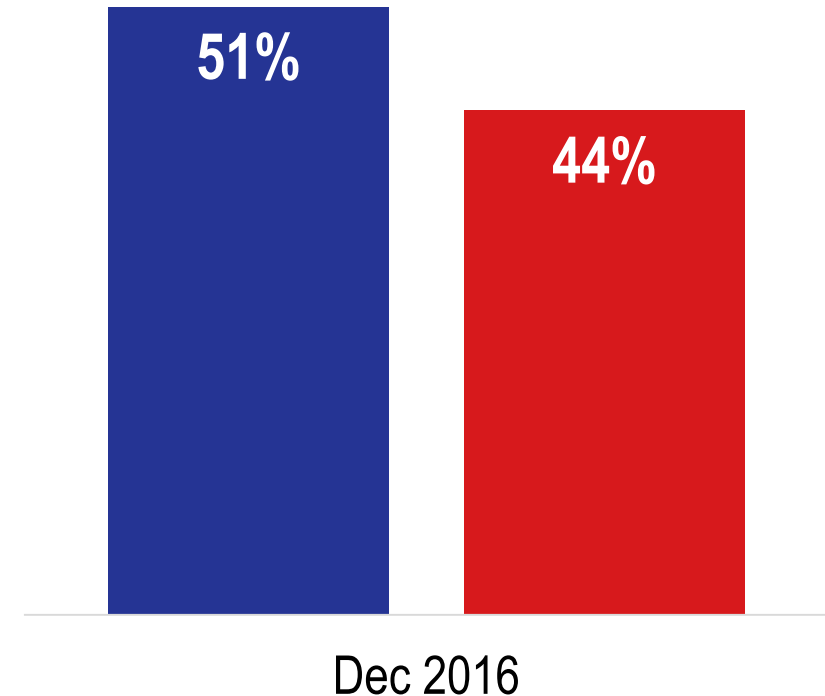
UNCERTAINTY ABOUT PARLIMENTARY ELECTIONS

The Independent Election Commission planned to hold parliamentary elections in October 2016, but they did not occur.

In March, 48% predicted they **would be held**, while 46% predicted they **would not be held**.

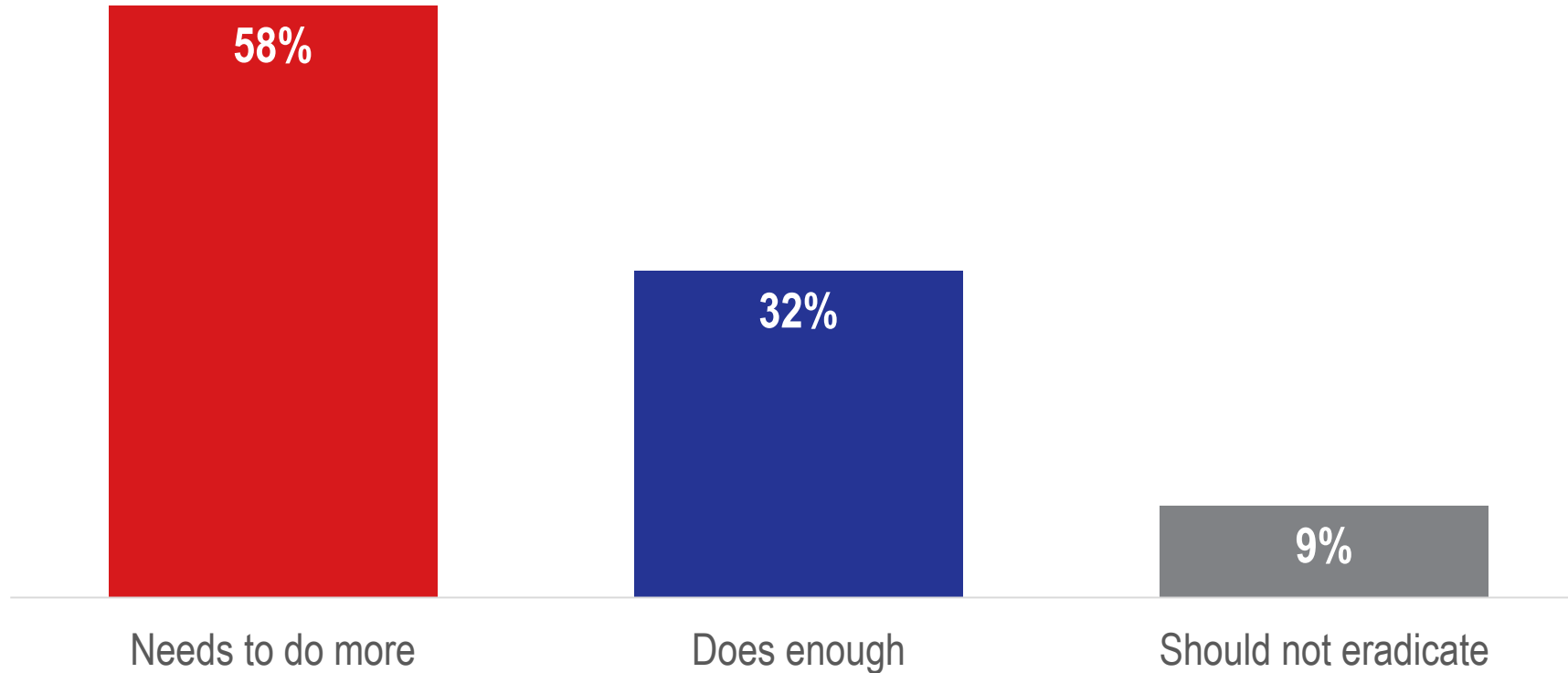


Although elections were not held as scheduled, about half of Afghans surveyed in December expect they **will be held** eventually; 44% **do not think they will be held** at all.



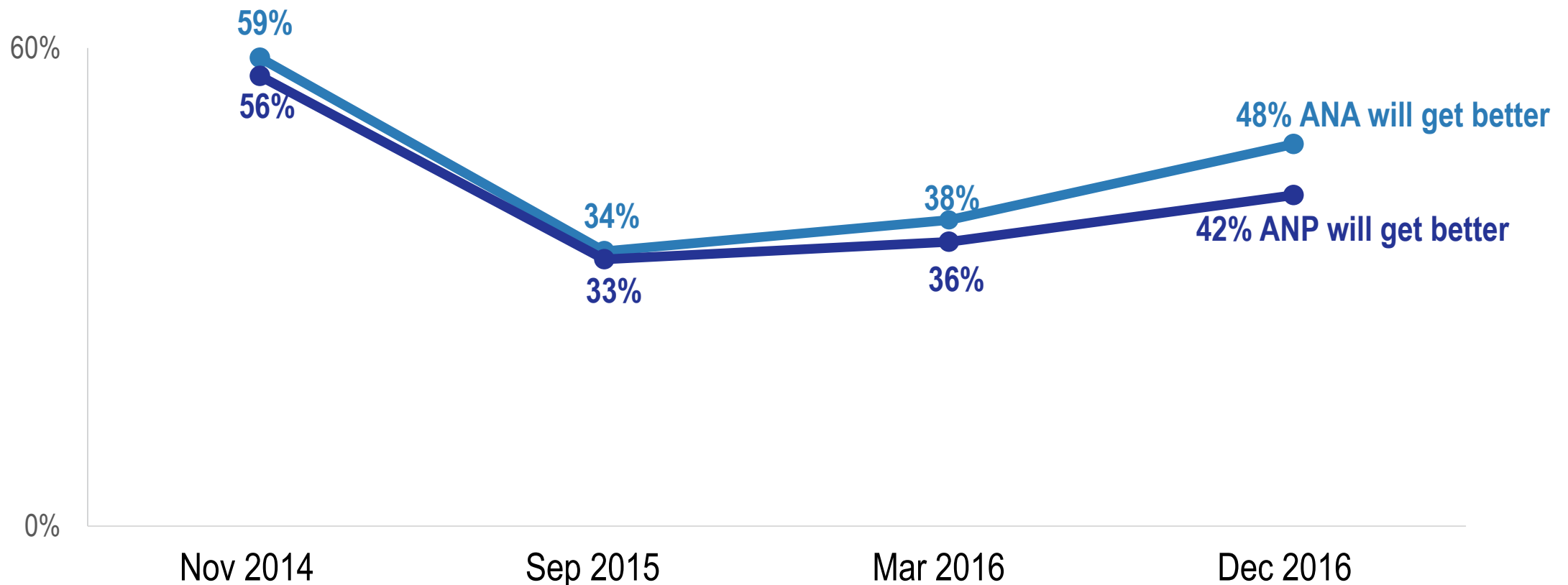
MORE IS NEEDED TO ERADICATE POPPY

The majority of Afghans believe the government **needs to do more** to eradicate poppy from Afghanistan.



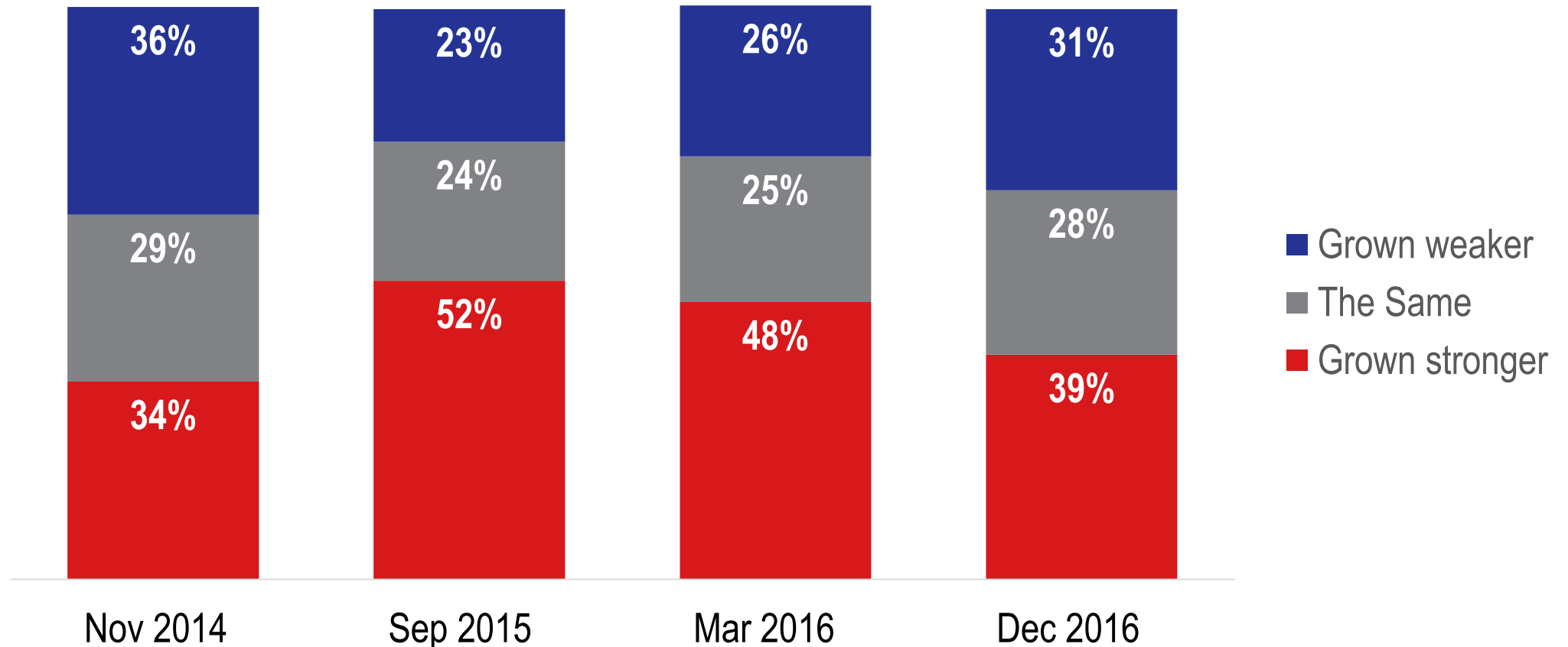
INCREASING EXPECTATIONS OF Afghan Army & Police

The percentage of Afghans who expect the **Afghan National Army (ANA)** and **Afghan National Police (ANP)** to get better in the next six months has increased since September 2015 after a major drop from 2014.



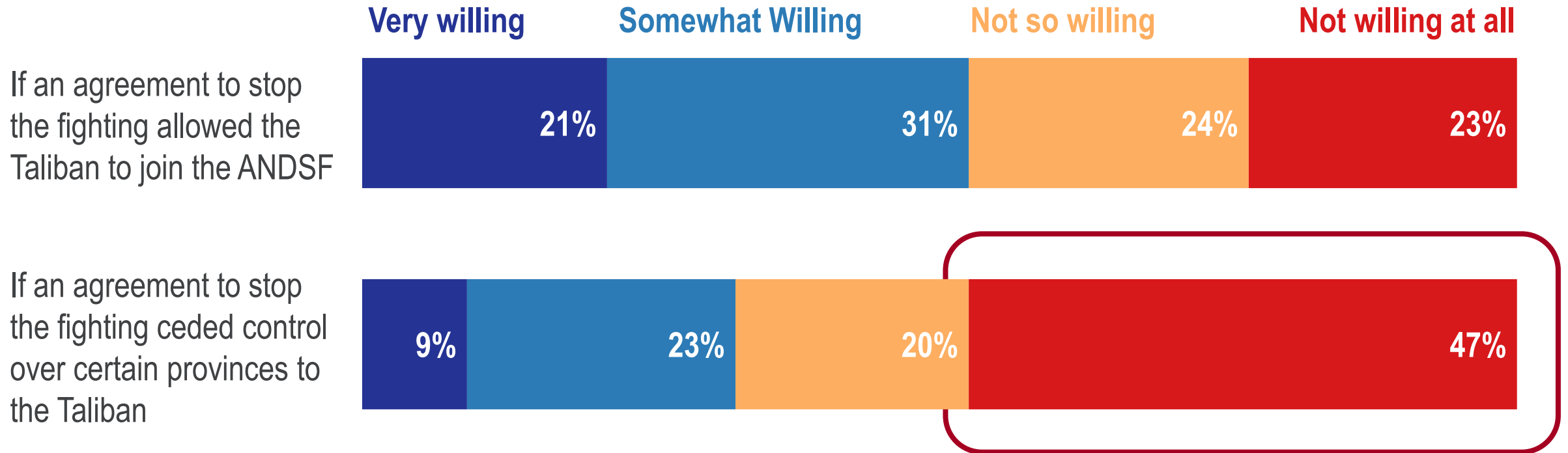
PERCEPTIONS OF TALIBAN STRENGTH DECLINING

From 2014 to 2015, belief that the Taliban is **growing stronger** increased from 34% to 52%. In the past year, this number has decreased back down to 39%.



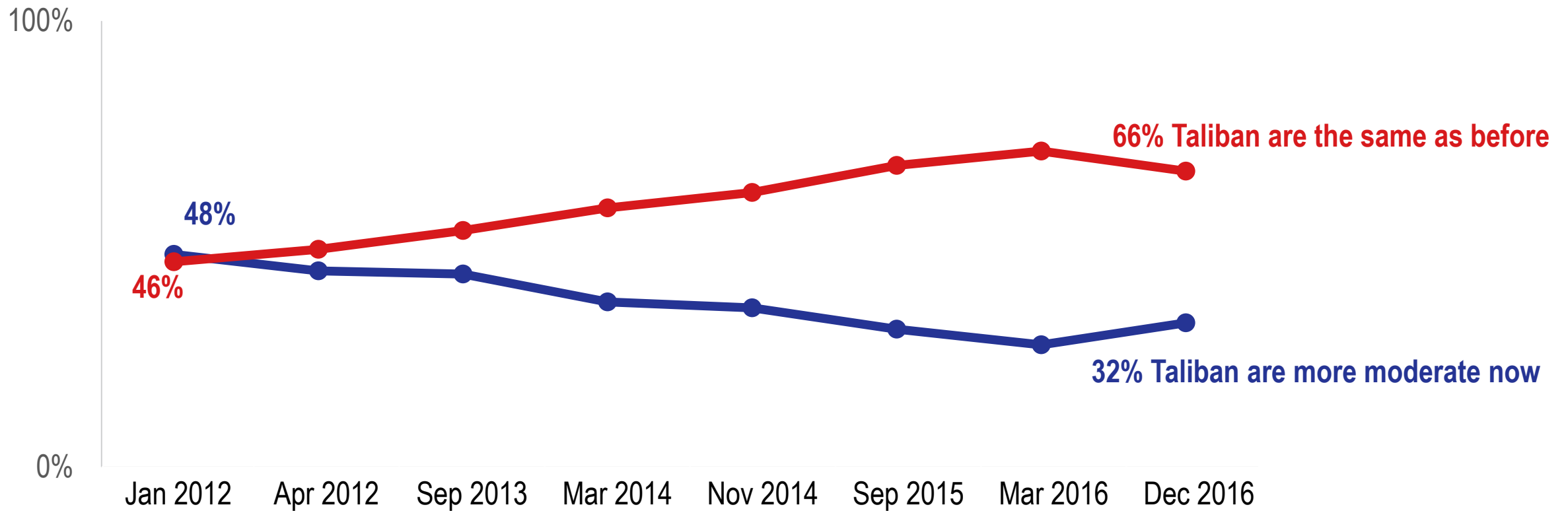
WILLINGNESS TO NEGOTIATE

Although 69% believe the government should negotiate a settlement with Taliban to stop fighting, willingness to negotiate varies if the agreement allows the Taliban to join ANDSF or cedes control of certain provinces.

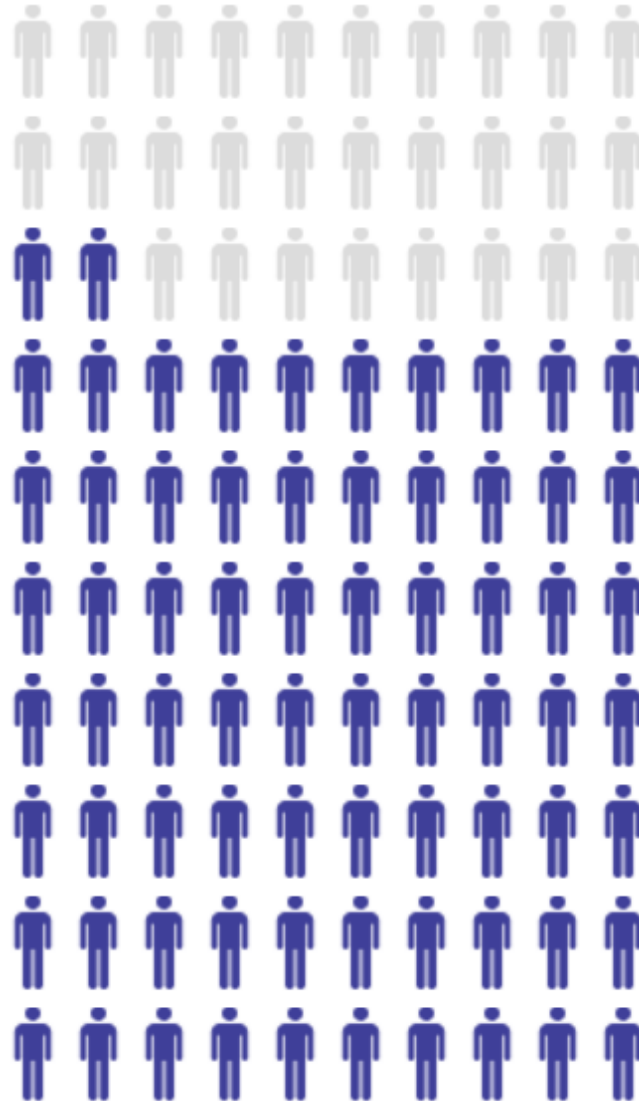


AFGHANS DO NOT BELIEVE THE TALIBAN HAS CHANGED

Two-thirds believe the Taliban are the same as they were when they ruled Afghanistan, while one-third believe they are more moderate now.



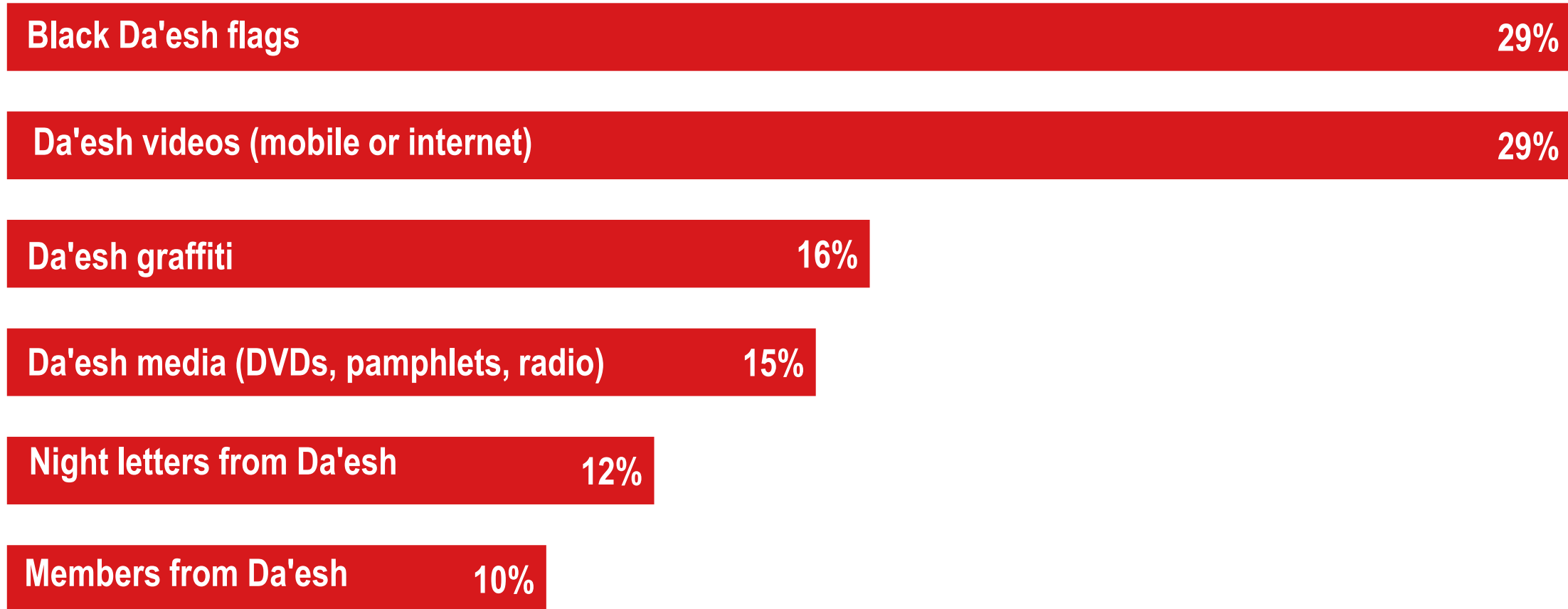
MOST HAVE HEARD OF DA'ESH (ISIS)



72%
of Afghans have
heard of the
group Da'esh,
also referred to
as the Islamic
State and ISIS

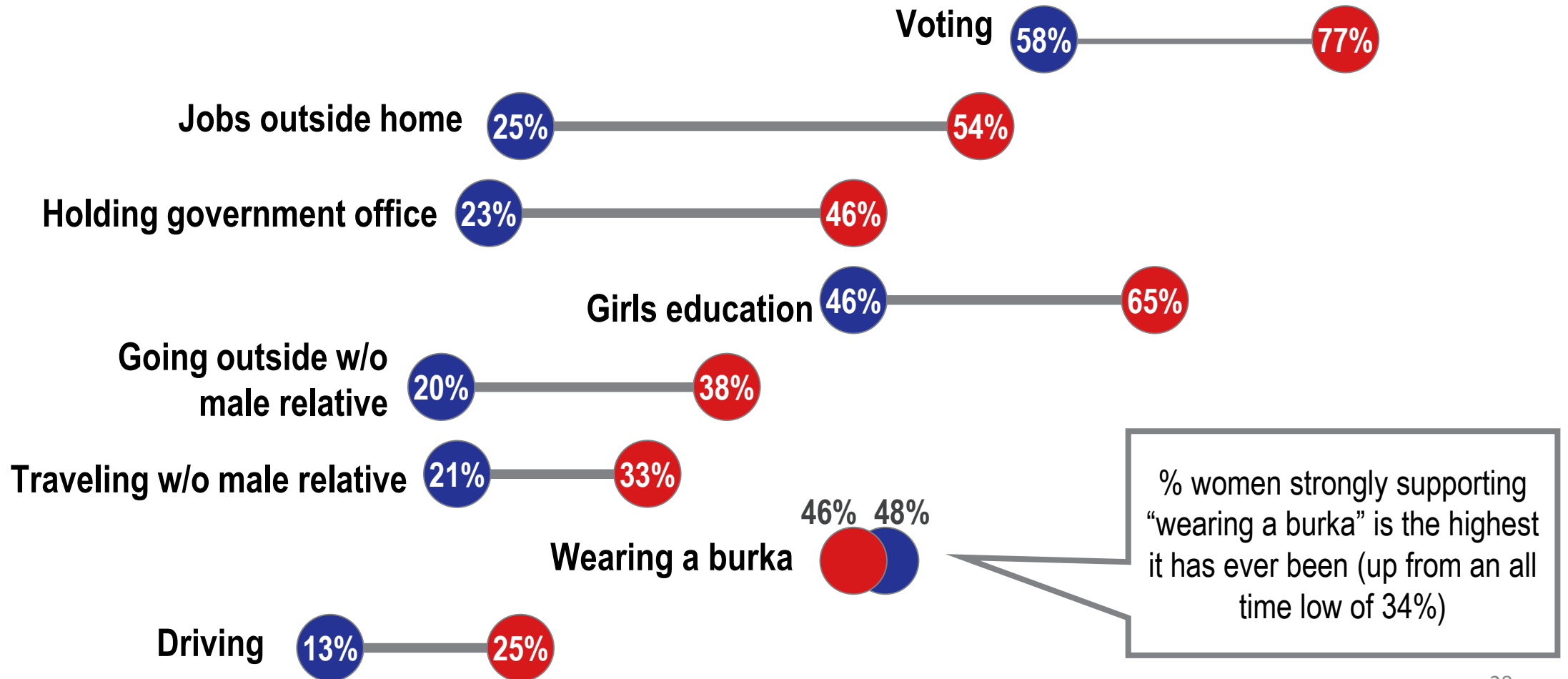
ABOUT 3 IN 10 HAVE SEEN DA'ESH FLAGS

Afghans who have heard of Da'esh (n=1,474) have seen the following Da'esh activities.



GENDER GAPS IN ATTITUDES ABOUT WOMEN'S RIGHTS

Women are more likely than **men** to *strongly support* freedoms and rights for Afghan women, except when it comes to wearing burkas.



AFGHAN FUTURES WAVE 10

Results are based on in-person interviews conducted in Dari and Pashto among a random national sample of 2,037 Afghan adults from December 8-15, 2016.

Afghan Futures has been independently conducted since 2010 by ACSOR and D3 as a public service to document public attitudes in Afghanistan. The project includes nine nationally representative studies to date between 2010 and 2016 (and one Kabul only study).



www.acsor-surveys.com or www.d3systems.com



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