

# Attitudes towards immigration

Survey conducted on behalf of IMiX



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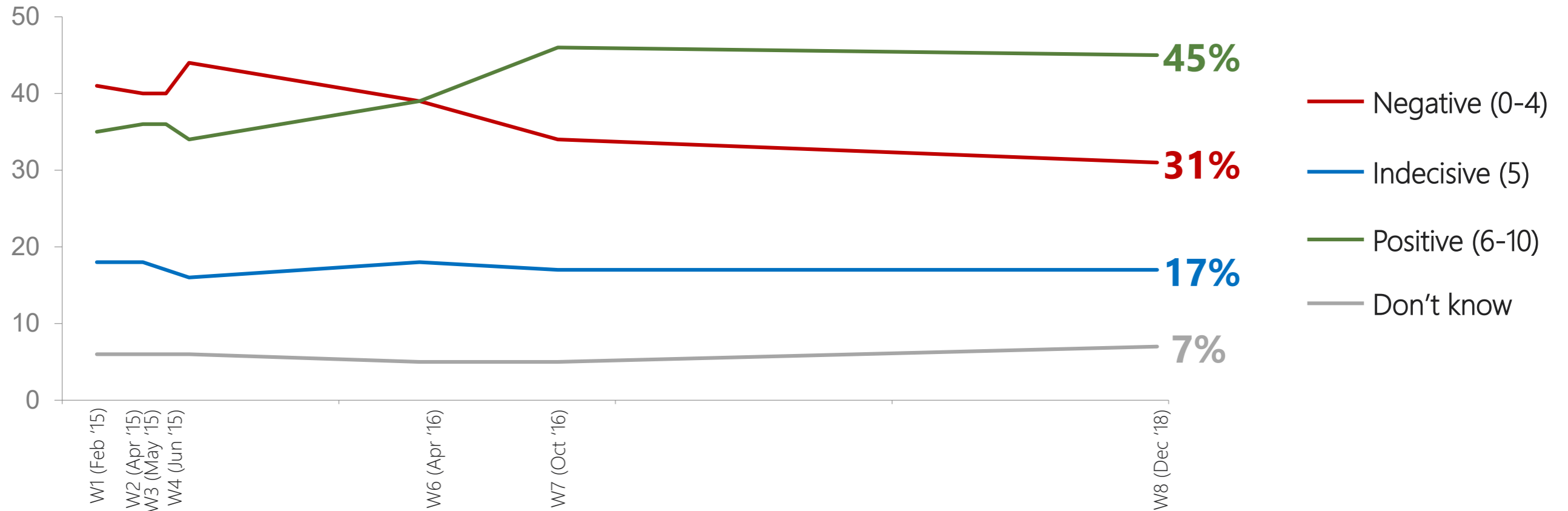
# Immigration



# Perceptions over the impact immigration has had on Britain remains stable

## from two years ago with more saying it has been positive than negative

Q On a scale of 0 to 10, has migration had a positive or negative impact on Britain? (0 is "very negative", 10 is "very positive")

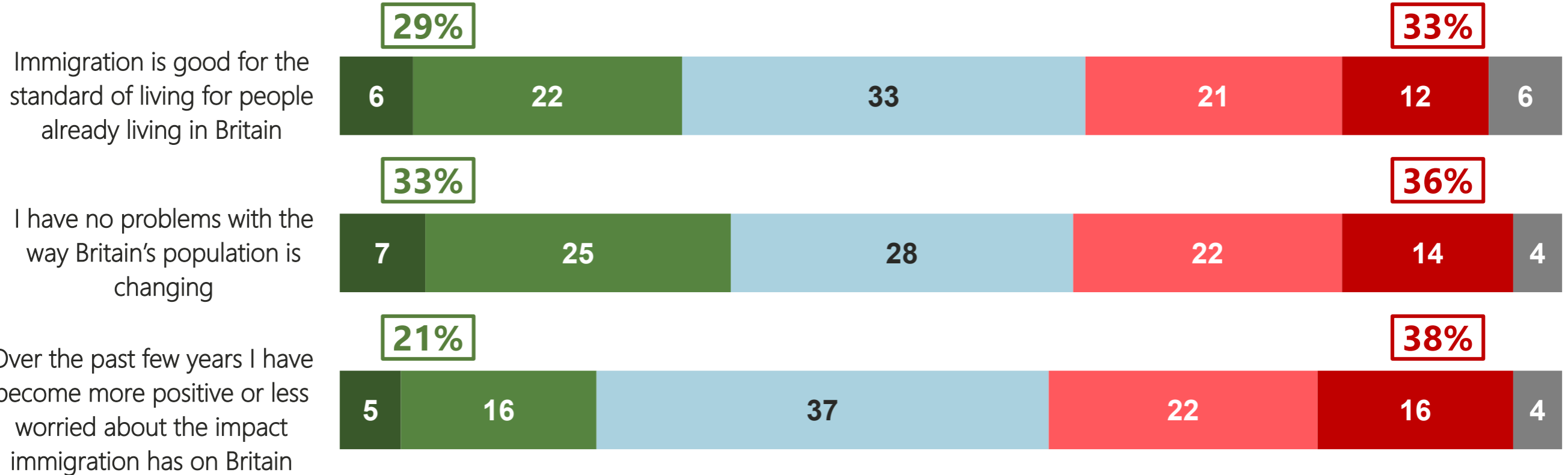


Base: All respondents (W1: 4574; W2: 3770; W3:3023; W4:2698; W6: 4002; W7: 4071; W8: 2520: Fieldwork dates: 17<sup>th</sup> December 2018 – 7<sup>th</sup> January 2019

**People are split on whether immigration improves people standard of living and whether they are comfortable with how Britain's population is changing. One in five say they have become less worried about immigration**

Q To what extent do you agree or disagree with each of the following?

■ % Strongly agree   ■ % Tend to agree   ■ % Neither / nor   ■ % Tend to disagree   ■ % Strongly disagree   ■ % Don't know



Base: All respondents (2520): Fieldwork dates: 17<sup>th</sup> December 2018 – 7<sup>th</sup> January 2019

***Of those less worried  
– it's mainly because  
they now recognise  
how much immigrants  
contribute to the UK -but  
other reasons contribute***

Q And which of the following reasons explain why you think that you have become more positive or less worried about the impact immigration has on Britain?



The discussions over the past few years have highlighted how much immigrants contribute to the UK

Mentions for each code (%)\*\*



I personally know more people who are migrants either at work or socially



I believe that fewer immigrants will come to the UK once Britain leaves the EU



There are fewer negative stories about immigration than there were a few years ago



I am less worried about the refugee crisis affecting Britain than I was a few years ago



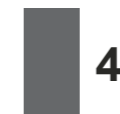
There are fewer immigrants coming to the UK now than there were before



None of these



Don't know/ prefer not to say



\*\*respondents allowed to select more than one option

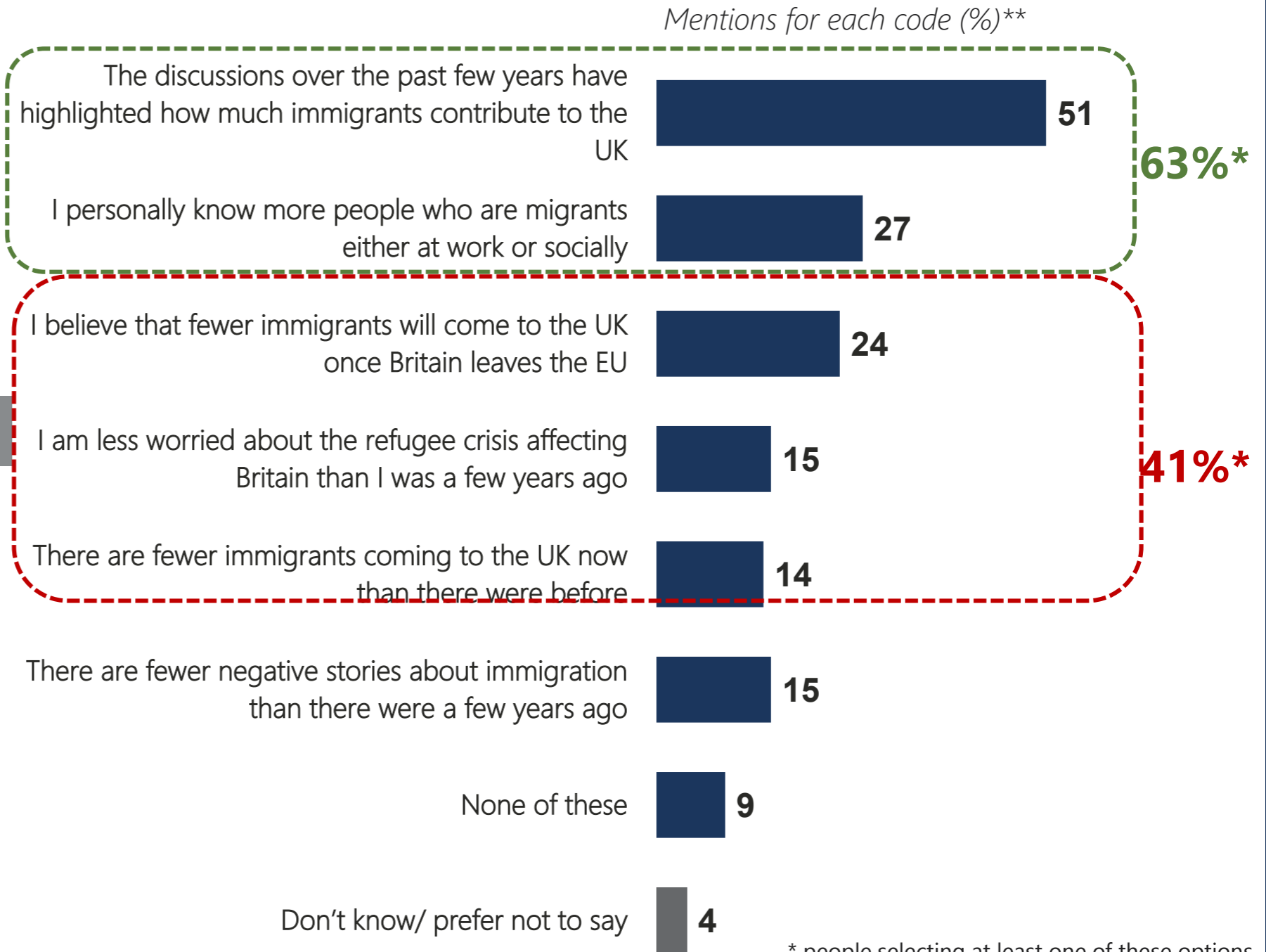
Base: All those who have become more positive/less worried about the impact of immigration has on Britain (541): Fieldwork dates: 17<sup>th</sup> December 2018 – 7<sup>th</sup> January 2019

**Of those less worried  
– it's mainly because  
they now recognise  
how much immigrants  
contribute to the UK - but  
other reasons contribute**

Q And which of the following reasons explain why you think that you have become more positive or less worried about the impact immigration has on Britain?



Base: All those who have become more positive/less worried about the impact of immigration has on Britain (541): Fieldwork dates: 17<sup>th</sup> December 2018 – 7<sup>th</sup> January 2019



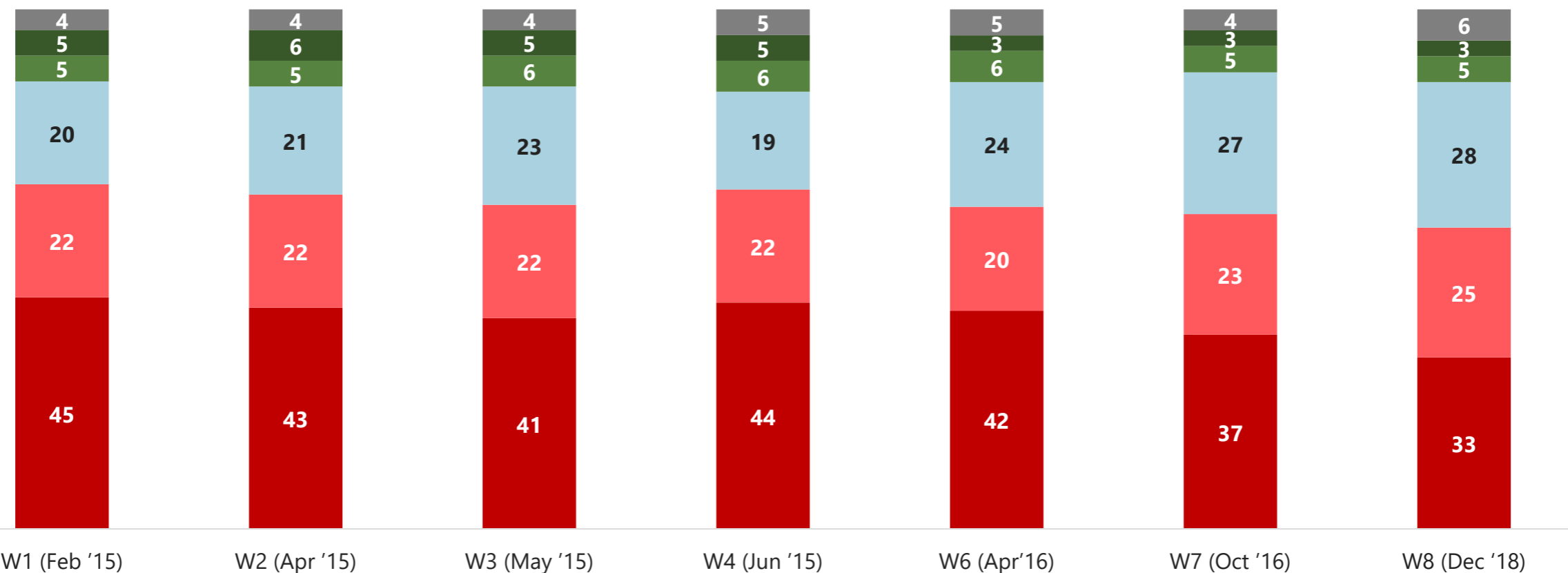
\* people selecting at least one of these options  
\*\*respondents allowed to select more than one option

# The proportion of those who want to see immigration reduced remains

## stable at three in five

Q Do you think the number of immigrants coming to Britain nowadays should be increased a lot, increased a little, remain the same as it is, reduced a little, or reduced a lot?

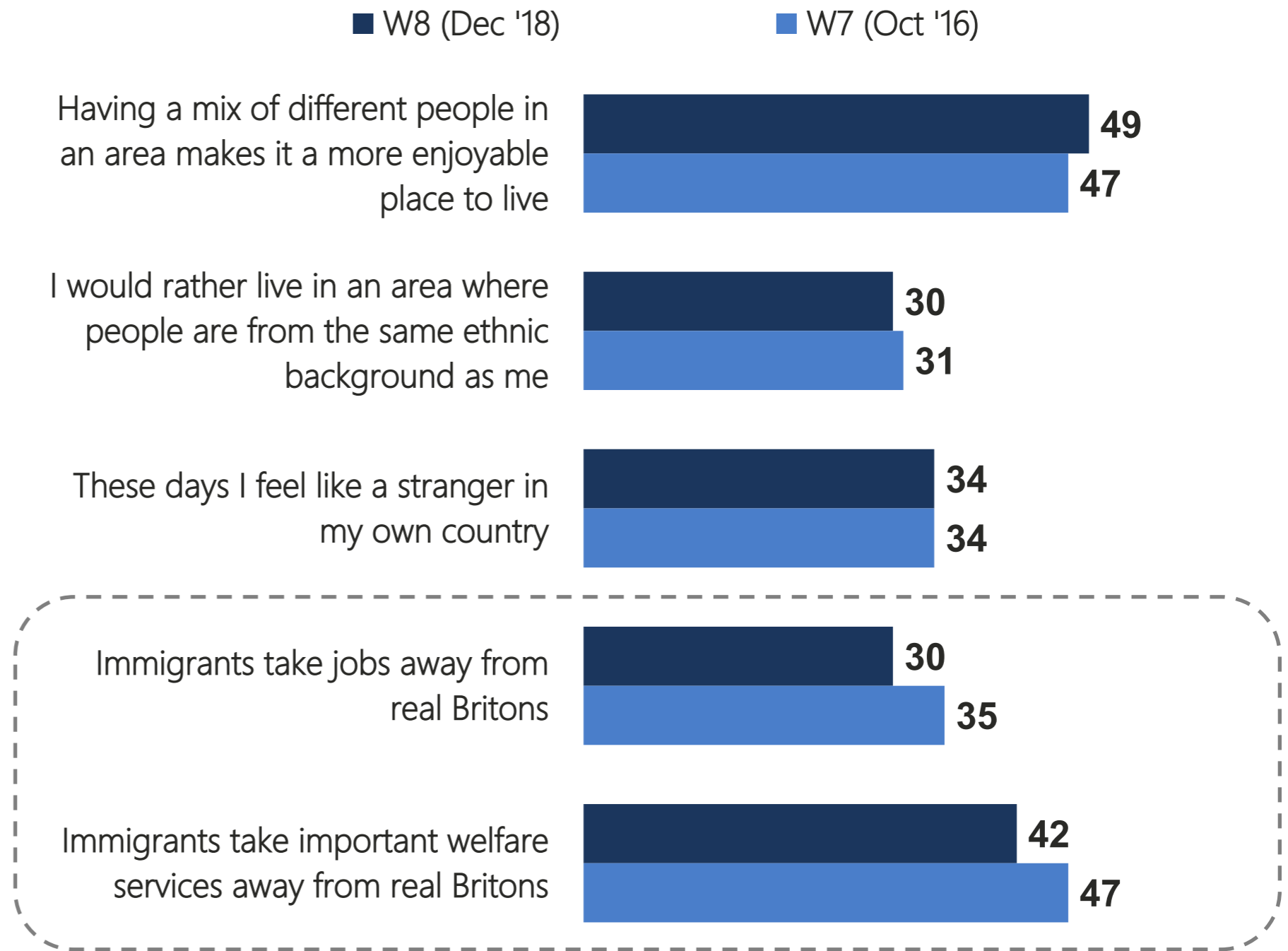
■ % Reduced a lot ■ % Reduced a little ■ % Remain the same as it is ■ % Increased a little ■ % Increased a lot ■ % Don't know



Base: All respondents (W1: 4574; W2: 3770; W3:3023; W4:2698; W6: 4002; W7: 4071; W8: 2520: Fieldwork dates: 17<sup>th</sup> December 2018 – 7<sup>th</sup> January 2019

**While overall views on immigration remain stable there are now fewer who say immigrants take jobs or public services away from real Britons**

Q To what extent do you agree or disagree with the following statements? (% agree)



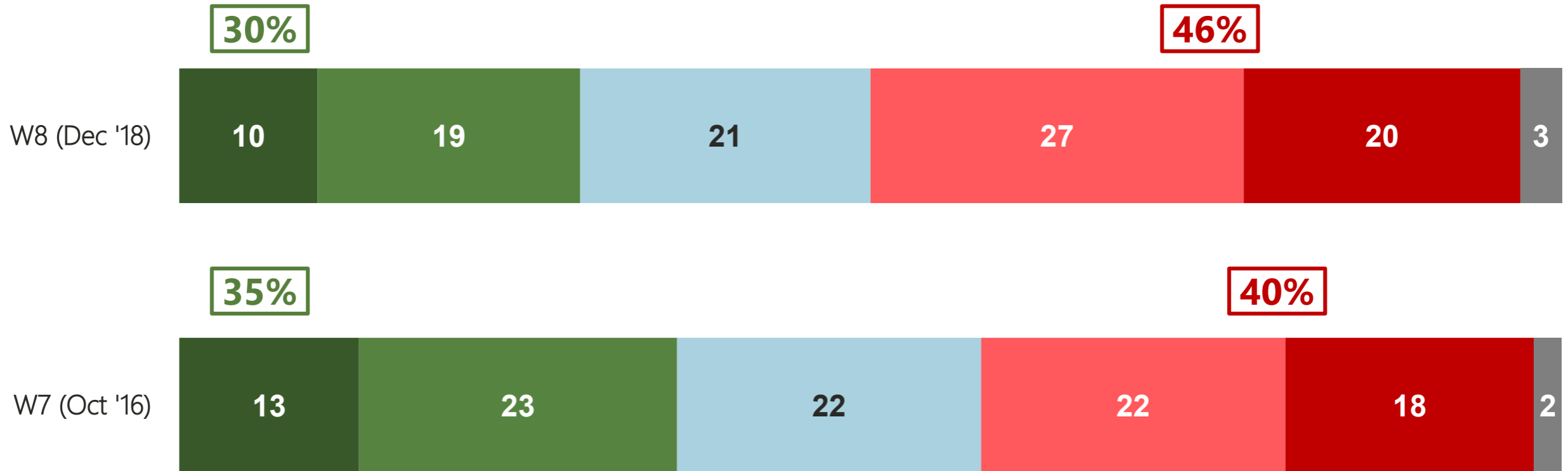
Base: All respondents (W8: 2520; W7: 4071); Fieldwork dates: 17<sup>th</sup> December 2018 – 7<sup>th</sup> January 2019



# Fewer people now say immigrants take jobs away from real Britons compared to two years ago

Q To what extent do you agree or disagree that 'Immigrants take jobs away from real Britons'

■ % Strongly agree   ■ % Tend to agree   ■ % Neither / nor   ■ % Tend to disagree   ■ % Strongly disagree   ■ % Don't know

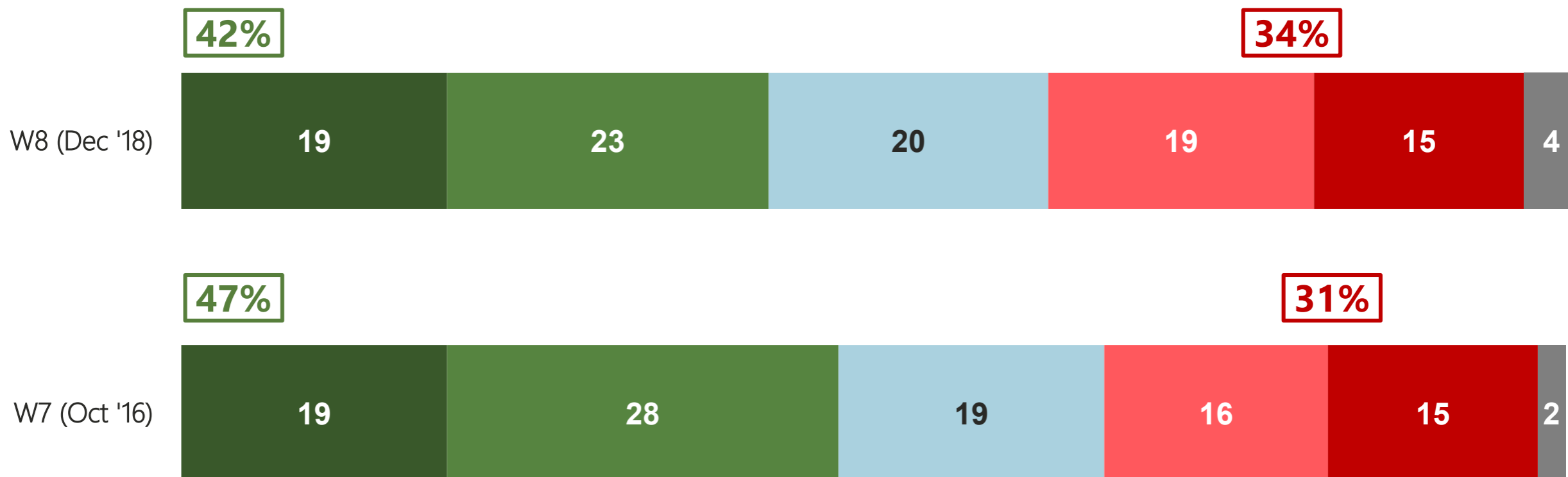


Base: All respondents (W8: 2520; W7: 4071); Fieldwork dates: 17<sup>th</sup> December 2018 – 7<sup>th</sup> January 2019

# And fewer also say immigrants take important welfare services away from real Britons – with two fifths saying they agree

Q To what extent do you agree or disagree that 'Immigrants take important welfare services away from real Britons'

■ % Strongly agree   ■ % Tend to agree   ■ % Neither / nor   ■ % Tend to disagree   ■ % Strongly disagree   ■ % Don't know

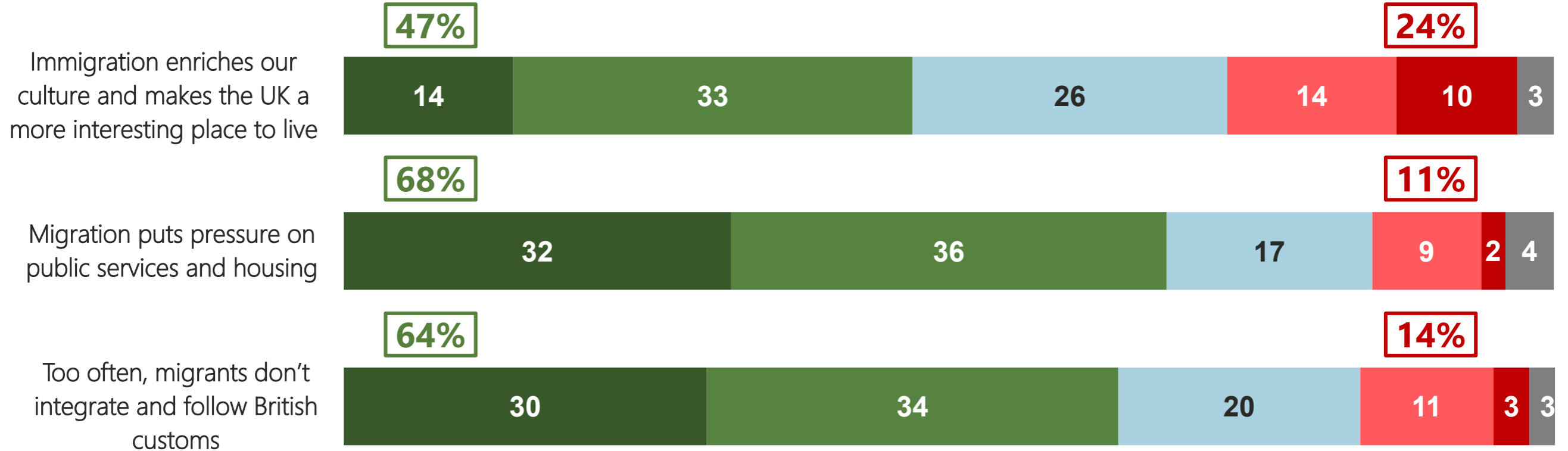


Base: All respondents (W8: 2520; W7: 4071); Fieldwork dates: 17<sup>th</sup> December 2018 – 7<sup>th</sup> January 2019

**While close to half think immigration enriches the UK, two-thirds think it puts pressure on public services and housing and similar proportion think immigrants don't follow British customs**

Q To what extent do you agree or disagree with each of the following?

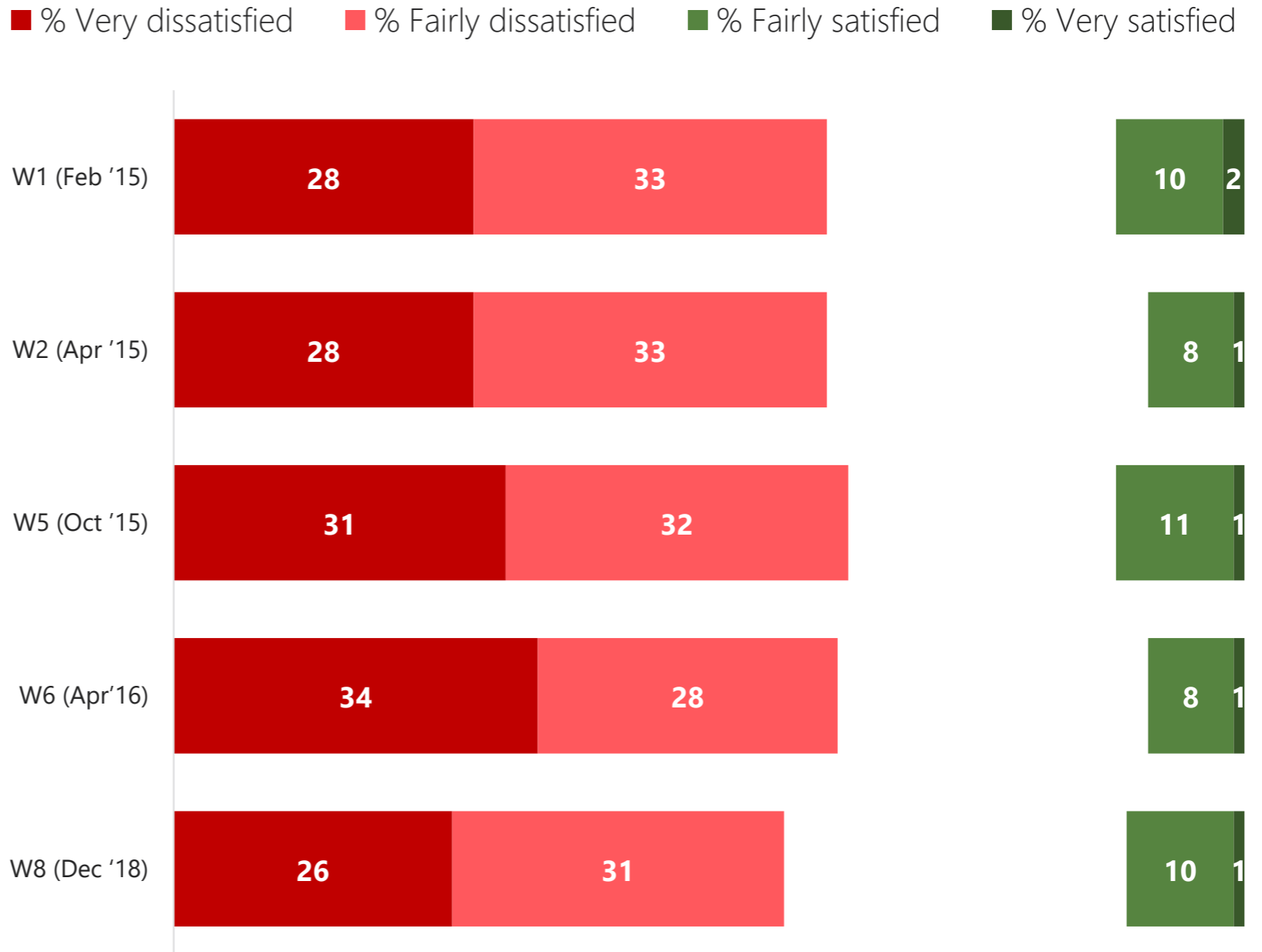
■ % Strongly agree   ■ % Tend to agree   ■ % Neither / nor   ■ % Tend to disagree   ■ % Strongly disagree   ■ % Don't know



Base: All respondents (2520): Fieldwork dates: 17<sup>th</sup> December 2018 – 7<sup>th</sup> January 2019

***The majority of people remain dissatisfied with how the government is dealing with immigration***

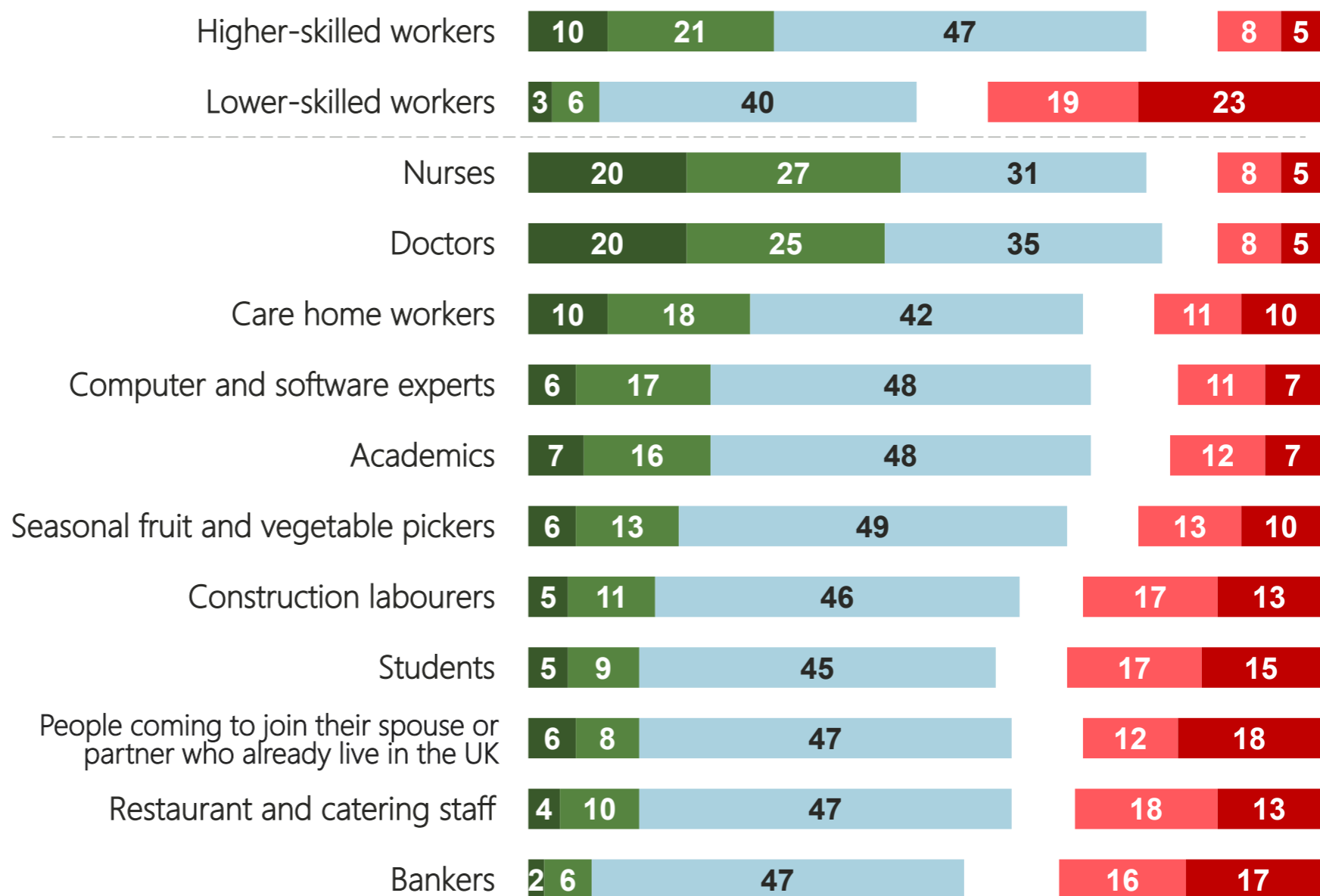
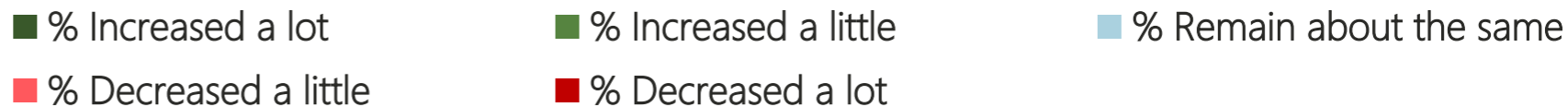
Q Overall, how satisfied or dissatisfied are you with the way the current government is dealing with immigration?



Base: All respondents (W1: 4574; W2: 3770; W3:3023; W4:2698; W6: 4002; W7: 4071; W8: 2520: Fieldwork dates: 17<sup>th</sup> December 2018 – 7<sup>th</sup> January 2019

**Britons want to see an increase in higher skilled workers coming to the UK from the EU. Nurses and doctors top the list but are followed by care home workers**

Q After Britain leaves the European Union, would you prefer the number of EU citizens from each of the below groups coming to live in the UK to be increased, reduced, or should it remain about the same?

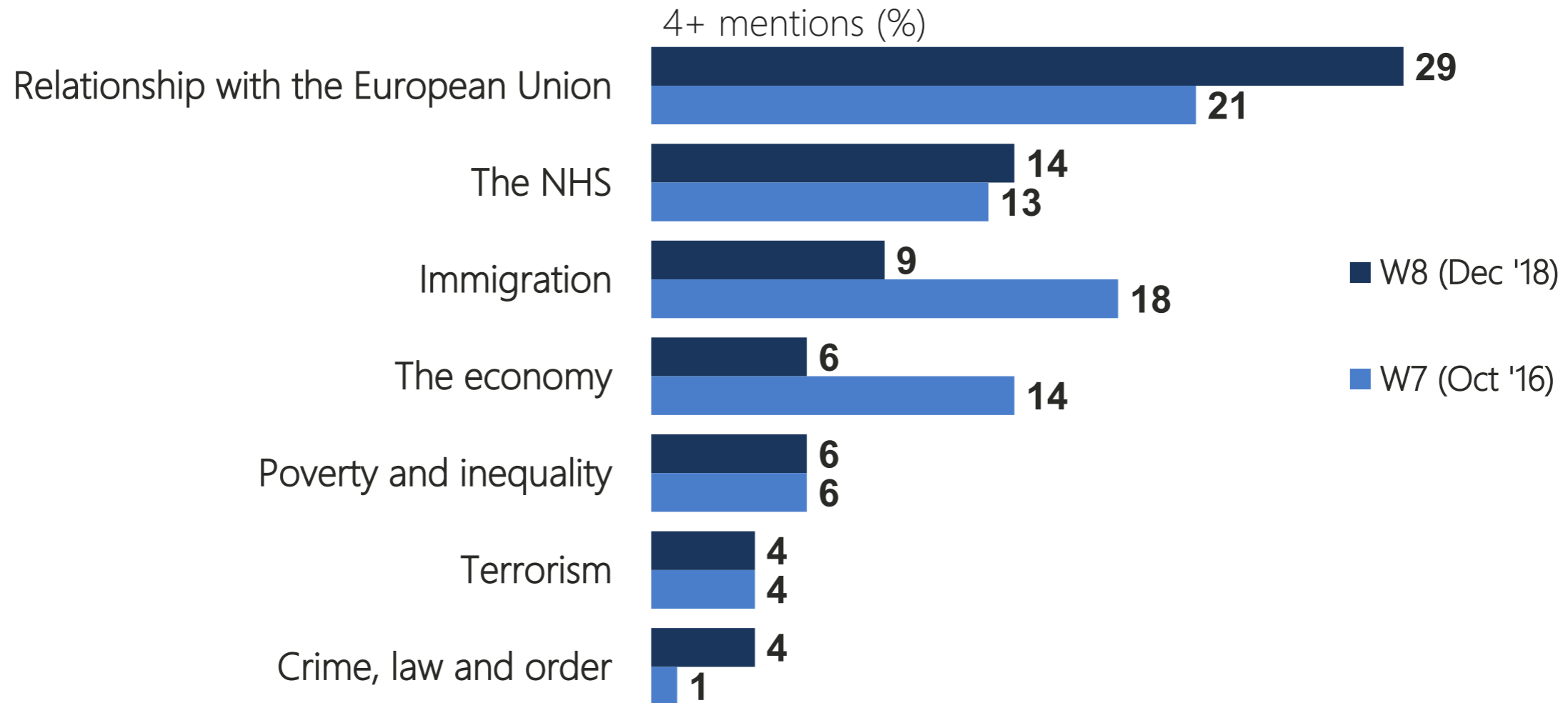


Base: All respondents (2520): Fieldwork dates: 17<sup>th</sup> December 2018 – 7<sup>th</sup> January 2019

# Economic outlook

# Concern over Brexit has increased since 2016 while the number worried about immigration has halved

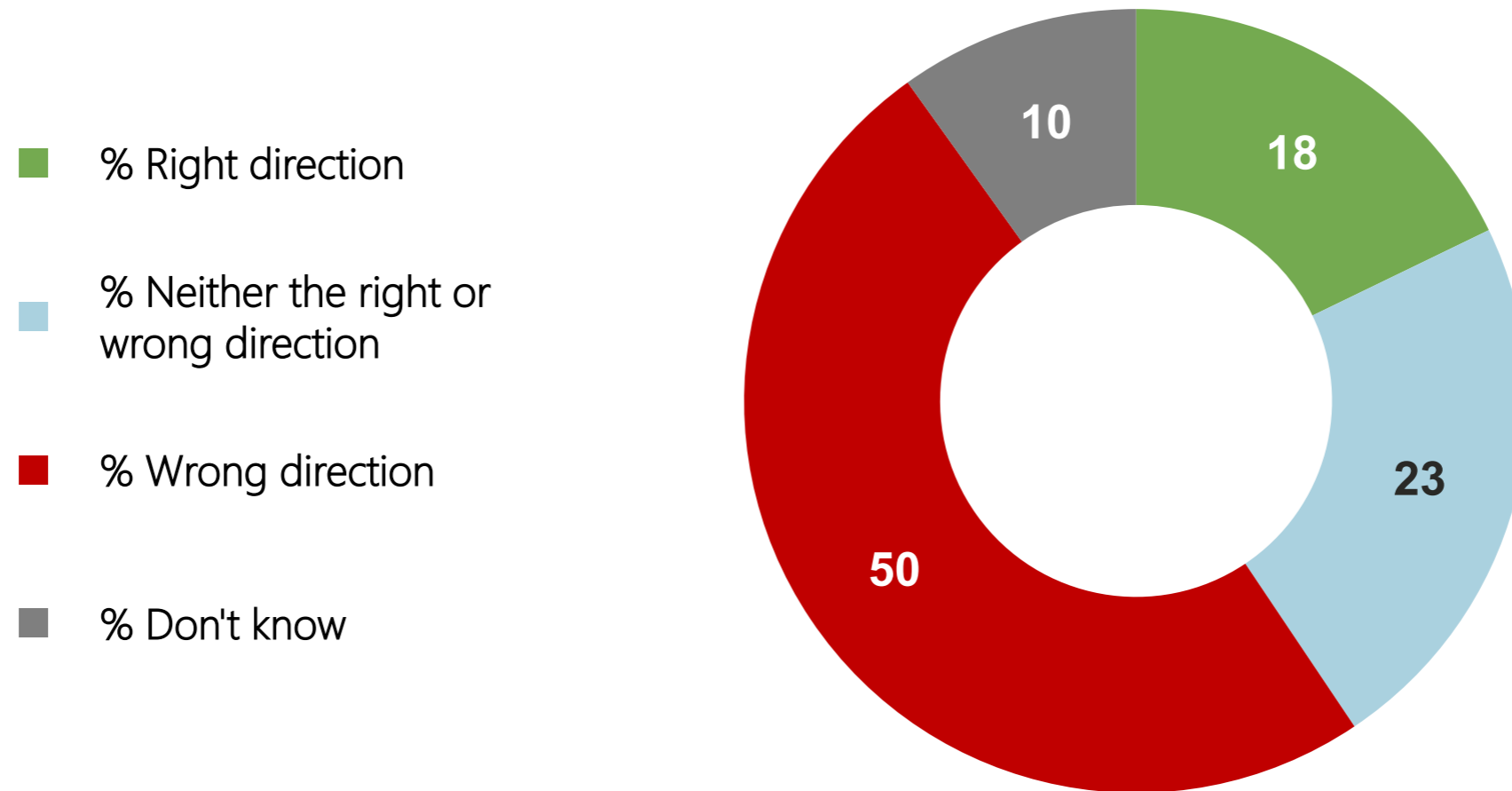
Q What would you say is the most important issue facing Britain today? (Respondents could select more than one option)



Base: All respondents (W8: 2520; W7: 4071); Fieldwork dates: 17<sup>th</sup> December 2018 – 7<sup>th</sup> January 2019

# *Half think the country is moving in the wrong direction while only one in five think it's moving in the right direction*

Q Do you think the UK is moving in the right or wrong direction?



Base: All respondents (2520): Fieldwork dates: 17<sup>th</sup> December 2018 – 7<sup>th</sup> January 2019



# Three-quarters say they are satisfied with their life which is unchanged since October 2016

Q All things considered, how satisfied are you with your life as a whole nowadays? Where 0 means extremely dissatisfied and 10 means extremely satisfied.

■ % Dissatisfied (0-4)    ■ % Neutral (5)    ■ % Satisfied (6-10)    ■ % Don't know

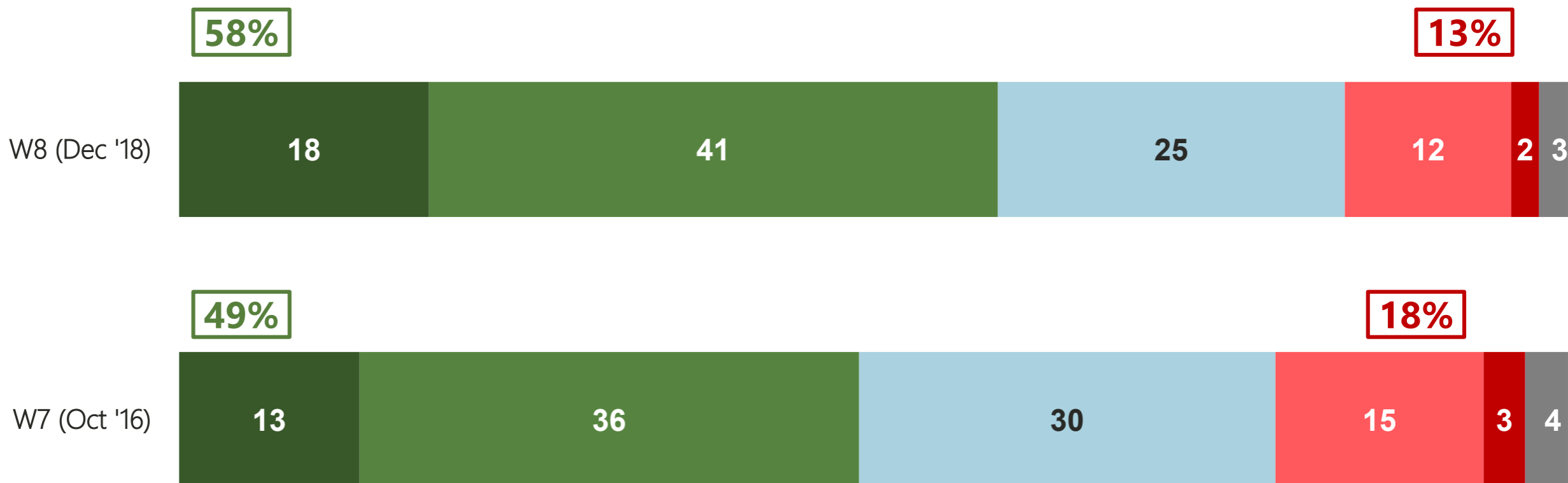


Base: All respondents (2520): Fieldwork dates: 17<sup>th</sup> December 2018 – 7<sup>th</sup> January 2019

# However, significantly more people now say that for most people in Britain life is getting worse

Q To what extent do you agree or disagree that 'For most people in Britain life is getting worse rather than better'

■ % Strongly agree   ■ % Tend to agree   ■ % Neither / nor   ■ % Tend to disagree   ■ % Strongly disagree   ■ % Don't know



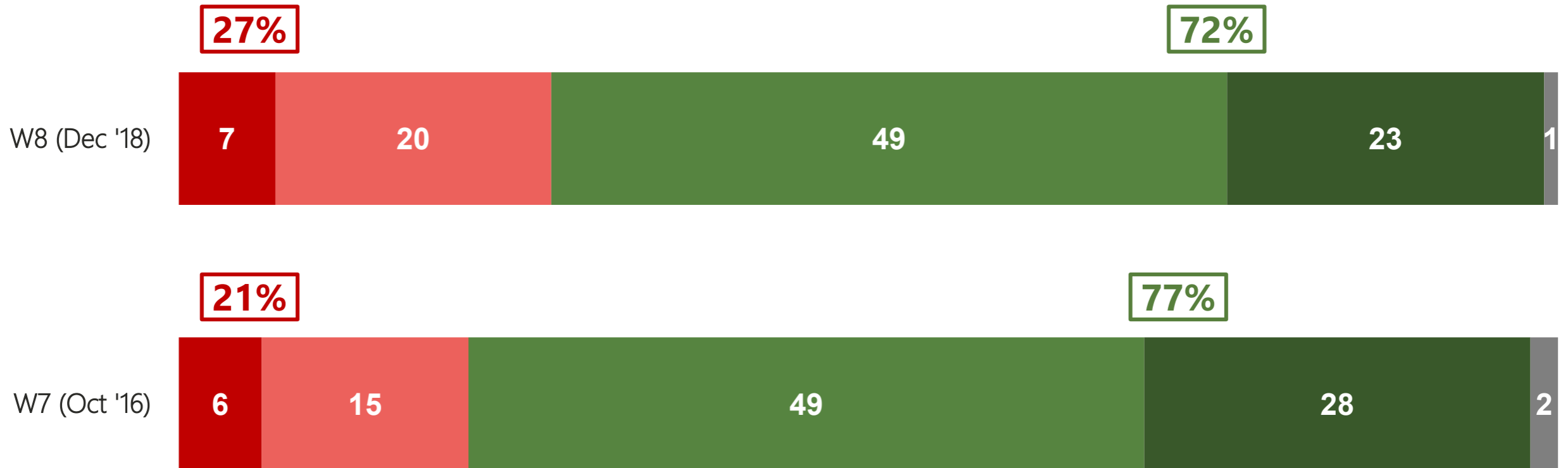
Base: All respondents (W8: 2520; W7: 4071); Fieldwork dates: 17<sup>th</sup> December 2018 – 7<sup>th</sup> January 2019

# More than a quarter are finding it difficult on present income

## – an increase since 2016

Q Which of the descriptions comes closest to how you feel about your household's income nowadays?

■ % Finding it very difficult on present income   ■ % Finding it difficult on present income   ■ % Coping on present income   ■ % Living comfortably on present income   ■ % Don't know

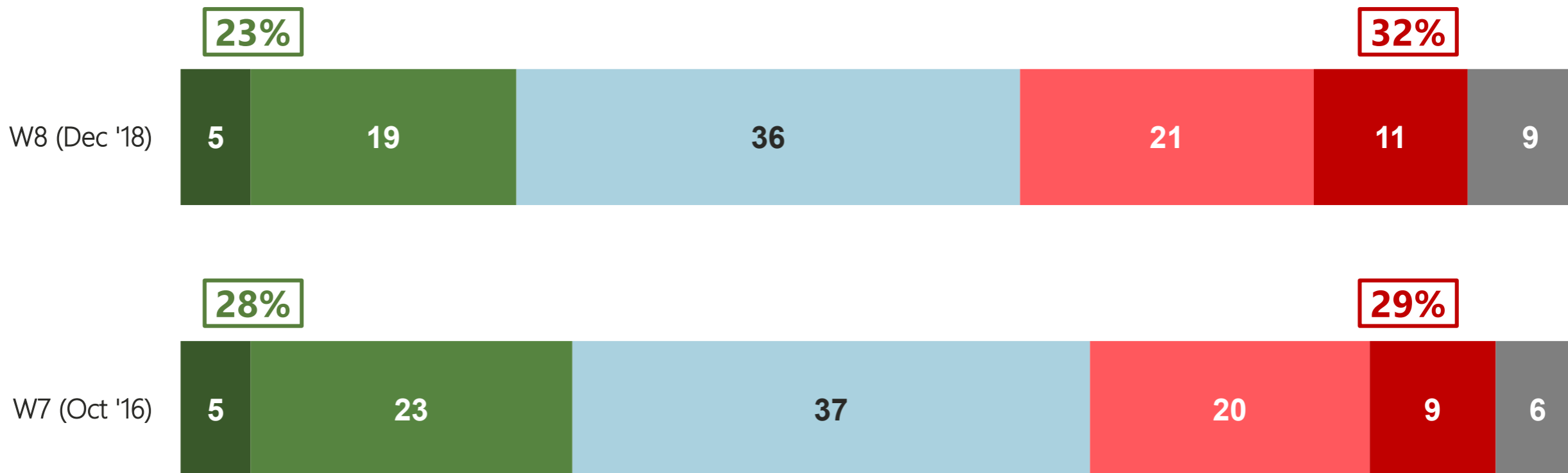


Base: All respondents (W8: 2520; W7: 4071); Fieldwork dates: 17<sup>th</sup> December 2018 – 7<sup>th</sup> January 2019

# A quarter of people feel they personally benefit from economic growth in Britain – down slightly from 2016

Q To what extent do you agree or disagree that 'I personally benefit from economic growth in Britain'

■ % Strongly agree   ■ % Tend to agree   ■ % Neither / nor   ■ % Tend to disagree   ■ % Strongly disagree   ■ % Don't know

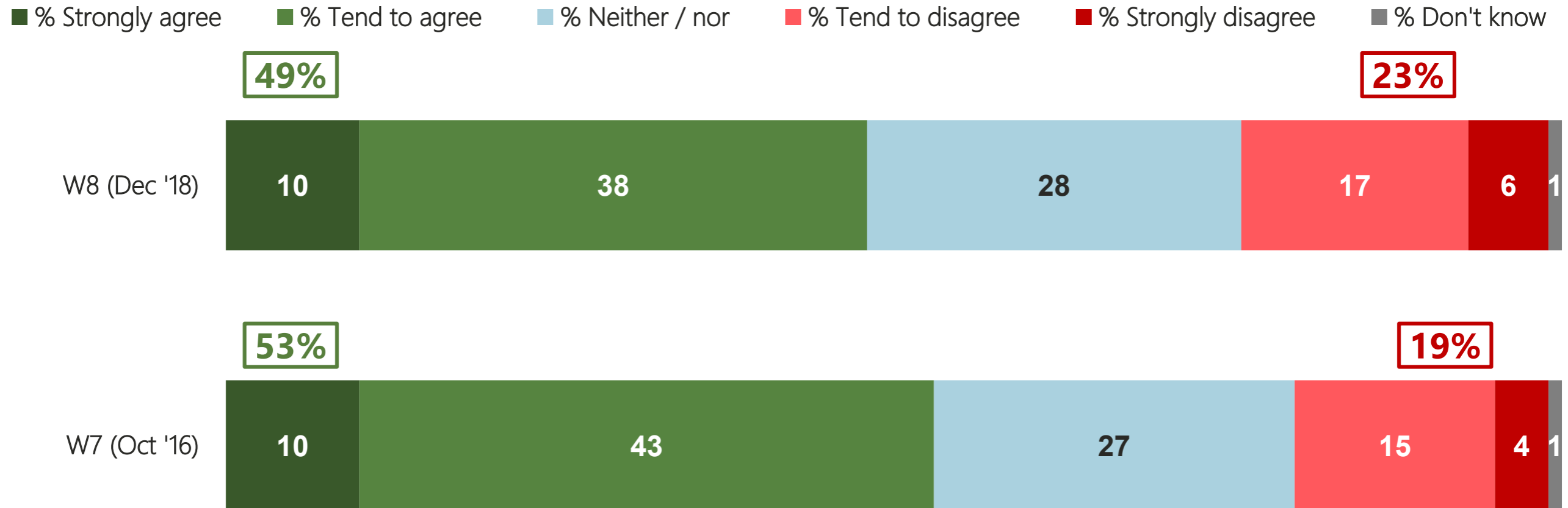


Base: All respondents (W8: 2520; W7: 4071); Fieldwork dates: 17<sup>th</sup> December 2018 – 7<sup>th</sup> January 2019

# Half say that they always feel optimistic about their future

## – slightly down from 2016

Q To what extent do you agree or disagree that 'I'm always optimistic about my future'

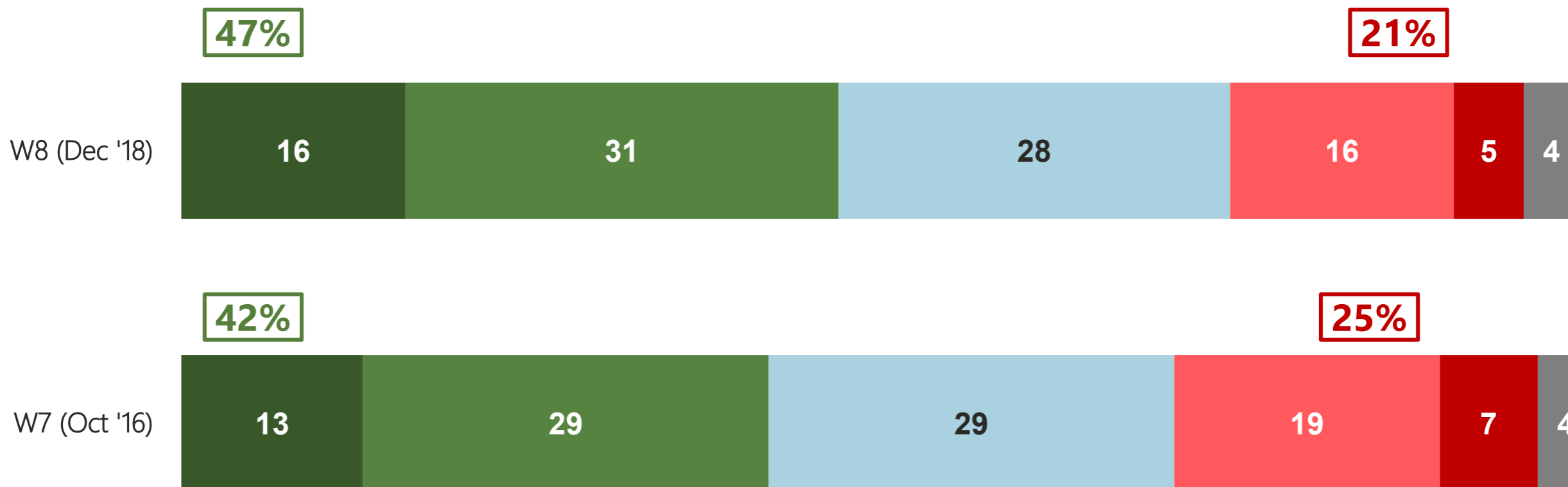


Base: All respondents (W8: 2520; W7: 4071); Fieldwork dates: 17<sup>th</sup> December 2018 – 7<sup>th</sup> January 2019

# Sense of nostalgia has increased - almost half now feel that things in Britain were better in the past

Q To what extent do you agree or disagree that 'Things in Britain were better in the past'

■ % Strongly agree   ■ % Tend to agree   ■ % Neither / nor   ■ % Tend to disagree   ■ % Strongly disagree   ■ % Don't know



Base: All respondents (W8: 2520; W7: 4071); Fieldwork dates: 17<sup>th</sup> December 2018 – 7<sup>th</sup> January 2019

# Technical note

- Ipsos MORI interviewed a representative sample of adults aged 18+ across Great Britain. Data are weighted to reflect the population profile. This survey is wave 8 in a series of surveys. Interviews for all 8 waves were conducted online and all questions, with the exception of Q21B, were asked of all respondents.
- The survey was conducted on behalf of IMiX, the migration communications hub with funding from Unbound Philanthropy and the Barrow Cadbury Trust.
- This survey (wave 8) was transitioned into a Device Agnostic survey, enabling respondents to complete the survey on mobile phones and tablets more efficiently.
- Percentage scores are shown out of 100%. Where figures do not add up to 100%, this is due to computer rounding. An asterisks indicates a score less than 0.5%, but greater than zero. Combined figures are based on the constituent parts (e.g. % agree = % strongly agree + % tend to agree). These figures are also subject to the effect of rounding.

The number of interviews completed and fieldwork dates for each wave are outlined in the table below. For each wave, data are weighted to the profile of the population. Differences between waves in these charts are for the overall level rather than longitudinal so they are not indicative of a change at an individual respondent level.

Wave number	Fieldwork dates	Number of respondents
<b>W1 (Feb '15)</b>	<b>25 Feb – 4 Mar 2015</b>	<b>4,574</b>
<b>W2 (Apr '15)</b>	<b>27 Mar – 7 Apr 2015</b>	<b>3,770</b>
<b>W3 (May '15)</b>	<b>30 Apr – 6 May 2015</b>	<b>3,023</b>
<b>W4 (Jun '15)</b>	<b>26 Jun – 2 Jul 2015</b>	<b>2,698</b>
<b>W5 (Oct '15)</b>	<b>15 – 19 Oct 2015</b>	<b>1,941</b>
<b>W6 (Apr'16)</b>	<b>14 -25 Apr 2016</b>	<b>4,002</b> which comprised two samples: (1) 1,606 who completed Wave 1 (2) 2,396 new top up sample
<b>W7 (Oct '16)</b>	<b>13-20 Oct 2016</b>	<b>4,071</b> which comprised two samples: (1) 2,765 who completed Wave 6 (2) 1,306 who completed Wave 1
<b>W8 (Dec '18)</b>	<b>17th Dec 2018 - 7th Jan 2019</b>	<b>2,520</b> which comprised two samples: (1) 1,413 who completed at least one previous wave (1 – 7) (2) 1,107 new top up sample



## FURTHER INFORMATION

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