

# 12<sup>th</sup> Vanderbilt University Poll

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Democratic Institutions



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**November 11-23, 2015**

**John G. Geer & Joshua D. Clinton, Co-Directors**

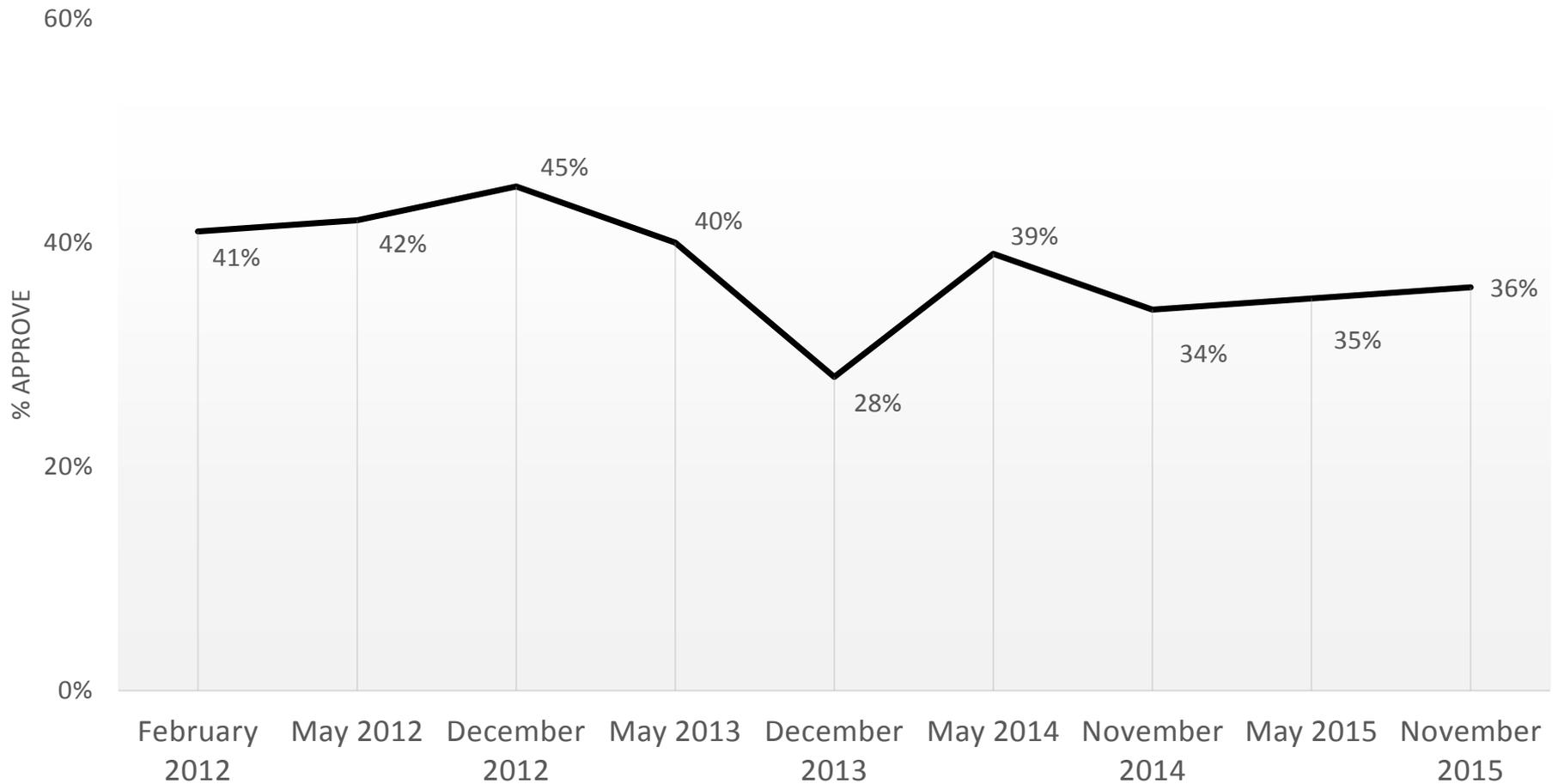
**December 4, 2015**

**1,013 registered voters in Tennessee**

**MoE: +/- 3.9 percentage points**

# Obama Approval Over Time

Among TN Registered Voters



Source: Vanderbilt University Polls  
Nov. 2015 Poll: N=1,013; MoE: +/- 3.9 %

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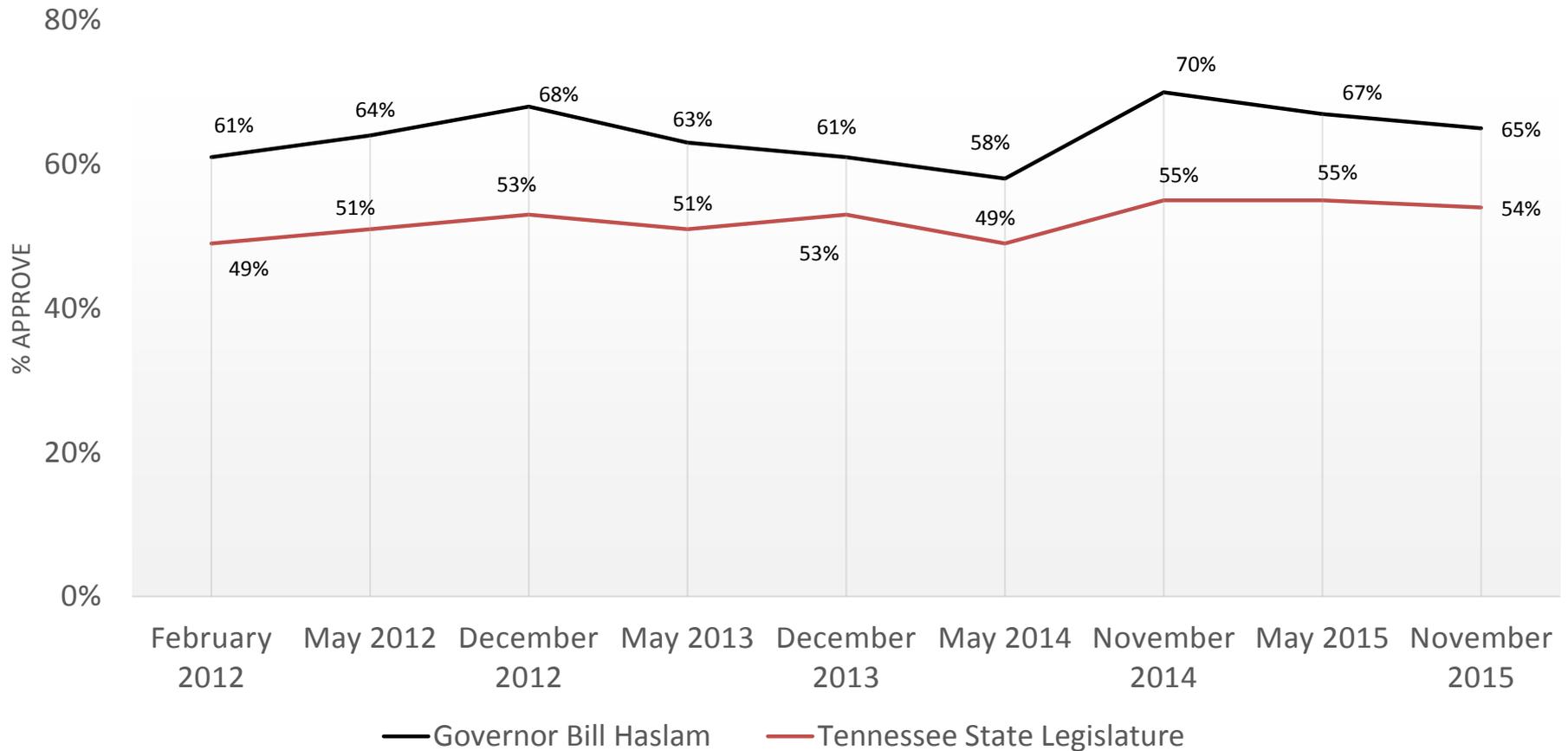
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# Approval of Haslam & State Legislature Over Time

Among TN Registered Voters



Source: Vanderbilt University Polls  
Nov. 2015 Poll: N=1,013; MoE: +/- 3.9 %

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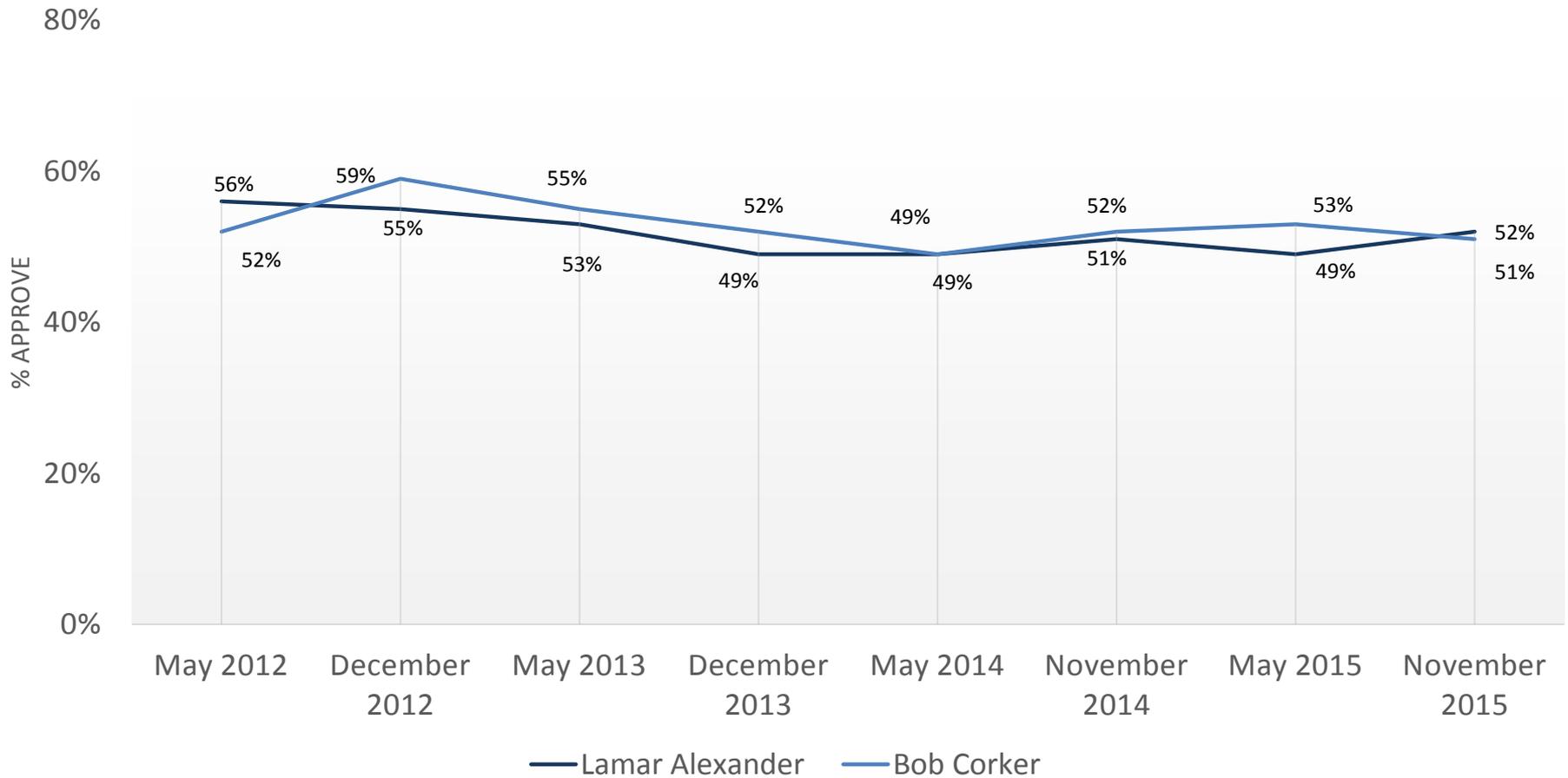
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# Approval of Tennessee Senators Over Time

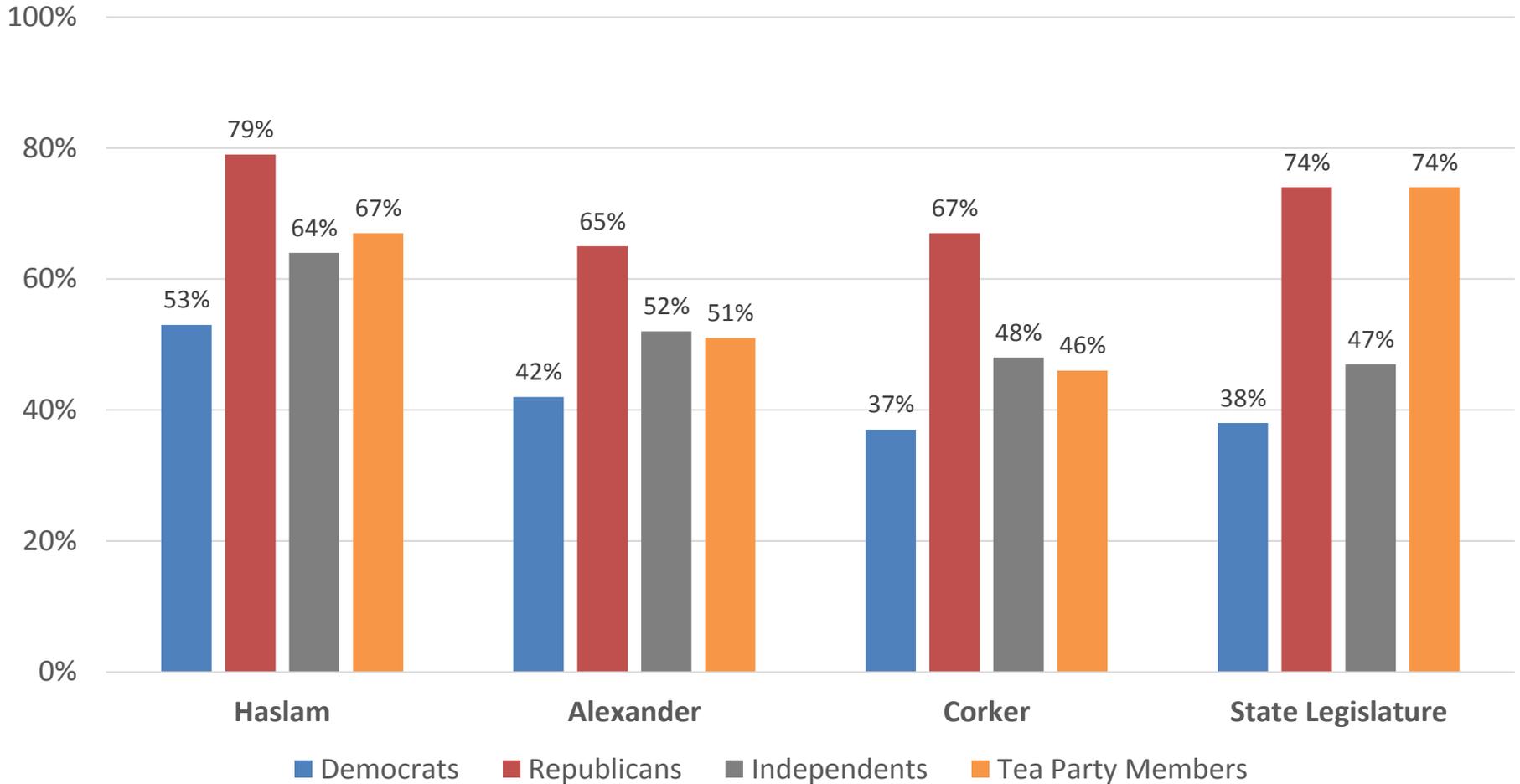
Among TN Registered Voters



Source: Vanderbilt University Polls  
Nov. 2015 Poll: N=1,013; MoE: +/- 3.9 %

# Approval of State Leaders by Partisanship

Among TN Registered Voters

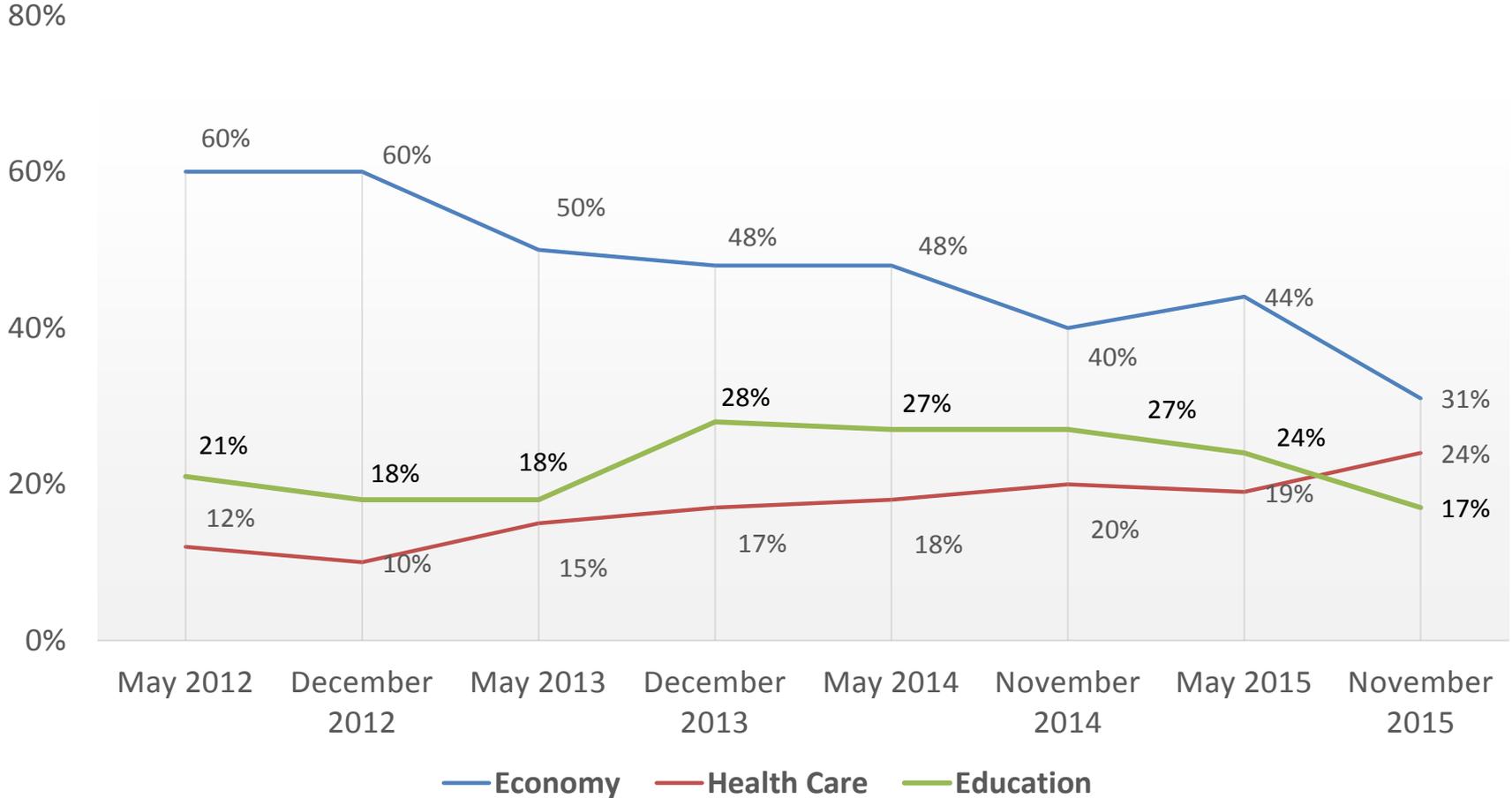


Source: Vanderbilt University Poll  
November 2015  
N=1,013; MoE: +/- 3.9%

# Top Priority of TN State Government Over Time

Among TN Registered Voters

Which of the following do you think should be the top priority of the Tennessee state government?

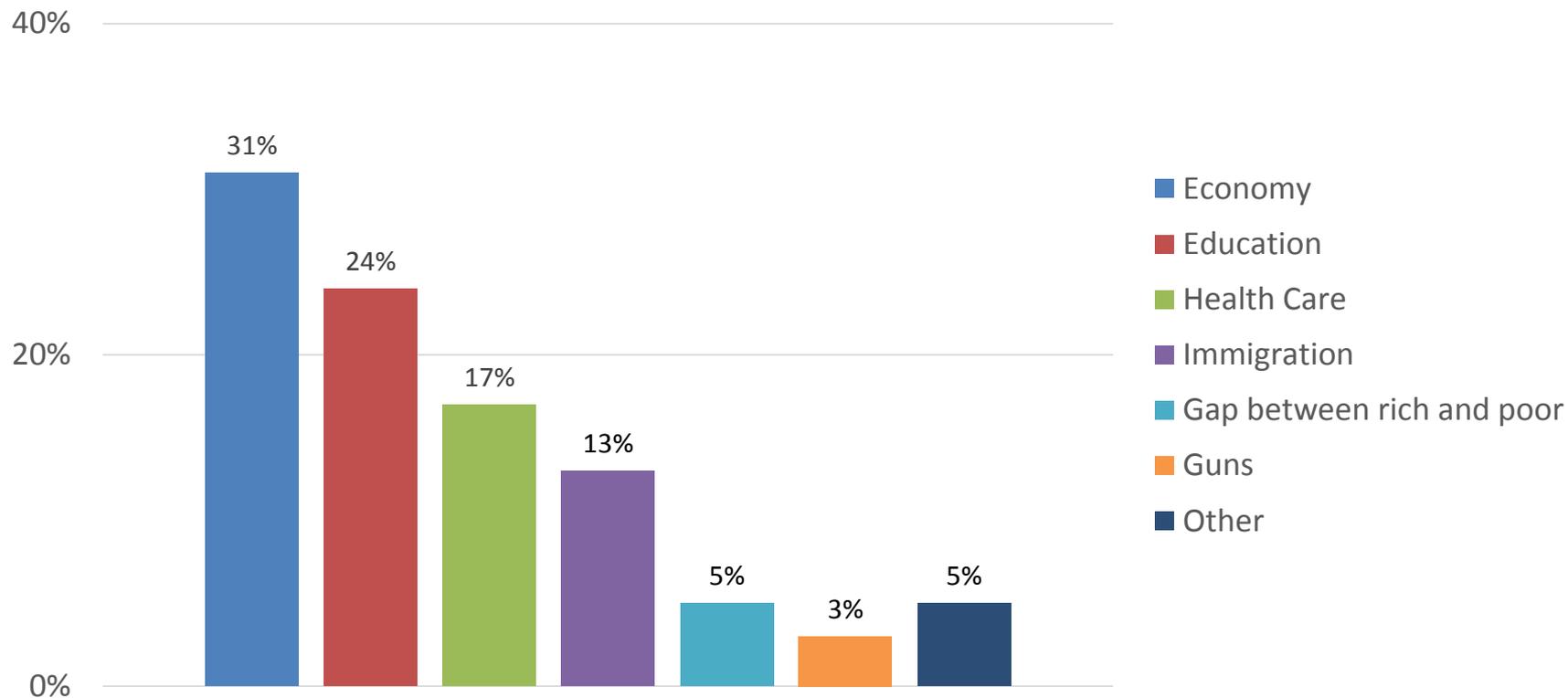


Source: Vanderbilt University Polls  
Nov. 2015 Poll: N=1,013; MoE: +/- 3.9 %

# Top Priority of TN State Government

Among TN Registered Voters

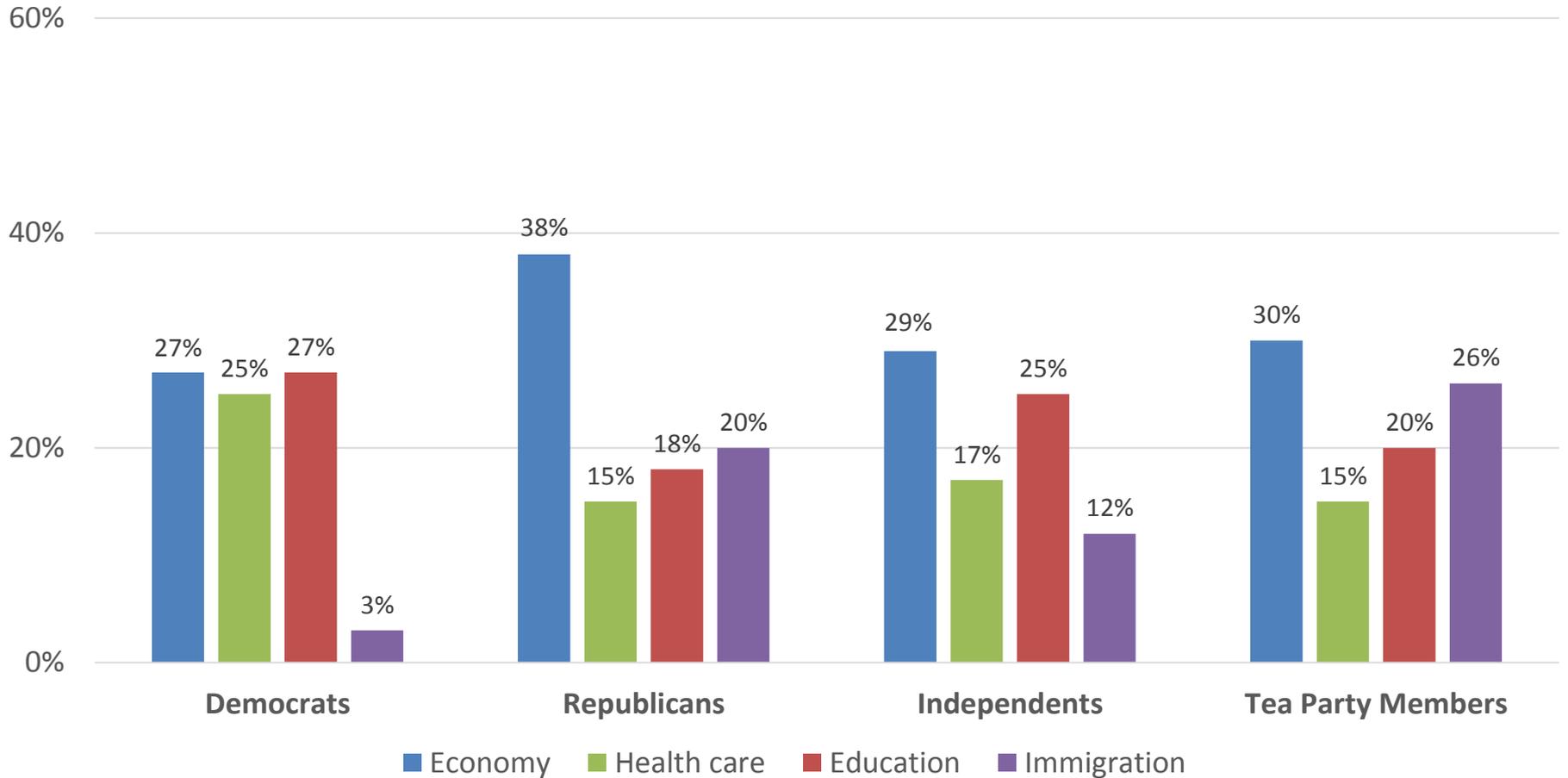
As far as you know, about how much tax does the state of Tennessee currently charge on each gallon of gas? Please do not include federal gas taxes.



Source: Vanderbilt University Poll  
November 2015  
N=1,013; MoE: +/- 3.9%

# Top Priority of TN State Government by Partisanship

Among TN Registered Voters



Source: Vanderbilt University Poll  
November 2015  
N=1,013; MoE: +/- 3.9%

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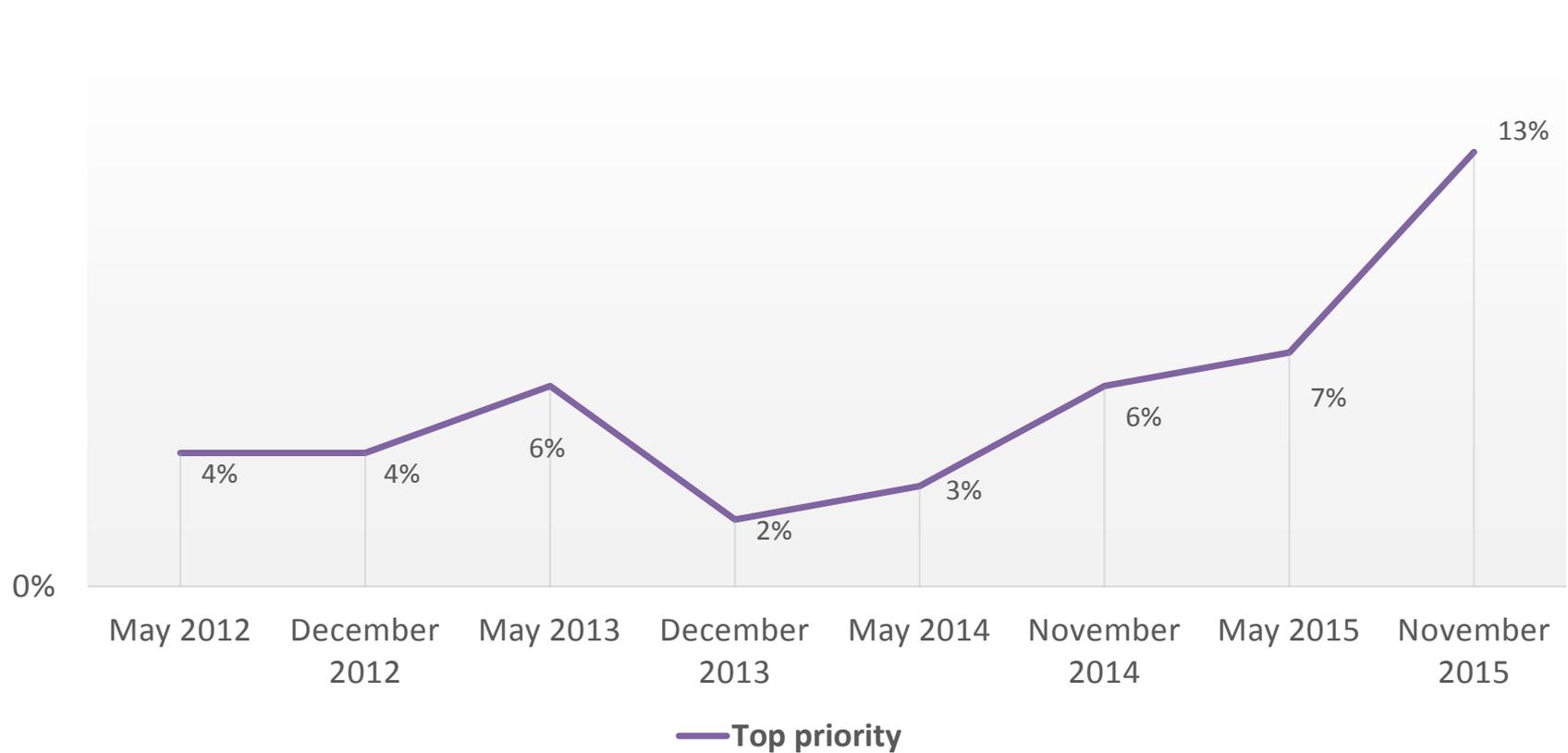


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# Immigration as Priority of TN Government Over Time

Among TN Registered Voters

20%



Source: Vanderbilt University Polls  
Nov. 2015 Poll: N=1,013; MoE: +/- 3.9 %

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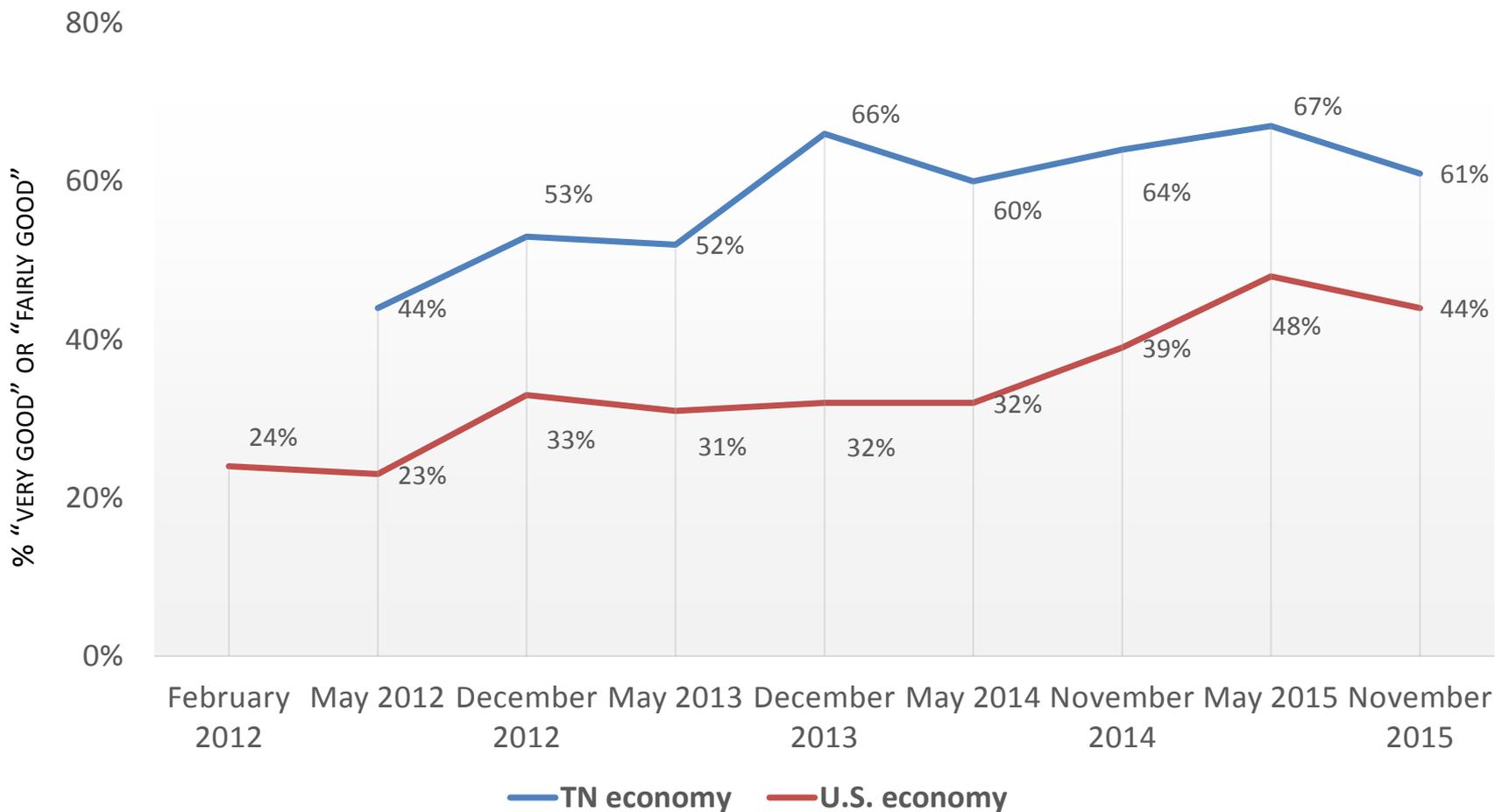
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# Perceptions of the Economy

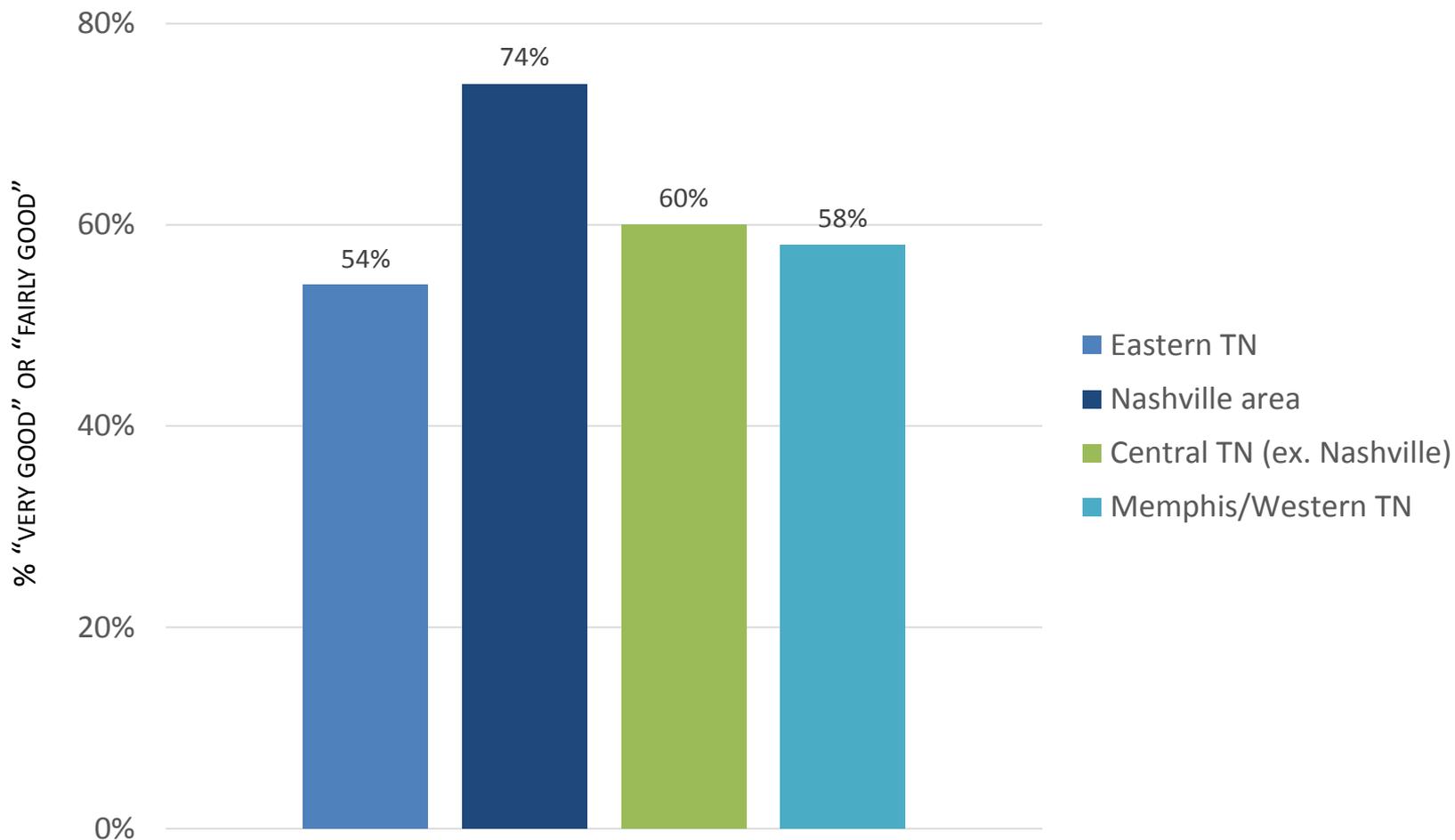
Among TN Registered Voters



Source: Vanderbilt University Polls  
Nov. 2015 Poll: N=1,013; MoE: +/- 3.9%

# Perceptions of State Economy by Region

Among TN Registered Voters

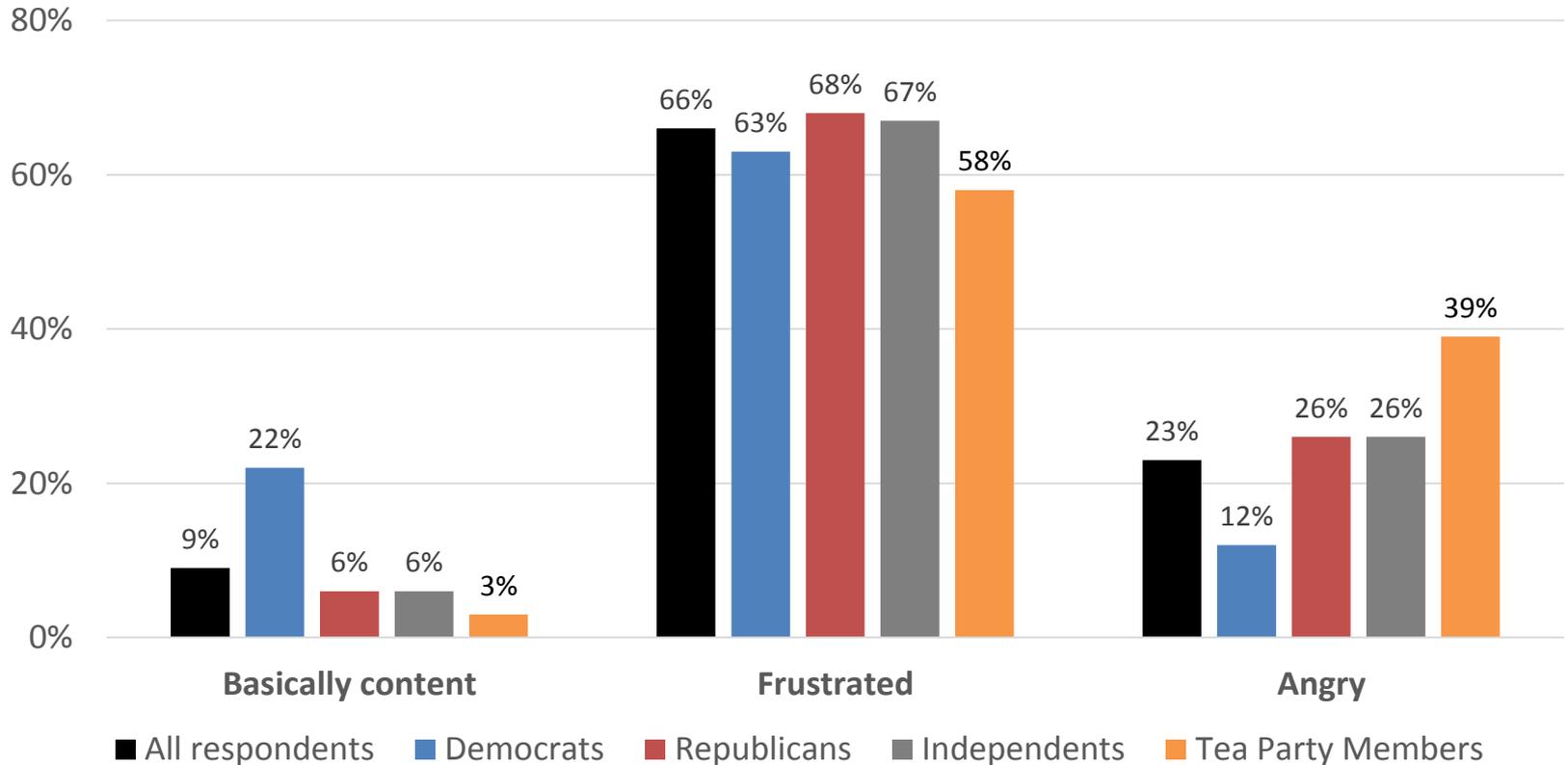


Source: Vanderbilt University Poll  
November 2015  
N=1,013; MoE: +/- 3.9%

# Feelings Toward Political System by Partisanship

Among TN Registered Voters

Some people say they are basically content with the way the political system is working in this country today, others say they are frustrated, and others say they are angry. Which of these best describes how you feel?

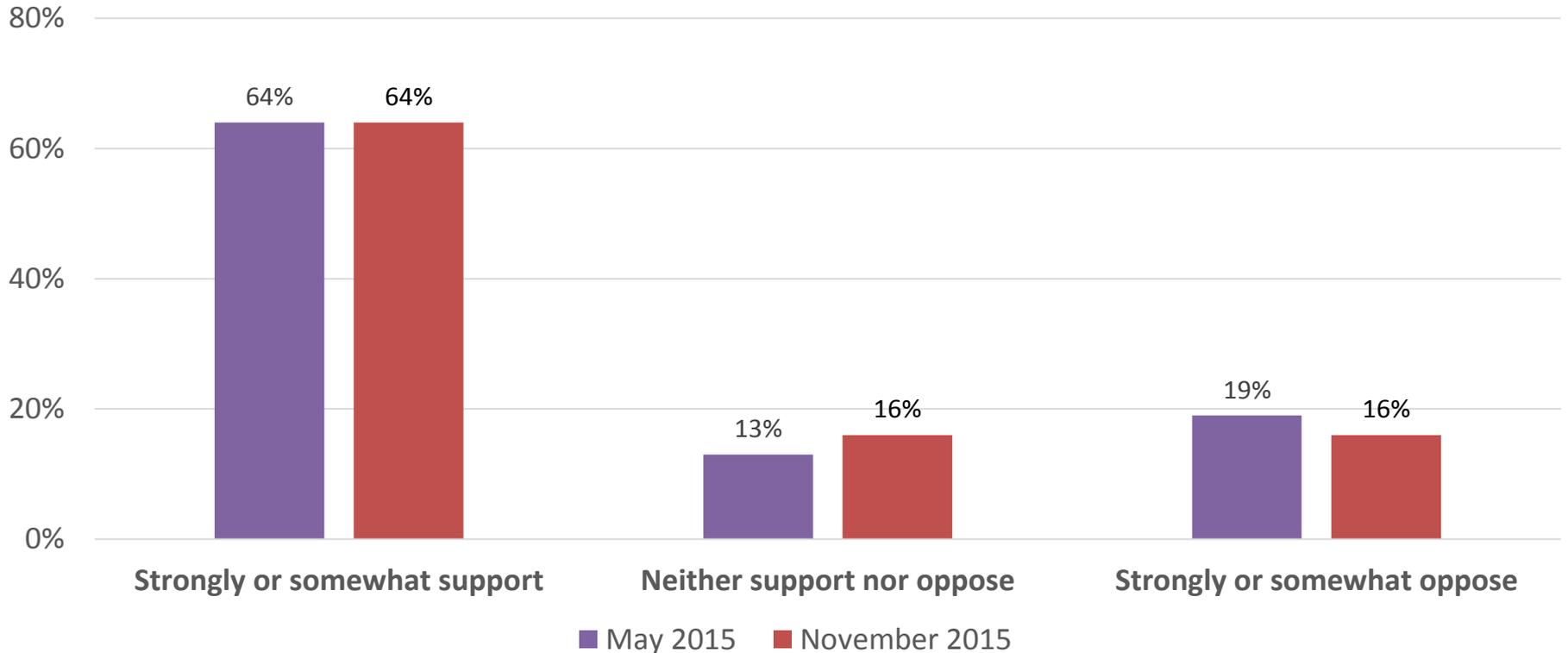


Source: Vanderbilt University Poll  
November 2015  
N=1,013; MoE: +/- 3.9%

# Support for Insure Tennessee

Among TN Registered Voters

Many public officials in Tennessee are considering implementing “Insure Tennessee,” a program proposed by Governor Haslam that would expand health insurance coverage to 280,000 low-income people without health insurance in the state. Do you strongly support, somewhat support, neither support nor oppose, somewhat oppose, or strongly oppose expanding health care coverage for low-income people in the state?

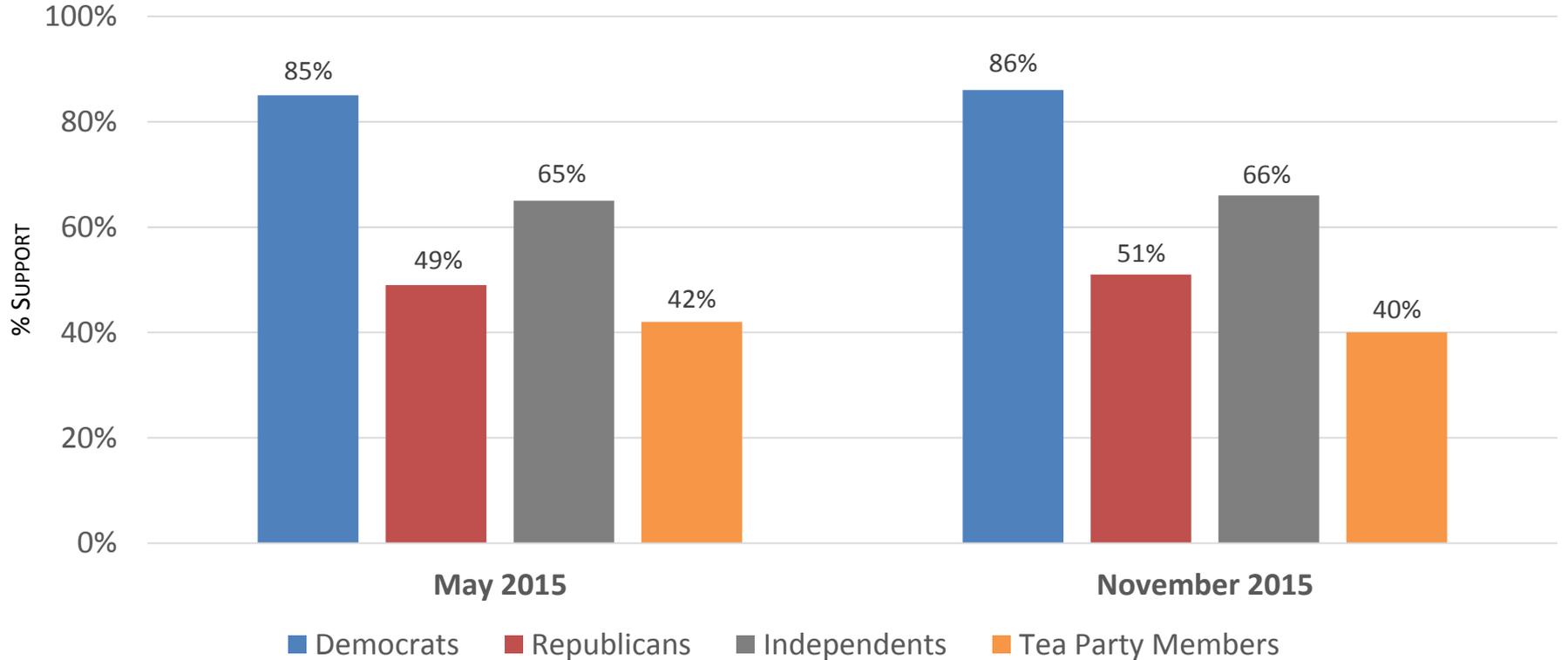


Source: Vanderbilt University Polls  
Nov. 2015 Poll: N=1,013; MoE: +/- 3.9%

# Support for Insure Tennessee by Partisanship

Among TN Registered Voters

Many public officials in Tennessee are considering implementing “Insure Tennessee,” a program proposed by Governor Haslam that would expand health insurance coverage to 280,000 low-income people without health insurance in the state. Do you [support] neither support nor oppose, or [oppose] expanding health care coverage for low-income people in the state?

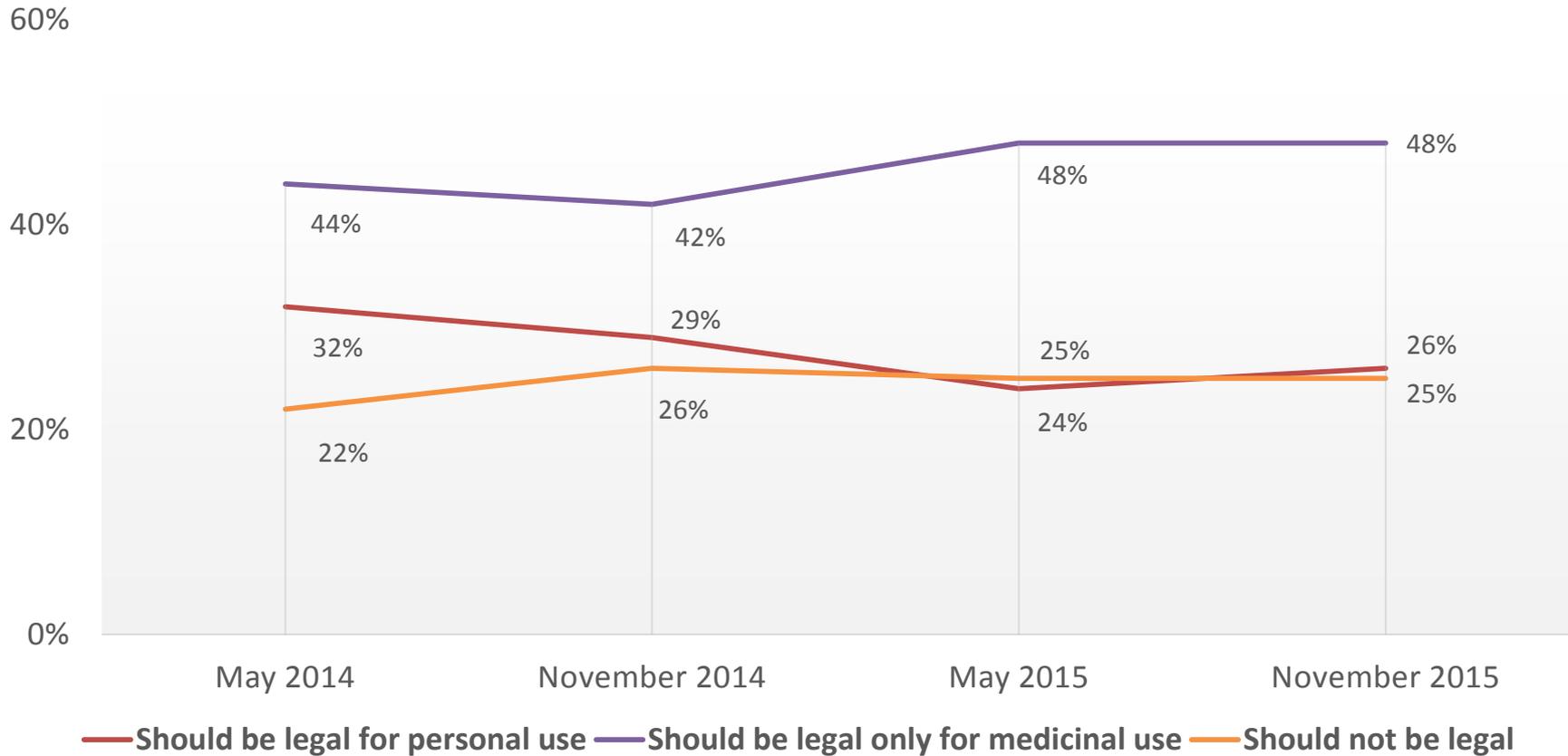


Source: Vanderbilt University Poll  
November 2015  
N=1,013; MoE: +/- 3.9%

# Views on Marijuana Legalization

## Among TN Registered Voters

Which of the following statements comes closer to your view about the use of marijuana by adults?

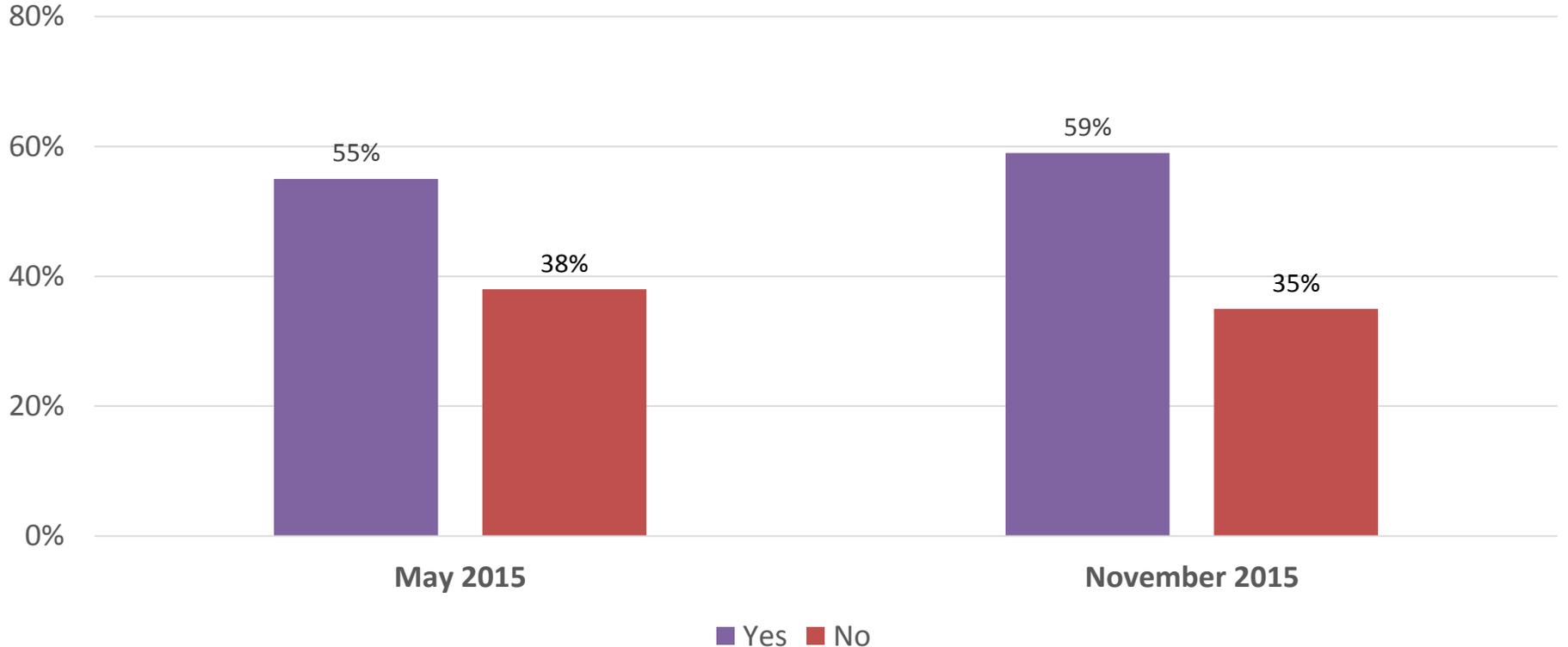


Source: Vanderbilt University Polls  
Nov. 2015 Poll: N=1,013; MoE: +/- 3.9%

# Views on “Right to Die”

Among TN Registered Voters

If a person has a disease that cannot be cured and is living in pain, do you think doctors should be allowed to assist the patient by some painless means to end their life if the patient and his or her family request it?

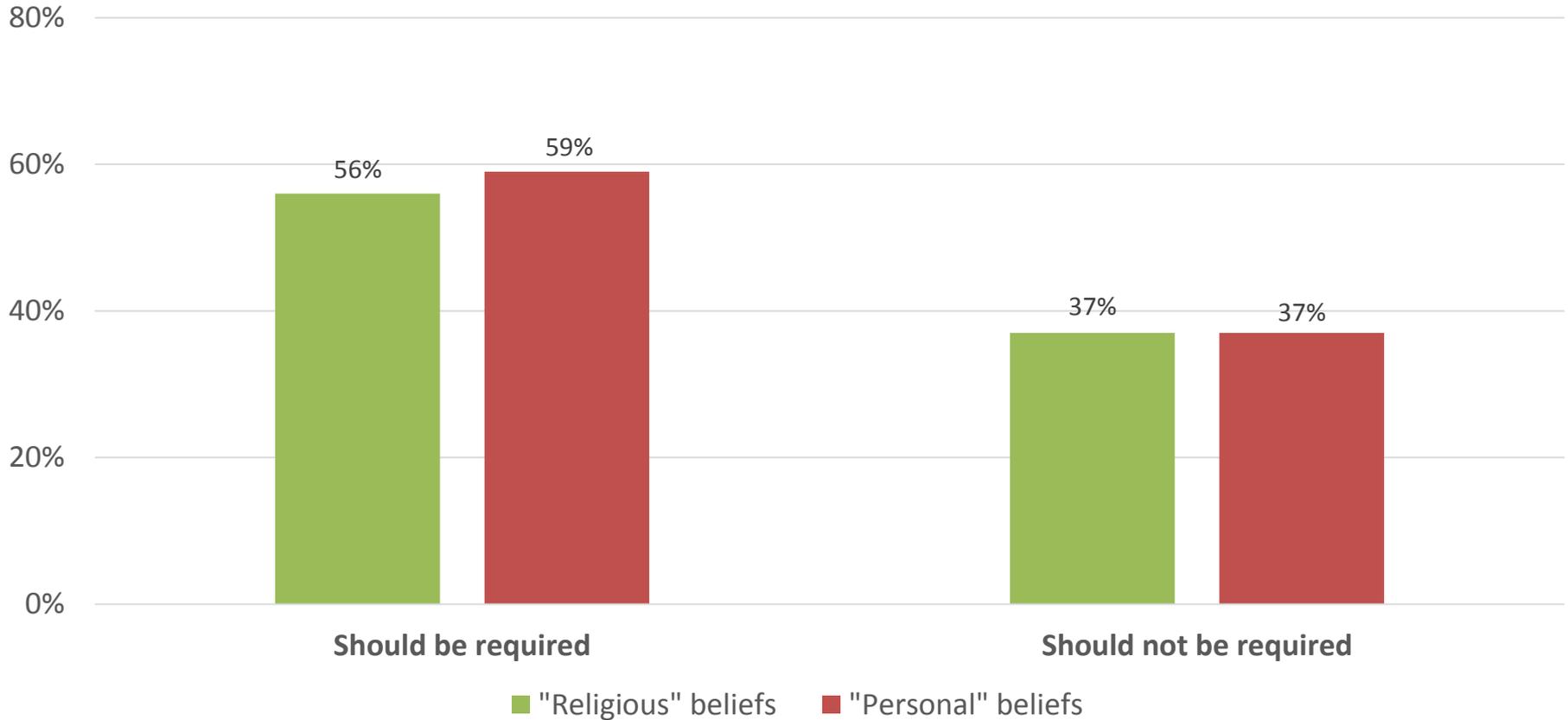


Source: Vanderbilt University Polls  
Nov. 2015 Poll: N=1,013; MoE: +/- 3.9%

# Views on Public Officials' Obligation to Enforce Laws

Among TN Registered Voters

Do you think that government workers should or should not be required to enforce a law if it conflicts with their [personal/religious] beliefs?

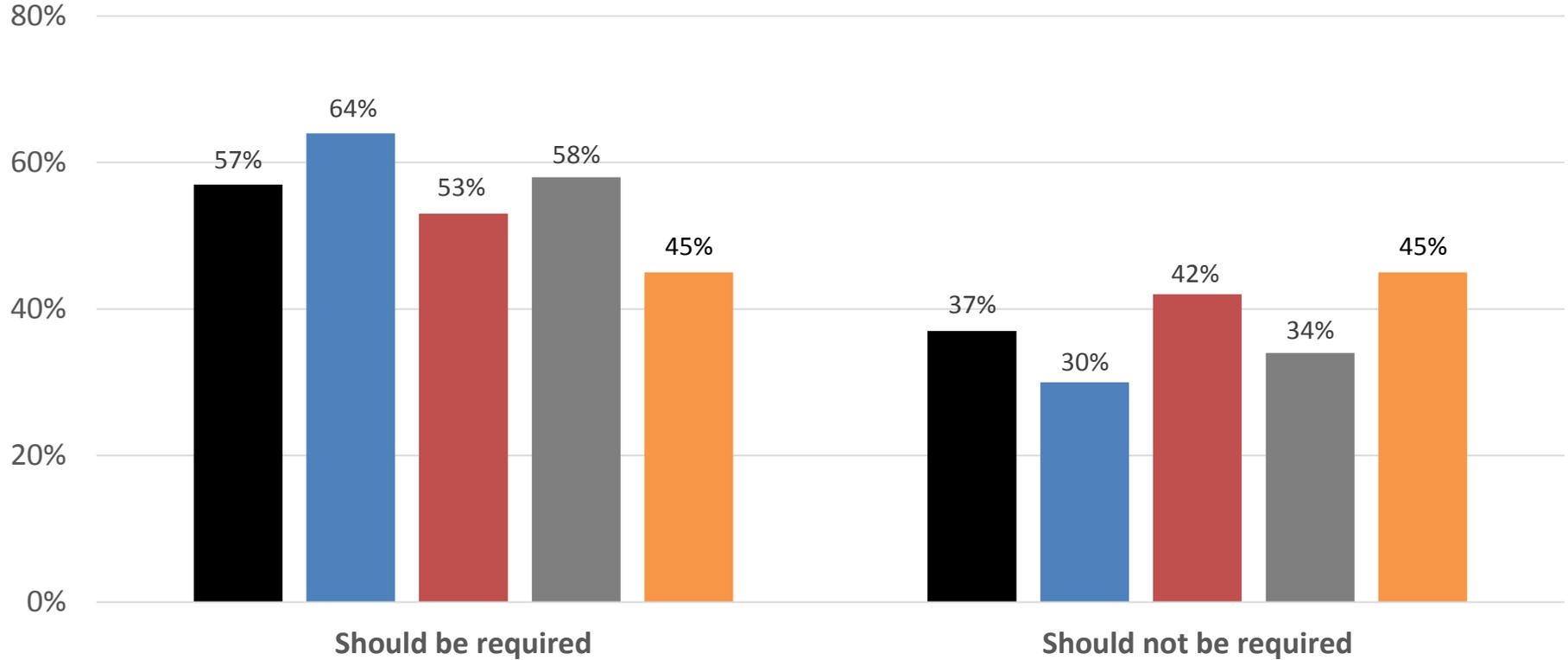


Source: Vanderbilt University Poll  
November 2015  
N=1,013; MoE: +/- 3.9%

# Views on Public Officials' Obligation to Enforce Laws by Partisanship

Among TN Registered Voters

Do you think that government workers should or should not be required to enforce a law if it conflicts with their [personal/religious] beliefs?



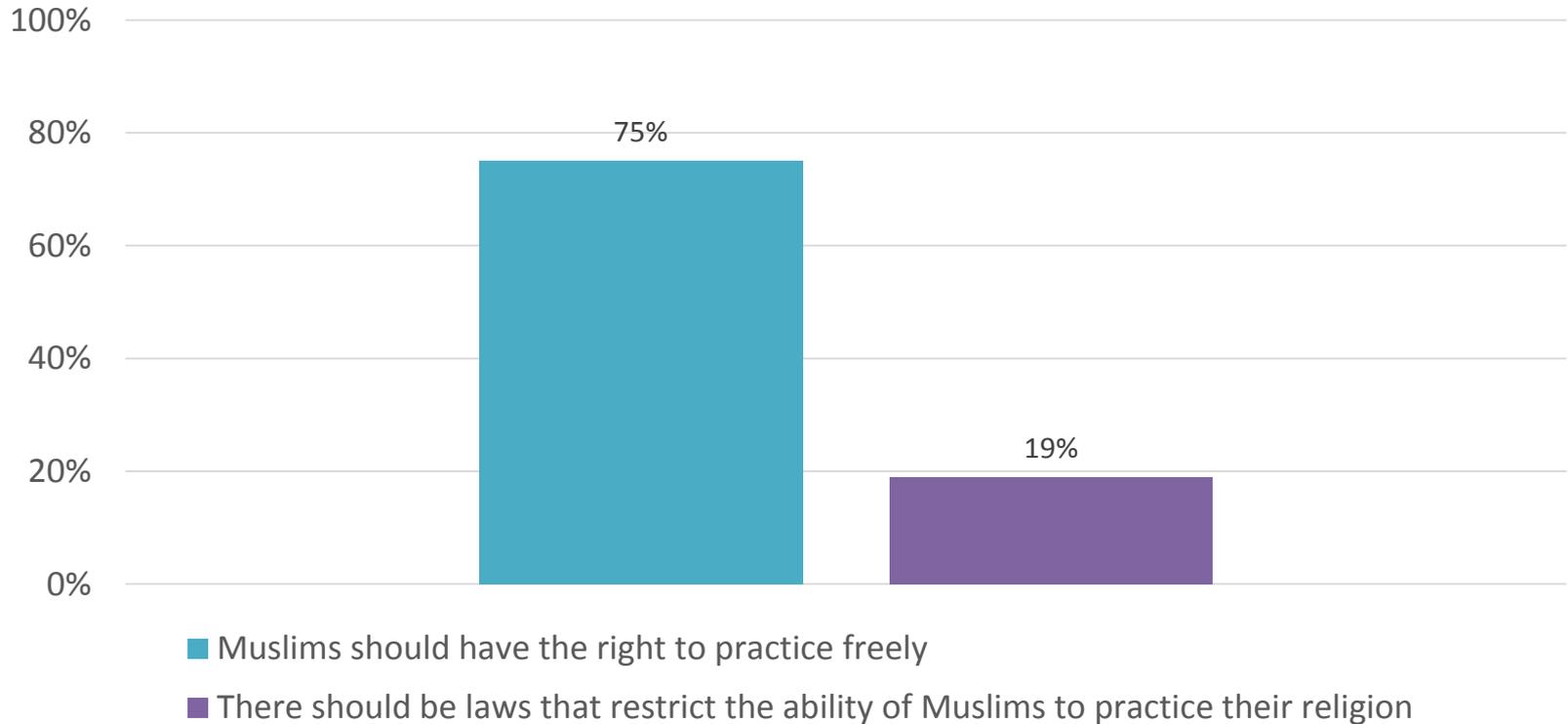
■ All respondents ■ Democrats ■ Republicans ■ Independents ■ Tea Party Members

Source: Vanderbilt University Poll  
November 2015  
N=1,013; MoE: +/- 3.9%

# Attitudes Toward Practice of Islam

Among TN Registered Voters

Which of the following comes closer to your own view, even if neither is exactly right? (1) Muslims in this country have the constitutional right to practice their religion peacefully anywhere, just as all other religions can, OR (2) There should be laws passed that restrict the ability of Muslims to practice their religion in this country.

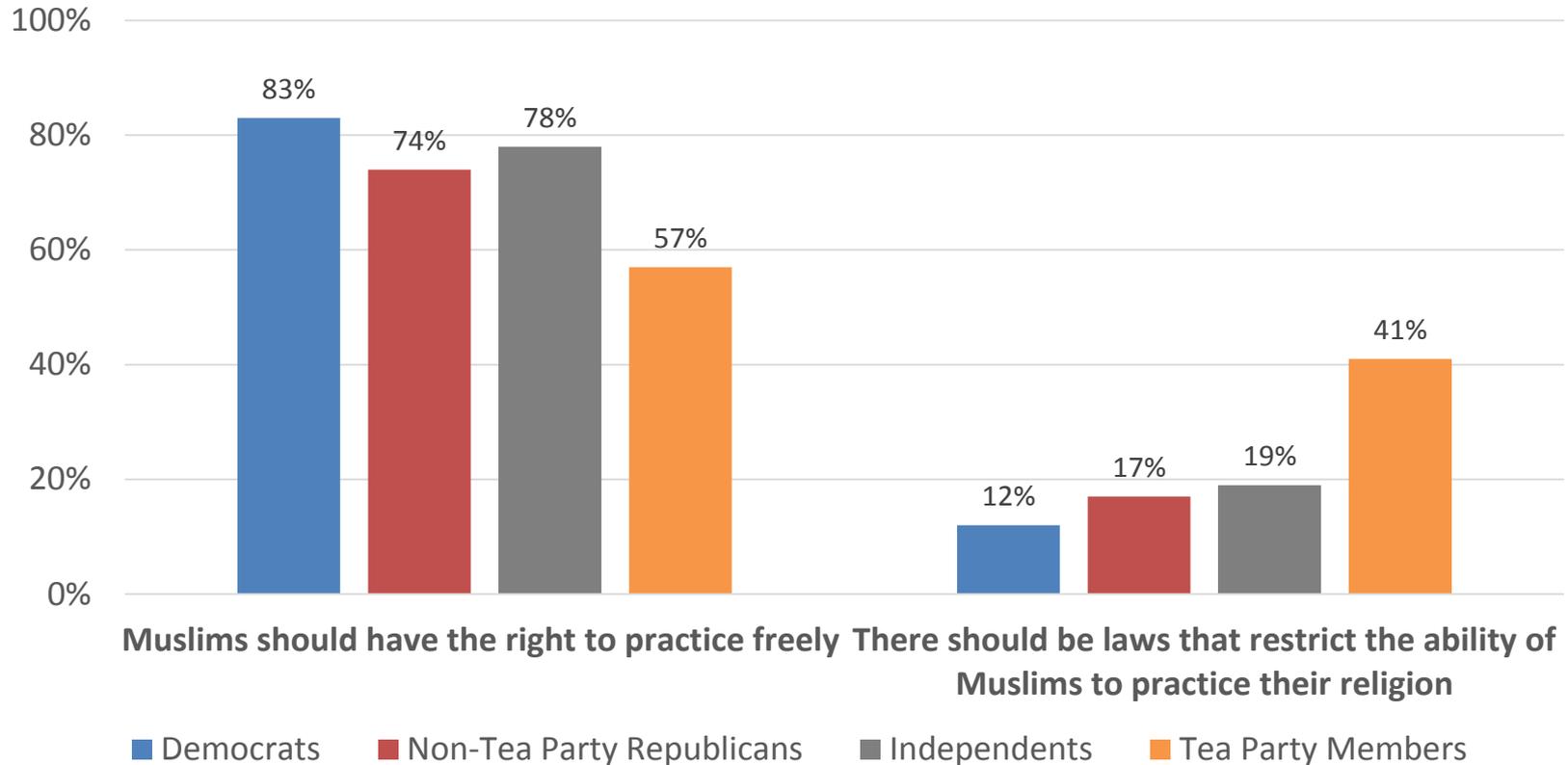


Source: Vanderbilt University Poll  
November 2015  
N=481; MoE: +/- 5.7%

# Attitudes Toward Practice of Islam by Partisanship

Among TN Registered Voters

Which of the following comes closer to your own view, even if neither is exactly right? (1) Muslims in this country have the constitutional right to practice their religion peacefully anywhere, just as all other religions can, OR (2) There should be laws passed that restrict the ability of Muslims to practice their religion in this country.

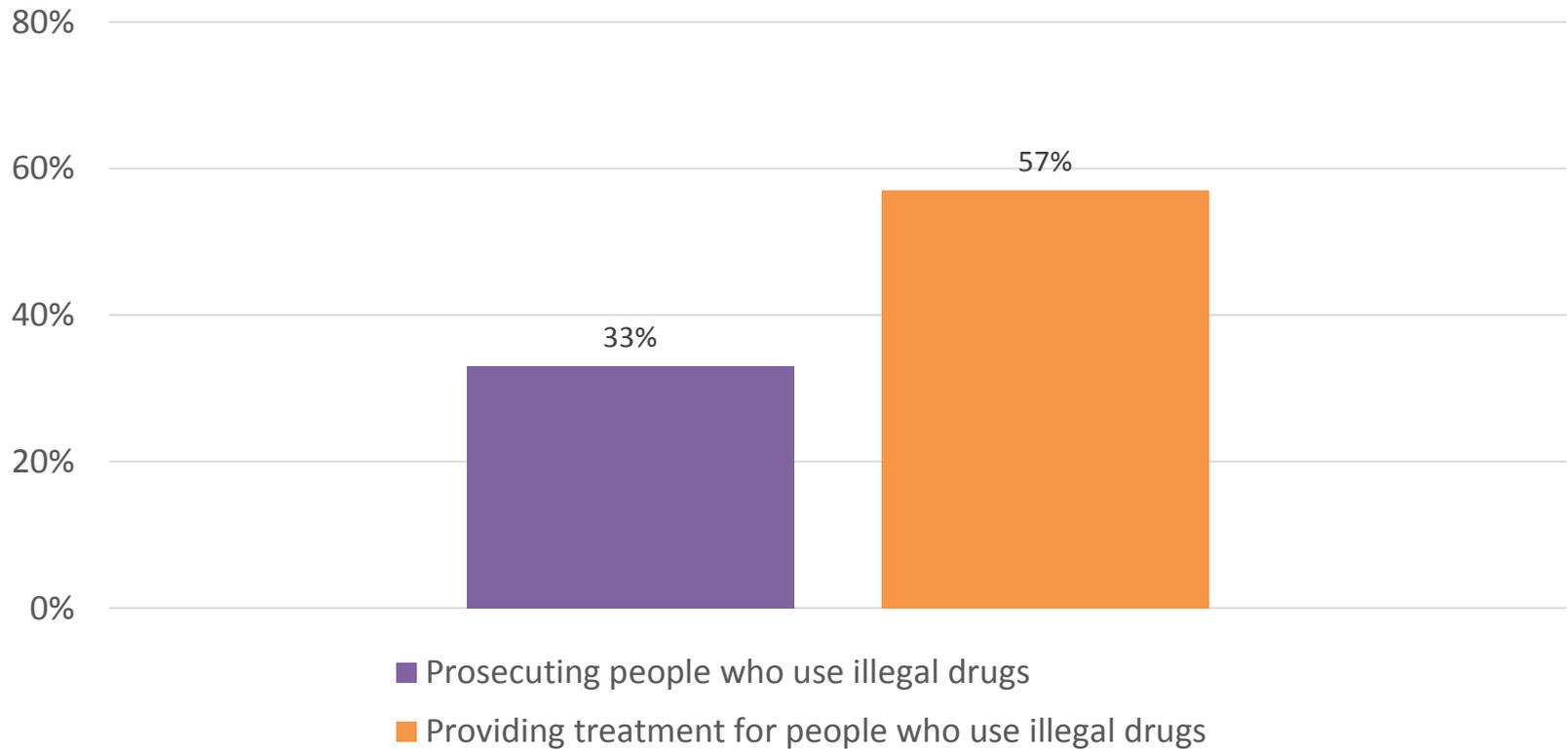


Source: Vanderbilt University Poll  
November 2015  
N=481; MoE: +/- 5.7%

# Views on Punishment for Drug Offenders

Among TN Registered Voters

When it comes to drug policy, should the government focus more on (1) prosecuting people who use illegal drugs, or do you think it should focus more on (2) providing treatment for people who use drugs

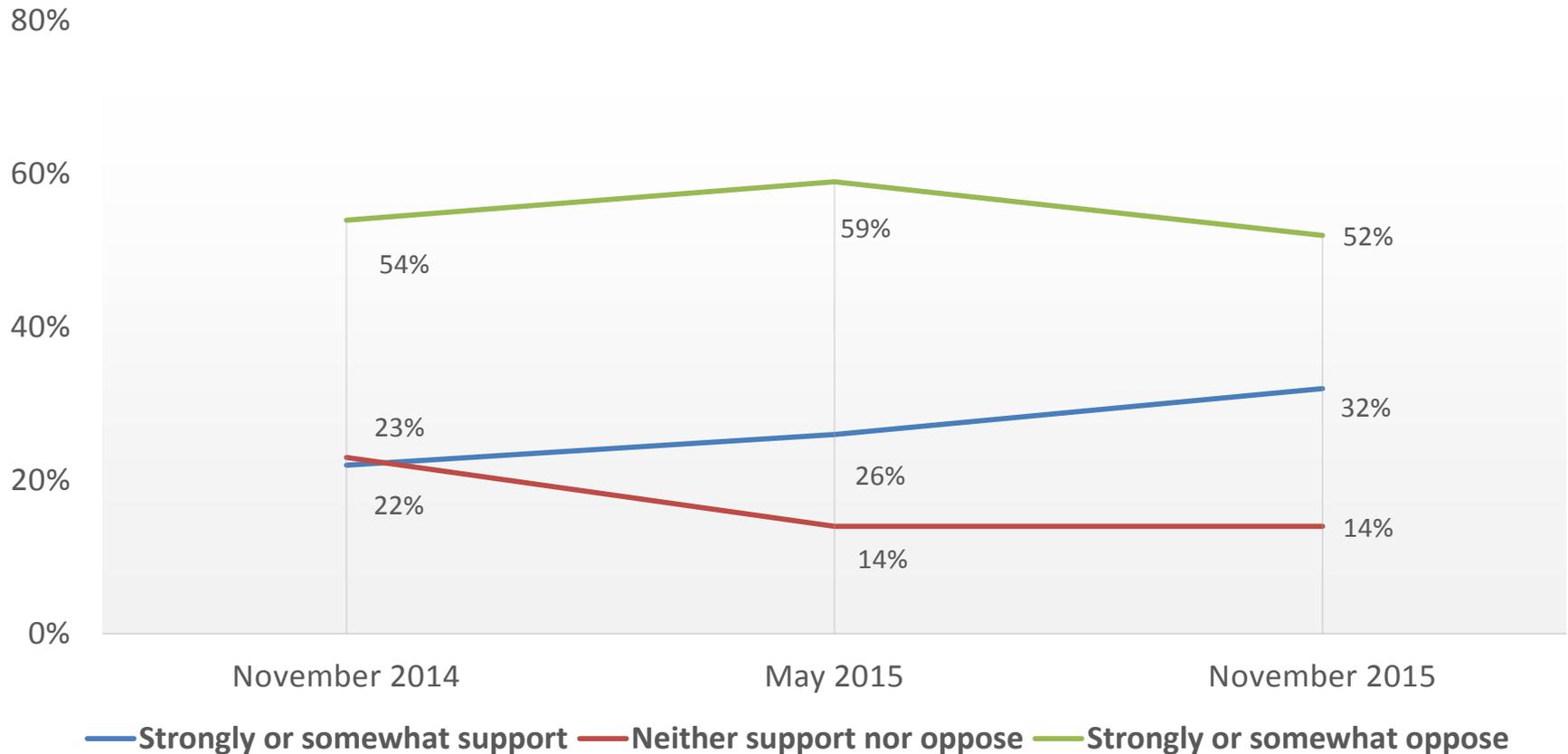


Source: Vanderbilt University Poll  
November 2015  
N=532; MoE: +/- 5.4%

# Support for Same-Sex Marriage

## Among TN Registered Voters

How much do you support or oppose allowing same-sex couples to legally marry?

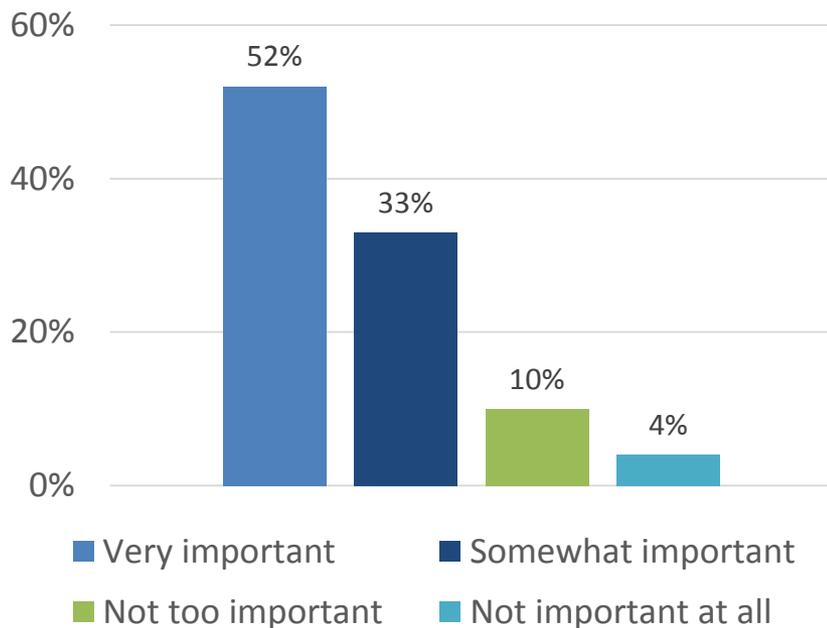


Source: Vanderbilt University Polls  
Nov. 2015 Poll: N=1,013; MoE: +/- 3.9%

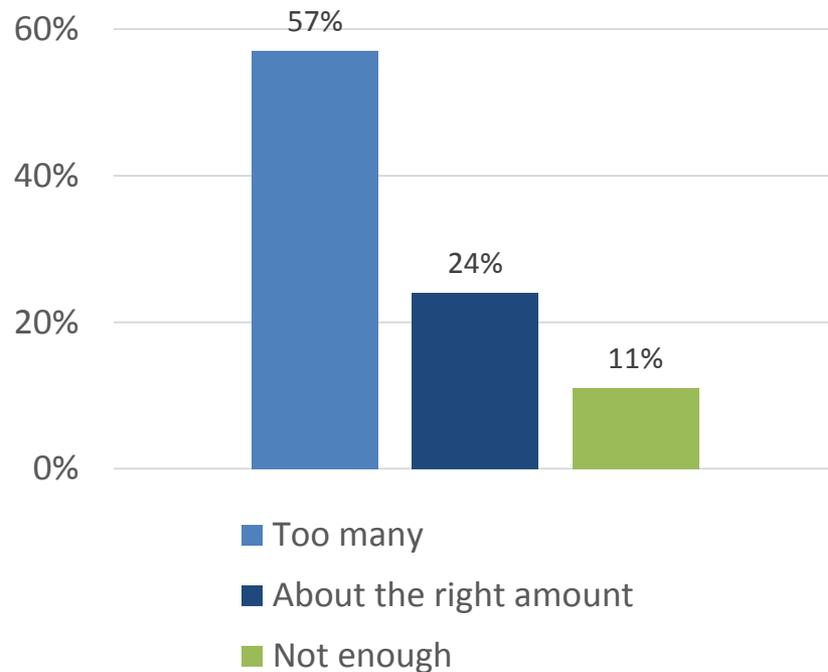
# Views on Educational Testing

Among TN Registered Voters

How important is it for public school students in grades 3-12 to take tests each school year to know if they are meeting the state's education standards in reading, writing, and math?



Do you believe that students in Tennessee's public schools are given [too many standardized tests, about the right amount of standardized tests, or not enough standardized tests]...?

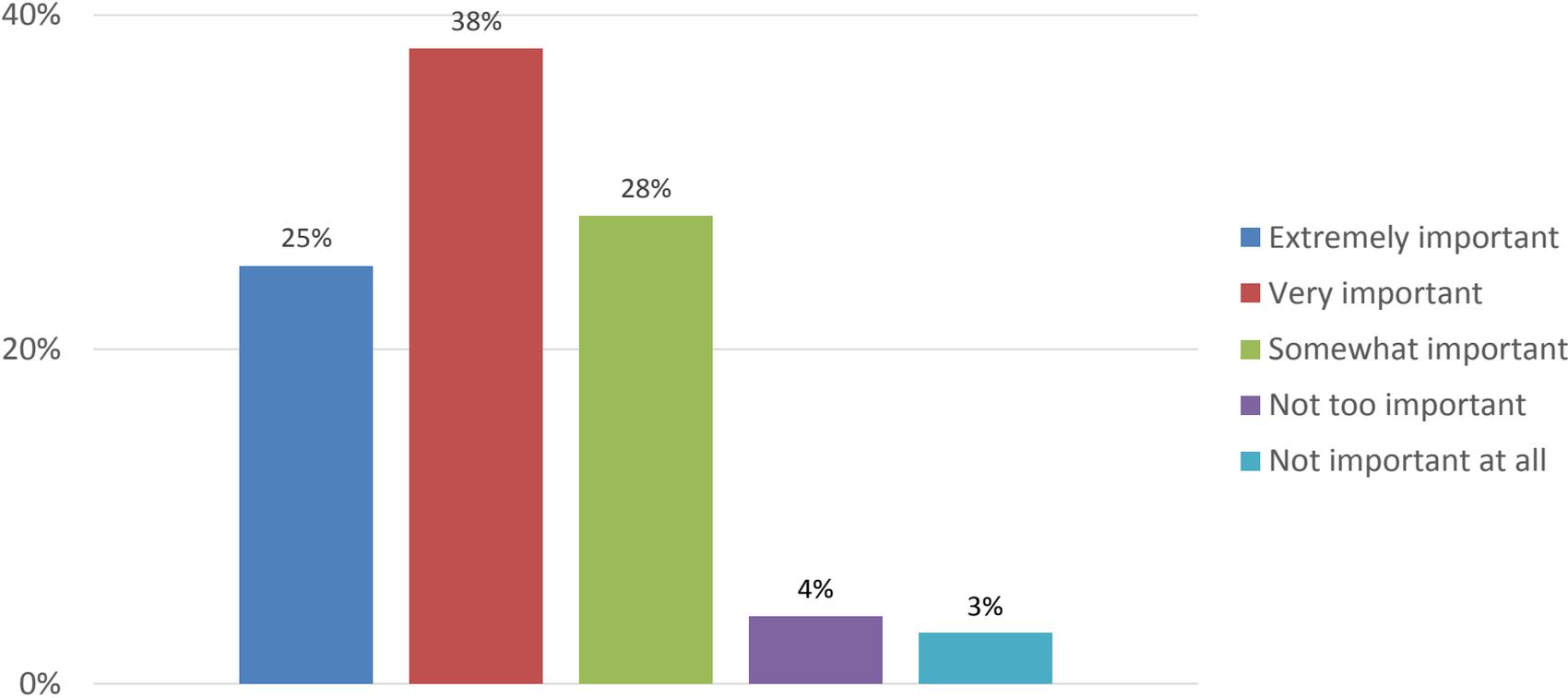


Source: Vanderbilt University Poll  
November 2015  
N=1,013; MoE: +/- 3.9%

# Importance of “Drive to 55” to State’s Future

Among TN Registered Voters

As you may know, Governor Haslam has established an education initiative known as the Drive to 55, which aims to increase the number of college graduates in Tennessee to at least 55% by the year 2025. Thinking about the state's long-term economic future, how important would you say it is to meet this particular goal? Is Drive to 55...

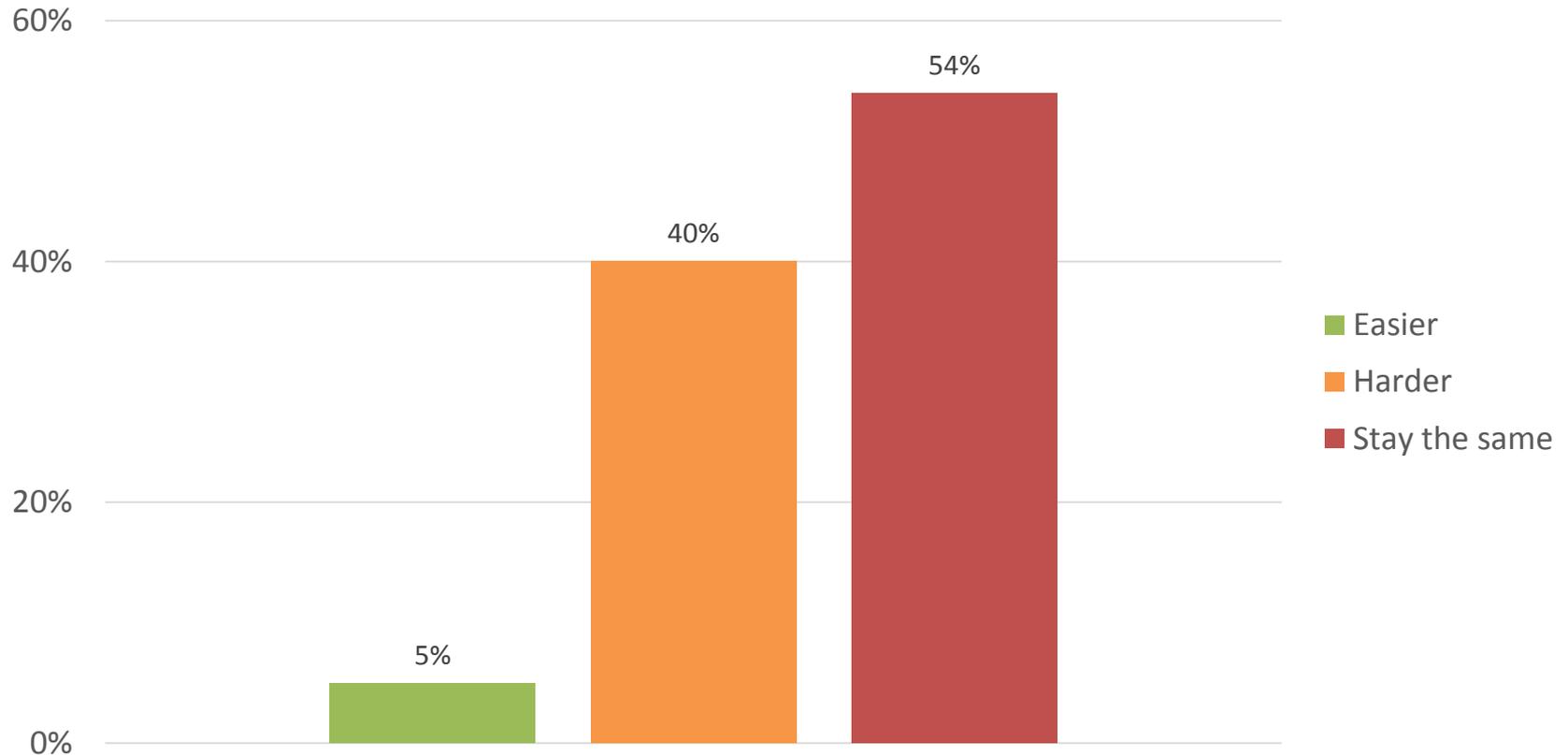


Source: Vanderbilt University Poll  
November 2015  
N=511; MoE: +/- 5.6%

# Attitudes Toward Restricting Gun Sales

Among TN Registered Voters

In general, do you think laws in Tennessee should be changed to make it easier or harder to buy a gun, or should the laws for gun sales stay the same as they are now?

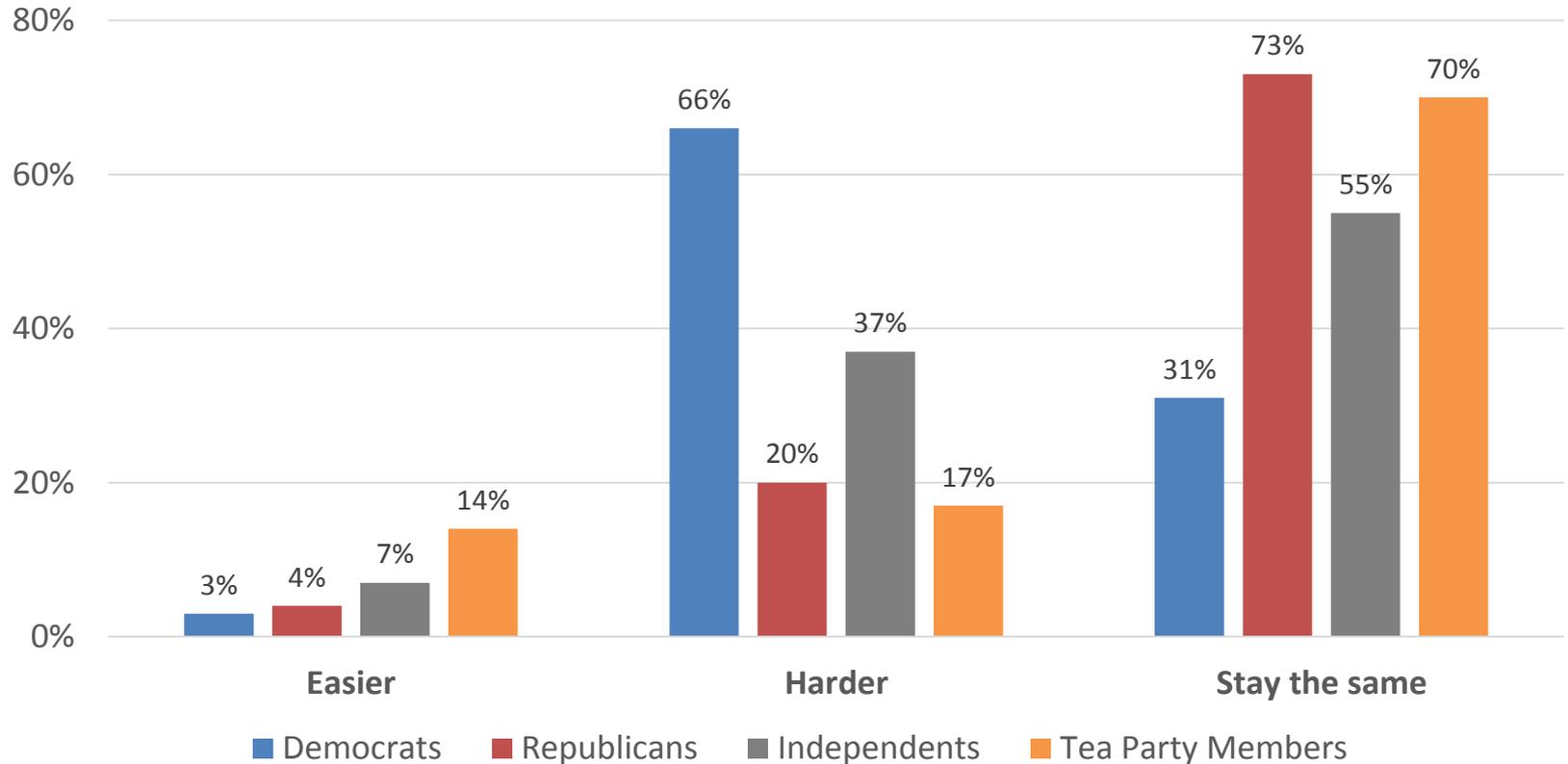


Source: Vanderbilt University Poll  
November 2015  
N=503; MoE: +/- 5.6%

# Attitudes Toward Restricting Gun Sales by Partisanship

Among TN Registered Voters

In general, do you think laws in Tennessee should be changed to make it easier or harder to buy a gun, or should the laws for gun sales stay the same as they are now?

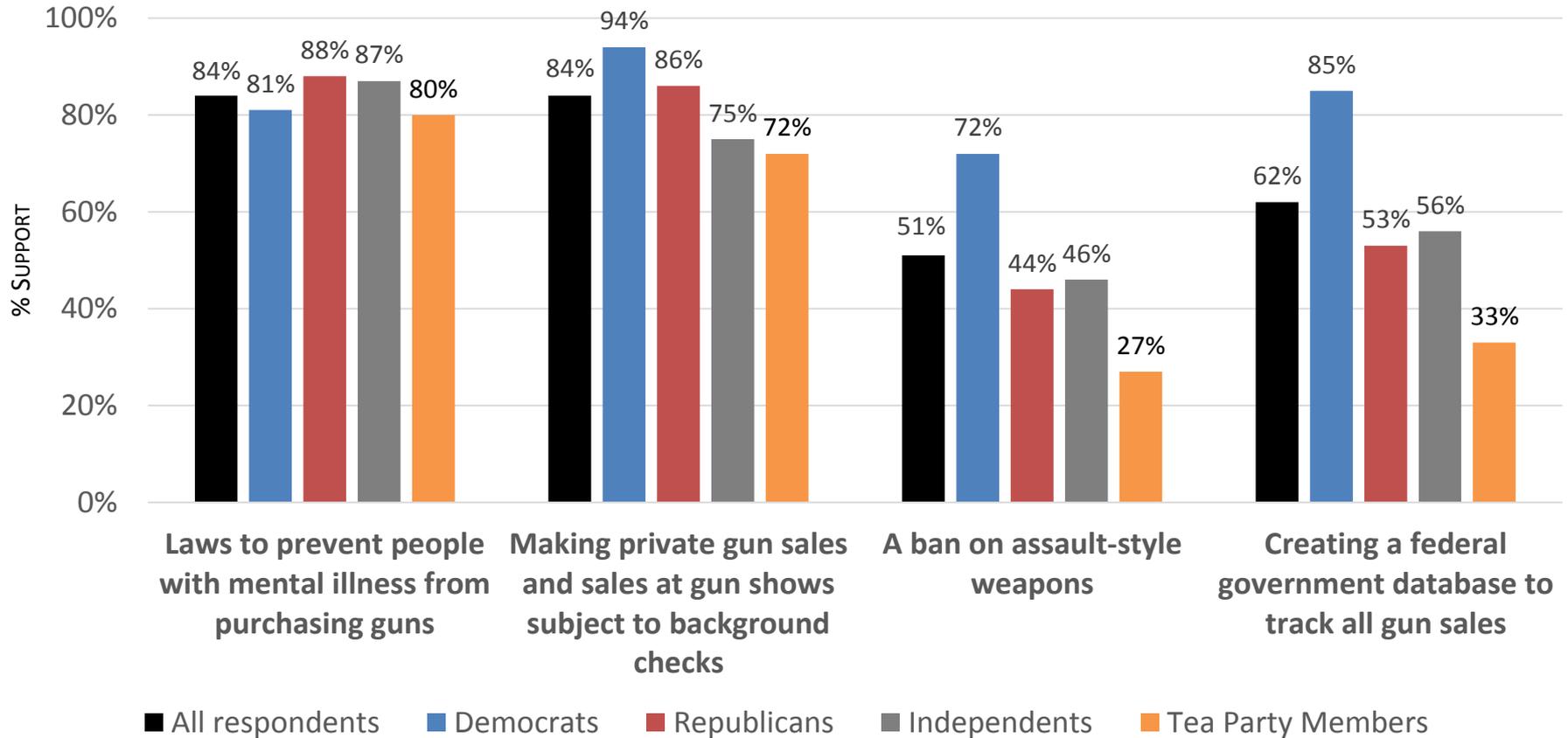


Source: Vanderbilt University Poll  
November 2015  
N=503; MoE: +/- 5.6%

# Favorability of Proposals on Gun Policy by Partisanship

Among TN Registered Voters

Please tell me if you would favor or oppose the following proposals about gun policy.

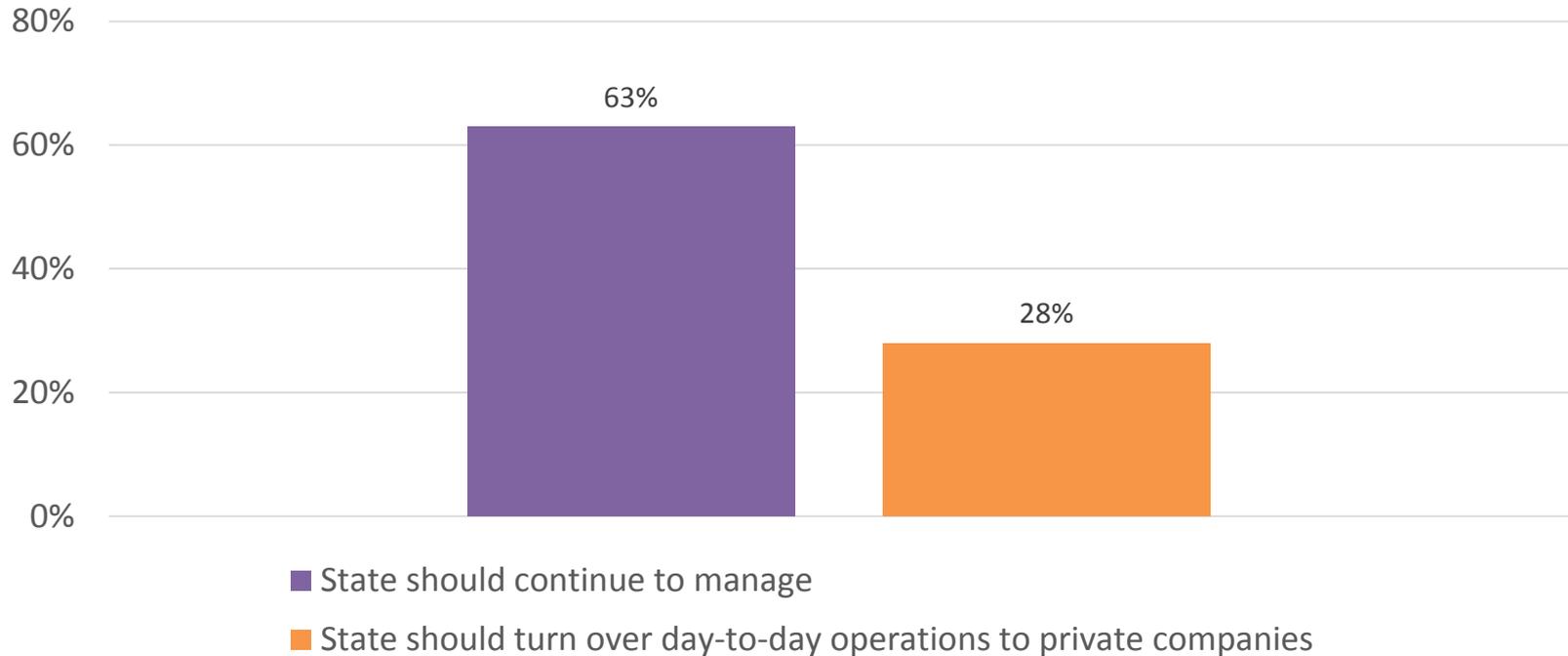


Source: Vanderbilt University Poll  
November 2015  
N=1,013; MoE: +/- 3.9%

# Views on Privatization of State Services

Among TN Registered Voters

Elected officials in Tennessee are currently exploring the possibility of hiring private companies to manage the day-to-day operations of state institutions like prisons, hospitals, parks, and universities. Supporters believe this would increase efficiency, save money, and improve services. Opponents argue that this would not save money and would decrease the quality of services offered by these state organizations. What about you? Do you think the state should continue to manage these organizations or turn over day-to-day operations to private companies?

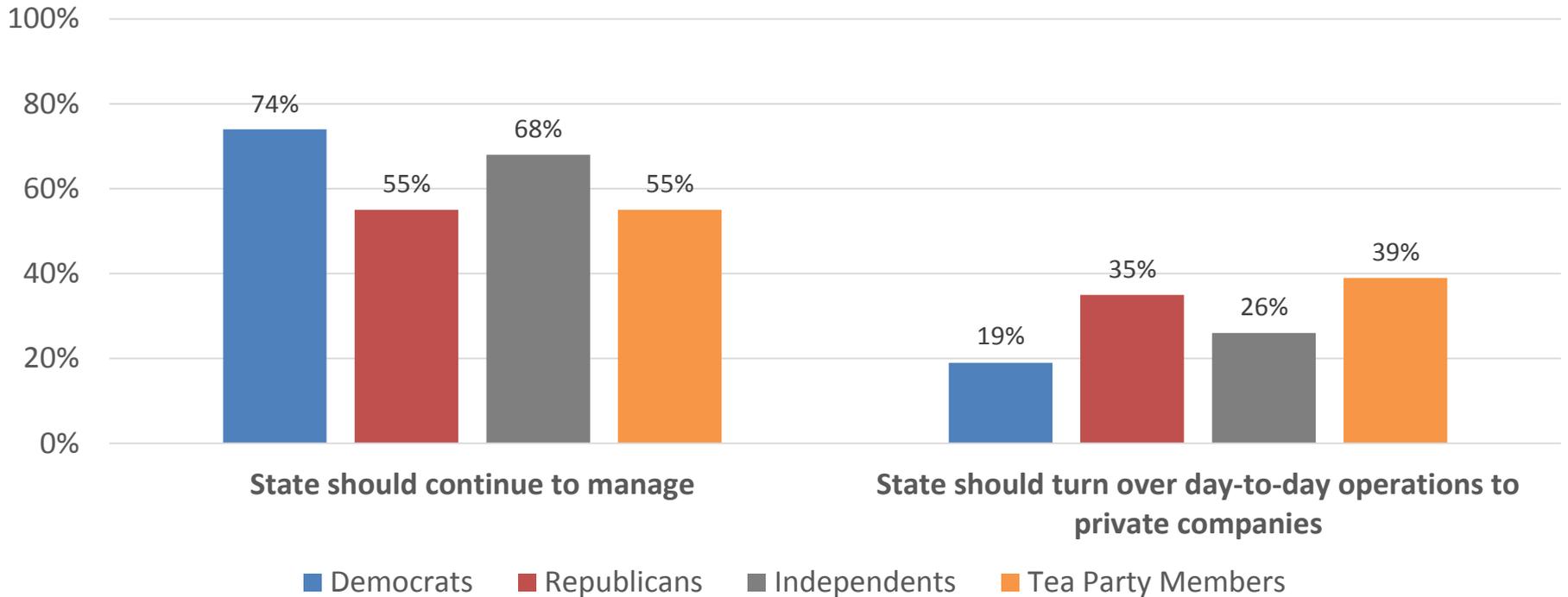


Source: Vanderbilt University Poll  
November 2015  
N=517; MoE: +/- 5.5%

# Views on Privatization of State Services

Among TN Registered Voters

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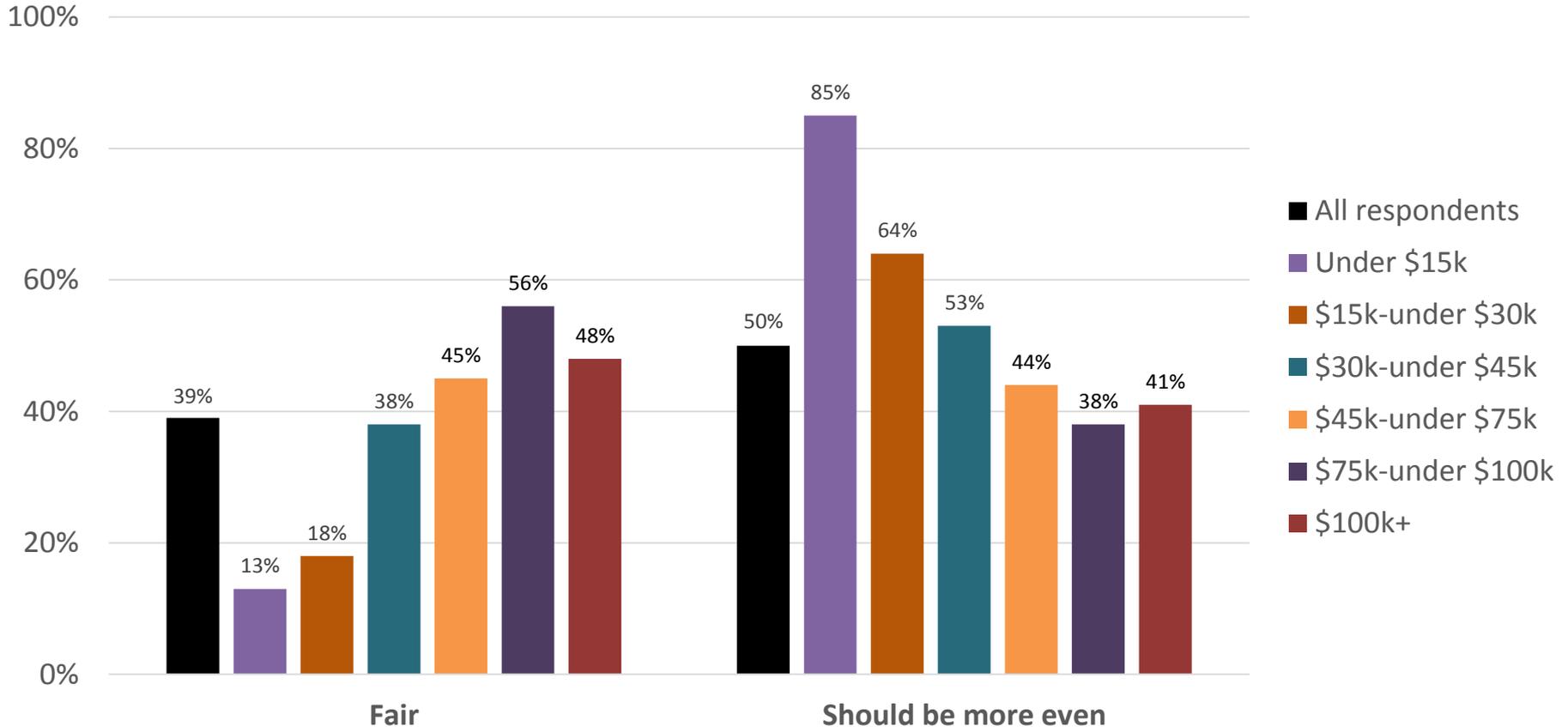


Source: Vanderbilt University Poll  
November 2015  
N=517; MoE: +/- 5.5%

# Views on Fairness of Wealth Distribution in TN by Income

Among TN Registered Voters

Do you feel that the distribution of money and wealth in the state of Tennessee is fair, or do you feel that the money and wealth should be more evenly distributed among more people?

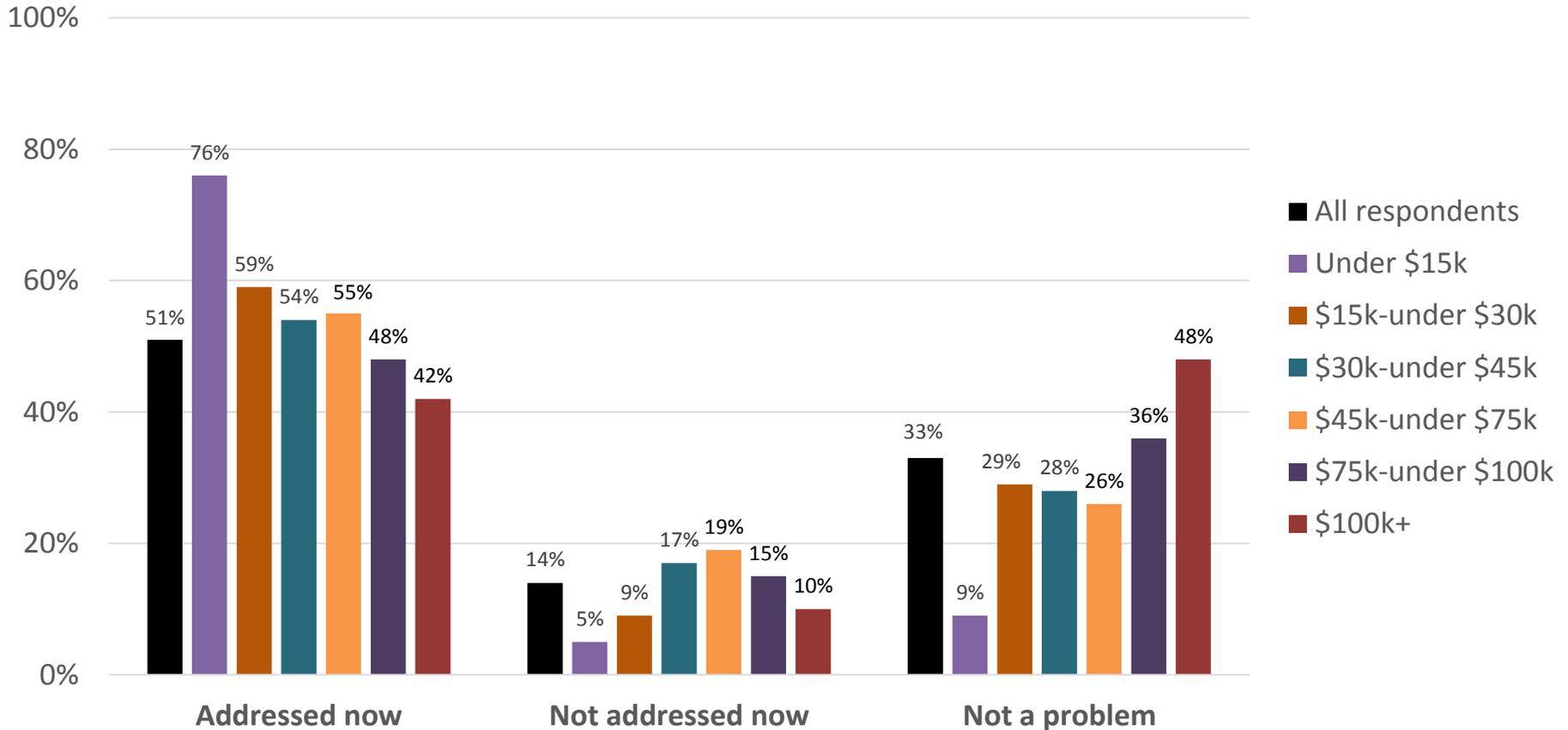


Source: Vanderbilt University Poll  
November 2015  
N=503; MoE: +/- 5.6%

# Views on Income Inequality as a Problem by Income

Among TN Registered Voters

Do you think the gap between the rich and everyone else is a problem that needs to be addressed now, a problem that does not need to be addressed now, or not a problem?



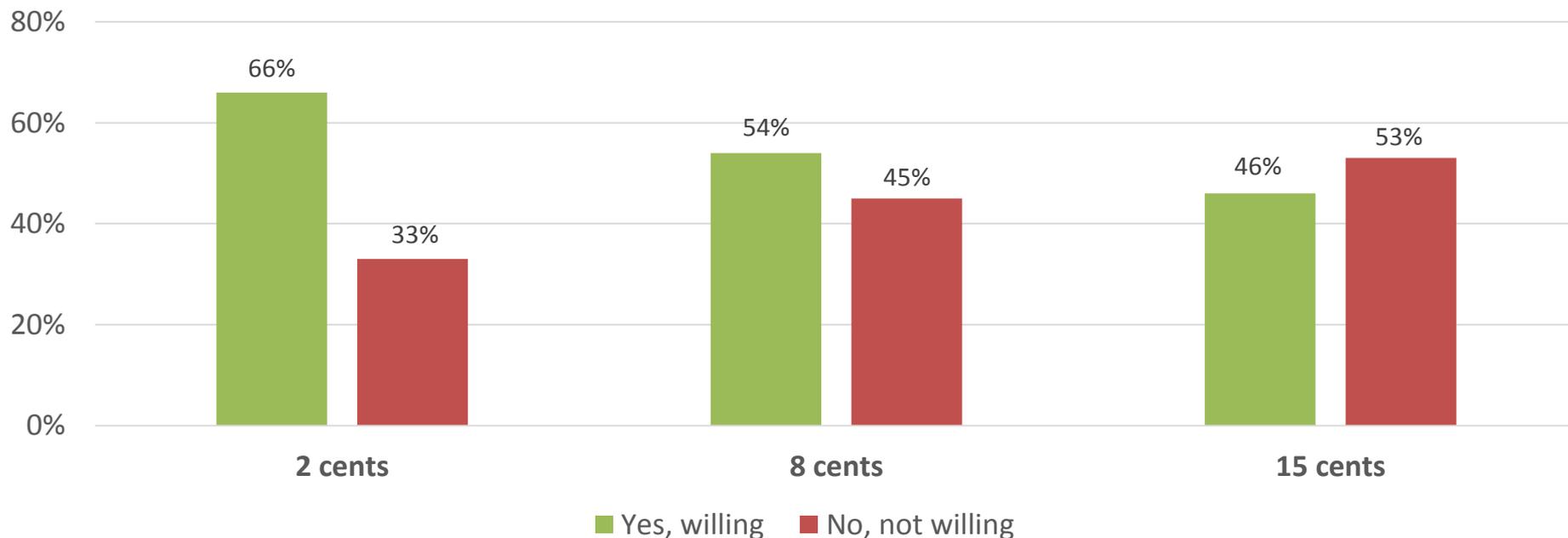
Source: Vanderbilt University Poll  
November 2015  
N=510; MoE: +/- 5.6%

# Gas Tax Threshold

## Among TN Registered Voters

As you may know, Tennessee is a pay-as-you-go state when it comes to transportation projects like road maintenance. This method means the state does not take on debt for future transportation projects. Well-maintained roadways are important to economic growth and public safety but recently, state officials have said that current funding sources are not enough to maintain Tennessee's roads and bridges.

Would you be willing or not willing to pay [2/8/15] cents more per gallon on gas if it meant that more could be spent on projects to improve roads and bridges to help ensure economic growth?

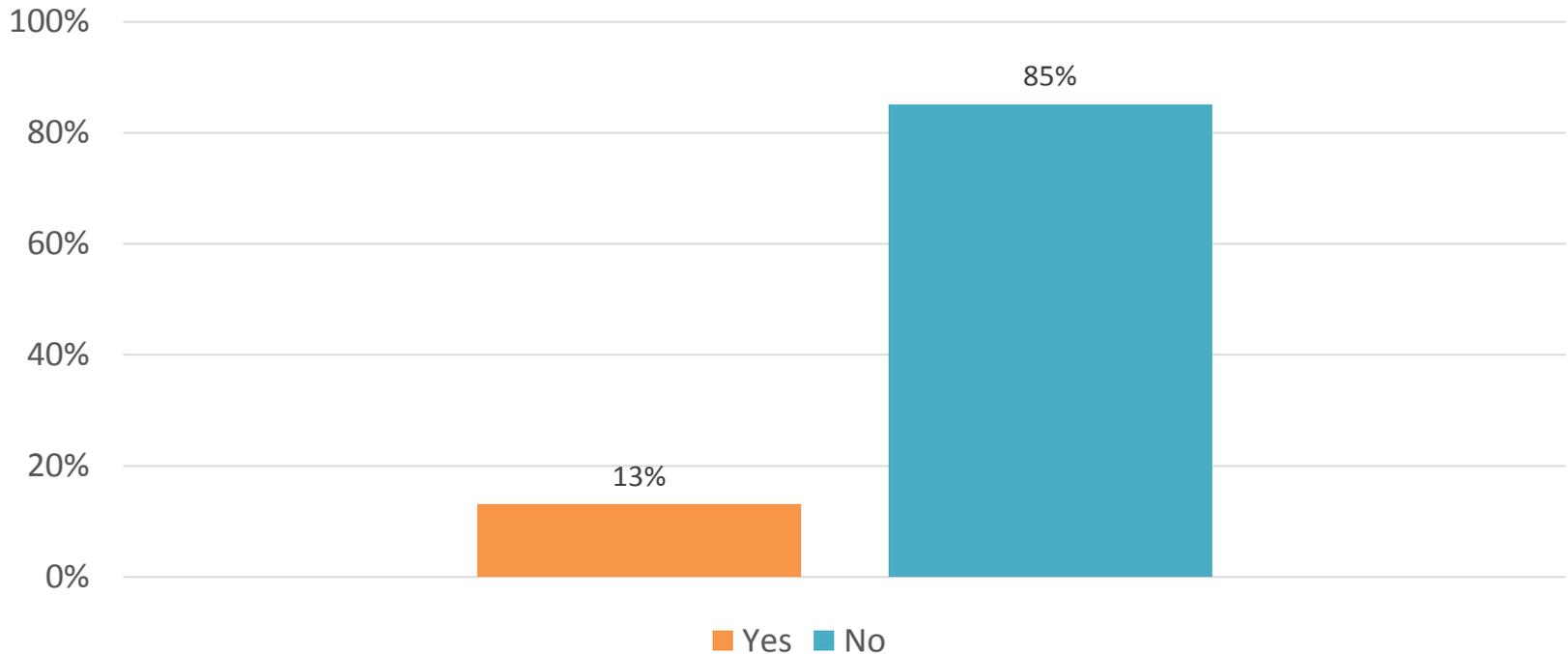


Source: Vanderbilt University Poll  
November 2015  
N=1,013; MoE: +/- 3.9%

# Views on Charging for Access to Public Records

Among TN Registered Voters

The Tennessee State Legislature is currently debating a proposal which would allow record keepers in the state to charge people a fee if they want to look at public records about government activities. Supporters say that charging a fee would allow the state to raise additional money for other programs. Opponents believe charging for access to public records would make it harder for news organizations and citizens to gather information about what their government is doing. Overall, do you think that state record keepers should be allowed to charge a fee to view or inspect public records, or not?

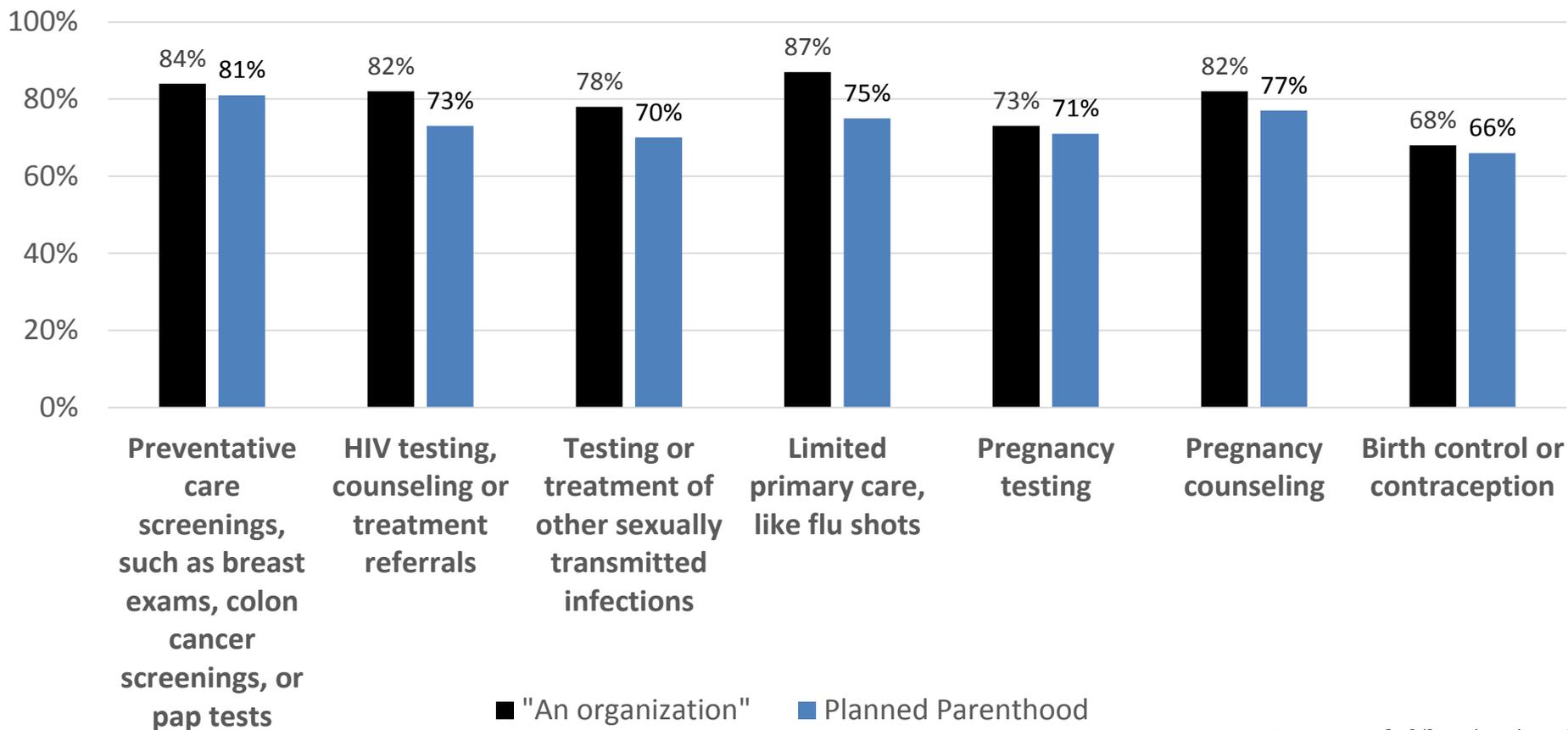


Source: Vanderbilt University Poll  
November 2015  
N=496; MoE: +/- 5.6%

# Support for Funding Women's Health Organizations

Among TN Registered Voters

Would you support or oppose the Tennessee state government [providing any funding to organization that offers/funding Planned Parenthood in order to help it provide] the following medical services free of charge?

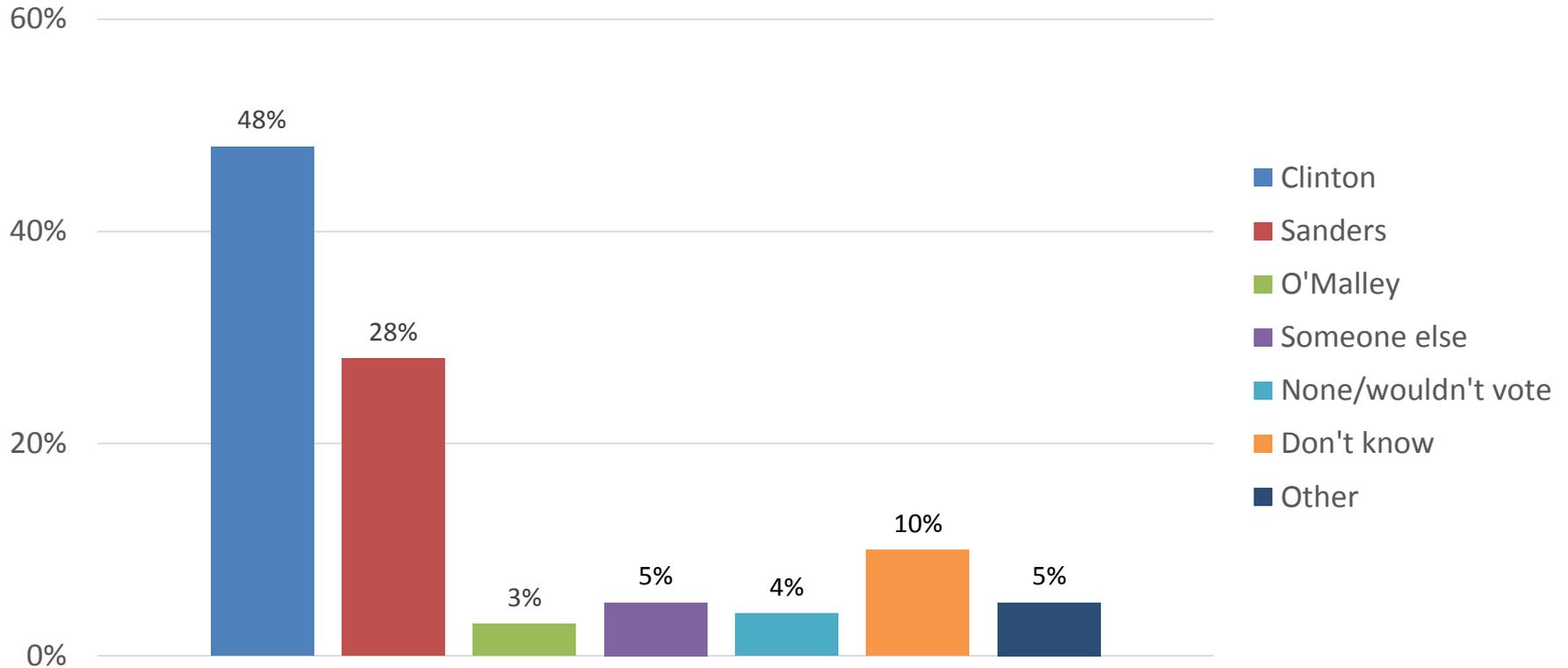


Source: Vanderbilt University Poll  
November 2015  
N=1,013; MoE: +/- 3.9%

# Presidential Vote Choice – Self-Identified Democrats

Among TN Registered Voters

If the Democratic presidential primary were to be held today in Tennessee, which of the following candidates would you vote for?



Source: Vanderbilt University Poll  
November 2015  
N=346; MoE: +/- 6.7%

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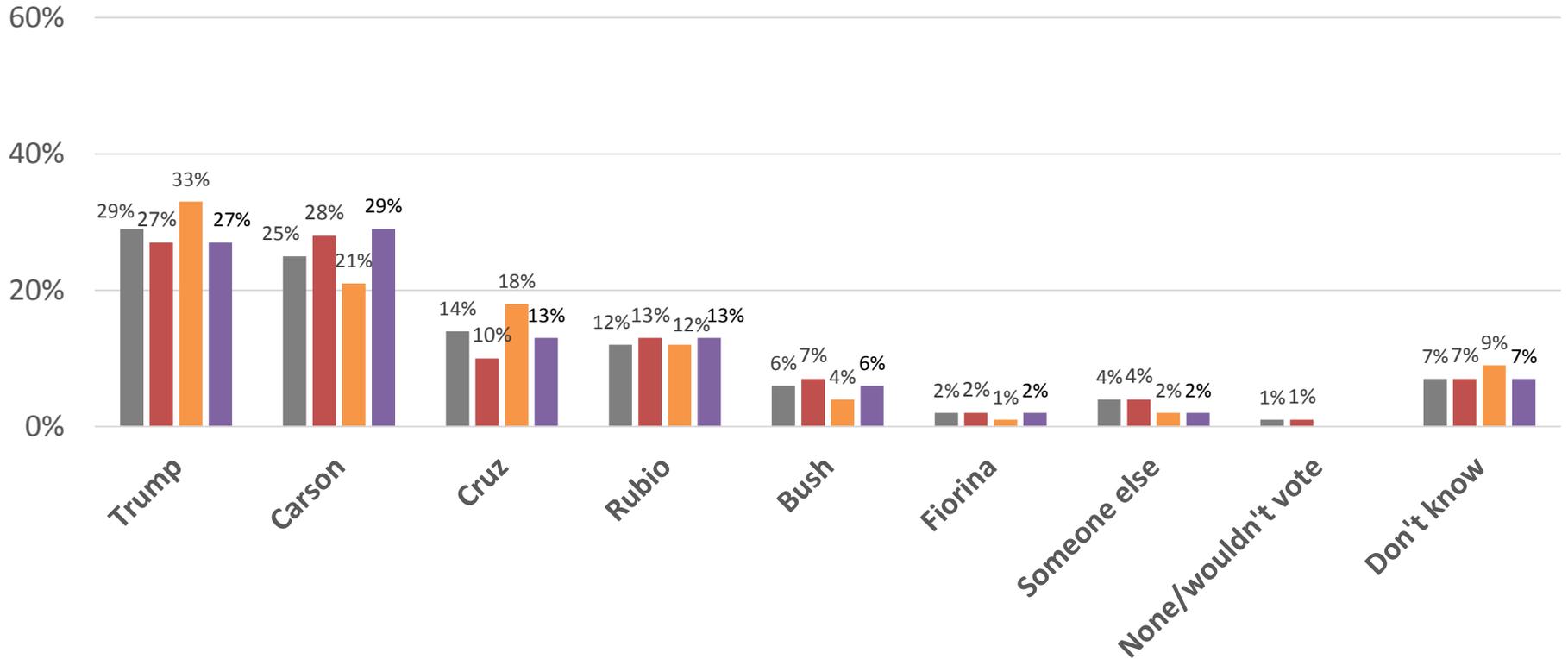


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# Presidential Vote Choice – Self-Identified Republicans

Among TN Registered Voters

If the Republican presidential primary were to be held today in Tennessee, which of the following candidates would you vote for?



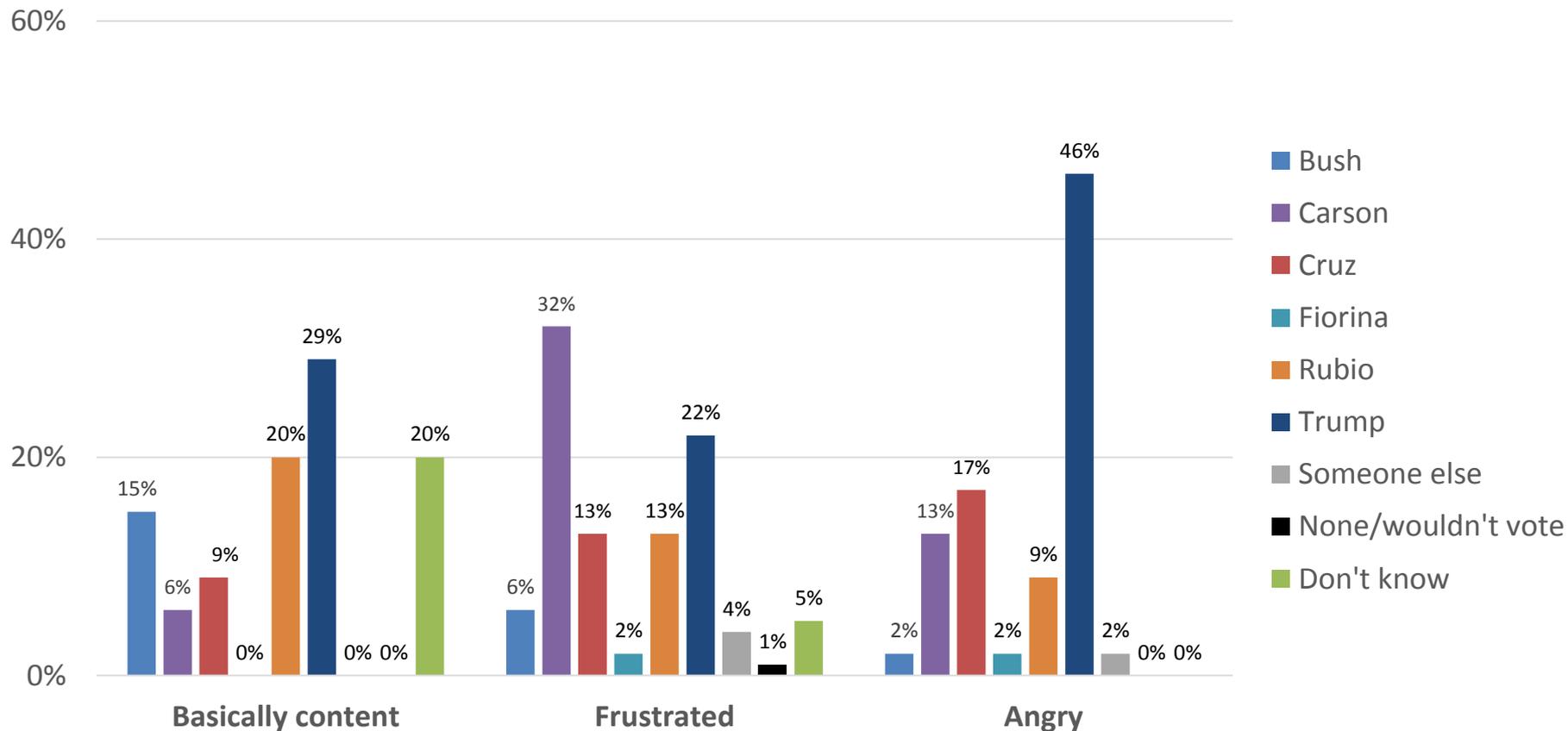
■ All Republicans ■ Non-Tea Party Republicans ■ Tea Party Republicans ■ Born-Again Christian Republicans

Source: Vanderbilt University Poll  
November 2015  
N=495; MoE: +/- 5.6%

# Republican Presidential Vote Choice by Feelings Toward Political System

## Among TN Registered Voters

If the Republican presidential primary were to be held today in Tennessee, which of the following candidates would you vote for?



Source: Vanderbilt University Poll  
November 2015  
N=495; MoE: +/- 5.6%