

Ipsos GP Collective Action polling

August 2024

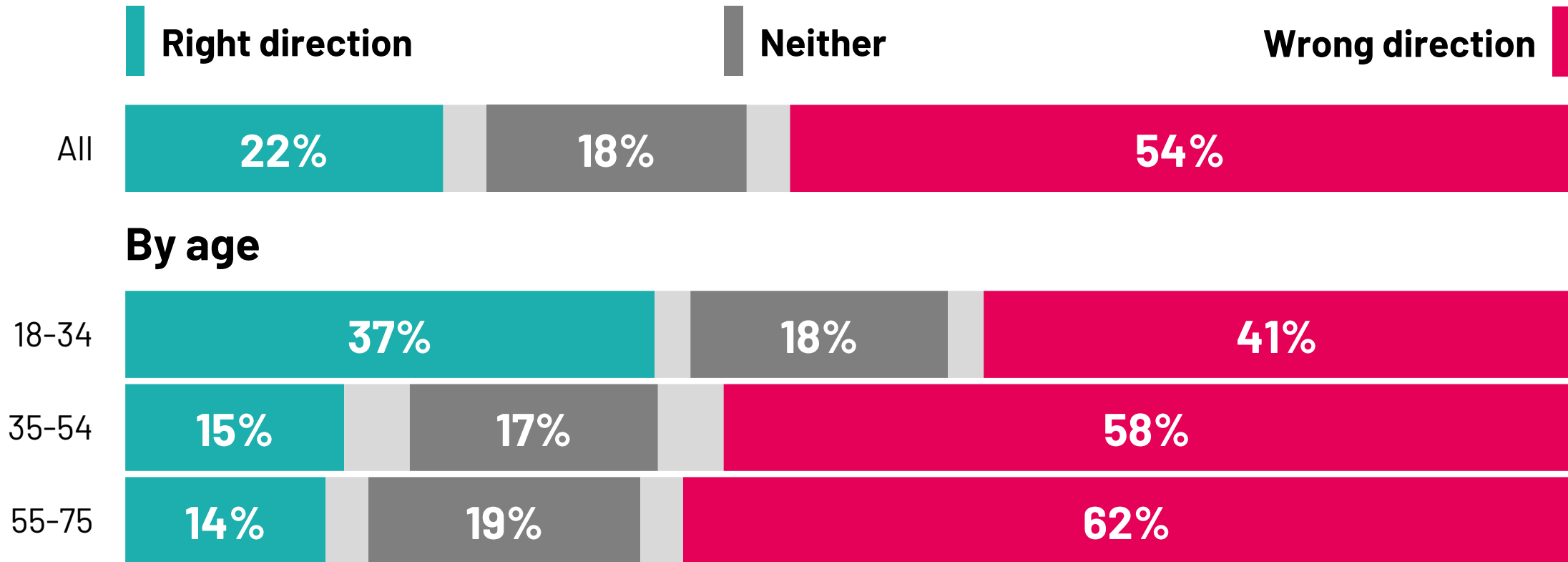


GENERAL PERCEPTIONS OF THE NHS

01

The majority of the public say the NHS is heading in the wrong direction – only one in five say right direction

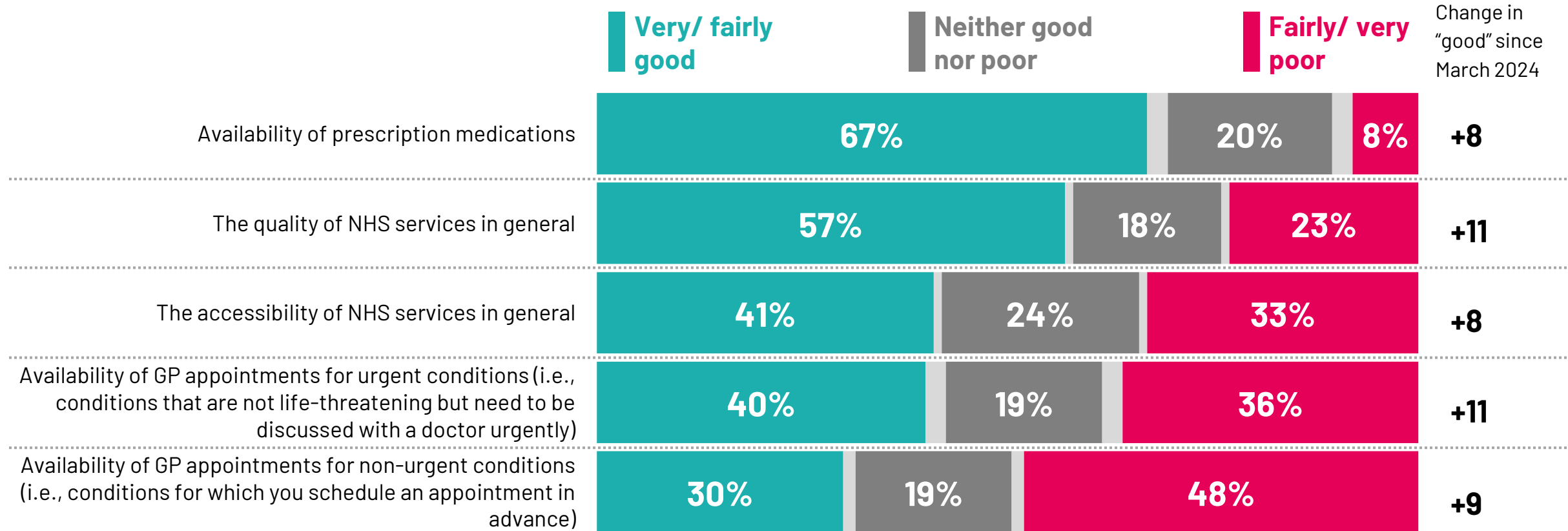
Generally speaking, do you think the National Health Service (NHS) is heading in the right direction or wrong direction?



Base: 1,099 Online British adults 18-75, 2-5 August 2024

Perceptions of the NHS are improving, but still nearly half in England say availability of GP non-urgent appointments is poor

How good or poor would you say each of the following are in general? **Among those in England***

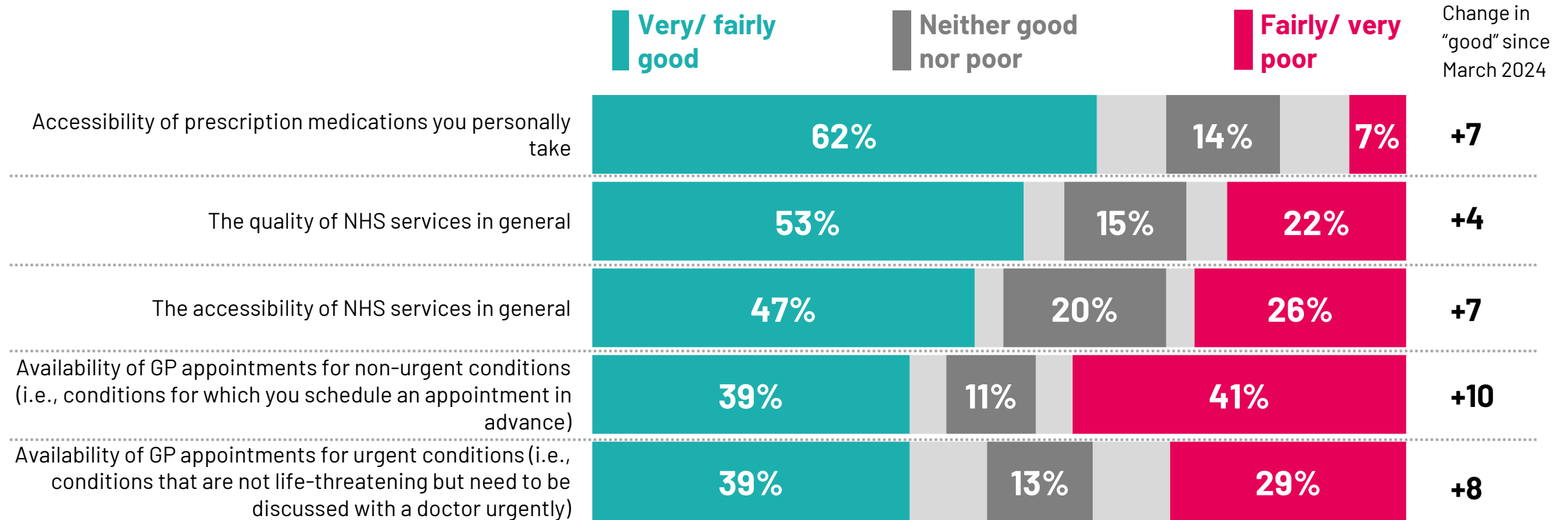


Base: 890 Online English adults 18-75, 14-15 August 2024

* This question was asked to those in England to trend against previous data from March.

Also, improvements in the proportion saying their personal experiences accessing NHS services has been good since earlier in the year

Thinking about your personal experiences over the last year, how good or poor would you say each of the following are? **Among those in England**



Base: 890 Online English adults 18-75, 14-15 August 2024

* This question was asked to those in England to trend against previous data from March.

OPINIONS TOWARDS GP COLLECTIVE ACTION

02

Almost half support GPs taking collective action that does not include strikes

As you may know, GPs recently voted in favour of taking collective action in response to the 2024/2025 contract that was offered by the previous government. The new contract will provide services with a 1.9% budget increase, which the British Medical Association (BMA) says is not enough and will force many surgeries to close.

In response, GPs have said they will take a series of collective actions in defiance of certain NHS administrative procedures. The BMA has advised that these actions could bring the NHS to a “standstill very quickly” for NHS administrative staff and politicians, but not for patients. These actions do not include strikes, or a suspension of work.

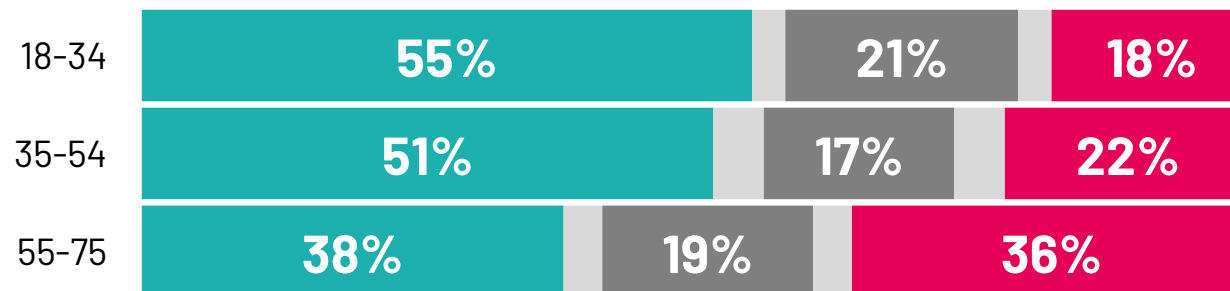
To what extent, if at all, do you support or oppose GPs taking collective action that does not include strikes?

Base: 1,099 Online British adults 18-75, including (369) 18-34-year-olds, (387) 35-54s, (343) 55+, (388) Labour voters, (145) Conservative voters, (100) Reform UK voters, (99) Liberal Democrat voters, 2-5 August 2024. *Note low base sizes

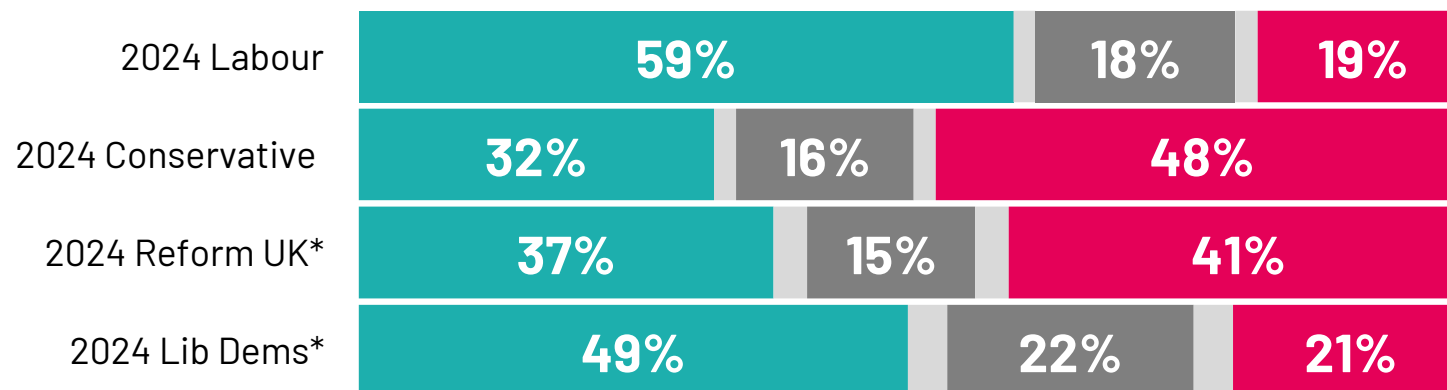
Support Neither Oppose



By age



By 2024 General Election vote

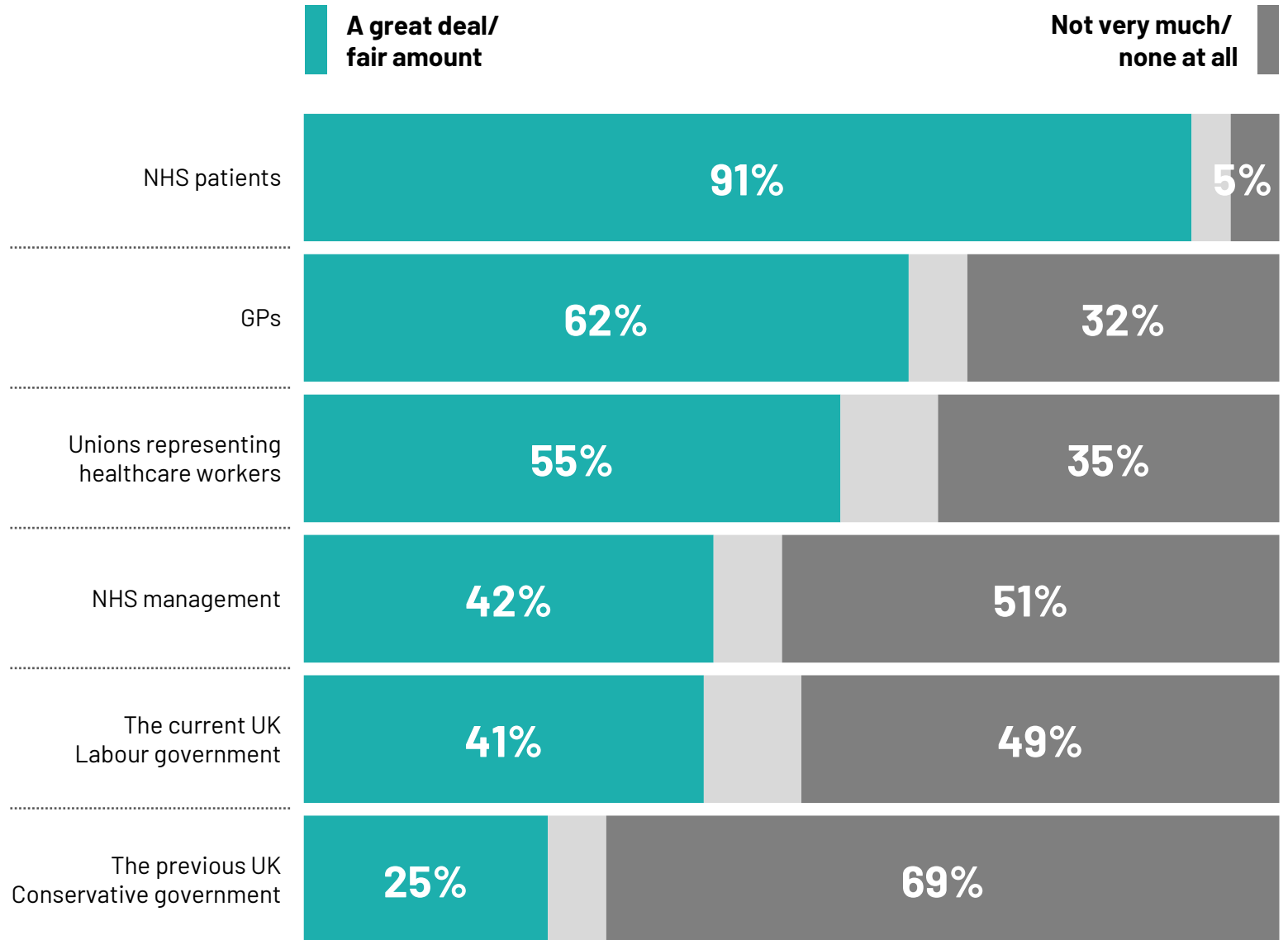


Three in five are sympathetic towards GPs during their current collective action, but patients receive most sympathy

As you may know, GPs recently voted in favour of taking collective action in response to the 2024/2025 contract that was offered by the previous government. The new contract will provide services with a 1.9% budget increase, which the British Medical Association (BMA) says is not enough and will force many surgeries to close.

In response, GPs have said they will take a series of collective actions in defiance of certain NHS administrative procedures. These actions do not include strikes, or a suspension of work.

Based on what you know or have heard about these actions, how much sympathy, if any, do you have for the following groups?

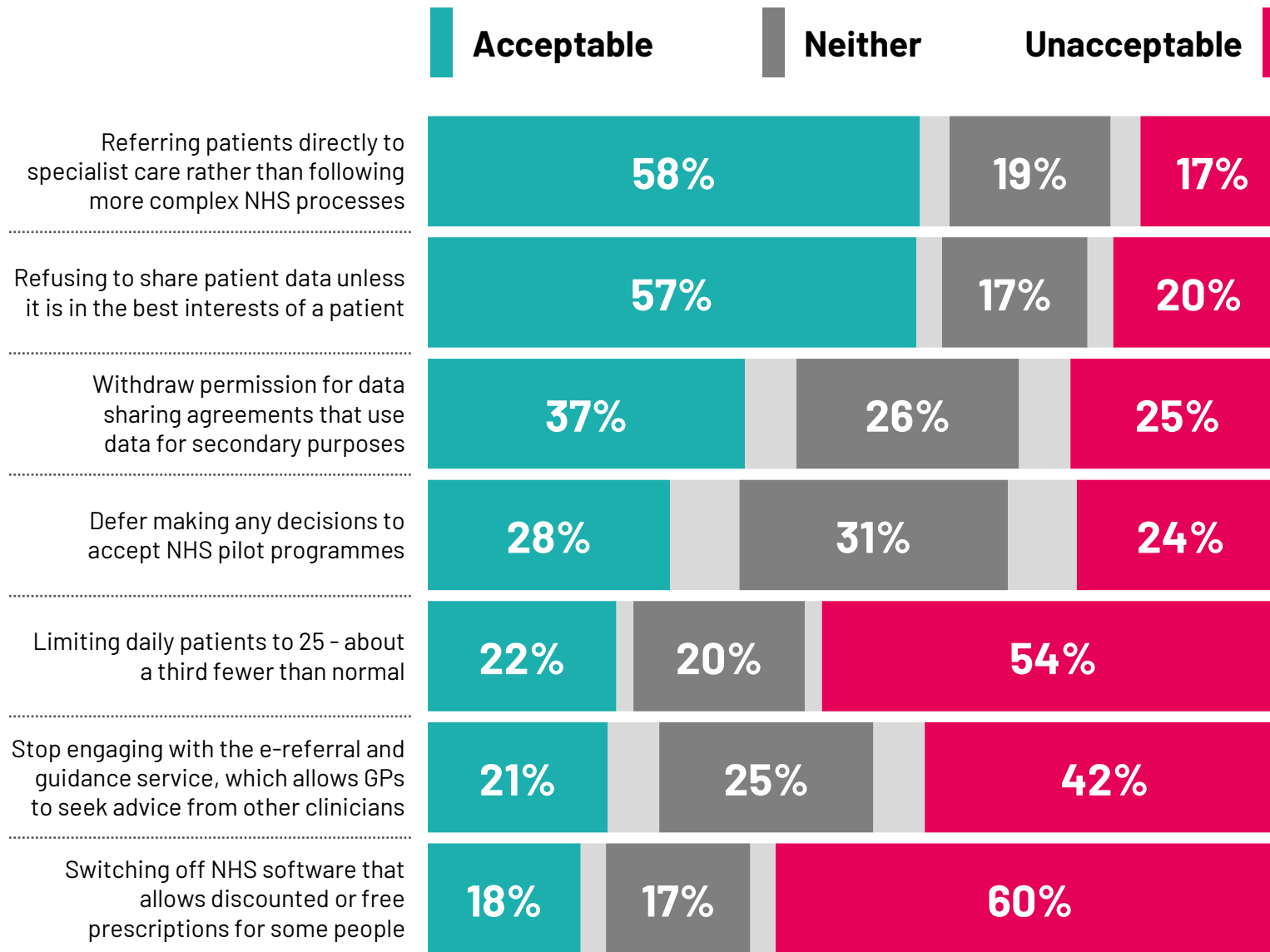


Base: 1006 Online British adults 18-75, 14-15 August 2024

Support for specific actions by GPs varies according to their impact

Below is a list of actions approved by the BMA that surgeries can elect to adopt as part of the collective action effort. Individual GP surgeries will pick and choose which ones to implement and can adopt as many or as few as they want.

Do you think each of the below actions are acceptable or unacceptable, if either, for GPs to take as part of their collective action?



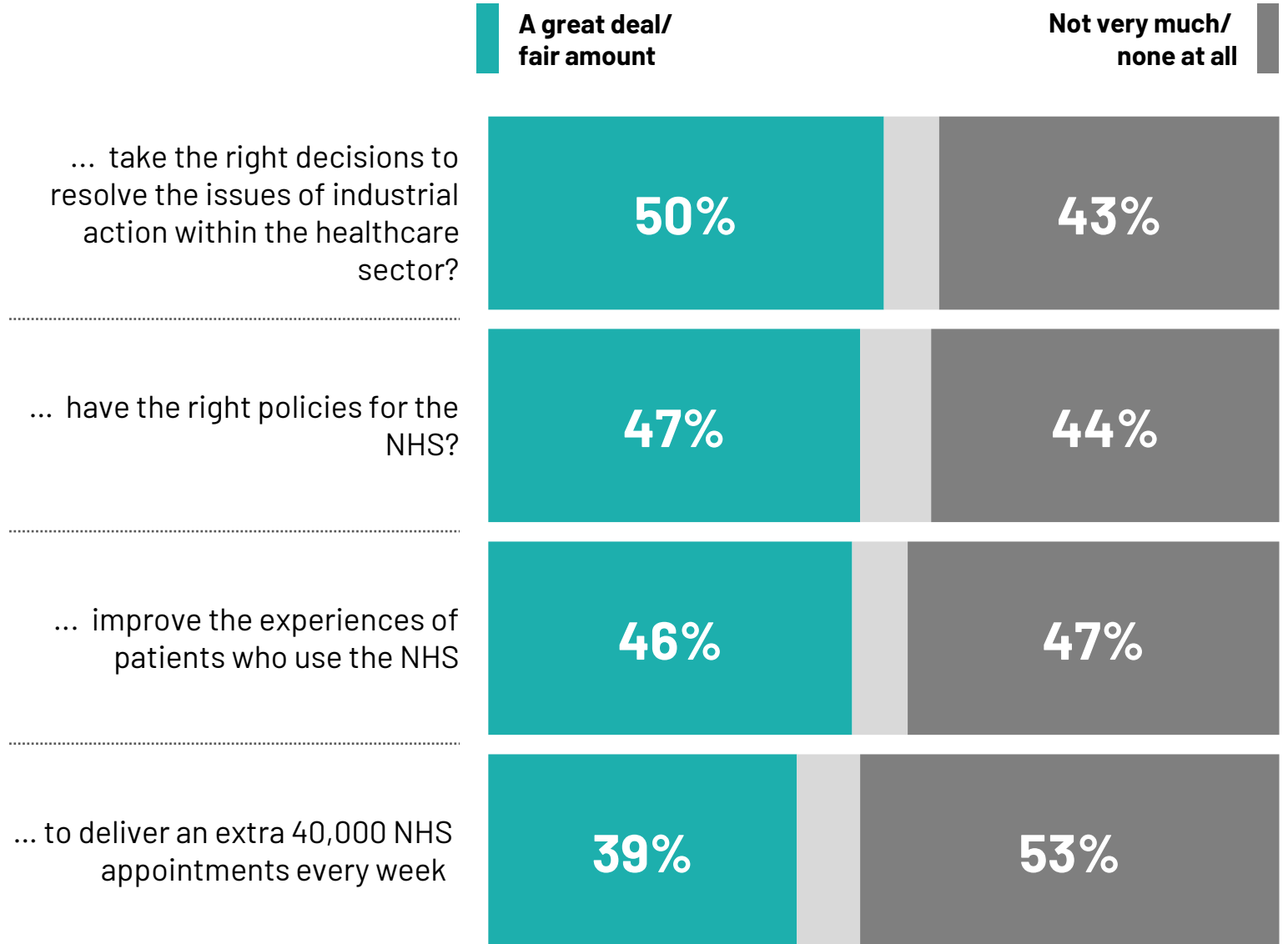
Base: 1,099 Online British adults 18-75, 2-5 August 2024

THE LABOUR PARTY'S HANDLING OF THE NHS AND NEGOTIATIONS WITH TRADE UNIONS

03

Half are confident that Labour will take the right decisions to resolve industrial action within the healthcare sector – but opinion remains fairly divided with two in five saying otherwise

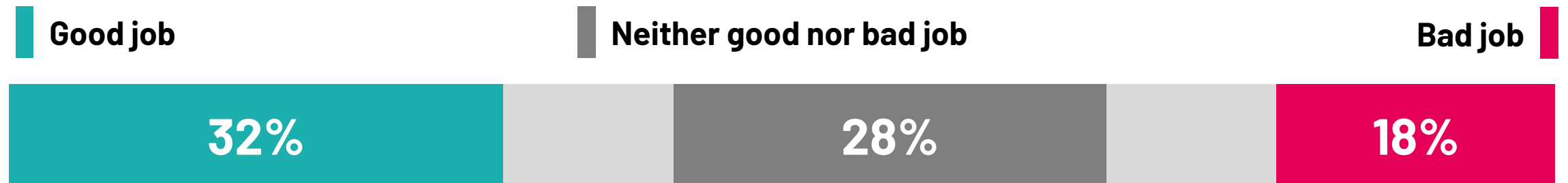
How much confidence, if any, do you have in The Labour Government to...



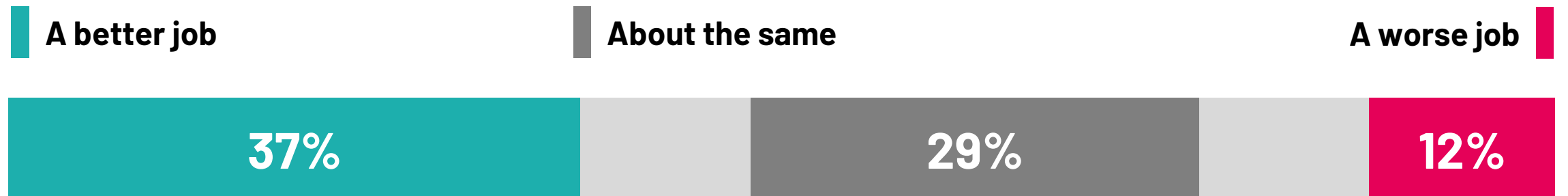
Base: 1006 Online British adults 18-75, 14-15 August 2024

Over a third think Wes Streeting has been doing a better job at negotiating with NHS unions than previous Conservative government

To what extent, would you say Wes Streeting, the Health and Social Care Secretary, has been doing a good job or bad job, or neither, at negotiating with trade unions representing NHS staff?



And from what you've seen or heard, to what extent, do you think Wes Streeting has been doing a better or worse job than Health and Social Care Secretaries who served under the previous Conservative Government at negotiating with trade unions representing NHS staff?



Base: 1006 Online British adults 18-75, 14-15 August 2024

One in three think the Labour government is doing a good job negotiating with trade unions more generally, and a similar proportion think they are doing a better job than the previous government

Do you think the UK government led by Keir Starmer is doing a good job or bad job, if either, at negotiating with trade unions to prevent disruption to public services?



And compared to the previous UK Government, do you think the current government led by Keir Starmer is doing a better or worse job at negotiating with trade unions to prevent disruption to public sector services, or have you observed it make no difference?



Base: 1,099 Online British adults 18-75, 2-5 August 2024

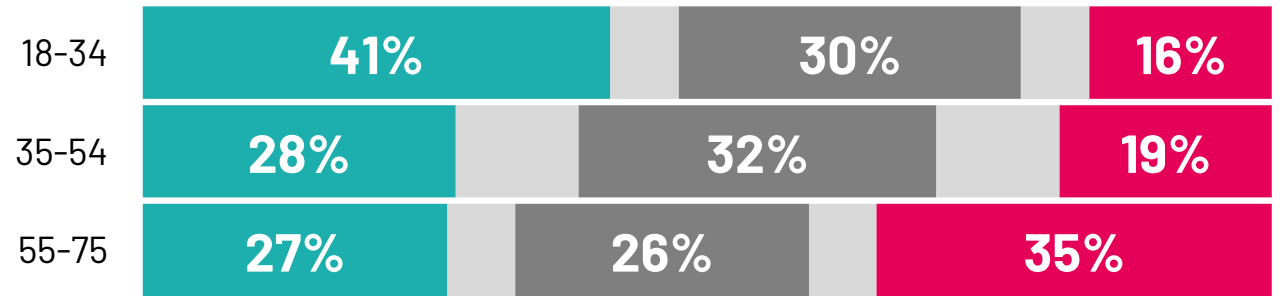
The public are slightly more likely to think that the UK government has done a good job at negotiating with trade unions, than a bad job

Do you think the UK government led by Keir Starmer is doing a good job or bad job, if either, at negotiating with trade unions to prevent disruption to public services service disruption?

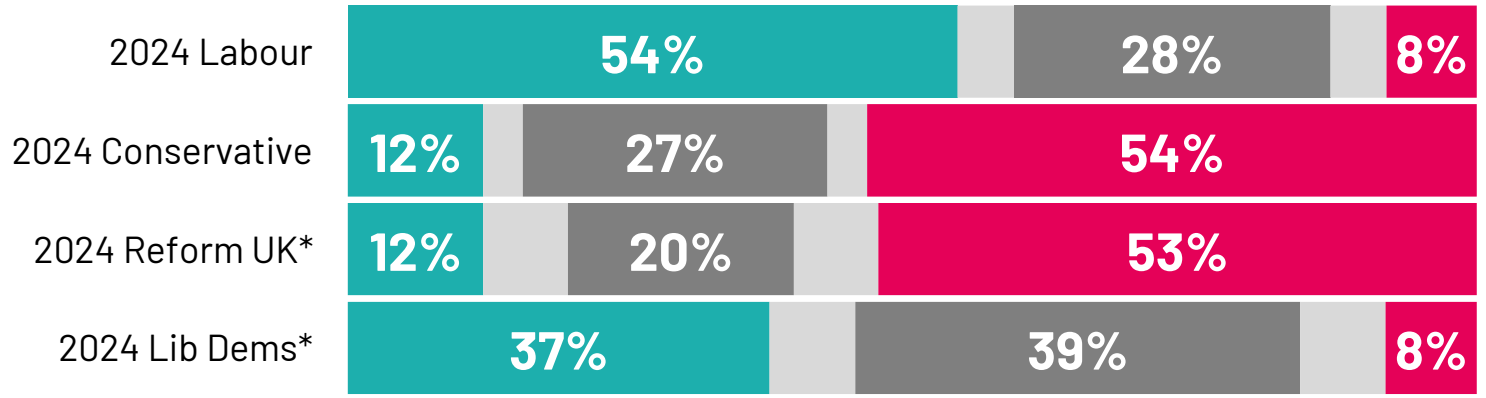
Good job Neither Bad job



By age



By 2024 General Election vote



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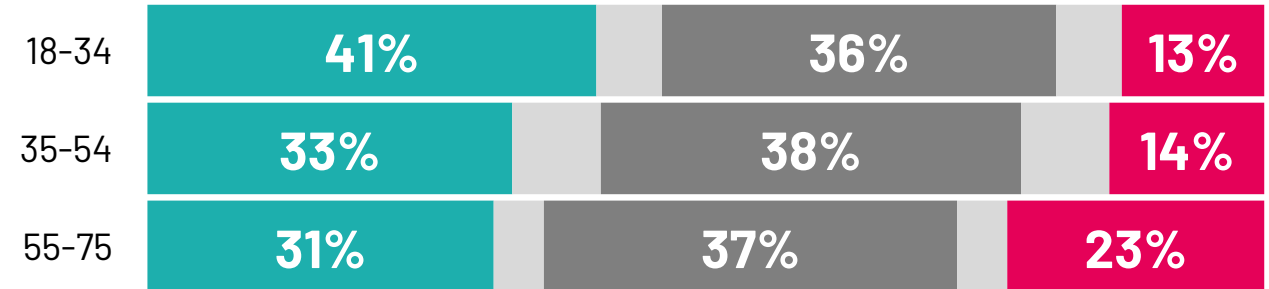
A third think that the current government has done a better job at negotiating with the trade unions compared to the previous government

And compared to the previous UK Government, do you think the current government led by Keir Starmer is doing a better or worse job at negotiating with trade unions to prevent disruption to public services service disruption, or have you observed it make no difference?

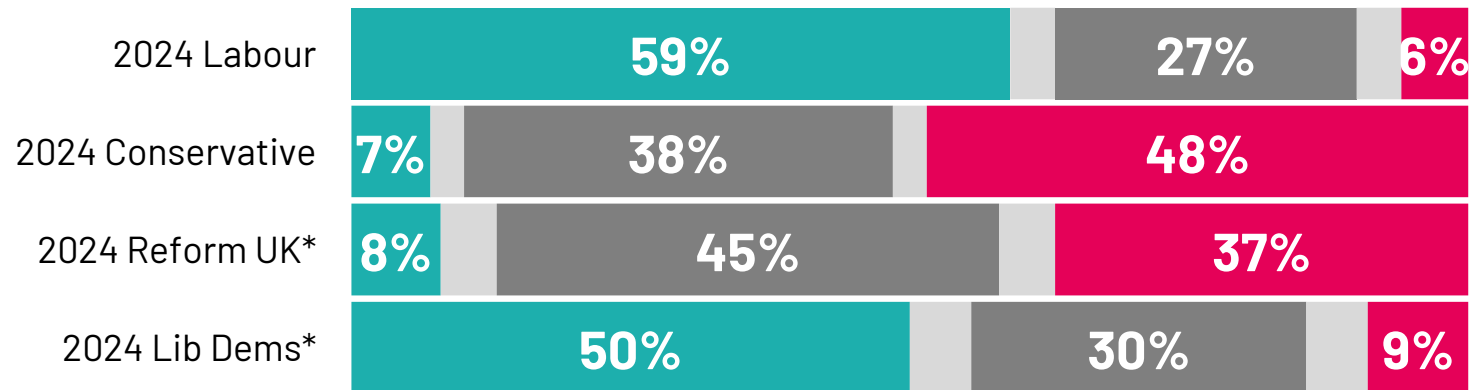
A better job **I have observed no difference** **A worse job**



By age



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For more information

Anna Quigley

Research Director

Anna.Quigley@ipsos.com

Kate Duxbury

Research Director

Kate.Duxbury@ipsos.com

