Research report: risk tolerance of Latvian residents and their attitude towards current events

Survey of Latvian residents
March 2023

Research Centre SKDS

The project was conceived and implemented by the online magazine «Spektr» (https://spektr.press) with the support of the Embassy of the Kingdom of the Netherlands and the Embassy of Canada in Latvia.

СПЕКТР
Независимый Online-Журнал

SKDS
RESEARCH CENTRE

Table of contents

Technical information....3

PART 1: Attitudes of Latvian residents towards current events

Main conclusions.... 5
1. Sources of information on current events in Latvia and the world.... 8
2. Attitudes towards Latvia's participation in the EU and NATO.... 13
3. Electoral choices in the parliament elections of 2022.... 20
4. Views on war in Ukraine.... 29
5. Risk tolerance of Latvian residents.... 38
6. Perception of income levels.... 47
7. Employment status of Latvian residents.... 56

PART 2: Risk tolerance of Latvian residents

Main conclusions.... 62
1. Sociodemographic determinants of risk tolerance.... 64
2. Economic determinants of risk tolerance.... 77
3. Impact of risk tolerance on attitudes towards Latvia's participation in the EU and NATO.... 81
4. Impact of risk tolerance on the electoral choices in the parliament elections of 2022.... 84
5. Impact of risk tolerance on views on war in Ukraine.... 86

Questionnaire.... 89
The Accuracy of the Results.... 94

Technical information

- **Target group:** The residents of Latvia aged between 18 and 75;
- **Sample:** the target group of the study was selected from two surveys with a nationally representative sample of respondents (in each of the nationally representative surveys average quantity of respondents was approx.1000);
- **Reached sample size of target group:** 2251 respondents (1191 Latvian speakers, 1039 Russian speakers);
- **Research method:** personal (face-to-face) interviews at the places of residence of respondents (1020 respondents), internet-assisted survey (1231 respondents);
- **Time of survey:** March 2023;

Latvian speakers - respondents who speak Latvian in their family;
Russian speakers - respondents who speak Russian in their family;

**In the graphs, some data are rounded to the nearest whole number. Rounding may result in a shift of one percentage point.*

PART 1

Attitudes of Latvian residents towards current events

Main conclusions (I)

- In a survey of the Latvian residents conducted in March 2023, respondents were asked to indicate where they mainly get information about current events in Latvia and the world. The most frequent sources of information were Latvian public media (57%), social networks (56%), and Latvian commercial media in Latvian (54%). When describing the answers of the Russian speaking residents, it can be observed that they most often get information from Latvian commercial media in Russian (60%) and social networks (57%). It should be noted that younger (18-30 yrs) Russian speaking respondents mostly get information on current events in Latvia and the world from social networks (70%) and Latvian commercial media in Russian (64%), while older respondents (51-75 yrs) mostly get information from Latvian commercial media in Russian (59%), social networks (50%), and Latvian public media (47%).
- In a survey respondents were asked to express their attitude towards Latvia's membership in the EU and NATO. In general, 75% of respondents positively assessed Latvia's membership in the EU, and another 67% - Latvia's membership in NATO. 18% and 24% of respondents had a negative attitude, respectively. Analysing the answers of the respondents depending on the spoken language in the family, 83% of the respondents with Latvian as a spoken language positively assessed Latvia's EU membership and 86% for Latvia's NATO membership. Among Russian speaking respondents, this support was lower: 65% supported Latvia's EU membership, while 41% supported NATO membership. Analysing the views of Russian speaking respondents in different socio-democratic groups, it should be concluded that younger respondents, respondents with higher education, as well as respondents with higher incomes were more likely than average to support Latvia's membership in these organizations.
- When asked which party they voted for in the elections of the 14th Saeima, 11% of the citizens of the Republic of Latvia mentioned Jaunā Vienotība, 11% - ZZS, 8% - Apvienotais saraksts, 7% - Progresīvie, 7% - Nacionālā apvienība, 6% - party Stabilitātei, 5% - Latvija pirmajā vietā, and 5% - Saskaņa. When describing the answers of the citizens of the Republic of Latvia with Russian as their family language, it can be concluded that they mentioned party Stabilitātei (14%) and Saskaņa (12%) significantly more often than residents in general and respondents with Latvian as their family language.
- LR citizens who indicated that they did not vote for the Saskaņa in the last elections of the 14th Saeima were asked to describe the reasons for this. The most frequent answers were that they did not like the party's candidates (8%), that the party did not sufficiently defend the interests of the Russian speaking residents (7%), and that party did not advocate enough against the demolition of Soviet monuments (5%). Respondents with Russian as spoken language in the family most often said they did not vote for Saskaņa because they did not like the party's candidates (20%), because the party did not sufficiently defend the interests of Russian speaking citizens (19%) and did not advocate enough against the demolition of Soviet monuments (15%). It should be mentioned that 31% of Russian speaking respondents admitted that they had never voted for Saskaņa.

Main conclusions (II)

- In the research, the opinions of the respondents regarding what is happening in Ukraine were also clarified. According to survey data, 63% of respondents believed that *"Russia committed an act of aggression and attacked an independent country to keep it in its sphere of influence"* (34% of Russian speaking respondents thought so), and 19% - that *"Russia was forced to defend its interests concerning NATO and the interests of the Russian speaking population living in Ukraine"* (38% of Russian speaking respondents thought this was true). It should be mentioned that 18% refrained by expressing a specific opinion on this issue (28% of Russian speaking respondents). Analyzing the answers of the Russian speaking respondents in the socio-demographic groups it can be observed that the opinion that *"Russia committed an act of aggression and attacked an independent country to keep it in its sphere of influence"* was more often agreed by younger respondents, respondents with higher education, as well as research participants with higher incomes. On the other hand, older people, respondents with primary or secondary education, as well as research participants with low income more often supported the opinion that *"Russia was forced to defend its interests concerning NATO and the interests of the Russian speaking population living in Ukraine"*.
- When asked to indicate which of the two positions their friends and relatives support more - the Ukrainian or the Russian leadership, 59% of respondents indicated that their friends and relatives support the Ukrainian leadership (including 40% who said that *"all or almost all support the Ukrainian leadership"*). 10% of respondents indicated that their friends and relatives support the position of the Russian leadership (including 4% who said that *"all or almost all support the position of the Russian leadership"*). 15% said that their friends and relatives equally often support both the Ukrainian and Russian leadership. Among Russian speaking respondents, 26% said that their friends and relatives support the Ukrainian leadership (including 11% who said that *"all or almost all support the Ukrainian leadership"*), while 22% of Russian speaking respondents said that their friends and relatives support the Russian leadership respondents (including 9% who said that "*all or almost all support the Russian leadership"*). 25% of Russian speaking respondents said that their friends and relatives support Ukrainian and Russian leadership equally often.
- In the survey of the Latvian residents conducted in March 2023, the willingness of the respondents to take risks was determined. In response to the question *"Imagine that you are participating in a game where there are two choices. The first option is a guaranteed prize of €50. The second option is to participate in a lottery where one ticket out of 10 has a prize of €1000, and the other 9 tickets are blank. Which option do you choose?*" 53% answered that they would choose 50 euros and 38% - that they choose a lottery. When characterizing the data depending on the spoken language in the family, it can be observed that 50% of respondents with Latvian and 58% of respondents with Russian spoken language in the family would choose 50 euros. 42% and 33% choose a lottery. It should be mentioned that among Russian speaking respondents, respondents with primary education and low income would choose 50 euros more often than Russian speakers average, while Russian speakers aged 18 to 30, as well as research participants with high incomes would choose the lottery more often than Russian speakers average.

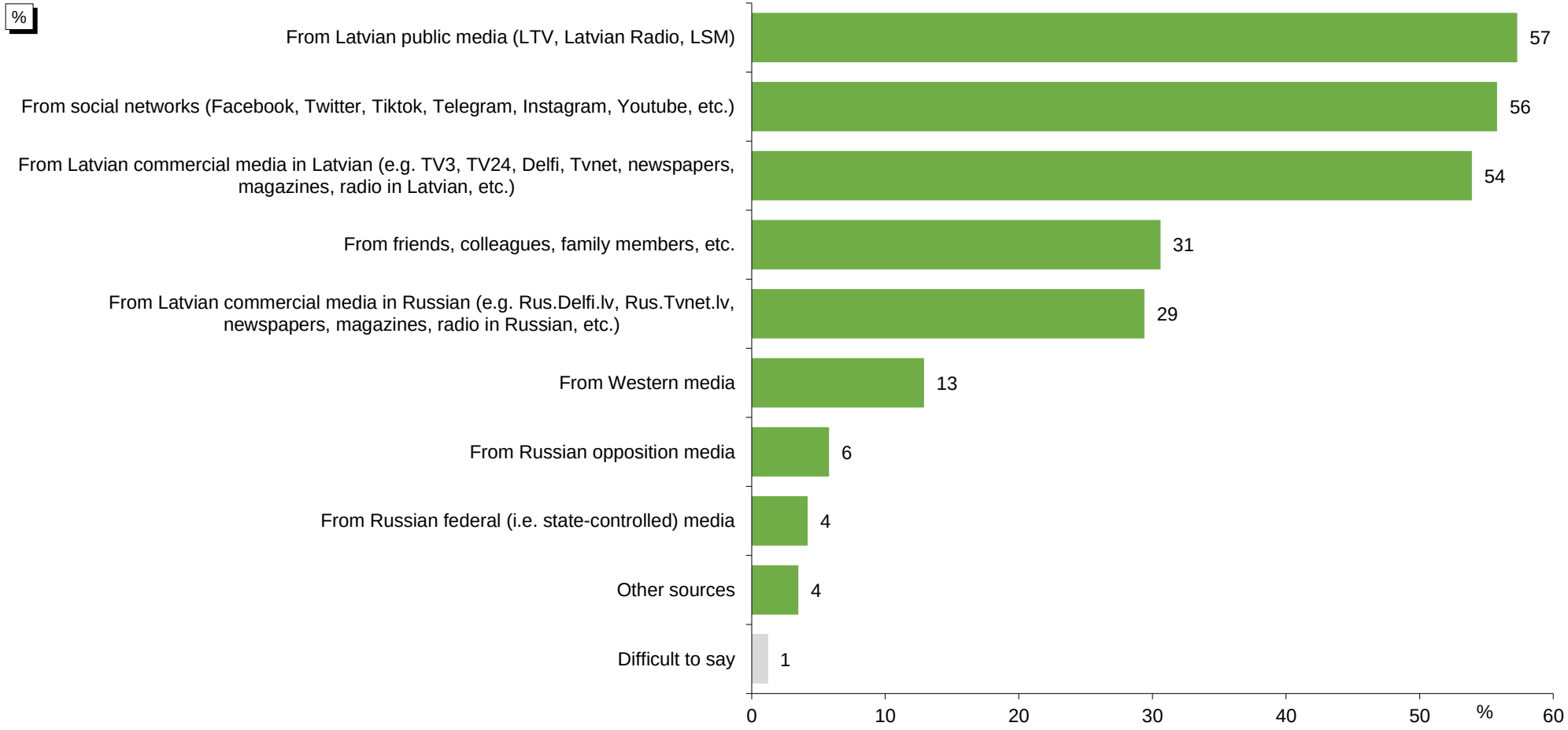
Main conclusions (III)

- When asked to indicate on a scale of 0 to 10 (where 0 is *"never take risk"* and 10 is *"take risk very often"*) to what extent they are risk takers, a total of 17% of respondents indicated answers between 0 and 2, while 16% of the respondents indicated answers between 8 and 10. The mean value of the scores was 5.00. It should be noted that the mean value of the answers among the respondents with Latvian speaking language was 5.06, and among the respondents with Russian speaking language - 4.94 (and this value was higher among younger Russian speaking respondents and Russian speaking respondents with a high income).
- When describing their income level, 5% said they could barely make ends meet, do not have enough money even for food, 17% said there was enough money for food but buying clothes caused financial difficulties, 43% said there was enough money for food and clothes but buying long-term goods (TV set, fridge) causes difficulties, 30% - that they can easily buy long-term goods, but buying really expensive goods would cause difficulties, and 2% - that they can afford to buy relatively expensive things – an apartment, cottage, and many other things. It should be noted that Russian speaking respondents were more likely than Latvian speaking respondents to say that they had enough money for food, but buying clothes was a financial problem (Latvian: 14%; Russian: 20%).
- When describing their financial situation in childhood, 7% answered that they could barely make ends meet, do not had enough money even for food, 19% - that there was enough money for food but buying clothes caused financial difficulties, 38% - that there was enough money for food and clothes, but buying long-term goods (TV set, fridge) caused difficulties, 25% - that it was easy to buy long-term goods, but buying really expensive goods caused difficulties, and 4% - that they could afford to buy relatively expensive things – an apartment, a cottage, and many other things. Interestingly, respondents with a Latvian spoken in the family were more likely than respondents with a Russian spoken in the family to say that they had enough money for food as a child, but that buying clothes caused financial difficulties (Latvian: 21%; Russian: 17%). It should be noted that respondents who indicated that their current income was rather low was also more likely to say that their family income was relatively low as a child, while respondents with relatively high incomes were less likely to say that.
- 24% of respondents said they were self-employed or owned their own business or had been in the past, and this was more common than average among respondents aged 31-50, those with higher education and high incomes. Being self-employed or owning a business or having been self-employed in the past was reported by 26% of respondents with a Latvian spoken in the family and 23% of the respondents were Russian spoken in the family.

1. Sources of information on current events in Latvia and the world

1. Sources of information on current events in Latvia and the world

E1. "Where do you mainly get information about current events in Latvia and the world?"



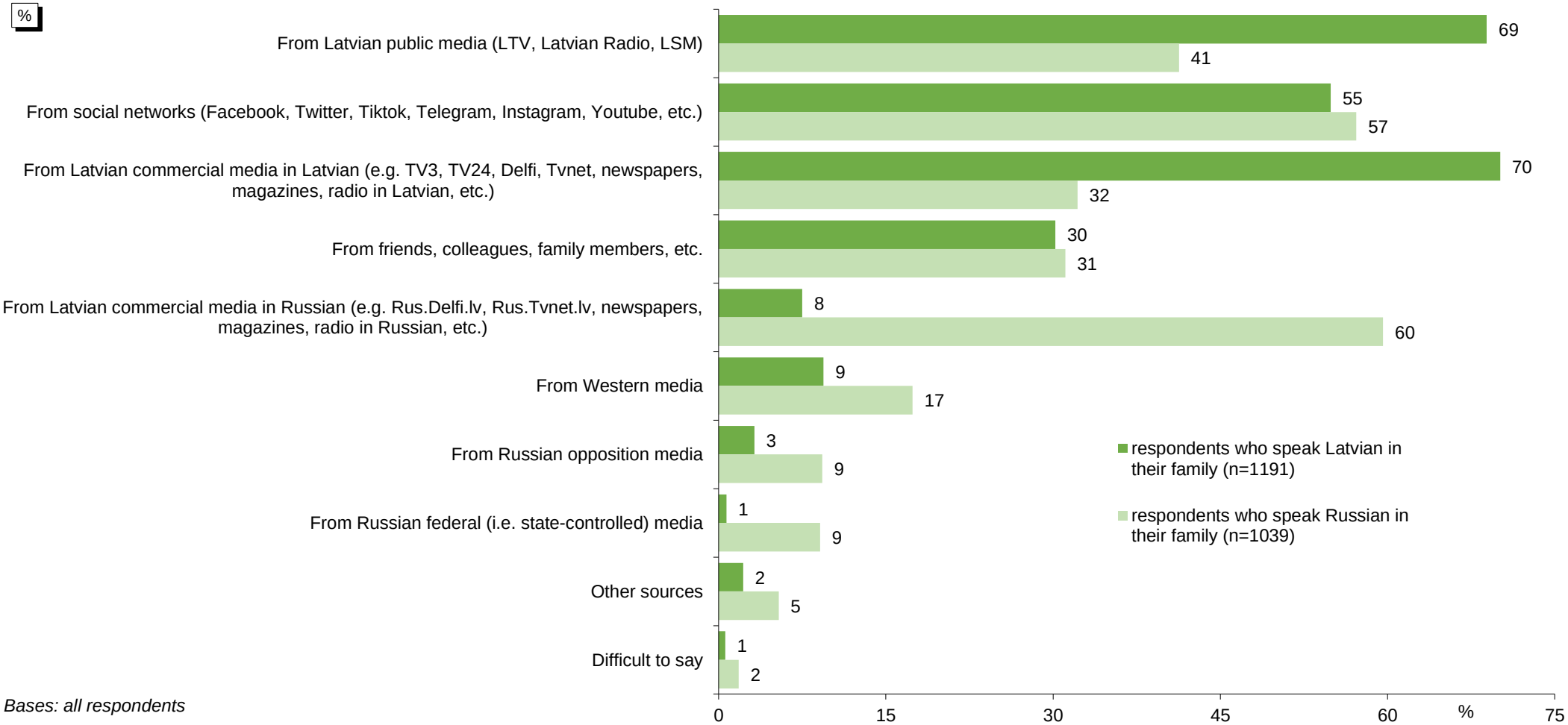
Base: all respondents, n=2251

*As each respondent could name more than one answer, the total percentage of answers may exceed 100%.

1. Sources of information on current events in Latvia and the world

E1. "Where do you mainly get information about current events in Latvia and the world?"

Answers depending on the language spoken in the family



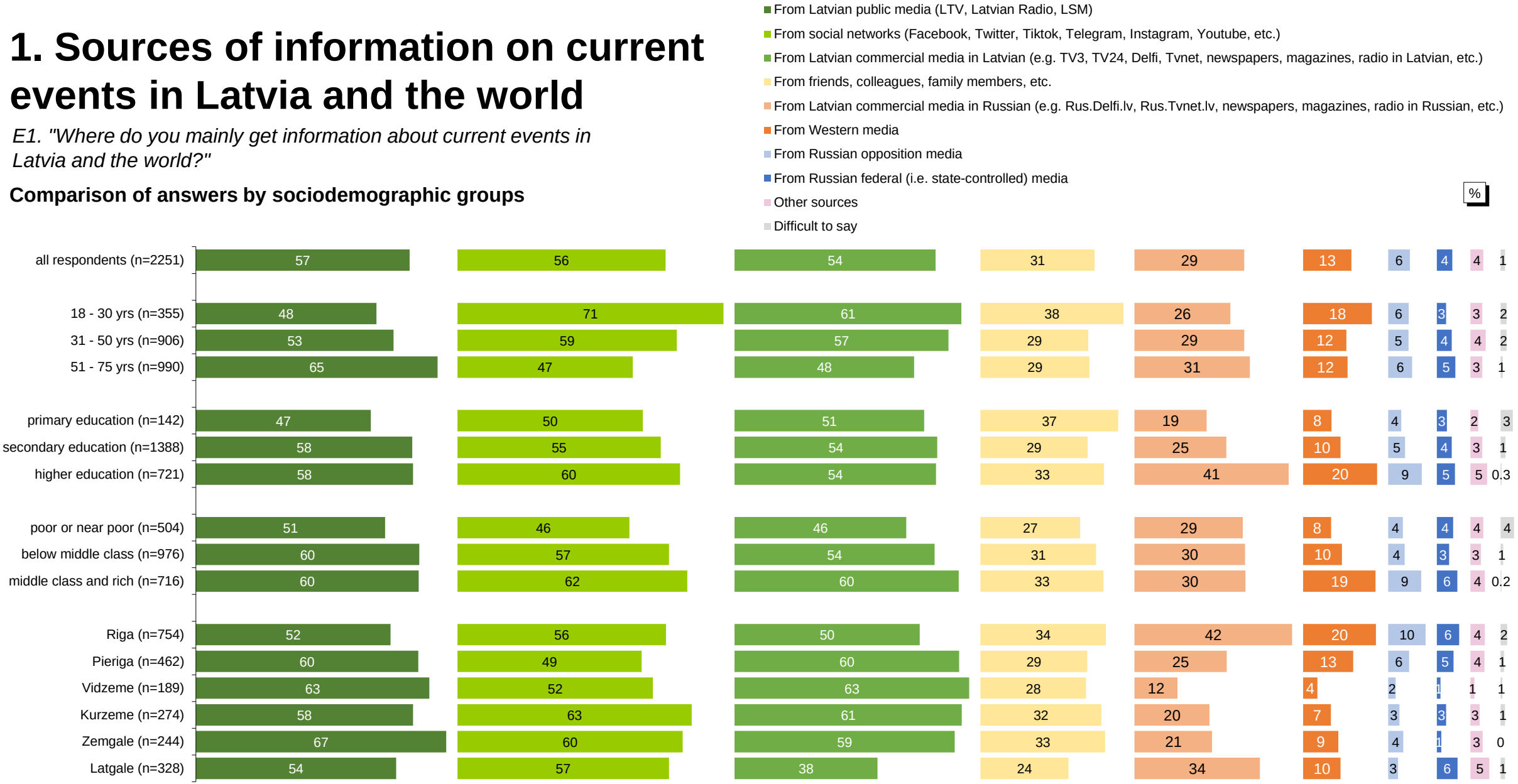
Bases: all respondents

*As each respondent could name more than one answer, the total percentage of answers may exceed 100%.

1. Sources of information on current events in Latvia and the world

E1. "Where do you mainly get information about current events in Latvia and the world?"

Comparison of answers by sociodemographic groups



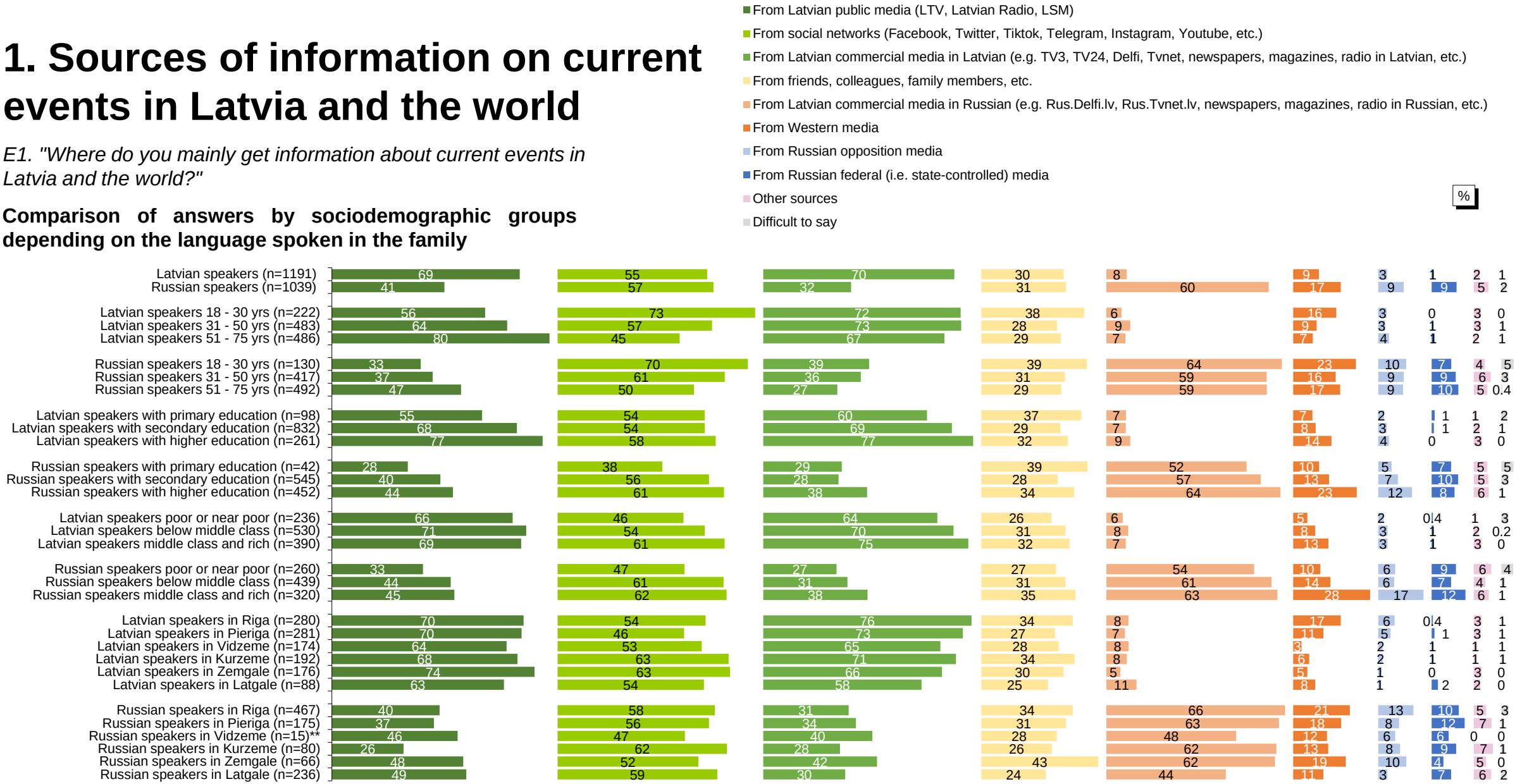
Bases: all respondents

*As each respondent could name more than one answer, the total percentage of answers may exceed 100%.

1. Sources of information on current events in Latvia and the world

E1. "Where do you mainly get information about current events in Latvia and the world?"

Comparison of answers by sociodemographic groups depending on the language spoken in the family



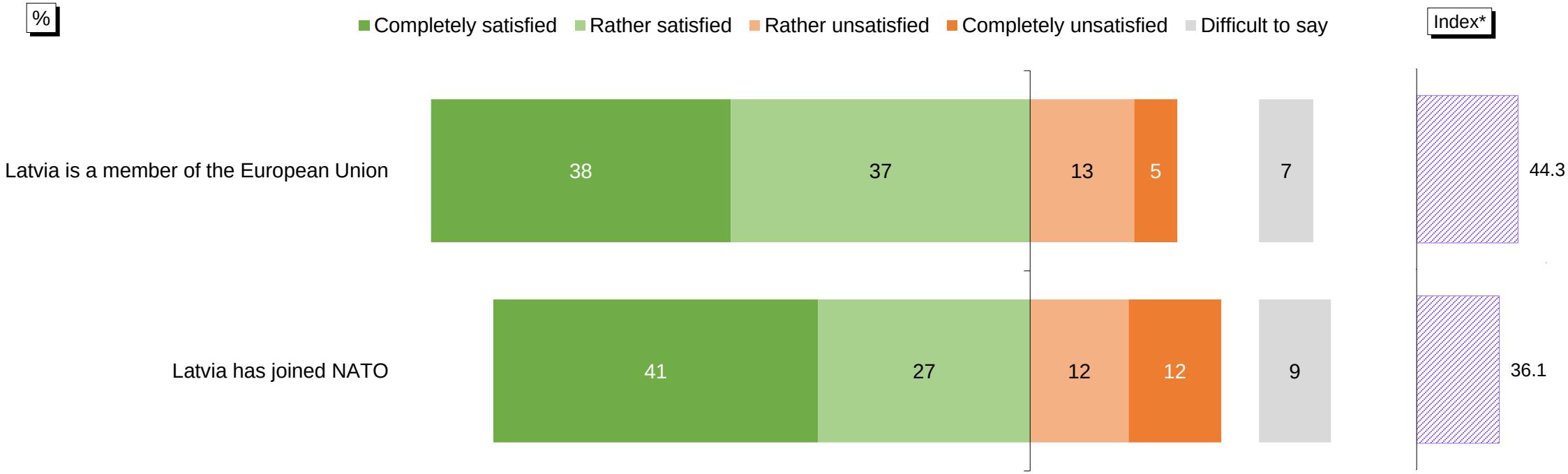
Bases: all respondents

*As each respondent could name more than one answer, the total percentage of answers may exceed 100%.
**The number of respondents is insufficient to draw credible conclusions.

2. Attitudes towards Latvia's participation in the EU and NATO

2. Attitudes towards Latvia's participation in the EU and NATO

A2.-A3."Please assess to what extent you are satisfied that Latvia is involved in such associations and structures! Are you completely satisfied, rather satisfied, rather unsatisfied or completely unsatisfied?"



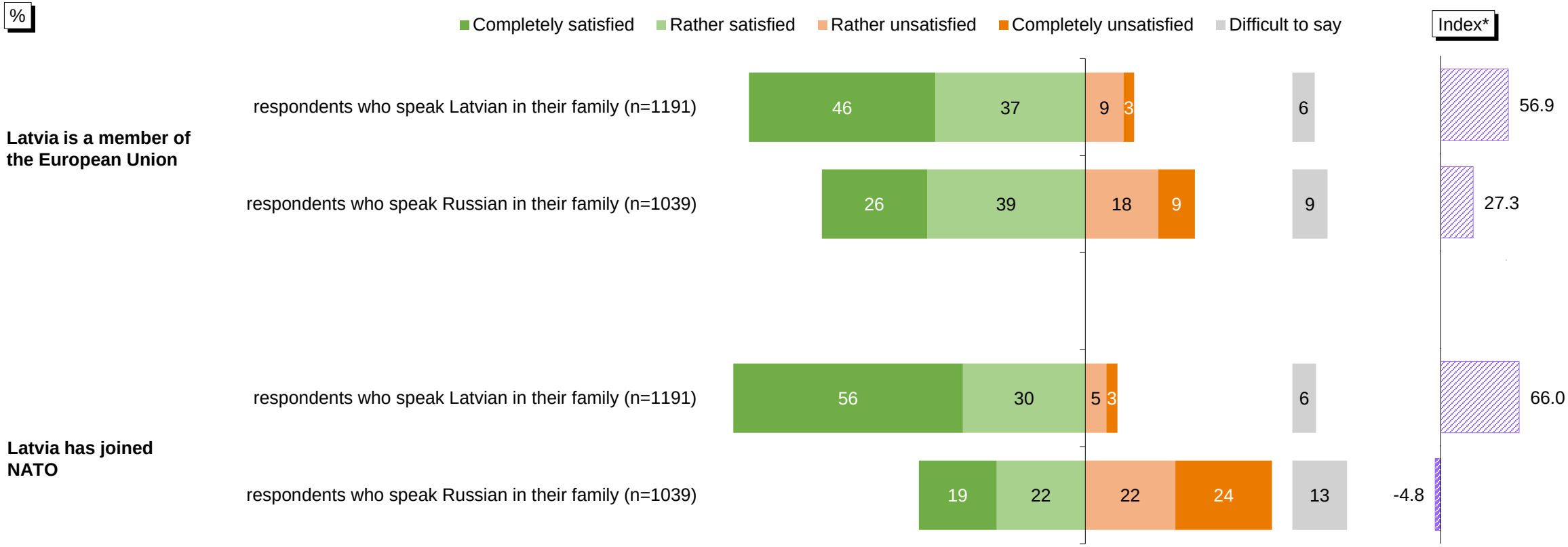
Base: all respondents, n=2251

*The index shows the difference between answers satisfied / unsatisfied, where the frequency of mentioning answers rather satisfied / rather unsatisfied (%) is multiplied by a coefficient 0.5, and the frequency of mentioning answers completely satisfied / completely unsatisfied - by a coefficient 1. The dispersion of the index can be from -100 to +100.

2. Attitudes towards Latvia's participation in the EU and NATO

A2.-A3."Please assess to what extent you are satisfied that Latvia is involved in such associations and structures! Are you completely satisfied, rather satisfied, rather unsatisfied or completely unsatisfied?"

Answers depending on the language spoken in the family



Bases: all respondents

*The index shows the difference between answers satisfied / unsatisfied, where the frequency of mentioning answers rather satisfied / rather unsatisfied (%) is multiplied by a coefficient 0.5, and the frequency of mentioning answers completely satisfied / completely unsatisfied - by a coefficient 1. The dispersion of the index can be from -100 to +100.

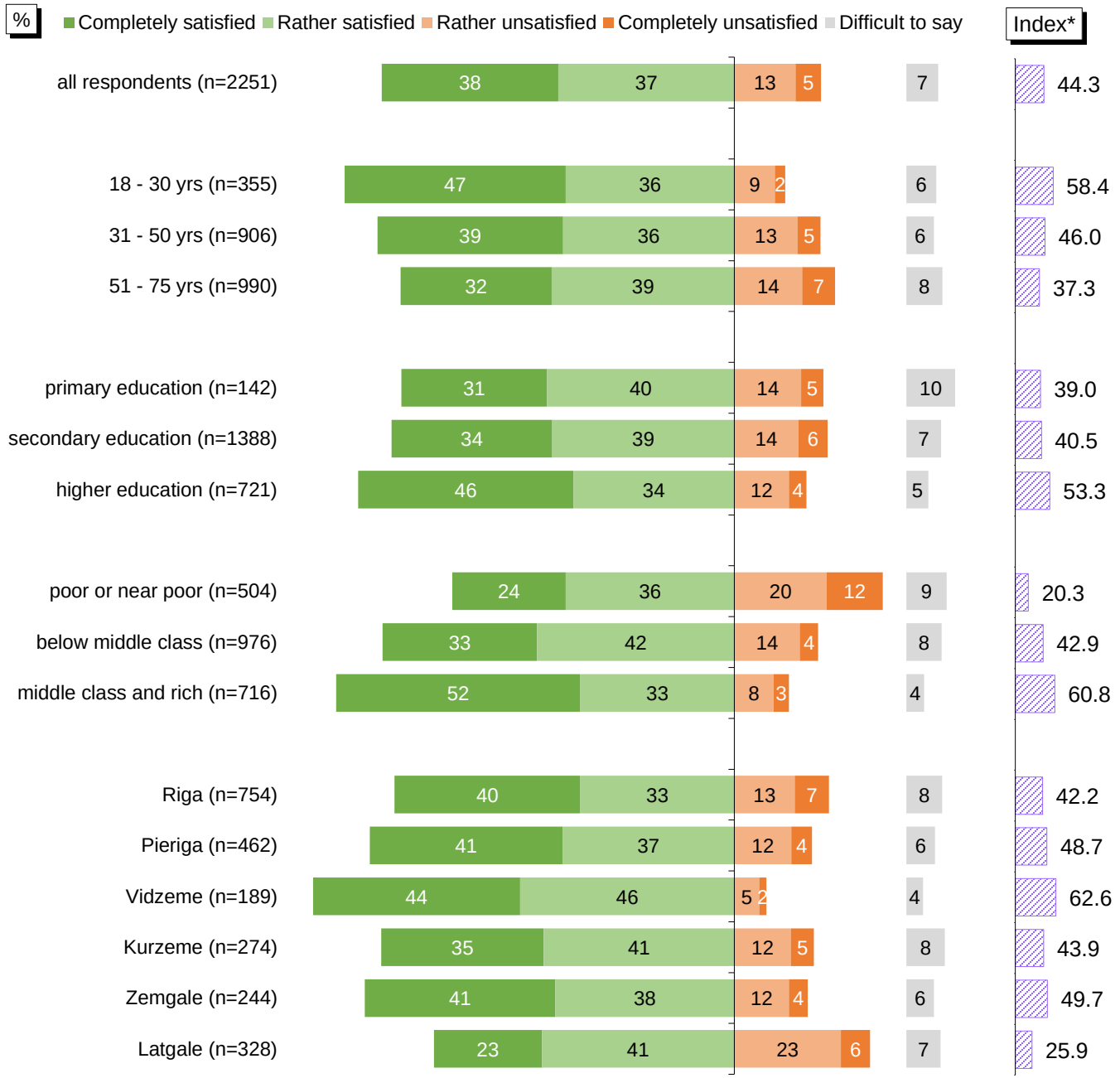
2. Attitudes towards Latvia's participation in the EU and NATO

Attitude towards Latvia's membership of the European Union (I)

A2."Please assess to what extent you are satisfied that Latvia is involved in such associations and structures! Are you completely satisfied, rather satisfied, rather unsatisfied or completely unsatisfied: Latvia is a member of the European Union"

Comparison of answers by sociodemographic groups

*The index shows the difference between answers satisfied / unsatisfied, where the frequency of mentioning answers rather satisfied / rather unsatisfied (%) is multiplied by a coefficient 0.5, and the frequency of mentioning answers completely satisfied / completely unsatisfied - by a coefficient 1. The dispersion of the index can be from -100 to +100.



Bases: all respondents

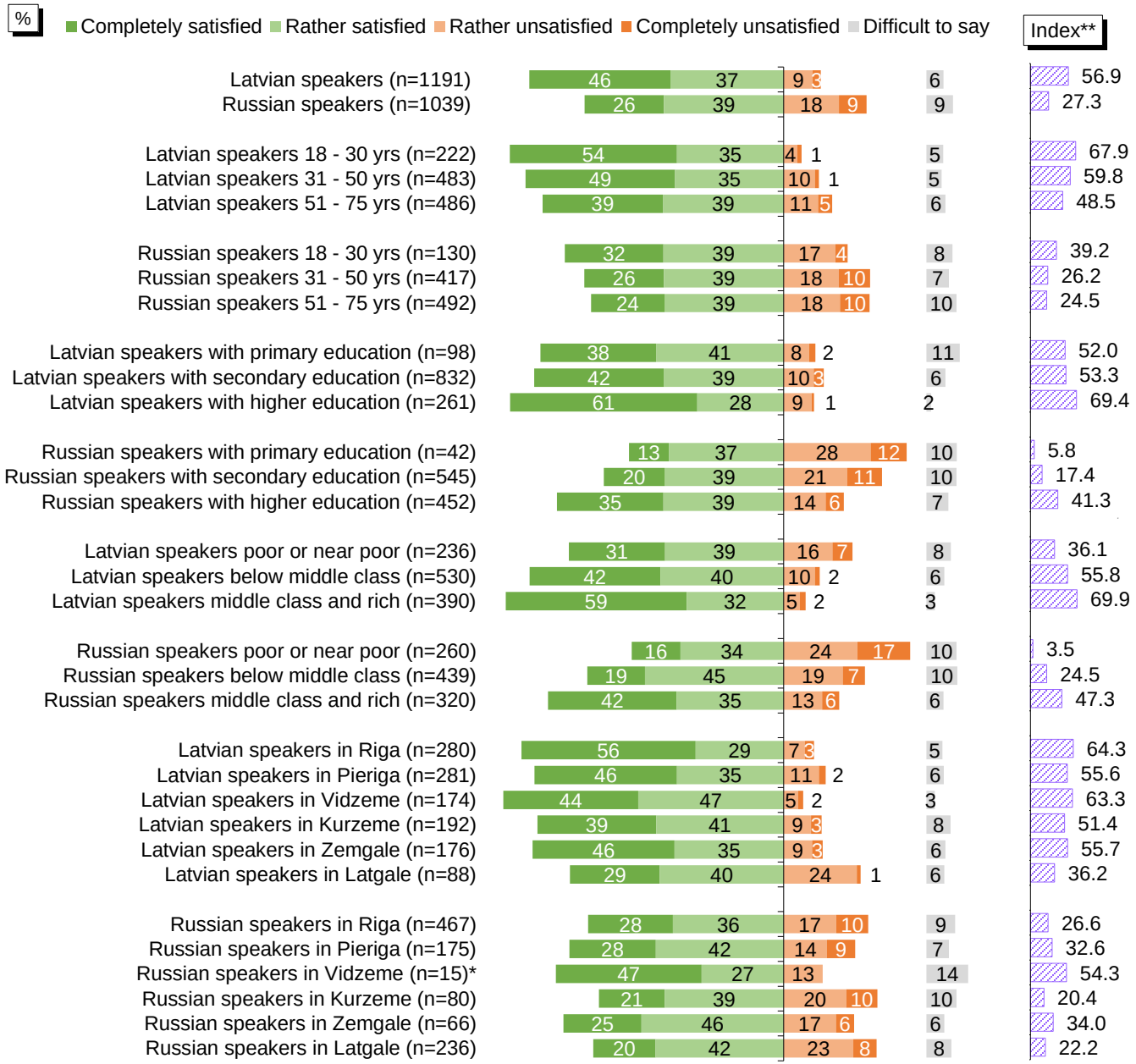
2. Attitudes towards Latvia's participation in the EU and NATO

Attitude towards Latvia's membership of the European Union (II)

A2."Please assess to what extent you are satisfied that Latvia is involved in such associations and structures! Are you completely satisfied, rather satisfied, rather unsatisfied or completely unsatisfied: Latvia is a member of the European Union"

Comparison of answers by sociodemographic groups depending on the language spoken in the family

*The number of respondents is insufficient to draw credible conclusions.
**The index shows the difference between answers satisfied / unsatisfied, where the frequency of mentioning answers rather satisfied / rather unsatisfied (%) is multiplied by a coefficient 0.5, and the frequency of mentioning answers completely satisfied / completely unsatisfied - by a coefficient 1. The dispersion of the index can be from -100 to +100.



Bases: all respondents

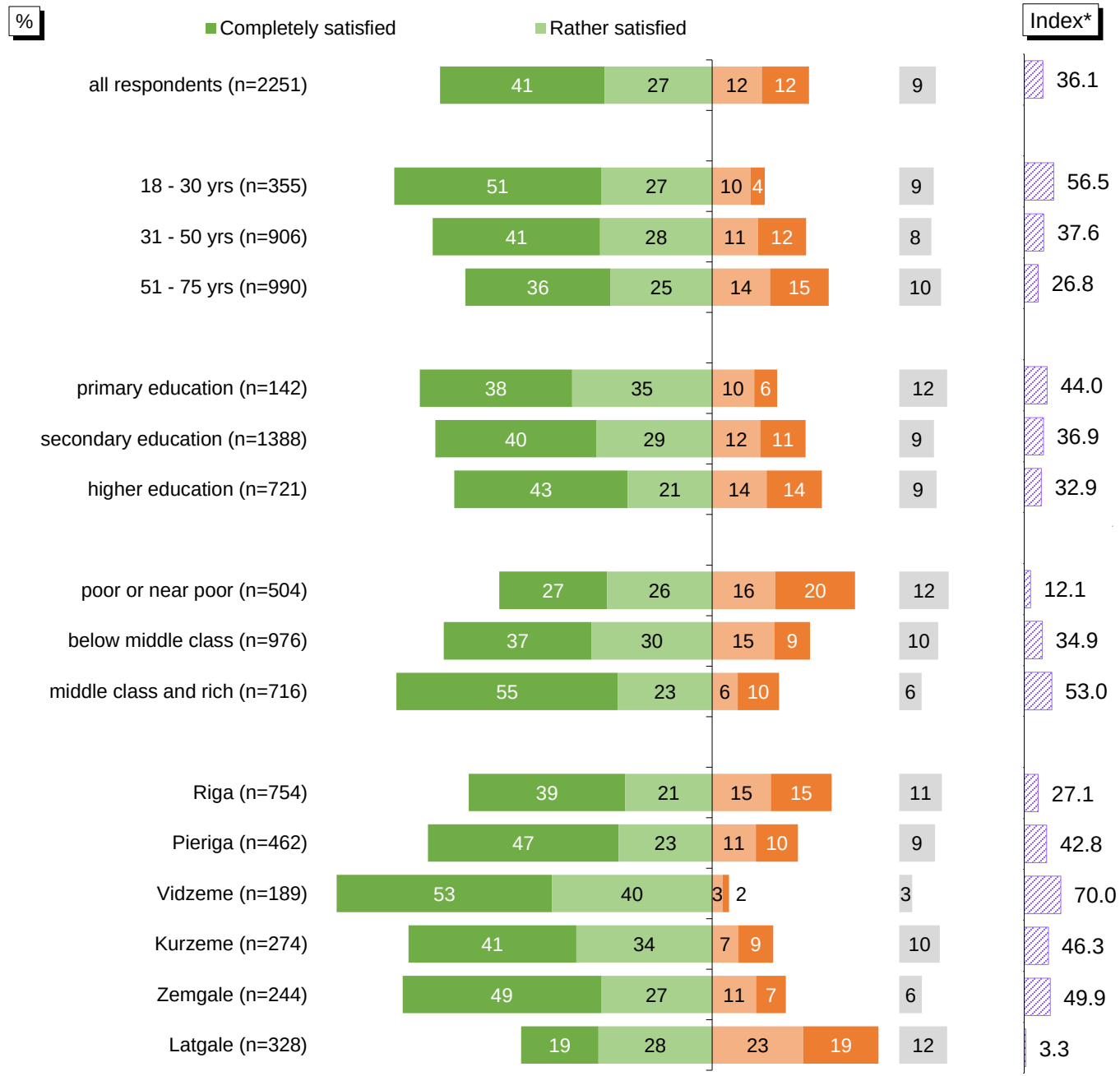
2. Attitudes towards Latvia's participation in the EU and NATO

Attitude towards Latvia's membership of NATO (I)

A3."Please assess to what extent you are satisfied that Latvia is involved in such associations and structures! Are you completely satisfied, rather satisfied, rather unsatisfied or completely unsatisfied: Latvia has joined NATO"

Comparison of answers by sociodemographic groups

*The index shows the difference between answers satisfied / unsatisfied, where the frequency of mentioning answers rather satisfied / rather unsatisfied (%) is multiplied by a coefficient 0.5, and the frequency of mentioning answers completely satisfied / completely unsatisfied - by a coefficient 1. The dispersion of the index can be from -100 to +100.



Bases: all respondents

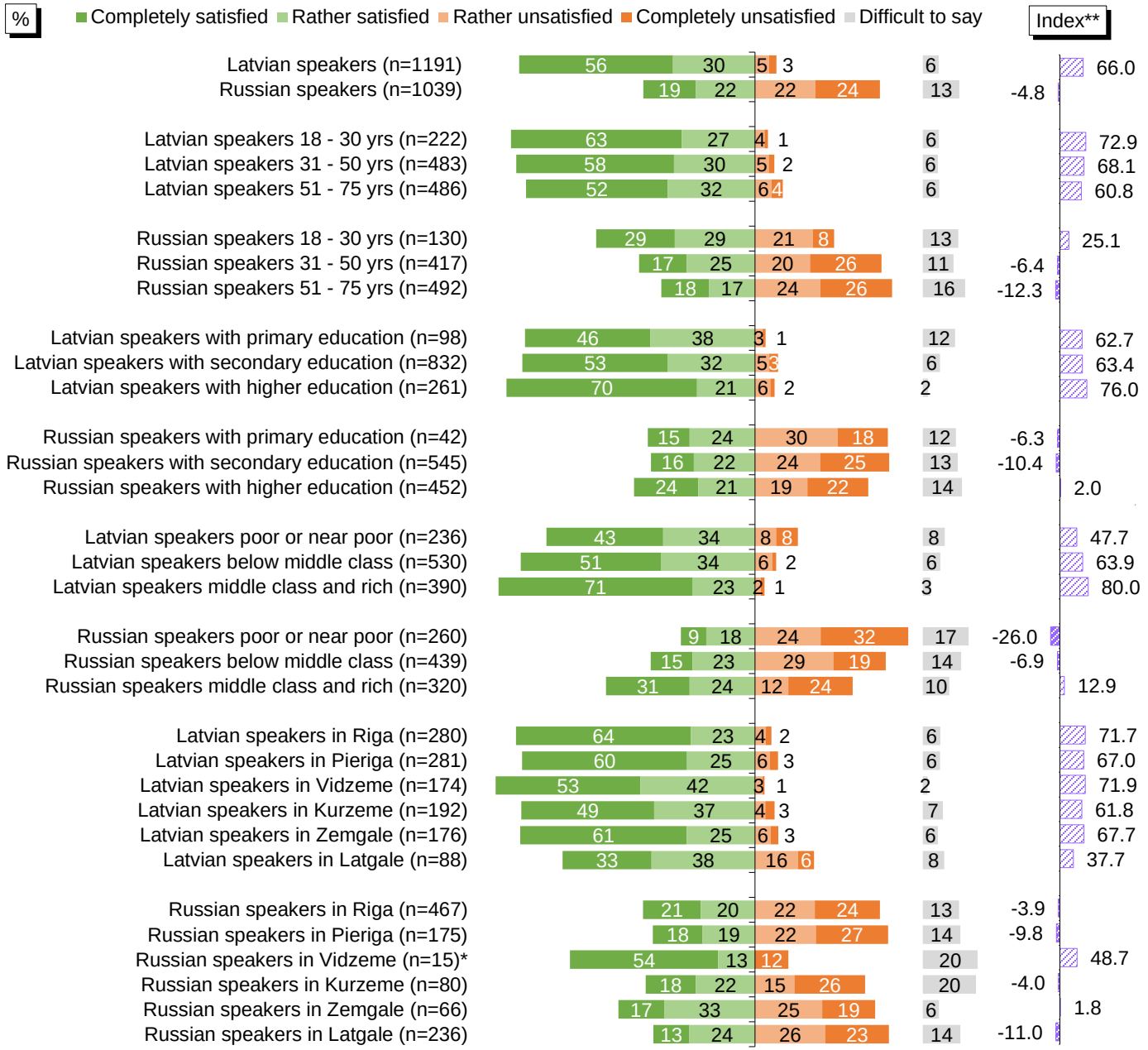
2. Attitudes towards Latvia's participation in the EU and NATO

Attitude towards Latvia's membership of NATO (II)

A3."Please assess to what extent you are satisfied that Latvia is involved in such associations and structures! Are you completely satisfied, rather satisfied, rather unsatisfied or completely unsatisfied: Latvia has joined NATO"

Comparison of answers by sociodemographic groups depending on the language spoken in the family

*The number of respondents is insufficient to draw credible conclusions.
**The index shows the difference between answers satisfied / unsatisfied, where the frequency of mentioning answers rather satisfied / rather unsatisfied (%) is multiplied by a coefficient 0.5, and the frequency of mentioning answers completely satisfied / completely unsatisfied - by a coefficient 1. The dispersion of the index can be from -100 to +100.

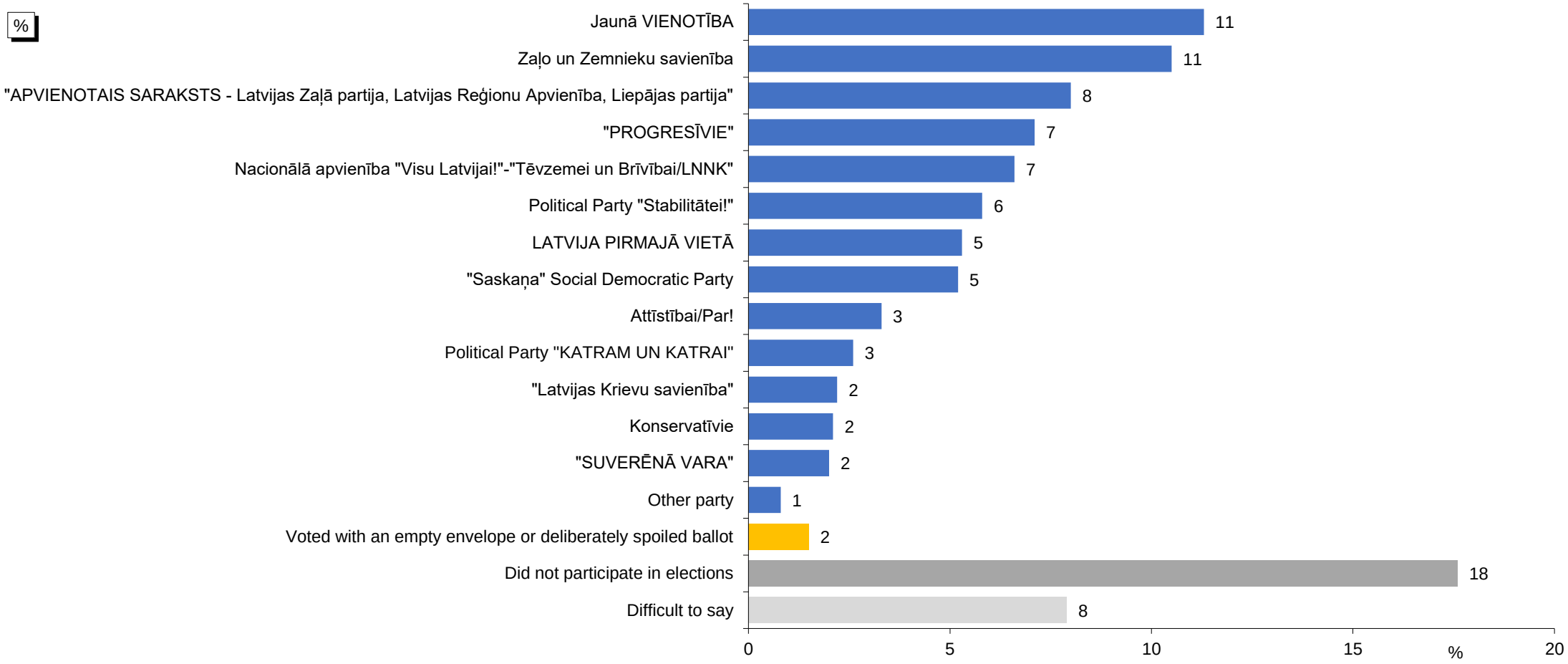


Bases: all respondents

3. Electoral choices in the parliament elections of 2022

3. Electoral choices in the parliament elections of 2022

C1. "Please indicate which political party or alliance you voted for in the elections of the 14th Saeima held on October 1, 2022!"

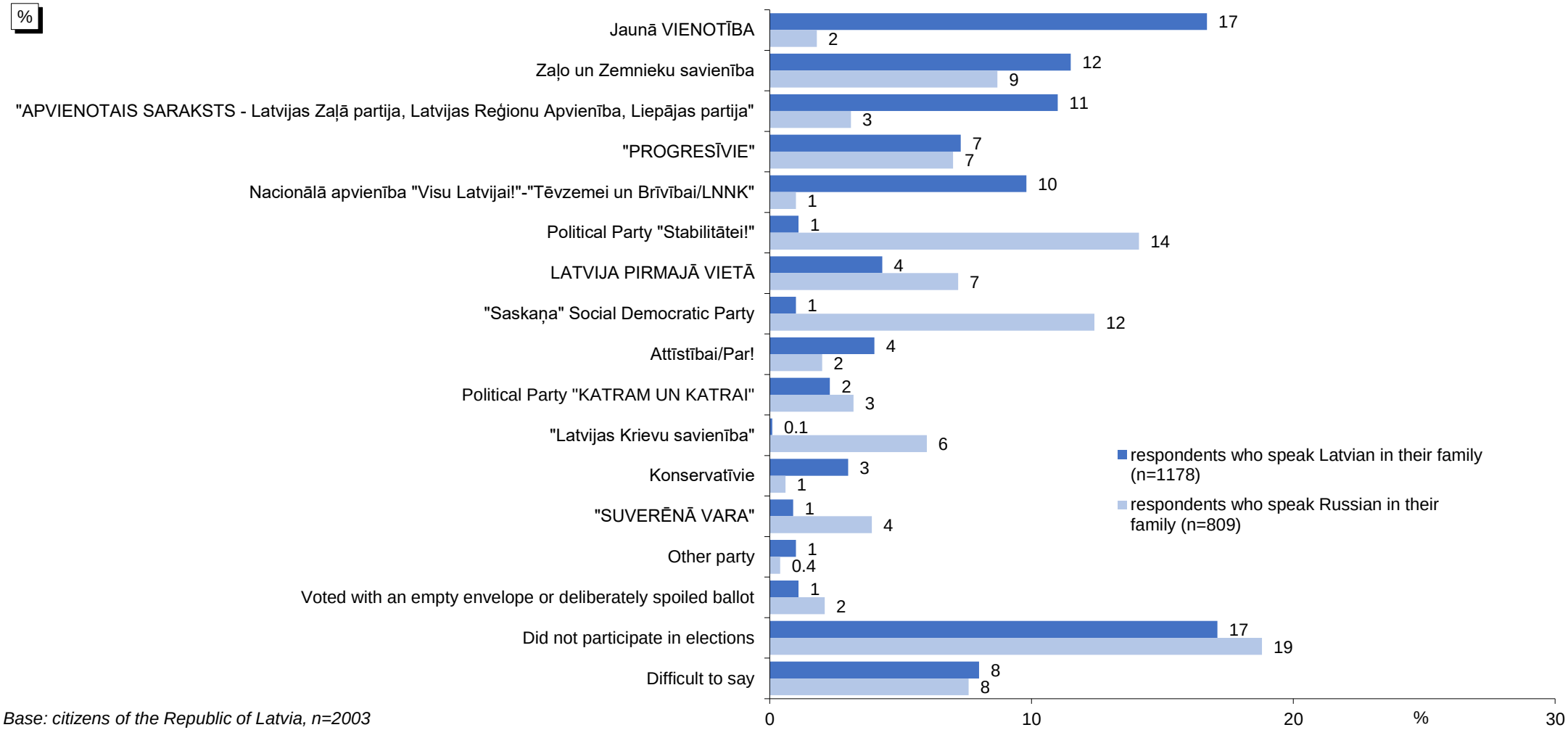


Base: citizens of the Republic of Latvia, n=2003

3. Electoral choices in the parliament elections of 2022

C1. "Please indicate which political party or alliance you voted for in the elections of the 14th Saeima held on October 1, 2022!"

Answers depending on the language spoken in the family



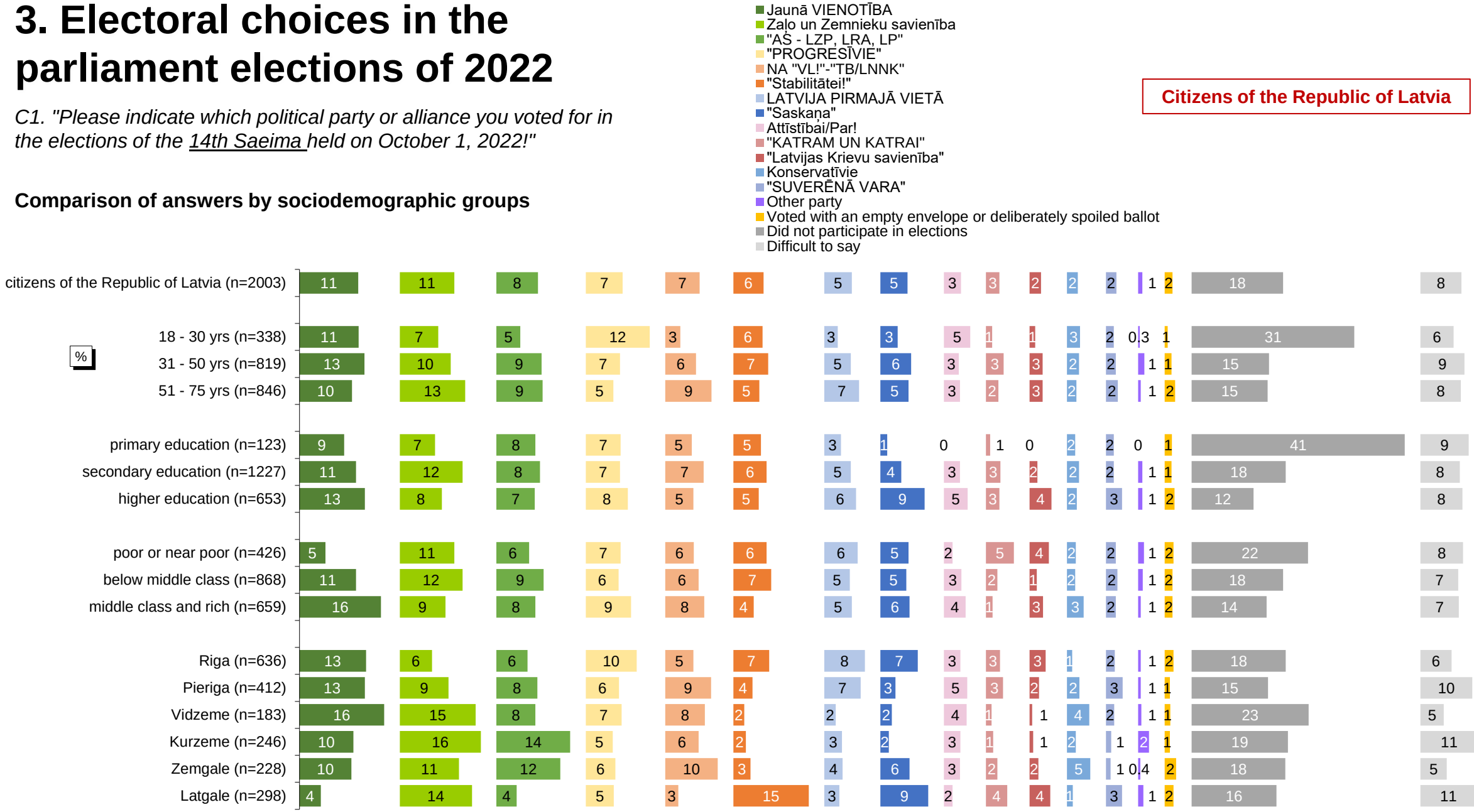
Base: citizens of the Republic of Latvia, n=2003

3. Electoral choices in the parliament elections of 2022

C1. "Please indicate which political party or alliance you voted for in the elections of the 14th Saeima held on October 1, 2022!"

Citizens of the Republic of Latvia

Comparison of answers by sociodemographic groups



Bases: citizens of the Republic of Latvia

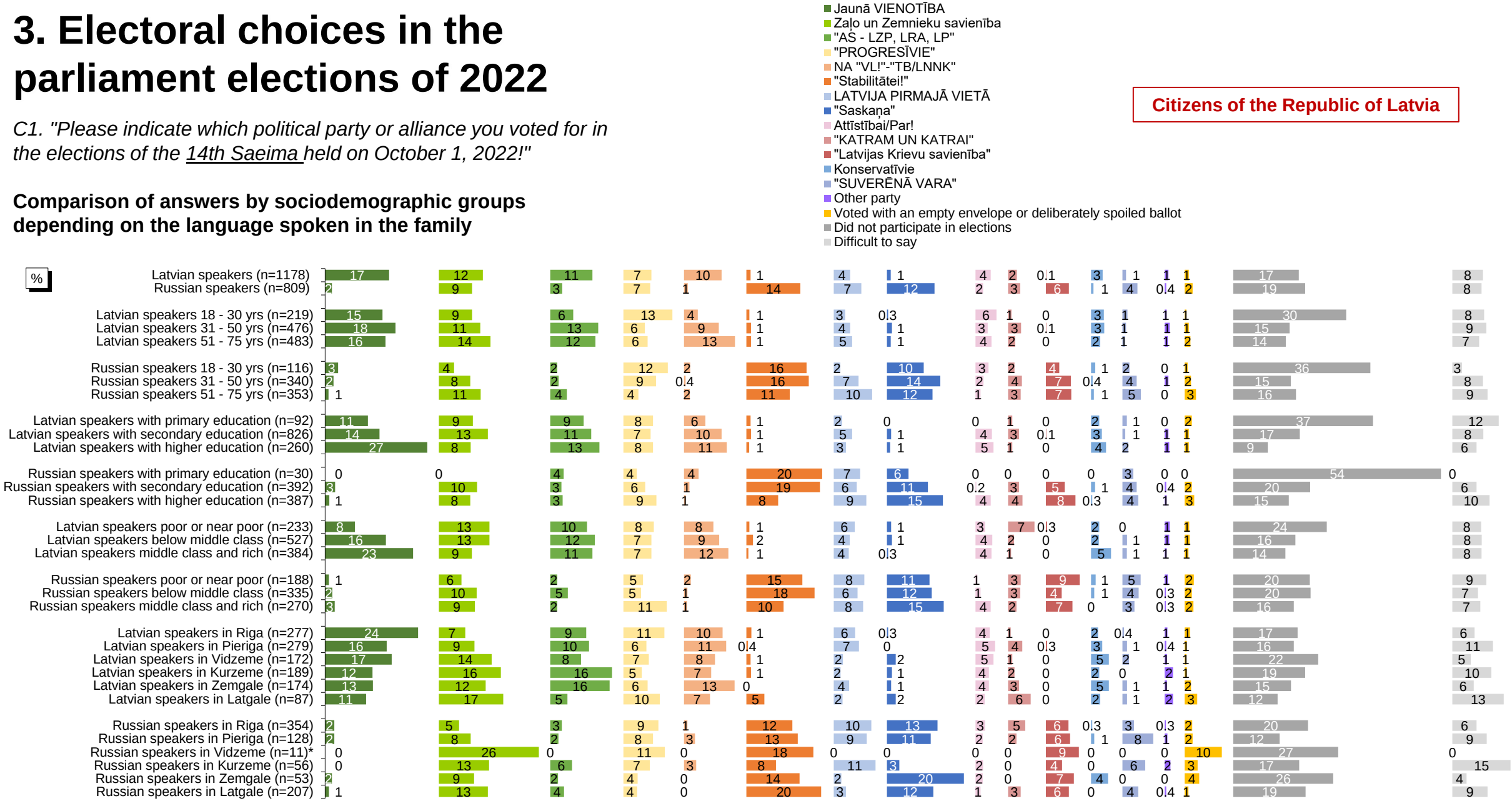
СПЕКТР Независимый Online-Журнал
SKDS RESEARCH CENTRE

3. Electoral choices in the parliament elections of 2022

C1. "Please indicate which political party or alliance you voted for in the elections of the 14th Saeima held on October 1, 2022!"

Citizens of the Republic of Latvia

Comparison of answers by sociodemographic groups depending on the language spoken in the family



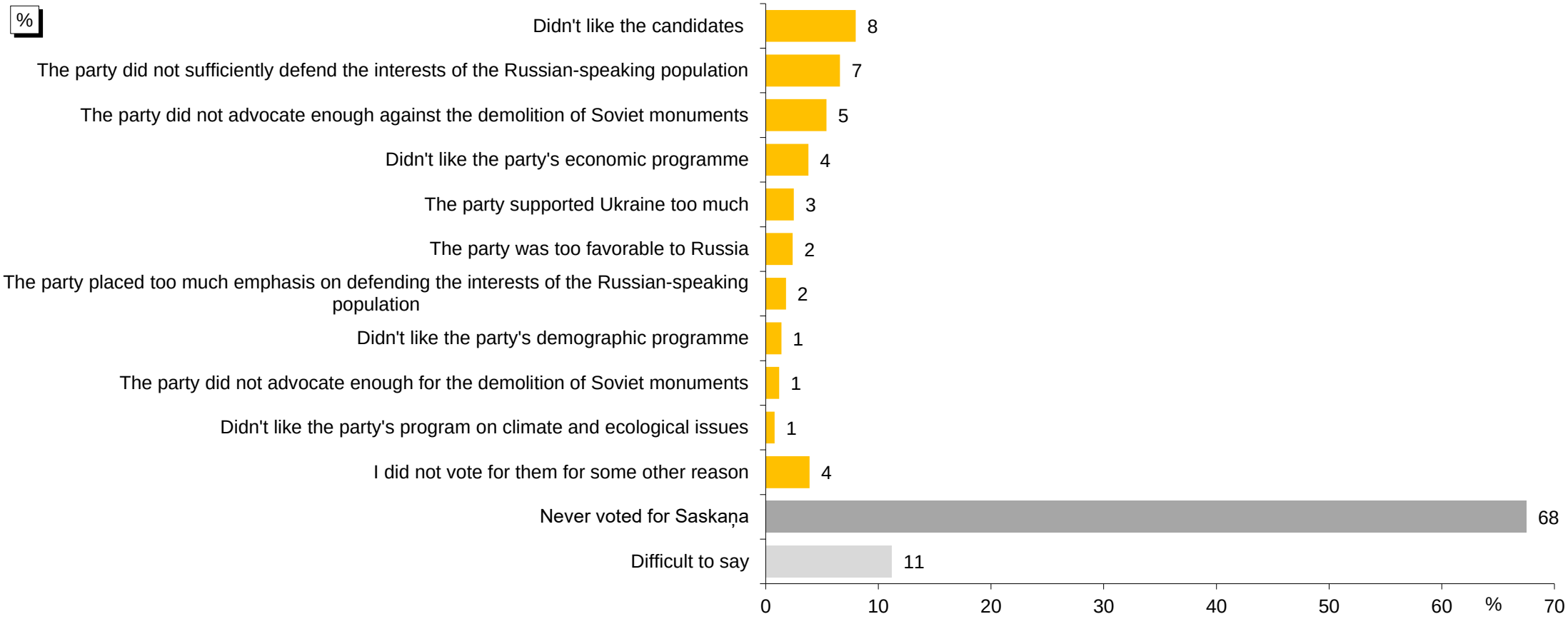
Bases: citizens of the Republic of Latvia

*The number of respondents is insufficient to draw credible conclusions.

3. Electoral choices in the parliament elections of 2022

Reasons for not voting for Saskaņa (I)

C4. "If you voted for Saskaņa in the Saeima elections before, why did you not vote for the Saskaņa in the last elections of the 14th Saeima, which took place on October 1, 2022?"



Base: citizens of the Republic of Latvia who did not vote for Saskaņa in the elections of the 14th Saeima, n=1888

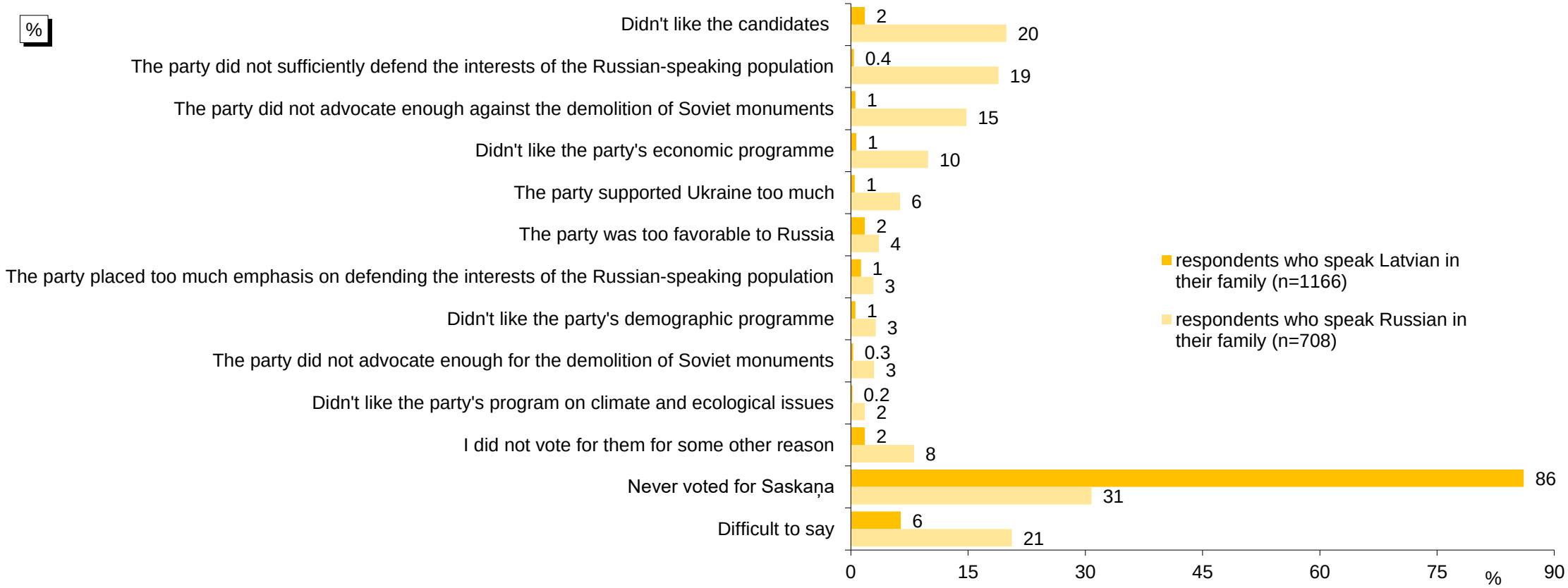
*As each respondent could name more than one answer, the total percentage of answers may exceed 100%.

3. Electoral choices in the parliament elections of 2022

Reasons for not voting for Saskaņa (II)

C4. "If you voted for Saskaņa in the Saeima elections before, why did you not vote for the Saskaņa in the last elections of the 14th Saeima, which took place on October 1, 2022?"

Answers depending on the language spoken in the family



Bases: citizens of the Republic of Latvia who did not vote for Saskaņa in the elections of the 14th Saeima

*As each respondent could name more than one answer, the total percentage of answers may exceed 100%.

3. Electoral choices in the parliament elections of 2022

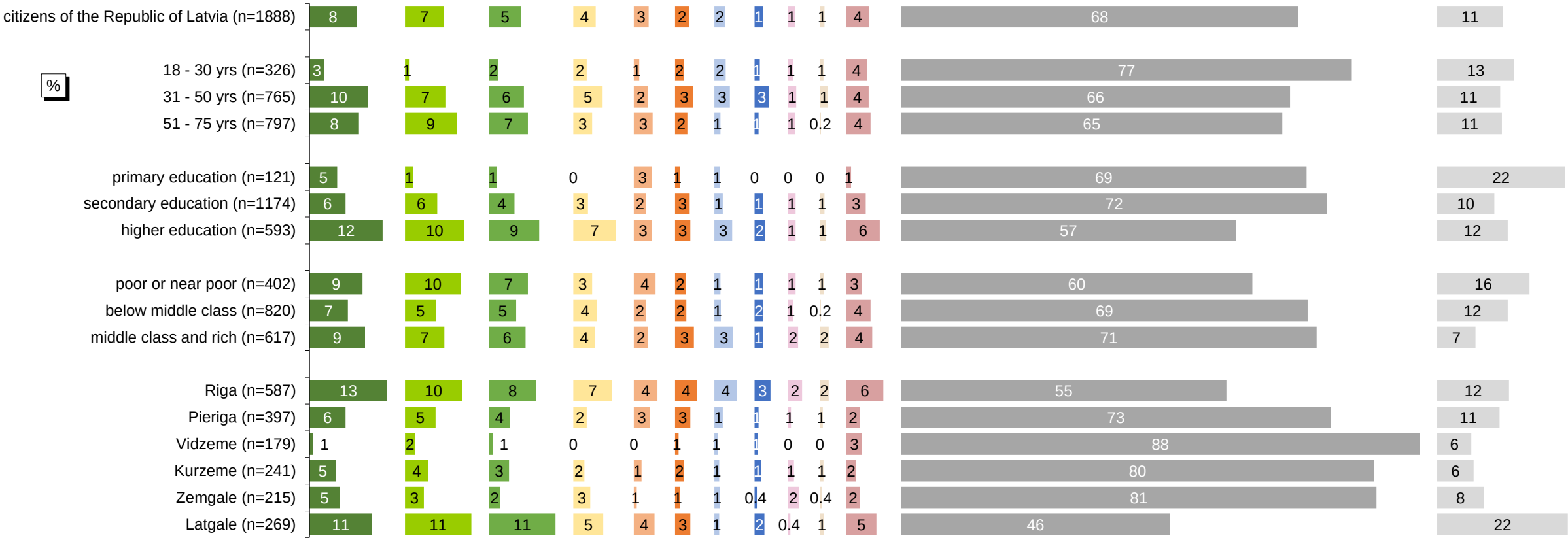
Reasons for not voting for Saskaņa (III)

C4. "If you voted for Saskaņa in the Saeima elections before, why did you not vote for the Saskaņa in the last elections of the 14th Saeima, which took place on October 1, 2022?"

Comparison of answers by sociodemographic groups

- Didn't like the candidates
- The party did not sufficiently defend the interests of the Russian-speaking population
- The party did not advocate enough against the demolition of Soviet monuments
- Didn't like the party's economic programme
- The party supported Ukraine too much
- The party was too favorable to Russia
- The party placed too much emphasis on defending the interests of the Russian-speaking population
- Didn't like the party's demographic programme
- The party did not advocate enough for the demolition of Soviet monuments
- Didn't like the party's program on climate and ecological issues
- I did not vote for them for some other reason
- Never voted for Saskaņa
- Difficult to say

Citizens of the Republic of Latvia



Bases: citizens of the Republic of Latvia who did not vote for Saskaņa in the elections of the 14th Saeima

*As each respondent could name more than one answer, the total percentage of answers may exceed 100%.

СПЕКТР Независимый Online-Журнал
SKDS RESEARCH CENTRE

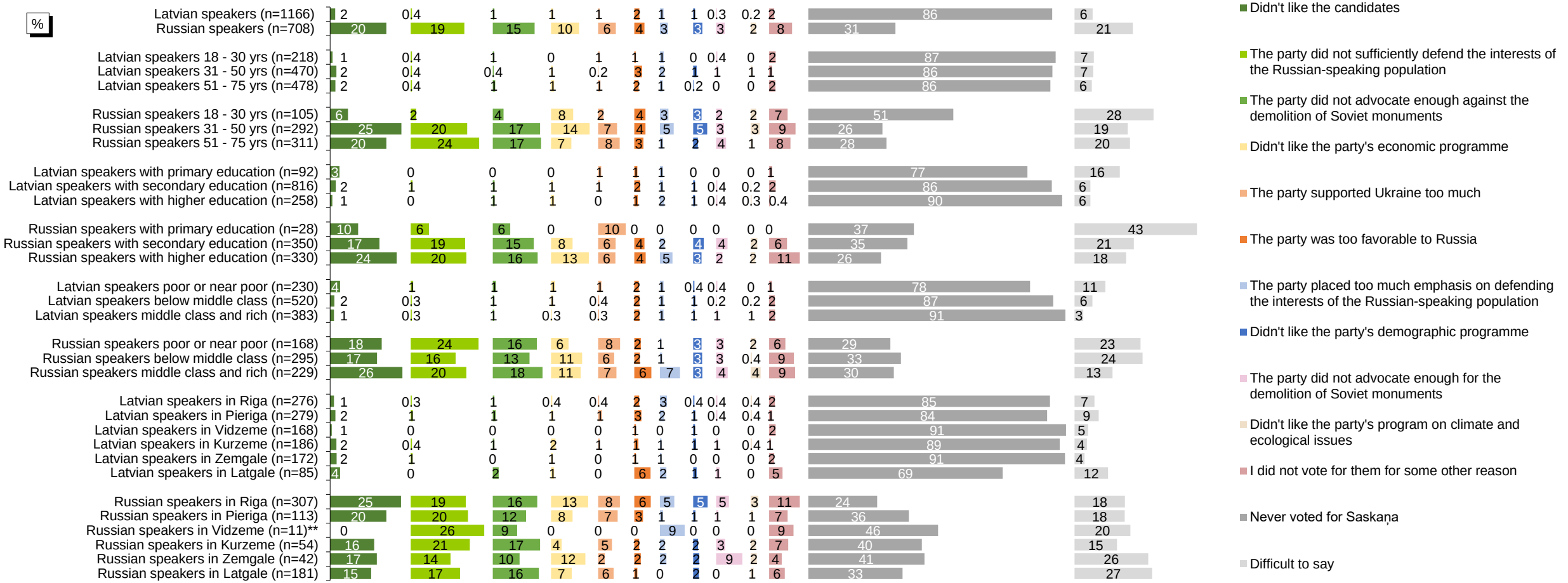
3. Electoral choices in the parliament elections of 2022

Reasons for not voting for Saskaņa (IV)

Citizens of the Republic of Latvia

C4. "If you voted for Saskaņa in the Saeima elections before, why did you not vote for the Saskaņa in the last elections of the 14th Saeima, which took place on October 1, 2022?"

Comparison of answers by sociodemographic groups depending on the language spoken in the family



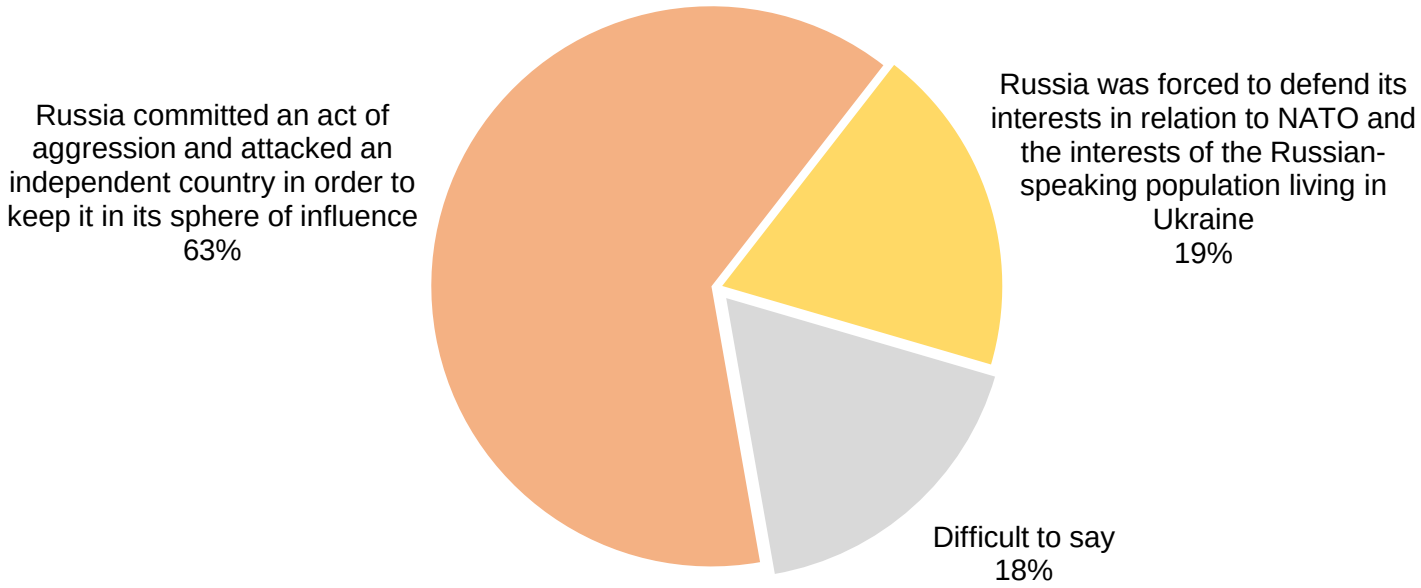
Bases: citizens of the Republic of Latvia who did not vote for Saskaņa in the elections of the 14th Saeima

*As each respondent could name more than one answer, the total percentage of answers may exceed 100%.
**The number of respondents is insufficient to draw credible conclusions.

4. Views on war in Ukraine

4. Views on war in Ukraine

L1. "Some people believe that what is happening in Ukraine can be described as: "Russia committed an act of aggression and attacked an independent country in order to keep it in its sphere of influence". Others believe that the situation can rather be described as "Russia was forced to defend its interests in relation to NATO and the interests of the Russian-speaking population living in Ukraine". Which of these statements do you agree with the most?"

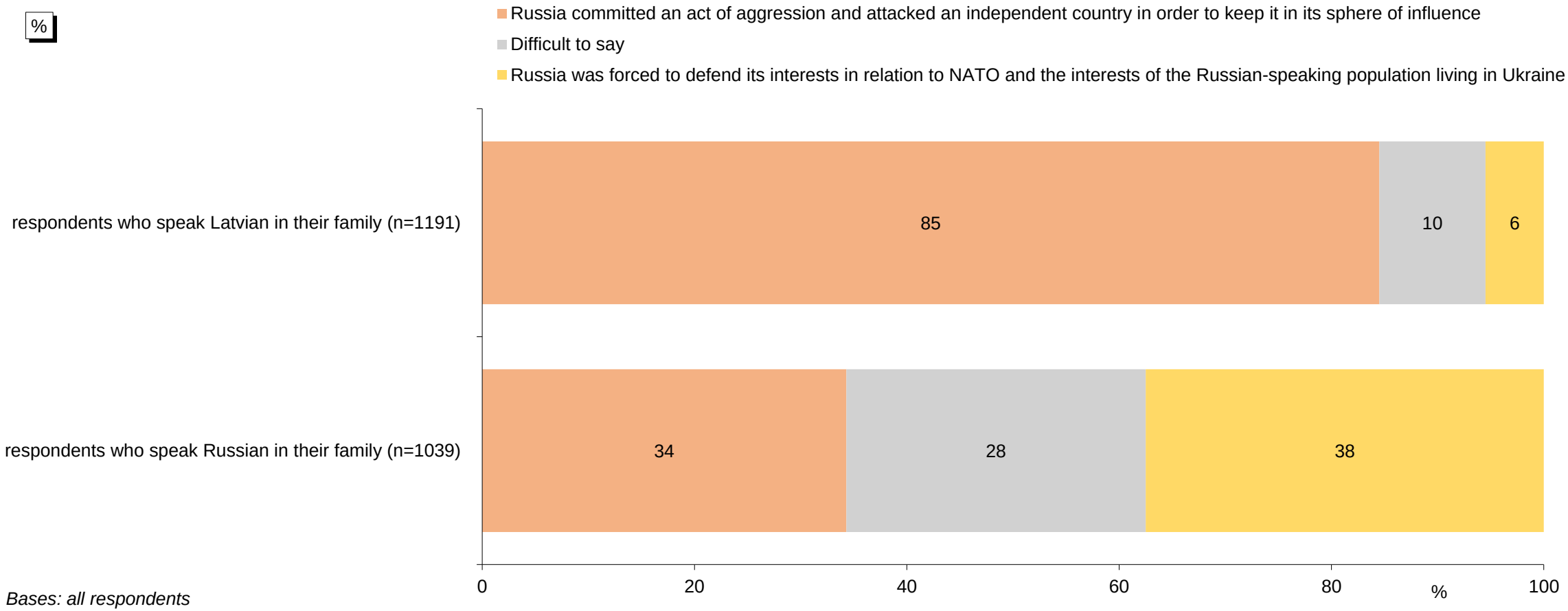


Base: all respondents, n=2251

4. Views on war in Ukraine

L1. "Some people believe that what is happening in Ukraine can be described as: "Russia committed an act of aggression and attacked an independent country in order to keep it in its sphere of influence". Others believe that the situation can rather be described as "Russia was forced to defend its interests in relation to NATO and the interests of the Russian-speaking population living in Ukraine". Which of these statements do you agree with the most?"

Answers depending on the language spoken in the family

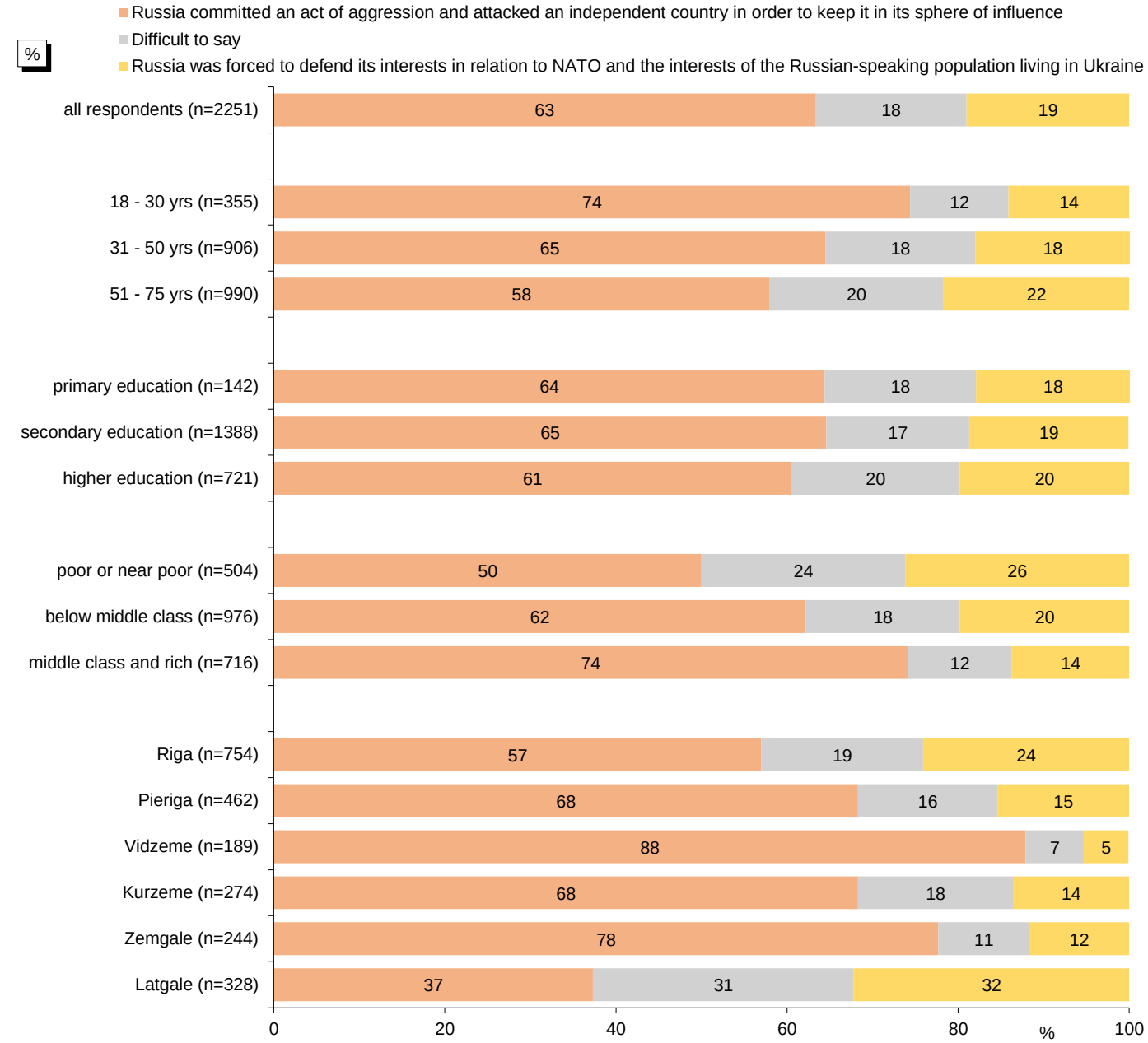


Bases: all respondents

4. Views on war in Ukraine

L1. "Some people believe that what is happening in Ukraine can be described as: "Russia committed an act of aggression and attacked an independent country in order to keep it in its sphere of influence". Others believe that the situation can rather be described as "Russia was forced to defend its interests in relation to NATO and the interests of the Russian-speaking population living in Ukraine". Which of these statements do you agree with the most?"

Comparison of answers by sociodemographic groups



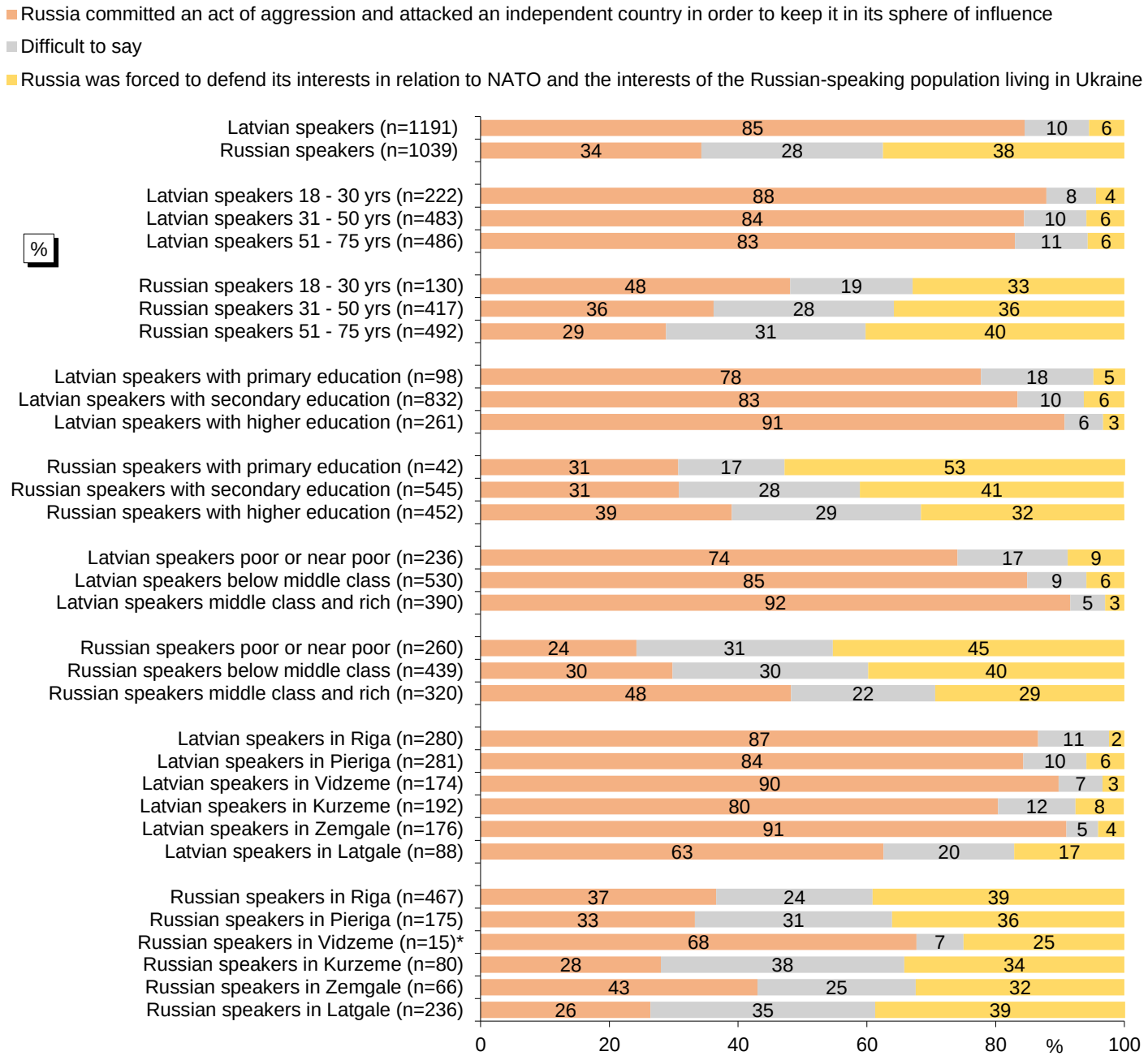
Bases: all respondents

4. Views on war in Ukraine

L1. "Some people believe that what is happening in Ukraine can be described as: "Russia committed an act of aggression and attacked an independent country in order to keep it in its sphere of influence". Others believe that the situation can rather be described as "Russia was forced to defend its interests in relation to NATO and the interests of the Russian-speaking population living in Ukraine". Which of these statements do you agree with the most?"

Comparison of answers by sociodemographic groups depending on the language spoken in the family

*The number of respondents is insufficient to draw credible conclusions.



Bases: all respondents

4. Views on war in Ukraine

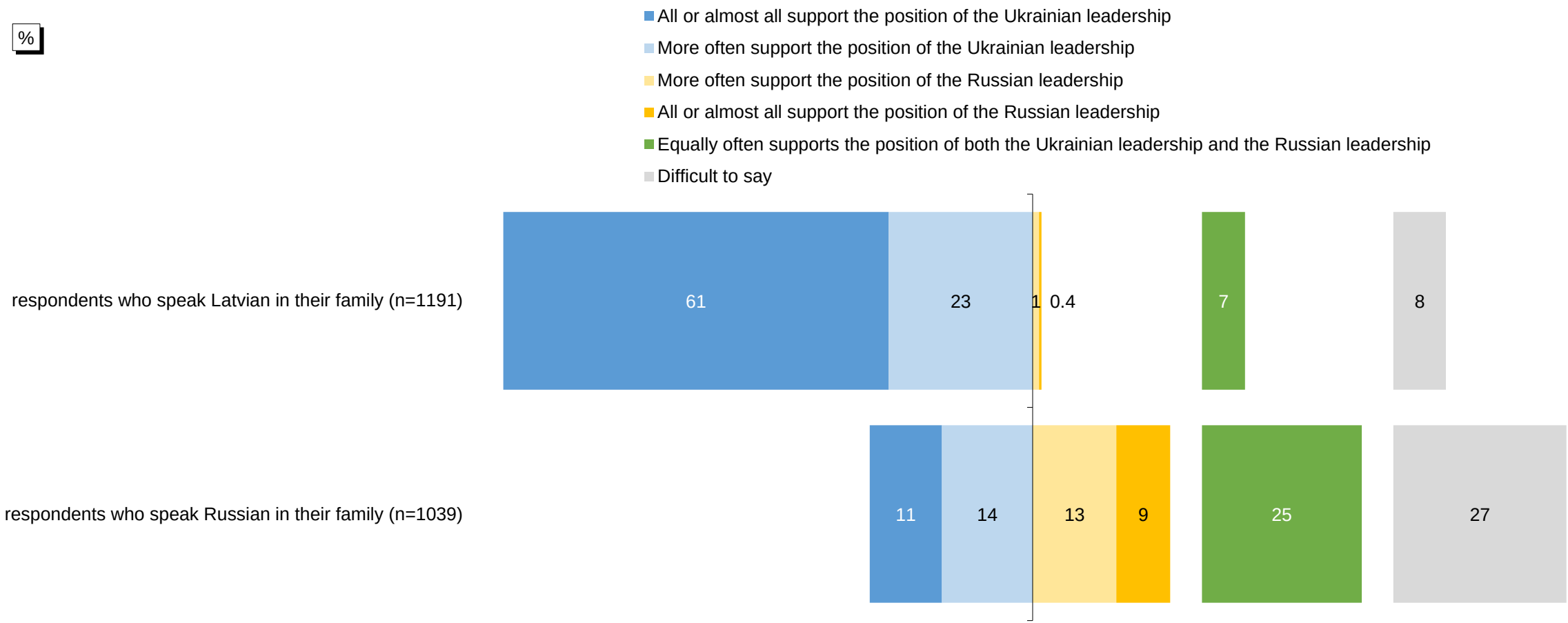
L2. "There may be different opinions among our friends and relatives about what is happening in Ukraine. Who is more supported by people close to you - the position of the Ukrainian or Russian leadership?"

Base: all respondents, n=2251

4. Views on war in Ukraine

L2. "There may be different opinions among our friends and relatives about what is happening in Ukraine. Who is more supported by people close to you - the position of the Ukrainian or Russian leadership?"

Answers depending on the language spoken in the family

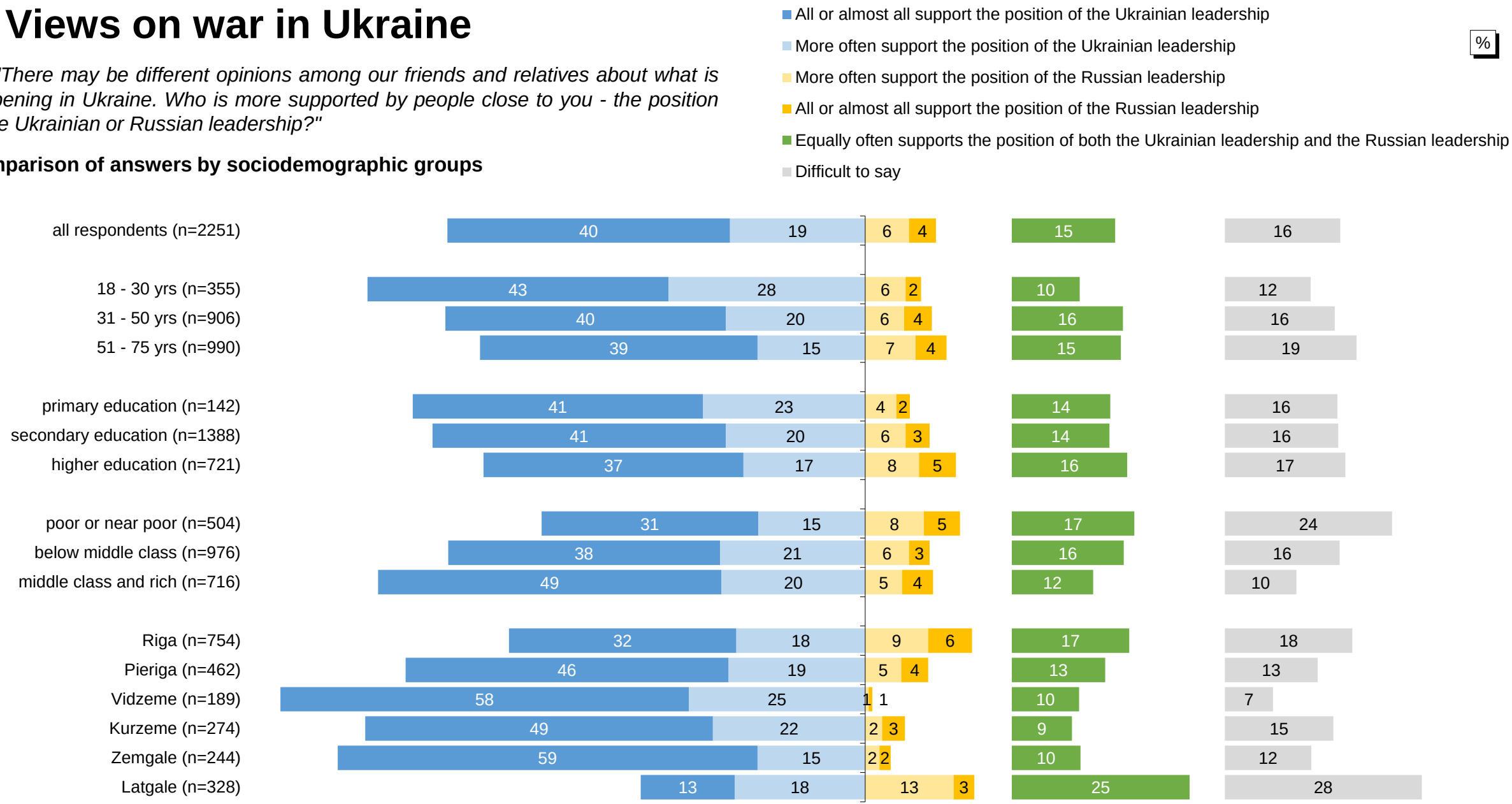


Bases: all respondents

4. Views on war in Ukraine

L2. "There may be different opinions among our friends and relatives about what is happening in Ukraine. Who is more supported by people close to you - the position of the Ukrainian or Russian leadership?"

Comparison of answers by sociodemographic groups

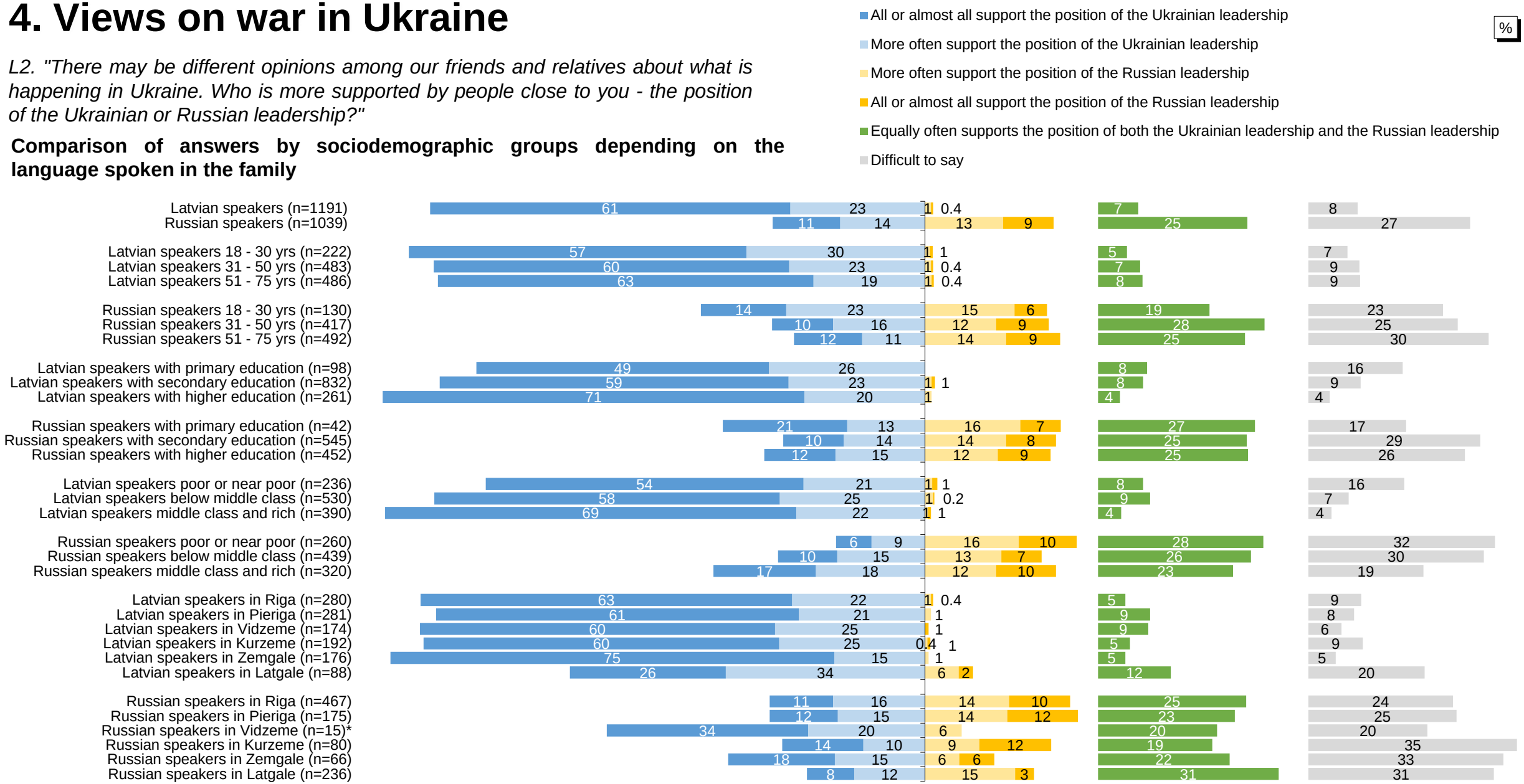


Bases: all respondents

4. Views on war in Ukraine

L2. "There may be different opinions among our friends and relatives about what is happening in Ukraine. Who is more supported by people close to you - the position of the Ukrainian or Russian leadership?"

Comparison of answers by sociodemographic groups depending on the language spoken in the family



Bases: all respondents

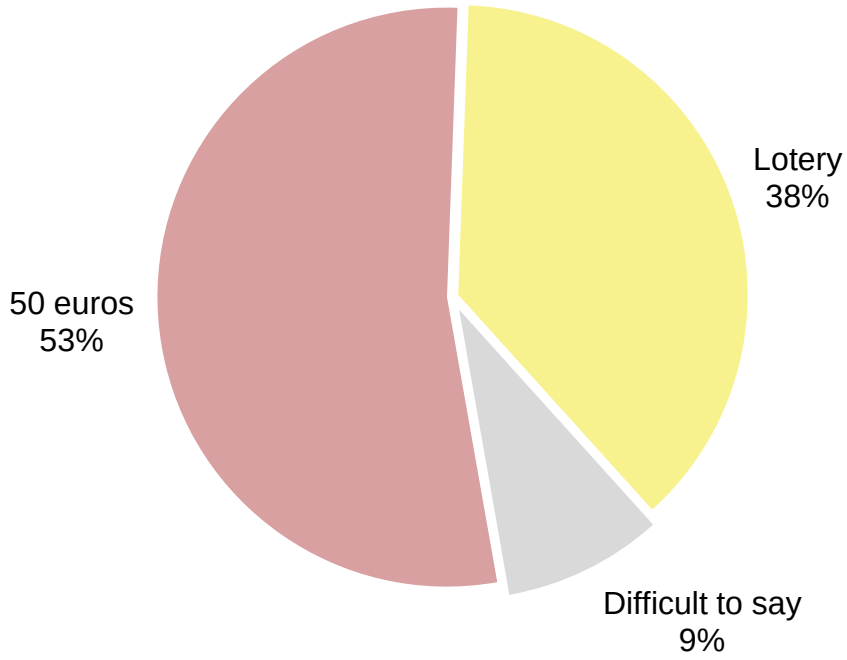
*The number of respondents is insufficient to draw credible conclusions.

СПЕКТР Независимый Online-Журнал
SKDS RESEARCH CENTRE

5. Risk tolerance of Latvian residents

5. Risk tolerance of Latvian residents

B1. "Imagine that you are participating in a game where you have two choices. The first option is a guaranteed prize of €50. The second option is to participate in a lottery where one ticket out of 10 has a prize of €1000, and the other 9 tickets are blank. Which option will you choose?"

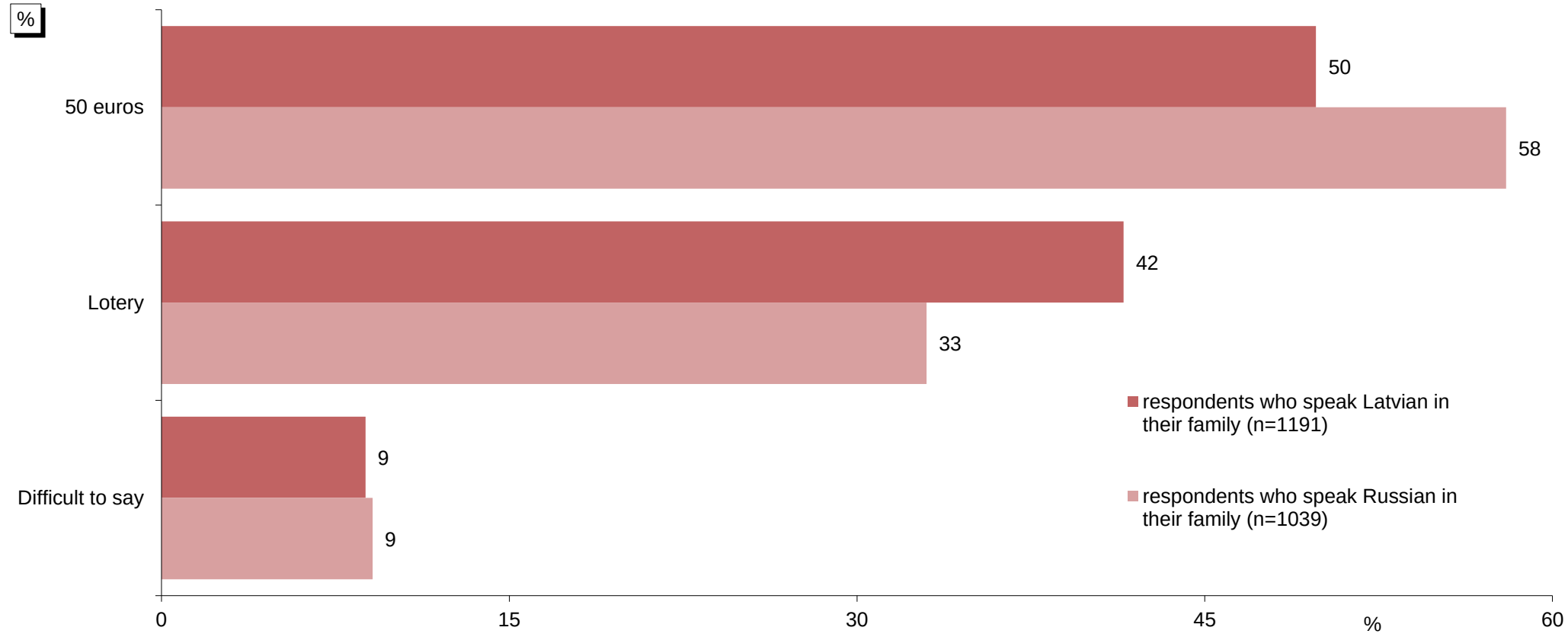


Base: all respondents, n=2251

5. Risk tolerance of Latvian residents

B1. "Imagine that you are participating in a game where you have two choices. The first option is a guaranteed prize of €50. The second option is to participate in a lottery where one ticket out of 10 has a prize of €1000, and the other 9 tickets are blank. Which option will you choose?"

Answers depending on the language spoken in the family

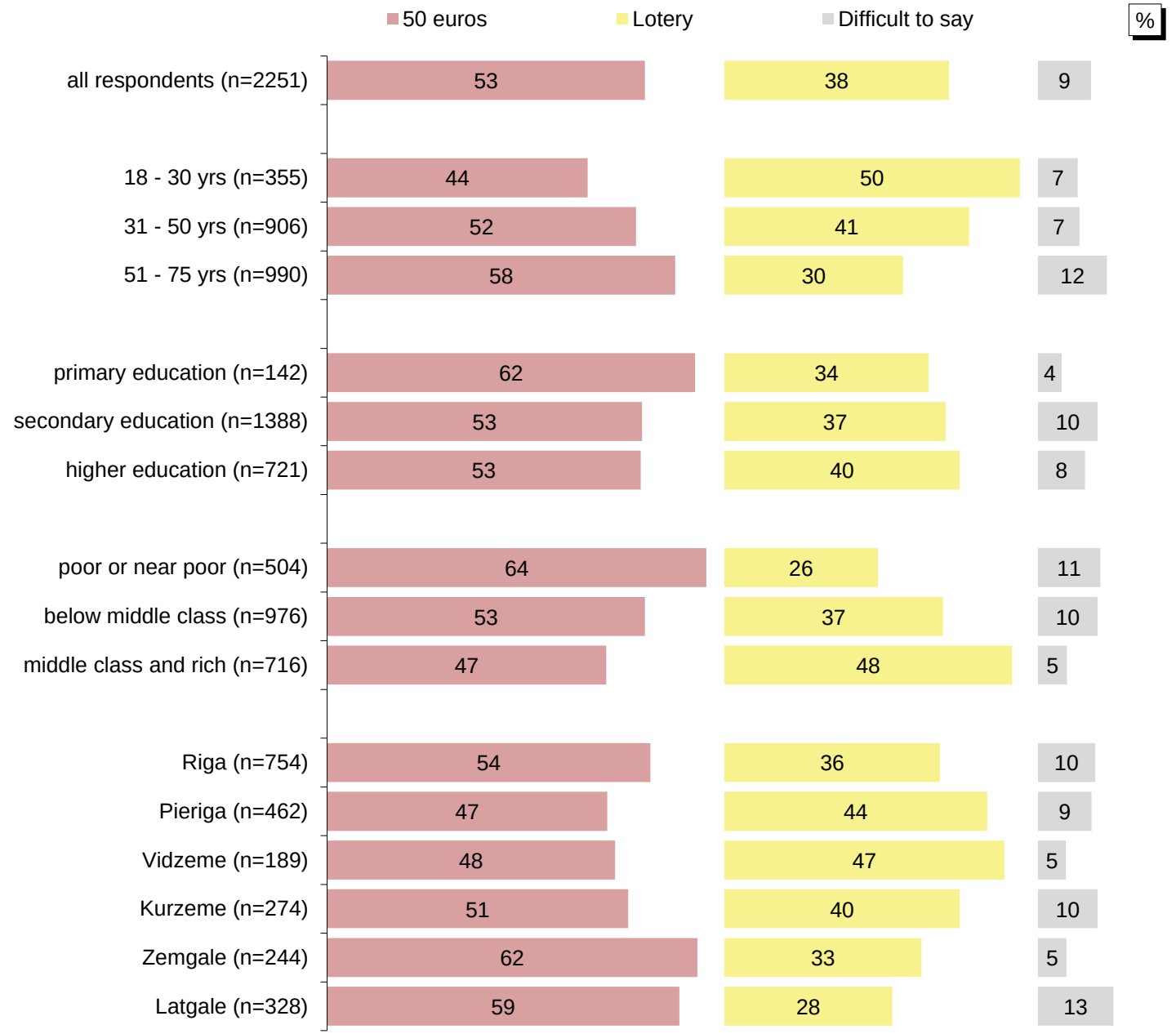


Bases: all respondents

5. Risk tolerance of Latvian residents

B1. "Imagine that you are participating in a game where you have two choices. The first option is a guaranteed prize of €50. The second option is to participate in a lottery where one ticket out of 10 has a prize of €1000, and the other 9 tickets are blank. Which option will you choose?"

Comparison of answers by sociodemographic groups



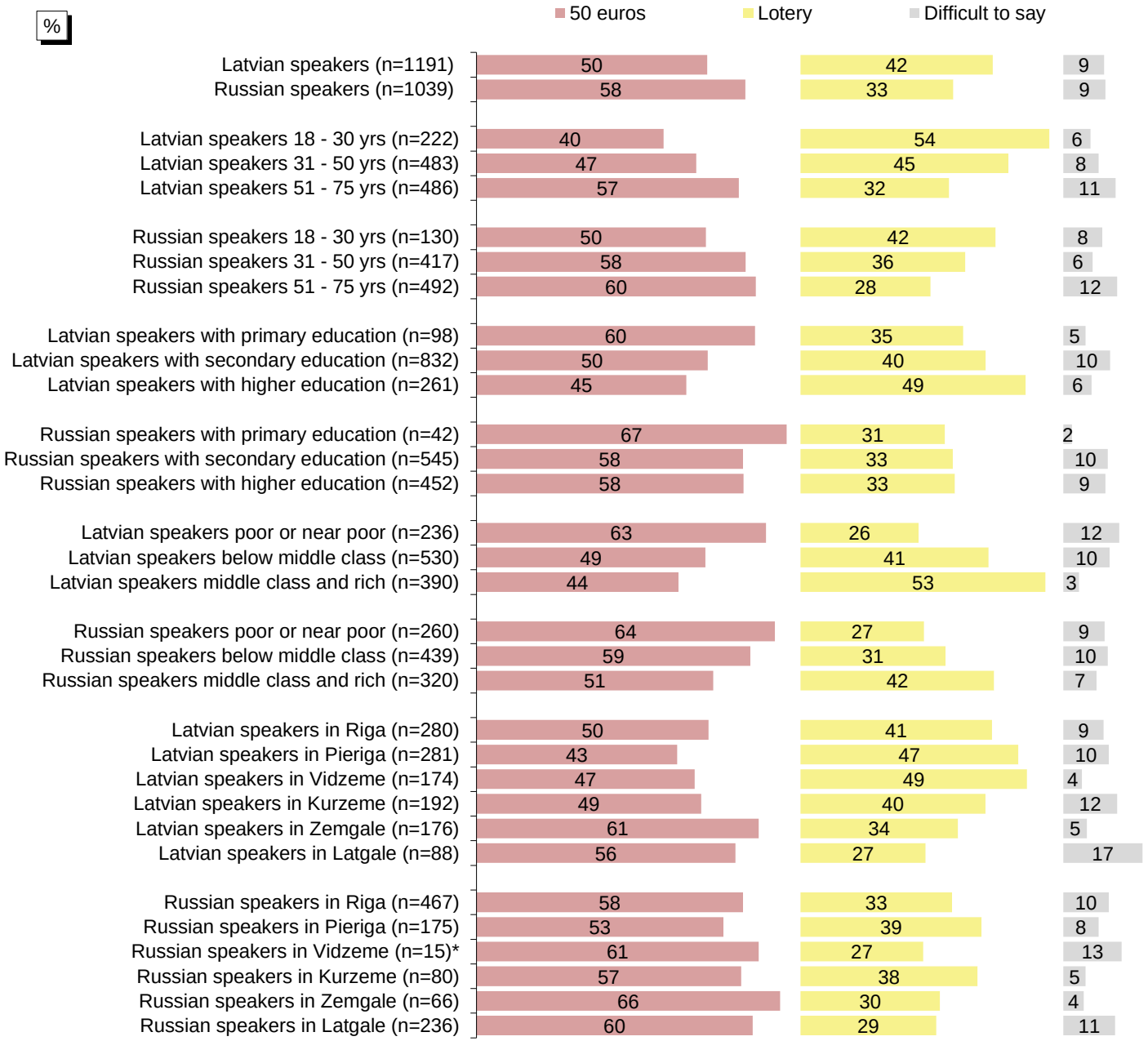
Bases: all respondents

5. Risk tolerance of Latvian residents

B1. "Imagine that you are participating in a game where you have two choices. The first option is a guaranteed prize of €50. The second option is to participate in a lottery where one ticket out of 10 has a prize of €1000, and the other 9 tickets are blank. Which option will you choose?"

Comparison of answers by sociodemographic groups depending on the language spoken in the family

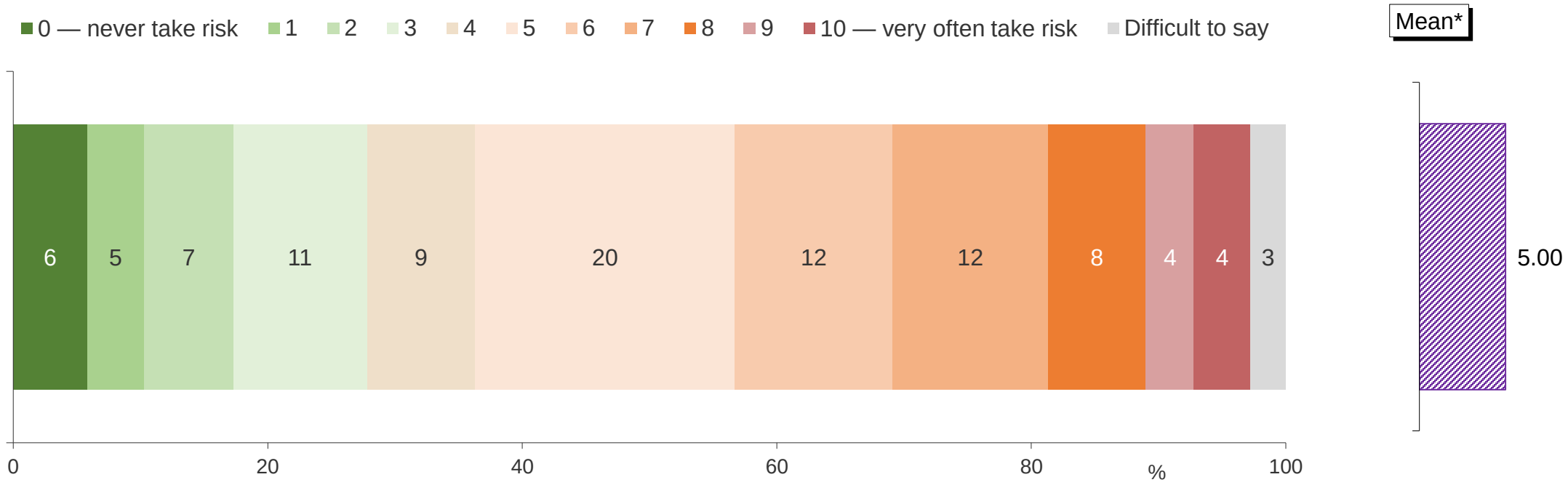
*The number of respondents is insufficient to draw credible conclusions.



Bases: all respondents

5. Risk tolerance of Latvian residents

B2. "On a scale of 0 to 10, where 0 is "never take risk" and 10 is "very often take risk", how often in your life do you take risk?"



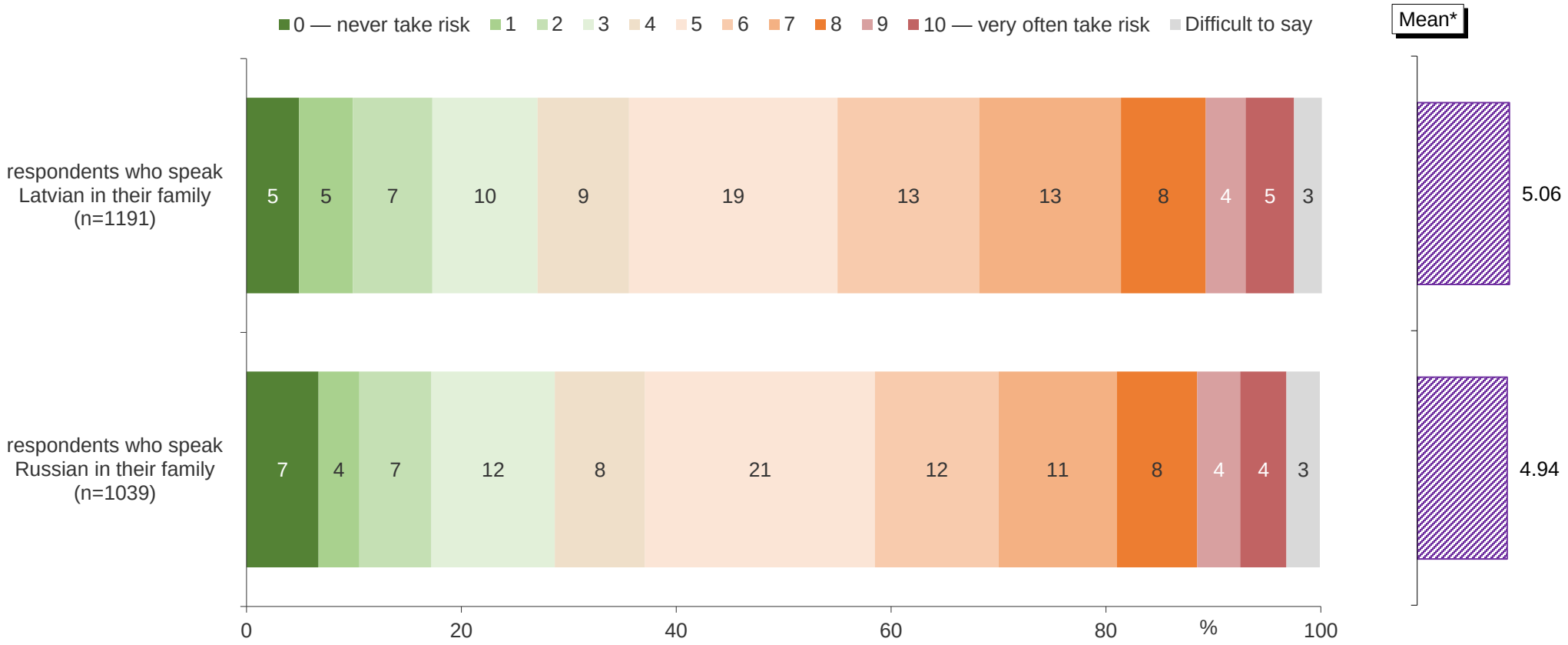
Base: all respondents, n=2251

*Base for mean value: respondents who have provided a specific response (the frequency of the response "*difficult to say*" has not been counted).

5. Risk tolerance of Latvian residents

B2. "On a scale of 0 to 10, where 0 is "never take risk" and 10 is "very often take risk", how often in your life do you take risk?"

Answers depending on the language spoken in the family



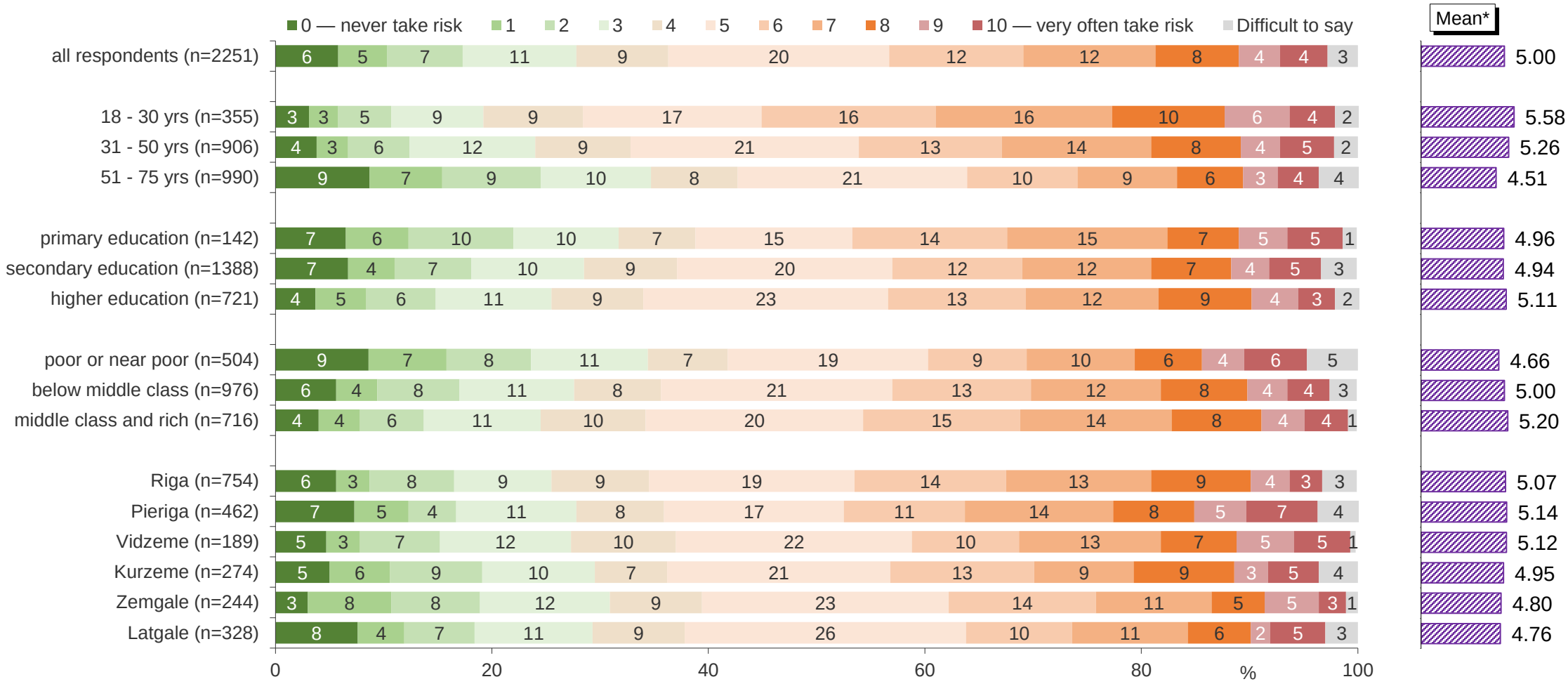
Bases: all respondents

*Base for mean value: respondents who have provided a specific response (the frequency of the response "*difficult to say*" has not been counted).

5. Risk tolerance of Latvian residents

B2. "On a scale of 0 to 10, where 0 is "never take risk" and 10 is "very often take risk", how often in your life do you take risk?"

Comparison of answers by sociodemographic groups



Bases: all respondents

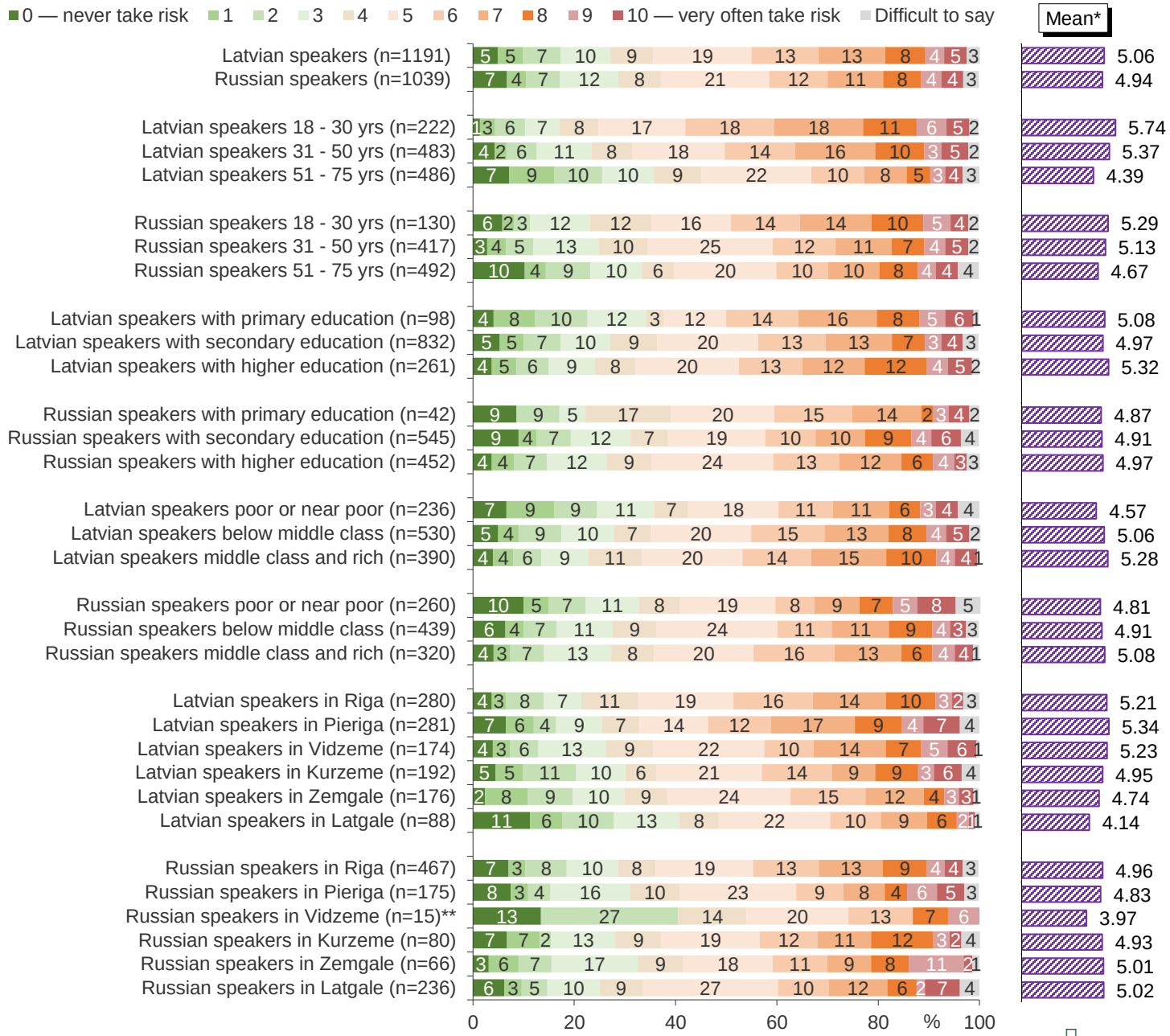
*Base for mean value: respondents who have provided a specific response (the frequency of the response "*difficult to say*" has not been counted).

5. Risk tolerance of Latvian residents

B2. "On a scale of 0 to 10, where 0 is "never take risk" and 10 is "very often take risk", how often in your life do you take risk?"

Comparison of answers by sociodemographic groups depending on the language spoken in the family

*Base for mean value: respondents who have provided a specific response (the frequency of the response "*difficult to say*" has not been counted).
**The number of respondents is insufficient to draw credible conclusions.

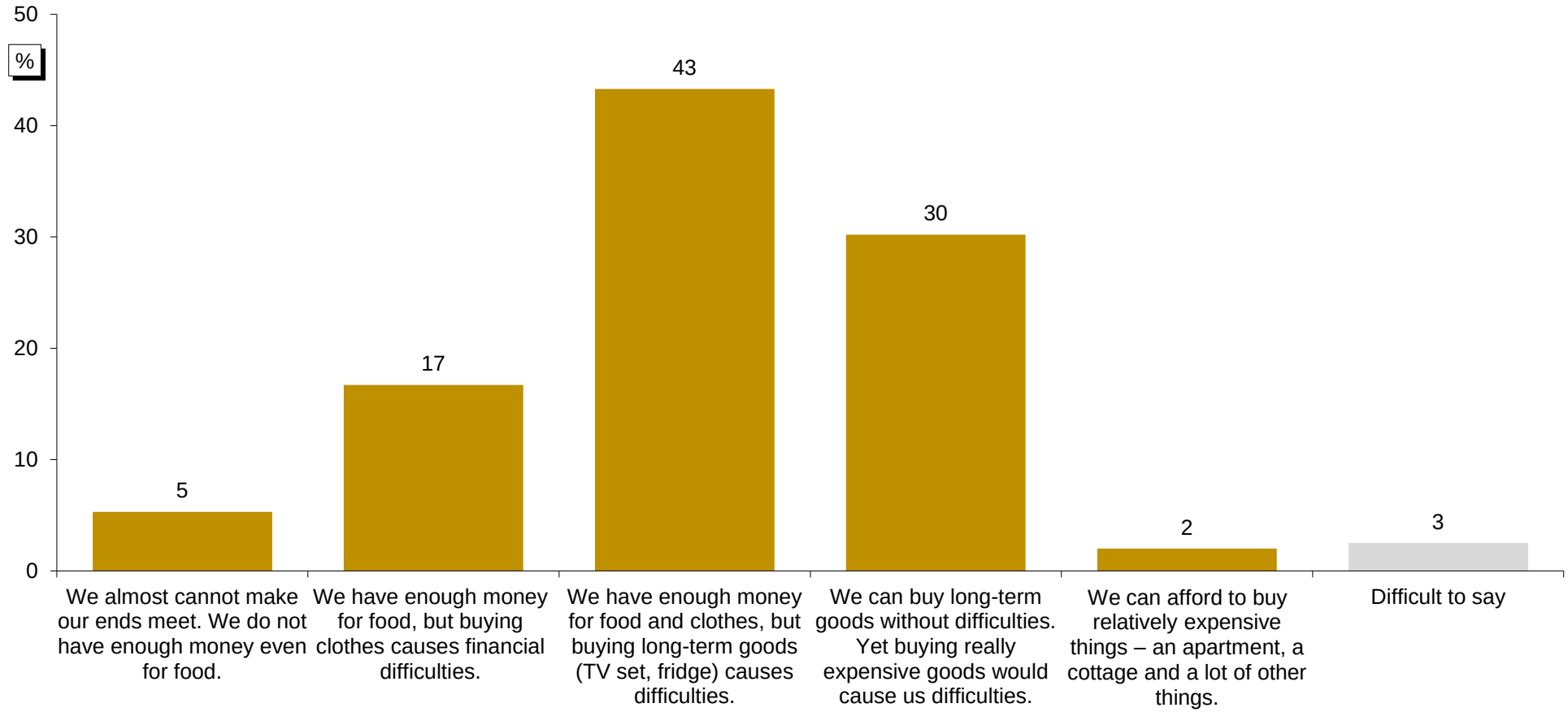


Bases: all respondents

6. Perception of income levels

6. Perception of income levels

B3. "Please describe the level of income in <u>your current family</u>!"

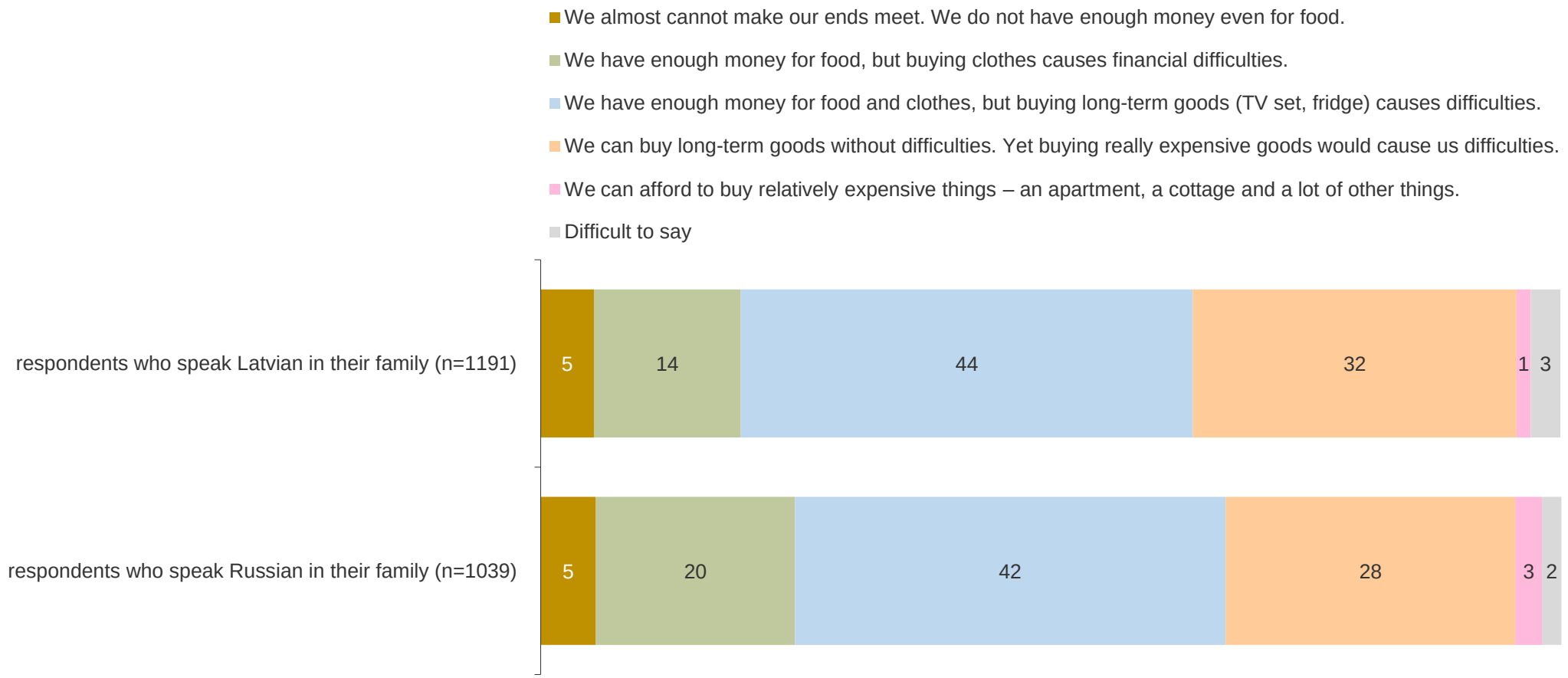


Base: all respondents, n=2251

6. Perception of income levels

B3. "Please describe the level of income in <u>your current family</u>!"

Answers depending on the language spoken in the family

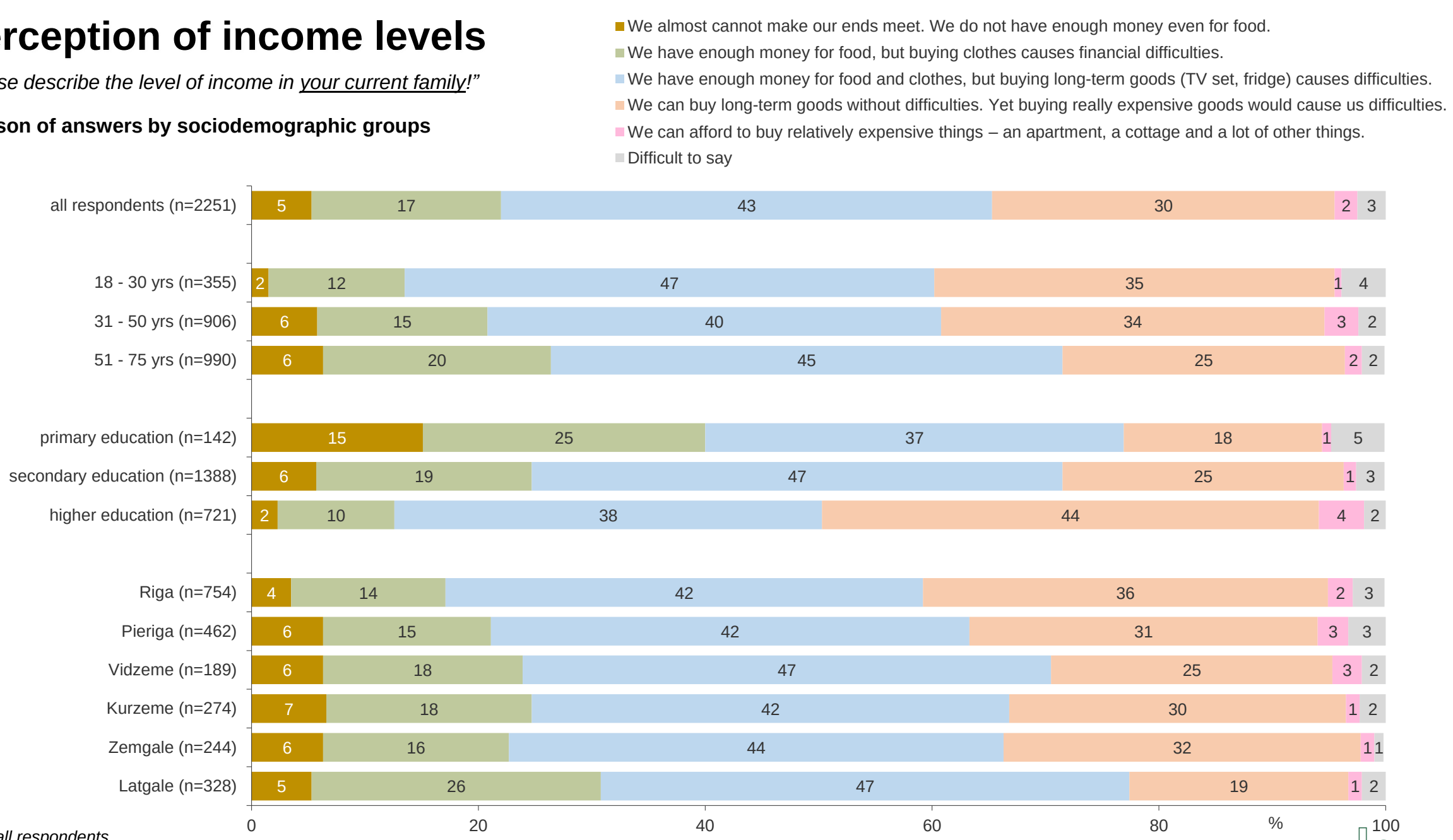


Bases: all respondents

6. Perception of income levels

B3. "Please describe the level of income in your current family!"

Comparison of answers by sociodemographic groups

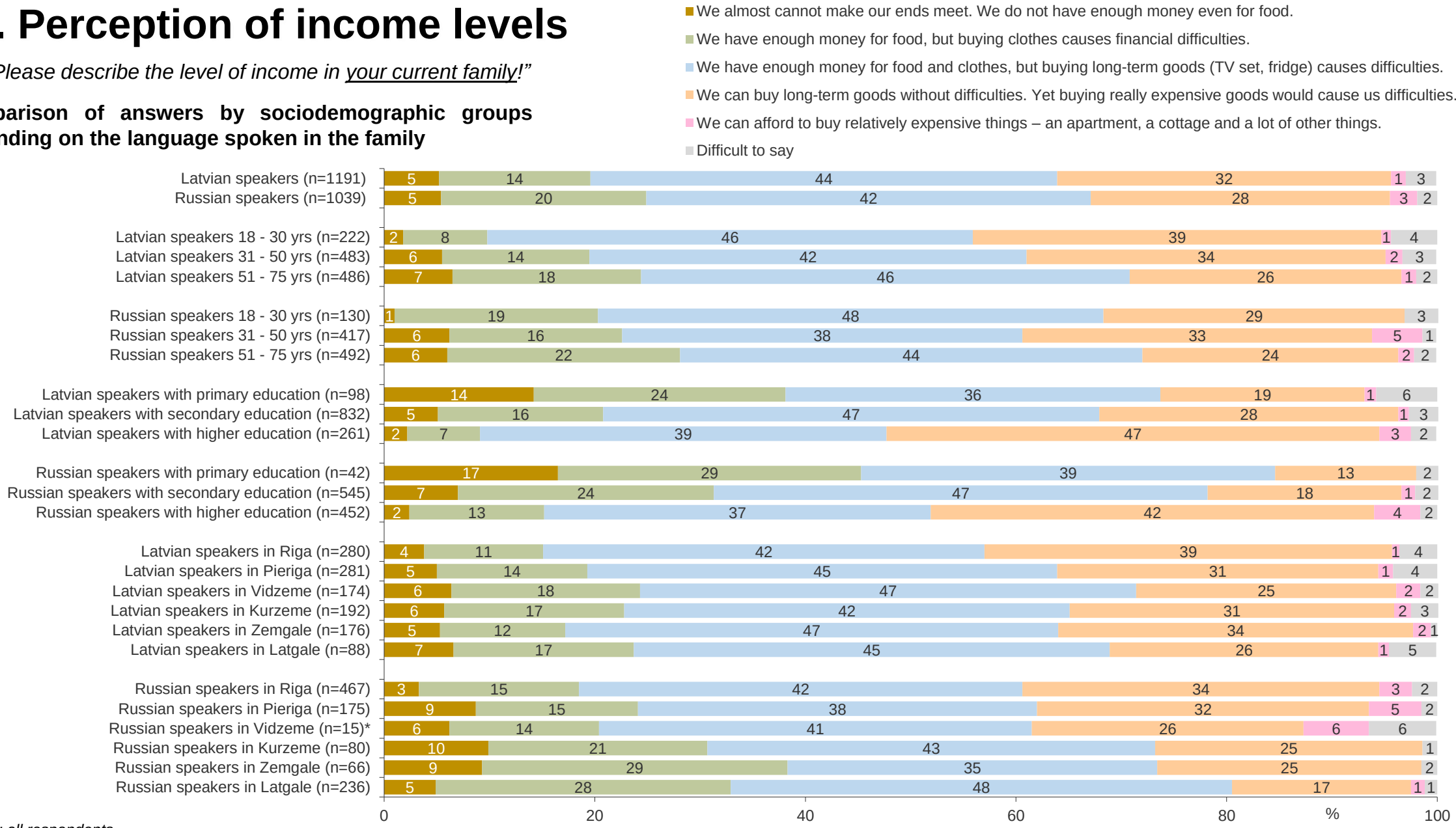


Bases: all respondents

6. Perception of income levels

B3. "Please describe the level of income in your current family!"

Comparison of answers by sociodemographic groups depending on the language spoken in the family

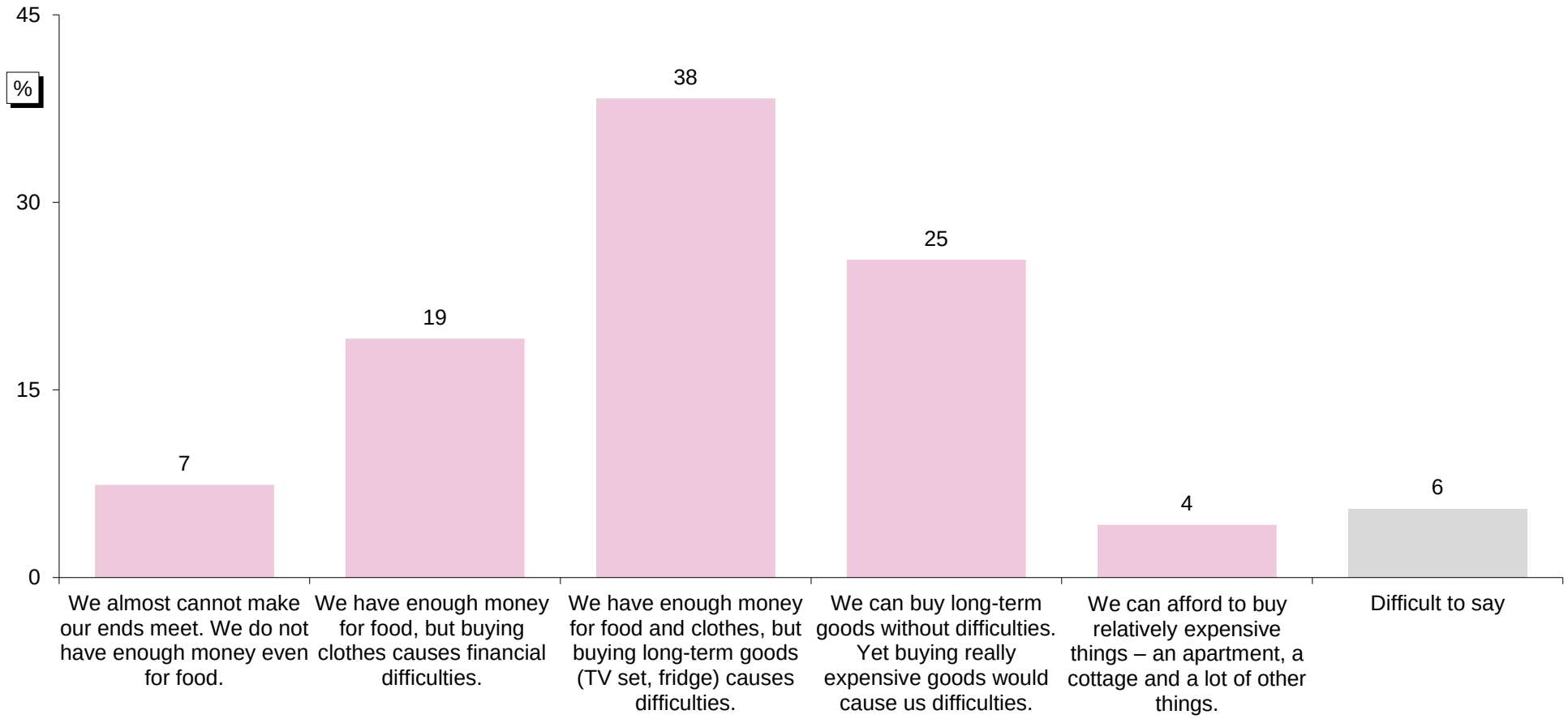


Bases: all respondents

*The number of respondents is insufficient to draw credible conclusions.

6. Perception of income levels

B4. "Please describe the level of income in your childhood!"

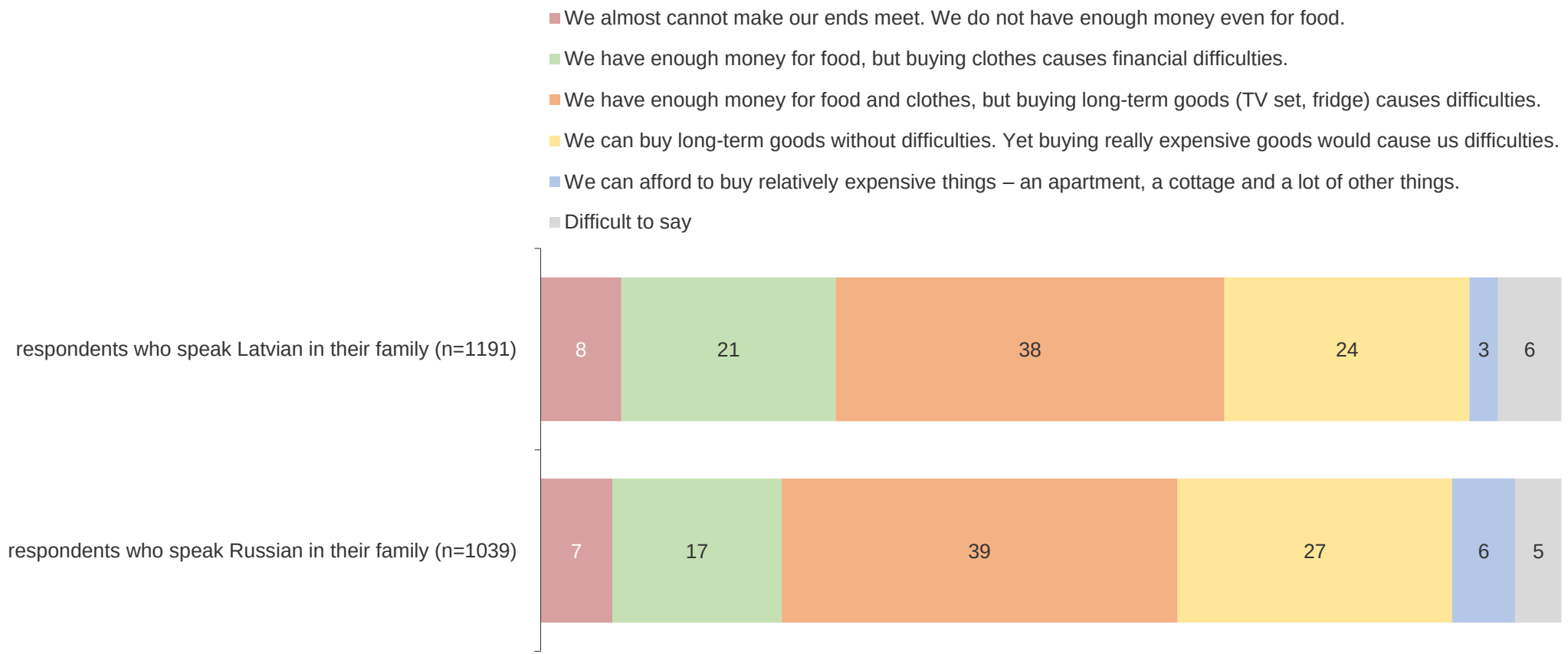


Base: all respondents, n=2251

6. Perception of income levels

B4. "Please describe the level of income in <u>your childhood</u>!"

Answers depending on the language spoken in the family

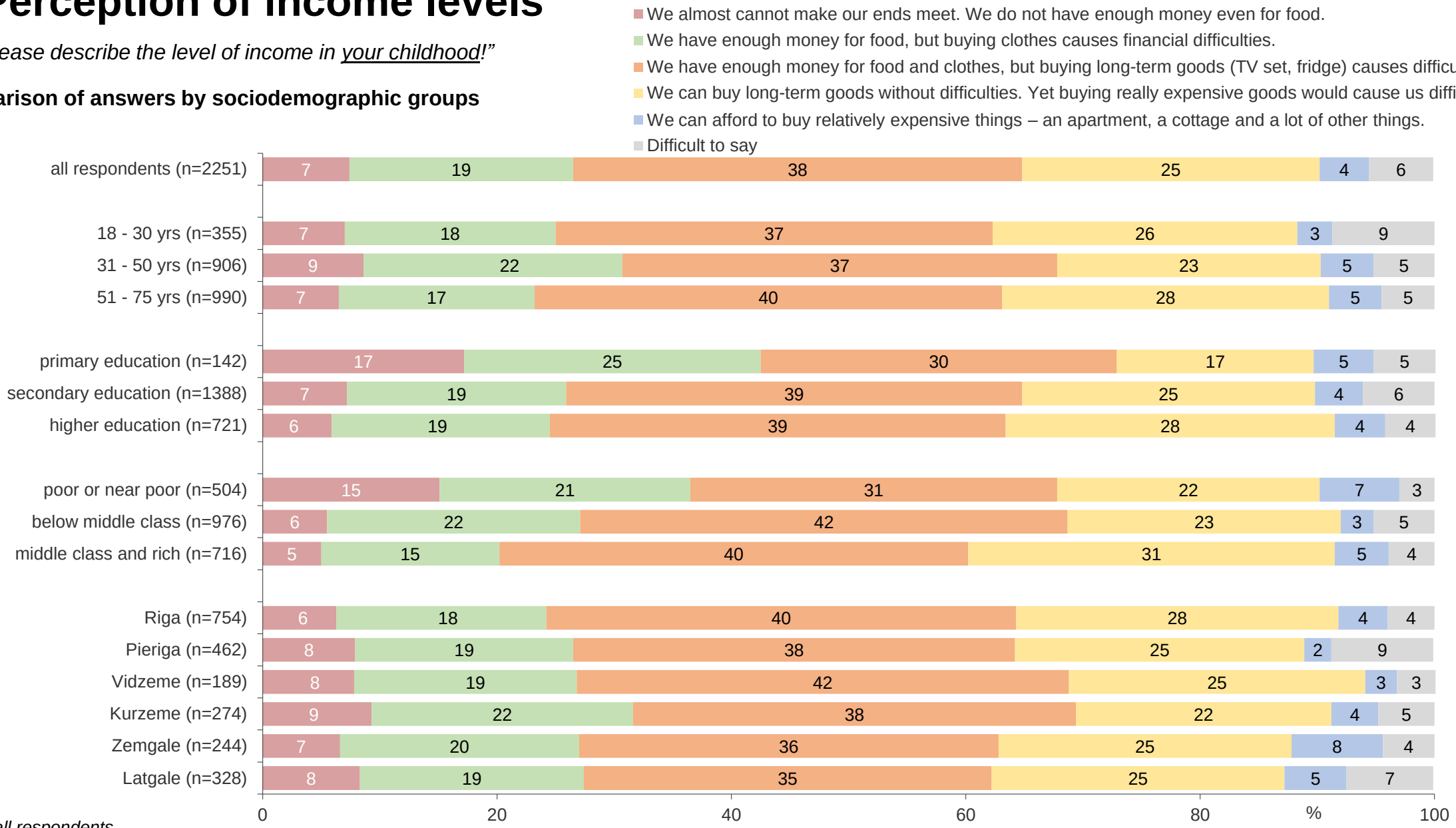


Bases: all respondents

6. Perception of income levels

B4. "Please describe the level of income in your childhood!"

Comparison of answers by sociodemographic groups

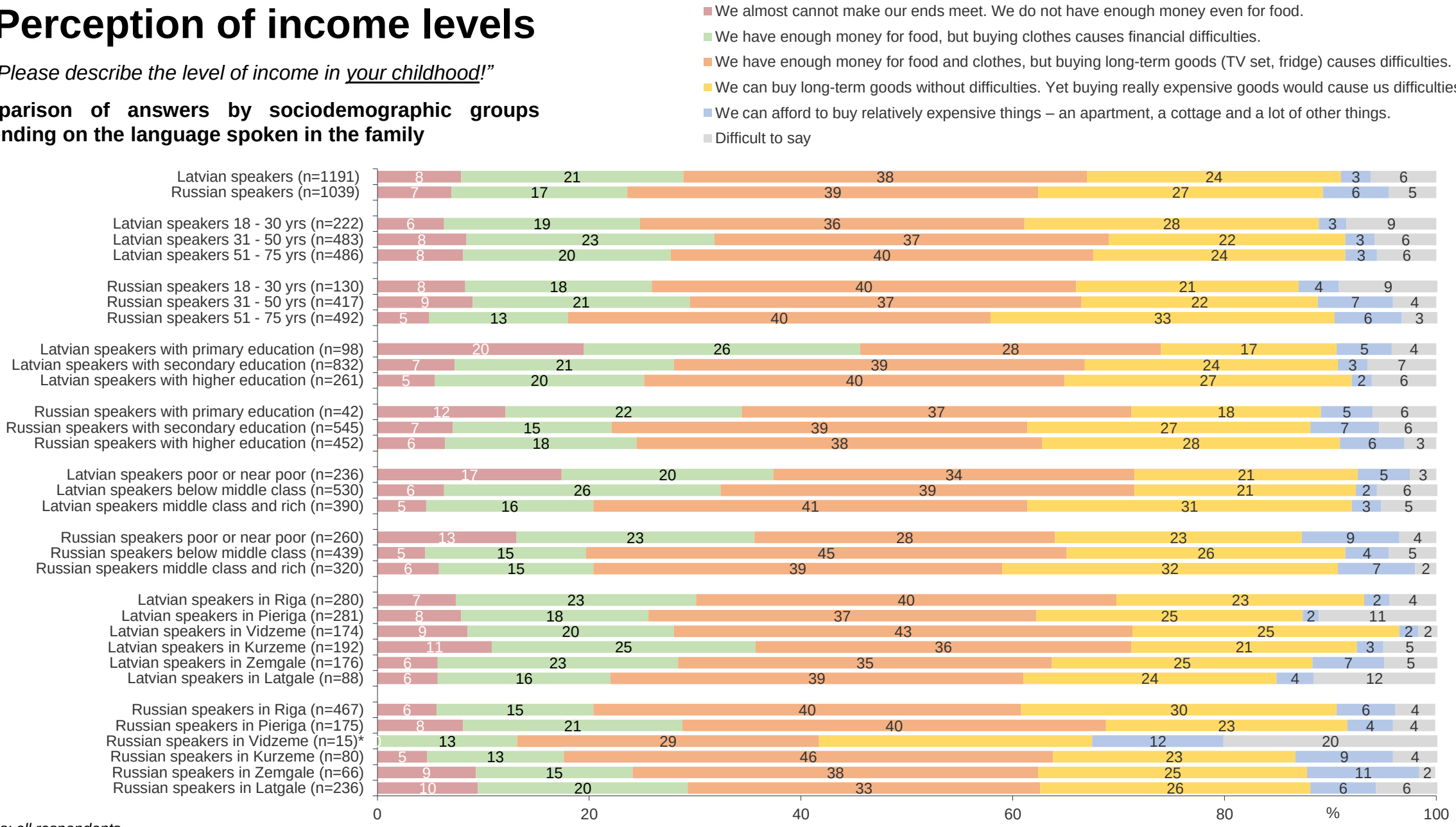


Bases: all respondents

6. Perception of income levels

B4. "Please describe the level of income in your childhood!"

Comparison of answers by sociodemographic groups depending on the language spoken in the family



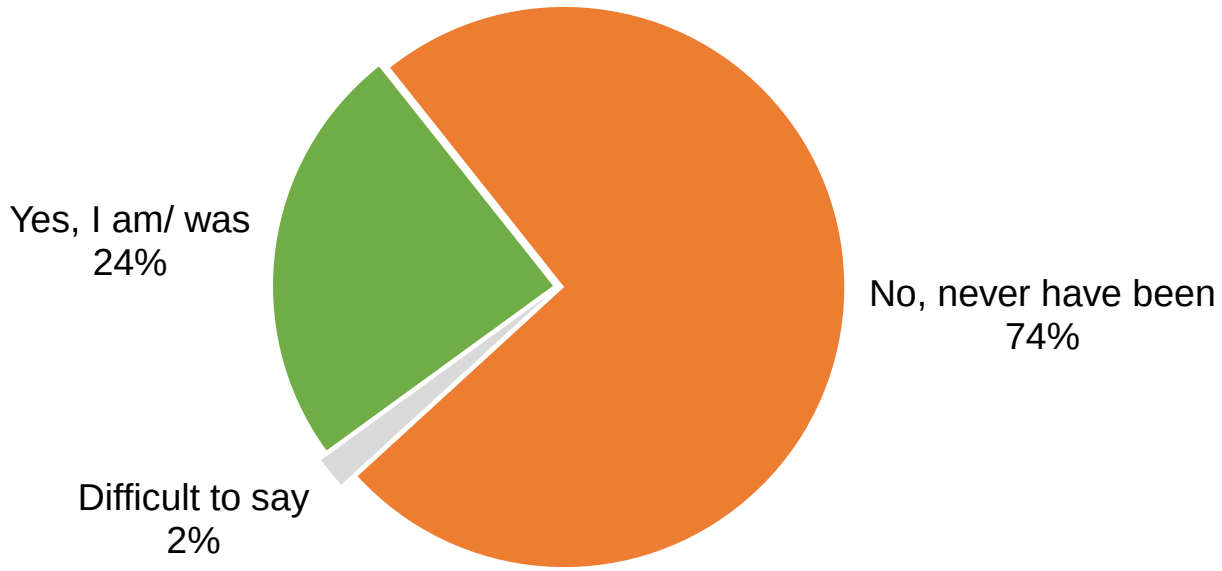
Bases: all respondents

*The number of respondents is insufficient to draw credible conclusions.

7. Employment status of Latvian residents

7. Employment status of Latvian residents

B8. "Are you a self-employed person or a business owner, or have you been at some point in the past?"

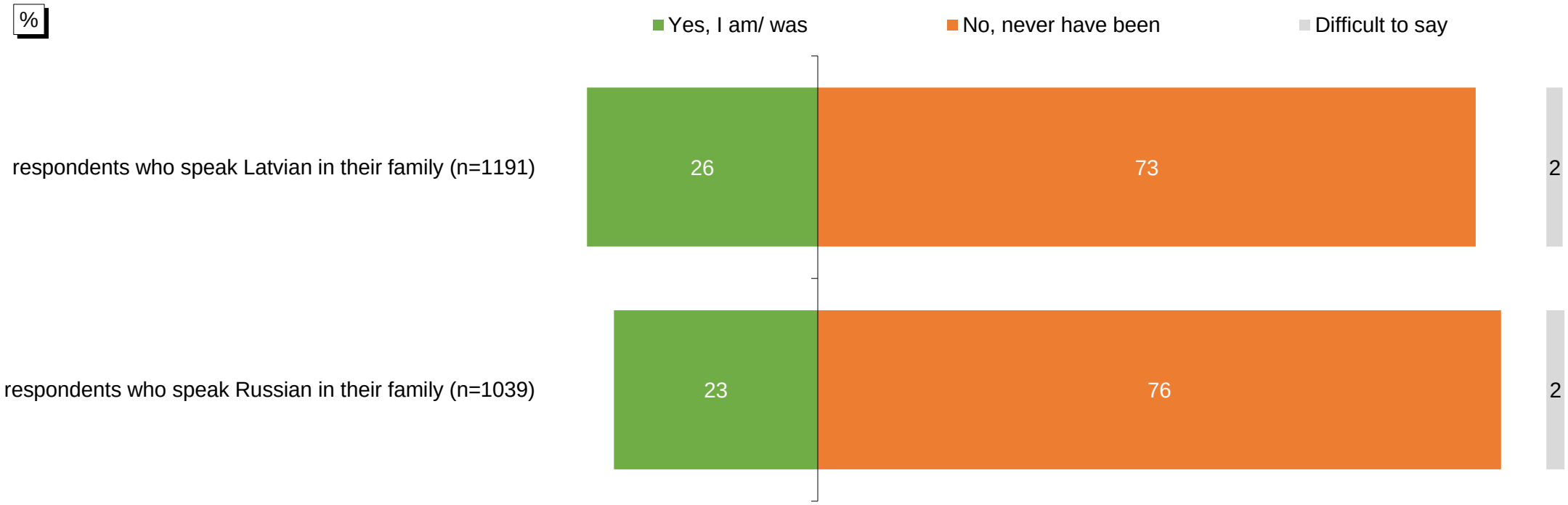


Base: all respondents, n=2251

7. Employment status of Latvian residents

B8. "Are you a self-employed person or a business owner, or have you been at some point in the past?"

Answers depending on the language spoken in the family

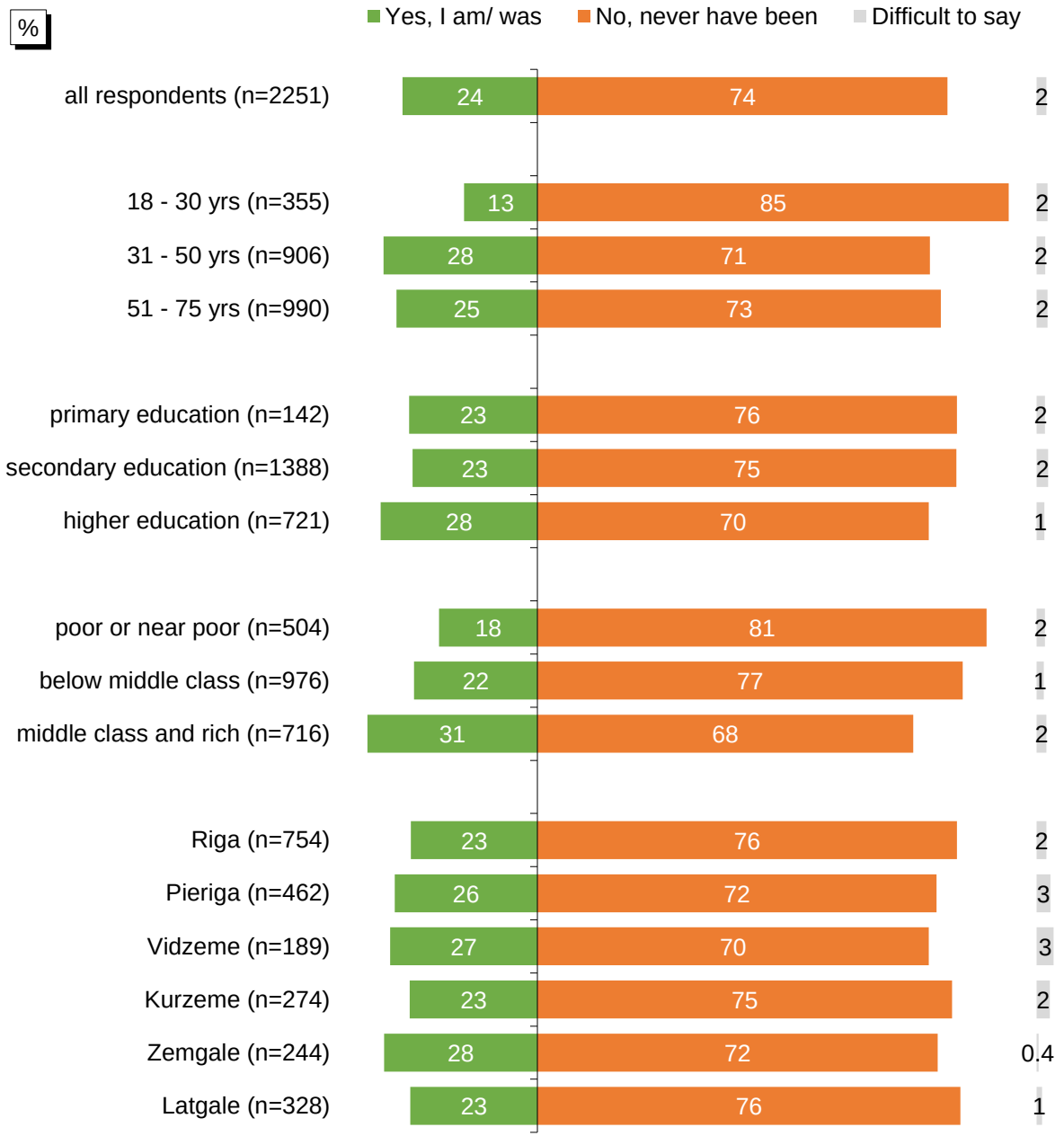


Bases: all respondents

7. Employment status of Latvian residents

B8. "Are you a self-employed person or a business owner, or have you been at some point in the past?"

Comparison of answers by sociodemographic groups



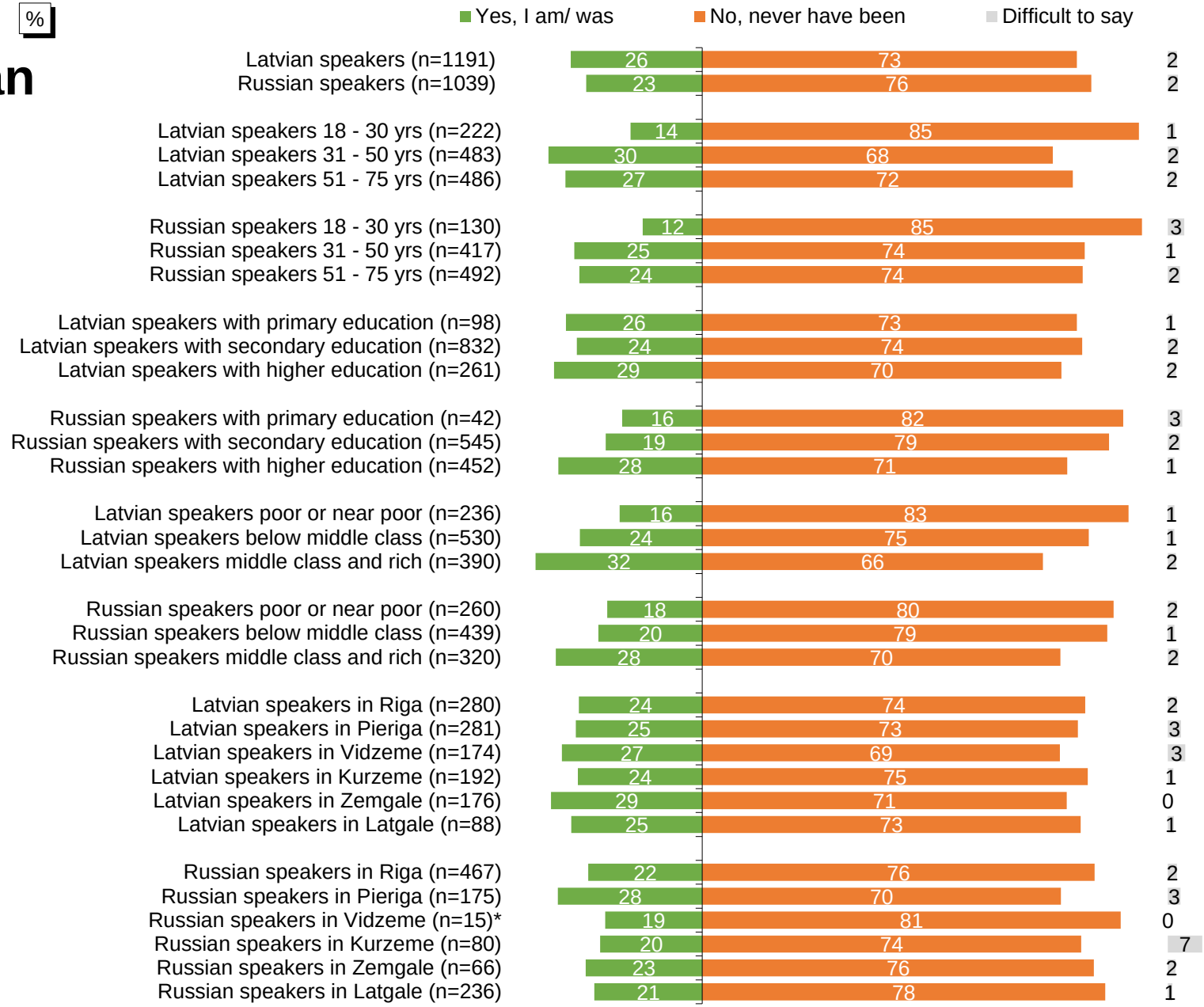
Bases: all respondents

7. Employment status of Latvian residents

B8. "Are you a self-employed person or a business owner, or have you been at some point in the past?"

Comparison of answers by sociodemographic groups depending on the language spoken in the family

*The number of respondents is insufficient to draw credible conclusions.



Base: all respondents, n=2251

PART 2

Risk tolerance of Latvian residents

Main conclusions (I)

For the purposes of the analysis, three groups of people were distinguished in the data:

- Risk takers;
- Risk avoiders;
- Others;

A combination of two questions was used to distinguish the groups:

B1. Imagine that you are participating in a game where you have two choices. The first option is a guaranteed prize of €50. The second option is to participate in a lottery where one ticket out of 10 has a prize of €1000, and the other 9 tickets are blank. Which option will you choose?

50 euros	1
Lotery	2
Difficult to say/ NA	8

B2. On a scale of 0 to 10, where 0 is "never take risk" and 10 is "very often take risk", how often in your life do you take risk?

0 — never take risk										10 — very often take risk	Difficult to say/ NA
0	1	2	3	4	5	6	7	8	9	10	98

- The group "risk takers" included respondents who chose the lottery in question B1 and rated their risk-taking as 8-10 in question B2. Number of respondents in the group: 215 (10% of the total).
- The group "risk avoiders" includes respondents who chose €50 in question B1 and rated their riskiness 0-2 in question B2. The number of respondents in this group was 291 (13% of the total).
- The group "other" included respondents who did not belong to either the risk takers or risk avoiders group (who chose other answer combinations). Number of respondents in the group: 1745 (77% of the total).
- The survey data show that risk takers (10%) more often than average are among respondents aged 18 to 30, as well as those living in Pierīga and Vidzeme.
- 13% of the survey participants were recognized as risk avoiders, and more often than average, these were respondents who were 51 years old and older, as well as respondents with primary education.
- Describing risk takers it can be observed that 24% of this group in childhood were poor or near poor, 39% - below middle class, and 29% - middle class and rich. On the other hand, 30% of risk avoiders in childhood were poor or near poor, 35% were below middle class, and 30% - middle class and rich.

Main conclusions (II)

- When describing risk takers it can be observed that 17% of this group are poor or near poor, 47% - below middle class, and 36% - middle class and rich. On the other hand, 31% of risk avoiders are poor or near poor, 45% are below middle class, and 24% - middle class and rich.
- It should be noted that 33% of risk takers said they are or have been self-employed or business owners (66% never have been), while 22% of risk avoiders said this (77% never have been self-employed or business owners).
- Evaluating Latvia's participation in various organizations, 77% of risk takers positively assessed Latvia's membership in the EU and 72% of Latvia's membership in NATO. Among risk avoiders 78% were favorably disposed toward Latvia's membership in the EU and 65% of Latvia's membership in NATO. It should be noted that when assessing Latvia's participation in these organisations, risk avoiders were slightly more often than other groups *"completely satisfied"* with Latvia's participation in these organizations.
- When analyzing the relationship between electoral choice and attitude toward risk, it can be concluded that risk takers are slightly more likely than respondents in general to choose parties elected to Saeima for the first time (e.g., Stabilitātei, Progresīvie, Latvija pirmajā vietā). Risk avoiders, however, prefer NA slightly more often than average. It should be mentioned that risk avoiders were slightly more likely than risk takers to indicate that they voted for Jaunā Vienotība, NA, Saskaņa and Latvijas Krievu savienība. It is interesting to note that Russian speaking risk takers were significantly more likely than other groups to prefer the Stabilitātei, party, while Russian speaking risk avoiders preferred Saskaņa and Latvijas Krievu savienība.
- According to the survey data, risk takers assessing the events in Ukraine were more likely to say that *"Russia committed an act of aggression and attacked an independent state to keep it within its sphere of influence"* (66%, 62% in the risk avoiders group) and less likely (19%) to say *that "Russia was forced to defend its interests against NATO and the interests of the Russian-speaking population in Ukraine"* (21% in the risk avoiders group).
- According to the survey, 63% of risk takers said that their friends and relatives were more supportive of the Ukrainian leadership's position (compared to 58% of risk avoiders). The fact that friends and relatives are more supportive of the Russian leadership was equally often reported by both risk takers and risk avoiders.

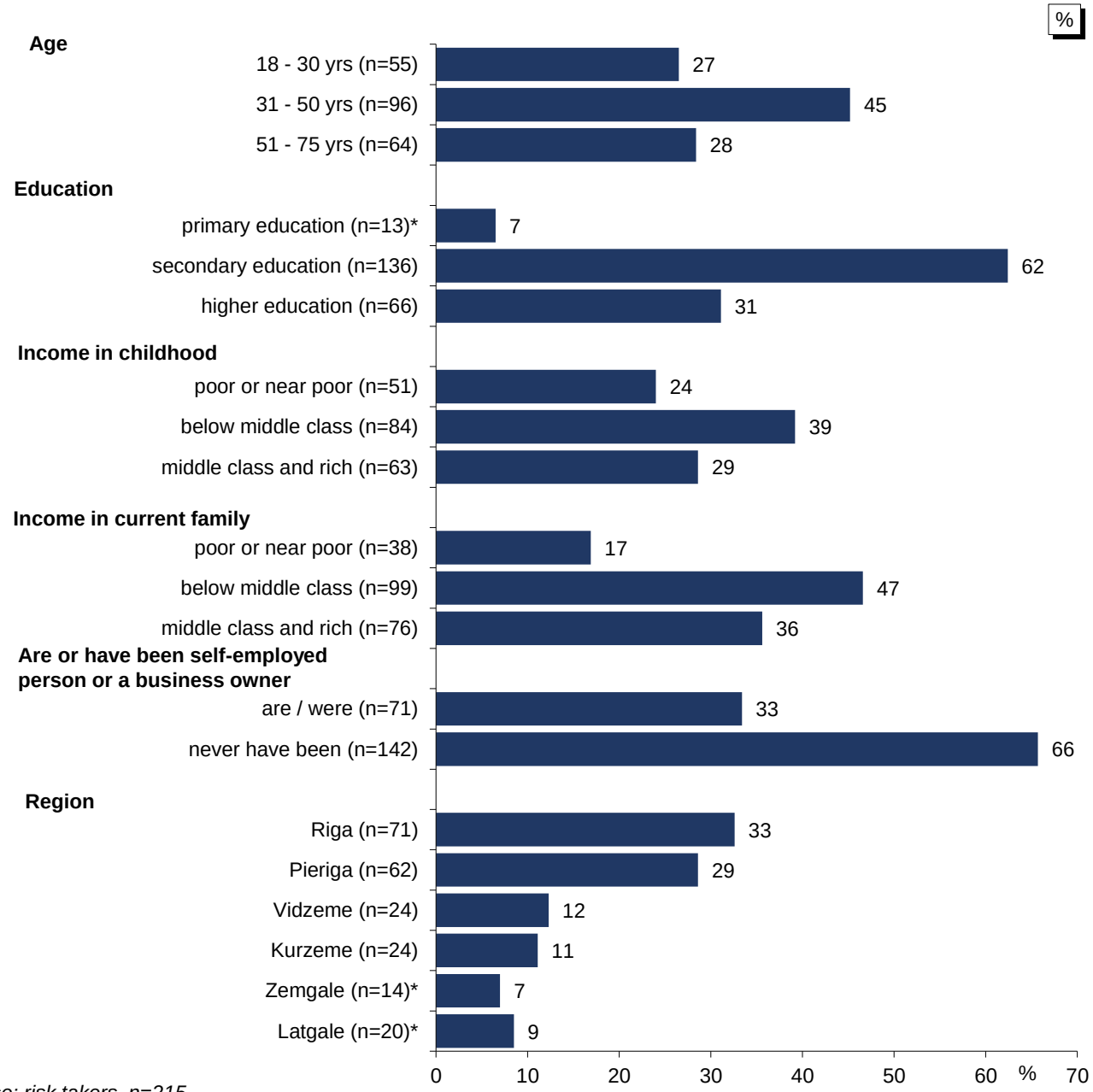
1. Sociodemographic determinants of risk tolerance

1. Sociodemographic determinants of risk tolerance

1.1. Sociodemographic profile of risk takers

All respondents

*The number of respondents is insufficient to draw credible conclusions.



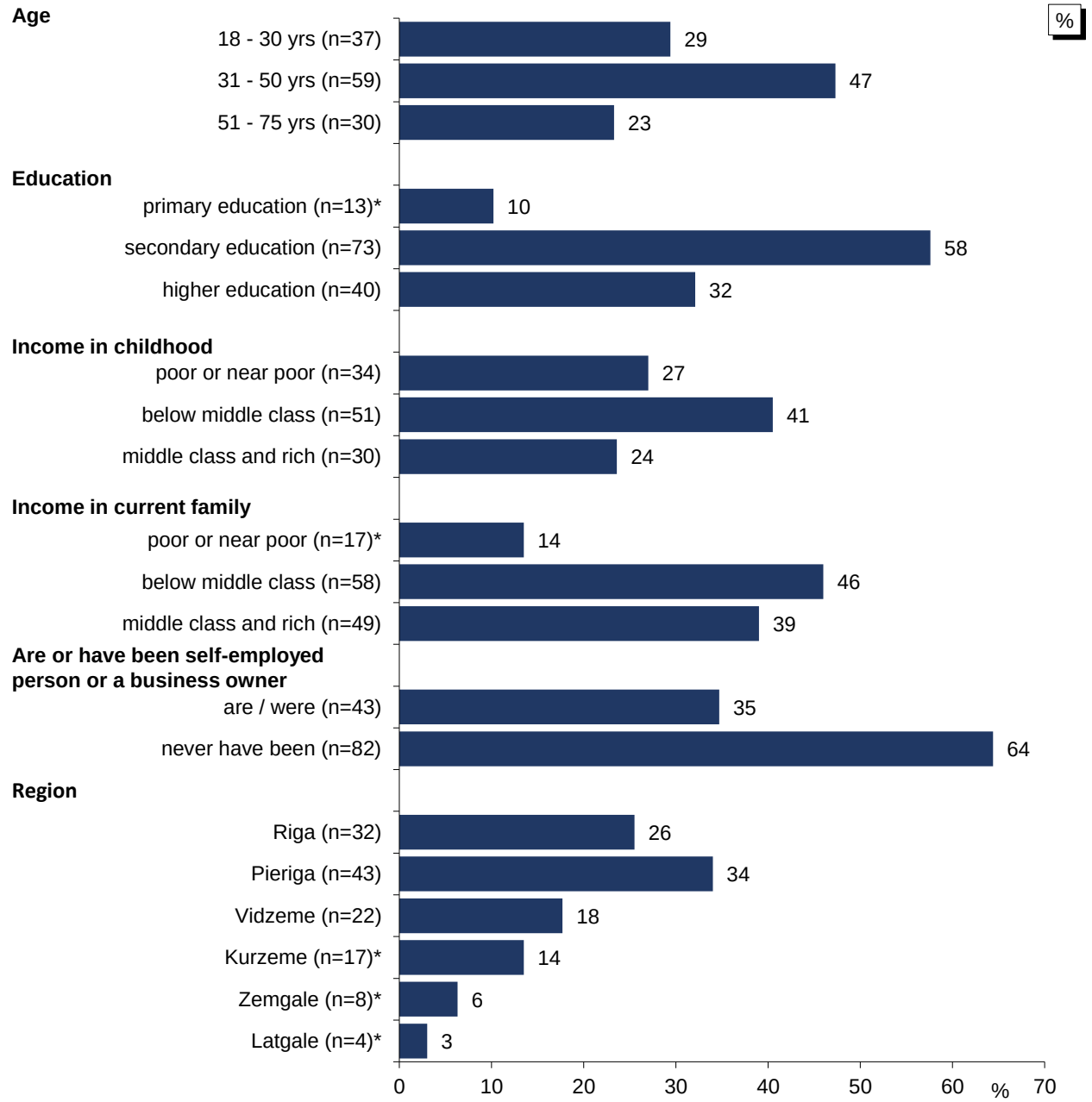
Base: risk takers, n=215

1. Sociodemographic determinants of risk tolerance

1.1. Sociodemographic profile of risk takers

Latvian speakers

*The number of respondents is insufficient to draw credible conclusions.



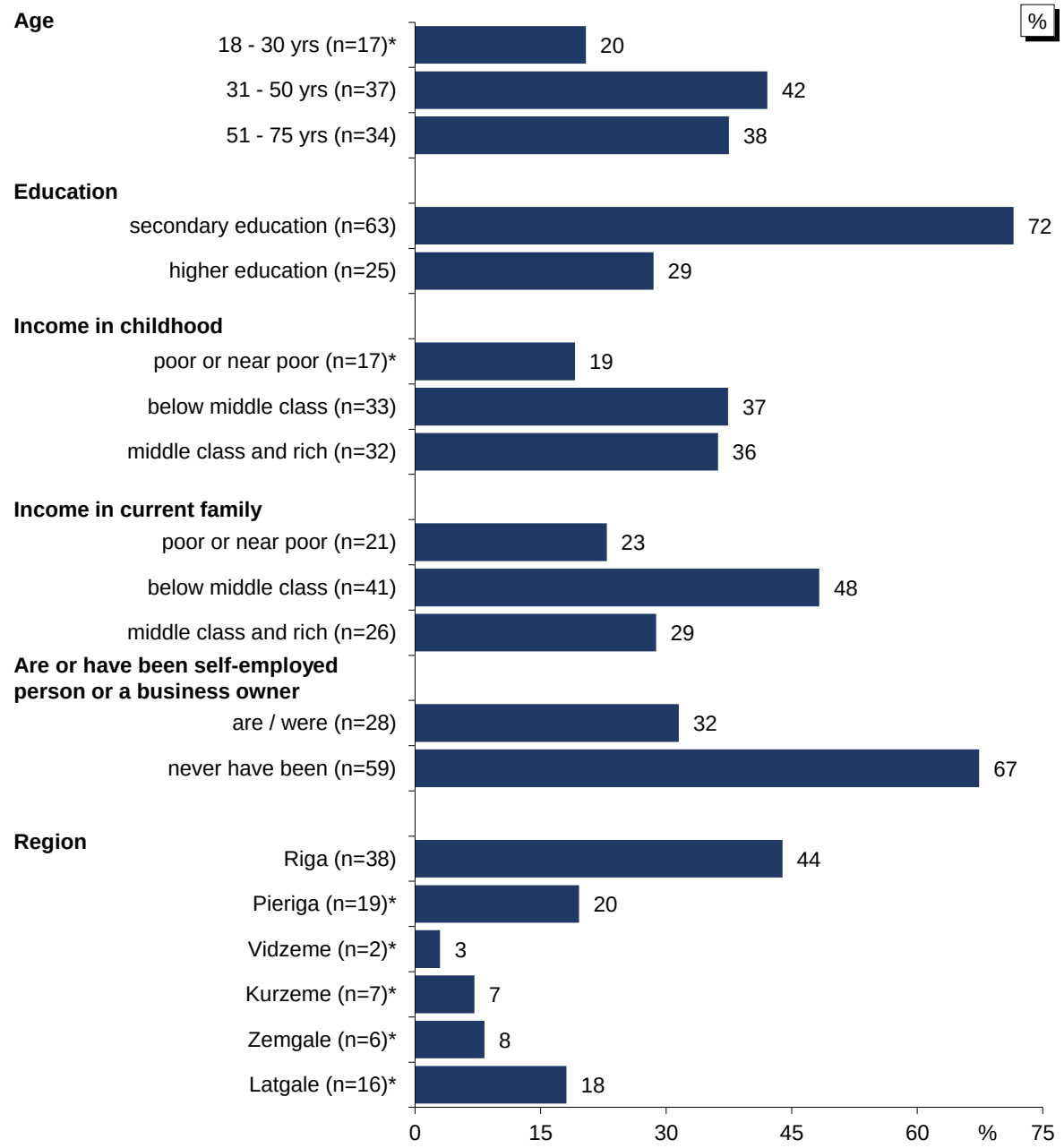
Base: Latvian speaker risk takers, n=126

1. Sociodemographic determinants of risk tolerance

1.1. Sociodemographic profile of risk takers

Russian speakers

*The number of respondents is insufficient to draw credible conclusions.

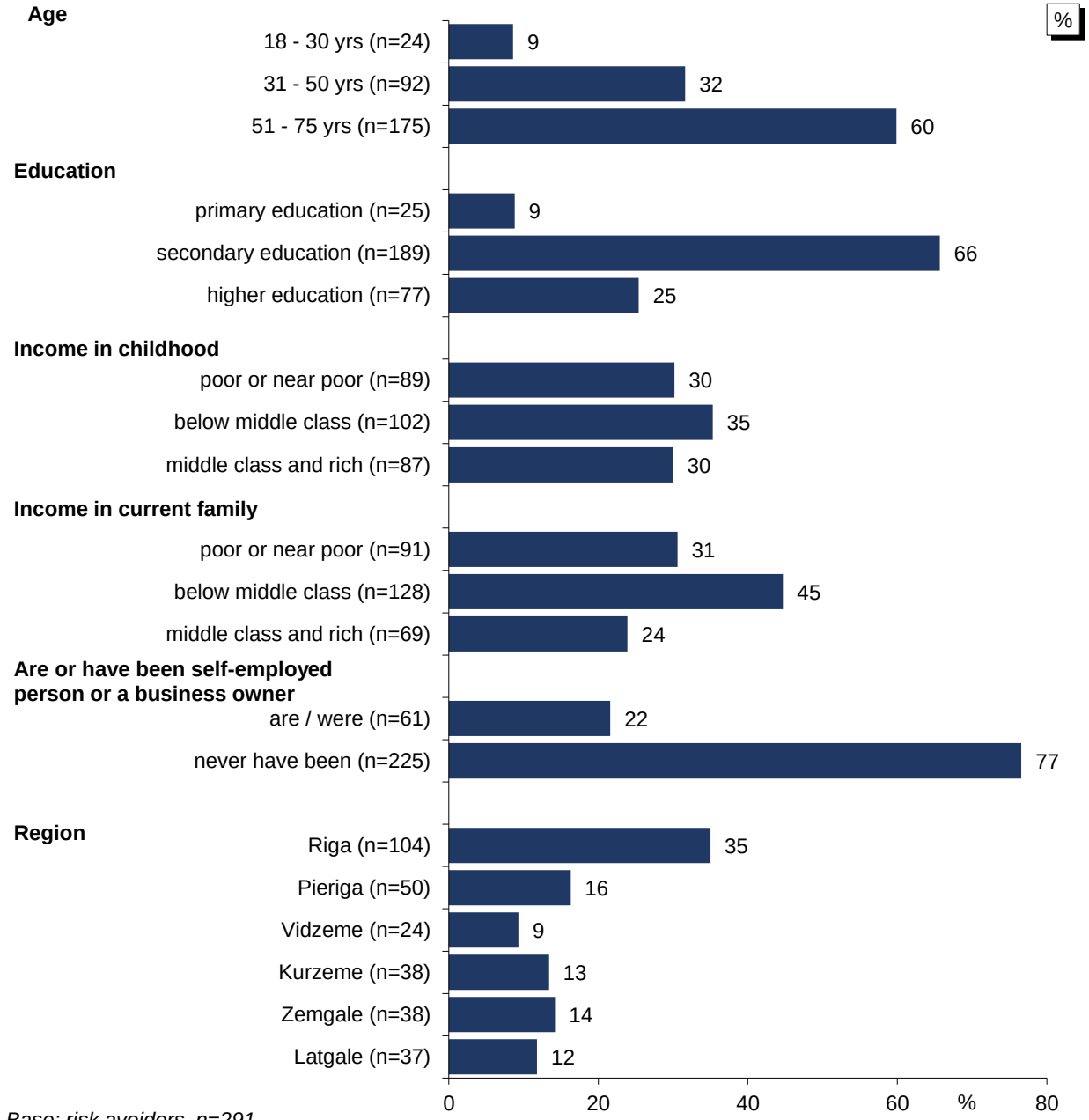


Base: Russian speaker risk takers, n=88

1. Sociodemographic determinants of risk tolerance

1.2. Sociodemographic profile of risk avoiders

All respondents



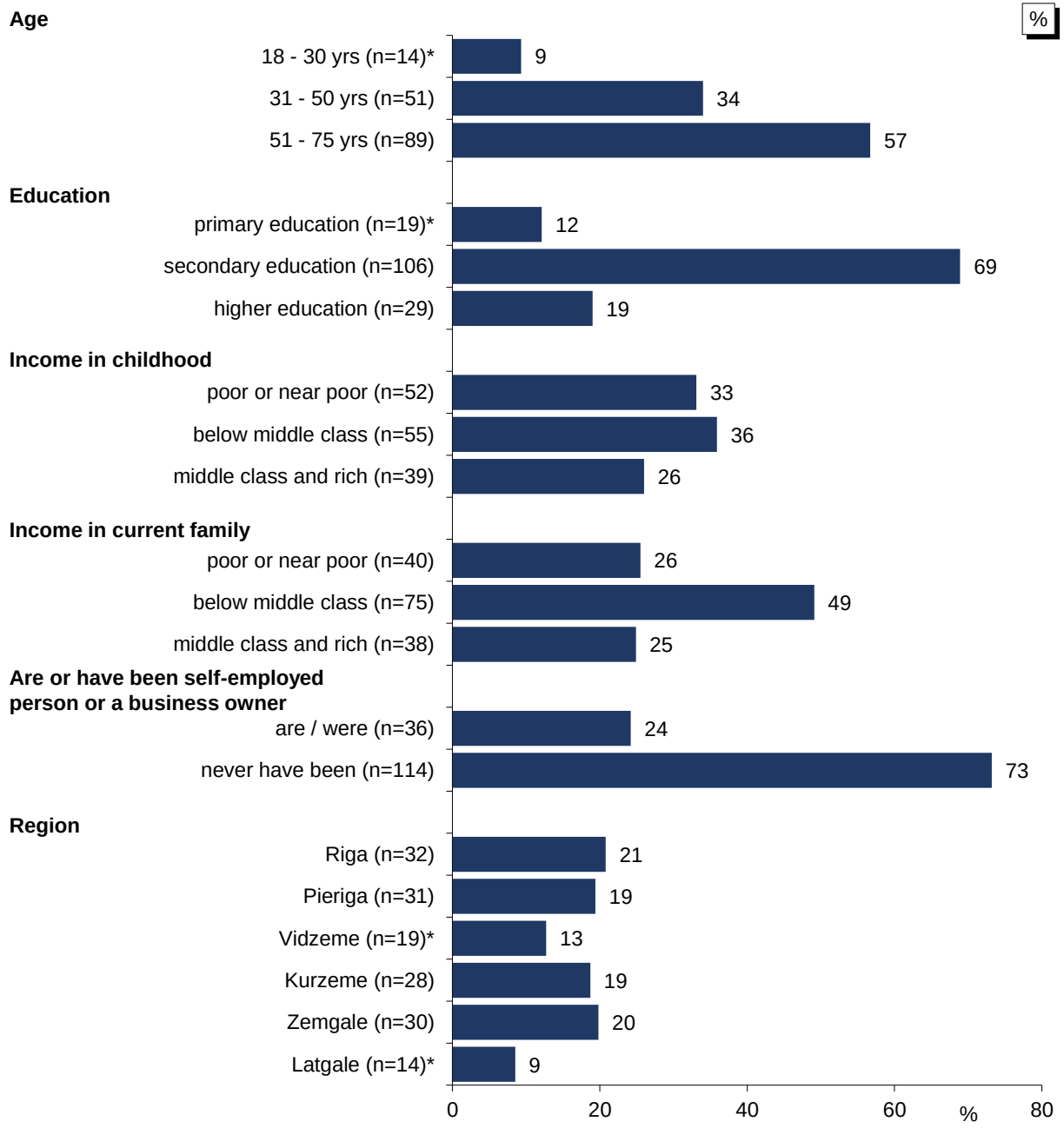
Base: risk avoiders, n=291

1. Sociodemographic determinants of risk tolerance

1.2. Sociodemographic profile of risk avoiders

Latvian speakers

*The number of respondents is insufficient to draw credible conclusions.



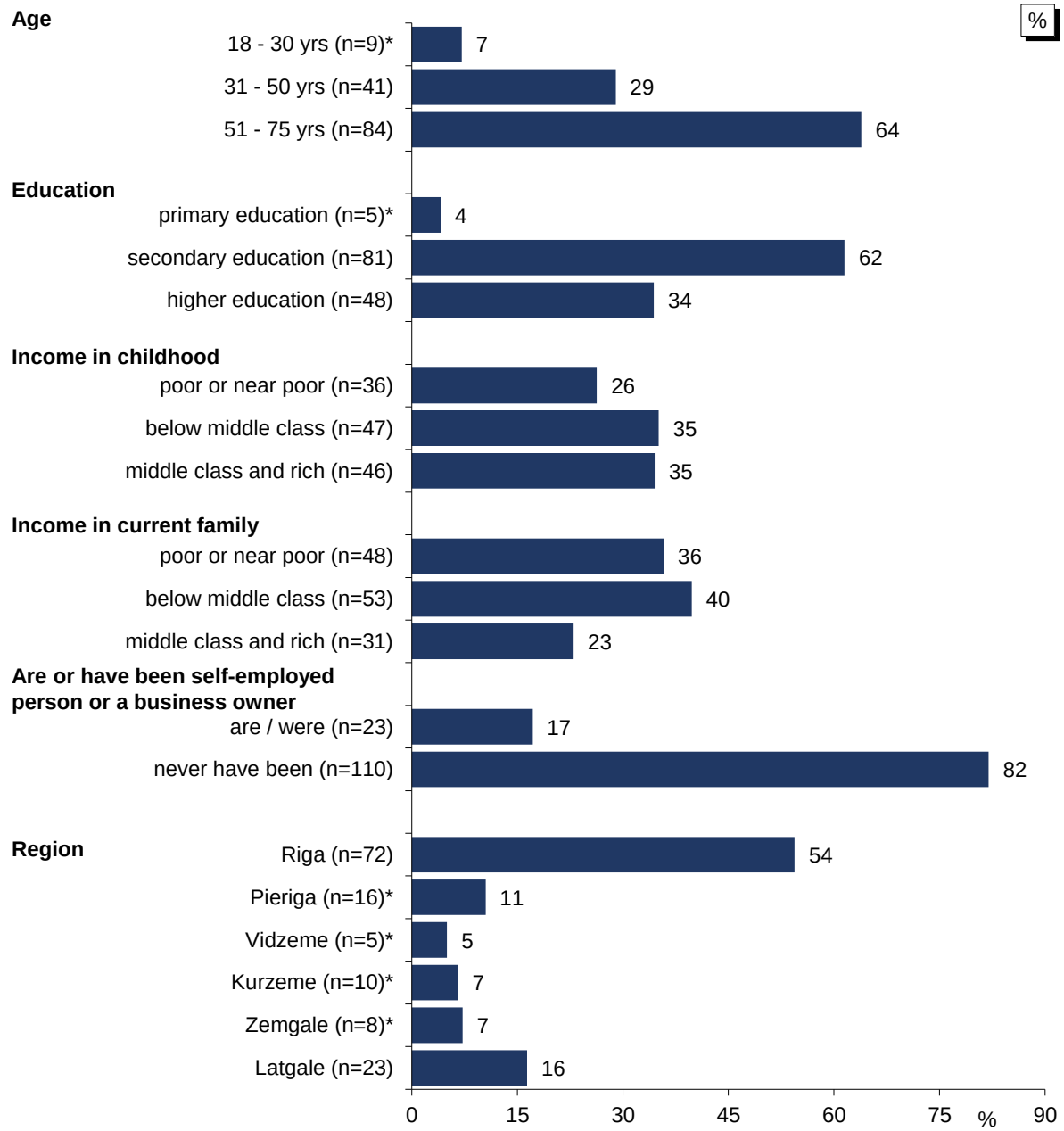
Base: Latvian speaker risk avoiders, n=154

1. Sociodemographic determinants of risk tolerance

1.2. Sociodemographic profile of risk avoiders

Russian speakers

*The number of respondents is insufficient to draw credible conclusions.

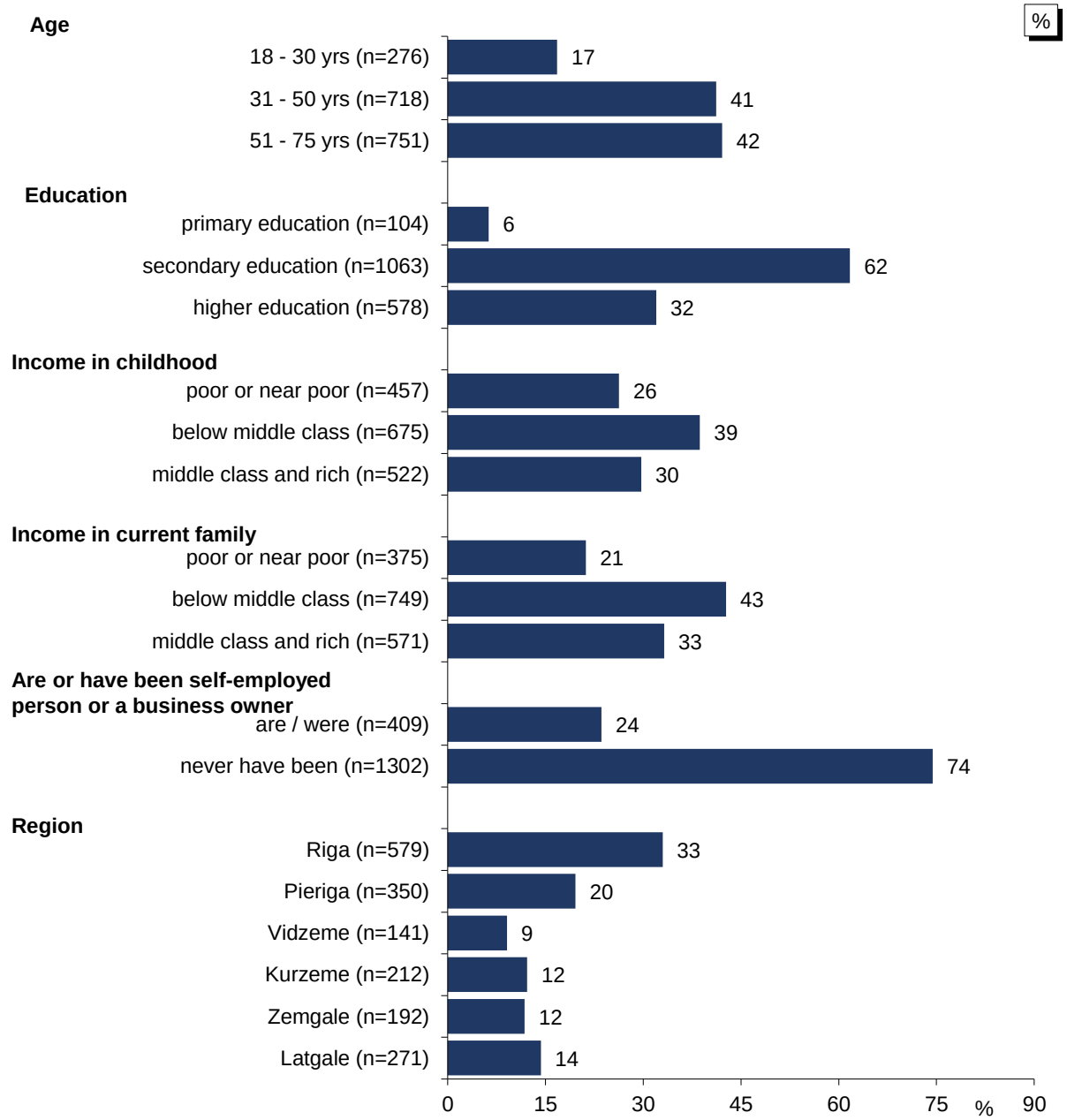


Base: Russian speaker risk avoiders, n=134

1. Sociodemographic determinants of risk tolerance

1.3. Sociodemographic profile of <u>others</u>

All respondents

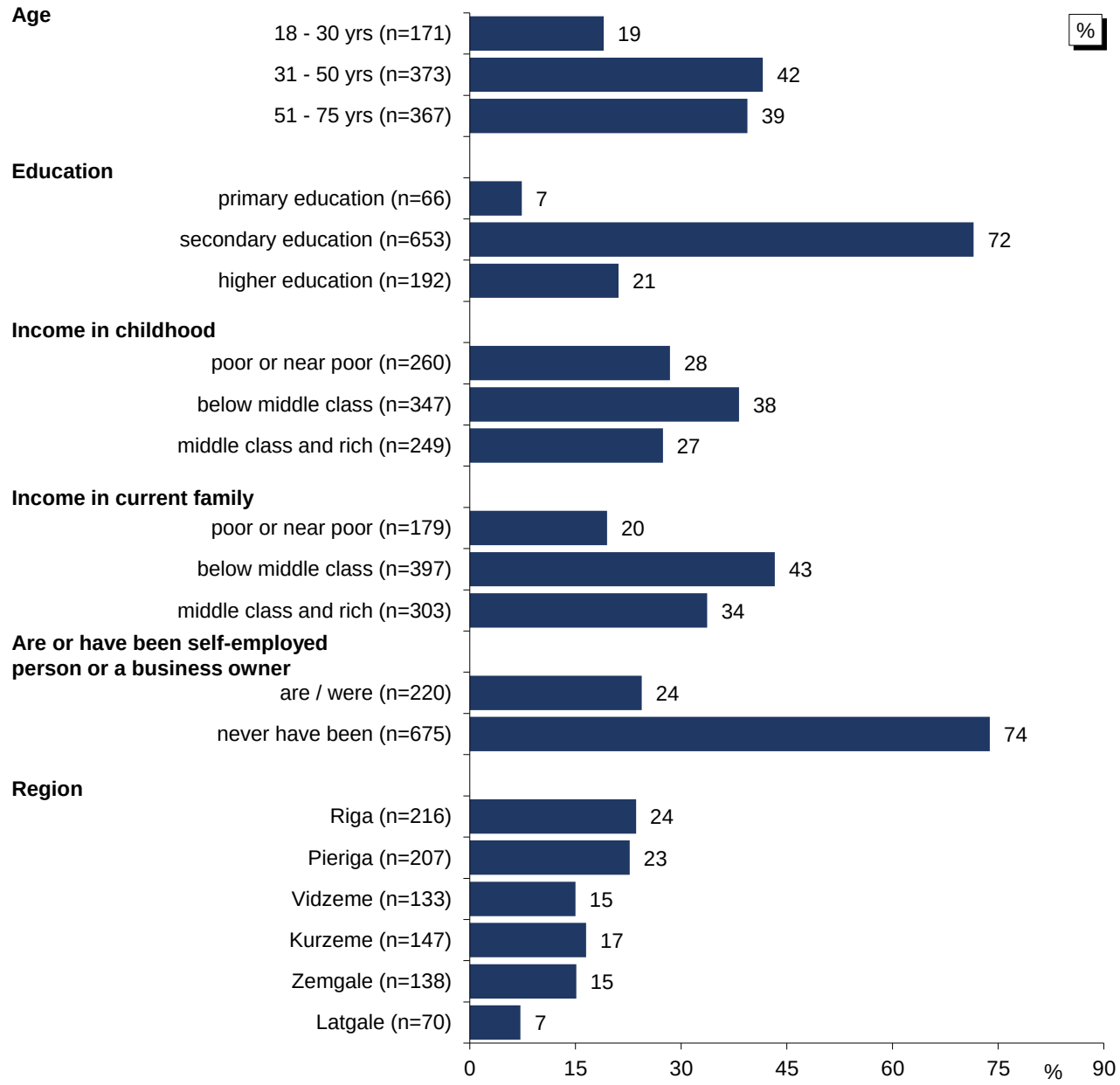


Base: all other respondents who are not risk takers or risk avoiders, n=1745

1. Sociodemographic determinants of risk tolerance

1.3. Sociodemographic profile of others

Latvian speakers



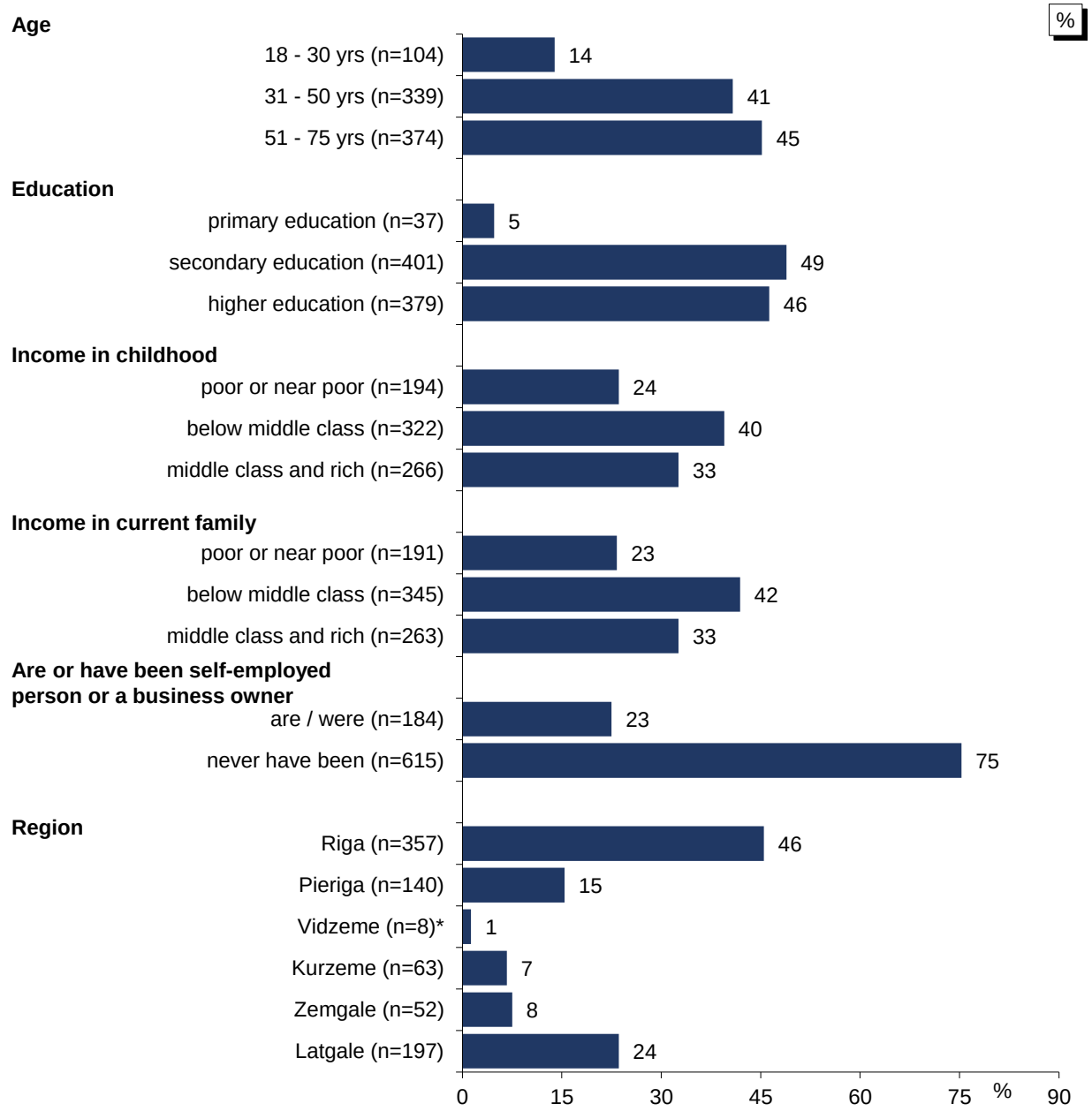
Base: all other Latvian speakers who are not risk takers or risk avoiders, n=911

1. Sociodemographic determinants of risk tolerance

1.3. Sociodemographic profile of others

Russian speakers

*The number of respondents is insufficient to draw credible conclusions.

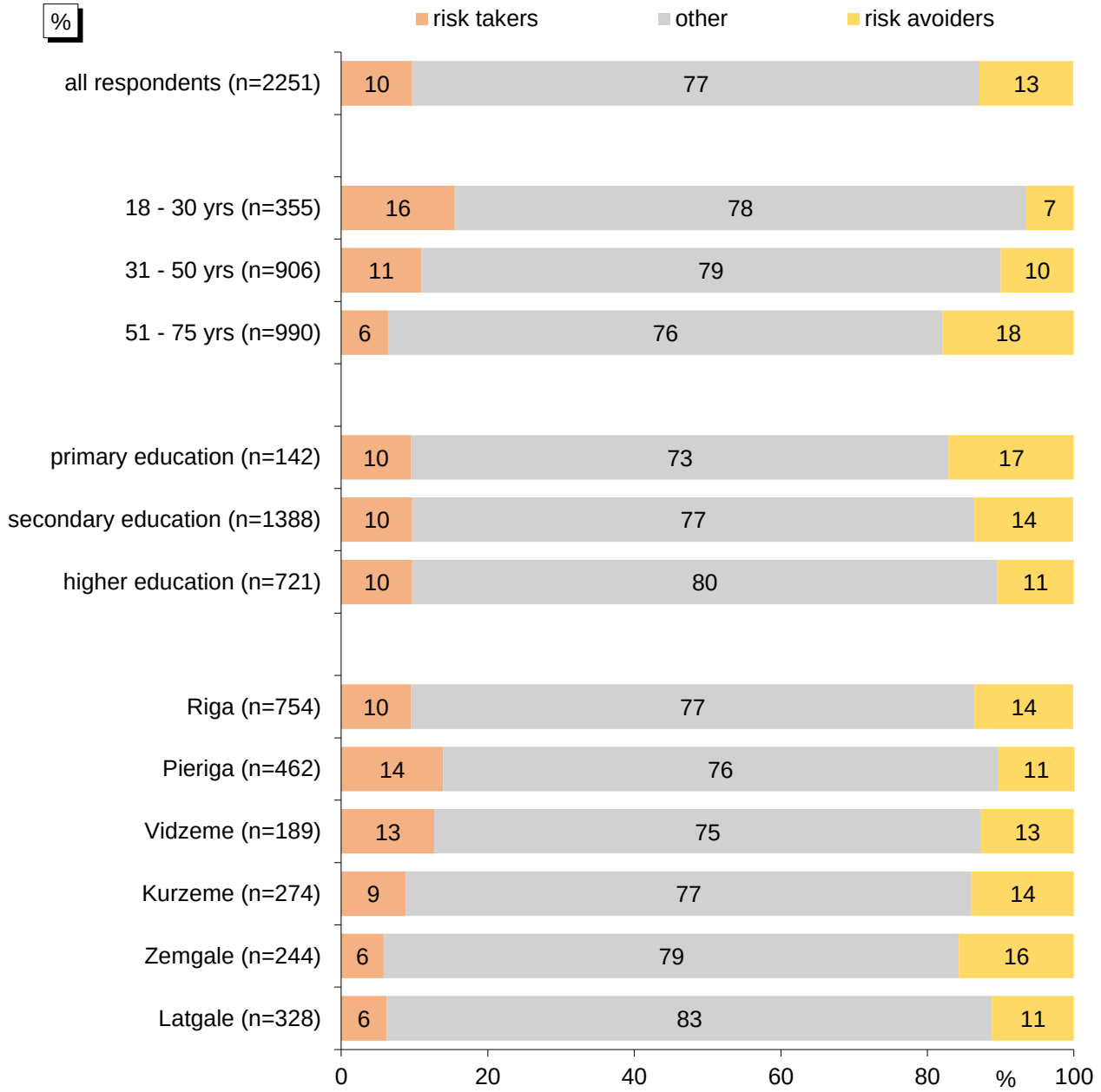


Base: all other Russian speakers who are not risk takers or risk avoiders, n=817

1. Sociodemographic determinants of risk tolerance

1.4. Risk tolerance: comparison of answers by sociodemographic groups

All respondents

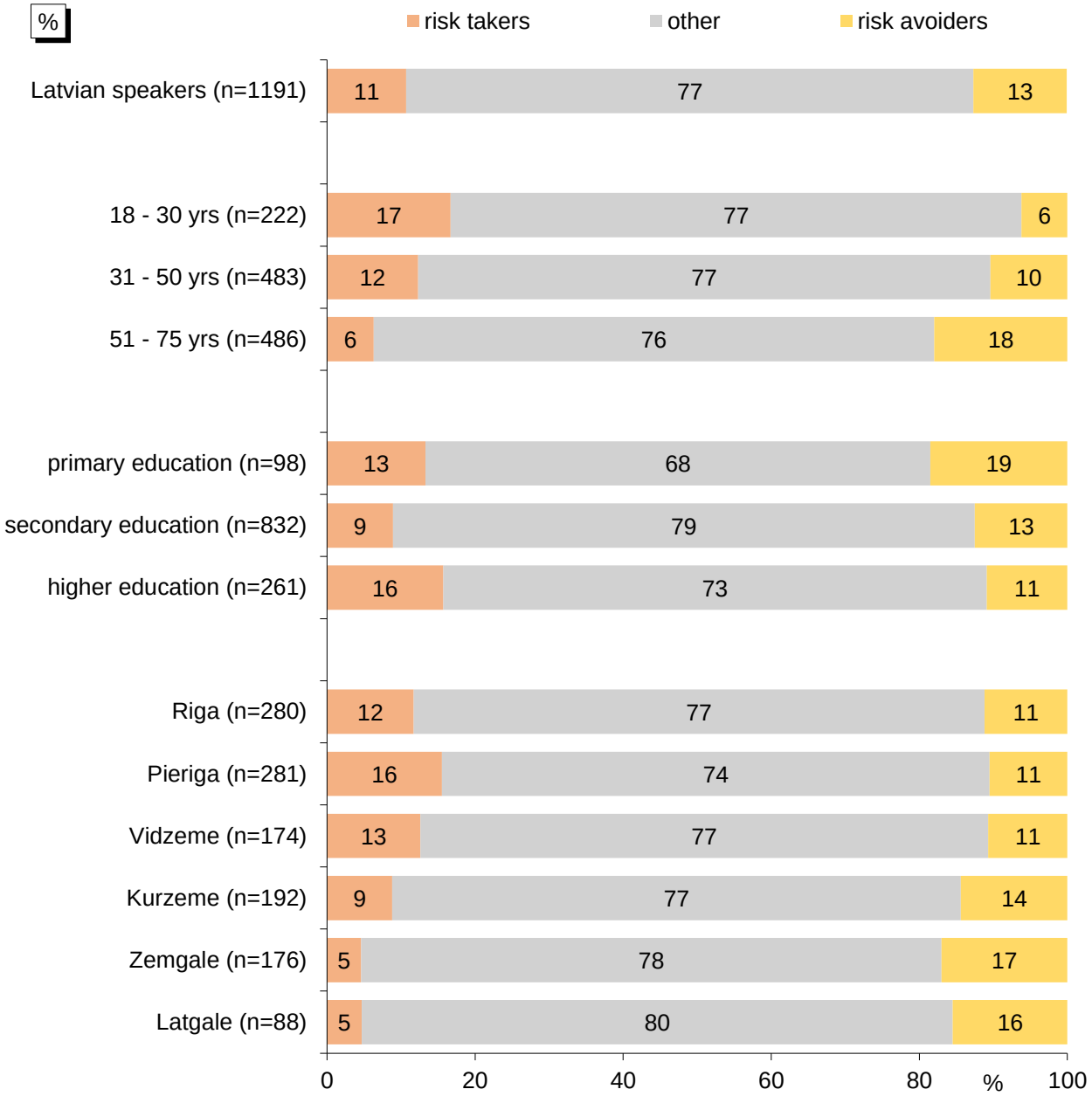


Bases: all respondents

1. Sociodemographic determinants of risk tolerance

1.4. Risk tolerance: comparison of answers by sociodemographic groups

Latvian speakers



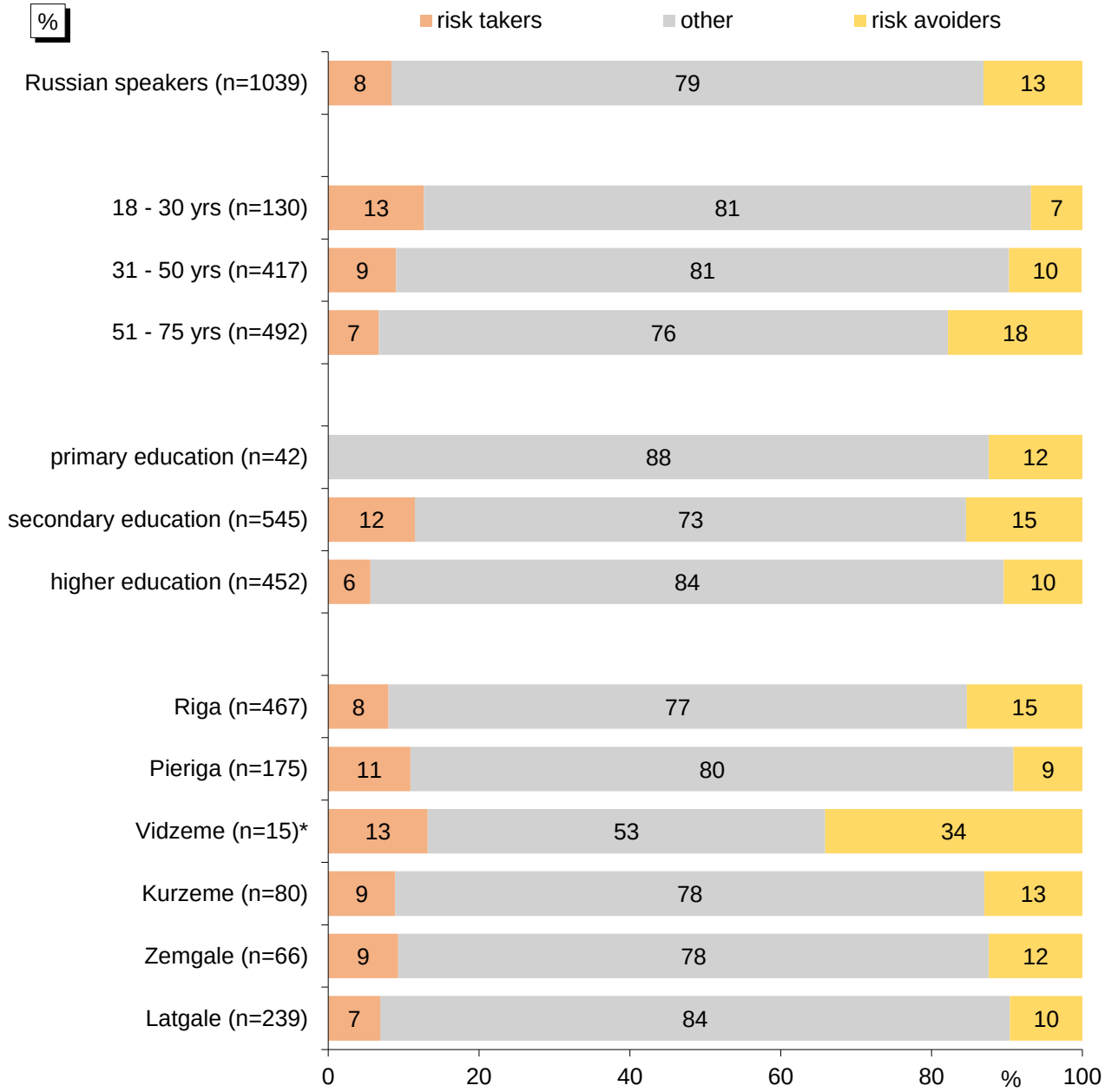
Bases: Latvian speakers

1. Sociodemographic determinants of risk tolerance

1.4. Risk tolerance: comparison of answers by sociodemographic groups

Russian speakers

*The number of respondents is insufficient to draw credible conclusions.

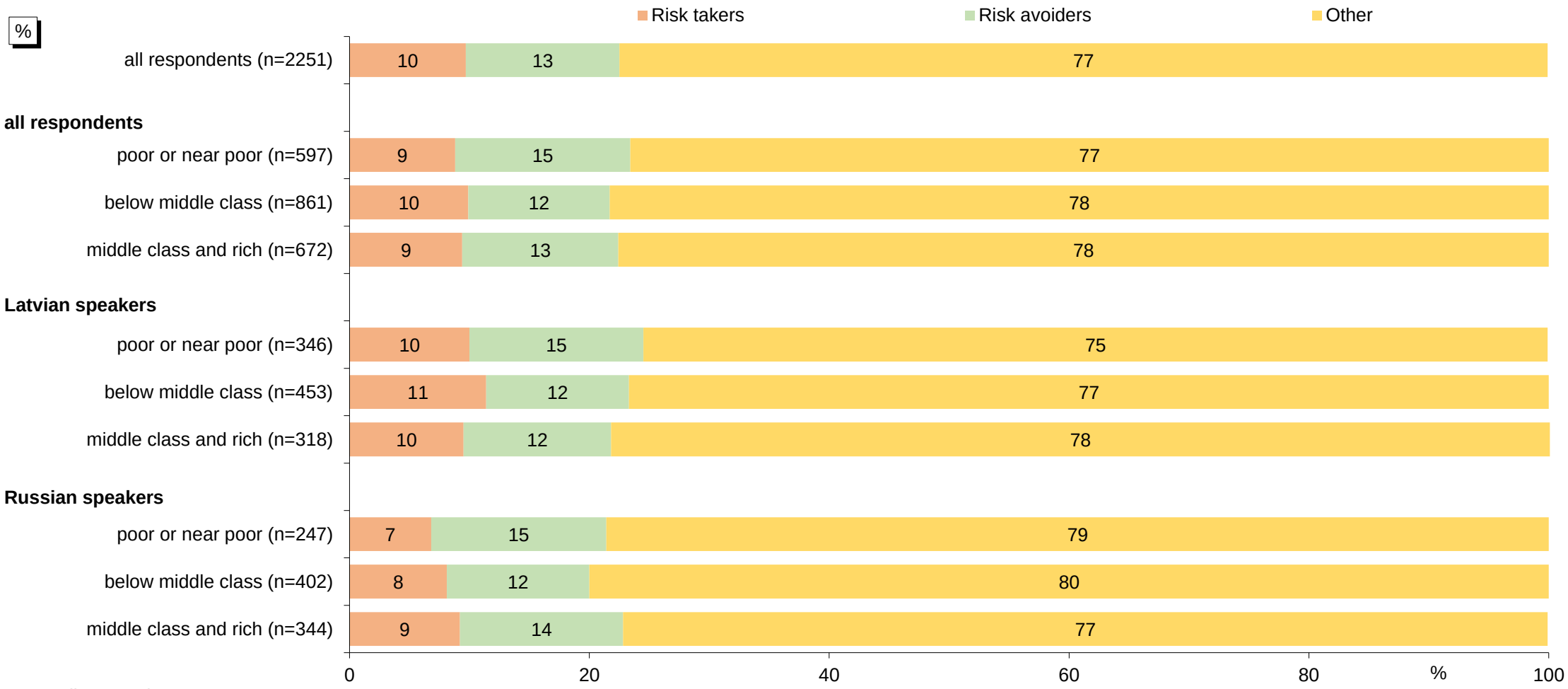


Bases: Russian speakers

2. Economic determinants of risk tolerance

2. Economic determinants of risk tolerance

Comparison of answers depending on respondents' reported level of income in their childhood*

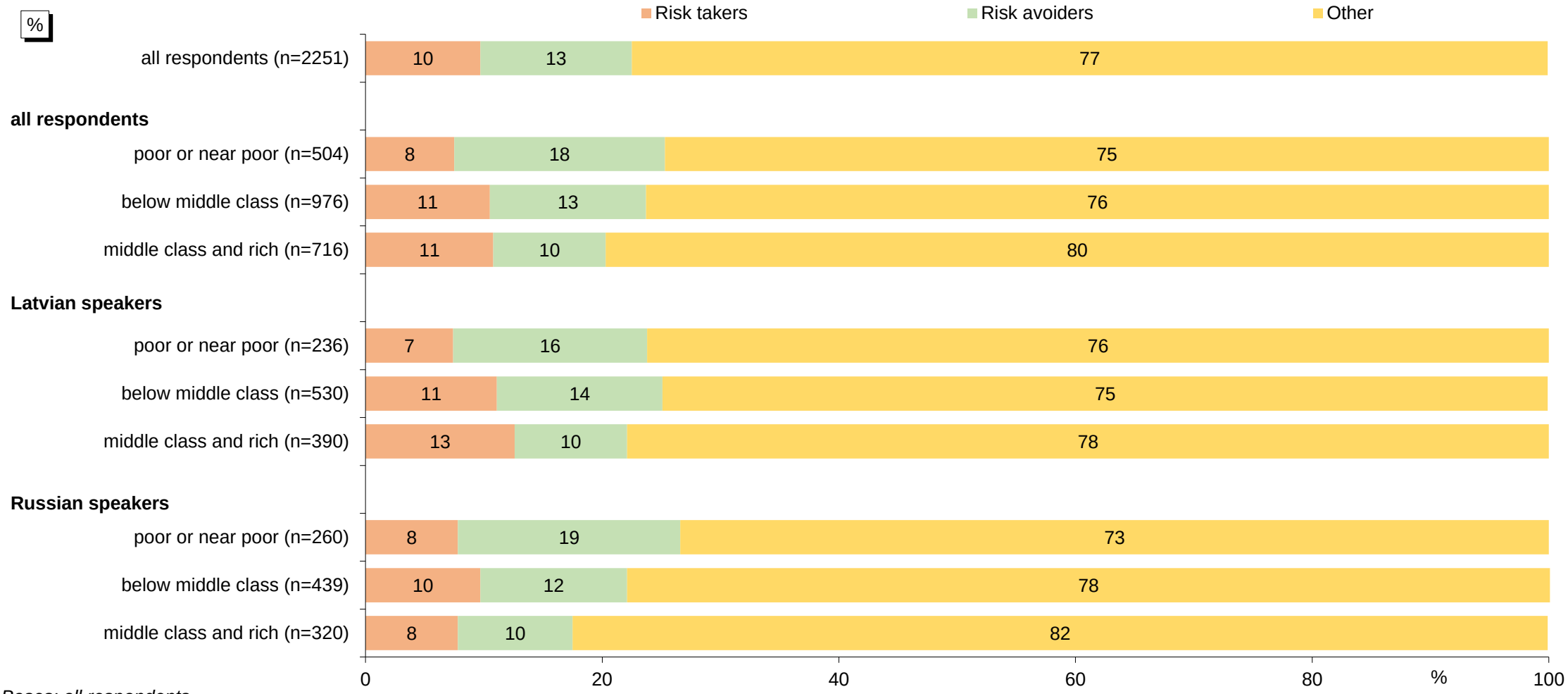


Bases: all respondents

*Answers to question "*Please describe the level of income in your childhood!*".

2. Economic determinants of risk tolerance

Comparison of answers depending on respondents' reported level of income in their current family*

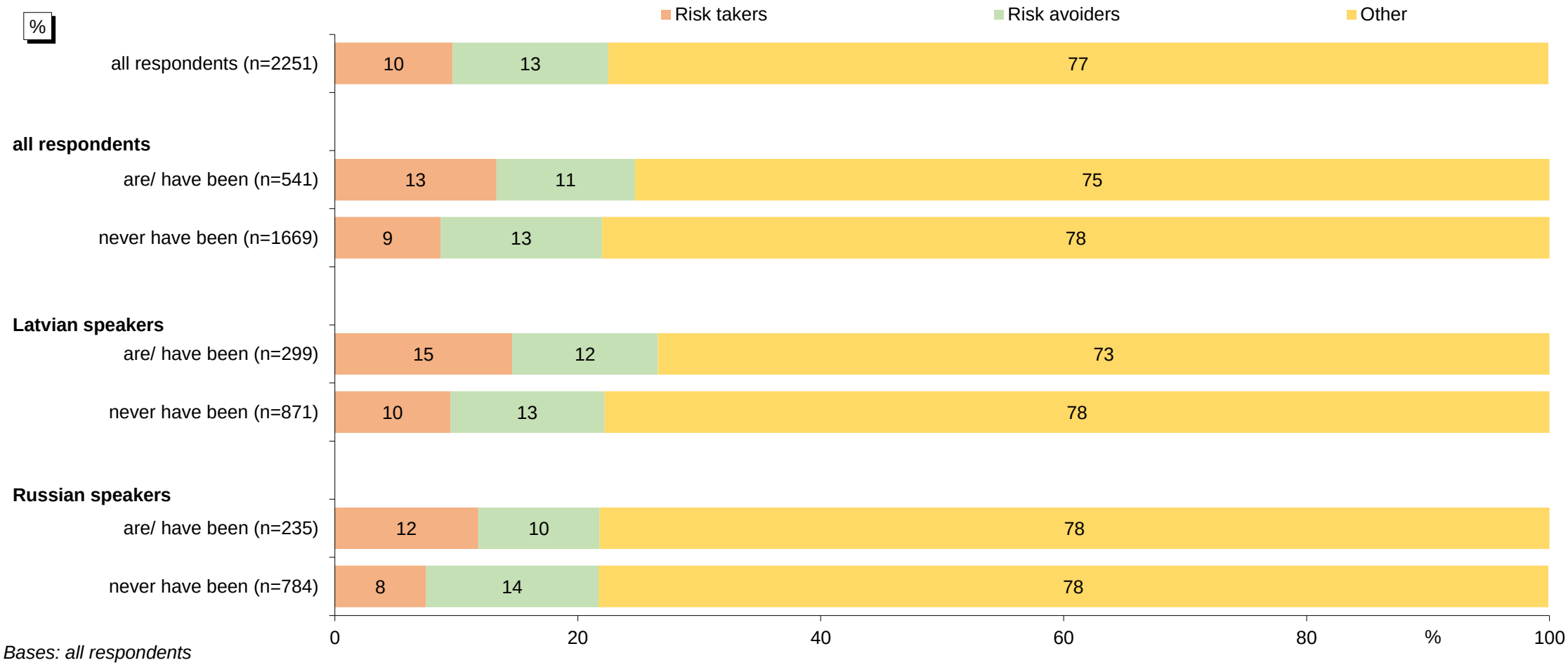


Bases: all respondents

*Answers to question "*Please describe the level of income in your current family!*".

2. Economic determinants of risk tolerance

Comparison of answers depending on whether the respondents are or have been self-employed persons or a business owners*



Bases: all respondents

*Answers to question "*Are you a self-employed person or a business owner, or have you been at some point in the past?*".

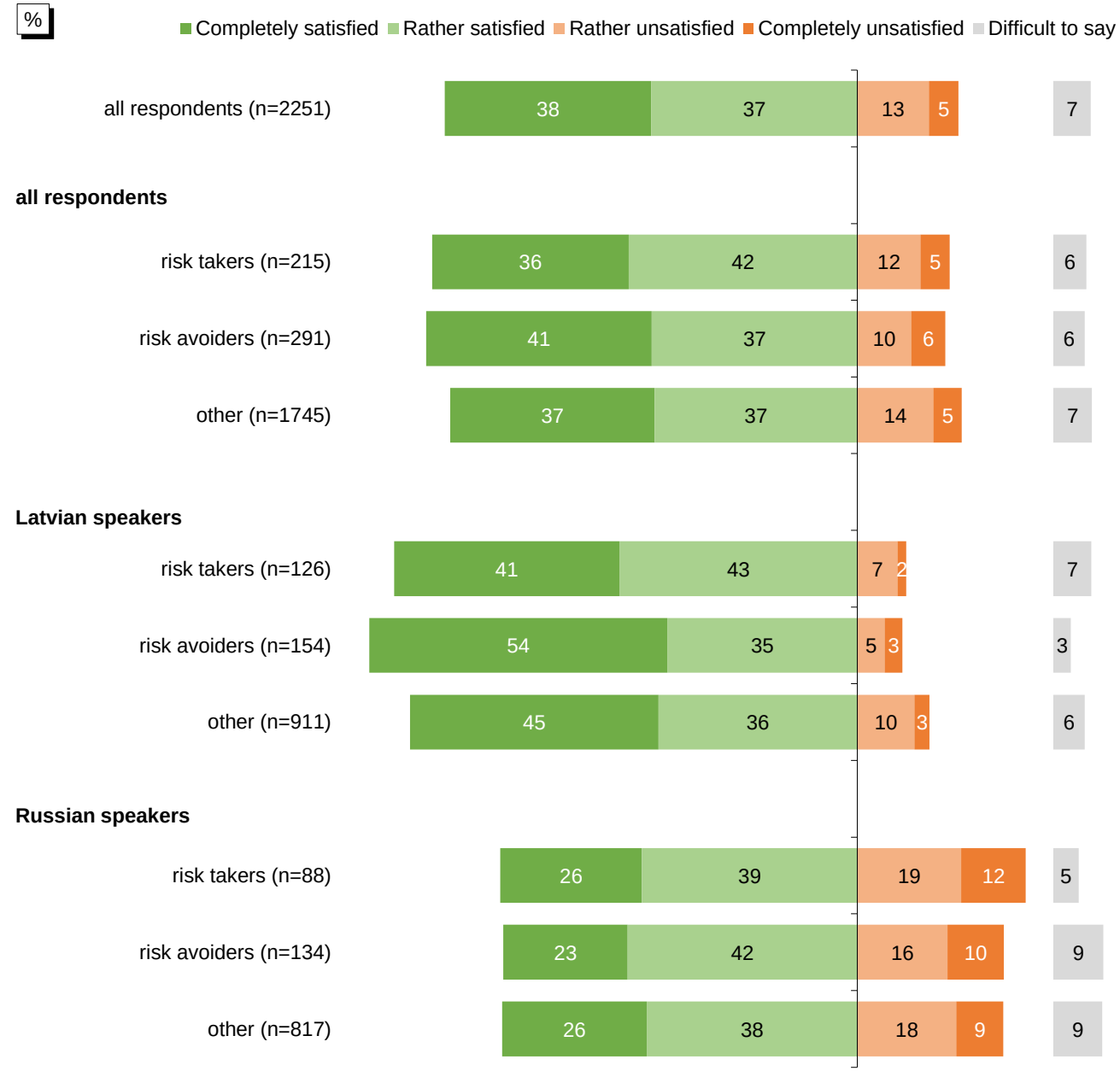
3. Impact of risk tolerance on attitudes towards Latvia's participation in the EU and NATO

3. Impact of risk tolerance on attitudes towards Latvia's participation in the EU and NATO

Attitude towards Latvia's membership of the European Union

A2."Please assess to what extent you are satisfied that Latvia is involved in such associations and structures! Are you completely satisfied, rather satisfied, rather unsatisfied or completely unsatisfied: Latvia is a member of the European Union"

Comparison of answers of risk takers and risk avoiders



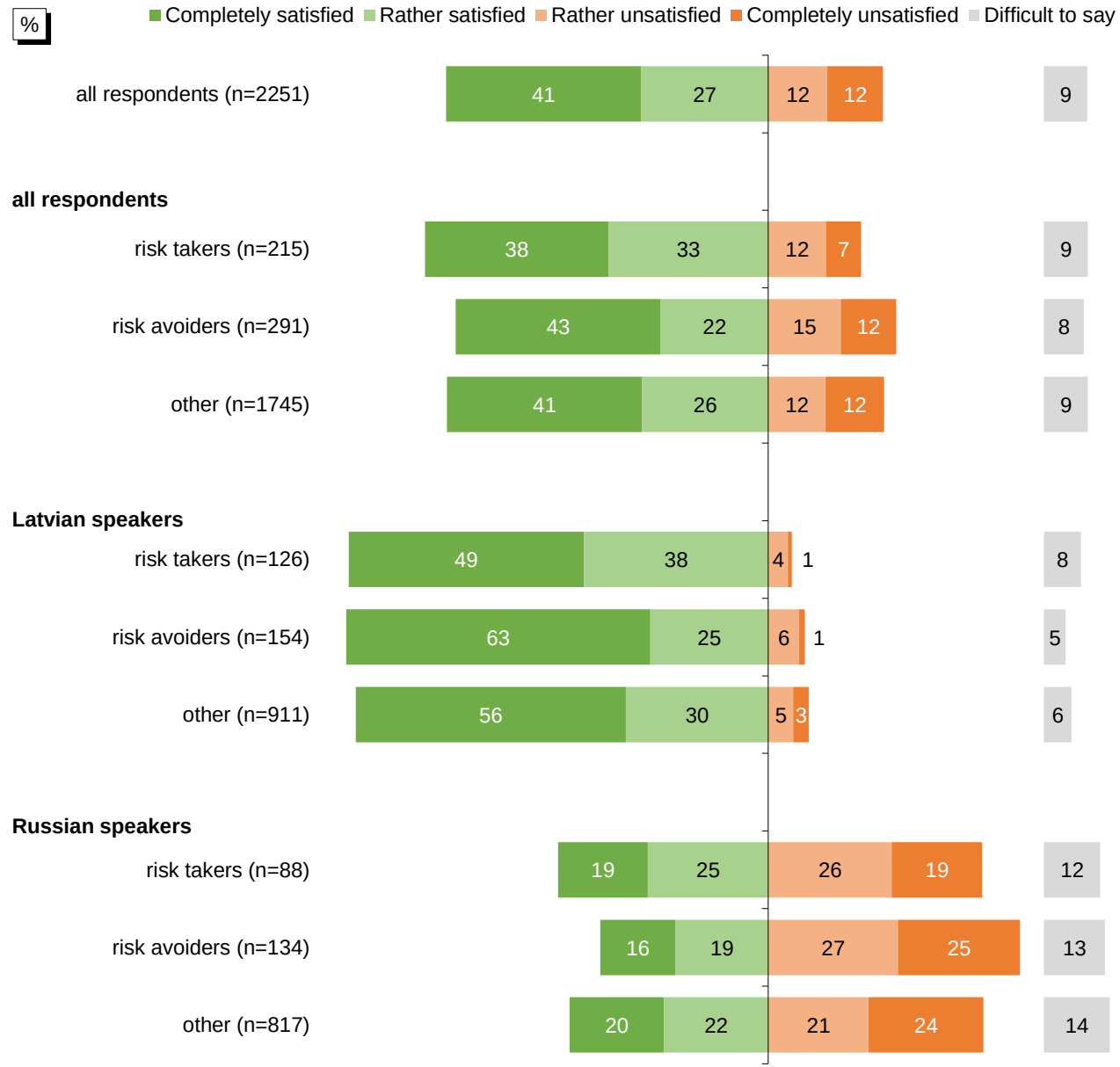
Bases: all respondents

3. Impact of risk tolerance on attitudes towards Latvia's participation in the EU and NATO

Attitude towards Latvia's membership of NATO

A3."Please assess to what extent you are satisfied that Latvia is involved in such associations and structures! Are you completely satisfied, rather satisfied, rather unsatisfied or completely unsatisfied: Latvia has joined NATO"

Comparison of answers of risk takers and risk avoiders



Bases: all respondents

4. Impact of risk tolerance on the electoral choices in the parliament elections of 2022

4. Impact of risk tolerance on the electoral choices in the parliament elections of 2022

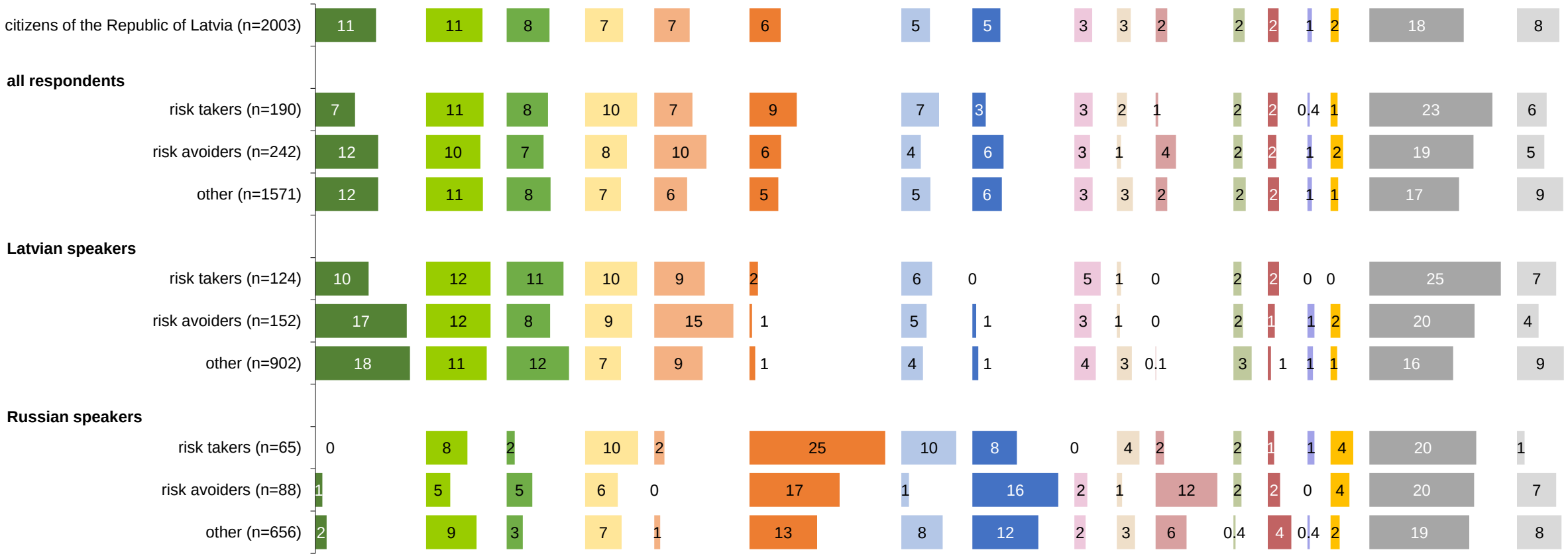
C1. "Please indicate which political party or alliance you voted for in the elections of the 14th Saeima held on October 1, 2022!"

Comparison of answers of risk takers and risk avoiders

Jaunā VIENOTĪBA
Zaļo un Zemnieku savienība
"AP̄VIENOTAIS SARAKSTS - Latvijas Zaļā partija, Latvijas Reģionu Apvienība, Liepājas partija"
"PROGRESĪVIE"
Nacionālā apvienība "Visu Latvijai!"-"Tēvzemei un Brīvībai/LNNK"
Political Party "Stabilitātei!"
LATVIJA PIRMAJĀ VIETĀ
"Saskaņa" Social Democratic Party
Attīstībai/Par!
Political Party "KATRAM UN KATRAI"
"Latvijas Krievu savienība"
Konservatīvie
"SUVERĒNĀ VARA"
Other party
Voted with an empty envelope or deliberately spoiled ballot
Did not participate in elections
Difficult to say

Citizens of the Republic of Latvia

%



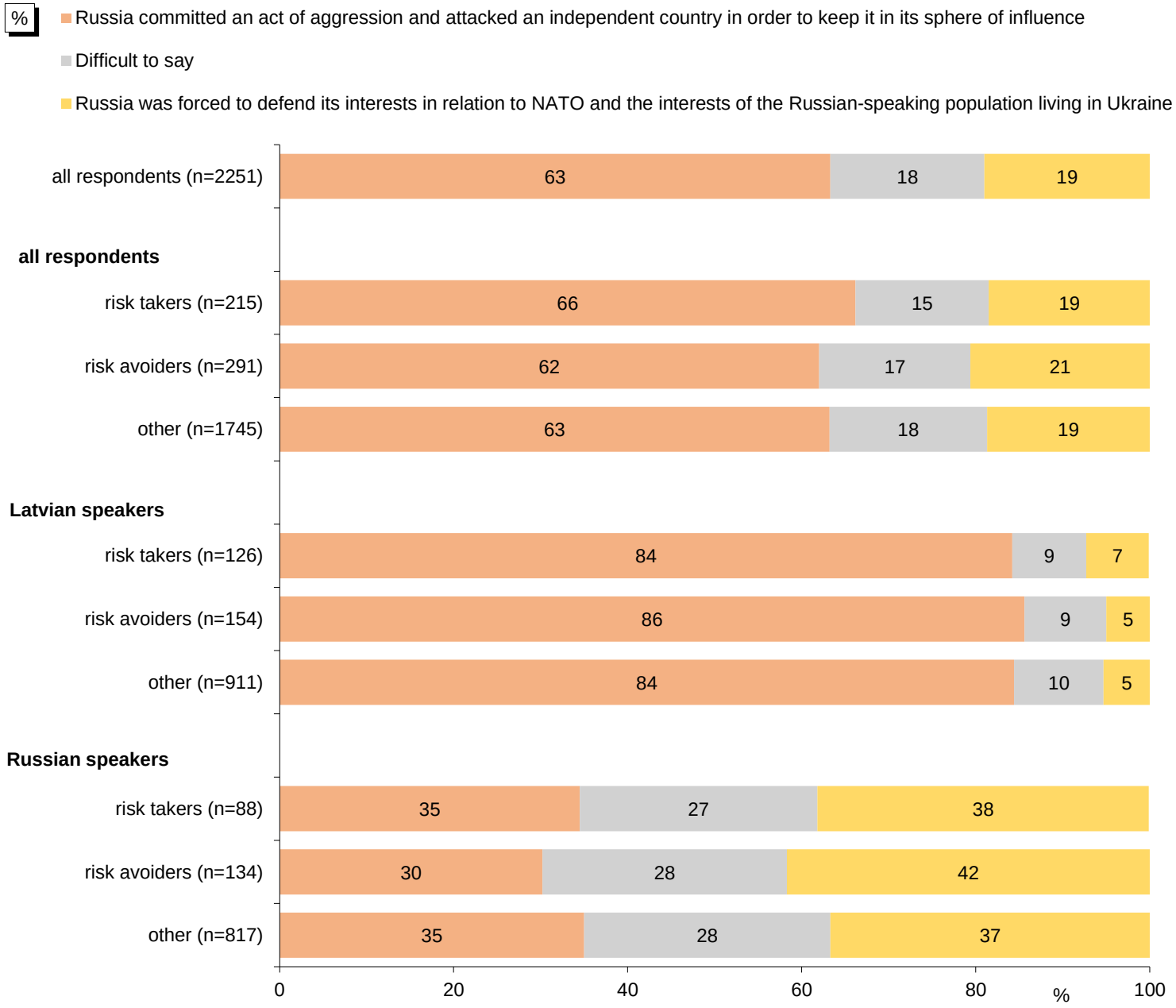
Bases: citizens of the Republic of Latvia

5. Impact of risk tolerance on views on war in Ukraine

5. Impact of risk tolerance on views on war in Ukraine

L1. "Some people believe that what is happening in Ukraine can be described as: "Russia committed an act of aggression and attacked an independent country in order to keep it in its sphere of influence". Others believe that the situation can rather be described as "Russia was forced to defend its interests in relation to NATO and the interests of the Russian-speaking population living in Ukraine". Which of these statements do you agree with the most?"

Comparison of answers of risk takers and risk avoiders

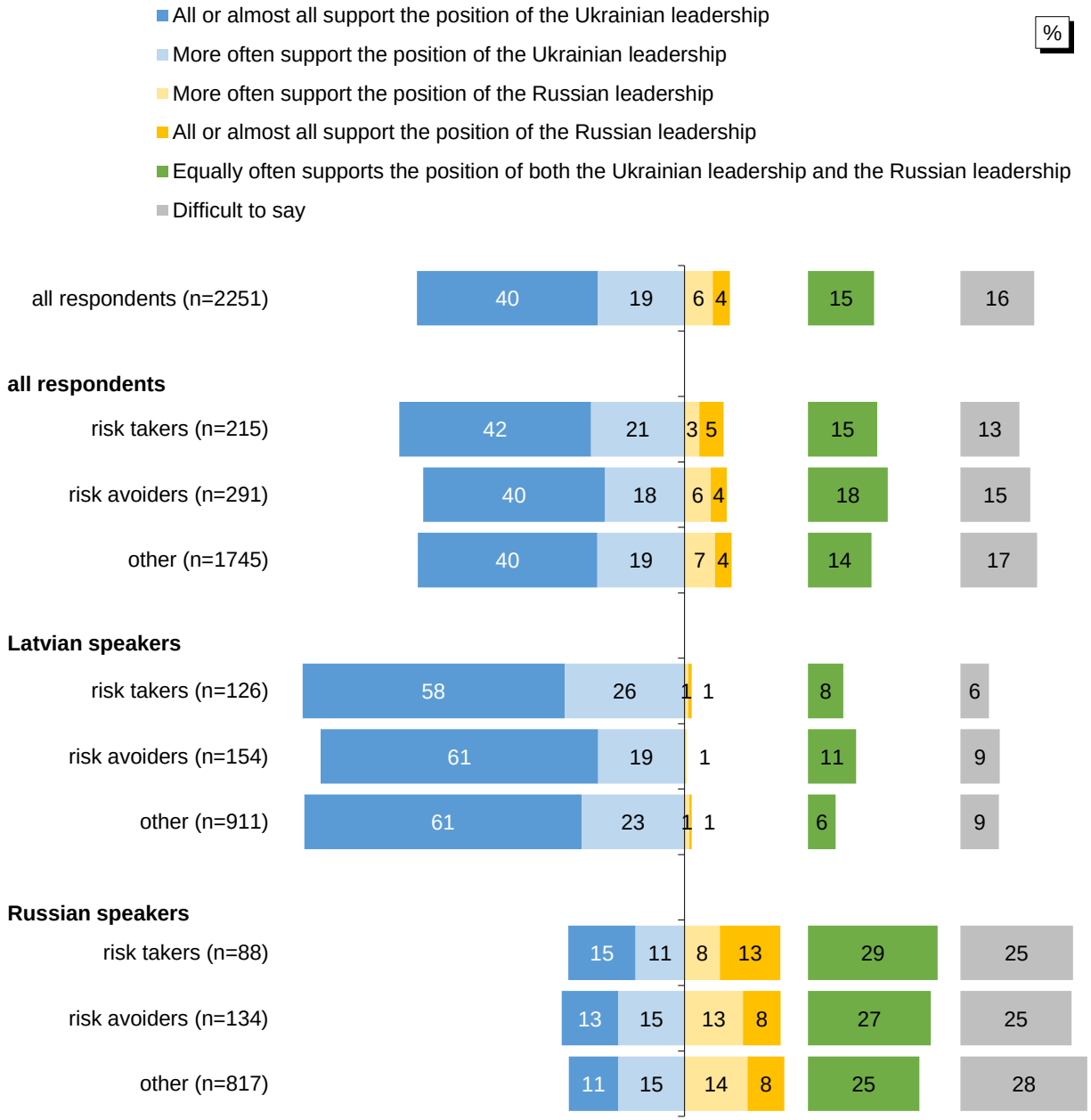


Bases: all respondents

5. Impact of risk tolerance on views on war in Ukraine

L2. There may be different opinions among our friends and relatives about what is happening in Ukraine. Who is more supported by people close to you - the position of the Ukrainian or Russian leadership?

Comparison of answers of risk takers and risk avoiders



Bases: all respondents

Questionnaire (I)

E1. Where do you mainly get information about current events in Latvia and the world?
Mark all applicable answers!

From Latvian public media (LTV, Latvian Radio, LSM)	1
From Latvian commercial media in Latvian (e.g. TV3, TV24, Delfi, Tvnet, newspapers, magazines, radio in Latvian, etc.)	2
From Latvian commercial media in Russian (e.g. Rus.Delfi.lv, Rus.Tvnet.lv, newspapers, magazines, radio in Russian, etc.)	3
From Western media	4
From Russian federal (i.e. state-controlled) media	5
From Russian opposition media	6
From social networks (Facebook, Twitter, Tiktok, Telegram, Instagram, Youtube, etc.)	7
From friends, colleagues, family members, etc.	8
Other sources	9
Difficult to say/ NA	98

A2. Please assess to what extent you are satisfied that Latvia is involved in such associations and structures! Are you completely satisfied, rather satisfied, rather unsatisfied or completely unsatisfied?

		Completely satisfied	Rather satisfied	Rather unsatisfied	Completely unsatisfied	Difficult to say/ NA
A2	Latvia is a member of the European Union	1	2	3	4	8
A3	Latvia has joined NATO	1	2	3	4	8

B1. Imagine that you are participating in a game where you have two choices. The first option is a guaranteed prize of €50. The second option is to participate in a lottery where one ticket out of 10 has a prize of €1000, and the other 9 tickets are blank. Which option will you choose?

50 euros	1
Lotery	2
Difficult to say/ NA	8

СПЕКТР Независимый Online-Журнал SKDS RESEARCH CENTRE

Questionnaire (II)

B2. On a scale of 0 to 10, where 0 is "never take risk" and 10 is "very often take risk", how often in your life do you take risk?

0 — never take risk										10 — very often take risk	Difficult to say/ NA
0	1	2	3	4	5	6	7	8	9	10	98

Show card B3/B4

B3. Please describe the level of income in <u>your current family</u>! *Mark in column B3! One answer!*

B4. Please describe the level of income in <u>your childhood</u>! *Mark in column B4! One answer!*

	B3	B4
We almost cannot make our ends meet. We do not have enough money even for food.	1	1
We have enough money for food, but buying clothes causes financial difficulties.	2	2
We have enough money for food and clothes, but buying long-term goods (TV set, fridge) causes difficulties.	3	3
We can buy long-term goods without difficulties. Yet buying really expensive goods would cause us difficulties.	4	4
We can afford to buy relatively expensive things – an apartment, a cottage and a lot of other things.	5	5
(DO NOT OFFER) Difficult to say/ NA	9	9

B8. Are you a self-employed person or a business owner, or have you been at some point in the past?

Yes, I am/ was	1
No, never have been	2
Difficult to say/ NA	8

СПЕКТР Независимый Online-Журнал SKDS RESEARCH CENTRE

Questionnaire (III)

C1. Please indicate which political party or alliance you voted for in the elections of the 14th Saeima held on October 1, 2022! *Show card C1!*

Jaunā VIENOTĪBA	1
"APVIENOTAIS SARAKSTS - Latvijas Zaļā partija, Latvijas Reģionu Apvienība, Liepājas partija"	2
Zaļo un Zemnieku savienība	3
Nacionālā apvienība "Visu Latvijai!"-"Tēvzemei un Brīvībai/LNNK"	4
Politiskā partija "Stabilitātei!"	5
LATVIJA PIRMAJĀ VIETĀ	6
"PROGRESĪVIE"	7
Attīstībai/Par!	8
"Saskaņa" sociāldemokrātiskā partija	9
Konservatīvie	10
"Latvijas Krievu savienība"	11
"SUVERĒNĀ VARA"	12
Politiskā partija "KATRAM UN KATRAI"	13
Other party (*specify*)	14
Voted with an empty envelope or deliberately spoiled ballot	15
Did not participate in elections	16
Difficult to say/ NA	98

Questionnaire (IV)

Question C4 should be answered by those who did not vote for Saskaņa in the elections of the 14th Saeima (C1 NOT 9)
C4. If you voted for Saskaņa in the Saeima elections before, why did you not vote for the Saskaņa in the last elections of the 14th Saeima, which took place on October 1, 2022? *There may be multiple answers!*

Never voted for Saskaņa	1
Didn't like the candidates	2
Didn't like the party's economic programme	3
Didn't like the party's demographic programme	4
Didn't like the party's program on climate and ecological issues	5
The party did not sufficiently defend the interests of the Russian-speaking population	6
The party placed too much emphasis on defending the interests of the Russian-speaking population	7
The party did not advocate enough **against the demolition** of Soviet monuments	8
The party did not advocate enough **for the demolition** of Soviet monuments	9
The party supported Ukraine too much	10
The party was too favorable to Russia	11
I did not vote for them for some other reason (*specify*)……	12
Difficult to say/ NA	98

Questionnaire (V)

L1. Some people believe that what is happening in Ukraine can be described as: "Russia committed an act of aggression and attacked an independent country in order to keep it in its sphere of influence". Others believe that the situation can rather be described as "Russia was forced to defend its interests in relation to NATO and the interests of the Russian-speaking population living in Ukraine".
Which of these statements do you agree with the most? *One answer, show card L1!*

Russia committed an act of aggression and attacked an independent country in order to keep it in its sphere of influence	1
Russia was forced to defend its interests in relation to NATO and the interests of the Russian-speaking population living in Ukraine	2
Difficult to say/ NA	8

L2. There may be different opinions among our friends and relatives about what is happening in Ukraine. Who is more supported by people close to you - the position of the Ukrainian or Russian leadership?

All or almost all support the position of the Ukrainian leadership	1
More often support the position of the Ukrainian leadership	2
Equally often supports the position of both the Ukrainian leadership and the Russian leadership	3
More often support the position of the Russian leadership	4
All or almost all support the position of the Russian leadership	5
Difficult to say/ NA	8

The Accuracy of the Results

Using the results it is necessary to take into account the *statistical error*.The differences, which are within the statistical error limit or less, are considered as *insignificant.*

Divison of answers (%)	**Sample size [N] =**															
	50	**75**	**100**	**200**	**300**	**400**	**500**	**600**	**700**	**800**	**900**	**1000**	**1100**	**1200**	**1500**	**2000**
1 or 99	2.8	2.2	1.9	1.4	1.1	1.0	0.9	0.8	0.7	0.7	0.6	0.6	0.6	0.5	0.5	0.4
2 or 98	3.9	3.2	2.7	1.9	1.6	1.4	1.2	1.1	1.0	1.0	0.9	0.9	0.8	0.8	0.7	0.6
4 or 96	5.4	4.5	3.8	2.7	2.2	1.9	1.7	1.6	1.5	1.4	1.3	1.2	1.2	1.1	1.0	0.9
6 or 94	6.6	5.4	4.7	3.3	2.7	2.3	2.0	1.9	1.8	1.7	1.6	1.5	1.4	1.3	1.2	1.0
8 or 92	7.5	6.1	5.3	3.8	3.1	2.7	2.4	2.2	2.0	1.9	1.8	1.7	1.6	1.5	1.4	1.2
10 or 90	8.3	6.8	5.9	4.2	3.4	2.9	2.6	2.4	2.2	2.0	2.0	1.9	1.8	1.7	1.5	1.3
12 or 88	9.0	7.4	6.4	4.5	3.7	3.2	2.9	2.6	2.4	2.3	2.1	2.0	1.9	1.8	1.6	1.4
15 or 85	9.9	8.0	7.0	5.0	4.0	3.5	3.1	2.9	2.6	2.5	2.3	2.2	2.1	2.0	1.8	1.6
18 or 82	10.7	8.7	7.5	5.3	4.4	3.8	3.4	3.0	2.9	2.7	2.5	2.4	2.3	2.2	1.9	1.7
20 or 80	11.1	9.1	7.8	5.5	4.5	3.9	3.5	3.2	3.0	2.8	2.6	2.5	2.4	2.3	2.0	1.8
22 or 78	11.5	9.4	8.1	5.7	4.7	4.1	3.6	3.3	3.1	2.9	2.7	2.6	2.5	2.4	2.1	1.8
25 or 75	12.0	9.8	8.5	6.0	4.9	4.2	3.8	3.5	3.2	3.0	2.8	2.7	2.6	2.5	2.2	1.9
28 or 72	12.5	10.2	8.8	6.2	5.1	4.4	3.9	3.6	3.3	3.1	2.9	2.8	2.7	2.5	2.3	2.0
30 or 70	12.7	10.4	9.0	6.4	5.2	4.5	4.0	3.7	3.4	3.2	3.0	2.8	2.7	2.6	2.3	2.0
32 or 68	12.9	10.6	9.1	6.5	5.3	4.6	4.1	3.7	3.5	3.2	3.1	2.9	2.8	2.6	2.4	2.1
35 or 65	13.2	10.8	9.4	6.6	5.4	4.7	4.2	3.8	3.5	3.3	3.1	3.0	2.8	2.7	2.4	2.1
40 or 60	13.6	11.1	9.6	6.8	5.5	4.8	4.3	3.9	3.6	3.4	3.2	3.0	2.9	2.8	2.5	2.2
45 or 55	13.8	11.3	9.8	6.9	5.6	4.9	4.4	4.0	3.7	3.5	3.3	3.1	2.9	2.8	2.5	2.2
50 or 50	13.9	11.3	9.8	6.9	5.7	4.9	4.4	4.0	3.7	3.5	3.3	3.1	3.0	2.8	2.5	2.2

СПЕКТР Независимый Online-Журнал
SKDS RESEARCH CENTRE

Journal «Spektr»
https://spektr.press/
https://spress.cc/
«Spektr» website is accessible in Russia via VPN
Phone: +37128331246
Email: editor@spektr.press

Research centre SKDS
Baznicas street 32-2, Riga, Latvia, LV-1010
Phone: 67 312 876
www.skds.lv