



Lithuanian Map of Corruption 2025

Presentation of research data

A blurred background image showing several people in a meeting or collaborative work environment. They appear to be looking at documents or a screen, with their hands and faces slightly out of focus. A dark blue horizontal bar is overlaid on the lower left portion of the image.

ABOUT THE STUDY

METHODOLOGY

SURVEY TARGET GROUPS



RESIDENTS

Representative survey of adult population
Sample size: **2001 respondents**
Method: **face to face interview**
Margin of error: **3 %**



CIVIL
SERVANTS

Quota survey (by type of institution and district).
Sample size: **500 respondents**
Method: **internet**
Margin of error: **5 %**

THEMATIC BLOCKS



Corruption perception:

- Sectors / institutions considered as the most corrupt
- Forms of corruption seen as the most acute
- Evaluation of the level of corruption



Experience of corruption:

- Experience of bribery
- Experience of nepotism
- Witnessing of corruption in public sector



Transparency of decision-making:

- Evaluation of openness in decision-making
- Influence of interests on decision-making



Anti-corruption potential:

- Attitudes towards corruption
- Willingness to report corruption
- Perceived responsibility for corruption

2001

FIRST LITHUANIAN MAP OF CORRUPTION

CONDUCTED BY “TRANSPARENCY INTERNATIONAL” LITHUANIA
TARGET GROUPS: RESIDENTS AND BUSINESS EXECUTIVES

2008

AN ADDITION OF CIVIL SERVANTS TARGET GROUP

2011

SURVEY COORDINATION IS TRANSFERED TO STT

2025

THE 16TH LITHUANIAN MAP OF CORRUPTION

UPDATED RESEARCH MODEL:

- Rotation of respondent groups has begun:
 - In 2025 **residents (N=2001)** and **civil servants (N=500)** were surveyed
 - In 2026 a survey of business executives will be conducted
- Improved study design and updated questionnaires (based on insights from academics and experts)

A blurred background image showing several people in a meeting or collaborative work environment. They are gathered around a table, with some hands visible as if gesturing or pointing at documents. The overall scene is out of focus, emphasizing the text overlay.

KEY INSIGHTS

Key insights:

CORRUPTION PERCEPTION

- Corruption is perceived as widespread by the general public, but more respondents are optimists than pessimistic about future trends.
- Nepotism, the improper use of political connections, the adoption of laws benefiting specific groups, and abuse of office or authority are identified as the most widespread forms of corruption in Lithuania.
- The institutions most often cited among the five most corrupt are healthcare institutions, the Seimas, the courts, municipalities, and political parties and politicians.
- Residents and civil servants most often identify the justice system, healthcare, management of public funds, the energy sector, and environmental protection, natural resources, and territorial planning and construction policy as the most corrupt areas of public governance.



Key insights:

EXPERIENCE OF CORRUPTION

- Actual experience with corruption is significantly lower than its perceived prevalence: 11% of the population report having paid a bribe in the past 12 months.
- Although the highest bribery risk is associated with healthcare institutions, the situation has been improving over the long term.
- The public perceive personal connections as important both when accessing public services and in professional life.
- 41% of civil servants stated that they had personally encountered corruption-related situations over the past three years.



Key insights:

TRANSPARENCY IN DECISION-MAKING

- A larger share of both residents and civil servants believe that decision-making in Lithuania lacks openness, and compared to previous years, the proportion of respondents holding this view has increased significantly in both groups.
- According to civil servants, attempts to influence decision-making are most often made through all possible means – both legal and illegal – and are most commonly directed at the construction, energy, healthcare, pharmaceutical, and environmental sectors.
- The most frequently cited methods of influence remain the same as in previous years: informal meetings, using personal connections, and supporting political parties.
- According to civil servants, the actors most often seeking to influence decision-making in Lithuania are registered lobbyists, associations, and companies.



Key insights:

ANTI-CORRUPTION POTENTIAL

- Most of the corruption-prone situations presented are recognized by both the public and civil servants as corrupt. The public is least likely to recognize as corrupt situations in which unofficial, non-monetary gratitude is offered **after** a public service has been provided.
- A pragmatic attitude towards bribery is widespread among the public: whether or not to give a bribe is determined more by the situations people face than by personal values.
- The potential for reporting corruption remains relatively low, although the share of those who would potentially report it is increasing. Fear of possible negative consequences of reporting corruption remains widespread among the public, as do doubts about whether corruption is actually punished.
- In the long term, there is a growing awareness that corruption is punished.

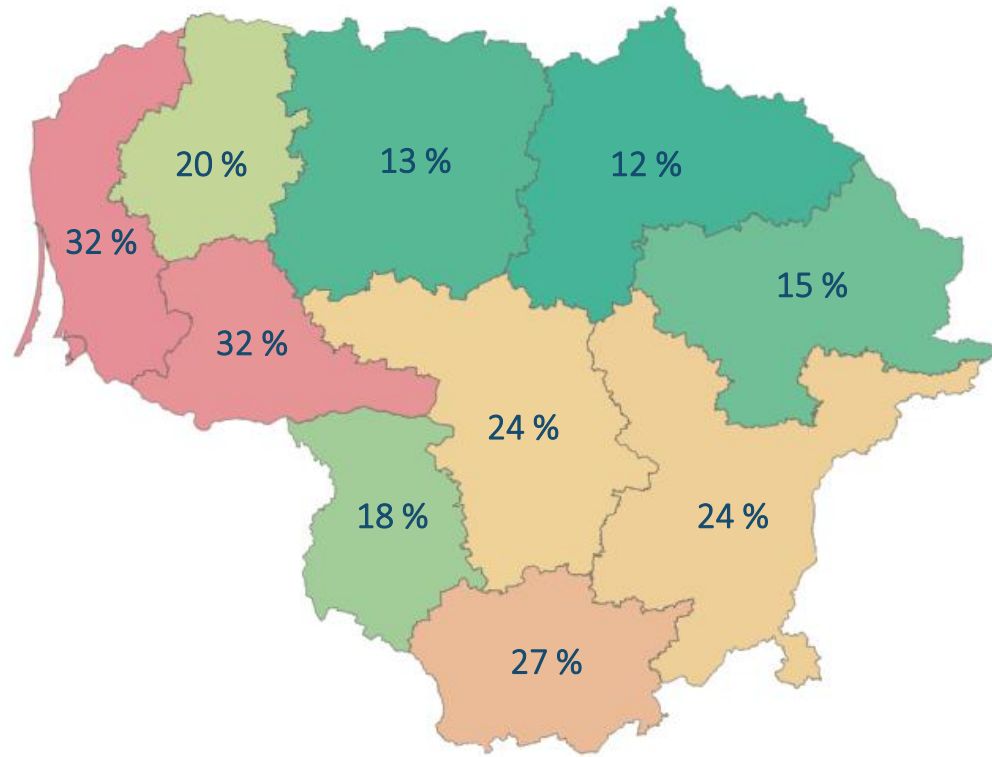


A blurred background image showing several people in a meeting or office setting. The focus is on the hands and arms of the individuals, suggesting a collaborative or discussion-based environment. The colors are muted and the overall image is out of focus.

PERCEPTION OF CORRUPTION

Perception of the prevalence of corruption

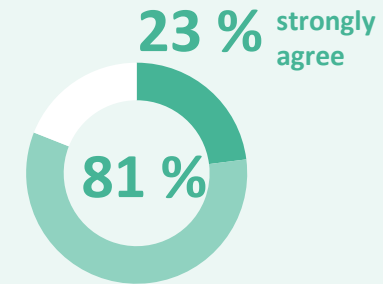
Distribution of **residents** who strongly agree that corruption is widespread in Lithuania, by county



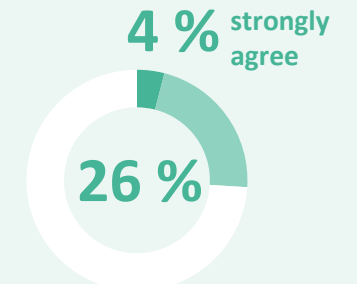
Attitudes towards corruption



RESIDENTS



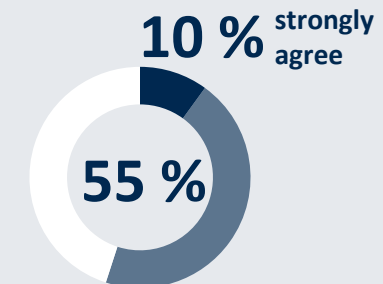
Corruption is a widespread phenomenon in Lithuania



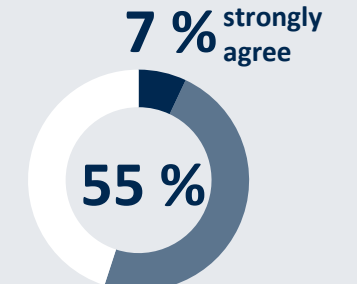
Lithuania successfully tackles corruption issues



CIVIL SERVANTS



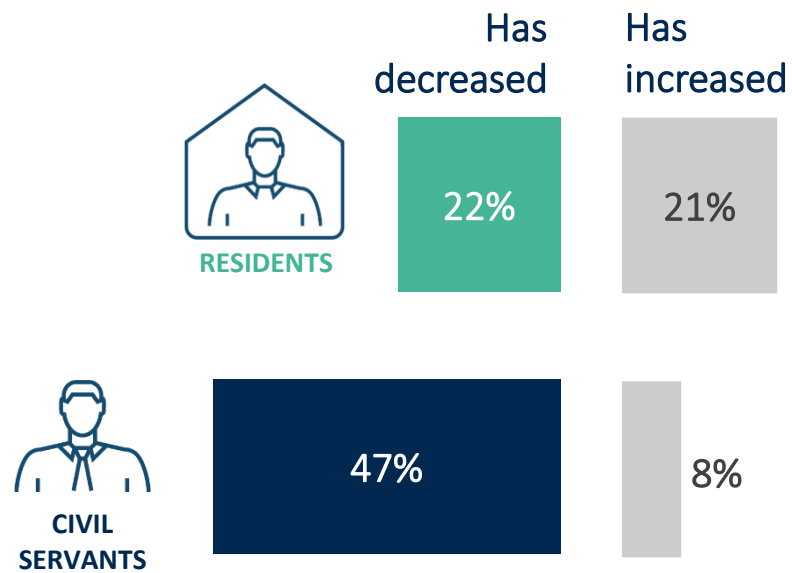
Corruption is a widespread phenomenon in Lithuania



Lithuania successfully tackles corruption issues

Perceived changes in the level of corruption

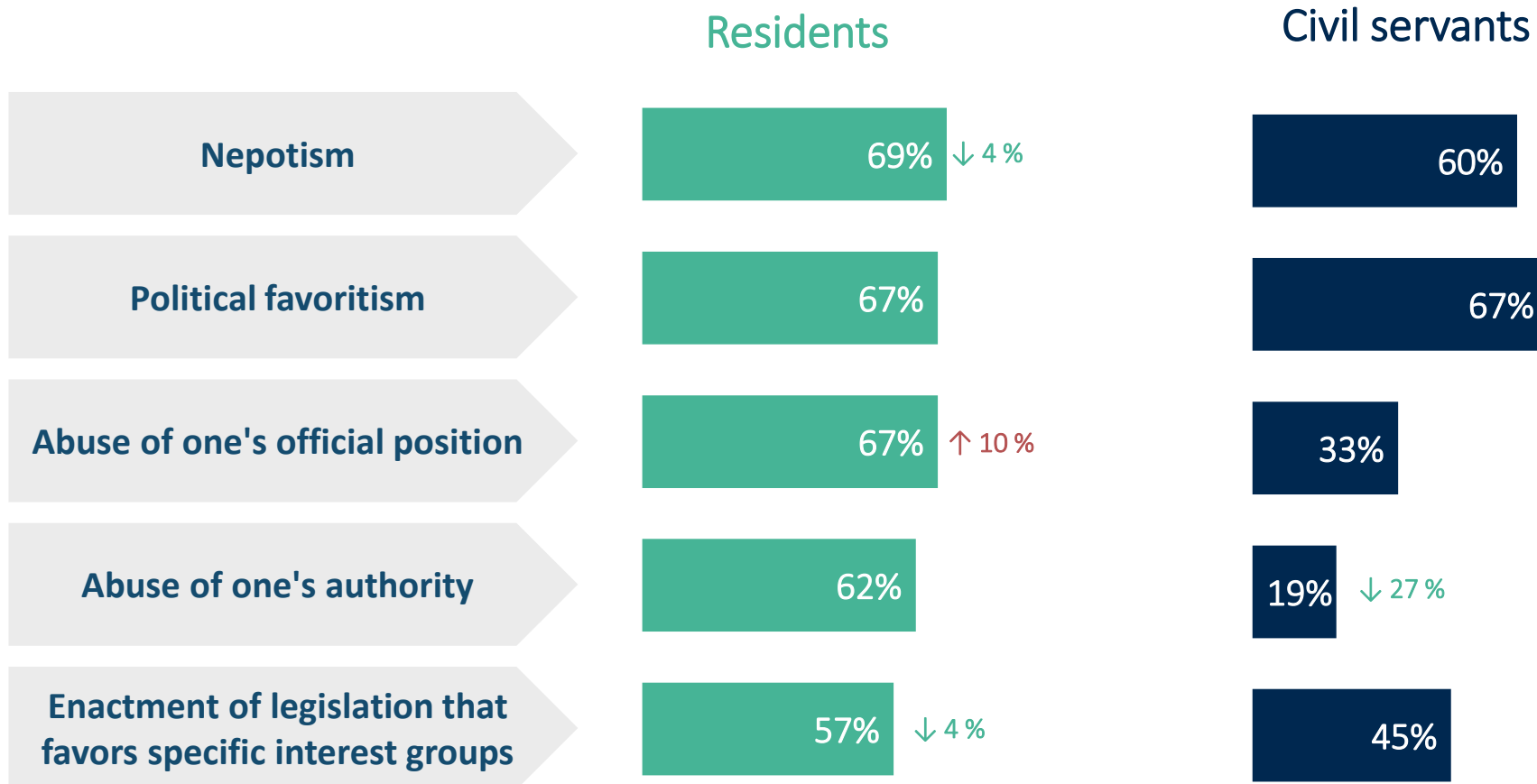
OVER THE PAST YEAR, THE SCALE OF CORRUPTION:



OVER THE NEXT 3 YEARS, THE SCALE OF CORRUPTION:



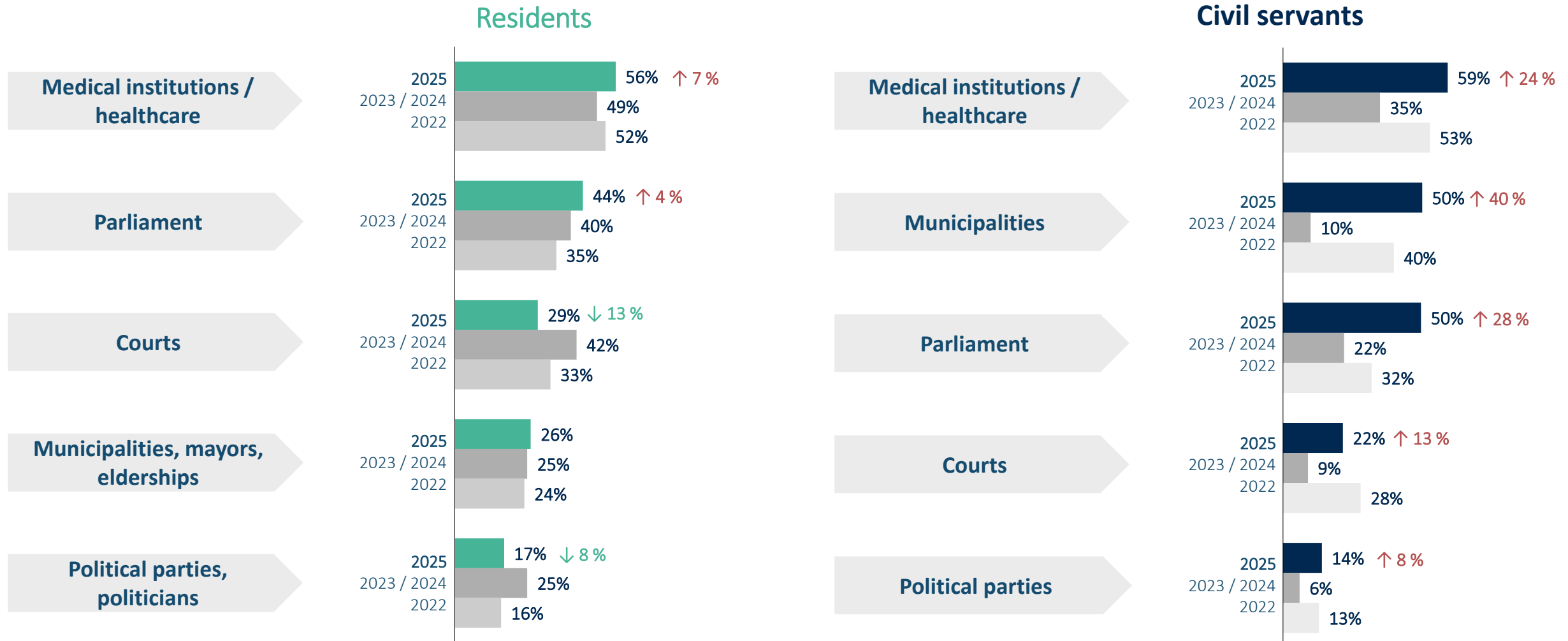
The most widespread forms of corruption



Arrows indicate changes exceeding the statistical margin of error compared to 2023-2024.

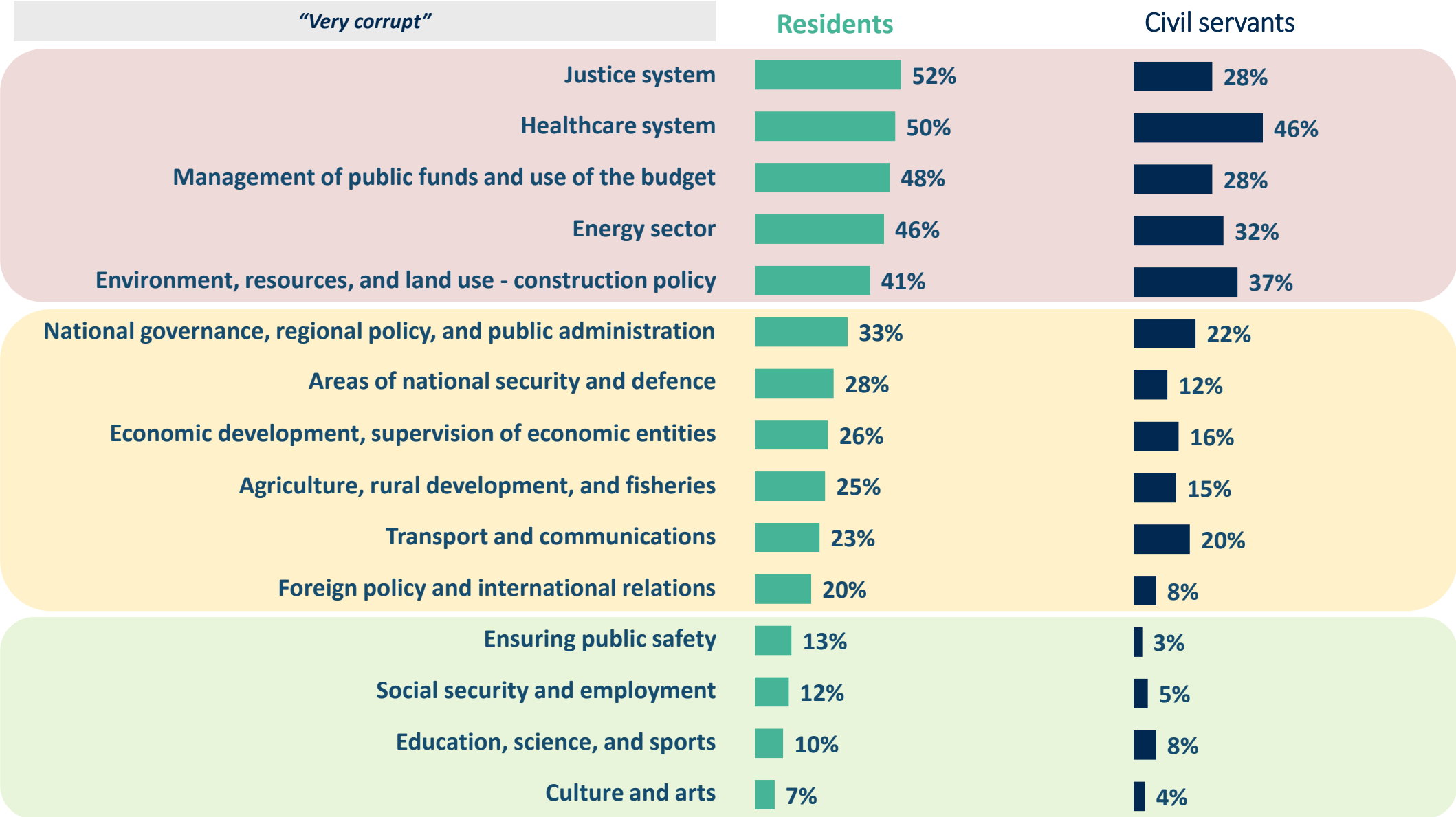
Evaluation of corruption prevalence in institutions

TOP 5 INSTITUTIONS PERCEIVED AS THE MOST CORRUPT IN LITHUANIA

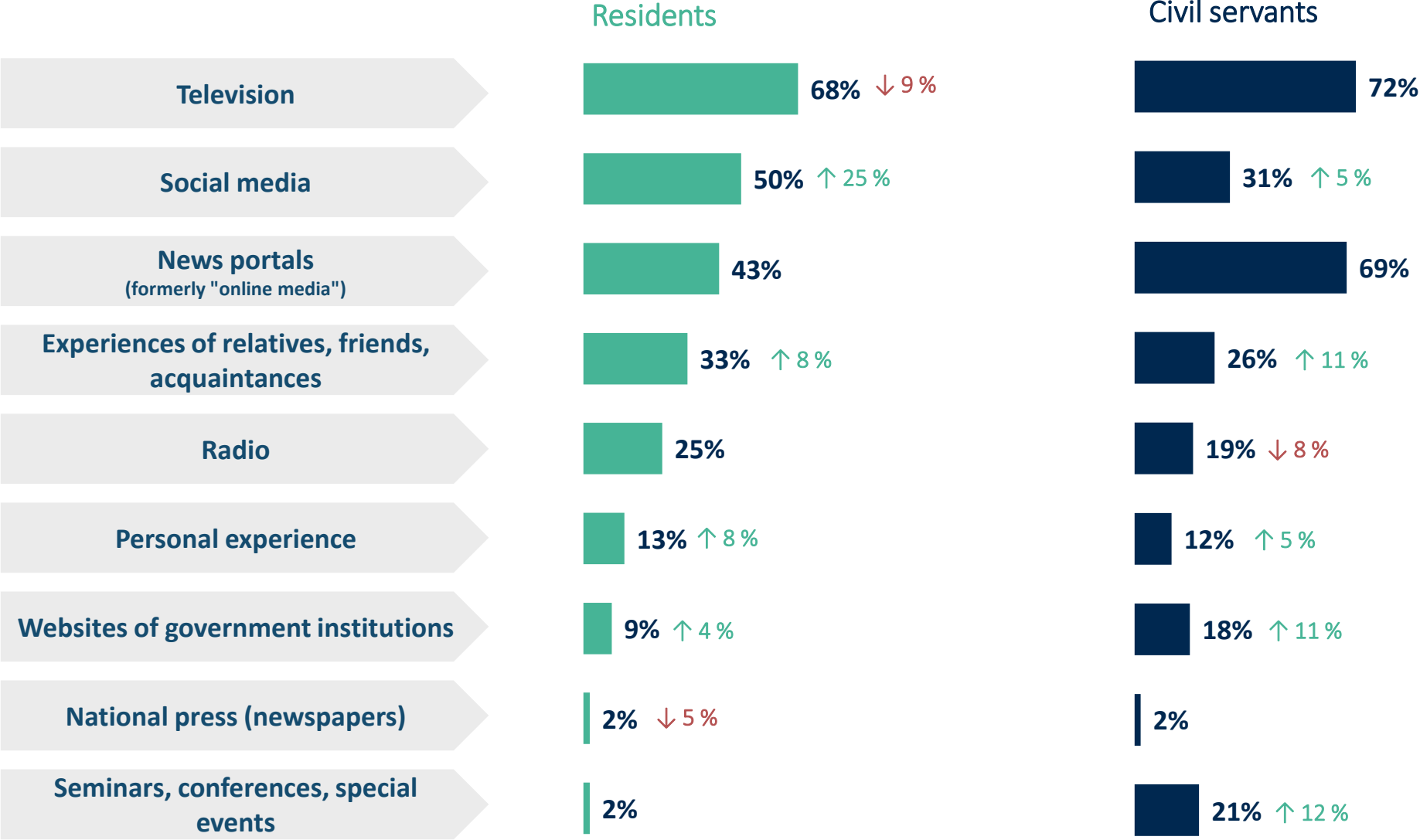


Arrows indicate changes exceeding the statistical margin of error compared to 2023-2024.

Evaluation of corruption across areas of government



Sources of information on corruption



Respondents selected up to three sources of information about corruption that were most important to them. Arrows indicate changes exceeding the statistical margin of error compared to 2023-2024.

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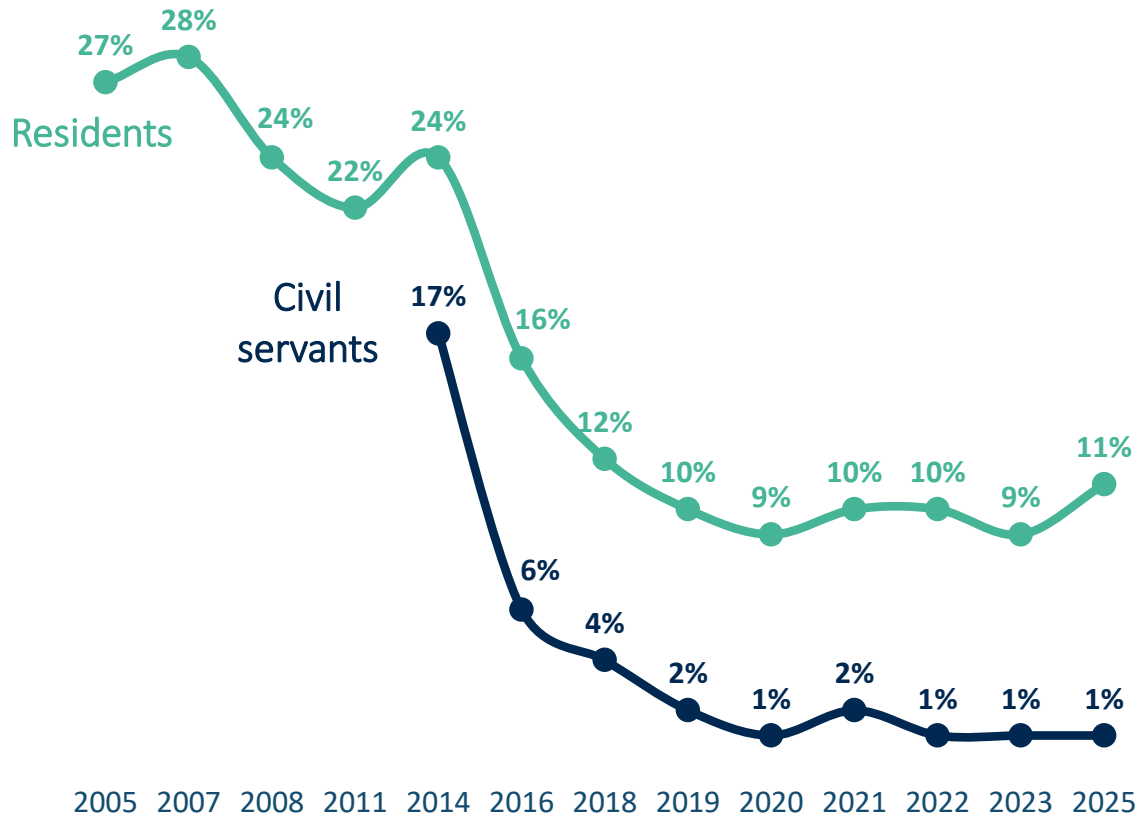
EXPERIENCE OF CORRUPTION

A blurred background image showing several people in a meeting or office setting. The focus is on the hands and arms of the individuals, suggesting a collaborative or discussion-based environment. The colors are muted and the overall image is out of focus.

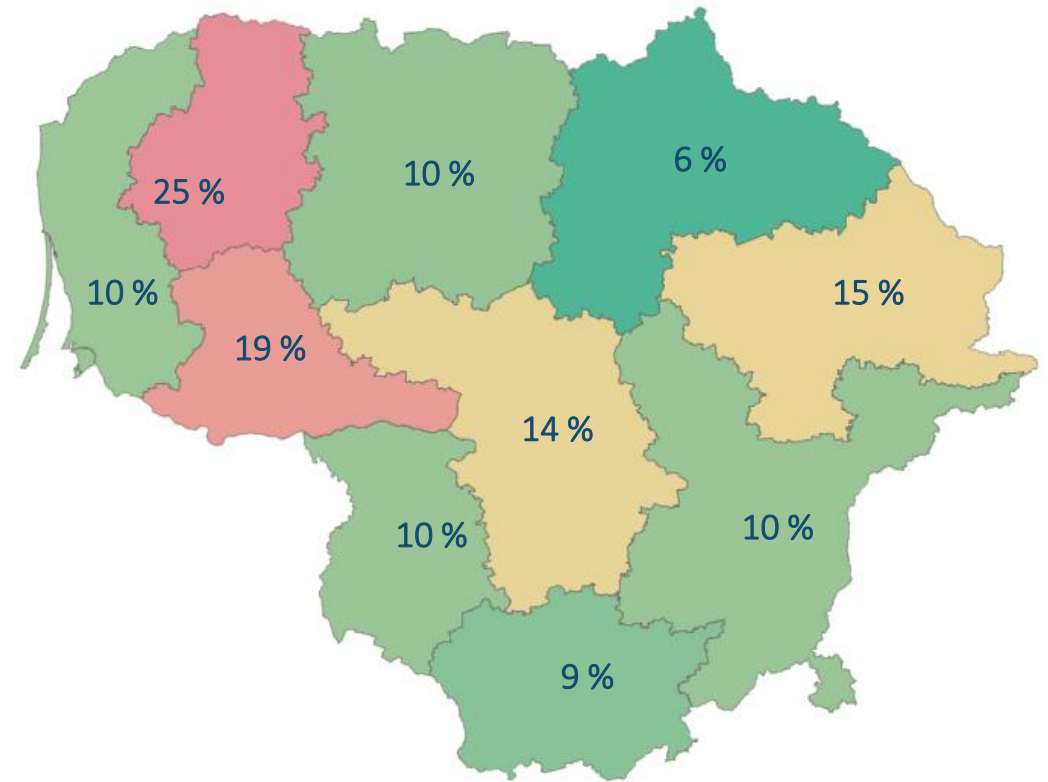
Experience of corruption: bribery

Experience of paying bribes

Have given a bribe in the last 12 months



























Distribution of residents who indicated that they had paid a bribe in the past 12 months, by county



Experience of being asked for a bribe

The institutions and procedures in which residents were most often asked for bribes:
*Respondents who had dealings with the institution / procedure over a 3-year period****

Institutions				Procedures			
	2025	2022	2016		2025	2022	2016
 STATE TERRITORIAL PLANNING AND CONSTRUCTION INSPECTORATE**	12 %	-	-	 SURGICAL OPERATION*	16 % 	32 % 	38 %
 CITY AND DISTRICT HOSPITALS*	8 % 	18 % 	36 %	 ASSESSMENT OF DISABILITY AND PARTICIPATION*	12 %	-	-
 DISABILITY AND WORKING CAPACITY ASSESSMENT SERVICE*	8 %	11%	-	 HOSPITAL NURSING CARE*	11 % 	25 %	25 %
 NATIONAL HOSPITALS / CLINICS*	7 % 	22 % 	40 %	 LOCAL GOVERNMENT: PROCEDURES RELATED TO CONSTRUCTION*	11 %	12 %	-
 STATE REHABILITATION CENTERS*	7 %	-	-	 LOCAL GOVERNMENT: PROCEDURES RELATED TO LAND MANAGEMENT*	11 %	-	-
 TECHNICAL VEHICLE INSPECTION CENTERS*	5 % 	9 % 	13 %	 OBTAINING REFERRALS TO REHABILITATION SANATORIUMS*	8 %	8 %	10 %
 LOCAL POLICE STATIONS*	5 %	-	-	 TAKING A DRIVING TEST**	6 %	-	-
				 CIVIL CASE PROCEEDINGS**	5 %	-	-

*Institutions/procedures encountered by at least 100 respondents over the past 3/5 years.

**Institutions/procedures encountered by at least 30-99 respondents over the past 3/5 years.

***The 2025 study covered a 3-year period, whereas previous studies covered a 5-year period.

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Experience of corruption: informal use of personal connections

The importance and use of personal connections

AWARENESS OF IMPORTANCE

Personal connections are very important in Lithuania

In order to obtain public services faster and with higher quality



RESIDENTS

36 %



CIVIL
SERVANTS

24 %



In order to get hired or be promoted in the public sector



RESIDENTS

40 %



CIVIL
SERVANTS

27 %



In order to get hired or be promoted in the private sector



RESIDENTS

33 %



CIVIL
SERVANTS

25 %



THE USE OF CONNECTIONS

Use of personal connections over the past 3 years

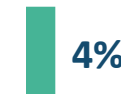
RESIDENTS

In order to obtain public services faster and with higher quality



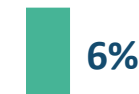
16%

In order to get hired or be promoted in the public sector



4%

To get hired or be promoted in the private sector



6%

Situation encountered at work over the past 12 months where someone sought to use personal connections

CIVIL SERVANTS

In order to get hired or be promoted



15%

In order to achieve a favorable decision



10%

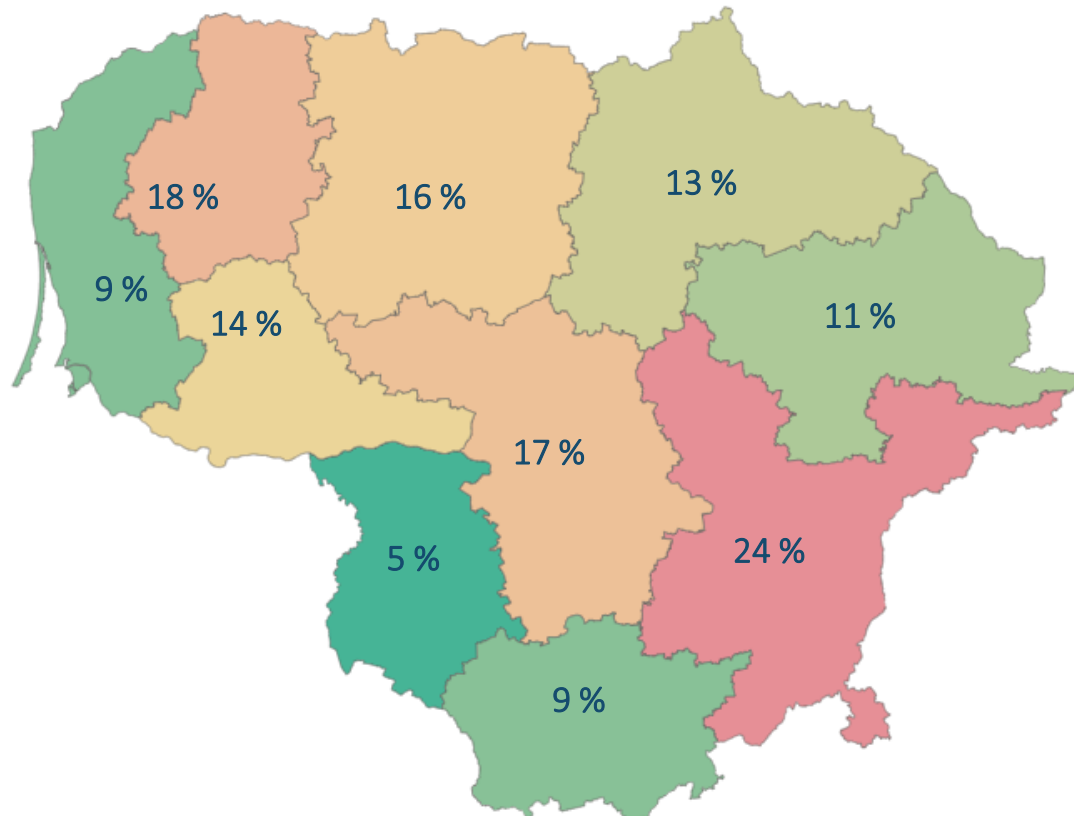
In order to obtain public services faster and with higher quality



10%

Use of personal connections

Distribution of **residents** who reported having used personal connections over the past 3 years, by county



Residents most often relied on personal connections in the following institutions and procedures:
Among respondents who had encountered the institution / procedure over a 3-year period***

Institution / Procedure	Percentage
2025	26%
 EMPLOYMENT IN THE PUBLIC SERVICE**	26%
 STATE TERRITORIAL PLANNING AND CONSTRUCTION INSPECTORATE**	16%
 LOCAL GOVERNMENT: DECISION-MAKING ON INFRASTRUCTURE AND ENVIRONMENTAL MANAGEMENT**	15%
 SURGICAL OPERATION*	11%
 LOCAL GOVERNMENT: PROCEDURES RELATED TO LAND MANAGEMENT*	11%
 LOCAL GOVERNMENT: PROCEDURES RELATED TO CONSTRUCTION*	10%

*Institutions/procedures encountered by at least 100 respondents over the past 3/5 years

**Institutions/procedures encountered by at least 30-99 respondents over the past 3/5 years

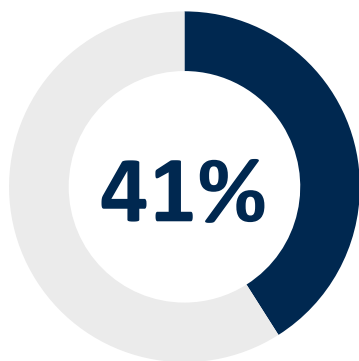
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Corruption in the public sector

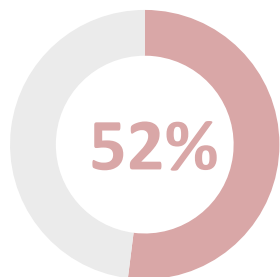
Civil servants' encounters with corruption in the public sector

Personally encountered at least one of the corruption-related situations over the past 3 years

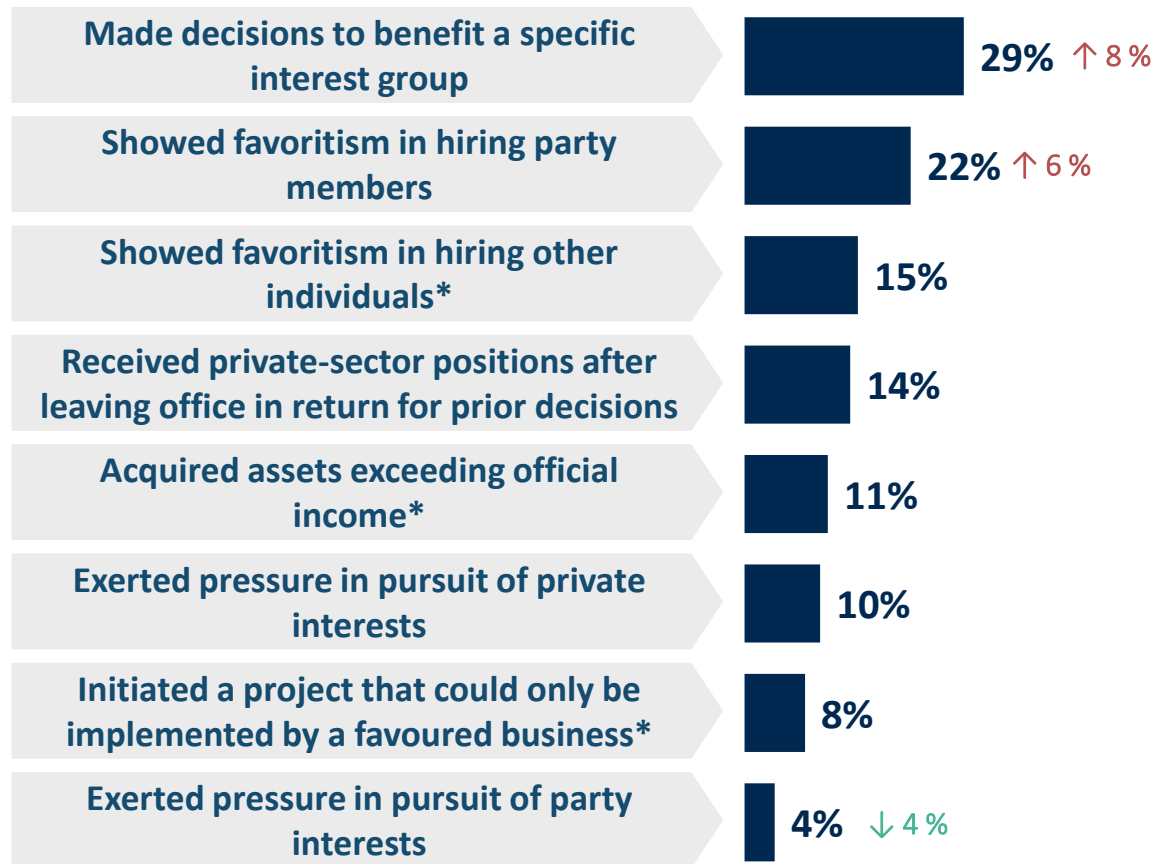
All civil servants



Civil servants working in local government



Encountered a corrupt situation where politicians or civil servants:

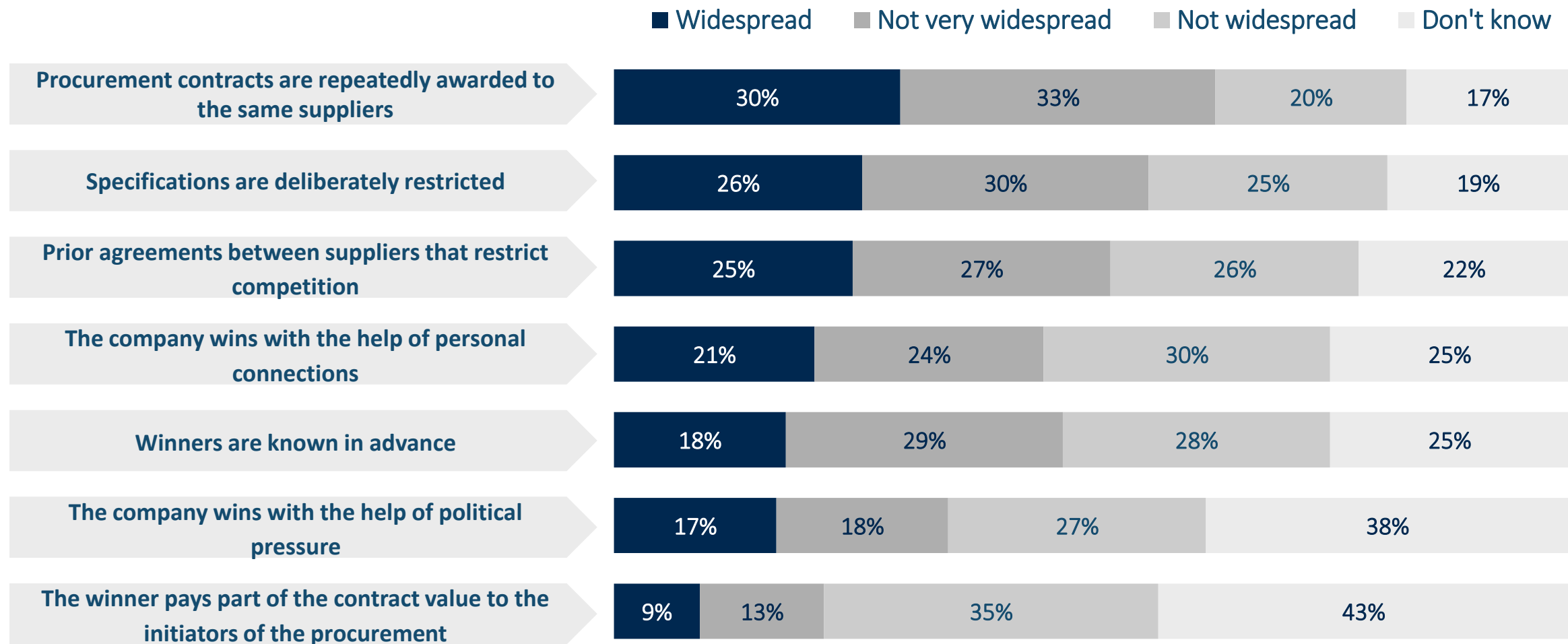


Target group: civil servants

Arrows indicate changes exceeding the statistical margin of error compared to 2023-2024.

*Additional situations added in 2025

Assessment of non-transparent practices in public procurement



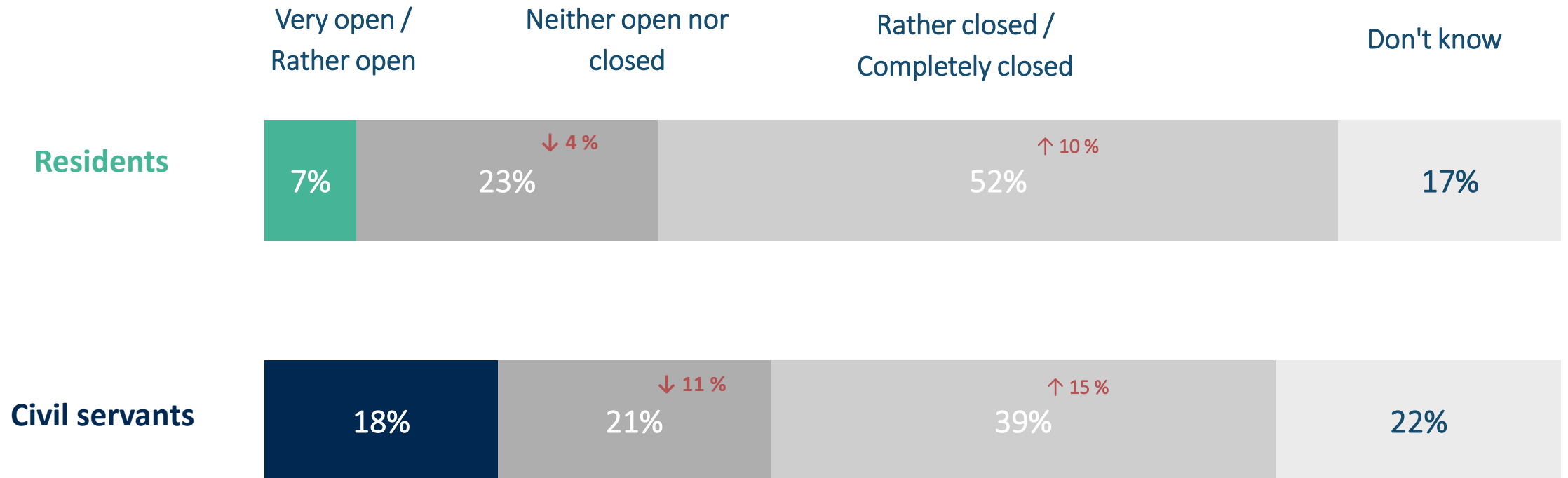
*Target group: civil servants who deal with public procurement at least occasionally, N=174
The wording of the question has changed, so comparisons with previous years are not possible.*

A blurred background image showing several people in a meeting or collaborative work environment. They appear to be looking at documents or screens, with their hands and faces slightly out of focus. The overall tone is professional and collaborative.

OPENNESS OF DECISION-MAKING

Assessment of openness in decision-making I

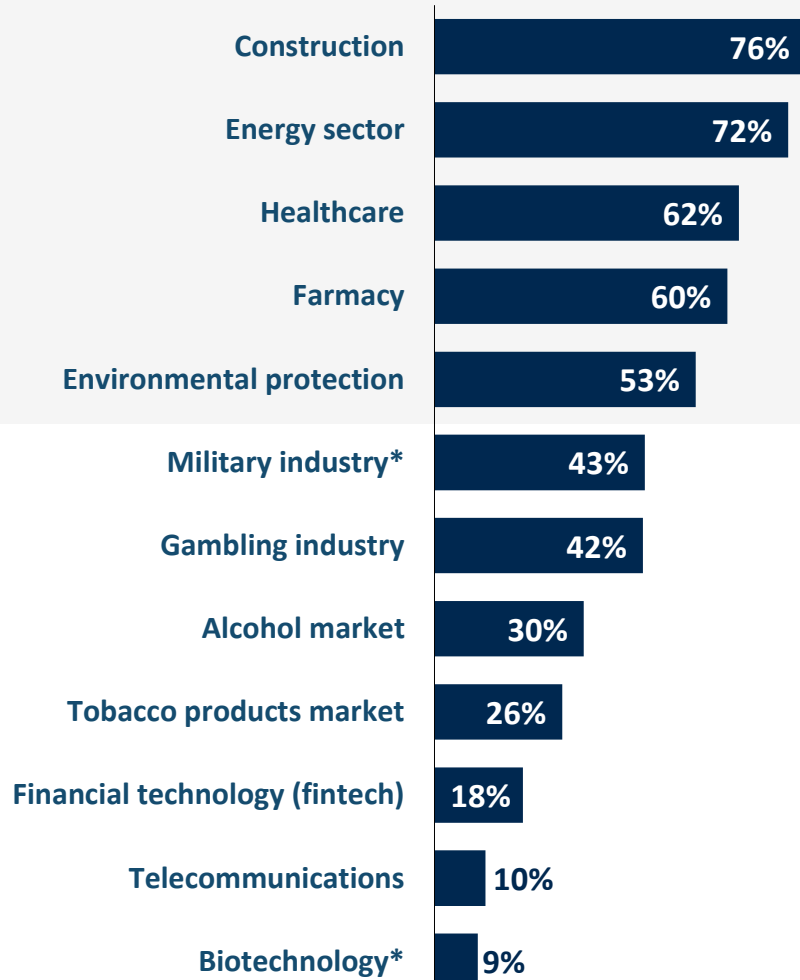
Can all interested parties participate equally in decision-making in Lithuania? How open is decision-making in Lithuania?



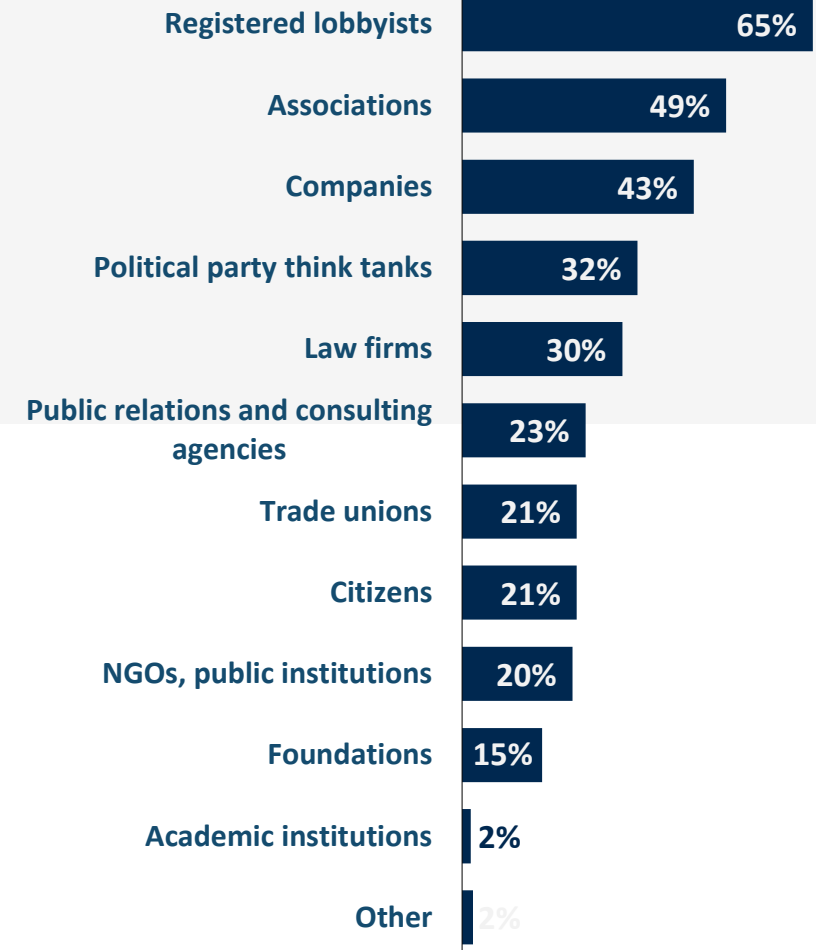
Arrows indicate changes exceeding the statistical margin of error compared to 2023-2024.

Decision-making: sectors and actors

Sectors most often targeted for influence



Actors who most often seek to exert influence

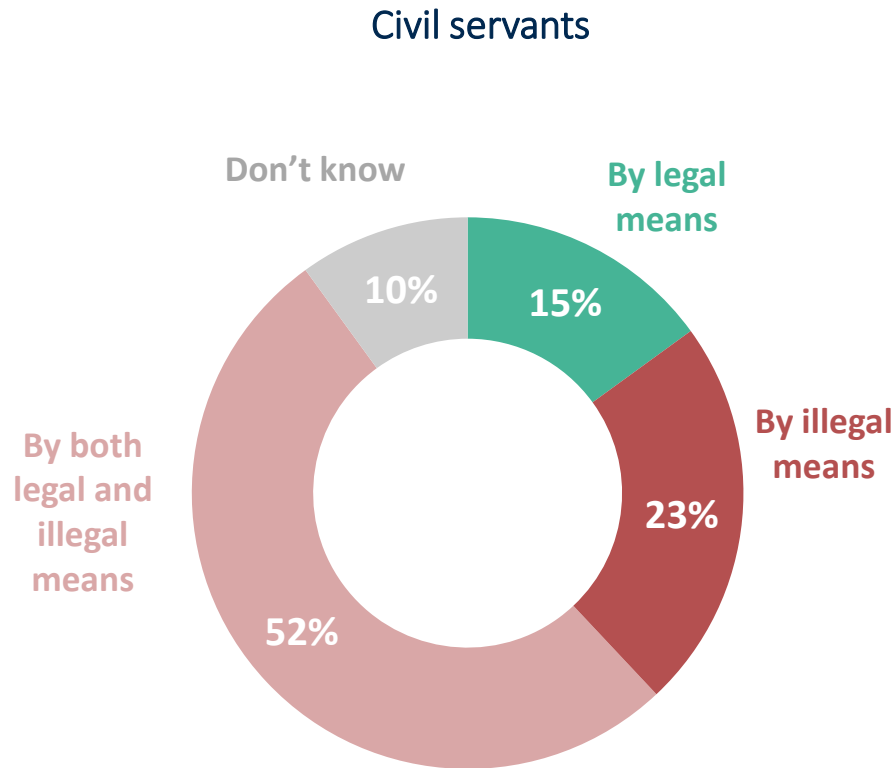


Target group: civil servants who are aware of cases where attempts were made to influence decision-making, N=250

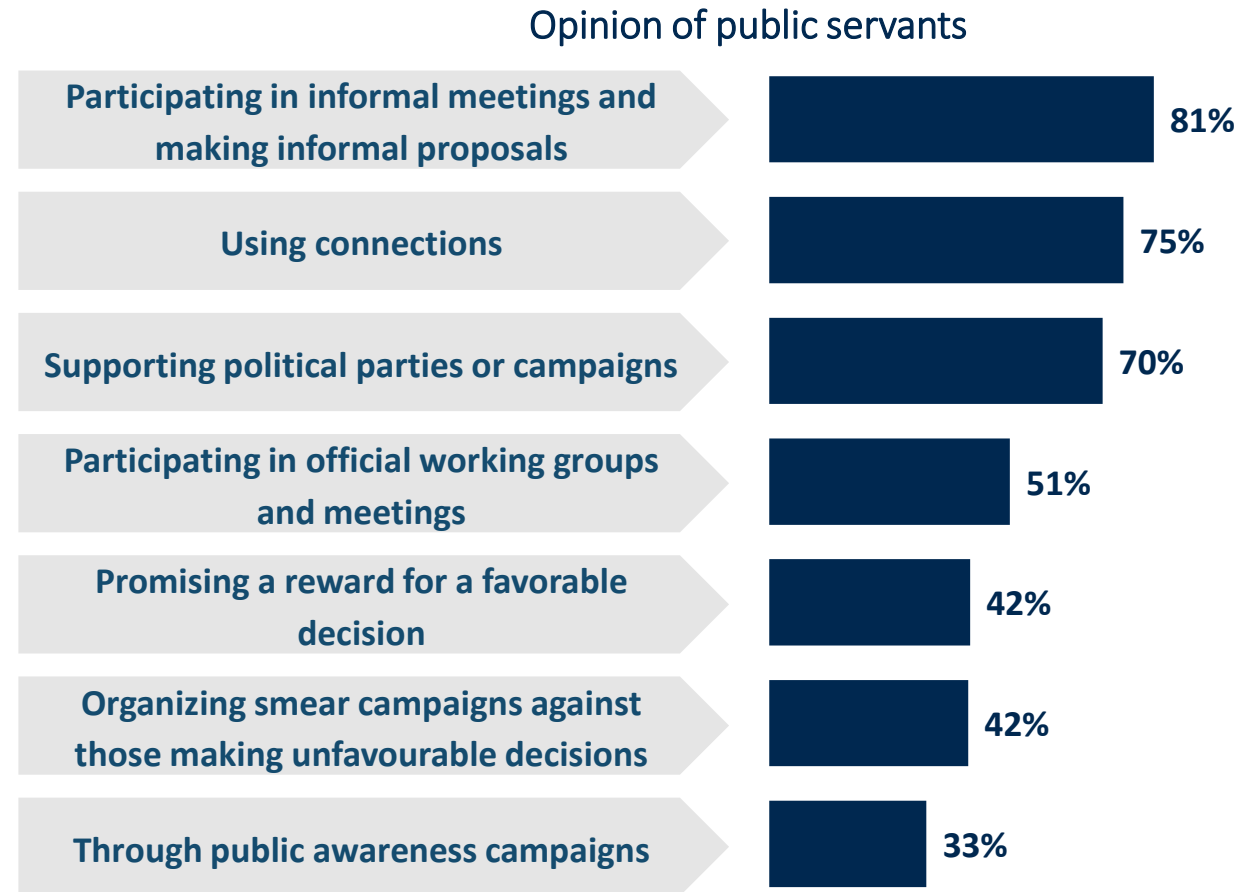
As the target group has changed, comparisons with previous years are not possible

Decision-making: methods

When attempts were made to influence decision-making and legislation, this was done:



Most common ways of influencing decision-making in Lithuania:



Target group: civil servants who are aware of cases where attempts were made to influence decision-making, N=250

As the target group has changed, comparisons with previous years are not possible

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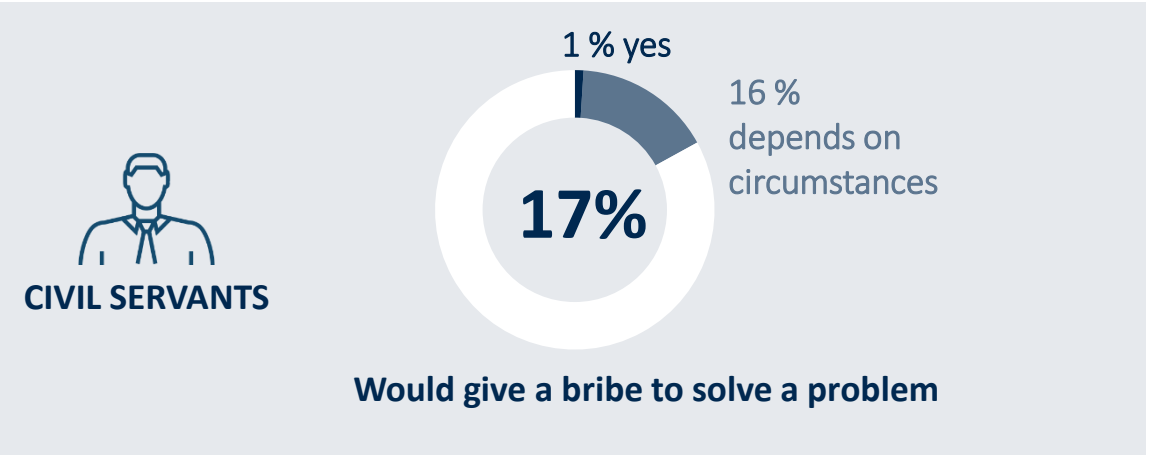
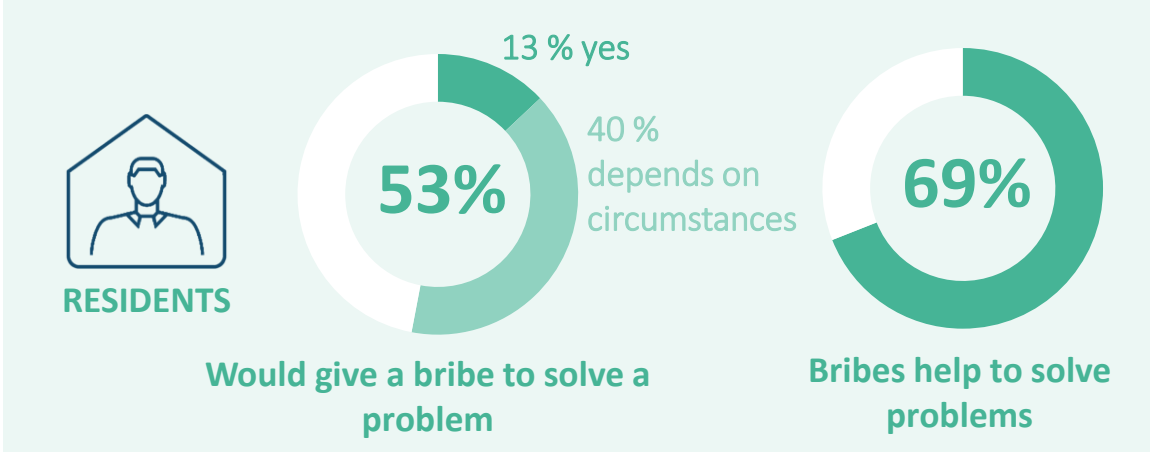
ANTI-CORRUPTION POTENTIAL

A blurred background image showing several people in a meeting or office setting. They appear to be looking at documents or a screen. The image is out of focus, emphasizing the text overlay.

Anti-corruption attitudes

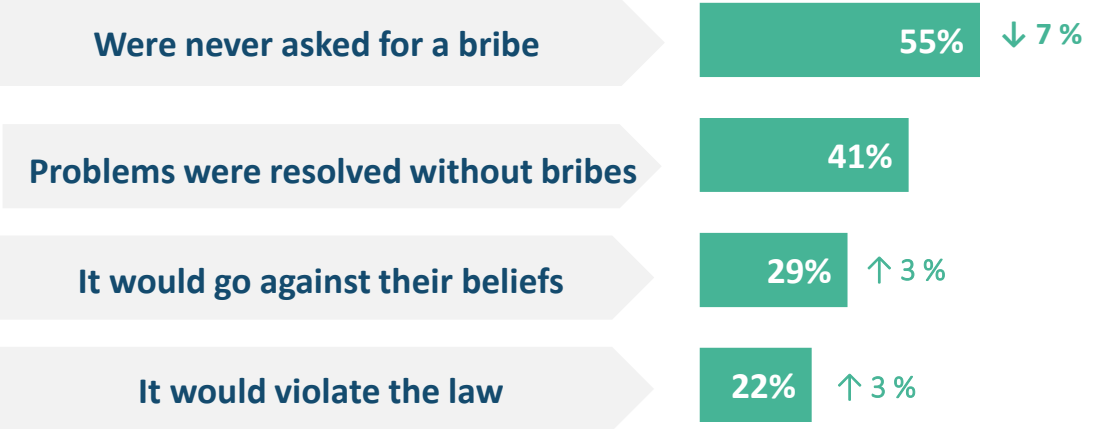
Tolerance of bribery and reasons for not giving bribes

Tolerance of bribery

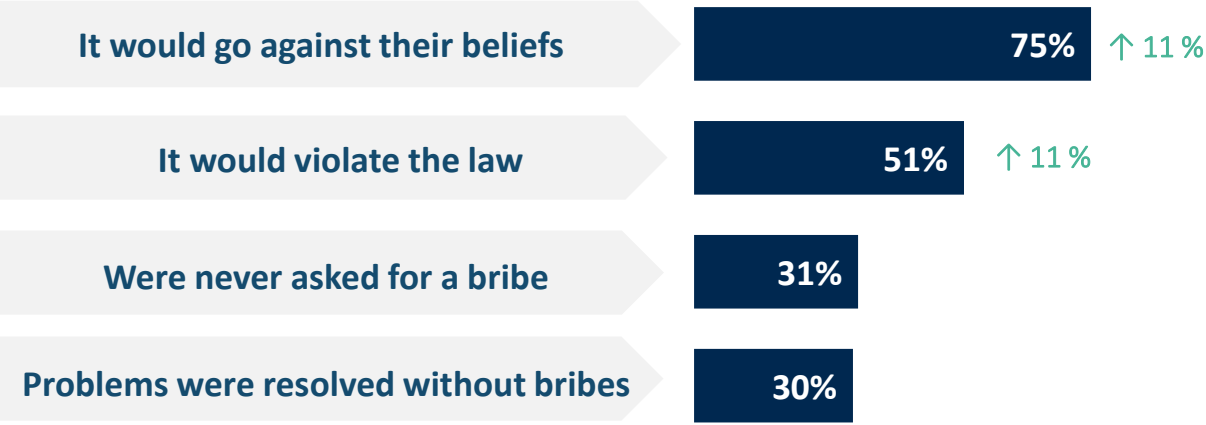


Did not give a bribe because:

Residents



Civil servants



Arrows indicate changes exceeding the statistical margin of error compared to 2023-2024.

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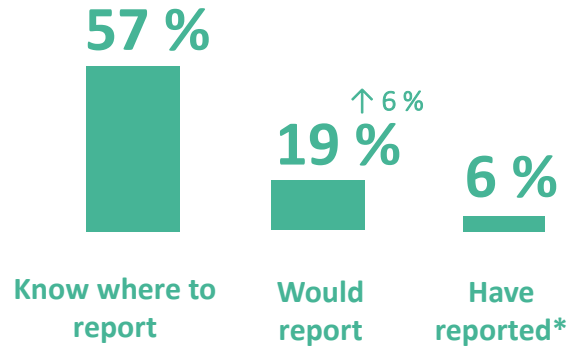
Anti-corruption behavior

Potential for reporting corruption (1)

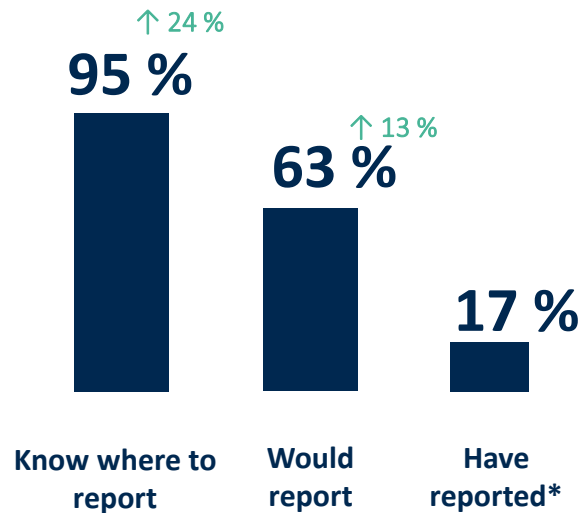
Reporting corruption



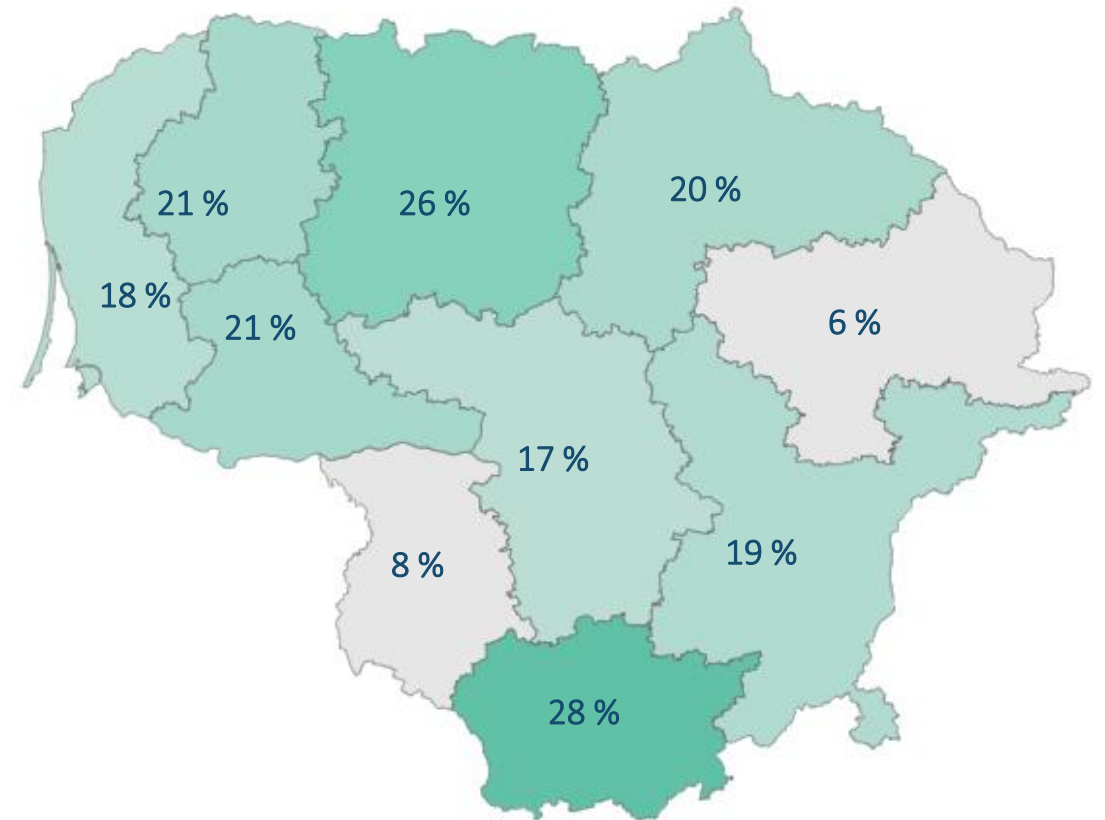
RESIDENTS



CIVIL SERVANTS



Distribution of residents who would report corruption in the future, by county

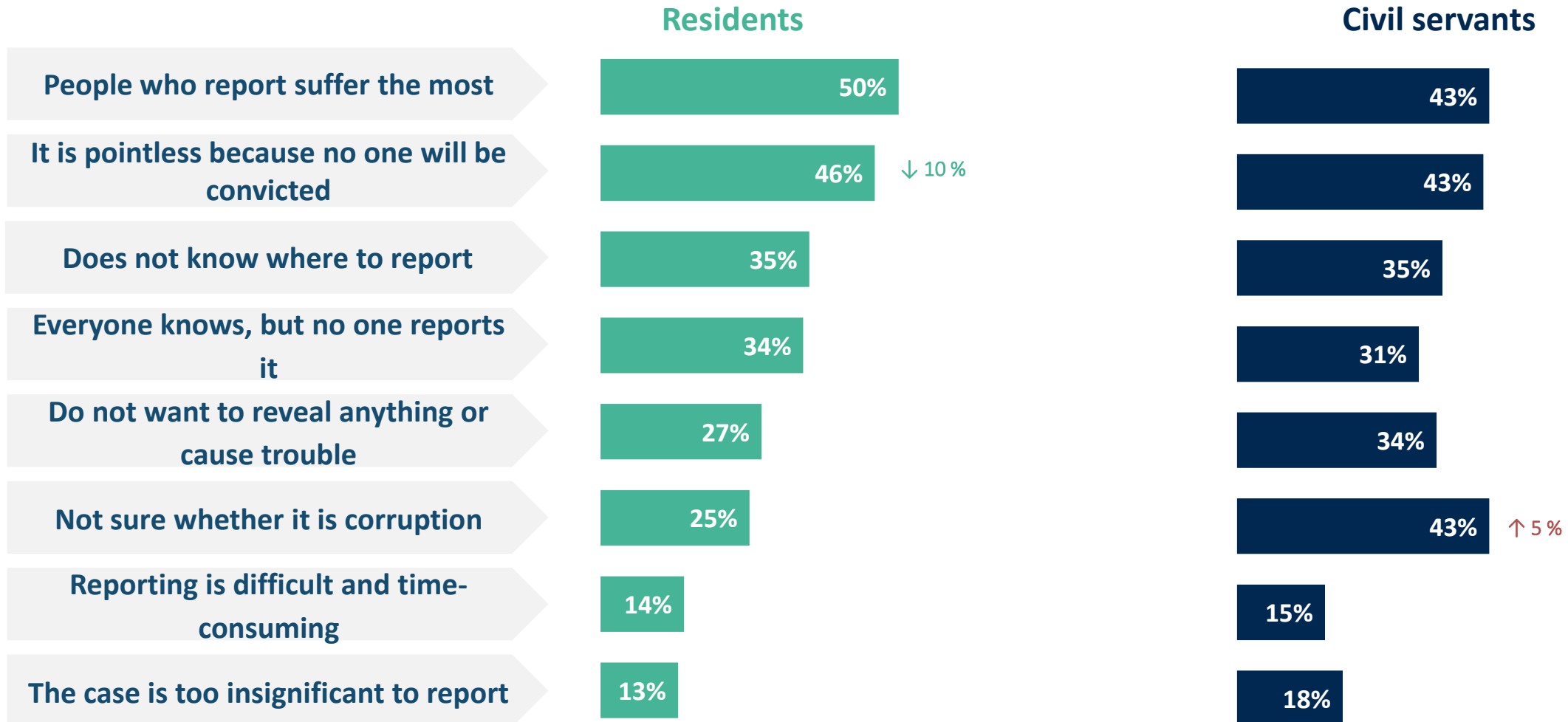


Arrows indicate changes exceeding the statistical margin of error compared to 2023-2024.

*Percentages are calculated based on respondents who reported encountering potentially corrupt situations.

Potential for reporting corruption (2)

Reasons why people do not report giving or receiving bribes



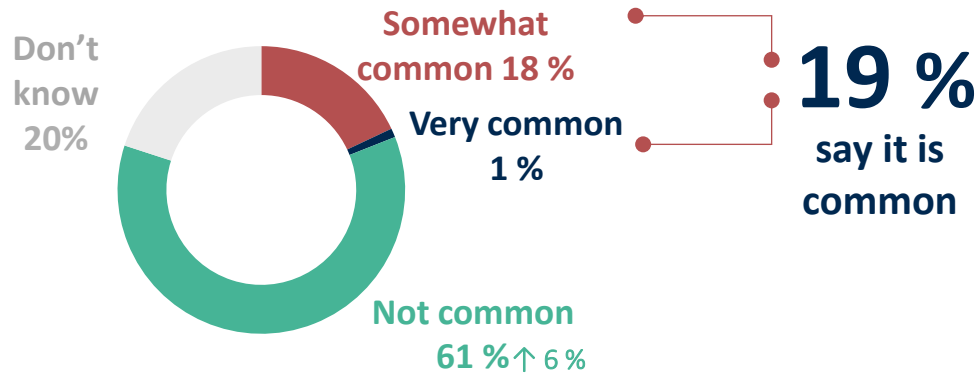
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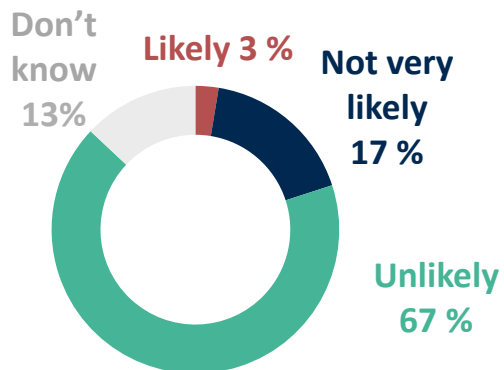
Anti-corruption potential in the civil service

Anti-corruption potential in the civil service

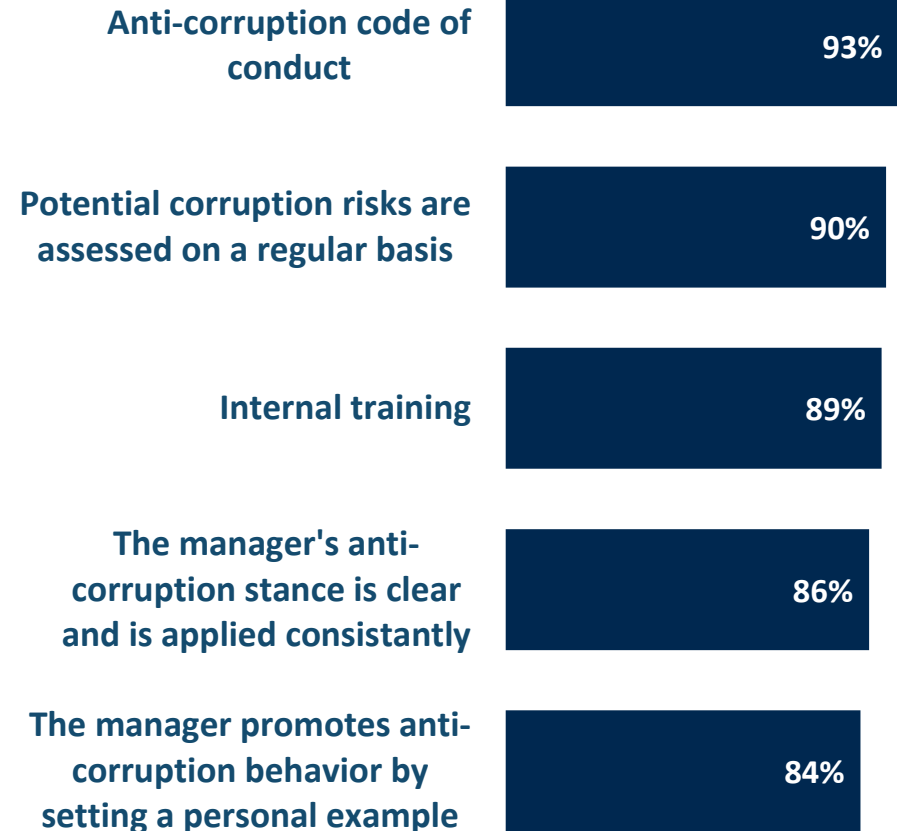
Prevalence of corruption in the workplace



Probability that a colleague accepted a bribe in the past 12 months



Measures ensuring anti-corruption behavior in the institution



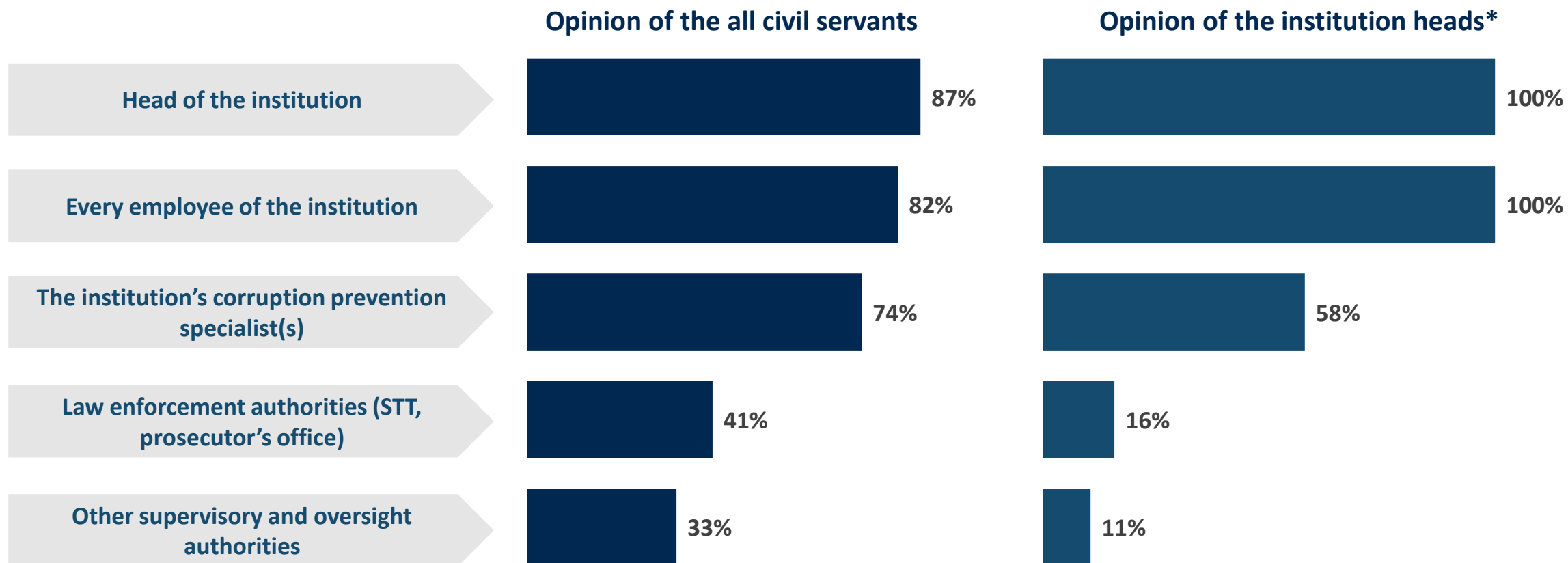
Target group: civil servants

Arrows indicate changes exceeding the statistical margin of error compared to 2023-2024.

Responsibility for ensuring an anti-corruption environment in the workplace

Who do you think is responsible for ensuring an anti-corruption environment at your workplace?

"Highly responsible"



Target group: civil servants

*Institution heads/directors/deputy directors, N=19

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RECOMMENDATIONS

RECOMMENDATIONS: for national decision-makers

1. Ensure sustained commitment to the anti-corruption agenda.

Corruption is still perceived by society as a widespread problem, and politicians are seen as the actors with real power and responsibility to tackle it. In view of this, it is recommended that national institutions be encouraged to maintain and consistently strengthen their commitment to the anti-corruption agenda.

2. Increase the transparency of decision-making at national and municipal levels.

The public increasingly perceives decision-making as closed, which is why it is necessary to open it up through inclusive consultation practices based on clear and equal rules. Decision-making processes should be clearly reasoned by announcing initiatives, objectives, alternatives, and the rationale for decisions in advance, thereby increasing trust in the process itself.

3. Maintain control over political corruption and undue influence on decision-making as a key priority.

The share of civil servants who have personally encountered decisions benefiting specific interest groups is increasing, which makes it necessary to strengthen anti-corruption control mechanisms that reduce the risk of illegal or opaque influence. It is recommended to consistently strengthen the management of conflicts of interest and recusal practices, as well as the transparency of lobbying activities and meetings with interest groups.

4. Initiate inter-institutional partnerships to reduce petty corruption in corruption-prone areas.

Given that the bribery indicator is stagnating, cooperation between public, private, and non-governmental sector institutions in the area of petty corruption prevention should be strengthened. It is recommended to define common priorities, establish uniform standards of conduct, for example zero tolerance for unlawful gratuities, ensure the coordinated and consistent application of preventive measures, and maintain unified communication.

5. Establish a consistent standard of accountability for corruption.

Doubts about accountability and fear of the consequences of reporting are among the reasons why the potential for reporting remains low. In 2025, public discussions on accountability in cases involving the non-transparent use of public funds once again showed that the public reacts sensitively to attempts to weaken standards of accountability. It is recommended to ensure that decisions concerning accountability are consistent and easily explainable to the public, while at the same time raising public awareness of the application of asset confiscation and recovery.