

“Perception of the Economic, Social and Political Situation on the Left and Right Banks of the Dniester by the Residents of the Left Bank”

The year 2011 & retrospective (2008-2011)



	<i>Name of the unit</i>	<i>Number of respondents</i>
2008	Camenca district, Camenca city	25
	Camenca district, Podoima village	14
	Dubasari district, Dubasari city	26
	Dubasari district, Gromadscoe village	30
	Grigoriopol district, Sipca village	25
	Grigoriopol district, Malaiesti village	10
	Ribnita district, Ribnita city	19
	Slobozia district, Cioburci city	30
	Slobozia district, Blijnii Hutor village	25
	Tiraspol city, Tiraspol district	35
		239
2009	Camenca district, Camenca city	35
	Cocieri district, Cocieri city	18
	Dubasari district, Dubasari city	25
	Dubasari district, Corjova city	20
	Dubasari district, Cosnita village	20
	Dubasari district, Molovata village	15
	Grigoriopol district, Grigoriopol city	30
	Ribnita district, Ribnita city	35
	Slobozia district, Slobozia city	10
	Tiraspol city, Tiraspol district	67
	Tighina city, Tighina rayon	35
	Varnita district, Varnita city	88
	Ribnita district, Popencu village	7
	Camenca district, Rascov village	15
	Camenca district, Hrusca village	15
	435	
2010	Camenca district, Camenca city	35
	Camenca district, Solnichnoe village	18
	Causeni district, Grigorirovca city	32
	Cocieri district, Cocieri city	30
	Dubasari district, Dubasari city	18
	Causeni district, Cremenciug village	35
	Dubasari district, Corjova city	20
	Dubasari district, Cosnita village	20
	Dubasari district, Molovata village	15
	Ocnita district, Ocnita city	20
	Slobozia district, Slobozia city	50
	Tiraspol city, Tiraspol district	66
	Camenca district, Rascov village	35
	Tighina city, Tighina rayon	88
	Tighina city, Tighina rayon	15
	Varnita district, Anenii Noi city	15
	Grigoriopol district, Teiu village	18
	Grigoriopol district, Speia village	18
Grigoriopol district, Taslic village	18	
	566	
	1240	
	SUB-TOTAL NUMBER OF RESPONDENTS IN THE SAMPLE	

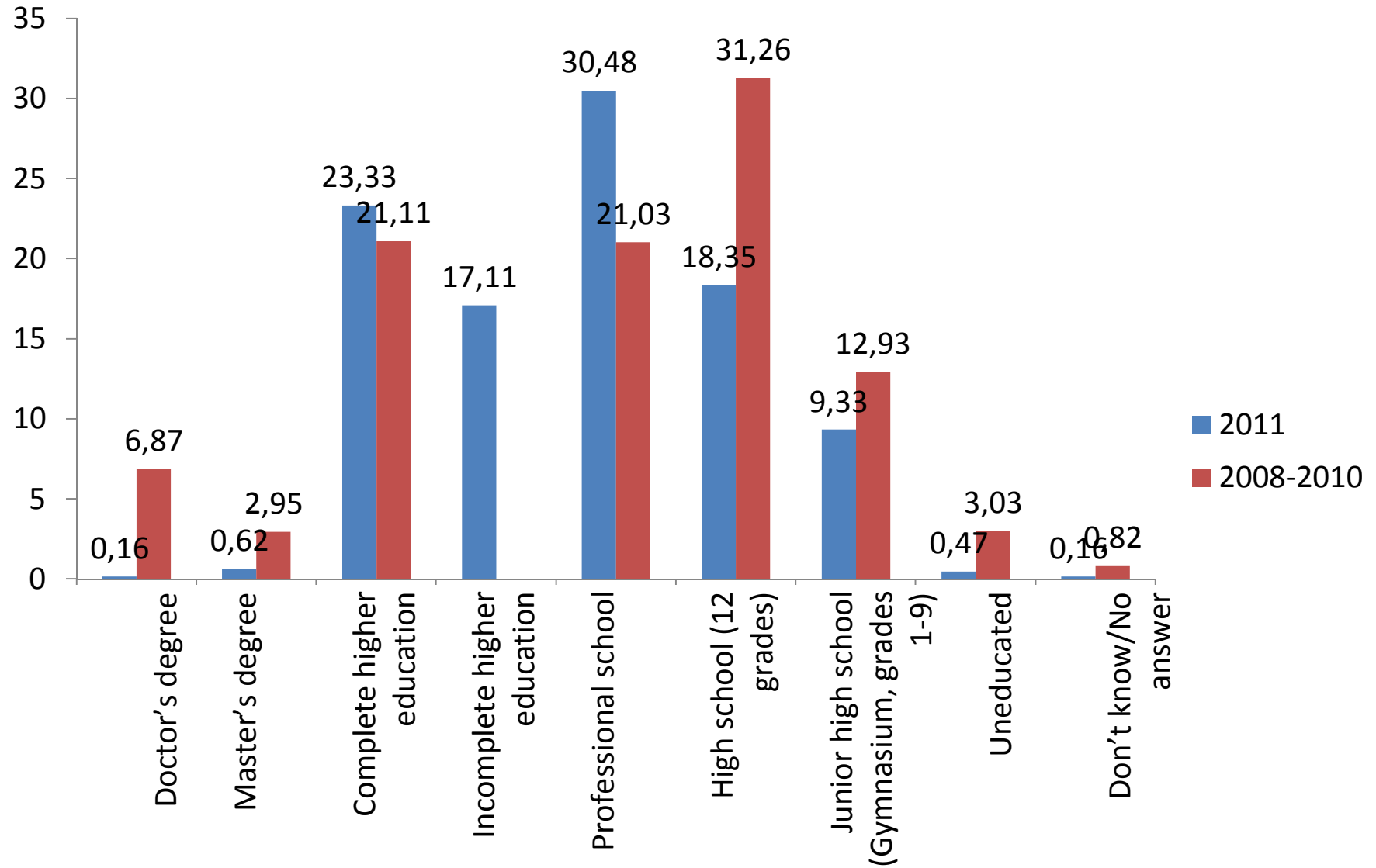
2011

<i>Name of the unit</i>	<i>Number of respondents</i>
Camenca district, Camenca city	52
Ribnita district, Ribnita city	130
Dubasari district, Dubasari city	66
Tighina	104
Grigoriopol district, Grigoriopol city	87
Slobozia district, Slobozia city	87
Tiraspol city, Tiraspol district	137
Sub-total number of respondents in the sample	663
Total	1903

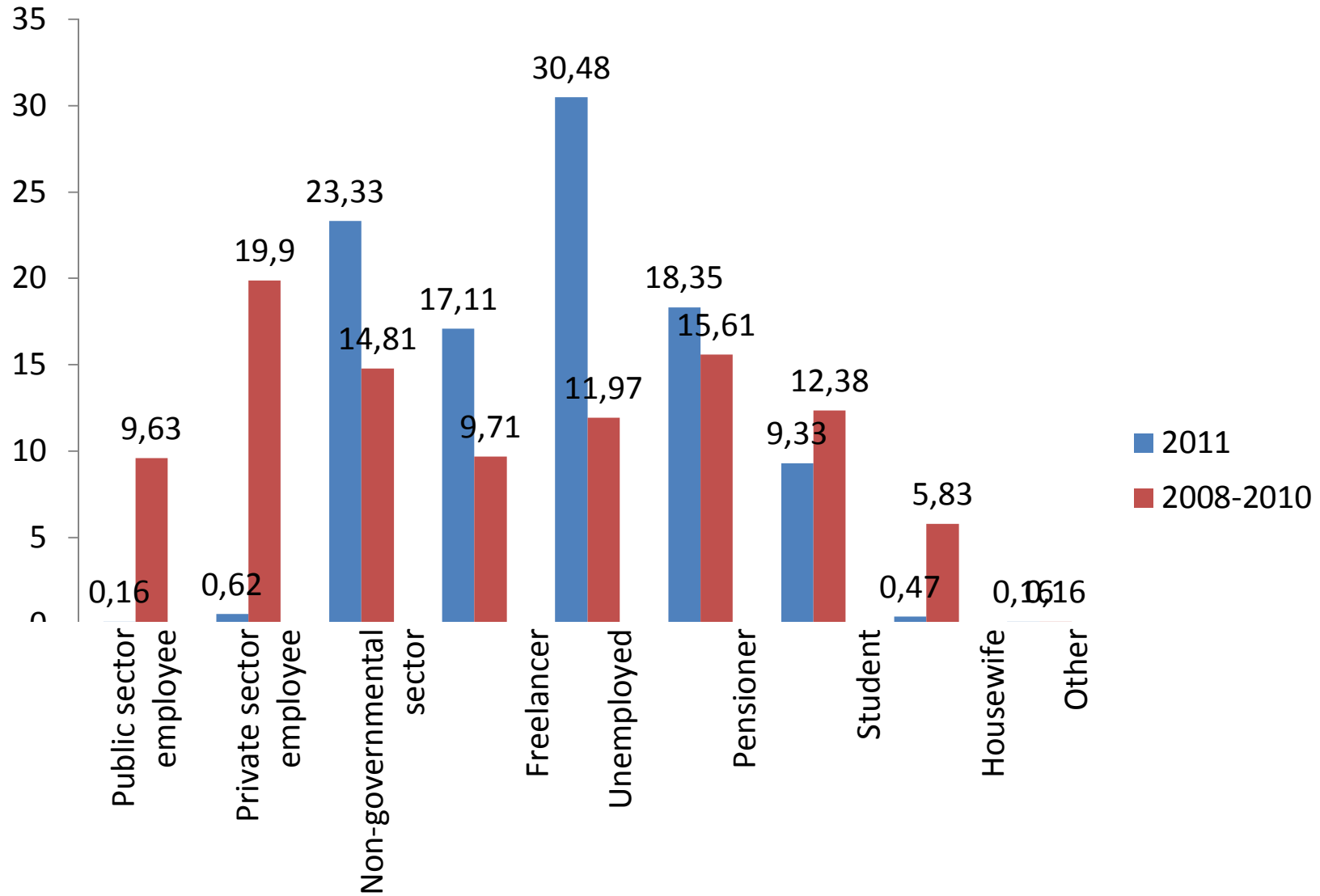
The survey was based on the desire and need to know the situation of the people on the other bank of the Dniester:

- “ Social: What is their opinion about the people from the right bank? How often do they travel to the right bank? For what purposes? Would they like to have more opportunities for cooperation with people from the right bank?
- “ Economic-Political: What are the problems that they face on a daily basis? What is their economic standing? Do they have access to the necessary social services? What is their attitude towards the leadership?
- “ Overall, what is the “mood” and atmosphere on the other bank, as seen by ordinary people?

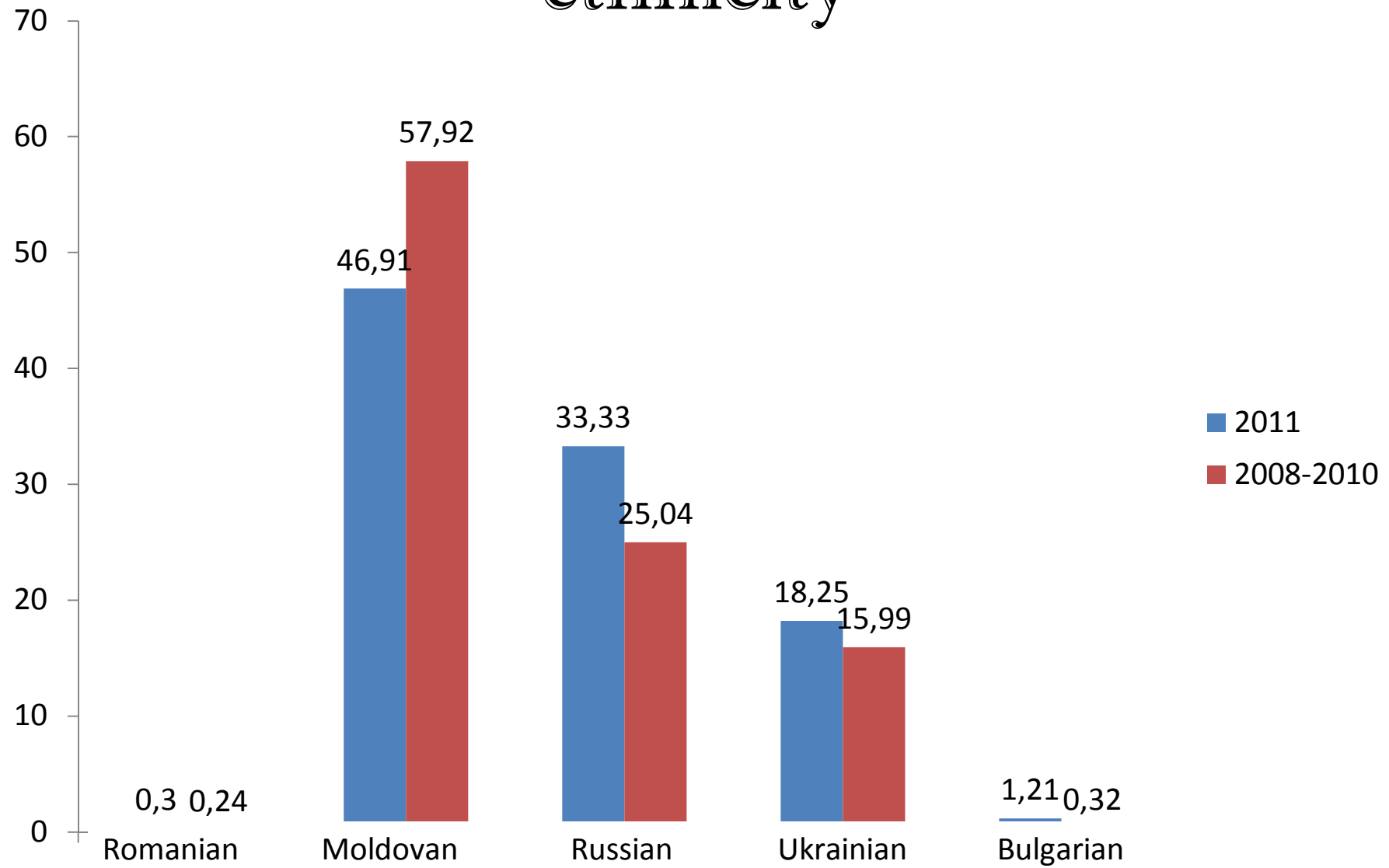
Respondents' profile, education



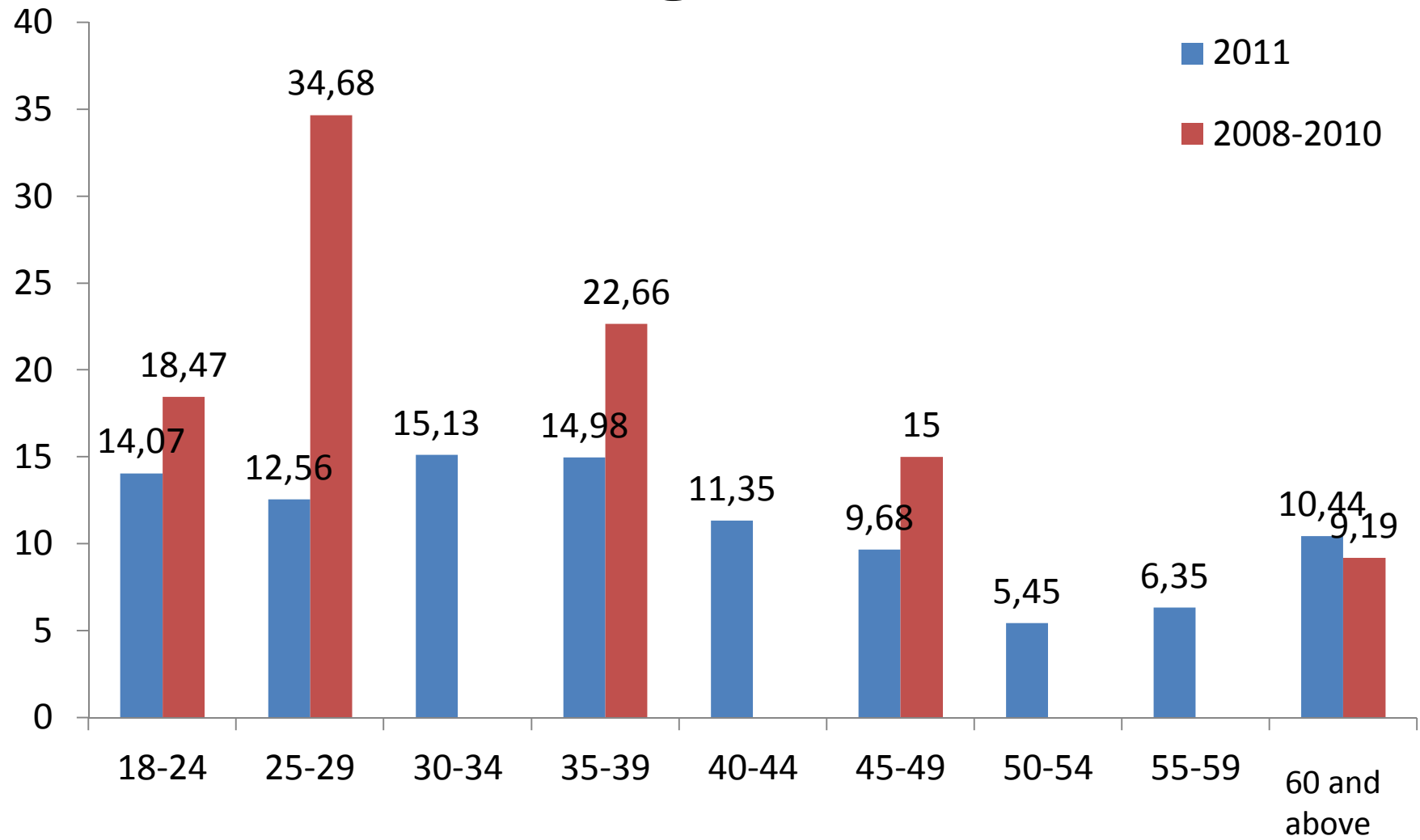
Respondents' profile, occupation



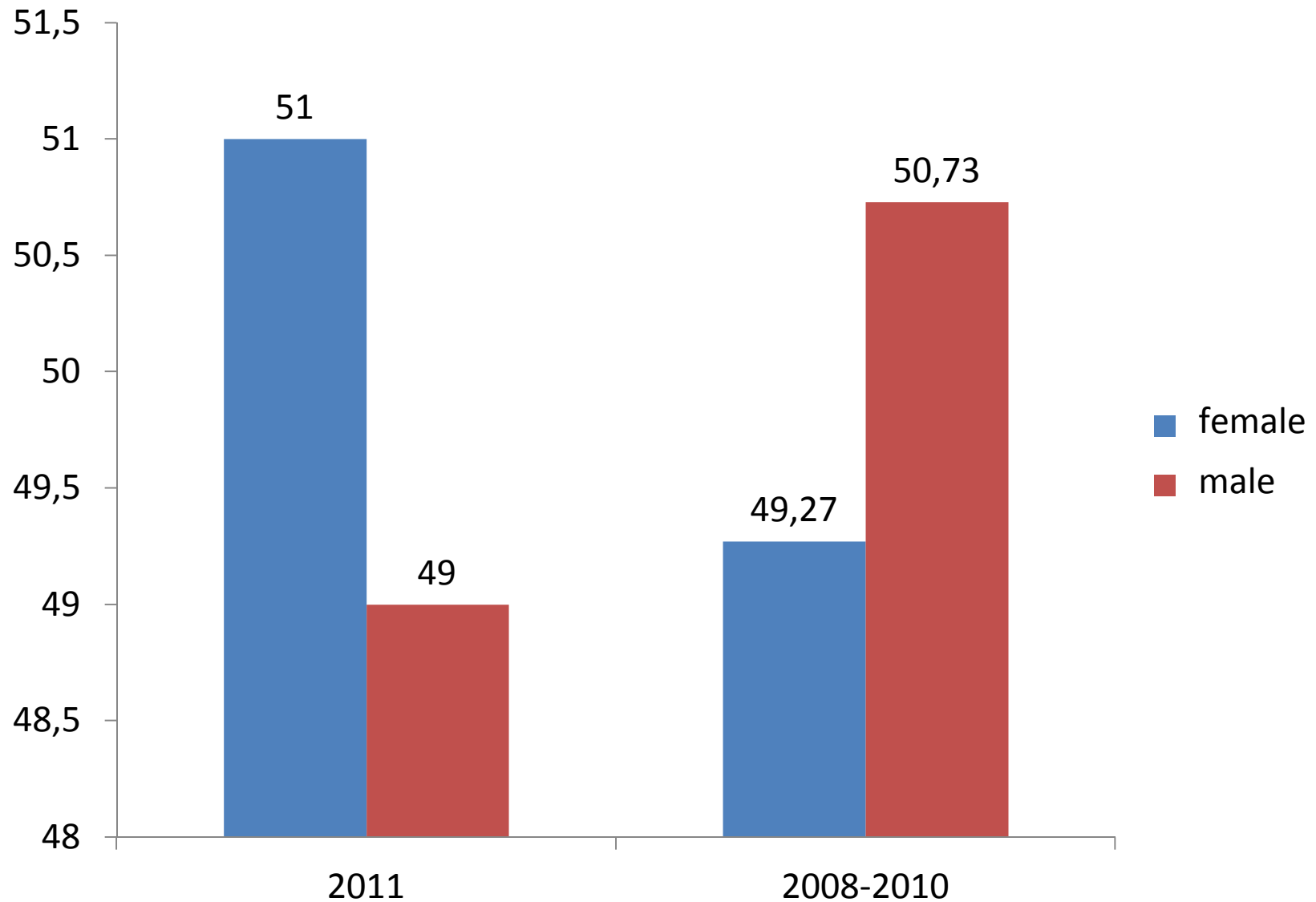
Respondents' profile, ethnicity



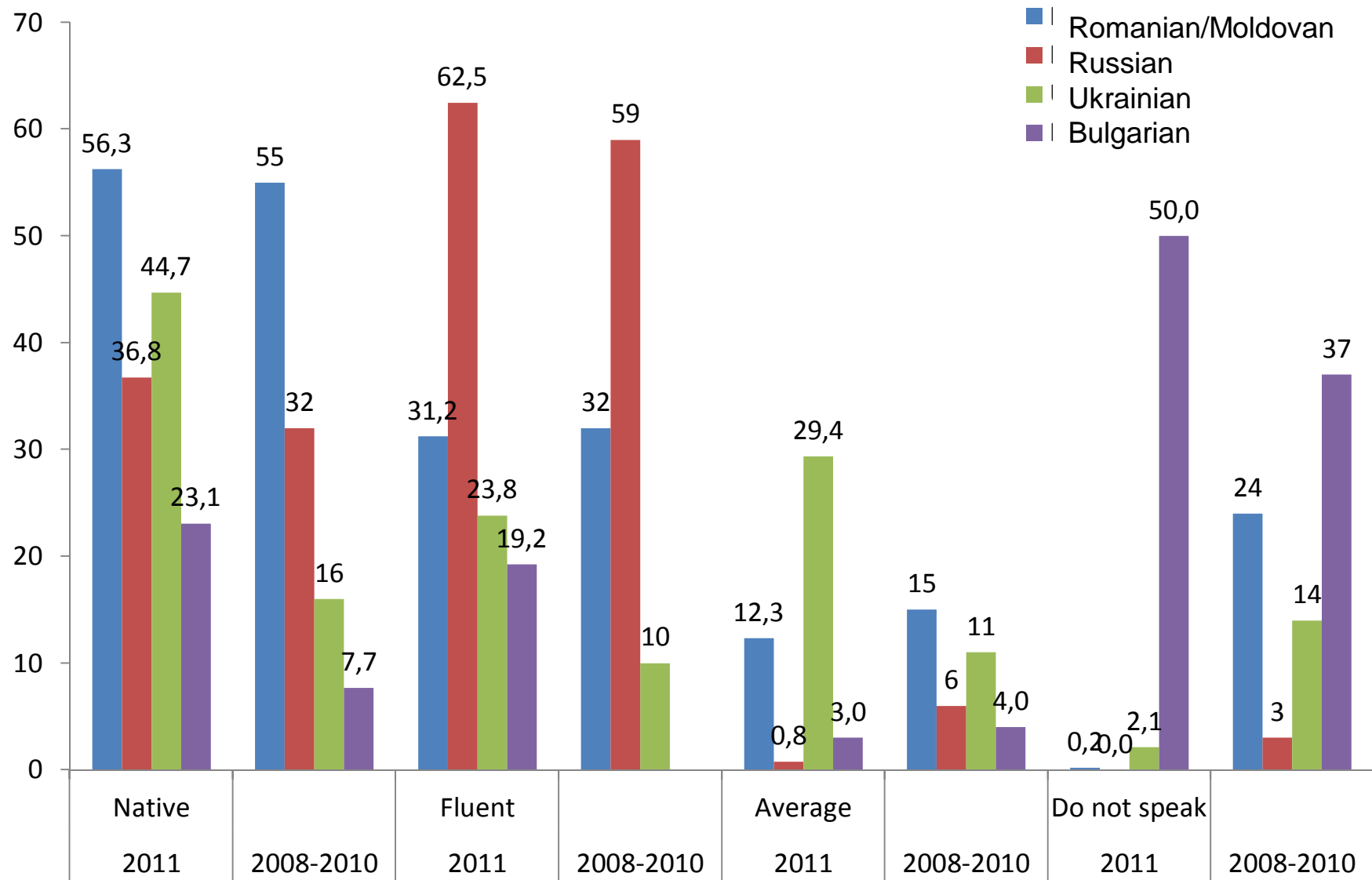
Respondents' profile, age



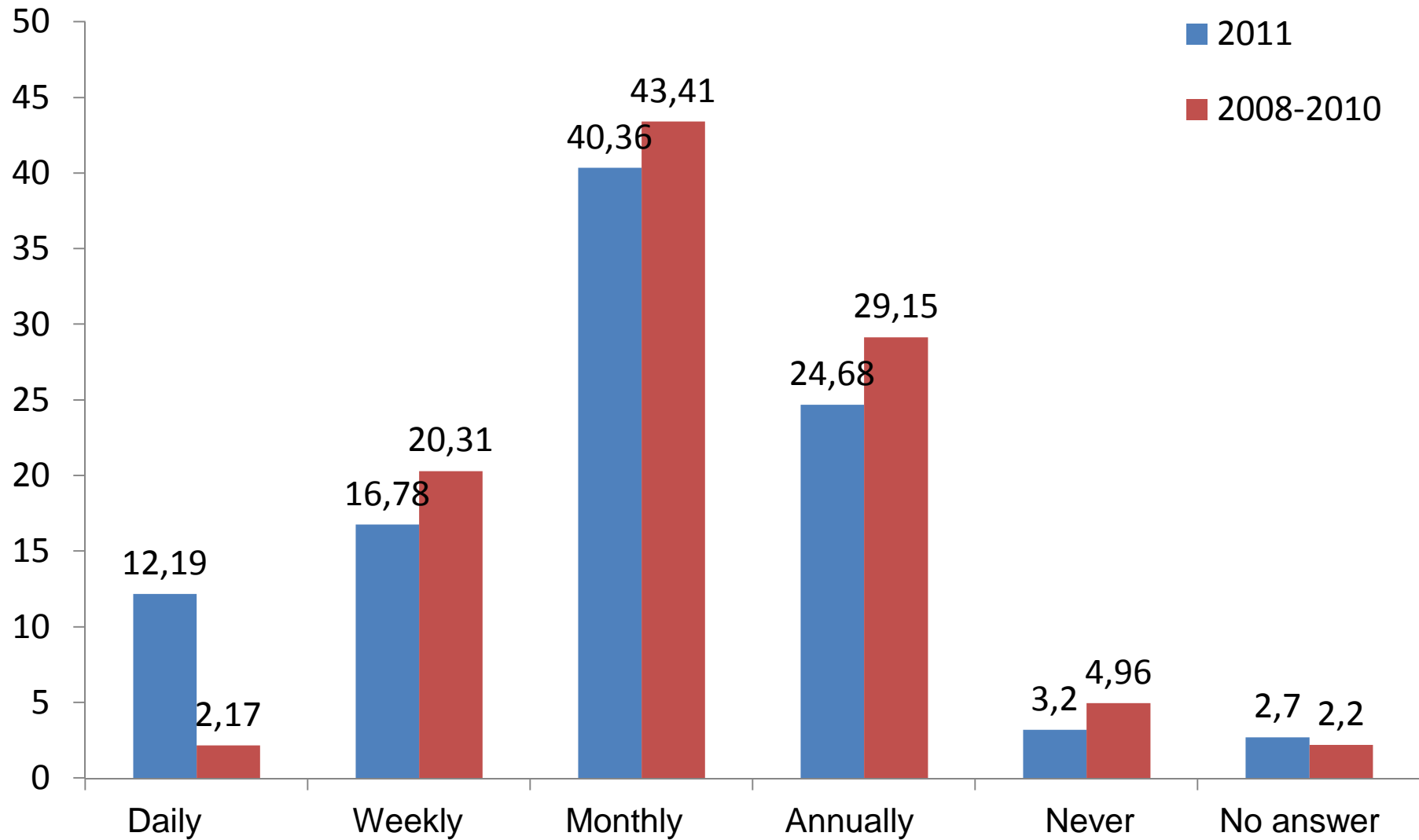
Respondents' profile, gender



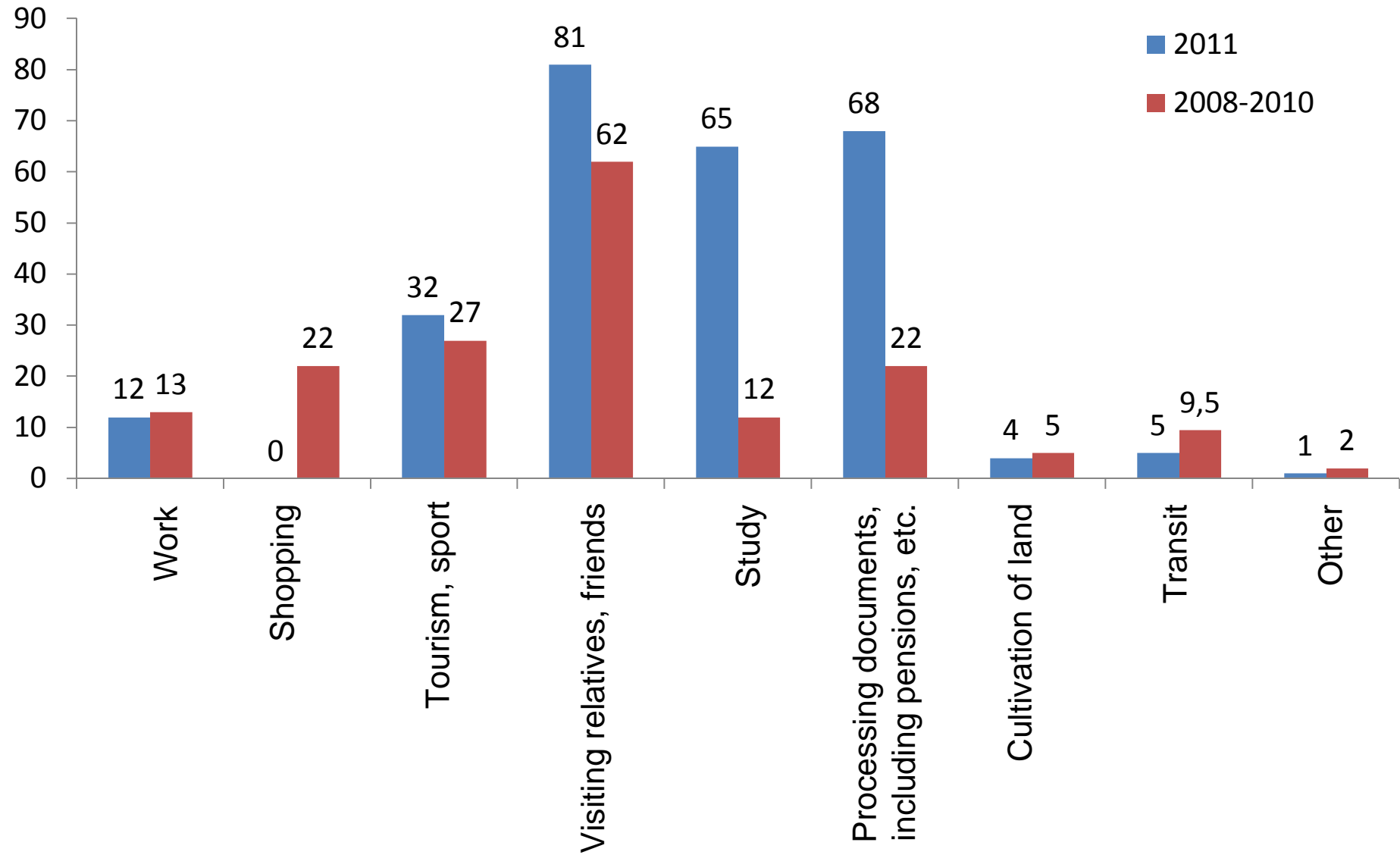
Communication: languages spoken



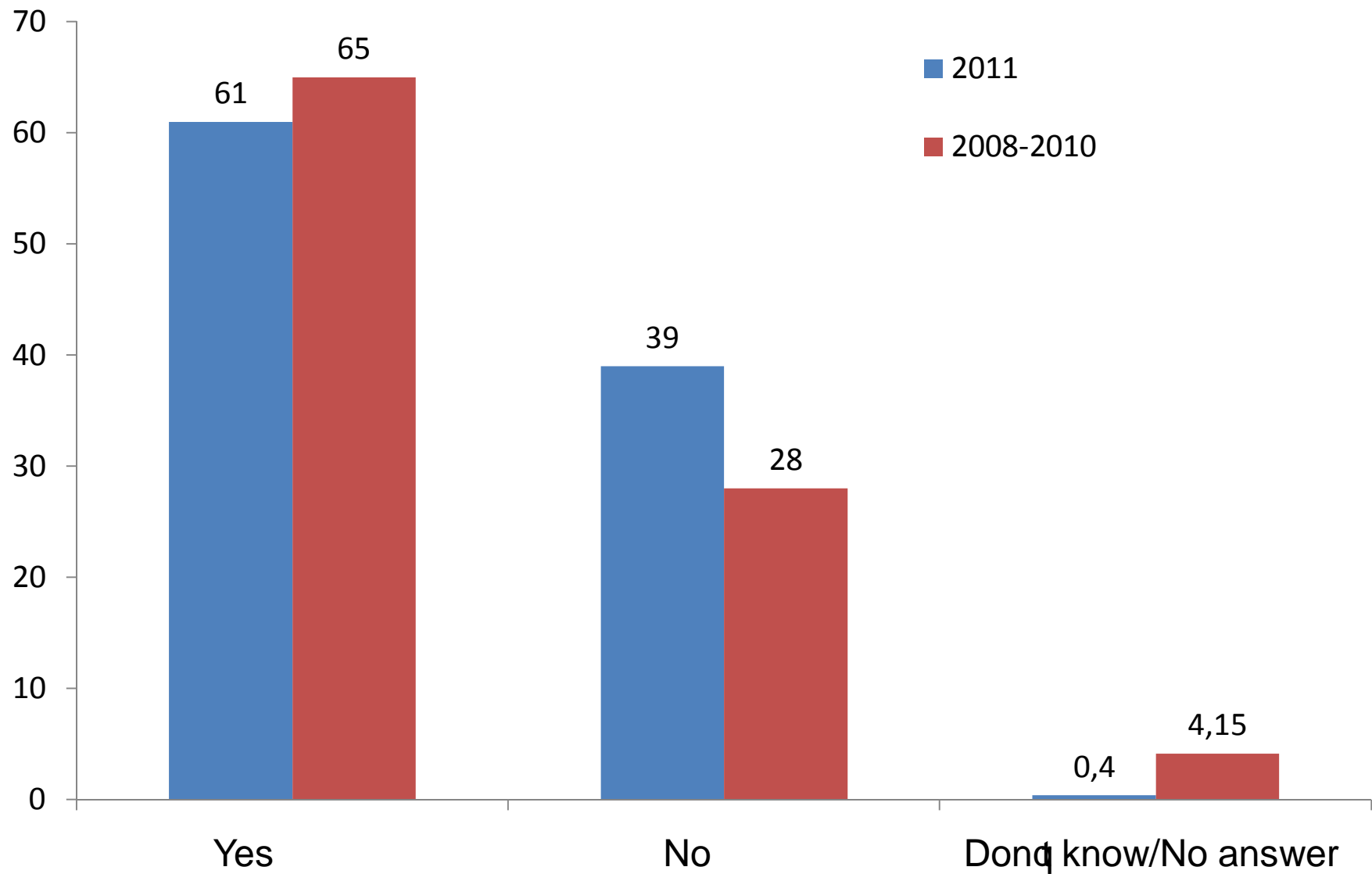
Mobility: frequency of visits to the right bank



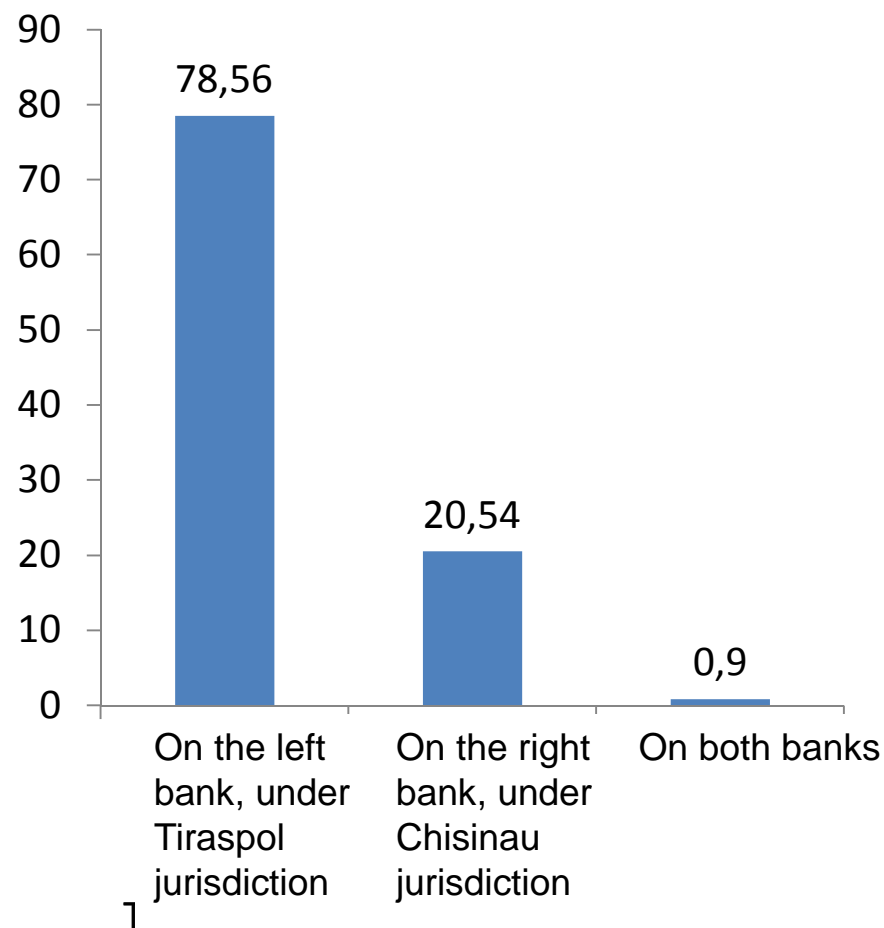
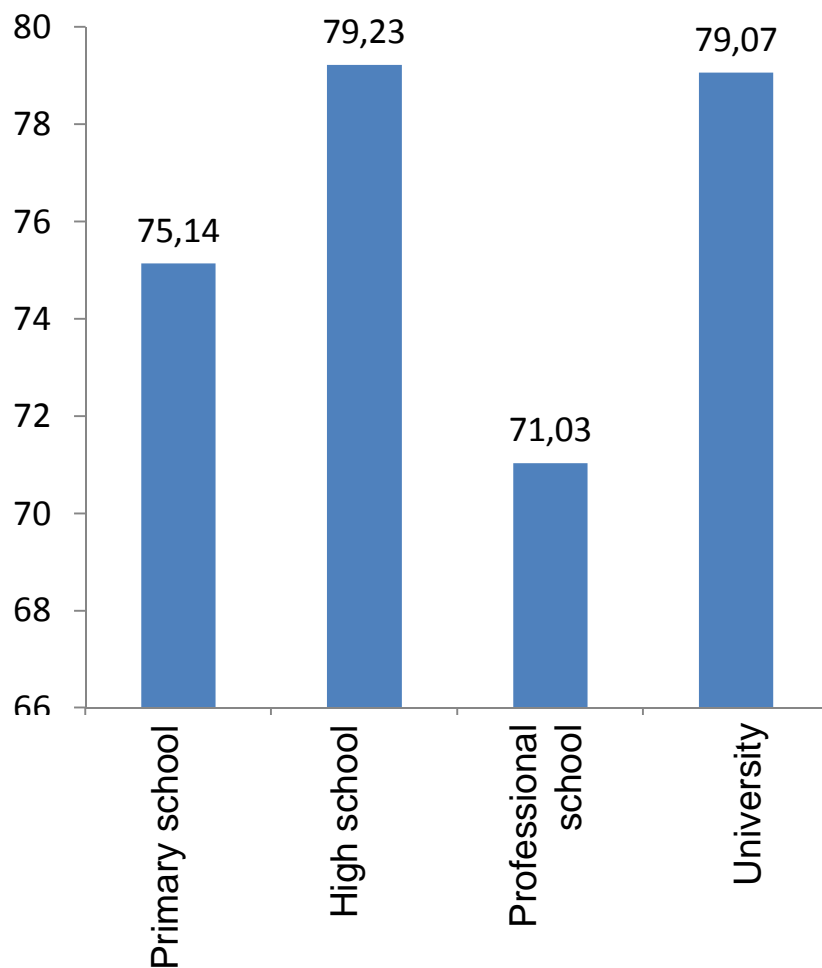
Mobility: purpose of visits



Mobility: relatives on the other bank

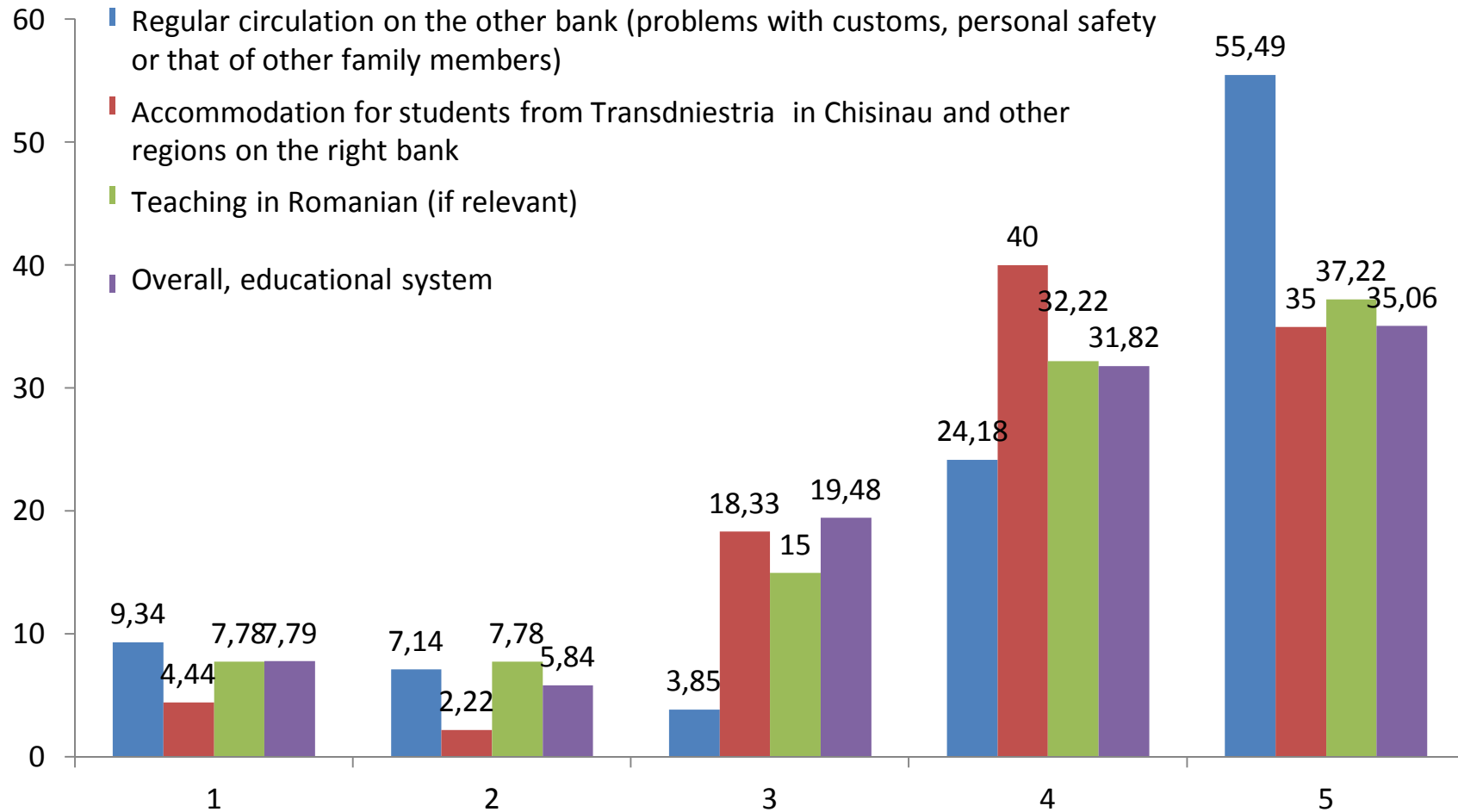


Education: what institutions' services are used, their location

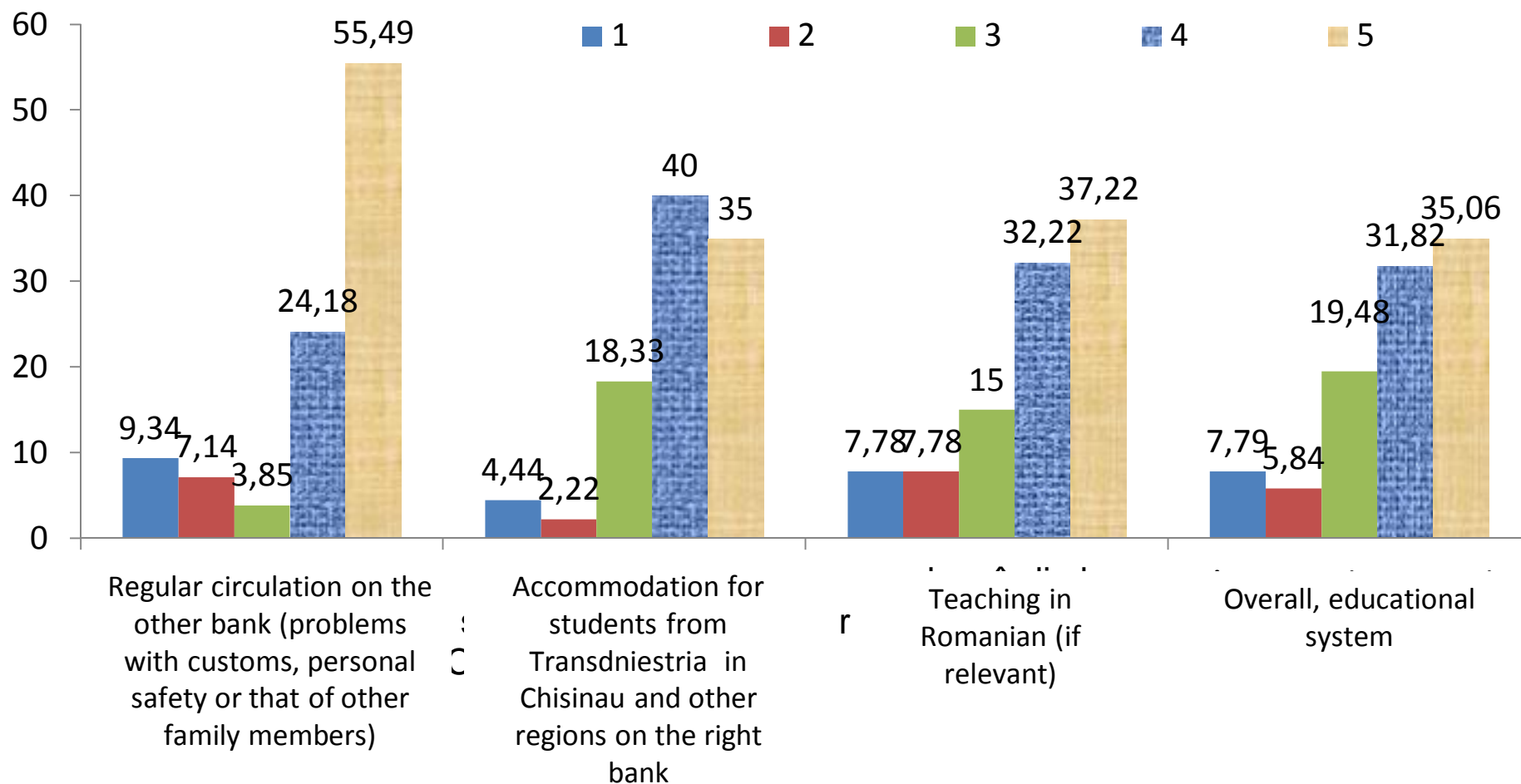


Question introduced in 2011_NEW

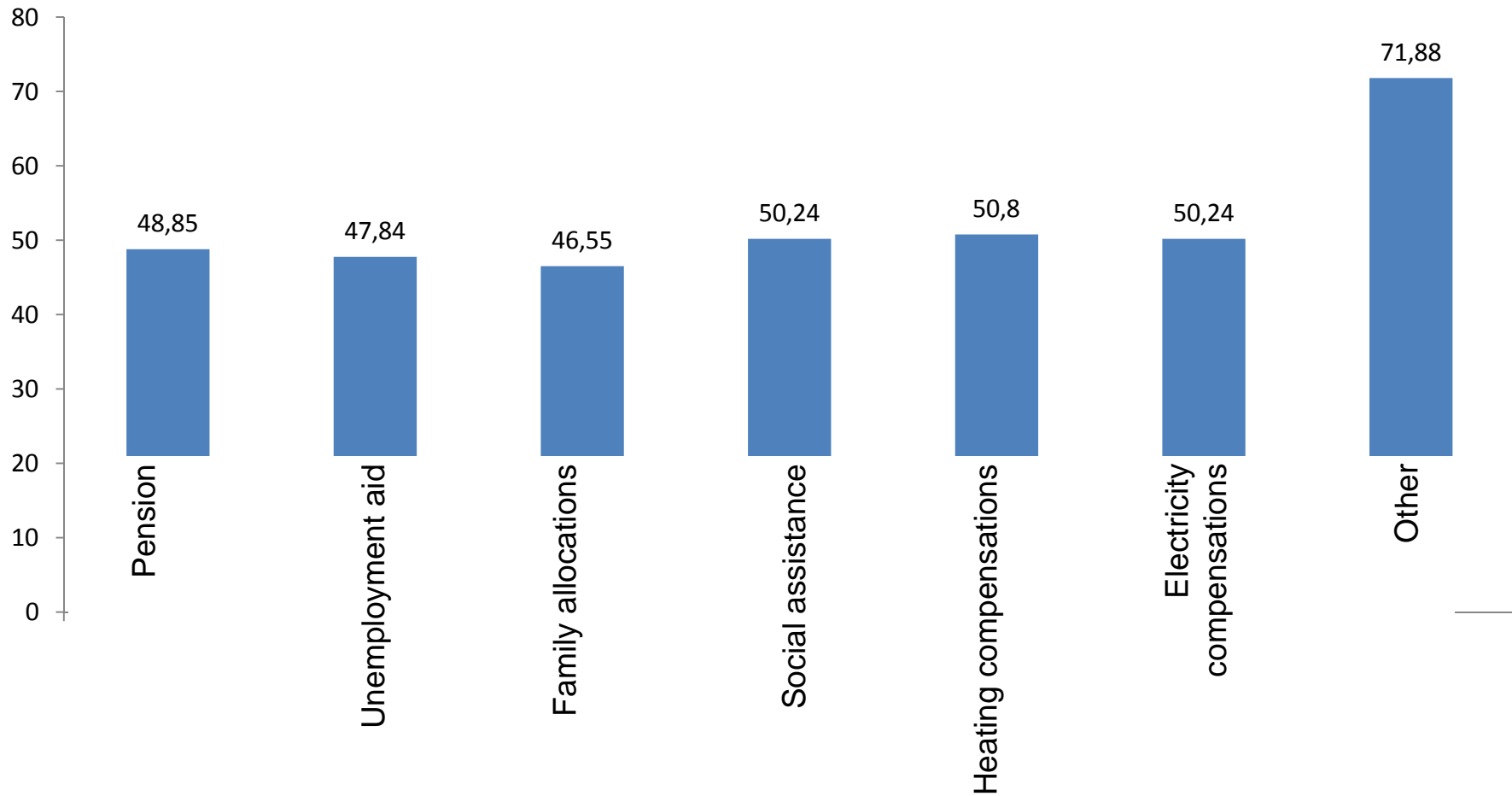
Education: are services provided on the right bank? Indicate from 1 to 5 [very difficult] the degree of difficulty



Education: are services provided on the right bank? Indicate from 1 to 5 [very difficult] the degree of difficulty

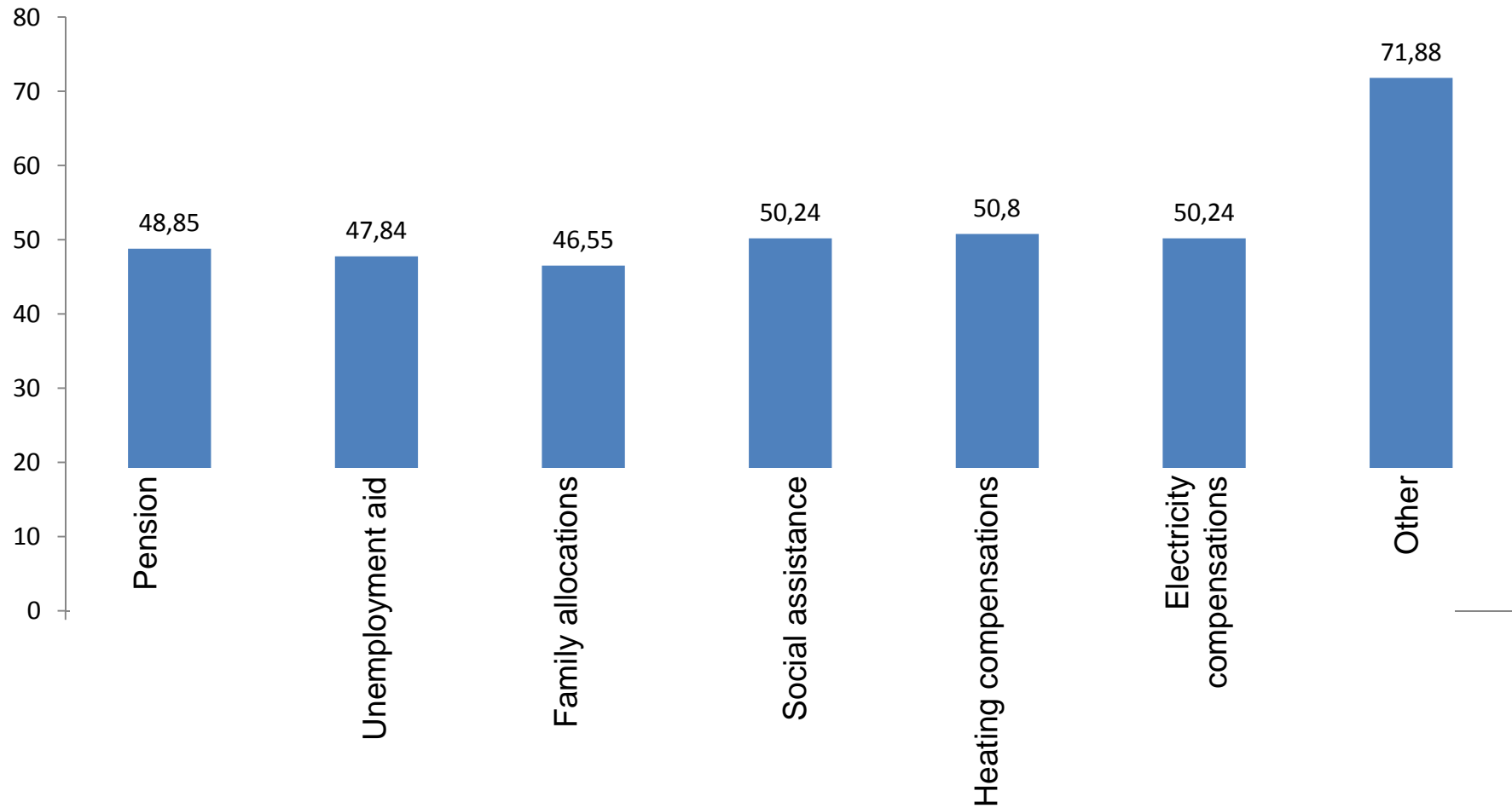


Social services: know/heard of the following social services

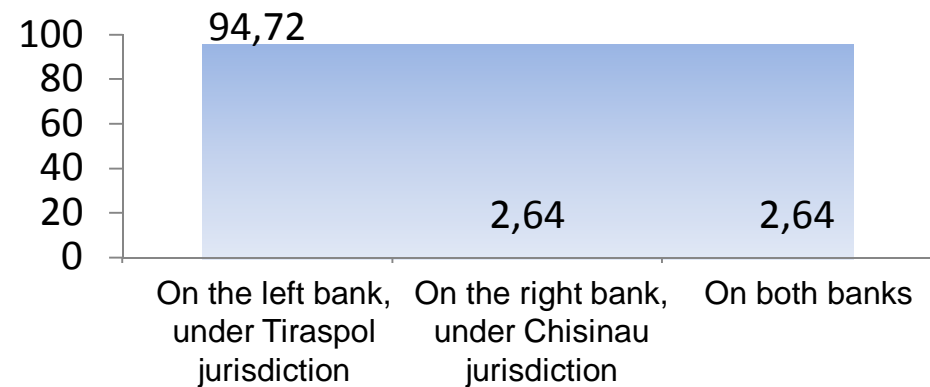
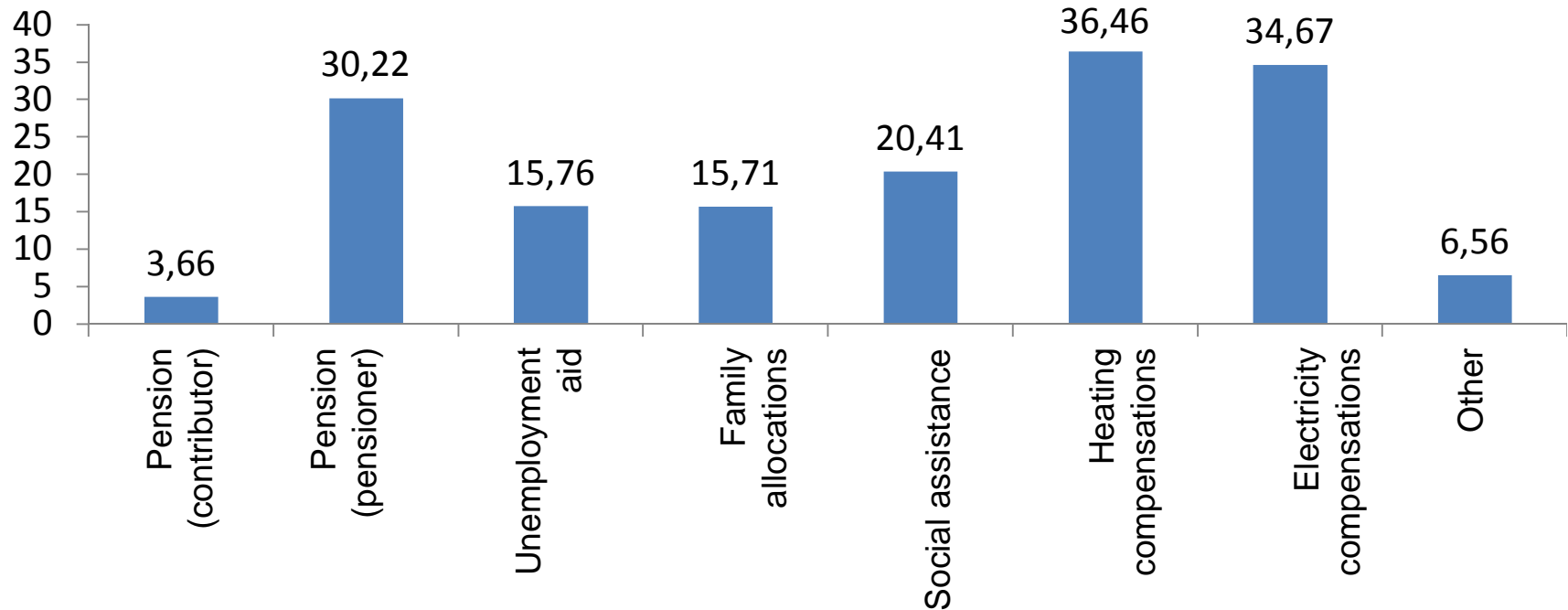


Question introduced in 2011_1NEW

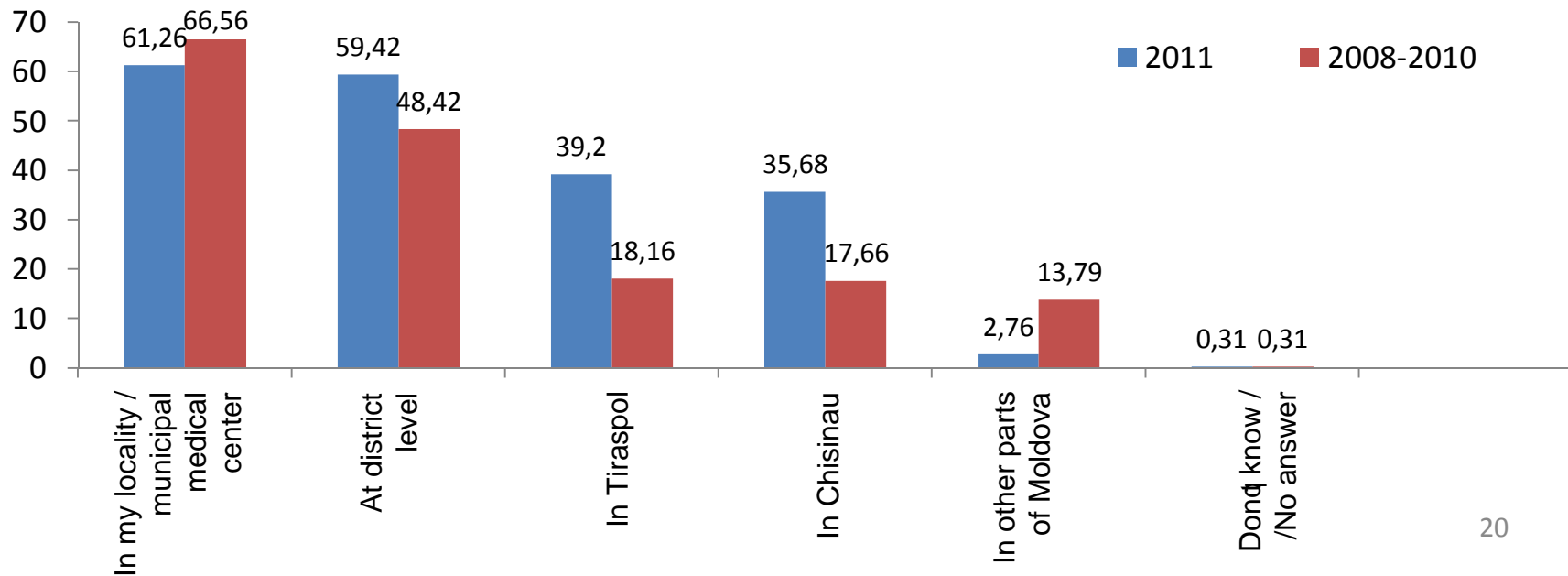
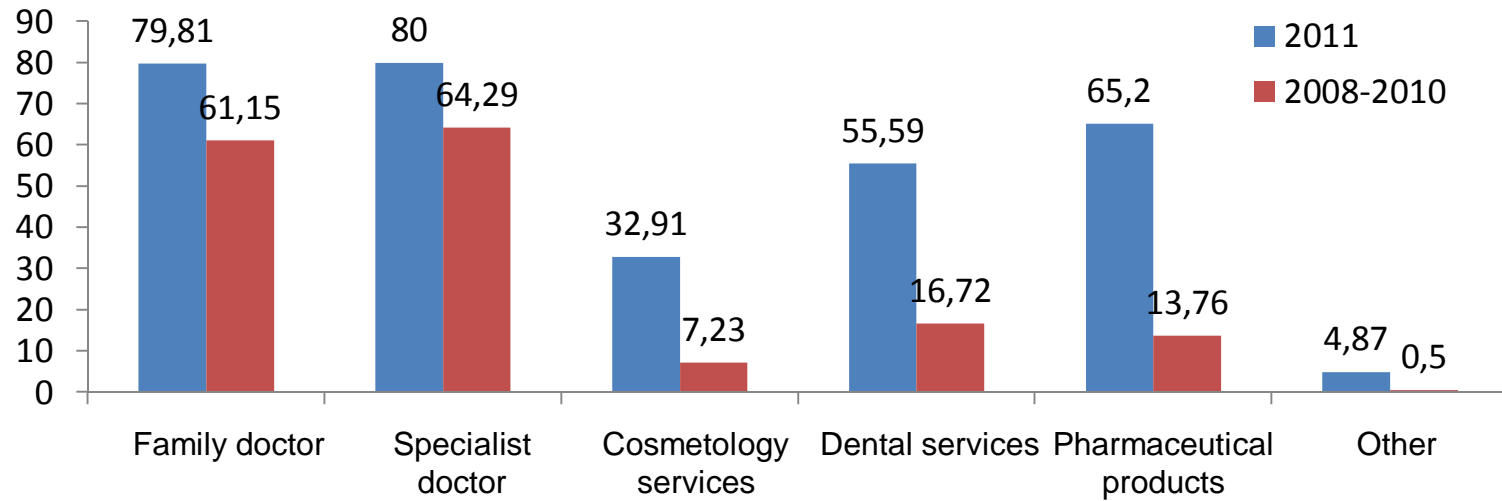
Social services: know/heard of the following social services



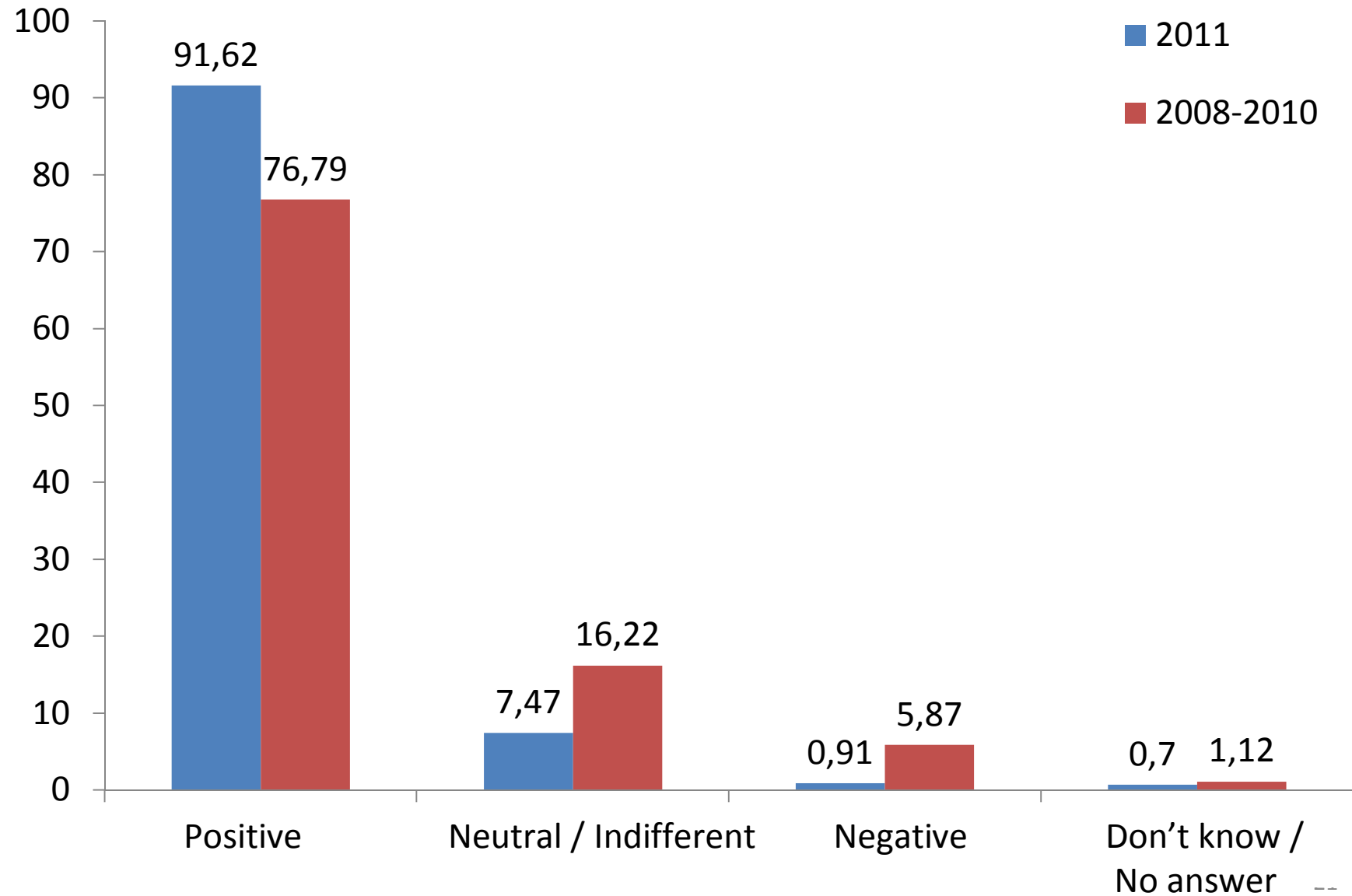
Social services: which of them you use, their location



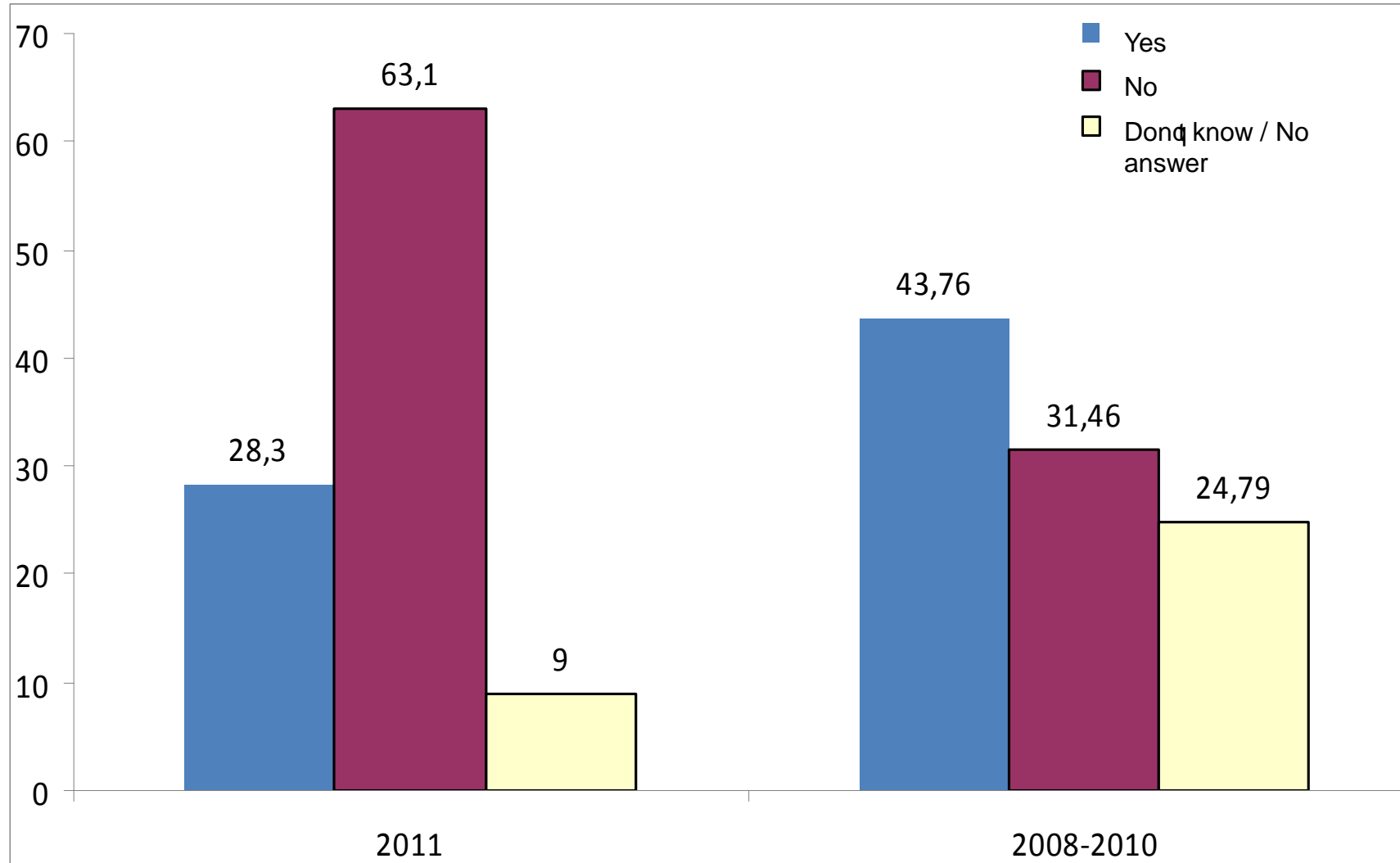
Medical services: which of them you use most often, their location



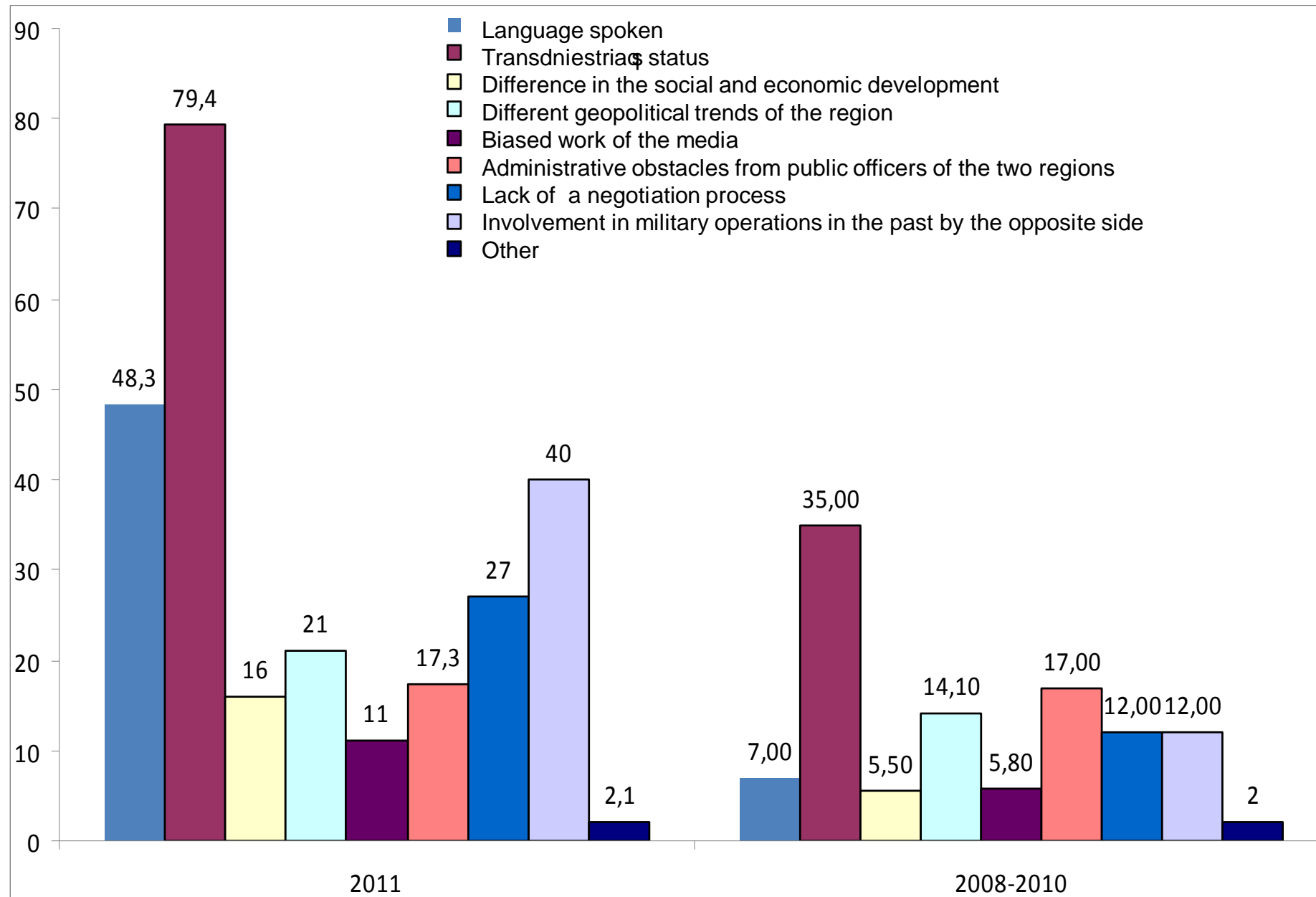
attitude towards people from the right bank



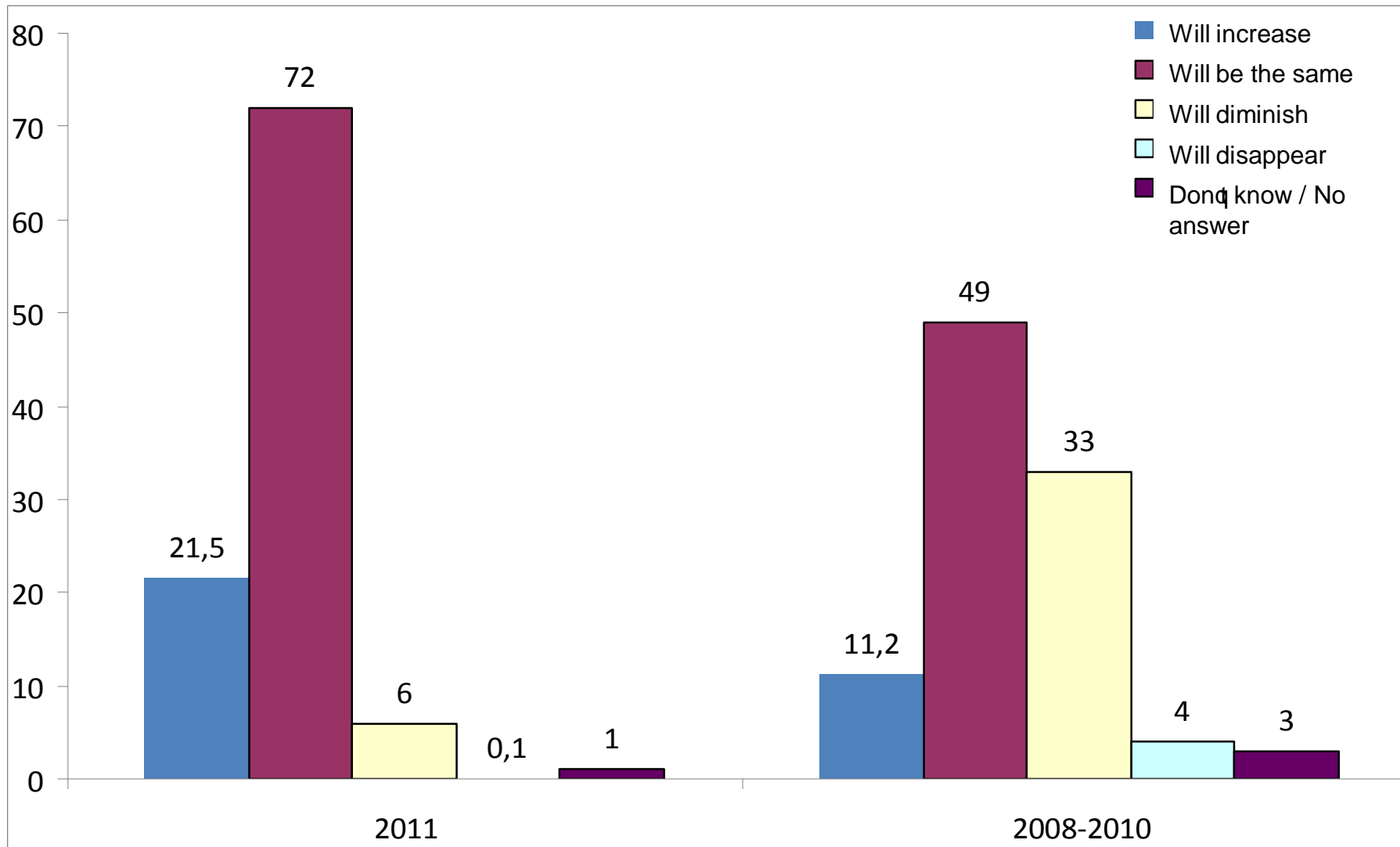
Attitude: do you think there is tension between people from the two banks?



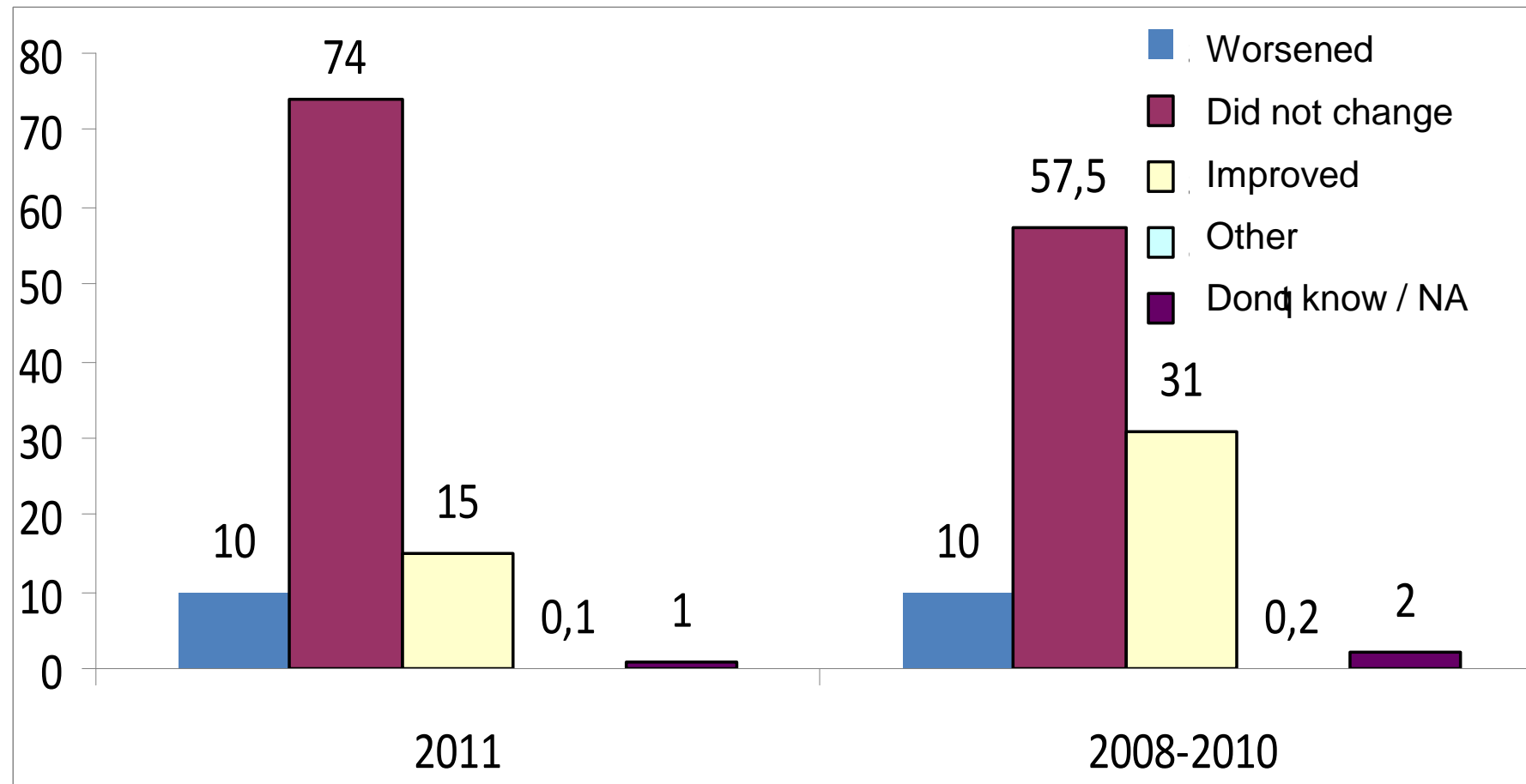
Attitude: if your answer is yes, indicate the reason



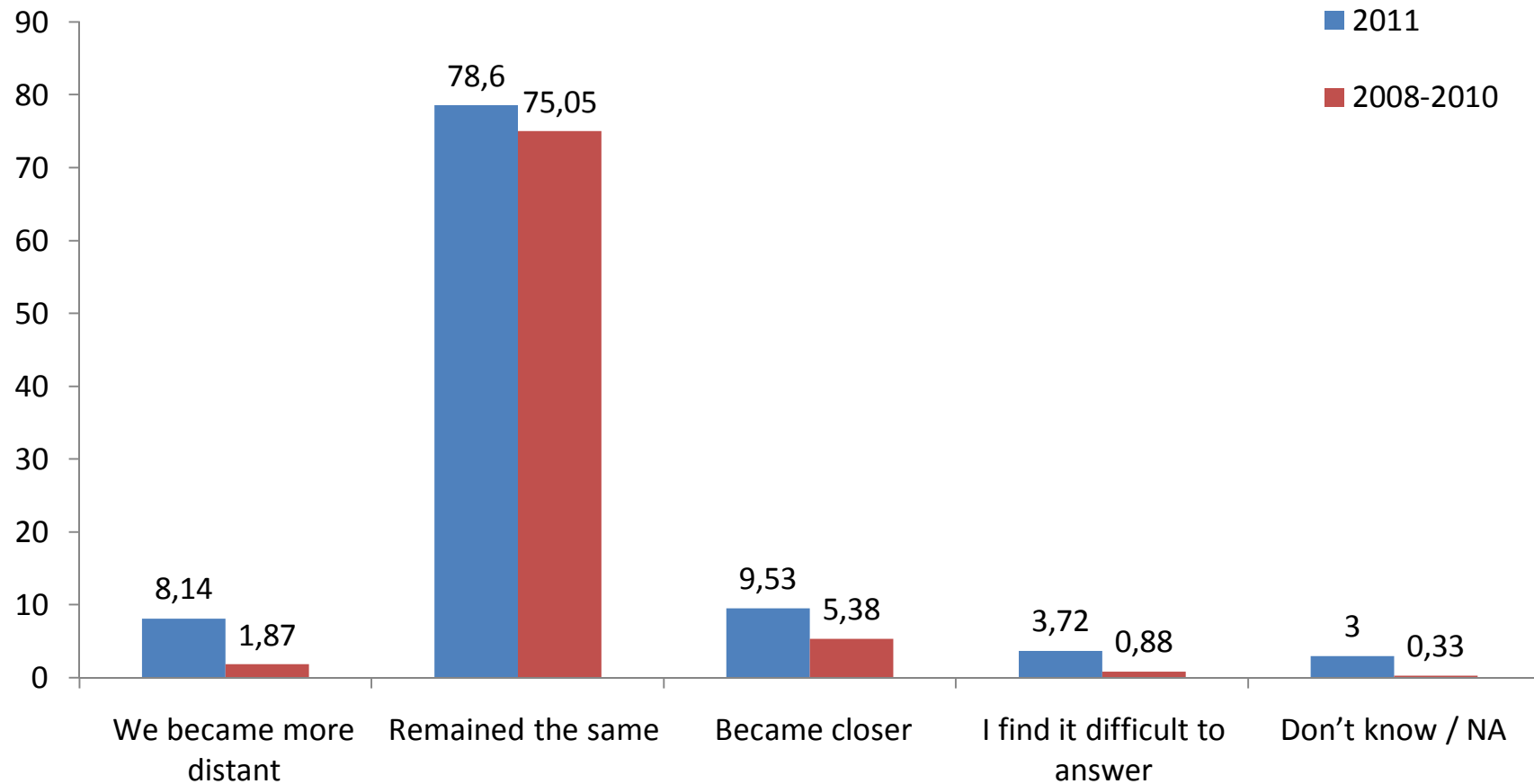
Attitude: in your opinion this tension in the future [next 3 years]...



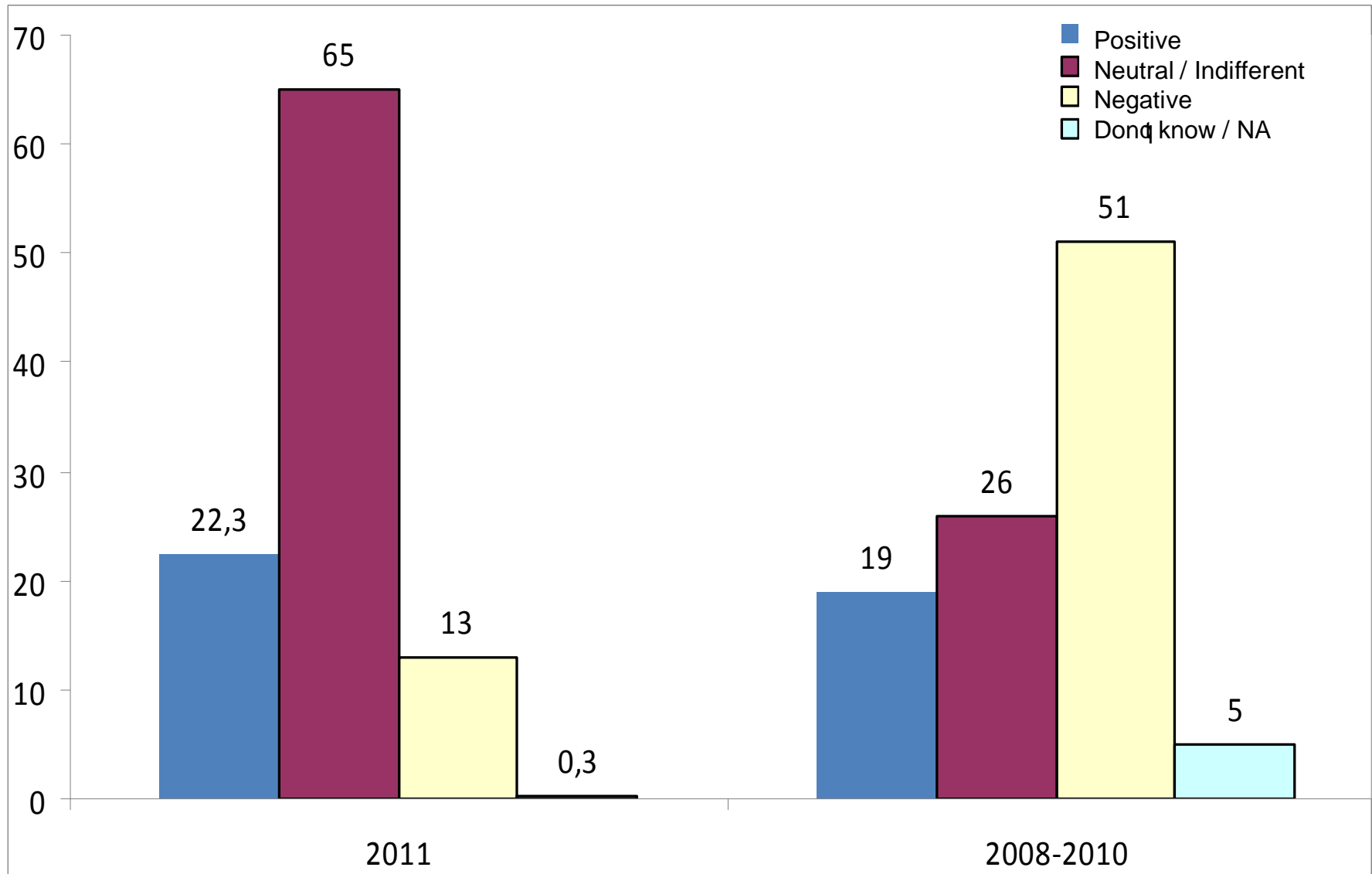
Attitude: over the past 3 years do you think this tension...



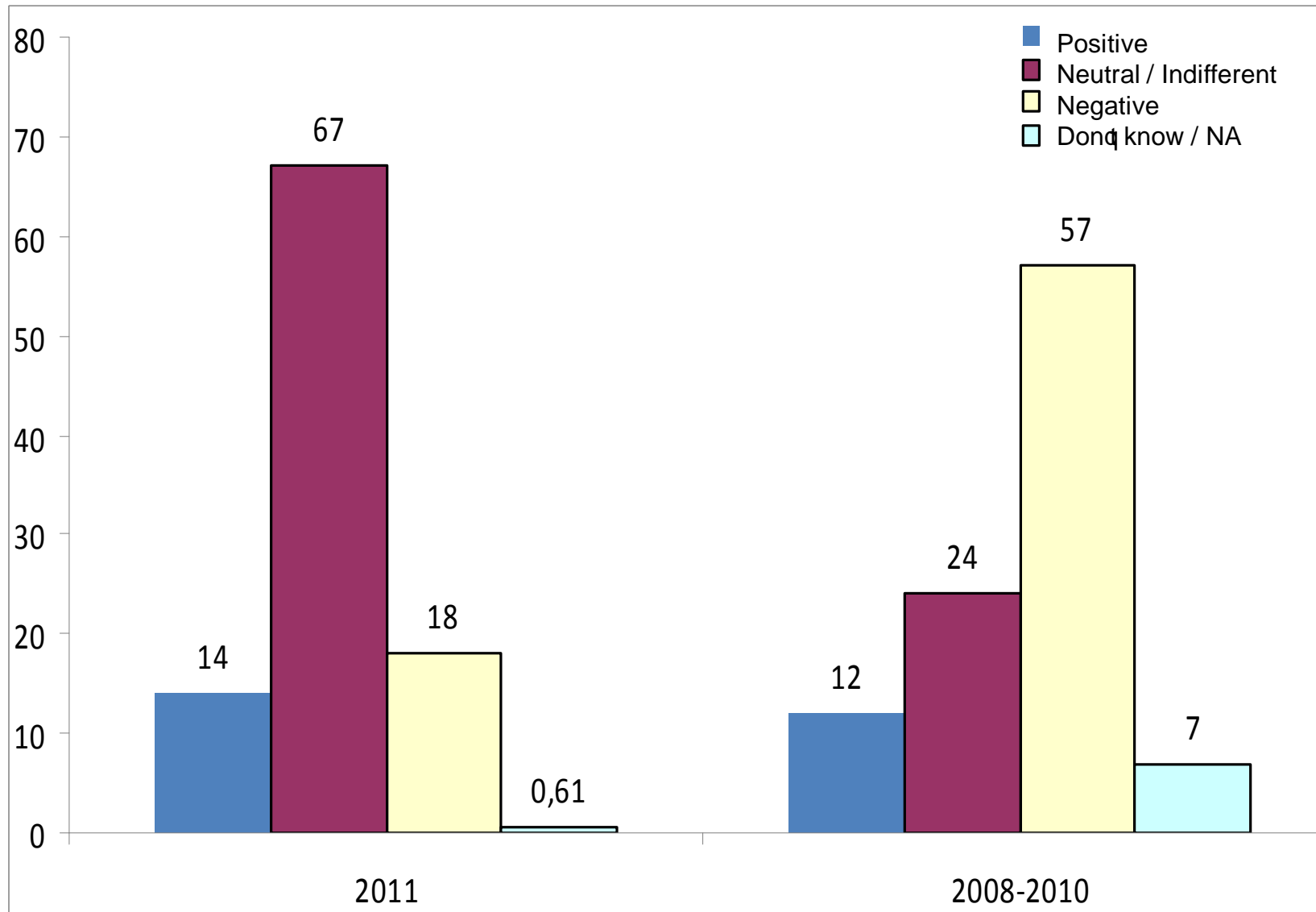
Attitude: do you think the tension with your relatives over the past 3 years...



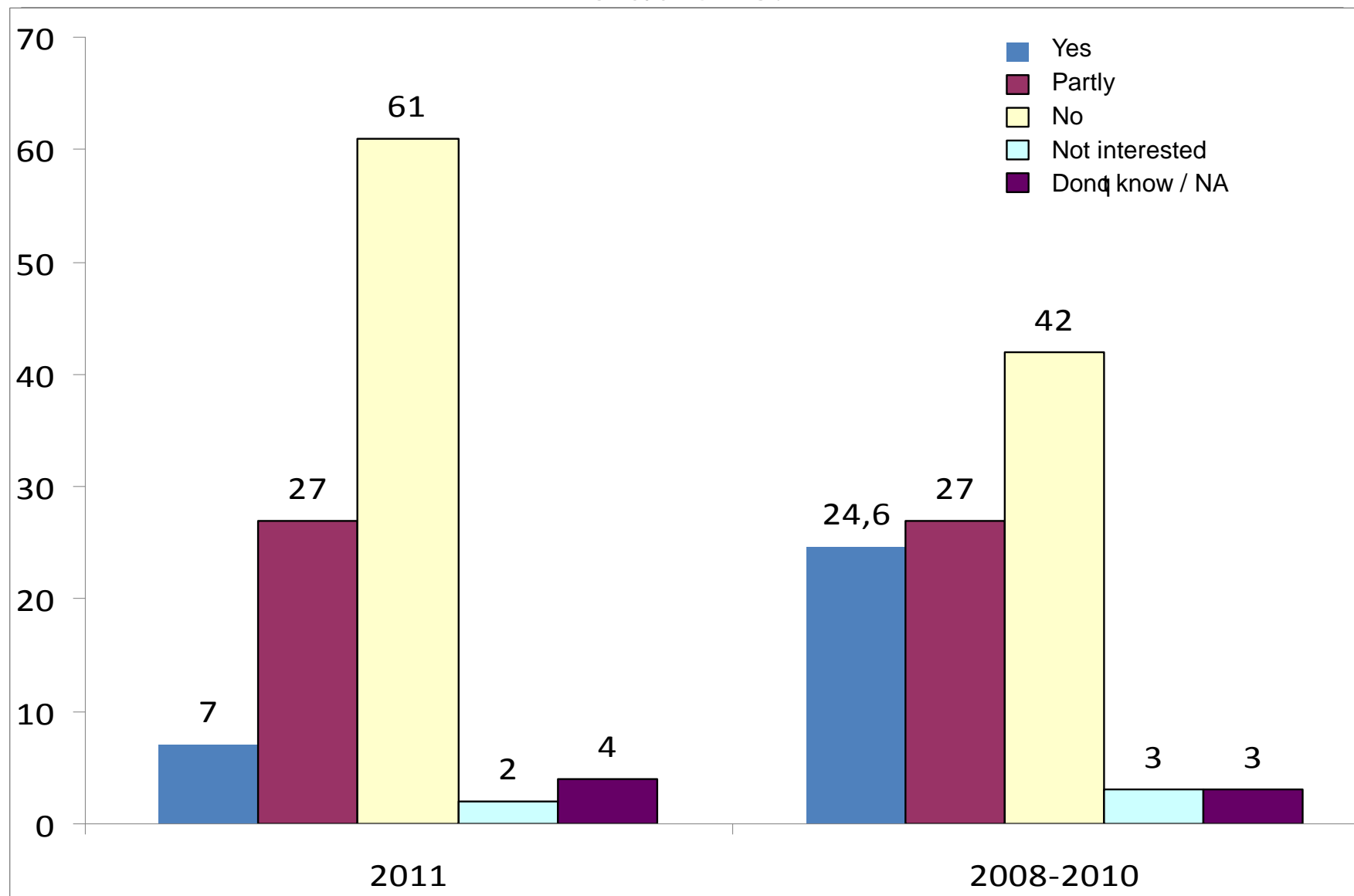
Attitude towards the right bank's leadership



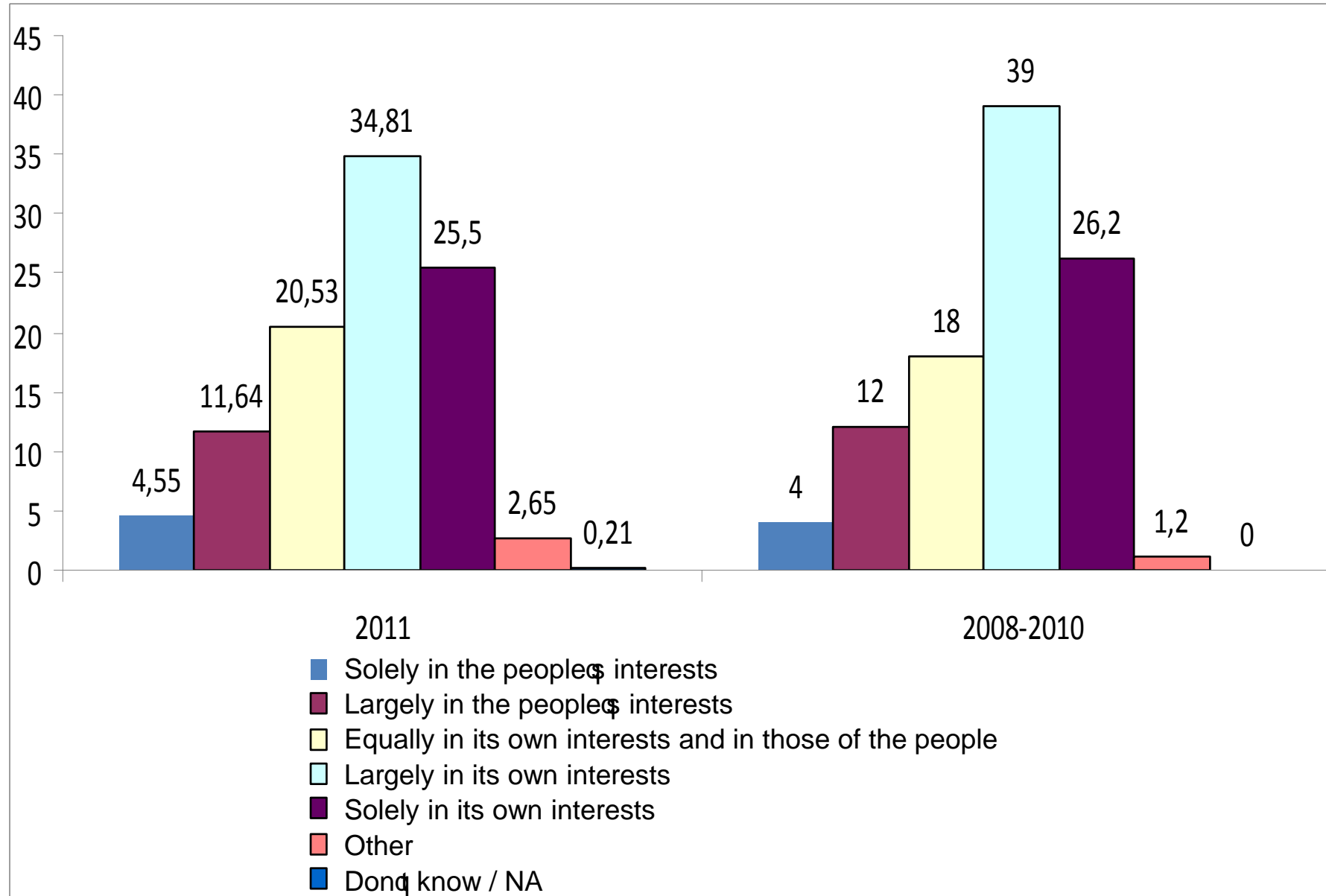
Attitude towards the left bank's leadership



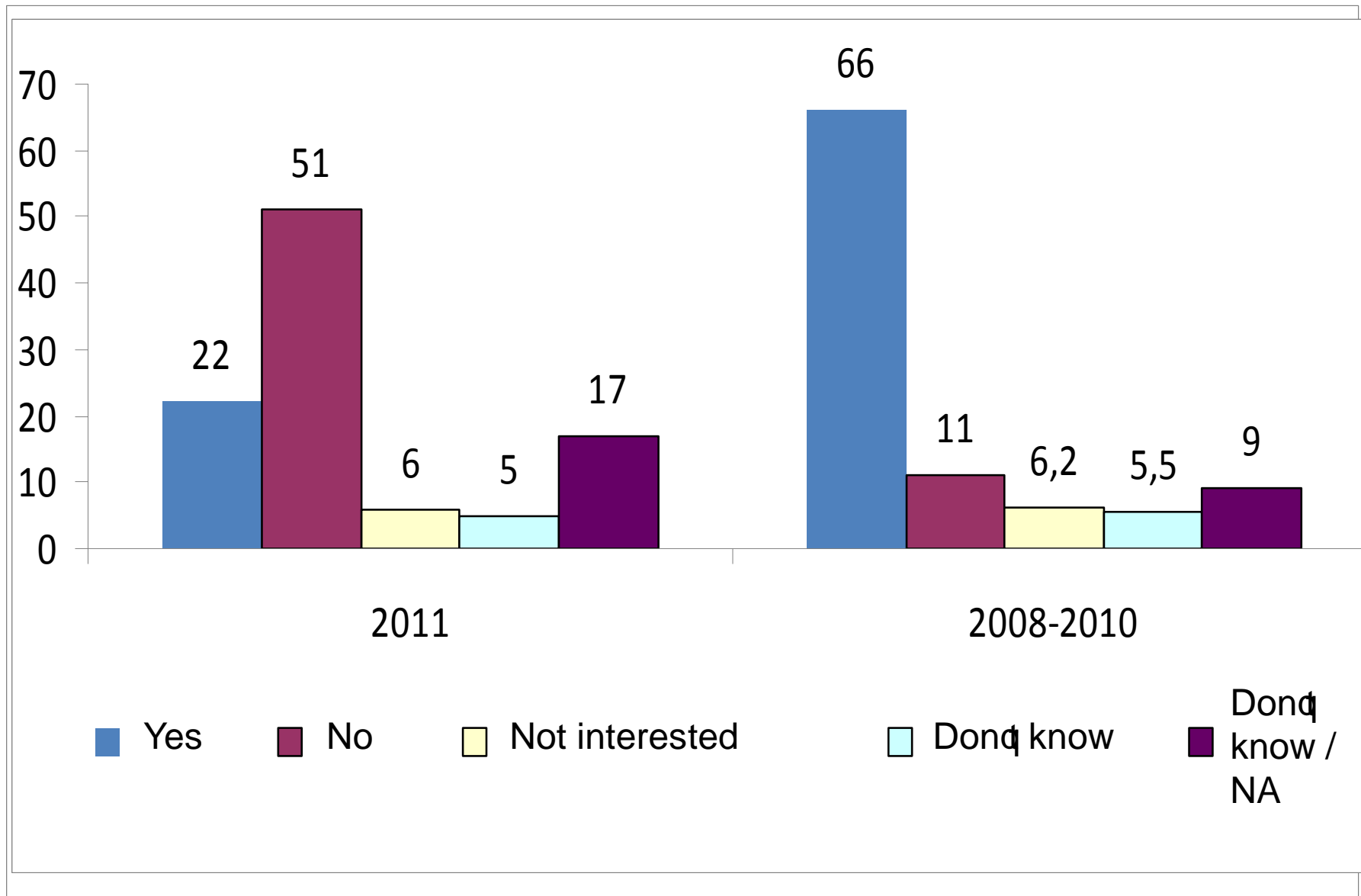
Attitude towards the left bank's leadership. Do you agree with the leadership regarding Moldova-Transdnistria relations?



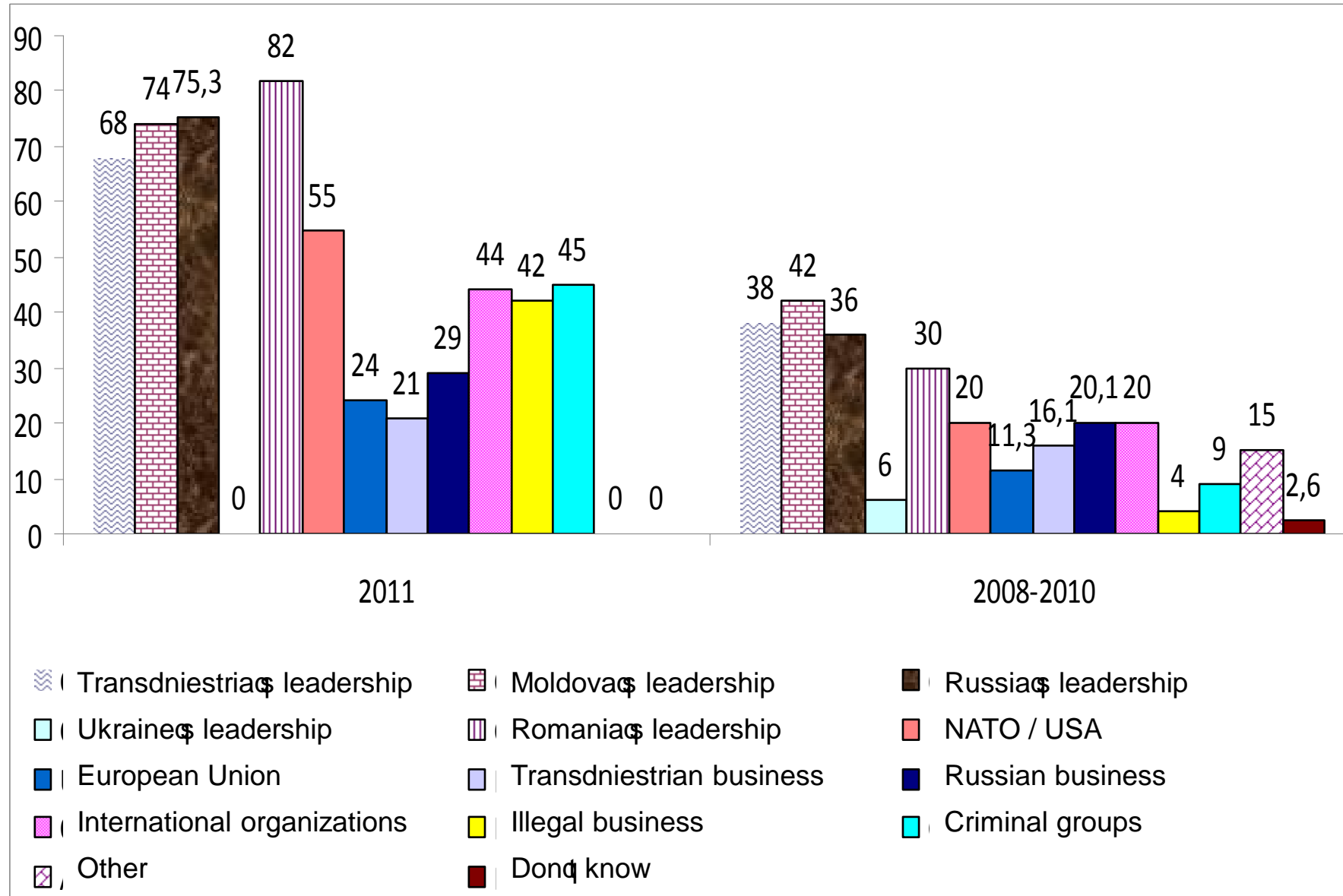
Attitude: do you think the left bank's leadership acts...



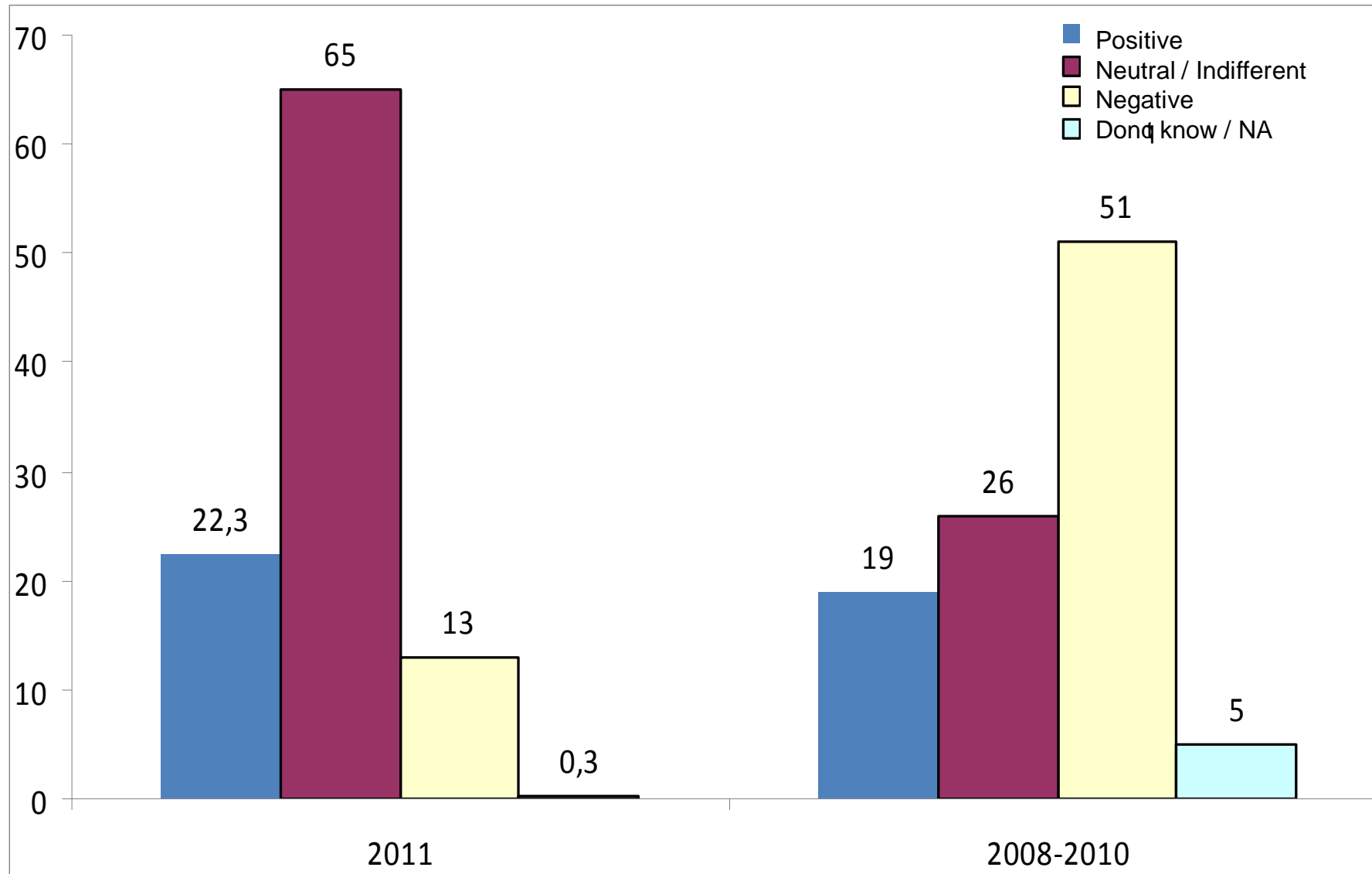
Attitude: do you think the Moldova-Transdnistria relations are based on certain groups' interests?



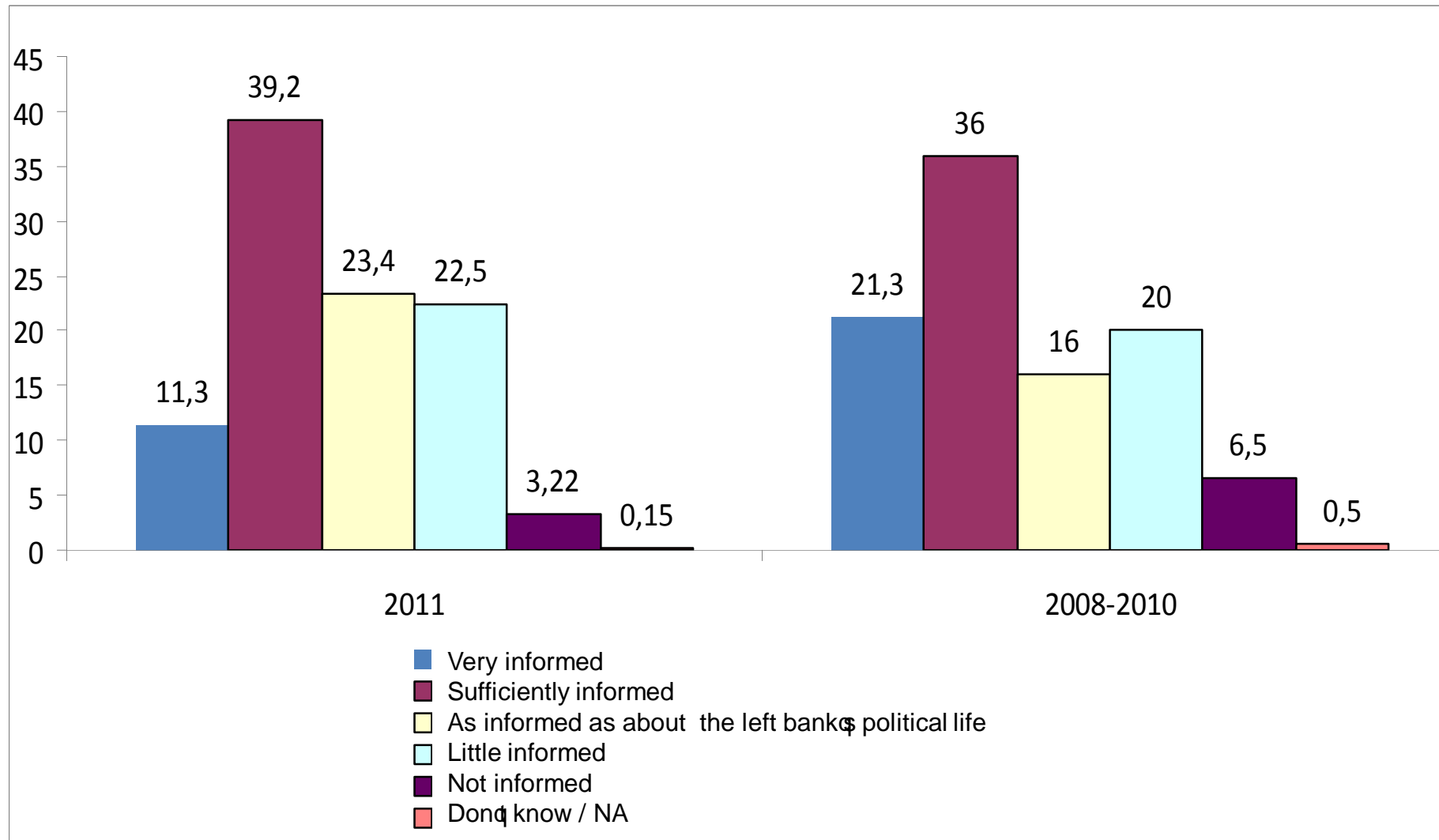
Attitude: if yes, what groups do you mean?



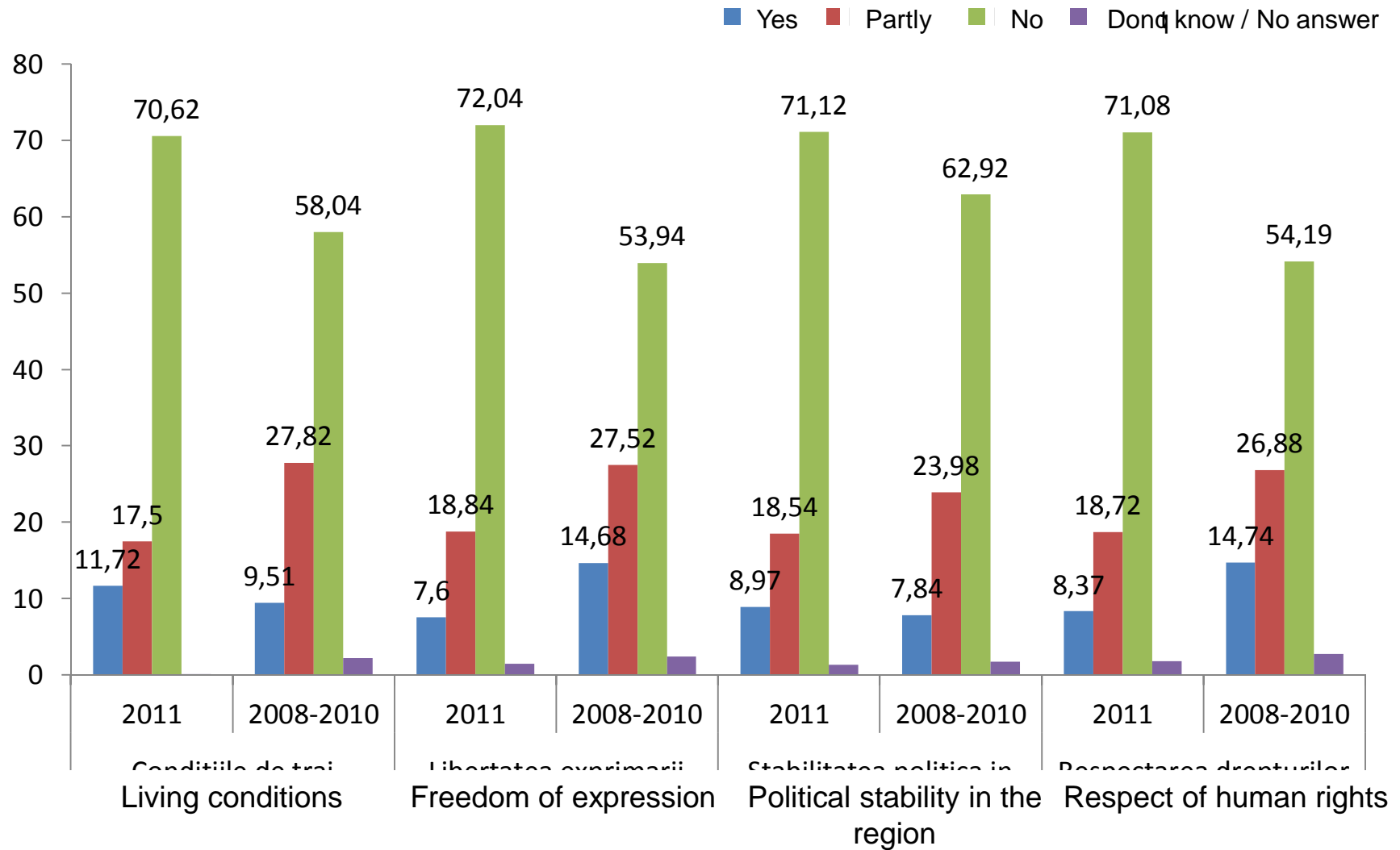
Attitude towards the right bank's leadership



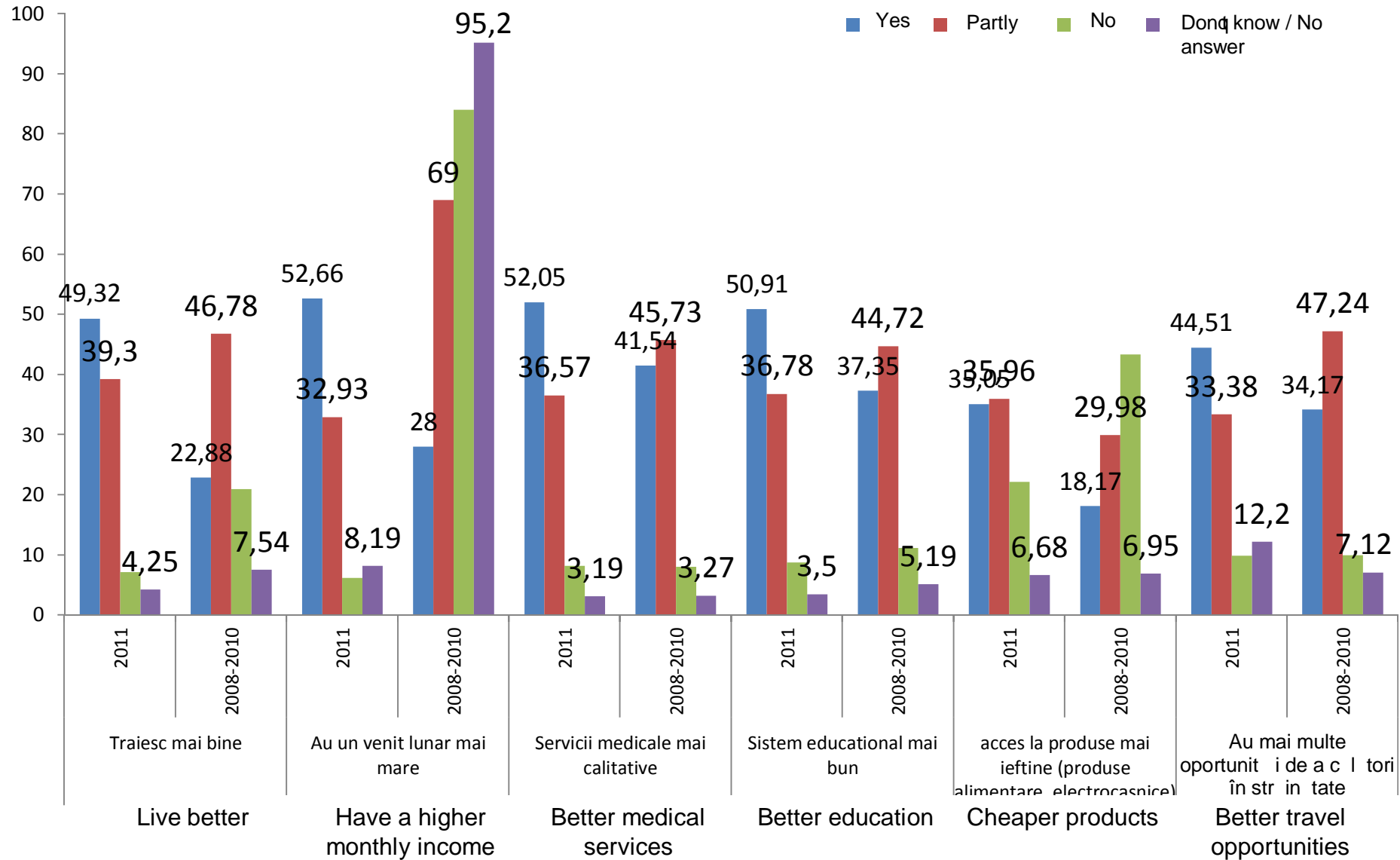
Attitude: are you informed about the right bank's political life?



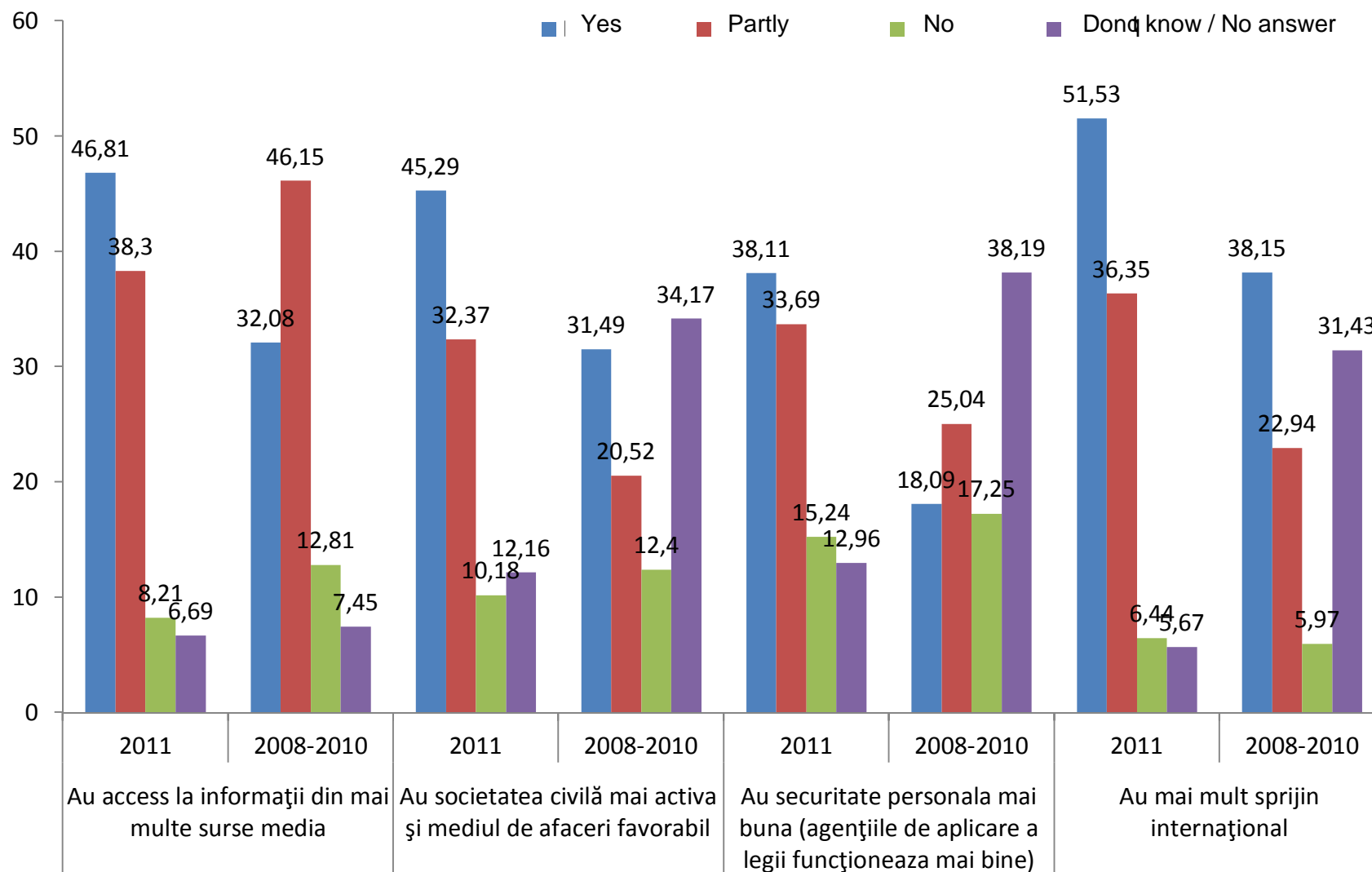
Attitude: are you pleased with...



Attitude: do you think the people on the right bank...



Attitude: do you think the people on the right bank...



Conclusions

The trends of the survey produced in 4 consecutive years showed the following:

1. **The economic situation is precarious** and affects the people on the left bank. The people on the left bank see themselves more disadvantaged than those on the right bank.
2. We can assume that the **social services are underdeveloped**.
3. Health services are one of the reasons behind visits to the right bank.
4. Overall, the people in the Transdniestrian region have a **positive attitude** towards the people from the right bank, largely considering that there is tension only at the leadership level, **and they feel themselves unable to influence the leadership**.
5. The people from the left bank **travel monthly** with various purposes, some of the most important – visits to relatives, studies, and medical services.
6. At the same time, there are certain **cultural and linguistic differences**, closer to Russia. Relations of **collaboration with Russia** in education have an important impact on shaping identity in this region.
7. We observe a tendency of **military training** for the purpose of “maintaining local traditions”.

Case Study. System of Education: Intensive Cooperation with Russian Institutions of Higher Education

A cooperation agreement with the Voronezh University (Russia) and the Tiraspol University was signed with D. Rogozin's coming to Tiraspol. Students from Tiraspol will have an opportunity to graduate in Tiraspol with a diploma equivalent to a Russian one. *"Russia is, was, and will remain in Transdnistria. The peacekeeping troops will stay and will be consolidated here. You need specialists to develop the country's economy. The lands here are very rich,"* said D. Rogozin.

"We elaborated a special cooperation agreement, providing for a mechanism of intensive integration and realization of projects of great importance for Transdnistria. We mean internships, joint publications," said the President of the Voronezh University.

(April 2012)

Source: <http://www.tv-pmr.com/news.php?id=14765>

Case Study. Extra-curricular activities specific to the region.

The “Young Patriot of Transdnistria” festival takes place annually before the Victory Day, 9 May. It consists of various competition stages between a number of teams:

- Marching and the best team song. Abilities of arranging at command, applied in the army.
- Topography, knowledge of the local history.
- Shooting from air guns.
- Disassembly and reassembly of guns.



Source: <http://www.tv-pmr.com/news.php?id=14765>

Case Study. System of Education and Health.

Of the **1,000** school children of the Slobozia district, **945** have health problems, according to the Sanitary Epidemiologic Center. “The program of study is highly difficult, and every year the immune system of children gets worse. Only the schools located in towns have medical offices, while in villages we have a great insufficiency of medical personnel. To solve the problem, 160,000 thousand roubles were allocated by the district center to place children into summer and health camps.” (April 2012)

Source: <http://www.tv-pmr.com/news.php?id=14765>

Observations of operators from the time of data collection

“The announcement boards of educational institutions contain a strong message of defense. It refers to such concepts as “young defender of motherland”; initially I felt as if I entered barracks, and not a school.”

“People complain of having no access to information. The Moldova 1 channel isn’t aired. 85% of people refuse to participate in the survey. People want the leadership of Moldova to have more respect for the people from the left bank.”
(Grigoriopol)

“The majority of people do not believe there is a conflict between people, but that there is one at the leadership level. The majority want unification with Moldova, but not with Romania. They complain of total disinformation by the media. Also, they are dissatisfied with the monopoly.”

“The people here are all Russian speakers; even if they know Romanian, they refuse to speak it on principle, because they consider themselves Transdnistrians, a separate country. Some of them don't want to even hear of Moldova. Compared with other places where we conducted the survey, they visit the other bank much more rarely; the people from there come to Bender. They have few relatives on the other bank. Relations are good. Products are cheaper. They are more conservative.” (Tighina)

“A lady was very categorical, harsh and critical of everything regarding Moldova. She called us with ugly words, said that we push them, don’t let them live and want to enslave them, that by their means we wash loads of money. Had it been as she wanted, they would long have united with Russia, but we wouldn’t let them.”

“Another lady was very positive, willing to change something; she believed that one day Transdniestria will unite with Moldova and there will be no more of this political insanity. She said she was used to it and paid no attention to them, that she would die of hunger if she listened to everything, and she is not allowed, as she has 3 children and she is a widow. She treated me to some nuts. 😊”

“The majority want unification with Moldova and Europe. They are tired of borders and conflict. The majority are satisfied with the quality of life.” (Camenca, 2009)

“People don’t even want to hear of Romania. They believe that only Romania is to blame.” (Ribnita, 2009)

“A very beautiful village, with kind people. They agreed to answer any questions. They have lots of relatives on the other bank, and relations have improved. They believe that “the things done at the level of leadership are a folly,” and wonder why they wouldn’t be left alone. They very much want that there be no more borders.” (Molovata, 2008).

“They have relatives on the other bank and are in good relations with the people there. They want the customs to be removed.” (Varnita, 2008)

Respondents' comments

“We don't need Americans; they want Transdniestria in order to start a war with Russia. I read in “Patria” newspaper about NATO and how they want to get to us.” (A lady who had worked as a museum guide was fired on the pretext that she doesn't speak Russian well because she had taken citizenship of Moldova in 1991-1992).

“Romanians are a very cruel nation, and Moldovans are stupid for believing them.”

“The problem is not in cooperation with other people, but in the fact that everyone needs something to eat and a job, and not to be lost to poverty. To me it doesn't matter who to unite or live with.”

“On 25 May 1995 the police retained my husband at our house, and without any explanation they said they were taking him to the district police center. A while later I heard that my husband would never return home. I addressed various institutions, wrote to newspapers, and still I have no news. Children keep asking about where their father is, and I don’t know what to tell them.” (2011)