

Venezuelans in Florida: Views about sanctions and other US policies

Survey conducted by the Latino Public Opinion Forum

FIU

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Survey Methodology

- Survey of adult (18+) Venezuelans who are registered to vote in the United States.
- Sample size: 310
- MOE: +/-5.55% at the 95% Confidence level
- Mixed method survey: combination of CATI and direct intercept interviews
- Date of Survey: October 10-20, 2023

Executive Summary: Venezuelans in Florida

The survey "Venezuelans in Florida" provides comprehensive insights into the perspectives of Venezuelans in Florida regarding various aspects of U.S. policy towards Venezuela and the current situation in Venezuela.

- **Perception of Situation in Venezuela:** Most respondents believe the situation in Venezuela has worsened compared to the previous year and think the country is on the wrong track.
- **Awareness and Familiarity with U.S. Policies:** A significant portion of respondents are aware of U.S. policies towards Venezuela, including sanctions related to terrorism, drug trafficking, and other specific areas.
- **Opinions on Sanctions:** There are mixed views on the effectiveness of U.S. economic sanctions. While a notable number of respondents are familiar with various sanctions, a majority believe these sanctions haven't moved Venezuela towards democracy and have negative impacts on citizens. About 43% think sanctions have strengthened the Maduro government.
- **Views on U.S. Government's Handling of Venezuelan Migration:** A minority of respondents approve of the Biden Administration's handling of Venezuelan migration. However, there's a strong approval for the Temporary Protected Status (TPS) policy favoring Venezuelan immigrants. The strongest support is for the Administration's parole policy. The survey also shows that 45% of Venezuelans surveyed support the deportation of undocumented arrivals.
- **U.S. Involvement in Venezuelan Affairs:** A vast majority would like to see increased U.S. involvement in Venezuelan affairs, with a significant portion favoring maintaining or increasing sanctions against Venezuela.
- **Perception of Political Parties and Candidates:** There's a notable preference for Republican policies towards Venezuela, with Donald Trump viewed as having the best policy among Republican candidates.
- **Outlook on Democratic Transition and Negotiations:** A majority does not believe a democratic transition is possible without external involvement. There's also a widespread belief that failed negotiations are mainly due to the Venezuelan government's lack of seriousness. Confidence in the opposition's ability to bring about change is low.

Resumen Ejecutivo: Venezolanos de la Florida

La encuesta "Venezolanos en Florida" proporciona información integral sobre las perspectivas de los venezolanos en Florida con respecto a varios aspectos de la política estadounidense hacia Venezuela y la situación actual en Venezuela.

Percepción de la situación en Venezuela: La mayoría de los encuestados cree que la situación en Venezuela ha empeorado en comparación con el año anterior y piensa que el país va por el camino equivocado.

Conciencia y familiaridad con las políticas estadounidenses: una parte importante de los encuestados conoce las políticas estadounidenses hacia Venezuela, incluidas las sanciones relacionadas con el terrorismo, el narcotráfico y otras áreas específicas.

Opiniones sobre las sanciones: Hay opiniones encontradas sobre la eficacia de las sanciones económicas de Estados Unidos. Si bien un número notable de encuestados está familiarizado con varias sanciones, la mayoría cree que estas sanciones no han llevado a Venezuela hacia la democracia y tienen impactos negativos en los ciudadanos. Alrededor del 43% cree que las sanciones han fortalecido al gobierno de Maduro.

Opiniones sobre el manejo de la migración venezolana por parte del gobierno de Estados Unidos: Una minoría de encuestados aprueba el manejo de la migración venezolana por parte de la Administración Biden. Sin embargo, existe una fuerte aprobación de la política del Estatus de Protección Temporal (TPS) que favorece a los inmigrantes venezolanos. El apoyo más fuerte es para la política de libertad condicional de la Administración. La encuesta también muestra que el 45% de los venezolanos encuestados apoya la deportación de los inmigrantes indocumentados.

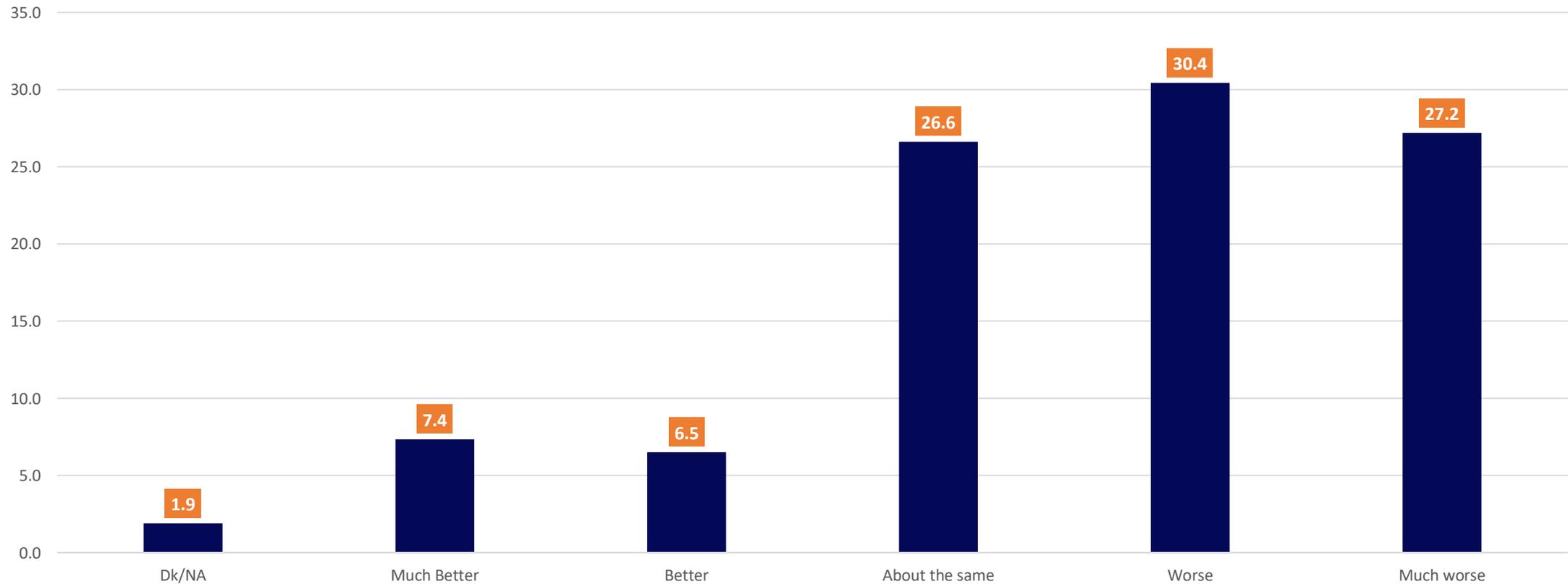
Participación de Estados Unidos en los asuntos venezolanos: a una gran mayoría le gustaría ver una mayor participación de Estados Unidos en los asuntos venezolanos, y una parte importante está a favor de mantener o aumentar las sanciones contra Venezuela.

Percepción de los partidos políticos y los candidatos: Hay una preferencia notable por las políticas republicanas hacia Venezuela, y se considera que Donald Trump tiene la mejor política entre los candidatos republicanos.

Perspectivas sobre la transición democrática y las negociaciones: La mayoría no cree que una transición democrática sea posible sin la participación externa. También existe la creencia generalizada de que las negociaciones fallidas se deben principalmente a la falta de seriedad del gobierno venezolano. La confianza en la capacidad de la oposición para lograr cambios es baja.

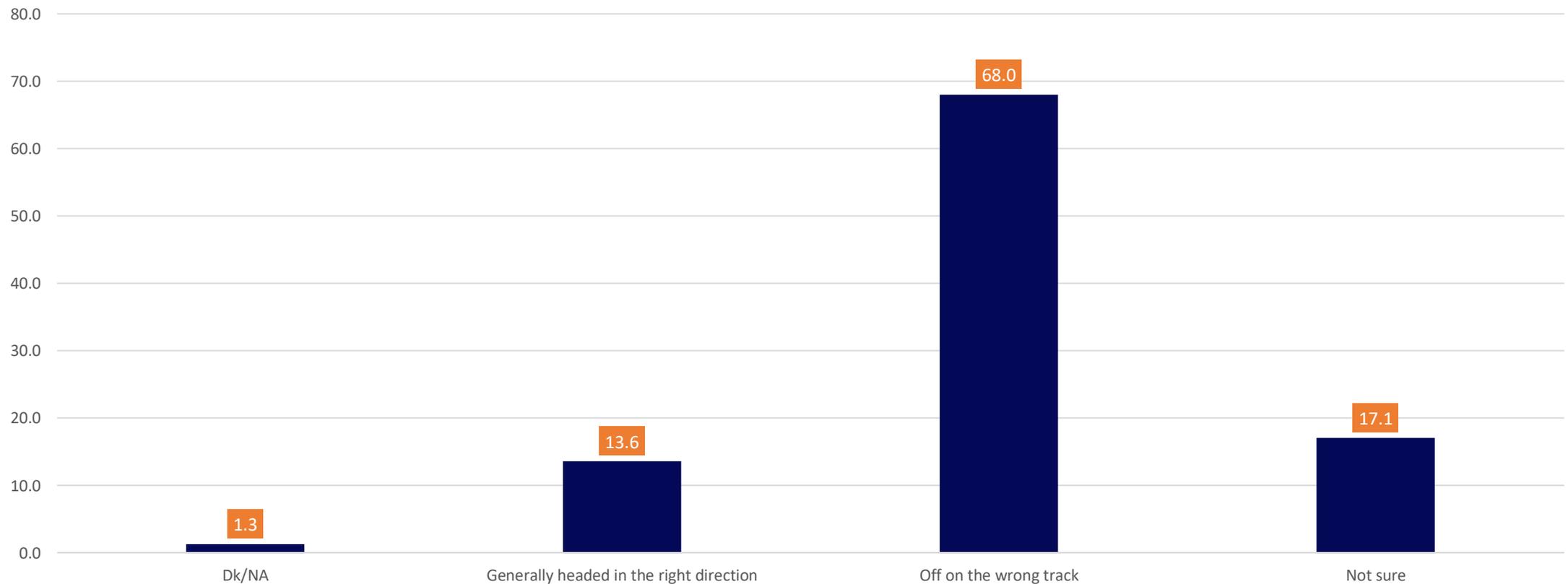
Most see the situation in Venezuela as worse than a year ago.

Is the situation in Venezuela better or worse off than a year ago?



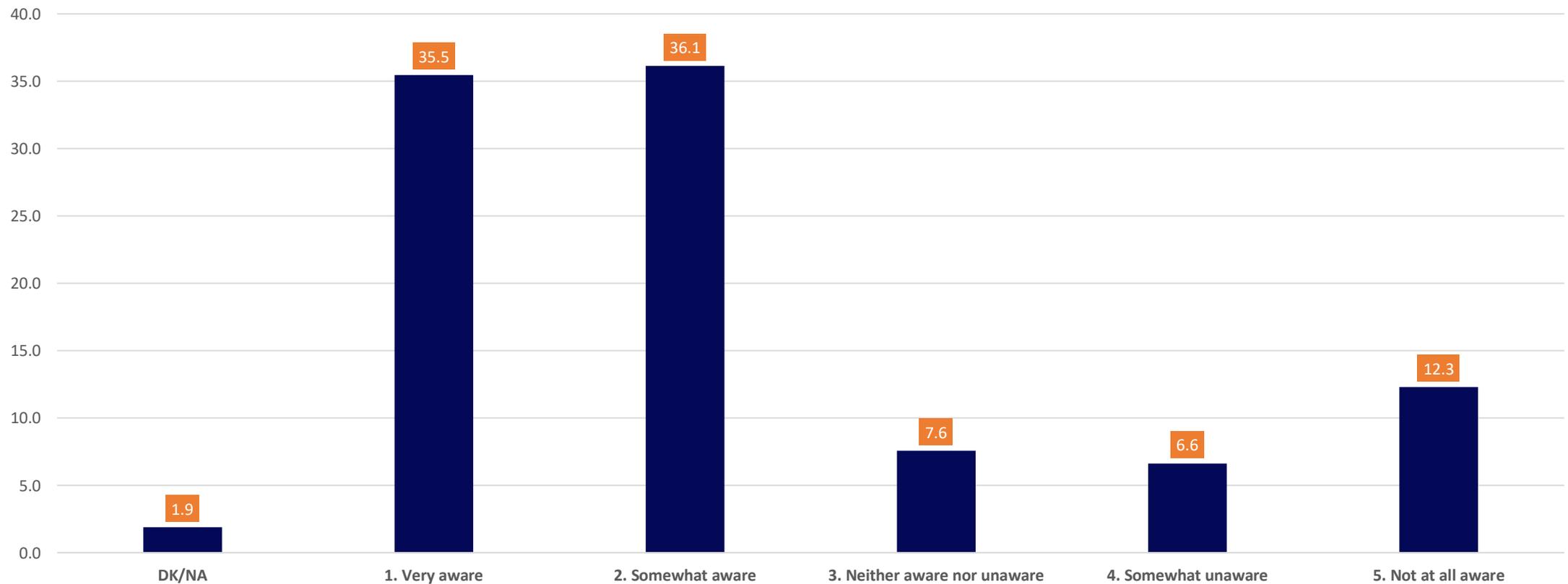
Most believe that things in Venezuela are off on the wrong track.

Are things in Venezuela generally headed in the right direction or off on the wrong track?



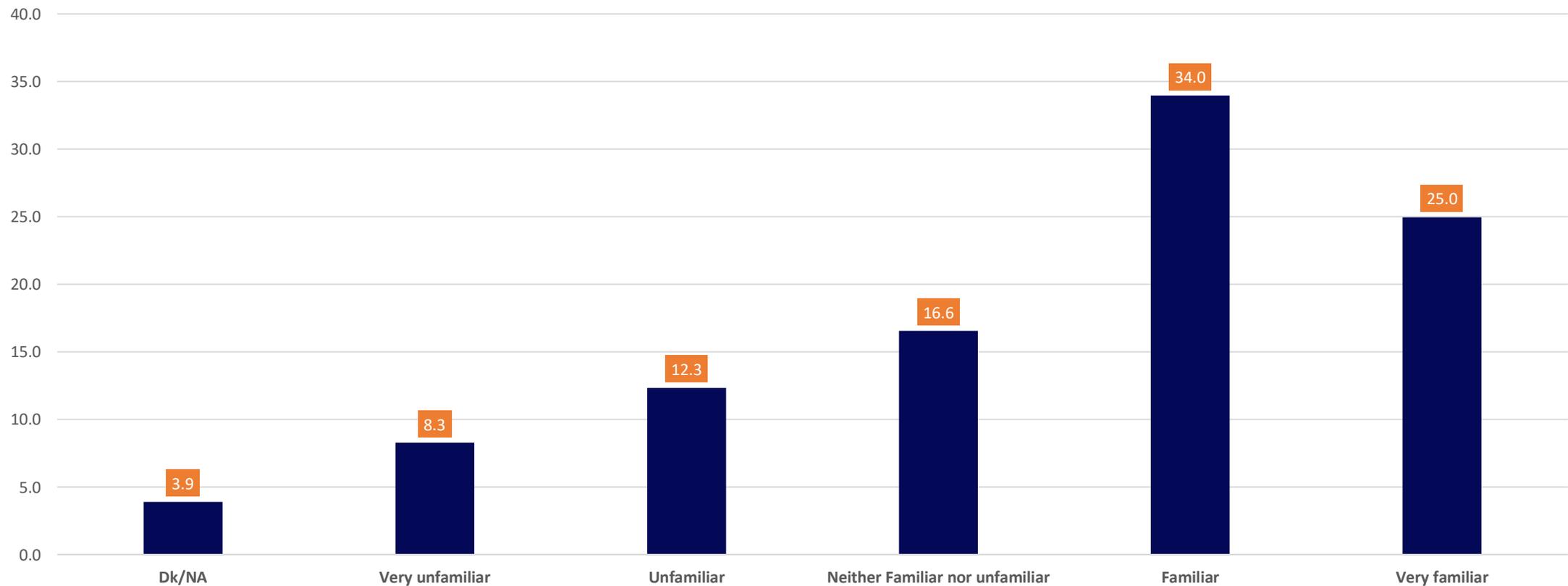
Over 70% says that they are aware of US policy toward Venezuela.

On a scale from 1-5, would you say you are very aware of current US Policy towards Venezuela?



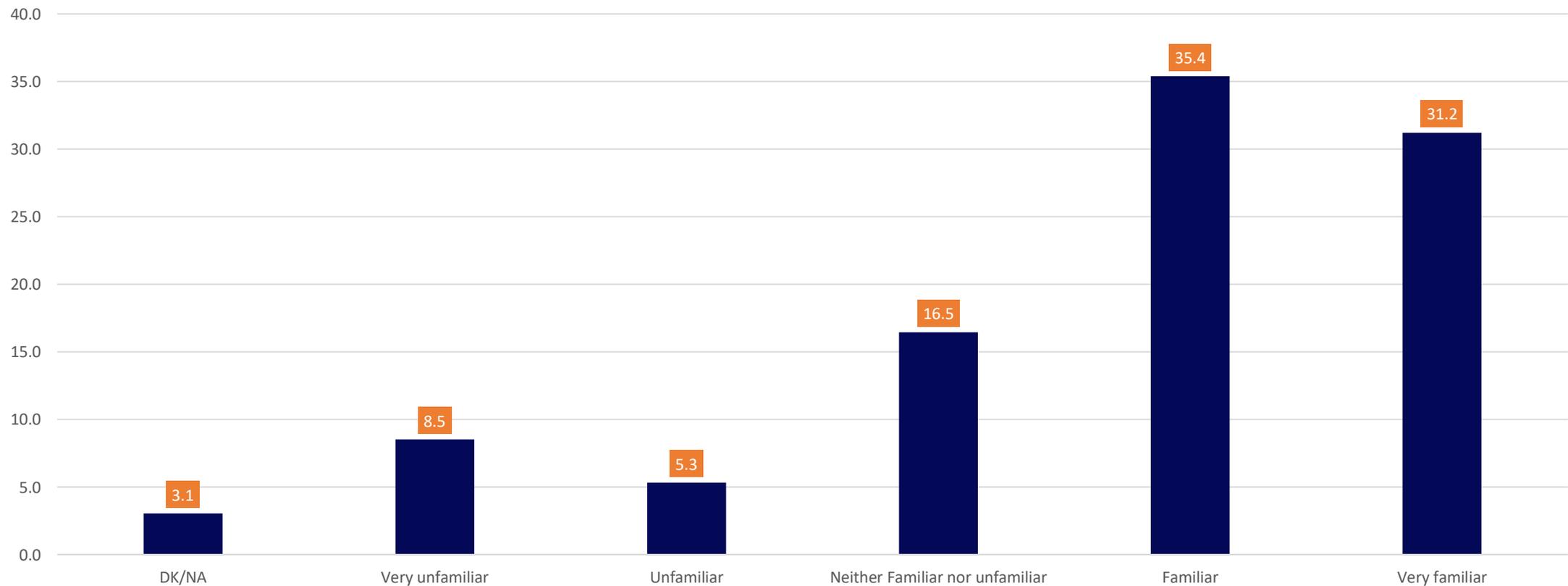
Nearly 60% says that they are familiar with terrorism related sanctions

Terrorism related sanctions



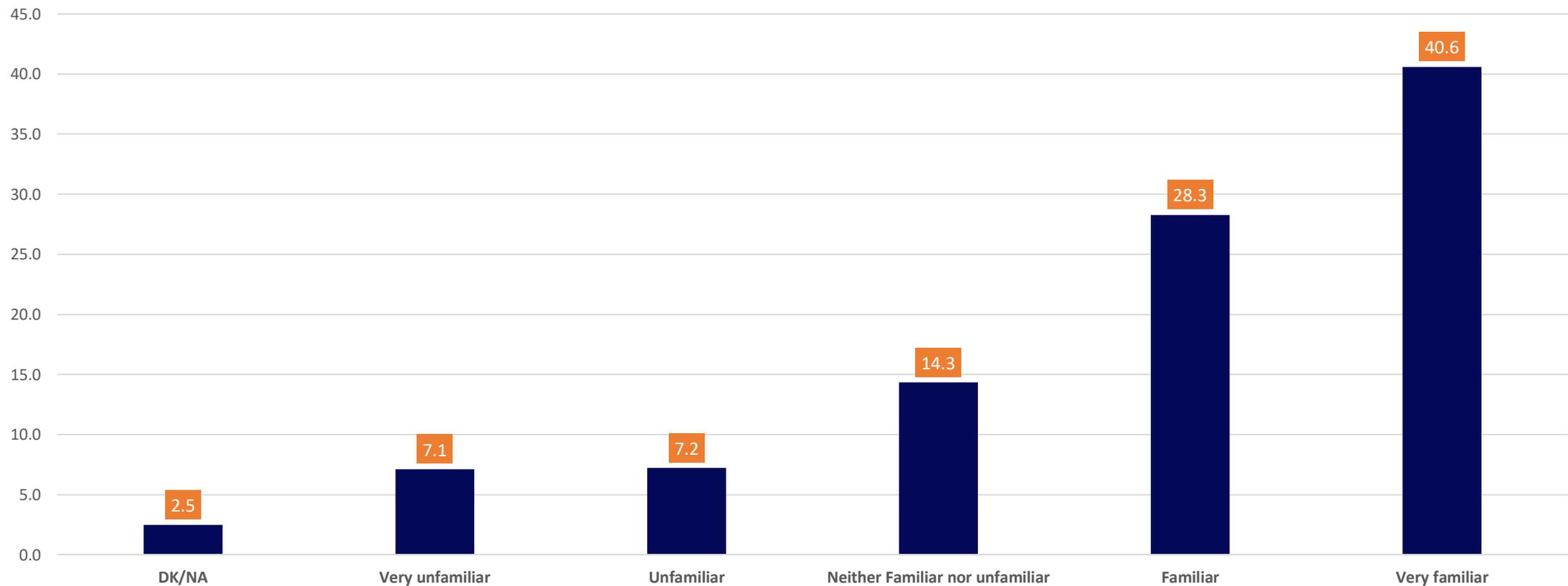
A majority also claims familiarity with drug trafficking sanctions.

Drug Trafficking Related Sanctions



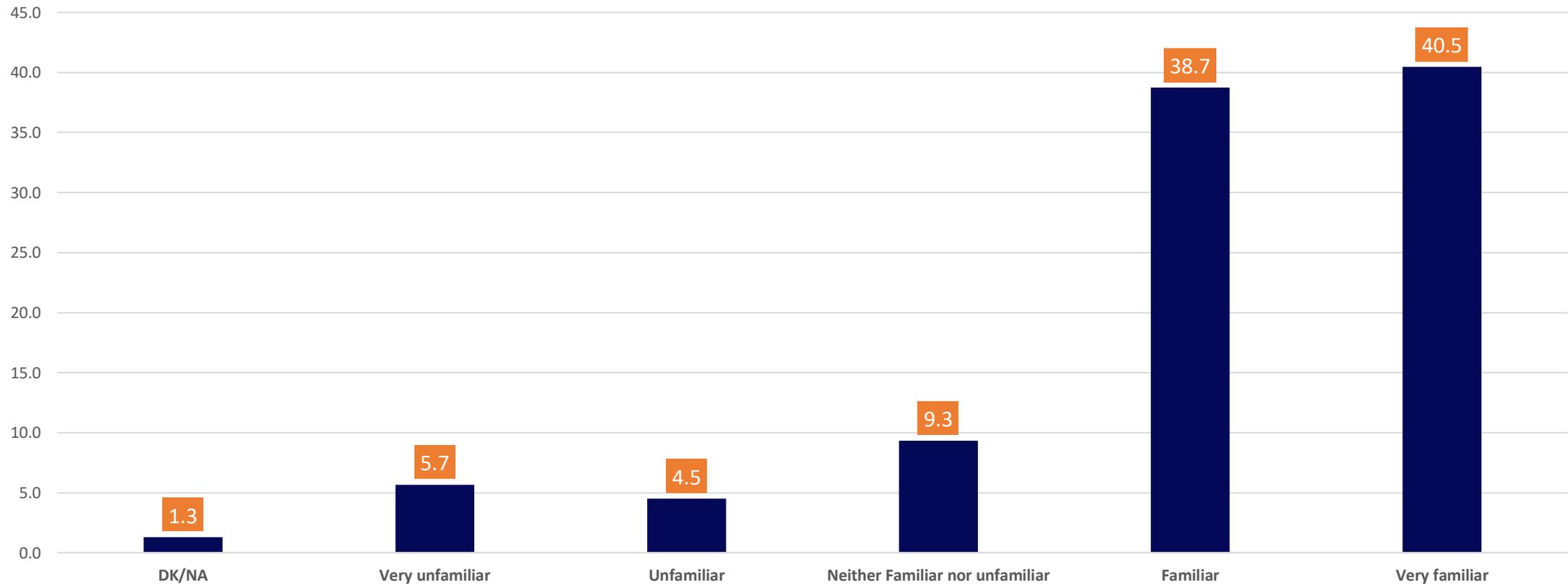
Respondents are highly familiar with other sanctions.

Targeted Sanctions related to antidemocratic actions, human rights violation, and corruption



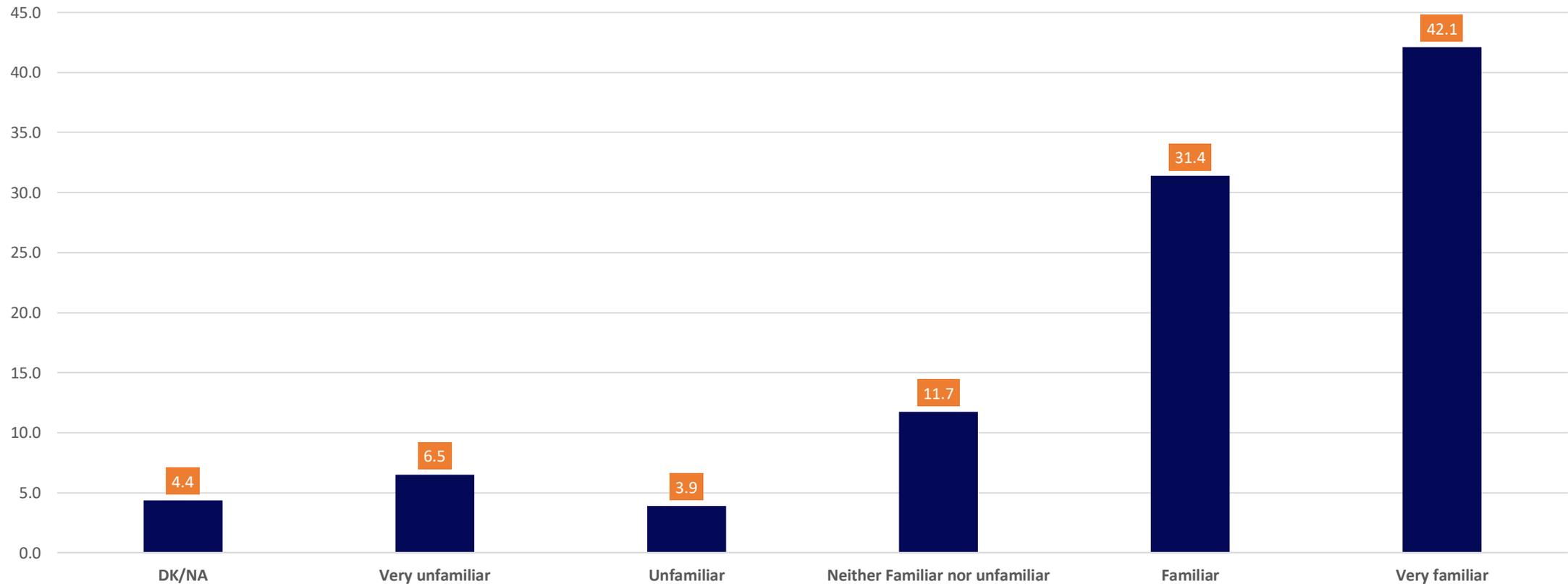
Respondents say they are most familiar with oil industry and financial sanctions.

Economic Sanctions (Oil industry and financial sanctions)



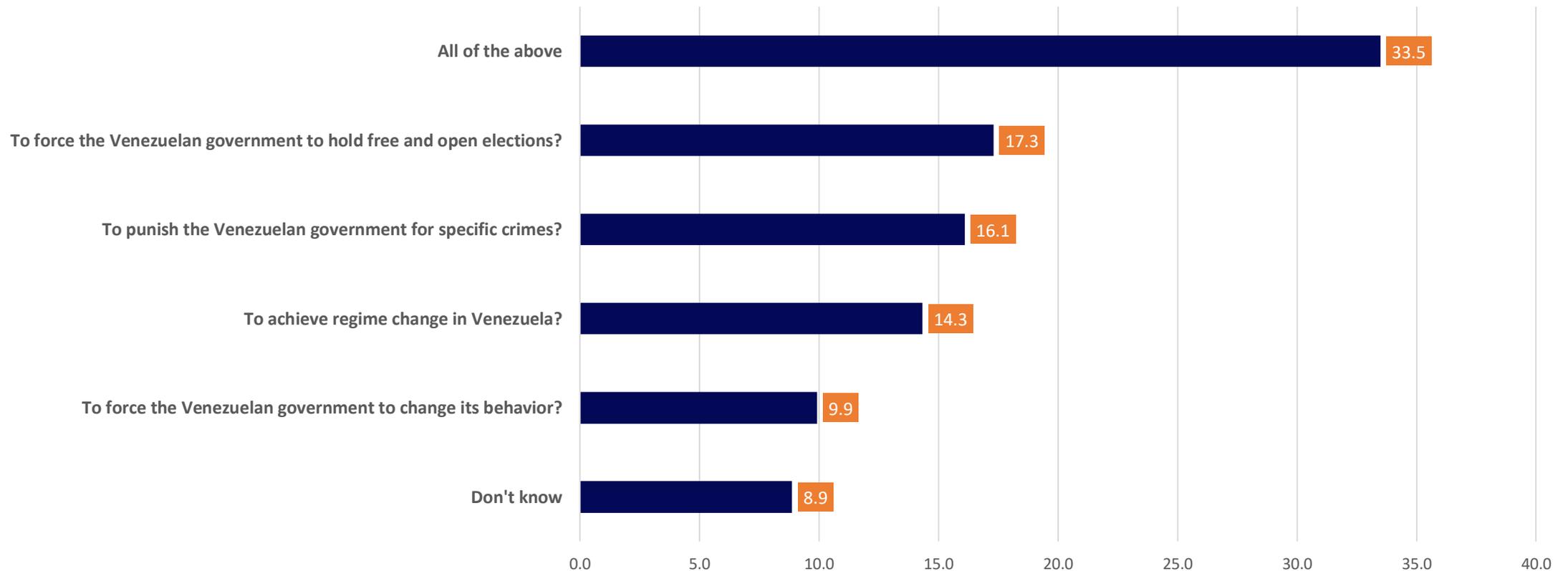
Respondents claim to be highly familiar with sanctions on the Maduro government

Sanctions on Maduro Government



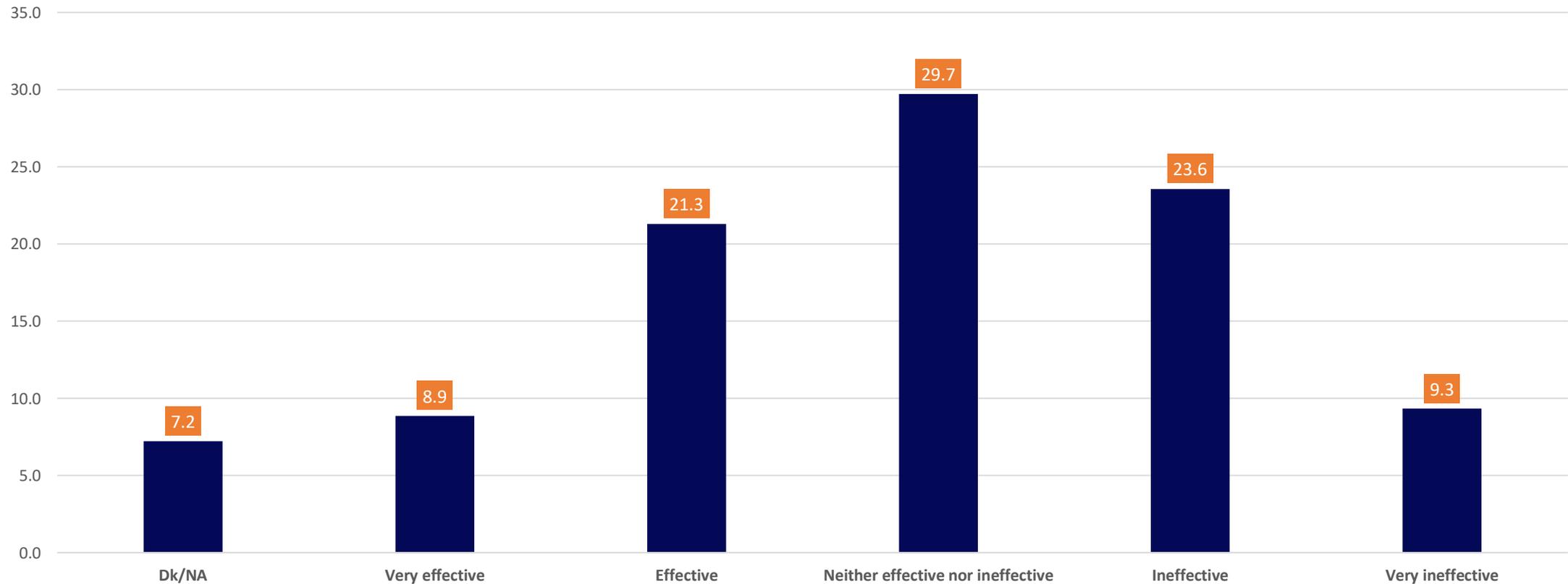
Respondents generally understand the goal of US sanctions

In your opinion, are US sanctions a tool:



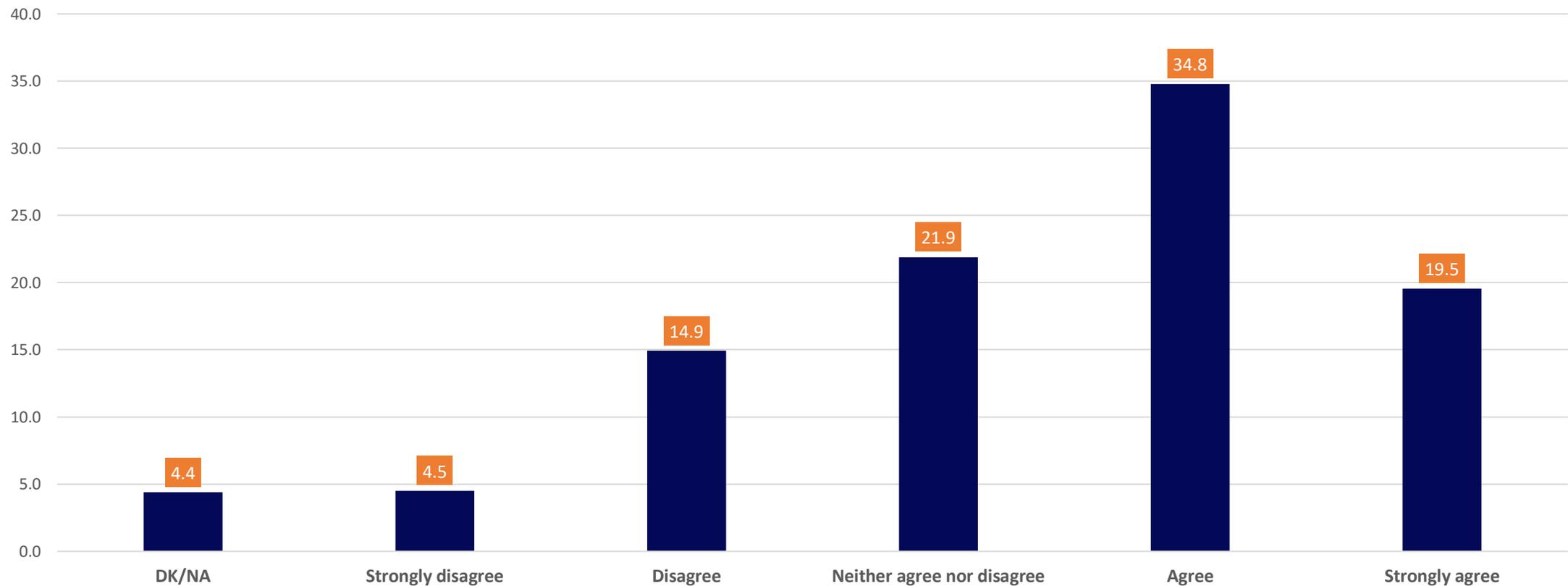
Only about 30% believes that US economic sanctions have been effective.

How would you evaluate the effectiveness of US economic sanctions on Venezuela?



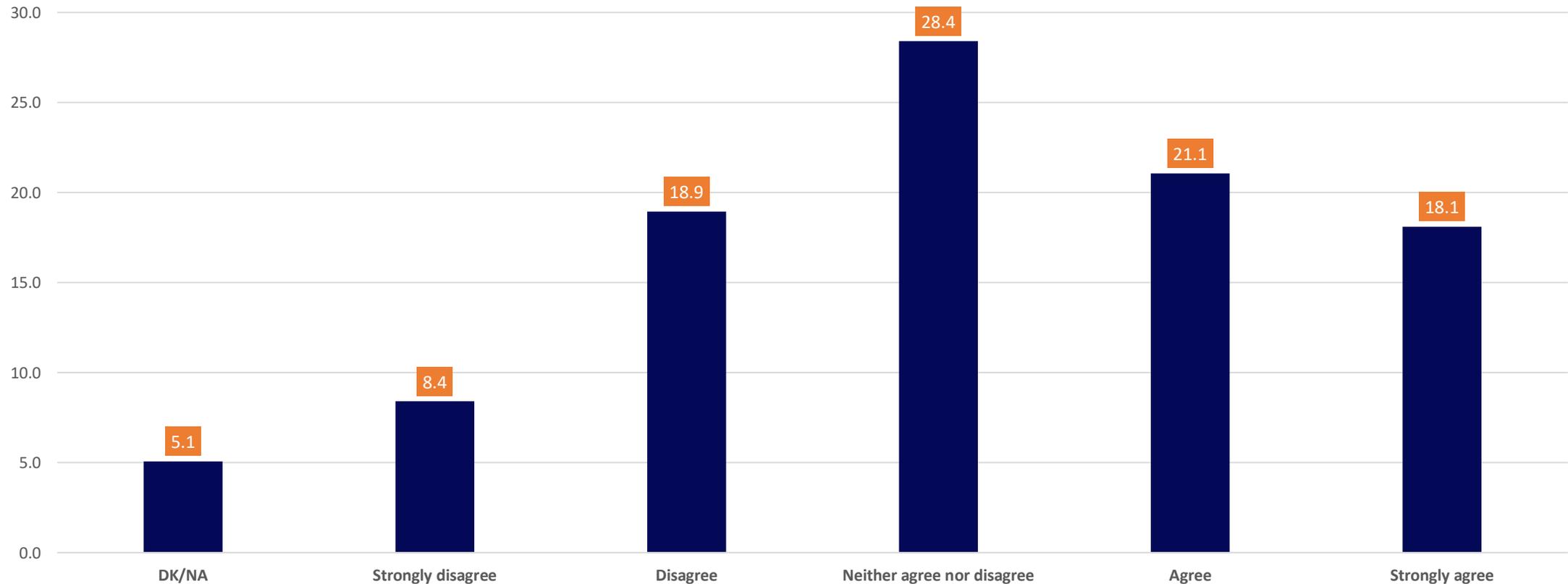
54% says that economic sanctions have not moved Venezuela toward democracy.

Economic Sanctions have had no impact on moving Venezuela toward democracy



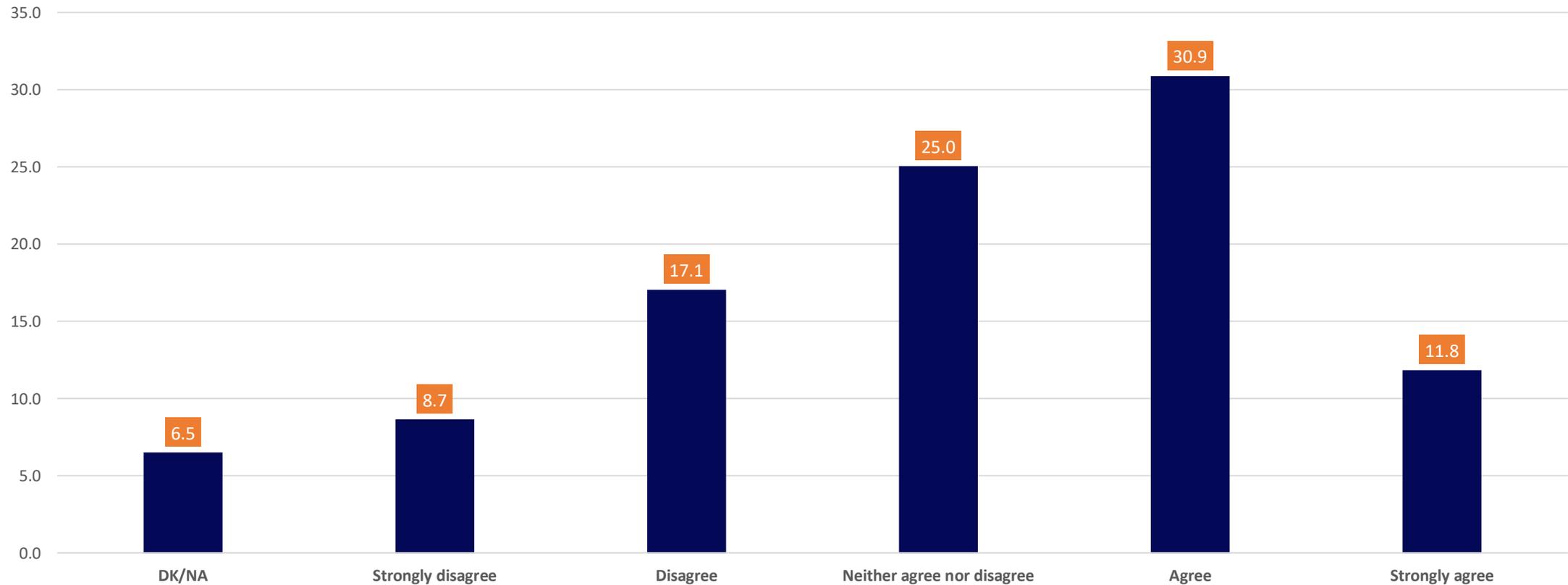
Almost 40% believes that economic sanctions have a negative impact on the average citizen.

Economic sanctions have a negative impact on the average Venezuelan citizen



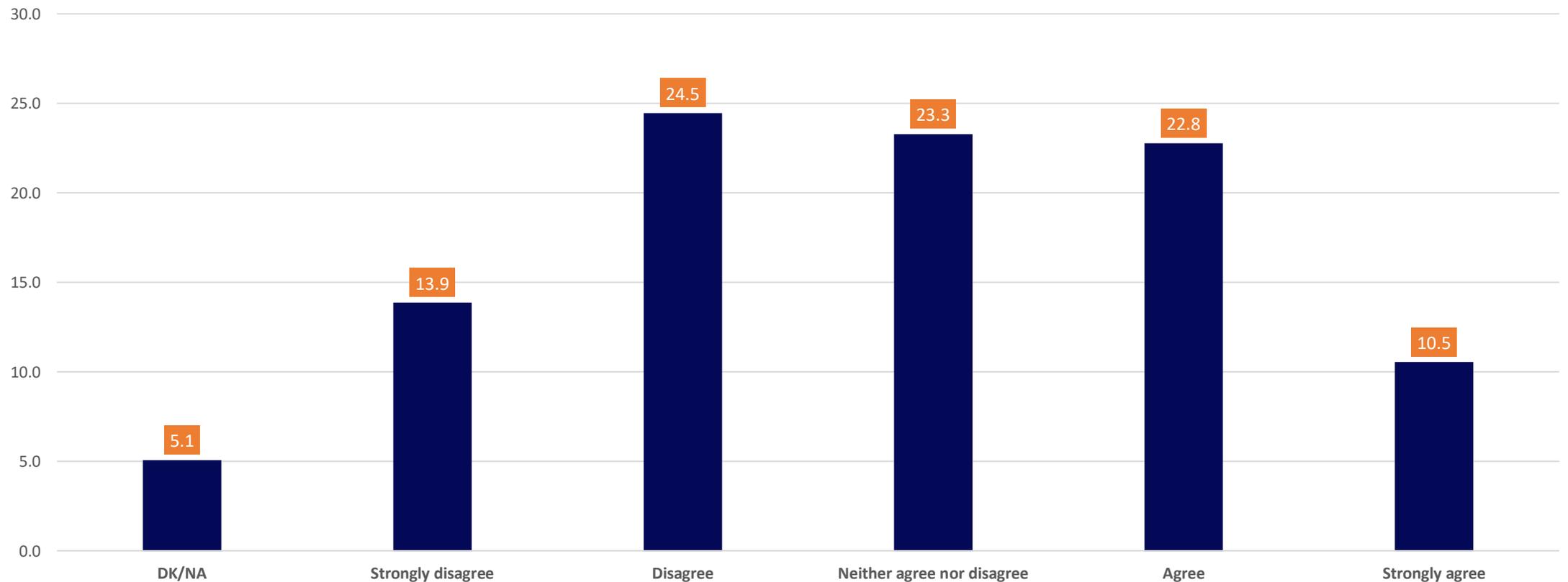
About 43% believes that economic sanctions strengthened the Maduro government.

Economic sanctions have contributed to strengthen the Maduro government



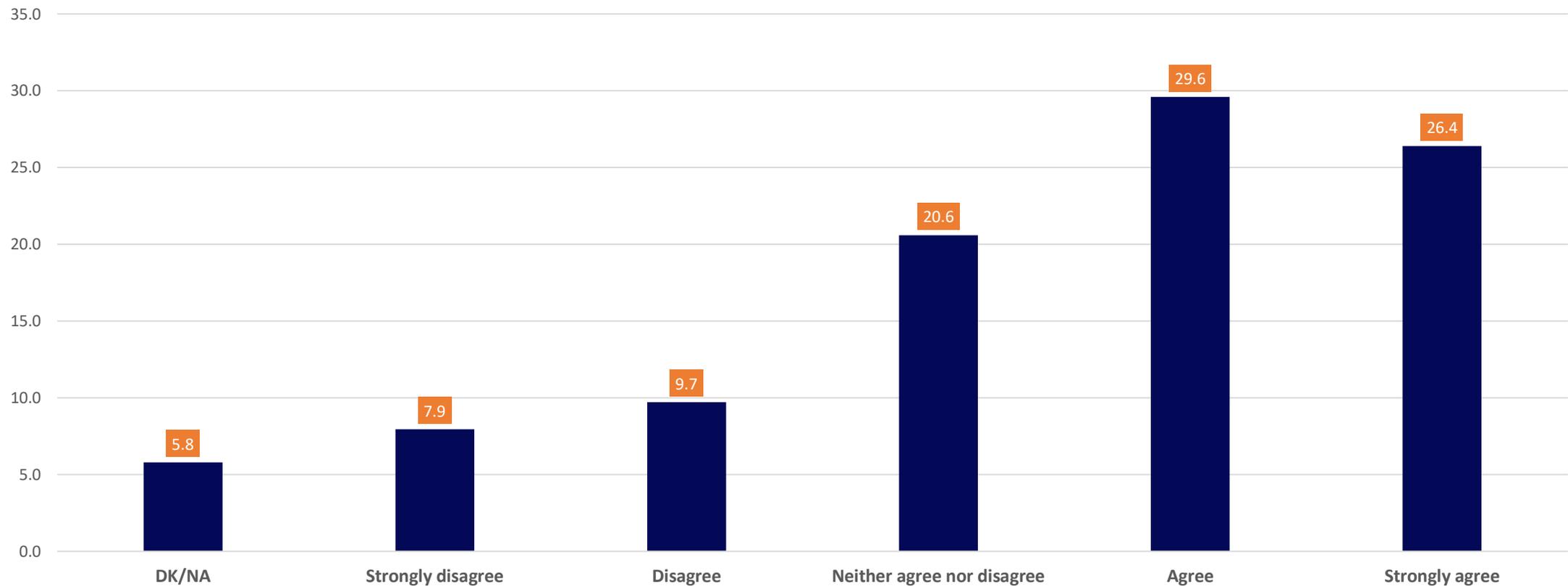
Only one third of respondents believes that economic sanctions have moved Venezuela toward democratic elections.

Economic sanctions have been a useful tool to move Venezuela toward democratic elections



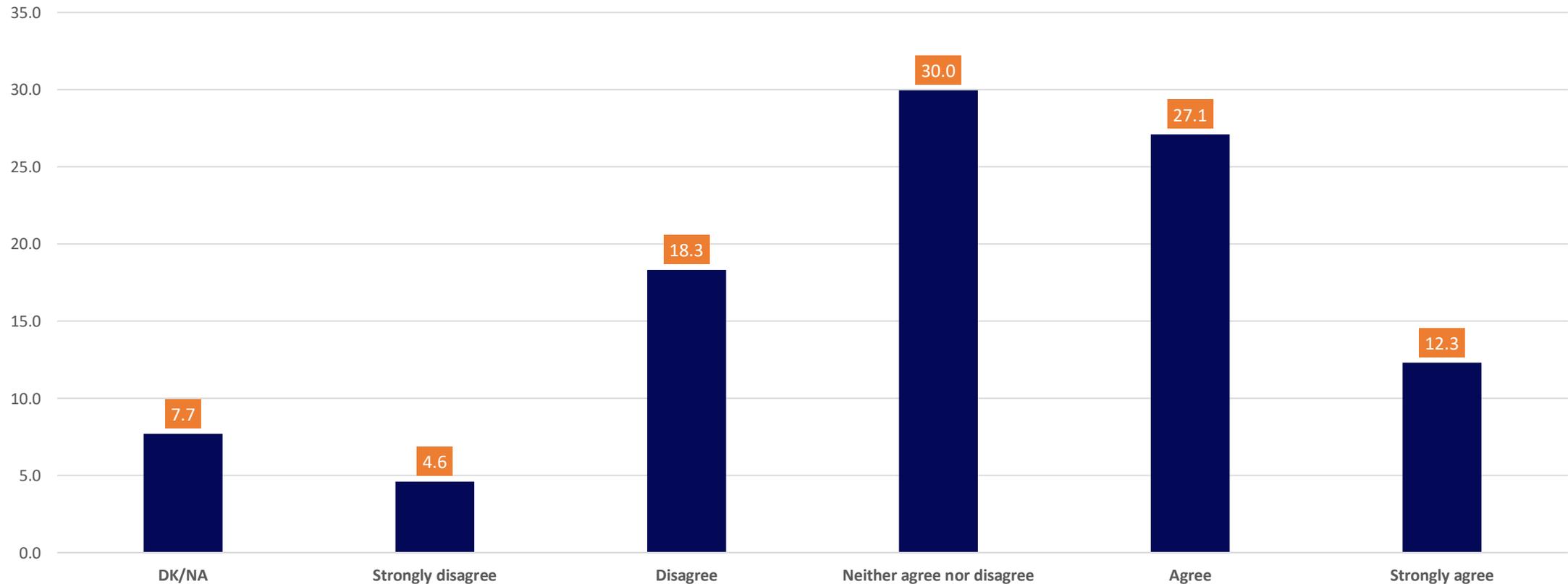
56% says that economic sanctions strengthened the government's ties with non-democratic countries.

Economic sanctions have strengthened the Venezuelan government's ties with other non-democratic countries



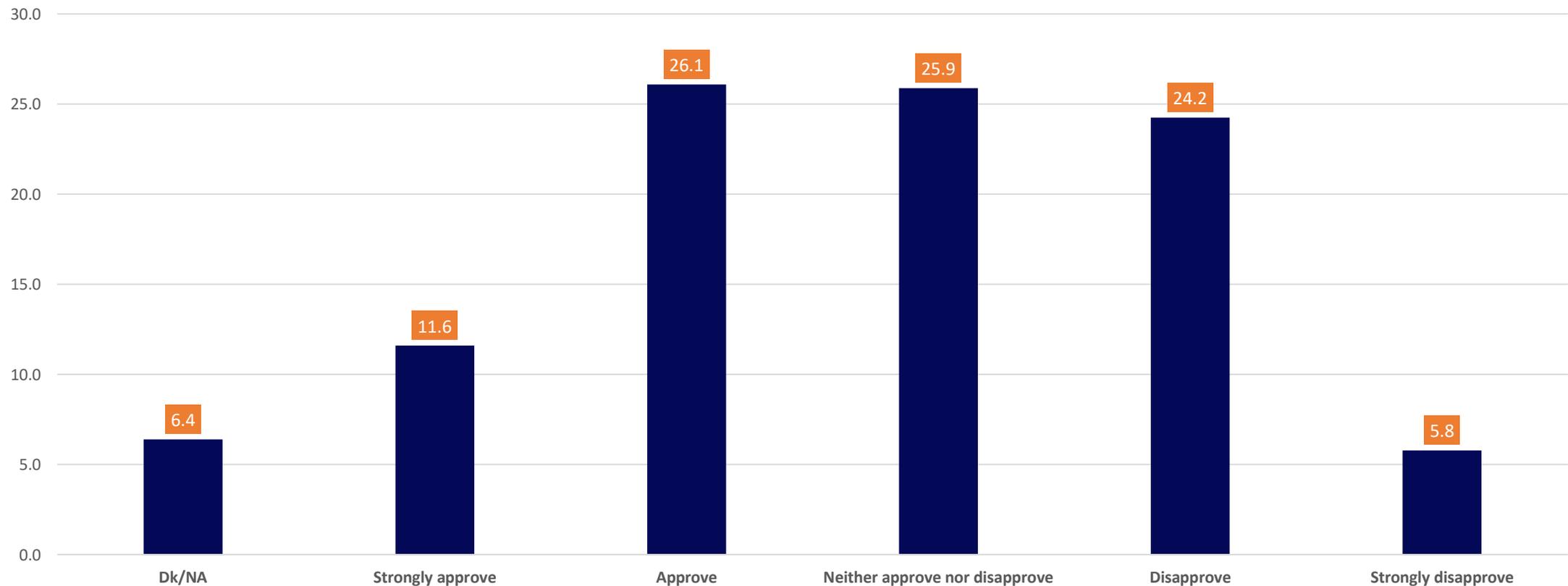
Almost 40% believes that economic sanctions weakened the opposition's efforts.

Economic sanctions have weakened the opposition's efforts toward a change of regime



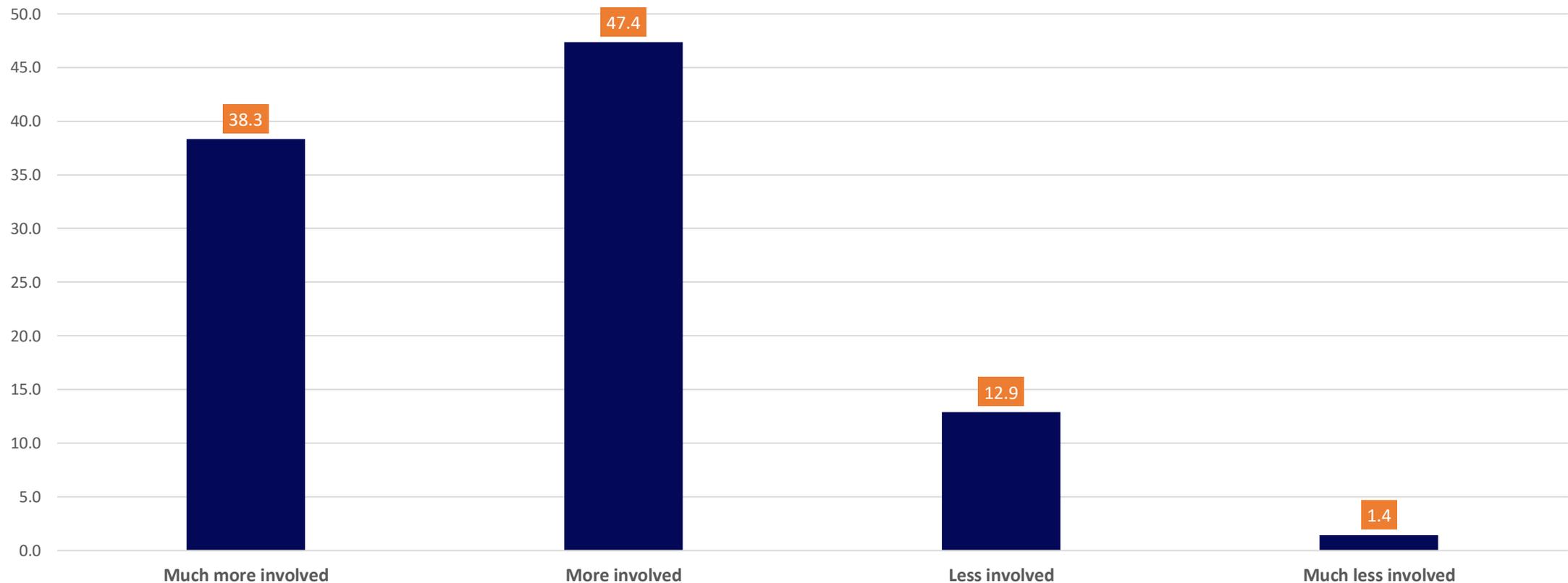
Only 38% approves of the Biden Administration's handling of Venezuelan migration to the US.

Do you approve of the way in which the Biden Administration has dealt with Venezuelan migration to the US?



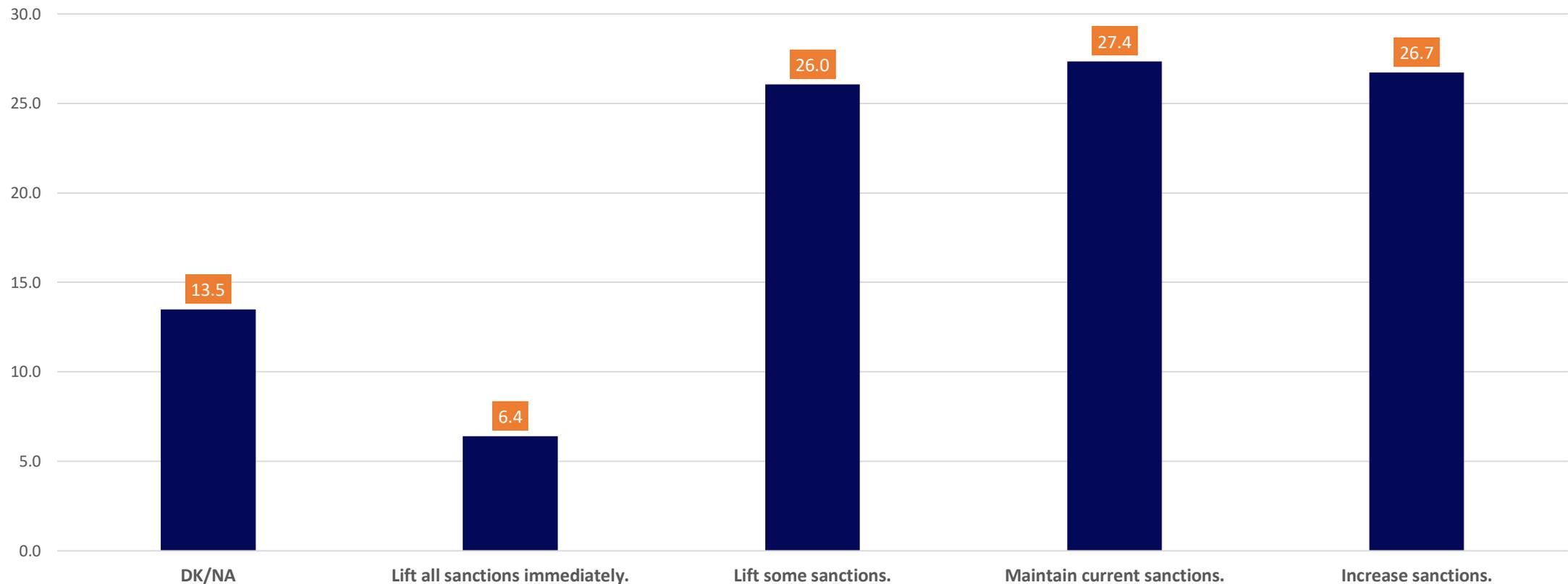
Nearly 86% would like to see the US become more involved in Venezuelan affairs.

Do you think the US should be more involved in Venezuelan affairs?



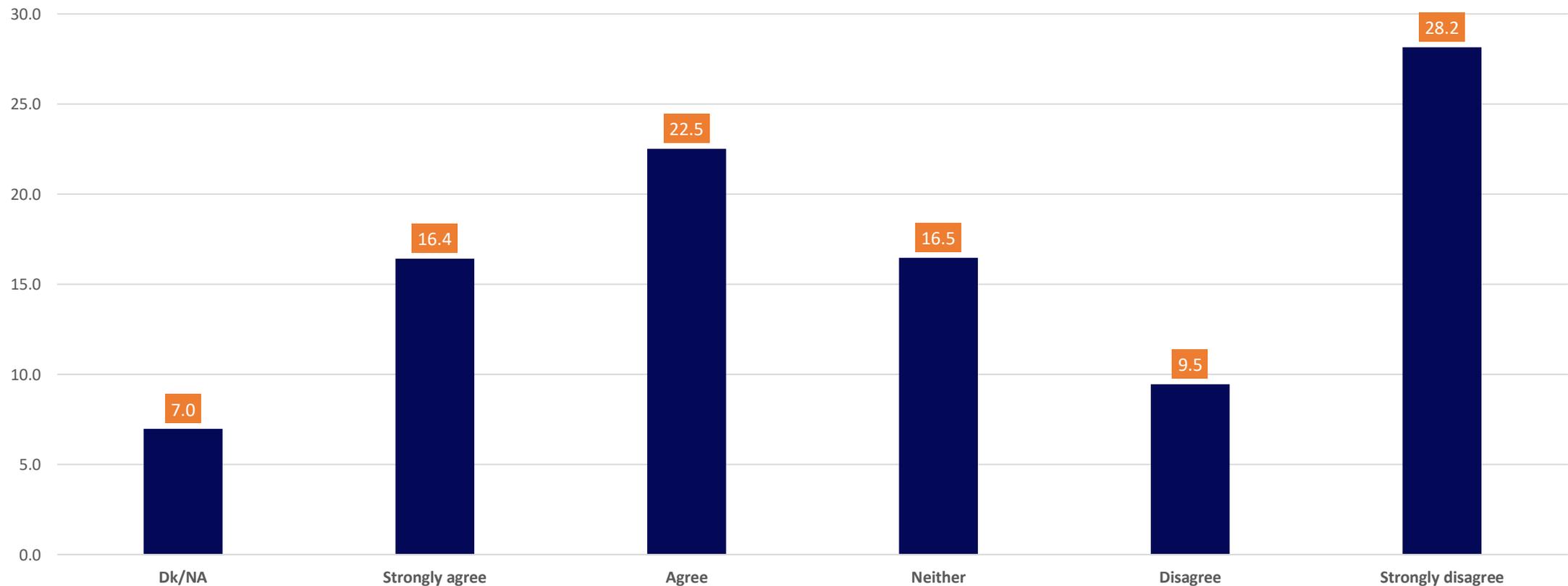
Nearly 55% of respondents would like the US to maintain or increase sanctions against Venezuela.

Should the US government lift, maintain, or increase economic sanctions against Venezuela?



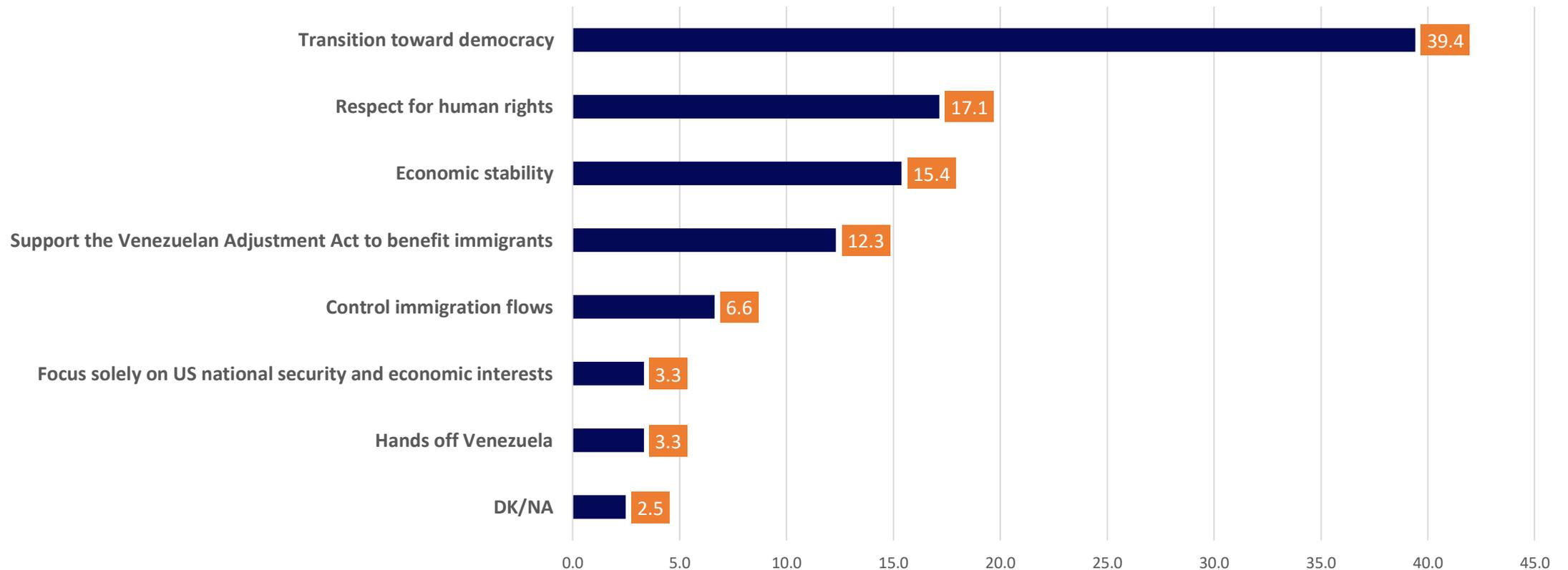
No clear sentiment exists on lifting sanctions on individuals linked to the government.

The US should lift personal sanctions against individuals linked to the current government of Venezuela.



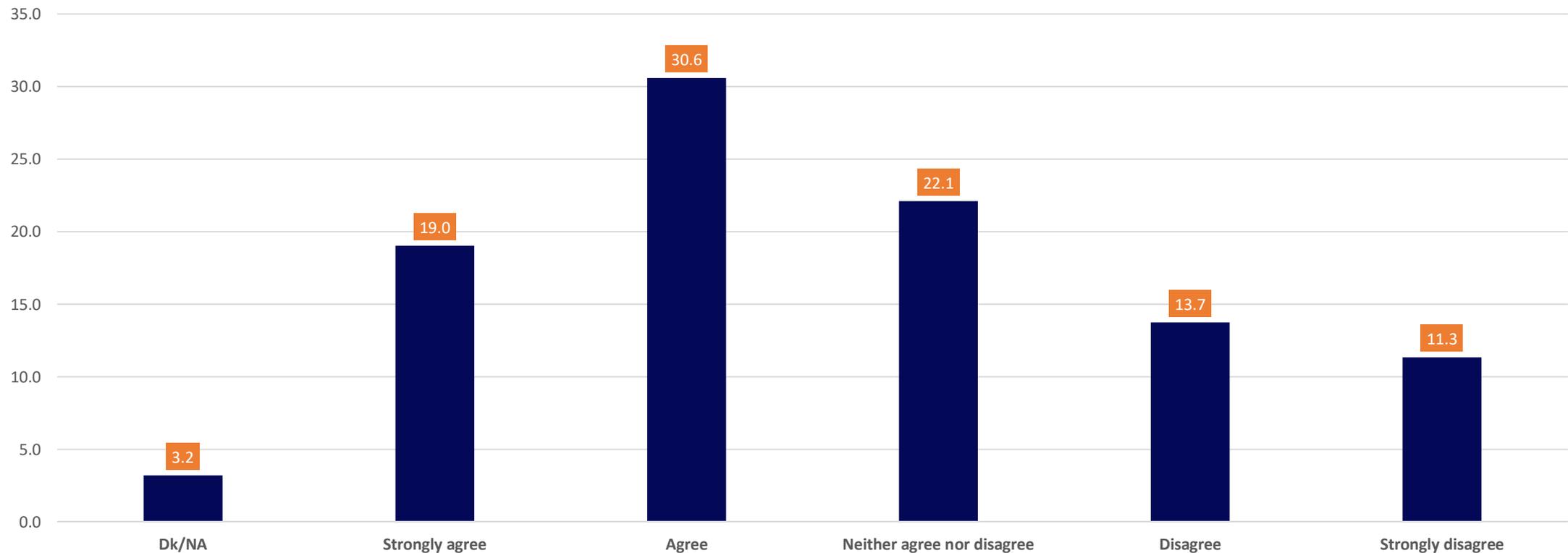
Most believe that the US' focus should be on democratizing Venezuela.

What should be the primary focus of US policy towards Venezuela?



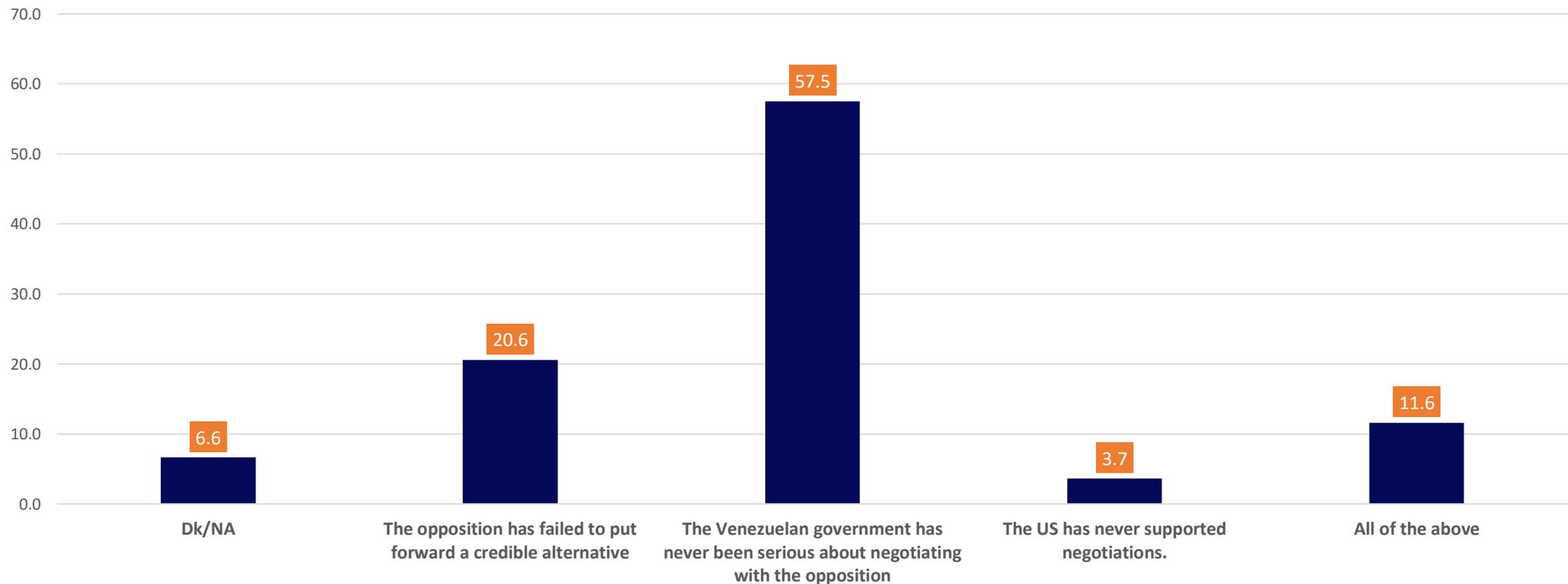
There is strong agreement that the US should engage in promoting dialogue between the Venezuelan government and the opposition.

Do you agree with the following statement: "The Biden Administration should actively promote dialogue between the Venezuelan government and the opposition."



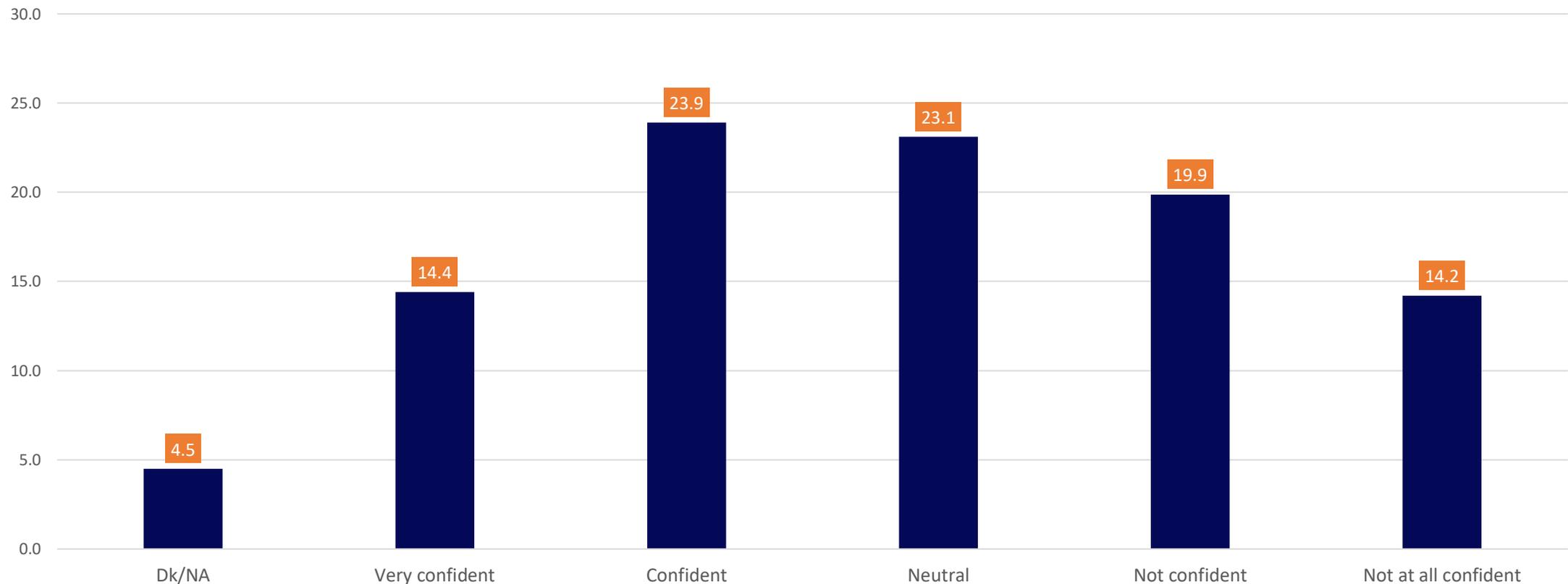
An overwhelming view is that the negotiations have failed mainly because the Venezuelan government has never been serious about them.

Why have negotiations between the government and the opposition not advanced?



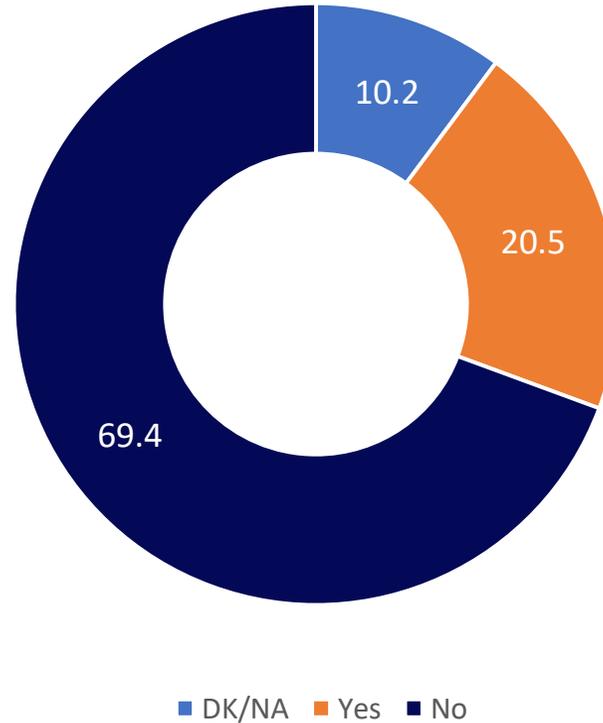
Only 38% of respondents express confidence in the opposition to bring about change.

How confident are you in the Venezuelan opposition's ability to bring about change?



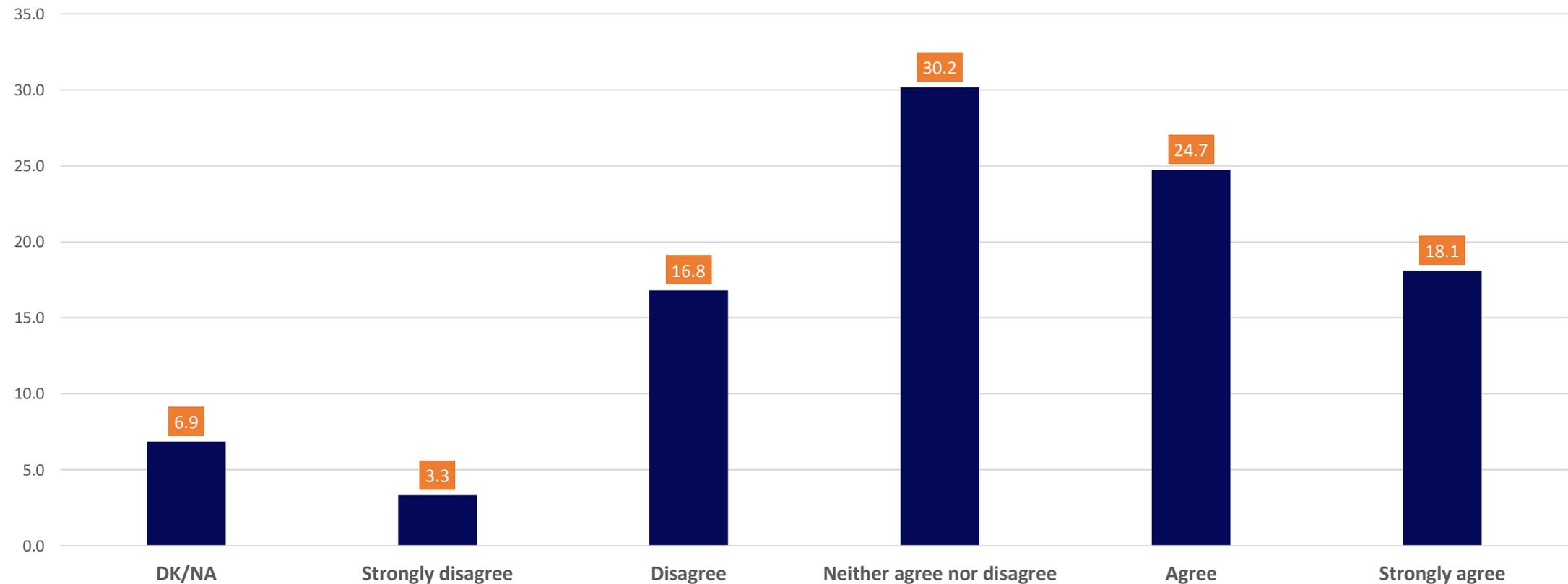
An overwhelming majority does not believe that a democratic transition is possible without external involvement.

Do you believe a democratic transition is possible without direct external involvement?



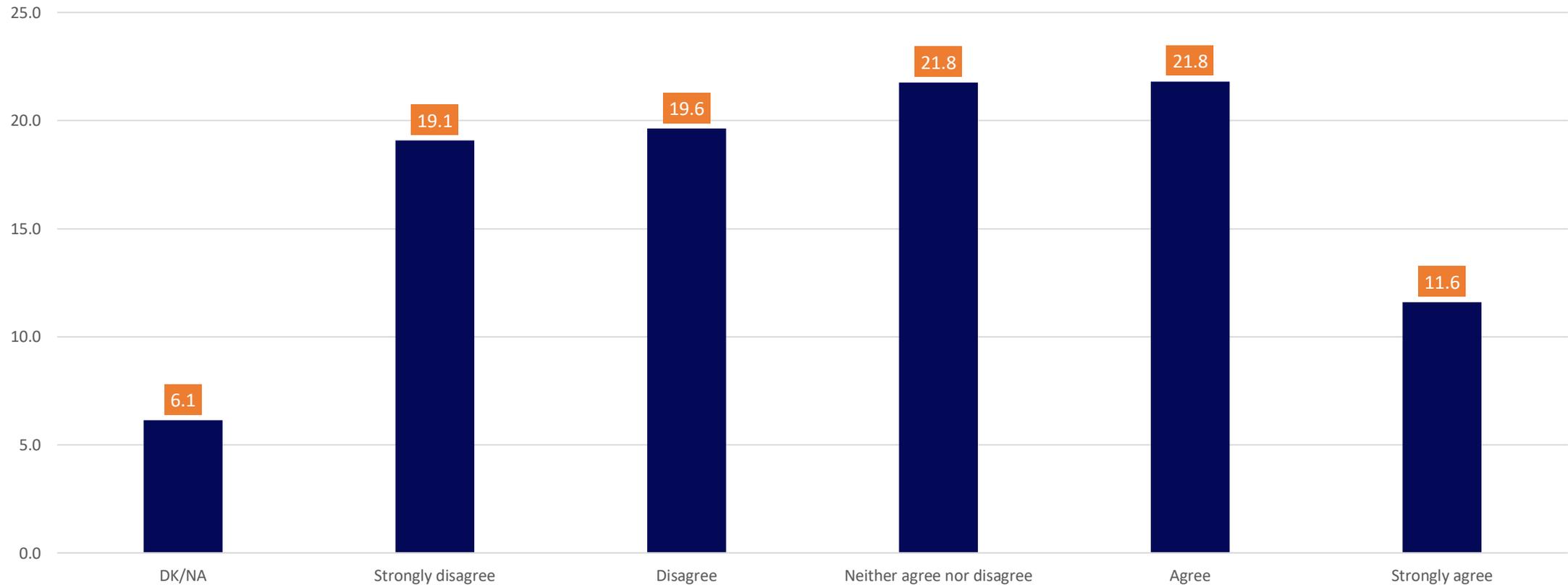
There is widespread agreement that oil sanctions have a negative impact on Venezuela's economy.

Oil sanctions only worsen the country's economic crisis.



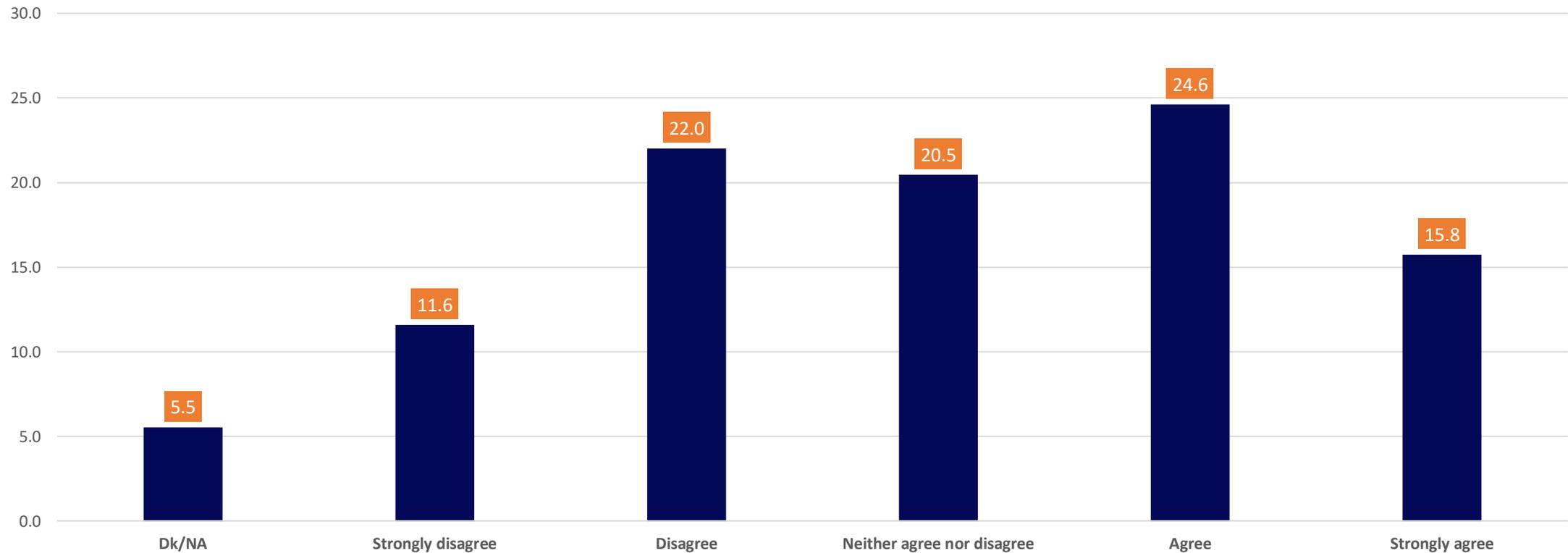
Nearly 40% say that oil sanctions are not the only way to force Maduro to democratize Venezuela.

Oil sanctions are the only way to force Maduro to democratize the country.



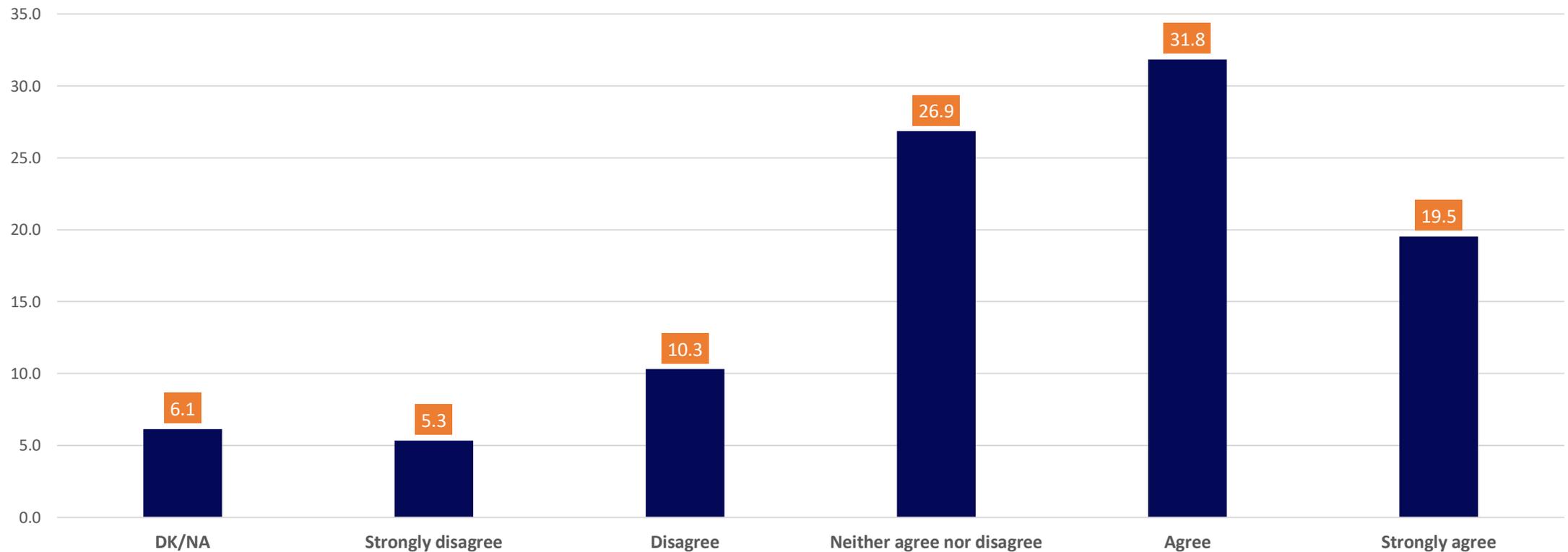
40%, however, view oil sanctions as an effective tool to pressure the Maduro government.

Oil sanctions are an effective tool to pressure the Maduro government to take measures that benefit the country.



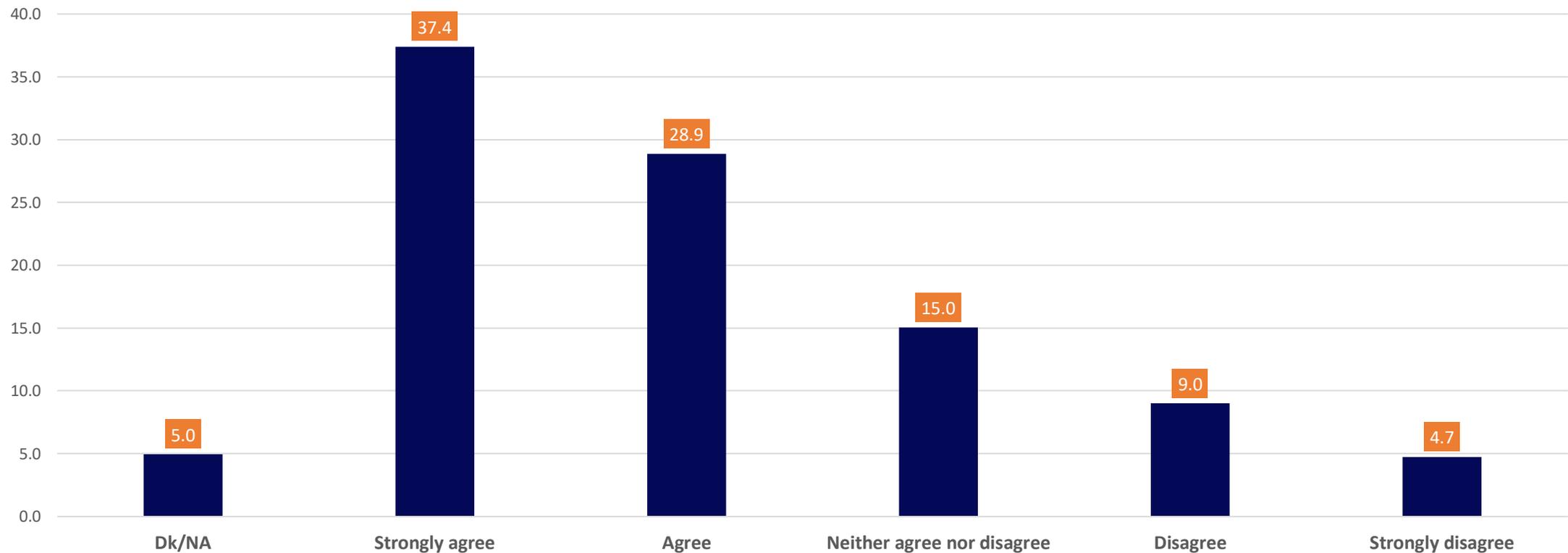
Most respondents agree that oil sanctions have negative consequences and provide few results in terms of political change.

Oil sanctions have negative consequences for both the government and the population without necessarily achieving significant political change.



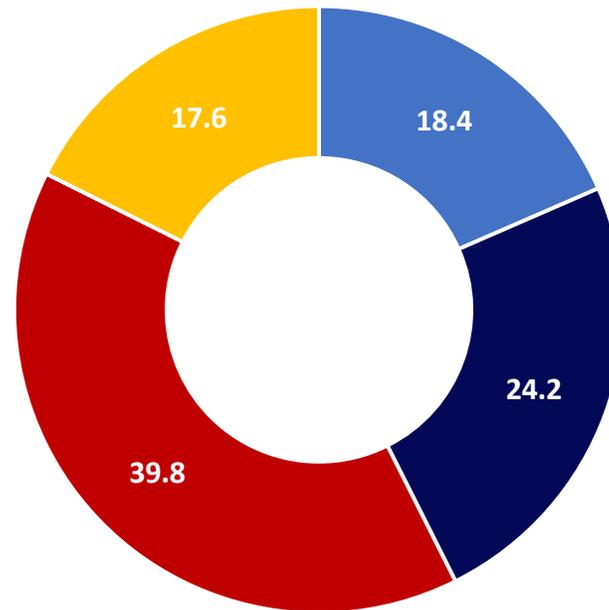
There is a very strong sentiment in favor of humanitarian assistance no matter if Maduro is still in power.

The US and the international community should provide more humanitarian assistance to Venezuela, whether or not Nicolás Maduro remains in office.



Almost 40% of respondents says that Republicans have a better policy toward Venezuela.

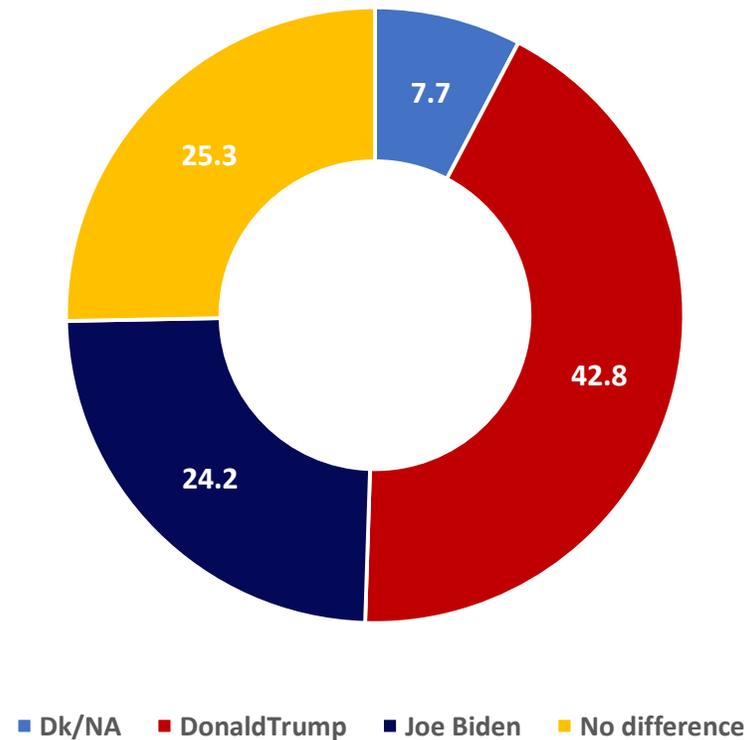
Who do you think has a better policy towards Venezuela, Democrats or Republicans?



■ Don't know ■ Democrats ■ Republicans ■ Neither

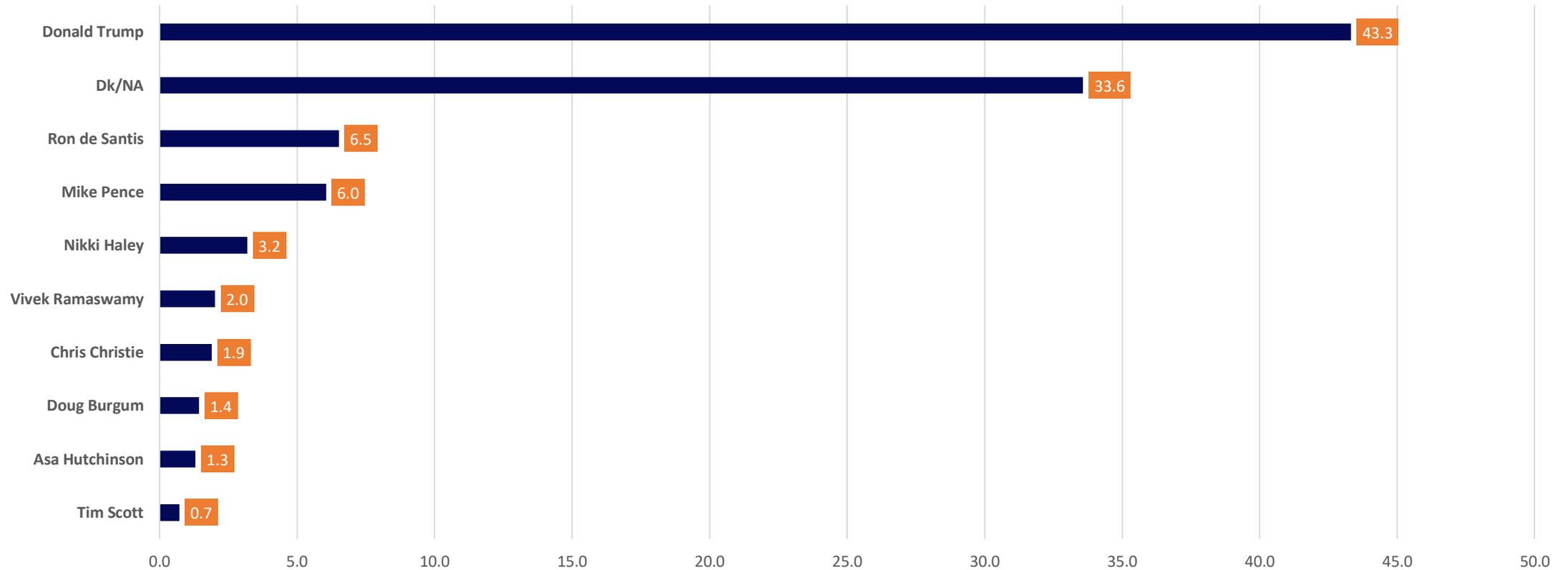
Respondents view Biden's sanctions as no different or more effective than Trump's.

Were US sanctions on Venezuela more effective under Trump or under Biden?



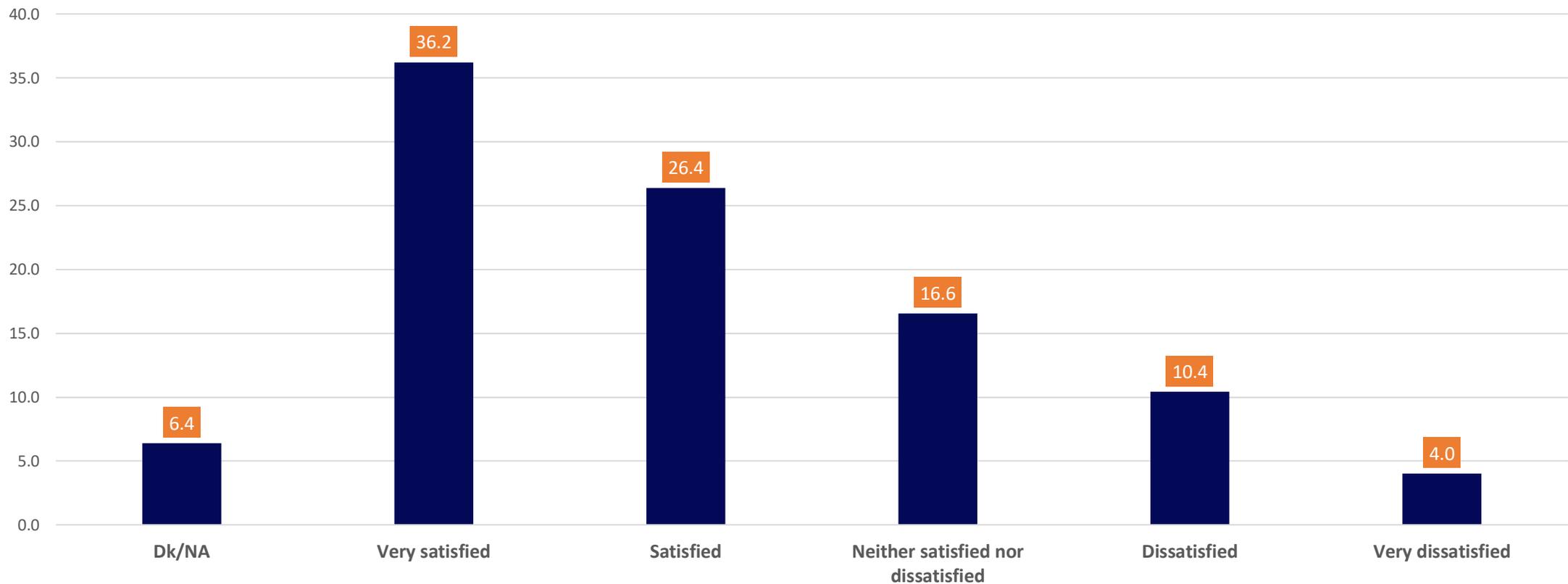
Trump is widely viewed as the Republican presidential candidate with the best policy towards Venezuela.

Of the Republican presidential candidates, who do think will have a better policy towards Venezuela?



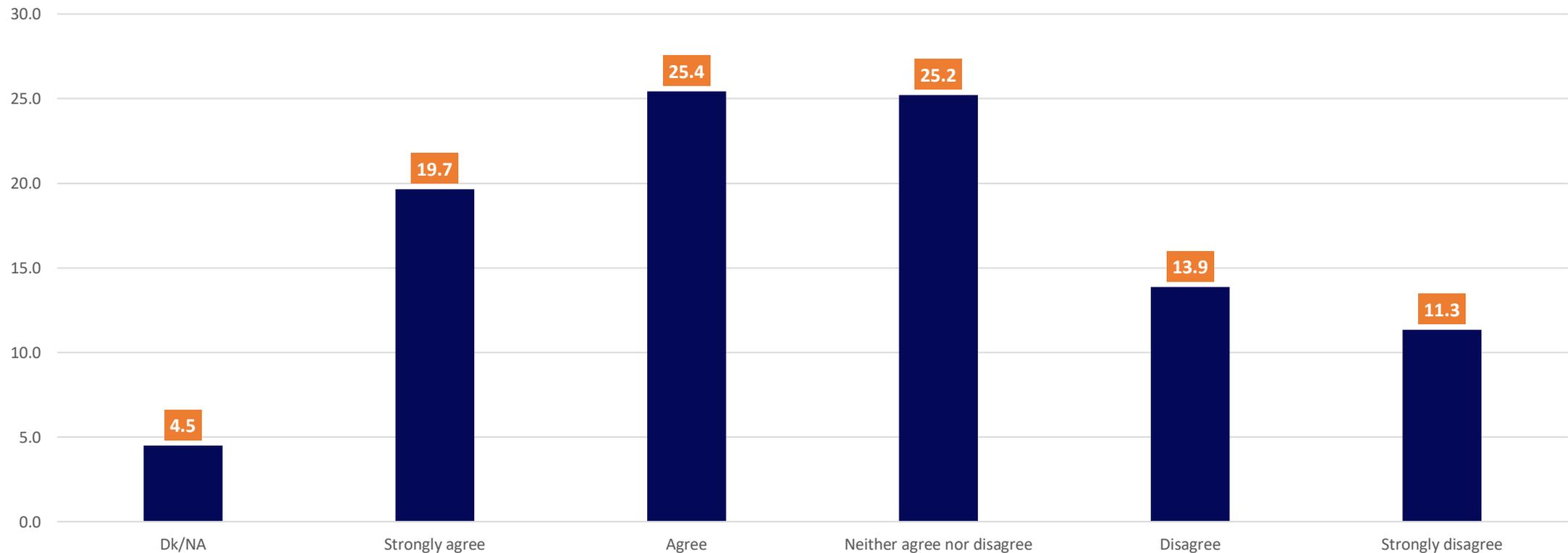
There is widespread satisfaction (62.6%) with the Biden Administration's TPS policy.

How satisfied are you with the TPS policy enacted by the Biden Administration to favor Venezuelan immigrants?



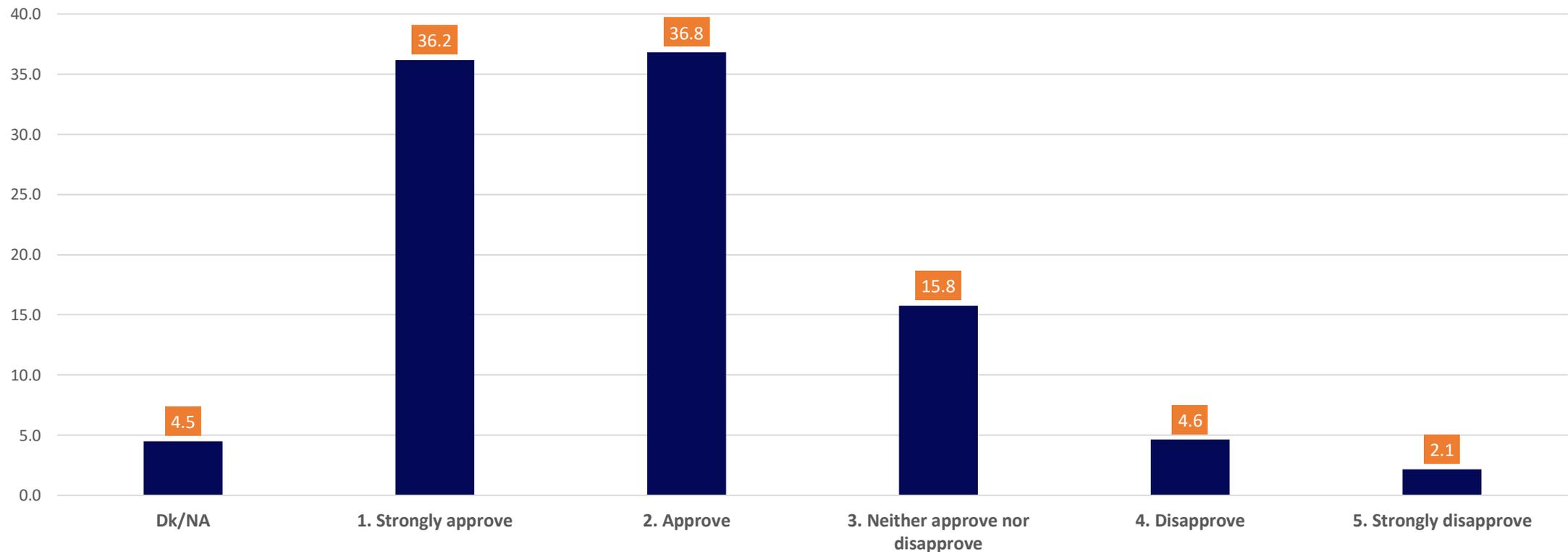
45% of respondents agree with the current policy of deporting undocumented Venezuelans.

Do you agree with the current policy of expelling or removing Venezuelan citizens who enter irregularly into the United States?



The highest approval of all (73%) is for the Administration's parole policy.

On a scale of 1-5, how do you feel about the policy that allows qualifying Venezuelans to be granted temporary case-by-case parole?



Most still believe that the best-case scenario for Venezuela is the holding of internationally supervised elections.

What would be the best-case scenario for Venezuela's future?

