



COVID-19 KNOWLEDGE, ATTITUDES AND PRACTICES (KAP) SURVEY REPORT SEPTEMBER - OCTOBER 2021 (ROUND 1) UKRAINE



METHODOLOGY

Ukrainian Red Cross Society conducted the first KAP survey in Ukraine (government-controlled areas) from 27 September to 10 October 2021. A total of 1390 individual interviews were collected using non-probability sampling from the database of URCS beneficiaries.

LIMITATIONS

Due to the methodology used, findings are not statistically representative and should only be considered as indicative of the situation in assessed areas.

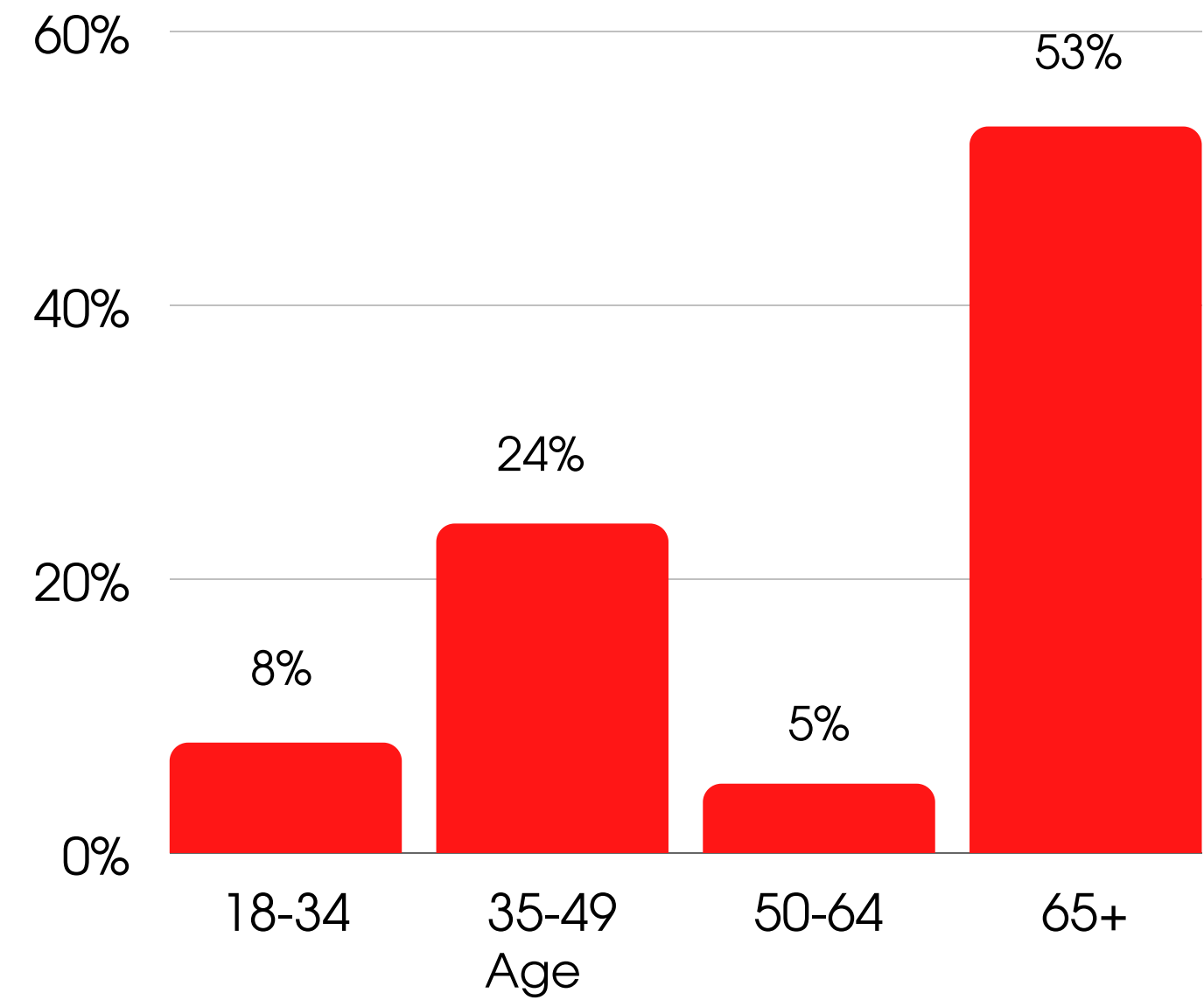
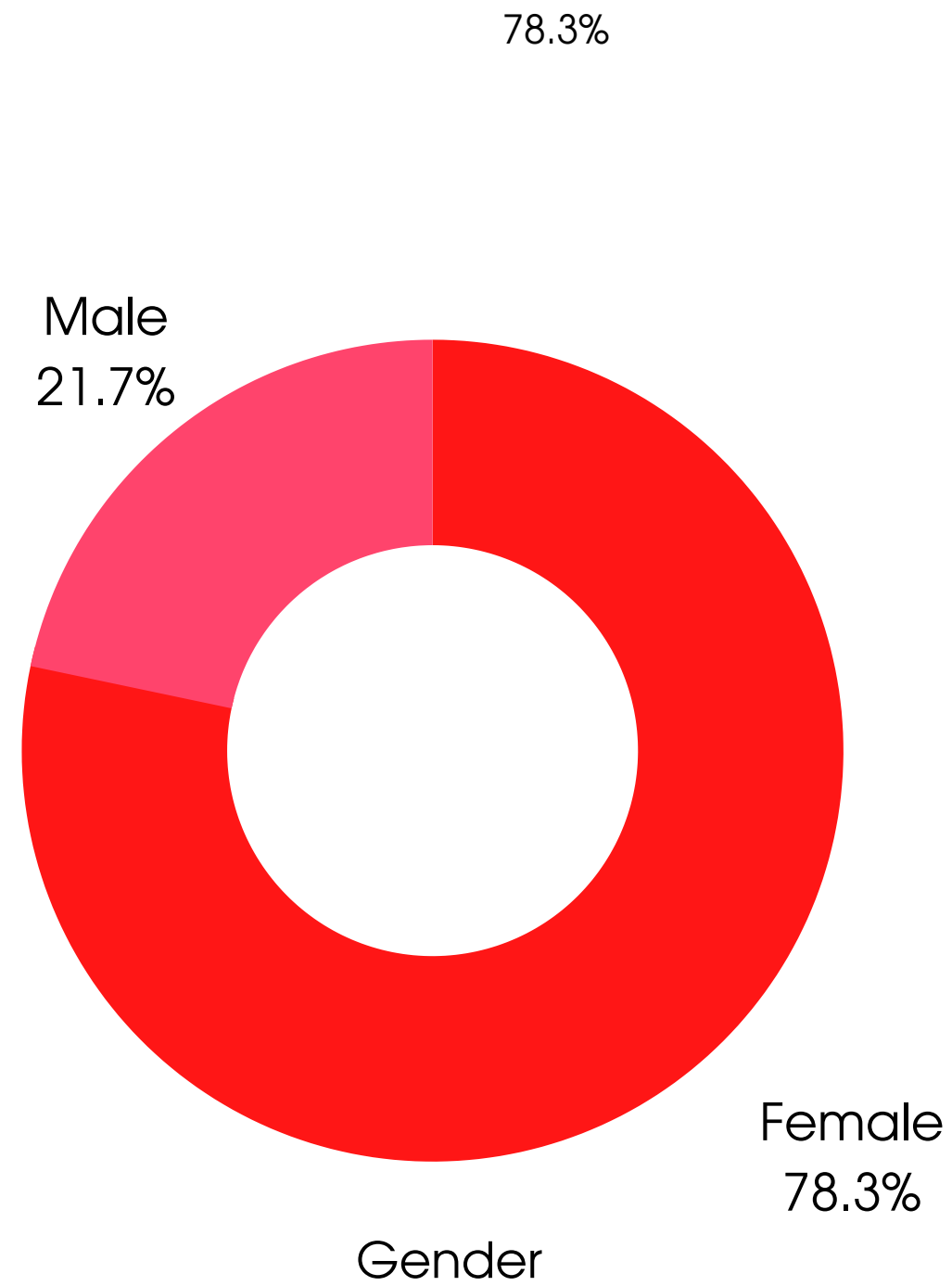
The survey has been led by the URCS Information Center: Yuriy Moskva, Coordinator, Anastasiia Komisarova, Assistant Coordinator.

The contact person for inquiries: Serhii Panasenko, Planning, Monitoring, Evaluation and Reporting (PMER) Senior Officer, s.panasenko@redcross.org.ua

Survey results

1390 respondents were interviewed.

Demographic characteristics of the sample

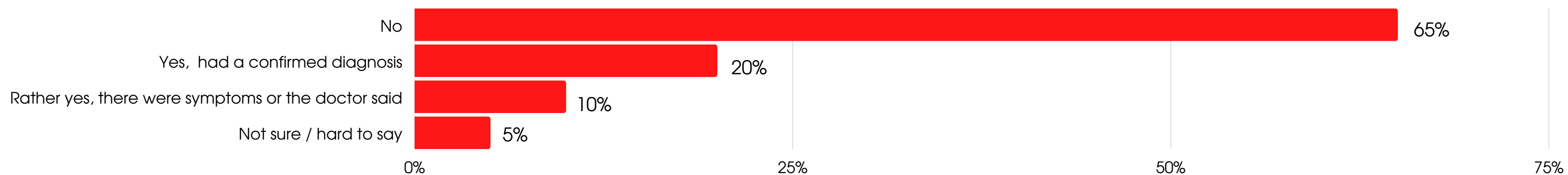


Vaccination against COVID-19

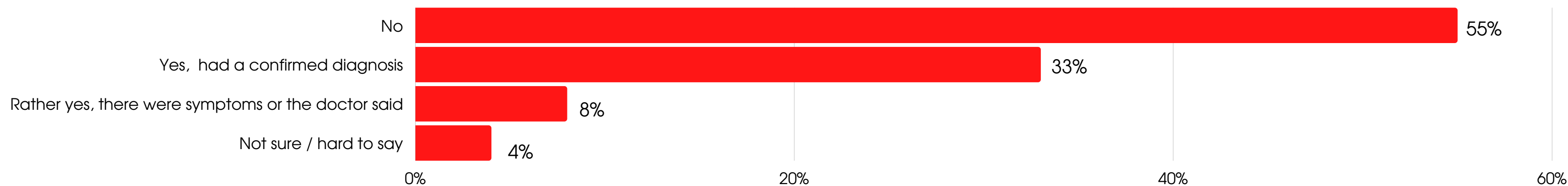
(questions 1-13)

This block of questions aimed to learn about people`s attitudes to vaccination and the reasons that influenced it.

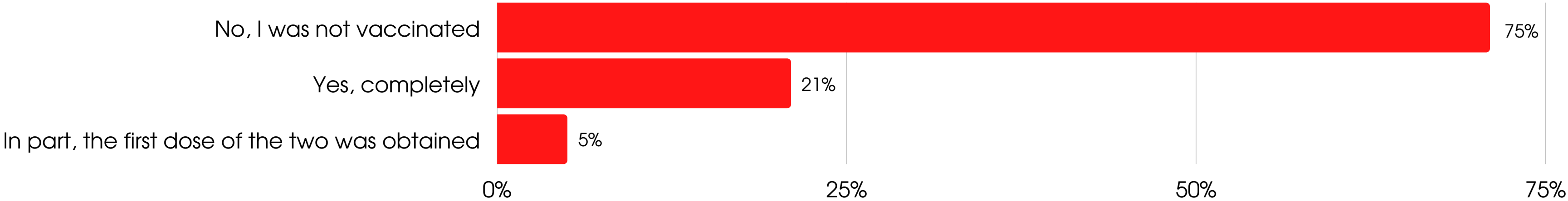
Respondents were first asked **if they had been infected by COVID-19** (question № 1). The answers of the respondents are as follows: 20% were ill and had a confirmed diagnosis, 10% had symptoms of the disease, 65% did not have COVID-19, and 5% people could not answer the question:



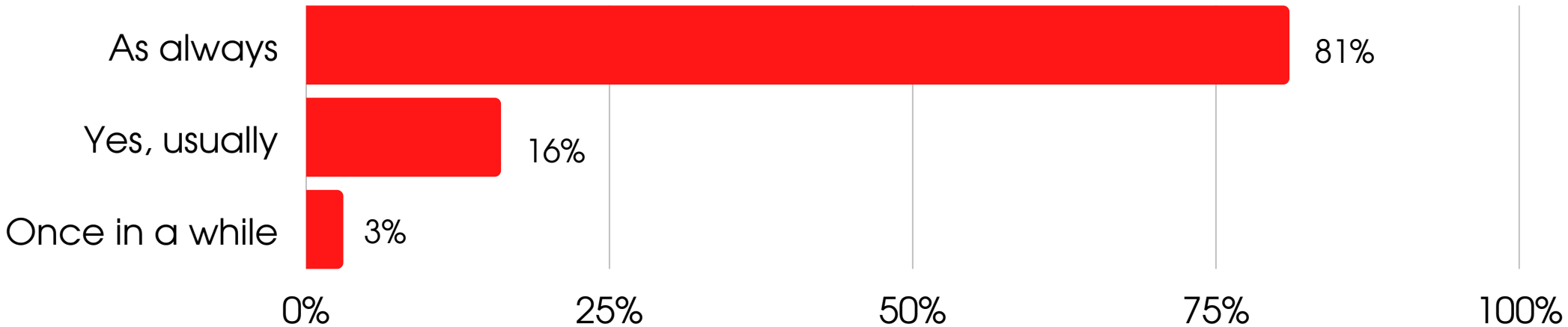
The next question (№2) was **whether the respondents' relatives, friends, or colleagues had COVID-19**. 33% answered that people around them had been ill (diagnosed), 8% - said people around them had shown symptoms of the disease, 55% - that relatives, friends, or colleagues had not had COVID-19, and 4% did not have an accurate answer to the question:



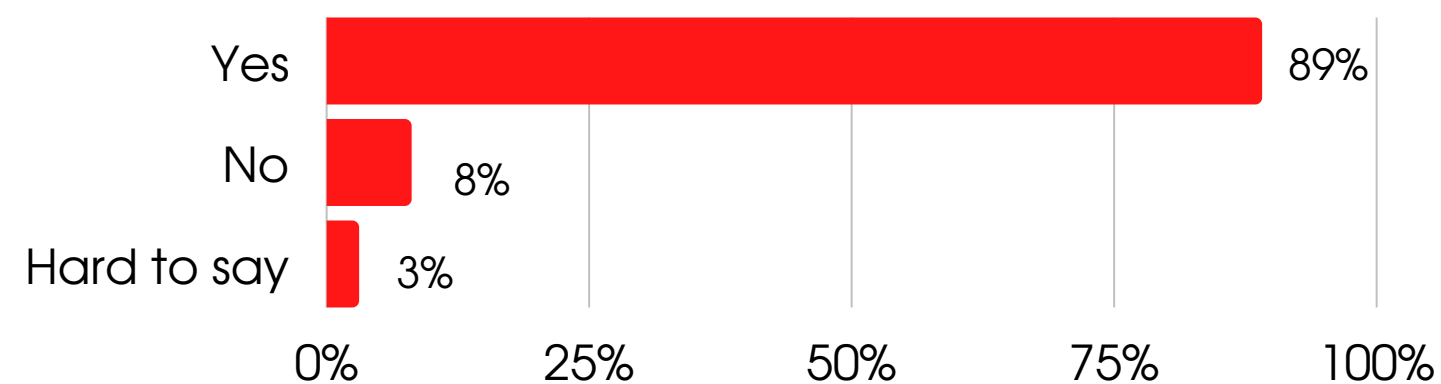
The mandatory question №3, "**Have you been vaccinated against COVID-19?**" is to find out the proportion of vaccinated and unvaccinated respondents. It turned out that 21% of people were fully vaccinated, 5% people were partially vaccinated, 74% of respondents were not vaccinated:



Vaccinated respondents were asked several additional questions (questions 4-11). To the question "**Do you continue to follow preventive measures against COVID-19?**" (№ 4), 81% of respondents answered that they always follow the safety measures, 16% usually follow, 3% continue to follow occasionally:

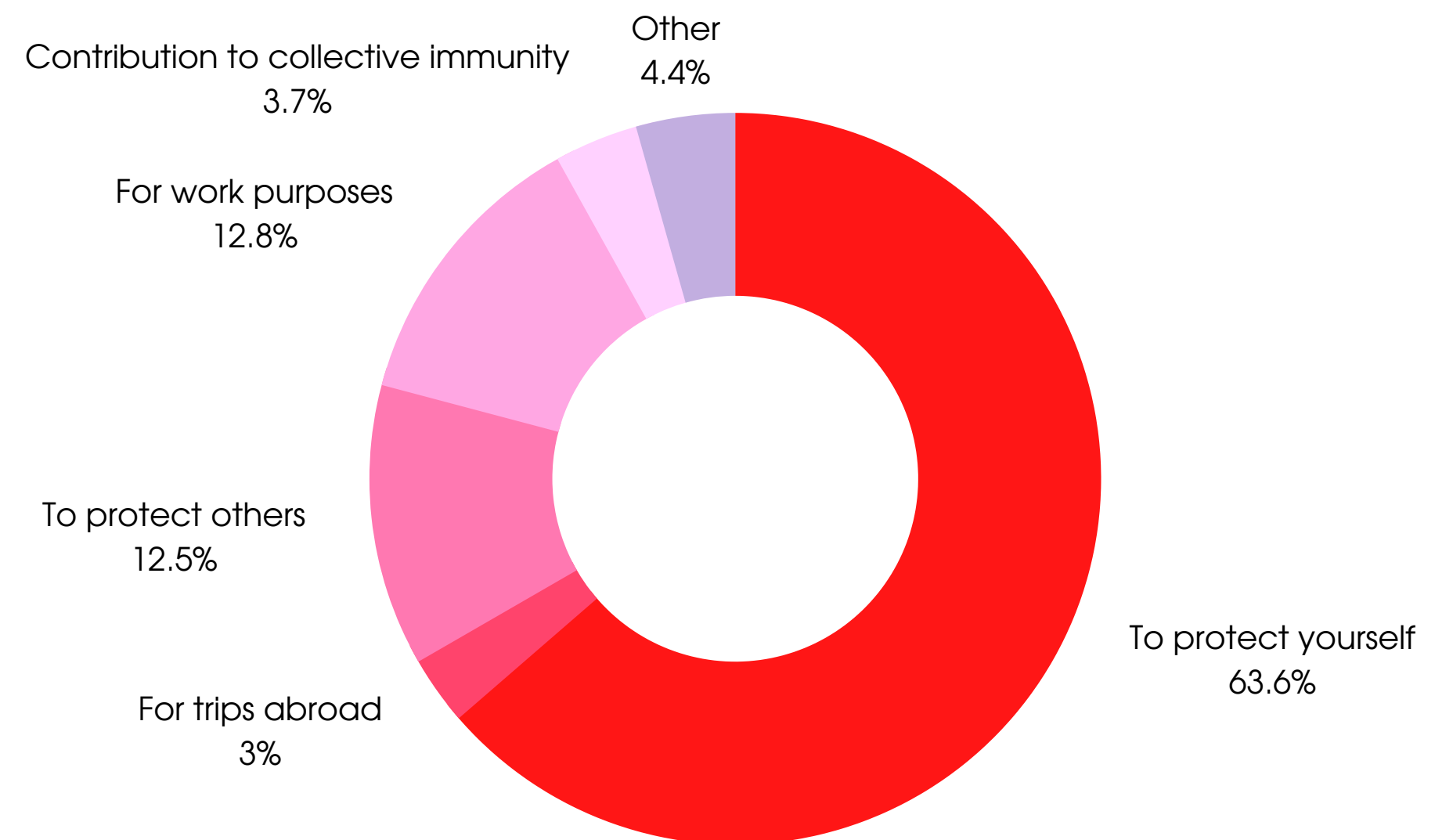


The majority of respondents, namely 89% people, stated that they **had received enough information before vaccination** (question №5), 8% complained that there was not enough information, and 3% people were hesitant to answer:



Several respondents added that before and after vaccination, health workers did not provide sufficient information on potential side effects and actions to be taken if effects occur.

Question № 6, "**Why did you decide to get vaccinated?**" provided several possible answers. The most common reasons for vaccination were the desire to protect themselves (63.6%) and others (12.5%); 12.8% of respondents decided to be vaccinated for work purposes. In general, the distribution of answers is as follows:

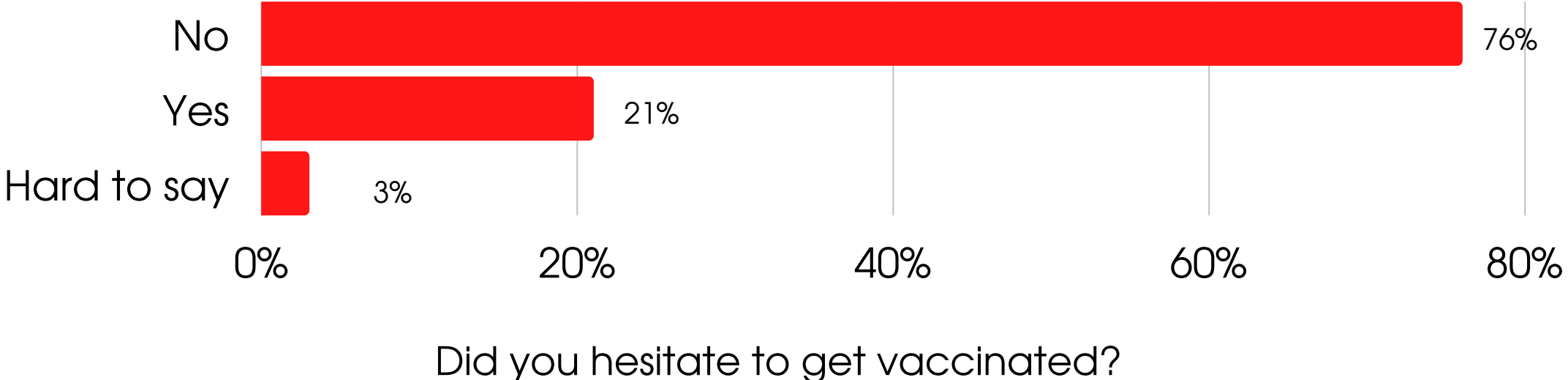


It should be noted that 7 respondents who chose the option "vaccinated for work purposes" said that they did not want to be vaccinated but then changed their minds. 4 respondents added that they were vaccinated because they were at risk of losing their jobs in case of refusal.

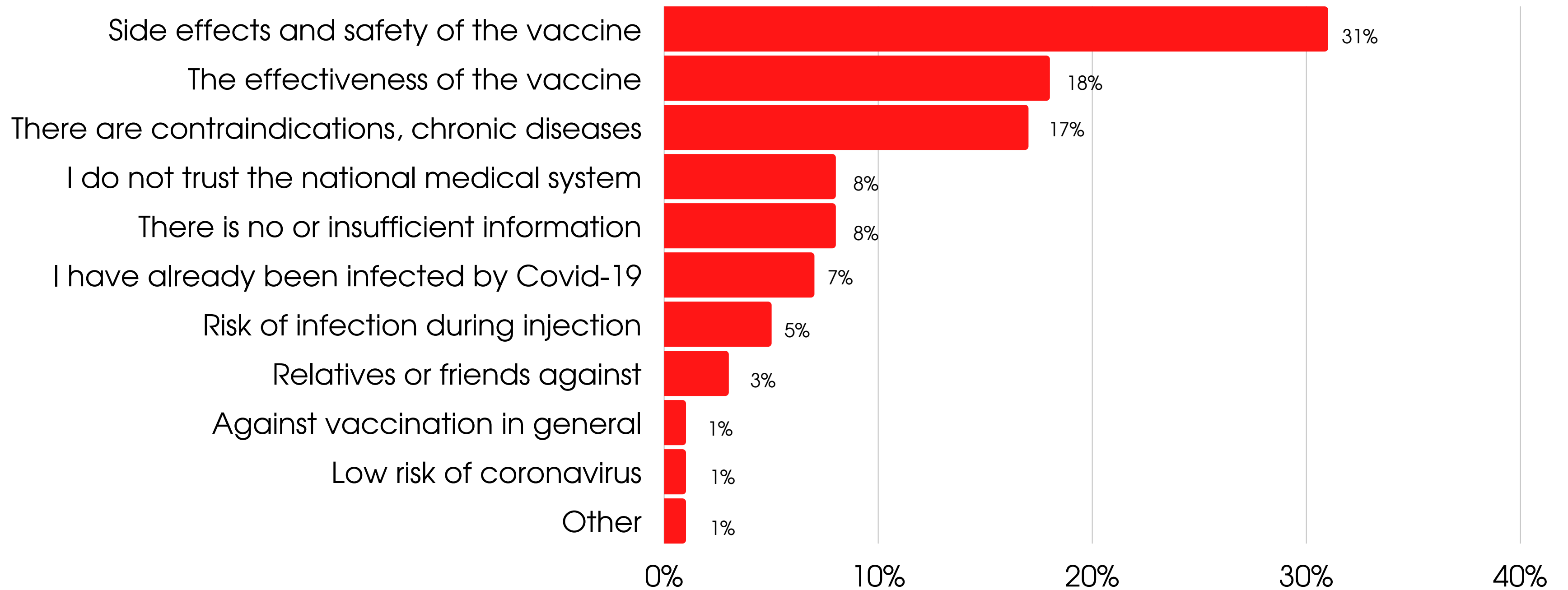
Respondents who chose the "other" option reported that they had been vaccinated because they had previously experienced a severe course of the disease.

Most respondents (95.8%) **did not have any difficulty obtaining vaccination** (question № 7). 1.2% of respondents reported that the vaccination points were too far from home. 0.9% had difficulty registering for vaccination, another (0.9%) complained about inconvenient hours of work and too long queues, 1.2% people noticed a generally poor organization at the vaccination point.

76% of respondents who had been vaccinated **did not hesitate to be vaccinated** (question №8), 21% had some doubts, another 3% did not answer the question:

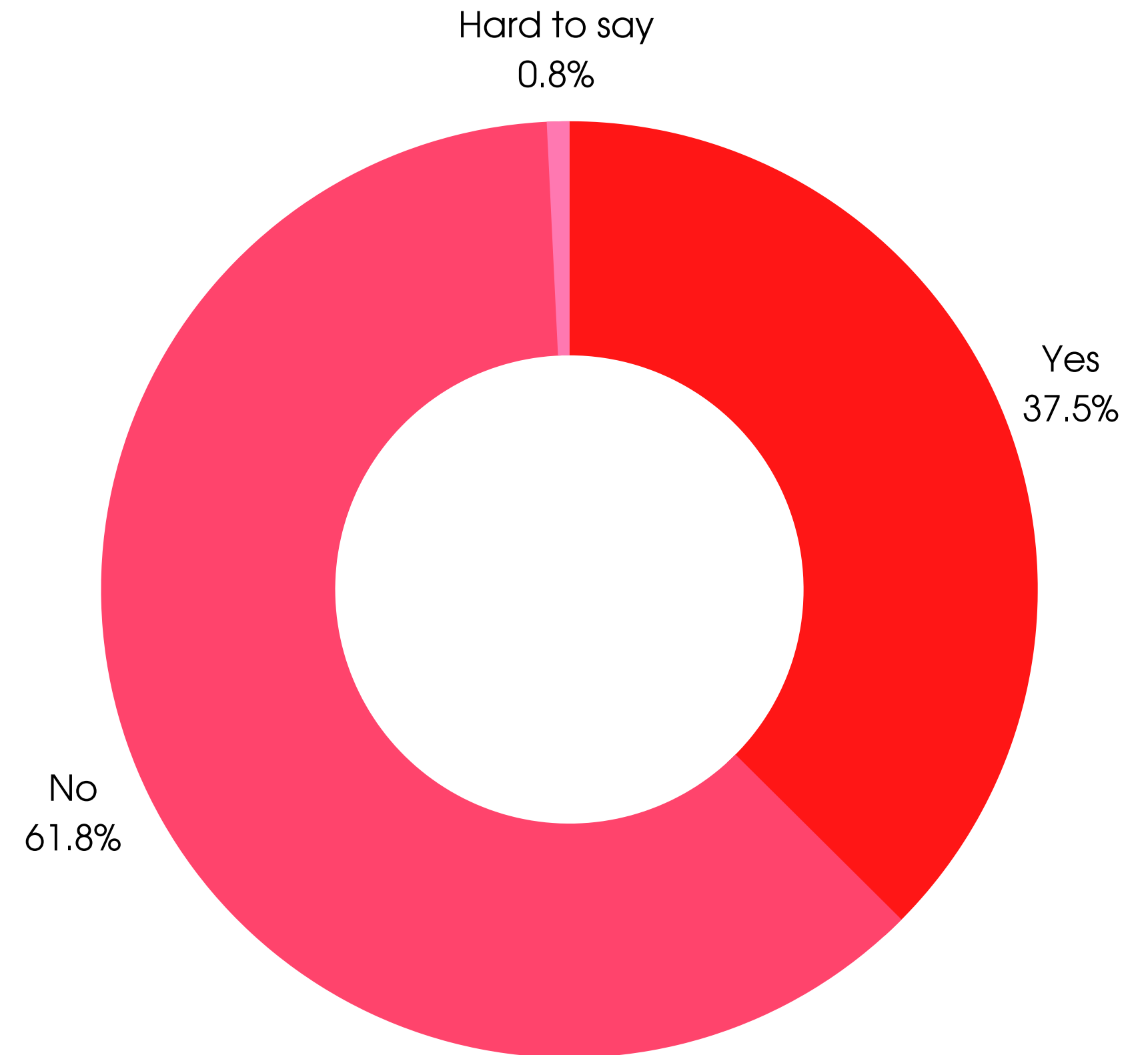


Respondents' doubts were often related to the efficacy of the vaccine (18%), existing chronic diseases and contraindications (17%), as well as side effects and safety of the vaccine (31%). Distributed answers to the question "**If you were hesitant (to be vaccinated), then why?**" (question №9) following:



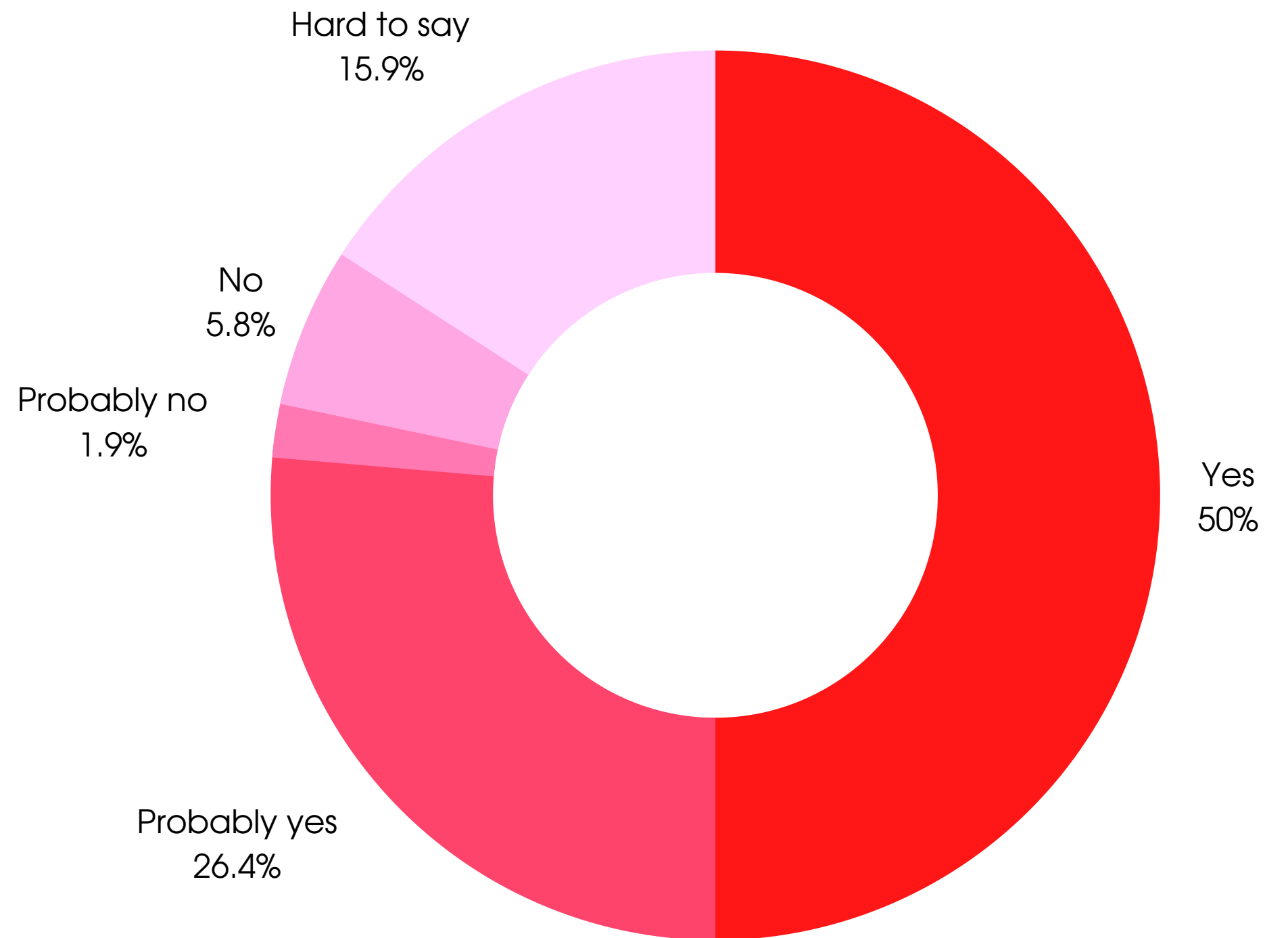
Regarding **adverse reactions that have occurred after vaccination** (question № 10), 61.8% of respondents reported no adverse reactions after vaccination, 37.5% answered that they had adverse reactions after vaccination, and 0.8% were hesitant to answer.

It should be noted that in the vast majority of respondents who answered "Yes" to the question "Did you have adverse effects after vaccination?" there was a normal immune response to vaccination: headache, weakness, slight fever, pain at the injection site.



Did you have any side effects after the vaccination?

To the question № 11, "**Will you recommend relatives or friends to be vaccinated?**" 50% answered they would recommend, 26.4% - would probably recommend. 1.9% of respondents will probably not advise vaccination, 5.8% would not advise others to be vaccinated. 15.9% of respondents hesitated to answer.



Will you recommend relatives or friends to be vaccinated?

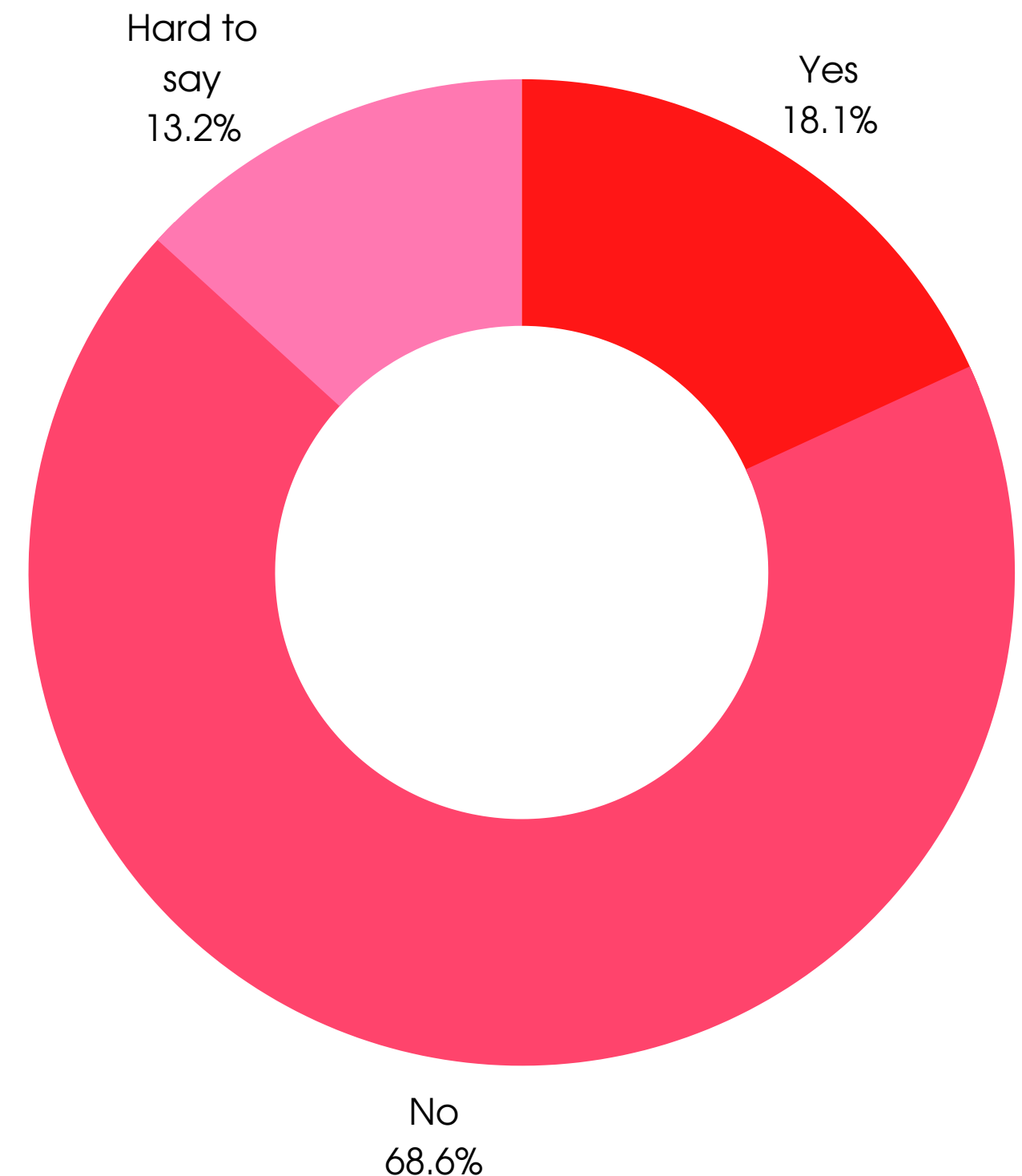
Unvaccinated respondents were asked, "**Are you planning to be vaccinated?**" (question №12). 68.6% of respondents do not plan to be vaccinated, 18.1% have such plans, 13.2% are undecided.

Among the most **common reasons for refusal of vaccination** (question №13) are the following:

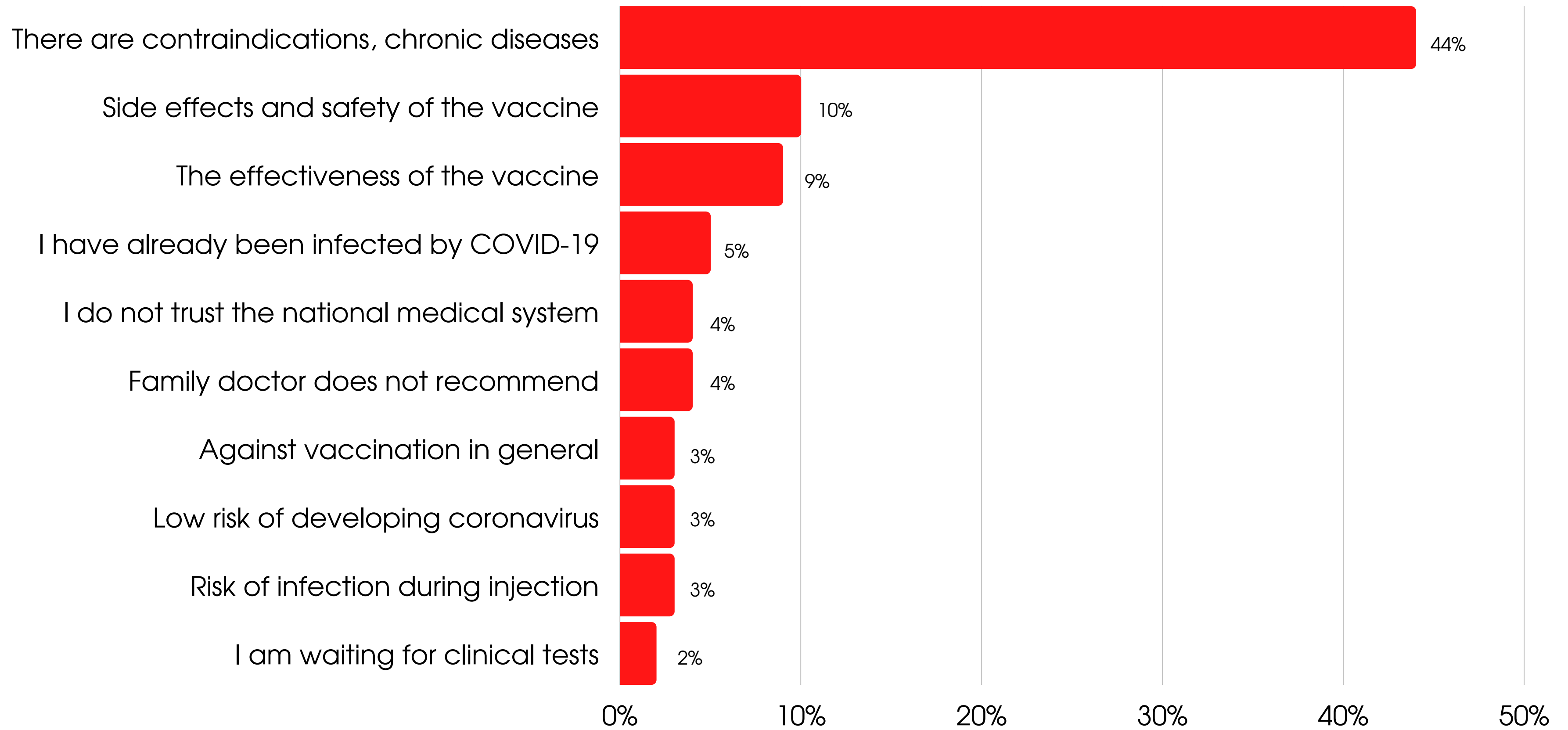
- available contraindications and chronic diseases - 44%*;
- side effects and vaccine safety - 10%;
- vaccine efficacy - 9%;
- respondent has already been infected by Covid-19 - 5%;
- other reasons - 8%.

*Please note that the survey deliberately focused on UCRS beneficiaries, many of whom were older people with various pre-existing medical conditions

The distribution of answers is in the diagram on the next page.



Are you planning to be vaccinated?

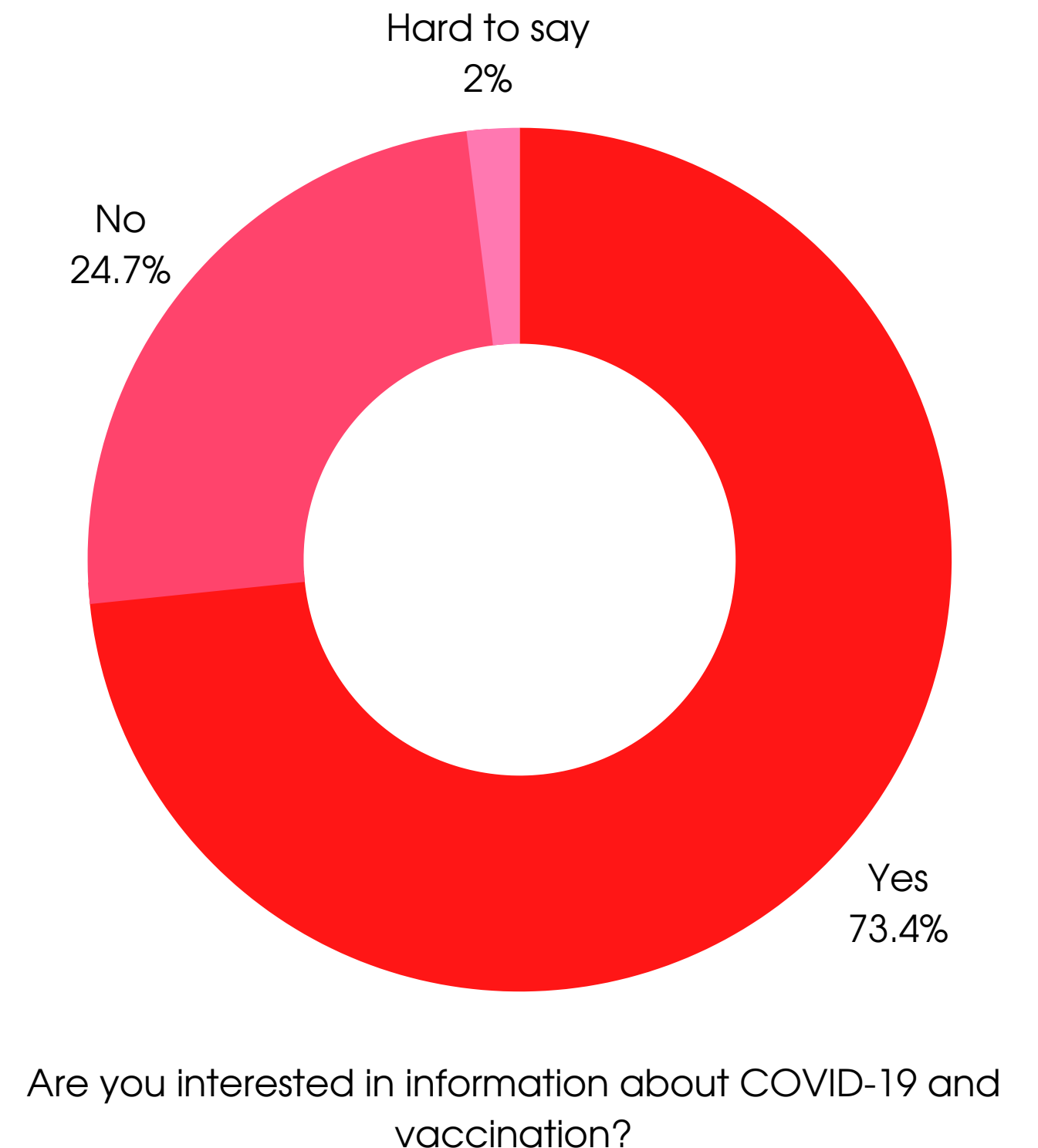


Sources of information and information campaigns

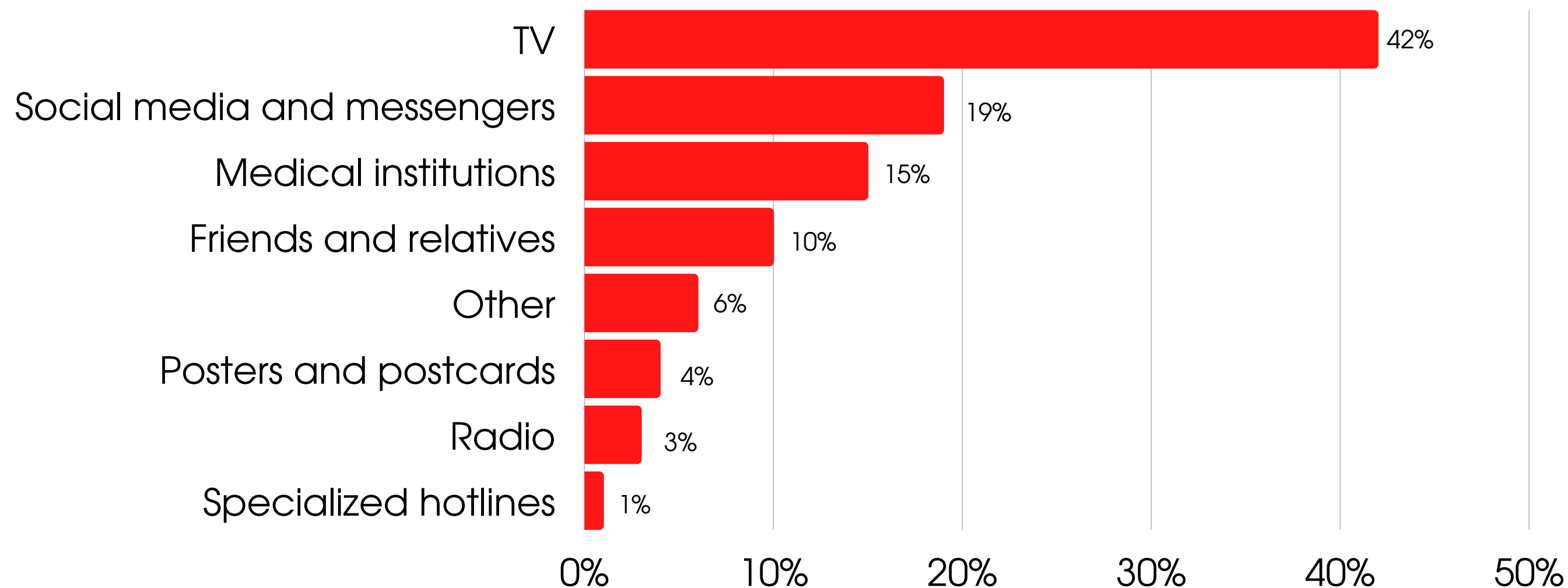
(questions 14-25)

The questions from this block were intended to find out from which sources respondents usually receive information on vaccination and COVID-19 and which of them they trust the most.

Respondents were first asked, "**Are you interested in information about COVID-19 and vaccination?**" (№ 14), to which the majority of respondents, 73.4% answered that they were interested in such information, 24.7% said they were not interested.

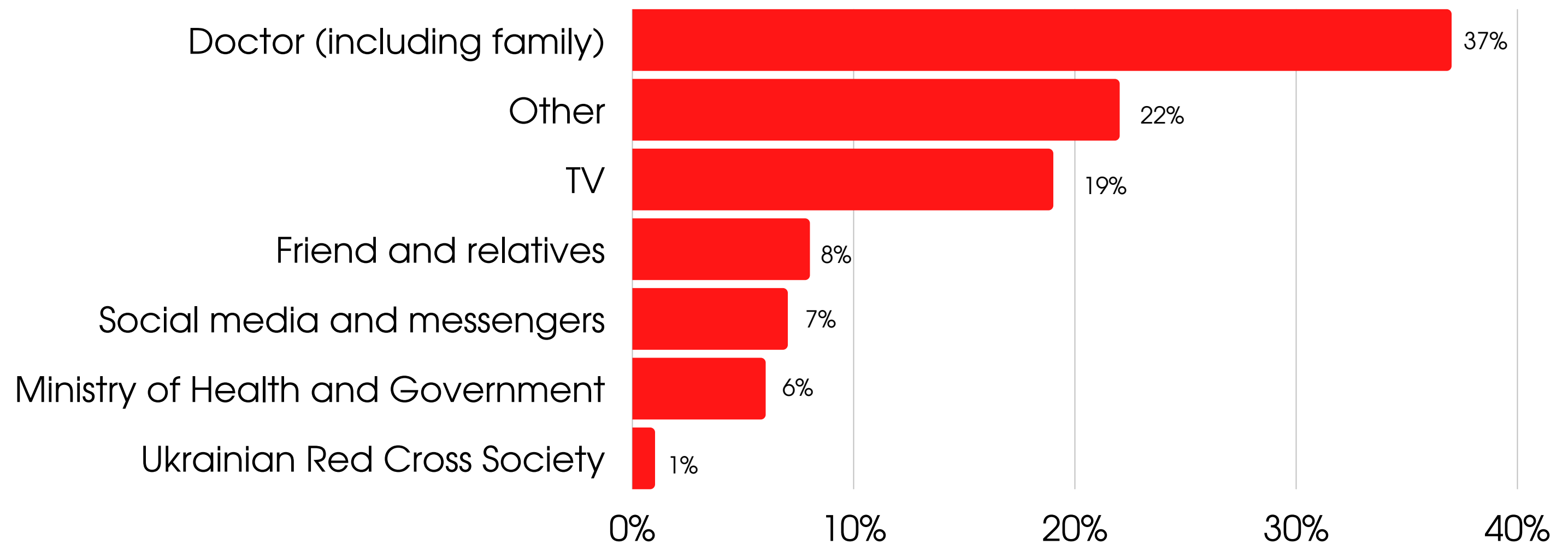


The most popular **sources of information on vaccination and COVID-19** (question № 15) among respondents were television (42%), social media and messengers (19%), medical institutions (15%), information from friends and relatives (10%), and other sources of information (6%):



Respondents who chose the "other" option (6%) said they receive information mostly at work and from newspapers, online media, videos on YouTube.

To the question №16 "**Which sources of information do you trust the most?**", 37% of respondents answered that they trust doctors (including family doctors), 19% - information on television, 8% - friends and relatives, 7% - information from social media and messengers, 6% - Ministry of Health and Government, 1% - Ukrainian Red Cross Society. 22% of people chose the "Other" option, with 80% of them being interested in information about vaccination and COVID-19, but no trusted source was mentioned.



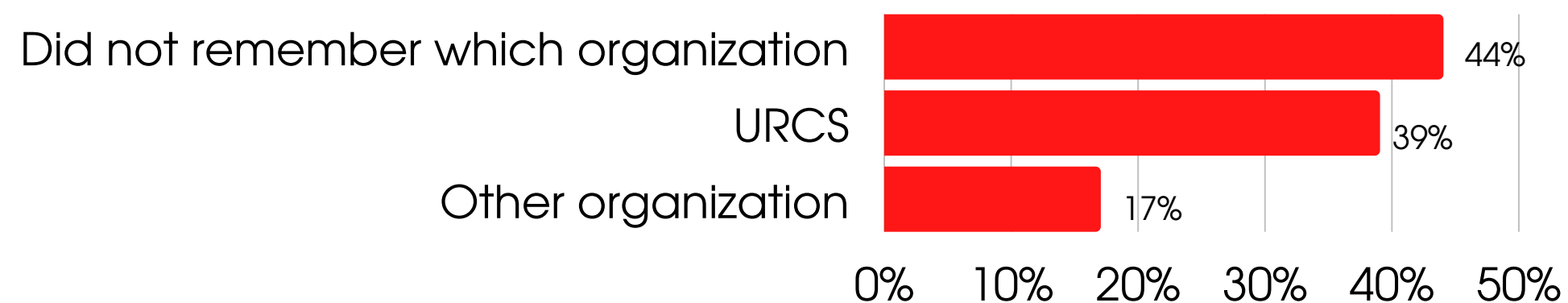
Which sources of information do you trust the most?

Vaccination information campaign

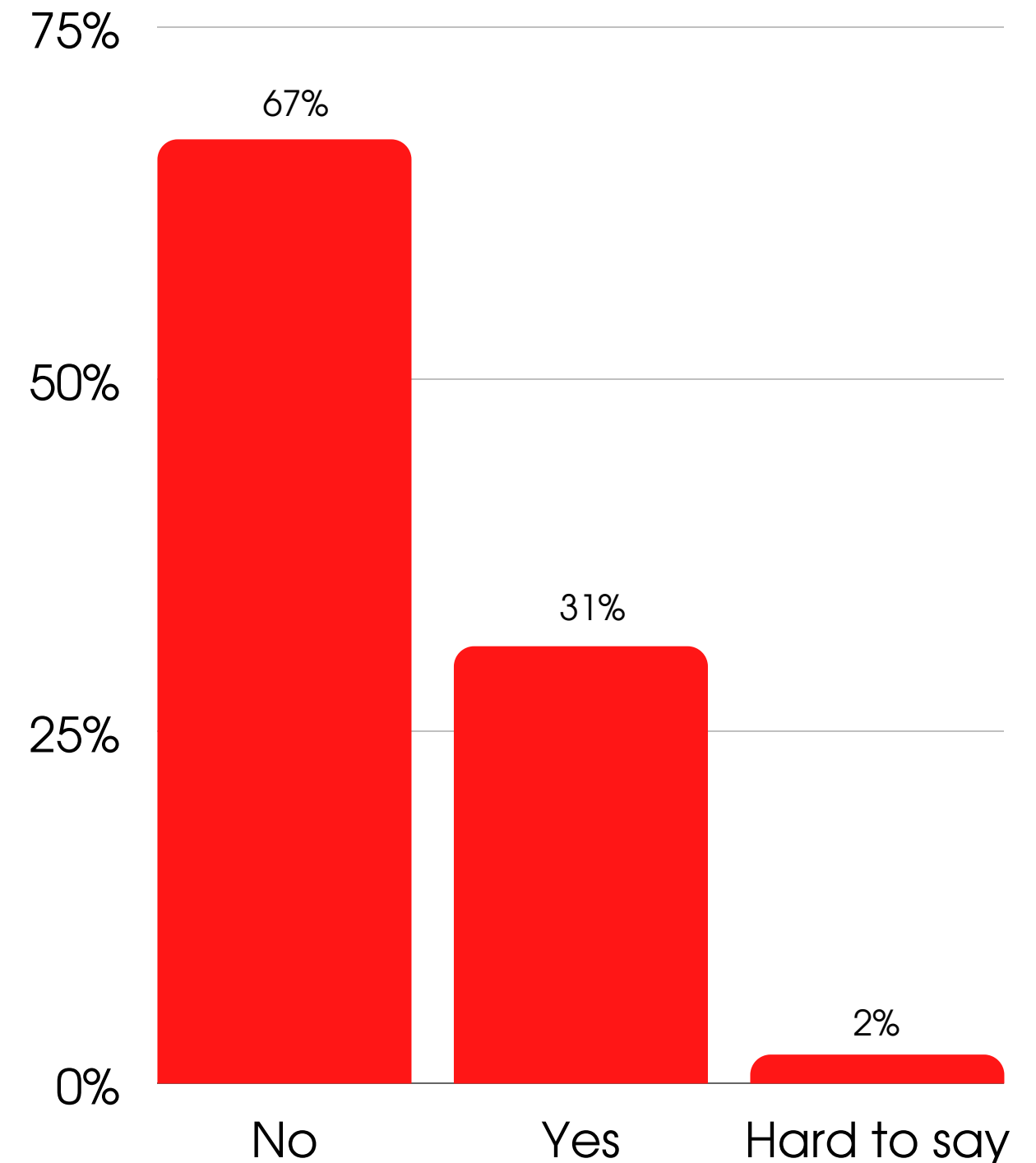
(questions 17-25)

To the question № 17, "**Have you encountered any information campaigns about vaccination?**" the majority of respondents, namely 67% of people, answered that they had not encountered the information campaign, 31% of people had seen it, 2% hesitated to answer.

Among the respondents who answered "yes" to the previous question, 39% of people encountered the URCS campaign, 44% did not remember which organization conducted the campaign, and 17% were familiar with the information campaigns of other organizations, including the Ministry of Health:

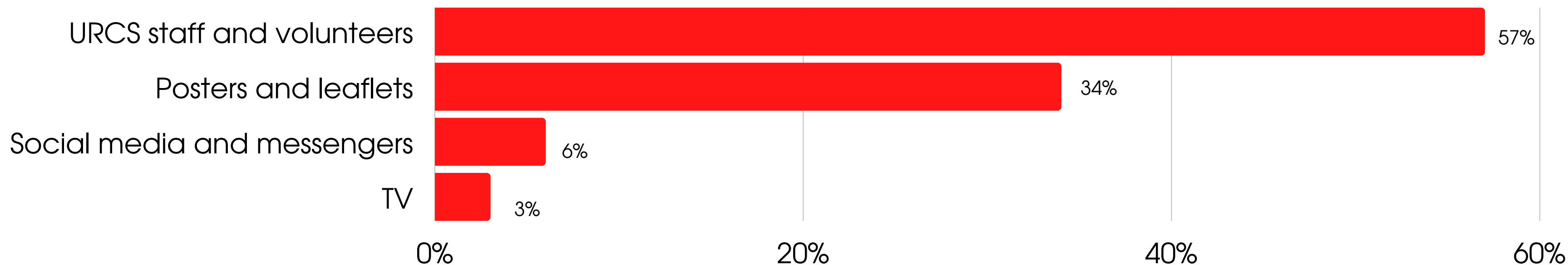


№18. Who conducted the information campaign?



Have you encountered any information campaigns about vaccination?

Respondents who encountered the URCS information campaign mostly communicated with the organization's staff and volunteers (57%), saw posters and leaflets (34%), and encountered information materials on social networks and messengers (6%) and television (3%):



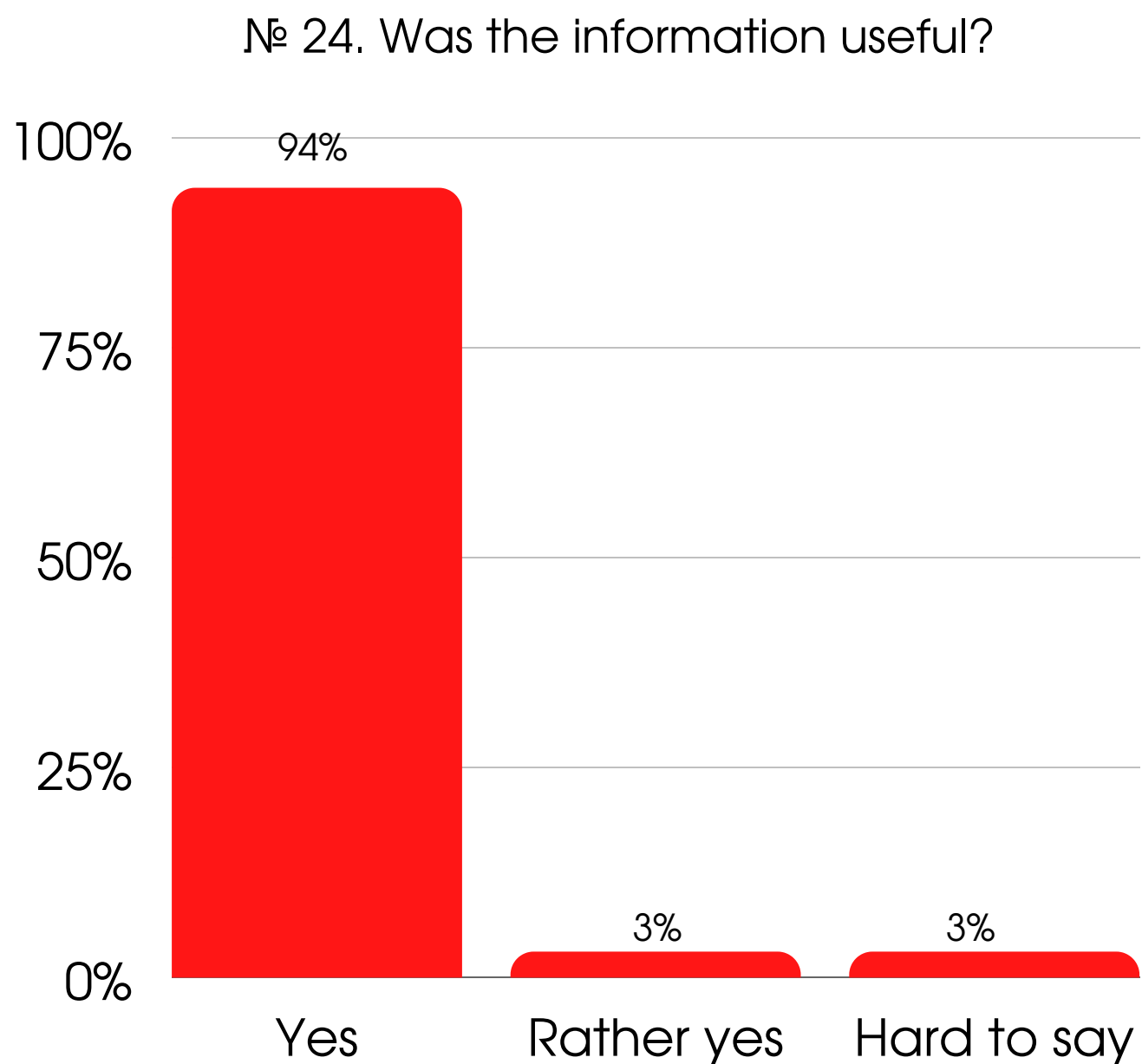
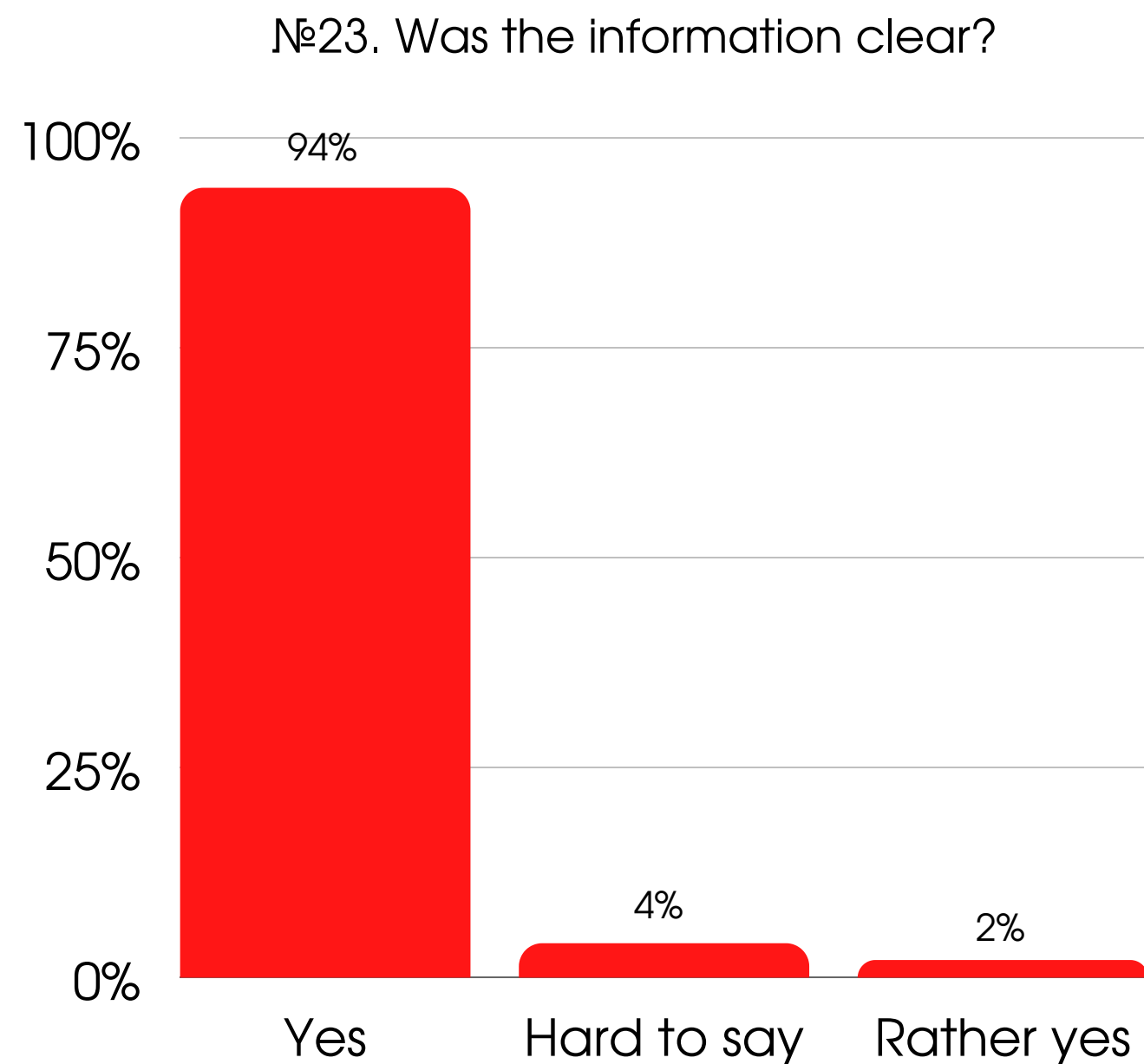
19. Where did you encounter the URCS information campaign?

Among the respondents who encountered the information campaign on social networks and messengers, 25% of people received information from Viber, 75% of people - from Facebook (question №20).

Respondents who talked to URCS volunteers and staff encountered them at work (30%), at the URCS office (28%), at home (28%), and on the street (14%) (question №21).

Among those who saw posters and leaflets on vaccination, 62% of respondents received information from posters, and 38% - from booklets (question №22).

In general, the vast majority of respondents who encountered the **URCS information campaign** consider it **useful and understandable**:



Finally, respondents were asked "**Where do you go if you have questions about vaccination?**" (question №25). The answer was optional, so the results are as follows: 68% of respondents turn to medical institutions, 4% - to friends or relatives, 15% - call specialized hotlines, 6% - find information in Internet sources, and 6% do not want to go anywhere .

Data collection summary

A telephone survey on COVID-19 vaccination was conducted from 27 September to 10 October 2021. 8 operators of the hotline of the Information Center and the "Let's talk" hotline were involved.

1390 people **were interviewed**, including **78.3% women** and **21.7% men**. The majority of respondents belonged to the **age group of 65+ years - 53.4%**.

18 regions of Ukraine were covered. 31% people from the Eastern region, 30% - from the West, 9%- from the South, 2% - from the North, 28% - from the Central.

The sample of respondents was formed based on URCS's database. Local organizations of the URCS developed the list of interviewees from former and current beneficiaries.

Most respondents responded to the survey neutrally, but some people (**mainly from Kharkiv, Lviv, and Chernivtsi oblasts**) **had sharply adverse reactions**.

156 people refused to participate in the survey. The refusals were mainly because vaccination and COVID-19, in general, are pretty sensitive topics, and respondents did not want to discuss them. Also, some respondents refused to participate in the survey because they did not have enough time to talk.

Conclusions

According to the survey results, **68.6% of unvaccinated respondents do not plan to be vaccinated**. This can be explained, in particular, by the fact that most respondents are older people who have chronic diseases perceived as contraindications to vaccination. Another reason is that respondents do not have up-to-date information. Some respondents believe that vaccination in Ukraine requires payment and some lack information on the safety and quality of available vaccines. In addition, respondents reported that they were afraid of vaccination and COVID-19 in general, did not know which sources provided reliable information (or did not trust any of them), and did not observe examples among their environment that would motivate them to be vaccinated.

7.6% of all respondents had encountered the URCS information campaign about vaccination. 57% of them communicated with the organization's staff and volunteers, 34% saw posters and leaflets, 6% encountered information materials on social networks and messengers, and 3% - on television.

Top-3 of **the most trusted sources of information for respondents**: 37% of respondents stated doctors (family doctors included) as the most trustworthy source, 19% - trust information from television, 22% trust other sources of information (newspapers, internet, and radio stations).