

# Latino Voters & the Politics of Immigration

## Political Strategists, Pollsters, and Immigration Advocates React to New Poll Weeks Before the Election

### Panelists:

#### **Matt Barreto**

Associate Professor, University of  
Washington & Principal, Latino Decisions

#### **Vanessa Cardenas**

Director, Progress 2050, Center for  
American Progress

#### **Alfonso Lopez**

Delegate, VA House of Delegates

#### **Frank Sharry**

Executive Director, America's Voice

### Moderator:

#### **Michael McDonald**

Associate Professor,  
George Mason  
University

**Monday, October 15th**

Student Union 1, Room 3A

**12:00 PM**

[MES.GMU.EDU](http://MES.GMU.EDU)

Join us for a  
compelling  
panel discussion  
on a vital topic,  
just weeks  
before this  
important  
election!

# Latino Decisions/America's Voice Battleground State Surveys

## Methodology

By phone

400 Latino/Hispanic *registered voters*

Margin of error: +/- 4.9%

# Virginia Latino Population

<b>Total Population</b>	<b>8.0%</b>
Non-citizen	36.0%
Citizen Population	5.6%

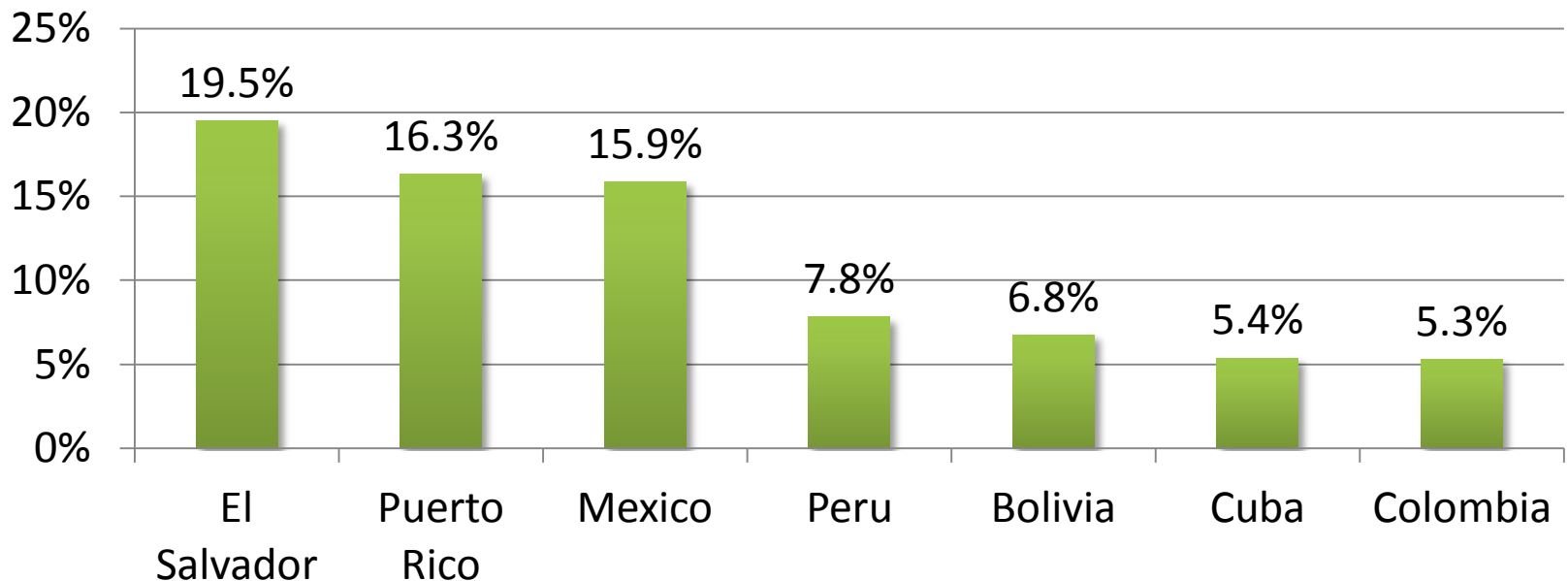
Source: Census Bureau's 2011 American Community Survey



# Virginia Latino Population

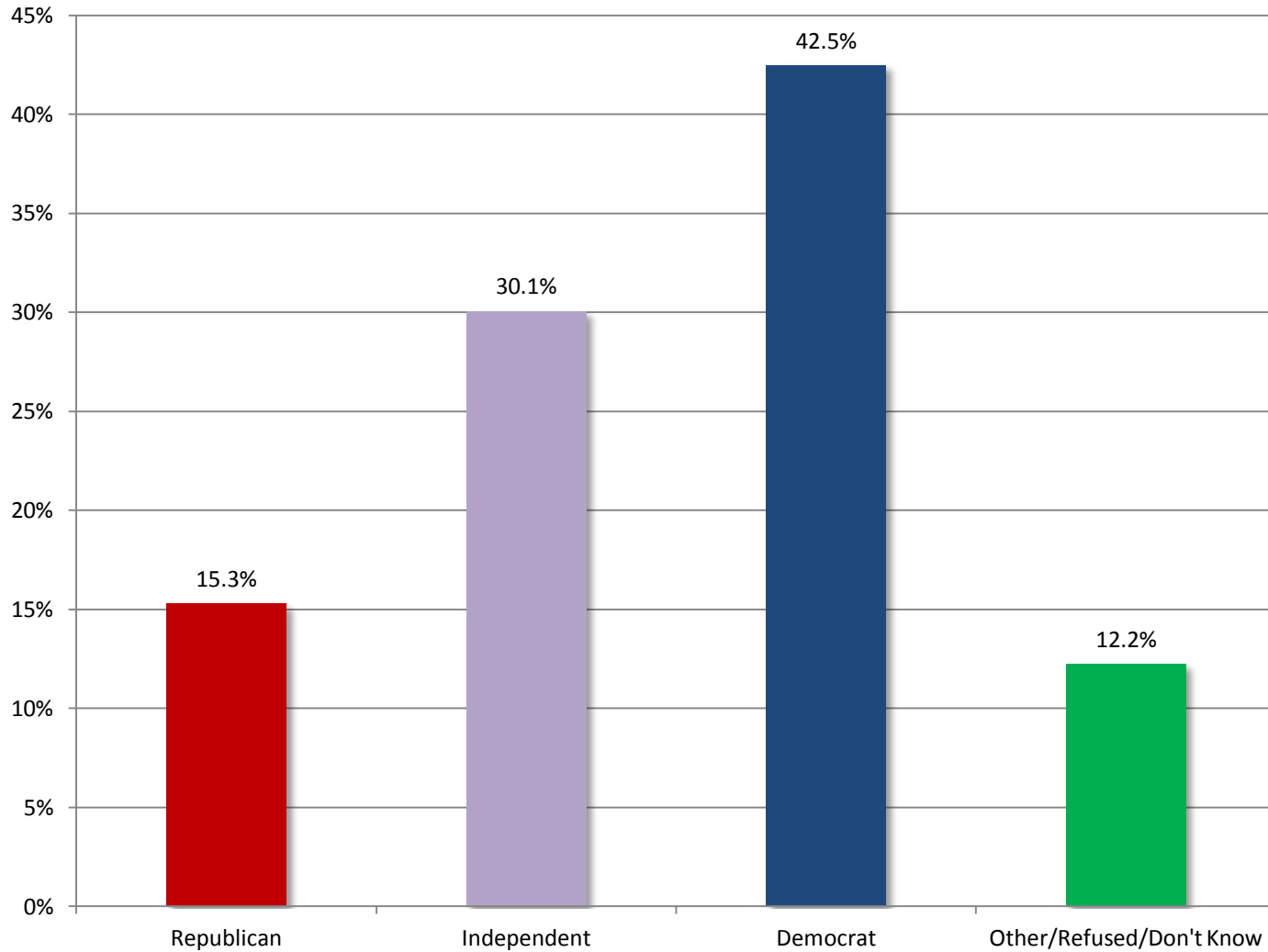
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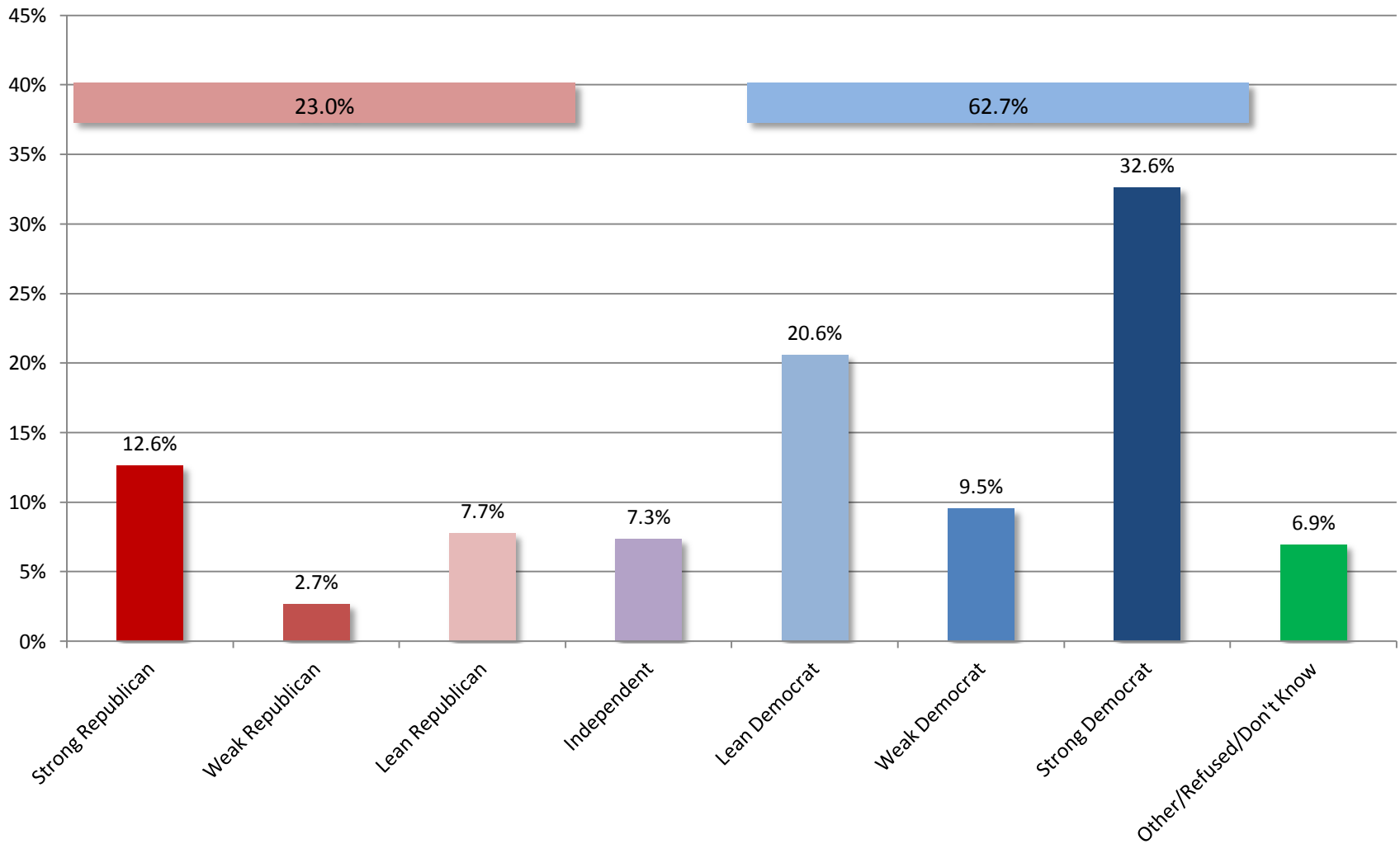
Source: Latino Decisions/America's Voice Oct. 2012 Survey of Registered Voters

# Party Identification

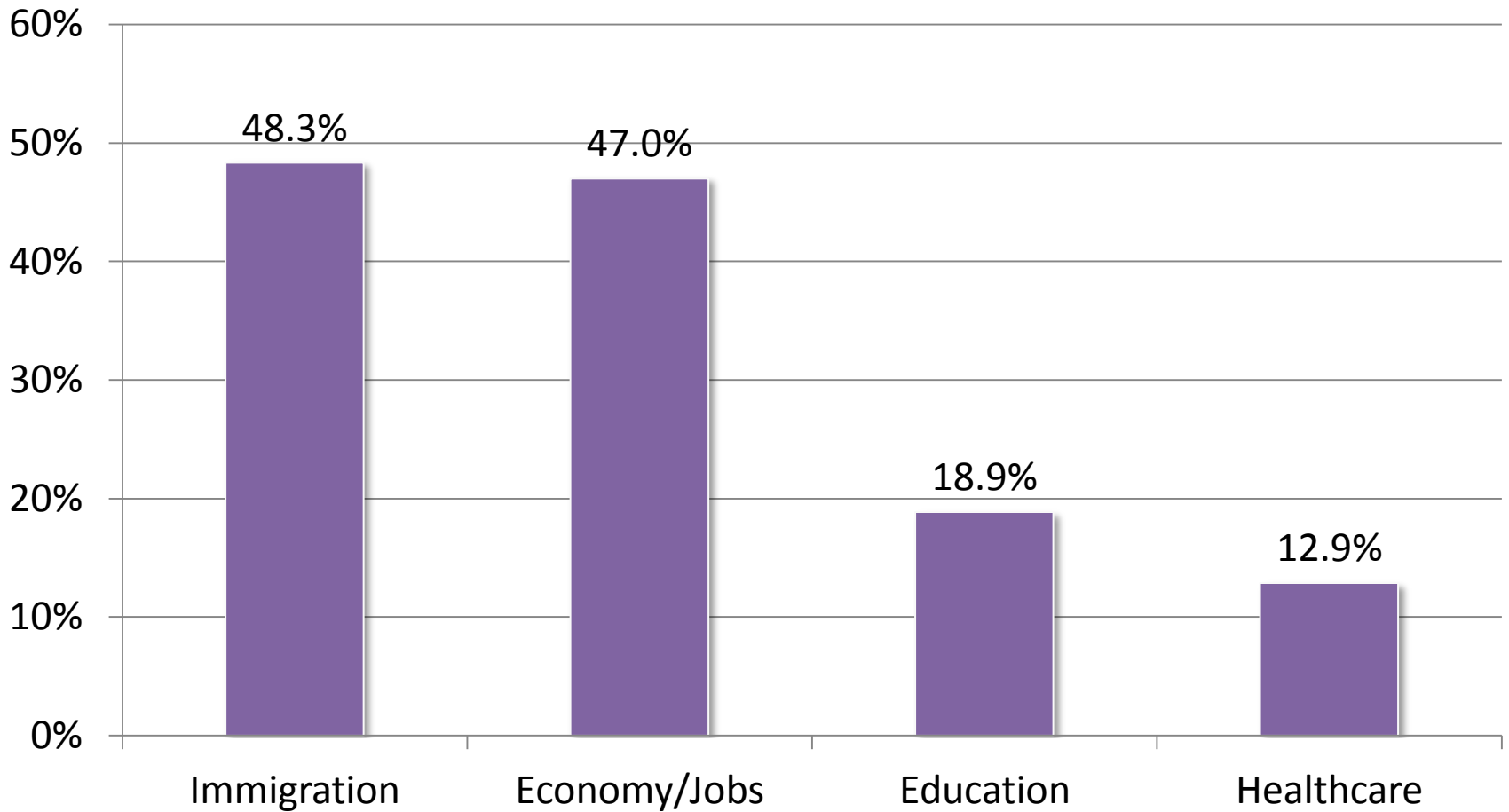


# Party Identification

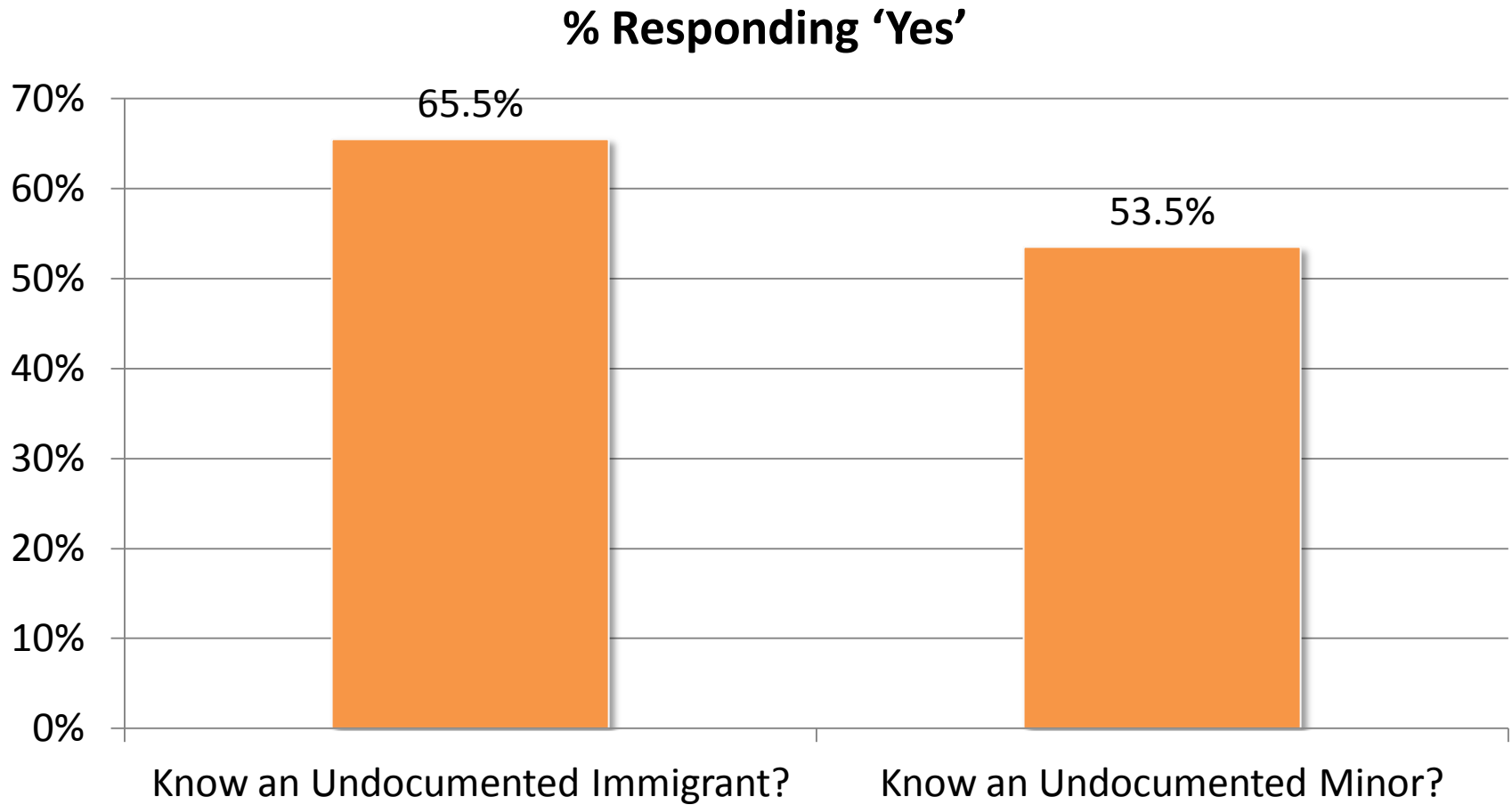
## 7-Point Scale



# Most Important Issue 1<sup>st</sup> or 2<sup>nd</sup> Mention



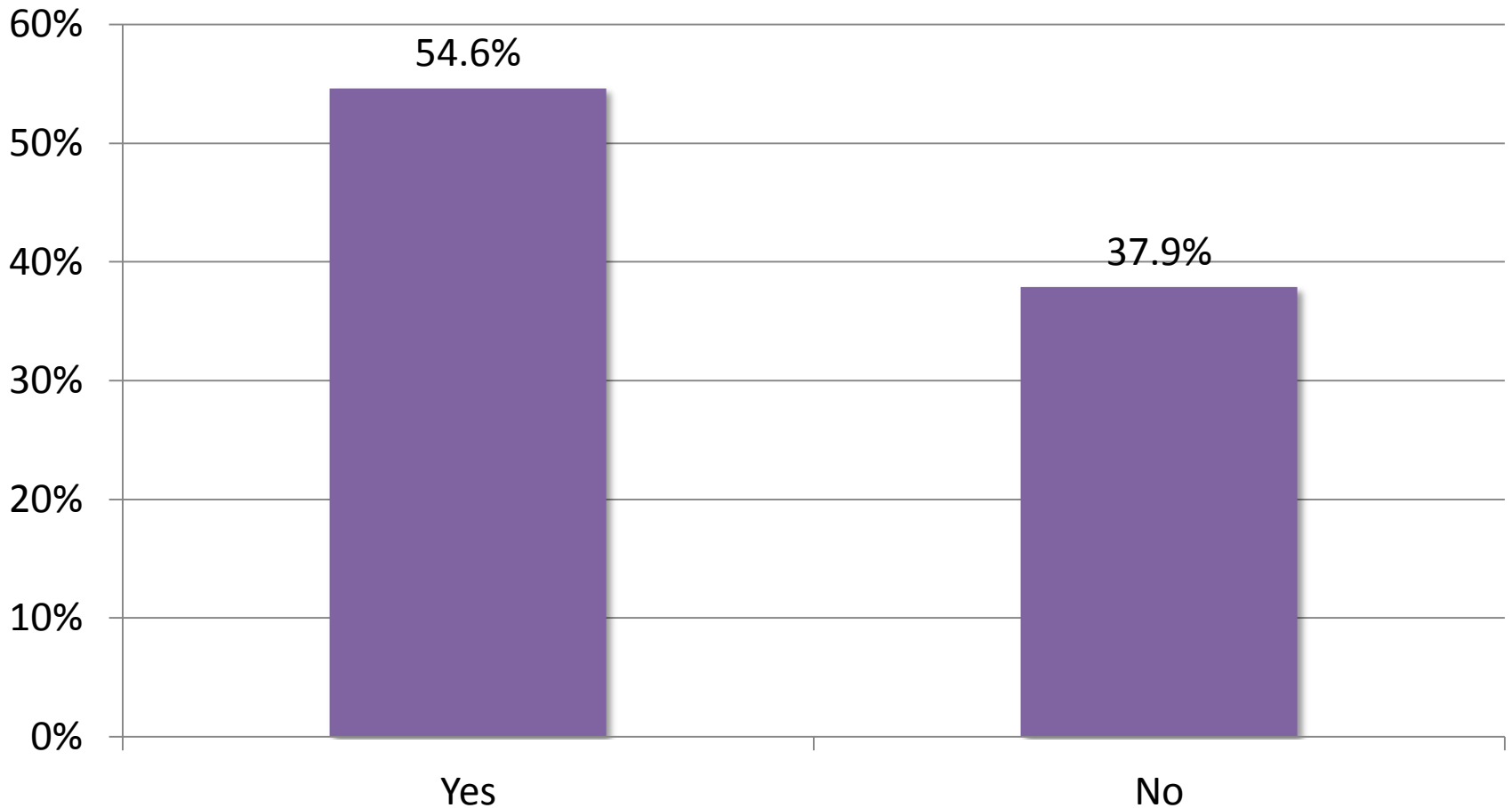
# Know Undocumented Immigrant?



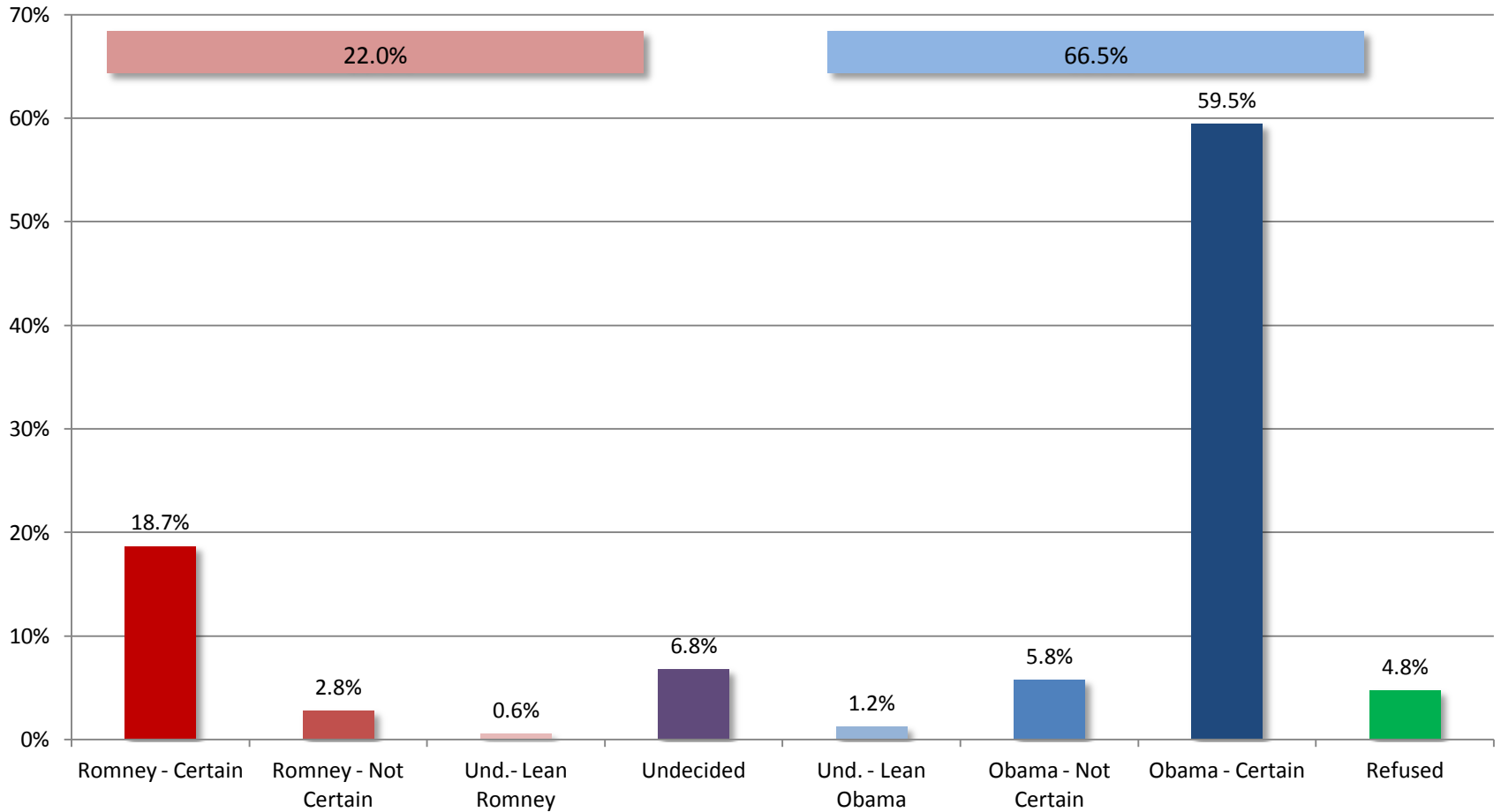


# Know Undocumented Immigrant?

## % Mentioning Immigration as Important Issue



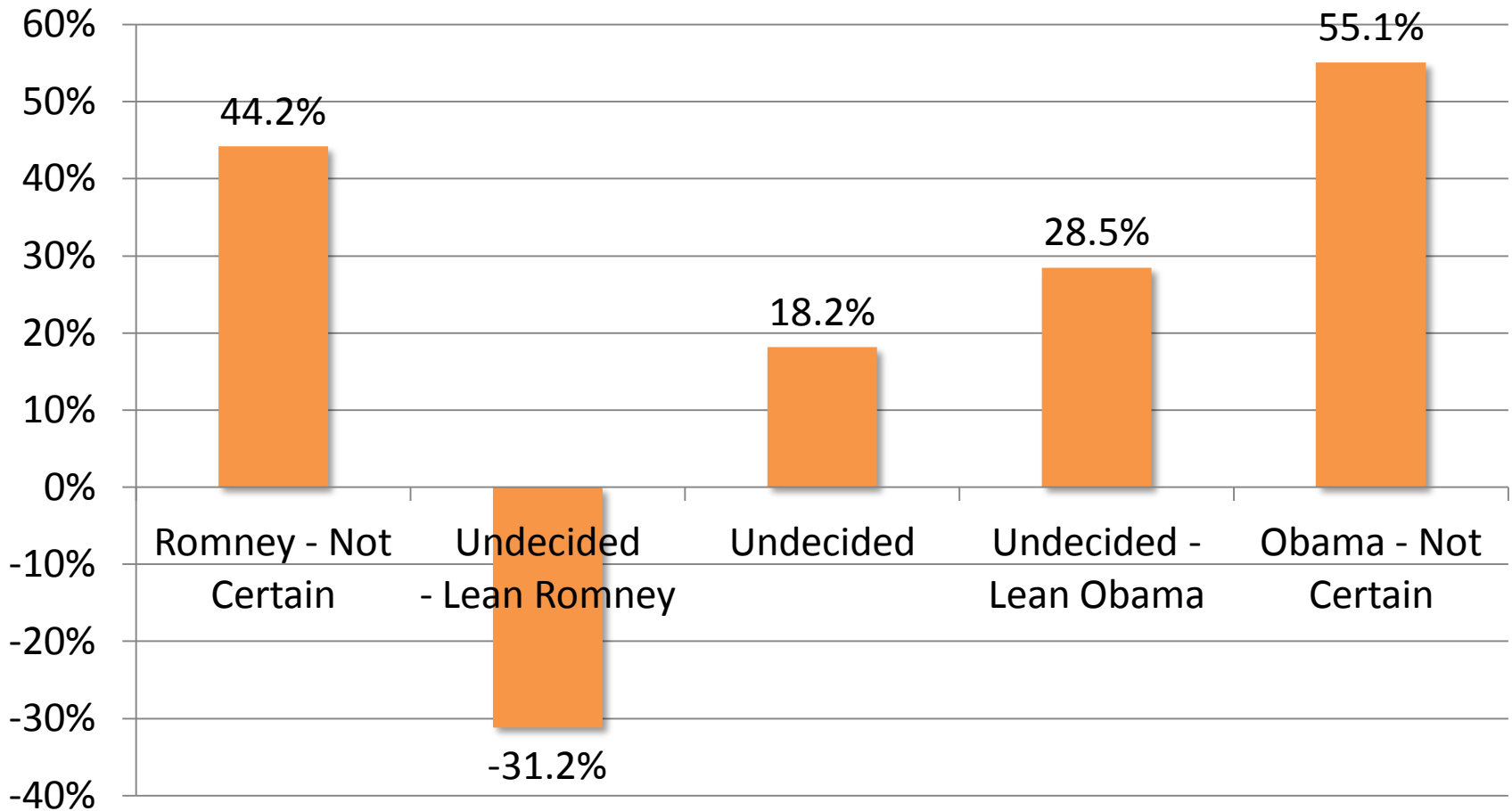
# Presidential Preference



# Obama's New DHS Policy

## Net Enthusiasm Towards Obama

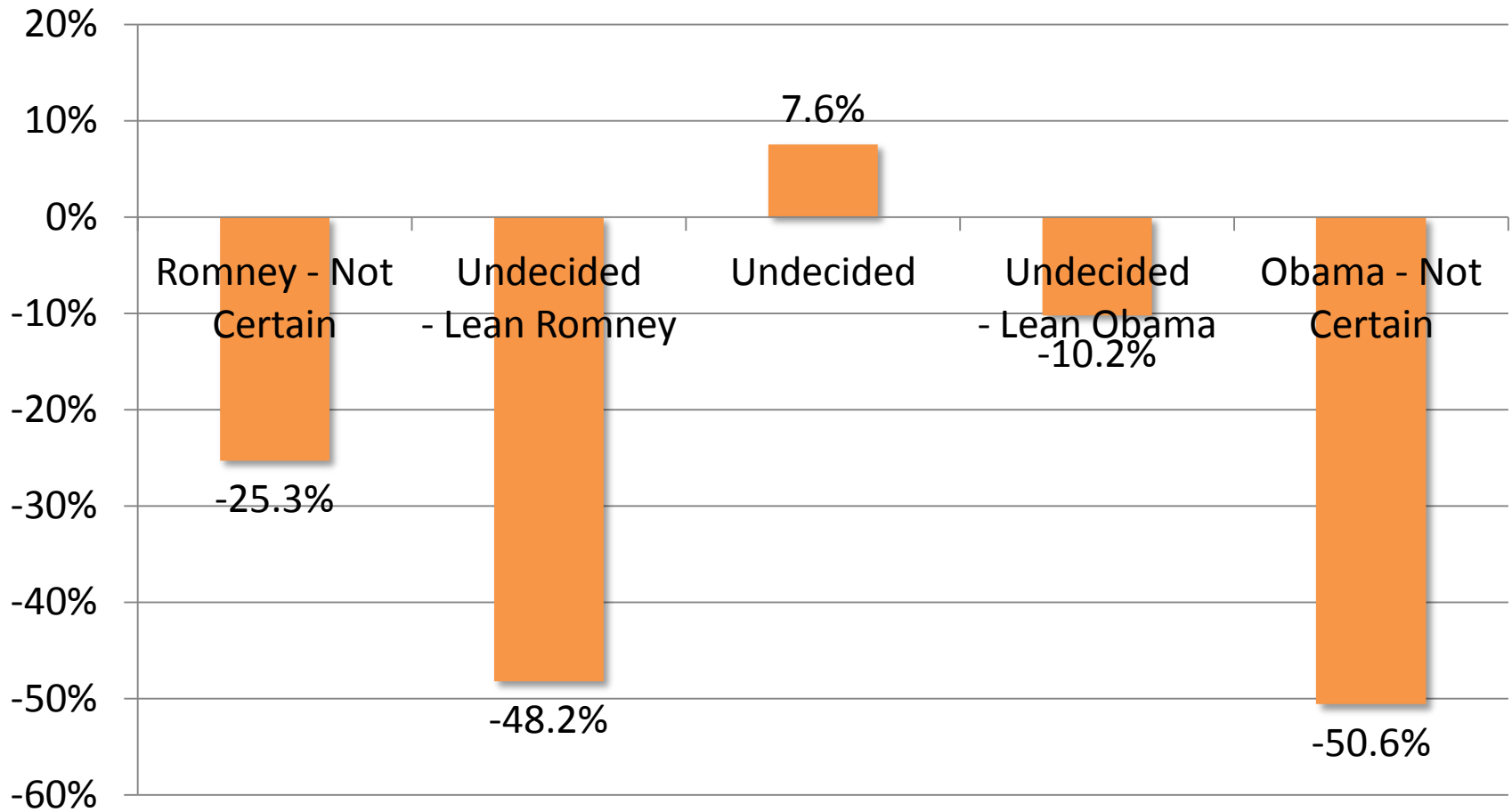
(% More Enthusiastic Minus % Less Enthusiastic)



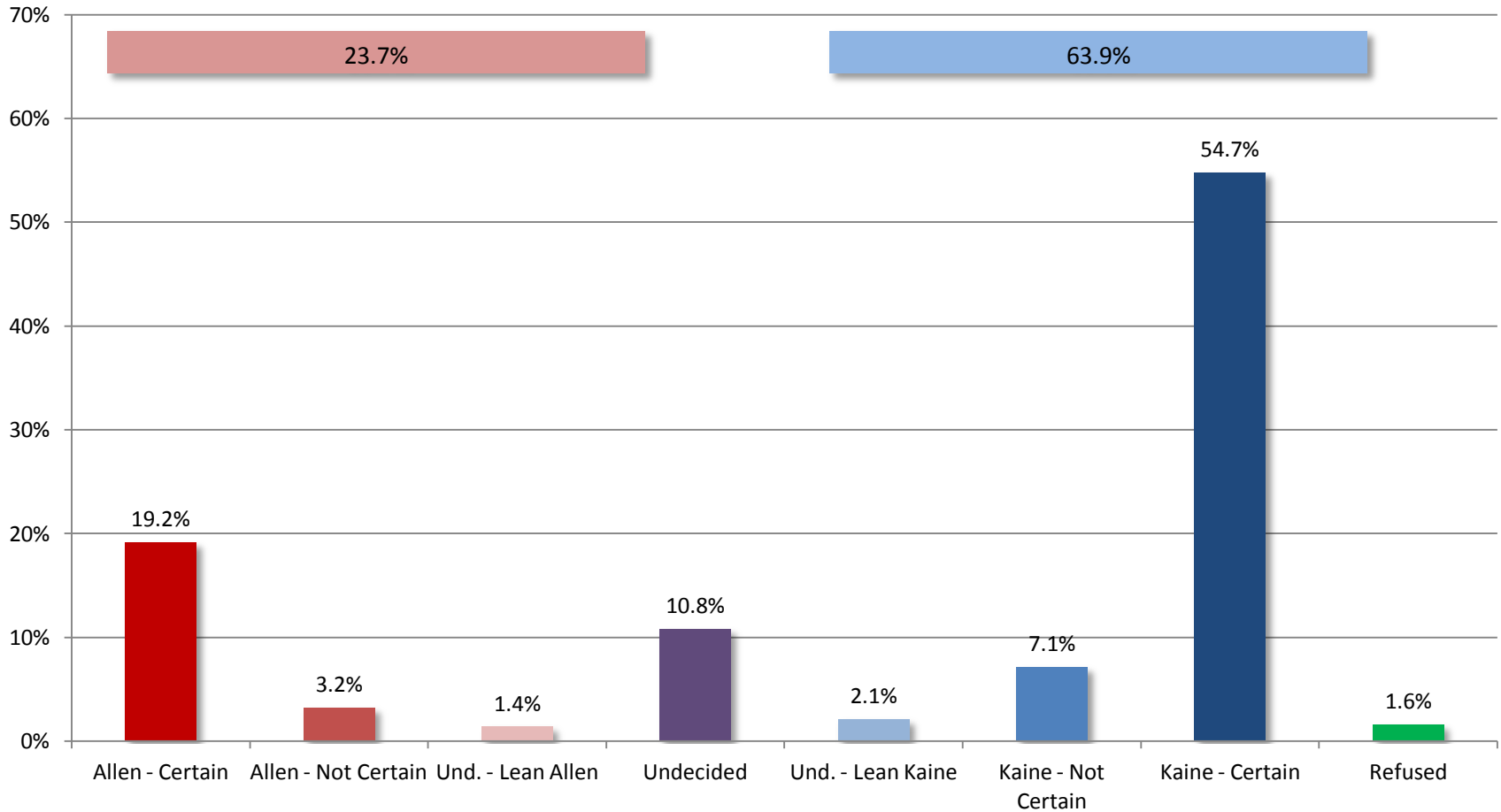
# Romney Critical of New DHS Policy

## Net Enthusiasm Towards Romney

(% More Enthusiastic Minus % Less Enthusiastic)



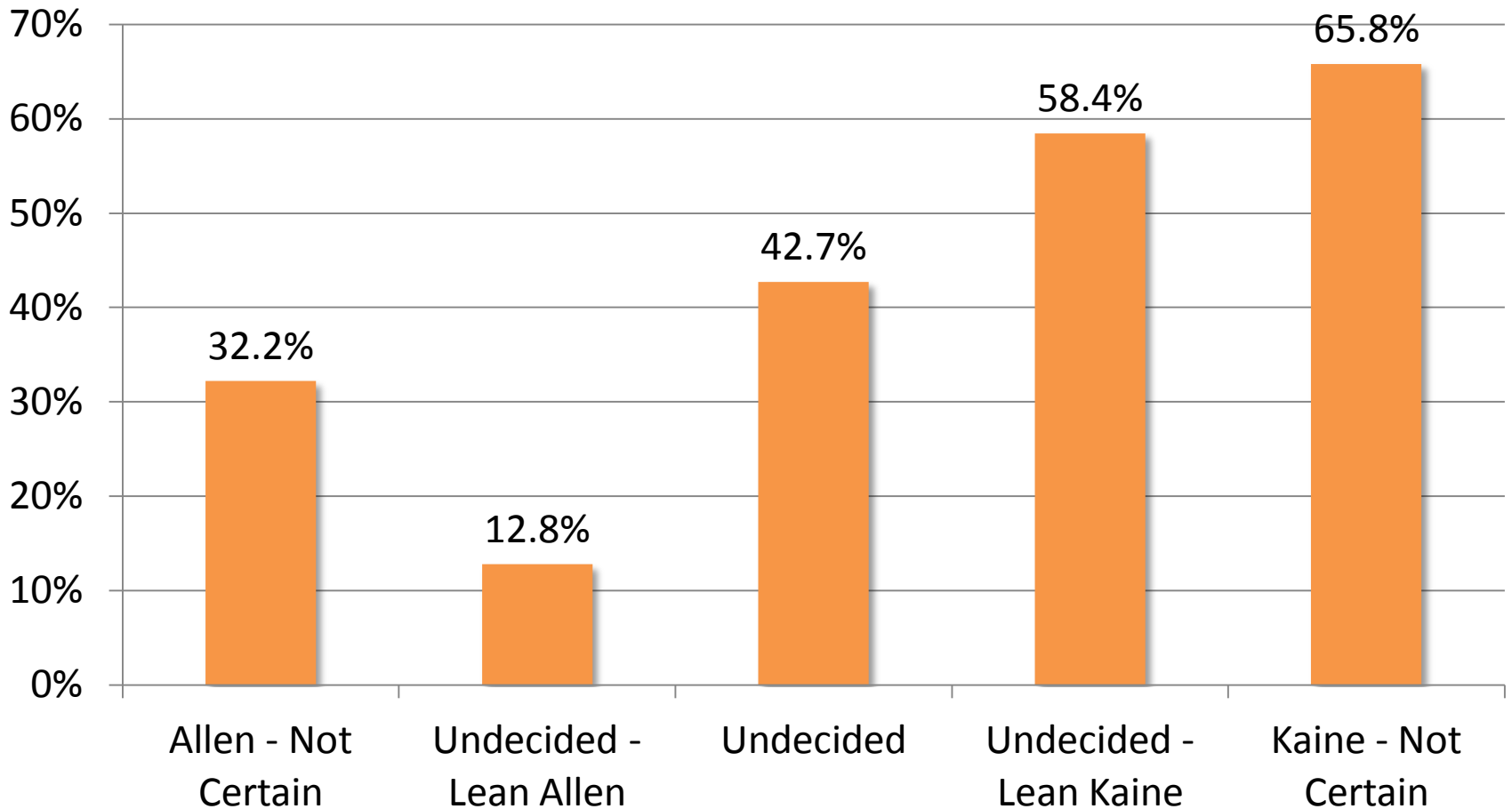
# Virginia Senate Preference



# Kaine's Support for Dream Act

## Net Enthusiasm Towards Kaine

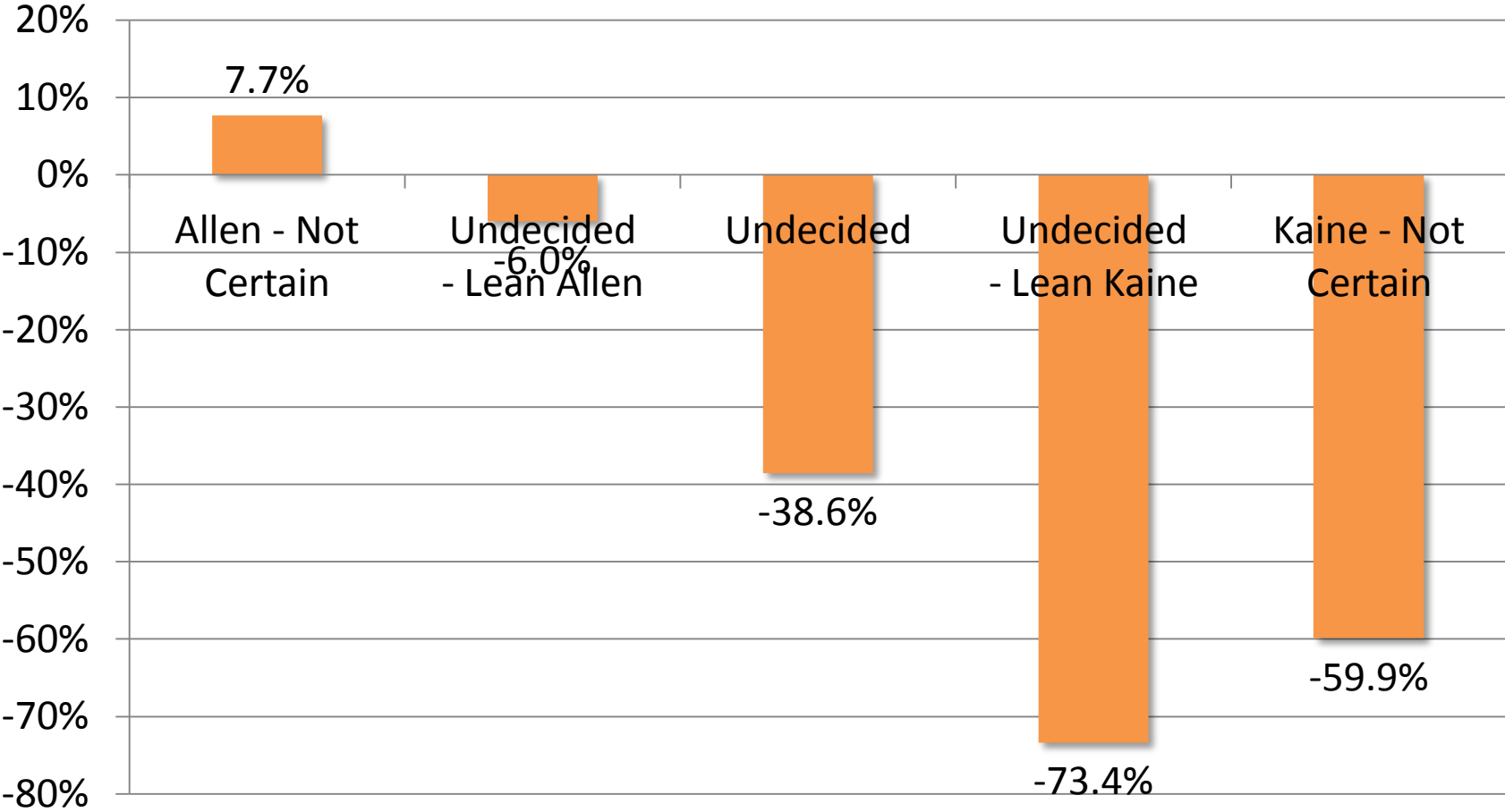
(% More Enthusiastic Minus % Less Enthusiastic)



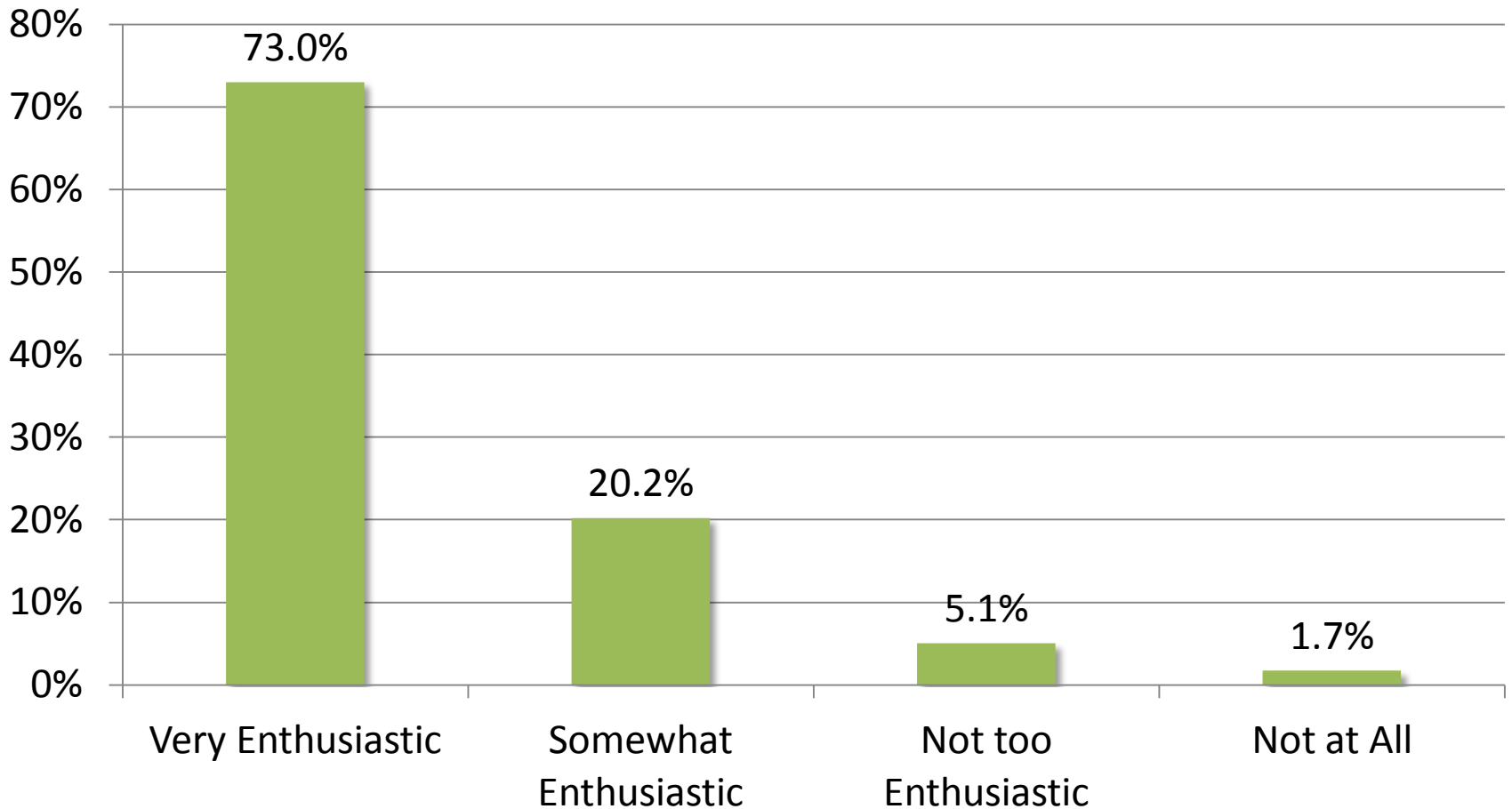
# Allen's Support for Border Fence

## Net Enthusiasm Towards Allen

(% More Enthusiastic Minus % Less Enthusiastic)

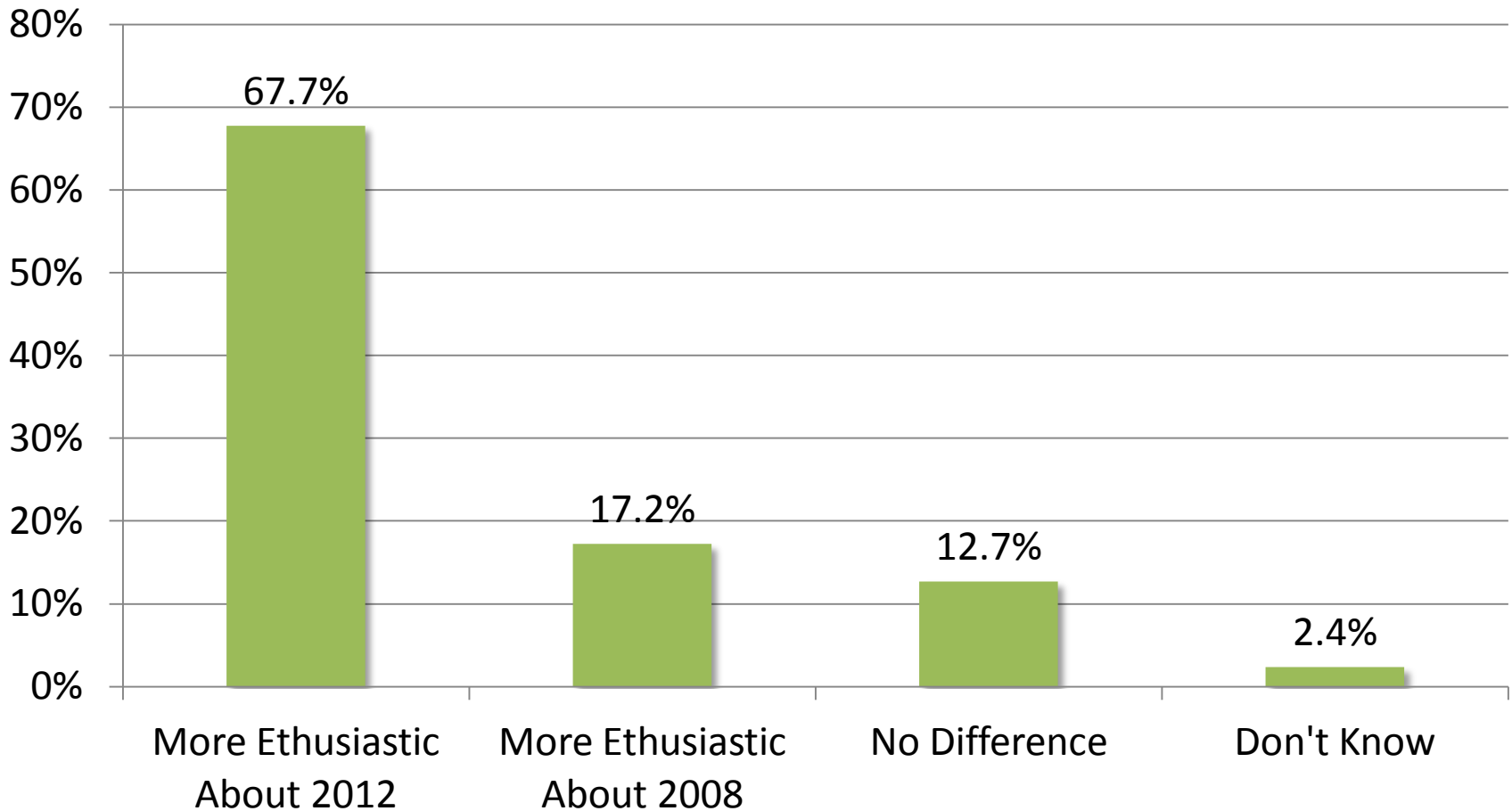


# Enthusiasm to Vote in 2012





# Enthusiasm to Vote Compared to 2008



# Summary

- Virginia Latinos report being engaged at levels above 2008
- Immigration and Economy/Jobs are top issues
- Candidate support (opposition) for immigration issues increases (decreases) support among Latinos, even among those who say immigration is not a top issue
- Virginia Latinos overwhelming support for Democratic candidates

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