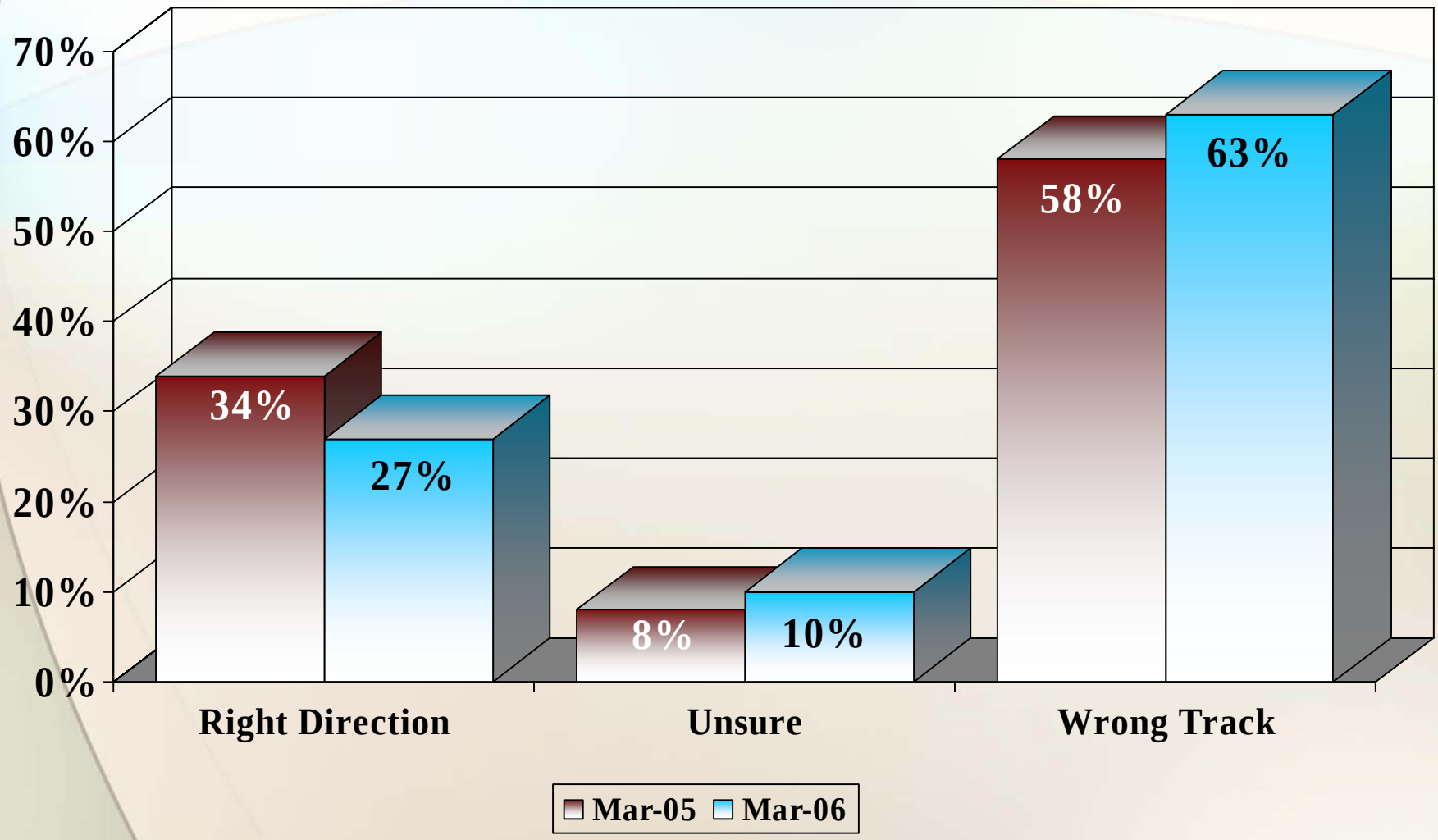
A NATIONAL SURVEY OF VOTER ATTITUDES ON IMMIGRATION REFORM

A BI-PARTISAN POLL FIELDED BY THE TARRANCE GROUP AND LAKE RESEARCH PARTNERS

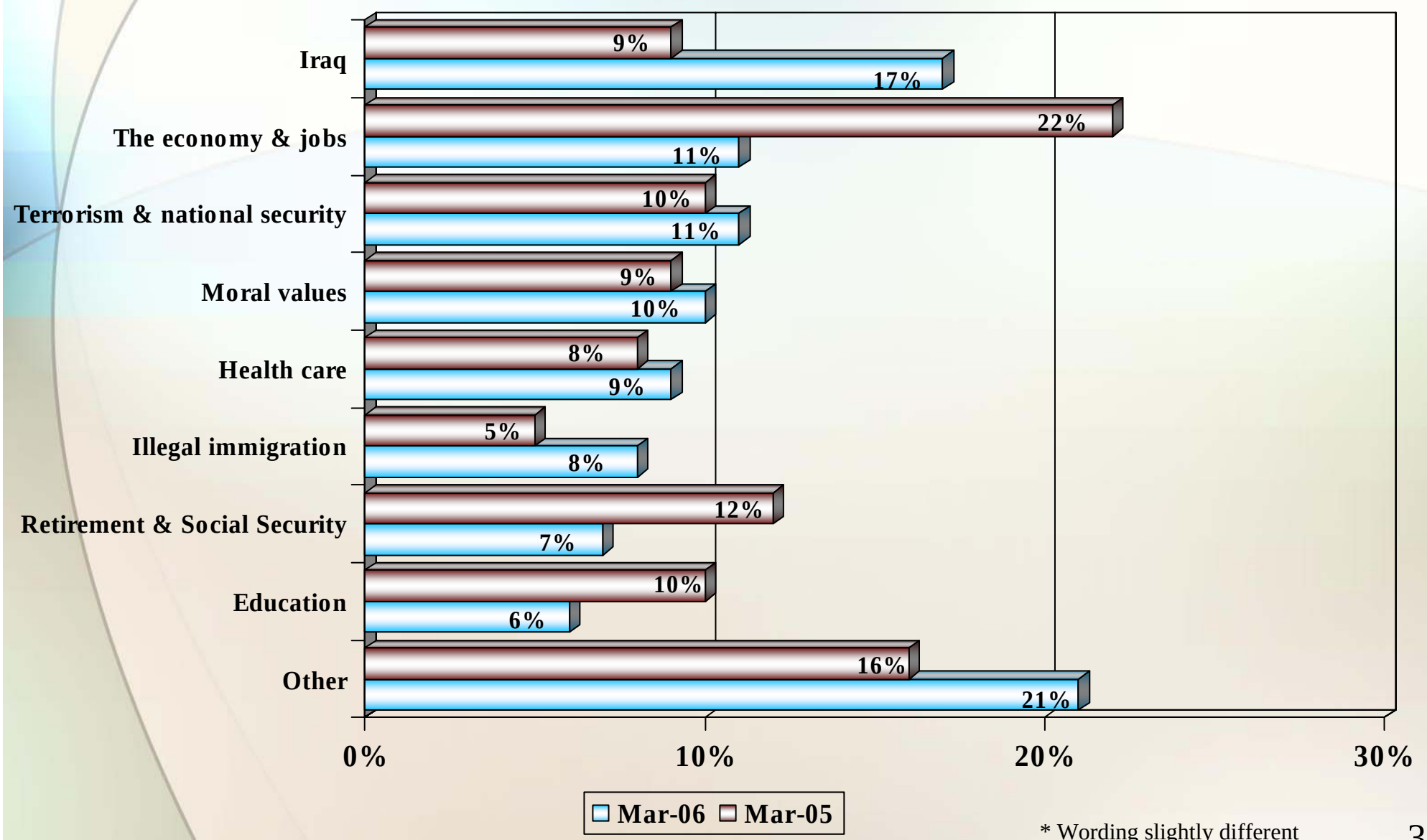
MARCH 26-28, 2006

N= 1, 010 REGISTERED "LIKELY" VOTERS / ±3.1% M.O.E.

DO YOU FEEL THINGS IN THIS COUNTRY ARE GOING IN THE RIGHT DIRECTION, OR HAVE THEY GOTTEN OFF ON THE WRONG TRACK?

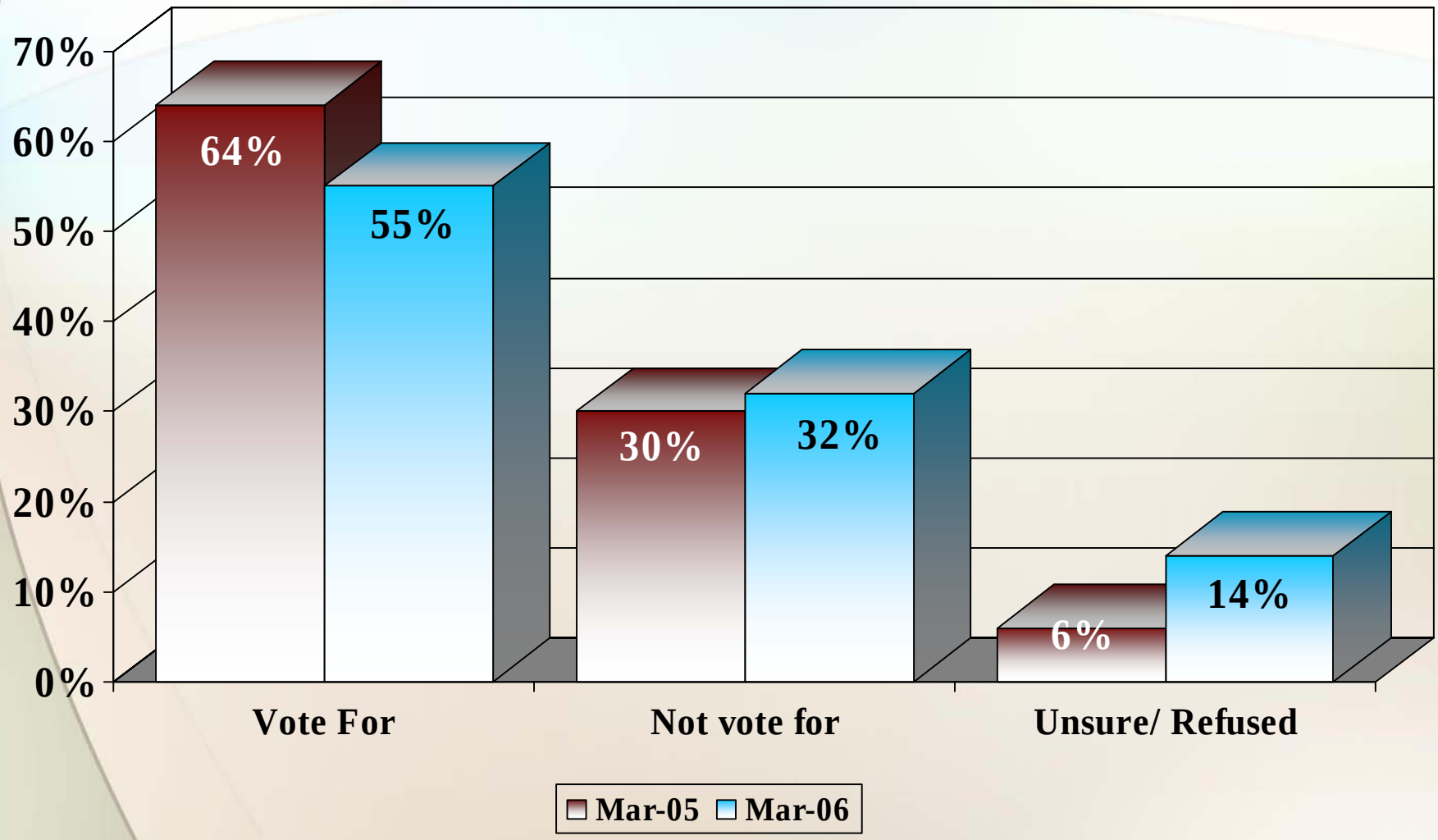


PLEASE TELL ME WHICH ONE OF THESE ISSUES YOU PERSONALLY WORRY ABOUT THE MOST.



* Wording slightly different

WHAT IF THERE WERE A CANDIDATE WHO STOOD FOR MOST OF THE THINGS YOU BELIEVE IN, BUT TOOK A STAND ON IMMIGRATION THAT YOU REALLY DISAGREED WITH: WOULD YOU DEFINITELY /PROBABLY *VOTE FOR* THAT CANDIDATE, OR PROBABLY/ DEFINITELY *NOT VOTE FOR* THAT CANDIDATE?



As you may already know, Congress is currently considering a number of immigration reform proposals. Two things that appear in all of these proposals are increased security at the border & tougher enforcement of current laws. However, there are several different proposals on how to deal with future immigration.

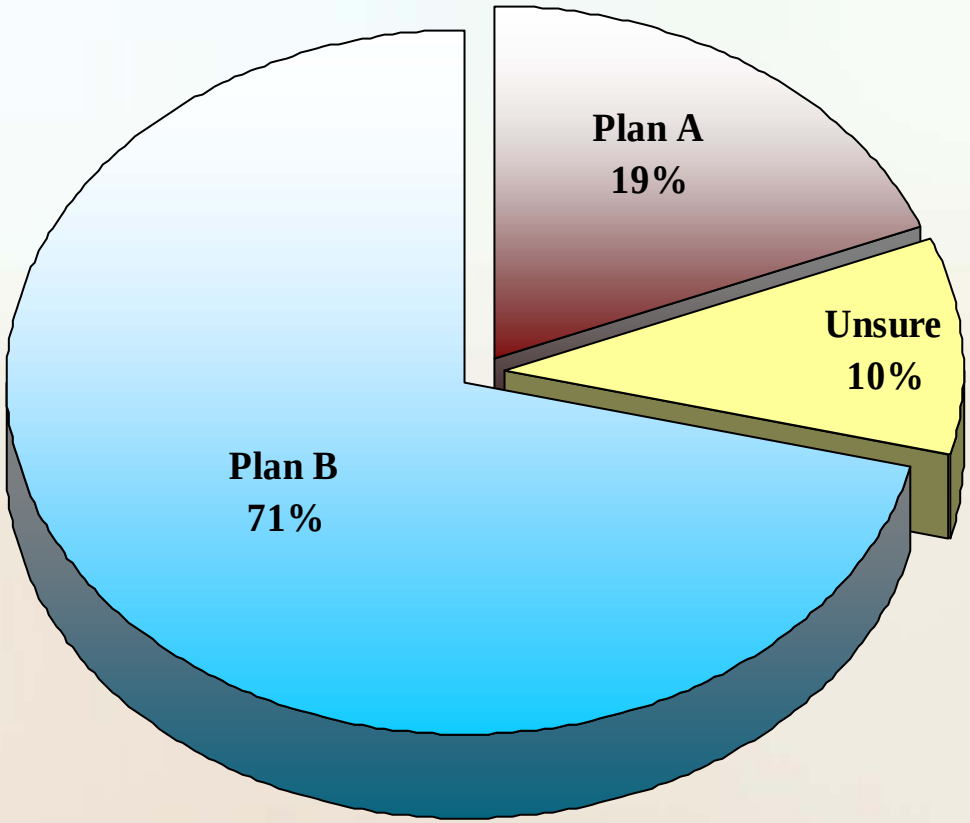
PLAN A

- Immigrants could come here to work for up to six years, then they must return to their home country
- Immigrants could bring their immediate families, but their families could not work.
- These immigrants and their families would be eligible for only emergency medical care and education.
- Immigrants would never be eligible for US citizenship.

PLAN B

- Immigrants could come to work for three years and in the fourth year, while continuing to work, they would be eligible to apply for citizenship.
- Immigrants could bring their immediate families, and their families could work.
- These immigrants and their families would be eligible for only emergency medical care and education, but once they become citizens they would be eligible for all services available to any American citizen.
- Immigrants could earn the right to citizenship by working, paying taxes, and learning English.

WHICH OF THESE PLANS DO YOU THINK IS THE BETTER WAY TO HANDLE FUTURE IMMIGRATION?



HIGHER SUPPORT LEVELS FOR PLAN A

PLAN A (19%)

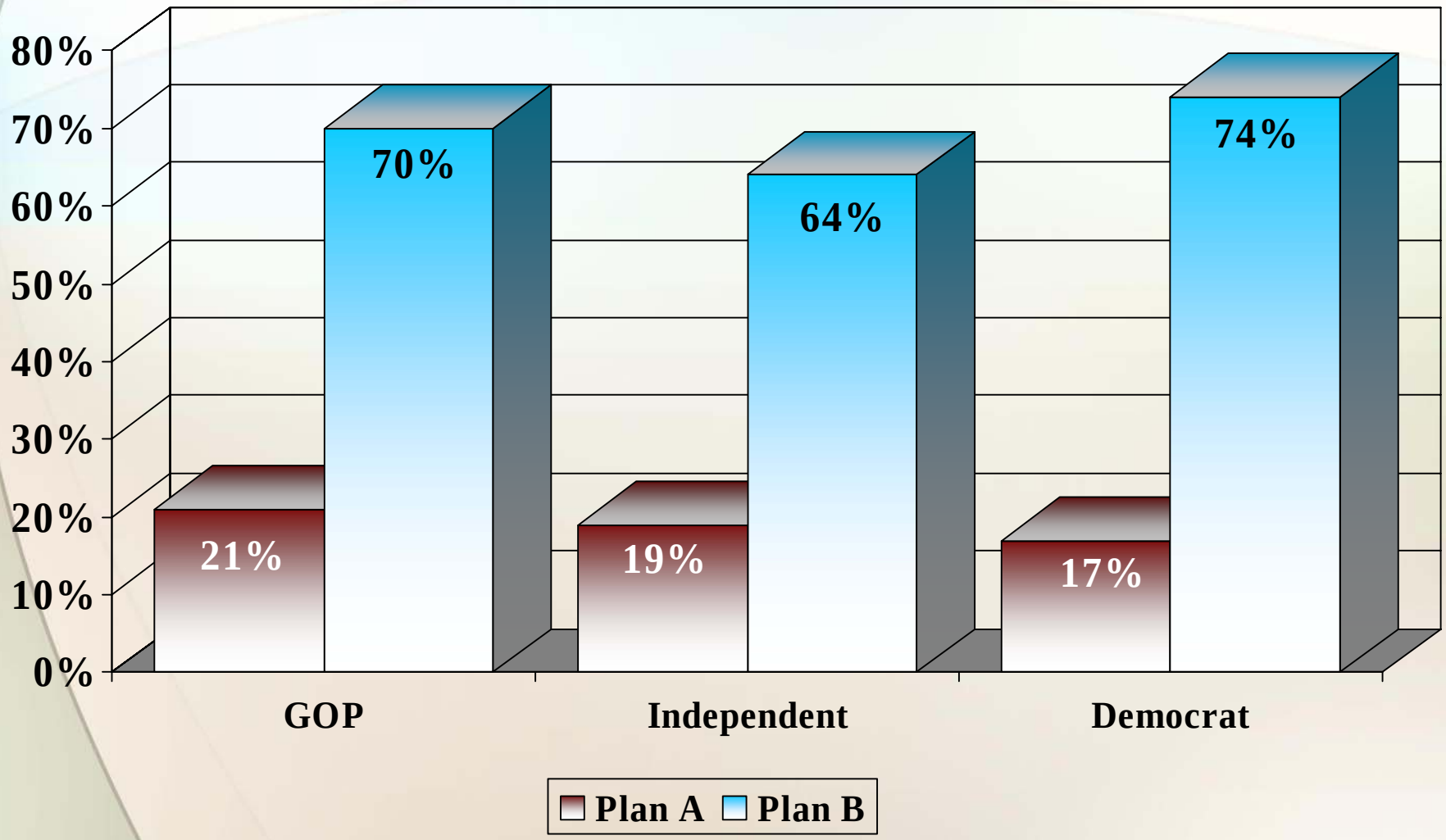
• High School Graduates	26%
• African American Men	27%
• Non Christians/ Others	27%
• Conservative Democrats	27%
• Illegal Immigration Their Major Concern	26%

HIGHER SUPPORT LEVELS FOR PLAN B

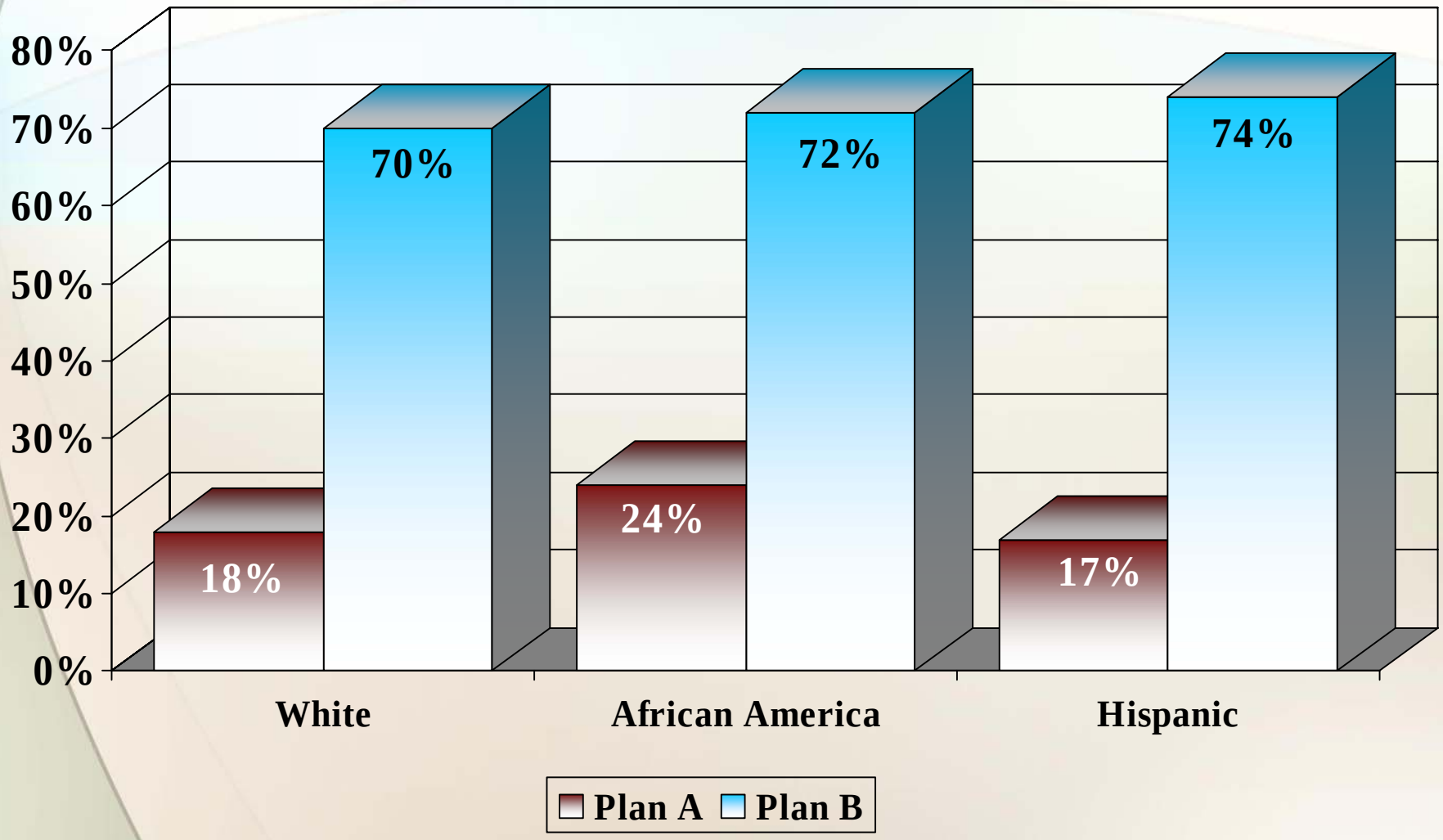
PLAN B (71%)

Regions	• Mountain States	78%
	• All Other Regions	64%+
Age	• 18-29 Year Olds	78%
	• 60+ Year Olds	65%
	• All Other Age Cohorts	70%+
Ideology	• Conservative	68%
	– Conservative Democrats	66%
	• Moderate	64%
	• Liberal	77%
Education	• Some High School	69%
	• High School Graduate	63%
	• Some College	72%
	• College Graduate	74%
Direction Of The Country	• Right Direction	72%
	• Wrong Track	70%
	• Unsure	73%
Intensity To Vote	• Most Likely 40%	75%
	• Most Likely 60%	73%
	• Likely voters	71%

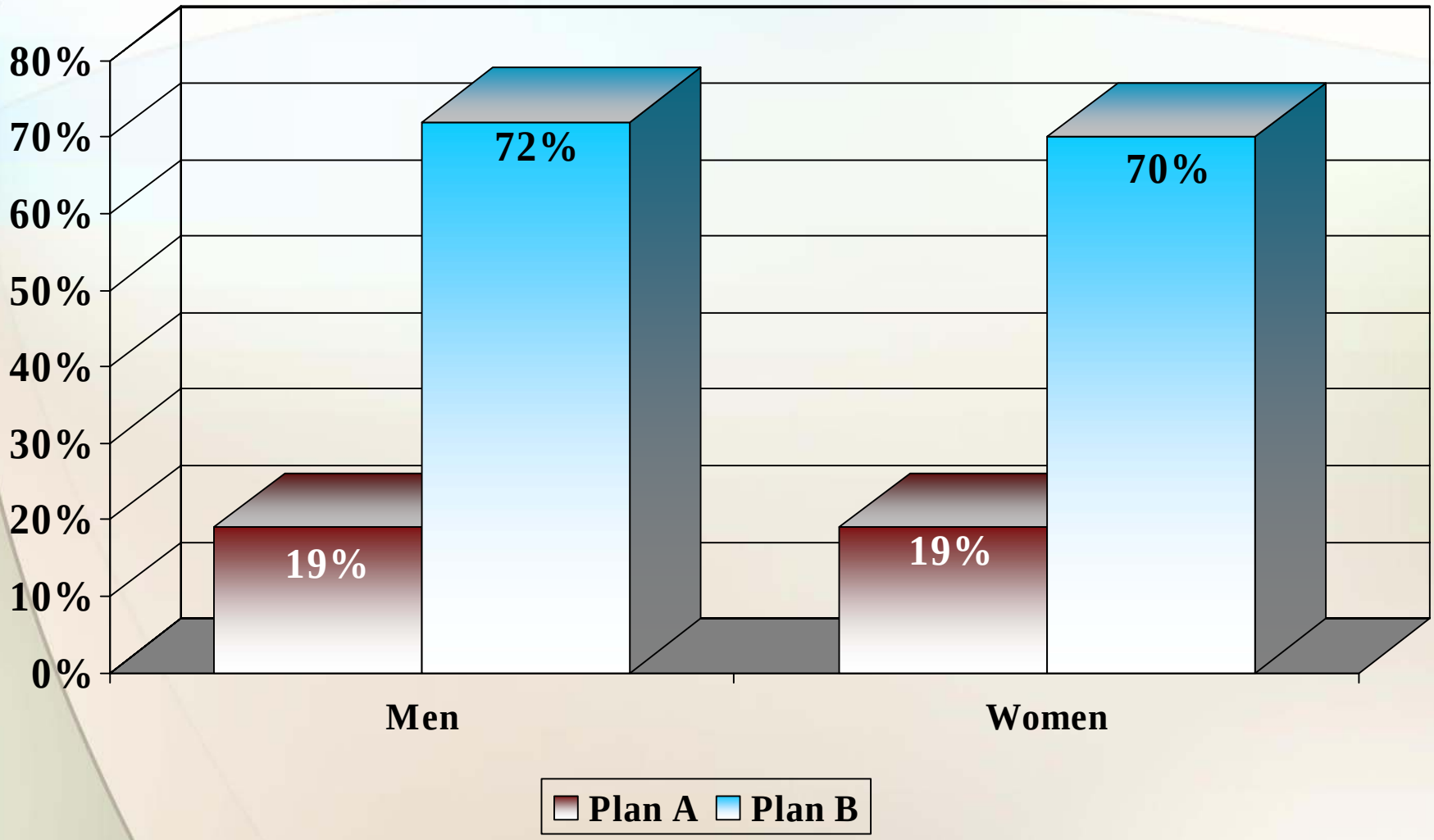
PLAN CHOICE BY PARTY



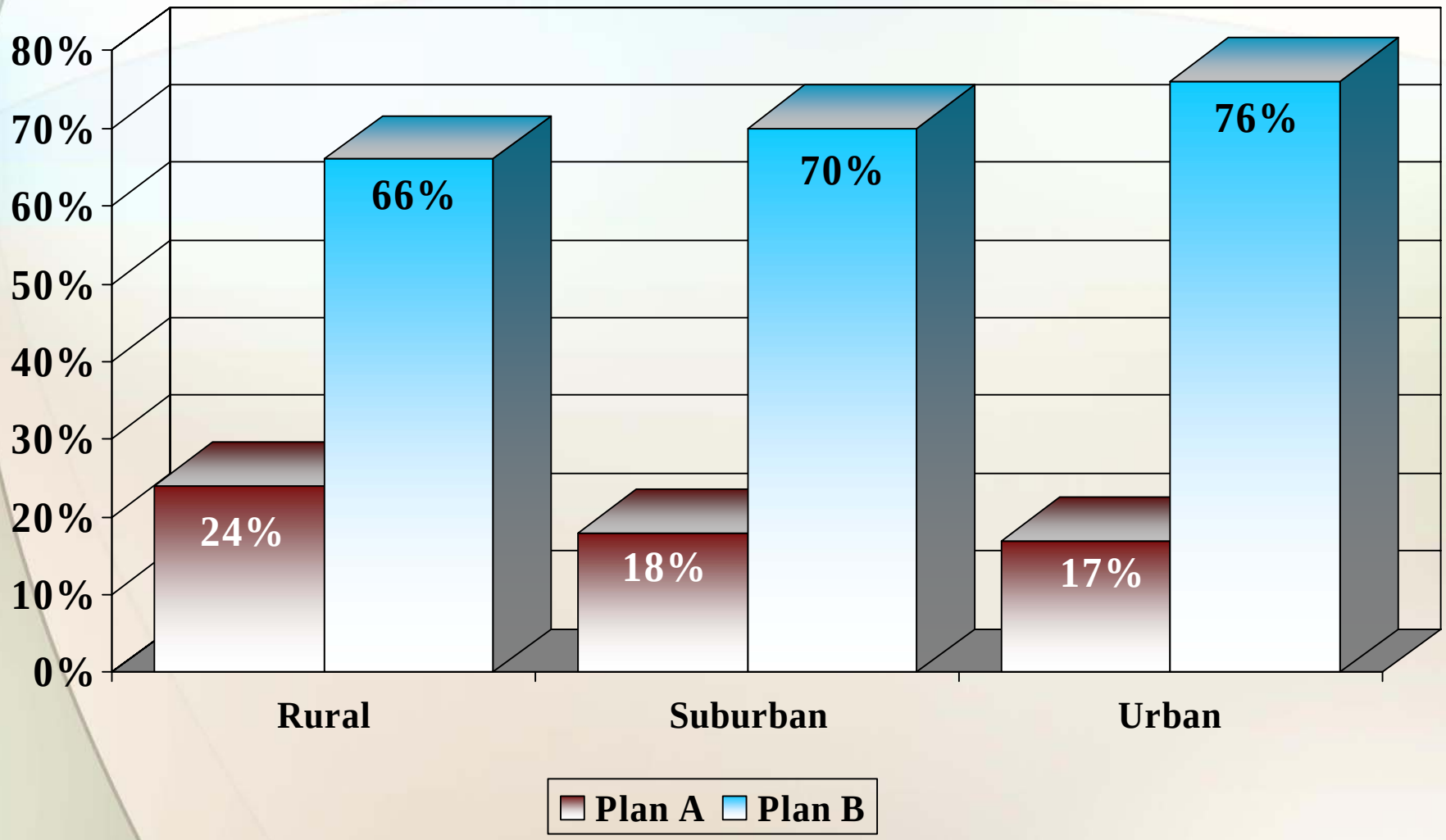
PLAN CHOICE BY RACE



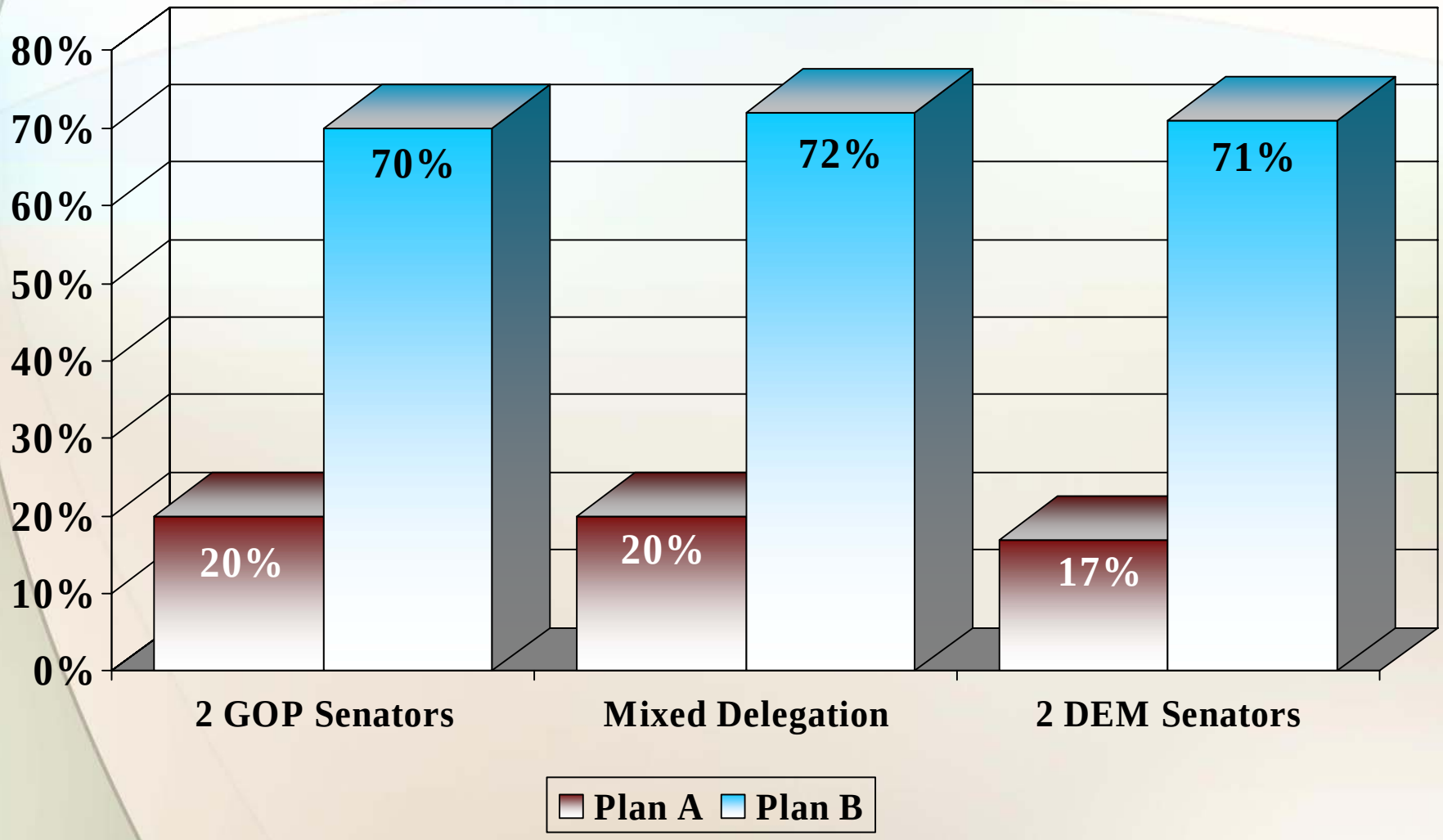
PLAN CHOICE BY GENDER



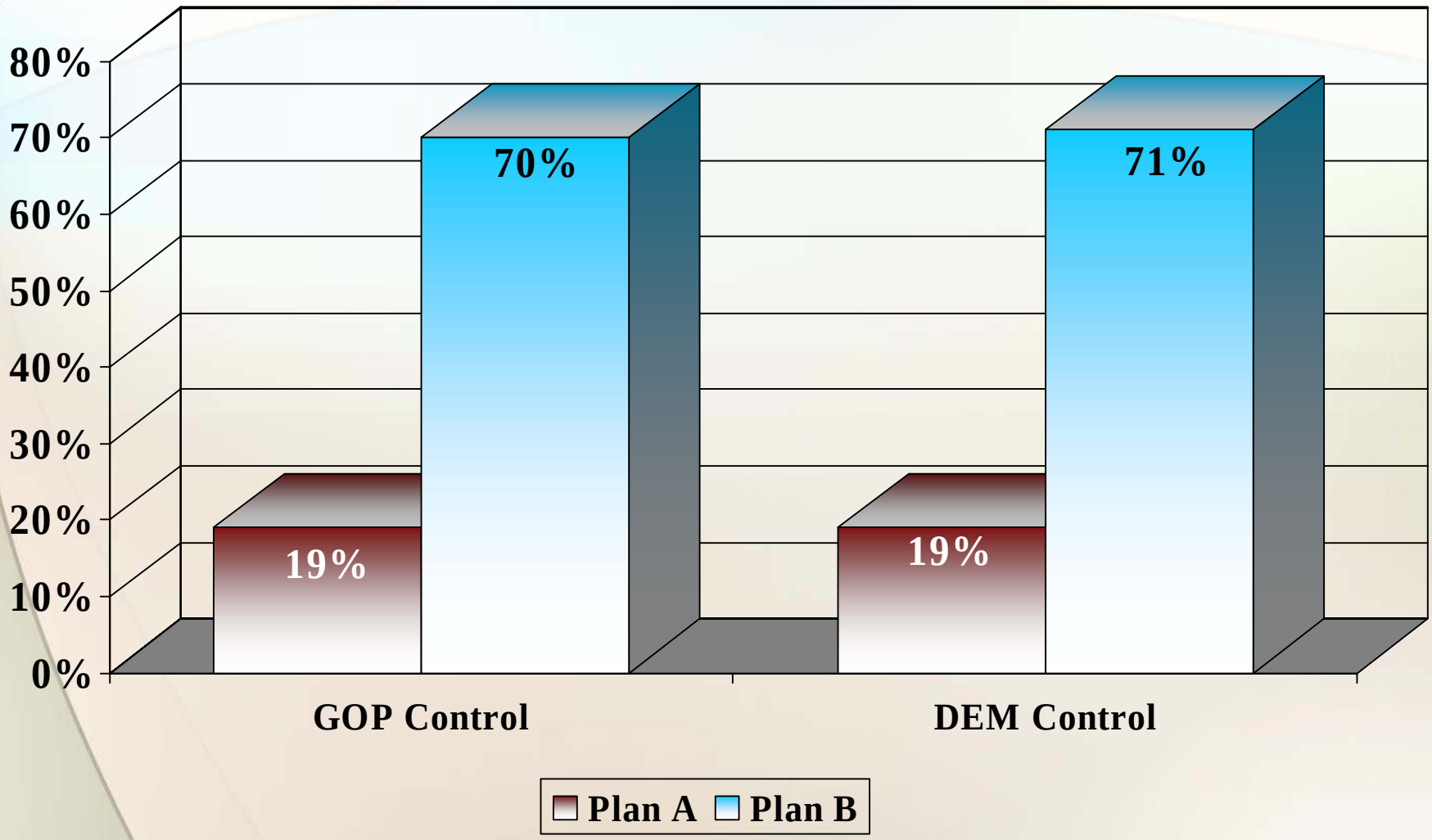
PLAN CHOICE BY GEOGRAPHIC REGION



PLAN CHOICE BY U.S. SENATE REPRESENTATION

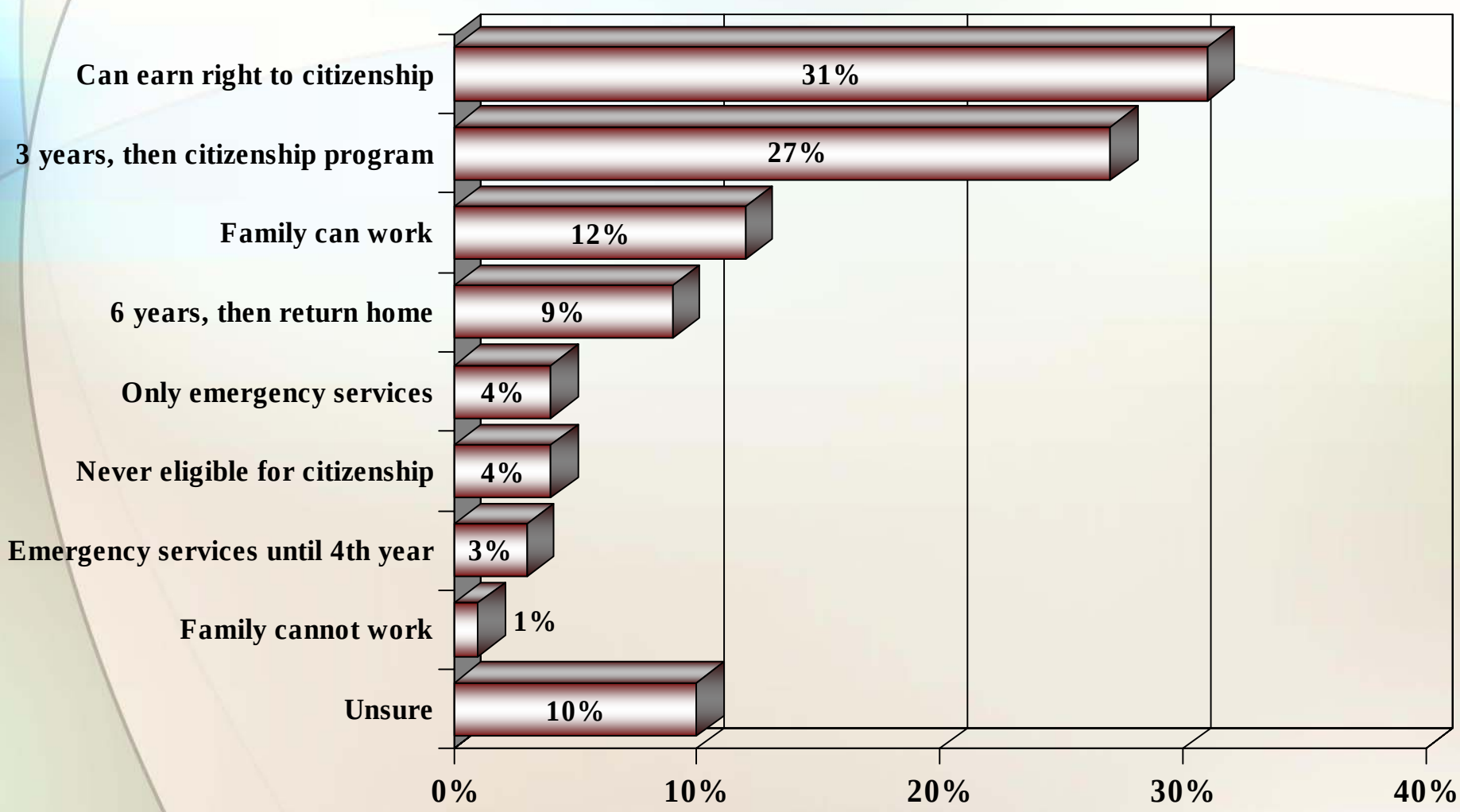


PLAN CHOICE BY PARTY CONTROL OF CONGRESSIONAL DISTRICT



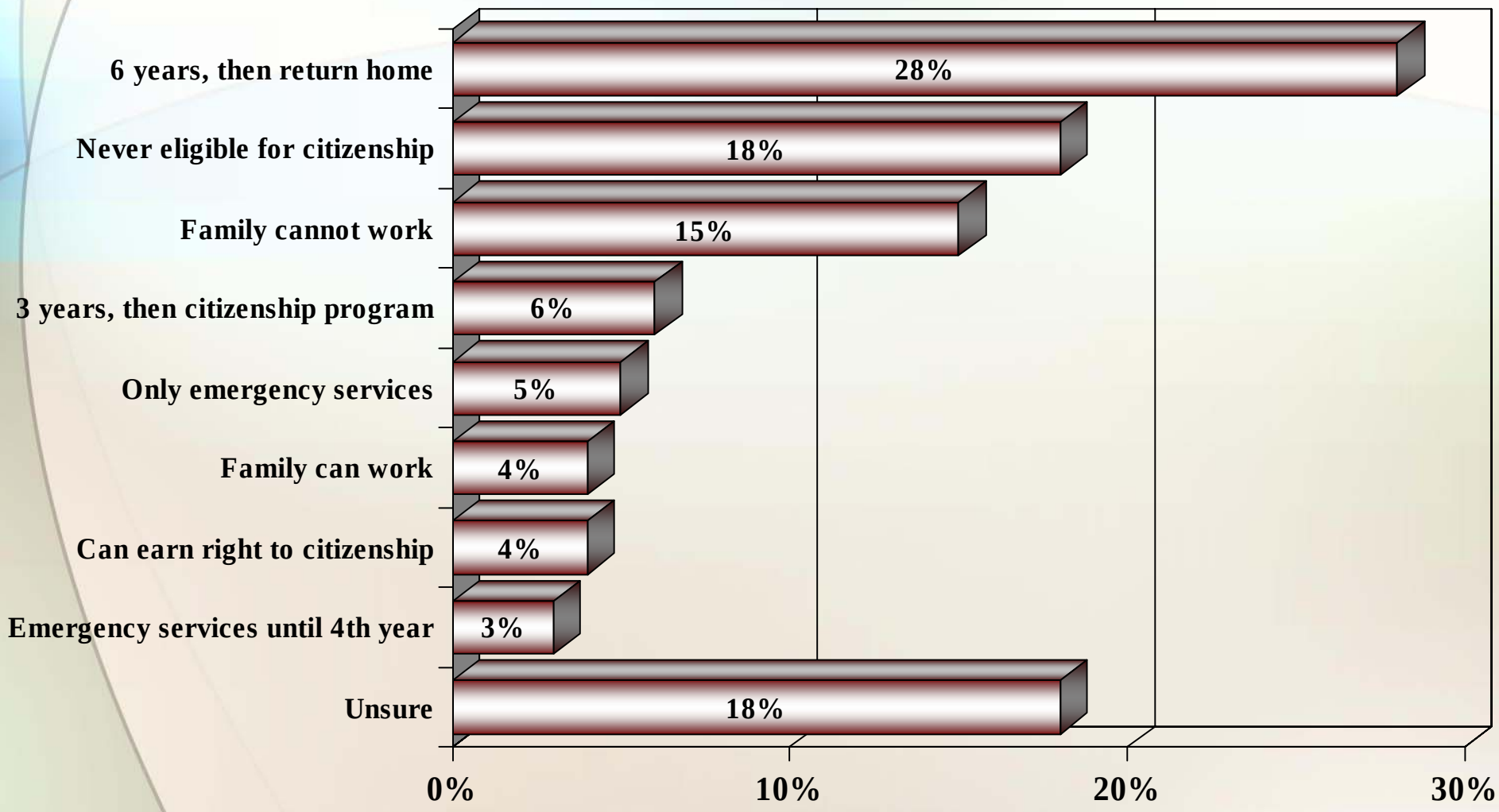
OF THE CHARACTERISTICS OF THE PLAN WHICH YOU JUST CHOSE, WHICH CHARACTERISTIC THAT I READ DO YOU LIKE THE MOST?

(Asked of N= 907 , or 90% of total sample)

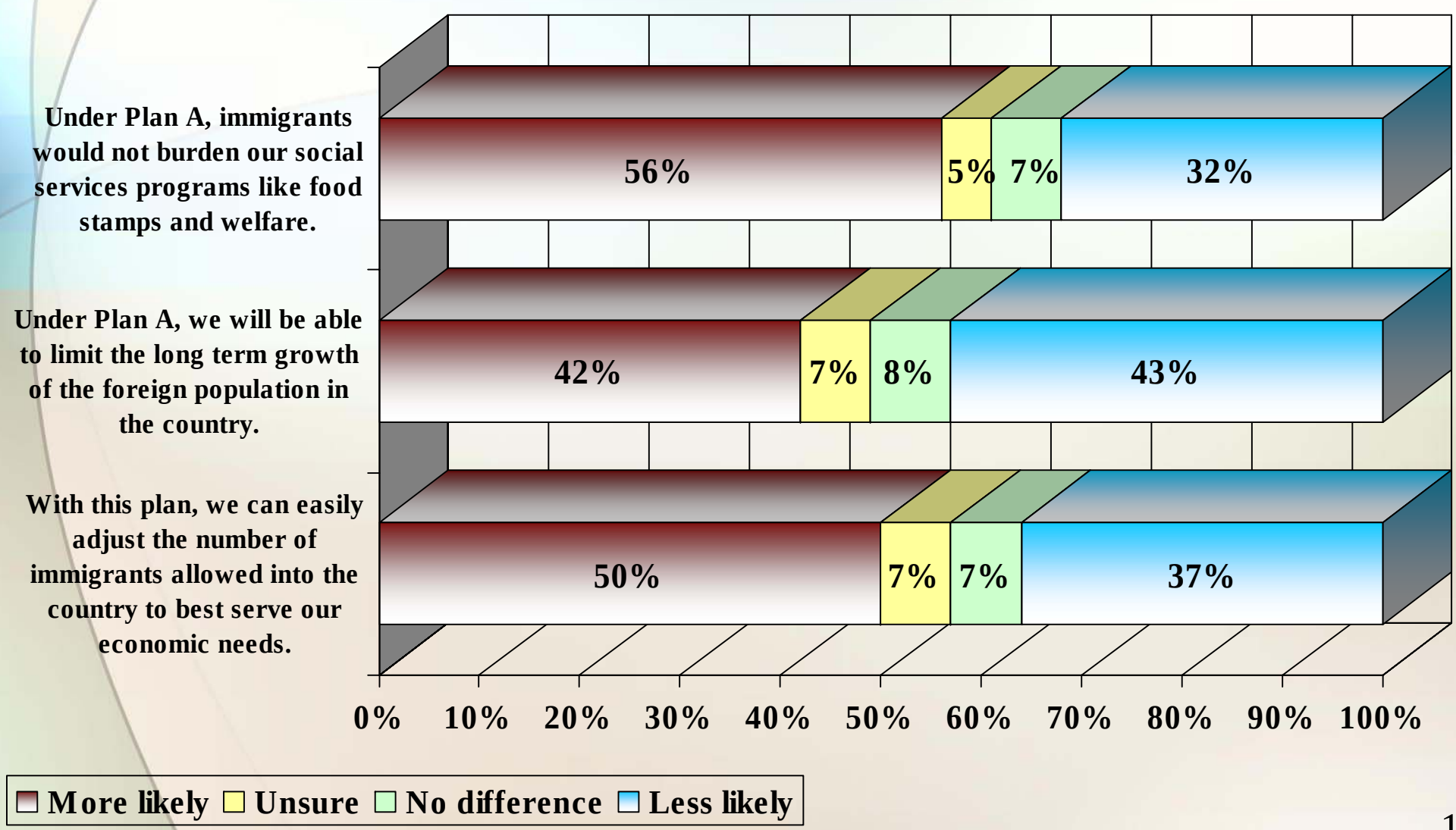


OF THE CHARACTERISTICS OF THE PLAN WHICH YOU DID NOT CHOOSE, WHICH CHARACTERISTICS THAT I READ DO YOU DISLIKE THE MOST?

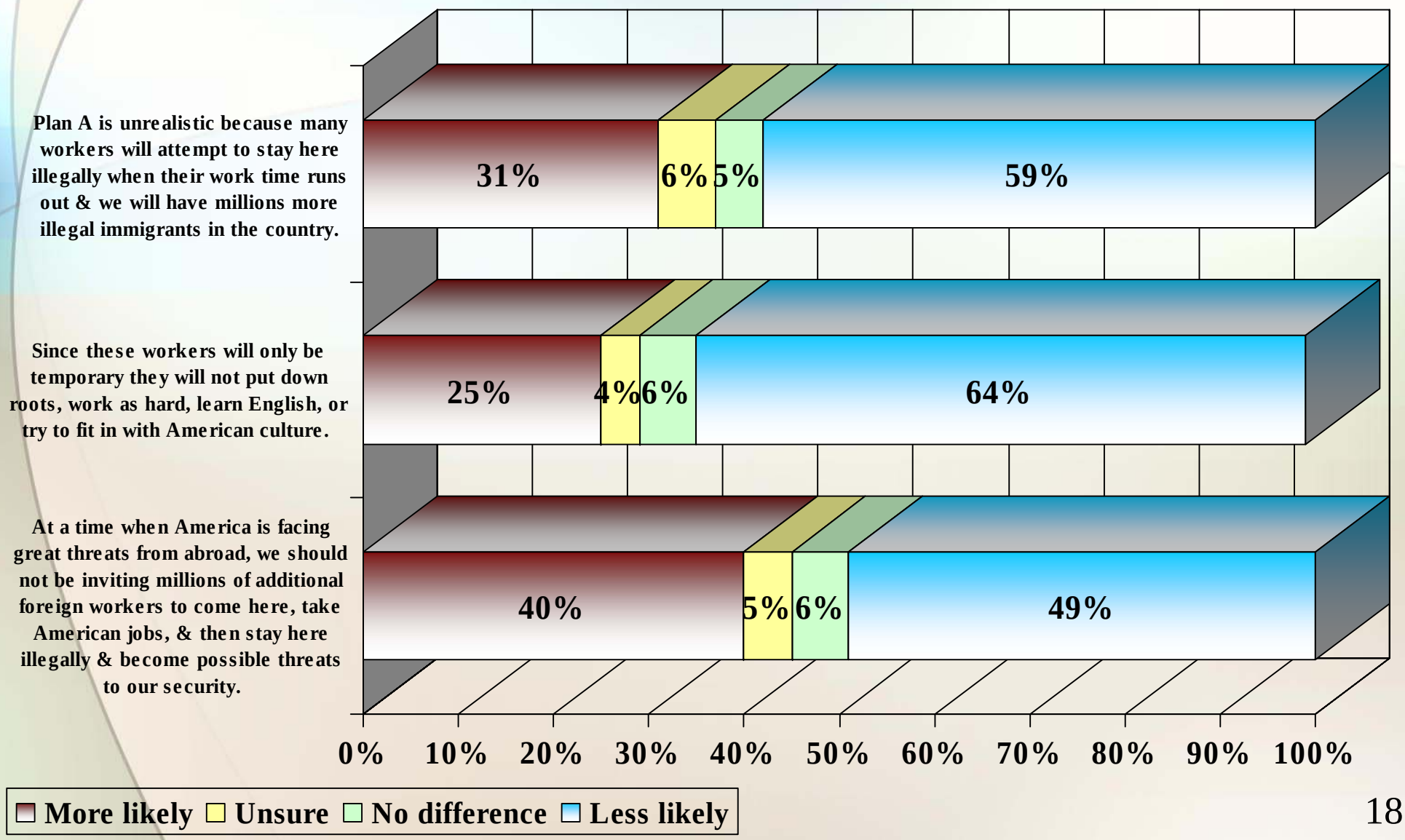
(Asked of N= 905, or 90% of total sample)



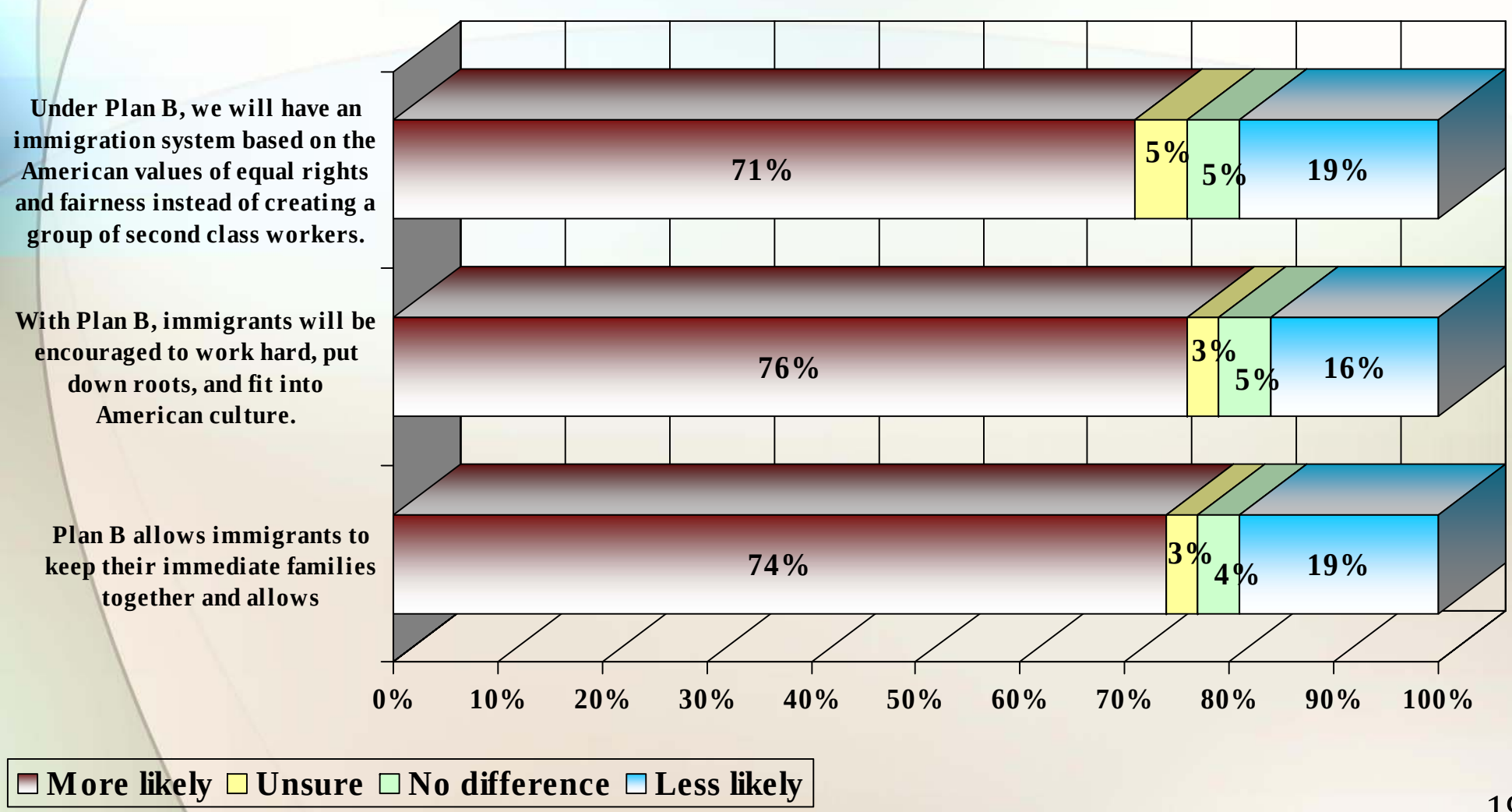
SUPPORT FOR PLAN A



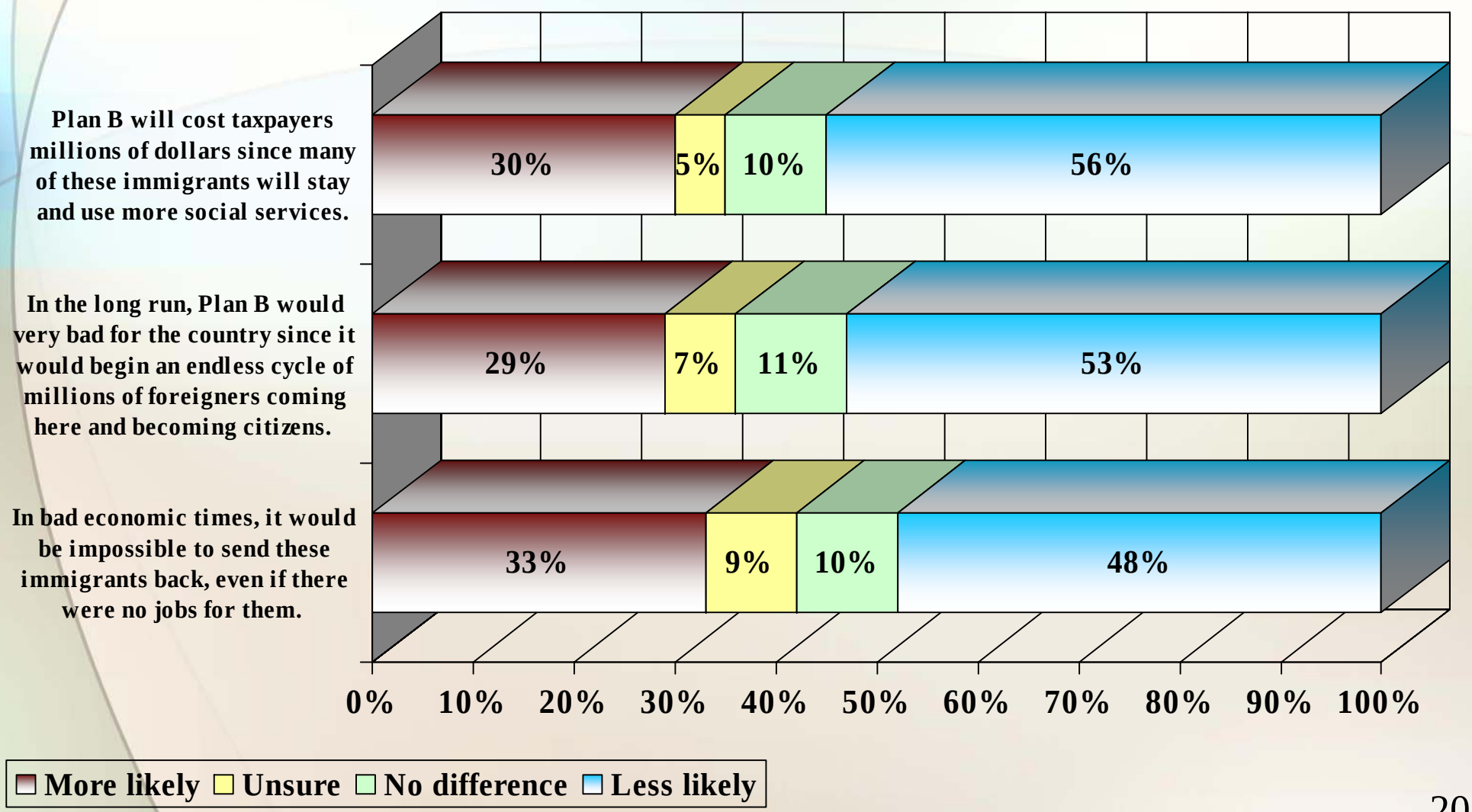
OPPOSITION TO PLAN A



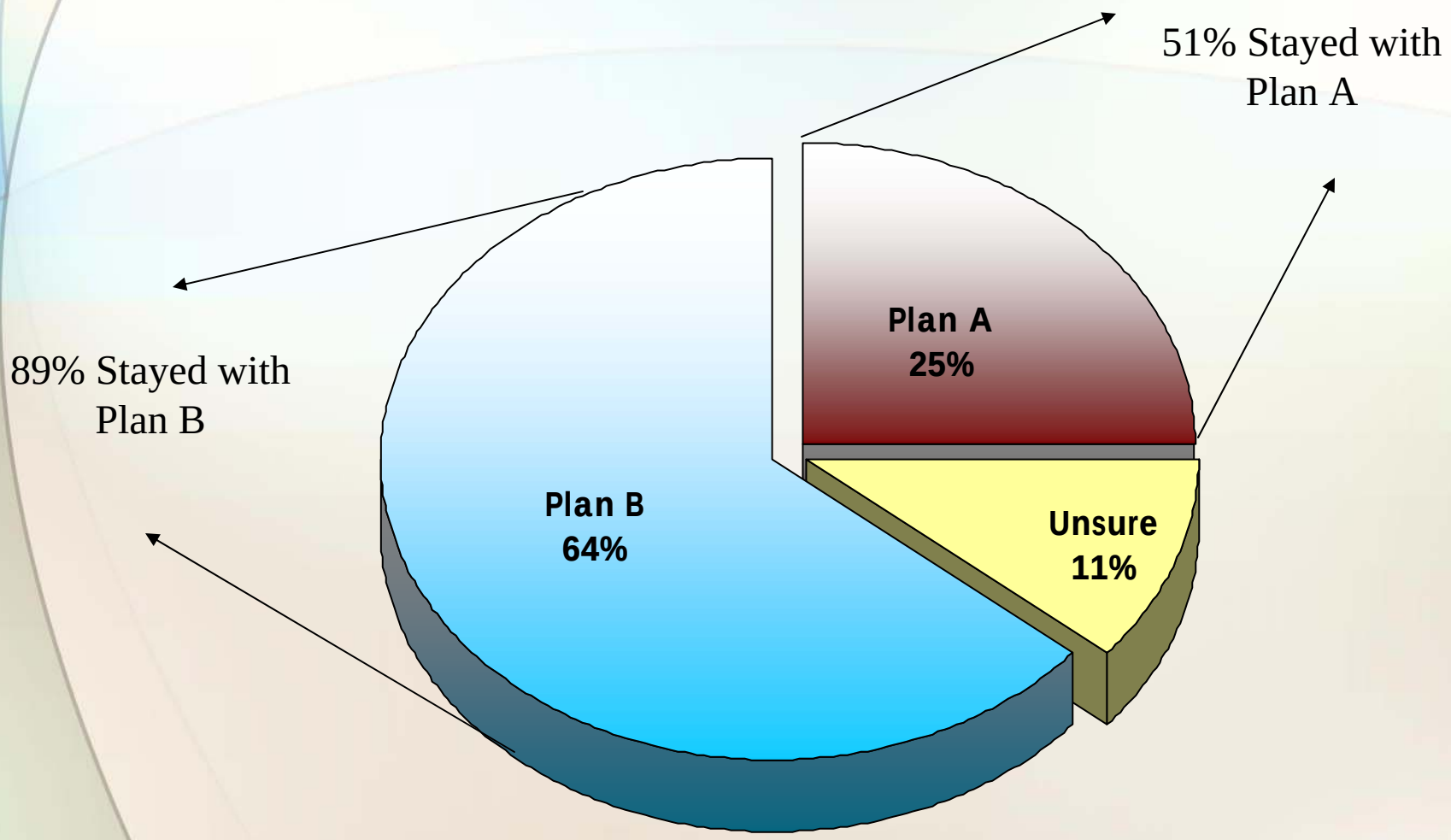
SUPPORT FOR PLAN B



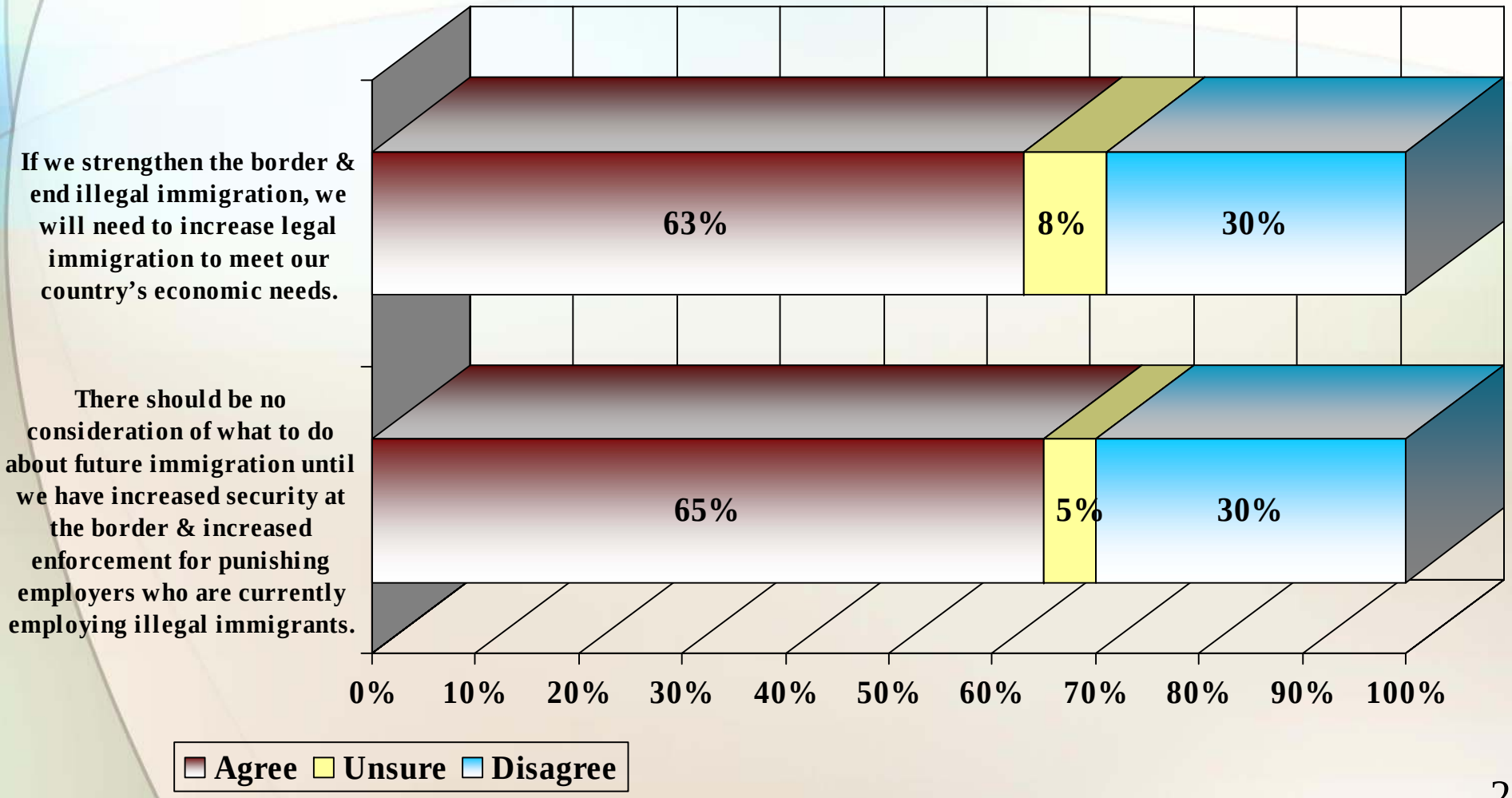
OPPOSITION TO PLAN B



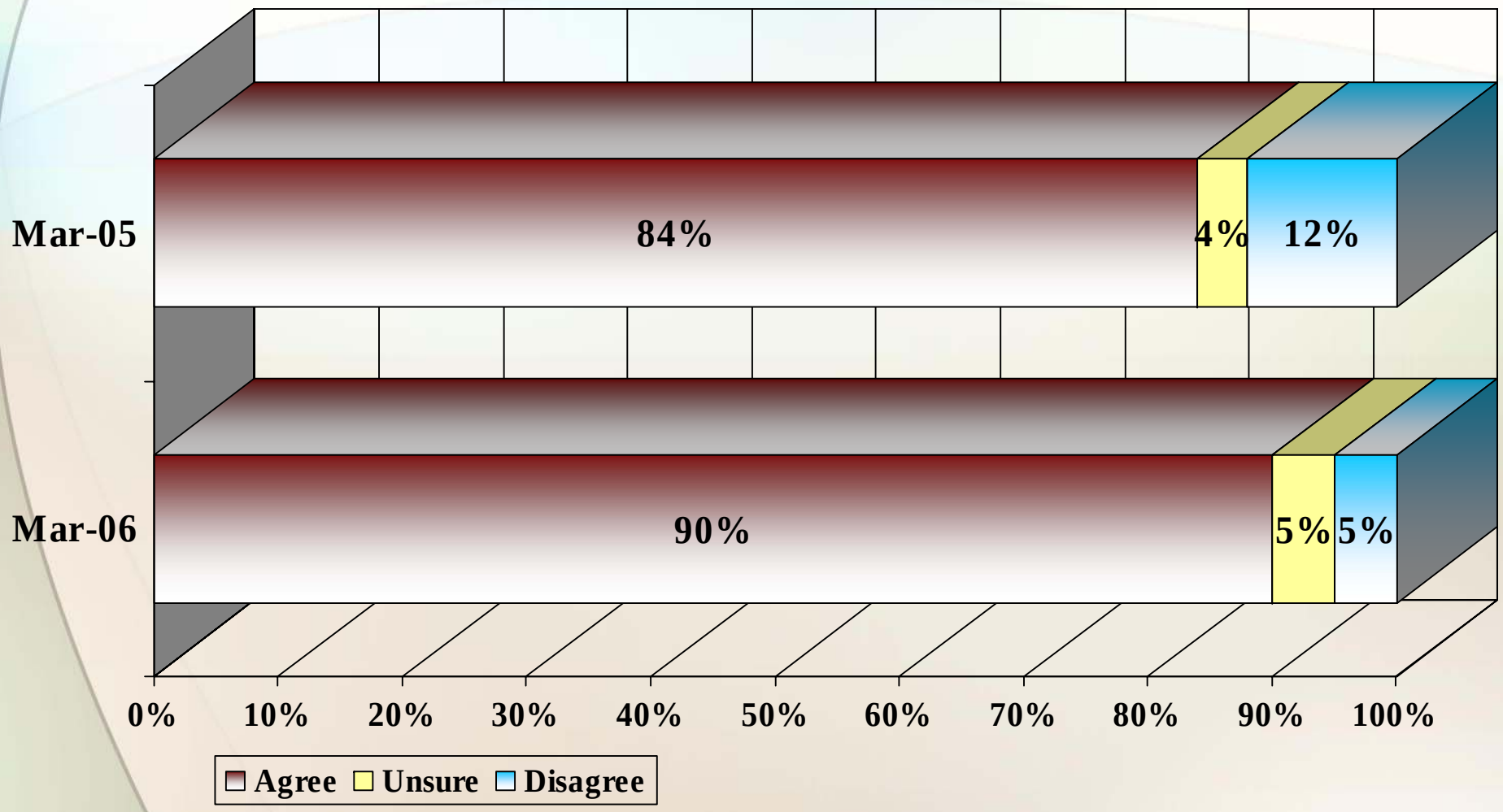
WHICH OF THESE PLANS DO YOU THINK IS THE BETTER WAY TO HANDLE FUTURE IMMIGRATION?



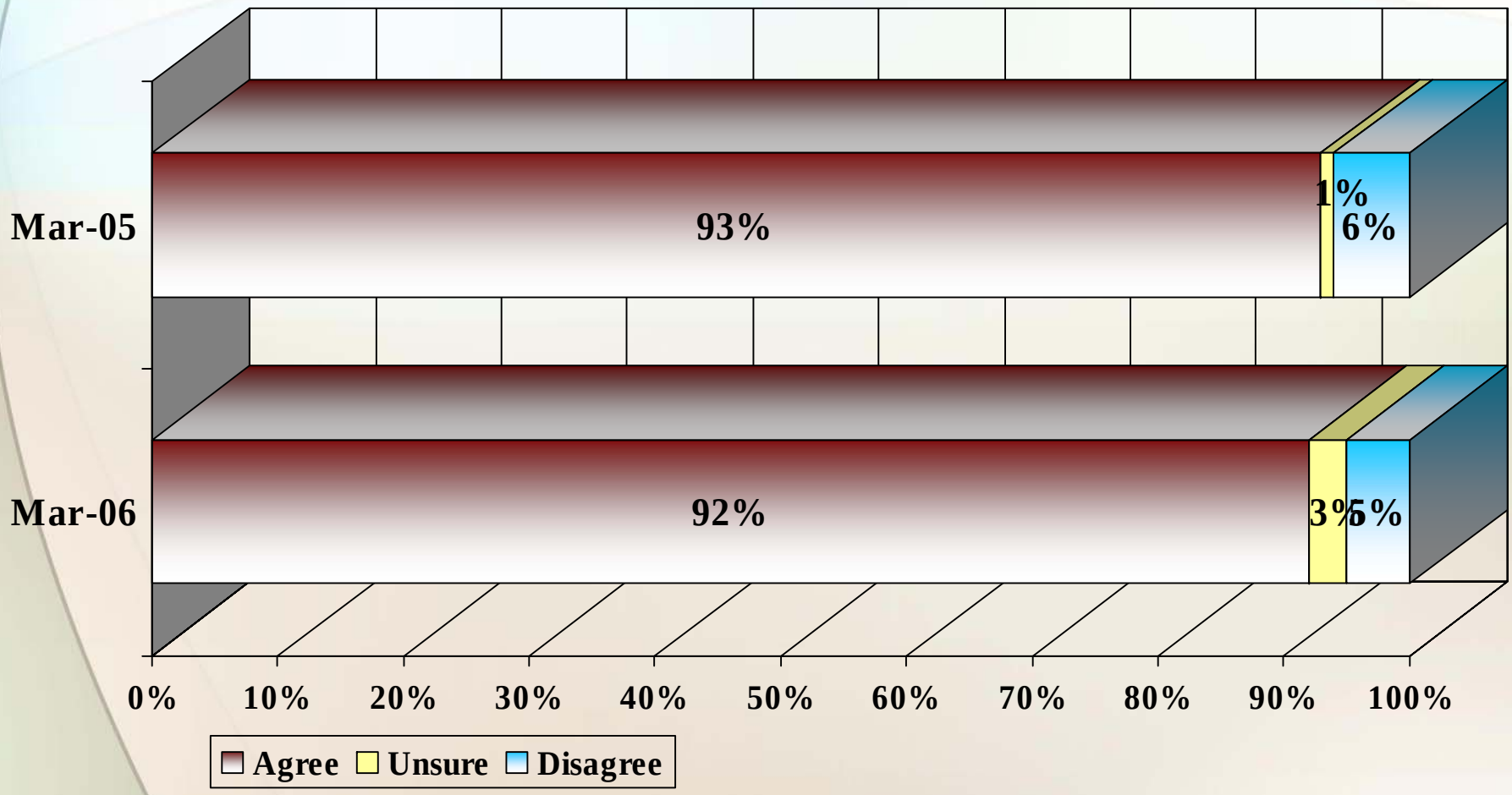
PLEASE LISTEN CAREFULLY AS I READ EACH STATEMENT AND TELL ME IF YOU WOULD AGREE OR DISAGREE WITH THAT PARTICULAR STATEMENT.



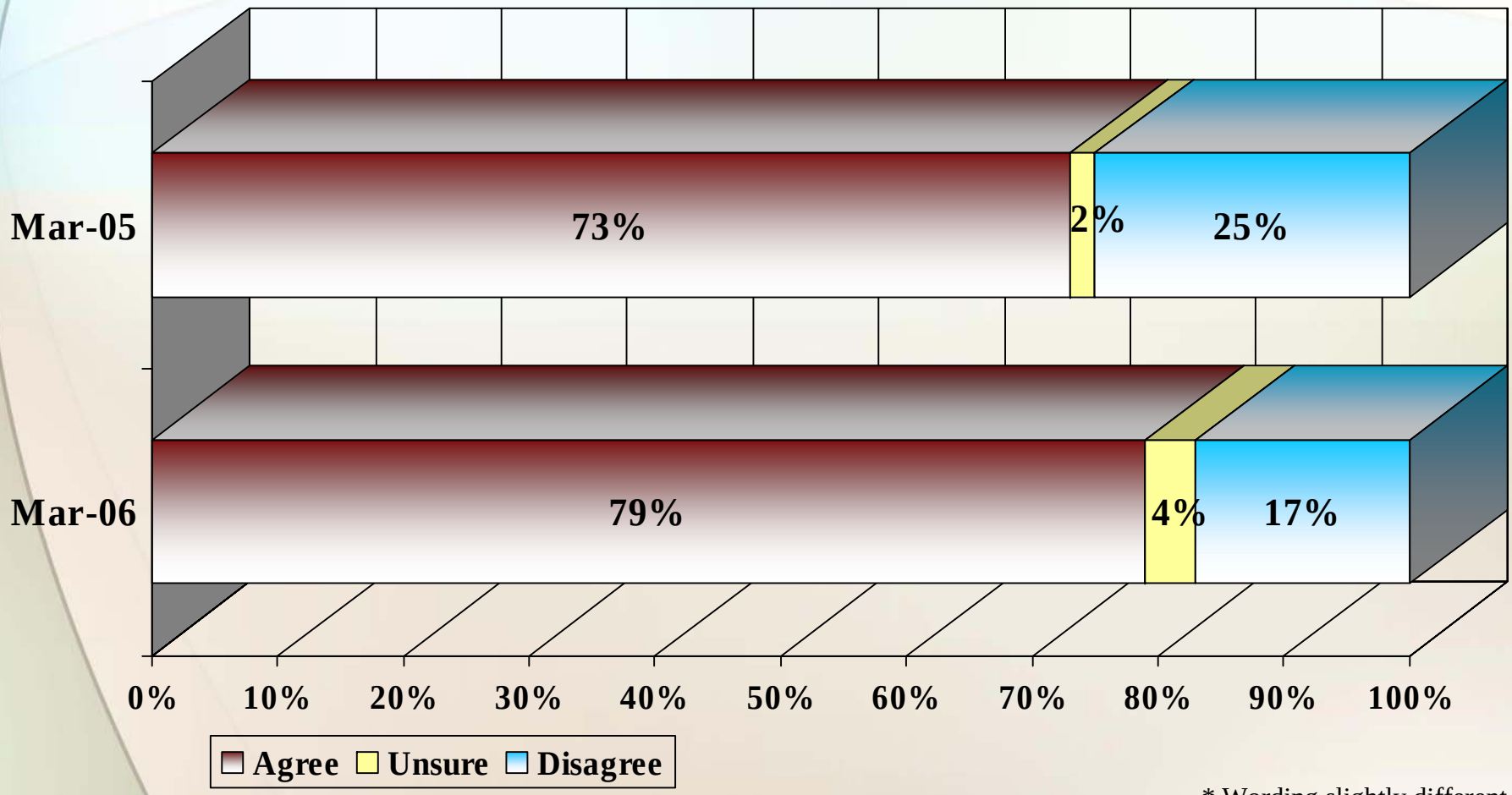
"THE IMMIGRATION SYSTEM IS BROKEN AND NEEDS TO BE FIXED."



"WE NEED AN IMMIGRATION SYSTEM THAT IS CONSISTENT WITH THE BASIC AMERICAN VALUES OF FAIRNESS AND EQUAL TREATMENT UNDER THE LAW."



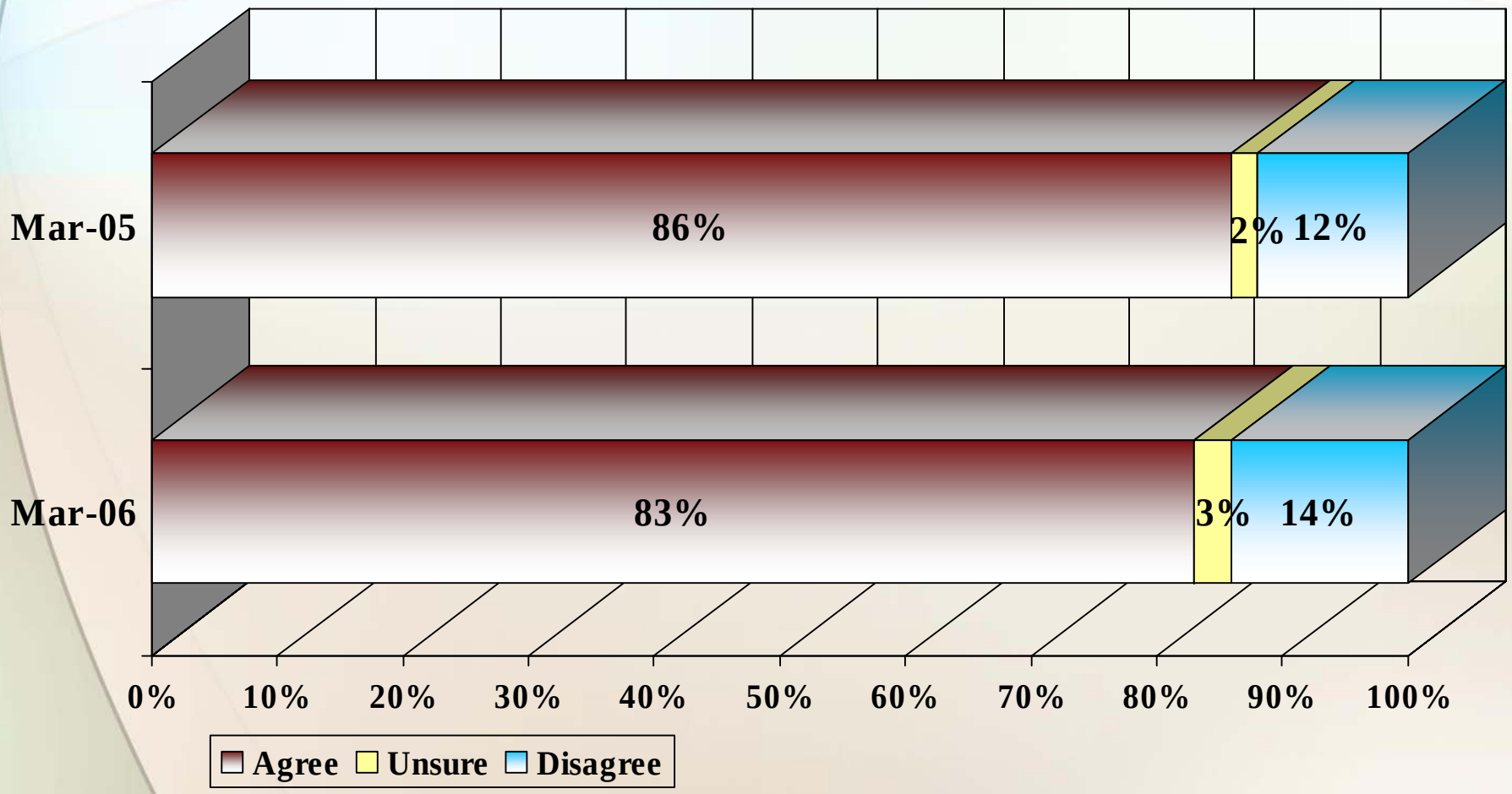
"DEPORTING ALL 11 MILLION ILLEGAL IMMIGRANTS CURRENTLY IN THE UNITED STATES IS UNREALISTIC."



* Wording slightly different

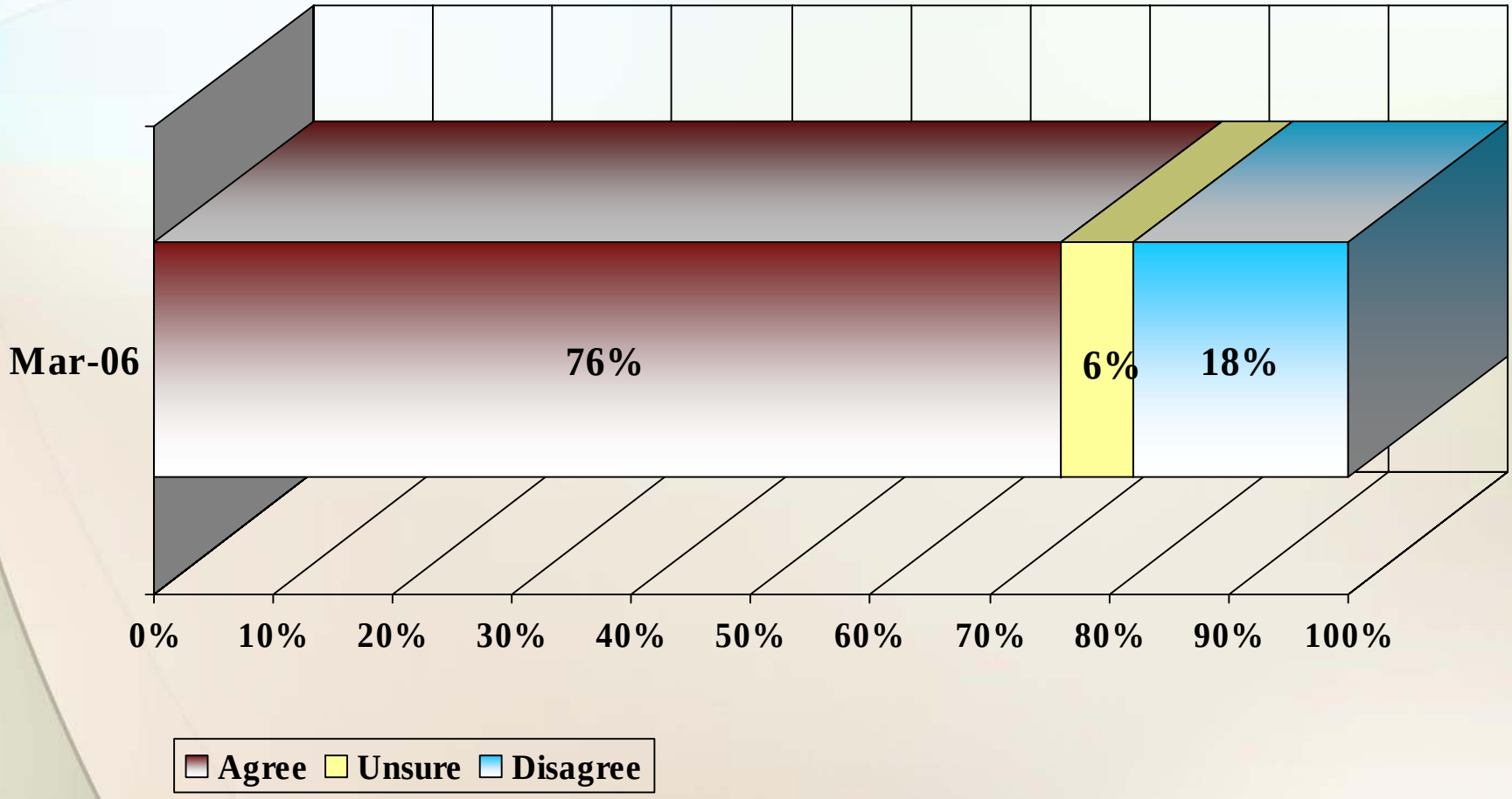
"IF AN IMMIGRANT HAS BEEN IN THIS COUNTRY WORKING, PAYING TAXES, AND LEARNING ENGLISH, THERE SHOULD BE A WAY FOR THEM TO BECOME A CITIZEN."

(SPLIT SAMPLE A)

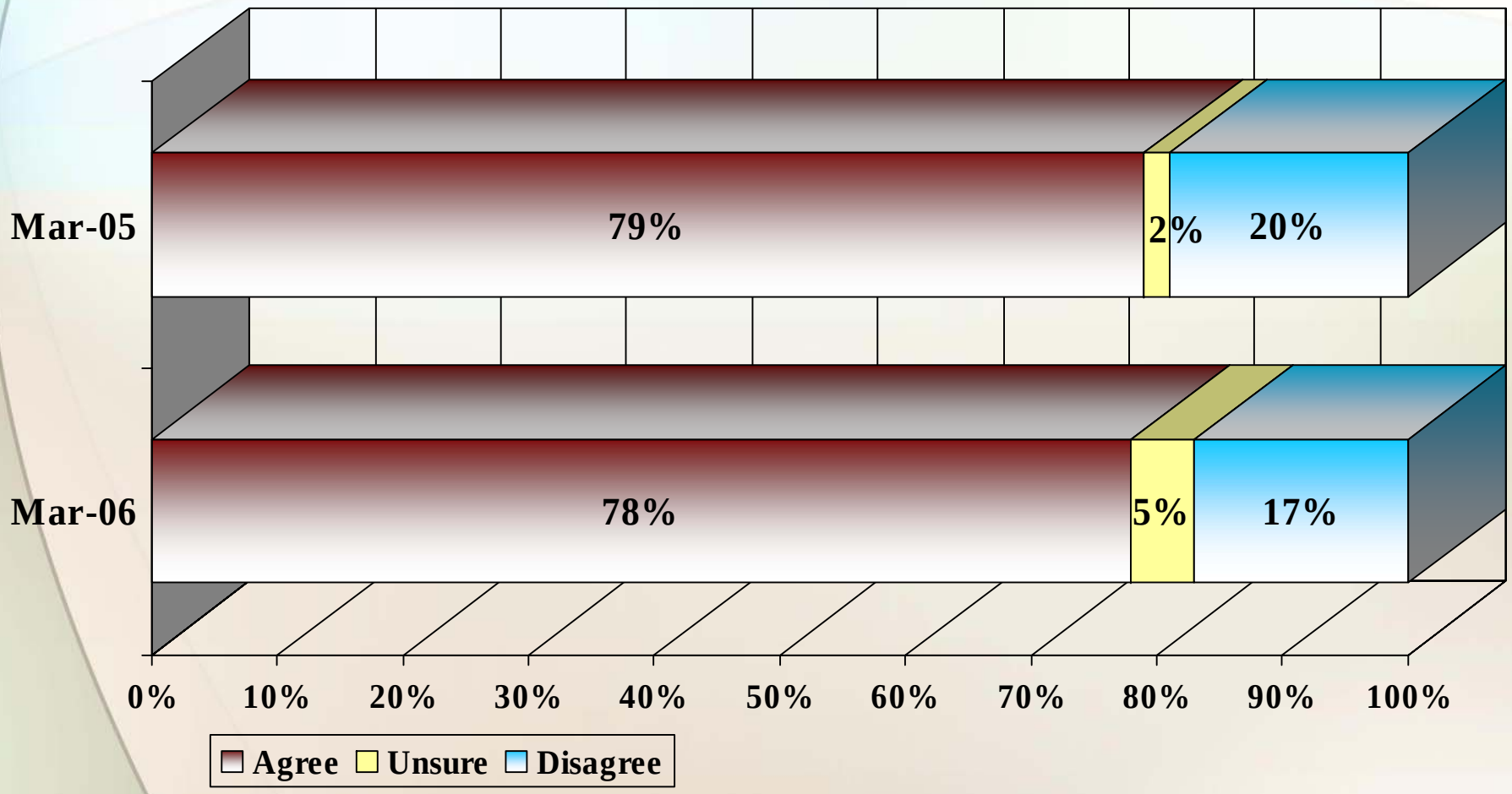
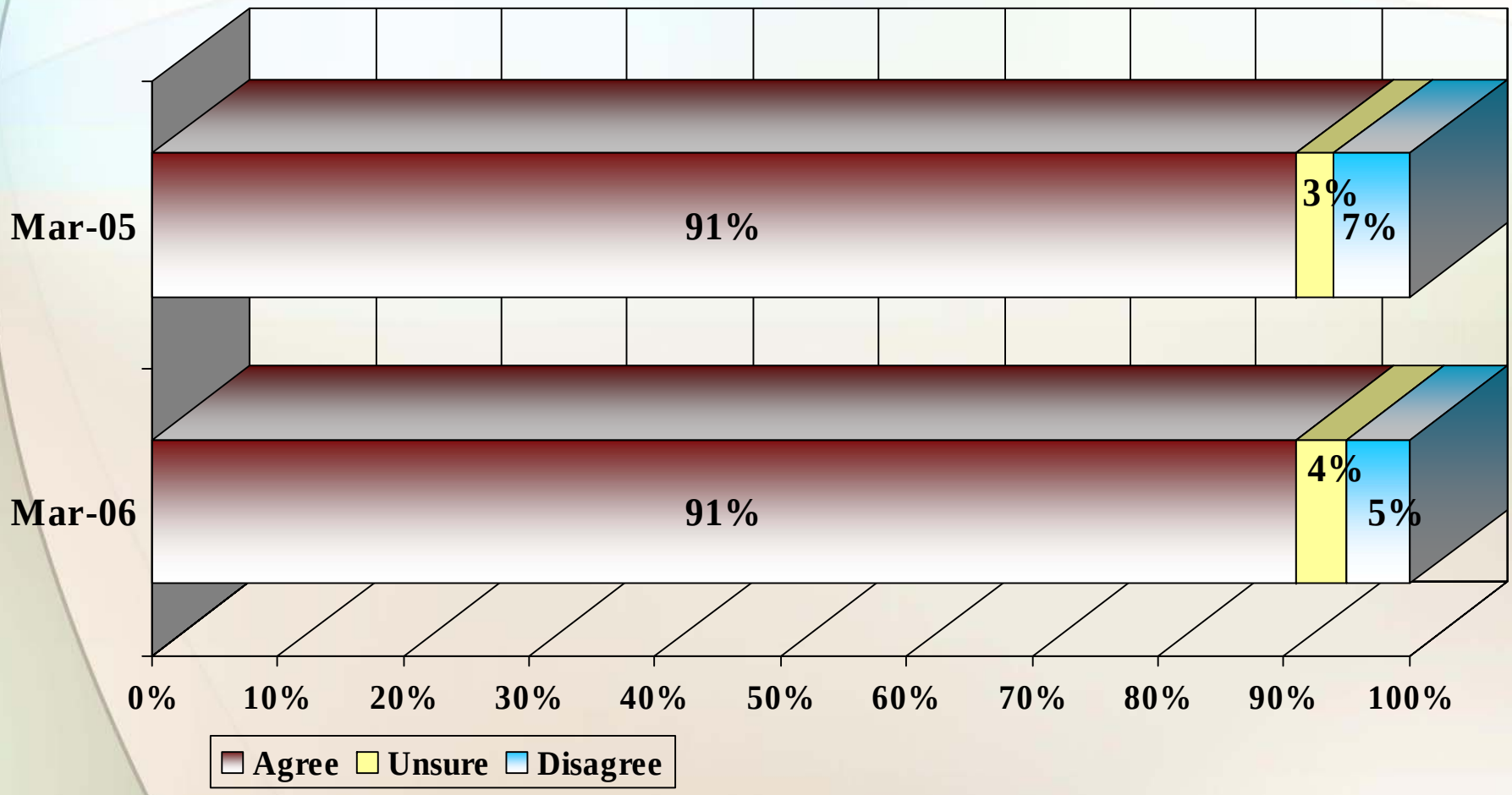


"IF AN *ILLEGAL* IMMIGRANT HAS BEEN IN THIS COUNTRY WORKING, PAYING TAXES, AND LEARNING ENGLISH, THERE SHOULD BE A WAY FOR THEM TO BECOME A CITIZEN.

(SPLIT SAMPLE B)



"FIXING OUR IMMIGRATION SYSTEM TO MAKE IT SAFE, LEGAL, AND ORDERLY WILL MAKE US MORE SECURE FROM TERRORISTS."



"WE NEED A CONTROLLED IMMIGRATION SYSTEM THAT WOULD REPLACE AN ILLEGAL IMMIGRATION FLOW WITH A LEGAL IMMIGRATION FLOW."