BfR
Bundesinstitut für Risikobewertung
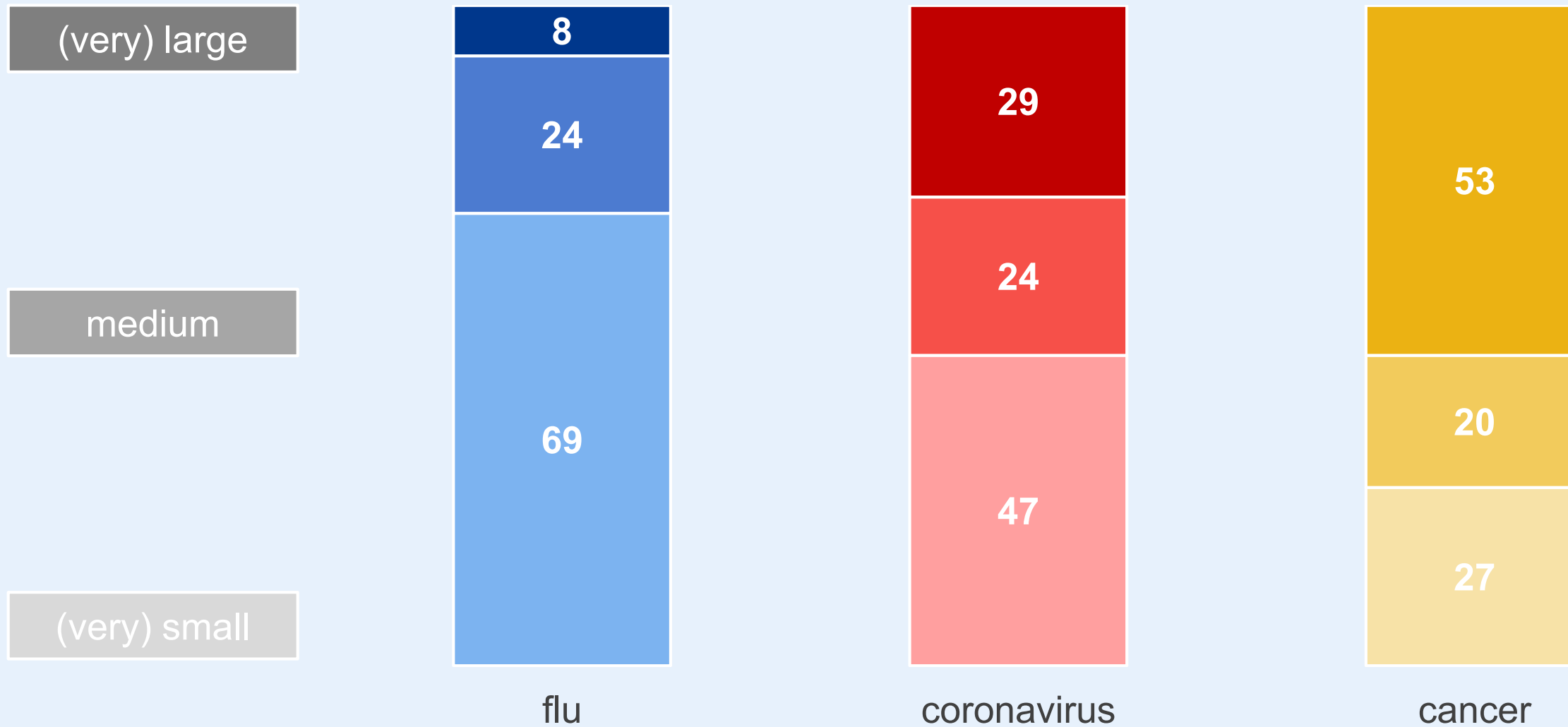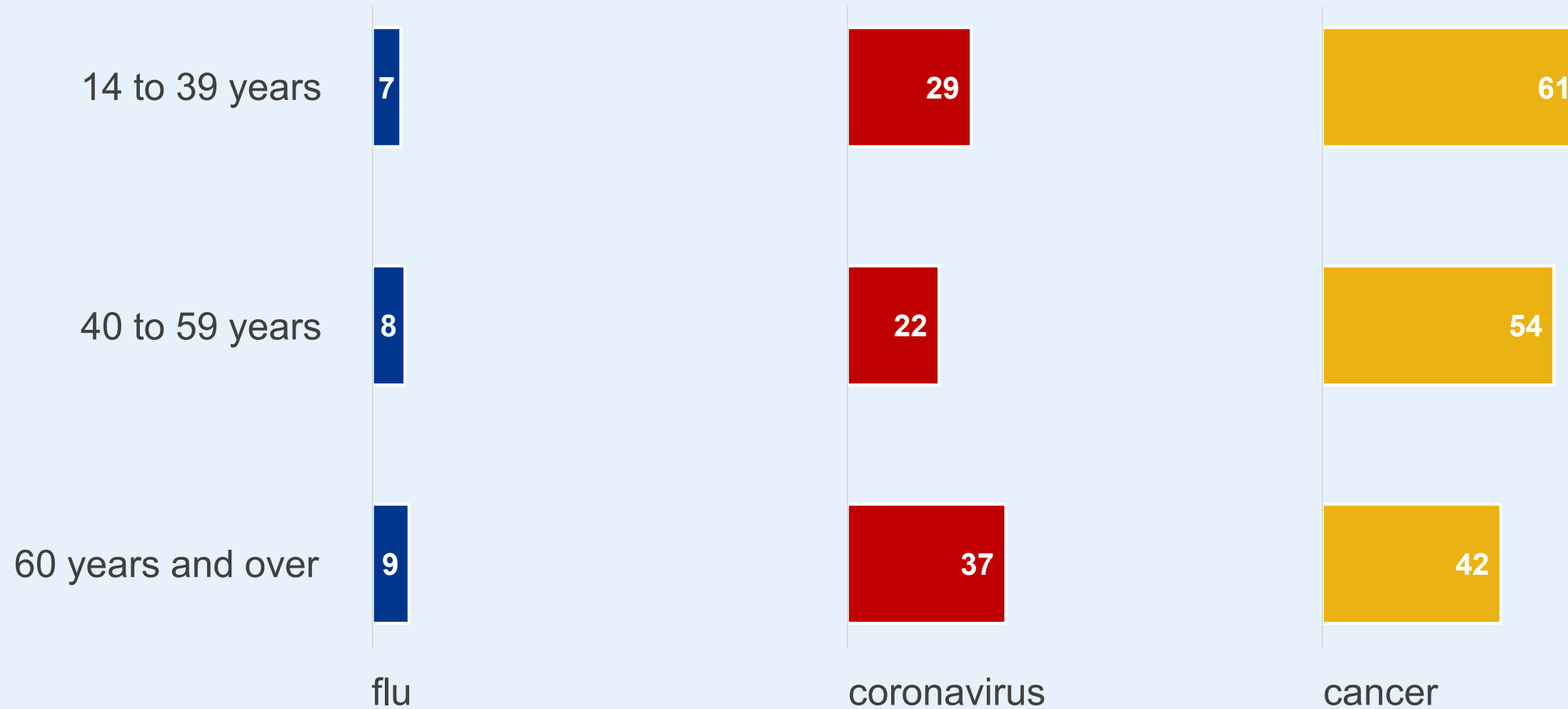
BfR Corona
MONITOR

28 April **2020**

Perceived effects on your own health

Assuming you have one of the following diseases: How large or small do you consider the health effects of this to be for you personally?
(Response scale: 1 'very small' to 5 'very large')

(very) large

medium

(very) small

flu	coronavirus	cancer
8	29	53
24	24	20
69	47	27

Figures given in percentages
Basis: 484–501 participants

# Perceived effects on your own health – age groups

Assuming you have one of the following diseases: How large or small do you consider the health effects of this to be for you personally?
(Response scale: 1 'very small' to 5 'very large') – **Shown: response category '(very) large' (values 4 + 5)**

	flu	coronavirus	cancer
14 to 39 years	7	29	61
40 to 59 years	8	22	54
60 years and over	9	37	42

Figures given in percentages
Basis: 154–179 participants in corresponding age group

# Perceived effects on your own health – over time

Assuming you have one of the following diseases: How large or small do you consider the health effects of this to be for you personally?
(Response scale: 1 'very small' to 5 'very large') – **Shown: response category '(very) large' (values 4 + 5)**
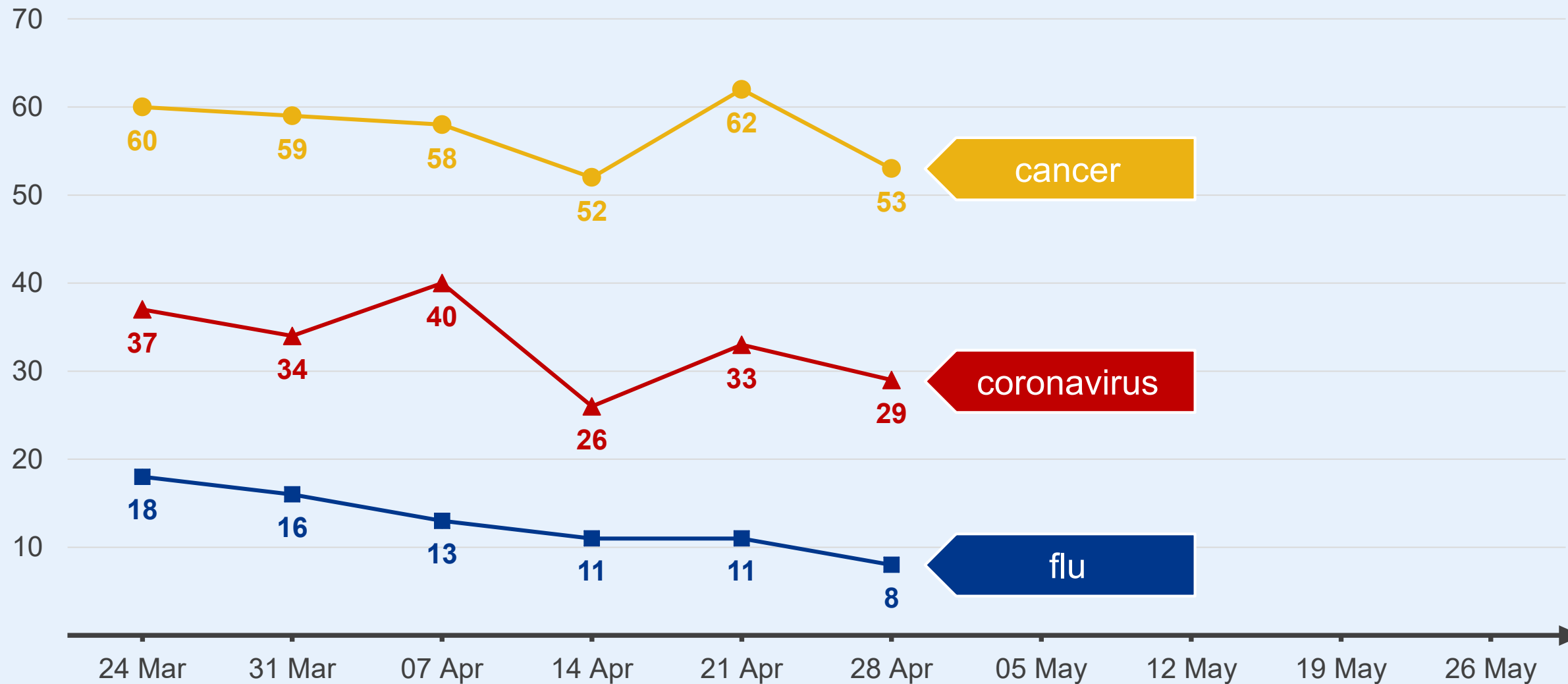
Figures given in percentages
Basis: 464–513 participants

Evaluation of media coverage

How do you evaluate the overall media coverage of the novel coronavirus?
(Response options: 'downplaying', 'appropriate', 'exaggerated')

downplaying
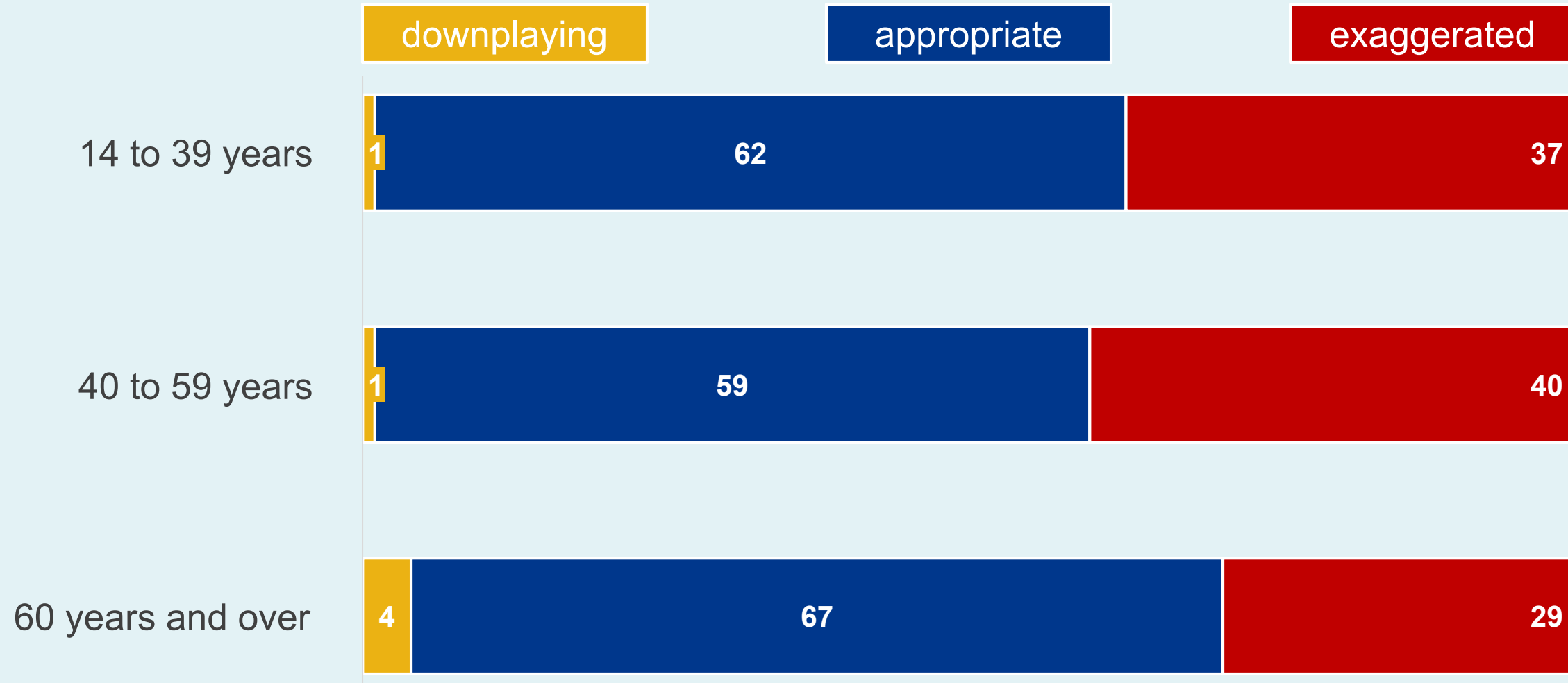
exaggerated

2

35

63
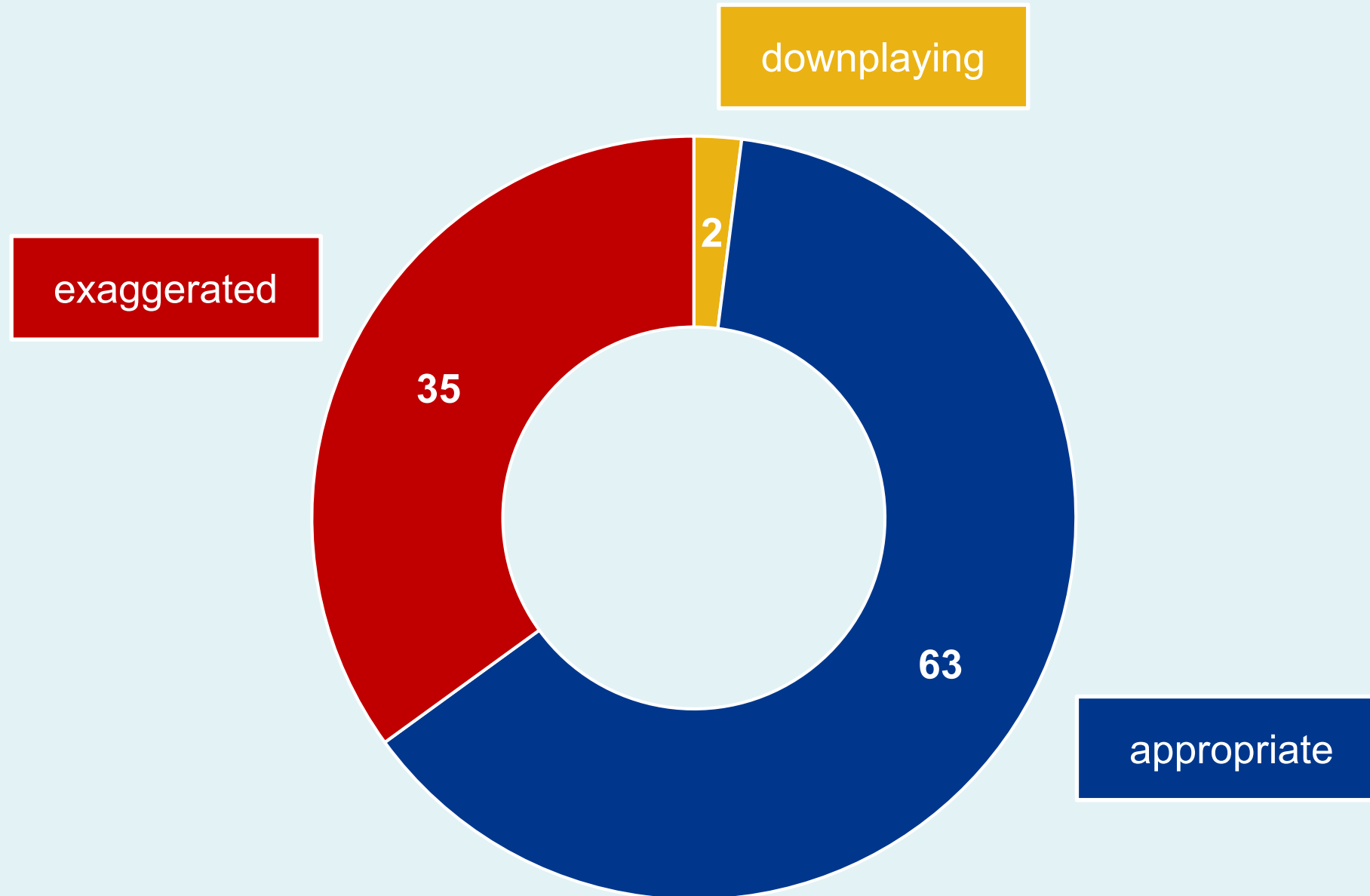
appropriate

Figures given in percentages
Basis: 480 participants

Evaluation of media coverage – age groups

How do you evaluate the overall media coverage of the novel coronavirus?
(Response options: 'downplaying', 'appropriate', 'exaggerated')

downplaying   appropriate   exaggerated

14 to 39 years
1 | 62 | 37

40 to 59 years
1 | 59 | 40

60 years and over
4 | 67 | 29

Figures given in percentages
Basis: 146–171 participants in corresponding age group

Evaluation of media coverage – over time

How do you evaluate the overall media coverage of the novel coronavirus?
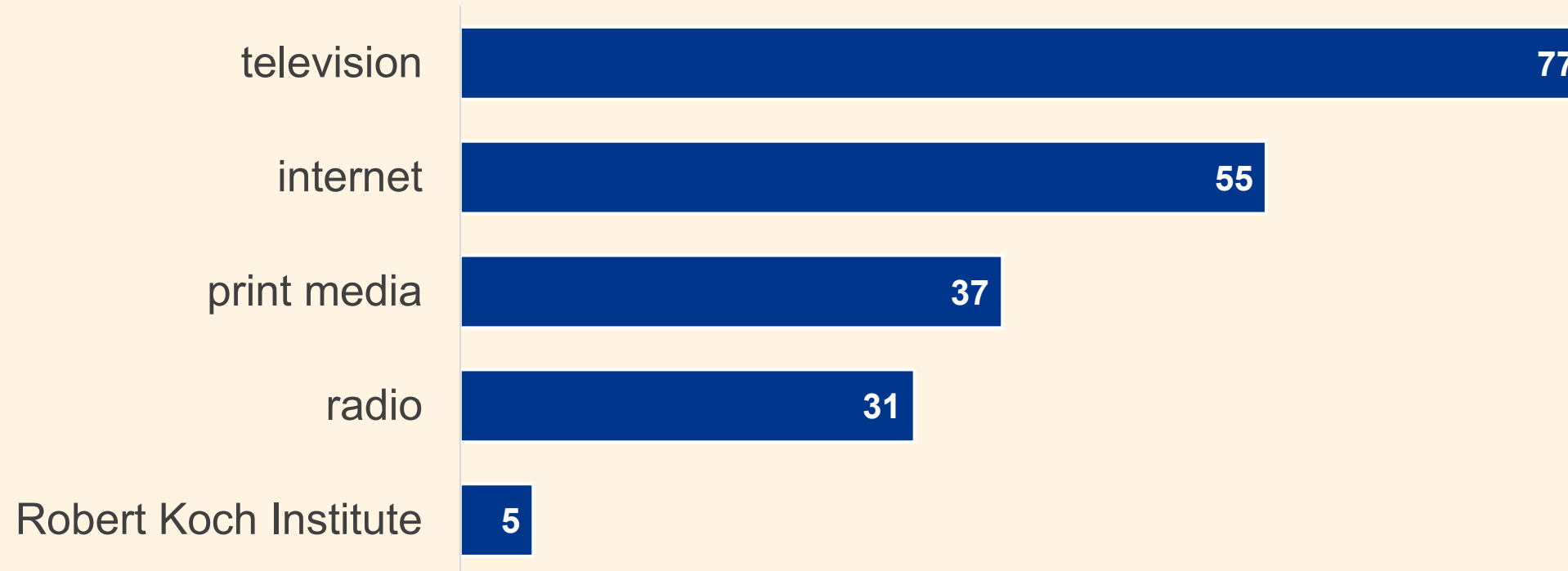*(Response options: 'downplaying', 'appropriate', 'exaggerated')*

exaggerated	appropriate	downplaying
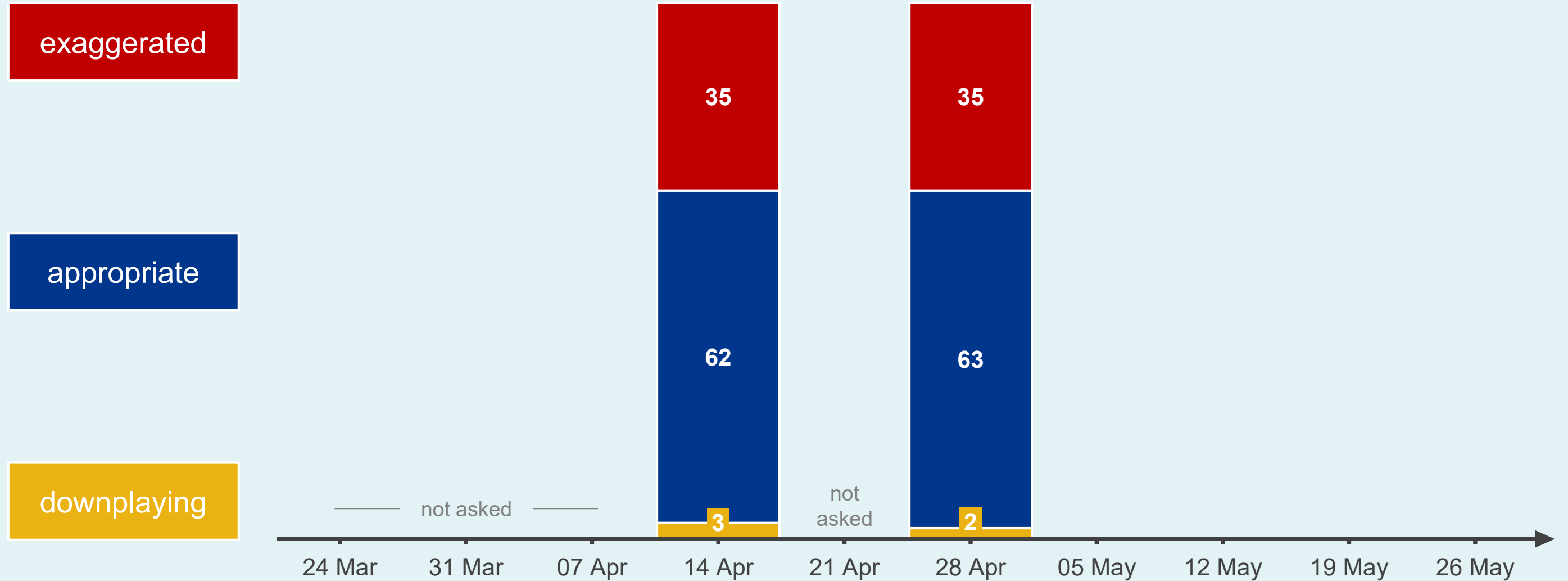
Figures given in percentages
Basis: 480–491 participants

Used sources of information

What sources do you use to inform yourself about what is happening with the novel coronavirus? You can name up to 3 sources.
(Open question) – **Shown: mentions ≥ 5 %**

Source	Percentage
television	77
internet	55
print media	37
radio	31
Robert Koch Institute	5

Figures given in percentages
Basis: 498 participants
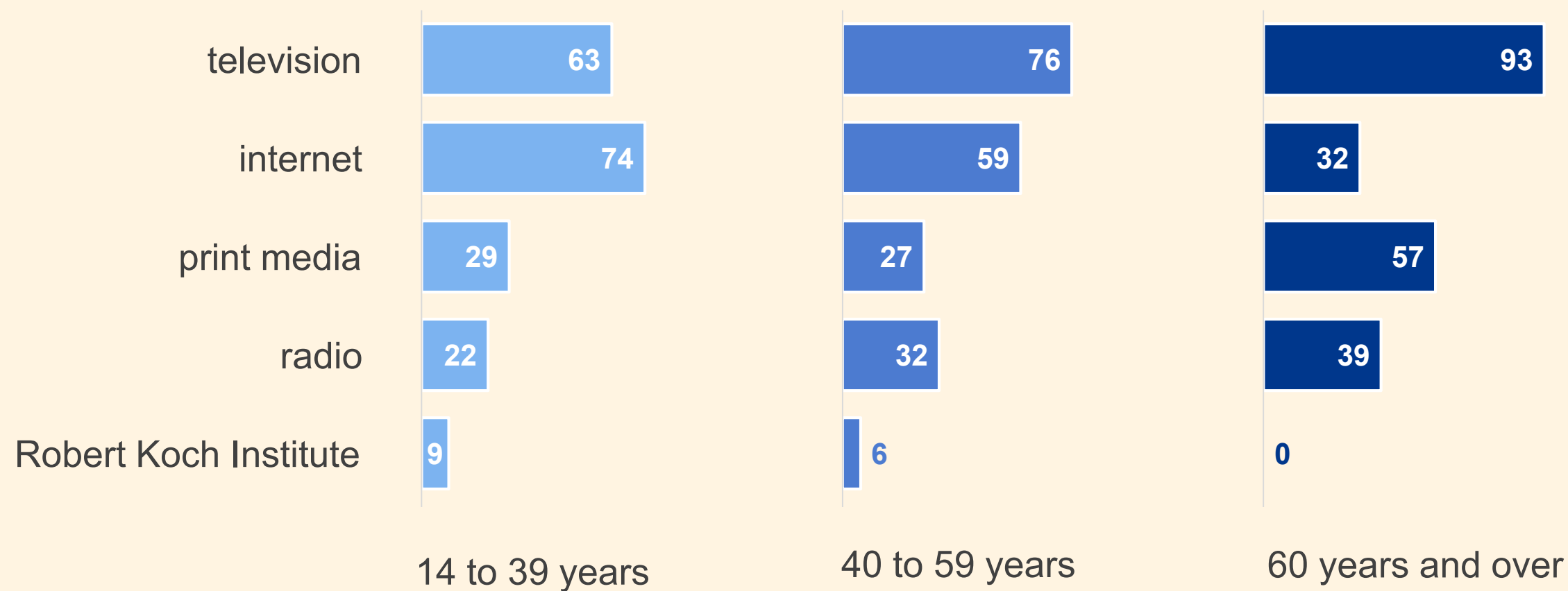
Used sources of information – age groups

What sources do you use to inform yourself about what is happening with the novel coronavirus? You can name up to 3 sources.
(Open question) – **Shown: mentions ≥ 5 % (based on all participants)**

|	14 to 39 years	40 to 59 years	60 years and over
television	63	76	93
internet	74	59	32
print media	29	27	57
radio	22	32	39
Robert Koch Institute	9	6	0

Figures given in percentages
Basis: 157–181 participants in corresponding age group

Used sources of information – over time

What sources do you use to inform yourself about what is happening with the novel coronavirus? You can name up to 3 sources.
(Open question) – **Shown: mentions ≥ 5 % (in at least one survey week)**
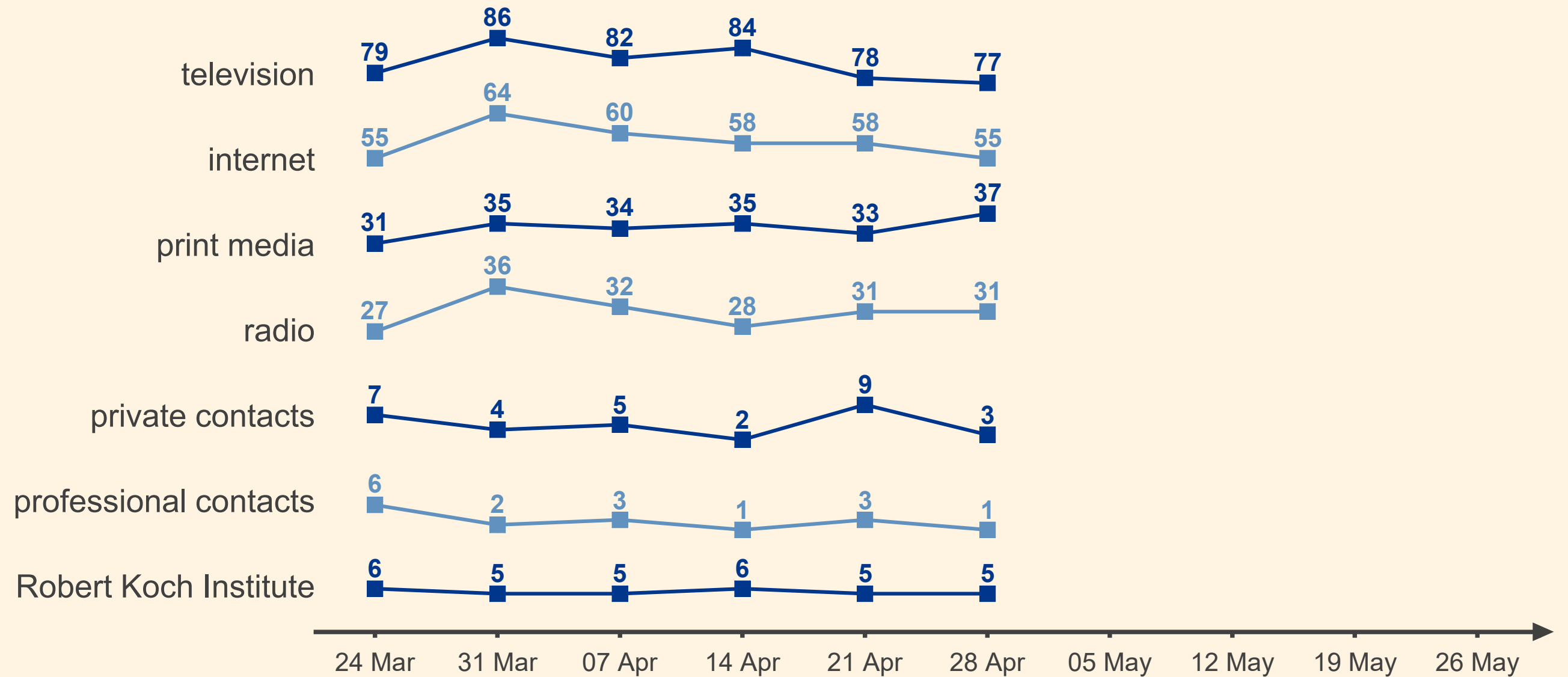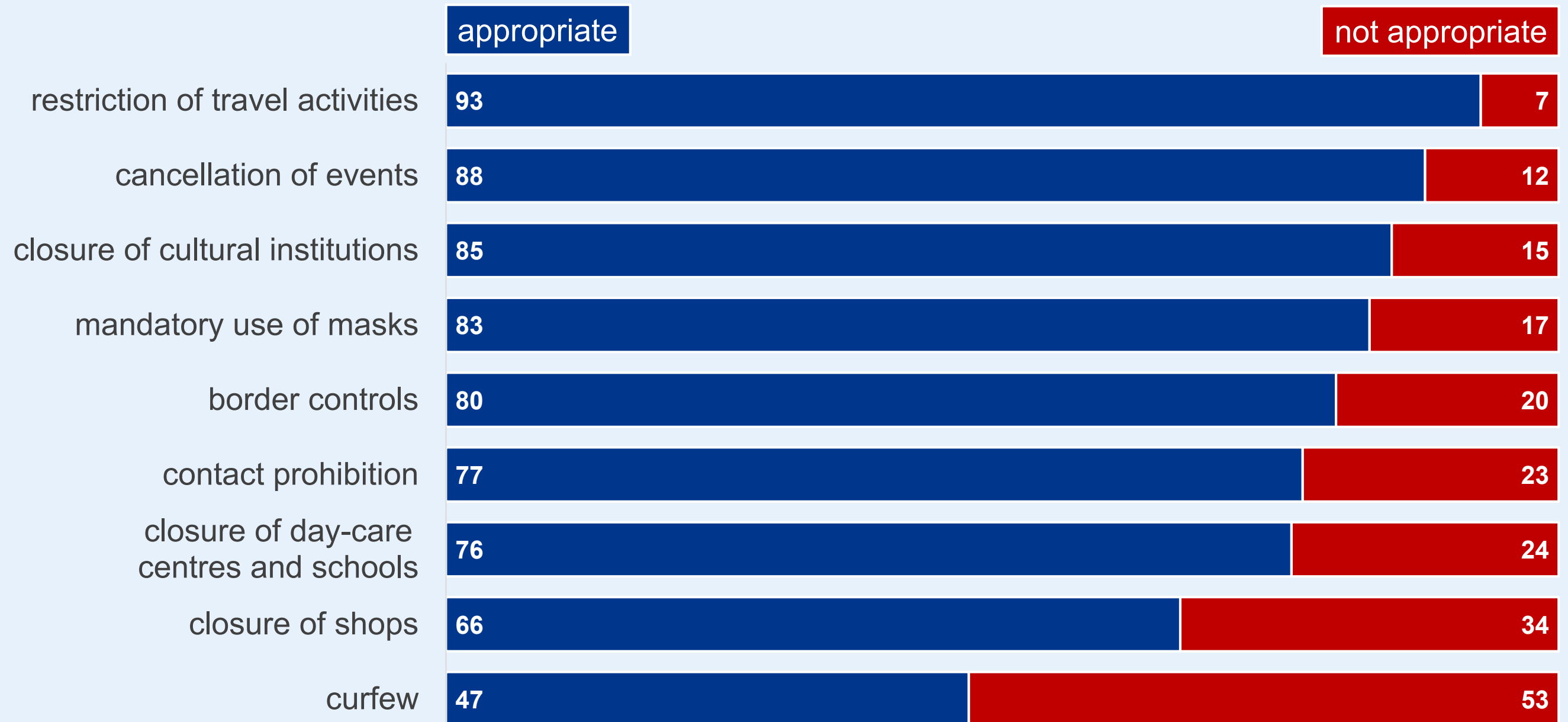

Figures given in percentages
Basis: 498–515 participants

Appropriateness of the measures for containment

How do you evaluate the following measures to contain the spread of the novel coronavirus?
(Response options: 'not appropriate', 'appropriate')

	appropriate	not appropriate
restriction of travel activities	93	7
cancellation of events	88	12
closure of cultural institutions	85	15
mandatory use of masks	83	17
border controls	80	20
contact prohibition	77	23
closure of day-care centres and schools	76	24
closure of shops	66	34
curfew	47	53

Figures given in percentages
Basis: 483–501 participants

Appropriateness of the measures for containment – age groups

How do you evaluate the following measures to contain the spread of the novel coronavirus?
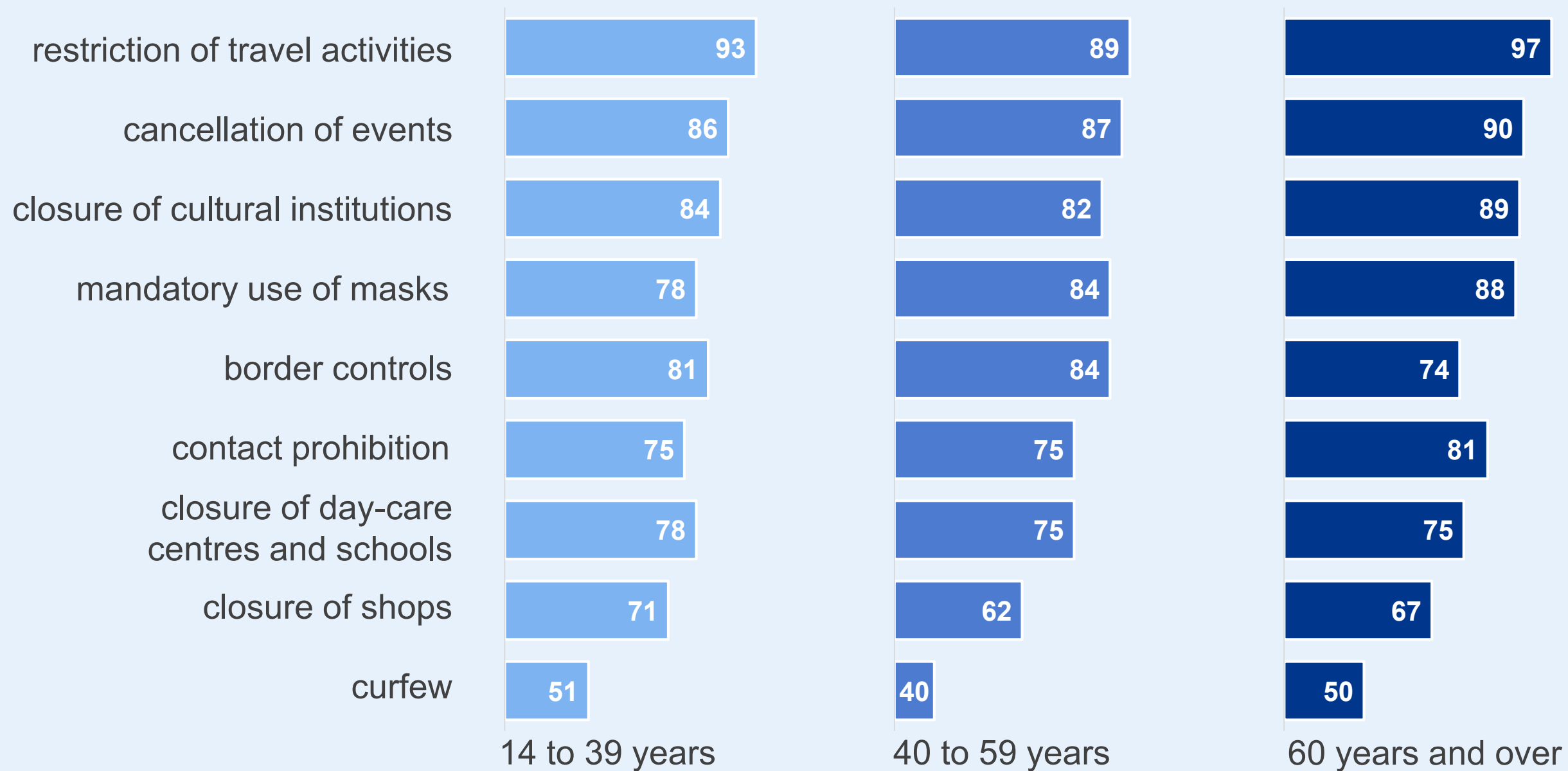*(Response options: 'not appropriate', 'appropriate')* – **Shown: response category 'appropriate'**

Measure	14 to 39 years	40 to 59 years	60 years and over
restriction of travel activities	93	89	97
cancellation of events	86	87	90
closure of cultural institutions	84	82	89
mandatory use of masks	78	84	88
border controls	81	84	74
contact prohibition	75	75	81
closure of day-care centres and schools	78	75	75
closure of shops	71	62	67
curfew	51	40	50

Figures given in percentages
Basis: 150–180 participants in corresponding age group

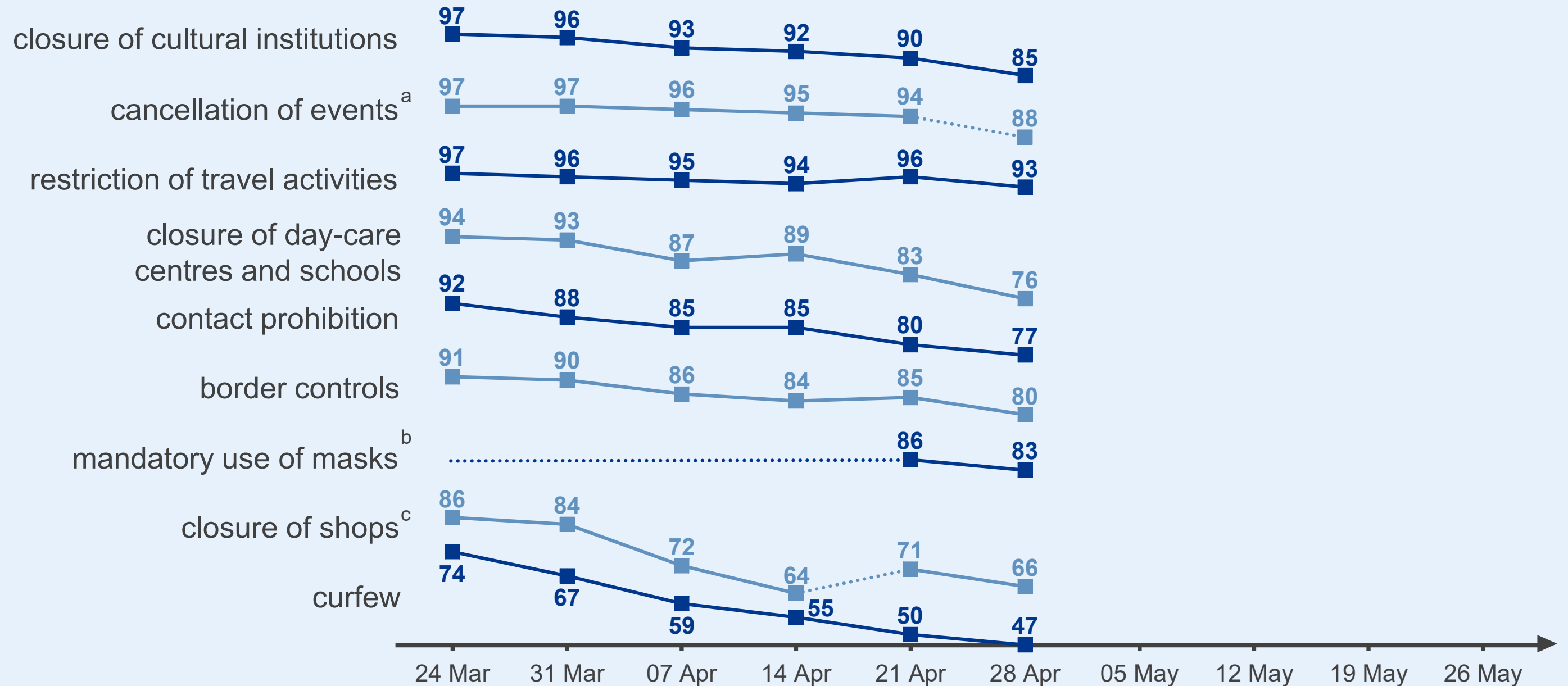# Appropriateness of the measures for containment – over time

How do you evaluate the following measures to contain the spread of the novel coronavirus?
(Response options: 'not appropriate', 'appropriate') – **Shown: response category 'appropriate'**

closure of cultural institutions: 97, 96, 93, 92, 90, 85

cancellation of events[a]: 97, 97, 96, 95, 94, 88

restriction of travel activities: 97, 96, 95, 94, 96, 93

closure of day-care centres and schools: 94, 93, 87, 89, 83, 76

contact prohibition: 92, 88, 85, 85, 80, 77

border controls: 91, 90, 86, 84, 85, 80

mandatory use of masks[b]: 86, 83

closure of shops[c]: 86, 84, 72, 64, 71, 66

curfew: 74, 67, 59, 55, 50, 47

Timeline: 24 Mar, 31 Mar, 07 Apr, 14 Apr, 21 Apr, 28 Apr, 05 May, 12 May, 19 May, 26 May

[a] Wording until 21 April 'the cancellation of events such as fairs, religious services or sporting events', since 28 April 'the cancellation of most events'
[b] In the questionnaire since 21 April
[c] Wording until 14 April 'the closure of *most* shops', since 21 April 'the closure of *certain* shops'
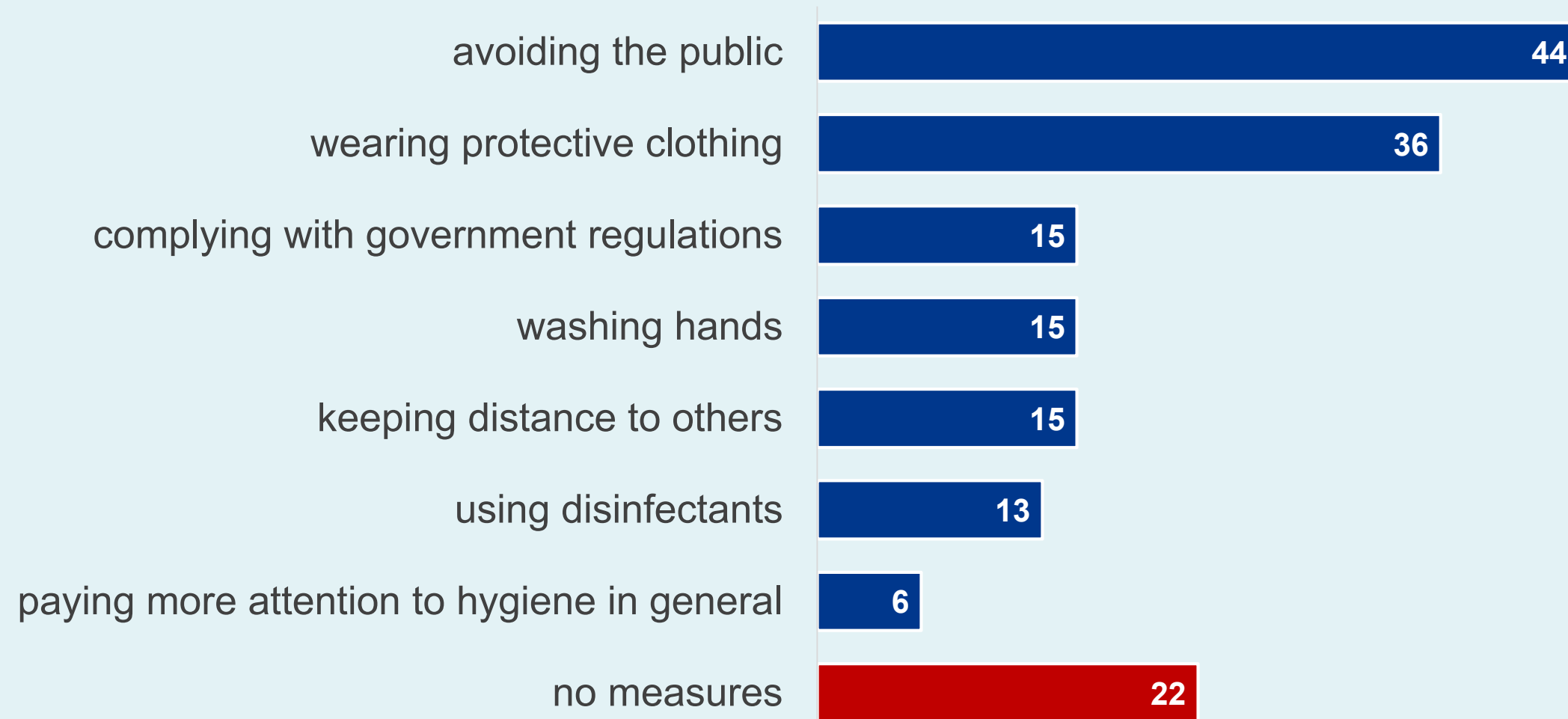
Figures given in percentages
Basis: 483–515 participants

Protective measures of the participants

Have or had you taken measures to protect yourself or your family from the novel coronavirus?
(Response options: 'no', 'yes, that is: _____') – **Shown: mentions ≥ 5 %**

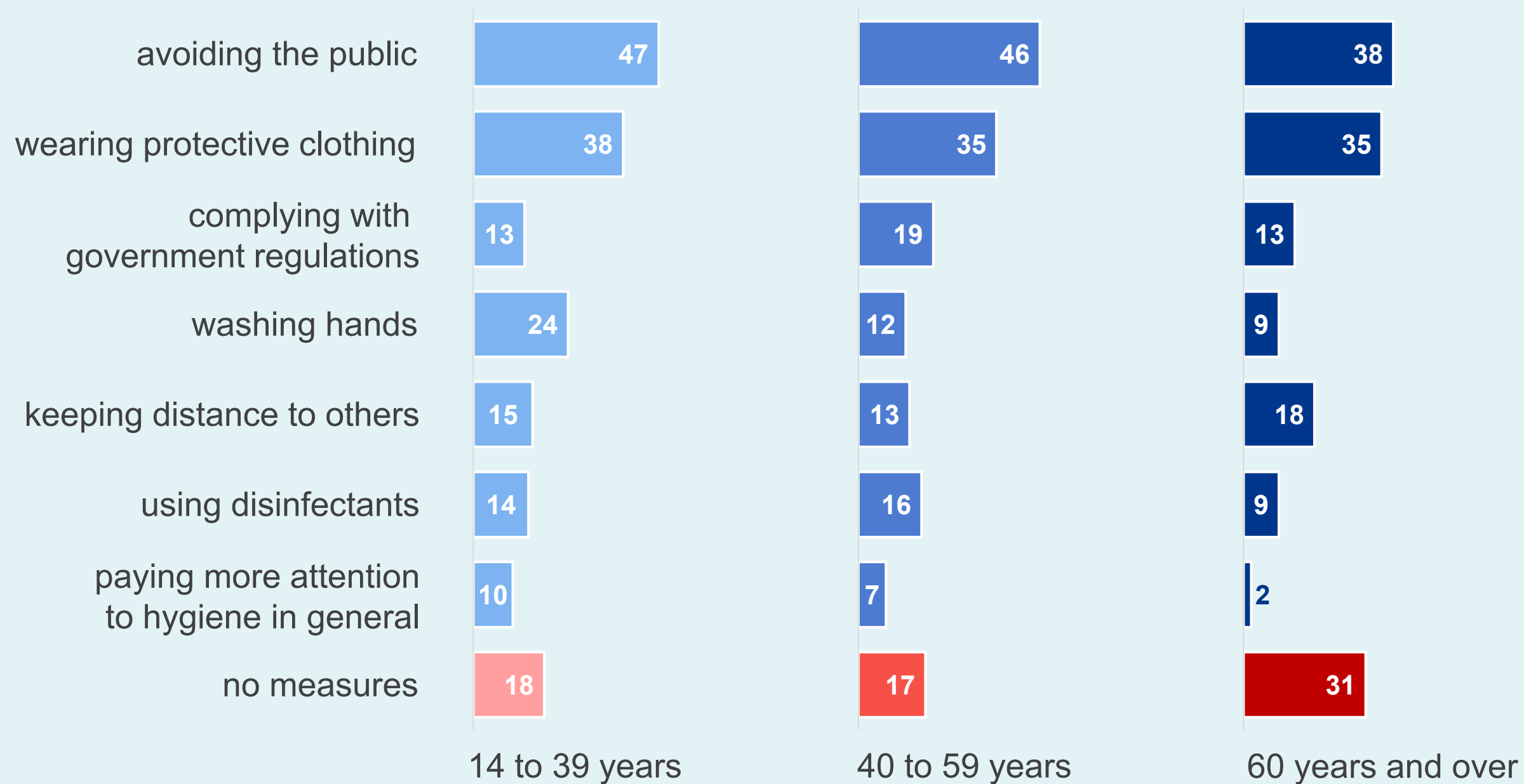| Measure	%
avoiding the public	44
wearing protective clothing	36
complying with government regulations	15
washing hands	15
keeping distance to others	15
using disinfectants	13
paying more attention to hygiene in general	6
no measures	22

Figures given in percentages
Basis: 497 participants

Protective measures of the participants – age groups

Have or had you taken measures to protect yourself or your family from the novel coronavirus?
(Response options: 'no', 'yes, that is: _____') – **Shown: mentions ≥ 5 % (based on all participants)**

|	14 to 39 years	40 to 59 years	60 years and over
avoiding the public	47	46	38
wearing protective clothing	38	35	35
complying with government regulations	13	19	13
washing hands	24	12	9
keeping distance to others	15	13	18
using disinfectants	14	16	9
paying more attention to hygiene in general	10	7	2
no measures	18	17	31

Figures given in percentages
Basis: 157–175 participants in corresponding age group

Protective measures of the participants – over time

Have or had you taken measures to protect yourself or your family from the novel coronavirus?
(Response options: 'no', 'yes, that is: _____') – **Shown: mentions ≥ 5 % (in at least one survey week)**
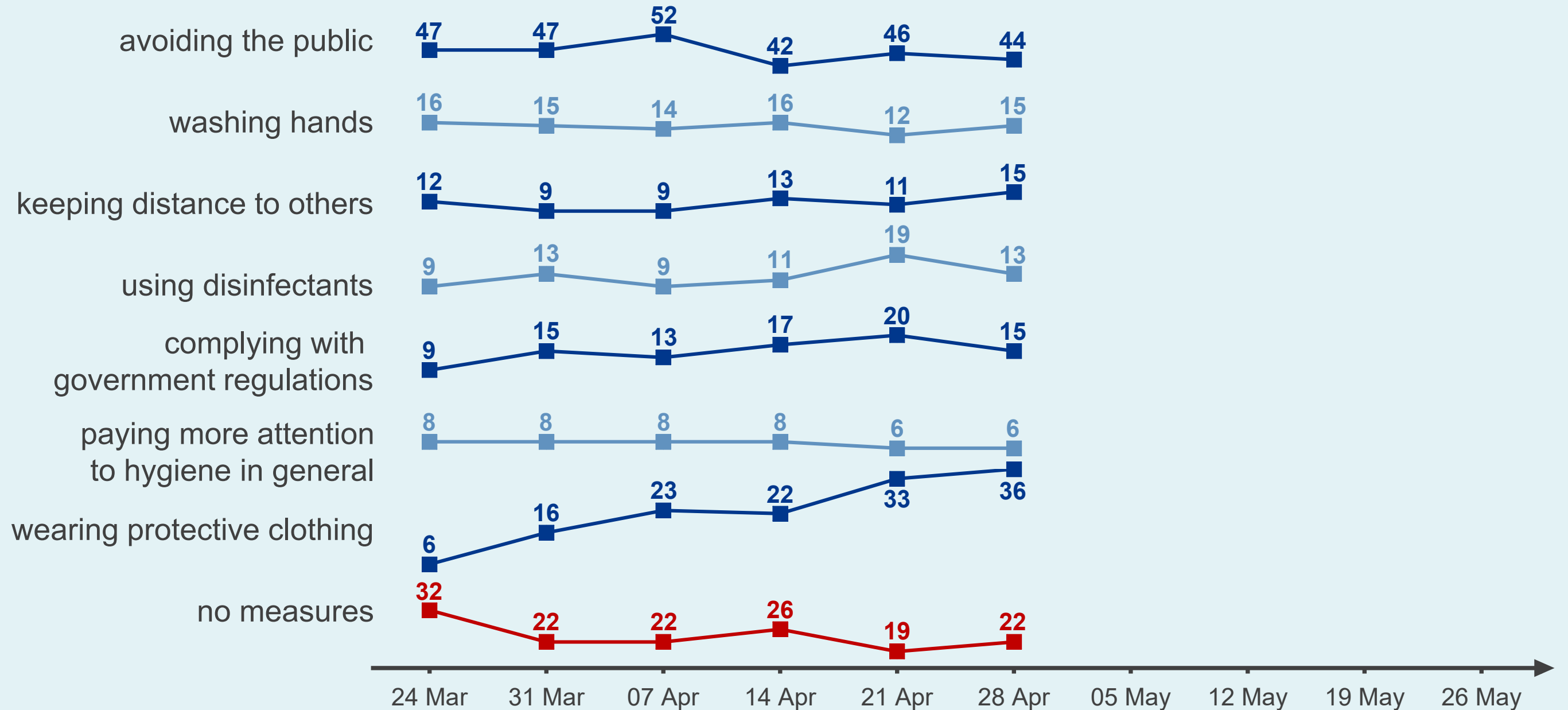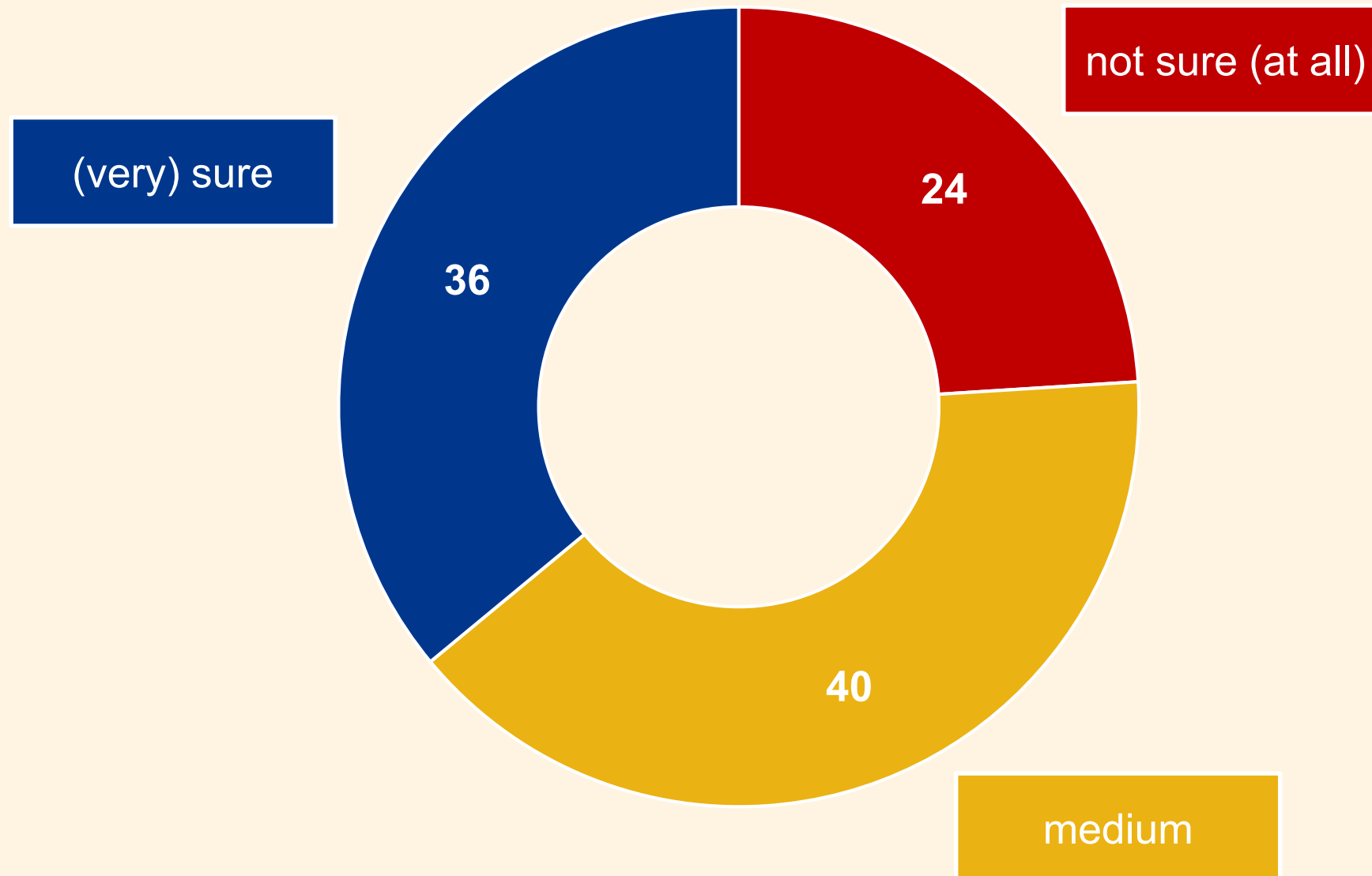

Figures given in percentages
Basis: 497–515 participants

Perceived controllability of the risk of infection

How sure are you that you can protect yourself from an infection with the novel coronavirus?
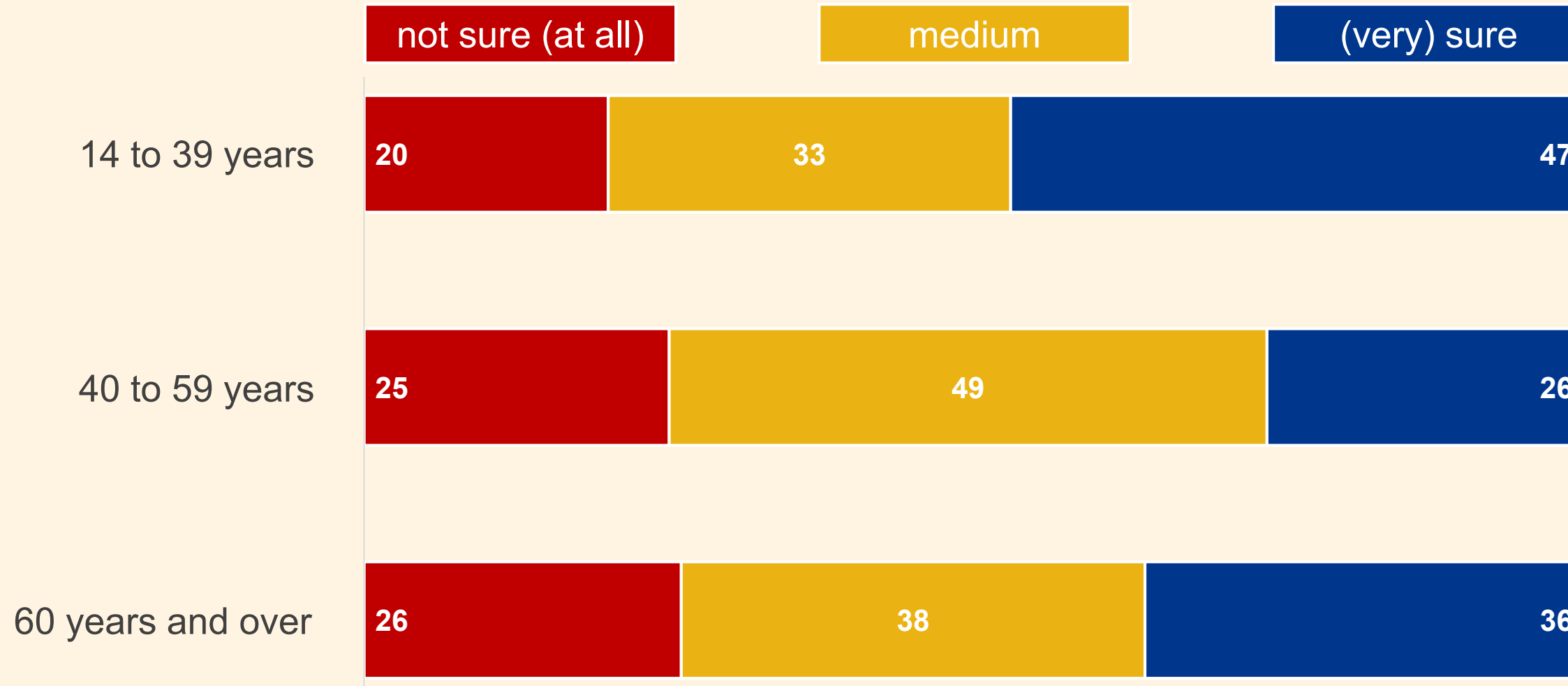*(Response scale: 1 'not sure at all' to 5 'very sure')*

not sure (at all)

24

medium

40

(very) sure

36

Figures given in percentages
Basis: 497 participants

Perceived controllability of the risk of infection – age groups

How sure are you that you can protect yourself from an infection with the novel coronavirus?
*(Response scale: 1 'not sure at all' to 5 'very sure')*

	not sure (at all)	medium	(very) sure
14 to 39 years	20	33	47
40 to 59 years	25	49	26
60 years and over	26	38	36

Figures given in percentages
Basis: 157–178 participants in corresponding age group

Perceived controllability of the risk of infection – over time

How sure are you that you can protect yourself from an infection with the novel coronavirus?
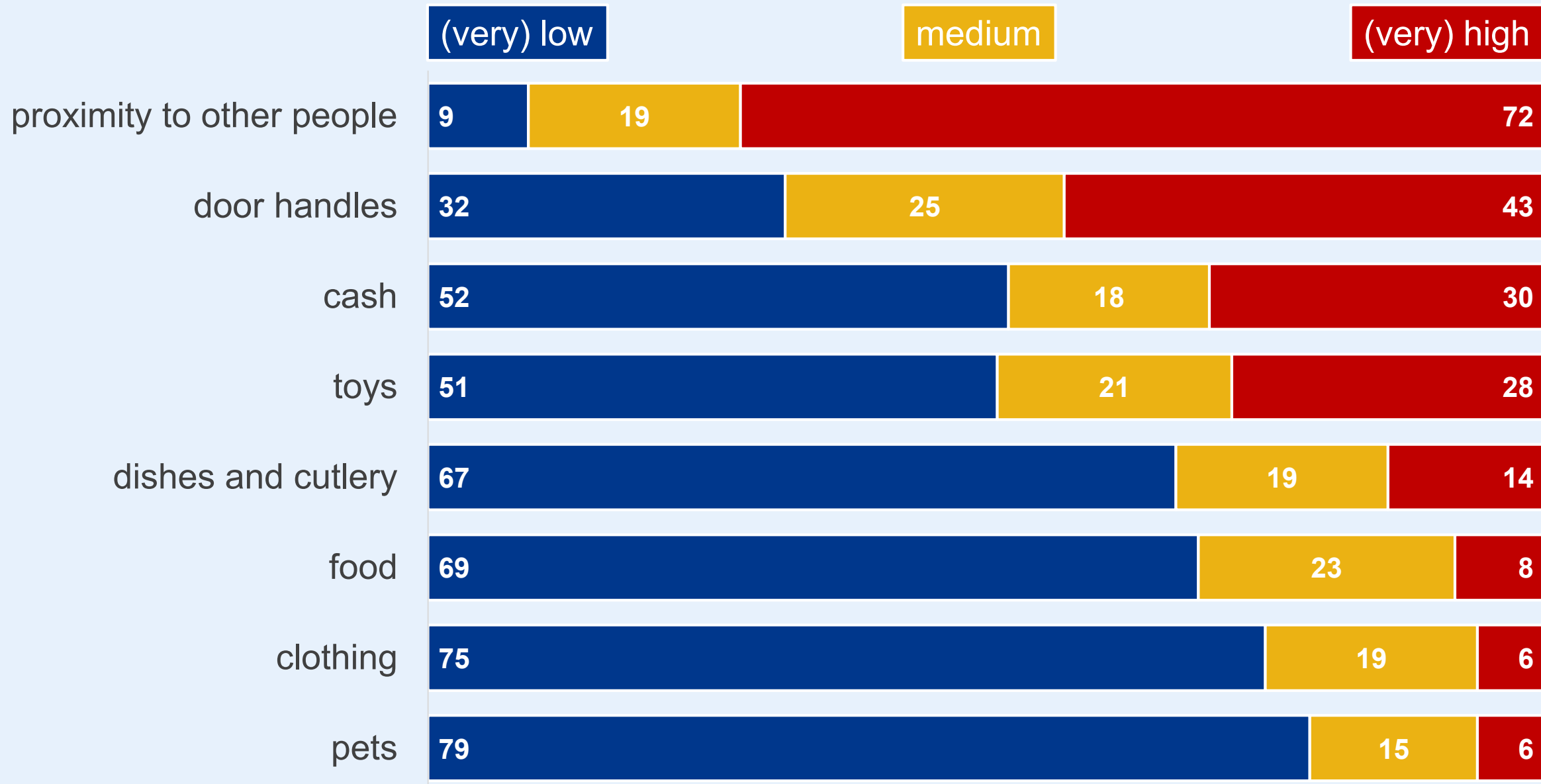*(Response scale: 1 'not sure at all' to 5 'very sure')*
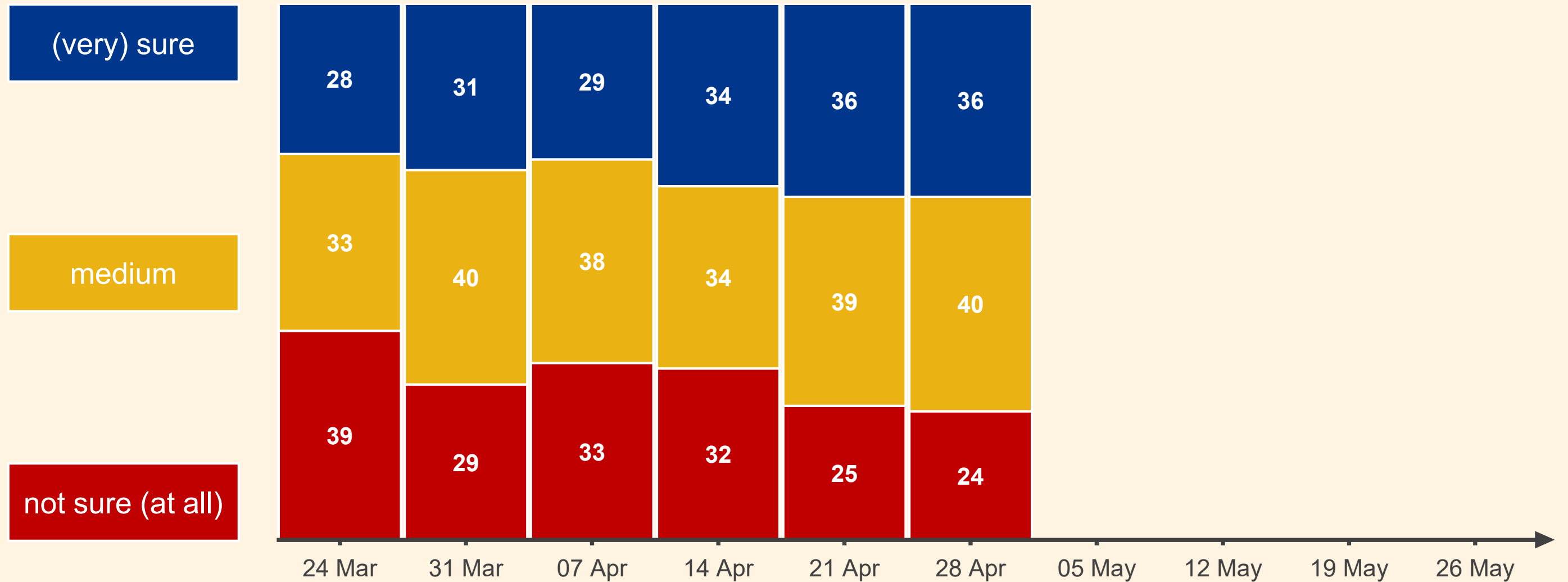
Figures given in percentages
Basis: 494–514 participants

Perceived probability of infection by transmission pathways

How high or low do you estimate the probability of being infected with the novel coronavirus via the following paths?
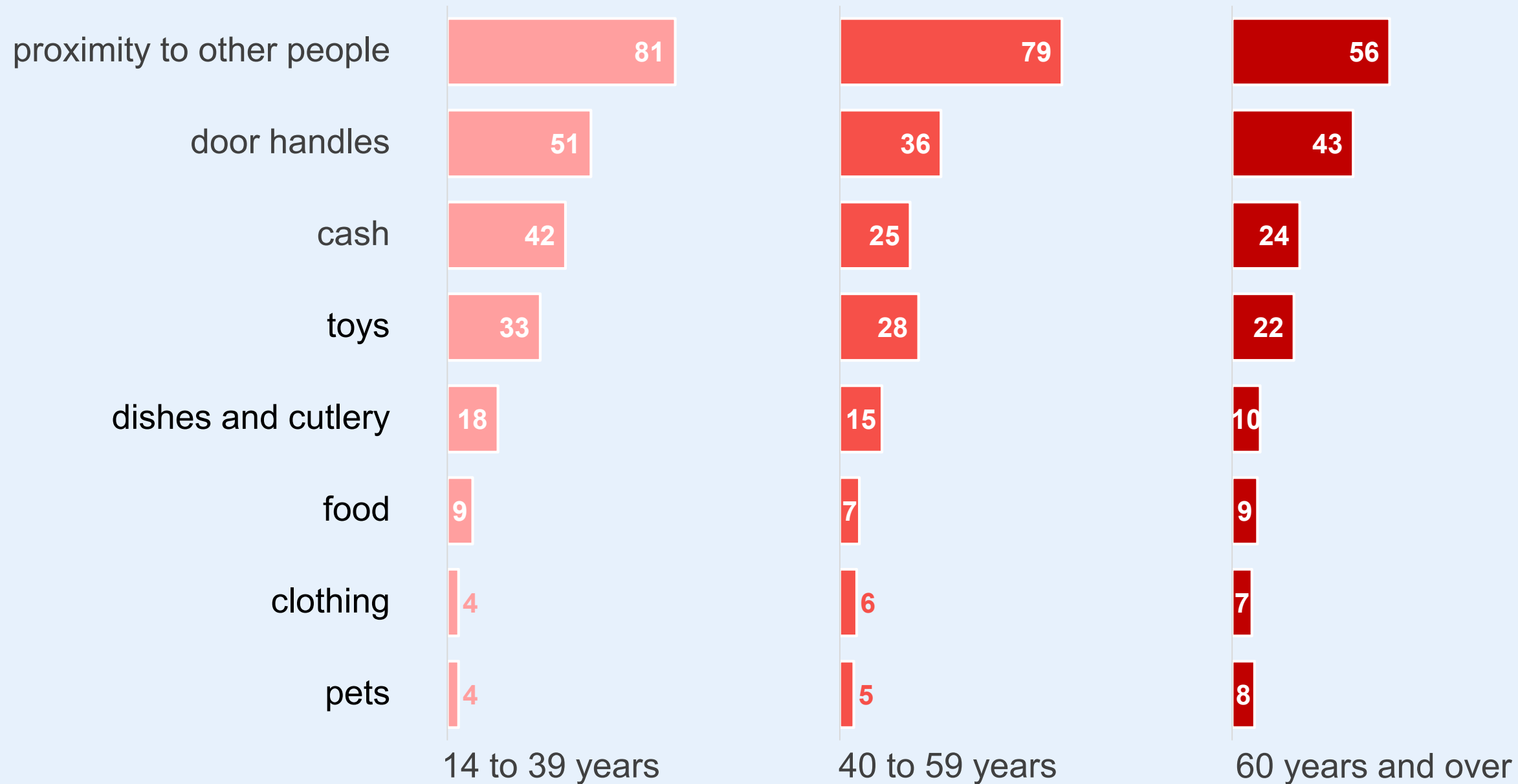*(Response scale: 1 'very low' to 5 'very high')*

	(very) low	medium	(very) high
proximity to other people	9	19	72
door handles	32	25	43
cash	52	18	30
toys	51	21	28
dishes and cutlery	67	19	14
food	69	23	8
clothing	75	19	6
pets	79	15	6

Figures given in percentages
Basis: 477–500 participants

Perceived probability of infection by transmission pathways – age groups

How high or low do you estimate the probability of being infected with the novel coronavirus via the following paths?
(Response scale: 1 'very low' to 5 'very high') – **Shown: response category '(very) high' (values 4 + 5)**

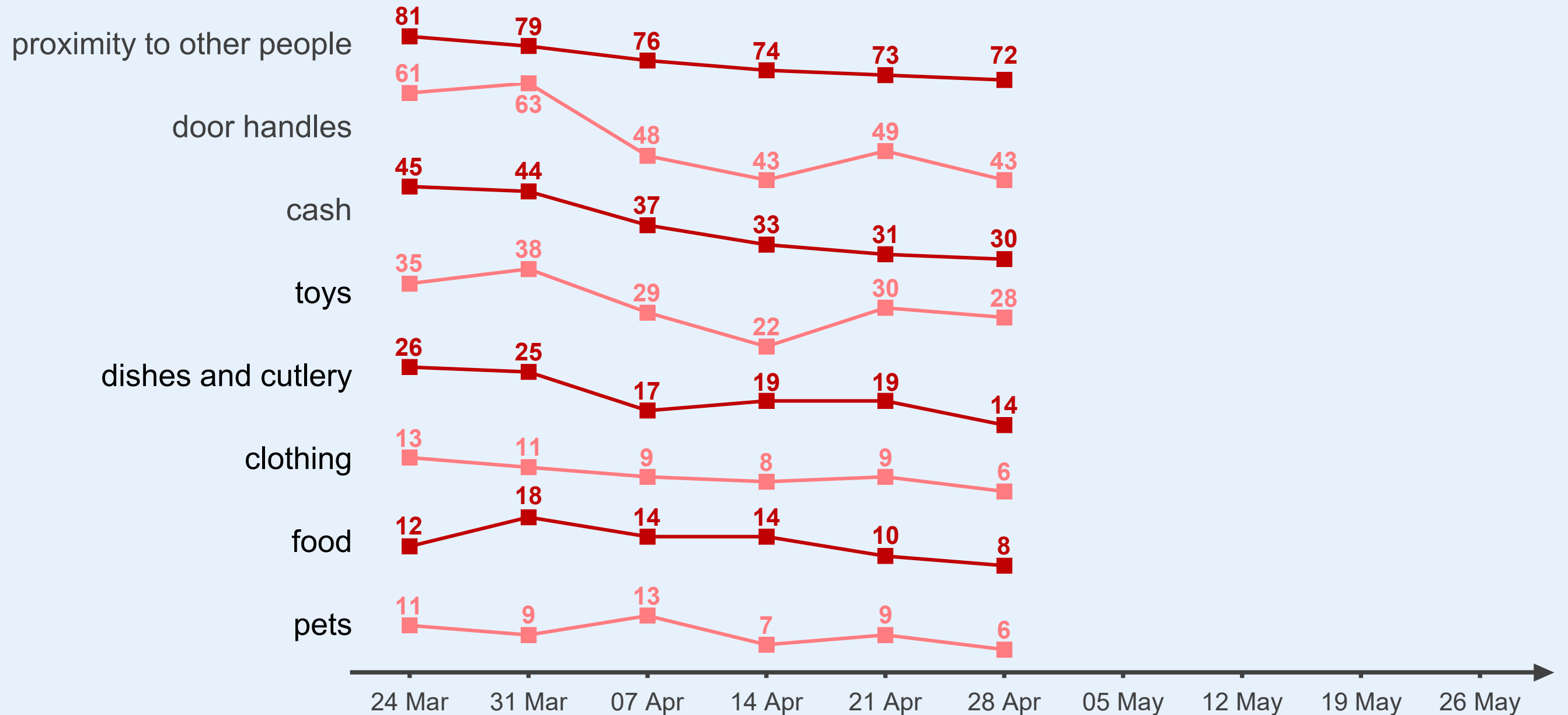|	14 to 39 years	40 to 59 years	60 years and over
proximity to other people	81	79	56
door handles	51	36	43
cash	42	25	24
toys	33	28	22
dishes and cutlery	18	15	10
food	9	7	9
clothing	4	6	7
pets	4	5	8

Figures given in percentages
Basis: 151–180 participants in corresponding age group

Perceived probability of infection by transmission pathways – over time

How high or low do you estimate the probability of being infected with the novel coronavirus via the following paths?
*(Response scale: 1 'very low' to 5 'very high')* – **Shown: response category '(very) high' (values 4 + 5)**

proximity to other people

Date	24 Mar	31 Mar	07 Apr	14 Apr	21 Apr	28 Apr
proximity to other people	81	79	76	74	73	72
door handles	61	63	48	43	49	43
cash	45	44	37	33	31	30
toys	35	38	29	22	30	28
dishes and cutlery	26	25	17	19	19	14
clothing	13	11	9	8	9	6
food	12	18	14	14	10	8
pets	11	9	13	7	9	6

x-axis: 24 Mar | 31 Mar | 07 Apr | 14 Apr | 21 Apr | 28 Apr | 05 May | 12 May | 19 May | 26 May

Figures given in percentages
Basis: 473–511 participants

Impact on personal health versus economic situation

What do you think affects you more: the impact of the novel coronavirus on health or on the economic situation?
(Response options: 'impact on health', 'impact on economic situation', 'both equally', 'neither')
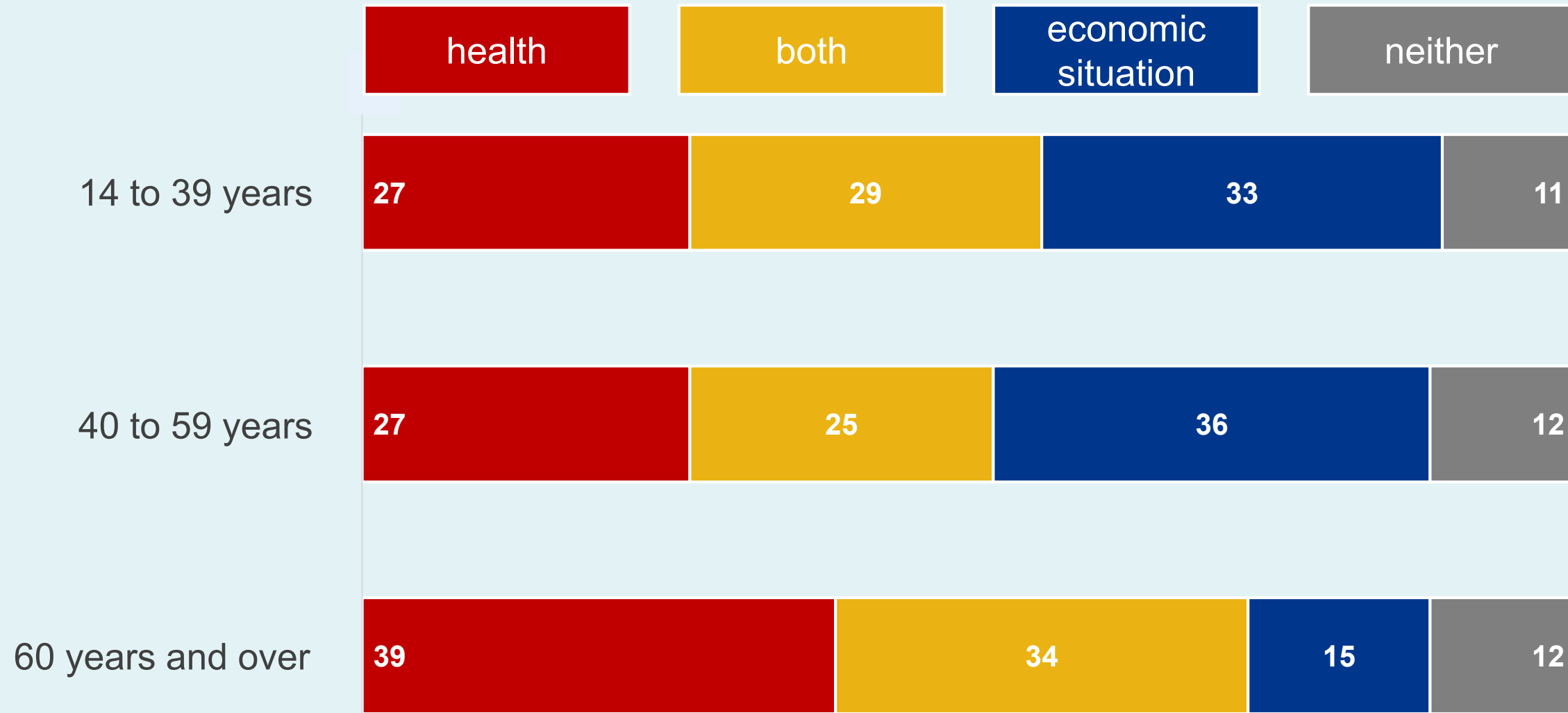

neither

health

31

economic
situation

29

29

both
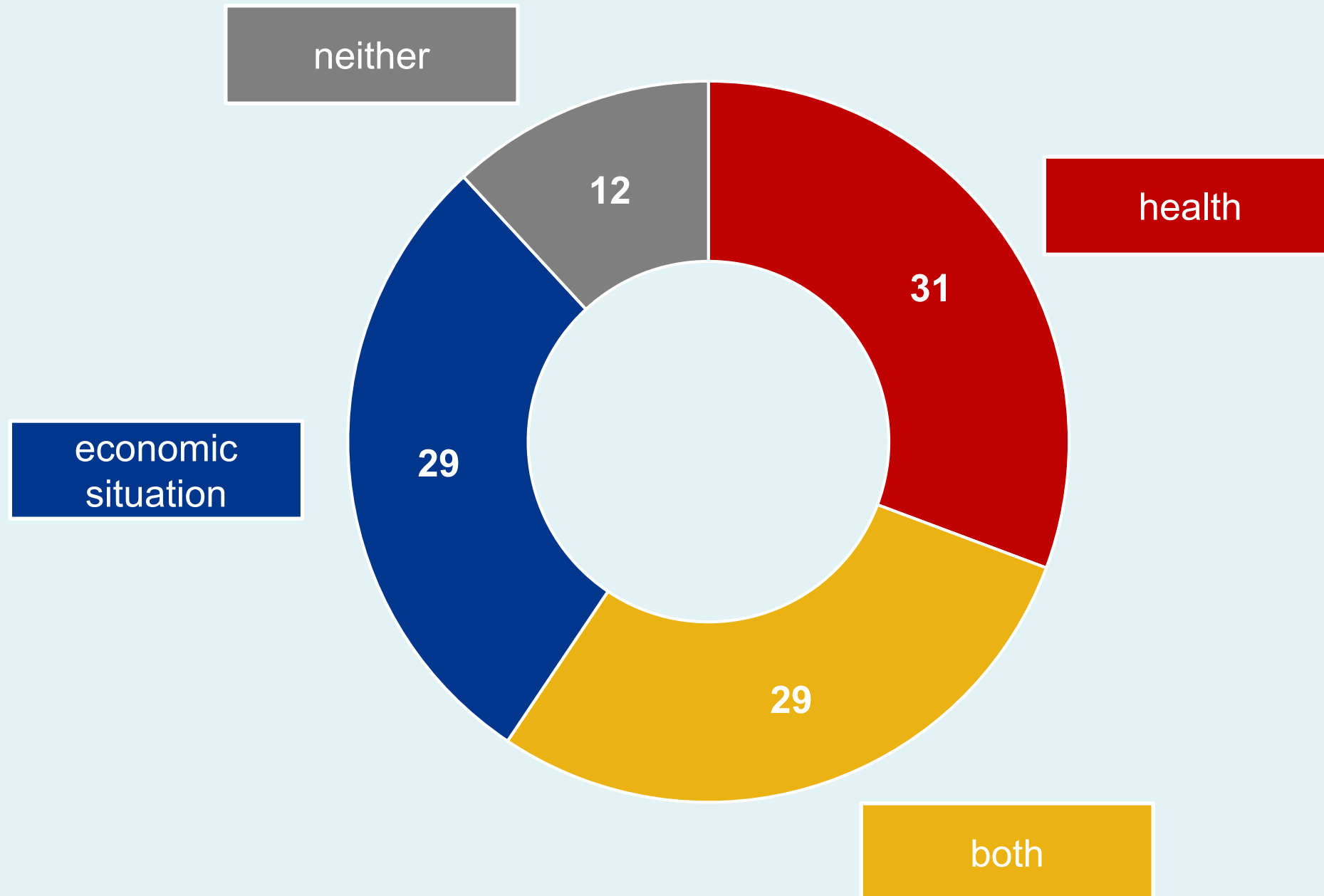
Figures given in percentages
Basis: 502 participants

Impact on personal health versus economic situation – age groups

What do you think affects you more: the impact of the novel coronavirus on health or on the economic situation?
(Response options: 'impact on health', 'impact on economic situation', 'both equally', 'neither')

	health	both	economic situation	neither
14 to 39 years	27	29	33	11
40 to 59 years	27	25	36	12
60 years and over	39	34	15	12

Figures given in percentages
Basis: 157–181 participants in corresponding age group

Impact on personal health versus economic situation – over time

What do you think affects you more: the impact of the novel coronavirus on health or on the economic situation?
(Response options: 'impact on health', 'impact on economic situation', 'both equally', 'neither')
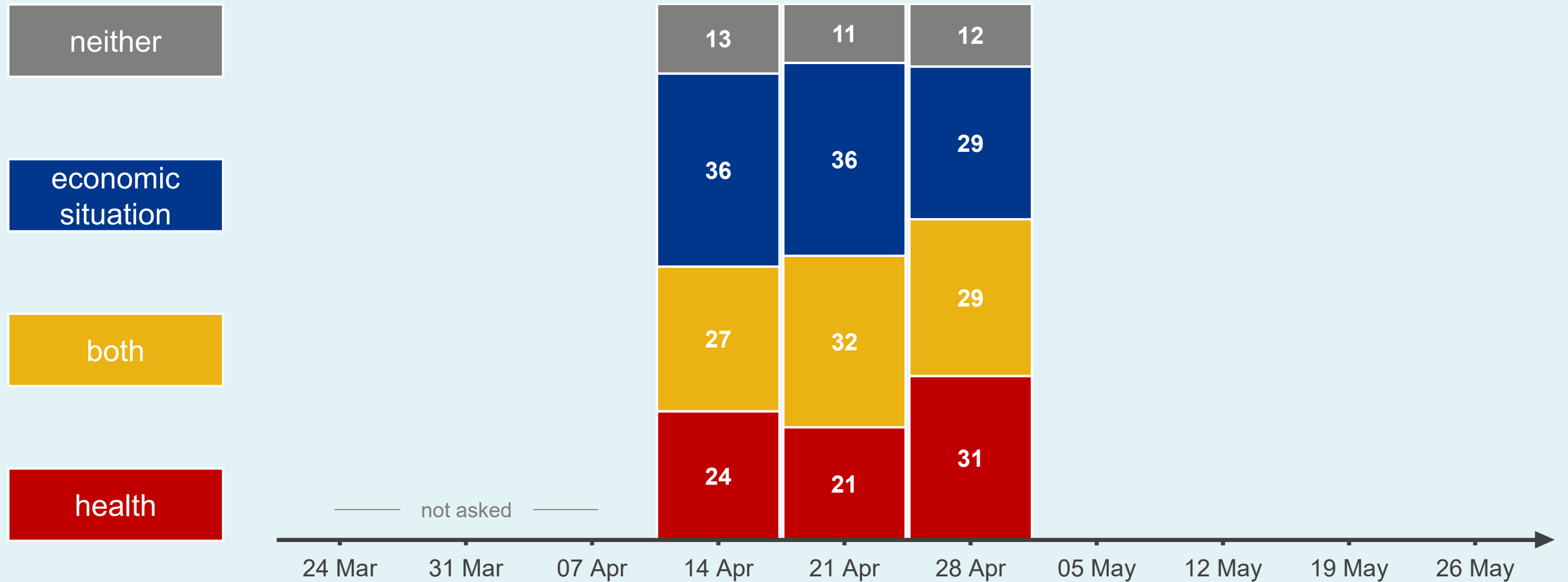
Figures given in percentages
Basis: 499–515 participants

Dates and sample sizes of the survey

24 March 2020   510 participants

31 March 2020   500 participants

07 April 2020   510 participants

14 April 2020   515 participants

21 April 2020   505 participants

28 April 2020   503 participants

How were the data collected?

Statistical population:	German-speaking population ages 14 years and over in private households in the Federal Republic of Germany
Sampling:	Samples drawn at random from land line and mobile telephone numbers which can also include telephone numbers not listed in directories (in line with standards set by the Association of German Market Research Institutes – ADM)
Data weighting:	Data was weighted according to gender, education, age, employment, size of city and German federal state to guarantee representativeness
Method:	Telephone interview (CATI omnibus survey, Dual Frame)
Presentation of results:	All figures given in percentages, rounding differences are possible, only valid responses were included (response option 'don't know' was excluded from all analyses)
Conducted by:	Kantar

About the BfR

Do nanoparticles promote the occurrence of allergies? Does apple juice contain too much aluminium? The German Federal Institute for Risk Assessment, or BfR for short, is responsible for answering questions on all aspects of the health assessment of foods and feeds, consumer products and chemicals. Through its work, it makes a decisive contribution towards ensuring that food, products and the use of chemicals have become safer in Germany.

The Institute's main tasks comprise the assessment of existing health risks and identification of new ones, the development of recommendations to limit risks and the transparent communication of this process. This work results in the scientific advice given to political decision makers. To help with the strategic alignment of its risk communication, the BfR conducts its own research in the field of risk perception. The Institute is independent in its scientific assessments, research and communication. The BfR belongs to the portfolio of the Federal Ministry of Food and Agriculture (BMEL).

More information at: www.bfr.bund.de/en

COVID-19/coronavirus:
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