

Economic Standing of Country and Individual Declined

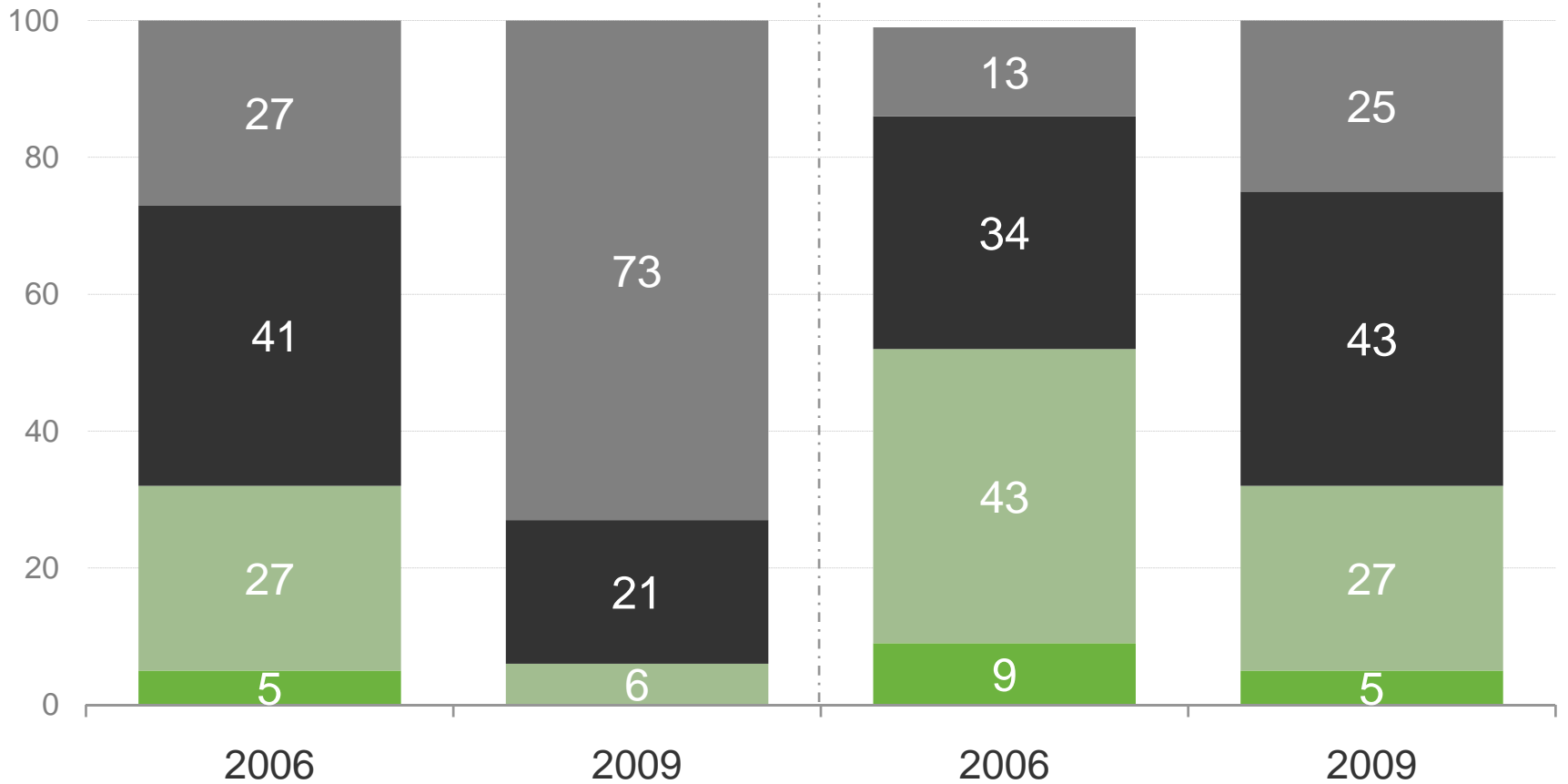
How would rate the economic conditions in this country today? Would you say they are excellent, good, only fair or poor?

Now, how would you rate your own personal economic situation today? Is it excellent, good, only fair, or poor?

National Economic Assessment

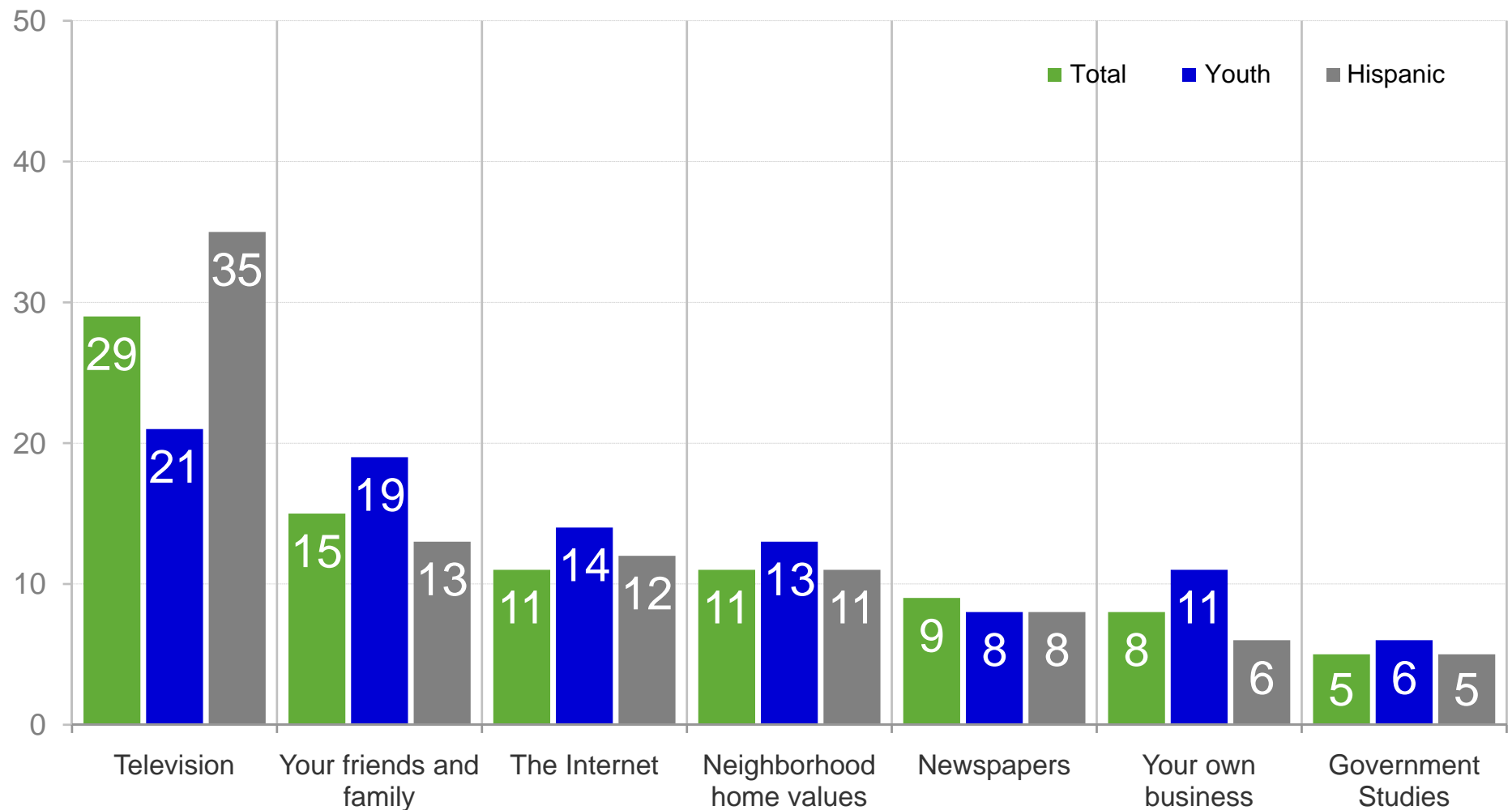
Personal Economic Assessment

■ Poor ■ Only fair ■ Good ■ Excellent



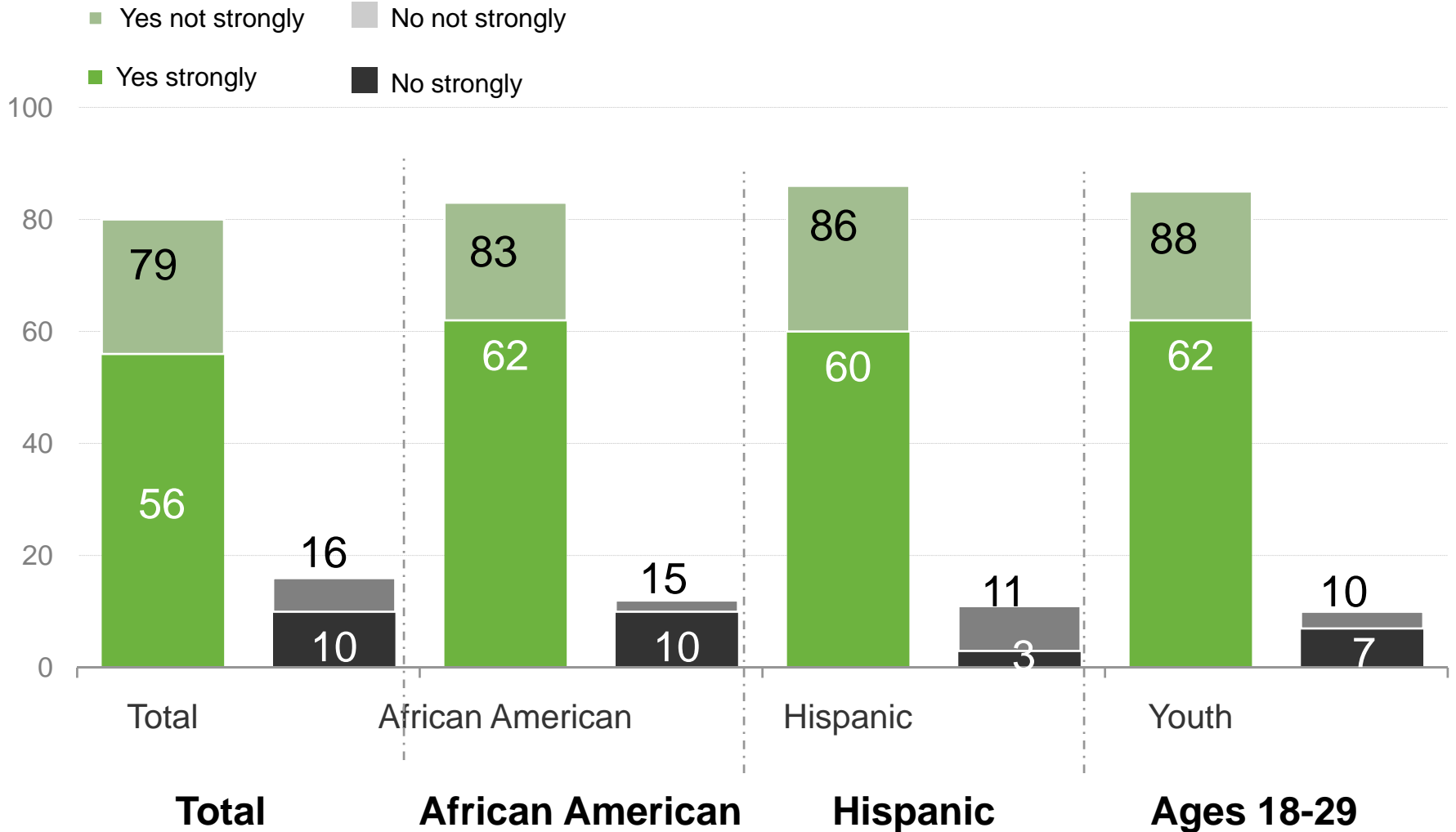
Americans' Information Sources of Others' Economic Standing

Generally speaking, which of the following has the most influence on your view of how other people are doing economically?



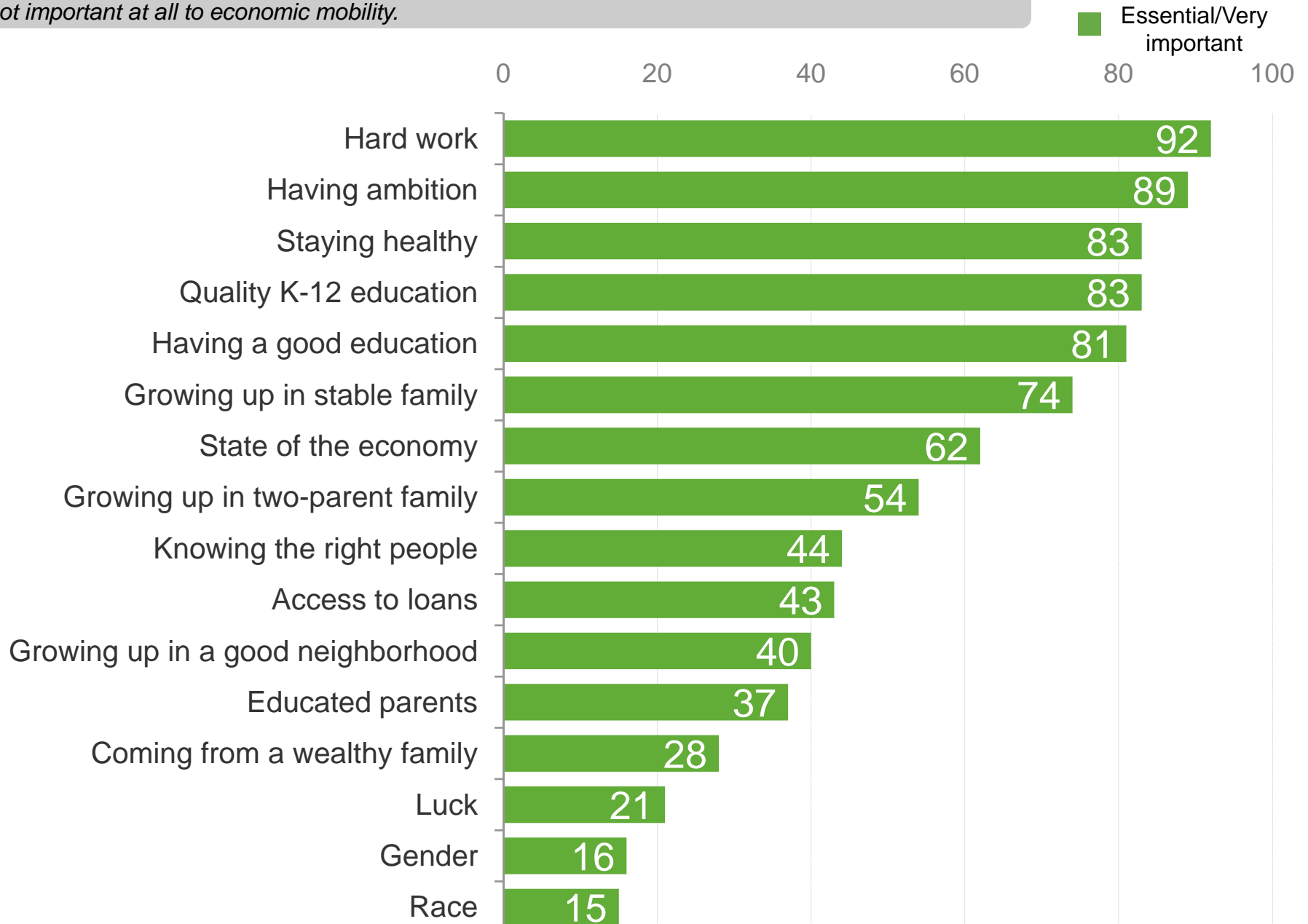
Possible to Succeed in Today's Economy

Currently the country is in a recession. Do you believe it is still possible for people to improve their economic standing?



Dynamics Affecting Economic Mobility

Please tell me if this factor is essential, very important, somewhat important, not very important or not important at all to economic mobility.

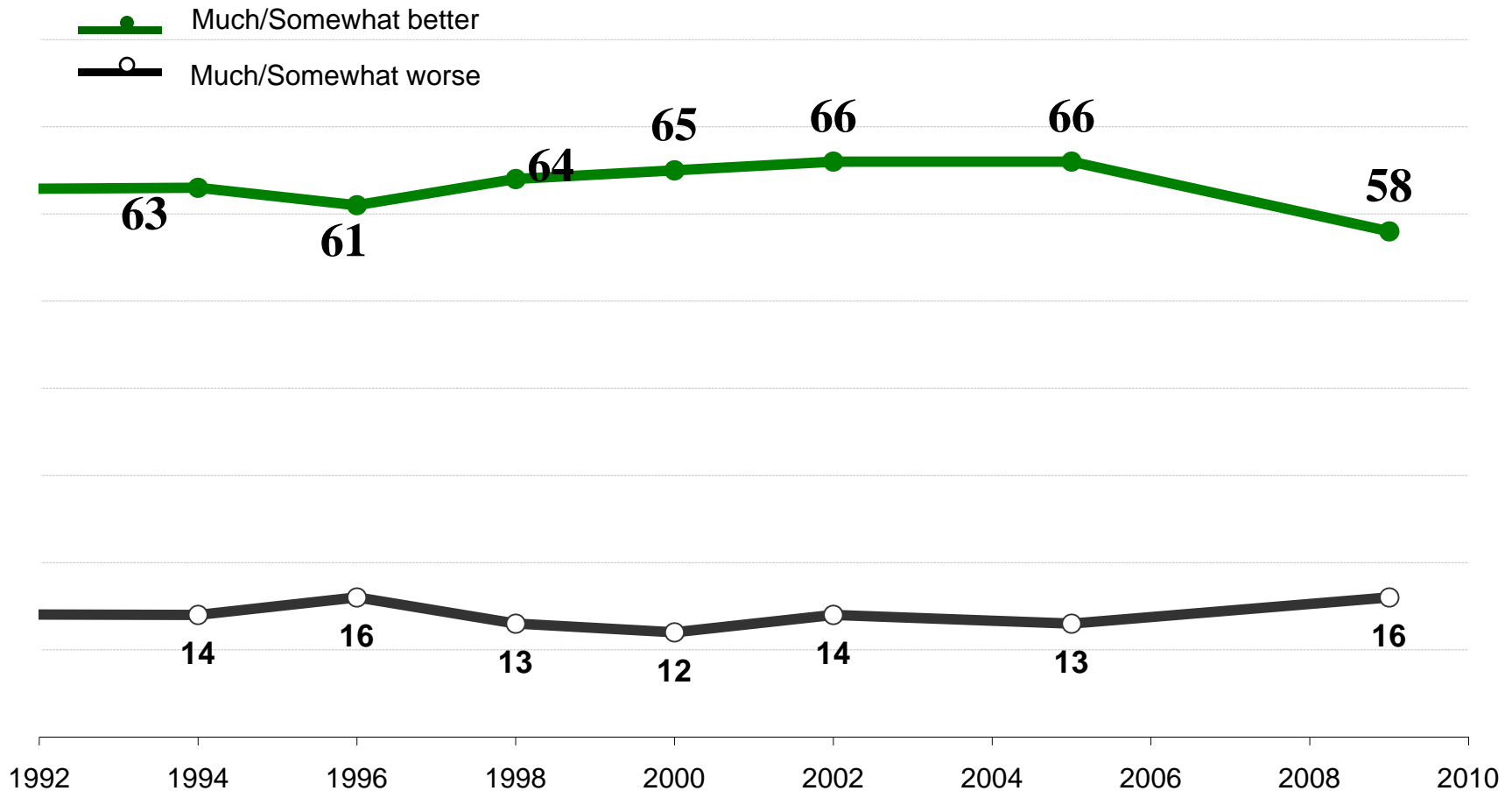


Class Mobility

		<i>Describe parent's class as:</i>				
<i>Describe own class as:</i>	Total	Upper Middle class	Middle class	Working class	Lower class	
Upper class	2	2	2	-	1	
Upper-middle class	13	39	12	5	4	
Middle class	44	41	61	31	29	
Working class	28	13	13	61	25	
Lower Class	11	6	10	4	41	

Better Standard of Living Than Parents

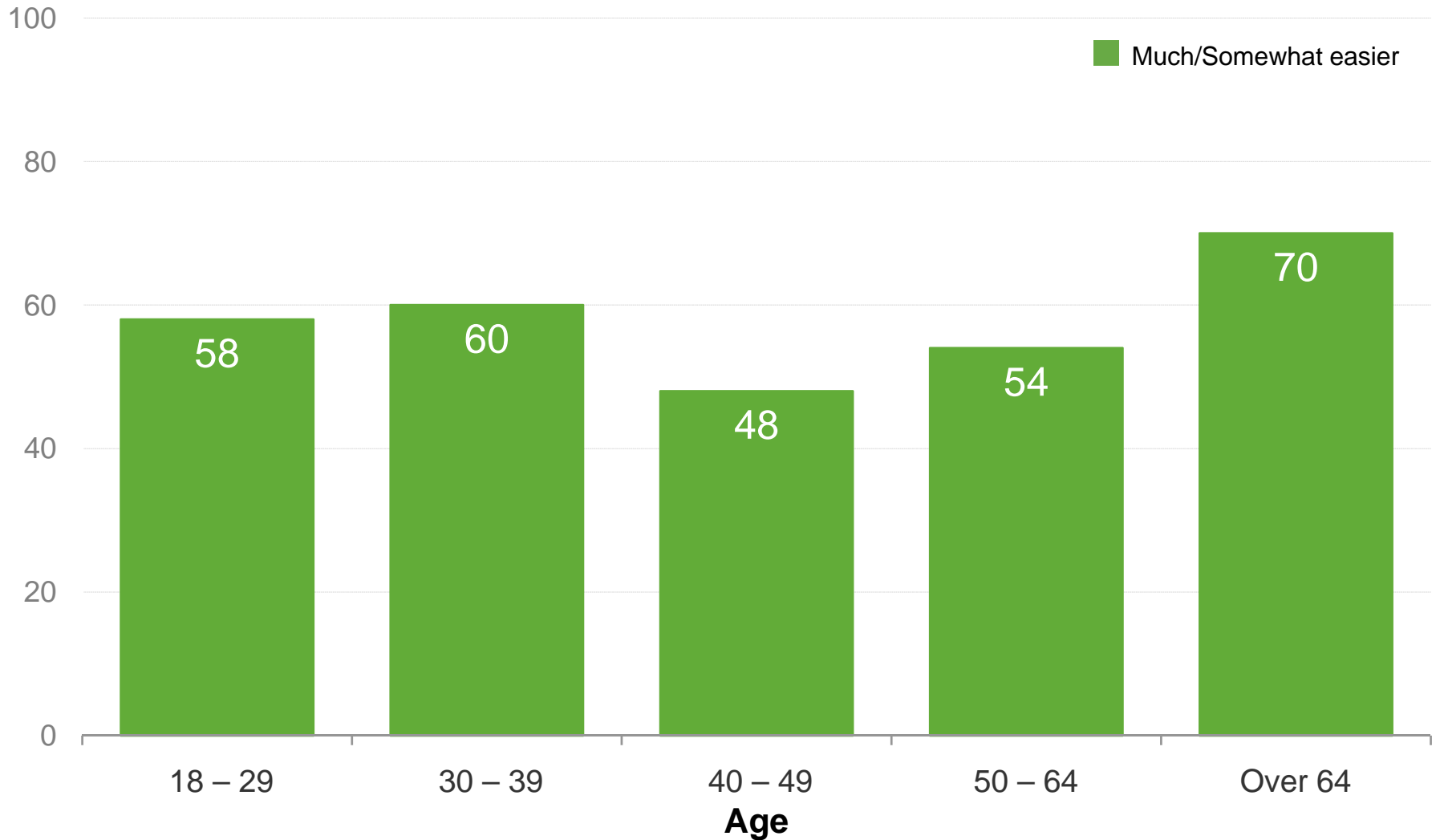
Compared to your parents when they were the age you are now, do you think your own standard of living is much better, somewhat better, about the same, somewhat worse, or much worse than theirs was?



Time series data reflect General Social Survey conducted in-person by the National Opinion Research Center at the University of Chicago.

Ability to Move Up Income Ladder Relative to Parents

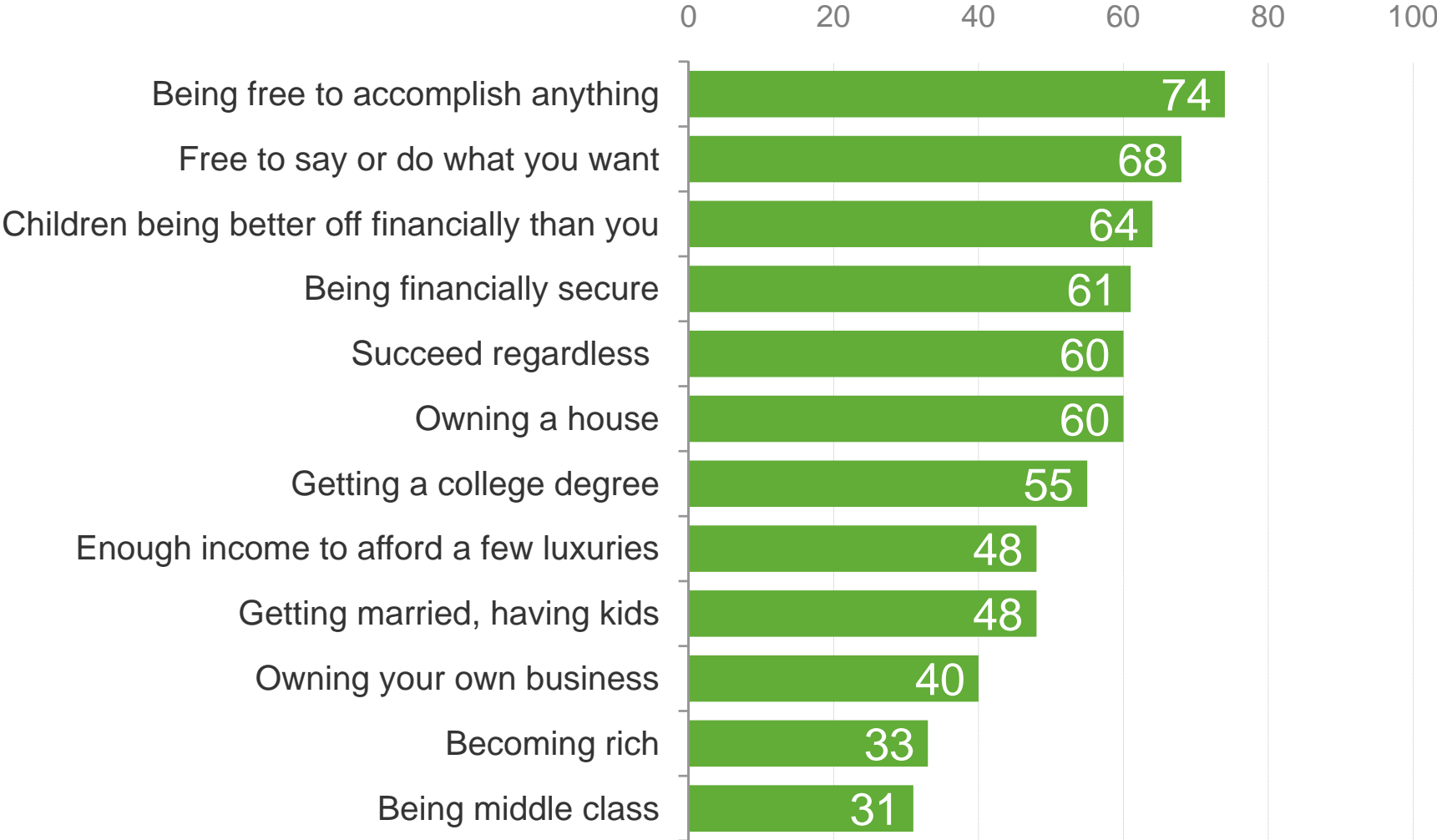
Compared to your parents, do you think it is easier or harder for you to move up the income ladder?



Defining the American Dream

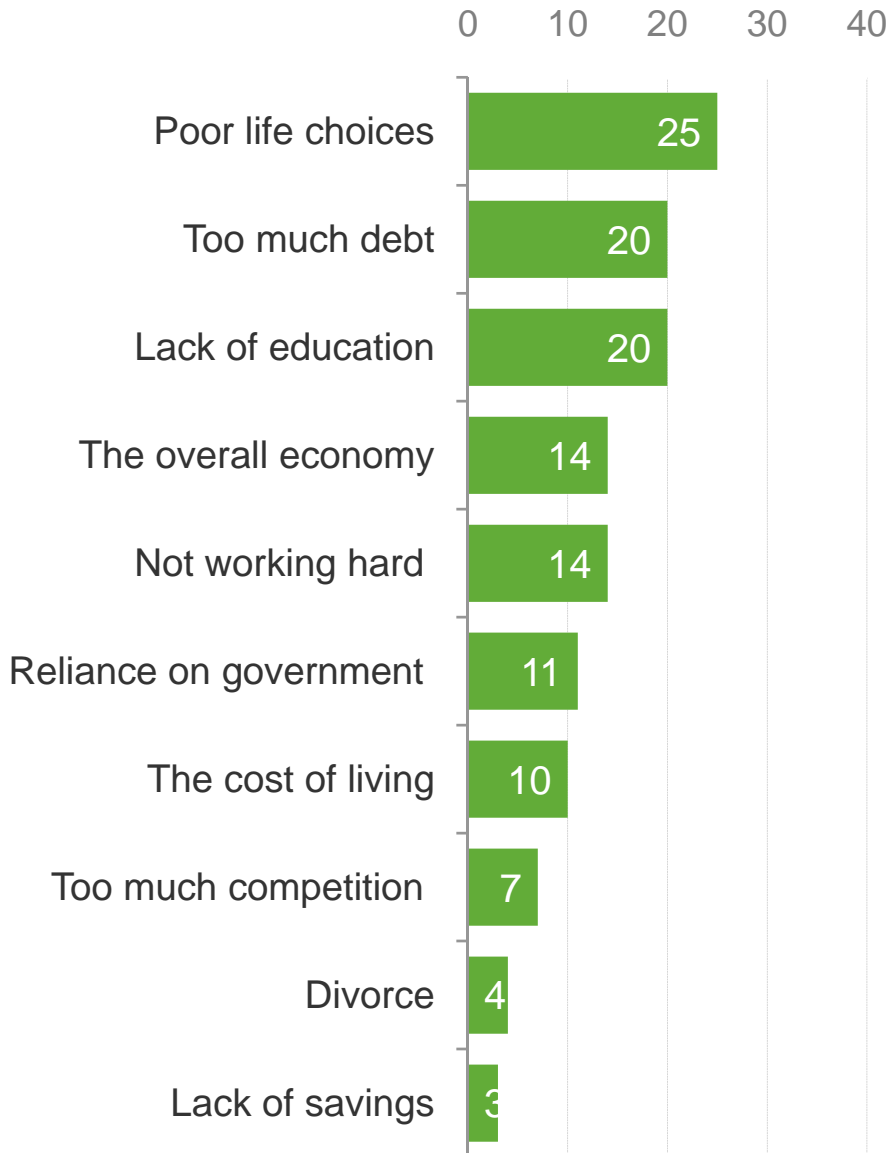
On a scale of one to ten, please tell me how accurately each statement describes what you consider the American Dream to be. One would mean this statement does not describe the American Dream at all. A ten would mean this statement describes it almost perfectly.

■ Percent that responded 8-10 on 10 point scale

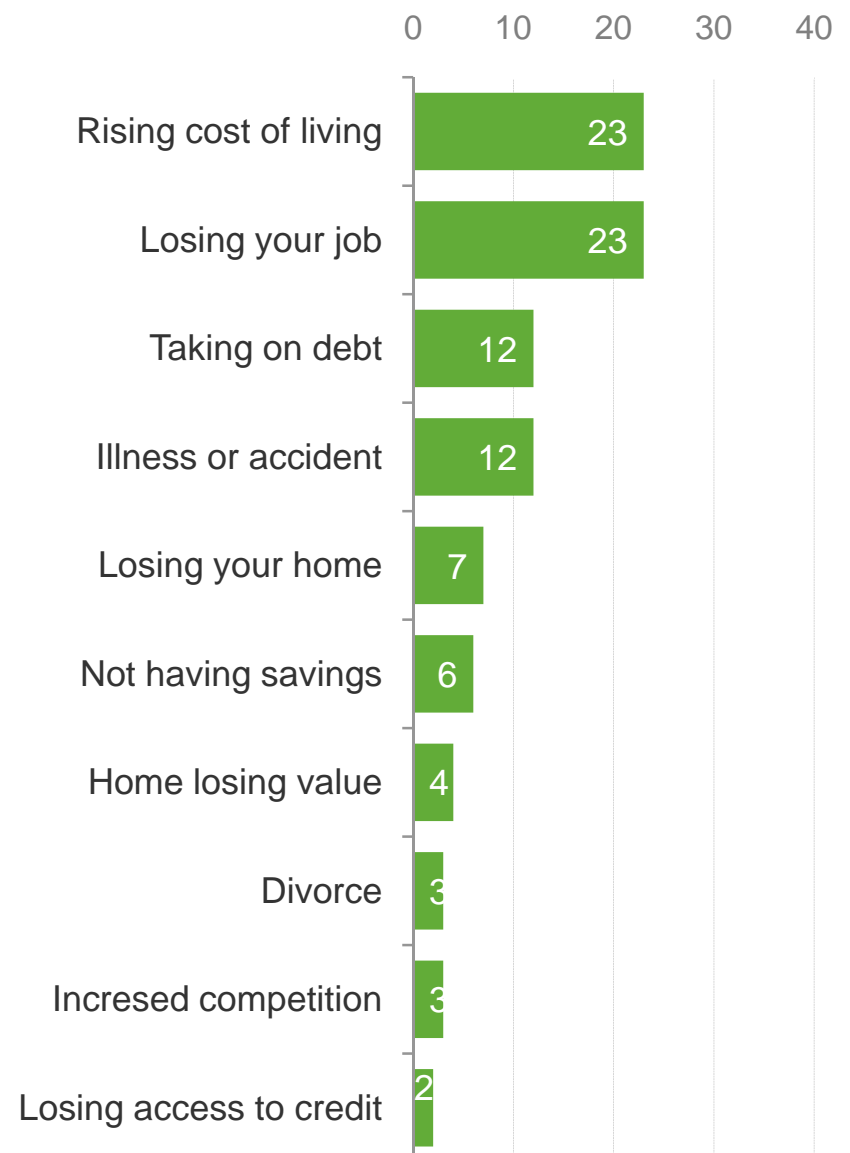


Causes of Moving Down Economic Ladder

Factors likely to contribute to someone moving down the economic ladder



Factors YOU worry about the most in terms of potentially moving down the economic ladder



Respondents asked to indicate up to two factors

I am going to read you some facts about economic mobility in this country. After each one I read please tell me whether you believe this represents a major problem for this country, a minor problem, not much of a problem or no problem at all. Chart shows percent responding major problem.

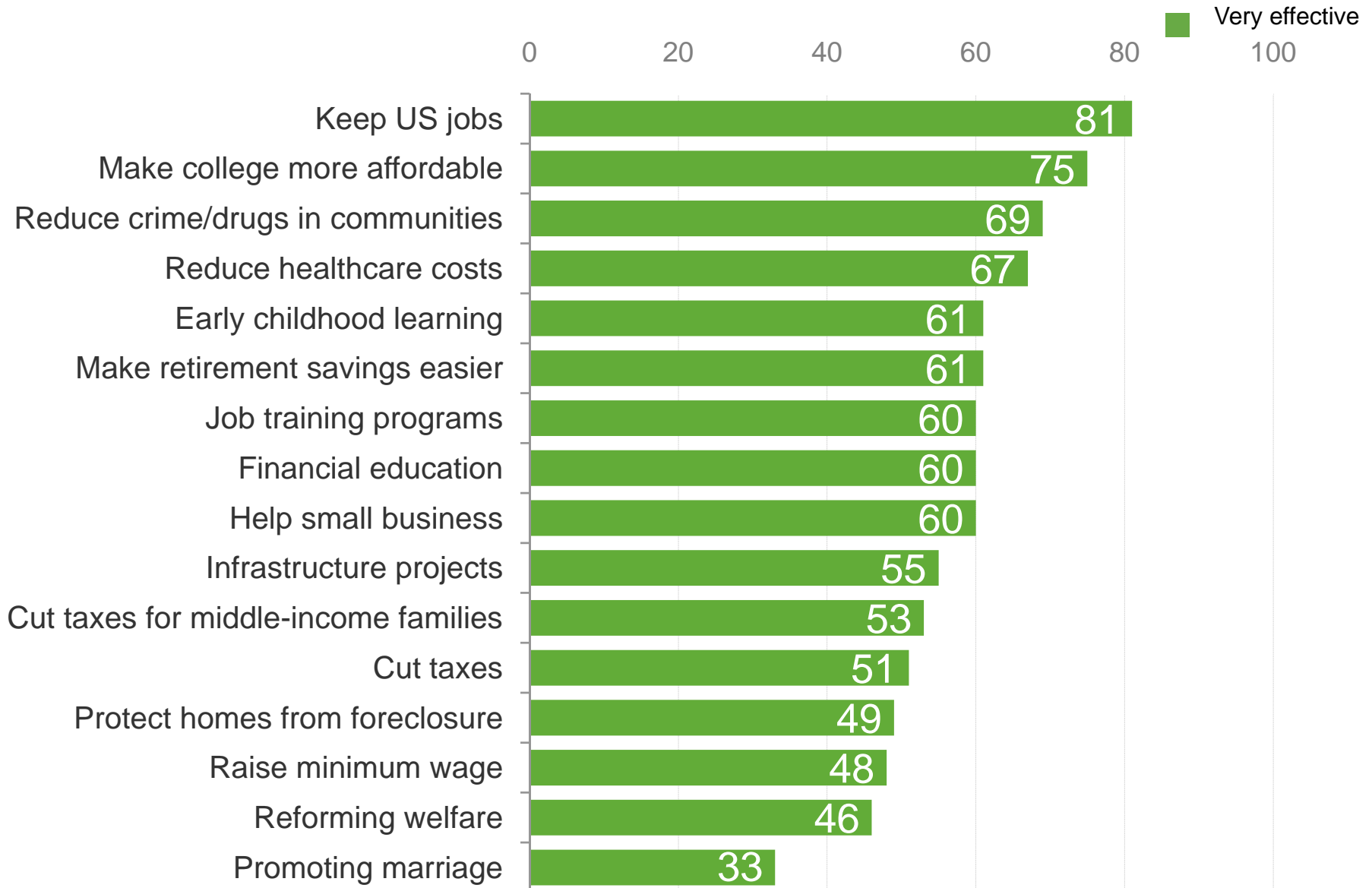
Problems with Economic Mobility

	Total	Af. Am.	Hispanic	Age 18 – 29
Almost 50 percent of children of middle-income African Americans fall to the bottom of the income ladder as adults	62	77	53	64
Half of Americans who are at the bottom of the income ladder remain there 10 years later	60	72	54	59
Children of middle-income African Americans are almost three times more likely to fall to the bottom of the income ladder as adults than children of middle-income whites	55	66	52	57
About 40 percent of Americans who are born to parents at the bottom of the income ladder are still there as adults	53	60	56	55
The United States is considered to have low mobility compared to other industrialized nations like Canada and Sweden	39	43	31	42
Women are less likely to move up the income ladder over a generation than men	38	44	34	39
If your parents were rich but you didn't graduate from college, you're more likely to be rich than if your parents were poor and you did graduate college	24	33	25	31
More than 30 percent of children who are born to parents at the top of the income ladder are still there as adults	17	23	19	19

**These facts are taken from analyses conducted by the Economic Mobility Project*

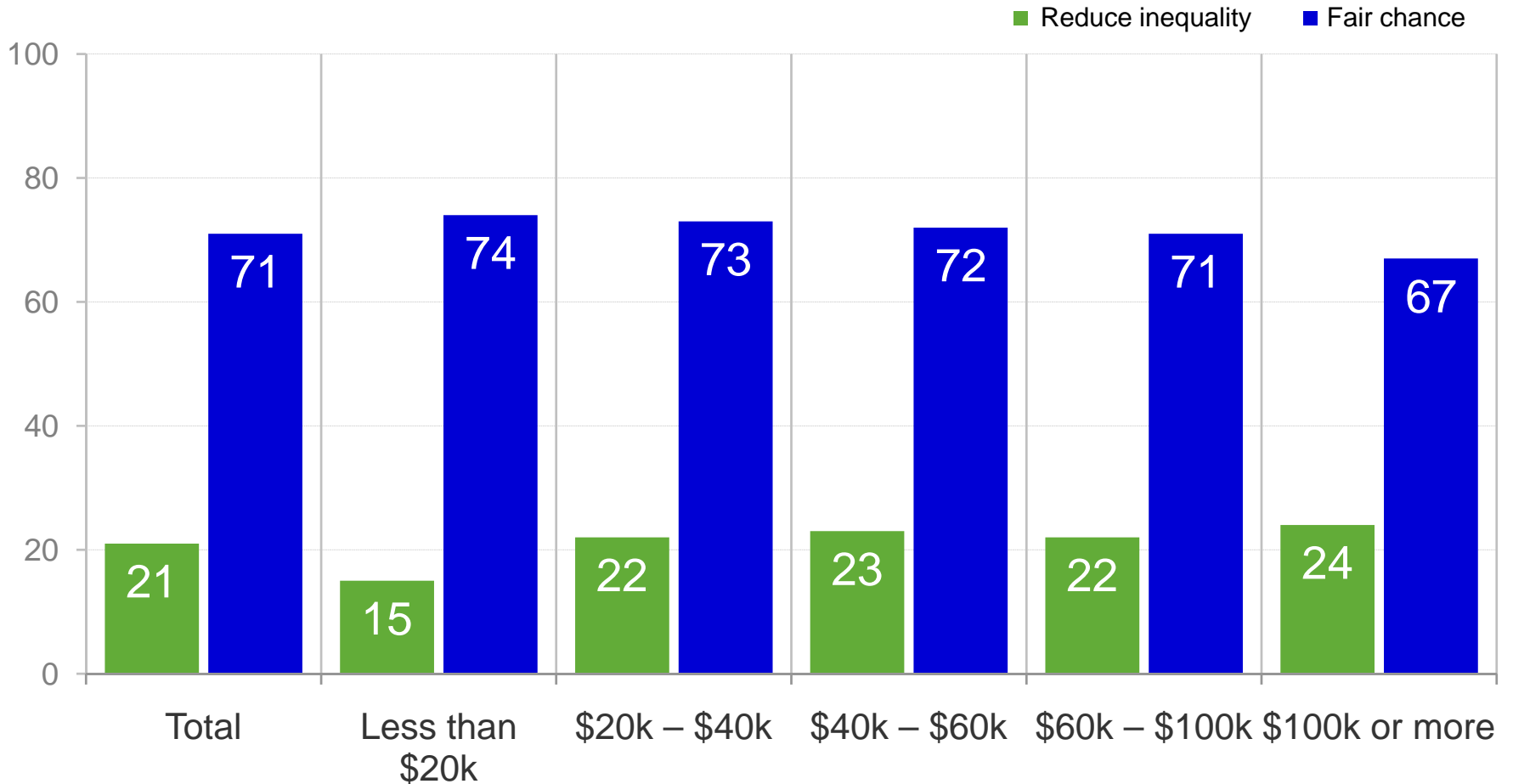
Effectiveness of Government Policy

Please tell me if you believe this would be a very effective, somewhat effective, not very effective or not affective at all step the government could take in improving economic mobility in this country.

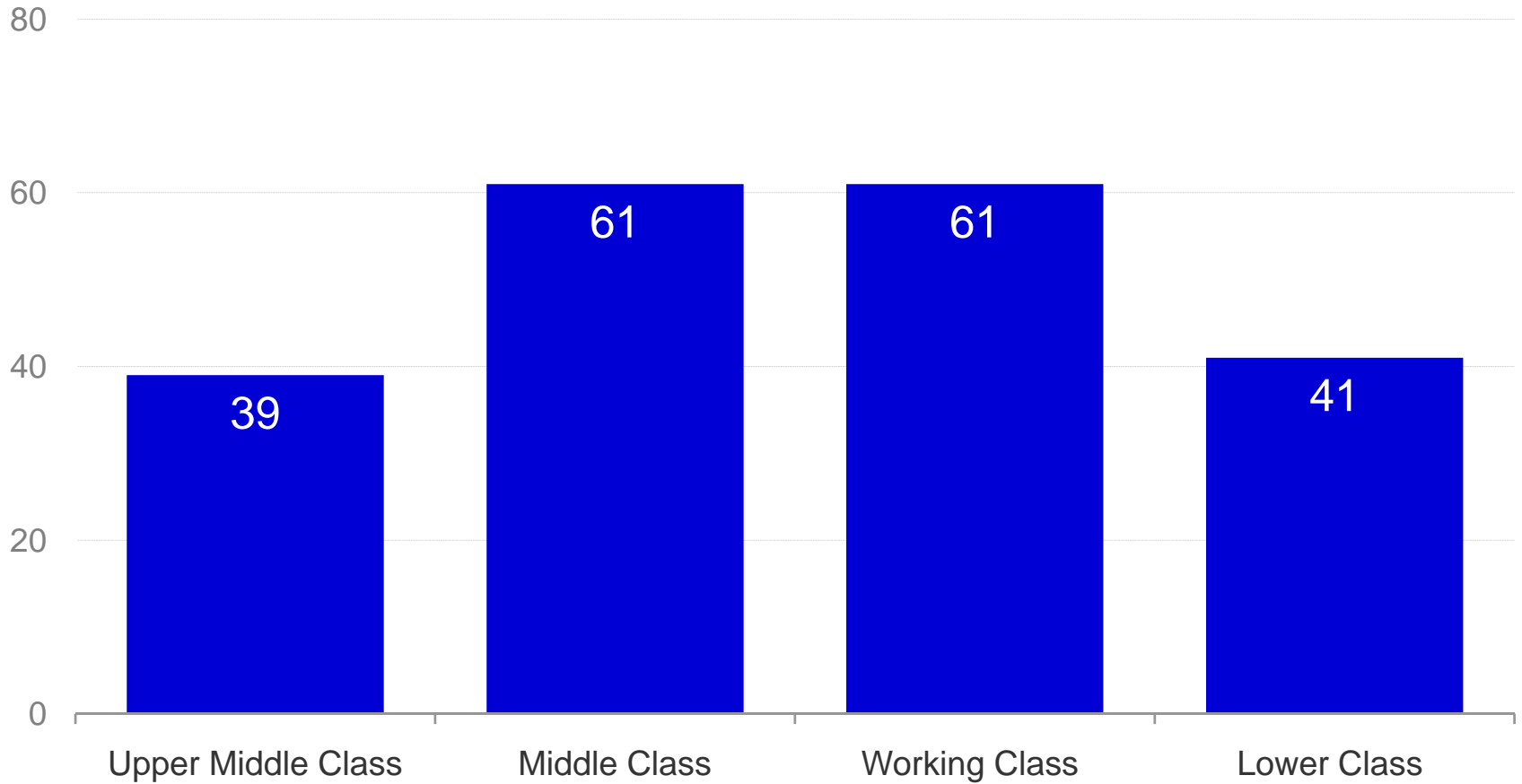


Opportunity vs. Equality

What do you think is more important for this country: to reduce inequality in America or to ensure everyone has a fair chance of improving their economic standing?

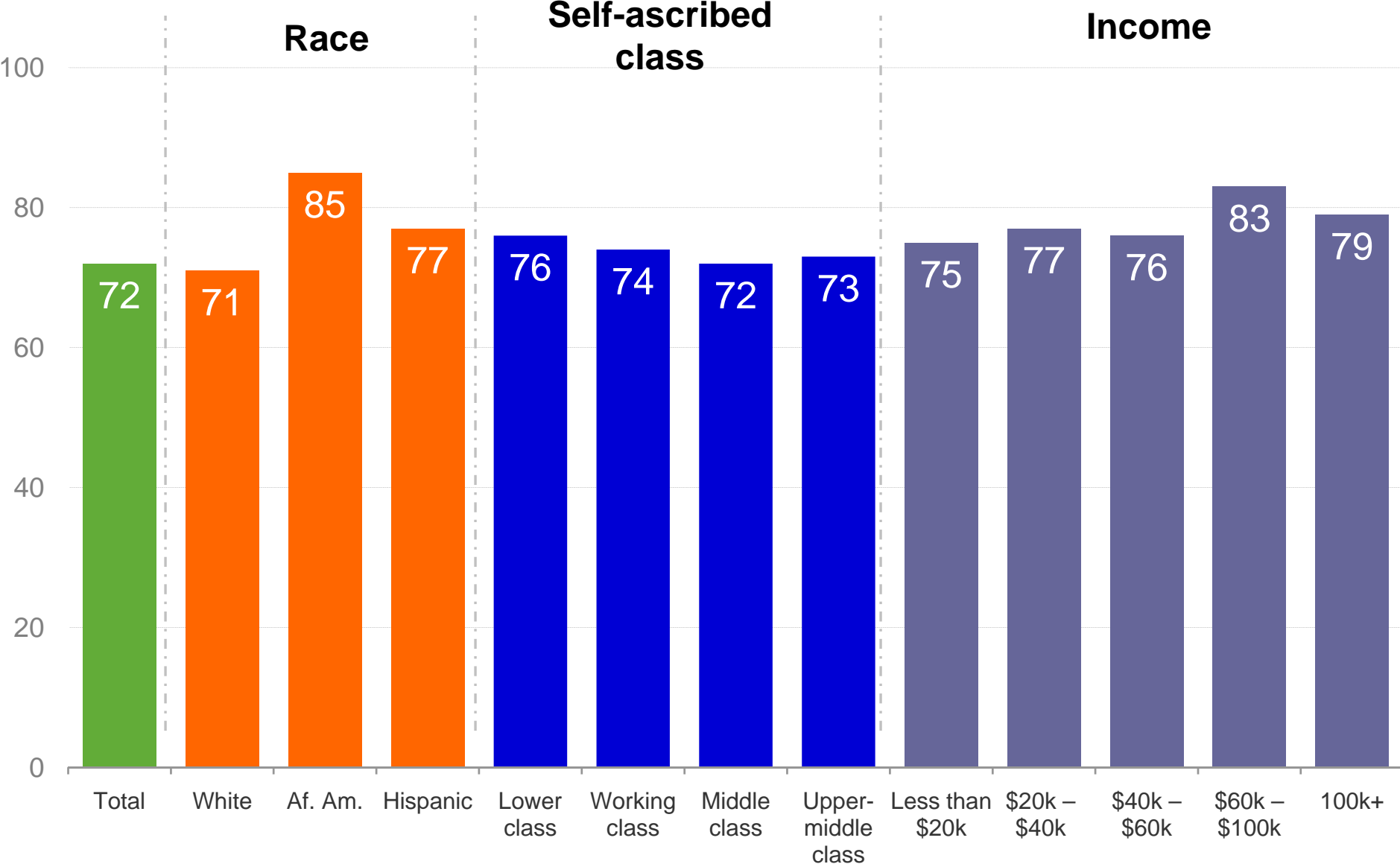


Self-Ascribed Class



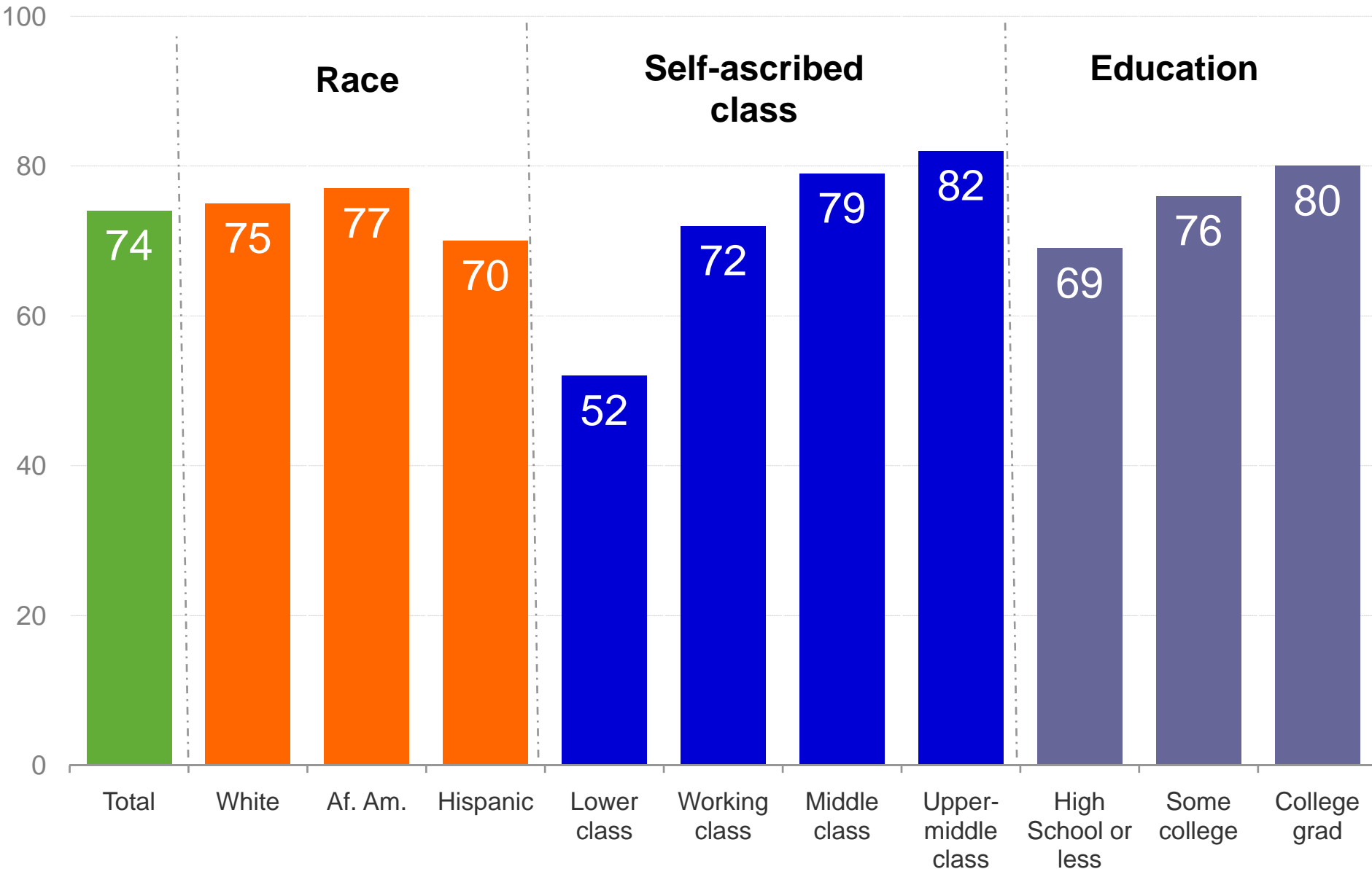
Confidence in Improved Economic Circumstances in Ten Years

Thinking about ten years from now, do you think your economic circumstances will be much better than they are now, somewhat better, somewhat worse, or much worse? Graph shows percent who responded much better or somewhat better.



Control of Individual Economic Situation

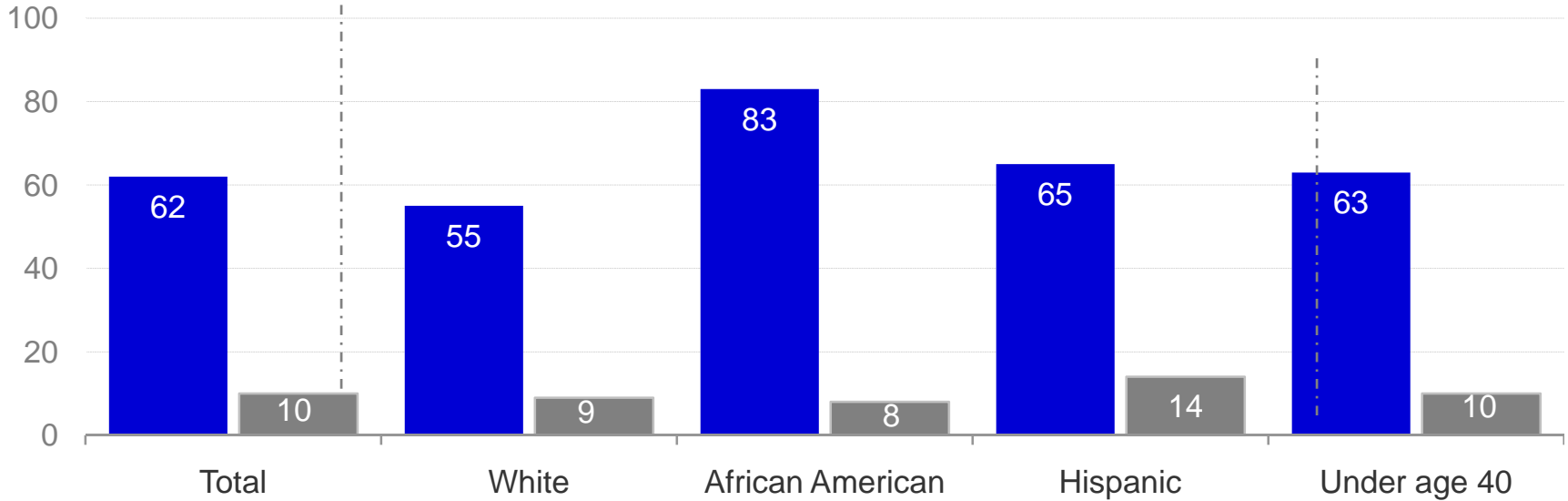
Thinking about your own personal economic situation today, do you feel you are very much in control, somewhat in control, not very much in control or not at all in control of your own personal economic situation? Graph shows percent who responded very much or somewhat in control.



Predictions Among Parents Different for Standard of Living and Moving Up Income Ladder

*When your children are the age you are now, do you think their **standard of living** will be better, worse or about the same as yours or people your age?*

■ Much/Somewhat better
■ Much/Somewhat worse



*Thinking about your own kids, do you think it will be easier or harder for them to **move up the income ladder**?*

■ Much/Somewhat easier
■ Much/Somewhat harder

