Survey of South African Voter Opinion

March 2024





Methodology



- Nationally representative phone survey of South Africa.
- Utilised random digit dialing (RDD) methodology.*
- Weighted to national statistics on gender, age and province.
- Only registered voters.
- N = 1506.
- Margin of Error: 3% at the 95% confidence interval.
- Fieldwork: 12-28 February 2024.
- 15-minute questionnaire.
- The results have been modelled on the basis of the 66% turnout of the last General Election in 2019.

2024 General Election

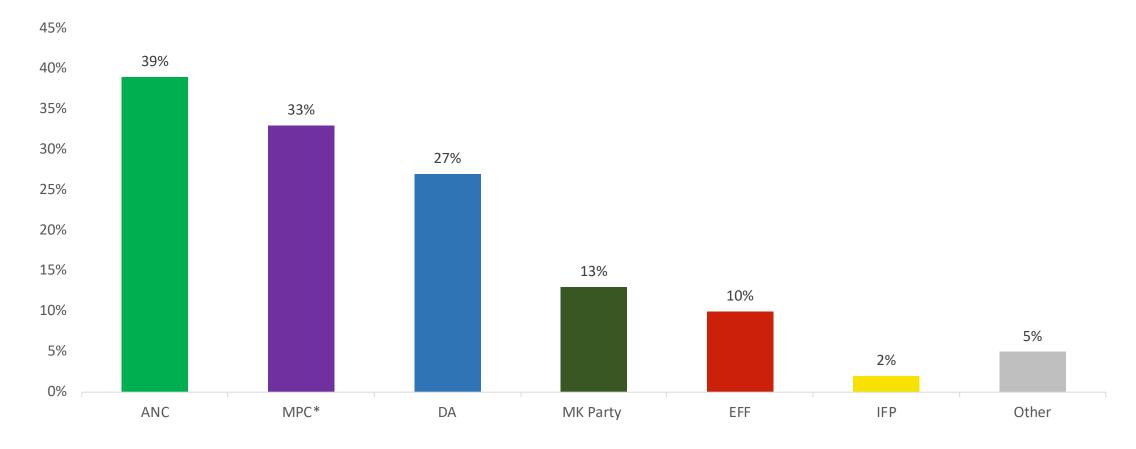




The ANC wins 39% of the vote, DA 27%, and MK Party 13%. The MPC* wins 33%



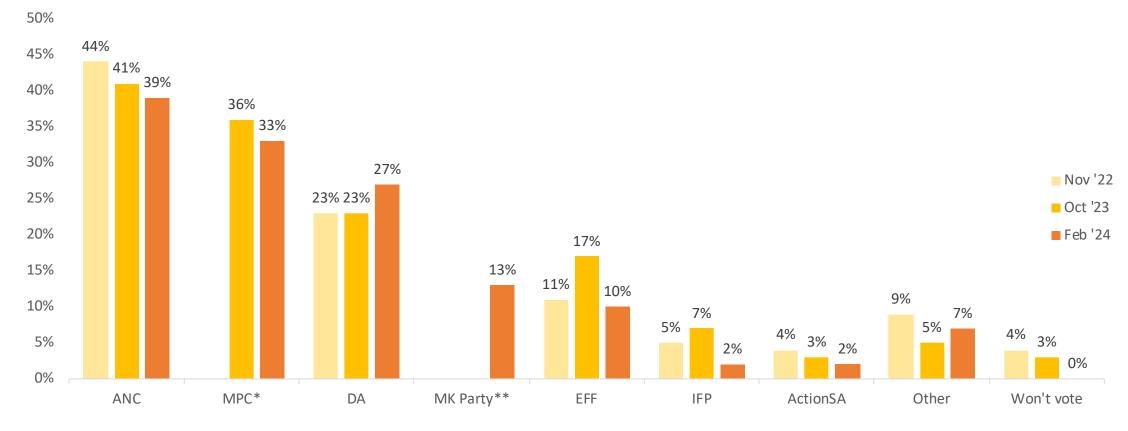




The DA is the only party to increase its share since last year







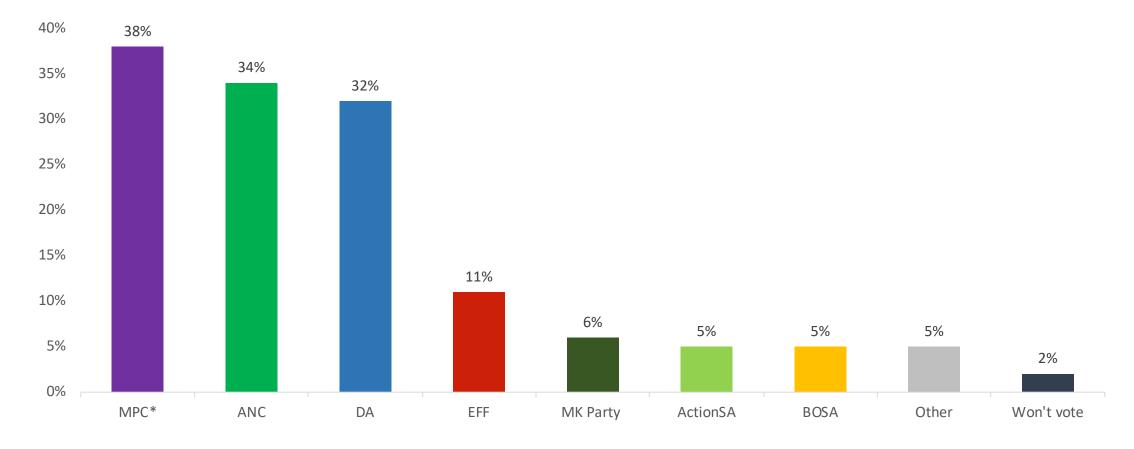
^{*} Pooling the votes of the DA, IFP, ASA, FF+, ACDP and others

^{**} MK Party was not tested in November 2022 and October 2023

In Gauteng, the MPC* is polling at 38% and the ANC at 34%



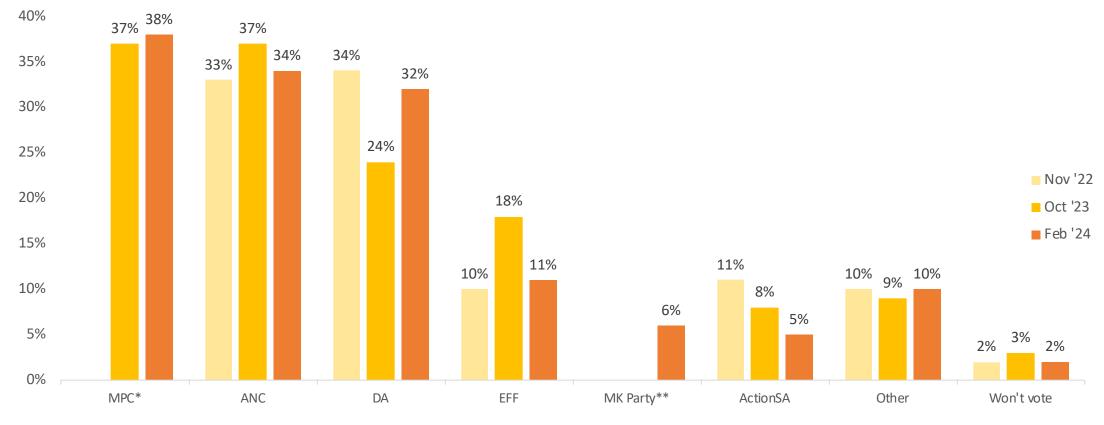




In Gauteng, the DA has gained eight points since October 2023 and the EFF has fallen by seven







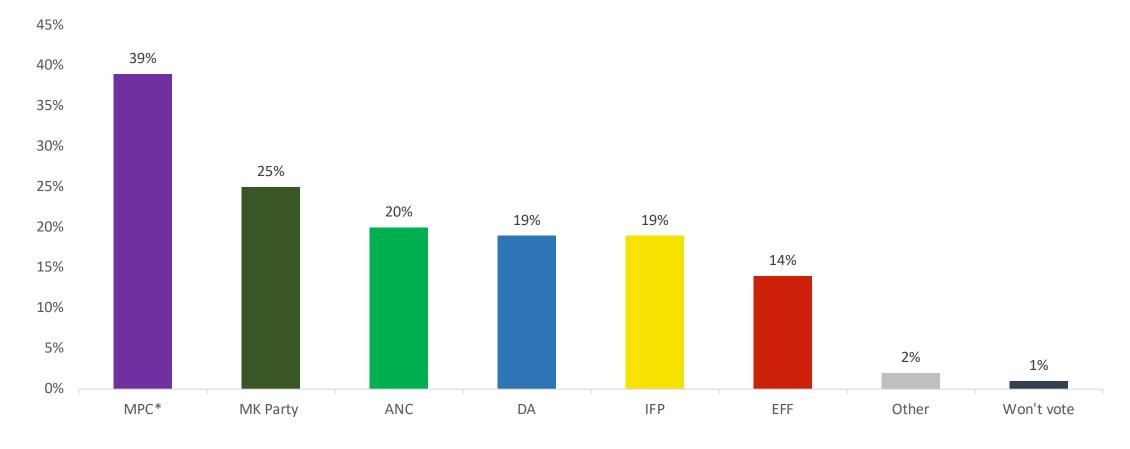
^{*} Pooling the votes of the DA, IFP, ASA, FF+, ACDP and others

^{**} MK Party was not tested in October 2023

In KZN, the MPC* is polling at 39% and MK Party at 25%



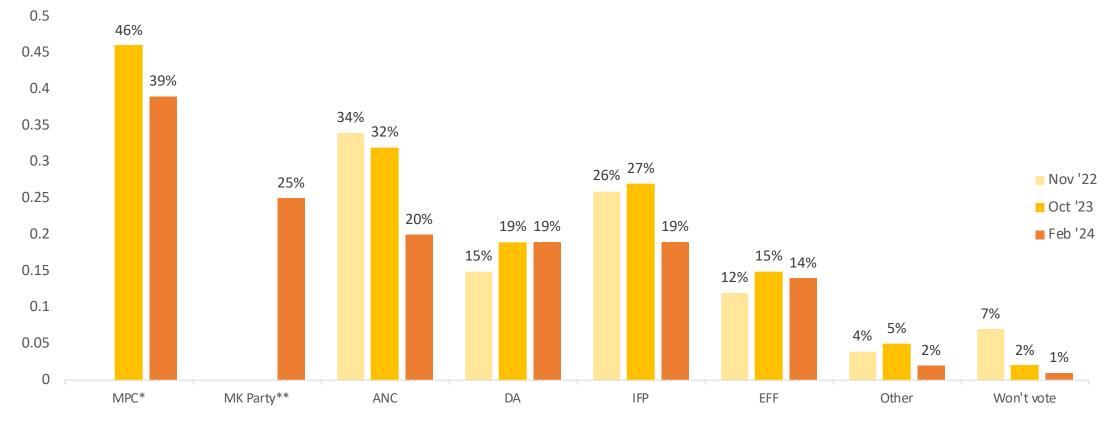




Between October 2023 and February 2024 in KZN the ANC dropped 12 points and the IFP eight







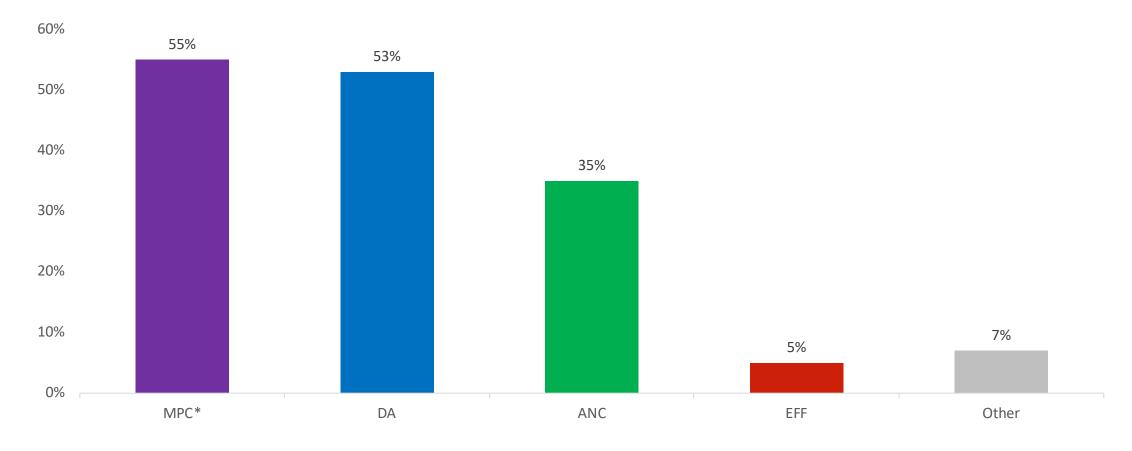
^{*} Pooling the votes of the DA, IFP, ASA, FF+, ACDP and others

^{**} MK Party was not tested in November 2022 or October 2023

In the Western Cape, the DA is polling at 53% and the ANC at 35%



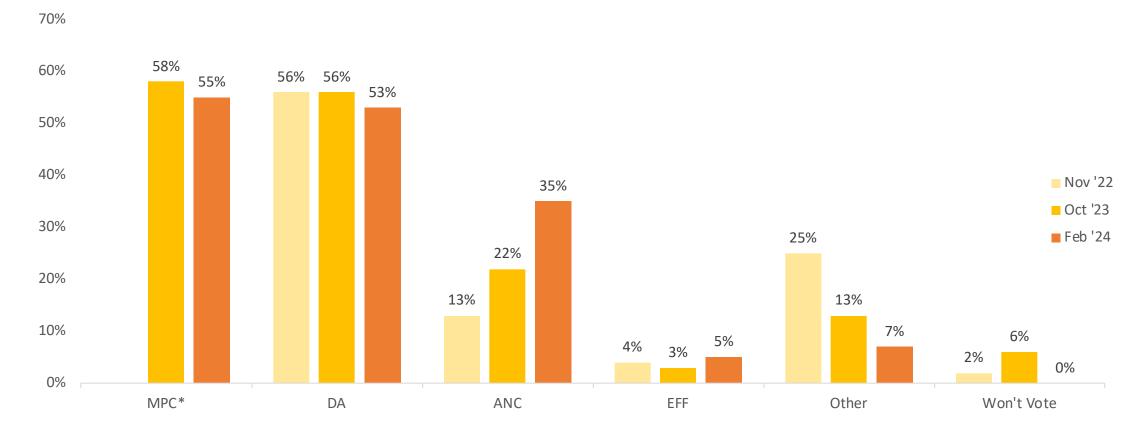




In the Western Cape, the ANC gained 13 points and the EFF gained two since October 2023, while the DA lost three







Governance



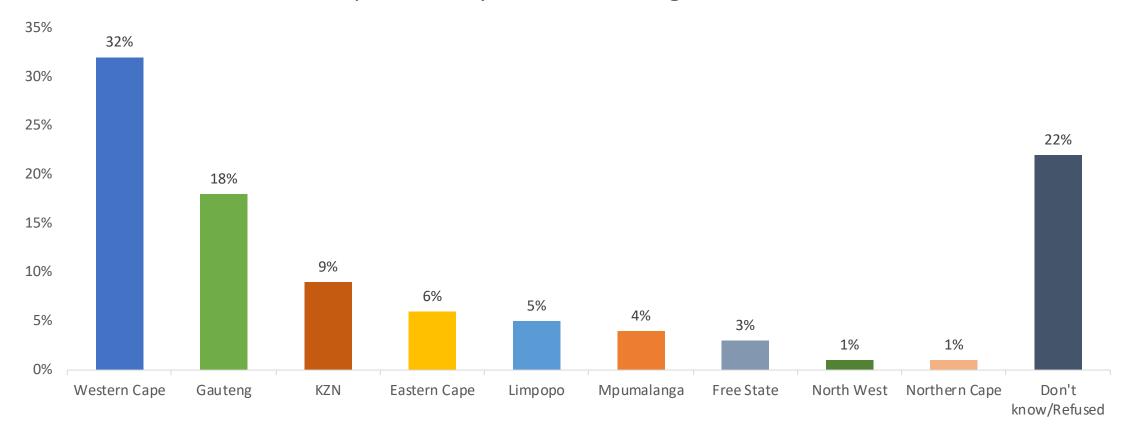


32% indicate that the Western Cape, where 12.5% of the population lives, is South Africa's best governed province





Which province do you believe is best governed?

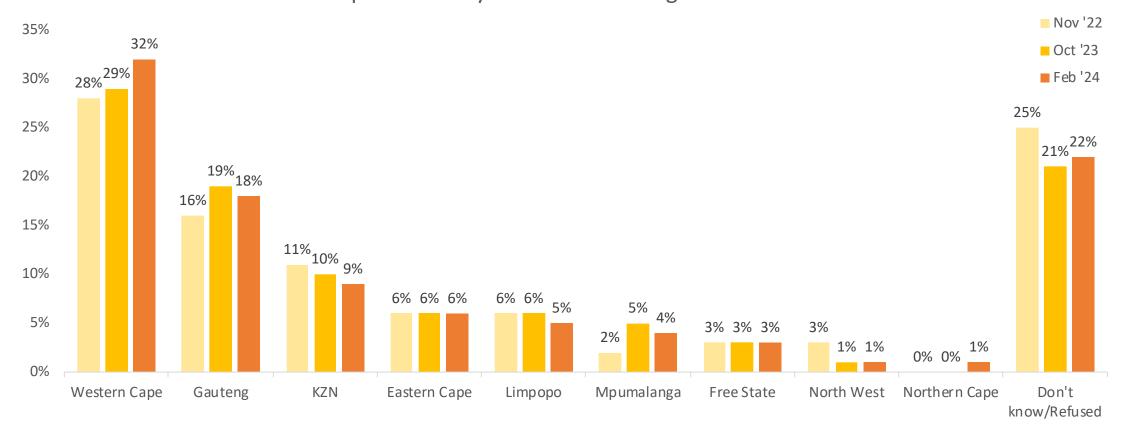


The Western Cape is the only province which more people believe is better governed since last year





Which province do you believe is best governed?

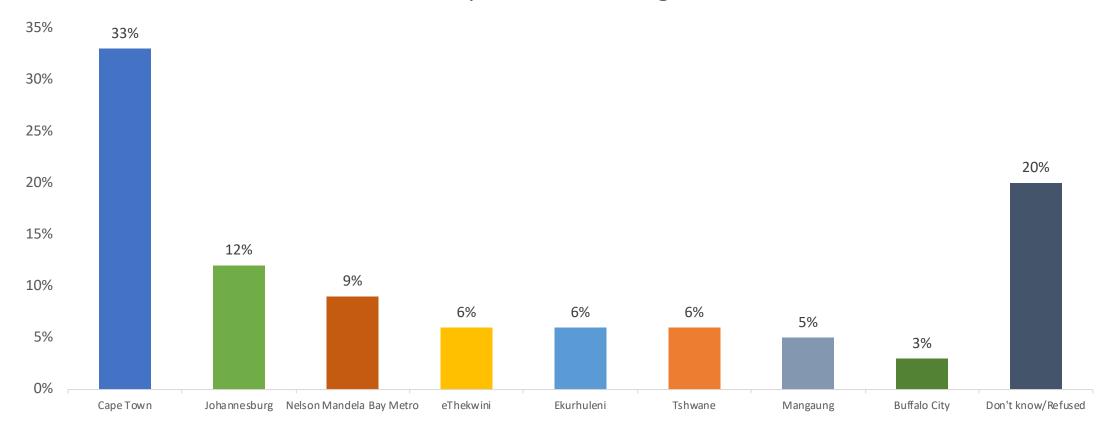


One third believe the City of Cape Town, where 8.1% of the SA population lives, is the country's best governed metro





Which metro do you believe is best governed?

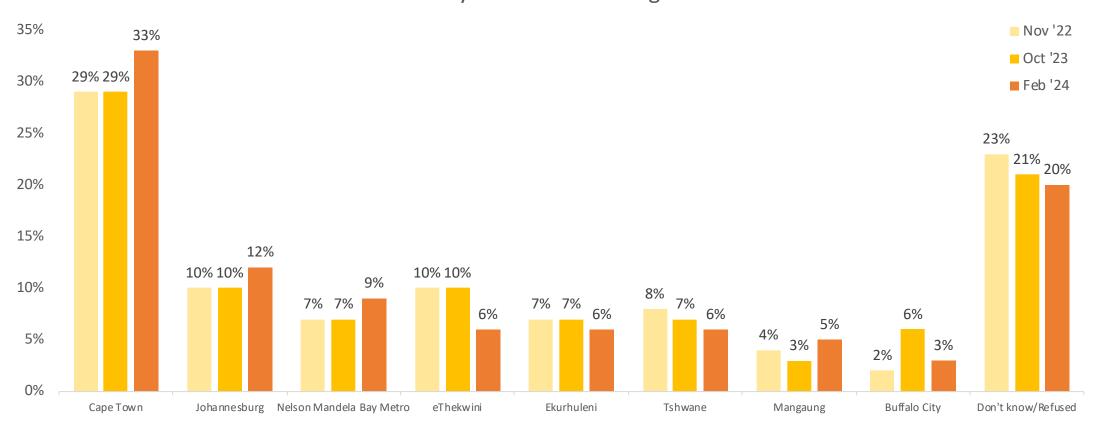


Cape Town's standing as the best governed metro continues to grow





Which metro do you believe is best governed?

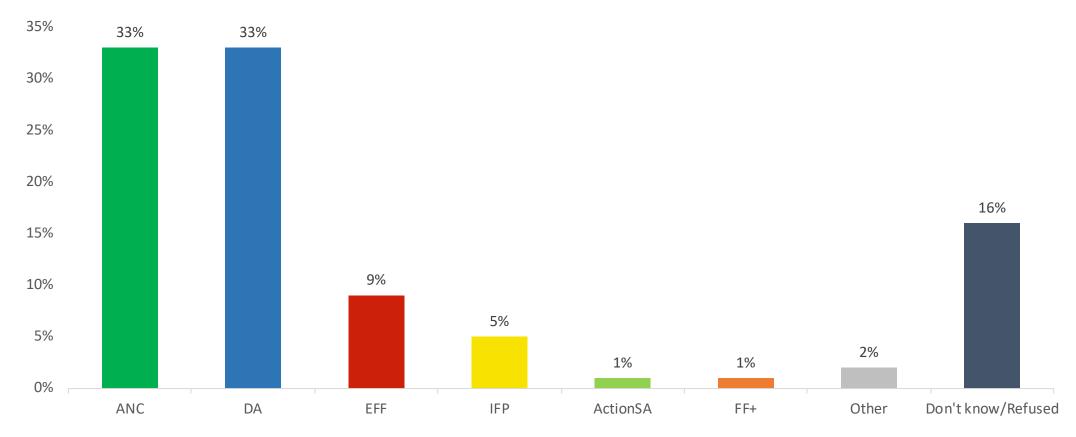


The DA's reputation at governing has climbed to equal that of the ANC





Which party do you believe is the most effective at governing?

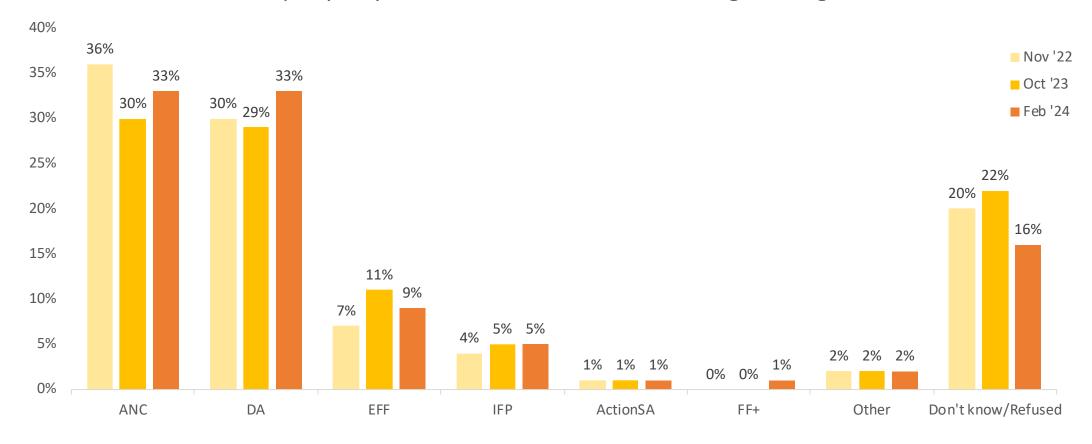


Both the DA and ANC have improved their standing as the most effective parties at governing since last year





Which party do you believe is the most effective at governing?



Favourabilities



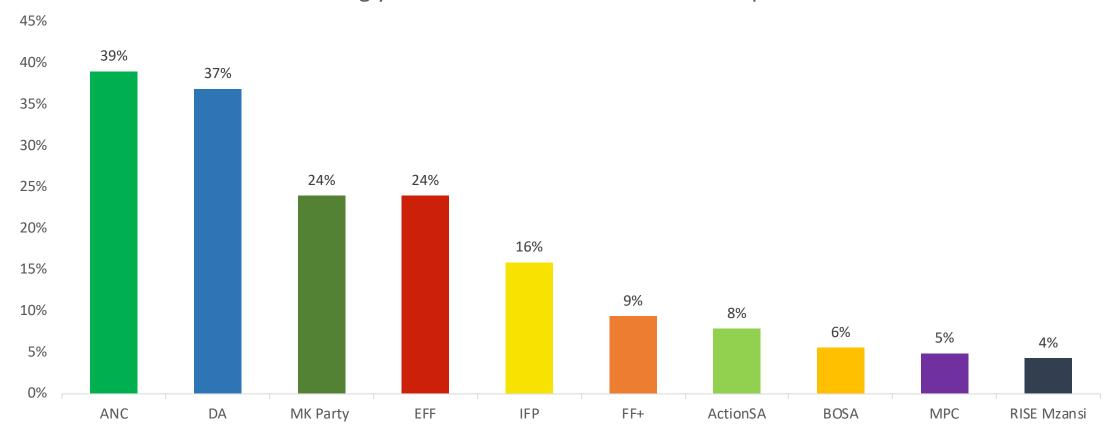


The ANC (39%) and the DA (37%) are viewed the most favourably





Strongly and somewhat favourable: Political parties

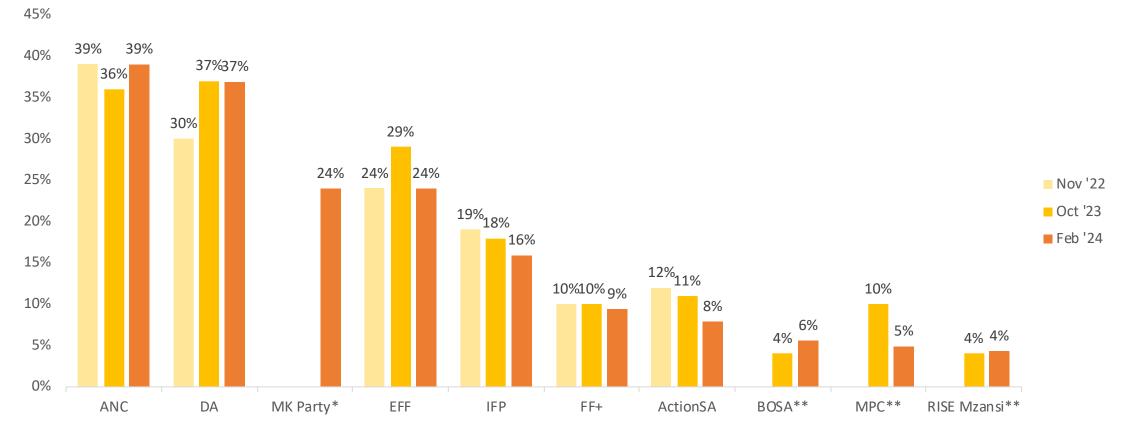


The EFF and MPC dropped five points in positive favourability compared to last year, while the ANC gained three points





Strongly and somewhat favourable: Political parties



^{*}MK Party was not tested in October 2023

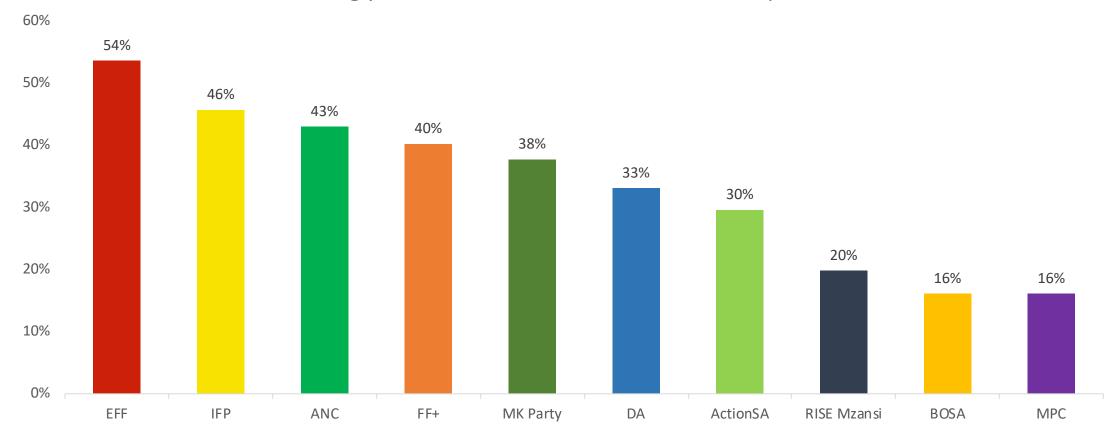
^{**}Parties not tested in November 2022

The EFF is viewed the most unfavourably amongst those tested





Strongly and somewhat unfavourable: Political parties

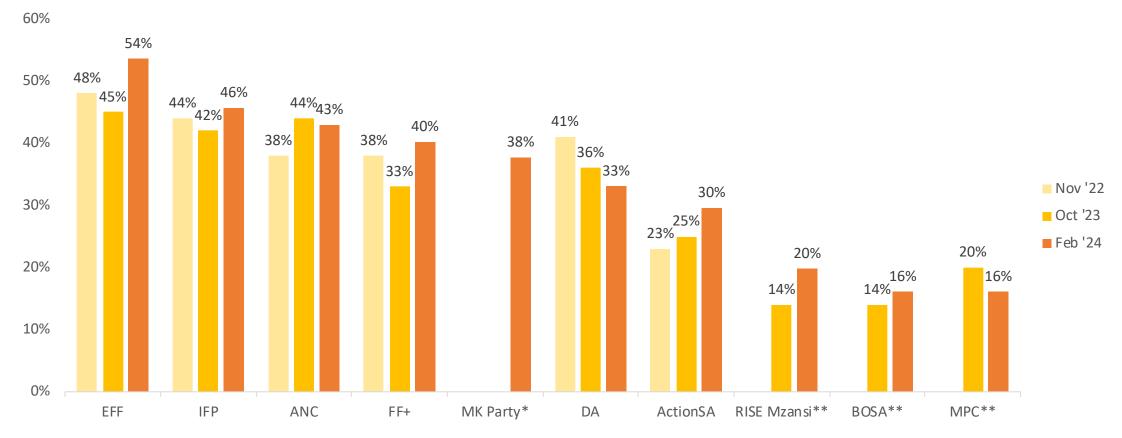


The EFF, FF+ and ActionSA are viewed more unfavourably than last year





Strongly and somewhat unfavourable: Political parties



^{*}MK Party was not tested in October 2023

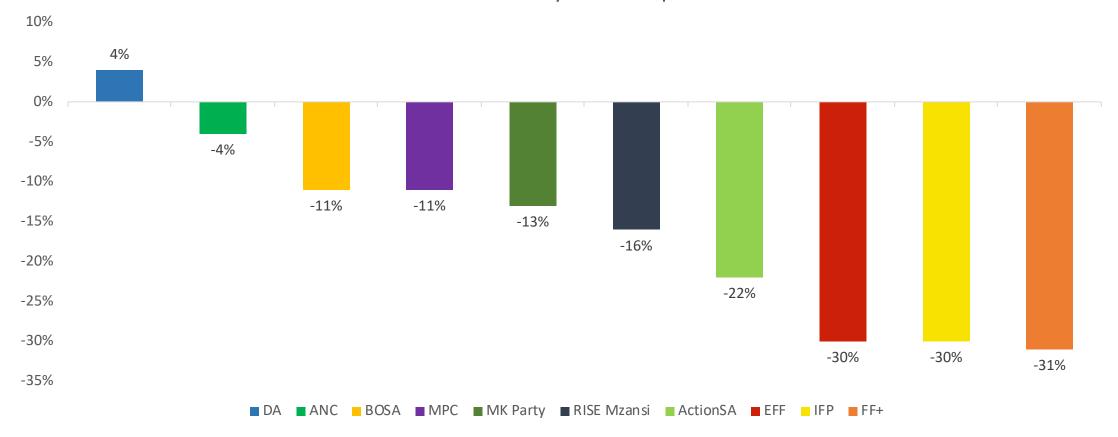
^{**}Parties not tested in November 2022

The DA rises to score the highest net favourability (4%), with the EFF (-30%), IFP (-30%) and FF+ (-31%) all scoring the lowest







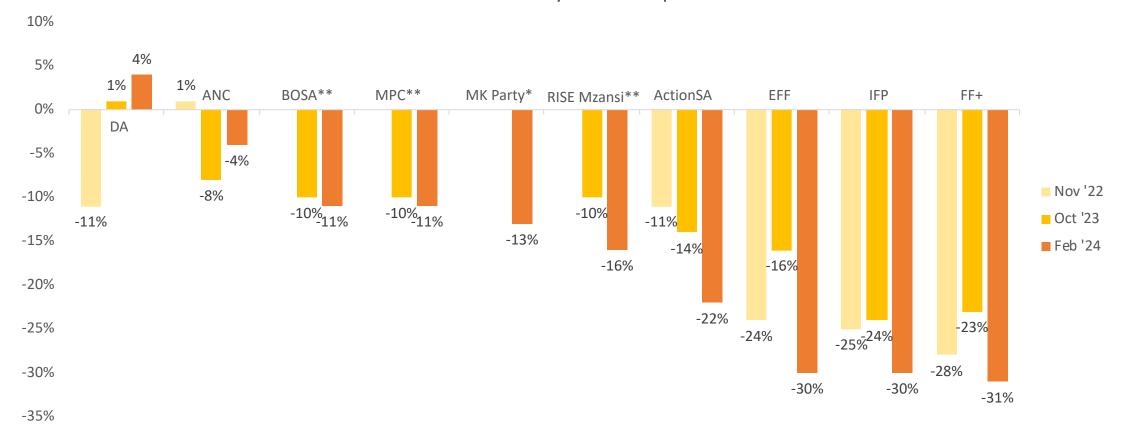


The DA's net favourability has increased by 15 points since November 2022, while the ANC has dropped by five points





Net favourability: Political parties



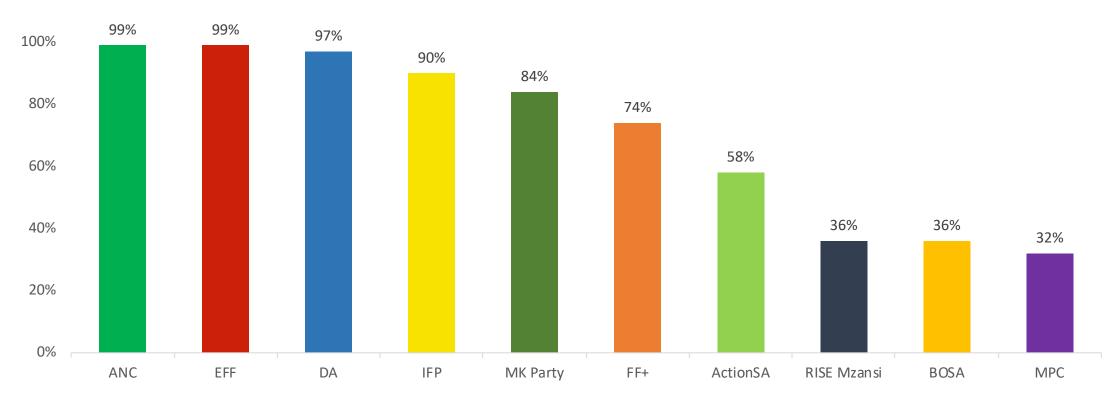
^{*}MK Party was not tested in October 2023

^{**}Parties not tested in November 2022

The ANC, EFF and DA score the highest in name recognition, while the MPC* scores the lowest



Familiarity: Political parties



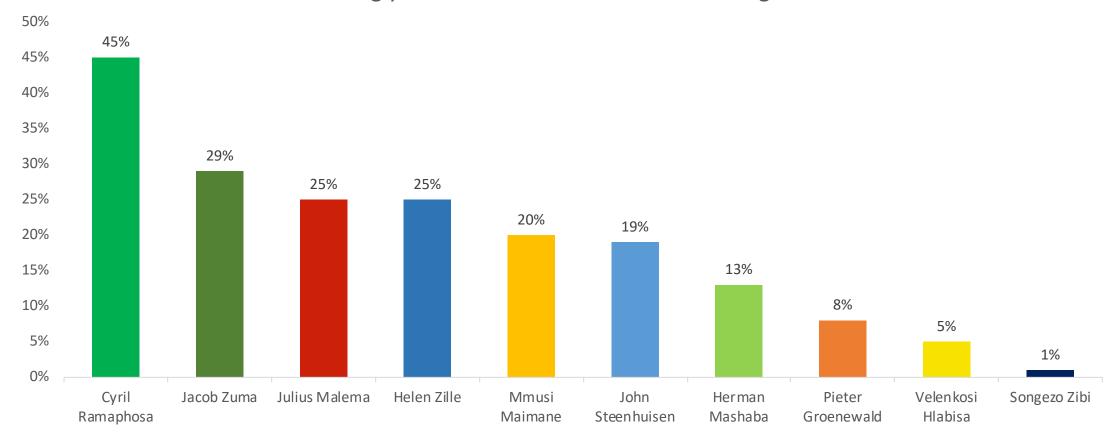
^{*}A coalition of opposition parties led by the DA, IFP and ActionSA

Cyril Ramaphosa enjoys the highest positive favourability rating of politicians tested, followed by Jacob Zuma





Strongly and somewhat favourable: Public figures

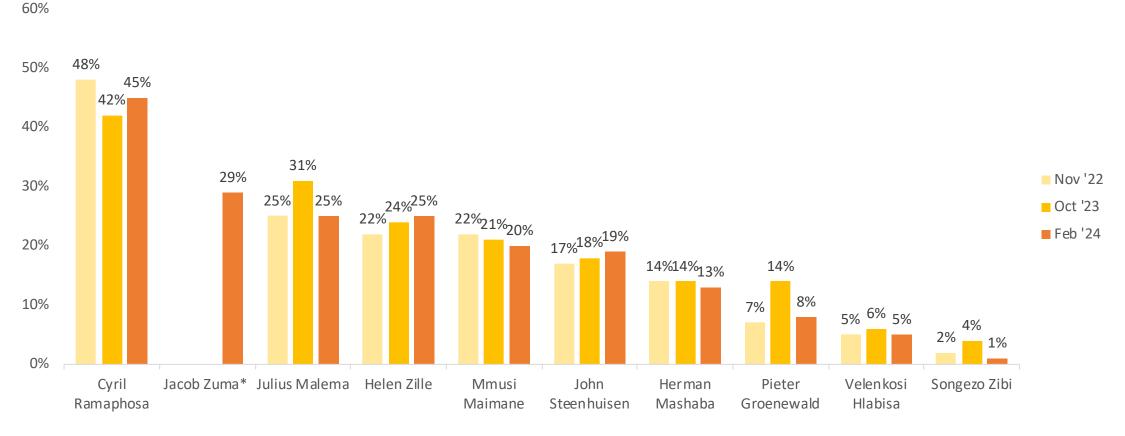


Julius Malema dropped six points in positive favourability compared to last year, while Cyril Ramaphosa gained three points





Strongly and somewhat favourable: Public figures

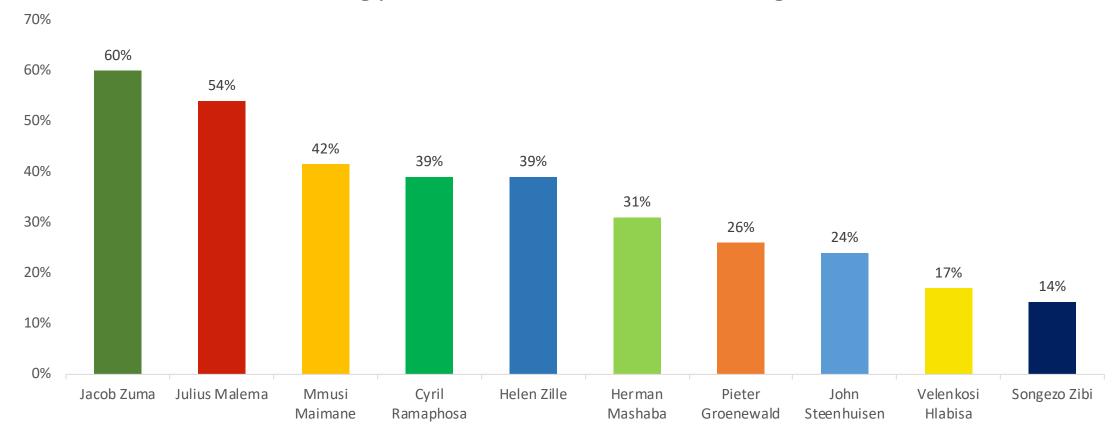


Jacob Zuma is viewed most unfavourably amongst politicians tested, followed by Julius Malema





Strongly and somewhat unfavourable: Public figures

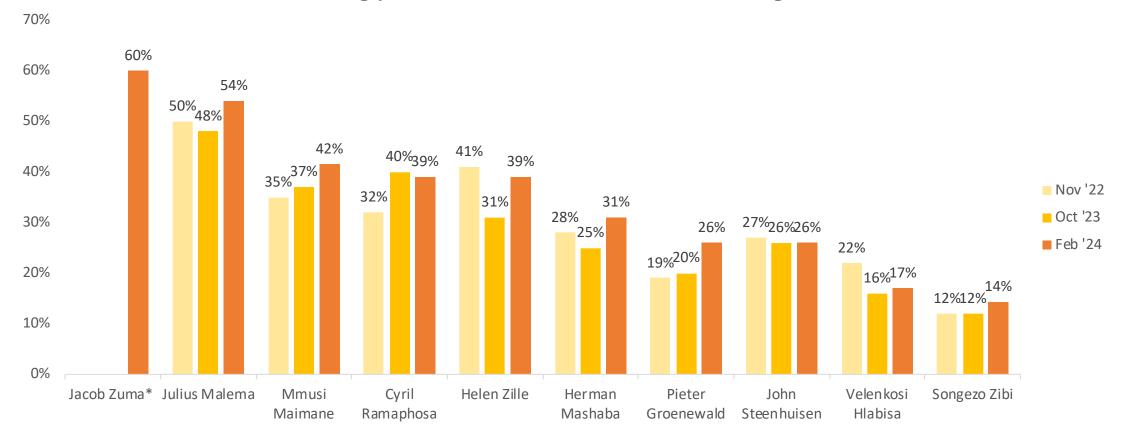


Julius Malema, Mmusi Maimane, Helen Zille, Herman Mashaba and Pieter Groenewald are all viewed more unfavourably than last year





Strongly and somewhat unfavourable: Public figures

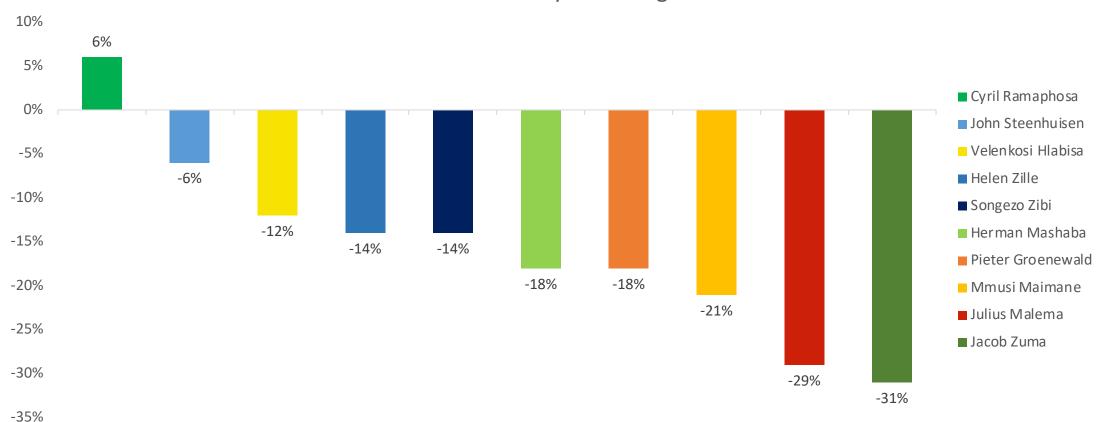


Cyril Ramaphosa scored the highest net favourability (6%) just ahead of John Steenhuisen (-6%), with Jacob Zuma the lowest (-31%)







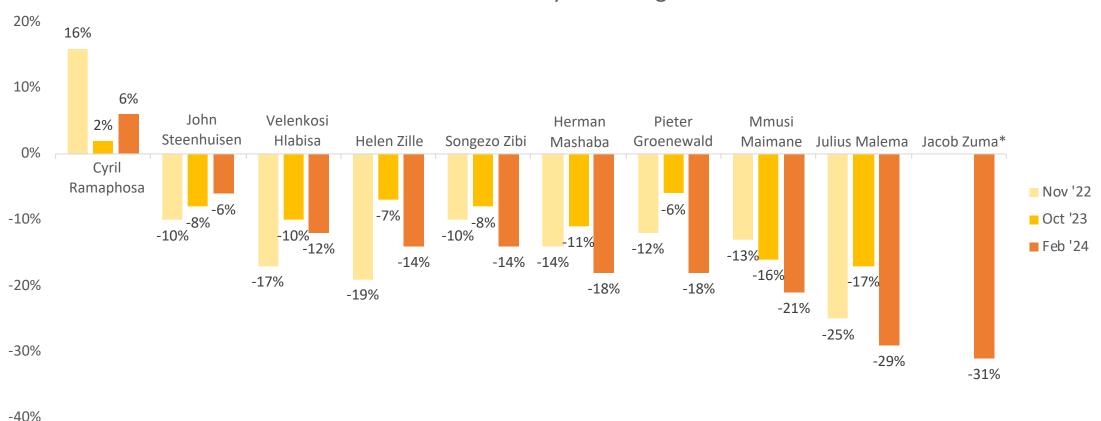


John Steenhuisen's net favourability has steadily increased since 2022, while that of many, including Cyril Ramaphosa, Mmusi Maimane and Julius Malema, has fallen





Net favourability: Public figures

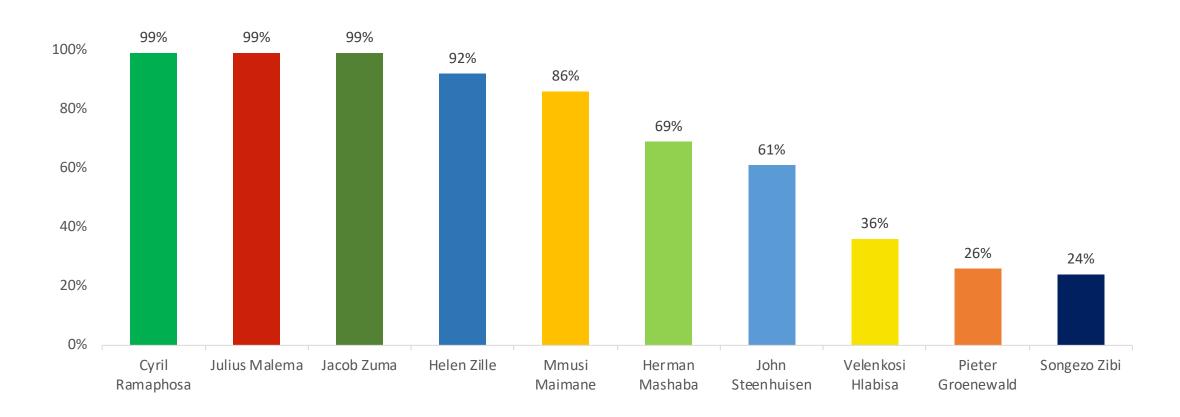


Cyril Ramaphosa, Julius Malema and Jacob Zuma have the most recognised names





Familiarity: Public figures



Issues



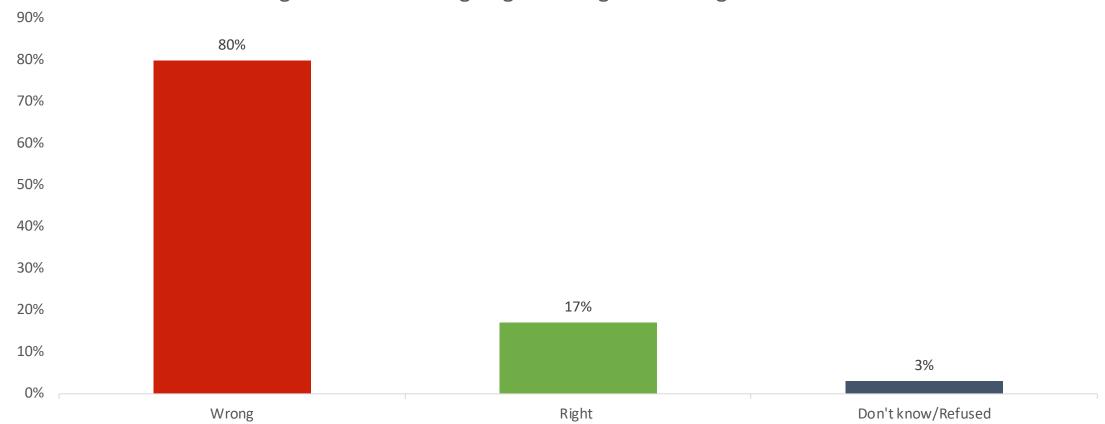


Four in five respondents believe South Africa is heading in the wrong direction







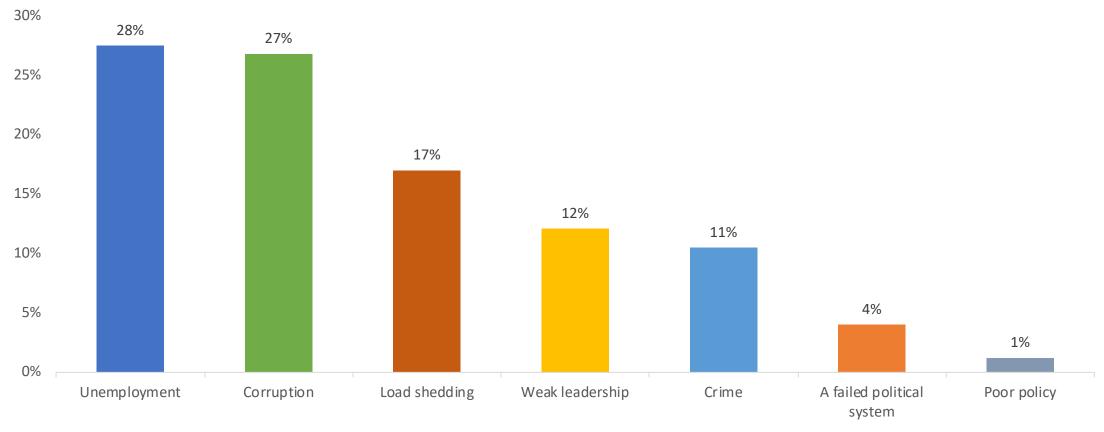


Unemployment (28%) and corruption (27%) are cited as South Africa's biggest problems





What do you think is the biggest problem facing South Africa right now?

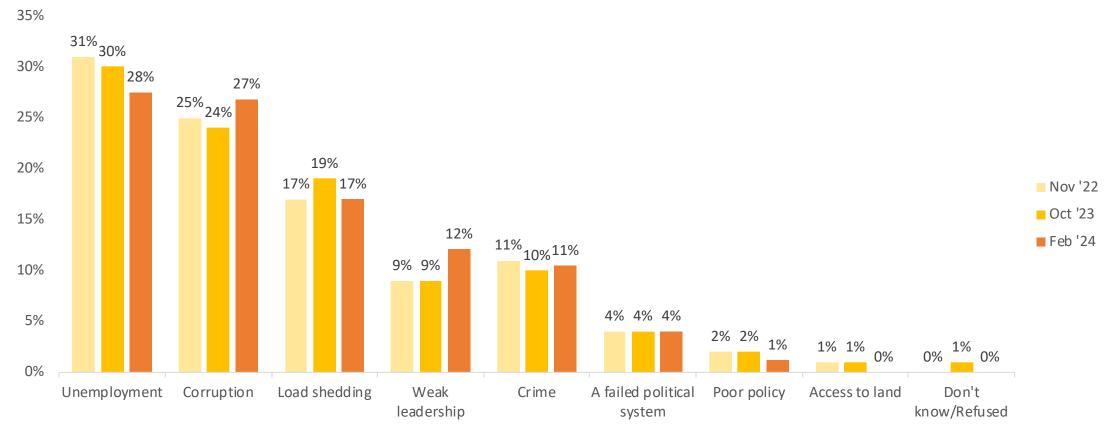


Weak leadership has overtaken crime as one of the country's top four problems, while concern about corruption rises





What do you think is the biggest problem facing South Africa right now?

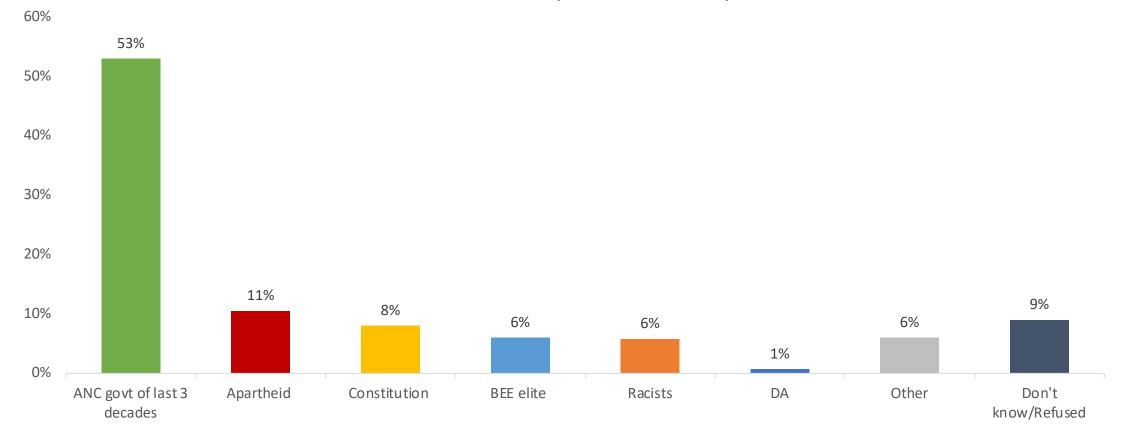


Over half of respondents believe the ANC government of the last three decades is to blame for the country's problems







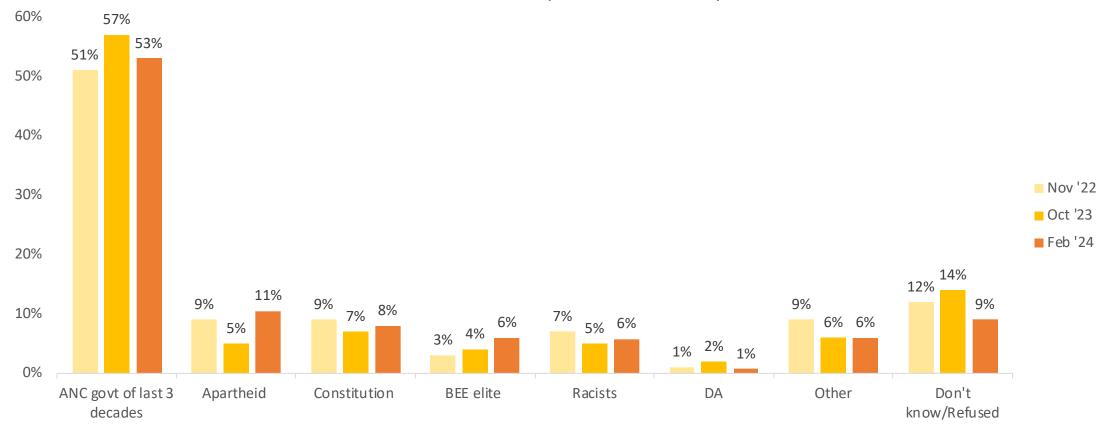


The ANC government has consistently been held responsible for the country's problems









Coalitions



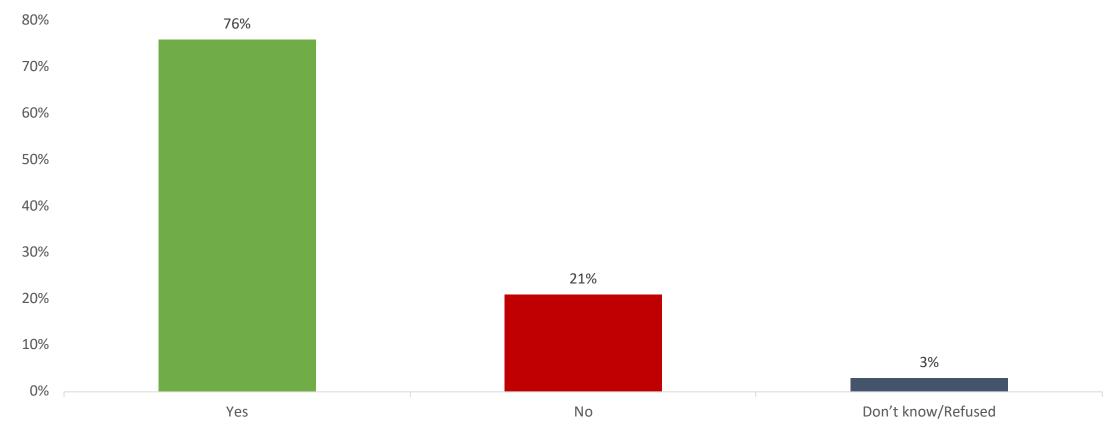


Over three-quarters of respondents would be happy to see a coalition govern South Africa







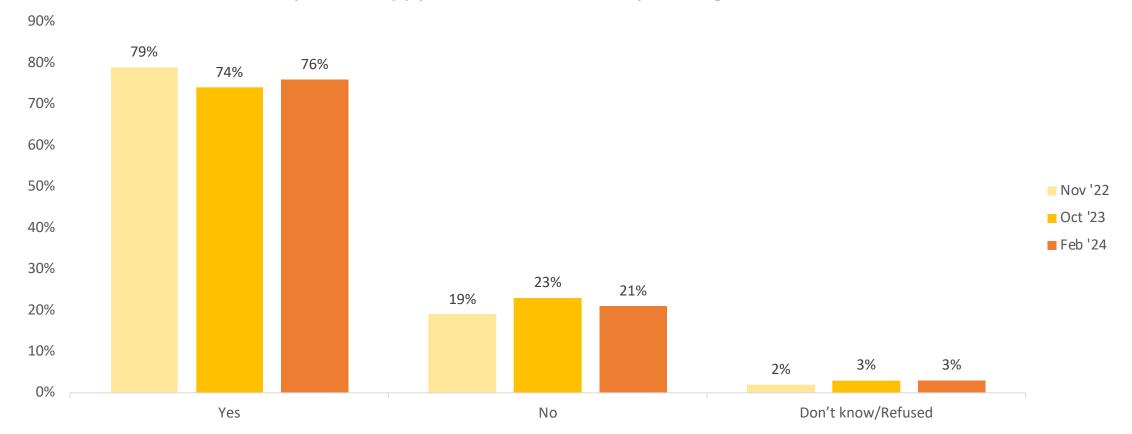


There has been consistent support for a coalition government since November 2022





Would you be happy to see a coalition of parties govern South Africa?

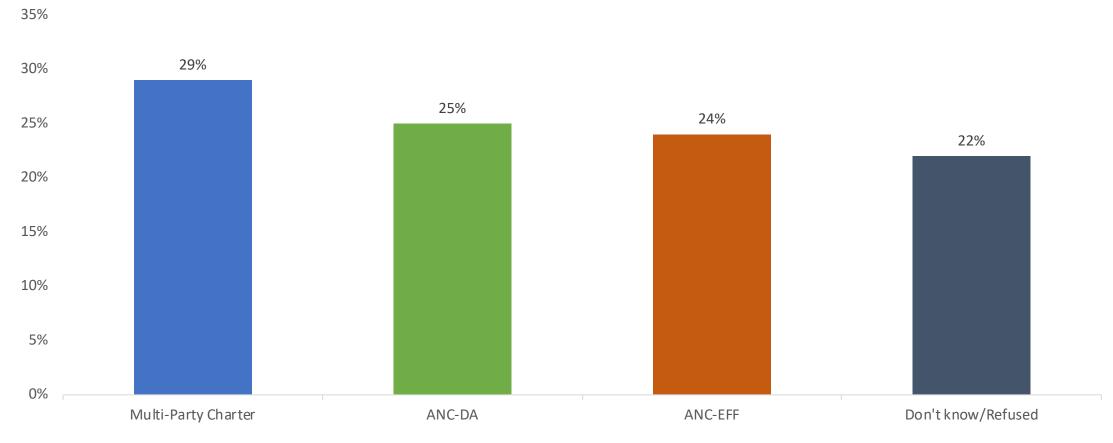


The Multi Party Charter (MPC)* is favoured over other options









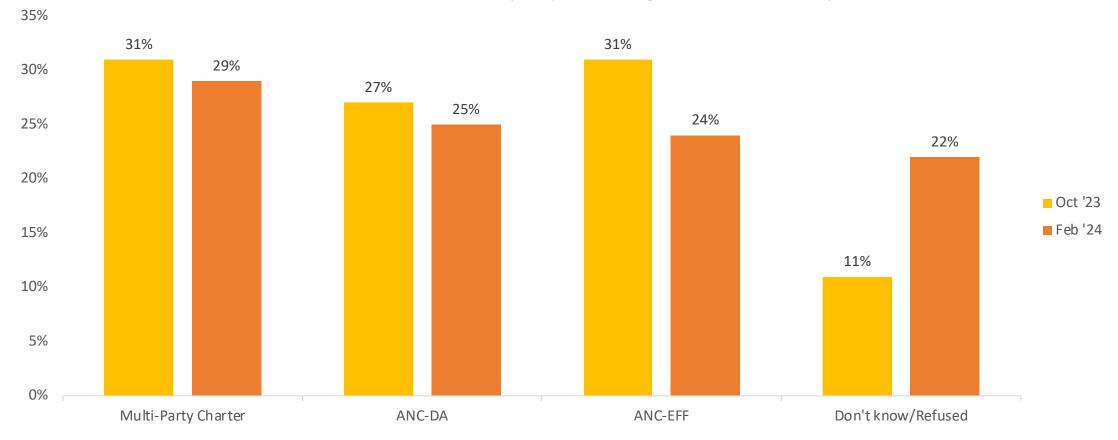
^{*}A coalition of opposition parties led by the DA, IFP and ActionSA

Preference for an ANC-EFF coalition has dropped seven points since October 2022





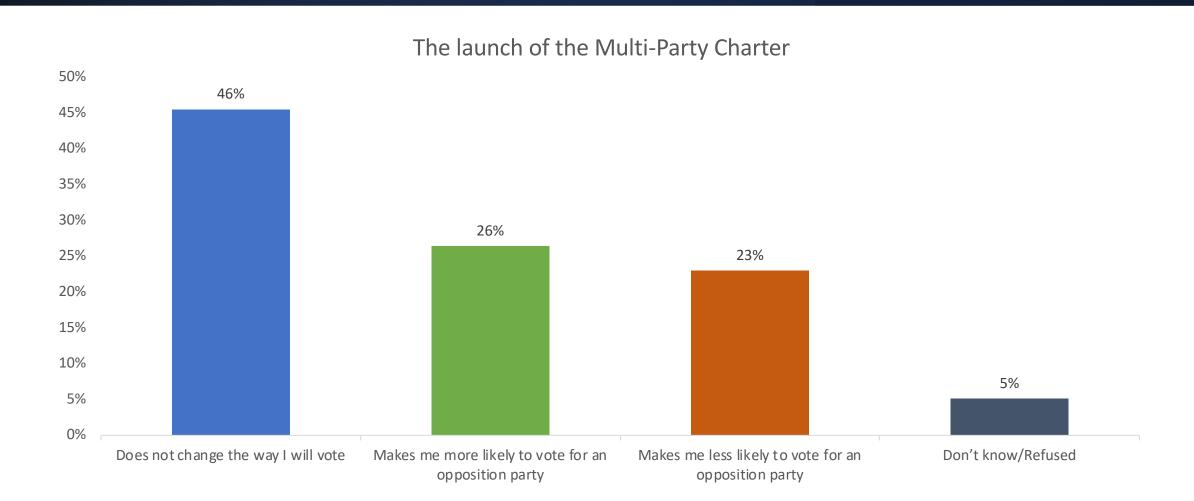
Which coalition would you prefer to govern the country?



Over a quarter of South Africans are more likely to vote for the opposition since the MPC's launch







Foreign Policy



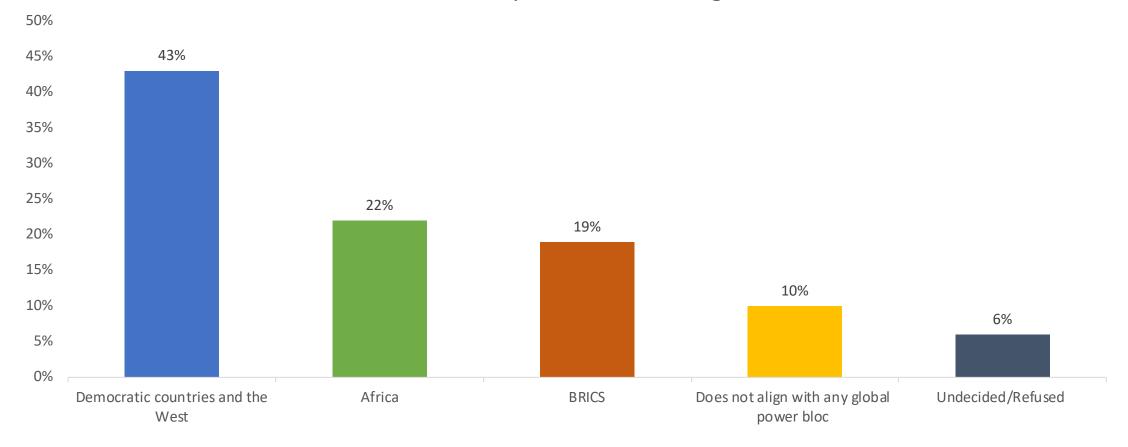


Respondents overwhelmingly favour the West and other democratic countries over BRICS





South Africa's economy will do best if it aligns itself with

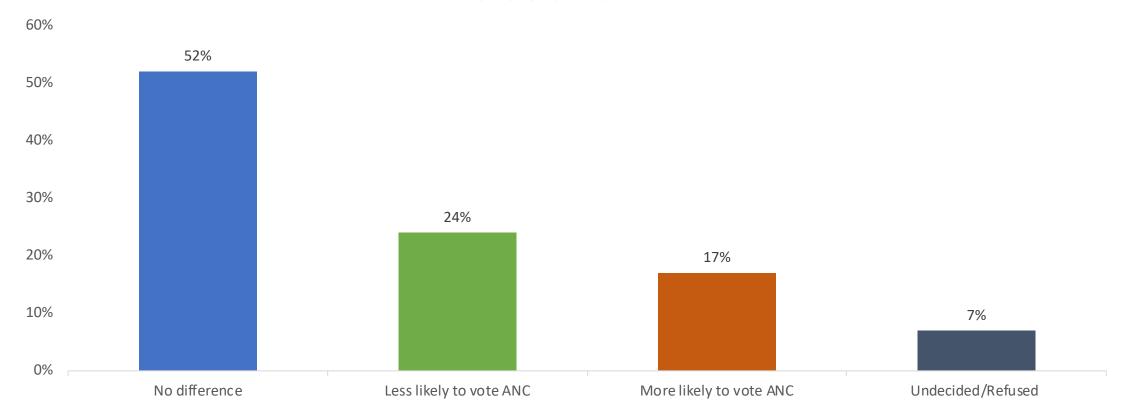


The ANC's stance on the Russia/Ukraine conflict is alienating one quarter of voters





Does South Africa's policy on the Russia/Ukraine conflict make you more or less likely to vote for the ANC?

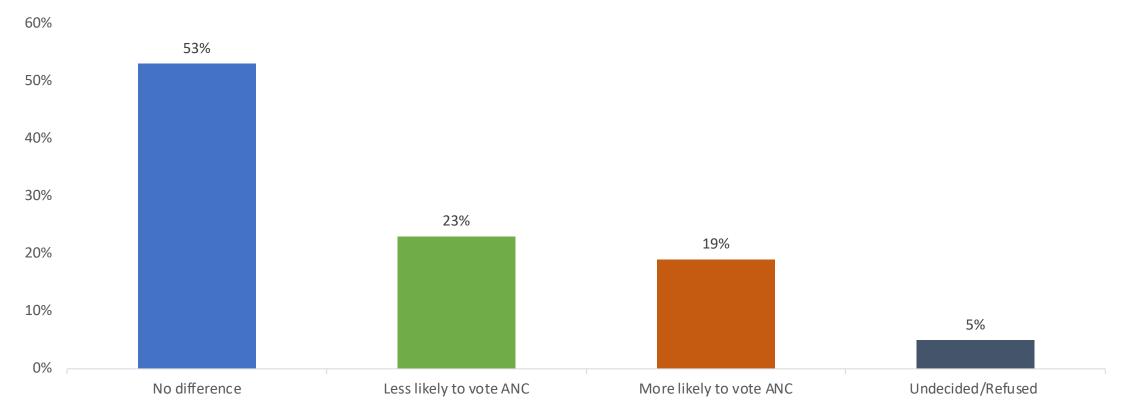


23% of voters are less likely to vote for the ANC given its stance on the Israel/Hamas conflict





Does South Africa's policy on the Israel/Hamas conflict make you more or less likely to vote for the ANC?

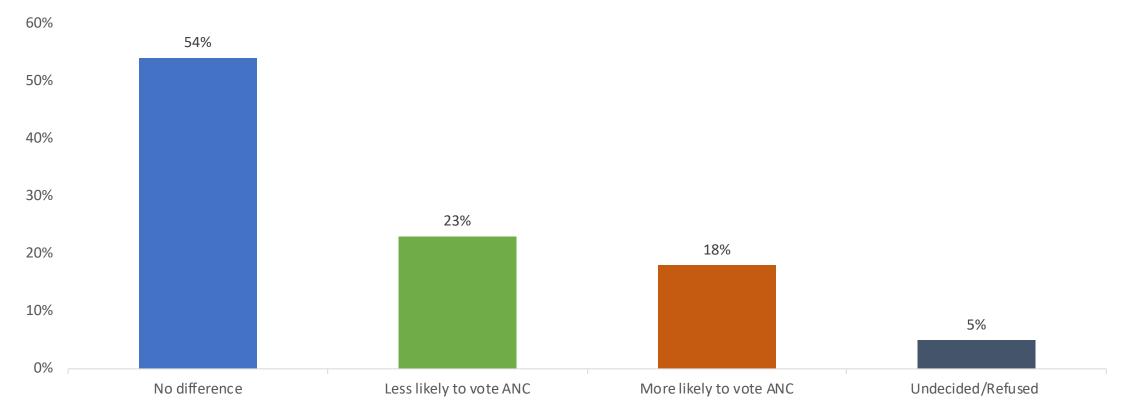


The ANC's Zimbabwe policy will cost it more votes than it gains





Does South Africa's policy on Zimbabwe make you more or less likely to vote for the ANC?

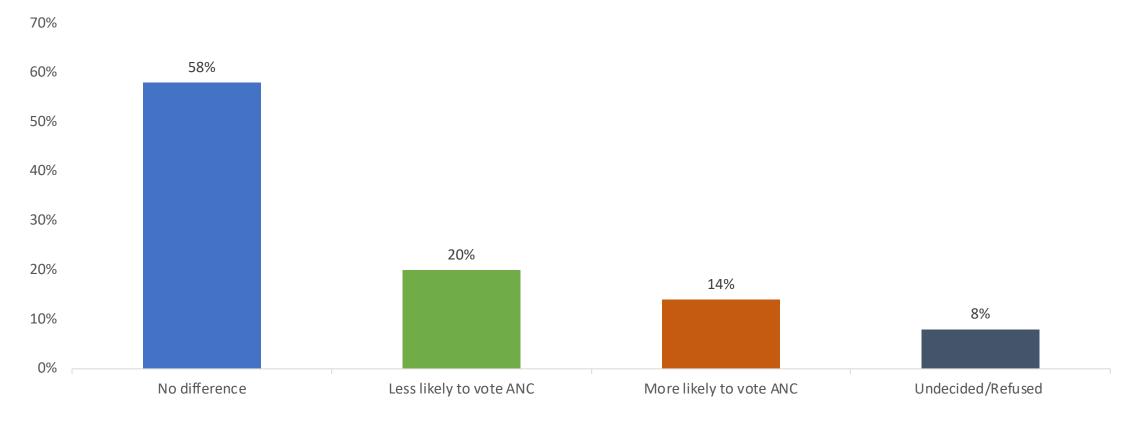


The ANC's stance on Sudan is also not popular with voters





Does South Africa's policy on the Sudan conflict make you more or less likely to vote for the ANC?



Domestic Policy



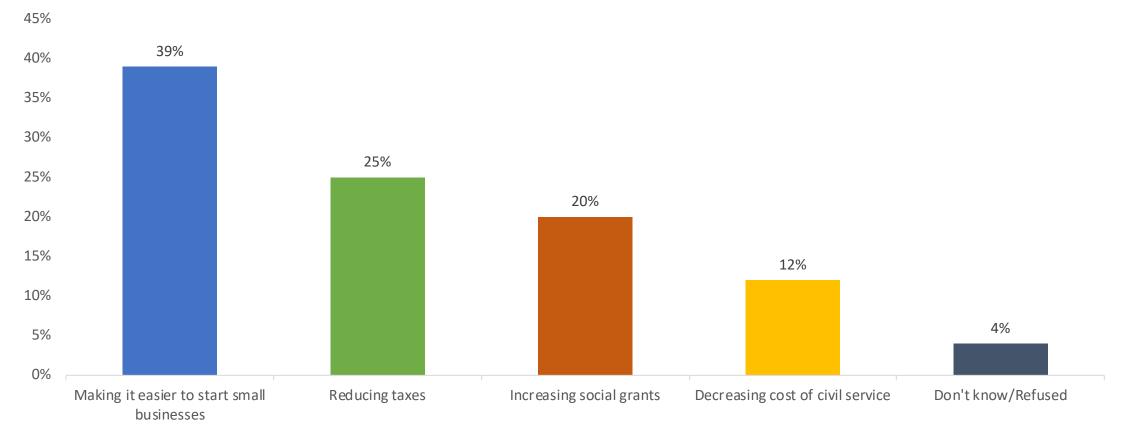


South Africans favour small business as the route to wealth creation





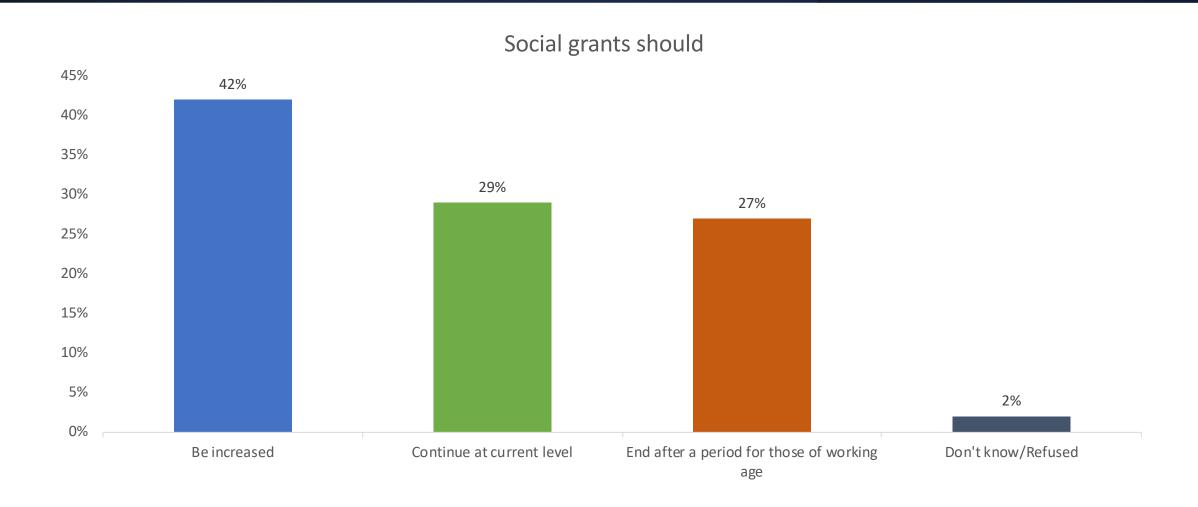
The best way for the government to put more money in people's pockets is by



Most South Africans believe social grants should be increased





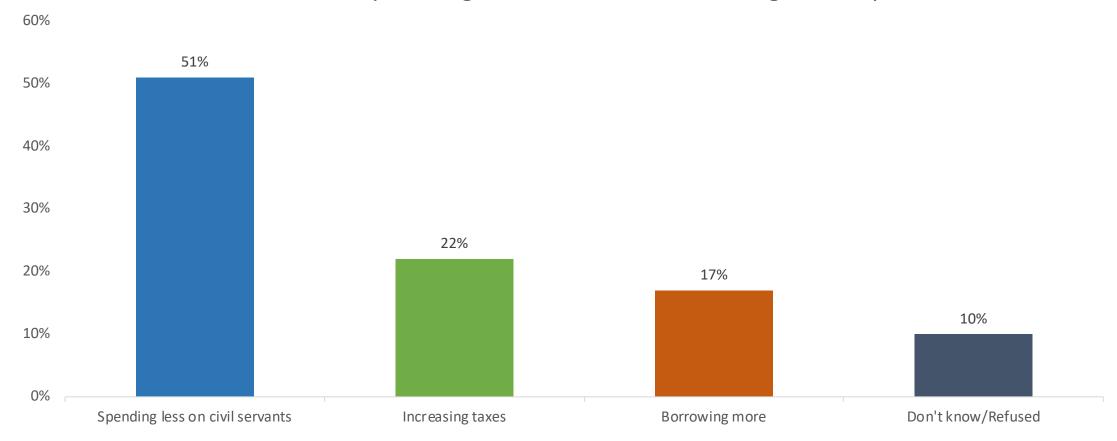


Social grant increases should be funded by cutting spending on civil servants





The best way for the government to increase social grants is by



More South Africans favour cutting civil servant numbers than their salaries and perks





The best way for the government to decrease the cost of the civil service is by

