

# A Major Shift in the Political Landscape

Results from the April 2012 National Survey

# Methodology

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## National Survey

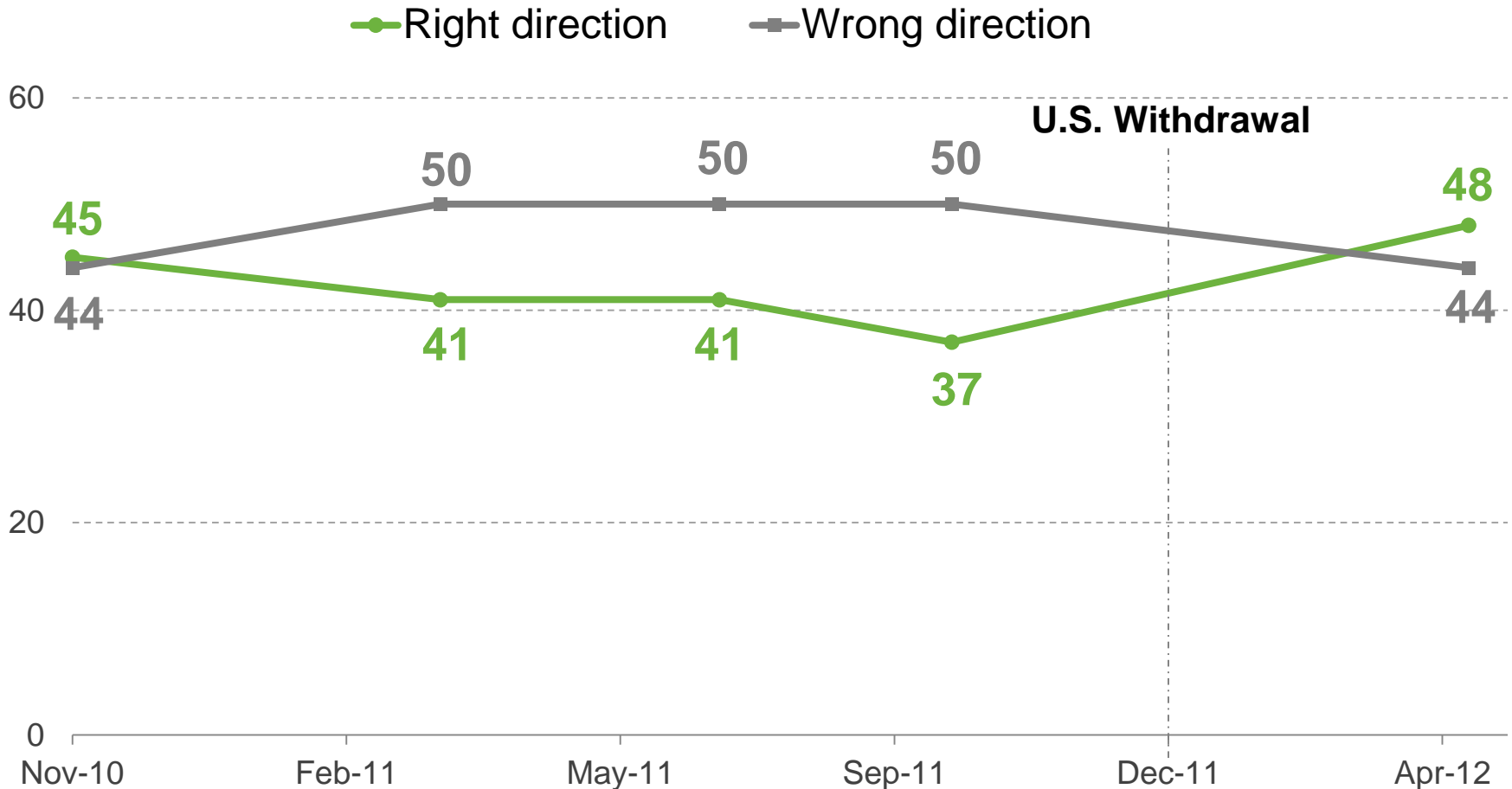
- April 2 – 20, 2012
- 2,000 national face-to-face interviews: 500 interviews in each of the following regions: Baghdad, South, West, and North – national results weighted representatively
- Margin of error +/- 2.2 percent on full sample, +/- 4.4 percent on regional samples; +/- 2.9 on total Non-North sample

# Shift in Country Mood Benefits Maliki

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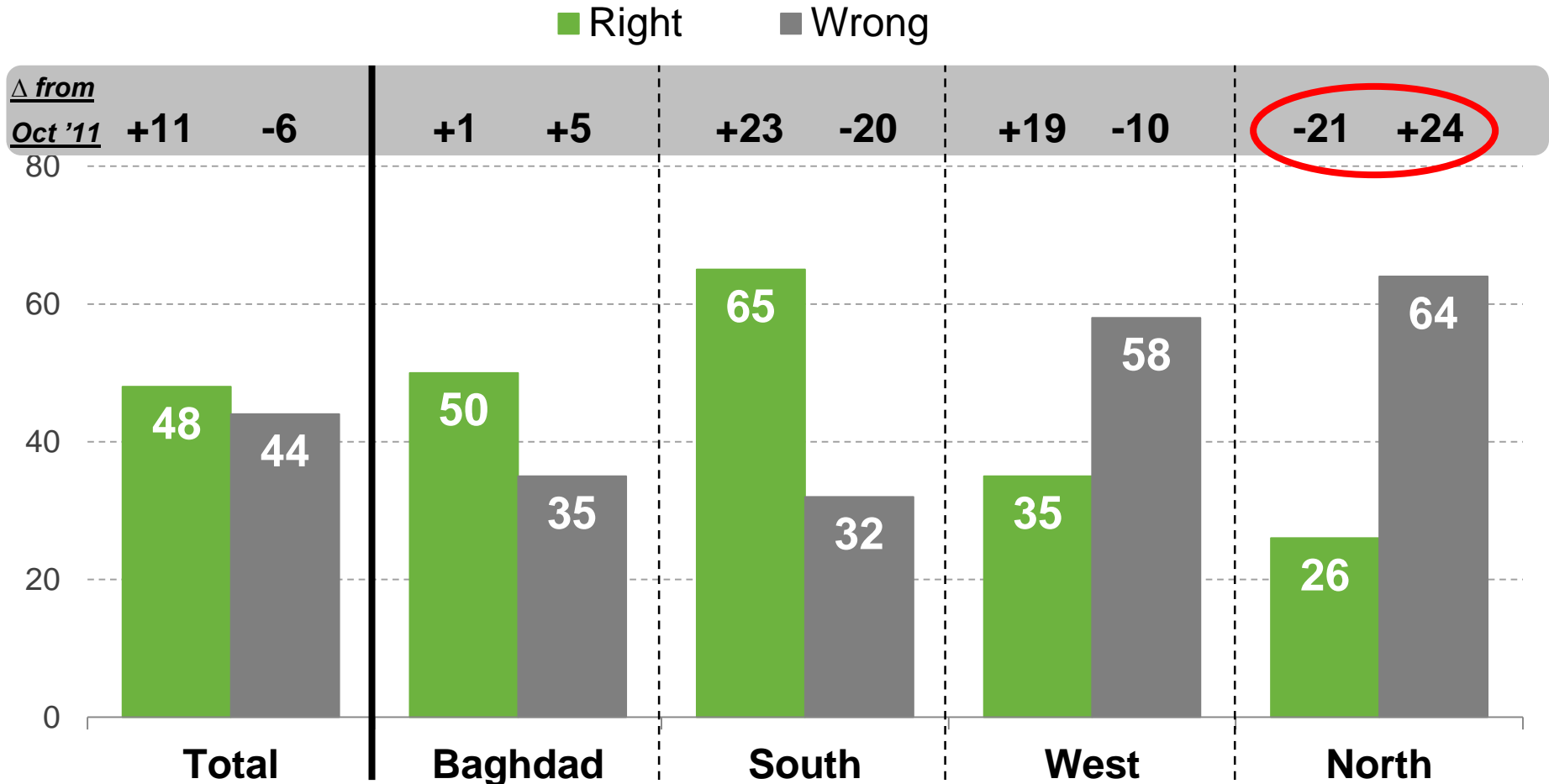
# A significant positive shift in the country mood

*Generally speaking, do you think that things in Iraq are going in the right direction, or do you feel things are going in the wrong direction?*



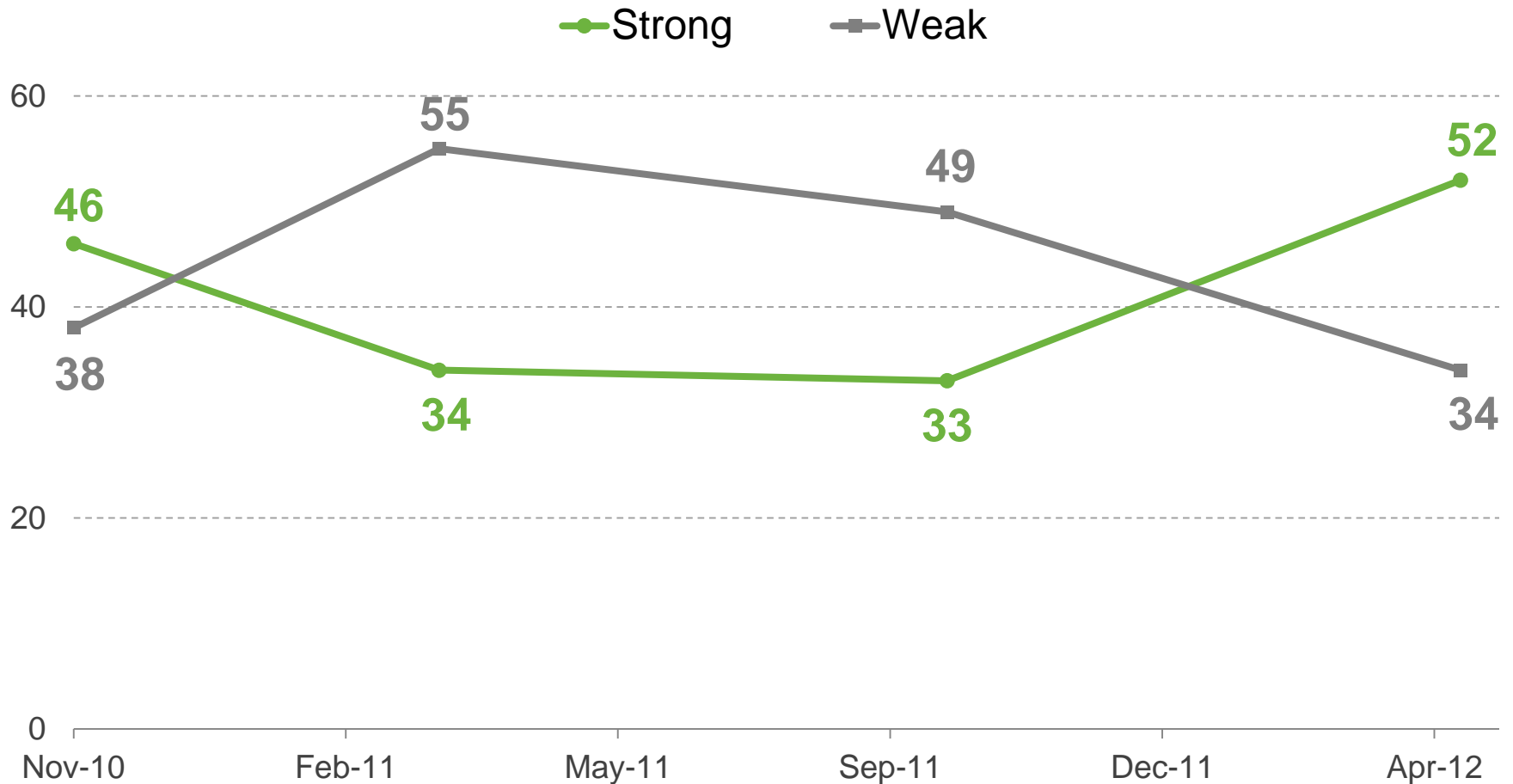
# Only North sees a drop in right direction

*Generally speaking, do you think that things in Iraq are going in the right direction, or do you feel things are going in the wrong direction?*



# Perceptions of an improving economy help positive mood

*Would you say Iraq's economy right now is strong or weak?*

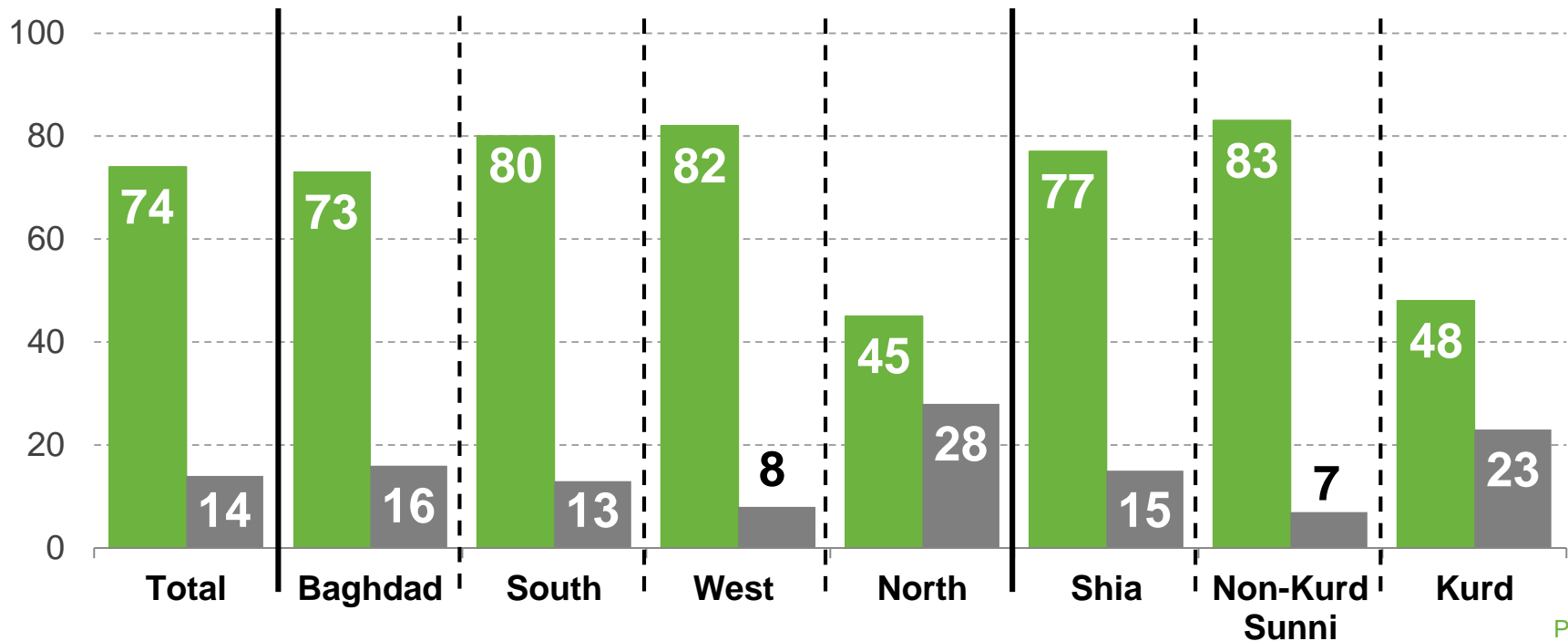


# Iraqis looking for a strong leader, despite drawbacks

*I want you to tell me which statement comes closer to your point of view.*

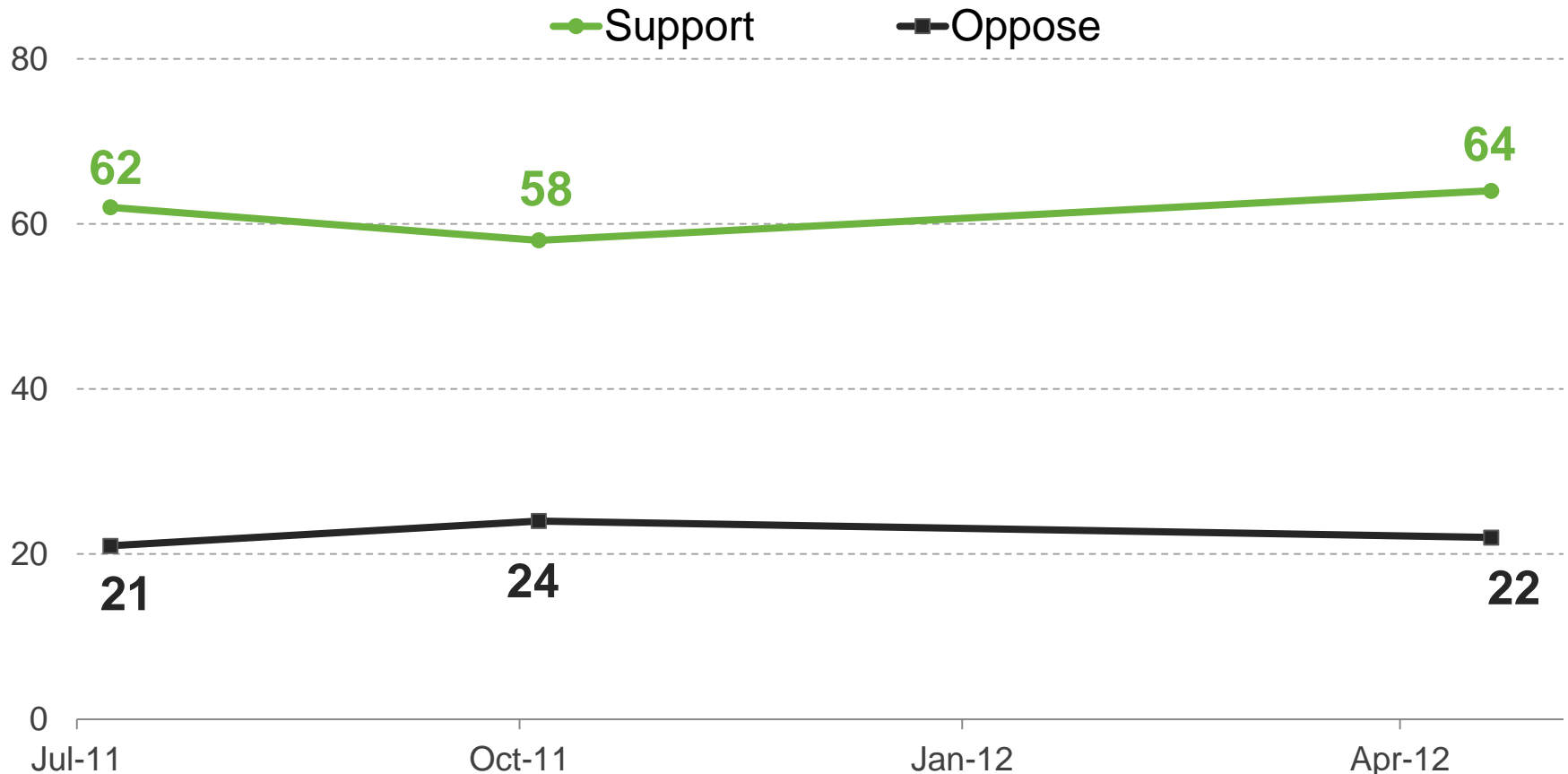
**Statement 1:** It is more important to have a strong leader to keep Iraq stable, even if that means giving up some freedoms.

**Statement 2:** It is more important to ensure social and political freedoms in Iraq, even if that means some instability.



# Majority continues to want new parliamentary elections

*As you may know, some people have proposed holding early parliamentary elections to solve the current political instability. Do you support or oppose holding new parliamentary elections in the near future?\**



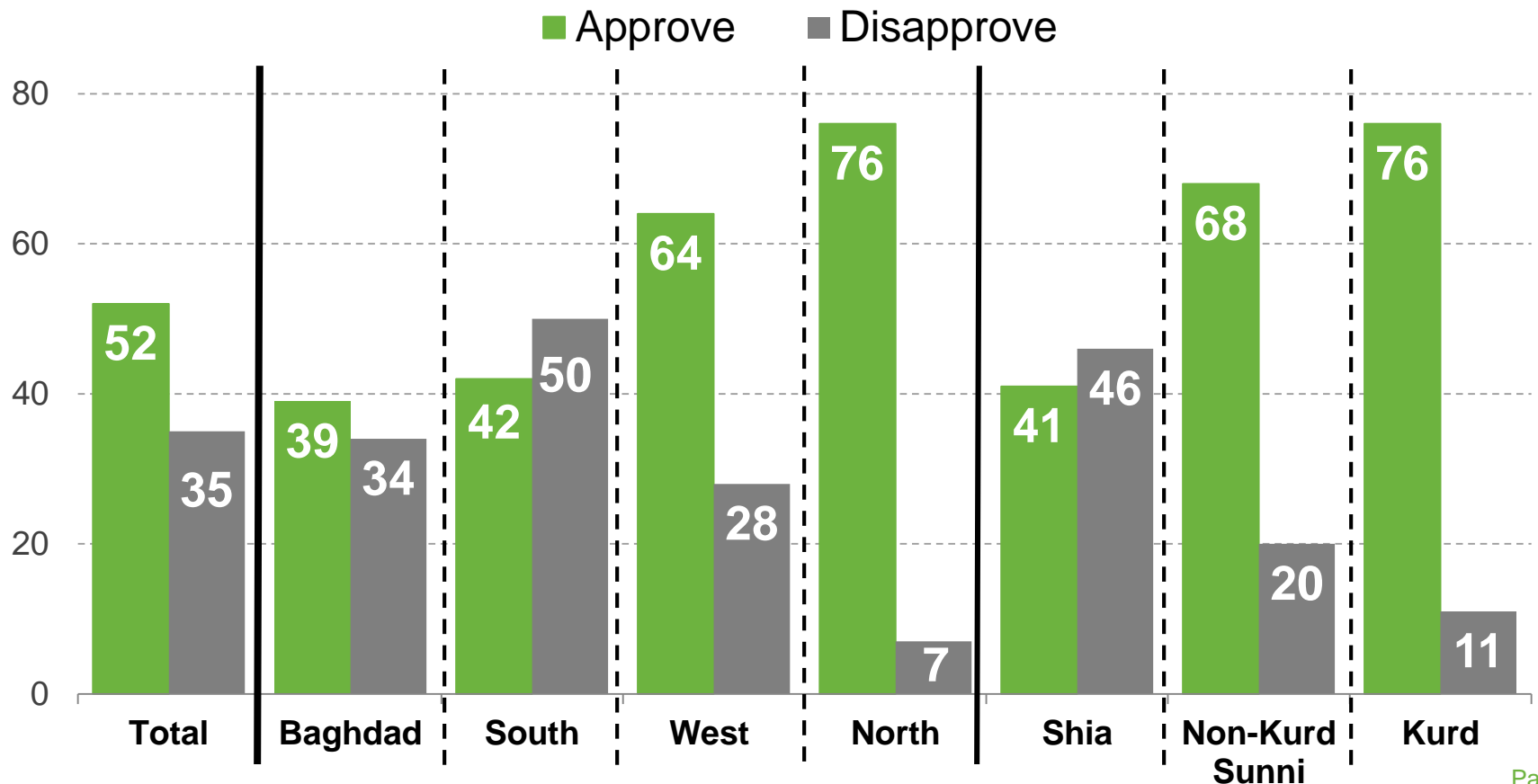
*\*Before April 2012, wording was: "As you may know, some people have proposed holding early parliamentary elections, perhaps within the next year. Do you support or oppose holding new parliamentary elections in the near future?"*



# Openness to new PM; only South disapproves

*I'm going to read you a list of some things that have happened or that might happen in Iraq. For each one, please tell me whether you approve or disapprove of that event.*

**A new prime minister being selected as a means to end the political conflict**



# 5 Critical Issues that Can Impact Trend

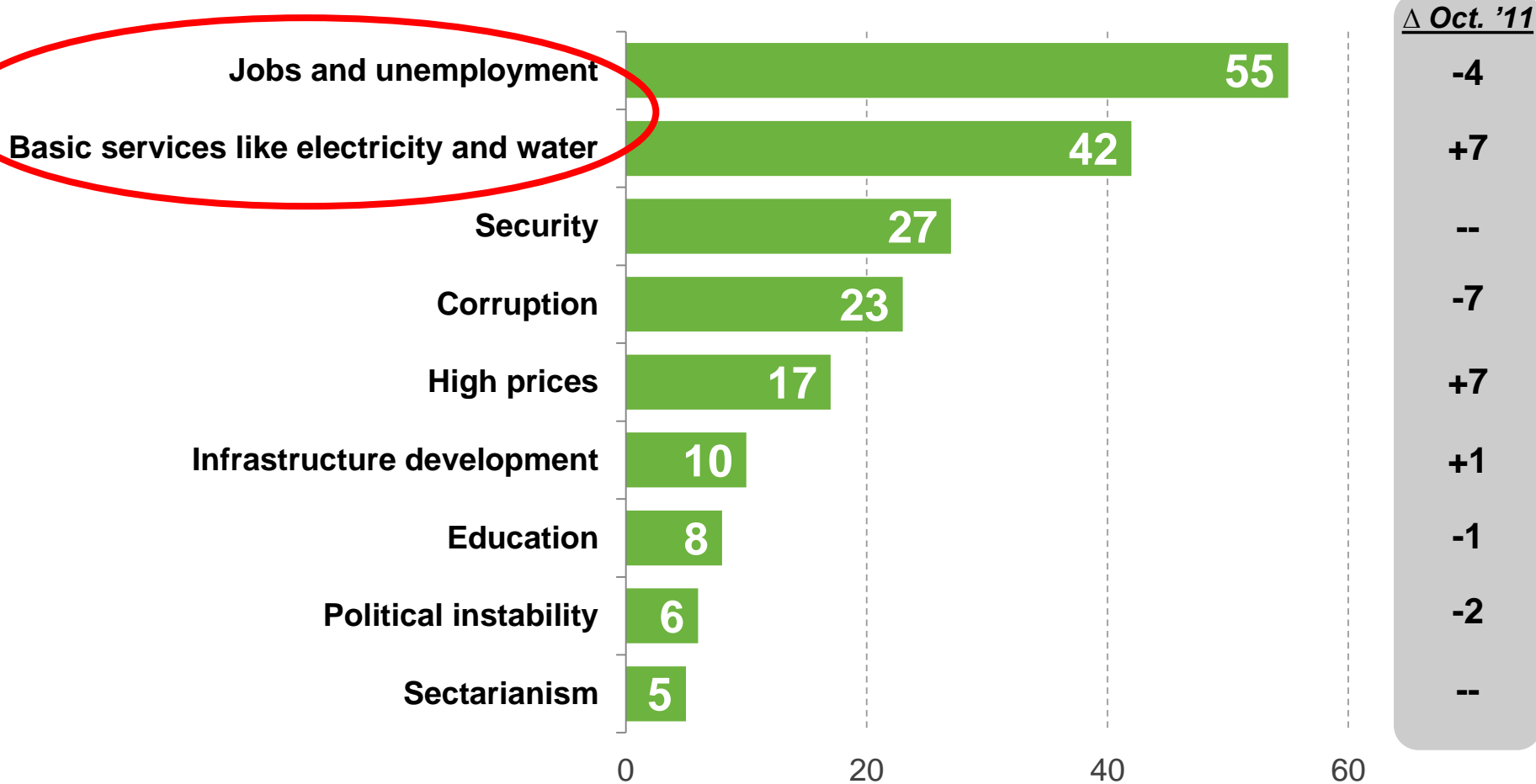
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## 5 Critical Issues that Can Impact the Trend

### **1. Failure to address jobs and basic services concerns**

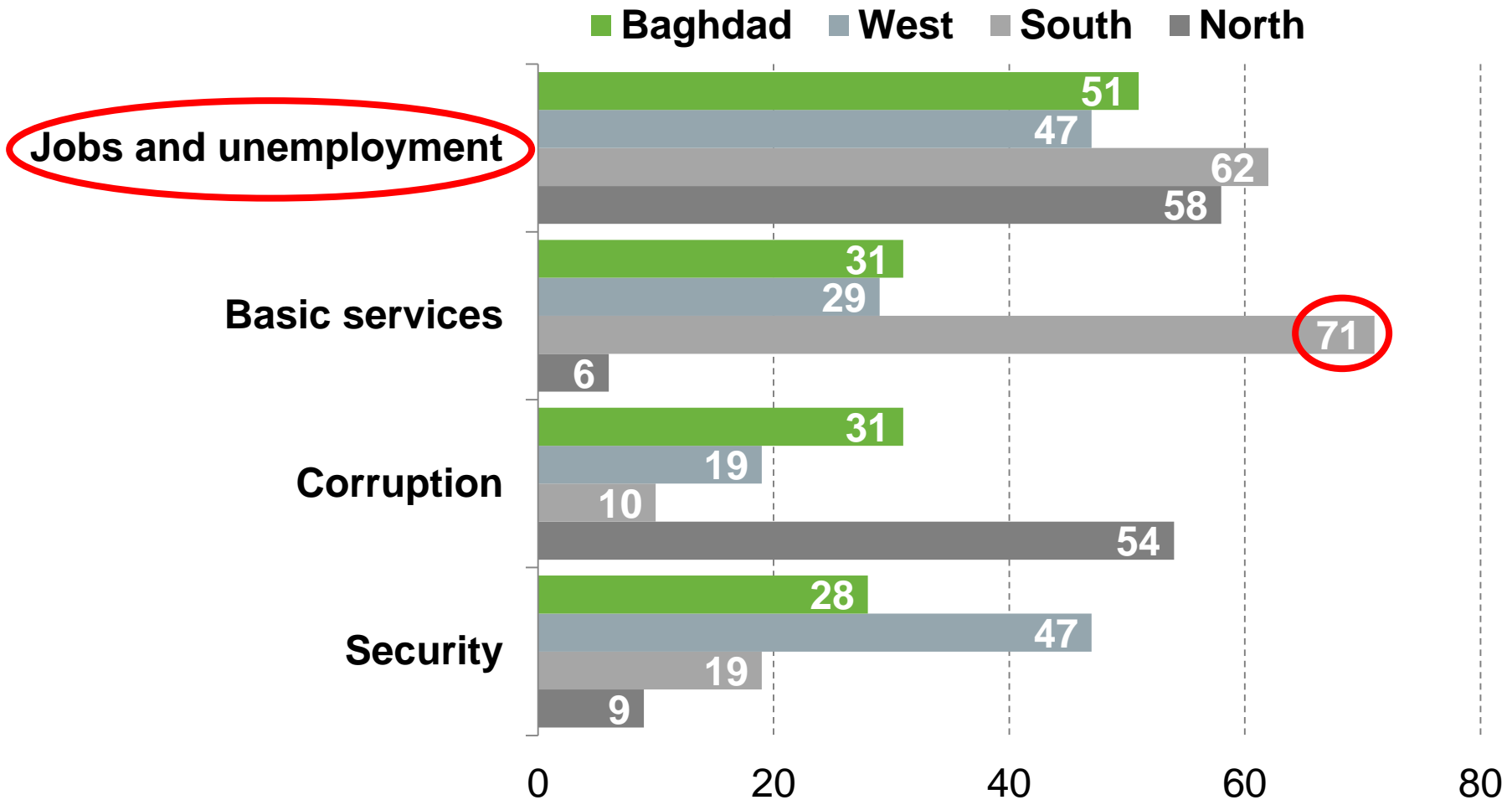
# Jobs and services continue to be top concerns

*Please tell me which TWO of these are the most important for the government to address.*



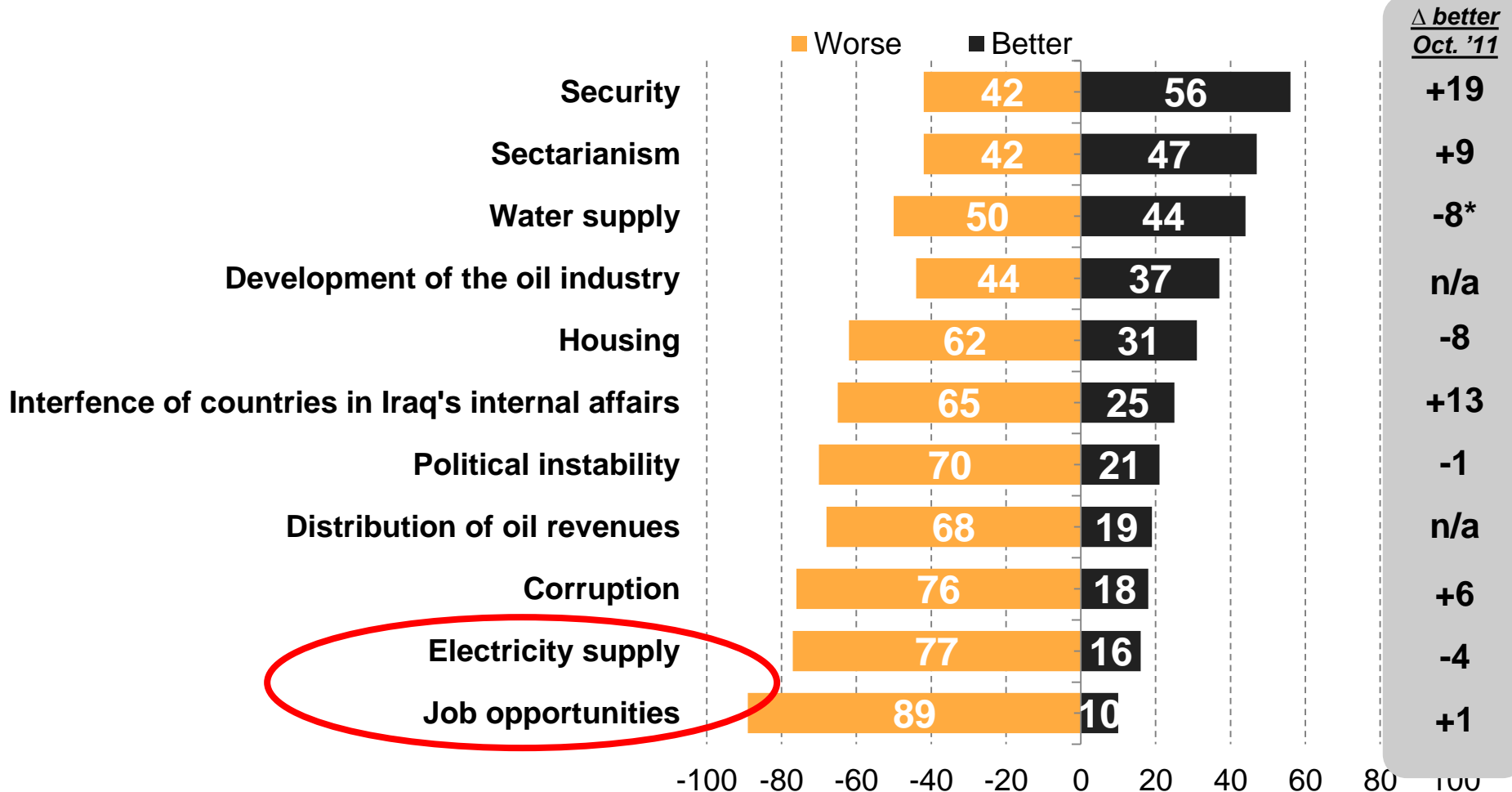
# Jobs a concern across all regions, services in South

Please tell me which TWO of these are the most important for the government to address.



# Perception of jobs and electricity remain extremely weak

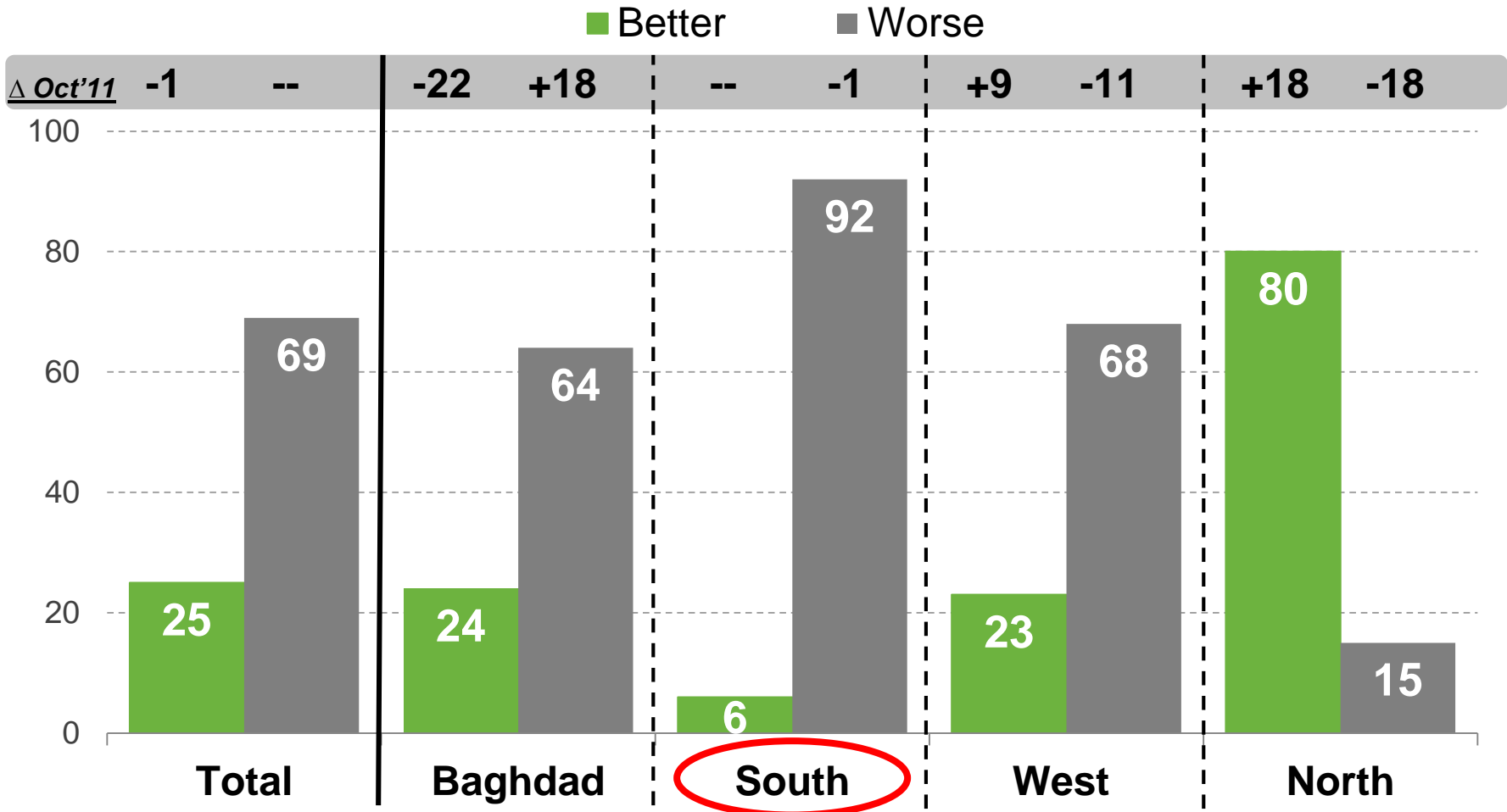
Please tell me if you think this issue is getting better or worse in Iraq. (NON-NORTH ONLY)



\* Last asked in November 2010

# Electricity supply varies by region; worst in South

Please tell me if you think this issue is getting better or worse in Iraq. (ELECTRICITY SUPPLY)



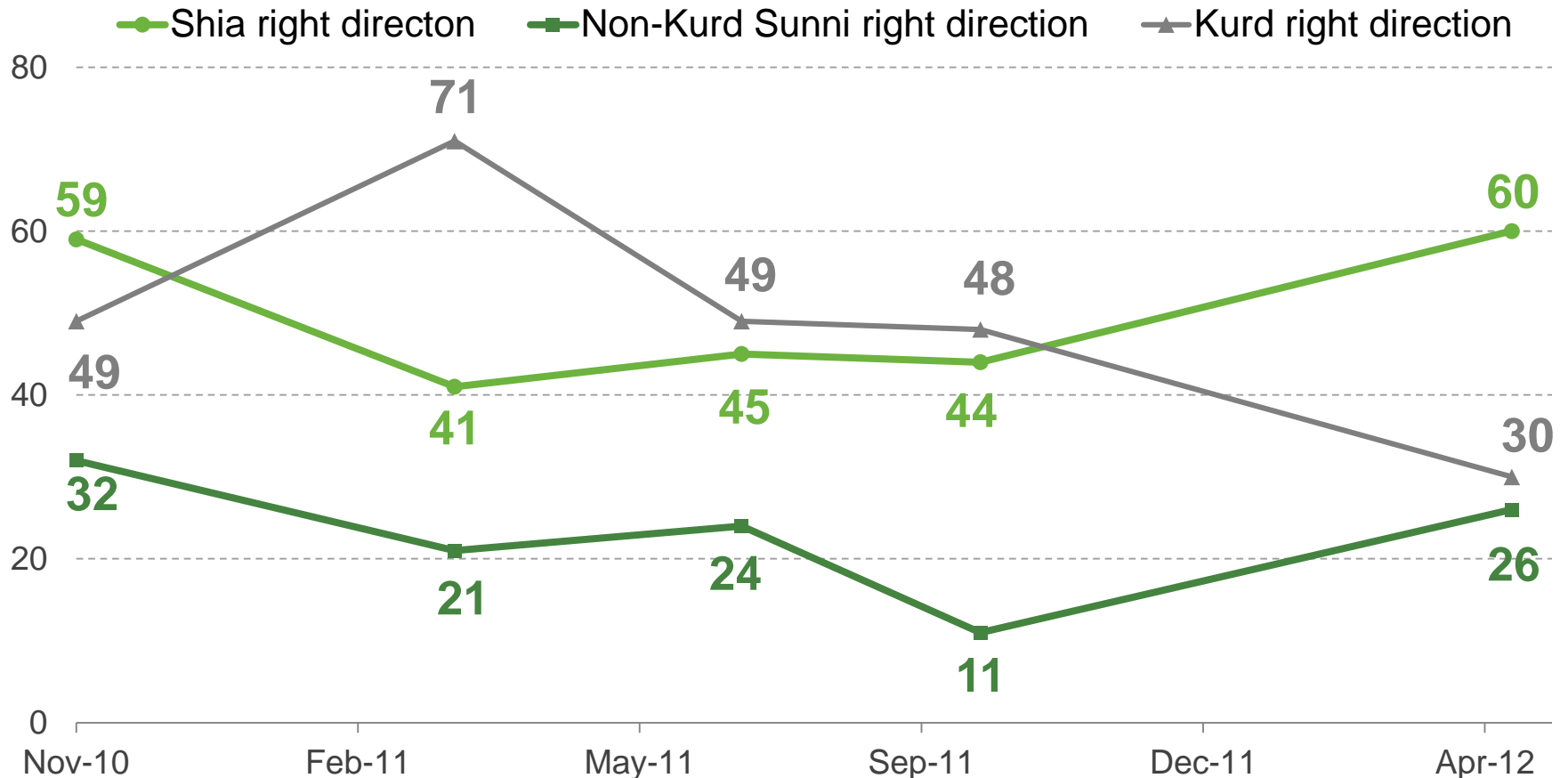
## 5 Critical Issues that Can Impact the Trend

- 1. Failure to address jobs and basic services concerns**
- 2. Sunni insecurities intensify**



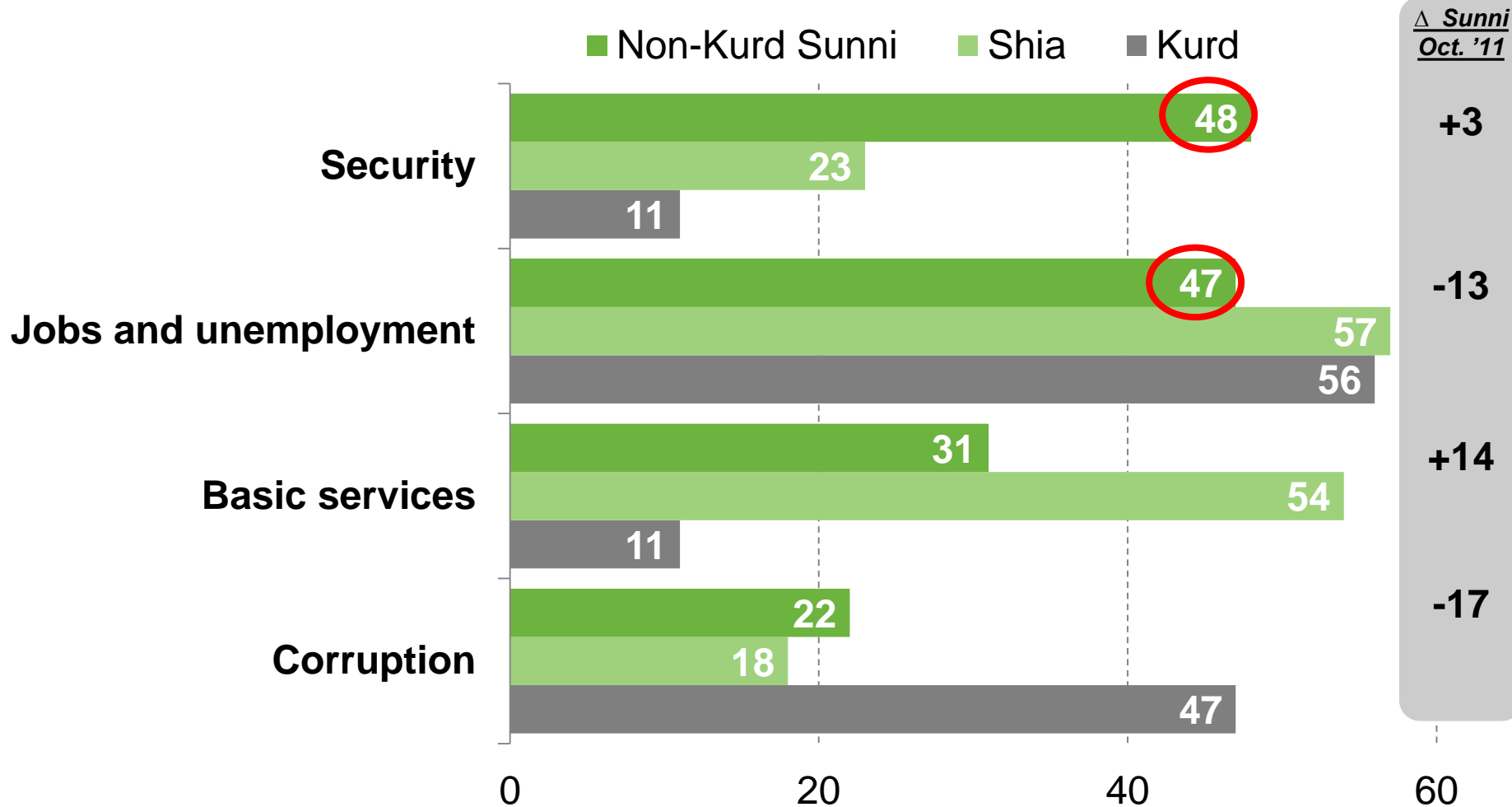
# Sunnis still most pessimistic about country direction

Generally speaking, do you think that things in Iraq are going in the right direction, or do you feel things are going in the wrong direction? (RIGHT DIRECTION ONLY)



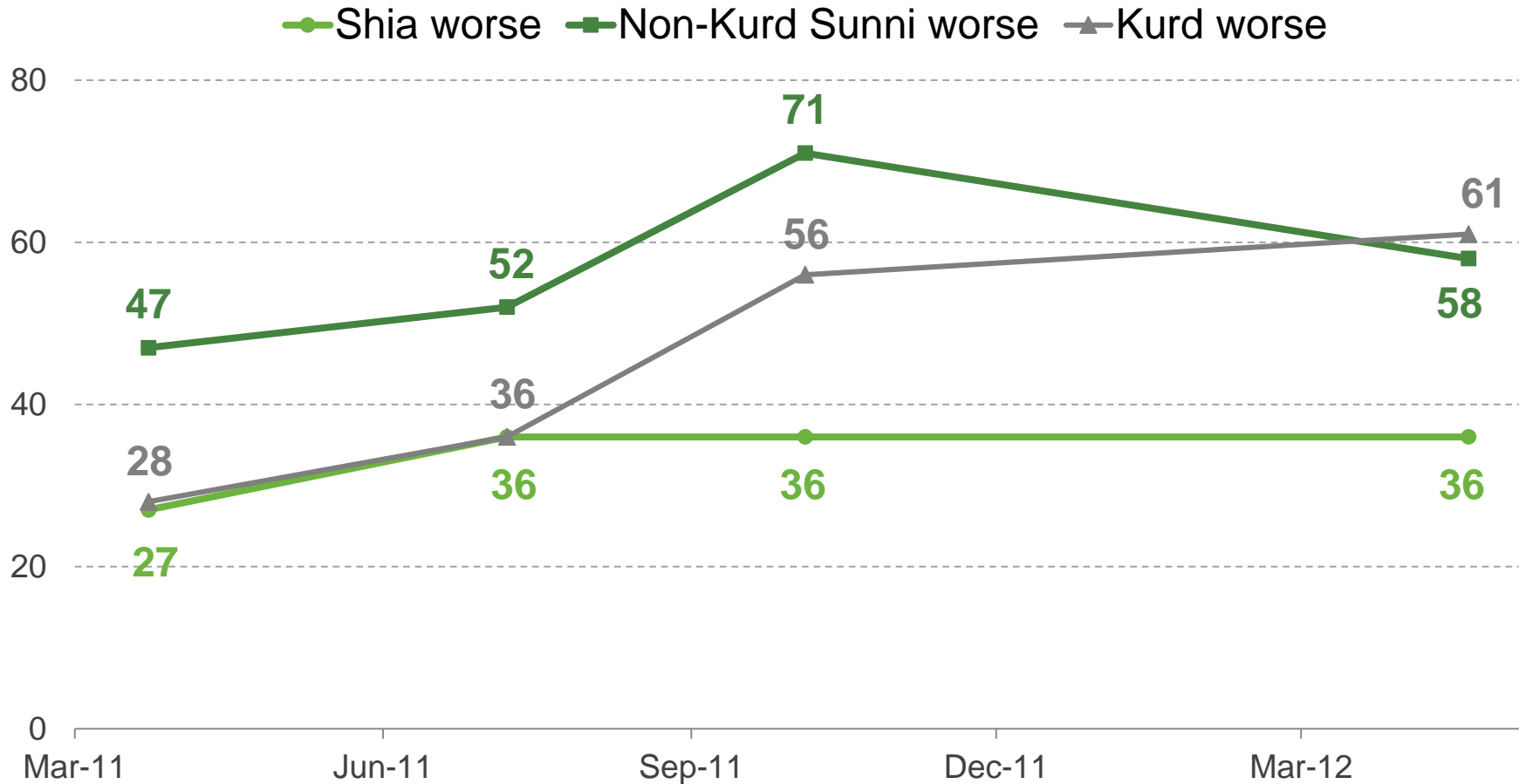
# Security and jobs concerns dominate among Sunnis

Please tell me which TWO of these are the most important for the government to address.



# Majority of Sunnis (and Kurds) see sectarianism worsening

Please tell me if you think **sectarianism** is getting better or worse in Iraq. (WORSE ONLY)

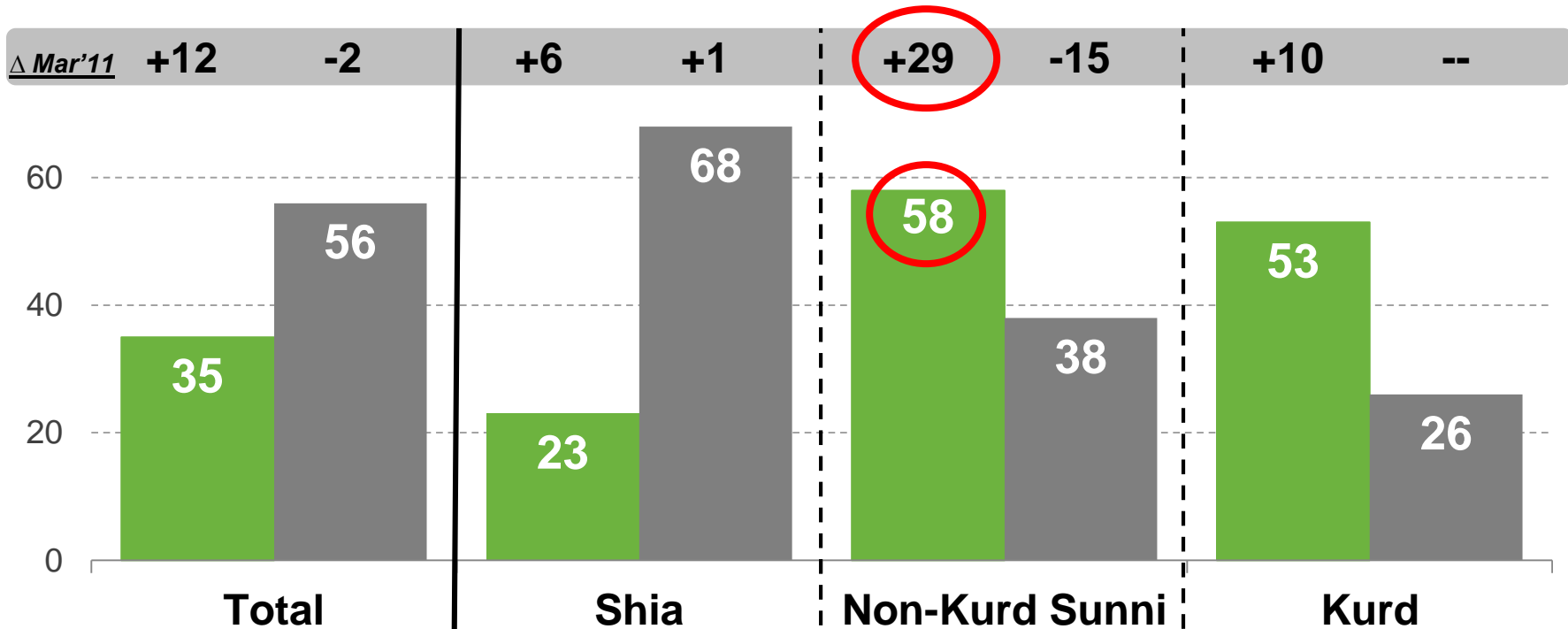


# A Sunni majority *now* see Iraq as a divided country

*I want you to tell me which statement comes closer to your point of view.*

**Statement 1: Iraq is mostly a divided country.**

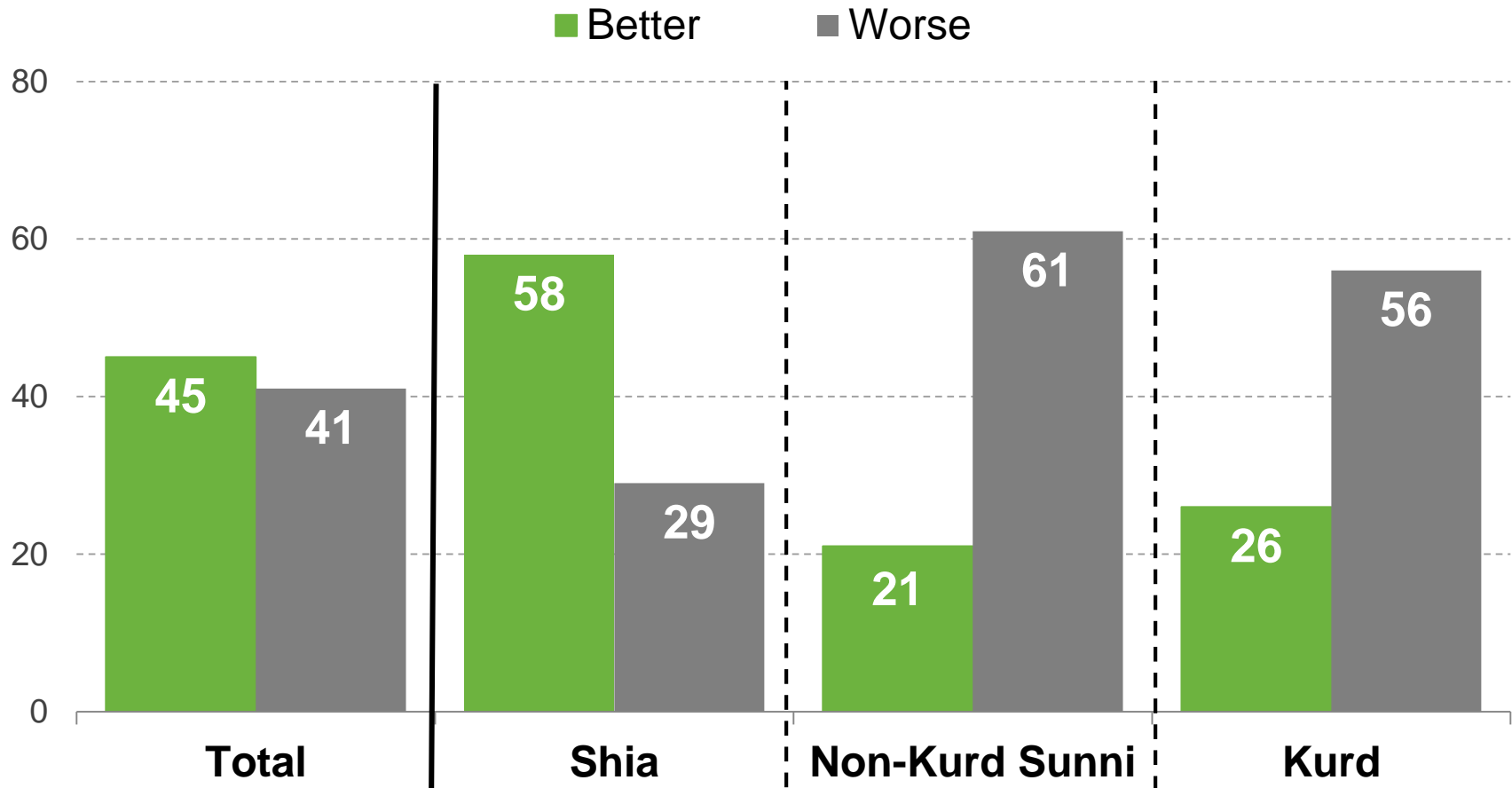
**Statement 2: Iraq is mostly a unified country.**



# Most Sunnis see judicial independence worsening

*Please tell me if you think this issue is getting better or worse in Iraq.*

## Independence of Iraq's judges and courts

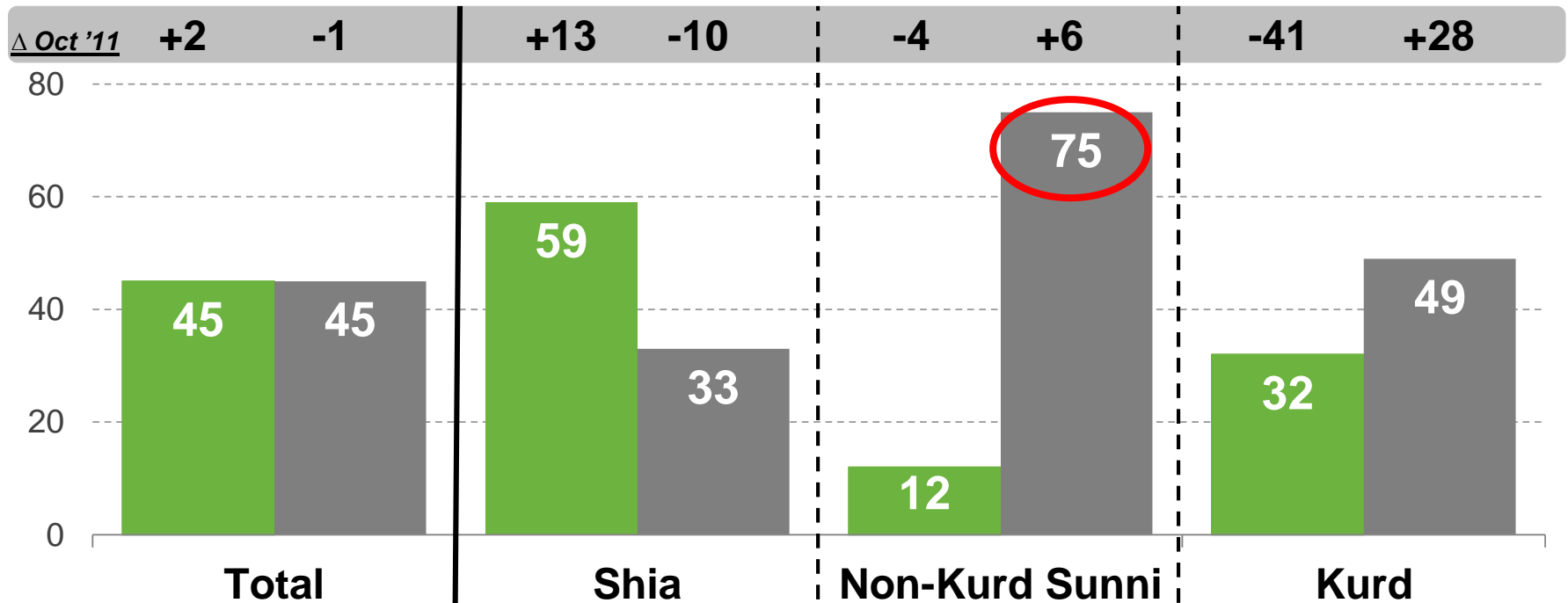


# Sunnis skeptical about Iraq's democratic credentials

*I want you to tell me which statement comes closer to your point of view.*

**Statement 1: Iraq today is a real democracy.**

**Statement 2: Iraq today is not a real democracy.**



## 5 Critical Issues that Can Impact the Trend

- 1. Failure to address jobs and basic services concerns**
- 2. Sunni insecurities intensify**
- 3. Disaffected Shias shifting support**

## **“Disaffected Shia” defined**

- **“Disaffected Shia” = Demographic group that has shown previous frustration with Maliki and the government and openness to supporting Sadr**
  - **Shia**
  - **Urban**
  - **Under 400,000 dinar/month**
  - **16 percent of total sample**



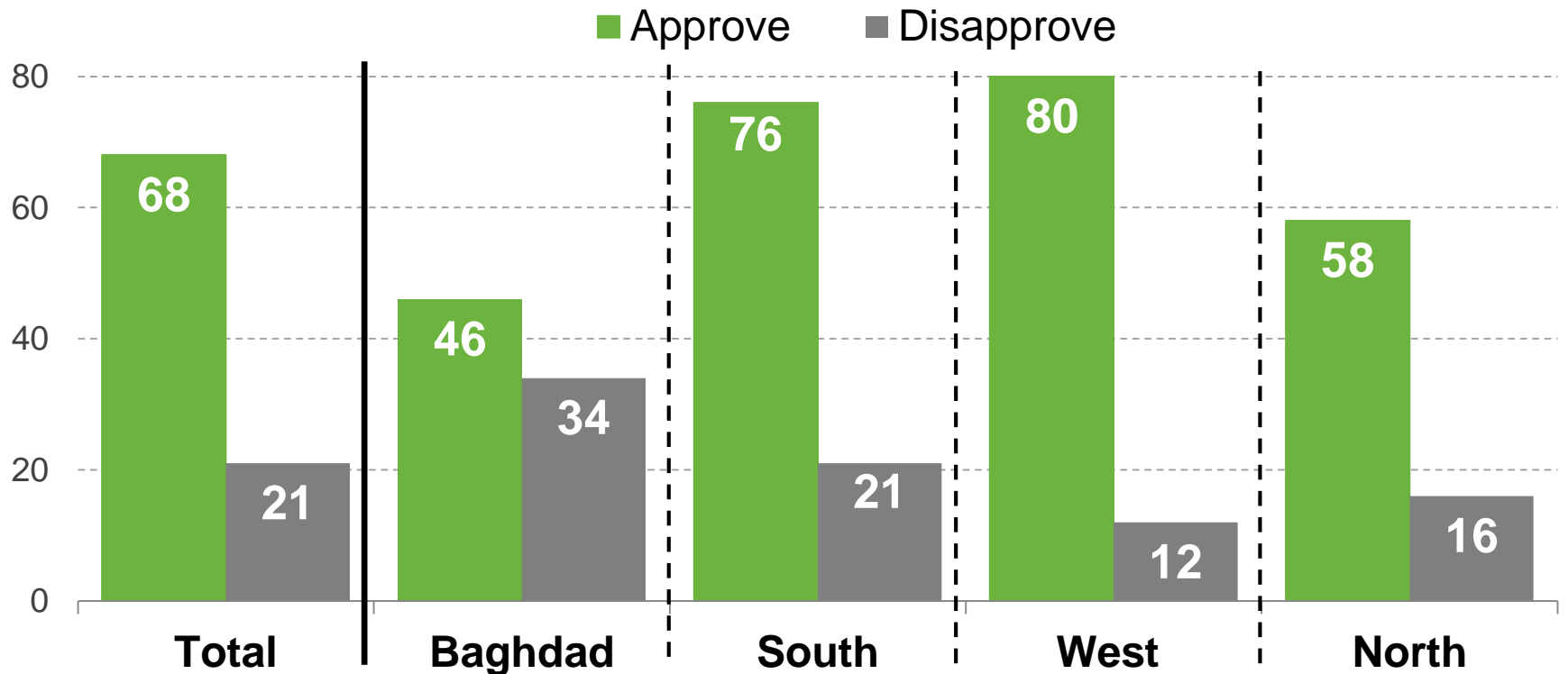
## 5 Critical Issues that Can Impact the Trend

- 1. Failure to address jobs and basic services concerns**
- 2. Sunni insecurities intensify**
- 3. Disaffected Shias shifting support**
- 4. Ability for opposition groups to emerge and build a strategic campaign**

# Openness to opposition group with alternative proposals

*Please tell me whether you approve or disapprove of that event.*

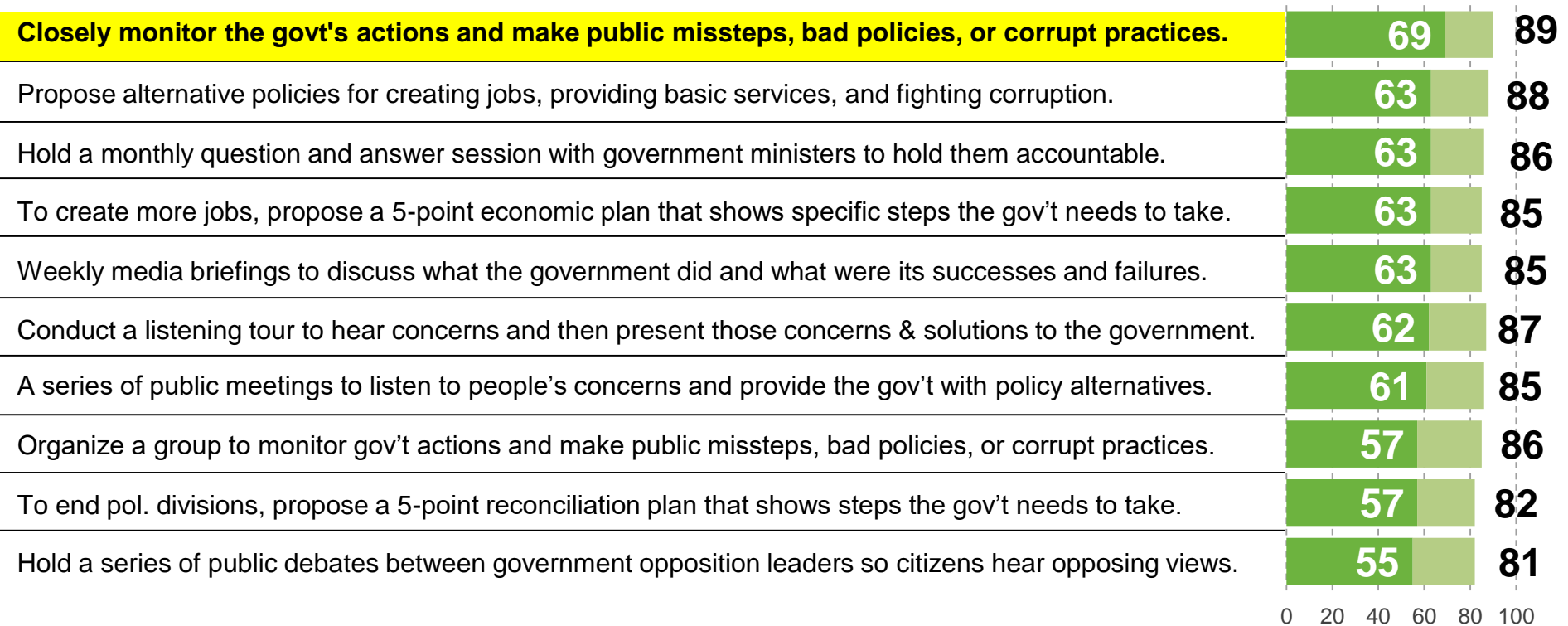
**A group of political parties declaring themselves as opposition within the Council of Representatives and proposing policy alternatives different from those set forth by the government**



# Opposition actions | looking for watchdogs, alternatives

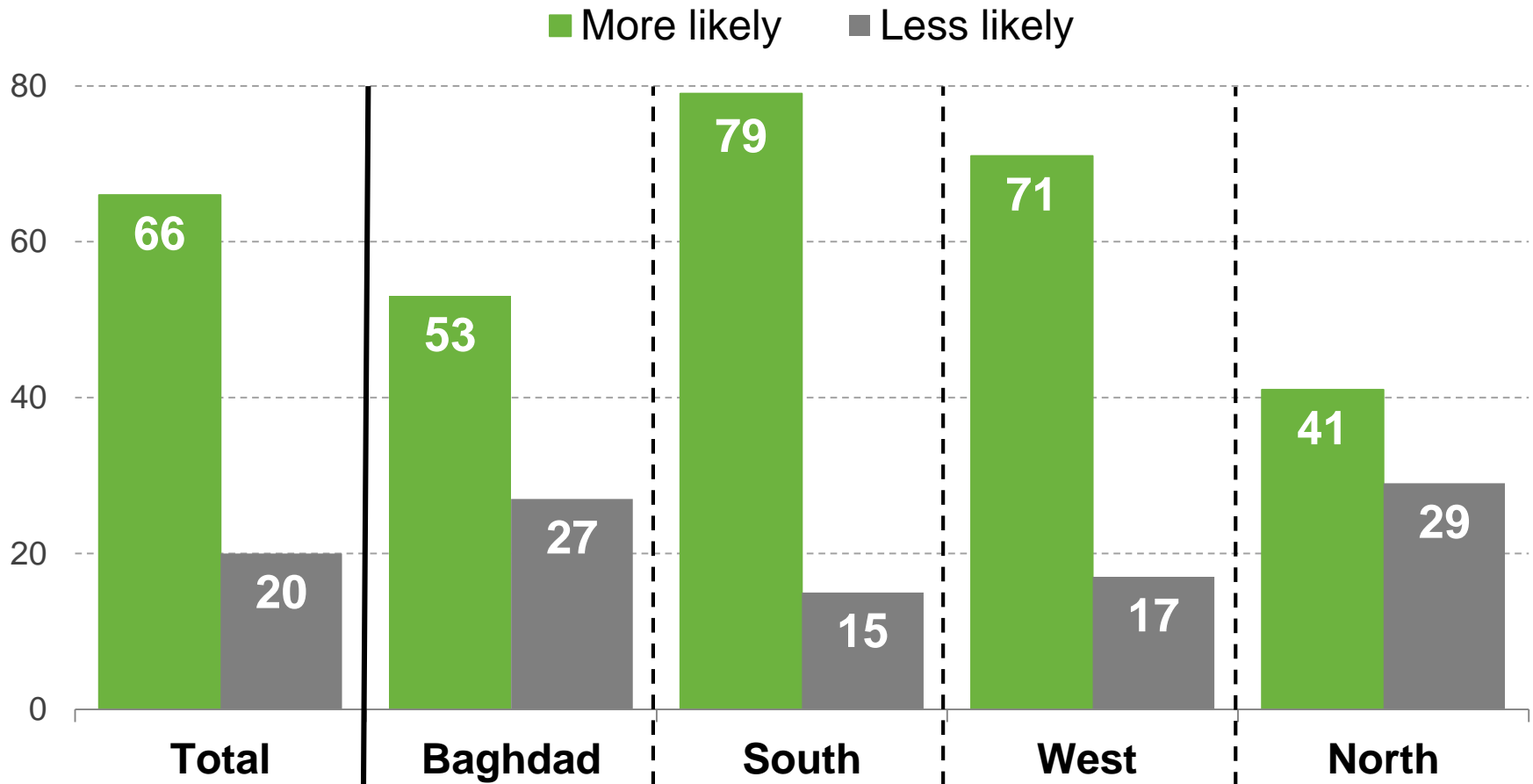
*Imagine that certain members of the CoR made an announcement declaring that they are forming an opposition group within the Council of Representatives. For each action, please tell me how it would make you feel towards this group -- would it make you feel much more favorable, somewhat more favorable, just a little more favorable, or no more favorable?*

■ Much more favorable   ■ Somewhat more favorable



# Opposition actions would likely increase support

*Assuming an opposition group did some of the things you just heard, would you be more likely or less likely to vote for members of this group in the next election?*



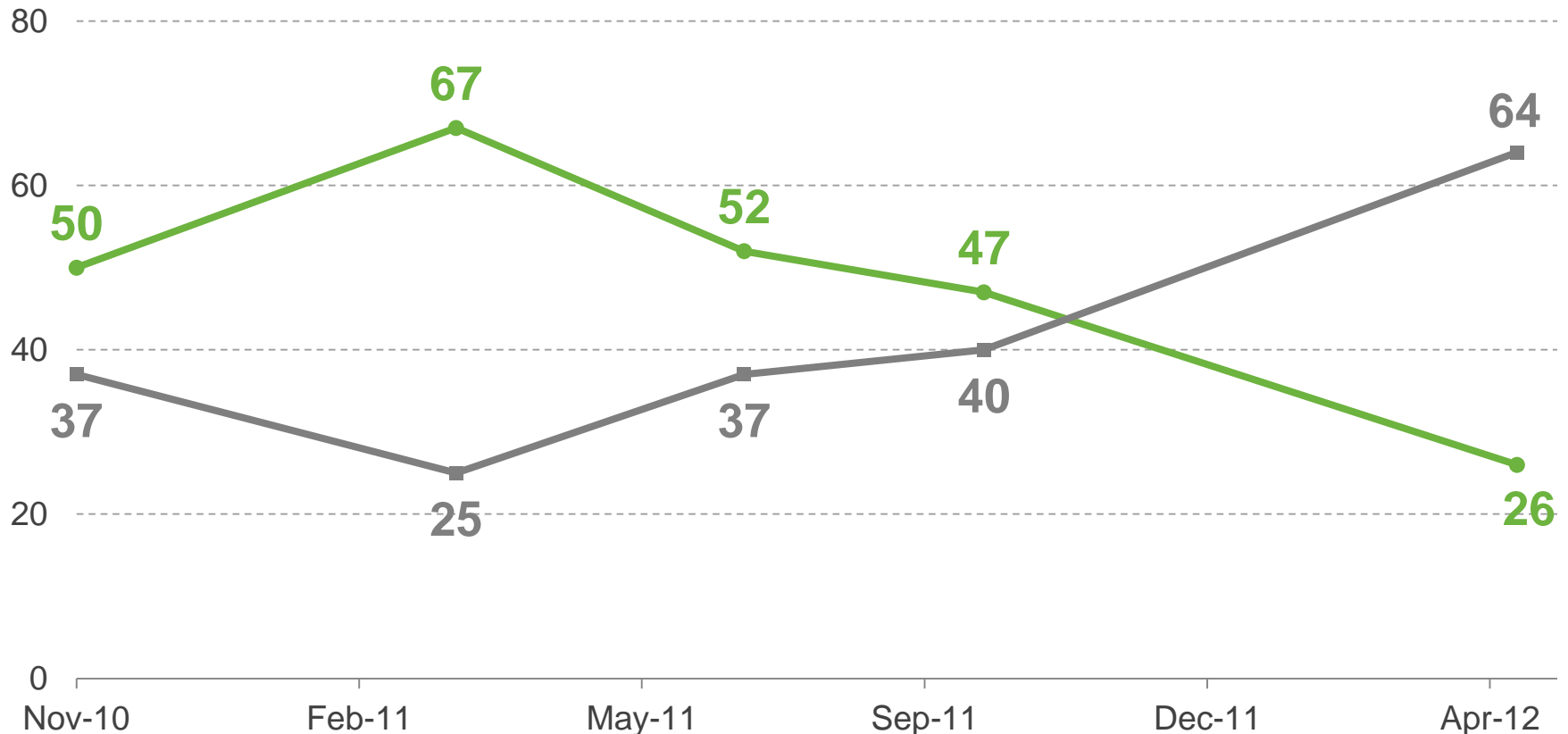
## 5 Critical Issues that Can Impact the Trend

- 1. Failure to address jobs and basic services concerns**
- 2. Sunni insecurities intensify**
- 3. Disaffected Shias shifting support**
- 4. Ability for opposition groups to emerge and build a strategic campaign**
- 5. North's divisions with Baghdad intensify**

# Significant shift in North's perception of Iraq's direction

*Generally speaking, do you think that things in Iraq are going in the right direction, or do you feel things are going in the wrong direction? (NORTH ONLY)*

—●— Right direction      —■— Wrong direction

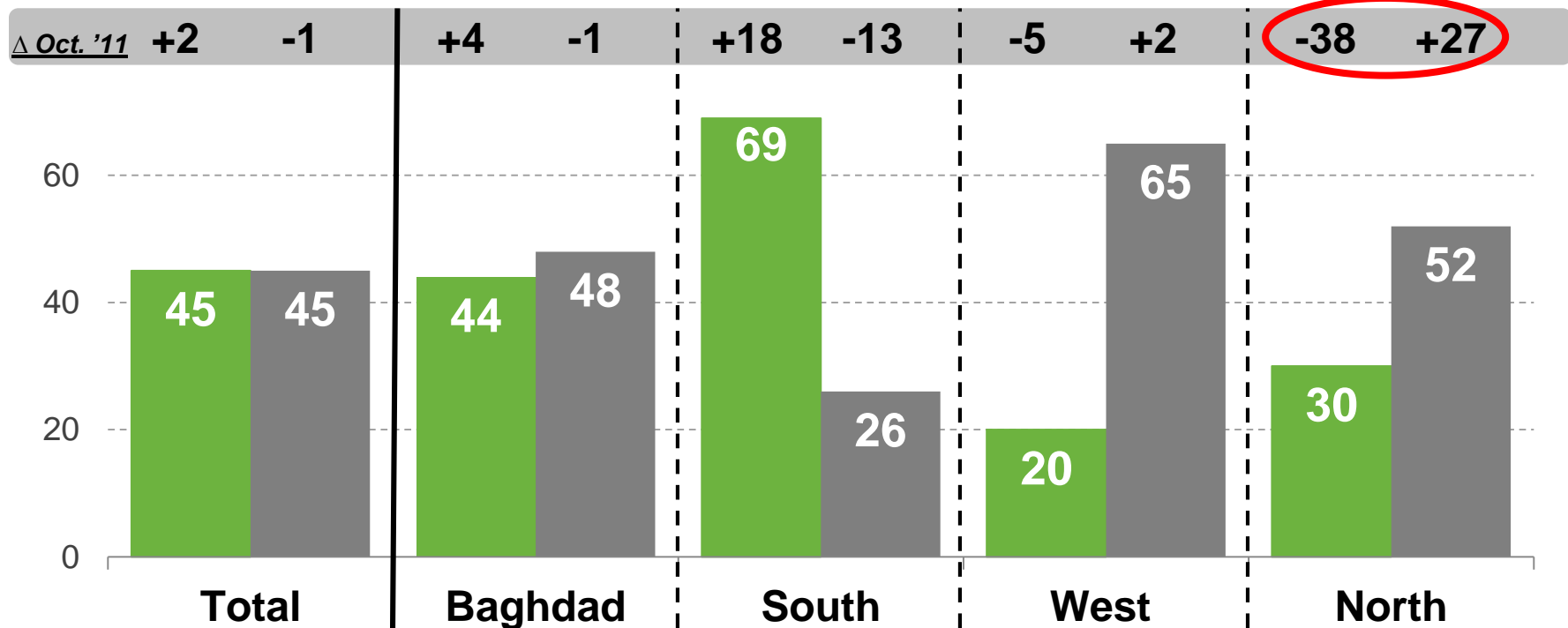


# North now has doubts about Iraqi democracy

*I want you to tell me which statement comes closer to your point of view.*

**Statement 1: Iraq today is a real democracy.**

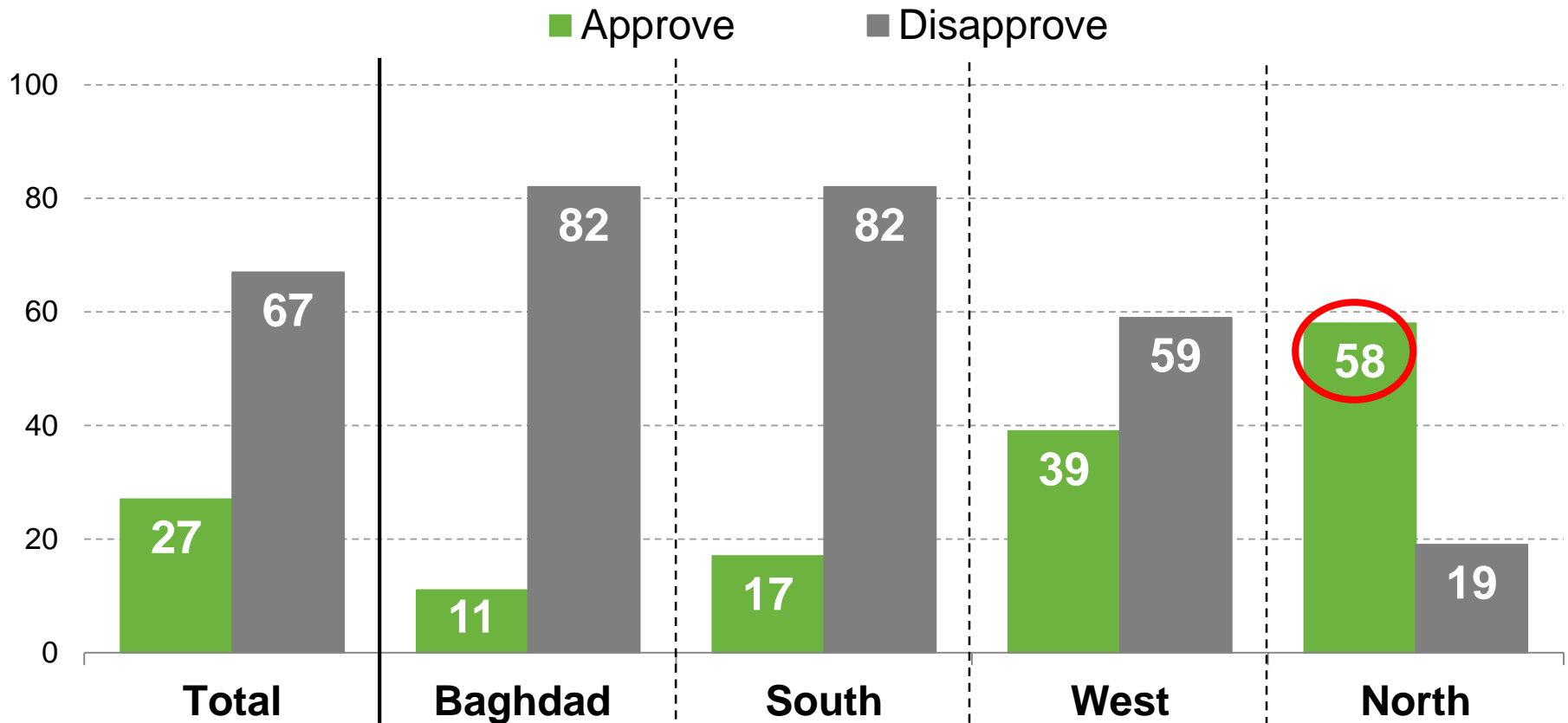
**Statement 2: Iraq today is not a real democracy.**



# North most supportive of more autonomous regions

*Please tell me whether you approve or disapprove of that event.*

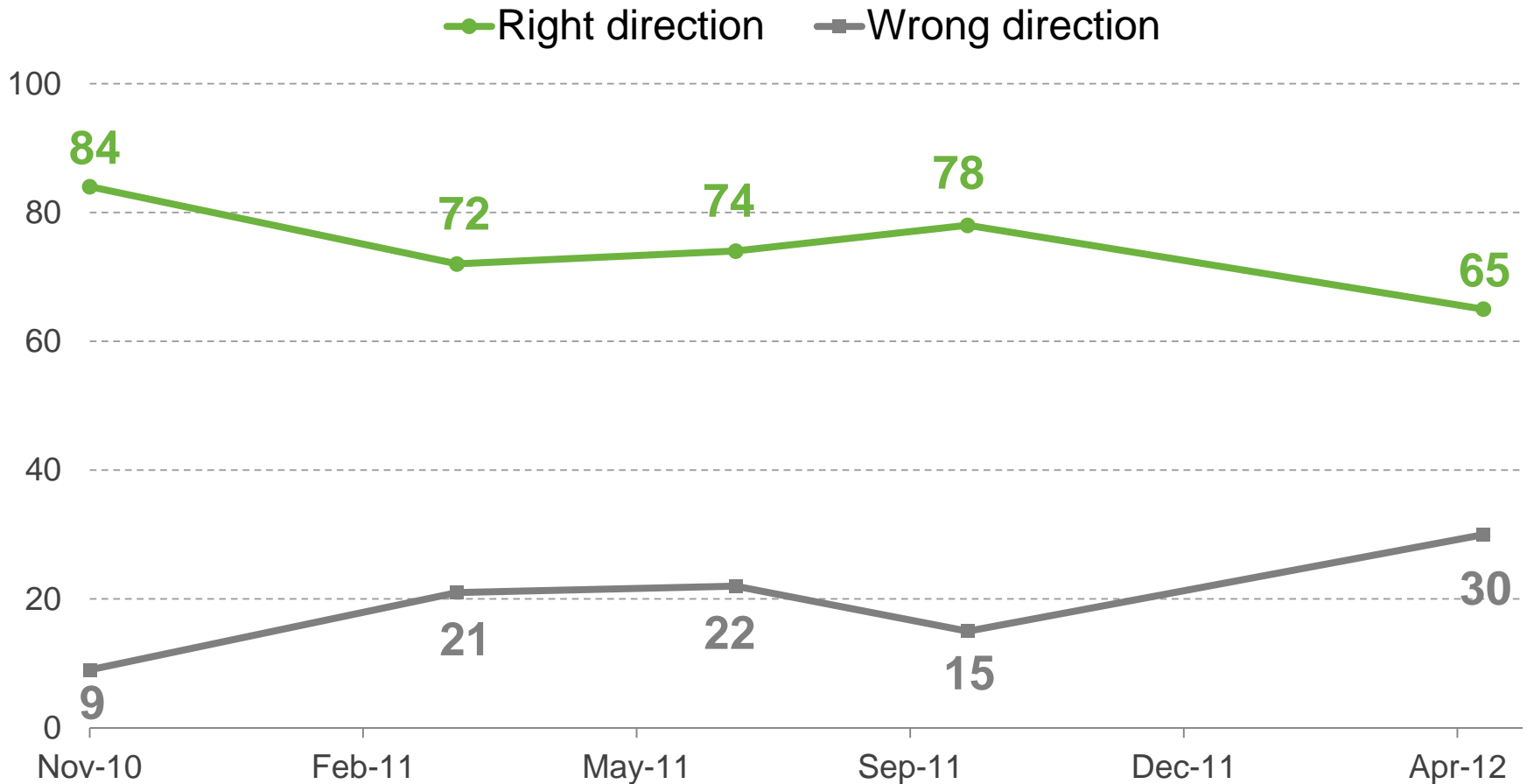
**Leaders from Anbar, Diyala and Salah al-Din asking for the establishment of an autonomous region for their governorate**





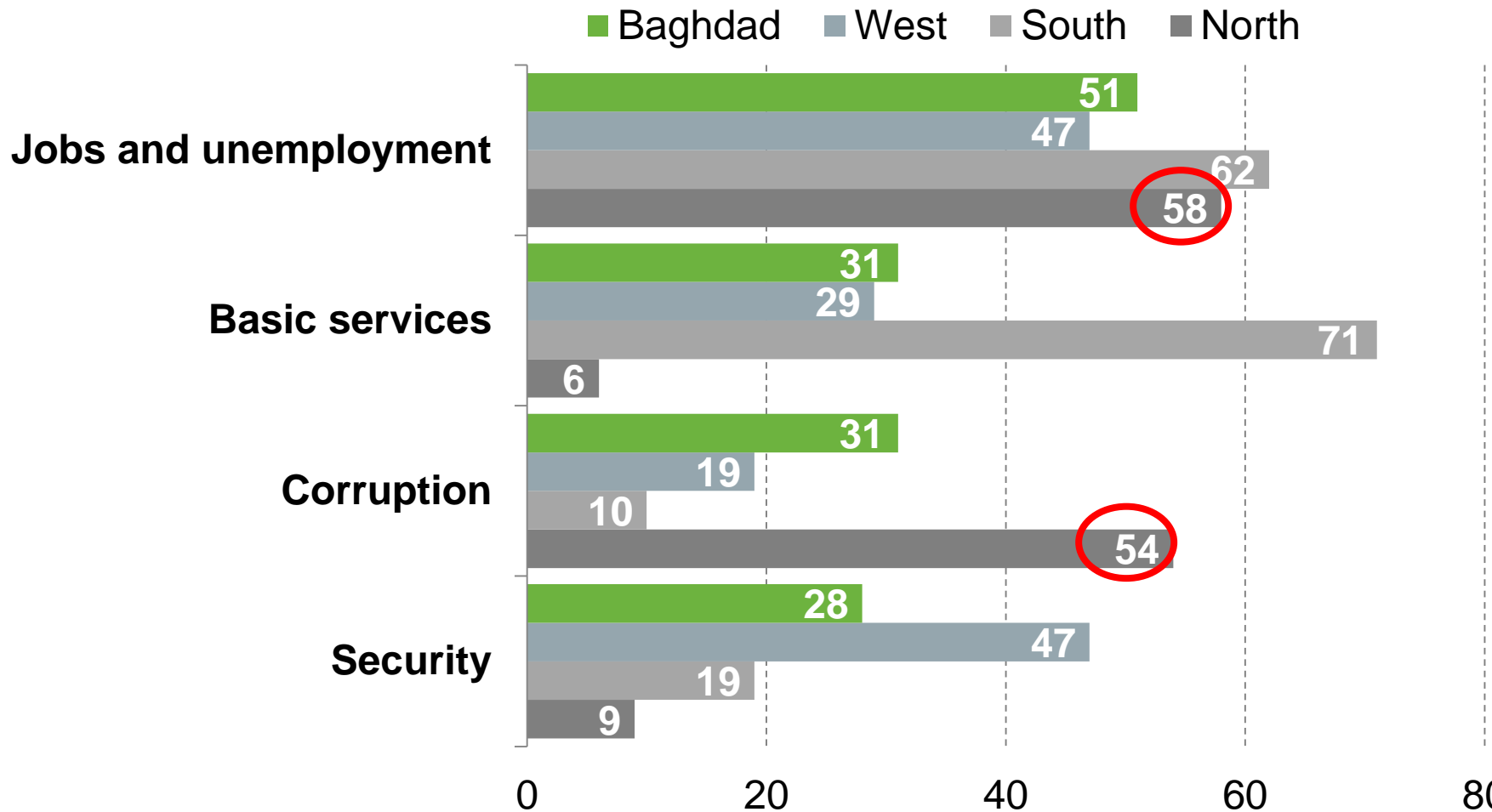
# Majority still see *Kurdistan* heading in right direction

Generally speaking, do you think that things in **Kurdistan** are going in the right direction, or do you feel things are going in the wrong direction?



# Jobs and corruption concerns dominate in North

*Please tell me which TWO of these are the most important for the government to address.*



# Corruption and jobs continues to worsen in North

Please tell me if you think this issue is getting better or worse in Iraq. (NORTH ONLY)

