



Entrepreneurship Aspirations in the MENA Region

Listening to the Voices of Young Arabs



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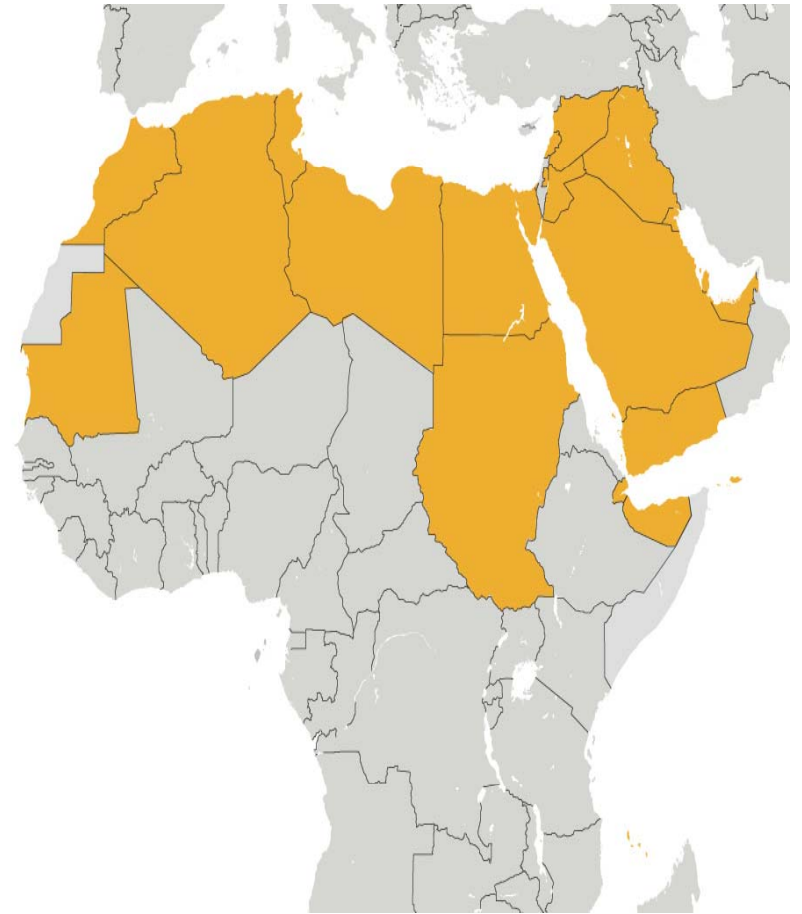
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Overview

- Methodology
- Private vs. Public Sector Preferences
- Views of Entrepreneurship
- Entrepreneurship Intentions
- Aspiring Entrepreneurs' Profile
- Attitudes Toward Business Entry vs. Business Outcomes
- Summary

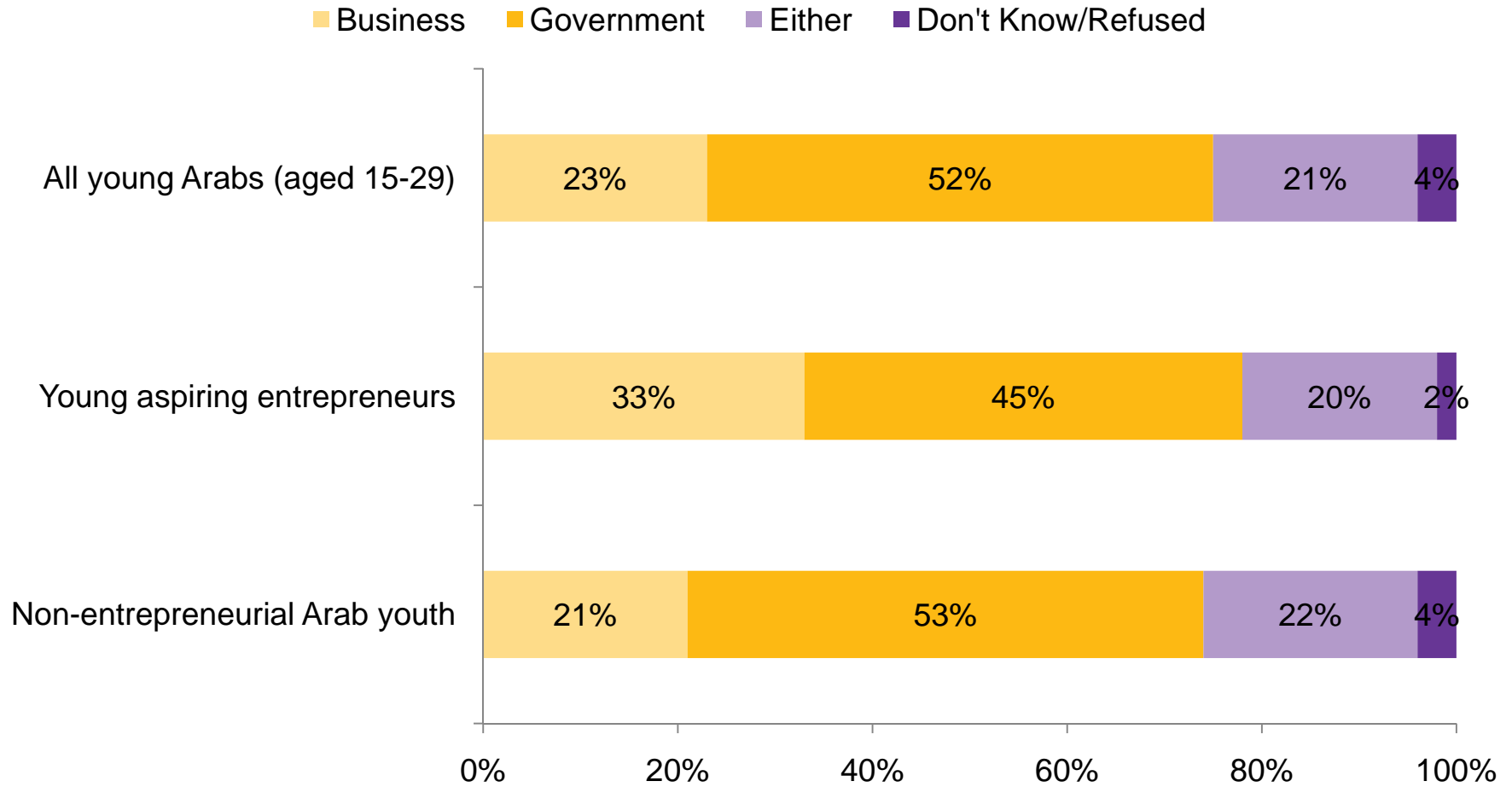
Methodology

- 20 countries in the Arab League (plus Somaliland region of Somalia)
- Random probability samples
- Face-to-face interviews of Arab nationals aged 15 and older
- At least 1,000 interviews conducted in each country twice a year
- Urban and rural areas
- Margin of error range: +/- 3.4% to +/- 4.1%

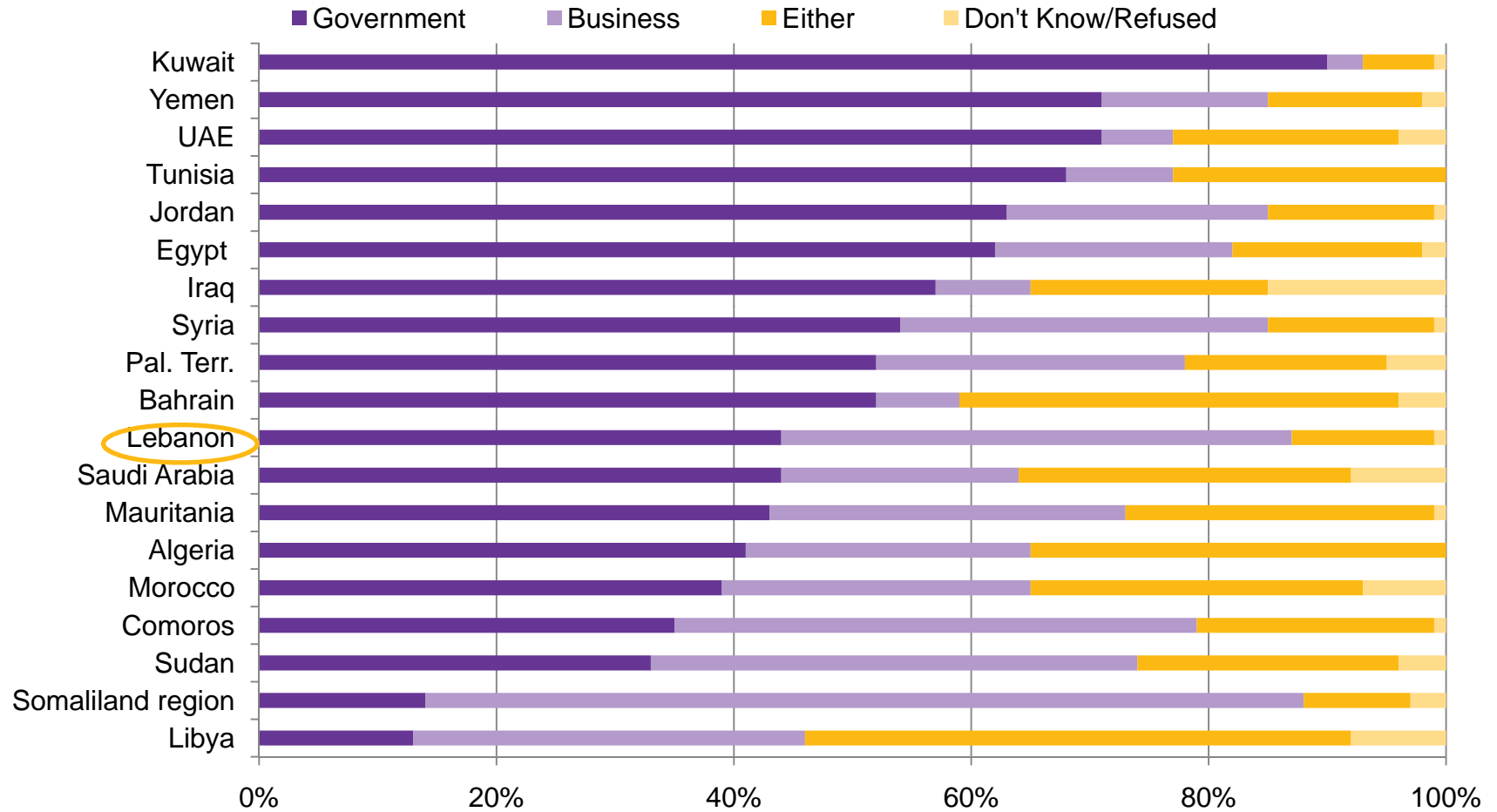


Private vs. Public Sector Preferences

Majority Prefer Public Sector Employment

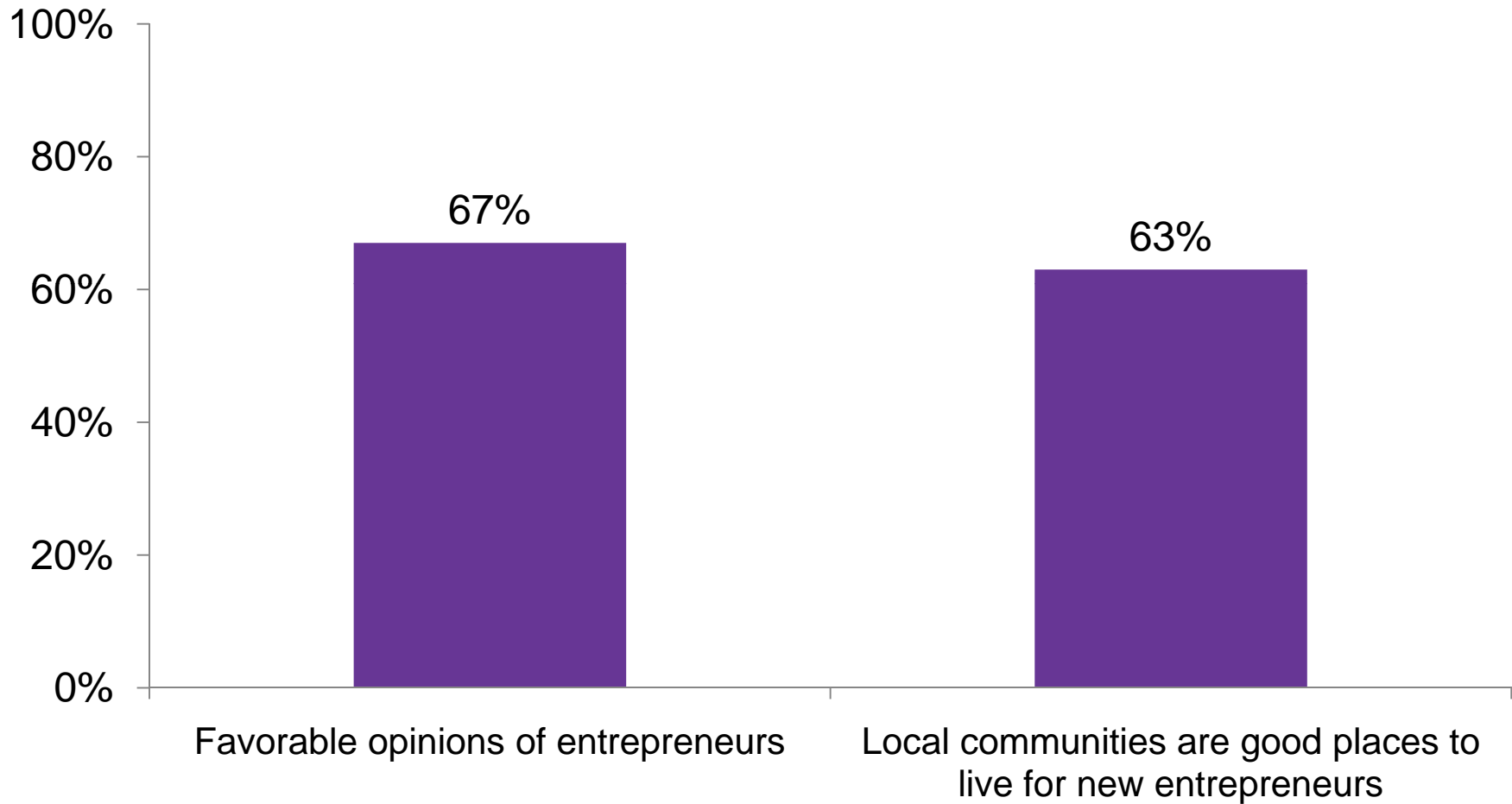


Work Environment Preference by Country

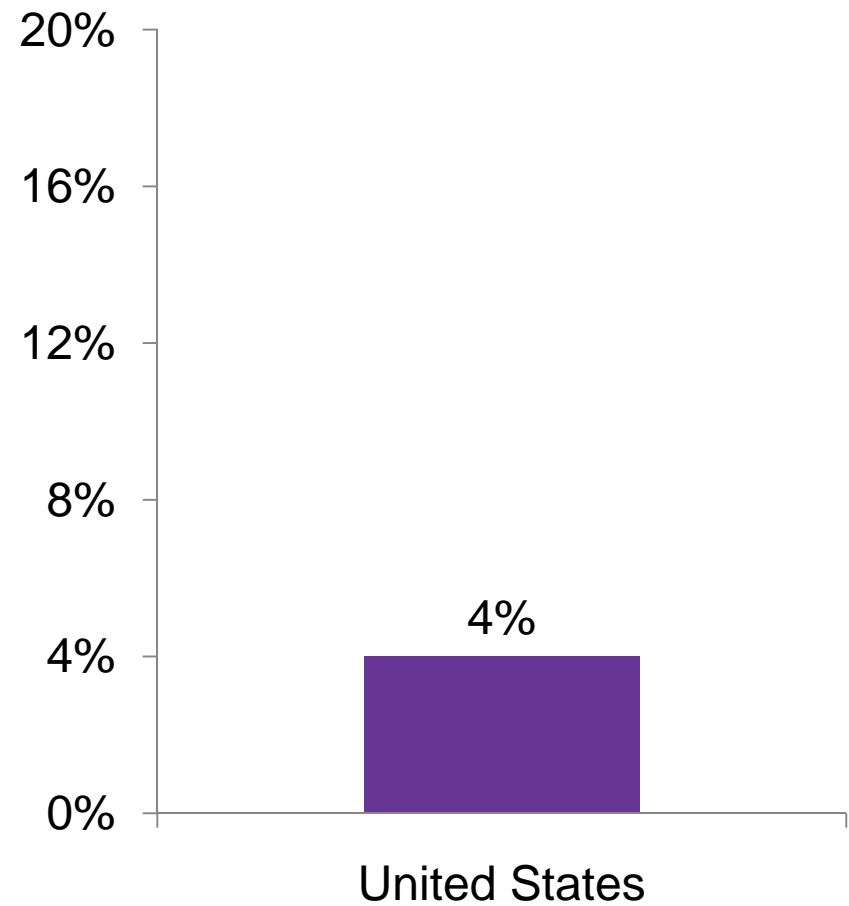
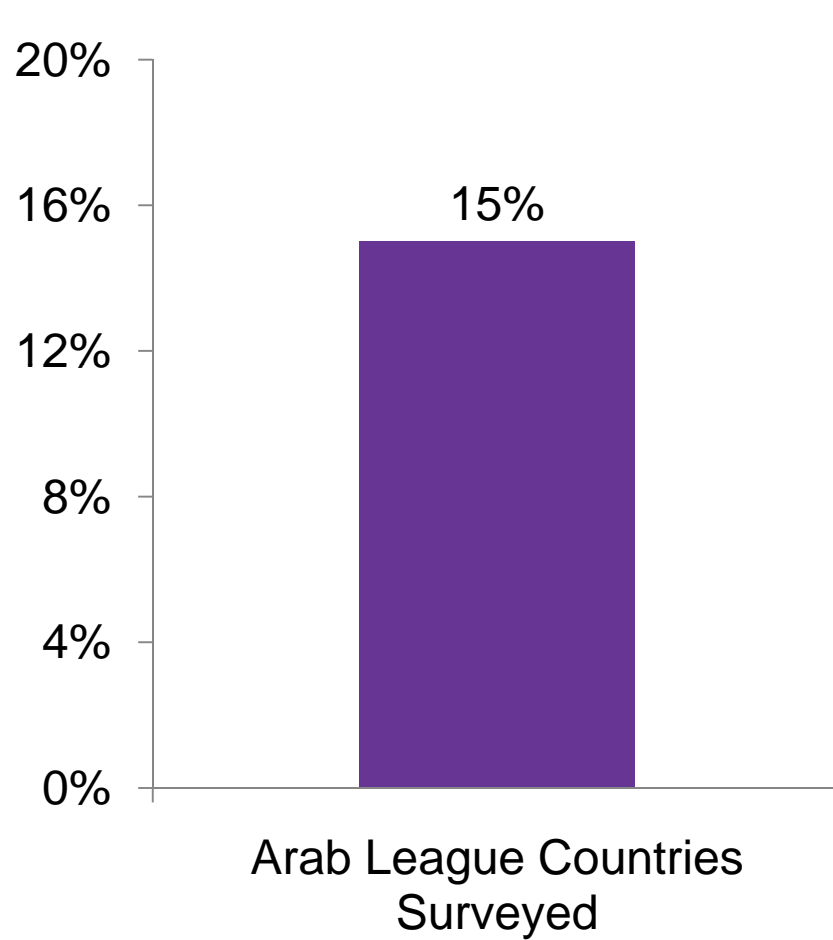


Views of Entrepreneurship

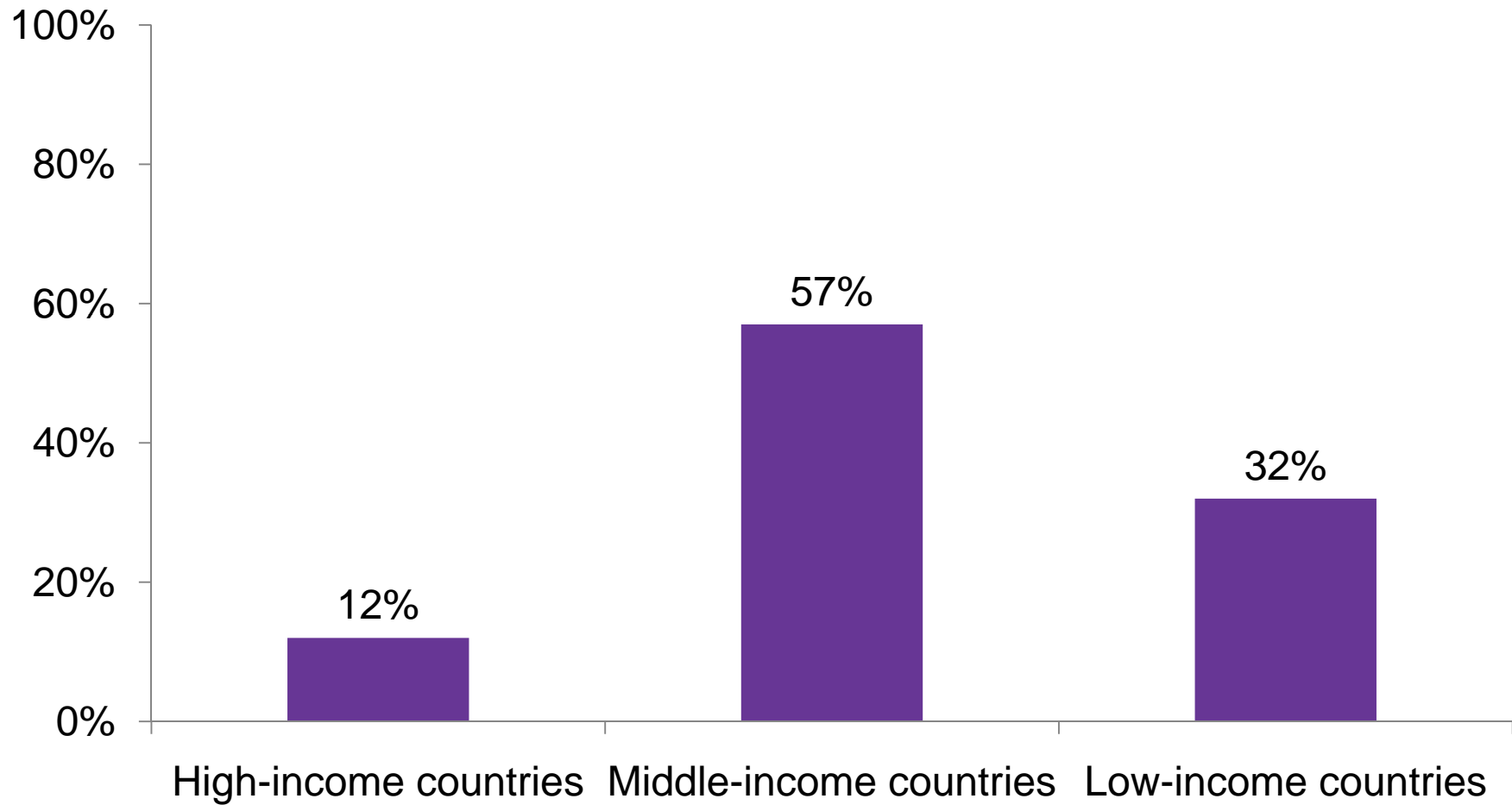
Positive Views of Entrepreneurship



Entrepreneurship Intentions by Region (among those aged 15-29)



Young Arabs' Business Creation Intentions – by GDP



Aspiring Entrepreneurs' Profile

Business Creation Intentions by Gender

HIGHEST IN:

Djibouti
Lebanon
Sudan
Yemen
Saudi Arabia
Comoros
Iraq
Somaliland region



19%

HIGHEST IN:

Sudan
Comoros
Djibouti
Kuwait



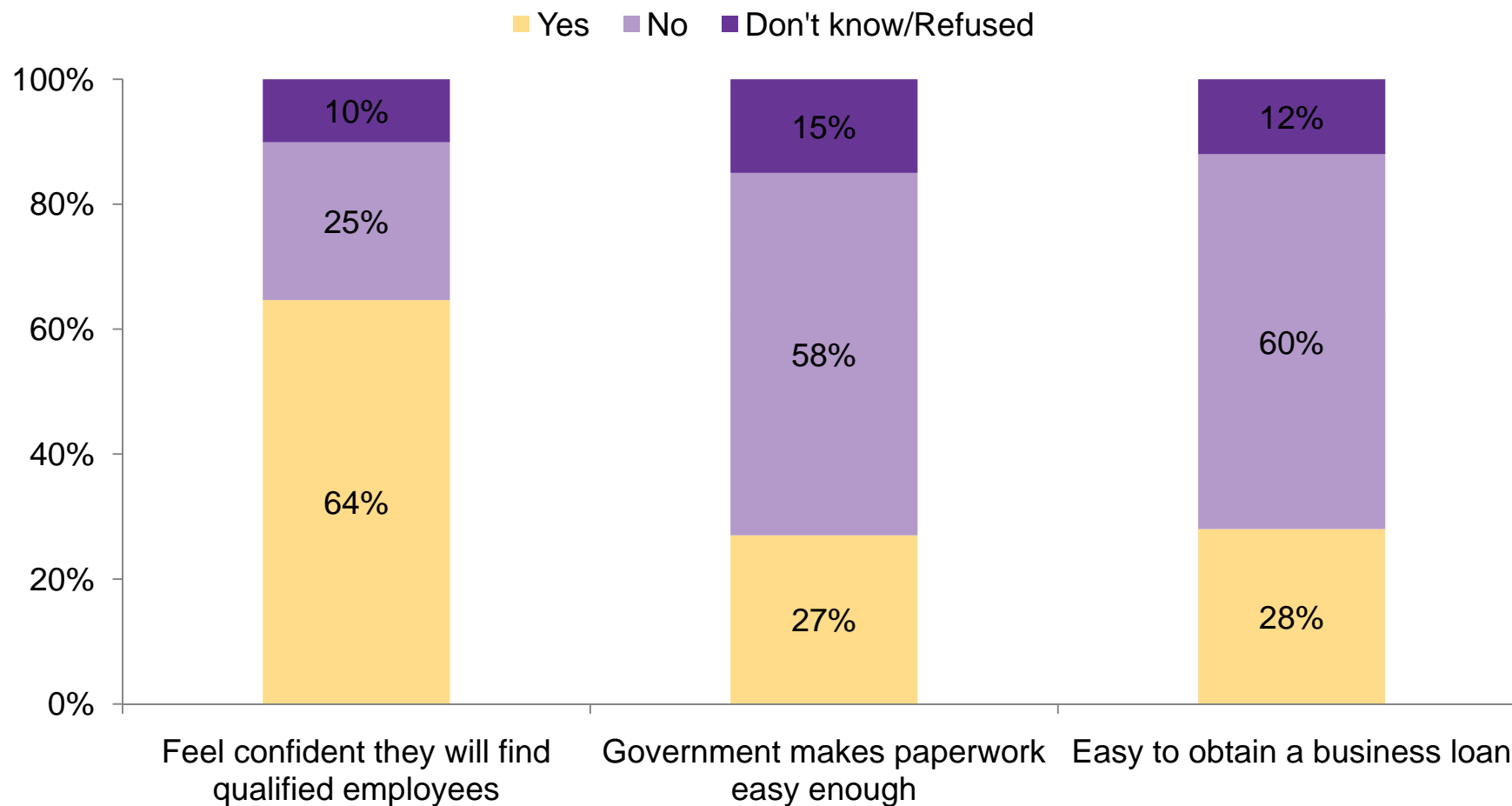
11%

Aspiring Entrepreneurs - Attributes

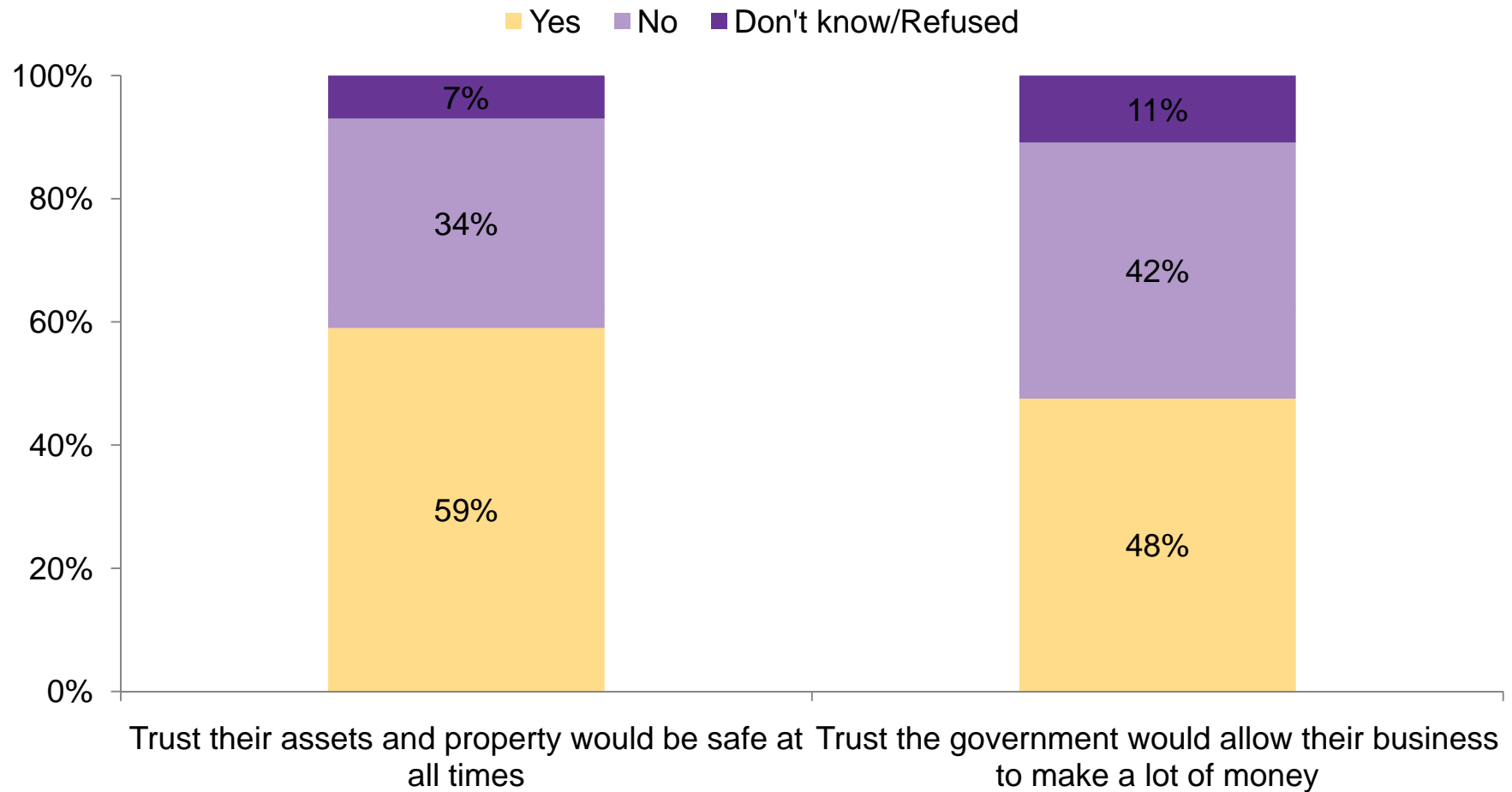
	Aspiring Entrepreneurs	Non-Entrepreneurial Youth
Work Full Time	34%	21%
Volunteered Time	18%	10%
Helped a Stranger	59%	48%
Would Like to Emigrate	42%	29%

Attitudes Toward Business Entry vs. Business Outcomes

Young Arabs' Perspectives – Business Entry



Young Arabs' Perspectives – Business Outcomes



Summary

- Entrepreneurship is a critical component to address the youth bulge challenge.
- Majority of young Arabs prefer the public over the private sector, but large proportions are undecided, which represents an opportunity to “sell” the benefits of entrepreneurship to youth.
- However, widespread perceptions of important business entry and outcome barriers exist.
- Those most committed to entrepreneurship are also the ones most likely to emigrate, suggesting that business formation may not benefit their countries of origin.

For more information

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