

ROUNDTABLE: LISTENING TO THE CITIZENS OF UZBEKISTAN  
OVERALL TRENDS: WELL-BEING, ECONOMIC  
GROWTH, FLUCTUATIONS IN LOCAL LIVING  
CONDITIONS, FOOD SECURITY AND RISKS



**Ikuko Uochi**  
Senior Economist  
Poverty and Equity Global Practice  
The World Bank

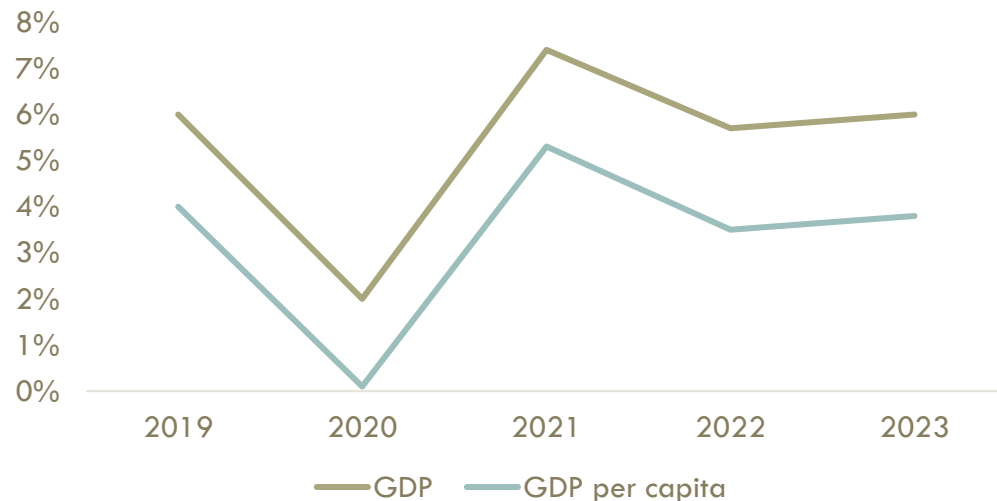
# LISTENING TO THE CITIZENS OF UZBEKISTAN SURVEY (L2CU)

- The **Listening to the Citizens of Uzbekistan Survey (L2CU)** has been conducted for 6 years since 2018 on a monthly basis, with the support of the UK Government
- The L2CU monitored socio-economic indicators and citizens' perceptions on important policy areas from approximately 1,500 household respondents, allowing us to analyze the impacts of key policy reforms and household-level outcomes such as income, coping mechanisms, food insecurity, access to services, in addition to individual employment and migration
- **Sample size:** As of January 2024 (Round 65), 1,383 households had the same respondent as in Round 1 (92 percent of Round 1 sample)
- **Representativeness:** Nation, Urban/Rural
- **Implementation method:** Computer-assisted telephone interviewing (CATI)

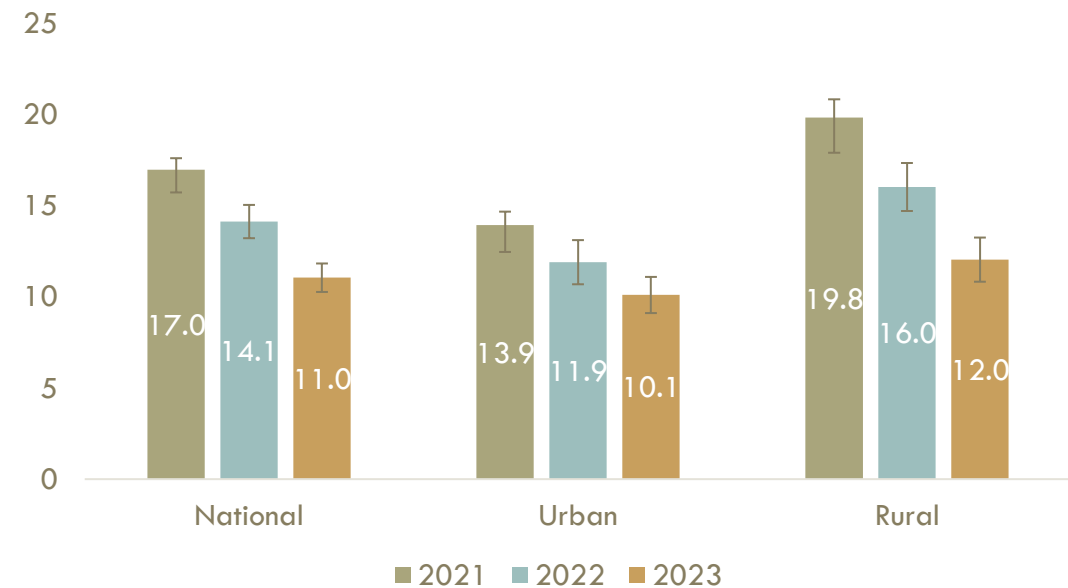
# MACRO AND POVERTY UPDATES

- In Uzbekistan, robust and sustained growth continued in 2023
  - GDP grew by 6 percent (per capita growth of 3.8%), which was higher than expected
  - The national poverty rate declined from 14 percent in 2022 to 11 percent in 2023. This indicates about 1 million people escaped from poverty between 2022 and 2023

**GDP/ GDP per capita Growth  
(%YoY)**



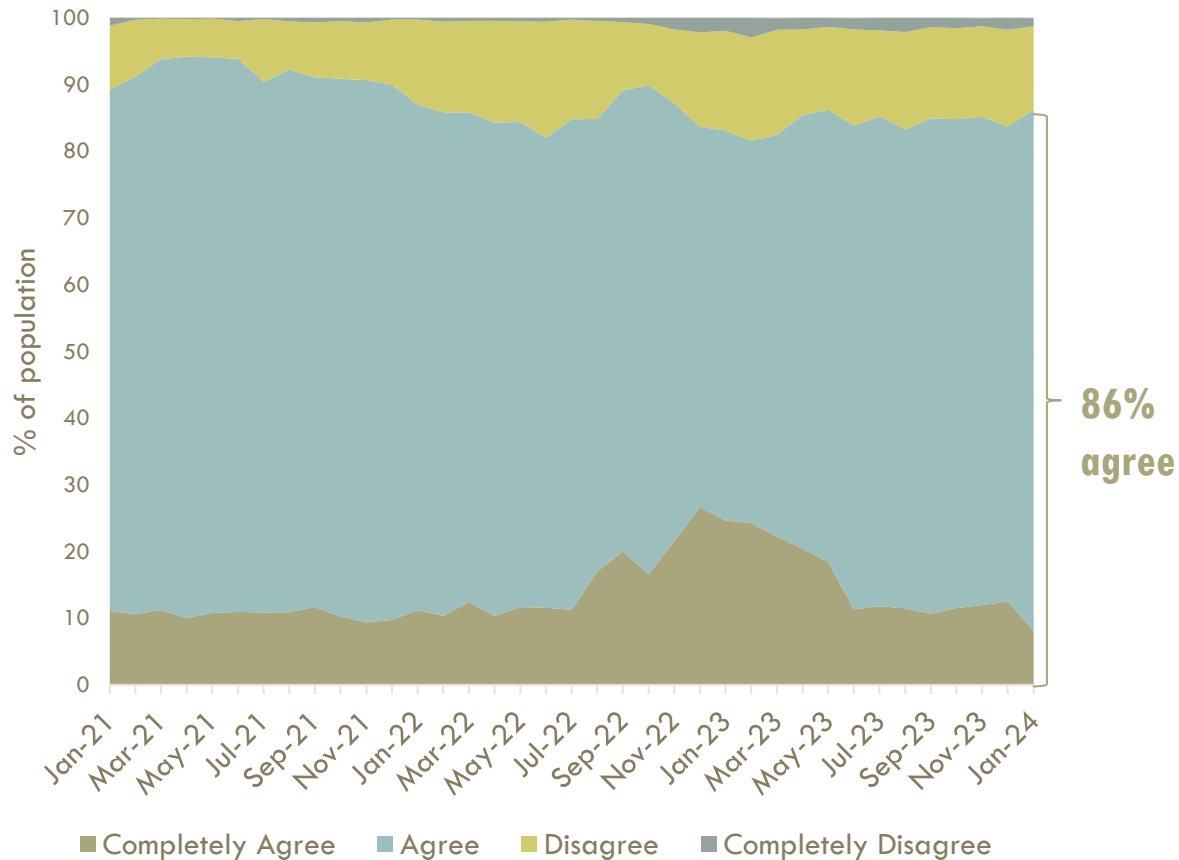
**Poverty Rate (%)**



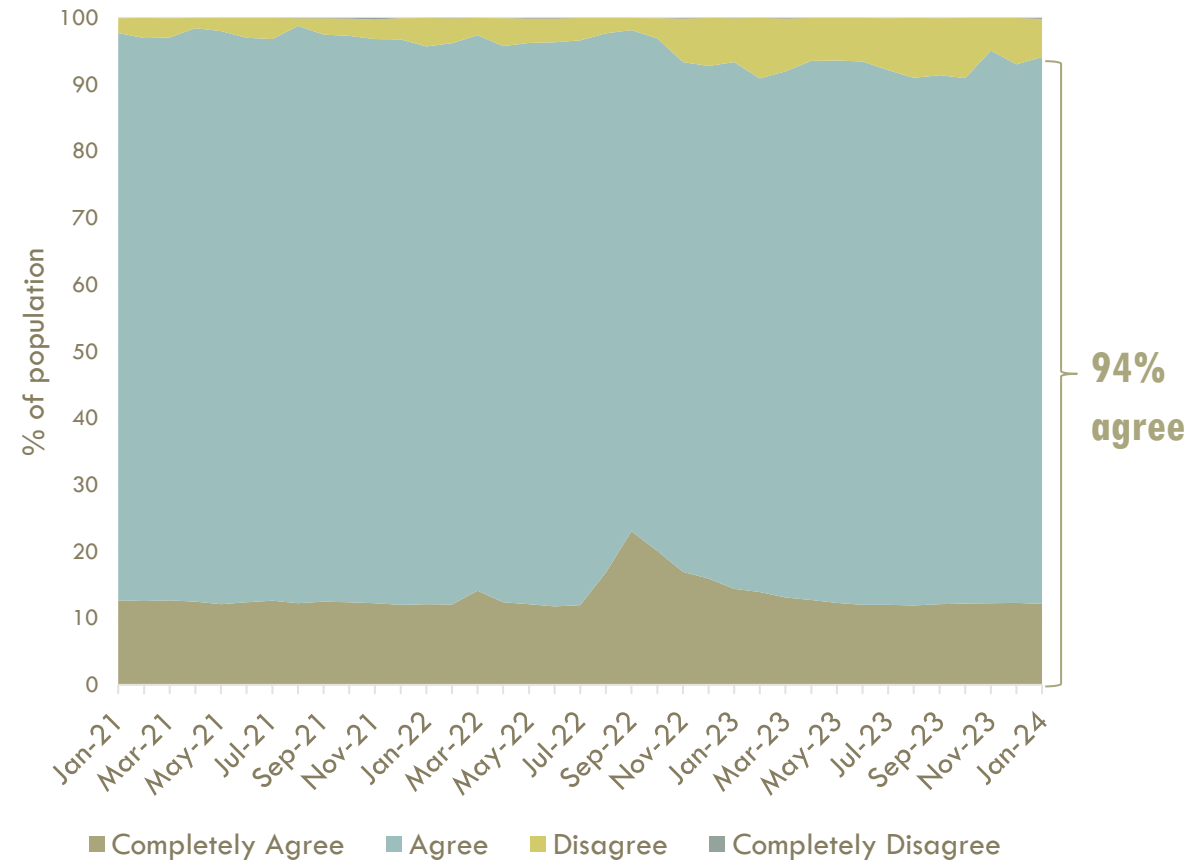
Source: World Bank staff estimates using Household Budget Survey (HBS)

# A STABLE MAJORITY SAY THE GOVERNMENT IS ENGAGING IN AN OPEN DIALOGUE, AND REFORMS ON RIGHT TRACK

The Government is Engaging in Open Dialogue with Citizens

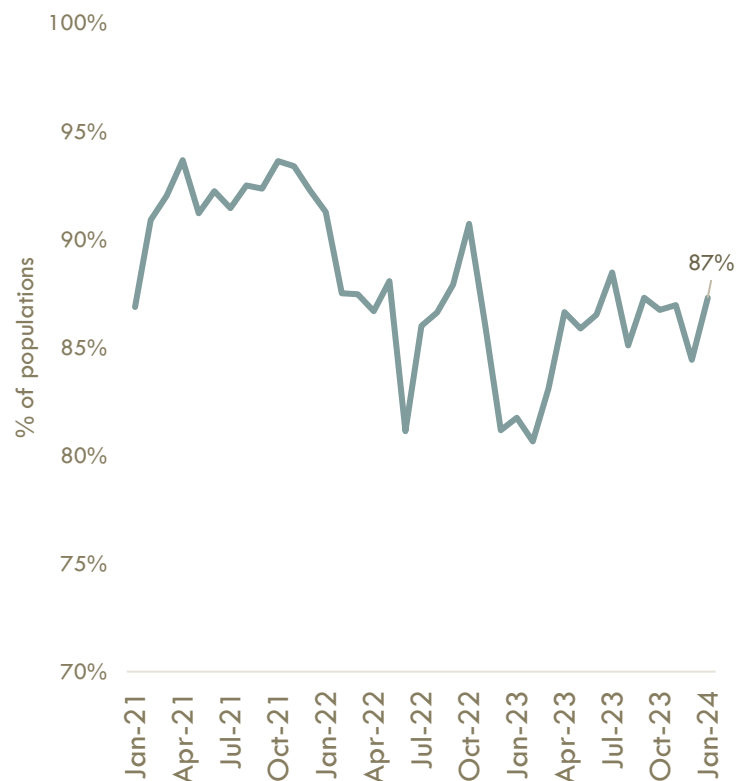


The Country is on the Right Track in Political, Social, and Economic Reforms

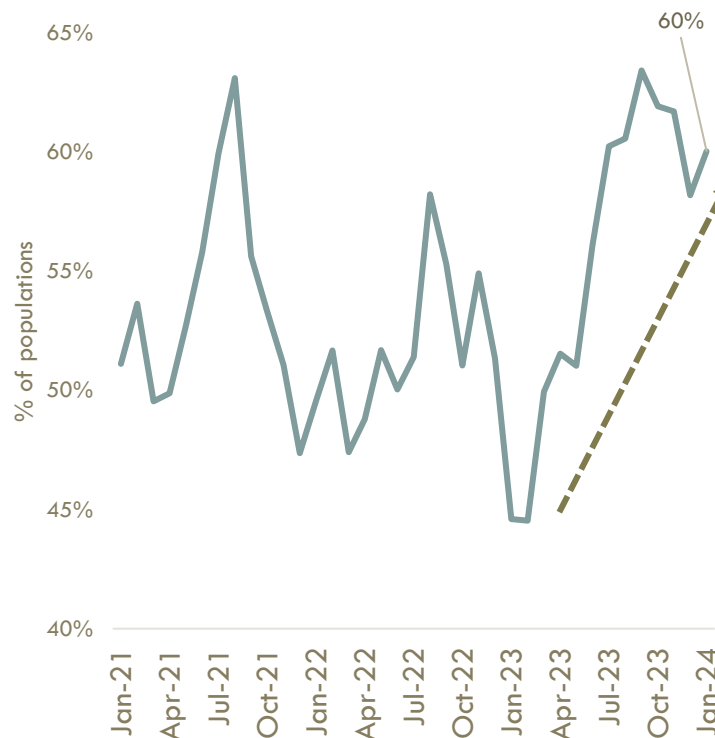


# PERCEPTIONS OF ECONOMIC CONDITIONS REMAIN STABLE. NOTICEABLE IMPROVEMENT IS SEEN IN LABOR MARKET

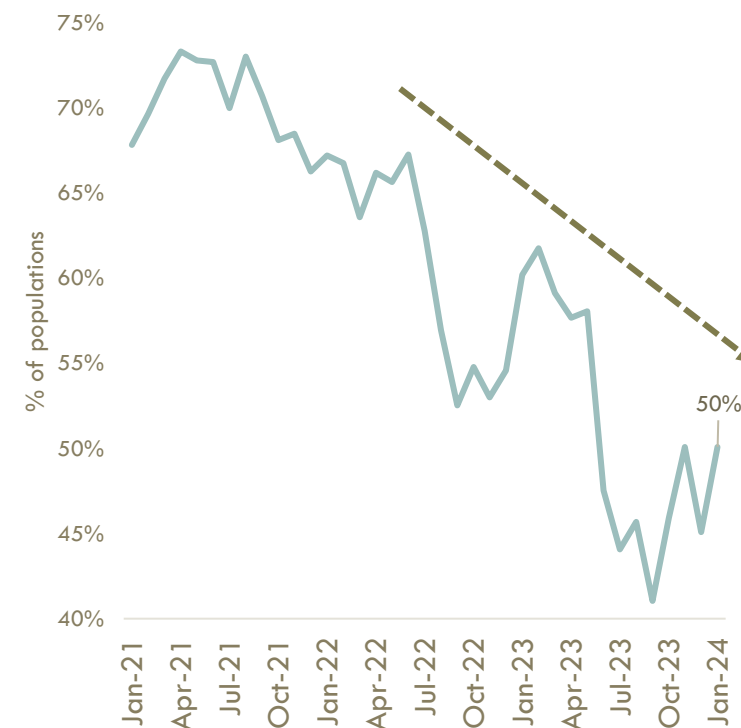
## Economic conditions are good



## Now is a good time to find a job

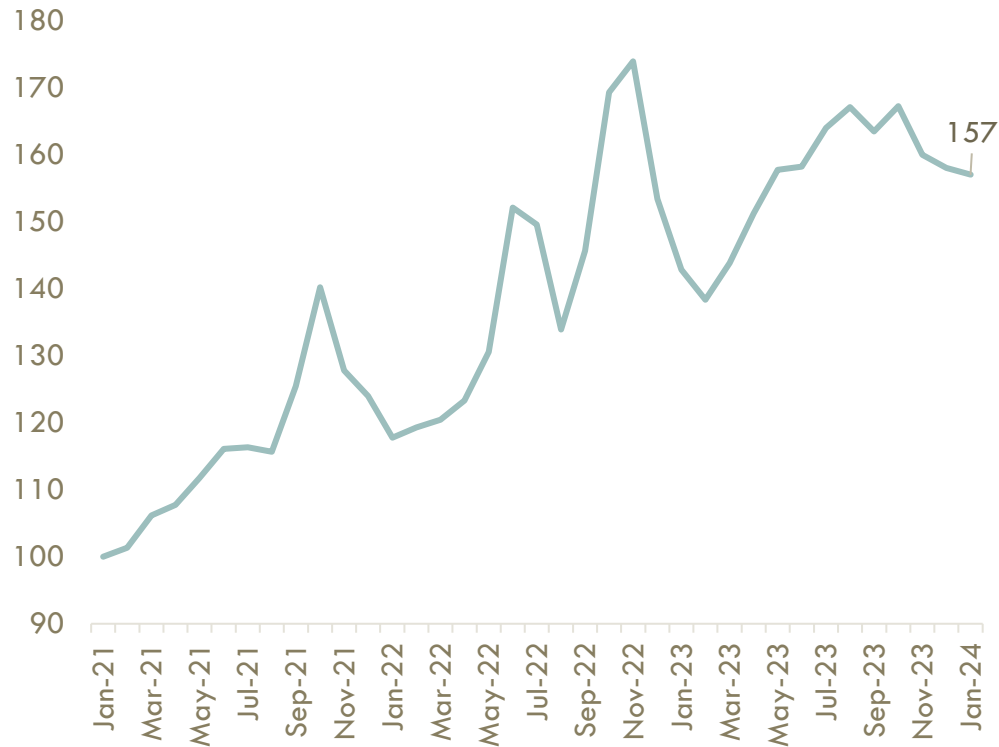


## I am worried about losing my job

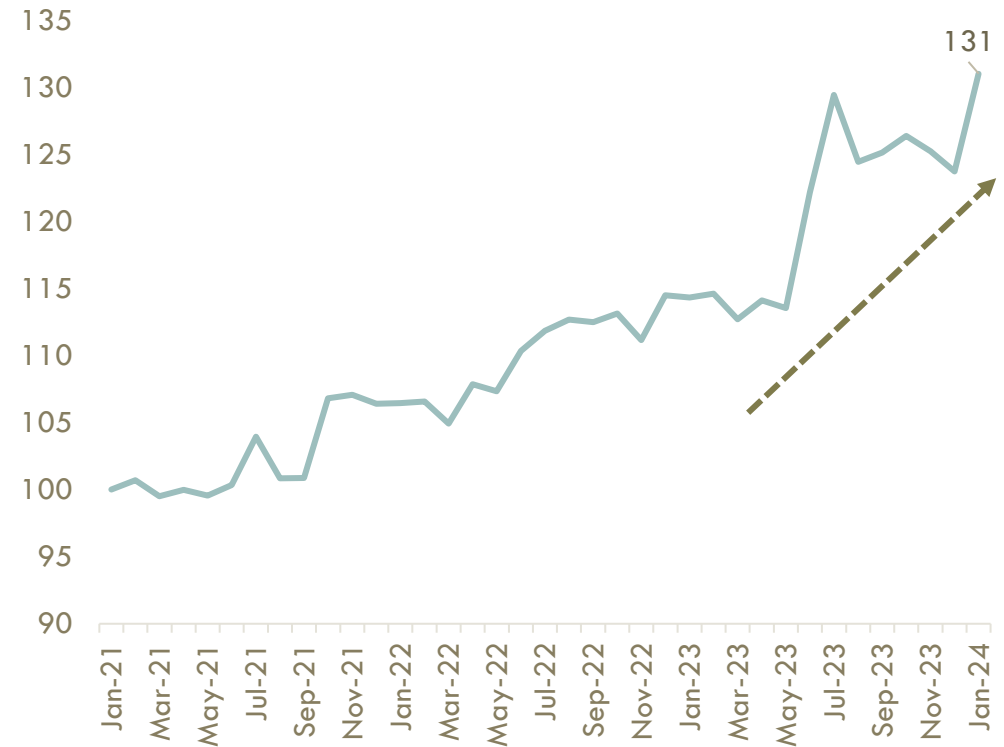


# INCOMES, PARTICULARLY WAGES, ROSE SIGNIFICANTLY FASTER THAN INFLATION

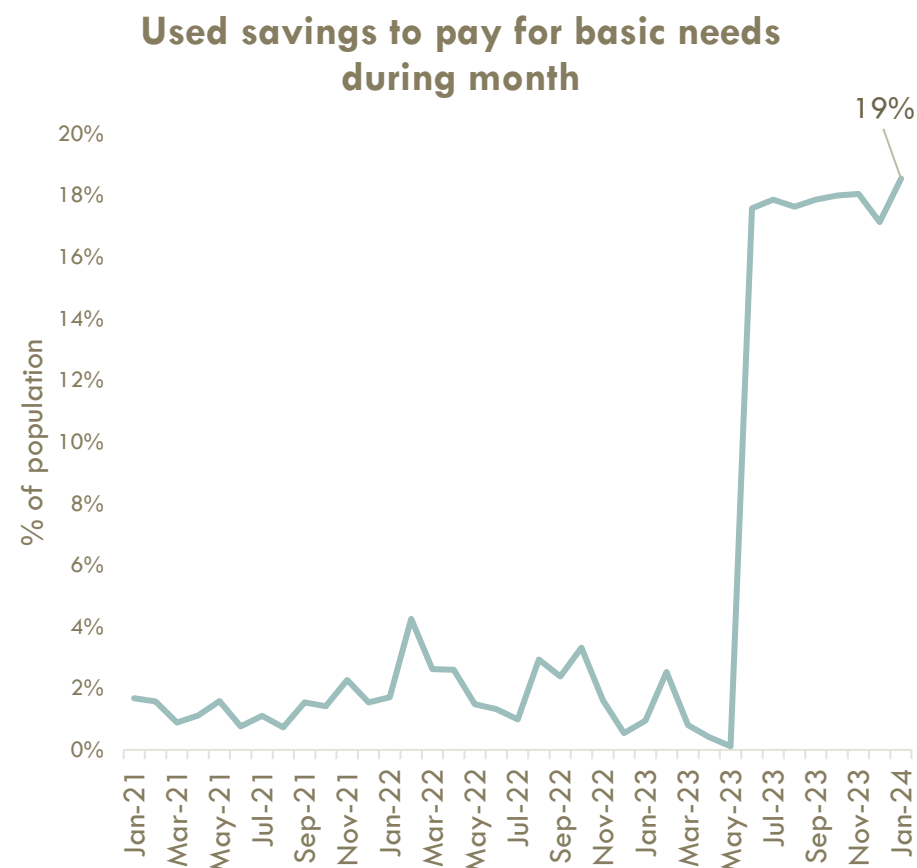
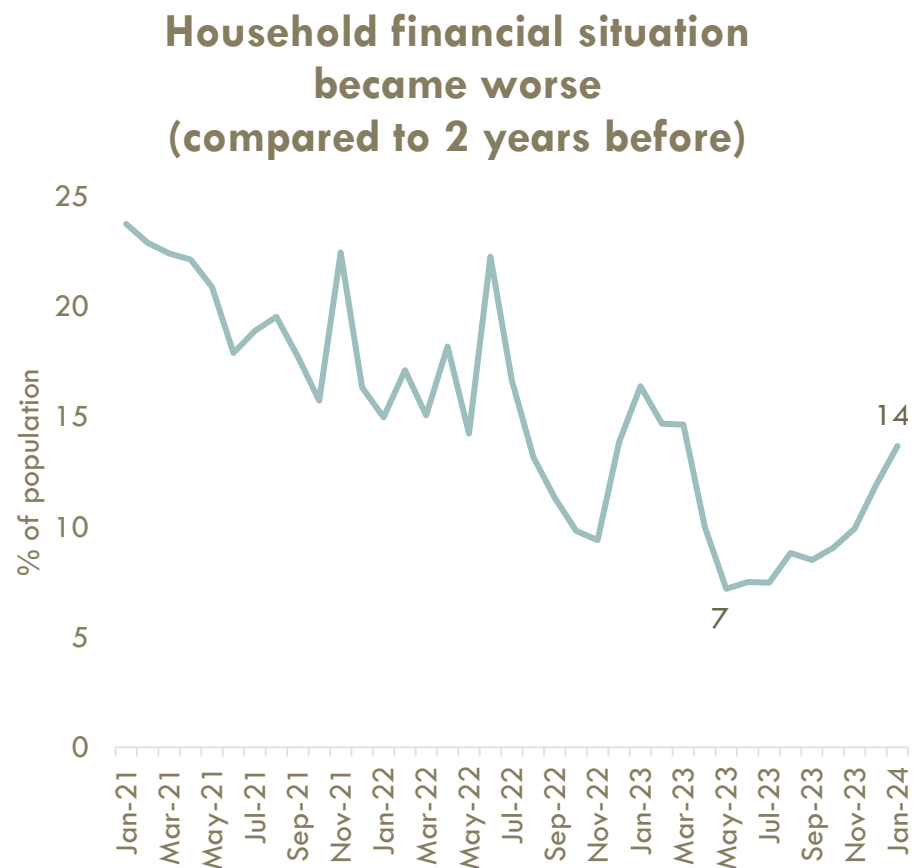
Change of Real Income per capita  
(YoY, Jan 2021 = 100)



Change of Real Wage Income  
(YoY, Jan 2021 = 100)

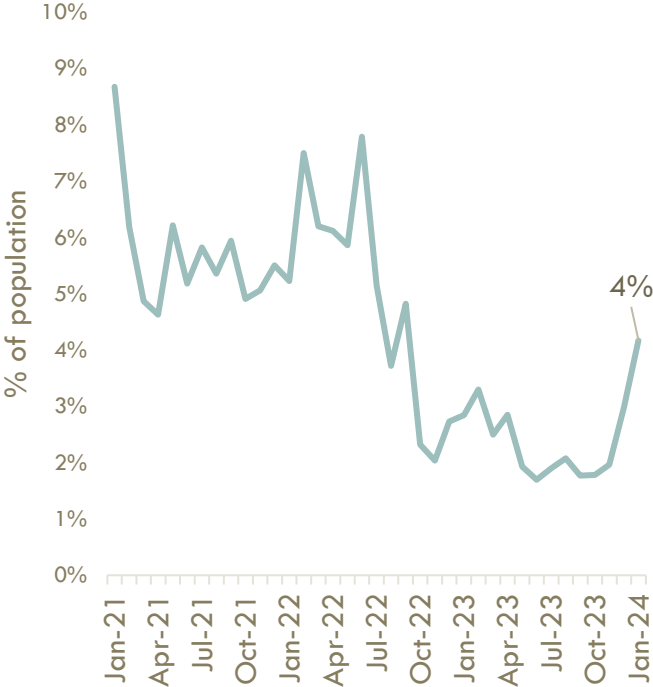


# INCREASING CONCERNS IN THE HOUSEHOLD FINANCIAL SITUATION — NEEDS TO WATCH

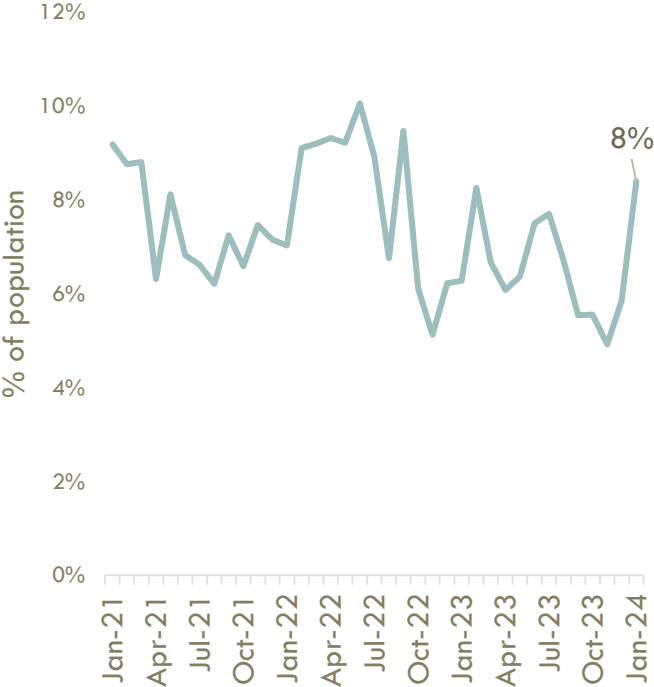


# ... BUT NOT TRANSLATED INTO EXTREME COPING STRATEGIES

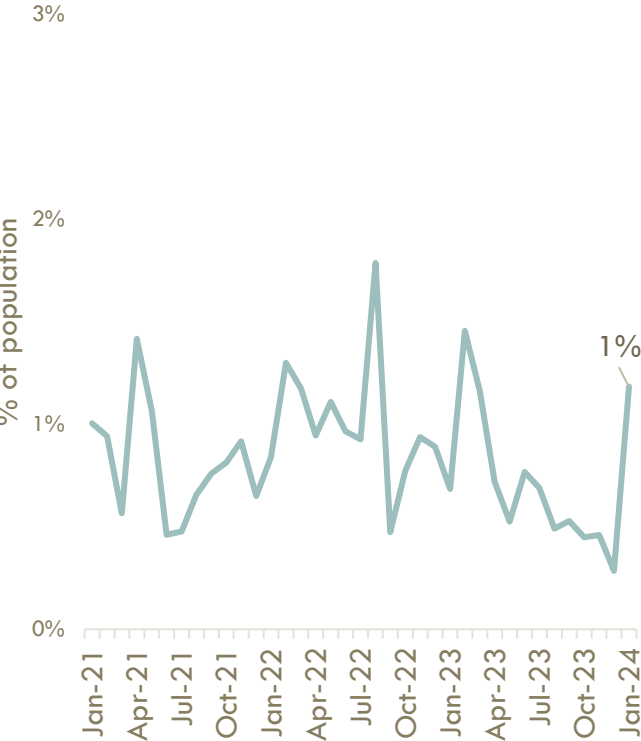
### Reduced consumption to pay for basic needs during month



### Borrowed any money to pay for basic needs during month



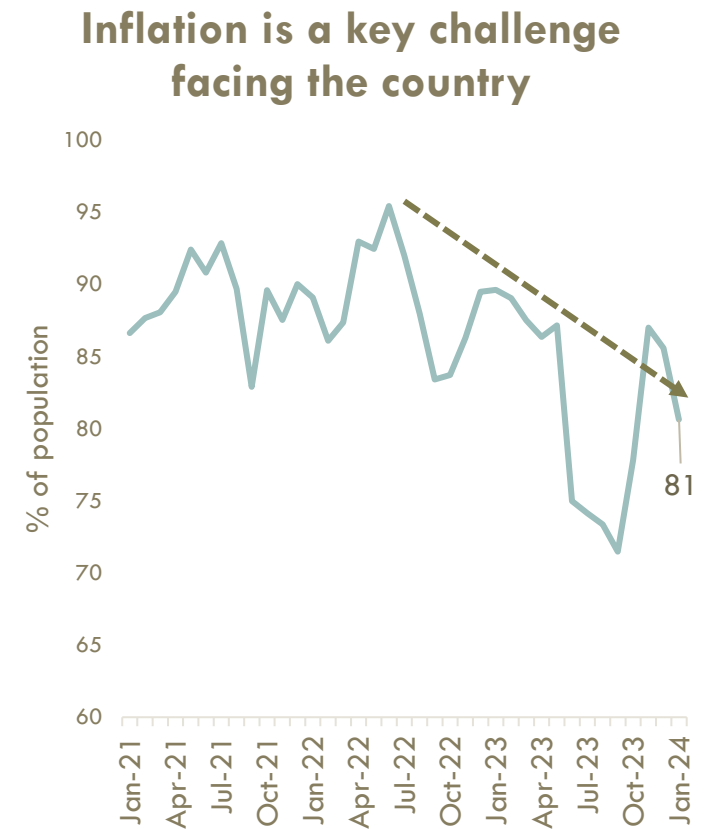
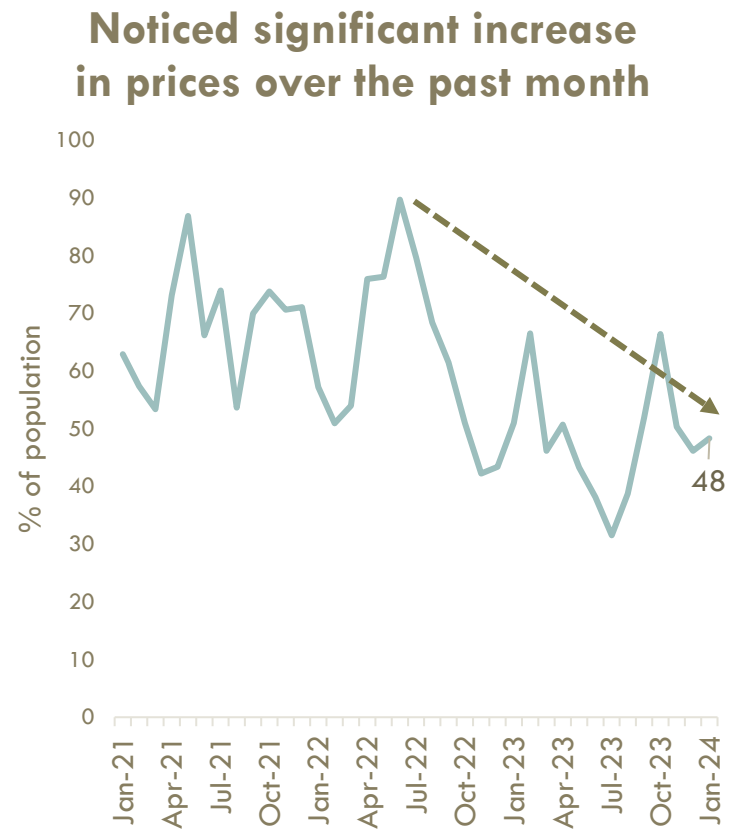
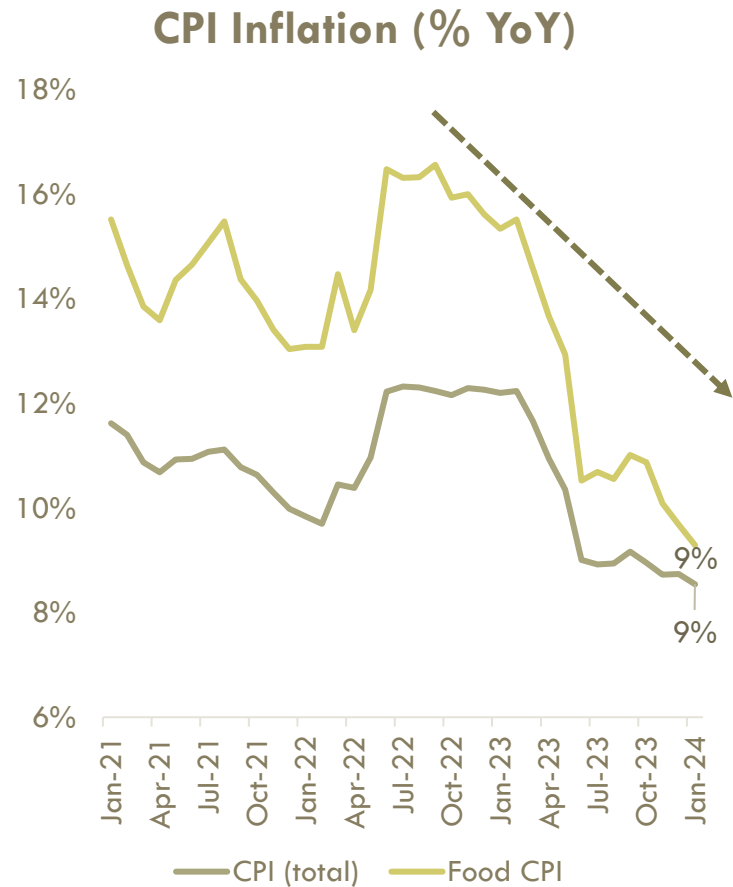
### Sold any assets to pay for basic needs during month



Source: Listening to the Citizens of Uzbekistan Survey

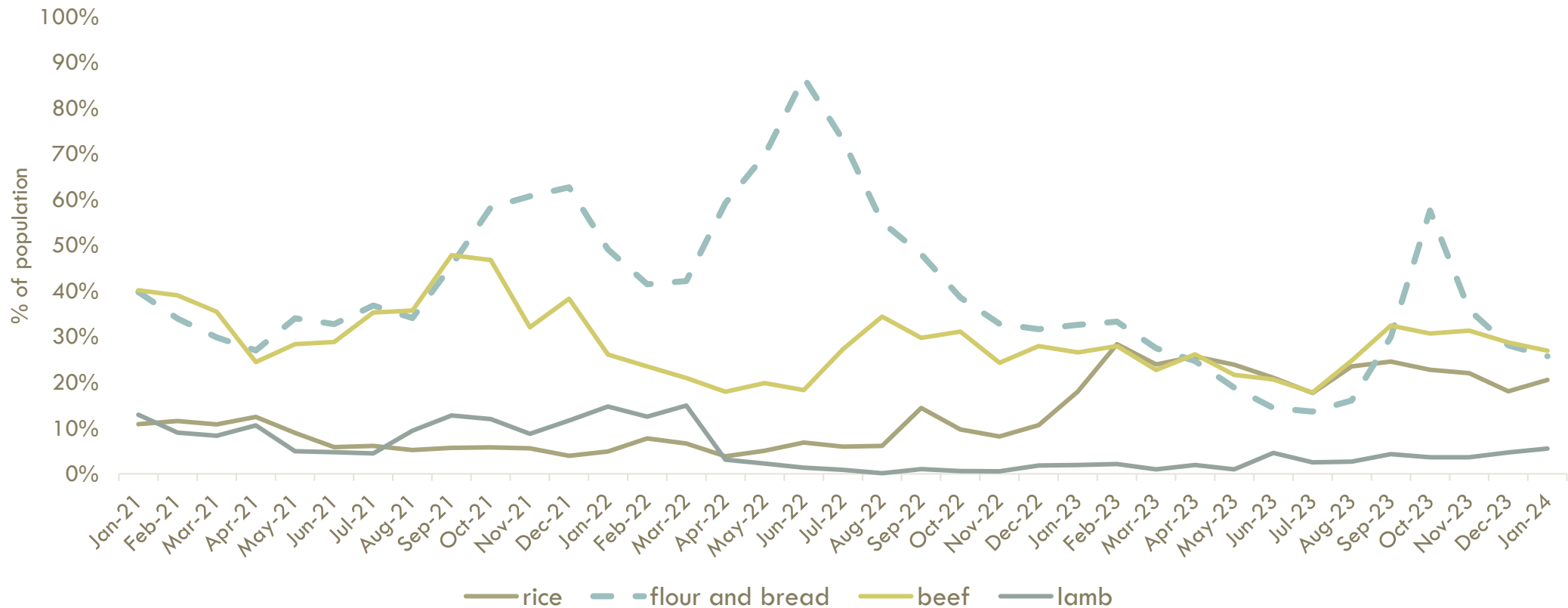


# WITH INFLATION MODERATED, PUBLIC CONCERNS DECLINED



# SPECIFIC GOODS (FLOUR AND BREAD) DRIVE PERCEPTIONS OF RISING PRICES, IN LINE WITH INFLATION TRENDS

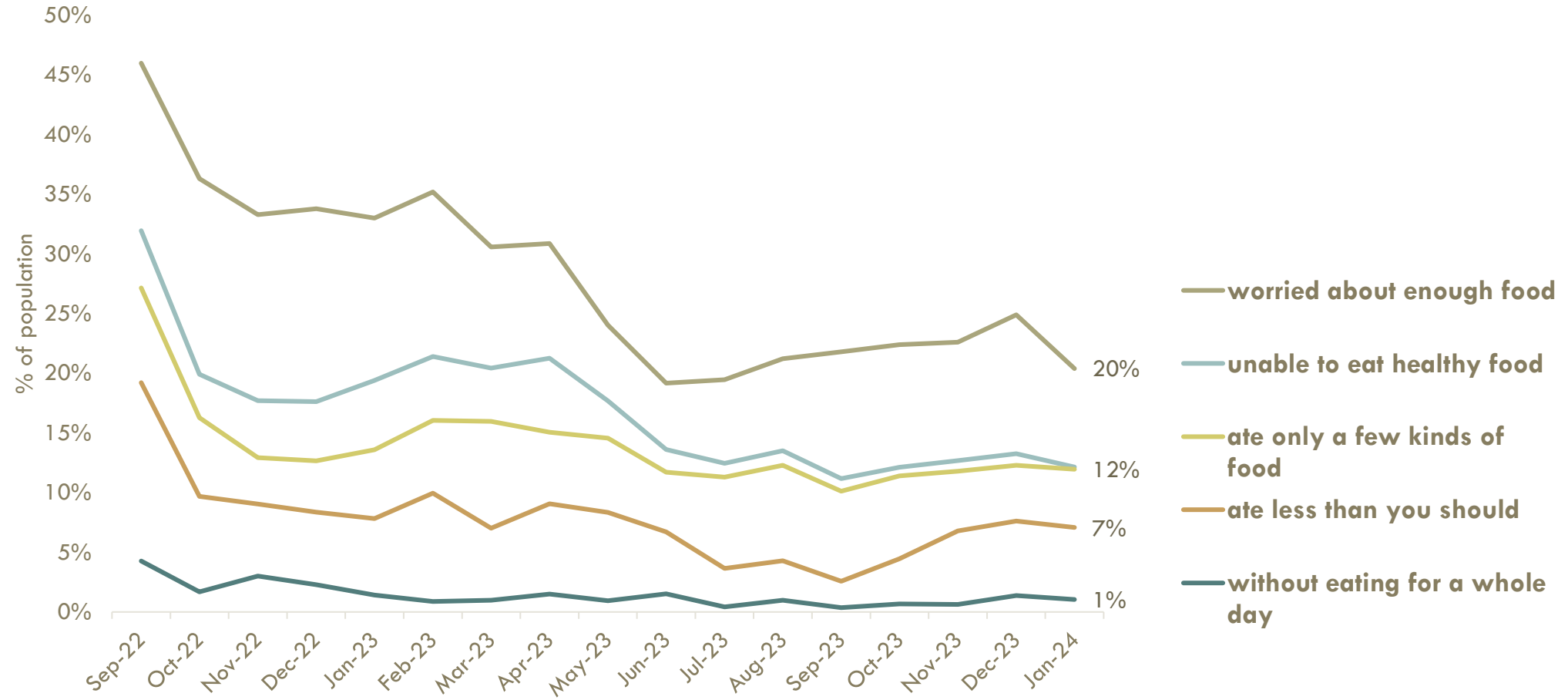
Food items cited as driving rising prices



Source: Listening to the Citizens of Uzbekistan Survey

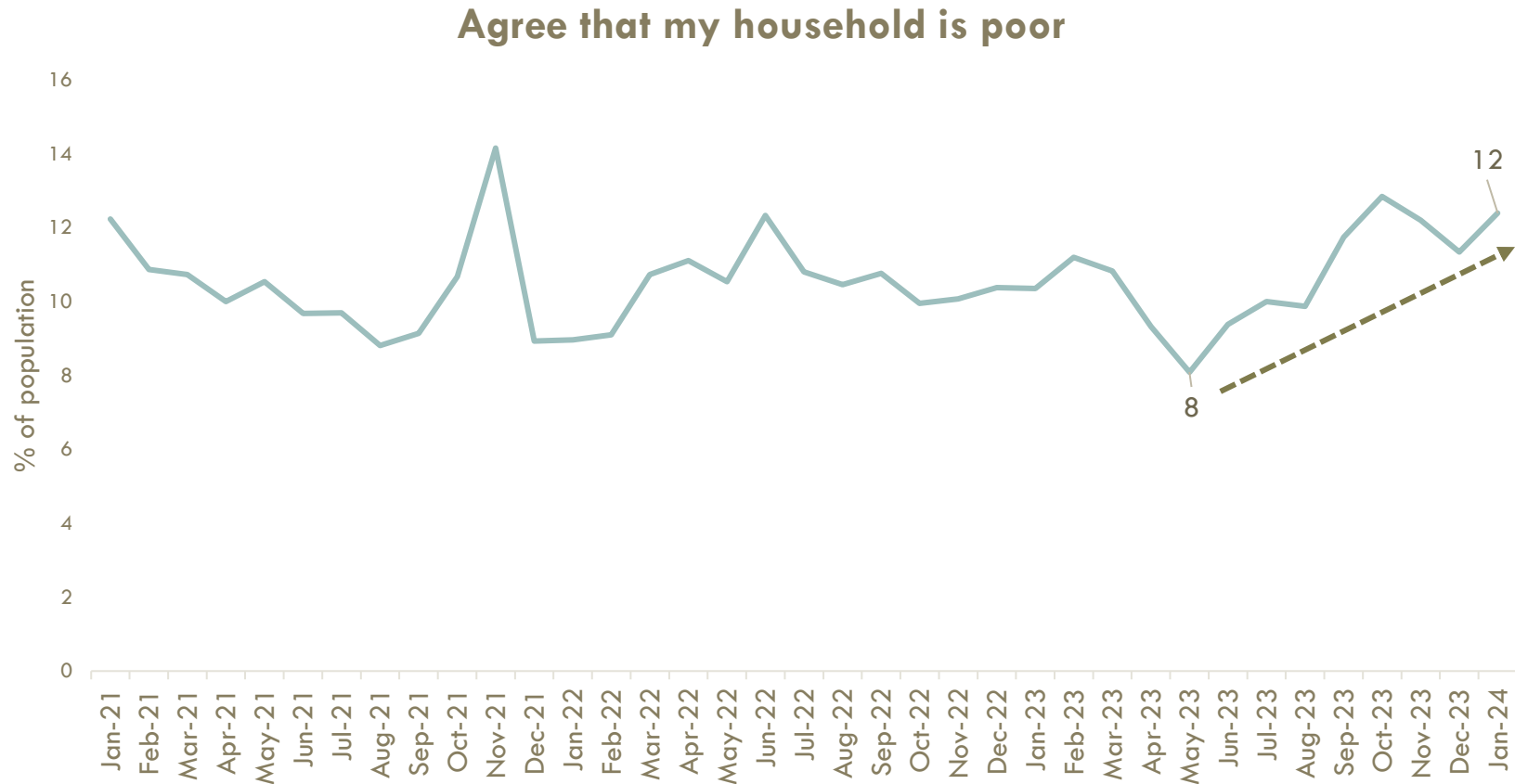
# DETAILED MEASURES OF FOOD INSECURITY CONFIRM IMPROVING TREND

Food Insecurity during the past 30 days



Source: Listening to the Citizens of Uzbekistan Survey

# SLIGHTLY UPWARD TREND IN SUBJECTIVE POVERTY SINCE MID-LAST YEAR

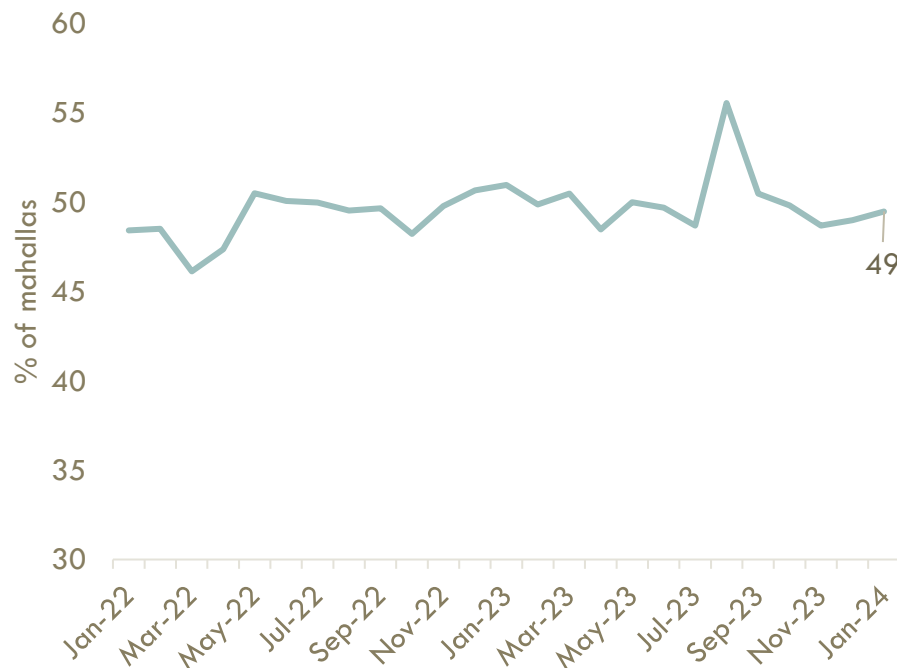




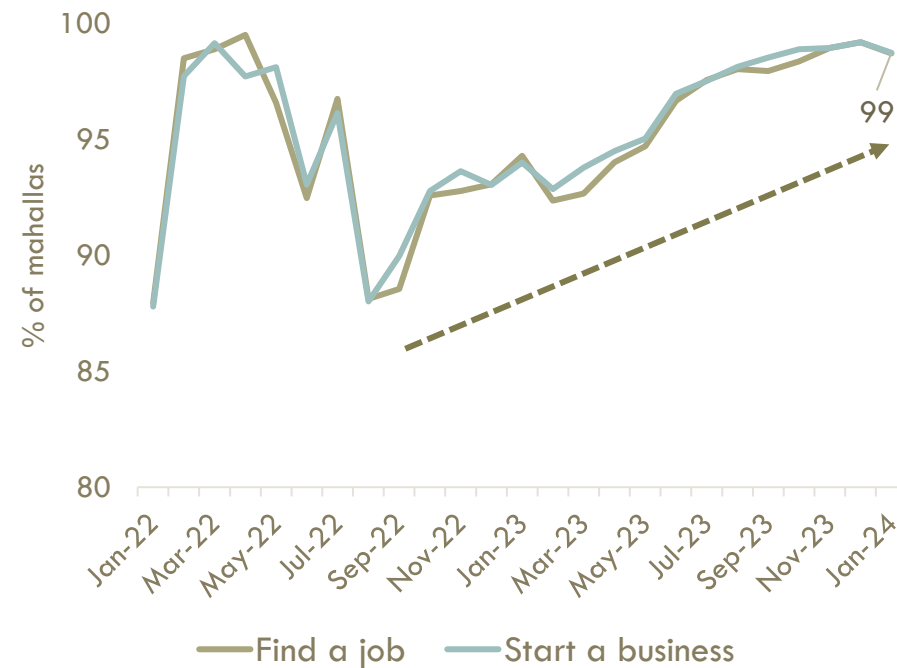
**COMMUNITY-LEVEL: WELL-BEING,  
DEVELOPMENT, AND CHALLENGES**

# MAHALLA LEADERS' STRONG POSITIVE VIEWS ON LOCAL ECONOMIC SITUATIONS

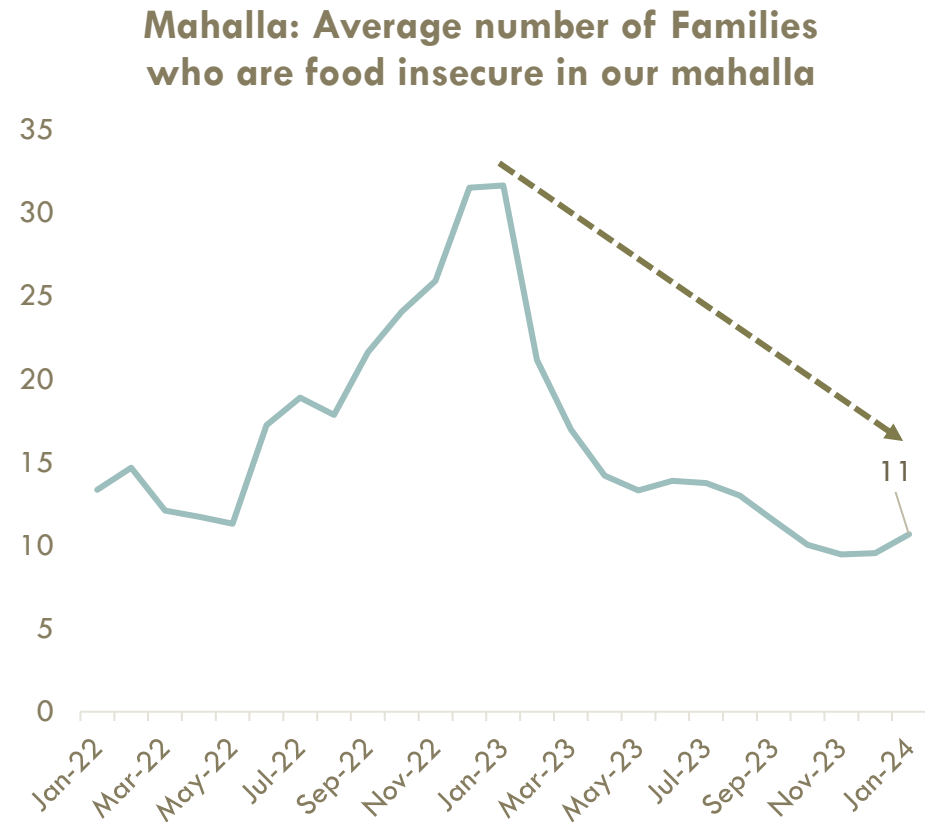
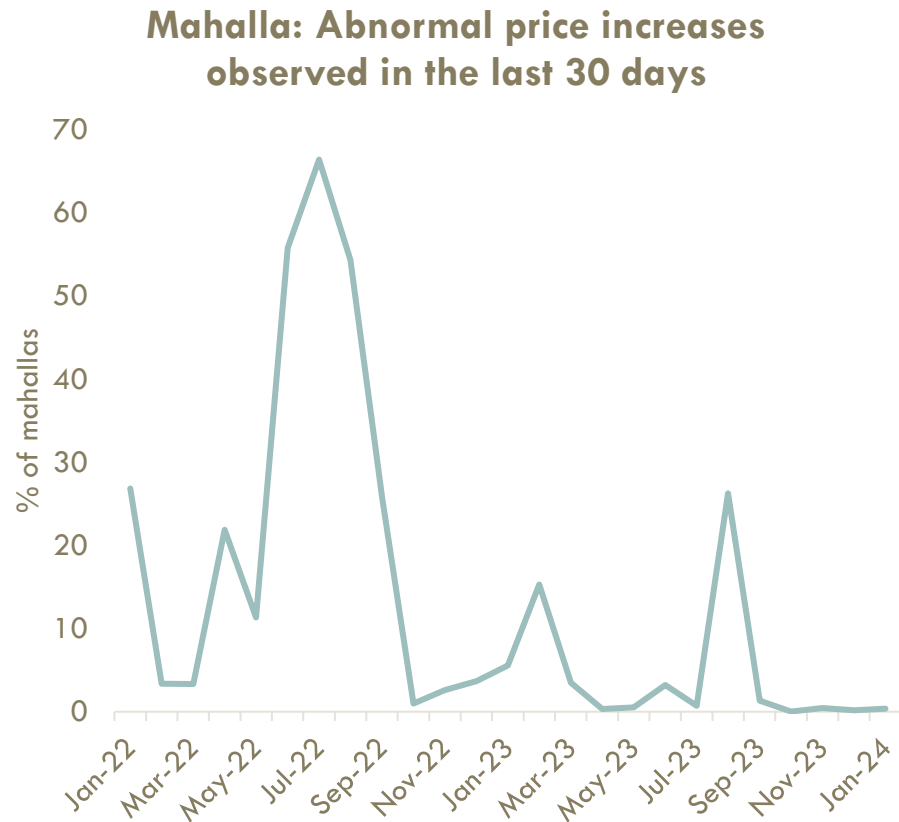
**Mahalla: Financial situation of households in our mahalla is worse than this time last year**



**Mahalla: Agree that now is a good time to find a job /start a business in our mahalla**



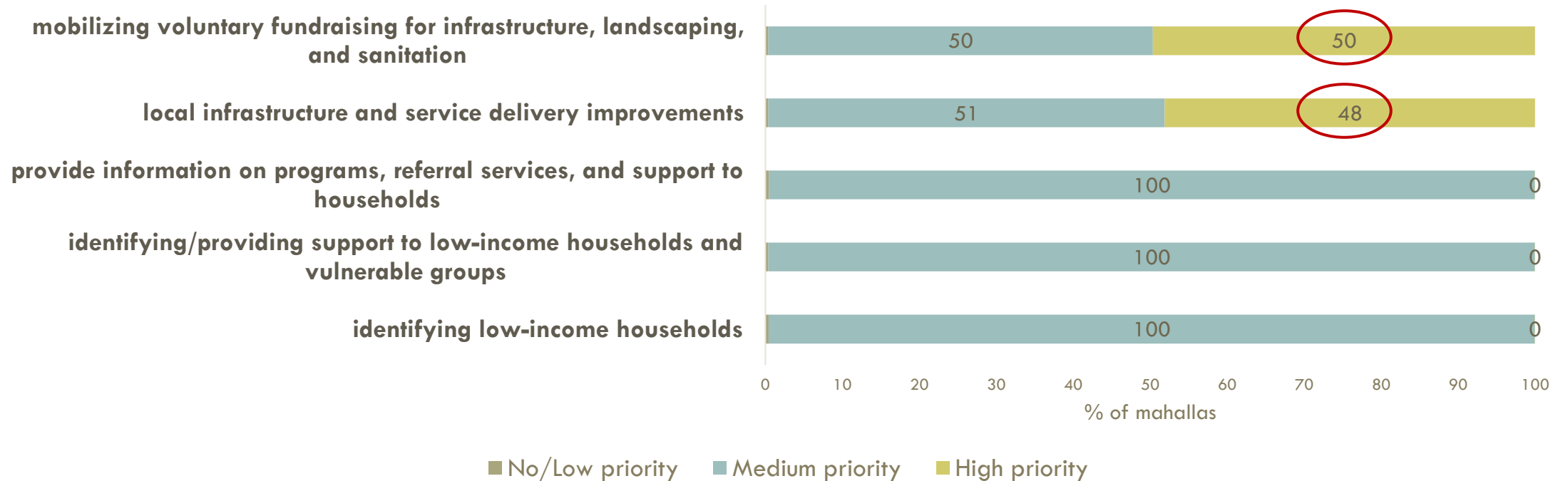
# CONCERNS ABOUT INFLATION AND FOOD INSECURITY ALSO IMPROVED IN MAHALLA LEADER'S VIEW



# INFRASTRUCTURE DEVELOPMENT IS A KEY PRIORITY FOR THE MAHALLA COMMITTEE

- Mahalla leaders place a greater emphasis on voluntary fundraising for the community's infrastructure and sanitation services and service delivery improvements

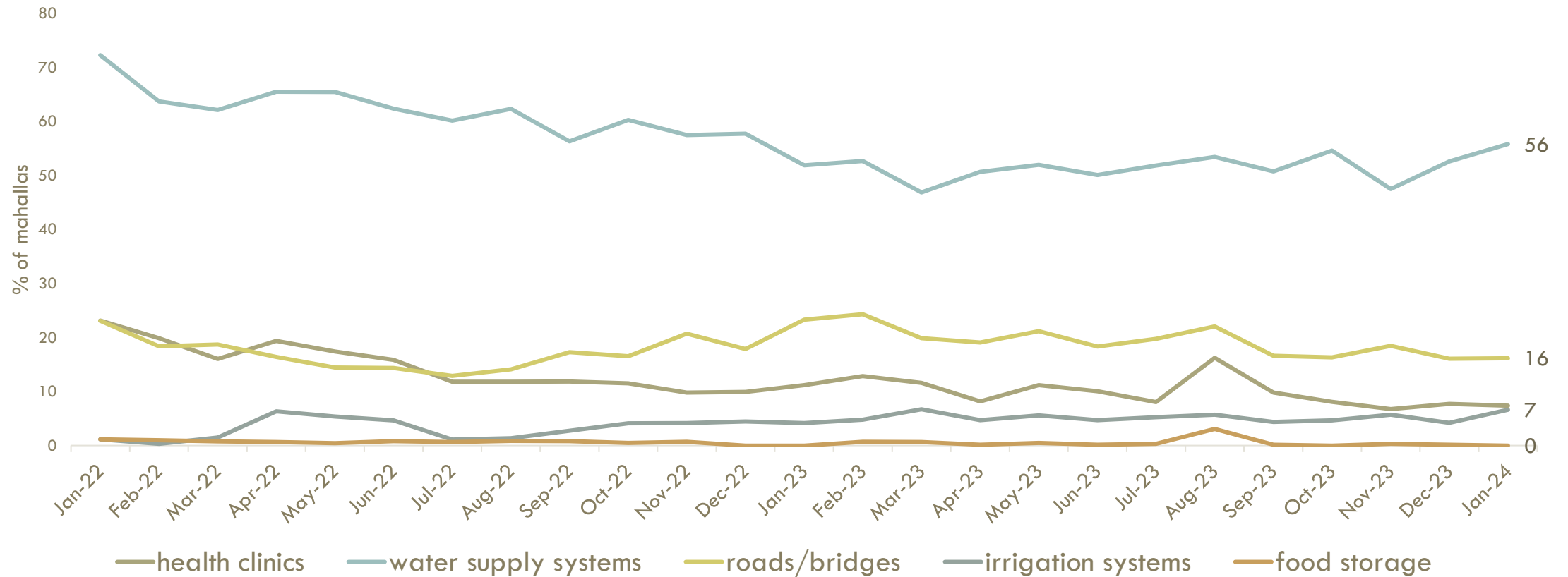
priority areas for mahalla committee activity (September 2023 - January 2024)





# HALF OF MAHALLA LEADERS PRIORITIZE CONSTRUCTING WATER SUPPLY SYSTEMS IN THE COMMUNITY

The most important civil works' construction projects



Source: Listening to the Citizens of Uzbekistan Survey

# KEY MESSAGES

- Uzbekistan has undergone significant reforms in 2023, and the Public continuously supports ongoing political, social, and economic reforms
- Public perceptions of the labor market have significantly improved since the beginning of 2023. Mahalla leaders also shared optimistic views on the local labor market conditions
- Despite an increasing concern in the household financial situation, severe coping strategies (such as selling assets, increasing indebtedness levels, and reducing food intake) were not employed by households
- With inflation pressure moderated, people's concern about food security has eased

# **PUBLIC PERCEPTIONS ON CLIMATE CHANGE**

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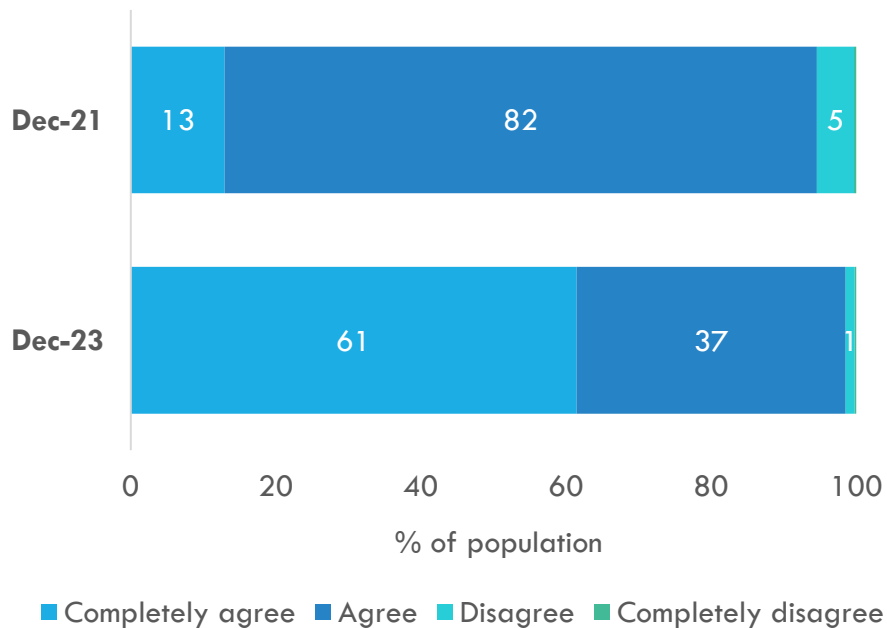
# MOST PEOPLE CONSIDER CLIMATE CHANGE A SERIOUS PROBLEM

How serious a problem do you think climate change is for the world at this moment? (scale 1-5)

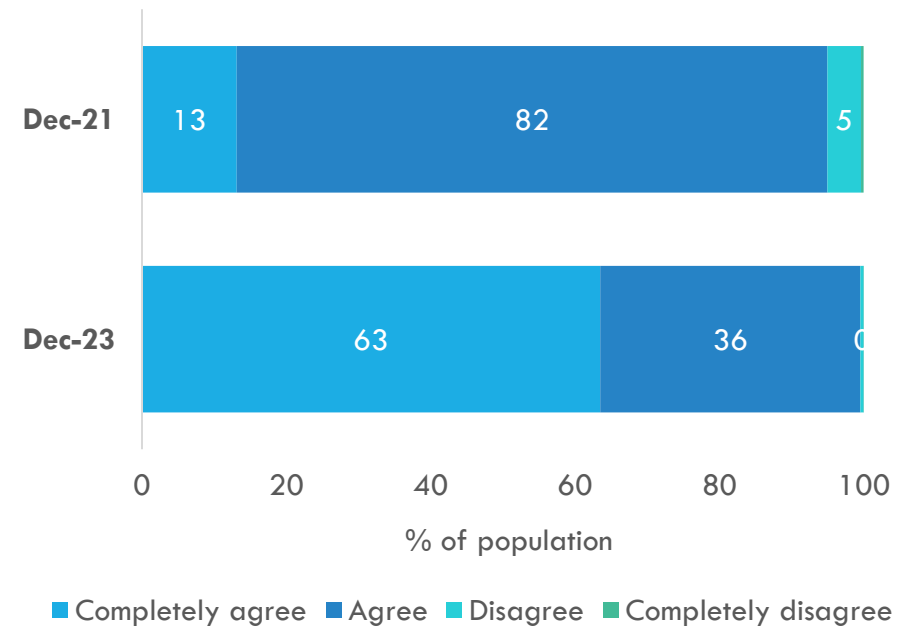


# THE PUBLIC STRONGLY SUPPORTS THE GOVERNMENT'S ACTION IN RENEWABLE ENERGY AND REDUCTION OF GREENHOUSE GAS EMISSIONS

The government should set ambitious targets to increase the amount of renewable energy used

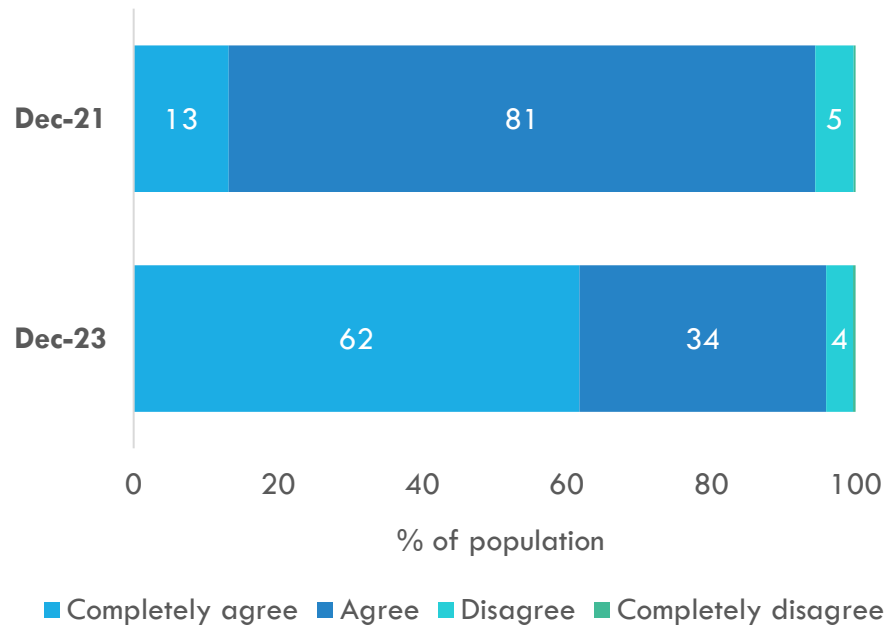


We should reduce greenhouse gas emissions to a minimum while offsetting the remaining emissions

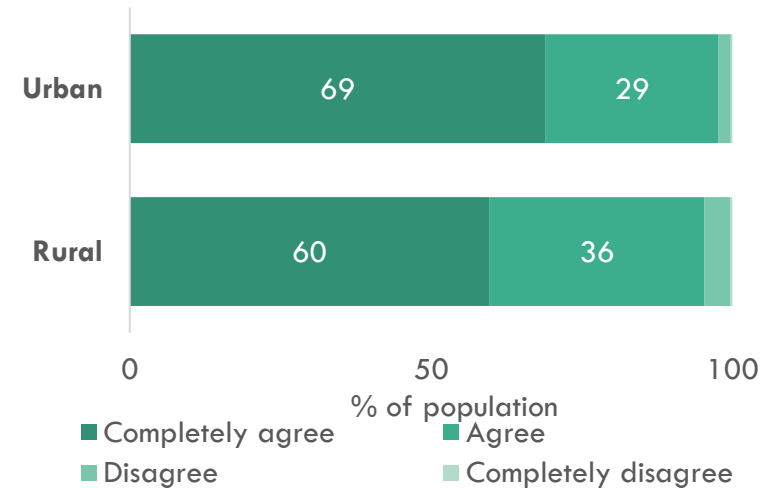


# AIR POLLUTION HAS BECOME A SERIOUS PROBLEM OVER THE LAST TWO YEARS, ESPECIALLY IN URBAN CITIES

Air pollution is a serious health concern for me and my family

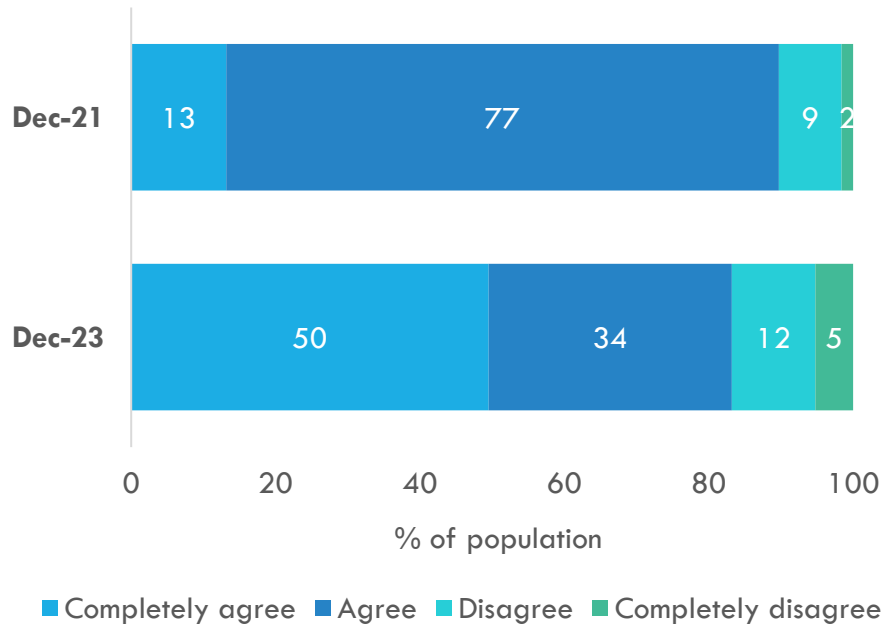


by urban and rural (Dec 2023)



# HALF OF CITIZENS STRONGLY SUPPORT THE GOVERNMENT TO IMPOSE HIGHER TAXES ON POLLUTING ACTIVITIES

The government should impose higher taxes on polluting activities



If the government were to impose higher taxes on polluting activities in Uzbekistan, how should the revenue be used (Dec 2023)

