

QUINTA VERSIÓN

09

ENCUESTA NACIONAL DE OPINIÓN PÚBLICA UDP

**PERCEPTIONS OF HUMAN RIGHTS
in the
National Public Opinion Survey
of the Universidad Diego Portales,
Santiago, Chile
5th edition (2009)**

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Summary of Main Findings

- The National Opinion Survey published by the UDP in October 2009 shows that a significant proportion (**71.8%**) of respondents supported the statement that “There was no possible justification for human rights violations”^{**} during the period 1973-1990. Supporters of the left, centre-left and independent presidential candidates in Chile’s forthcoming (December 2009) election^{**} were more likely to support this statement than were adherents of right-wing candidate Piñera; although in all groups support was over 50%.

** For original formulations of all questions, see the Spanish version of this document.*

*** Arrate, Frei and Enríquez-Ominami, respectively*

- An even higher percentage of respondents ‘agreed’ or ‘agreed strongly’ with the statements that General Pinochet “knew all along about human rights violations” (**76.1%**) and that “civilians who took part in the military regime share responsibility” for these (**75.4%**). **62.5%** agreed with the proposition that “the Armed Forces know where the bodies of the disappeared are buried, but don’t want to hand the information over”
- On the question of justice measures, **59.1%** supported the option “continue investigations until all those responsible have been tried”, while **29.5%** preferred the option “close the cases soon, even if it means those responsible are not put on trial”. Respondents from midrange and higher socioeconomic strata were more likely than others to support the first option.
- The previous finding is consistent with the **44.4%** of respondents who felt that the number of people sentenced to date for human rights related crimes was very low. Only **7.9%** felt that the figure was very high
- It is nonetheless striking that **58.1%** of respondents expressed the belief that trials only serve to intensify hatred among Chileans. Here, respondents from lower social strata were more likely than others to express this view.
- **38.7%** answered (correctly) that former general Manuel Contreras is presently serving a custodial sentence in prison, while **38%** did not answer or declared themselves ignorant of his whereabouts.

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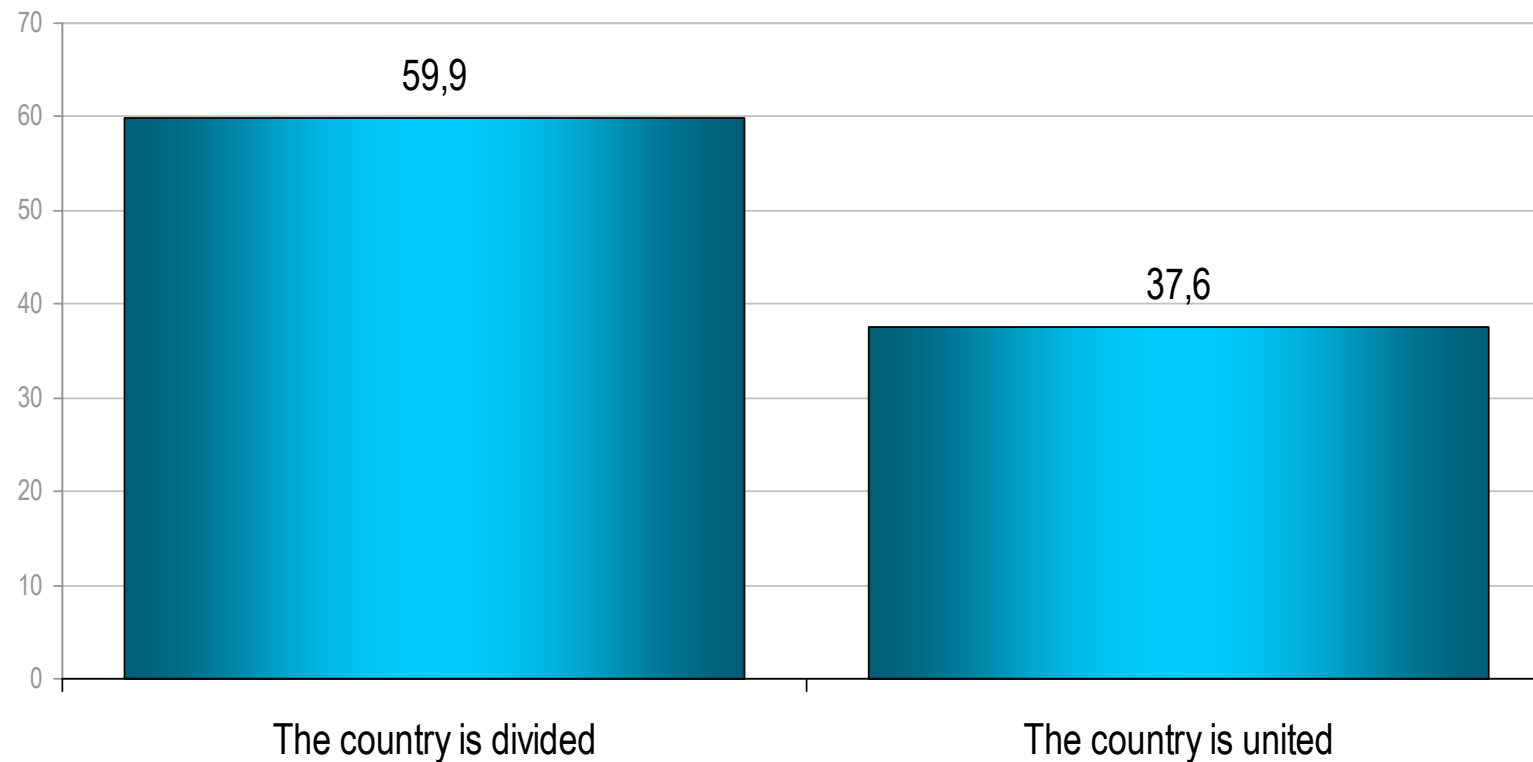


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Chile: United or divided?

When you think about Chile today, would you say the country is united or divided?

% TOTALS



* "Don't know" or "no reply", at 2.5%, completes the sample

(BASE: ENTIRE SAMPLE)

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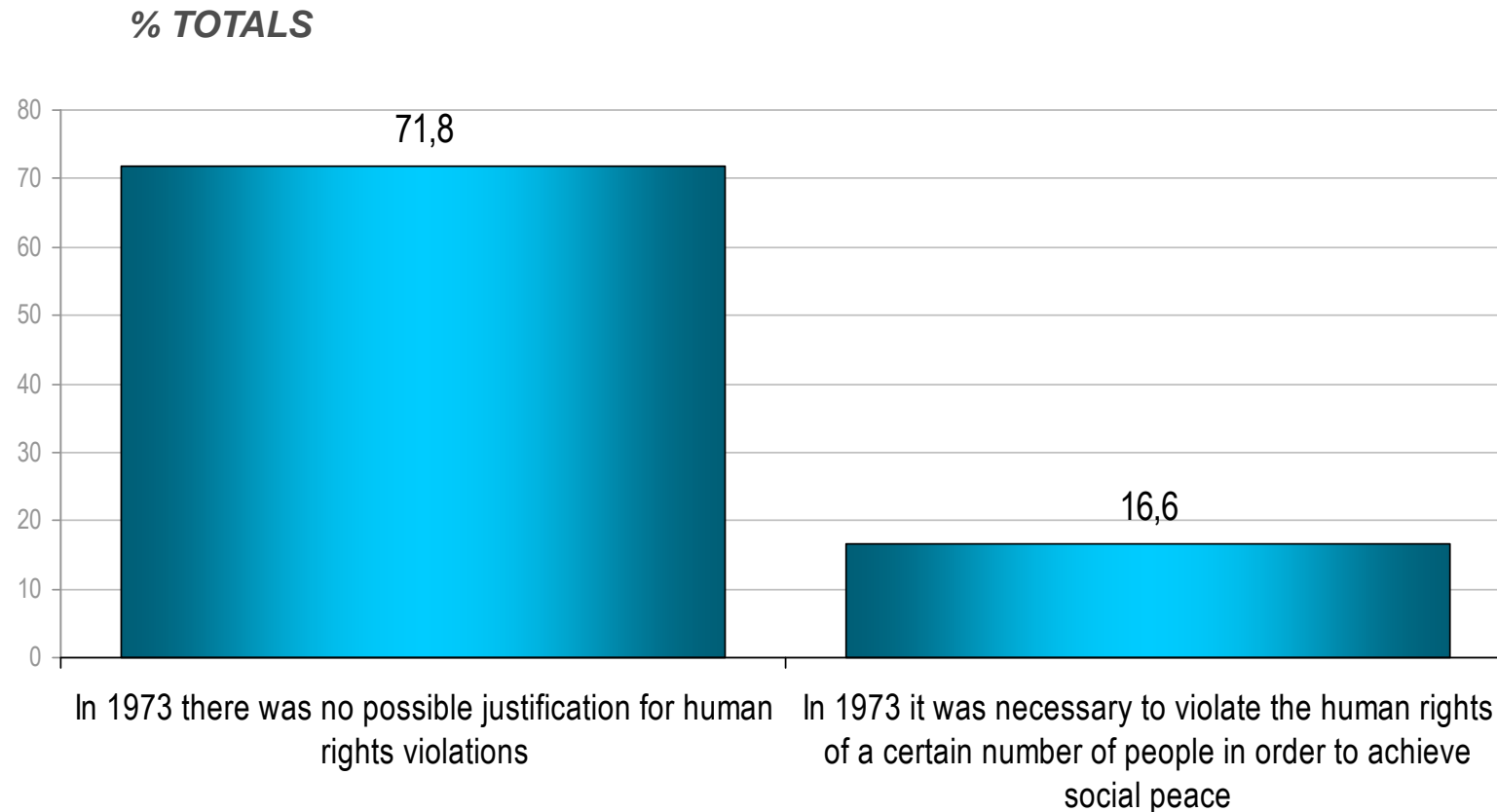


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Human rights

Which of the following two statements is closer to your own view?



* "Don't know" or "no reply", at 11.6 %, completes the sample

(BASE: ENTIRE SAMPLE)

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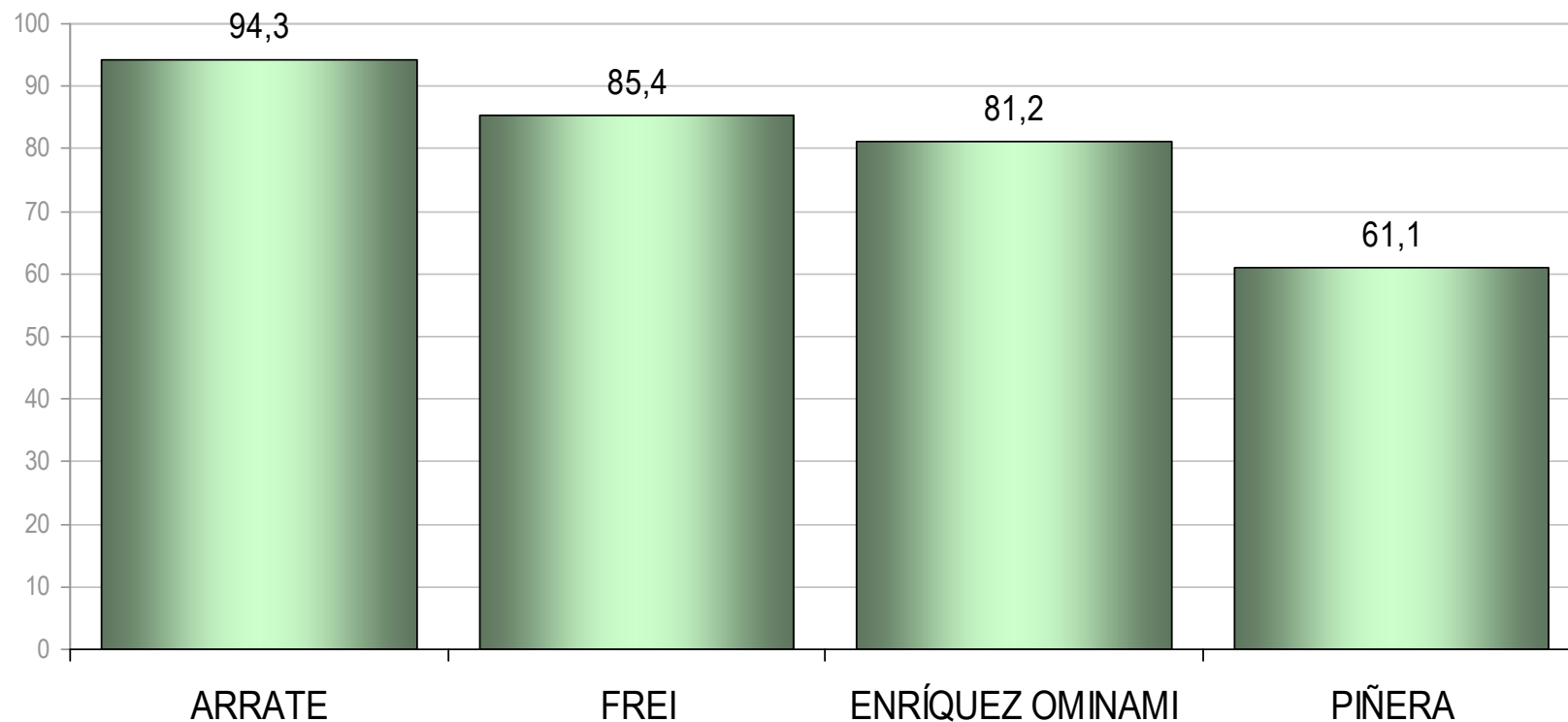


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Presidential candidates and human rights

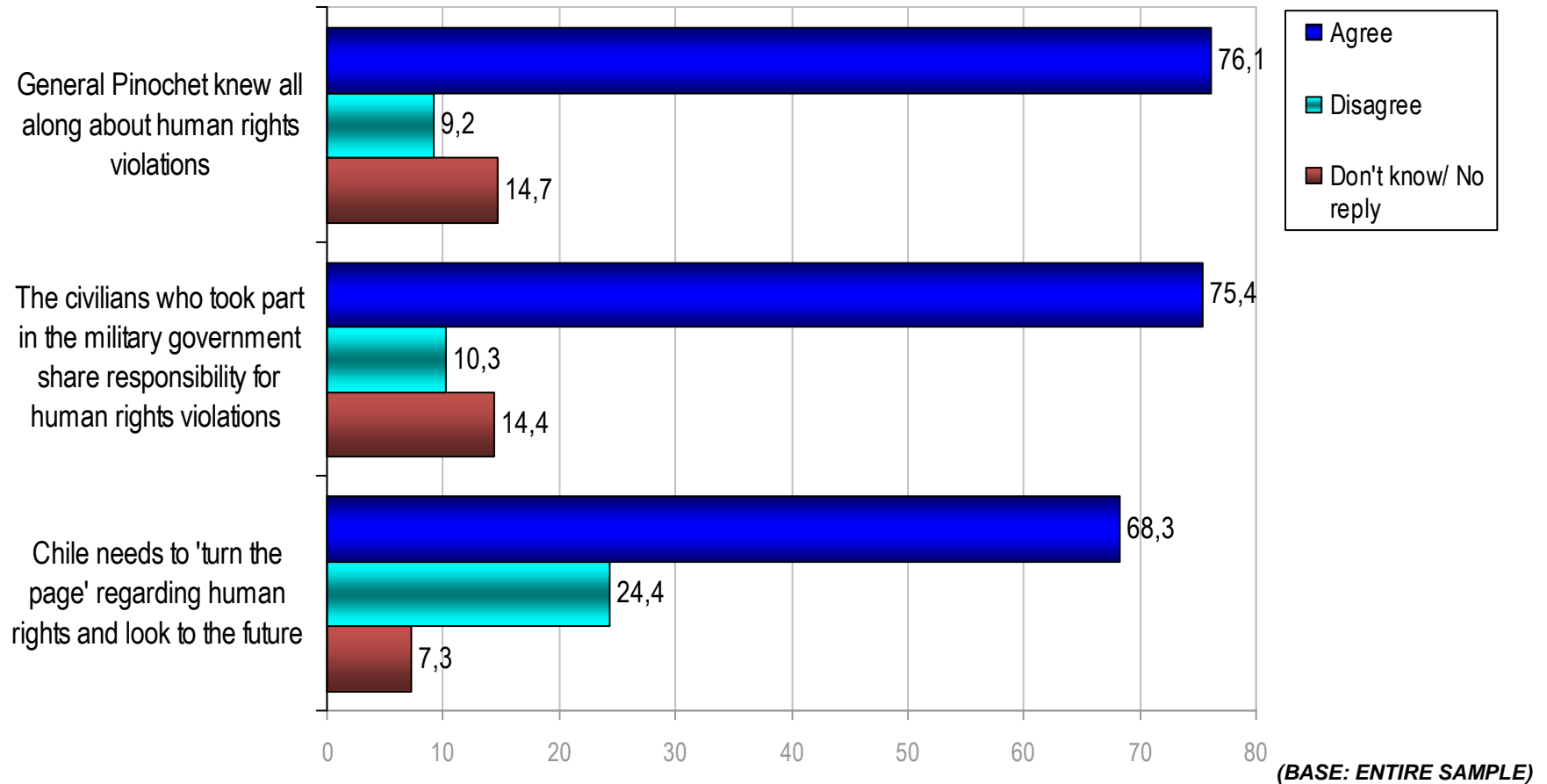
Percentage, by declared first round voting intention, of respondents who also agreed with the statement “In 1973 there was no possible justification for human rights violations” (results are only shown for respondents eligible to vote)



Human rights

Do you agree or disagree with the following statements:

% TOTALS



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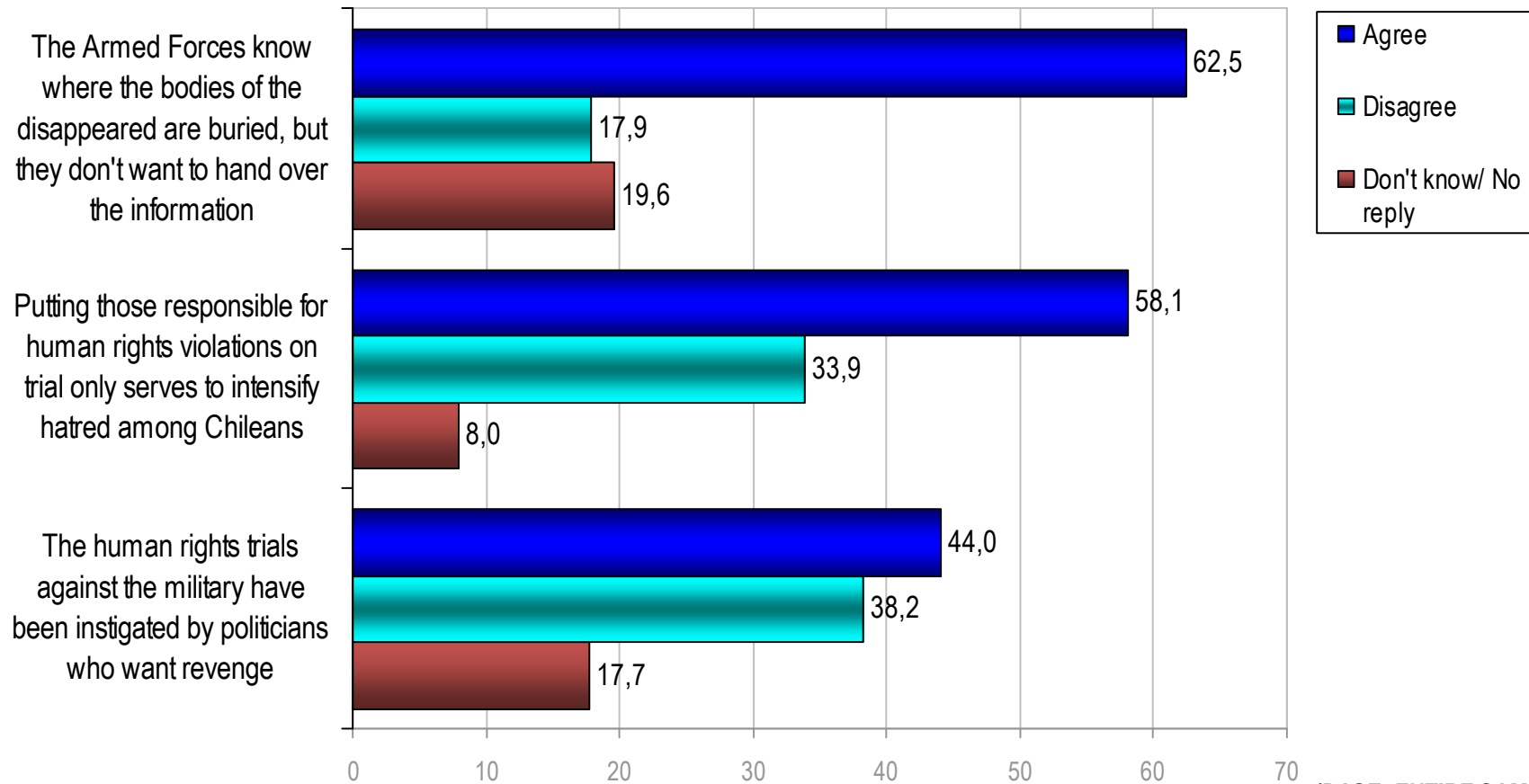
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Human rights

Do you agree or disagree with the following statements:

% TOTALS



(BASE: ENTIRE SAMPLE)

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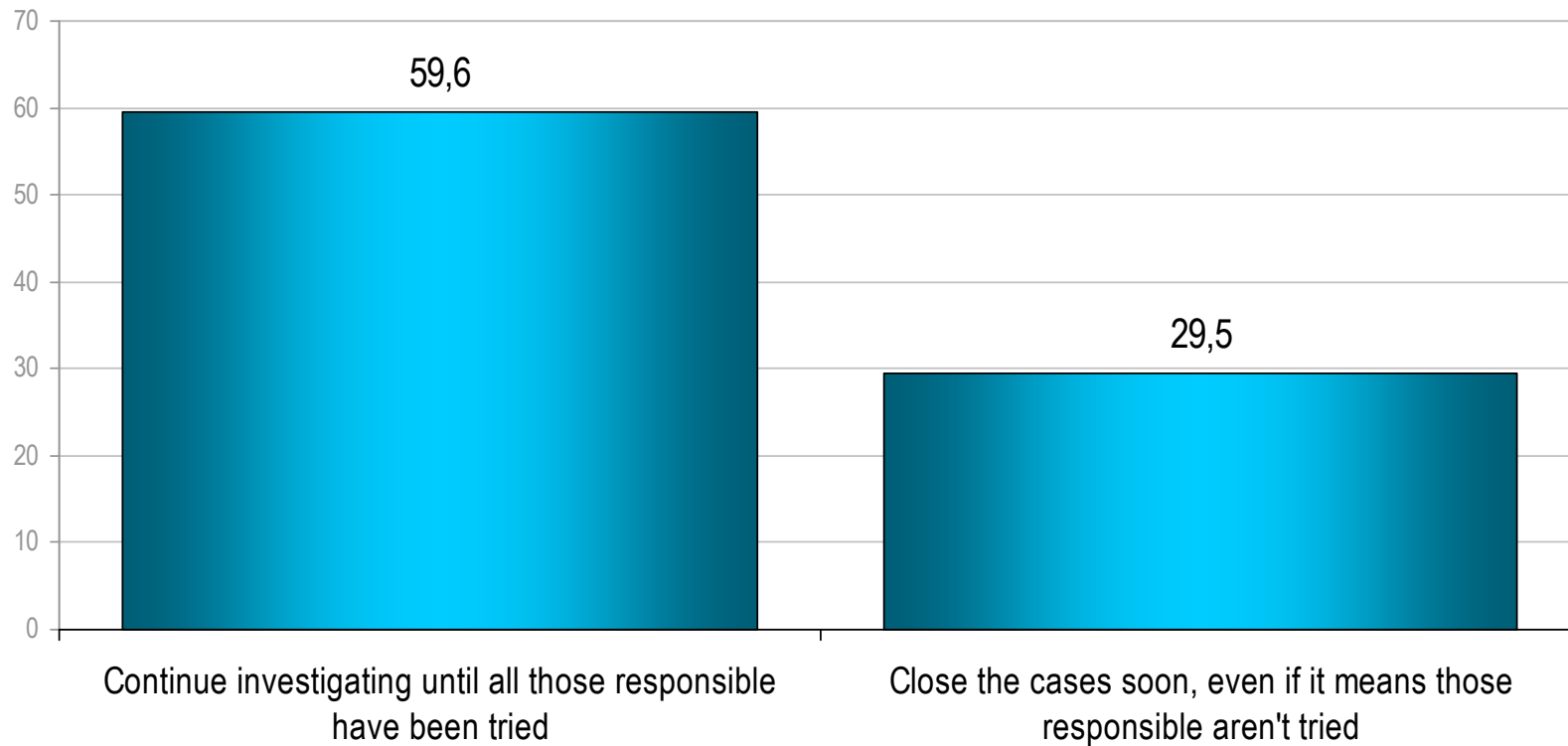
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Human rights

In Chile, various alternatives have been suggested to resolve the problem of human rights violations carried out under Pinochet. Which of the following options do you most agree with?

% TOTALS



* "Don't know" or "no reply", at 10.9, completes the sample

(BASE: TOTAL MUESTRA)

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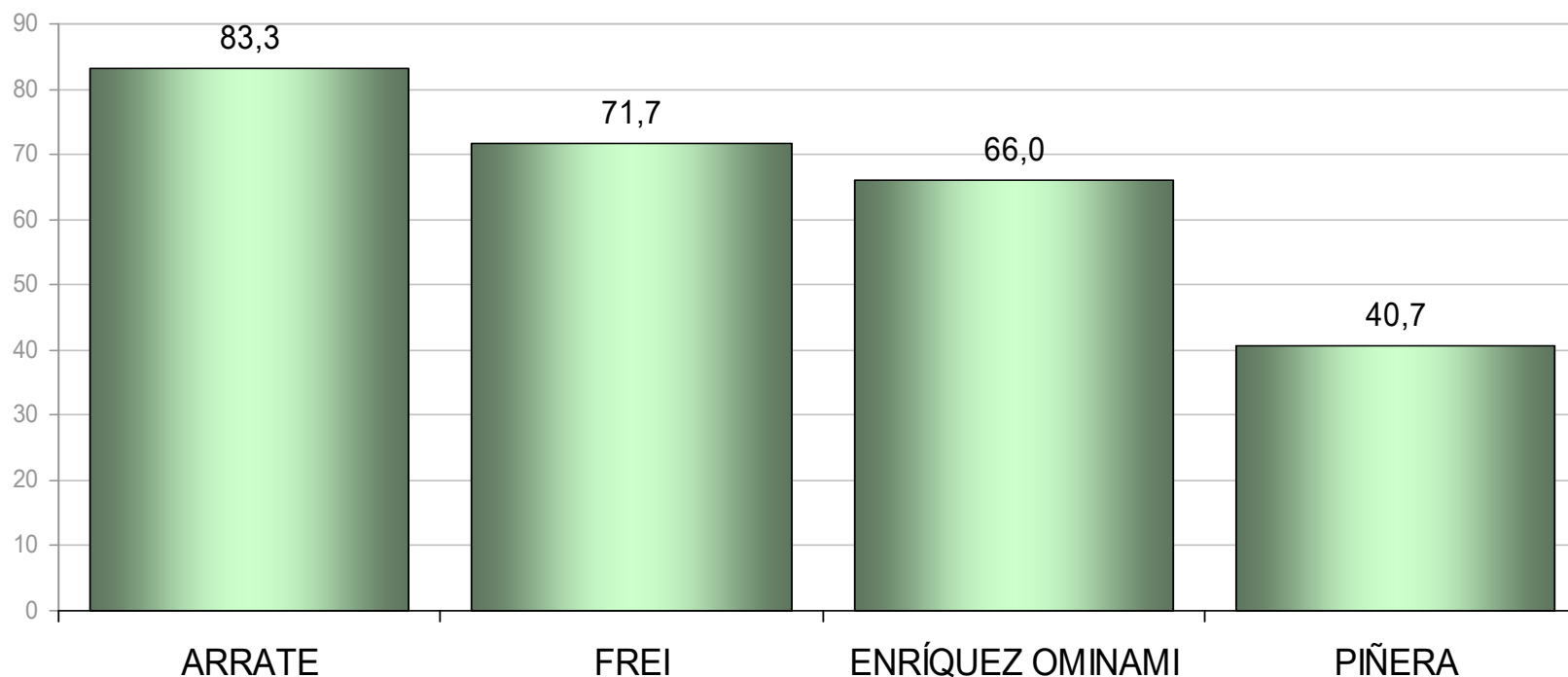


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Presidential candidates and human rights

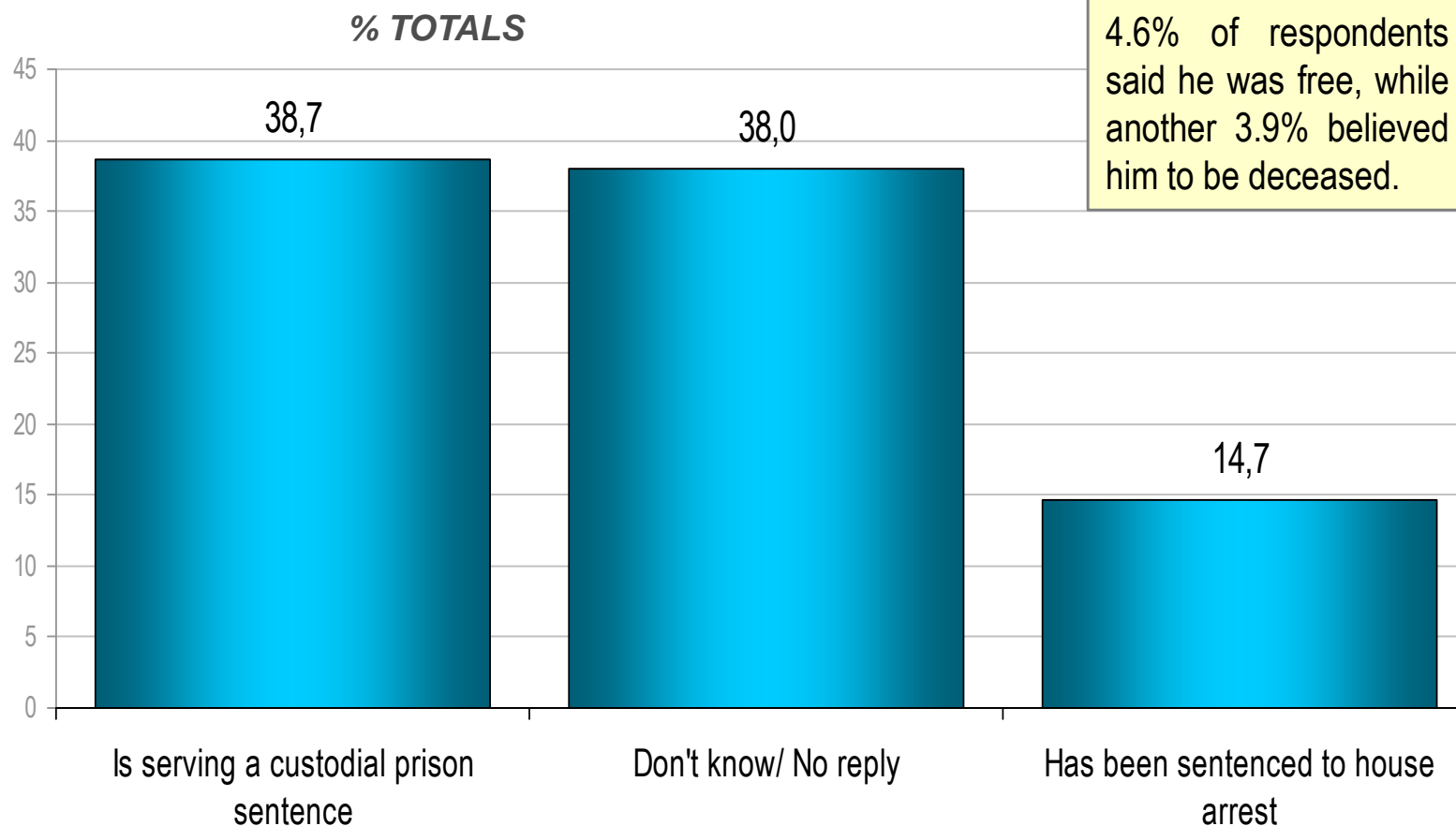
Percentage, by declared first round voting intention, of respondents who also chose the option “continue investigating until all those responsible have been tried” (results are only shown for respondents eligible to vote)



Whereabouts of ex-general Contreras

Could you tell me the present whereabouts of former DINA* director General Manuel Contreras?

* Repressive secret police force set up by Pinochet in 1973



(BASE: ENTIRE SAMPLE)

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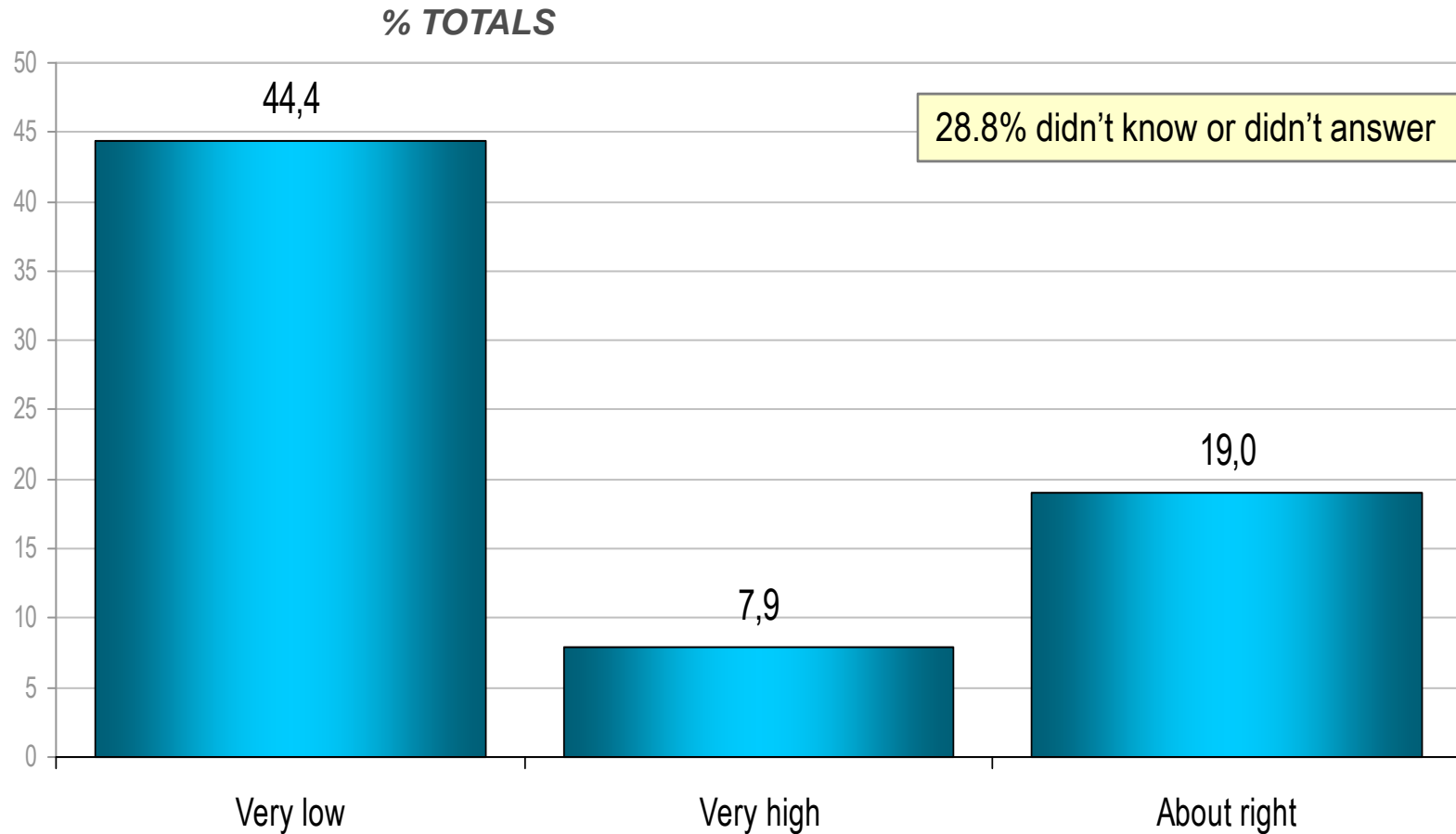


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Trials of military personnel

Considering the scale of human rights violations committed in Chile during the 1973-1990 military regime, would you say the present number of people sentenced is very low, very high, or about right?



(BASE: ENTIRE SAMPLE)

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The survey

In August 2005, the Universidad Diego Portales, Santiago, Chile www.udp.cl set up a public opinion programme with the aim of contributing to understanding of changes in attitudes amongst Chileans, in areas where the country was undergoing significant transformations. This segment presents the human rights themed portion of results from the fifth application.

The University aims to produce high quality academic output and to provide free, public access to all products generated by the public opinion programme (databases, questionnaires, reports, etc.)

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Methodological data

UNIVERSE:

Adult population (18 years of age or older), resident in 86 towns or cities of 20,000 or more inhabitants, located in Chile' s First through Tenth Regions. This universe comprises **85%** of the country's urban population and 70% of its total population.

SAMPLE SIZE:

1,302 individual face to face interviews were carried out, with a potential sampling error of **+/- 2.72%** taking into account a 95% reliability score. The number of respondents who appear in the electoral register was 922, giving a maximum sampling error of 3.2%.

TYPE OF SAMPLE:

The sample was **probabilistic** at all stages:

- a) By non-proportional stratification (34 conurbations in Greater Santiago and 52 cities between the First and Tenth Regions).
- b) By conurbation (selection of streets).
- c) Random selection of households and, within these, of an individual aged 18 or over.

FIELDWORK:

Interviews were carried out between 21 September and 13 October 2009, on 23 consecutive days. 97.6% of the interviews were carried out within the first 20 días.

SUBSTITUTES:

77.6% of interviews were with originally selected households and individuals, ie where both the home chosen and the person interviewed within it were those initially indicated. The rate of replacement due to REJECTION, where it proved impossible to contact a suitable subject in the household, was **14.8%**.

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