

The
Electoral
Commission

Making integrity matter

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What integrity means

- electoral registers that are accurate and where the information is protected
- voting is secret
- voting choices are made free of intimidation or influence
- my vote is counted
- an electoral process that is transparent
- results that are accurate

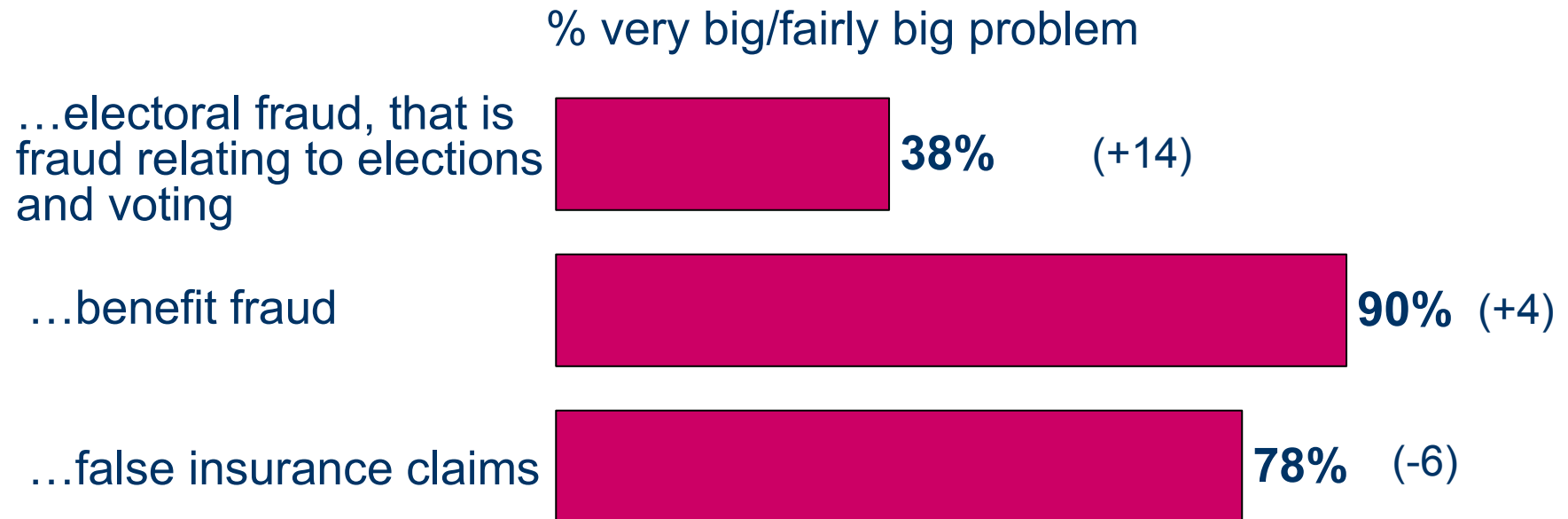
integrity is
everyone's
business

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The public's perspective

Prevalence of fraud, May 2006

Q. From what you know or have heard, how much of a problem, if at all, do you think the following different types of fraud are in Great Britain...?



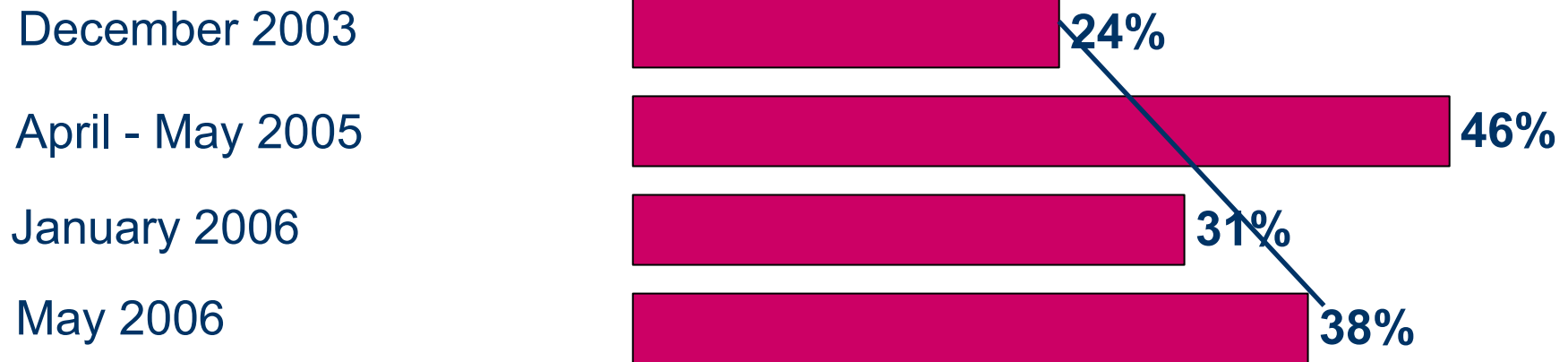
Source: BMRB/The Electoral Commission

Base: UK adults (1,599) aged 18+, 5 May – 16 May 2006

Summary: 2003-6

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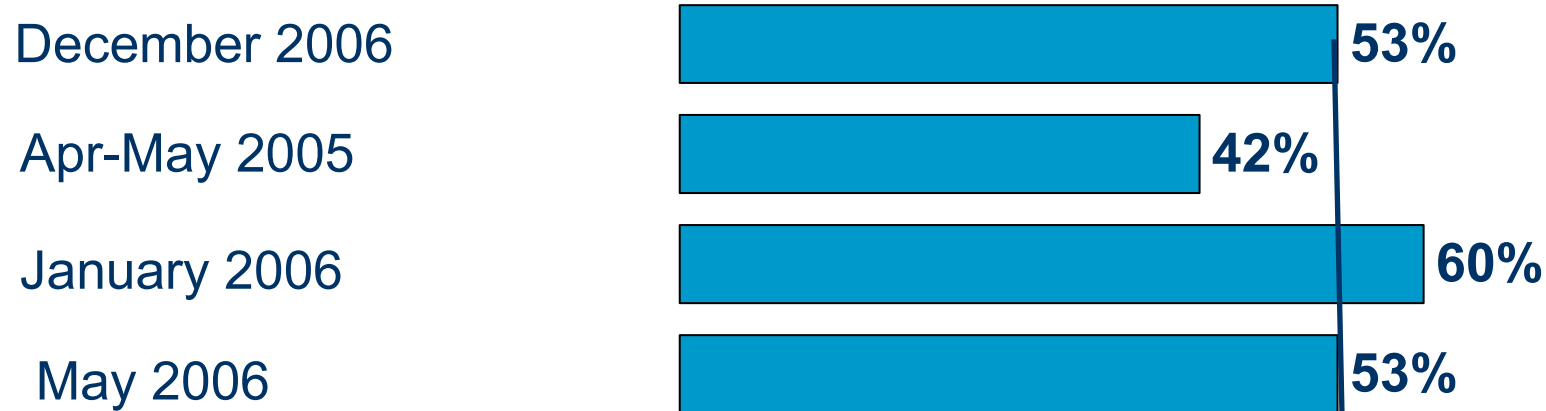
% Very/fairly big problem



Source: MORI/The Electoral Commission (2003); MORI/The Electoral Commission (2005); MORI/The Electoral Commission (Jan 2006); BMRB/The Electoral Commission (2006)

Summary: 2003-6,

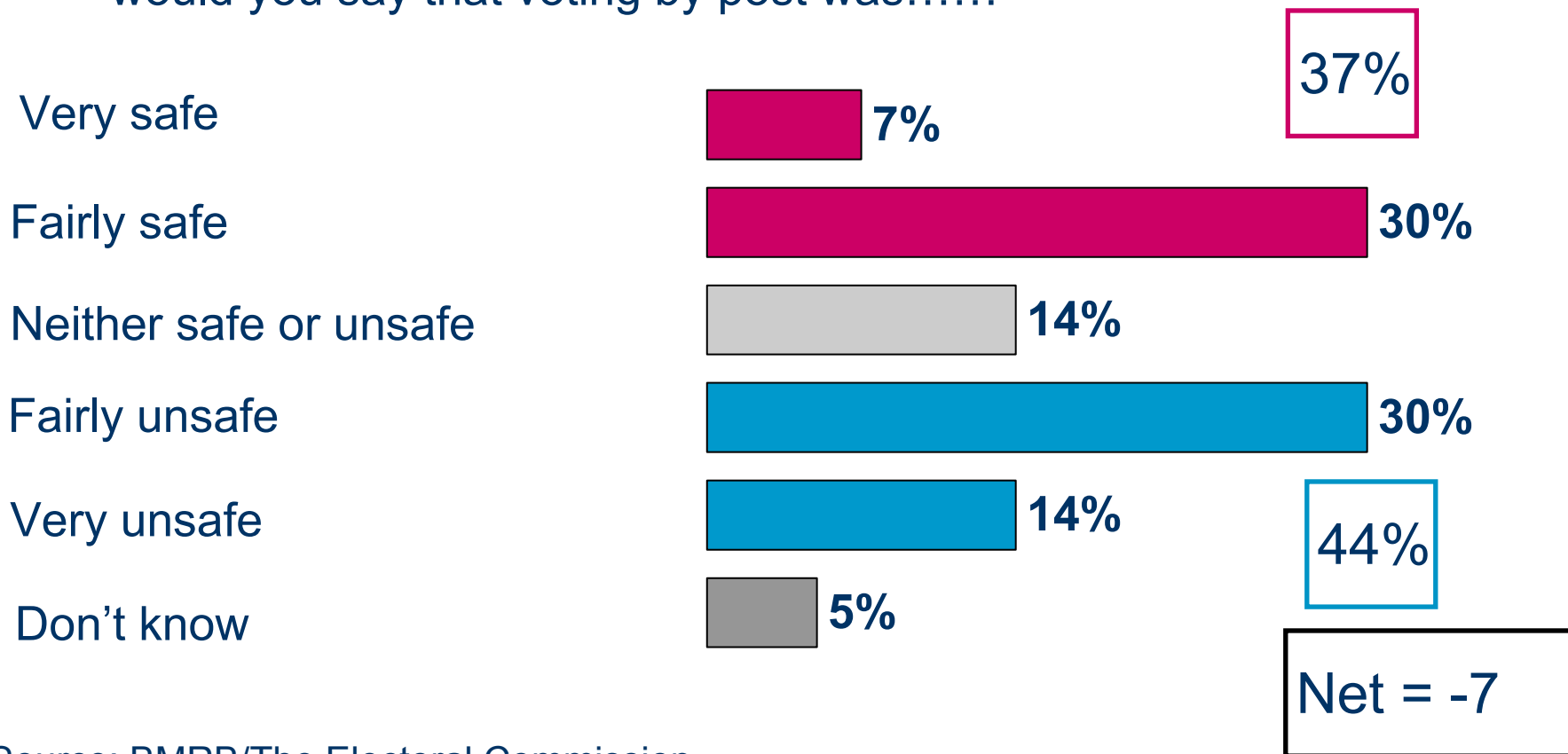
% not a very/fairly big problem



Source: MORI/The Electoral Commission (2003); MORI/The Electoral Commission (2005); MORI/The Electoral Commission (Jan 2006); BMRB/The Electoral Commission (2006)

PVD, UK

Q. When it comes to voting being safe from fraud or abuse, how safe would you say that voting by post was.....



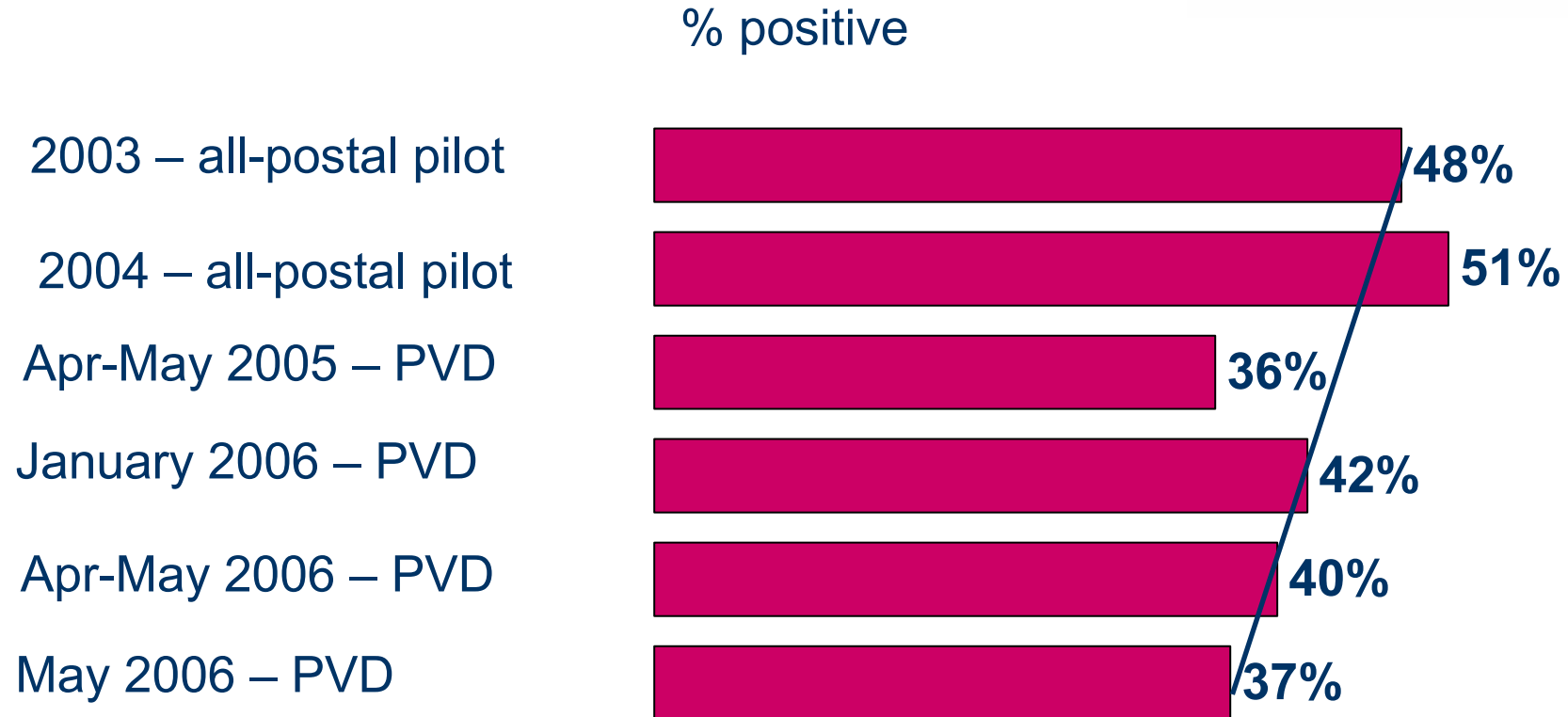
Source: BMRB/The Electoral Commission.

Base **All UK adults** (1599) aged 18+ 5 May – 16 May 2006. Post-election survey.

Summary: 2003-6

N.B. Change in question wording 2003-4

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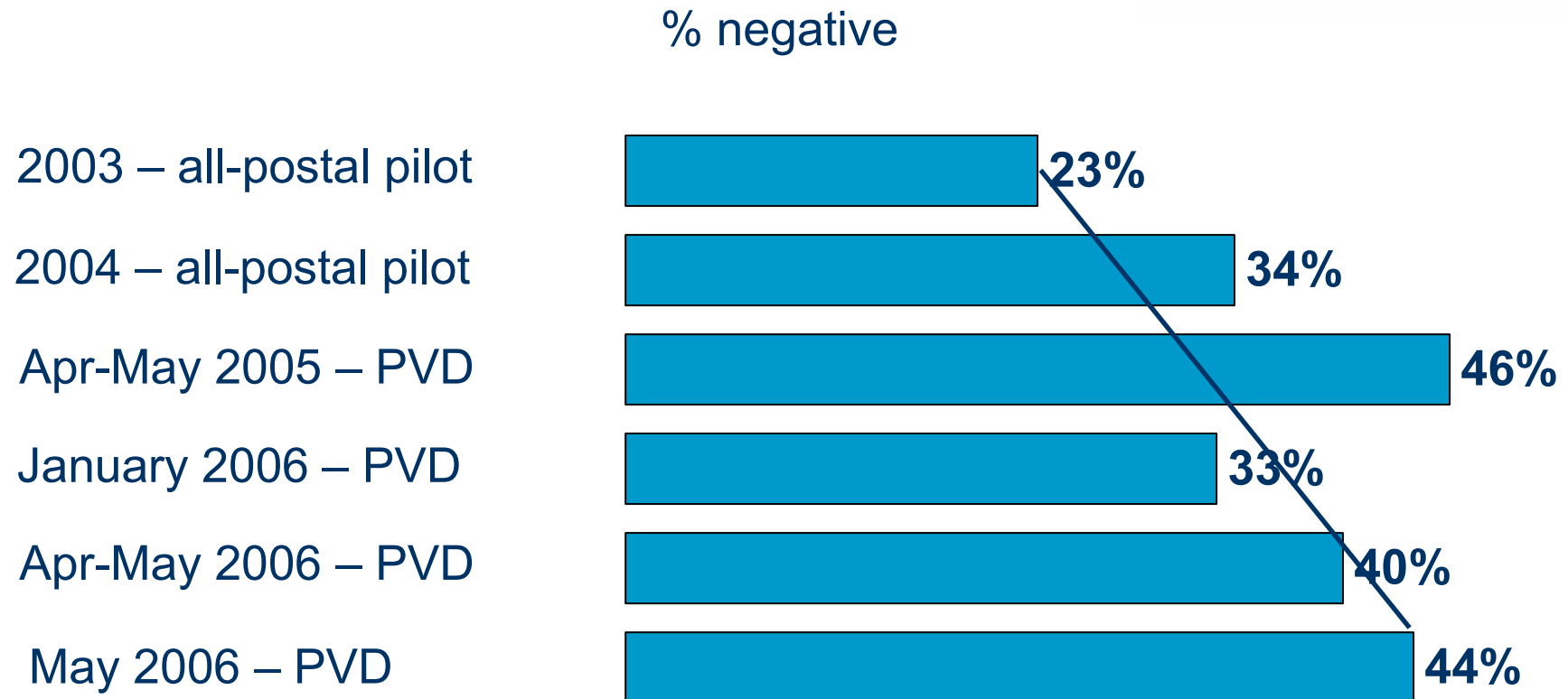


Source: MORI/The Electoral Commission (2003); ICM/The Electoral Commission (2004); MORI/The Electoral Commission (2005); MORI/The Electoral Commission (Jan 2006); BMRB/The Electoral Commission (2006)

Summary: 2003-6, all adults

N.B. Change in question wording 2003-4

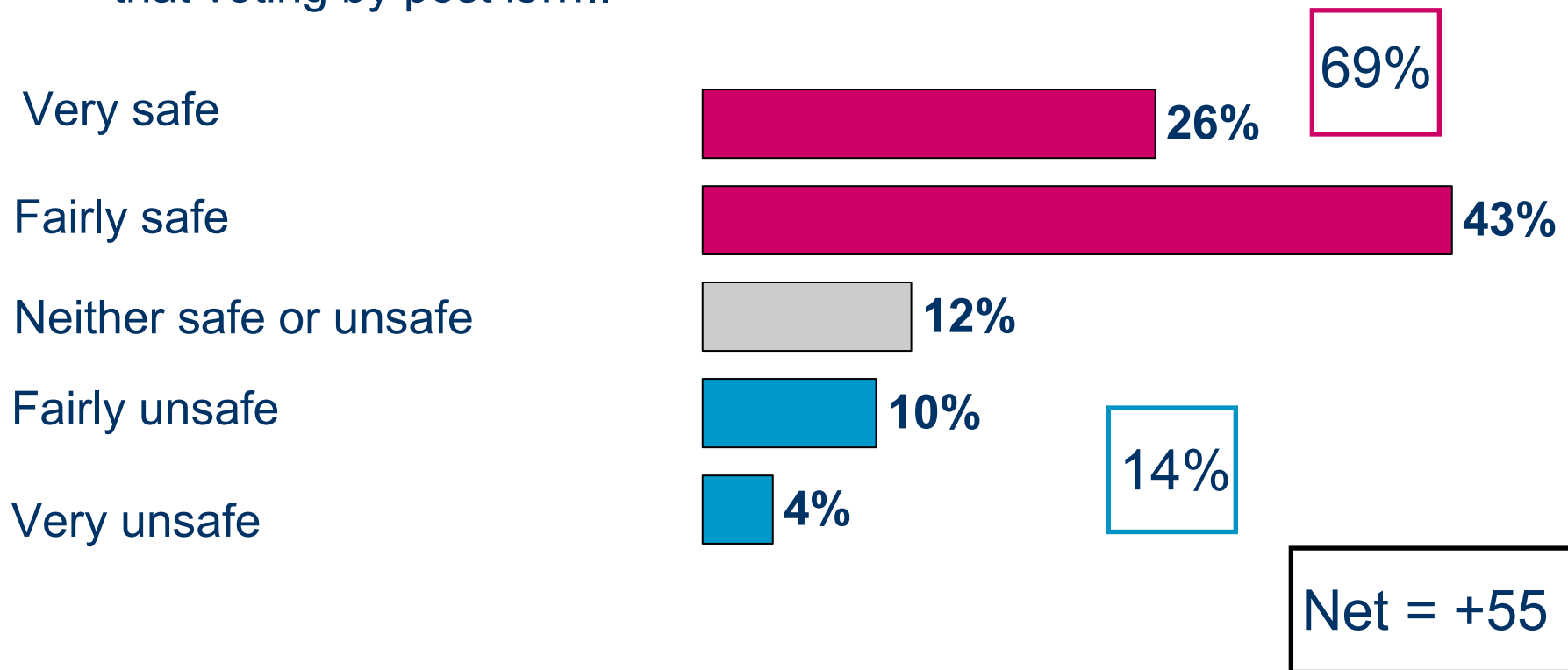
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Source: MORI/The Electoral Commission (2003); ICM/The Electoral Commission (2004); MORI/The Electoral Commission (2005); MORI/The Electoral Commission (Jan 2006); BMRB/The Electoral Commission (2006)

PVD voters, May 2006

Q. When it comes to voting being safe from fraud or abuse, would you say that voting by post is.....



Source: BMRB post election survey.

Base: English adults aged 18+ who **voted by post** at the 2006 local elections (100).

Summary: 2004-6, users

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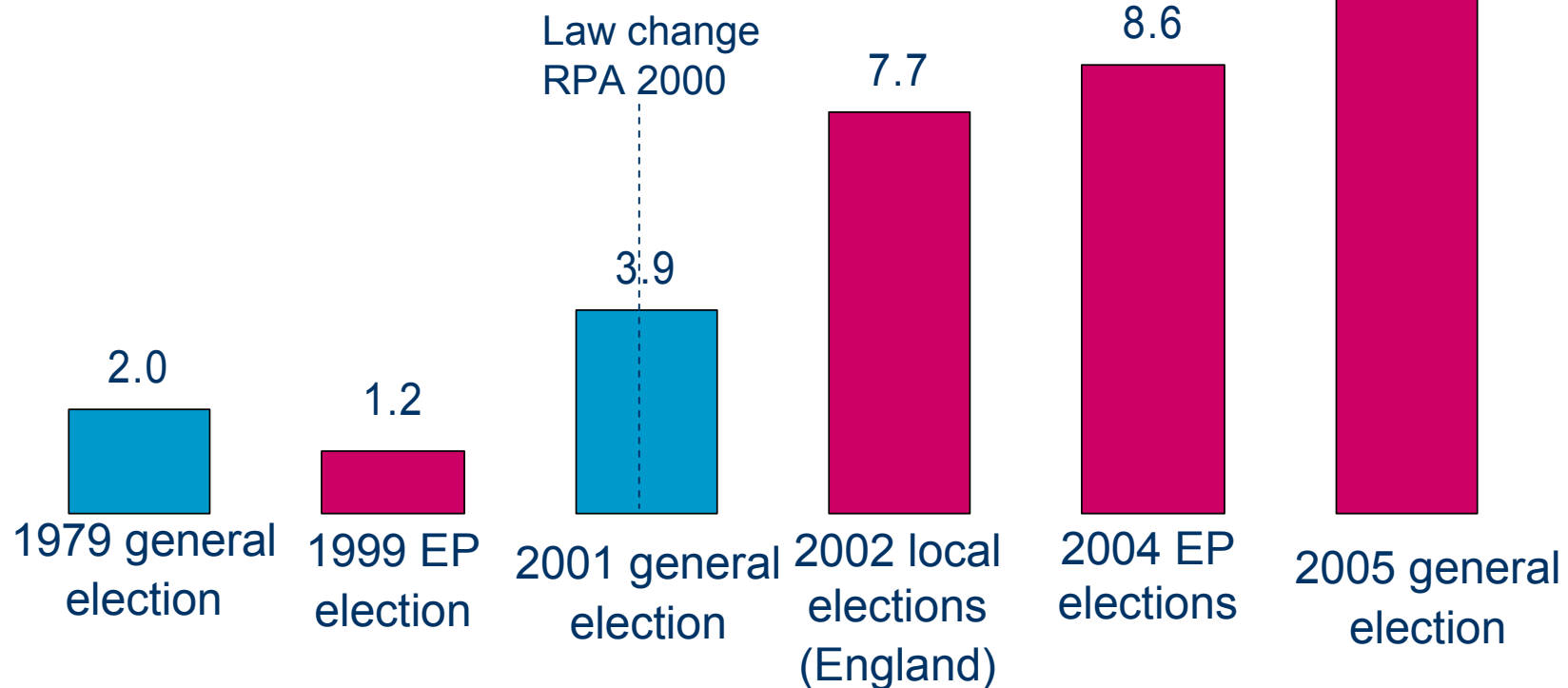
% positive



Source: ICM/The Electoral Commission (2004); MORI/The Electoral Commission (April/May 2005); BES (May 2005); MORI/The Electoral Commission (January 2006); BMRB/The Electoral Commission (May 2006)

The take-up of postal voting

1979-2005

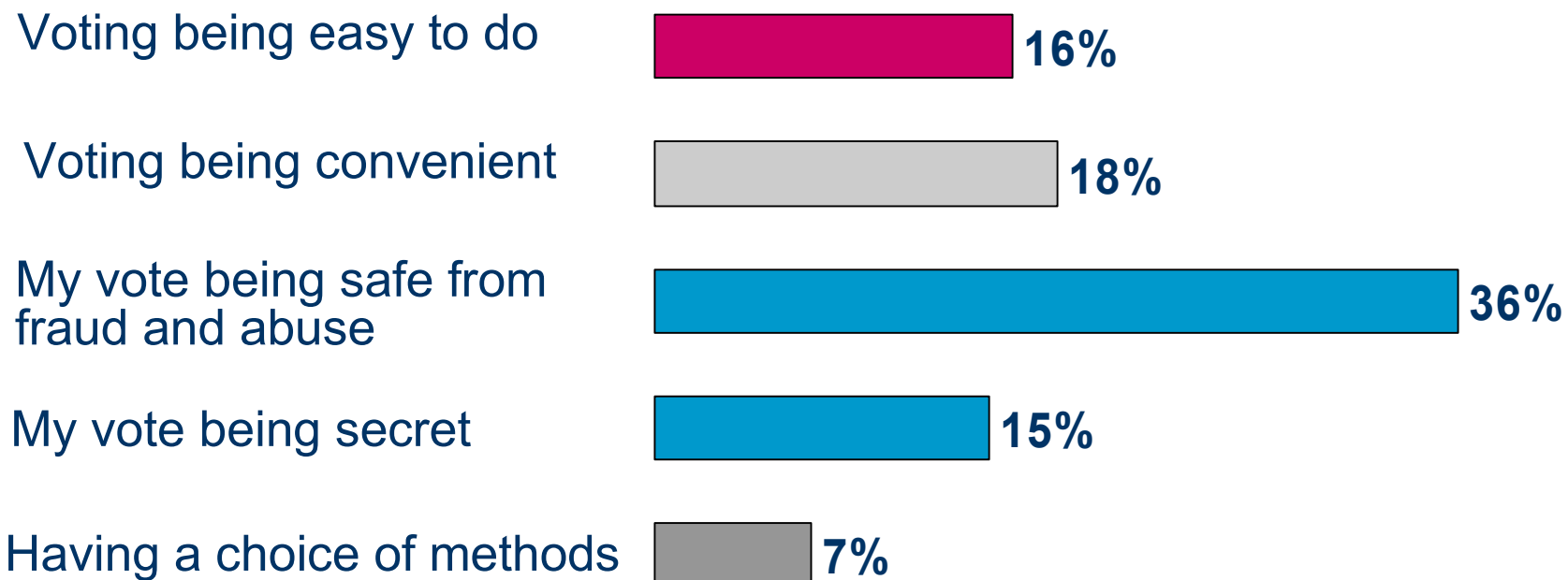


Source: 2001 and 2005 - The Electoral Commission; 2002 - LGC Local Elections Centre; 1979 and 1999 – C. Rallings and M. Thrasher 'British Electoral Facts 1832-1999'

N.B. excludes N Ireland where arrangements are different. Also excludes all-postal pilot areas in 2004

What do people want in a voting process?

Q Thinking generally about elections, which one of the following would you say is most important for you when you vote?



Source: MORI/The Electoral Commission 2004.

Base: UK adults (1,125) (6-11 January 2005 in GB; 14-21 December 2004 in Northern Ireland)

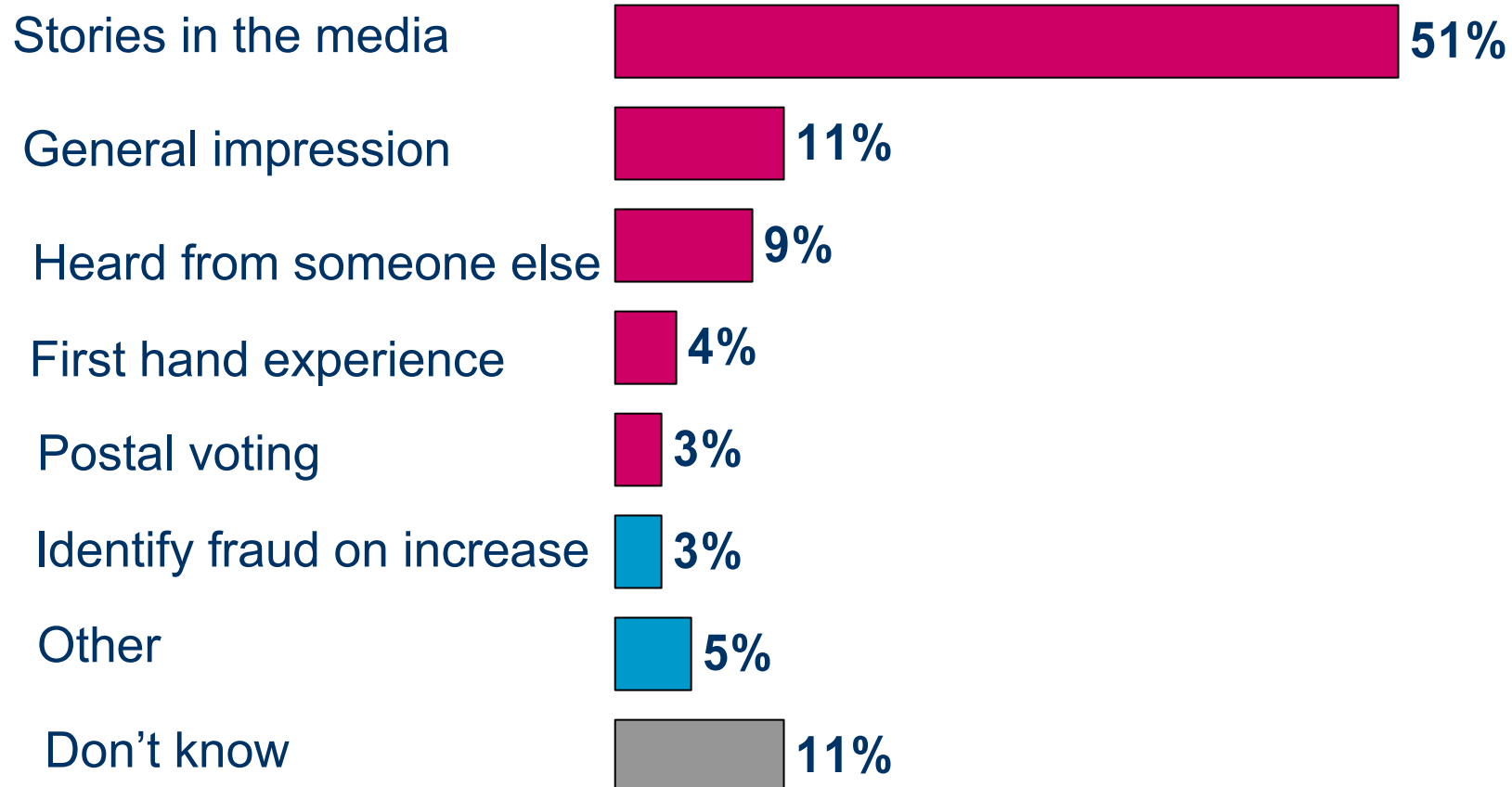
Commission work

- National linkages with police forces, ACPO, ACPO(S) and prosecution services
- Twice yearly roundtables with police, prosecutors, administrators, government officials and the political parties
 - sharing of views and approaches
 - recognition of the importance of this work
- Media work
- Guidance, Code and briefings

Why fraud a problem, May 2006

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Q. What makes you think it was a problem?



Source: BMRB/The Electoral Commission.

Base: All those who thought fraud was a very or fairly big problem (May – June 2006).

Future work

- Refreshed postal vote Code of Conduct following the EA Act and associated regulations
- Joint guidance to police forces
- Joint pocket guide for police officers
- Joint briefing sessions in early 2007 for police contacts
- Integrity guidance in all RO and ERO guidance
- In 2007, a focus on preventing registration fraud