

22 May 2026

GMC Parliamentarians poll 2026

General
Medical
Council

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YouGov[®]

Methodology

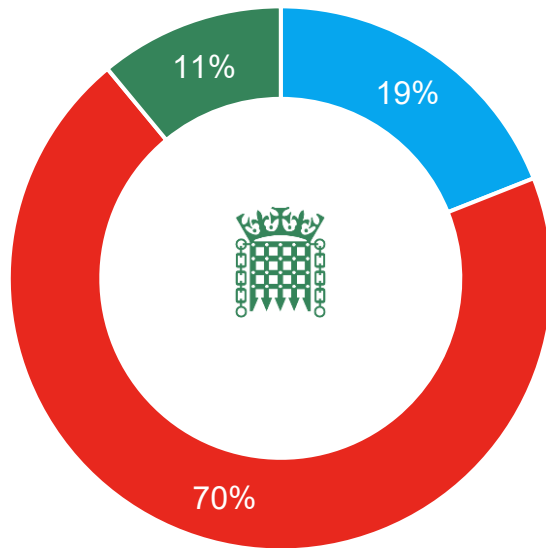
	Quantitative
Who?	 <p>113 x Members of the House of Commons <i>Representative of the House by party, gender, year elected and region</i></p>  <p>44 x Members of the House of Lords <i>Representative of the House by party</i></p>  <p>57 x Members of Devolved legislatures <i>(23 x MLAs, 22 x MSPs, 12 x MSs)</i></p>
What?	10-minute online survey
When?	8th – 30th January 2026

Country and region definitions

- This report uses country and region data as an analysis variable. These are made up of different audiences and parts of the UK, and definitions for each can be seen below:
 - **London:** MPs representing London constituencies
 - **Midlands:** MPs representing constituencies in the East and West Midlands
 - **North England:** MPs representing constituencies in Yorkshire & the Humber, North East, and North West of England
 - **Northern Ireland:** MPs representing Northern Ireland constituencies and Members of the Northern Ireland Assembly
 - **Scotland:** MPs representing Scottish constituencies and Members of Scottish Parliament
 - **South and East of England:** MPs representing constituencies in the South West, South East, and East of England
 - **Wales:** MPs representing Welsh constituencies and Members of the Welsh Parliament / Senedd Cymru

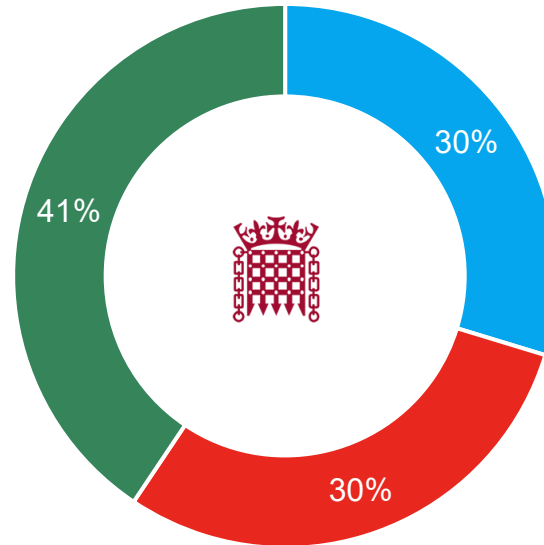
Respondent breakdown by party (unweighted)

MPs



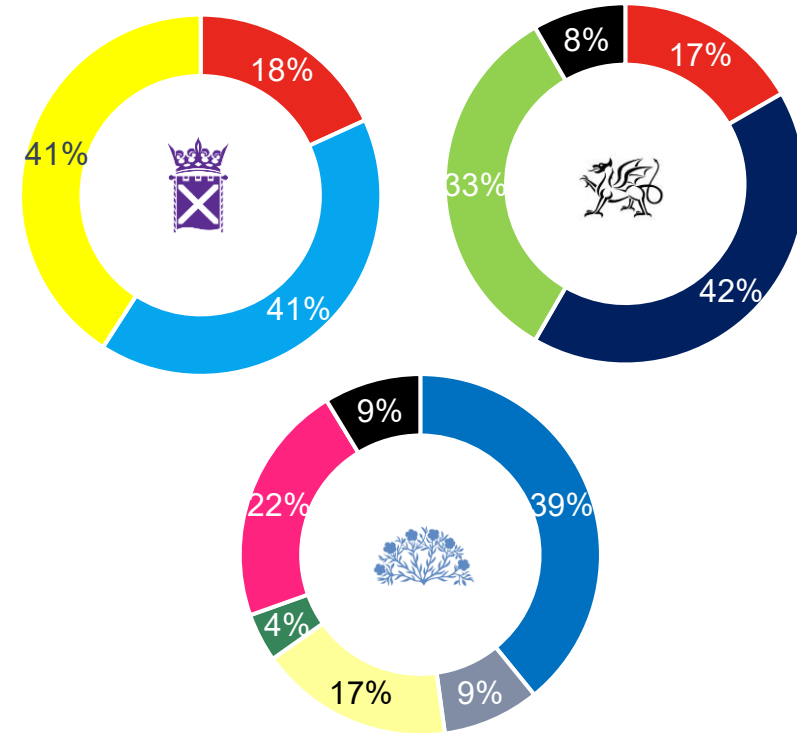
■ Conservative ■ Labour ■ Other

Lords



■ Conservative ■ Labour ■ Other

Devolved

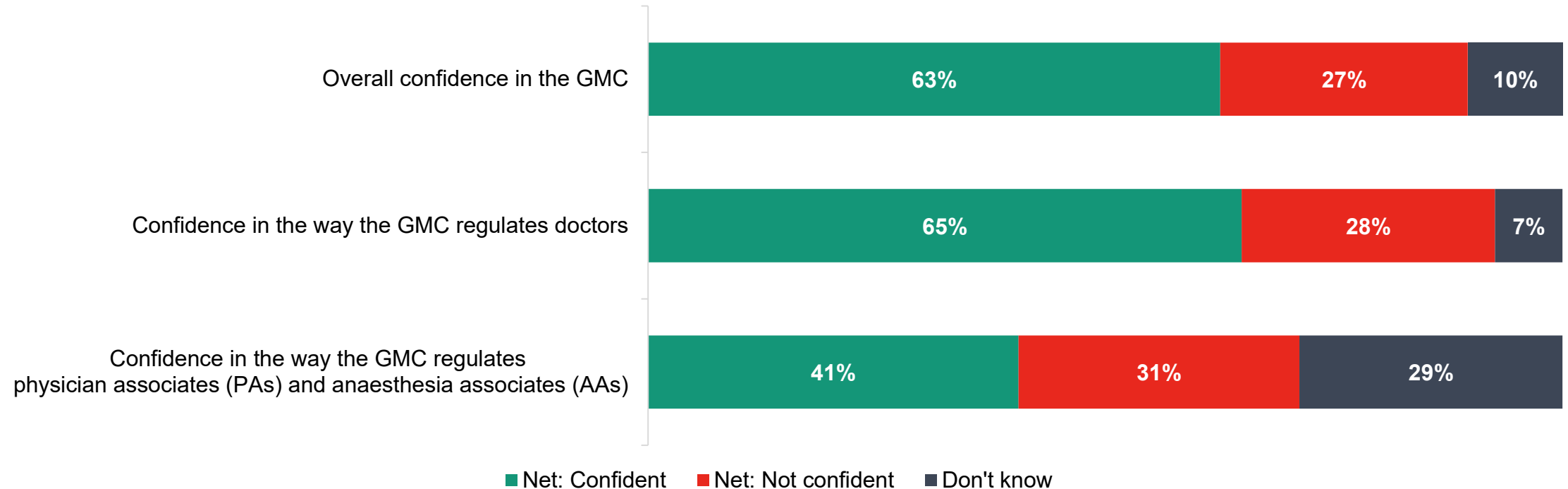


■ Conservative
 ■ Labour
 ■ SNP
 ■ Plaid Cymru
 ■ DUP
 ■ UUP
 ■ Alliance
 ■ Sinn Féin
 ■ SDLP
 ■ Other

Overall, respondents have the greatest confidence in the way the GMC regulates doctors, followed closely by a general overall confidence in them.

Confidence in regulation of PAs and AAs is lower, but is hampered by higher levels of 'don't know' response

Confidence in the GMC as a regulator overview

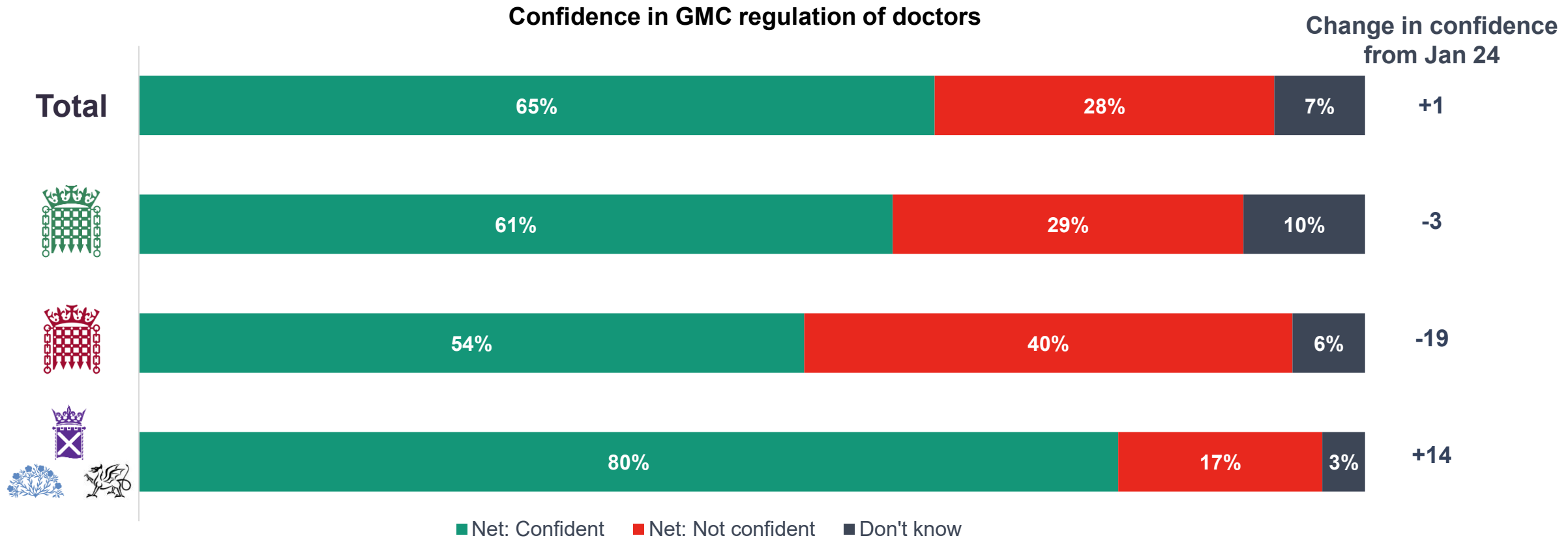


gmc1a. How confident, if at all, are you in the way that doctors are regulated by the General Medical Council (GMC)? | gmc1b. How confident, if at all, are you in the way that physician associates (PAs) and anaesthesia associates (AAs) are regulated by the General Medical Council (GMC)? | gmc1c. Overall, how confident are you in the GMC as a regulator?

Base: All respondents (214); MPs (113), Lords (44), Devolved (57)

Overall, around two-thirds remain confident in how the GMC regulates doctors.

While confidence has decreased among Lords, it has increased among the Devolved legislatures



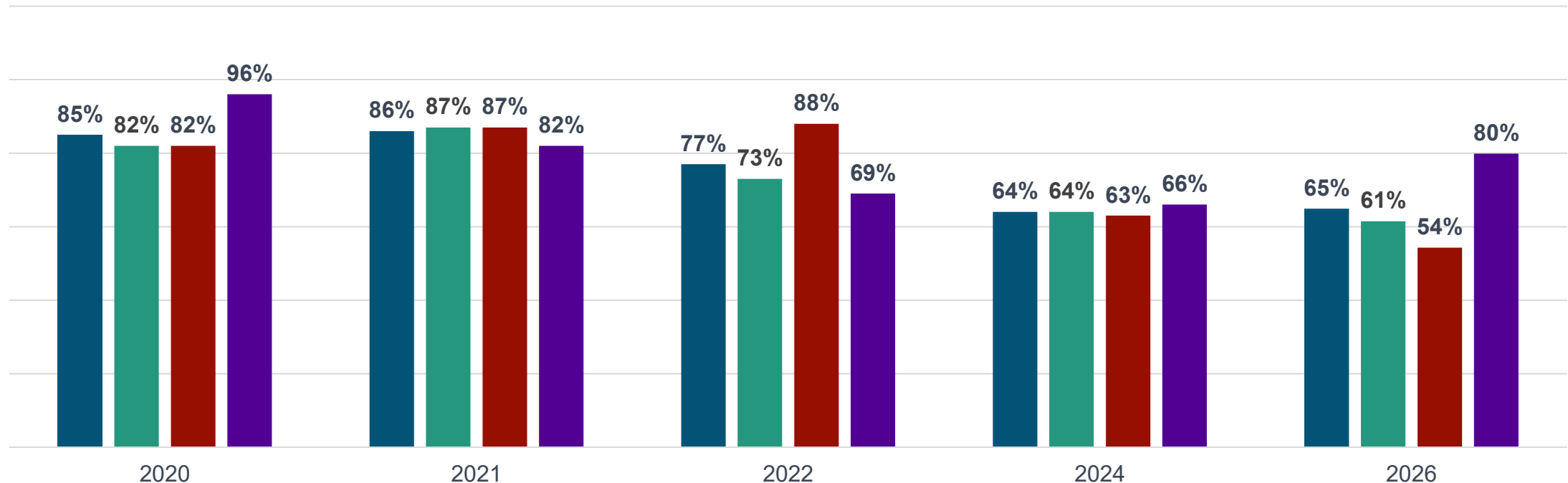
gmc1a. How confident, if at all, are you in the way that doctors are regulated by the General Medical Council (GMC)?

Base: All respondents (214); MPs (113), Lords (44), Devolved (57)

This year, the devolved legislatures have seen a large increase in confidence in regard to the way that doctors are regulated by the GMC.

MPs remain relatively stable in their levels of confidence, while Lords see a drop

Confidence in GMC regulation of doctors



*Chart displays proportion saying they are confident in how doctors are regulated by the GMC

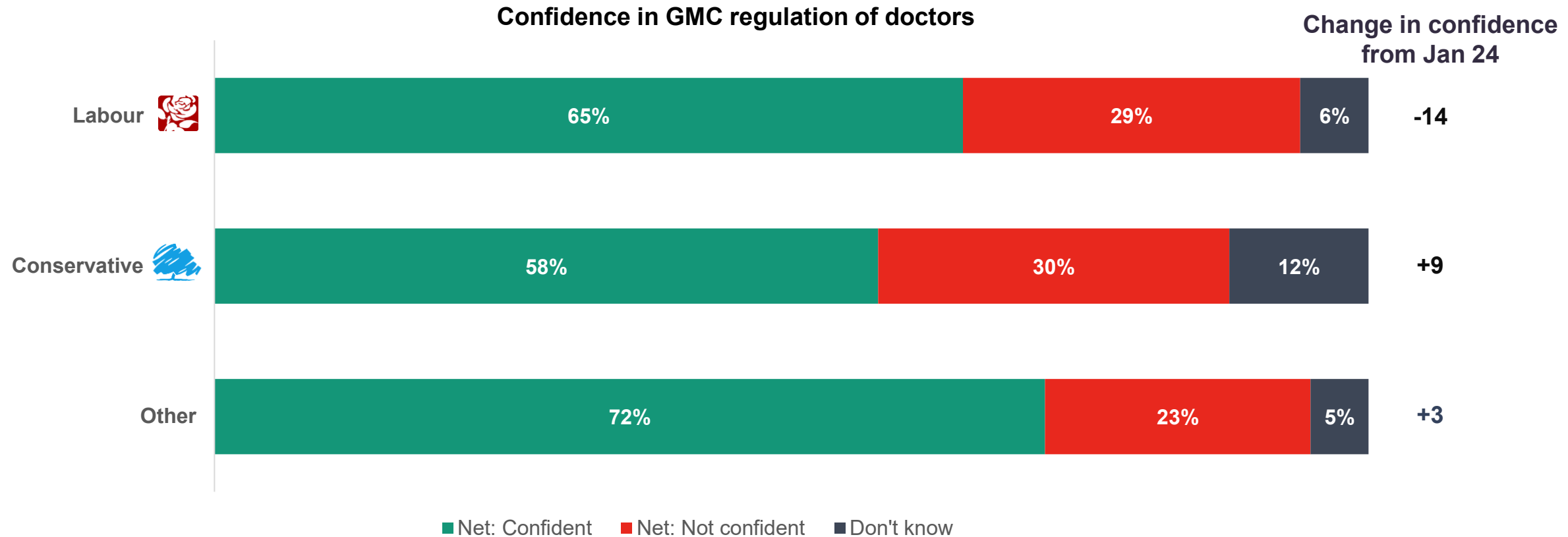
■ All ■ MPs ■ Lords ■ Devolved

gmc1a. How confident, if at all, are you in the way that doctors are regulated by the General Medical Council (GMC)?

Base: All 2020 respondents (219); MPs (100), Lords (72), Devolved (47) | All 2021 respondents (219); MPs (100), Lords (72), Devolved (47) | All 2022 respondents (223); MPs (101), Lords (77), Devolved (45) | All 2024 respondents (222); MPs (107), Lords (59), Devolved (56) | All 2026 respondents (214); MPs (113), Lords (44), Devolved (57)

Other parties show the greatest amount of confidence in the way that doctors are regulated by the GMC.

Labour politicians show a big decrease in confidence this wave, however two-thirds remain confident



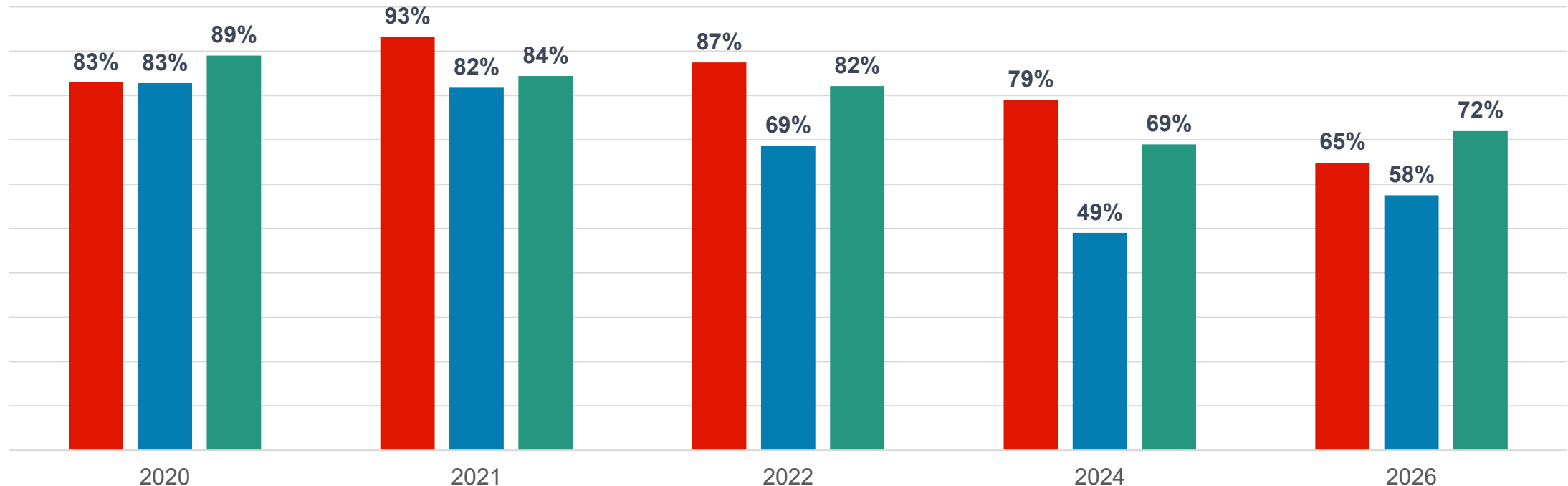
gmc1a. How confident, if at all, are you in the way that doctors are regulated by the General Medical Council (GMC)?

Base: All Labour (98), Conservatives (49), Other (67)

N.B. Numbers are made up of respondents from all political groups

This year, confidence in regulation of doctors has increased across both Conservative and other parties, but Labour has seen a moderate drop.

Confidence in GMC regulation of doctors



*Chart displays proportion saying they are confident in how doctors are regulated by the GMC

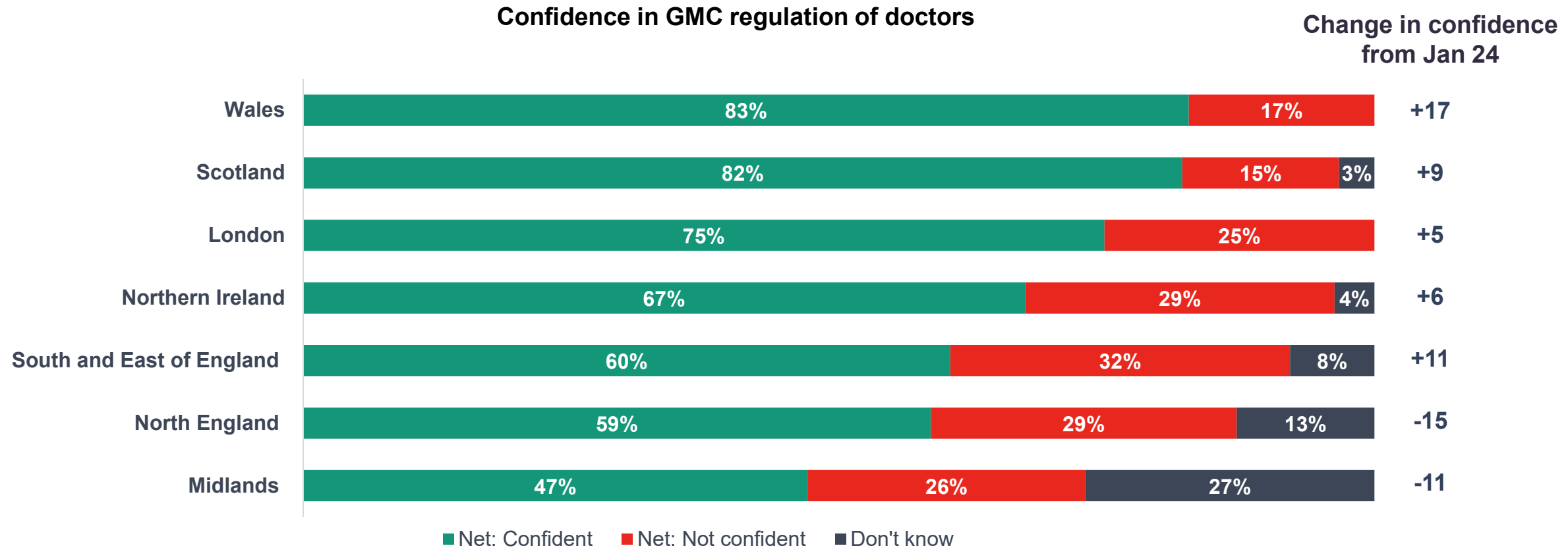
■ Labour ■ Conservative ■ Other

gmc1a. How confident, if at all, are you in the way that doctors are regulated by the General Medical Council (GMC)?

Base: All 2020 respondents (212); Conservatives (64), Labour (78), Other (70) | All 2021 respondents (219); Conservatives (66), Labour (74), Other (79) | All 2022 respondents (223); Conservatives (82), Labour (66), Other (74) | All 2024 respondents (222); Conservatives (80), Labour (71), Other (71) | All 2026 respondents (214); Conservative (49), Labour (98), Other (67)

Analysing by country and region, Wales has seen a large increase in confidence in the GMC, placing it top, followed by Scotland and London.

Confidence is lowest among those in the Midlands, but the proportion saying they are confident outnumber those who are not in all countries and regions



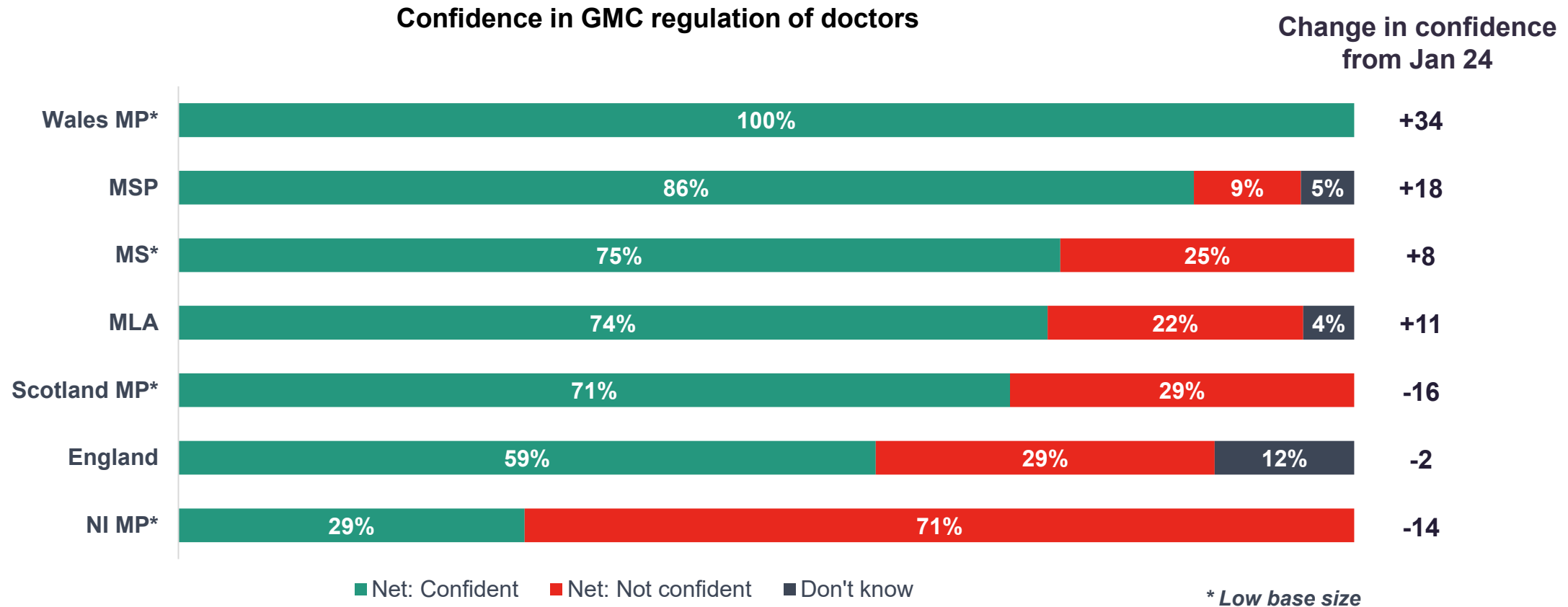
gmc1a. How confident, if at all, are you in the way that doctors are regulated by the General Medical Council (GMC)?

Base: All respondents representing: South and East England (38), London (8), North England (24), Midlands (24), Northern Ireland (26), Wales (17), Scotland (33)

N.B. Numbers for Scotland, Northern Ireland and Wales include responses from both MPs and devolved legislatures

When broken down by type, Welsh MPs and MSPs show the greatest confidence in the way that doctors are regulated by the GMC.

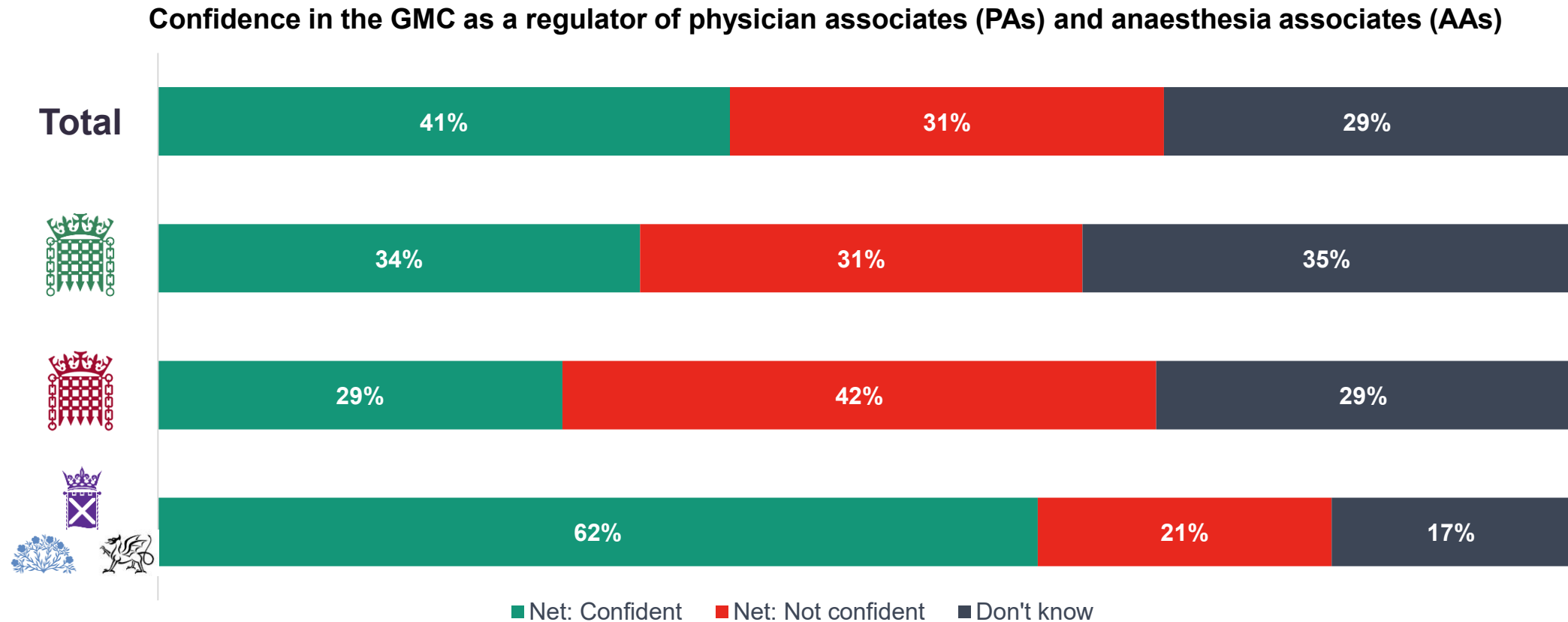
MPs in Northern Ireland see a large decrease in confidence, with over two-thirds stating they are not confident



gmc1a. How confident, if at all, are you in the way that doctors are regulated by the General Medical Council (GMC)?

Base: All Members of Scottish Parliament (22), Members of the Senedd Cymru (12), Members of the Northern Ireland Assembly (23), Members of Parliament for England (94), Northern Ireland (3), Wales (5), Scotland (11)

Just under half from all institutions are confident in how the GMC regulates PAs and AAs, with confidence highest among the Devolved legislatures.

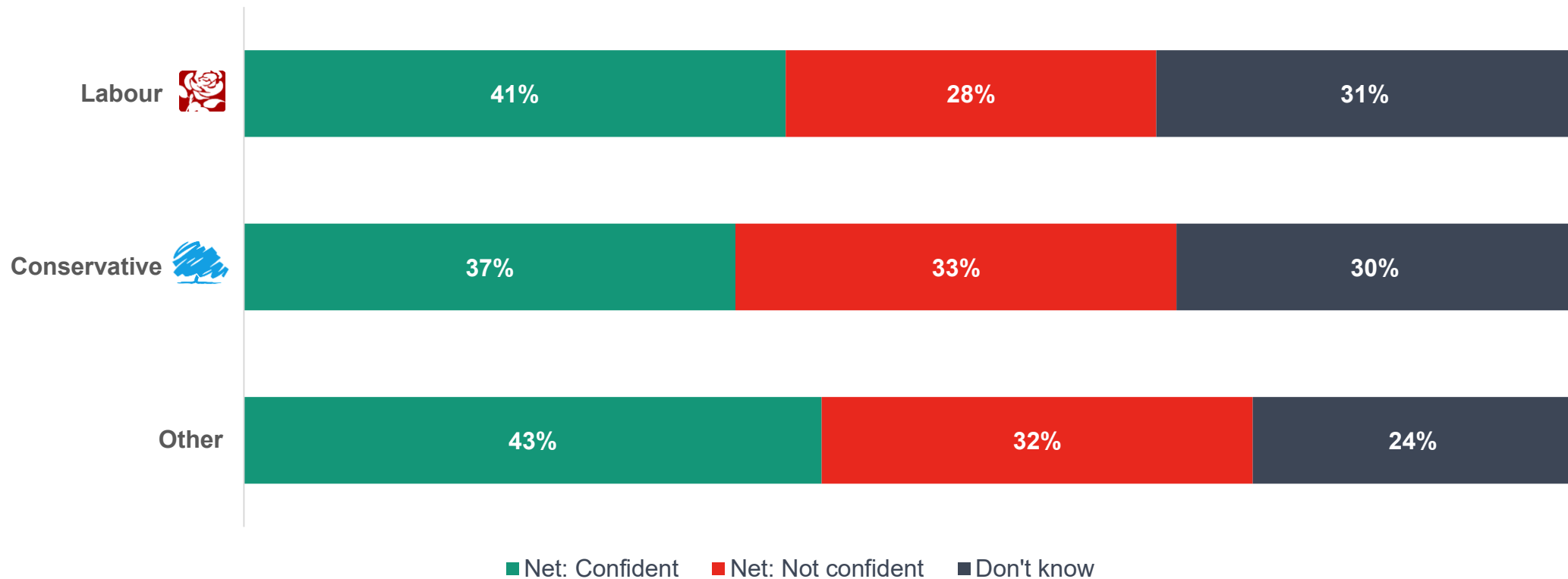


gmc1b. How confident, if at all, are you in the way that physician associates (PAs) and anaesthesia associates (AAs) are regulated by the General Medical Council (GMC)?
 Base: All respondents (214); MPs (113), Lords (44), Devolved (57)

Other parties are slightly more likely to have confidence in the way that PAs and AAs are regulated by the GMC compared to Labour and Conservatives.

The proportion saying they are confident is higher than those saying they are not among all parties

Confidence in the GMC as a regulator of physician associates (PAs) and anaesthesia associates (AAs)



gmc1b. How confident, if at all, are you in the way that physician associates (PAs) and anaesthesia associates (AAs) are regulated by the General Medical Council (GMC)?

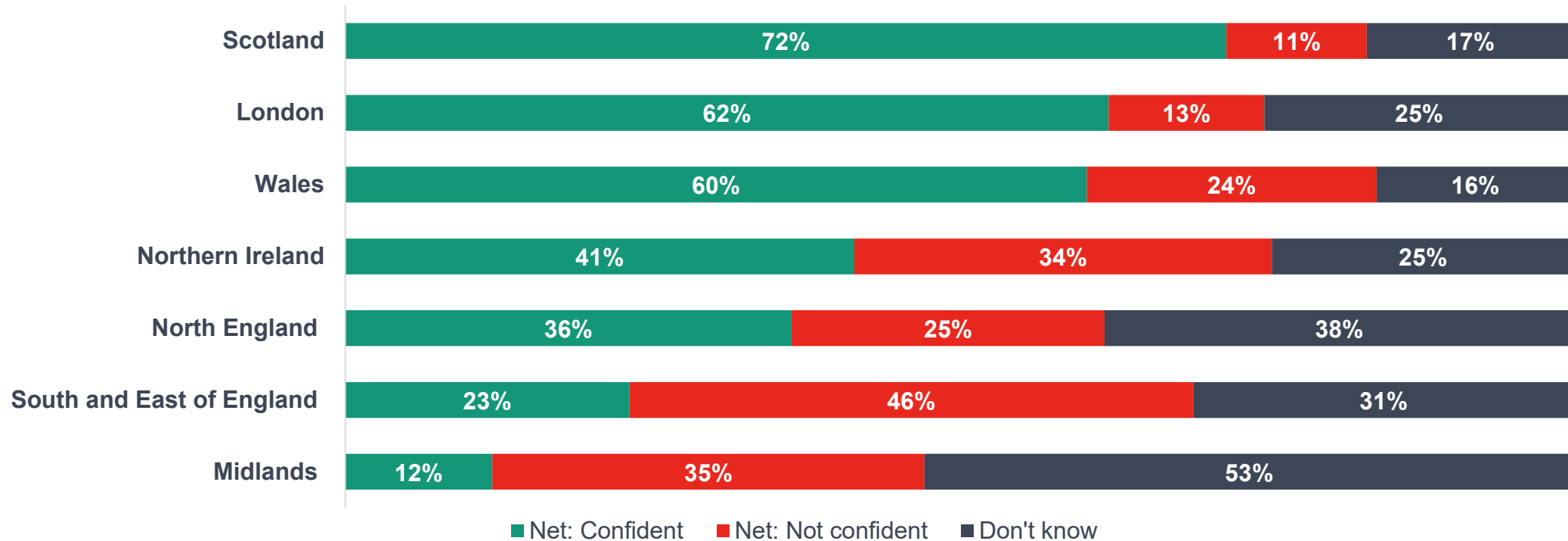
Base: All Labour (98), Conservatives (49), Other (67)

N.B. Numbers are made up of respondents from all political groups

Analysed by country and region, those based in Scotland have the highest confidence in the way PAs and AAs are regulated by the GMC, with London and Wales following.

Confidence is lowest among those in the Midlands, however the majority state that they 'don't know'

Confidence in the GMC as a regulator of physician associates (PAs) and anaesthesia associates (AAs)



gmc1b. How confident, if at all, are you in the way that physician associates (PAs) and anaesthesia associates (AAs) are regulated by the General Medical Council (GMC)?

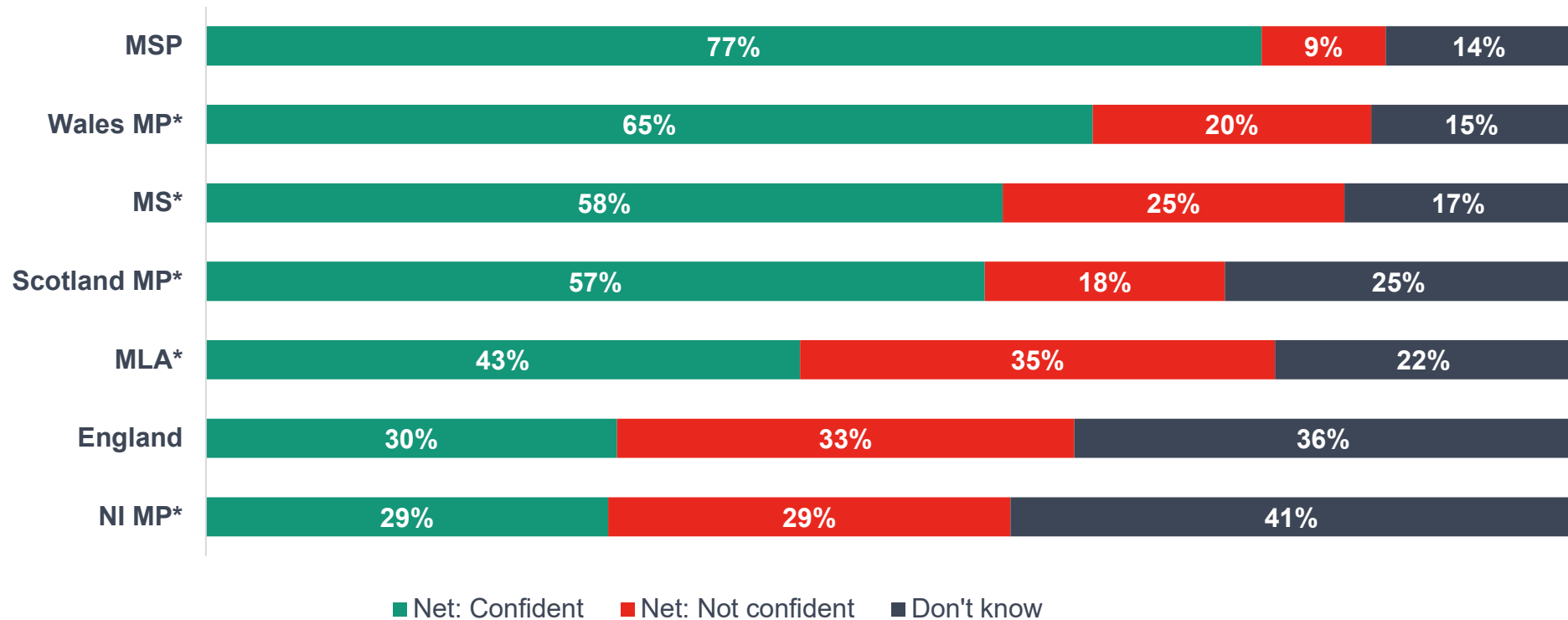
Base: All respondents representing: South and East England (38), London (8), North England (24), Midlands (24), Northern Ireland (26), Wales (17), Scotland (33)

N.B. Numbers for Scotland, Northern Ireland and Wales include responses from both MPs and devolved legislatures

Looking at sub-groups, MSPs are most confident in the way PAs and AAs are regulated by the GMC.

MPs in England and Northern Ireland are the least confident, although scores are hindered by a lack of knowledge

Confidence in the GMC as a regulator of physician associates (PAs) and anaesthesia associates (AAs)

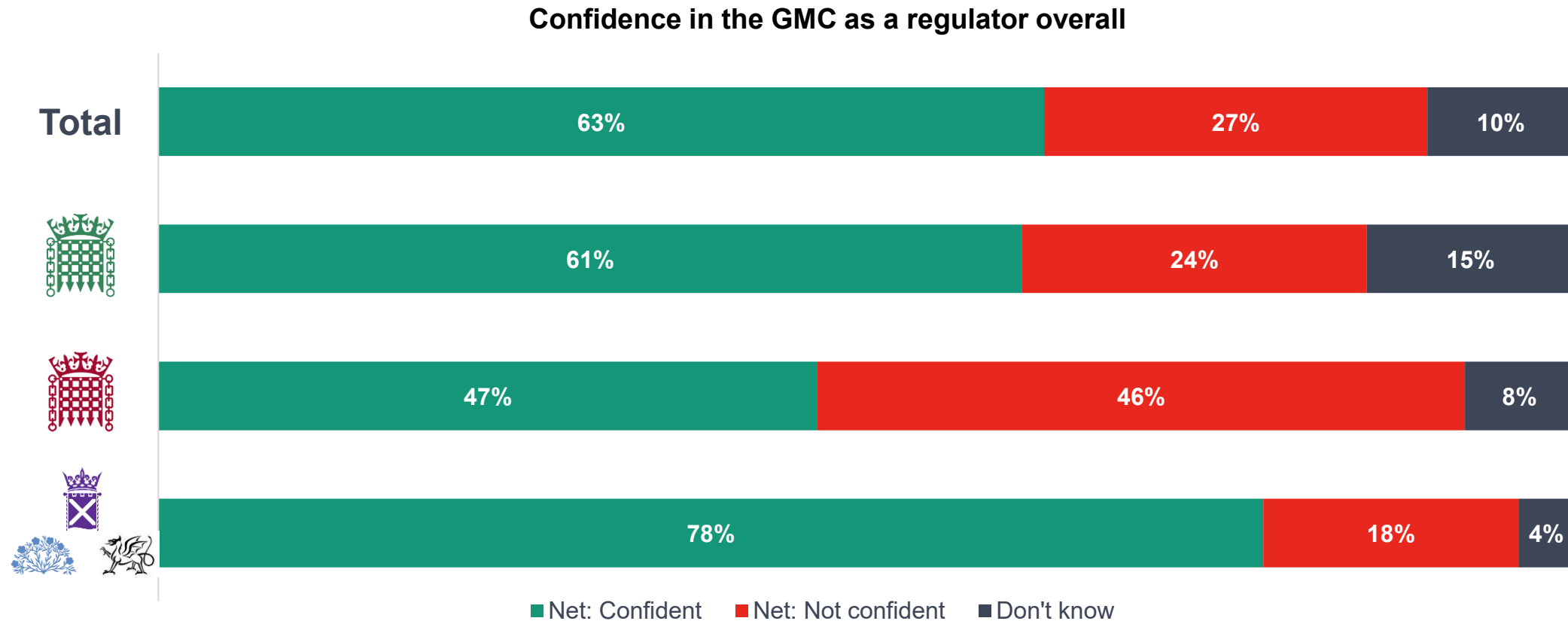


gmc1b. How confident, if at all, are you in the way that physician associates (PAs) and anaesthesia associates (AAs) are regulated by the General Medical Council (GMC)?

Base: All Members of Scottish Parliament (22), Members of the Senedd Cymru (12), Members of the Northern Ireland Assembly (23), Members of Parliament for England (94), Northern Ireland (3), Wales (5), Scotland (11)

Around two-thirds are confident in the GMC as a regulator overall.

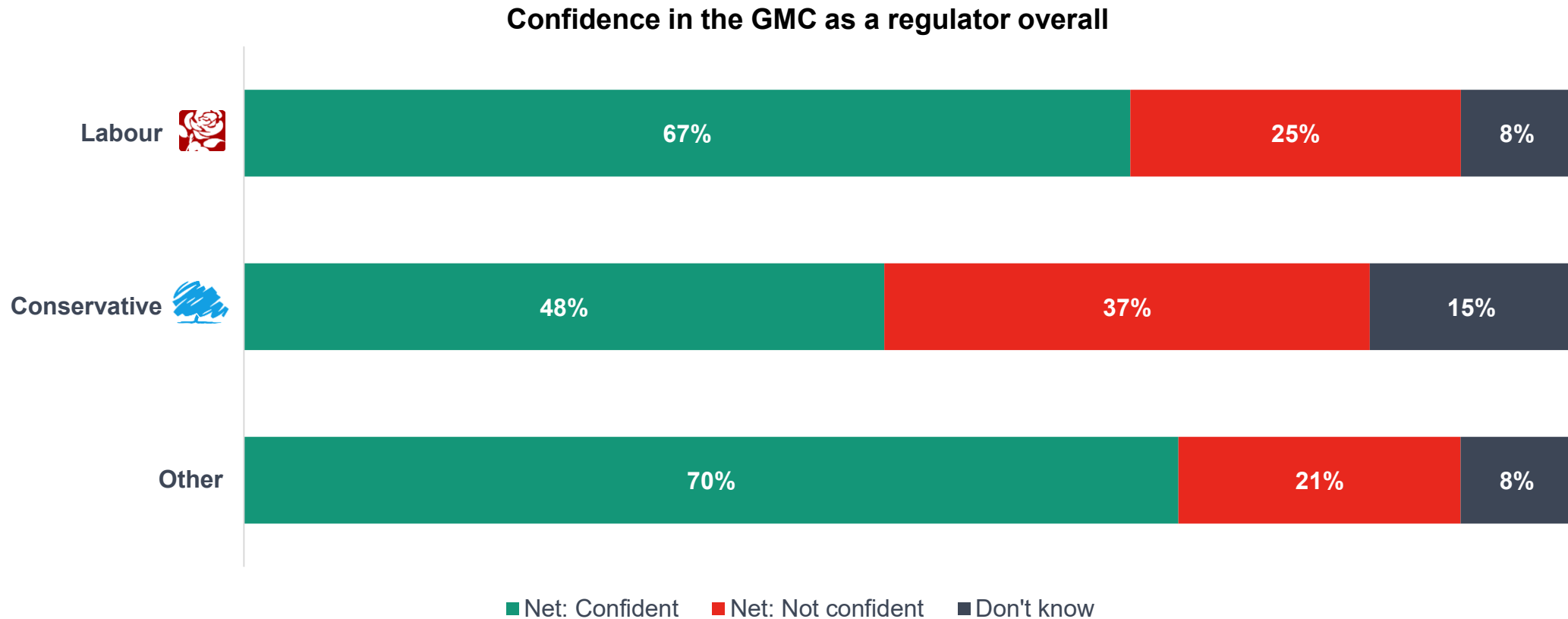
The greatest level of confidence comes from the Devolved legislatures, and the least from the Lords



gmc1c. Overall, how confident are you in the GMC as a regulator?
Base: All respondents (214); MPs (113), Lords (44), Devolved (57)

Looking at a party breakdown, other parties show the highest confidence in GMC as a regulator, followed by Labour politicians.

Confidence is lowest among Conservative politicians, although confidence still outnumbers non-confidence



gmc1c. Overall, how confident are you in the GMC as a regulator?

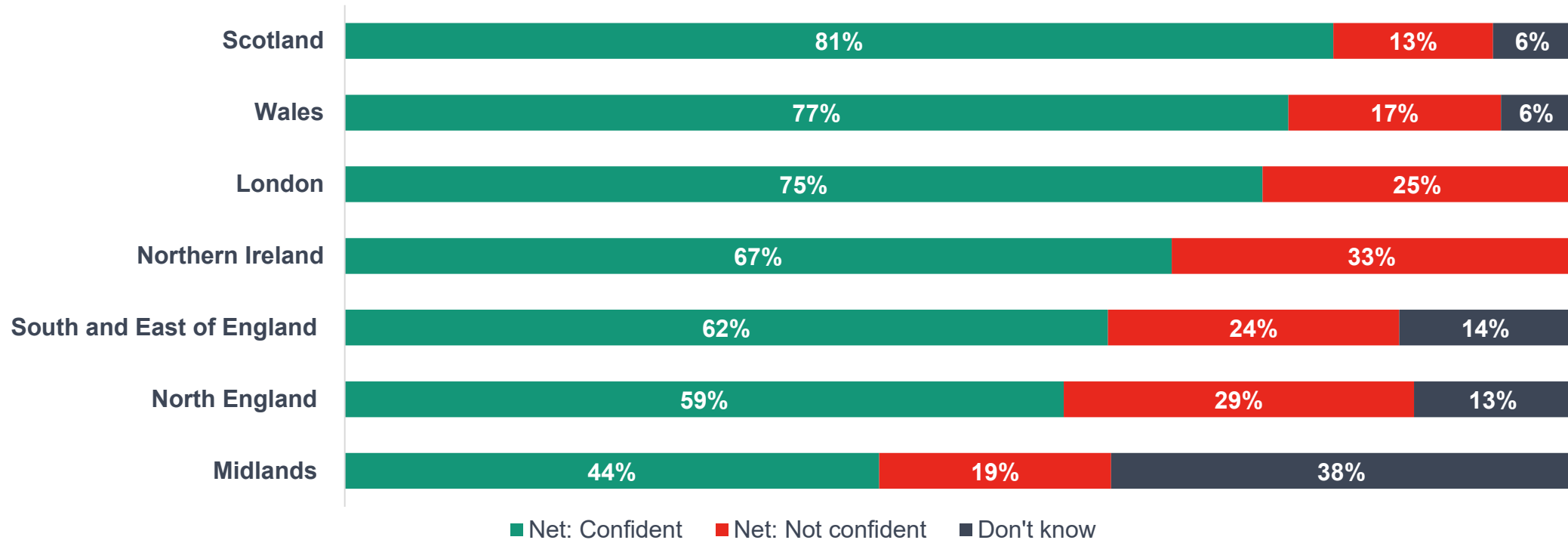
Base: All Labour (98), Conservatives (49), Other (67)

NB Numbers are made up of respondents from all political groups

Analysed by country and region, those based in Scotland are most confident in the GMC as a regulator, followed by those in Wales and London.

Confidence is lowest among those in the Midlands

Confidence in the GMC as a regulator overall



gmc1c. Overall, how confident are you in the GMC as a regulator?

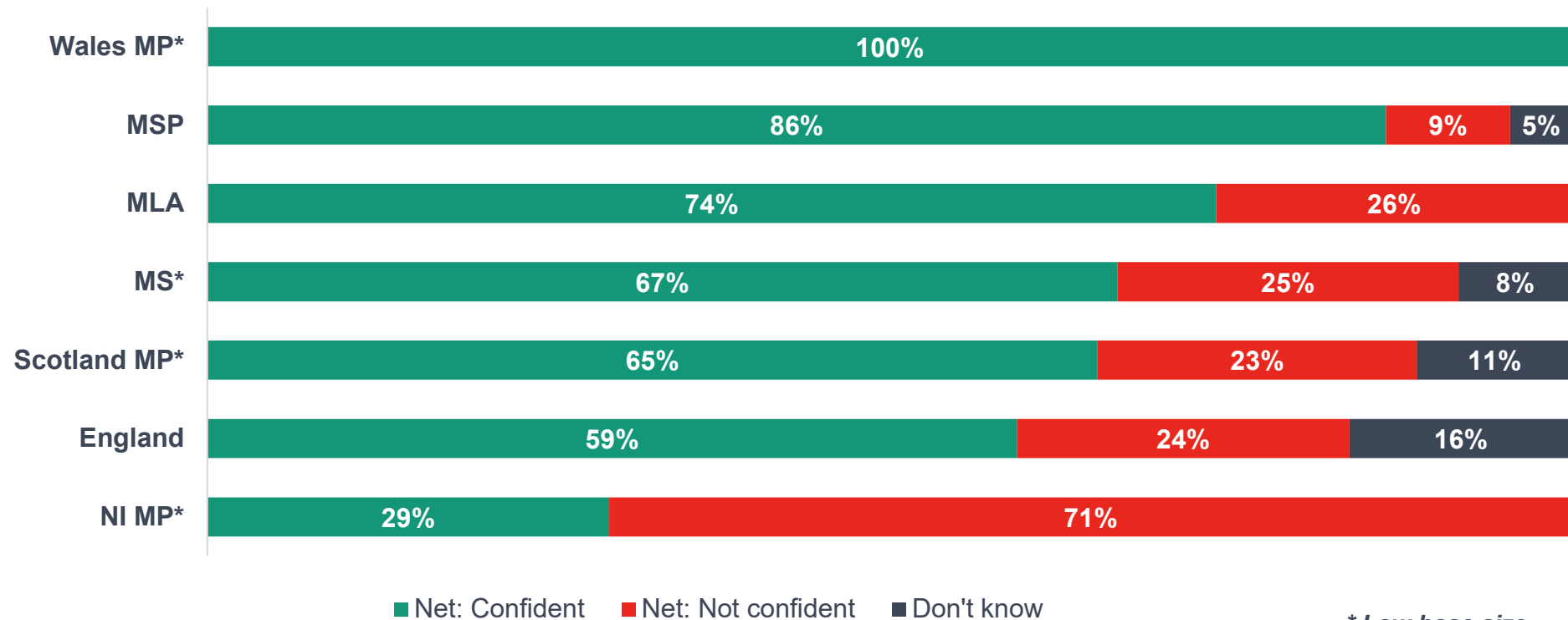
Base: All respondents representing: South and East England (38), London (8), North England (24), Midlands (24), Northern Ireland (26), Wales (17), Scotland (33)

N.B. Numbers for Scotland, Northern Ireland and Wales include responses from both MPs and devolved legislatures

Welsh MPs and MSPs show the greatest confidence overall in GMC as a regulator, followed by MLAs.

MPs in Northern Ireland are the least confident

Confidence in the GMC as a regulator overall



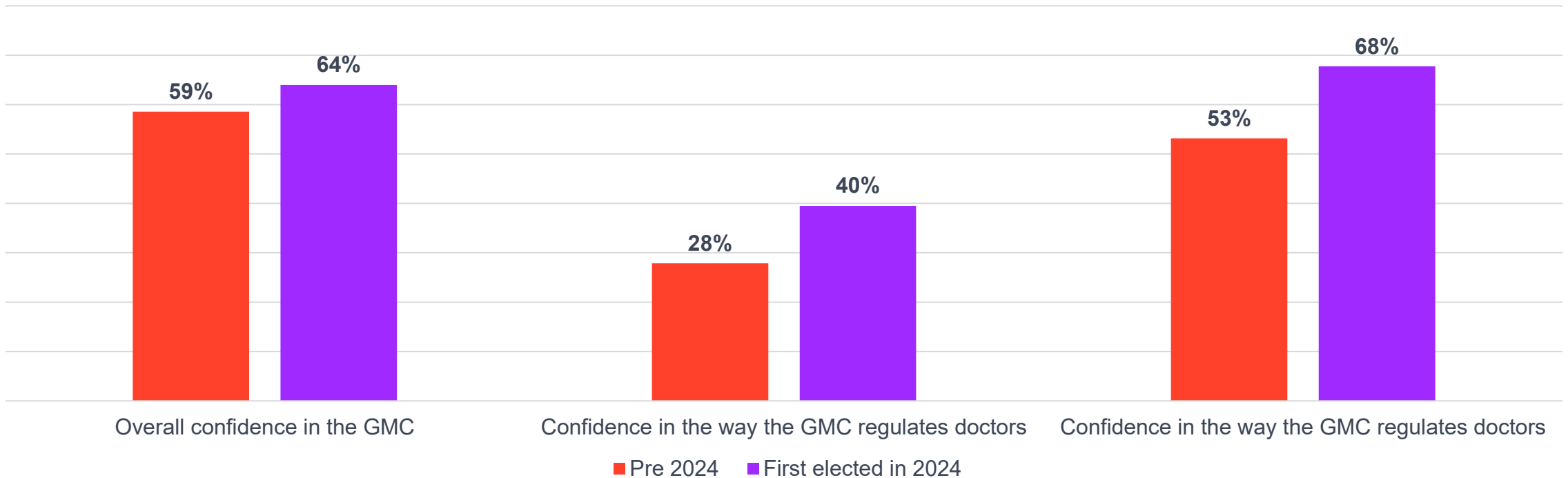
* Low base size

gmc1c. Overall, how confident are you in the GMC as a regulator?

Base: All Members of Scottish Parliament (22), Members of the Senedd Cymru (12), Members of the Northern Ireland Assembly (23), Members of Parliament for England (94), Northern Ireland (3), Wales (5), Scotland (11)

Confidence in the GMC is higher among MPs elected in 2024 than those elected prior.

Confidence in the GMC



*Chart displays proportion saying they are confident in the GMC

gmc1a. How confident, if at all, are you in the way that doctors are regulated by the General Medical Council (GMC)?

gmc1b. How confident, if at all, are you in the way that physician associates (PAs) and anaesthesia associates (AAs) are regulated by the General Medical Council (GMC)?

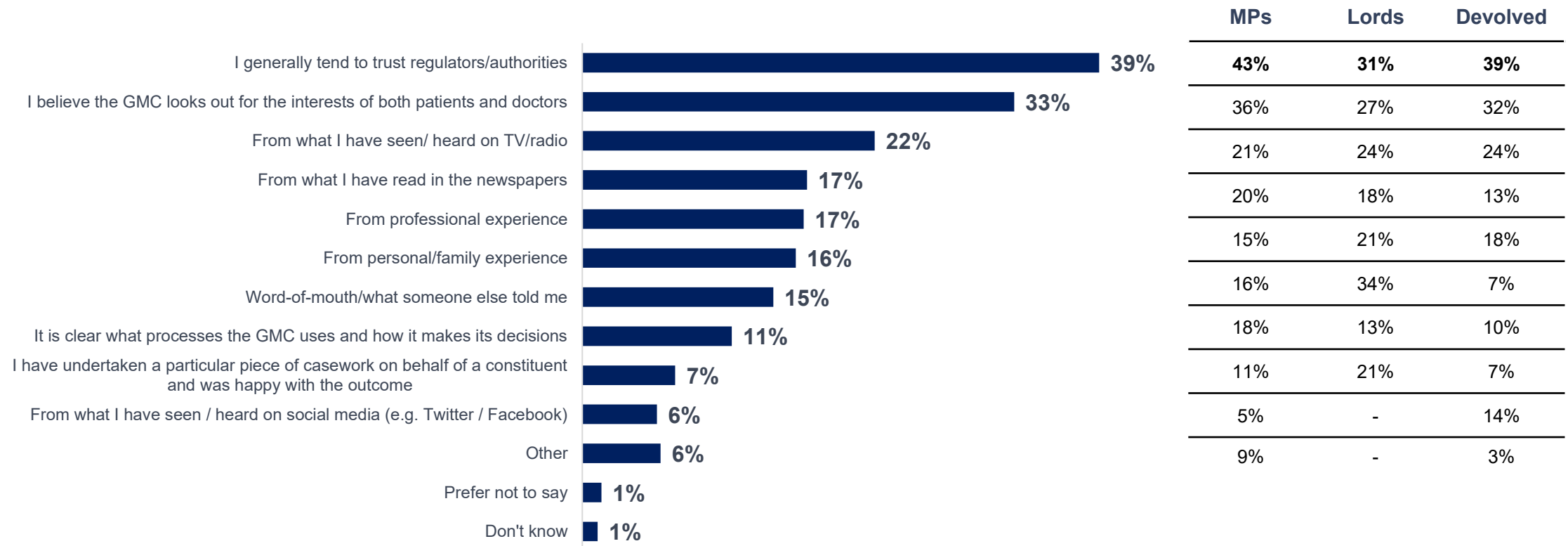
gmc1c. Overall, how confident are you in the GMC as a regulator?

Base: All MPs elected prior to 2024 (28), MPs first elected in 2024 (75)

Those confident in the way doctors are regulated by the GMC state that they tend to trust regulators/authorities.

This is followed by the belief that the GMC looks out for the interests of both patients and doctors

Prompted reasons for confidence in the way the GMC regulates doctors



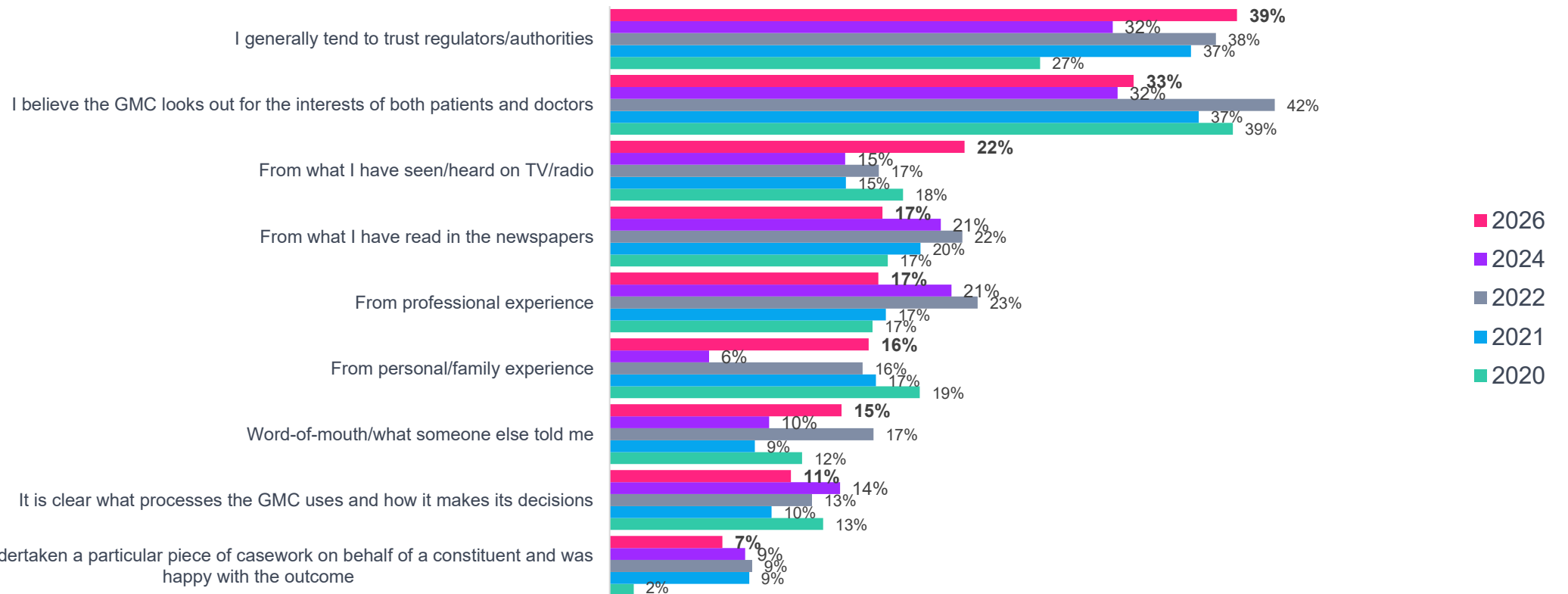
gmc2_dr_pos. You said you are confident in the way doctors are regulated by the GMC. Why do you say this?

Base: All confident in the way the GMC regulates doctors (138); MPs (68), Lords (25), Devolved (45)

A general sense of trust of regulators is the top reason for confidence in the GMC this wave, followed by the belief that it looks out for the interests of patients and doctors.

These have consistently been the top reasons for confidence over the past 6 years

Prompted reasons for confidence in the way the GMC regulates doctors



gmc2_dr_pos. You said you are confident in the way doctors are regulated by the GMC. Why do you say this?

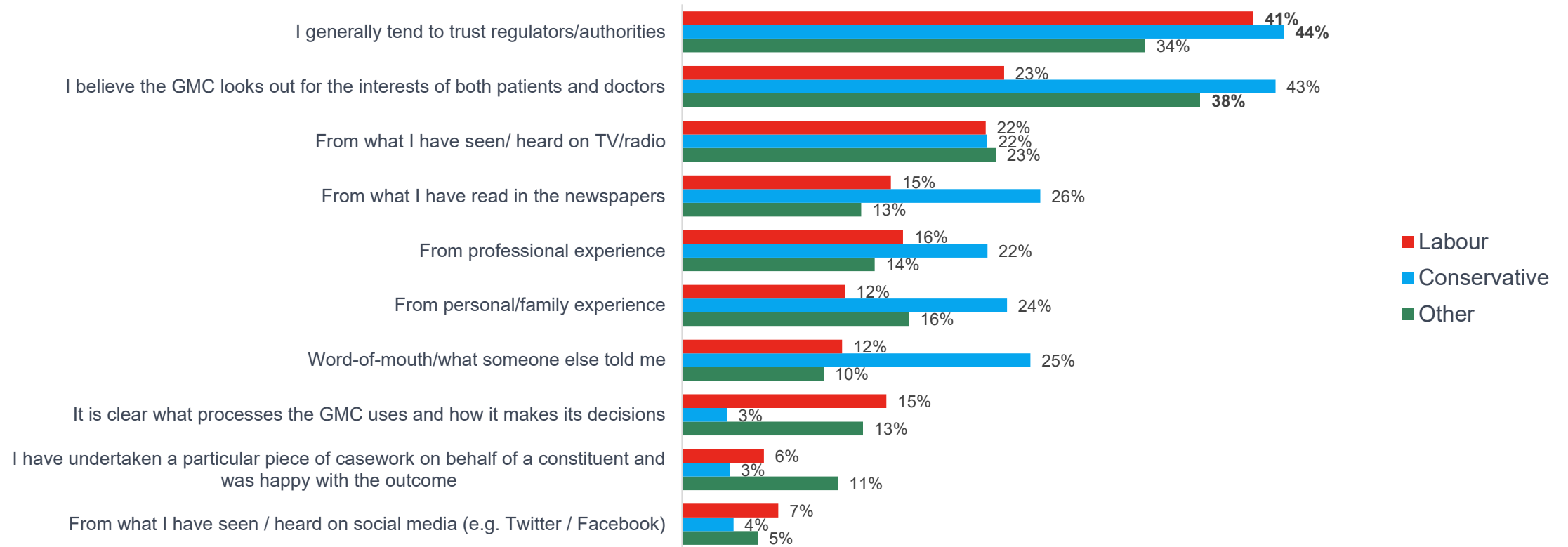
Base: All confident in the way the GMC regulates doctors (138); MPs (68), Lords (25), Devolved (45)

Chart excludes 'Don't know', 'Prefer not to say' and 'Other'

Both Labour and Conservative politicians' main reason as to why they have confidence in the GMC is that they generally trust regulators.

For other parties, the belief that GMC looks out for the interests of both patients and doctors is the top reason

Prompted reasons for confidence in the way the GMC regulates doctors



gmc2_dr_pos. You said you are confident in the way doctors are regulated by the GMC. Why do you say this?

Base: All confident in the way the GMC regulates doctors Labour (61), Conservatives (28), Other (49)

NB Numbers are made up of respondents from all political groups

Chart excludes 'Don't know', 'Prefer not to say' and 'Other'

A general trust in regulators/authorities is fairly consistent among the Devolved legislatures and Westminster as the main reason for confidence in the GMC.

For NI MPs, social media is the main driver of confidence

Prompted reasons for confidence in the way the GMC regulates doctors

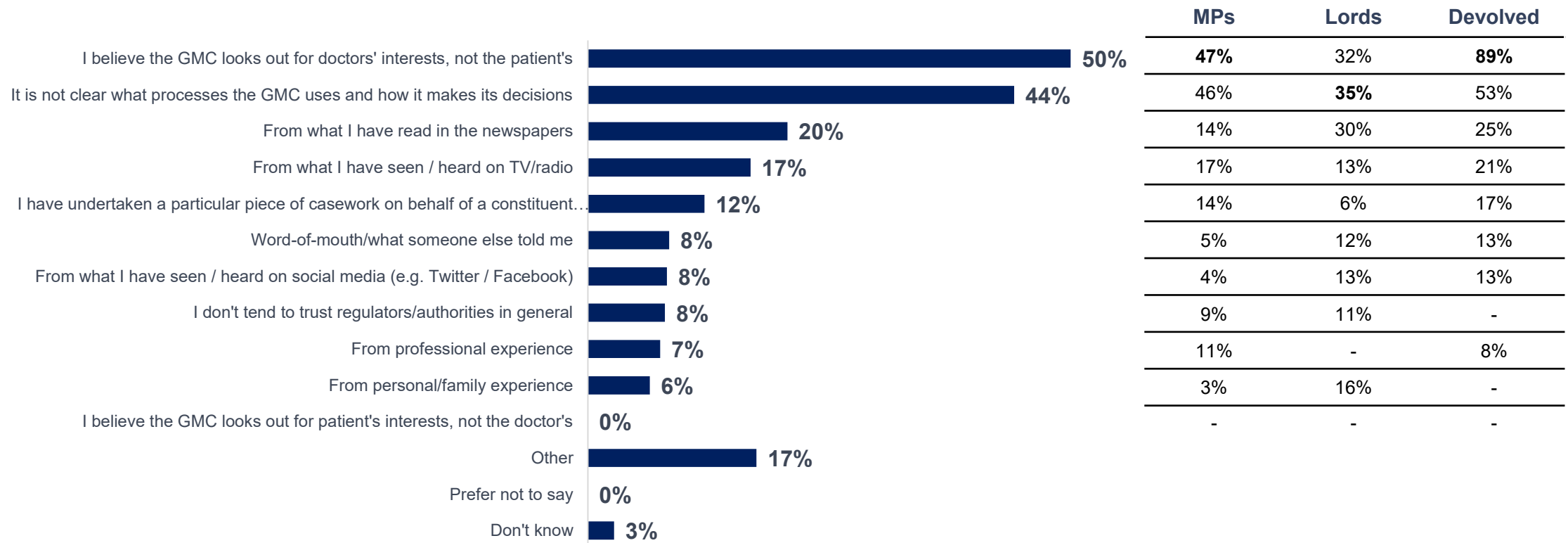
	Total	MSP*	MS*	MLA*	England MP	NI MP*	Wales MP*	Scotland MP*
I generally tend to trust regulators/authorities	39%	37%	56%	29%	39%	-	56%	67%
I believe the GMC looks out for the interests of both patients and doctors	33%	37%	33%	24%	37%	-	20%	44%
From what I have seen/ heard on TV/radio	22%	26%	11%	29%	21%	-	29%	12%
From what I have read in the newspapers	17%	16%	-	18%	20%	-	-	31%
From professional experience	17%	16%	22%	18%	19%	-	-	-
From personal/family experience	16%	5%	11%	6%	16%	-	29%	8%
Word-of-mouth/what someone else told me	15%	-	33%	12%	18%	-	41%	-
It is clear what processes the GMC uses and how it makes its decisions	11%	5%	11%	6%	9%	-	15%	25%
Undertaken a piece of casework on behalf of a constituent and was happy with the outcome	7%	11%	-	29%	1%	-	29%	17%
From what I have seen / heard on social media e.g. Facebook / X (formerly Twitter)	6%	-	-	12%	10%	100%	-	-
Base	138	19	9	17	54	1	5	8

gmc2_dr_pos. You said you are confident in the way doctors are regulated by the GMC. Why do you say this?
Table excludes 'Don't know', 'Prefer not to say' and 'Other'

* *Low base size*

Those not confident in the GMC's regulation believe that the GMC looks out for the interest of doctors instead of patients, and are unclear on its processes.

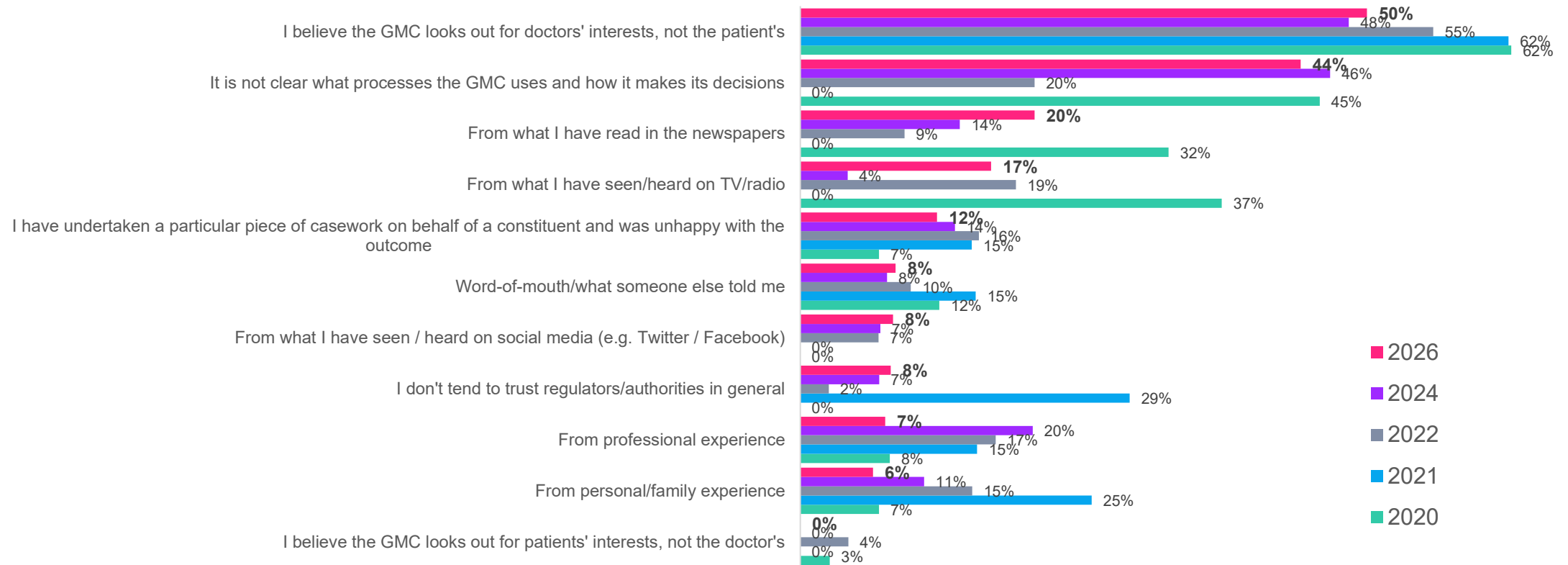
Prompted reasons for a lack of confidence in the way the GMC regulates doctors



gmc2_dr_neg. You said you are not confident in the way doctors are regulated by the GMC. Why do you say this?
 Base: All not confident in the way the GMC regulates doctors (59); MPs (32), Lords (17), Devolved (10)

The belief that the GMC looks out for the interests of doctors rather than patients, and lack of clarity on processes remain the top reasons for not being confident in the GMC.

Prompted reasons for a lack of confidence in the way the GMC regulates doctors



gmc2_dr_neg. You said you are not confident in the way doctors are regulated by the GMC. Why do you say this?

Base: All not confident in the way the GMC regulates doctors (59)

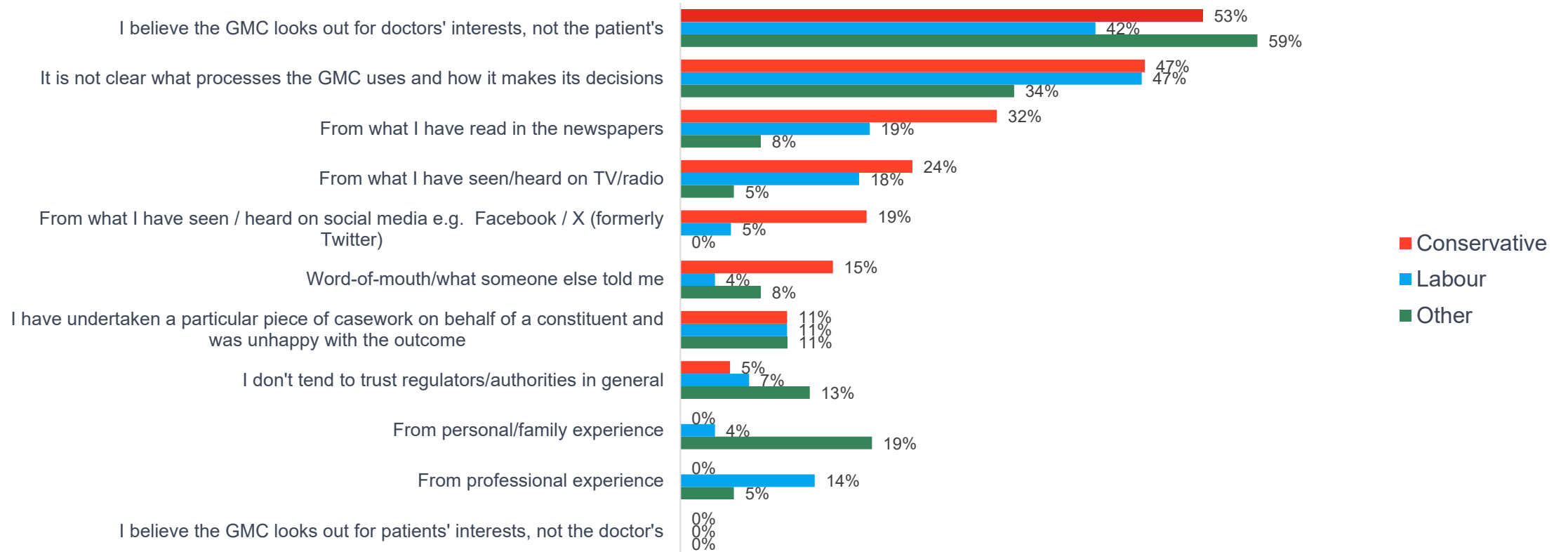
Chart excludes 'Don't know', 'Prefer not to say' and 'Other'

Audiences not reported due to low base size

Believing that it looks out for doctors' interests rather than patients' is the main reason for not being confident in the GMC among Conservative and Other politicians.

Lack of clarity in decision making processes is the main reason for Labour politicians

Prompted reasons for a lack of confidence in the way the GMC regulates doctors



gmc2_dr_neg. You said you are not confident in the way doctors are regulated by the GMC. Why do you say this?

Base: All not confident in the way the GMC regulates doctors (59)

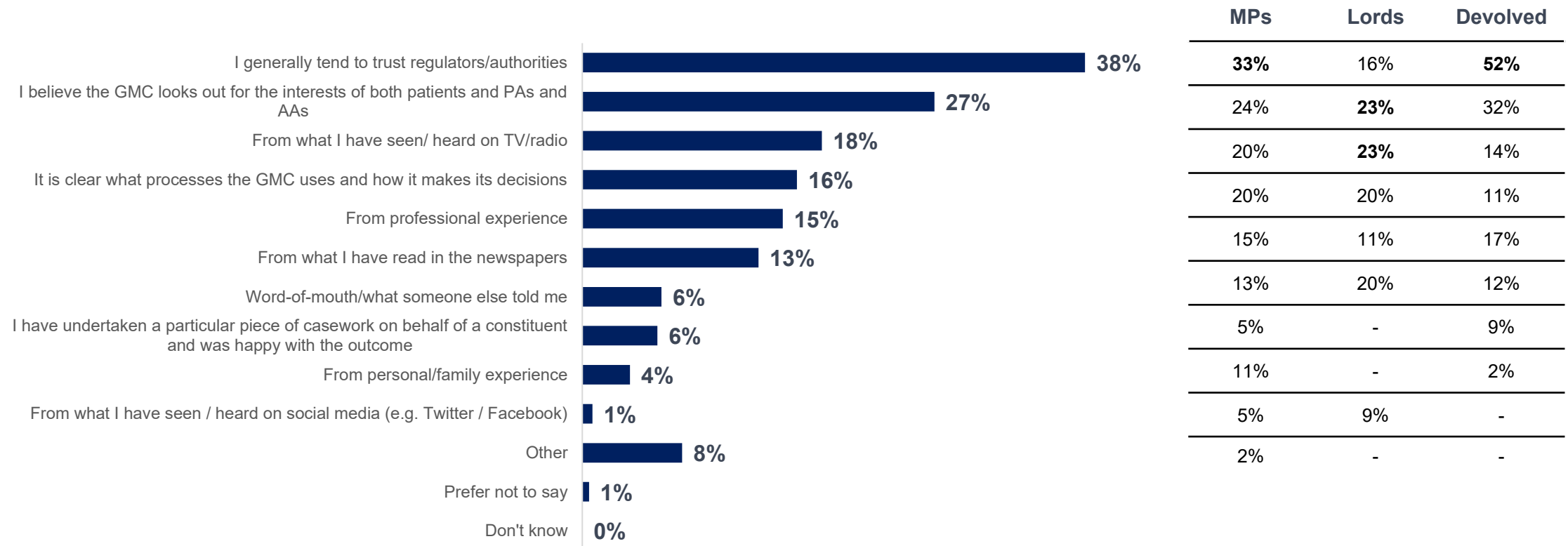
Chart excludes 'Don't know', 'Prefer not to say' and 'Other'

Audiences not reported due to low base size

Those confident in the way GMC's regulate PAs and AAs say that they generally trust regulators.

While this is the most cited reason among MPs and the Devolved legislatures, Lords are most likely to believe the GMC looks out for the interests of both patients and PAs and AAs

Prompted reasons for confidence in the way the GMC regulates PAs and AAs



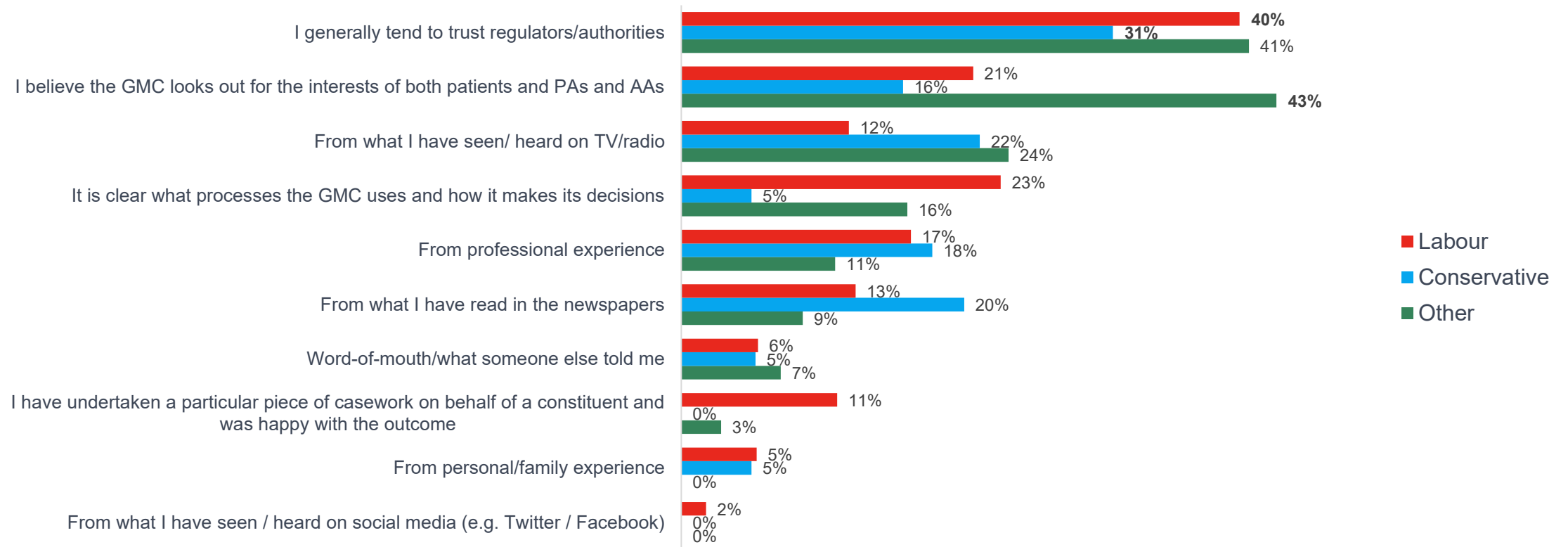
gmc2_paaa_pos. You said you are confident in the way PAs and AAs are regulated by the GMC. Why do you say this?

Base: All confident in the way the GMC regulates PAs and AAs (86); MPs (38), Lords (14), Devolved (34)

A general trust in regulators is the main driver for Labour and Conservative politicians being confident in the GMC's regulation of PAs and AAs.

The belief that the GMC looks out for the interests of both patients and PAs and AAs is the top reason for Other parties

Prompted reasons for confidence in the way the GMC regulates PAs and AAs



gmc2_paaa_pos. You said you are confident in the way PAs and AAs are regulated by the GMC. Why do you say this?

Base: All confident in the way the GMC regulates PAs and AAs Labour (37), Conservatives (19), Other (30)

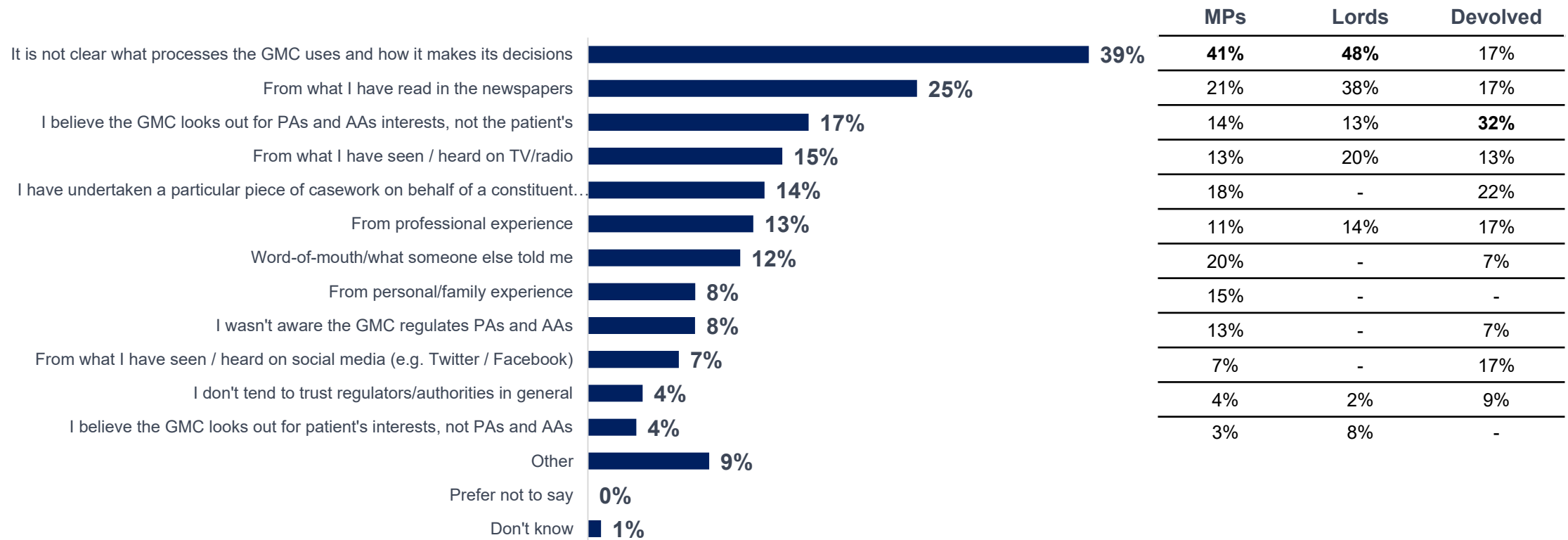
NB Numbers are made up of respondents from all political groups

Chart excludes 'Don't know', 'Prefer not to say' and 'Other'

The main reason for lack of confidence in the way PAs and AAs are regulated is lack of clarity in GMC's processes and decision-making.

For the Devolved legislatures, the belief that the GMC looks out for PAs and AAs patients rather than the patient's is the main reason

Prompted reasons for lack of confidence in the way the GMC regulates PAs and AAs



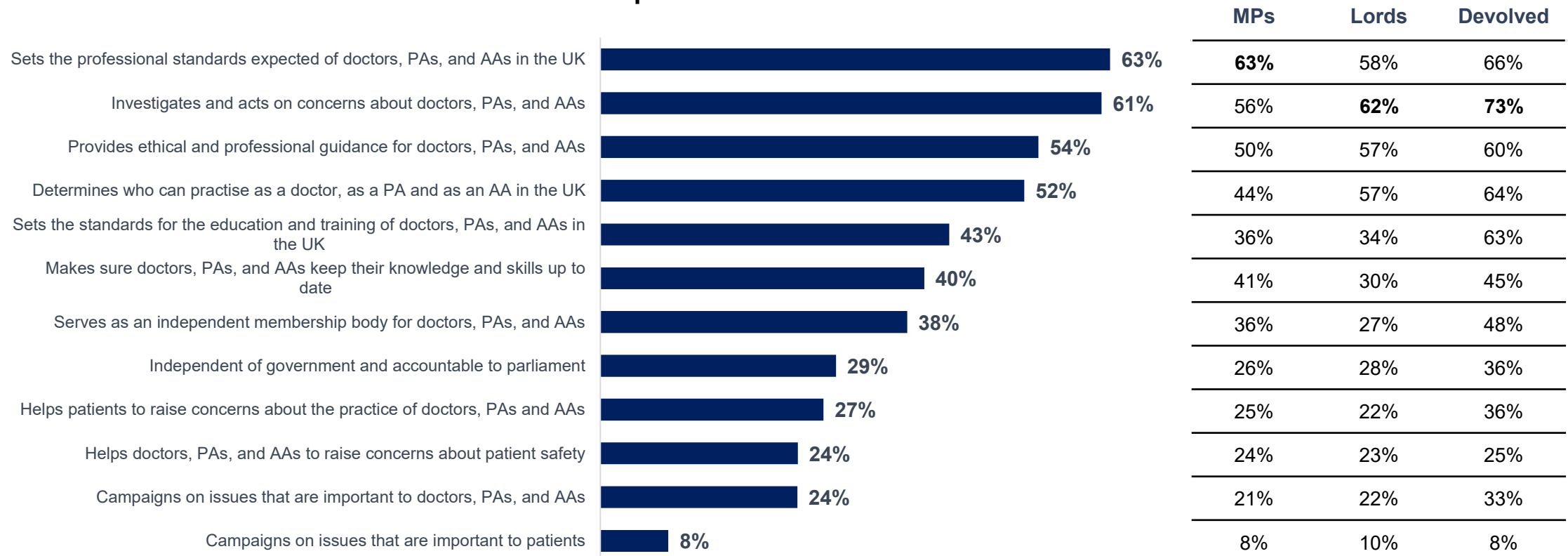
gmc2_paaa_neg. You said you are not confident in the way physician associates (PAs) and anaesthesia associates (AAs) are regulated by the GMC. Why do you say this?

Base: All not confident in the way the GMC regulates PAs and AAs (69); MPs (38), Lords (18), Devolved (13)

Setting the professional standards expected of medical professionals is the role and responsibility politicians most associate with the GMC.

Investigation and acting on concerns about medical professionals, and providing ethical and professional guidance are roles also cited by at least half of politicians

Roles and responsibilities associated with the GMC

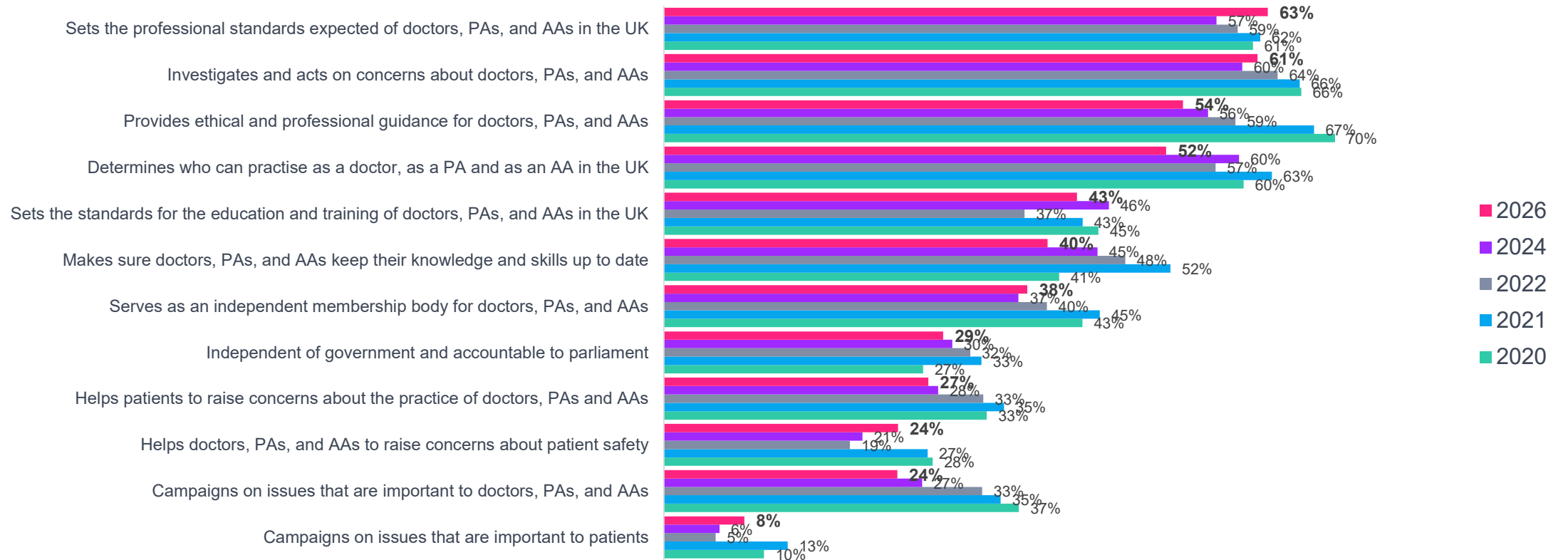


gmc3. Which of the following roles and responsibilities, if any, do you associate with the GMC? Please select all that apply.

Base: All respondents (214); MPs (113), Lords (44), Devolved (57)

Setting the professional standards expected of medical professionals overtakes investigating and acting on concerns about doctors as the role politicians most associate with the GMC this wave.

Roles and responsibilities associated with the GMC



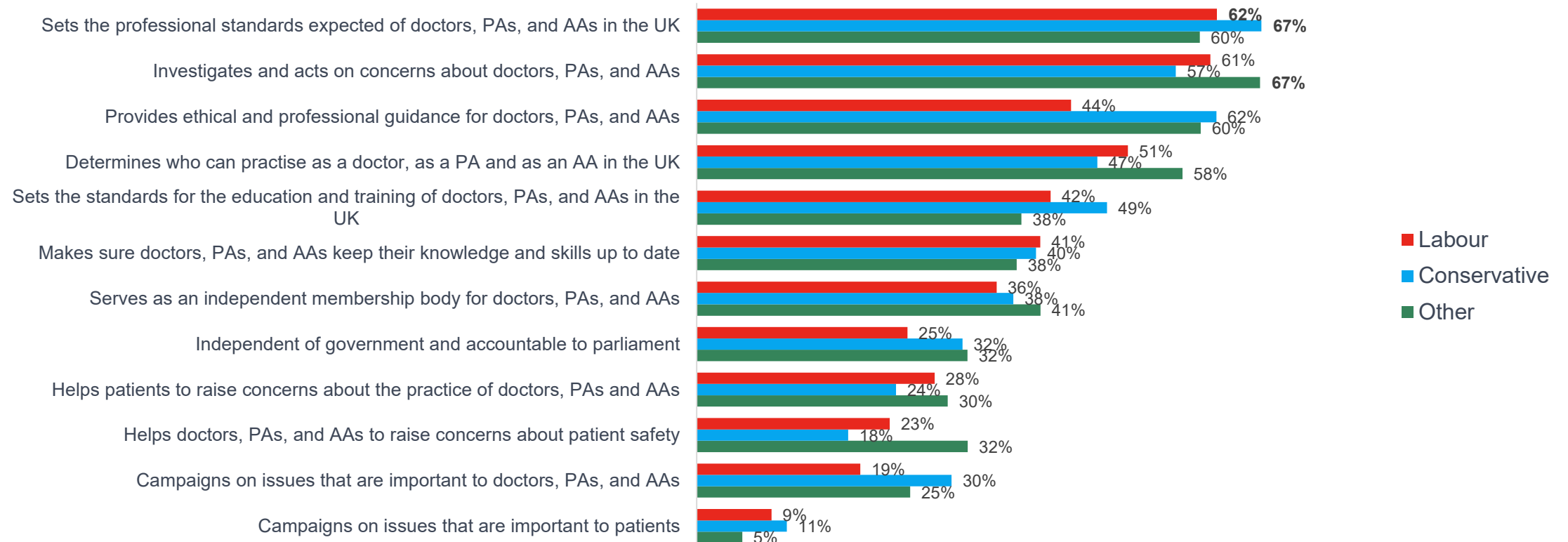
gmc3. Which of the following roles and responsibilities, if any, do you associate with the GMC? Please select all that apply.

Base: All 2020 respondents (212), All 2021 respondents (219), all 2022 respondents (223), all 2024 respondents (222), all 2026 respondents (214)

NB. Wording of all statements was updated in January 2026 to include more specific references to doctors, PAs and AAs rather than the medical profession more broadly

The role politicians most associate with the GMC is setting the professional standards expected of medical professionals and investigating concerns about them.

Roles and responsibilities associated with the GMC



gmc3. Which of the following roles and responsibilities, if any, do you associate with the GMC? Please select all that apply.

Base: All Labour (98), Conservatives (49), Other (67)

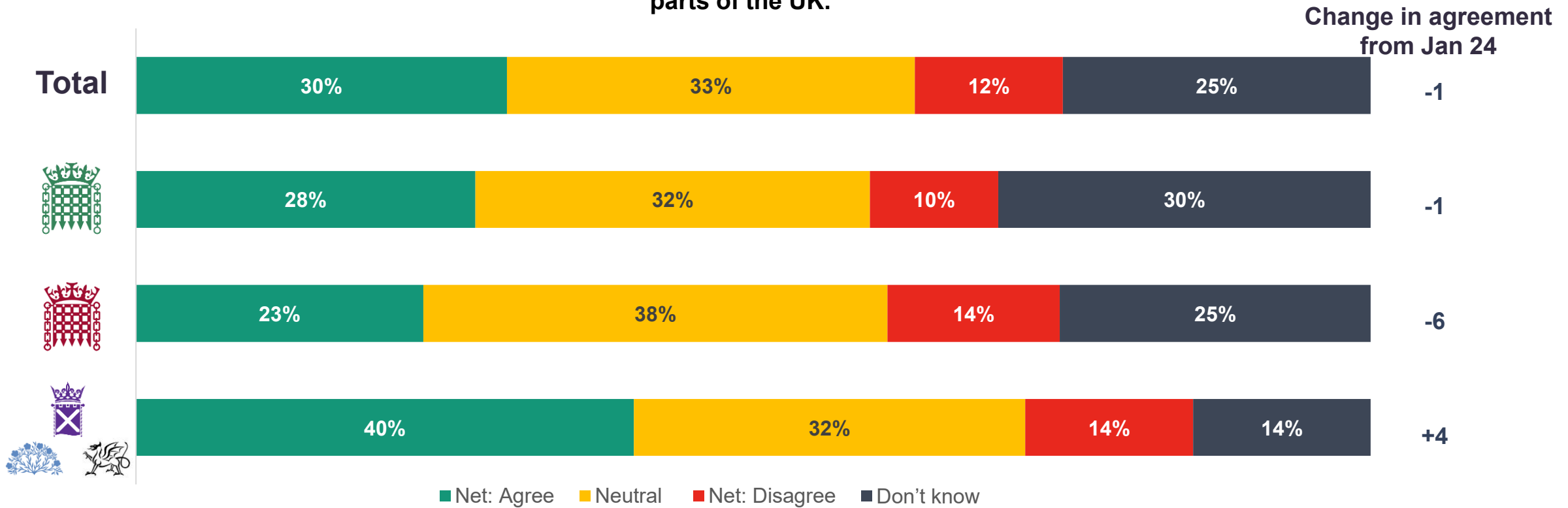
NB Numbers are made up of respondents from all political groups

Chart excludes 'Don't know', 'Prefer not to say' and 'Other'

Agreement that the GMC's approach to regulation anticipates and responds to the needs of the individual parts of the UK is generally stable at total level.

Agreement has dropped among Lords but has increased among the Devolved legislatures

Agreement with the statement “The GMC’s approach to regulation anticipates and responds to the needs of the individual parts of the UK.”

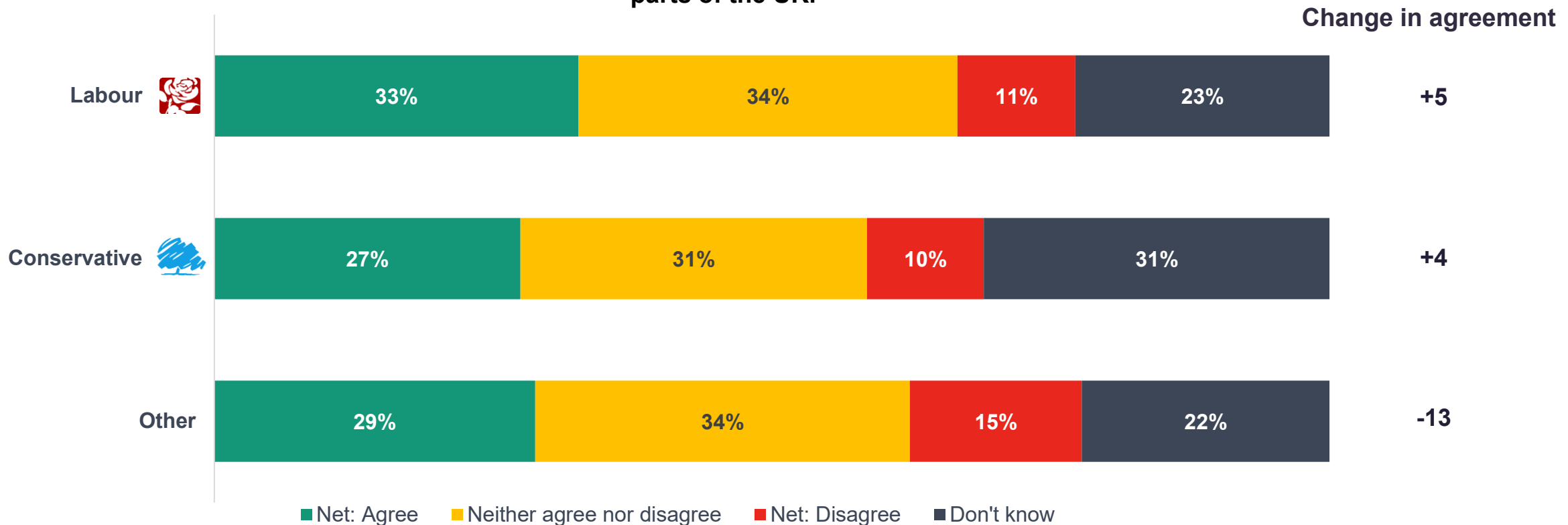


gmc4. To what extent do you agree or disagree with the following statement? “The GMC’s approach to regulation anticipates and responds to the needs of the individual parts of the UK”
 Base: All respondents (214); MPs (113), Lords (44), Devolved (57)

Labour politicians are most likely to agree that the GMC's regulation anticipates and responds to the needs of the individual parts of the UK.

Conservative politicians show the lowest level of agreement; however, this has seen an increase from last wave

Agreement with the statement "The GMC's approach to regulation anticipates and responds to the needs of the individual parts of the UK."



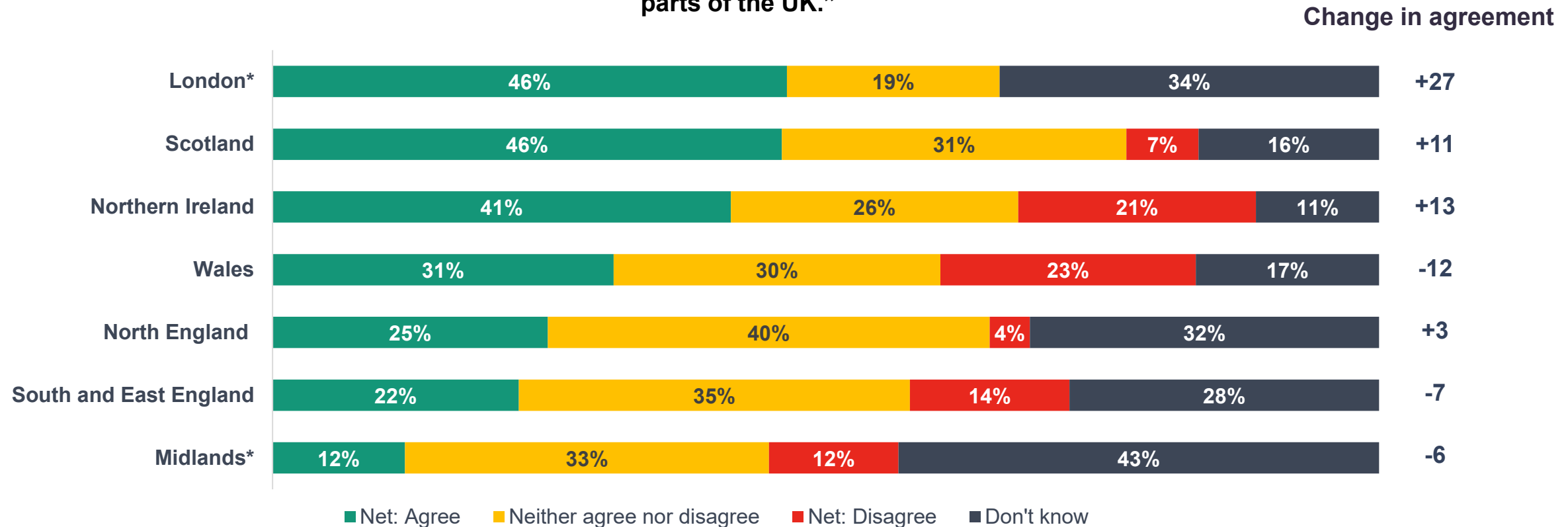
gmc4. To what extent do you agree or disagree with the following statement? "The GMC's approach to regulation anticipates and responds to the needs of the individual parts of the UK"

Base: All Labour (98), Conservatives (49), Other (67)

NB Numbers are made up of respondents from all political groups

Agreement that the GMC's approach to regulation responds to the needs of the individual parts of the UK is highest among politicians in London, which saw a large increase in agreement compared to last wave.

Agreement with the statement "The GMC's approach to regulation anticipates and responds to the needs of the individual parts of the UK."



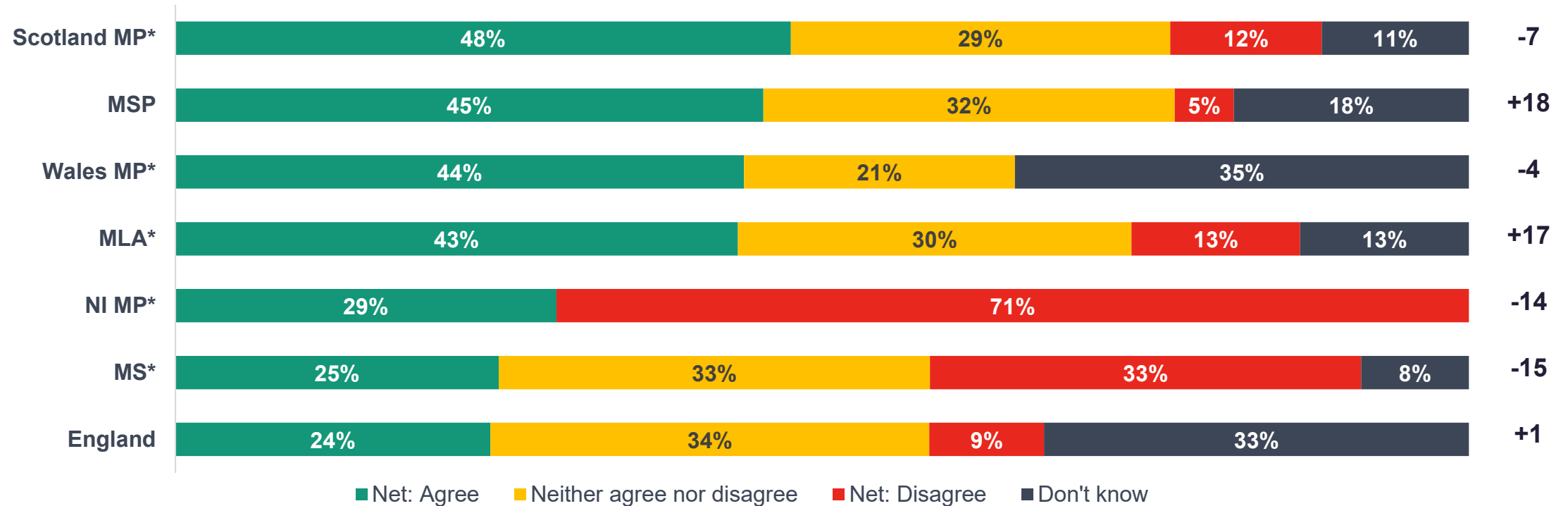
gmc4. To what extent do you agree or disagree with the following statement? "The GMC's approach to regulation anticipates and responds to the needs of the individual parts of the UK"

Base: All respondents representing: South and East England (38), London (8), North England (24), Midlands (24), Northern Ireland (26), Wales (17), Scotland (33)

N.B. Numbers for Scotland, Northern Ireland and Wales include responses from both MPs and devolved legislatures

Scottish MPs remain the group that most agree that the GMC's approach to regulation responds to needs of the individual parts of the UK, followed closely by MSPs.

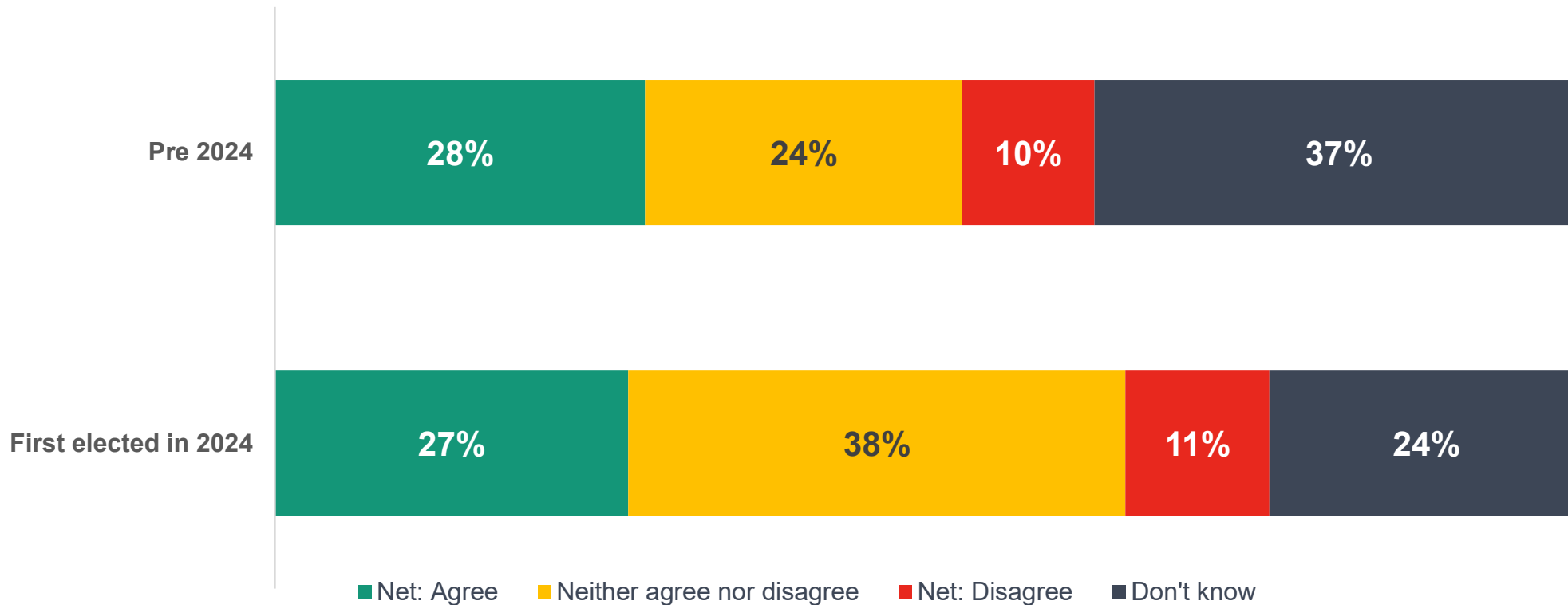
Agreement with the statement "The GMC's approach to regulation anticipates and responds to the needs of the individual parts of the UK." Change in agreement



gmc4. To what extent do you agree or disagree with the following statement? "The GMC's approach to regulation anticipates and responds to the needs of the individual parts of the UK"
 Base: All Members of Scottish Parliament (22), Members of the Senedd Cymru (12), Members of the Northern Ireland Assembly (23), Members of Parliament for England (94), Northern Ireland (3), Wales (5), Scotland (11)

Analysed by year elected, there is little difference in opinion on the GMC's regulation responding to the needs of the different parts of the UK.

Agreement with the statement "The GMC's approach to regulation anticipates and responds to the needs of the individual parts of the UK."

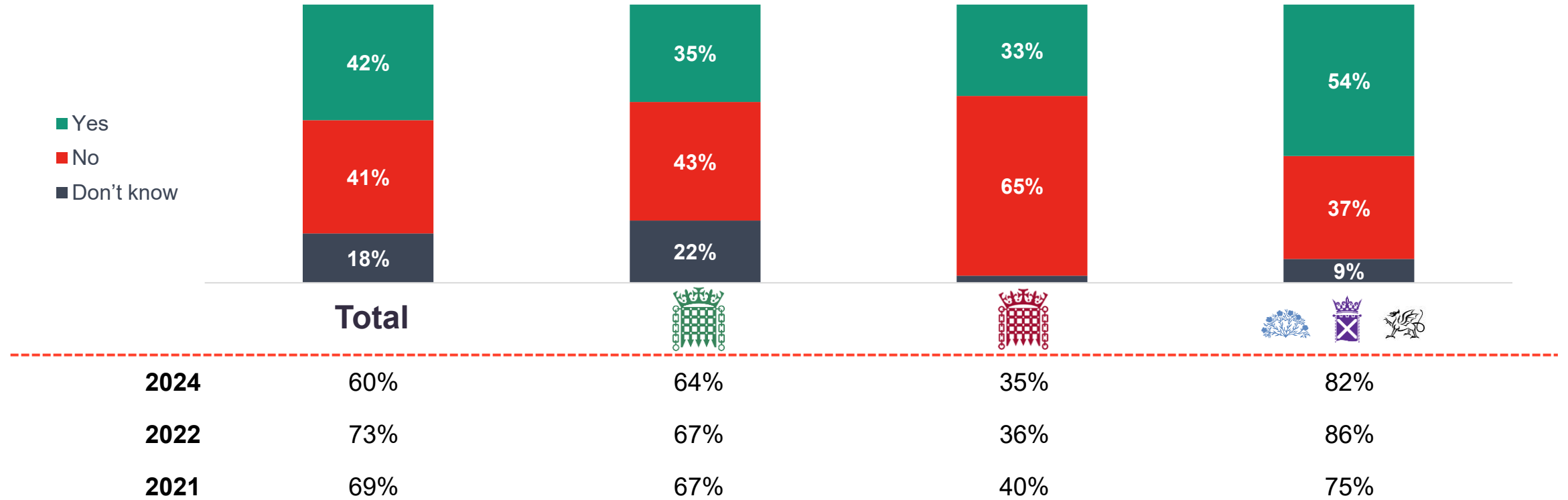


gmc4. To what extent do you agree or disagree with the following statement? "The GMC's approach to regulation anticipates and responds to the needs of the individual parts of the UK"
Base: All MPs elected prior to 2024 (28), MPs first elected in 2024 (75)

Those in the Devolved legislatures remain the most likely to have done work regarding complaints against the medical profession, although this has dropped from last wave.

Around a third of MPs and Lords have done work regarding complaints against a medical professional

Have you ever done any work on behalf of your constituents* regarding complaints against a doctor, PA or AA?



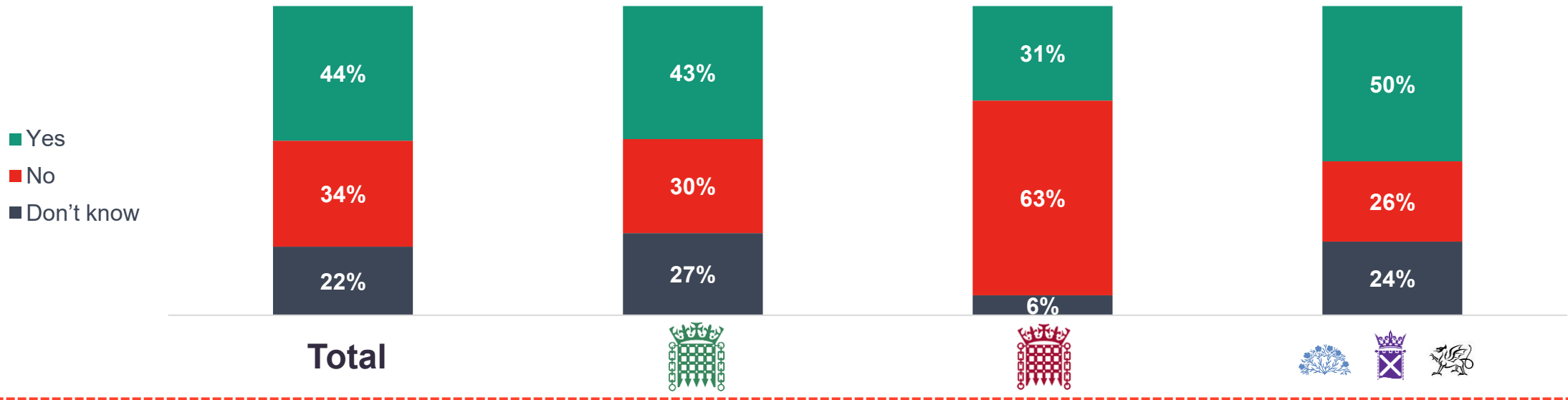
Gmc7a. Have you ever done any work on behalf of your constituents regarding complaints against a doctor, PA, or AA – MPs & Devolved Legislatures wording | Have you ever done any work regarding complaints against a doctor, PA, or AA? – Lords wording | Base: All respondents (214); MPs (113), Lords (44), Devolved (57)

*wording for Lords was 'Have you ever done any work regarding complaints against a doctor, PA or AA?'

** wording in previous waves MPs & Devolved 'Have you ever done any work on behalf of your constituents regarding complaints against the medical profession', Lords 'Have you ever done any work regarding complaints against the medical profession'

Out of those who have dealt with complaints against the medical profession, the Devolved legislatures are the most likely to have contacted the GMC.

Did you contact the GMC as part of this work?



Year	Total	MPs	Lords	Devolved
2024	33%	30%	28%	40%
2022	35%	35%	42%	29%
2021	28%	33%	12%	31%

gmc8. Did you contact the GMC as part of this work?
 Base: All that have dealt with complaints against medical profession (85); MPs (40), Lords (13), Devolved (32)

Contact between the respondents and the GMC in the past 12 months has increased among all sub-groups.

Lords remain the group with the least contact

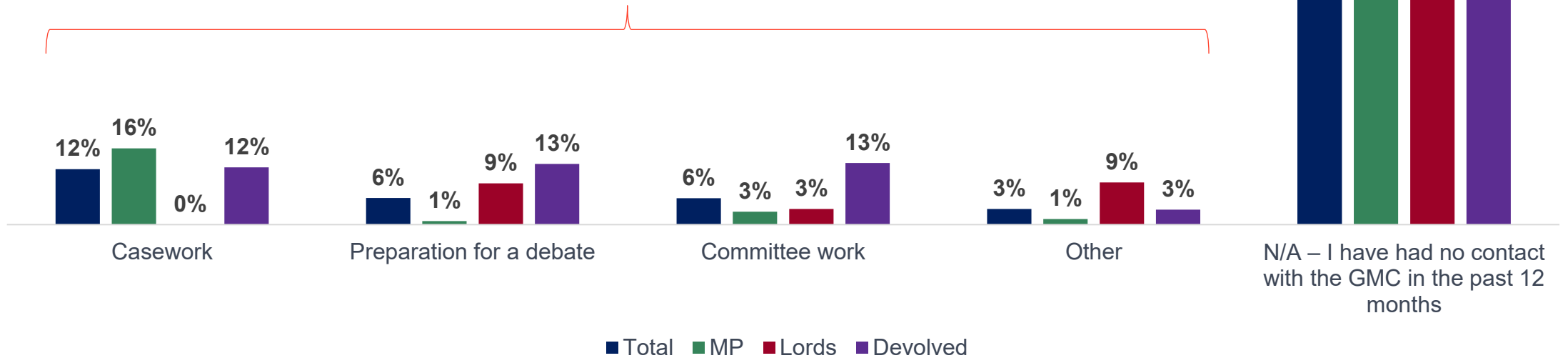
Reasons for contacting the GMC in the past 12 months

Net: Any contact = 23% (19% in 2024)

MPs = 20% (18% in 2024)

Lords = 15% (6% in 2024)

Devolved = 37% (35% in 2024)



gmc9. For which, if any, of the following reasons have you had contact with the GMC in the past 12 months (i.e. since January 2025)?

Base: All respondents (214); MPs (113), Lords (44), Devolved (57)

Casework remains the main reason for contact among most sub-groups, being highest among NI MPs and MLAs.

Reasons for contacting the GMC in the past 12 months

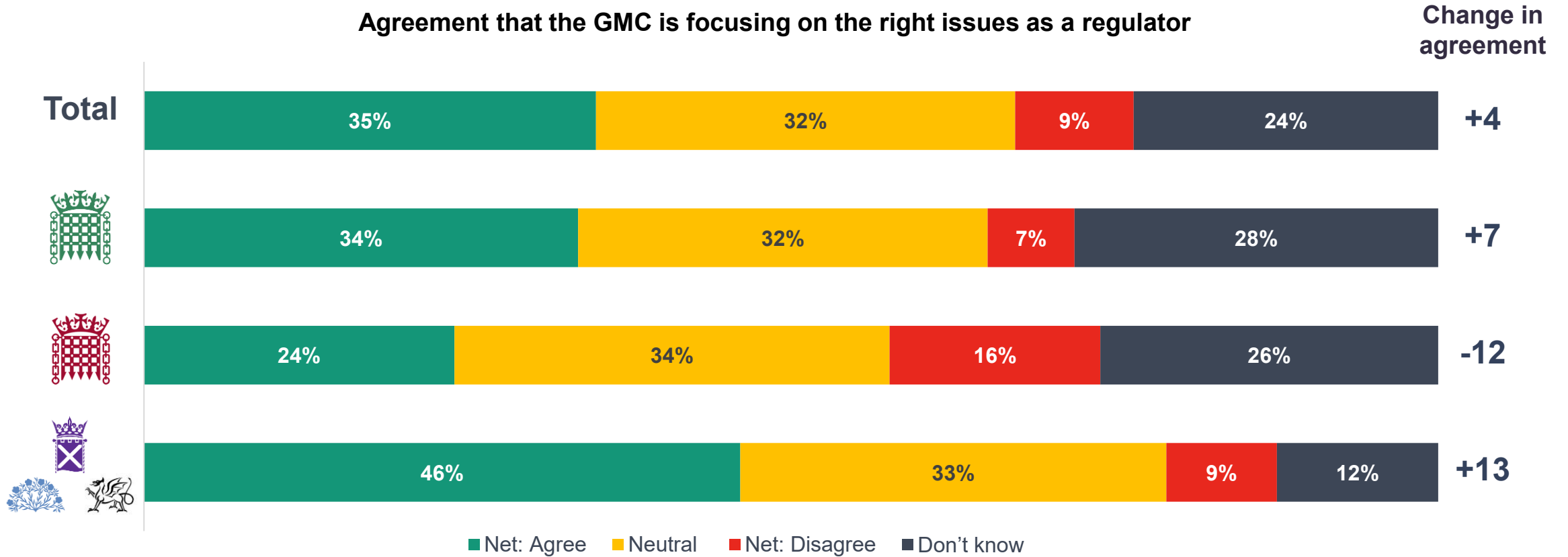
	Total	MPs	Lords	Devolved	MSP*	MS*	MLA	England MP	NI MP*	Wales MP*	Scotland MP*	Elected pre-2024	Elected 2024
Casework	12%	16%	-	12%	5%	8%	26%	15%	71%	-	23%	9%	22%
Preparation for a debate	6%	1%	9%	13%	18%	8%	9%	1%	-	-	-	-	1%
Committee work	6%	3%	3%	13%	14%	25%	4%	2%	-	29%	-	3%	3%
Other	3%	1%	9%	3%	-	8%	4%	1%	-	-	-	-	2%
N/A	77%	80%	86%	63%	68%	50%	65%	82%	29%	71%	77%	88%	73%

gmc9. For which, if any, of the following reasons have you had contact with the GMC in the past 12 months (i.e. since January 2025)?

Base: All respondents (214), MPs (113), Lords (44), Devolved (57), Members of Scottish Parliament (22), Members of the Senedd Cymru (12), Members of the Northern Ireland Assembly (23), Members of Parliament for England (94), Northern Ireland (3), Wales (5), Scotland (11)

Over a third of respondents agree the GMC is focusing on the right issues as a regulator, with low levels of disagreement.

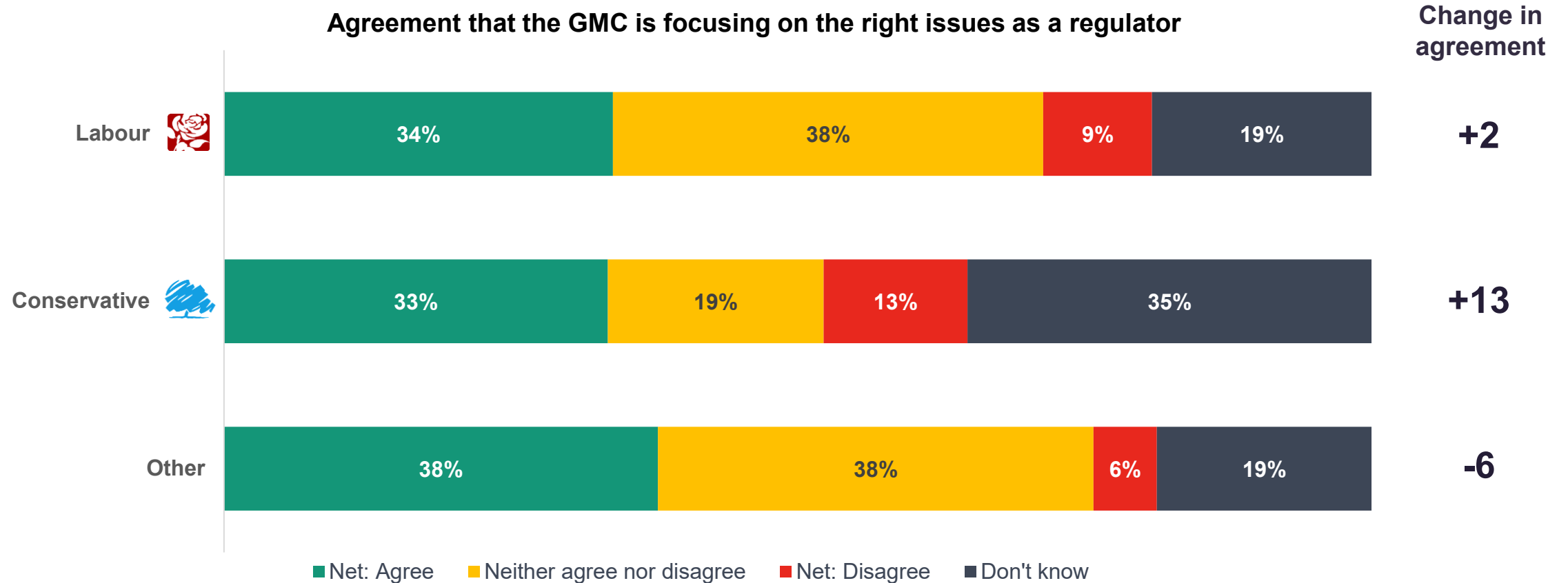
Agreement is highest among those in the Devolved legislatures, among whom there is a large increase in agreement when compared to 2024



gmc10. To what extent do you agree or disagree that the GMC is focusing on the right issues as a regulator?
 Base: All respondents (214); MPs (113), Lords (44), Devolved (57)

Agreement that the GMC is focused on the right issues as a regulator is around a third for all parties.

Those representing Other parties are most likely to agree



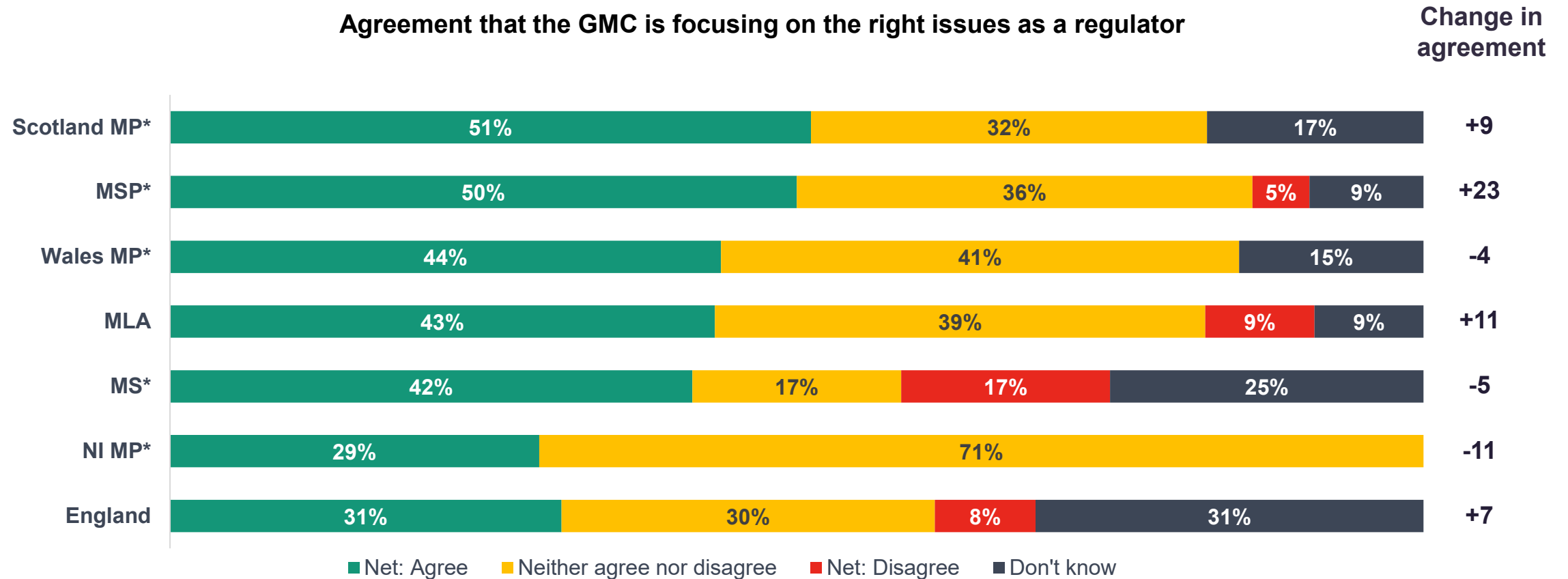
gmc10. To what extent do you agree or disagree that the GMC is focusing on the right issues as a regulator?

Base: All Labour (98), Conservatives (49), Other (67)

NB Numbers are made up of respondents from all political groups

Scottish MPs and MSPs are most likely to agree that the GMC is focusing on the right issues as a regulator, with both seeing strong increases in agreement.

This is followed by Welsh MPs

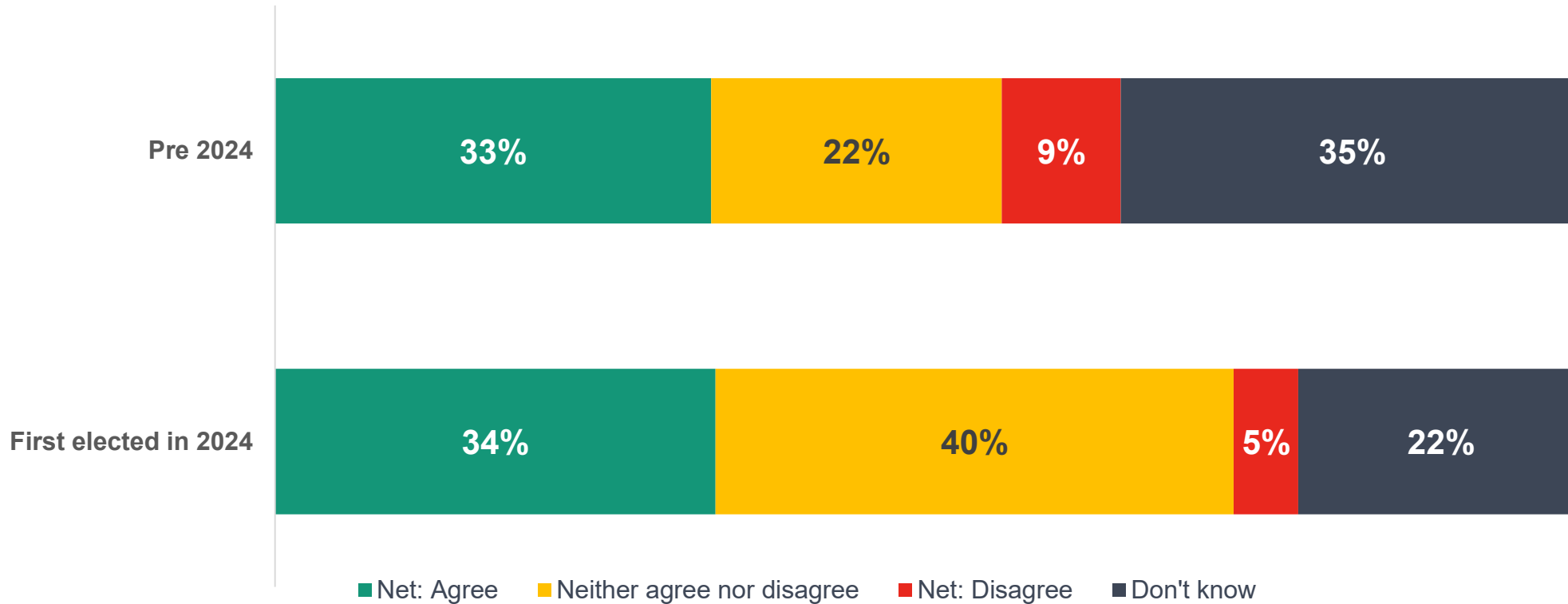


gmc10. To what extent do you agree or disagree that the GMC is focusing on the right issues as a regulator?

Base: All Members of Scottish Parliament (22), Members of the Senedd Cymru (12), Members of the Northern Ireland Assembly (23), Members of Parliament for England (94), Northern Ireland (3), Wales (5), Scotland (11)

A third of MPs agree that the GMC is focusing on the right issues as a regulator, regardless of year elected.

Agreement that the GMC is focusing on the right issues as a regulator



gmc10. To what extent do you agree or disagree that the GMC is focusing on the right issues as a regulator?
Base: All MPs elected prior to 2024 (28), MPs first elected in 2024 (75)

MPs emphasise the need for greater engagement and clearer communication about the GMC's role to strengthen its relationship with parliament over the next year.

How the relationship between parliament and the GMC could be improved over the next 12 months - MPs

“More awareness about what their role is and how they can engage with MPs and on behalf of our constituents.”

Conservative MP

“Drop-in sessions to explain in greater detail the work the GMC does and how they would want Parliamentarians to interact with the.”

Labour MP

“It would be good to understand more about the GMC's focus and priorities.”

Other MP

“More outreach in Parliament; more releases on the work of the GMC and issues arising.”

Conservative MP

“Stronger public affairs with MPs via email, post and engagement activities in Parliament .”

Labour MP

“More briefings and events being held, especially events that involve constituents (local ground-work).”

Labour MP

“Engagement and work to shorten the time from a complaint being launched to resolution.”

Other MP

“GMC could articulate its priorities more clearly and provide reassurance that it remains politically neutral.”

Conservative MP

gmc12. How do you feel that the relationship between parliament and the GMC could be improved over the next 12 months?

Base: All MPs (113)

Similar to MPs, Lords highlight the need for more open communications, greater transparency and clearer information about the GMC's role.

How the relationship between parliament and the GMC could be improved over the next 12 months - Lords

"Better briefings as to what they are doing, and less defensive when issues raised."

Labour Lord

"More opportunity for ongoing dialogue with MPs and Peers, particularly on workforce impact and patient safety."

Other Lord

"The GMC could brief Peers for debates or legislation."

Other Lord

"More publicity about its role with examples of its work."

Conservative Lord

"It would be helpful to parliamentarians to attend periodic round-tables hosted by the GMC and to have the opportunity to ask questions."

Conservative Lord

"More information for interested MPs and peers on the GMC's work, strengths and weaknesses."

Other Lord

"More information and the ability to have contact."

Labour Lord

"Greater clarity of the role and priorities of the GMC."

Labour Lord

gmc12. How do you feel that the relationship between parliament and the GMC could be improved over the next 12 months?

Base: All Lords (44)

The devolved legislatures show a similar story, citing need for more engagement and communication between themselves and the GMC.

How the relationship between devolved institutions and the GMC could be improved over the next 12 months

“More communication to NI Assembly on current activities and what key asks they have for the next mandate.”

Member of the Northern Ireland Assembly

“More direct and informal engagement in parliament at events or through exhibitions.”

Member of the Scottish Parliament

“My engagement is very limited with the GMC. I would suggest that is a good thing and reflects well on the profession it regulates.”

Member of the Northern Ireland Assembly

“Clearer communication and information about the GMC's responsibilities.”

Member of the Northern Ireland Assembly

“Briefings to Members of the Senedd and candidates on the work of the GMC in Wales in advance of elections.”

Member of Welsh Senedd

Better engagement and clear understanding of its role in Scotland.”

Member of the Scottish Parliament

They could make more of an effort to communicate better, tell us about issues they are dealing with-such as where have they had the most issues from (eg Cwm taf health board etc.)”

Member of Welsh Senedd

“Continued Communication with elected members and briefings to Health & Sport committee..”

Member of the Scottish Parliament

30 January 2026

General Medical Council Parliamentarians poll 2026

Conducted by YouGov on behalf of the GMC

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