

KANTAR

Prevalence of sextortion in Mauritius

Date: 7th March 2022



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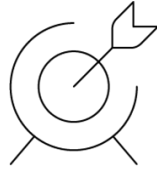
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Research objectives & methodology

The major aims of this study are to identify and assess the prevalence of sextortion in Mauritius.

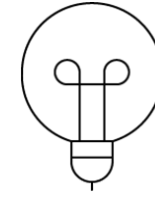
Objectives



2 main components are addressed in this report :

- Evaluate the level of acceptability with regards to different types of corruption and sextortion in Mauritius
- Assess the practice of corruption and sextortion across different sectors

Methodology



550 interviews were carried out among the Mauritian population ageing from 15-64 years old. Fieldwork was carried out from 15th February to 3rd March 2022.

Methodology used : CAWI (Web based questionnaire through a PANEL)

In order to ensure representativeness of the Mauritian demographics, the sample was reweighted on the following: CSP, Gender and District of residence.

Executive summary

Executive summary

1

Corruption is perceived as the 2nd most serious social problem in Mauritius. **Following the COVID crisis, the increase in cost of living has not gone unnoticed and is perceived as the main social issue in 2022.**

2

All forms of corruption be it in terms of money, gifts or sexual favors are perceived **as not acceptable by the majority. Asking for sexual favors are perceived as strongly inappropriate and unacceptable.** However, nearly 1 out of 10 Mauritians respectively tend to agree that recruitment based on family ties and influencing the recruitment of someone in public or private sector are acceptable.

3

Even though the act of sextortion is deemed as unacceptable, **the practice of sextortion is perceived to be very common in both private and public sectors.** On average, **39% of Mauritians are of the opinion that sextortion is present in the public sector. 47% believe that it is a common practice to facilitate promotions. Similarly, 38% think that sextortion are practiced in private companies** to ease promotion, to obtain a raise in salary, to ease recruitment of new candidate and to influence the awarding of a contract.

Executive summary

4

There is rather a strong perception that sextortion are practiced within the political fields (higher as compared to perception within the public and private sectors . On average **51% of the population are of the opinion that sextortion is common within the political field**

5

Sextortion is perceived to be less present in the educational sector as compared to public/private sectors and within the political field. On average **23% believe that it is a common practice that both teachers and students propose sexual favors in exchange for benefits**. Similarly, **26% of the population think that sextortion are also practiced by police officers** (either asking or being offered sexual favors to avoid fine, prison or to protect someone or oneself).

6

The practice of sextortion is perceived to be rather common among Mauritians. **Nearly one of two believed that some Mauritians propose sexual favors to a get a job in public service, to get a salary increase and to ease administrative procedures**. The perception of proposing money, gifts or sexual favors in exchange for benefits by Mauritian population are noted to be more pronounced among private employees

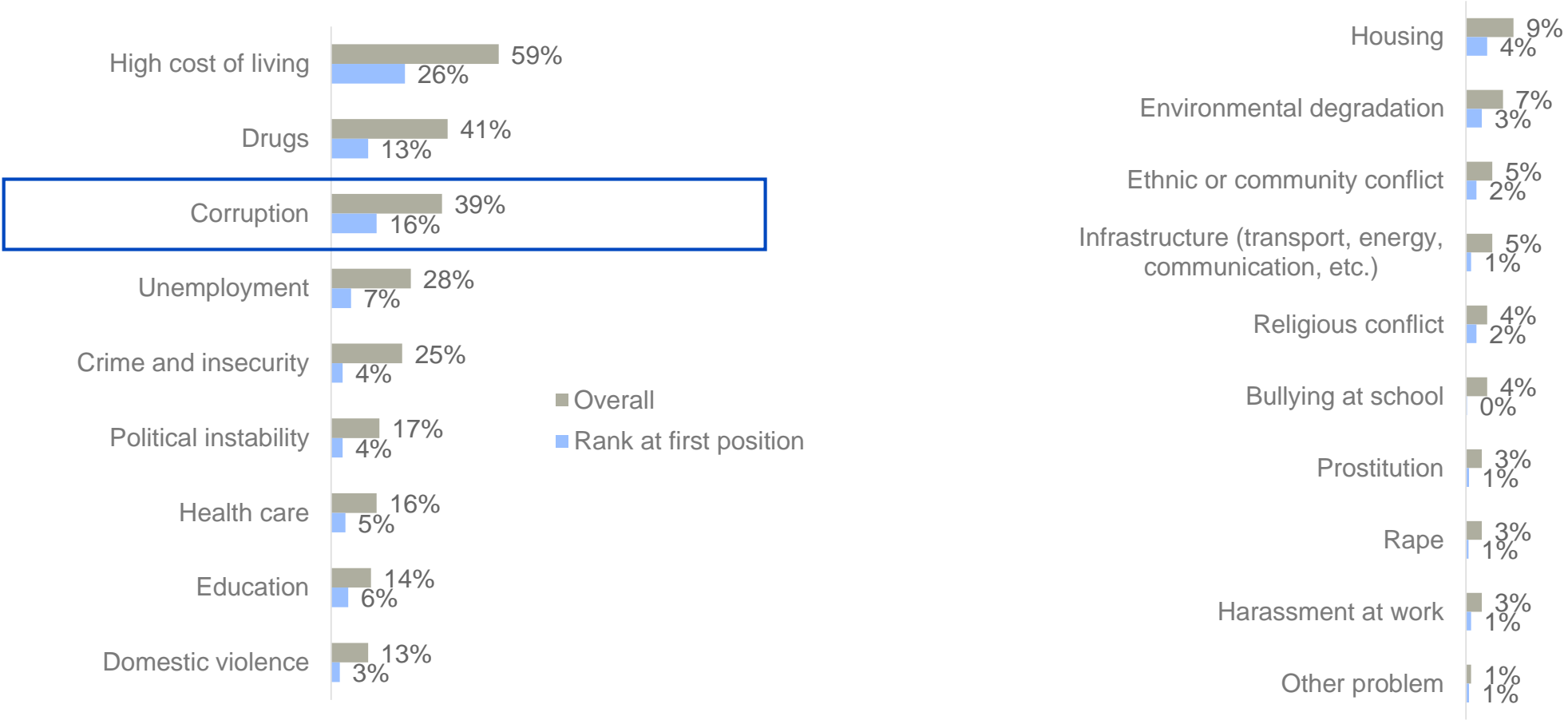
7

5% of the interviewed sample have ever been asked for sexual favors in exchange for benefits. Nearly all of them declared that they have refused and reported the case. 1 % of the sample declared that they have ever proposed sexual favors in exchange of benefits.

Perception of corruption and sextortion in Mauritius

The increase in cost of living is noted to be the main concern of Mauritians. The scourge of drug and corruption are equally perceived to also affect the Mauritian’s society.

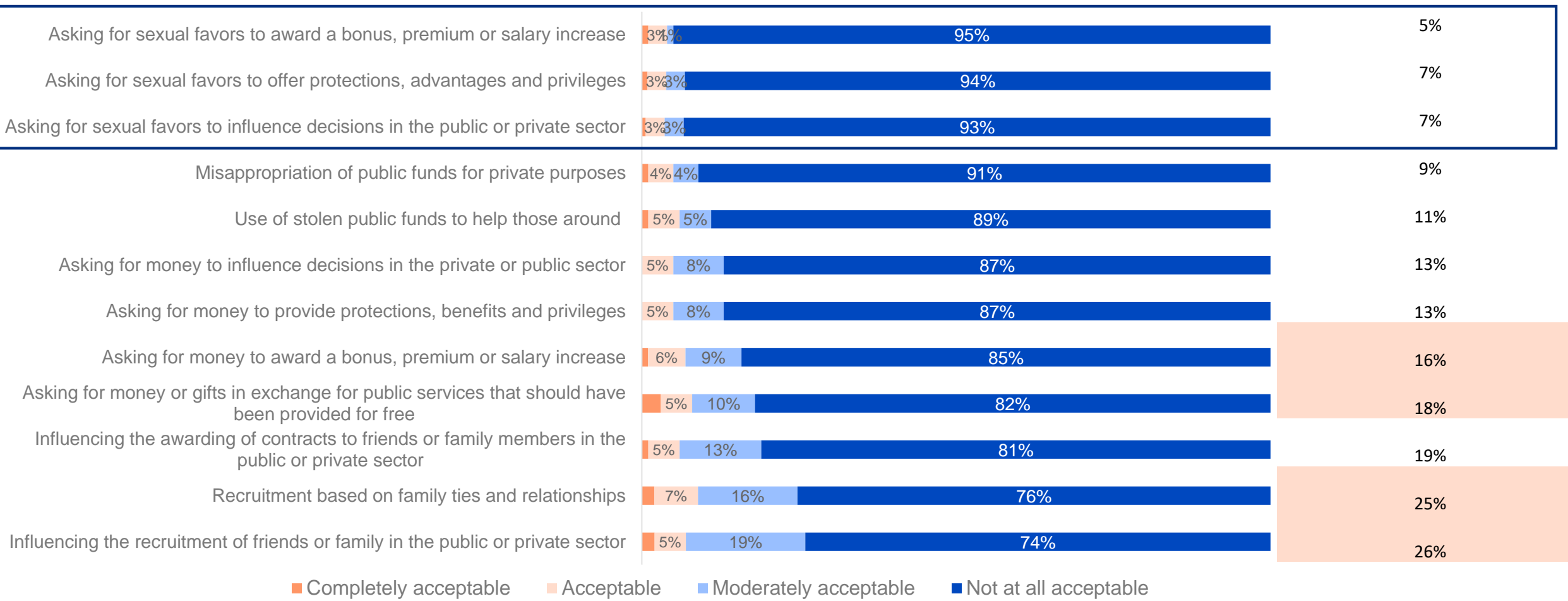
Awareness of social problems in Mauritius - % respondents



All forms of corruption be it in terms of money, gifts or sexual favors are perceived **as not acceptable** by the majority. **Asking for sexual favors are perceived as strongly inappropriate and unacceptable.**

Perceived as acceptable
(completely acceptable + acceptable
+moderately acceptable)

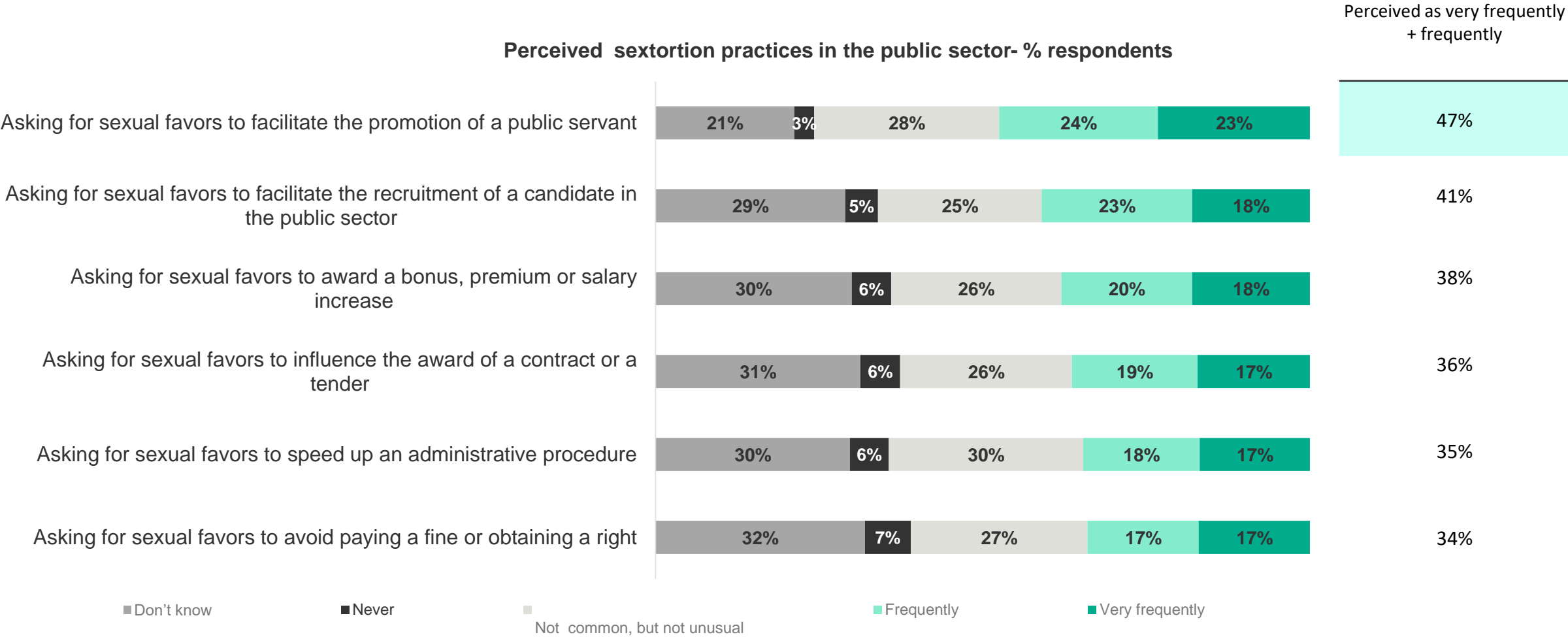
Level of acceptability - % respondents



■ Completely acceptable
 ■ Acceptable
 ■ Moderately acceptable
 ■ Not at all acceptable

Perception of corruption and sextortion practiced in public sector

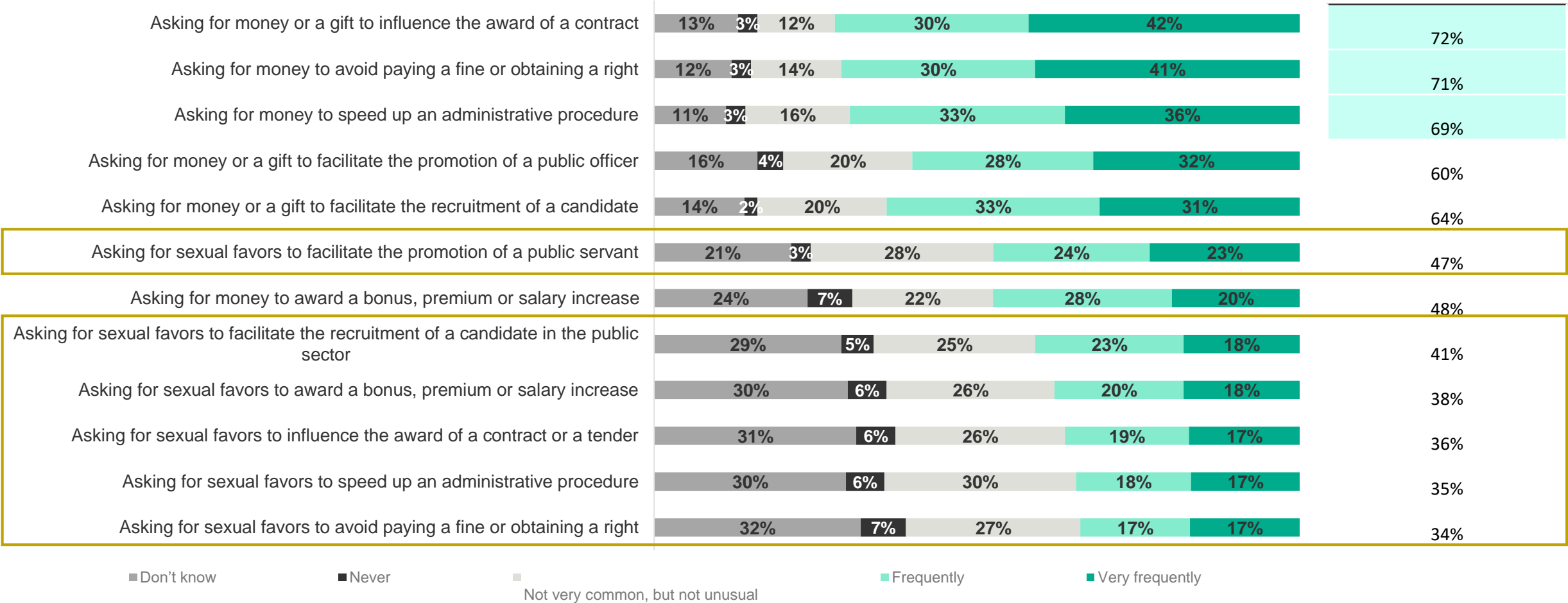
3 to 5 Mauritians out of 10 are of the opinion that the practice of sextortion is rather common in the public sector. Nearly 1 out of 2 Mauritians believe that it is a common practice to facilitate promotions.



As compared to other forms of corruptions , monetary/ gift bribery are perceived to be the most common practice in the public sector.

Perceived practices in the public sector- % respondents

Perceived as very frequently + frequently



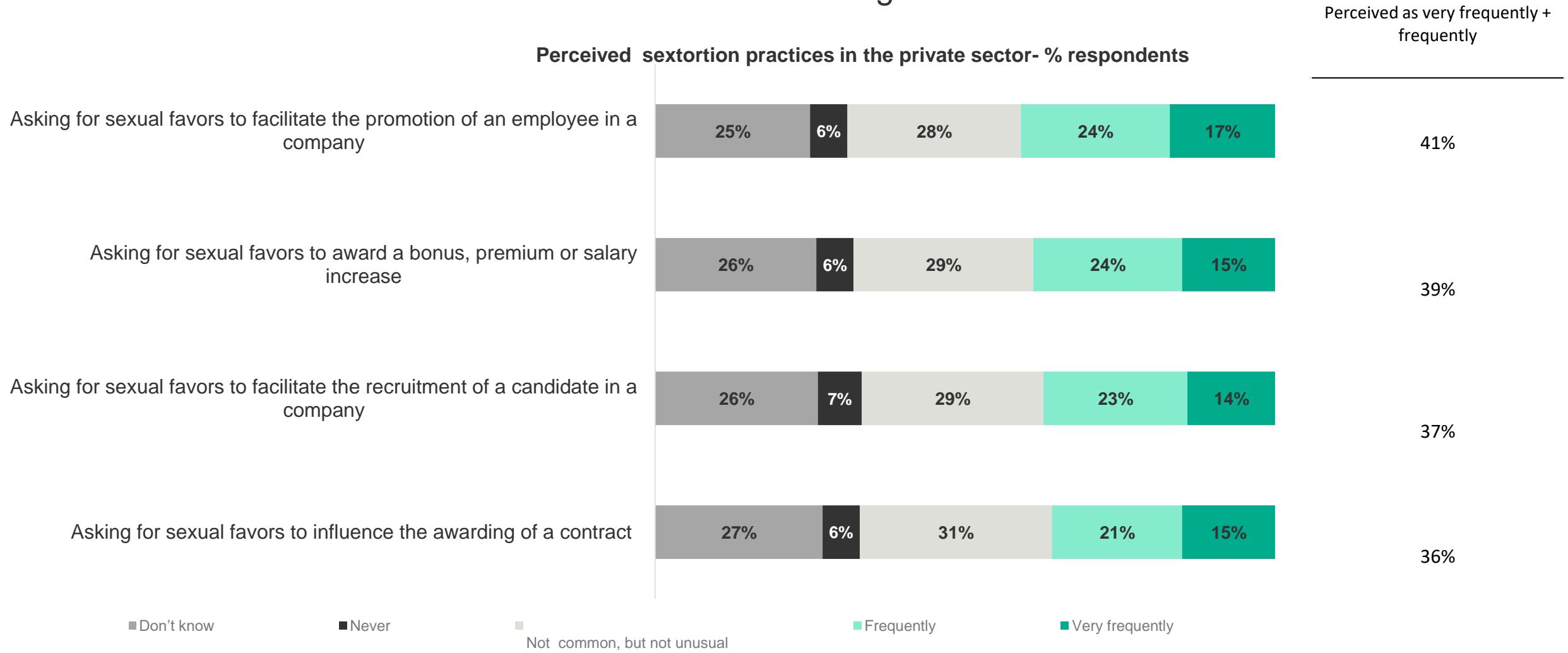
The perception of asking money, gifts or sexual favors in exchange for benefits within the public sector are noted to be more pronounced among private employees and those aged between 35-44 years old.

Perceived practices in public sector as very frequently + frequently among profile of respondents

	Female	Male	ABC1	C2DE	15-34	35-44	45-64	Civil servants	Private employees	Overall
Asking for money or a gift to influence the award of a contract	72%	73%	76%	69%	65%	75%	80%	58%	79%	72%
Asking for money to avoid paying a fine or obtaining a right	74%	69%	71%	72%	67%	72%	77%	52%	77%	71%
Asking for money to speed up an administrative procedure	70%	70%	70%	69%	65%	74%	72%	46%	79%	69%
Asking for money or a gift to facilitate the recruitment of a candidate	67%	61%	63%	65%	59%	73%	65%	44%	70%	64%
Asking for money or a gift to facilitate the promotion of a public officer	63%	57%	57%	63%	58%	66%	58%	38%	66%	60%
Asking for money to award a bonus, premium or salary increase	47%	48%	45%	50%	47%	48%	46%	26%	51%	48%
Asking for sexual favors to facilitate the promotion of a public servant	47%	48%	43%	53%	46%	52%	46%	26%	53%	47%
Asking for sexual favors to facilitate the recruitment of a candidate in the public sector	41%	40%	38%	43%	41%	43%	37%	19%	46%	41%
Asking for sexual favors to award a bonus, premium or salary increase	37%	38%	37%	40%	40%	42%	33%	18%	44%	38%
Asking for sexual favors to influence the award of a contract or a tender	36%	38%	34%	40%	38%	41%	34%	19%	44%	36%
Asking for sexual favors to speed up an administrative procedure	33%	35%	31%	37%	34%	38%	33%	14%	39%	35%
Asking for sexual favors to avoid paying a fine or obtaining a right	32%	36%	33%	35%	35%	35%	31%	24%	37%	34%

Perception of corruption and sextortion practiced in private sector

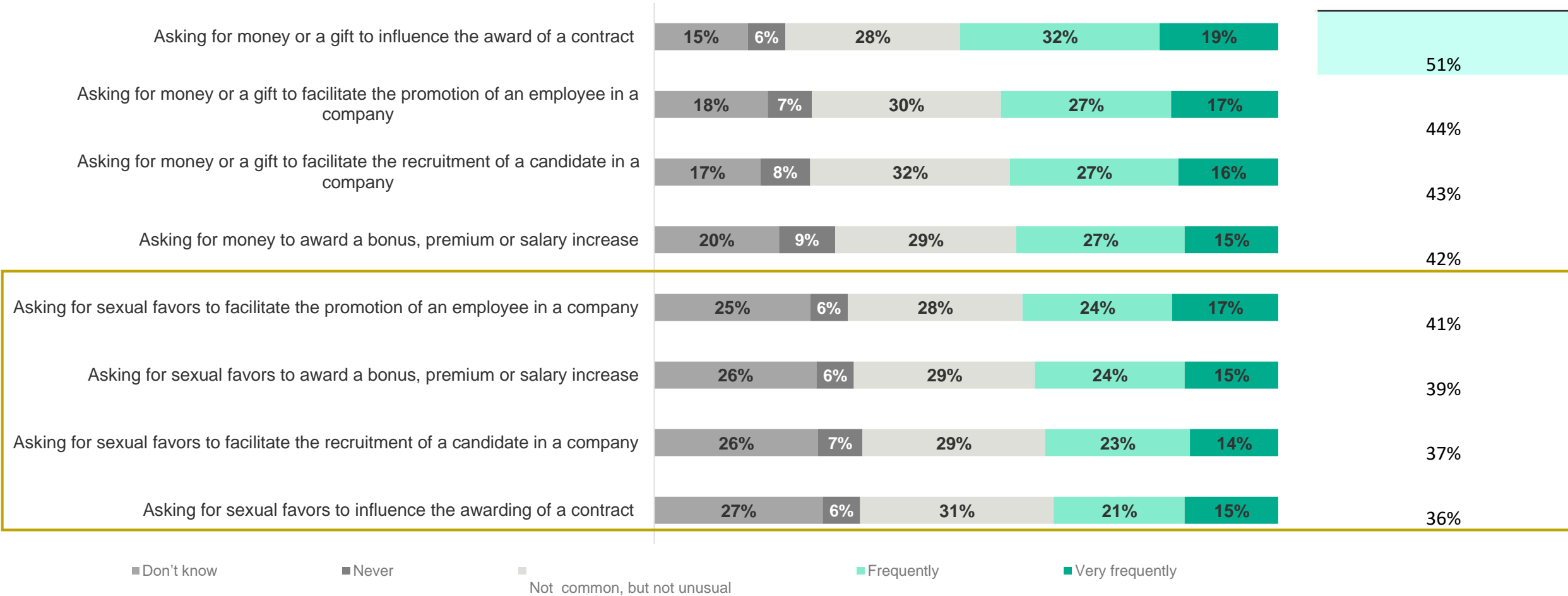
It seems that sextortion is a common practice in private sector as well. 3 to 4 Mauritian out of 10 think that sextortion are practiced in private companies to ease promotion, to obtain a raise in salary, to ease recruitment of new candidate and to influence the awarding of a contract.



Even though sextortion is perceived to be common in private companies, ‘asking money or gift to influence the award of a contract’ is perceived as the most common form of corruption practiced in private sector.

Perceived practices in the private sector- % respondents

Perceived as very frequently + frequently



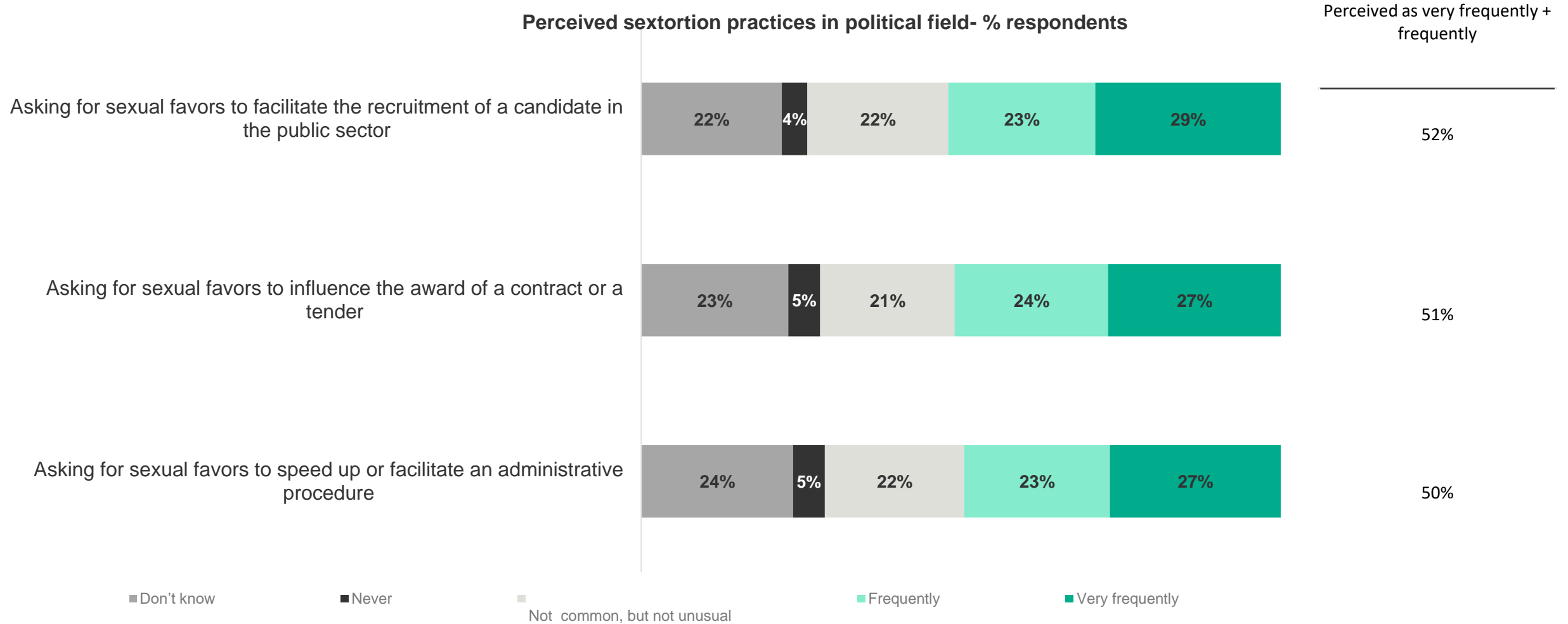
The perception of corruption by asking money or gifts to influence the award of a contract or to facilitate the promotion of an employee in a private company are seen to be more pronounced among those aged 45-64 years. On the other hand, C2DE (lower middle and lower class) respondents are overrepresented among those who believe that the practice of asking money/gift to ease recruitment or to obtain salary increase as familiar in private companies.

Perceived practices in private sector as very frequently + frequently among profile of respondents

	Female	Male	ABC1	C2DE	15-34	35-44	45-64	Civil servants	Private employees	Overall
Asking for money or a gift to influence the award of a contract	49%	53%	47%	54%	43%	47%	61%	52%	49%	51%
Asking for money or a gift to facilitate the promotion of an employee in a company	44%	45%	42%	47%	43%	41%	49%	44%	43%	44%
Asking for money or a gift to facilitate the recruitment of a candidate in a company	40%	45%	38%	49%	42%	40%	45%	42%	42%	43%
Asking for money to award a bonus, premium or salary increase	40%	44%	37%	47%	40%	38%	45%	38%	40%	42%
Asking for sexual favors to facilitate the promotion of an employee in a company	38%	43%	38%	42%	39%	41%	42%	40%	41%	41%
Asking for sexual favors to award a bonus, premium or salary increase	36%	42%	37%	41%	38%	35%	42%	31%	41%	39%
Asking for sexual favors to facilitate the recruitment of a candidate in a company	34%	42%	37%	39%	36%	37%	41%	37%	39%	37%
Asking for sexual favors to influence the awarding of a contract	35%	37%	32%	39%	35%	34%	38%	30%	37%	36%

Perception of corruption and sextortion practiced in political field

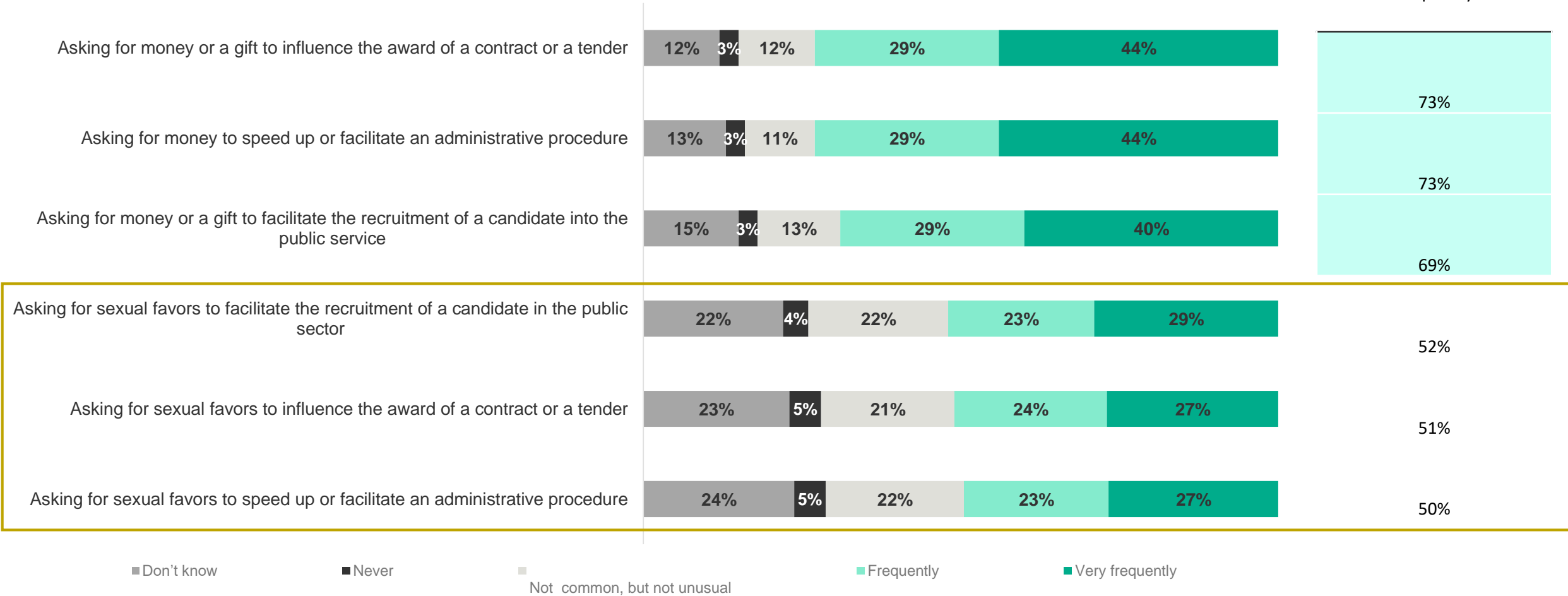
The perception of sextortion practices within the political field are noted to be higher as compared to public and private sectors. One of two Mauritians are of the opinion that sextortion is common within the political field.



Similarly to public and private sectors, monetary/ gifts bribery are perceived to be the most common practice within the political field.

Perceived practices in political field- % respondents

Perceived as very frequently + frequently



Those aged between 45-64, are mostly those who think that asking for money or gift to influence the award of a contract/tender or to speed up administrative procedures are common within the political field. The perception of sextortion practices to ease recruitment of a candidate in the public sector by political officers is seen to be more pronounced by those aged between 35-44 years old.

Perceived practices in political field as very frequently + frequently among profile of respondents

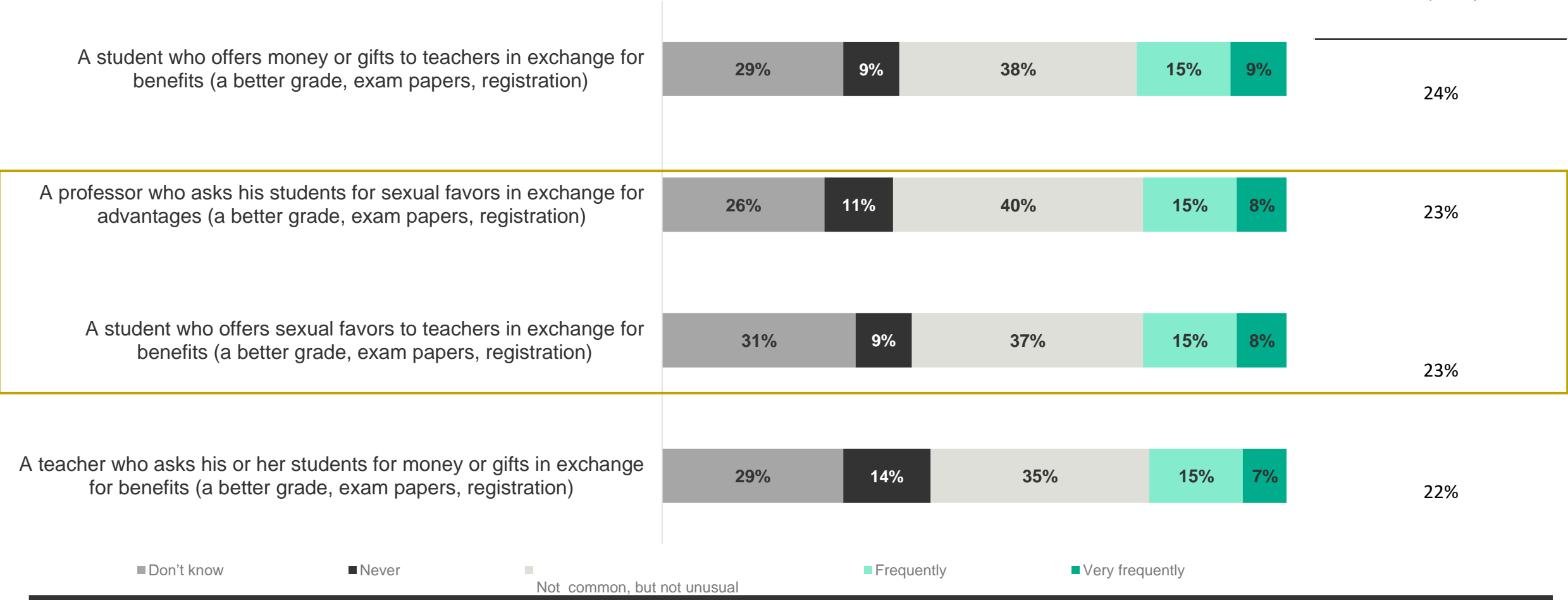
	Female	Male	ABC1	C2DE	15-34	35-44	45-64	Civil servants	Private employees	Overall
Asking for money or a gift to influence the award of a contract or a tender	74%	71%	74%	71%	64%	76%	80%	65%	75%	73%
Asking for money to speed up or facilitate an administrative procedure	74%	72%	75%	72%	66%	75%	82%	61%	76%	73%
Asking for money or a gift to facilitate the recruitment of a candidate into the public service	69%	69%	70%	68%	61%	71%	78%	60%	72%	69%
Asking for sexual favors to facilitate the recruitment of a candidate in the public sector	52%	52%	55%	50%	49%	58%	54%	44%	56%	52%
Asking for sexual favors to influence the award of a contract or a tender	52%	48%	52%	48%	47%	54%	51%	44%	54%	51%
Asking for sexual favors to speed up or facilitate an administrative procedure	51%	49%	51%	48%	47%	53%	51%	42%	53%	50%

Perception of corruption and sextortion practices across different sector of activities

Sextortion is perceived to be less present in the educational sector as compared to public/private sectors and within the political field. One out of five Mauritians believe that both teachers and students propose sexual favors in exchange for benefits.

Perceived sextortion practices across the educational sector- % respondents

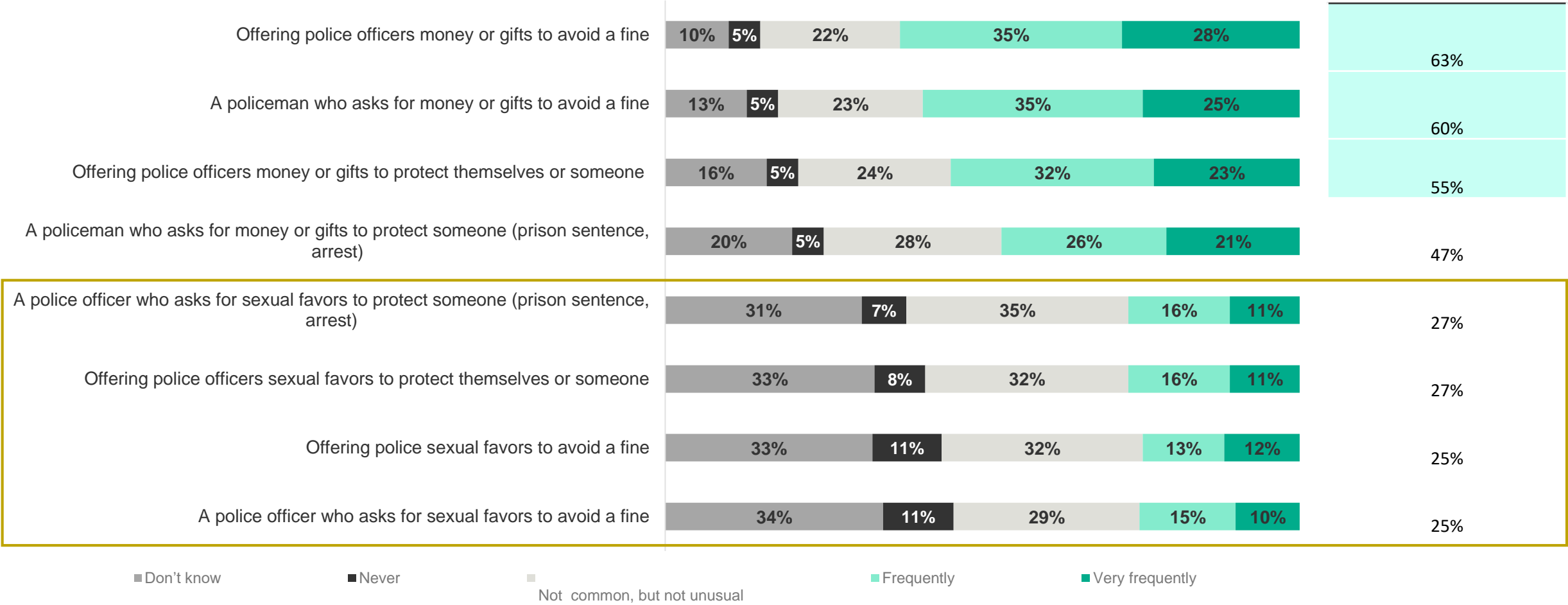
Perceived as very frequently + frequently



Money or gift corruptions to avoid fine or protect someone are perceived to be most common form of bribery practiced by police officers. However, 2 to 3 Mauritians believe that sextortion is a common practice among police officers.

Perceived practices among police officers- % respondents

Perceived as very frequently + frequently

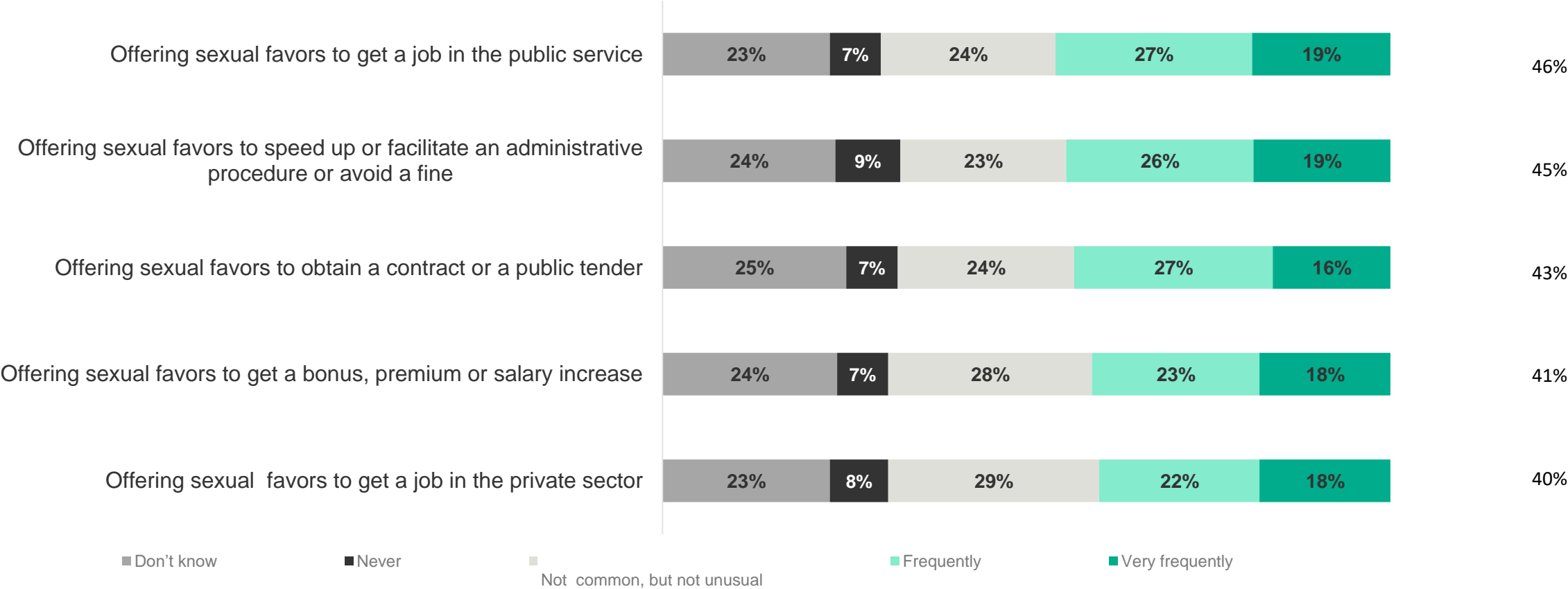


Perception of corruption and sextortion practiced by Mauritians

The practice of sextortion is perceived to be rather common among the Mauritians. Nearly one of two believed that some Mauritians propose sexual favors to a get a job in public service, to get a salary increase and to ease administrative procedures.

Perceived sextortion practices among the Mauritian’s population- % respondents

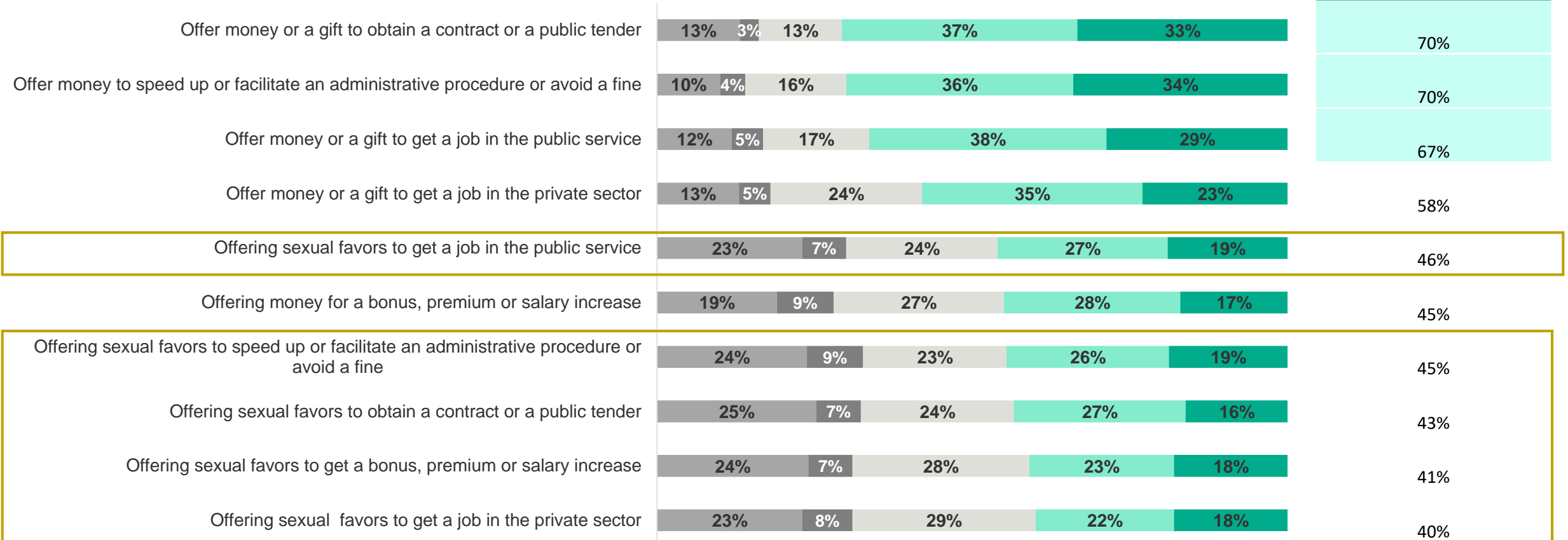
Perceived as very frequently + frequently



There is a higher perception that Mauritians propose money or gifts to obtain benefits rather than proposing sexual favors.

Perceived practices among the Mauritian's population- % respondents

Perceived as very frequently + frequently



■ Don't know ■ Never ■ Not common, but not unusual ■ Frequently ■ Very frequently

The perception of proposing money, gifts or sexual favors in exchange for benefits by Mauritian population are noted to be more pronounced among private employees.

Perceived practices among the Mauritian's population as very frequently + frequently among profile of respondents

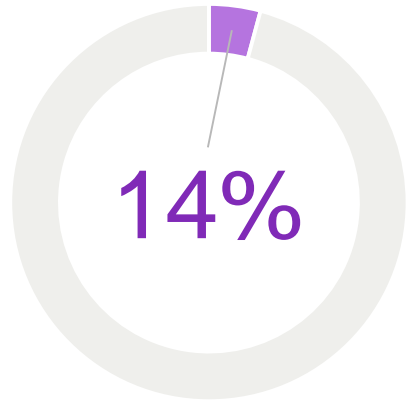
	Female	Male	ABC1	C2DE	15-34	35-44	45-64	Civil servants	Private employees	Overall
Offer money or a gift to obtain a contract or a public tender	68%	73%	73%	68%	60%	76%	80%	61%	75%	70%
Offer money to speed up or facilitate an administrative procedure or avoid a fine	69%	72%	74%	68%	61%	76%	79%	56%	77%	70%
Offer money or a gift to get a job in the public service	66%	68%	68%	65%	57%	72%	75%	54%	70%	67%
Offer money or a gift to get a job in the private sector	60%	57%	55%	62%	52%	60%	66%	51%	58%	58%
Offering sexual favors to get a job in the public service	48%	44%	43%	48%	45%	47%	47%	33%	51%	46%
Offering money for a bonus, premium or salary increase	43%	47%	43%	47%	45%	48%	44%	32%	49%	45%
Offering sexual favors to speed up or facilitate an administrative procedure or avoid a fine	44%	46%	43%	47%	46%	41%	46%	39%	48%	45%
Offering sexual favors to obtain a contract or a public tender	45%	43%	40%	48%	44%	44%	44%	33%	48%	43%
Offering sexual favors to get a bonus, premium or salary increase	38%	43%	38%	42%	41%	37%	41%	30%	46%	41%
Offering sexual favors to get a job in the private sector	40%	40%	37%	44%	38%	39%	42%	33%	45%	40%

 Significant results

Market penetration : those involved in proposing or who have been victim of corruption or sextortion

14% of the respondents have declared that they have ever given money or gifts to some to obtain some favors

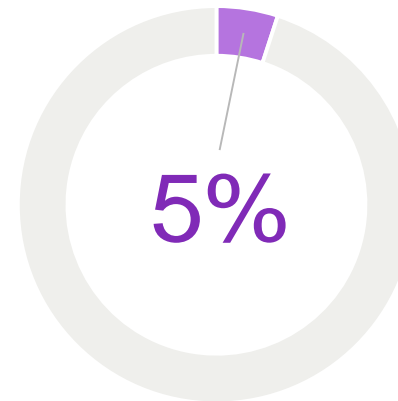
% of respondents who have ever given money or gifts to obtain some favors



Of Mauritians have ever given bribe to obtain some favors. They are seen to be more pronounced among the upper class (AB) and those aged 45-65 years old.

Sample – 550

% of respondents who have given money or gifts to obtain some favors during the last 12 months

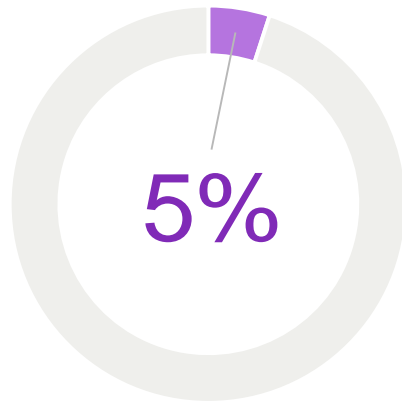


Of Mauritians have given bribe to obtain some favors during the last 12 months.

Sample – 550

5% of the interviewed sample have ever been approached for sexual favors in exchange for benefits. Nearly all of them declared that they have refused and reported the case.

% respondents who have been asked for sexual favors

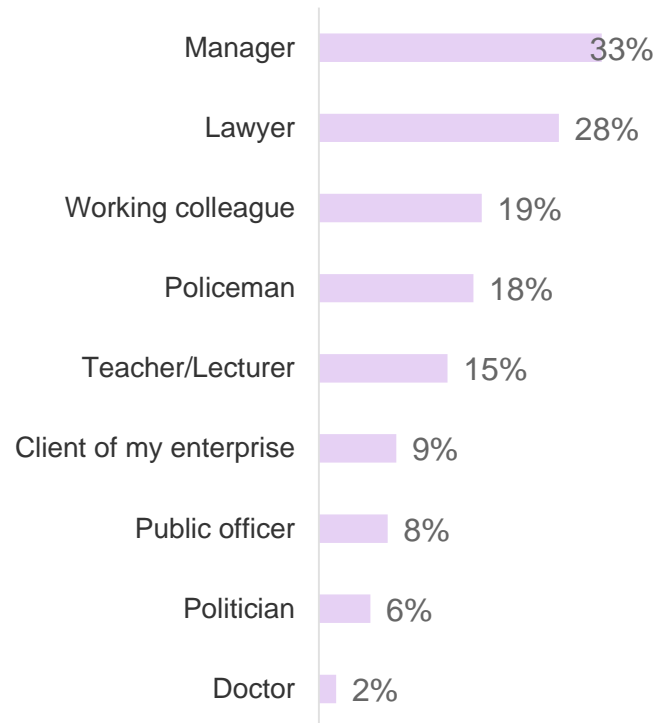


Of Mauricians have ever been asked for sexual favors in exchange for benefits.

Sample is too small to provide further details about profile.

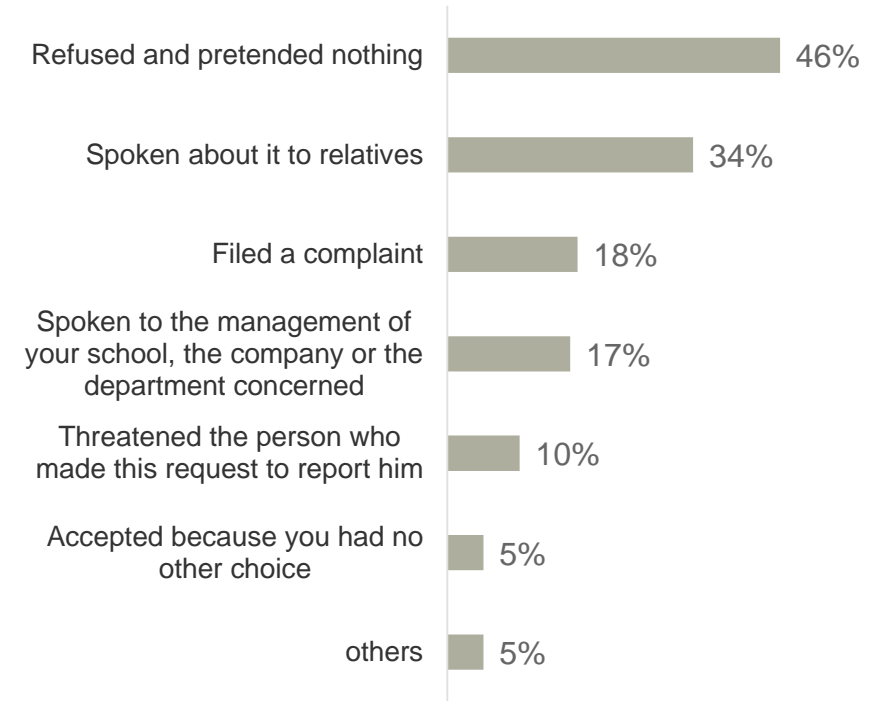
Sample – 550

Profession of the person asking for sexual favors - % respondents



Sample – 26: cautionary note, sample is too small to generalize results.

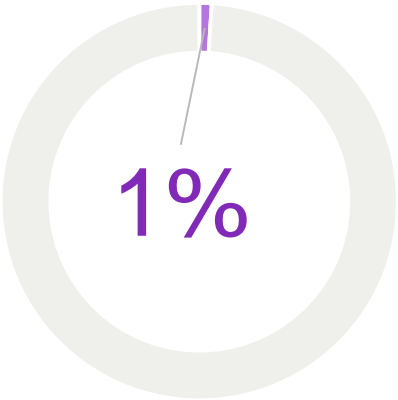
Actions taken by victims- % respondents



Sample – 26: cautionary note, sample is too small to generalize results.

1% of the sample declared that they have ever proposed sexual favors in exchange of benefits.

% of respondents who have ever proposed sexual favors in exchange for benefits



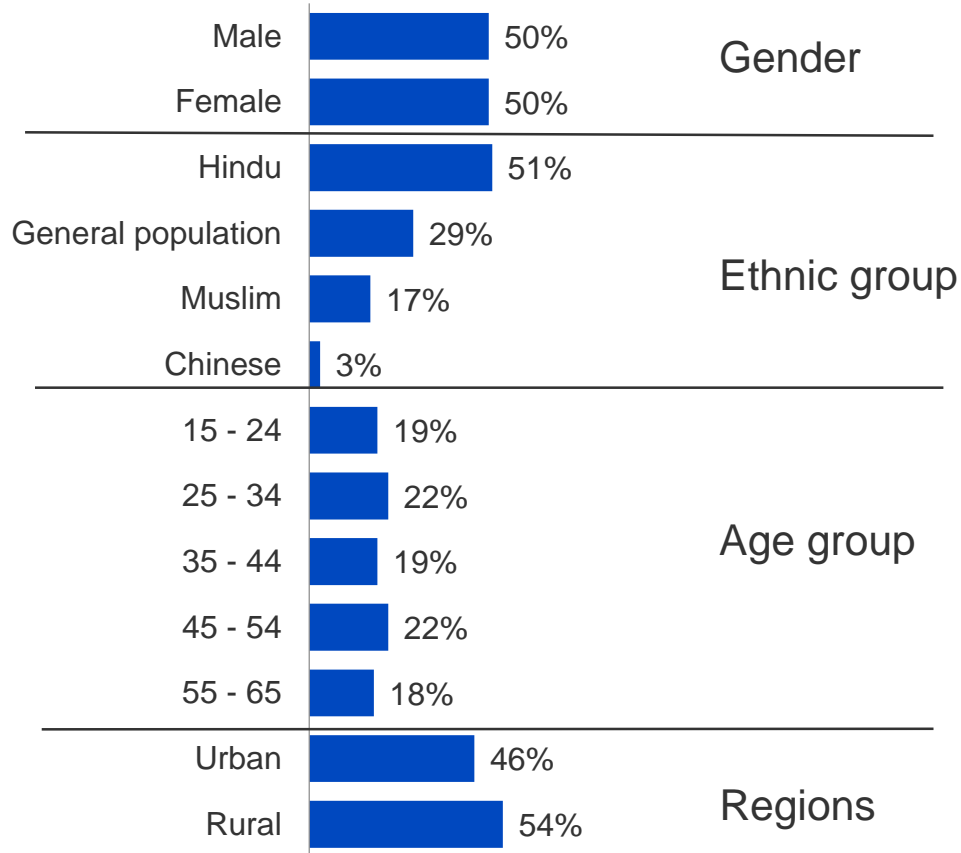
Of Mauritians have ever proposed sexual favors to obtain some benefits.

Sample – 550

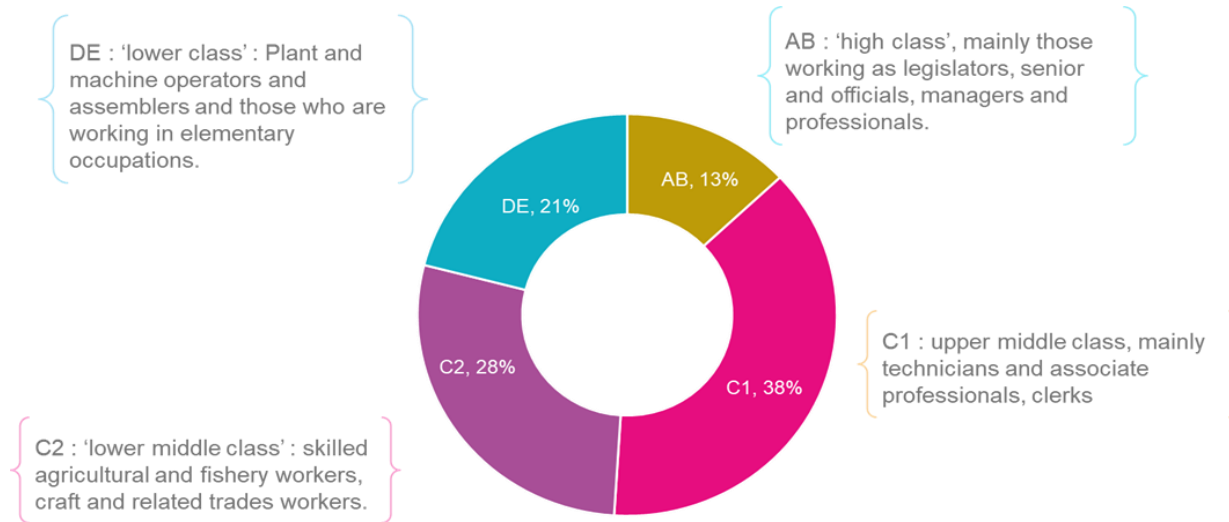
Appendix

Sample distribution

Rewighted Sample – Nationally representative



Socio economic profile



Analysis across profile : No significant correlation between acceptability of statements and profile of respondents

Perceived as completely acceptable + acceptable - % respondents

	Female	Male	ABC1	C2DE	15-34	35-44	45-65	Overall
Recruitment based on family ties and relationships	8%	9%	8%	9%	11%	4%	9%	9%
Asking for money or gifts in exchange for public services that should have been provided for free	6%	9%	7%	8%	7%	5%	9%	8%
Influencing the recruitment of friends or family in the public or private sector	7%	7%	6%	7%	9%	5%	6%	7%
Asking for money to award a bonus, premium or salary increase	6%	7%	5%	8%	8%	5%	6%	7%
Use of stolen public funds to help those around	6%	6%	5%	8%	9%	5%	5%	6%
Influencing the awarding of contracts to friends or family members in the public or private sector	6%	6%	4%	8%	8%	5%	4%	6%
Asking for money to influence decisions in the private or public sector	6%	6%	3%	7%	8%	2%	5%	5%
Asking for money to provide protections, benefits and privileges	5%	4%	4%	6%	7%	3%	3%	5%
Misappropriation of public funds for private purposes	6%	5%	4%	7%	7%	2%	5%	5%
Asking for sexual favors to award a bonus, premium or salary increase	3%	4%	1%	5%	4%	1%	5%	4%
Asking for sexual favors to offer protections, advantages and privileges	3%	4%	2%	5%	5%	1%	3%	4%
Asking for sexual favors to influence decisions in the public or private sector	2%	5%	2%	5%	5%	2%	5%	4%

Thank you

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