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# Poll of Romanians

prepared for



**March-April, 2013**

**Editorial note from BBC:** *When looking at the detailed tables that accompany these polls, it is important to look not just at the percentages but at the total number of respondents who answer each question. At times this number will comprise the entire sample, a large figure that has been designed to reflect the views of the entire population. However, at other times, the number of people responding to individual questions may be as low as 20 and certainly fewer than 100. The margin of error increases significantly as the number of people answering any question diminishes.*

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# Methodology

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The main **goal** of the presented research project is to investigate and to identify the **potential migration of the Romanian workforce to UK** at the time the work restrictions end for them, at the end of this year, 2013.

- ✓ **Location:** Romania.
- ✓ **Population:** women and men aged 18-60 years, living in Romania.
- ✓ **Sample size:** 1101 persons.
- ✓ **Sample type:** Multistage, stratified, probability sample.
- ✓ **Representative:** the sample is national representative sample (urban and rural), with a maximum sampling error of  $\pm 3\%$  associated with a 95% level of confidence.
- ✓ **Methodology:** In home “**face to face**” interview methodology.
- ✓ **Interview instrument:** standard questionnaire administered by Gallup’s trained interviewers.
- ✓ **Data collection between:** March 21st – April 2nd, 2013.

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# **General Intentions Regard Going to Work in an EU Country**

# General trends

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For the past five years, about one third of the Romanians, aged 18-60 years old, have been interested in working in another country, member of the European Union.

In terms of going to work in European Union countries, Romanians' focus is reduced to few countries, maybe due to their previous experiences after 90s. Once they tested life and working conditions in multiple destinations, Romanians decided mainly to 4 countries (Italy, Germany, UK and Spain). When making these decisions, they may have been greatly influenced by the workforce demand, the facility to learn the destination country's language, the friends, relatives or acquaintances who already worked in the respective country, the laws and tolerance at site.

Almost three quarters of the surveyed say they know someone who works in the European Union, and half of the respondents have relatives working in the European Union. Currently approx. a quarter of the respondents declared they are willing to go to work in another country member of the European Union, 14% have already started seeking for a job in the above-mentioned area, while 9% of them are now preparing to leave the country in order to work abroad. Nearly 2 out of 10 people mentioned they worked in an European Union country in the past, the favourite destinations being the two Latin-speaking countries: Italy and Spain.

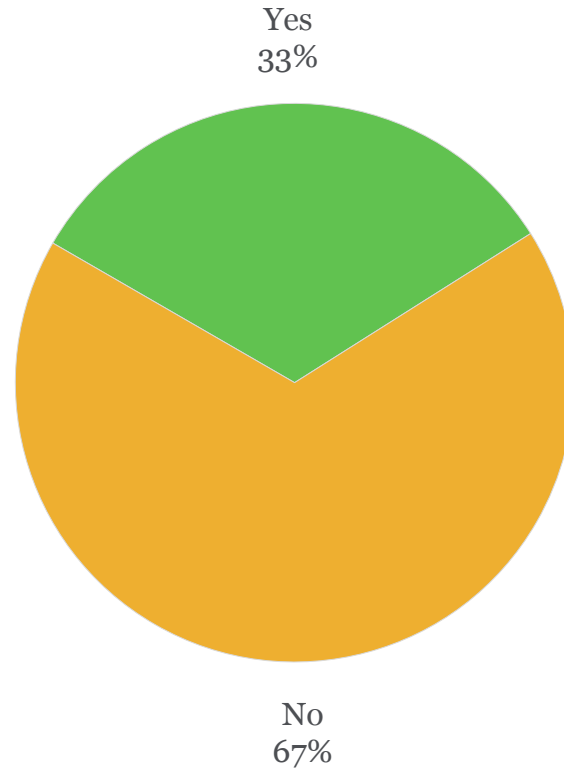
18% of the respondents are willing to go to work in 2013 and if they fail, they consider the year 2014 for this, too. The unique and separated intention to go to work in 2014 in other European Union country is present only among 7% of the surveyed Romanians. The same focus is revealed for the four already mentioned countries, but it seems that in 2014, compared with the general trend – where 2013 is included - there is a higher percentage of people turning to UK instead of other countries like Italy, Germany, Spain and France.

The analysis of the entire population reveals that only approx. 5% of the Romanians spontaneously mention that they intend to go to work in the UK in 2013 and / or 2014. The number of those who intend to go to work in 2013 is slightly higher than the number of the people who want to go to work in 2014.

# Last 5-year intention to move to another country, member of EU

Q1. In the last 5 years, have you considered moving to live and work in another country member of the EU?

Base: total sample, N=1101

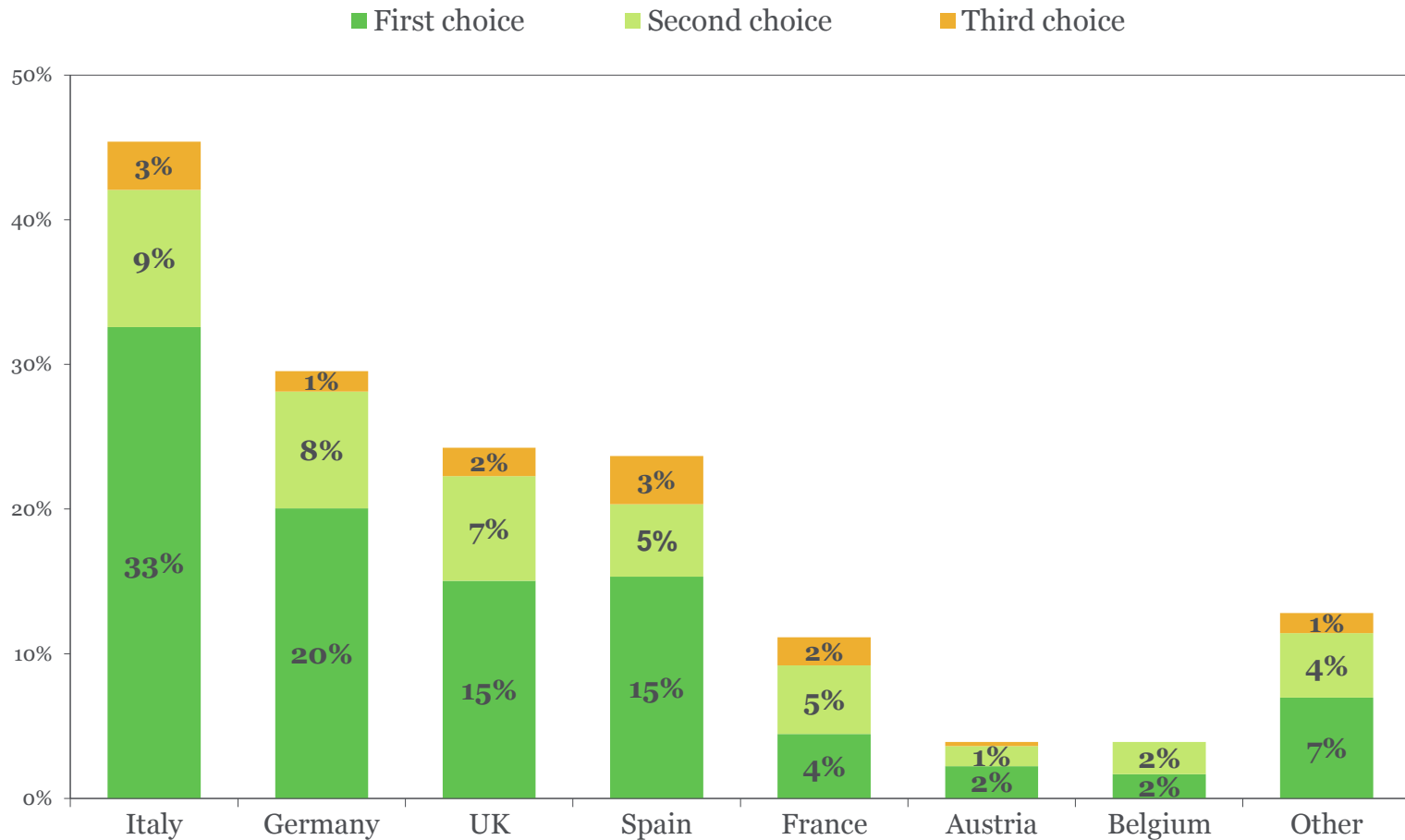


# EU countries considered for moving in the last 5 years

Q2. What EU countries?

If you have more variants, please rank them based on the importance you have accorded.

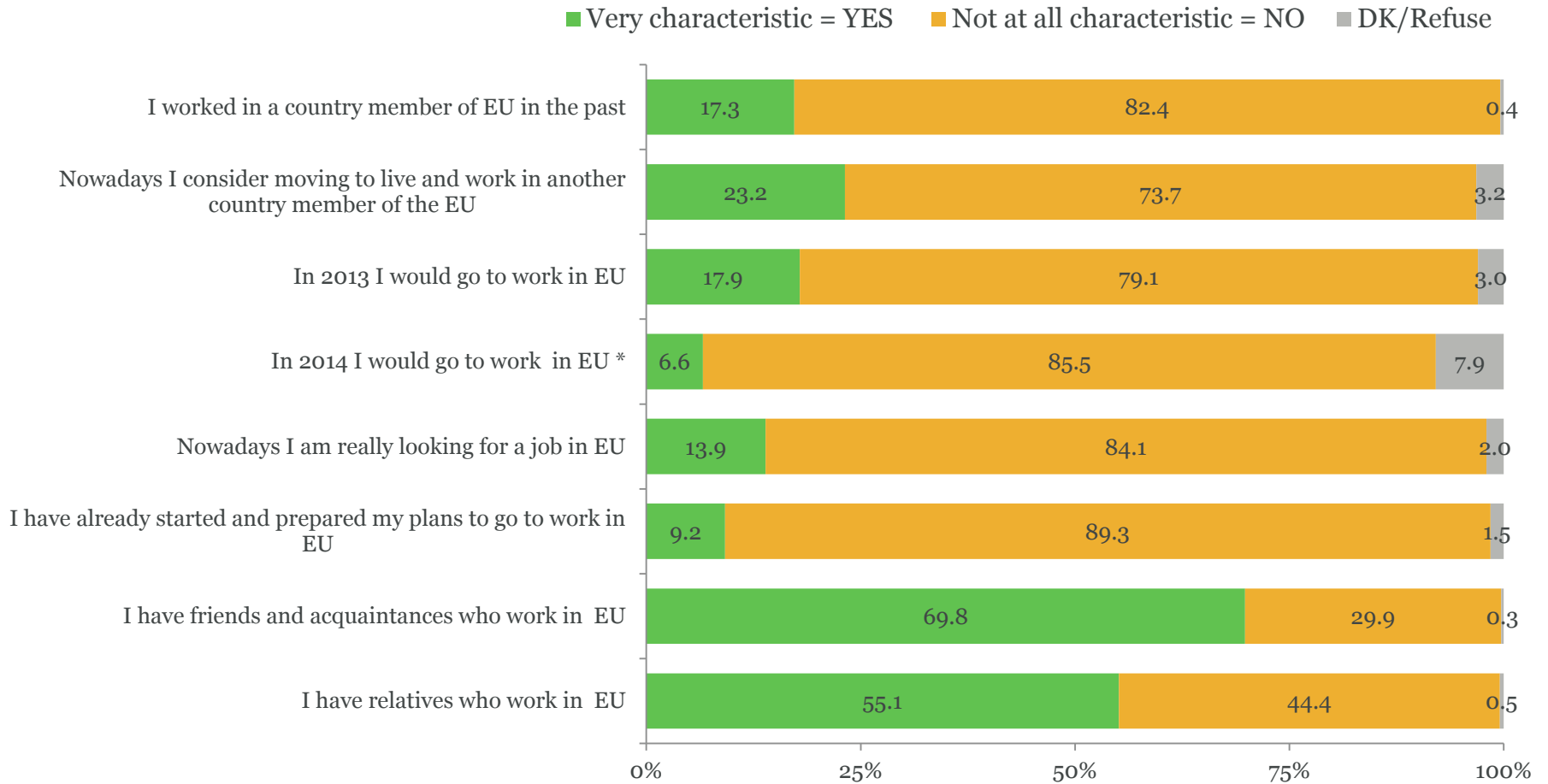
Base: respondents thinking to move to another EU country in the last 5 years, N=359



# General work intentions

Q3. How characteristic is for you each of the following statements?

Base: total sample, N=1101



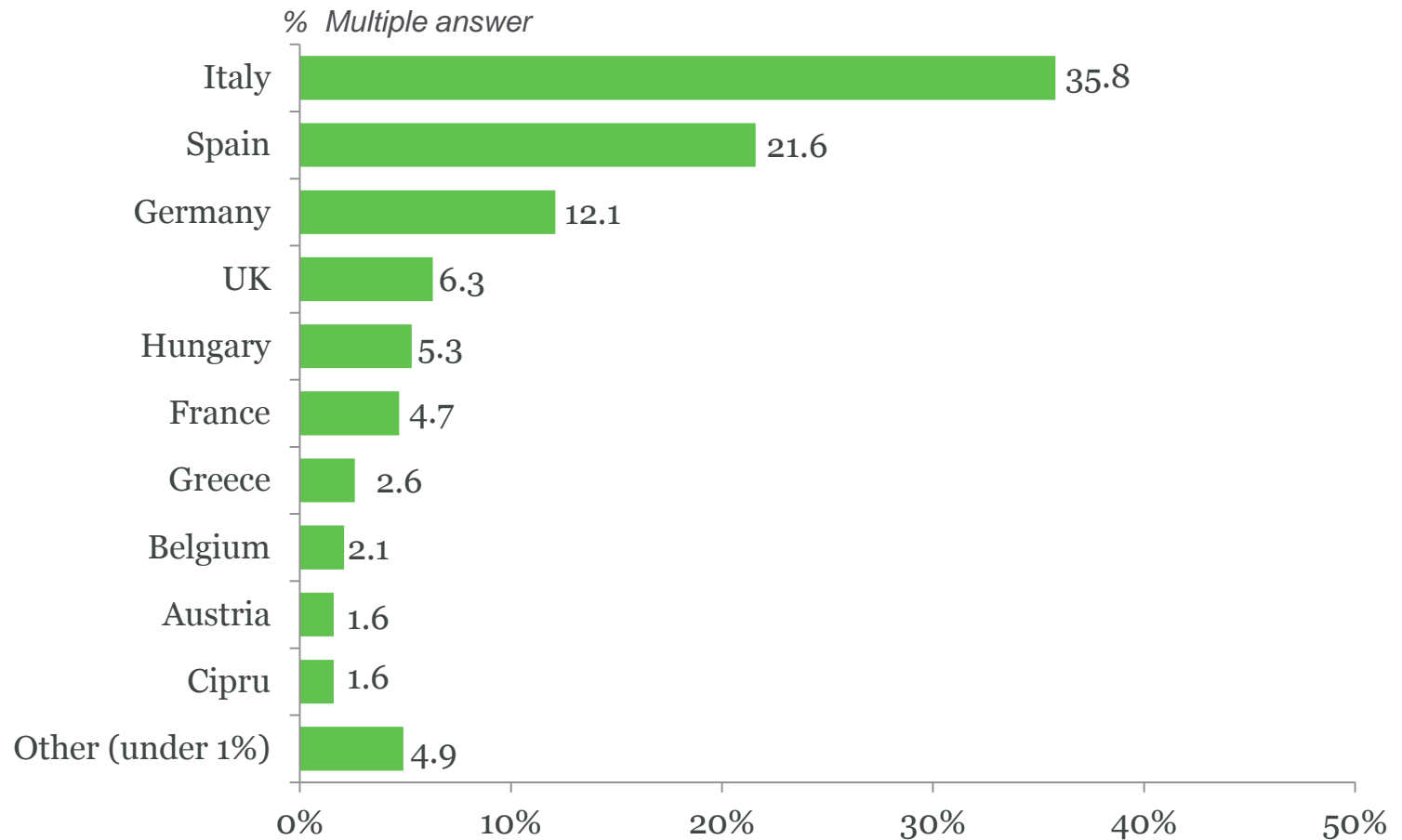
\* Those telling they intend to go to work in a EU country only in 2014 or they intend to go to work on a different country than in 2013



# EU countries already worked in

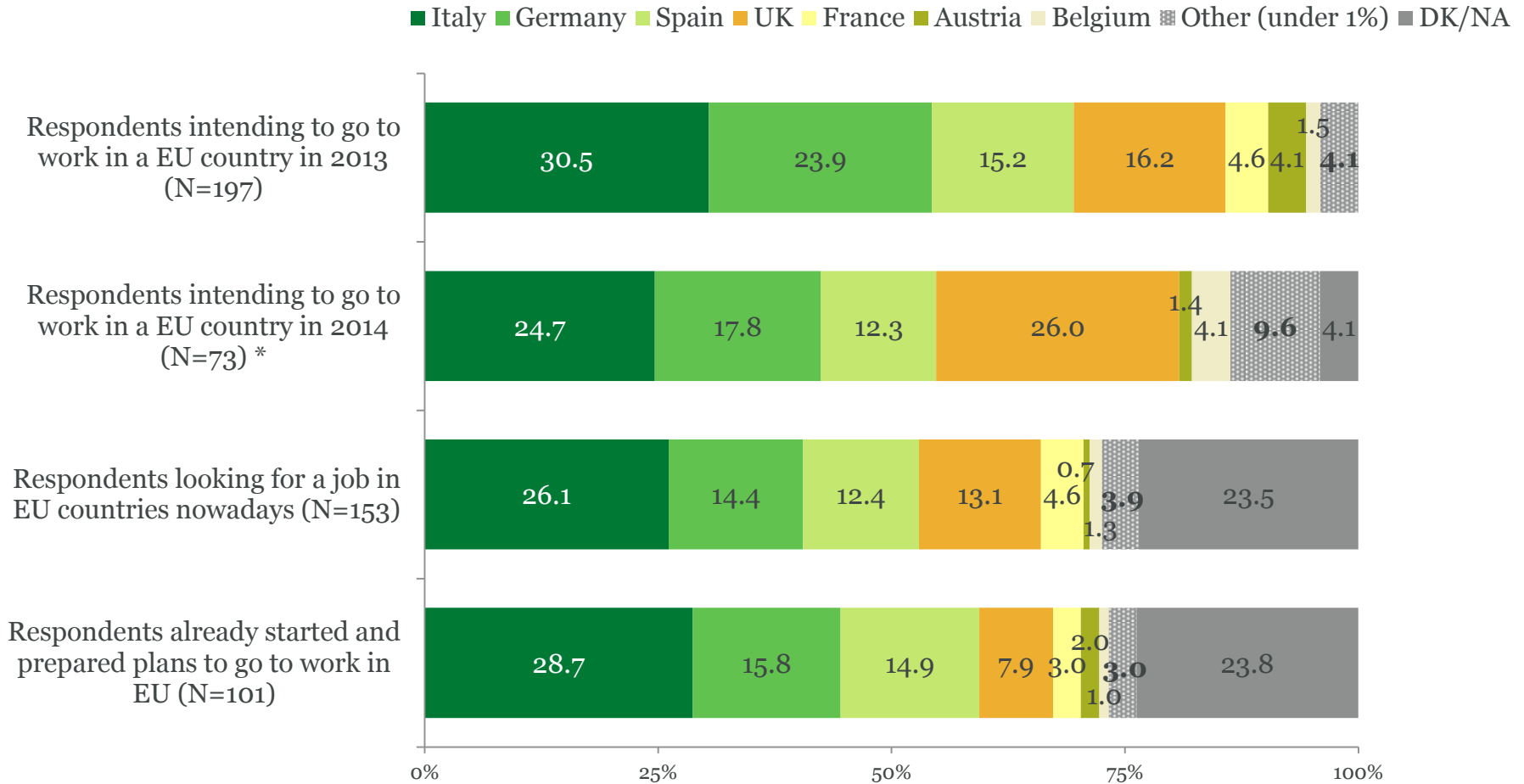
Q3. How characteristic is for you each of the following statements? **I worked in a country member of EU in the past**\_Please tell us the countries

Base: respondents who were working in a EU country, N=190



# Intentions and plans regard moving to work to UE countries

Q3. How characteristic is for you each of the following statements?\_Please tell us the countries



\* Those telling they intend to go to work in a EU country only in 2014 or they intend to go to work on a different country than in 2013

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**Intentions to go to work in EU Countries, as a first,  
spontaneous choice**

# Spontaneous intentions: UK vs. Other countries (I)

84% of the Romanians who spontaneously mentioned they have the intention to go to work in the UK in 2013 and / or 2014, know about the removing of the restrictions imposed for Romanians and Bulgarians on the UK labour market. This percentage is significantly higher than the percentage of the people who intend to go to work in other EU countries, besides UK, which could be explained due to the excessive media coverage of this topic in Romania. 47% of the respondents who intend to go to work in the UK, compared with 38% of those who chose other countries as destinations, said that their decision was influenced in a large or very large extent by the mentioned legislative changes.

The degree of the structuring of the departure intention is relatively high: 60% of those who intend to go in the UK said they go through a recruitment company or through a direct contract with an employer, a quarter said they have friends / relatives at the destination and count on their help, while 8% of them don't have any kind of arrangement. Compared with people who have chosen other EU countries as destination, those who want to go to work in UK intend to use to a greater extent the services of the recruitment companies and they appear to be more cautious, less of them would go without any arrangement. In general, those who intend to go to work in 2014 seem more cautious.

However, when it comes to the concrete preparations needed when it comes to working abroad, only 27% of those who want to go to work in the UK, compared with 32% of those who choose to target other EU state that they really did something about it. As concrete preparations they made, most of them declared that they are in contact with people already working in the country (considering that 76% of those intending to go to work in UK and 89% of those who go to other countries already know someone who works in that country) or they are looking for a job, but without the help of a specialized companies in this respect. About a quarter said they have already gone to job interviews. As expected, those who intend to leave in 2013 are better prepared than those who intend to leave in 2014.

The trends referring to the migration of the labor force from Romania to other countries seem/reveal that while in the '90s "pioneer-adventure" type of departure was popular, after 2001 the departures "based on someone's help, knowing someone in the respective country" have become dominant.

## Spontaneous intentions: UK vs. Other countries (II)

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Once they reached their destination, 7 out of 10 Romanians who go to work in UK, intend to stay there more than 1 year, in a slightly higher percentage than those who go to the other countries.

Regarding persons who will follow them, there are no significant differences according to the country chosen as destination. Thus, approx. 60% of them intend to leave alone, 30% will be accompanied by spouses / partners, and 16% will also take their children.

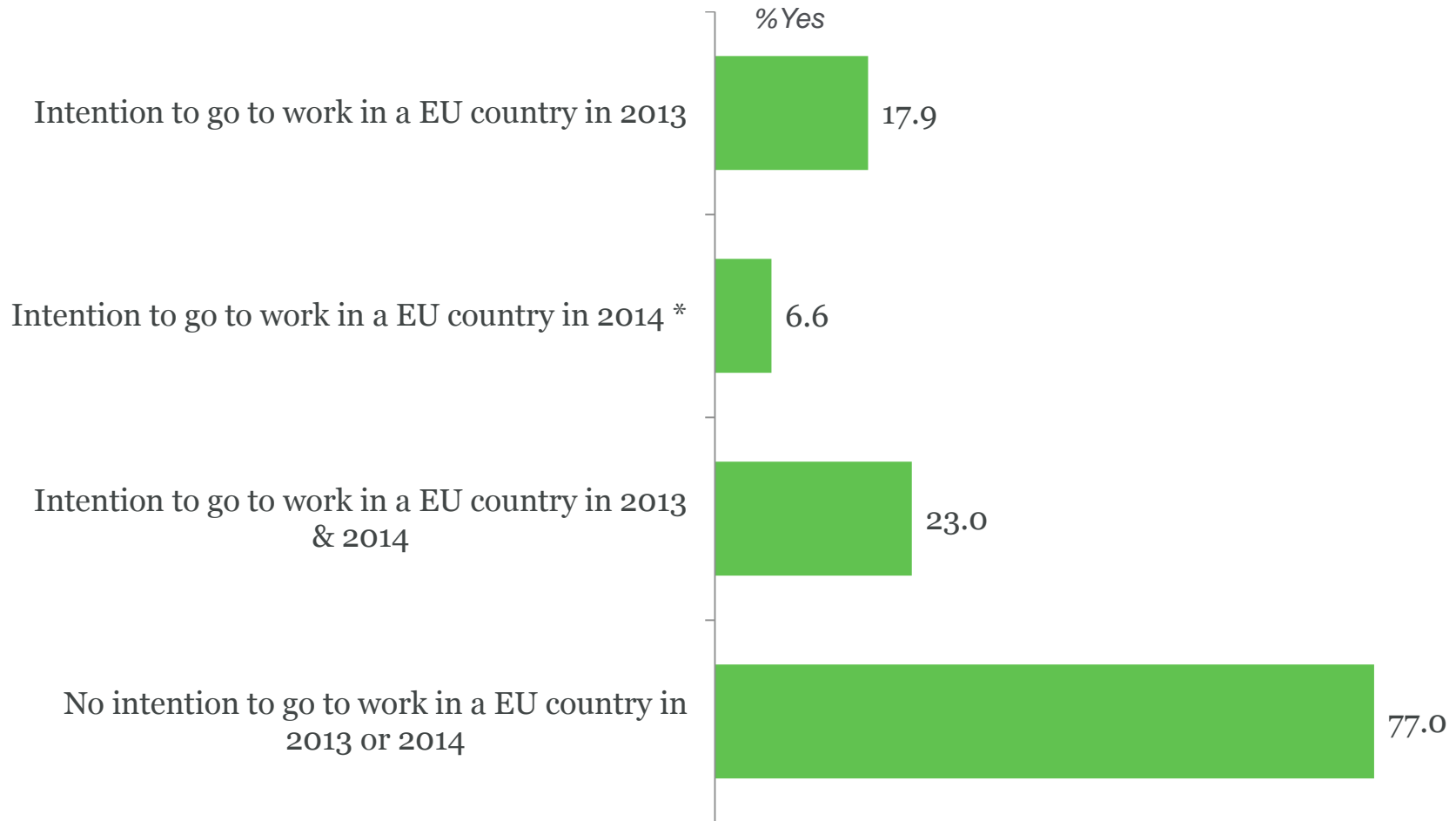
8 out 10 respondents say they are willing to accept a job below their level of education, the percentage being higher for those who intend to go to work in 2013, compared with those who intend to go in 2014.

57% (those who want to go to UK) compared to 71% (those who choose other countries EU members as destination) say they know people who have the same intentions as theirs . The percentages are lower for those who choose 2014 as the starting year.

# Intention to work in EU

Q3. How characteristic is for you each of the following statements?

Base: total sample,  
N=1101

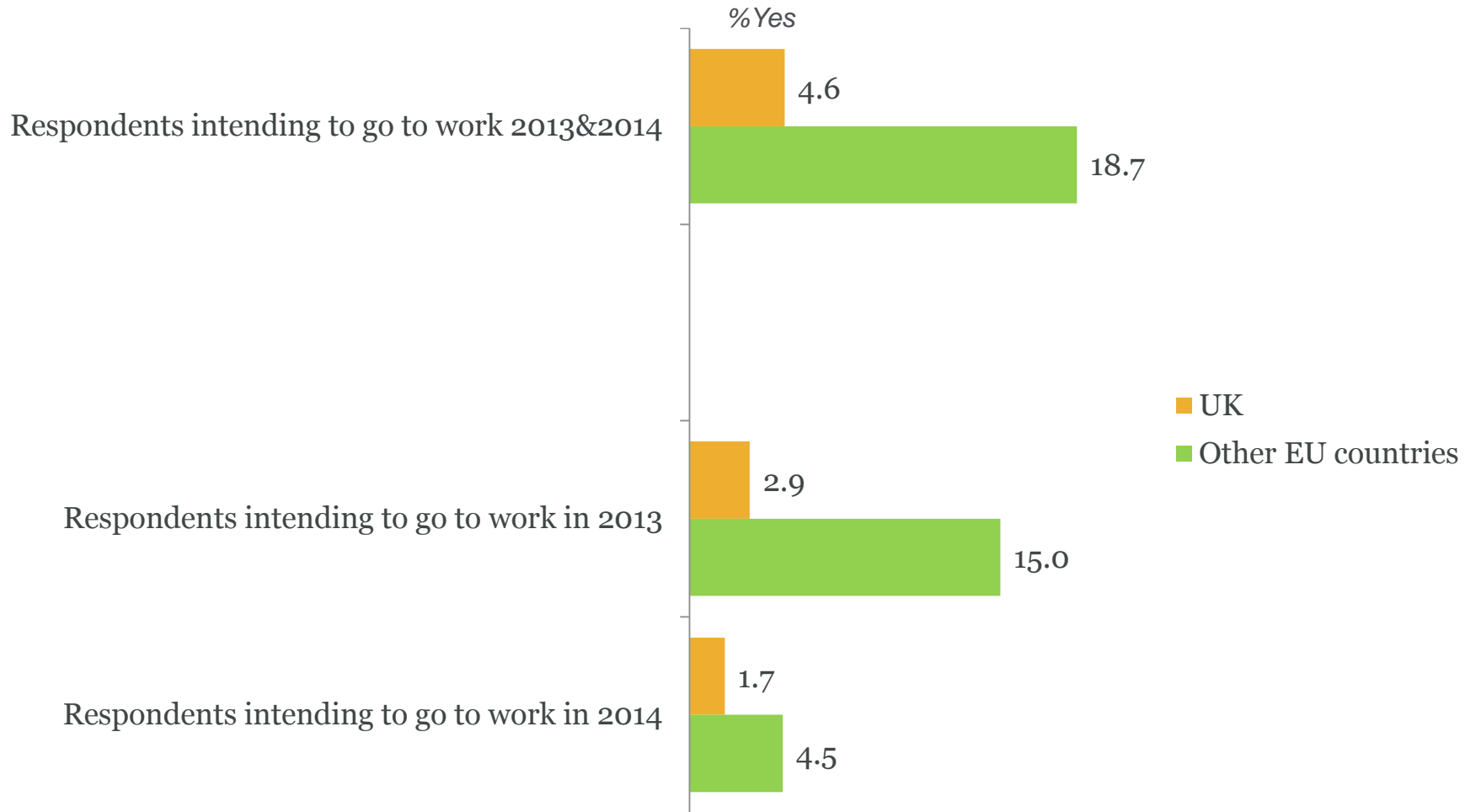


\* Those telling they intend to go to work in a EU country only in 2014 or they intend to go to work on a different country than in 2013

# Intention to work in EU by countries

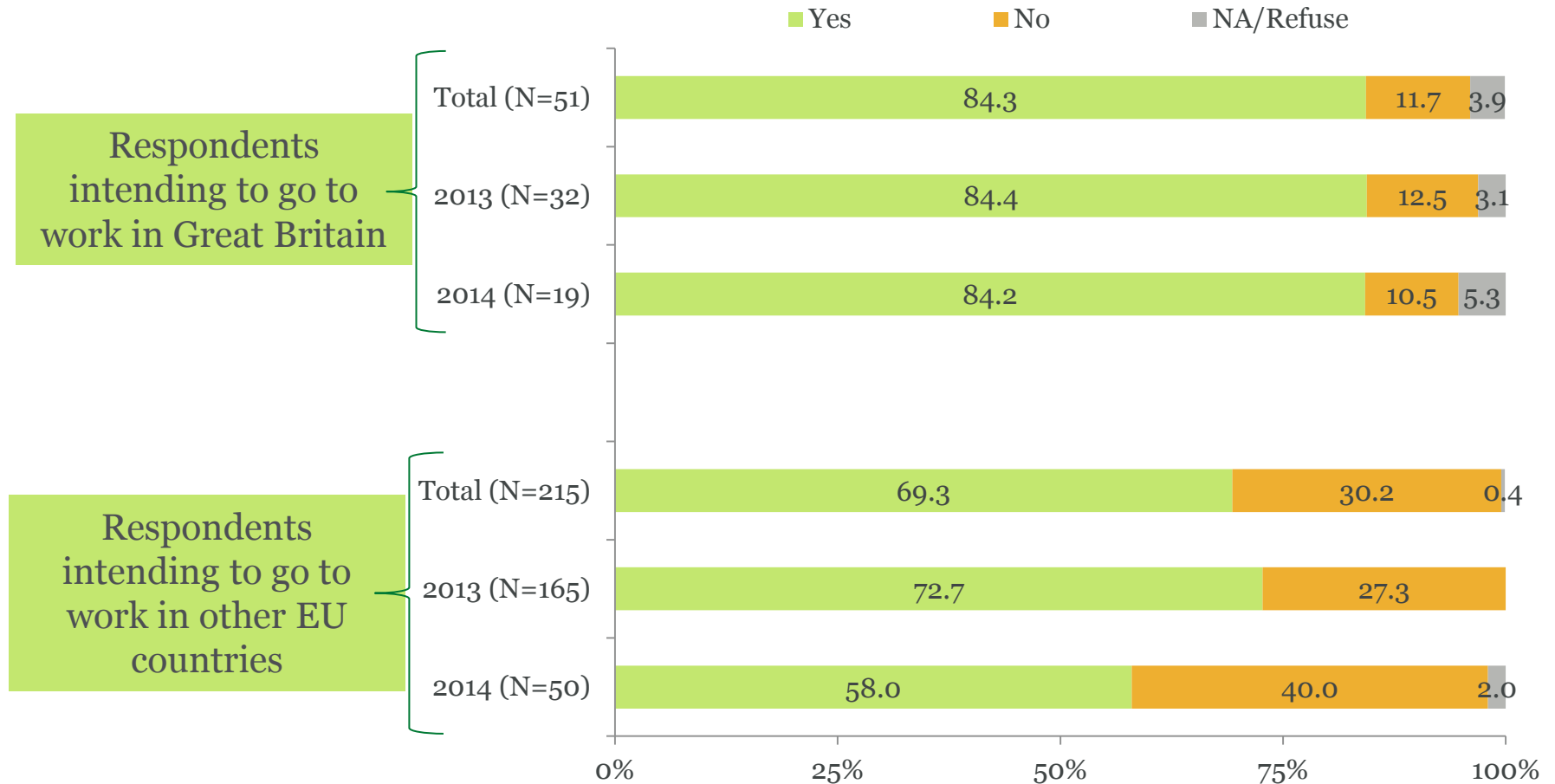
Q3. How characteristic is for you each of the following statements?

Base: total sample,  
N=1101



# Knowing about removing the work restrictions imposed for Romanians and Bulgarians

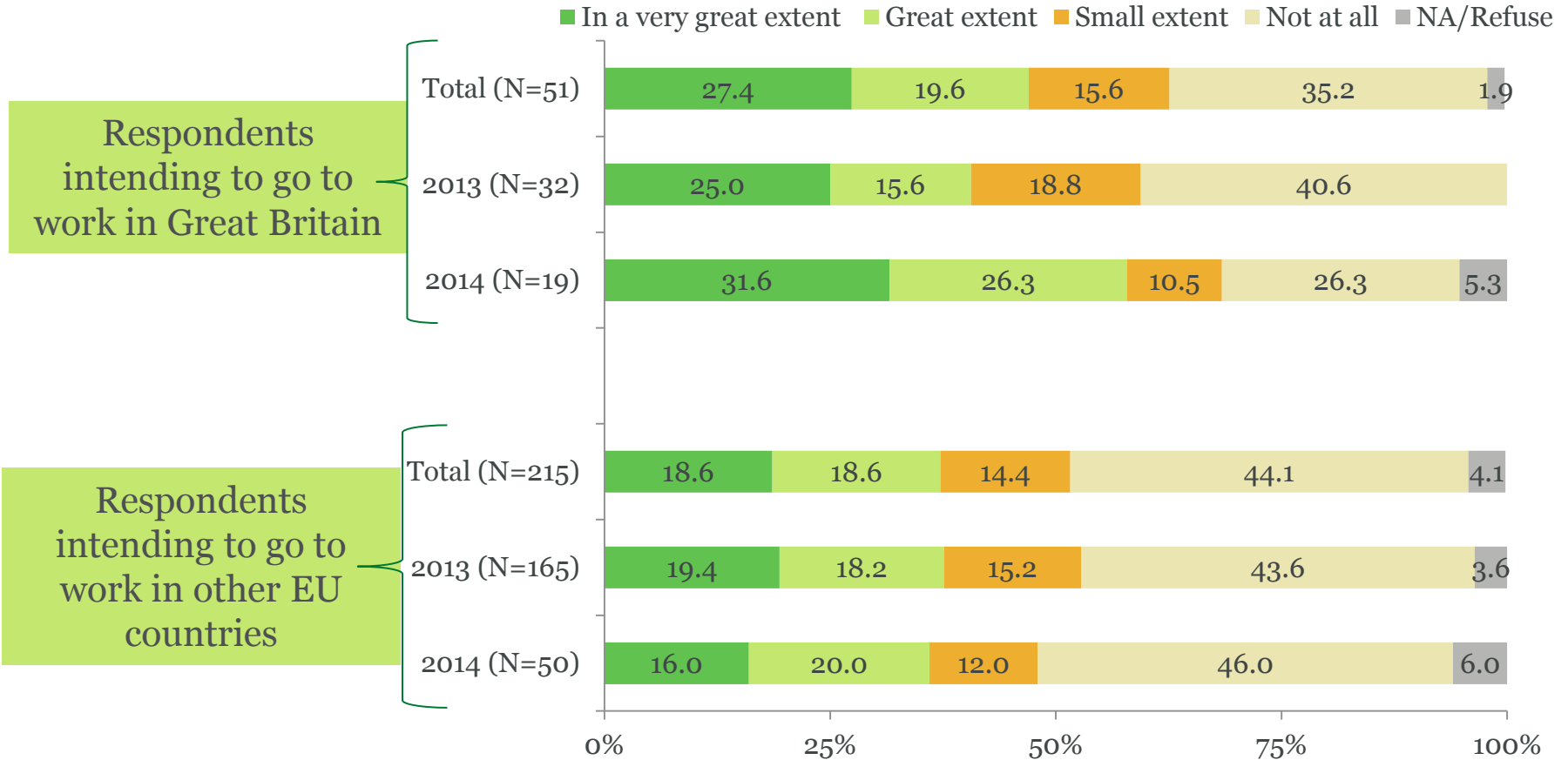
A. Have you known or heard that at the end of this year (2013) the work restrictions imposed for Romanians and Bulgarians will be removed from the ... /name of the country/ labor market?





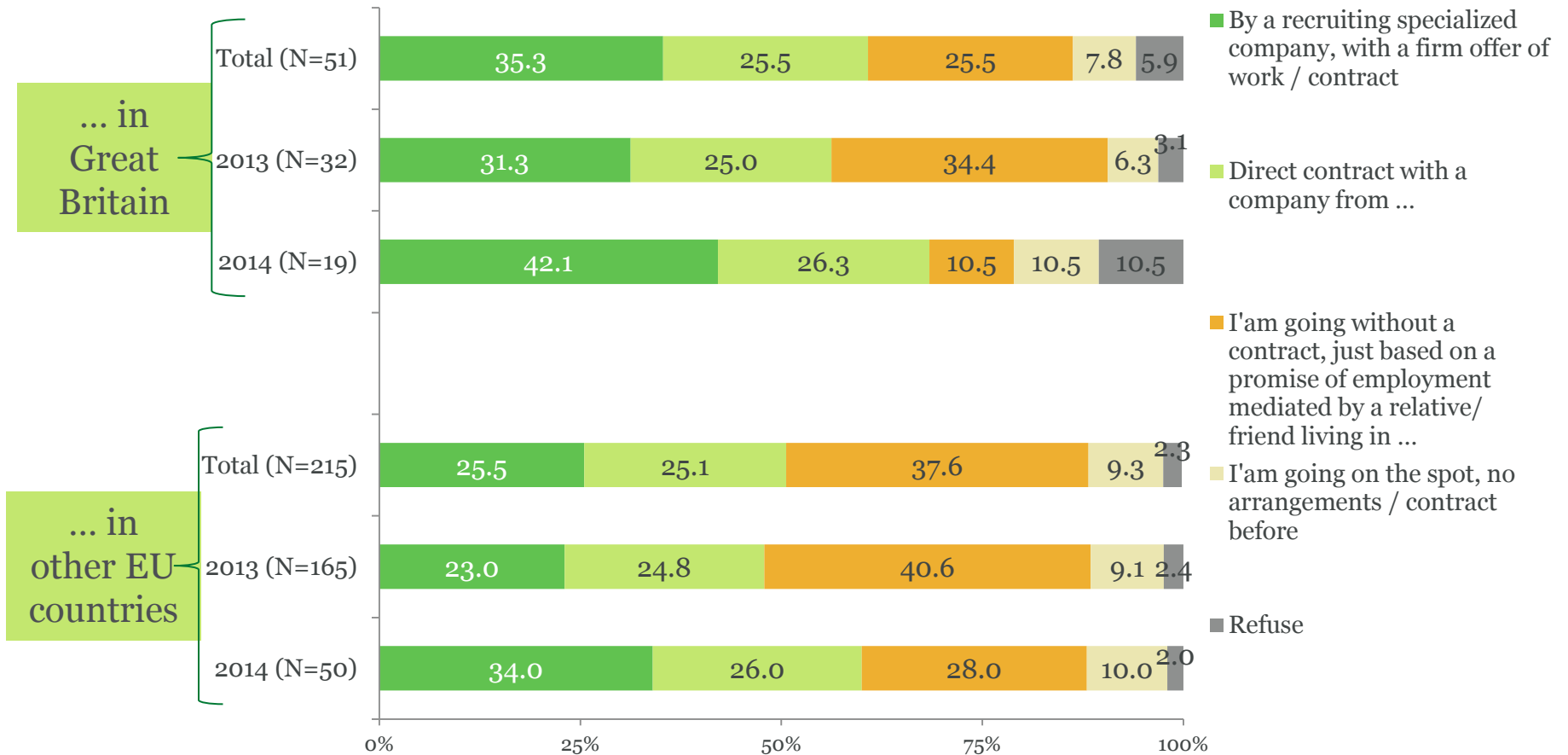
# Changing the decision after knowing about removing the work restrictions imposed for Romanians and Bulgarians

B. .... /name of the country/ will remove the work restrictions imposed for Romanians and Bulgarians on .... /name of the country/ labor market at the end of this year (2013). In what extent would this affect your decision to go to work in this country?



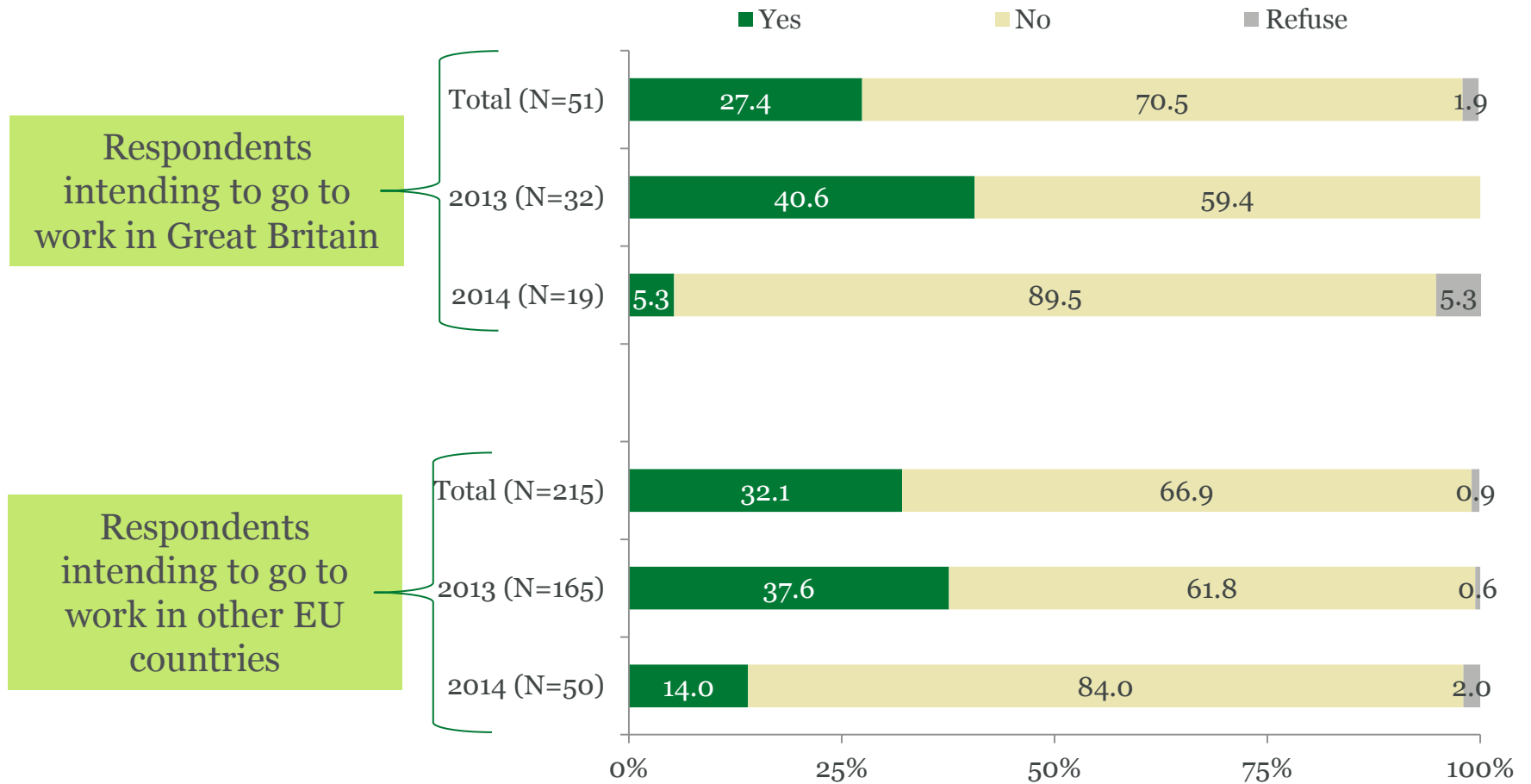
# Going to work with or without a firm offer

Q6. How would you go to work in /name of the country/....., with or without a firm offer of work?



# Making concrete preparations for moving

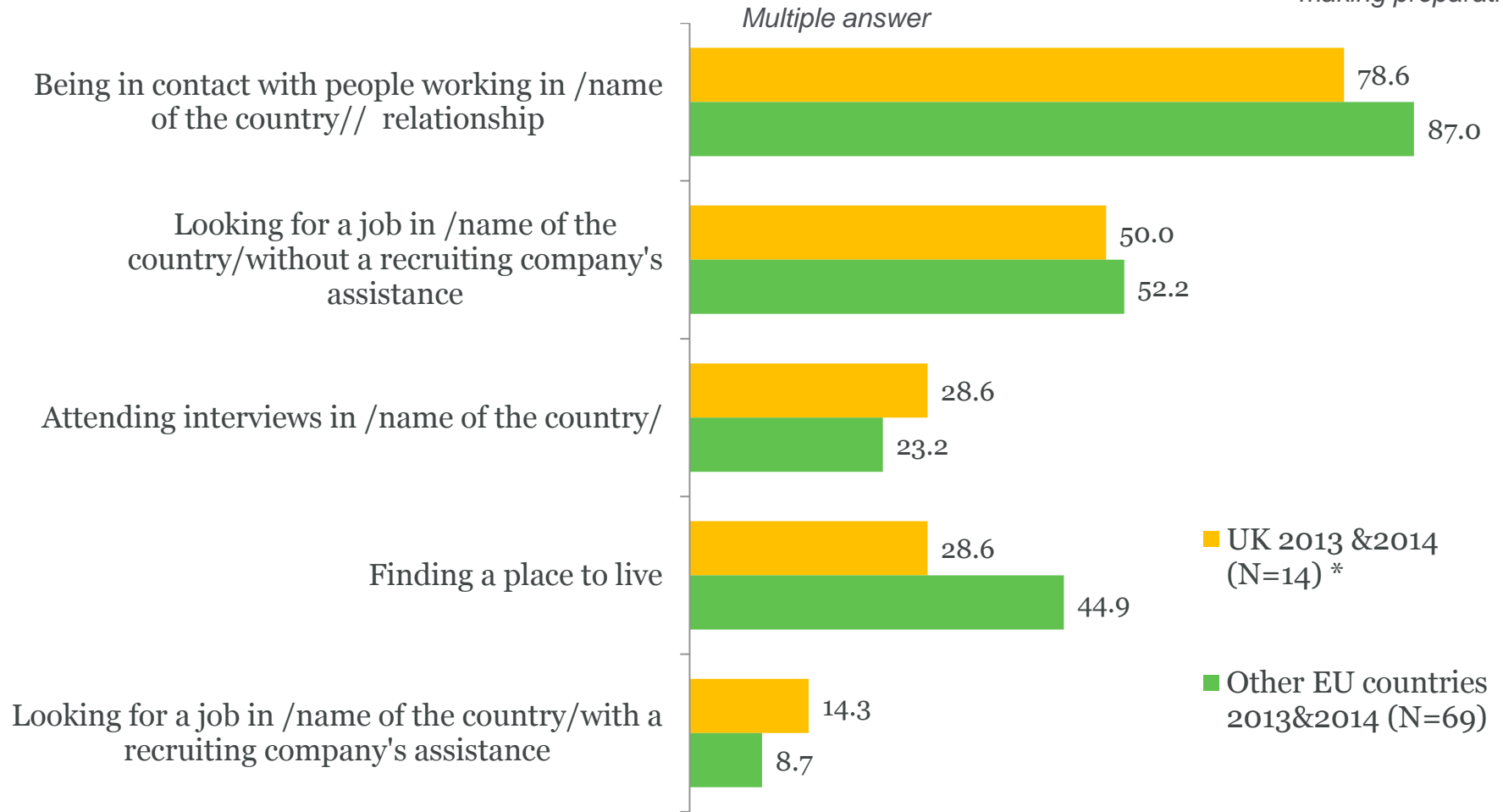
Q7. Have you made already any concrete preparations for this move?



# Concrete preparations

Q8. Which ones have you already made?

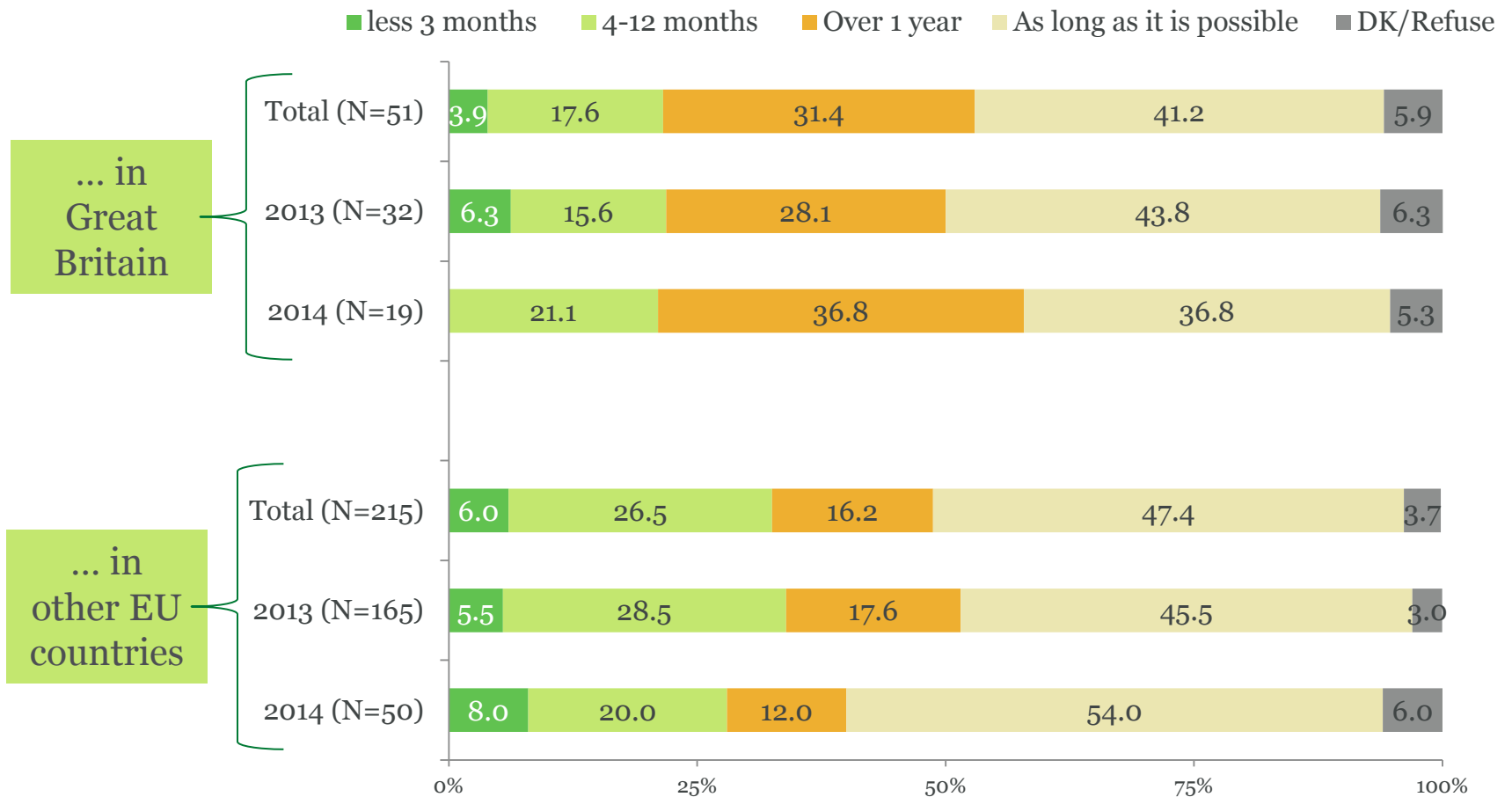
Base: respondents already making preparations



\* The result should be treated carefully because of the small data base

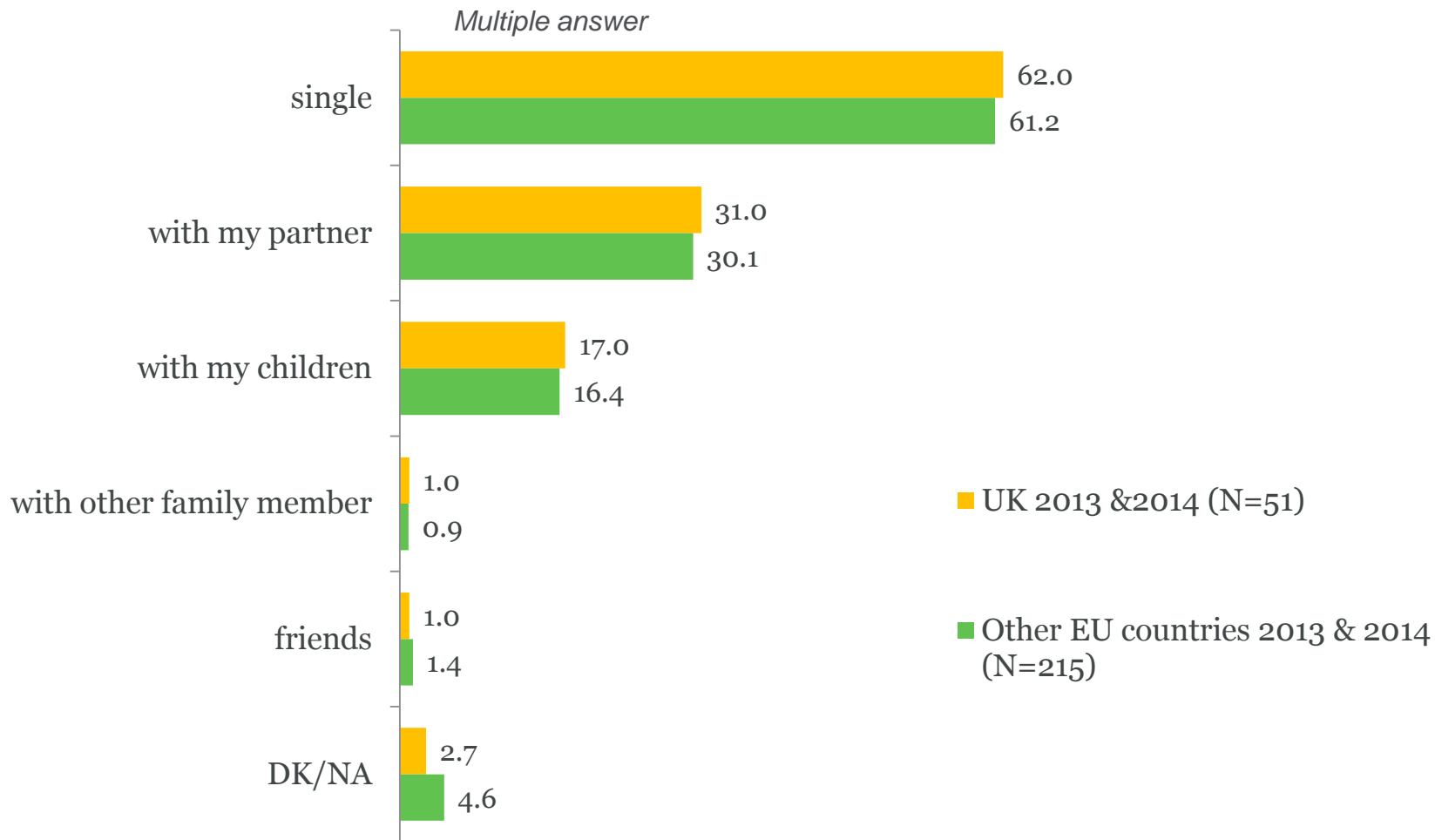
# Time to stay

Q9. How long do you plan to stay there?



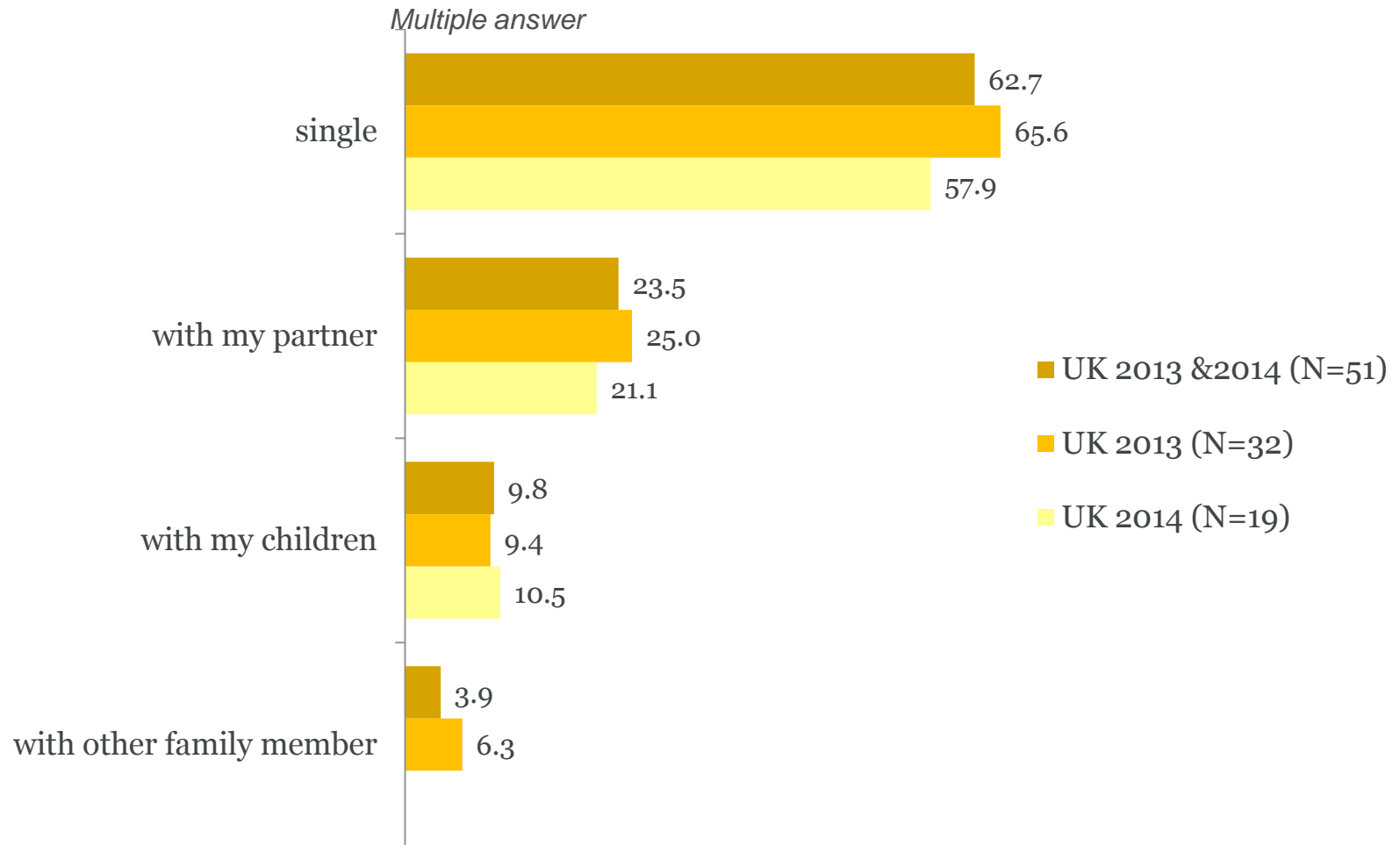
# Whom he/she is going to take with him/her

Q10. Will you go to work in ...



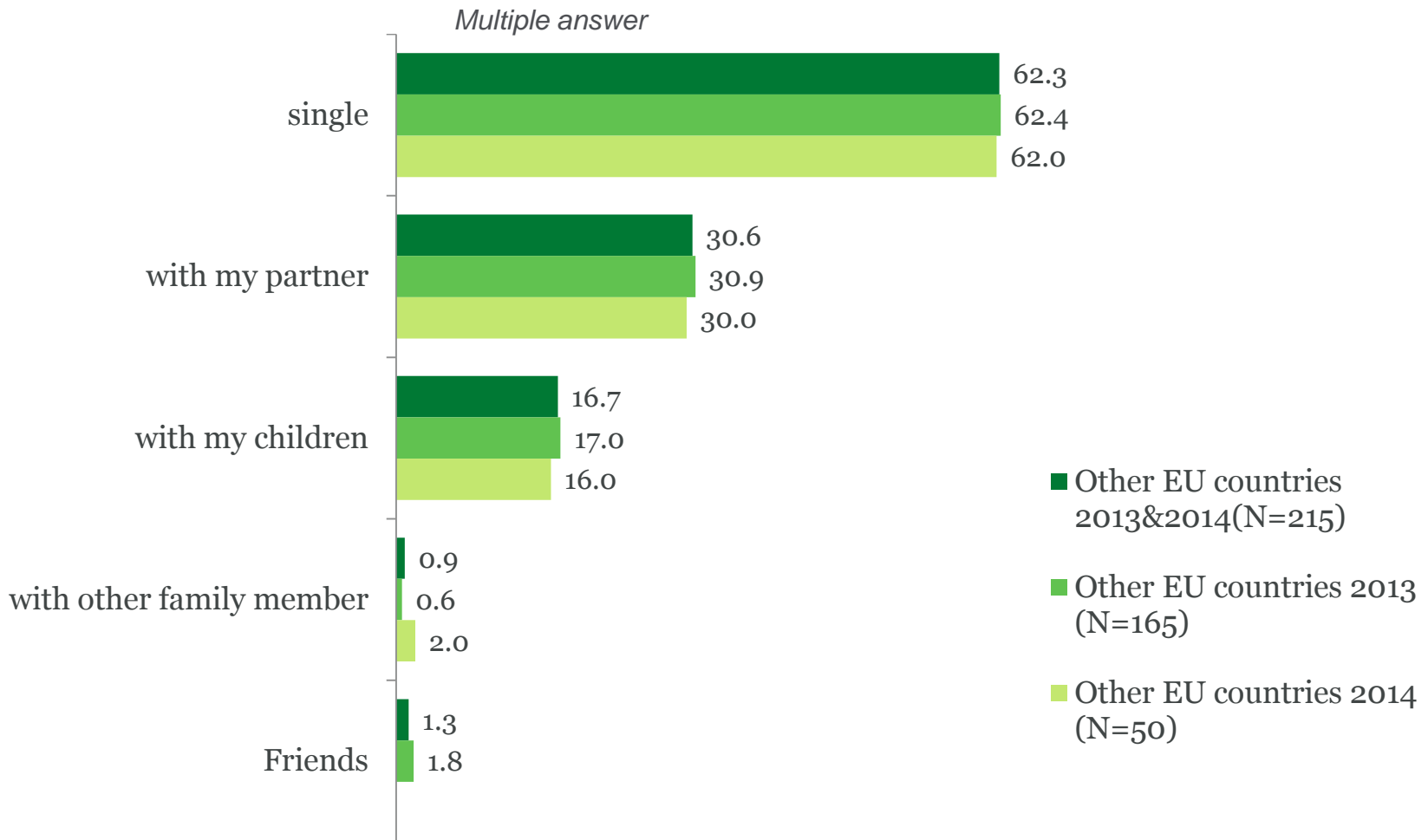
# Whom he/she is going to take with him/her\_ in UK

Q10. Will you go to work in ...



# Whom he/she is going to take with him/her\_ in other countries

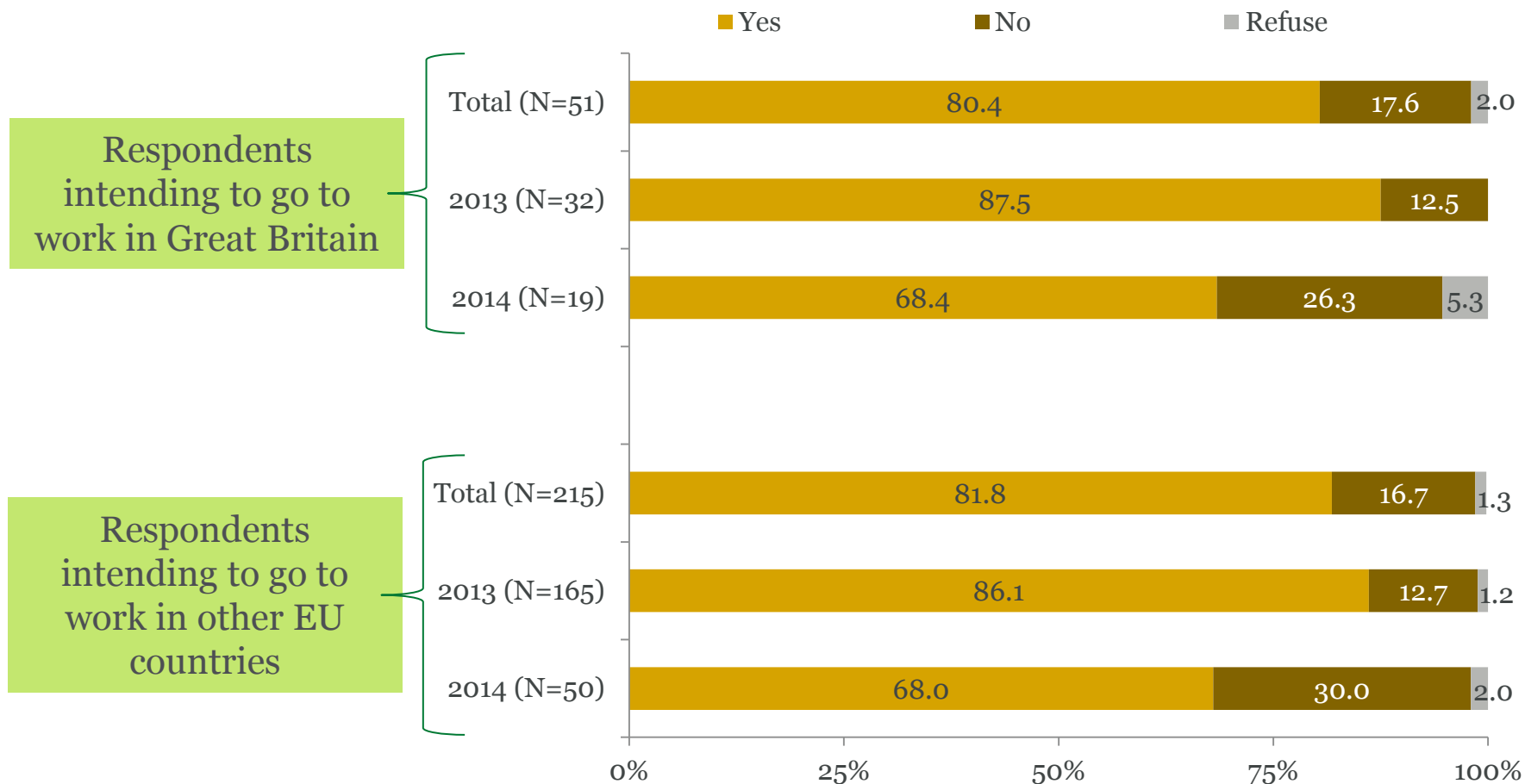
Q10. Will you go to work in ...





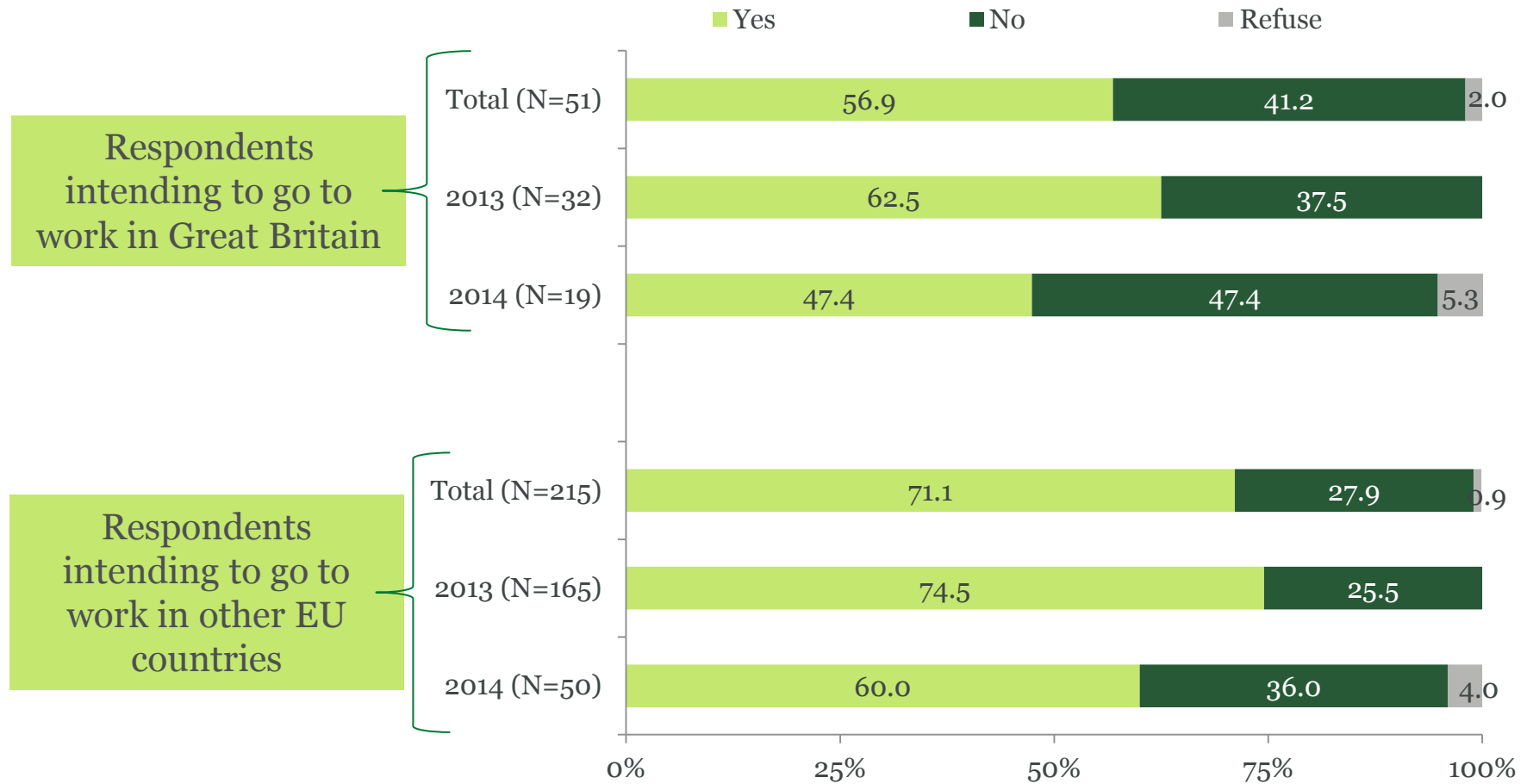
# Taking a job below his/her level of qualification

Q11. Would you be ready to take a job in /name of the country/ below your level of qualification?



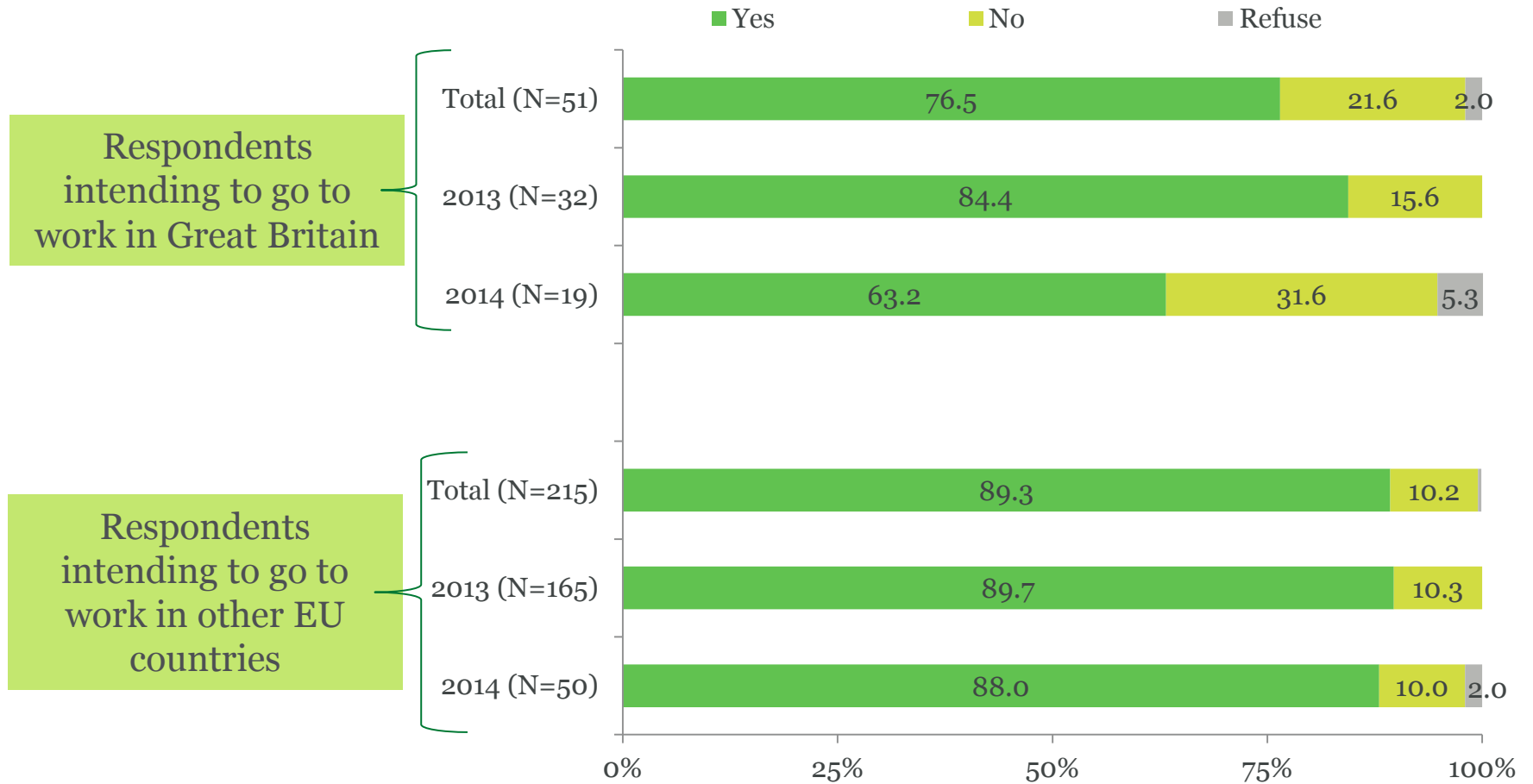
# Knowing someone who plans to go to work in the same country in the next 12 months

Q13. Do you personally know anyone who plans to go to /name of the country/ for work in the next 12 months?



# Knowing someone who has already moved to work in the same country

Q14. Do you personally know anyone who has already moved to /name of the country/ for work?



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**Intentions to go to work in UK  
(total, spontaneous and assisted)**

# Differences

## between the degrees of intention for going to work in UK

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The respondents having spontaneously expressed the intentions, they were particularly asked whether they are planning to go to work in UK in 2013 or 2014. Thus, in addition to the approx. 5% of respondents who already expressed their interest, an extra percentage of approx. 4% of respondents who were willing to migrate to the UK in 2013 or 2014 in order to work, appeared. From the analysis point of view these people are not very determined to go to work in the UK, but they do not exclude this possibility. Given the foregoing, in this category case a high percentage of non-responses is recorded.

Compared to those who have expressed their strong intention to go to work in the UK, those who aren't very determined in this sense have fewer friends or acquaintances who already worked in this country. Also, they are less informed regarding the removing of the work restrictions for Romanians and Bulgarians in the UK labour market and state that this legislative change could influence their decision to a less extent.

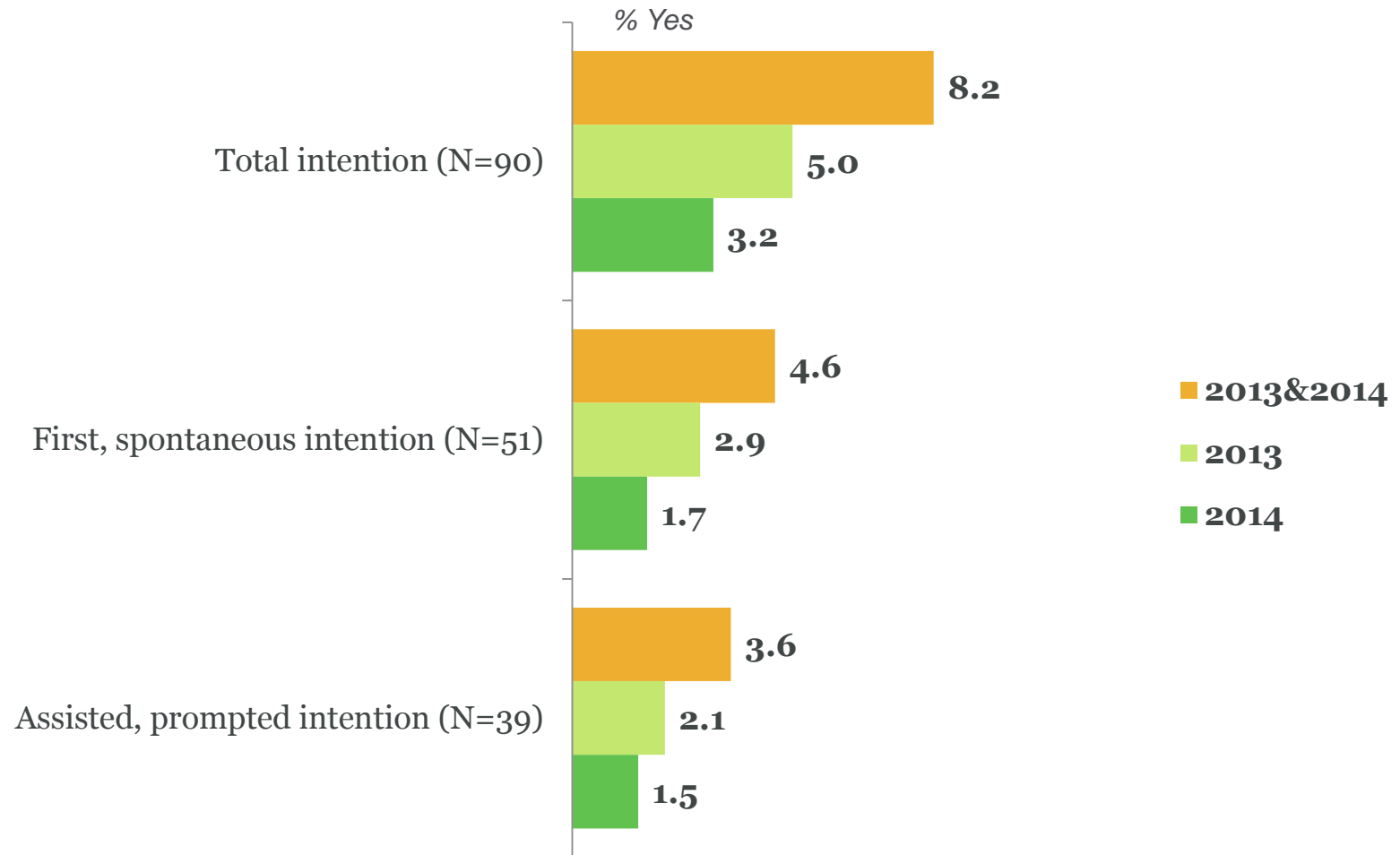
Respondents who are not very determined seem to be even more cautious regarding the conditions in which they could go to work in the UK, only 13% of them saying they would go without a firm commitment/contract. Also, a lower percentage compared to those who strongly and spontaneously affirm their intention, would accept a job below their level of education (64% versus 80%). Even if they seem very determined, 13% of them say they have made some preparations for departure.

Apparently, once they arrive in the UK, half of those who don't necessarily have the first option as this country, intend to stay here as long as possible and want to go together with the family in a higher percentage than the others.

# Intention to work in UK in 2013&2014

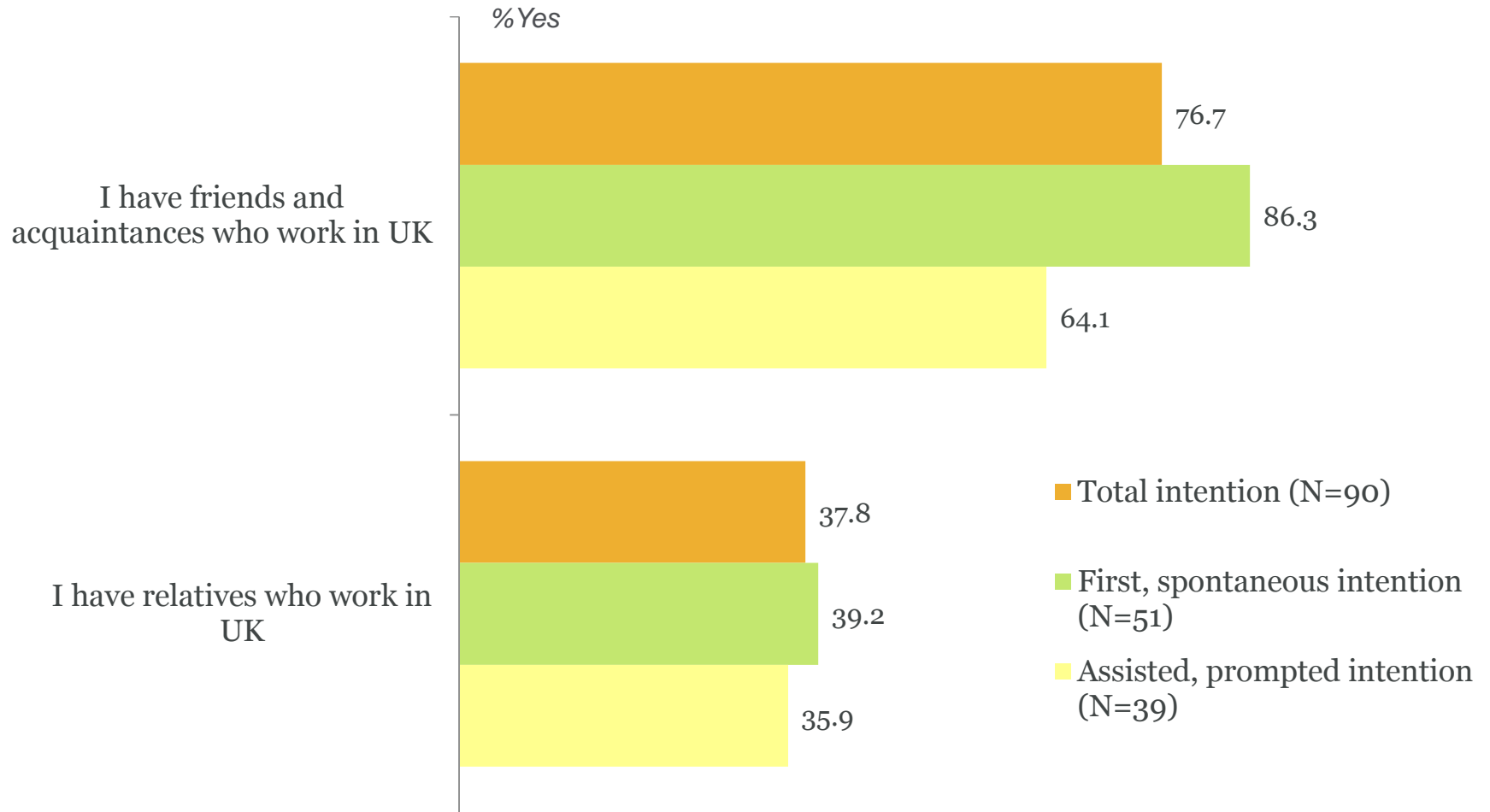
Q3/Q3UK. How characteristic is for you each of the following statements?

Base: total sample, N=1101



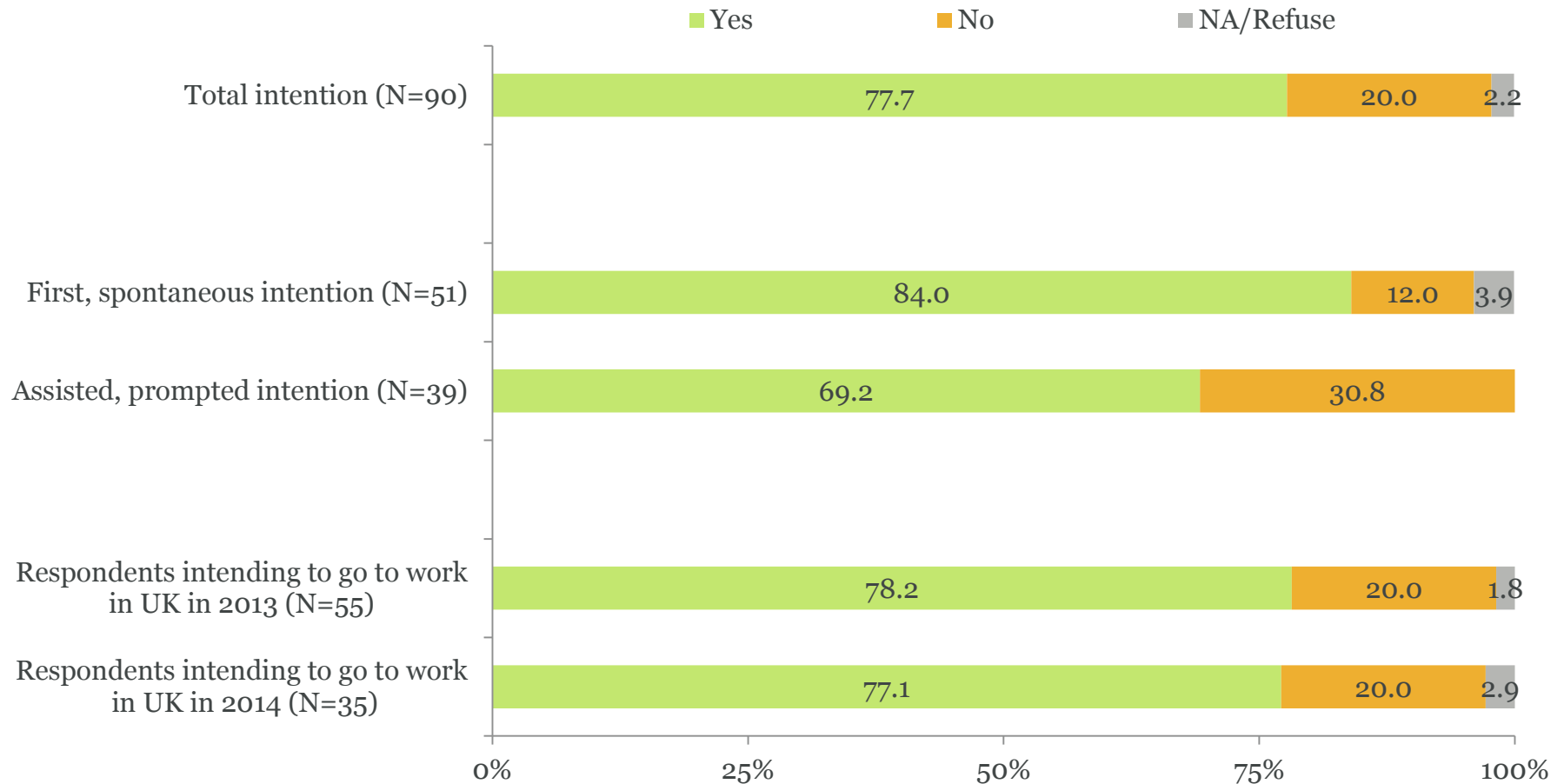
# Having friends, acquaintances, relatives in UK

Q3.UK. How characteristic is for you each of the following statements?



# Knowing about removing the work restrictions imposed for Romanians and Bulgarians on UK's labor market

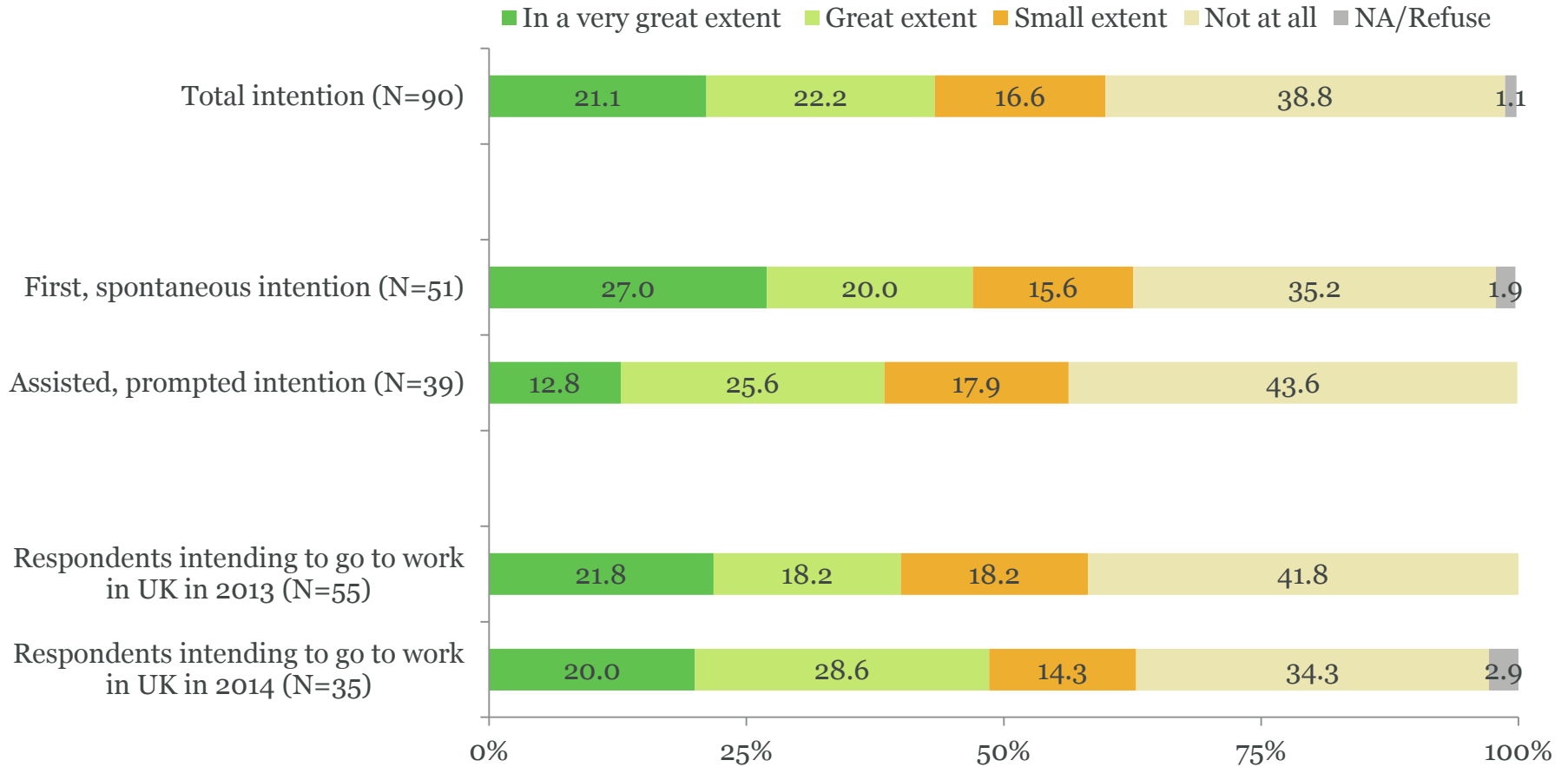
A. Have you known or heard that at the end of this year (2013) the work restrictions imposed for Romanians and Bulgarians will be removed from the UK's labor market?





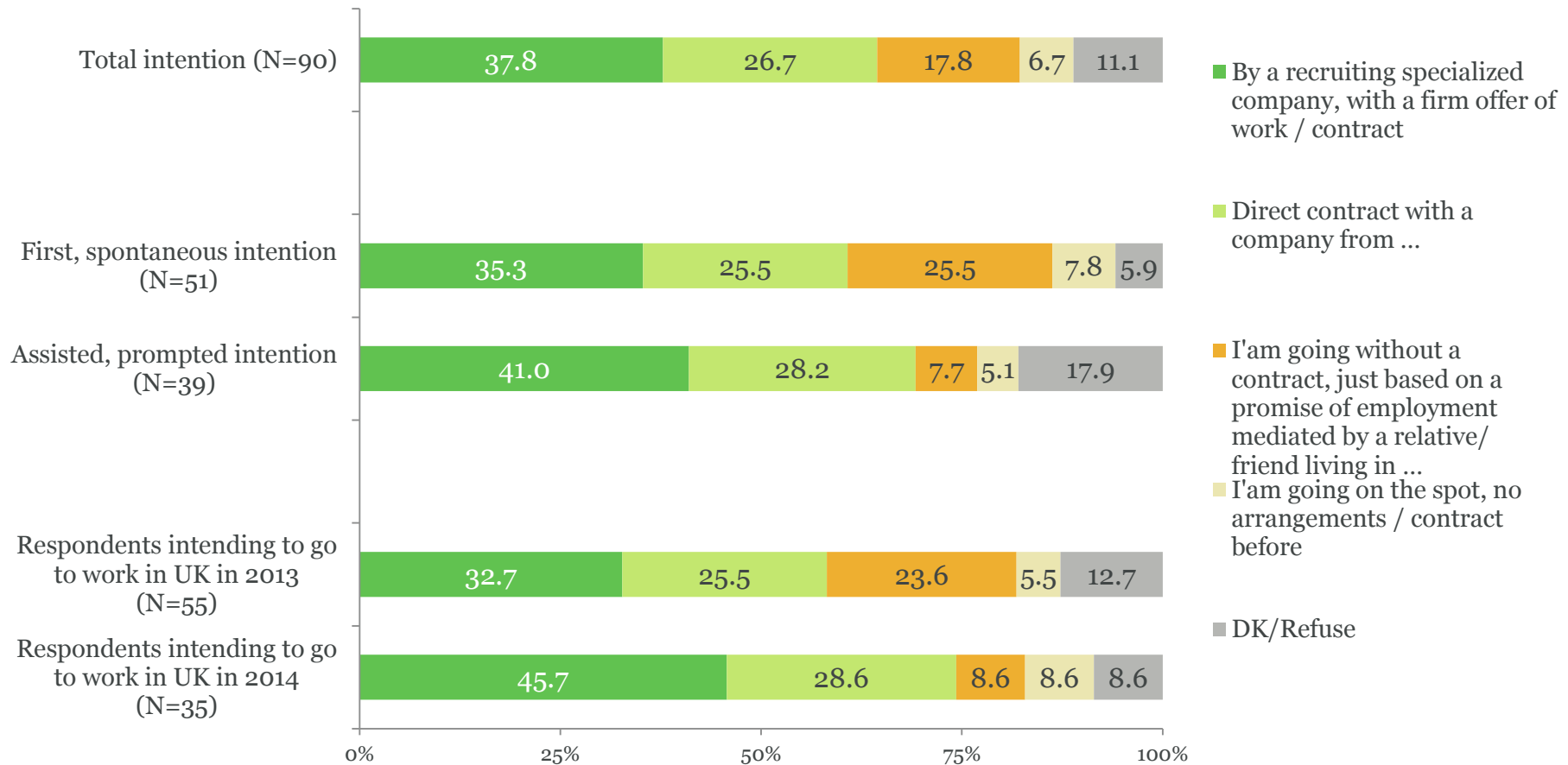
# Changing the decision after knowing about removing the work restrictions imposed for Romanians and Bulgarians

B. UK will remove the work restrictions imposed for Romanians and Bulgarians on UK's labor market at the end of this year (2013). In what extent would this affect your decision to go to work in this country?



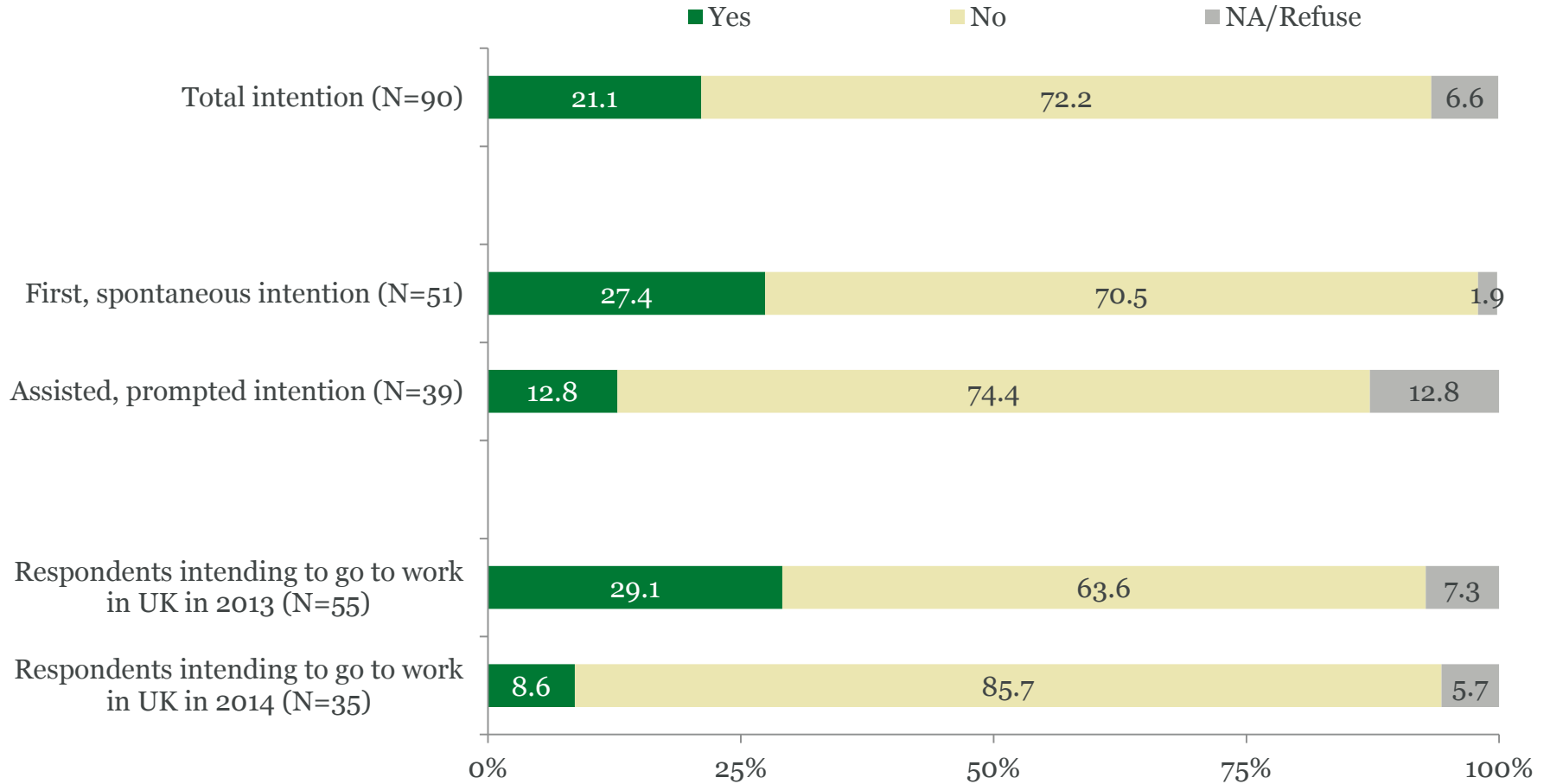
# Going to work with or without a firm offer

Q6. How would you go to work in UK, with or without a firm offer of work?



# Making concrete preparations for moving

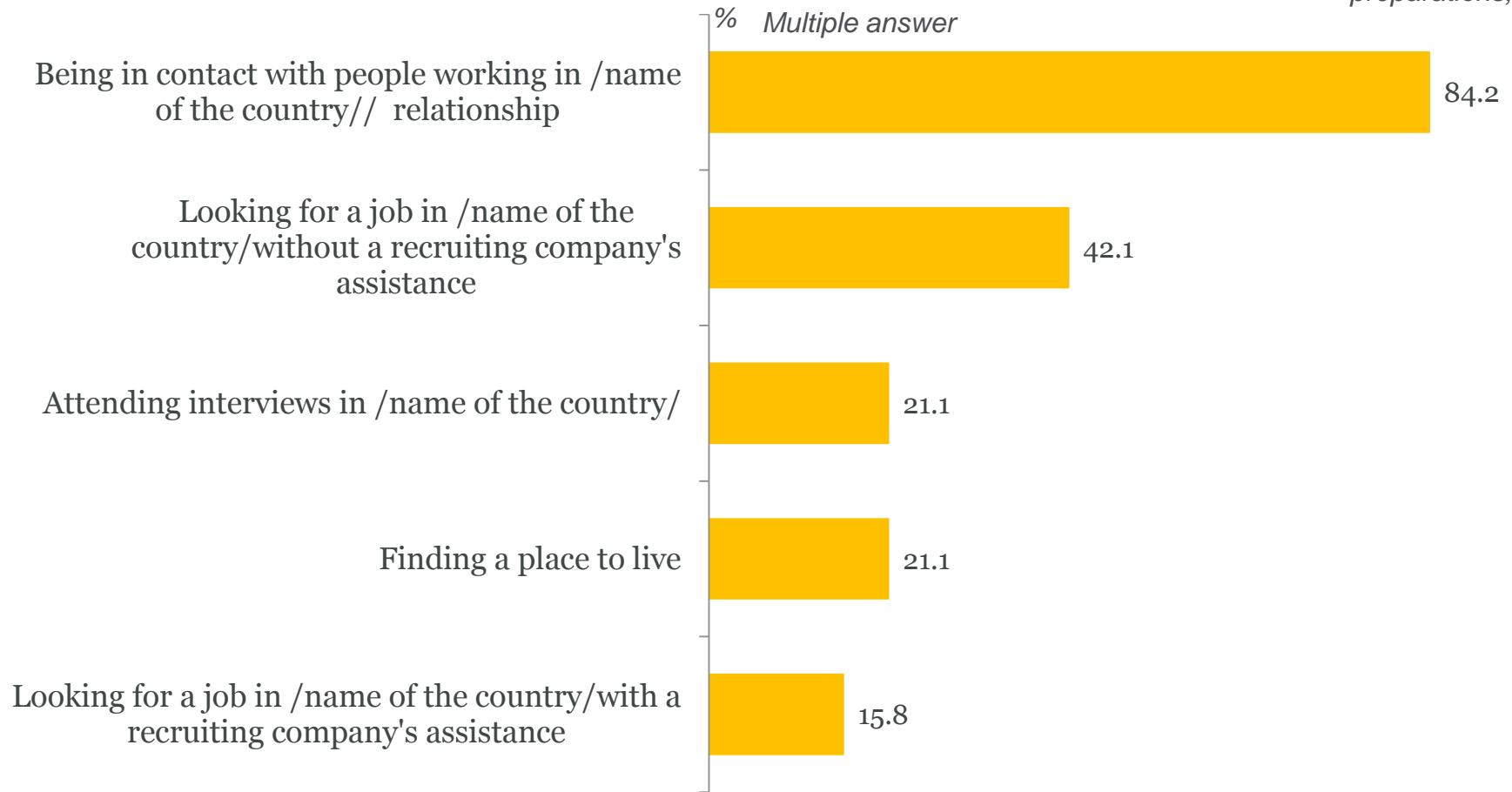
Q7. Have you made already any concrete preparations for this move?



# Concrete preparations

Q8. Which ones have you already made?

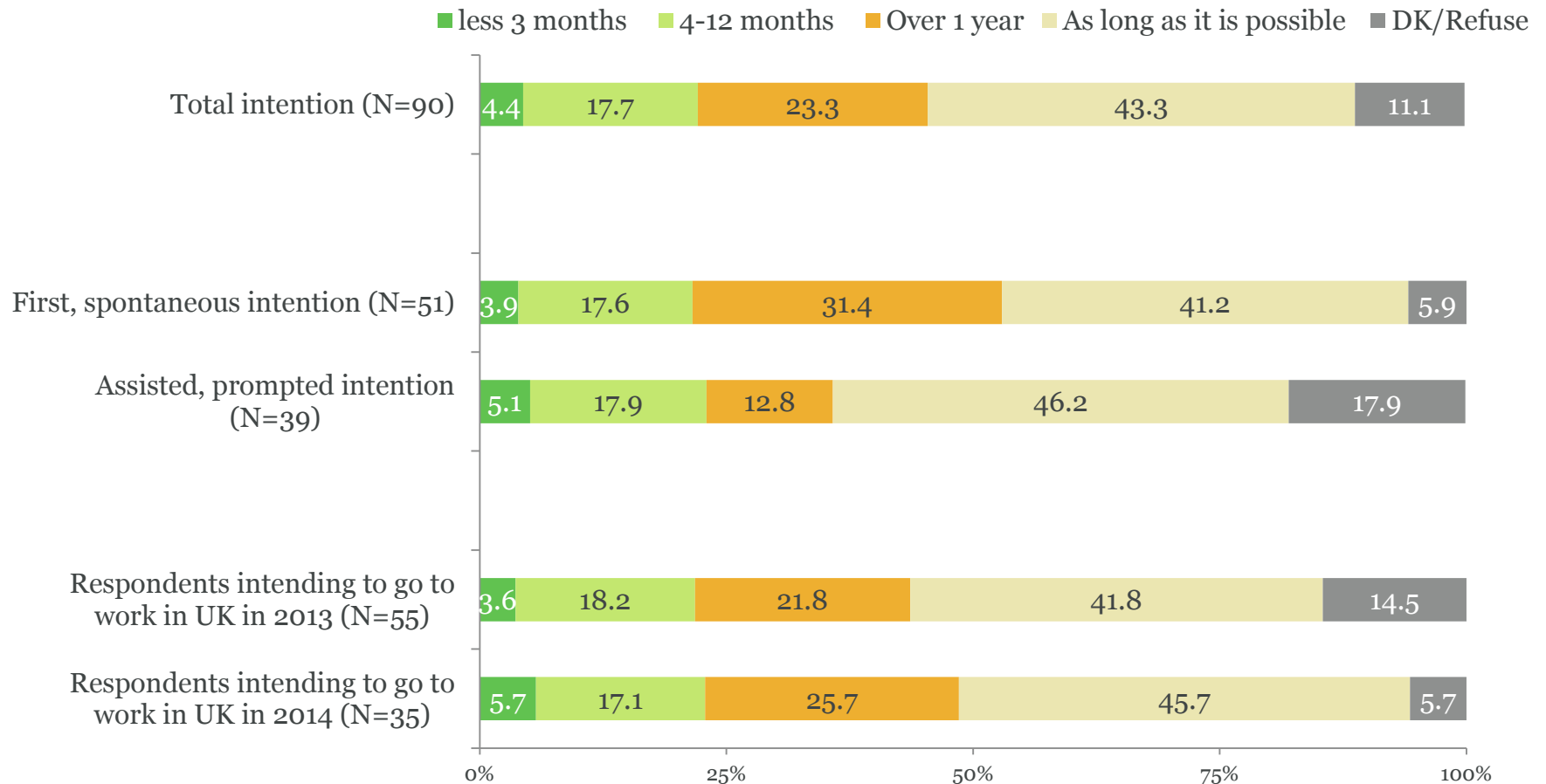
*Base: all respondents intending to go to work in UK who already made preparations, N=19*



*The result should be treated carefully because of the small data base*

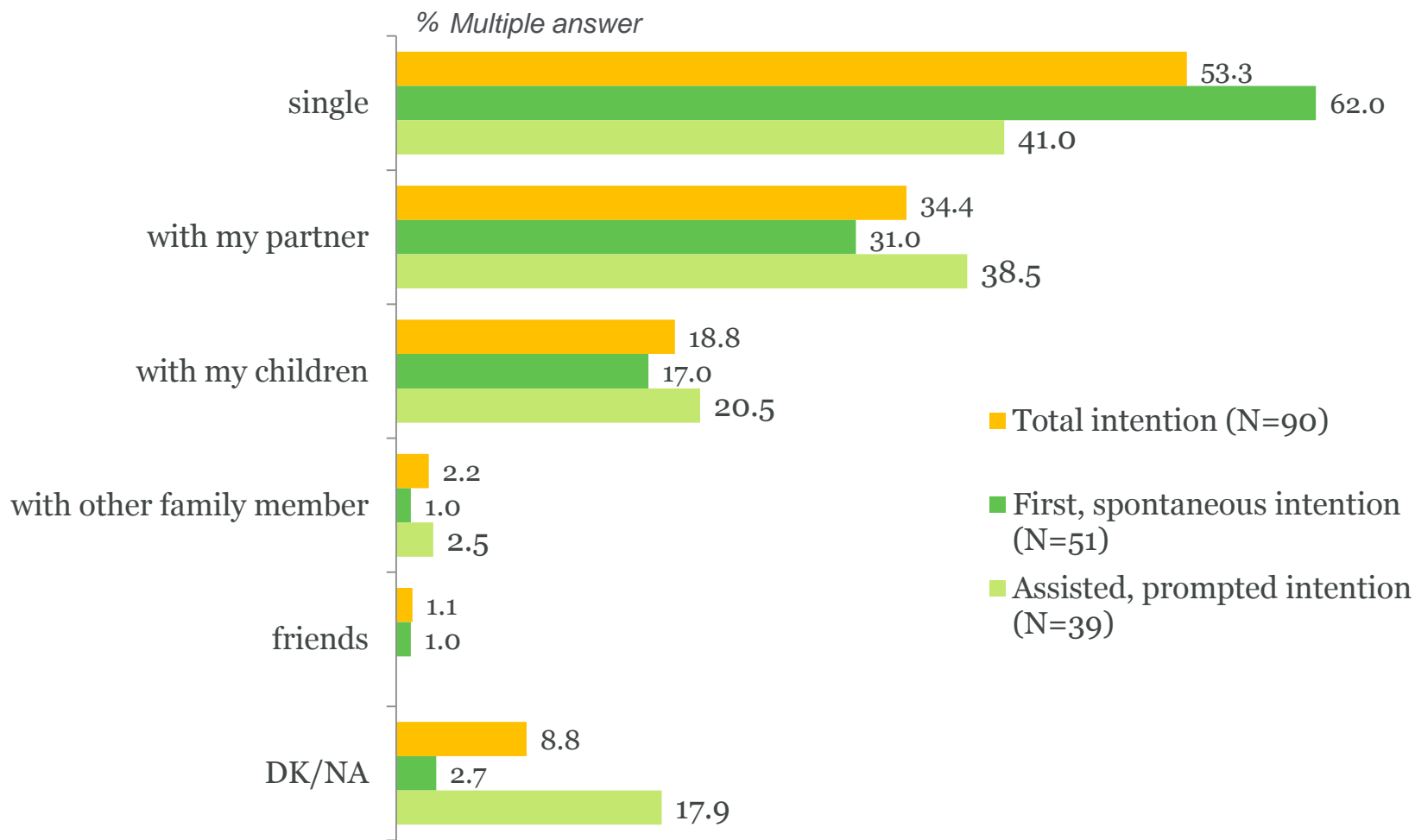
# Time to stay

Q9. How long do you plan to stay in UK?



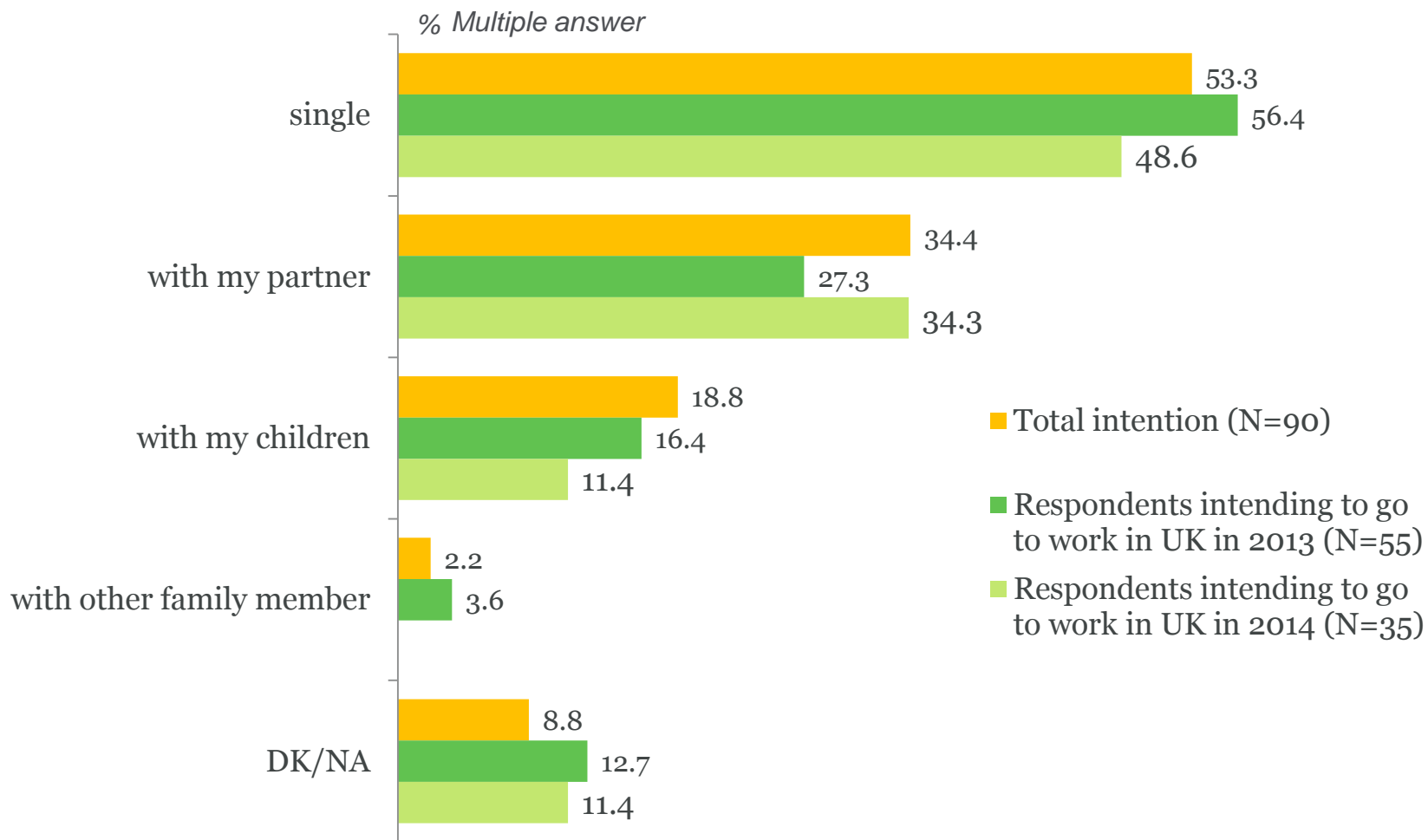
# Whom he/she is going to take with him/her – by type of intention

Q10. Will you go to work in UK .....



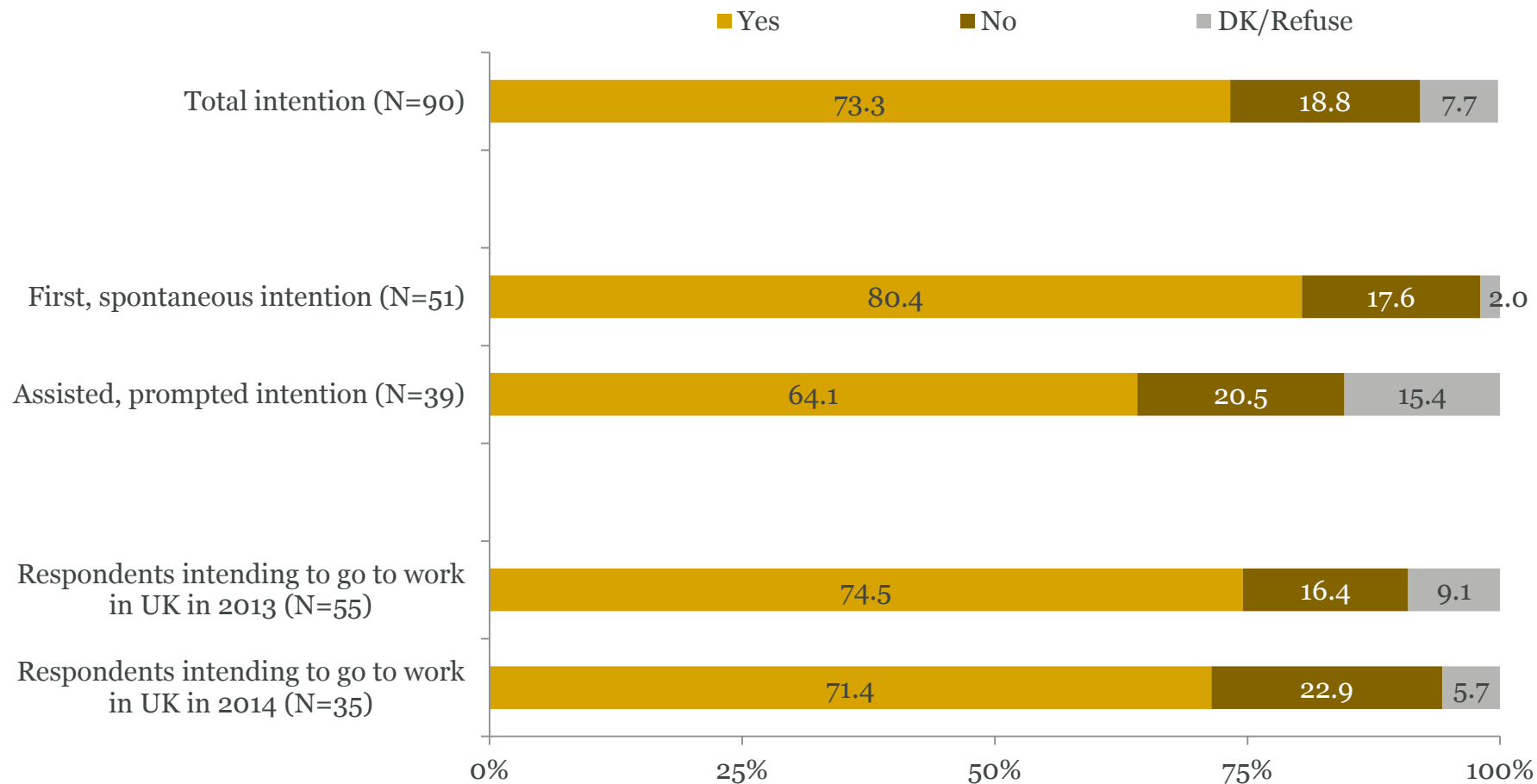
# Whom he/she is going to take with him/her – by year

Q10. Will you go to work in UK .....



# Taking a job below his/her level of qualification

Q11. Would you be ready to take a job in UK below your level of qualification?





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# **Information, opinion and attitudes regard UK**

# Information, opinion and attitudes regard UK

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Approx. 2 out of 10 respondents have friends or acquaintances who work in the UK, 8% say they have relatives who do so, and 14% know someone who intends to go to work in the UK during the following year. As expected, these percentages are much higher among those who intend to go to work in the UK, 77% with friends or acquaintances, 38% have relatives who work in this country, and 57% know someone with the same intentions as theirs.

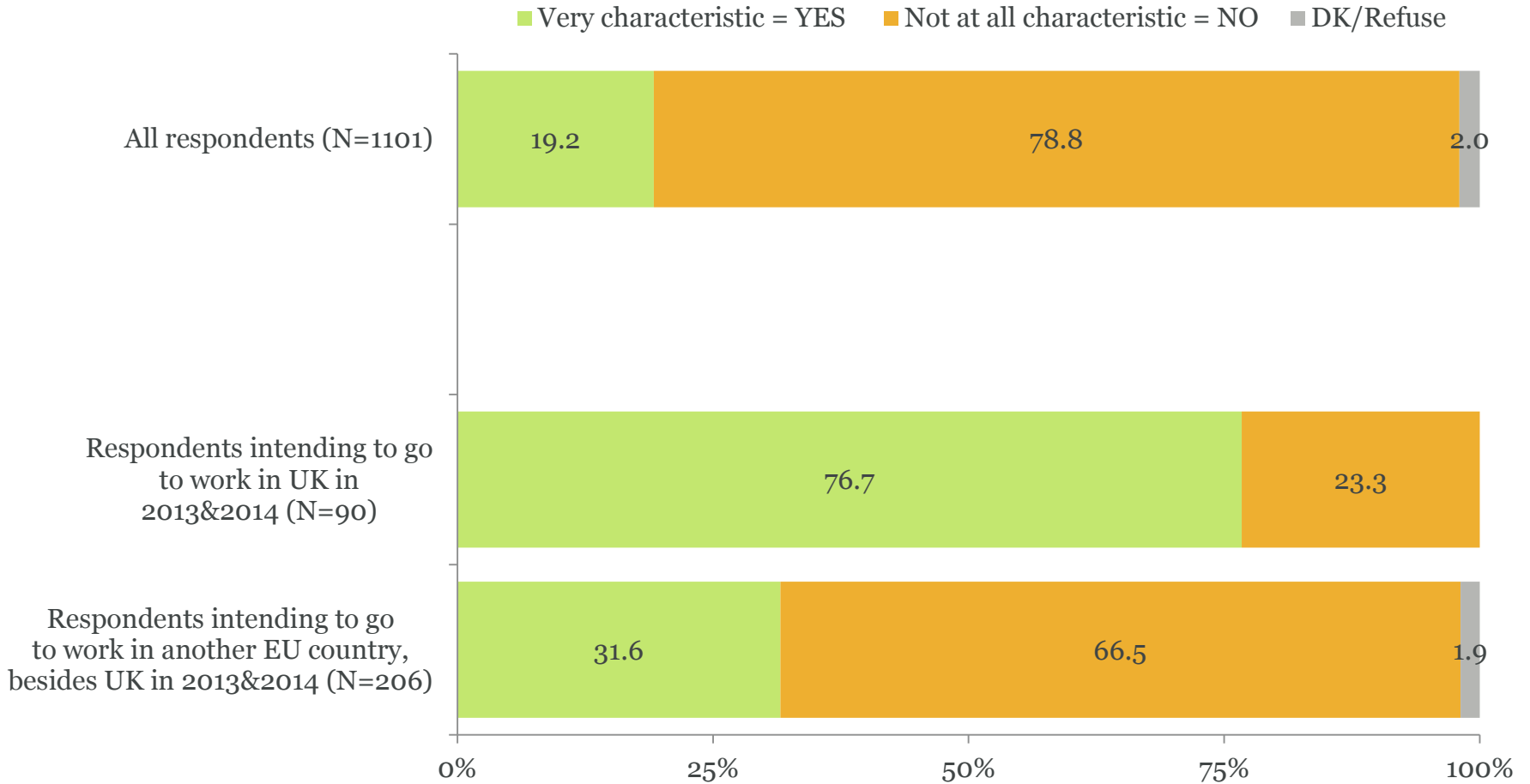
4 out of 10 respondents say they would never go to work in the UK and only 11% of them state their willingness to ever go to work in this country. Worth mentioning is the fact that nearly a third of those who intend to go to work in other EU countries, would never choose UK as a working destination.

Whether or not they intend to go to work in another country, more than half of the respondents have heard of the restrictions being removed for Romanians and Bulgarians on the UK labor market. Not surprisingly, the percentage is higher in the case of those who intend to go to UK, but also among those who intend to go to work in other EU countries. It seems that even though they know about the removed restrictions, they have already chosen other countries and are not willing to change their decision.

Having learned that the UK might limit the benefits that Romania and Bulgaria should demand starting the end of 2013, almost half of the respondents intending to go to the UK are likely to change their decision, while 28% of them state that this change would not affect them at all.

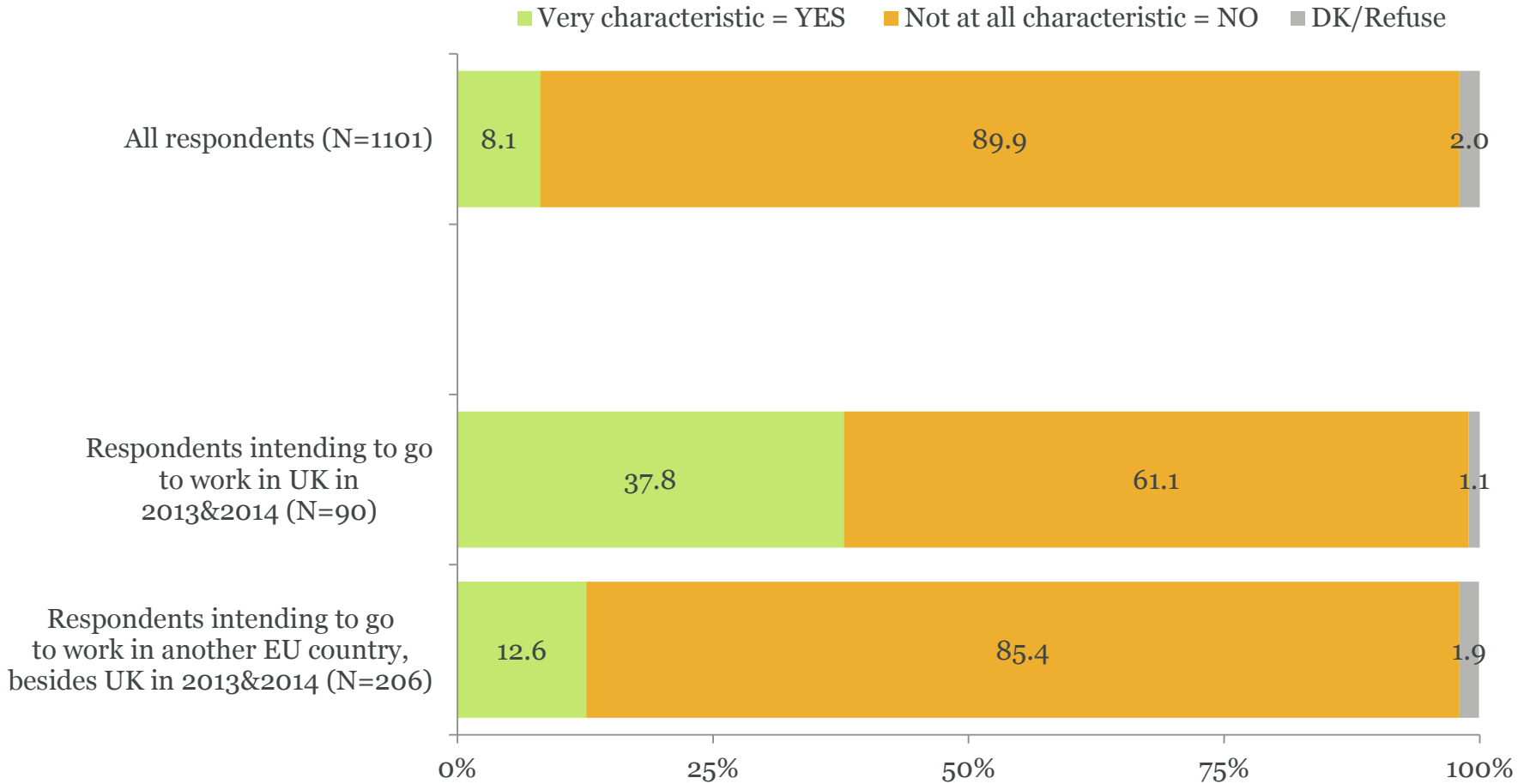
# Having friends and acquaintances who work in UK

Q3.UK. How characteristic is for you each of the following statements? **I have friends and acquaintances who work in UK**



# Having relatives who work in UK

Q3.UK. How characteristic is for you each of the following statements? **I have relatives who work in UK**



# General intentions about going to work in UK ever/never

Q3.UK. How characteristic is for you each of the following statements?\_I would go/never go to work in UK

■ Very characteristic = YES ■ Not at all characteristic = NO ■ DK/Refuse

**EVER**  
go to work  
in UK

All respondents (N=1101)

10.7

85.1

4.2

Respondents intending to go  
to work in another EU country,  
besides UK in 2013&2014 (N=206)

22.8

69.9

7.3

**NEVER**  
go to work  
in UK

All respondents (N=1101)

42.4

46.7

10.9

Respondents intending to go  
to work in another EU country,  
besides UK in 2013&2014 (N=206)

29.1

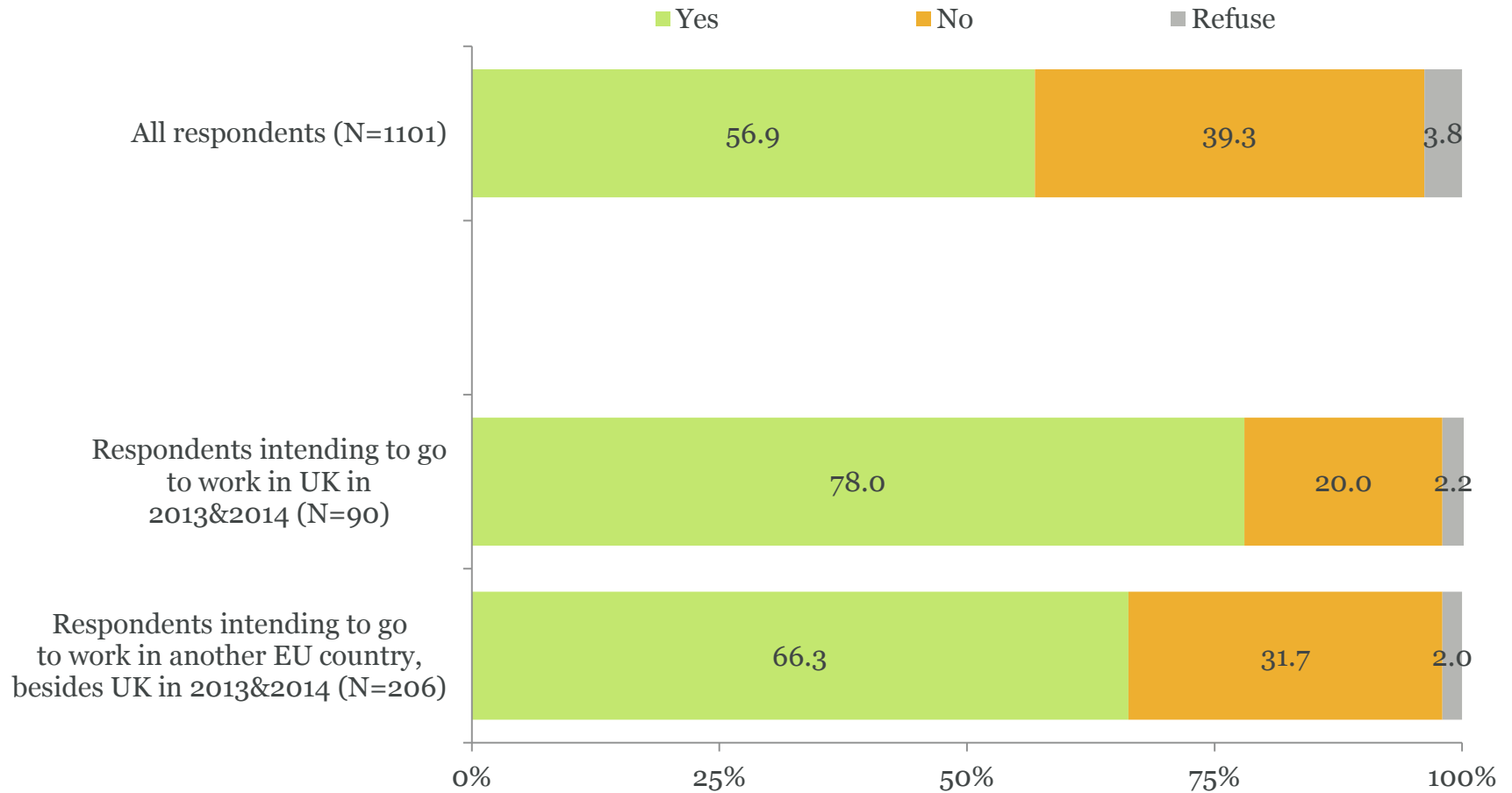
55.3

15.5

0% 25% 50% 75% 100%

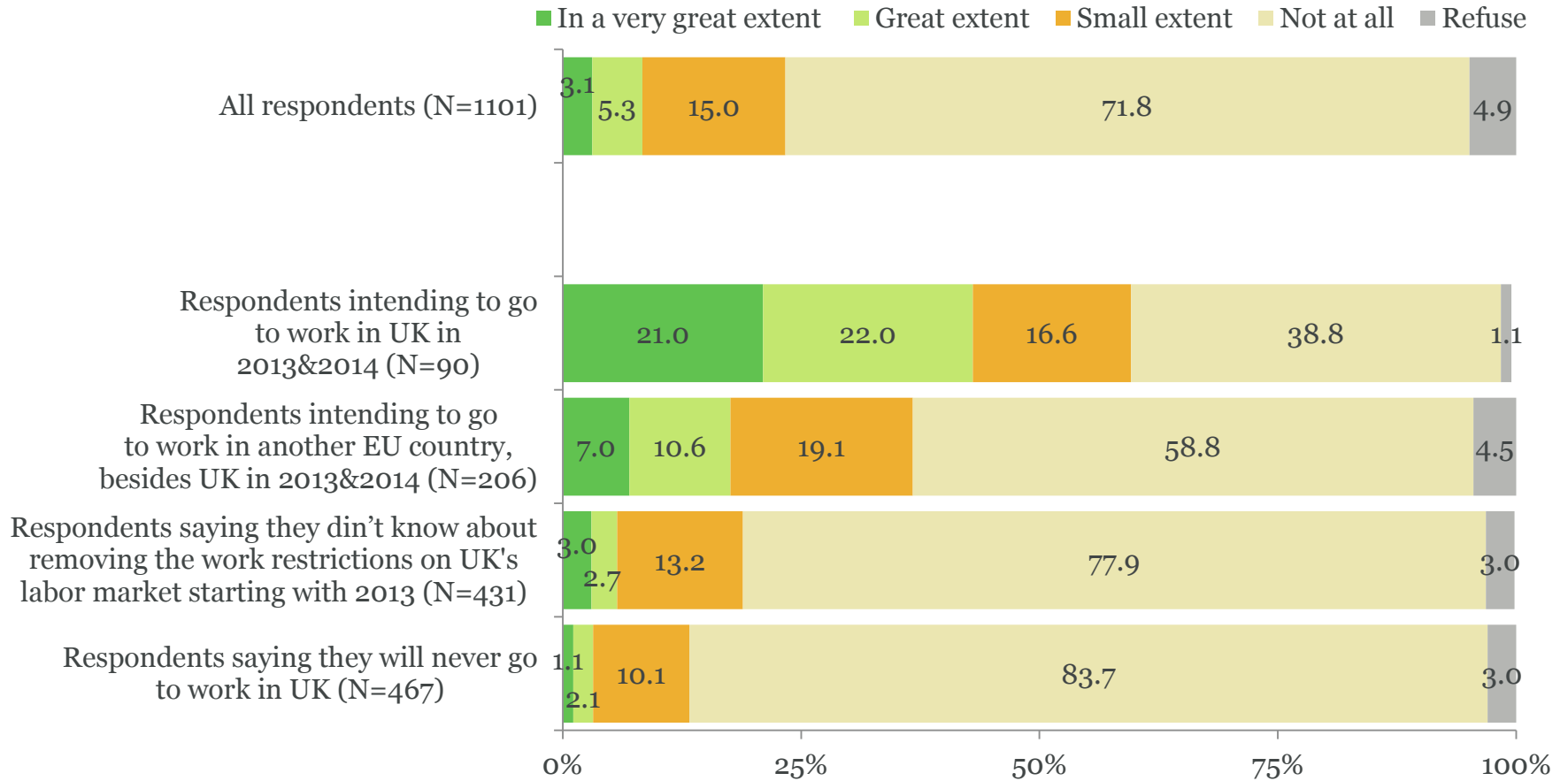
# Knowing about removing the work restrictions imposed for Romanians and Bulgarians from the UK's labor market

A. Have you known or heard that at the end of this year (2013) the work restrictions imposed for Romanians and Bulgarians will be removed from the UK's labor market?



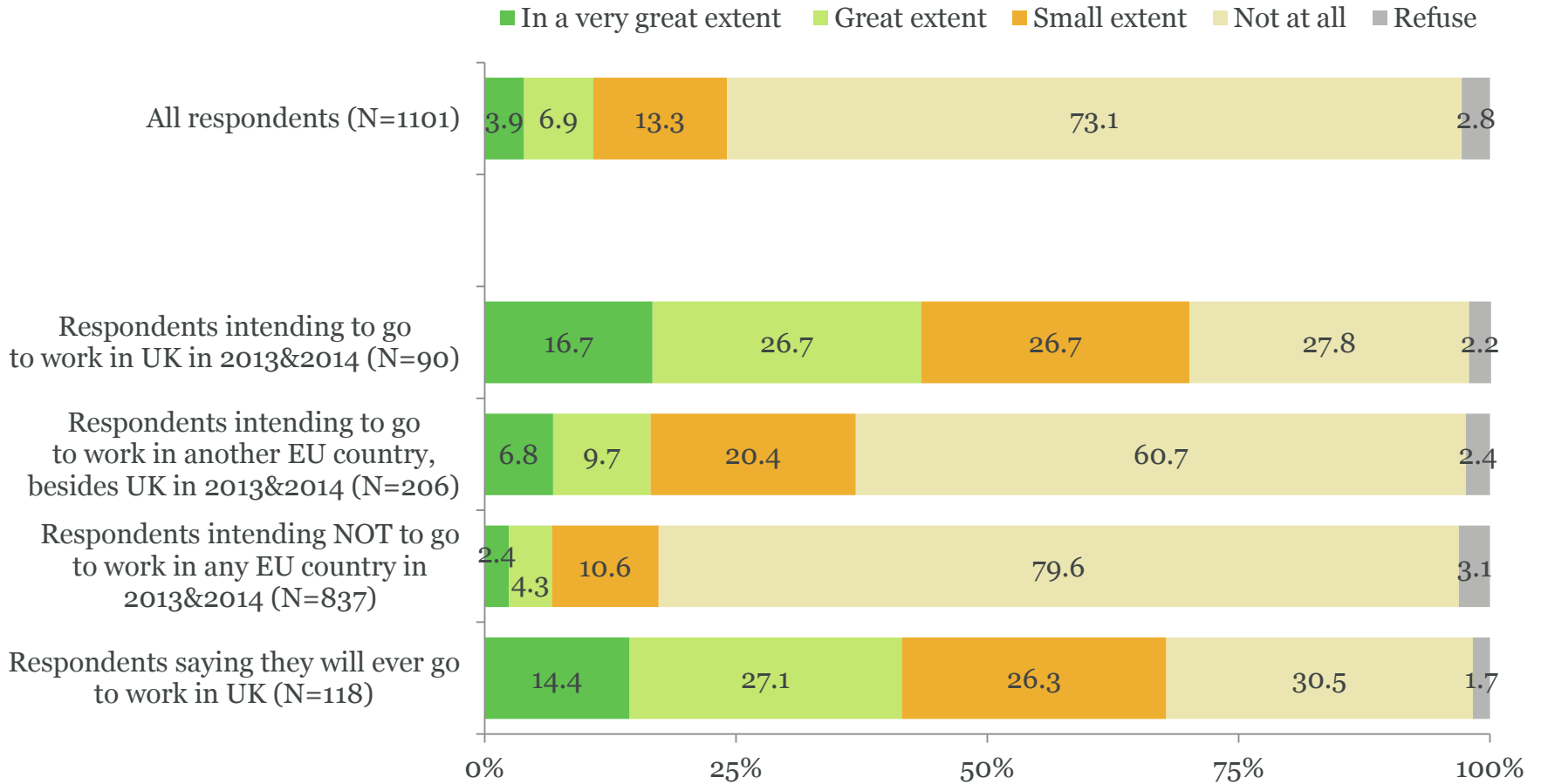
# Changing the decision after knowing about removing the work restrictions imposed for Romanians and Bulgarians from the UK's labor market

B. UK will remove the work restrictions imposed for Romanians and Bulgarians on UK's labor market at the end of this year (2013). In what extent would this affect your decision to go to work in this country?



# Changing the decision after knowing about limiting the state benefits that Romanians and Bulgarians could claim

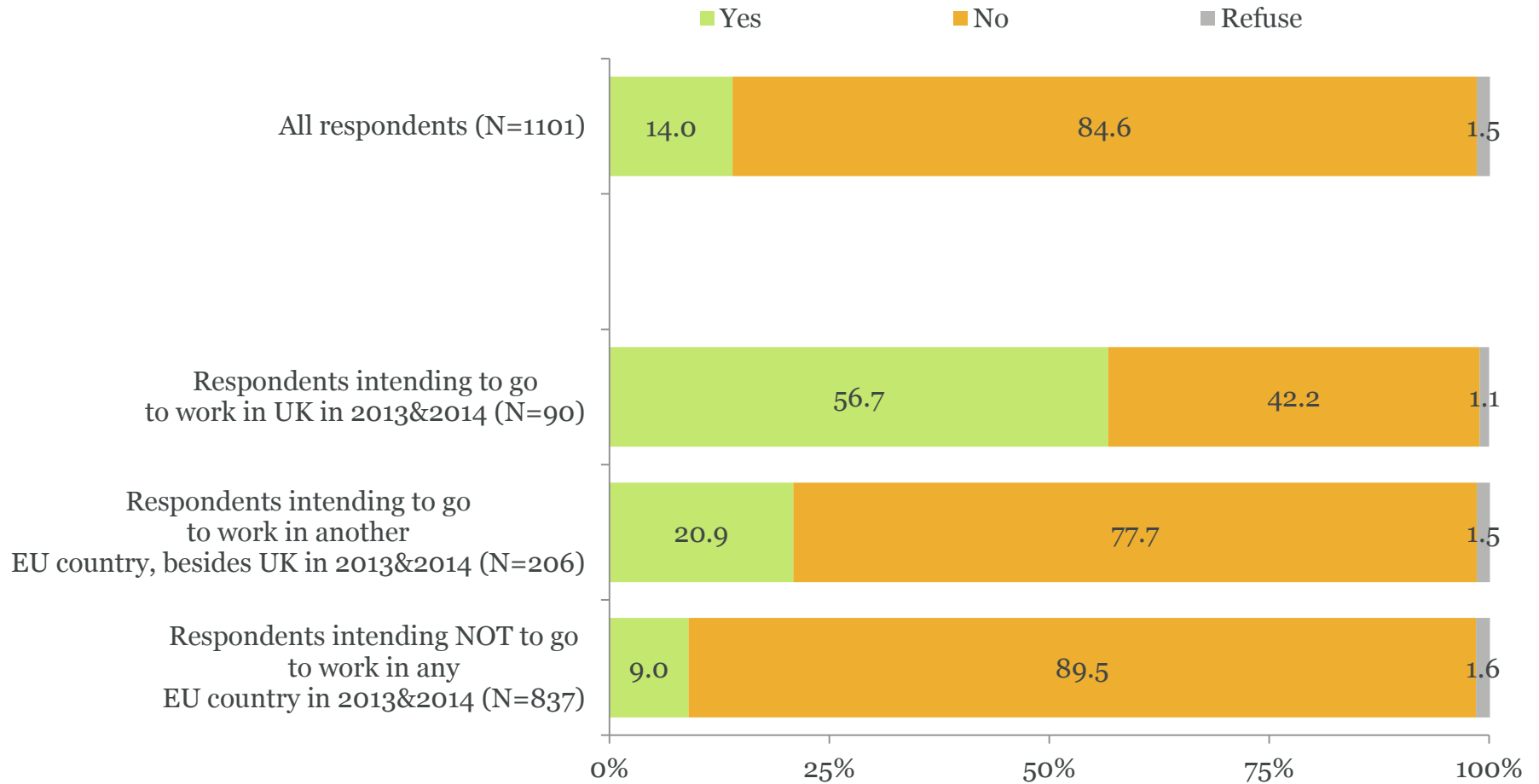
Q12. The UK may consider limiting the state benefits that Romanians and Bulgarians could claim. If they did, in what extent would this affect your decision to go to work in this country?





# Knowing someone who is planning to go to UK to work in the next 12 months

Q13. Do you personally know anyone who plans to go to UK for work in the next 12 months?



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# Working Abroad Experience

# Working Abroad Experience

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For the past 5 years, 16% of the respondents have worked abroad. The percentage is much higher, reaching almost half of them, when we refer to the respondents who intend to go to work in a EU country in 2013 or 2014. These results confirm the hypothesis that the fact of having previously worked abroad is a very strong stimulus to want this to happen again.

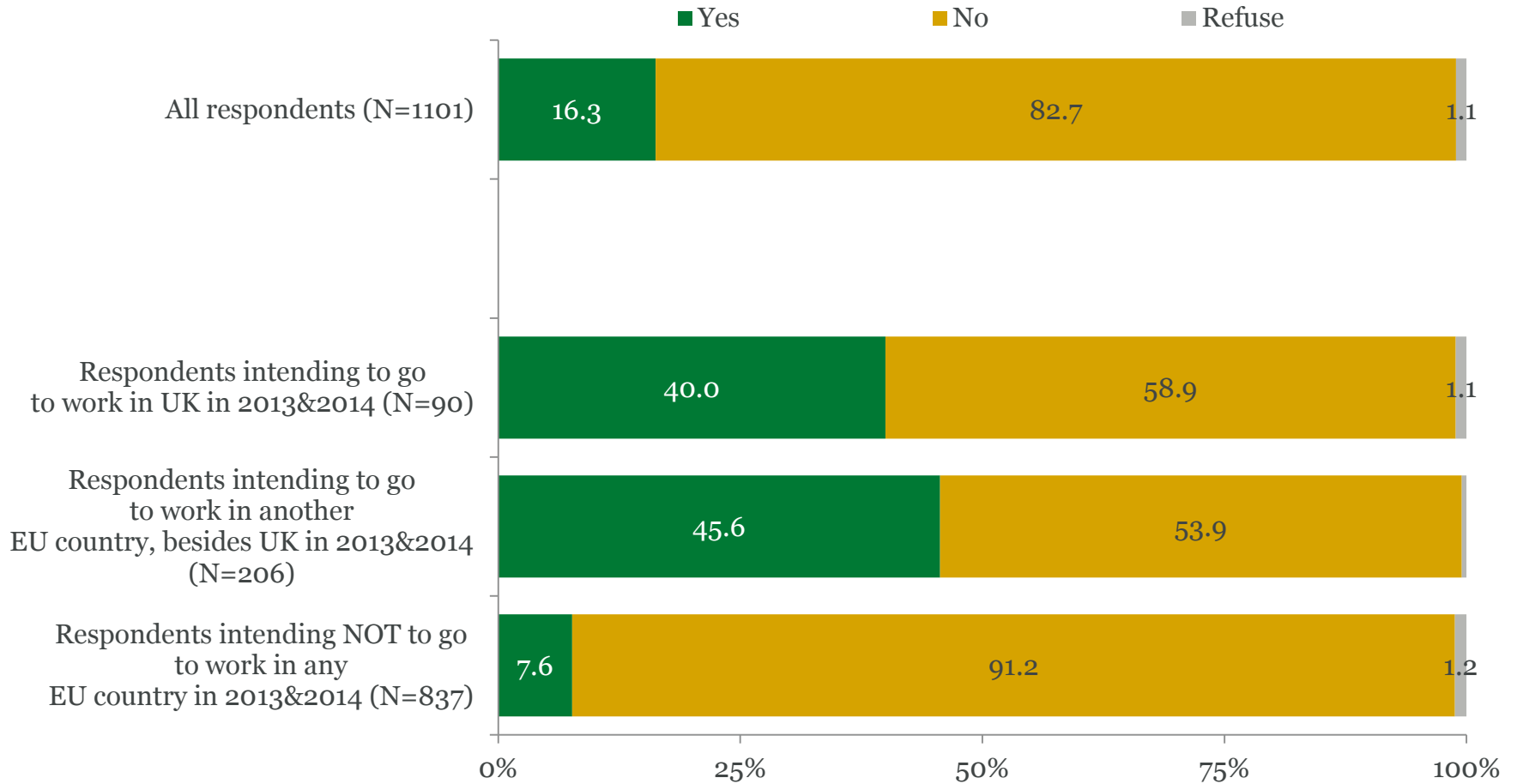
4 of 10 respondents who would go to work in the UK already have at least one working experience in another foreign country, and 22% of those have even worked in the UK in the last 5 years. Also, 28% of them have worked in Italy and 22% in Spain.

Not only the personal experience counts, but also the family's one, regarding the fostering of the intention to work abroad. Thus, a third of those who intend to go to work in the UK or other EU countries have someone in the household who worked in another country than the residence's one. The average number of people who went to work per each household with this kind of situation is 2 and aren't significantly different across the analyzed segmentations.

The results across countries suggest that several members from the same household go to work in countries like Italy and UK, compared to other purposed/targeted countries.

# Working abroad in the last 5 years

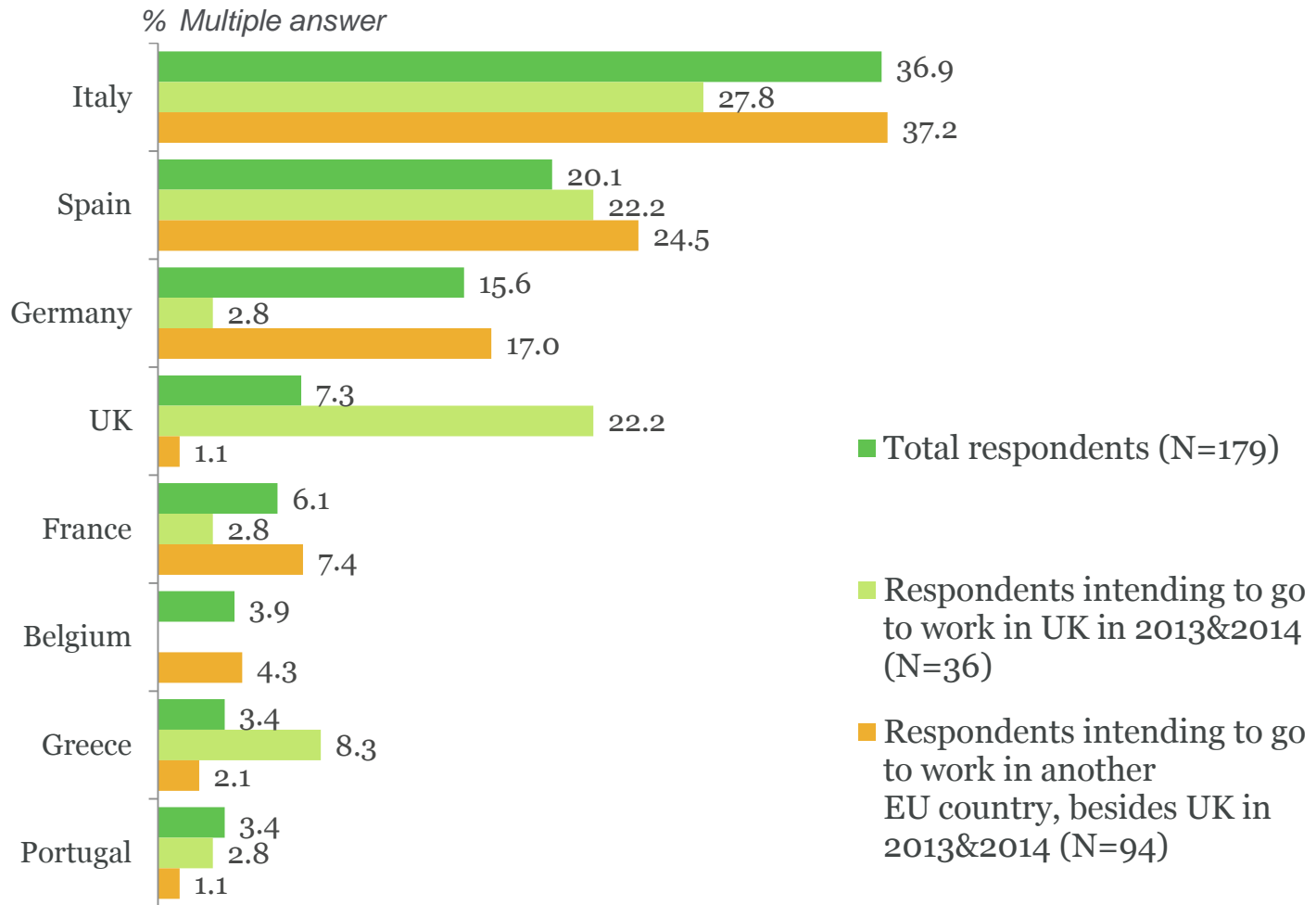
Q15. In the last 5 years have you worked abroad?



# Work experience abroad

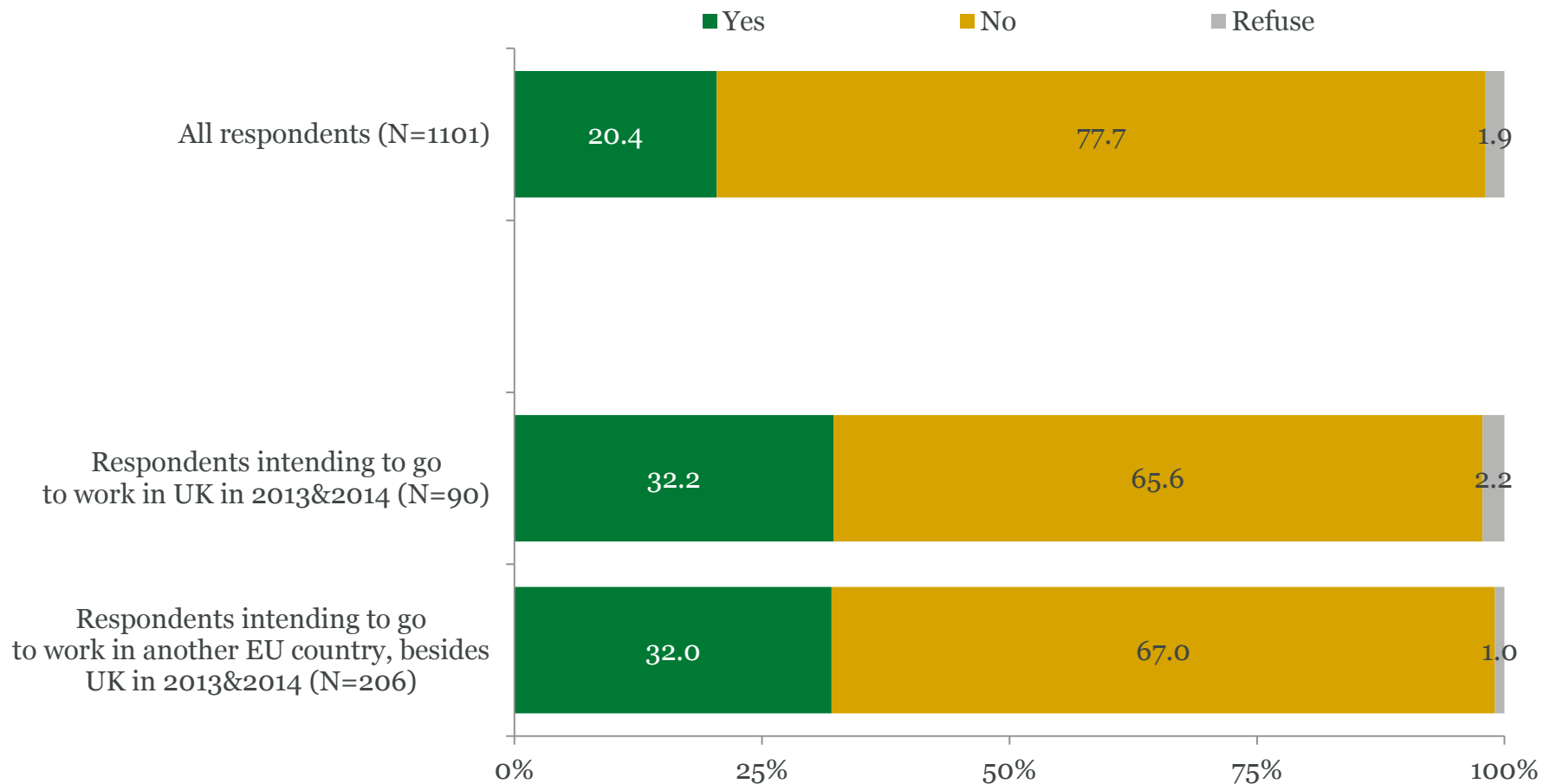
Q15.bis In what countries?

Base: respondents working abroad in the last 5 years



# Someone in household working abroad for a longer period of time

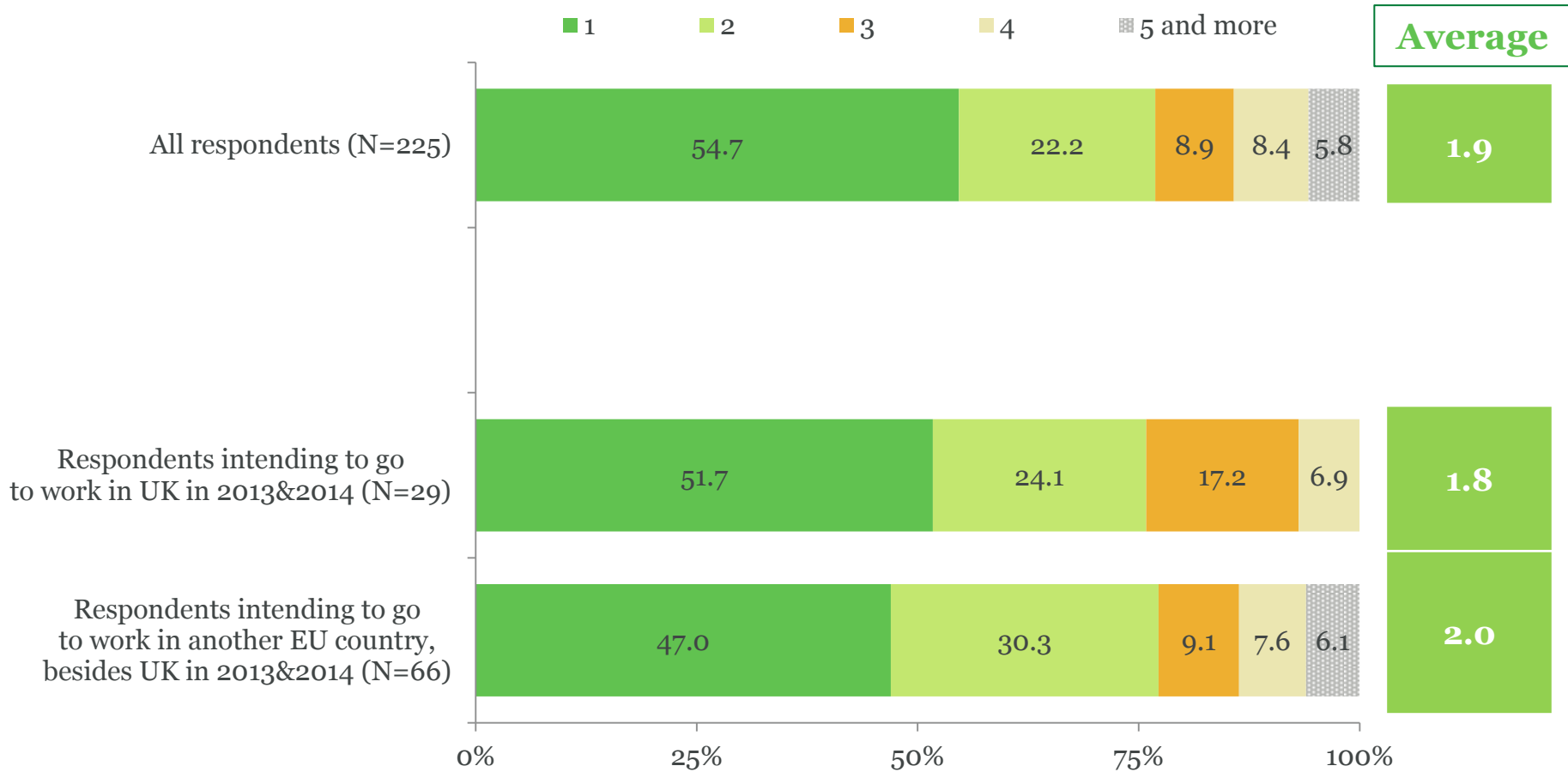
Q16. Is there someone in your household who currently work abroad for a longer period of time (minimum 3 months)?



# Members of household currently working abroad

Q17. How many persons from your household are currently working abroad?

Base: respondents having someone in their household working abroad



# The average number of household members who are currently working abroad - by countries

Q17.bis. Mention every country where your household's members work.

Base: respondents having someone in their household working abroad





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## **Socio-demographic profile**

# Socio-demographic profile

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Initially, during the '90s, the departures having work as main scope were very selective. More men than women were leaving, more townspeople than villagers, more mature aged people than the young ones. Later, after 2001, the flows have started to balance: the percentage of women who go to work abroad is similar to that of the men's, villagers' share is almost equal to the townspeople, the number of young people and those with higher education have increased.

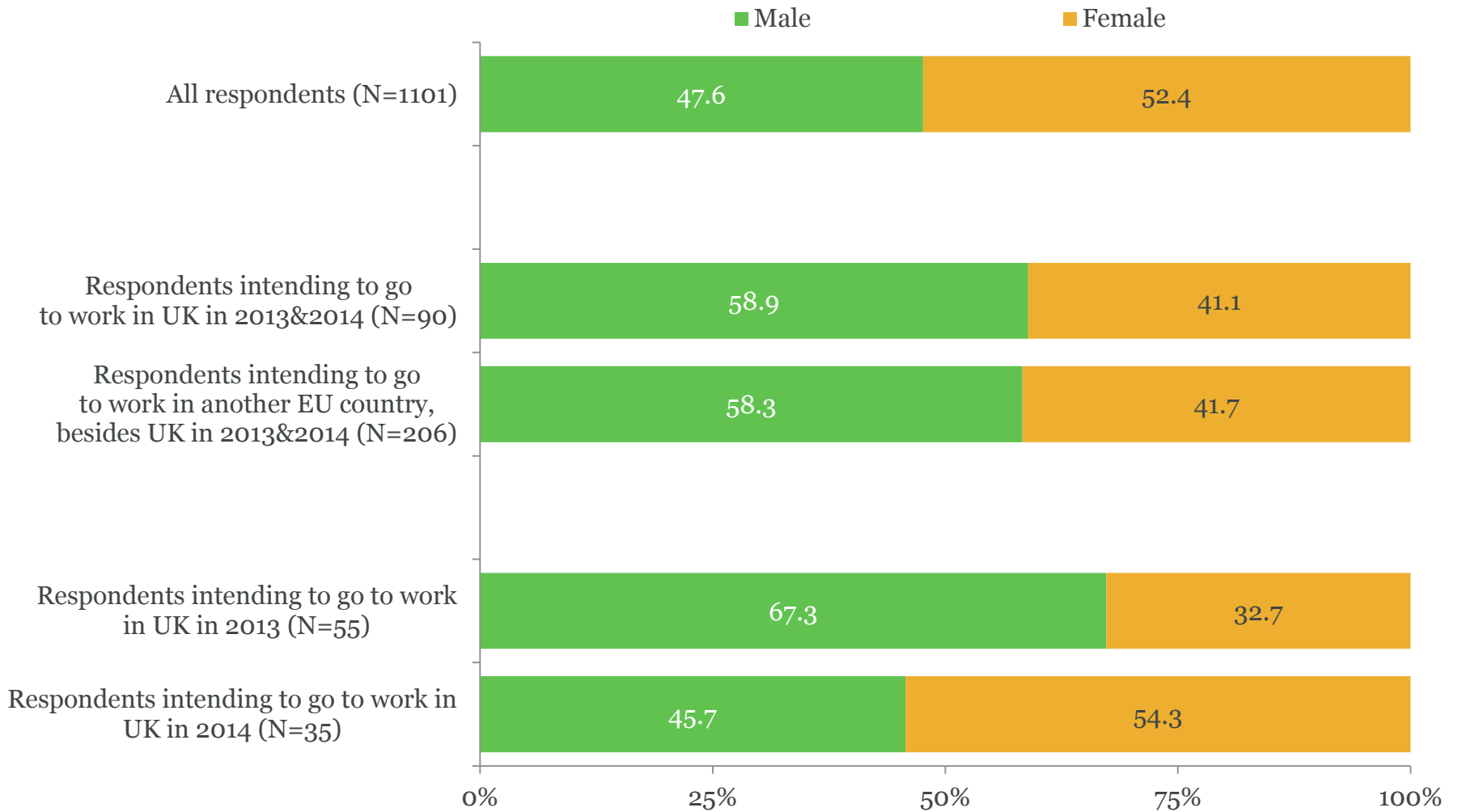
The persons who show the intention to go to work in the UK are in a higher proportion males, with the average age of 36 years, coming from households with 3-4 members. One third of them are unmarried persons, have higher education and speak English fluently or at advanced level. Regards the current occupation, more than half of those who go to work in the UK are full time or part time employees, third of them as skilled workers and 12% with intellectual occupations.

The average of the total net income of the households from those who intend to go to work in the UK is approx. 430 Euro, the average of the personal net income being 210 Euro, while the income per capita is 150 Euro. These revenues are higher than those observed at total sample level, but also in the sub-sample consists of individuals who intend to go to work in other EU countries. For a quarter of those who intend to go to work in UK, their incomes are sufficient to buy everything they need, even for the more expensive things

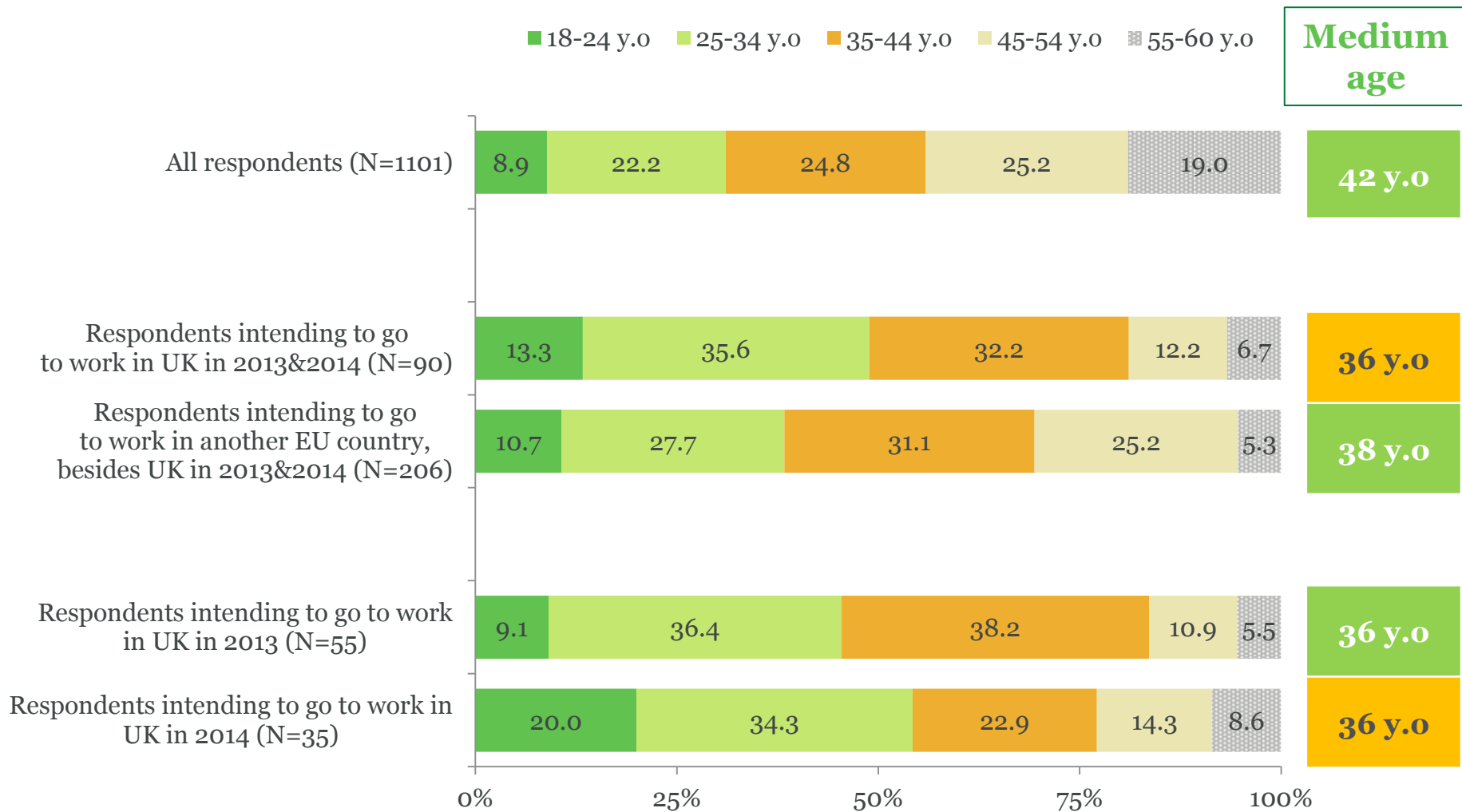
The respondents who want to emigrate to work in UK are likely more urban people, 46% from Bucharest and other county capitals.

Banat, Crisana-Maramures and Transylvania seem to be the historical regions wherefrom people go to work in the UK in a higher percentage (compared to the total sample weight), the opposite hovering Oltenia and Muntenia.

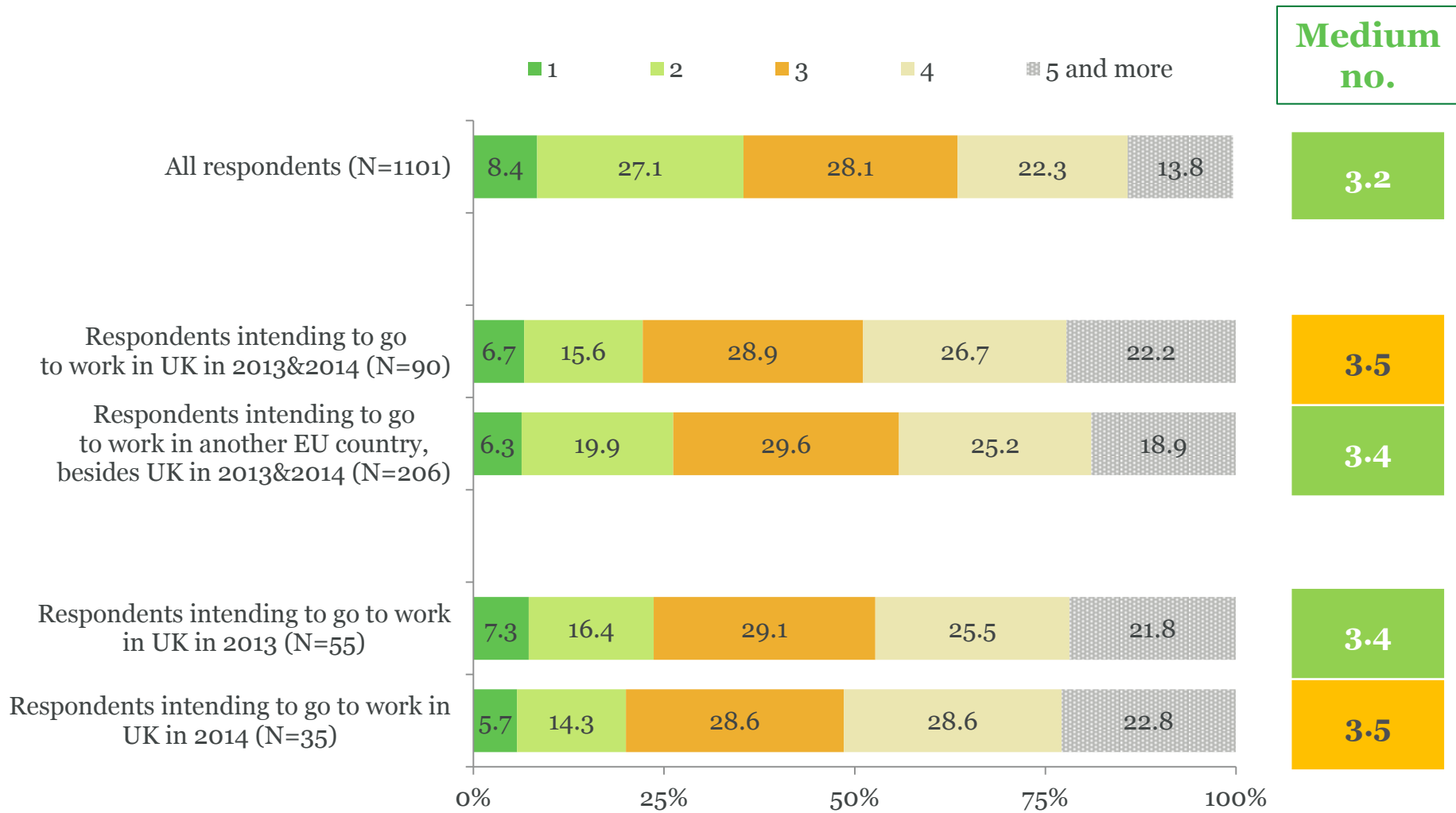
# Gender



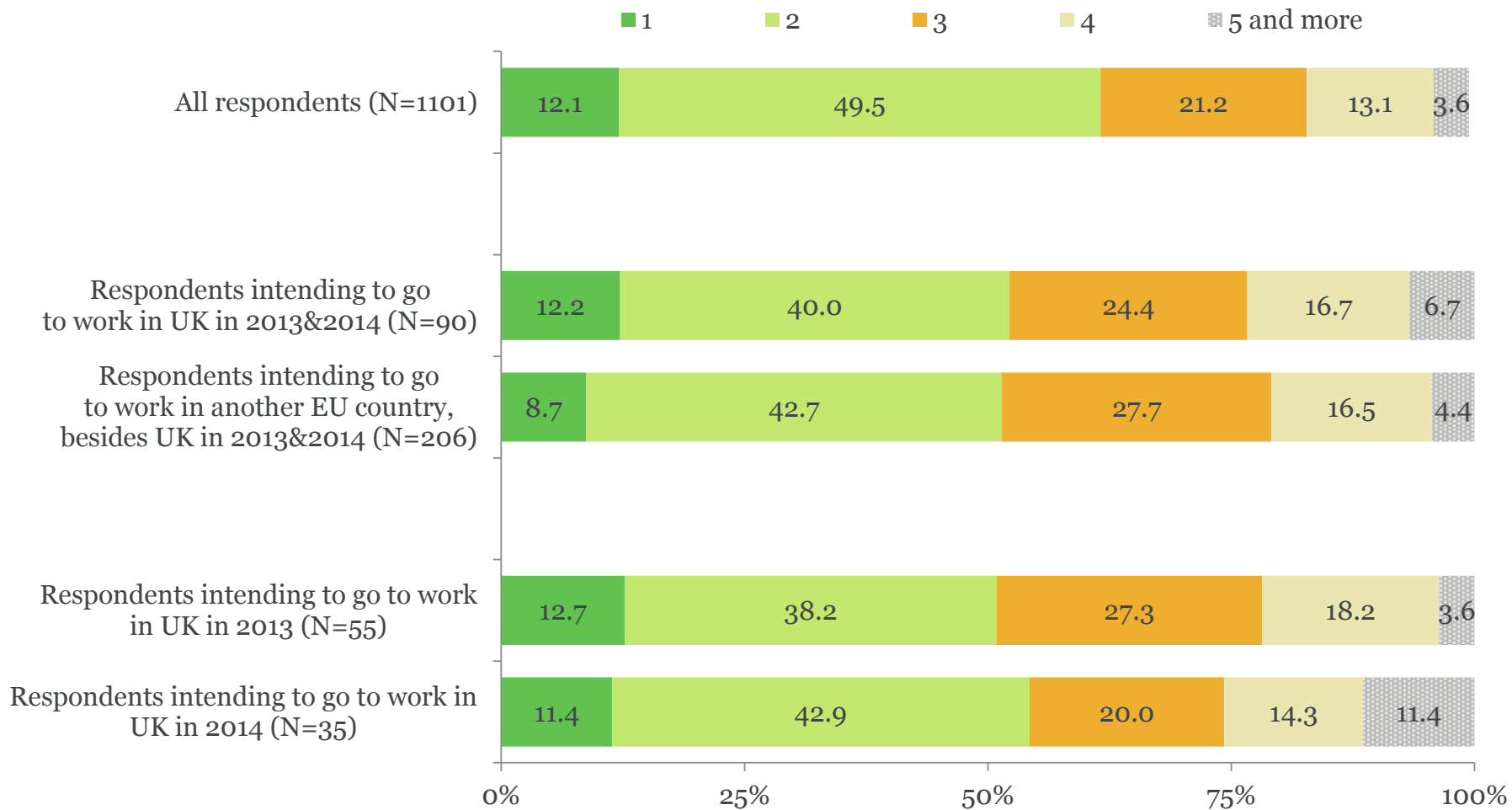
# Age



# Members of household

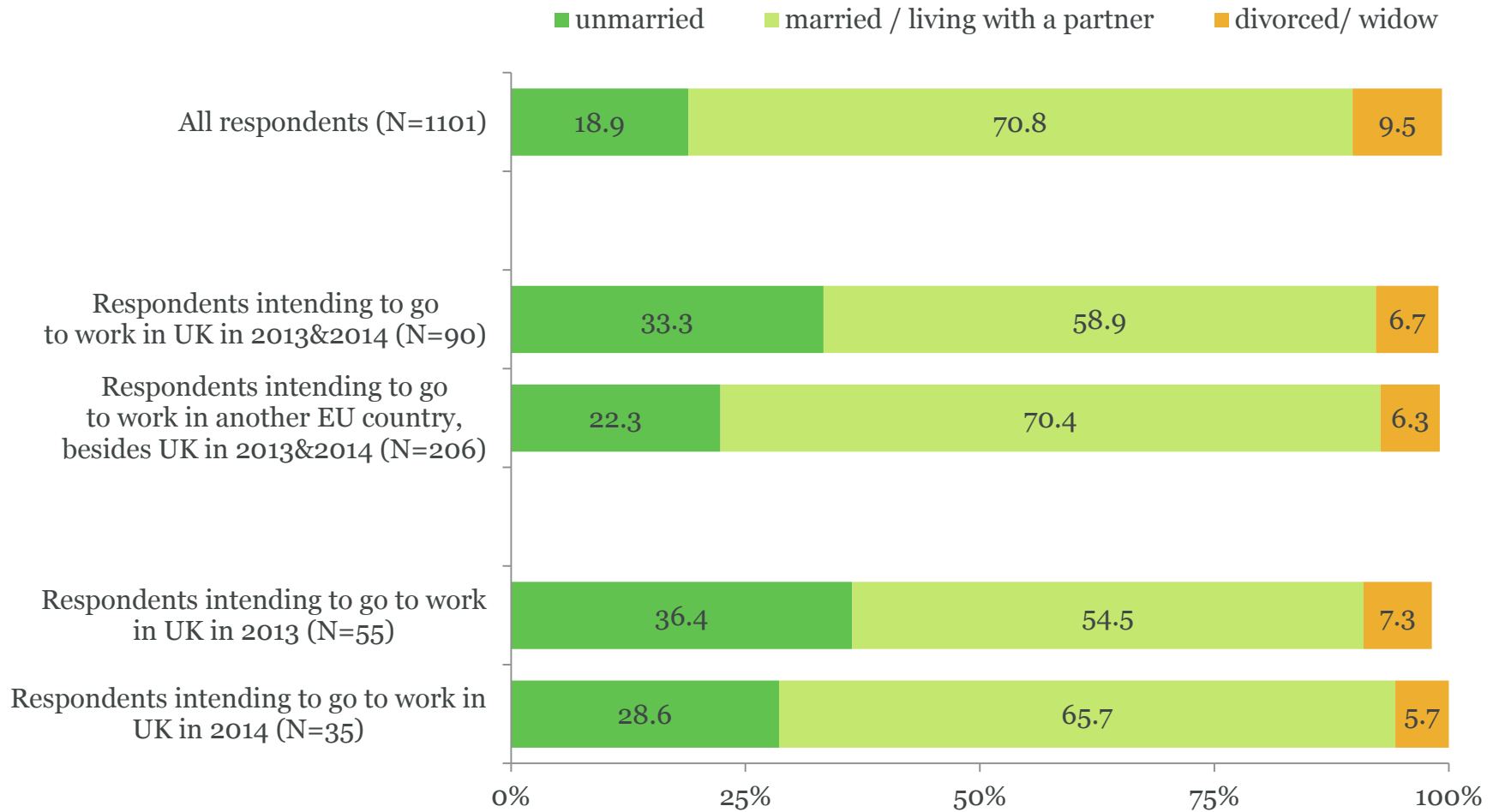


# Adults members of household



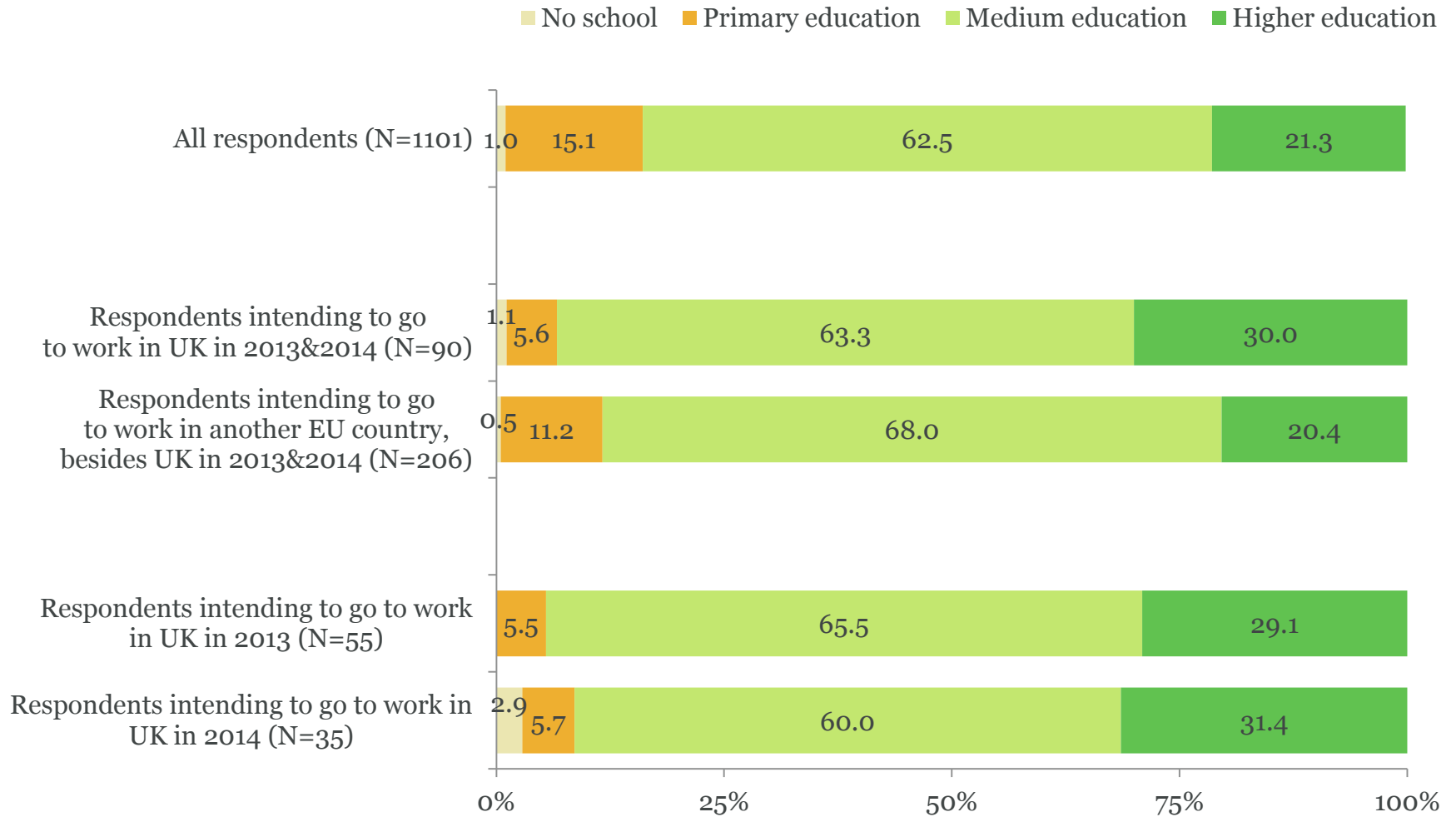
The differences up to 100% is represented by "DK/NA" mentions

# Marital status



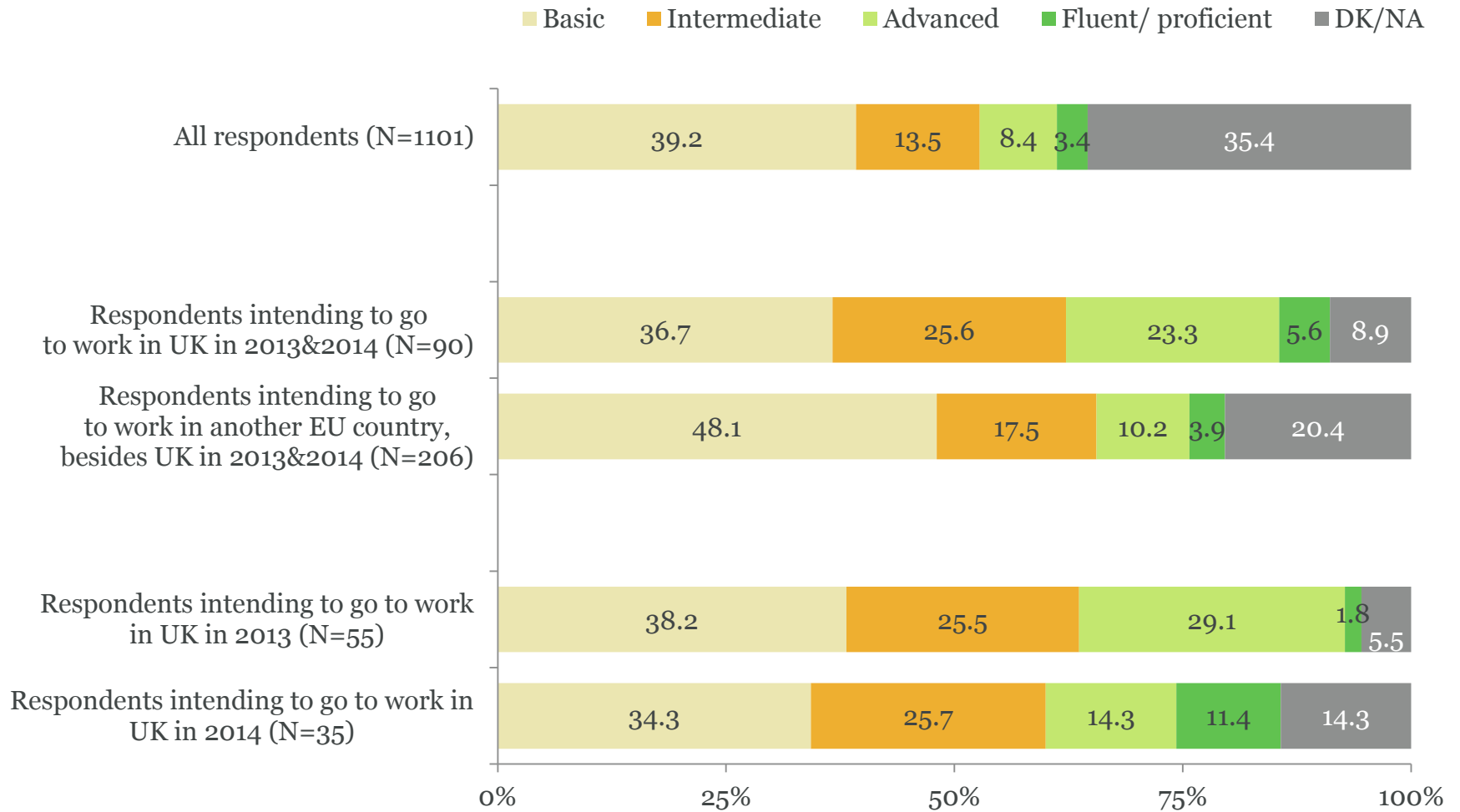
The differences up to 100% is represented by "Refuse" mentions

# Education

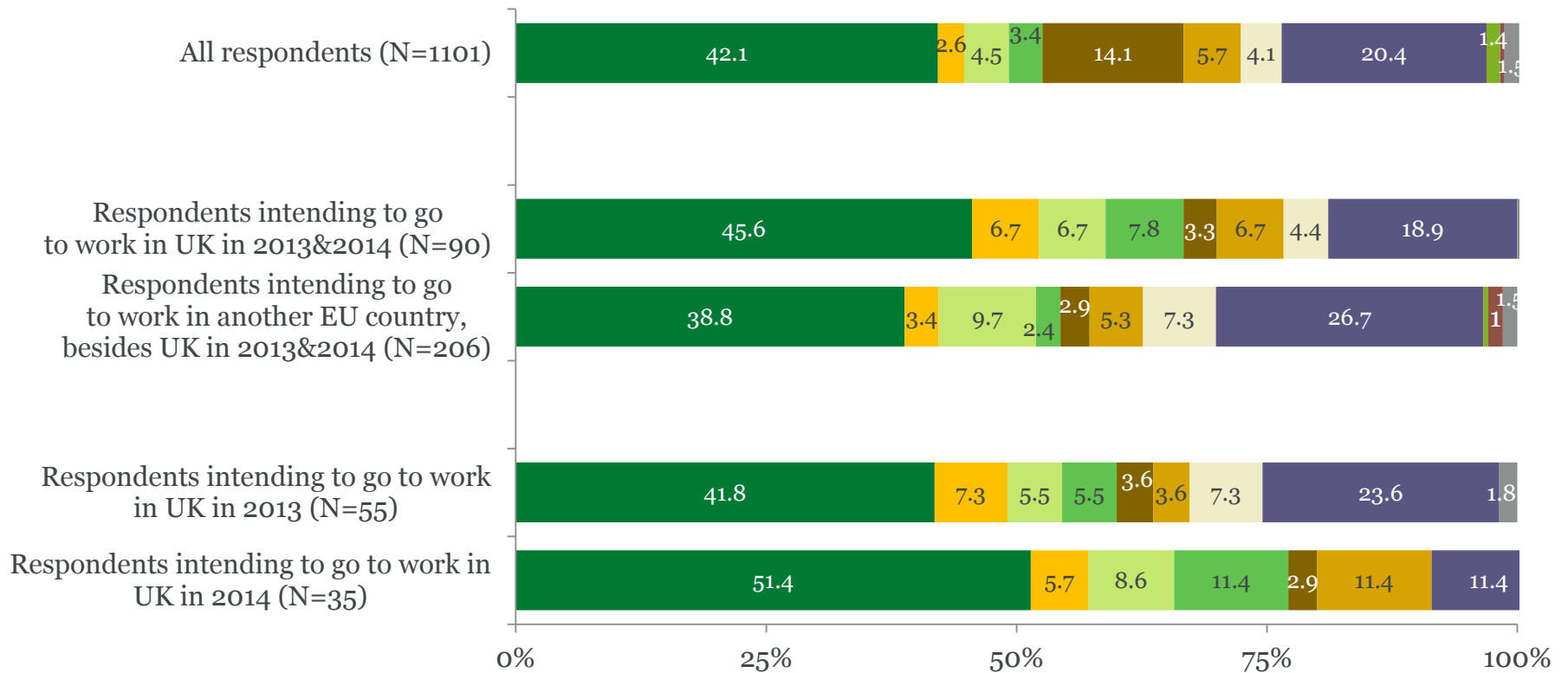
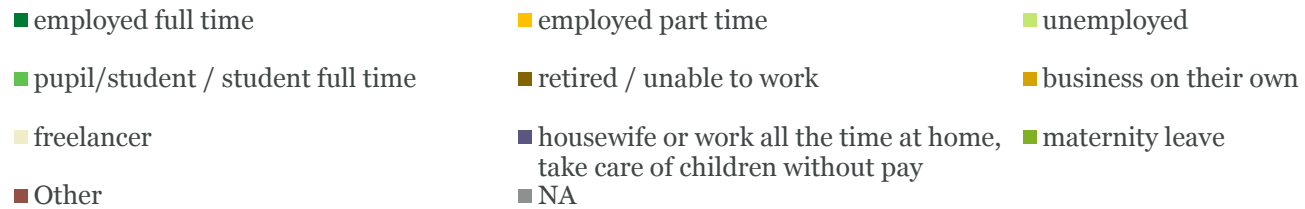




# English language level

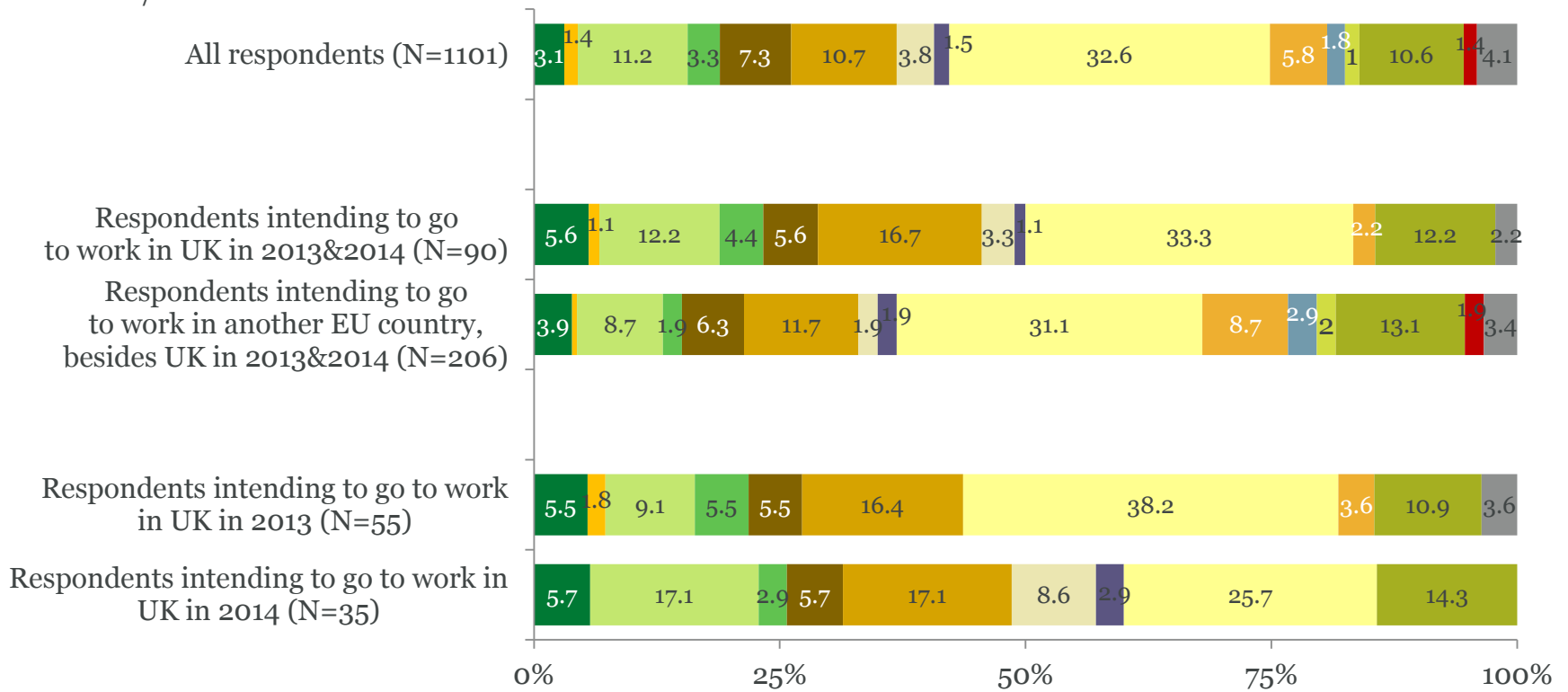


# Present occupation



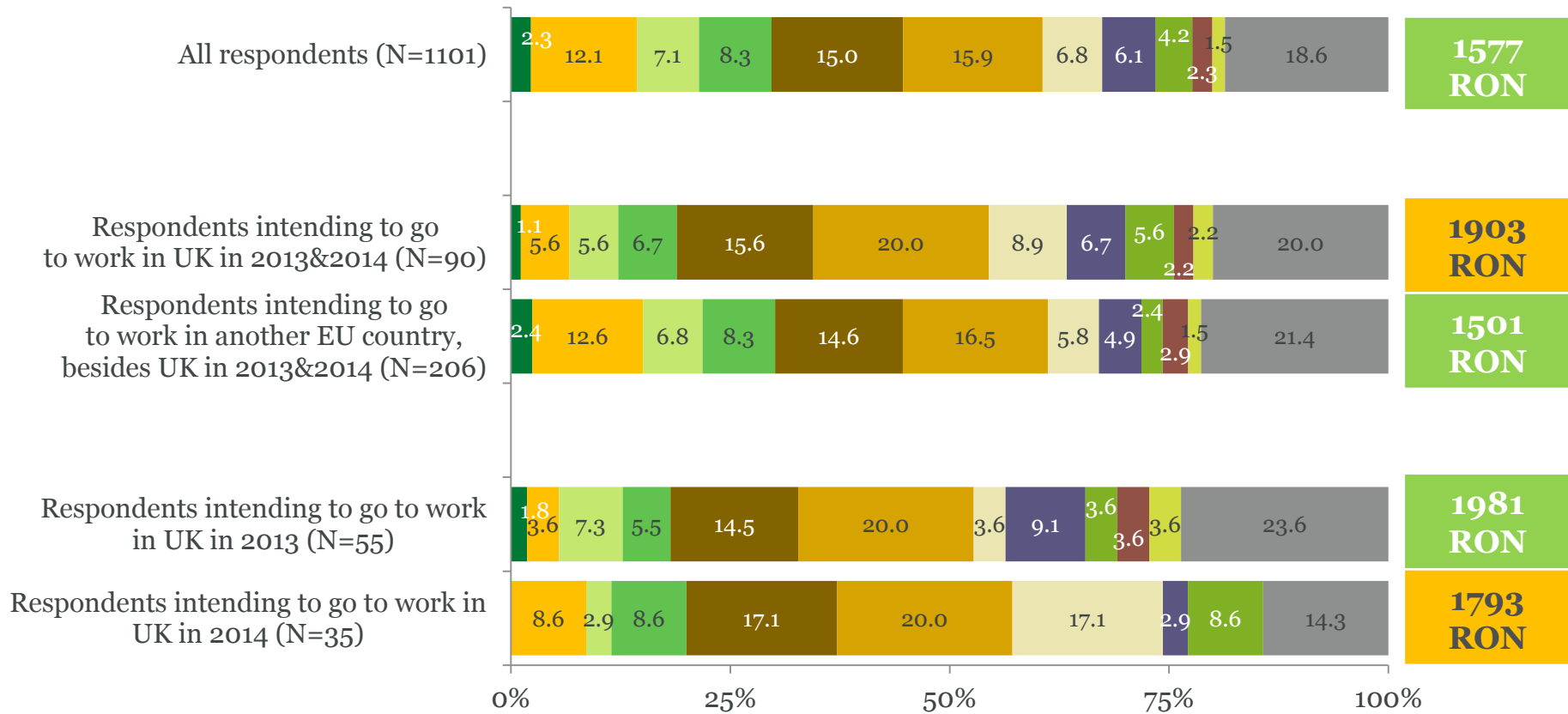
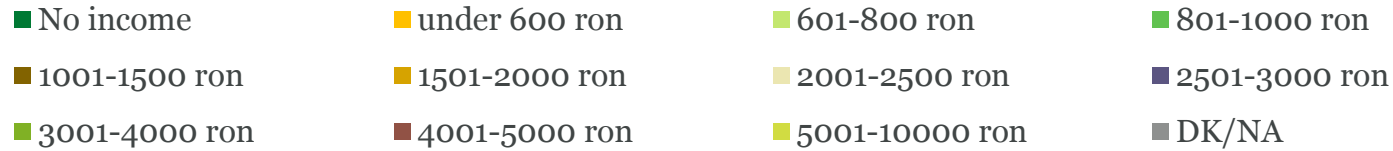
# Job title or last occupation

- owner / co-owner
- intellectual occupations
- public officer
- qualified farmers or in their own household
- qualified / skilled worker
- unskilled laborers in agriculture
- inactive
- DK/NA
- management position
- technicians or foremen
- workers in commerce and trade services
- craftsmen and mechanical repairers
- unqualified worker in non-agricultural sectors
- military staff
- other

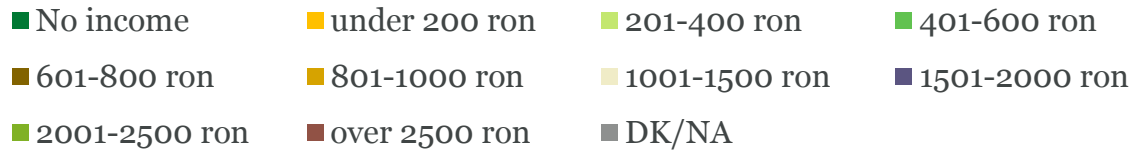


# Total net income of household

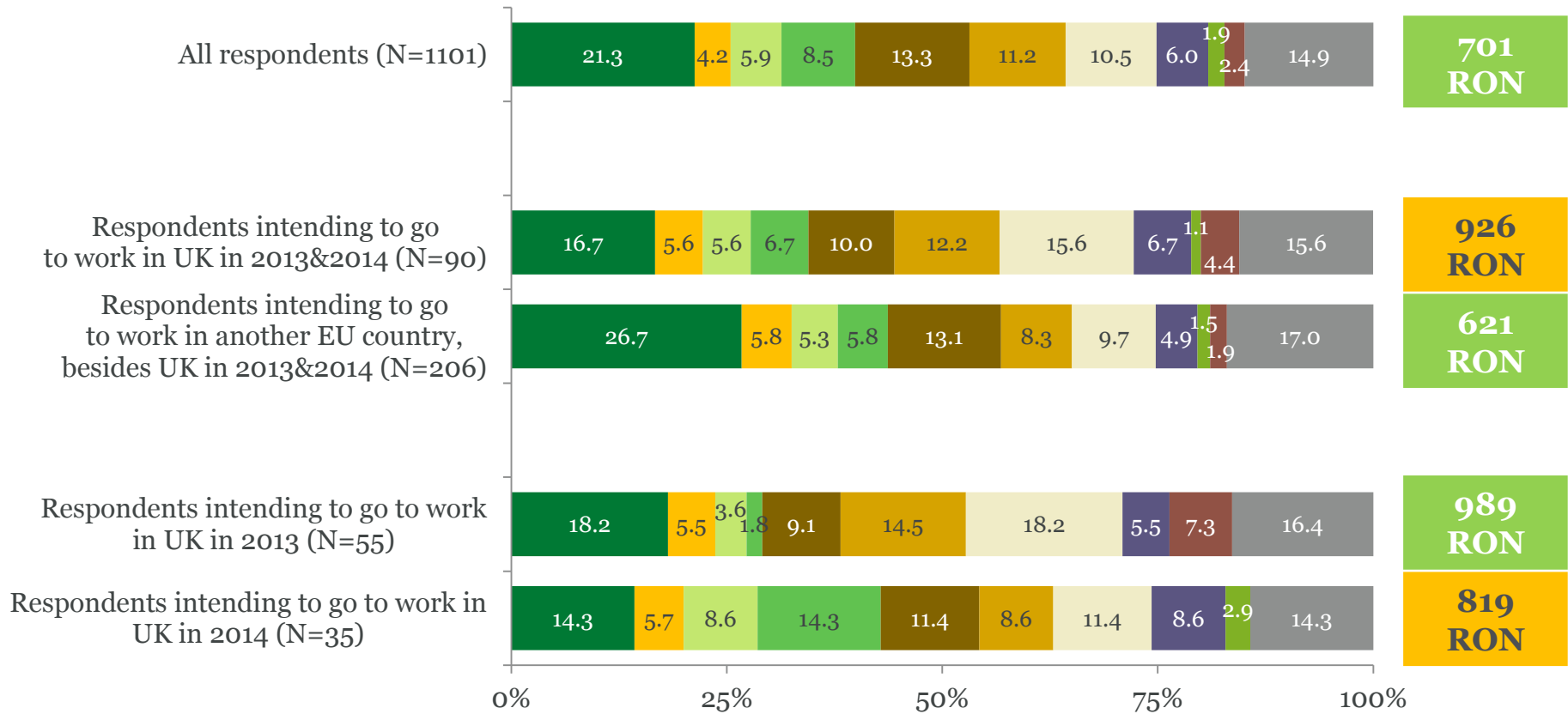
**Medium  
income**



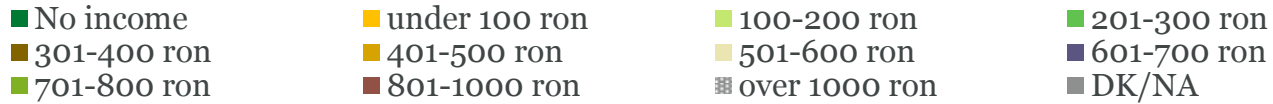
# Personal net income



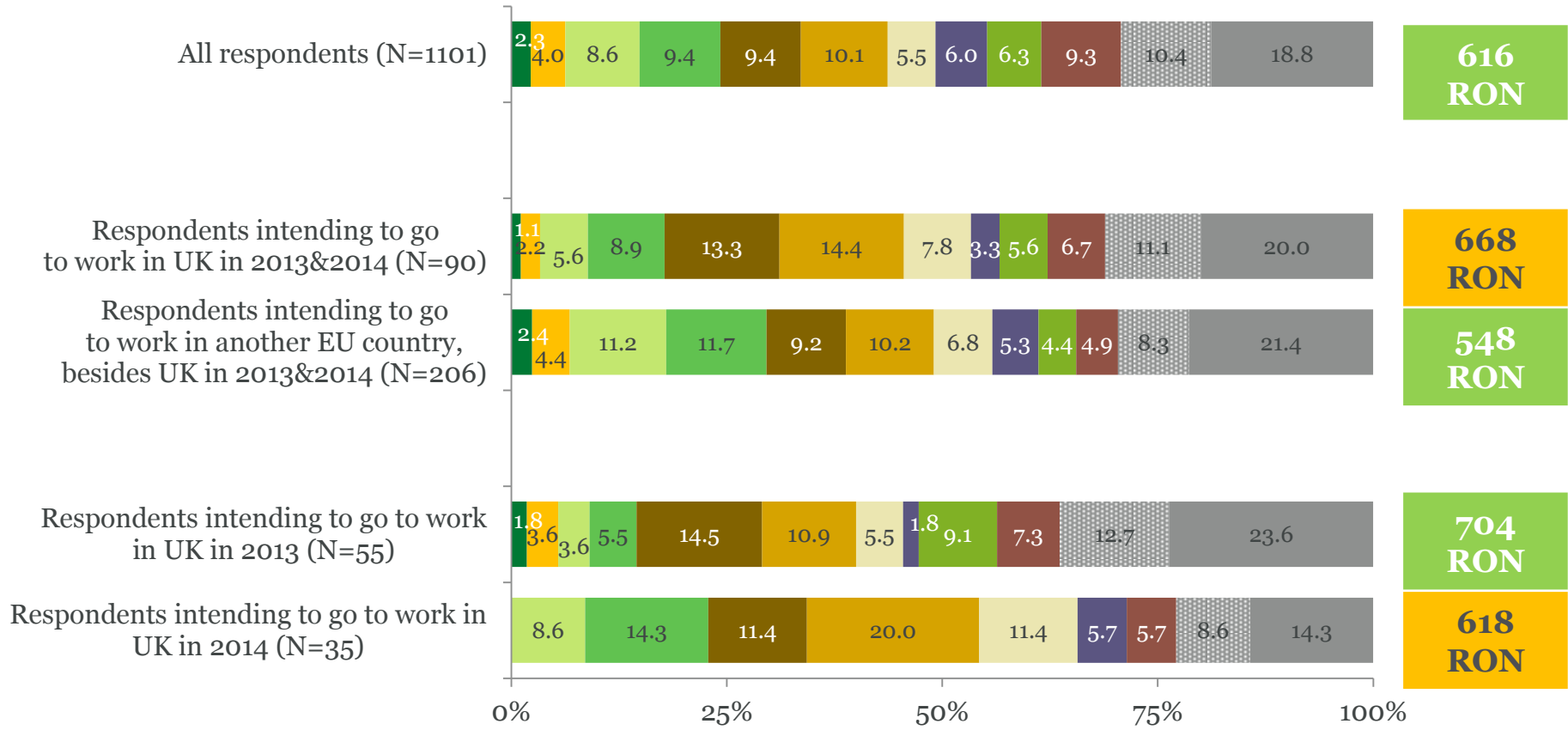
Medium income



# Income per capita

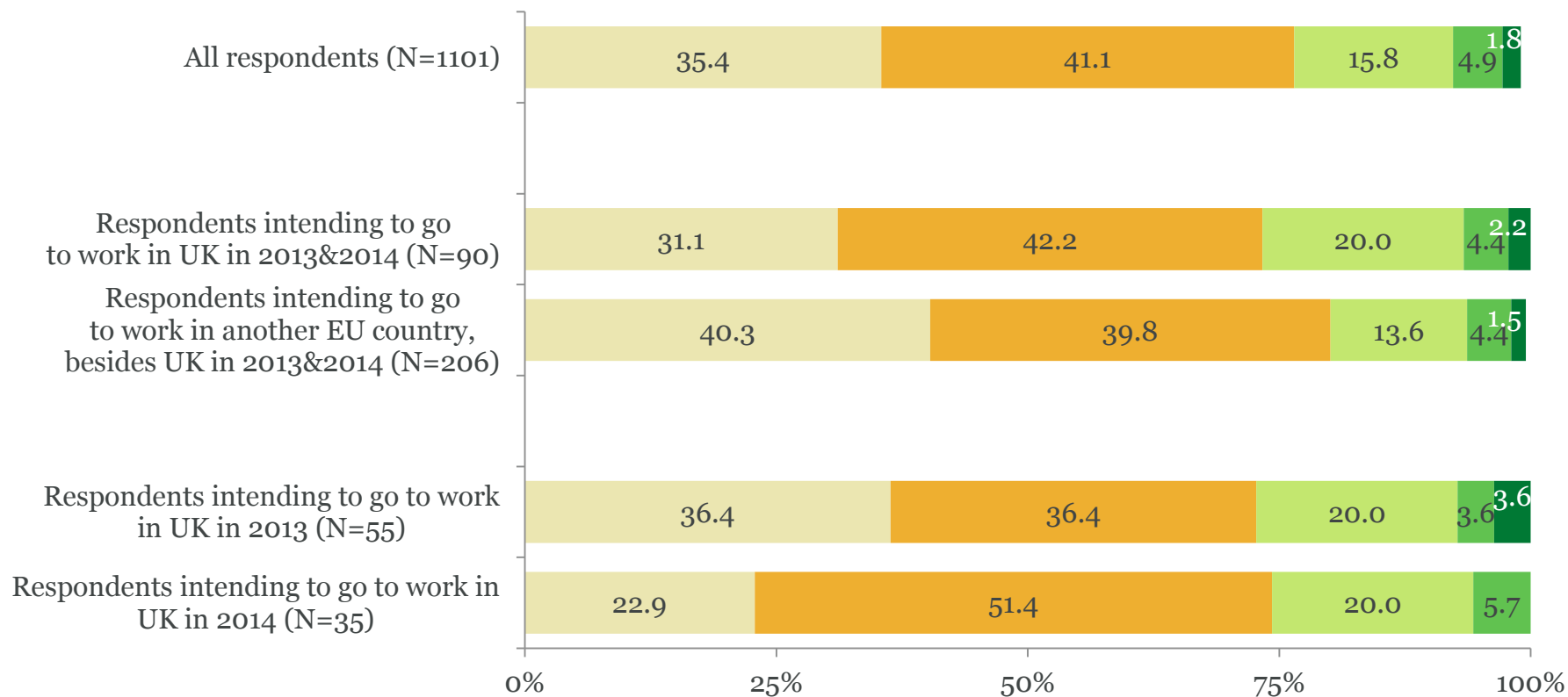


Medium income



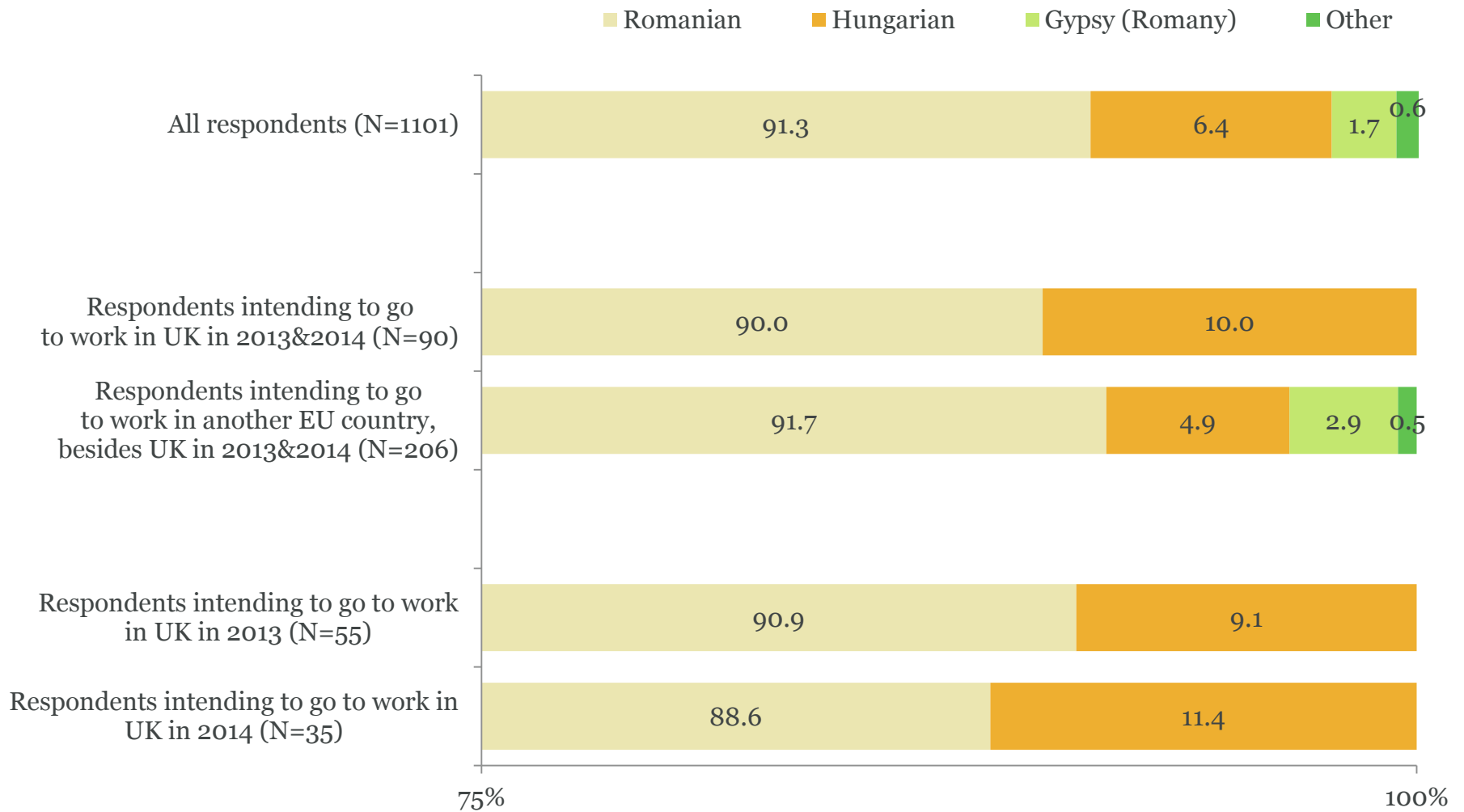
# Income rating

- Not enough even for basic needs
- We get only the basic necessities
- We have enough money for basic needs and we remain some for clothes, shoes, etc.
- We can buy some goods more expensive, but with restrictions in other areas
- We can have everything we need, without any restriction



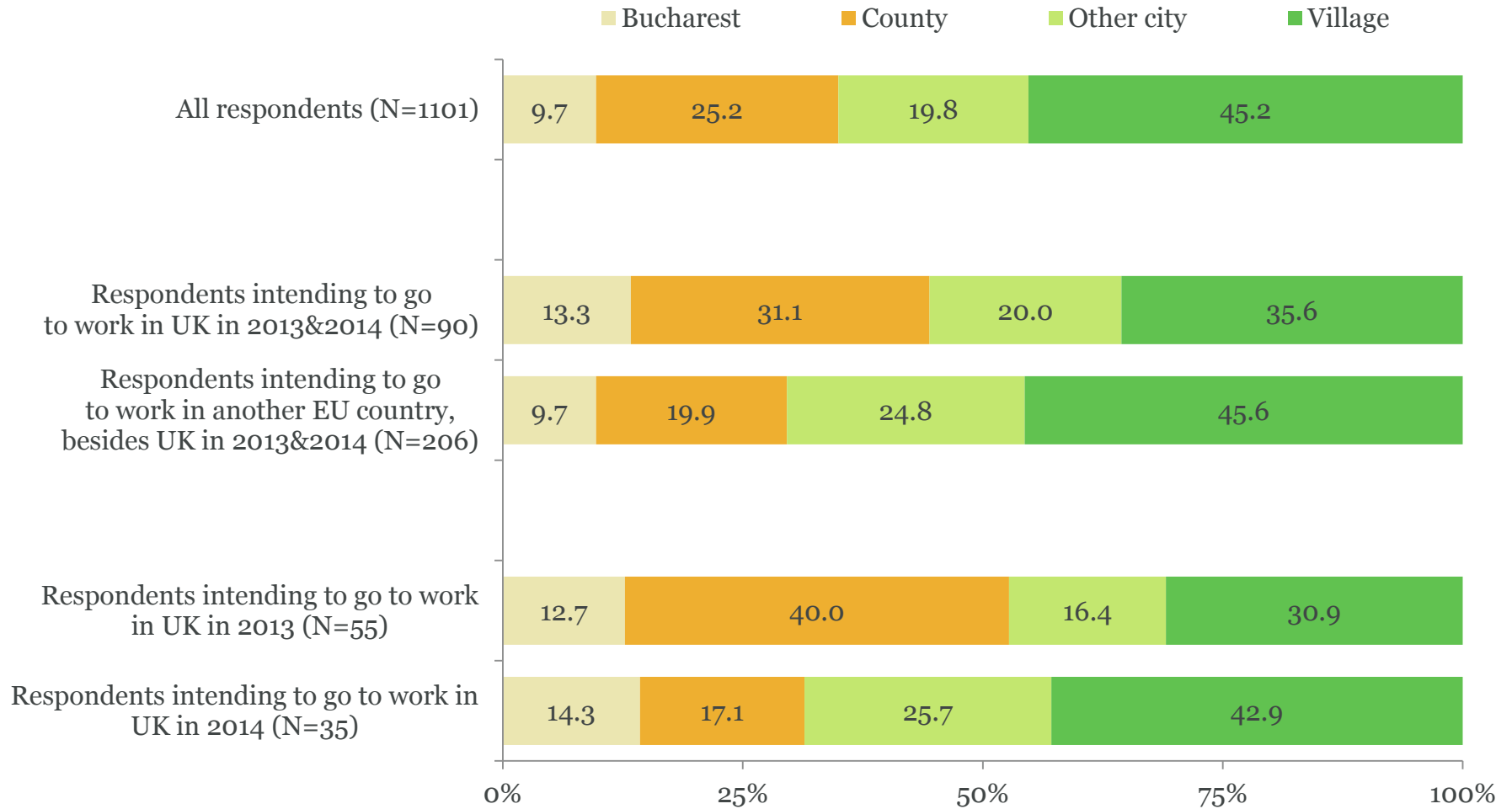
The differences up to 100% is represented by "DK/NA" mentions

# Ethnicity

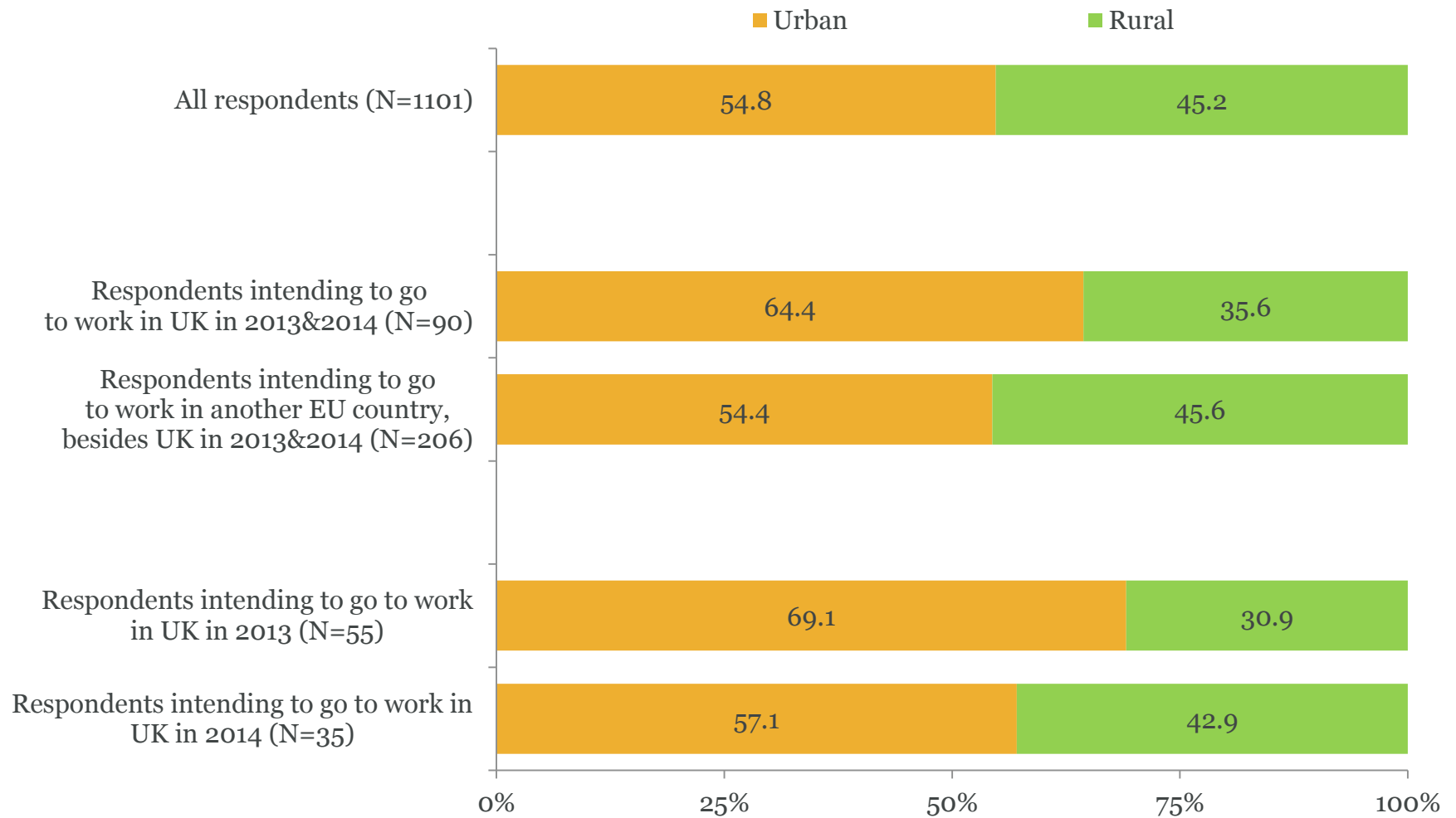




# Locality type

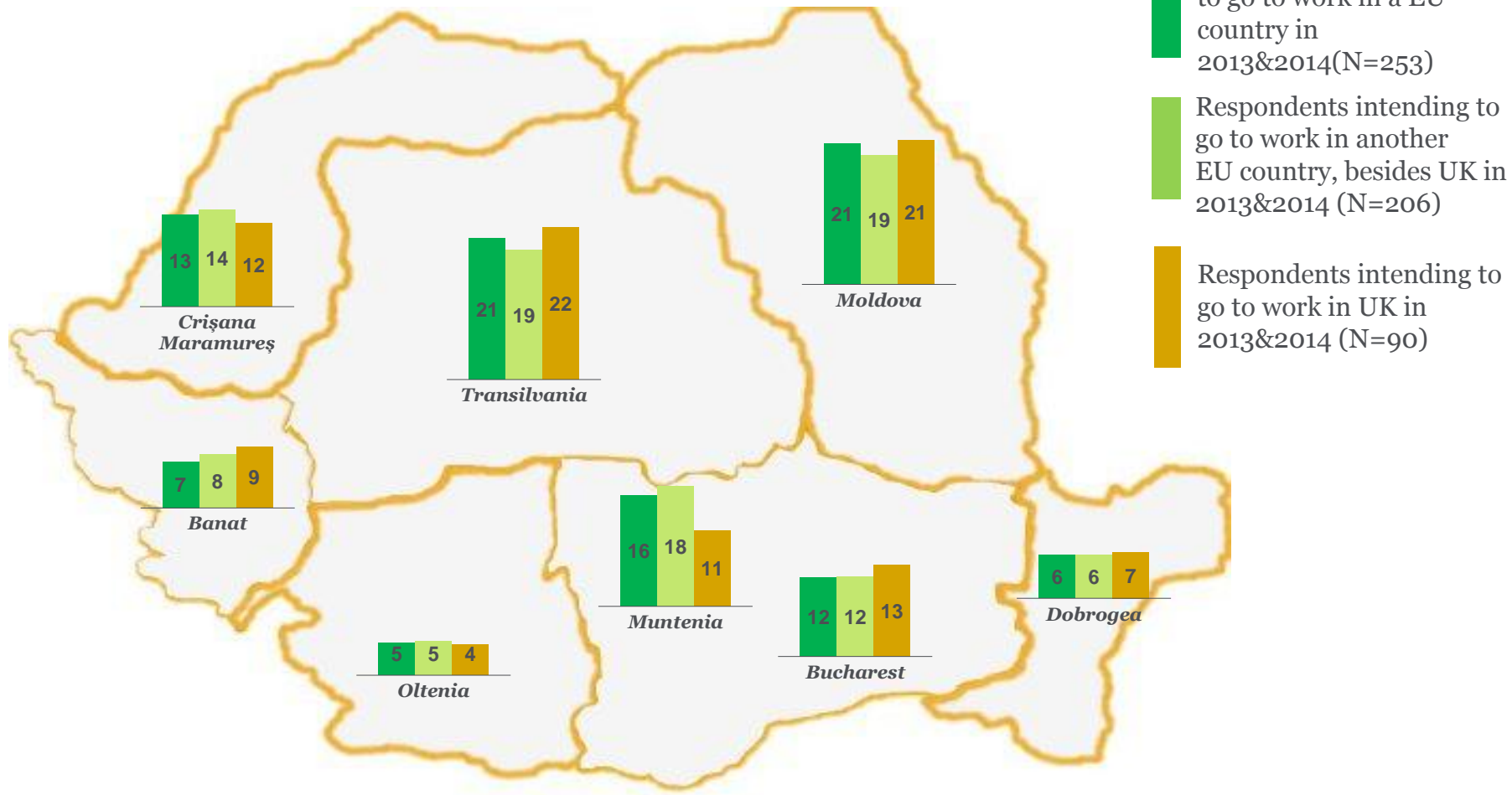


# Area



# Region

## Percentages



# Funnel table (funnel analysis)

Group	Question	No Time Frame			In 2013			In 2014		
		EU %	UK %	Other countries %	EU %	UK %	Other countries %	EU %	UK %	Other countries %
People who have considered moving...	In the last 5 years, I have considered moving to live and work in another country member of the EU	32.6%	7.9%	29.6%						
People who have considered moving...	I would go to work in EU in 2013/2014				17.9%	2.9%	15.0%	6.6%	1.7%	4.5%
People who have more serious intentions	Nowadays I am really looking for a job in EU	13.9%	1.8%	8.8%						
People who have more serious intentions	I have already started and prepared my plans to go to work in EU	9.2%	0.7%	6.3%						
People who have made concrete plans to move for good there	I have already made some concrete preparations for this move				6.8%	1.2%	5.6%	1.3%	0.1%	0.6%
People who have made concrete plans to move for good there	Plan to stay there as long as it is possible (only people who have made some concrete preparations)				8.1%	1.3%	6.8%	3.8%	0.6%	2.5%
People who have made very concrete preparations and are likely to move to UK in 2013/2014	Being in contact with people working in /name of the country// relationship				5.7%	0.9%	4.8%	1.2%	0.1%	0.6%
	Looking for a job with a recruiting company's assistance				0.7%	0.2%	0.0%	3.5%	0.0%	0.0%
	Looking for a job without a recruiting company's assistance				3.4%	0.5%	2.8%	0.6%	0.1%	0.5%
	Made concrete preparations - Attending interviews				1.5%	0.4%	1.2%	0.3%	0.0%	0.3%
	Made concrete preparations - Finding a place to live				2.9%	0.4%	2.5%	0.3%	0.0%	0.3%

Percentages are based on all respondents and represent the respective proportion of the population of Romania 18-60. The population (Romanians of age between 18 and 60) is: N=12,630,301.