

General Attitude Towards
LIBERALISM IN MALAYSIA
Public Opinion Survey

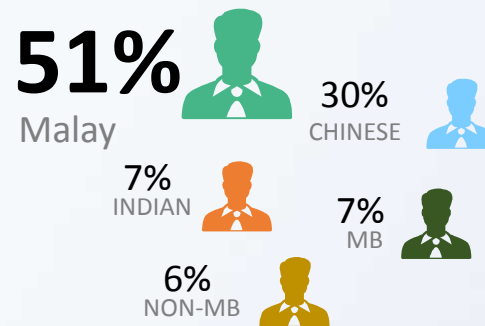
24 March 2017



Survey Methodology & Respondent Profiles

- **1207** voters aged 21 and above were interviewed via telephone (fixed and mobile lines)
- The survey respondents are from all polling districts across the country, including Sabah & Sarawak.
- Voters were selected through random stratified sampling method along the lines of ethnicity, gender, age and polling districts.
- All of the polling districts were surveyed and the selection of the respondents is proportional with respect to the population in each polling districts.
- Respondents were interviewed in their own language of preferences
- Survey margin of error estimated at $\pm 2.82\%$
- The survey was conducted on **16 until 29 December 2016**.

Ethnicity



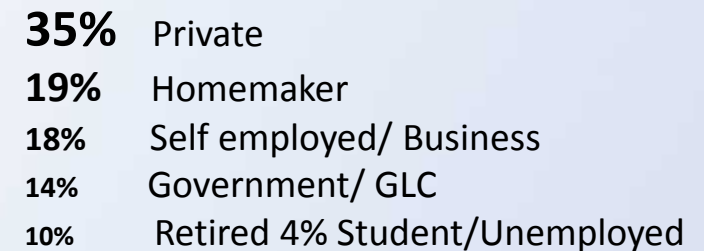
Gender



Age Group



Occupation/ Sector



Internet Access



Monthly Household Income (RM)



Demographic Definition

Age Group

	Details
< 40	21 - 40
> 40	> 40

Monthly household income

	Details
Bottom 40%	< RM 2,000 – RM 2,999
Middle 40%	RM 3,000 – RM 6,999
Top 20%	≥ RM7,000

Education level

	Details
Not college educated	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Primary school/ No formal education • Secondary school
College educated	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Diploma & equivalent • Degree & above

Education level

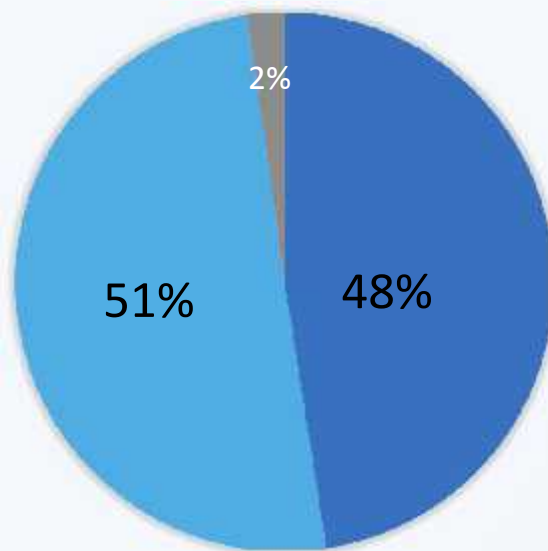
	Details
Gov't/ GLC	Government/ statutory bodies (eg: federal government, MARA, SALCRA) & Government Linked Companies
Private	Private
Self employed/ Business	Employer/ Self employed (eg: Own small business, own farm, direct sale)
Business	Business
*Others	Social, Homemaker, Retired, Students, Unemployed

1 Principal Survey Findings:
**General Attitude Towards
Liberalism**

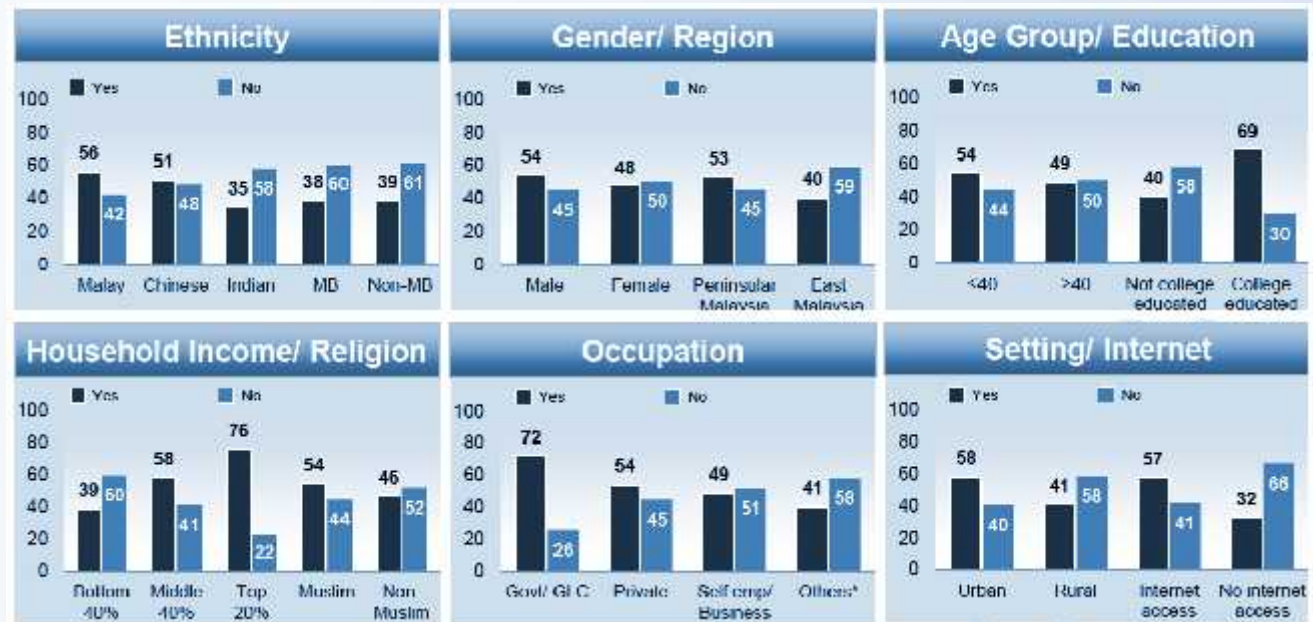


Heard About Liberalism

Q. Have you ever heard about liberalism?



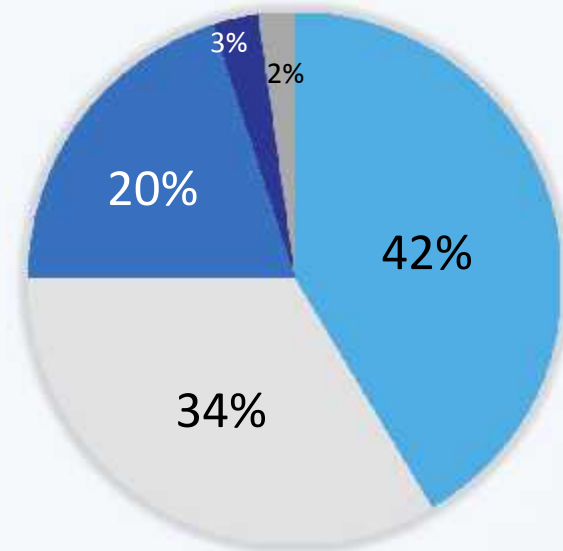
■ Yes
■ No
■ Unsure
■ Refuse



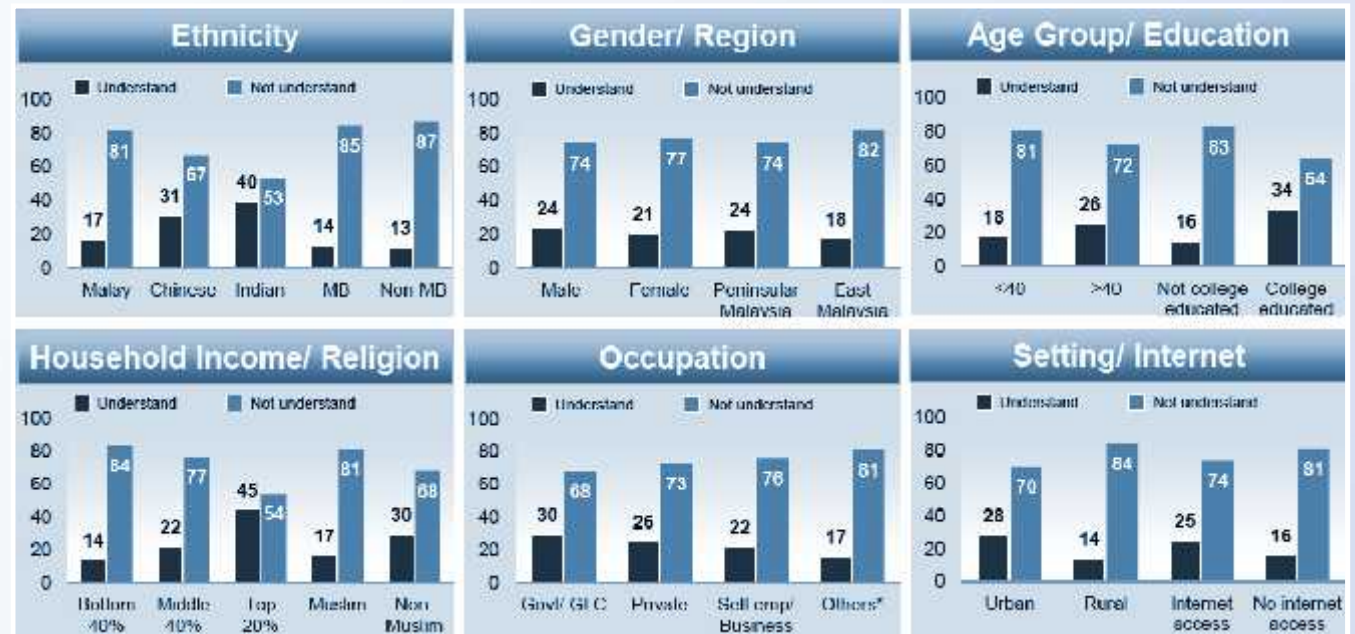
* Social, Homemaker, Retired, Students, Unemployed

Understanding About Liberalism

Q. How much do you understand about liberalism



- A great deal
- A fair amount
- Not very much
- Not understand at all
- Unsure
- Refuse



* Social, Homemaker, Retired, Students, Unemployed

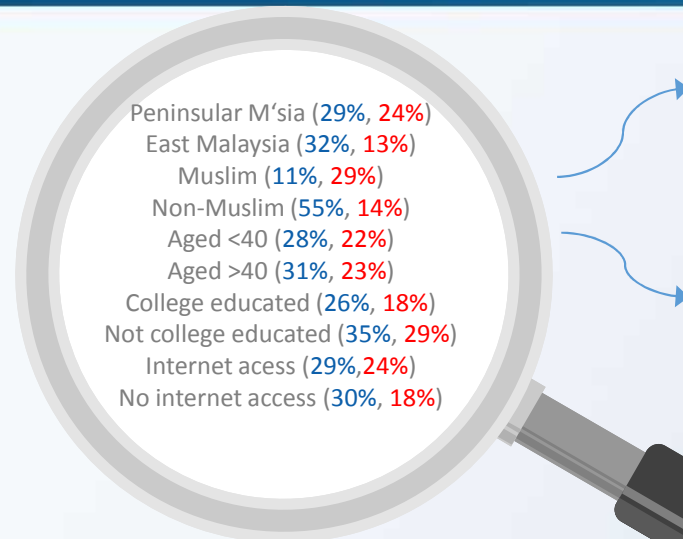
Defining Liberalism

Q. Can you please explain what does liberalism mean? For you, liberalism mean ...

	Total	<40	>40	Muslim	Non-Muslim	Internet Access	No Internet access
Rights of freedom in general	10%	10%	11%	7%	15%	11%	8%
Freedom of speech/ expression	6%	4%	8%	1%	14%	7%	4%
Fair and equitable society	3%	1%	4%	3%	3%	4%	1%
Freedom of thoughts	3%	3%	3%	3%	2%	4%	1%
Democracy/ Administration policy	3%	3%	2%	2%	4%	3%	1%
Freedom of choices	2%	2%	2%	3%	2%	2%	1%
Freedom of religion/ belief	1%	1%	1%	1%	2%	1%	1%
Basic human rights	1%	1%	1%	-	1%	1%	-
Economic freedom	1%	-	1%	-	1%	1%	-
The ideology itself is against the religion of Islam	1%	-	1%	1%	-	1%	-
Unsure	55%	60%	51%	64%	43%	52%	62%
Refused	2%	2%	2%	1%	3%	1%	3%

Liberalism for Malaysia

A minority of only 13% Non-Muslim and only 29% Muslims think liberalism is a bad concept for Malaysia.



The reasons of mentioning good concept:

1. Able to obtain more freedom of speech and freedom of expression.
2. Able to obtain more rights of freedom in general.
3. Liberalism able to create a fair and equitable society.

The reasons of mentioning bad concept:

1. There are negative effects towards the religions or particularly Islam.
2. There are negative effects or not really suitable for the cultures in Malaysia because it is a Multiracial society and Islam in administration.
3. It is bad if there are no specific rules or laws to control this liberalism in Malaysia.

Good concept (n=357, 30%)

- 1 Freedom of speech/ expression (24.6%)
- 2 Rights of freedom in general (11.8%)
- 3 Fair and equitable society (8.4%)
- 4 A good vision for the country (8.1%)
- 5 Freedom of thoughts (6.2%)
- 6 Democracy/ Administration policy (5.9%)
- 7 Freedom of choices (2.8%)

30% 22%



Bad concept (n=269, 22%)

- 1 Freedom of speech/ expression (24.6%)
- 2 Rights of freedom in general (11.8%)
- 3 Fair and equitable society (8.4%)
- 4 A good vision for the country (8.1%)
- 5 Freedom of thoughts (6.2%)
- 6 Democracy/ Administration policy (5.9%)
- 7 Freedom of choices (2.8%)

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Principal Survey Findings:
Political Liberalism



Political Liberalism

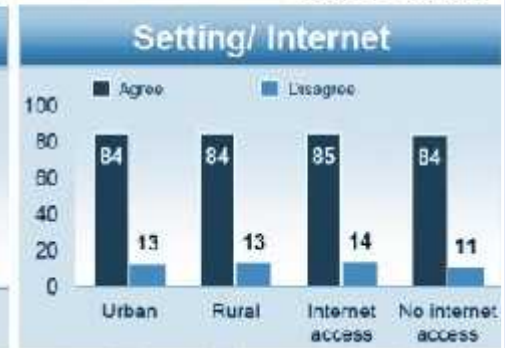
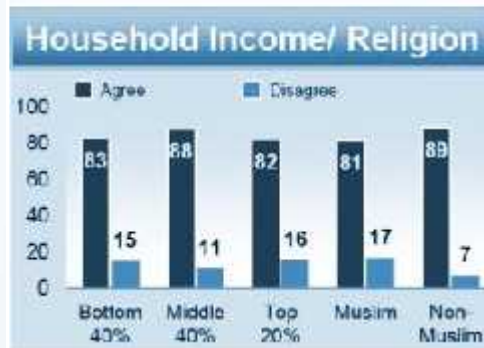
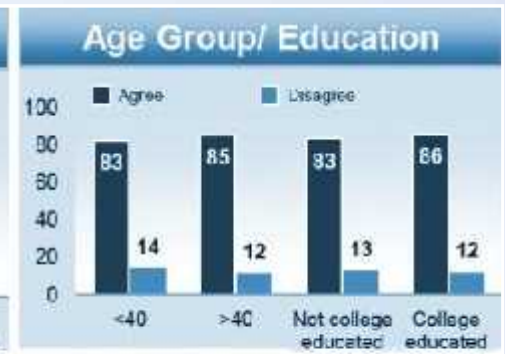
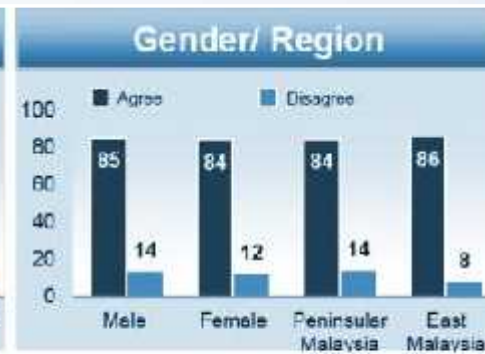
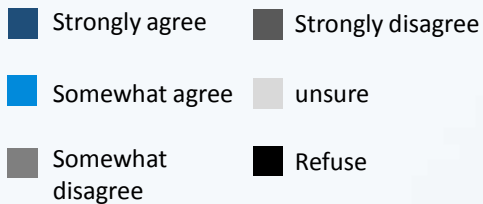
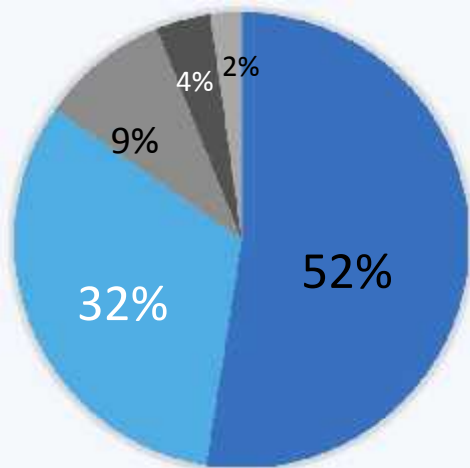
The vast majority believe that political liberalism - exemplified by rule of law and electoral democracy – is good for the country. But understanding is still uncertain.

	Agree	Disagree	± Net (%)	Unsure/ Refuse
Democracy, including free and fair elections, would be the best form of governance for Malaysia.	84%	13%	+71%	2%
Malaysia is ready for freedom of speech and a free media.	77%	20%	+57%	3%
The rule of law must be upheld. Every citizen should be equal before the law regardless of their social status and background.	91%	8%	+83%	1%
The government should keep the Sedition Act and other such laws in order to guarantee peace and stability in Malaysia.	60%	34%	+26%	6%

Q. Please tell us, how far do you agree or disagree with the following statements? [*Note: ± Net (%) = Agree (%) – Disagree (%)]

Democracy Would Be The Best Form Of Government For Malaysia

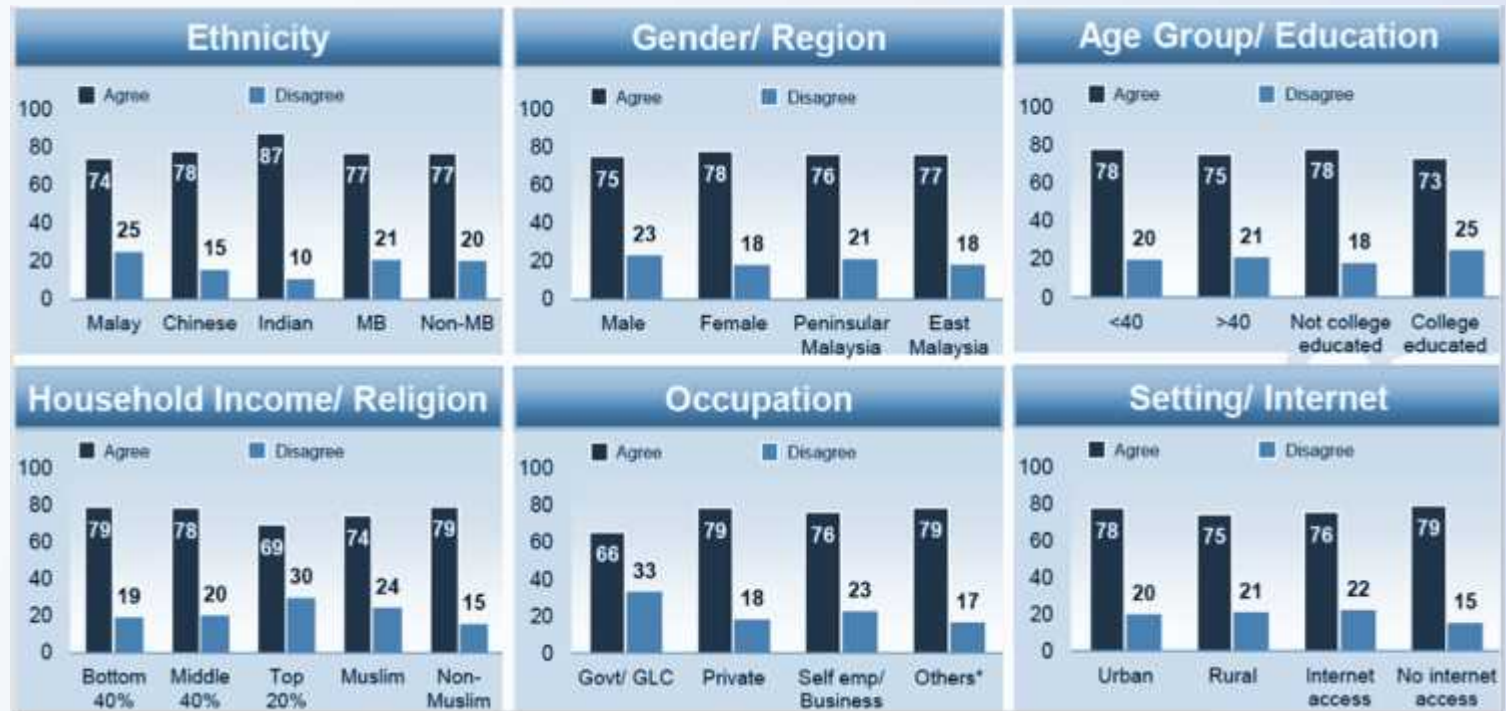
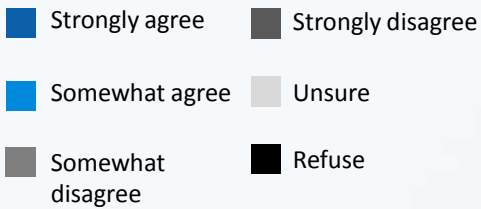
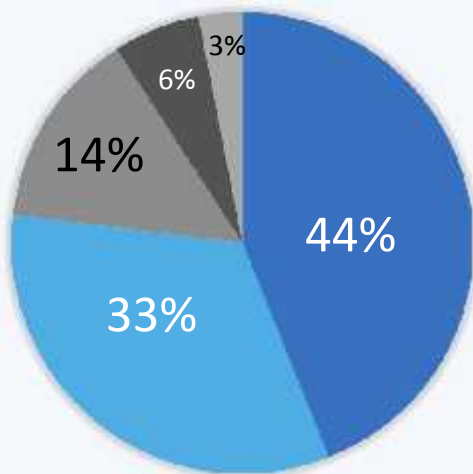
Q. Please tell us, how far do you agree or disagree with the following statements? – Democracy, including free and fair elections, would be the best form of governance for Malaysia.



* Social, Homemaker, Retired, Students, Unemployed

Malaysia Is Ready For Freedom Of Speech & A Free Media

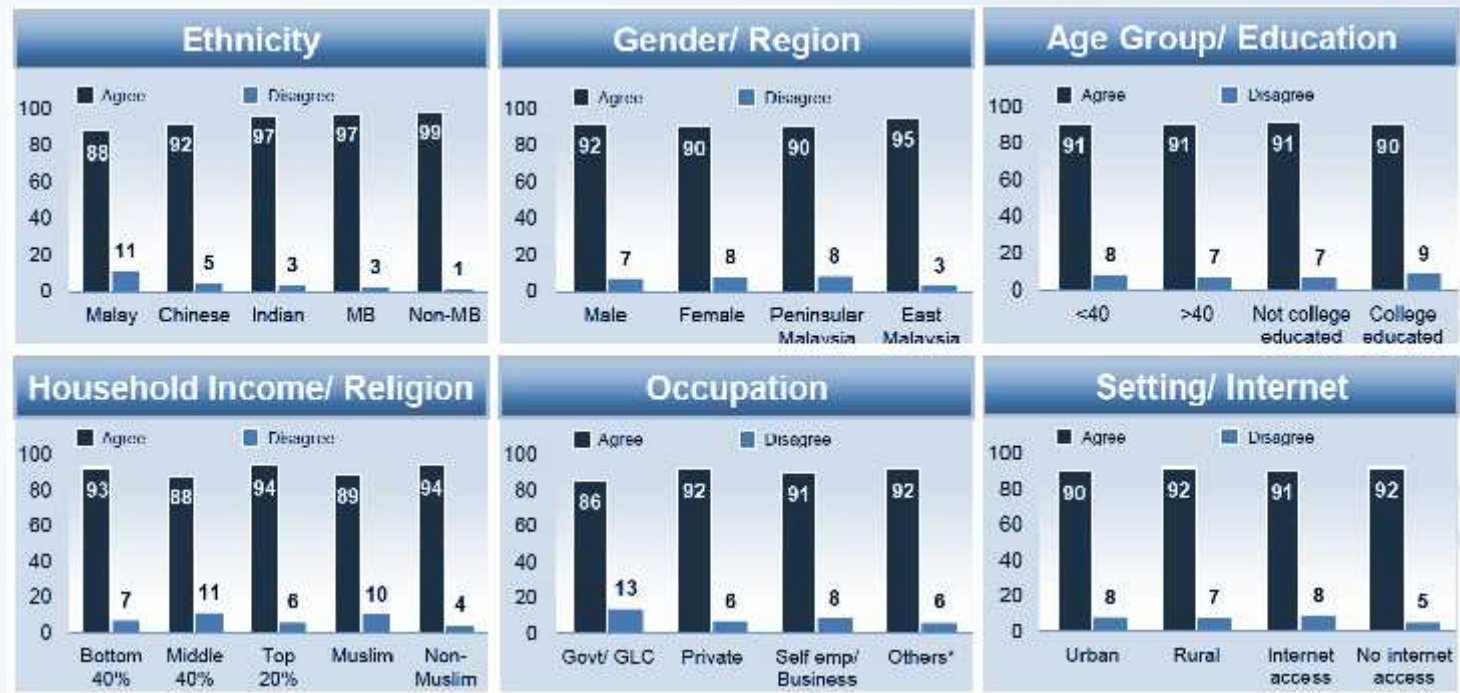
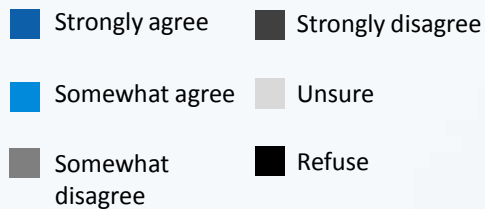
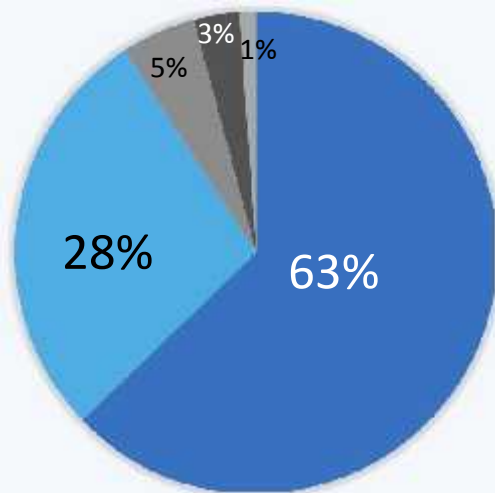
Q. Please tell us, how far do you agree or disagree with the following statements? – Malaysia is ready for freedom of speech and a free media.



* Social, Homemaker, Retired, Students, Unemployed

Every Citizen Should Be Equal Before The Law

Q. Please tell us, how far do you agree or disagree with the following statements? – The rule of law must be upheld.
Every citizen should be equal before the law regardless of their social status and background.

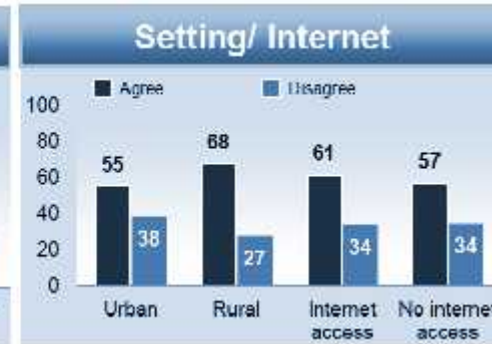
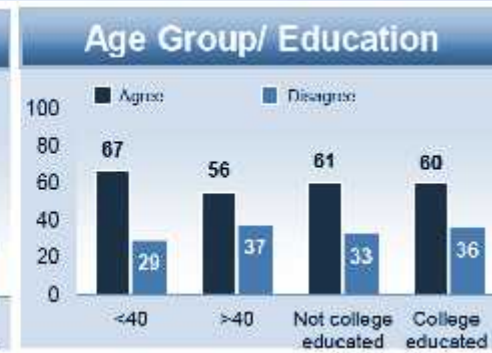
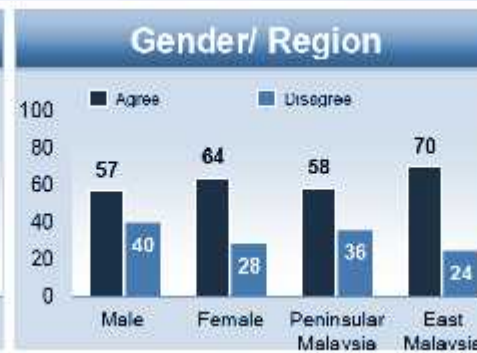
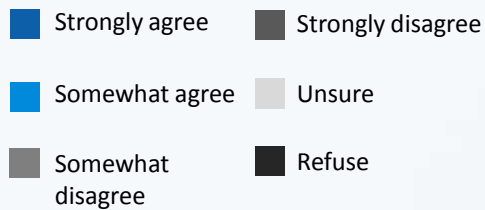
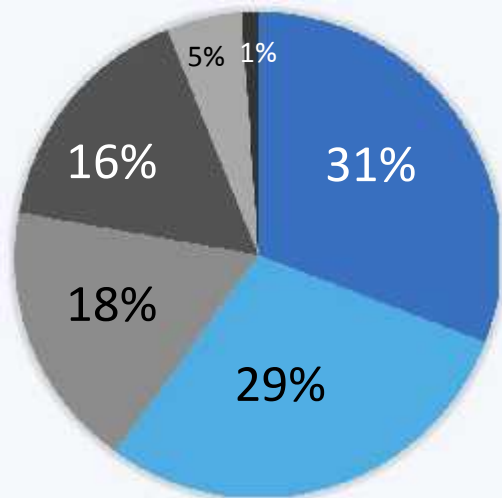


* Social, Homemaker, Retired, Students, Unemployed

The Government Should Keep The Sedition Act

Q. Please tell us, how far do you agree or disagree with the following statements?

– The government should keep the Sedition Act and other such laws in order to guarantee peace and stability in Malaysia.



* Social, Homemaker, Retired, Students, Unemployed

3

Principal Survey Findings:
Social Liberalism



Social Liberalism

Support for social liberalism is high. But, similarly, the real level of understanding is suspect.

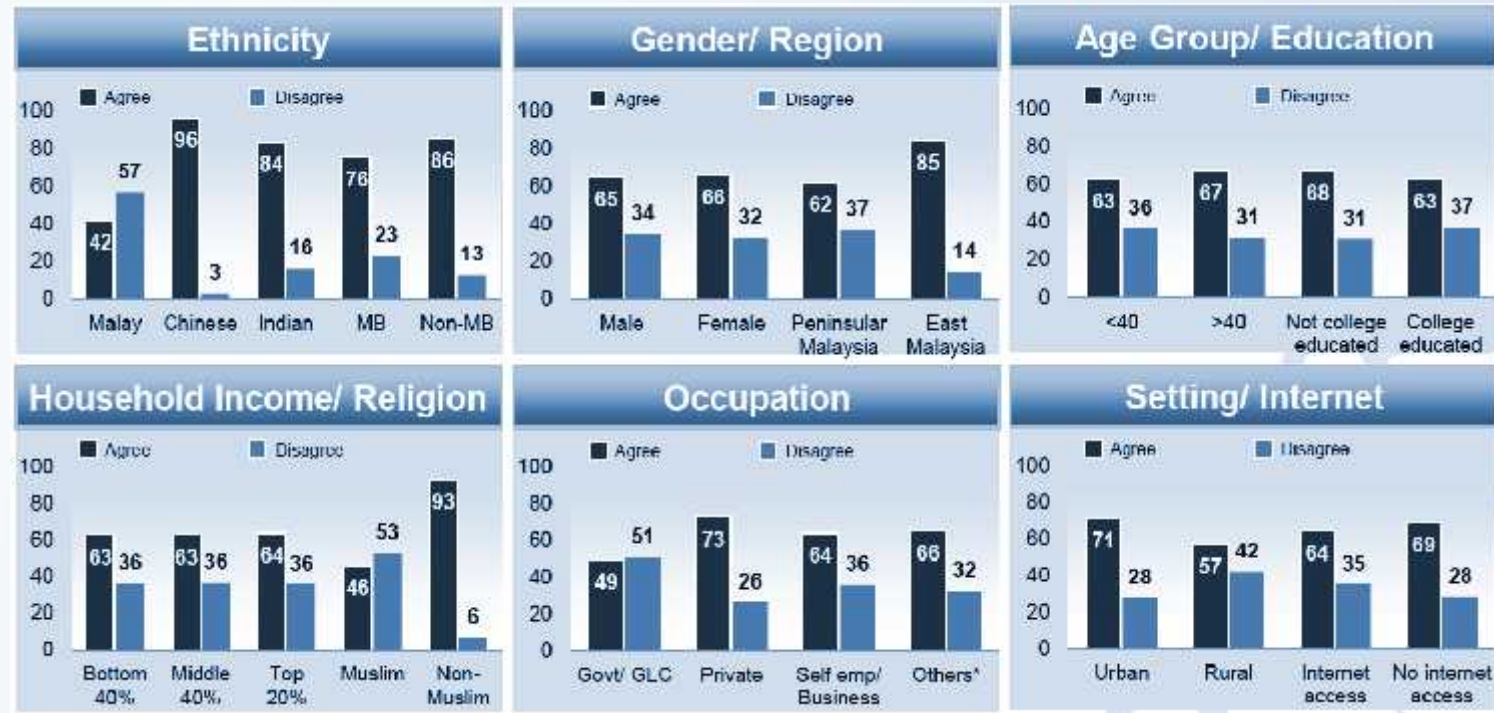
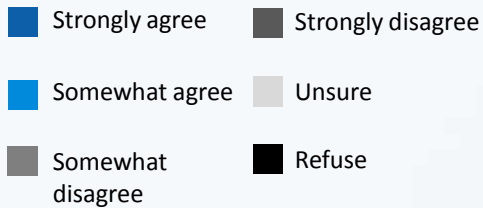
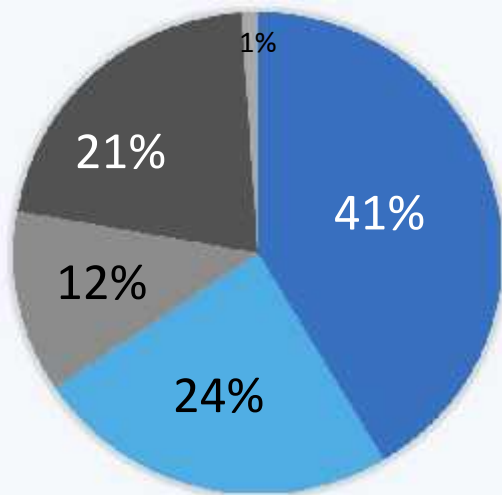
	Agree	Disagree	± Net (%)	Unsure/ Refuse
I want to be able to freely choose how I want to live my life. For example religion, the way I dress and my sexuality are my private matters.	65%	33%	+32%	1%
My freedom should only be limited by my responsibility to not physically harm others and not to infringe on the freedom of others.	84%	14%	+70%	2%
I have no right to impose my way of life on others. I accept and respect the way others live their lives, including LGBT, atheists and other minorities.	65%	32%	+33%	3%
The government should control all citizens to protect Malaysia's cultures, values and traditions.	74%	24%	+50%	2%

Q. Please tell us, how far do you agree or disagree with the following statements? [*Note: ± Net (%) = Agree (%) – Disagree (%)]

Able To Freely Choose The Way To Live My Life

Q. Please tell us, how far do you agree or disagree with the following statements?

- I want to be able to freely choose how I want to live my life. For example religion, the way I dress and my sexuality are my private matters.

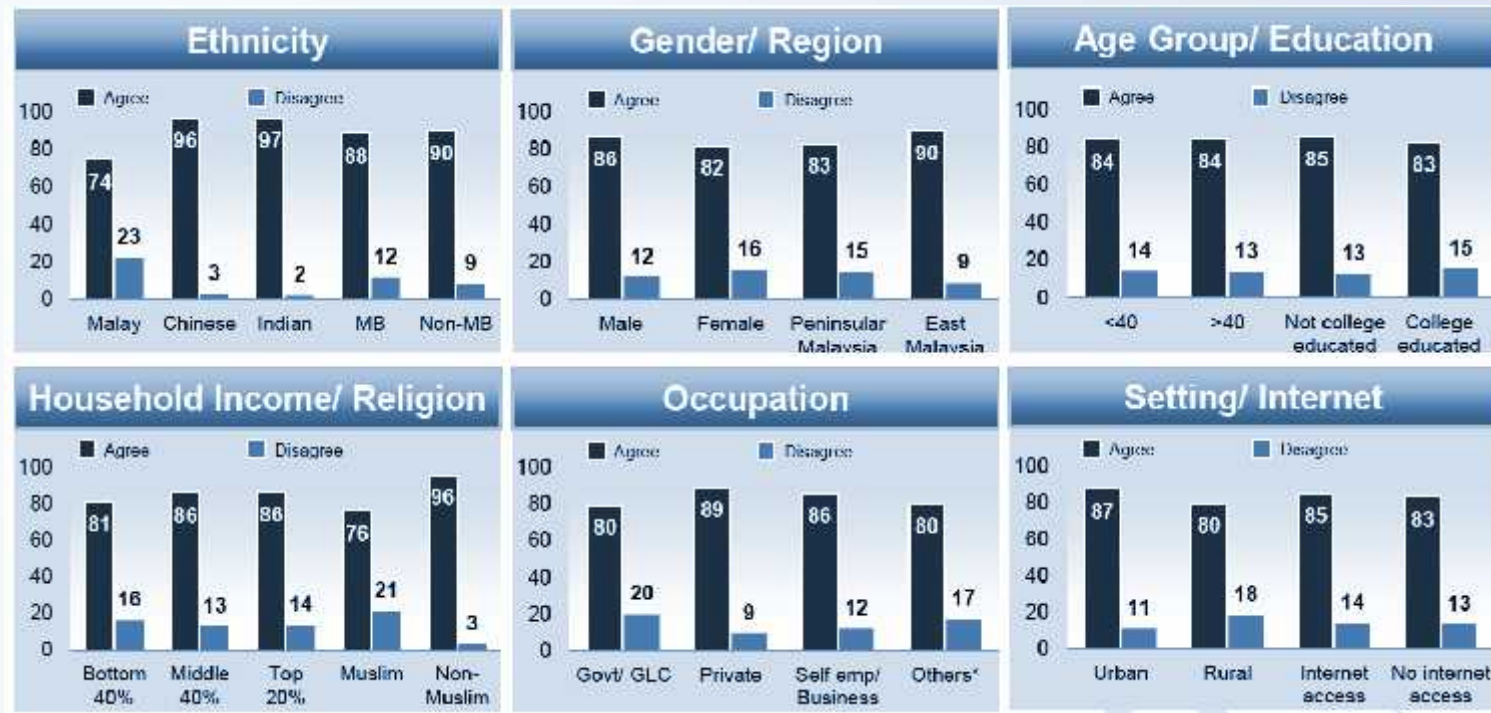
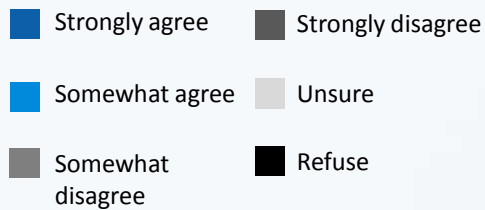
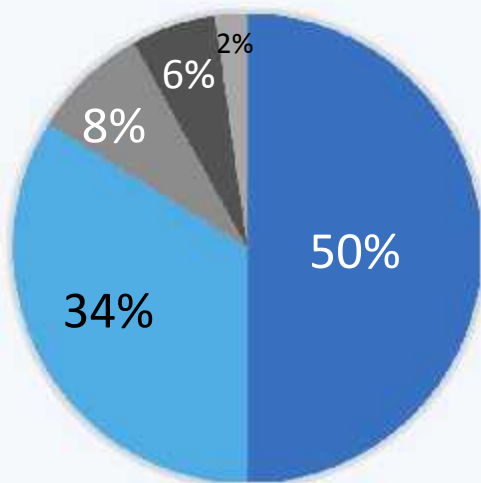


* Social, Homemaker, Retired, Students, Unemployed

Freedom Should Only Be Limited By Responsibility To Not To Harm Others

Q. Please tell us, how far do you agree or disagree with the following statements?

– My freedom should only be limited by my responsibility to not physically harm others and not to infringe on the freedom of others.

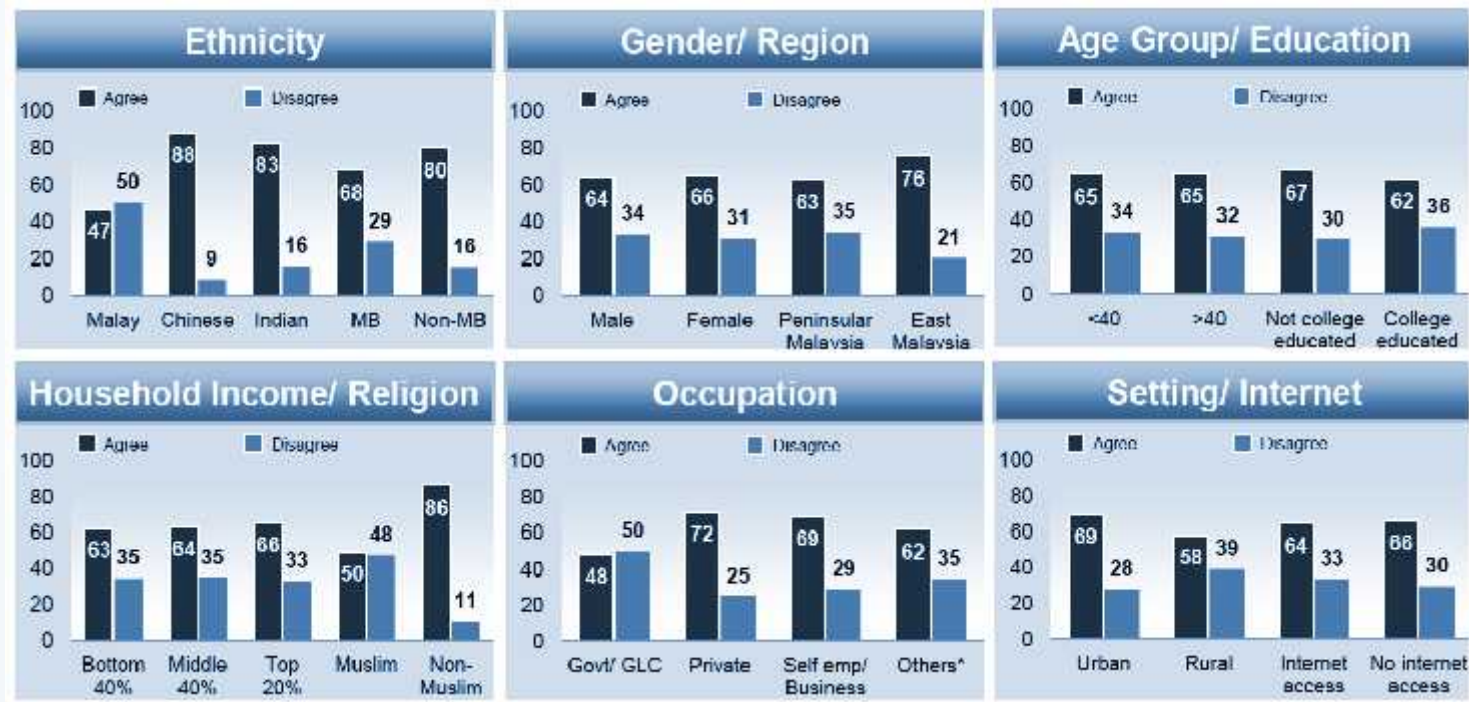
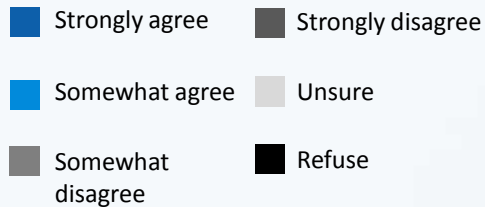
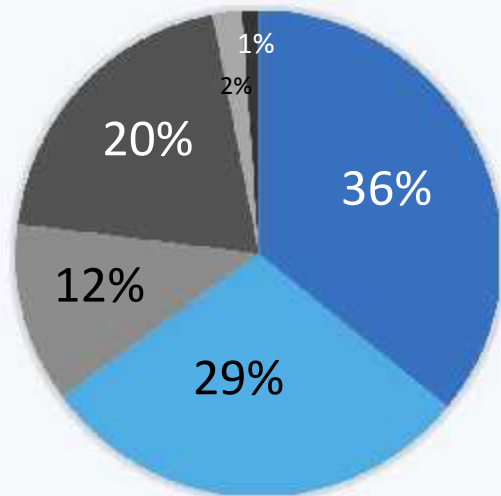


* Social, Homemaker, Retired, Students, Unemployed

I Have No Right To Impose My Way Of Life On Others

Q. Please tell us, how far do you agree or disagree with the following statements?

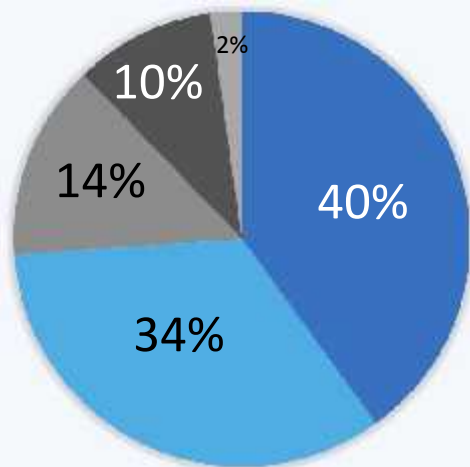
– I have no right to impose my way of life on others. I accept and respect the way others live their lives, including LGBT, atheists and other minorities.



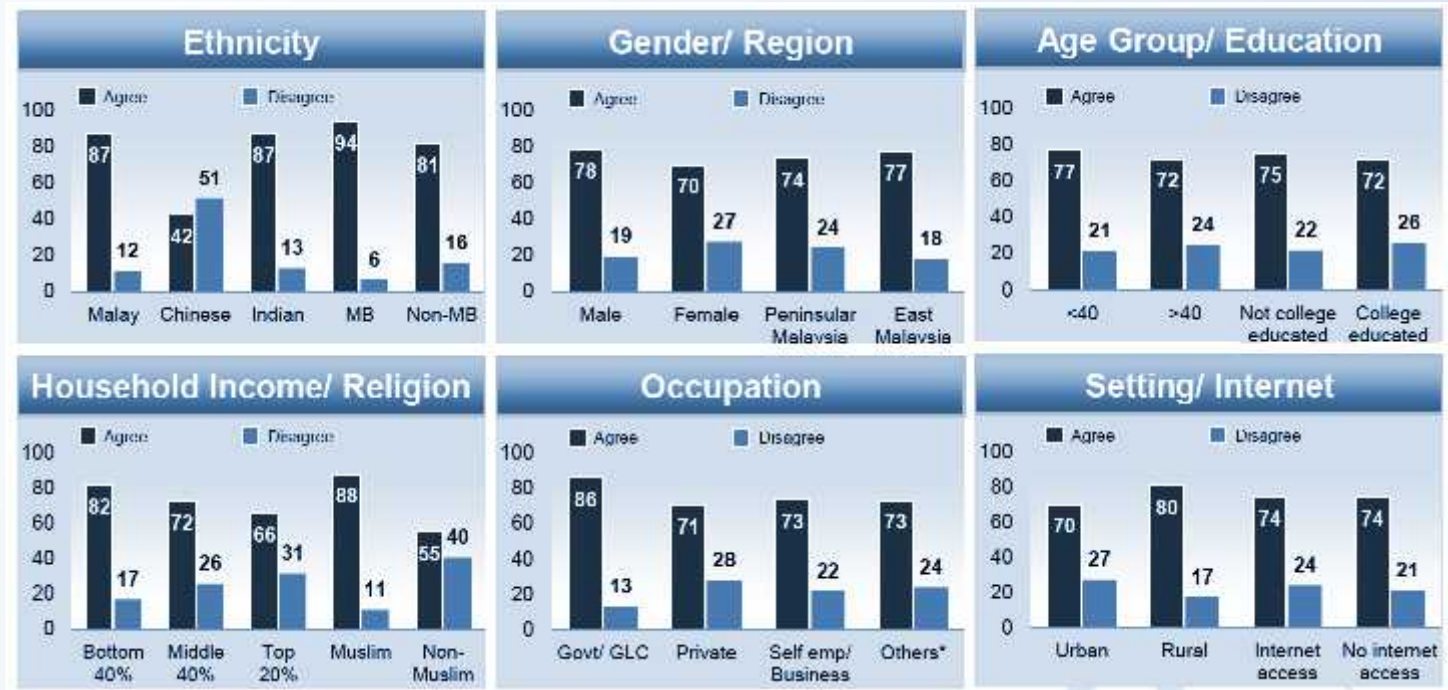
* Social, Homemaker, Retired, Students, Unemployed

The Government Should Control All Citizens To Protect Malaysia's Cultures, Values & Traditions

Q. Please tell us, how far do you agree or disagree with the following statements?
– The government should control all citizens to protect Malaysia's cultures, values and traditions.



■ Strongly agree ■ Strongly disagree
■ Somewhat agree ■ Unsure
■ Somewhat disagree ■ Refuse



* Social, Homemaker, Retired, Students, Unemployed

4

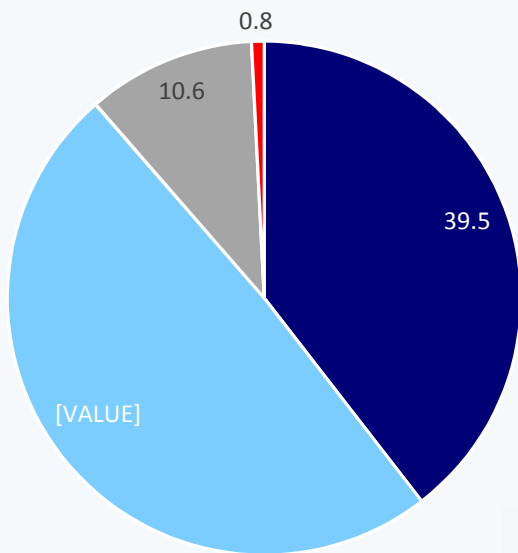
Principal Survey Findings:
Economic Liberalism



More or Less Government In The Economy?

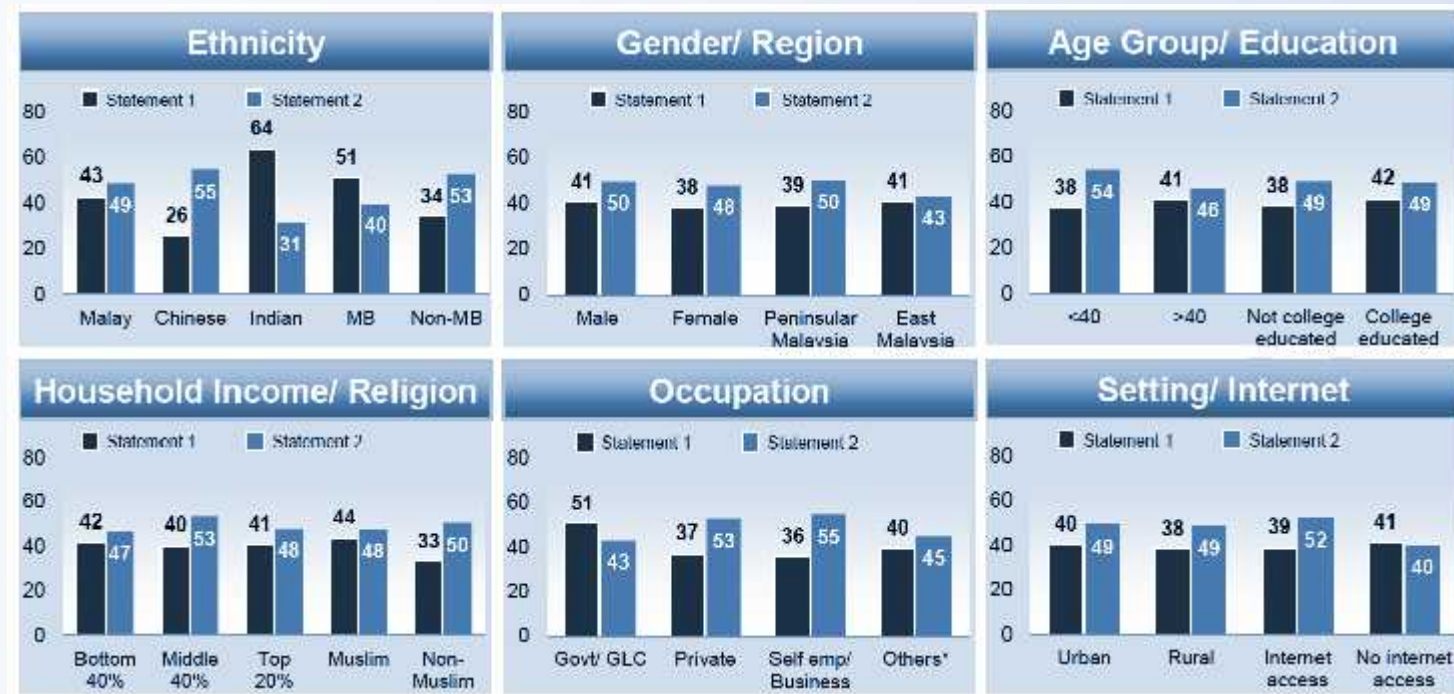
Q: I am going to read two statements to you. Between these two statements, please tell me which one is closer to your opinion?

- **Statement 1:** A big role of the Government in the economy with many Government Linked Companies (GLCs) is good. This helps Malaysia's economy and creates many jobs. Many Malaysians benefit.
- **Statement 2:** An open economy without Government linked companies (GLCs) would be good. This would create fair competition, opportunities for all, more jobs and more economic growth. Many Malaysians would benefit.



■ S1: More government ■ S2: Less government

■ Unsure ■ Refuse

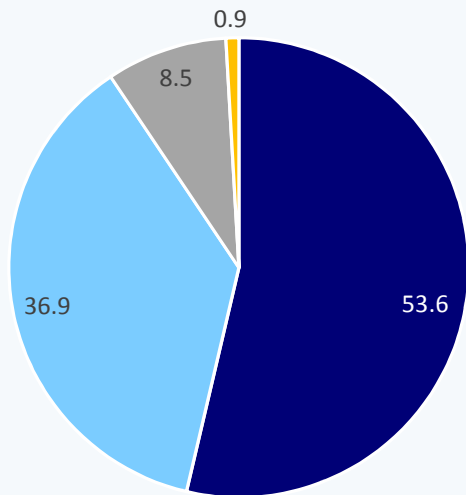


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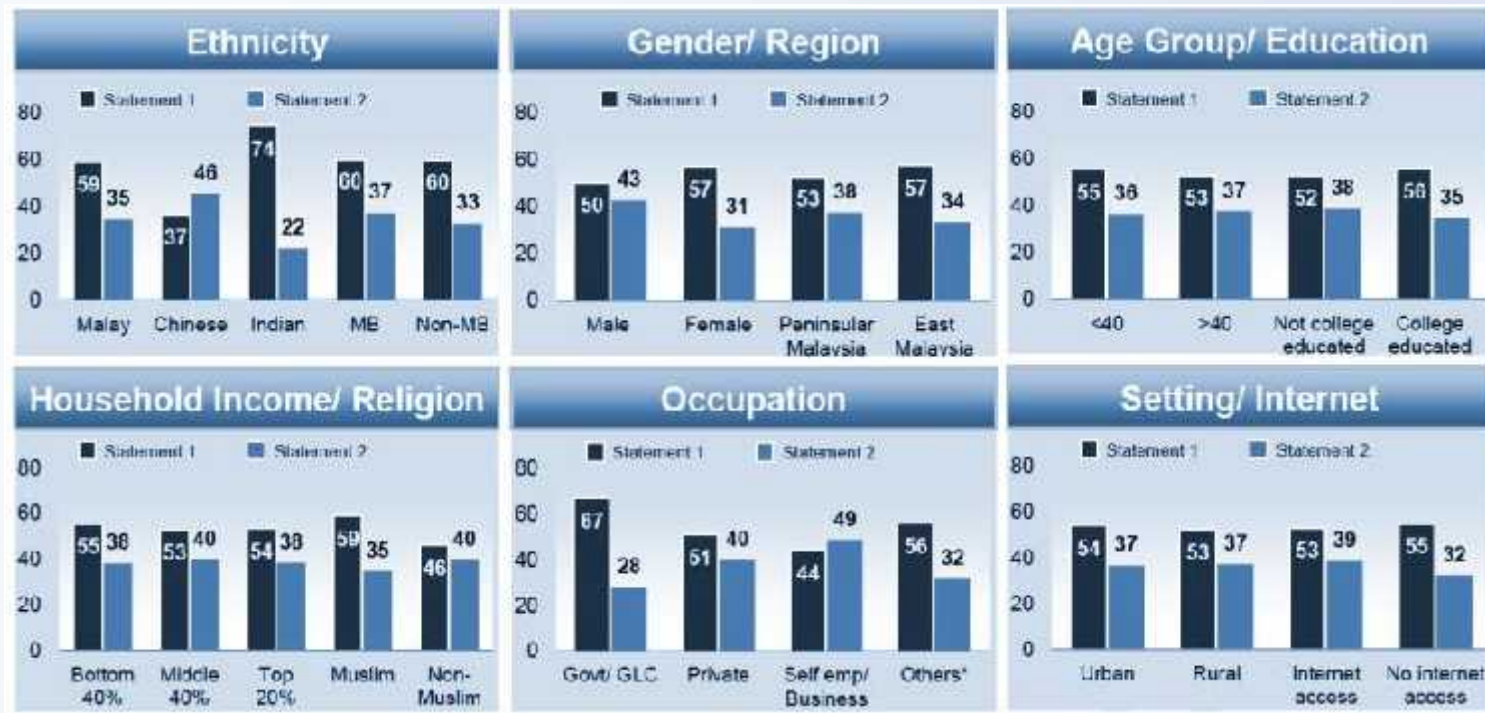
Protectionism or free trade?

Q: I am going to read two statements to you. Between these two statements, please tell me which one is closer to your opinion?

- Statement 1: The government should control trade (domestic and international) and give subsidies to Malaysian producers and business to help them.
- Statement 2: Free trade (domestic and international) without subsidies would make Malaysia competitive and be beneficial for business and consumers in the long run.



■ S1: Protectionism ■ S2: Free trade
■ Unsure ■ Refuse



* Social, Homemaker, Retired, Students, Unemployed

THANK YOU