
Chartpack



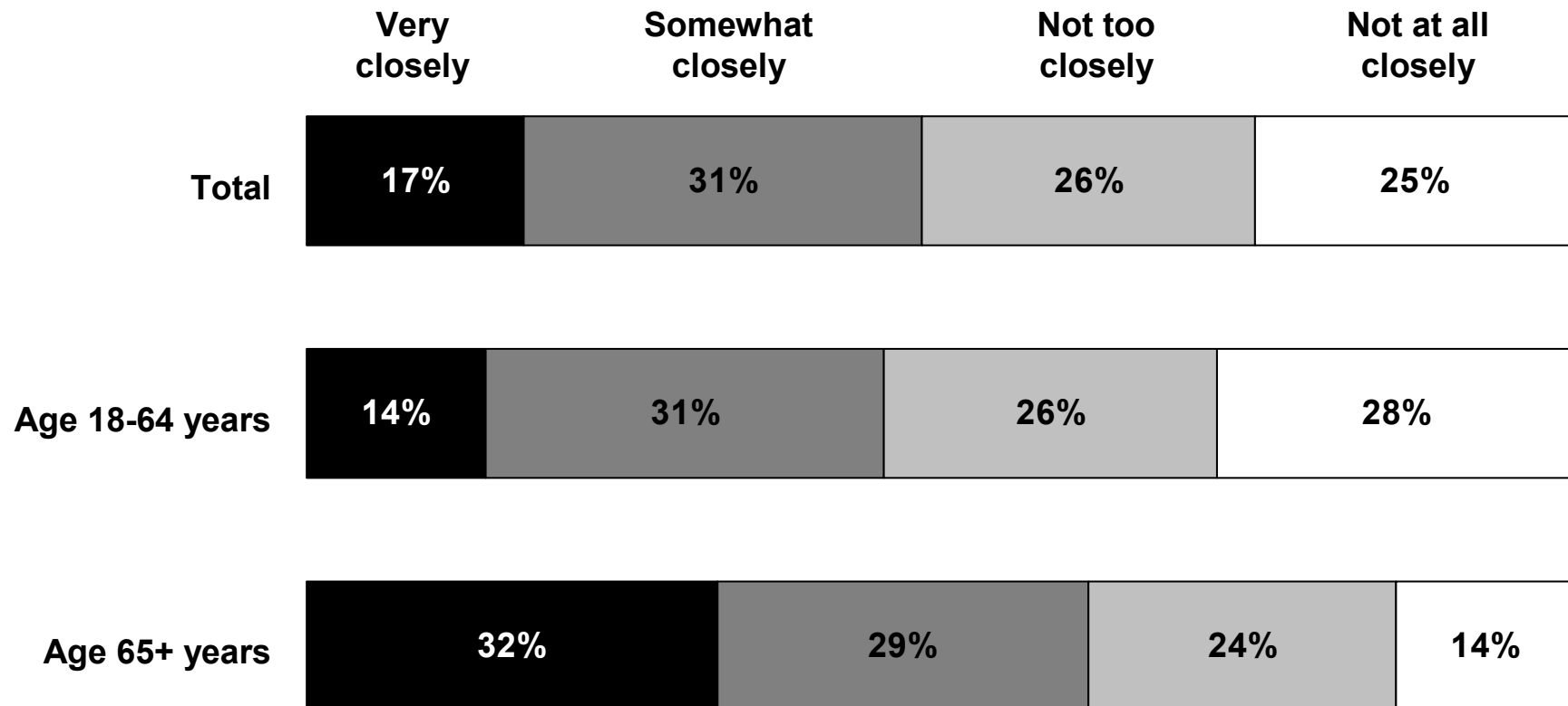
**Selected Findings from the *March/April 2004*
*Health Poll Report Survey***

April 2004

Chart 1

Attention to News About Cost of New Medicare Law

How closely did you follow the following story... Discussions in Washington about the cost of the recently passed Medicare prescription drug law?



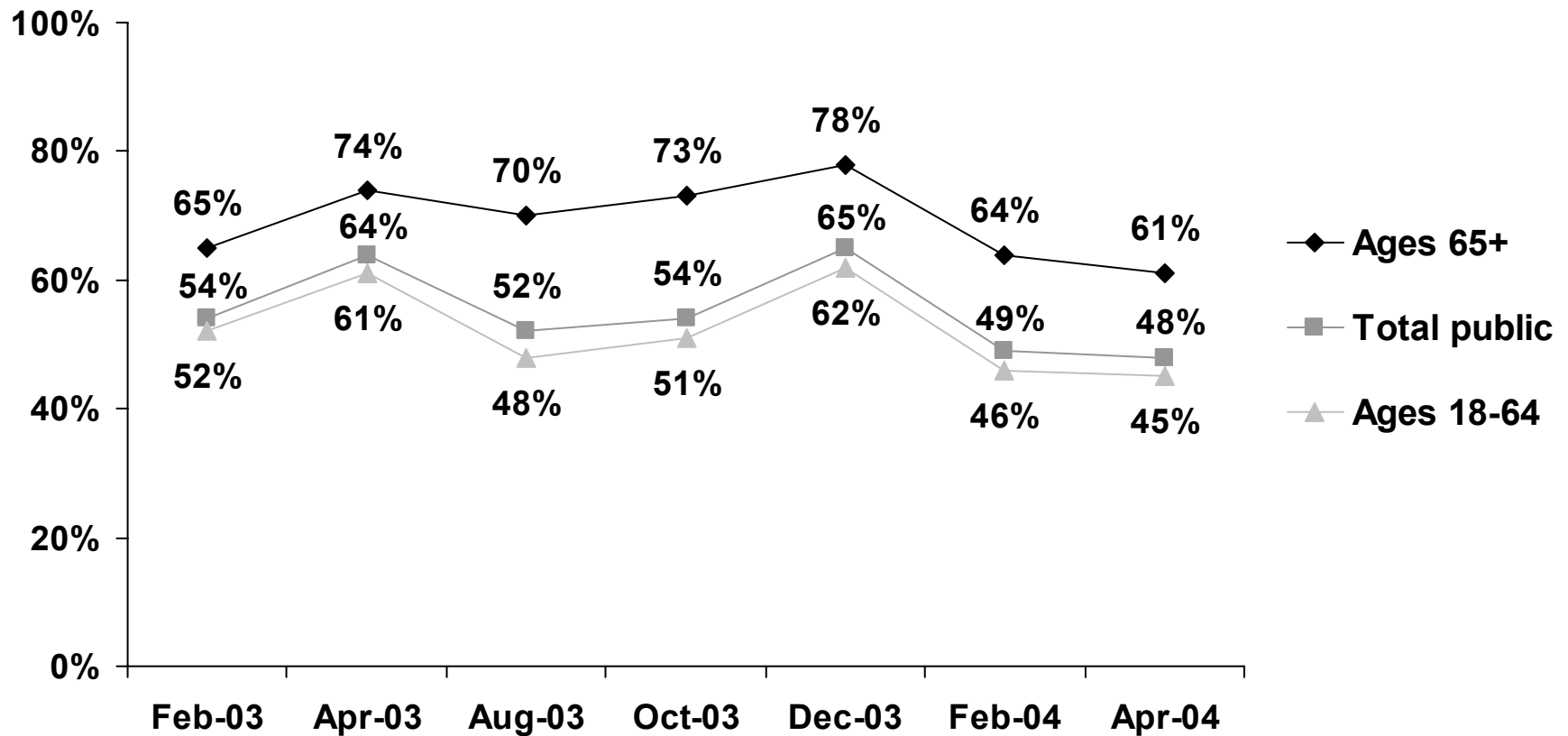
Note: "Don't know" responses not shown.

Source: Kaiser Family Foundation *Health Poll Report* survey (conducted April 1-5, 2004)

Chart 2

Attention to Medicare Prescription Drug Debate Over Time

Percent who said they followed news about the Medicare prescription drug debate “very closely” or “somewhat closely”



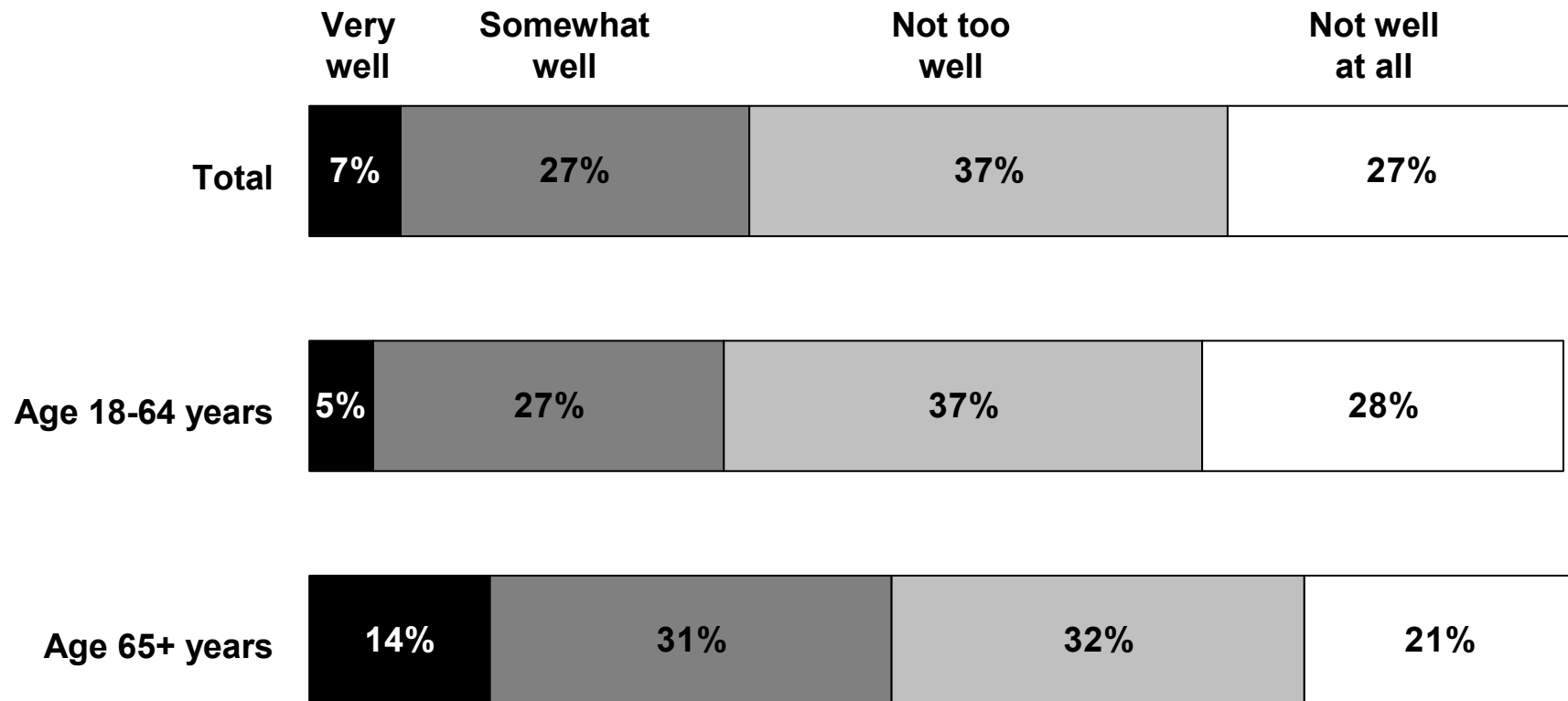
Note: “Don’t know” responses not shown.

Source: Kaiser Family Foundation *Health Poll Report* surveys

Chart 3

Reported Understanding of New Medicare Law

As you may know, at the end of 2003 President Bush and the U.S. Congress approved a new Medicare law that includes some coverage of prescription drug costs for seniors. How well would you say you understand this new law?



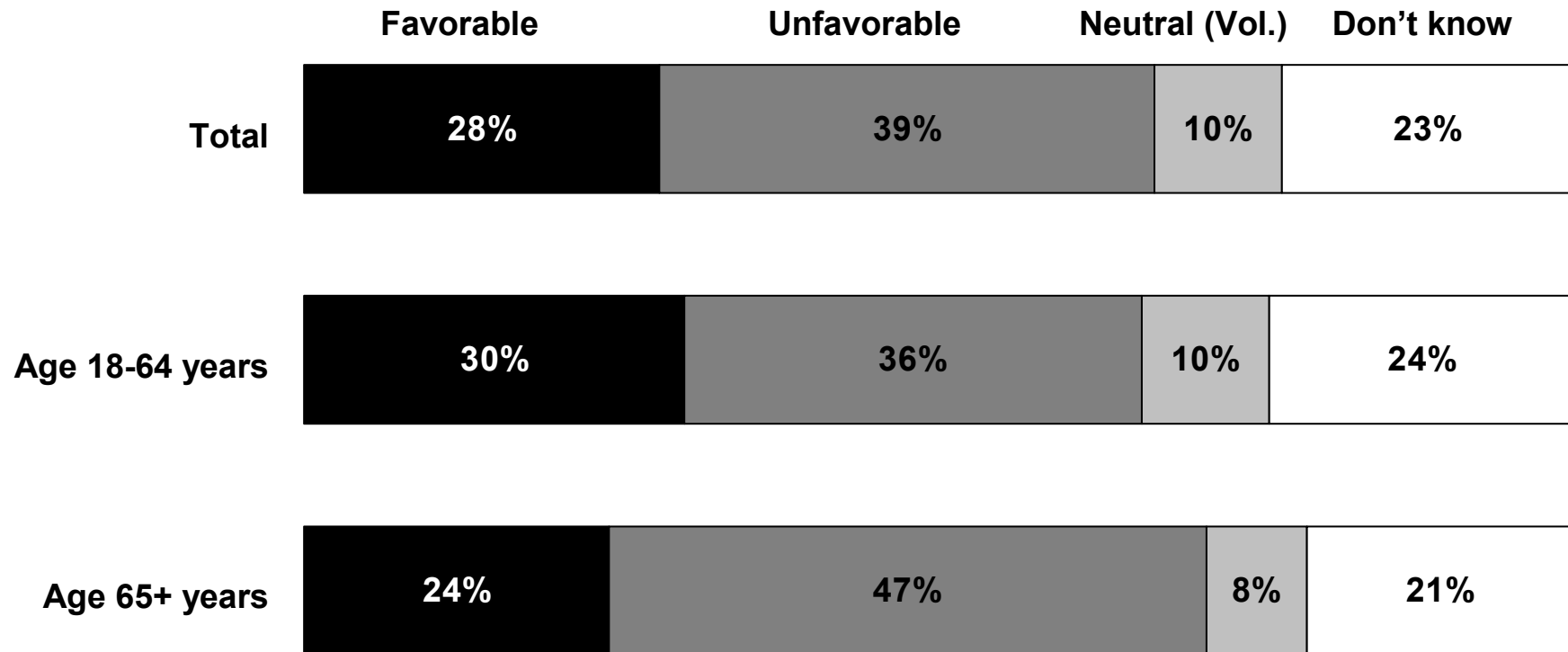
Note: "Don't know" responses not shown.

Source: Kaiser Family Foundation *Health Poll Report* survey (conducted April 1-5, 2004)

Chart 4

Impressions of New Medicare Law

Given what you know about it, in general, do you have a favorable or unfavorable impression of this new Medicare law?

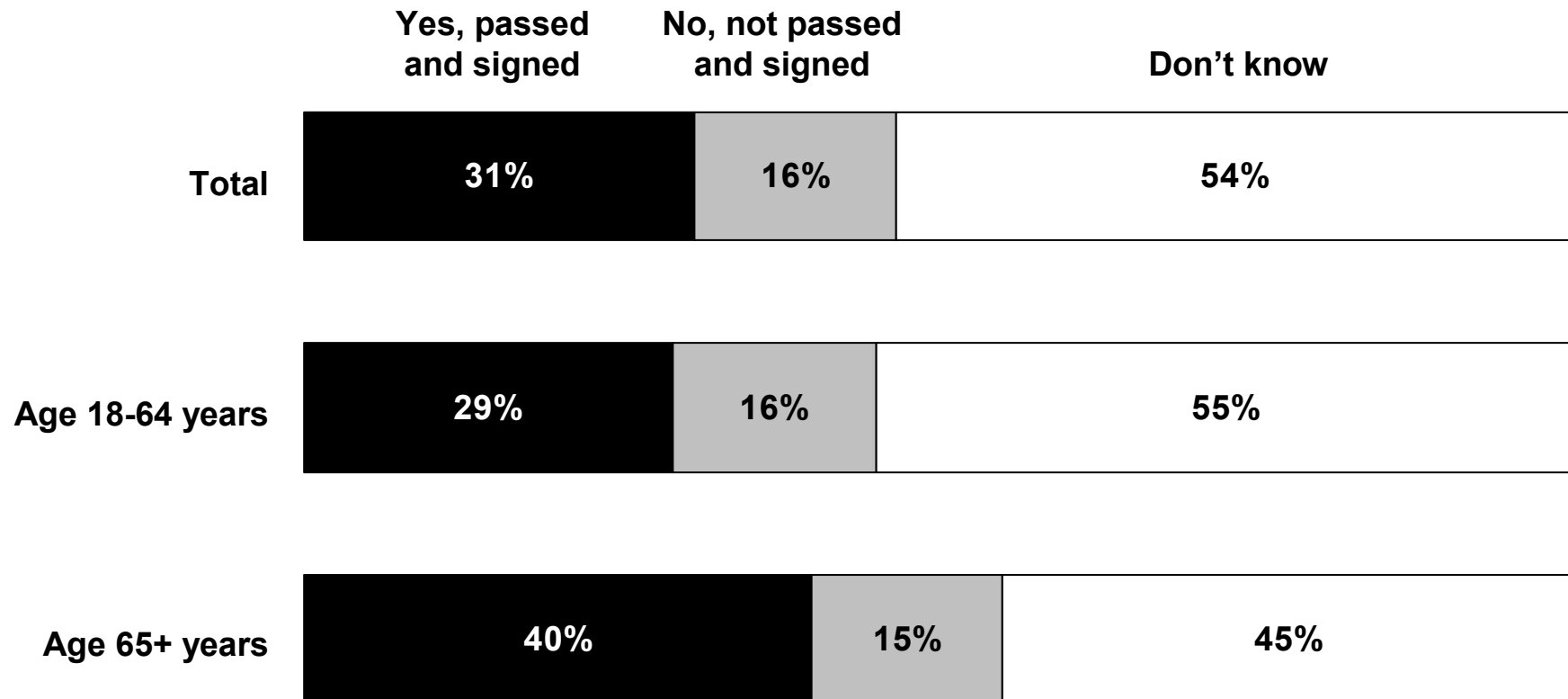


Source: Kaiser Family Foundation *Health Poll Report* survey (conducted April 1-5, 2004)

Chart 5

Knowledge About Medicare Bill's Passage

You may have heard news in late 2003 about debates in Congress on a bill that would add a prescription drug benefit to Medicare. To the best of your knowledge, has this bill been passed by Congress and signed into law by President Bush, or not?

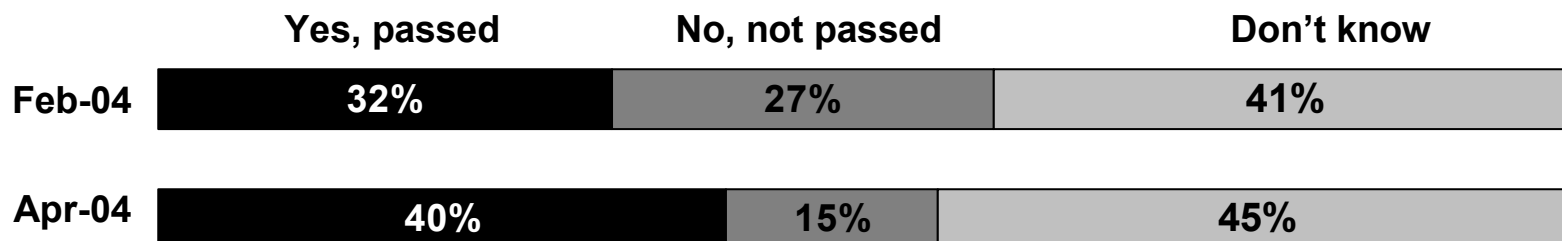


Source: Kaiser Family Foundation *Health Poll Report* survey (conducted April 1-5, 2004)

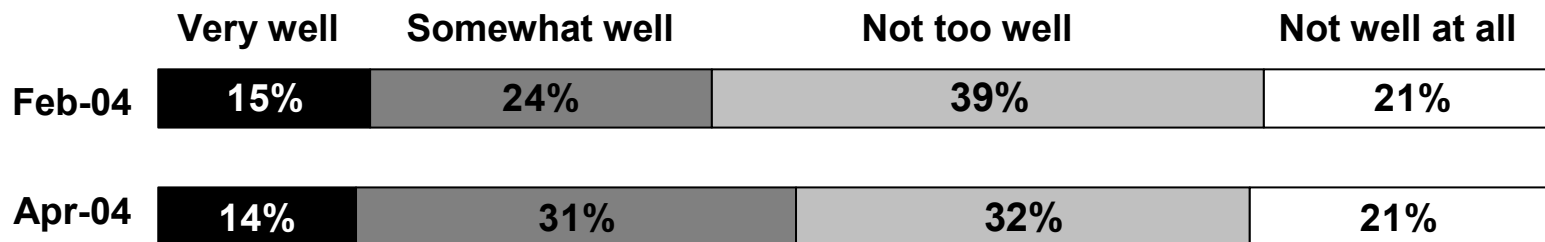
Chart 6

Trends in Reported Knowledge, Understanding, and Impression of New Medicare Law Among Seniors

Percent of seniors who say the Medicare bill was passed and signed into law...



Percent of seniors who say they understand the new Medicare law...



Percent of seniors who say their impression of the new Medicare law is...

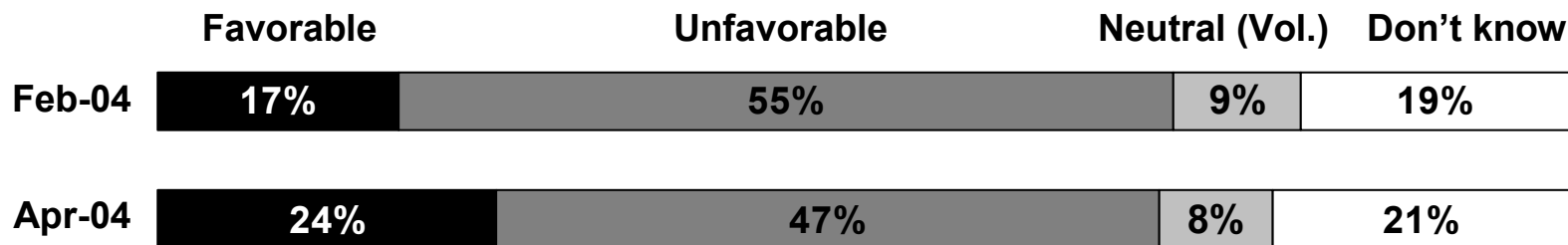
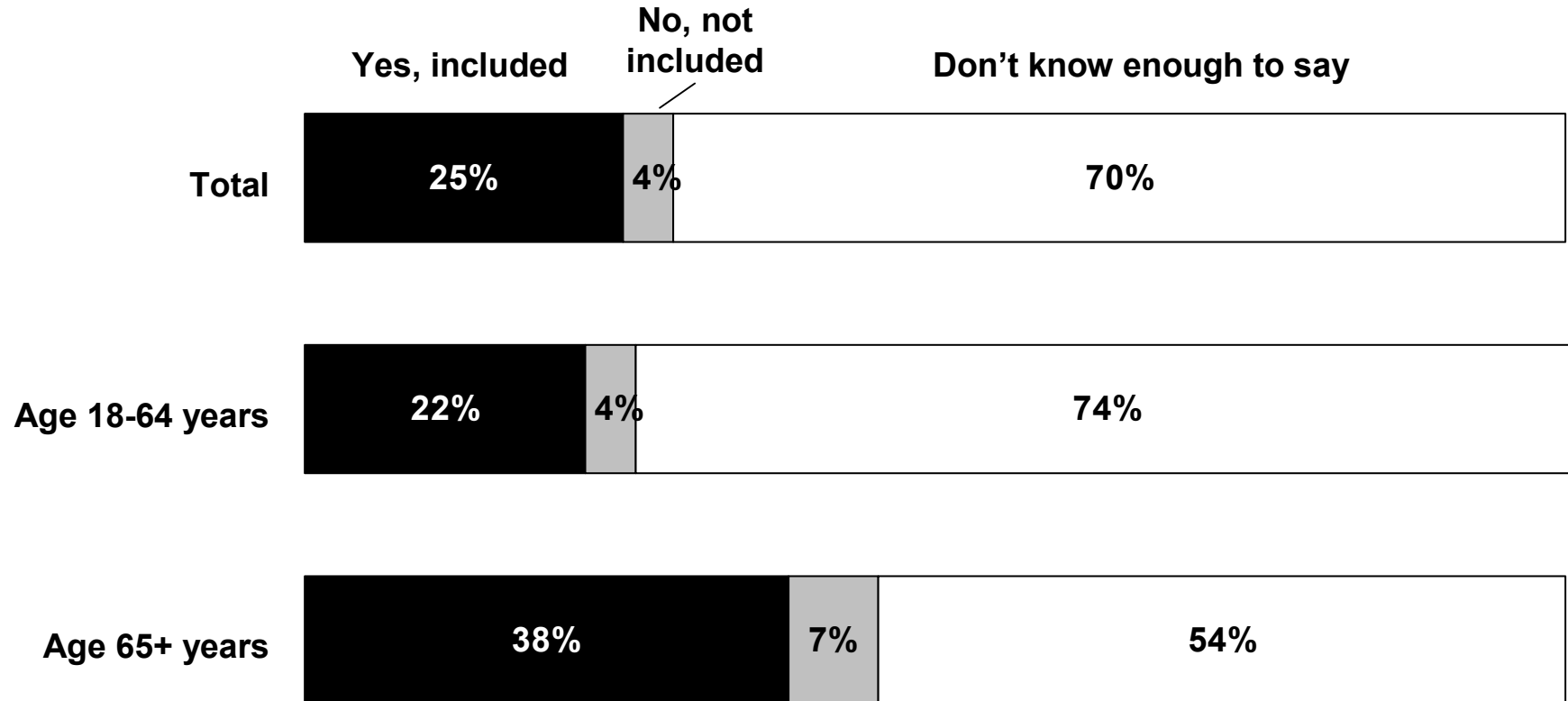


Chart 7

Knowledge About Medicare Bill – Discount Cards

As far as you know, does the new Medicare law include a prescription drug discount card for seniors that will be available this year, is this not something that's included in the law, or don't you know enough to say?

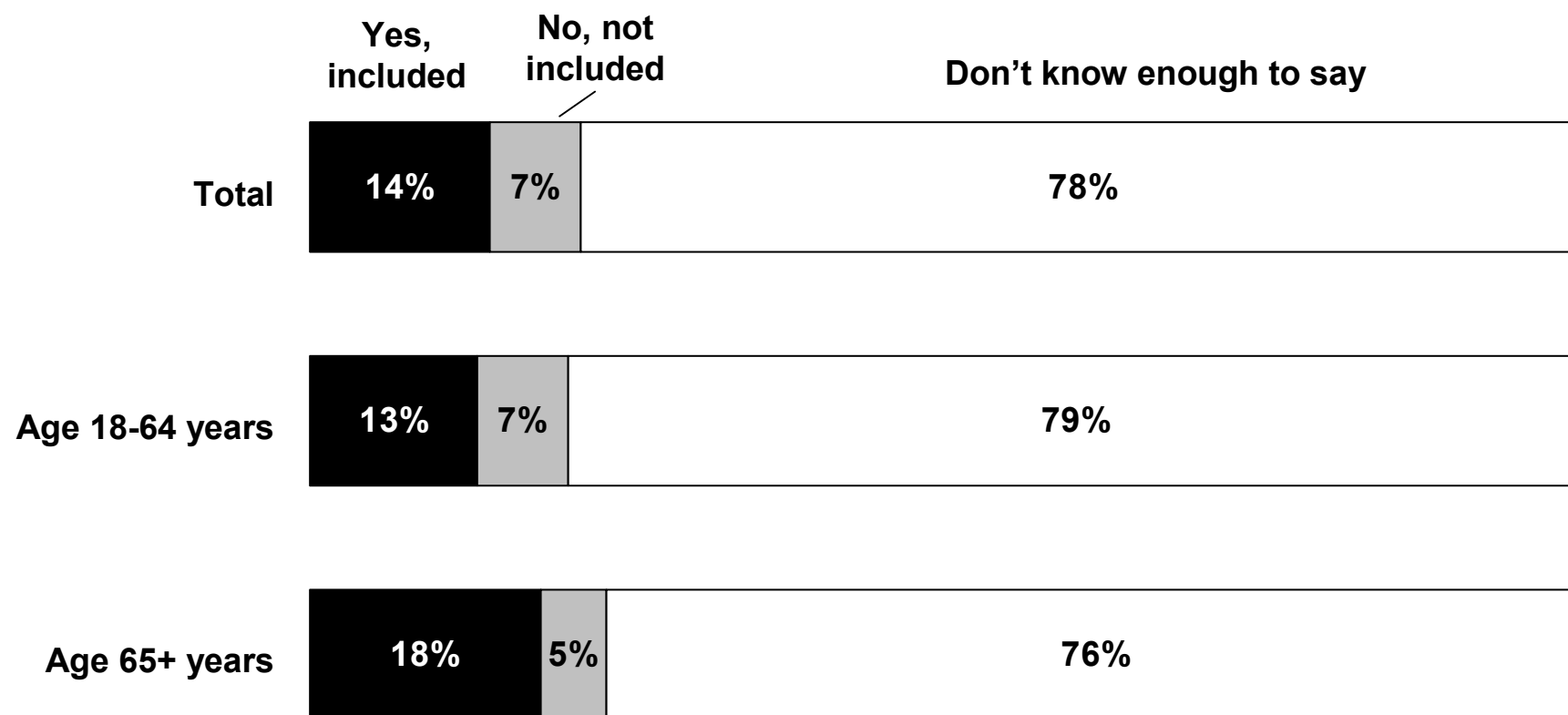


Source: Kaiser Family Foundation *Health Poll Report* survey (conducted April 1-5, 2004)

Chart 8

Knowledge About Medicare Bill – Low-income Subsidy

As far as you know, does the new Medicare law include a financial subsidy that will be available this year for low-income seniors to help them with their drug costs, is this not something that's included in the law, or don't you know enough to say?

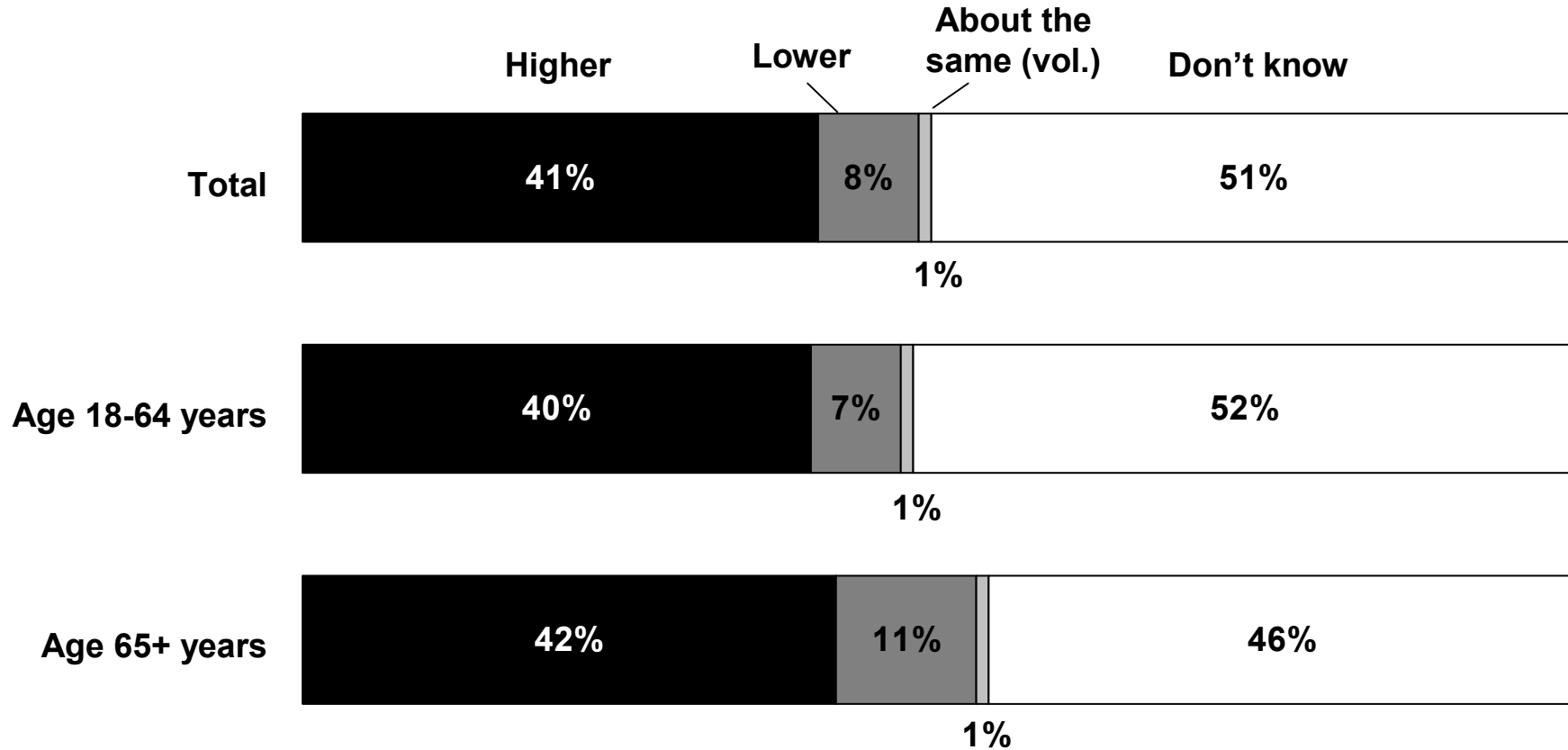


Source: Kaiser Family Foundation *Health Poll Report* survey (conducted April 1-5, 2004)

Chart 9

Knowledge About Medicare Bill – Cost Estimates

You may also have heard news about the Bush Administration’s new cost estimates of the Medicare prescription drug law that was passed in December 2003. From what you’ve seen or heard in the news, were these new cost estimates higher or lower than previously released estimates?



Source: Kaiser Family Foundation *Health Poll Report* survey (conducted April 1-5, 2004)

Chart 10

Proposed Changes to Medicare Law – Drug Importation

Candidates in the upcoming election are debating whether to change the new Medicare law to allow Americans to buy less expensive prescription drugs from pharmacies in Canada. Which of the following statements do you agree with more?

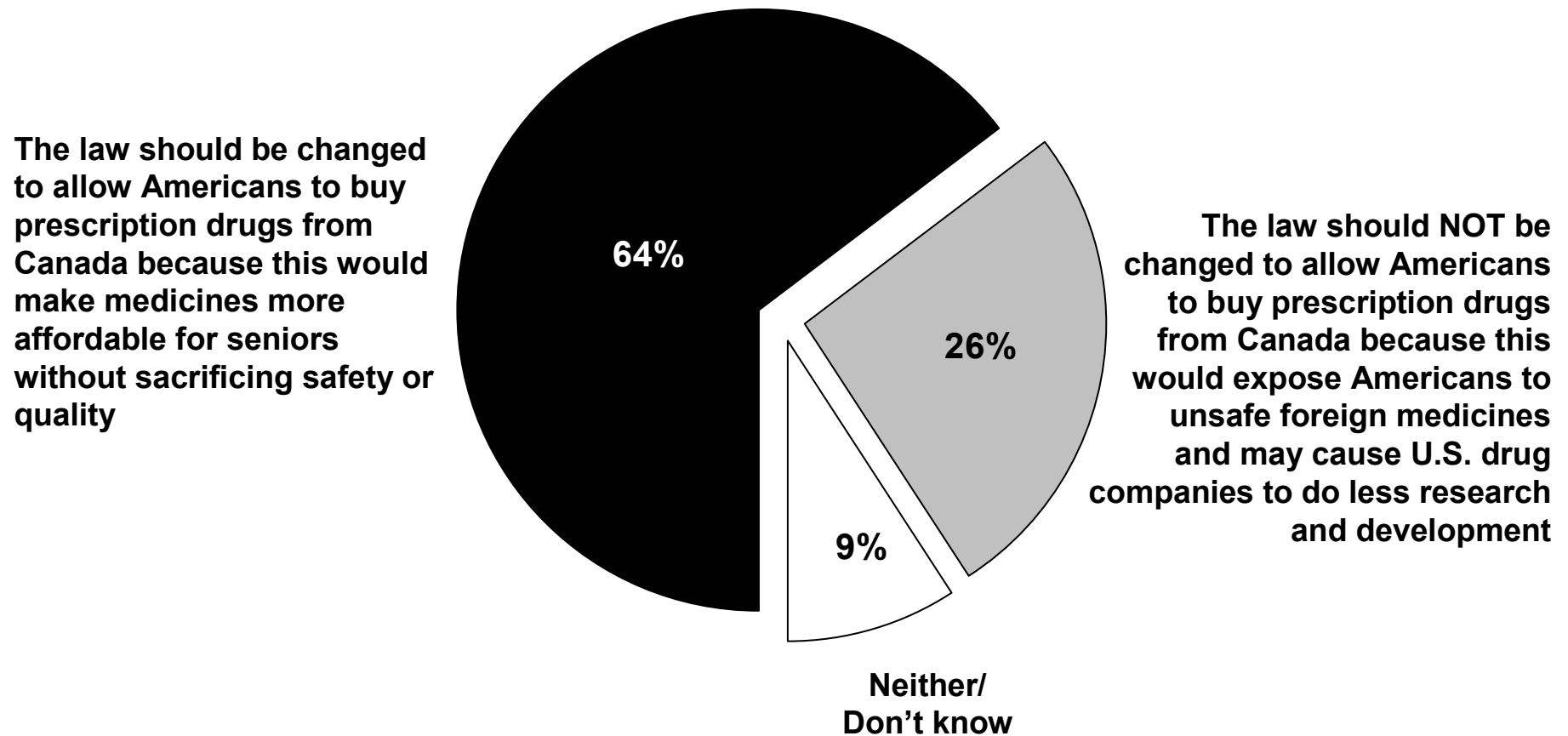


Chart 11

Proposed Changes to Medicare Law – Government Negotiation with Drug Companies

Candidates in the upcoming election are debating whether to change the new Medicare law so that the federal government could negotiate with drug companies to try to get a lower price for drugs. Which of the following statements do you agree with more?

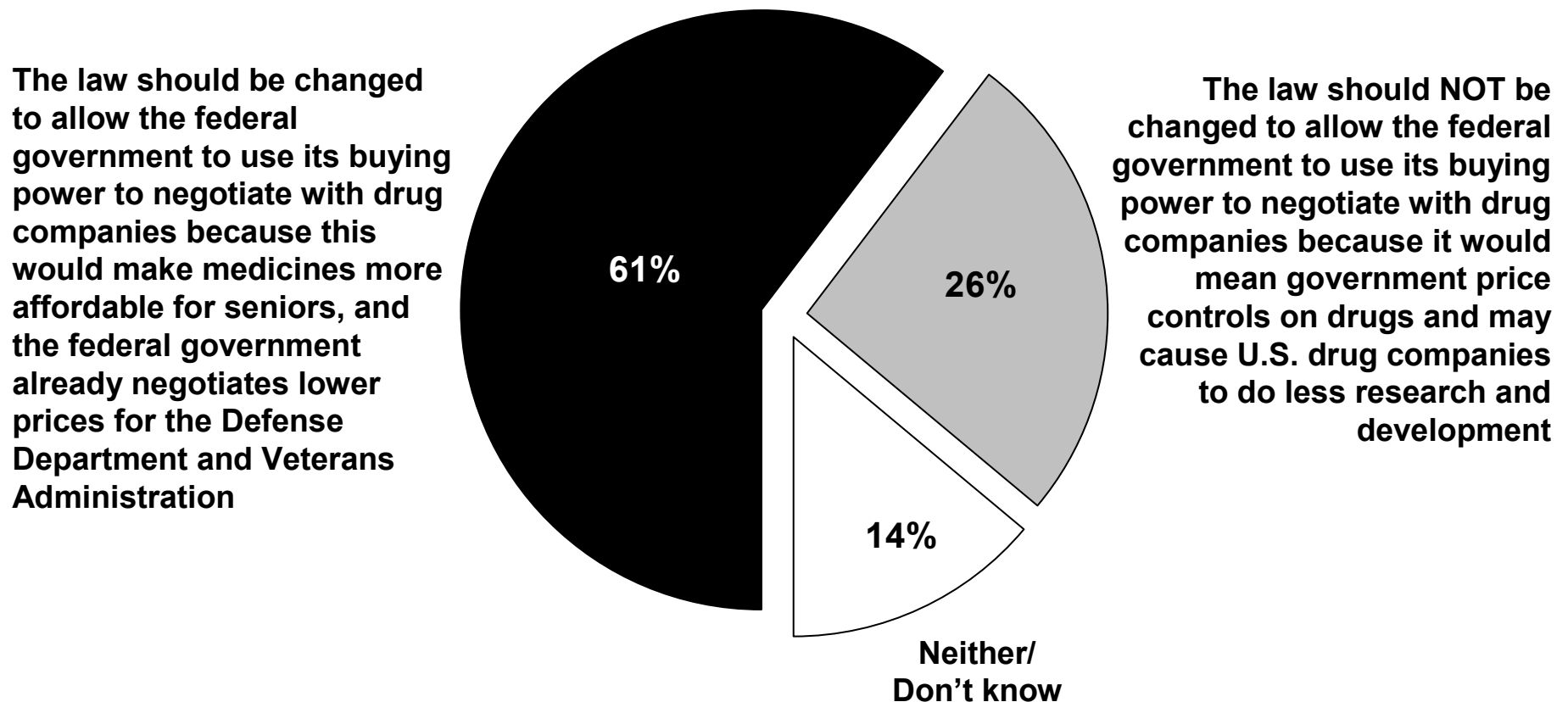
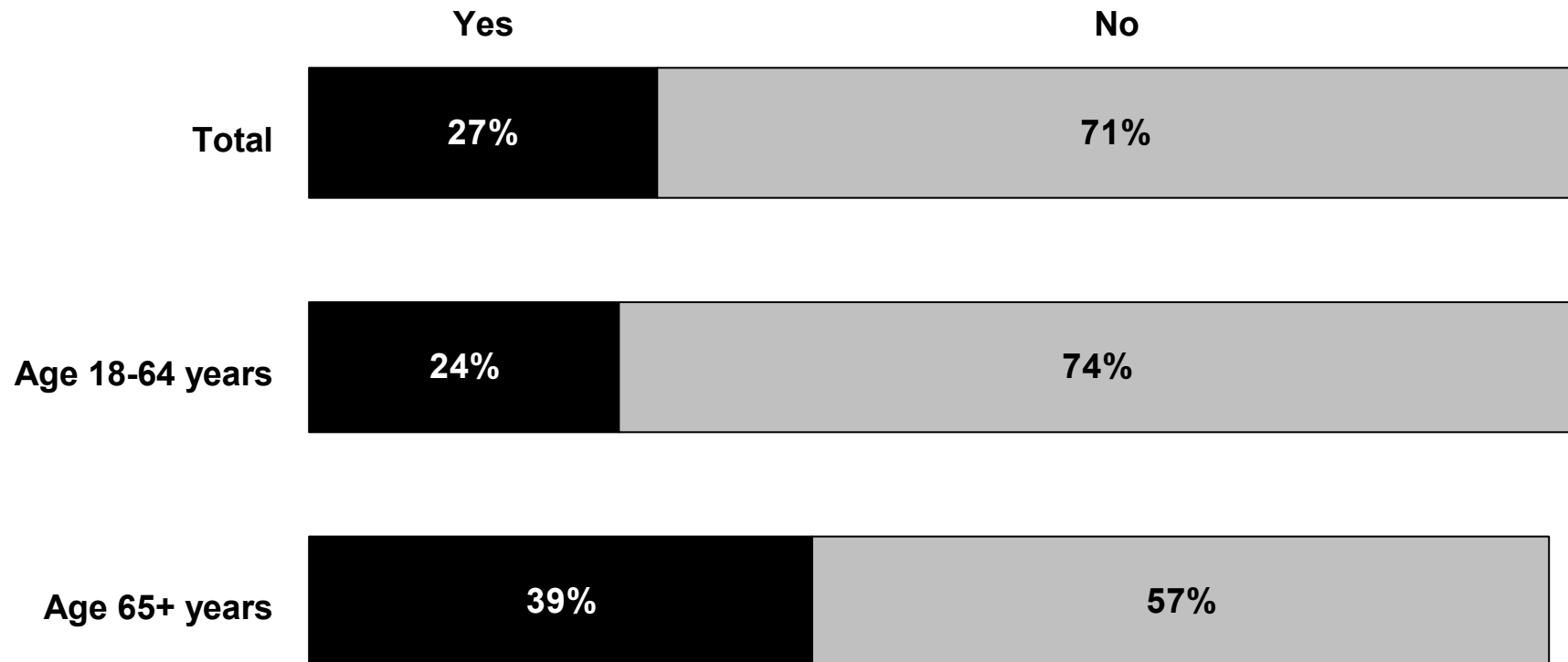


Chart 12

Attention to Television Ads about Medicare Prescription Drug Program

In the past month, have you seen any television advertisements about the new Medicare prescription drug program, or not?



Note: "Don't know" responses not shown.

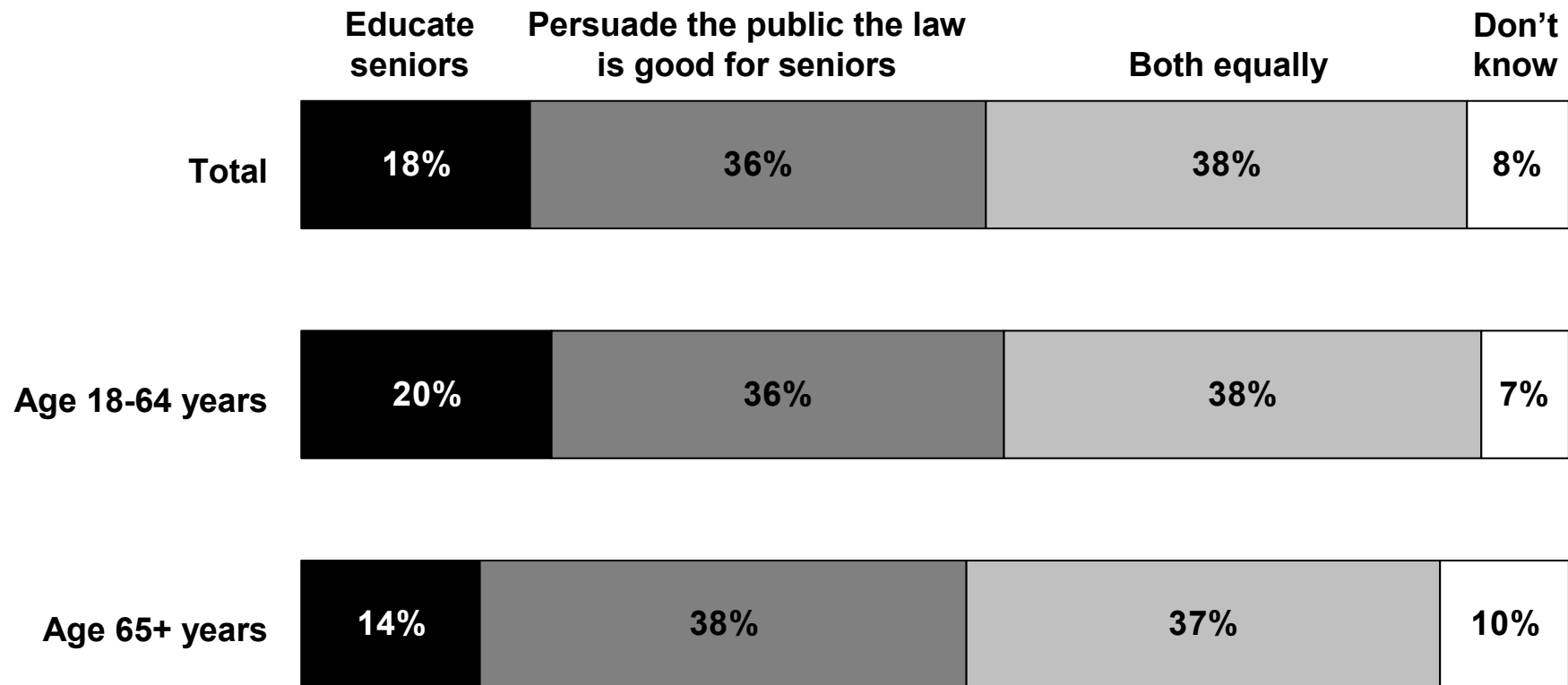
Source: Kaiser Family Foundation *Health Poll Report* survey (conducted April 1-5, 2004)

Chart 13

Impressions About the Television Ads on the Medicare Prescription Drug Program Among Those Who Saw Them

(27% of public, 24% ages 18-64, 39% ages 65+)

Based on what you saw in the ads, was it your impression that their purpose was primarily to educate seniors about the Medicare drug benefit, to persuade the public that the new law is good for seniors, or did the ads serve both these purposes equally?



Source: Kaiser Family Foundation *Health Poll Report* survey (conducted April 1-5, 2004)

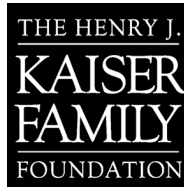
Methodology

The Kaiser Family Foundation Health Poll Report Survey was designed and analyzed by Dr. Mollyann Brodie, Elizabeth Hamel, and Jaime A. Valdez of the Kaiser Family Foundation and Dr. Robert J. Blendon and John M. Benson at the Harvard School of Public Health. Fieldwork was conducted by telephone by Princeton Survey Research Associates International between April 1 and April 5, 2004, among a nationally representative random sample of 1,201 adults ages 18 and over, including 262 adults ages 65 and older.

The margin of sampling error for the survey is plus or minus 3 percentage points for total respondents; for respondents ages 65 and older it is plus or minus 6.3 percentage points. For results based on smaller subsets of respondents the margin of sampling error is higher. Note that sampling error is only one of many potential sources of error in this or any other public opinion poll.

Values less than 0.5% are indicated by an asterisk (*). “VOL” indicates that a response was volunteered by respondent, not an explicitly offered choice.

Full question wording and all results are available separately at www.kff.org.



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