



# The Results of an Independent Audit of the Current Voter Registration List in Cambodia

*Phnom Penh, September 6, 2007*

Supported by:





# Presentation Outline

- Audit Methodology
- Results:
  - The level of registration and the accuracy of the voters list;
  - Registration awareness;
  - Others
- Recommendations



# Voter Registration Audit Methodology



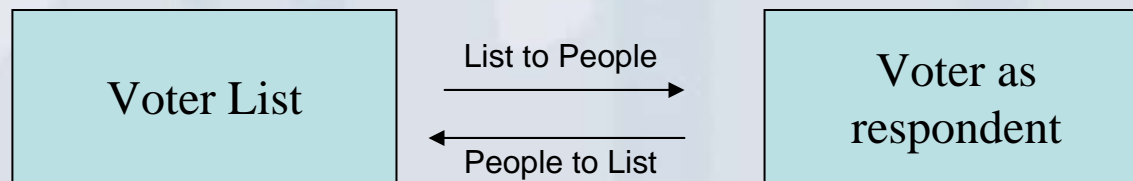
# What is the Purpose of VRA?

- To provide an independent election observation report
- To verify the accuracy of voters list
- To evaluate the quality of voter registration process



# Methodology

- 380 communes randomly selected – *multistage stratified random sampling*, with  $\pm 3.5\%$  of margin errors and 95% level of confidence.
- VRA conducted with *two-way audit*:
  - a. *List-to-people* – selected 4 names on the voter list and then interviewed them to verify their data in each commune
  - b. *People-to-list* – selected and interviewed 6 voters and then verified their data on the voter list in each commune





# Data Collection

- NICFEC and COMFREL deployed 385 volunteers on August 10-14, 2007
- Total sample received from communes: 380 communes (98.7% of target sample communes) from 24 provinces/municipalities
- Number of respondents: 3,796 voters (98.6% of target sample)
- The voters list audited is the 2006 voters list (the list used in the 2007 commune council elections)



# Report received by Provinces

No	Provinces	Sample communes	No	Provinces	Sample communes
1	Banteay Meanchey	19 (100%)	13	Preah Vihear	3 (96.1%)
2	Battambang	25 (96.1%)	14	Prey Veng	33 (96.1%)
3	Kampong Cham	53 (100%)	15	Pursat	11 (100%)
4	Kampong Chhnang	12 (96.1%)	16	Ratanak Kiri	3 (100%)
5	Kampong Speu	21 (100%)	17	Siem Reap	20 (96.1%)
6	Kampong Thom	18 (100%)	18	Sihanouk Ville	5 (100%)
7	Kampot	17 (100%)	19	Stung Treng	2 (100%)
8	Kandal	38 (100%)	20	Svay Rieng	17 (100%)
9	Kong Kong	4 (100%)	21	Takeo	27 (100%)
10	Kratie	8 (100%)	22	Oddar Meanchey	4 (100%)
11	Mondul Kiri	1 (100%)	23	Krong Kep	1 (100%)
12	Phnom Penh	36 (100%)	24	Krong Pailin	2 (100%)
Urban = 12.1 ; Rural = 87.9			<i>Total</i>		380



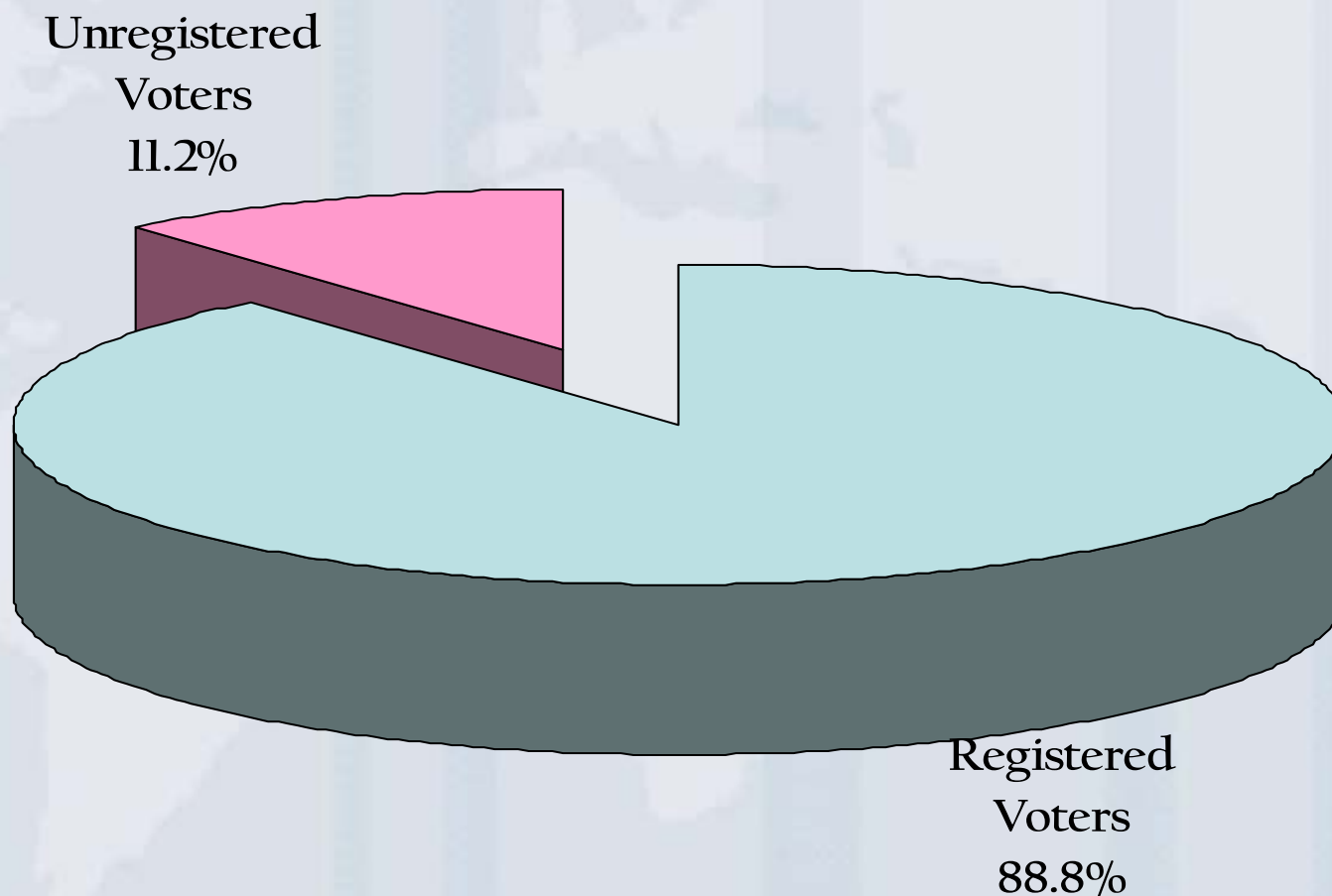
**Audit Result:**

**The level of registration and the accuracy of the voters list**





# Voter Registration Rate



N = 2,278; People-to-List (verifying information from eligible voters to the voters list)

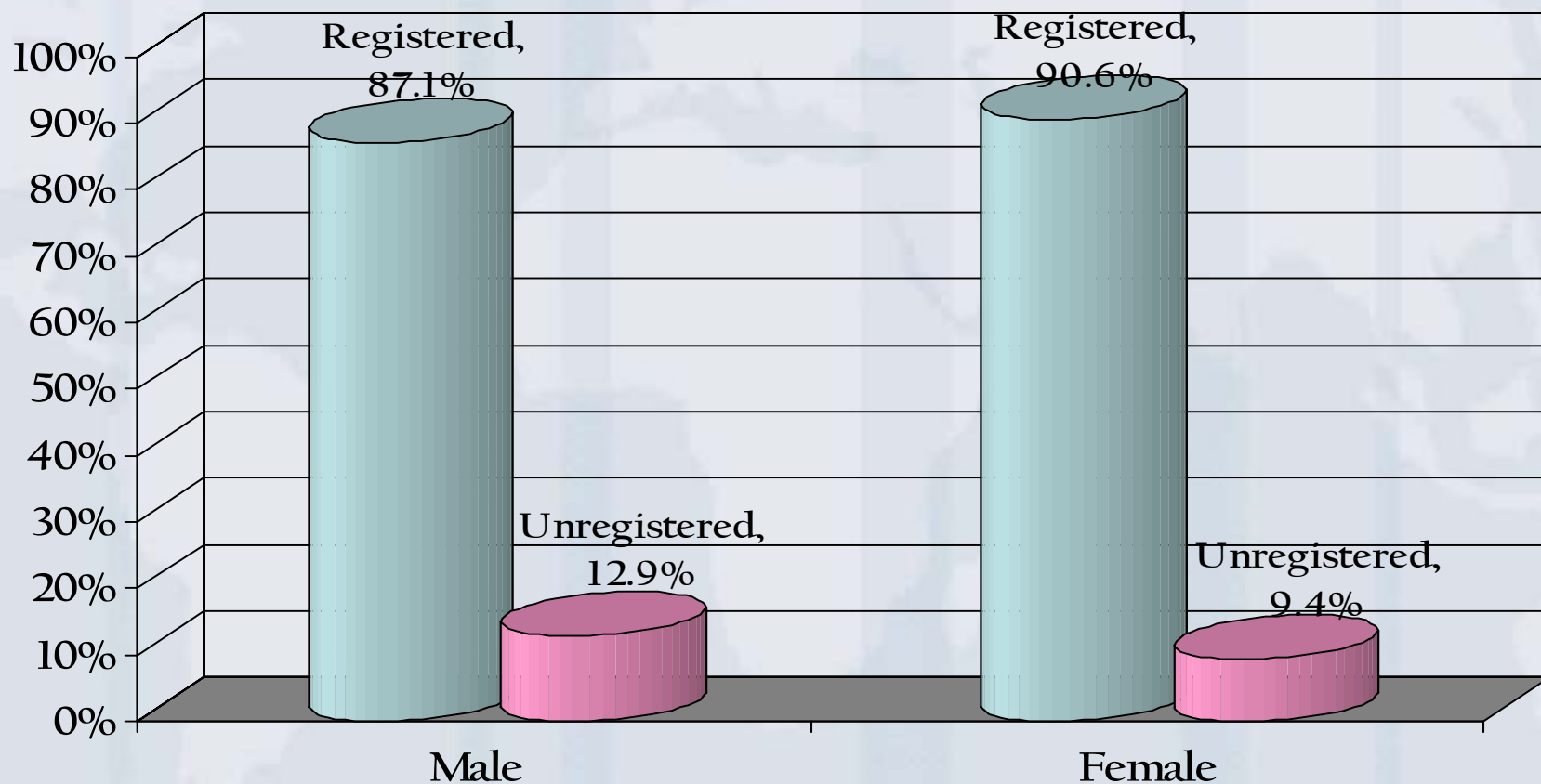


# Voter Registration Rate by Age





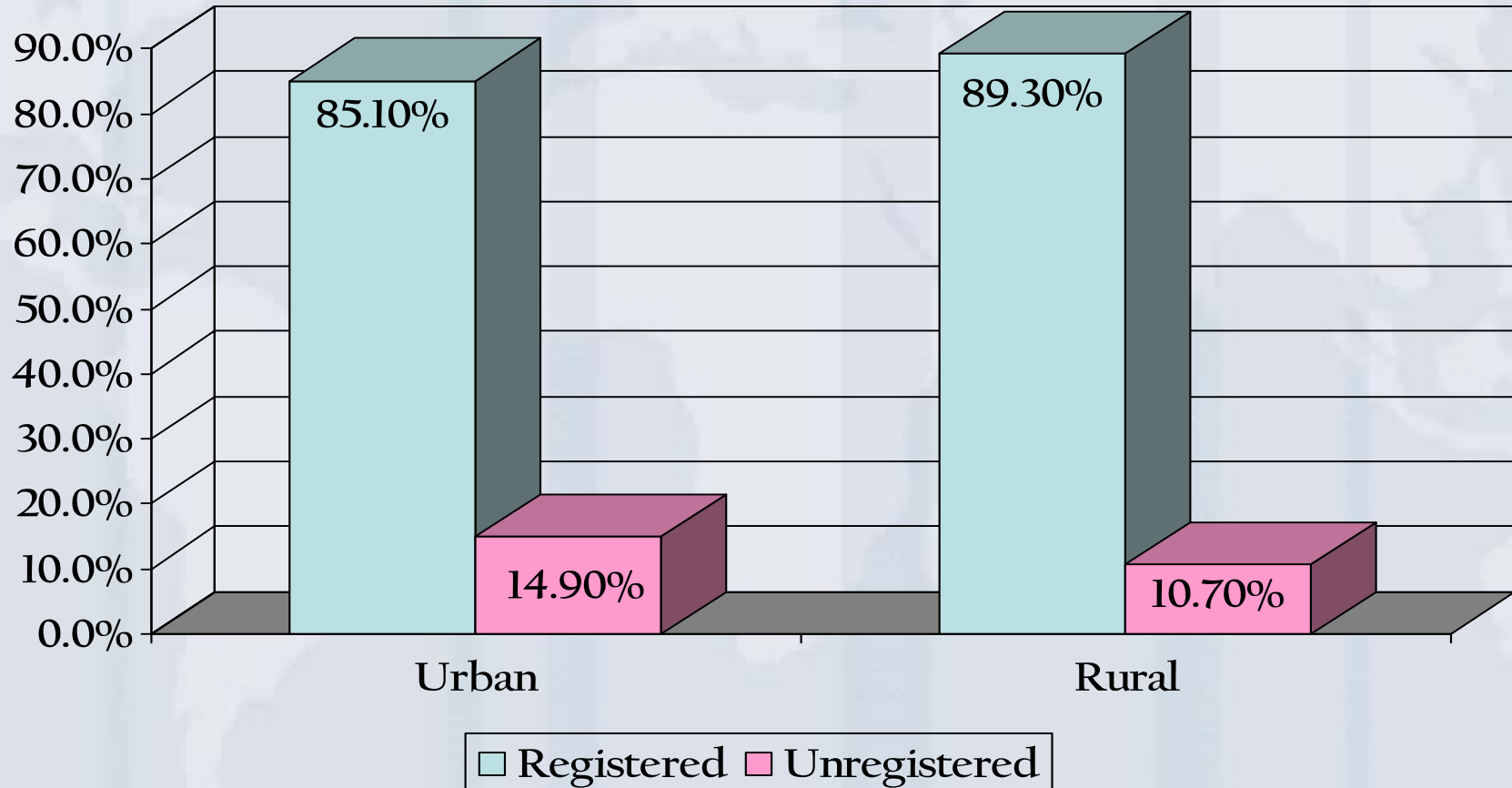
# Voter Registration Rate by Gender



N = 2,278; People-to-List respondents

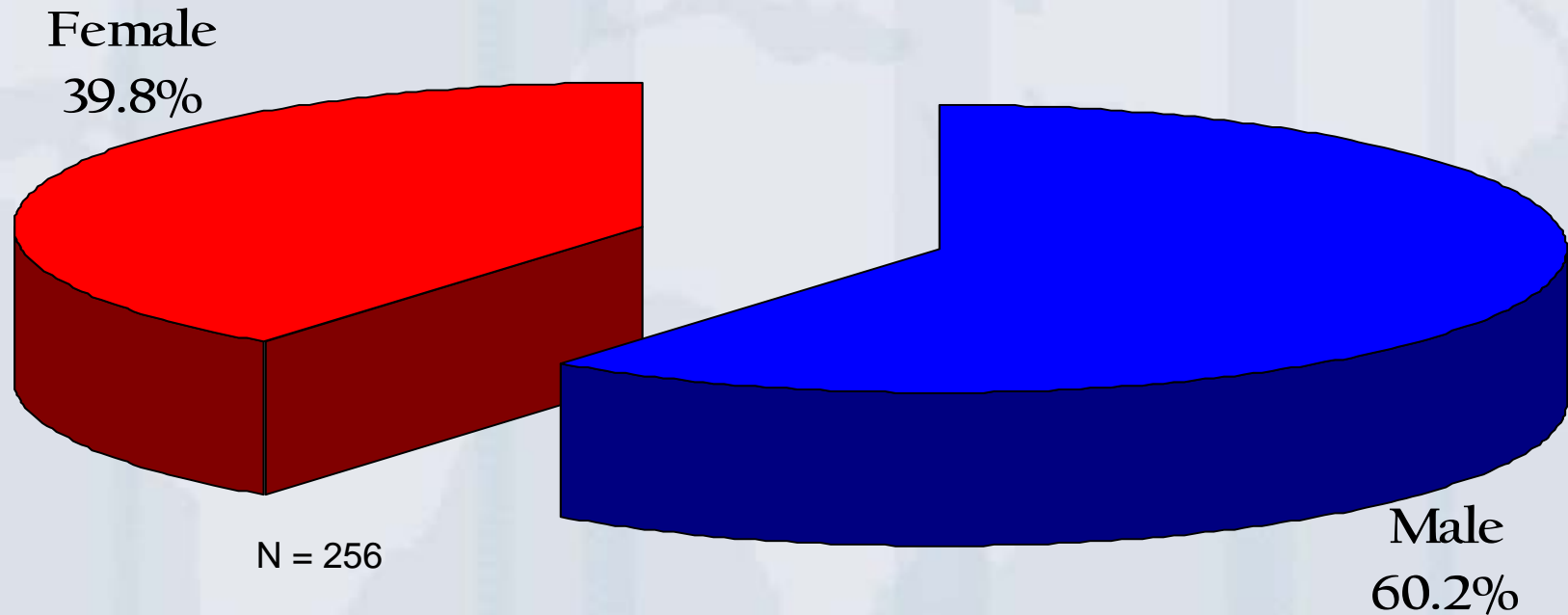


# Comparison of Voter Registration Rate in Urban and Rural Areas



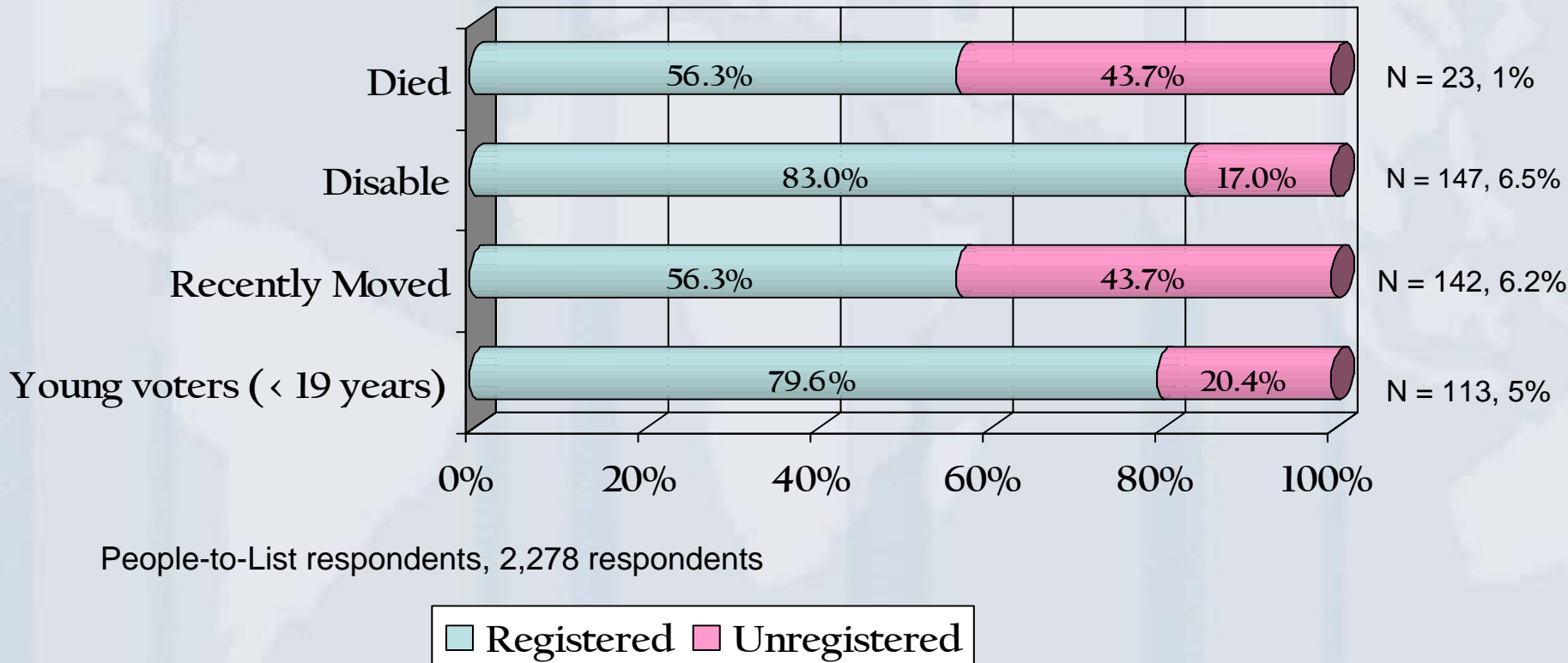


# Unregistered Voters by Gender





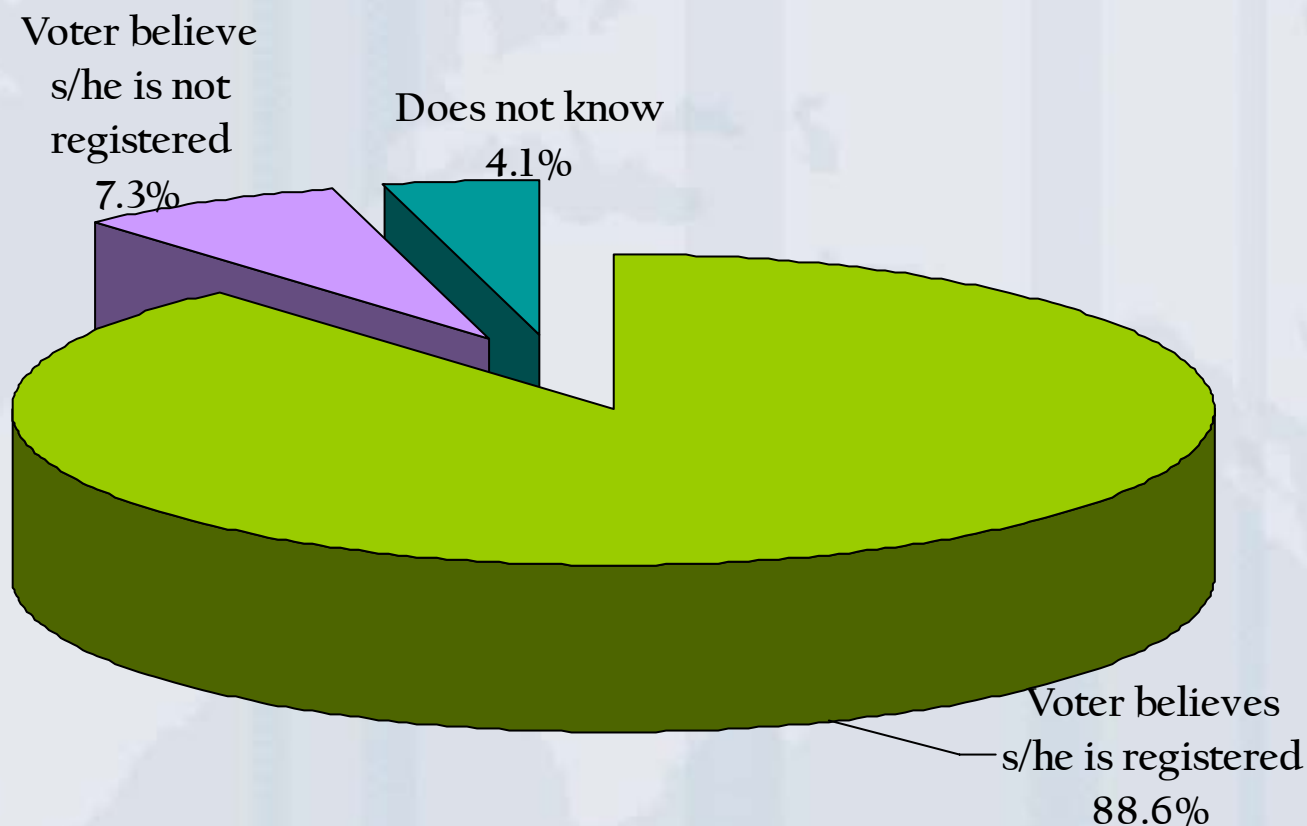
# Registration Rate within Specific Respondent Category



People-to-List respondents, 2,278 respondents



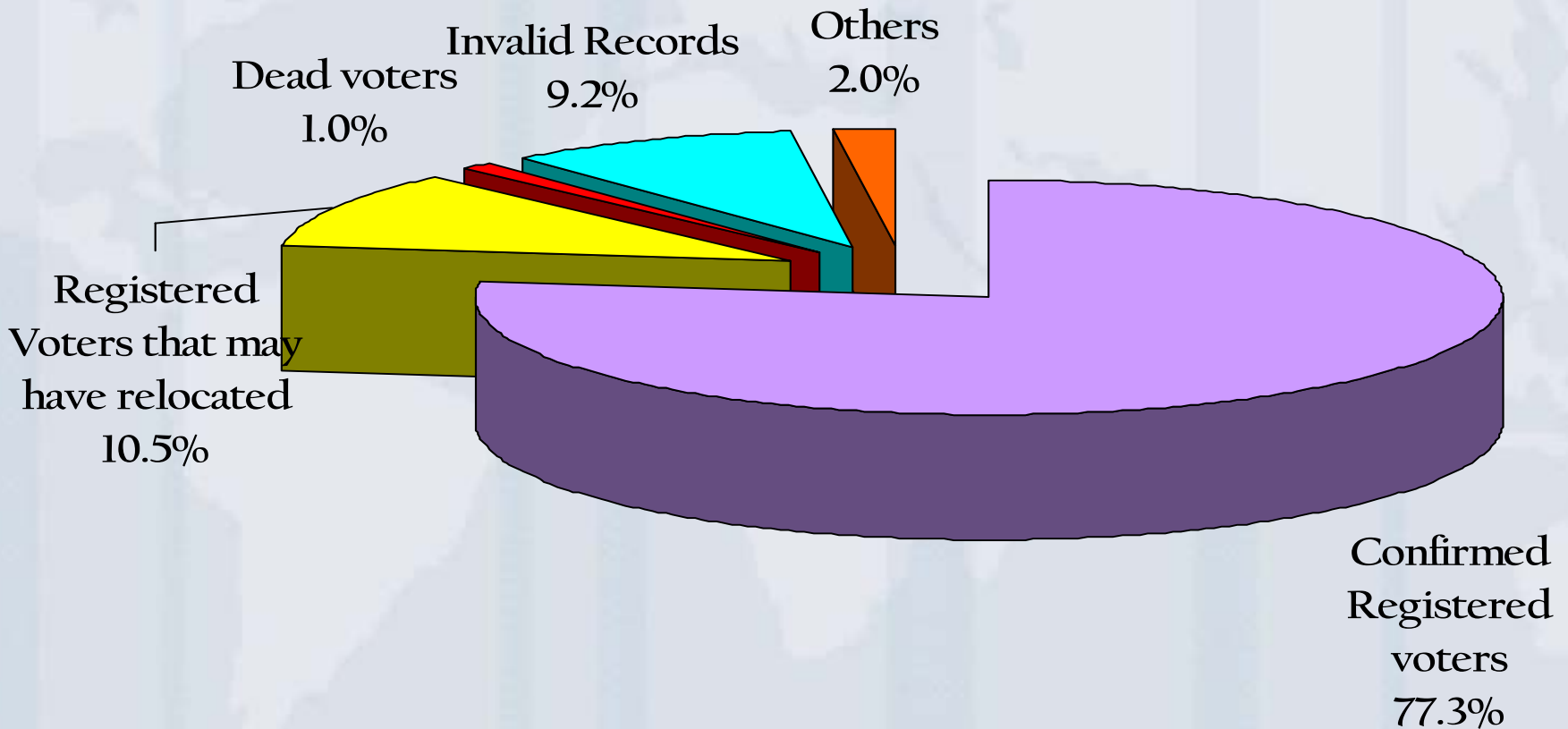
# Awareness among Registered Voters



*"Have you been registered for the upcoming 2008 election" (n = 1,174; List-to-People)*



# Results of Verifying Names on the Voter List

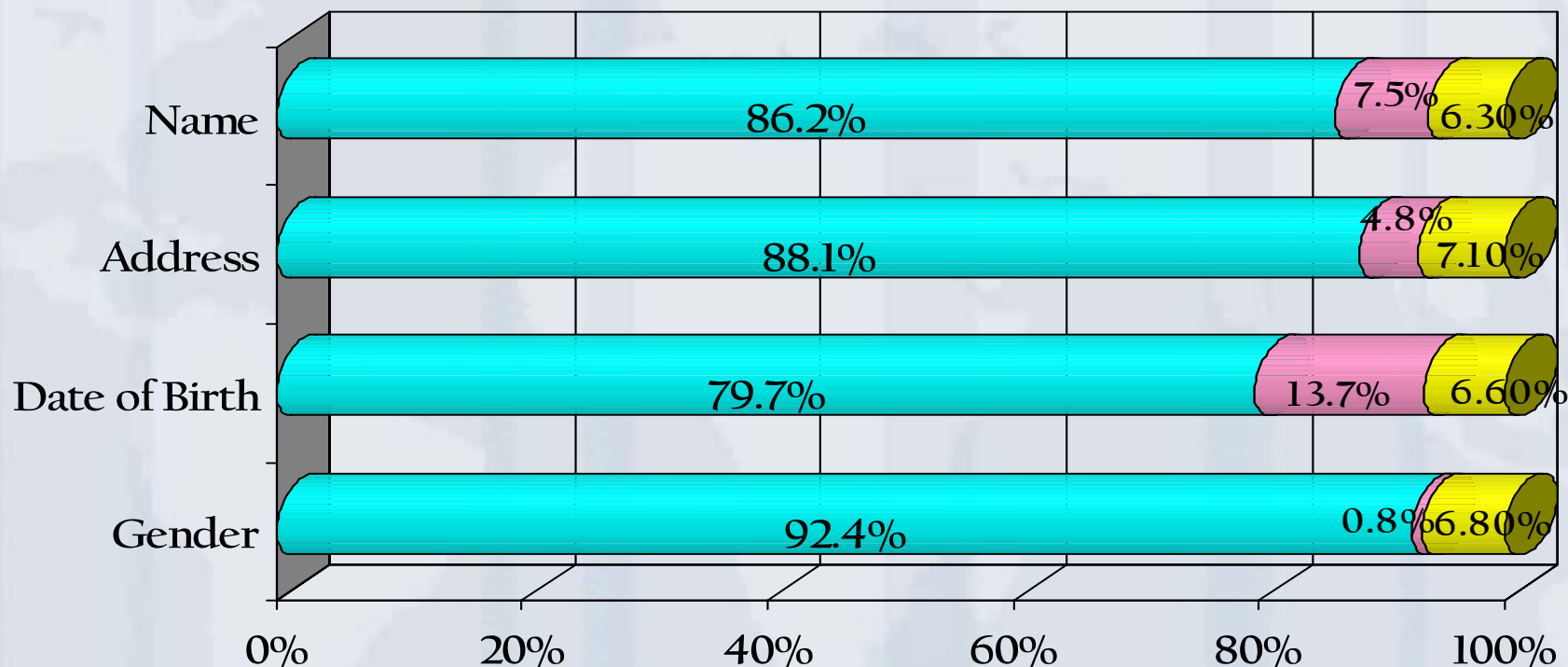


N = 1,518; List-to-People respondents





# Accuracy of the Voters List



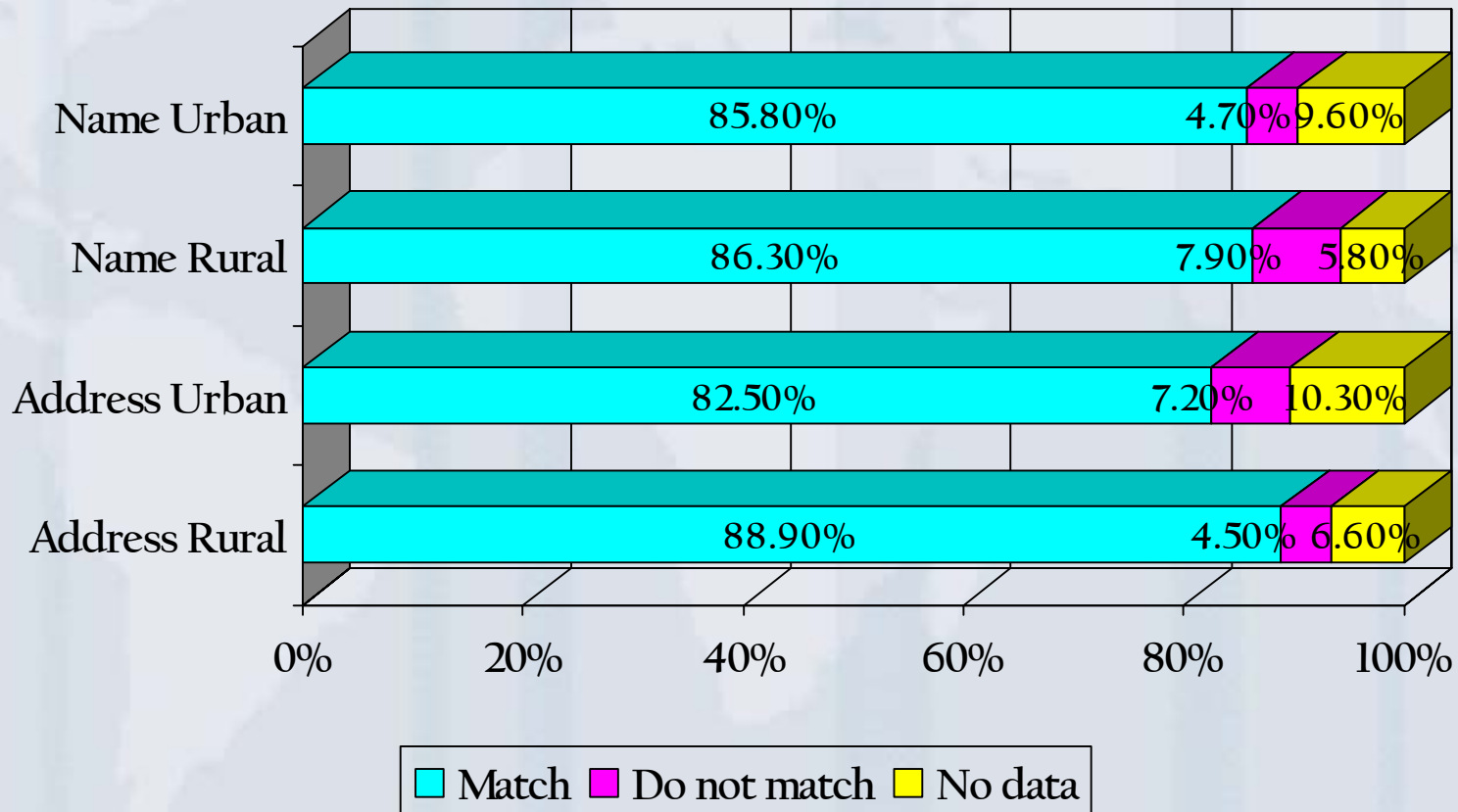
N = 3,452; All respondents

■ Match
 ■ Do not match
 ■ No data

No data includes unregistered voters, relocated voters, etc.

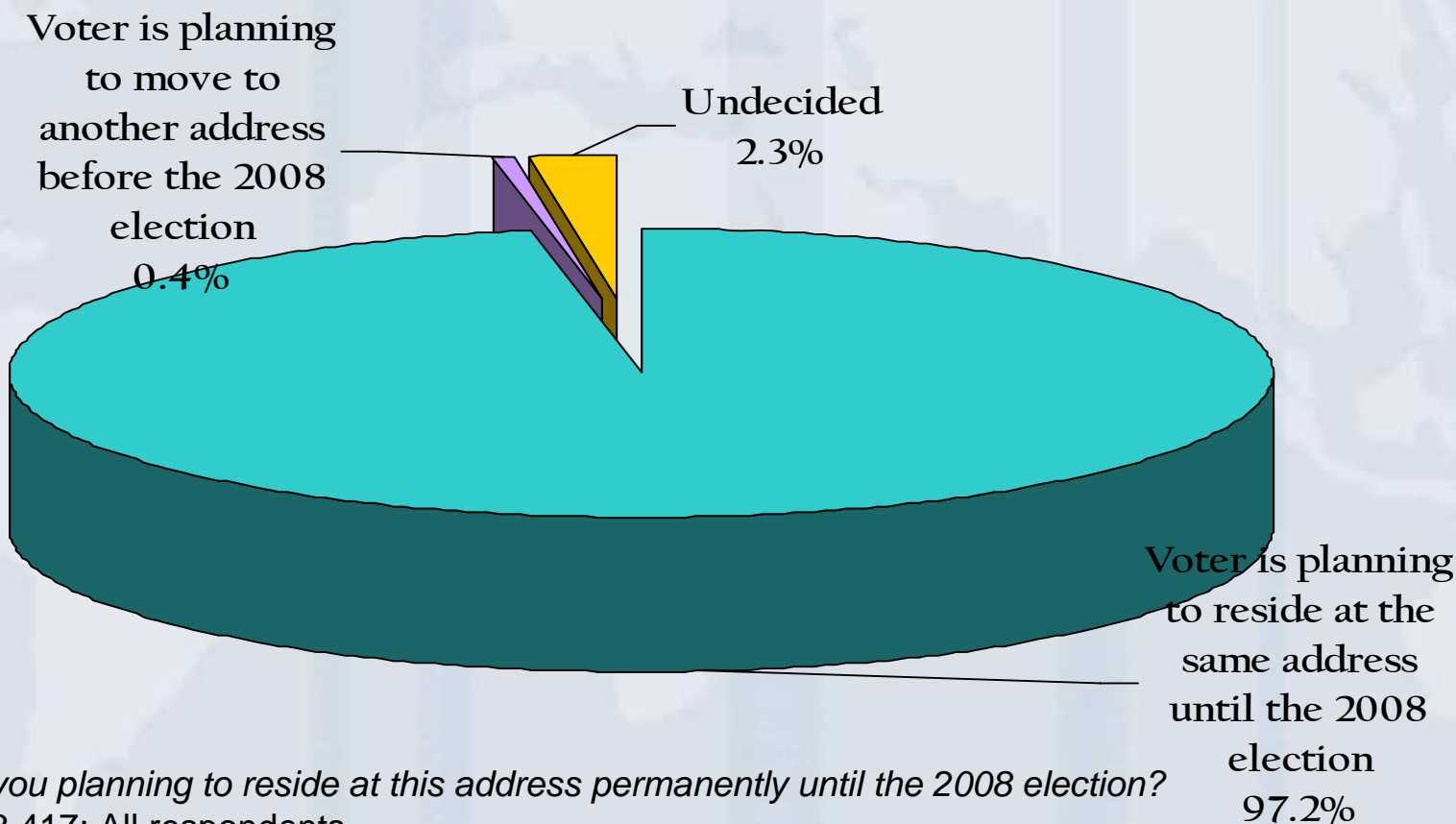


# The Accuracy of the Voters List in Urban vs Rural Areas





# Intention to Reside at the Same Address until the 2008 election

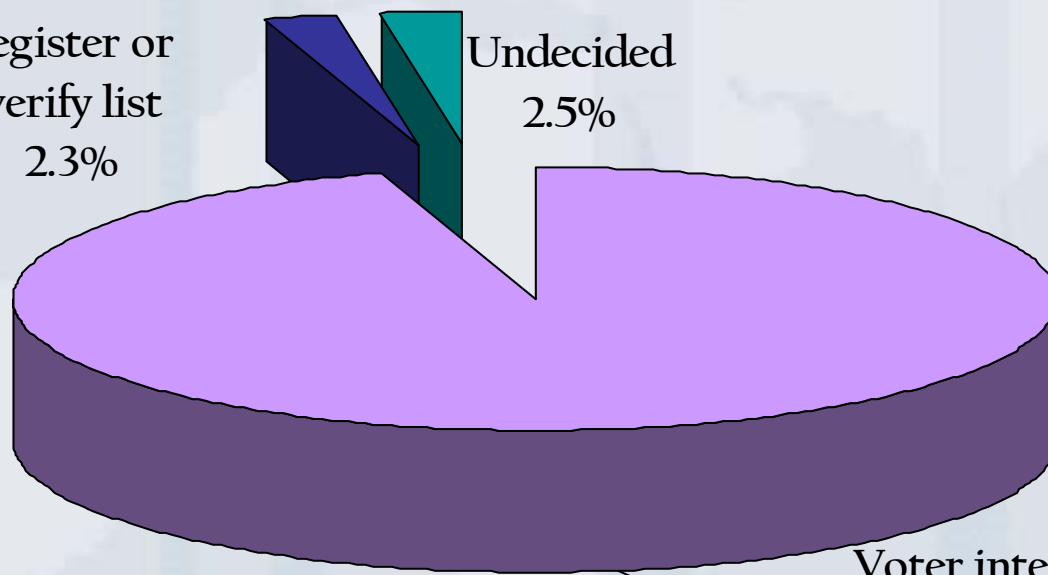


Are you planning to reside at this address permanently until the 2008 election?  
 N = 3,417; All respondents



# Intention to Register or Verify Name on Voters List

Voter does not intend to register or verify list  
2.3%



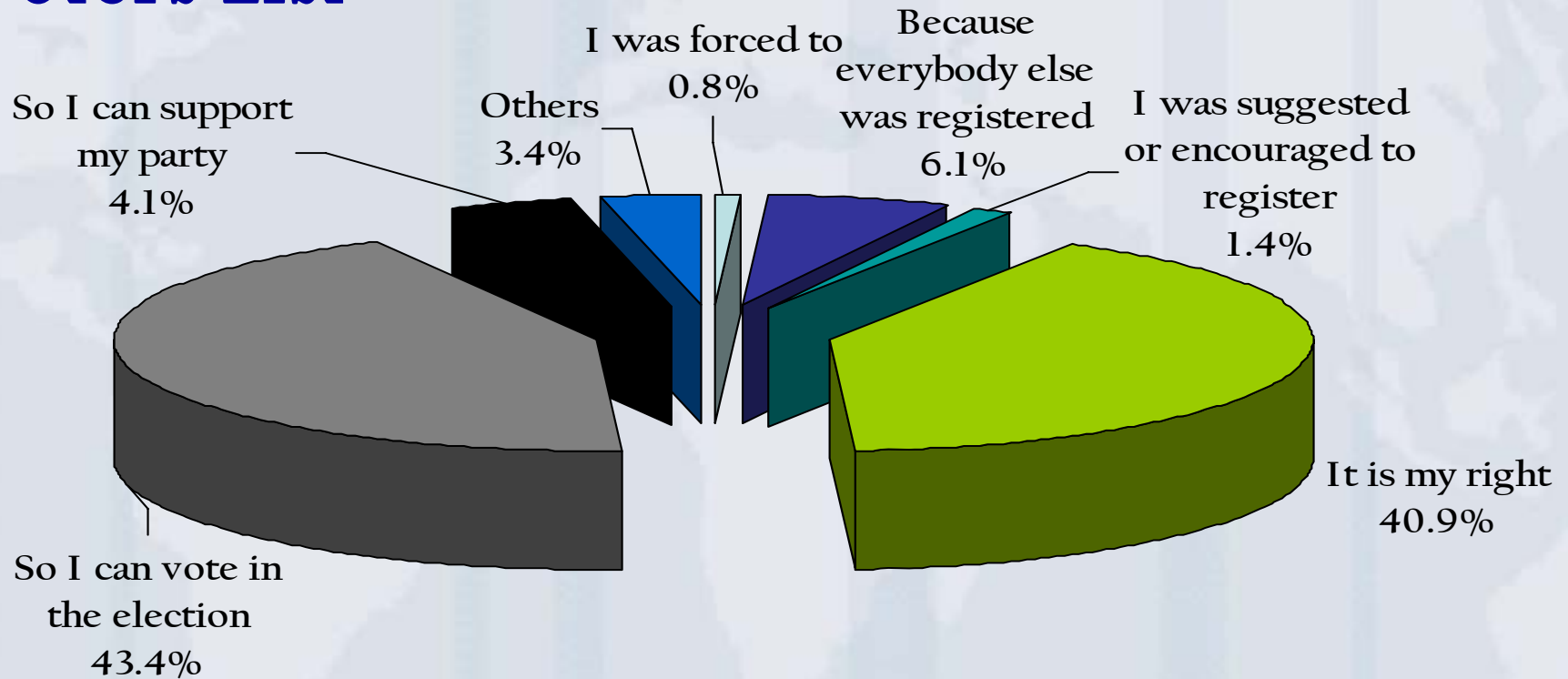
Undecided  
2.5%

Voter intends to register or verify list  
95.2%

Will you check your registration status or register during the registration period?  
N = 3,417; All respondents



# Motivation of Voter to Check Name on Voters List



*If you are going to check your name on the voters list, why?*  
 N = 3,253; All respondents that said they are going to check

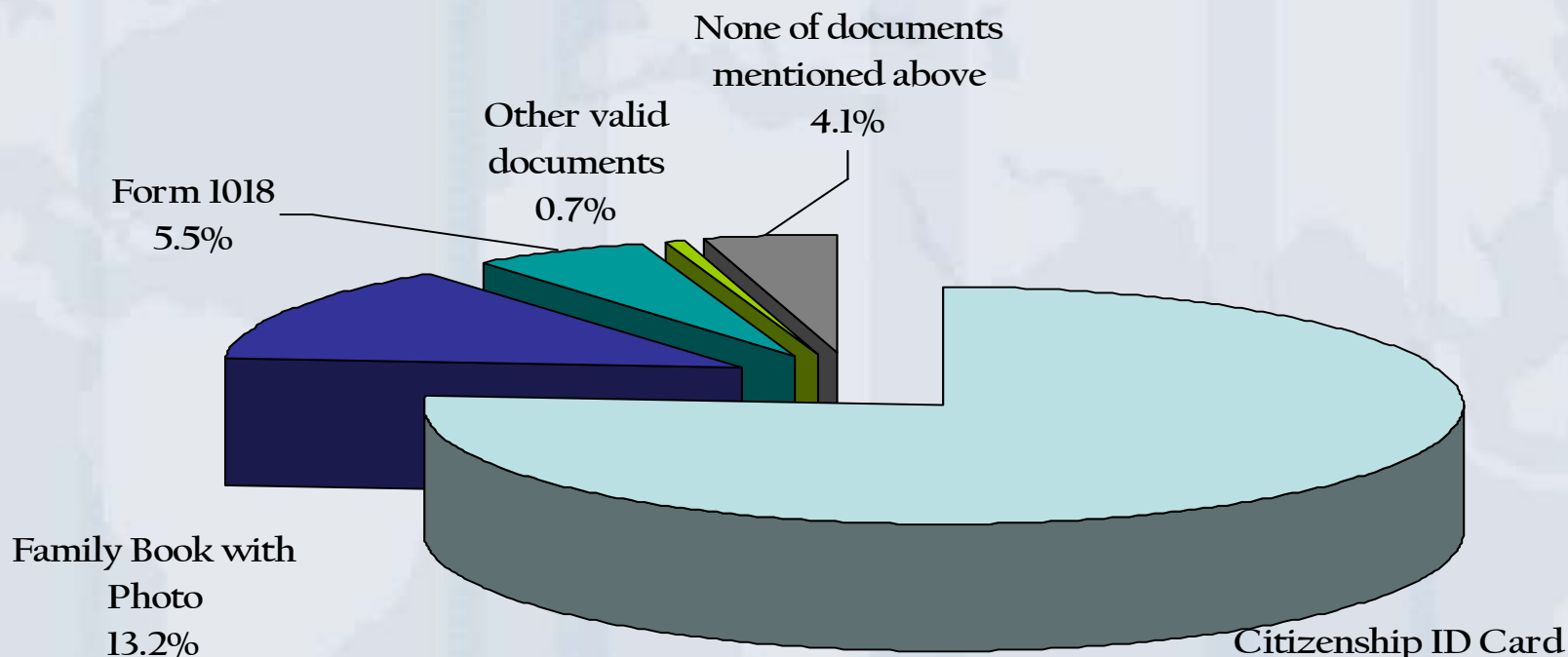


# Reasons for Not Registering/ Checking Voters List

- Does not have identification documents for registration
- The distance to the registration station is too far
- The registration period is too short
- Does not know about the registration
- Does not care, etc.



# Identification Documents Used for Registration



Which identification document did you use to register for the voters list?

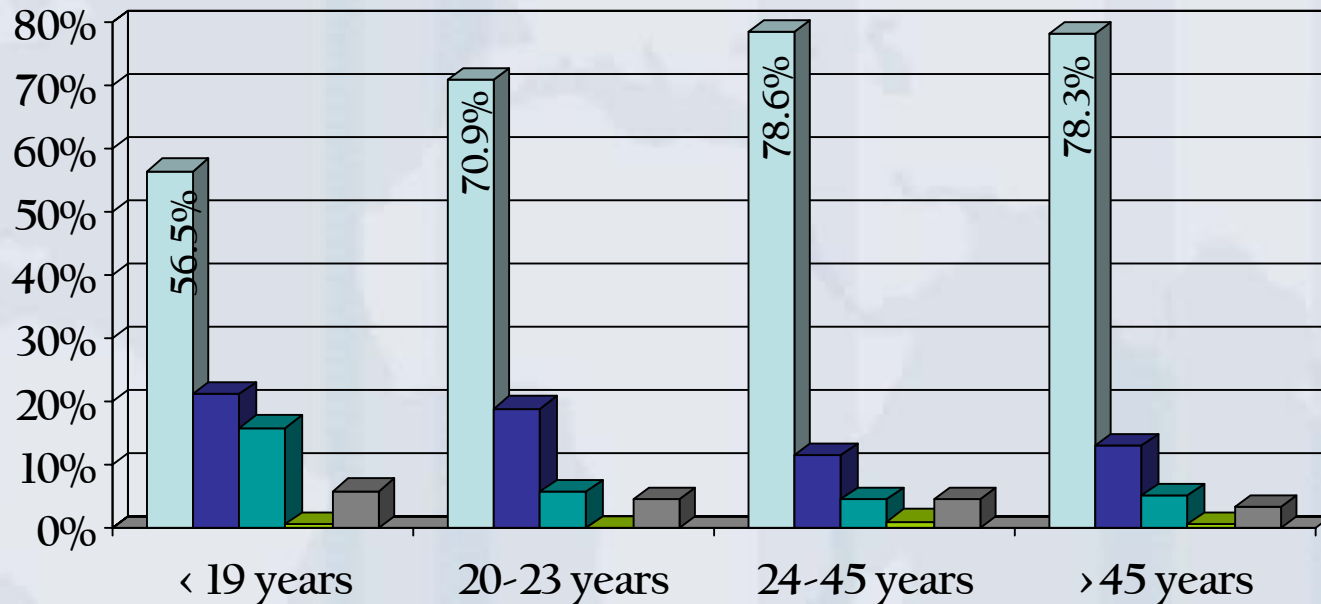
76.5%

N = 3,354; All respondents

Other valid documents include: passport, civil servant ID card, national police ID card, RCAF ID Card, Monk ID, ID issued by ministry



# Identification Document Used Against Respondent Age



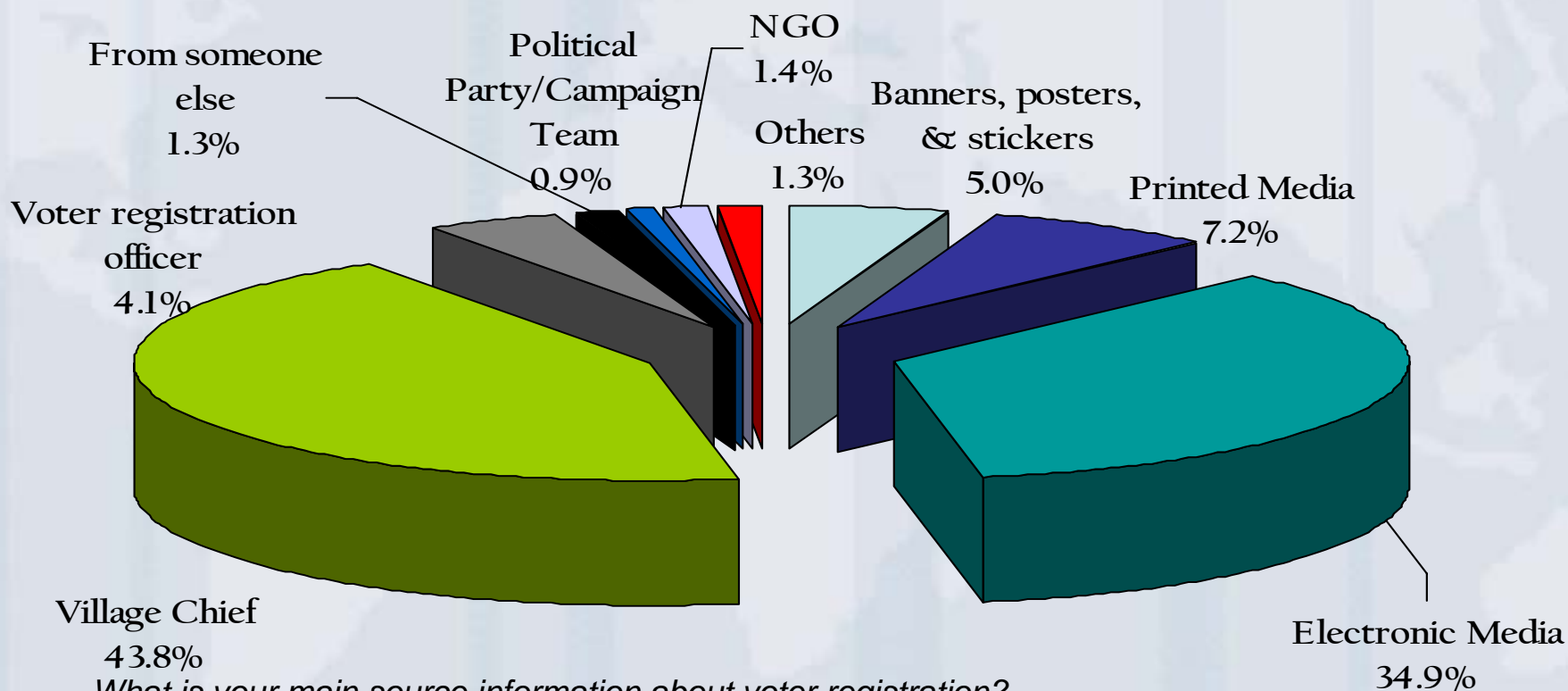
- Citizenship ID Card
- Family Book with Photo
- Form 1018
- Other valid documents
- None of document mentioned above

Other valid documents includes: passport, civil servant ID card, national police ID card, RCAF ID Card, Monk ID, ID used by ministry





# Source of Information about Registration



What is your main source information about voter registration?  
 N = 3,429; All respondents



# Recommendations for NEC

1. Focus on Unregistered Voters
  - Prioritize unregistered voters. Pay special attention to specific groups such as male voters, young voters, and relocated voters.
2. Caution about Clean-up Process
  - a. Reverse the burden of proof to rest with NEC and not the voter for the deletion list. In other words, accept only concrete evidence as proof of invalidity prior to deletion rather than delete if voter does not verify. It is better to err on the side of caution instead of deleting voter name due to hasty process.



# Recommendations for NEC (cont.)

- o Deceased voters should only be deleted with proof of death certificate.
  - o Relocated voters should only be deleted if proof of registration in other location is available. These voters reside permanently or temporarily outside their commune and may or may not be registered in a new location but may return to vote.
- b. Cross-check the deletion against a reliable data set such as the polling stations voter list used the 2007 commune council election. These lists have information on voters who really exist and those who are in question.
3. Increase effectiveness of voter education programs by working with village chiefs and using broadcast media.



# Recommendation to Government

1. Complete the distribution of National ID cards preferably before September 15.  
Release information on the statistics of National ID cards issued and distributed.
1. Prioritize the first time voters to get their National ID cards
2. Cooperate and assist NEC to ensure the neutrality of the village chiefs
3. Adequately fund NEC in voter education and voter registration



## Recommendations to Political Parties, Civil Society, Media, and the International Community

1. Do more to encourage voters to check their registration status or register themselves starting on September 15 – October 20, 2007.
2. Monitor the registration updating process and pay particular attention to relocated voters, deceased voters, and unregistered voters



## **Recommendations to Political Parties, Civil Society, Media, and the International Community (cont.)**

3. Work with village chiefs and use broadcast media for effective dissemination of information on voter registration.
4. International community is encouraged to support financially and technically.



# Thank you!

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