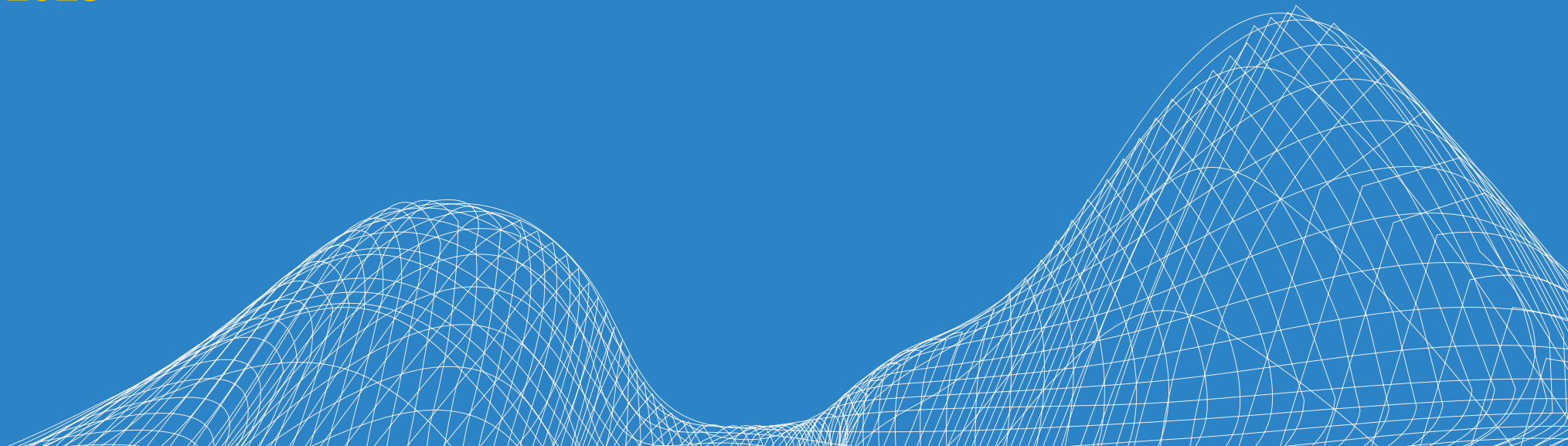
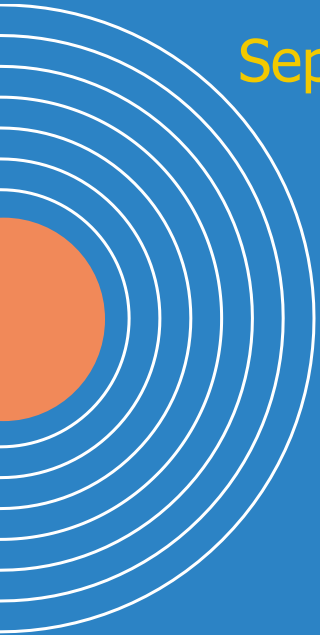


Tensions Overview

BML Social Stability and Livelihoods WG

September 2025



Current Tensions Landscape



Geopolitical developments increasing intra-Lebanese tensions

- Polarized political rhetoric regarding disarmament and continued violations of the cessation of hostilities agreement



Inter-communal relations strained by political and security developments in Syria

- Sectarian dynamics in Syria reflected in communal tensions in Mount Lebanon



Feelings of personal and communal safety further straining the tension landscape, coupled with a high number of crime incidents

- Tripoli and Baabda districts continue to be the main hotspots for security incidents
- Persistent worries about crime and safety
- Increased perception that the presence of Syrians is contributing to more crime and violence and increased agreeability of restrictive measures

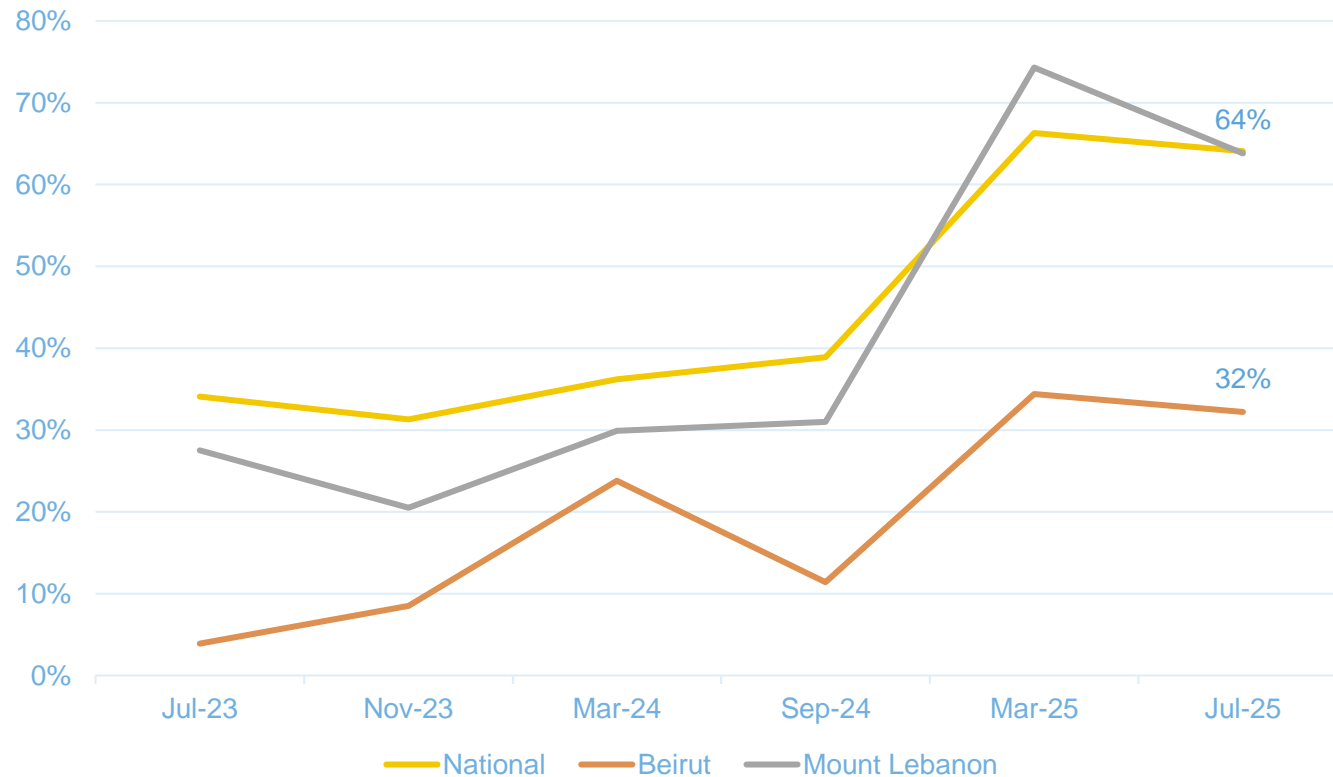


Service gaps and pressure on strained resources hindering recovery, deepening communal grievances and localized tensions

- Deteriorating perceptions on the quality of services – electricity, water, and solid waste management especially during the summer
- Increased worries about access to basic goods and commodities

Positive perceptions of the quality of intra-Lebanese relations continue for the second post-war wave

How would you describe current relations between different Lebanese groups who live in this area?: Positive

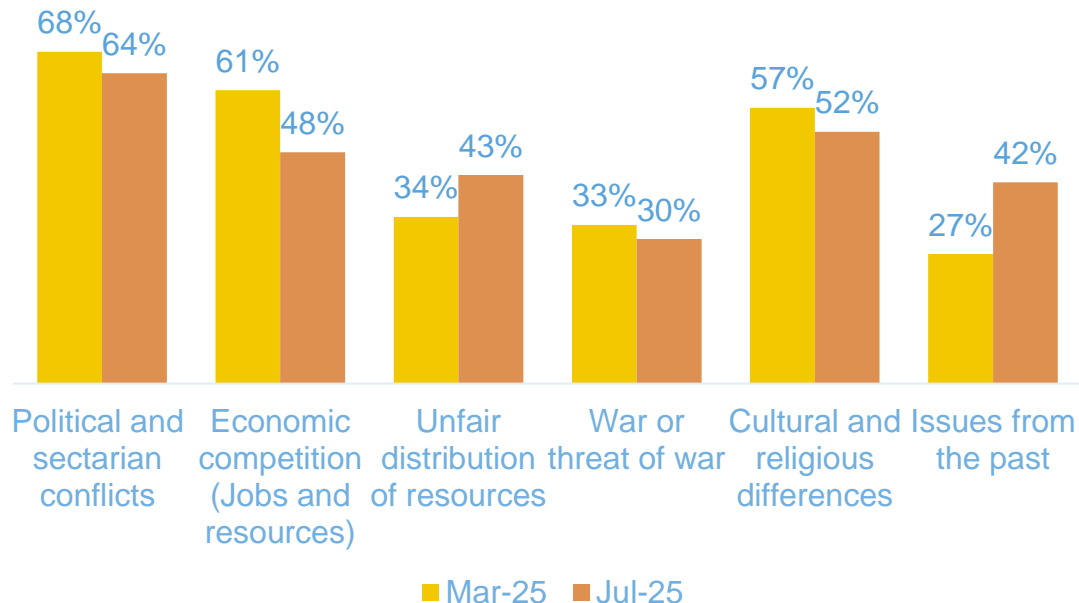


- **64% were neutral about intra-Lebanese relations in Beirut**
- **Deteriorating perceptions in Baabda** (59% in July, 94% in March)
- **Improving perceptions in Aley** (60% to 75%), **Chouf** (88% to 97%), and **Matn** (66% to 71%).
- **Over ¾ of Lebanese respondents agreed that Lebanese from different confessions live peacefully among each other in their area.**

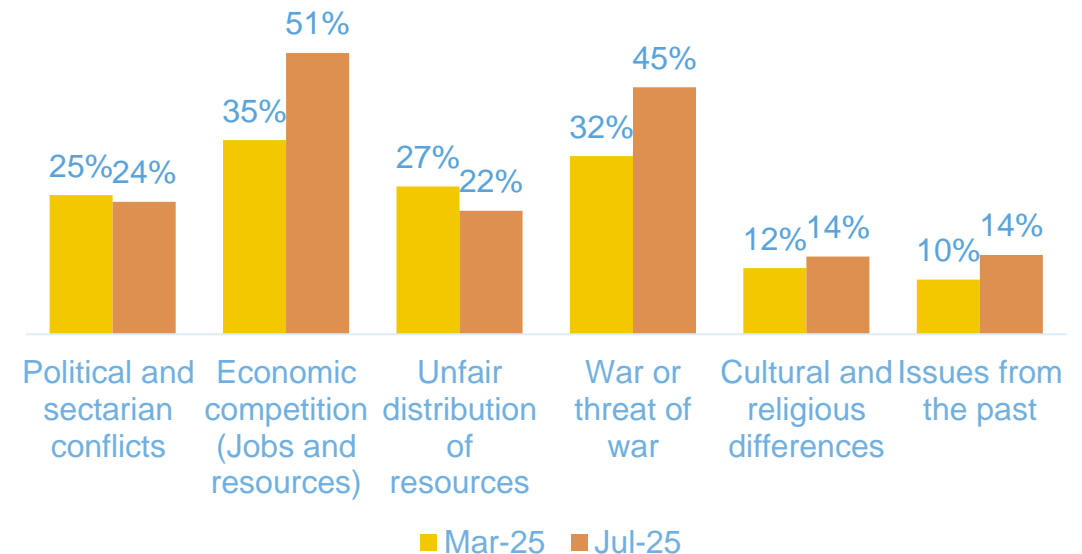
Political, cultural, and religious drivers of tensions

- **Economic competition regained its place as top driver of intra-Lebanese tensions** mainly due to a sharp increase in Baabda (68% to 96%), West Bekaa (44% to 59%), Baalbek (15% to 38%), and Hermel (37% to 50%).
- **“Cultural and religious differences” increasingly cited as a tension driver**, amidst geopolitical developments. Notable increase in Jezzine (0% to 73%), Aley (49% to 76%), and Rachaya (5% to 21%).

Issues that have caused tensions between Lebanese members of this area | Beirut

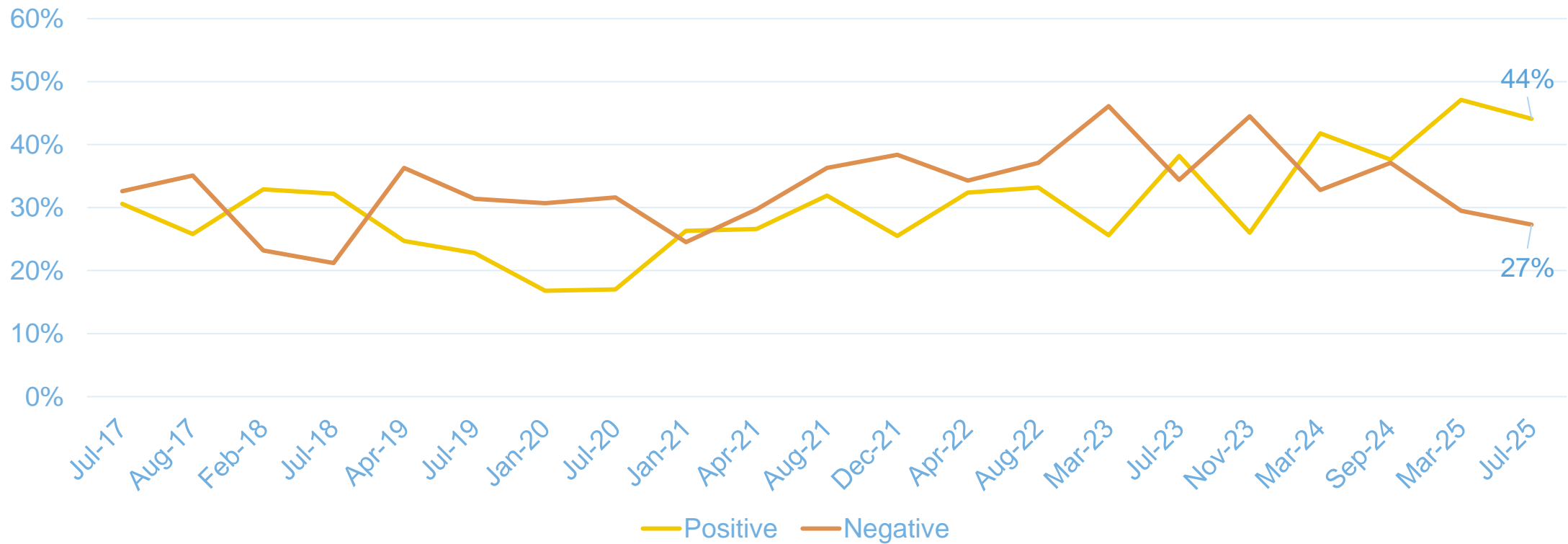


Issues that have caused tensions between Lebanese members of this area | Mount Lebanon



Inter-communal relations strained by developments in Syria

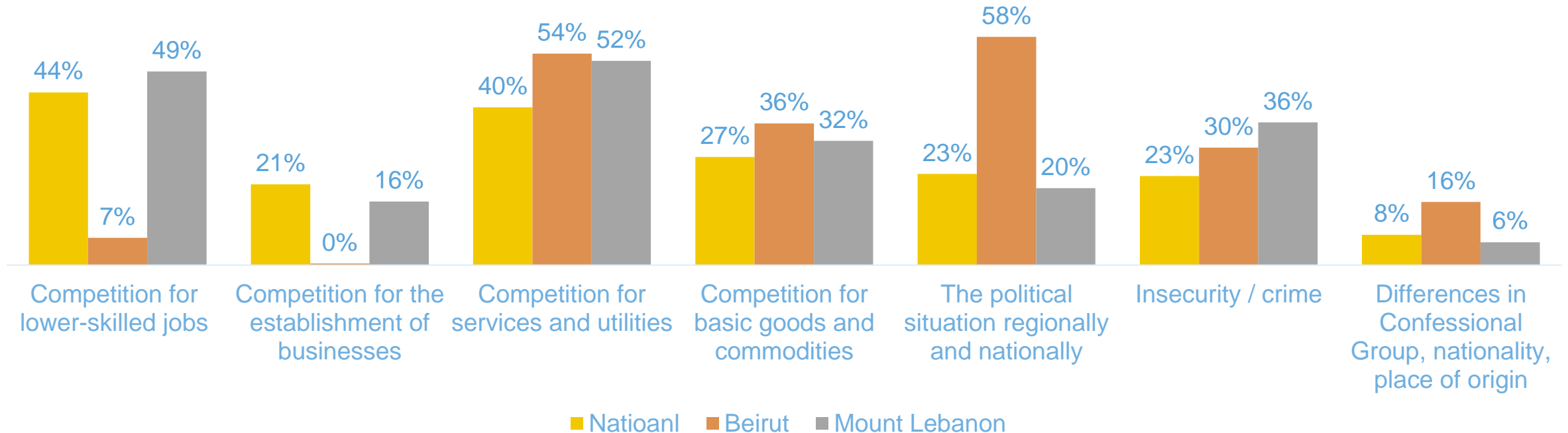
How would you describe current relations between Lebanese and Syrians who live in this area?



- 43% in Beirut were neutral about inter-communal relations; and 44% positive
- 43% were positive in Mount Lebanon; 20% negative-highest in Aley district (96%)

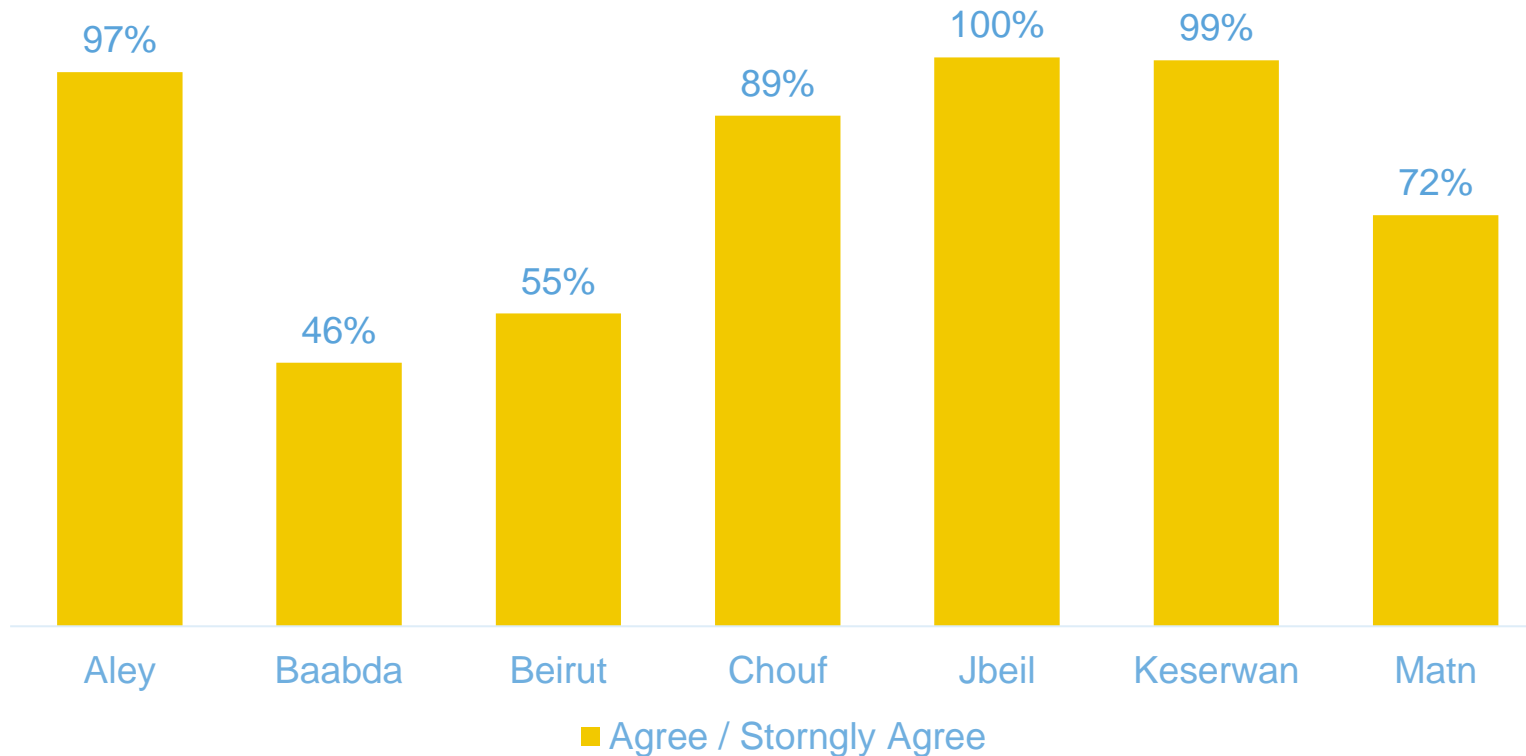
Drivers of inter-communal tensions: economic, political, and cultural differences

What do you think some of the main sources of tensions between Lebanese and Syrians are in your community?



Elevated perceptions that Syrians contribute to more crime and violence

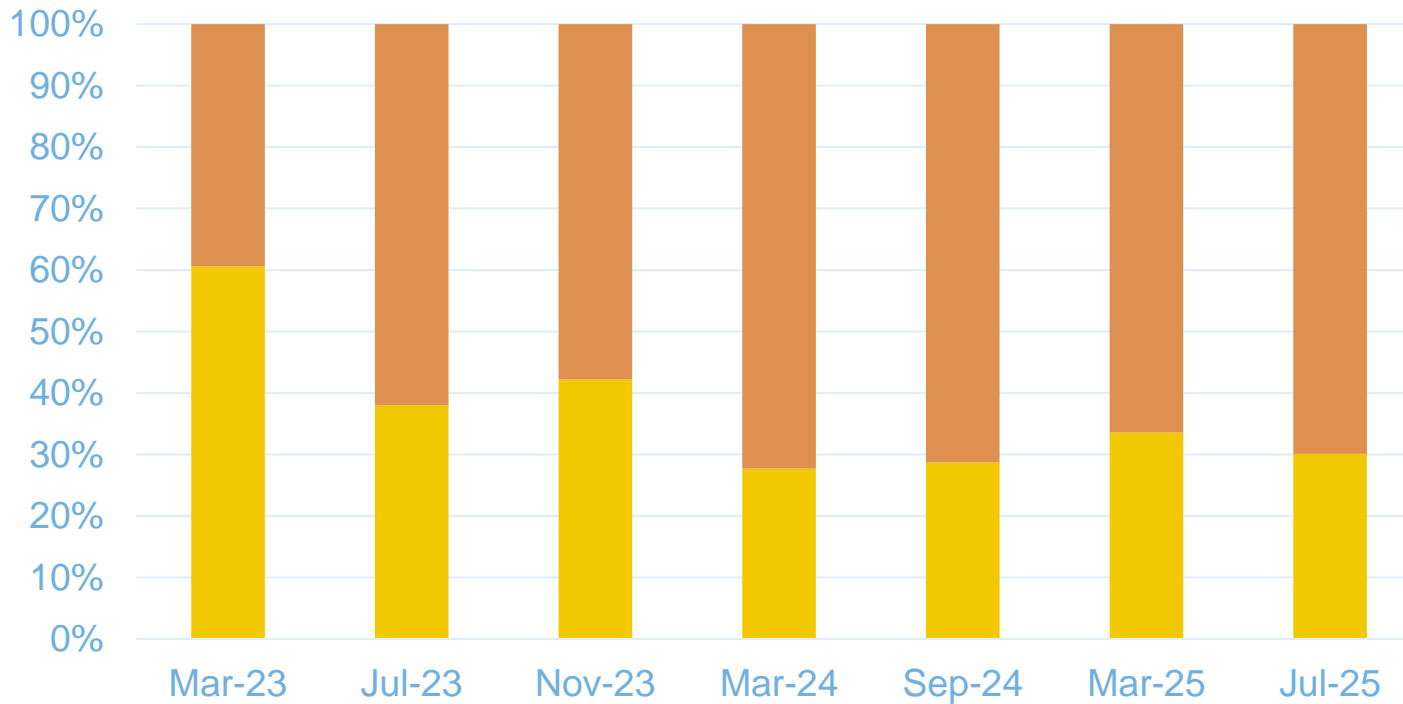
Agreement with statement, 'The presence of a large number of Syrian refugees in this community has contributed to more incidents of crime and violence'.



- 98% in Beirut worry about the threat of crime- highest across governorates vs 89% in Mount Lebanon- highest in Baabda (96%)
- 72% in Mount Lebanon report feeling unsafe in their neighborhood during the night- highest in Baabda and Chouf

High agreement that Syrian labour is needed in Lebanon

Which of the following two statements would you say you agree with the most?

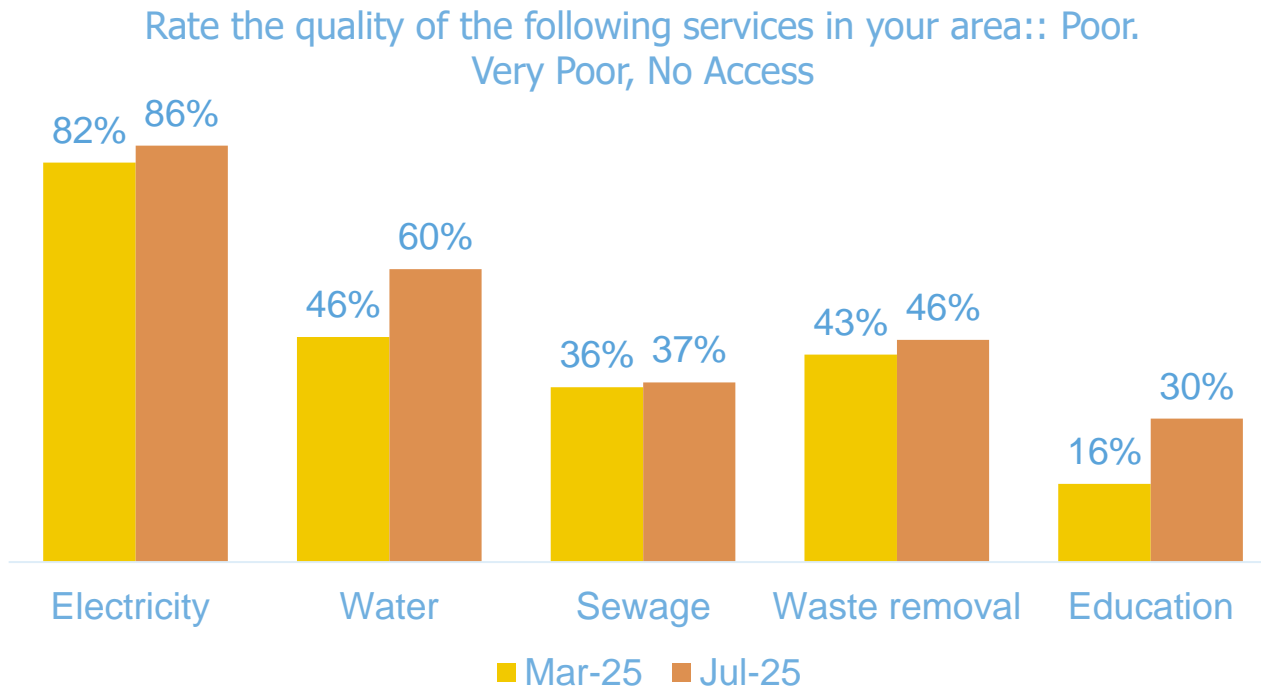


■ Syrian refugees in Lebanon mostly fill jobs that Lebanese citizens do not want.

■ Syrian refugees in Lebanon fill jobs that Lebanese citizens would like to have.

- Majority of Lebanese indicate that **Syrians in Lebanon fill jobs they do not want**-including **94% in Beirut** and **91% in ML**.
- **Majority of respondents in BML acknowledged that Syrian labour is needed in Lebanon.**

Deterioration in the perceived quality of key services during the summer season, coupled with a surge in service-related incidents

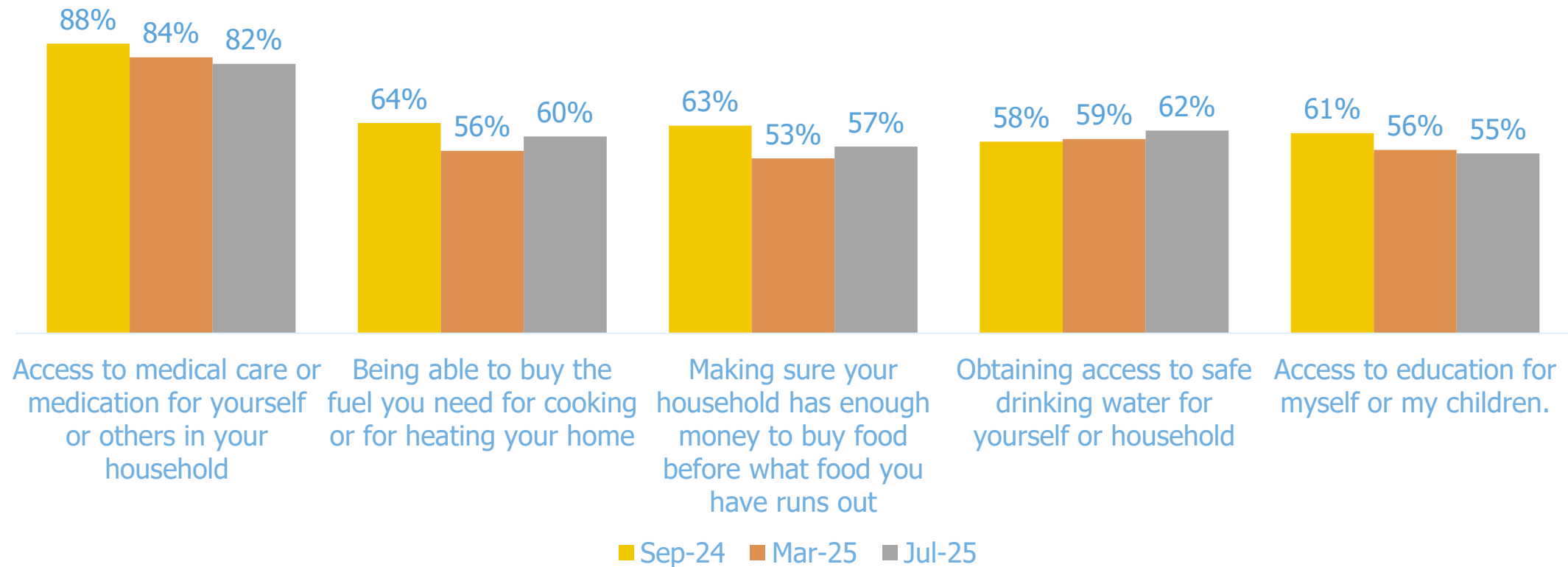


Service-related incidents increased significantly since 2024:

- 98 incidents (14 of which are violent) related to electricity and generator subscription, namely demonstrations, roadblocks, and some armed clashes.
- 3 demonstrations to protest severe water outage, particularly in Keserwan and one [familial] armed clash due to theft of water from tanks.
- Notable increase in solid waste related tensions, especially in Tripoli.

Worries about basic needs persist

Tell me whether you worry about



- **Increase in worries about access to safe drinking water during the summer:** 79% in Beirut and 63% in Mount Lebanon, highest in Aley, Keserwane, and Metn

Q&A

