



ASEAN Consumer Sentiment Study (ACSS)

2026

Regional Report





Our objective

ASEAN Consumer Sentiment Study (ACSS) is UOB's regional flagship study analysing consumer trends and sentiments in five countries (Singapore, Malaysia, Thailand, Indonesia and Vietnam).

Now in its seventh year, the 2026 survey was conducted in June and captures responses from 5000 consumers across demographic groups, offering a comprehensive view of how consumers are navigating economic uncertainty and preparing for the future.

Research Design

What



25 mins online survey
Fieldwork: June 2026

Total of **5000** interviews

Who



Male/ Females aged 18-65 years*

Covers Mass, Mass Affluent, and
Affluent segments

Where



 Singapore

 Indonesia

 Malaysia

 Thailand

 Vietnam

*In Singapore, the age range is extended to 80 years (18-80 years)

Respondents Interviewed

Gender		Age group	
Male	50%	Gen Z	20%
Female	50%	Gen Y	45%
		Gen X	29%
		Boomers	6%

Gender		Age group	
Male	50%	Gen Z	24%
Female	50%	Gen Y	59%
		Gen X	17%
		Boomers	1%

Key definitions:

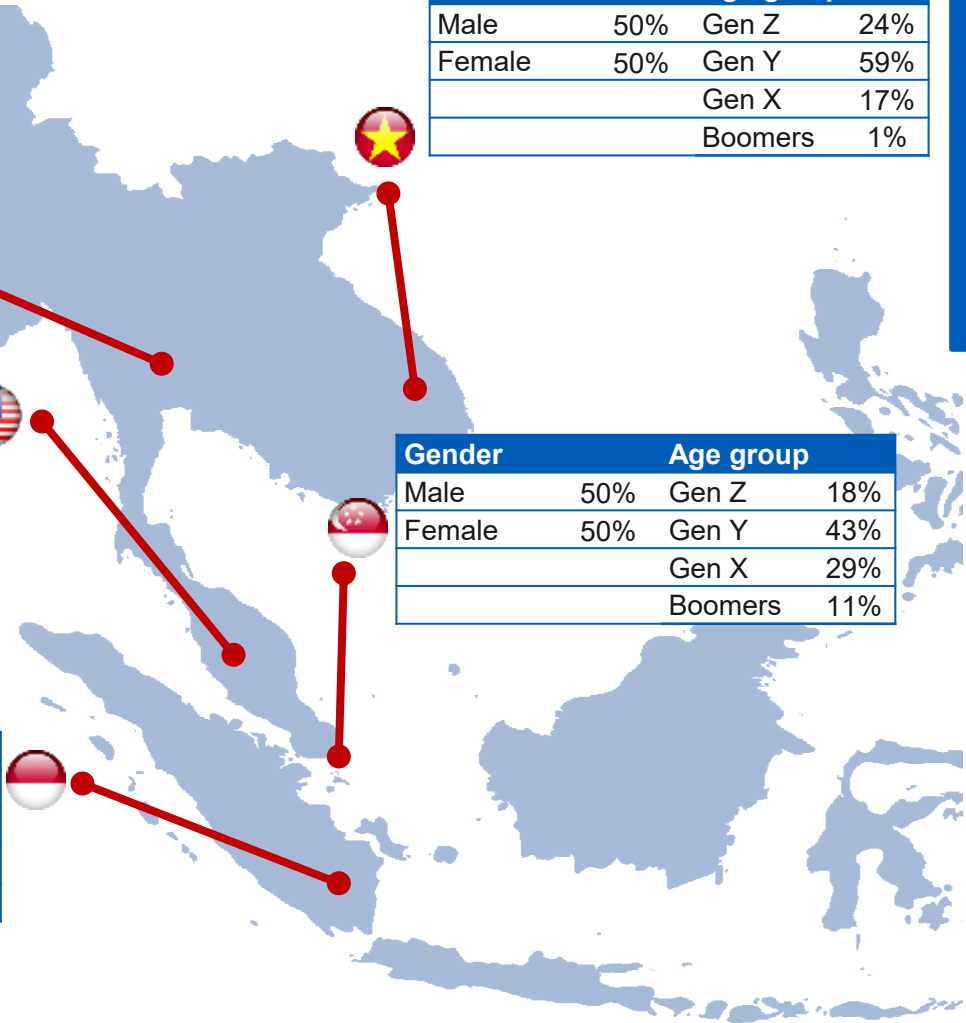
Age groups:

Gen Z:	18-27 YO
Gen Y:	28-43 YO
Gen X:	44-59 YO
Baby boomers*:	60-65 YO

Gender		Age group	
Male	52%	Gen Z	19%
Female	48%	Gen Y	55%
		Gen X	23%
		Boomers	4%

Gender		Age group	
Male	50%	Gen Z	18%
Female	50%	Gen Y	43%
		Gen X	29%
		Boomers	11%

Gender		Age group	
Male	50%	Gen Z	32%
Female	50%	Gen Y	41%
		Gen X	25%
		Boomers	2%



*In Singapore, Baby boomers age range is extended to 80 years (60-80 years)

^Assets under management: resources that can be converted to cash easily, such as cash, time deposits, unit trusts, stock and shares, investments etc, excluding CPF, property and vehicles.

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01

Consumer Sentiments and Outlook

The UOB ASEAN Consumer Sentiment Index is designed to capture the pulse of consumer confidence across key ASEAN markets

It is **derived from 6 questions** and reflects consumer perceptions of both current and future economic conditions, alongside personal financial concerns and expectations that together encompass a macro and micro view.

Current

Future

• Perception of current economic environment (Very/somewhat positive)	• Perception of economic performance over the next 6-12 months (Very/somewhat positive)
• Your household's increased expenses (Not worried at all/a little worried) • The possibility of having your pay cut/income declining (Not worried at all/a little worried)	• Your long-term financial commitments (Not worried at all/a little worried) • Where do you expect to be financially this time next year (Much better off/little better off)

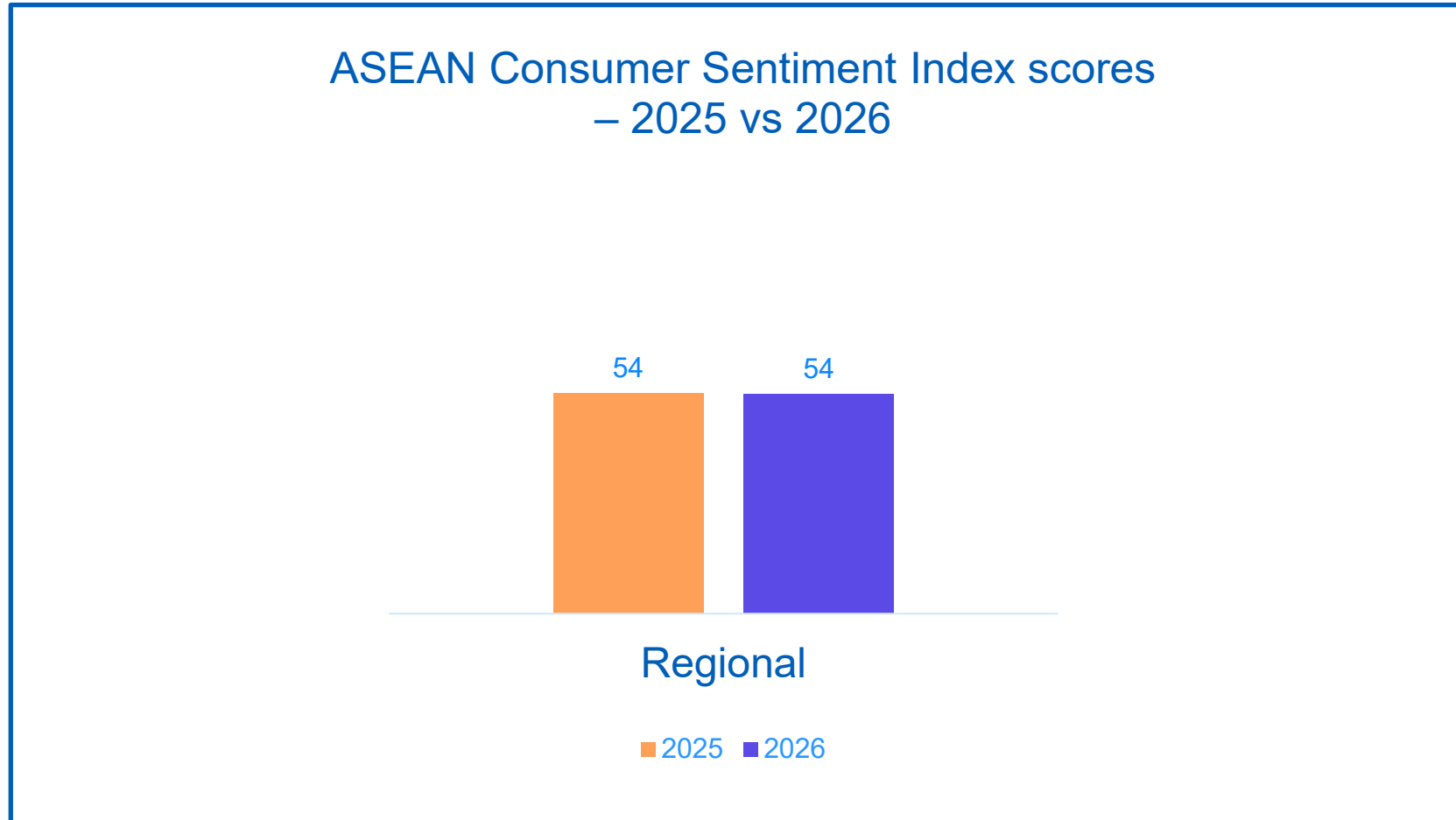
Macro

Micro



The ASEAN Consumer Sentiment Index has remained stable across the region vs. last year

Consumer Sentiment Index



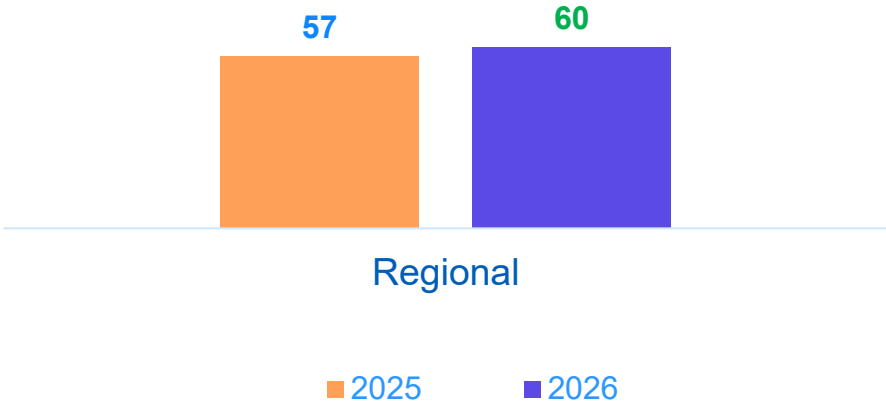
From a macro perspective, there is significantly increased optimism about the current and future economic environment

Consumer Sentiment Index – Macro perspective

Macro score 61 (+3)

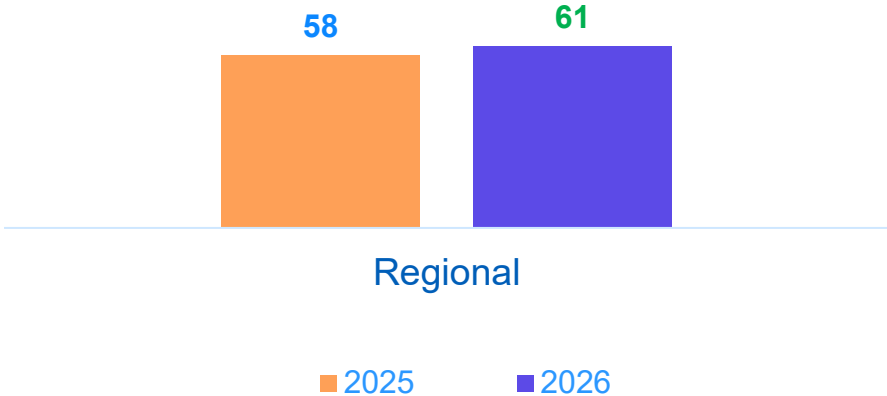
Current

Perception of Current Economic Environment
(Very/somewhat positive)



Future

Perception of Future Economic Environment
(Very/somewhat positive)



A2. How do you perceive the current economic environment in [insert relevant country]?
A7. Looking forward, how do you see the economy of [insert relevant country] performing over the next 6-12 months?
Base: Total sample: Regional sample, n=5,000, ID, n=1,000, MY, n=1,000, SG, n=1,000, TH, n=1,000, VN, n=1,000

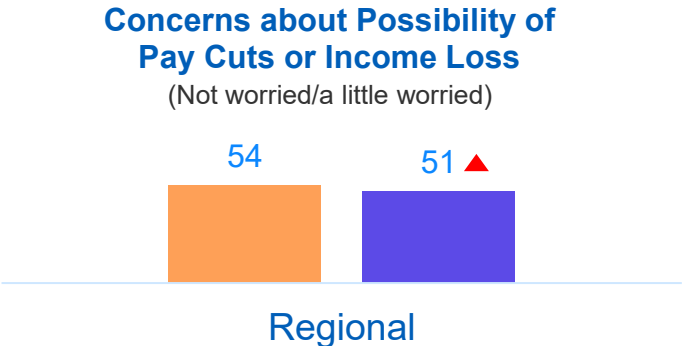
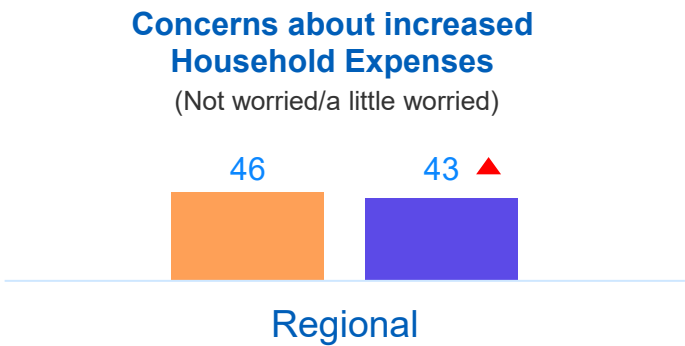
Significantly higher vs. 2025
Significantly lower vs. 2025

However, from a micro perspective, there is an increase in concern about expenses, income loss, and long-term financial commitments, resulting in a small dip in Micro score

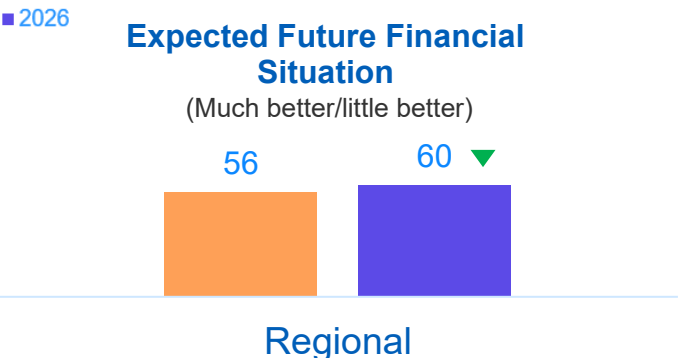
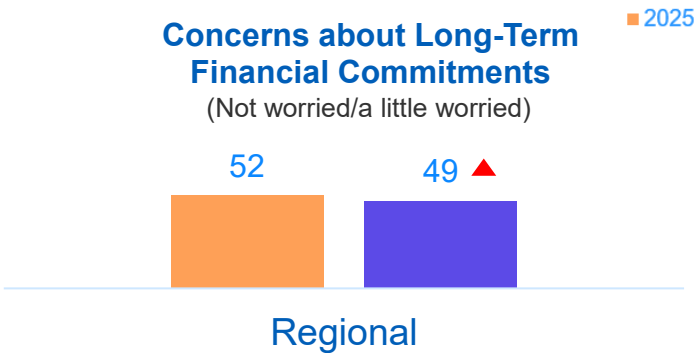
Consumer Sentiment Index – Micro perspective

Micro score 51 (-1)

Current



Future

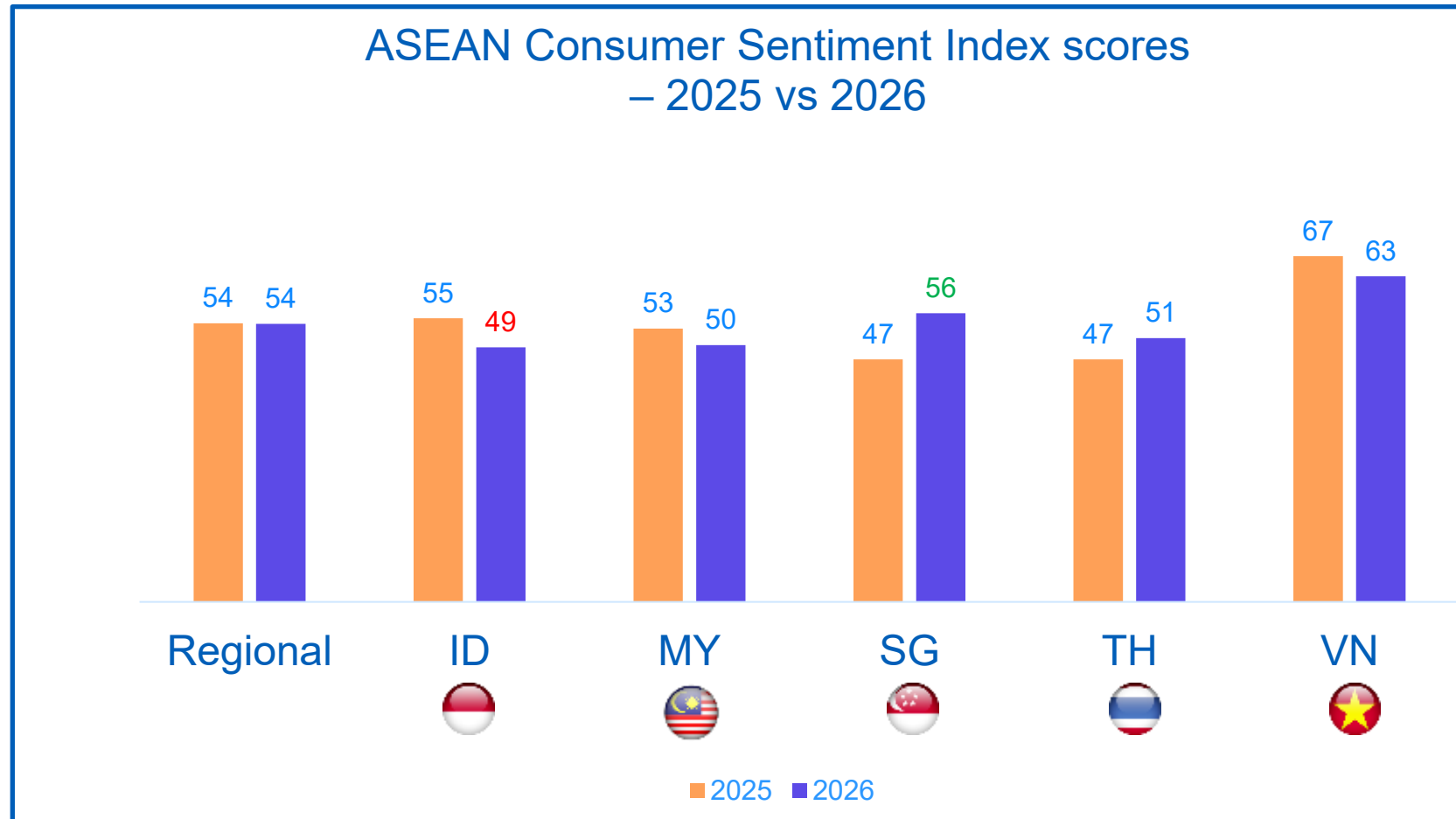


B1. Listed below are some key areas that people talk about. Please indicate how worried you are at the moment about each of them.
BF2. Looking ahead to this time next year, where do you expect to be financially compared to today?
Base: Total sample: Regional sample, n=5,000, ID, n=1,000, MY, n=1,000, SG, n=1,000, TH, n=1,000, VN, n=1,000

▲ Significantly higher concern vs. 2025
▼ Significantly lower concern vs. 2025

While regional sentiment index score has remained stable, SG recorded the strongest improvement

Consumer Sentiment Index – by markets



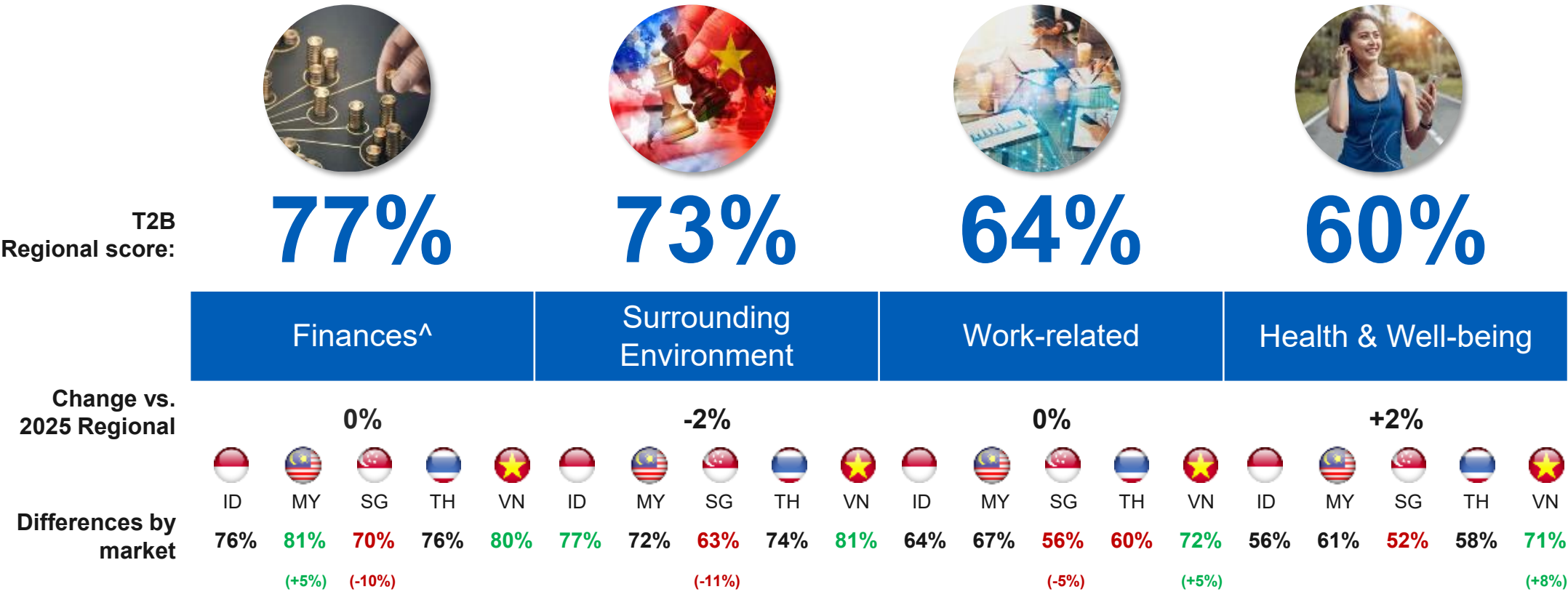
Significantly higher vs. 2025
Significantly lower vs. 2025

Daily Concerns and Expectations



Finances and surrounding environment continue to dominate regional consumer anxieties

Current aspects that are worrying (T2B)



Base: Total sample: Regional sample, n=5,000, ID, n=1,000, MY, n=1,000, SG, n=1,000, TH, n=1,000, VN, n=1,000

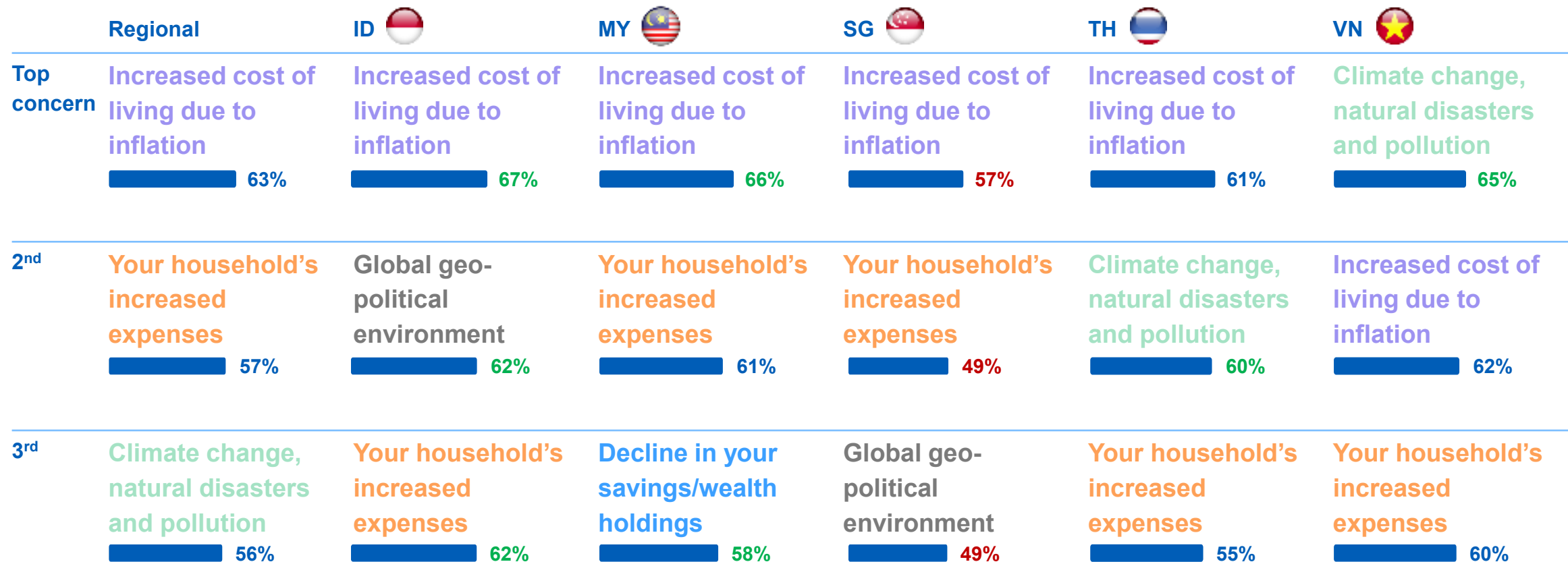
^Statement removed in 2026

*T2B: Very/Somewhat worried

() Significantly higher vs. 2025 Significantly higher vs. Regional
() Significantly lower vs. 2025 Significantly lower vs. Regional

Increased cost of living and household expenses are dominant concerns across the region, featuring also in the top 3 concerns of every market

Top current aspects that are worrying (T2B)



B1. Listed below are some key areas that people talk about. Please indicate how worried you are at the moment about each of them.
Base: Total sample: Regional sample, n=5,000, ID, n=1,000, MY, n=1,000, SG, n=1,000, TH, n=1,000, VN, n=1,000

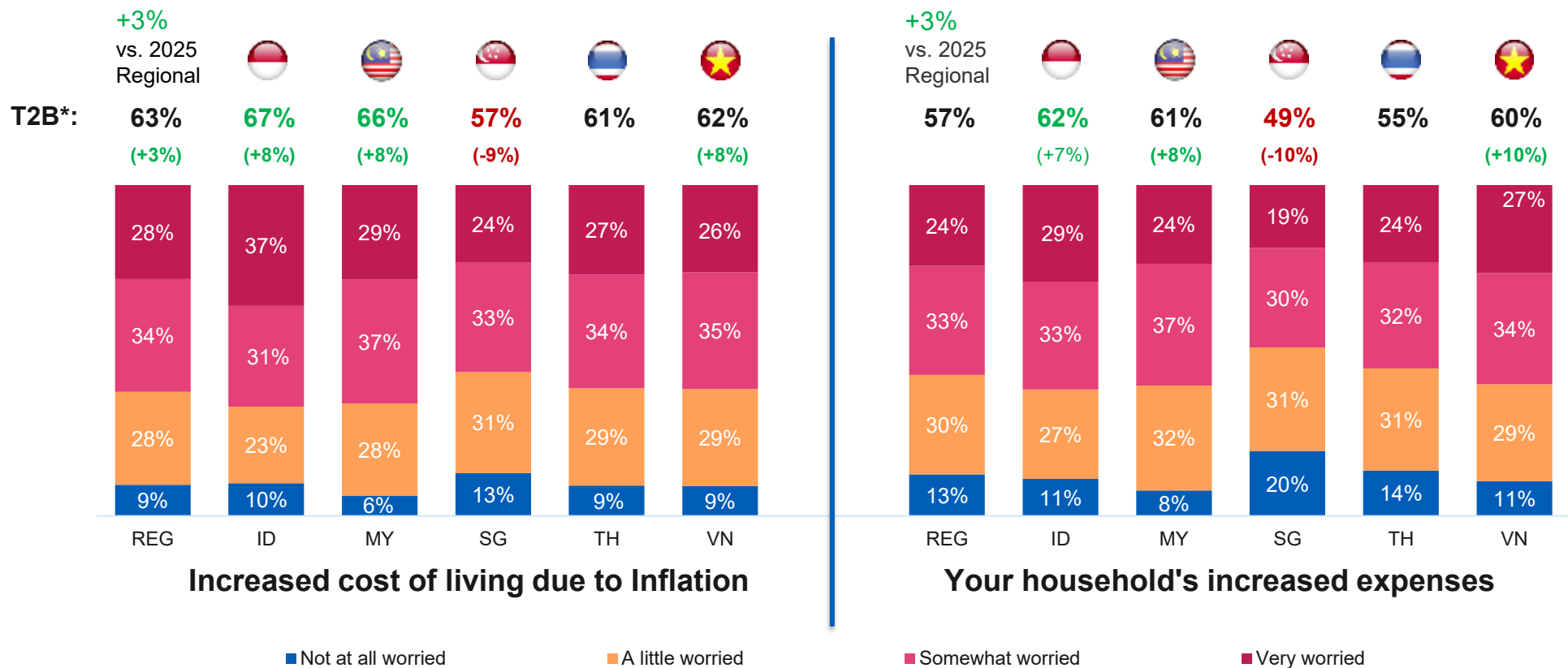
Common themes are colour-coded for easy reference

*T2B: Very/Somewhat worried
Significantly higher vs. Regional
Significantly lower vs. Regional

Worries over increased cost of living and household expenses have intensified across the region, particularly in ID, MY and VN

Current aspects that are worrying – Finances

Finances



+3%
vs. 2025
Regional

57%

62%
(+7%)

61%
(+8%)

49%
(-10%)

55%

60%
(+10%)

Your household's increased expenses

■ Not at all worried

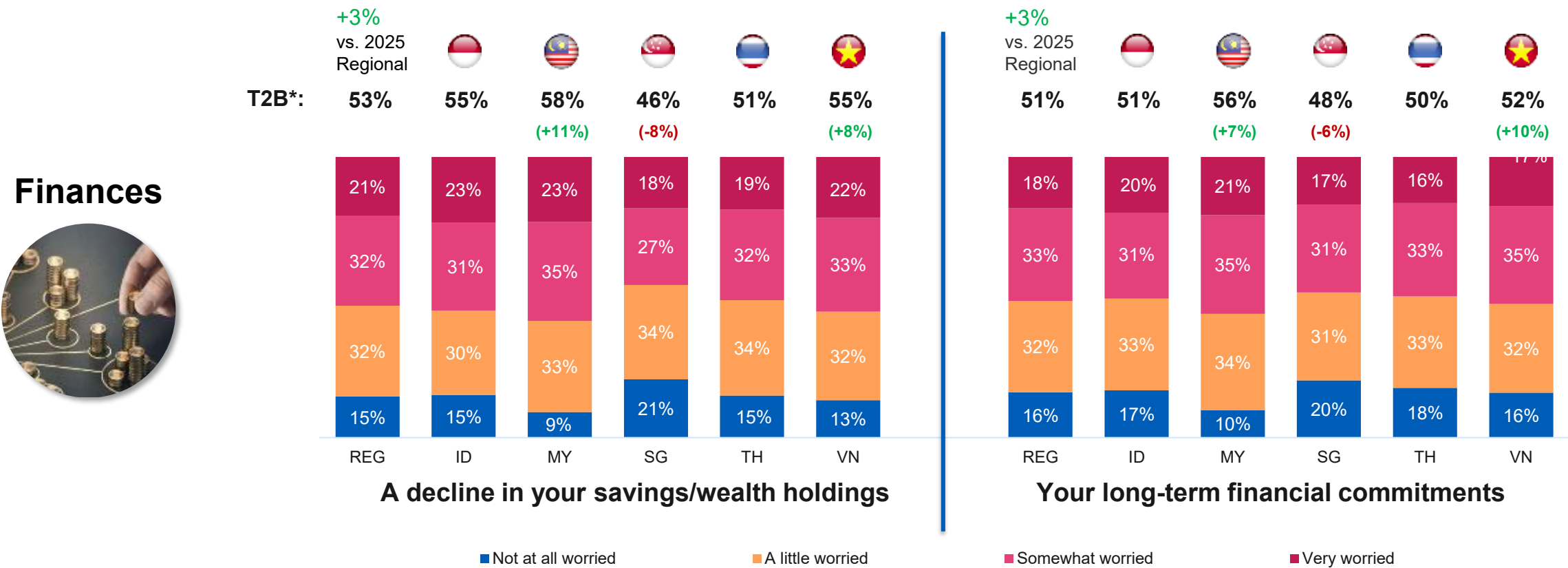
■ A little worried

■ Somewhat worried

■ Very worried

More in MY and VN are now worried about their savings / wealth decline and long-term commitments

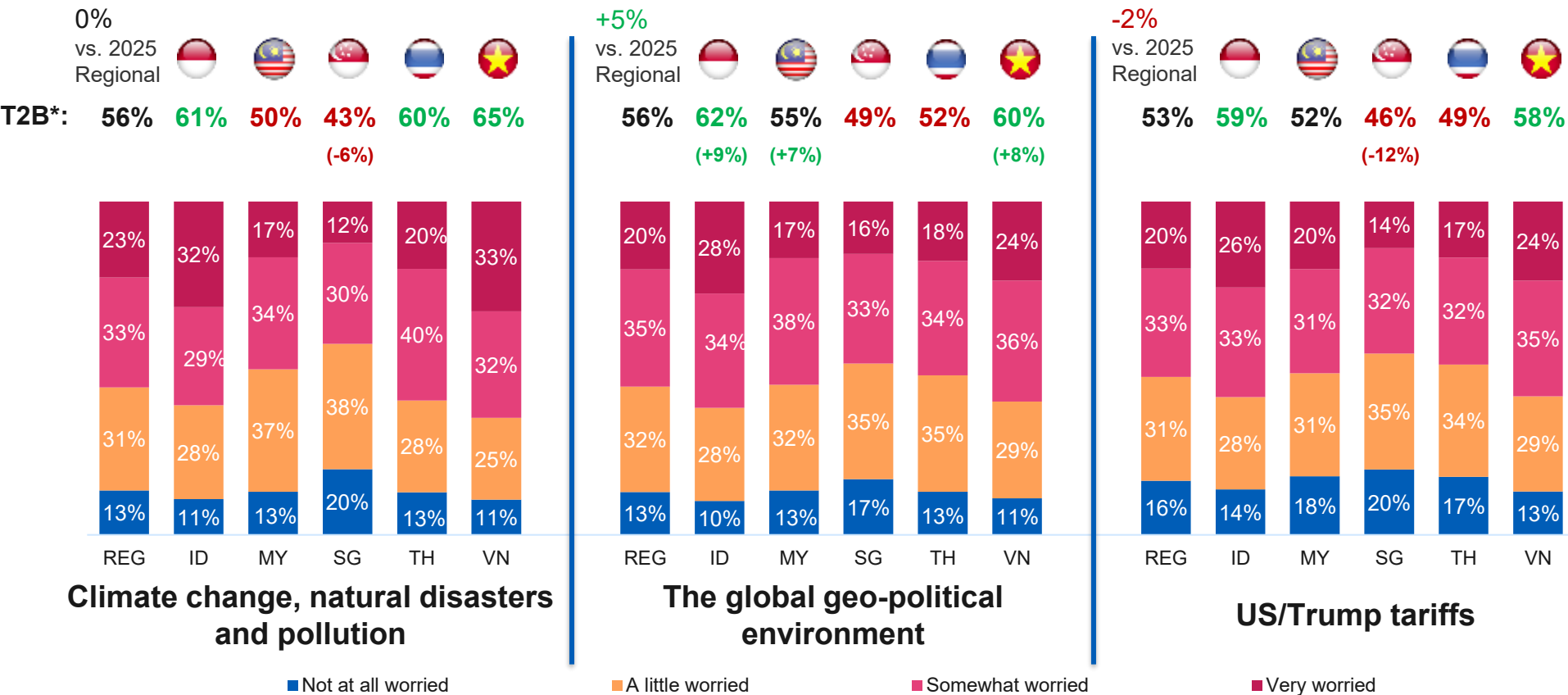
Current aspects that are worrying – Finances



Climate change fears are highest in ID, TH, and VN, as these markets experience more frequent adverse natural disasters

Current aspects that are worrying – Surrounding Environment

Surrounding Environment



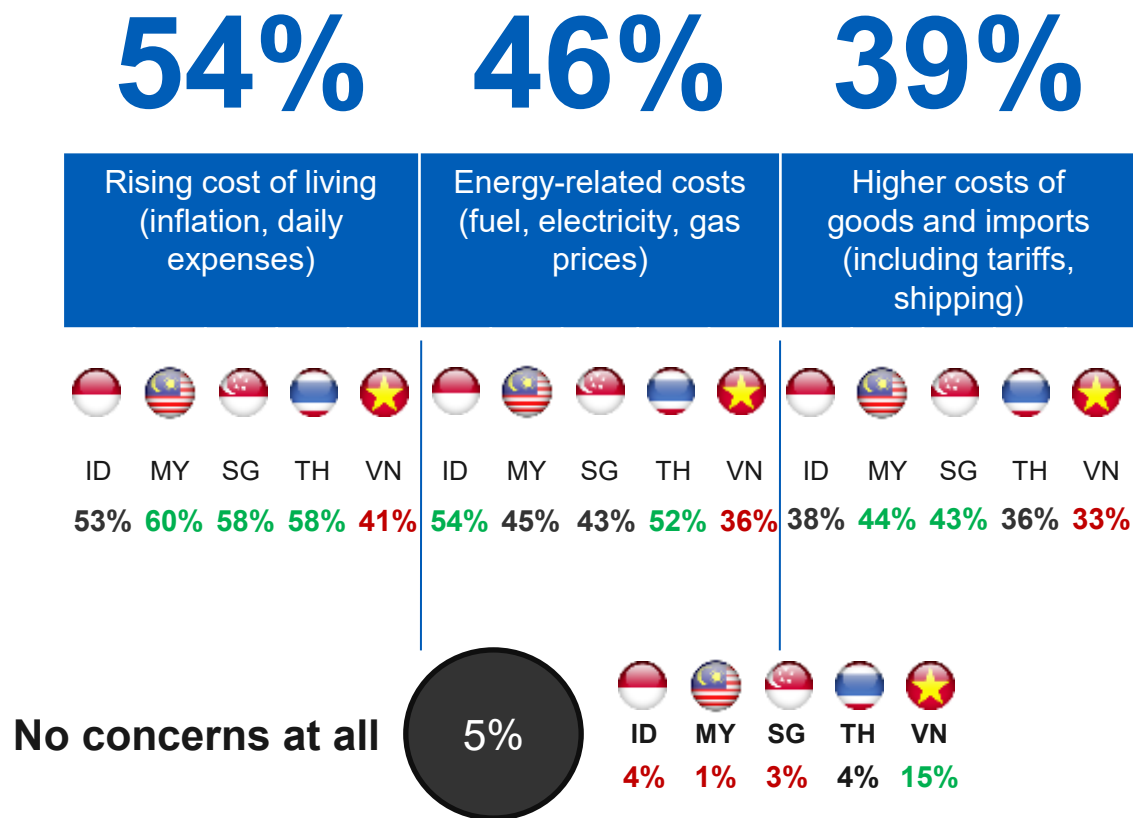
B1. Listed below are some key areas that people talk about. Please indicate how worried you are at the moment about each of them.
Base: Total sample: Regional sample, n=5,000, ID, n=1,000, MY, n=1,000, SG, n=1,000, TH, n=1,000, VN, n=1,000

*T2B: Very/Somewhat worried
() Significantly higher vs. 2025 Significantly higher vs. Regional
() Significantly lower vs. 2025 Significantly lower vs. Regional

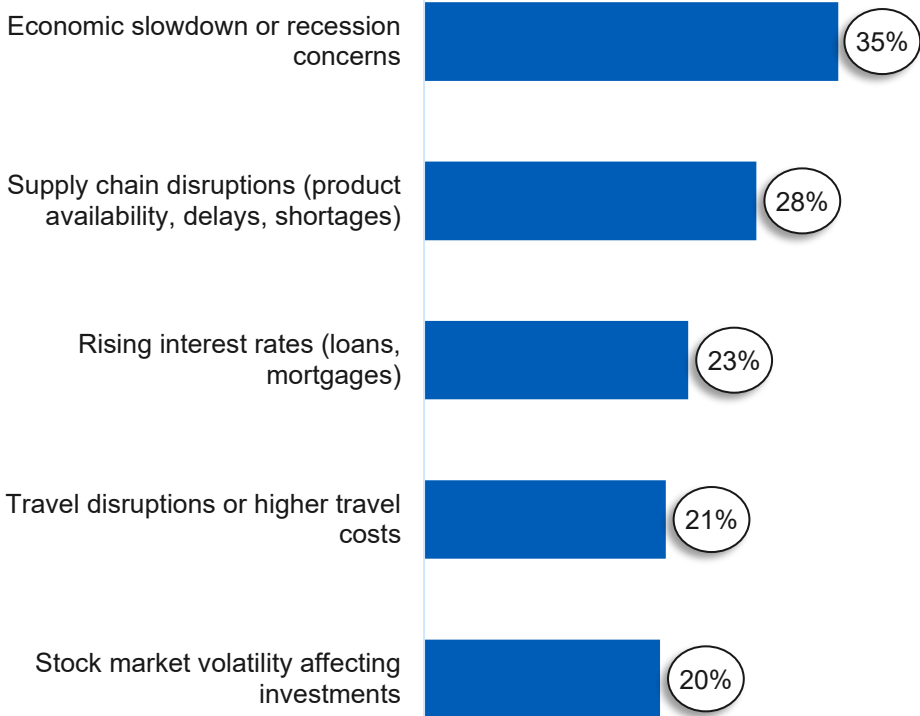
US-Israel-Iran conflict has fuelled concerns over cost of living, energy-related costs and higher costs of goods and imports

Concerns from the impact of the US-Israel-Iran conflict

Top 3 concerns:



Other concerns from the impact of the US/Israel-Iran war:

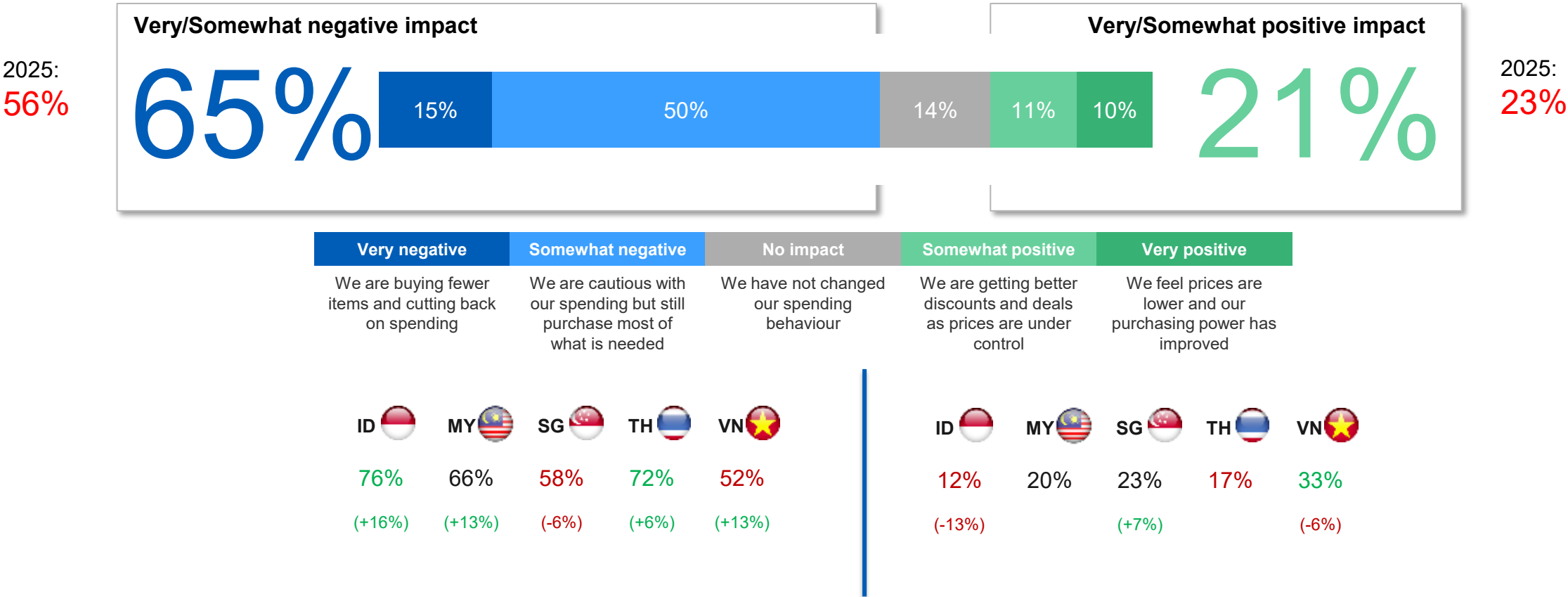


B9. What concerns do you have as a result of the ongoing US/Israel–Iran conflict?
Base: Total sample: Regional sample, n=5,000, ID, n=1,000, MY, n=1,000, SG, n=1,000, TH, n=1,000, VN, n=1,000

Significantly higher vs. Regional
Significantly lower vs. Regional

Except for SG, consumers across the region are seeing inflation bite into their household's purchasing power more strongly this year

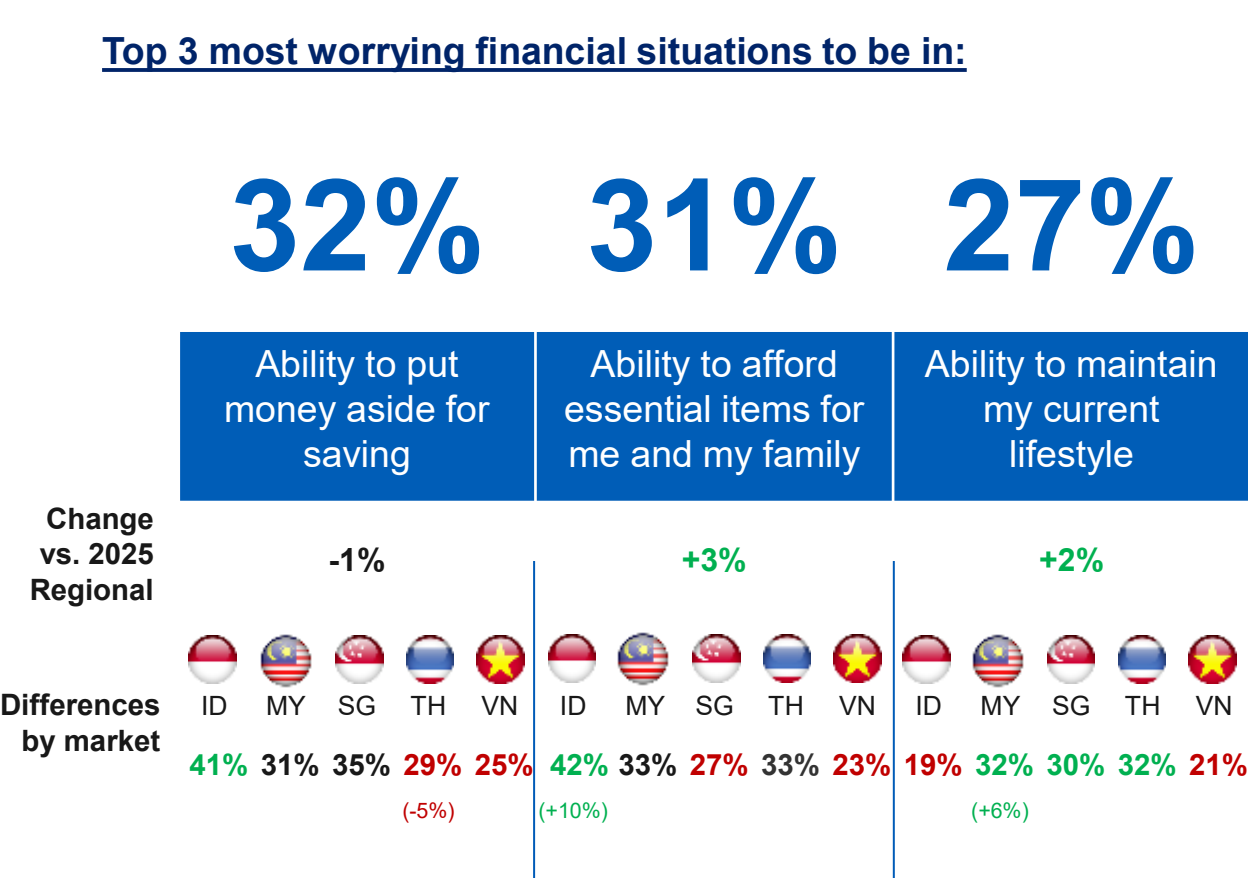
Impact of inflation on household's purchasing power



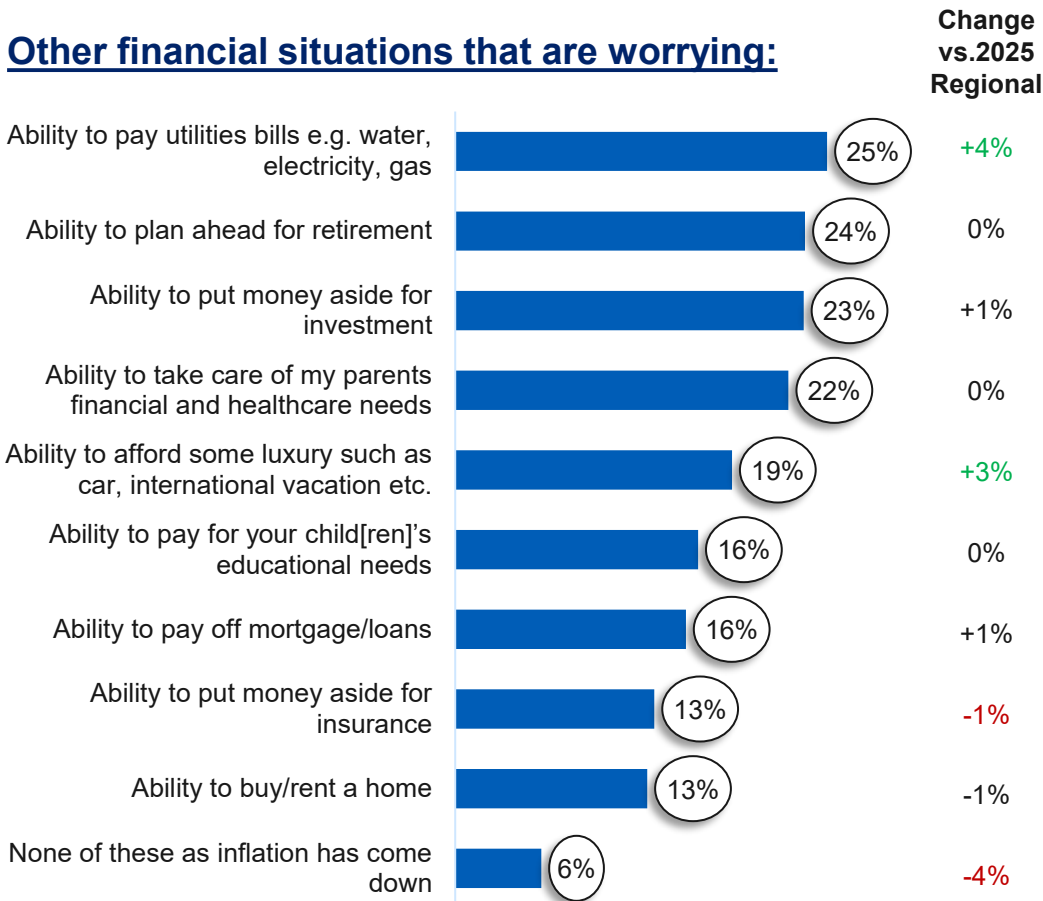
More in the region are now worried about affording essentials, maintaining their lifestyle and paying utilities compared to a year ago

Most worrying financial situations due to inflation

Top 3 most worrying financial situations to be in:



Other financial situations that are worrying:



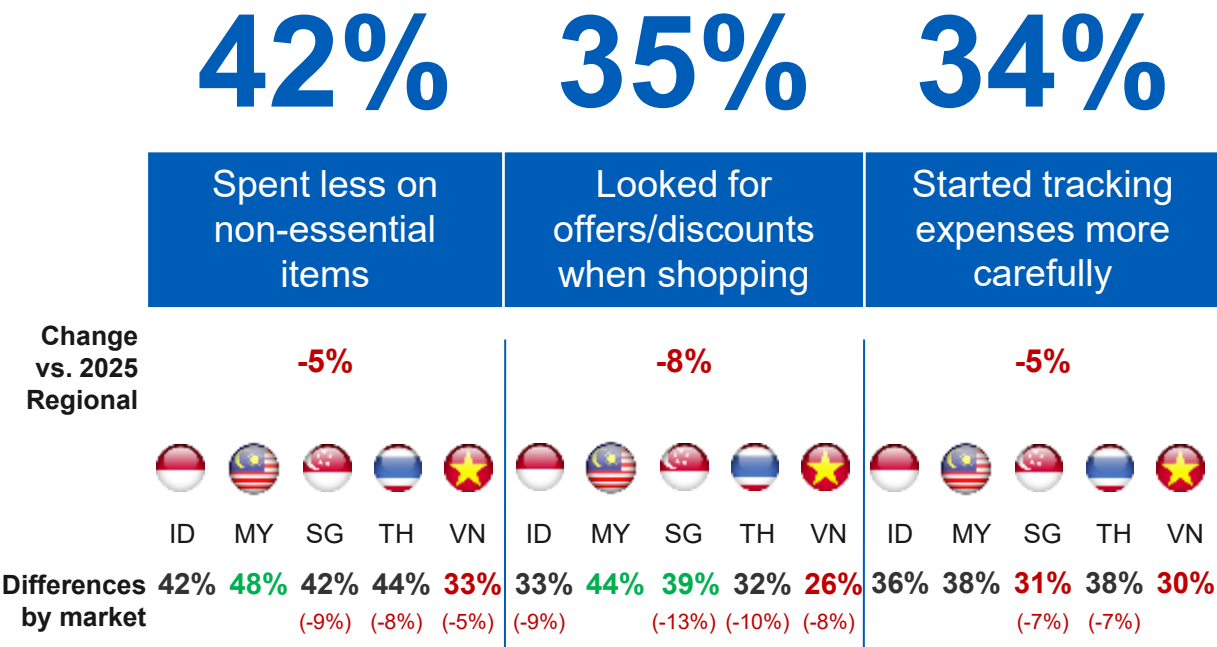
BF1. Given the inflation in the country today, which of the following financial situations, if any, worry you more?
Base: Total sample: Regional sample, n=5,000, ID, n=1,000, MY, n=1,000, SG, n=1,000, TH, n=1,000, VN, n=1,000

(+) Significantly higher vs. 2025 Significantly higher vs. Regional
(-) Significantly lower vs. 2025 Significantly lower vs. Regional

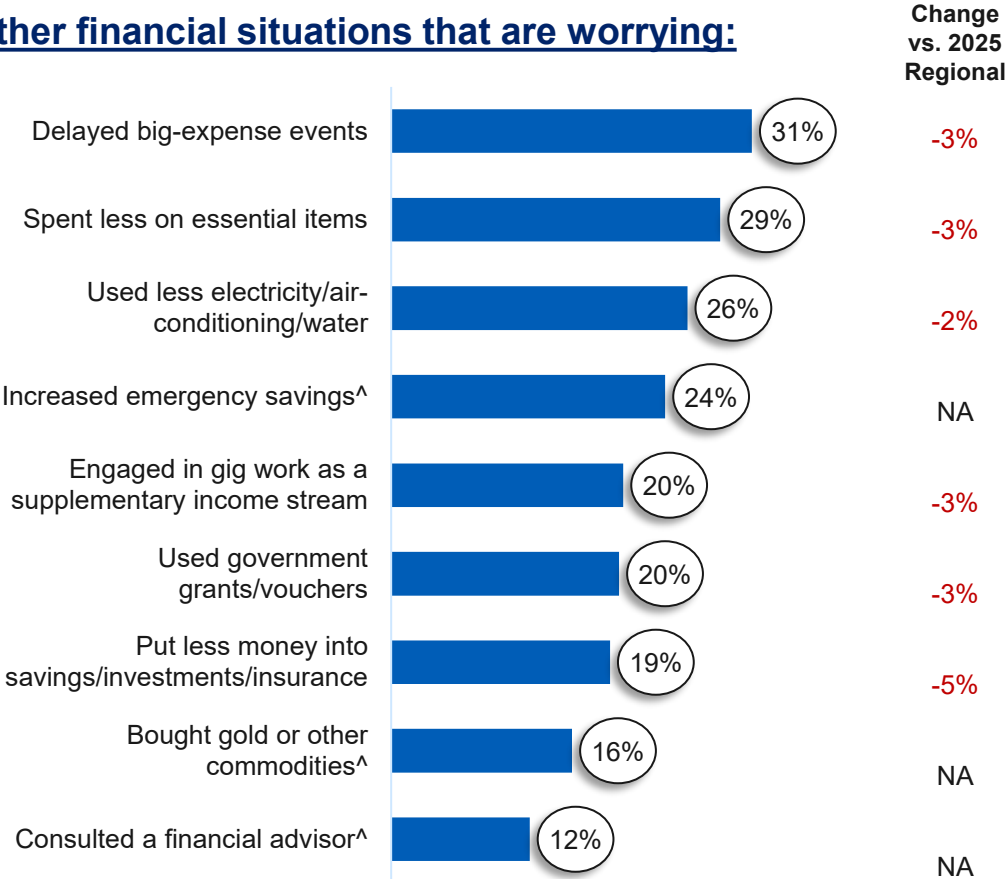
Top inflation coping behaviours are softening – fewer in the region are cutting back, looking for offers and tracking expenses

Efforts in coping with inflation

Top 3 efforts in coping with inflation:



Other financial situations that are worrying:



^New statement added/statement tweaked in 2026

BF3. What have you done in the past 6-12 months to cope with inflation?
Base: Total sample: Regional sample, n=5,000, ID, n=1,000, MY, n=1,000, SG, n=1,000, TH, n=1,000, VN, n=1,000

() Significantly higher vs. 2025 Significantly higher vs. Regional
() Significantly lower vs. 2025 Significantly lower vs. Regional

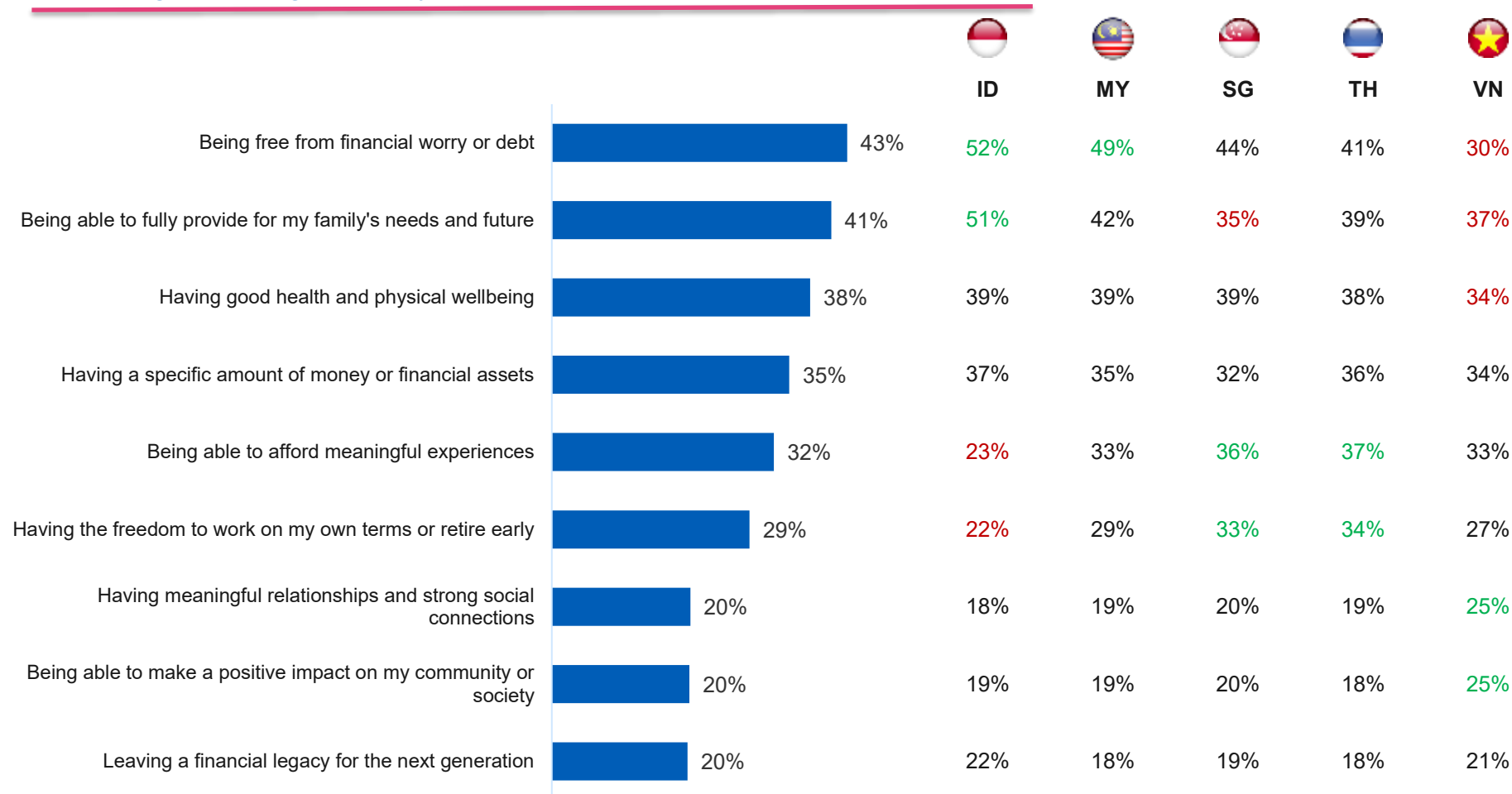


02

Understanding Wealth

Regional consumers are redefining what being wealthy means – it goes beyond having a specific amount of money

Meaning of being wealthy



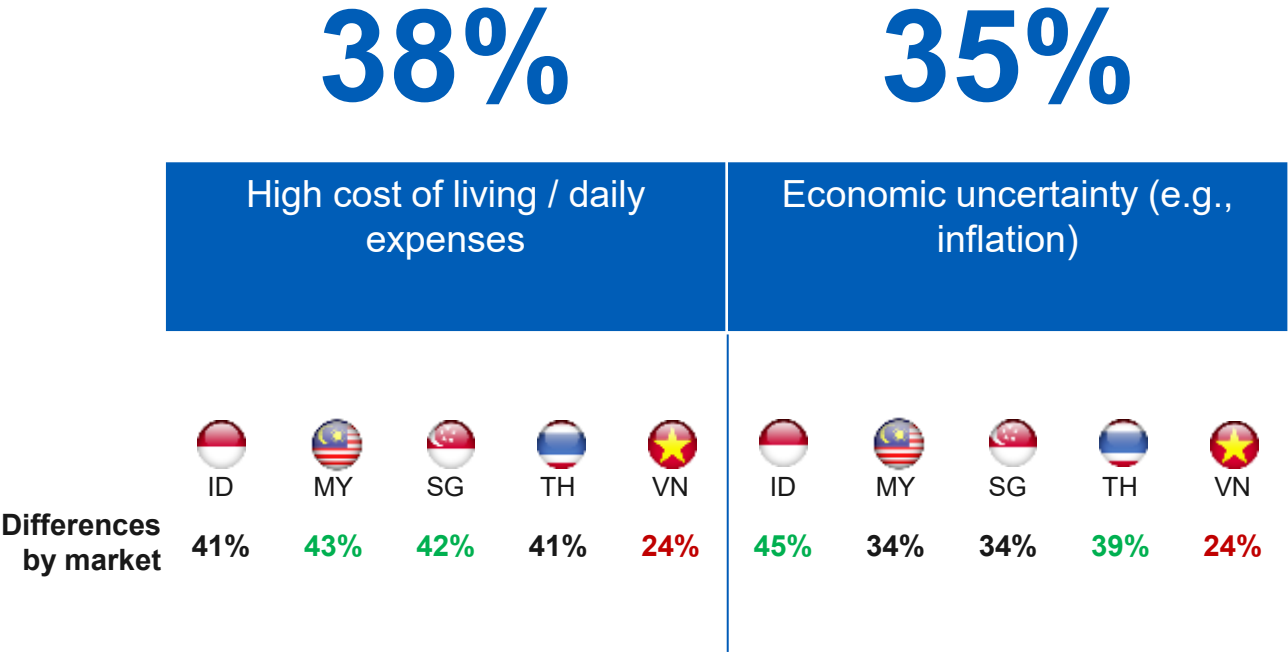
W2. Being 'wealthy' can mean different things to different people. Which of these meanings of 'wealth' do you most relate to?
 Base: Total sample: Regional sample, n=5,000, ID, n=1,000, MY, n=1,000, SG, n=1,000, TH, n=1,000, VN, n=1,000

Significantly higher vs. Regional
 Significantly lower vs. Regional

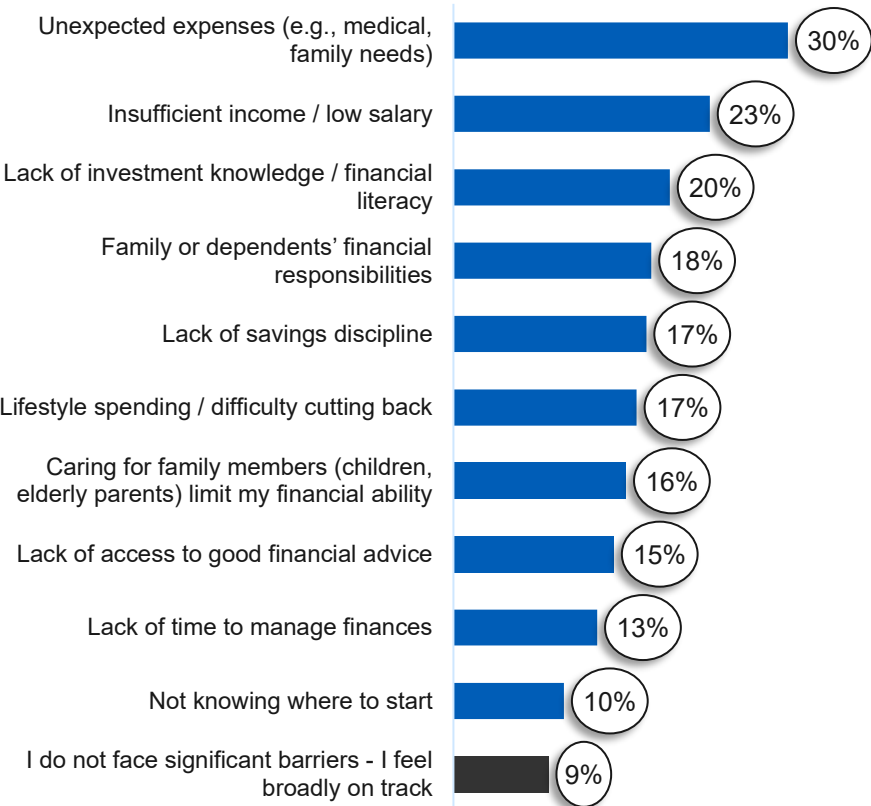
Cost of living and economic uncertainty are the biggest wealth barriers

Obstacles for building personal wealth

Top 2 barriers:



Other barriers to building wealth:

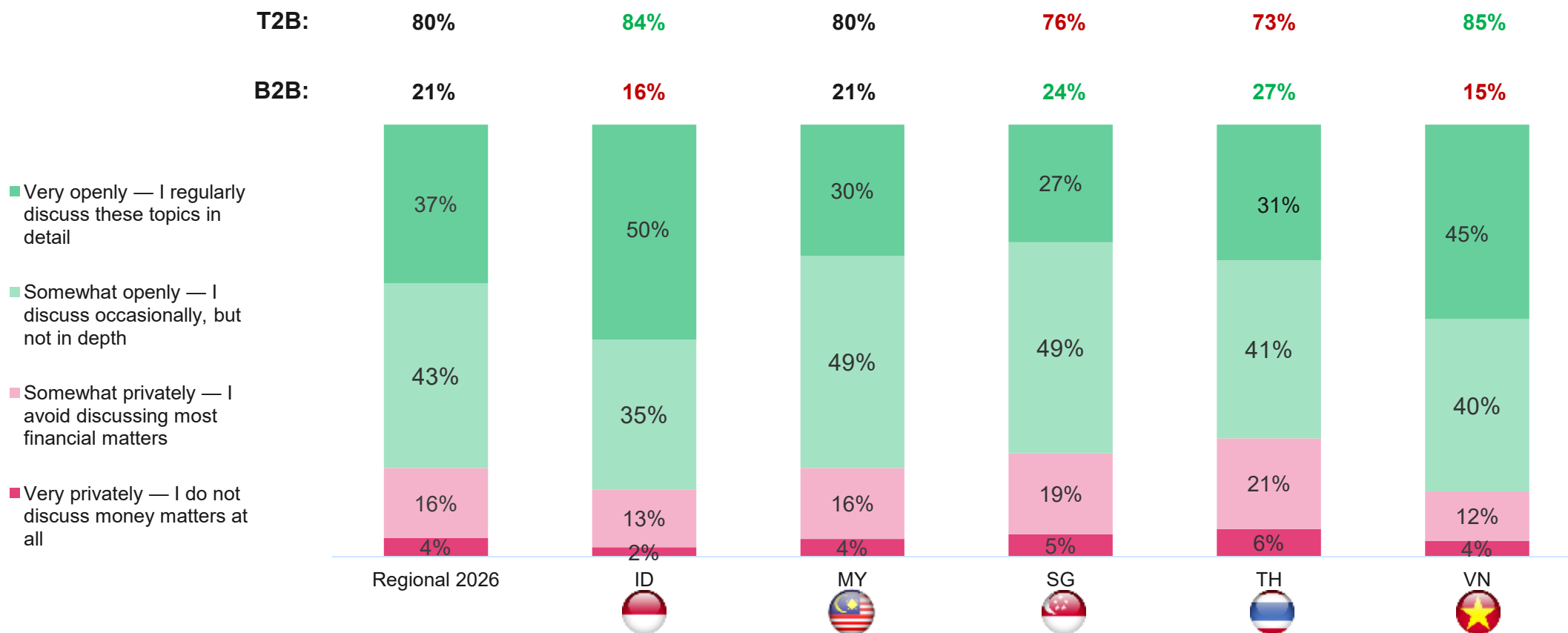


W4. What is the major obstacle that prevents you from building your personal wealth?
Base: Total sample: Regional sample, n=5,000, ID, n=1,000, MY, n=1,000, SG, n=1,000, TH, n=1,000, VN, n=1,000

Significantly higher vs. Regional
Significantly lower vs. Regional

Consumers are largely open about discussing wealth

Approach in wealth discussions



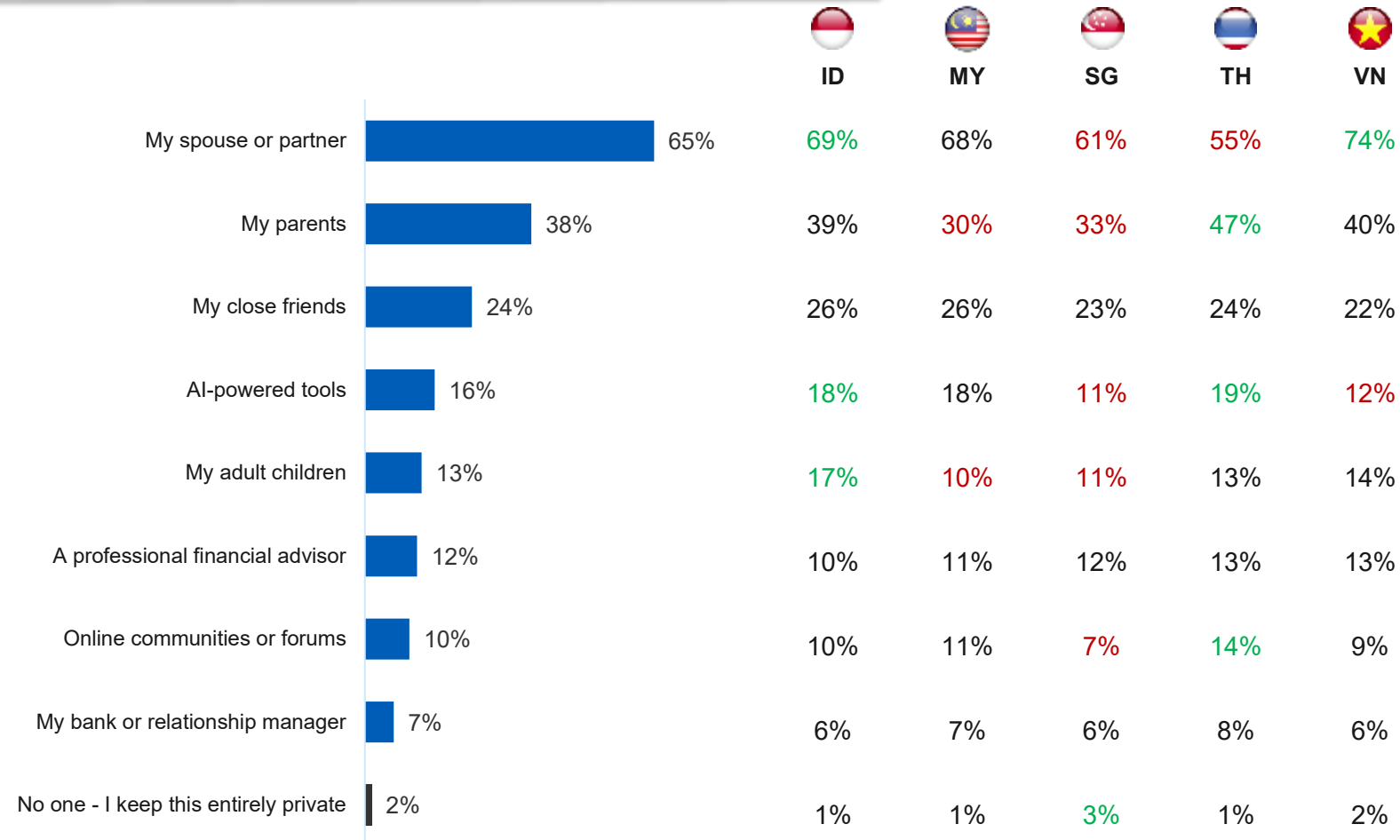
W5A. How openly do you discuss money, wealth, and financial goals with the people in your life?
 Base: Total sample : Regional sample, n=5,000, ID, n=1,000, MY, n=1,000, SG, n=1,000, TH, n=1,000, VN, n=1,000

*T2B: Very/Somewhat openly
 B2B: Very/Somewhat privately

Significantly higher vs. Regional
 Significantly lower vs. Regional

Spouses remain the primary wealth confidant, followed by family and friends; in the region, people are more open in discussing with AI-powered tools than financial advisors or banks

Openness in wealth discussions (people discussed wealth matters with)



W5B. With whom, if anyone, do you openly discuss your wealth goals or financial situation?

Base: Total sample: Regional sample, n=5,000, ID, n=1,000, MY, n=1,000, SG, n=1,000, TH, n=1,000, VN, n=1,000

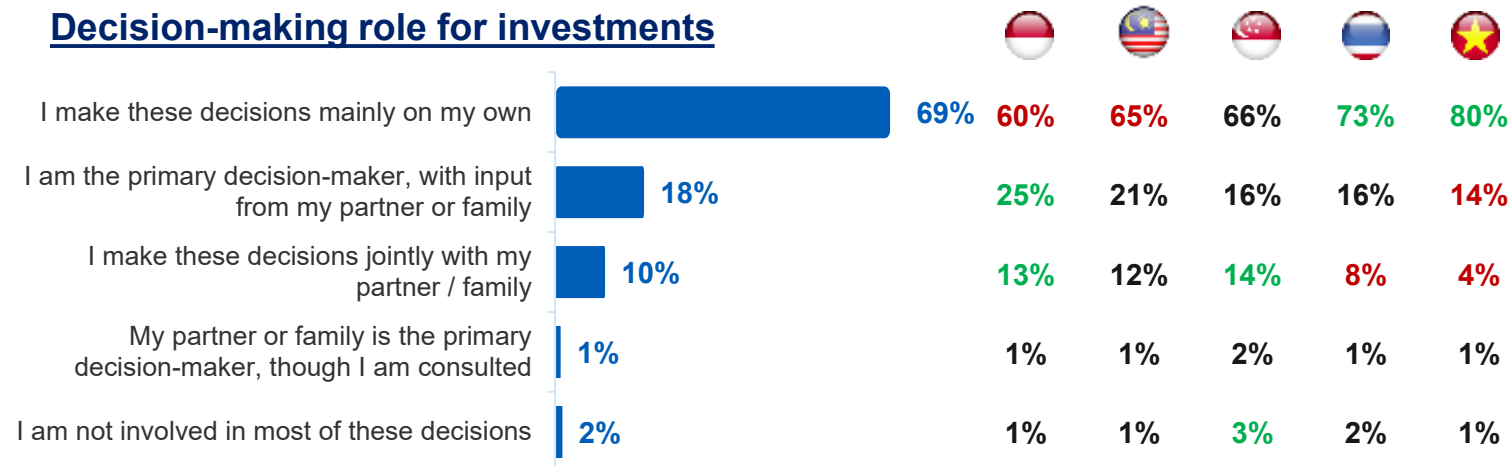
Significantly higher vs. Regional

Significantly lower vs. Regional

Role in investments

Solo decision-making dominates investments regionally, especially TH and VN

Decision-making role for investments

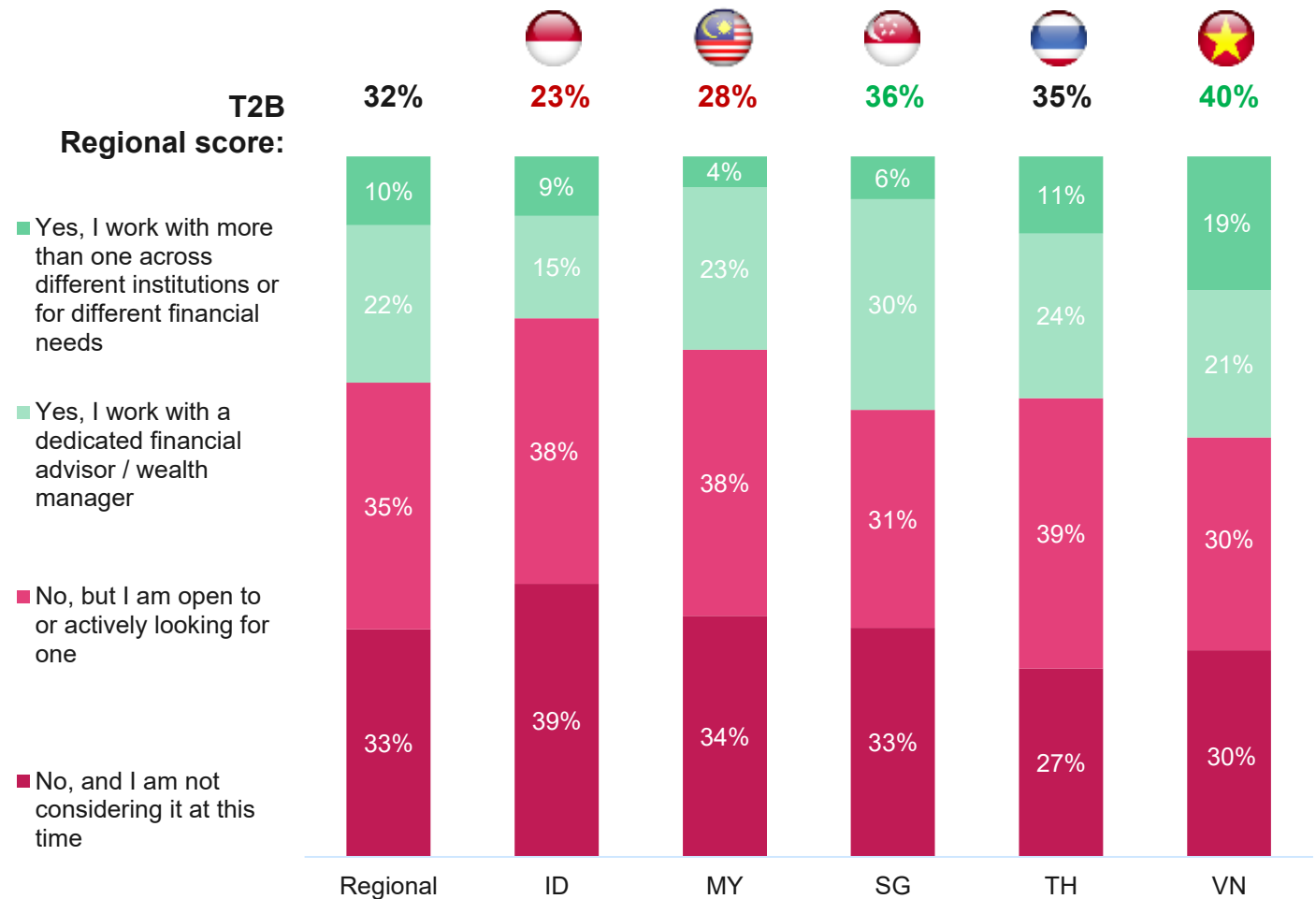


W1_1. Thinking about major financial decisions in your household, such as large purchases, which of the following best describes your role? W1_2. When making investments, which of the following best describes your role? Base: Total sample: Regional sample, n=5,000, ID, n=1,000, MY, n=1,000, SG, n=1,000, TH, n=1,000, VN, n=1,000

Significantly higher vs. Regional
Significantly lower vs. Regional

Current engagement with financial advisors

Roughly 1 in 3 consumers work with a financial advisor



W6. Do you currently work with a dedicated financial advisor, wealth manager or private banker?

Base: Total sample: Regional sample, n=5,000,
ID, n=1,000, MY, n=1,000, SG, n=1,000, TH, n=1,000, VN, n=1,000

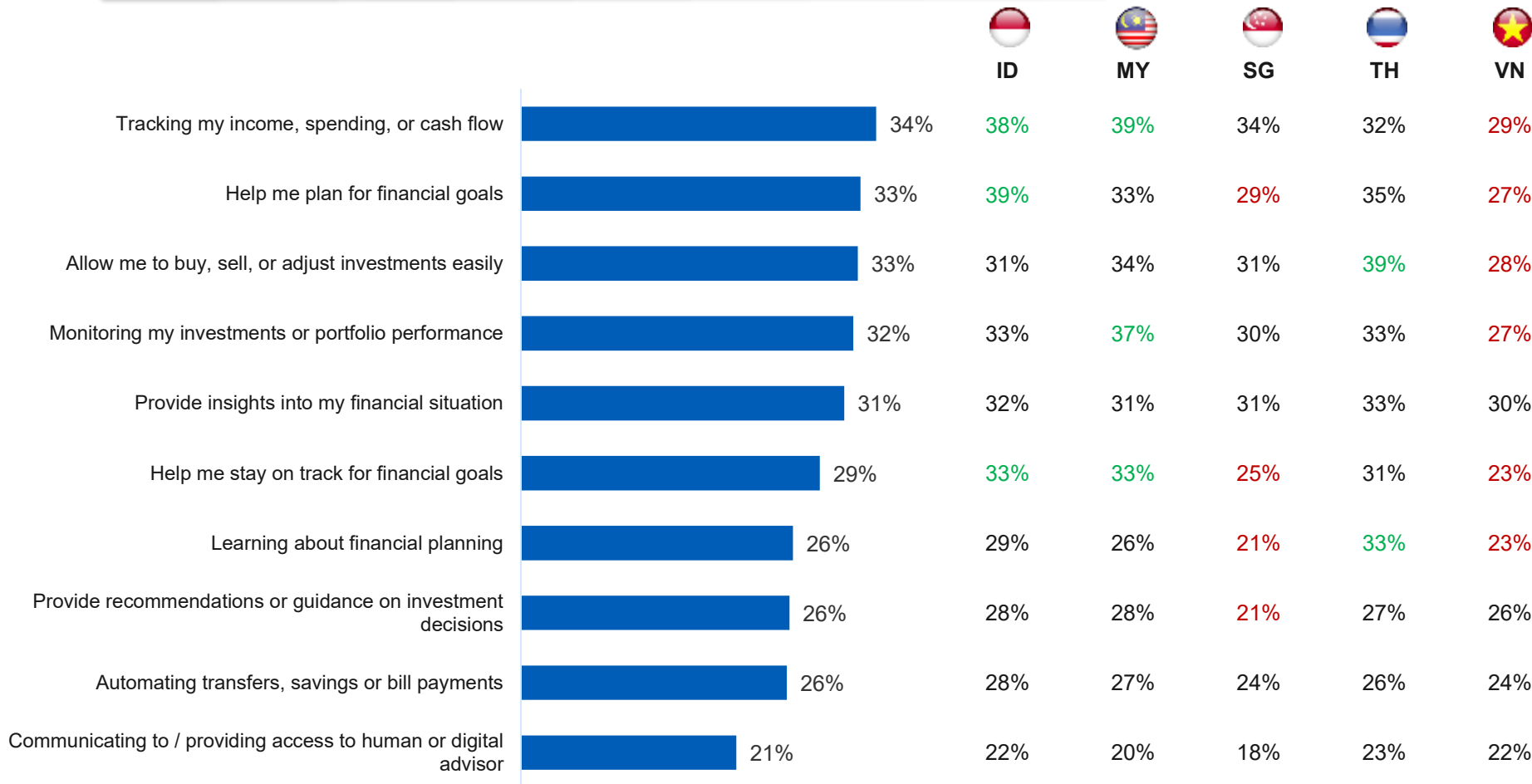
*T2B: Yes

Significantly higher vs. Regional

Significantly lower vs. Regional

Digital tools are used broadly across the wealth journey, not just for tracking

Role of digital tools in wealth management



91%
Use digital tools for wealth management

I am not using digital tools for wealth management

9%

W9. In what way are digital tools or platforms helping you manage, grow or track your wealth?

Base: Total sample: Regional sample, n=5,000, ID, n=1,000, MY, n=1,000, SG, n=1,000, TH, n=1,000, VN, n=1,000

Significantly higher vs. Regional

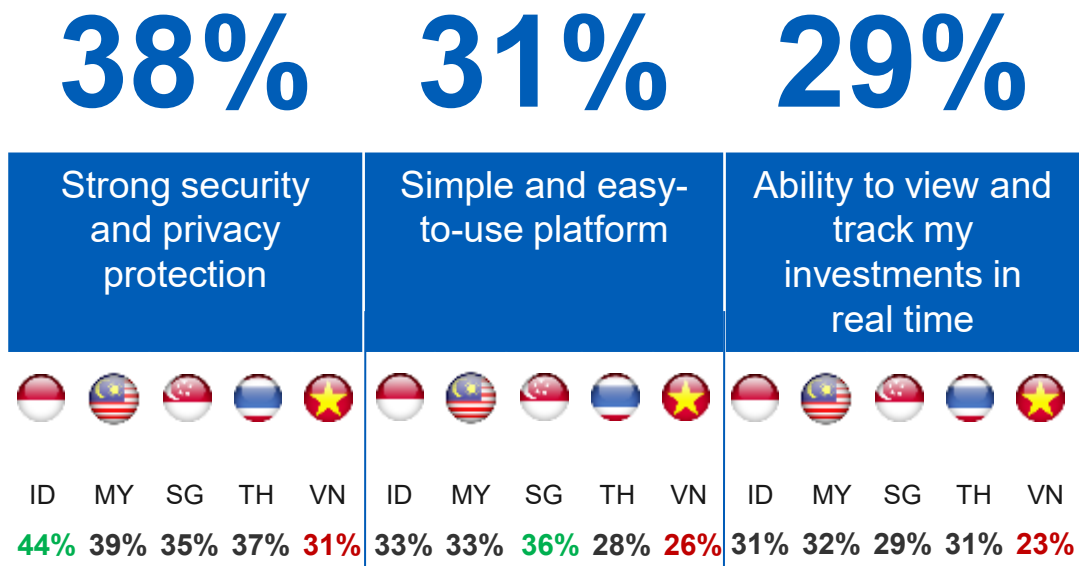
Significantly lower vs. Regional

Security is the top priority for digital wealth platforms, followed by simplicity of use and ability to track investments in real time

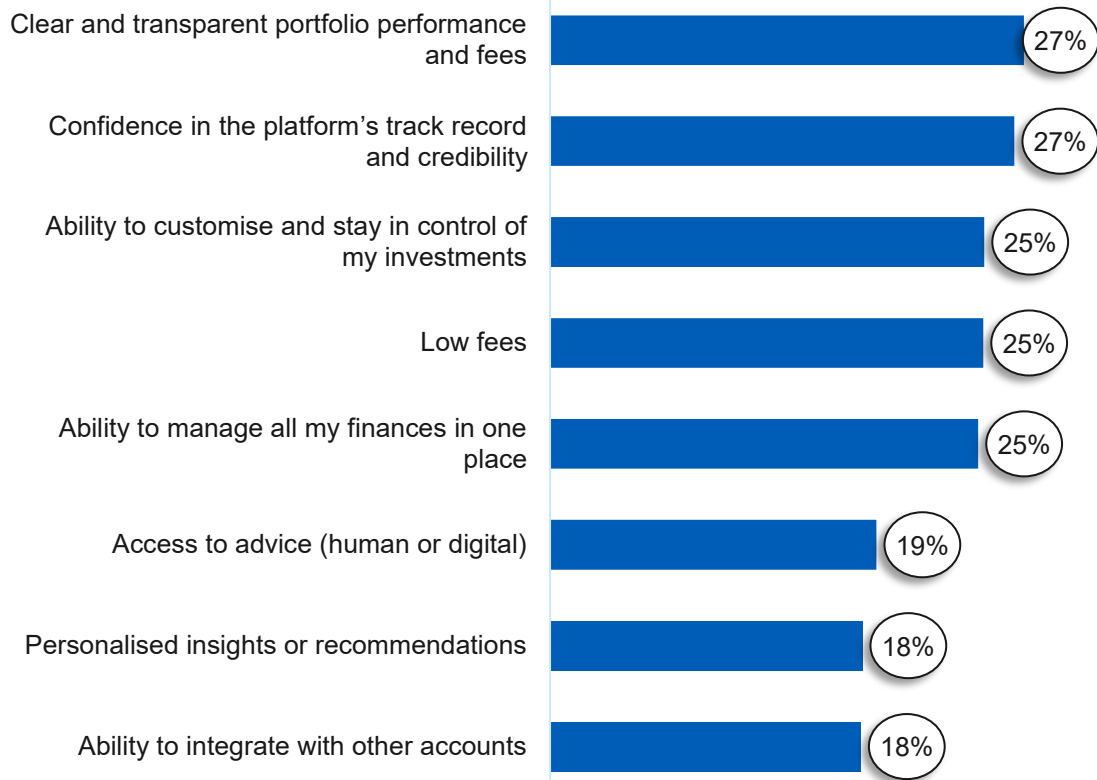
Important features in digital wealth management

(Among those who use digital tools for wealth)

Top 3 features:



Other aspects:

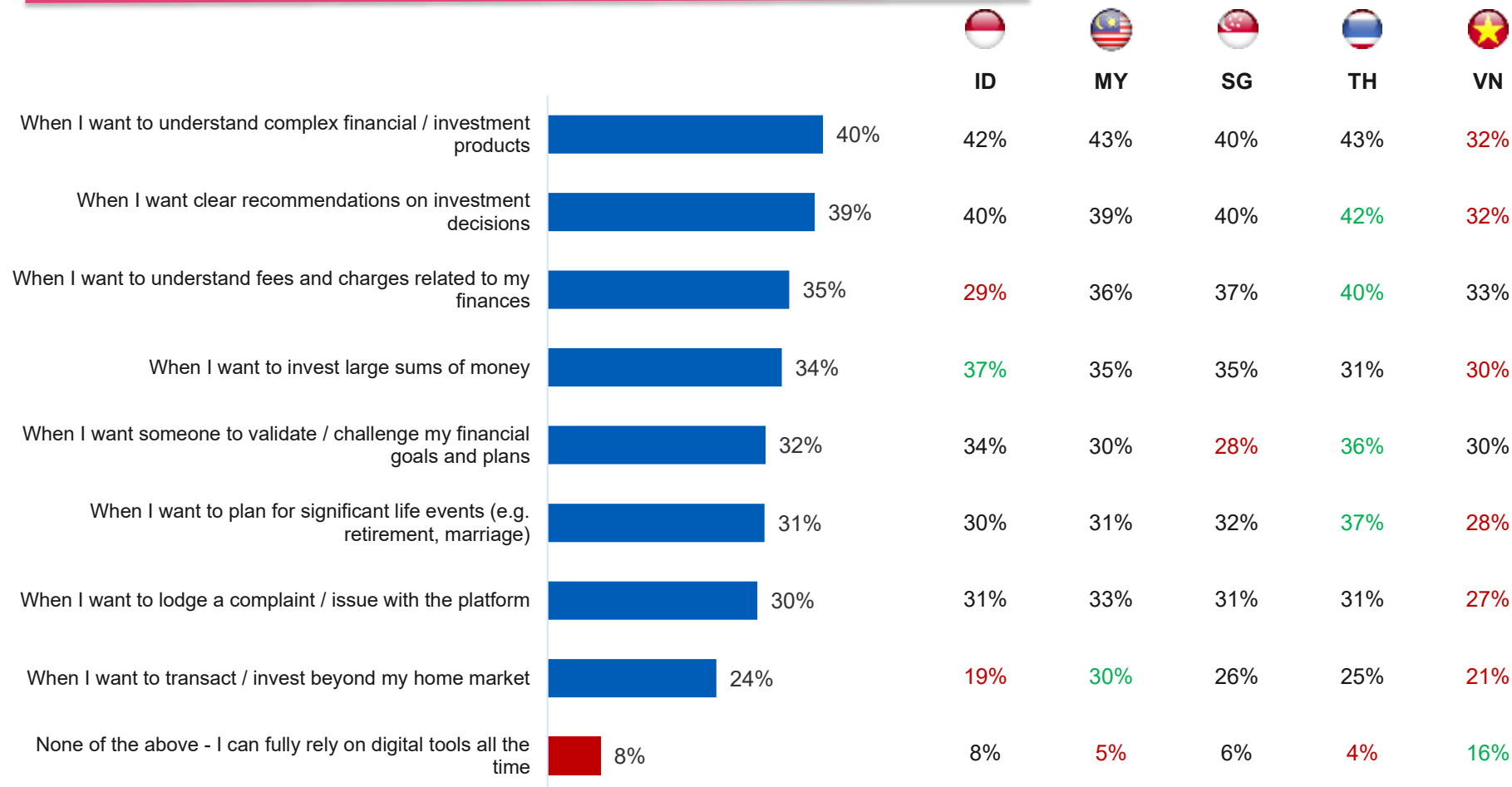


W10. What aspects are important to you when using digital tools or platforms for wealth management?
Base: Those who use digital tools for wealth: Regional sample, n=4,555, ID, n=934, MY, n=925, SG, n=897, TH, n=952, VN, n=847

Significantly higher vs. Regional
Significantly lower vs. Regional

Understanding complex products, receiving investment recommendations and clarifying fees are the top situations where RMs are preferred

Top situations where relationship managers are preferred

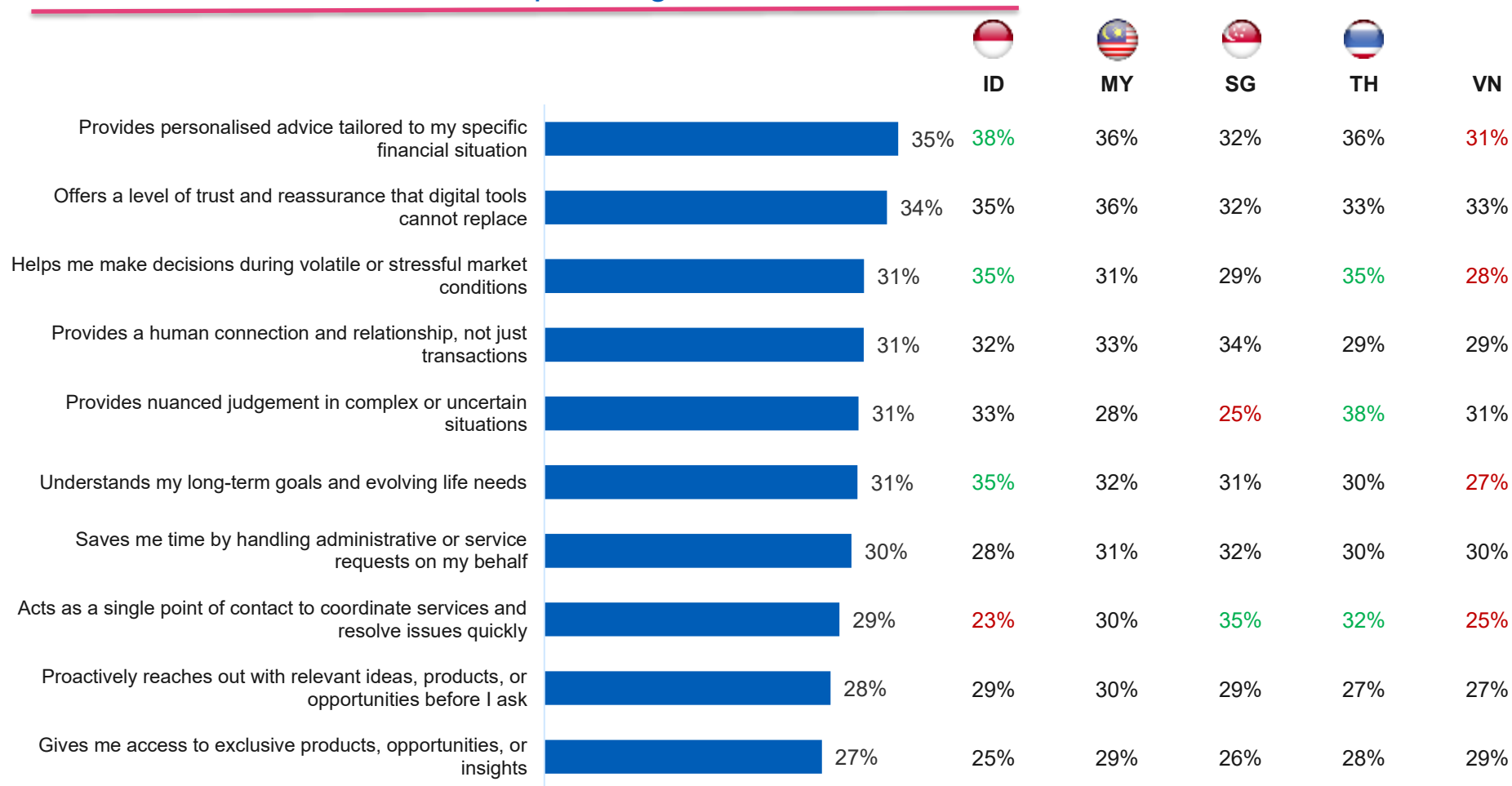


W12. In which of these situations would you be likely to prefer a human relationship manager or advisor over a digital investment tool or platform?
 Base: Total sample: Regional sample, n=5,000, ID, n=1,000, MY, n=1,000, SG, n=1,000, TH, n=1,000, VN, n=1,000

Significantly higher vs. Regional
 Significantly lower vs. Regional

Trust and personalisation define the human advisor's edge over digital

Value of a dedicated Relationship Manager



W13. What does having a dedicated relationship manager add to your banking experience that a digital or AI tool cannot?
 Base: Total sample: Regional sample, n=5,000, ID, n=1,000, MY, n=1,000, SG, n=1,000, TH, n=1,000, VN, n=1,000

Significantly higher vs. Regional
 Significantly lower vs. Regional

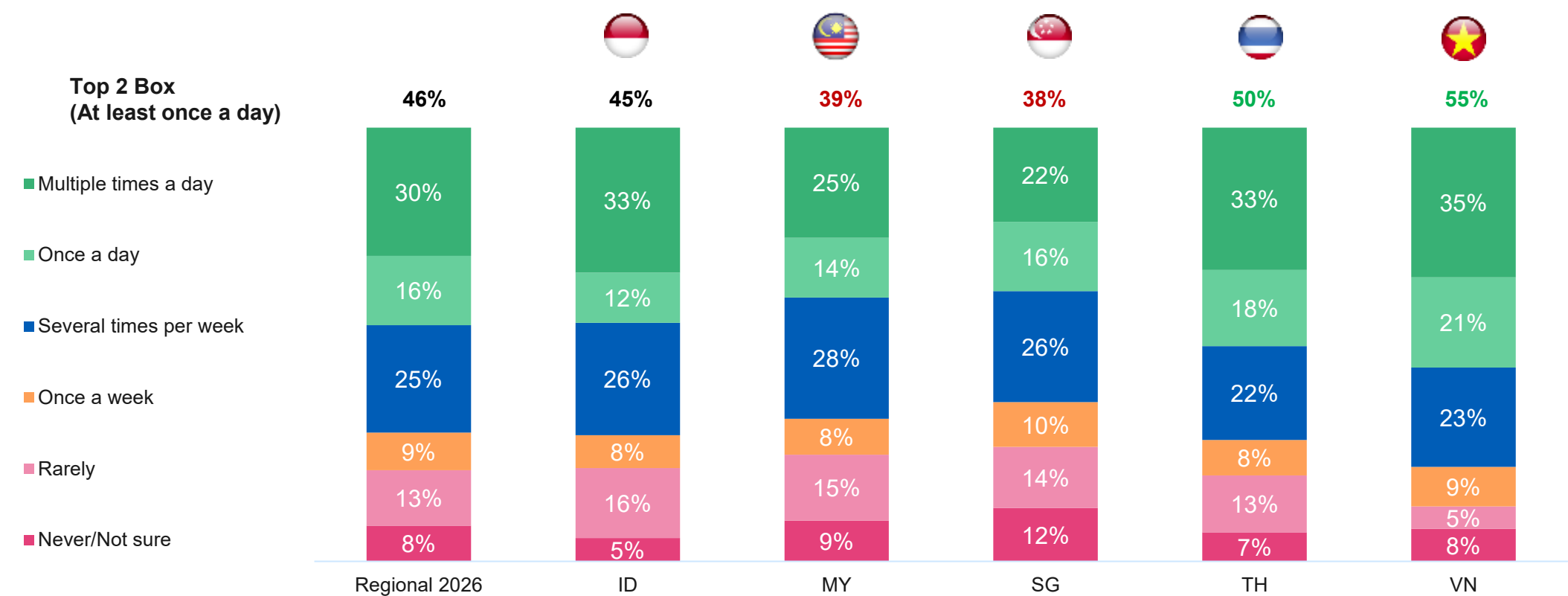


03

AI and Trust

Daily AI usage for financial activities already exceeds 4 in 10 consumers regionally

Frequency of using AI – by market

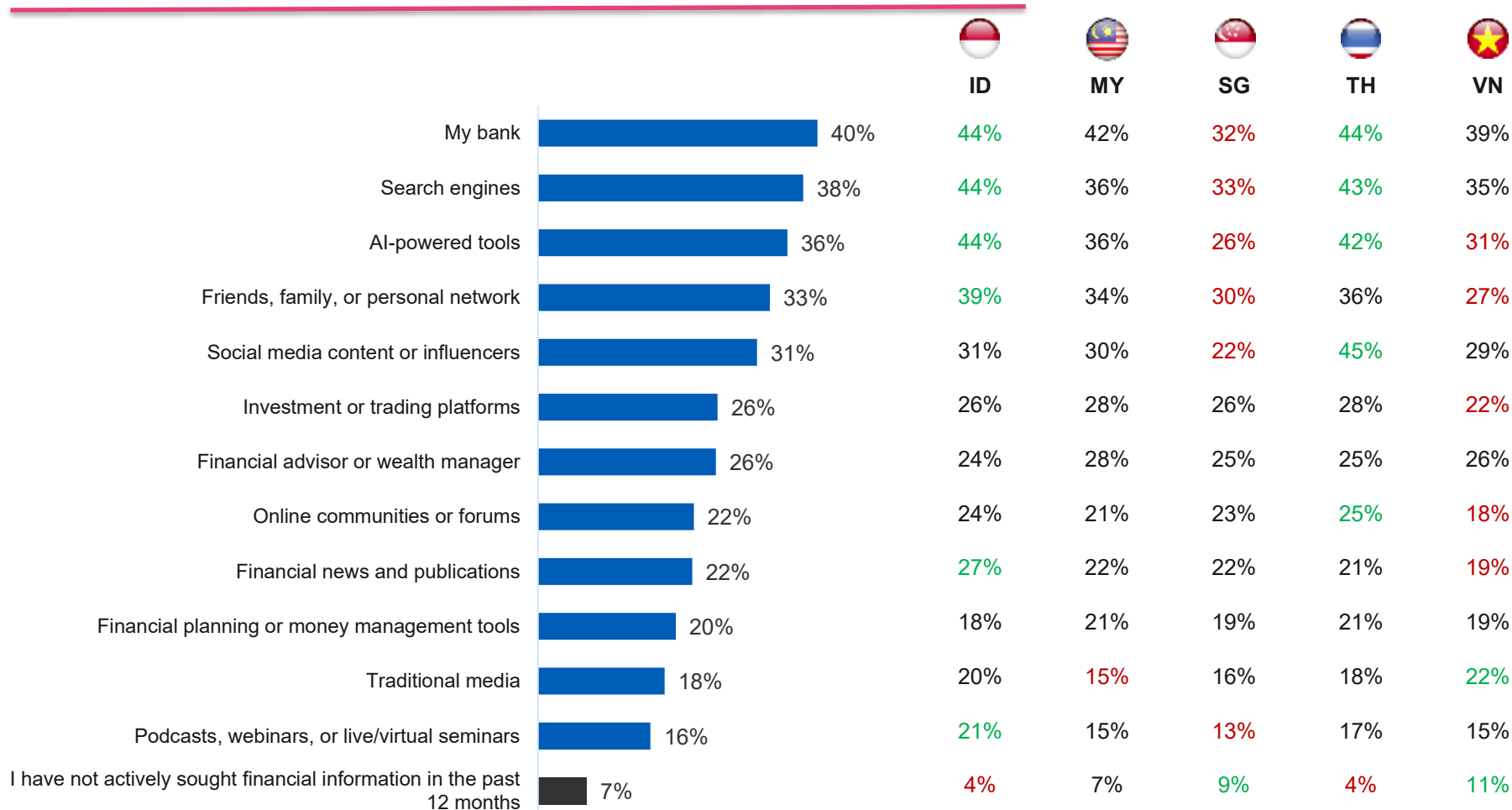


AI1. How frequently do you use artificial intelligence (AI) tools or services for financial activities?
Base: Total sample: Regional sample, n=5,000, ID, n=1,000, MY, n=1,000, SG, n=1,000, TH, n=1,000, VN, n=1,000
*AI includes: chatbots, voice assistants (Siri, Alexa, Google Assistant), or AI-powered photo/search features

Significantly higher vs. Regional
Significantly lower vs. Regional

Banks are the biggest source of financial information; search engines and AI-powered tools are close behind

Source of financial information



AI3A. In the past 12 months, where have you sought financial information or guidance?

Base: Total sample: Regional sample, n=5,000, ID, n=1,000, MY, n=1,000, SG, n=1,000, TH, n=1,000, VN, n=1,000

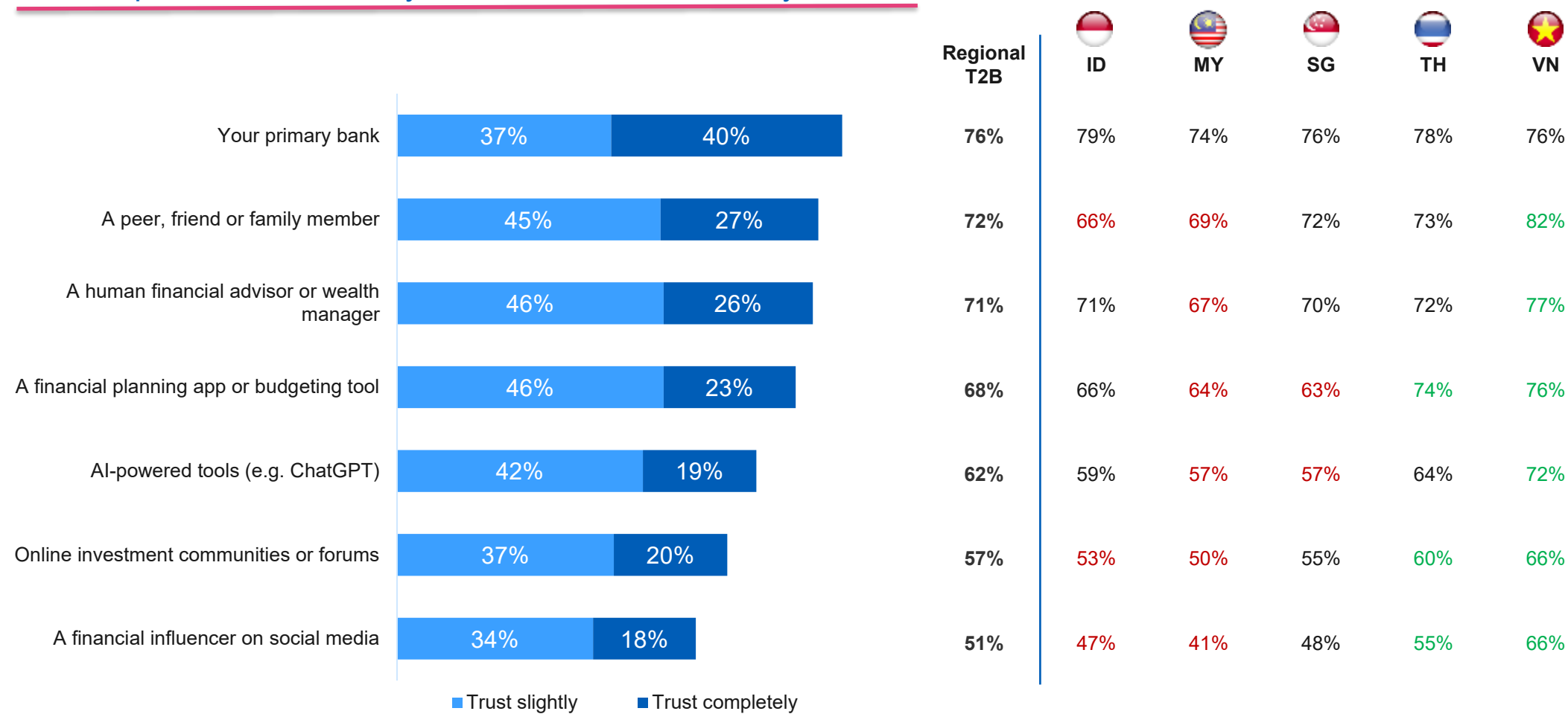
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Significantly higher vs. Regional

Significantly lower vs. Regional

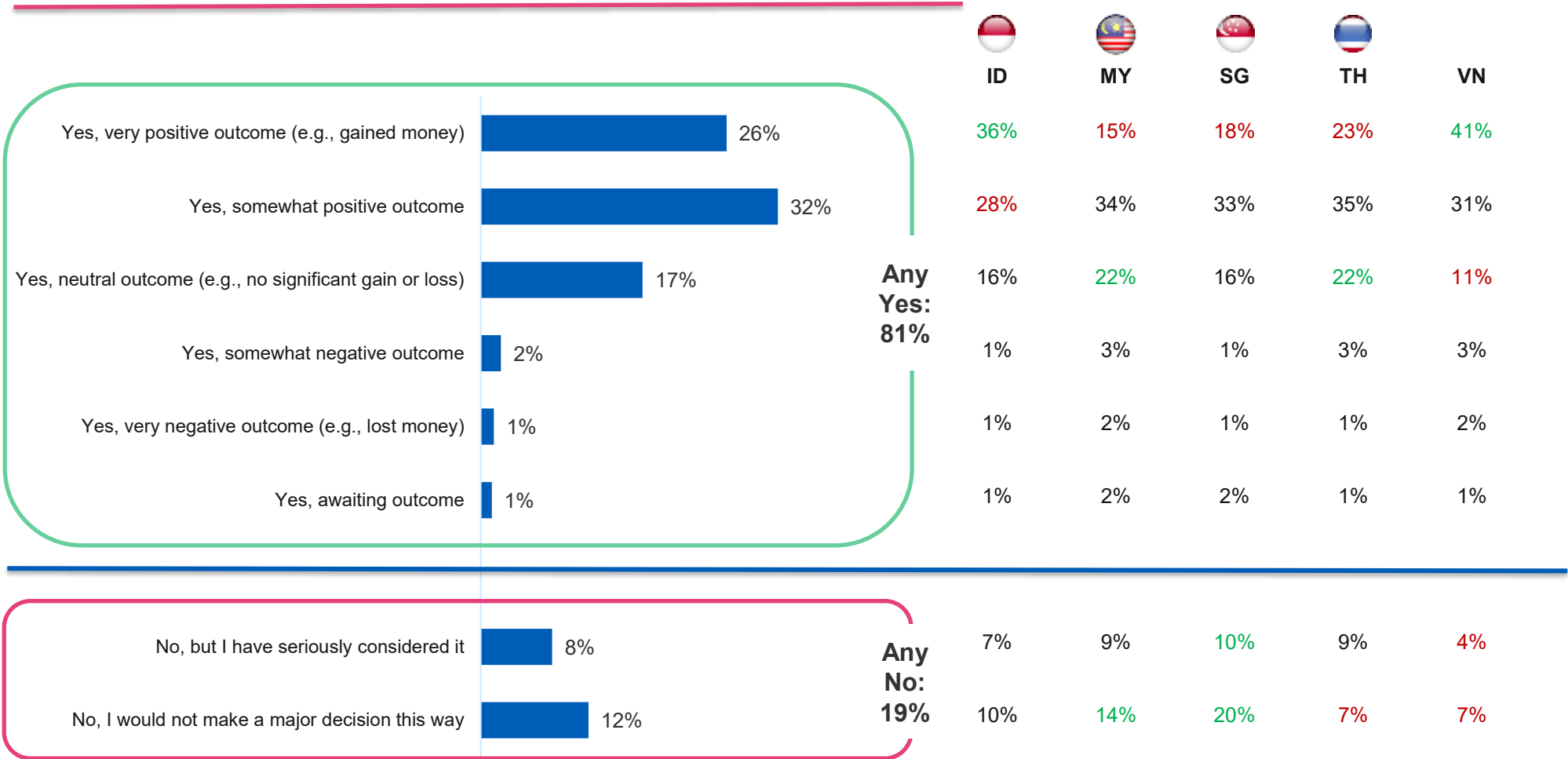
Banks retain the trust edge over AI, but the gap narrows sharply in Vietnam

Trust in platform to act in my best financial interest – by market



4 in 5 consumers have already acted on AI financial advice, mostly with positive results

Outcomes of AI-assisted financial decisions



AI4. Have you ever made a significant financial decision based primarily on AI advice or recommendations?

If yes, what was the outcome the last time you made such a decision?

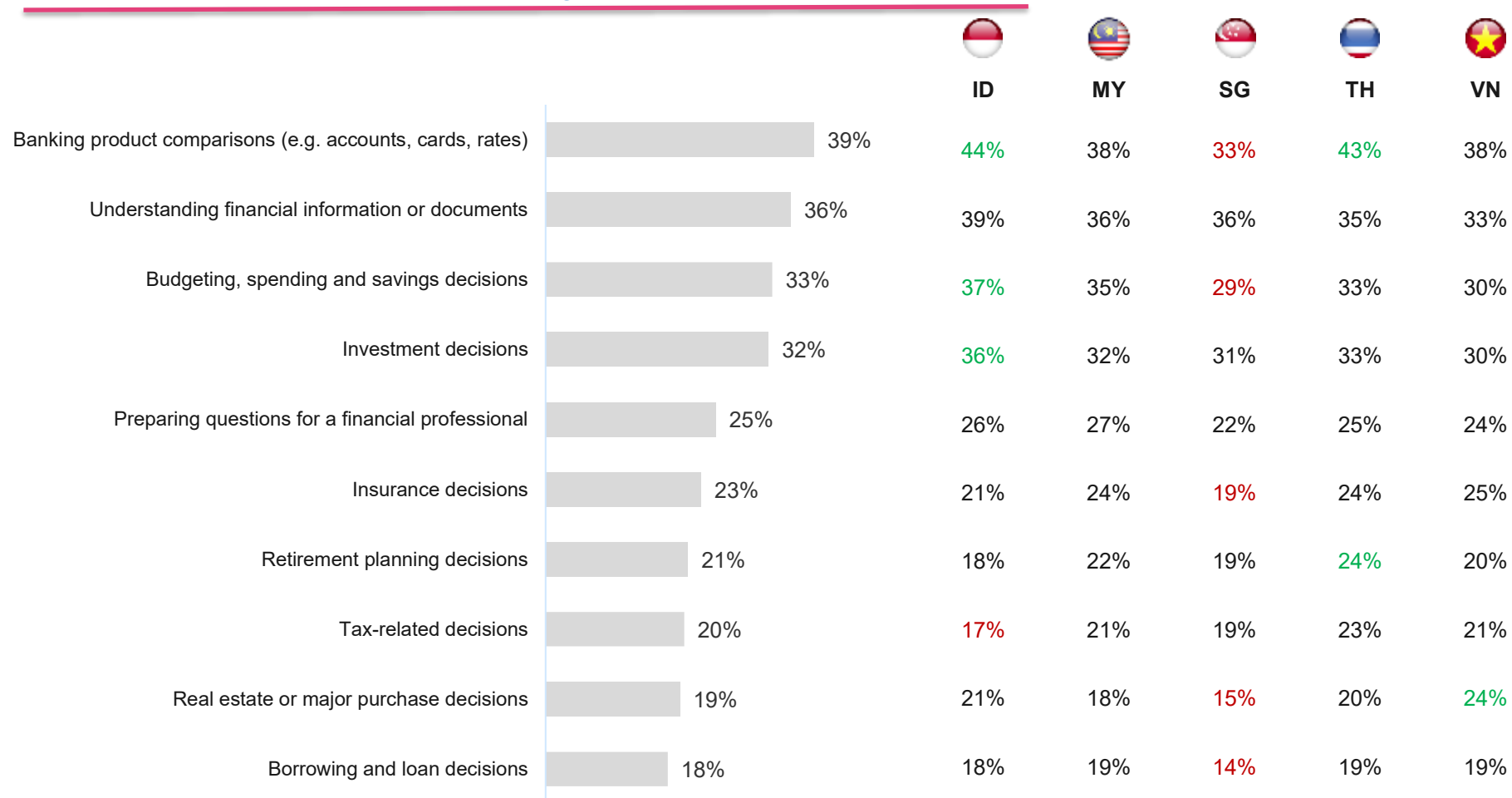
Base: Total sample: Regional sample, n=5,000, ID, n=1,000, MY, n=1,000, SG, n=1,000, TH, n=1,000, VN, n=1,000

*AI includes: chatbots, voice assistants (Siri, Alexa, Google Assistant), or AI-powered photo/search features.

Significantly higher vs. Regional
Significantly lower vs. Regional

Top use cases for AI in the financial context is for comparing products and understanding financial information

Top financial decisions made using AI



AI5. What type of financial decisions did you use AI for?

Base: Total sample: Regional sample, n=5,000, ID, n=1,000, MY, n=1,000, SG, n=1,000, TH, n=1,000, VN, n=1,000

*AI includes: chatbots, voice assistants (Siri, Alexa, Google Assistant), or AI-powered photo/search features.

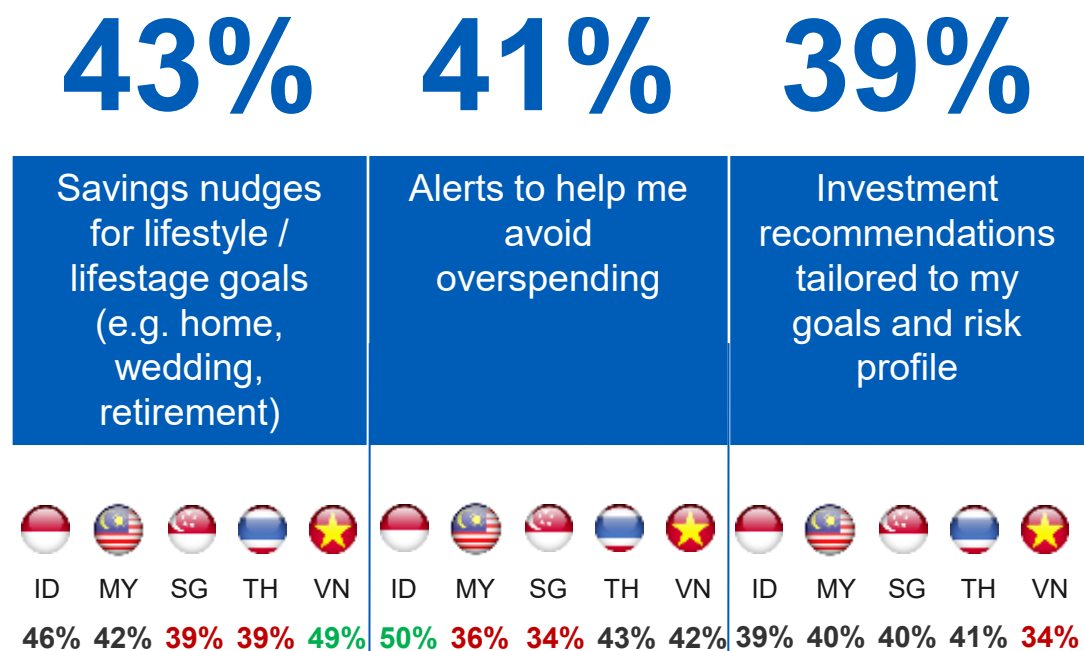
Significantly higher vs. Regional

Significantly lower vs. Regional

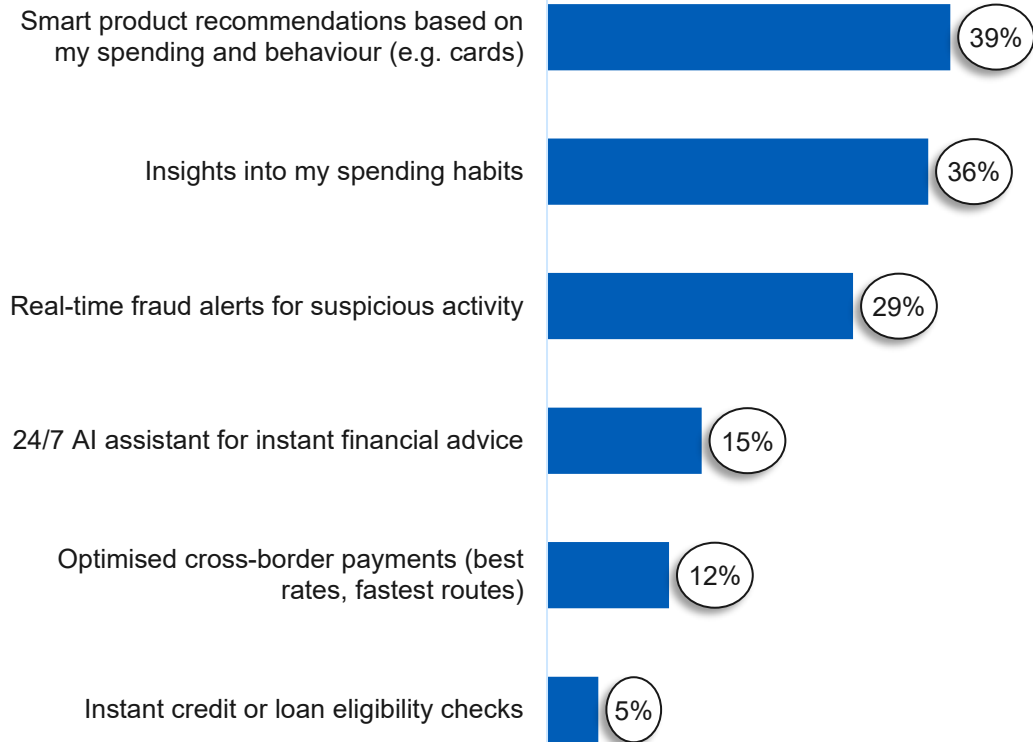
Savings goal nudges, overspending alerts and personalised investment recommendations are the most valued AI banking features

Most valued AI banking features

Top 3 features:



Other top features:



AI6. Which AI-powered banking features would add the most value to your financial life?
Base: Total sample: Regional sample, n=5,000, ID, n=1,000, MY, n=1,000, SG, n=1,000, TH, n=1,000, VN, n=1,000

*AI includes: chatbots, voice assistants (Siri, Alexa, Google Assistant), or AI-powered photo/search features.

Significantly higher vs. Regional
Significantly lower vs. Regional

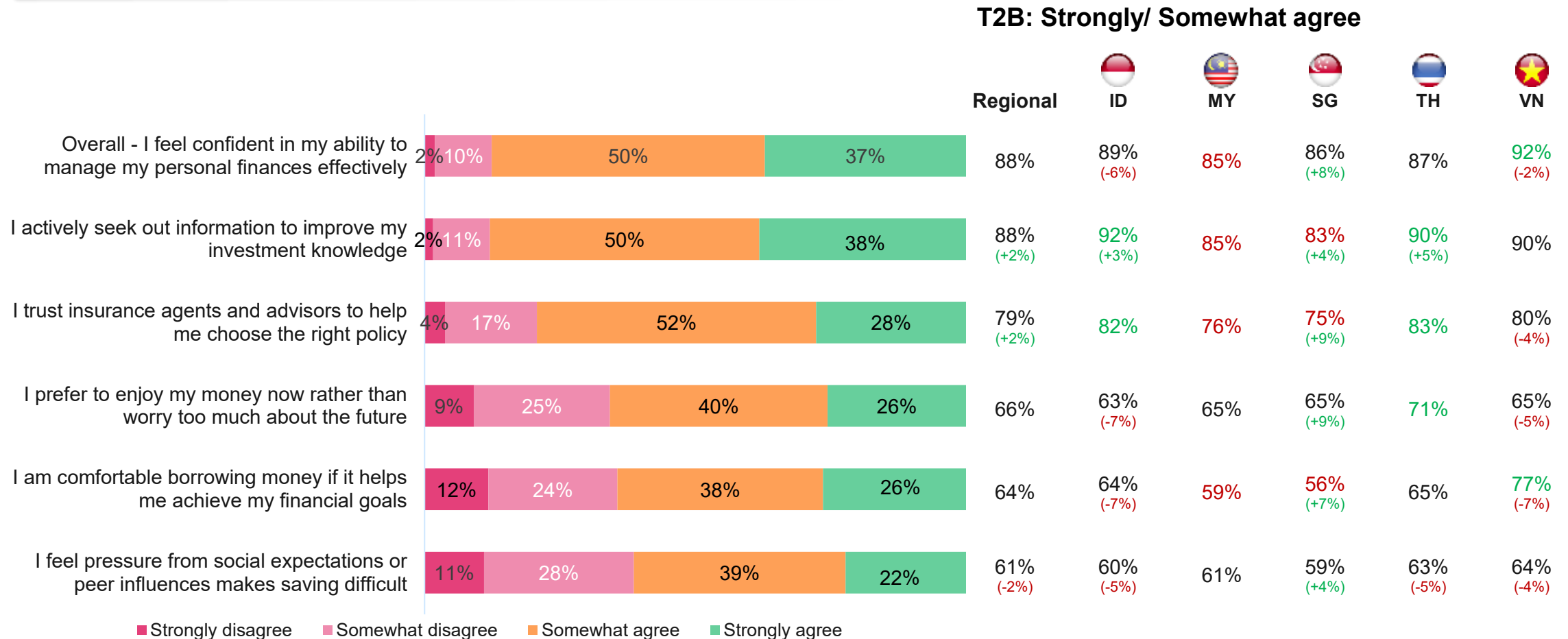


04

Financial Preparedness

Financial confidence remains strong, with more than 4 in 5 expecting to be better off financially in the future, supported by increased engagement with investment information and insurance advisors

Attitudes to financial planning

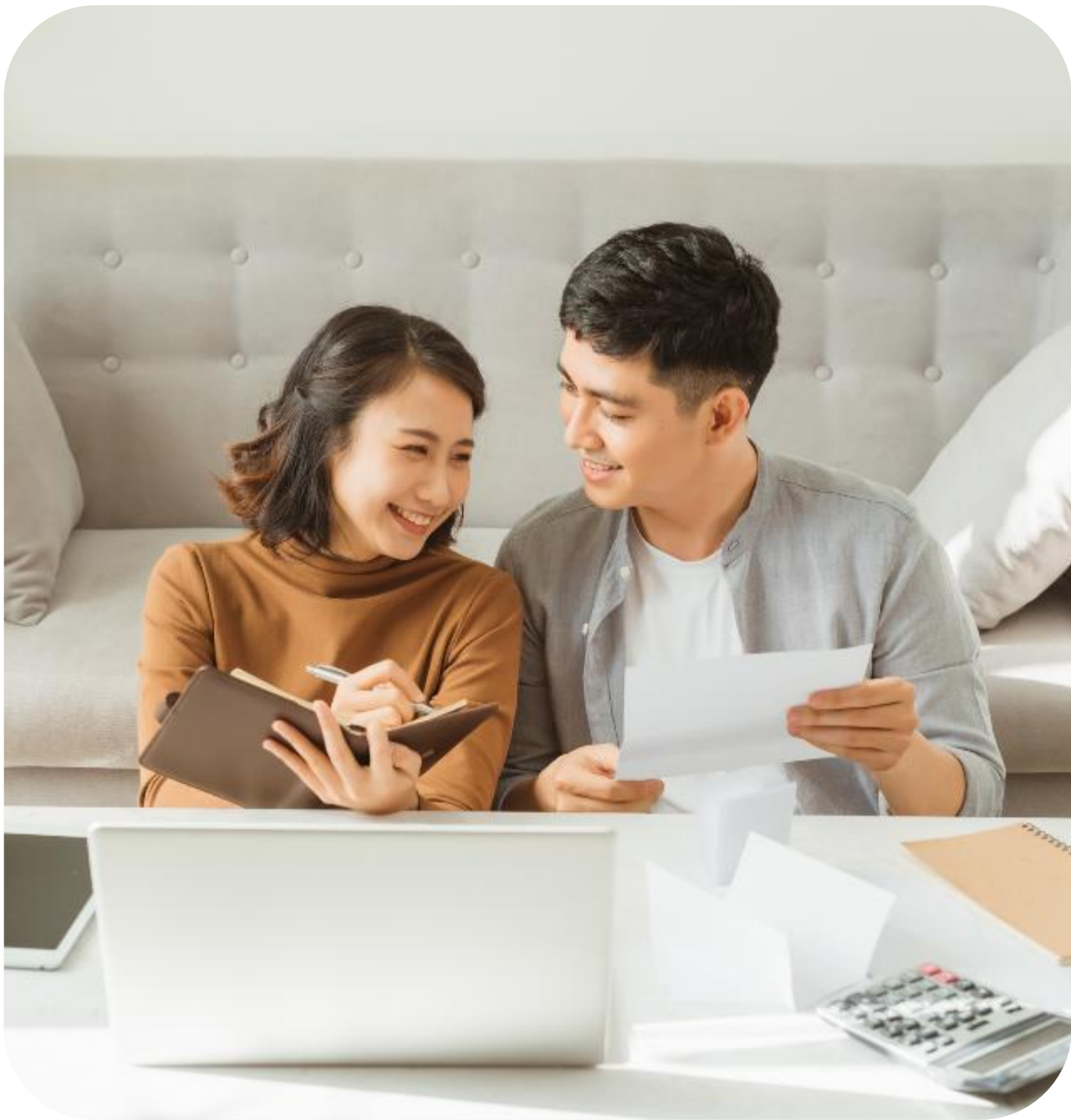


FL12. To what extent would you agree or disagree with the following statements?

Base: Total sample: Regional sample, n=5,000, ID, n=1,000, MY, n=1,000, SG, n=1,000, TH, n=1,000, VN, n=1,000

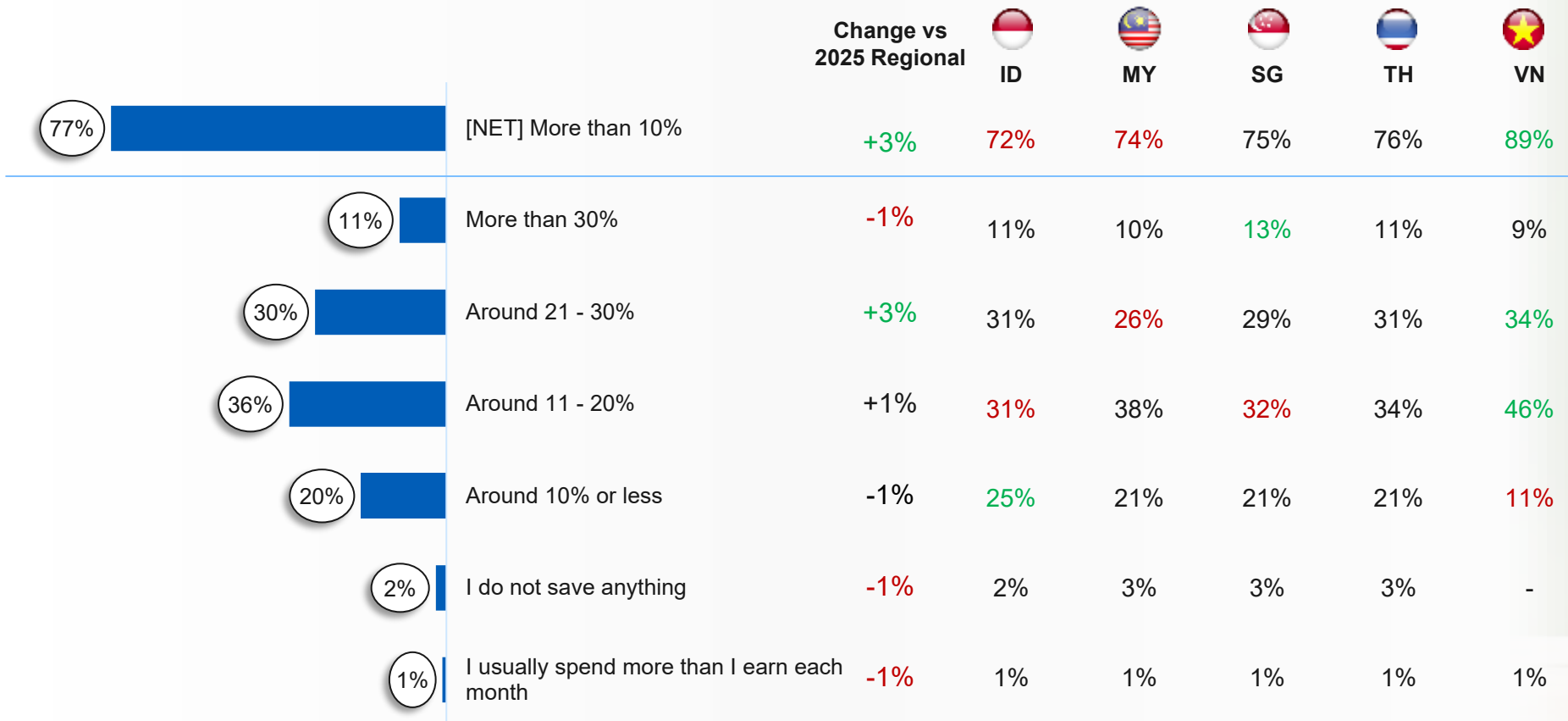
() Significantly higher vs. 2025 Significantly higher vs. Regional
 () Significantly lower vs. 2025 Significantly lower vs. Regional

Savings



Across the region, a growing proportion is saving more than 10% of their monthly income, led by consumers in VN

Proportion of income saved each month



FL1. What percentage of your personal income do you usually save each month?
 Base: Total sample: Regional sample, n=4,982, ID, n=1,000, MY, n=1,000, SG, n=982, TH, n=1,000, VN, n=1,000

(+) Significantly higher vs. 2025 Significantly higher vs. Regional
 (-) Significantly lower vs. 2025 Significantly lower vs. Regional

+6%
vs 2025 Regional

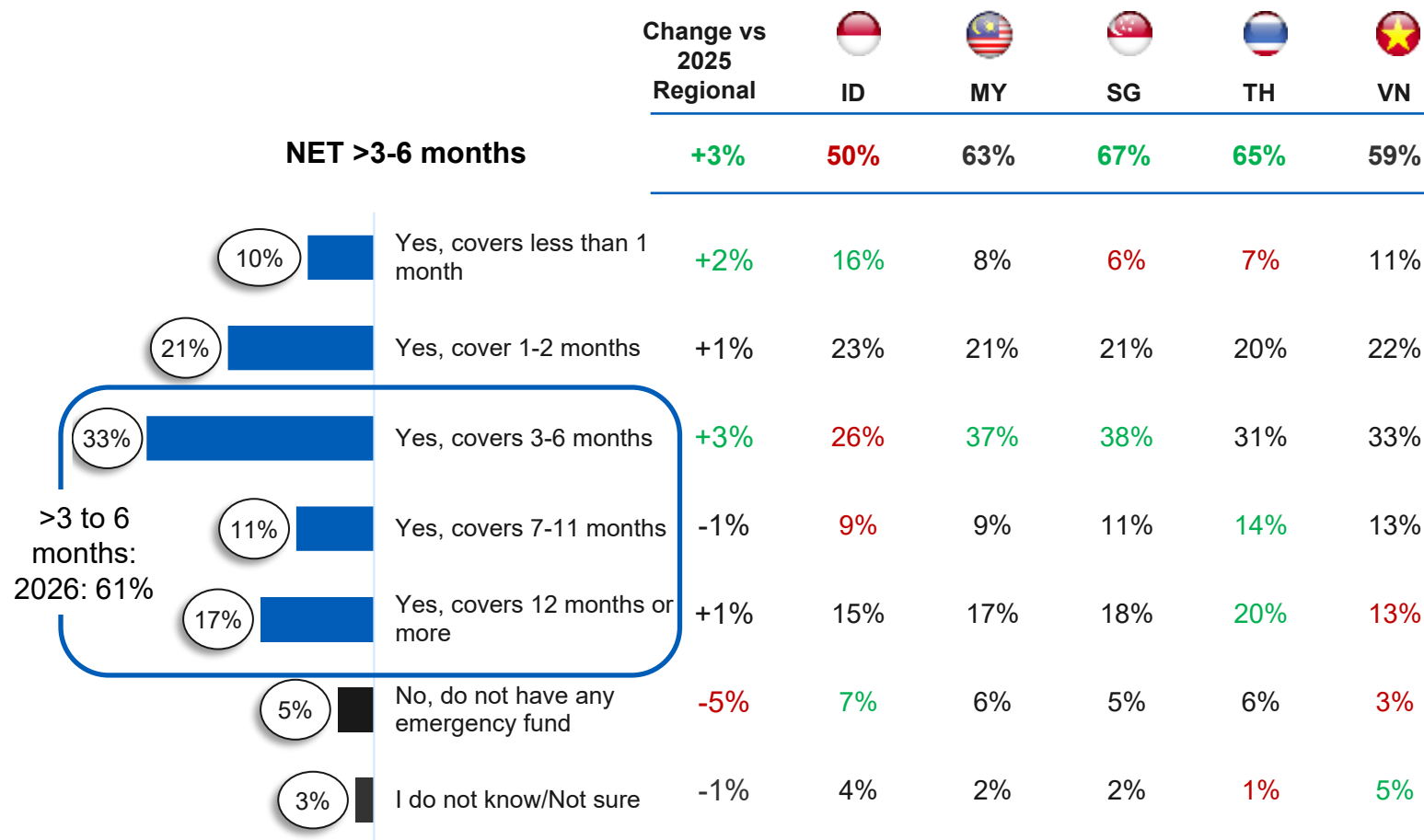
92%

Have an emergency fund



Maintaining an emergency fund is high (9 in 10) in the region, and 61% are able to cover at least 3 to 6 months of expenses

Availability of emergency funds



FL2. Do you have any emergency funds (e.g. losing job, hospital bills)? If so, how many months of your regular expenses can it covers? Base: Total sample: Regional sample, n=5,000, ID, n=1,000, MY, n=1,000, SG, n=1,000, TH, n=1,000, VN, n=1,000

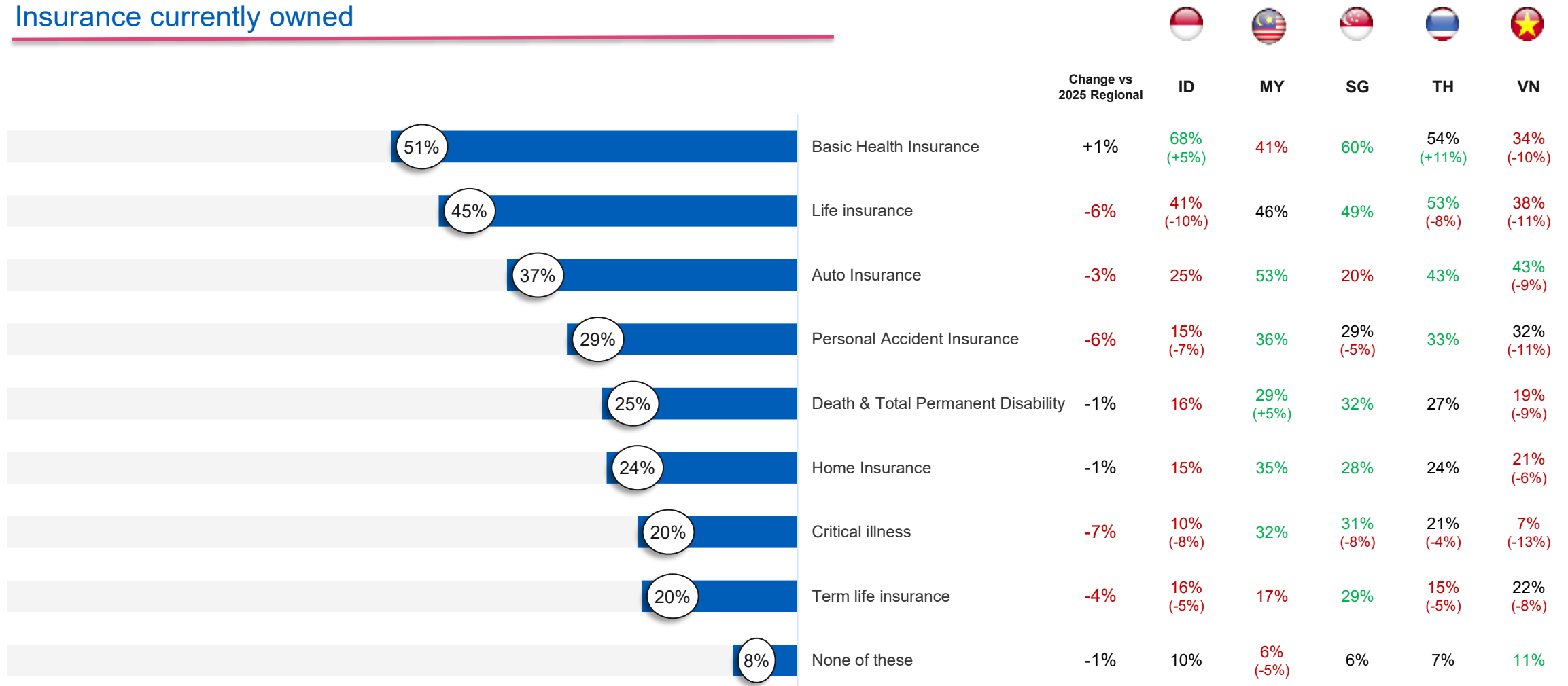
Significantly higher vs. Regional
Significantly lower vs. Regional

Protection



Over 1 in 2 own basic health insurance, predominantly among those in ID, SG, and TH

Insurance currently owned



FL5. Do you currently have any insurance? If so, which of these types?

Base: Total sample: Regional sample, n=5,000, ID, n=1,000, MY, n=1,000, SG, n=1,000, TH, n=1,000, VN, n=1,000

() Significantly higher vs. 2025 Significantly higher vs. Regional

() Significantly lower vs. 2025 Significantly lower vs. Regional

1 in 2 consumers who have taken Death & TPD or CI insurance tend to get a coverage of 1 to 3 times their annual income

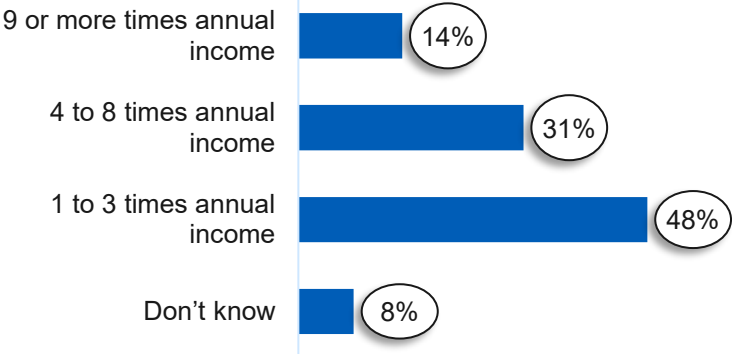
Insurance coverage x annual income

(Among those currently owning Death & Total Permanent Disability and critical illness insurance)

Obtain insurance for:

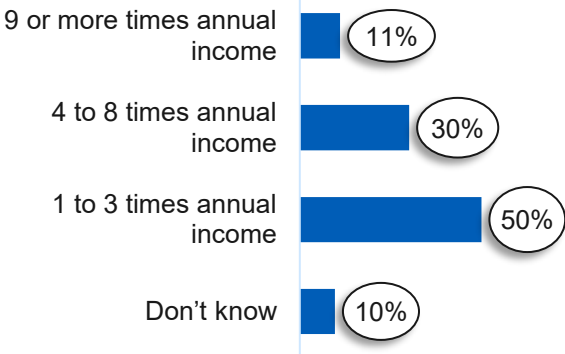
Death & Total Permanent Disability (Excluding any government plan)

Base n=834



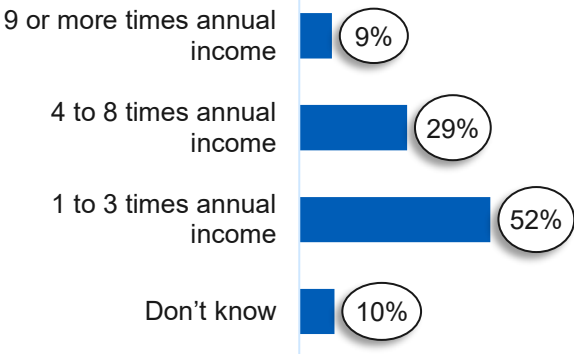
Death & Total Permanent Disability offered through a government insurance plan

Base n=563



Critical Illness

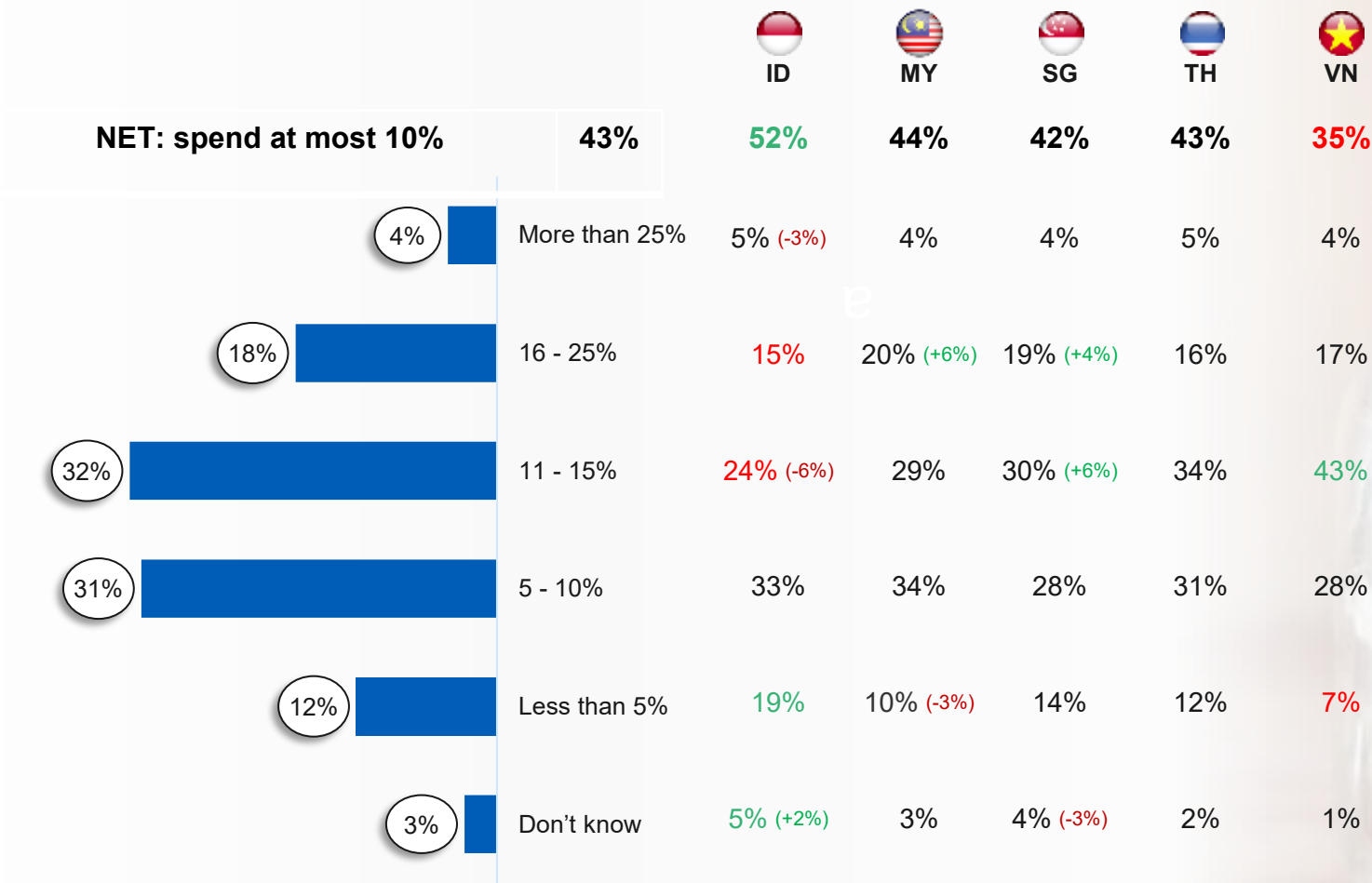
Base n=1014



Across the region, more than 2 in 5 spend at most 10% of their annual salary on insurance premiums, more so among those in ID

Percentage of income spent on insurance annually

(Among current insurance holders)



FL5B. What proportion of your annual salary is spent on insurance premiums for yourself annually?
Base: Current insurance holders: Regional sample, n=4,575, ID, n=901 MY, n=937, SG, n=922, TH, n=926, VN, n=889

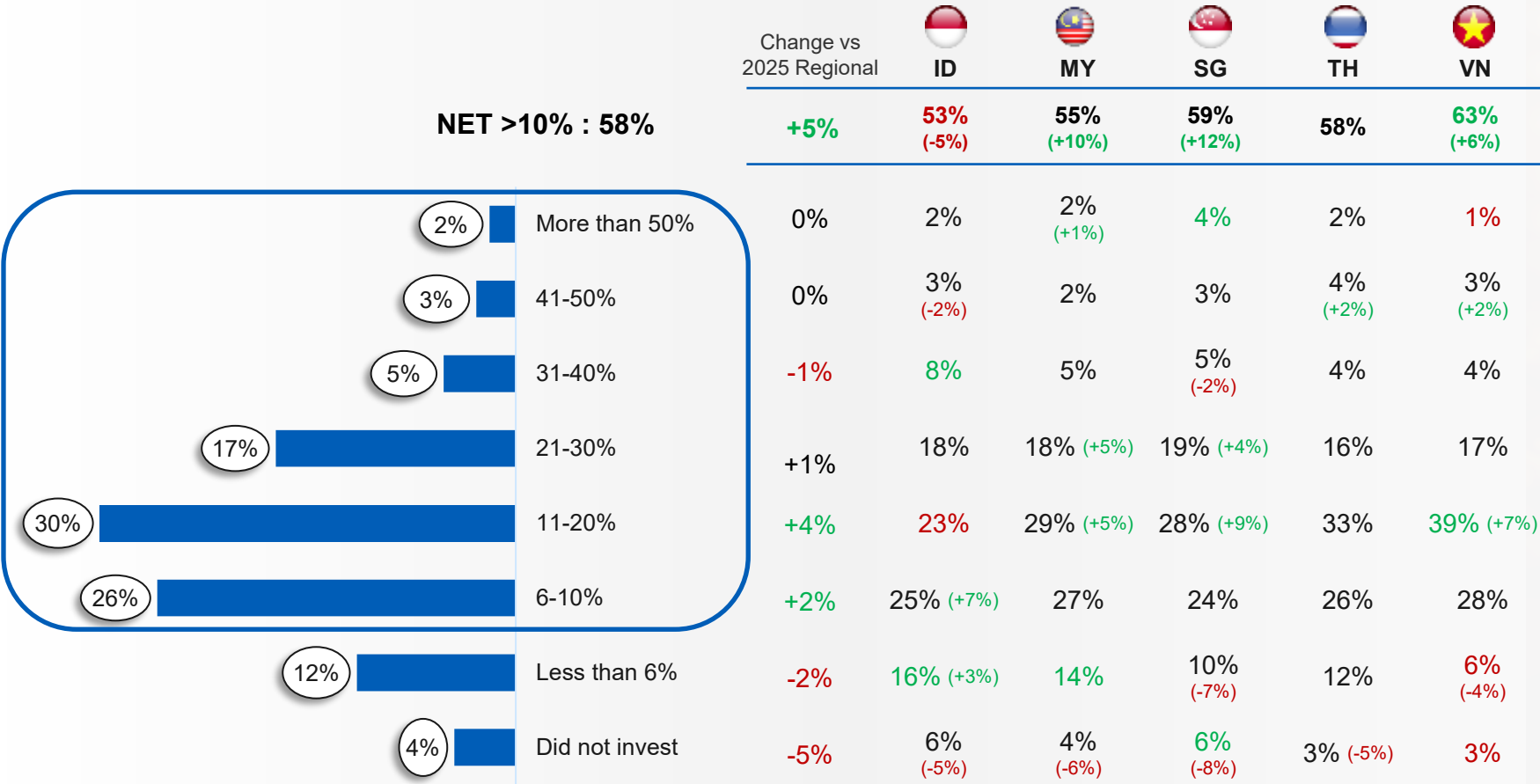
Significantly higher vs. Regional
Significantly lower vs. Regional

Investment



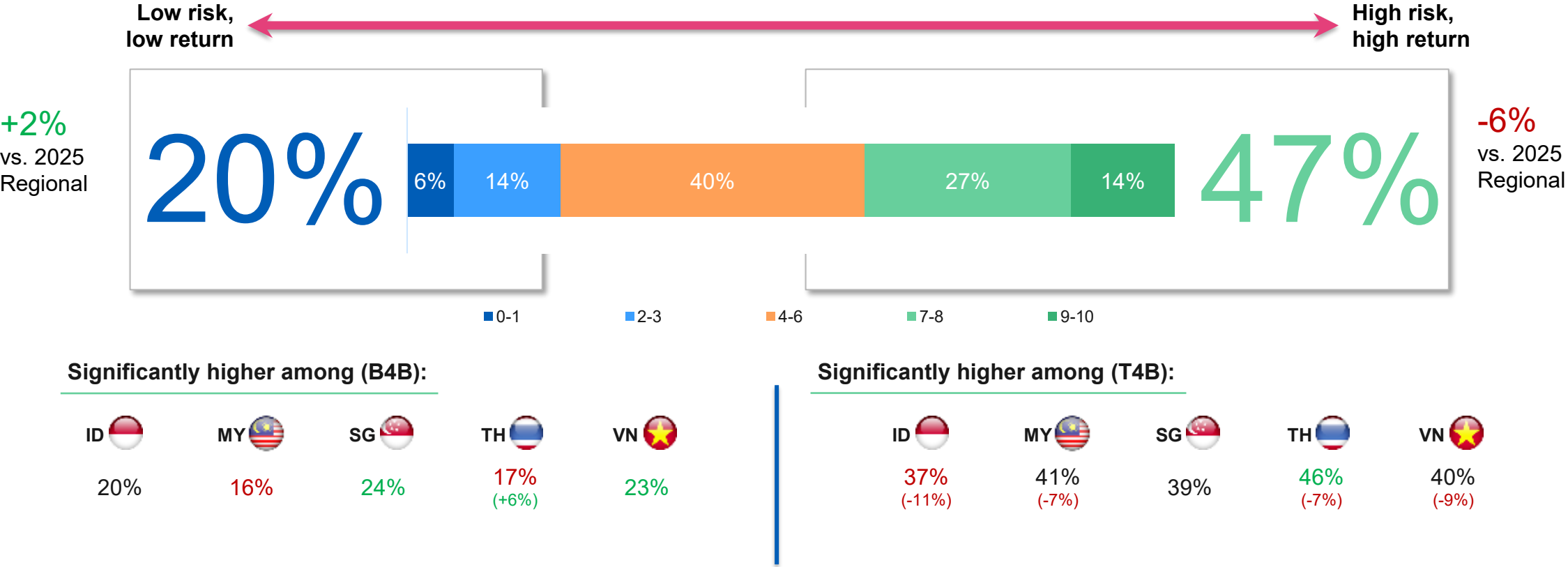
There is a significant increase in those who spend more than 10% of their annual income, driven by consumers in MY, SG, and VN

Proportion of annual income invested in the past year



Broad decline seen in risk appetite across markets, except in SG where it remains at similar levels to last year

Attitude towards investment

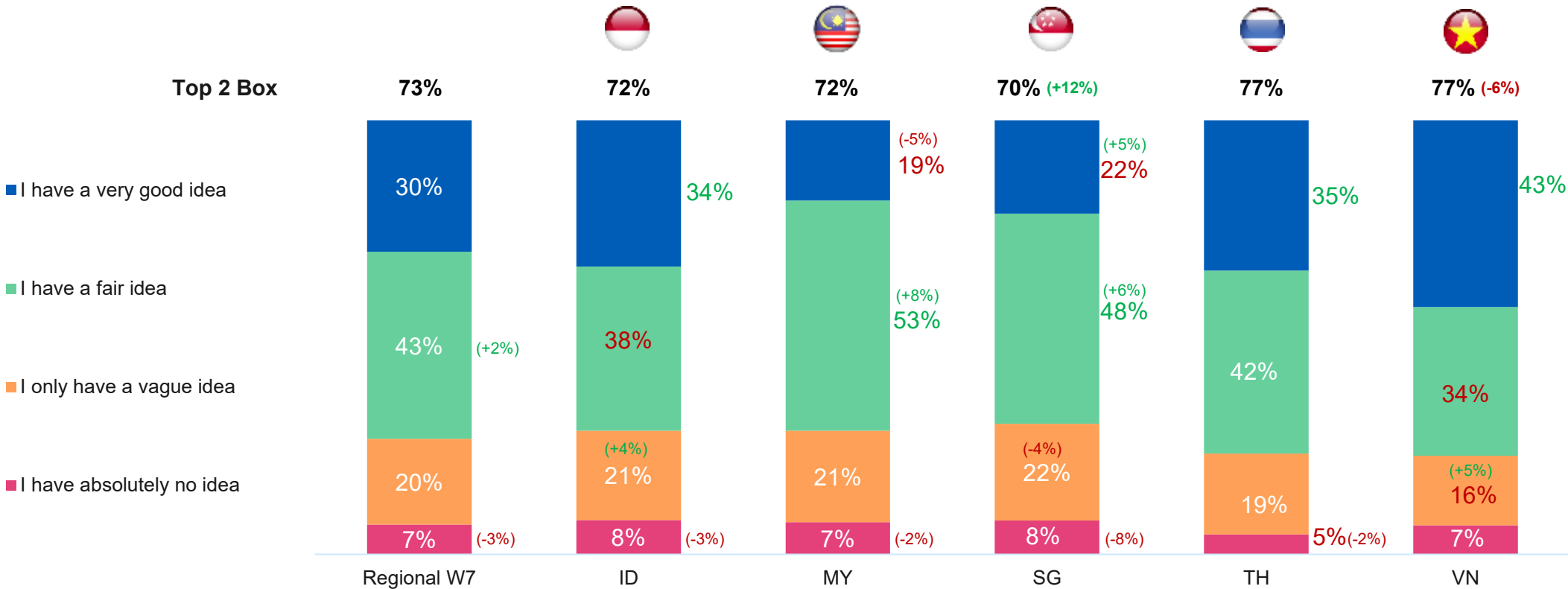


Retirement & Legacy Planning



3 in 4 consumers have a good / fair sense of their retirement needs

Understanding of money required for retirement – by market

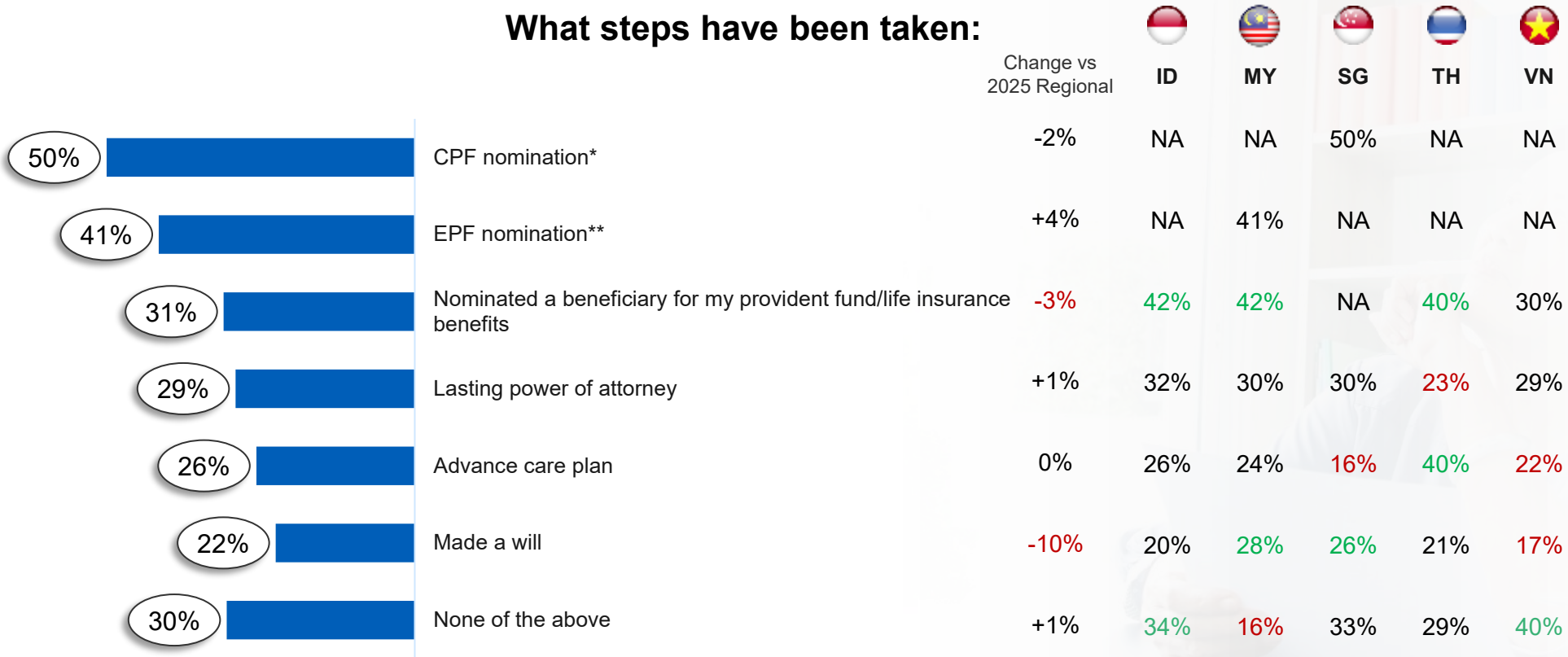


FL6. Do you know how much money you will need to retire comfortably?
Base: Total sample: Regional sample, n=5,000, ID, n=1,000, MY, n=1,000, SG, n=1,000, TH, n=1,000, VN, n=1,000

(+) Significantly higher vs. 2025 Significantly higher vs. Regional
(-) Significantly lower vs. 2025 Significantly lower vs. Regional

70% have taken steps towards legacy planning, with 3 in 10 having named beneficiaries for their provident fund / life insurance benefits and 3 in 10 establishing a lasting power of attorney

Legacy planning



FL8. Which of these have you done as part of your legacy planning?
Base: Total sample, 2026, n=5,000

*Only for SG
**Only for MY

Significantly higher vs. Regional/2025
Significantly lower vs. Regional/2025



For more details on ACSS:

Jasmine.yeo@uobgroup.com



Right By You