

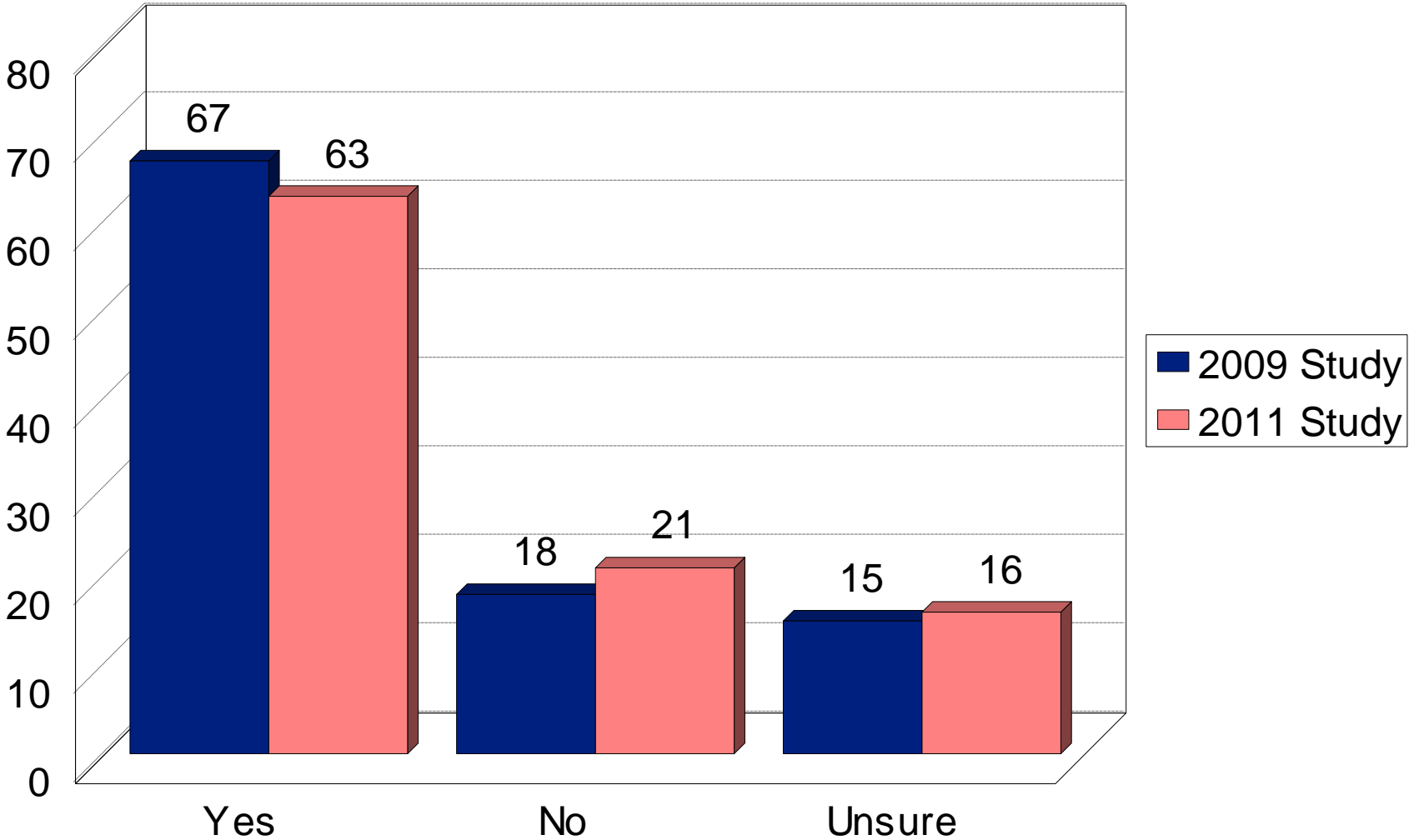
# "State Funding of Education: The Easiest Budget Cut of All?"

2011 Schools for Equity in Education

Decision Resources, Ltd.

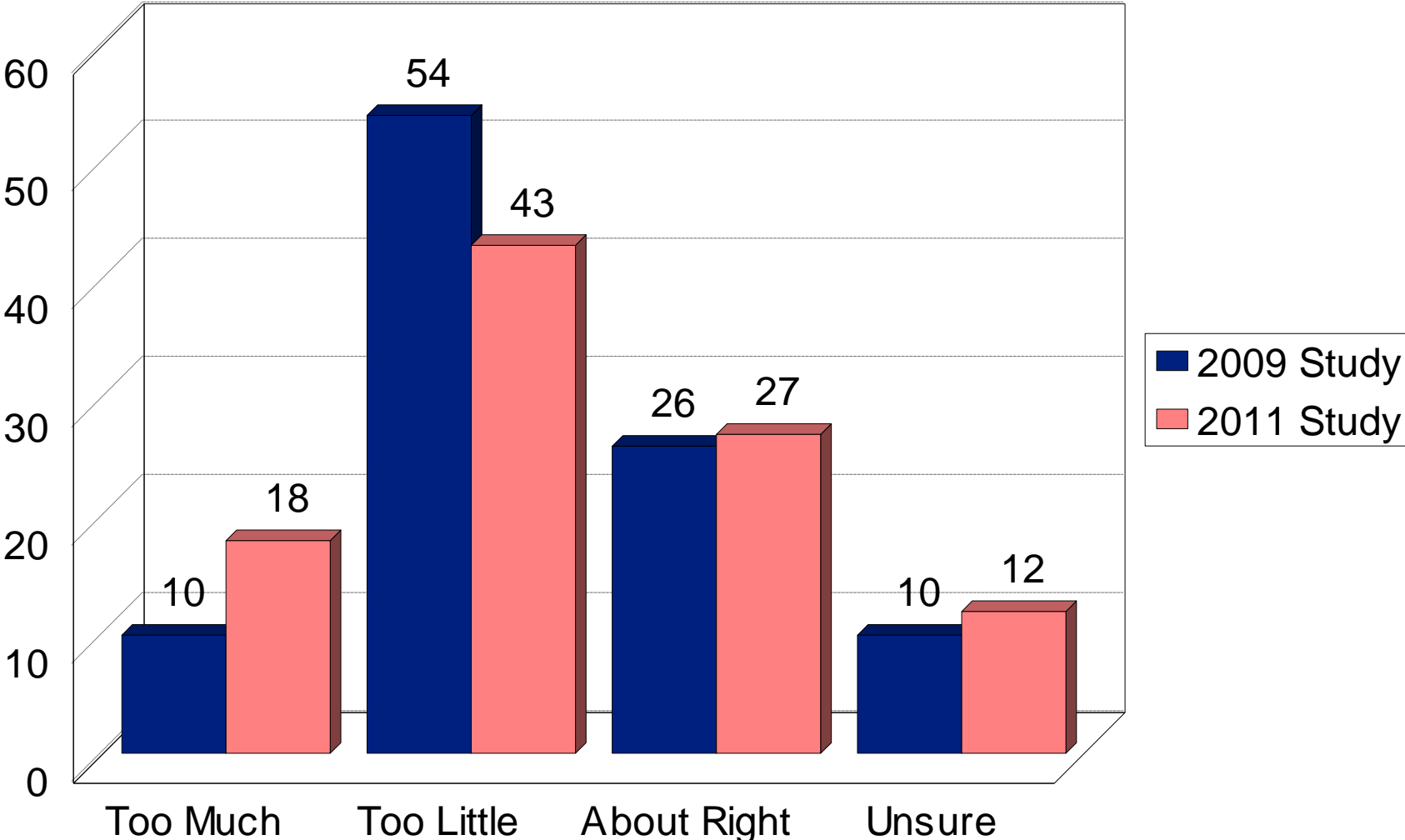
Is being a teacher one of the most important jobs in our country today?

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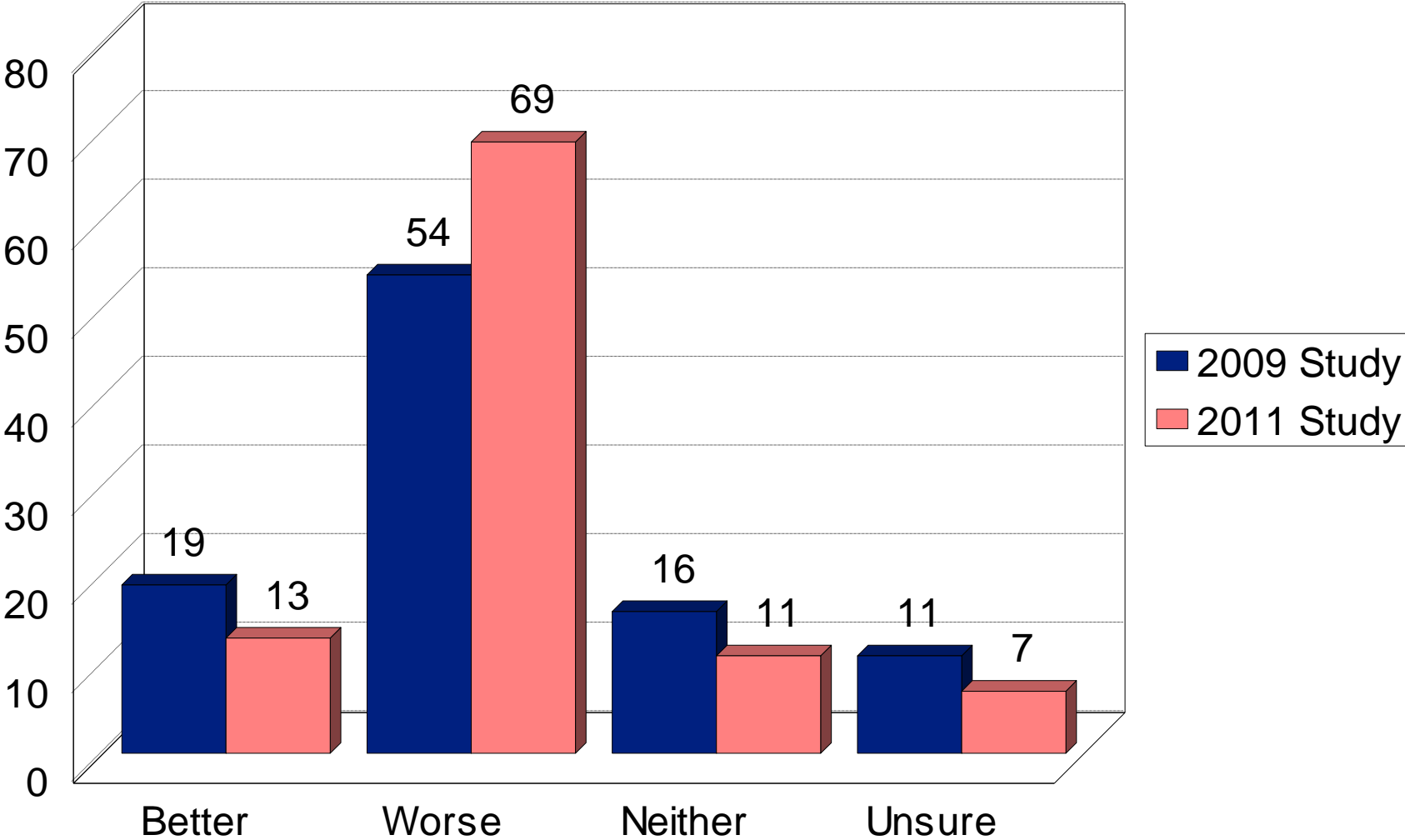
Are public school teachers paid too much, too little, or about right?

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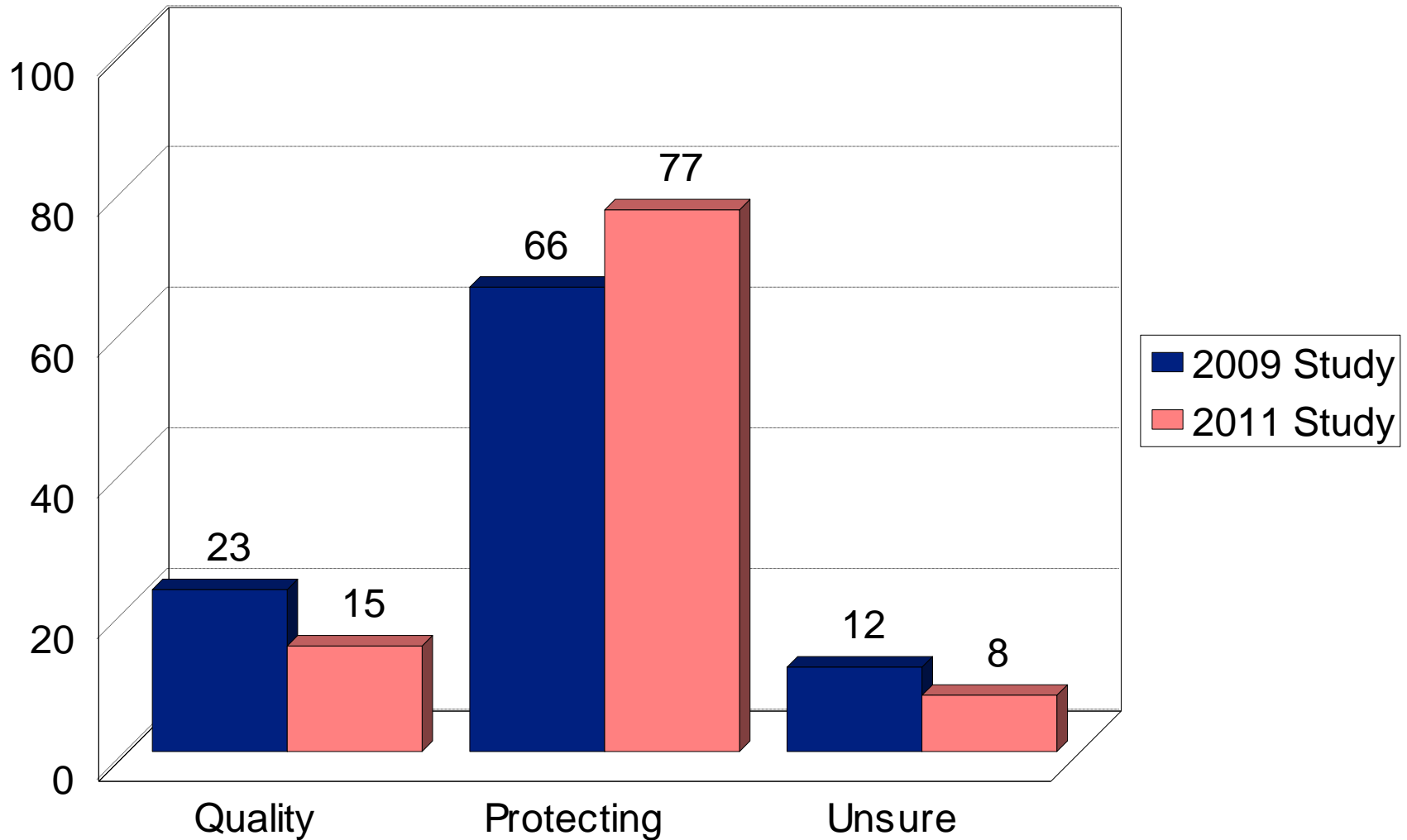
Has public education gotten better or worse over the past ten years?

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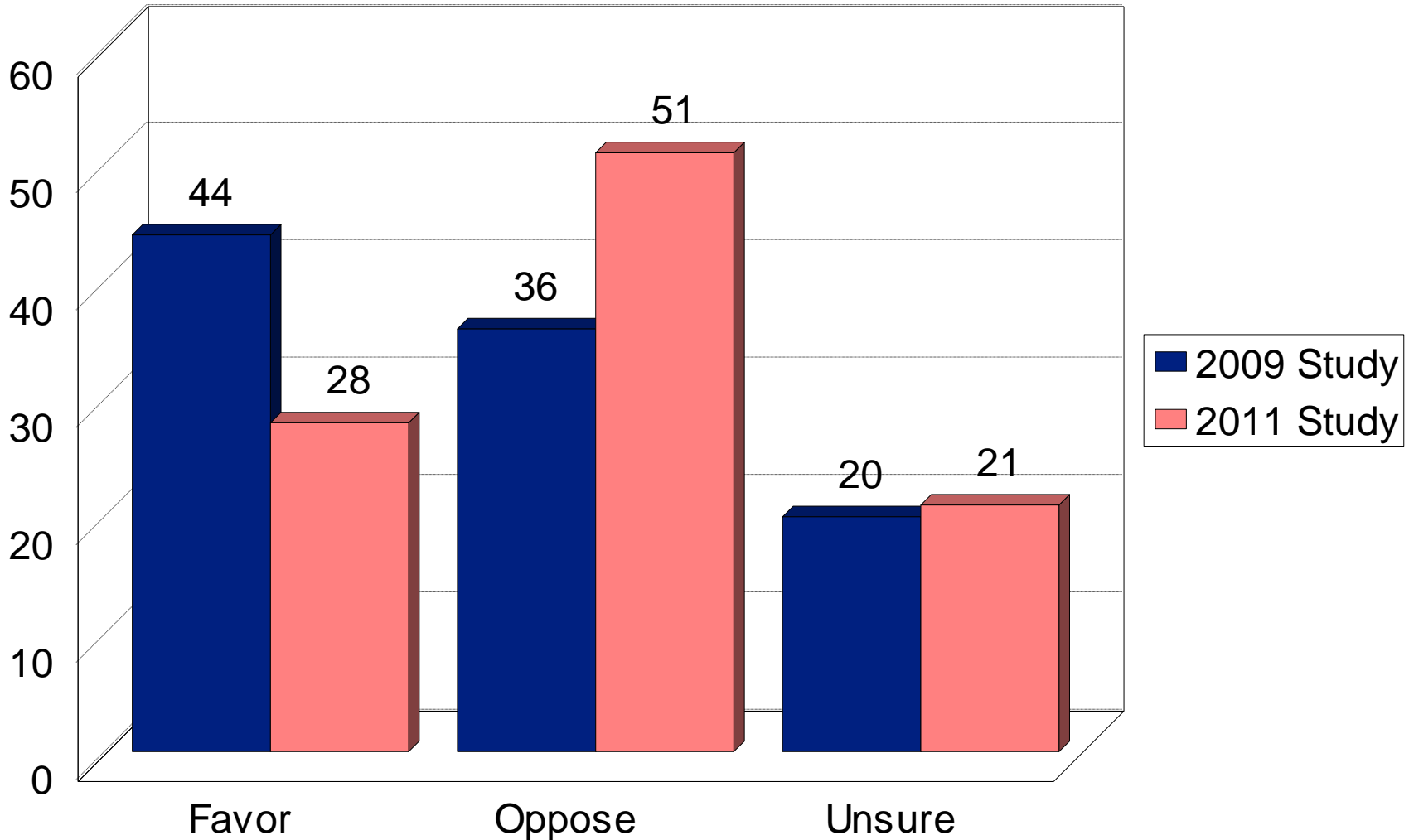
Are teachers' unions more interested in the quality of education or in protecting their members' jobs?

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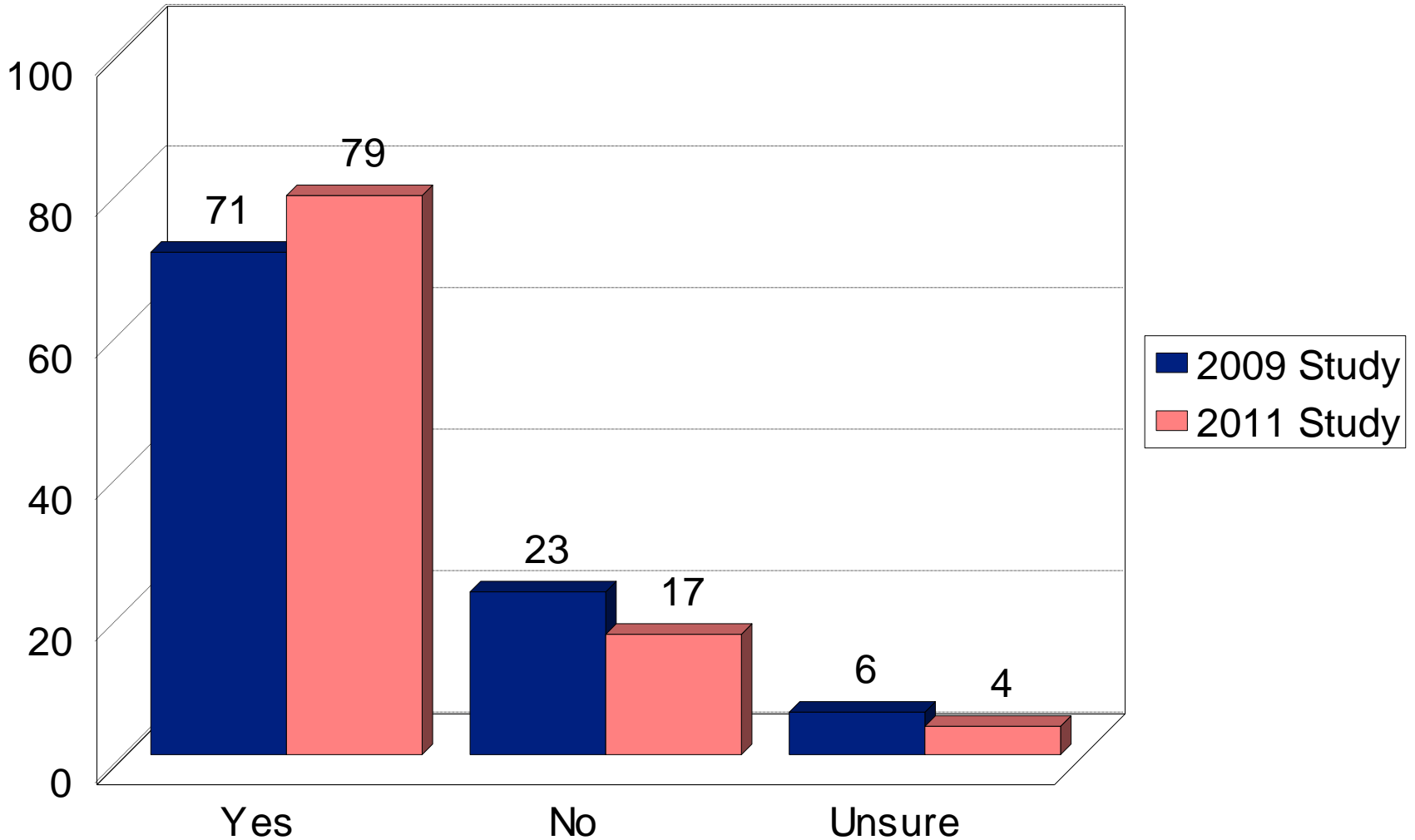
President Obama has proposed adopting uniform academic standards requiring all schools to follow the same curriculum and grading criteria. Do you favor or oppose adopting uniform academic standards?

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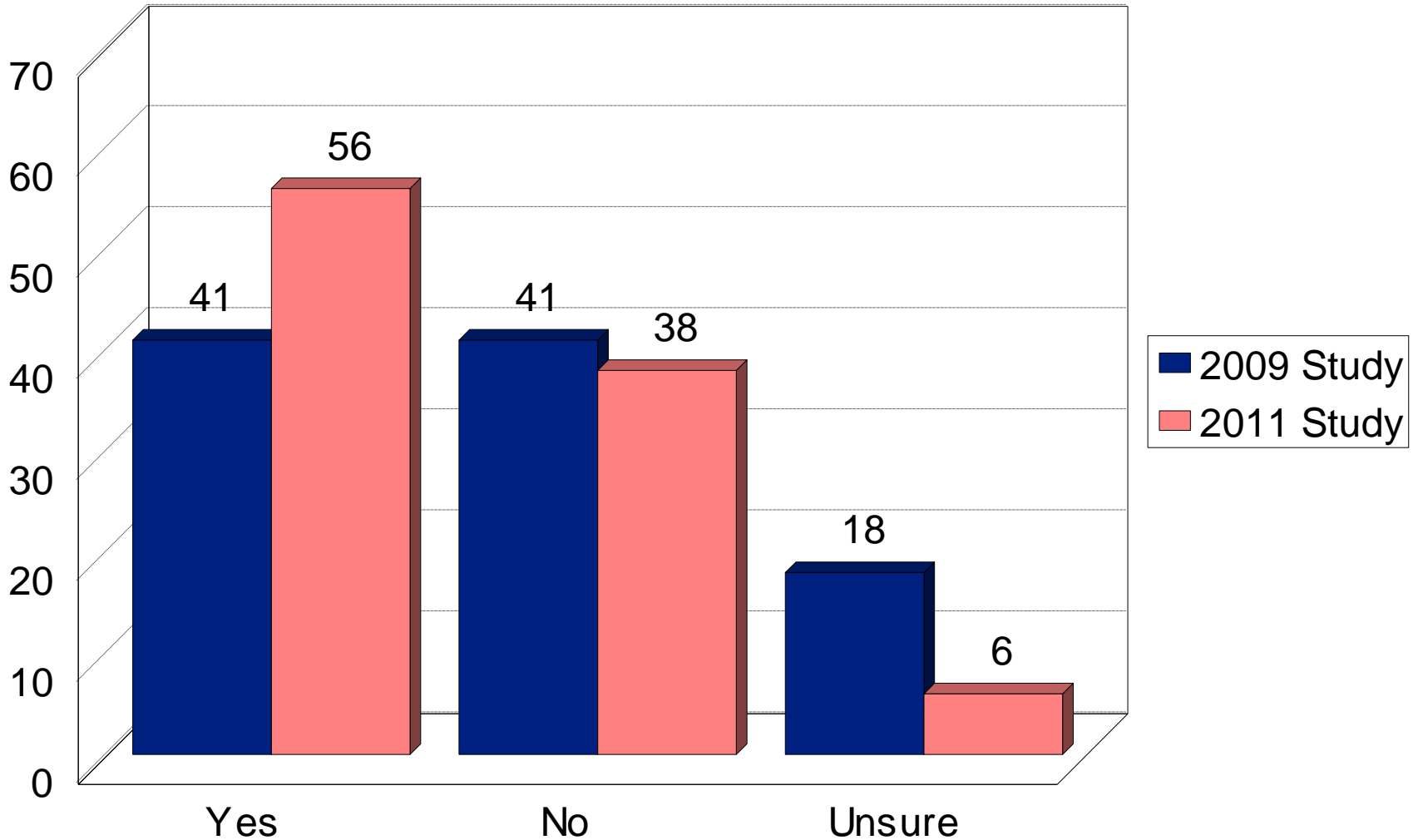
Should excellent teachers be rewarded with extra pay?

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Should weaker teachers receive pay cuts?

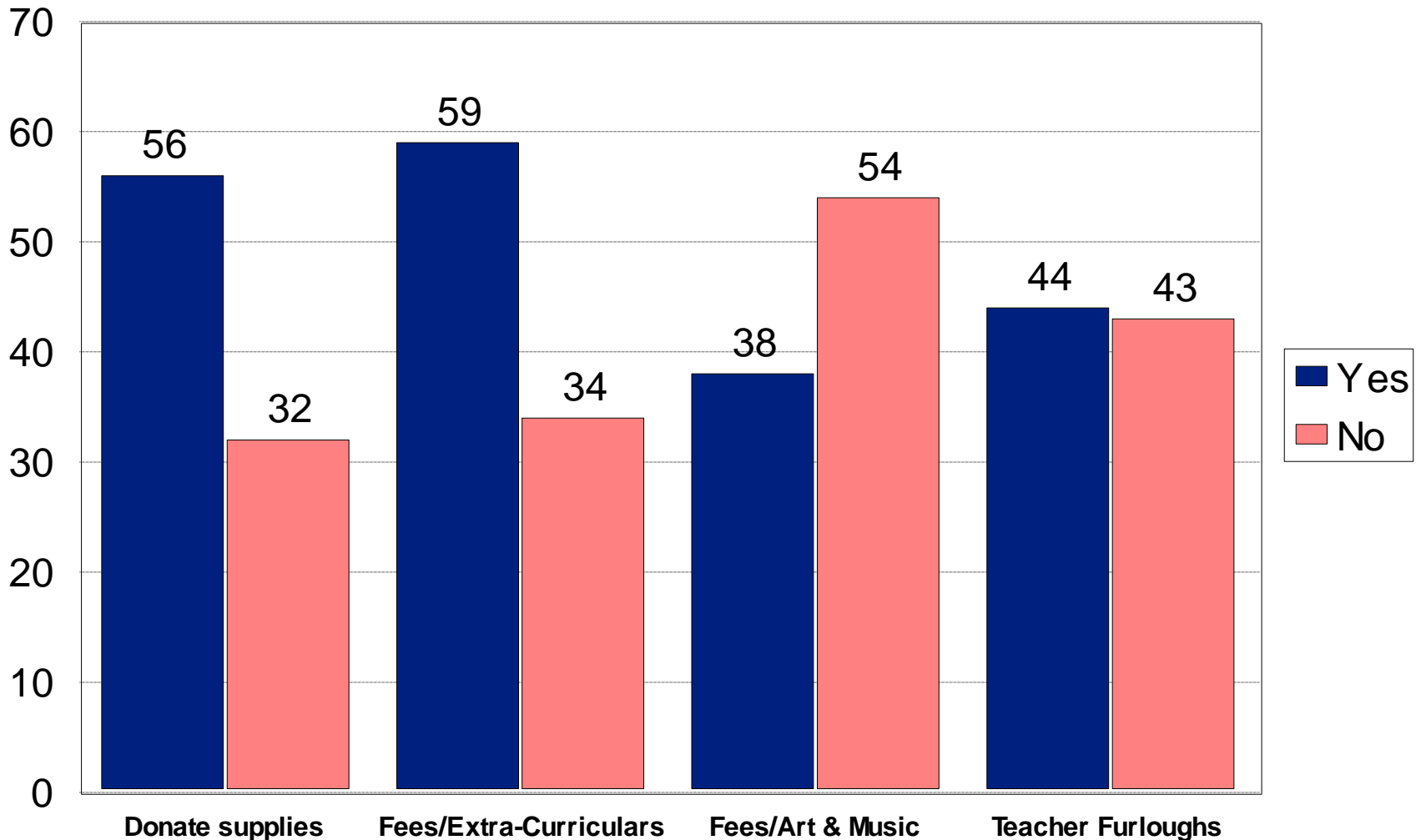
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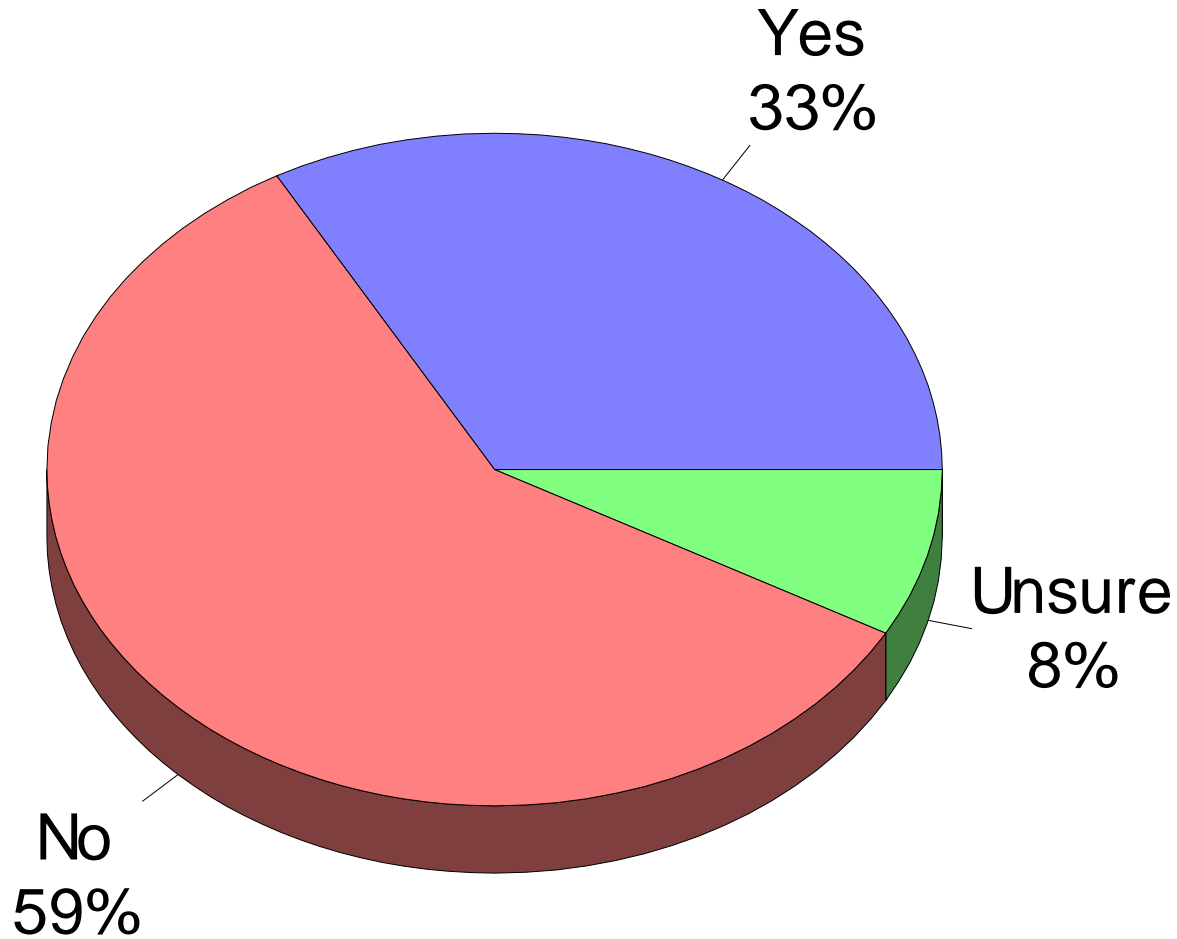
Because of budget cuts.... Should public schools ask parents to donate supplies to school? Should public schools require fees to extra-curricular activities such as sports and band? Should public schools require fees for certain courses such as music and art? Should teachers be asked to take furloughs or paycuts?

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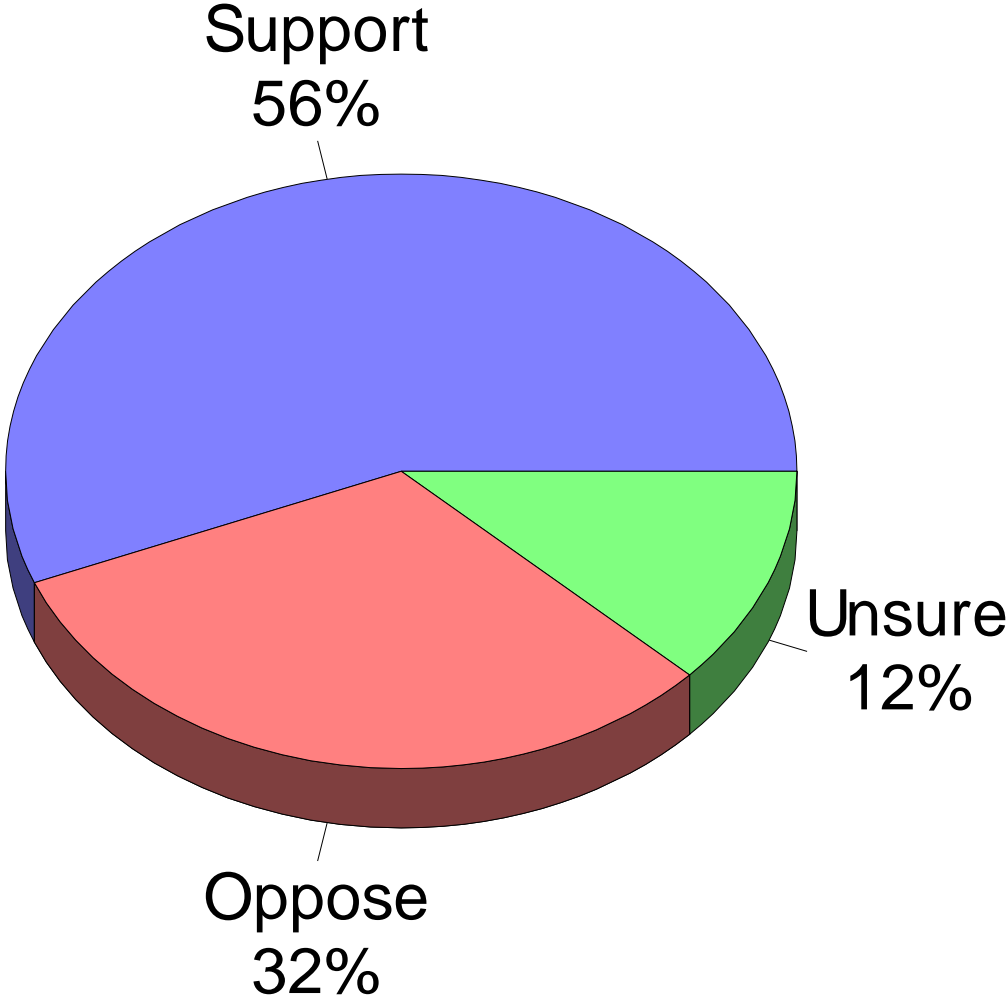
From what you have seen or heard, did the State of Minnesota adequately fund public education this year?

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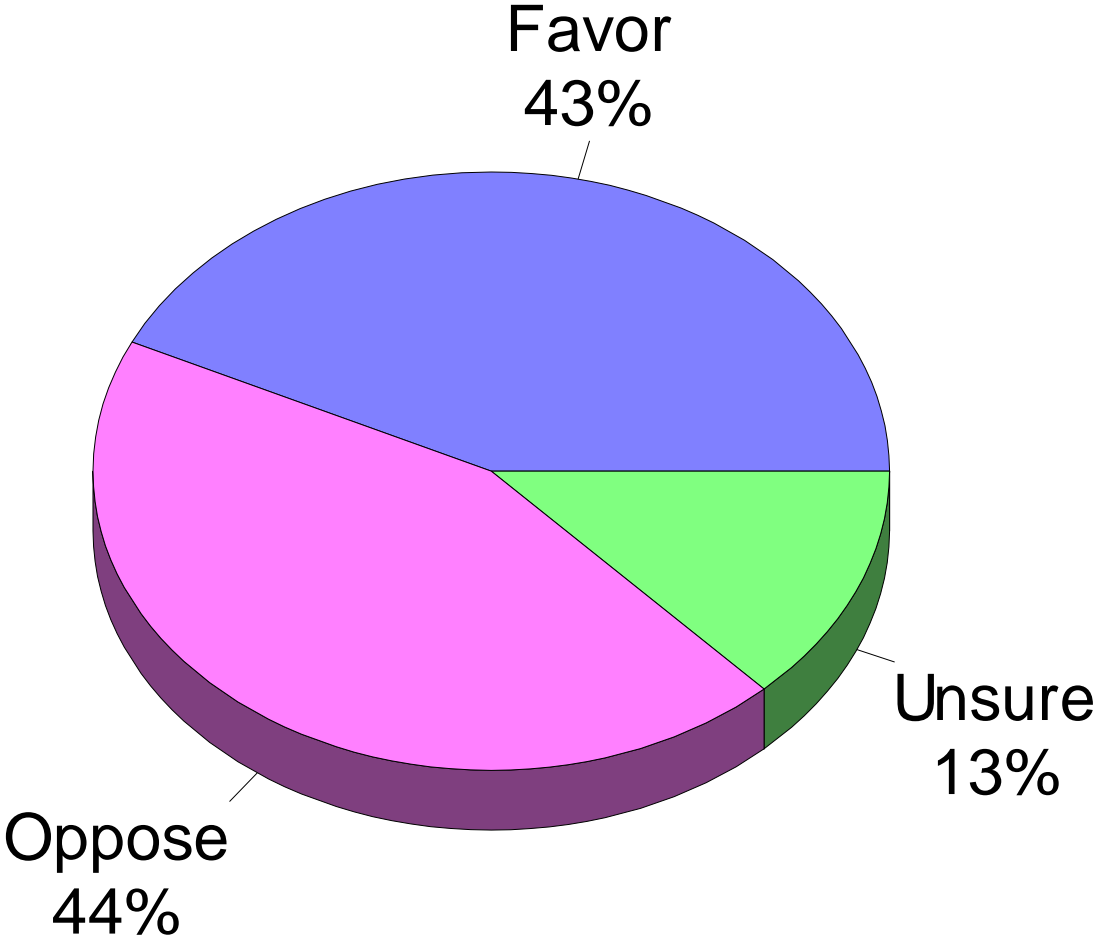
As you may know, this year is the second time the State deferred payment of School District funding in order to balance the budget. There are no plans currently to replace those funds, so they are essentially cuts rather than deferrals. Would you support or oppose action to limit the State's ability to defer education funds in the future?

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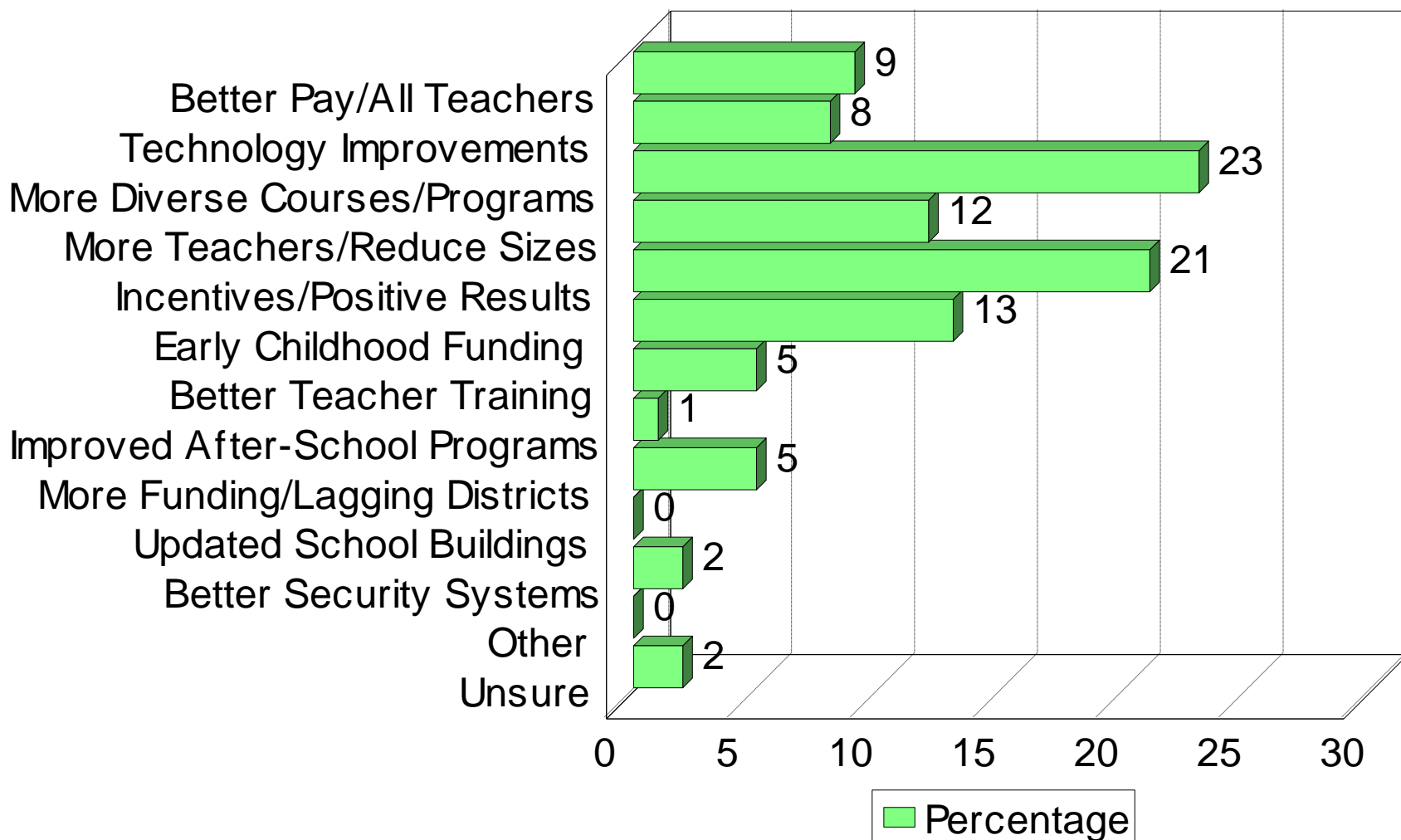
The State Constitution requires the State to provide adequate funding for public education. Over the past decade, state funding has not kept pace with inflation. Would you favor or oppose legal action to compel the State to provide adequate funding to school districts?

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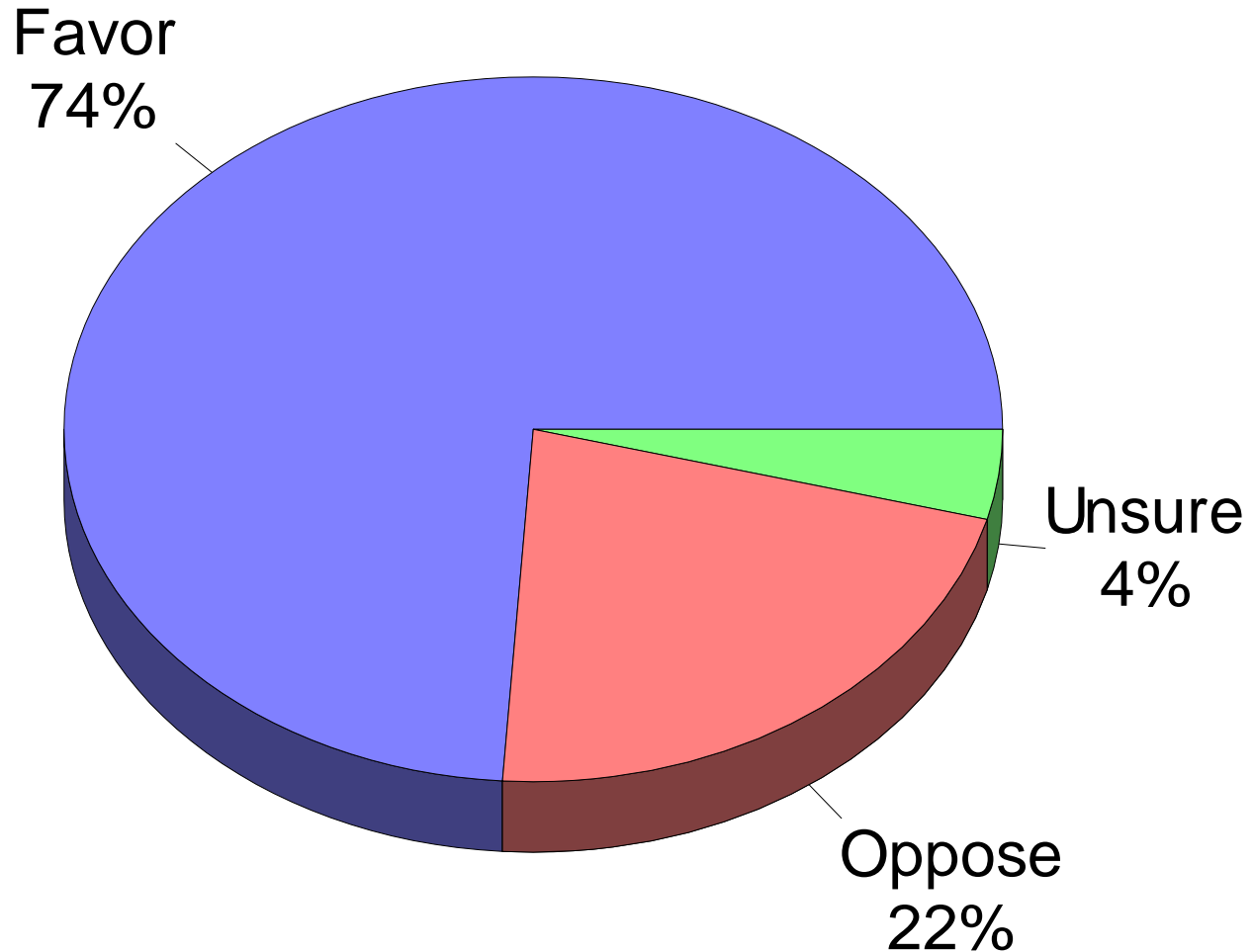
If additional funding for public education became available, which one of the following would be your top priority for this funding?

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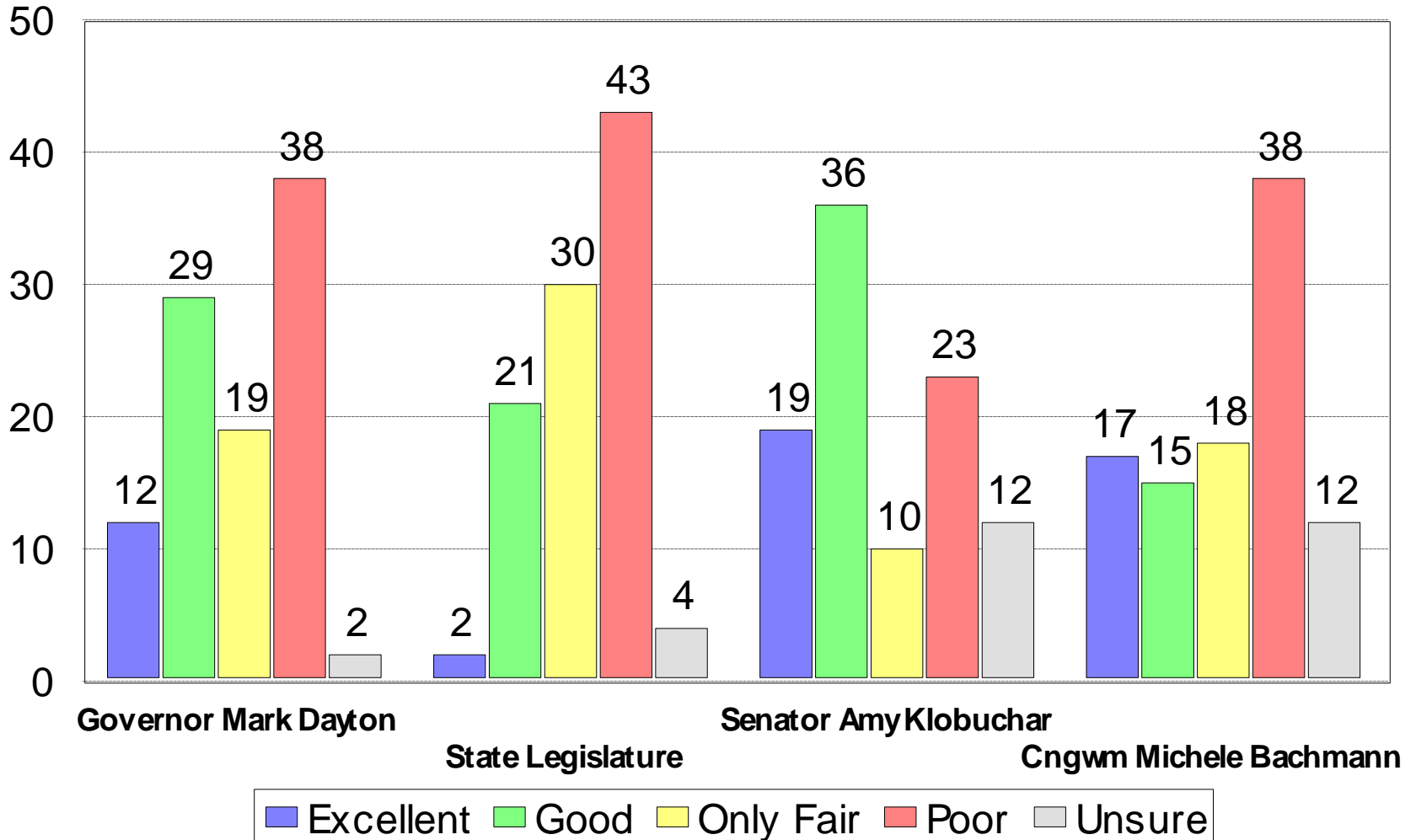
Would you favor or oppose racinos if the majority of their revenue were used to pay back the money shifted, or deferred, from public schools in the past?

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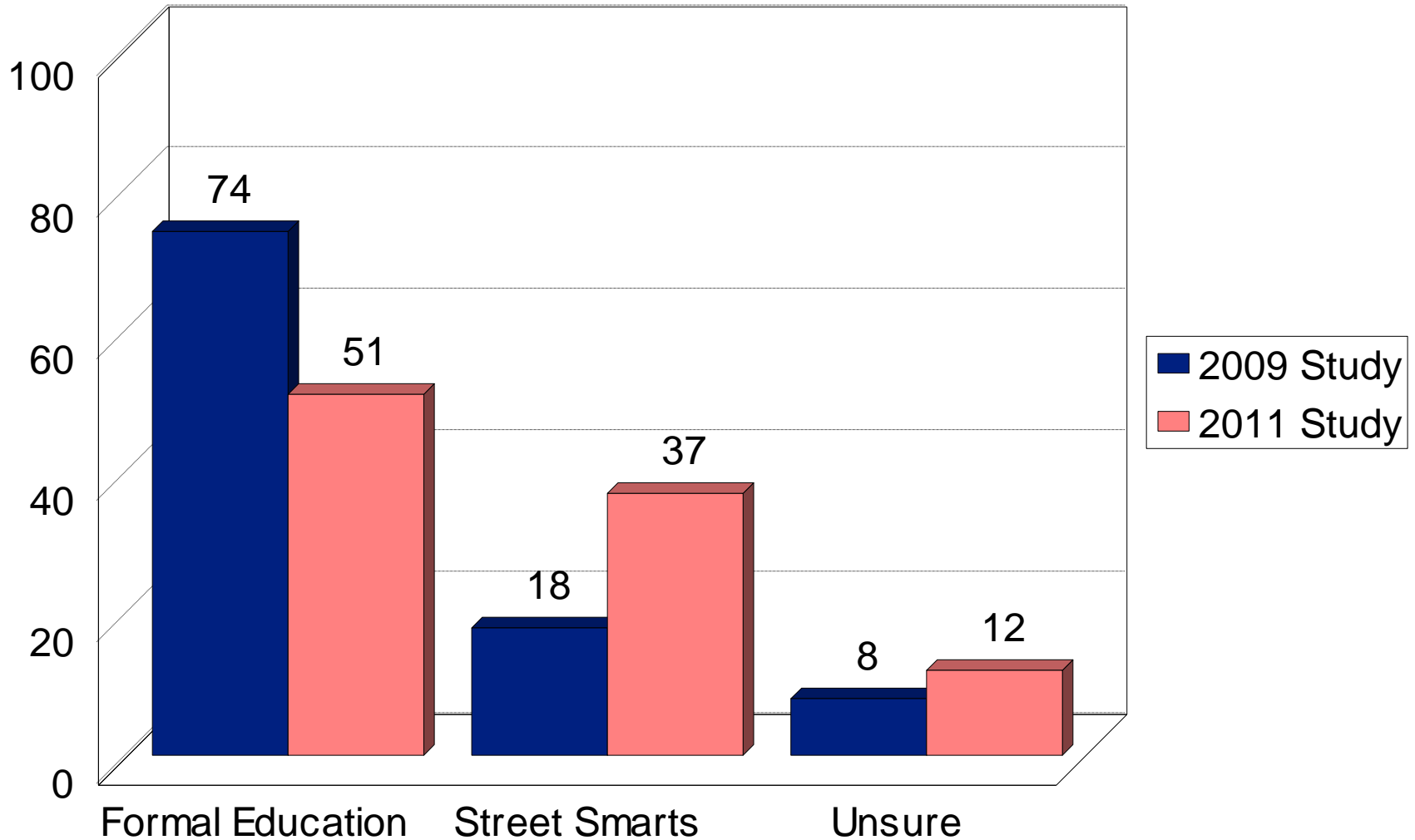
Please rate the job performance of each of the following....

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What's more important for success in life -- formal education or street smarts?

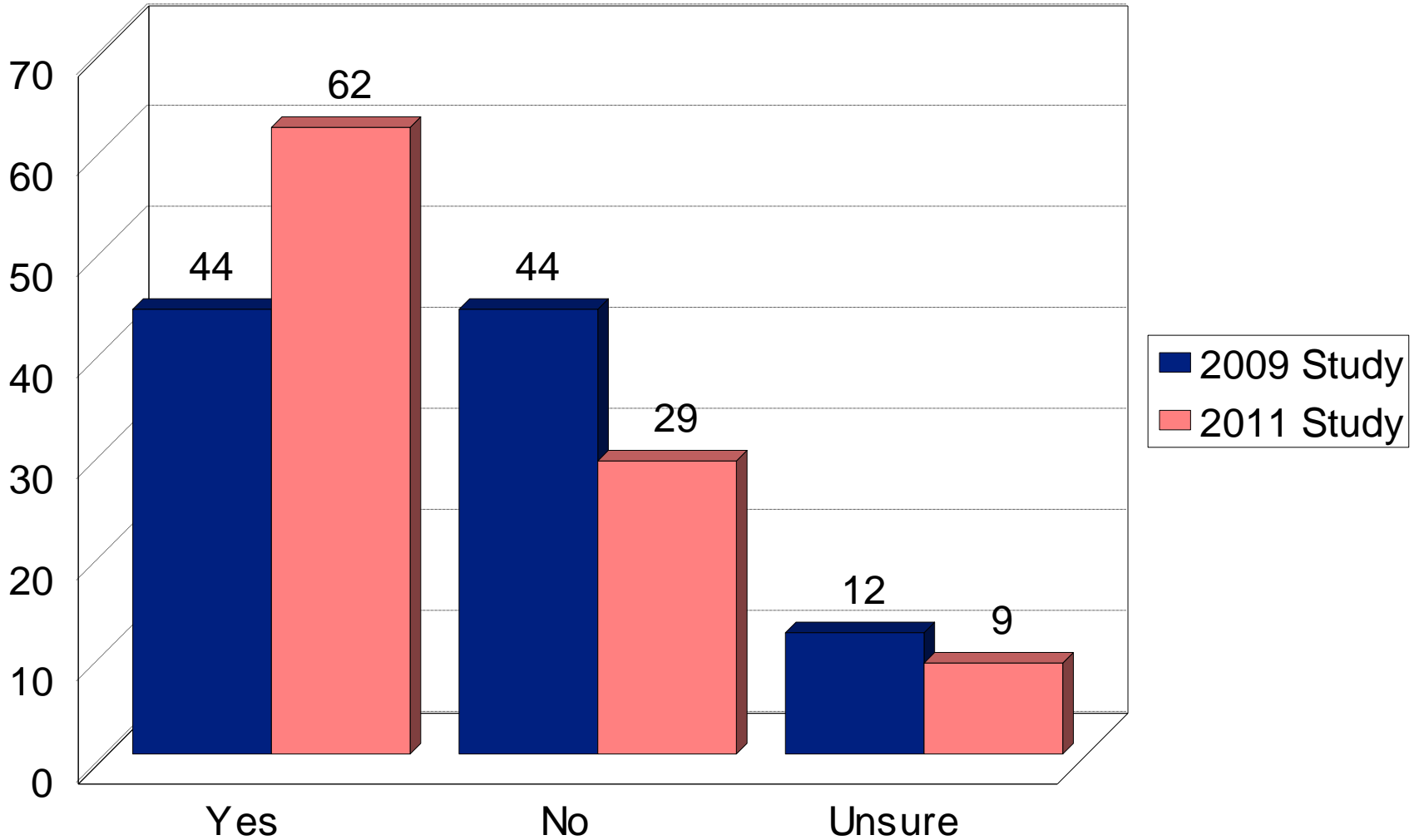
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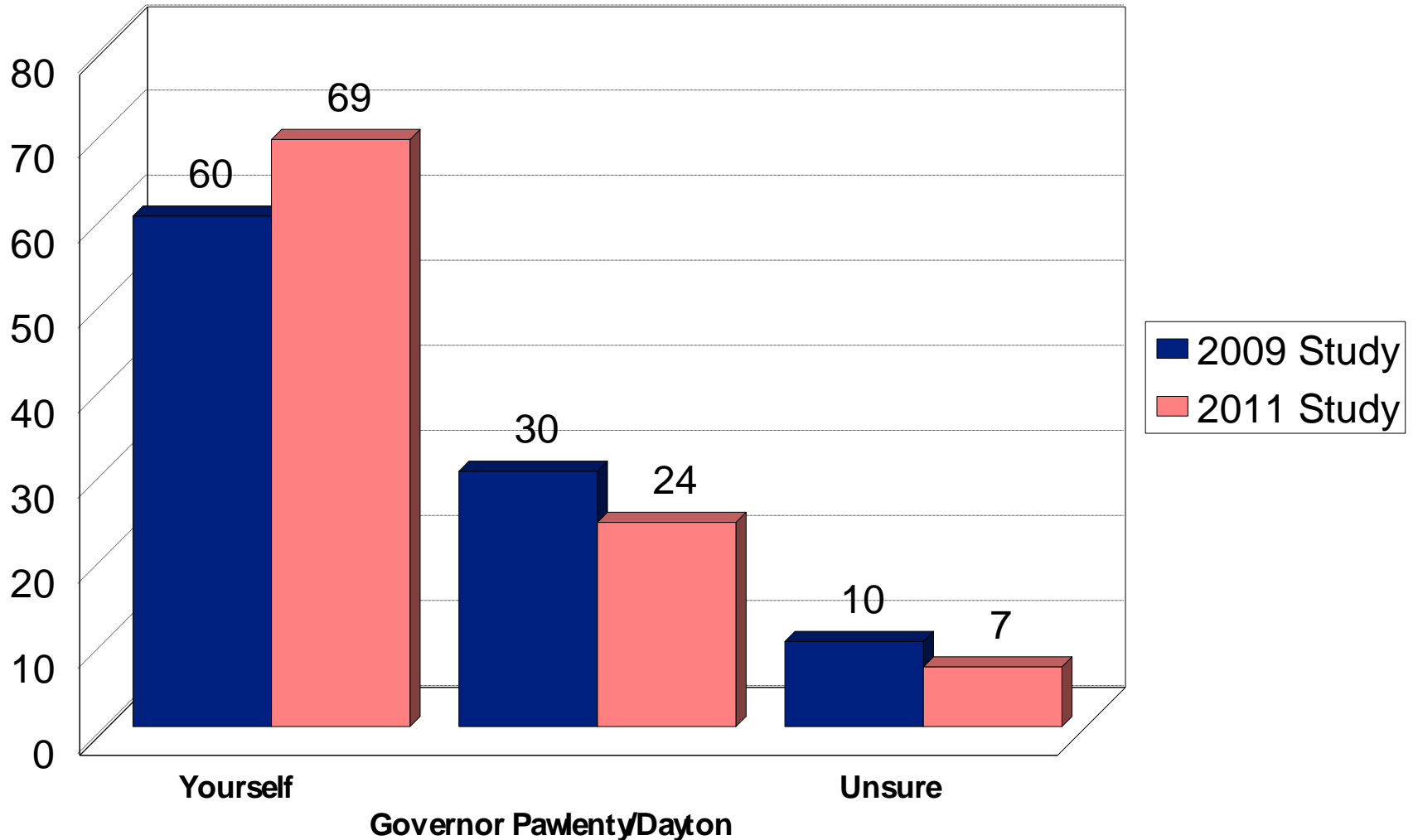
Would a group of people selected at random from the phone book do a better job addressing the State's problems than the current State Legislature?

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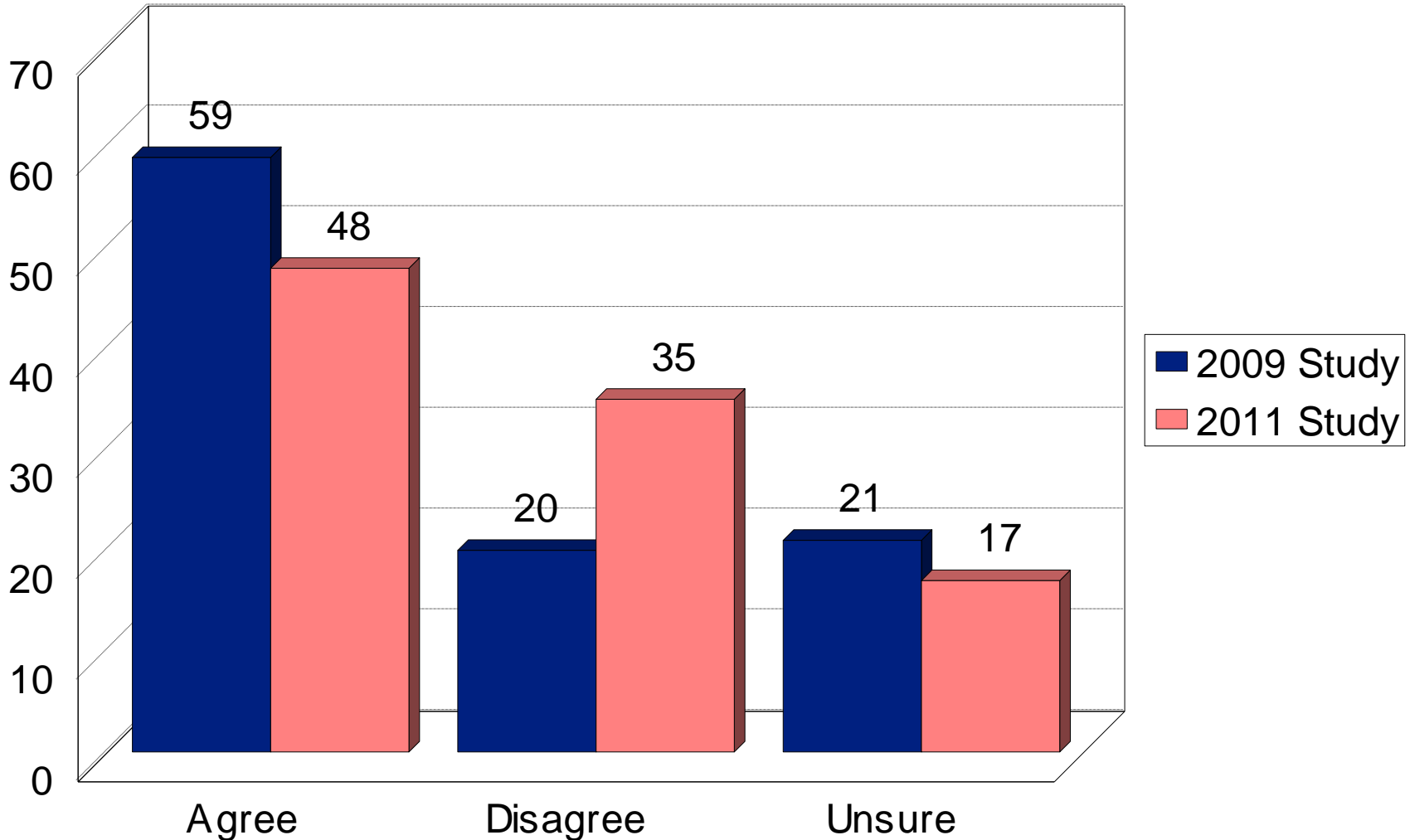
Whose judgment do you trust more when it comes to economic issues facing the State of Minnesota -- yourself or Governor Pawlenty/Dayton?

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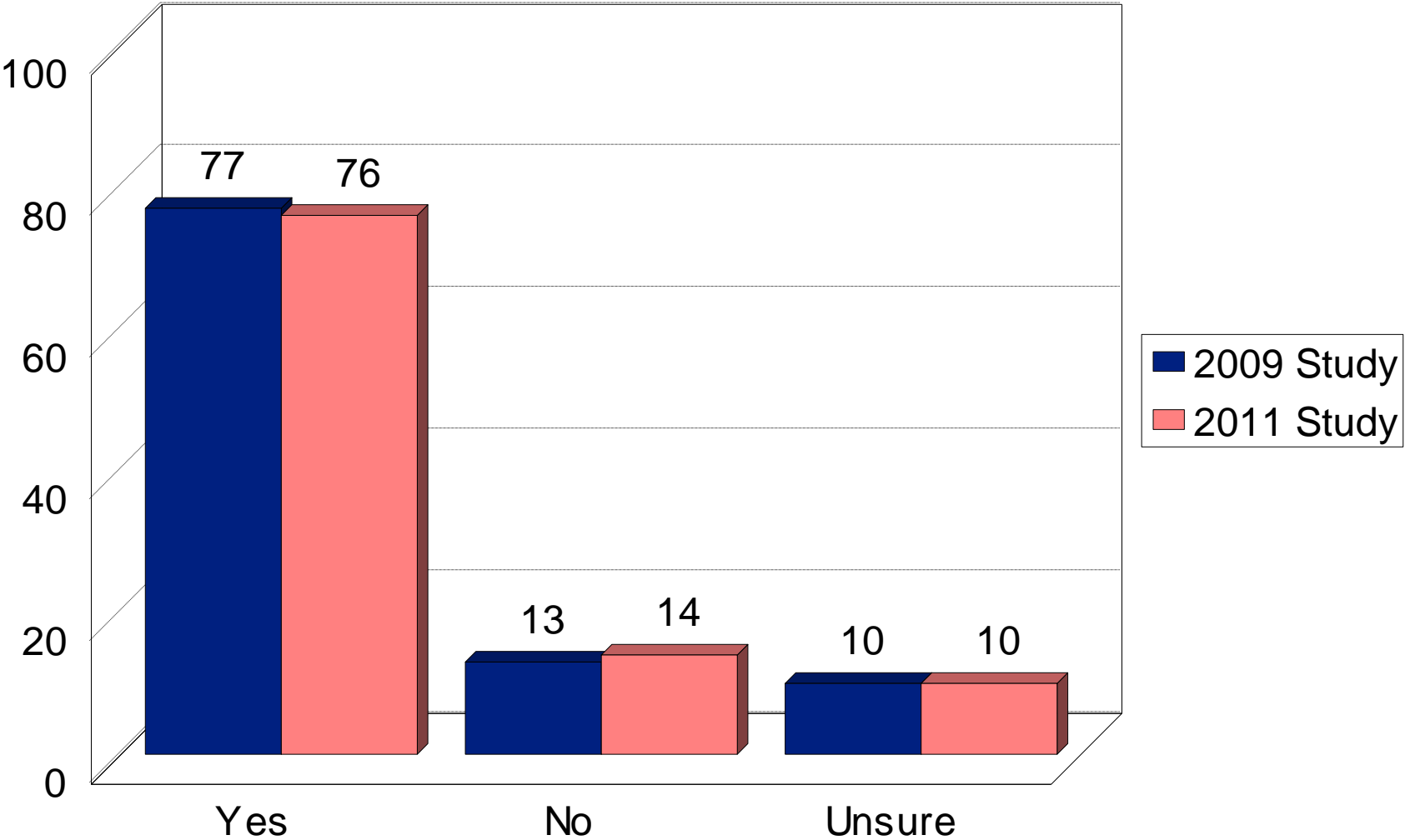
Do you agree or disagree with the following statement: It's always better to cut taxes than to increase government spending because taxpayers, not bureaucrats, are the best judges of how to spend their money?

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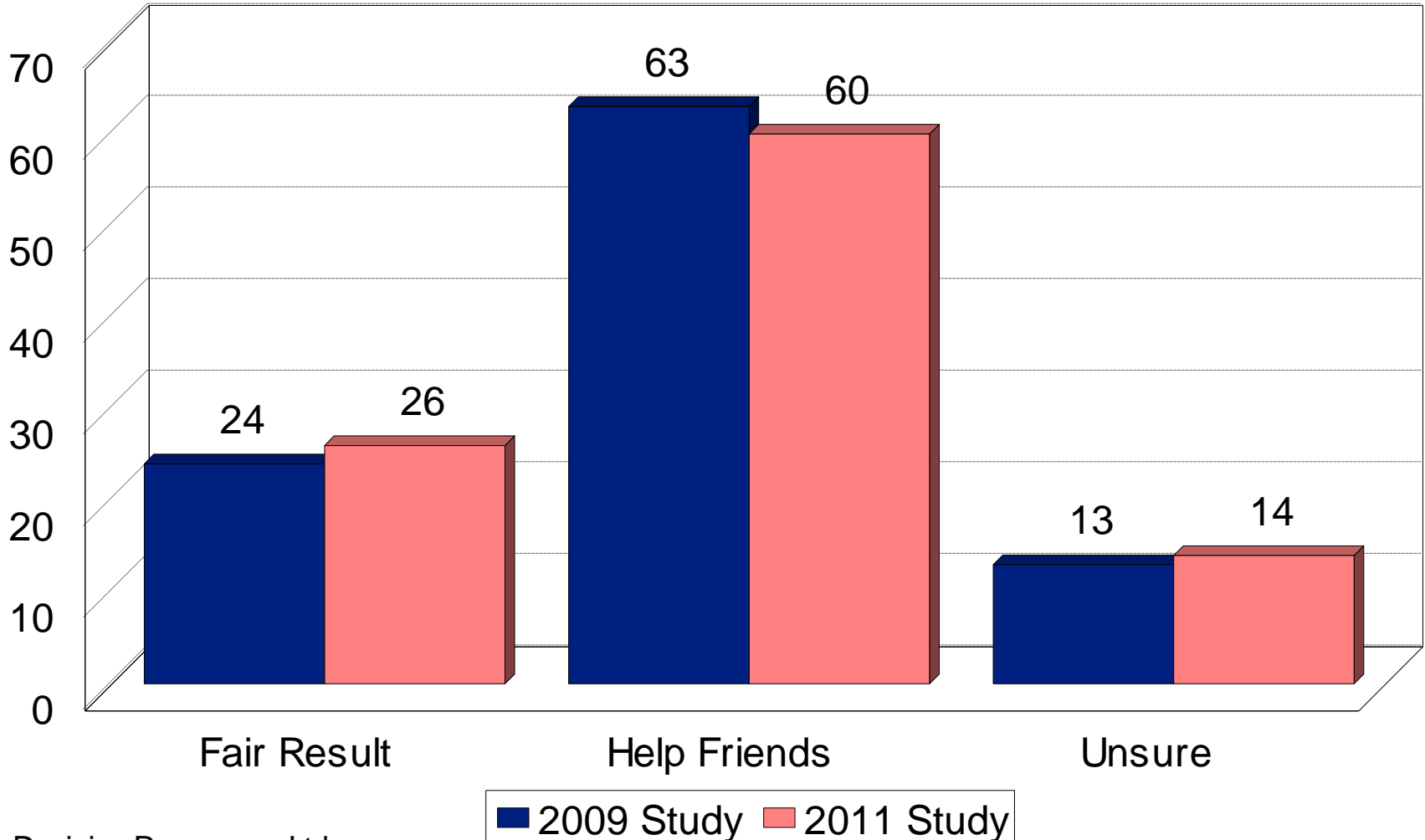
Generally speaking, do relatives and close friends of politicians get special treatment when seeking government favors and contracts?

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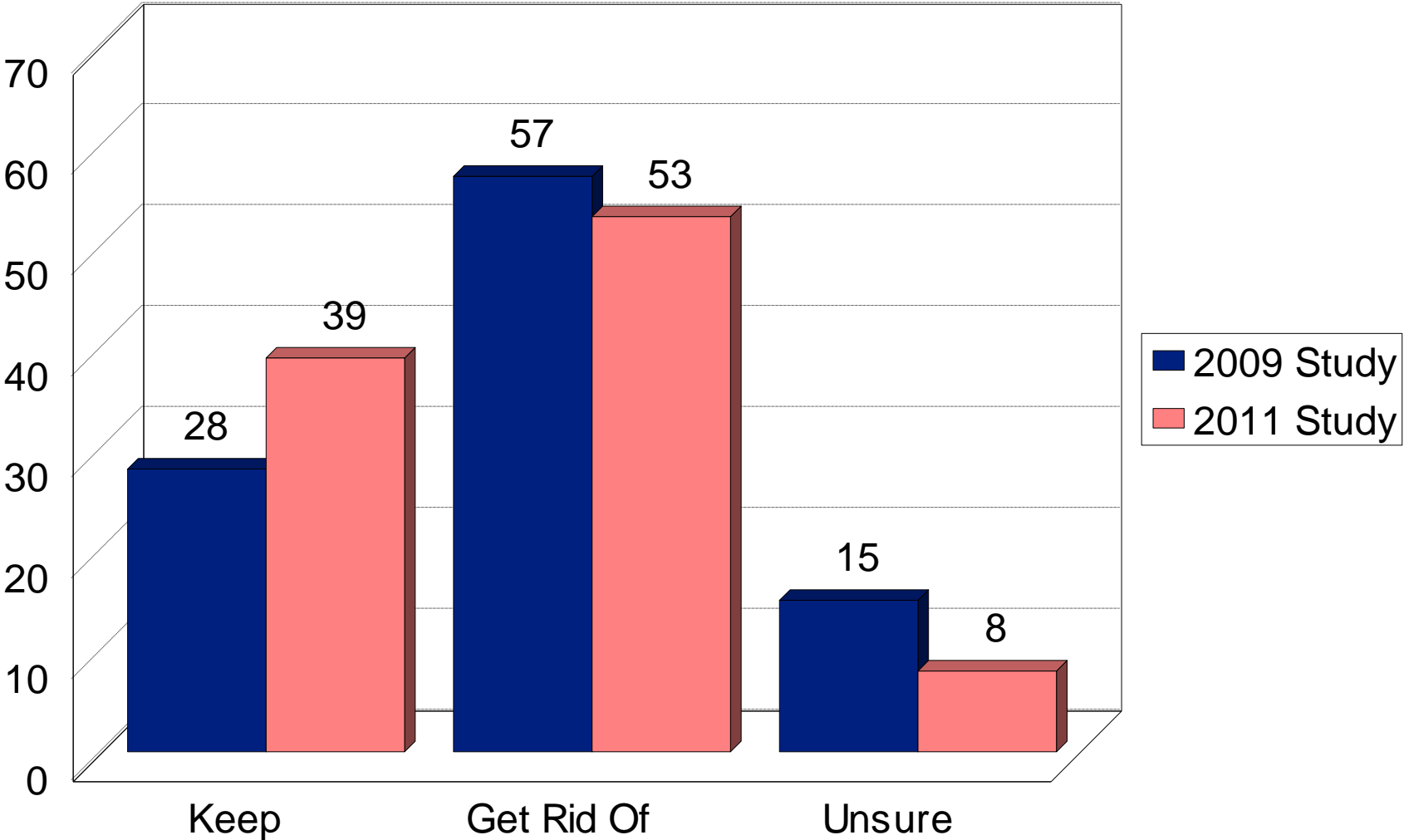
State Legislators often meet with regulators and other government officials to discuss government actions that can help or hurt people in their district. In these meetings, do State Legislators attempt to achieve a fair result, or do they try to help their friends and hurt their political opponents?

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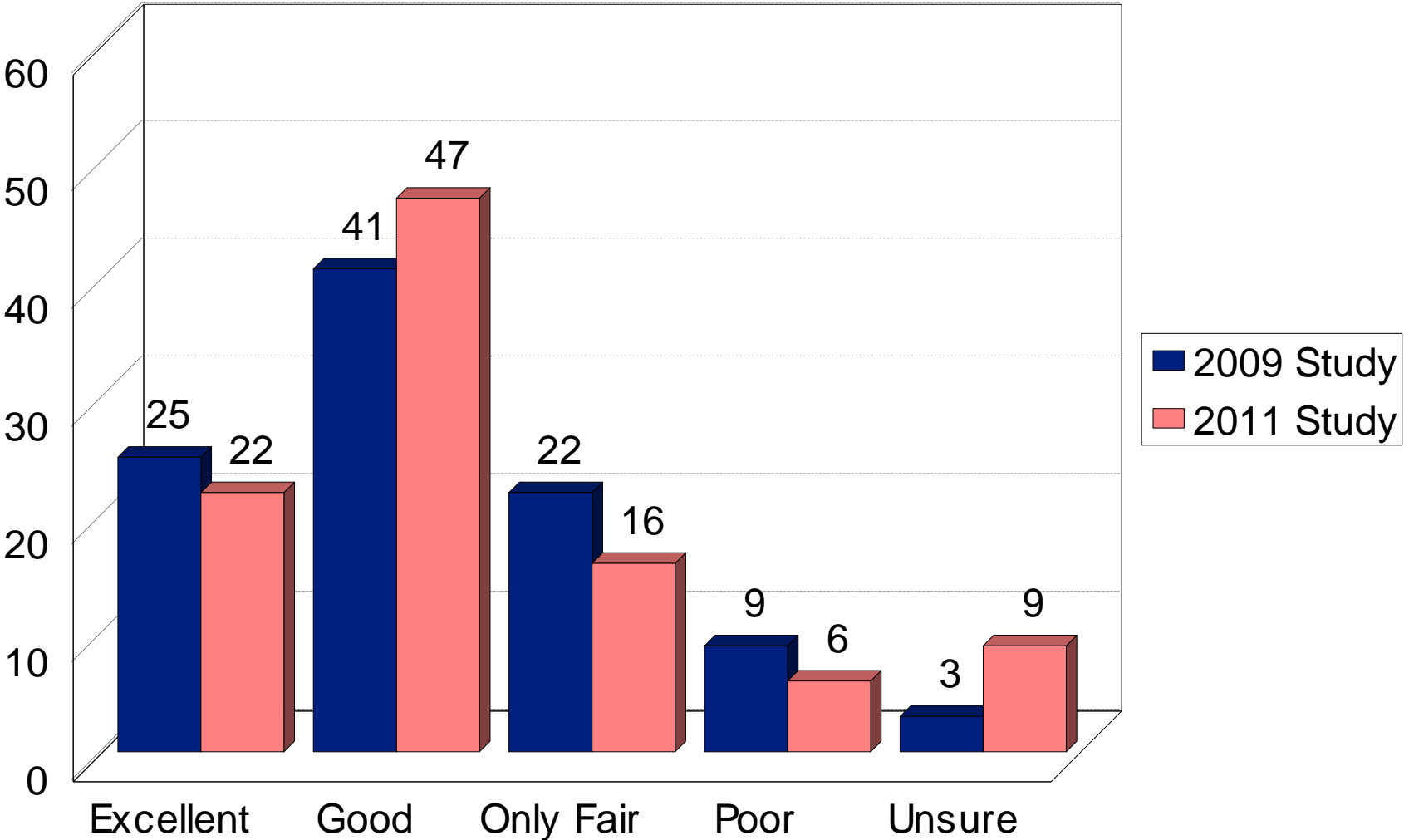
Suppose you could vote this Fall on whether to get rid of the entire State Legislature and start over again. Would you vote to keep the entire State Legislature or get rid of the entire State Legislature?

### 2011 School for Equity in Education



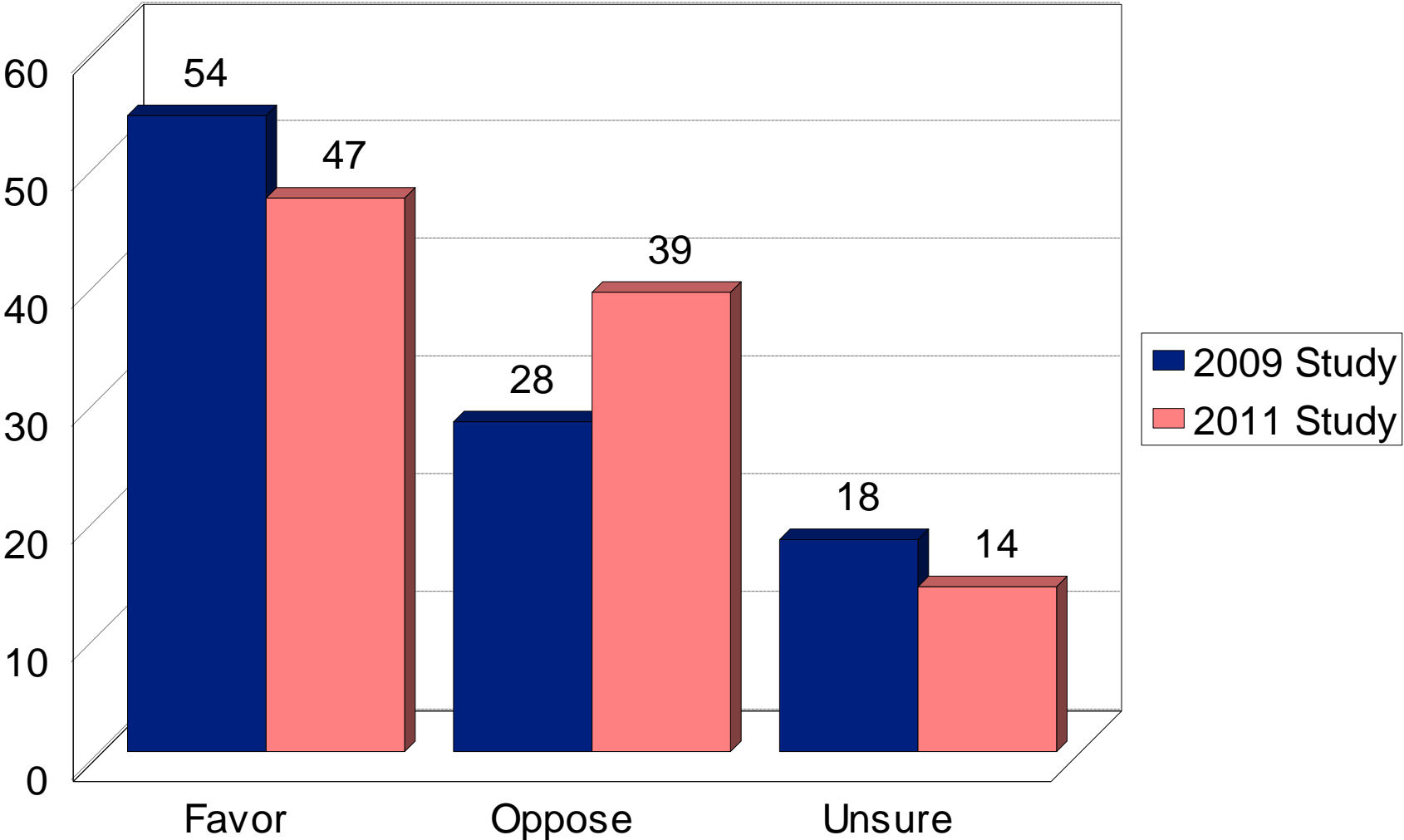
How would you rate the quality of education in your local public schools -- excellent, good, only fair, or poor?

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Would you favor or oppose a property tax increase of \$100 per \$100,000 of assessed home value for maintaining and/or expanding academic programs in your local schools?

## 2009 Schools for Equity in Education





Do you have a lot of confidence or little confidence in each of the following groups or people?

## 2011 Schools for Equity in Education

