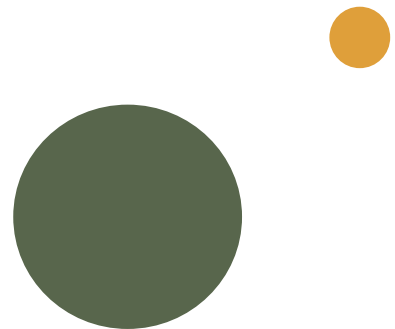




The survey, conducted through a telephonic panel, covers 15514 individual earners living in 22 states. The rural sample is 7221 and the urban sample is 8293. The survey has been designed to be representative of the ground reality, with quota-based coverage of younger and older earners, as well as representation from the relatively high-income (5643), middle-income (6549), and low-income (3322) earners and economically weaker sections. This survey was conducted during the period of March to May 2022. All respondents were earners.

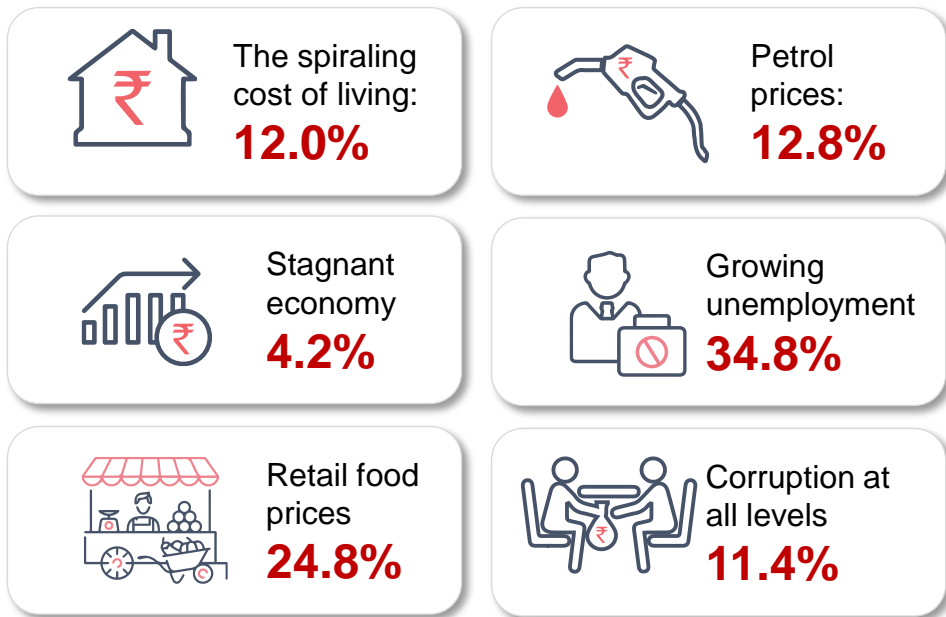


Perceptions of the State of the Nation

What ails the nation?

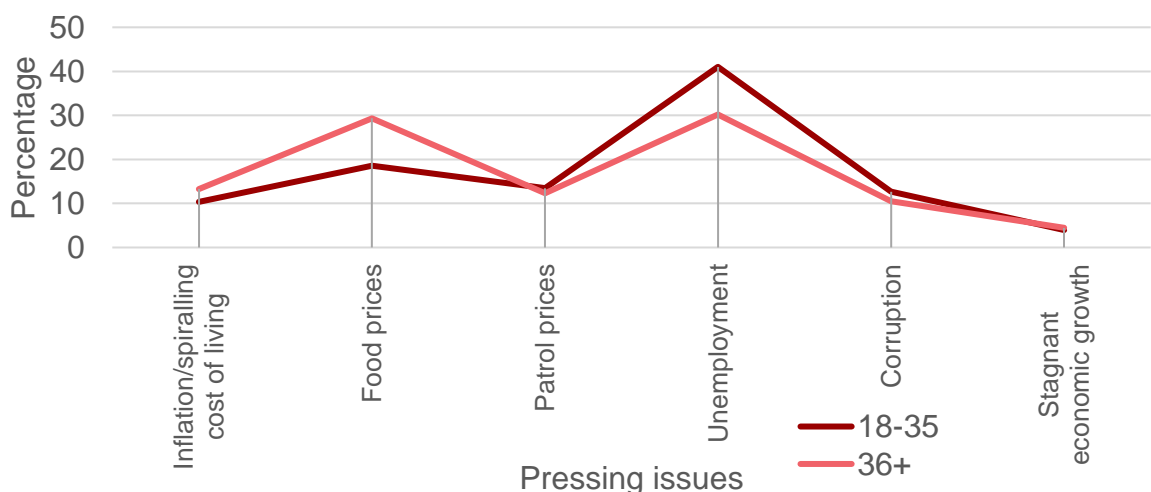
Two questions were asked as part of this segment of the research, viz.

1. "If you had to choose, which of the following is the most pressing problem in this country that the government needs to control before anything else?"
2. "How confident are you in the government's ability to tackle the issues you have indicated in the previous question within the next few years?"



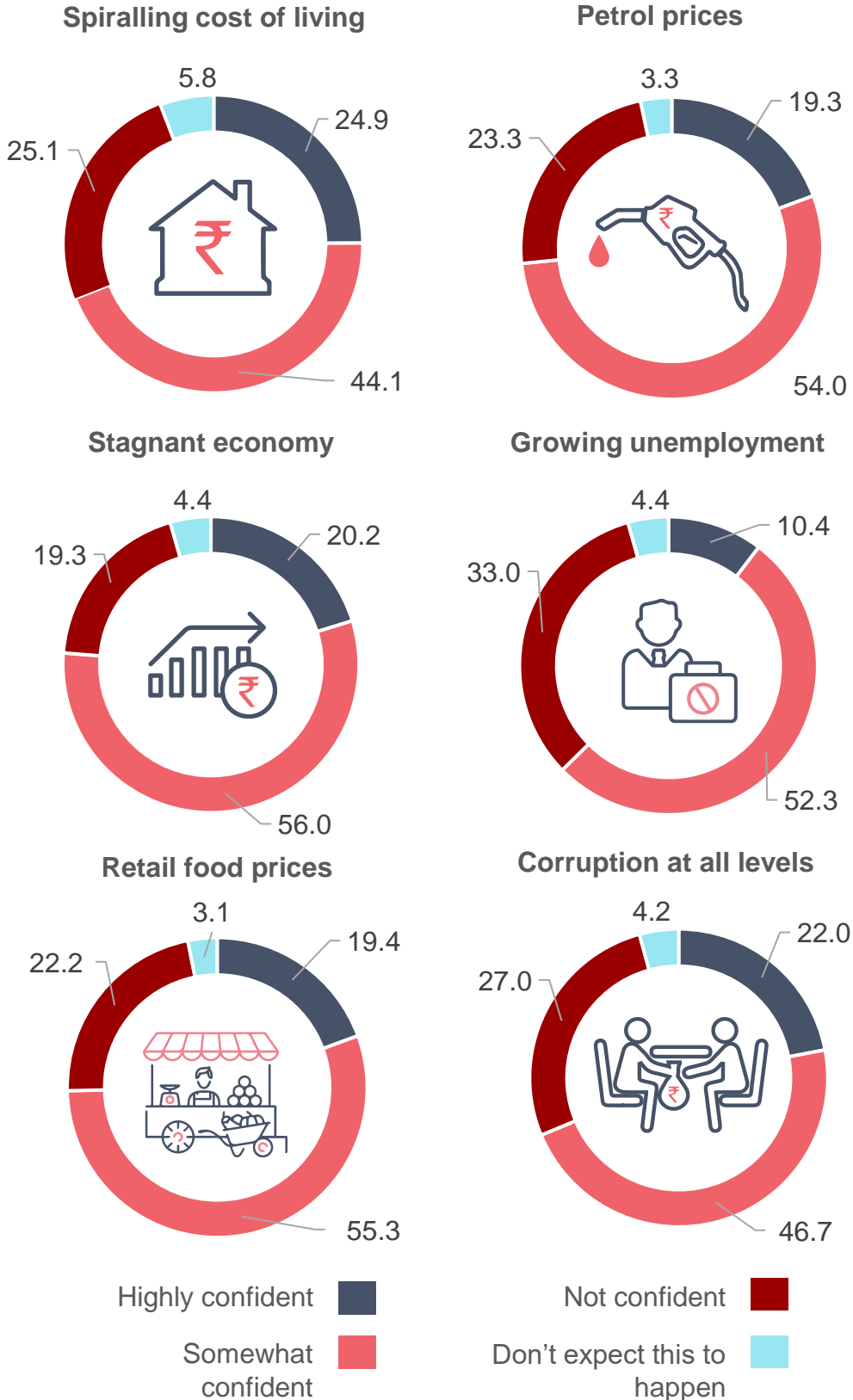
The biggest issue in India today is unemployment, being the priority choice of nearly 33% of urban respondents and over 37% of rural respondents. This was followed by retail food prices. Surprisingly, the least respondents were perturbed about the country's stagnant economic growth, possibly because macroeconomic concepts were not a top-of-the-mind issue for the general public. Corruption was also not an issue that was cited by many.

If you had to choose, which of the following are the most pressing problem in this country that the government needs to control before anything else?



Unemployment was a big issue for most but more so among the younger respondents. Over 40% of the respondents aged 18-35 years had cited growing unemployment as an issue of serious concern for the nation.

How confident are you in the government's ability to tackle the issues you have indicated in the previous question within the next few years?



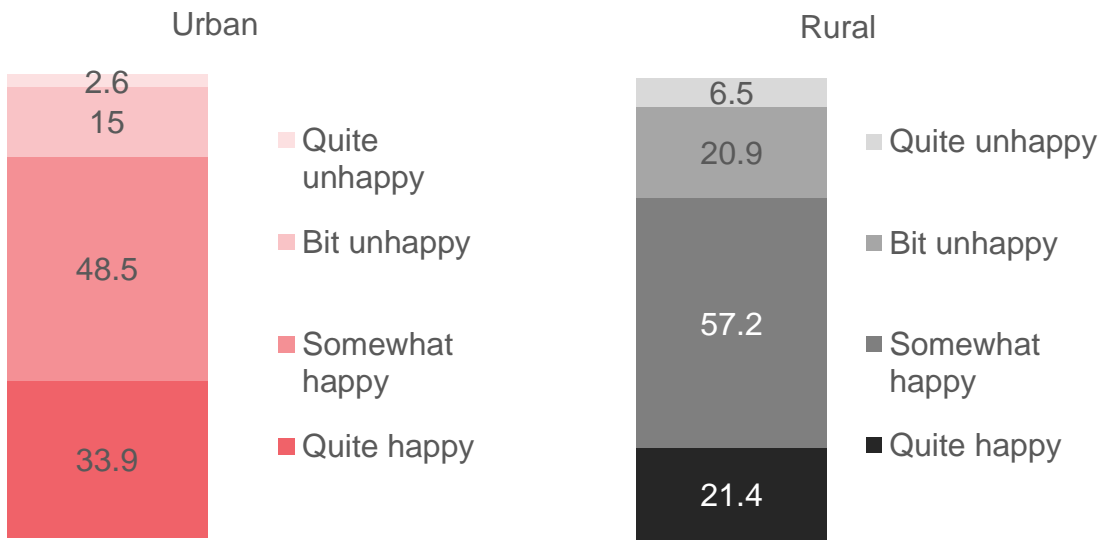


Regarding confidence in the government's ability to tackle these issues, it would seem that while across most issues respondents were highly or somewhat confident that the government would tackle them over the next few years, the exception was unemployment which was the most important issue of all. In fact, well over one in three respondents who were younger in age harboured the feeling of no confidence in the government being able to tackle this issue in the near future.

Current state of happiness

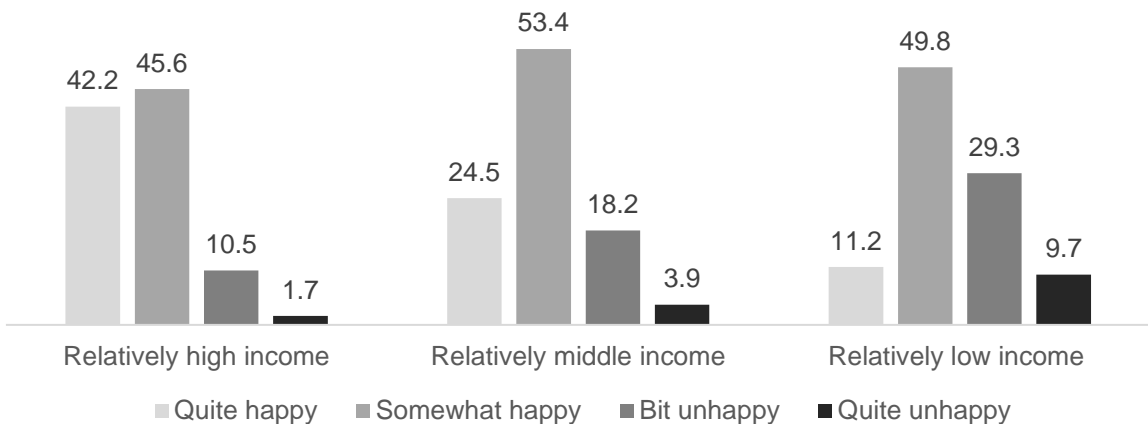
Taking cognisance of the current issues that ail the nation as perceived by the people of the country, the survey participants were asked just how happy (or otherwise) they felt with the current status of their lives.

Overall, how happy do you feel with the current state of your life?



Just over one out of three urban earners were quite happy with the current state of their lives, while nearly half were somewhat happy; conversely, nearly 18% were not. On the other hand, happiness was less pronounced in rural areas. But overall, 82% of urban earners and 78% of rural earners were inclined to be happy with their present disposition. 8%).

Overall, how happy do you feel with the current state of your life?



As expected, unhappiness was more pronounced among the relatively low-income earners as than the high-income earners. However, given the turmoil caused by the pandemic as well as the loss of employment and income, the very fact that 60% of the relatively low income earners are reportedly inclined towards happiness speaks highly of our resilience as a nation and our economic recovery.



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