

# The E-voting Readiness Index and the Netherlands

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# E-voting Readiness Index

- ▶ Four dimensions on which a country is scored (Prosser and Krimmer 2004):
  - ▶ Politics
  - ▶ Law
  - ▶ Technology
  - ▶ Society

# Netherlands

- ▶ History with E-voting
- ▶ Ended around 2008
- ▶ Since then, debates on return
- ▶ So: how ready is the Netherlands?

# Politics

- ▶ Extremes: from total political support for e-voting to pressure to abandon and back
- ▶ No clear political consensus
- ▶ Not clear what the main motives for e-voting are
- ▶ E-government in general: big push under last government, slightly less now

# Law

- ▶ No current provisions for e-voting
- ▶ However, experience in the past could help
- ▶ Given past events, likely that parliament would want to be more involved

# Technology

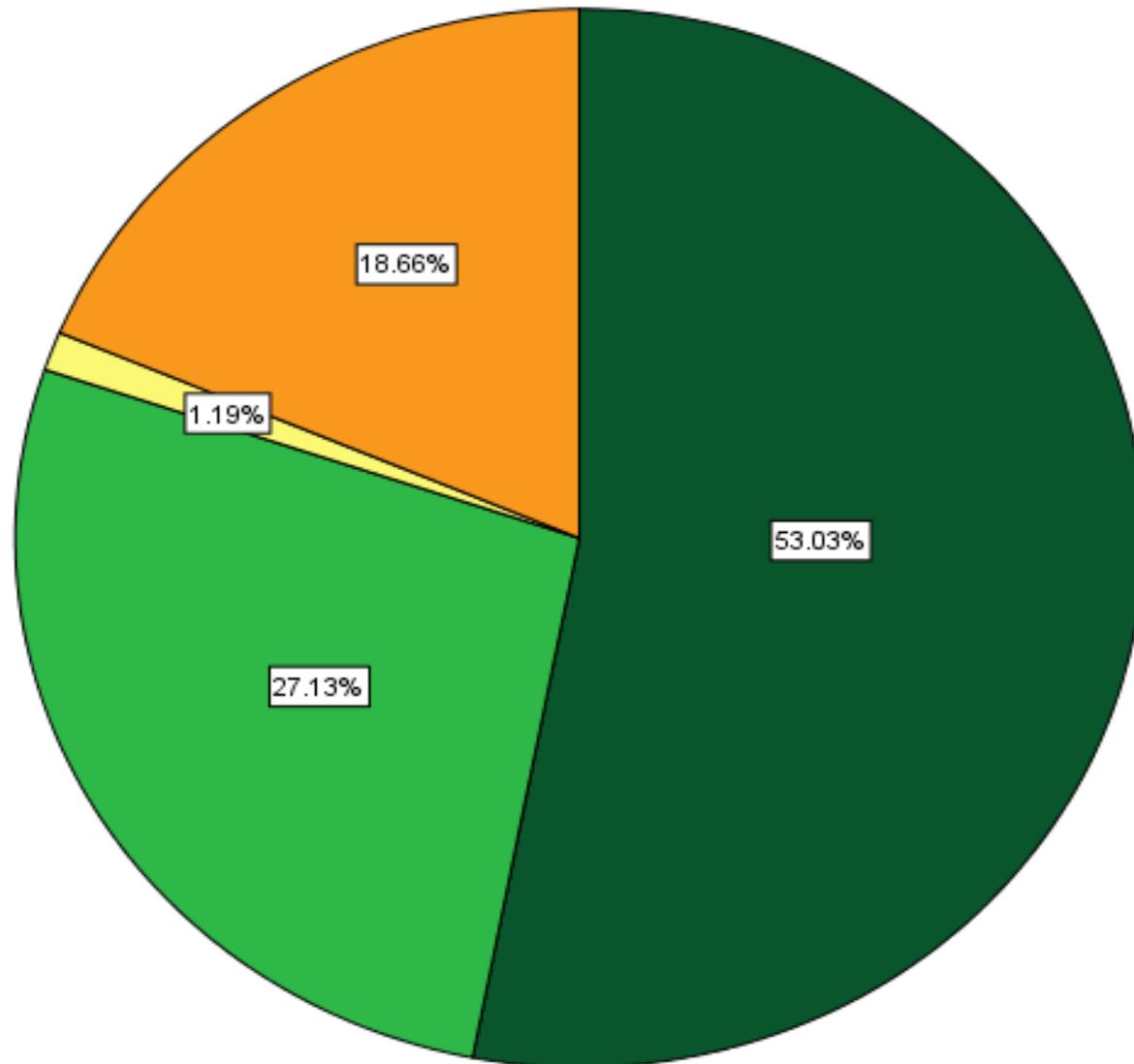
- ▶ Infrastructure is generally good
- ▶ Introduction of new forms of online identification seem nearby
- ▶ Most important: new legislation on ID card

# Society

- ▶ Very high levels of internet penetration and use
- ▶ Most people have smartphones
- ▶ No really difference between generations
- ▶ High turnout in elections
- ▶ High trust in electoral integrity

# Attitudes toward e-voting

- ▶ Data from NKO 2017
- ▶ First question: what voting method do you prefer?
- ▶ Majority: paper ballot

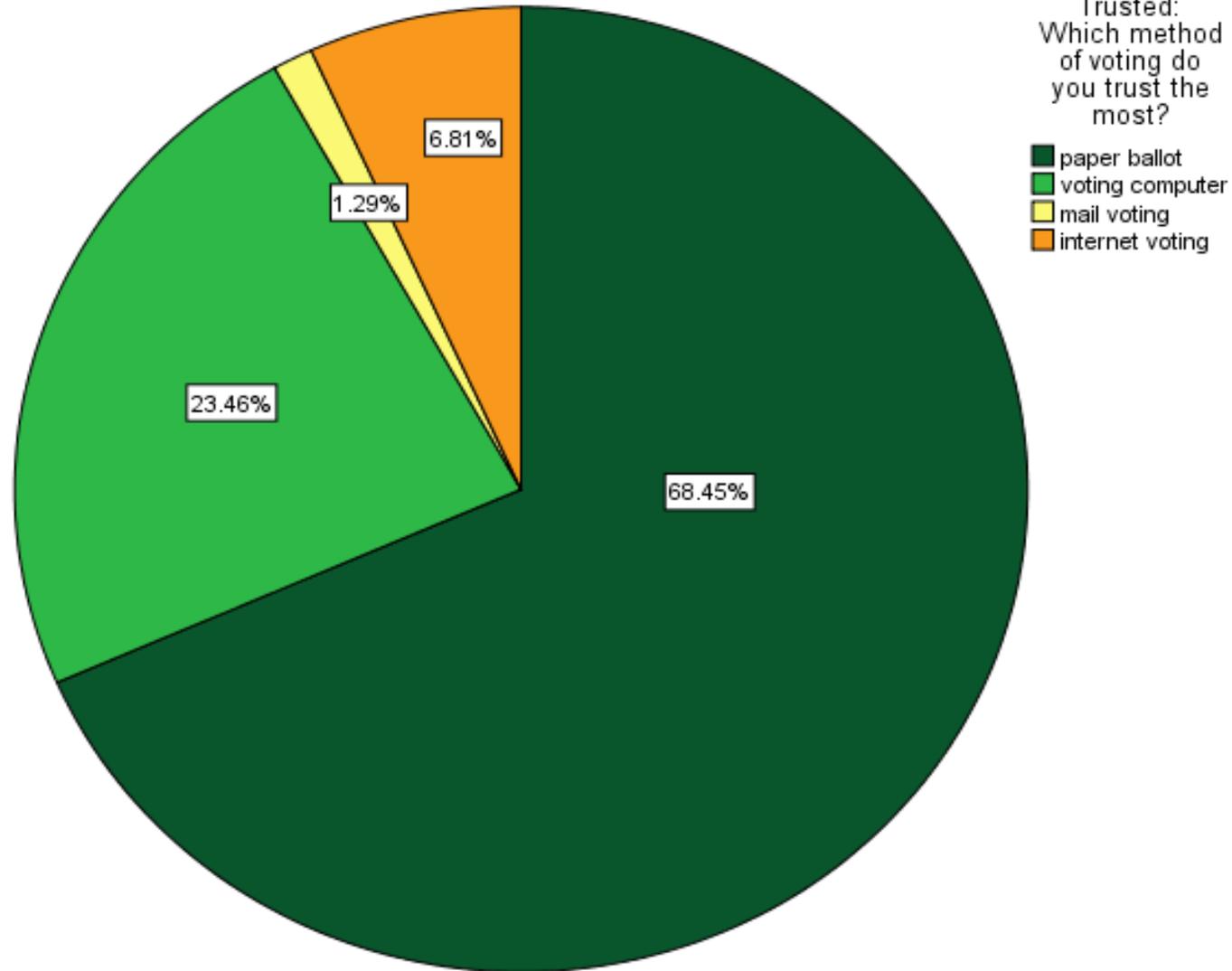


Preference: If you vote, which method of voting has your preference?

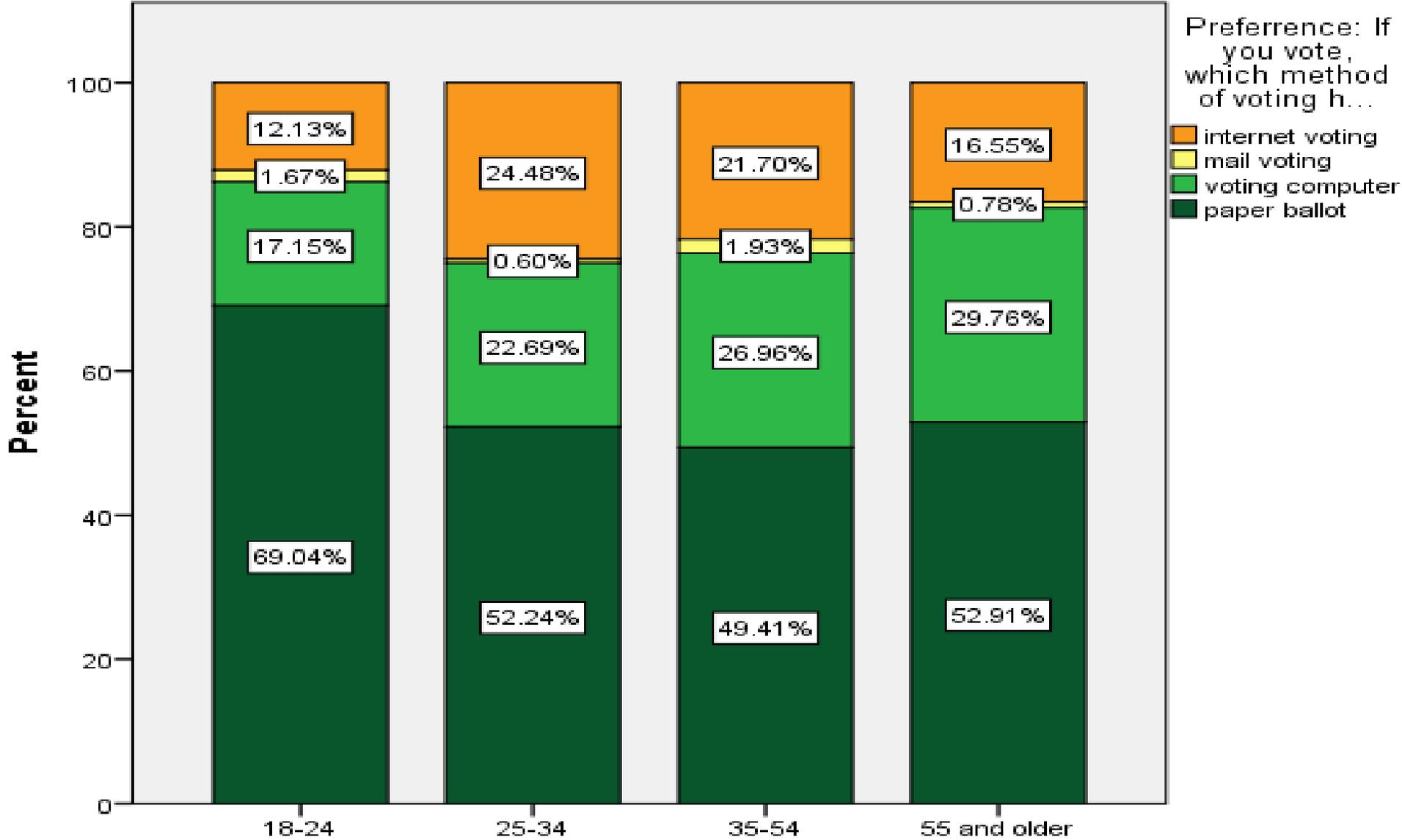
- paper ballot
- voting computer
- mail voting
- internet voting

# Trust

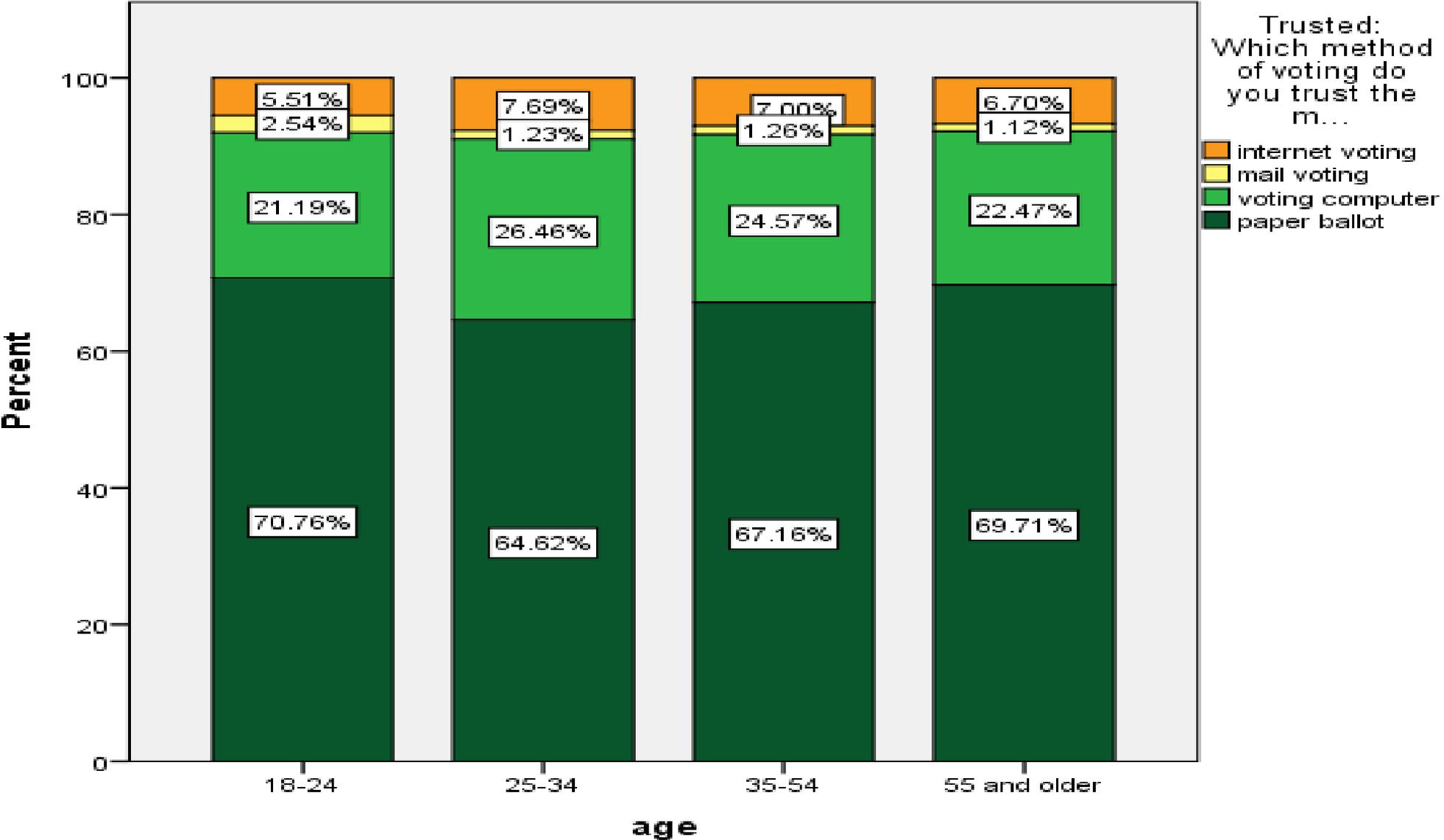
- ▶ Question: which method do you trust the most?
- ▶ Even bigger majority: paper ballot



# Difference in preference age groups?



# Difference in trust age groups?



# Conclusions

- ▶ Mixed results
- ▶ Political dimension: some developments toward e-voting, some away
- ▶ Law: not necessarily there yet, but relatively easy to reach
- ▶ Technology: infrastructure is in place or being put in place
- ▶ Society: although in general open attitude toward technology
- ▶ However: significantly less preference and trust in e-voting than couple of years ago
- ▶ Important: younger voters less inclined towards e-voting

Thank you

Questions?