

THE PULSE
fueled by **GSI**

EMC
research

**GREATER
SPOKANE**
inc.

**Greater Spokane, Inc.
Spokane Pulse Survey**
April 2026

- ▶ Live telephone and online mixed-mode survey of registered voters in Spokane County, Washington
- ▶ Survey conducted March 26th – April 2nd, 2026
- ▶ 600 total interviews; effective overall margin of error ± 4.4 percentage points
 - City of Spokane 300n; margin of error ± 5.66 percentage points
 - City of Spokane Valley 100n; margin of error ± 9.8 percentage points
 - Spokane County outside of Cities of Spokane and Spokane Valley 200n; margin of error ± 6.93 percentage points
- ▶ Interviews were conducted by trained, professional interviewers; landlines and mobile phones included
- ▶ Voters were randomly selected and invited via email and SMS to take the survey online

Please note that due to rounding, some percentages may not add up to exactly 100%.

Key Findings

- ▶ In the latest edition of The Pulse, quality of life ratings have risen slightly, but most in Spokane County continue to have concerns about the direction of the community.
- ▶ While public safety and homelessness remain top-of-mind issues for voters, fewer voters than mention these as their top concern relative to previous surveys. On the other hand, concerns about cost of living and the tax burden have risen.
- ▶ Voters are seeing progress on the issue of public safety, with improved ratings of neighborhood and downtown safety, and prioritize increased investments slightly less than in previous surveys.
- ▶ Voters remain evenly divided on the issue of growth and development; supporters point to the economic benefits, while opponents critique planning decisions.

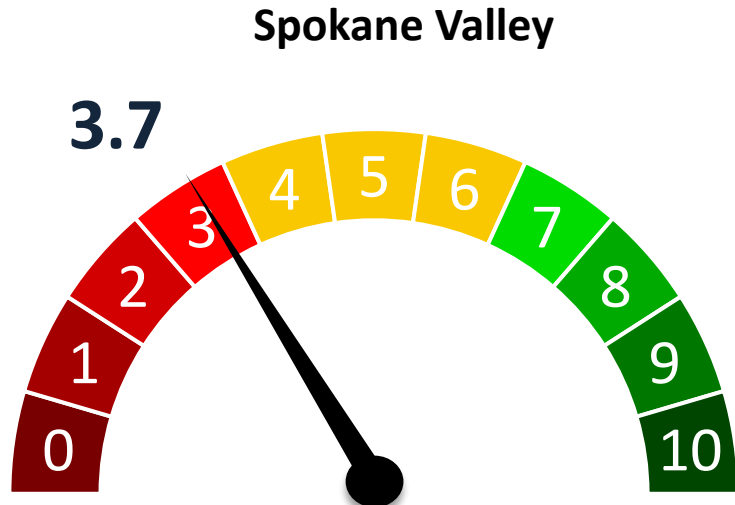
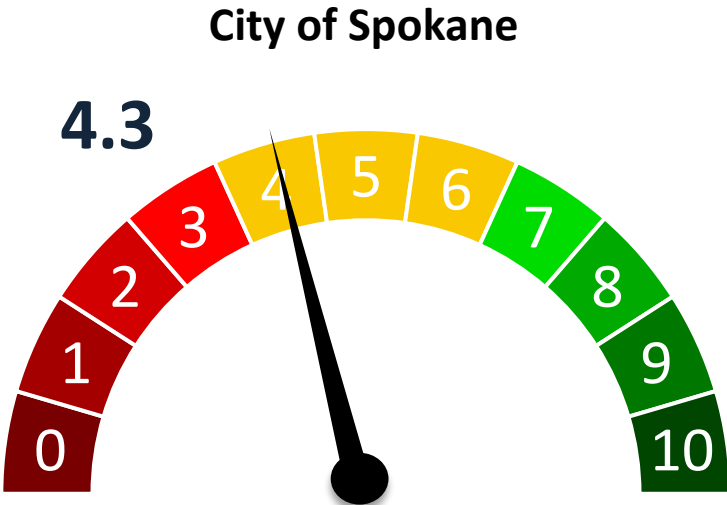
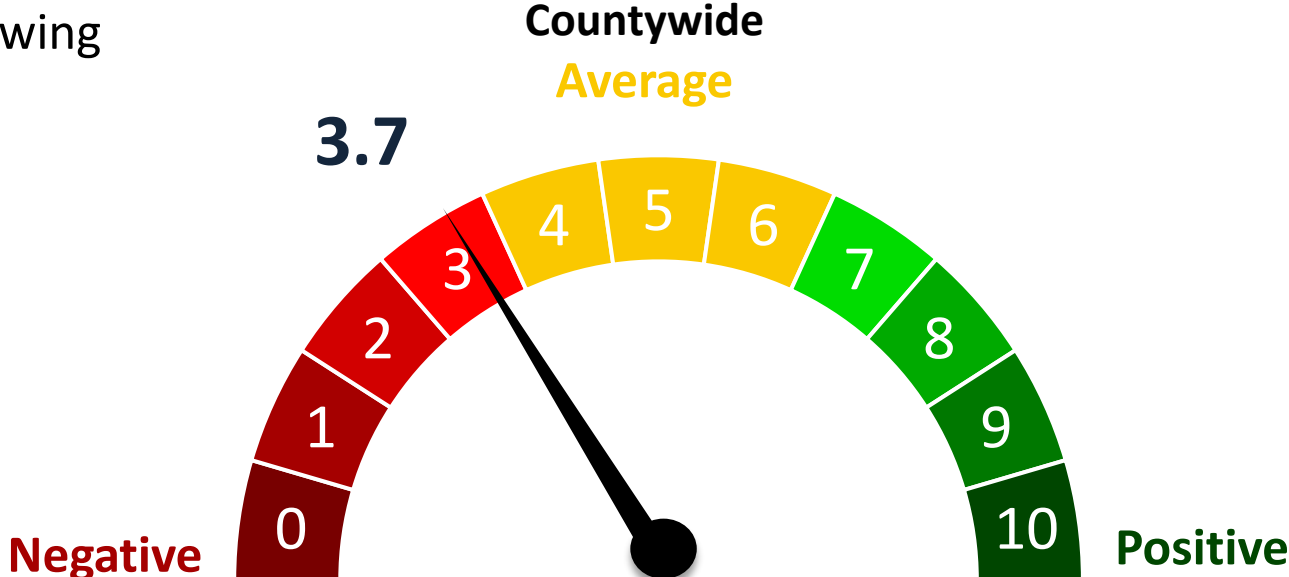


Community Pulse

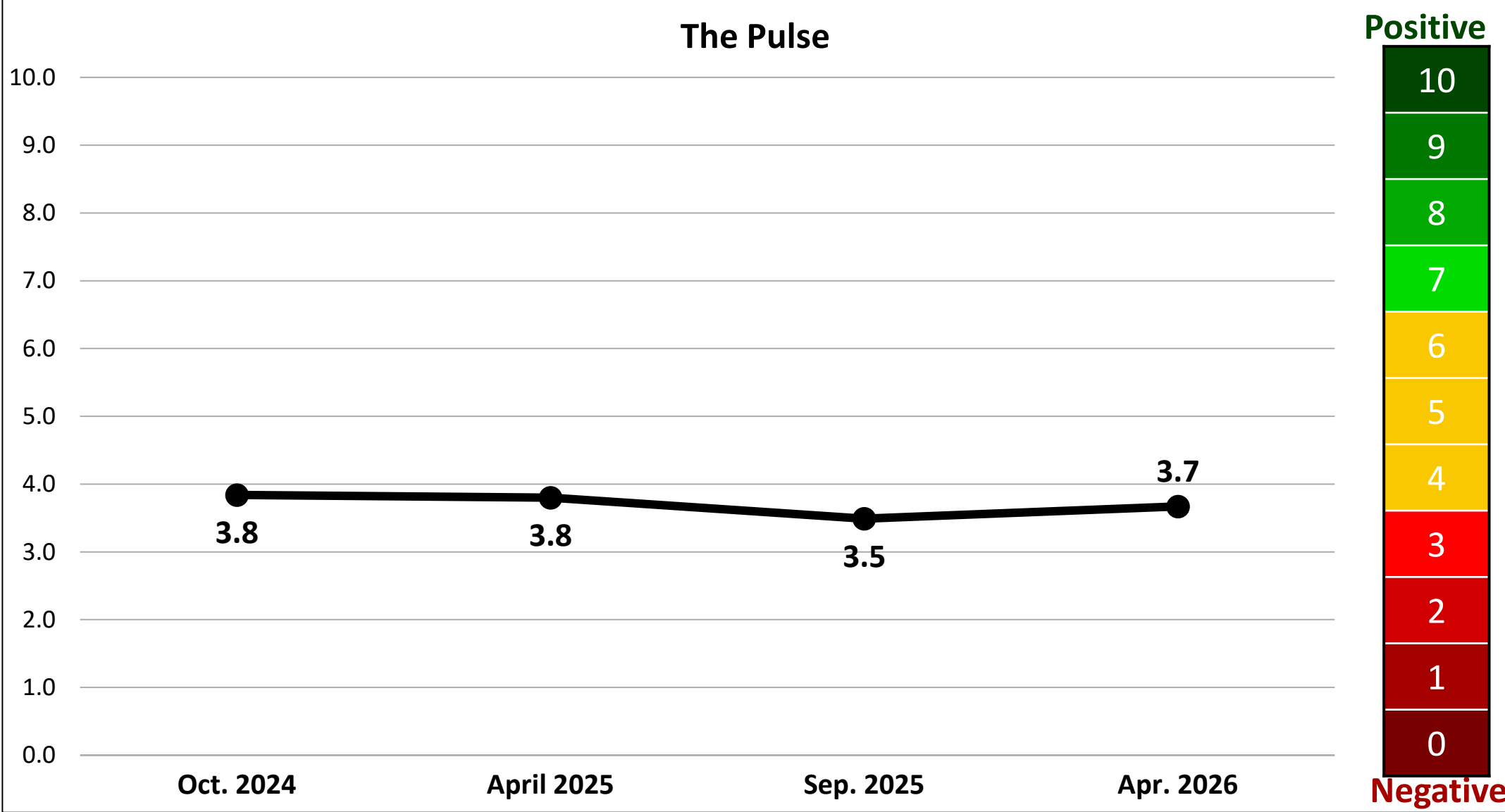
The Spokane Pulse Index

The “Community Pulse” Index aggregates the following questions about Spokane County:

- Q3: Right Direction/Wrong Track
- Q6: Quality of Life
- Q7: Relocating
- Q9: Future optimism
- Q10: Downtown’s future
- Q11: Safety during the day
- Q12: Safety at night
- Q54: Downtown activity frequency



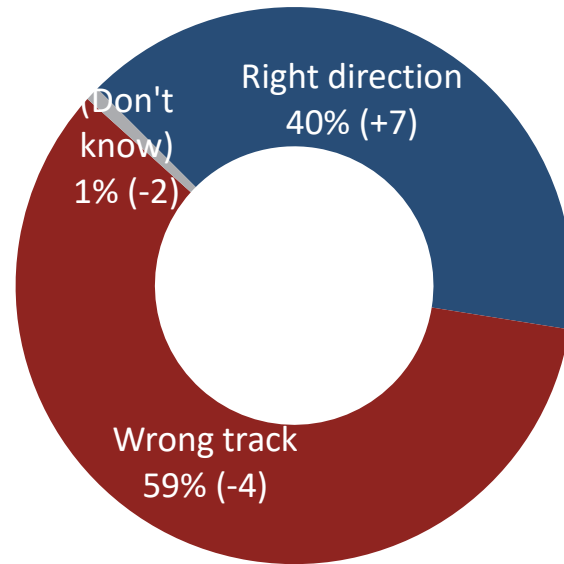
The Pulse Over Time



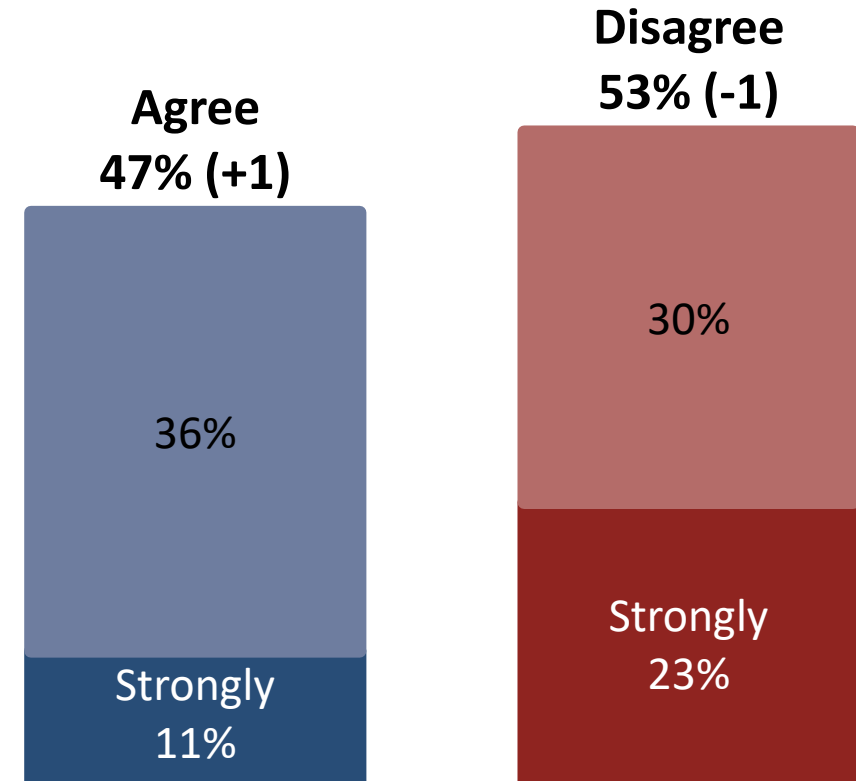
Note: the methodology for calculating The Pulse has been adjusted. Previous surveys Pulse rating shown using the new formula

Quality of Life: The Details

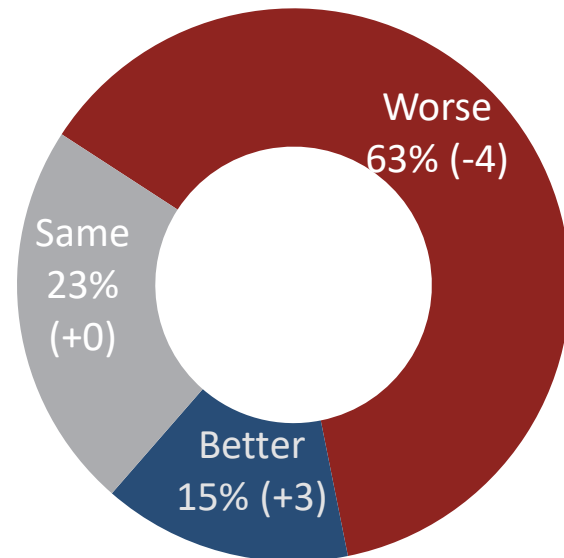
Do you feel that things in the Spokane Region are generally going in the right direction or do you feel things have gotten pretty seriously off on the wrong track?



"I'm optimistic about the future of this region."

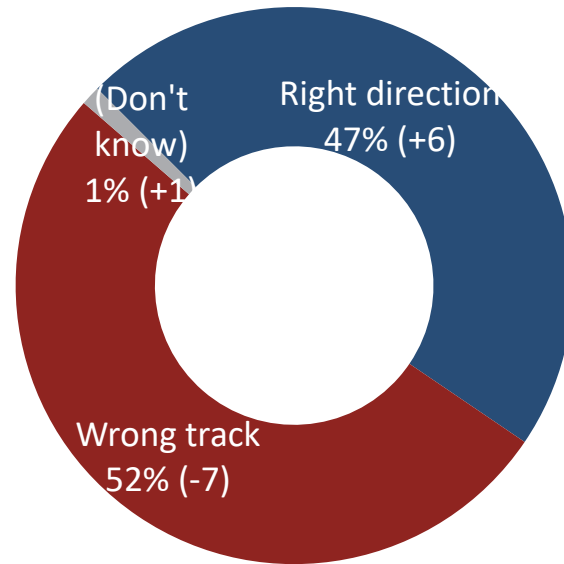


Do you think the overall quality of life in The Spokane Region is getting better, staying the same, or getting worse?

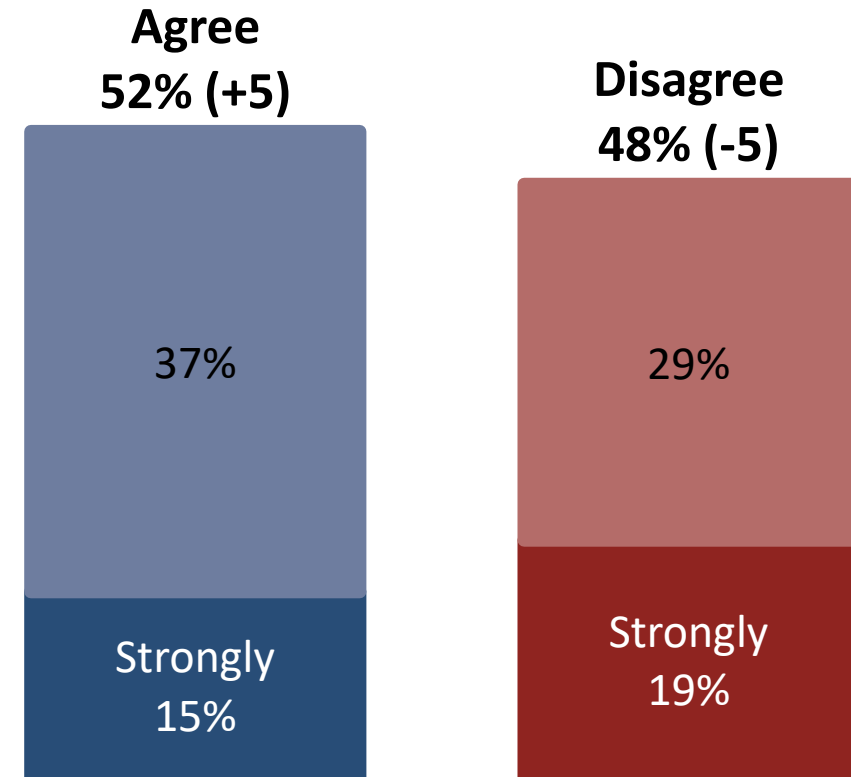


Quality of Life: City of Spokane

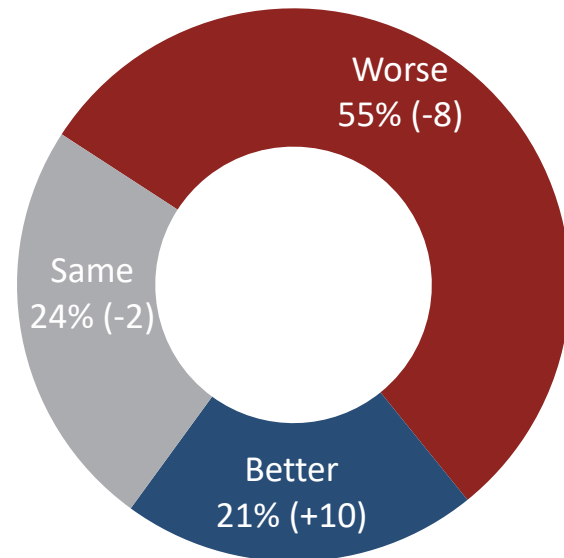
Do you feel that things in the Spokane Region are generally going in the right direction or do you feel things have gotten pretty seriously off on the wrong track?



"I'm optimistic about the future of this region."

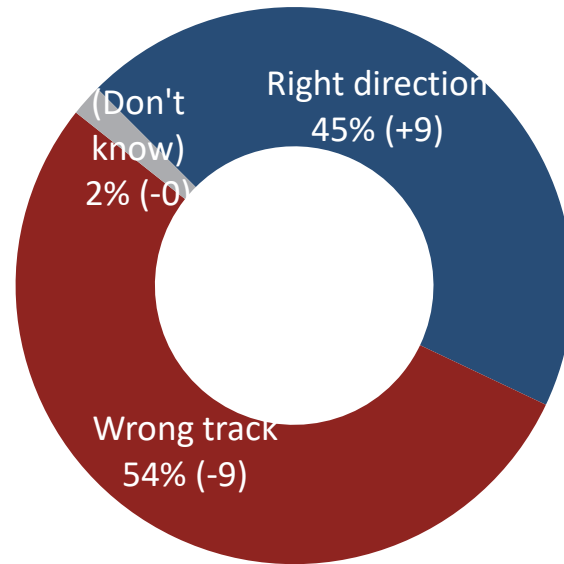


Do you think the overall quality of life in The Spokane Region is getting better, staying the same, or getting worse?

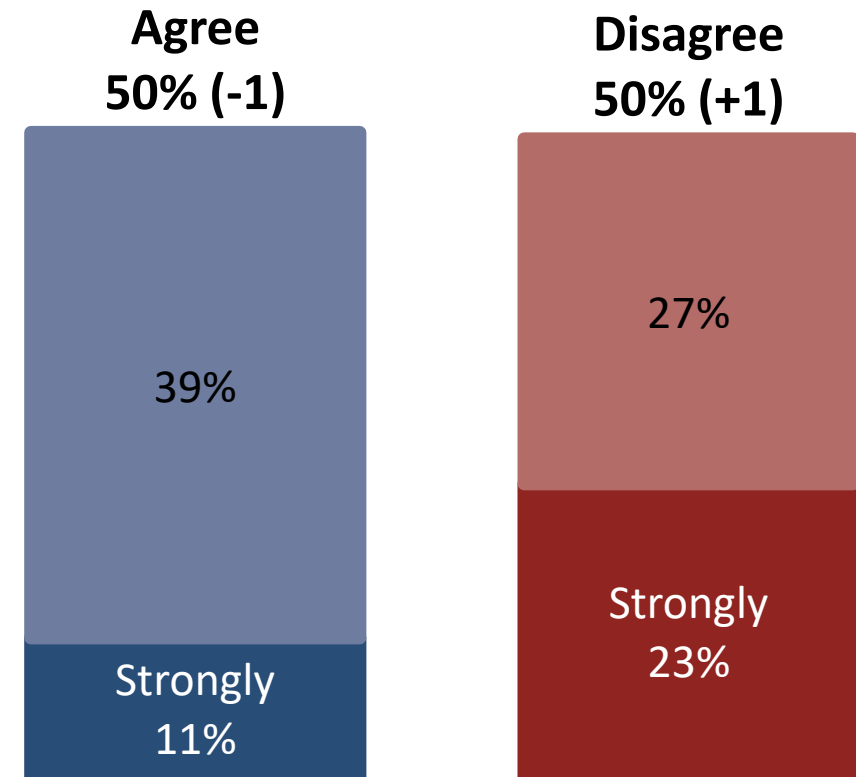


Quality of Life: City of Spokane Valley

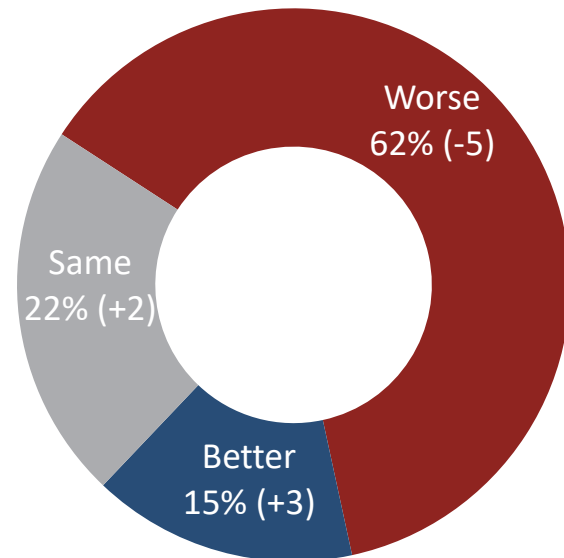
Do you feel that things in the Spokane Region are generally going in the right direction or do you feel things have gotten pretty seriously off on the wrong track?



"I'm optimistic about the future of this region."



Do you think the overall quality of life in The Spokane Region is getting better, staying the same, or getting worse?



Leaving Spokane Region

Two-thirds of voters across the county report having considered moving. Voters in the City of Spokane are less likely to consider relocating.

Have you actively considered moving out of the area?

Countywide

City of Spokane

City of Spokane Valley

Yes
68% (+2)

No
32% (-2)

Yes
59% (-2)

No
41% (+2)

Yes
69% (+1)

No
31% (-1)

Reasons for Moving

While taxes were the top consideration countywide, those in the City of Spokane were more likely to cite the cost of living.

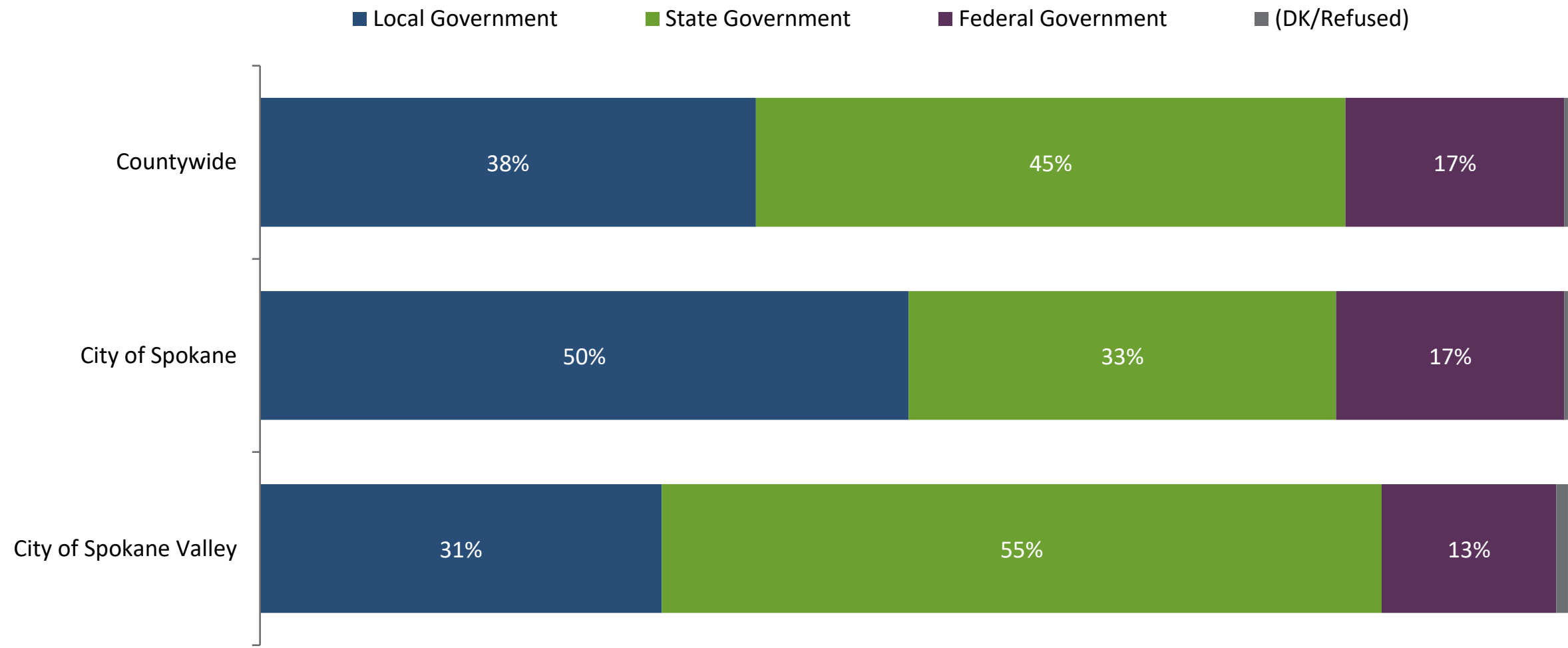
What is the main reason you have considered moving?

(Among those actively considering moving; open-ended, responses coded into categories)

	Overall (n=395)	City of Spokane (n=177)	City of Spokane Valley (n=67)
Taxes	21%	13%	26%
Government/Leadership/Politics	19%	13%	20%
Expensive (Cost of living/housing)	17%	18%	18%
Crime/Drugs/Public safety	13%	10%	19%
Homelessness	7%	6%	6%
Work/Job opportunities/Business leaving	5%	5%	5%
Declining quality of life	5%	4%	4%
Growth/Development/Space	2%	1%	2%
Lack of diversity/Unwelcomed	2%	1%	1%
Schools/Education	2%	1%	1%
Weather	2%	3%	1%
Other	7%	5%	5%
Don't Know/Nothing/Refused	1%	3%	-

Government Impact

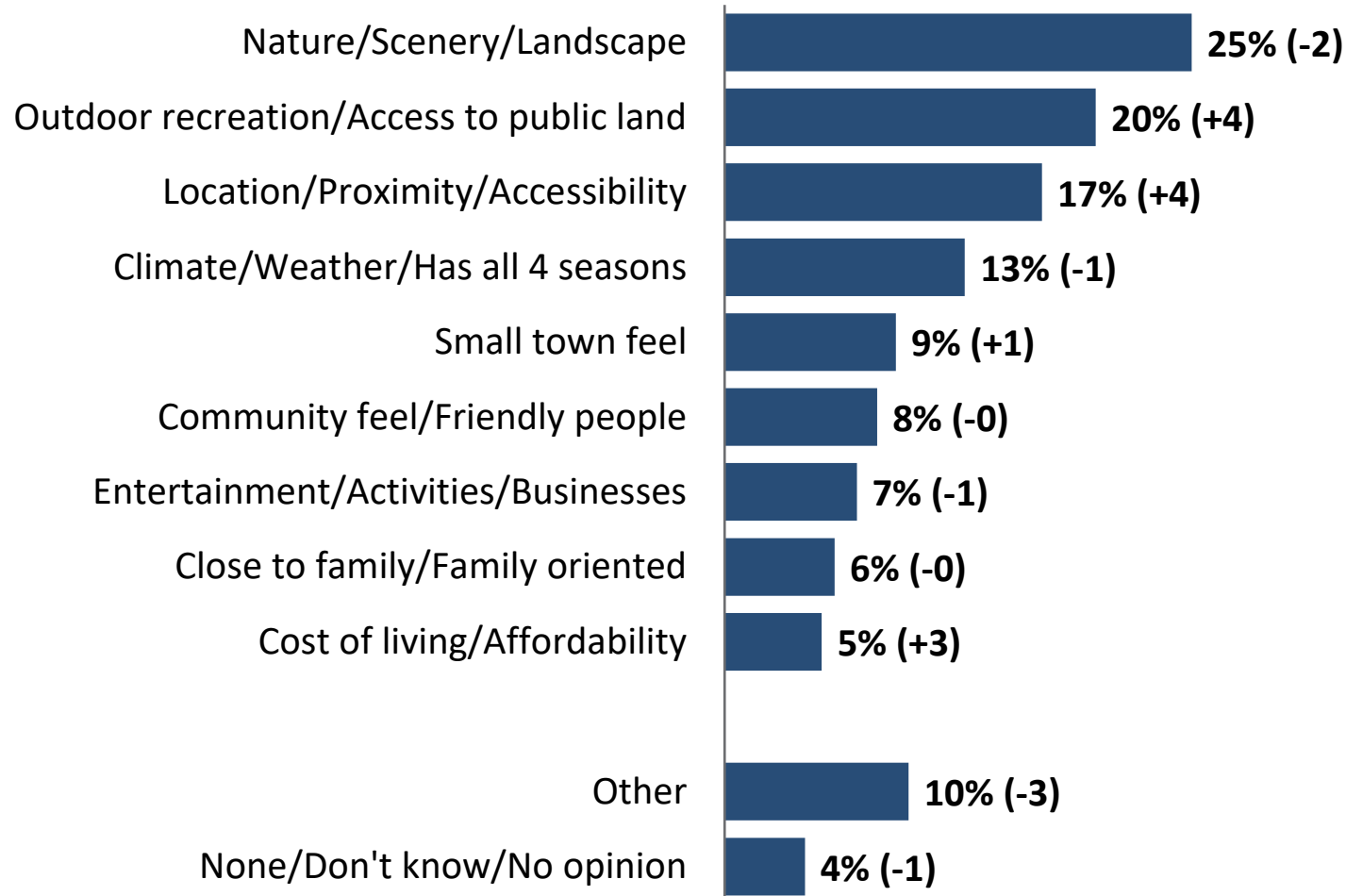
The state government was seen as having the greatest impact across the county; but local government reaches over 50% in Spokane.



Best Thing About Living in Spokane Region

Different outdoor factors were consistently cited as the favorite aspect of the region.

What is the best thing about living in the Spokane region? (Open-ended, Responses coded into categories)



Best Thing About Living in Spokane Region



Regardless of whether or not they live in Spokane or Spokane Valley, voters countywide are consistent in mentioning the region's natural beauty as the best thing about living in Spokane County.

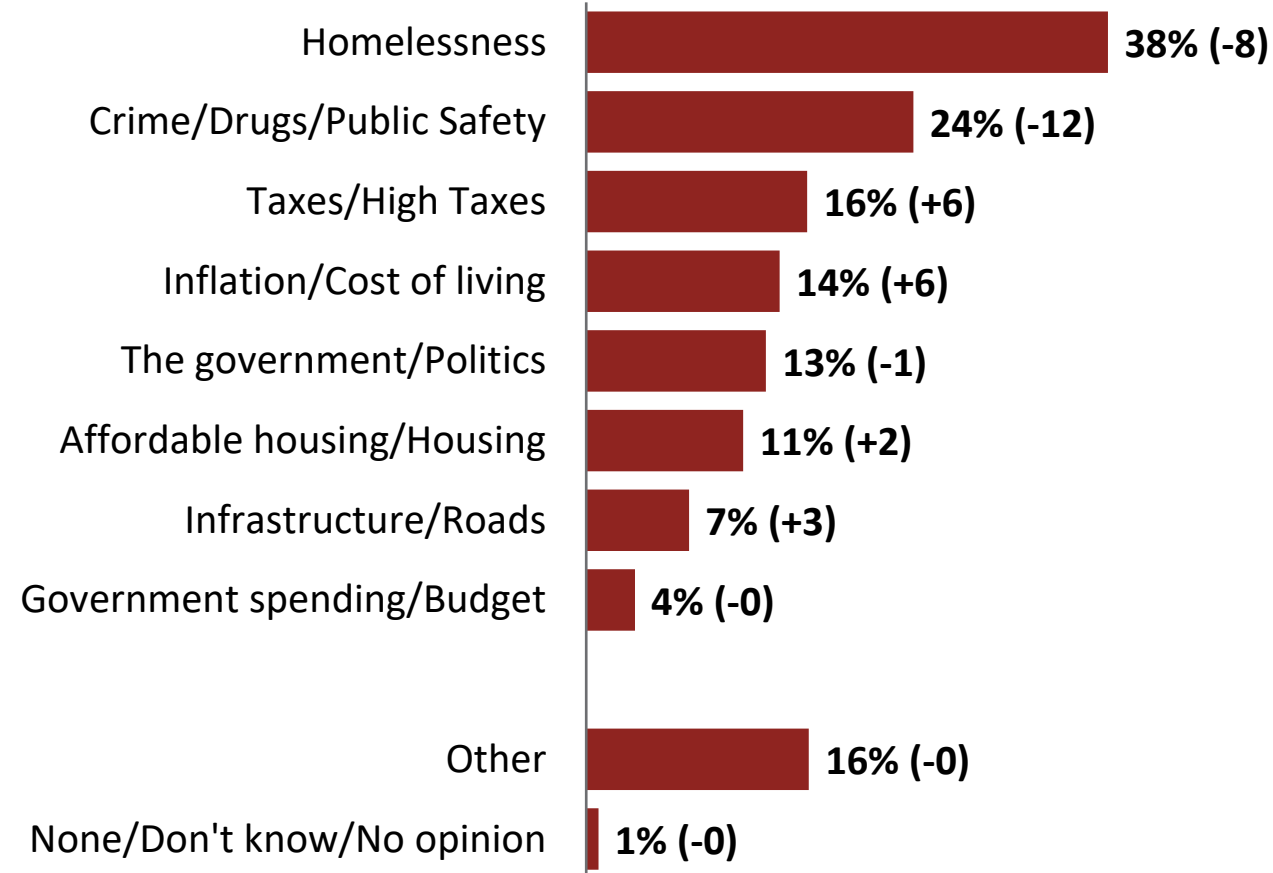
What is the best thing about living in the Spokane region? (Open-ended, Responses coded into categories)

	Overall	City of Spokane (n=300)	City of Spokane Valley (n=100)
Nature/Scenery/Landscape	25% (-2)	28% (-1)	24% (-14)
Outdoor recreation/Access to public land	20% (+4)	20% (+3)	23% (+14)
Location/Proximity/Accessibility	17% (+4)	15% (+1)	18% (+5)
Climate/Weather/Has all 4 seasons	13% (-1)	11% (-1)	13% (-2)
Small town feel	9% (+1)	9% (+2)	7% (-2)
Community feel/Friendly people	8% (+0)	8% (-2)	5% (-6)
Entertainment/Activities/Businesses	7% (-2)	5% (-6)	10% (+4)
Close to family/Family oriented	6% (+0)	7% (+1)	7% (+5)
Cost of living/Affordability	5% (+3)	6% (+5)	5% (+3)
Other	10% (+2)	11% (+2)	7% (-0)
Don't Know/Nothing/Refused	4% (-1)	5% (-1)	5% (+2)

Top Concerns

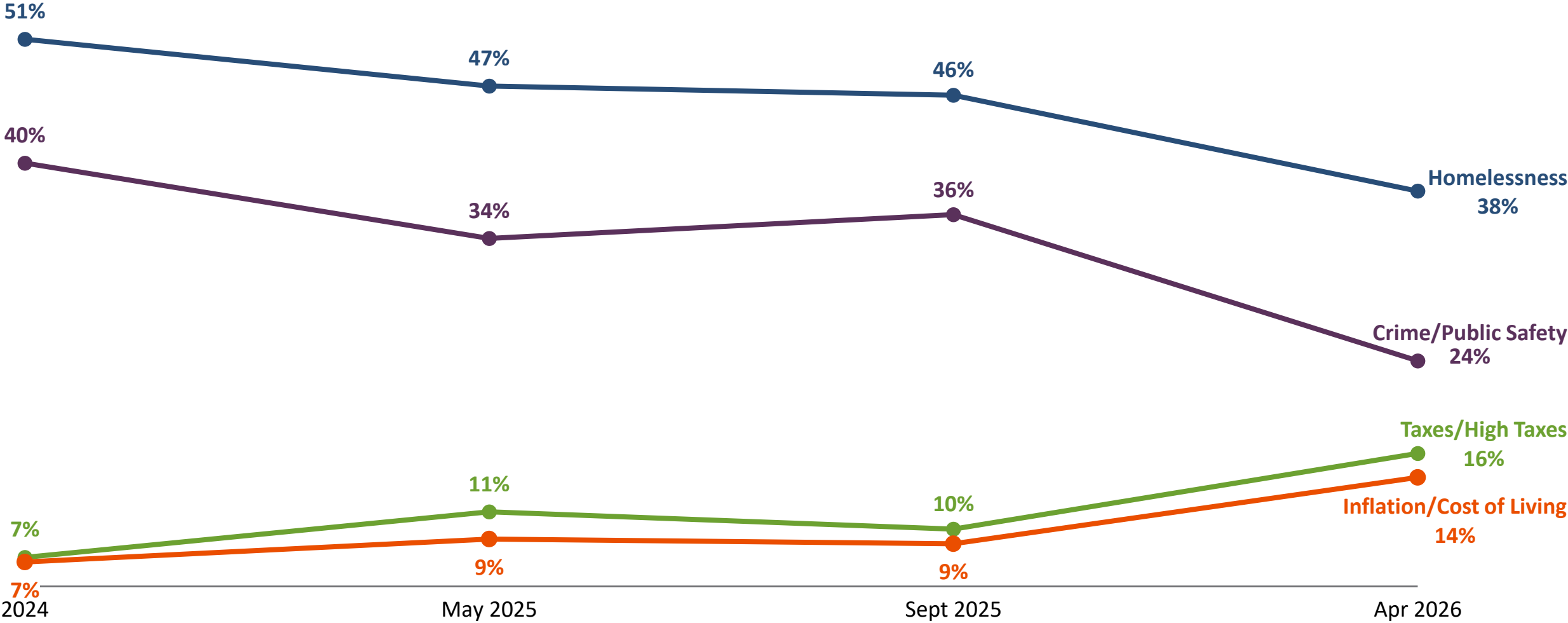
Homelessness and public safety continue to be top-of-mind concerns for voters, but mentions of both issues have declined since September.

What are the issues facing Spokane that you are most frustrated or concerned about? (Open-ended, Responses coded into categories)



Top Concern Trend

After consistent concerns about homelessness and public safety in 2025, both saw a significant decline in 2026.



Top Concerns

In all regions, crime saw a large drop in mentions, with voters more likely to call out taxes and inflation.

What are the issues facing Spokane that you are most frustrated or concerned about? (Open-ended, Responses coded into categories)

	Overall	City of Spokane (n=300)	City of Spokane Valley (n=100)
Homelessness	38% (-8)	41% (-13)	37% (-0)
Crime/Drugs/Public Safety	24% (-12)	24% (-12)	20% (-18)
Taxes/High Taxes	16% (+6)	13% (+6)	19% (+9)
Inflation/Cost of living	14% (+5)	12% (+6)	17% (+6)
The government/Politics	13% (-1)	11% (+1)	13% (-1)
Affordable housing/Housing	11% (+2)	14% (+3)	8% (-4)
Infrastructure/Roads	7% (+2)	7% (+1)	8% (+5)
Government spending/Budget	4% (-0)	3% (-1)	3% (+1)
Other	16% (+10)	18% (+12)	15% (+10)
Don't Know/Nothing/Refused	1% (-0)	1% (+0)	1% (-1)

Quality of Life in The Spokane Region

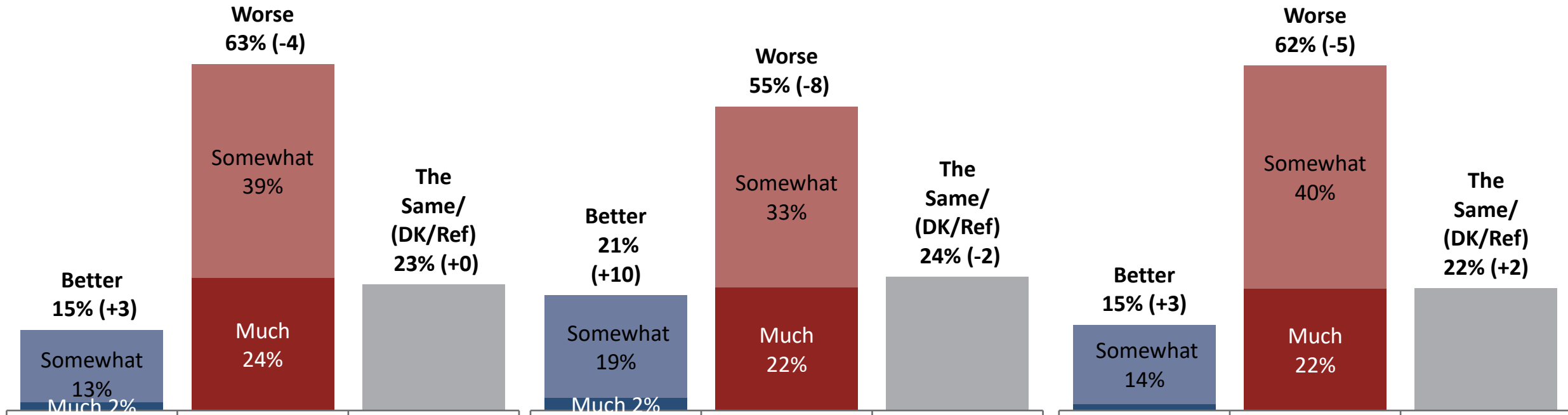
There's an increase in those saying the region is getting better, however the greatest intensity still lies with those who say quality of life is getting much worse.

Do you think the overall quality of life in The Spokane Region is getting better, staying the same, or getting worse?

Overall

City of Spokane

City of Spokane Valley



Personal Financial Situation

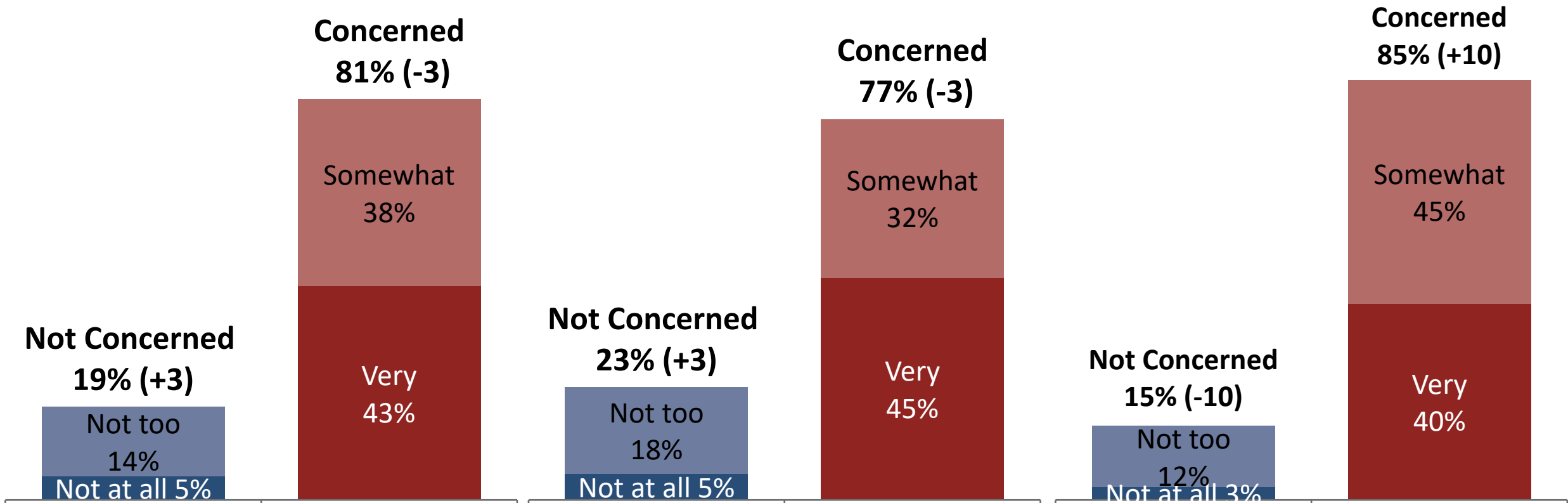
Voters in Spokane Valley are much more concerned about their economic conditions compared to last year.

How concerned are you about your personal financial situation given current economic conditions?

Overall

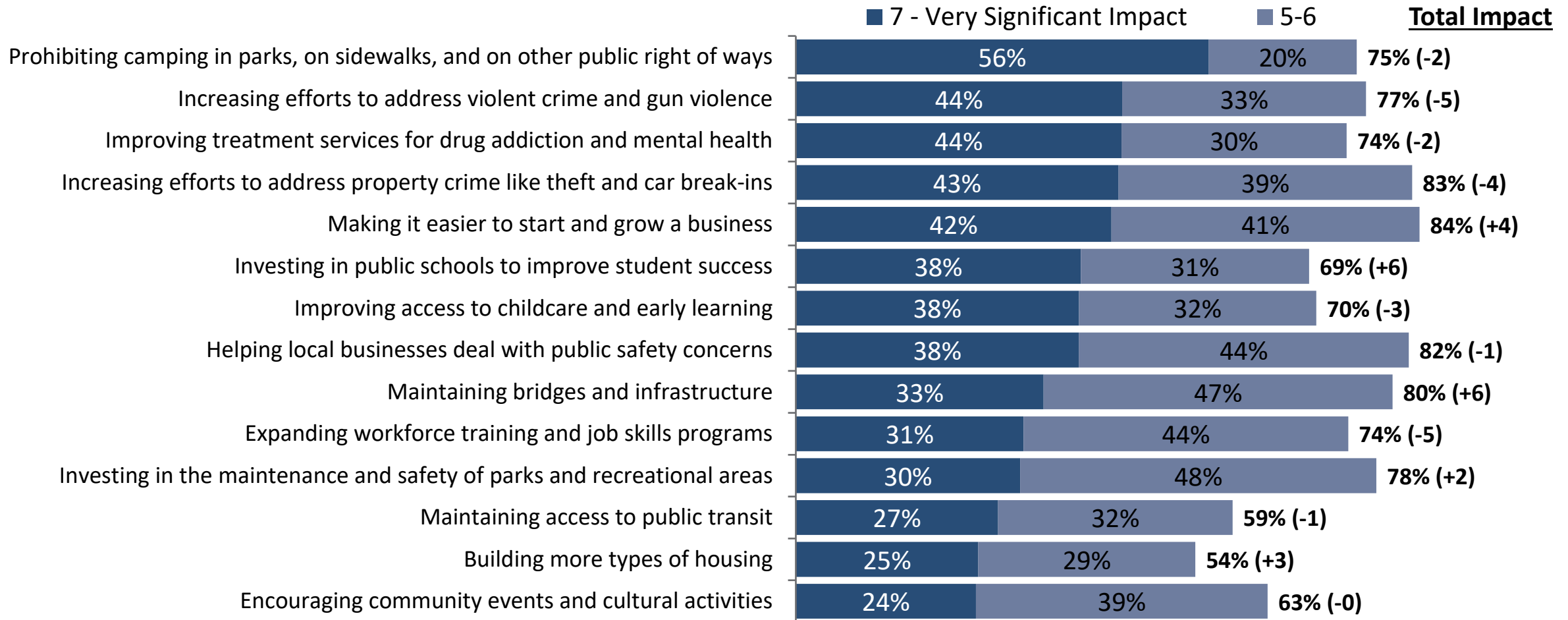
City of Spokane

City of Spokane Valley



Impact on Quality of Life – Overall

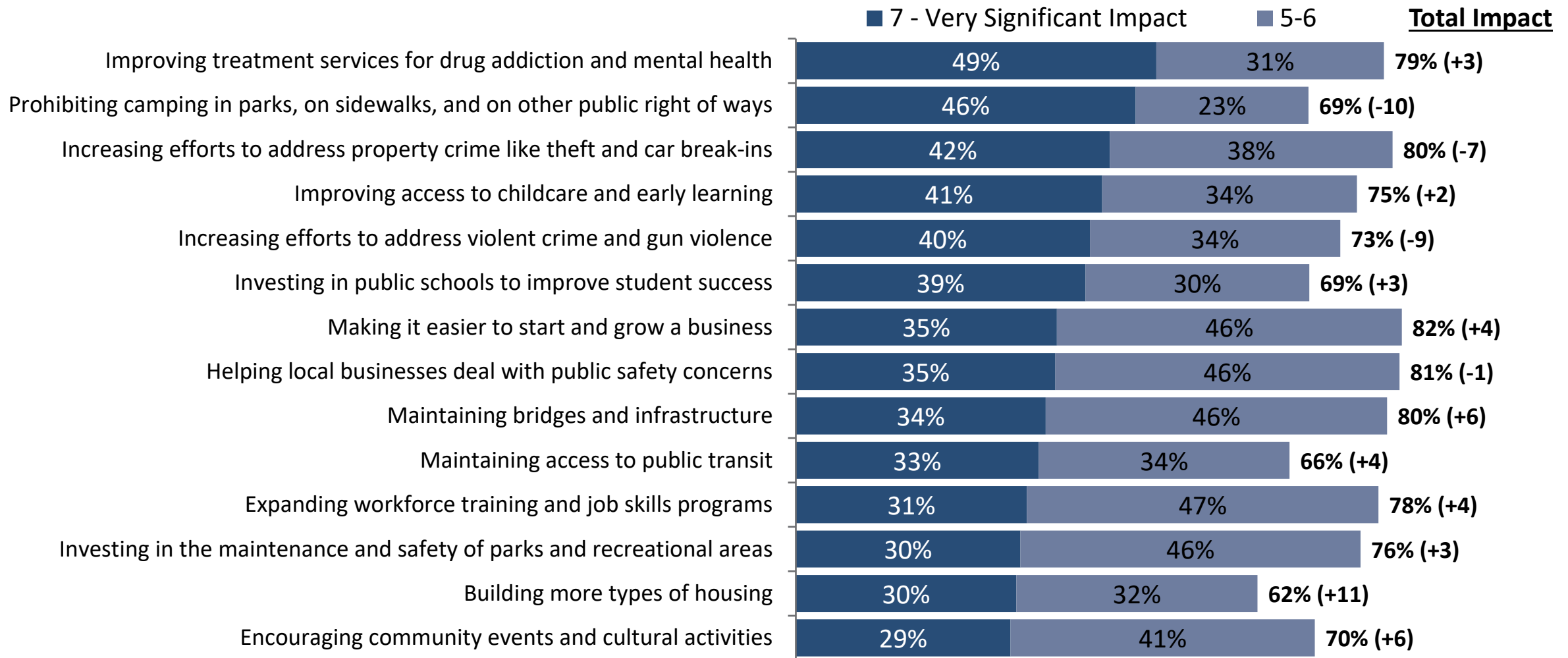
The strategies voters rate as having the most significant impact on quality of life are those that touch on the concerns of voters. The top rated items of prohibiting encampments, increasing efforts to address crime, and improved treatment services all have connections to addressing homelessness and public safety.



Impact on Quality of Life – City of Spokane

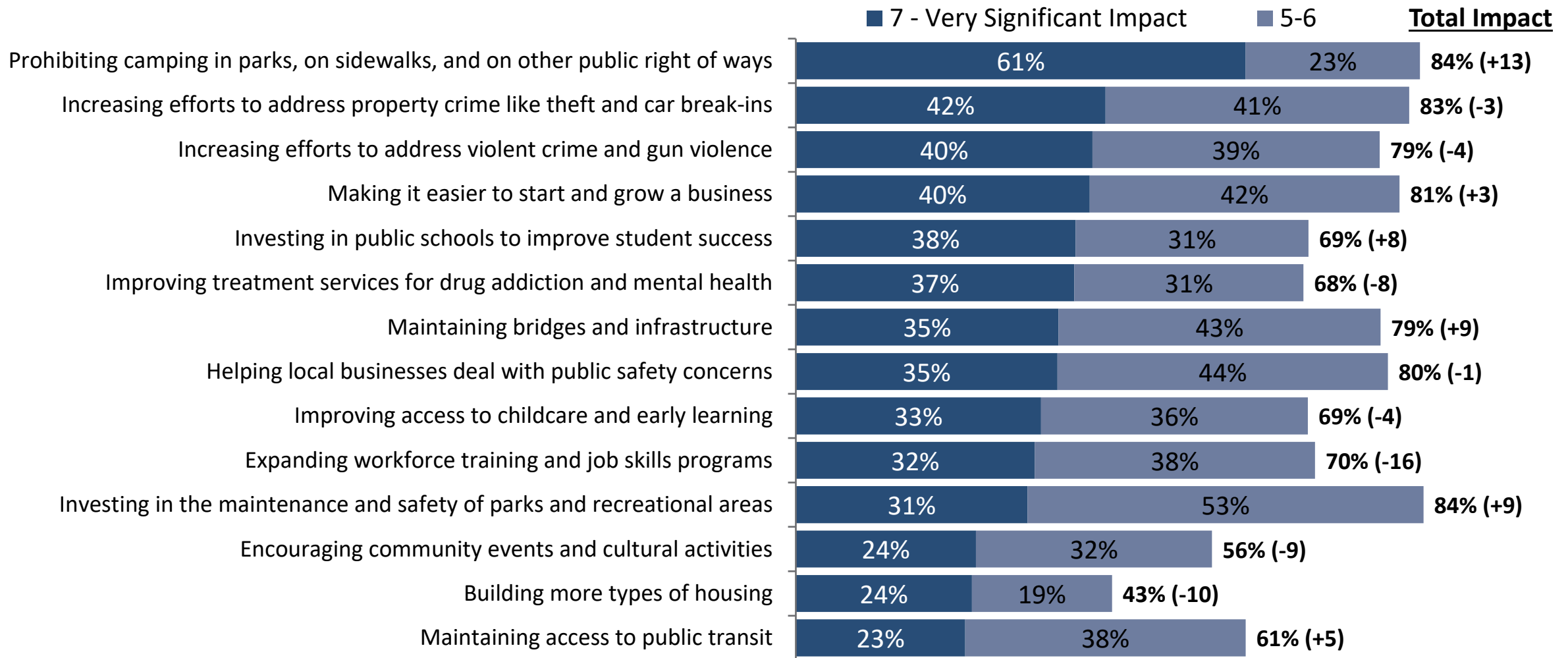


Voters in the City of Spokane largely align with voters in other areas of the county. However, those in the city rate improving treatment services as the most impactful strategy.



Impact on Quality of Life – City of Spokane Valley

While prohibiting camping has by far the most intensity, Spokane Valley voters were also likely to mention crime.





Public Safety

Neighborhood Safety

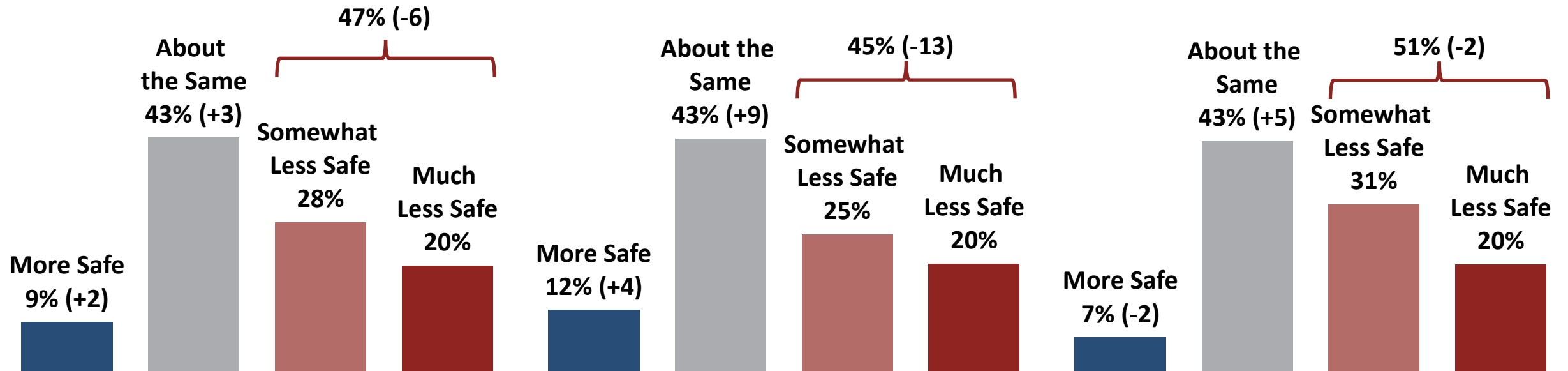
The share of voters saying they feel less safe in their neighborhoods has declined from September, but a plurality continue to feel unsafe.

Thinking about safety in your neighborhood, including property crime and violent crime compared to two years ago do you feel...

Overall

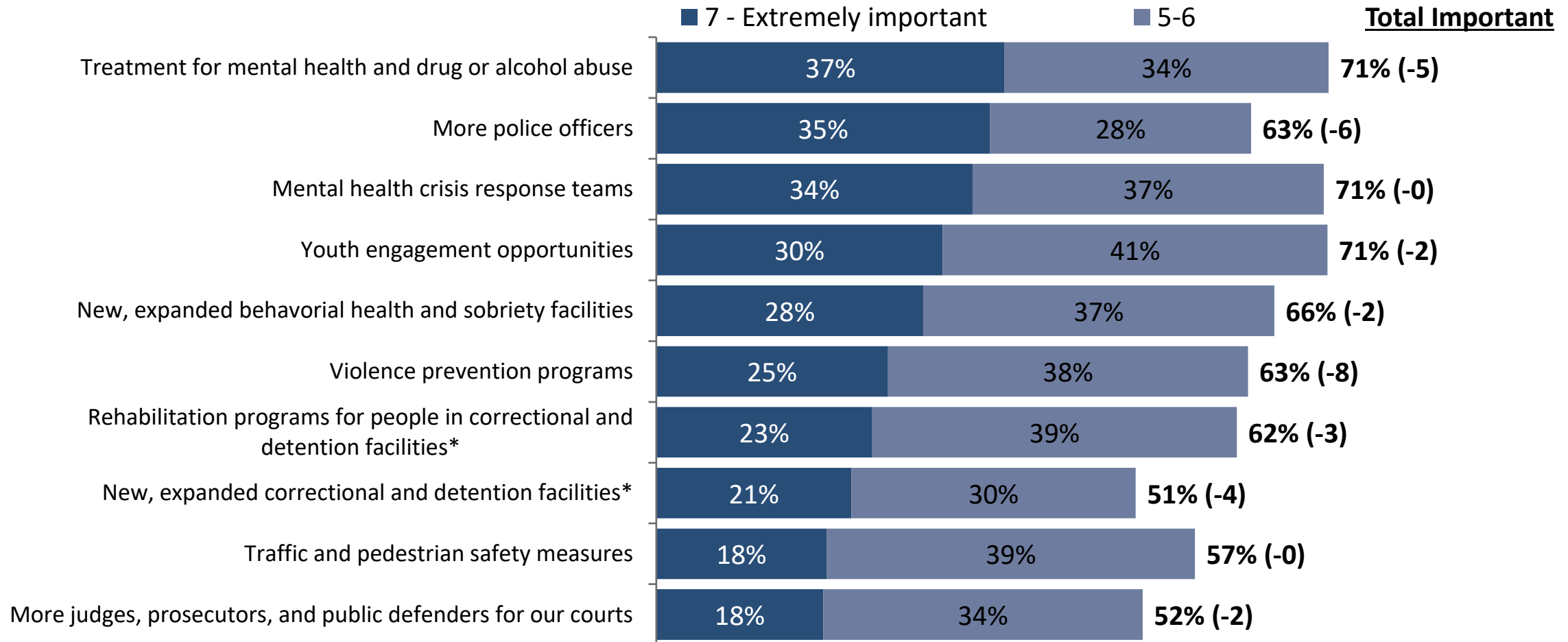
City of Spokane

City of Spokane Valley



Funding Importance – Overall

While the importance ratings of public safety strategies has declined relative to September, most voters still believe that funding a wide variety of public safety strategies is important.

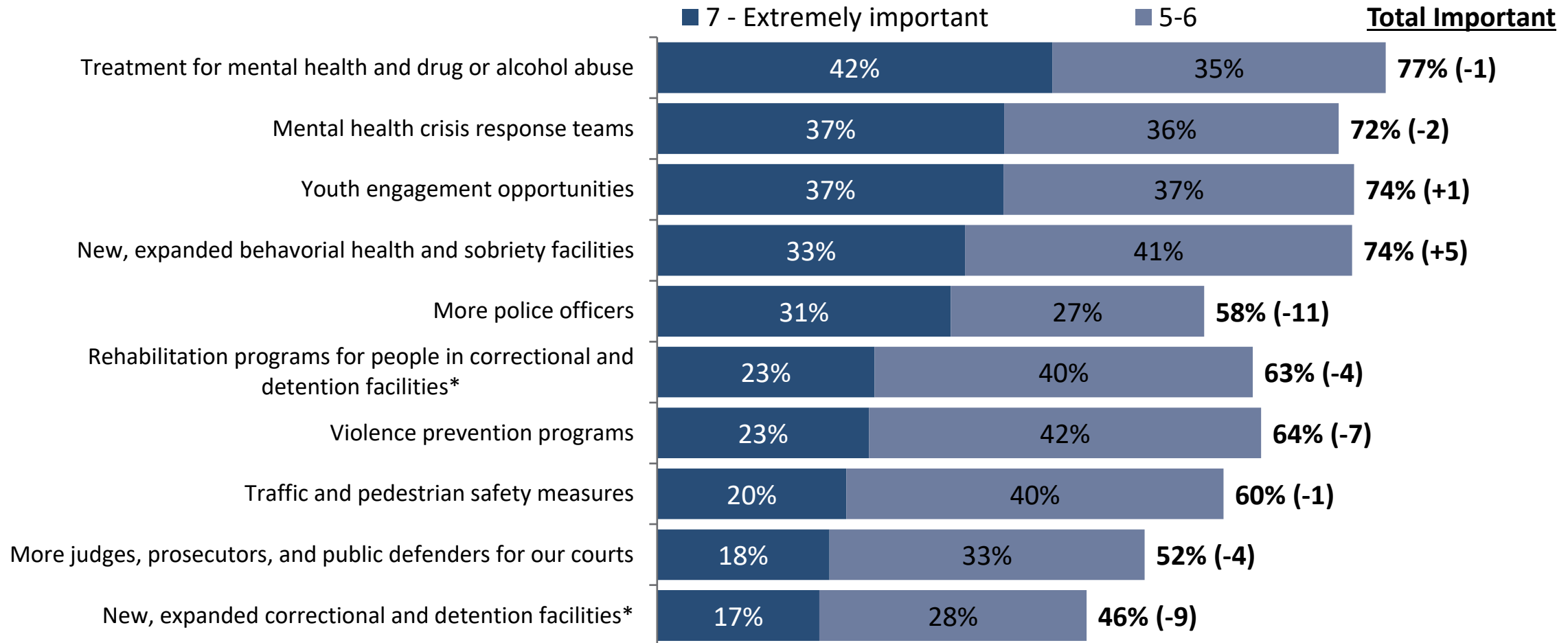


Q42-51. Next you will be asked about items related to public safety. After each one, please rate how important providing funding for that item is to you.

* indicates adjustments to question wording from previous surveys

Funding Importance – City of Spokane

Voters in the City of Spokane are supportive of treatment for mental health and addiction. Among voters in the city, the importance of more police and a new correctional facility has fallen the most.

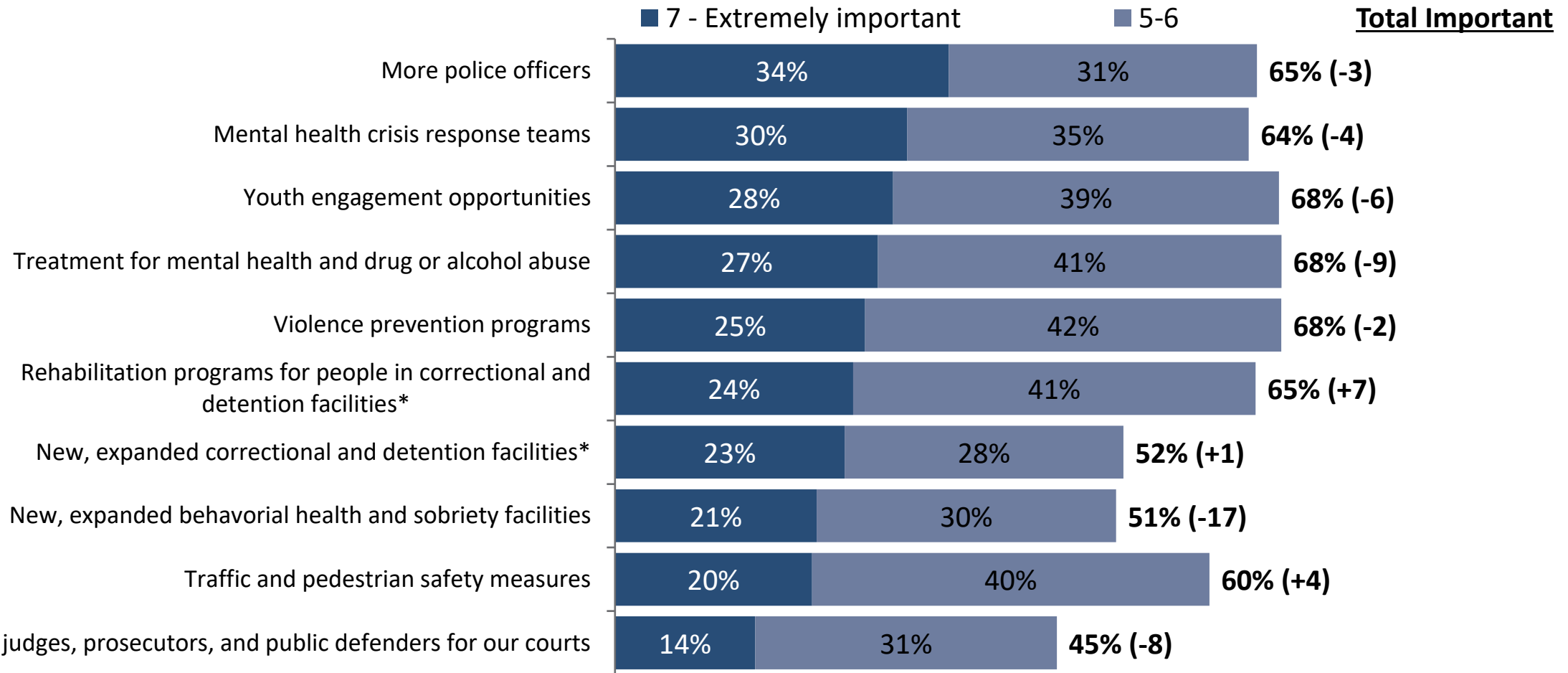


Q42-51. Next you will be asked about items related to public safety. After each one, please rate how important providing funding for that item is to you.

* indicates adjustments to question wording from previous surveys

Funding Importance – City of Spokane Valley

Spokane Valley voters see an increase in the number of police officers as the most important use of funding.



Q42-51. Next you will be asked about items related to public safety. After each one, please rate how important providing funding for that item is to you.

* indicates adjustments to question wording from previous surveys

Police Hiring

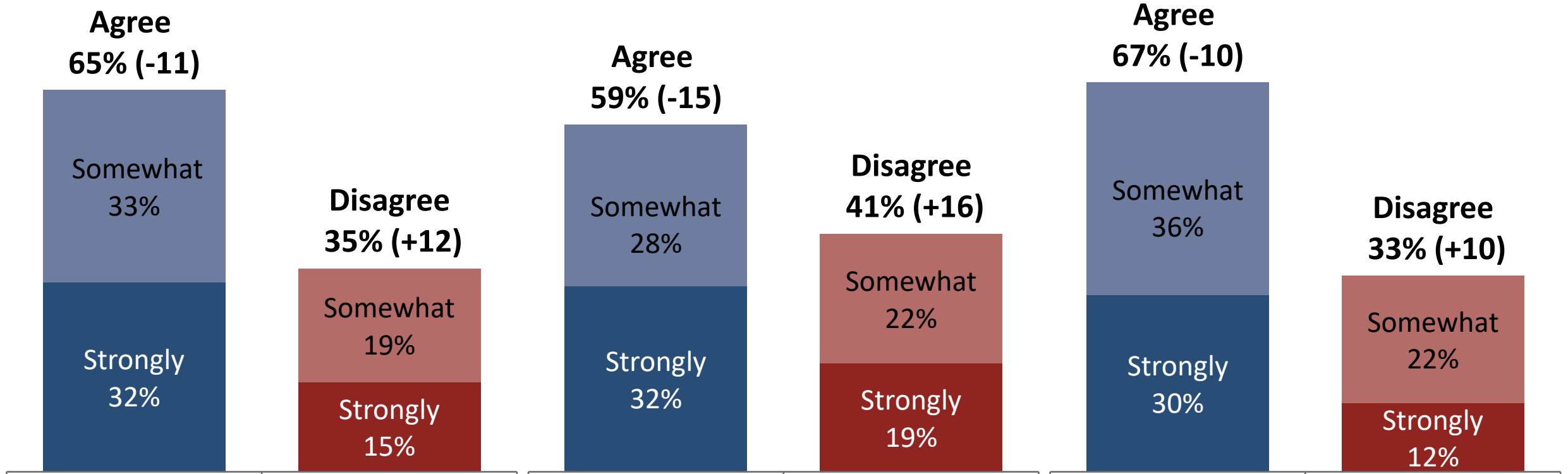
When asked specifically about hiring more police, most voters still agree it needs to be a priority; albeit at a lower rate than last year.

Hiring more police officers should be an immediate priority

Overall

City of Spokane

City of Spokane Valley



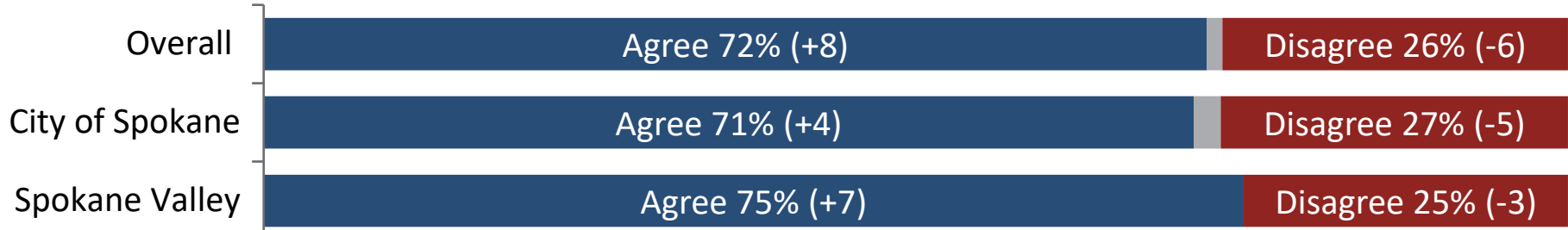


Government & Tax Attitudes

Taxes & Spending

No matter where, voters were more likely to feel local government is spending money inefficiently than that they are using tax dollars properly or have a cohesive plan to deal with critical issues.

[CITY] has enough money to address important priorities; they just need to spend it more effectively



I trust [CITY] to spend my tax dollars responsibly

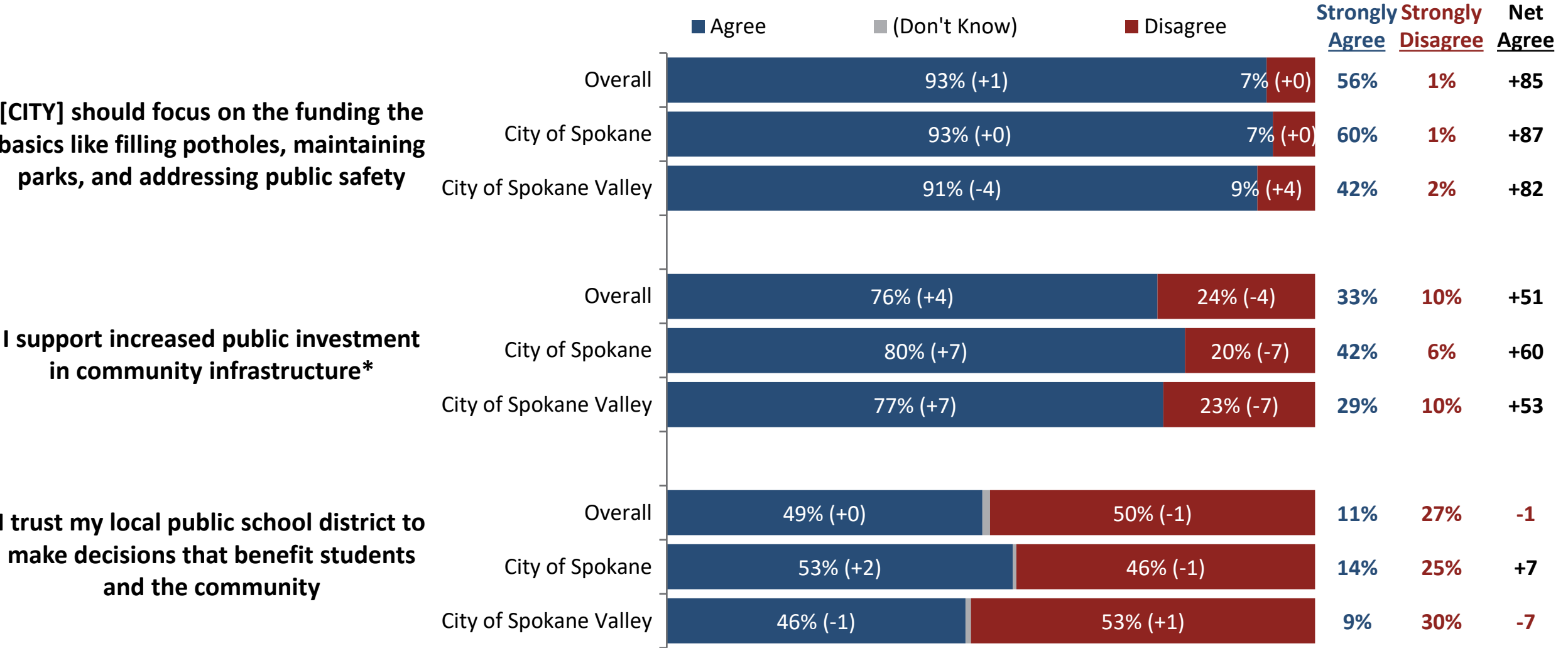


I trust that [CITY] has an effective plan to address the critical issues facing the city like homelessness, affordability, and public safety



Attitudes towards Governance and Education

The vast majority of respondents would prefer the area where they live to focus on basics, however they would also like to see increased investment on things that impact the community.



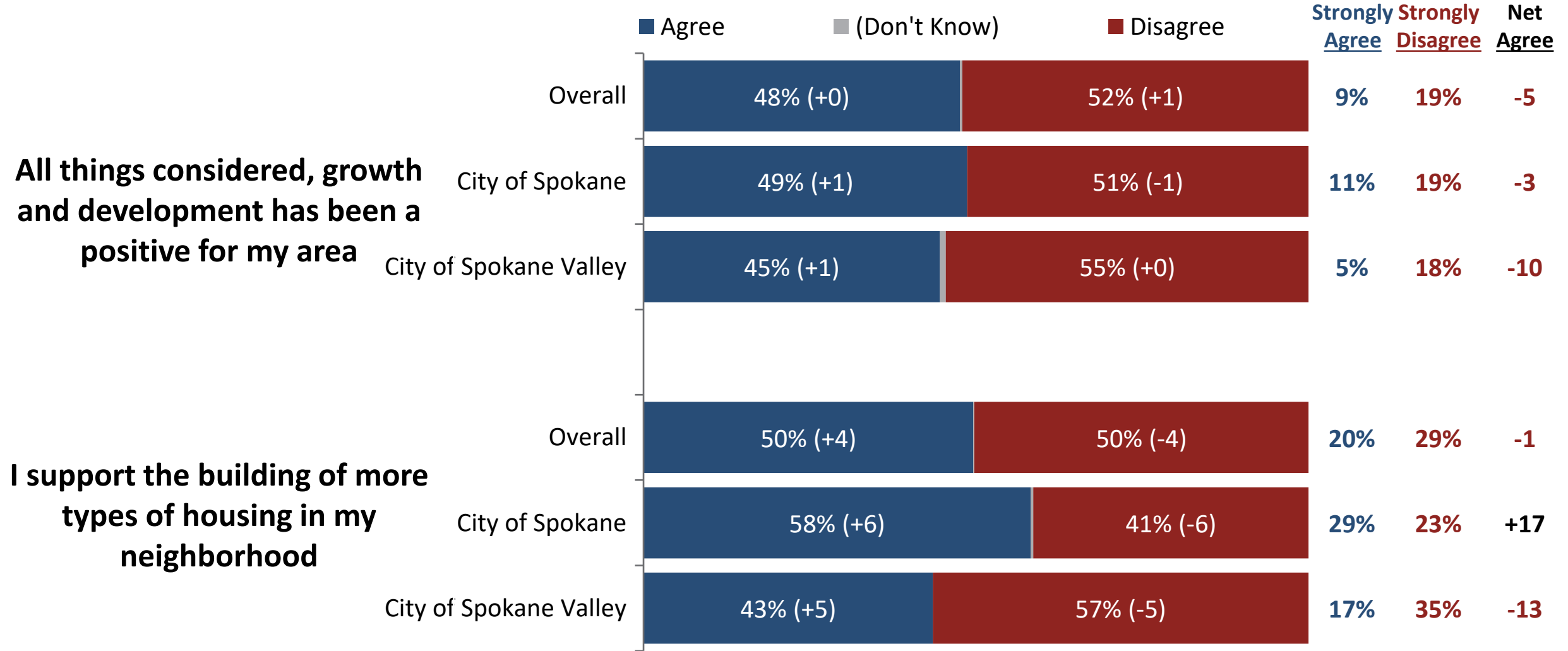
Q19-20/22. Do you strongly agree, somewhat agree, somewhat disagree, or strongly disagree with each of the following statements.



Housing and Growth

Attitudes towards Growth

Voters across the county remain evenly divided on the topic of growth and development. A majority of those in the City of Spokane are in favor for building more housing near them.



Q14/23. Do you strongly agree, somewhat agree, somewhat disagree, or strongly disagree with each of the following statements.

Growth and Development Open End

Those against recent development cite the overcrowding and poor planning choices as the reason for their disapproval. Meanwhile, those in favor like the impact it's had on the local economy, or believe growth is inherently positive.

Why do you agree that growth and development has been a positive for your area? (n=287)	%
Economic Growth and Job Opportunities	15% (-1)
General Positive	15% (+5)
Business Expansion and Diversity	14% (-4)
Community and Social Development	12% (+5)
Housing Improvements (Affordability/Stock/Value)	10% (+1)
Infrastructure Development and Improvement	8% (-5)
Growth's Positives and Negatives	7% (+0)
Population Increase and Urban Spread	7% (-1)
Environmental and Recreational Enhancements	3% (+1)
Other	2% (-3)
Don't know/Nothing/Refused	8% (+4)

Why do you disagree that growth and development has been a positive for your area? (n=311)	%
Overcrowding and Infrastructure Strain	22% (+6)
Poor Urban Planning and Development Decisions	16% (-1)
Leadership and Governance Criticisms	10% (+4)
Housing Affordability and Accessibility Issues	10% (+2)
Traffic Congestion and Transportation Issues	9% (+1)
General Negative	6% (-2)
Increased Crime and Safety Concerns	6% (-6)
Businesses Closing	5% (-1)
Inflation	5% (+1)
Increase in Homelessness	4% (-6)
Other	4% (+3)
Don't Know/Nothing/Refused	2% (-2)

Q25.

*Open-ended, Responses coded into categories

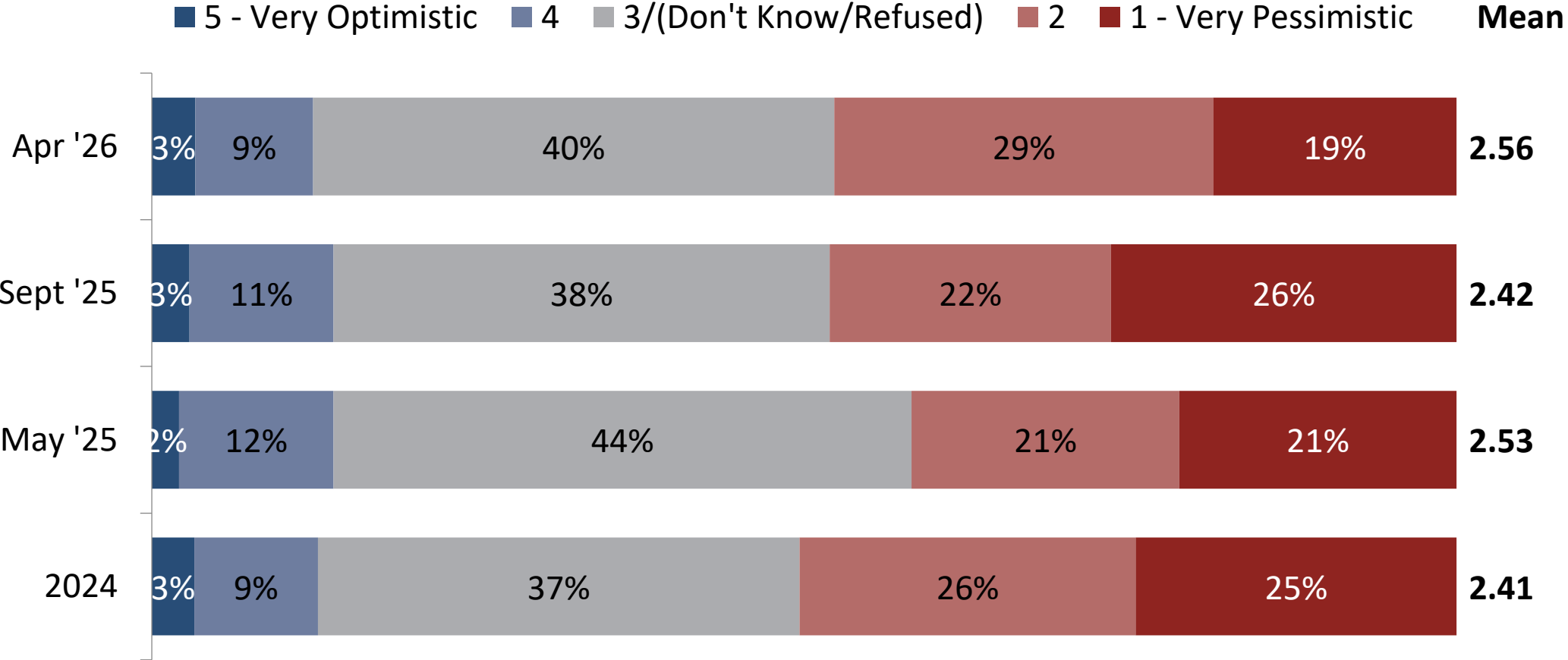


Downtown Visitation & Economic Recovery

Spokane Economic Sentiment

Voters remain pessimistic about the area's economy, though with less intensity than six months ago.

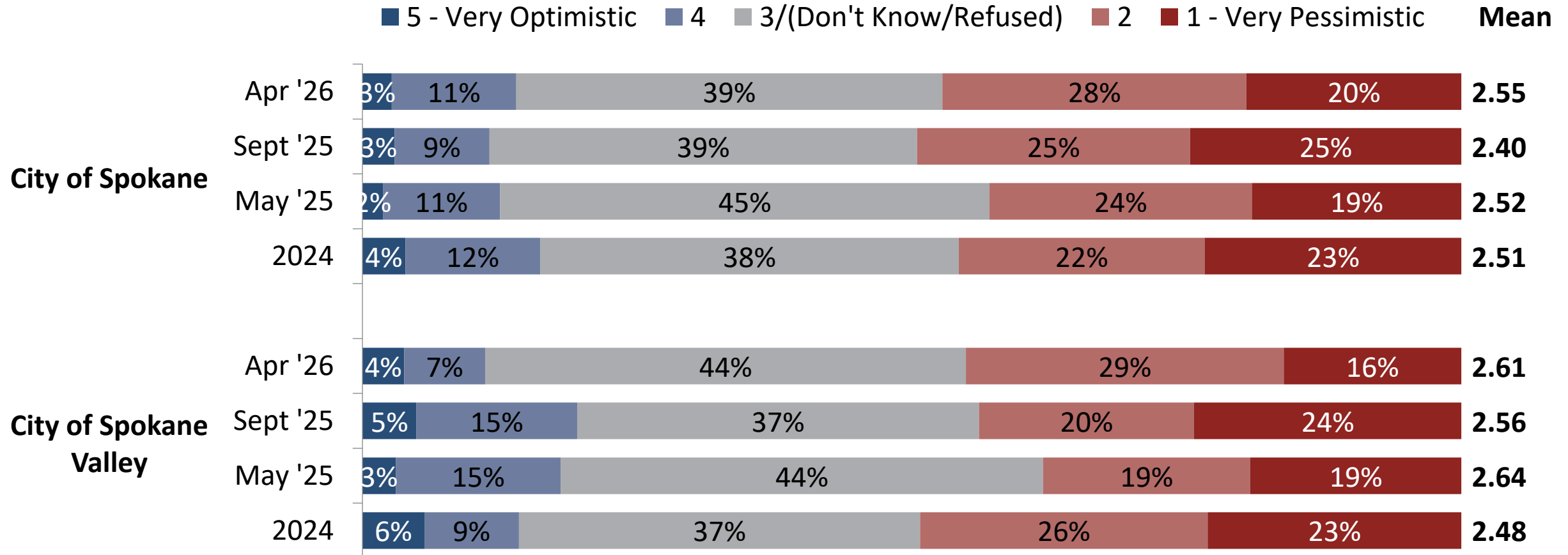
How do you feel about the area's economy?



Spokane Economic Sentiment

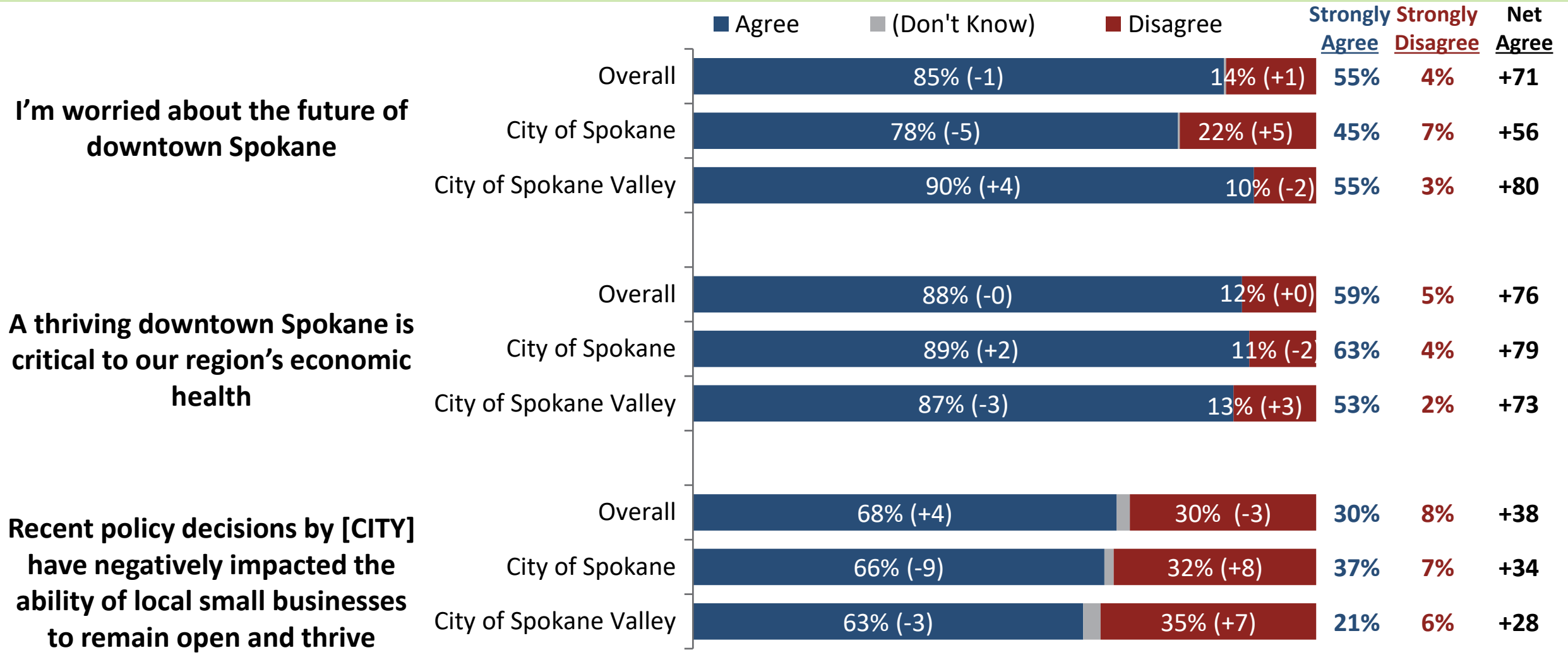
Optimism about the economy is low in both Spokane and Spokane Valley.

How do you feel about the area's economy?



Downtown & Economic Recovery

Voters recognize the importance of downtown Spokane and are concerned about its direction. Two-thirds of voters believe recent policy decisions are negatively impacting small businesses in the region.



Recent Policy Decisions

Taxes were consistently mentioned as the most important factor negatively impacting small businesses.

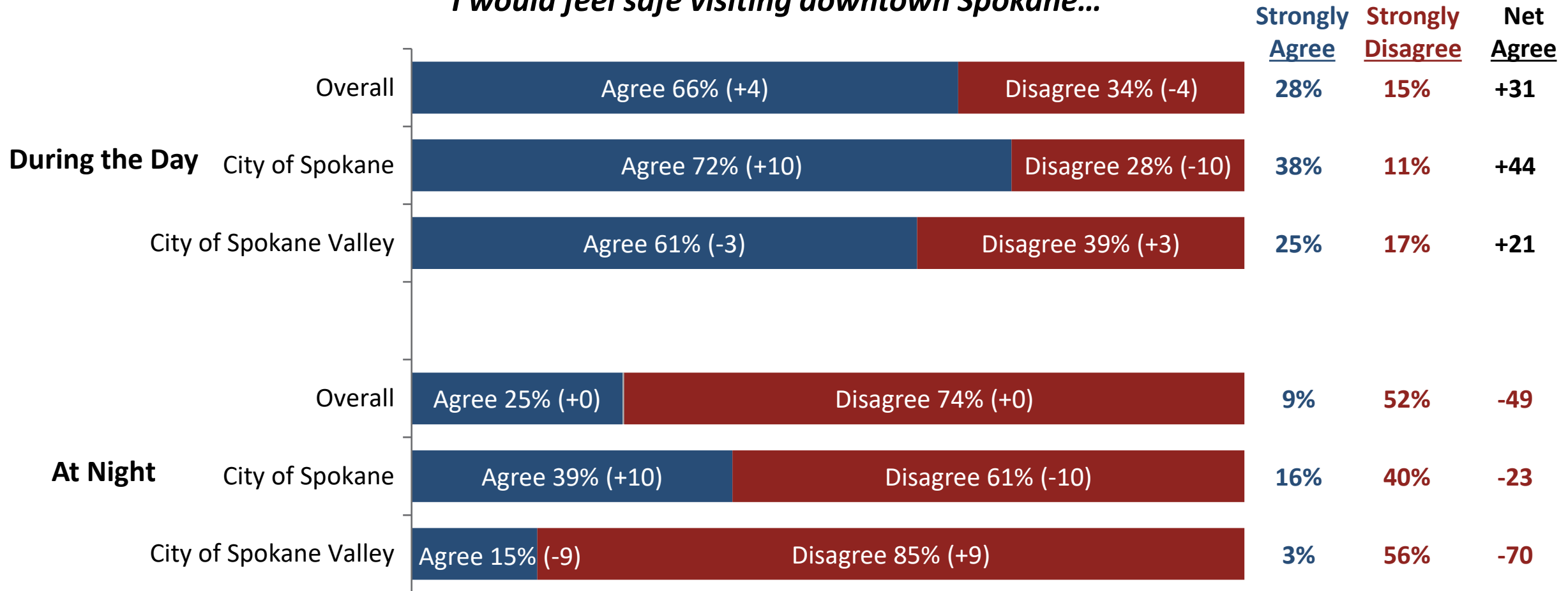
**What recent policy decisions have negatively impacted the ability of local small businesses to remain open and thrive?
(Open-ended, Responses coded into categories)**

	Overall (n=401)	City of Spokane (n=195)	City of Spokane Valley (n=61)
Taxes	32%	28%	39%
Homelessness/Encampments	10%	13%	5%
Politicians/Government	9%	10%	8%
Crime/Drugs/Law enforcement	6%	8%	6%
Parking cost/Parking tax	4%	7%	2%
Cost of living	4%	5%	4%
Minimum wage increases	3%	4%	3%
Affordable housing	2%	2%	3%
Other	8%	7%	6%
None/Nothing	1%	1%	-
Don't know/Unsure	14%	12%	14%
Refused/No comment	5%	4%	9%

Visiting Downtown

Ratings of safety in downtown Spokane have improved, especially among voters in the city itself. Despite the improvements, three-in-five voters in the City of Spokane report not feeling safe downtown at night.

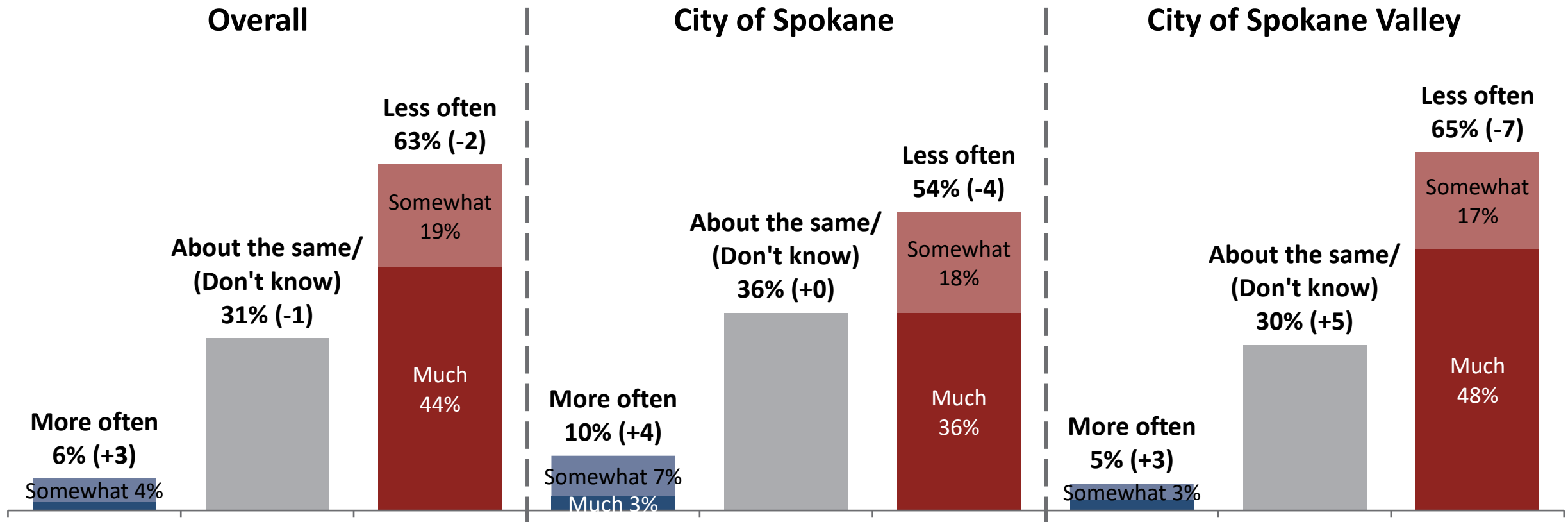
I would feel safe visiting downtown Spokane...



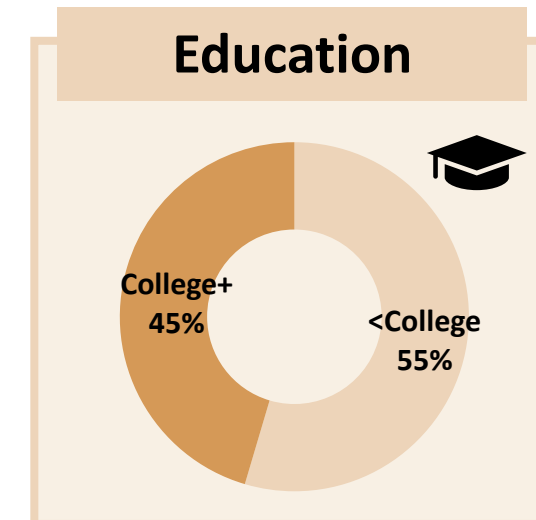
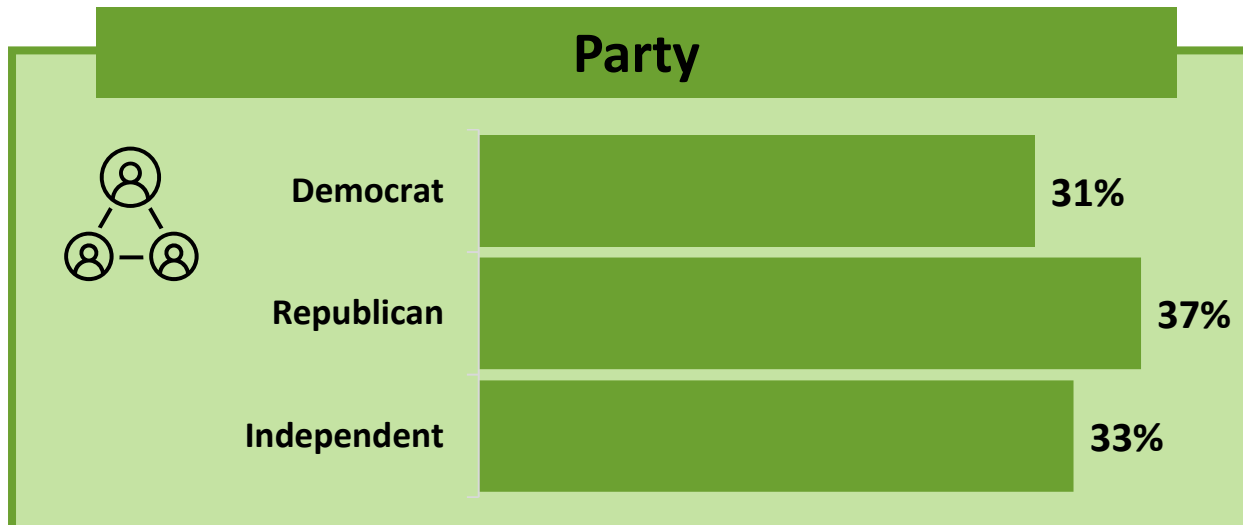
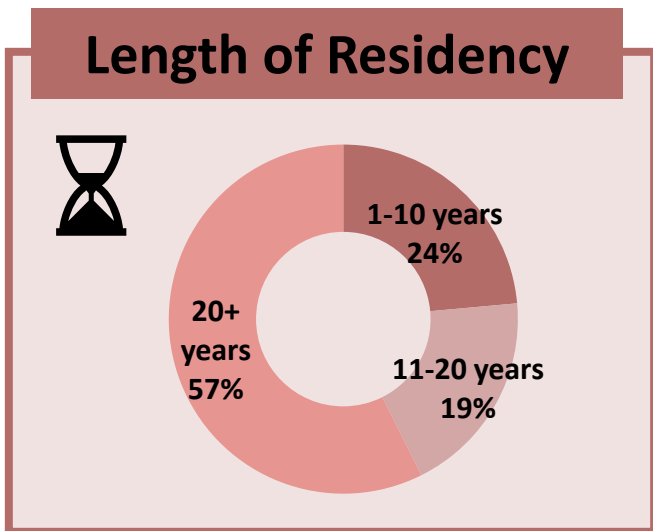
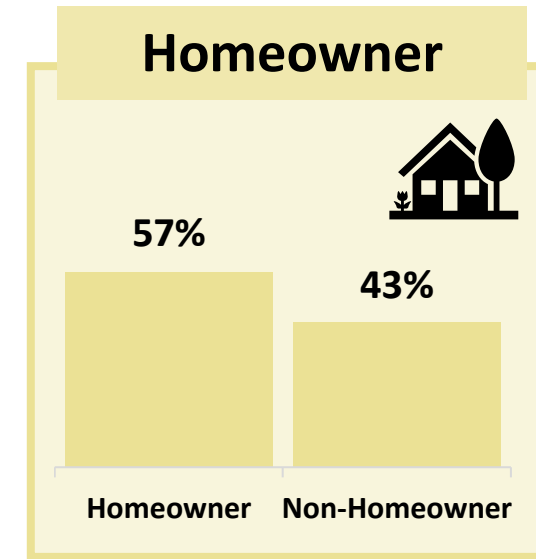
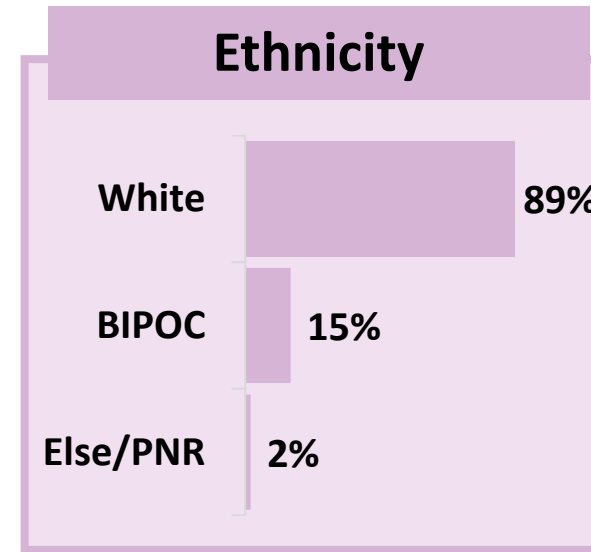
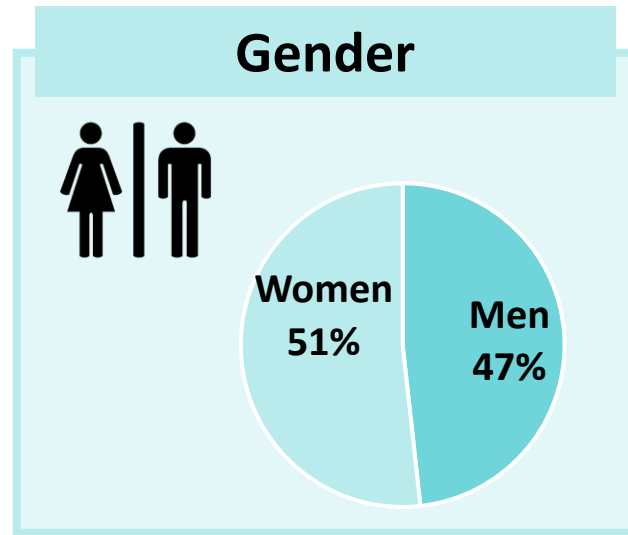
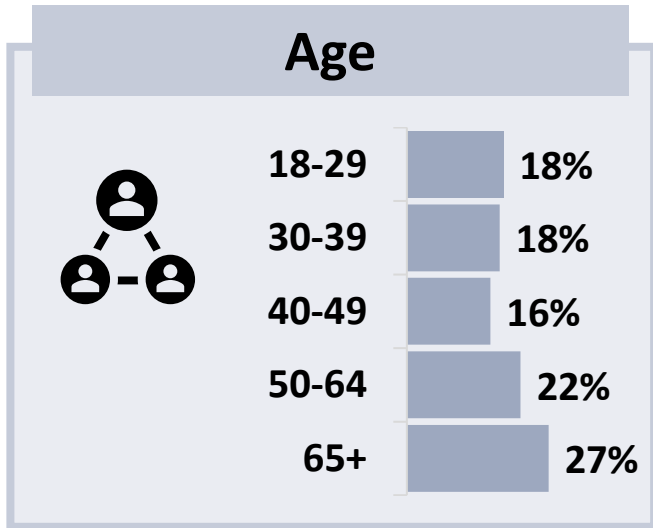
Visiting Downtown Spokane

Reported change to downtown visitation remains steady, with about two-thirds of voters indicating they visit downtown less often.

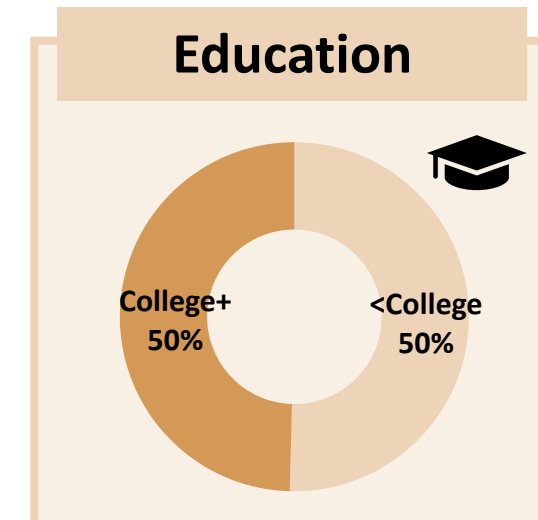
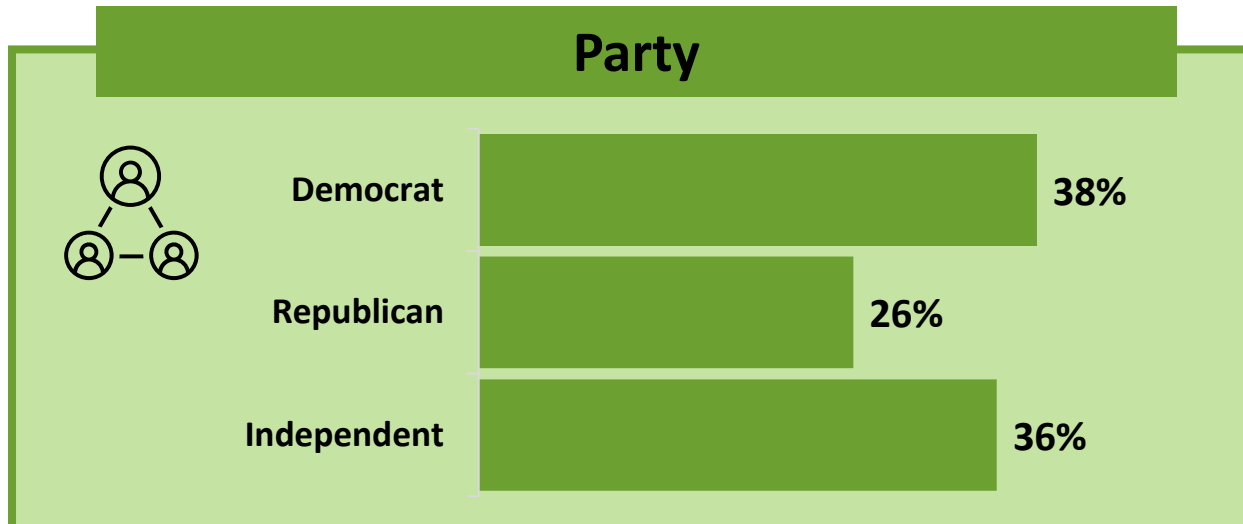
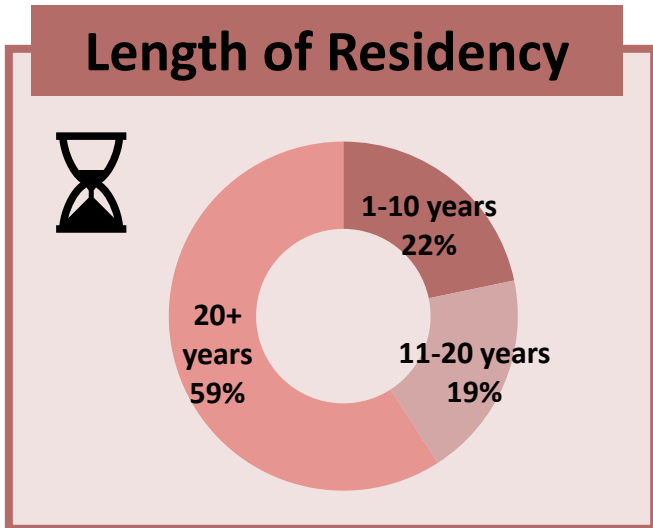
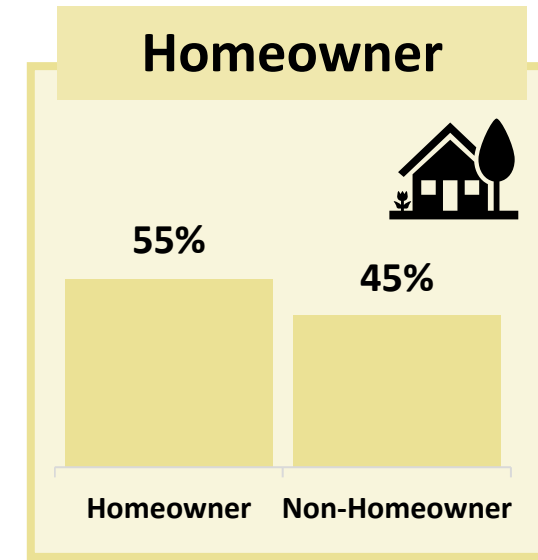
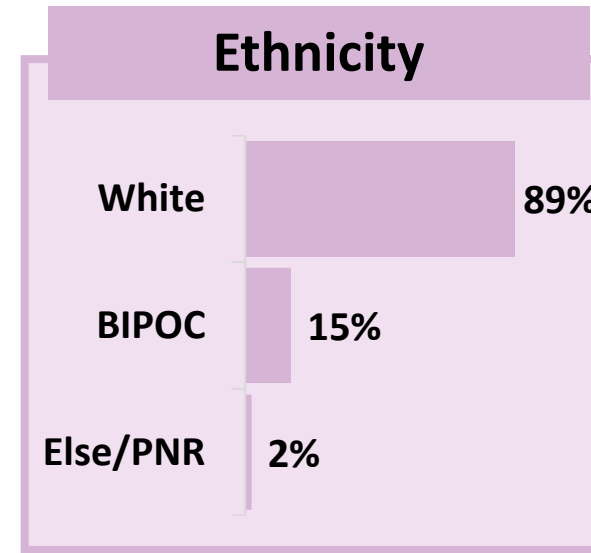
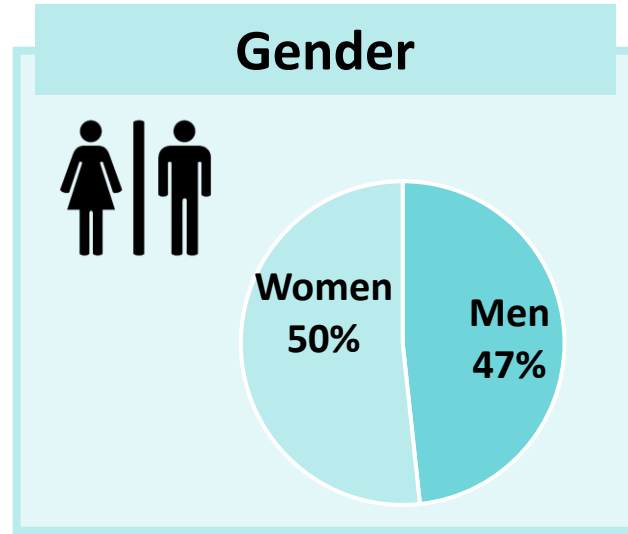
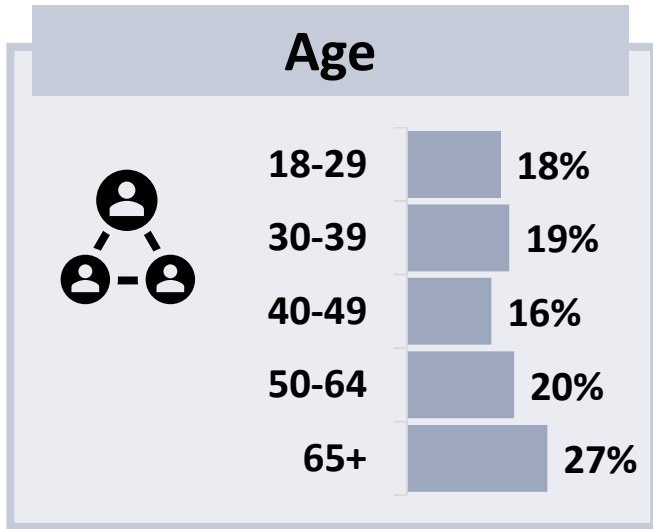
And currently, for activities other than work, are you visiting downtown Spokane more, less, or about the same as you did a year ago?



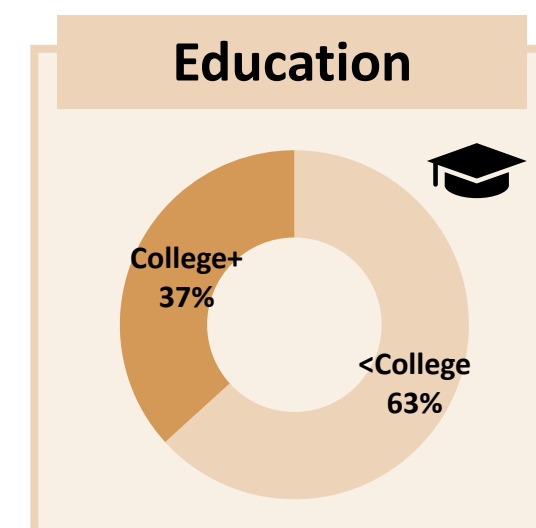
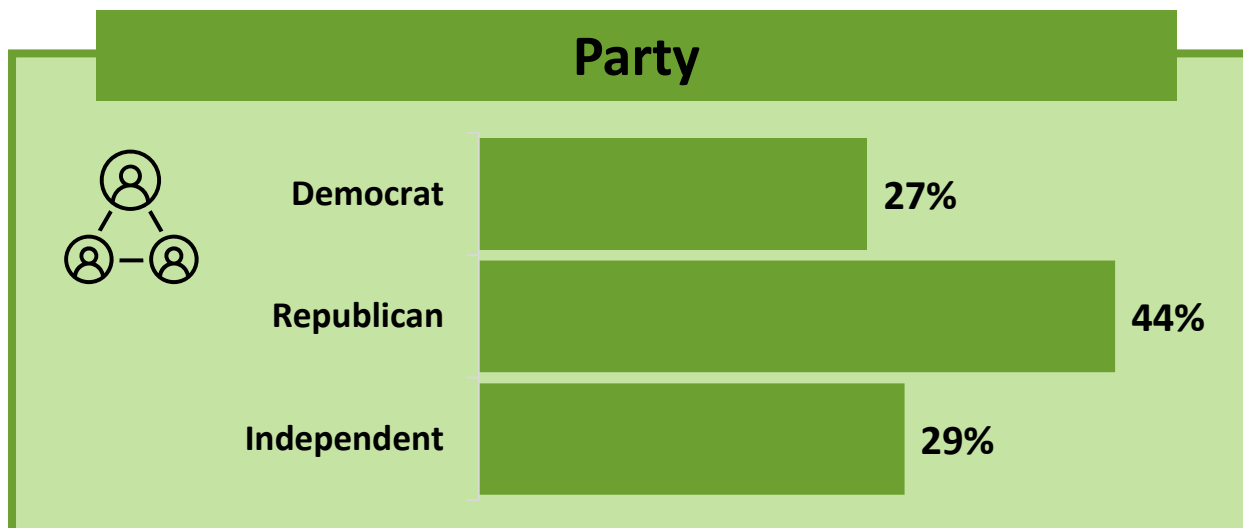
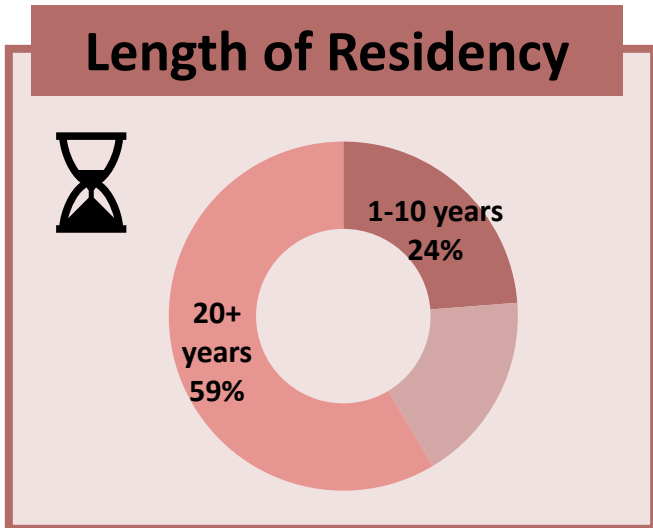
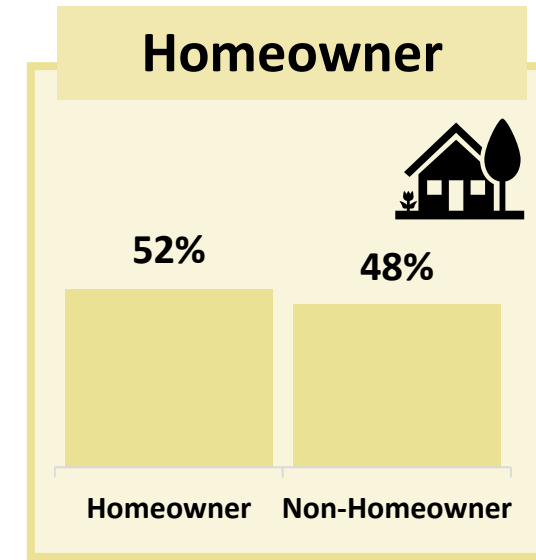
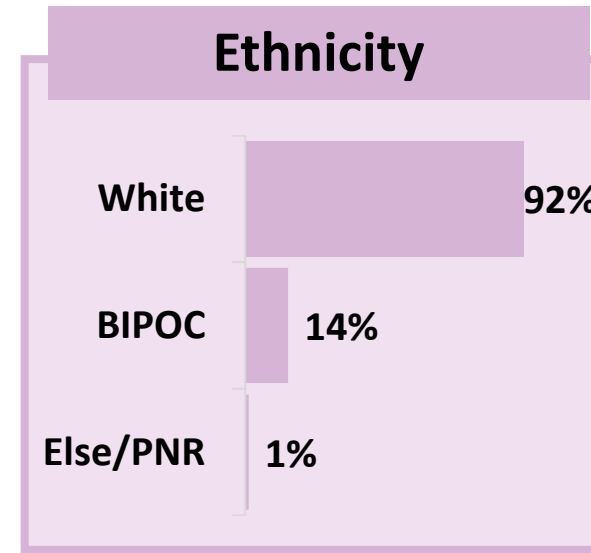
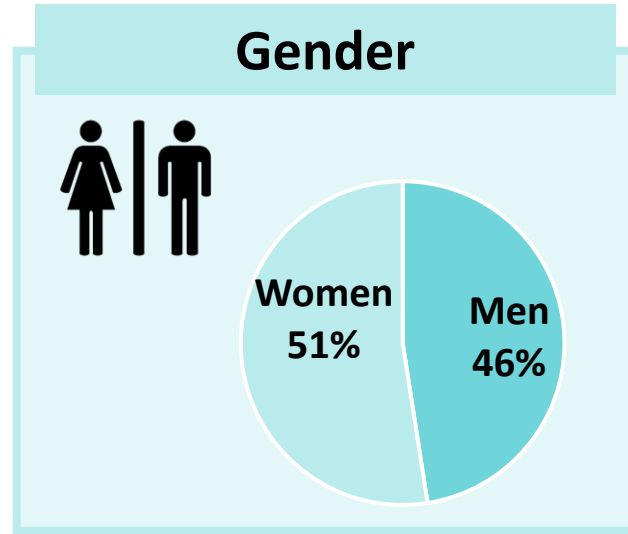
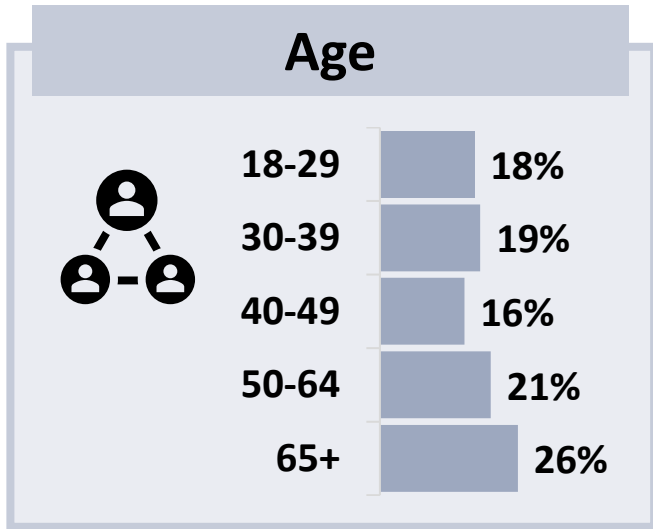
Respondent Profiles – Spokane County



Respondent Profiles - City of Spokane



Respondent Profiles – Spokane Valley





Kevin White

kwhite@emcresearch.com

206.204.8033

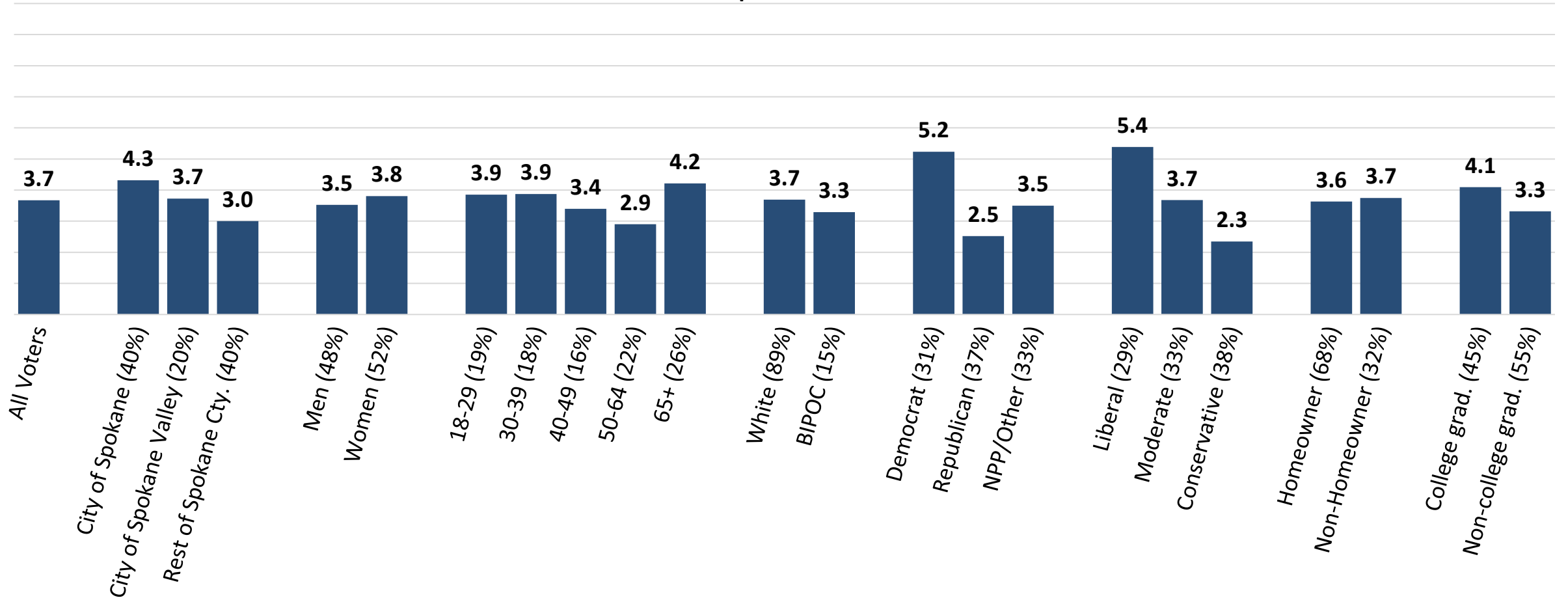


Appendix: Subgroup Data

Spokane Pulse Index by Subgroups

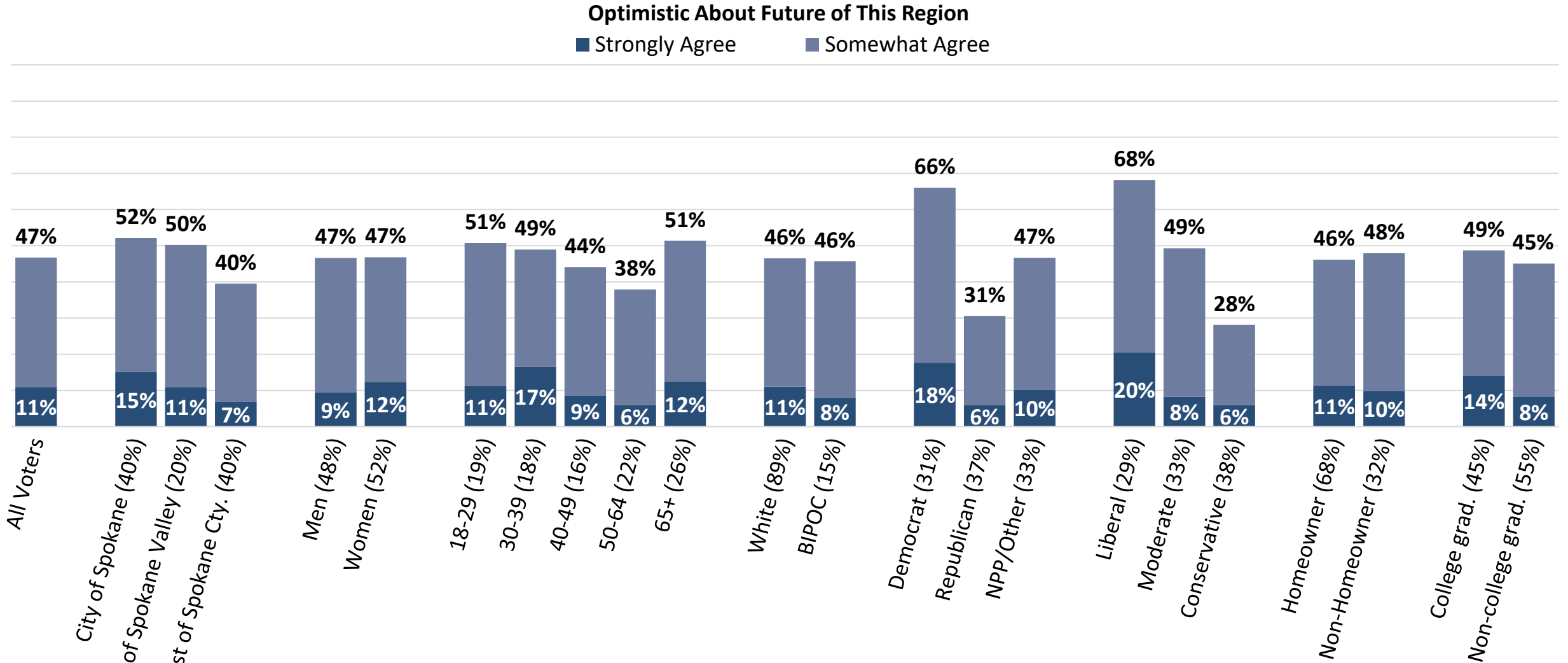
Quality of life ratings are higher in the City of Spokane than in the rest of the county. Middle-aged voters and conservative voters report lower aggregate quality of life ratings.

Quality of Life Index
April 2026



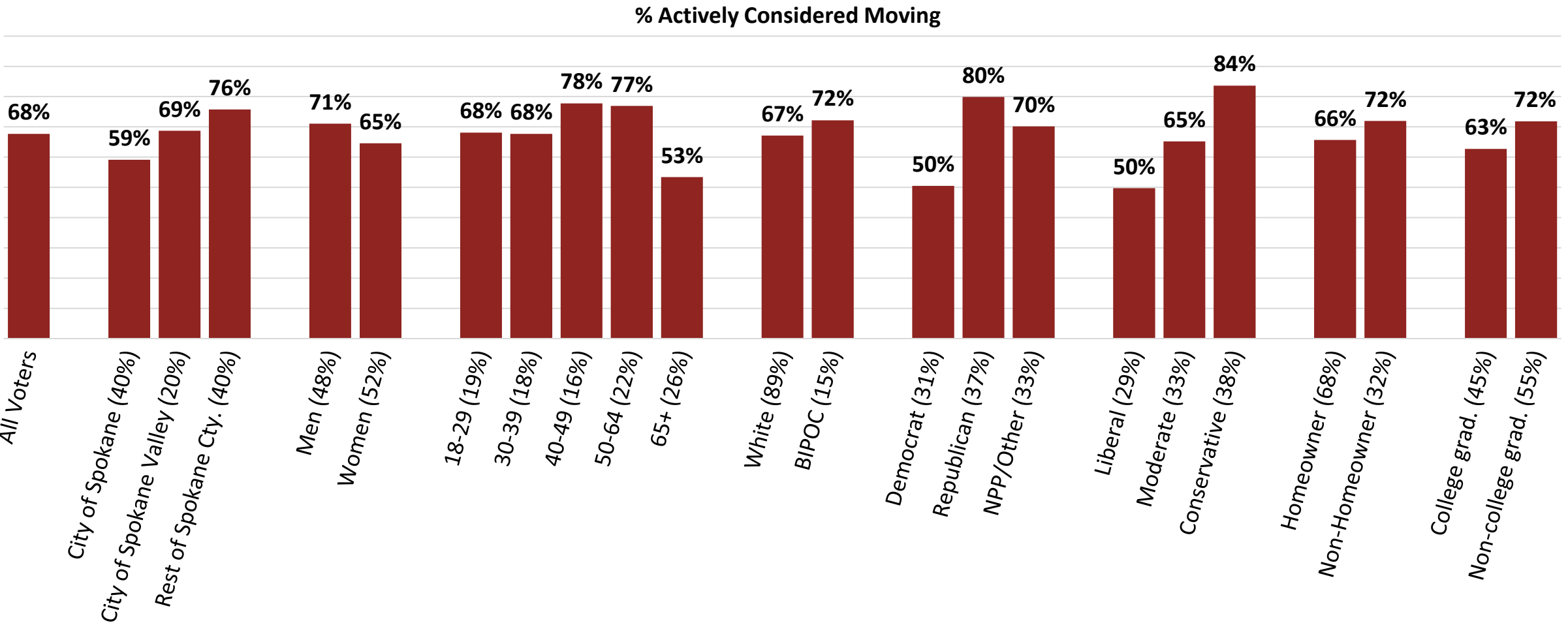
Optimism

Voters on the highest and lowest ends of the age spectrum express the most optimism, along with those who are left leaning.



Leaving Spokane

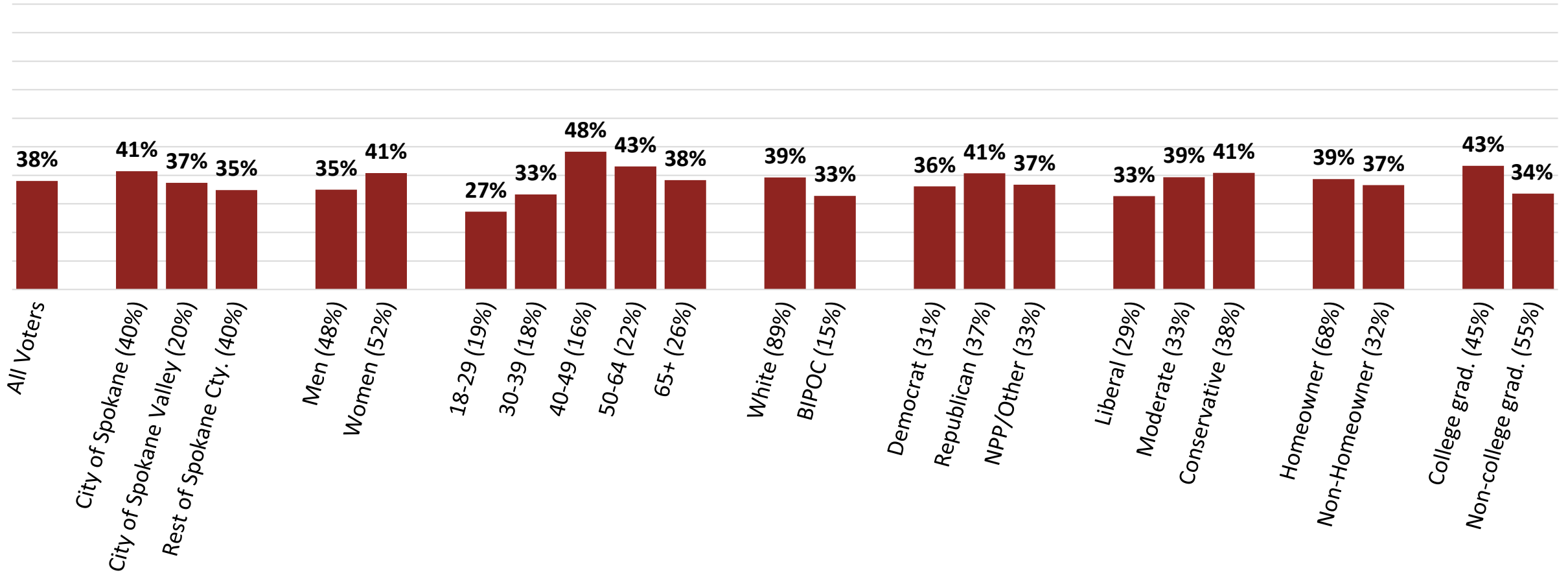
Middle-aged and conservative voters, along with those outside of Spokane and Spokane Valley, are most likely to consider moving.



Concern About Homelessness

Mentions of homelessness as a top concern are fairly consistent across key demographic groups. Younger voters are less likely to mention homelessness as their most pressing issue.

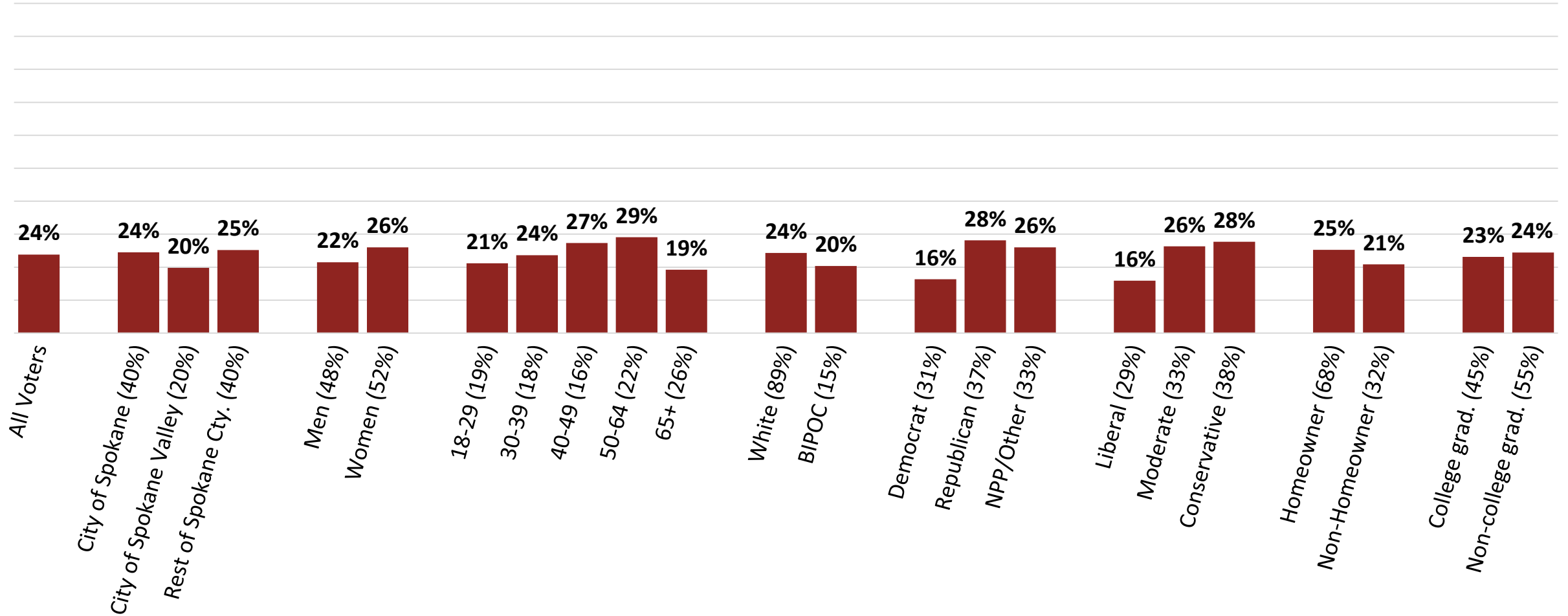
“What are the issues facing the Spokane region that you are most frustrated of concerned about?”
 (% who mention Homelessness)



Concern About Public Safety

Conservative voters as well as homeowners are the most concerned about crime.

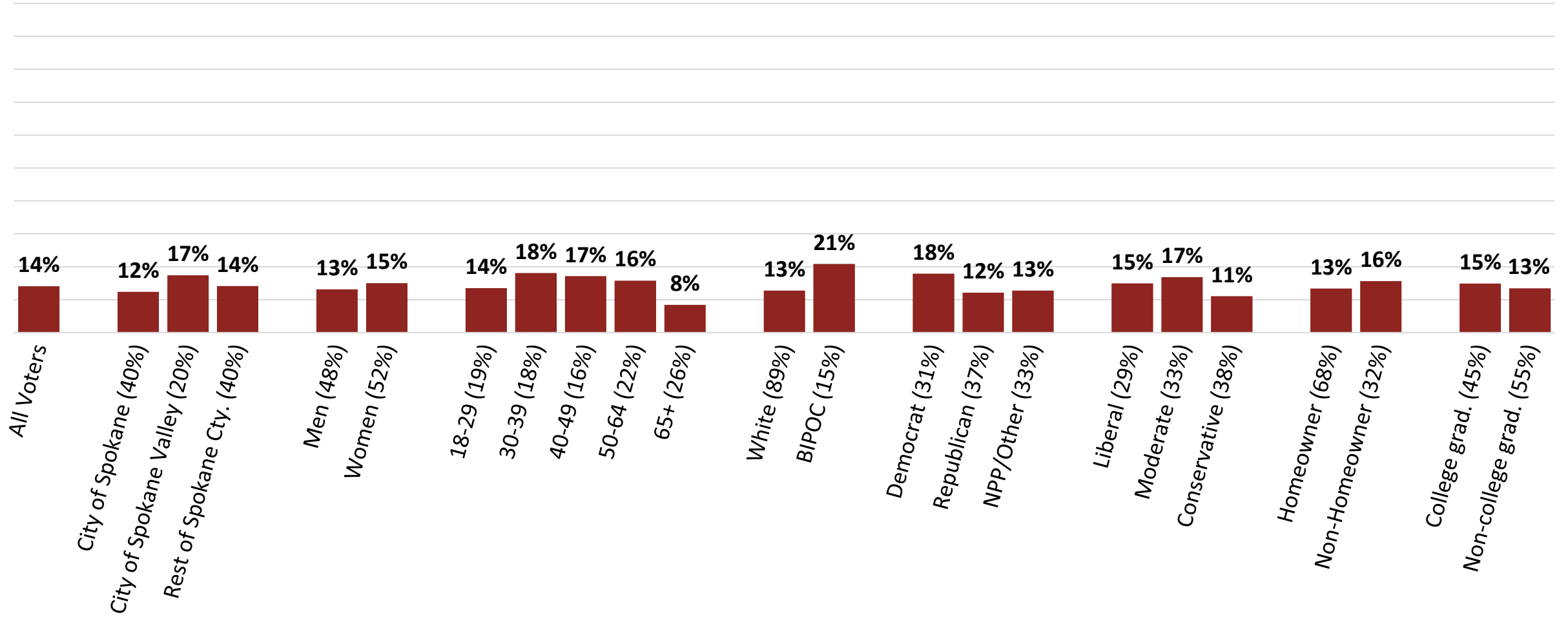
“What are the issues facing the Spokane region that you are most frustrated of concerned about?”
(% who mention Public Safety)



Concern About Inflation/Cost of Living

Voters of color and those in Spokane Valley report being hit especially hard by the increased cost of living.

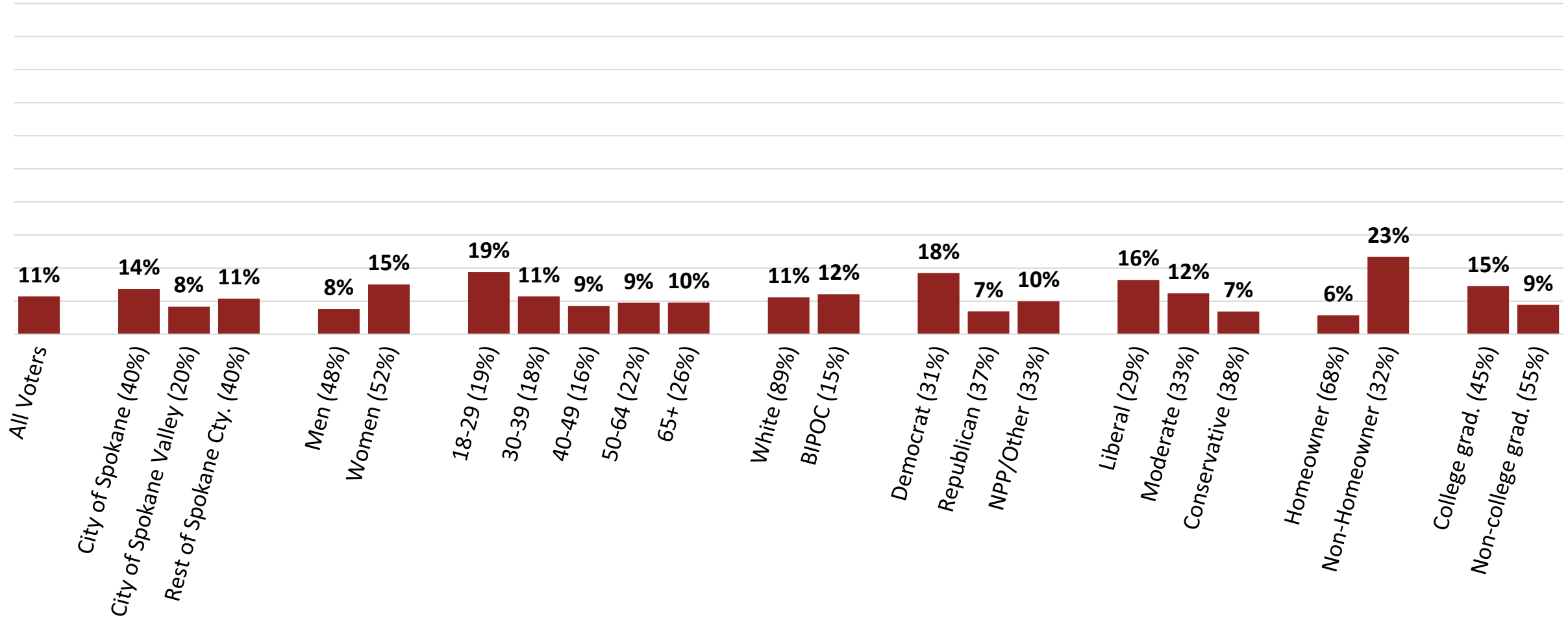
“What are the issues facing the Spokane region that you are most frustrated or concerned about?”
(% who mention Inflation/Cost of Living)



Concern About Affordable Housing

Younger voters and renters were the most likely to mention affordable housing as a concern.

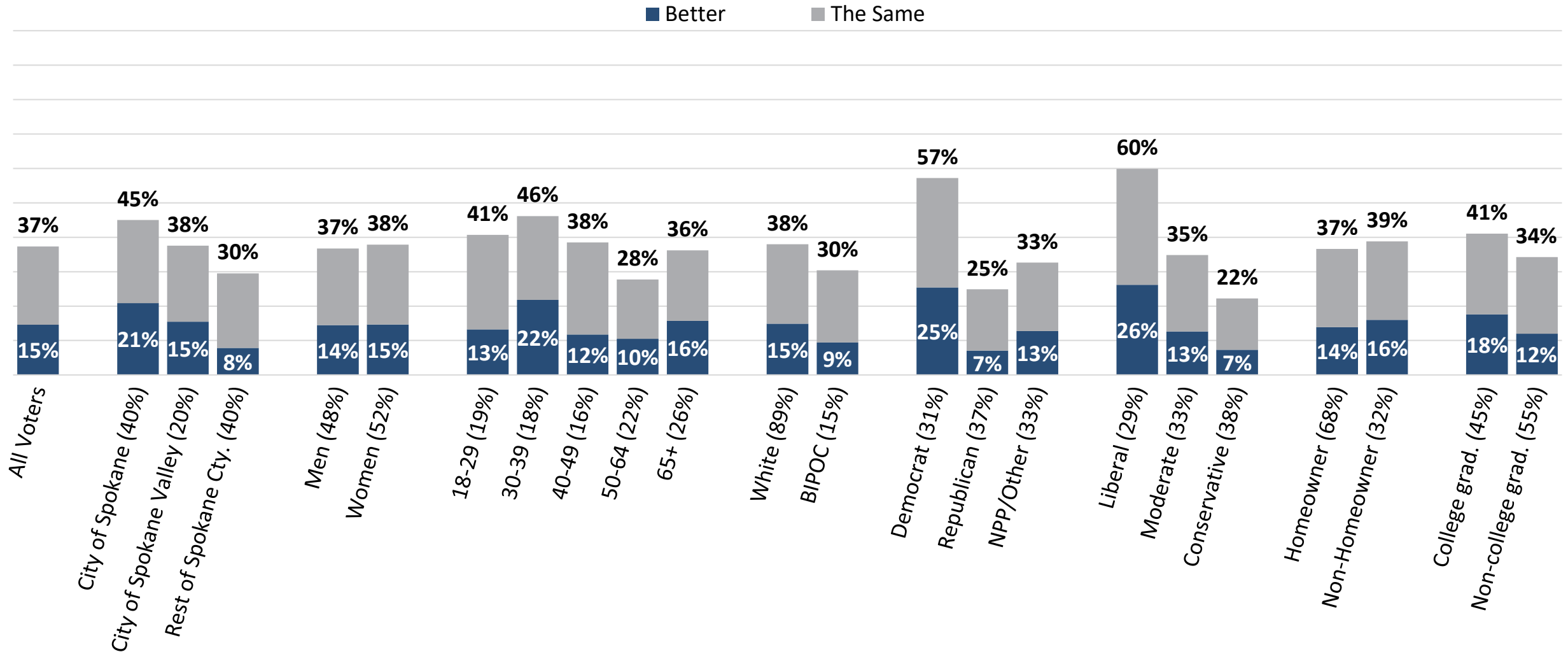
“What are the issues facing the Spokane region that you are most frustrated of concerned about?”
(% who mention Affordable Housing)



Quality of Life

Liberal voters are more likely to see the situation as improving or holding steady.

Do you think the overall quality of life in The Spokane Region is getting better, staying the same, or getting worse?

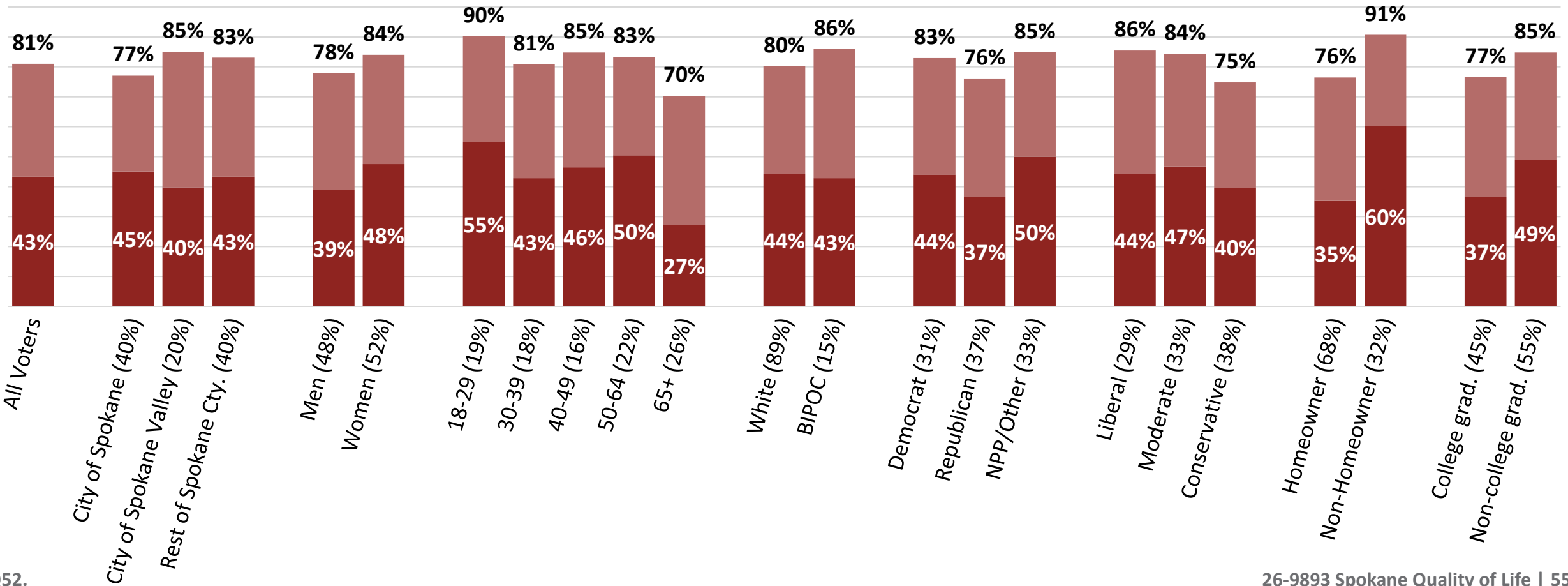


Personal Financial Situation

There is considerable concern about finances across subgroups; but older, educated, and conservative voters see it as slightly less worrying.

“How concerned are you about your personal financial situation given current economic conditions?”

Very Concerned Somewhat Concerned

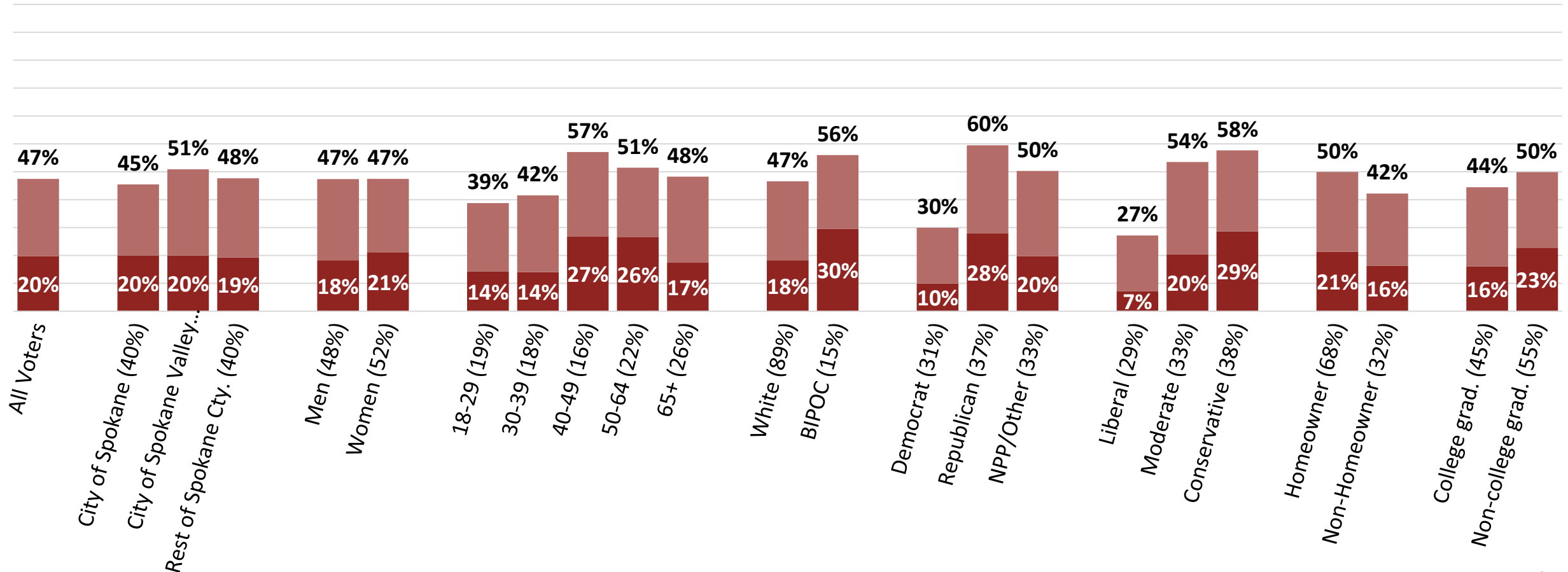


Neighborhood Safety

Voters over 40 and non-white voters report neighborhood safety declining. Liberal-leaning voters are less likely to say their neighborhoods have gotten less safe over time.

Thinking about safety in your neighborhood, including property crime and violent crime compared to two years ago do you feel...

■ Much less safe ■ Somewhat less safe

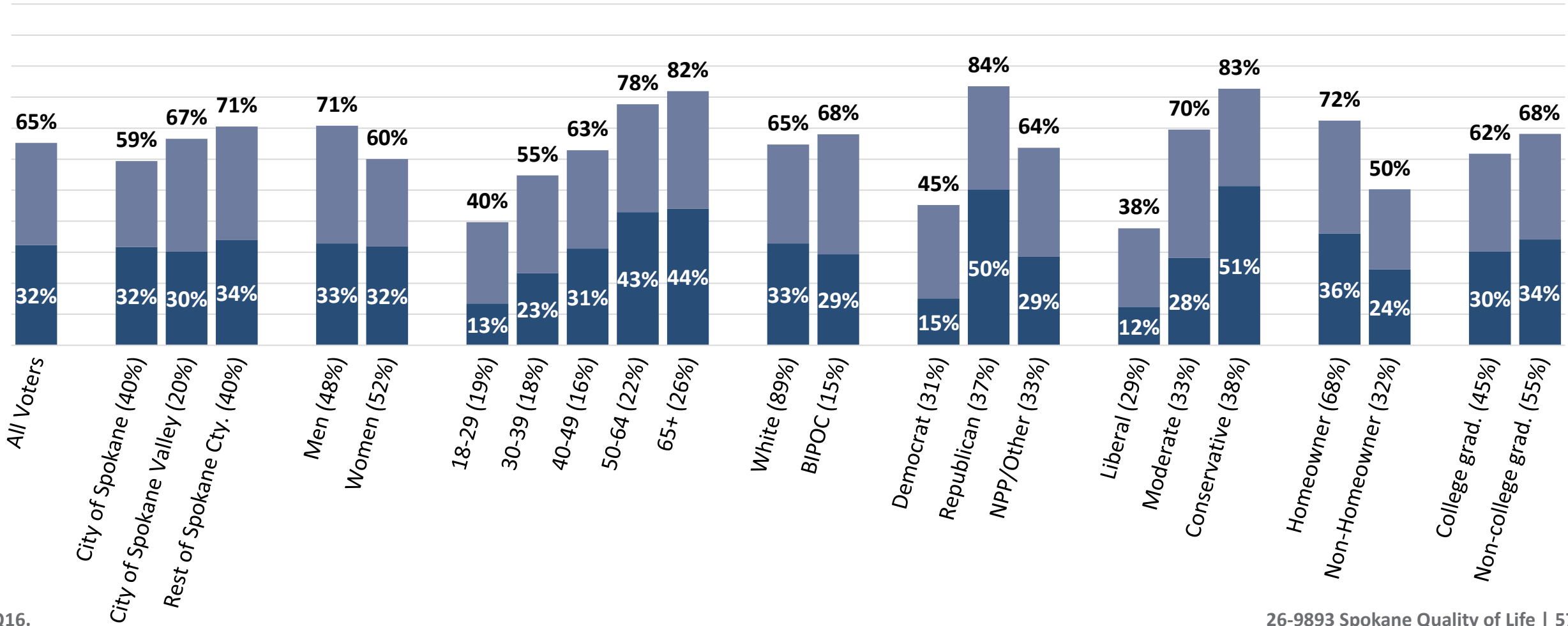


Police Hiring

Agreement with the need for police officers increases as age does, with conservative voters agreeing at a higher rate.

“Hiring more police officers should be a top priority”

■ Strongly Agree ■ Somewhat Agree

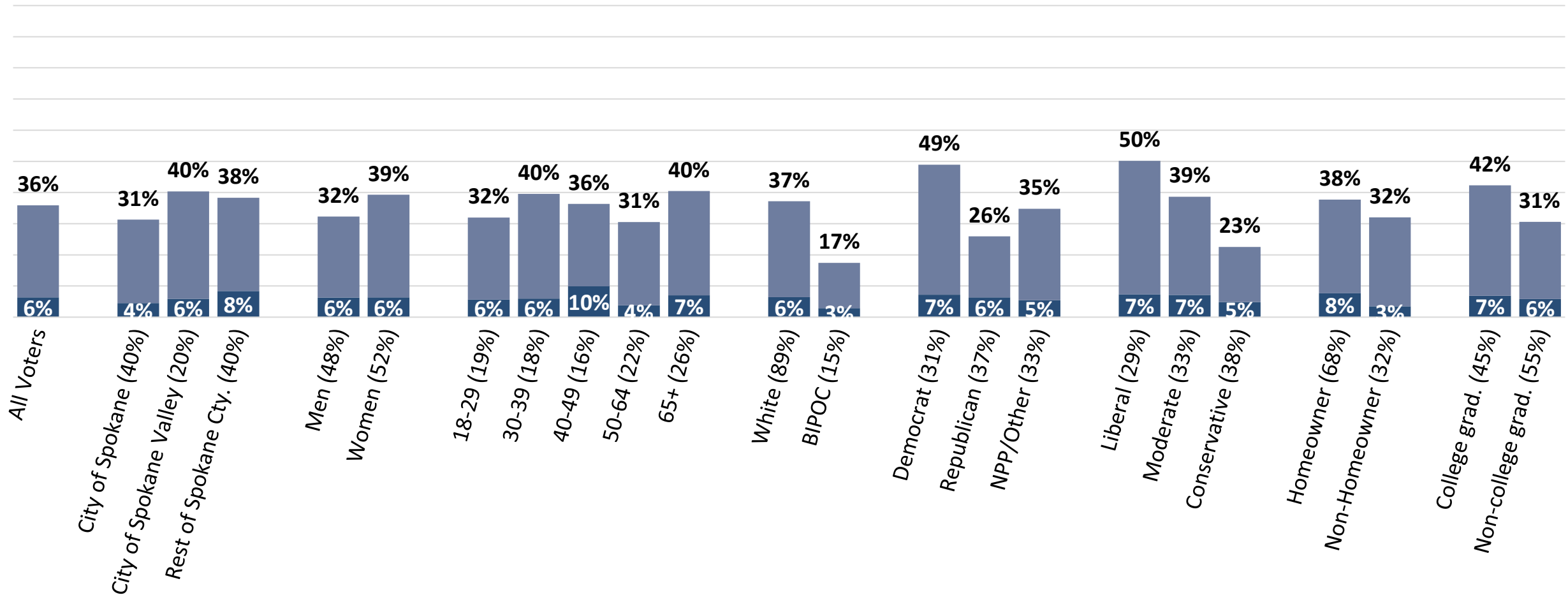


Trust in Government Spending

Trust in local government to spend tax dollars responsibly is consistently low across key subgroups.

"I trust [CITY] to spend my tax dollars responsibly"

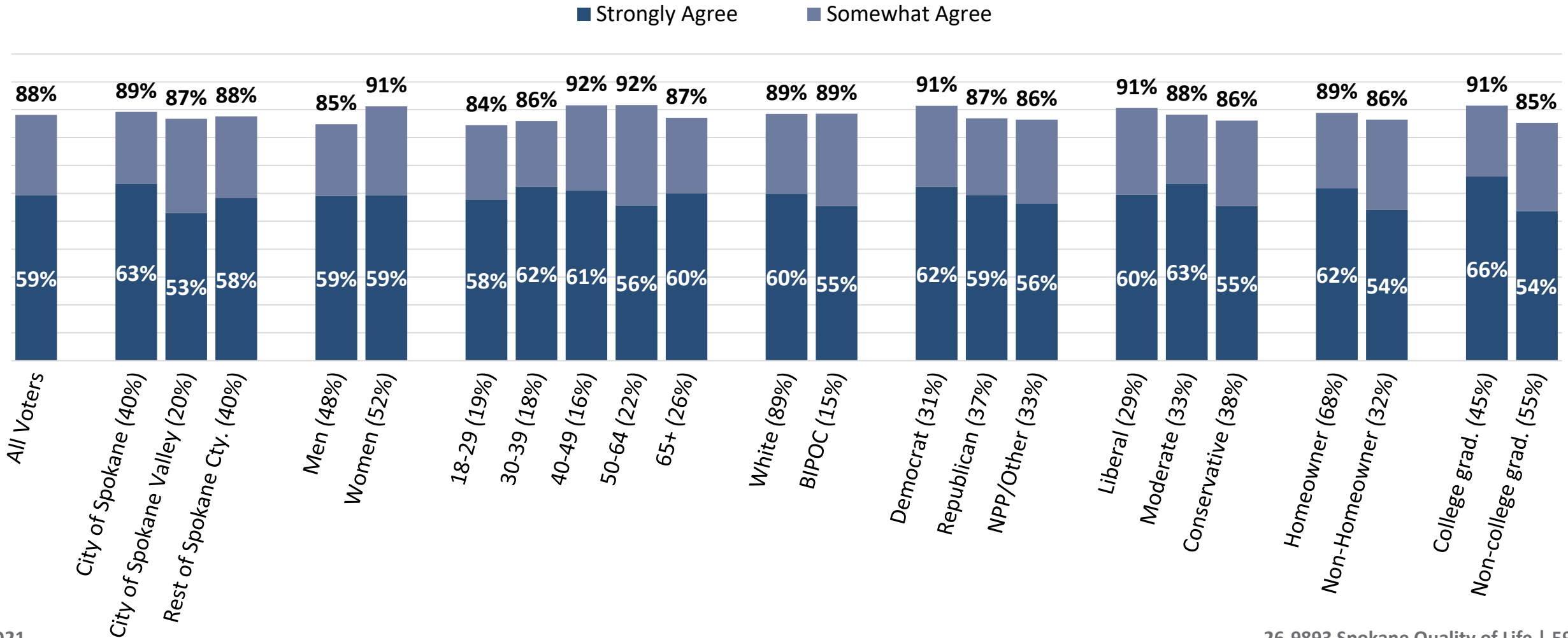
■ Strongly Agree ■ Somewhat Agree



Thriving Downtown

No matter who, everyone recognizes the importance of downtown Spokane succeeding.

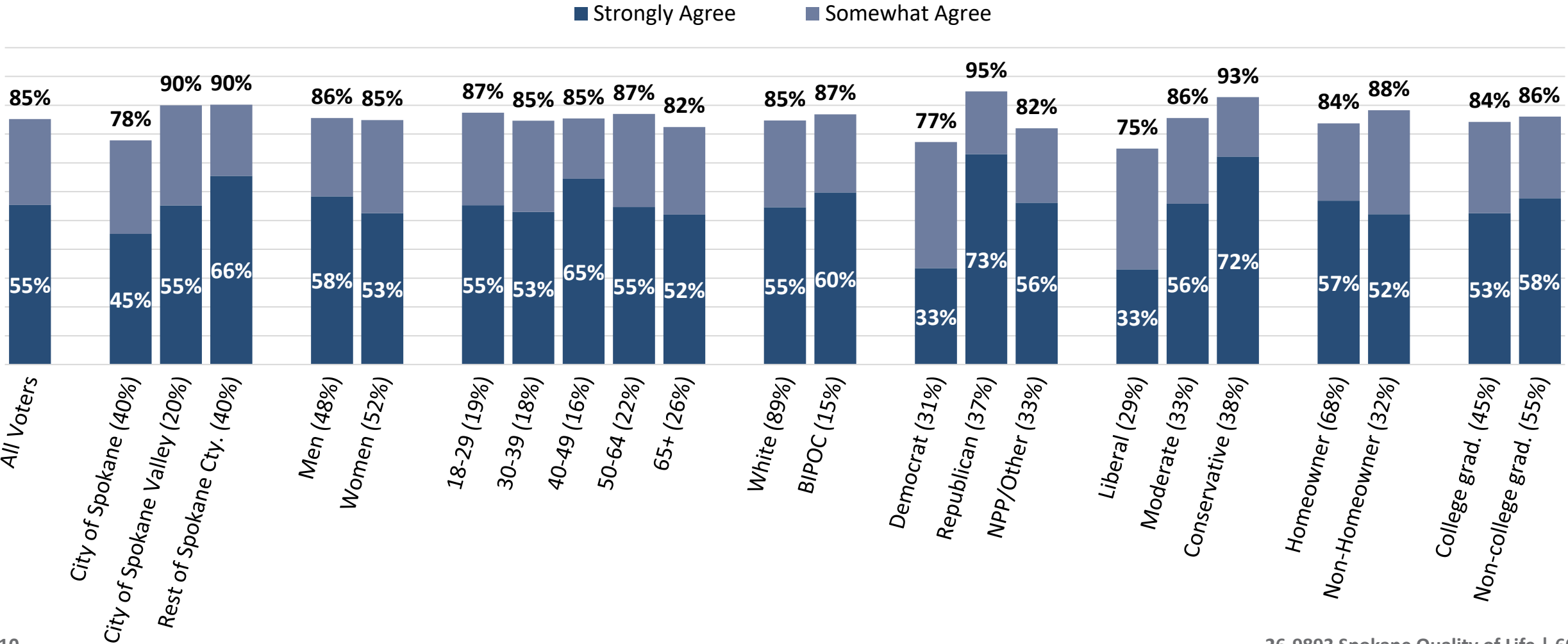
“A thriving downtown Spokane is critical to our region’s economic health”



Concern About the Future of Downtown

Concern for downtown Spokane is high across subgroups, with concern especially intense among Republican voters.

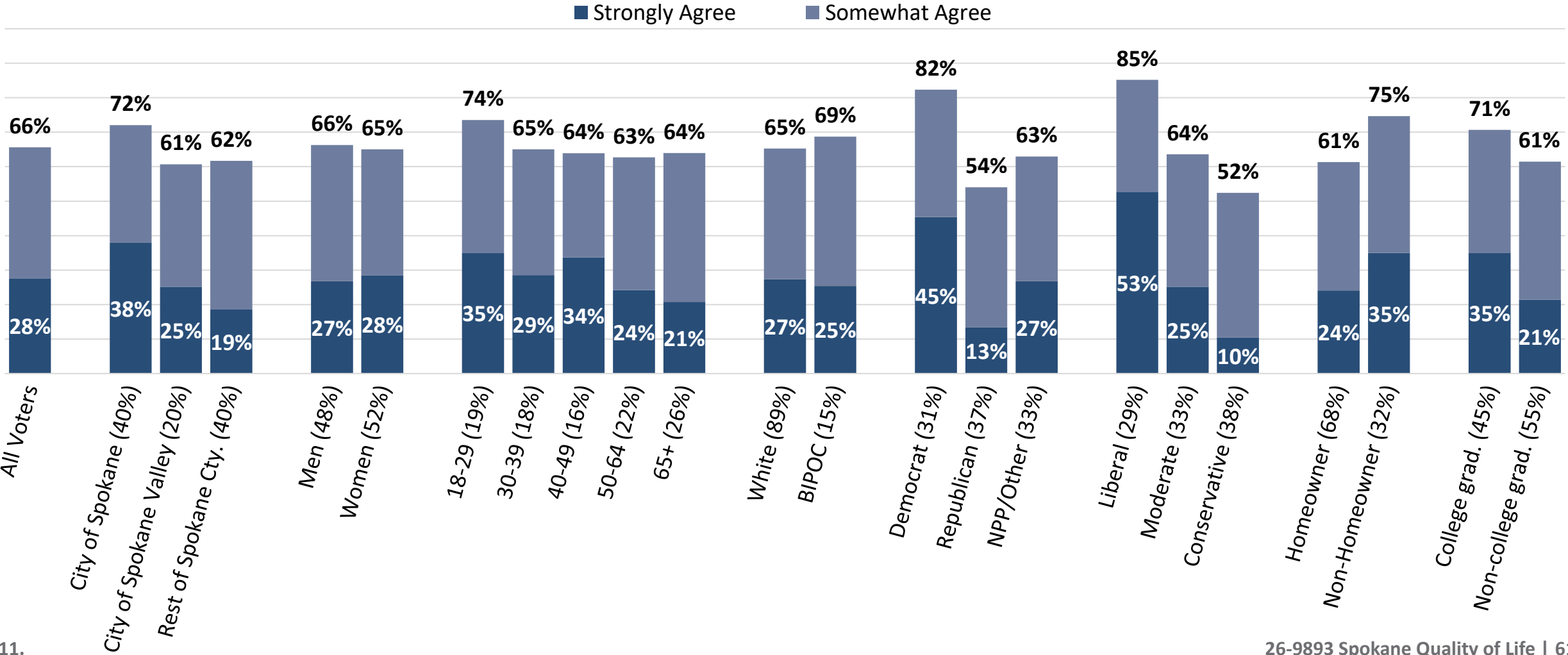
“I’m worried about the future of downtown Spokane”



Downtown Safety During the Day

Younger and liberal voters feel the safest visiting during the day, as do renters and college graduates.

"I would feel safe visiting downtown Spokane during the day"

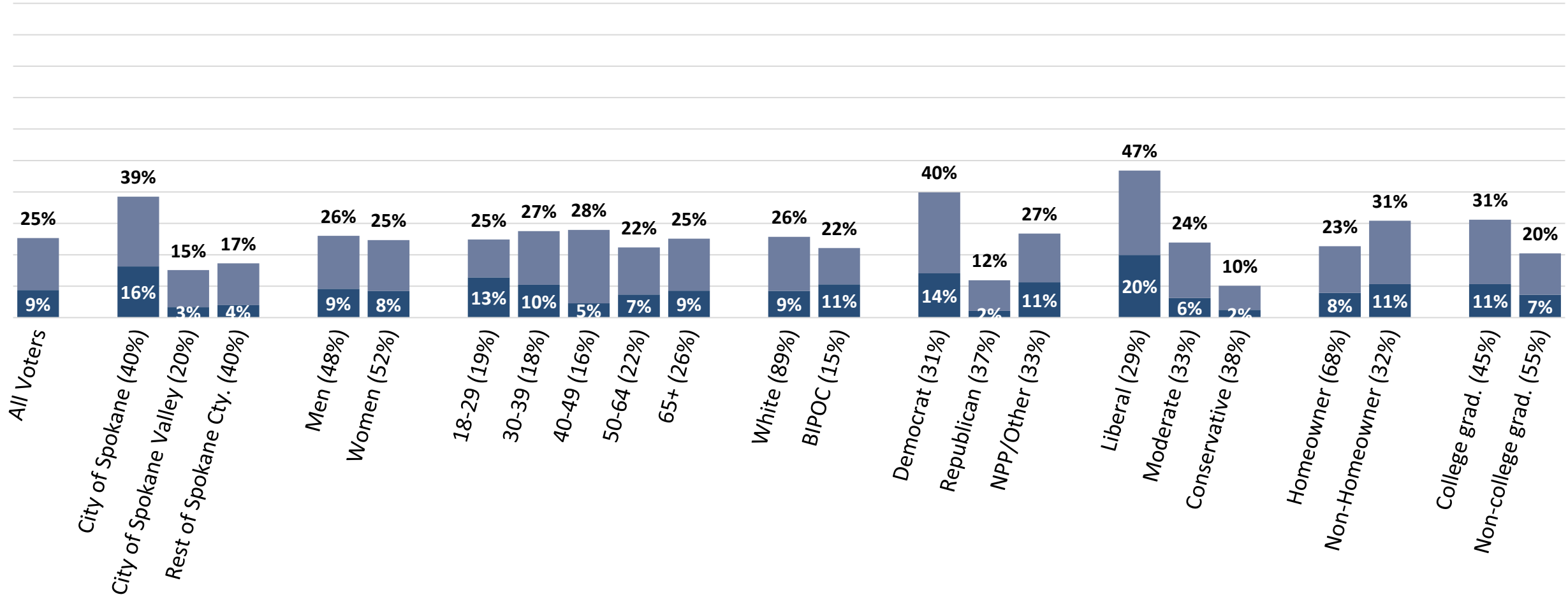


Downtown Safety at Night

Those who live in the city feel significantly safer about visiting downtown at night.

"I would feel safe visiting downtown Spokane at night"

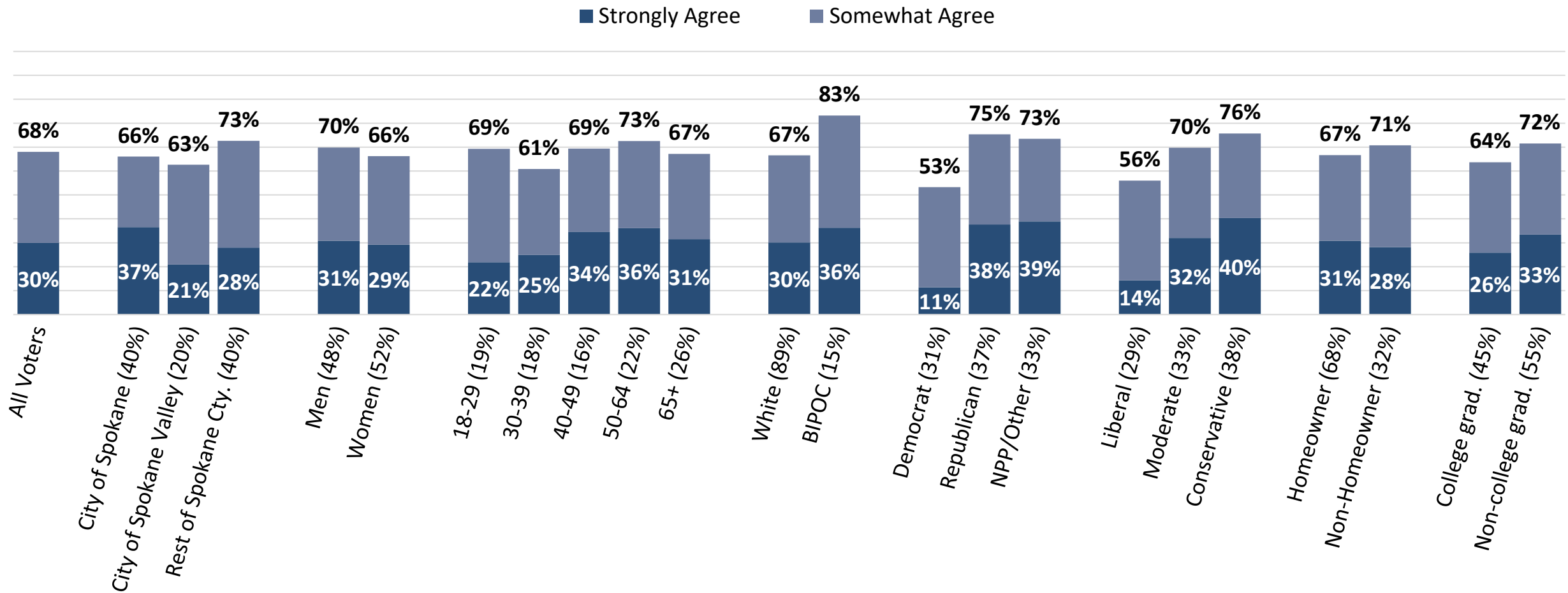
■ Strongly Agree ■ Somewhat Agree



Effects of Policy on Small Business

A majority of all key subgroups agree that recent policy decisions have negatively impacted small businesses, with agreement highest among BIPOC voters and less liberal voters.

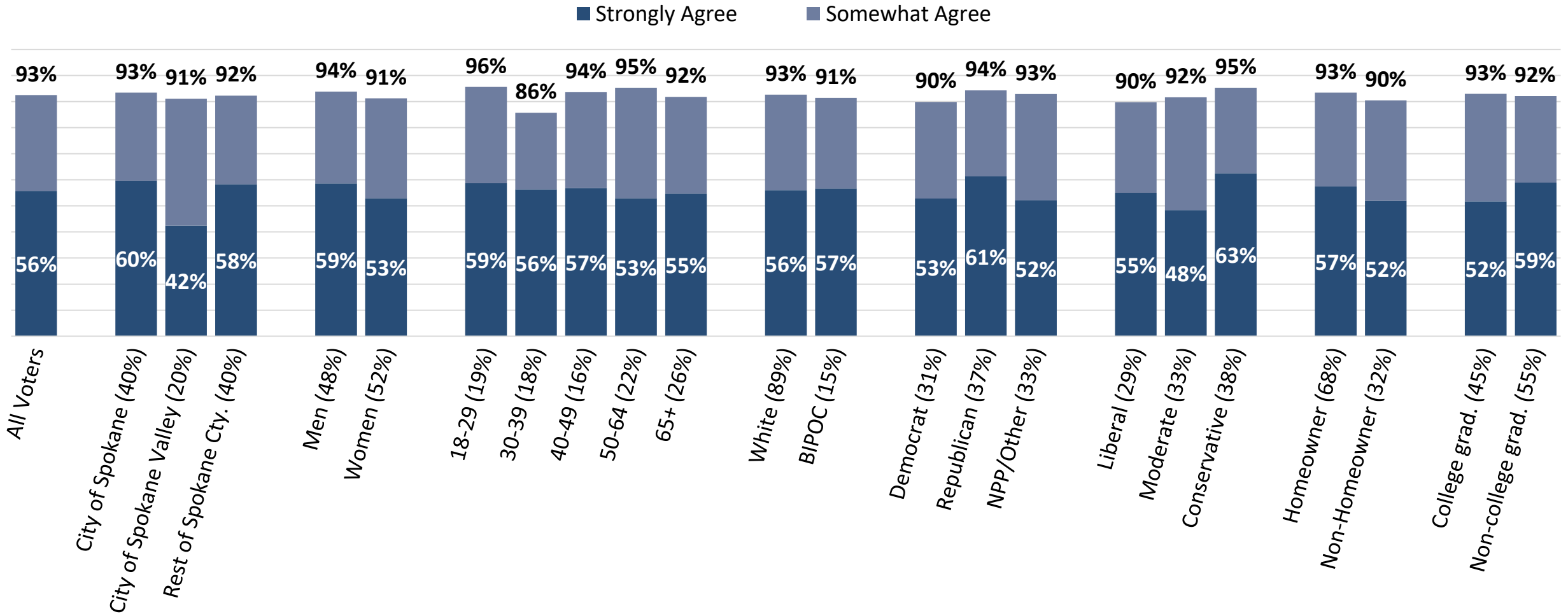
“Recent policy decisions by [CITY] have negatively impacted the ability of local small businesses to remain open and thrive”



Back to the Basics

Nearly everyone agrees that their local government should focus on the basics.

"[CITY] should focus on funding the basics like filling potholes, maintaining parks, and addressing public safety"

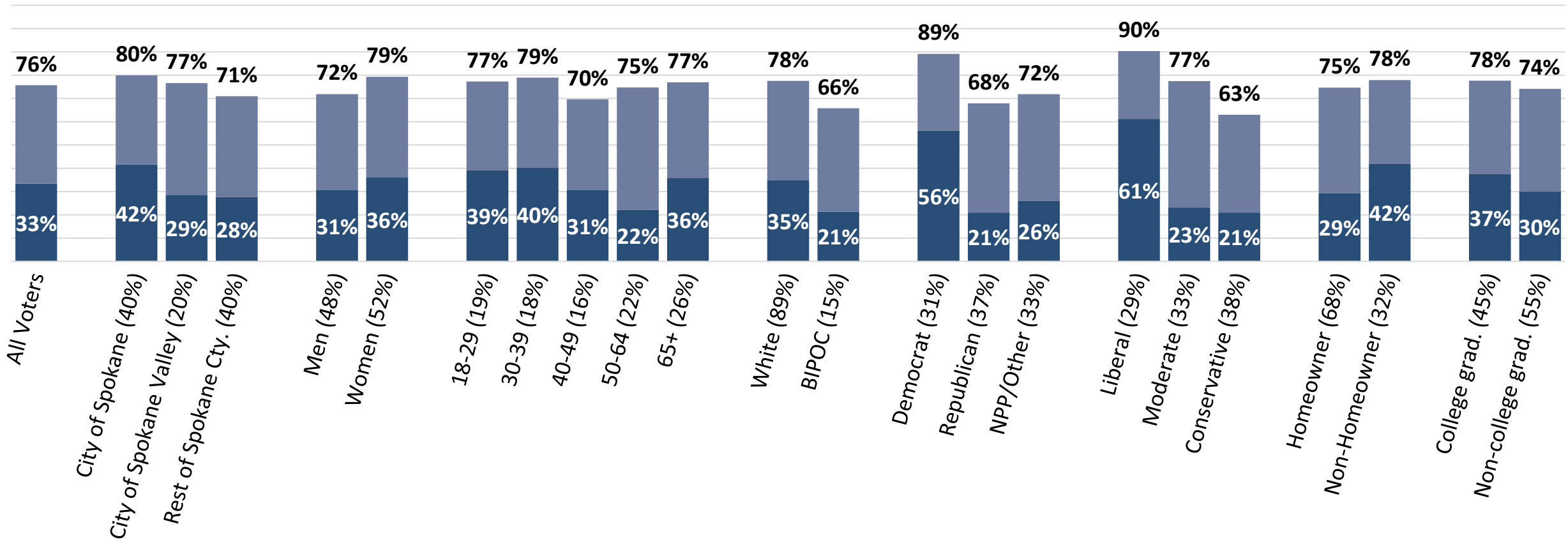


Growth & Development

No matter where on the political spectrum they sit, voters support increased public investment as long as it benefits the community.

"I support increased public investment in community infrastructure"

■ Strongly Agree ■ Somewhat Agree

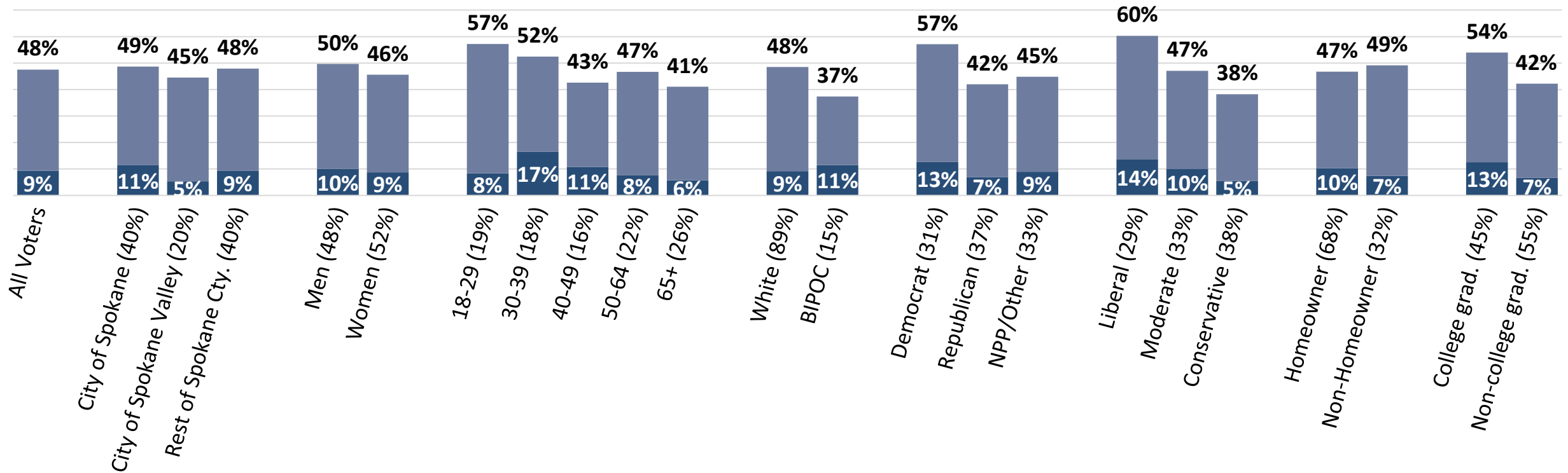


Growth & Development

A majority of educated and liberal voters agree that recent growth has been a net positive.

"All things considered, growth and development has been a positive for my area"

■ Strongly Agree ■ Somewhat Agree

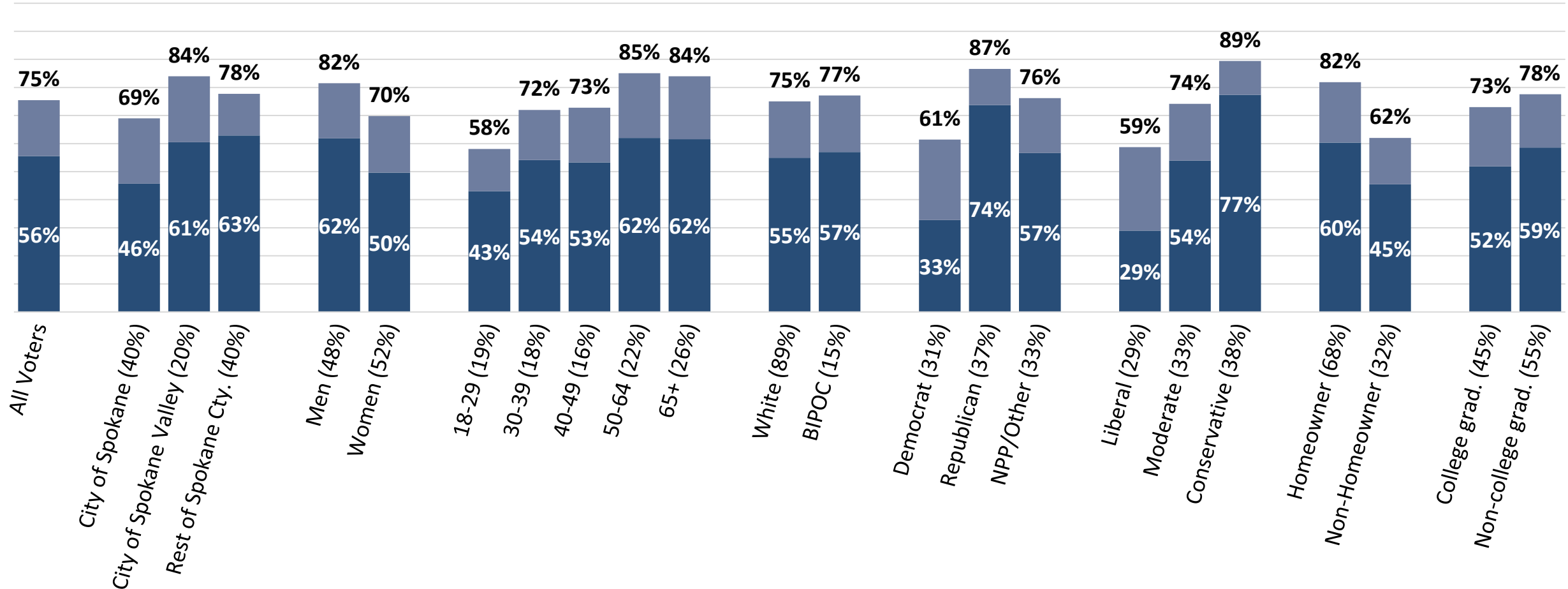


QoL Impact: Prohibiting Camping in Public Right of Ways

A majority of voters across all key subgroups say prohibiting encampments would impact quality of life. Older voters and more conservative voters say it would have a very significant impact.

Impact on QoL: Prohibiting camping in parks, on sidewalks, and on other public right of ways

■ 7 - Very Significant Impact ■ 5-6

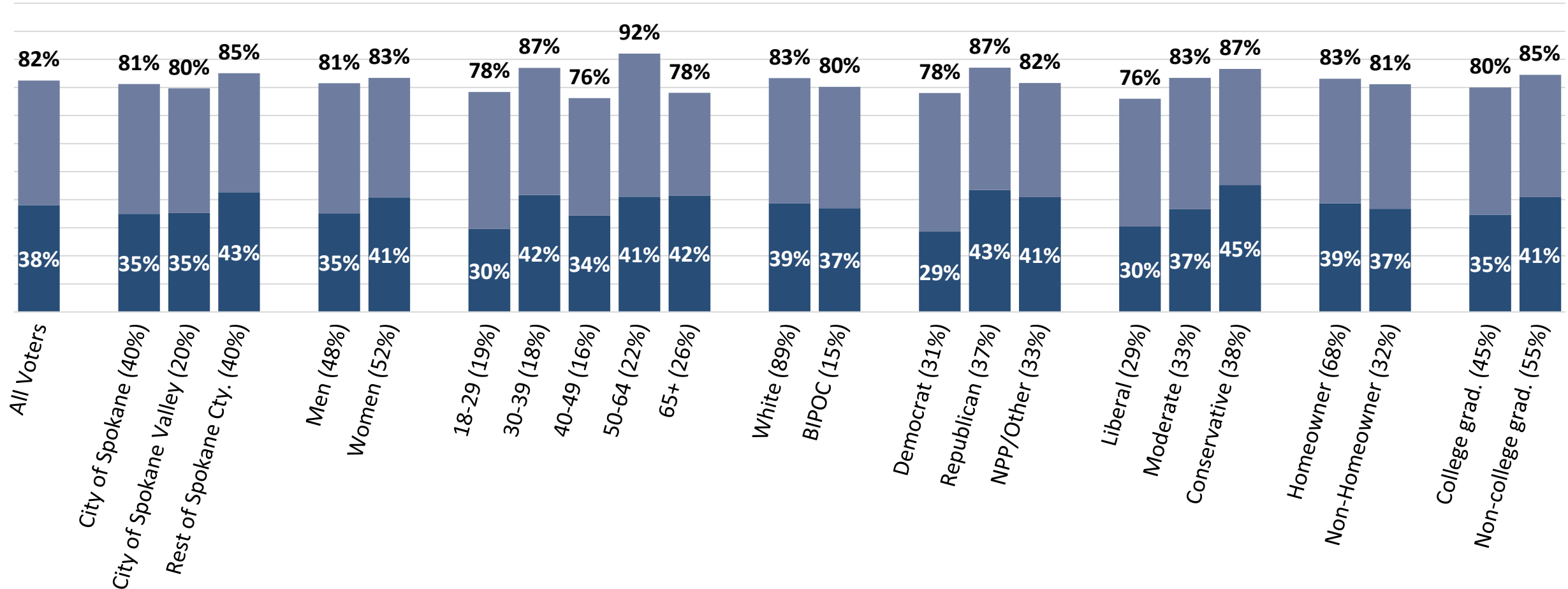


QoL Impact: Helping Local Businesses Deal With Safety

Broad swaths of voters say helping local businesses deal with public safety concerns will significantly impact quality of life.

Impact on QoL: Helping local businesses deal with public safety concerns

■ 7 - Very Significant Impact ■ 5-6

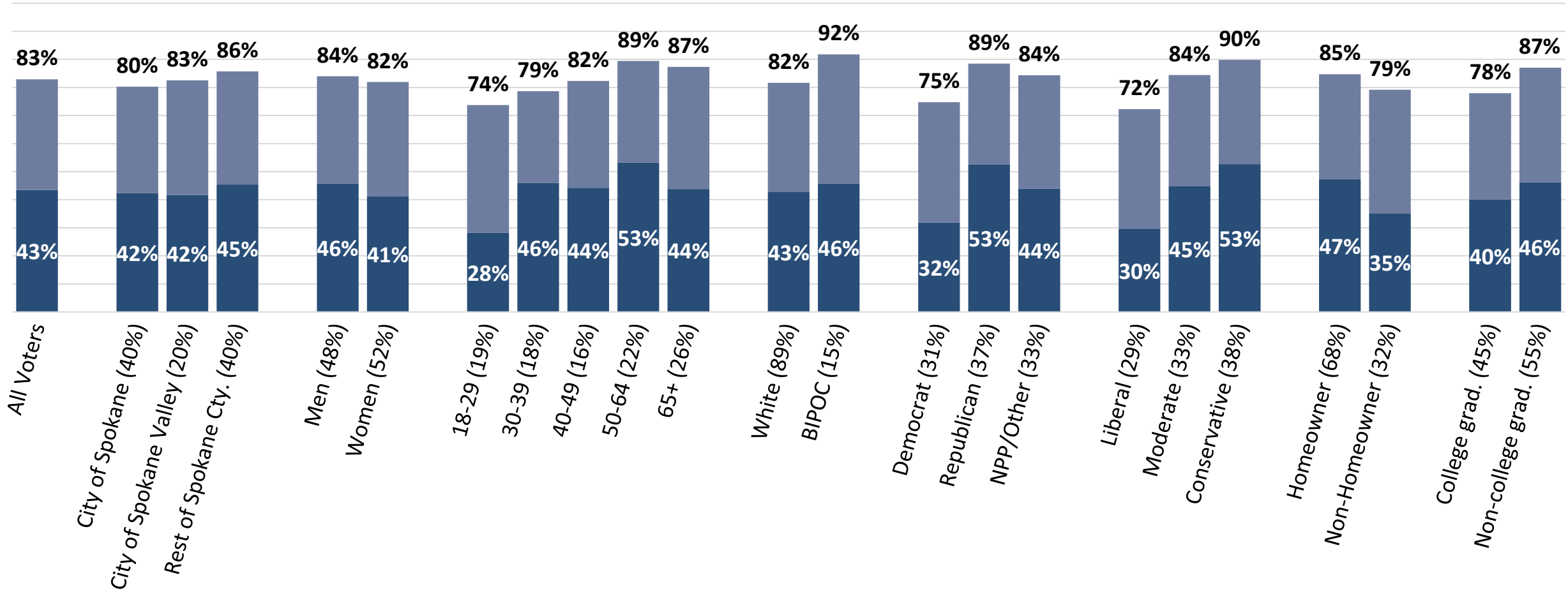


QoL Impact: Addressing Property Crime

Voters across all key subgroups believe addressing property crime will significantly impact quality of life.

Impact on QoL: Increasing efforts to address property crime like theft and car break-ins

■ 7 - Very Significant Impact ■ 5-6

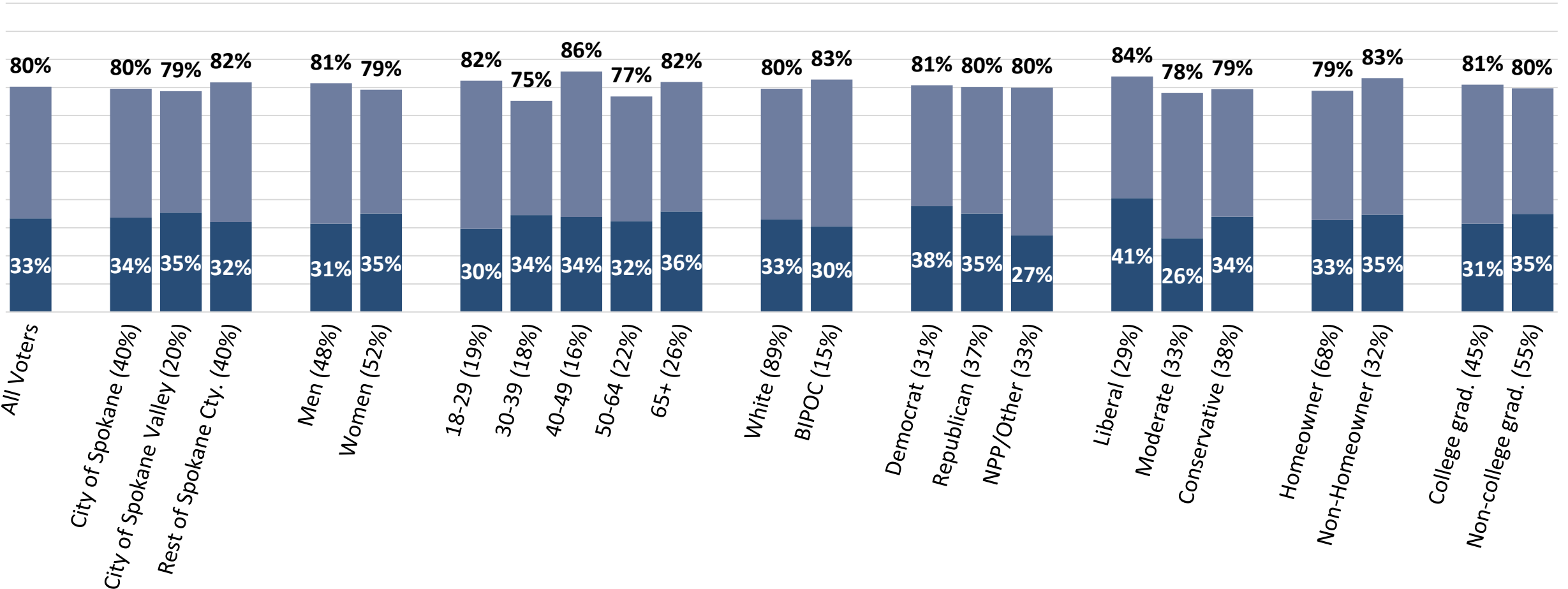


QoL Impact: Maintaining Bridges And Infrastructure

There is broad agreement that maintaining infrastructure will improve quality of life.

Impact on QoL: Maintaining bridges and infrastructure

■ 7 - Very Significant Impact ■ 5-6

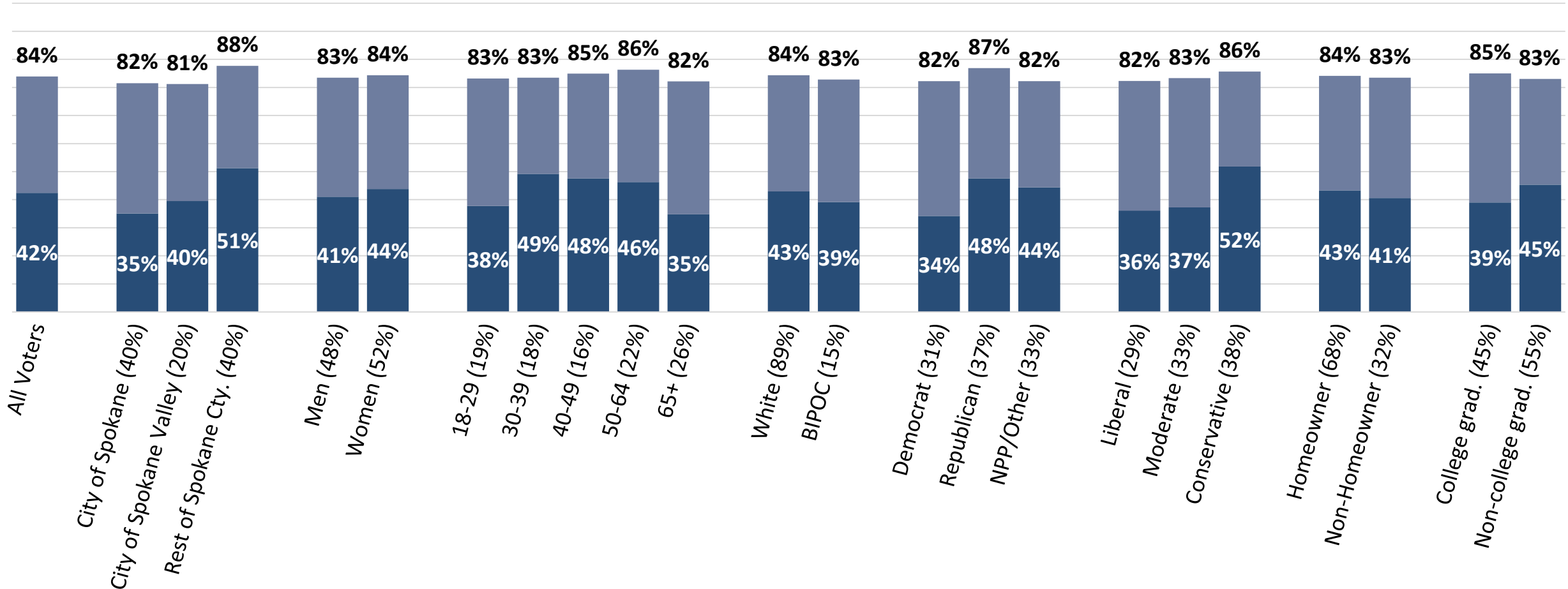


QoL Impact: Making It Easier To Start/Grow A Business

Voters are consistent in fostering a friendlier business environment across demographic and ideological lines.

Impact on QoL: Making it easier to start and grow a business

■ 7 - Very Significant Impact ■ 5-6

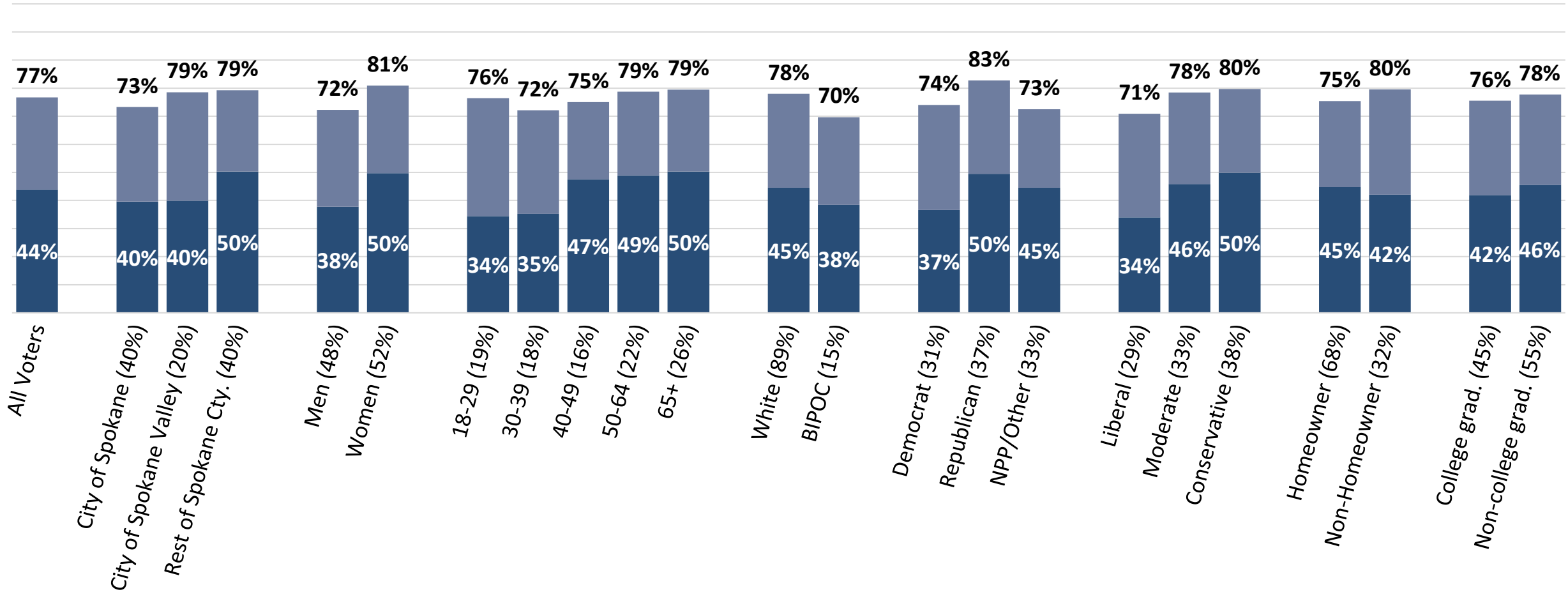


QoL Impact: Addressing Violent Crime & Gun Violence

Among all key subgroups, at least seven-in-ten voters say addressing violent crime will improve quality of life.

Impact on QoL: Increasing efforts to address violent crime and gun violence

■ 7 - Very Significant Impact ■ 5-6

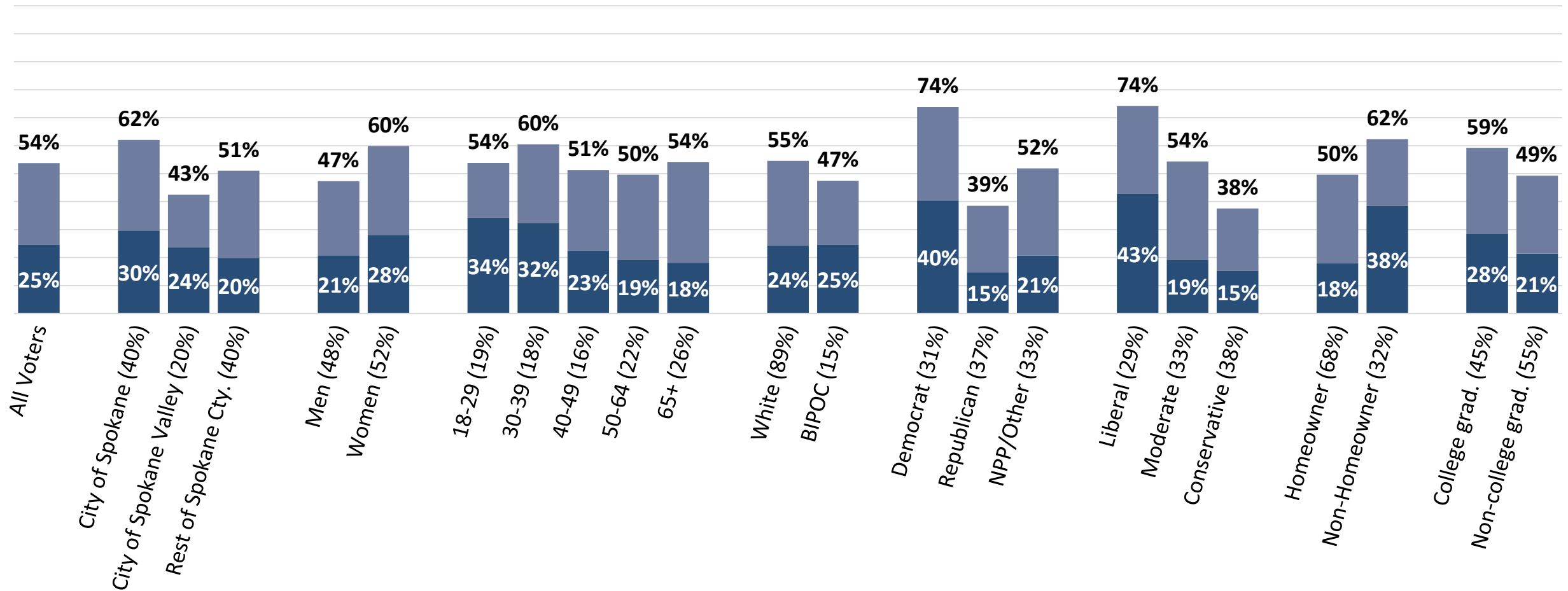


QoL Impact: Building More Types of Housing

Voters in the City of Spokane, as well as liberal-leaning voters place more importance on building more types of housing.

Impact on QoL: Building more types of housing

■ 7 - Very Significant Impact ■ 5-6

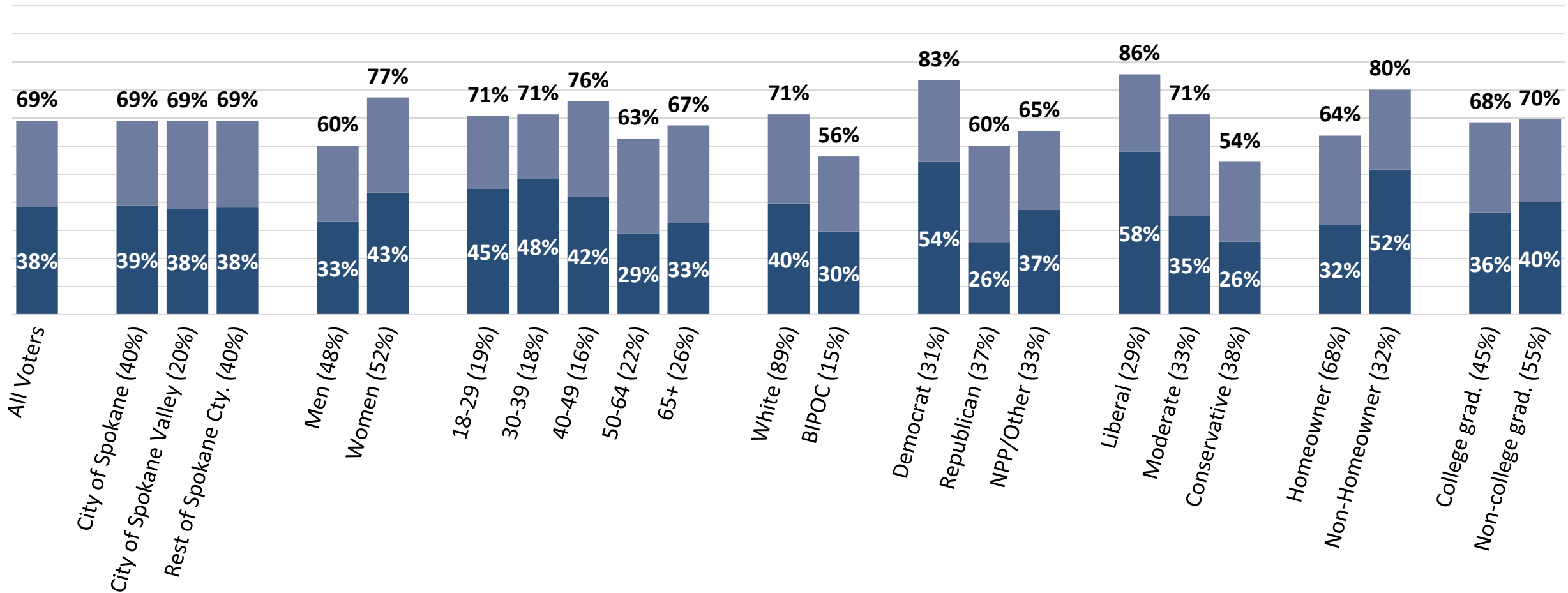


QoL Impact: Investing In Public Schools

A majority of voters across all major subgroups say investing in public schools will improve quality of life. Women, renters, and liberal voters are most likely to believe in the impact of education investments.

Impact on QoL: Investing in public schools to improve student success

■ 7 - Very Significant Impact ■ 5-6

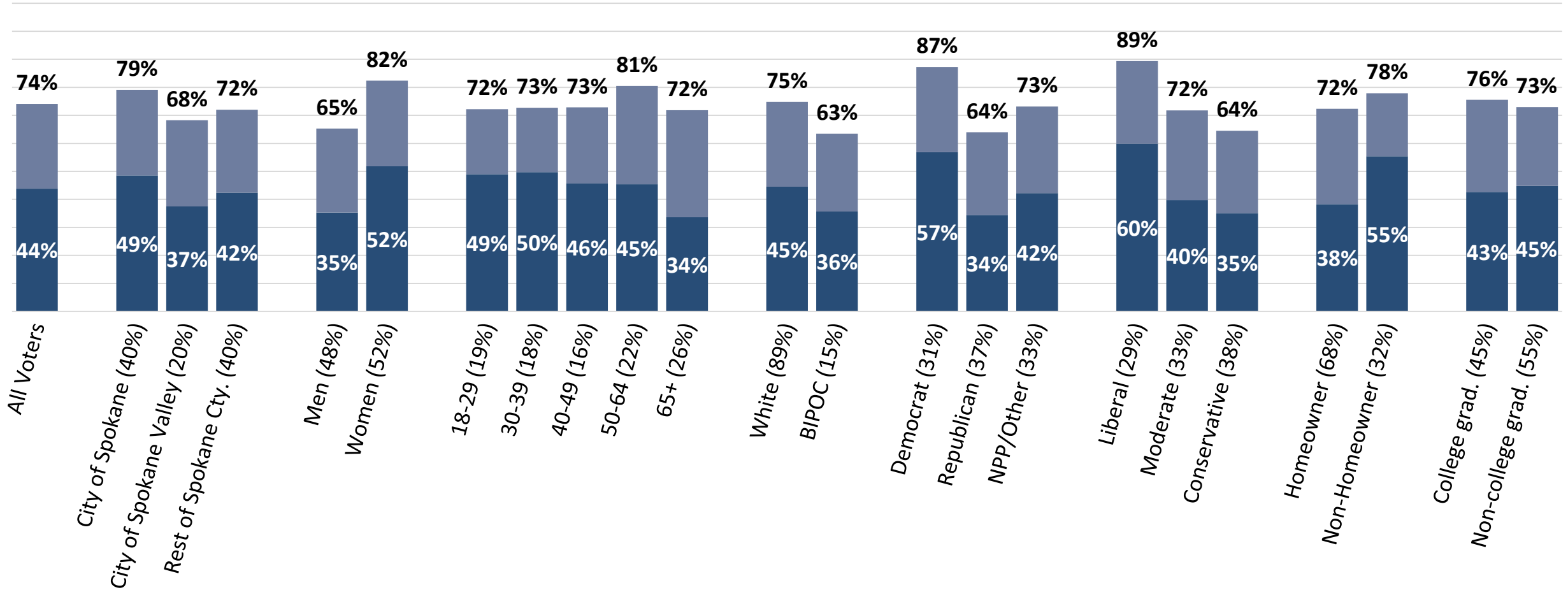


QoL Impact: Improving Treatment Services

The impact of improving treatment services is recognized across demographic lines.

Impact on QoL: Improving treatment services for drug addiction and mental health

■ 7 - Very Significant Impact ■ 5-6

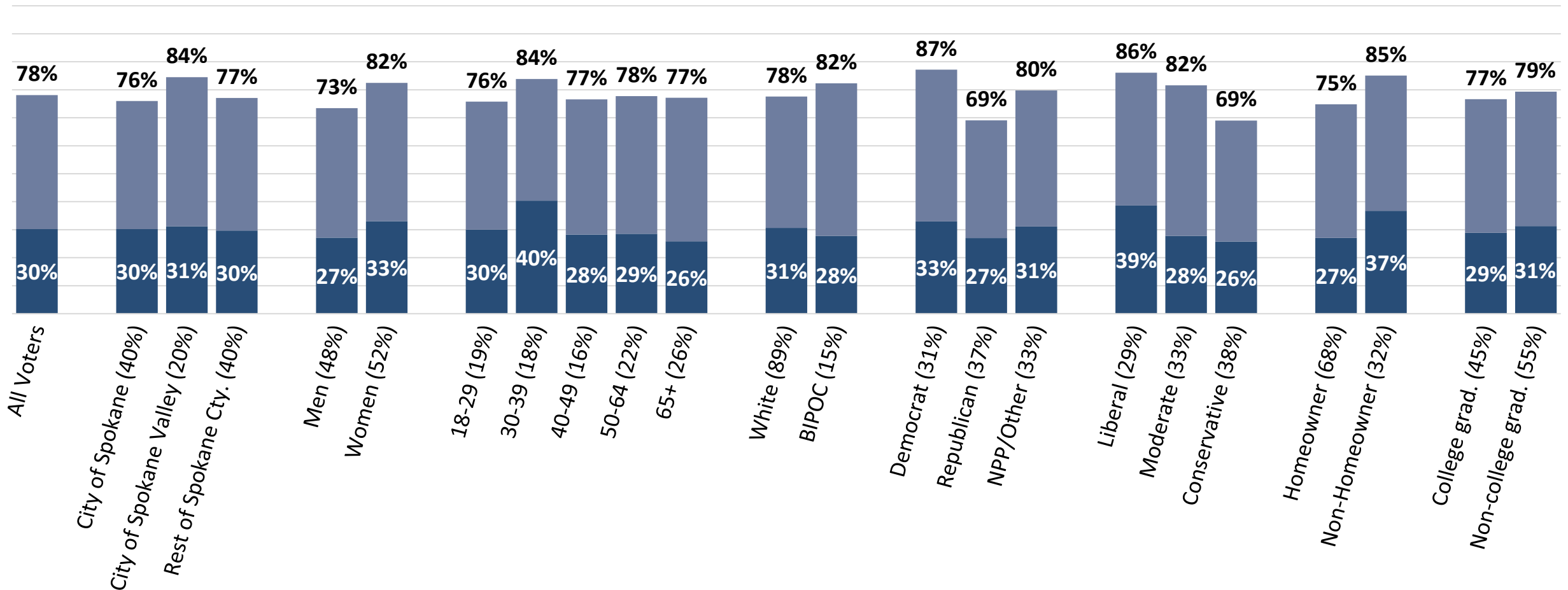


QoL Impact: Investing in Parks & Recreational Areas

Voters widely indicate that maintaining parks and recreational areas will impact quality of life; Republican and Conservatives are the only major subgroups where less than 70% say such investments would be impactful.

Impact on QoL: Investing in the maintenance and safety of parks and recreational areas

■ 7 - Very Significant Impact ■ 5-6

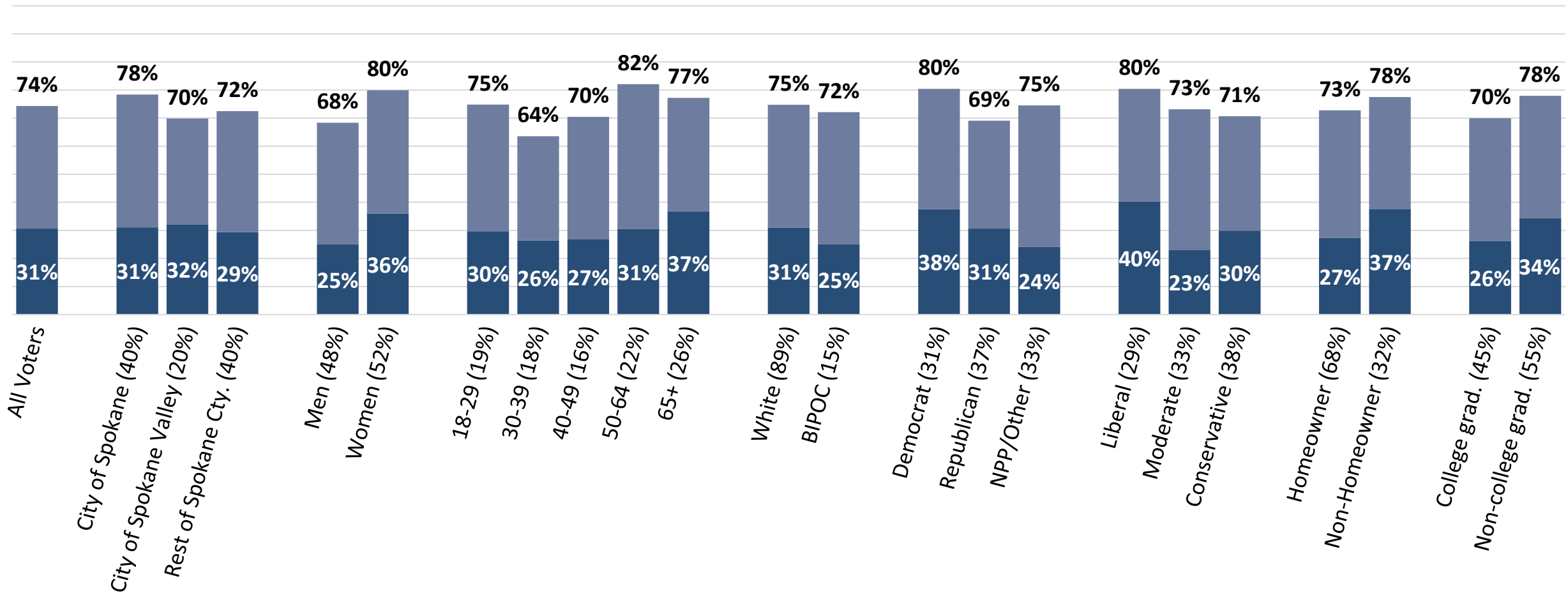


QoL Impact: Expanding Workforce Training Programs

Support for workforce training programs is fairly consistent across subgroups. The perceived impact is rated lower by voters ages 30-49, who are presumably most secure with their spots in the workforce.

Impact on QoL: Expanding workforce training and job skills programs

■ 7 - Very Significant Impact ■ 5-6

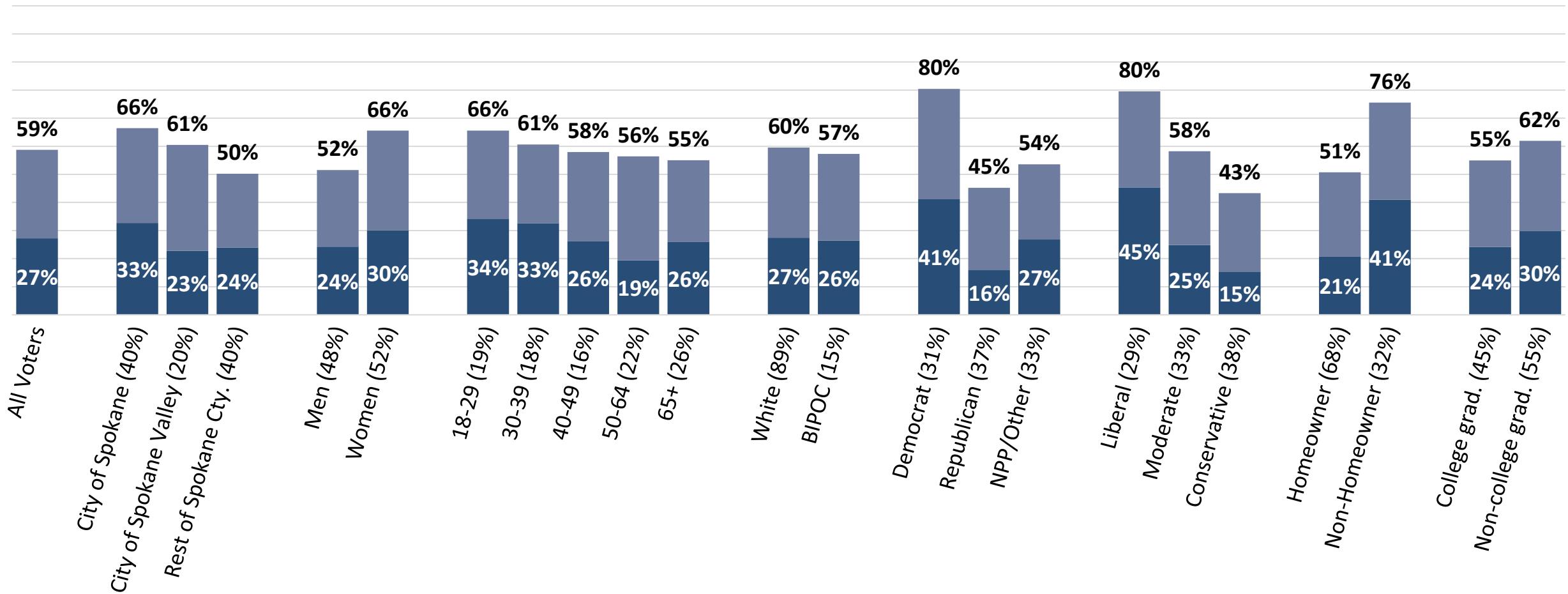


QoL Impact: Maintaining Access to Public Transit

The perceived impact of maintaining access to public transit varies widely based on ideological or partisan preferences.

Impact on QoL: Maintaining access to public transit

■ 7 - Very Significant Impact ■ 5-6

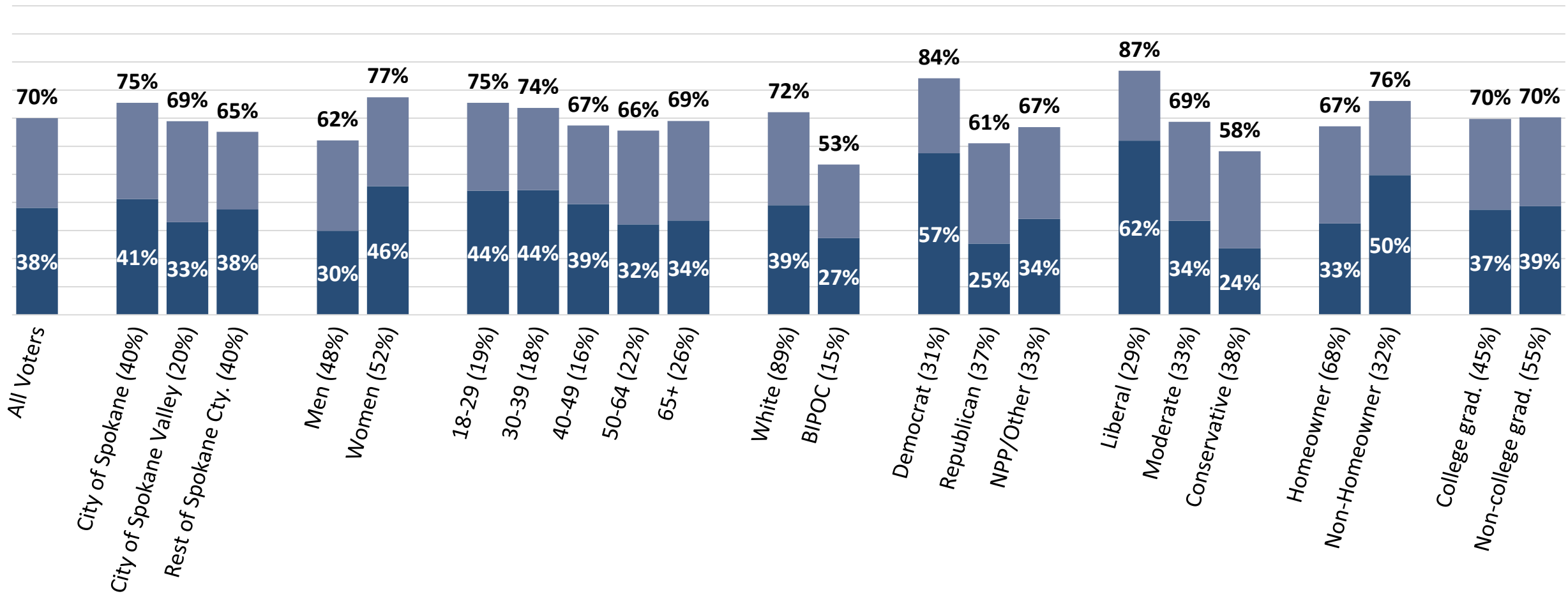


QoL Impact: Improving Access to Childcare

Younger voters, women, and liberal voters are most likely to rate improved childcare access as impactful.

Impact on QoL: Improving access to childcare and early learning

■ 7 - Very Significant Impact ■ 5-6

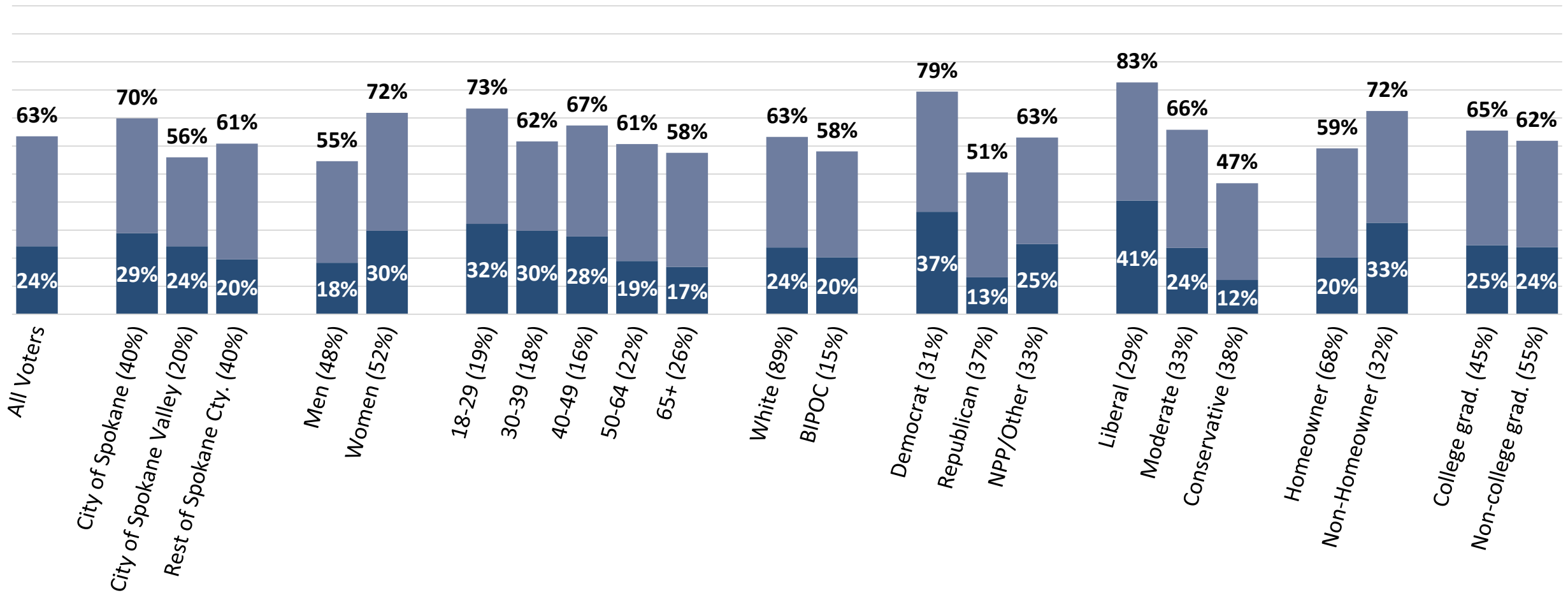


QoL Impact: Encouraging Community Events

Voters in the City of Spokane are more likely to see community and cultural events as impacting quality of life.

Impact on QoL: Encouraging community events and cultural activities

■ 7 - Very Significant Impact ■ 5-6

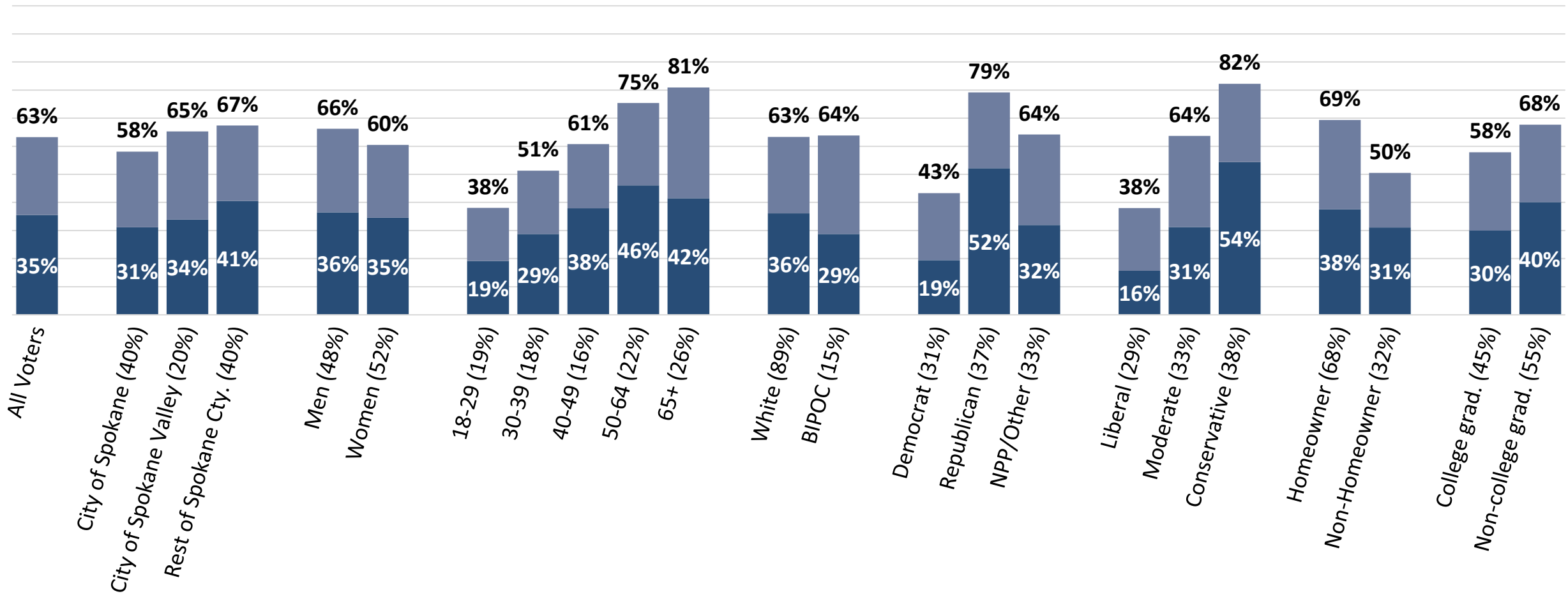


Funding Importance: More Police Officers

Older and more conservative voters are much more inclined to rate more police officers as an important funding priority.

Importance of Funding: More police officers

■ 7 - Extremely important ■ 5-6

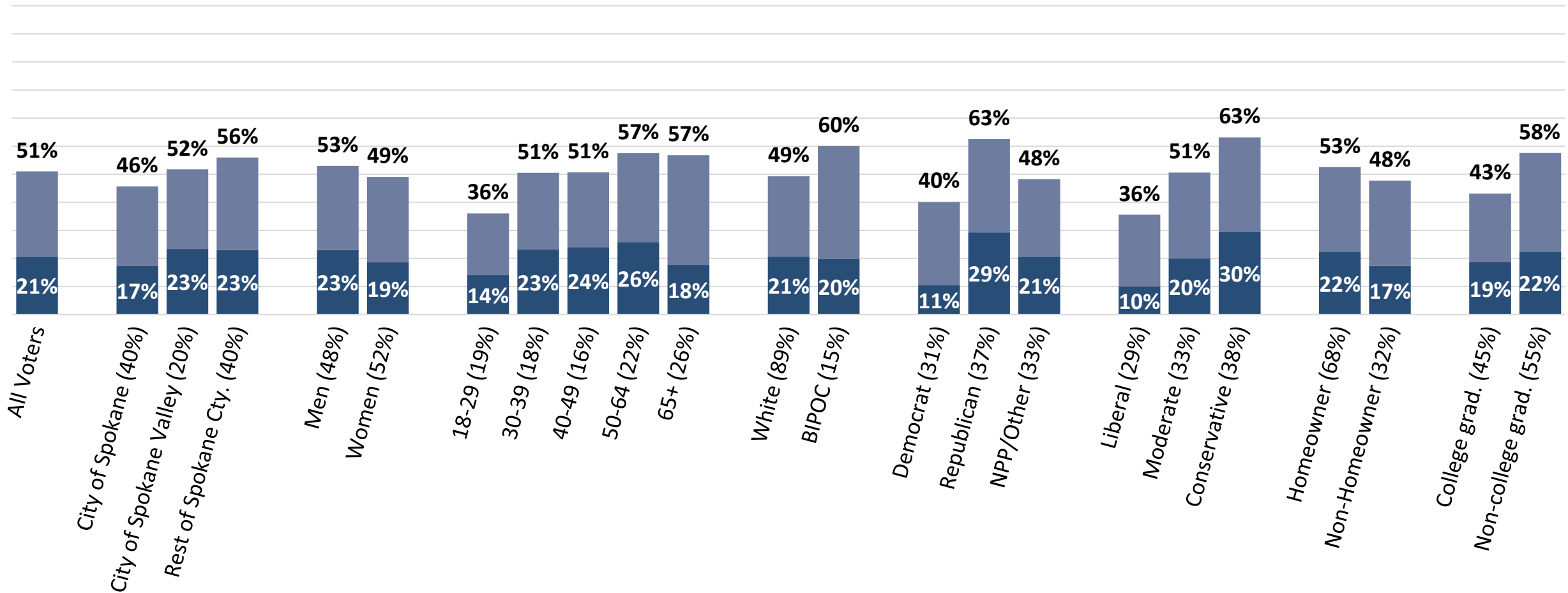


Funding Importance: New Correctional Facility

Views on the importance of funding new, expanded correctional and detention facilities are driven by partisanship, with Republican voters more likely to view such an investment as important.

Importance of Funding: New, expanded correctional and detention facilities

■ 7 - Extremely important ■ 5-6

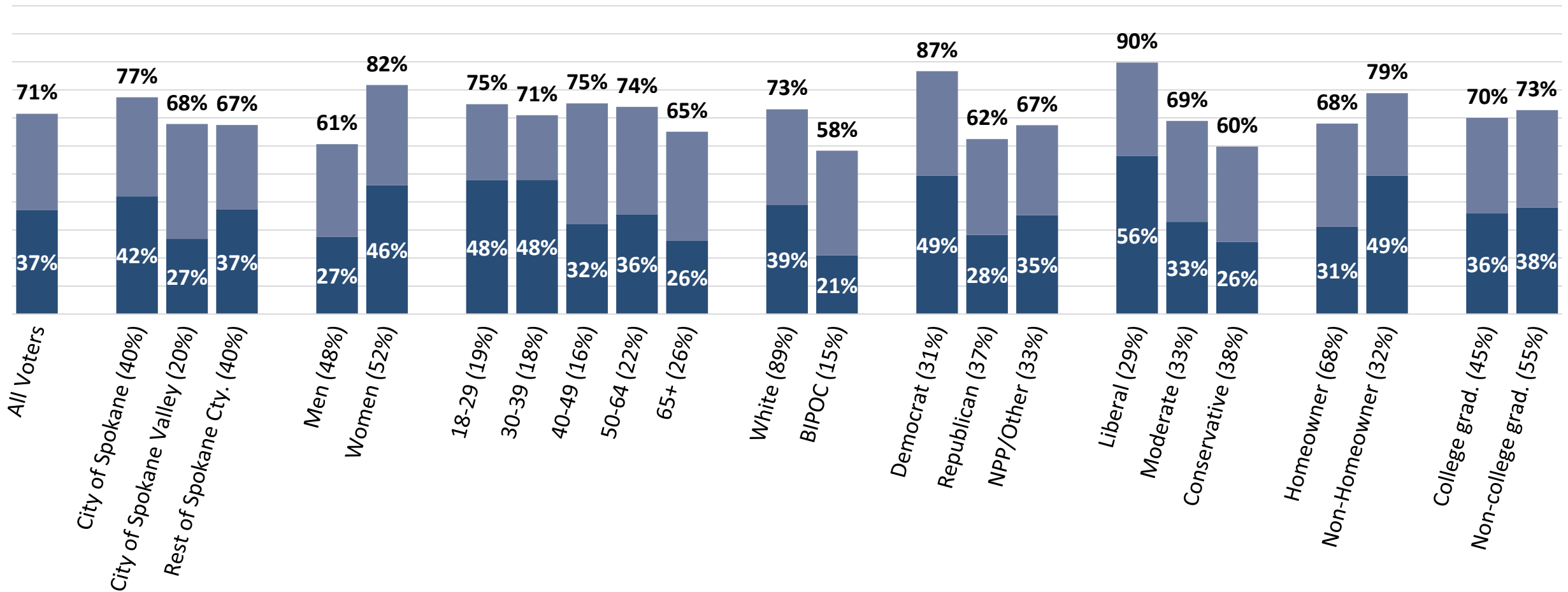


Funding Importance: Treatment for Mental Health/Addiction

Funding treatment for mental health and addiction is viewed as important by most voters, with higher support among more liberal leaning voters.

Importance of Funding: Treatment for mental health and drug or alcohol abuse

■ 7 - Extremely important ■ 5-6

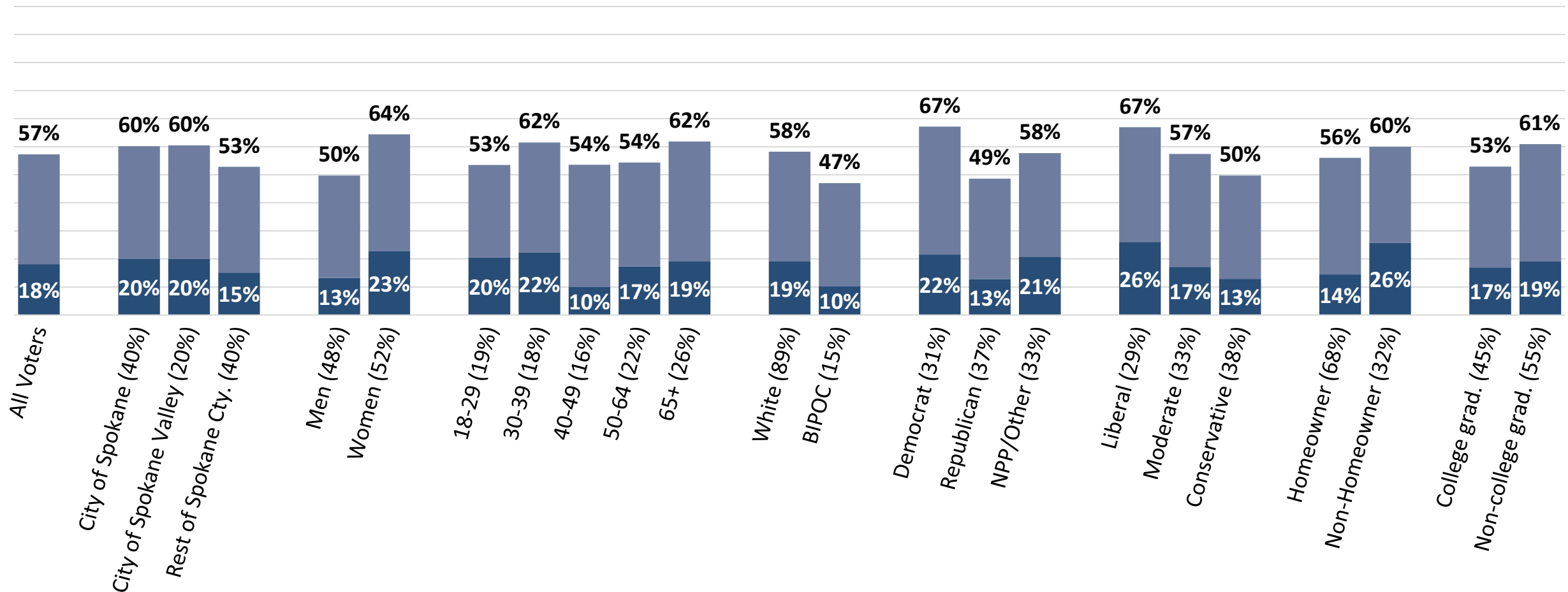


Funding Importance: Traffic/Pedestrian Safety Measures

Only a small portion of voters see funding traffic and pedestrian safety measures as extremely important.

Importance of Funding: Traffic and pedestrian safety measures

■ 7 - Extremely important ■ 5-6

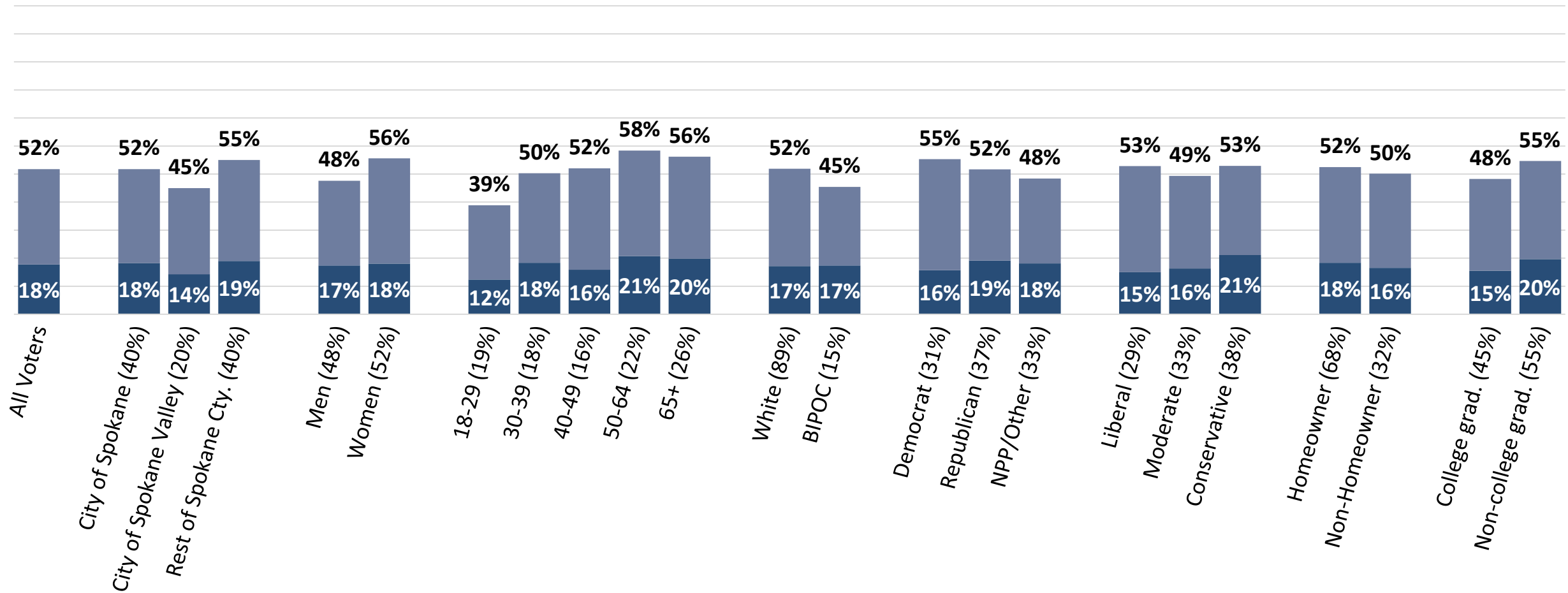


Funding Importance: More Judicial Staff

Voters across major subgroups are split on whether increased funding for judges, prosecutors, and public defenders is important. Older voters are more likely to view this as an important investment.

Importance of Funding: More judges, prosecutors, and public defenders for our courts

■ 7 - Extremely important ■ 5-6

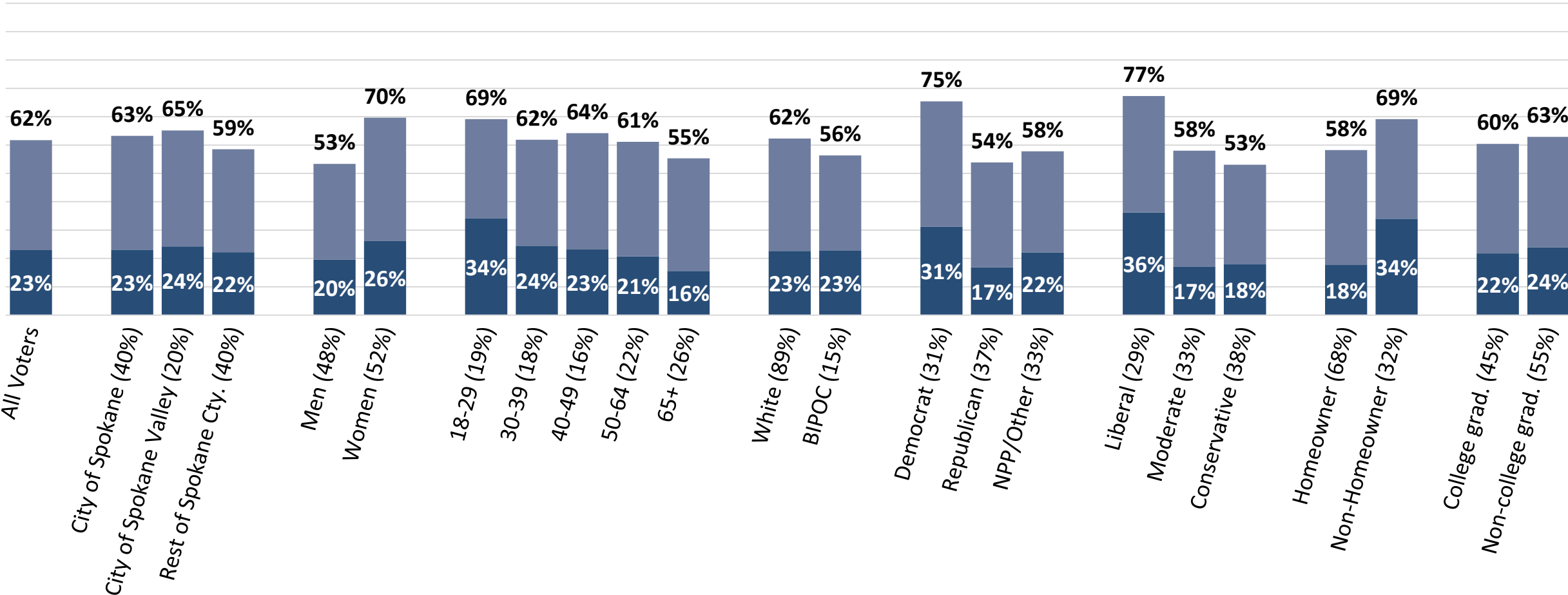


Funding Importance: Rehabilitation Programs

Liberal voters and Democrats are most likely to view rehabilitation programs as an important investment.

Importance of Funding: Rehabilitation programs for people in correctional and detention facilities

■ 7 - Extremely important ■ 5-6

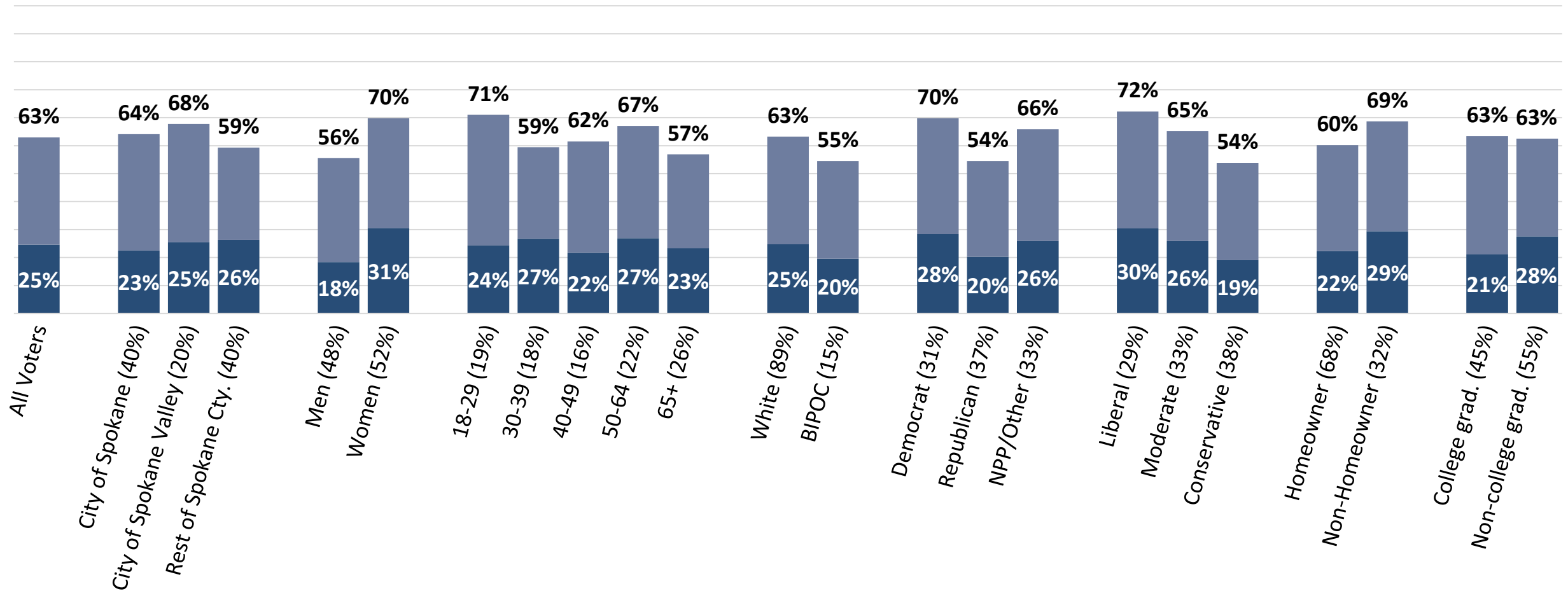


Funding Importance: Violence Prevention Programs

Voters under the age of 30, women, and liberal leaning voters view funding violence prevention programs as more important than their counterparts.

Importance of Funding: Violence prevention programs

■ 7 - Extremely important ■ 5-6

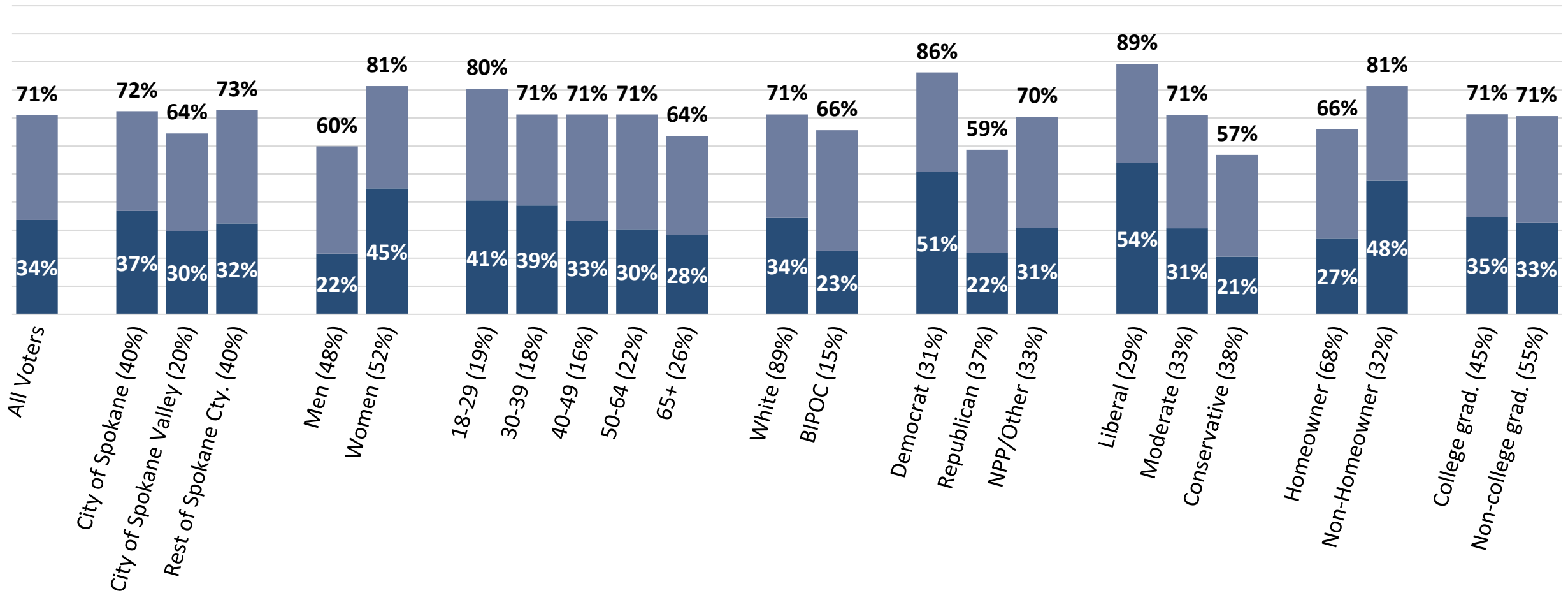


Funding Importance: Mental Health Crisis Response Teams

Support for funding mental health crisis response teams is high, though ideology appears to drive attitudes on the topic.

Importance of Funding: Mental health crisis response teams

■ 7 - Extremely important ■ 5-6

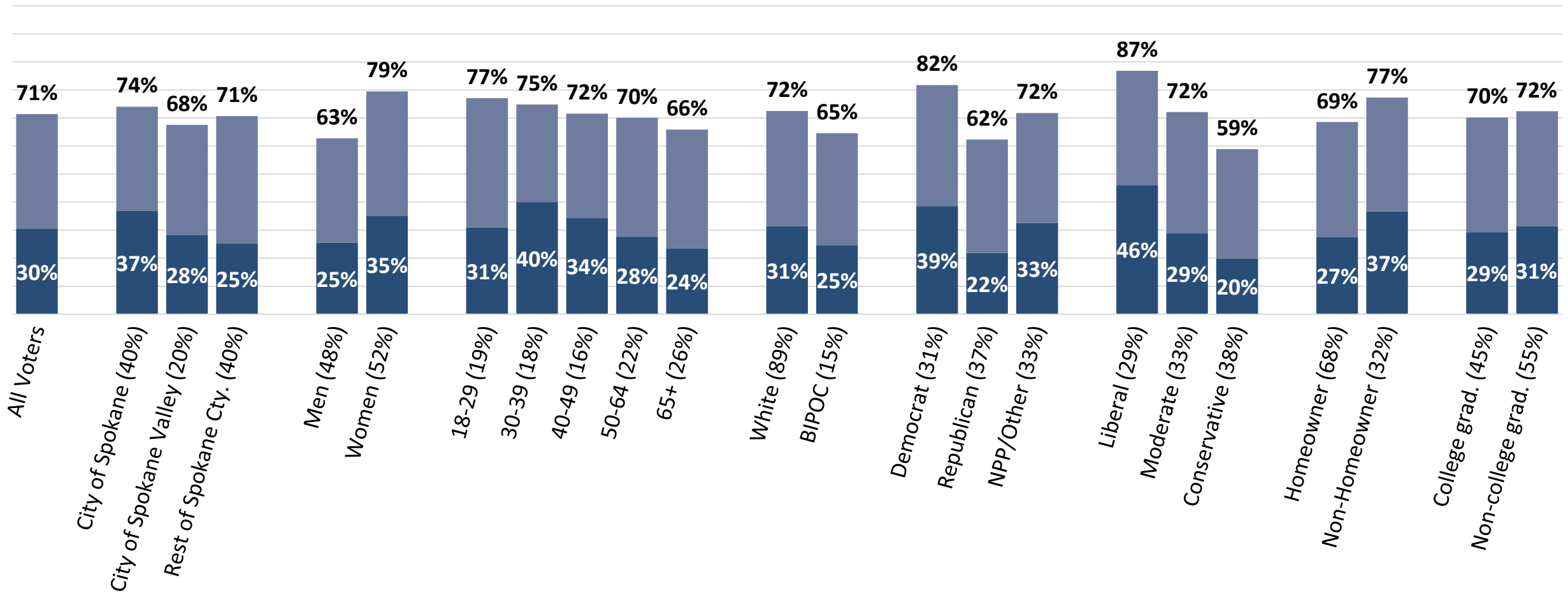


Funding Importance: Youth engagement

Support for funding youth engagement opportunities is widespread.

Importance of Funding: Youth engagement opportunities and programs

■ 7 - Extremely important ■ 5-6

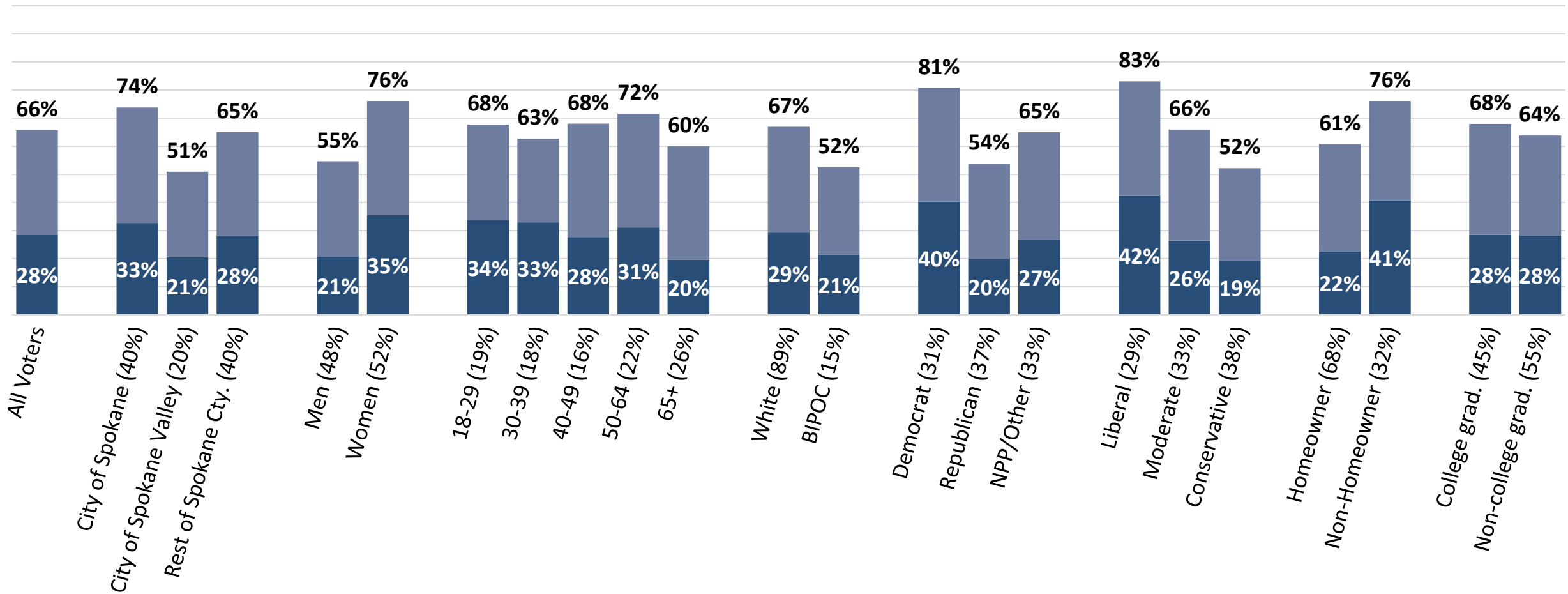


Funding Importance: Mental Health Facilities

Women, liberal voters, and those in the City of Spokane place a large importance on increased facility funding.

Importance of Funding: New, expanded behavioral health and sobriety facilities

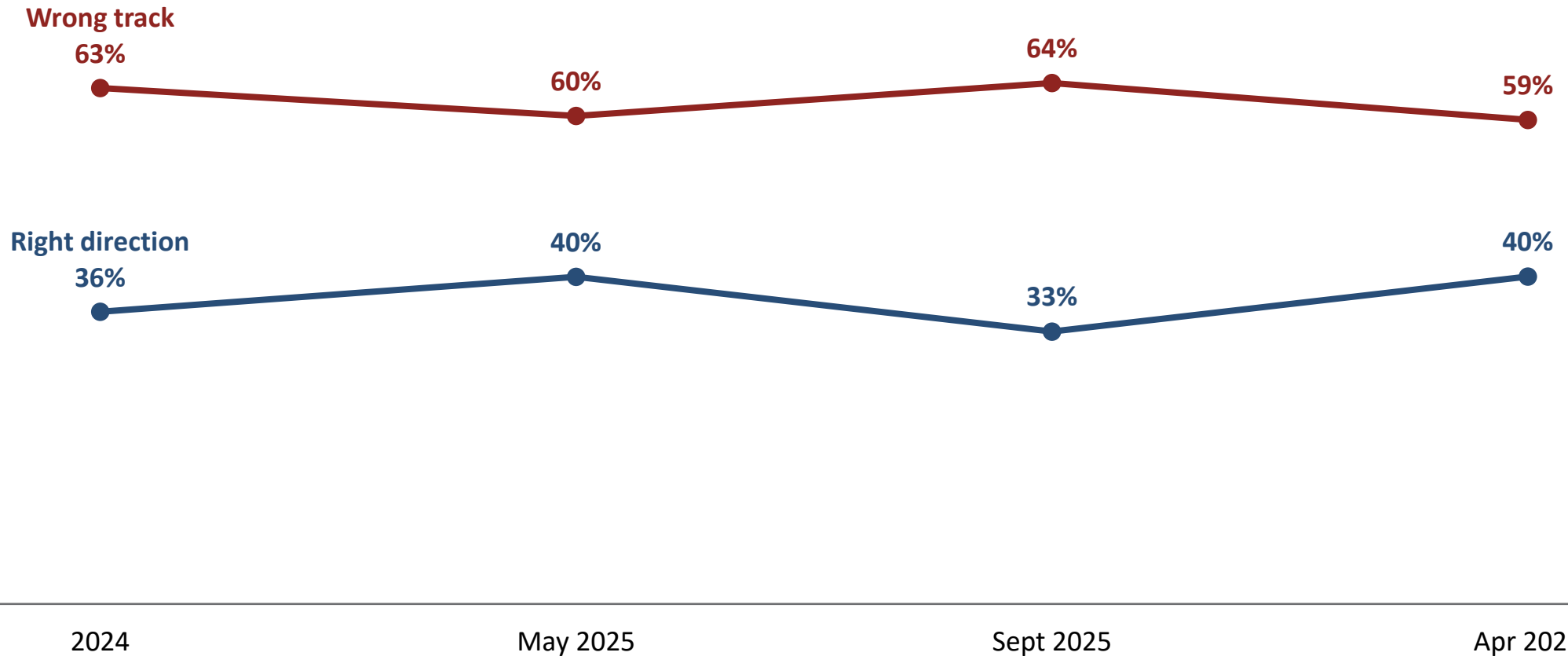
■ 7 - Extremely important ■ 5-6





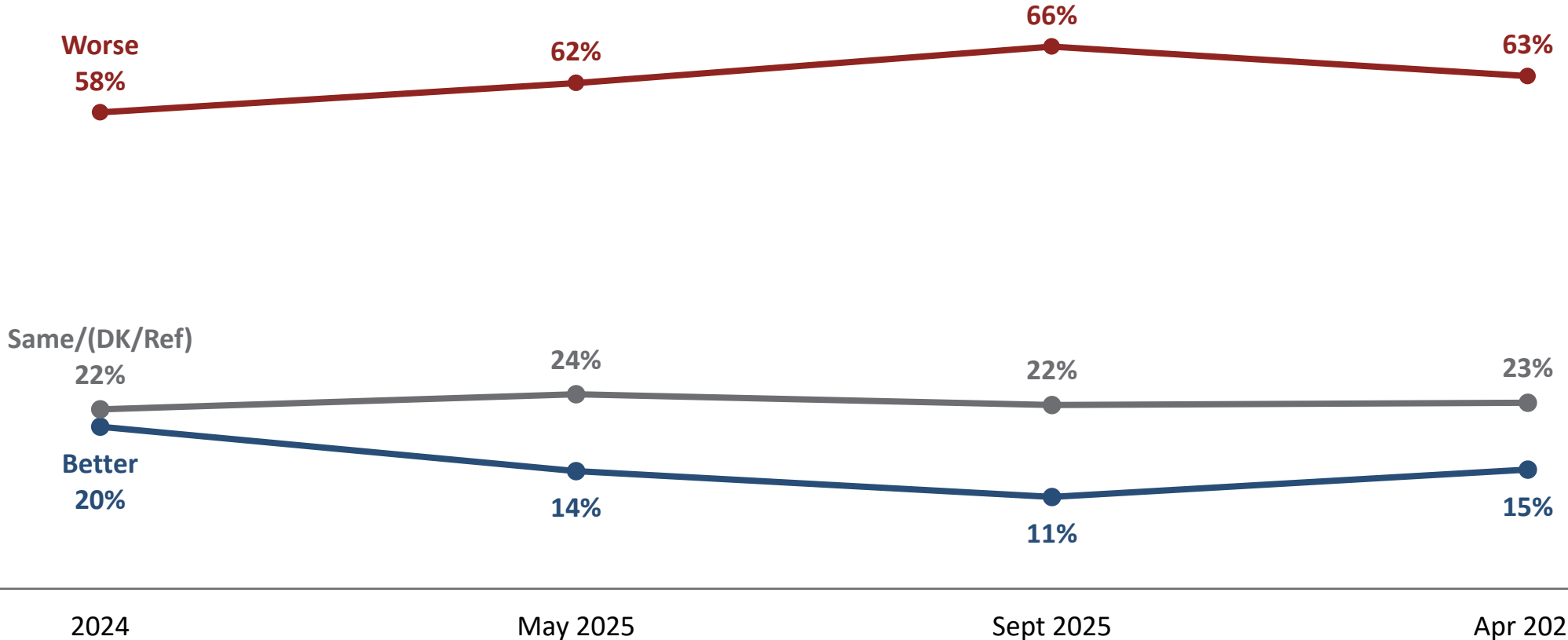
Appendix: Trend Data

Right Direction/Wrong Track Trend



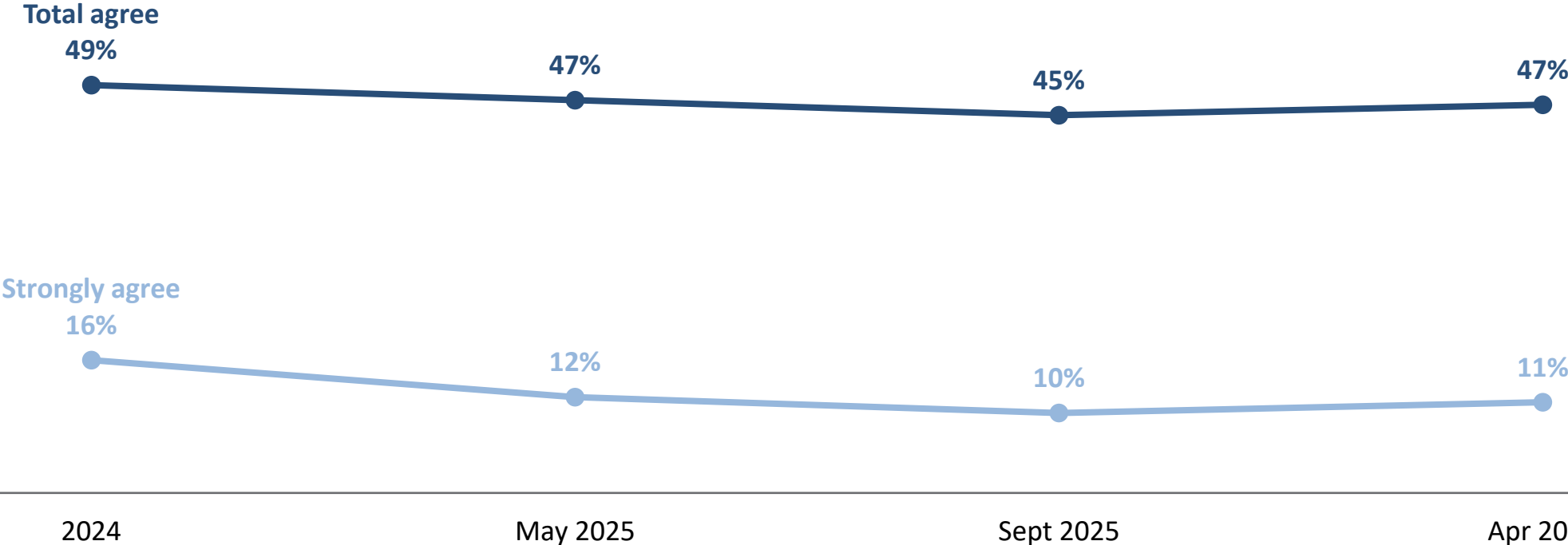
Quality of Life Trend

Do you think the overall quality of life in the Spokane region is getting better, staying the same, or getting worse?



Agree/Disagree Trend

I'm optimistic about the future of this region



Agree/Disagree Trend

I'm worried about the future of downtown Spokane

Total agree

89%

82%

86%

85%

Strongly agree

57%

55%

56%

55%

2024

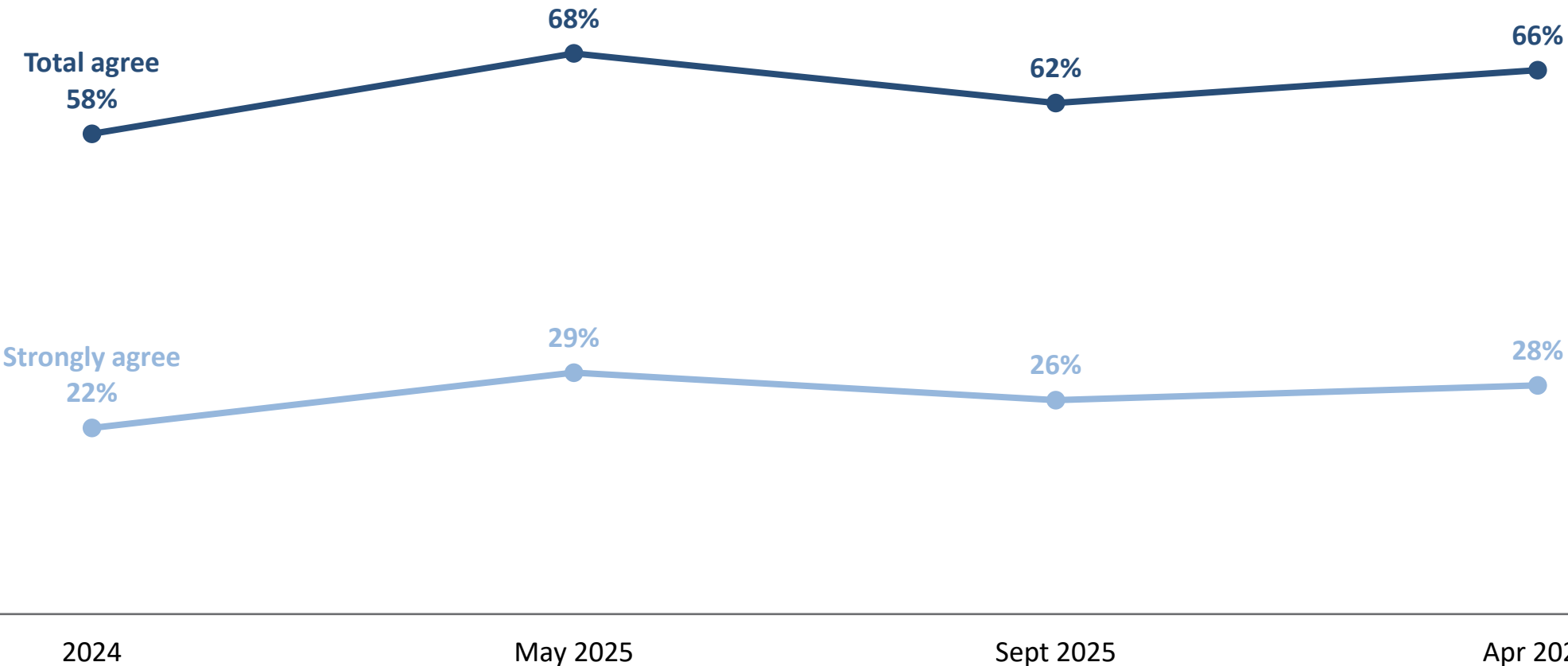
May 2025

Sept 2025

Apr 2026

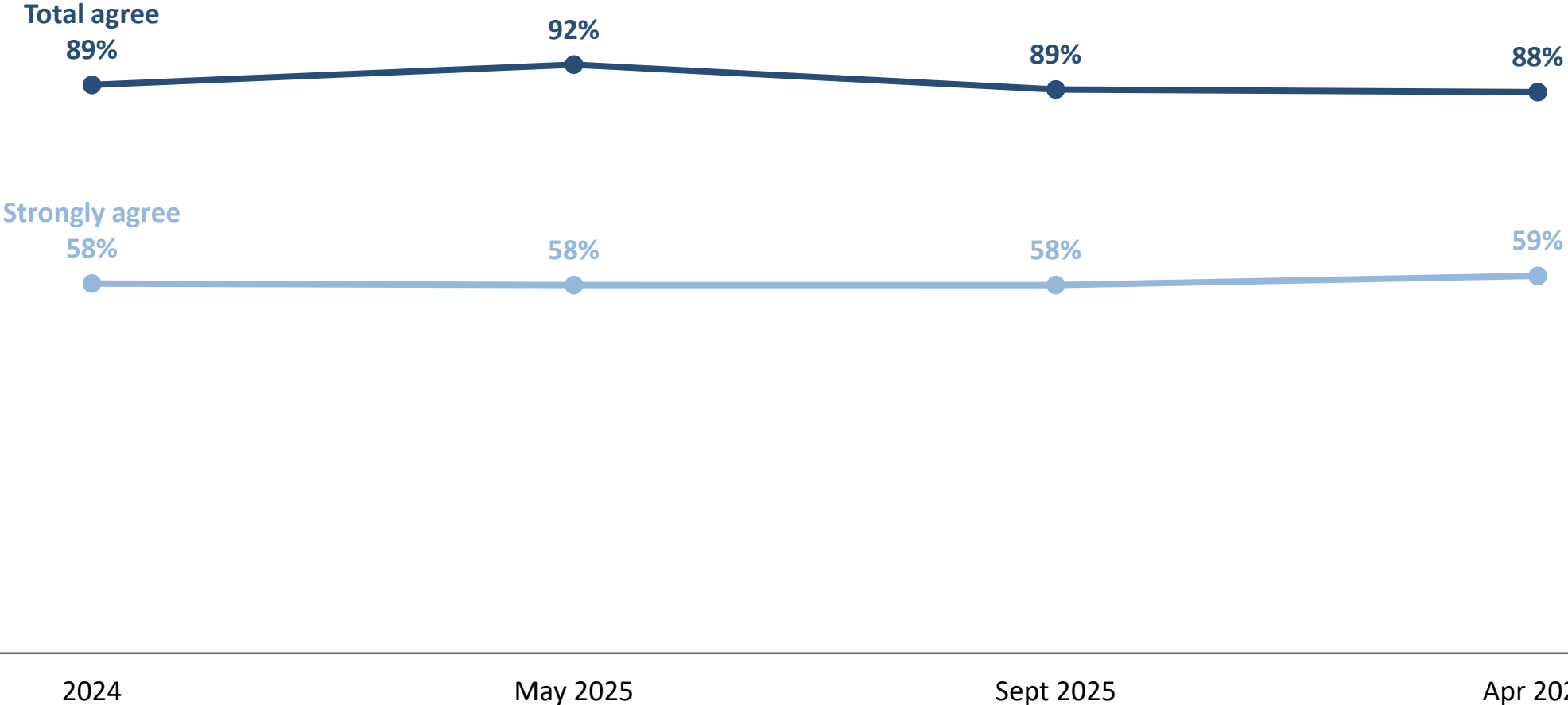
Agree/Disagree Trend

I would feel safe visiting downtown Spokane during the day



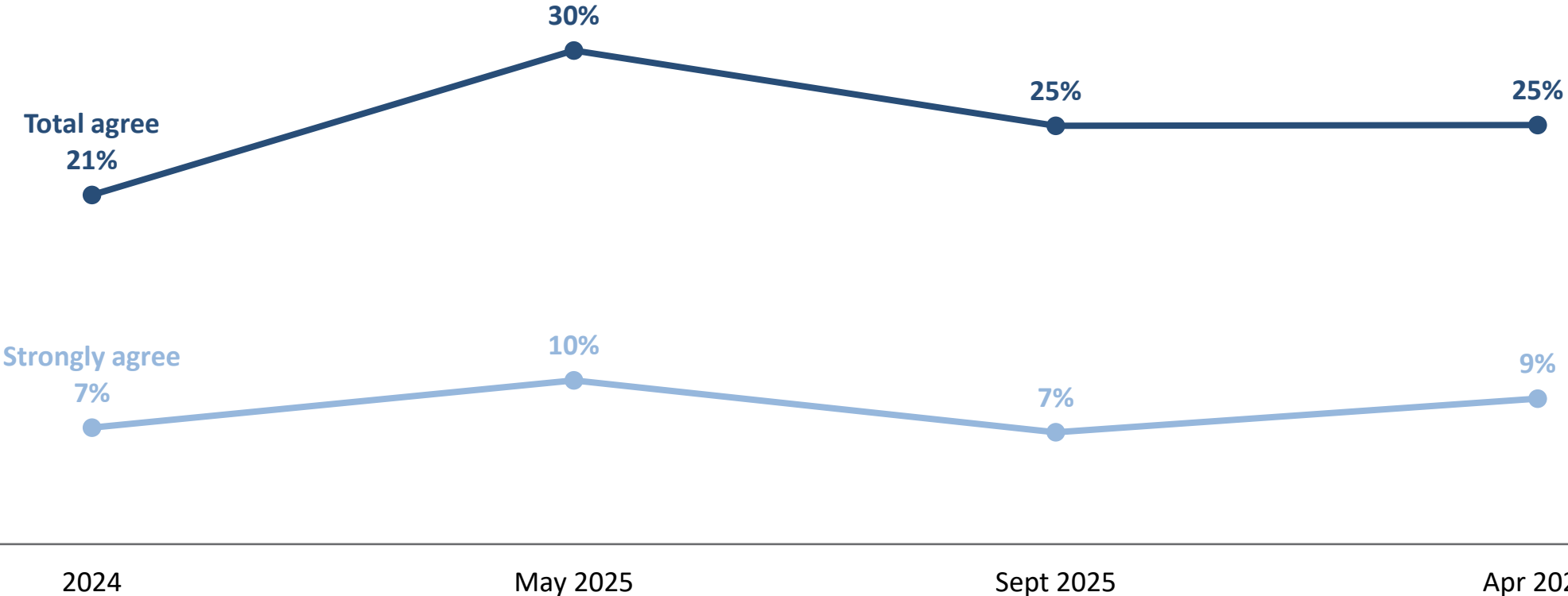
Agree/Disagree Trend

A thriving downtown Spokane is critical to our region's economic health



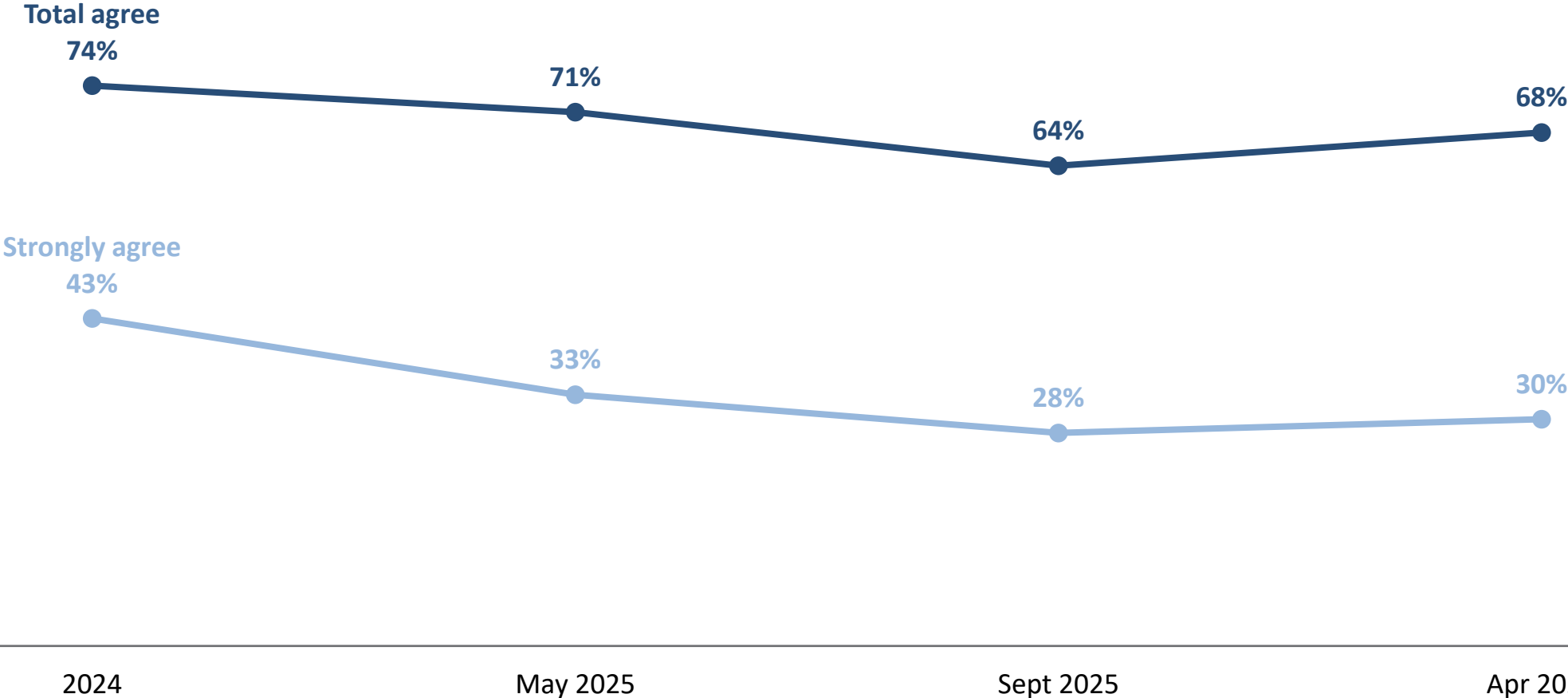
Agree/Disagree Trend

I would feel safe visiting downtown Spokane at night



Agree/Disagree Trend

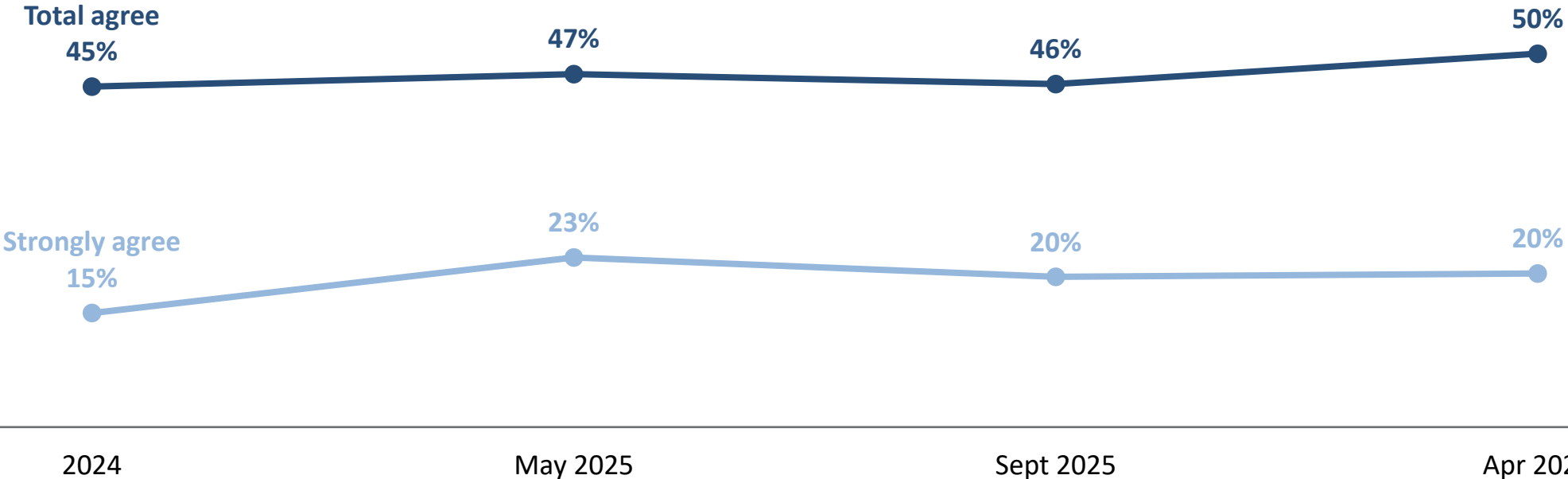
Recent policy decisions by [CITY] have negatively impacted the ability of local small businesses to remain open and thrive



Asked as “Recent policy decisions by [CITY] are causing local small businesses to close and move away” in previous surveys

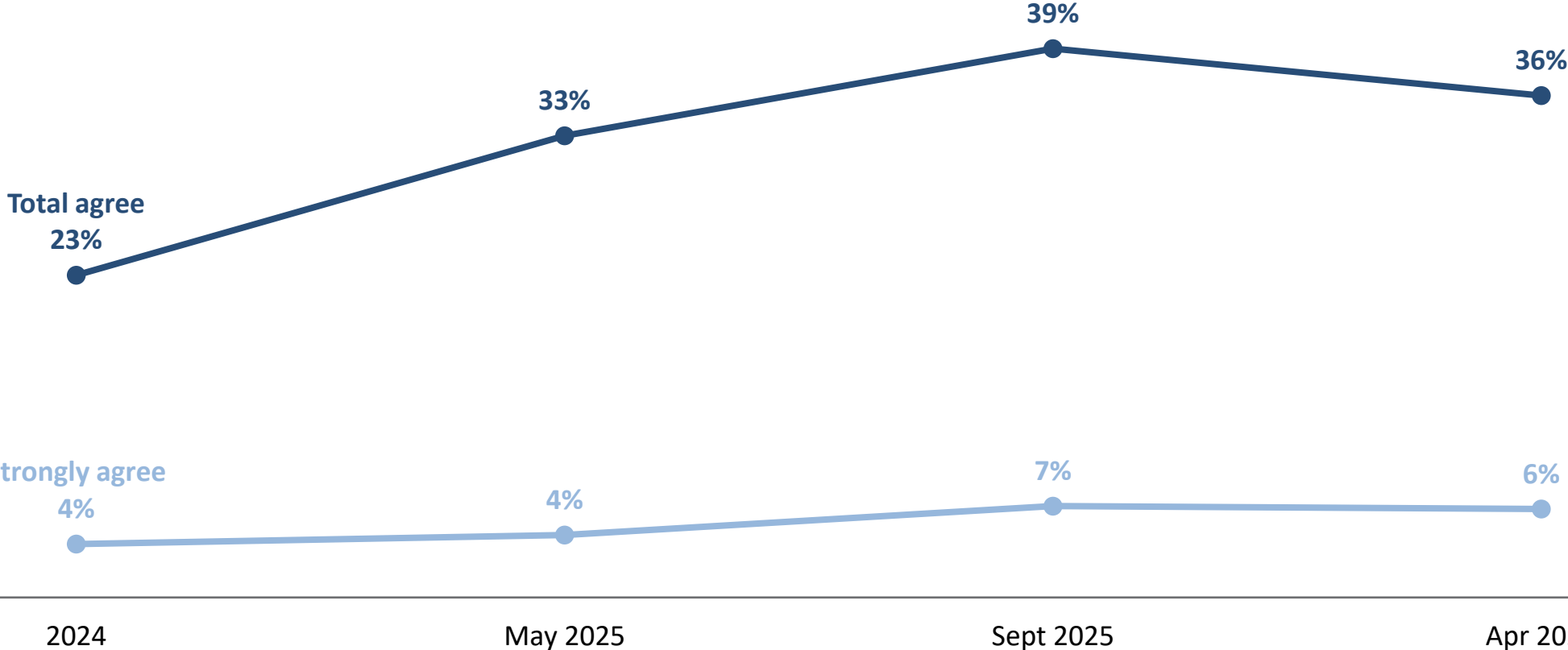
Agree/Disagree Trend

I support the building of more types of housing in my neighborhood



Agree/Disagree Trend

I trust [CITY] to use my tax dollars responsibly



Agree/Disagree Trend

Hiring more police officers should be a top priority

Total agree

78%

73%

76%

65%

Strongly agree

43%

35%

43%

32%

2024

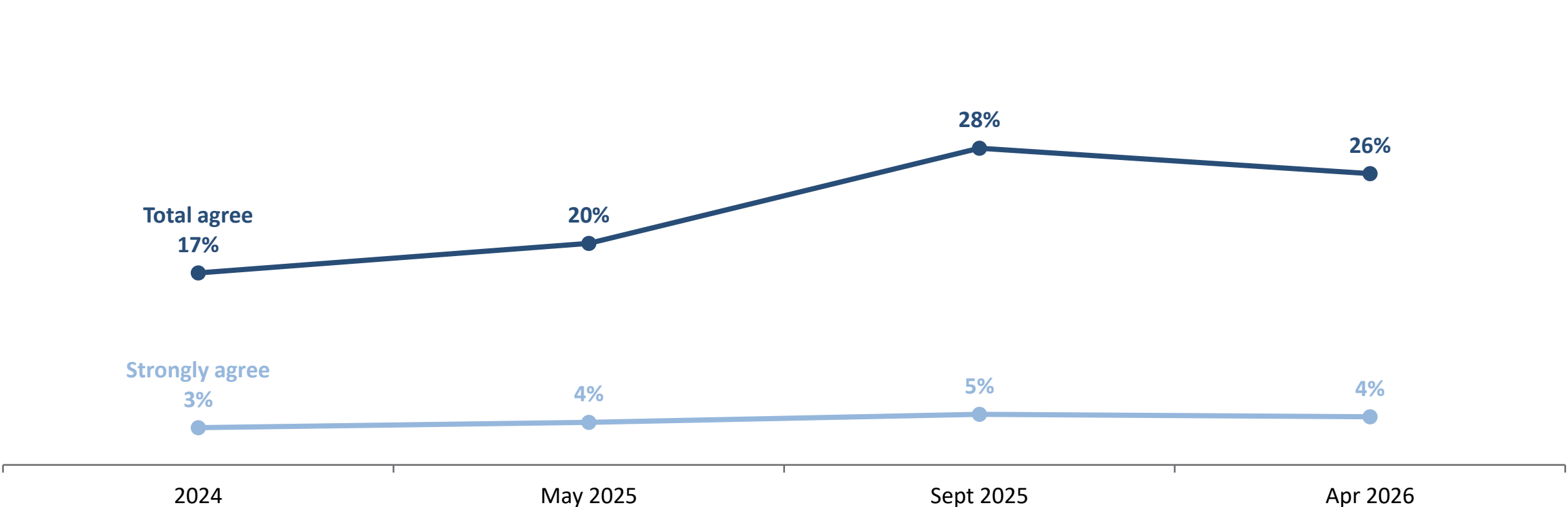
May 2025

Sept 2025

Apr 2026

Agree/Disagree Trend

I trust that [CITY] has an effective plan to address major challenges like homelessness, affordability, and public safety



Agree/Disagree Trend

[CITY] has enough funding; they just need to spend it more effectively

Total agree

81%

71%

65%

72%

Strongly agree

46%

36%

33%

36%

2024

May 2025

Sept 2025

Apr 2026

Agree/Disagree Trend

[CITY] should focus on funding the basics like filling potholes, maintaining parks, and addressing public safety

Total agree

93%

91%

92%

93%

Strongly agree

59%

60%

53%

56%

2024

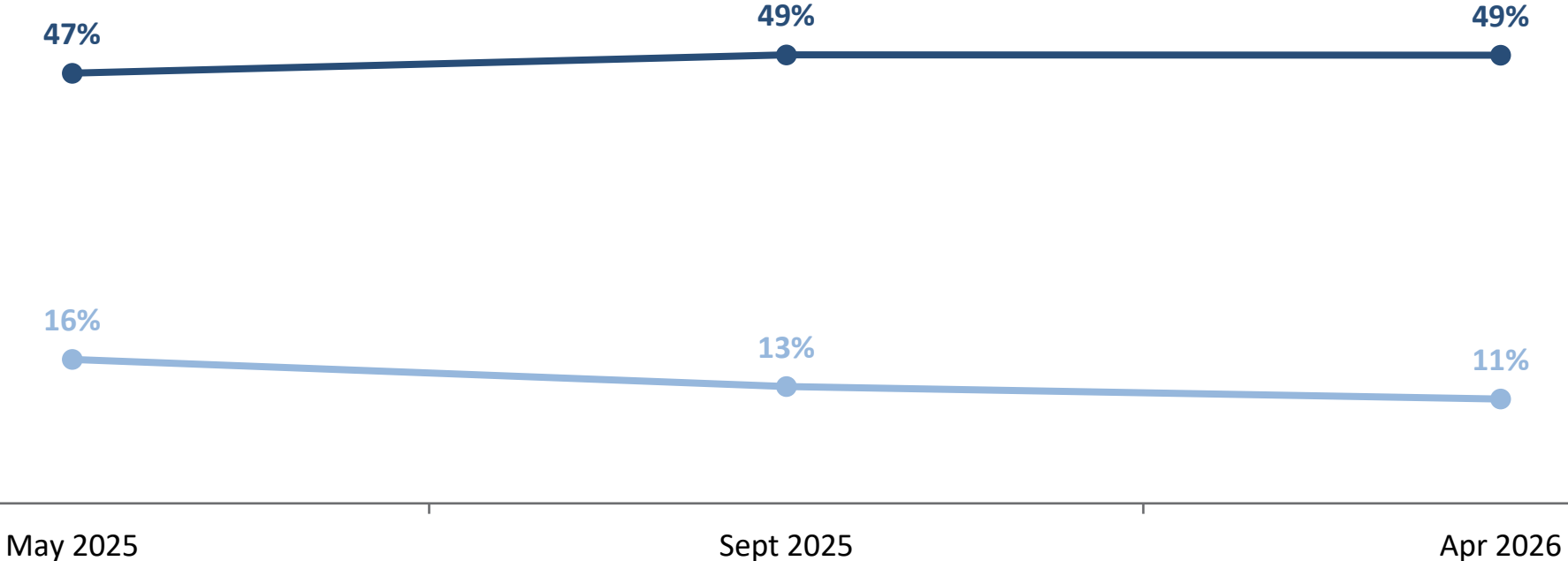
May 2025

Sept 2025

Apr 2026

Agree/Disagree Trend

I trust my local public school district to make decisions that benefit students and the community



Agree/Disagree Trend

A thriving downtown Spokane is critical to our region's economic health

Total agree

89%

92%

89%

88%

Strongly agree

58%

58%

58%

59%

2024

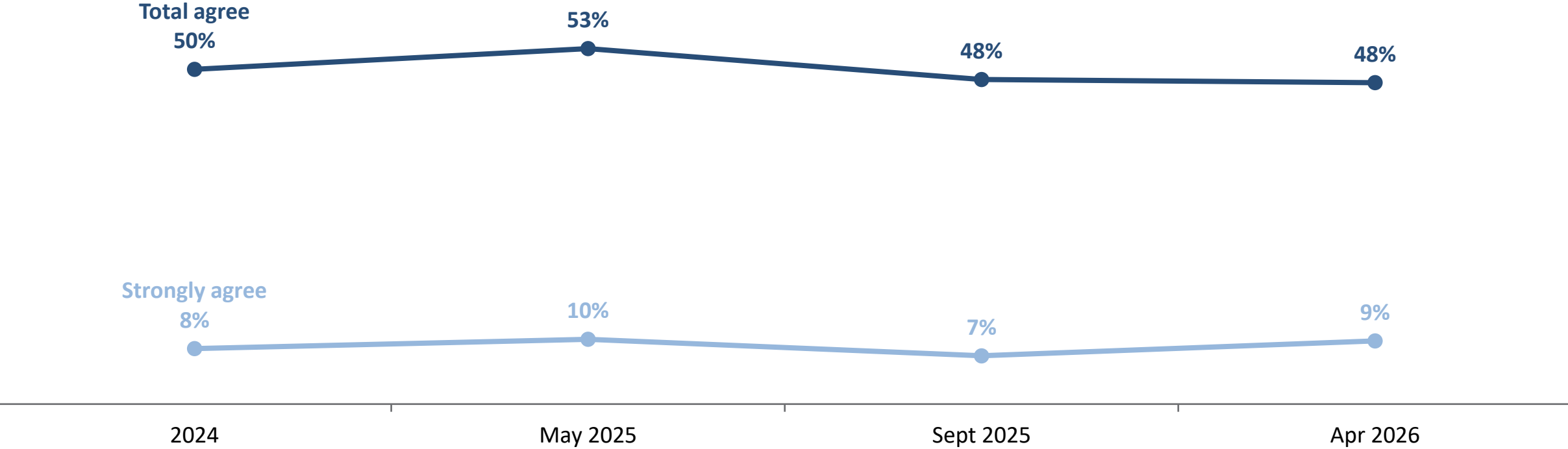
May 2025

Sept 2025

Apr 2026

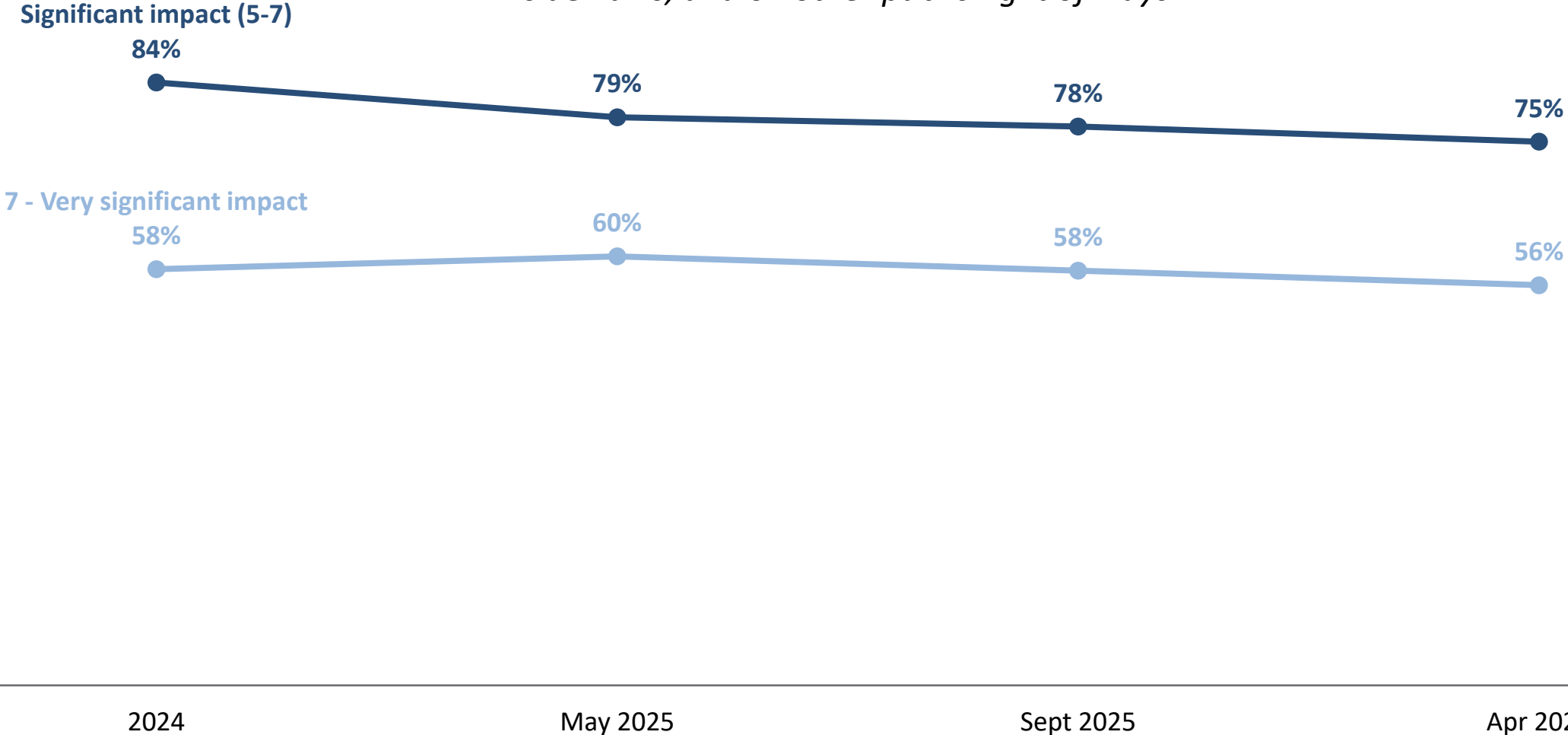
Agree/Disagree Trend

All things considered, growth and development has been a positive for my area



Quality of Life Impact Trend

Impact on Quality of Life: Prohibiting camping in parks, on sidewalks, and on other public right of ways



Asked as “closing encampments in parks, on sidewalks, and on other publics right of ways” in previous surveys

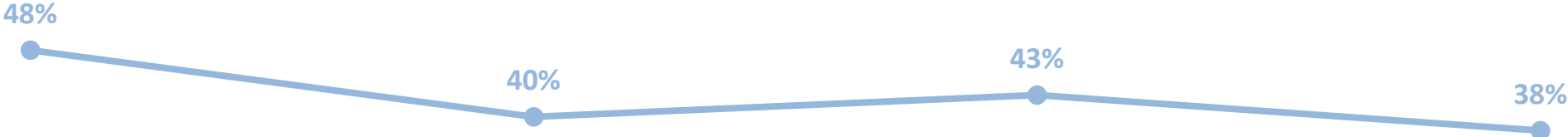
Quality of Life Impact Trend

Impact on Quality of Life: Helping local businesses deal with public safety concerns

Significant impact (5-7)



7 - Very significant impact



2024

May 2025

Sept 2025

Apr 2026

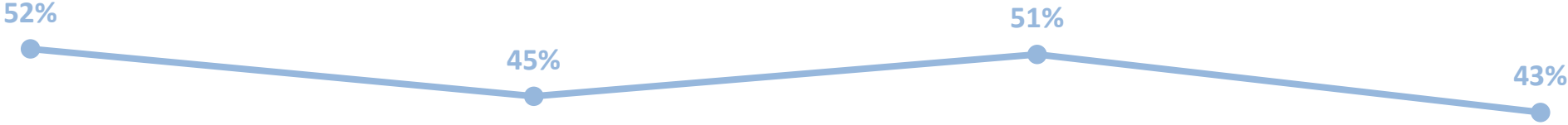
Quality of Life Impact Trend

Impact on Quality of Life: Increasing efforts to address property crime like theft and car break-ins

Significant impact (5-7)



7 - Very significant impact



2024

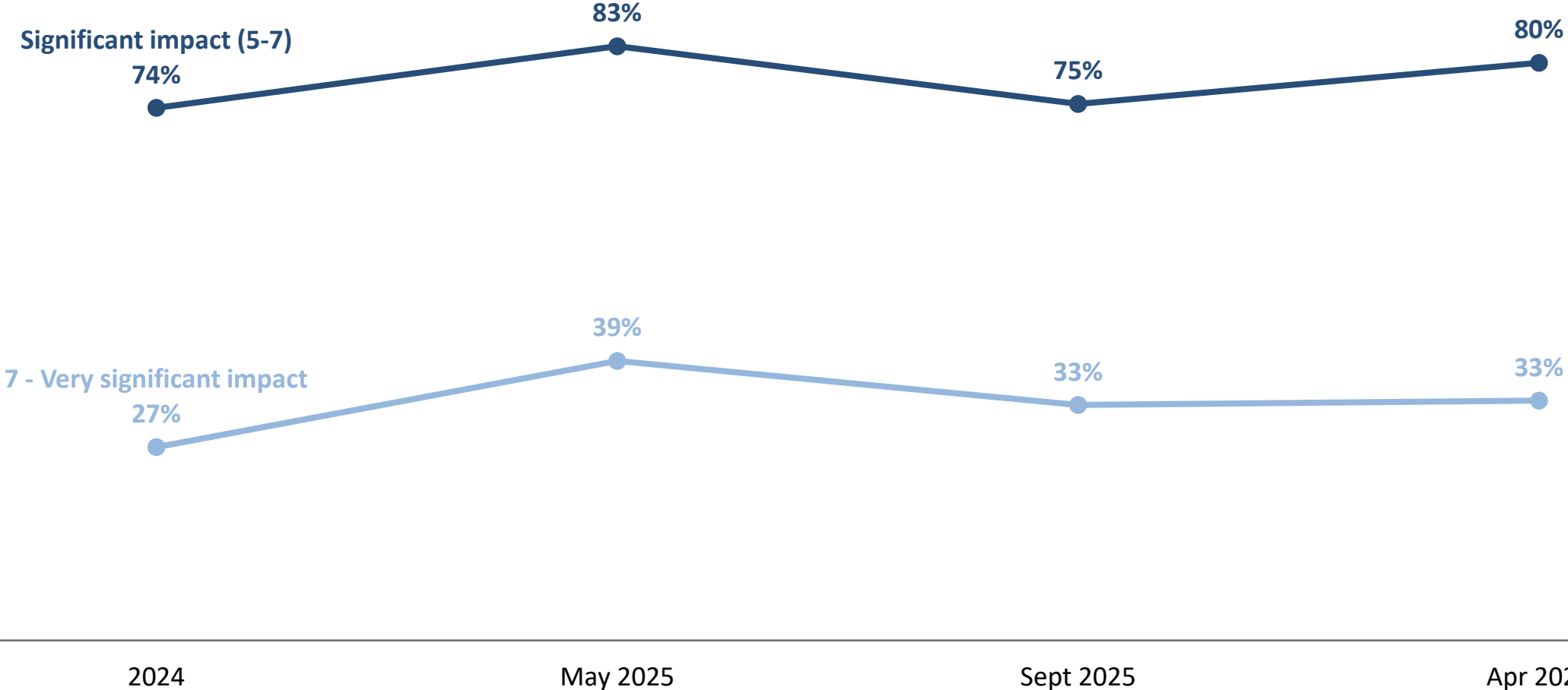
May 2025

Sept 2025

Apr 2026

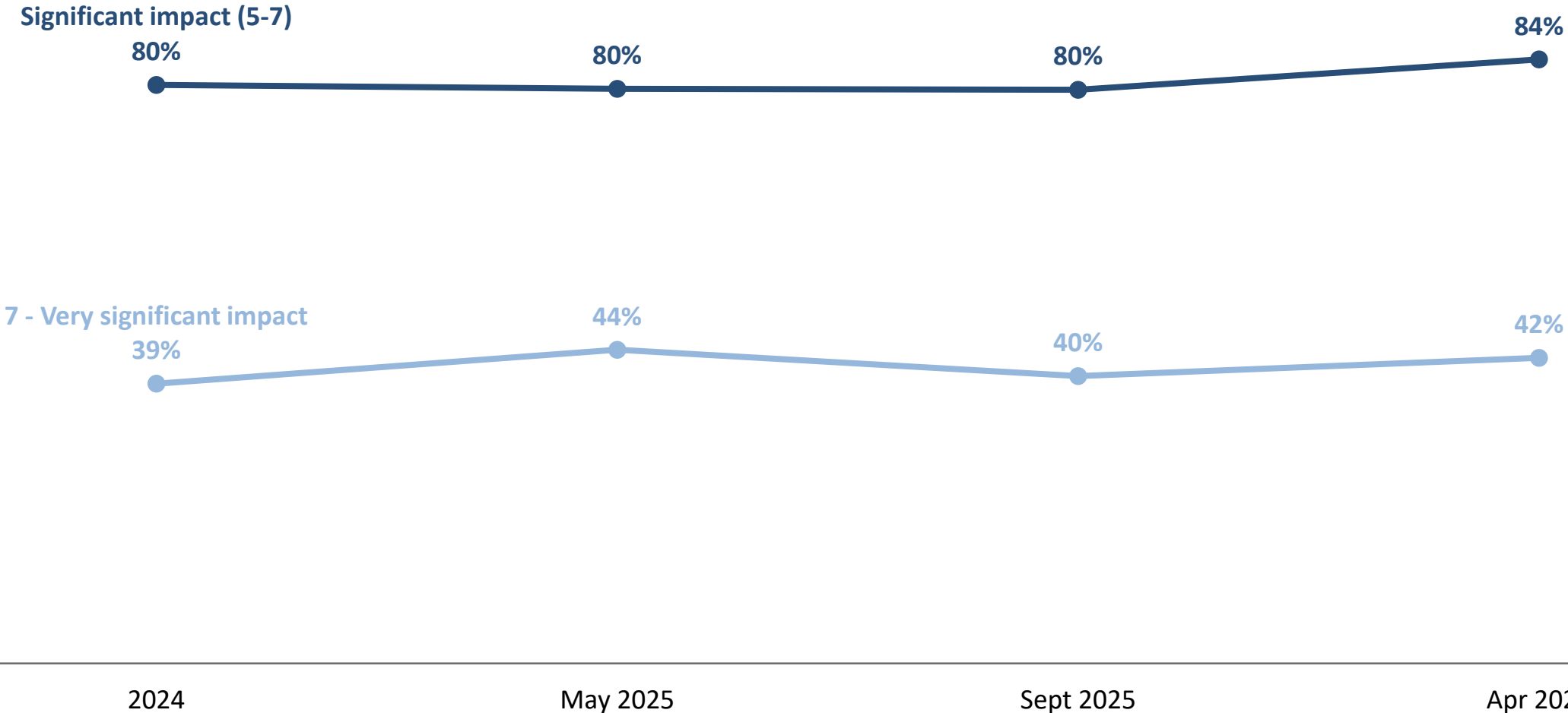
Quality of Life Impact Trend

Impact on Quality of Life: Maintaining bridges and infrastructure



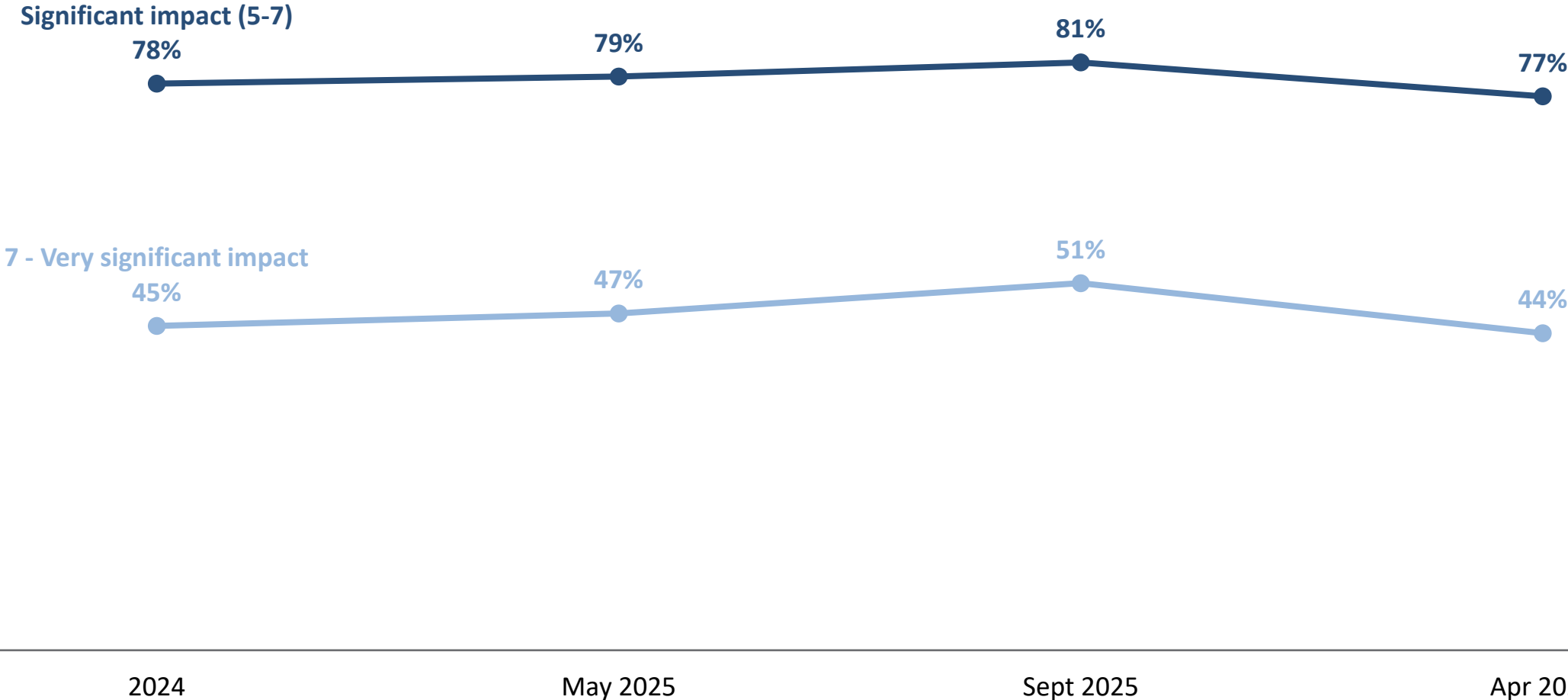
Quality of Life Impact Trend

Impact on Quality of Life: Making it easier to start and grow a business



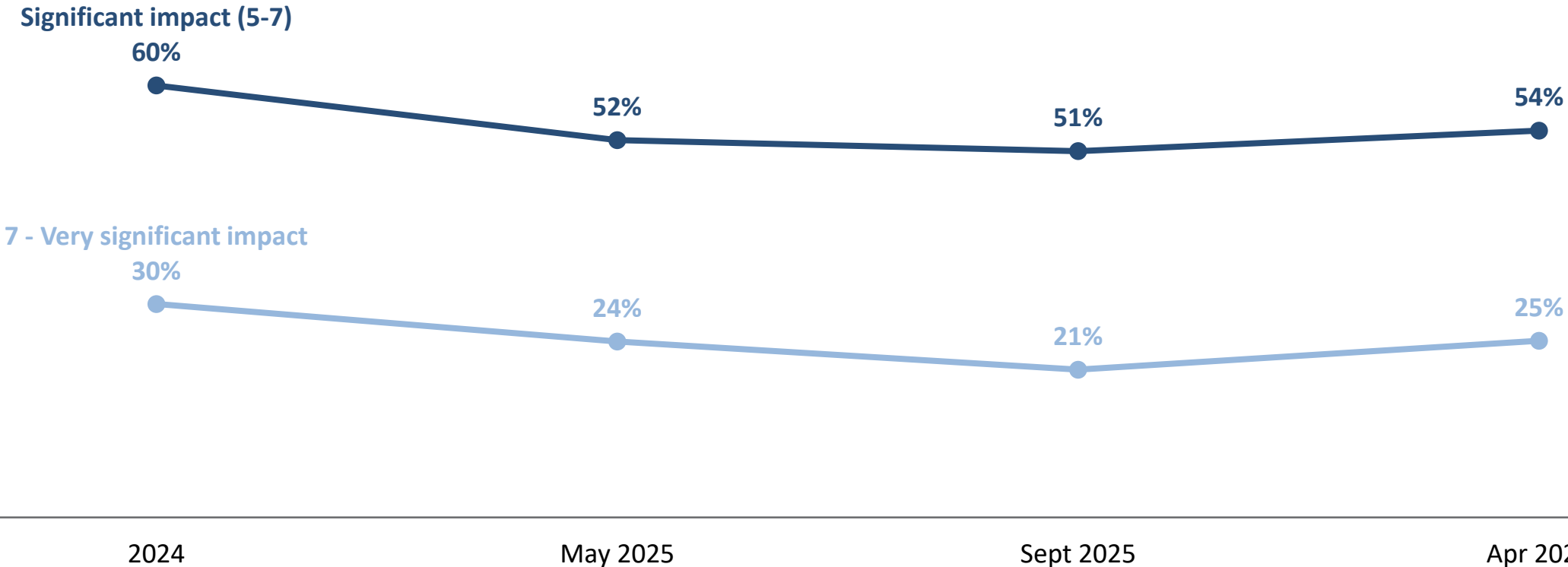
Quality of Life Impact Trend

Impact on Quality of Life: Increasing efforts to address violent crime and gun violence



Quality of Life Impact Trend

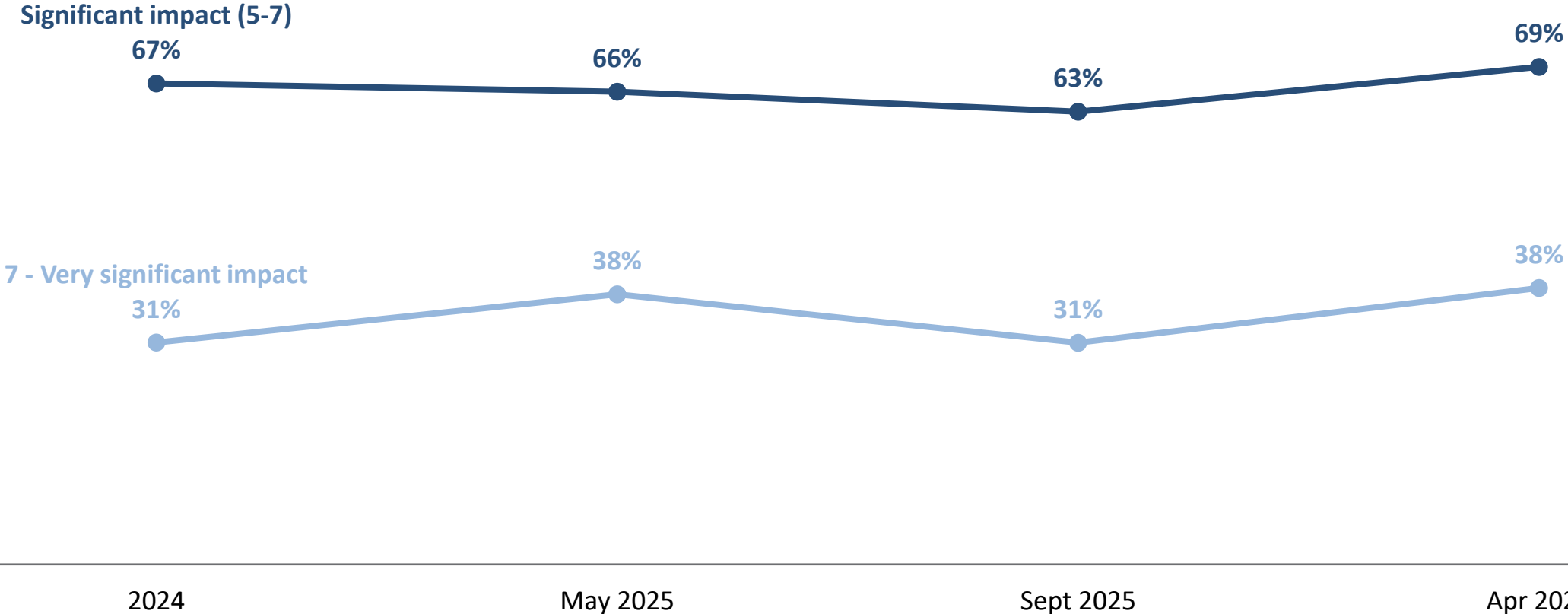
Impact on Quality of Life: Building more types of housing



Asked as “building more housing” in May ‘25, “building more affordable housing” in 2024

Quality of Life Impact Trend

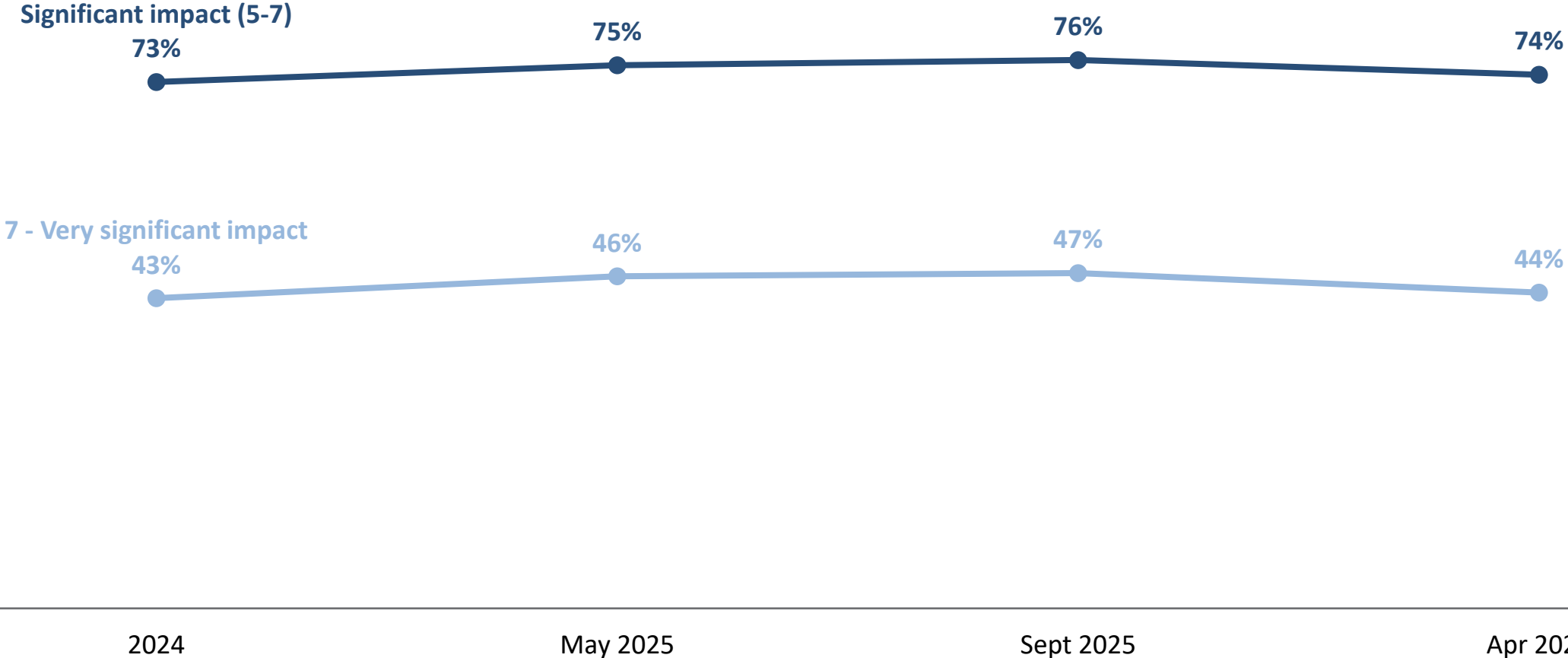
Impact on Quality of Life: Investing in public schools to improve student success



Asked as “building more housing” in May ‘25, “building more affordable housing” in 2024

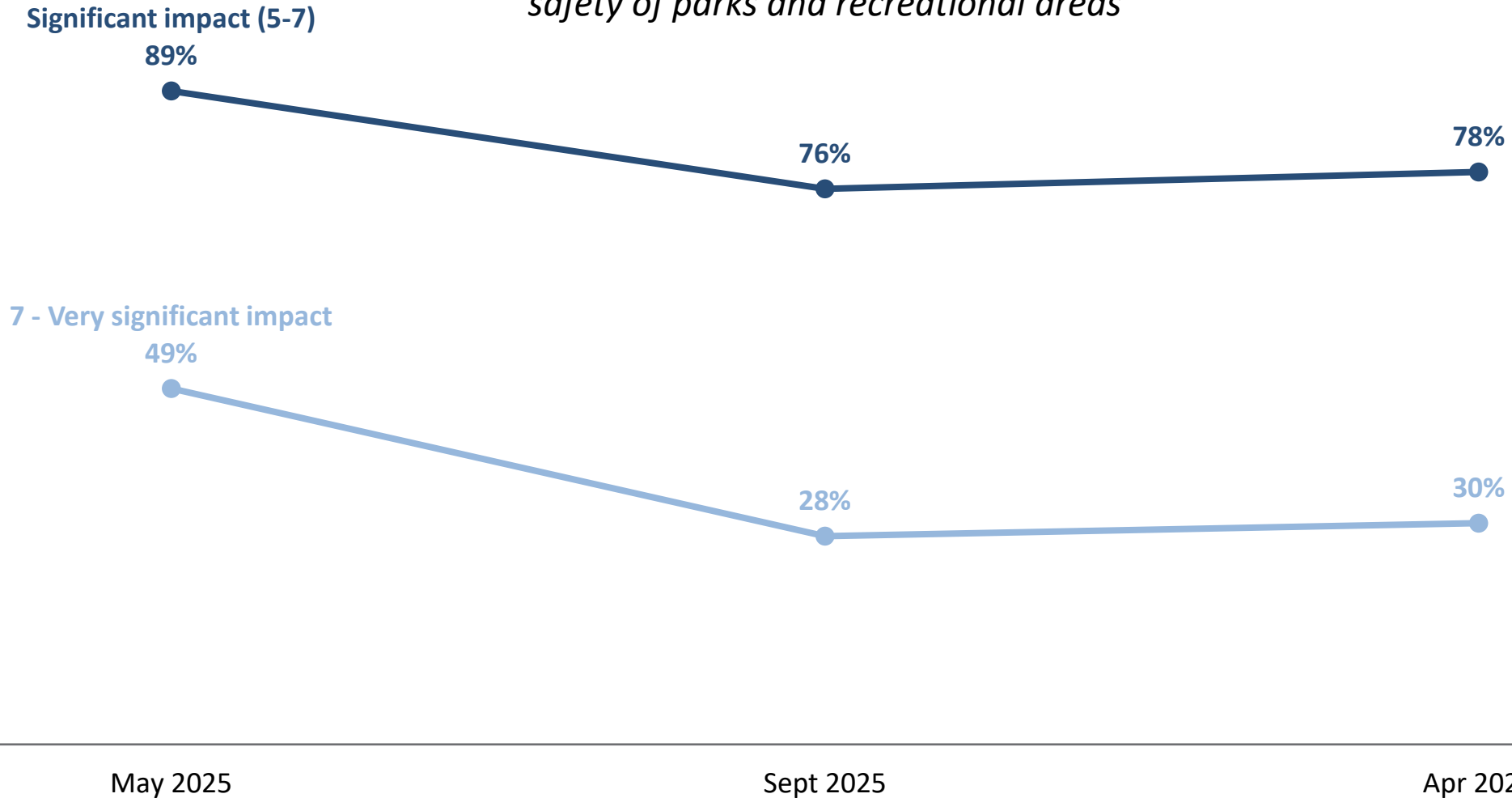
Quality of Life Impact Trend

Impact on Quality of Life: Improving treatment services for drug addiction and mental health



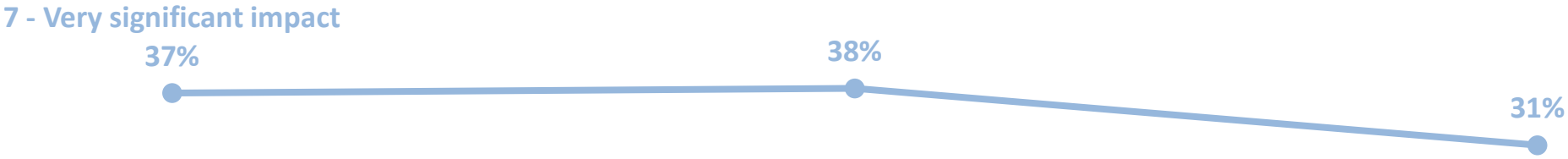
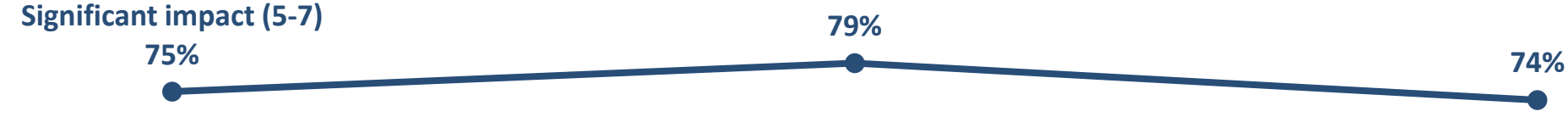
Quality of Life Impact Trend

Impact on Quality of Life: Investing in the maintenance and safety of parks and recreational areas



Quality of Life Impact Trend

Impact on Quality of Life: Expanding workforce training and job skills programs



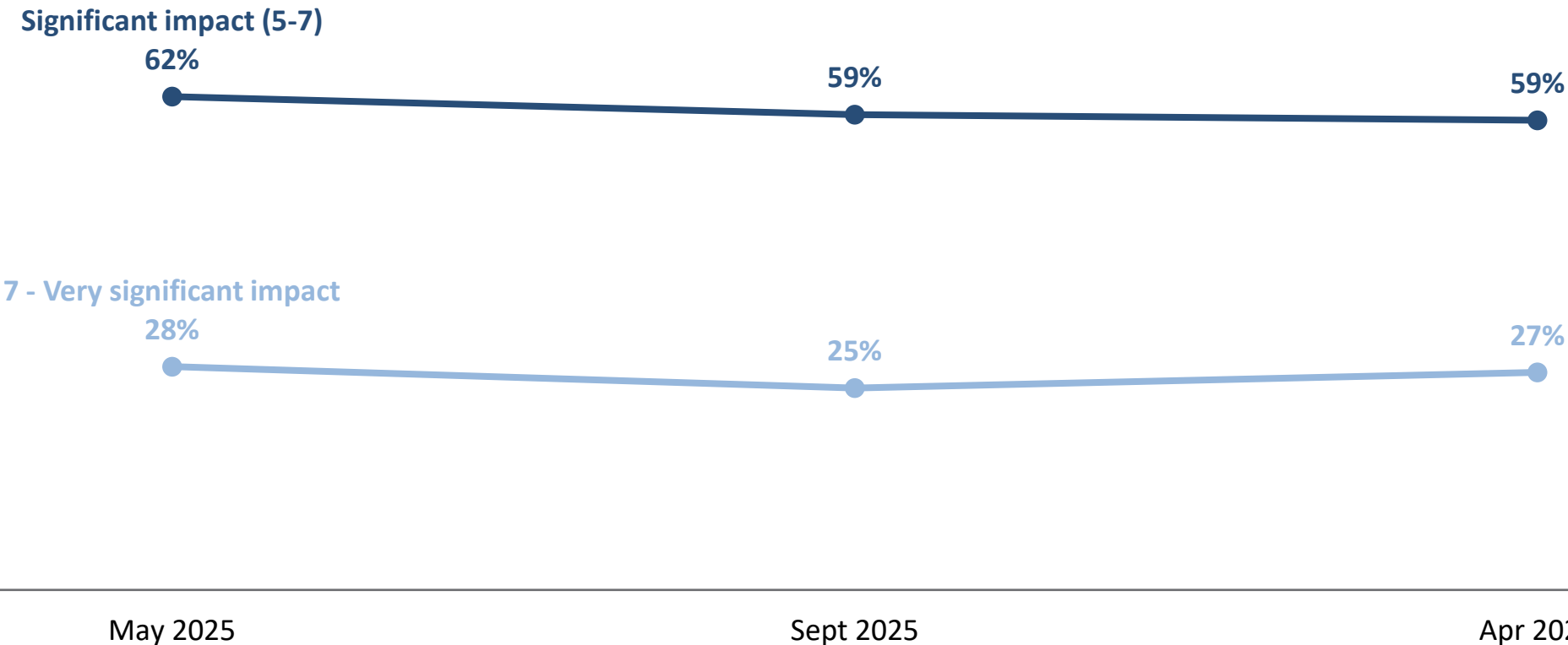
May 2025

Sept 2025

Apr 2026

Quality of Life Impact Trend

Impact on Quality of Life: Maintaining access to public transit



Quality of Life Impact Trend

Impact on Quality of Life: Improving access to childcare and early learning

Significant impact (5-7)
68%

73%

70%

7 - Very significant impact
39%

40%

38%

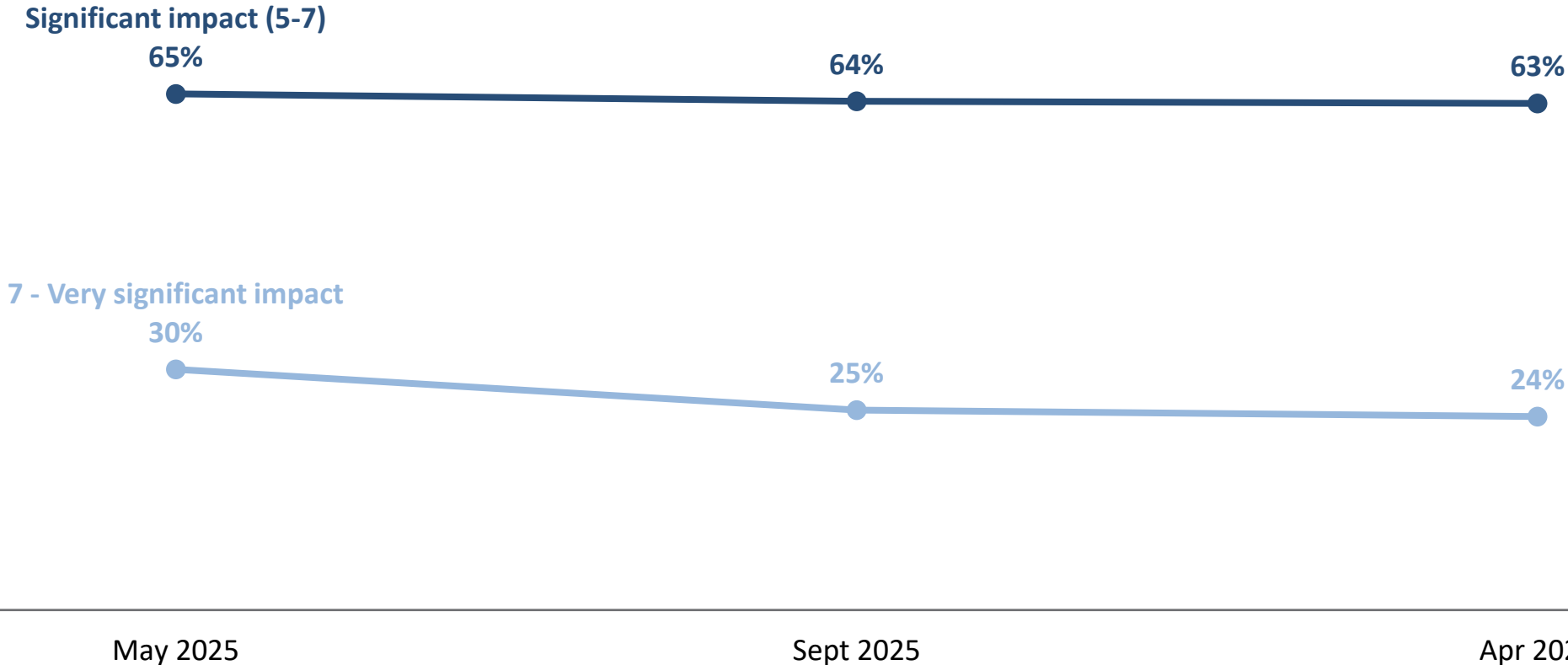
May 2025

Sept 2025

Apr 2026

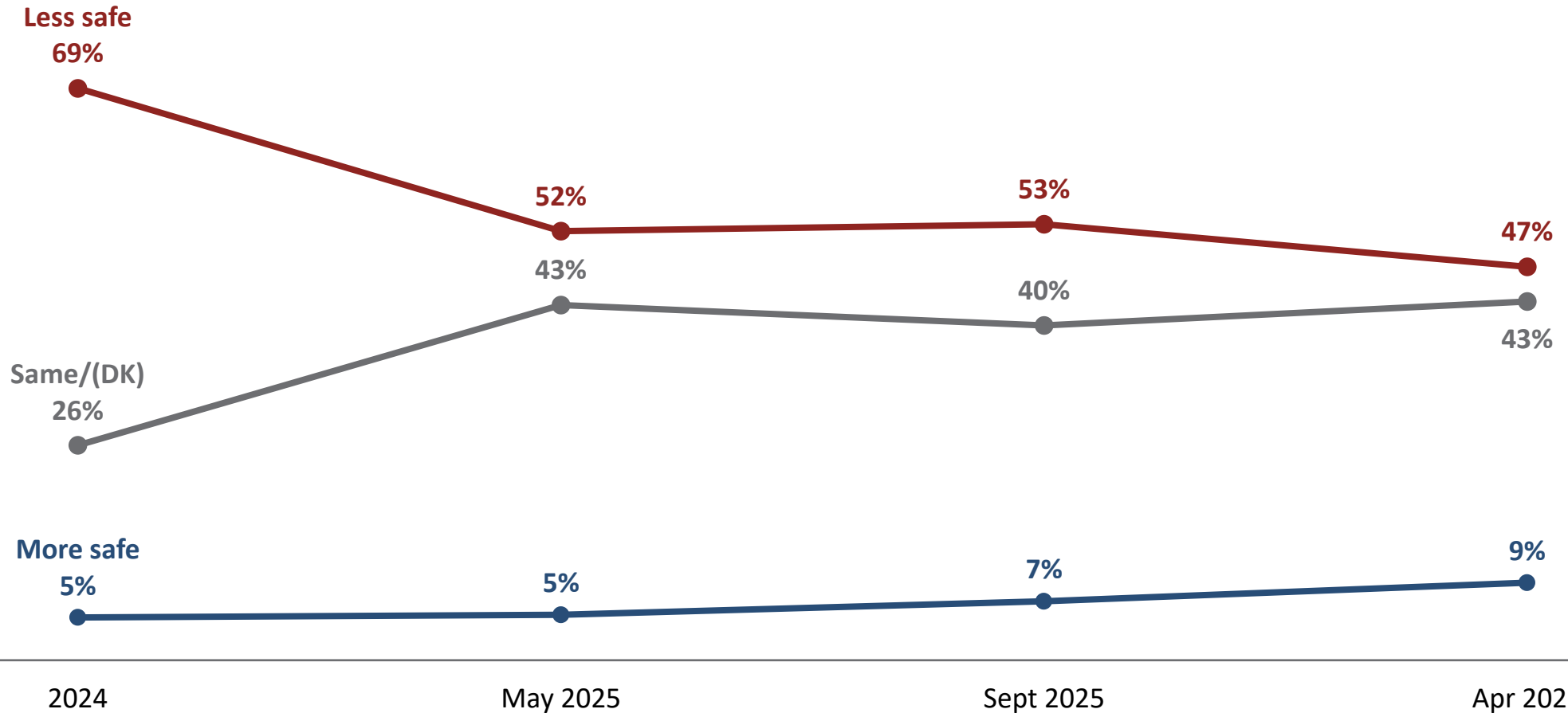
Quality of Life Impact Trend

Impact on Quality of Life: Encouraging community events and cultural activities



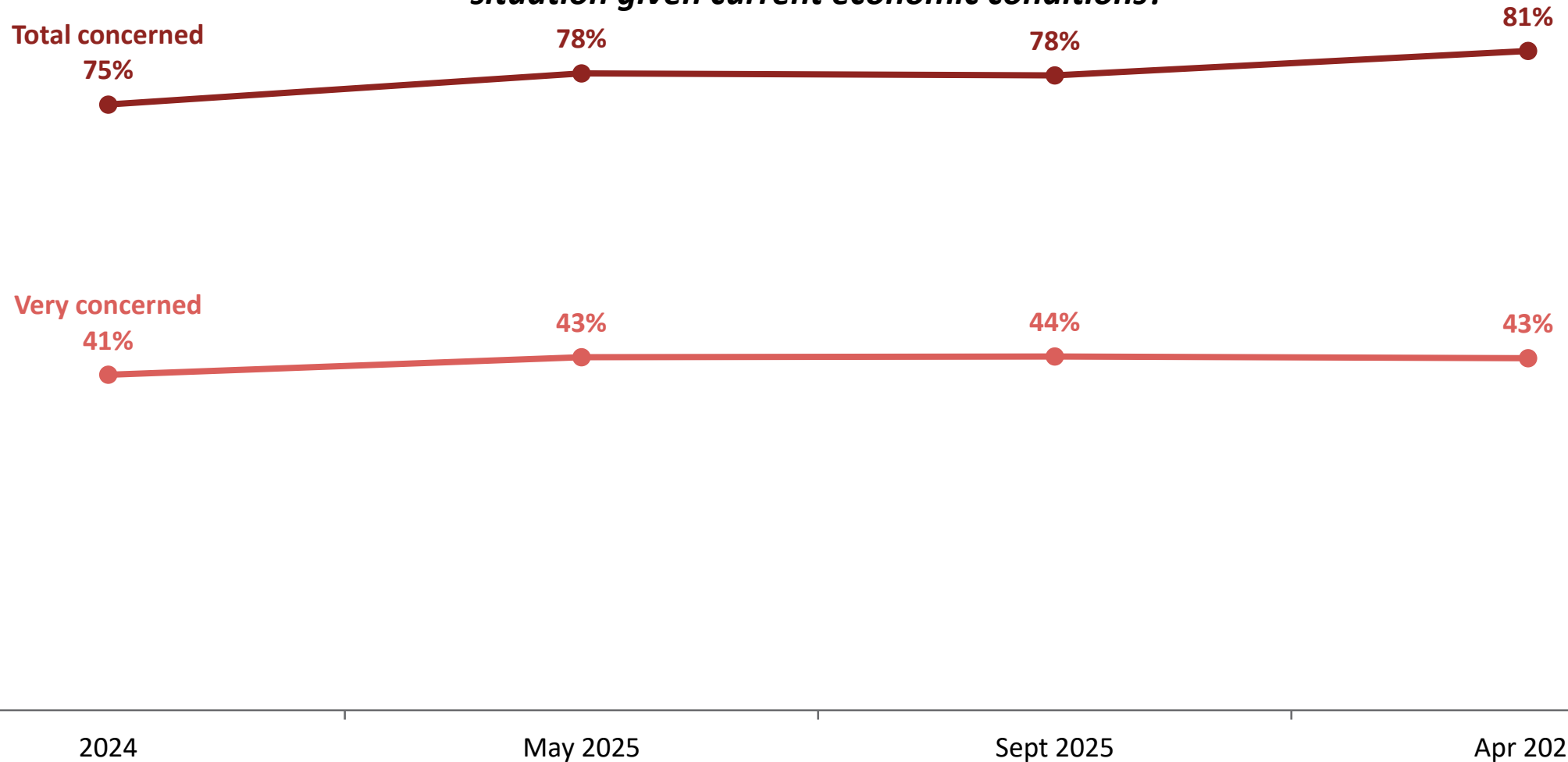
Neighborhood Safety Perception Trend

Thinking about safety in your neighborhood, including property crime and violent crime, would you say you feel more safe or less safe than you did two years ago?



Personal Financial Situation Trend

How concerned are you about your personal financial situation given current economic conditions?



Local Economic Outlook Trend

How do you feel about the area's economy?

1-2 Pessimistic

50%

3/(DK/Ref)

37%

44%

42%

48%

38%

48%

40%

4-5 Optimistic

13%

14%

14%

12%

2024

May 2025

Sept 2025

Apr 2026

Downtown Visitation Trend

For activities other than work, are you visiting downtown Spokane more, less, or about the same as you did a year ago?

