



Overview of Key Findings

National Police Federation National Survey

Wave 6

December 2024

pollara
strategic insights

Methodology

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- **Methodology/Sample:** Online survey conducted among a randomly selected sample of **N=2,039** adult (18+ year old) Canadians
- **Field Window:** November 27 to December 6, 2024
- **Reliability:** As a guideline, a probability sample of this size carries a margin of error of $\pm 2.2\%$, 19 times out of 20. The margin of error is larger for sub-segments.
- Although demographic and regional quotas were employed to ensure reliable and comparable sub-segment analysis, the dataset was weighted to ensure the sample reflects the age, gender and regional distribution of adult Canadians.

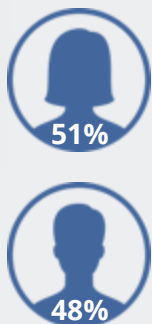
Region	Number of Interviews (weighted)	Number of Interviews (unweighted)	Margin of error*
Atlantic Canada	137	300	$\pm 5.7\%$
Quebec	469	302	$\pm 5.7\%$
Ontario	787	352	$\pm 5.2\%$
Manitoba	71	151	$\pm 8.0\%$
Saskatchewan	59	202	$\pm 6.9\%$
Alberta	226	301	$\pm 5.7\%$
British Columbia	283	405	$\pm 4.9\%$
Territories	6	26	$\pm 19.2\%$
Canada	2,039	2,039	$\pm 2.2\%$

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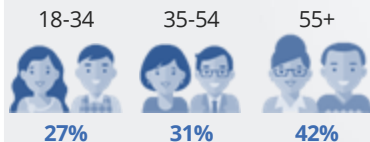
Demographic Profile

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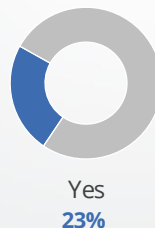
GENDER



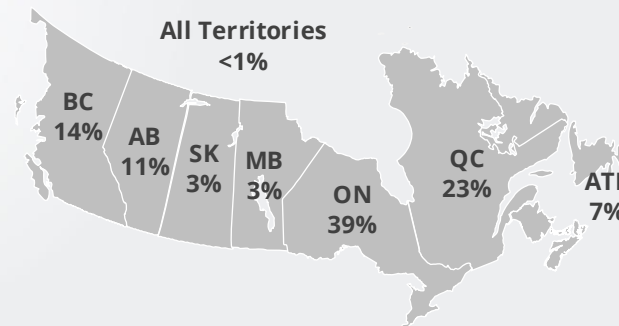
AGE



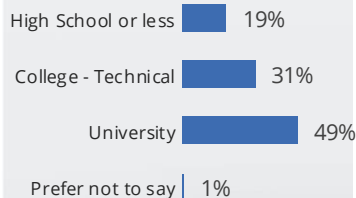
CHILDREN UNDER 18 YRS OLD



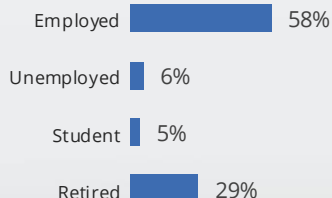
PROVINCES / TERRITORIES



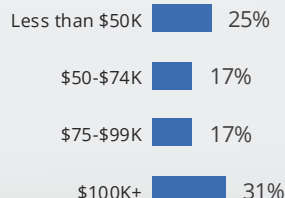
EDUCATION



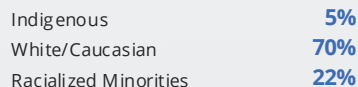
EMPLOYMENT



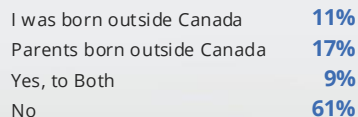
INCOME



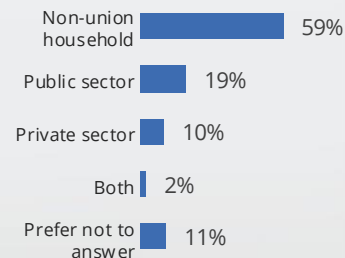
ETHNICITY



BIRTHPLACE OUTSIDE CANADA



UNION MEMBERSHIP



SCR2. What is your current age? SCR3. Please indicate which gender you most identify with... Z1. What is the highest level of education that you have completed? Z2. What is your current employment status? Z3. Are you or anyone in your household a member of a public sector labour union, or a private sector labour union? Z4. Approximately, what was your total household income from all sources in 2024, before taxes? Z5. Do you have any children under the age of 18 years old that live with you either full-time or part-time? Z6A. Were you or your parents born outside of Canada? Z7. We are interested in analysing the aggregated results among survey respondents who may or may not fit into different 'racial/tracialized' and visible minority populations. Thinking about this, are you? Base: Total (N=2039)

RCMP – Satisfaction and Services

Over 3 in 4 satisfied with RCMP local policing

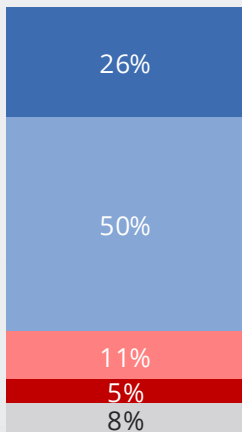
5

- Those served by the RCMP communities are more likely to be “very satisfied” (26%) than in non-RCMP communities (19%) while overall satisfaction is about three-quarters for both (76% in RCMP-served; 72% in non-RCMP served)

Satisfied With RCMP'S Policing

SATISFIED:
(Very/Somewhat)

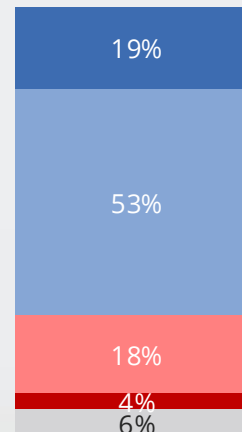
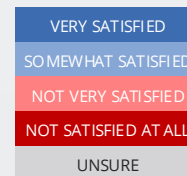
76%



Satisfied With Policing In Community

SATISFIED:
(Very/Somewhat)

72%



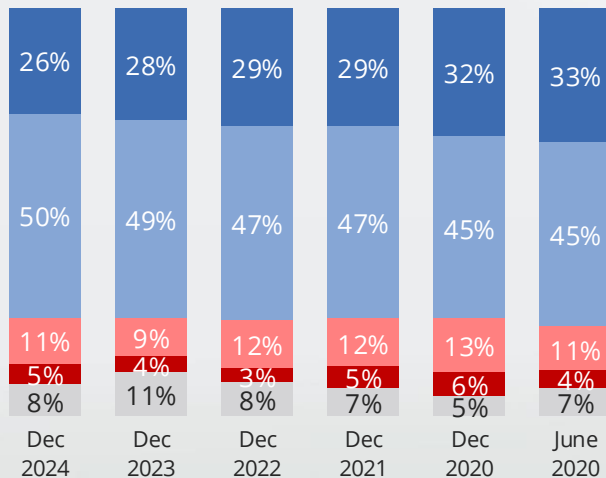
Satisfaction with policing of community consistent with previous waves

6

- Satisfaction in RCMP-served communities at 76% since 2021
- Satisfaction in non-RCMP served communities is at lowest level (72%) in six waves of tracking

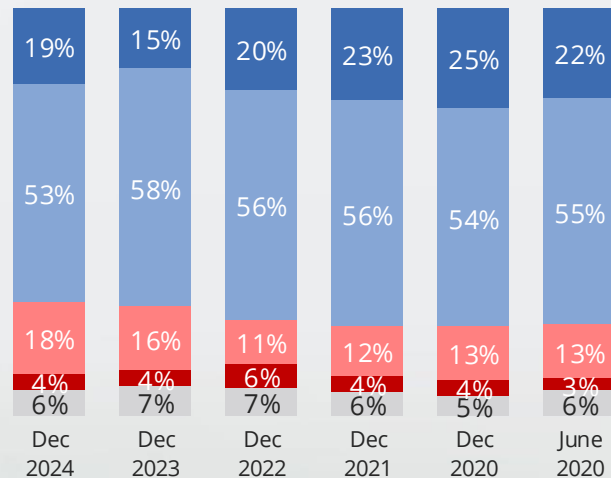
Satisfied With RCMP'S Policing

SATISFIED: 76% 76% 76% 76% 77% 78%
(Very/Somewhat)



Satisfied With Policing In Community

SATISFIED: 72% 73% 77% 78% 79% 77%
(Very/Somewhat)

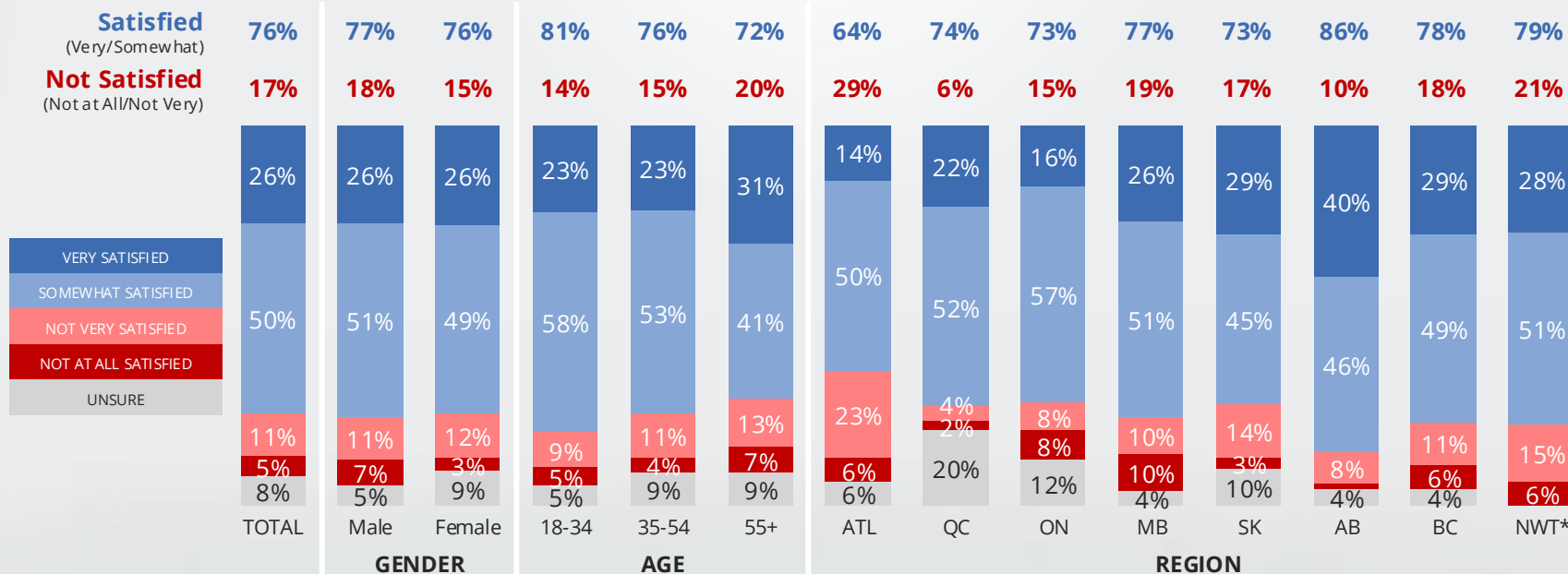


Q3. How satisfied are you with the RCMP's policing of your community? Base: Total (N=830)
Q4. How satisfied are you with the policing in your community? Base: Total (N=1209)

RCMP communities: Satisfaction level by gender, age, and region

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- Satisfaction level in RCMP communities are highest in Alberta (86%) and BC (78%)
- 55+ residents more likely to be “very satisfied” (31%) than those under 55 (23%)



Q3. How satisfied are you with the RCMP's policing of your community?

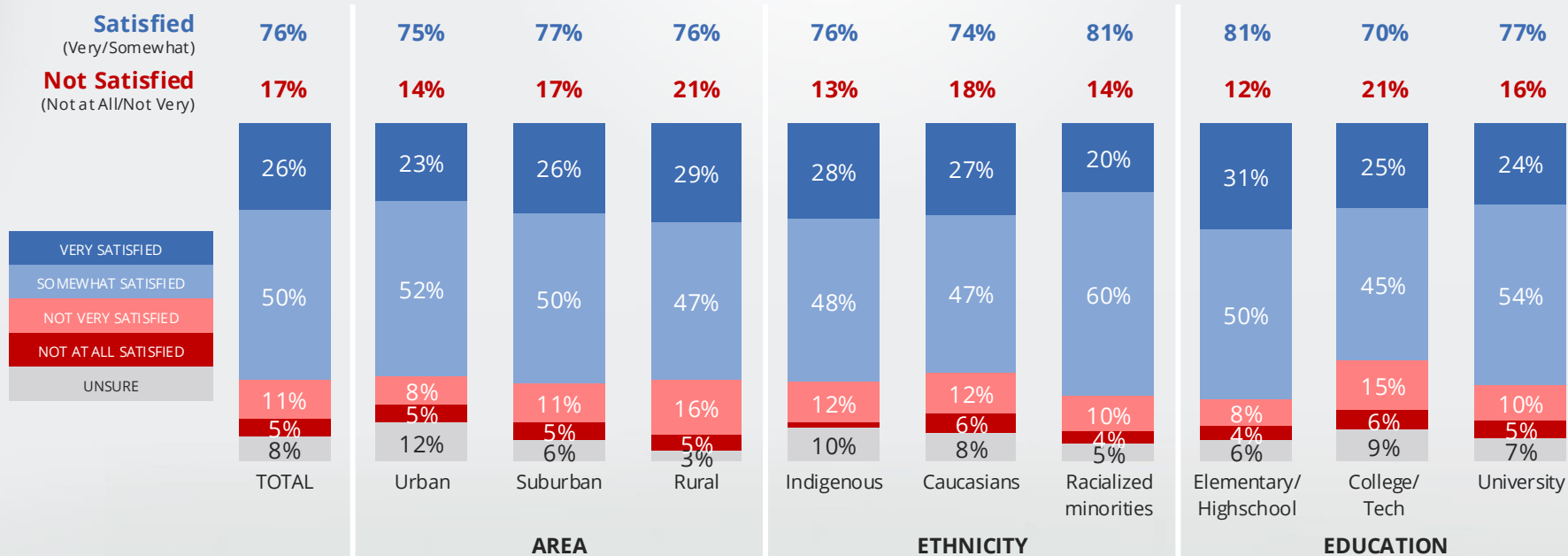
Base: Total (N=830) *Base size is extremely small. Data is directional only and not statistically relevant

RCMP communities:

Satisfaction by community type, race, and education

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- Higher levels of satisfaction among visible minorities (81%) compared to Caucasians (74%)
- Over 3-in-4 Indigenous respondents (76%) satisfied, noting sample size (n=47)
- Satisfaction level consistent between rural (76%), suburban (77%), and urban (75%)



Funding

Consistent decline in those saying police budget should be decreased since June 2020

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- Those saying police budgets should be decreased has dropped 15% since wave 1, from 30% to 15% in wave 6
- Those saying police budgets should be increased rose from 31% to 37% since 2023 and is at highest level across six waves
- Since wave 1, the gap between those who want to increase police budgets and those who want to decrease them has swung 27%, from (-5%) to 22% gap in favour of increasing budgets. The greatest gap is in Saskatchewan (33%) and Alberta (33%), and smallest gap is in Ontario (13%)

	TOTAL Dec 2024	TOTAL					GENDER		AGE			REGION							
		Dec 2023	Dec 2022	Dec 2021	Dec 2020	Jun 2020	M	F	18-34	35-54	55+	ATL	QC	ON	MB	SK	AB	BC	NWT*
Difference: Increase-Decrease	22%	16%	17%	11%	2%	-5%	19%	25%	-1%	22%	37%	30%	26%	13%	28%	33%	33%	24%	31%
The police budget should be increased so that there are more resources for crime prevention, more support for officers who are put in dangerous situations, and more focus put on serious and violent crimes	37%	31%	34%	32%	28%	25%	35%	40%	23%	35%	47%	41%	39%	32%	41%	44%	43%	40%	53%
The police budget is at about the right level now	31%	34%	33%	32%	34%	32%	37%	26%	34%	33%	29%	28%	31%	33%	31%	32%	31%	30%	17%
The police budget should be decreased , and resources shifted to mental health and other frontline services that are better suited to dealing with these unique challenges	15%	16%	17%	21%	26%	30%	15%	14%	24%	14%	10%	11%	13%	18%	13%	11%	10%	16%	22%
Unsure	16%	19%	16%	15%	12%	13%	13%	20%	19%	18%	13%	20%	17%	17%	15%	13%	16%	14%	9%

Q12: Thinking about the police budget in your community, do you think...?

Base: Total (N=2039) *Base size is extremely small. Data is directional only and not statistically relevant

Plurality of Liberal and Conservative voters say police budgets should be increased

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- Plurality of respondents say police budget is at about the right level now (37%)
- Plurality of Conservative voters say police budgets should be increased (41%) compared to only 10% of Conservatives that support a decrease.
- Plurality of federal NDP voters say there should be a decrease (30%), marginally higher than those saying there should be an increase (29%)

	TOTAL Dec 2024	VOTER INTENT				ETHNICITY			AREA			Served by RCMP	
		LIB	CON	NDP	Und.	Indigenous	Racialized Minority	Caucasian	Urban	Suburban	Rural	Yes	No/ Not sure
Difference: Increase-Decrease	22%	28%	32%	-1%	24%	16%	18%	24%	18%	24%	29%	26%	21%
The police budget should be increased so that there are more resources for crime prevention, more support for officers who are put in dangerous situations, and more focus put on serious and violent crimes	37%	42%	41%	29%	33%	38%	32%	39%	36%	37%	40%	40%	36%
The police budget is at about the right level now	31%	31%	38%	25%	25%	31%	38%	30%	28%	35%	33%	32%	31%
The police budget should be decreased , and resources shifted to mental health and other frontline services that are better suited to dealing with these unique challenges	15%	14%	10%	30%	9%	22%	14%	16%	19%	13%	10%	14%	15%
Unsure	16%	13%	11%	16%	33%	8%	16%	15%	17%	15%	17%	14%	17%

About half would feel less safe with budget decrease

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- Older Canadians more likely to feel less safe (61%) with budget decrease, compared to 18-34s (39%)
- Age disparity with 18-34s (19%) more likely to feel safer with budget decrease than 55+ (7%).

	TOTAL Dec 2024	TOTAL					GENDER		AGE			REGION								
		Dec 2023	Dec 2022	Dec 2021	Dec 2020	Jun 2020	M	F	18-34	35-54	55+	ATL	QC	ON	MB	SK	AB	BC	NWT*	
Feel safer	<div><div></div></div> 11%	12%	12%	13%	14%	12%	13%	9%	19%	11%	7%	13%	10%	10%	12%	11%	12%	15%	19%	
Feel less safe	<div><div></div></div> 51%	49%	52%	50%	45%	44%	51%	52%	39%	49%	61%	51%	54%	47%	62%	55%	56%	52%	66%	
Won't make any difference	<div><div></div></div> 25%	27%	24%	27%	32%	30%	25%	24%	28%	25%	22%	26%	23%	28%	17%	22%	19%	24%	12%	
Unsure	<div><div></div></div> 13%	12%	12%	10%	9%	15%	11%	15%	14%	16%	10%	10%	13%	14%	10%	12%	13%	9%	3%	

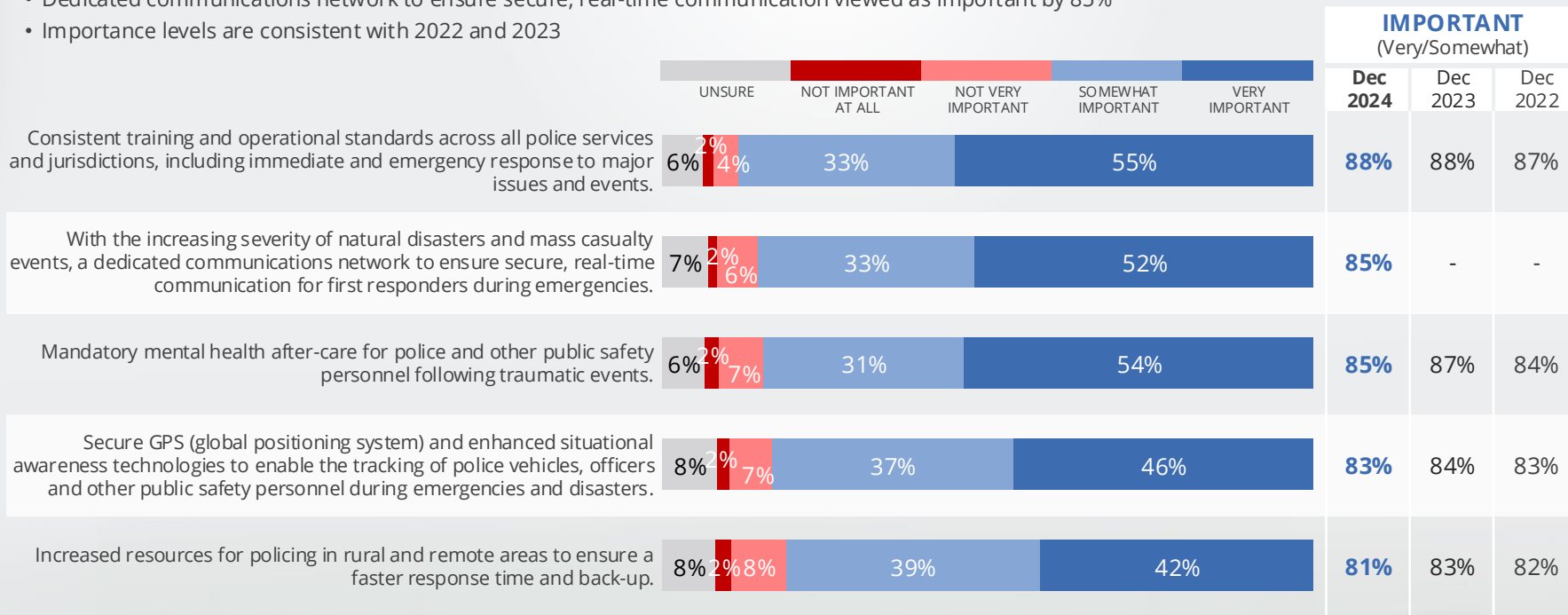


Q13. If the police budget in your community is reduced and funds are reallocated to other services, will it make you...

Base: Total (N=2039) *Base size is extremely small. Data is directional only and not statistically relevant

Priorities: over 8-in-10 see priorities as important with consistent training/operational standards highest

- Majority (55%) say consistent training and operational standards across all police services and jurisdictions are very important
- Majority (54%) say mandatory mental health after-care for police and other public safety personnel following traumatic events are very important
- Dedicated communications network to ensure secure, real-time communication viewed as important by 85%
- Importance levels are consistent with 2022 and 2023



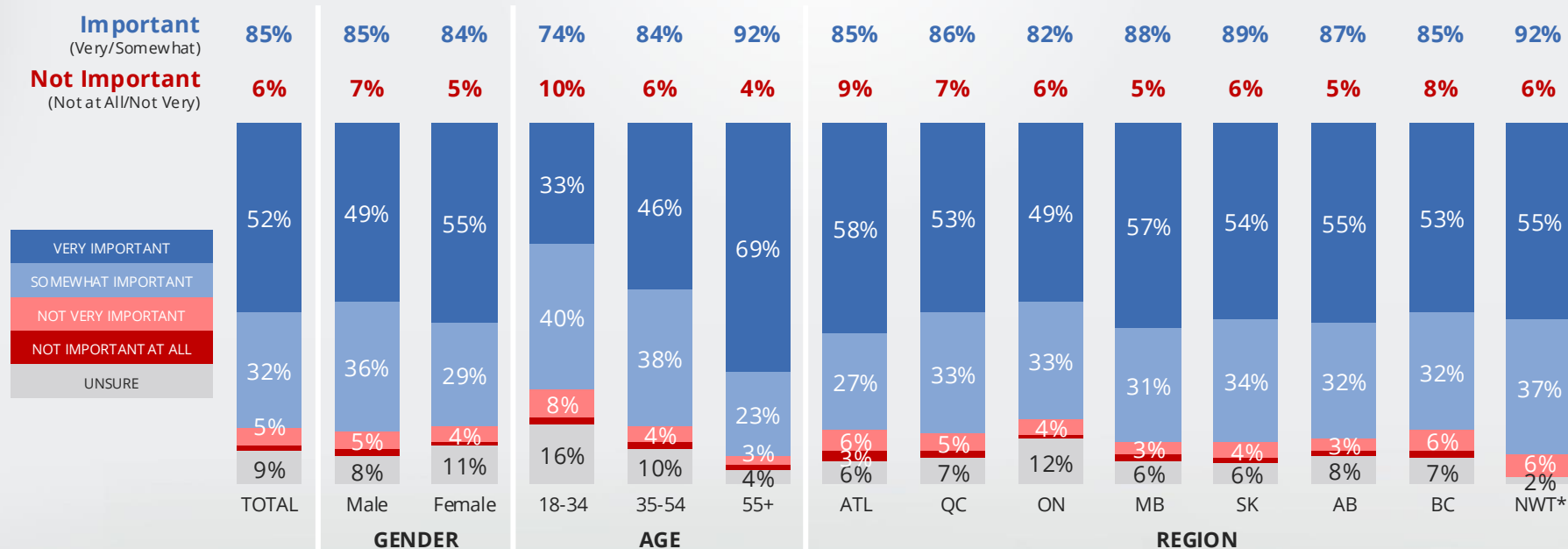
Q14. Policing in Canada is becoming more complex and challenging due to ongoing staffing shortages and officers not having enough access to up-to-date technology and resources. Considering this, how important are each of the following possible improvements to policing? Base: Total Dec 2024 (N=2039); Total Dec 2023 (N=2205); Total Dec 2022 (N=2365)

*In 2022 wave, text was "Mandatory wellness after-care"

Adequate funding to ensure access to modern technologies and intelligence gathering capacity viewed as very important

14

- Over half (52%) view adequate funding for intelligence gathering capacity to neutralize and prevent acts of terror and violence as very important, including over two-thirds (69%) of 55+ voters and 55% of women



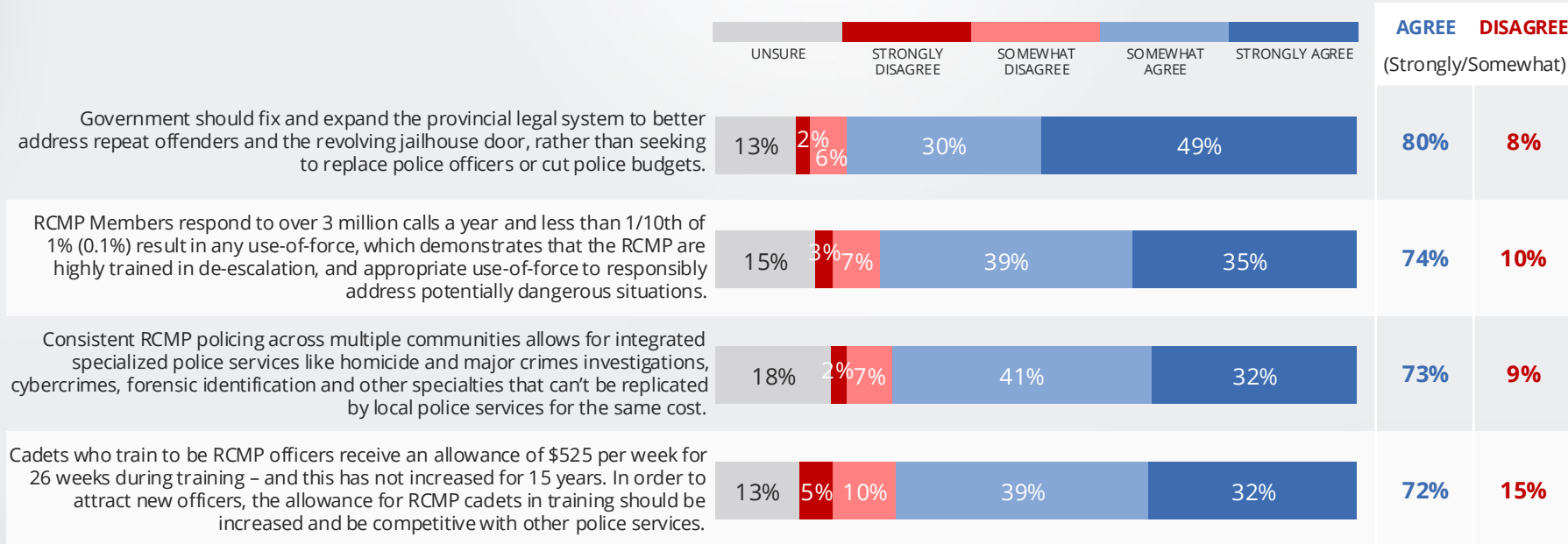
Q15. Canada faces ever-increasing threats from extremist and terrorist groups. Specialized and highly trained RCMP police units work to neutralize and prevent acts of terror and violence before they can happen. Thinking about this, how important do you feel it is for Specialized RCMP units to be funded adequately to ensure they have access to the most up-to-date and modern technologies and the intelligence gathering capacity to effectively neutralize and prevent acts of terror and violence? Base: Total (N=2039)

*Base size is extremely small. Data is directional only and not statistically relevant

8-in-10 agree that government should fix, expand legal system to address repeat offenders and revolving jailhouse door

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- Over 7-in-10 agree that RCMP are highly trained in de-escalation and appropriate use of force (74%), consistent RCMP policing allows for integrated police services that can't be replicated by local police services because of cost (73%), and that the allowance for RCMP cadets should be increased (72%)

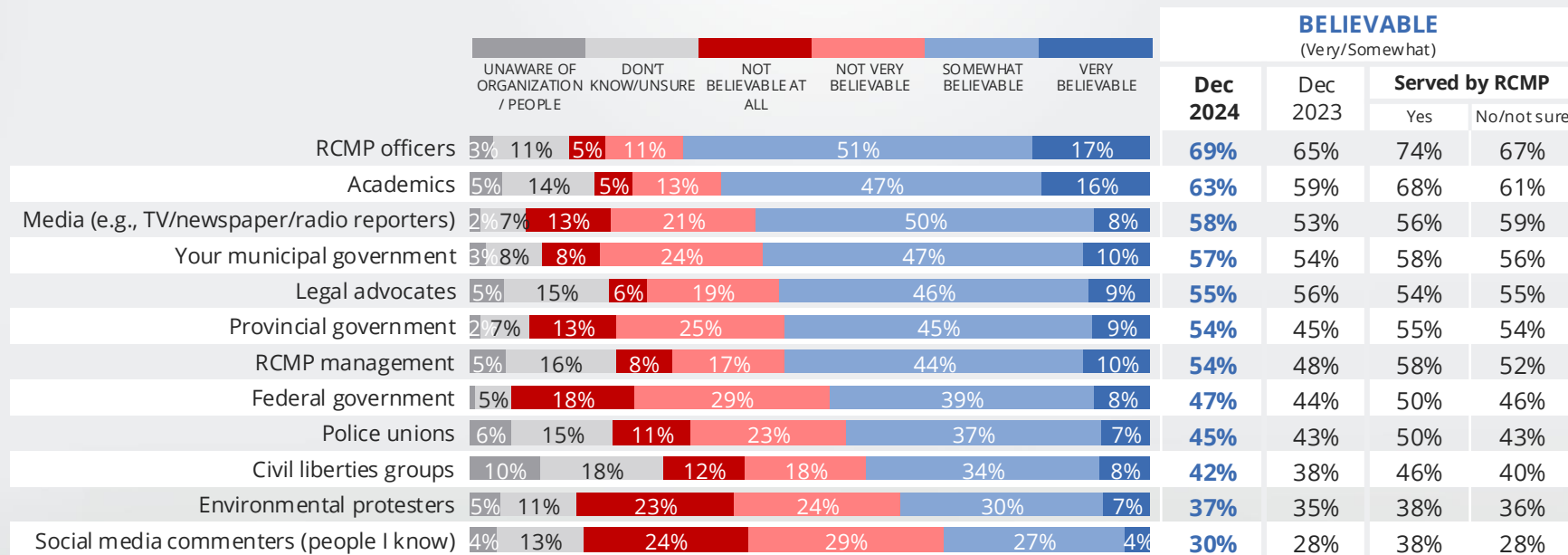


Believability

RCMP Officers most believable about policing related topics and issues of twelve groups and organizations tested

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- Over two-thirds (69%) say RCMP officers are believable (very + somewhat believable) about policing related topics and issues, with that level higher in RCMP-served communities (74%). Overall, 16% said RCMP officers were not believable (not very + not believable at all), a drop of 5% compared to 2023.
- Over half said RCMP management was believable (54%) compared to 25% who said they were not believable.
- Net-negative groups on believability scale were social media commenters-people I know (-23%) and environmental protesters (-10%)

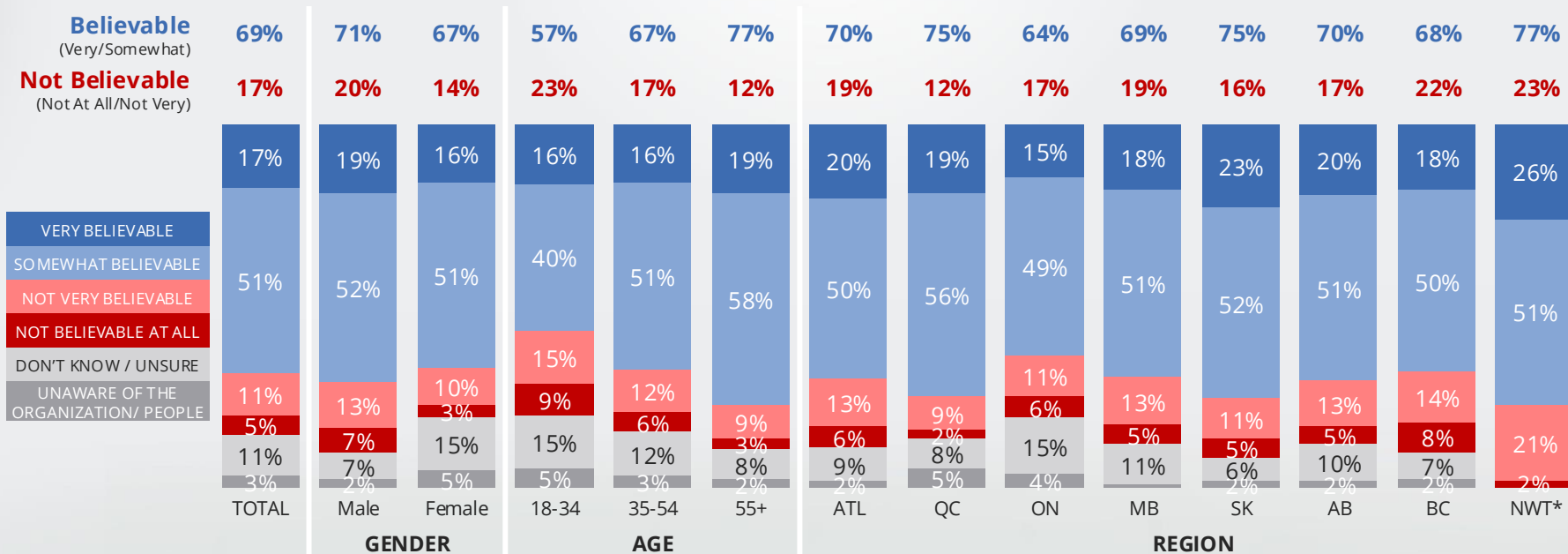


Q7. Thinking about when you will hear or see the following people or organizations speak about policing related topics and issues, how believable will they be to you?
Base: Total (N=1297-2039)

Believability on policing-related topics and issues: RCMP Officers – gender, age and region

18

- 55+ respondents (77%) more likely to view RCMP officers as believable compared to 18-34s (57%) and 35-54s (67%)
- Across provinces, RCMP officers' "believability" highest in Saskatchewan and Quebec



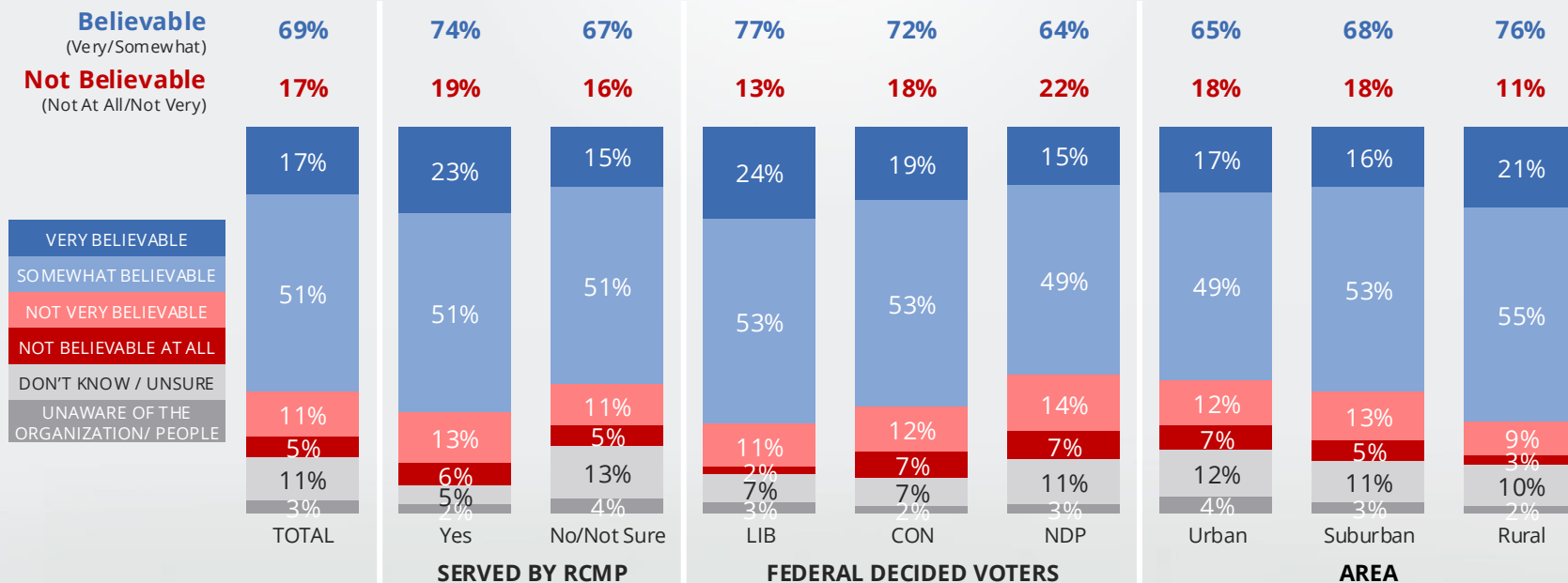
Q7. Thinking about when you will hear or see the following people or organizations speak about policing related topics and issues, how believable will they be to you?

Base: Total (N=2039) *Base size is extremely small. Data is directional only and not statistically relevant

Believability on policing-related topics and issues: RCMP Officers – RCMP-served, voter intent and area

19

- Liberals (77%), Conservatives (72%), and NDP (64%) respondents view RCMP officers as “believable”
- Rural residents (76%) more likely to view RCMP officers as believable compared to suburban (68%) and urban (65%) residents



Q7. Thinking about when you will hear or see the following people or organizations speak about policing related topics and issues, how believable will they be to you?

Base: Total (N=2039)

Mike McDonald

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