Overview of Key Findings

National Police Federation

Saskatchewan Survey

Wave 2
August 2024

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Methodology

- **Sampling:** Online survey of randomly selected sample of **1,000 adult (18+) Saskatchewan Residents**
- **Field Window: August 15 – 27, 2024**
- **Reliability:** A margin of error cannot be calculated on a non-probability sample. For comparison purposes, a probability sample of N=1,000 respondents would have a margin of error of ± 3.1%, 19 times out of 20. Data has been weighted by region, age and gender to be representative of the population of Saskatchewan.
- In this deck, sub-samples of rural regions (exclusive of major towns), are shown for comparison purposes. Rural North (n=110); Rural Central (n=171); and Rural South (n=113). Margins of error range from ± 7.5% to 9.3% for these regions.

	NUMBER OF INTERVIEWS		
REGION	Weighted	Unweighted	Margin of error*
Regina	210	200	± 6.9%
Saskatoon	249	200	± 6.9%
Rest of Saskatchewan	541	600	± 4.0%
Saskatchewan	**1,000**	**1,000**	**± 3.1%**

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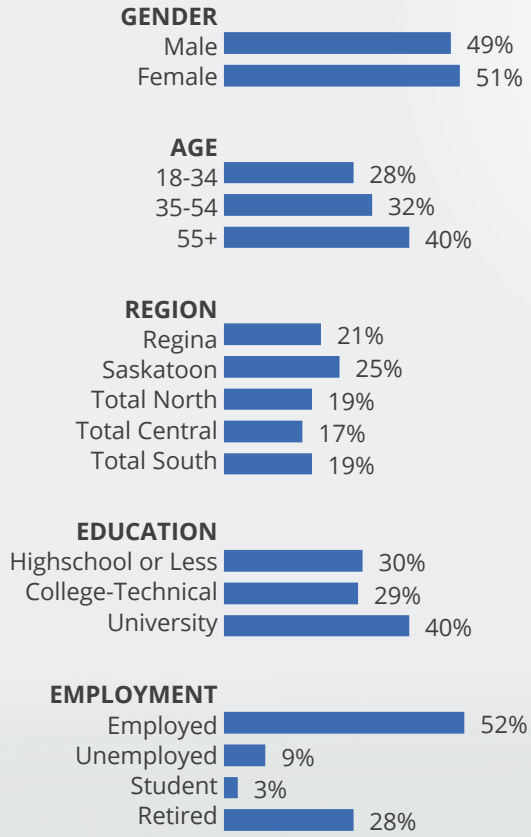
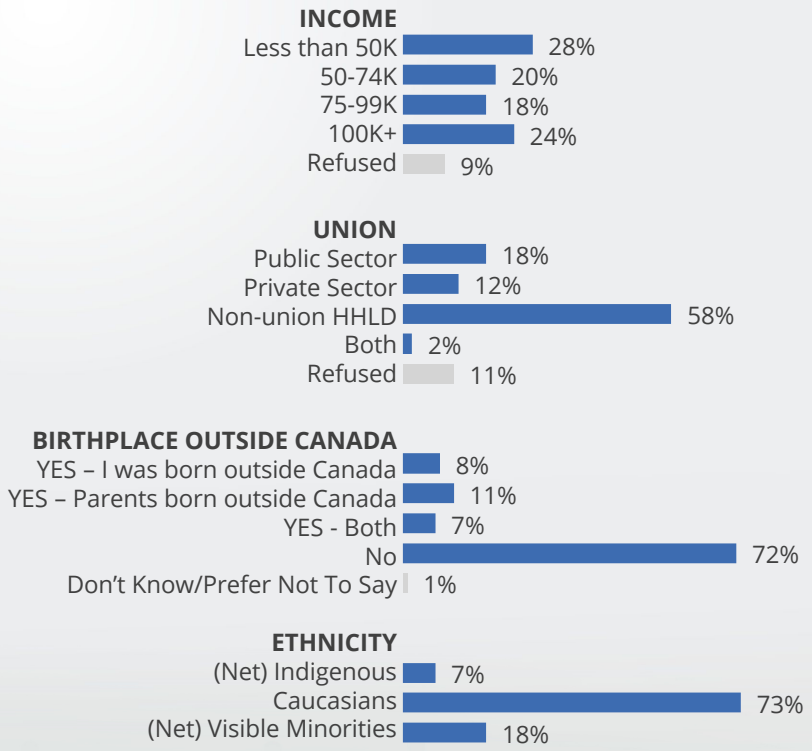
Demographic Profile





Base: Total (N=1,000)

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Satisfaction with Policing

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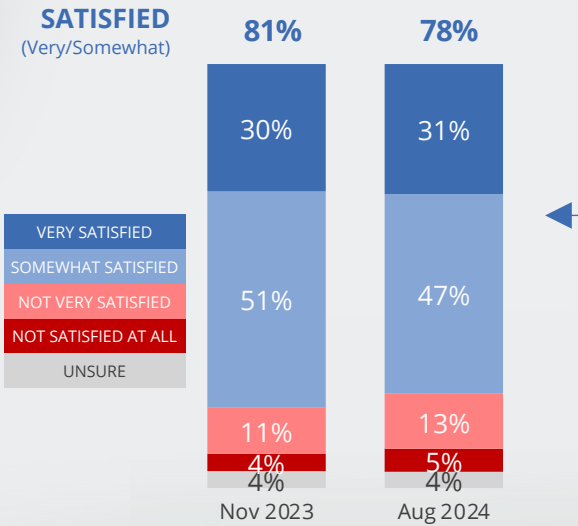
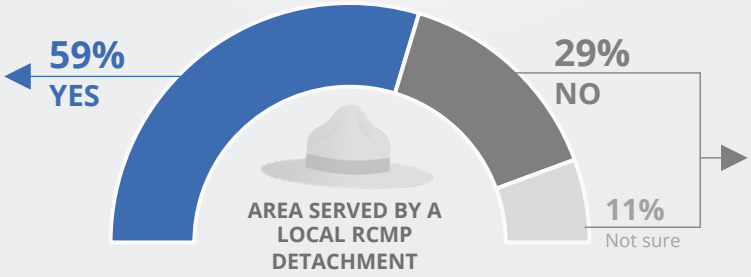
About 8-in-10 satisfied with RCMP's policing

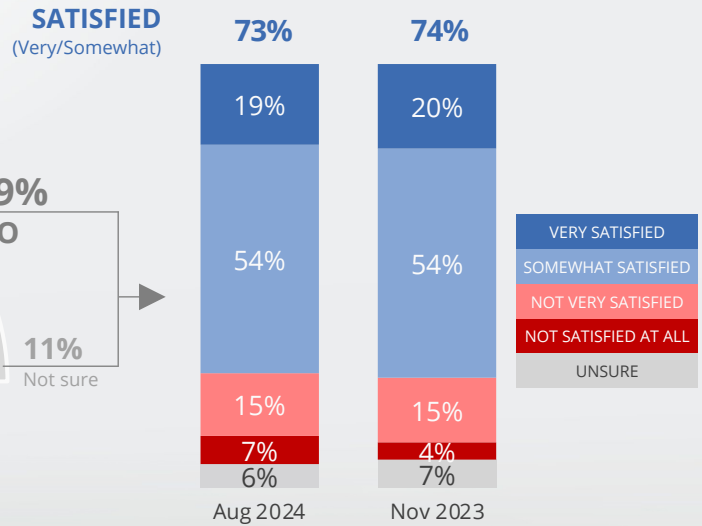
- 3-in-10 (31%) say they are "very satisfied" with RCMP's policing – 78% overall.
- In non-RCMP served communities, almost 3-in-4 are satisfied (73%).

Satisfied With RCMP'S Policing





Satisfied With Policing In Community



6. Is your municipality or local area served by a local RCMP detachment? Base: Nov 2023 Total (N=1,006); Aug 2024 Total (N=1,000)
7. How satisfied are you with the RCMP's policing of your community? Base: Local Area Served by RCMP, Nov 2023 (N=644); Aug 2024 (N=621)
8. How satisfied are you with the policing in your community? Base: Local Area NOT Served by RCMP, Nov 2023 (N=362); Aug 2024 (N=379)

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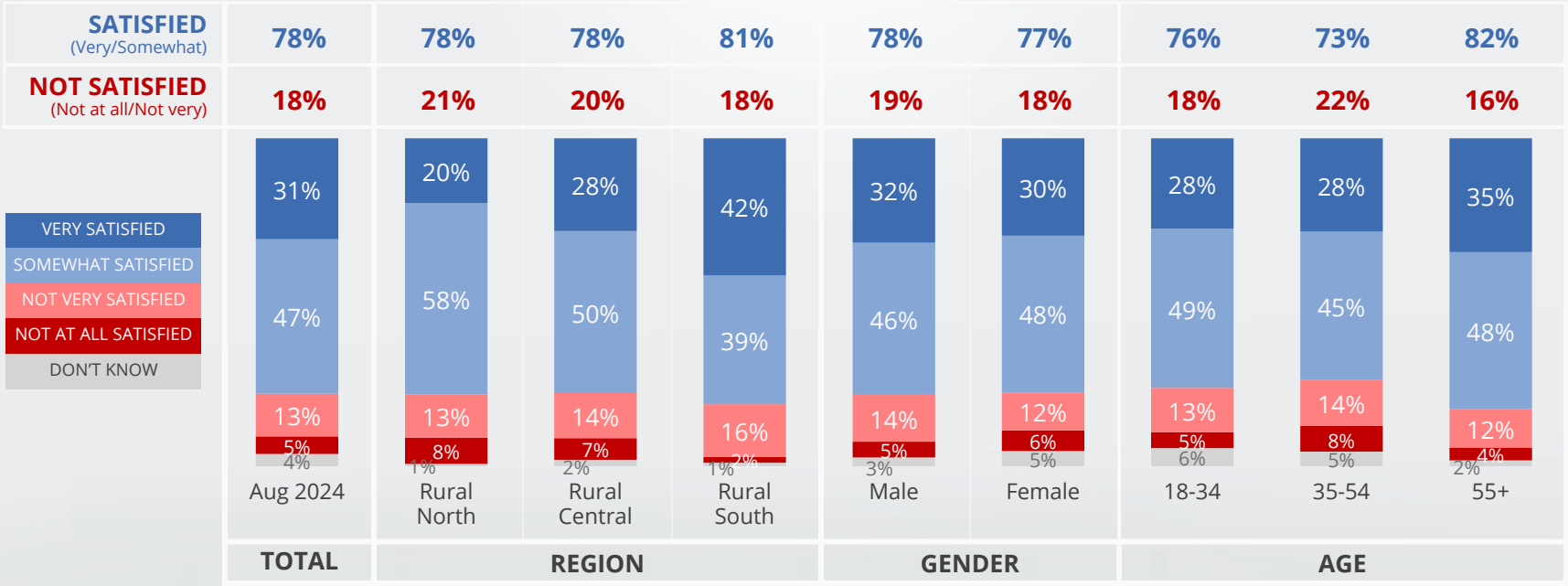
Satisfaction with the RCMP high province-wide and in rural areas

- Women and men consistent in satisfaction of RCMP (77%, 78% respectively).
- 55+ age group more likely to say they are “very satisfied” (35%) compared to under 55s (28%).
- Satisfaction consistent across the regions.



7. How satisfied are you with the RCMP's policing of your community?
Base: Local Area Served by RCMP (N=621)

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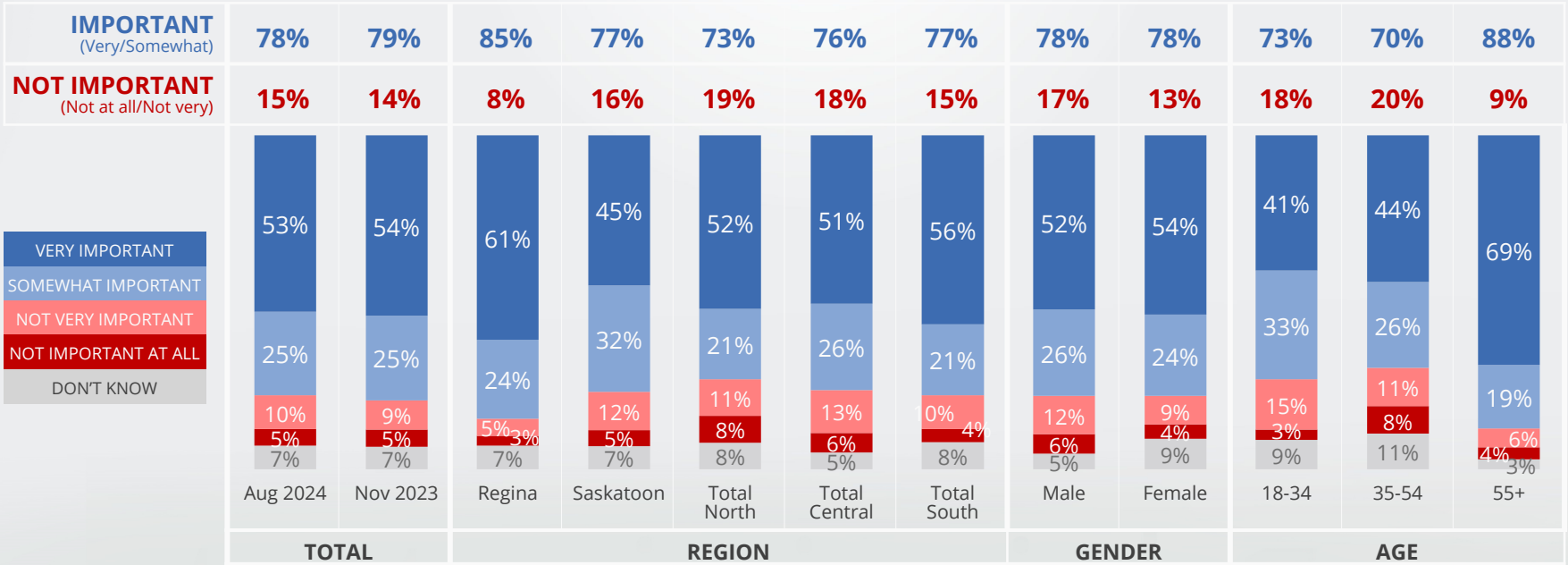
Training RCMP officers from across Canada in Regina viewed as “very important” by majority of Saskatchewanians

- Training RCMP members in Regina seen as important by 4-in-5 (78%) Saskatchewanians, consistent with Wave 1.
- Over two-thirds of 55+ age group (69%) see it as “very important”; 61% of Regina respondents say it’s “very important” (85% total important).



12. RCMP recruits across Canada are trained for 26 weeks, at the RCMP Academy, Depot Division, in Regina. Depot Division has been training members of Canada’s national police force since 1885. How important is it to you that the RCMP continue to train officers from across Canada in Regina?
Base: Nov 2023 Total (N=1,006); Aug 2024 Total (N=1,000)

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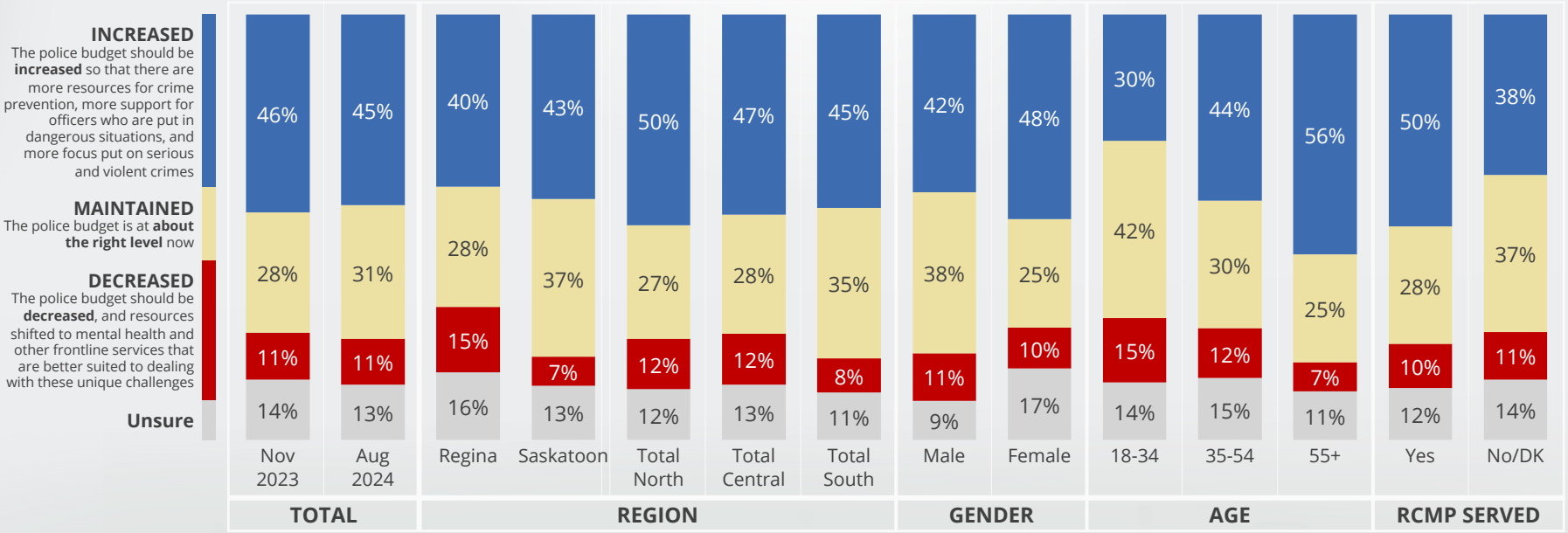
Plurality says the police budget should be increased

- Consistent with Wave 1, 45% say police budgets should be increased, including majority among 55+ age group (56%).
- Majority (50%) in RCMP-served areas say police budgets should be increased.
- Consistent with Wave 1, only 11% say the police budget should be decreased, with higher level in Regina (15%).



13. Thinking about the police budget in your community, do you think...
Base: Nov 2023 Total (N=1,006); Aug 2024 Total (N=1,000)

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RCMP Policing

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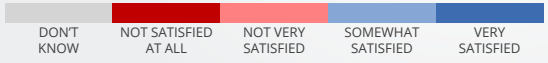
Performance in RCMP-served communities: Setting positive example for young people tops list of metrics

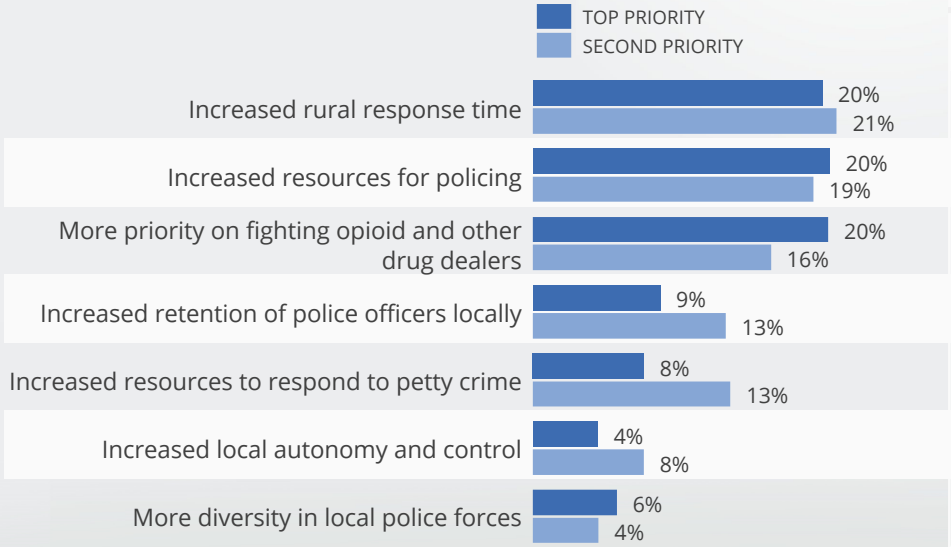


	SATISFIED (Very/Somewhat)							
	TOTAL		REGION			AGE		
	Aug 2024	Nov 2023	Total North	Total Central	Total South	18-34	35-54	55+
RCMP officers set a positive example for young people (7% / 8% / 8% / 48% / 28%)	77%	75%	73%	70%	79%	76%	75%	79%
RCMP officers are accountable to my community (11% / 6% / 13% / 49% / 21%)	70%	68%	71%	68%	67%	68%	68%	74%
RCMP officers have personal connections with the community (13% / 6% / 13% / 47% / 21%)	68%	67%	71%	63%	66%	69%	66%	69%
RCMP officers are trained effectively to deal with civil disobedience (15% / 7% / 14% / 42% / 22%)	64%	70%	68%	62%	56%	61%	62%	67%
My local detachment responds promptly to 911 calls (24% / 4% / 10% / 39% / 24%)	62%	54%	61%	61%	61%	62%	68%	59%
RCMP investigation of drug trafficking (16% / 9% / 15% / 43% / 17%)	60%	59%	58%	57%	56%	63%	55%	62%

9. Thinking about policing in your community, for each of the following, what is your level of satisfaction?
Base: Local Area Served by RCMP, Nov 2023 (N=644); Aug 2024 (N=376-416)

Increased rural response time and increased resources for policing highest priority for respondents in RCMP-served communities

- More priority on fighting opioid (34%) is close behind the top two priorities – increased rural response time (37%) and increased resources for policing (37%).



OVERALL PRIORITY

	TOTAL		REGION			AGE		
	Aug 2024	Nov 2023	Total North	Total Central	Total South	18-34	35-54	55+
Increased rural response time	**37%**	49%	32%	47%	46%	39%	38%	36%
Increased resources for policing	**37%**	35%	40%	36%	33%	28%	36%	42%
More priority on fighting opioid and other drug dealers	**34%**	30%	42%	29%	33%	35%	31%	35%
Increased retention of police officers locally	**20%**	20%	15%	22%	21%	22%	17%	21%
Increased resources to respond to petty crime	**19%**	17%	22%	17%	10%	18%	18%	21%
Increased local autonomy and control	**11%**	12%	12%	9%	9%	18%	11%	6%
More diversity in local police forces	**10%**	8%	11%	9%	2%	10%	11%	8%

10. Which of the following improvements to RCMP service in Saskatchewan would be your highest priority? And the second highest priority?
11. And what would be your second highest priority?
Base: Local Area Served by RCMP, Nov 2023 (N=644); Aug 2024 (N=621)

Saskatchewan Marshals Service

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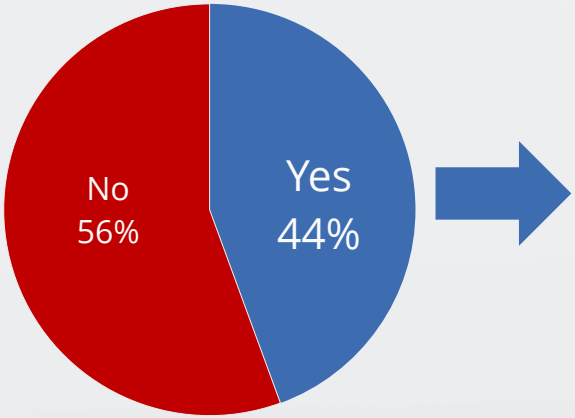
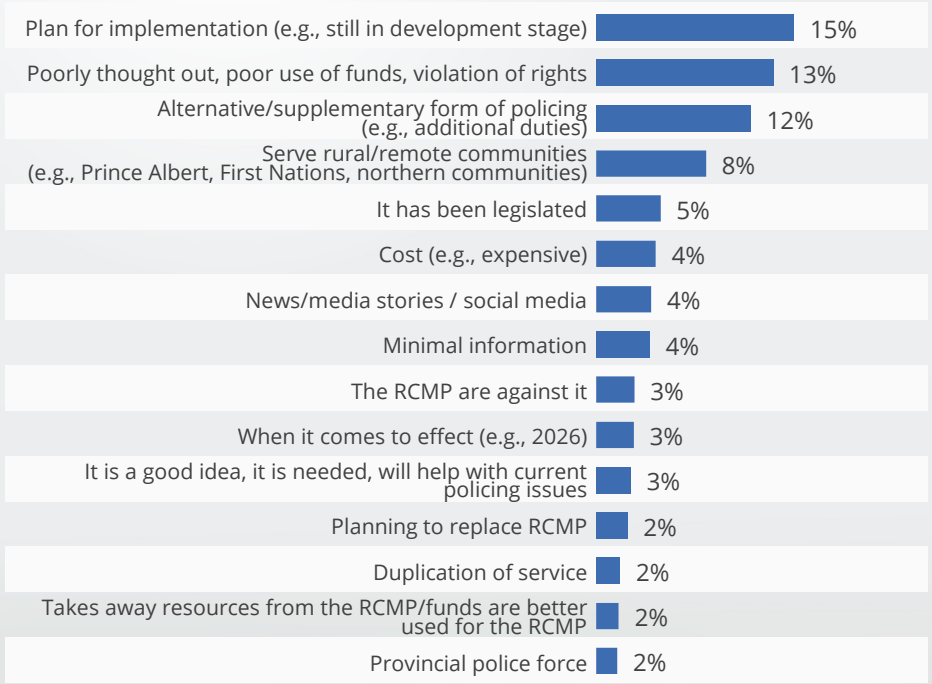
Less than half say they have read, seen, or heard something about the plan to develop a Saskatchewan Marshals Service

- Leading mentions include the plan for implementation, that it is poorly thought out, and that it's an alternative/supplementary form of policing. Comments include: "the RCMP are against it" (3%), "planning to replace the RCMP" (2%), and takes away resources from RCMP (2%).



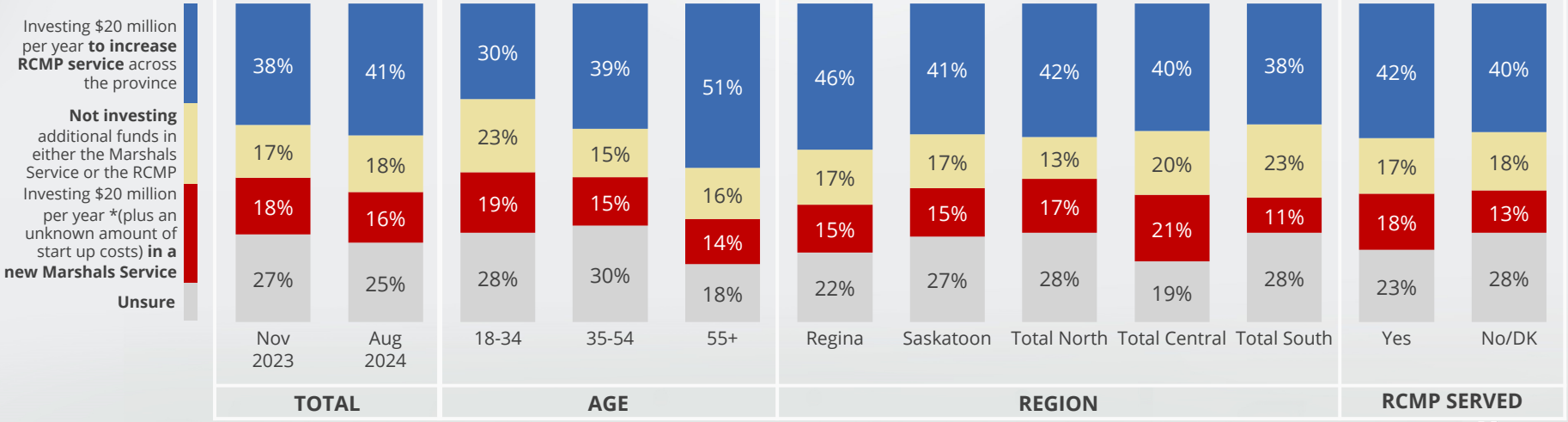


14. Have you read, seen, or heard anything about the Government of Saskatchewan's plan to develop a new Saskatchewan Marshals Service? Base: Total (N=1,000)
15. And what have you read, seen or heard? Base: Has read, seen or heard (N=489)

More than twice as many would invest $20 million to increase RCMP service than invest in a new Marshals Service

- Plurality (41%) would invest $20 million per year to increase RCMP service compared to less than 1-in-6 (16%) that would invest $20 million per year (plus an unknown amount of start up costs) in a new Marshals service.

*The Marshals Services is expected to start operations at the end of 2026, consisting of approximately 70 officers and is intended to provide support to RCMP, First Nations police, municipal police services, and protective police services. The cost to taxpayers to operate the Marshals service is an estimated $20 million per year, which does not include start up costs. As of now, the province has not yet estimated the start-up costs for the new Marshals Services.



*16. Which of the following options best represents your opinion? *Question text has changed from previous wave.*
Base: Nov 2023 Total (N=1,006); Aug 2024 Total (N=1,000)

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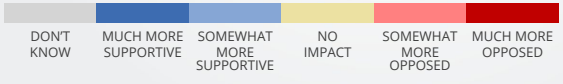
Statements on transition costs, political access to policing information, and lack of consultation make majority more opposed

- Top 3 statements drive more opposition among women (60% to 62% more opposed) and 55+ age group (66% to 70% more opposed).

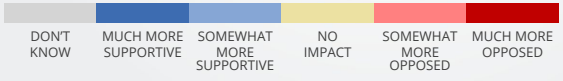


	MORE OPPOSED (Much/Somewhat)						
	TOTAL		GENDER		AGE		
	Aug 2024	Nov 2023	Male	Female	18-34	35-54	55+
While the province has not released an estimate, the transition cost of starting up a new Marshals service is expected to be expensive as the province will need to purchase uniforms, new equipment, new vehicles, lease buildings, legal fees, invest in IT infrastructure, and training costs	**58%**	51%	54%	62%	46%	55%	69%
Marshals will temporarily report to the Minister and Deputy Minister instead of a police board, which means political appointees will have access to police information that would normally not be available to them	**57%**	60%	54%	60%	45%	53%	70%
The provincial government did not consult the public on the creation of the Saskatchewan Marshals service	**57%**	53%	53%	61%	48%	55%	66%

17. For the following statements, please indicate whether they make you more supportive or more opposed to the provincial government's plan to start operating the Saskatchewan Marshals service: Base: Nov 2023 Total (N=747-759); Aug 2024 Total (N=826-876)

Over half more opposed to provincial government's plan based on Marshals not having same level of specialized training

- Statements viewed consistently with Wave 1 results.
- 61% of women and 65% of 55+ age group more opposed in response to "Marshals will not have the same level of specialized training as RCMP or municipal police officers".

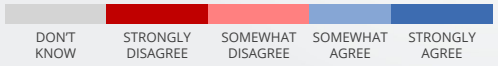


	MORE OPPOSED (Much/Somewhat)						
	TOTAL		GENDER		AGE		
	Aug 2024	Nov 2023	Male	Female	18-34	35-54	55+
Marshals will not have the same level of specialized training as RCMP or municipal police officers	55%	58%	49%	61%	45%	53%	65%
The new Saskatchewan Marshals service will make it harder to coordinate enforcement activities and criminal investigations	55%	53%	50%	60%	48%	53%	61%
The provincial government did not conduct a feasibility study to review whether a new Saskatchewan Marshals Services was the best option to protect public safety compared to funding the RCMP	54%	56%	50%	58%	42%	54%	62%
The new Saskatchewan Marshals service will add new layers of police bureaucracy, with different policing services operating in the same jurisdiction	49%	48%	45%	52%	34%	46%	62%

17. For the following statements, please indicate whether they make you more supportive or more opposed to the provincial government's plan to start operating the Saskatchewan Marshals service: Base: Nov 2023 Total (N=747-759); Aug 2024 Total (N=826-876)

Over 3-in-4 Saskatchewanians agree there are more important priorities to deal with than establishing new Marshals Service

- Level of agreement consistent with wave 1 (November 2023)
- Agreement with “More important priorities to deal with in Saskatchewan right now…” ranges from 73% in Regina and Saskatoon to 80% in Northern Saskatchewan



	AGREE (Very/Somewhat) TOTAL Aug 2024	TOTAL Nov 2023	REGION Regina	REGION Saskatoon	REGION Total North	REGION Total Central	REGION Total South
There needs to be a detailed accounting of the costs and impacts to service levels before the Saskatchewan Marshal Services moves forward	79%	80%	80%	82%	76%	81%	75%
There are other more important priorities to deal with in Saskatchewan right now than establishing a new Marshals Service	75%	72%	73%	73%	80%	74%	76%
The Government of Saskatchewan currently has an adequate level of input over provincial policing	47%	45%	53%	38%	47%	46%	50%
The Saskatchewan government has adequately consulted the public about establishing the Saskatchewan Marshals Service	20%	18%	21%	24%	20%	17%	18%

18. Do you agree or disagree with the following statements:
Base: Nov 2023 Total (N=1,006); Aug 2024 Total (N=1,000)

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