



National Police Federation Newfoundland and Labrador

Wave 3 - June/July 2026

pollara
strategic insights

Methodology

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Field Window	June 24 to July 12, 2026
Sampling	Online and phone survey of randomly selected sample of N=705 Adult (18+) Newfoundland and Labrador Residents.
Reliability	Non-probability samples cannot be assigned a margin of error. *As a relative guideline, margins of error for a probability sample of this size is provided. The margin of error is larger for sub-segments.
Weighting	Data has been weighted using the most current language, gender, age, & region Census data, to ensure the sample reflects the actual population of adult Newfoundland and Labrador residents.

REGIONAL DISTRIBUTION		
REGION	UNWEIGHTED Sample Counts	MARGIN OF ERROR*
East <i>(Including St. John's and Avalon)</i>	330	± 5.4%
Central <i>(Including Bonavista-Burin-Trinity, and Coast of Bays-Central-Notre Dame)</i>	230	± 6.5%
West+ <i>(Including Labrador, Corner Brook and Long Range Mountains)</i>	145	± 8.1%
Newfoundland and Labrador	705	± 3.7%

PREVIOUS WAVES

- W1 July 25 to August 6, 2024
- W2 July 22 to August 3, 2025



POLLARA STRATEGIC INSIGHTS IS A MEMBER OF THE **CANADIAN RESEARCH INSIGHTS COUNCIL (CRIC)**, AND THIS RESEARCH WAS CONDUCTED IN COMPLIANCE WITH CRIC STANDARDS.



DETAILED FINDINGS

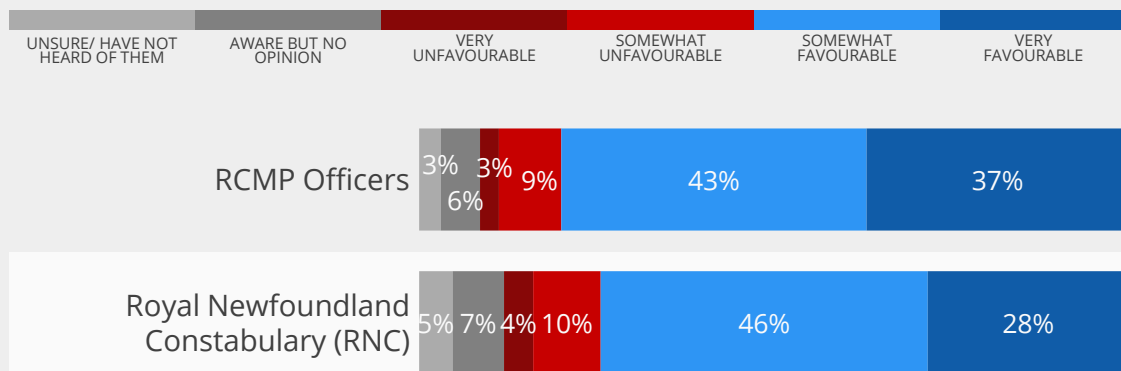
Impressions & Priorities

Four-in-five hold a favourable impression of RCMP officers

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- RCMP officers remain the most positively viewed organization at 80% favourable – up from 75% in 2024.
- Favourable views of RCMP management climbed to 63%, a 13-point jump from 50% last year.
- The National Police Federation reached its highest favourability yet at 45% (up from 36%), and is strongest in RCMP-served areas (49%).
- The RNC is viewed favourably by 74% (up from 70%).

Overall Impressions



FAVOURABLE (Very/Somewhat)								
TOTAL			REGION			SERVED BY		
W3	W2	W1	East	Cen.	West+	RCMP	RNC	
80%	79%	75%	77%	86%	78%	83%	75%	
74%	70%	69%	74%	75%	76%	77%	71%	



1. Do you have a favourable or unfavourable impression of the following people or organizations? If you are unaware of any, please click that response option.
Base: Total. W3 (N=705); W2 (N=704); W1 (N=705).

Affordability and health care dominate the province's priorities; policing and public safety is named by just 4%

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- Affordability and cost-of-living is the top priority at 46%, followed by health care at 32% – together the focus of nearly eight-in-ten residents.
- Affordability concern is highest among those 18-39 (58%) and eases with age to 37% among those 60+.
- Health care rises with age, reaching 44% among those 60+, and is named more often by women (37%) than men (26%).
- Policing and public safety is the top priority for only 4%, highest in West (7%).

Issue Residents Most Want the Newfoundland & Labrador Government to Address

	TOTAL	REGION			GENDER		AGE		
		East	Cent.	West+	M	F	18-39	40-59	60+
Affordability & Cost-of-Living	46%	50%	41%	39%	45%	46%	58%	47%	37%
Health Care	32%	28%	40%	29%	26%	37%	17%	29%	44%
NFLD & Labrador's Economy	11%	11%	9%	11%	14%	7%	9%	14%	9%
Policing & Public Safety	4%	4%	2%	7%	4%	3%	4%	4%	3%
Education	2%	3%	2%	3%	3%	2%	4%	2%	1%
Climate Change & the Environment	2%	1%	3%	3%	3%	1%	4%	0%	2%
Fisheries	1%	0%	1%	3%	1%	1%	-	1%	2%

Q 2. When it comes to the following issues facing Newfoundland & Labrador today, which is your top priority that you would like the Premier and the Newfoundland & Labrador government to address? Base: Total (N=705).

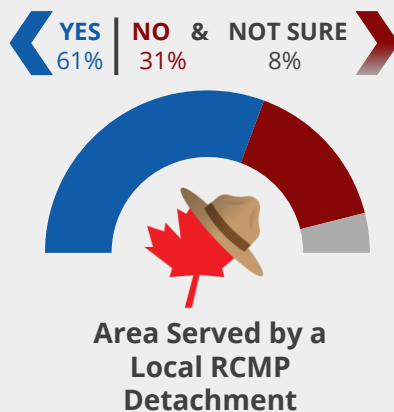
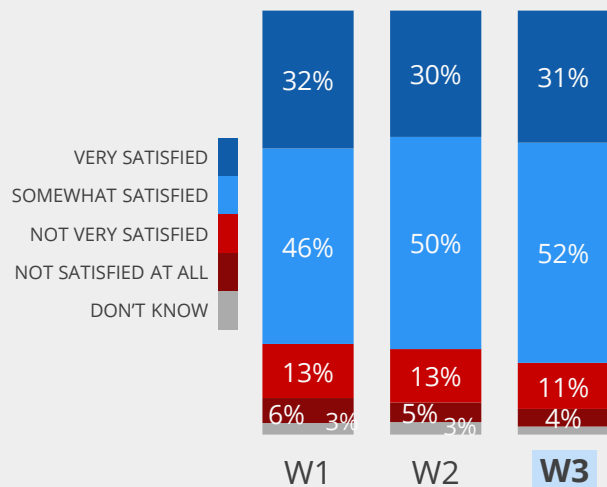
Policing Satisfaction & Performance

Satisfaction with RCMP policing reaches its highest level at 83%

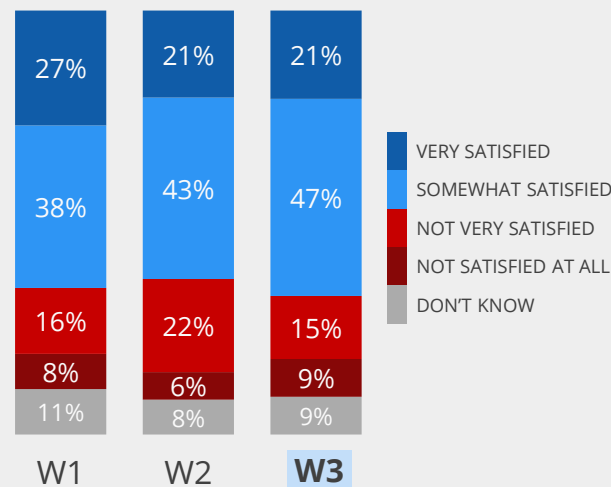
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- 83% of those in RCMP-served areas are satisfied with RCMP policing (31% very satisfied) – the strongest reading across three waves.
- 68% of those in RNC-served areas are satisfied with RNC policing (21% very satisfied).
- Satisfaction with both services has held steady or improved since 2024.

Satisfied With RCMP's Policing



Satisfied With Policing In Community



3. Is your municipality or local area served by a local RCMP detachment? Base: Total. W3 (N=705); W2 (N=704); W1 (N=705).

4. How satisfied are you with the RCMP's policing of your community? Base: [RCMP Served] Total. W3 (n=444); W2 (N=445); W1 (N=407).

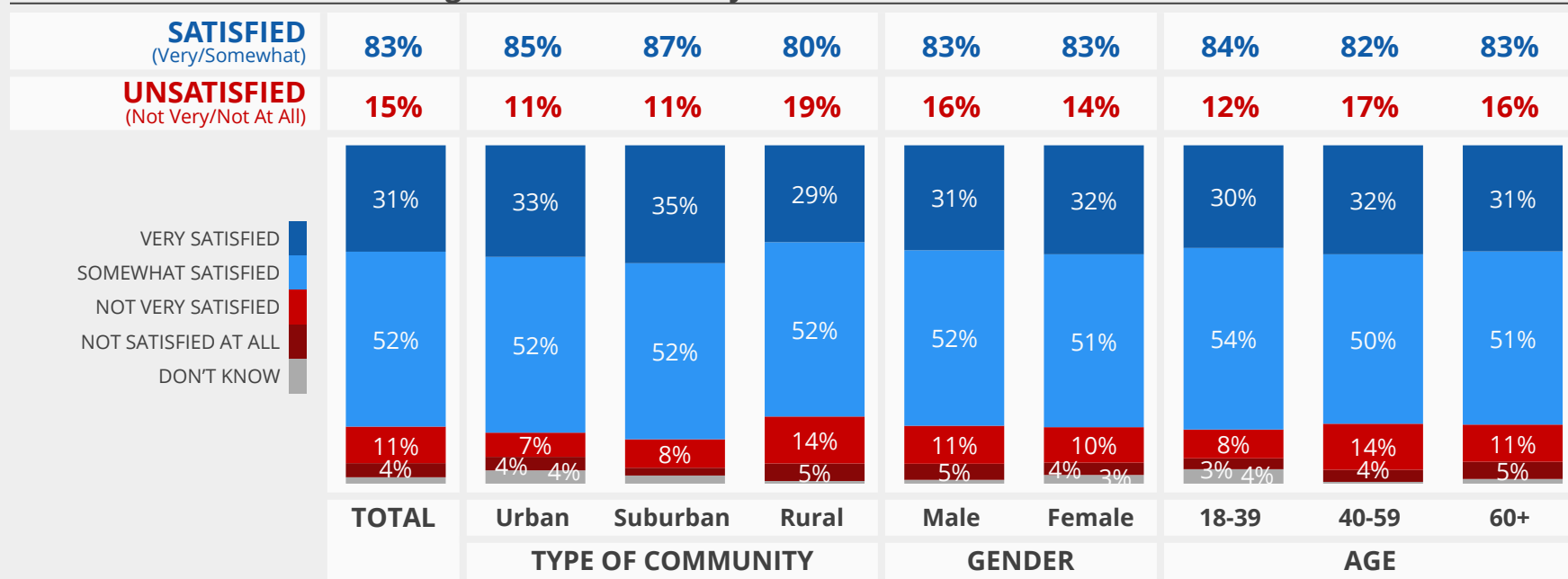
6. How satisfied are you with the Royal Newfoundland Constabulary's (RNC's) policing in your community? Base: [RNC Served] Total. W3 (N=261); W2 (n=259); W1 (N=298).

Satisfaction with RCMP policing is high and consistent across communities, gender and age

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- Satisfaction is equal among men (83%) and women (83%). It holds across age groups, from 84% among those 18-39 to 83% among those 60+.

Satisfaction with RCMP Policing in Your Community



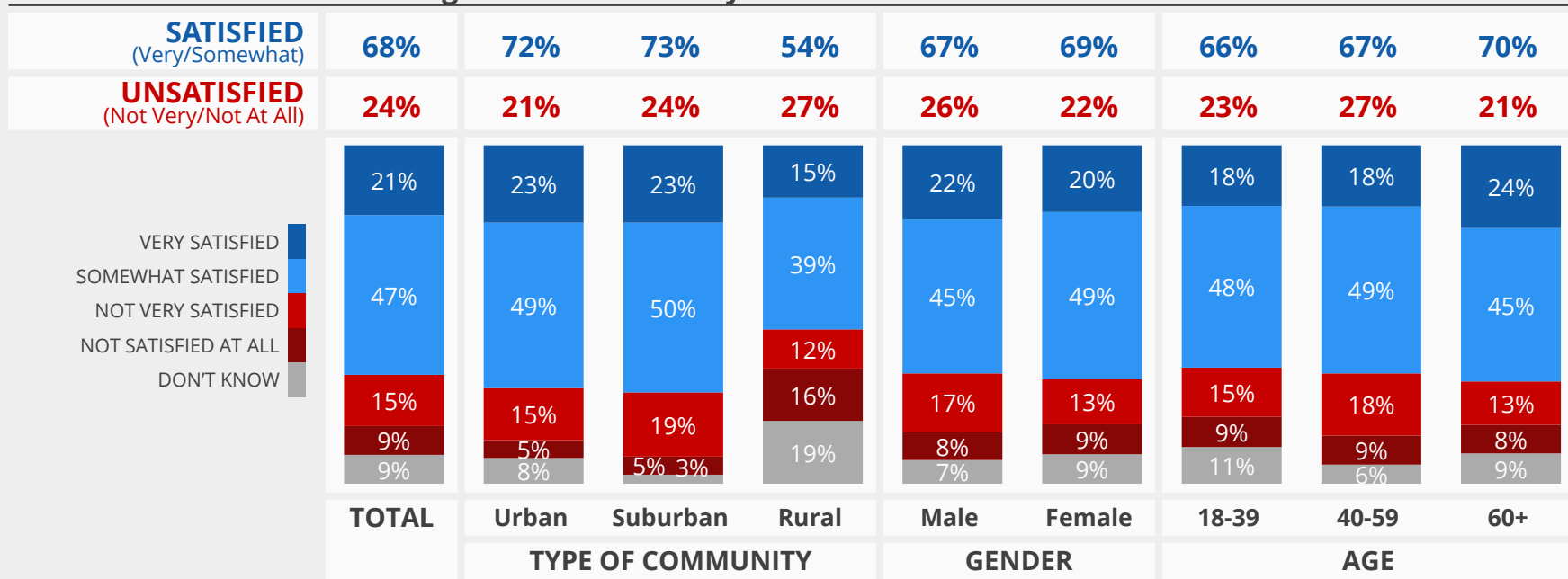
4. How satisfied are you with the RCMP's policing of your community?
Base: RCMP Served Total (N=444). Note: Data <3% not labelled.

A majority are satisfied with RNC policing, with satisfaction lower in rural areas

10

- Satisfaction is highest in urban (72%) and suburban (73%) areas and lowest in rural areas (54%).
- Those 60+ are the most satisfied age group (70%). Men (67%) and women (69%) report similar levels of satisfaction.

Satisfaction with RNC's Policing in Your Community



6. How satisfied are you with the Royal Newfoundland Constabulary's (RNC's) policing in your community?
Base: RNC Served Total (N=261).

RCMP earns its strongest marks for disaster response, setting an example for youth, and major-crime investigations

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- Response to natural disasters tops the list at 69% good/excellent, followed by providing a positive example for young people (63%), the same 1-2 order as Wave 2.
- Major crimes and homicide investigations rose to 60% (from 54%), and local policing sits at 58%.
- Newly tested this wave, enforcing warrants and managing offenders on bail rates 41% good/excellent (3rd lowest rating).
- Effectively dealing with mental health and addictions remains the lowest-rated service at 36%, a marginal decline from Wave 2.

RCMP Performance Ratings by Service

							GOOD/EXCELLENT JOB							
	DON'T KNOW	VERY POOR JOB	POOR JOB	FAIR JOB	GOOD JOB	EXCELLENT JOB	TOTAL			GENDER		AGE		
							W3	W2	W1	M	F	18-39	40-59	60+
Response to natural disasters, such as wildfires and floods	11%	16%		41%		28%	69%	71%	67%	65%	73%	70%	65%	72%
Providing a positive example for young people	5%	4%	27%	40%		24%	63%	62%	57%	59%	67%	63%	67%	60%
Major crimes and homicide investigations	6%	4%	6%	25%	43%	17%	60%	54%	51%	64%	57%	65%	58%	60%
Local policing	4%	8%	27%	38%		20%	58%	60%	53%	53%	62%	60%	65%	50%
Developing a personal connection with the community/visibility	4%	9%	31%	34%		19%	54%	48%	46%	50%	58%	51%	52%	57%
Swiftly responding to 911 calls	15%	7%	24%	29%		23%	52%	56%	57%	51%	53%	59%	52%	49%
Enforcing federal gun control laws	11%	8%	28%	34%		17%	51%	46%	48%	48%	53%	52%	54%	45%
Investigating missing persons cases	12%	3%	7%	29%	32%	17%	49%	52%	47%	49%	49%	46%	50%	50%
Investigating drug trafficking	6%	4%	11%	32%	29%	18%	47%	45%	42%	44%	48%	50%	46%	45%
Policing rural areas	5%	14%	33%	33%		13%	46%	41%	41%	42%	48%	53%	39%	45%
Enforcing outstanding warrants and managing offenders on bail	15%	6%	13%	26%	30%	11%	41%	-	-	38%	43%	45%	43%	38%
Proactively policing and preventing crime before it happens	8%	4%	15%	36%	28%	9%	37%	45%	-	38%	36%	42%	42%	30%
Effectively dealing w. those with mental health/addiction issues	12%	5%	16%	31%	28%	8%	36%	38%	33%	30%	41%	35%	35%	40%



7. Do you feel that the RCMP is doing an excellent, good, fair or poor job on each of these services?
Base: RCMP Served. Total W3 (N=227-260); W2 (N=281-309). Note: Data <3% not labelled.

RNC performance ratings improved across most services, led by disaster response and setting an example for youth

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- Response to natural disasters jumped to 62% good/excellent (from 48%), and providing a positive example for young people rose to 52% (from 46%).
- Ratings among those 60+ are consistently higher – for example, 69% for setting a youth example versus 30% among those 18-39.
- Local policing (50%) and enforcing gun-control laws (47%, up from 32%) also improved.
- Dealing with mental health and addictions remains lowest at 21% – and just 4% among those 18-39.

RNC Performance Ratings by Service

RNC Performance Ratings by Service								GOOD/EXCELLENT JOB									
								TOTAL			GENDER		AGE				
		DON'T KNOW	VERY POOR JOB		POOR JOB		FAIR JOB	GOOD JOB	EXCELLENT JOB	W3	W2	W1	M	F	18-39	40-59	60+
Response to natural disasters, such as wildfires and floods		18%	4%	17%			44%		18%	62%	48%	58%	66%	60%	50%	64%	66%
Providing a positive example for young people		6%	4%	13%	24%		42%		10%	52%	46%	48%	51%	53%	30%	50%	69%
Local policing		6%	4%	12%	28%		42%		8%	50%	44%	48%	49%	50%	39%	49%	61%
Enforcing federal gun control laws		18%	3%	5%	27%		36%		11%	47%	32%	37%	52%	44%	51%	42%	52%
Major crimes and homicide investigations		9%	12%	31%		35%		13%		47%	43%	53%	47%	49%	28%	50%	59%
Swiftly responding to 911 calls		15%	11%	27%		30%		15%		44%	41%	45%	46%	44%	35%	43%	55%
Developing a personal connection w. the community/visibility		5%	11%	13%	30%		30%		12%	42%	36%	38%	42%	42%	27%	46%	50%
Policing rural areas		14%	6%	16%	27%		29%		8%	37%	27%	28%	30%	43%	25%	34%	51%
Investigating missing persons cases		17%	7%	12%	30%		26%		8%	34%	34%	33%	29%	39%	16%	40%	46%
Investigating drug trafficking		12%	4%	18%	34%		22%		10%	33%	42%	43%	34%	31%	20%	36%	41%
Proactively policing and preventing crime before it happens		14%	10%	15%	30%		24%		6%	30%	32%	-	27%	33%	12%	34%	34%
Enforcing outstanding warrants and managing offenders on bail		19%	11%	14%	28%		19%		9%	29%	-	-	25%	33%	32%	24%	29%
Effectively dealing w. those with mental health/addiction issues		10%	13%	27%	28%		17%		4%	21%	20%	25%	20%	22%	4%	25%	29%



7. Do you feel that the RNC is doing an excellent, good, fair or poor job on each of these services?
Base: RNC Served. Total W3 (N=125-150); W2 (N=164-191). Note: Data <2% not labelled.

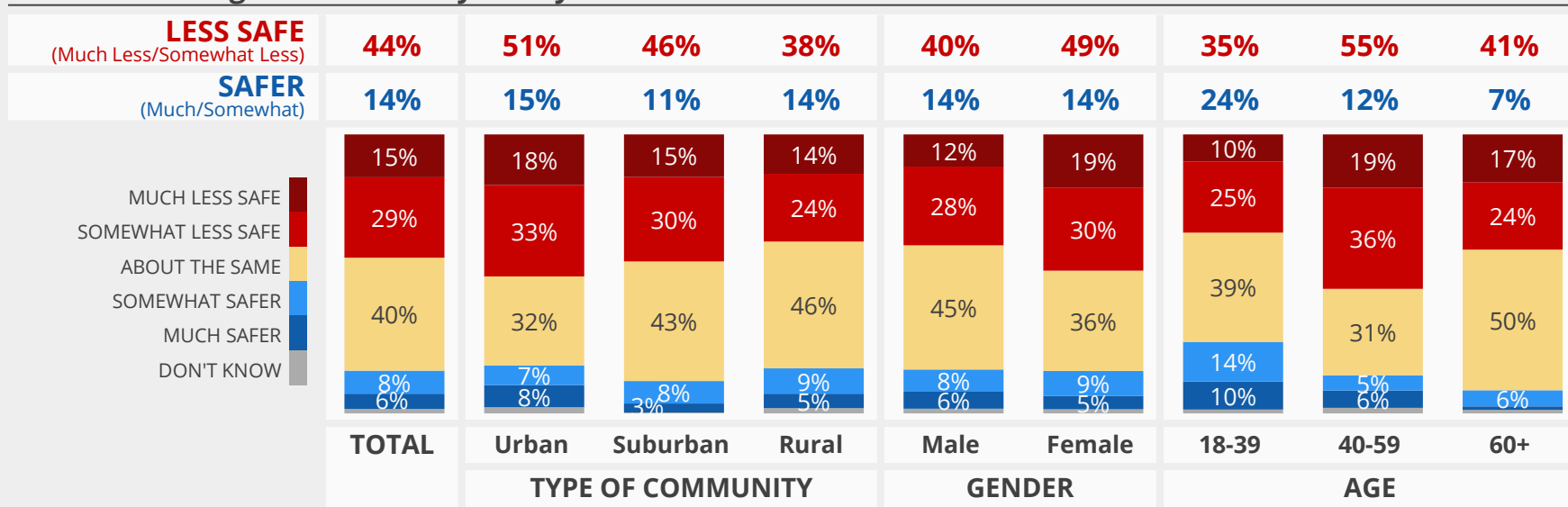
Public Safety & Trust

More residents feel their community has become less safe than safer over the past two years

14

- 44% say their community has become less safe (including 15% much less safe), versus only 14% who feel safer.
- 40% say safety is about the same.
- The sense of declining safety is highest among those 40-59 (55%) and in urban areas (51%).
- Those 18-39 are the most likely to feel safer (24%).

Perceived Change in Community Safety Over the Past Two Years



Drug trafficking and the toxic-drug supply tops list of public safety concerns

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- Concern with drug trafficking and the toxic-drug supply is combined top or second highest concern of almost half (47%) of provincial residents – rising to a majority in Central (57%), West+ (52%), and among those 60+ (52%).
- Repeat violent offenders being released back into the community is second highest concern (40%) and higher in East (45%).

Public-Safety Concerns in Newfoundland and Labrador

		COMBINED MOST CONCERNED								
		REGION			GENDER		AGE			
		East	Central	West+	M	F	18-39	40-59	60+	
	MOST CONCERNED ABOUT 2 ND MOST CONCERNED ABOUT									
Drug trafficking and the toxic-drug supply	27% 20%	47%	39%	57%	52%	49%	45%	42%	44%	52%
Repeat violent offenders being released back into the community	24% 16%	40%	45%	32%	36%	42%	38%	38%	44%	39%
Mental health and addictions-related incidents	17% 19%	35%	33%	36%	36%	33%	36%	42%	35%	29%
Property crime (break-ins, theft, vandalism)	11% 17%	27%	27%	30%	25%	27%	28%	25%	28%	29%
Violent crime	5% 10%	15%	20%	9%	8%	13%	16%	18%	15%	11%
Online fraud, scams and extortion	5% 9%	14%	10%	18%	22%	13%	15%	14%	13%	15%
Guns and gang activity / Organized crime	4% 6%	10%	15%	4%	4%	9%	10%	9%	10%	10%
Youth crime	2% 3%	5%	6%	4%	6%	6%	4%	8%	4%	5%

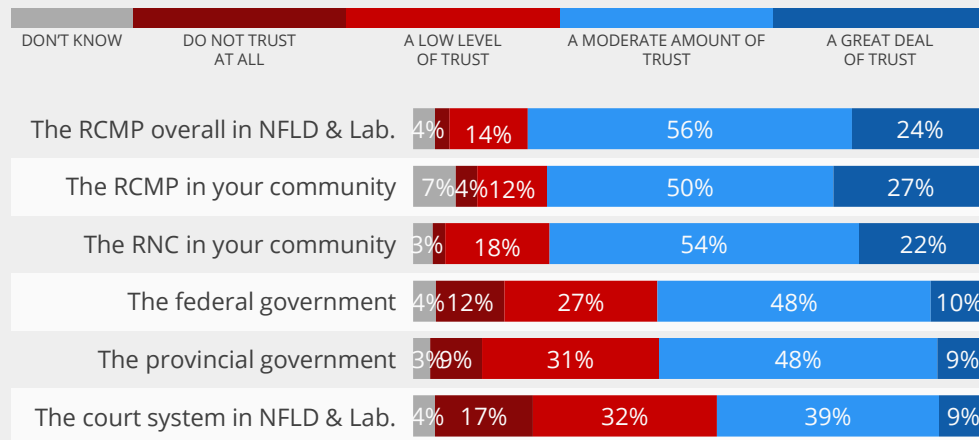
Q 25. Which of the following public-safety issue are you most concerned about in Newfoundland and Labrador today? Base: Total (N=705)
 26. And which of these is the second issue you are most concerned about? Base: DID NOT ANSWER 'NONE OR DK' AT Q25 (N=677).

Residents place the greatest trust in the RCMP and RNC to keep communities safe, well ahead of governments and the courts

16

- The RCMP overall in Newfoundland & Labrador is trusted by 80%, the RCMP in one's own community by 77%, and the RNC in one's community by 76%.
- Trust in the RCMP in one's community peaks in urban (89%) and suburban (86%) areas.
- The federal (57%) and provincial (57%) governments trail well behind the police services.
- Trust in the court system is lowest, at 47%, approximately same level of those who have low level of trust / do not trust court system at all (49%).

Trust in Institutions to Keep Communities Safe



TRUST (A Great Deal / A Moderate Amount)

TOTAL	TYPE OF COMMUNITY			GENDER		AGE		
	Urban	Suburban	Rural	M	F	18-39	40-59	60+
80%	76%	85%	80%	81%	79%	75%	79%	85%
77%	89%	86%	72%	79%	74%	74%	77%	77%
76%	74%	82%	73%	80%	73%	74%	73%	82%
57%	60%	58%	56%	57%	58%	55%	52%	65%
57%	57%	61%	56%	60%	55%	60%	48%	63%
47%	50%	47%	45%	46%	48%	50%	38%	52%



27. How much do you trust each of the following to keep you and your community safe?
Base: Total (N=324-705).

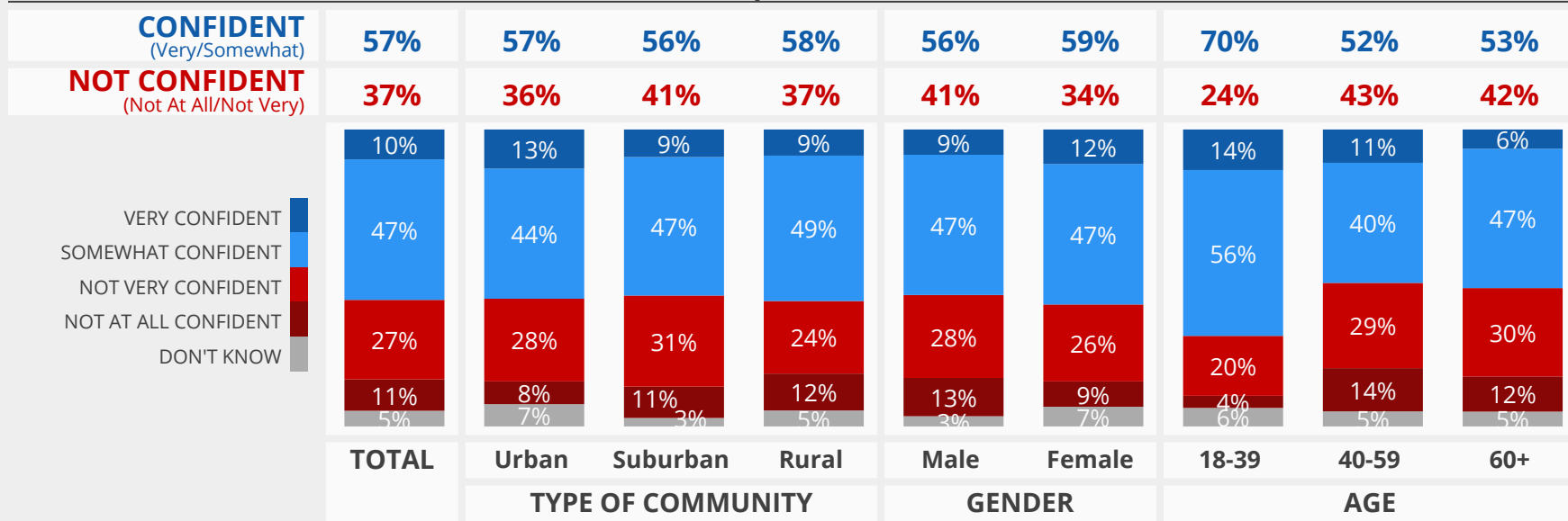
Policing Resources

A majority are confident the RCMP has the resources it needs today, though nearly four-in-ten are not

18

- 57% are confident the RCMP currently has adequate resources (10% very confident), while 37% are not.
- Confidence is notably higher among those 18-39 (70%) than those 40-59 (52%) or 60+ (53%).
- Levels are similar across community types (56-58%).
- Men (56%) and women (59%) express comparable confidence.

Confidence that the RCMP Has the Resources to Keep Communities Safe



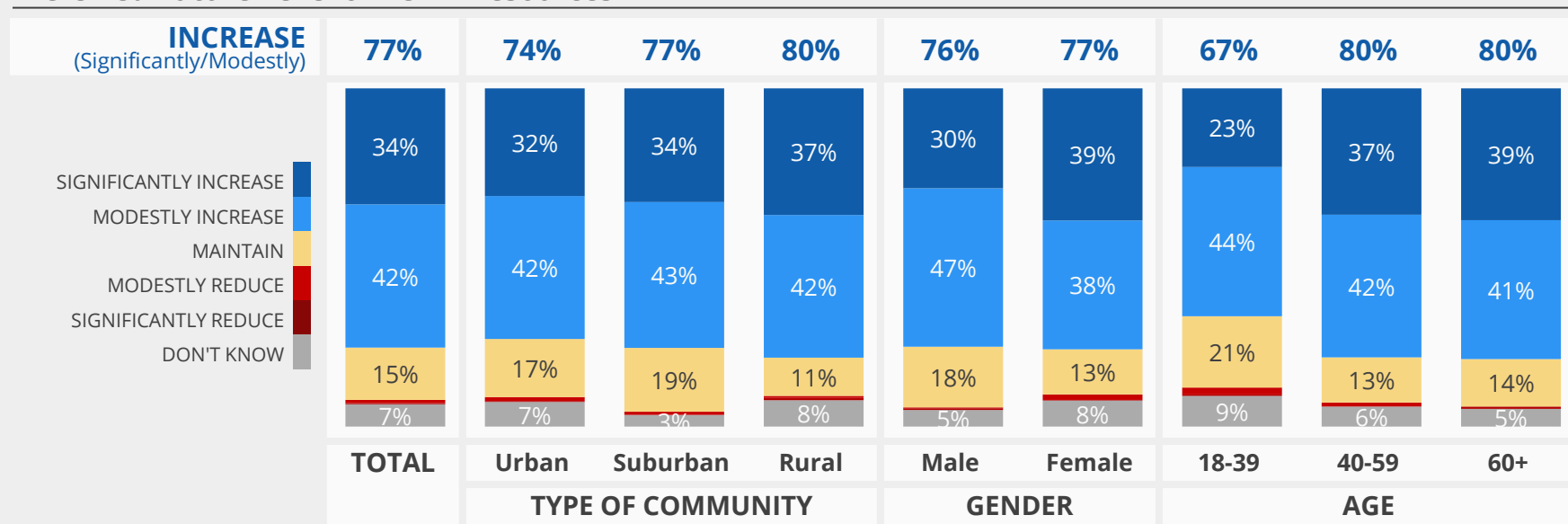
28. Now, thinking specifically about the RCMP in Newfoundland and Labrador, how confident are you that they currently have the resources they need to keep your community safe? Base: Total (N=705).

Beyond the current budget commitment, more than three-quarters want RCMP resources increased

19

- 77% want RCMP resources increased over the longer term, including 34% who want a significant increase.
- Just 15% would maintain current levels, and only about 2% would reduce them.
- Support for increases is strongest in rural areas (80%) and among those 40-59 and 60+ (both 80%).

Preferred Future Level of RCMP Resources

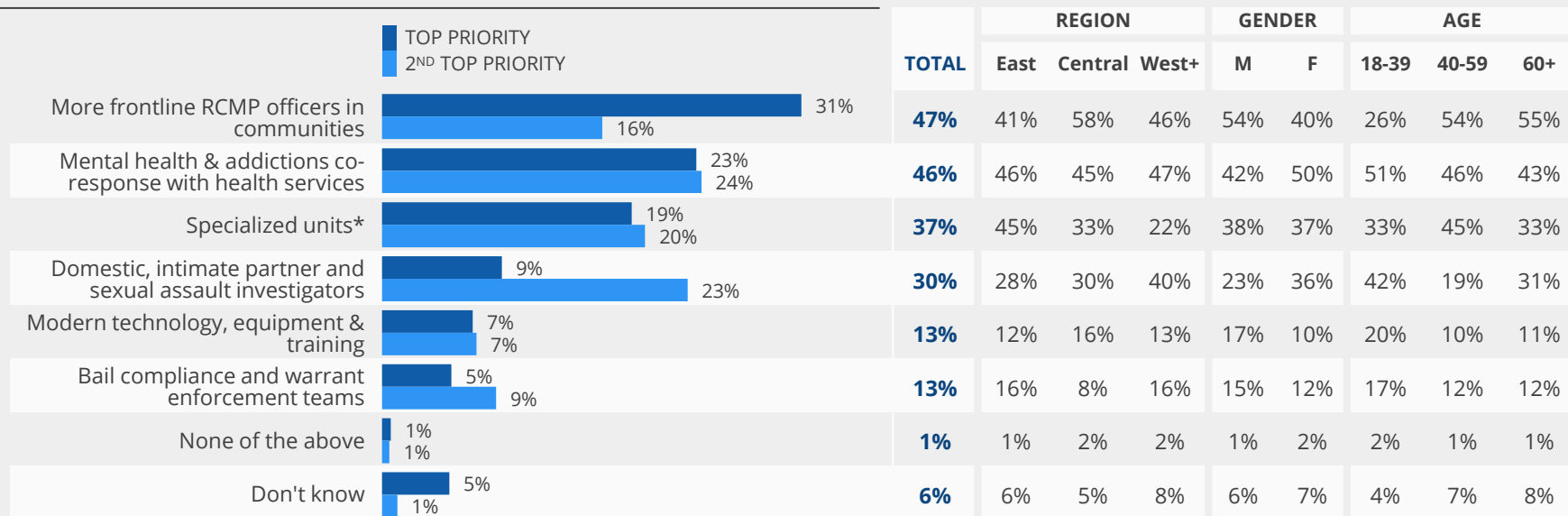


29. As you may know, the provincial budget added funding for 25 additional RCMP officers and 21 additional RNC officers over the next two years. Looking past that two-year period, what do you think the provincial government should do with RCMP resources in Newfoundland and Labrador?
Base: Total (N=705). Note: Data <2% not labeled.

If more is invested in the RCMP, residents most want frontline officers and mental-health co-response

- More frontline RCMP officers in communities (47%) and mental health & addictions co-response with health services (46%) top the combined priority list. Men lean to frontline officers (54%) and women lean to mental health/addictions response (50%).
- Specialized units (37%) – 45% in East – and dedicated domestic, intimate-partner and sexual-assault investigators (30%) – 40% in West+ and 36% among women – follow.

Priorities for Additional Provincial Investment in RCMP Resources



30. If the provincial government were to add further investment in RCMP resources beyond what is in the current budget, which of the following should be the TOP priority? Base: Total (N=705). | 31. And which should be the SECOND priority? Base: Total Answering (N=665). *(e.g., organized crime, guns and gangs, major crimes)

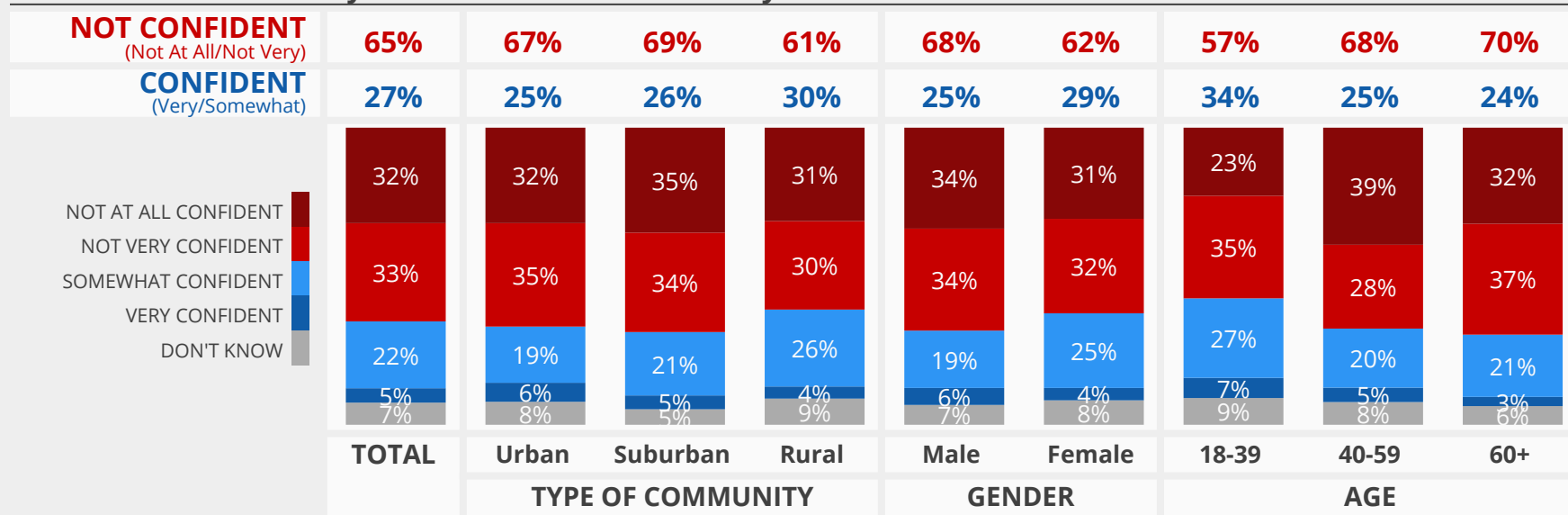
Bail & Repeat/Violent Offenders

Two-thirds lack confidence the bail system keeps dangerous people off the street

22

- 65% are not confident in the bail system (32% not at all confident), against just 27% who are confident.
- Lack of confidence rises with age, from 57% among those 18-39 to 70% among those 60+.
- Men (68%) are somewhat more likely than women (62%) to lack confidence.
- Higher level of “not confident” in RNC-served areas (76%).

Confidence in the Bail System to Protect Public Safety



Q 33. How confident are you that the bail system in Newfoundland and Labrador keeps people who pose a risk to public safety off the street?
Base: Total (N=705).

Residents most want bail funding directed to supervision and monitoring, and to stronger prosecution resources

23

- Bail supervision and monitoring is the top funding priority at 24%.
- Stronger prosecution resources (19%) and programs and supports for those on bail (16%) follow, including 18% of women.
- More judges and court capacity (13%) and more police to enforce bail conditions (11%) round out the leading choices. In both cases, men are more likely than women to choose these priorities.
- Victim safety and notification systems draw 9%, but women notably higher (13%) than men (6%).

Top Priority for Improving the Bail System

	TOTAL	TYPE OF COMMUNITY			GENDER		AGE		
		Urban	Suburban	Rural	M	F	18-39	40-59	60+
Bail supervision and monitoring (e.g., compliance checks, electronic monitoring like ankle bracelets)	24%	20%	30%	24%	23%	26%	21%	26%	26%
Stronger prosecution resources	19%	21%	17%	19%	20%	18%	17%	22%	18%
Programs & supports for individuals on bail (e.g., addiction, housing, mental health)	16%	17%	14%	16%	13%	18%	21%	15%	12%
More judges and court capacity	13%	16%	11%	13%	16%	11%	13%	12%	14%
Adding more police resources to enforce bail conditions	11%	11%	12%	11%	14%	8%	9%	9%	13%
Victim safety and notification systems	9%	8%	10%	11%	6%	13%	10%	9%	10%
Something else	1%	2%	1%	1%	2%	1%	2%	1%	1%
Don't know	6%	6%	6%	6%	5%	6%	6%	5%	6%



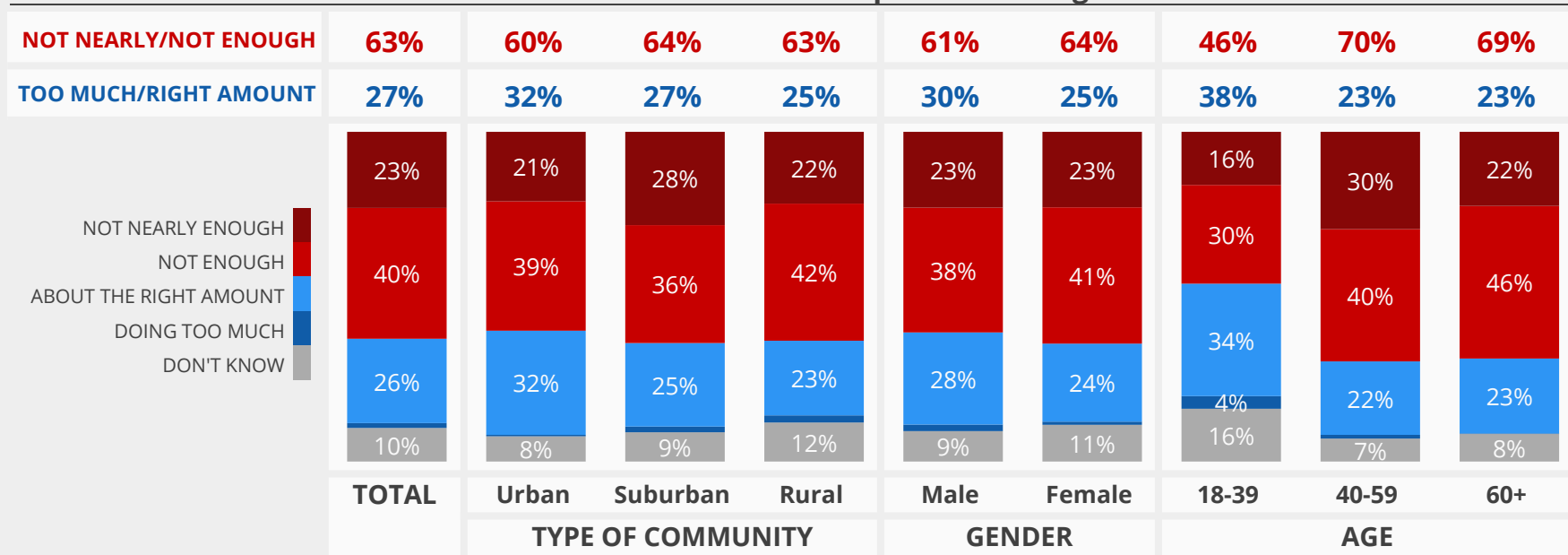
34. Which of the following areas should be the highest priority for provincial funding to improve the bail system?
Base: Total (N=705).

Roughly two-thirds say the province is not doing enough on bail and repeat offending, despite Budget 2026 measures

24

- 63% say the government is not doing enough (23% not nearly enough), versus 27% who feel it is about right or too much.
- Only 1% say the province is doing too much.
- The view that enough is not being done rises with age (69–70% among those 40+) and is lowest among those 18-39 (46%).

Assessment of the Prov. Government's Efforts on Bail and Repeat Offending

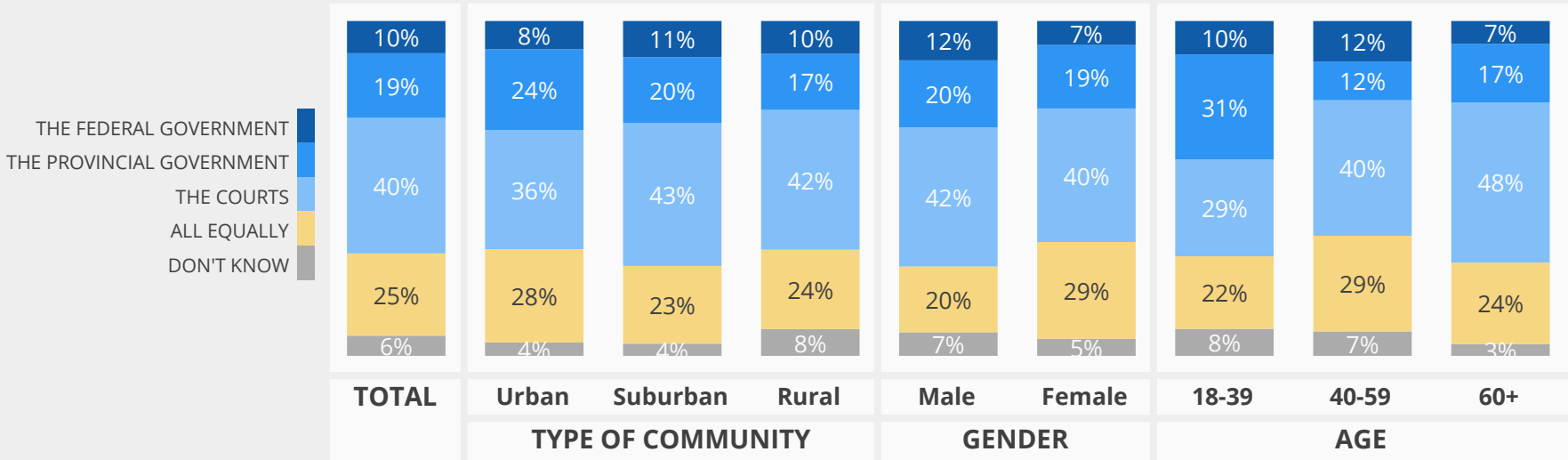


35. In Budget 2026, the provincial government added funding for new court staff, additional Provincial Court judges, and a new Unified Bail Court. In your view, is the provincial government doing enough to address bail and repeat offending? Base: Total (N=705). Note: Data <3% not labeled.

Residents see the courts as most responsible for addressing repeat violent offenders

- 40% name the courts, ahead of “all equally” (25%), the provincial government (19%) and the federal government (10%).
- Those 60+ are the most likely to point to the courts (48%).
- Those 18-39 are the most likely age group to name the provincial government (31%).
- Views are broadly consistent across community types.

Perceived Responsibility for Addressing Repeat Violent Offenders



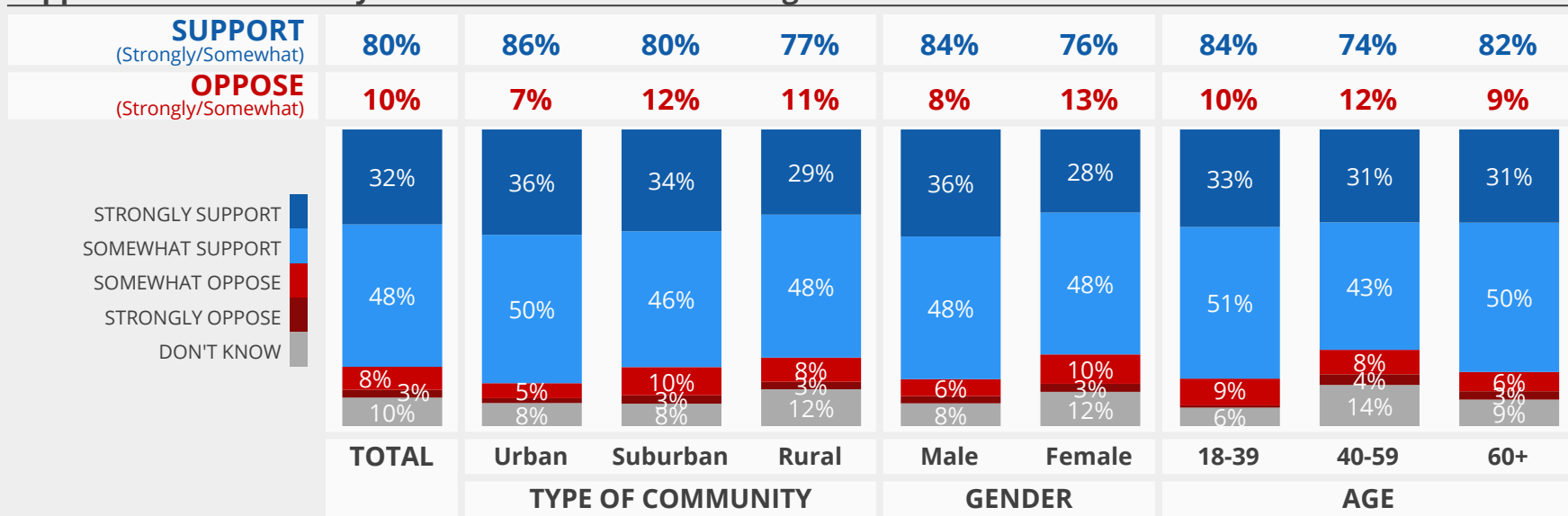
Civilian-Led Oversight Body

Eight-in-ten support creating a community-driven, civilian-led police oversight board

27

- 80% support the proposed oversight board (32% strongly), against just 10% opposed.
- Support is strongest in urban areas (86%) and among men (84%).
- Those 18-39 (84%) and 60+ (82%) are the most supportive age groups.
- Opposition stays in the single digits to low teens across every subgroup.

Support for a Community-Driven Civilian Police Oversight Board



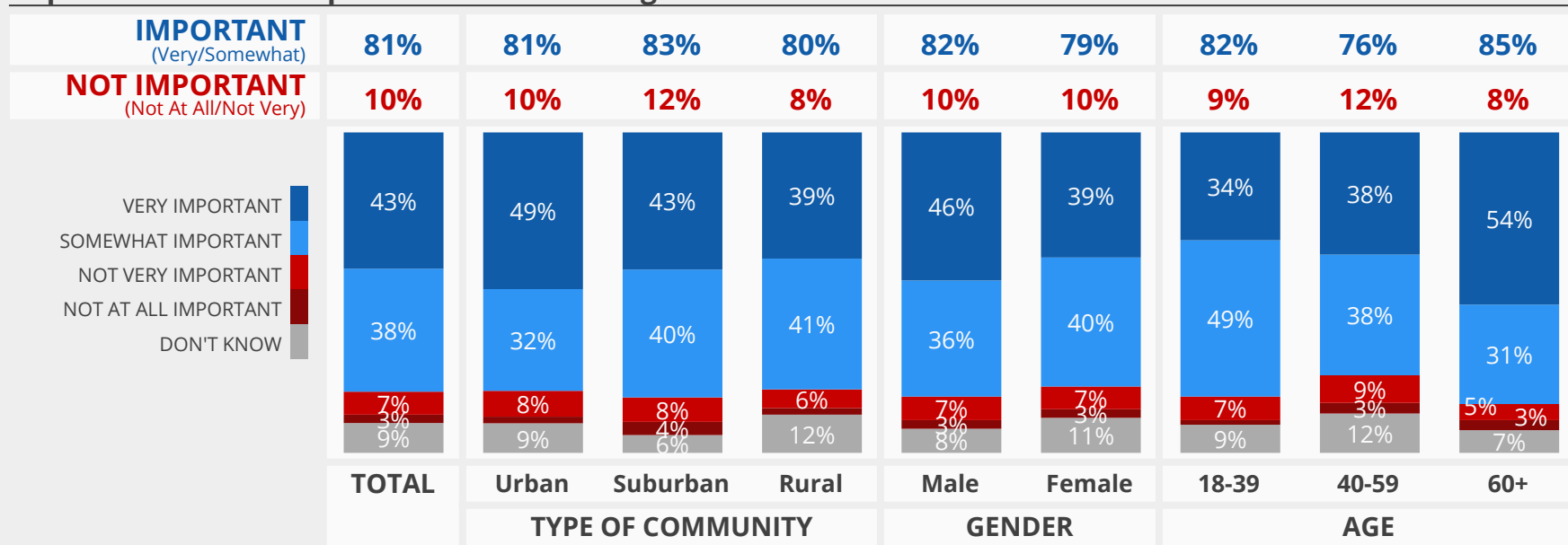
37. The Government of Newfoundland and Labrador has announced plans to create an independent community-driven civilian board to oversee police services. This board is intended to provide effective, transparent and accountable oversight of policing in the province. Thinking about this, do you support or oppose creating a community-driven, civilian-led police oversight board for Newfoundland and Labrador? Base: Total (N=705). Note: Data <3% not labeled.

An equally strong majority say it is important the oversight board be independent of police

28

- 81% say it is important the board is independent from police services, with active officers not involved in decisions.
- Those 60+ (85%) say it's important for oversight board to be independent from police services – highest of any age group.
- Men (82%) and women (79%) agree closely.

Importance of an Independent Police Oversight Board



38. How important is it to you that this new police oversight board is independent from the police services – that is, active police officers are not involved in the decision-making? Base: Total (N=705). Note: Data <3% not labeled.

Residents most want oversight-board members with knowledge of the law and of policing

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- Knowledge of law and justice system is most-valued quality (56%), followed by knowledge of policing and public safety (48%).
- Experience working with victims or vulnerable people ranks third (36%), and notably higher among women (43%) and 18-39 age group (46%).
- Representation of rural or remote communities (21%) outranks governance experience (13%) and representation of Indigenous or equity-deserving communities (12%).

Most Important Qualities for Police Oversight Board Members

	TOTAL	TYPE OF COMMUNITY			GENDER		AGE		
		Urban	Suburban	Rural	Male	Female	18-39	40-59	60+
Knowledge of the law and justice system	56%	58%	65%	50%	58%	55%	51%	60%	56%
Knowledge of policing and public safety	48%	46%	50%	48%	50%	46%	36%	51%	53%
Experience working with victims or vulnerable people	36%	36%	43%	30%	28%	43%	46%	31%	34%
Representative of rural or remote communities in Newfoundland and Labrador	21%	16%	14%	31%	20%	23%	23%	20%	22%
Experience in governance, leadership or public administration	13%	15%	12%	11%	15%	11%	16%	11%	12%
Representative of Indigenous or other equity deserving communities	12%	14%	11%	12%	14%	11%	15%	8%	14%
Don't know	6%	7%	2%	8%	7%	5%	6%	9%	4%



39. To make the independent police oversight board effective and trusted, which qualities do you think are most important for its members to have? Please select the top 2 qualities. Base: Total (N=705).

A clear majority want the oversight board to balance community members with policing experience

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- 57% prefer an equal mix of community members and people with past policing or public-safety experience, with majority across gender, age, and community type.
- 30% would prefer the board be mostly community members with some policing experience.
- Just 6% want a board made up only of people with no policing or public-safety experience.

Preferred Composition of the Police Oversight Board

	TOTAL	TYPE OF COMMUNITY			GENDER		AGE		
		Urban	Suburban	Rural	Male	Female	18-39	40-59	60+
The board should be mostly community members , with some people who have past policing or public safety experience ...	30%	26%	36%	28%	31%	28%	34%	25%	31%
The board should be made up of an equal mix of community members and people who have past policing and public safety experience ...	57%	60%	53%	58%	55%	59%	53%	61%	57%
The board should be made up only of people with no policing or public safety experience	6%	6%	5%	7%	7%	5%	5%	5%	8%
Don't know	7%	8%	6%	7%	7%	7%	8%	10%	4%

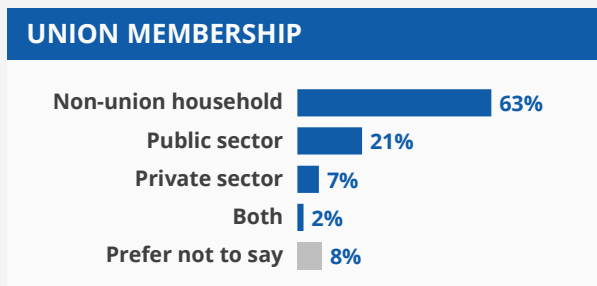
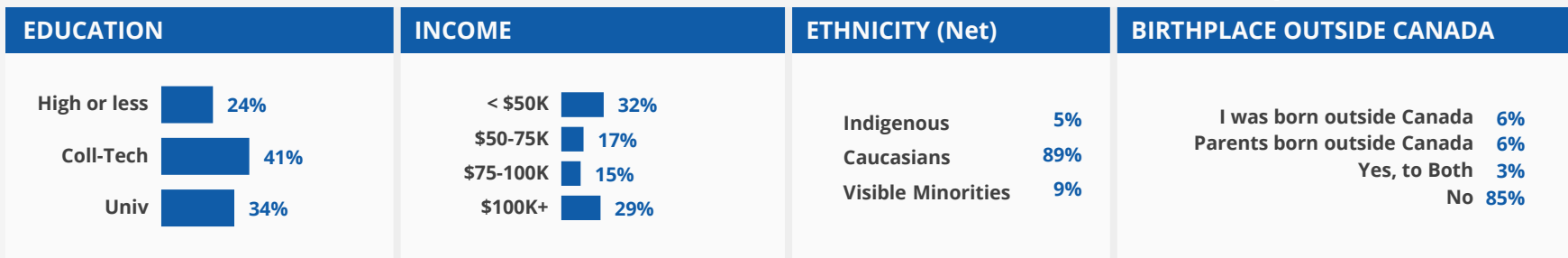
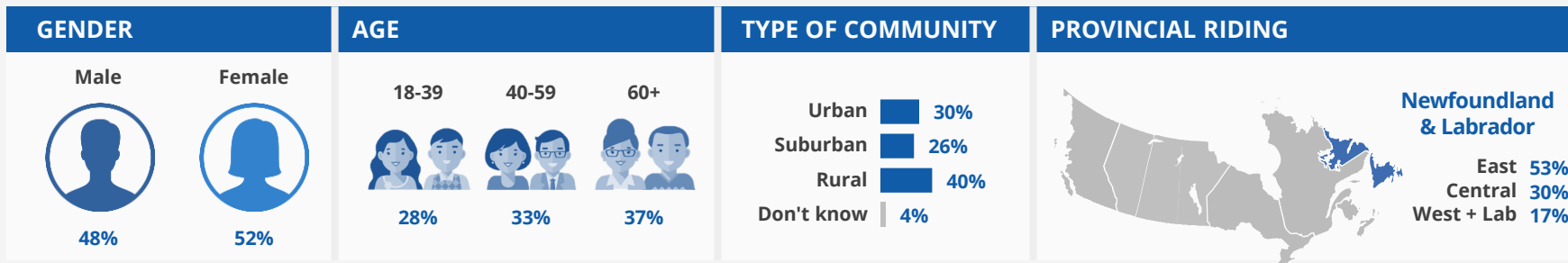


40. Now, considering that this would be a community-driven, civilian-led board for the oversight of police services, who do you think should sit on this board?
Base: Total (N=705).

Demographics

Demographic Profile

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National Police Federation Newfoundland and Labrador

Wave 3 – June/July 2026

Mike McDonald
MikeMcDonald@pollara.com
(778) 994-2788

pollara
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