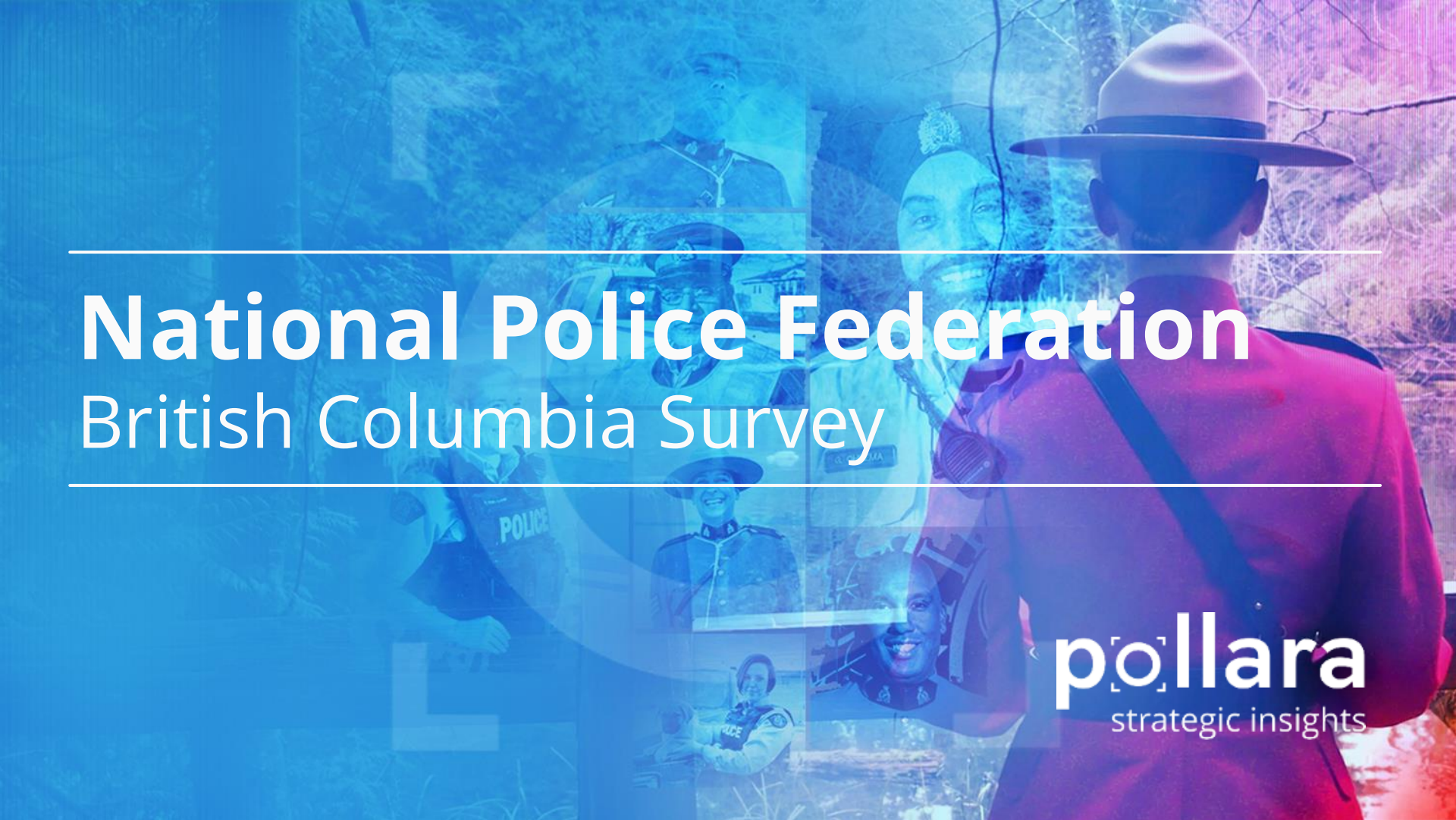




National Police Federation

British Columbia Survey

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Methodology

2

Field Window	August 28 to September 9, 2026.
Sampling	Online survey of randomly selected sample of 1,529 Adult (18+) British Columbia Residents .
Reliability	Non-probability samples cannot be assigned a margin of error. *As a relative guideline, we have provided margins of error for a probability sample of this size.
Weighting	Data has been weighted using the most current gender, age, & region Census data, to ensure the sample reflects the actual population of adult British Columbian residents.

SAMPLE DISTRIBUTION			
REGION	WEIGHTED Counts	UNWEIGHTED Counts	MARGIN OF ERROR*
Lower Mainland	915	922	± 3.2%
Vancouver Island	284	252	± 6.2%
BC Interior/North	330	355	± 5.2%
BRITISH COLUMBIA	1,529	1,529	± 2.5%



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Demographics

3

GENDER	AGE	REGION	EDUCATION
Male 48%	18-34 26%	Lower Mainland 60%	High or less 22%
Female 52%	35-54 32%	Vancouver Island 19%	College-Tech 42%
Neither 1%	55+ 42%	Interior / North 22%	University 34%
			
INCOME	ETHNICITY	BIRTHPLACE	UNION MEMBERSHIP
Under \$50K 25%	Indigenous 6%	Born outside Canada 24%	Non-union household 57%
\$50K-\$100K 33%	Visible Minorities 26%	Born in Canada 74%	Public sector 19%
\$100K+ 35%	Caucasians 68%	Prefer not to say 1%	Private sector 12%
			Both 2%
			Prefer not to say 10%
			



Base: TOTAL (n=1,529).

Key Findings

1. British Columbians want to keep — and fund — the RCMP, not replace it.

69% support renewing the province's RCMP policing contract (just 11% oppose).

2. The RCMP's public standing remains strong.

76% are satisfied with RCMP policing compared to 64% in non-RCMP served areas.

3. No appetite to defund the police.

67% say police budgets should be increased (32%) or maintained (34%); only 14% favour cuts. About half (51%) say reallocating police funds elsewhere would make them feel less safe.

4. Two-thirds back investing to keep police strength growing with the population.

67% choose to invest — 35% the full \$250M option, 31% the half-measure (\$125M) — and support for the full investment rises further after respondents review the case, with street crime issues and community safety driving support.

5. Strong consensus about repeat offenders, and for bail and court reform.

79% are concerned about dangerous and repeat offenders (42% very concerned), and 79–85% agree across every bail-reform statement tested, including tougher bail, ankle monitors for IPV offenders, and fixing the courts rather than cutting police.

DETAILED FINDINGS

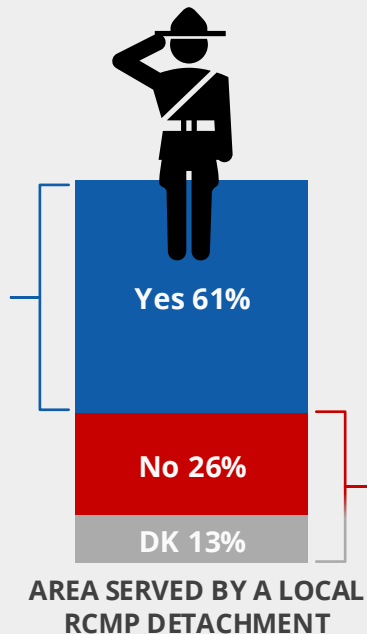
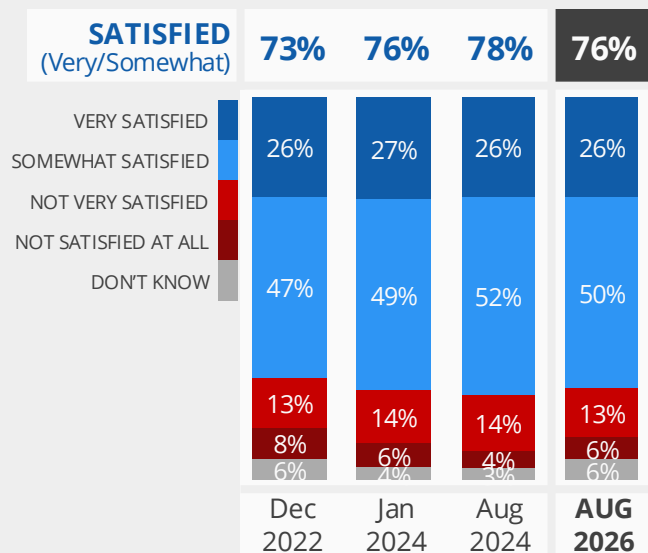
Satisfaction with Policing

About three-quarters (76%) remain satisfied with RCMP policing; satisfaction with non-RCMP policing slips to 64%

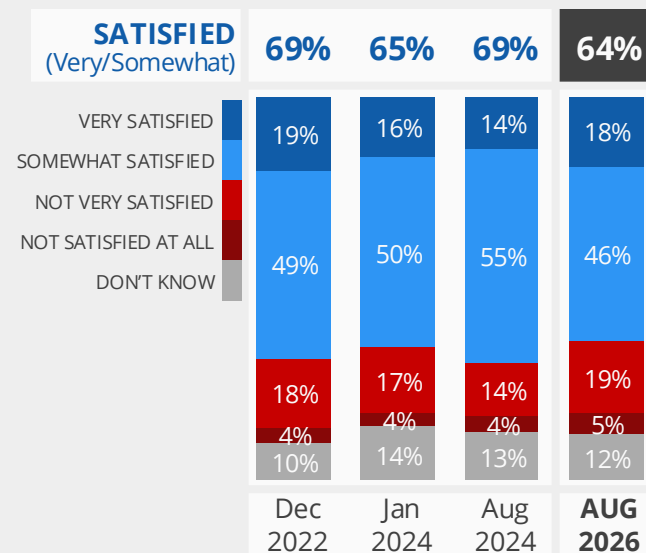
7

- 76% are satisfied with RCMP policing — up from 73% in Dec 2022 but down from the 78% peak in Aug 2024.
- Those “very satisfied” with RCMP policing is steady at 26%.
- In non-RCMP-served communities, satisfaction is 64% — down from 69% in Aug 2024 and the lowest across the four waves.

SATISFACTION WITH RCMP'S Policing



SATISFACTION WITH Policing In Community



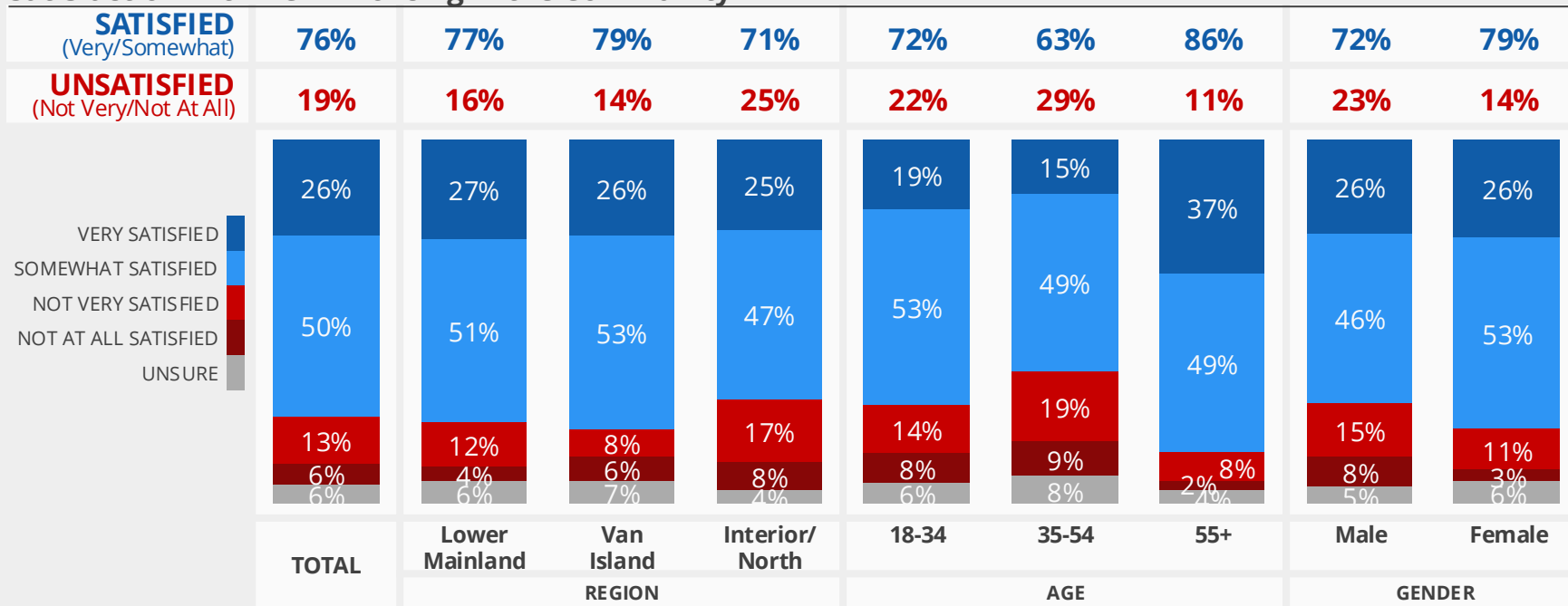
6. Is your municipality or local area served by a local RCMP detachment? Base: Total W4 (n=1,529); W3 (n=2,000); W2 (n=2,096); W1 (n=1,887)
7. How satisfied are you with the RCMP's policing of your community? Base: Local Area Served by RCMP W4 (n=935); W3 (n=654); W2 (n=707); W1 (n=559)
8. How satisfied are you with the policing in your community? Base: Not Served by RCMP W4 (n=594); W3 (n=654); W2 (n=707); W1 (n=559)

RCMP satisfaction is broad-based (76%) and peaks among those 55+ (86%)

8

- Satisfaction with RCMP policing is 76% overall and rises sharply with age — 86% among those 55+ vs. 63% among 35–54s — while staying fairly consistent by region (Lower Mainland 77%, Interior/North 71%) and gender (women 79%, men 72%).

Satisfaction with RCMP Policing in the Community



7. How satisfied are you with the RCMP's policing of your community?
Base: Local Area Served by RCMP (n=935).

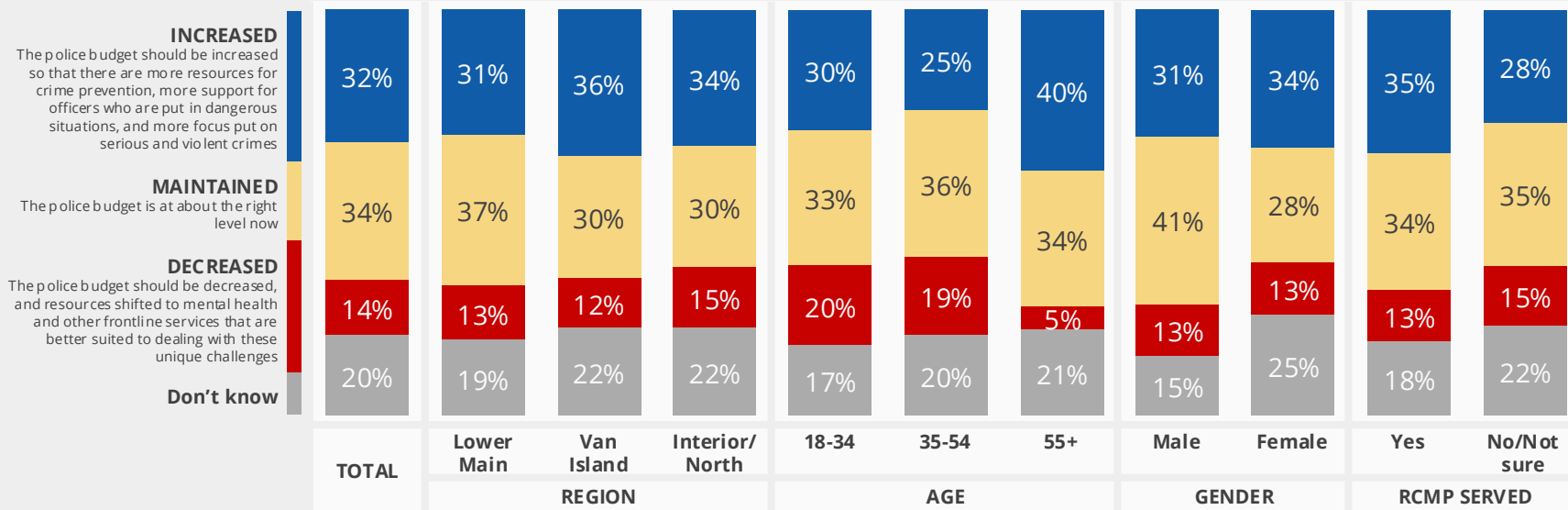
Policing Funding & Policing Priorities

Two-thirds want police budgets increased or maintained; only about one-in-seven favour cuts

10

- 34% say the police budget is about right and 32% say it should be increased — a combined 67%; 14% favour a decrease and 20% are unsure.
- Support for increasing is strongest among those 55+ (40%).
- Maintain/Increase ranges from 64% to 68% across regions; RCMP-served areas (69%); men (72%) higher than women (62%)

Views on Police Budget Levels and Resource Allocation



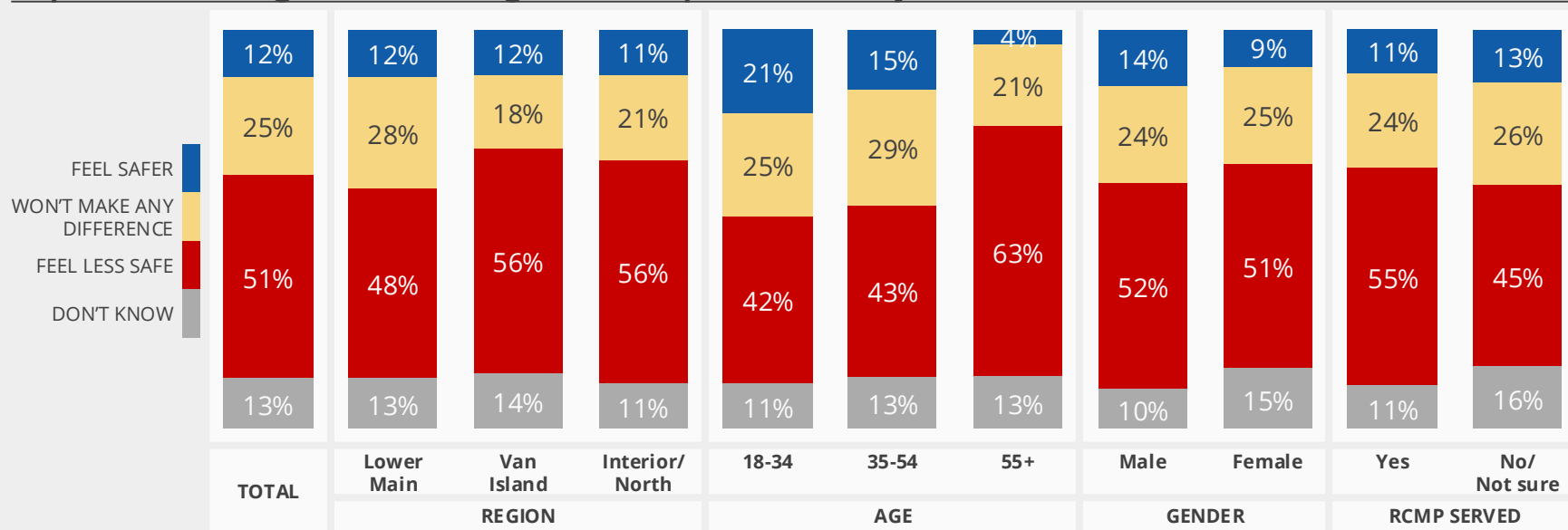
10. Thinking about the police budget in your community, do you think...
Base: Total (n=1,529)

About half (51%) say reallocating the police budget would make them feel less safe

11

- 51% say reallocating police funds to other services would make them feel less safe; 25% say it would make no difference; 12% would feel safer.
- Feeling “less safe” rises with age (63% of 55+ versus 42% of 18–34s) and is higher in RCMP-served areas (55%).

Impact of Reducing the Police Budget on Perceptions of Safety



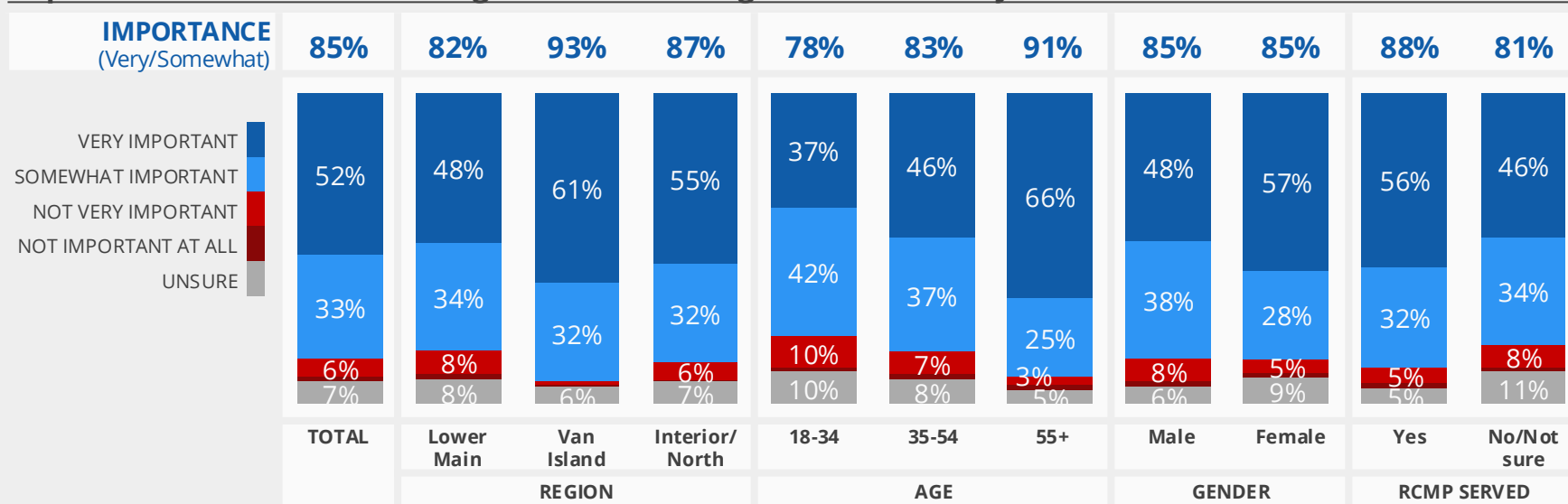
11. If the police budget in your community is reduced and funds are reallocated to other services, will it make you...
Base: Total (n=1,529)

85% say it matters that October's local-election candidates have a clear policing plan

12

- 52% say it is very important that mayoral and council candidates have a clear plan for policing and public safety.
- Importance peaks among those 55+ (91%) and on Vancouver Island (93%); it is lowest among 18–34s (78%).
- Majority of women (57%) say it's "very important" that candidates have a plan for policing and public safety.

Importance of Candidates Having a Plan for Policing and Public Safety in the Local Elections



13. Thinking about this fall's local elections to be held on October 17th, how important is it that mayoral and council candidates have a clear plan for policing and public safety? Base: Total (n=1,529). Note: Data <2% not labeled.

Street disorder/open drug use (33%) and mental health/addictions (32%) top the list for local police focus

13

□ Regional Priorities: street disorder & open drug use is top in Lower Mainland and Vancouver Island; dealing with impact of mental health/addictions is top in Interior/North. They are both top 2 in all regions, among all age groups and genders.

Top Policing Priorities for Local Politicians in the Community

Top Policing Priorities for Local Politicians in the Community					Overall Priority								
					TOTAL	Region			Age			Gender	
						Lower Main	Van Island	Interior / North	18-34	35-54	55+	M	F
Tackling street disorder & open drug use	TOP PRIORITY		2nd PRIORITY		33%	30%	41%	35%	31%	30%	36%	30%	35%
	18%	15%											
Effectively dealing with impact of mental-health/addictions	16%		15%		32%	27%	36%	42%	29%	30%	34%	28%	35%
Addressing bail reform/repeat violent offenders	13%		12%		25%	24%	24%	27%	20%	24%	28%	25%	25%
More officers & visible patrols	12%		10%		22%	21%	28%	20%	14%	18%	29%	22%	22%
Guns, gangs & organized crime	9%		13%		21%	26%	15%	13%	22%	22%	21%	22%	21%
Faster 911 / response times	6%	6%		12%	13%	10%	10%	17%	15%	6%	12%	12%	
Keeping police costs & taxes down	6%	5%											
Extortion & business safety	3%	4%		7%	10%	1%	3%	13%	7%	4%	8%	6%	
Police technology & equipment	2%	2%		4%	4%	5%	4%	7%	4%	3%	6%	3%	



14/15. What should local politicians focus on most when it comes to policing in your community?/And what is the second priority that local politicians should focus on when it comes to policing in your community? Base: Total (n=1,529).

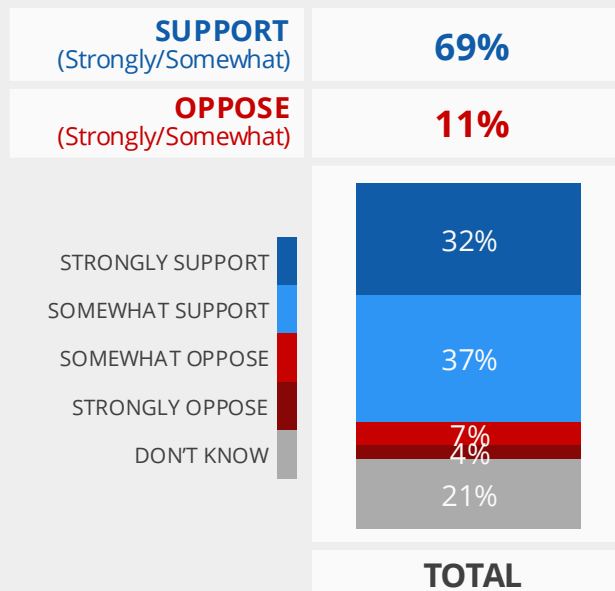
RCMP Contract Renewal

Strong support (69%) for the BC government renewing its RCMP provincial policing contract; just 11% oppose

Support for the BC Government Renewing Its Provincial Policing Contract with the RCMP

Currently, the RCMP is contracted by the British Columbia government to police most communities in the province (60% of the population and 99% of the land mass), while 13 cities, for example, the City of Vancouver, have municipal police forces. At present, the BC government pays 70% of the cost of provincial policing and the federal government pays 30% of the cost of provincial policing.

The contract between the BC government and the RCMP to provide provincial policing services expires in 2032. The federal government has reaffirmed its commitment to continue to provide RCMP contract policing beyond 2032 for provinces that wish to have the RCMP as an option for community policing.



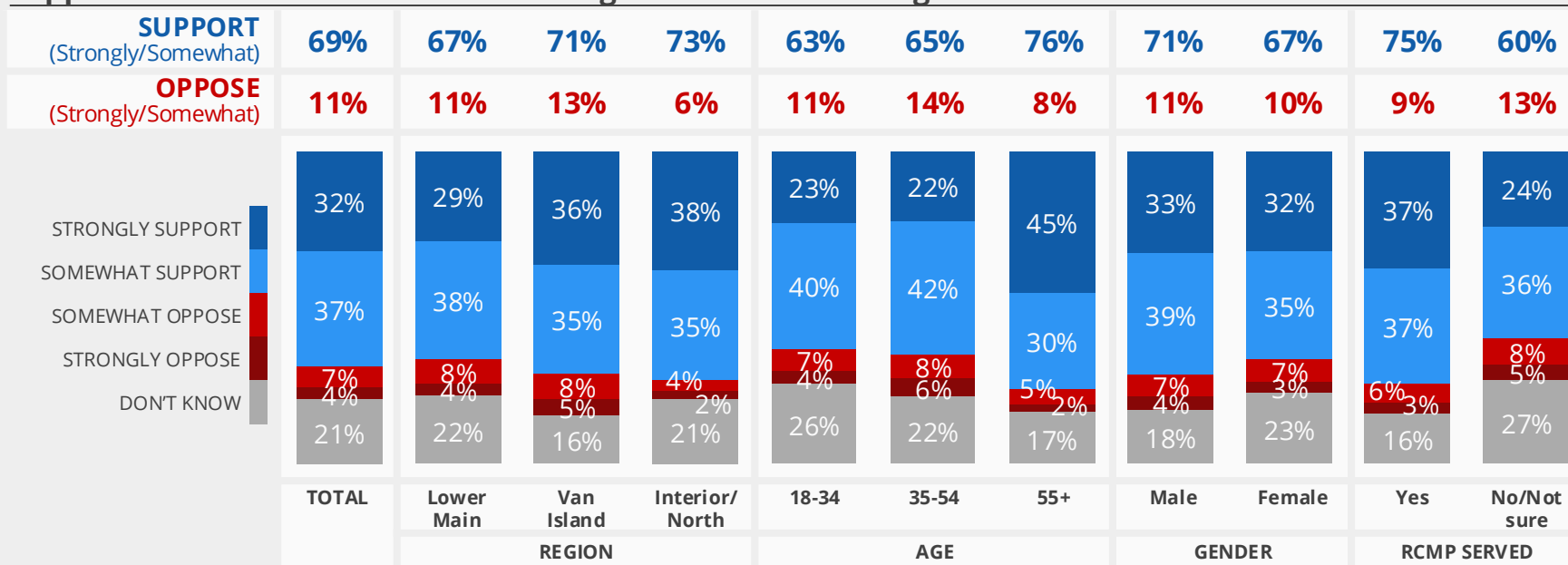
17. Based on this share of the policing costs, please indicate whether you support or oppose the BC government renewing its contract for provincial policing with the RCMP? Base: Total (n=1,529).

Stronger support for the BC government renewing its RCMP contract among RCMP-served areas

16

- Support is highest among those 55+ (76%) and in the Interior/North (73%).
- Even in non-RCMP-served areas, support (60%) far outweighs opposition (13%).

Support for the BC Government Renewing Its Provincial Policing Contract with the RCMP



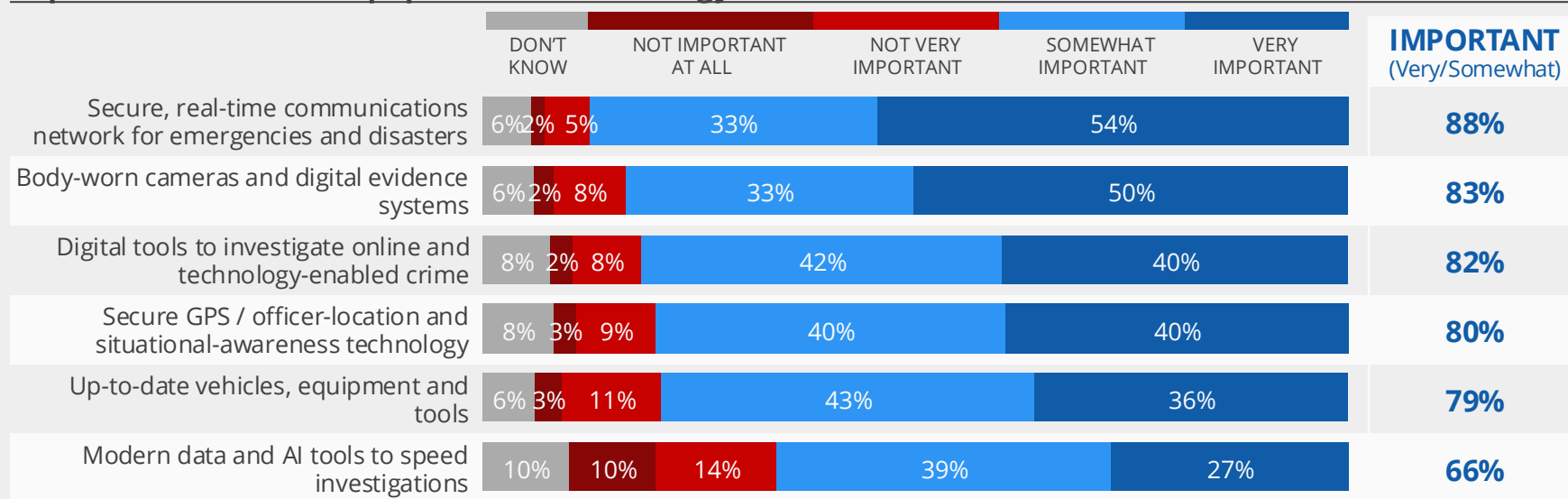
17. Based on this share of the policing costs, please indicate whether you support or oppose the BC government renewing its contract for provincial policing with the RCMP? Base: Total (n=1,529).

Overwhelming support (88%) for modern police technology – secure, real-time emergency communications tops the list

17

- A secure, real-time emergency communications network is rated important by 88%, followed by body-worn cameras and digital evidence systems (83%). Both are seen as “very important” by half (50% to 54%).
- Digital tools for online crime (82%), secure GPS/situational-awareness (80%) and up-to-date vehicles and equipment (79%) also rated as highly important.
- Modern data/AI investigative tools rank lowest but still viewed by two-thirds (66%) as important.

Importance of Modern Equipment and Technology for Police Services in British Columbia

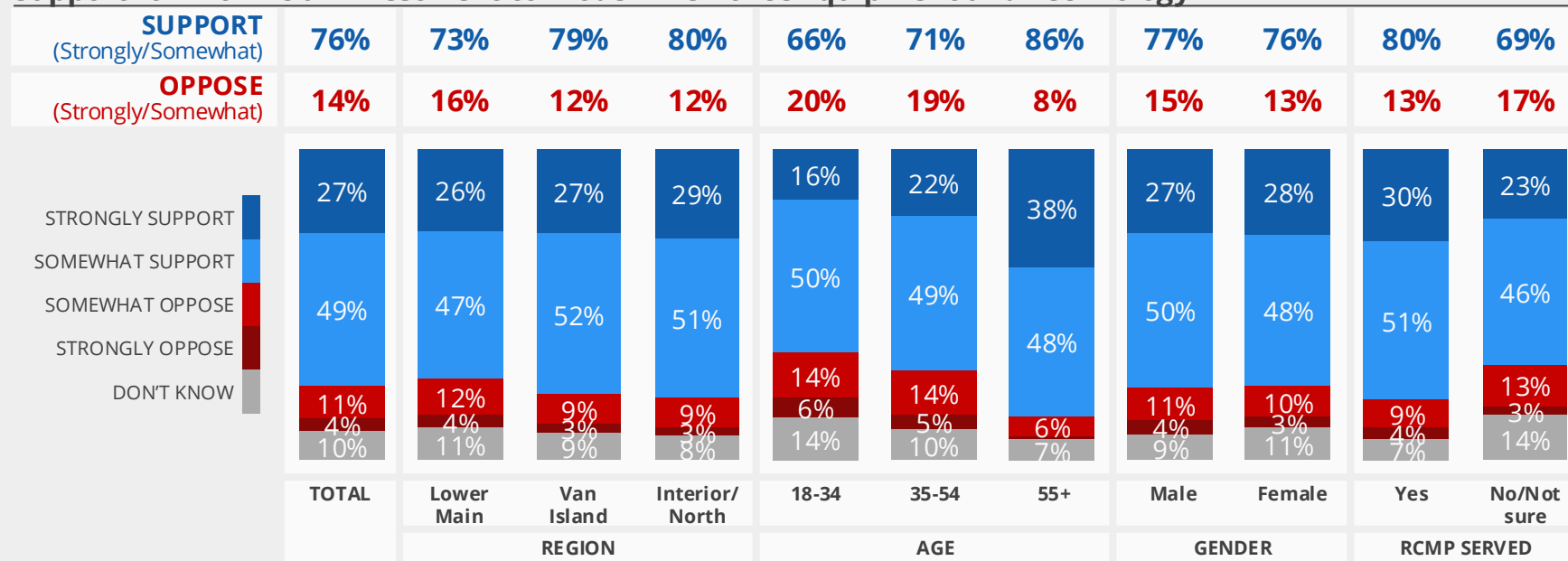


Three-quarters (76%) back provincial investment to modernize police equipment and technology

18

- 76% support investing to modernize police equipment and technology even if it requires additional funding; 14% oppose.
- Support rises with age (86% of those 55+) and is higher in RCMP-served areas (80%).

Support for Provincial Investment to Modernize Police Equipment and Technology



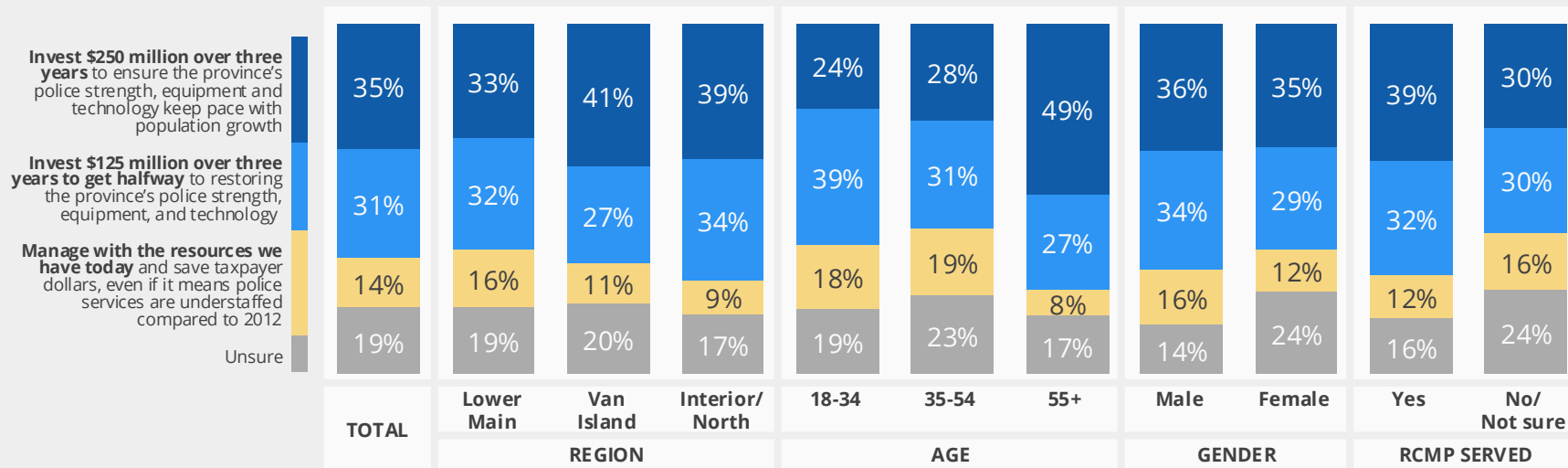
Two-thirds favour investing to keep police strength growing with the population

19

- 67% choose to invest — 36% the full \$250M option and 31% the \$125M half-measure; 14% prefer to manage with current resources.
- Support for the full \$250M investment is highest among those 55+ and in RCMP-served areas

Since 2012, British Columbia's population has increased by almost 30%, but the size of the police service authorized by the province has not increased. In order to keep pace with population growth, the province would need to invest \$250 million over the next three years to expand the provincial police service by 300 RCMP officer positions and invest in new equipment and technology.

Preferred Prov. Investment in Police Strength, Equipment & Tech to Keep Pace with Population Growth



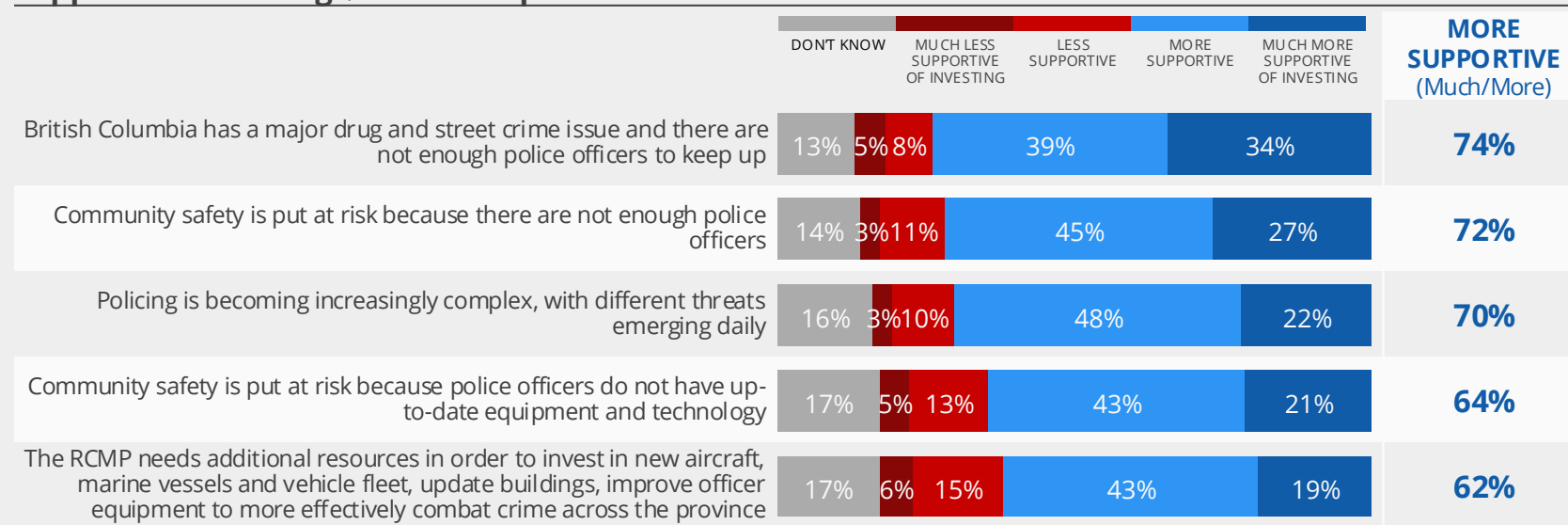
25. Which of the following options best represents your view?
Base: Total (n=1,529)

Public-safety framing drives support for modernization funding

20

- The most persuasive statements: BC's drug/street-crime problem with too few officers (74% more supportive) and community safety at risk from too few officers (72%).
- Increasing complexity of policing (70%) and outdated equipment/technology (64%) also move majorities; RCMP fleet/equipment needs 62%.

Support for Investing \$250M to Expand & Modernize the Provincial Police Service



26. For each of the following statements, please indicate whether they make you more supportive or less supportive of investing \$250 million over three years to expand the provincial police service by 300 RCMP officer positions and invest in new equipment and technology. Base: Total (n=1,529)

Support for more investment in policing consistent among age, voting groups, and regions

21

MORE SUPPORTIVE OF INVESTING (Much More/More)	TOTAL	REGION			AGE			GENDER		RCMP SERVED	
		Lower Main	Van Island	Interior / North	18-34	35-54	55+	Male	Female	Yes	No/Not sure
British Columbia has a major drug & street crime issue and there are not enough police officers to keep up	74%	71%	80%	77%	66%	67%	84%	72%	76%	79%	66%
Community safety is put at risk because there are not enough police officers	72%	70%	79%	71%	64%	66%	81%	70%	74%	76%	65%
Policing is becoming increasingly complex, with different threats emerging daily	70%	68%	74%	73%	61%	63%	81%	70%	70%	74%	64%
Community safety is put at risk because police officers do not have up-to-date equipment & technology	64%	64%	65%	65%	60%	59%	72%	64%	65%	67%	60%
The RCMP needs additional resources in order to invest in new aircraft, marine vessels & vehicle fleet, update buildings, improve officer equipment to more effectively combat crime across the province	62%	62%	64%	61%	58%	54%	70%	63%	61%	66%	55%



26. For each of the following statements, please indicate whether they make you more supportive or less supportive of investing \$250 million over three years to expand the provincial police service by 300 RCMP officer positions and invest in new equipment and technology. Base: Total (n=1,529).

Support for the full \$250M investment rises after respondents review the arguments

22

- After reviewing the statements, preference for the full \$250M option increases across all groups, and +6% among women.
- The movement comes mainly from those who initially chose the half-measure or were unsure.

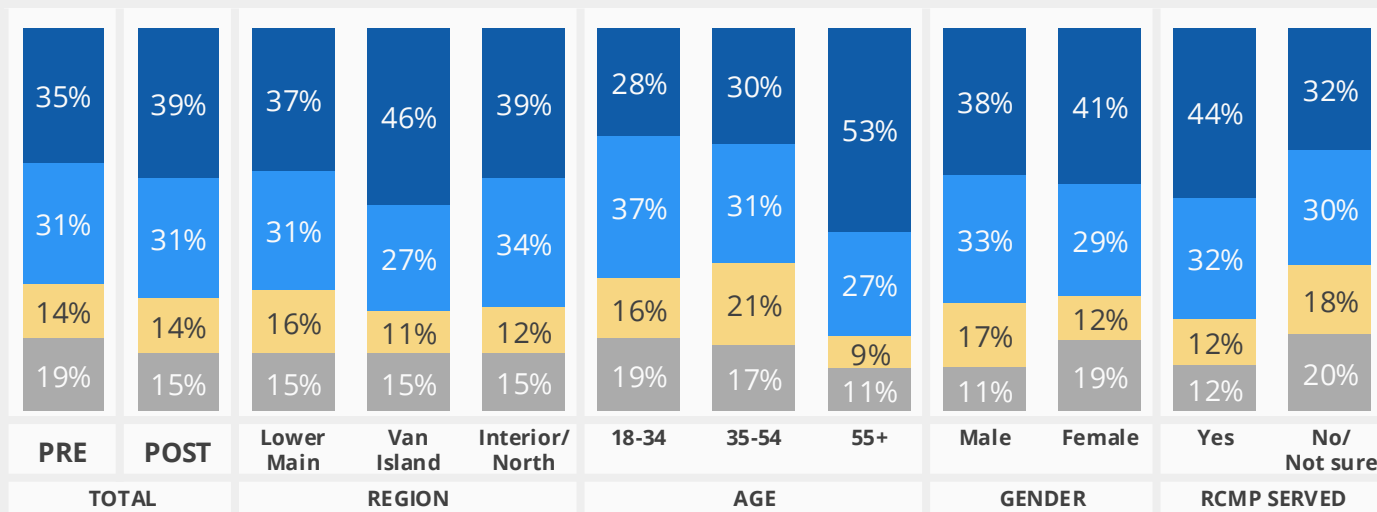
Preferred Prov. Investment in Police Strength, Equipment & Tech to Keep Pace with Population Growth

Invest \$250 million over three years to ensure the province's police strength, equipment and technology keep pace with population growth

Invest \$125 million over three years to get halfway to restoring the province's police strength, equipment, and technology

Manage with the resources we have today and save taxpayer dollars, even if it means police services are understaffed compared to 2012

Unsure



PRE 25. Which of the following options best represents your view? POST 27. Now that you have reviewed more information regarding provincial police funding, which of the following options best represents your view? Base: Total (n=1,529).

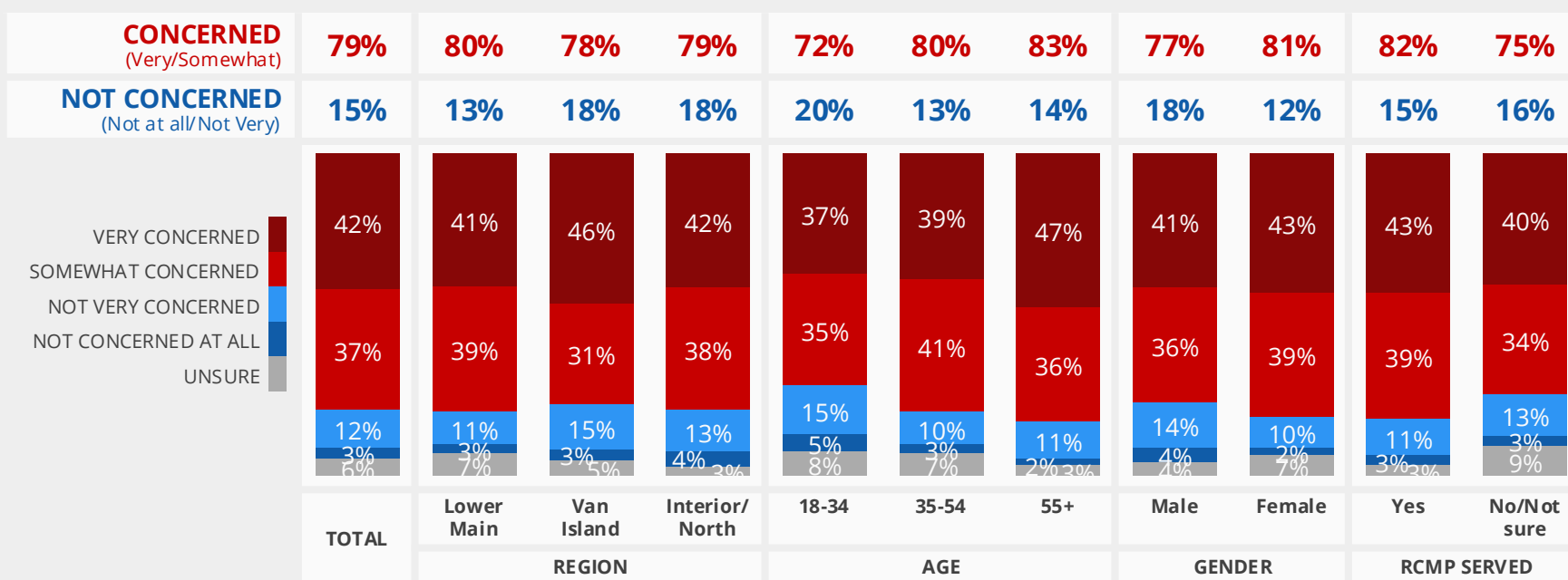
Bail Reform

Eight-in-ten (79%) are concerned about dangerous and repeat offenders; 42% very concerned

24

- Only 15% not concerned.
- Concern highest among those 55+ (83%) and men (81%).

Concern About Dangerous and Repeat Offenders in the Community

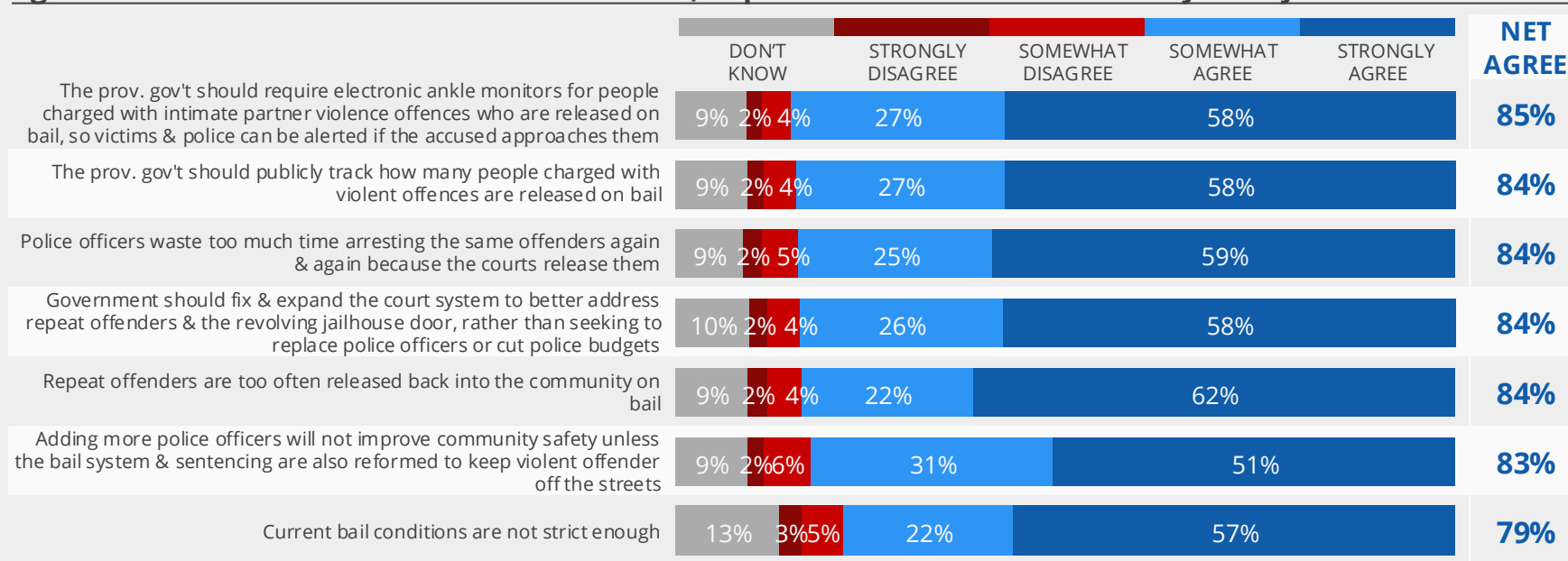


Broad consensus (79–85%) for tougher bail measures and court reform

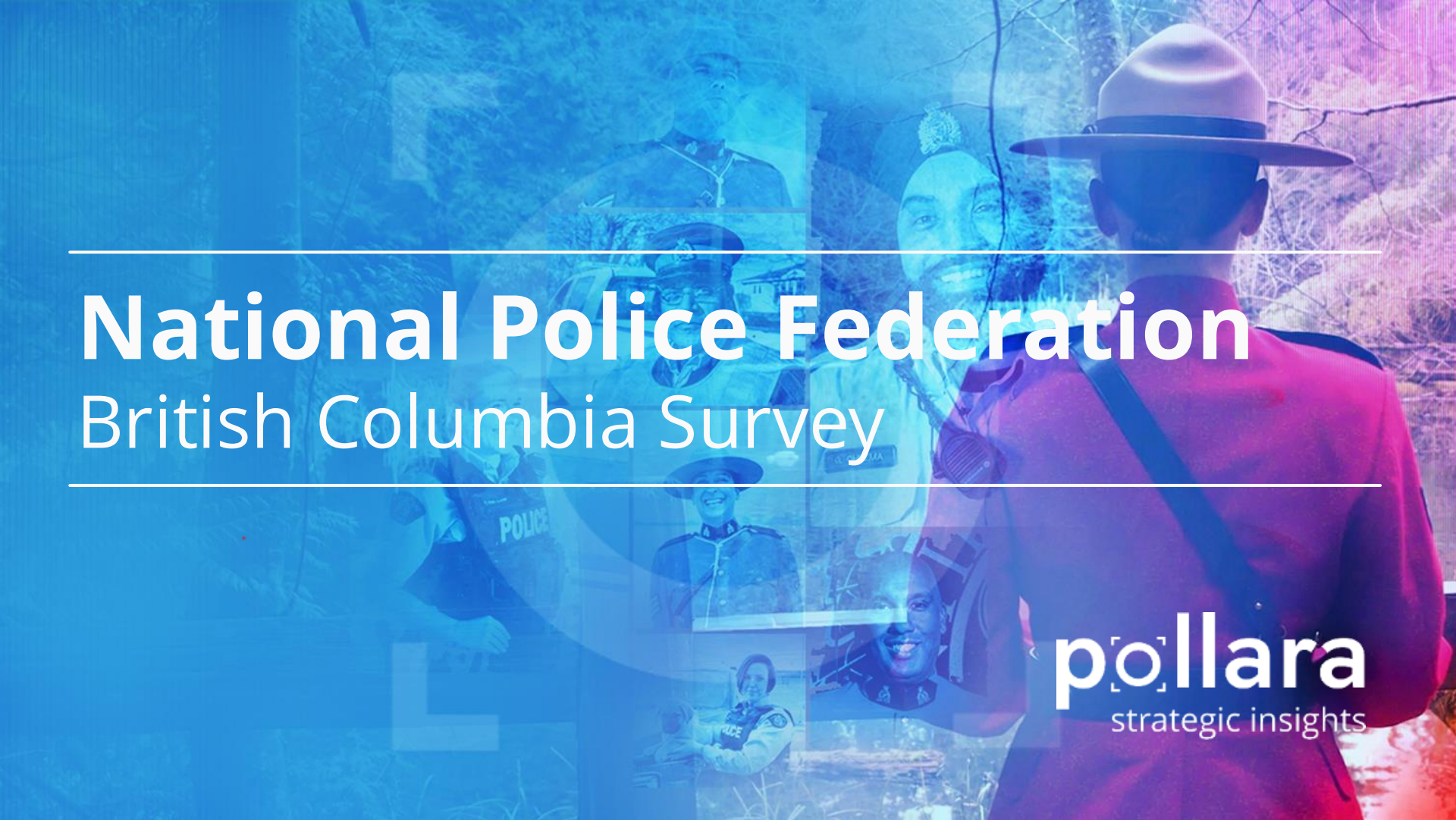
25

- Majority strongly agree with all statements (51%–62% range), with the highest regarding repeat offenders too often released back into the community on bail.
- Strongest among 55+ (88–93%), high across all regions/ages.

Agreement with Statements About Bail Reform, Repeat Offenders and Community Safety



31. To what extent do you agree or disagree with the following statements...
Base: Total (n=1,529).



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