

South Burlington Exit Poll Midterm Elections November 6, 2018

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January 23, 2019

Thanks to the 25 student interviewers from a class in Research Methods in Sociology at Saint Michael's College and the 8 volunteer interviewers from SBHS

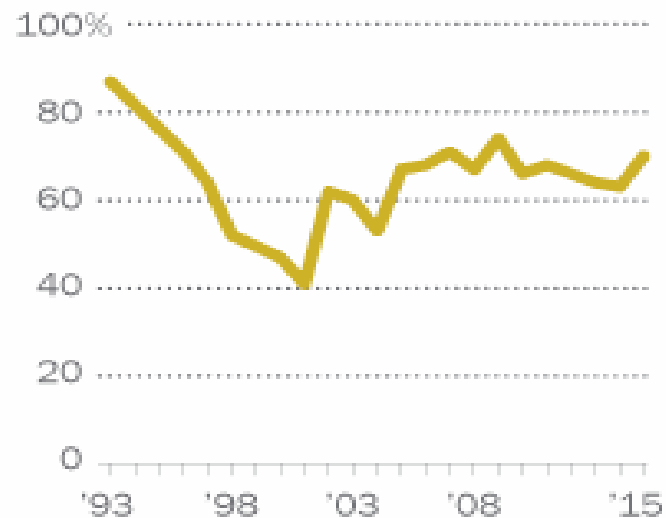
Josh Abernathy	Emma Almanzar	Nicole Beeso
Arianna Boscia	Lucy Chin	Katie Cox
Mary Faenza	Grace Faria	Delaney Goodman
Dane Johnson	Hannah Lind	Sarah Merriman
Katie O'Donoghue	Joel Parady	Clair Rossi
Winter Royce-Roll	Kelly Smith	Liz Vallatini
Chenglei Zhang	Julia Murphy	Mariah Newman
Michael Bureau	Amy Katz	Victoria Chang
Tess Lalone	Noah Kenyon	Kailey Yang
Kip Zinn	And several other volunteers from SBHS and the Sociology Department	

Thanks especially to City Planner Paul Conner for his support, guidance and inspiration in helping our Sociology majors fully appreciate the complexity of a well designed community survey project. Thanks also to the South Burlington School District for their suggestions of questions related to school issues.

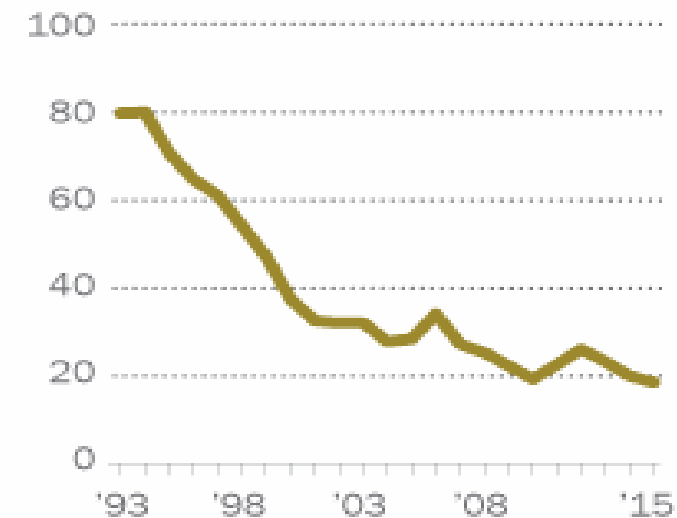
Caveat about opinion polls: The perceptions of the public does not always square with the objective facts!

Public perception of crime rate at odds with reality

*% saying there is more crime
in the U.S. than a year ago*



*Violent crimes per 1,000
persons ages 12 and older*



Note: 2006 BJS estimates are not comparable with those in other years.

Source: Gallup, Bureau of Justice Statistics.

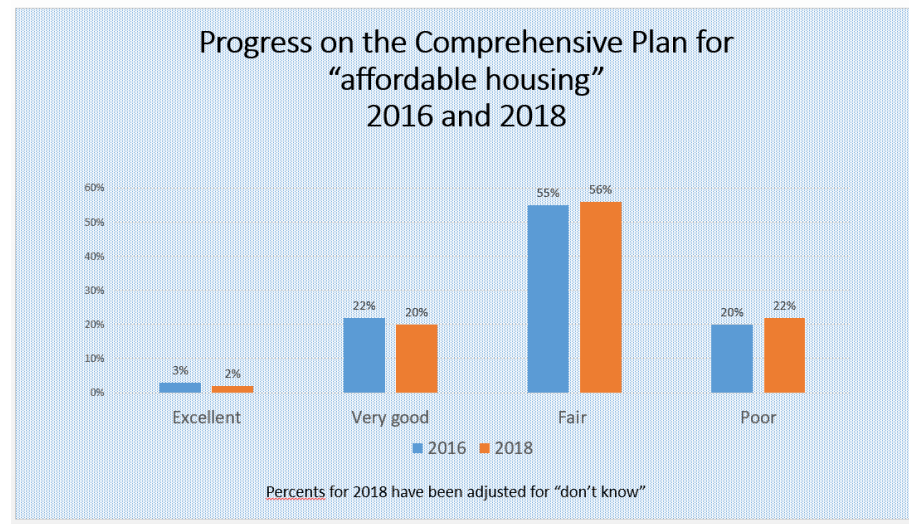
PEW RESEARCH CENTER

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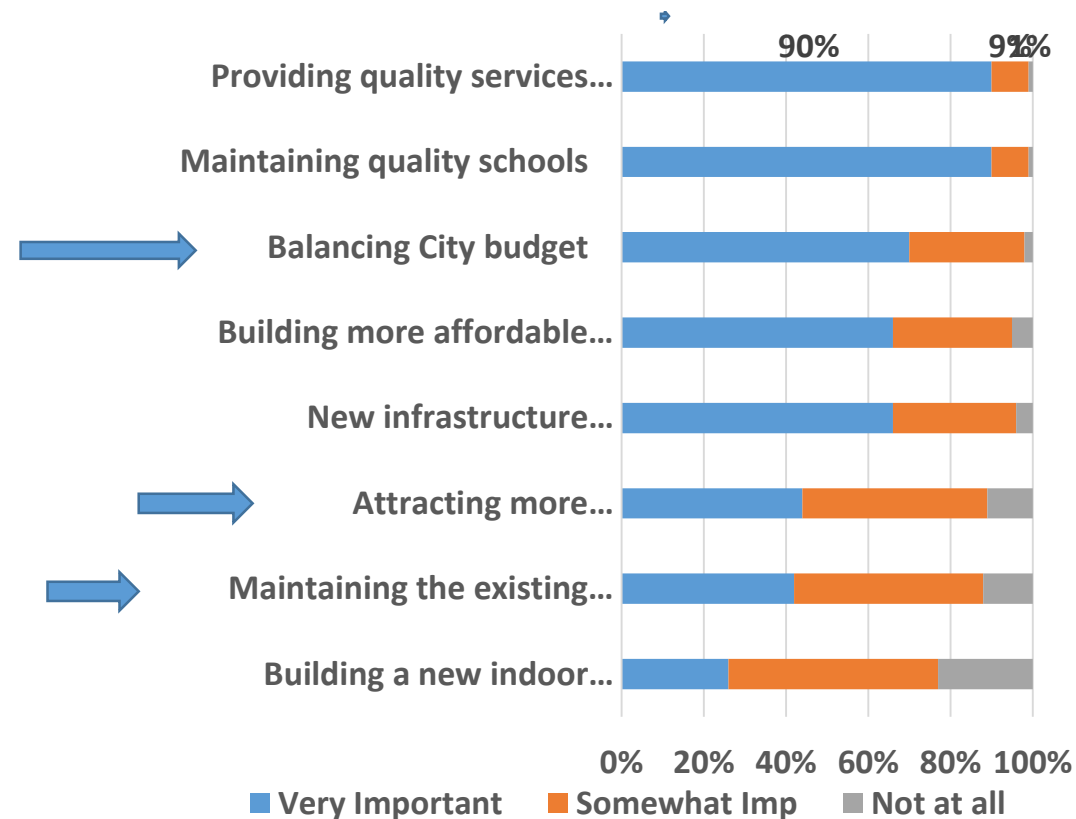
1. Description of the survey and sample
2. General priorities
3. Progress on the Comprehensive Plan
4. Schools
5. Energy and climate change
6. Economic priorities
7. Infrastructure
8. Open space and land use
9. Citizen participation
10. Appendix: methodology and questionnaire

Two interpretive tips about this Power Point

1. A dozen slides have a pale blue background. These slides contain comparative data from prior surveys and look like this:



2. Interviewers asked 3 sets of matrix questions with identical response sets (such as “very important,” “somewhat important,” etc.) that cover different subjects. These are shown once as a general overview, then copy and pasted again into different sections with section-relevant thematic questions identified with arrows. See example below.



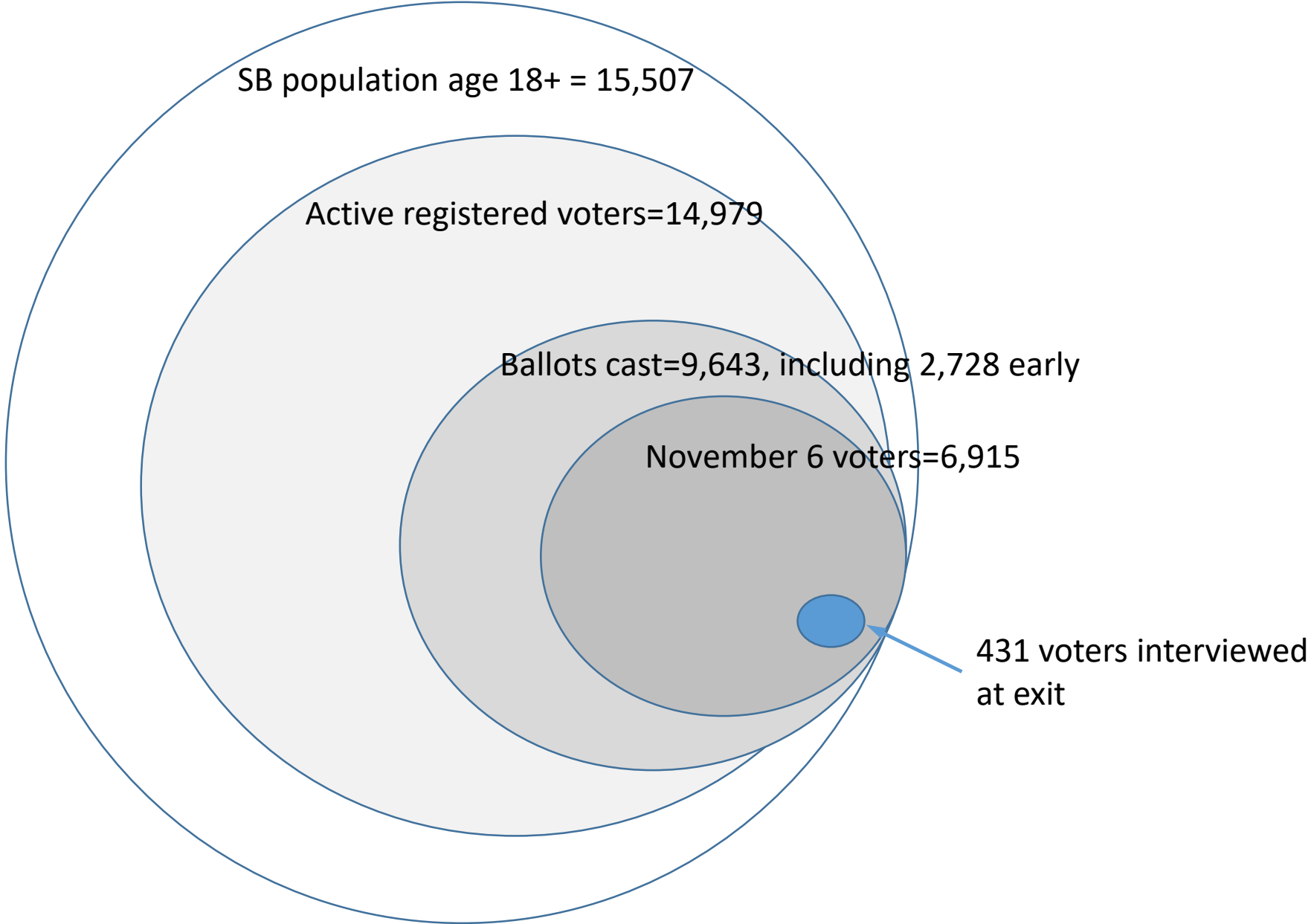
Strength of exit polls

- Reflect people who vote and hold the most interest in civic issues
- Good cooperation from voters; fewer rejections than with other survey techniques
- Fairly easy to secure large numbers
- Inexpensive (no cost in this case)
- Allows voters another form of expression about their community
- The dynamic of the interviewing process fosters civic interest and sociability outside polling stations

Weaknesses of exit polls

- Voters are rarely representative of non-voting adults in a community
- Exit polls cannot represent non-voters and rarely represent early voters
- Exit polls cannot be as verifiably representative of a community as a perfectly executed simple random sample. The latter are rare and very expensive.

Our sample size was 431







431 voters were interviewed

How demographically representative are they of all residents?


- Our 431 voters mirrored the gender distribution of voting age adults
- Our 431 voters roughly mirrored the age distribution
 - We had slightly more older voters and slightly fewer under age 35
- As is typical, our 431 voters were better educated than the average resident

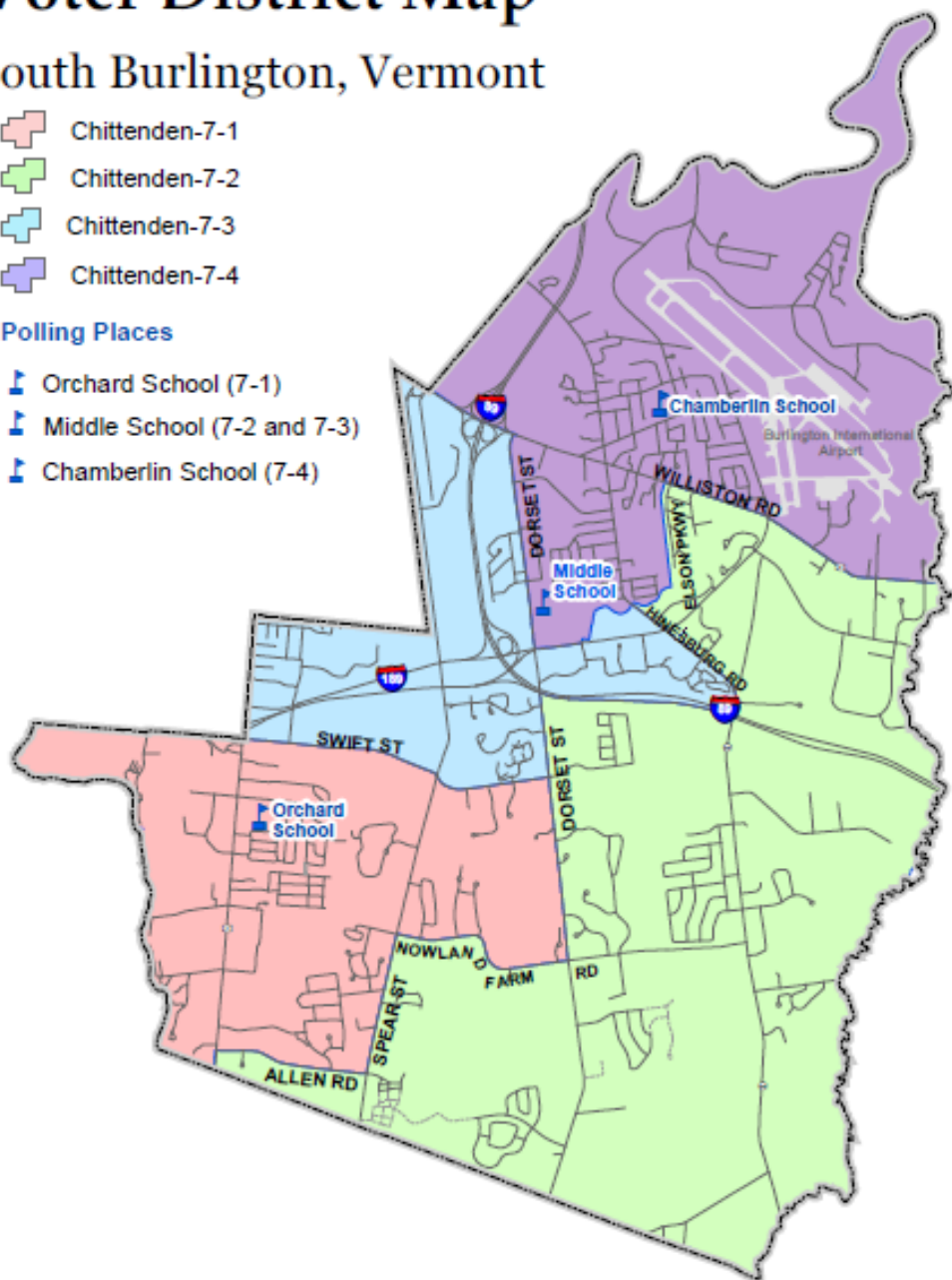
Voter District Map

South Burlington, Vermont

-  Chittenden-7-1
-  Chittenden-7-2
-  Chittenden-7-3
-  Chittenden-7-4

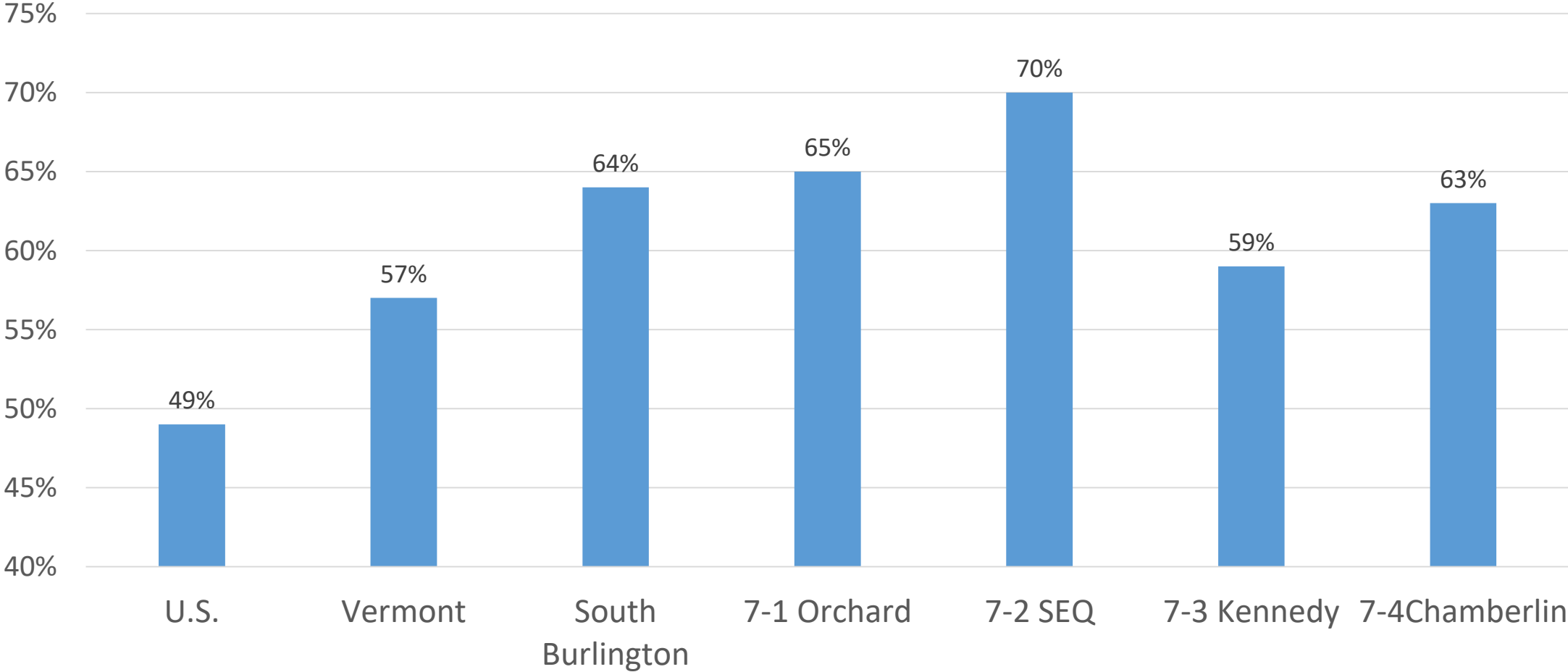
Polling Places

-  Orchard School (7-1)
-  Middle School (7-2 and 7-3)
-  Chamberlin School (7-4)



Voter turnout

Percent votes cast of total voters



Source: Office of the Secretary of State

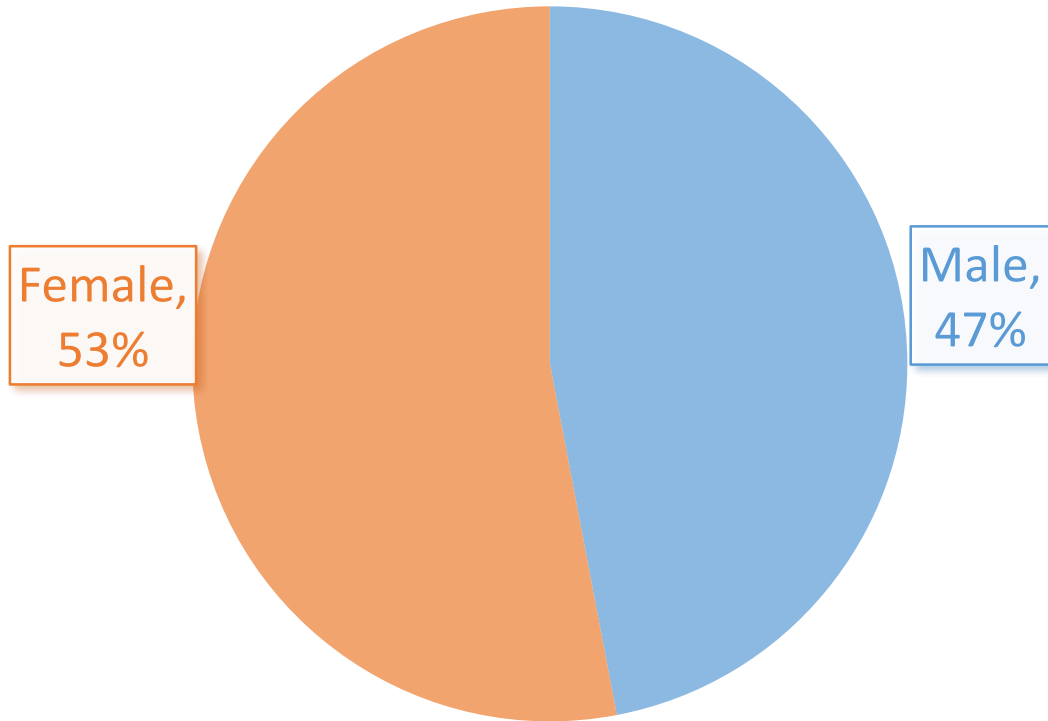
Miscellaneous South Burlington demographics

Source: Census (American Community Survey, American Fact Finder, 2017)

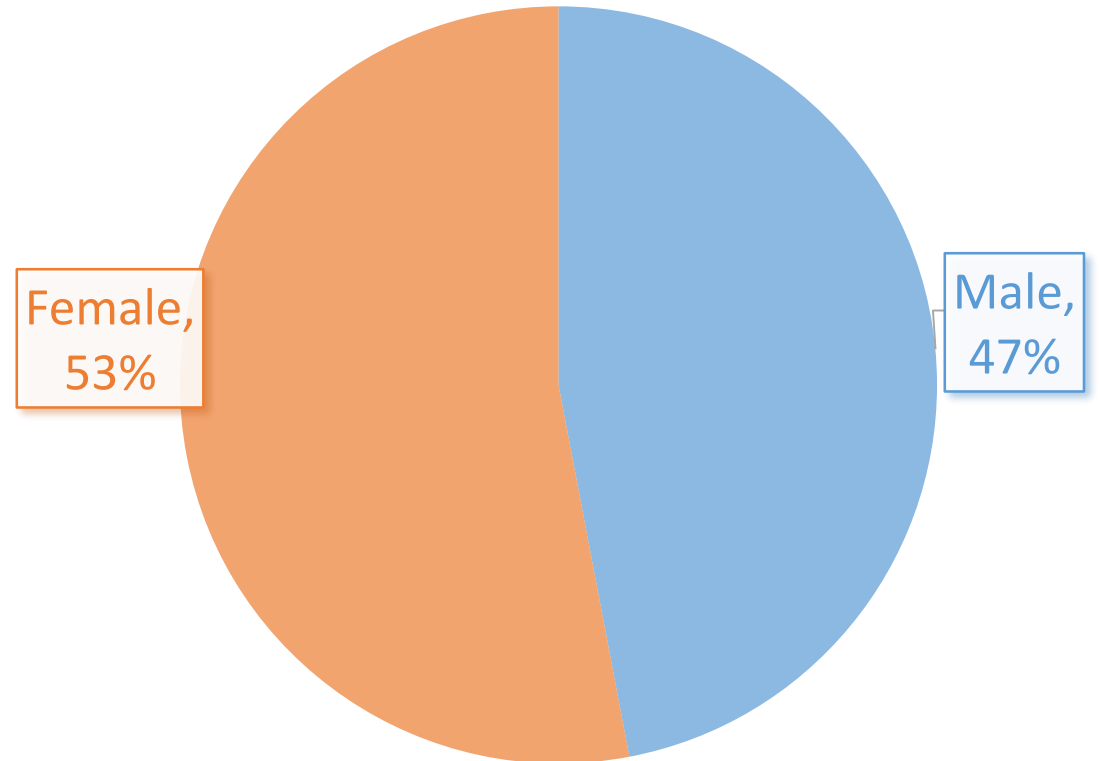
- Population estimate: 18,704
- Census estimates of under age 18
 - 1970: 4,136
 - 2017: 3,107
- Households: 8,496
- Median family income: \$81,336
 - Vermont: \$68,274
- Median household income: \$64,282
 - Vermont \$54,168
- Percent with a Bachelor's degree or more 55%
 - Vermont: 37%
 - U.S.: 31%
- Median age in South Burl: 43.2
 - Vermont: 41.5
 - United States: 37.2
- Ethnic composition
 - White: 90.3%
 - Asian: 5.4%
 - Black: 1.9%

Gender distribution, SB population over age 18

Census estimate (ACS)

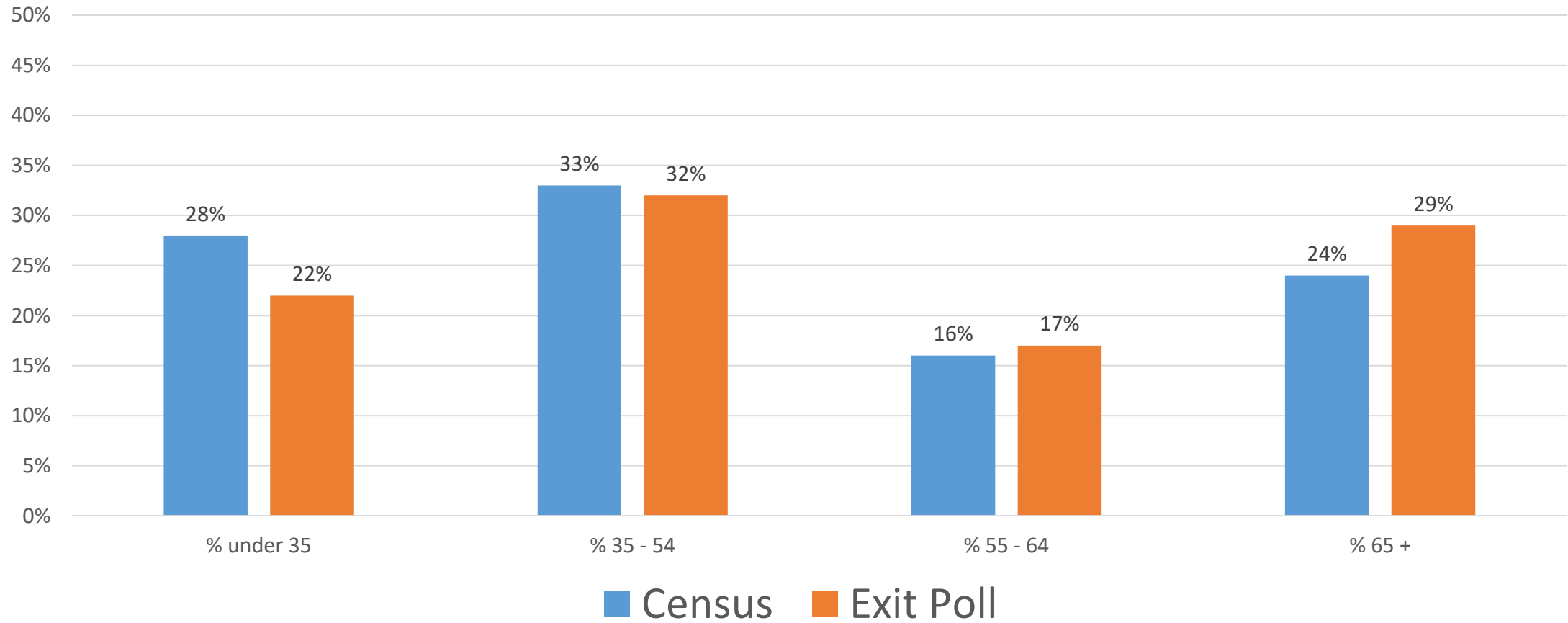


Exit poll

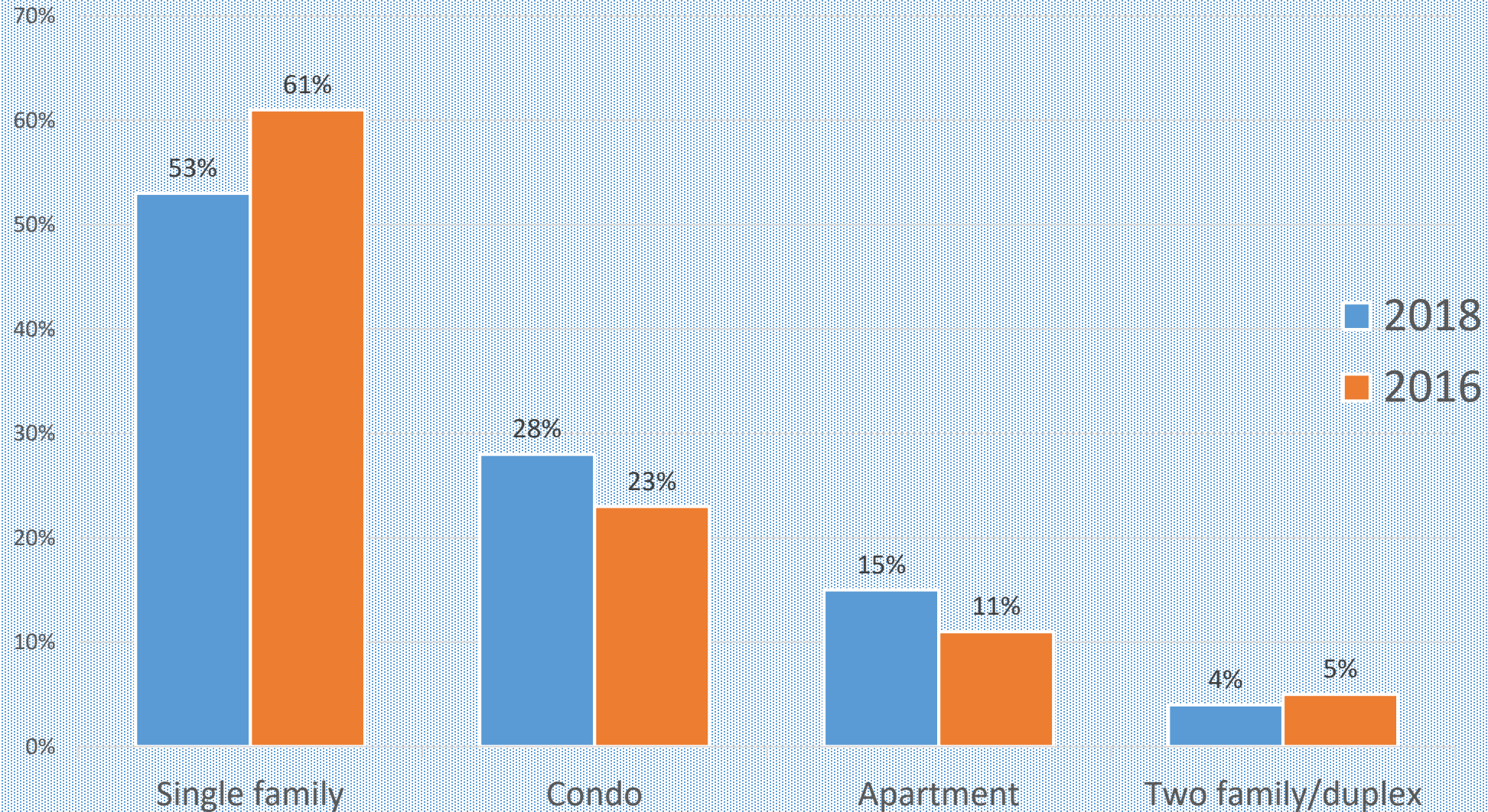


Age distribution of the over age 18 population

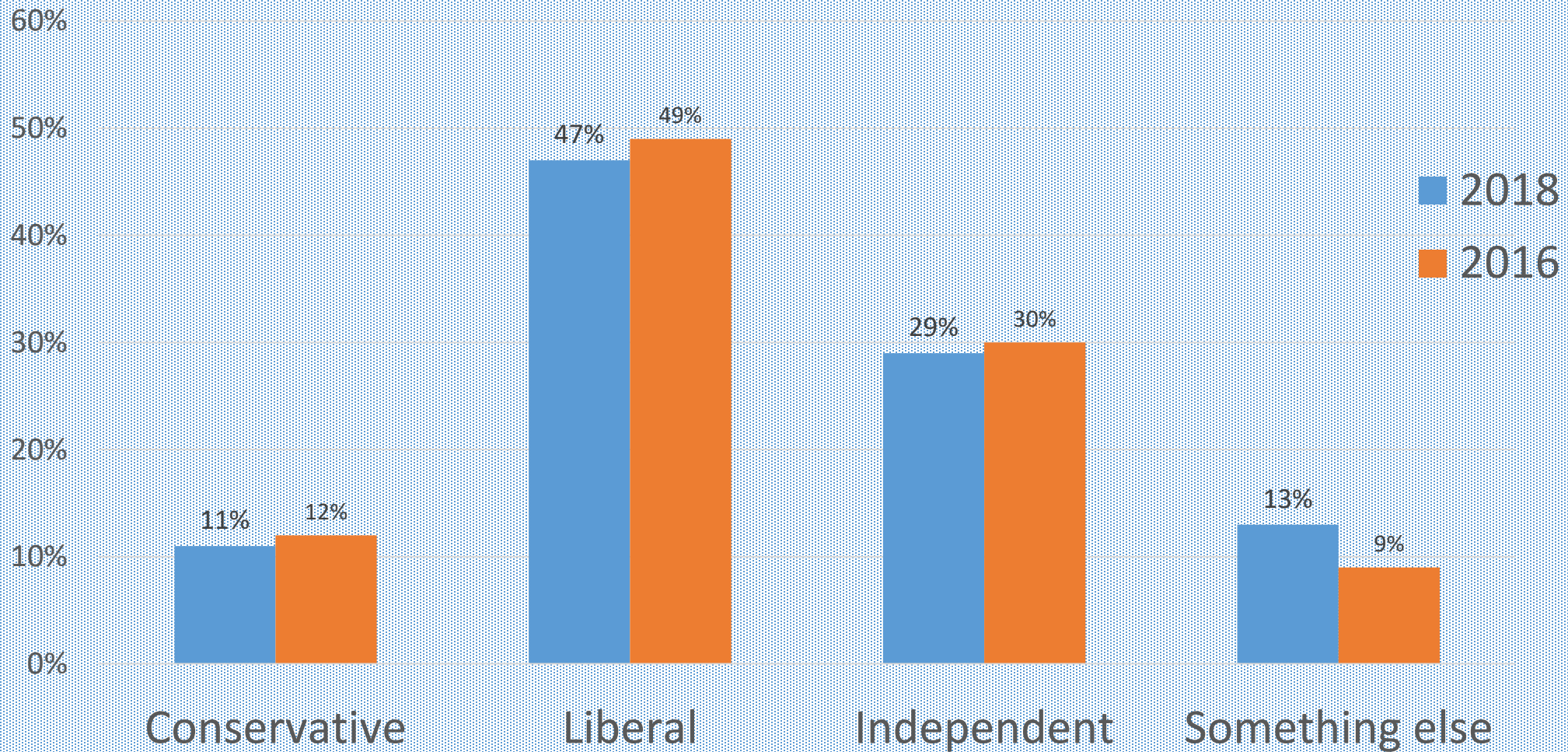
Census American Fact Finder and Exit Poll



The type of residence described by the respondent was very similar to the 2016 exit poll



The self described political ideology of respondents was very similar to the 2016 exit poll



Nationally, Gallup reports that 38% self identify as conservative, 24% as liberal, 36% as moderate, independent, or other (2015).

Sub-groups often have different opinions. Some of the sub-groups we found to hold statistically significant differences included:

- Age
- Length of time living in SB
- Gender
- Home owners or renters
- Educational level
- Type of residence
- Voting district (precinct)
- Born in Vermont
- Self-described political orientation
 - “Liberal”
 - “Conservative”
 - “Independent”
 - “Something else”

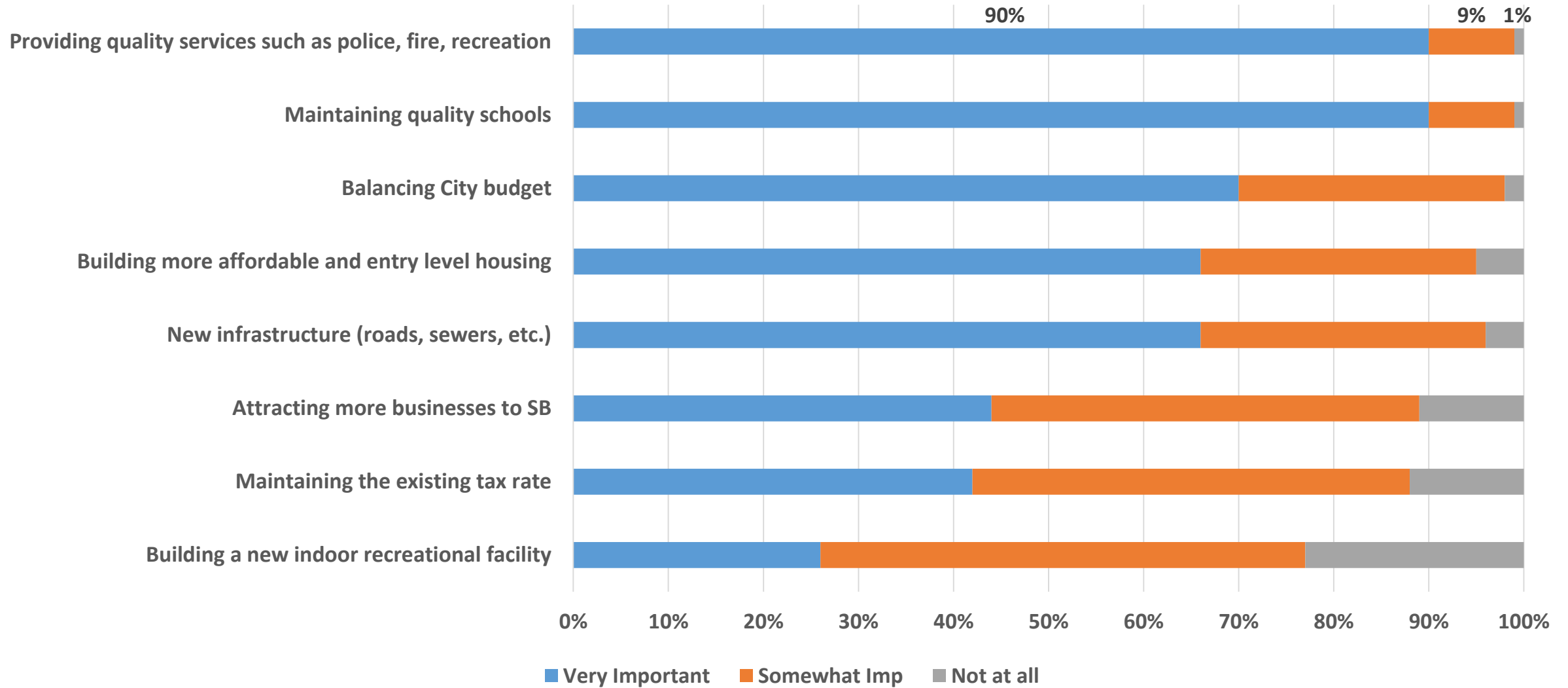
For example...

- Residents with higher levels of education were more likely to use the library, attend “SB Night Out,” and wished to increase the Conservation Fund
- Women were more concerned with climate change
- Homeowners and older respondents were more likely to give priority to “maintaining the existing tax rate.”
- Self identified “liberals” tended to be more likely to be willing “to pay an extra \$100 in property taxes per year” to support many programs such as affordable housing and renewable resources.
- Self identified “conservatives” were more likely to emphasize “the need for new businesses” and balancing the budget

Findings: general priorities

Questions 4-11 and 26-33

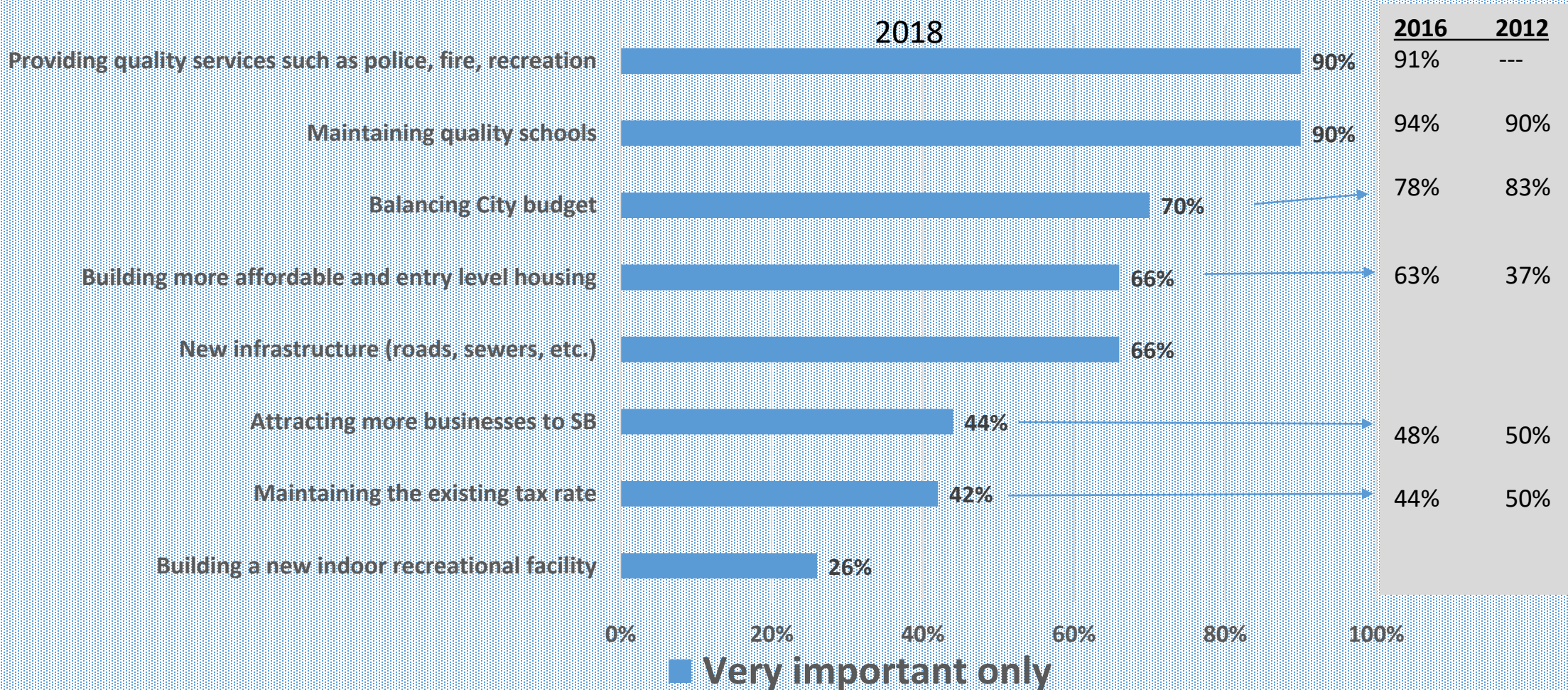
“...how important are each of these to you?”



Items have been re-ordered from the original

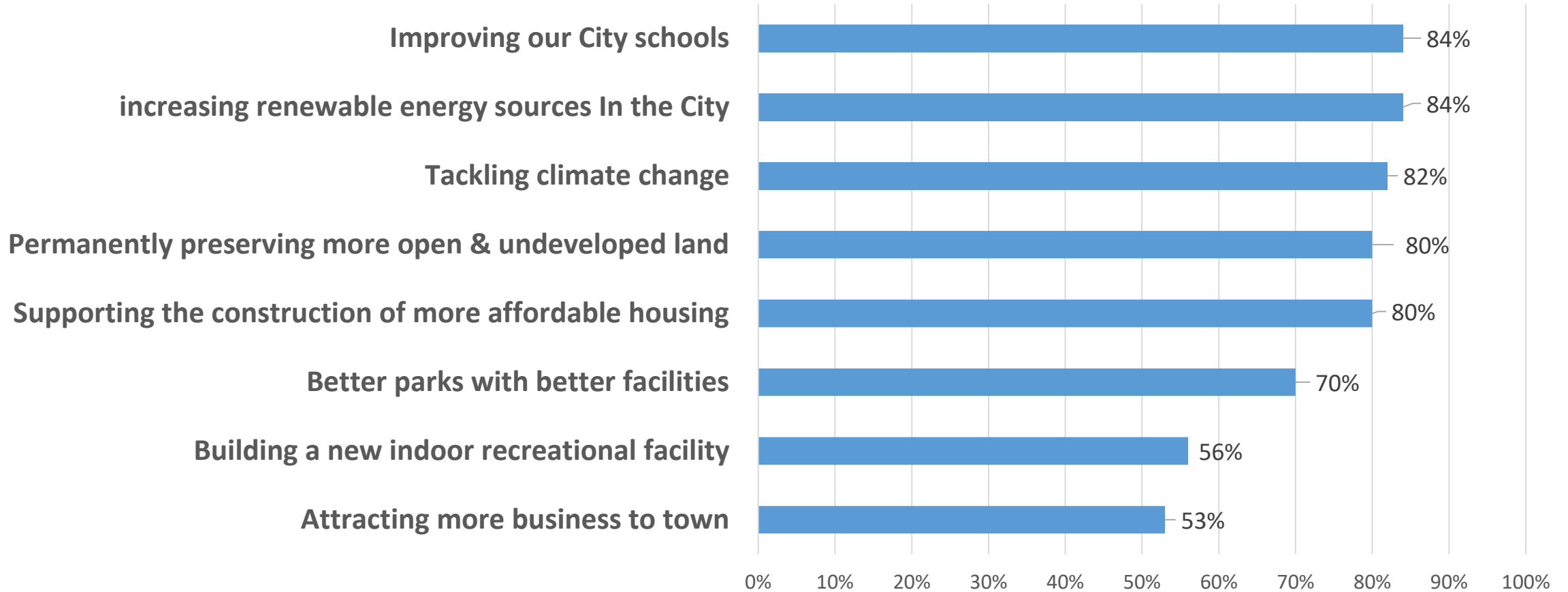
“...how important are each of these to you?”

There have been some shifts in priorities since 2016 and 2012



“Here is a hypothetical question. We are trying to get an idea about whether or not voters would support several new City initiatives. So hypothetically, would you be willing to pay an extra \$100 in property taxes per year to support the following? Keep in mind that even renters pay for this indirectly.”

Percent “yes”

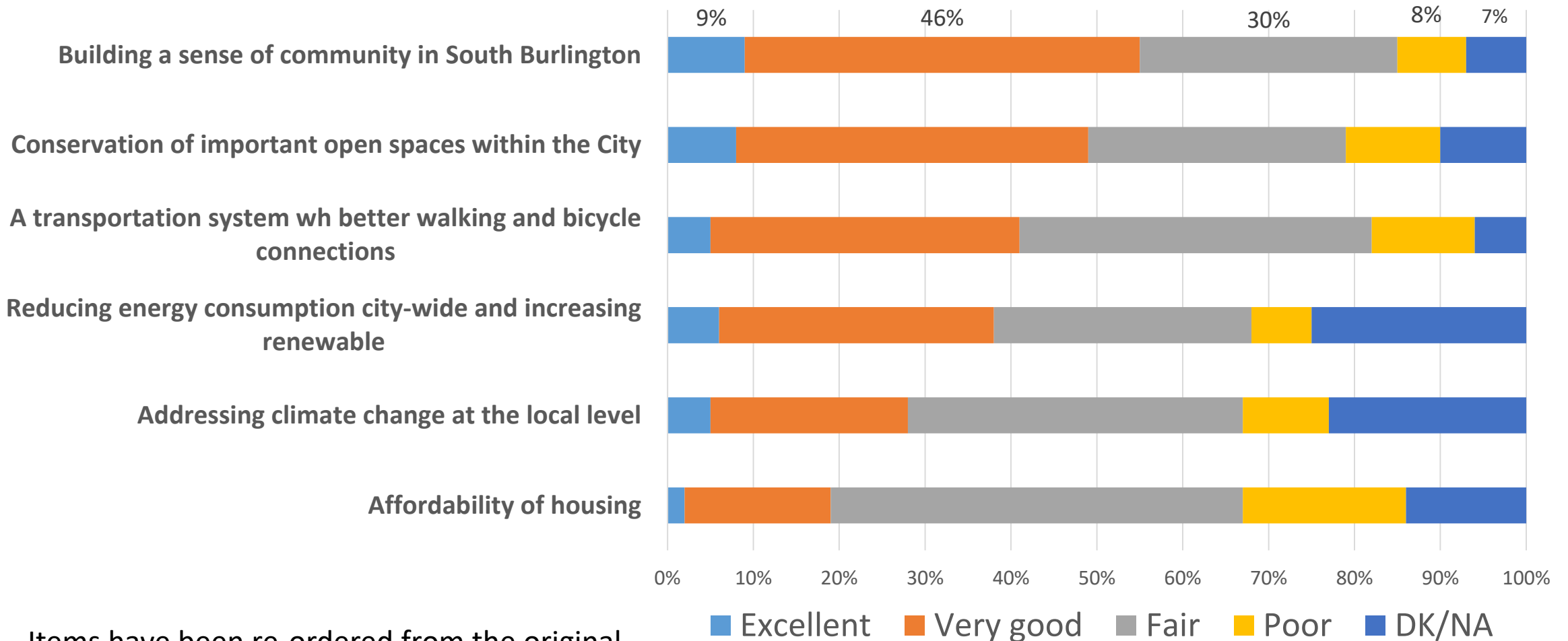


Items have been re-ordered from the original

Progress on the Comprehensive Plan

Questions 12-18

“The South Burlington Comprehensive Plan sets goals for the community. How well would you say the City has done in making progress on the following priorities over the past 2-3 years?”

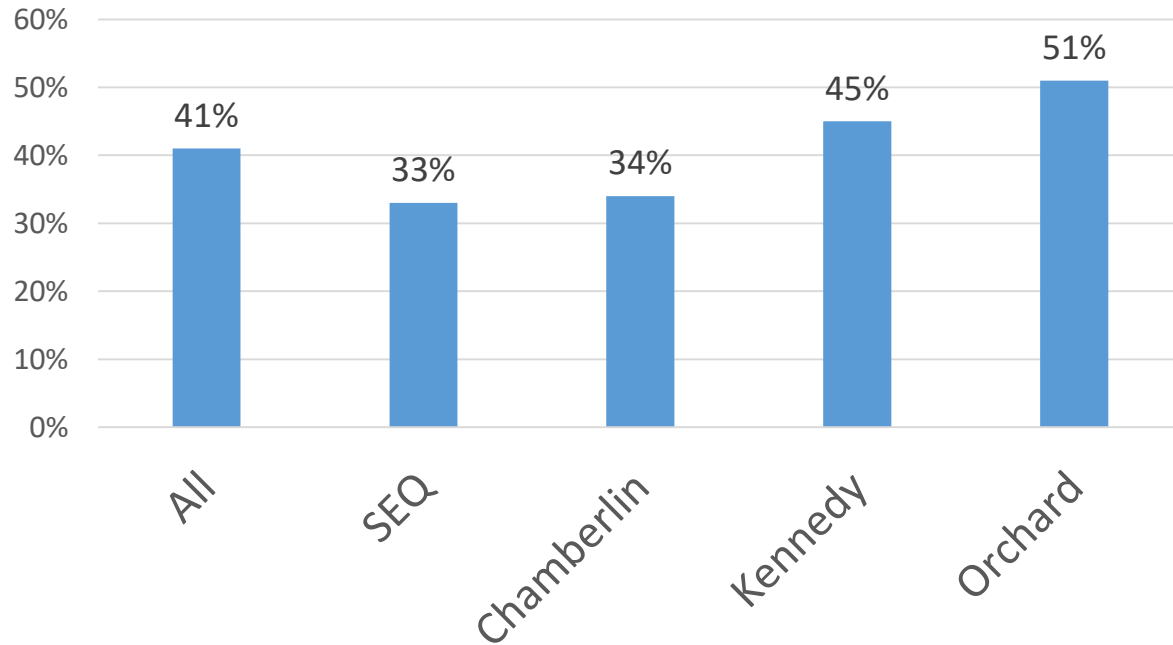


Items have been re-ordered from the original

Ratings on how well we are meeting the selected goals of the Comprehensive Plan vary by neighborhood and homeownership

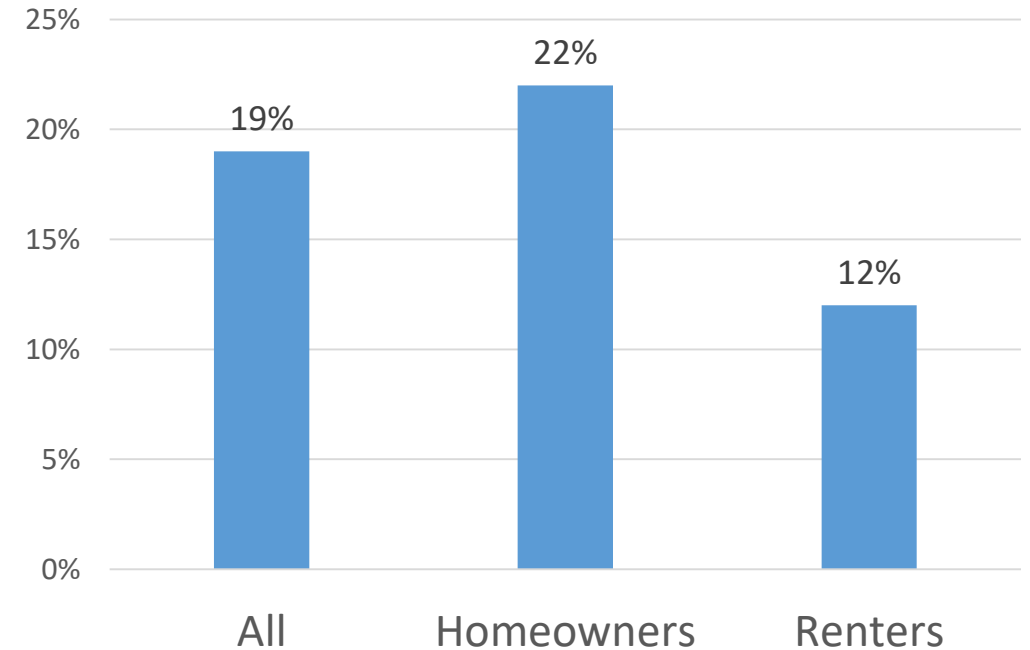
“a transportation system with better walking and bicycle connections”

% who said “excellent” or “very good”



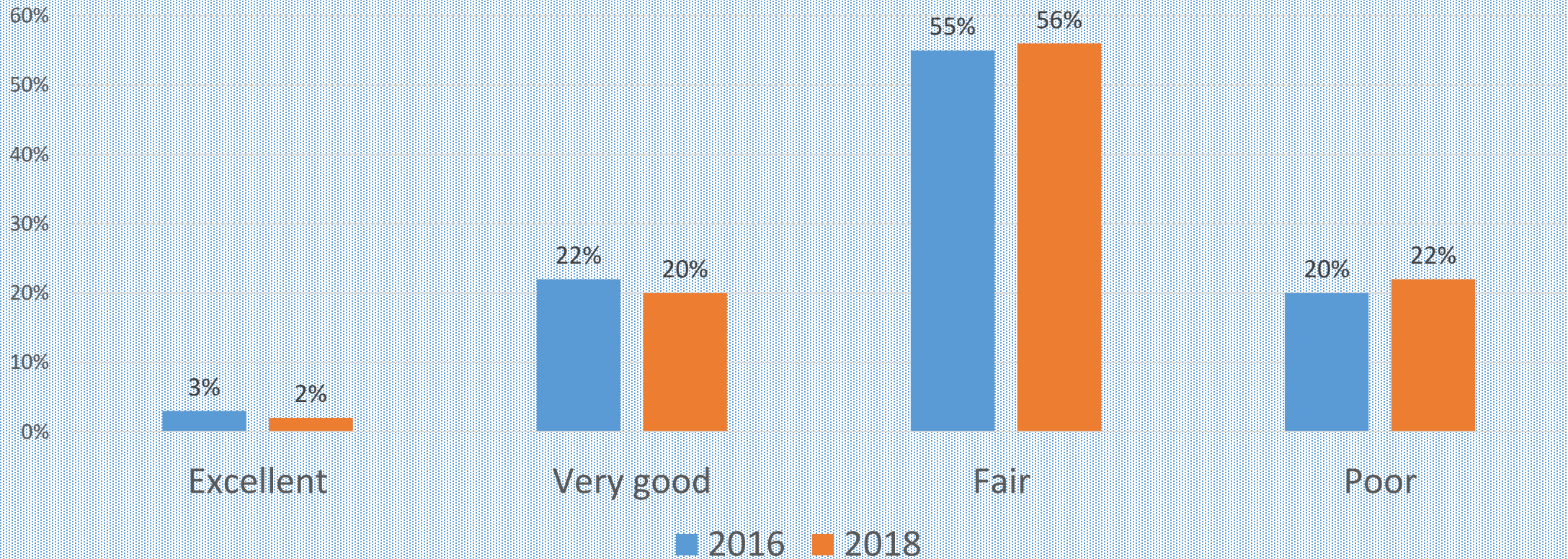
“the affordability of housing”

% who said “excellent” or “very good”



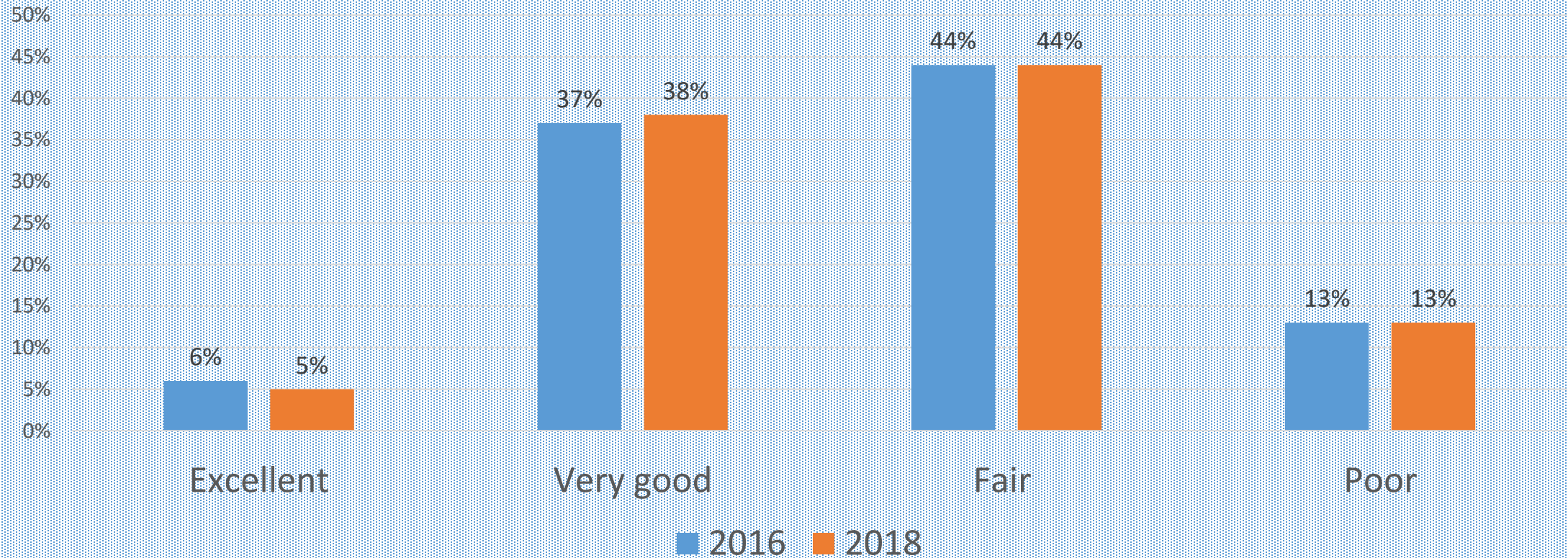
* Differences are statistically significant at the .05 level

Progress on the Comprehensive Plan for “affordable housing” 2016 and 2018



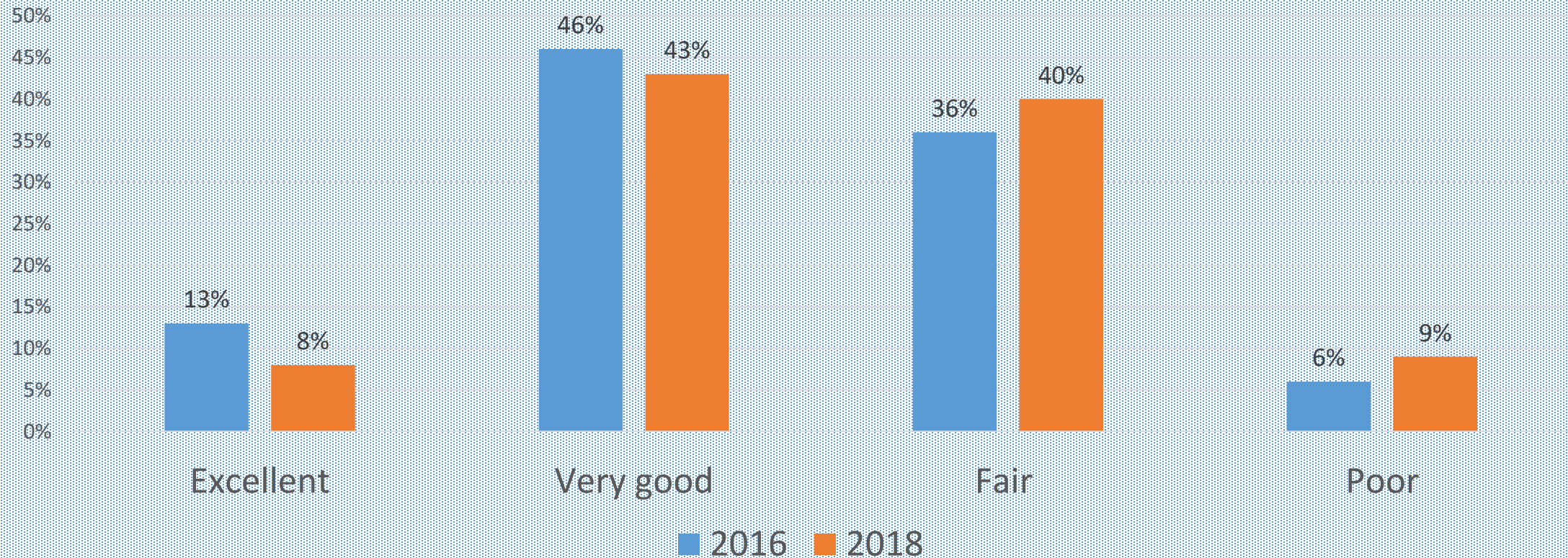
Percents for 2018 have been adjusted for “don’t know”

Progress on the Comprehensive Plan for “a transportation system with better walking and bicycle connections” 2016 and 2018



Percents for 2018 have been adjusted for “don’t know”

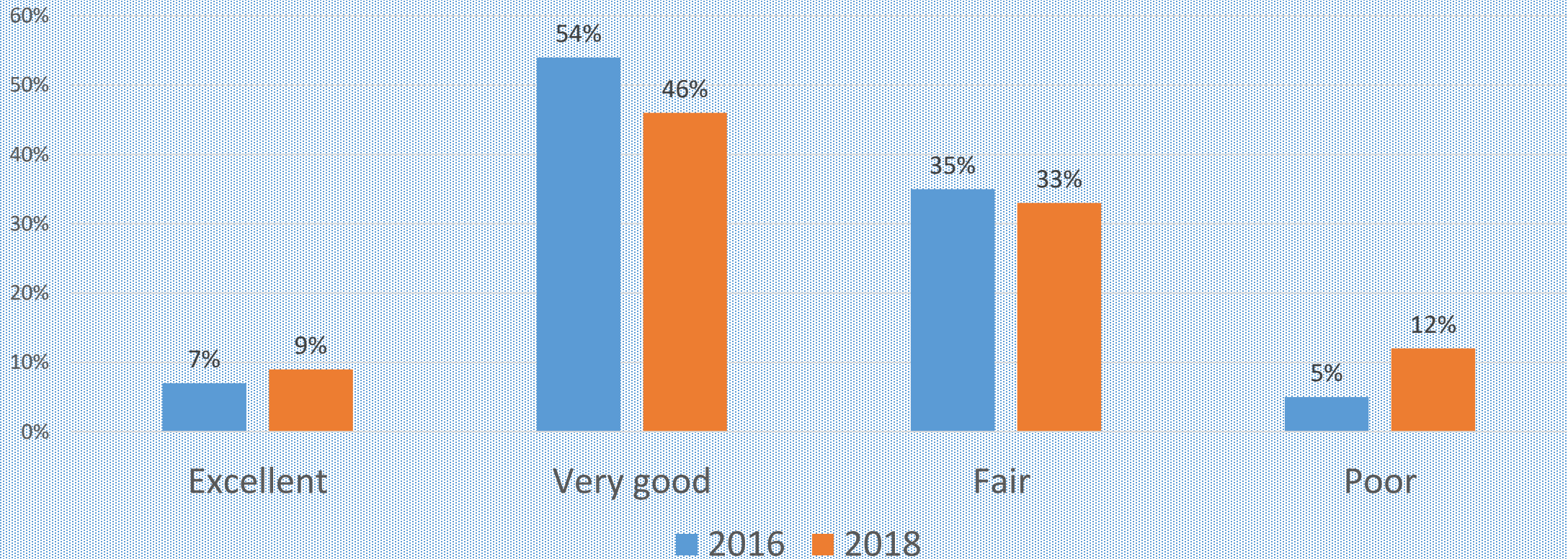
Progress on the Comprehensive Plan for “reducing energy consumption city-wide and increasing renewable energy production where appropriate” 2016 and 2018



Percents for 2018 have been adjusted for “don’t know”

Progress on the Comprehensive Plan for similar questions

2016: “conservation of important open spaces and other resources”
2018: “conservation of important open spaces within the City”



Percents for 2018 have been adjusted for “don’t know”

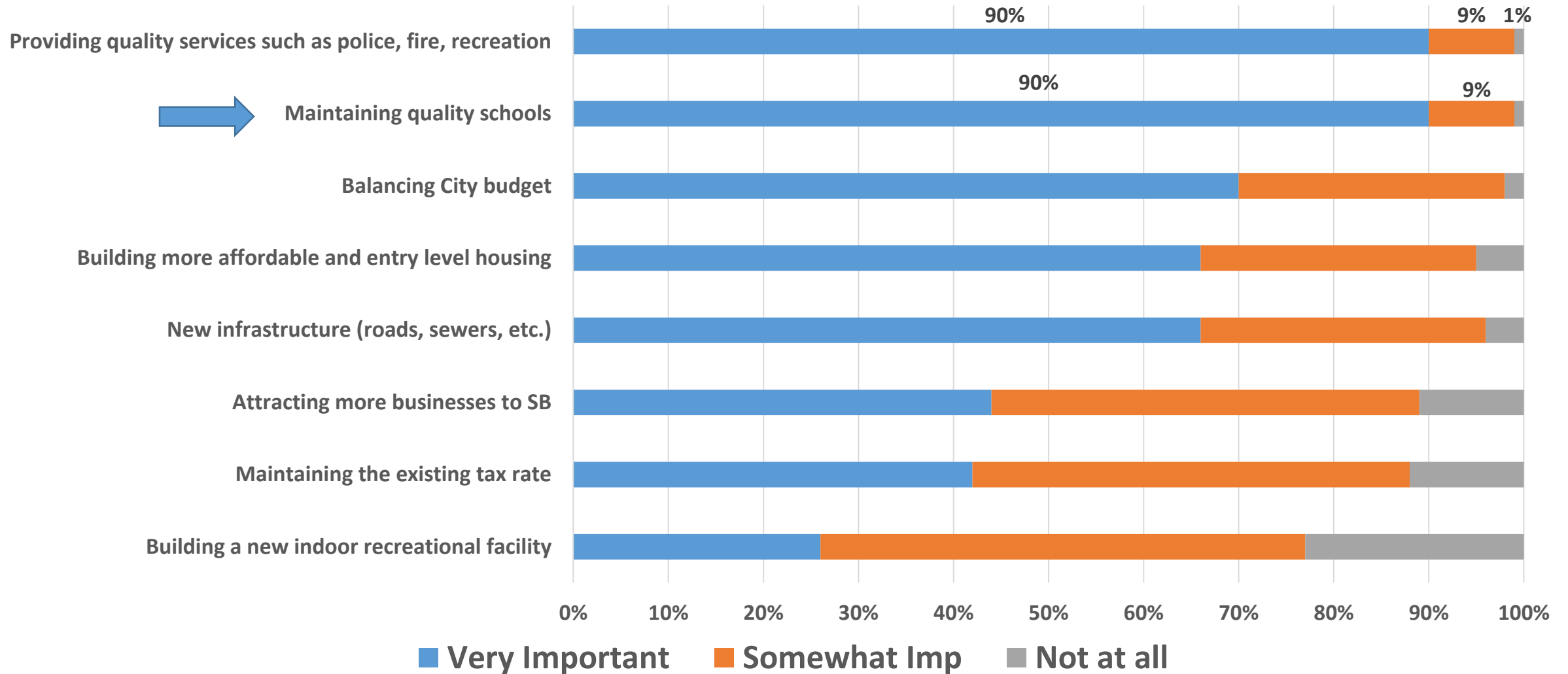
Schools

Questions 10, 18, 30, 36, 37

In each of our several surveys since 1992, the schools have...

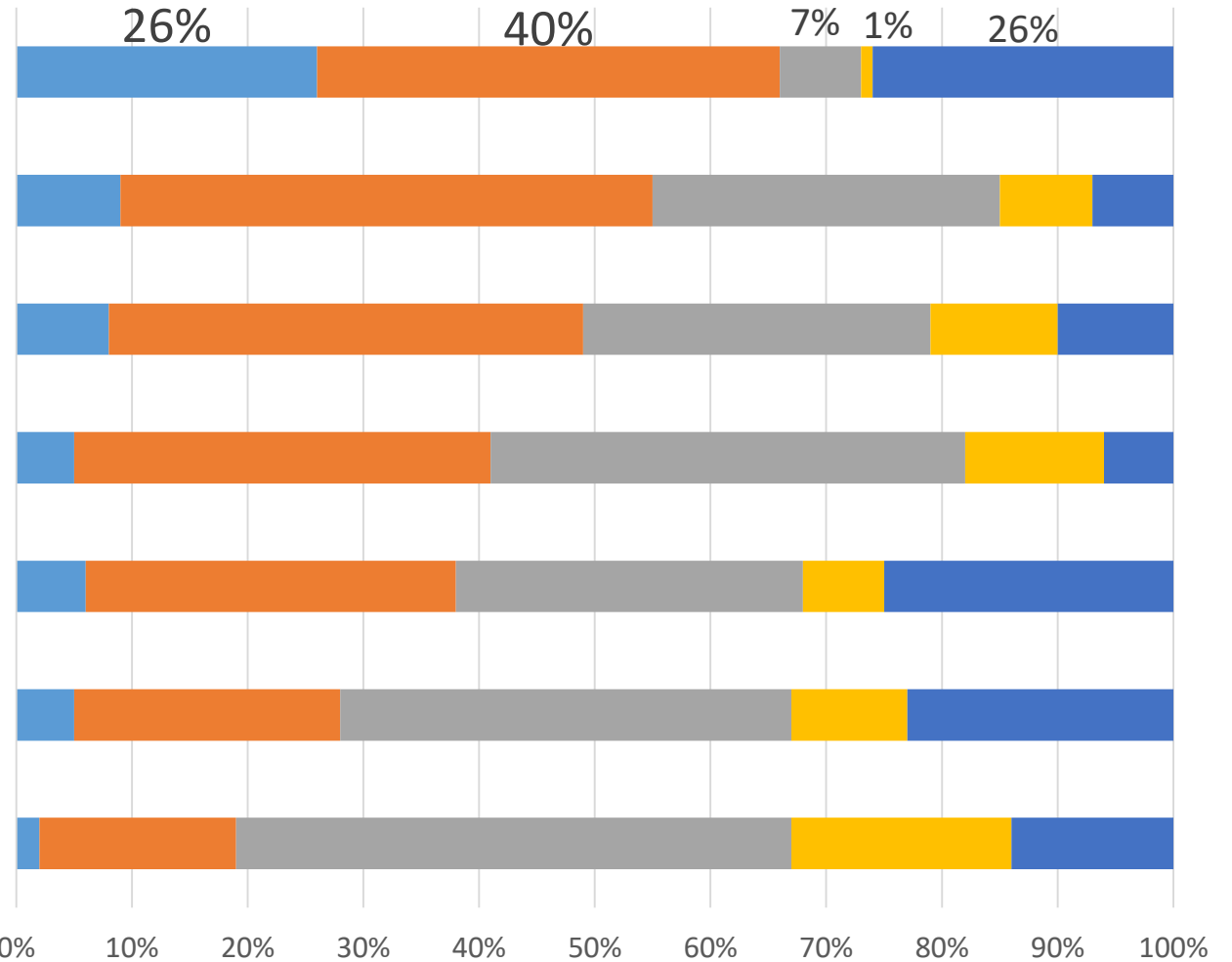
- Been ranked at the top of voter priorities
- Been rated extremely well
- Enjoyed voter support for financial funding

“...how important are each of these to you?”



Progress on the Comprehensive Plan over the past 2-3 years?

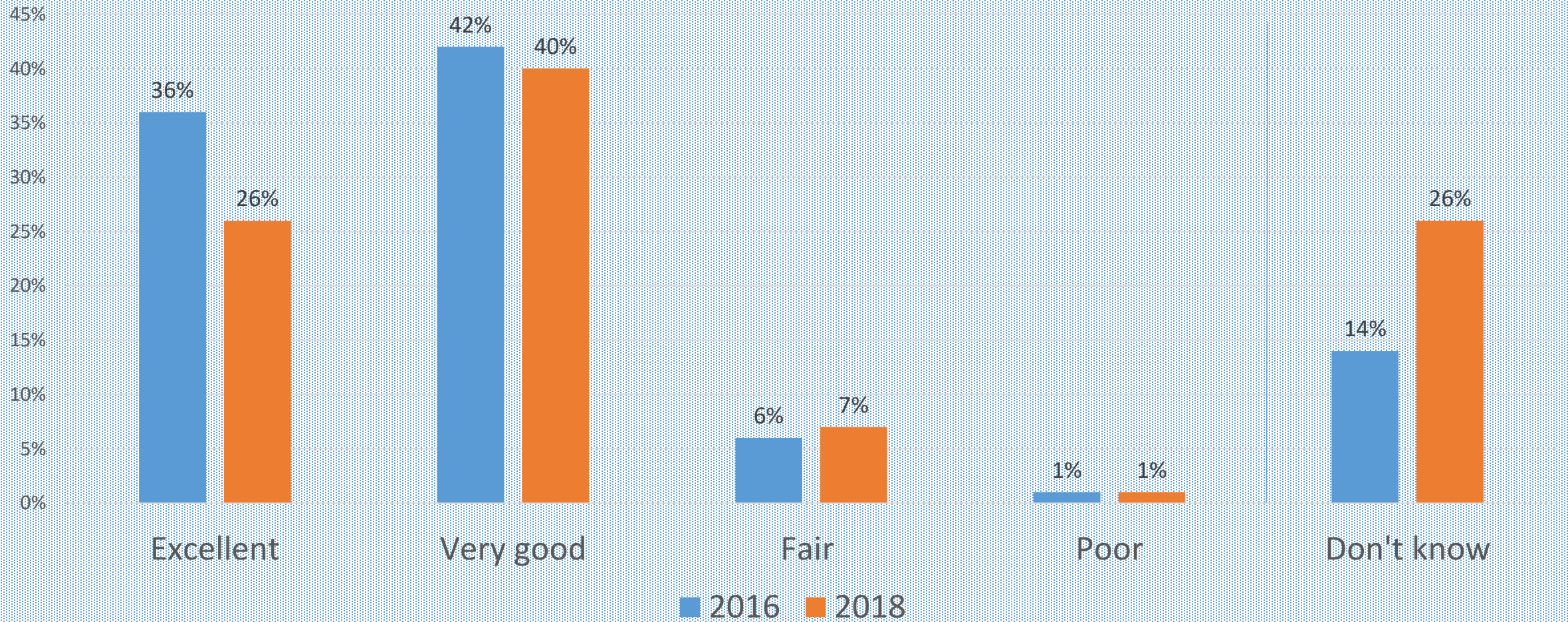
How effective are the schools at serving the K-12 population



■ Excellent ■ Very good ■ Fair ■ Poor ■ DK/NA

Progress on the Comprehensive Plan 2016 and 2018

“How effective are the City’s schools at serving the K-12 population?”

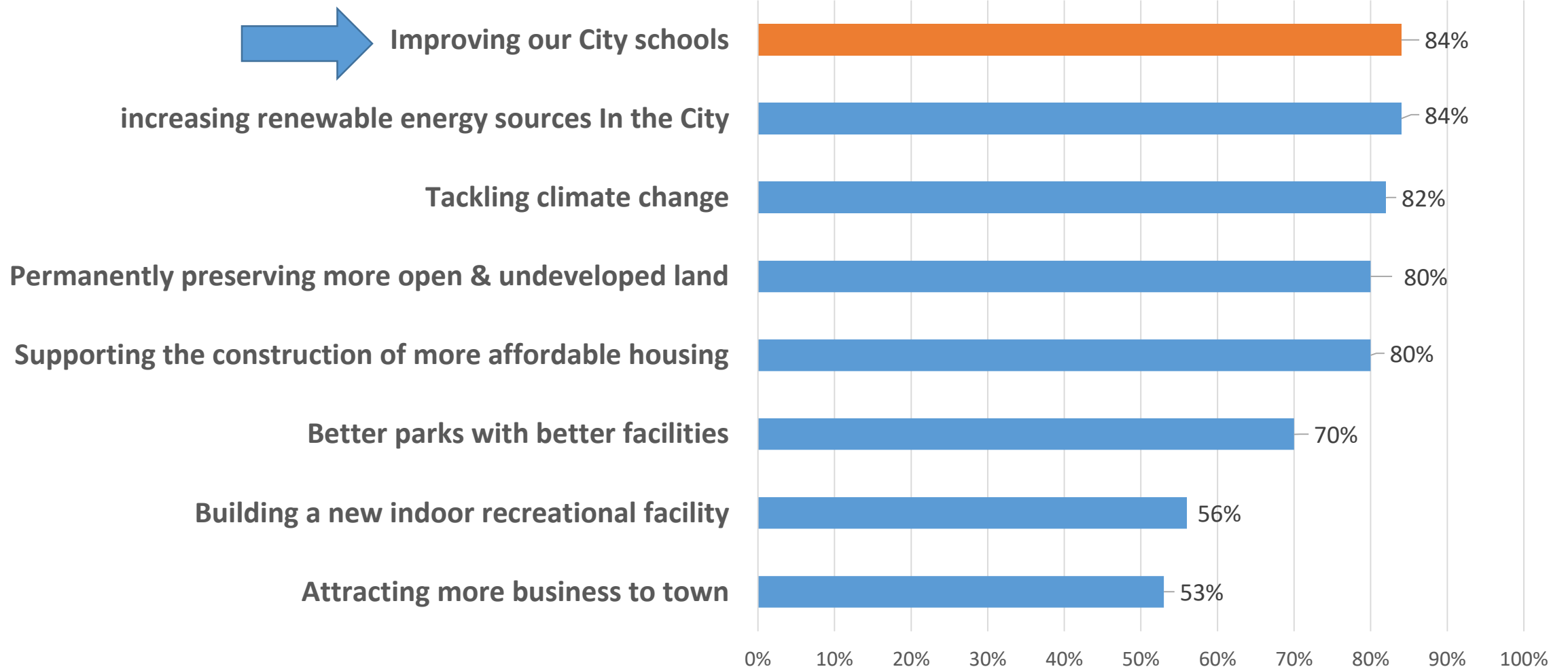


Overall, 26% said that the city schools were doing an “excellent” job at serving the K-12 population but some sub-groups were less positive

- Age:
 - Those under age 35: 13%
 - Those over age 35: 29%
- Homeownership:
 - 30% of homeowners
 - 15% of renters
- Voter district:
 - Orchard precinct: 26%
 - Chamberlin precinct: 22%
 - SEQ precinct: 34%
 - Kennedy Drive precinct: 16%

“...would you be willing to pay an extra \$100 in property taxes for...”

Percent “yes”

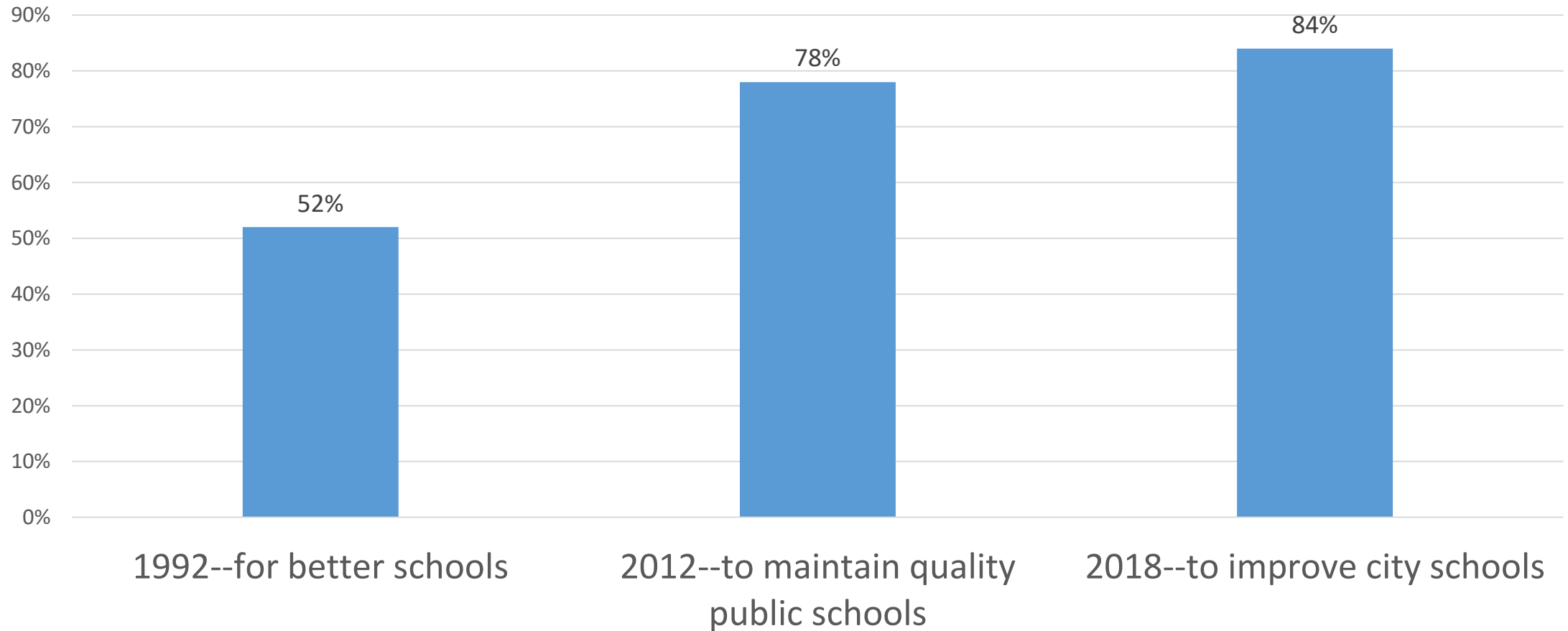


84% were willing to pay “an extra \$100 in property taxes to improve our city schools” but support varied

- It was higher for those under age 30
 - Under age 30: 100%
 - Over age 45: 79%
- It was higher among renters
 - Renters: 92%
 - Owners: 81%

Would you spend an extra \$100 for the schools...

Note slight changes in wording each year



“In just a couple of words, what do you think are the most important skills for our young people to develop before they graduate?” Proportionately sized most common 40 words of 334 responses



“The School Board is always trying to better engage with the wider community. Can you think of a few words of advice for how they might better do that?” Most common 50 words of 220 responses



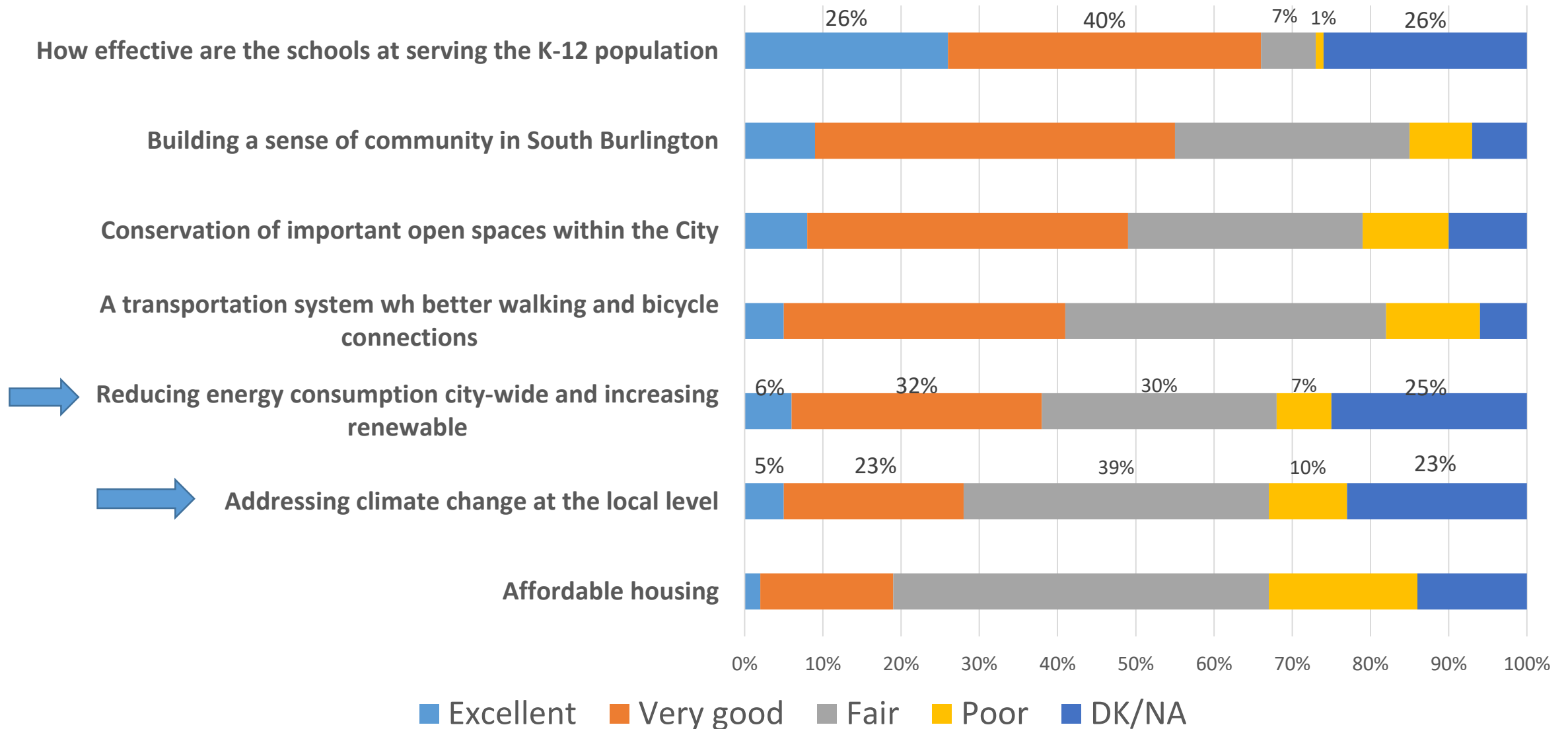
Other than these “word clouds” no further analysis was done on these responses

- Many users of such open ended comments find that reading the verbatim responses back to back to be quite helpful.
- The 15 pages of verbatim responses are available upon request.
- Might a quantitative analysis of these open ended questions be done as a research project by a high school student?

Energy and climate change

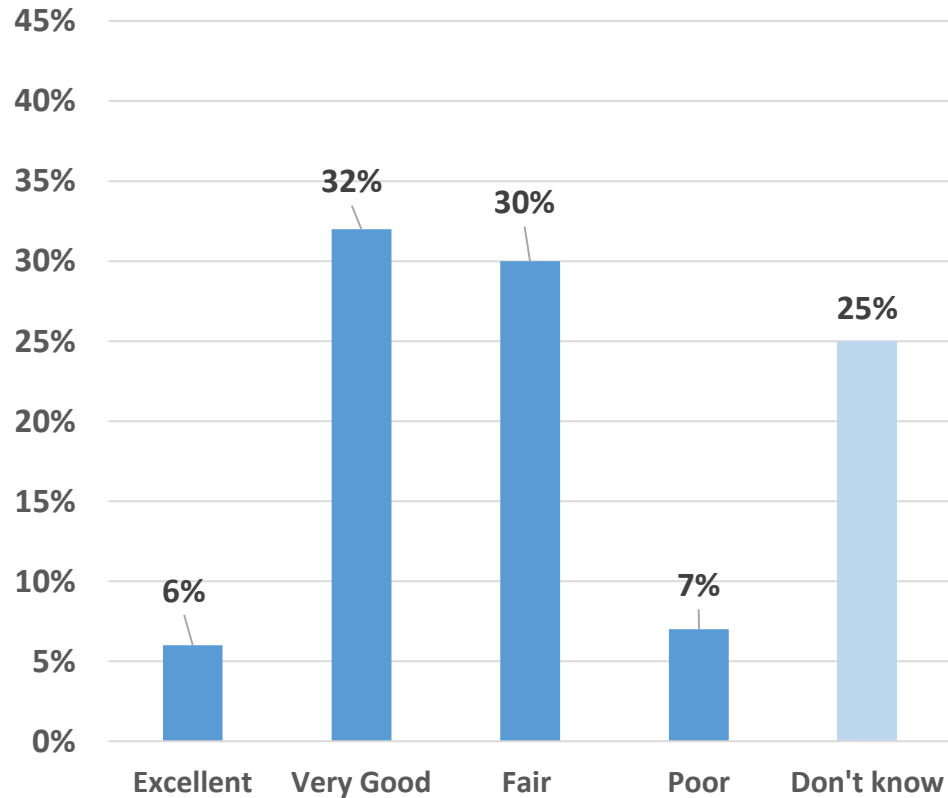
Questions 14, 17, 32, 33

Progress on the Comprehensive Plan over the past 2-3 years?

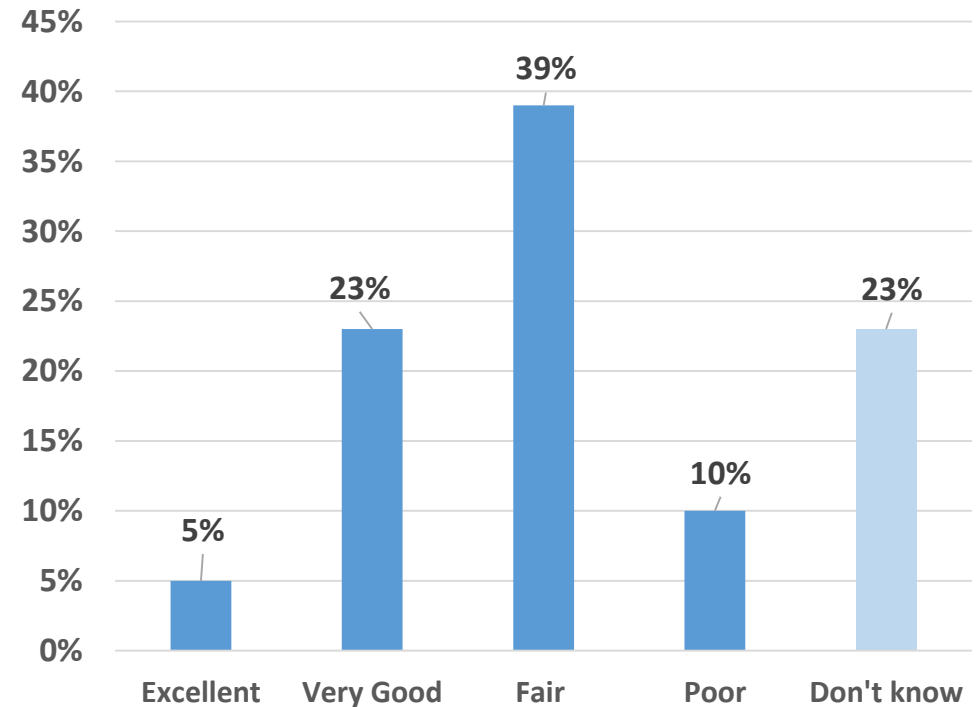


“How well would you say the City has done in making progress on the following priorities over the past 2-3 years?”

“Reducing energy consumption city-wide and increasing renewable energy production where appropriate?”

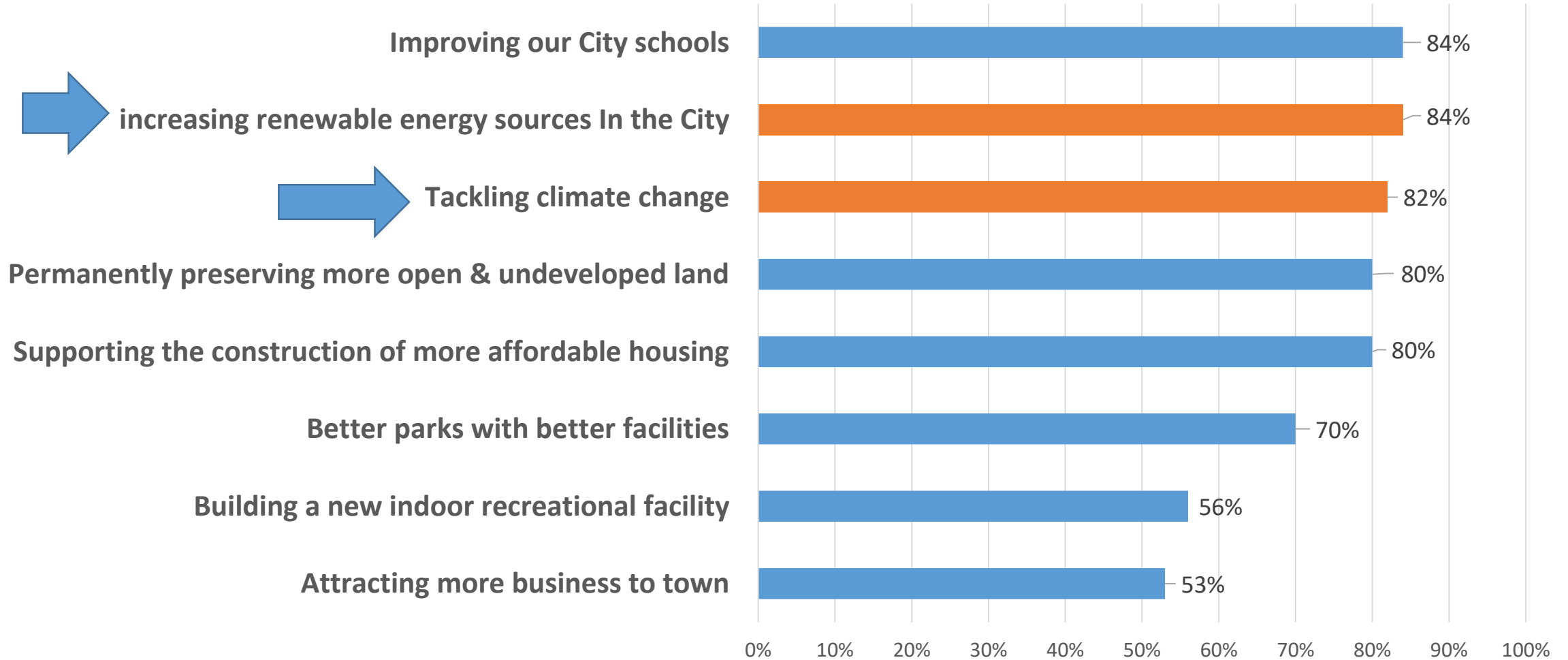


“Addressing climate change at the local level?”



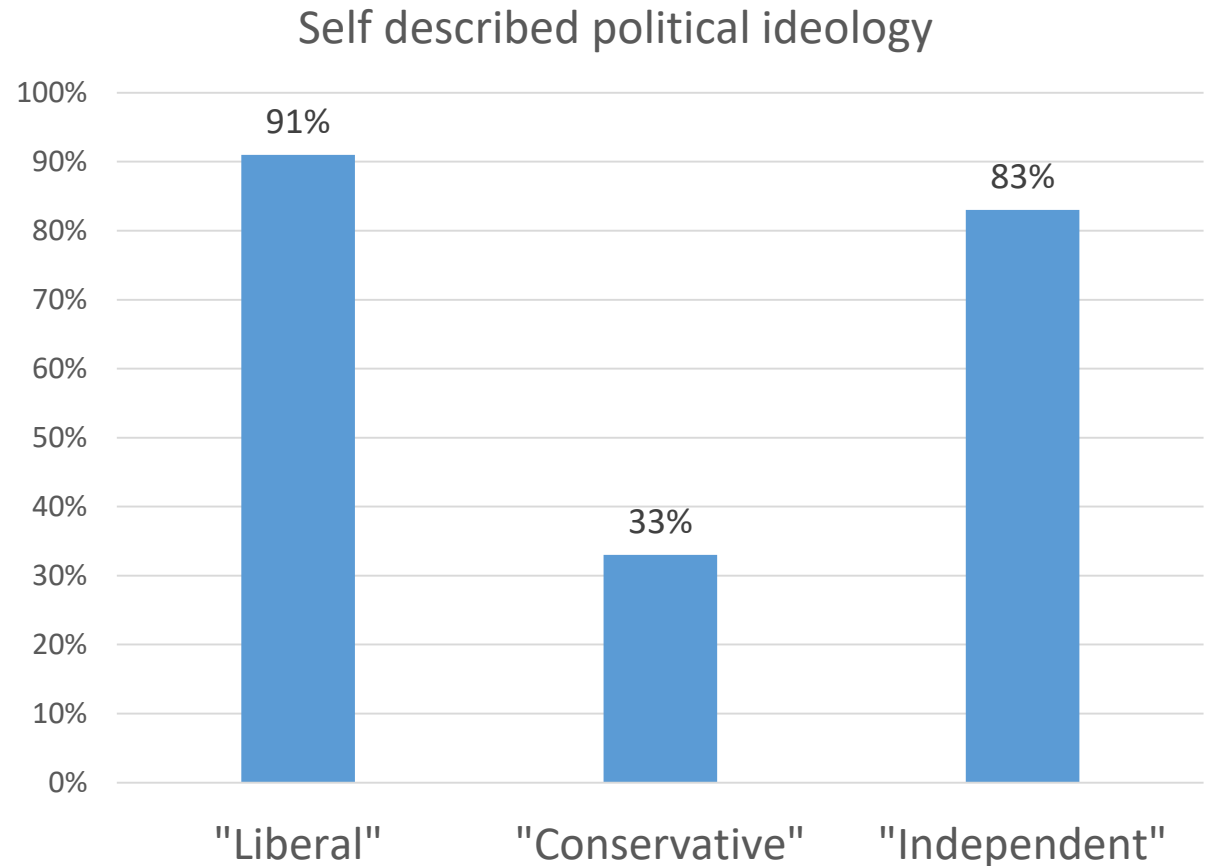
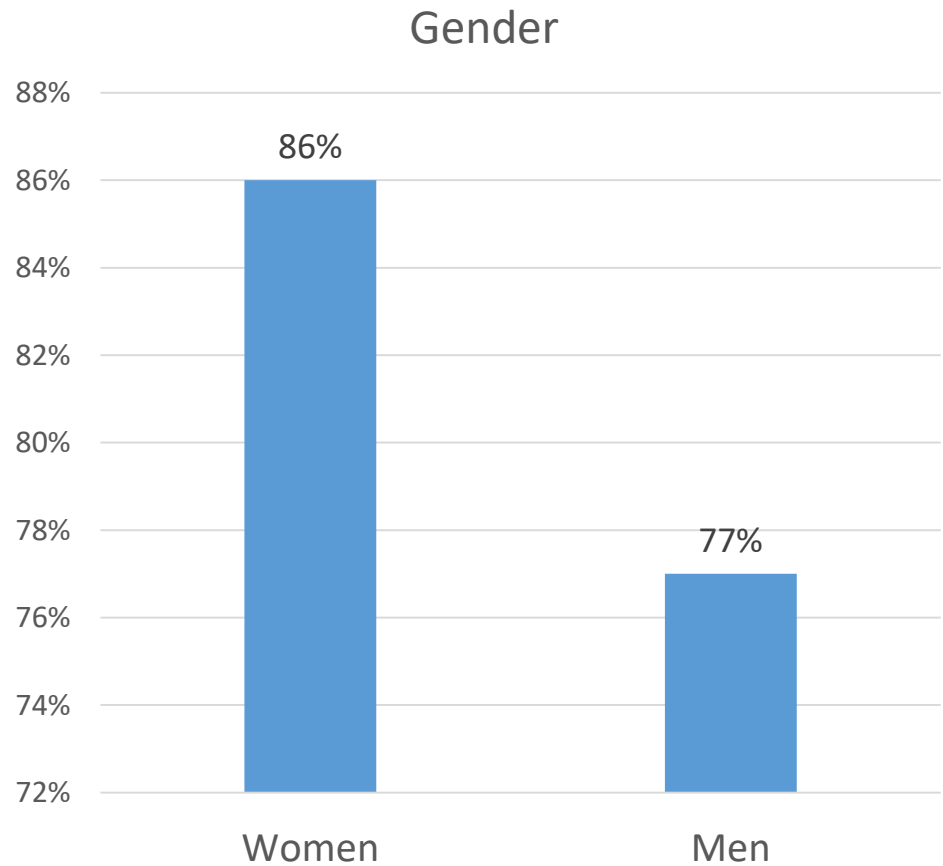
“...would you be willing to pay an extra \$100 in property taxes for...”

Percent “yes”



“Would you pay an extra \$100 in property taxes a year to support tackling climate change?” 82% “yes”

By gender and self described political ideology



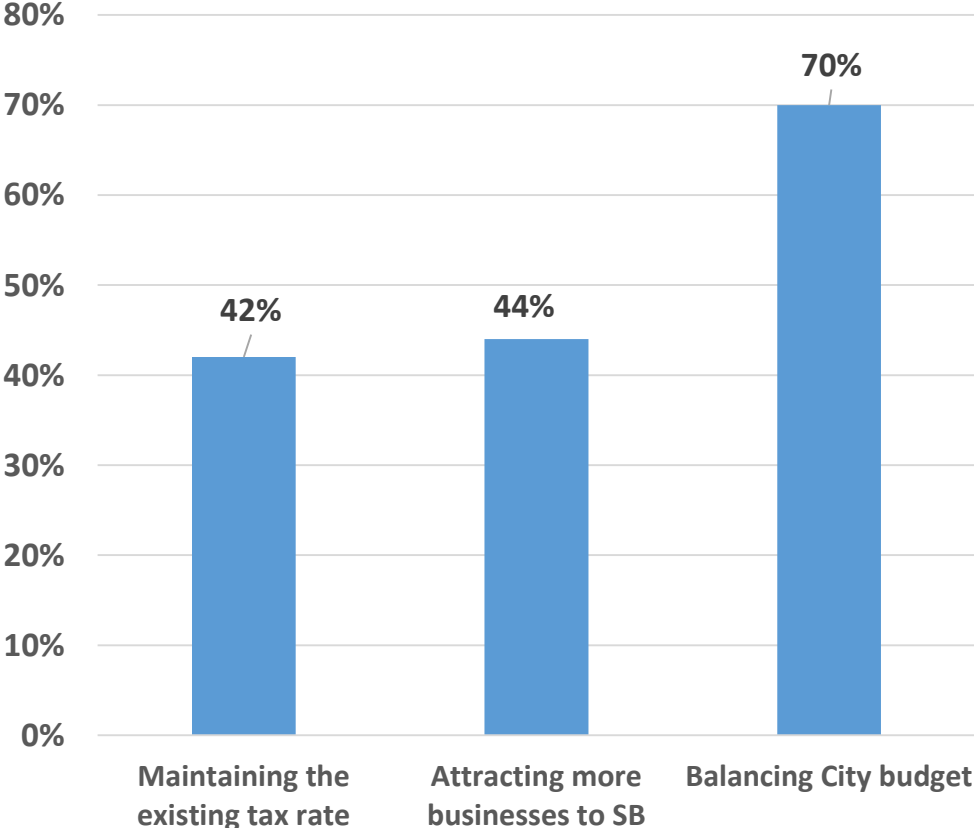
* Differences are statistically significant at the .05 level

Economic priorities

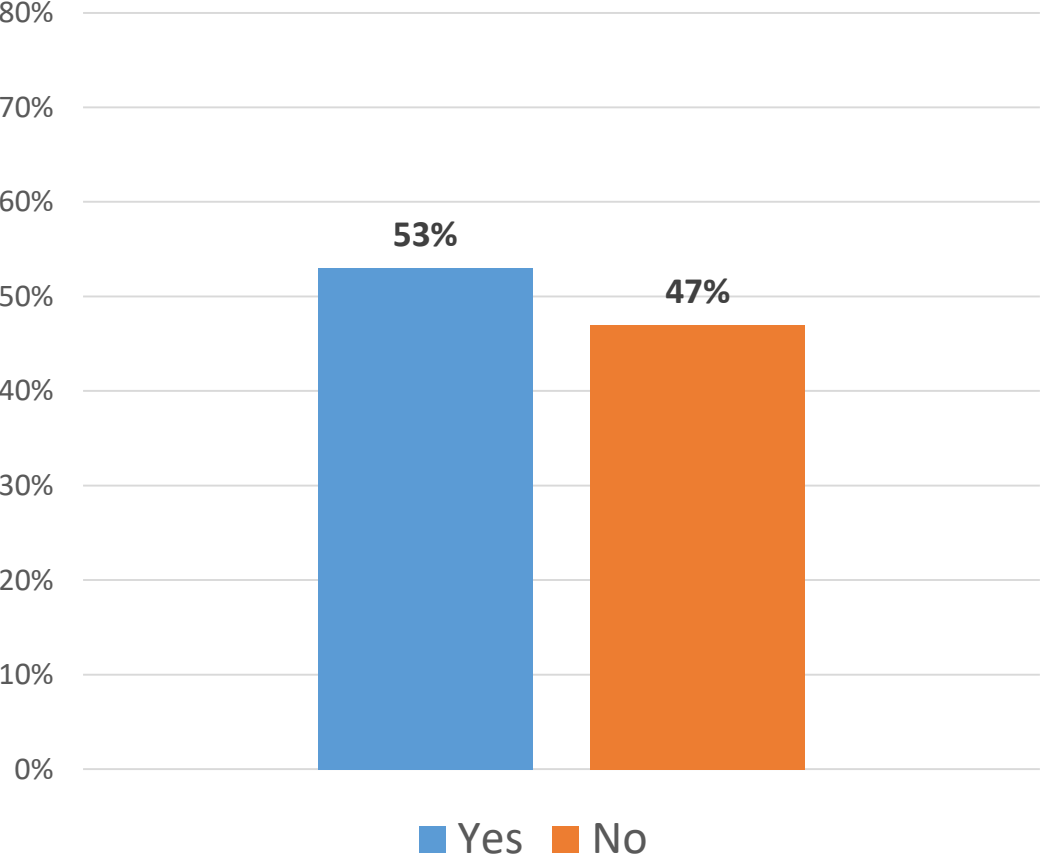
Questions 7, 8, 11, 31

Economic priorities

“...as I read you a list of issues that relate to South Burlington, how important are each of these to you?”
% who said “Very important”



“...would you be willing to pay an extra \$100 in property taxes per year to support attracting more businesses to town?”



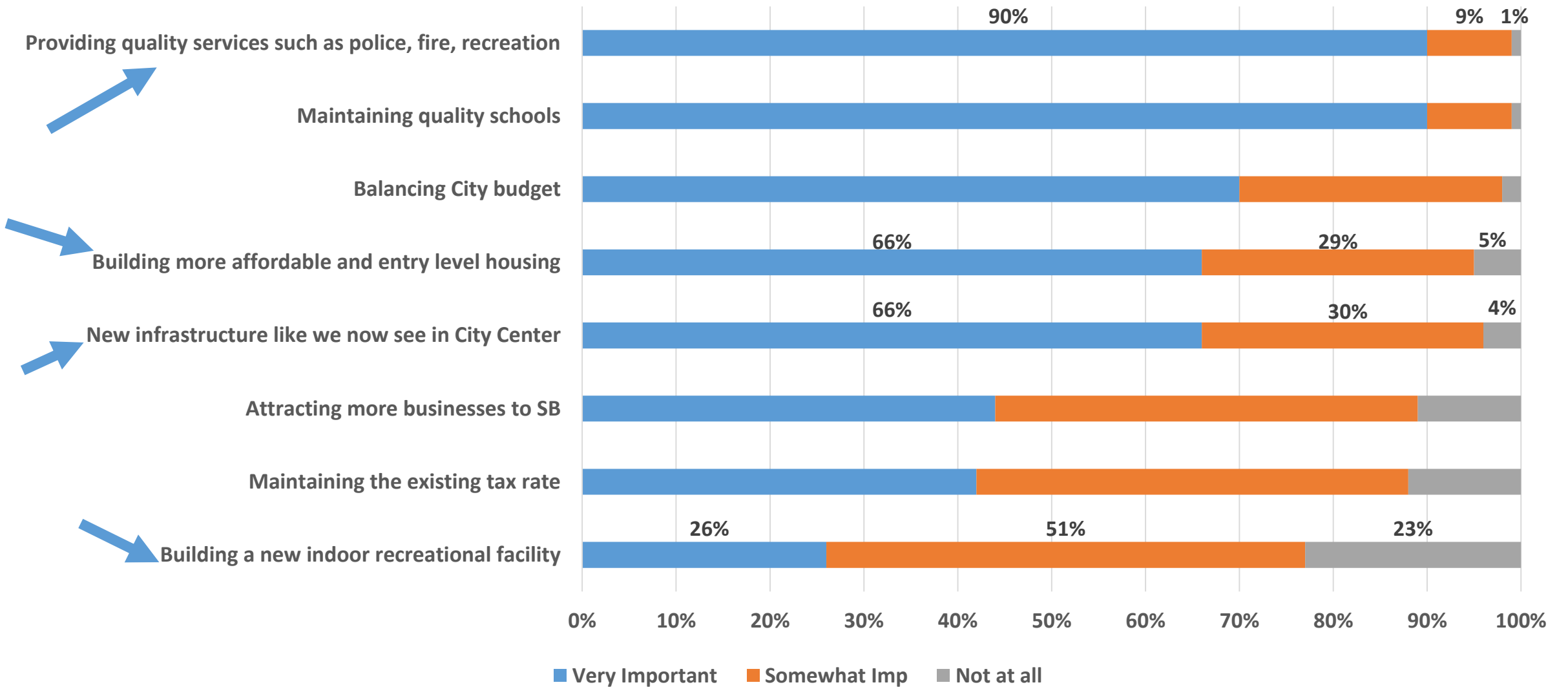
Here were a few differences on the economic priorities by demographics...

- Men were more likely than women to be willing to pay the extra \$100 “to attract more business to town”
 - Men: 64%
 - Women: 45%
- Homeowners and older respondents were more likely to give priority to “maintaining the existing tax rate.”
 - Homeowners: 45% vs. renters: 31%
 - Under age 55: 31% vs. over age 55: 52%

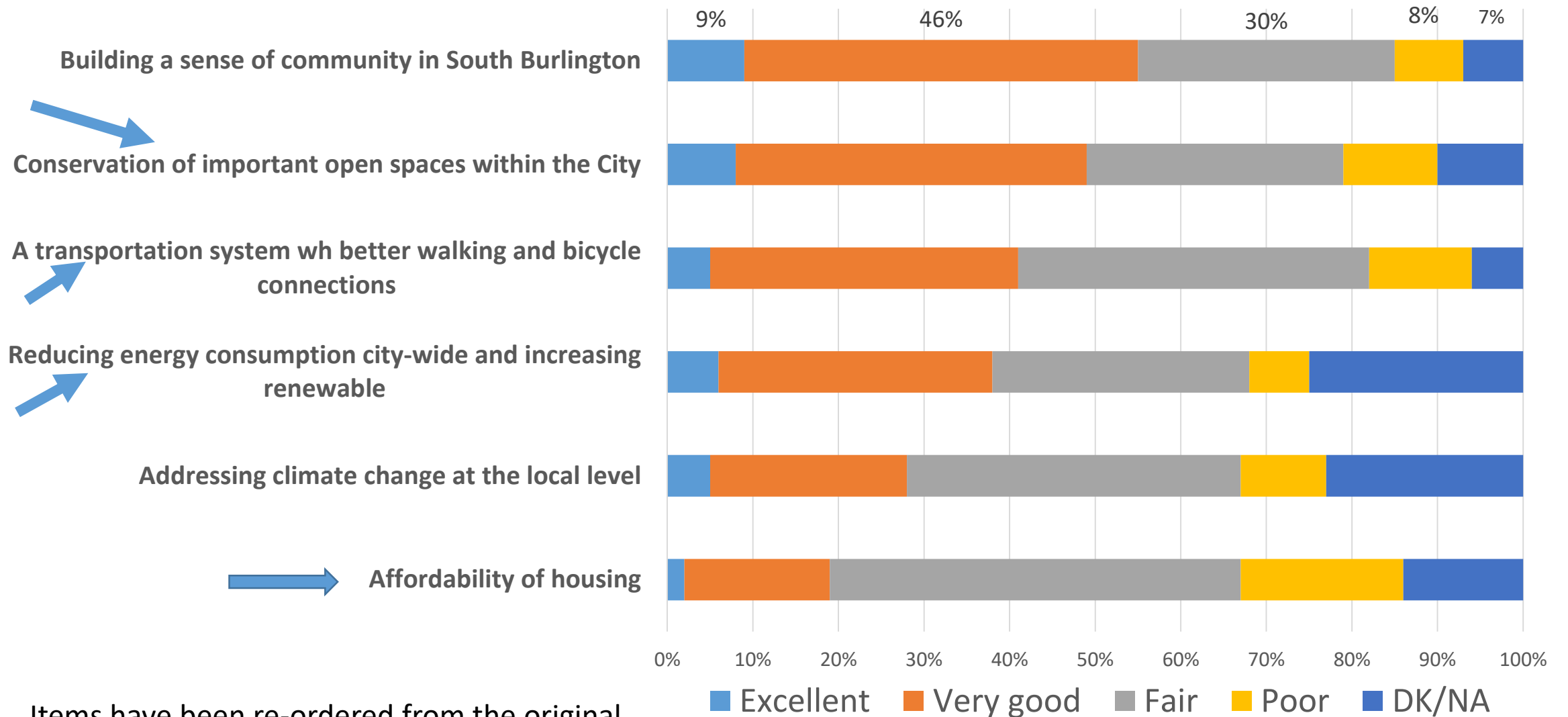
Infrastructure

Questions 4, 5, 6, 9, 12, 13, 14, 15, 23, 26, 27, 29, 32

“...how important are each of these to you?”



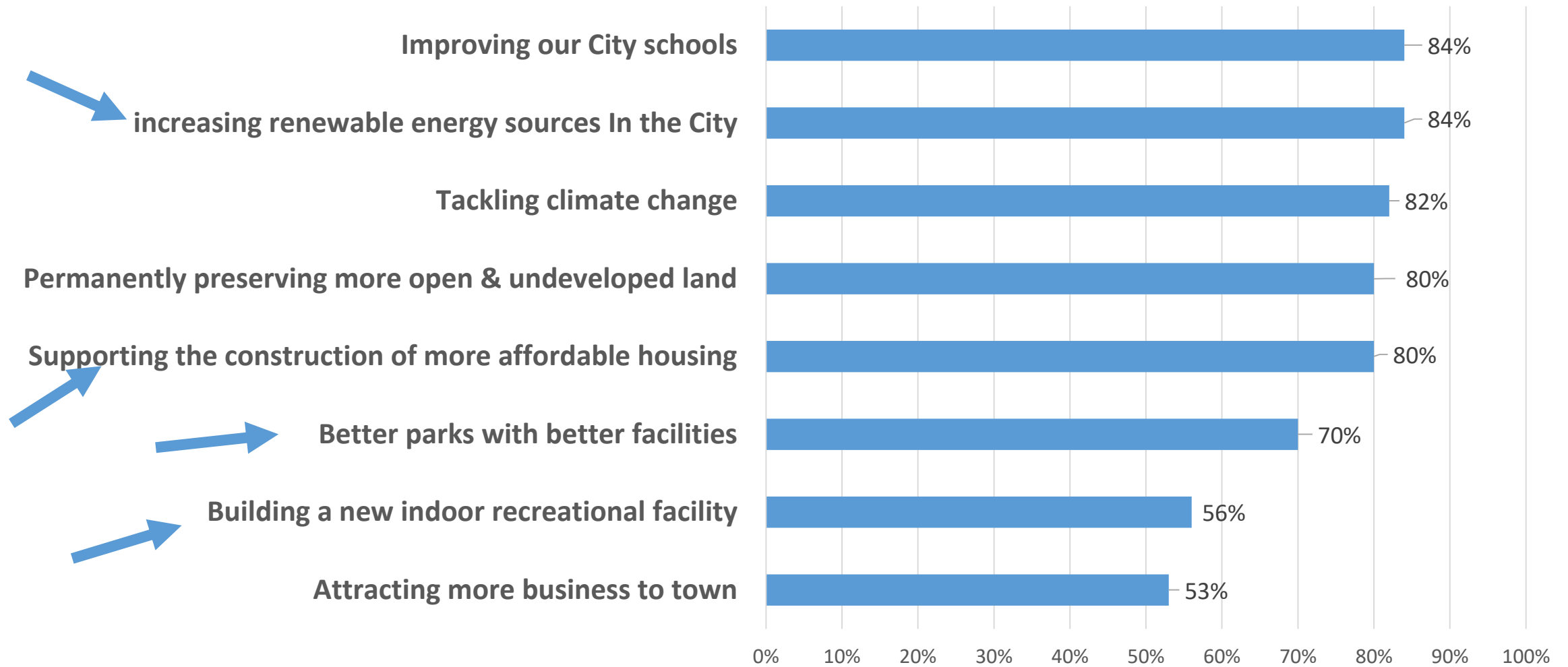
Progress on the Comprehensive Plan over the past 2-3 years?



Items have been re-ordered from the original

“...would you be willing to pay an extra \$100 in property taxes for...”

Percent “yes”

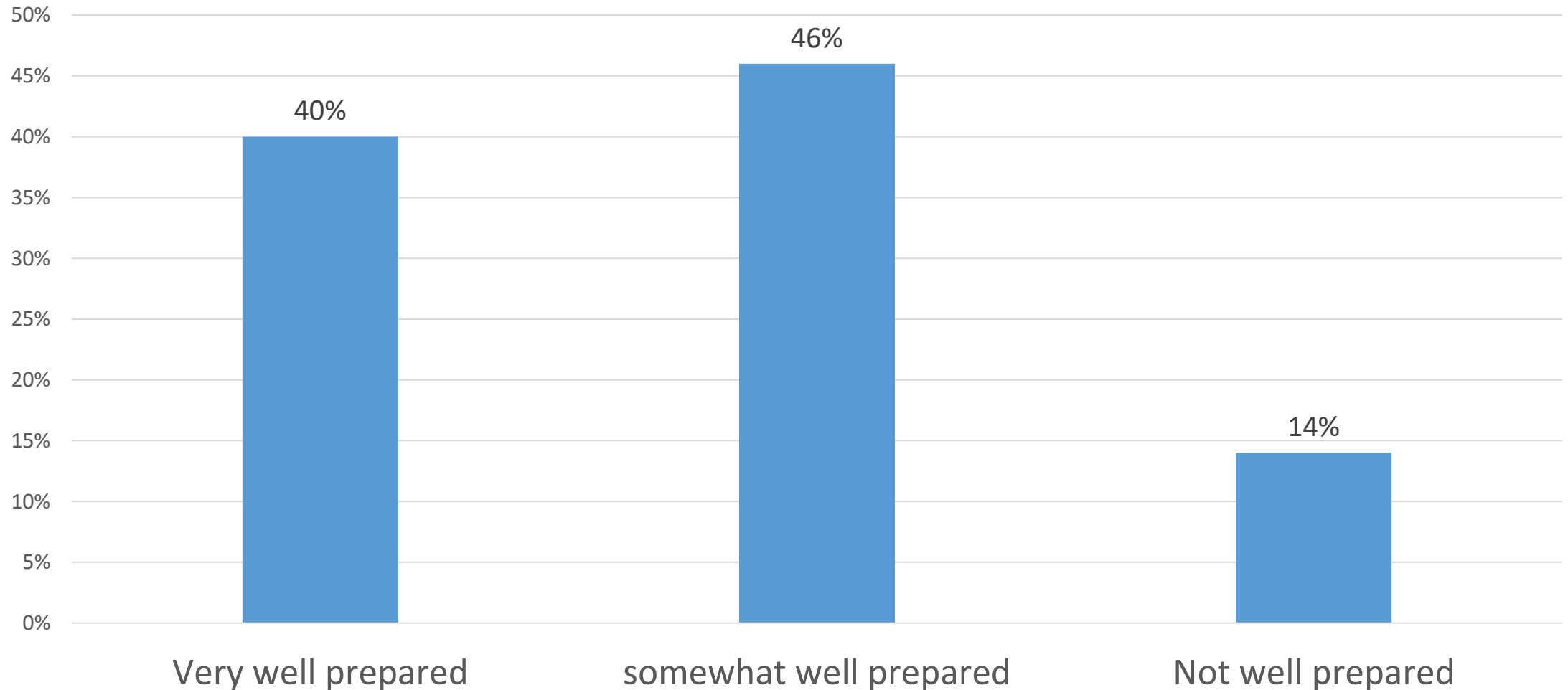


Willingness to spend an extra \$100 varies by demographic

For example	Overall	Who are they? *
For “better parks with better facilities”	70% yes	Highest for those younger than 35: 80% Lowest for those older than 65: 62%
For “improving our city schools”	84% yes	Highest for those younger than 35: 92% Lowest for those older than 65: 79%
For “supporting the construction of more affordable housing in town”	80% yes	Highest for renters: 92% Lowest for owners: 76%
Five of the eight items had the greatest support among those who were also willing to increase the Open Space Conservation Fund. Also, six of the eight items were more often supported by self-described “liberals.”		

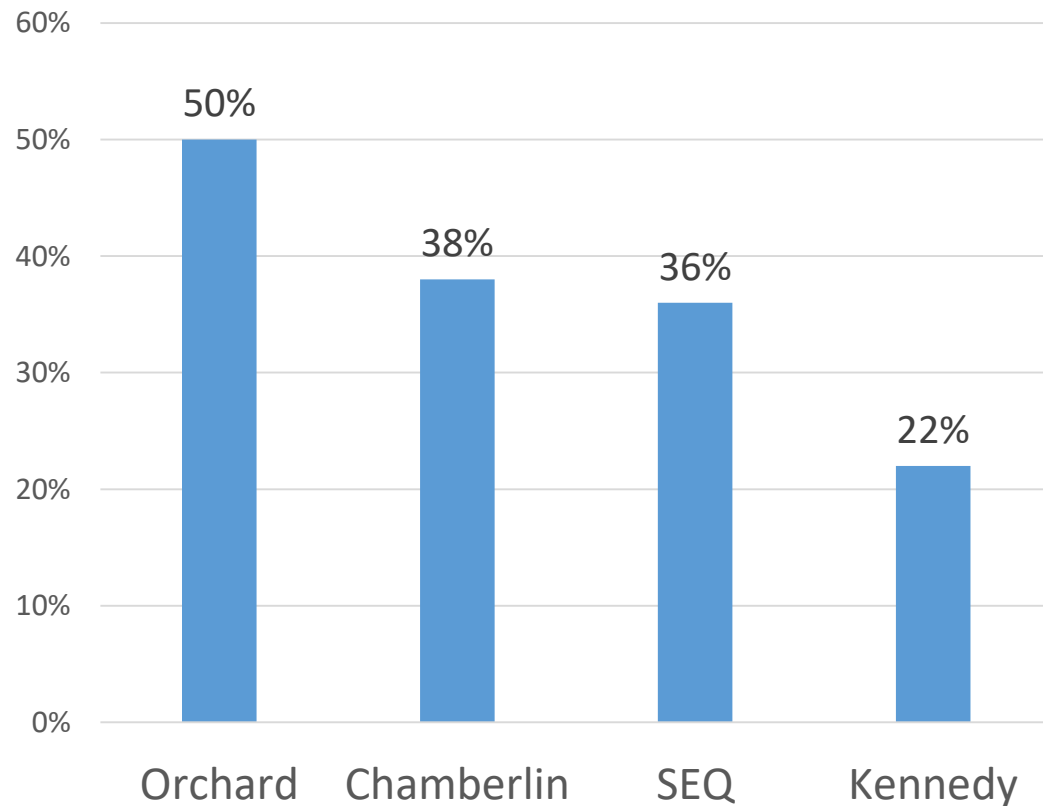
* Differences are statistically significant at the .05 level

How well do you feel the City prepared voters to answer the issues on the City ballot today?

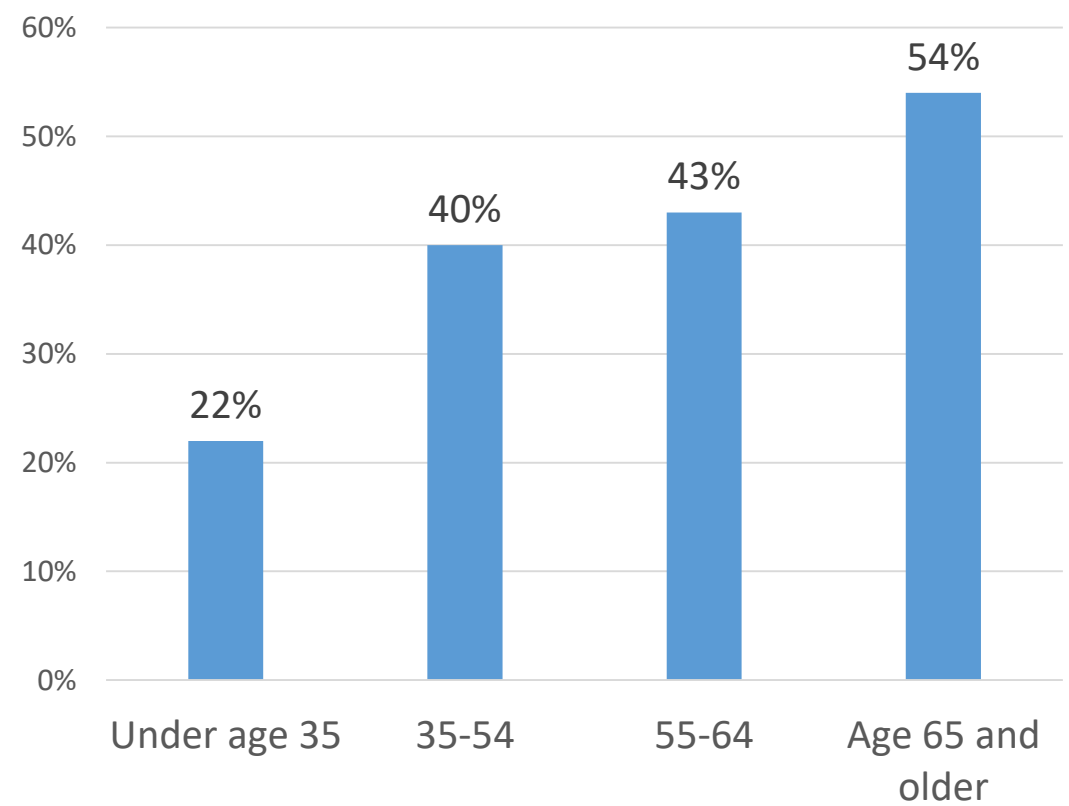


What demographic was most likely to feel “very well prepared” to vote on the City ballot?

By precinct



By age

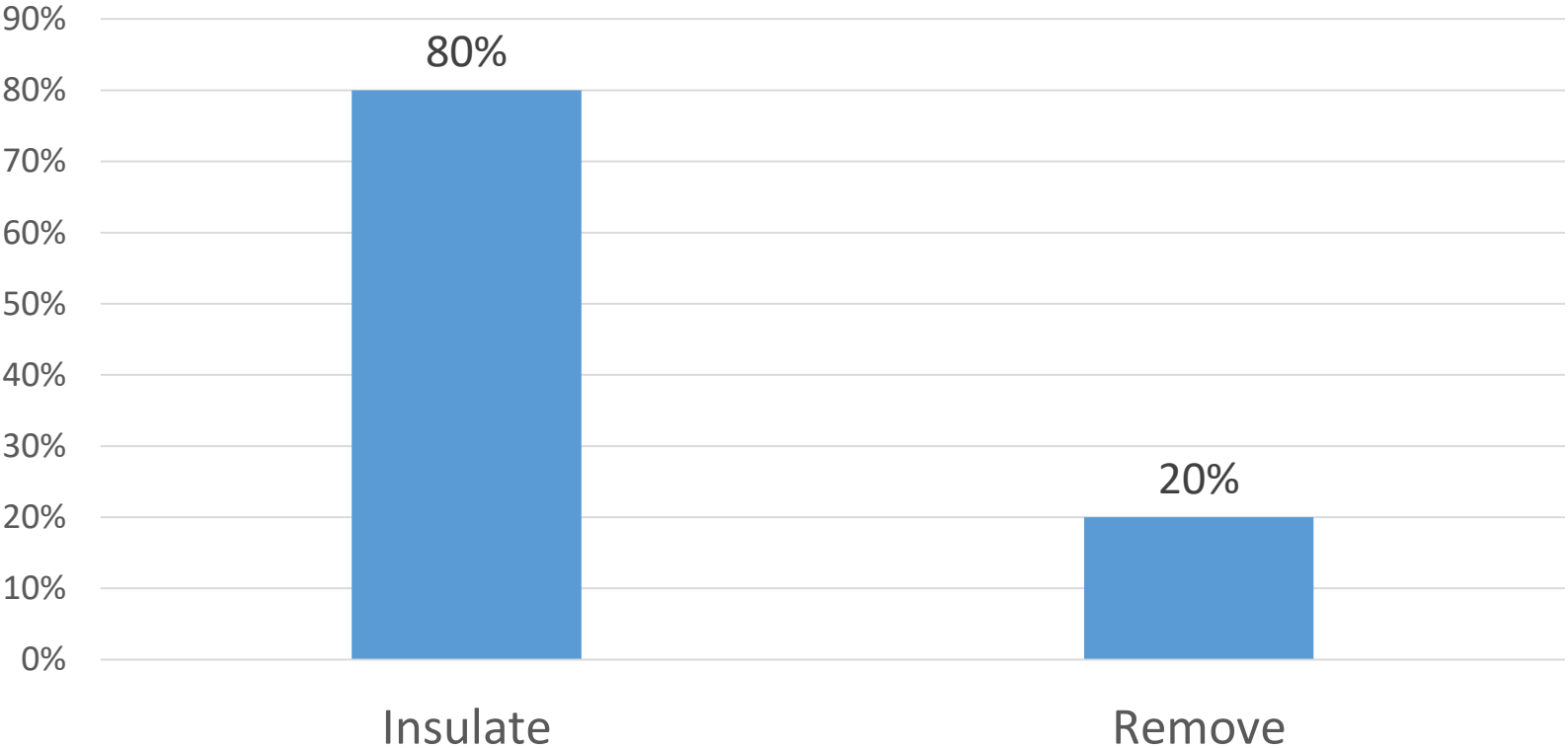


The “very well prepared” also included more women and more longer term residents.

If respondent did not vote for the City Hall ballot, they were asked “In just a few words, can you tell me why you didn’t support it?” Most common 40 words of 49 responses



“Airport noise is a special problem to residents who live near the airport, and as you know many homes have already been removed. Should the City advocate for Federal funding to provide special sound insulation to homes affected by the noise or do you think that more homes should be removed?”



80% of respondents selected “insulate” as opposed to “remove,” but there were differences by demographic

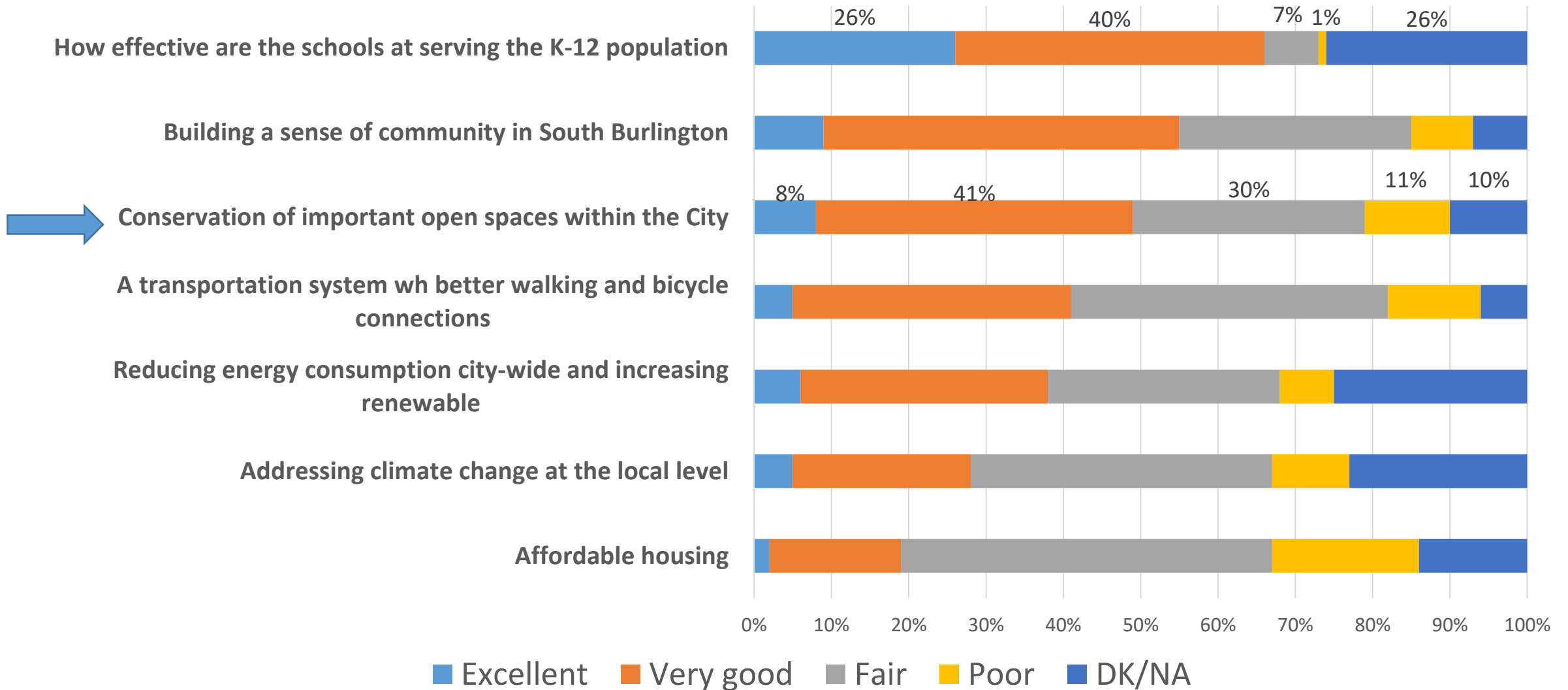
	Overall 80% selected “insulate” but
By voter precinct	69% in the Orchard precinct 72% in the SEQ precinct 85% in the Chamberlin precinct 84% in the Kennedy precinct
By gender	85% among women 73% among men
By self identified political ideology	50% among self identified conservatives 85% among self identified liberals

Differences are statistically significant at the .05 level

Open space and land use

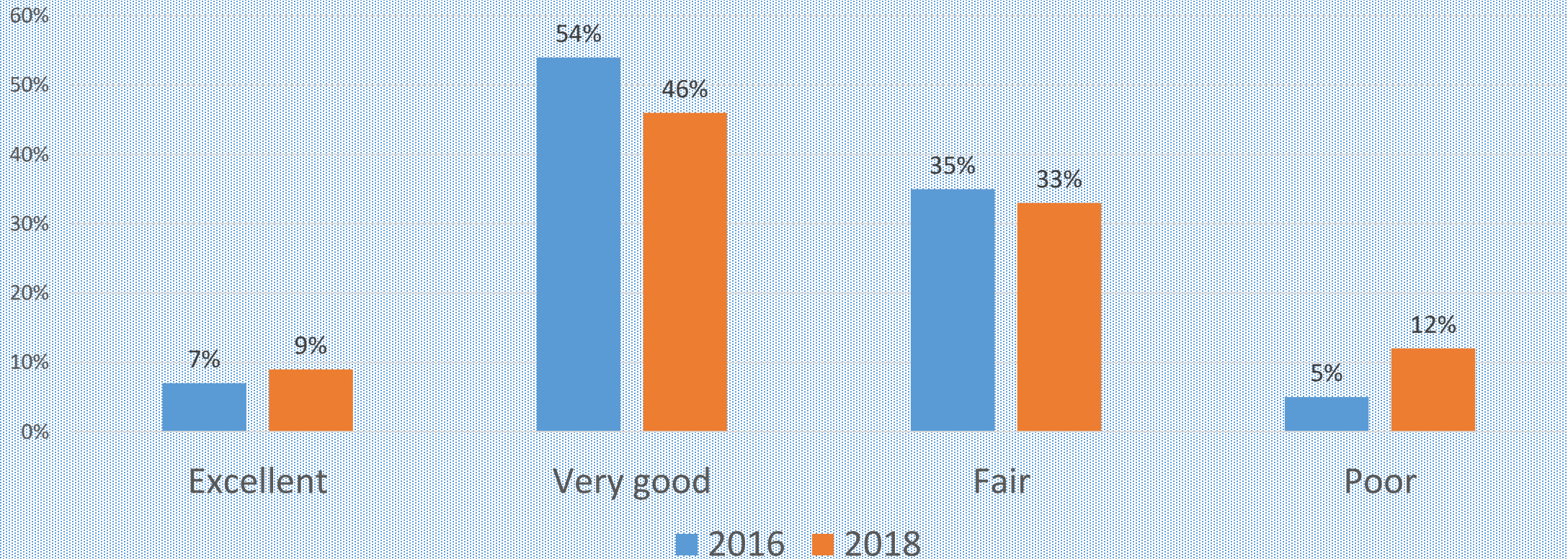
Questions 15,19, 20, 21a (SEQ) 28, 34, 35

Progress on the Comprehensive Plan over the past 2-3 years?



Progress on the Comprehensive Plan for similar questions

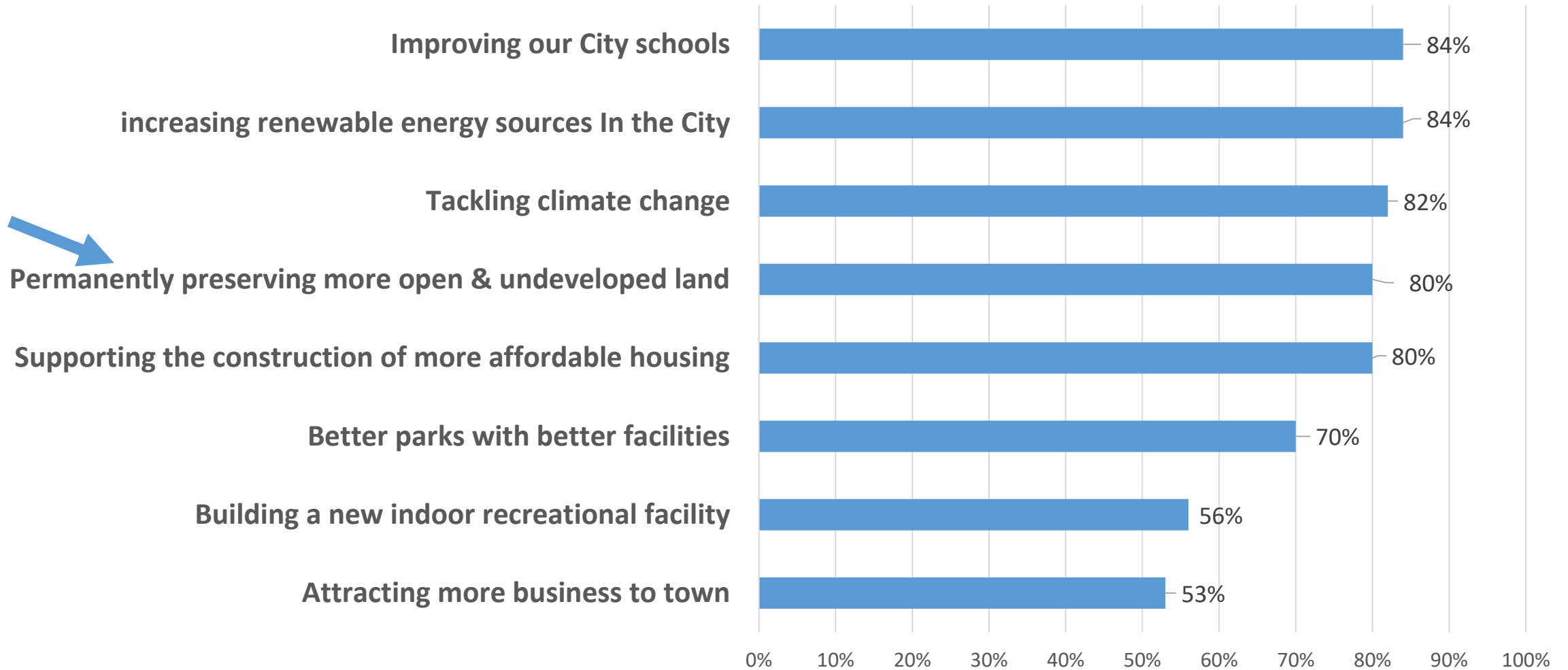
2016: “conservation of important open spaces *and other resources*”
2018: “conservation of important open spaces *within the City*”



Percents for 2018 have been adjusted for “don’t know”

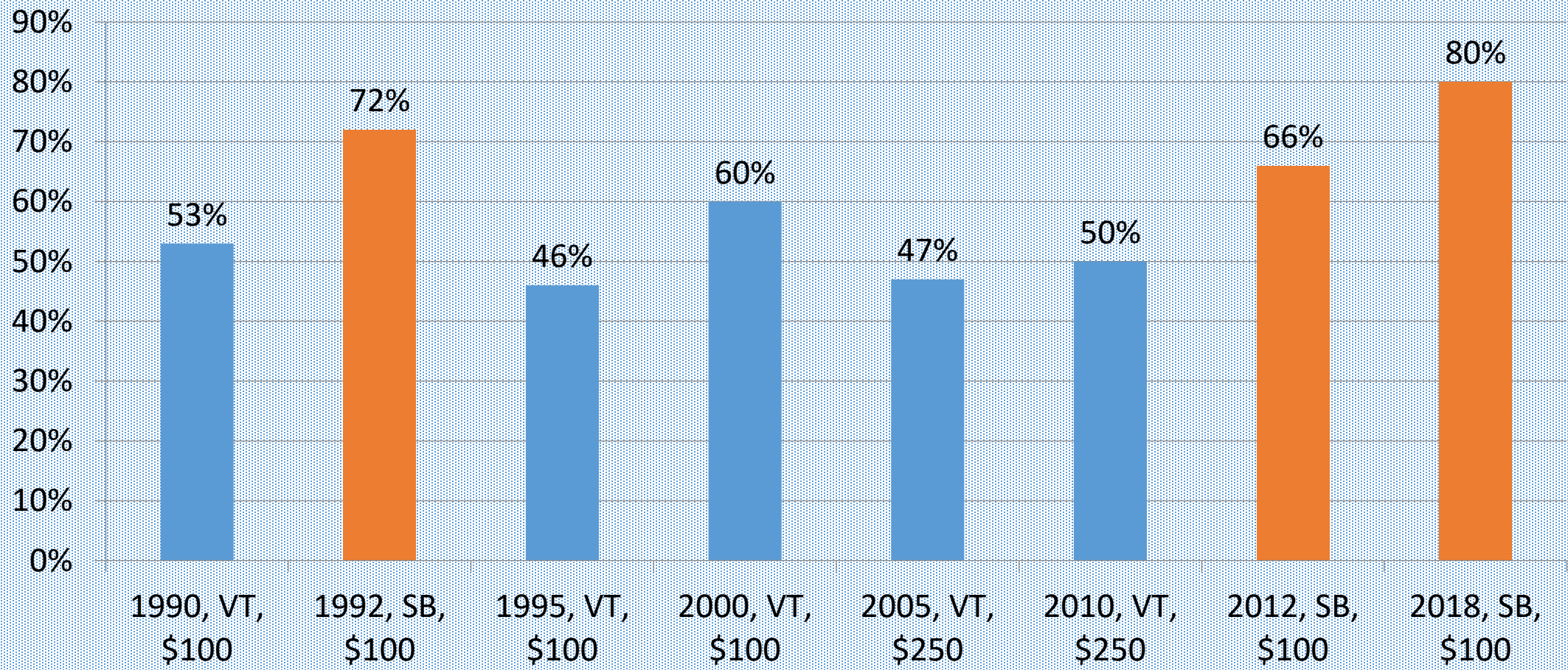
“...would you be willing to pay an extra \$100 in property taxes for...”

Percent “yes”



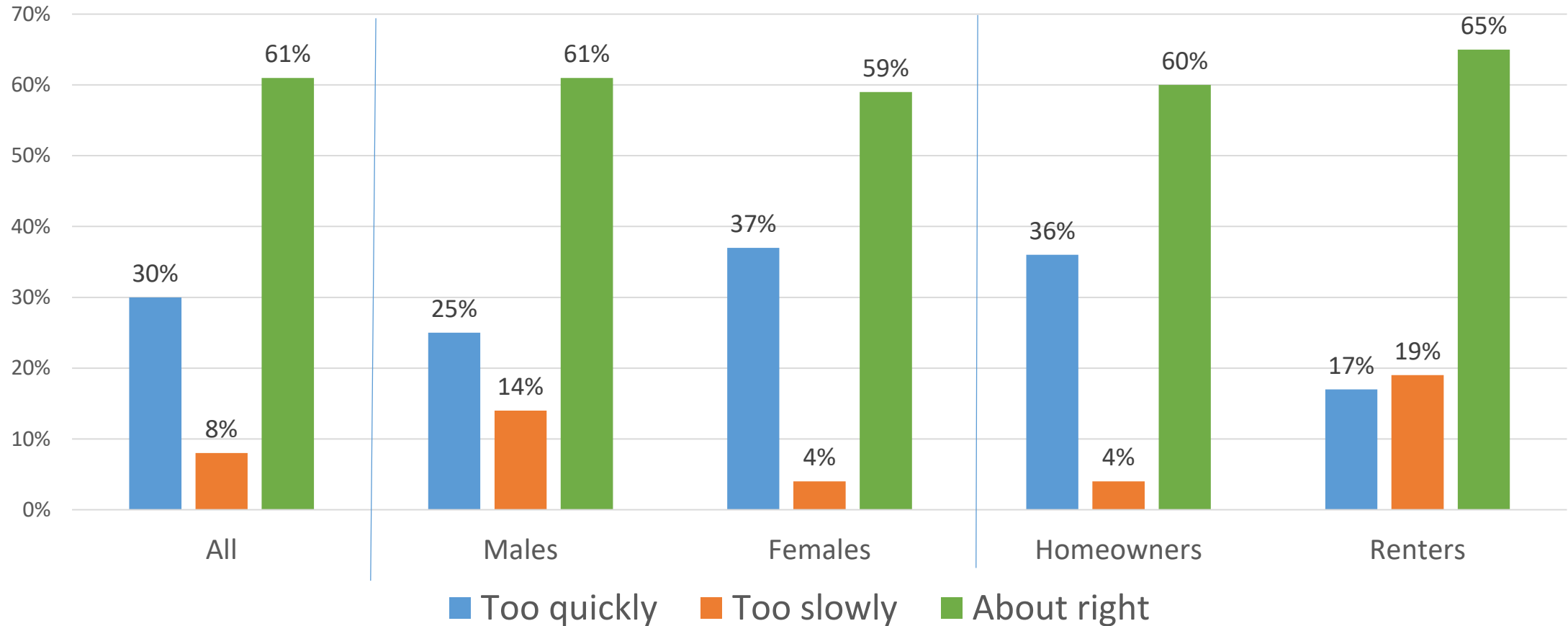
Are you willing to spend an “extra \$100” (or \$250) for “better preservation of open land?”

Comparisons to similar questions for Bolduc’s state surveys and SB surveys



“Do you generally think that South Burlington is growing too quickly, too slowly, or is the rate of growth about right?”

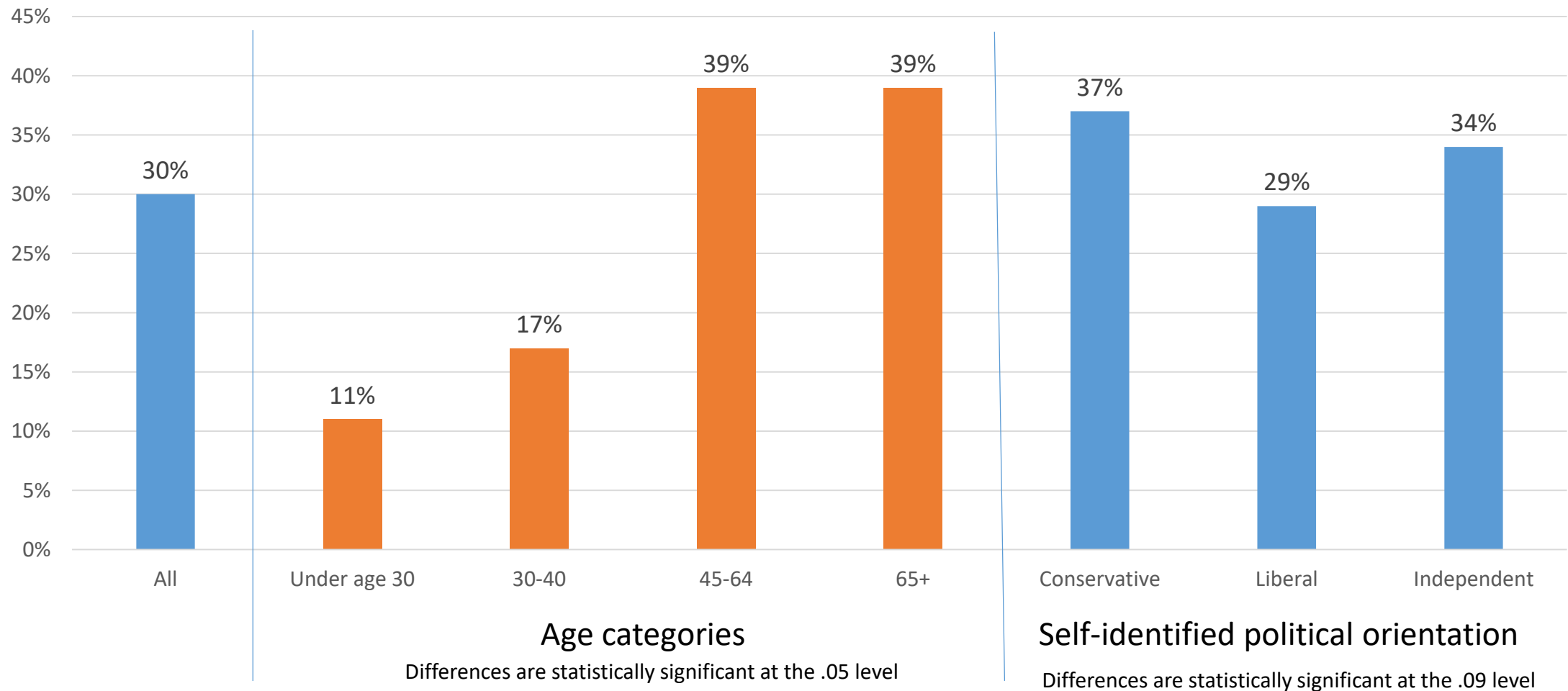
By gender and homeownership



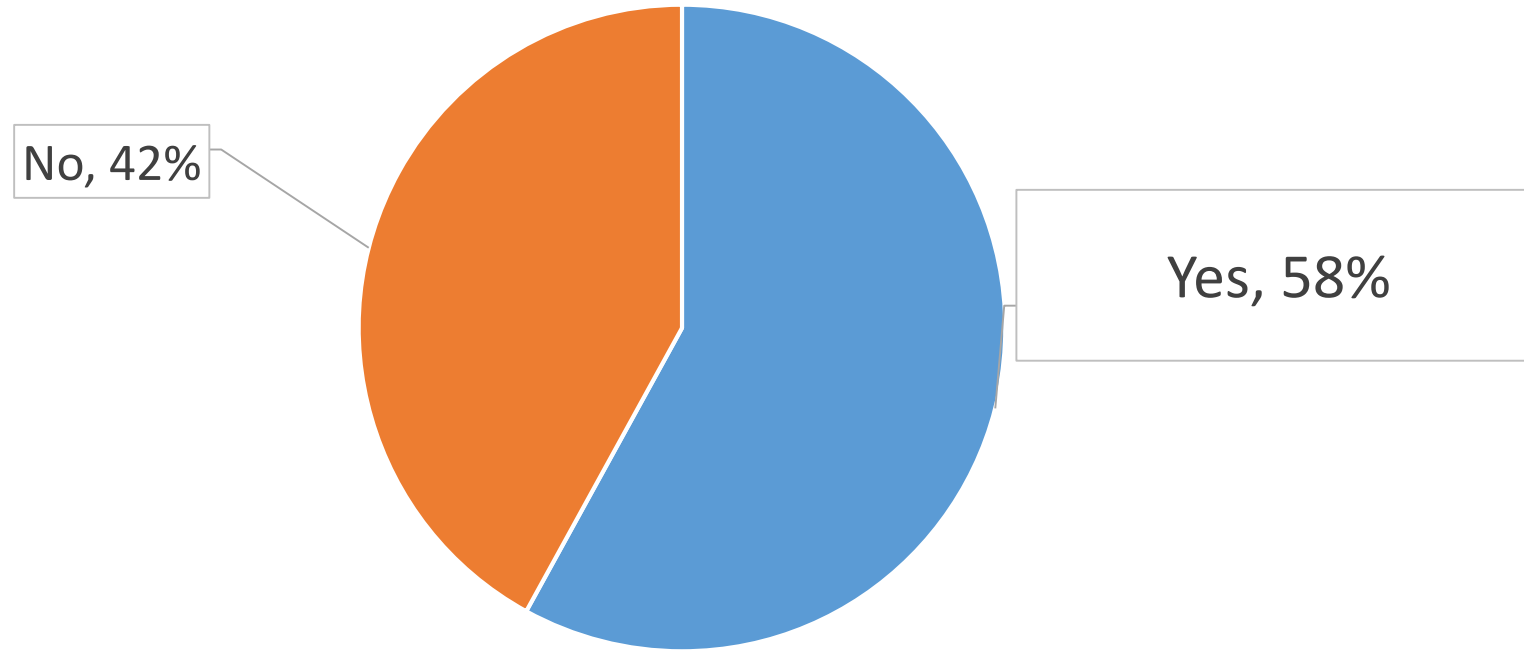
Differences are statistically significant at the .05 level

“Do you generally think that South Burlington is growing too quickly, too slowly, or is the rate of growth about right?”

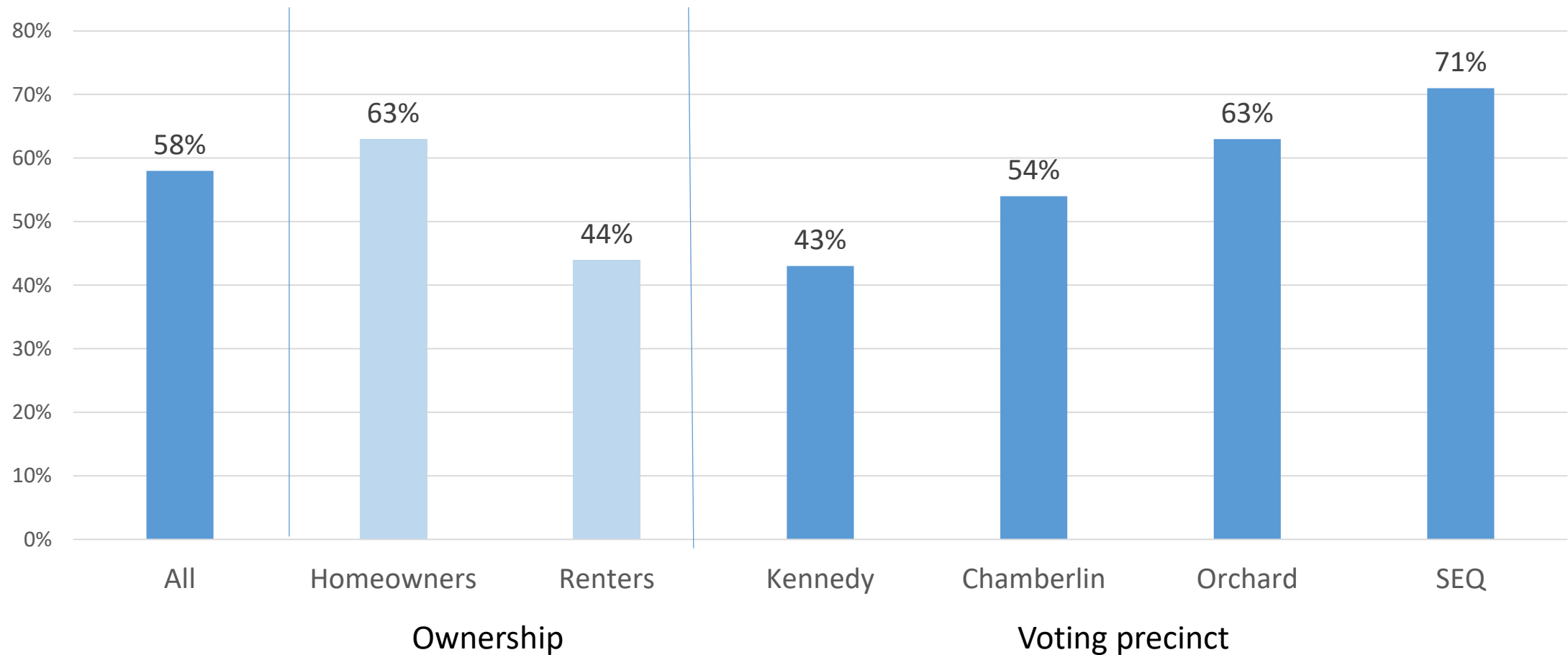
Percent “too quickly,” by age and political ideology



Are you familiar with the part of town with a lot of fields and open spaces known as the “Southeast Quadrant?”



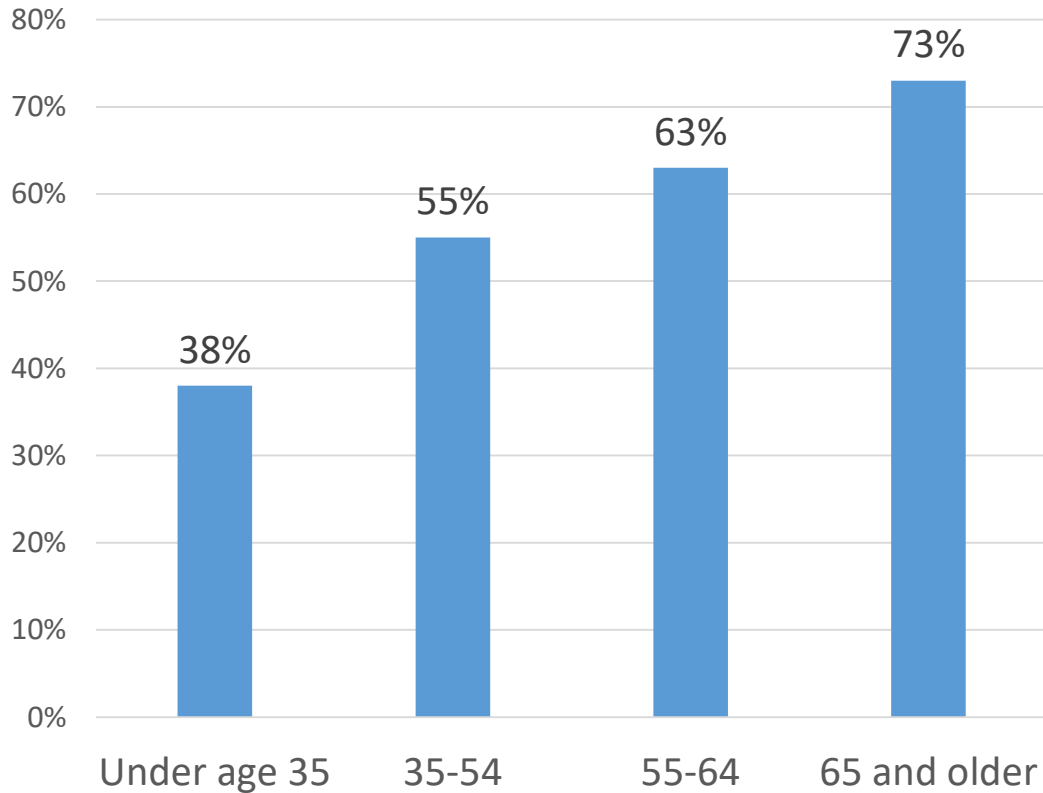
“Are you familiar with the part of town with lots of fields and open space known as the Southeast Quadrant?” By subgroups



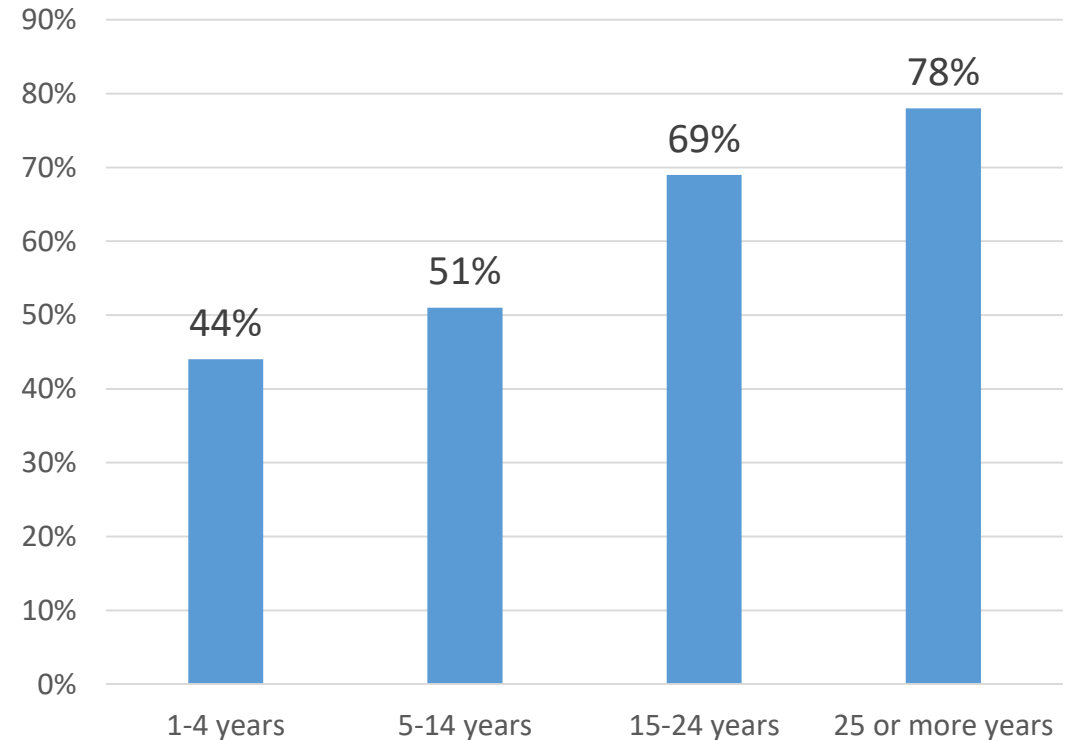
Differences are statistically significant at the .05 level

As age and years lived in South Burlington increases, so does knowledge of the SEQ

By age



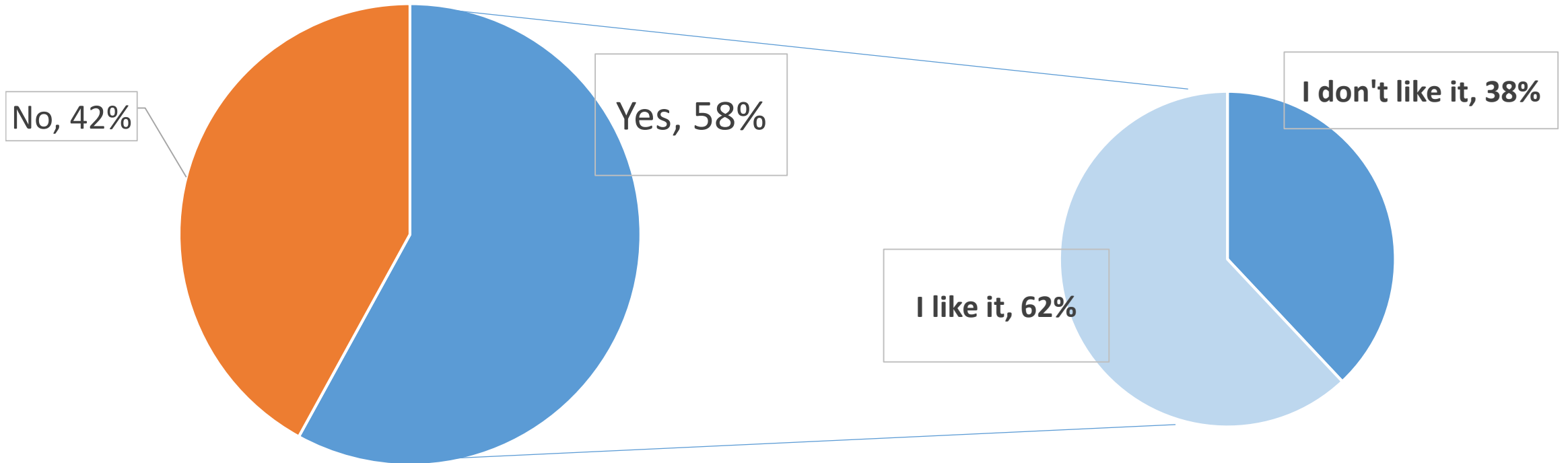
By years living in South Burlington



Note too that 63% of homeowners know compared to just 44% of renters

“Are you familiar with the part of town with a lot of fields and open space known as the Southeast Quadrant?”

[IF YES] “Over the past decades, the SEQ has seen a number of new residential neighborhoods built, but the City has also set aside many areas that will never be built on. Overall, do you like the looks of the way this area is evolving or do you not like it?” (n=236)



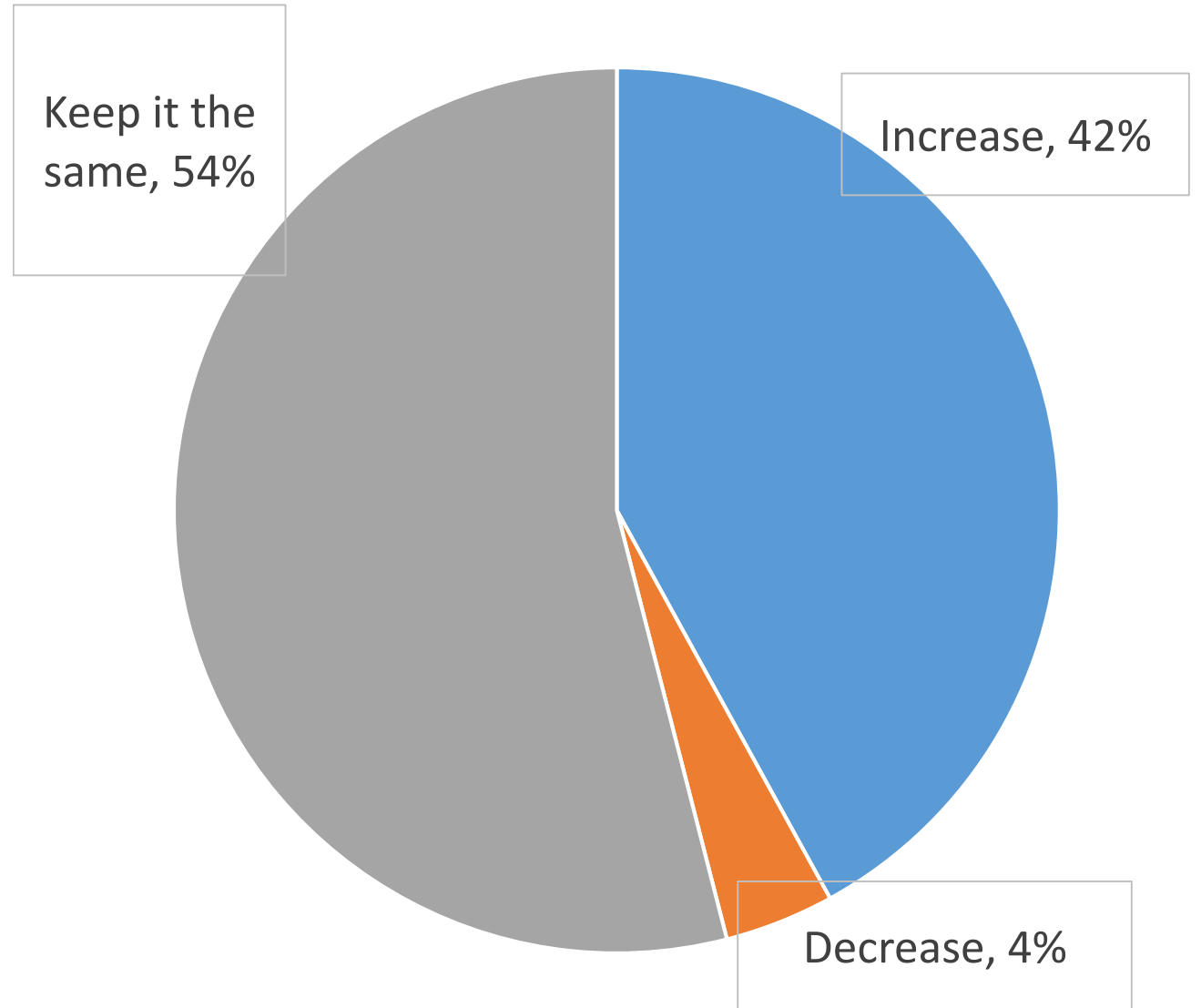
If the respondent said that they “did not like the way the SEQ is evolving,” we asked:
“What is it that you don’t like?”

- 50 of the 78 responses made references to “too many houses,” “too much growth,” “too much sprawl,” or “loss of open spaces.”
- 22 referred to some sort of planning issue, such as design problems, clustering, houses too densely placed, or transportation.
- 6 said that the houses were too large or too expensive.
- See word cloud on next slide

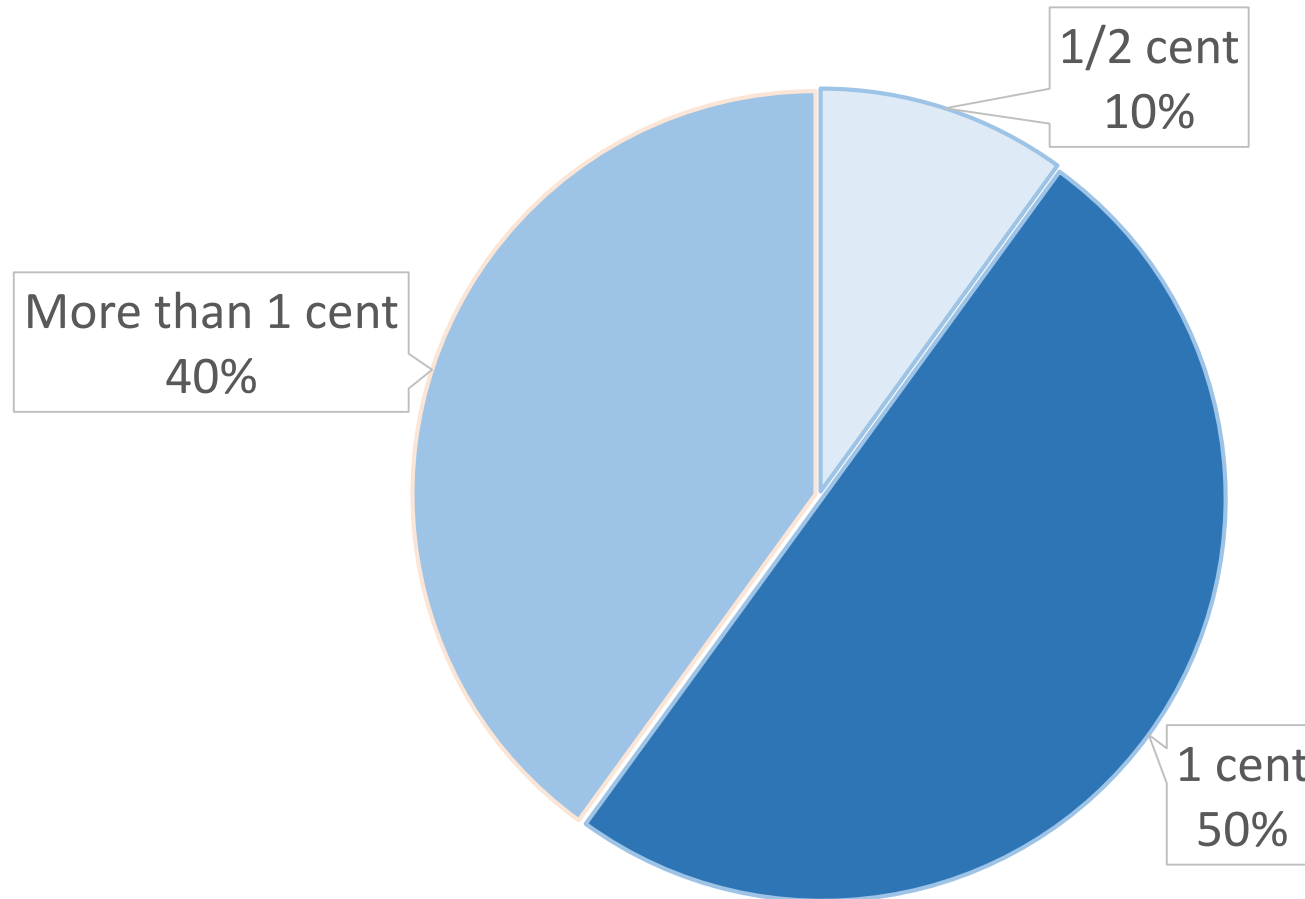
“What is it that you don’t like?” These are the proportionately sized most common 40 words in the 76 responses



“About 15 years ago. City taxpayers agreed to contribute 1 cent on their taxes towards an Open Space Conservation Fund and since then, that money has been used to purchase a number of conservation properties. Today that 1 cent might translate to about \$25 or \$30 for the average homeowner. To expand the Conservation Fund, should the City now increase that amount to more than 1 cent, decrease it, or keep it the same?”

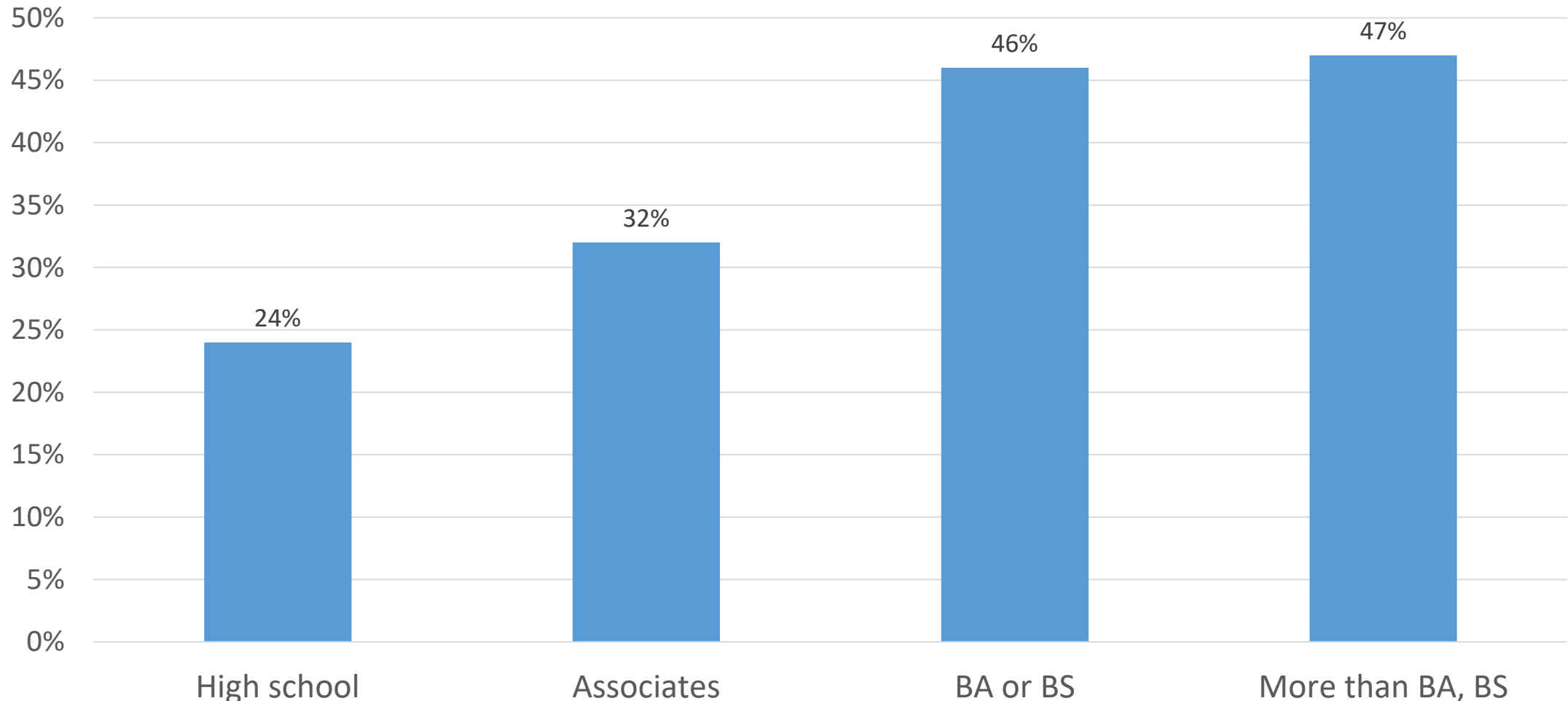


[IF RESPONDENT WAS WILLING TO INCREASE]
“How much more would you be willing to add?
½ cent more? 1 cent more? Or more than 1 cent?”



Based on n=159

Of the 42% who said “increase” ... there were differences by education



Note a weak relationship with self identified political ideology.
E.g., liberals most likely to select “increase;” conservatives least.

Differences are statistically significant at the .05 level

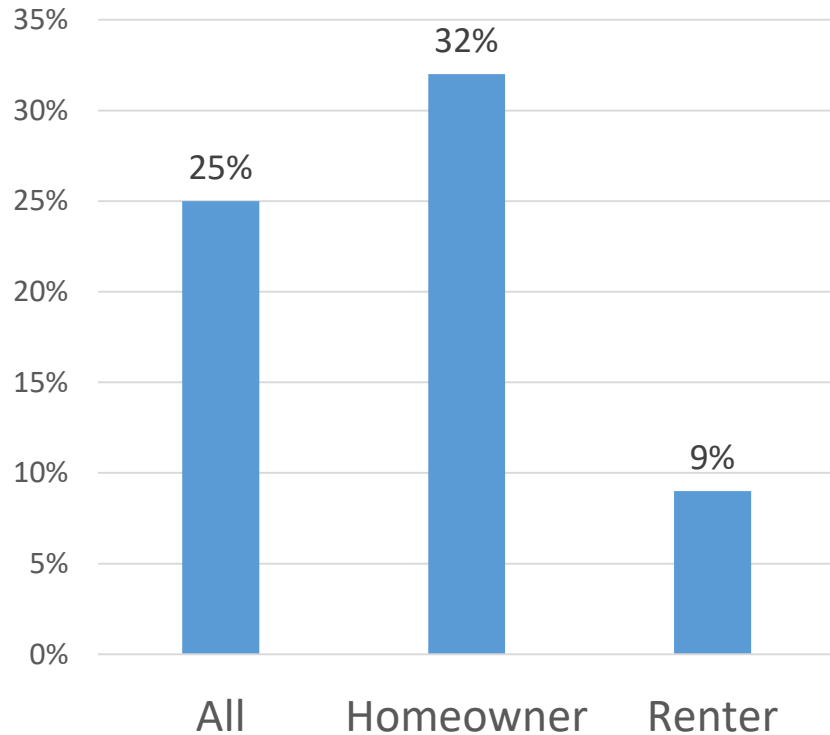
Citizen Participation

Questions 38 - 45

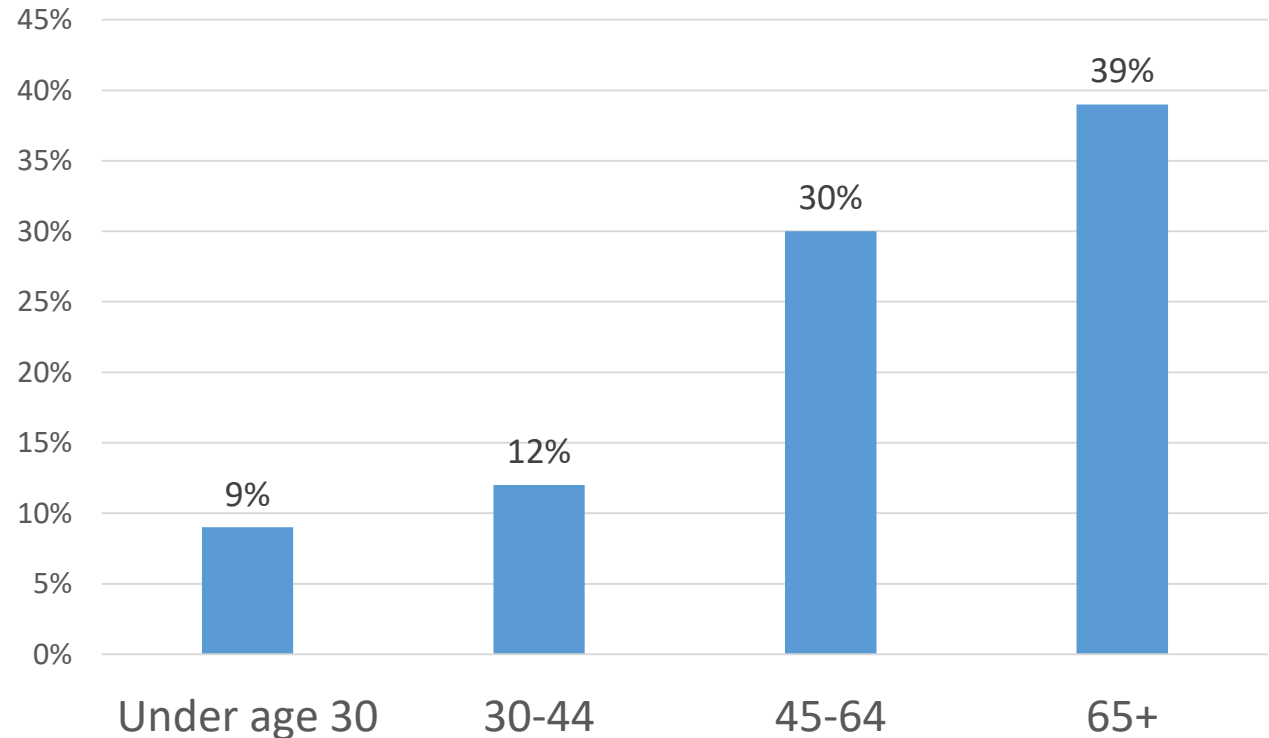
25% * of respondents reported attending “meetings of the City Council, Planning Commission, Development Review Board, or School Board” in the past year.

Here are some differences by demographic

Homeownership

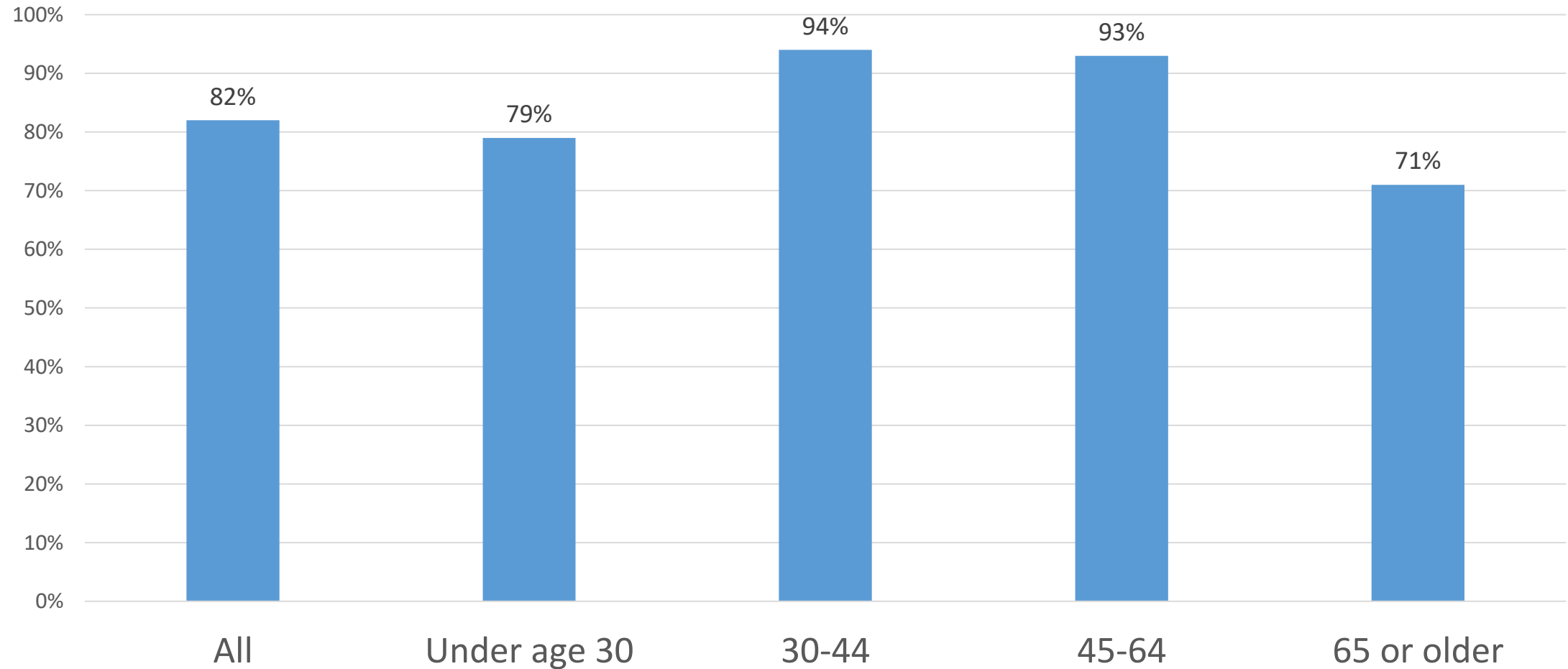


Age



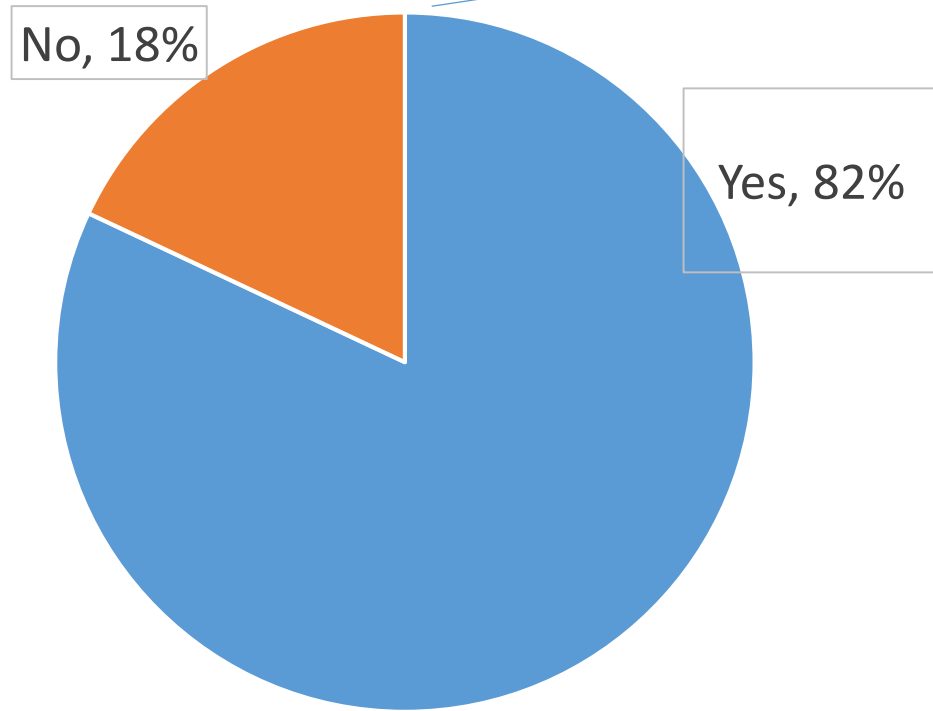
* The figure was 30% in the 2016 Exit poll. All differences are statistically significant at the .05 level

“In the past 6 months, have you visited a South Burlington City Park?” Percent “yes”

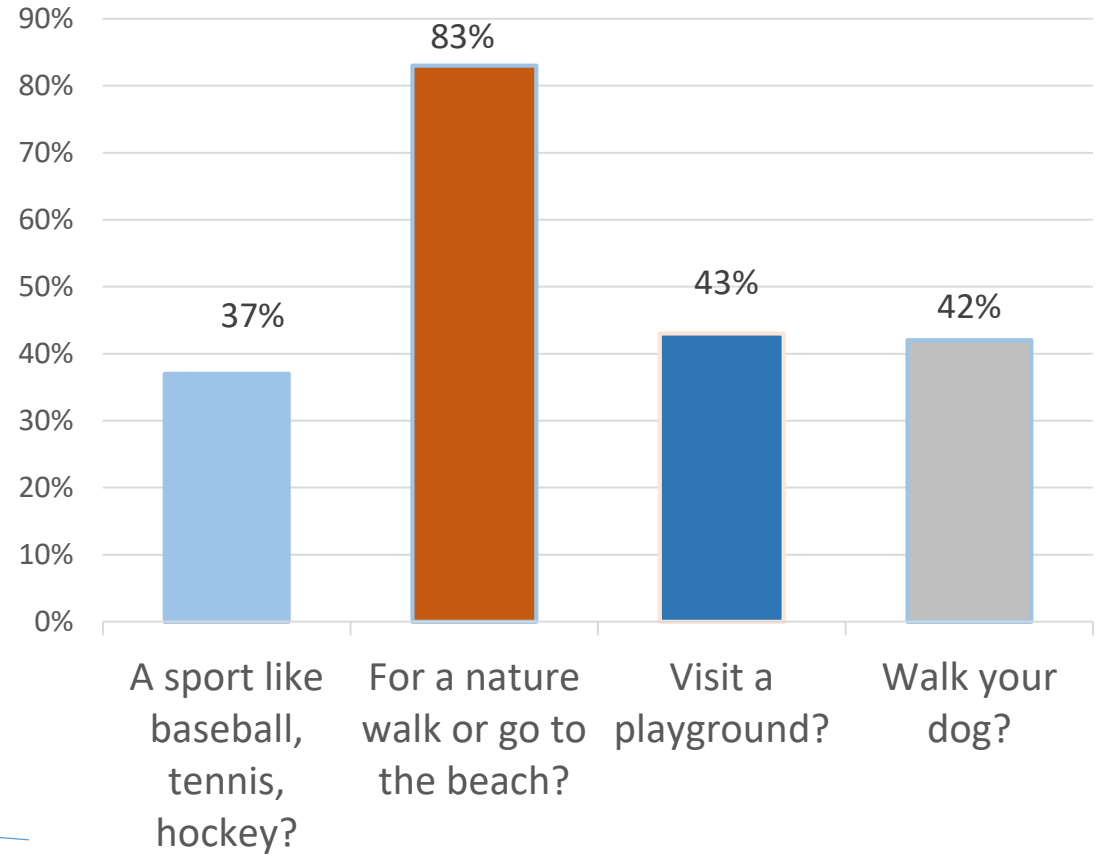


All differences are statistically significant at the .05 level

“In the past 6 months, have you visited a South Burlington City Park?”



[IF YES] “What were the reasons you visited? Was it for...”

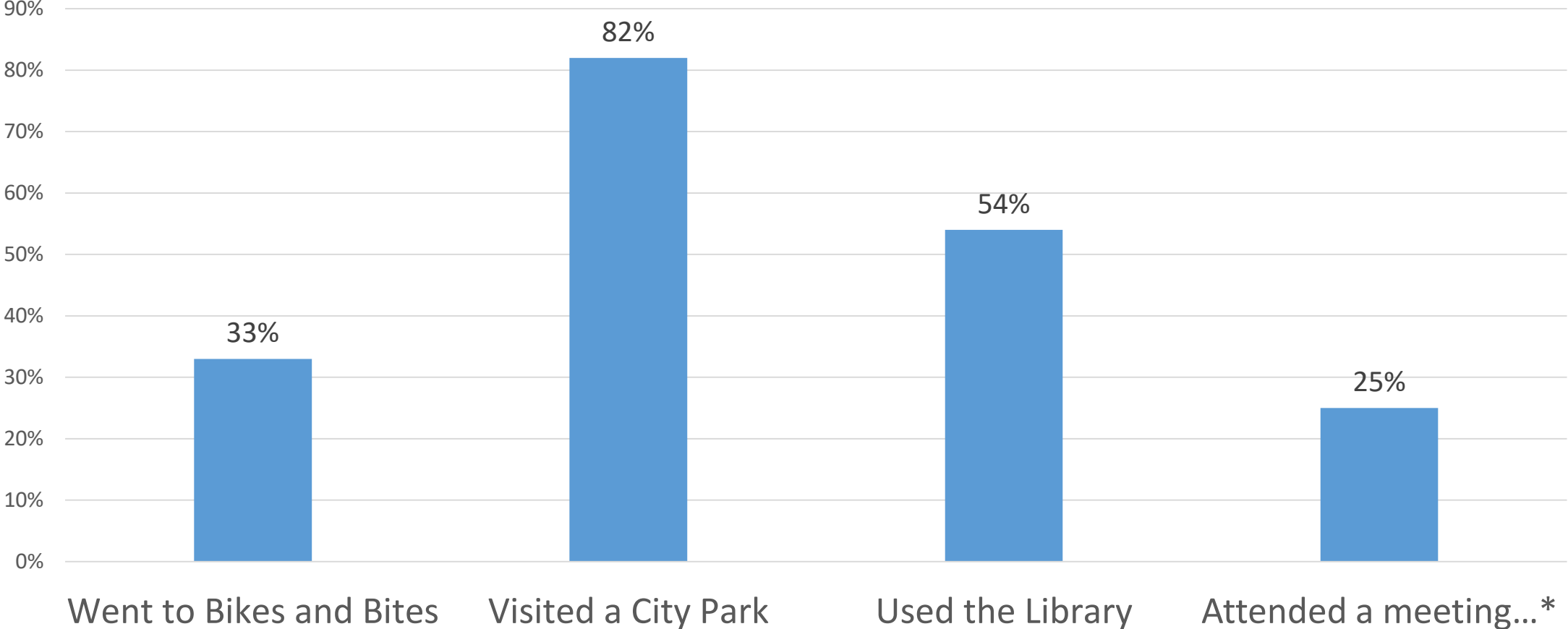


Among the 82% who visited the parks, what were their reasons? By most common demographic

	How many said each one?	Who are they? *
1. "Was it for a nature walk or to go to the beach?"	83%	Highest for the most highly educated: 91% Highest for those not born in Vermont: 88%
2. "Was it to visit a playground?"	43%	Highest for ages 30-44: 65% Lowest for those under 30: 26%
3. "Was it walk your dog?"	42%	Highest for men: 49% Rate at Orchard: 43% Rate at Chamberlin: 54% Rate in the SEQ: 34% Rate at Kennedy: 21%
4. "Was it for a sport such as baseball, tennis, or hockey?"	37%	Highest for ages 35-54: 52%

* Differences are statistically significant at the .05 level

Engagement with City sponsored functions and events in the past year. Percent “yes”



* “Attended a meeting” includes City Council, Planning Commission, Development Review Board or School Board.
The figure was 30% in the 2016 Exit poll.

54% of respondents visited the library in the past year but there were differences by demographic

Overall 54%		Overall 54%	
By gender	62% women 47% men	By voting precinct	63% for Orchard 45% for Chamberlin 61% for the SEQ 43% for Kennedy
By home ownership	59% home owners 39% renters		
By education	32% for high school 48% with some college 53% with BA/BS 65% with post grad	By age	40% for under 30 59% for 30-44 47% for 45-64 65% for 65+

* Differences are statistically significant at the .05 level

33% of respondents went to “Bikes and Bites” or “South Burlington Night Out” in the past year but there were differences by demographic

	Overall 33%	
By educational level	17% for high school 30% for AA or BA 42% for post graduate degree	
By homeownership	38% for homeowners 21% for renters	
By age	19% for under age 35 42% for 35-54 28% for 65 and older	
Voter precinct	34% for Orchard 22% for Chamberlin	58% for the SEQ 20% for Kennedy

Differences are statistically significant at the .05 level

Thank you!

Appendix: A word on methodology and the survey instrument

A few background and methodological details

The 431 interviews were conducted outside the three South Burlington voting places on Election Day, plus a small handful were completed the morning before for early voters at City Hall. Student interviewers rotated shifts from 7 AM to 7 PM at all three polling stations. They asked voters as they left the polling place if they would take “a few minutes” to answer our questions for an Exit Poll. The roughly estimated refusal rate is in the 25-30% range—higher during the rush hour and the intermittent rain. The interviews lasted about 10 minutes.

The questionnaire was constructed as a class project after studying proper questionnaire design, current issues in the City as explained by Planner Paul Conner, and building upon earlier surveys. The data was entered by a professional typist and analyzed with the Statistical Package for the Social Science (SPSS). A copy of the questionnaire appears below. Professor Bolduc has conducted over 50 surveys and polls over the course of his career.

Exit Survey - South Burlington, VT.
Election Day, November 6, 2018
 By Vince Bolduc's Research Methods students at Saint Michael's College
Sample size: 431

Hello! Have you just finished voting? Great! I'm _____, a student from Saint Michael's (or the high school) and I'm working on an exit poll. Do you have a few minutes to answer a few questions about South Burlington?

2. About how long have you lived in South Burlington? ____ years **Mean=15; Median=10**

3. Were you born in Vermont? **34%** __ Yes **66%** __ No

"Thanks. Now I'd like to start with the content questions..."

I'm going to read a list of several issues that relate to South Burlington. How important are each of these issues to you? [READ SLOWLY] ***Very important, somewhat important, or not important at all?*** [CIRCLE]

	Very imp	Somewhat Imp	Not at all imp
4 Providing quality City services, such as recreation, fire, ambulance, police, etc. for the entire City? Is this very important to you, somewhat important or not at all?	90%	9%	1%
5 Helping to build more affordable and entry level housing?	67	29	5
6 Installing new infrastructure such as roads and sewers like the work now underway for the new City Center?	66	30	4
7 Attracting more businesses to South Burlington?	44	45	11
8 Balancing the City budget?	70	28	2
9 Building a new indoor recreation center?	26	51	23
10 Maintaining quality schools?	90	9	1
11 Maintaining the existing tax rate?	42	46	12

The new South Burlington Comprehensive Plan sets goals for the community. How well would you say the City has done in making progress on the following priorities over the past 2-3 years?

You can say Excellent, very good, fair or poor progress.

	Excellent 2%	Very good 17%	Fair 48%	Poor 19%	DK/NA 14%
12 How about affordability in housing? Would you say, excellent, very good, fair or poor....					
13 A transportation system with better walking and bicycle connections?	5	36	41	12	6
14 Reducing energy consumption city-wide and increasing renewable energy production where appropriate?	6	32	30	7	25
15 Conservation of important open spaces within the City?	8	41	30	11	10
16 Building a sense of community in South Burlington?	9	46	30	8	8
17 Addressing climate change at the local level?	5	23	39	10	23
18 How effective are the City schools at serving the K-12 population?	26	40	7	1	26

19 Do you generally think that South Burlington is growing **too quickly, too slowly, or is the rate of growth about right?**

30% __ Too quickly 9% __ too slowly 61% __ Just about right

20 Are you familiar with the part of the town with a lot of fields and open space known as the “Southeast Quadrant”?

58% __ Yes [IF YES ASK] 42% __ If no say: That’s OK. We’ll skip to the next item

21 Over the past decades, the Southeast Quadrant has seen a number of new residential neighborhoods built, but the City has also set aside many areas that will never be built on. Overall, do you **like** the looks of the way this area is evolving or do you **not like it?**

62% __ I like it 38% __ I do not like it. **Based on 236 responses.**

[IF NOT LIKE] 21a What is it that you don’t like? **See attached verbatim responses**

22 Airport noise is a special problem to residents who live nearest to the airport, and as you know many homes have already been removed. Should the City advocate for Federal funding to provide special sound insulation to homes affected by the noise or do you think that more homes should be removed?

80% __ insulate 20% __ remove

23 The first item on the City Ballot today was on whether or not you support funding for the new municipal building on Market Street that would contain a new City Hall, Library, and a Senior Center. Would you mind telling me if you voted in favor of that item or did you vote in opposition to it?

87% __ I voted in favor 13% __ I opposed it 34 respondents did not reply.

24 [IF OPPOSED] In just a few words, can you tell me why you didn’t support it? **See attached verbatim responses**

25 How well do you feel the City prepared voters to answer the issues on the City ballot today? Very well prepared, somewhat well prepared, or not well prepared?

40% __ very well prepared 46% __ somewhat well prepared 14% __ Not well prepared

Here is a hypothetical question. We are trying to get an idea about whether or not voters would support several new City initiatives. So hypothetically, would you be willing to pay an extra **\$100 in property taxes** per year to support the following. Keep in mind that even renters pay for this indirectly.

	1 Yes	2 No
26 Better parks with better facilities? Would you be willing to pay an extra \$100 in taxes to support that?	70%	
27 Building a new indoor recreational center?	56%	
28 Permanently preserving more open and undeveloped land in our City?	80%	
29 Supporting the construction of more affordable housing in town?	80%	
30 Improving our City schools?	84%	
31 Attracting more businesses to town?	53%	
32 Increasing renewable energy sources in the City	84%	
33 Tackling climate change?	82%	

34. About 15 years ago, city taxpayers agreed to contribute 1 cent on their tax rate towards an Open Space Conservation Fund and since then, that money has been used to purchase a number conservation properties. Today that 1 cent might translate to about \$25 or \$30 for the average homeowner. To expand the Conservation Fund, should the City now increase that amount to more than 1 cent, decrease it, or keep it the same? 42% Increase 4% Decrease 54% Keep it the same

35. [IF INCREASE, ASK] How much more would you be willing to add? ½ cent more? 1 cent more? Or more than 1 cent? **Based on 159 respondents who said “increase.”**
10% 1/2 cent 50% 1 cent 40% more than 1 cent

“We now have 2 open ended questions about the schools.”

36 In just a couple of words, what do you think **are the most important skills** for our young people to develop before they graduate? **See attached verbatim responses**

37 The school Board is always trying to better engage with the wider community. Can you think of a few words of advice for how they might do that better? **See attached verbatim responses**

“Now the few last questions about you and your experiences in the City in the past year”

38 In the past 6 months, did you have a chance to go to any of the “Bikes and Bites” or the “South Burlington Night Out”?
33% Yes, I have 67% No

39 In the past 6 months, have you visited a South Burlington City Park?
82% Yes 18% No

40 [IF YES] What were the reasons you visited? Was it for a sport, such as baseball, tennis, or hockey? 37% Yes No
41 Was it for a nature walk or to go to the beach? 83% Yes No
42 Was it to visit a playground? 43% Yes No
43 Was it to walk your dog? 42% Yes No

44 Have you used the Library in the past year? 54% Yes 46% No

45. In the past year, did you happen to attend any of the meetings of the City Council, Planning Commission, Development Review Board or School Board?
25% Yes, one or more of those 75% No, none

Background Demographics

46. Approximately how old are you? ___ **Mean=51; Median=53**
47. What is the highest level of education that you completed? [DO NOT READ OPTIONS]
10% ___1 Graduated from High School [or less]
16% ___2 Associate's Degree [2-year College or "some college"]
40% ___3 BA or AB [4-year College]
35% ___4 Post-college or Professional degree
48. What type of residence do you live in? A **single-family home, a two family home or a duplex, a condo, or an apartment?**
53% ___ single family 4% ___ two family/duplex 28% ___ condo 15% ___ apartment
49. Do you **own** your residence or do you **rent**? 71% ___ own 27% ___ rent 2% ___ other
50. Do you usually think of yourself as a conservative, a liberal, an independent, or something else?
11% ___ conservative 47% ___ liberal 29% ___ independent 13% ___ something else
51. And I should check off that you are in the ...
26% ___1 the Orchard School voting precinct
[OR]
39% ___2 the Chamberlin voting precinct
[OR FOR EVERY ONE AT THE MIDDLE SCHOOL, SAY]
Since we're at the Middle School voting station, which precinct did you just vote in...
19% ___3 Precinct 7-2 on the right side of the gym or
16% ___4 Precinct 7-3 on the left side of the gym?
NB: 95 respondents either voted at City Hall on Nov.5 or interviewer did not correctly record this item, usually for districts 7-2 and 7-3. Unfortunately, those districts are not proportionately representative on this item, but they likely are proportionately represented among our 431 respondents.

“That was the last question! Thank you very much for your time!”

52. What was the apparent gender of the respondent? 47% ___ Male 53% ___ Female

53. Circle: Student Interviewer's name:

1 Josh Abernathy	2 Emma Almanzar	3 Nicole Beeso
4 Arianna Boscia	5 Lucy Chin	6 Katie Cox
7 Mary Faenza	8 Grace Faria	9 Delaney Goodman
10 Dane Johnson	11 Hannah Lind	12 Sarah Merriman
13 Katie O'Donoghue	14 Joel Parady	15 Clair Rossi
16 Winter Royce-Roll	17 Kelly Smith	18 Liz Vallatini
19 Chenglei Zhang	20 Julia Murphy	
21 Print name of other SMC student		
22 Print name of SBHS student		