

Portland Key Issues Survey

*Key Findings from a Survey of Portland Likely Voters
Conducted May 13-18, 2021*



OPINION
RESEARCH
& STRATEGY

Survey Methodology

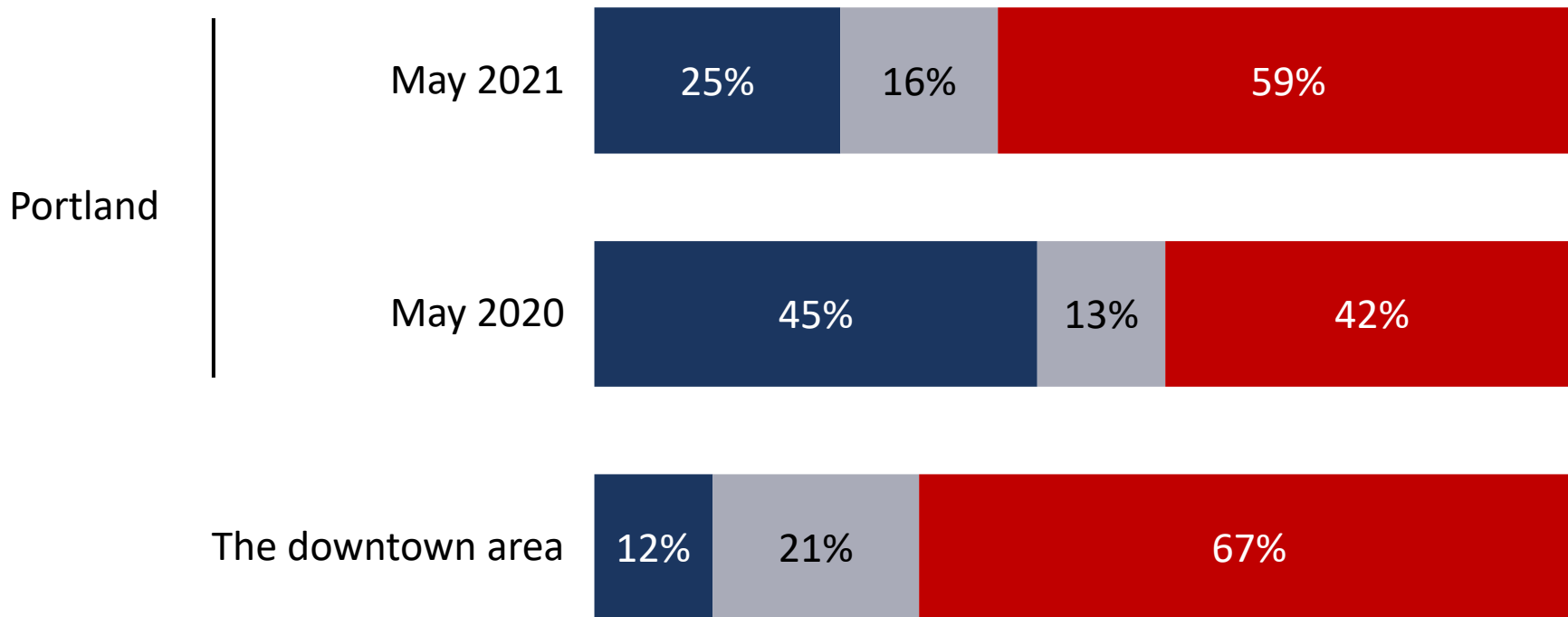
Dates	May 13-18, 2021
Survey Type	Telephone Survey
Research Population	Likely November 2022 Voters in the City of Portland
Total Interviews	802
Margin of Sampling Error	(Full Sample) $\pm 3.5\%$ at the 95% Confidence Level (Half Sample) $\pm 5.0\%$ at the 95% Confidence Level

(Note: Not All Results Will Sum to 100% Due to Rounding)

Three in five voters feel negative about Portland's direction – and they feel especially pessimistic about the downtown area.

Would you say that things in Portland are generally headed in the right direction, or are they pretty seriously off on the wrong track?

■ Right Direction ■ Don't Know ■ Wrong Track



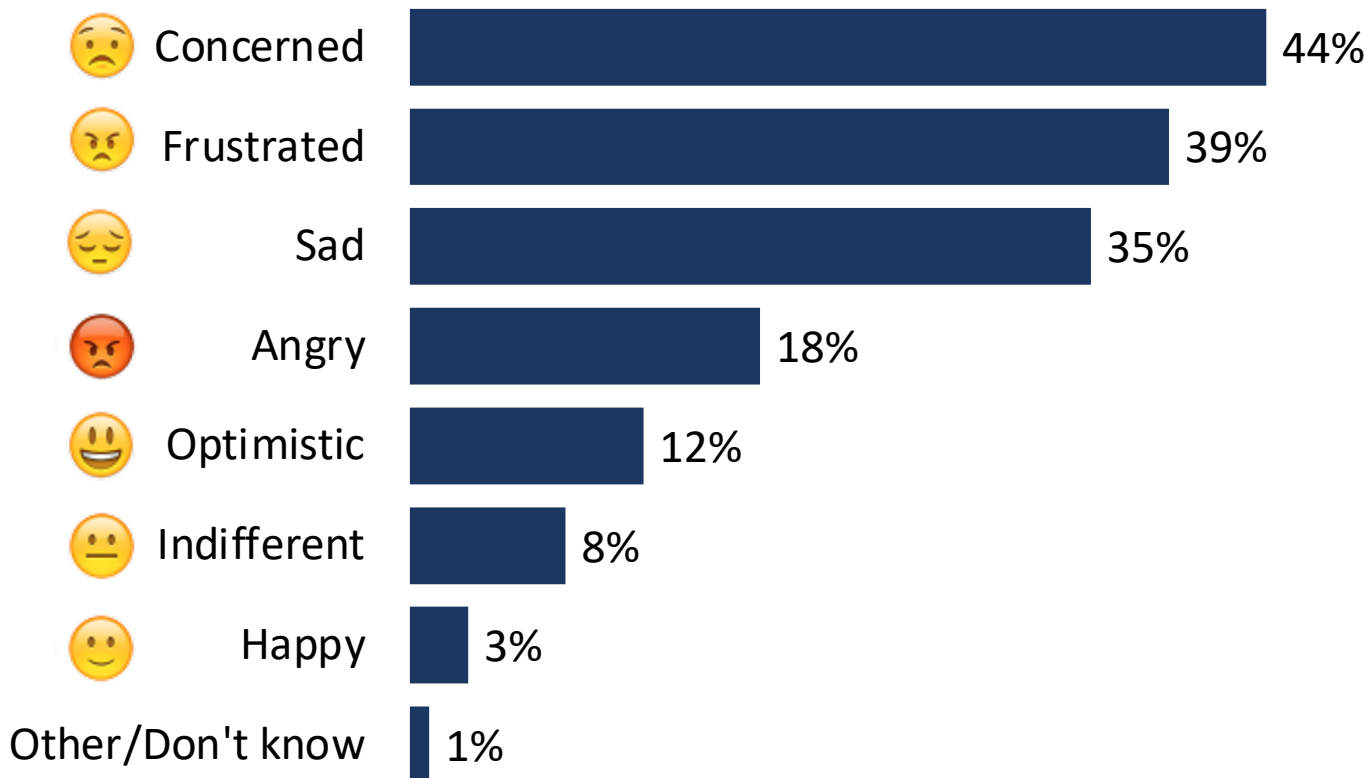
Negative perceptions dominate when people describe downtown Portland.

In a few words of your own, what are 2 or 3 words or phrases that best describe downtown Portland? (Open-ended)



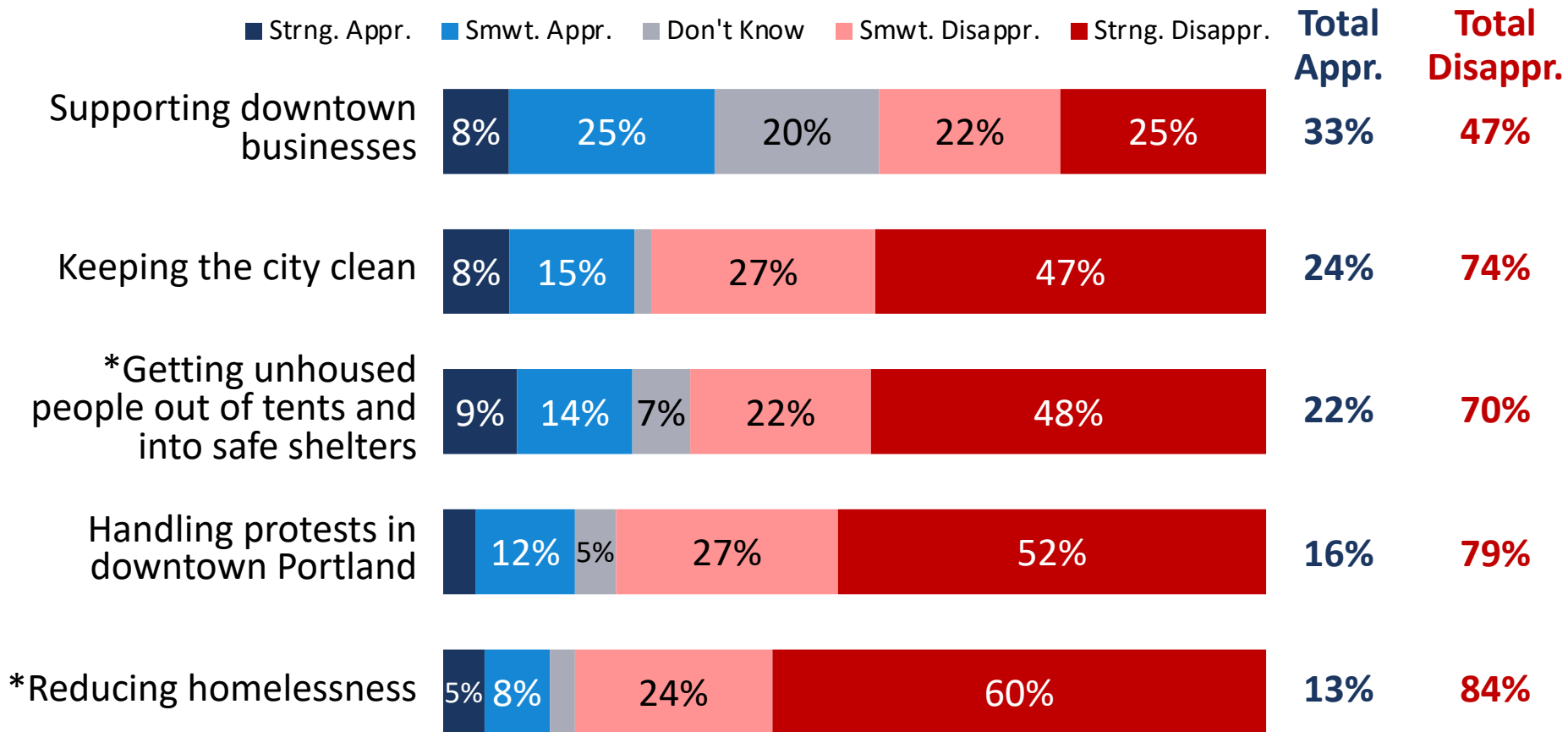
The dominant feelings voters have about downtown are concern, frustration and sadness.

Please listen to the following list of feelings and emotions, and tell me which 1 or 2 best describe how you feel when you think about downtown Portland.



Sizable majorities disapprove of City and County officials' handling of cleanliness, protests, and homelessness.

I am going to give you a list of aspects of life in Portland. Please tell me whether you approve or disapprove of the way City and County elected officials in the Portland area are handling it.

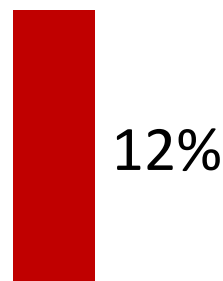


Voters believe tent encampments are a humanitarian emergency requiring urgent action.

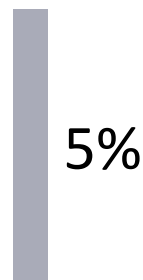
Tent encampments on Portland streets are a humanitarian emergency; the situation is getting worse and requires more urgent action from City and County elected officials.



Tent encampments are a complex and difficult societal problem that can't be addressed quickly. City and County elected officials are on the right track and making steady progress.



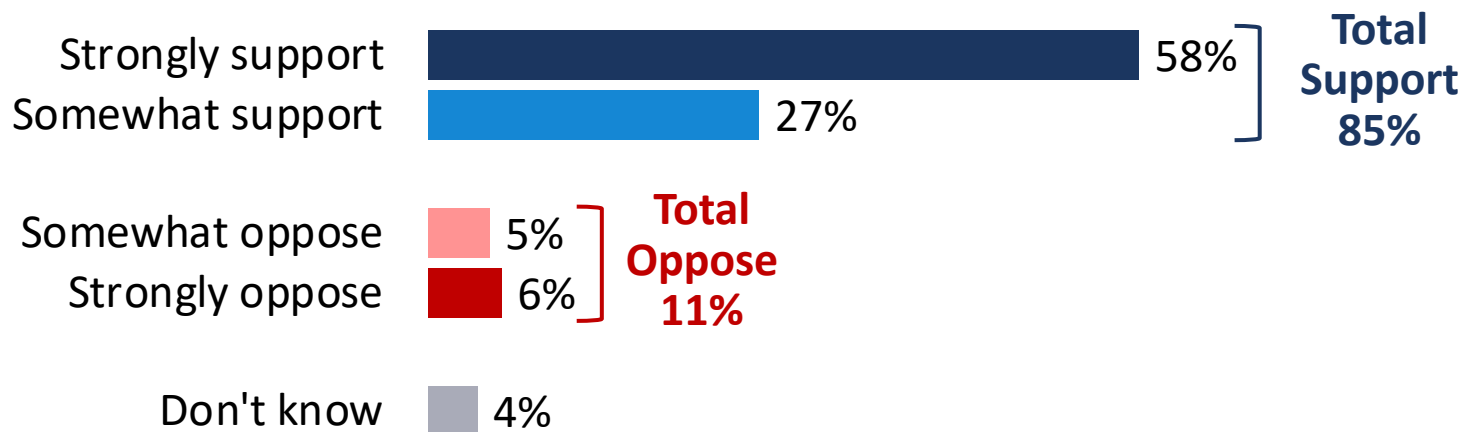
Both/None/Don't know/
Refused



A proposal for safe villages for people who are homeless has very broad and strong support.

Here is a specific proposal that has been made to try to provide shelter for Portlanders experiencing homelessness. This proposal would replace the unsafe, unsanitary tent camps currently located all around the city with 50 new safe, sanitary villages with housing for homeless residents. Villages would have laundry, food, drinking water, spaces for eating and meeting, and lockers to securely store belongings. People living at the villages would be offered an individualized needs assessment that could connect them with substance abuse treatment, mental health care, job training, and options for more permanent housing. People would be required to leave unsanctioned encampments in public spaces if a space in a safe village has been offered to them, but police would not be used to sweep the camps.

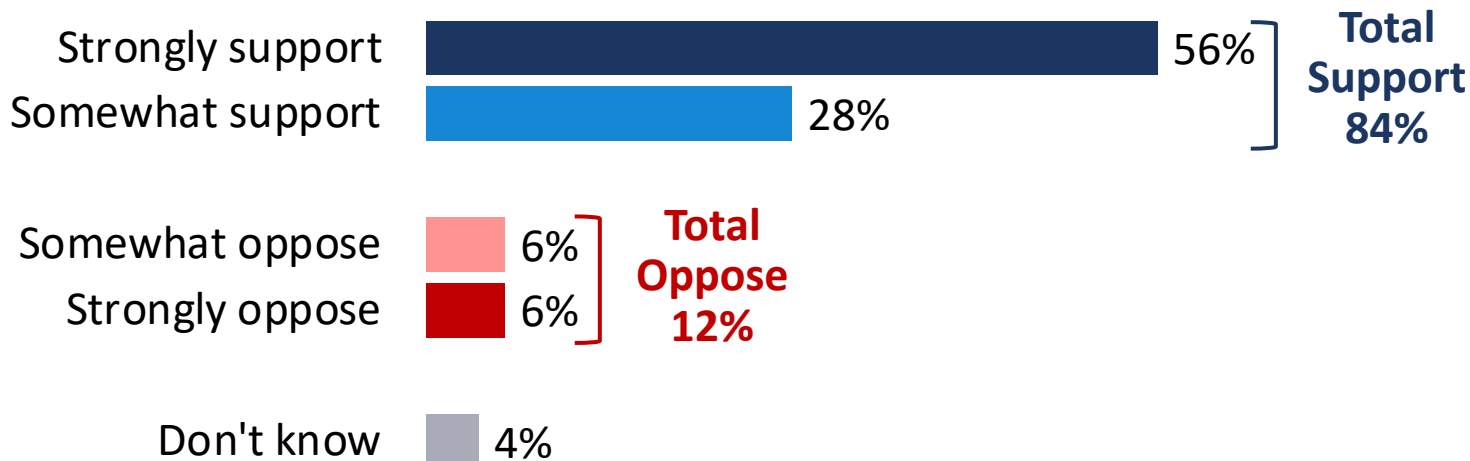
This could cost roughly \$55 million initially and \$30 million per year thereafter, paid for by dedicating existing tax dollars collected from the new regional homeless services tax and one-time federal COVID relief revenues – with no increase in taxes.



A proposal to hold accountable those responsible for violence downtown has very broad and strong support.

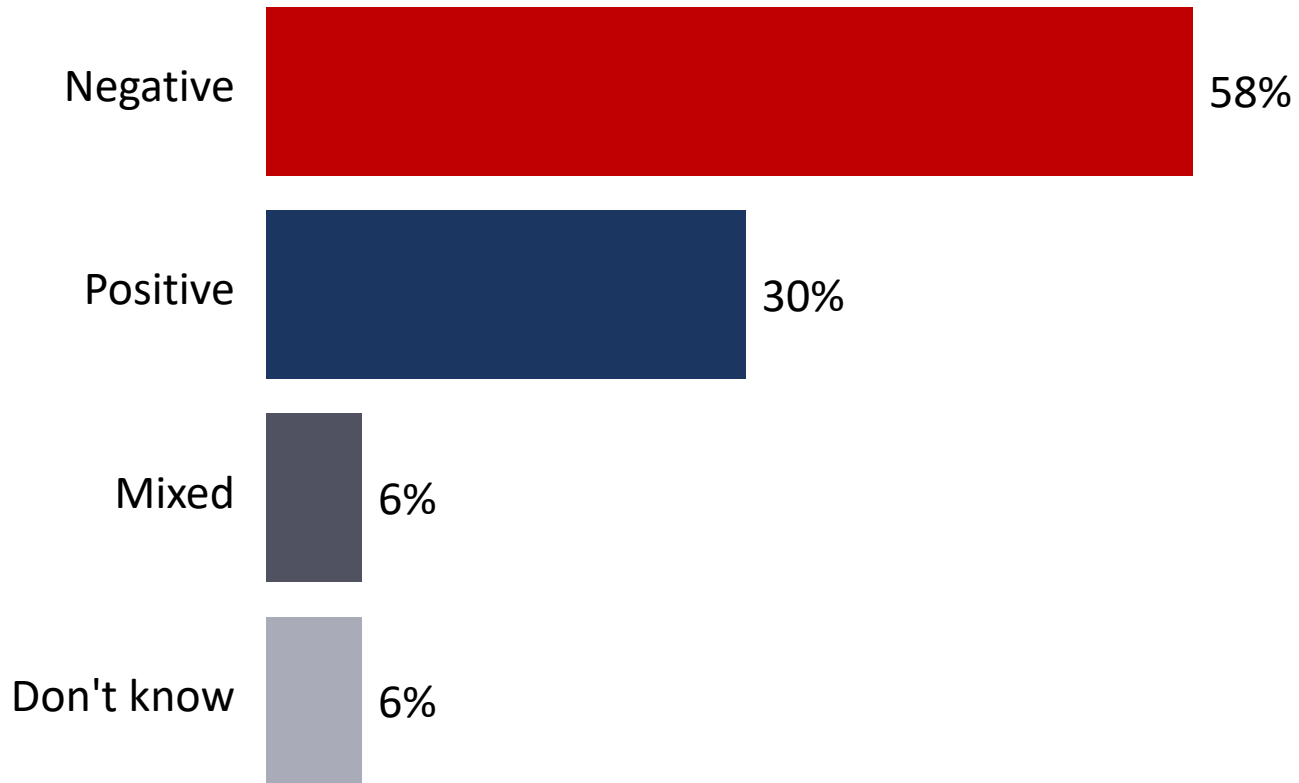
Some people have proposed a change in how local government and law enforcement approach demonstrations downtown. This approach has three main principles:

- Continuing to uphold protestors' right to peacefully protest in favor of social and racial justice;*
- Taking all possible steps to avoid confrontations between police and these peaceful protestors; and*
- Increasing efforts to identify, isolate, arrest, and aggressively prosecute the small group of people who are using the protests as cover for property damage and violence.*



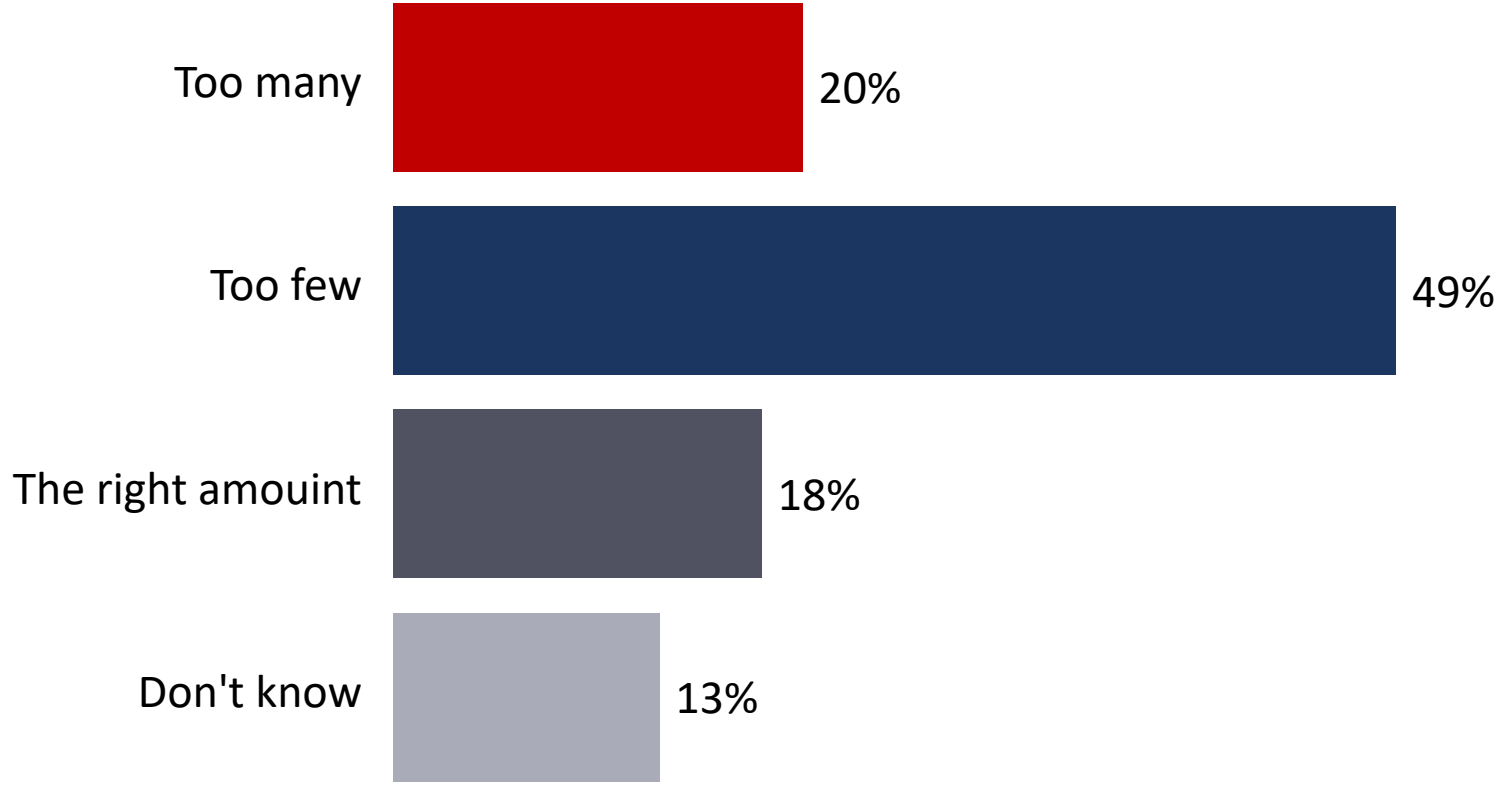
By a wide margin, voters believe the Portland Police Bureau has a net negative impact on the city.

Would you say that right now the Portland Police Bureau has more of a positive or negative impact on the city?



At the same time, nearly half believe the city has too few police.

Do you think Portland currently has too many, too few, or the right amount of police?



Voters believe that the Portland Police Bureau can be reformed.

*I am going to read you a pair of statements about policing in Portland.
Please tell me which statement comes closer to your opinion;
please choose just one even if it's hard to decide.*

The Portland Police Bureau is damaged but can be reformed and improved with better leadership and stronger community oversight.

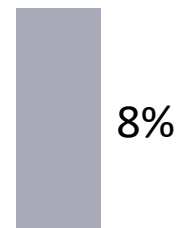


OR

The Portland Police Bureau is broken beyond repair; it should be replaced with an entirely different model of providing public safety.

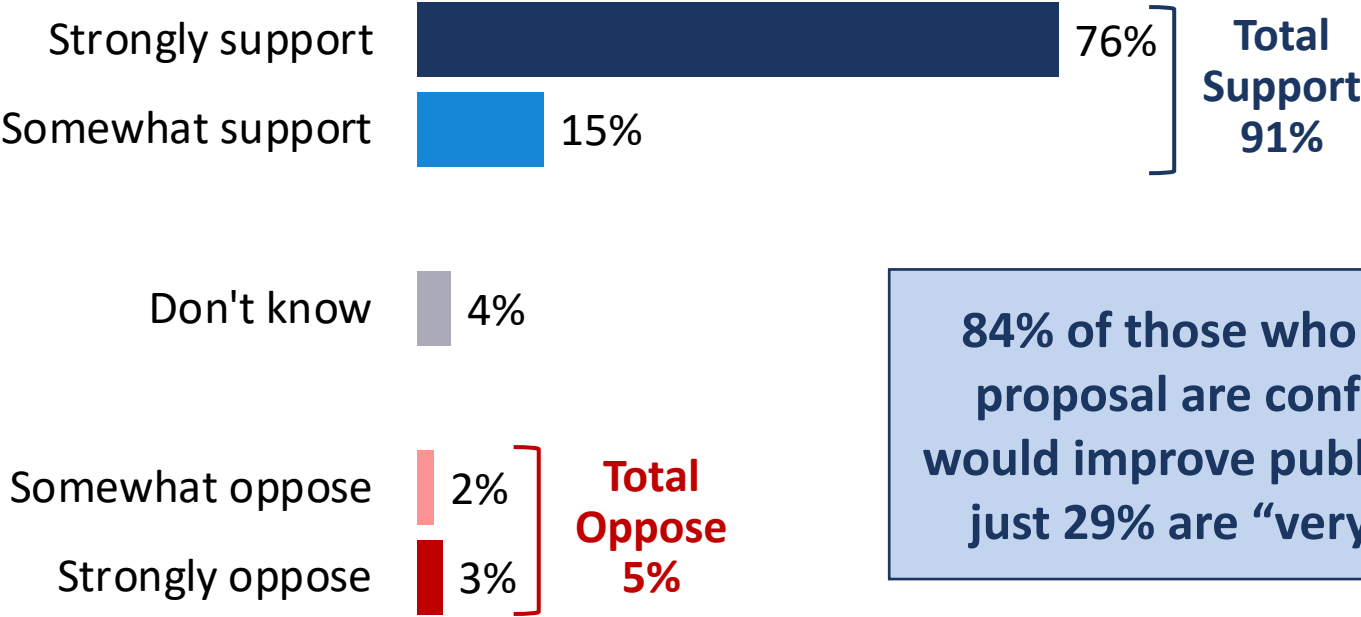


Both/None/Don't know/Refused



Nine in ten support body cameras for police officers, with three-quarters “strongly supportive.”

Last year, funding for police officer body cameras was eliminated from the City budget due to a budget shortfall. Would you support or oppose providing enough City funding to require all officers to wear body cameras?



84% of those who support this proposal are confident that it would improve public safety – but just 29% are “very confident.”

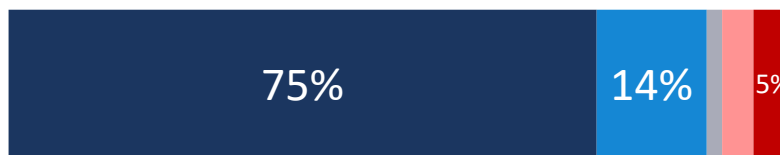
Voters also broadly support a range of other reforms to policing.

Here are some ideas that have been proposed to reform policing in Portland. Please tell me whether you support or oppose each one.

■ Strng. Supp. ■ Smwt. Supp. ■ Don't Know ■ Smwt. Opp. ■ Strng. Opp

Total Supp. **Total Opp.**

Expanding the Portland Street Response program, which sends a paramedic and social worker – instead of police officers – to respond to people experiencing a homelessness or mental health crisis



89%

9%

Requiring that police response times for property crimes in Portland be at least as fast as the national average



85%

10%

Requiring the Portland Police Bureau to investigate any act of property destruction that causes more than \$50,000 in damages



84%

12%

Nearly nine in ten voters say they would be likely to vote to replace their current elected officials if things do not improve.

If things do not seriously improve before the next election, how likely will you be to vote to replace your current elected City and County representatives: very likely, somewhat likely, not too likely, or not likely at all?

