

The People's Pulse

The People's Pulse survey is an initiative commissioned by Brooklyn Org, The New York Community Trust, The Staten Island Foundation, and the Altman Foundation, and spearheaded by the 5BORO Institute.



February 2025

About the Project

The People's Pulse survey is an initiative commissioned by Brooklyn Org, The New York Community Trust, The Staten Island Foundation, and the Altman Foundation, and spearheaded by 5BORO Institute.

This first-of-its-kind collaboration builds upon the many years that the organizations involved have devoted to listening to and investing in New York City's communities.

The survey aims to amplify the voices of everyday New Yorkers in civic conversation.

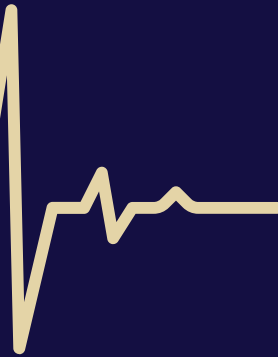
What New Yorkers Think About New York.

Slingshot Strategies conducted a multimodal survey of 3,000 adults in New York City in English, Spanish, and Mandarin from January 21st to January 30th, 2025. The sample is weighted to education, age, gender, race, county, and 2024 election results, with a margin of error of ± 2.51 .



Executive Summary

The
People's Pulse



Scope of Study

This comprehensive study covers a broad range of issues regarding New York City's civic life. Specific categories of questions covered key areas, including:

- Affordability
- Public Safety
- Housing
- Immigration
- Non-Profit Resilience and Capacity
- Mental Health and Substance Abuse Services
- Food Insecurity
- Workforce Programs
- Democracy and Civic Engagement

Top Takeaways

We found New Yorkers are deeply concerned about and directly affected by the city's **affordability** and **public safety**, while also believing the city faces **a mental health crisis**.

Affordability

In question after question, the **cost of living** and the pressure it exerts every day rises above other challenges New Yorkers believe they face. **Mounting financial pressure** is pushing New Yorkers to doubt the future of the city and their own future in the city.

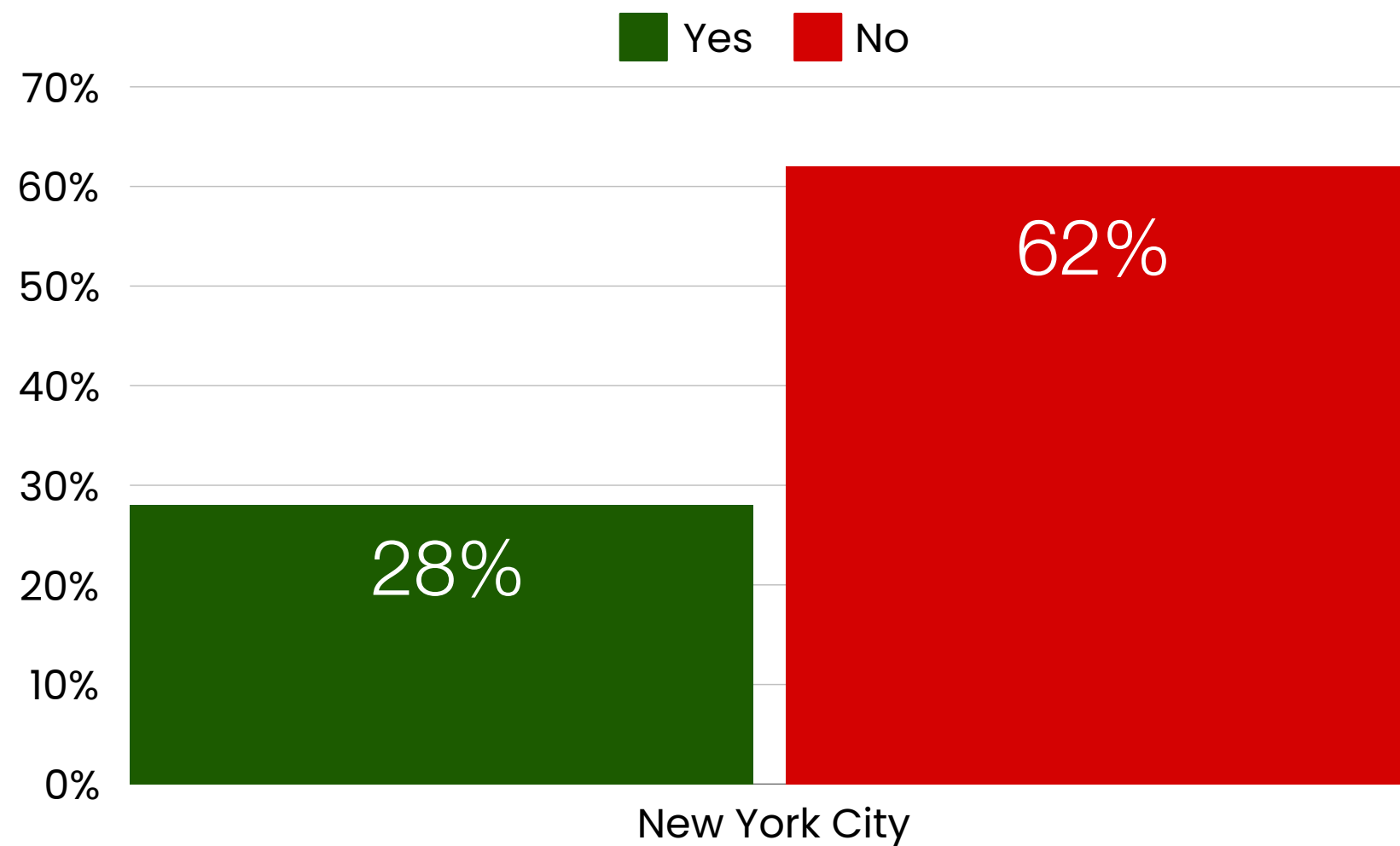
Forty-eight percent of New Yorkers surveyed said they had considered leaving NYC. When asked about potential reasons, **43% of respondents cited the cost of buying or renting a home as a top factor**. This was followed by the cost of basic necessities such as food, utilities and clothing **(32%)** and concerns about the public safety situation **(25%)**.

Notably, some of the **lower-ranked reasons** included schools and education **(4%)**, preference for politics elsewhere **(3%)**, and dating and social life **(3%)**.

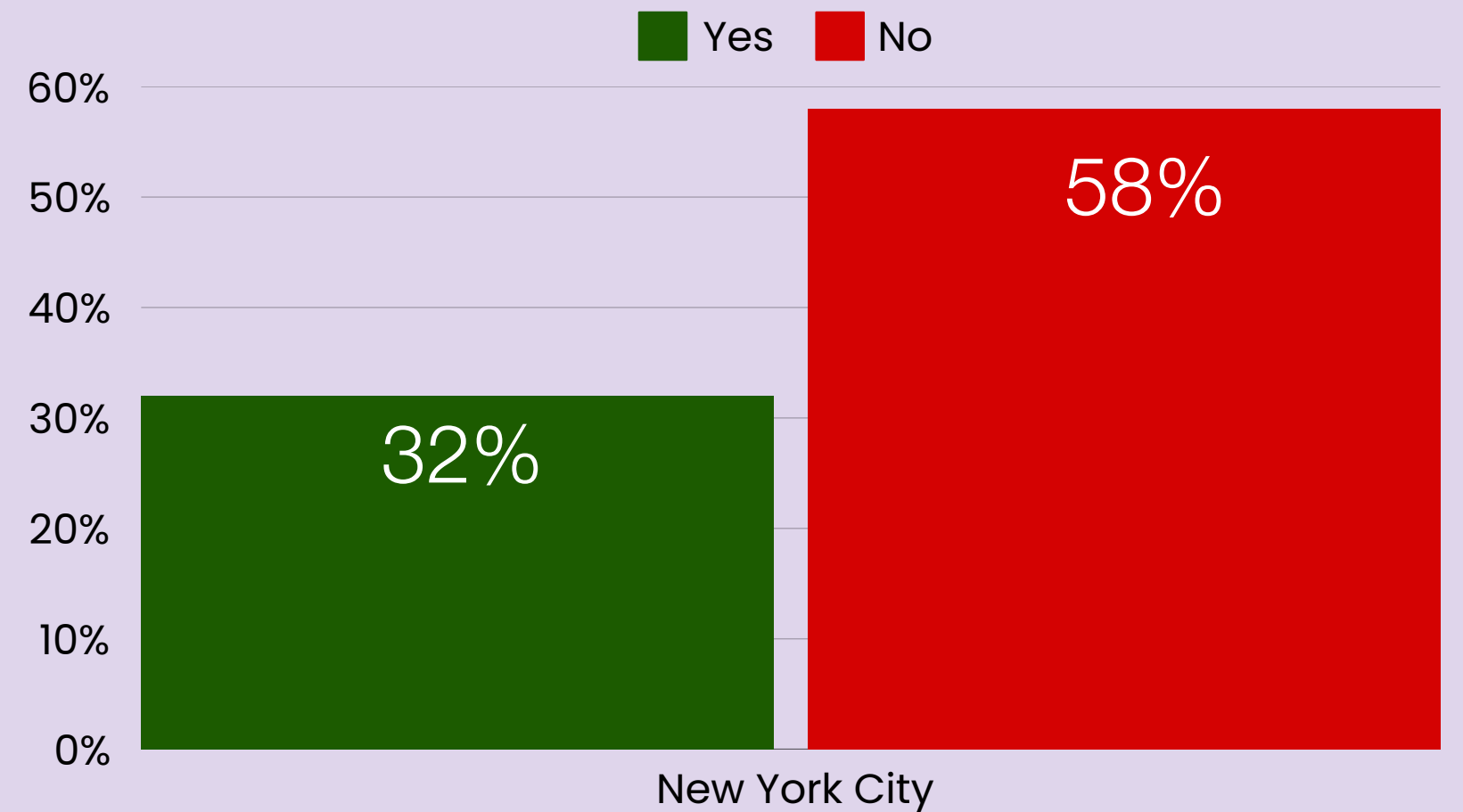
What have you considered as reasons to leave New York City? Please select your top two.	
The cost of buying or renting a home	43%
The cost of basic necessities such as food, utilities, and clothing	32%
The public safety situation	25%
Preferring to raise a family outside the city	8%
Being closer to family or friends	8%
Transit, transportation, and commute	7%
Sanitation, parks, streets, and public spaces	6%
Not being able to afford cultural amenities such as sports, shows or nightlife	5%
Schools and education	4%
Prefer the politics somewhere else	3%
The dating and social life	3%
Prefer the social, religious, or community life somewhere else	3%

28% of New Yorkers reported that they or someone they know has **had a family member move in to help save money**. Similarly, **32% of respondents** say they or someone they know has **had to move in with a family member to reduce expenses**.

In the past few years, have you or someone you know had a family member move in so that they could save money?

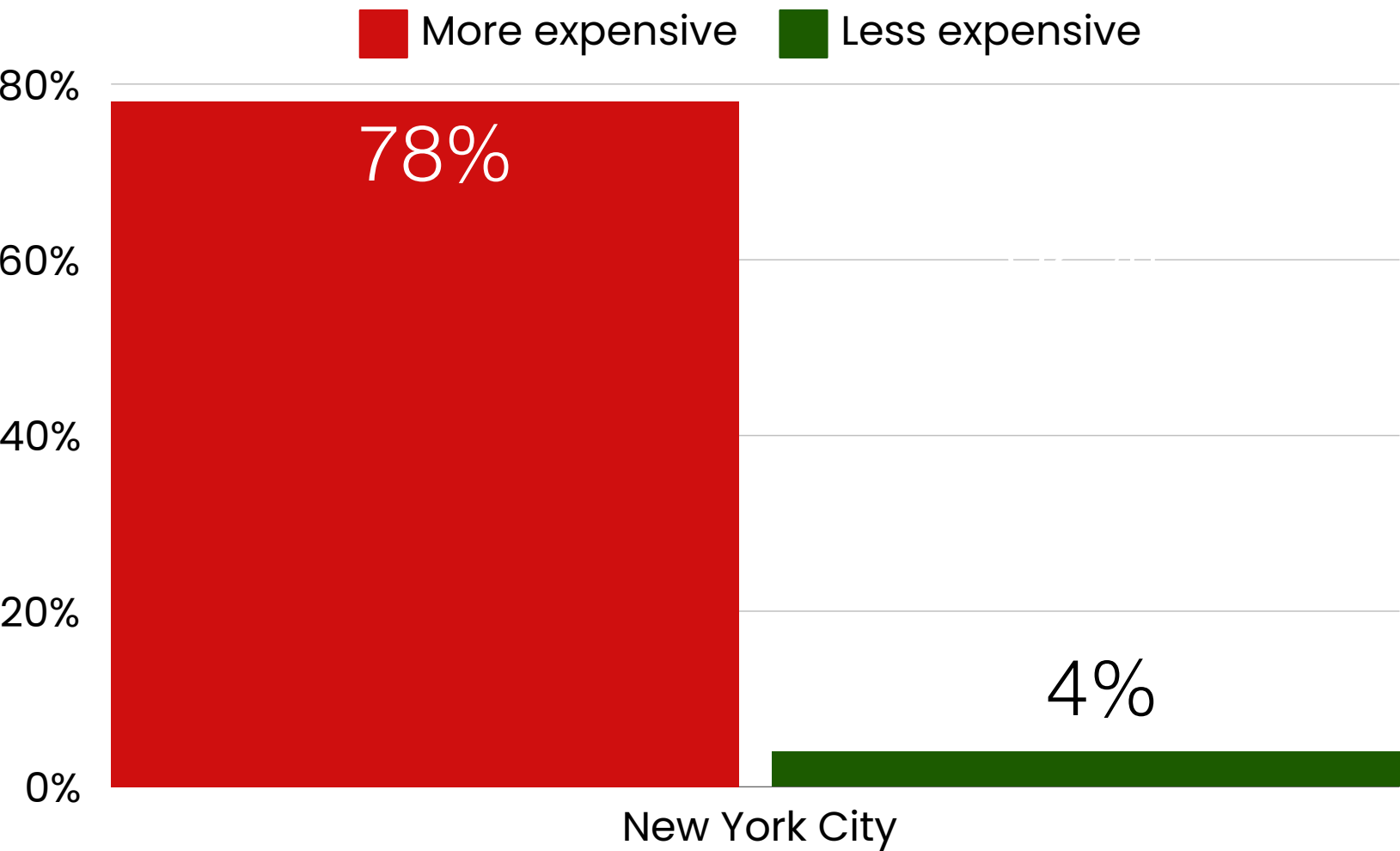


In the past few years, have you or someone you know had to move in with a family member to save money?

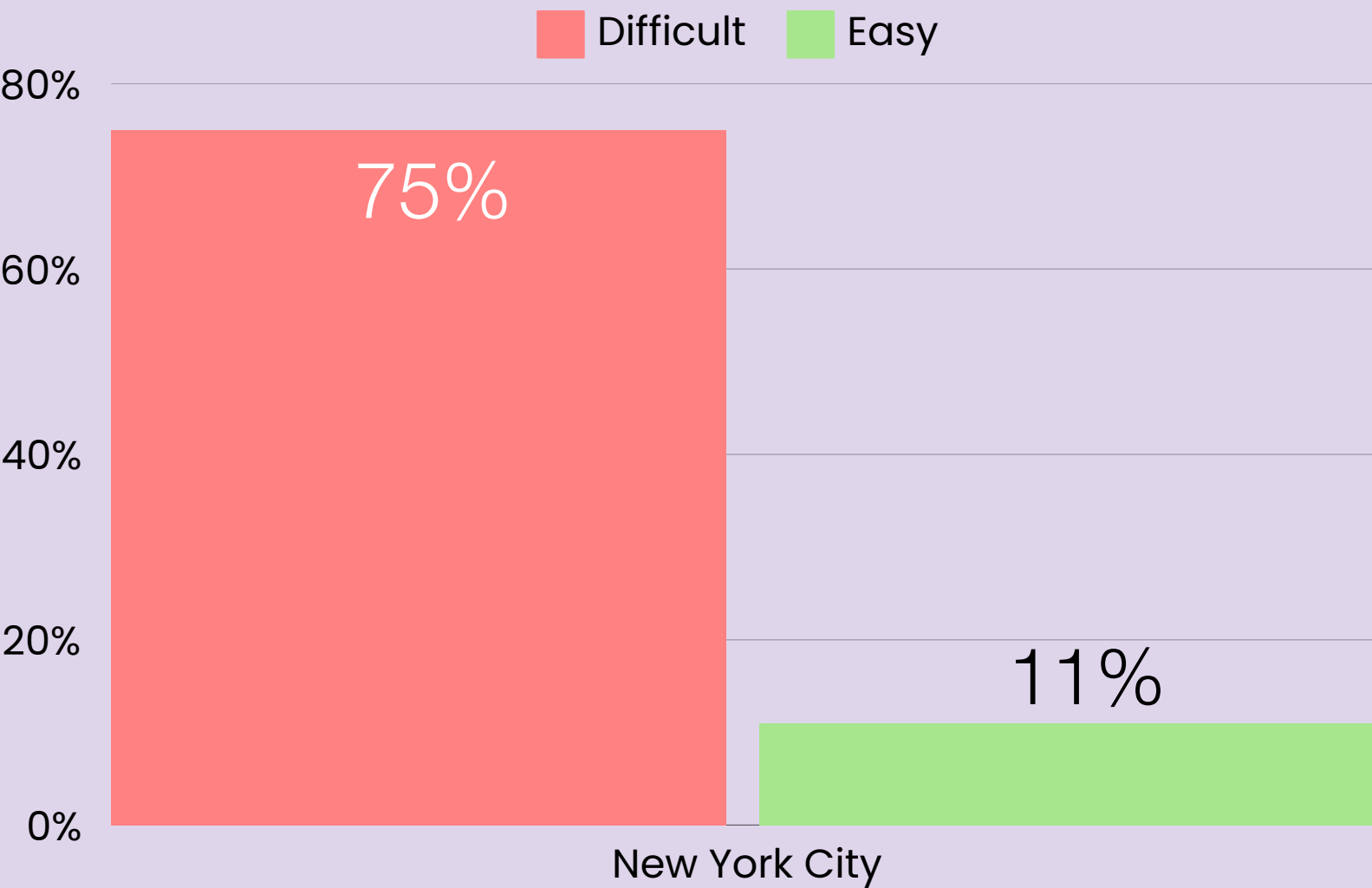


A **vast majority** of New Yorkers **(78%) believe that housing costs have increased in recent years**, while only 4% say they have become less expensive. Similarly, **75% of respondents expressed that buying or renting a home in their area is difficult**, while only 11% find it easy.

Generally speaking, do you think the cost of housing in New York City has gotten more or less expensive over the last few years?



Thinking about everything that goes into buying or renting a home, would you say that it's currently difficult or easy to buy or rent a home in your area?



Empathy

More than 80% of New Yorkers believe the city is in a **mental health crisis** and three of four say that **too many individuals suffering from mental illness are left without adequate care.**

Most New Yorkers take a compassionate approach: When asked how they feel about individuals struggling with mental health and substance abuse issues in public spaces, **58% of New Yorkers expressed empathy, saying they feel sad that those in need are not receiving adequate support.**

Most New Yorkers take a **compassionate approach** to the public safety issues in the city. When asked how they feel about individuals struggling with mental health and substance abuse issues in public spaces, **58% of New Yorkers expressed empathy**, saying they feel sad that those in need are not receiving adequate support.

23% reported feeling anger and frustration, believing that while these individuals need help, their behavior should not negatively impact others

When you see someone in public on the street or in the subway who is struggling with mental health issues, substance abuse issues, or other health issues, what comes closest to describing how you feel?	
I mostly feel empathy for people who are struggling with these issues, even when they make me uncomfortable in public and I wish it wasn't happening. It makes me sad that people who clearly need the help aren't getting it, and sad that other New Yorkers have to deal with the consequences of these people not getting the services they need and deserve.	58%
I mostly feel anger and frustration at people who are struggling with these issues and acting out in public while making life harder for other New Yorkers. I understand they need help, but that's not an excuse to behave in inappropriate, violent, or threatening ways instead of seeking out help, and the rest of us simply shouldn't have to deal with it.	23%
Other [write in]	17%

When asked to select the words that best described how they feel about New York City right now, the top four words were "unsafe" **(33%)**, "disappointment" **(21%)**, "dirty" **(20%)**, and "difficult" **(18%)**.
Notably, **only 9% of respondents selected "livable."**

The lowest-ranked words selected by respondents included "pride" **(6%)**, "pessimism" **(6%)**, and "safe" **(4%)**.

What words would you use to best describe how you feel about New York City right now? Please pick the two that feel most accurate.	
Unsafe	33%
Disappointment	21%
Dirty	20%
Difficult	18%
Failing	14%
Hope	11%
Livable	9%
Sadness	8%
Love	7%
Pride	6%
Pessimism	6%
Safe	4%

Regarding public safety, **68% of respondents say they avoid using the subway at certain times or in certain areas due to safety concerns**, and nearly half of New Yorkers surveyed **(49%)** say safety concerns affect their willingness to spend time outdoors in their neighborhood.

39% of New Yorkers say that they or someone they know have **witnessed or experienced a safety-related incident on the subway**, and **36%** say that they or someone they know have **witnessed a crime in public**.

Public Safety	Yes	No
Do you avoid using the subway at certain times or in certain areas because of safety concerns?	68%	25%
Do safety concerns affect your willingness to spend time outdoors or use public spaces in your neighborhood?	49%	37%
In the past year, have you or someone you know personally witnessed or experienced a safety-related incident on the subway, such as harassment, theft, or violence?	39%	46%
In the past year, have you or someone you know personally witnessed a crime in public?	36%	47%

Shifting Priorities:

Why Some Issues Have Faded into the Background

With **affordability, public safety** and **mental health** dominating the concerns of most New Yorkers, other important issues—such as sanitation, education, and climate—have taken a backseat. This doesn't mean New Yorkers are indifferent to these challenges or satisfied with the status quo.

Instead, the daily struggle with the **high cost of living and concerns about public safety and mental health have become urgent, first-order priorities that demand immediate solutions.** Until these fundamental challenges are addressed, issues that might otherwise command more attention remain secondary in the public's mind.

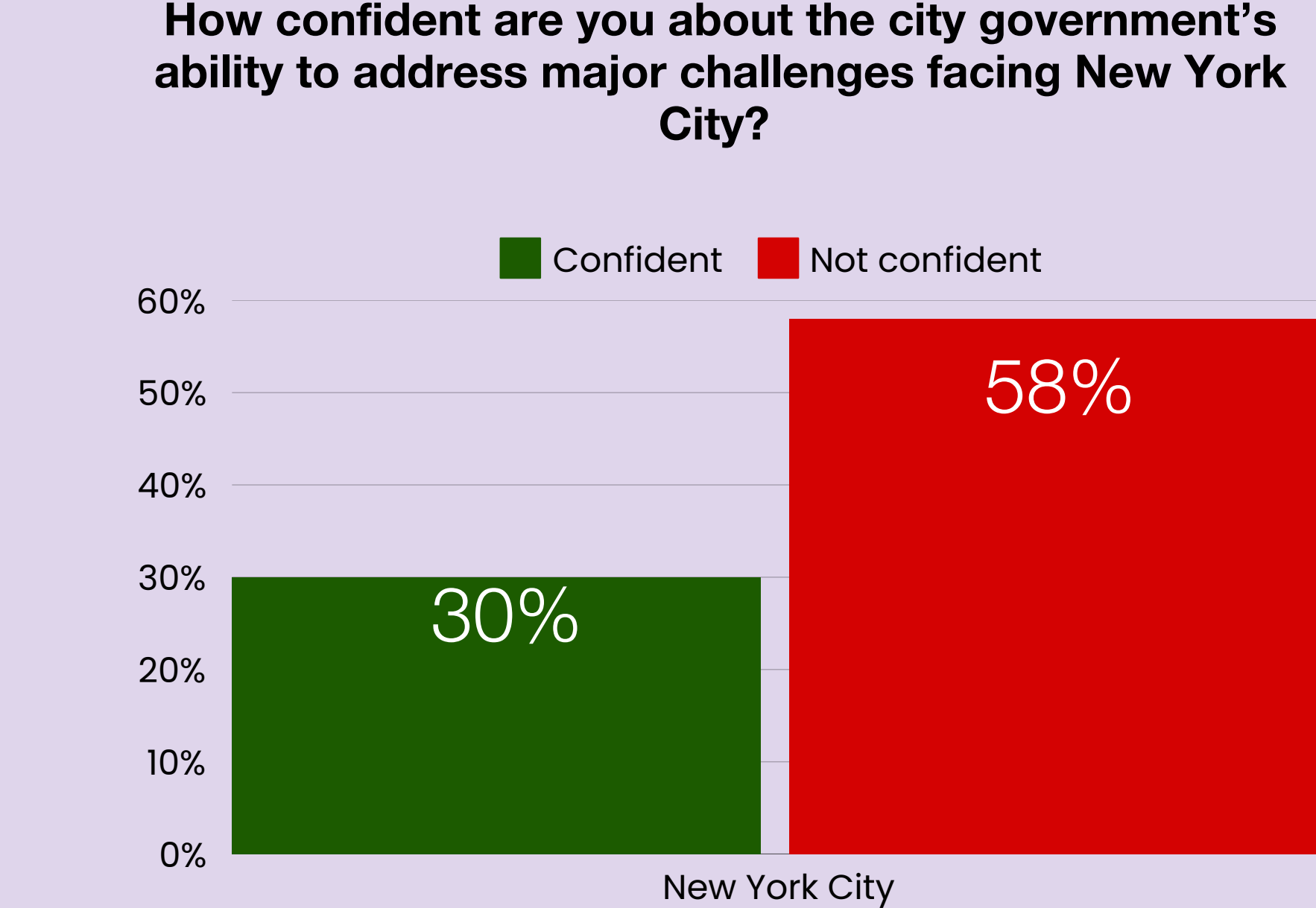
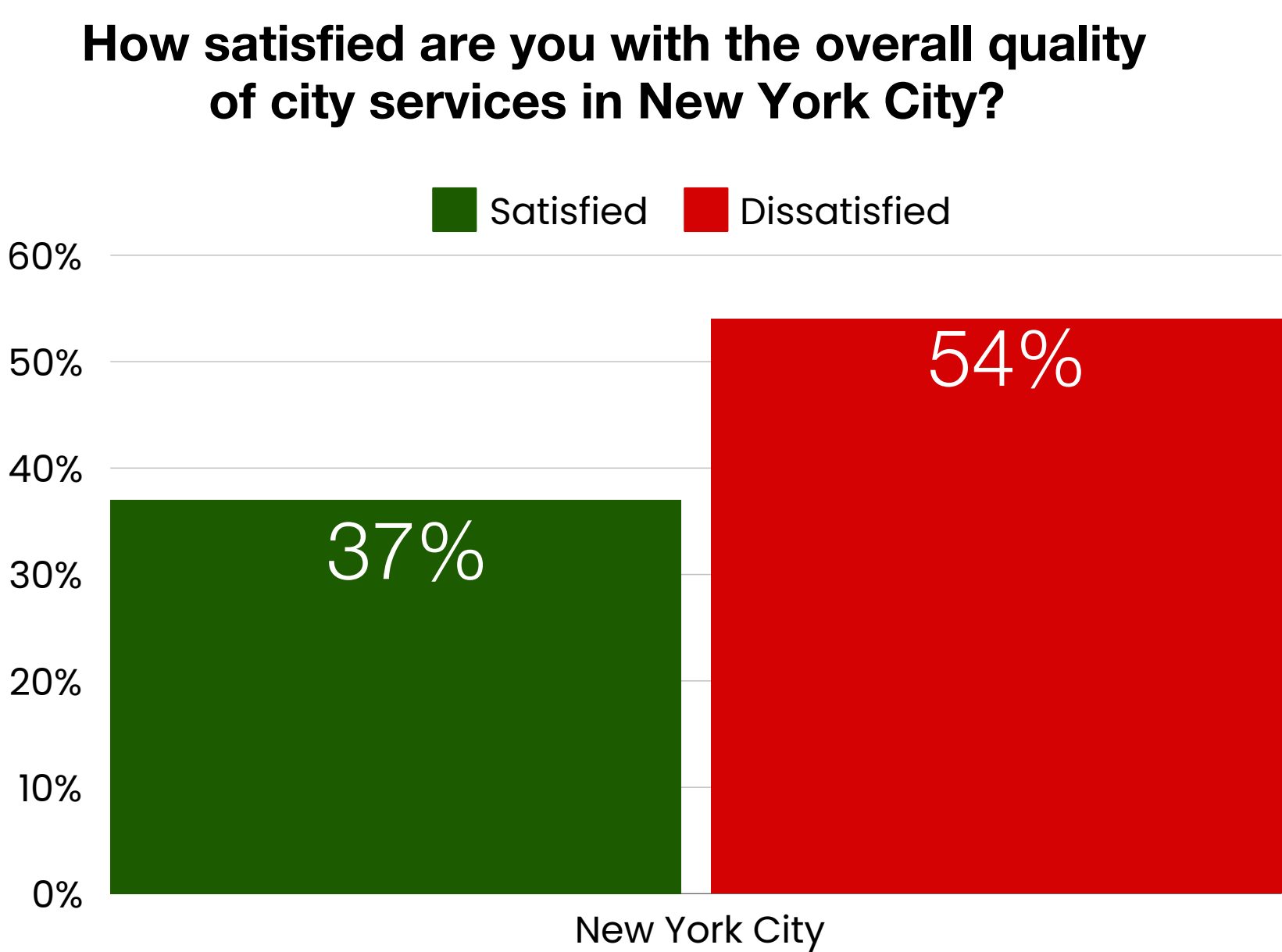
When asked to select their **top services and programs** to prioritize for city funding, New Yorkers ranked **affordable housing programs (22%)** highest. **Police and public safety services (18%)** were the second most common first-choice selection, followed by **public transportation improvements (13%)**.

Other significant first-choice rankings included **homelessness services (11%)**, **food and benefits programs (9%)**, and **public schools and educational programs (8%)**.

Thinking about all the things that the New York City government provides funding for, what are the services or programs you would like to see the city support the most? Please select and rank your top 3 priorities [RANK 1]:	
Affordable housing programs	22%
Police and public safety services	18%
Public transportation improvements	13%
Homelessness services	11%
Food and benefits programs	9%
Public schools and educational programs	8%
After-school and summer programming for families	2%
Public libraries	2%
Public parks and recreational facilities	2%
Community centers and pools	1%
Beach and waterfront maintenance	1%
Veterans' services	1%

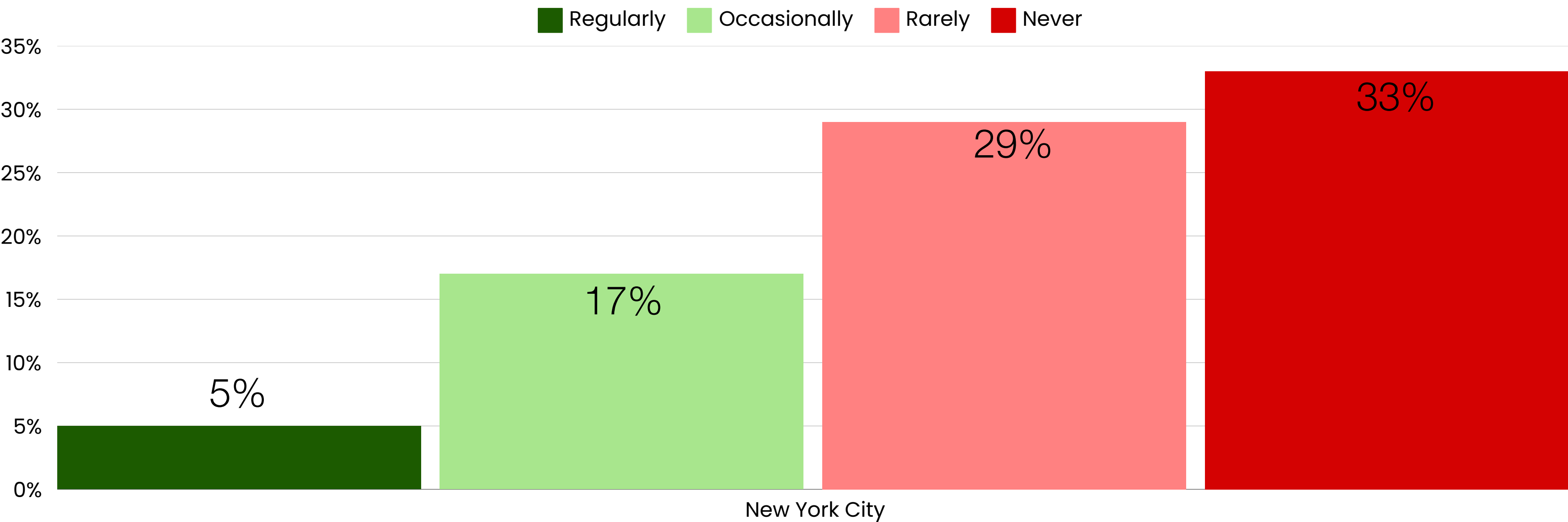
When asked about their satisfaction with the quality of services in New York City, a **majority (54%)** of the New Yorkers surveyed say they are **dissatisfied with the state of services** in the city, while just **37%** report being satisfied with these services.

Confidence in the city government’s ability to address major challenges **is low**. A majority **(58%)** of respondents **are not confident** in the city government’s ability to address major challenges, while only **30%** expressed confidence.



When asked how often they engage in non-voting civic activities, such as attending community meetings or contacting elected officials, **5% of New Yorkers said they participate regularly**, while **17% do so occasionally**. **29% report rarely participating**, and **33% say they never engage in these activities**.

How often do you participate in non-voting civic activities such as attending community meetings or contacting elected officials?

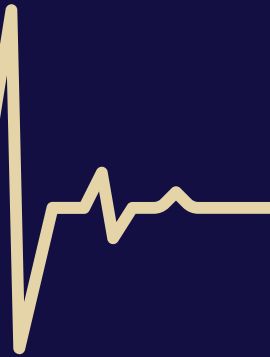


Full Study

What follows is a detailed exploration of some of the richest parts of this study's dataset, including crosstabular analysis of major demographic and geographic categories where it sheds additional light.

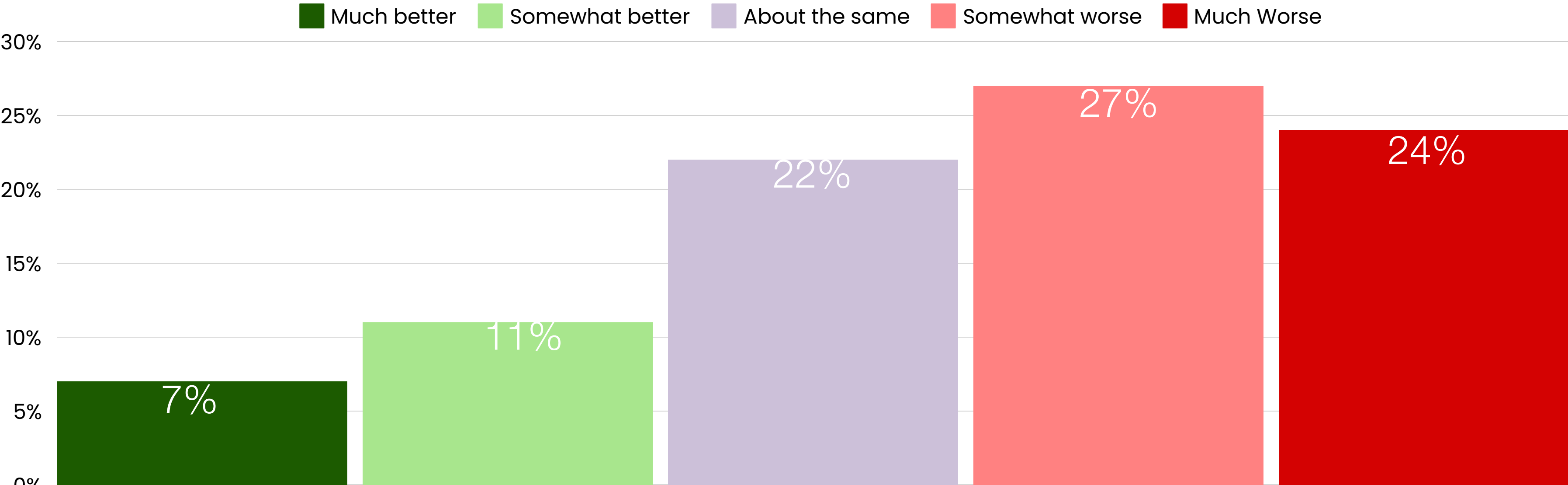
Quality of Life

The
People's Pulse



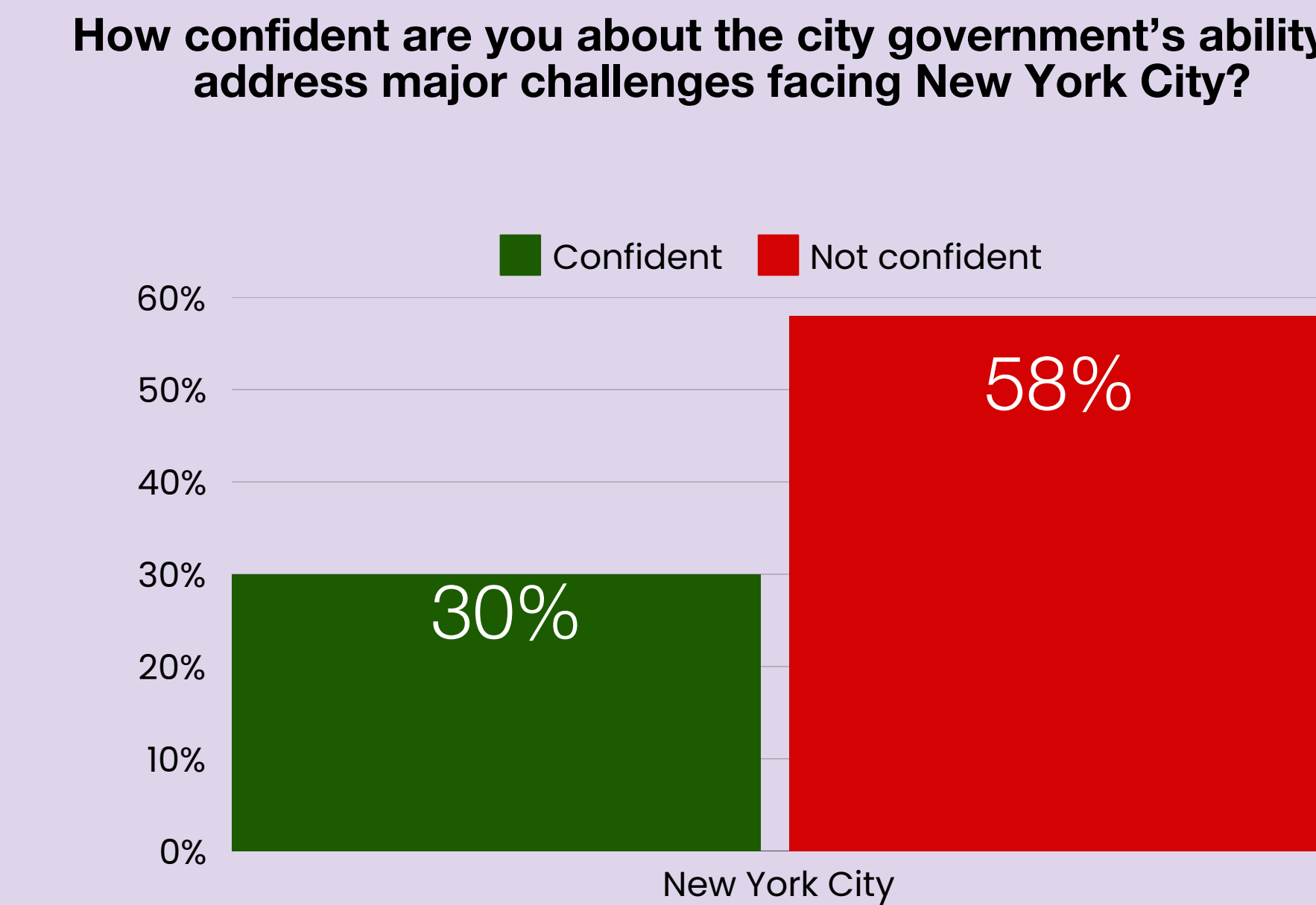
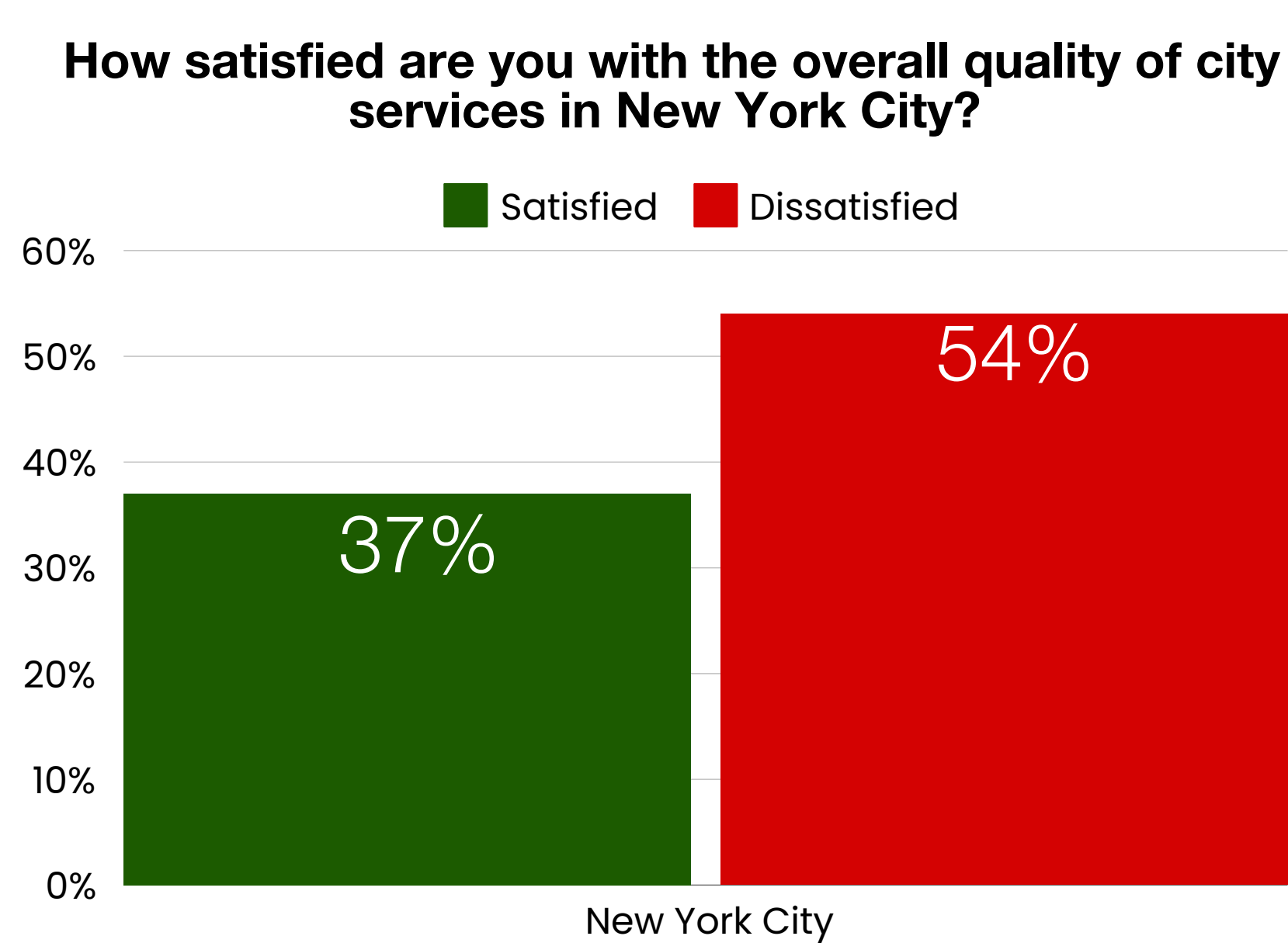
When asked about how they would rate their overall quality of life in New York City compared to five years ago, a **majority (51%) of respondents said their quality of life has gotten worse**, while just **18%** believe that it has improved.

Thinking about your own experience, how would you rate your overall quality of life in New York City today compared to five years ago?



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When asked to select the words that best described how they feel about New York City right now, the top four words were “unsafe” **(33%)**, “disappointment” **(21%)**, “dirty” **(20%)**, and “difficult” **(18%)**. Notably, **only 9% of respondents selected “livable”**.

The lowest-ranked words selected by respondents included “pride” **(6%)**, “pessimism” **(6%)**, and “safe” **(4%)**.

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Community centers and pools	1%
Beach and waterfront maintenance	1%
Veterans' services	1%

When asked about the biggest financial burden on their household, a plurality **(42%)** of respondents cited **housing costs as a top pressure point**, with healthcare costs **(26%)** and food costs **(10%)** rounding out the **highest ranking financial stressors**.

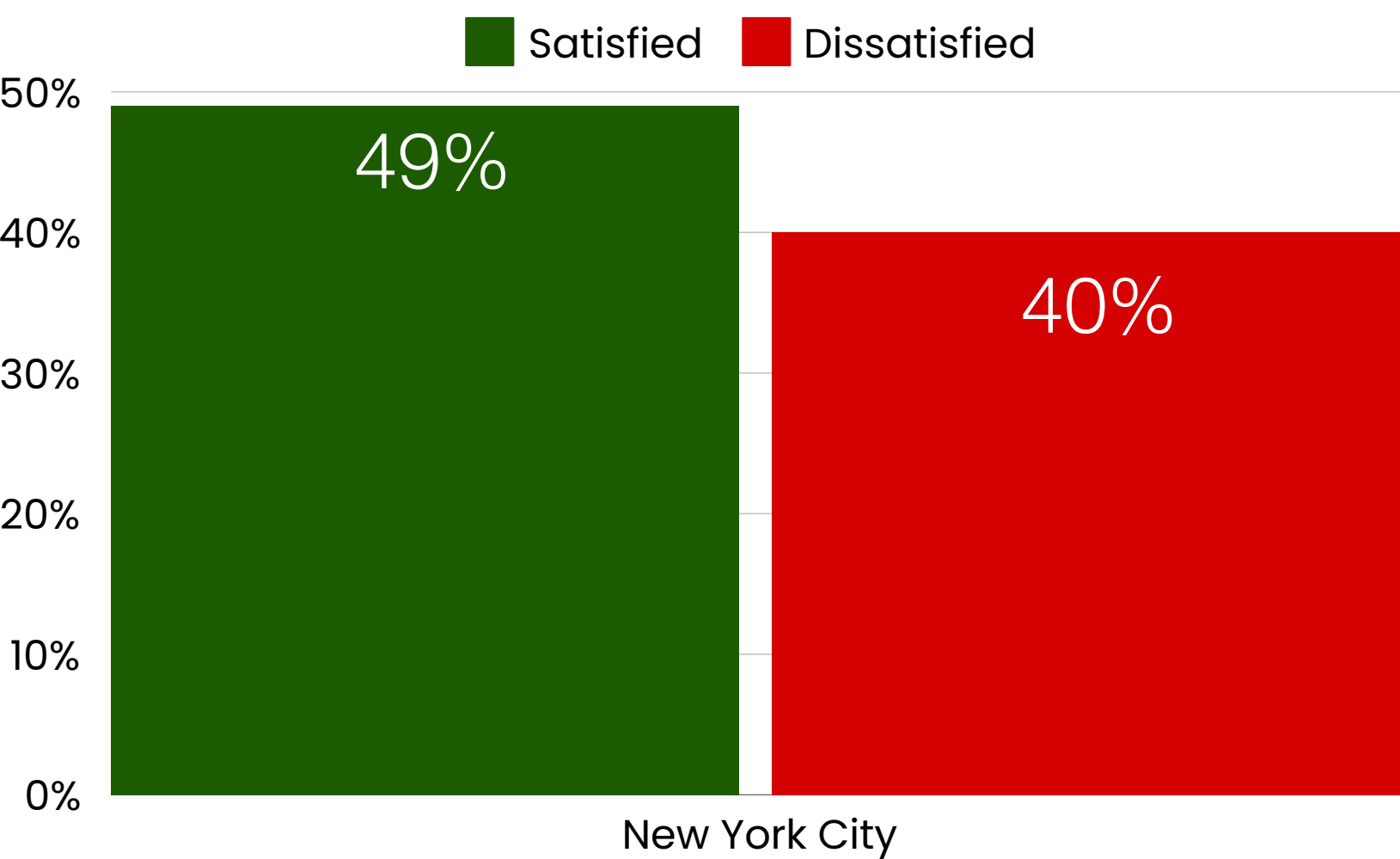
Lower ranking financial burdens included transportation costs **(5%)**, childcare expenses **(3%)** and education costs **(3%)**.

When it comes to you and your family, what would you say is the biggest financial burden on your household today?	
Housing costs	42%
Healthcare costs	26%
Food and groceries	10%
Transit and transport	5%
Education	3%
Childcare expenses	3%

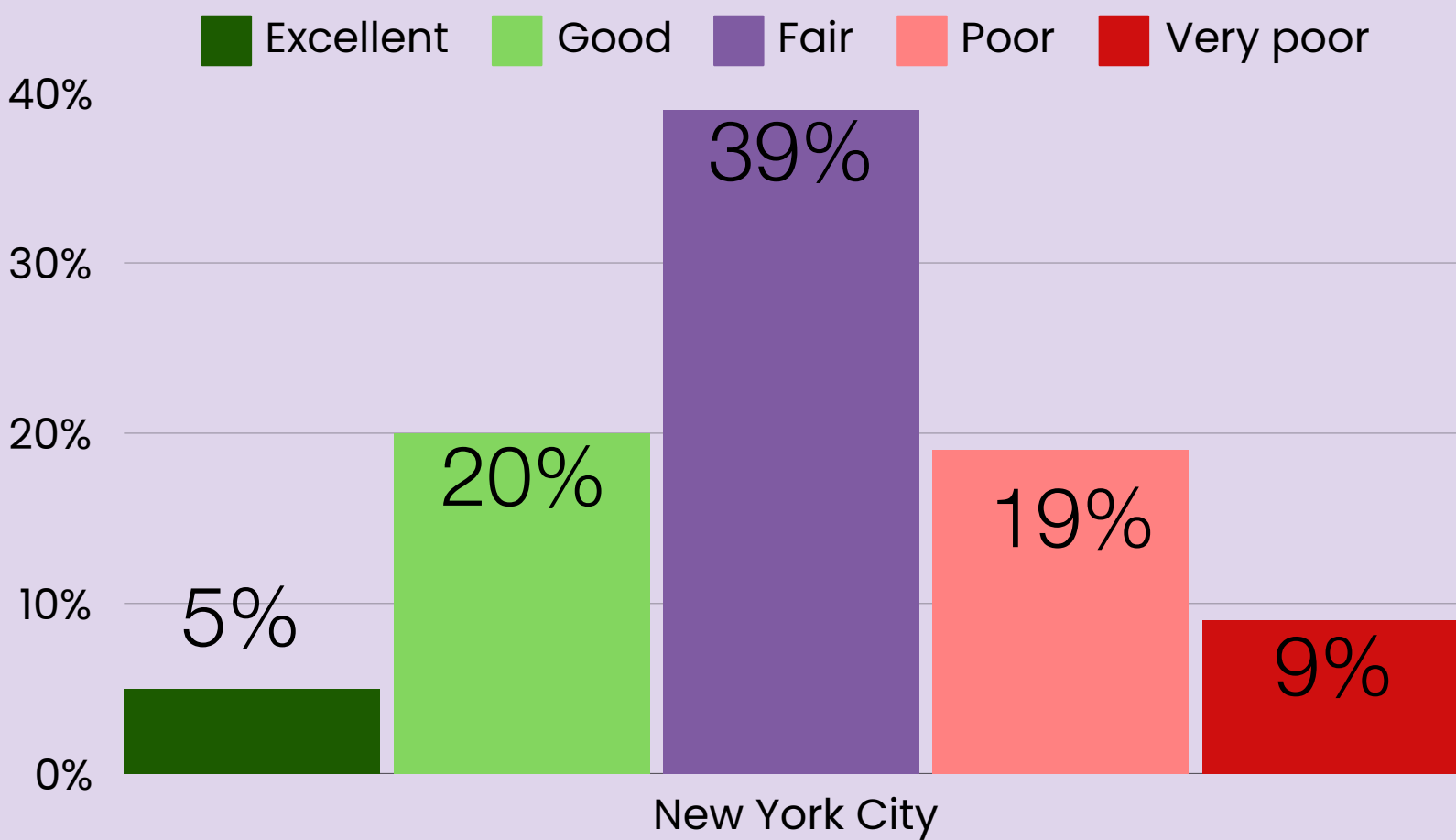
When asked about their level of satisfaction related to their public transportation options, opinion was mixed. **49%** of New Yorkers that were surveyed **report being satisfied with their public transport**, while **40% expressed dissatisfaction**.

When rating the city’s infrastructure, including roads, bridges, tunnels, and sidewalks only **5% rated it as excellent**, while **20% said it was good**. A plurality, **39%**, **described it as fair**, while **28% rated it as poor or very poor**.

When thinking about your daily commute, how satisfied are you with the availability, and reliability of your public transport options, such as subways and buses, in your area?

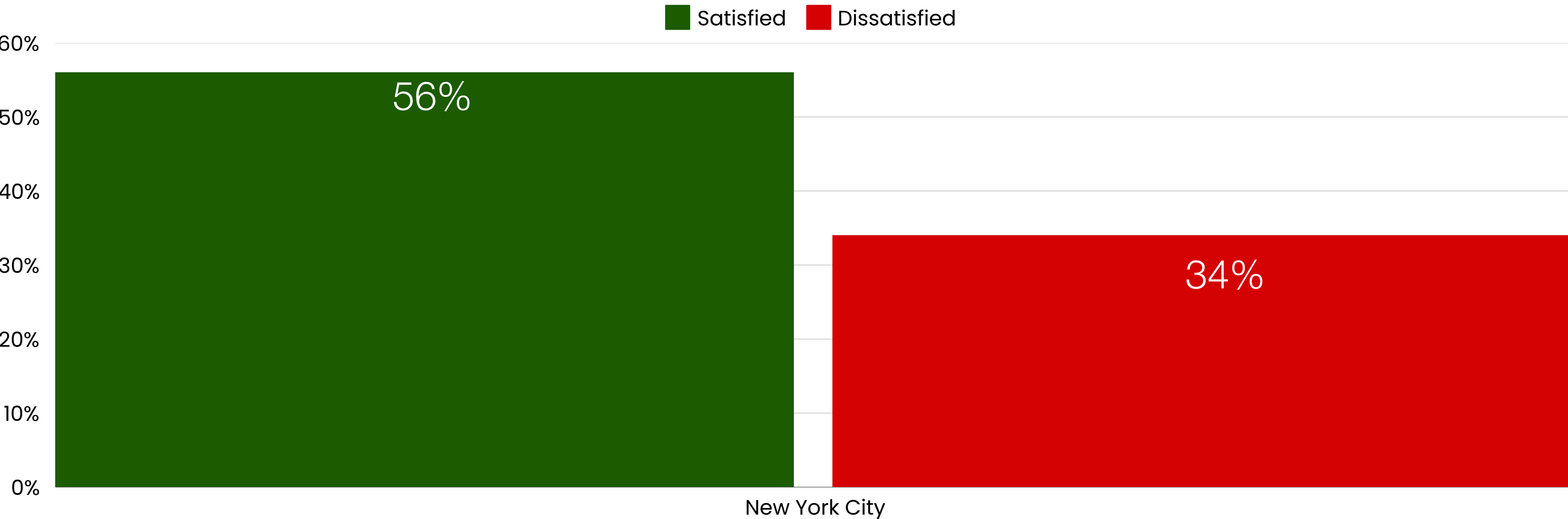


How would you rate the overall functionality of New York City’s infrastructure, such as roads, bridges, tunnels, and sidewalks?



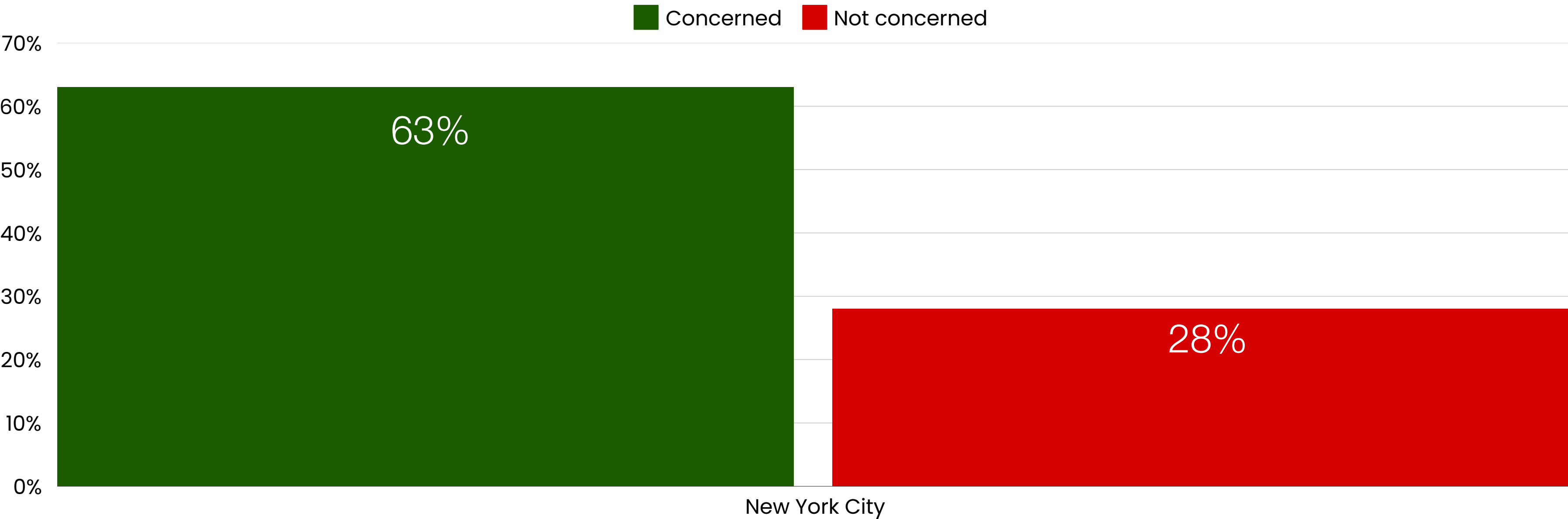
When asked about their satisfaction with the **consistency and reliability** of city sanitation services and the maintenance of public spaces in their neighborhoods, **a majority (56%)** of New Yorkers surveyed **reported being satisfied** with sanitation services, while **34% expressed dissatisfaction** with the state of these services in their neighborhood(s).

How satisfied are you with the consistency and reliability of city sanitation services (such as garbage collection and recycling) and the maintenance of public spaces (such as parks, streets, and sidewalks) in your neighborhood?



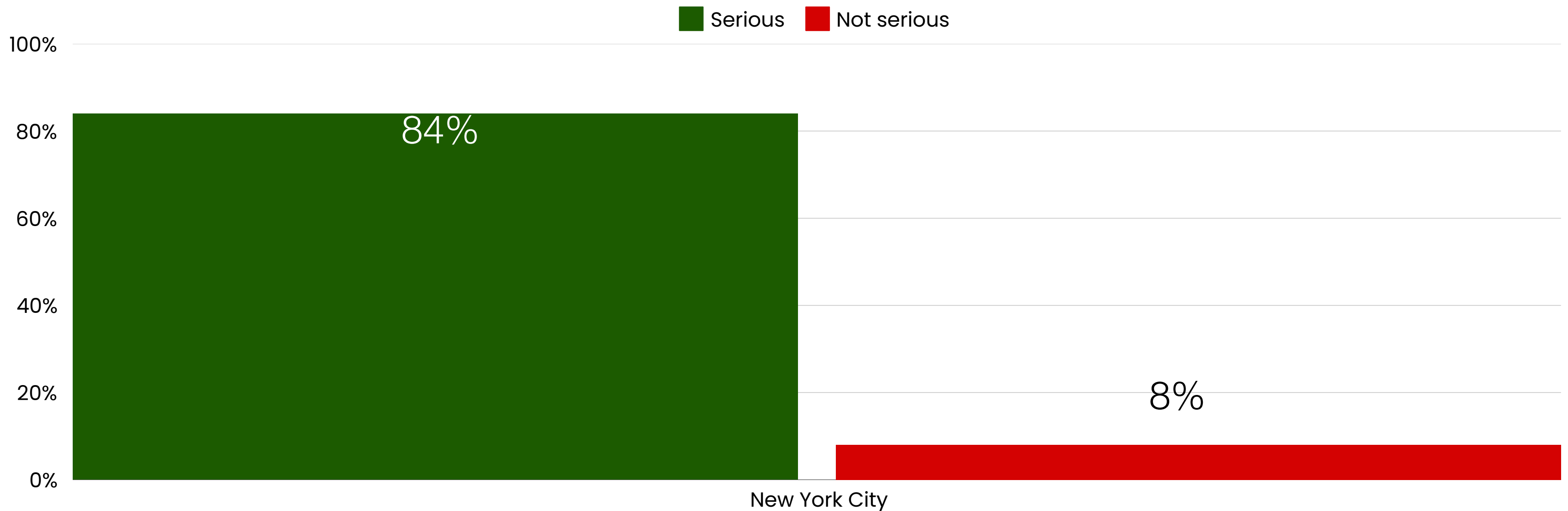
A large majority (63%) of respondents expressed concern about air and noise pollution in their community, while **only 28% were not concerned** about air and noise pollution in their community.

To what extent are you concerned about air and noise pollution in your community?

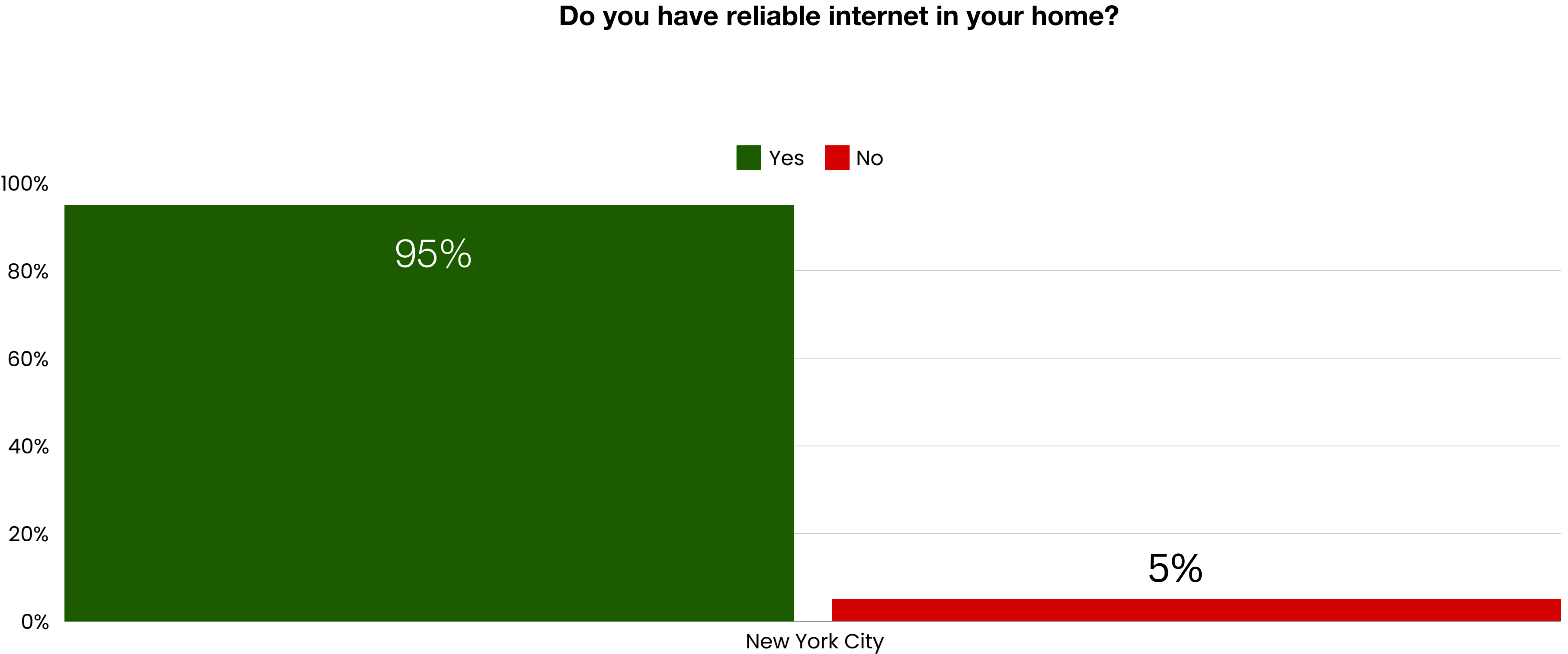


An **overwhelming majority** of New Yorkers view the city's mental crisis as a serious issue. **84% believe it is a serious problem**, while **only 8%** say it is **not a serious problem** facing the city.

How serious of a problem do you feel the mental health crisis is in New York City?

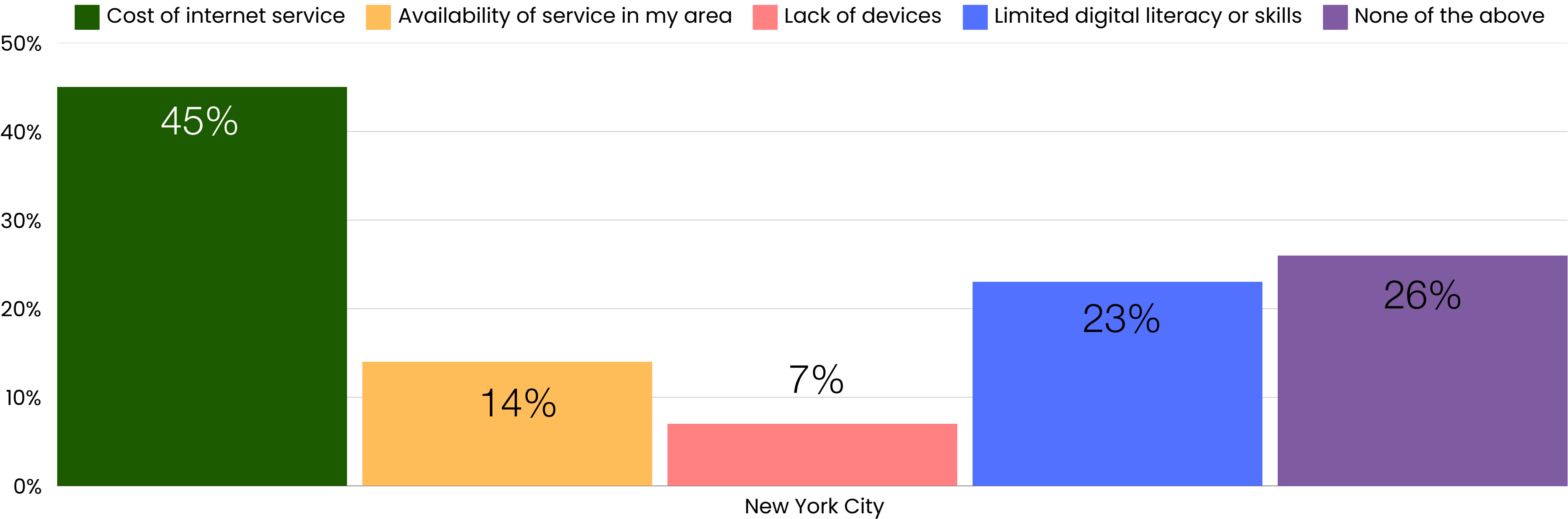


The vast majority (95%) of respondents **have access to reliable internet at home**, while **5%** of New Yorkers report that **they do not** have reliable internet access in their home.



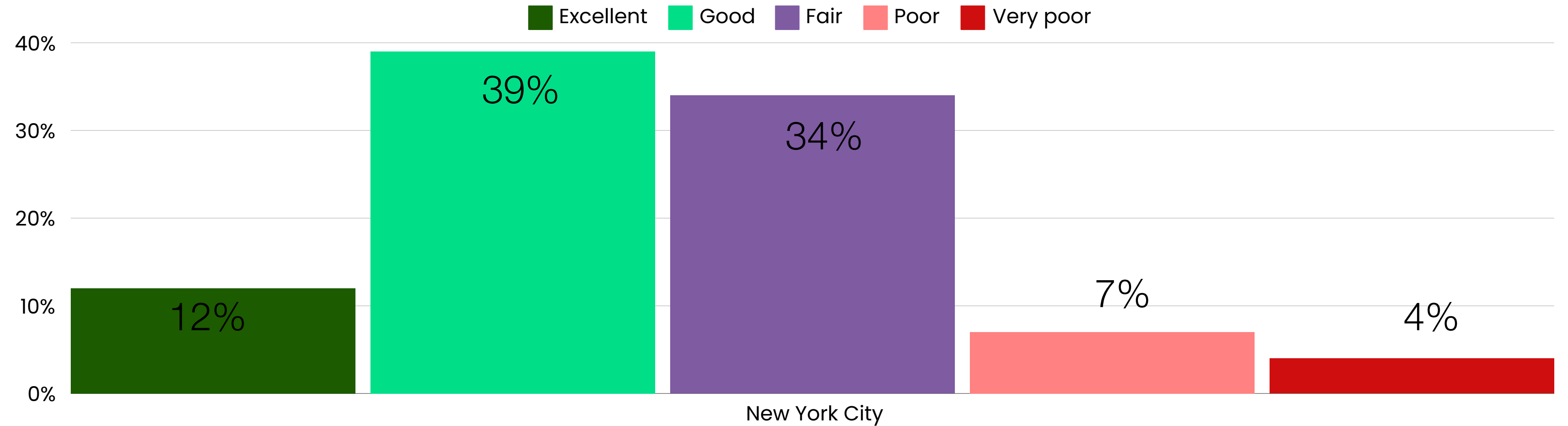
When asked about the biggest barriers to accessing reliable internet and digital tools, **45% of respondents cited the cost of internet service** as the primary challenge. Other reported obstacles include **limited service availability (14%)**, **lack of devices such as computers or tablets (7%)**, and **limited digital literacy (23%)**. Additionally, **26% stated that none of these barriers apply to them.**

What are the biggest barriers to reliable internet and digital tools for your household?

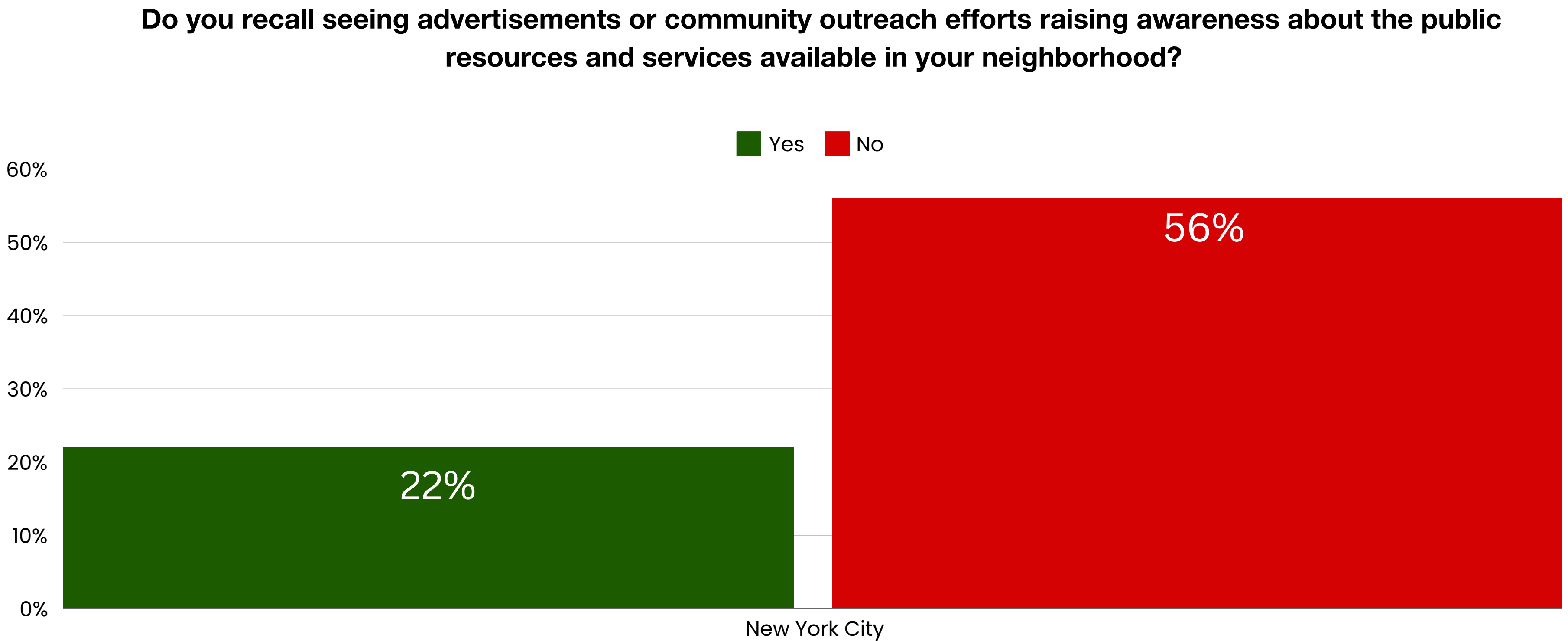


When asked to rate their neighborhood as a place to live, **51% of New Yorkers rated their neighborhood as excellent or good**. **34%** of respondents rated their neighborhood as fair, while just **11% of New Yorkers rated their neighborhood as a poor or very poor place to live**.

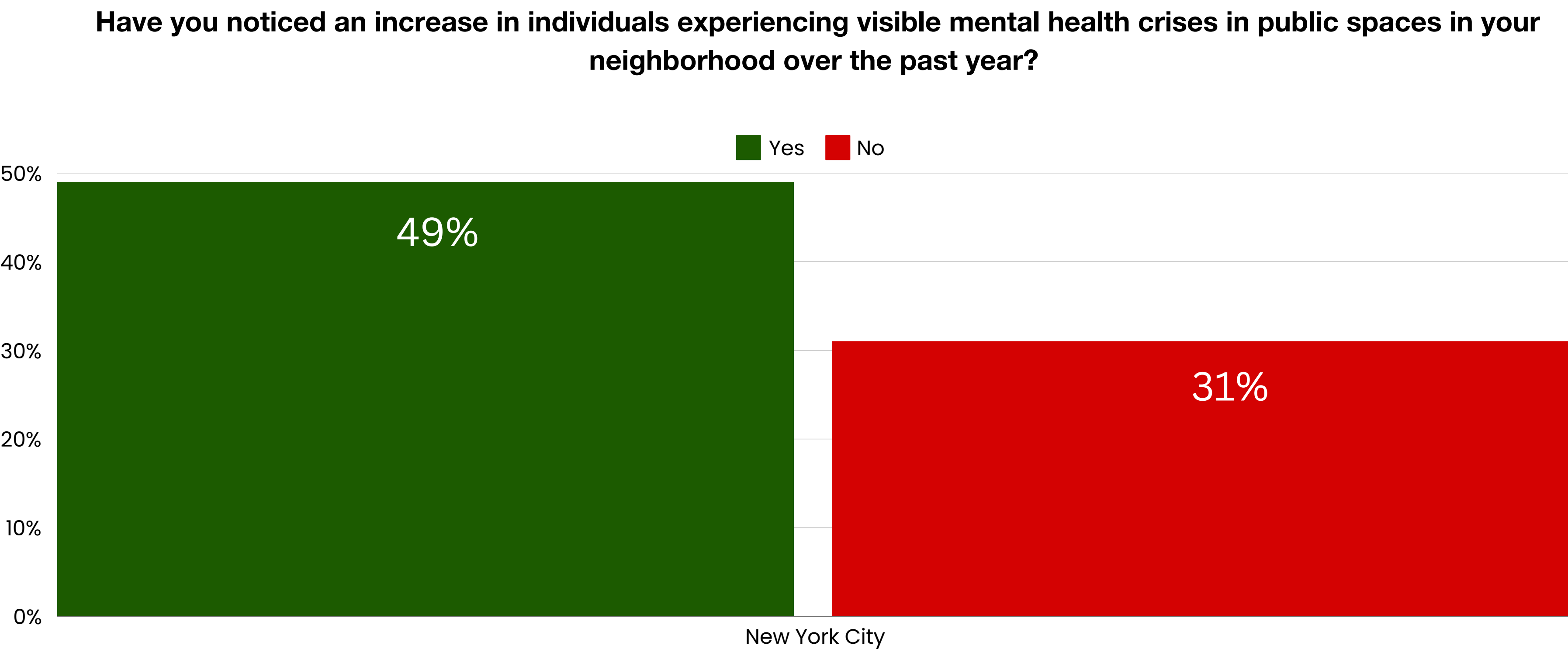
How would you rate your neighborhood as a place to live?



When asked if they recall seeing advertisements or community outreach efforts raising awareness about public resources and services in their neighborhood, **22% of New Yorkers recalled seeing these advertisements or community outreach efforts, while 56% said they had not.**



Nearly half of New Yorkers (49%) report noticing **an increase** in individuals experiencing visible mental health crises in public spaces in their neighborhood over the past year. **In contrast, 31% say that they have not noticed an increase.**



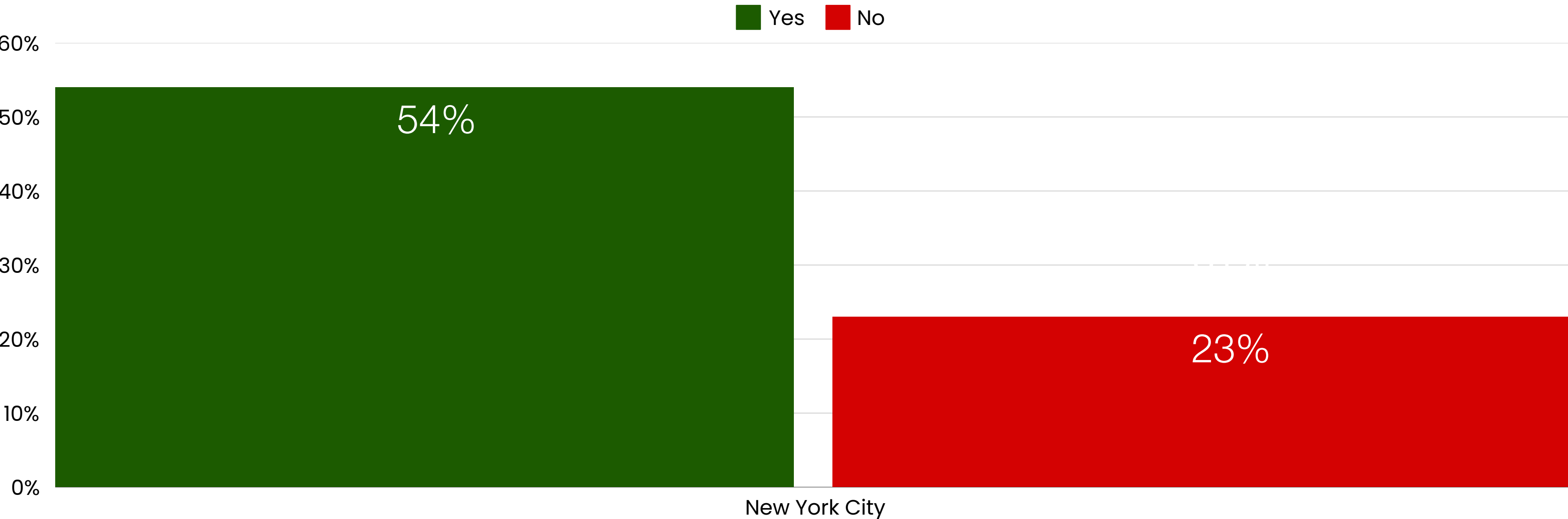
When asked about potential reasons to leave New York City, **43% of respondents cited the cost of buying or renting a home a top factor.** This was followed by the cost of basic necessities such as food, utilities and clothing **(32%)** and concerns about the public safety situation **(25%)**.

Notably, some of the **lower ranked reasons** included schools and education **(4%)** preference for the politics elsewhere **(3%)**, and the dating and social life **(3%)**.

What have you considered as reasons to leave New York City? Please select your top two.	
The cost of buying or renting a home	43%
The cost of basic necessities such as food, utilities, and clothing	32%
The public safety situation	25%
Preferring to raise a family outside the city	8%
Being closer to family or friends	8%
Transit, transportation, and commute	7%
Sanitation, parks, streets, and public spaces	6%
Not being able to afford cultural amenities such as sports, shows or nightlife	5%
Schools and education	4%
Prefer the politics somewhere else	3%
The dating and social life	3%
Prefer the social, religious, or community life somewhere else	3%

Among New Yorkers with children under 18, **a majority (54%) say they expect to stay in the city while their children grow up**, while **23% do not**.

Do you expect to stay in the city while your children grow up?

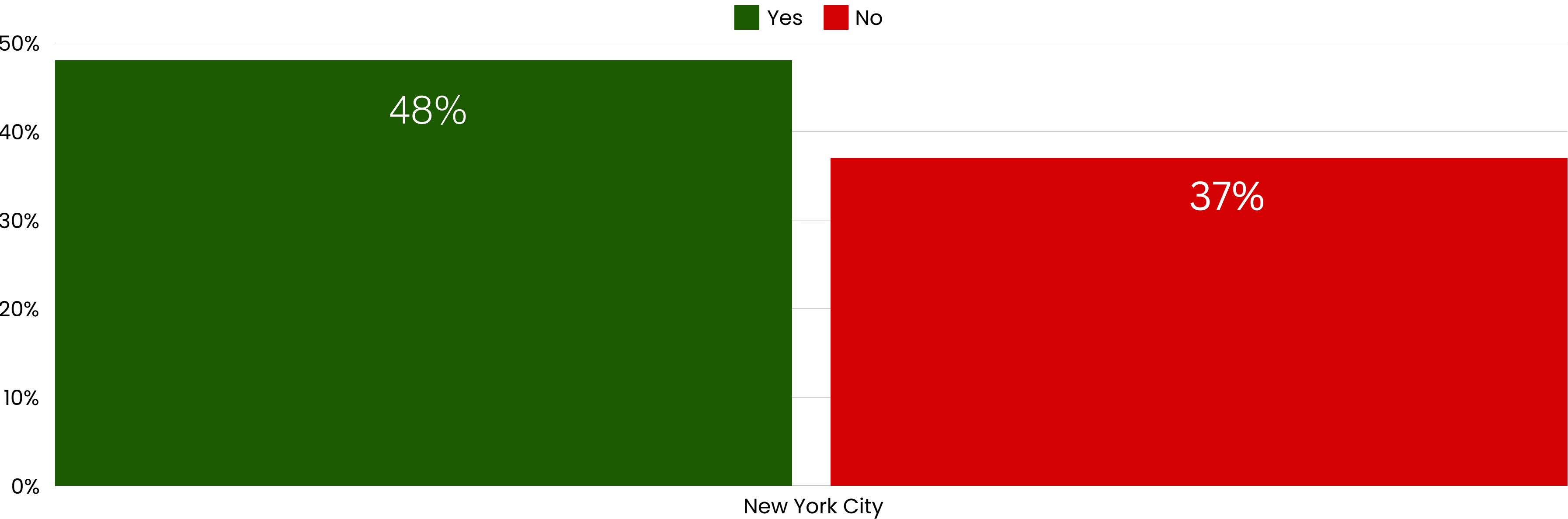


Plans to remain in New York City while raising children vary by demographic group. **70%** of Asian respondents and **67%** of White respondents said that they expect to stay in the city while their children grow up, **while Black (51%) and Hispanic (46%) respondents are less certain about remaining in the city as their children grow up.** Notably, 43% of Bronx County respondents said they expect to stay in the city compared to 72% of Richmond County respondents and 62% of New York county respondents.

	Black	Hispanic	White	Asian	Bronx	Kings	New York	Queens	Richmond
Yes	51%	46%	67%	70%	43%	51%	62%	56%	72%
No	20%	24%	20%	22%	30%	24%	18%	21%	11%

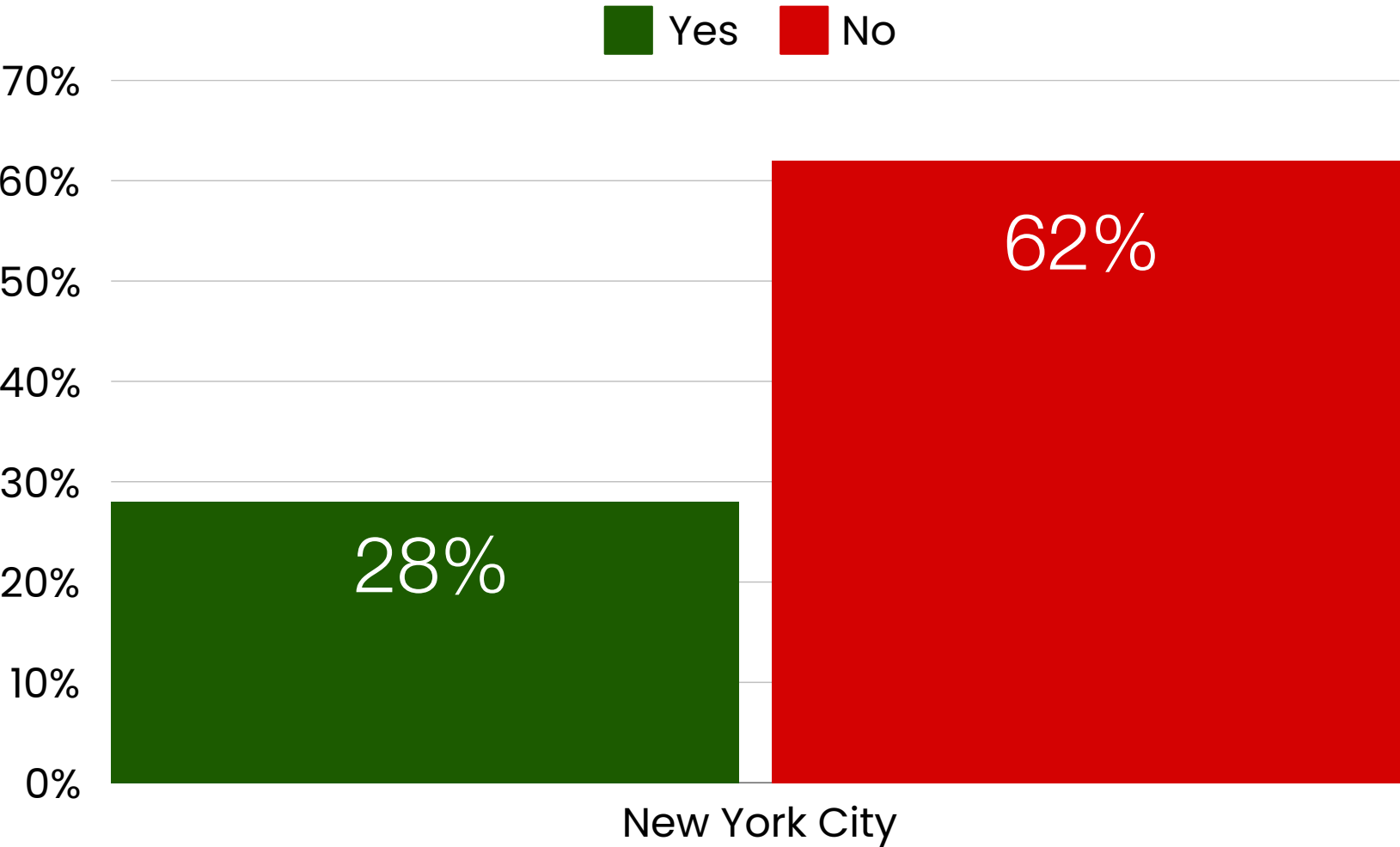
When asked if they've ever considered moving out of New York City, **nearly half (48%) of respondents** reported that they had considered leaving the city, while **37%** say they have not considered leaving.

Have you and your family ever considered moving out of New York City?

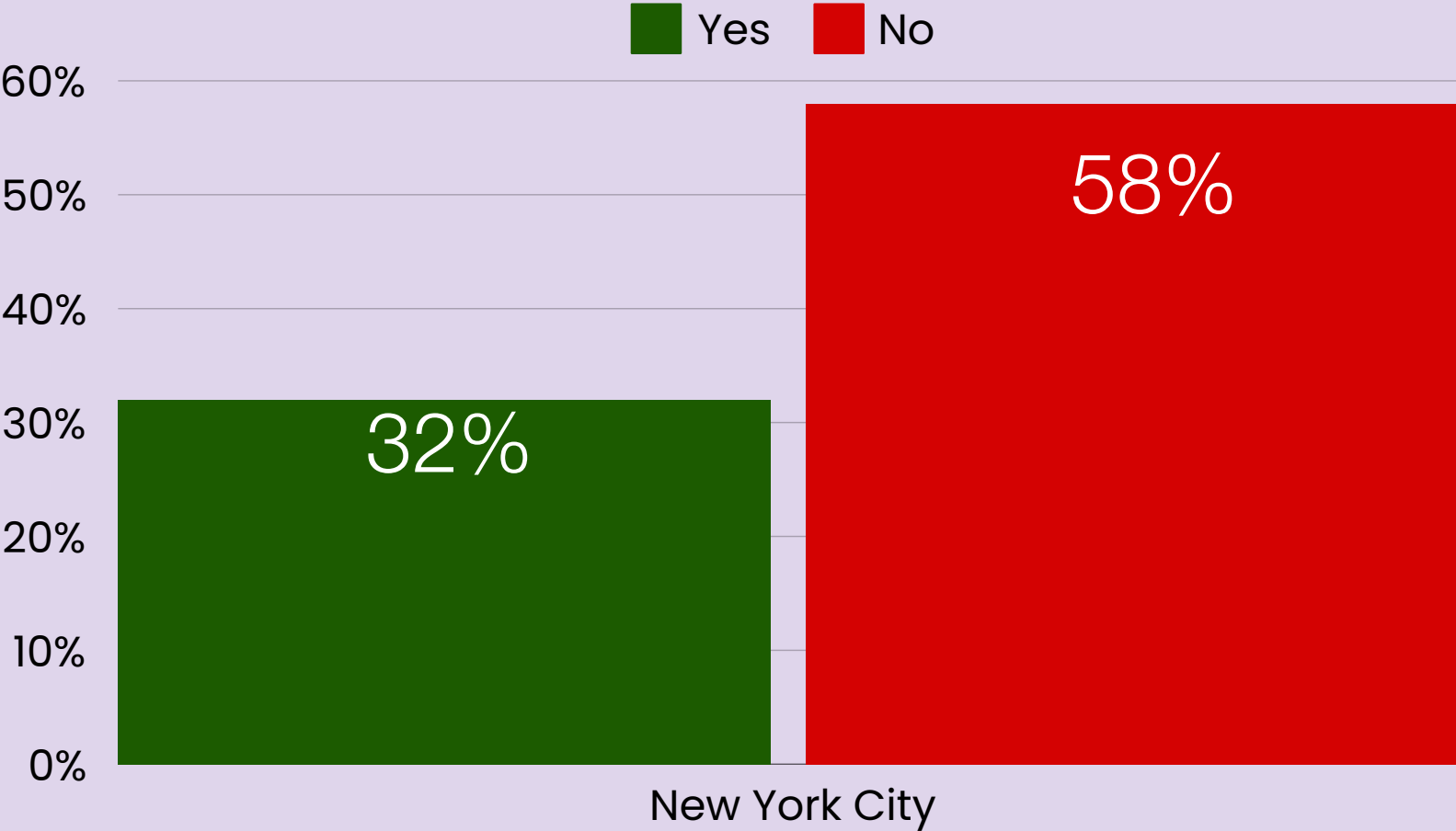


28% of New Yorkers reported that they or someone they know has **had a family member move in to help save money**. Similarly, **32% of respondents** say they or someone they know has **had to move in with a family member to reduce expenses**.

In the past few years, have you or someone you know had a family member move in so that they could save money?



In the past few years have you or someone you know had to move in with a family member to save money?



When asked a series of agree/ disagree questions related to quality of life in New York, the sentiments which New Yorkers agree with the most are that **too many individuals suffering from mental illness are left without adequate care (77%)**, that essential services are available and accessible in their neighborhoods **(74%)** and that the mental health crisis impacts the quality of life in their neighborhood **(61%)**.

Many **don't believe** the city is effectively managing economic issues, especially when it comes to the government's promotion of economic growth **(32%)**, their own financial security compared to five years ago **(31%)**, and the City's use of tax dollars **(19%)**.

Quality of Life Agree/Disagree	Agree	Disagree
Too many individuals suffering from mental illness are left on the streets and subways of New York City without adequate care.	77%	11%
Essential services such as grocery stores, pharmacies and healthcare providers are available and accessible in my neighborhood.	74%	17%
The mental health crisis in New York City impacts the quality of life in my neighborhood specifically.	61%	24%
It is becoming increasingly difficult for my household to meet basic needs like housing, food, healthcare, and education.	61%	27%
City services are of good quality, and easy to access for residents in my community.	44%	42%
New York is a great city to raise a family in.	43%	46%
The New York City government does a good job of promoting economic growth in the city.	32%	51%
I feel more financially secure than I did five years ago.	31%	54%
The New York City government spends tax dollars wisely	19%	63%

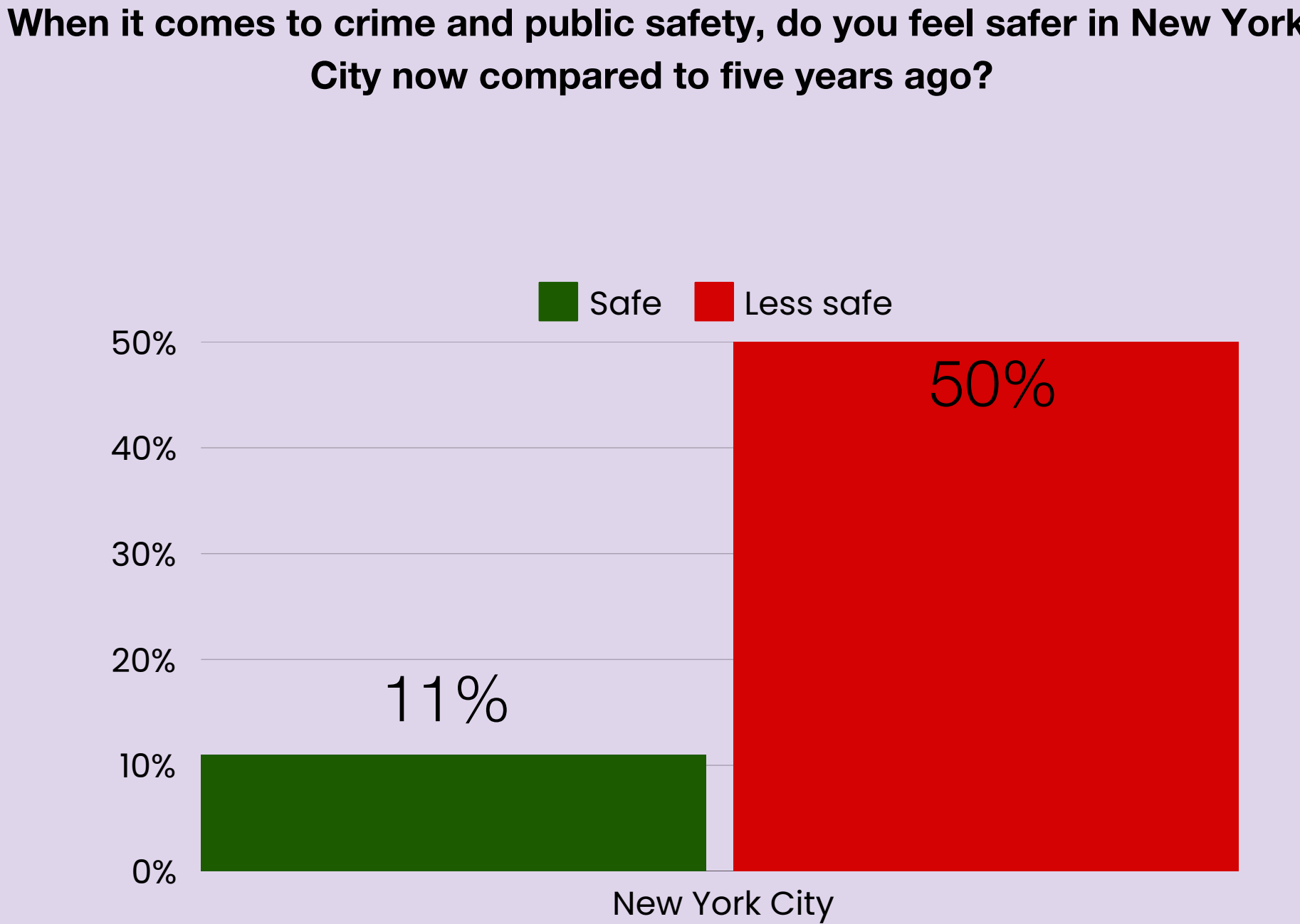
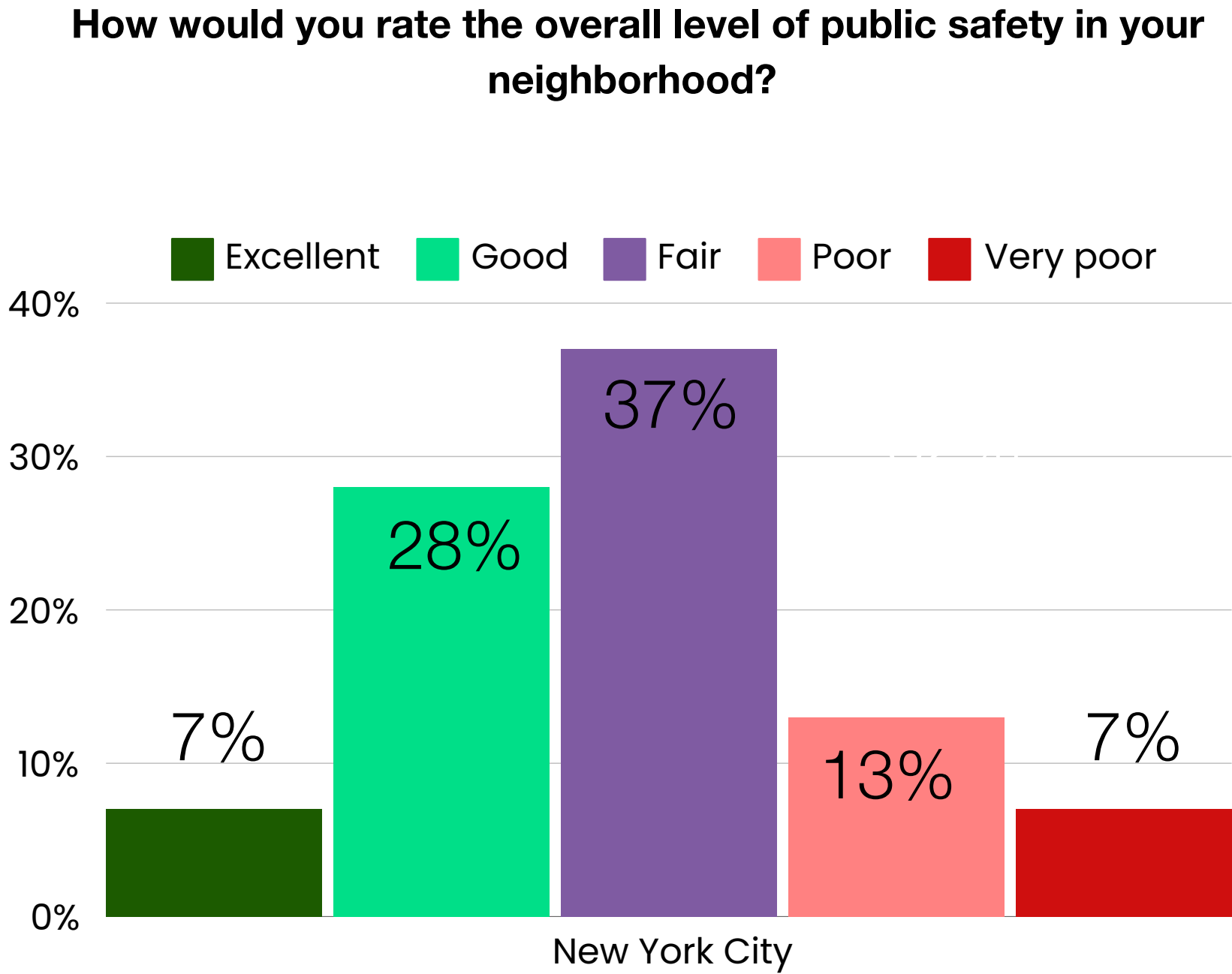
Public Safety

The
People's Pulse



When asked to rate public safety in their neighborhood, **7%** of New Yorkers reported that public safety is excellent while **28%** rated it as good. **37% described public safety in their neighborhood as fair**, while **13%** rated it as poor, and **7%** as very poor.

Compared to five years ago **50% of New Yorkers expressed feeling less safe**, while only 11% feel safer.



When it comes to public safety, **68% of respondents say they avoid using the subway at certain times or in certain areas due to safety concerns** and nearly half of New Yorkers surveyed (**49%**) say safety concerns affect their willingness to spend time outdoors in their neighborhood.

39% of New Yorkers say that they or someone they know have **witnessed or experienced a safety-related incident on the subway**, and **36%** say that they or someone they know have **witnessed a crime in public**.

Public Safety	Yes	No
Do you avoid using the subway at certain times or in certain areas because of safety concerns?	68%	25%
Do safety concerns affect your willingness to spend time outdoors or use public spaces in your neighborhood?	49%	37%
In the past year, have you or someone you know personally witnessed or experienced a safety-related incident on the subway, such as harassment, theft, or violence?	39%	46%
In the past year, have you or someone you know personally witnessed a crime in public?	36%	47%

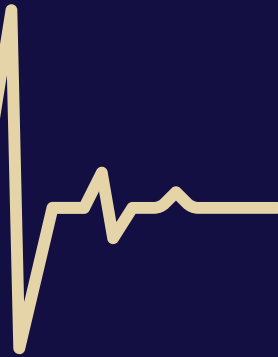
New Yorkers have **mixed views on** police effectiveness with **44% in agreement that police in their neighborhood respond effectively** to crime and safety concerns. **37% disagree.**

Perceptions of safety on the subway at night **are overwhelmingly negative (23%)** as respondents reported that they largely **do not feel safe riding the subway at night.**

Agree/Disagree Public Safety	Agree	Disagree
The police in my neighborhood respond effectively to crime and safety concerns	44%	37%
I feel safe riding the subway at night	23%	66%

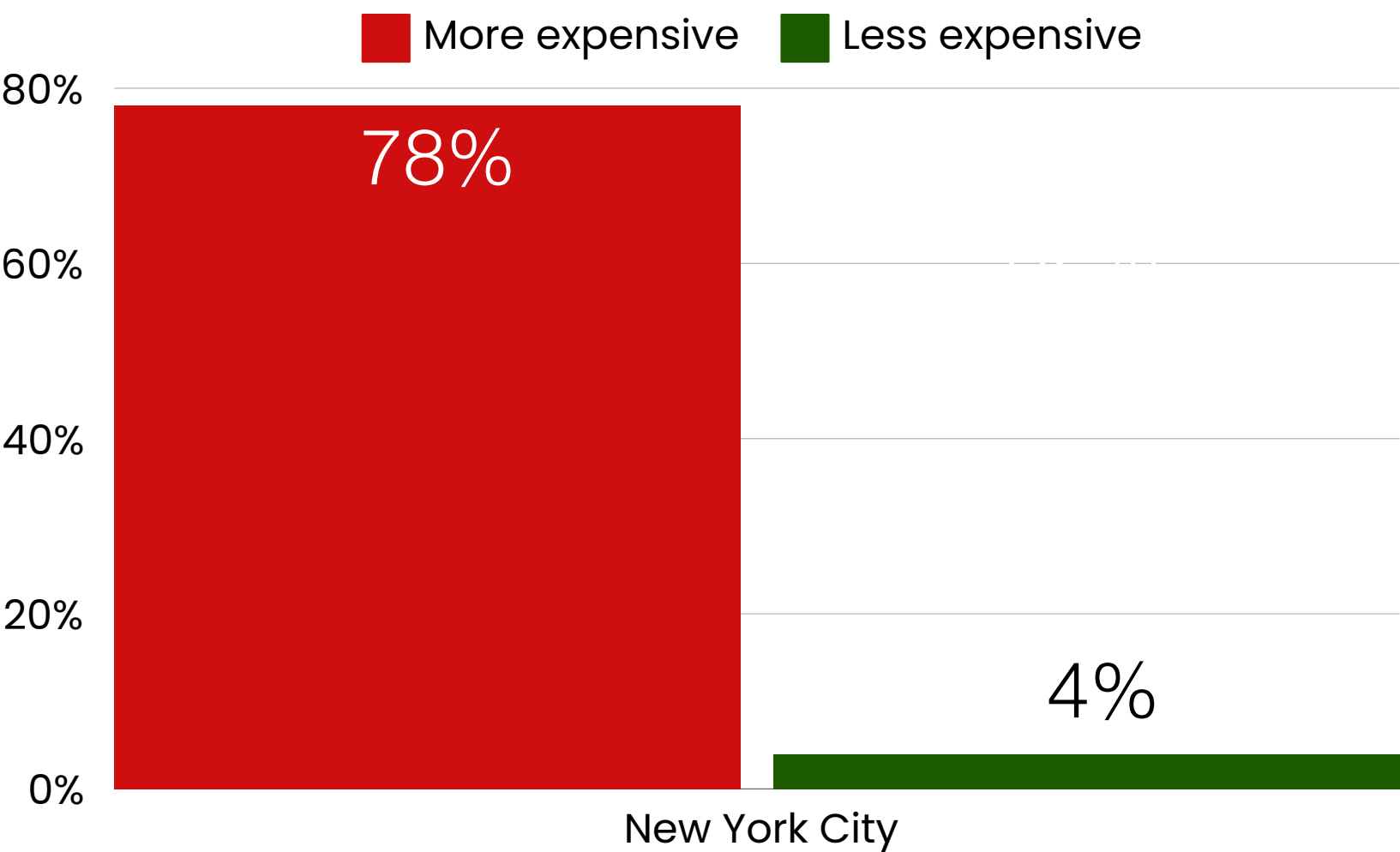
Housing

The
People's Pulse

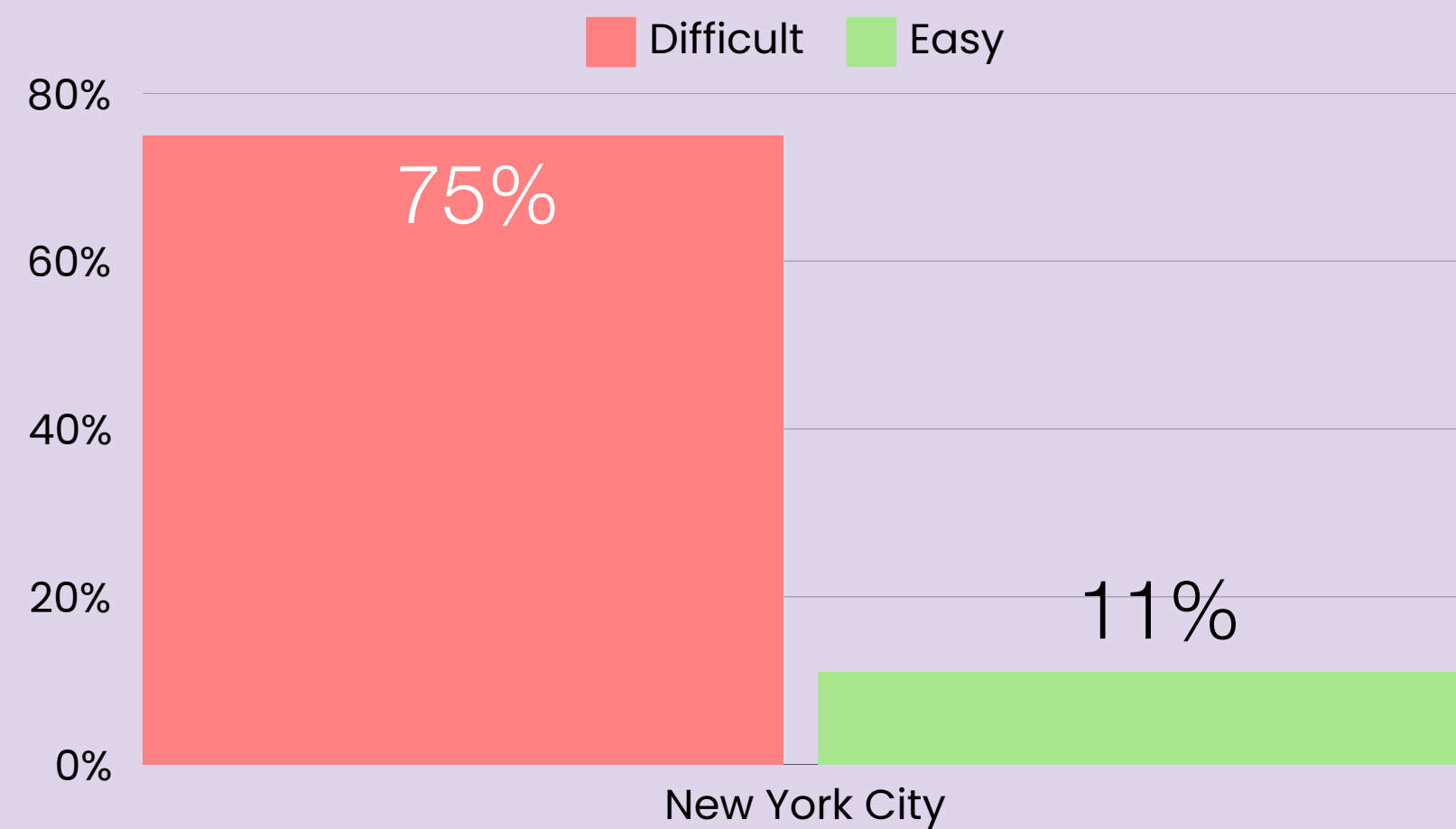


A **vast majority** of New Yorkers **(78%) believe that housing costs have increased in recent years**, while only 4% say they have become less expensive. Similarly, **75% of respondents expressed that it is difficult to buy or rent a home in their area**, while only 11% find it easy.

Generally speaking, do you think the cost of housing in New York City has gotten more or less expensive over the last few years?



Thinking about everything that goes into buying or renting a home, would you say that it's currently difficult or easy to buy or rent a home in your area?



When asked to choose the most important housing outcomes, respondents reported that their highest ranking priorities **were building more affordable housing for low- and middle-income families (46%) and protecting current residents from displacement through tenant protections and financial assistance (45%).**

These were followed by increasing enforcement of laws on landlords and developers **(22%)**, and making it easier to build more housing to address shortages **(21%)**.

When it comes to housing in New York City, which of the following housing outcomes do you prefer the most? Choose the two that are most important to you.	
Building more affordable housing specifically for low and middle-income families	46%
Protecting current residents from displacement and rising costs through tenant protections and financial assistance to keep people in their homes	45%
More enforcement of laws and regulations on landlords and developers in New York	22%
Making it easier to build more housing in order to address the housing shortage and make more homes available	21%
Preserving the character, history, and feel of neighborhoods	18%
Ensuring that new housing developments include community benefits like parks, schools and infrastructure	16%

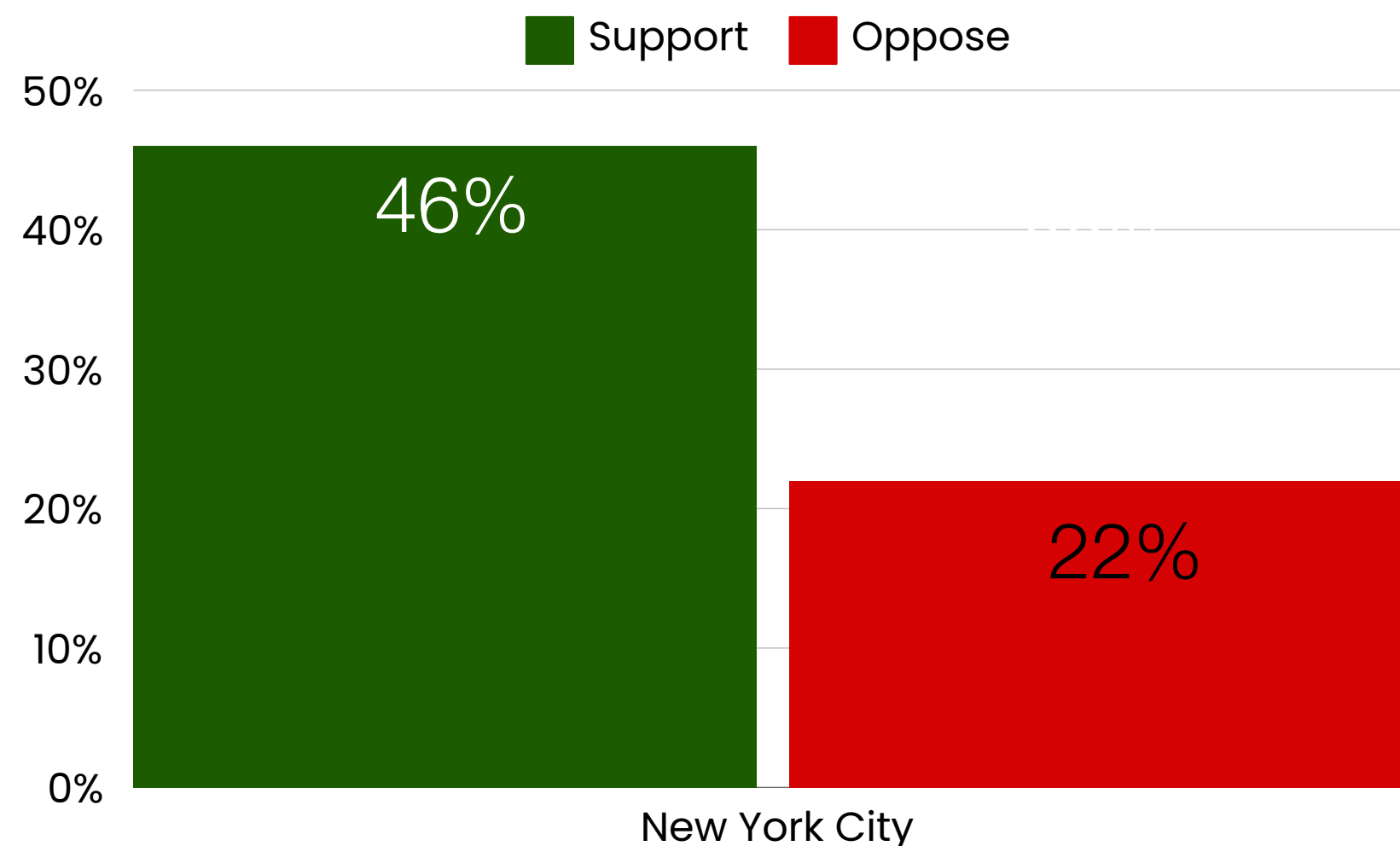
When asked which types of housing they would like to see prioritized in New York City, respondents ranked **affordable housing for low-income residents (47%), apartments for middle income families (34%) and housing for homeless individuals and families (19%) as their top three housing priorities.**

The **lowest ranked priorities** included luxury housing **(5%)**, accessory dwelling units like basement apartments or backyard cottages **(5%)**, and SRO housing **(7%)**.

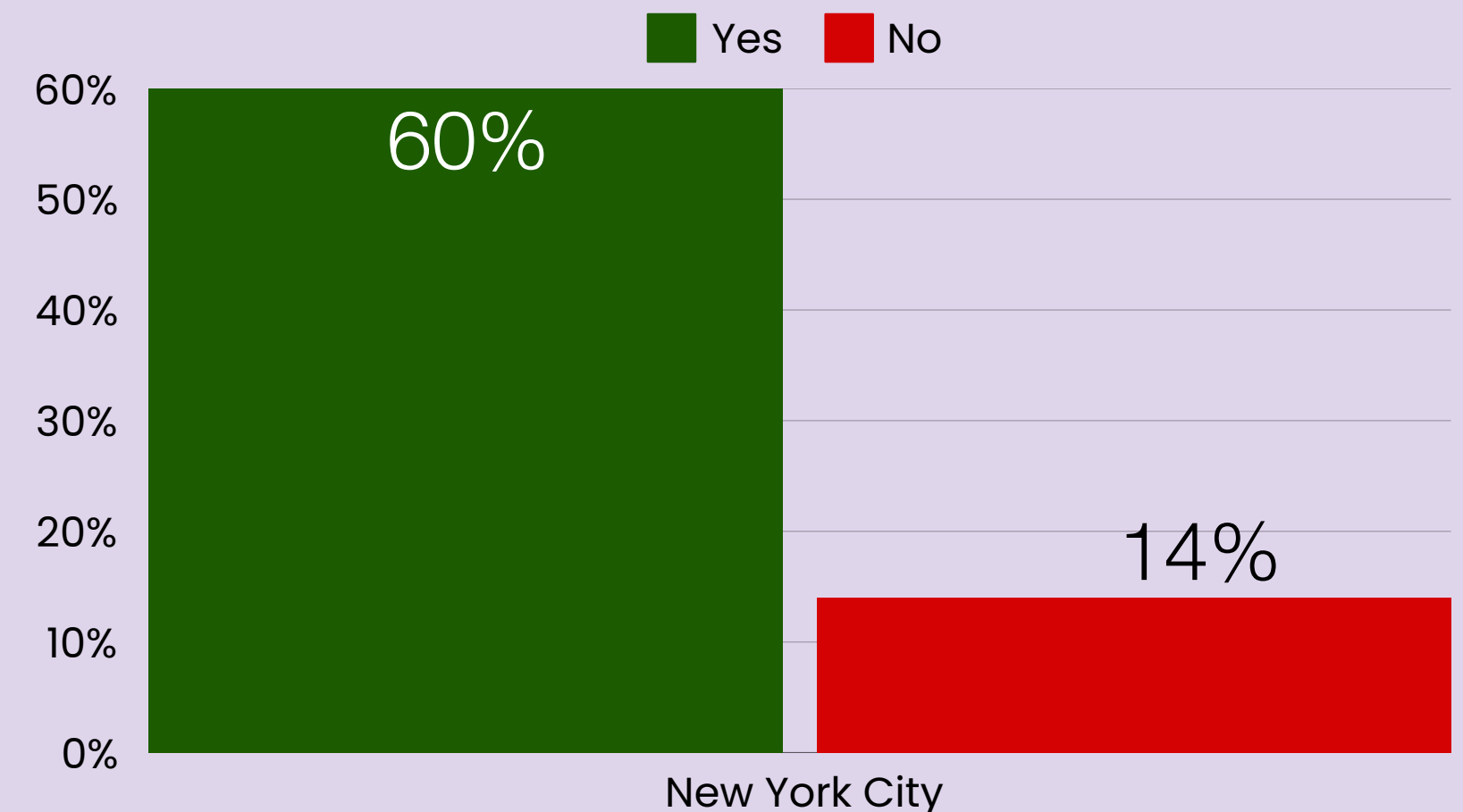
What types of housing would you like to see prioritized in New York City? Choose the two that are most important to you.	
Affordable housing for low-income residents	47%
Apartments for middle-income families	34%
Housing specifically for homeless individuals and families	19%
Senior housing with accessibility features	15%
Environmentally sustainable and energy-efficient housing	14%
Market-rate housing for mixed-income communities	13%
Mixed-used housing with retail or community spaces included	11%
Single-room occupancy (SRO) or dorm-style housing for individuals	7%
Luxury housing	5%
Accessory dwelling units (basements apartments or backyard cottages)	5%

46% of New Yorkers support giving community organizations more control over housing developments, while **22%** of respondents oppose this idea. When it comes to tenant assistance, a **majority (60%) support expanding financial aid for renters who struggle to afford housing, even if they do not traditionally qualify as low-income.** Only 14% oppose this idea.

Do you support or oppose giving community organizations more control over land and housing developments in New York City?



Should the city provide more financial assistance to tenants who are struggling to pay rent, even if they wouldn't traditionally qualify as low income?

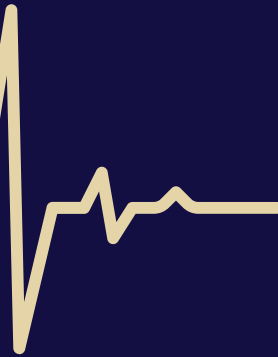


A strong majority of New Yorkers agree with the sentiment **that economic growth is contingent on affordability (75%)**, that young people and seniors will be forced out of the city if more homes are not built **(71%)** and that housing policies in the city disproportionately benefit the wealthy **(65%)**.

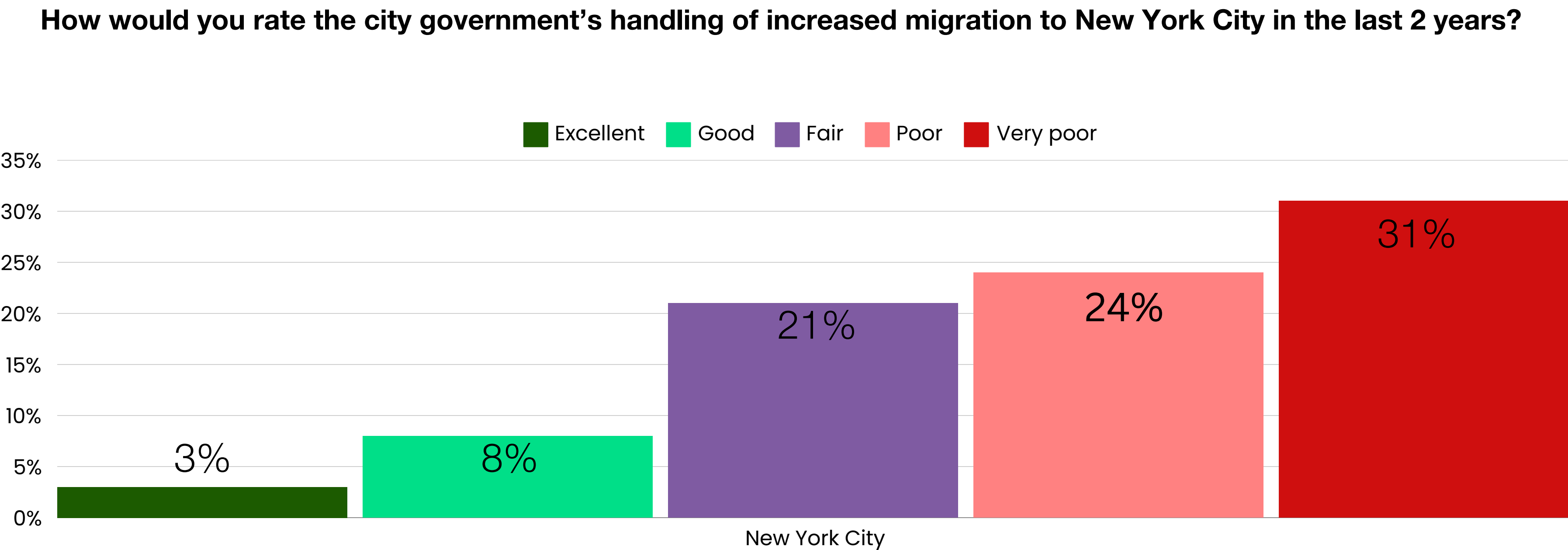
Housing Agree/Disagree	Agree	Disagree
If we want New York City to keep growing economically, it needs to be more affordable for people to live here and move here	75%	11%
If New York City doesn't build more homes in order to keep housing affordable, young people and seniors will be forced out, and new residents will look to other states where home prices are lower.	71%	12%
Housing policies in New York City disproportionately benefit wealthier individuals while leaving middle-and lower-class residents behind.	65%	14%
Publicly owned land should only be sold to developers who will commit to using the land to create permanently affordable housing and meet community needs.	61%	16%
Gentrification is a serious problem when it comes to housing affordability and the high cost of living generally, in my community.	59%	16%
There is space in my neighborhood for more housing.	37%	41%

Immigration

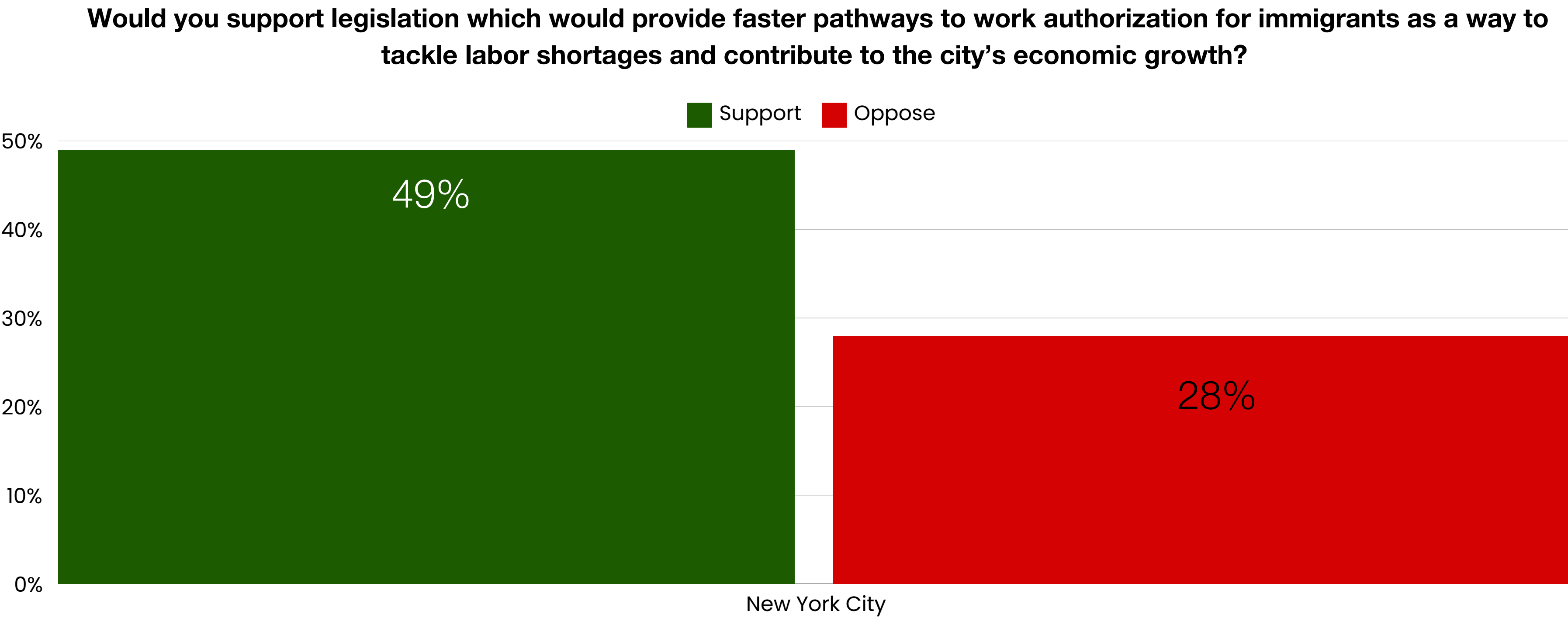
The
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New Yorkers hold largely negative views on how the city has handled increased migration over the past two years. Only **11% rate the city's response as excellent or good**, 21% describe it as fair, and **55% consider it poor or very poor**.



Nearly **half of New Yorkers (49%)** would support legislation that would provide **faster pathways to work authorization for immigrants** as a way to address labor shortages and boost the city’s economy. **28% oppose** such measures.



When asked about how the city should allocate resources in response to increased migration. **36%** of respondents said that the city should **focus resources on long-term residents before addressing the needs of new arrivals.**

21% support increasing overall investment to better serve both existing residents and migrants while **only 6% would stick with the current approach.**

In light of the recent increase in the number of migrants, asylum seekers, and refugees in New York City, which of the following best reflects your view on how the city should allocate public resources?	
Focus resources on long-term residents before addressing the needs of new arrivals	36%
Increase overall investment in public resources to better support both new arrivals and existing residents	21%
Prioritize equitable distribution of resources for all residents including migrants	16%
Maintain the current approach	6%
Not sure	21%

When asked about the best approach to ensure migrants have stable housing in New York City, the **most popular approach was building more affordable housing (21%)**. The second most popular approach was having the city partner with and fund more nonprofits and community groups to find housing solutions **(19%)**. 12% believe that the city should do nothing, while 9% support expanding temporary shelters.

In your opinion what is the best approach to ensure migrants have stable housing in New York City?	
Build more affordable housing	21%
Partner with and fund more nonprofits and community groups to find housing solutions	19%
Do nothing	12%
Expand temporary shelters	9%
Provide more rental assistance to migrant families	7%
Something else	6%

When asked about the best approach to help migrants enter the workforce, **24% of New Yorkers support job training and placement programs**, while **19%** favor accelerating work authorization processes.

Another **17%** believe the city should provide incentives for businesses to create job opportunities for migrants.

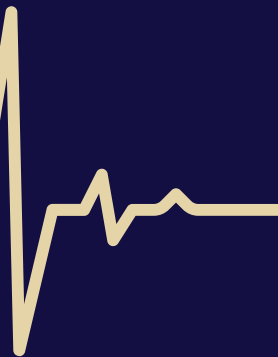
In your opinion how should New York City help migrants integrate into the workforce	
Provide job training and placement programs	24%
Accelerate work authorization processes	19%
Provide incentives for and collaborate with local businesses to create job opportunities	17%
Do nothing	12%
Something else	25%

63% of respondents expressed agreement with the sentiment **that law enforcement should work more closely with community organizations to ensure migrants feel safe reporting crimes or seeking help.** In addition, a majority of respondents believe that **providing language education and job training is essential for migrants’ successful integration into the city (63%).**

Immigration Agree/Disagree	Agree	Disagree
Law enforcement should work more closely with community organizations to ensure migrants feel safe reporting crimes or seeking help.	63%	18%
Providing language education and job training to migrants is essential for their successful integration into the city.	63%	18%
Local communities should have more input on how to manage and integrate migrants arriving in their neighborhoods	62%	18%
Using local hotels as temporary housing for migrant families is an acceptable short-term solution, but they are not serving migrants or neighborhoods appropriately, and a longer-term solution is urgently needed.	54%	26%

Non-Profit Resilience & Capacity

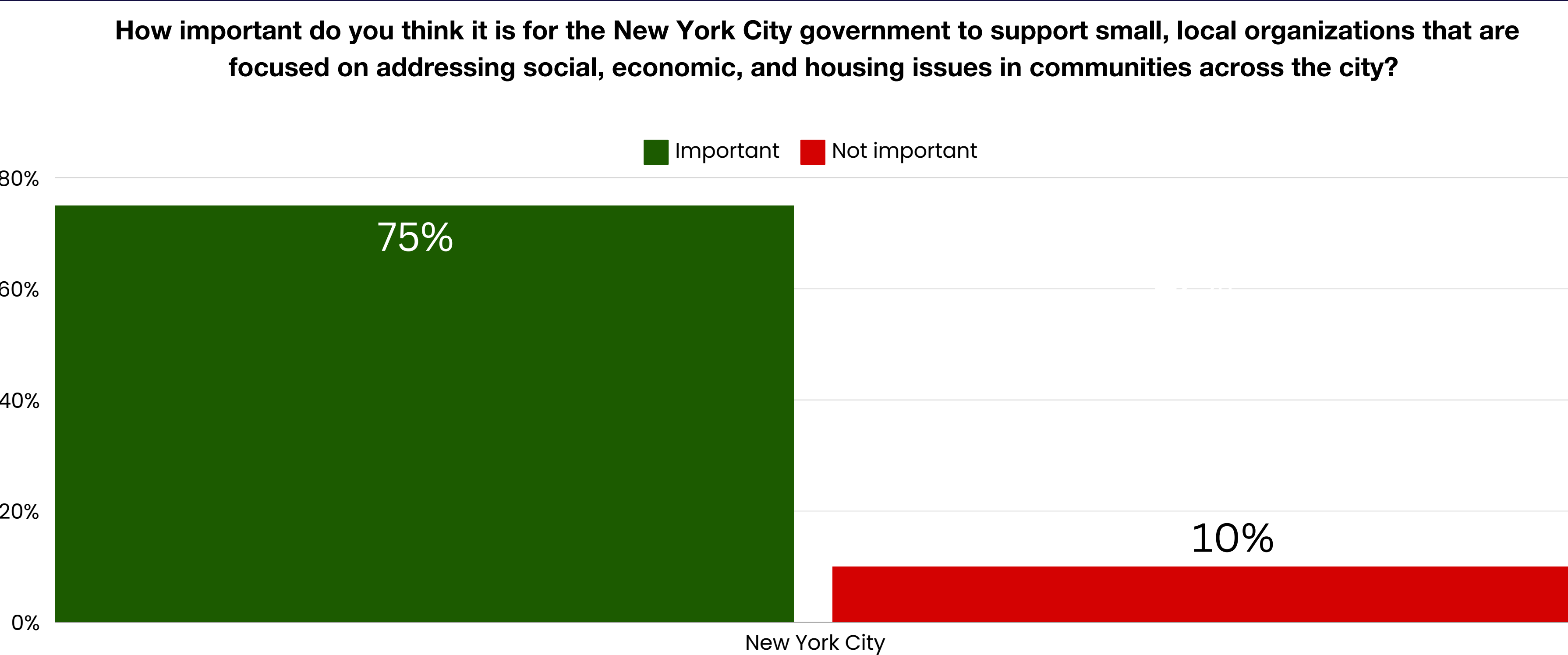
The
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When asked about the kinds of interactions they'd had with community organizations and local groups in their area over the last few years, New Yorkers reported that the **top interactions** they had with community organizations was **through volunteering to help others (17%), receiving food, aid, or financial assistance (15%) and attending a meeting, talk, or event (15%).**

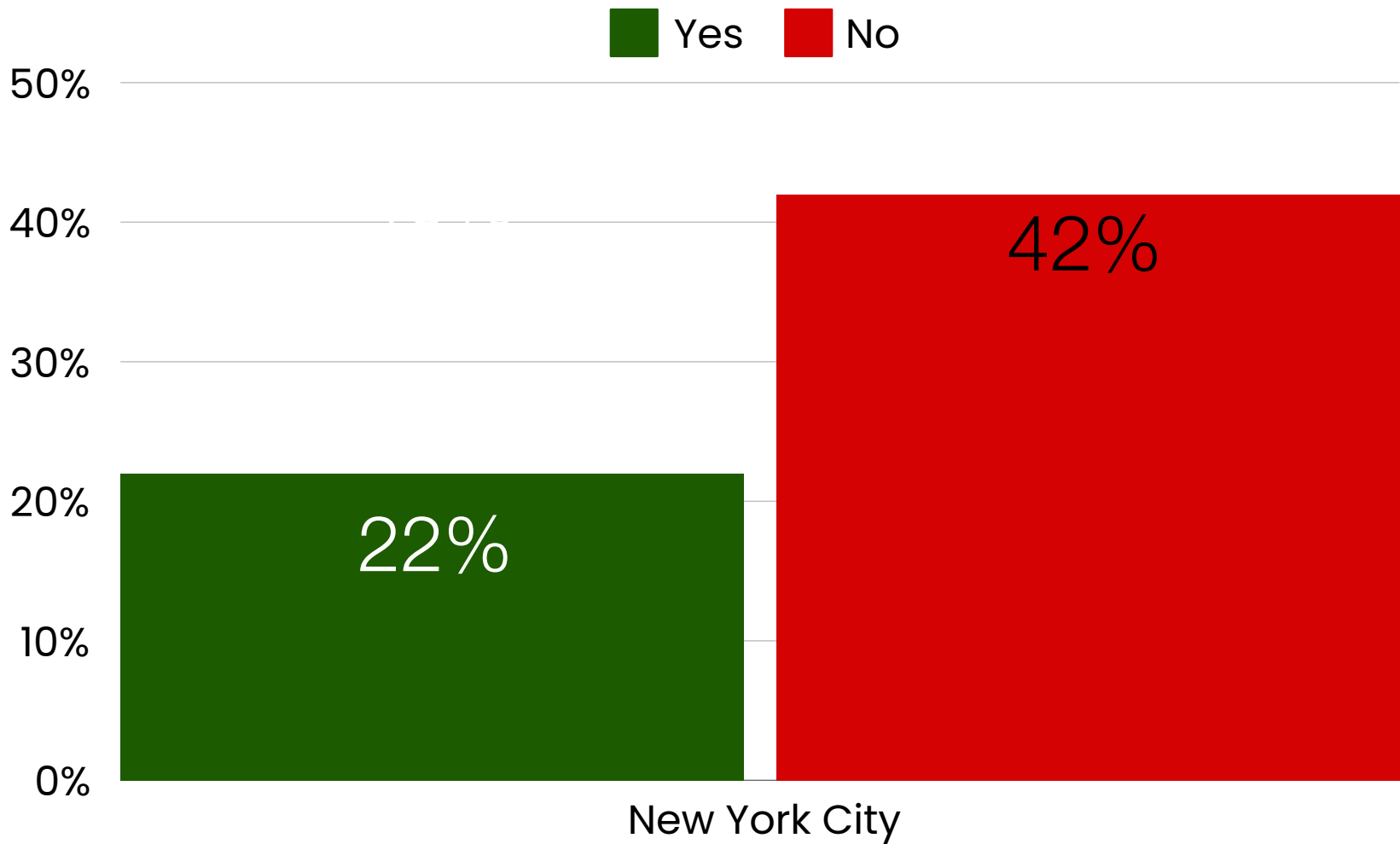
What sort of interactions have you had with community organizations and local groups in your area over the last few years, if any?	
Volunteered to help others	17%
Received food, aid, assistance, or financial support	15%
Attended a meeting, talk, or event	15%
Participated in an education or learning program	12%
Received help or advice regarding laws, rules, or government forms	8%
Met with a counselor support group	7%
Participated in a skills or language training program	7%
Participated in a letter writing or phone call campaign	7%
None of the above	50%

An overwhelming majority (75%) of New Yorkers believe that the city government **should support small, local organizations** focused on addressing social, economic, and housing issues in communities across the city. **Only 10%** believe that it is not important for the city government to support these organizations.

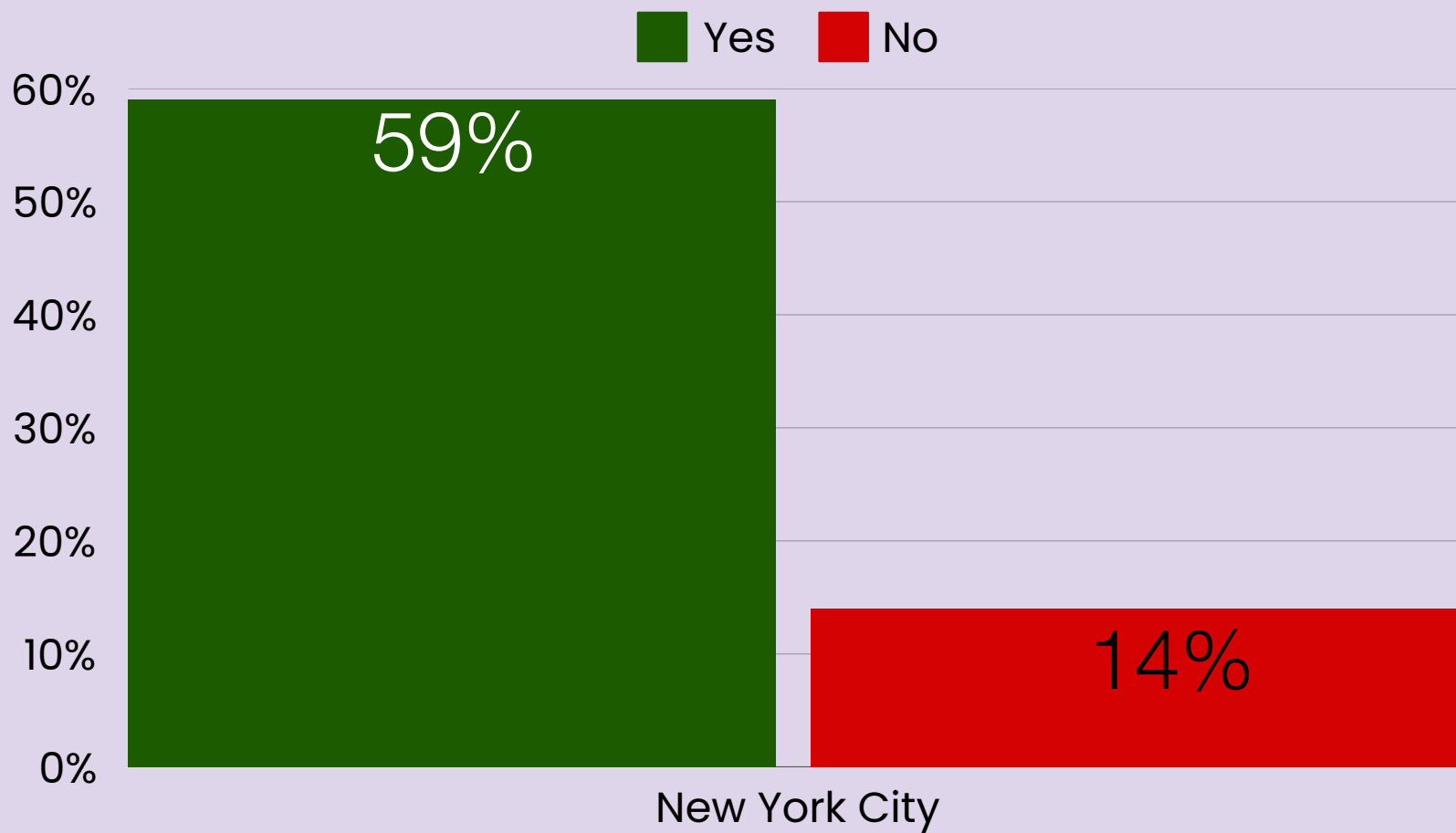


A majority of New Yorkers **(59%) support increasing city funding for grassroots, community-based organizations to hire staff, expand services, and reach more residents in need**, while 14% oppose additional funding. When asked whether community organizations in their neighborhood have enough resources to make a real difference, **22% said yes, 42% said no.**

When thinking about your own community, do you believe that community organizations in your neighborhood have enough resources to make a real difference?



Would you support more city funding for grassroots, community-based organizations to hire staff, improve their work, and reach more people who are in need?



Mental Health & Substance Abuse Services

The
People's Pulse



Most New Yorkers take a **compassionate approach** to public safety issues in the city. When asked how they feel about individuals struggling with mental health and substance abuse issues in public spaces, **58% of New Yorkers expressed empathy**, saying they feel sad that those in need are not receiving adequate support.

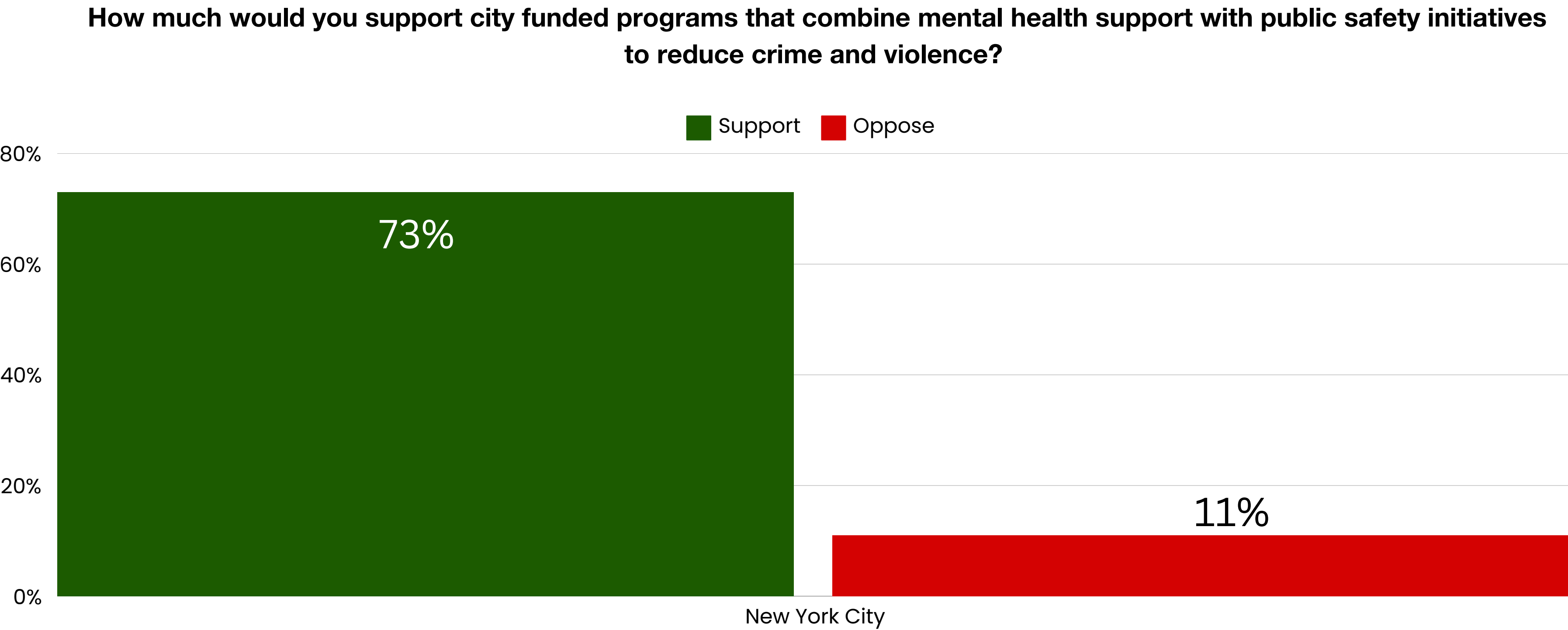
23% reported feeling anger and frustration, believing that while these individuals need help, their behavior should not negatively impact others

When you see someone in public on the street or in the subway who is struggling with mental health issues, substance abuse issues, or other health issues, what comes closest to describing how you feel?	
I mostly feel empathy for people who are struggling with these issues, even when they make me uncomfortable in public and I wish it wasn't happening. It makes me sad that people who clearly need the help aren't getting it, and sad that other New Yorkers have to deal with the consequences of these people not getting the services they need and deserve.	58%
I mostly feel anger and frustration at people who are struggling with these issues and acting out in public while making life harder for other New Yorkers. I understand they need help, but that's not an excuse to behave in inappropriate, violent, or threatening ways instead of seeking out help, and the rest of us simply shouldn't have to deal with it.	23%
Other [write in]	17%

Empathy towards people struggling with mental health, substance abuse, or other issues in public prevails across all demographic and geographic groups. While there is some variation by race and borough, majorities in every borough are primarily empathetic towards people struggling in public, and every racial group in the city is more empathetic than angry towards people struggling in public by double-digit margins.

	Black	Hispanic	White	Asian	Bronx	Kings	New York	Queens	Richmond
Empathy	65%	53%	61%	49%	54%	60%	61%	58%	50%
Anger	19%	25%	25%	28%	23%	24%	25%	22%	24%

A strong majority of New Yorkers (**73%**) support city-funded programs that combine **mental health support with public safety initiatives** to reduce crime and violence, while just **11%** of respondents oppose these programs.



Support for programs that combine **mental health services with public safety initiatives** to reduce crime and violence is strong across racial and geographic groups. Among racial groups, **White (80%)**, **Black (75%)**, and **Asian (75%)** respondents show the highest support, while **Hispanic respondents (69%)** also express majority approval. By borough, support is highest in **Manhattan (78%)**, **Queens (76%)**, and **Brooklyn (73%)**, while it is somewhat lower in **the Bronx (67%)** and **Staten Island (65%)**.

	Black	Hispanic	White	Asian	Bronx	Kings	New York	Queens	Richmond
Support	75%	69%	80%	75%	67%	73%	78%	76%	65%
Oppose	11%	13%	11%	9%	9%	14%	10%	10%	19%

When asked about the best approach to addressing mental illness and homelessness in the subway system, New Yorkers prioritized expanding mental health and housing support programs (29%), having a larger police and security presence on subway platforms and cars (20%), and increasing the presence of outreach teams and social services (18%).

What approach do you believe New York City should prioritize to address mental illness and homelessness on the subway system?	
Expand mental health and housing support programs	29%
More police and security on subway platforms and subway cars	20%
Increase the presence of outreach teams and social services	18%
Involuntary commitment for individuals unable to care for themselves	17%
Other	1%

Support for expanding mental health and housing support programs is highest among Black **(33%)** and Hispanic **(30%)** respondents and with respondents from Manhattan **(32%)**.

	Black	Hispanic	White	Asian	Bronx	Kings	New York	Queens	Richmond
Expand mental health and housing support programs	33%	30%	26%	27%	29%	30%	32%	29%	23%
Increase the presence of outreach teams and social services	21%	13%	20%	18%	14%	19%	22%	17%	17%
More police and security on subway platforms and subway cars	17%	19%	23%	22%	18%	21%	19%	19%	22%
Involuntary commitment for individuals unable to care for themselves	12%	18%	20%	16%	15%	16%	13%	20%	18%

When asked about the most important actions the city should take to improve access to affordable mental health services, respondents prioritized **increasing funding for community mental health clinics (36%), providing free or low-cost therapy for youth and struggling families (32%), and offering supportive housing with services for residents (26%)** as their top three approaches.

What actions should the city government take to improve access to affordable mental health services? Choose the two that are most important to you.	
Increase funding for community mental health clinics	36%
Provide free or low-cost therapy for youth and struggling families	32%
Provide supportive housing with services for residents	26%
Expand mental health services for New Yorkers who don't speak English	20%
Partner with schools to provide on-site mental health support	16%
Other [write in]	1%

When asked how schools should support student mental health and well-being, the top three approaches ranked by respondents included, **providing more counseling and therapy options for students (37%), creating programs focused on body image, suicide prevention, and drug use (29%), and expanding after-school programs and organized sports (26%).**

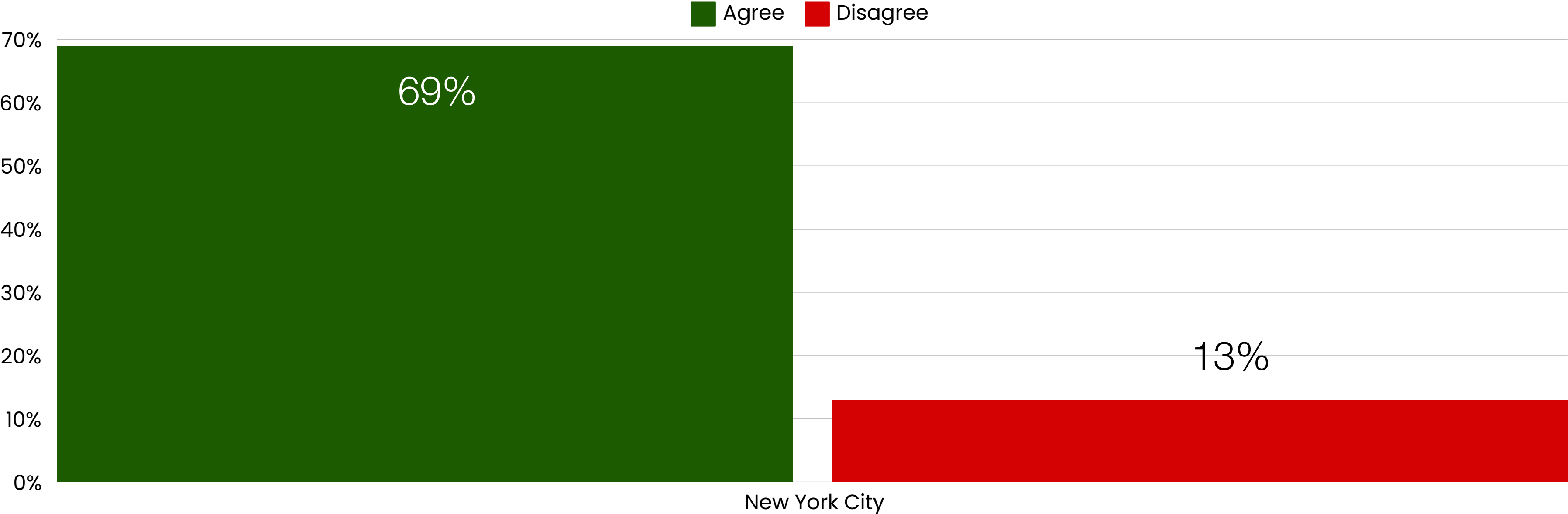
When thinking about children and young people, how do you think schools should approach supporting the mental health and well-being of their students? Choose the two that are most important to you.	
Provide more counseling and therapy options	37%
Create programs to address body image, suicide, and drug use	29%
Provide more after-school programs and organized sports	26%
Offer social services and trauma support	25%
Partner with grassroots community organizations focused on youth mental health	22%

When asked about the drivers of the mental health challenges facing young people in New York City, New Yorkers most frequently cited **households that are struggling with the cost of living (37%), lack of affordable mental health services (33%), and exposure to crime and gun violence** as the main factors.

When thinking about the mental health challenges facing young people in New York City, which of the following do you feel are the main causes? Choose the two that are most important to you.	
Households that are struggling with cost of living	37%
Lack of affordable mental health services	33%
Exposure to crime and gun violence	32%
Classism, racism and micro-aggressions	24%
Overcrowded schools and lack of after school programs	18%
Other [write in]	1%

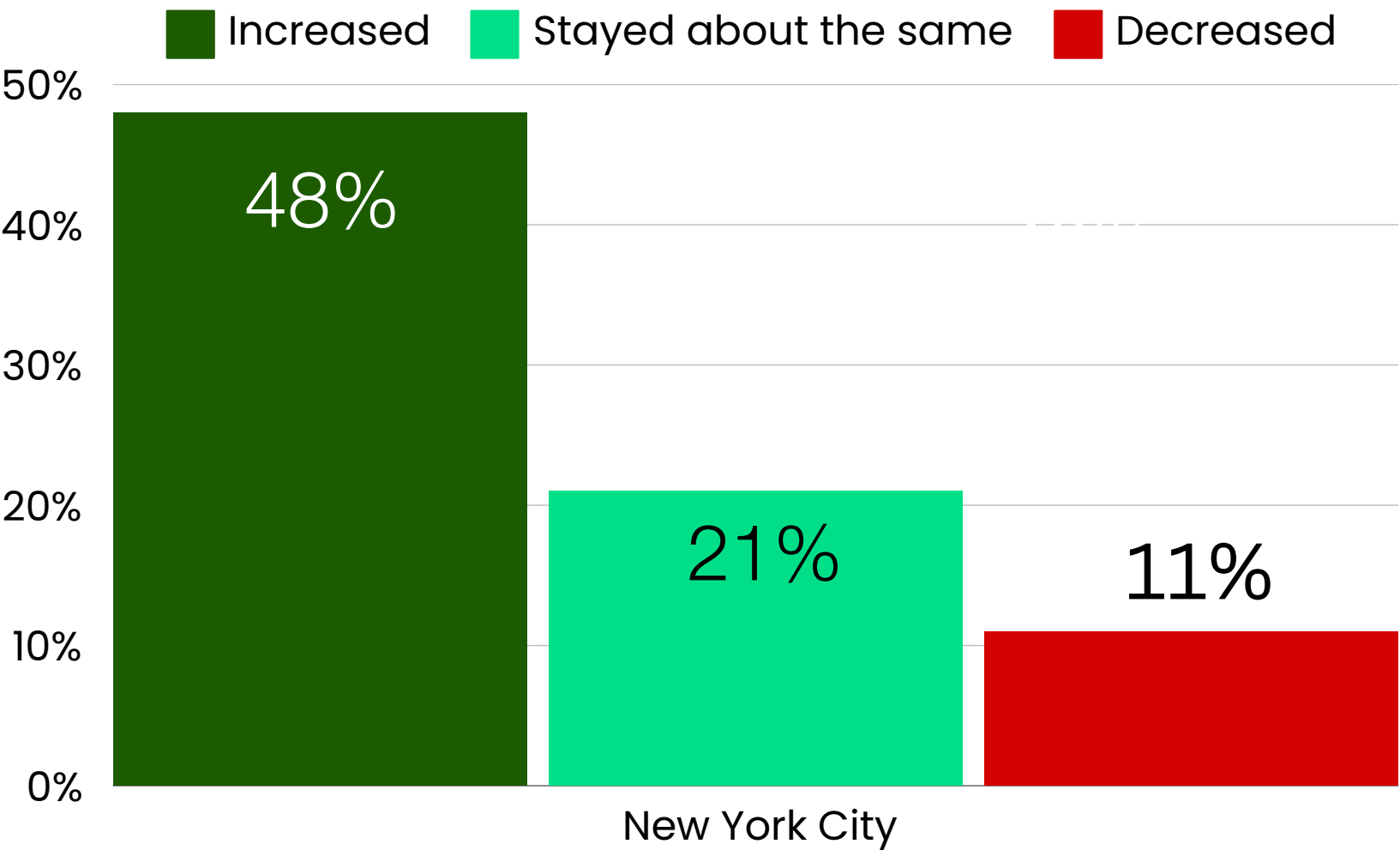
A majority of New Yorkers (**69%**) believe that the city is experiencing a **serious substance abuse and addiction crisis**, while **13% disagree**.

Do you agree or disagree with the following statement:
New York is experiencing a serious substance abuse and addiction crisis

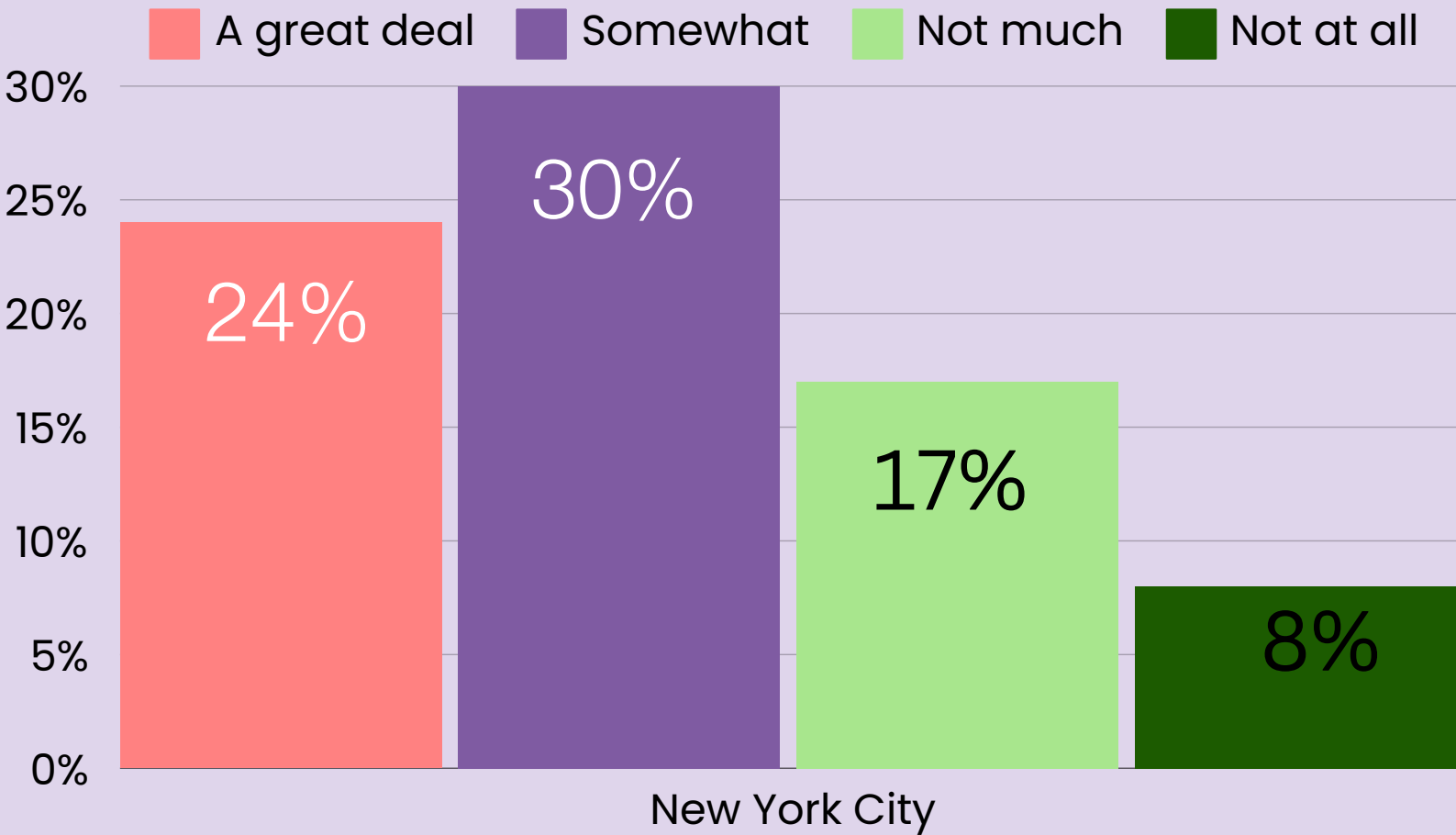


A plurality of New Yorkers (**48%**) say that the number of smoke shops in their community have increased, while **21%** believe that the number has stayed the same. **11%** say it has decreased. **54%** of residents believe that the number of smoke shops affect their community’s quality of life a great deal or somewhat, while **25%** say that they have little or no impact at all.

Thinking about neighborhood smoke shops, do you think the number of smoke shops near you has increased, decreased, or stayed about the same?

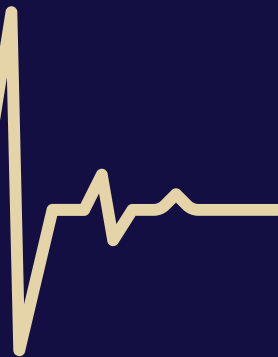


How much do you think the number of smoke shops near residential areas and public schools affects your community’s overall quality of life?



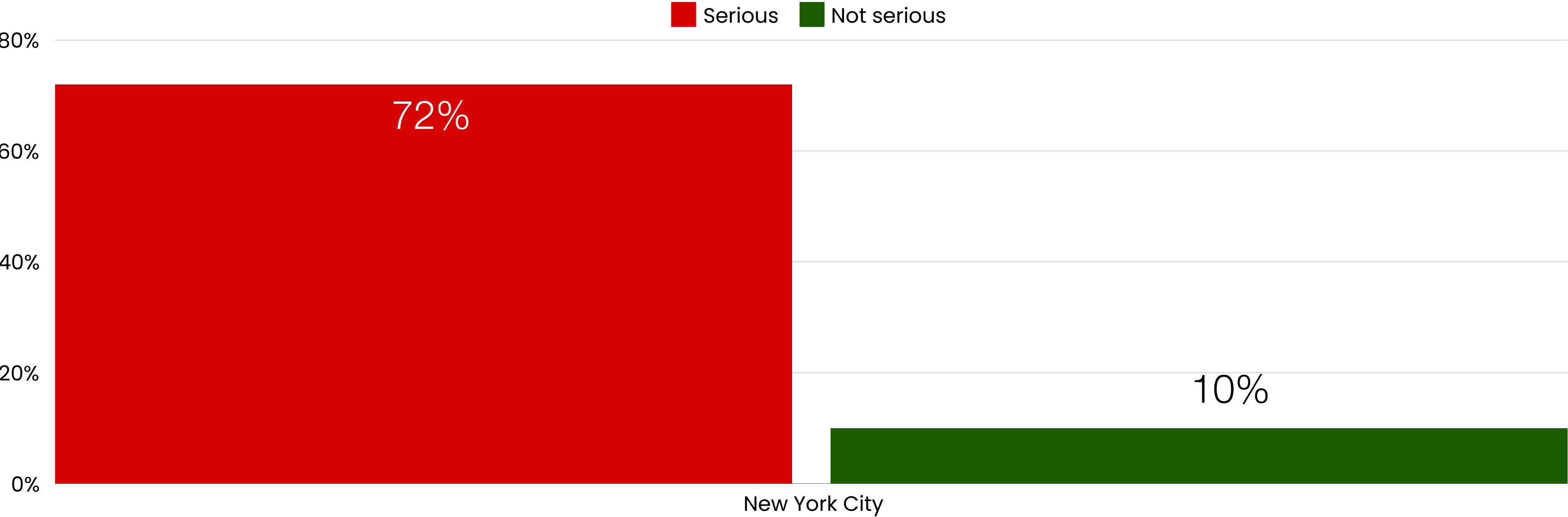
Food Insecurity

The
People's Pulse



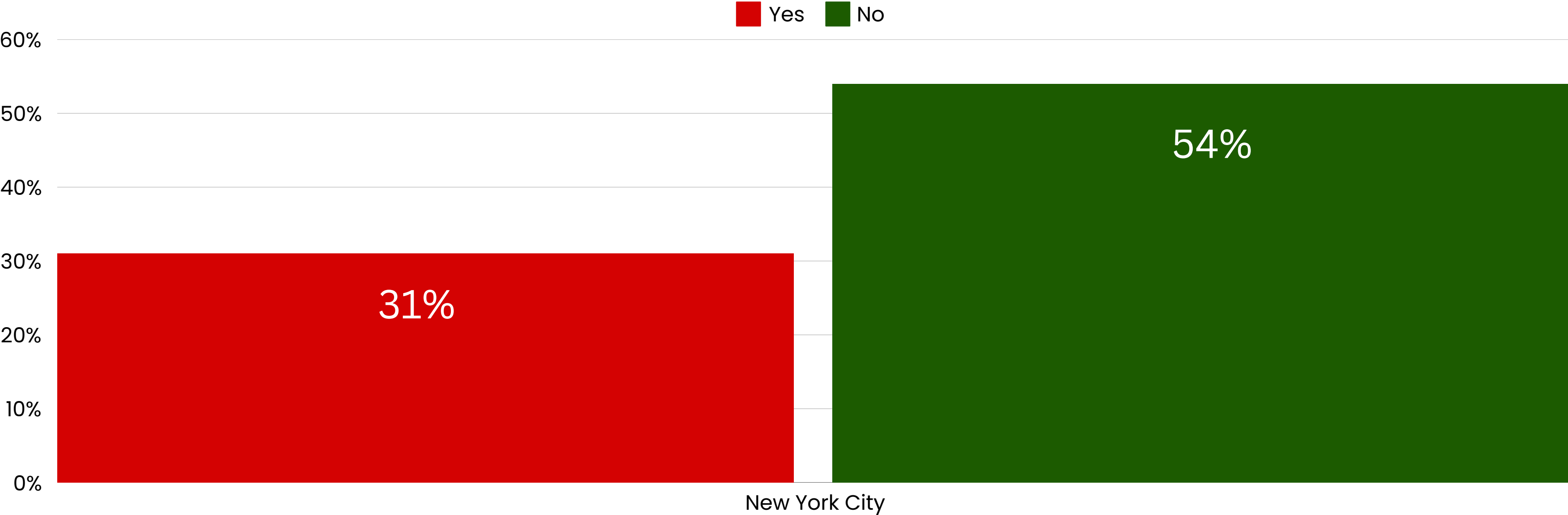
72% of respondents reported that they feel **food insecurity in New York is currently a serious problem**, while 10% expressed that it is not serious.

How serious do you feel food insecurity is in New York City currently?



When asked if they or a family member have struggled with food insecurity in the last few years, a **notable 31% of New Yorkers said they or a family member had struggled with food insecurity**, while 54% said that they had not.

Have you or someone in your family struggled with food insecurity in the last few years?

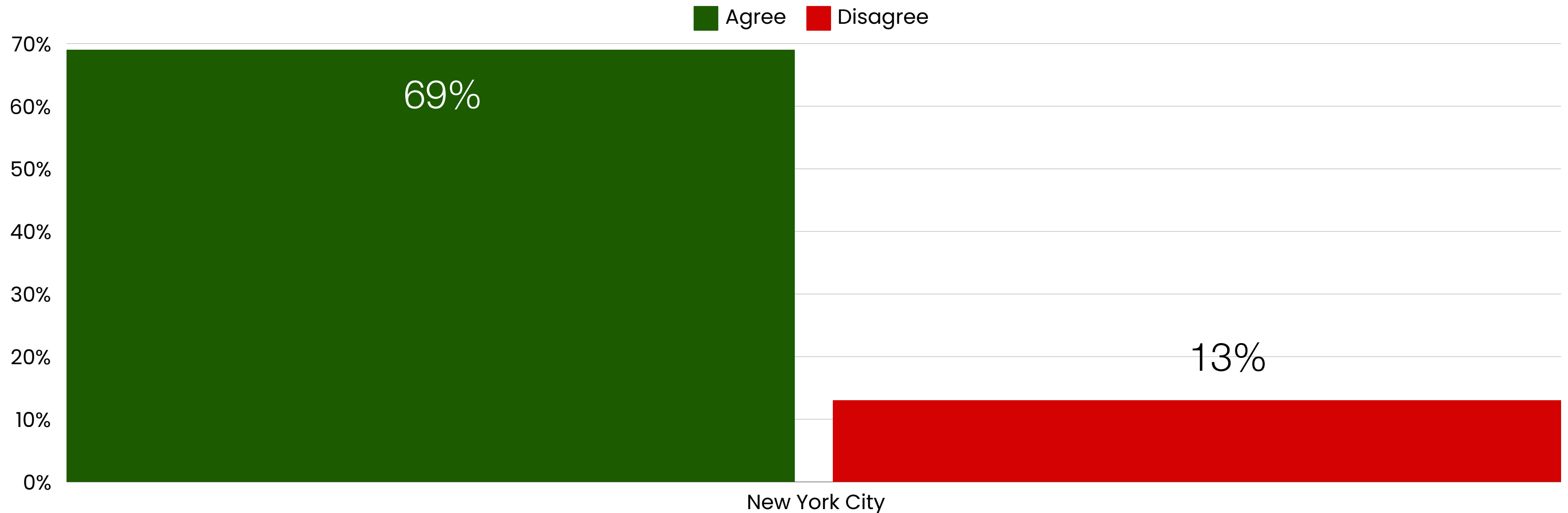


Hispanic (38%) and Black (35%) respondents report the highest levels of food insecurity, compared to Asian (24%) and White (21%) respondents. By borough, **Brooklyn (35%) and the Bronx (34%) have the highest reported struggles with food insecurity**, while **Manhattan (24%) has the lowest**.

	Black	Hispanic	White	Asian	Bronx	Kings	New York	Queens	Richmond
Yes	35%	38%	21%	24%	34%	35%	24%	29%	28%
No	48%	44%	69%	57%	44%	50%	62%	58%	54%

A majority of New Yorkers (**69%**) agree that **the rising cost of food has made it harder for families in their community to access healthy and quality food**, while 13% disagree.

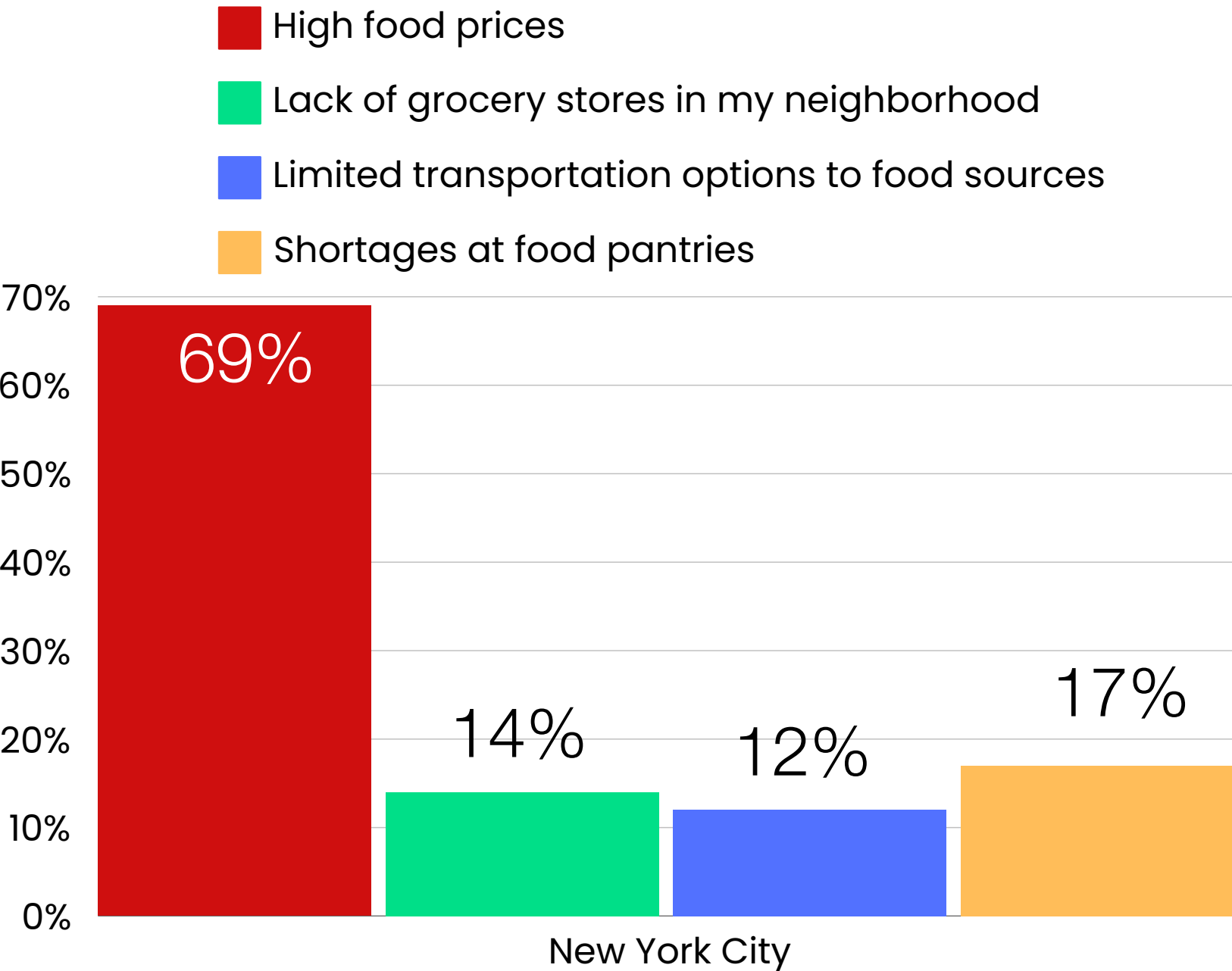
Do you agree or disagree with the following statement: The rising cost of food has made it harder for families in my community to access healthy and quality food.



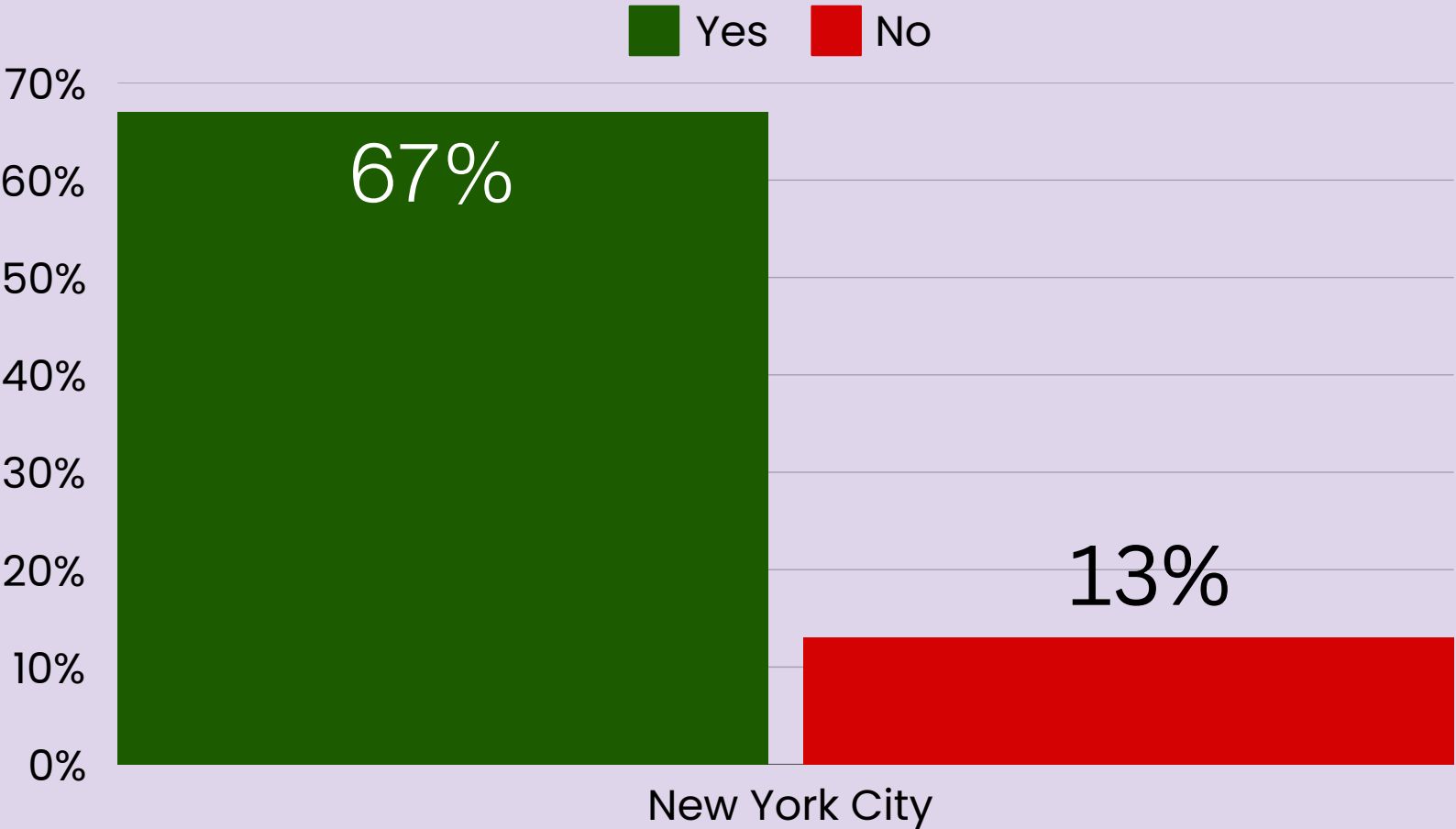
When asked about the biggest barriers to accessing healthy food in their communities, **the most selected response was high food prices (69%)**. Other barriers included **shortages at food pantries (17%)**, **lack of grocery stores in their neighborhood (14%)**, and **limited transportation to food sources (12%)**.

A majority of New Yorkers **(67%) support additional city funding to help food pantries expand services and address food insecurity**. 13% oppose this funding.

What do you feel are the biggest barriers to accessing healthy food in your community?



Would you support additional city funding to help food pantries address food insecurity and expand their services?



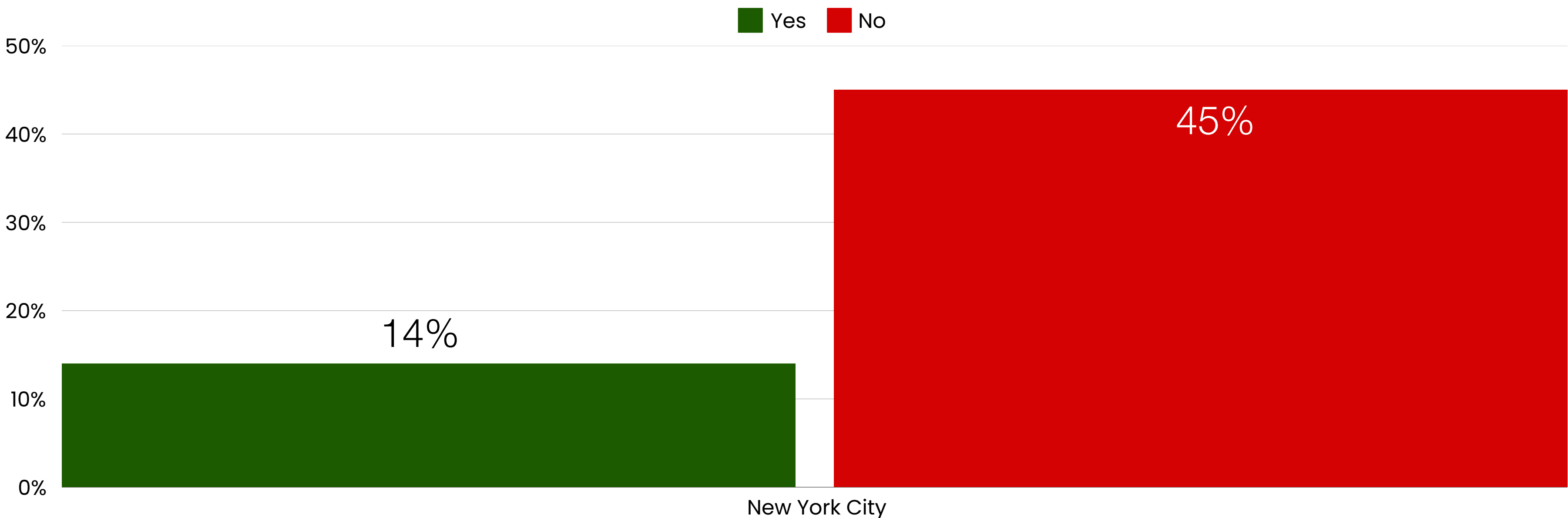
Workplace Programs

The
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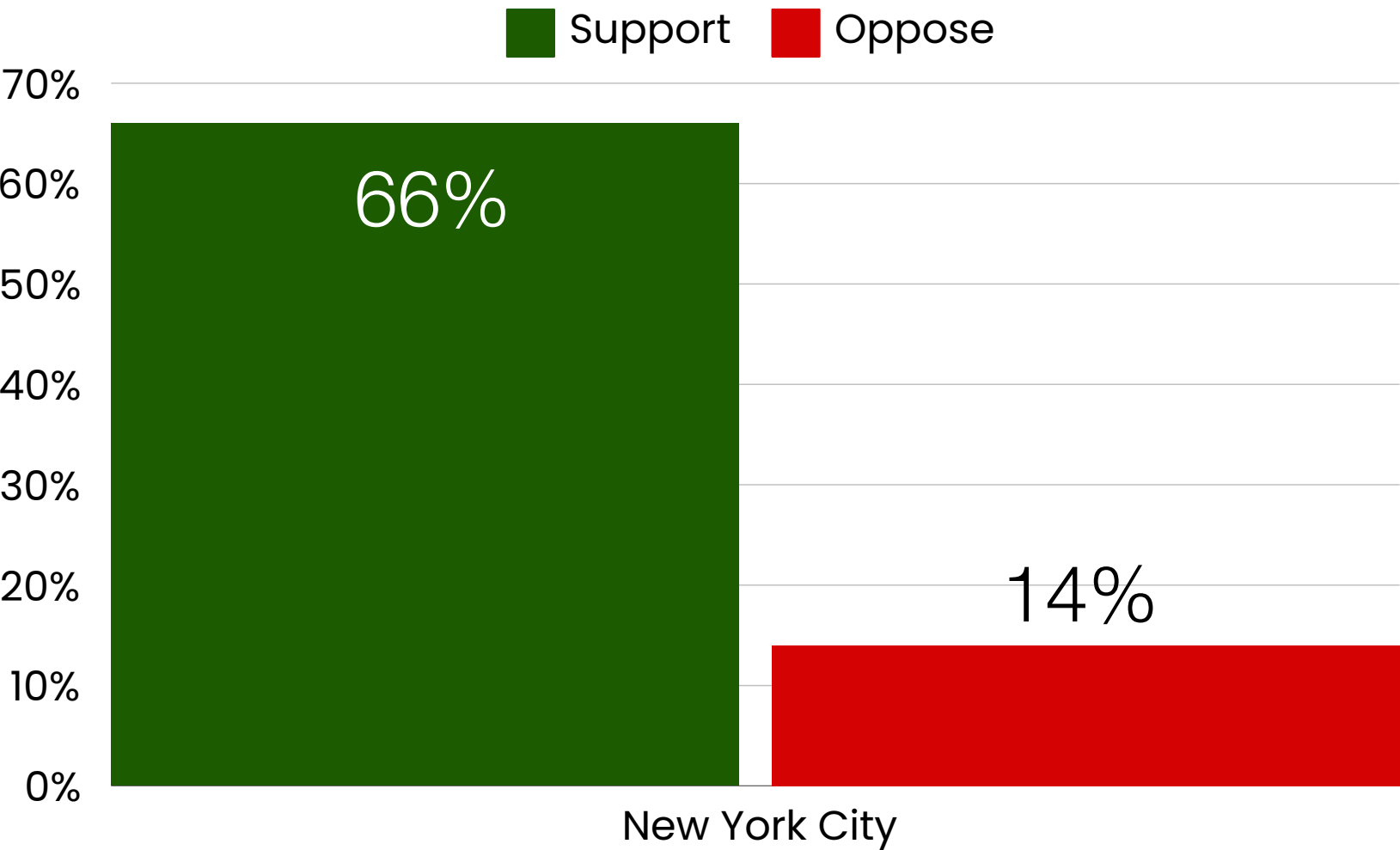
When asked whether the city government is doing enough to expand vocational training and trade schools, **14% of respondents expressed that they do believe the city is doing enough in this area while 45% said that they do not believe the city is doing enough.**

Do you think the city government is doing enough to expand vocational training and trade schools to equip residents with skills and job opportunities?

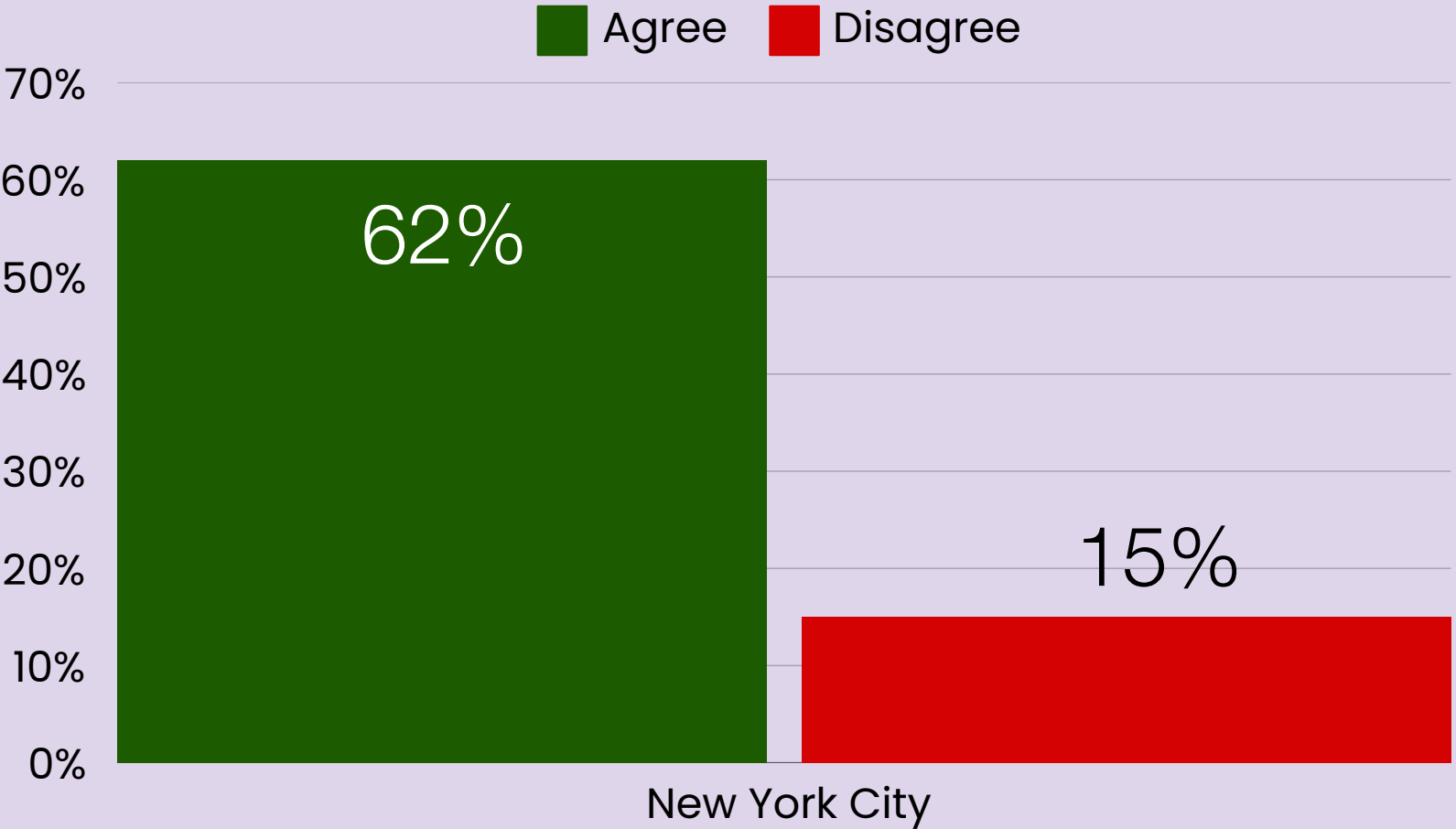


A majority of New Yorkers **(66%) support city-funded partnerships with private companies and nonprofits to recruit and train low-income residents for new job opportunities** while **14% oppose these partnerships**. **62%** of respondents agree with the sentiment that **the city should invest more in training programs that prepare New Yorkers for green jobs**, while **15%** disagree.

How much would you support city-funded partnerships with private companies and non-profits to recruit and train low-income New Yorkers for new job opportunities?



Do you agree or disagree with the following statement:
The city should invest more in training programs to prepare New Yorkers for green jobs, such as those in offshore wind development and the new environmentally friendly industries on the city’s waterfront.



When asked if childcare needs had impacted their ability to work, **17% of New Yorkers reported being affected in some capacity by having to stop work, reduce hours, or change jobs in order to accommodate childcare responsibilities.** **23%** reported that their work situation has not been impacted by their childcare needs. While **42%** of respondents said that they do not have childcare responsibilities.

Have childcare needs impacted your ability to work, such as causing you to stop working, reduce your hours, or make other changes to your employment situation?	
Yes, I had to stop working entirely to meet childcare needs	4%
Yes, I had to reduce my work hours to meet childcare needs	6%
Yes, I had to change jobs or find more flexible work to accommodate childcare	7%
No, my work situation has not been impacted by childcare needs	23%
I do not have childcare responsibilities	42%

19% of Hispanic respondents have been affected by childcare needs in some capacity, slightly more than any other racial demographic.

	Black	Hispanic	White	Asian	Bronx	Kings	New York	Queens	Richmond
Yes, I had to stop working entirely to meet childcare needs	5%	5%	3%	5%	6%	5%	3%	4%	5%
Yes, I had to reduce my work hours to meet childcare needs	6%	4%	6%	6%	5%	6%	7%	4%	8%
Yes, I had to change jobs or find more flexible work to accommodate childcare	6%	10%	4%	7%	6%	8%	5%	6%	8%
No, my work situation has not been impacted by childcare needs	22%	24%	29%	13%	24%	23%	24%	21%	30%
I do not have childcare responsibilities	43%	33%	49%	51%	36%	40%	45%	48%	35%

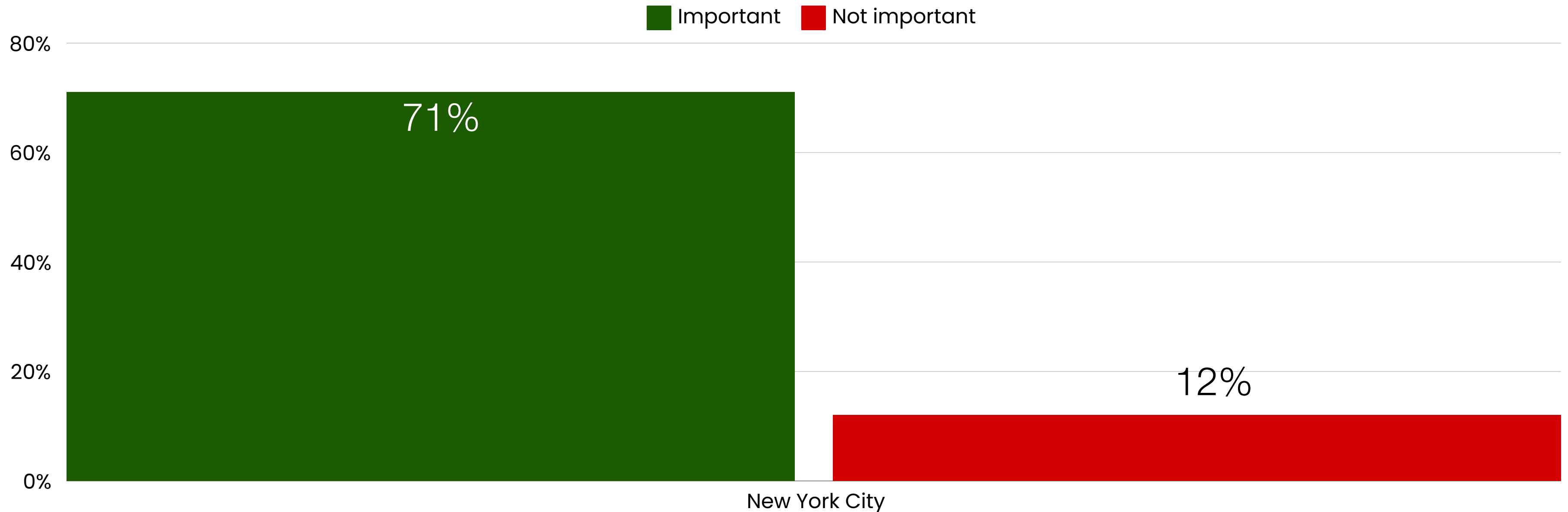
Democracy & Civic Engagement

The
People's Pulse



An overwhelming majority of voters **(71%) believe that voting is important to New York's social and economic future**, while 12% believe that voting is not important to the city's social and economic future.

How important do you think voting is to New York's social and economic future?



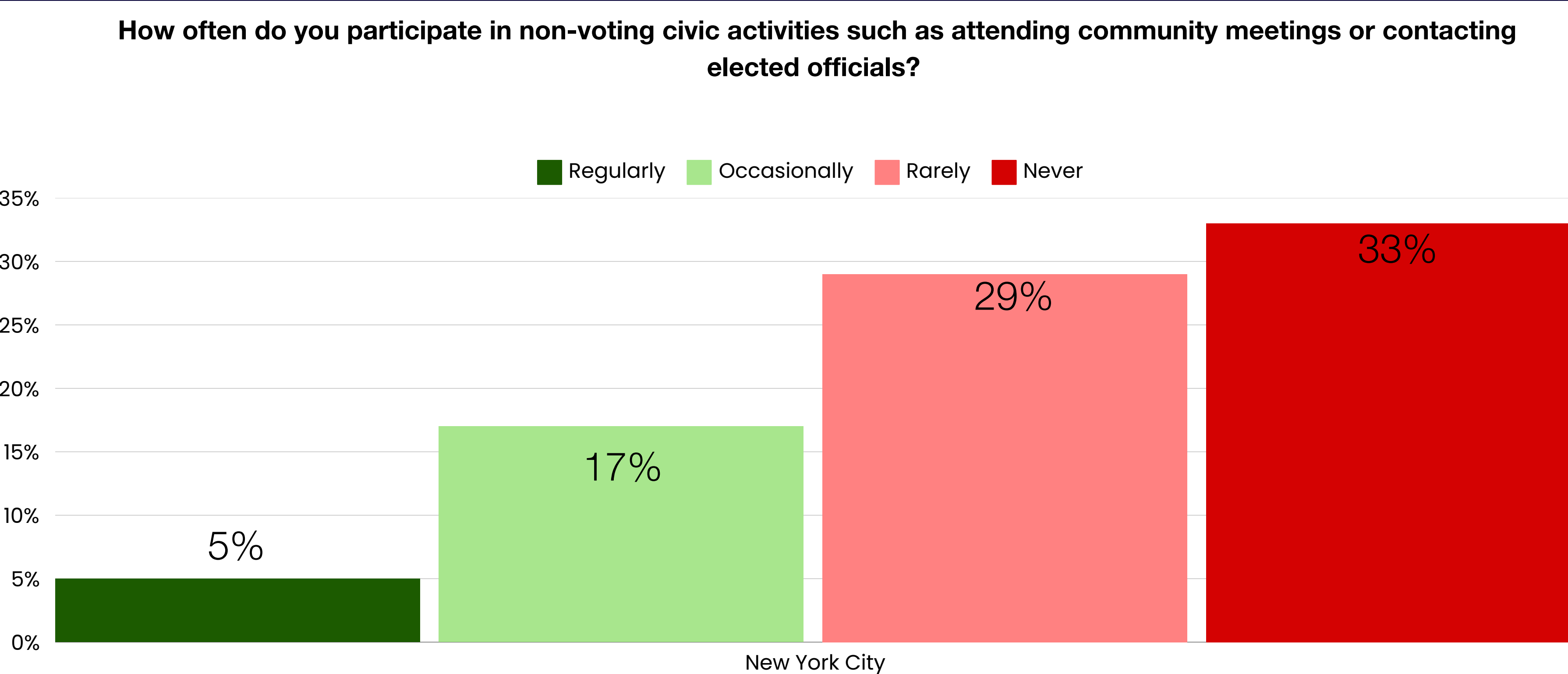
A **strong majority of voters across racial demographic** groups believe that voting is important to New York’s social and economic future, however this support is highest among White **(82%)** and Asian **(75%)** respondents. By borough, belief in the importance of voting is highest in Manhattan **(77%)** and Queens **(73%)**

	Black	Hispanic	White	Asian	Bronx	Kings	New York	Queens	Richmond
Important	67%	64%	82%	75%	65%	71%	77%	73%	62%
Not important	14%	16%	10%	6%	12%	13%	11%	12%	17%

When asked what would make them more likely to participate in local elections, New Yorkers most frequently cited **more information about candidates and ballot measures (40%)**, **greater trust in the election process (32%)**, and **easier access to voter registration (17%)**. **15%** mentioned the **need for more accessible polling location information**.

What would make you more likely to participate in local elections?	
More information about candidates and ballot measures	40%
Greater trust in the election process	32%
Easier access to voter registration	17%
More accessible information about polling locations	15%

When asked how often they engage in non-voting civic activities, such as attending community meetings or contacting elected officials, **5% of New Yorkers said they participate regularly**, while **17% do so occasionally**. **29% report rarely participating**, and **33% say they never engage in these activities**.



When it comes to engaging in non-voting civic activities, **White (28%)** respondents are the most likely to participate at least **occasionally**, while **Black (6%)**, **Hispanic (5%)**, and **White (5%)** respondents are slightly more likely to engage **regularly** than Asian respondents (3%). **26%** of respondents in Manhattan participate occasionally or regularly, slightly higher than other borough respondents.

	Black	Hispanic	White	Asian	Bronx	Kings	New York	Queens	Richmond
Regularly	6%	5%	5%	3%	3%	6%	6%	3%	6%
Occasionally	15%	15%	23%	16%	17%	18%	20%	15%	19%
Rarely	25%	32%	29%	31%	26%	28%	34%	30%	23%
Never	37%	29%	36%	30%	32%	33%	28%	35%	33%

When asked where they primarily get news about local issues and elections, respondents most commonly cited **online news and websites (39%)** and **broadcast news (36%)**.

These were followed by **social media platforms (29%)**, **family and friends (26%)**, and **newspapers (21%)**.

Less commonly, **10% reported getting news from podcasts**, and **9% from community groups**.

Where do you primarily get your news about local issues and elections?	
Online news and websites	39%
Broadcast news	36%
Social media platforms	29%
Family and friends	26%
Newspapers	21%
Podcasts	10%
Community groups	9%

By borough, online news is most popular in Manhattan (**43%**) and Brooklyn (**40%**), while broadcast news is the top source in Staten Island (**43%**). **Newspapers remain more relevant in Manhattan (30%) than in other boroughs.**

	Black	Hispanic	White	Asian	Bronx	Kings	New York	Queens	Richmond
Newspapers	16%	20%	29%	21%	18%	20%	30%	18%	25%
Broadcast news	38%	33%	40%	30%	33%	37%	35%	37%	43%
Online news and websites	39%	36%	43%	38%	34%	40%	43%	39%	33%
Social media platforms	34%	31%	26%	30%	34%	28%	25%	31%	30%
Family and friends	27%	27%	26%	24%	29%	25%	25%	24%	32%
Podcasts	9%	11%	9%	11%	11%	9%	12%	9%	7%
Community groups	8%	8%	10%	13%	7%	11%	9%	8%	6%

When asked about their biggest concerns regarding media coverage of local politics and issues, respondents cited **bias in reporting as their top issue (39%)** while **30% were concerned about a lack of depth or detail in coverage**. Another **30% felt that certain neighborhoods and communities are neglected**, and **20% believed the media focuses on issues that do not affect them or their families**.

What are some of your biggest concerns about how the media covers local politics and issues in New York?	
Bias in reporting	39%
Lack of depth or detail in coverage	30%
Neglect of certain neighborhoods and communities	30%
Focused on issues that don't affect me and my family	20%

Bias in reporting is the top concern, particularly among **Asian (48%)** and **White (44%)** respondents. **Black (37%)** and **Hispanic (34%)** respondents also share this concern, though at slightly lower rates. By borough, concerns over **bias** are highest in **Queens (42%)** and **Brooklyn (40%)**. **Lack of depth in coverage (33%)** is most noted in **Manhattan**, while concerns about **neglect of certain communities** are strongest in **the Bronx (34%)**.

	Black	Hispanic	White	Asian	Bronx	Kings	New York	Queens	Richmond
Bias in reporting	37%	34%	44%	48%	31%	40%	41%	42%	41%
Lack of depth or detail in coverage	29%	32%	29%	30%	28%	31%	33%	29%	28%
Neglect of certain neighborhoods and communities	33%	32%	27%	22%	34%	30%	29%	27%	29%
Focused on issues that don't affect me and my family	22%	21%	20%	15%	19%	21%	21%	20%	19%

A **majority** of New Yorkers **agree that the media plays an important role in holding local politicians and institutions accountable (57%)**, in addition, **half** of residents largely believe that their vote makes a difference in elections **(50%)**.

Just 38% of New Yorkers believe that the democratic process in the city works and improves life for them and their families.

Democracy Agree/Disagree	Agree	Disagree
The media plays an important role in holding local politicians and institutions accountable.	57%	22%
My vote makes a difference in New York City elections	50%	26%
The democratic process in New York City works and improves life for me and my family.	38%	33%