Prairie Research Associates

Winnipeg Police Board

REPORT ON

2026 WINNIPEG POLICE SERVICE CITIZEN SURVEY

BACKGROUND AND METHODOLOGY

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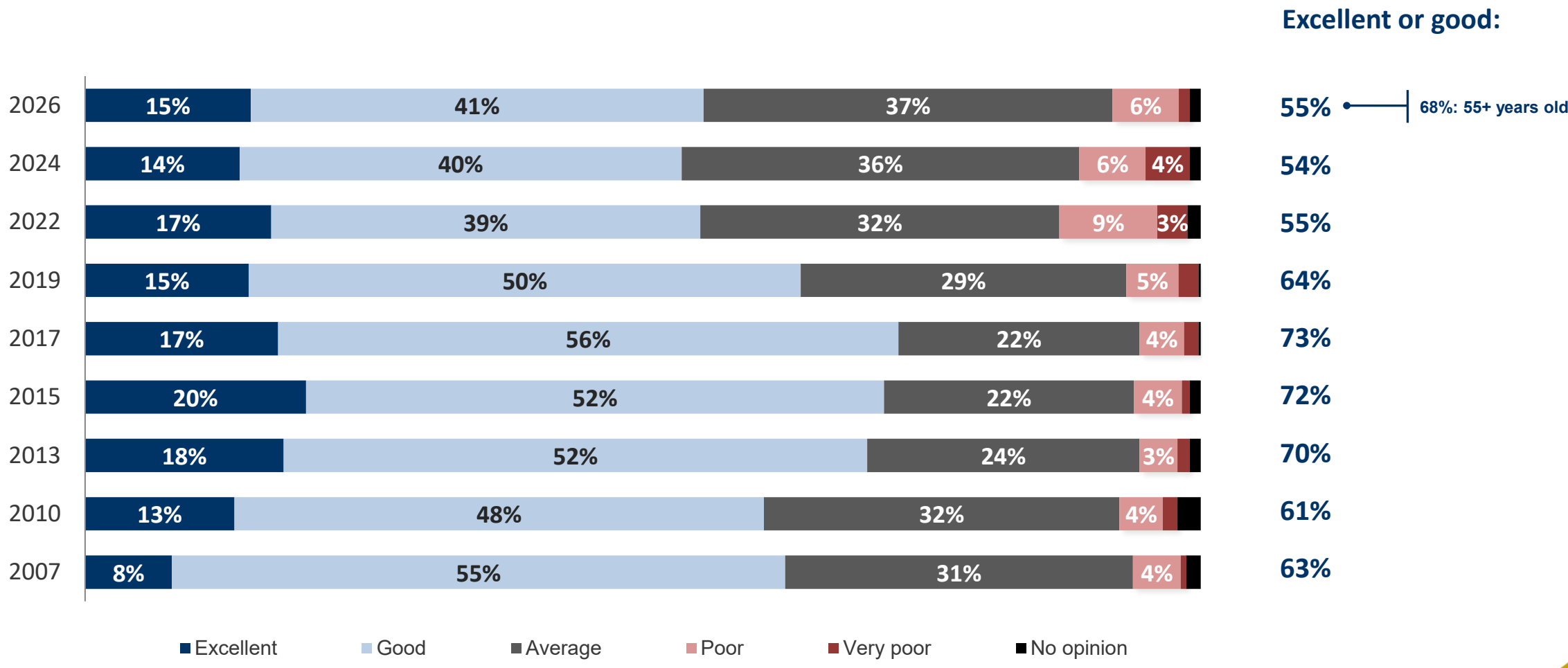
- A regular survey of citizens is conducted to assess their satisfaction with the Winnipeg Police Service and their perceptions of crime and public safety in Winnipeg.
- A total of 600 Winnipeg citizens aged 18 years and over were interviewed by telephone between July 23 and August 14, 2026. The sample included both landlines and cell phone numbers.
- Because quotas were used to ensure a representative sample by age, gender, and region, weighting has not been applied to the data.
- The margin-of-error for this telephone survey of 600 adults is +/- 4.0%, 19 times out of 20. The margin-of-error is higher for sub-populations analyzed in these results.
- Where applicable and available, this report compares the results of the 2026 survey with the results of previous citizen satisfaction surveys.

Notes:

- *The percentages shown in this report may not add up to exactly 100%, due to rounding.*
- *Values less than 3% may not be shown in charts.*
- *Differences between groups are shown. Values in red indicate a group is significantly less positive than its comparison groups. Values in blue indicate a group is significantly more positive than its comparison groups.*

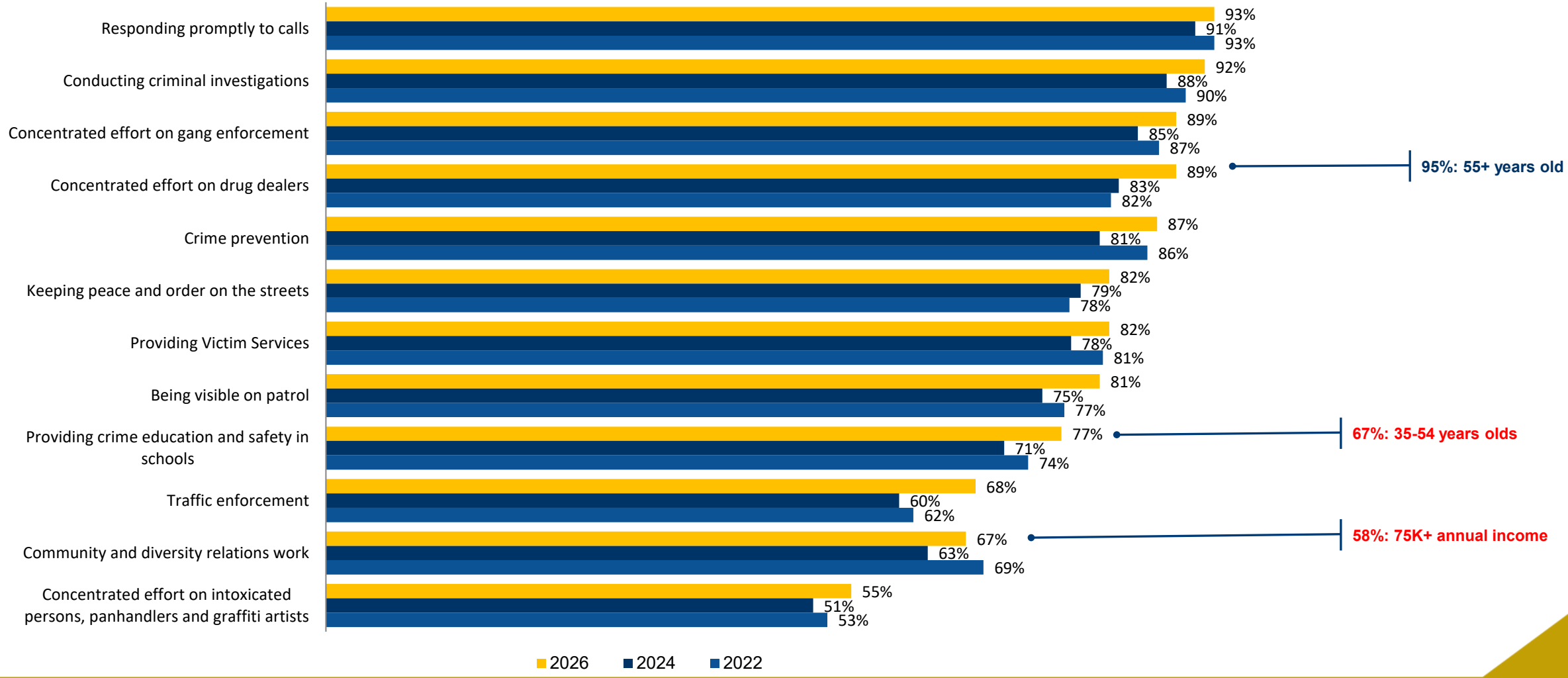
OVERALL QUALITY OF WINNIPEG POLICE SERVICE

J7. How would you rate the overall quality of police service in Winnipeg?



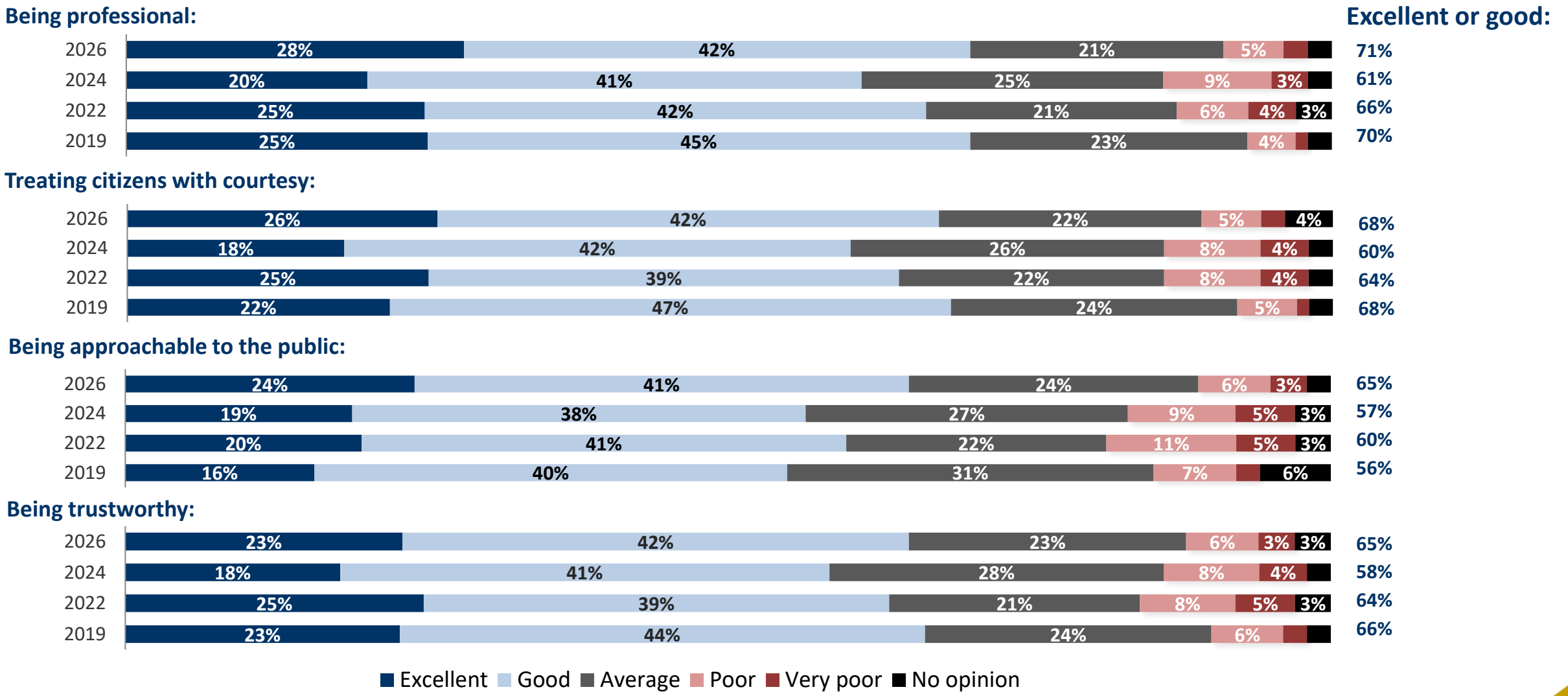
IMPORTANCE OF POLICE ACTIVITIES

J1. Please rate the importance of the following police activities to you on a scale from 1 to 5 in which 1 is not very important and 5 is extremely important. (% rated important [4 or 5 out of 5])



PERCEPTION OF POLICE ACTIVITIES

J2. Do you think, in general, the Winnipeg Police Service does an excellent, good, average, poor or very poor job of…



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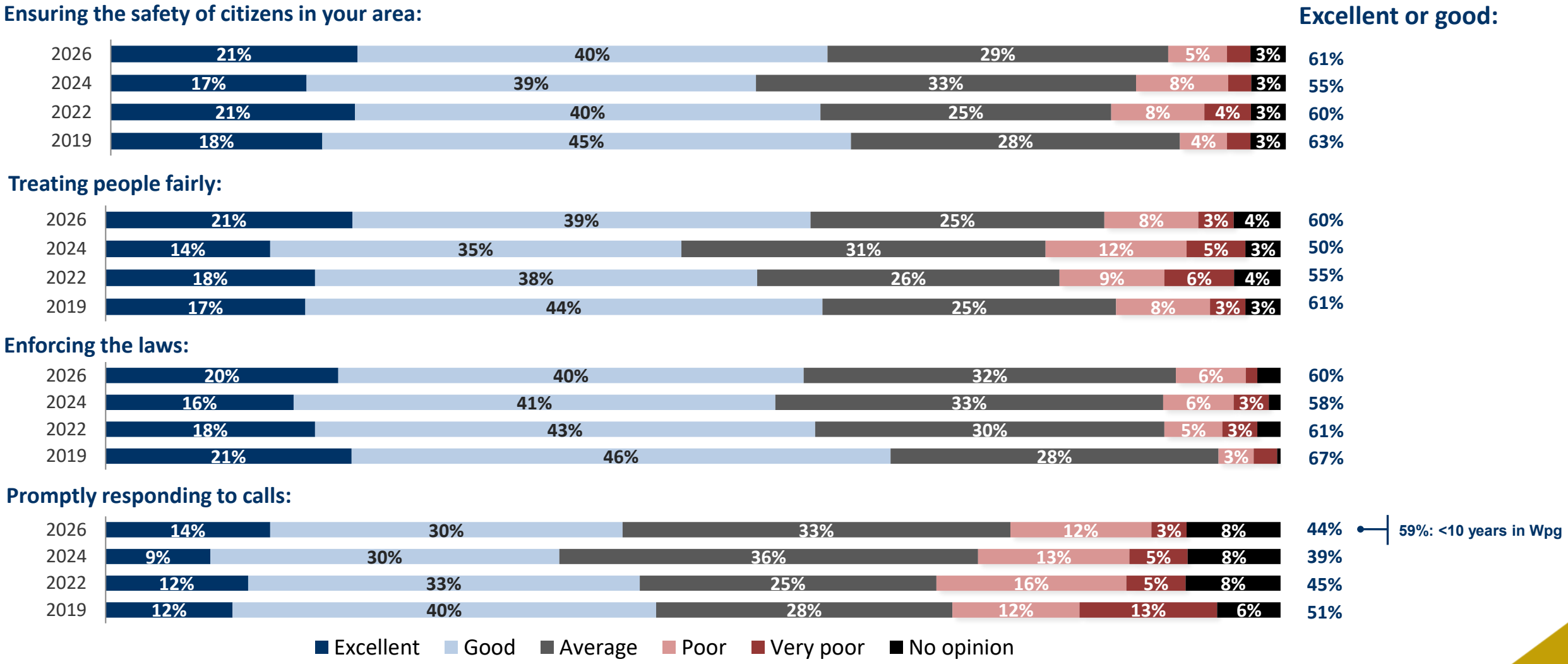
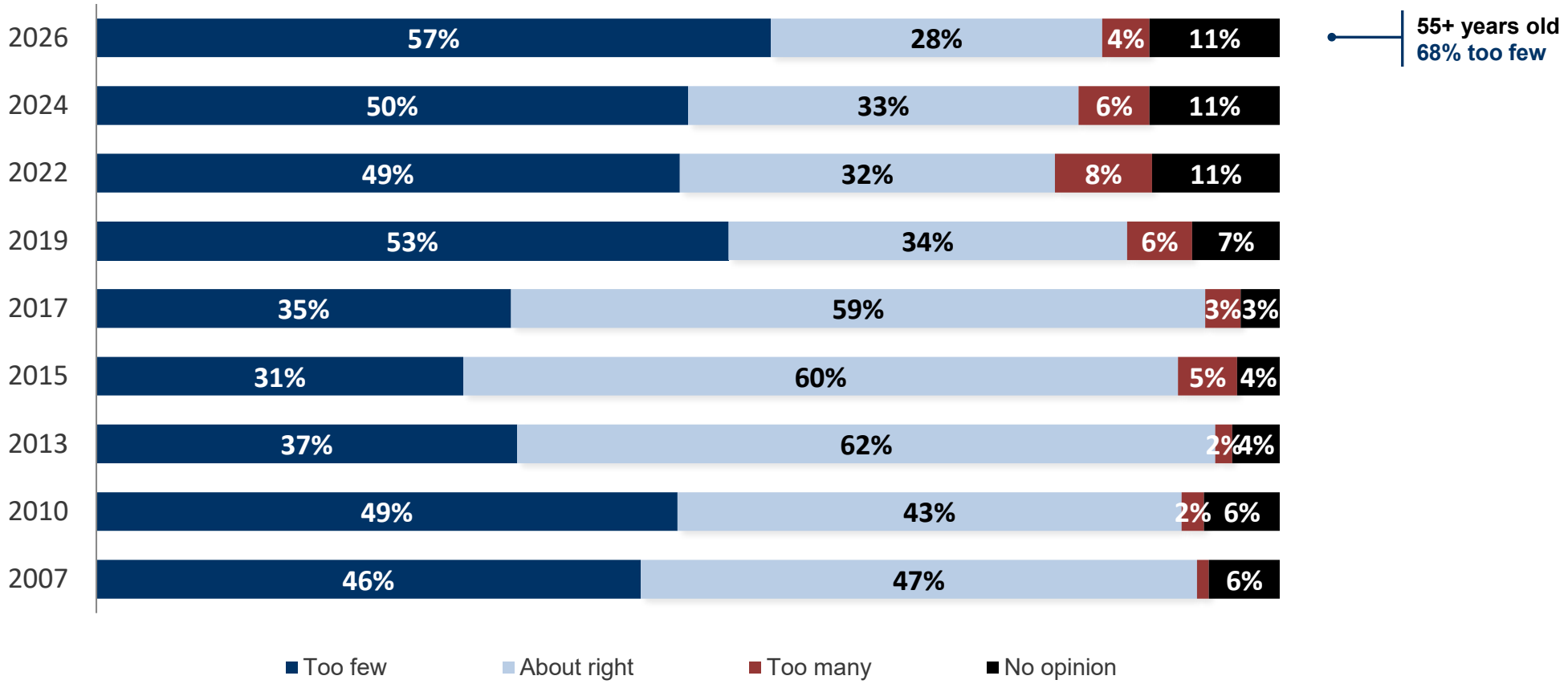


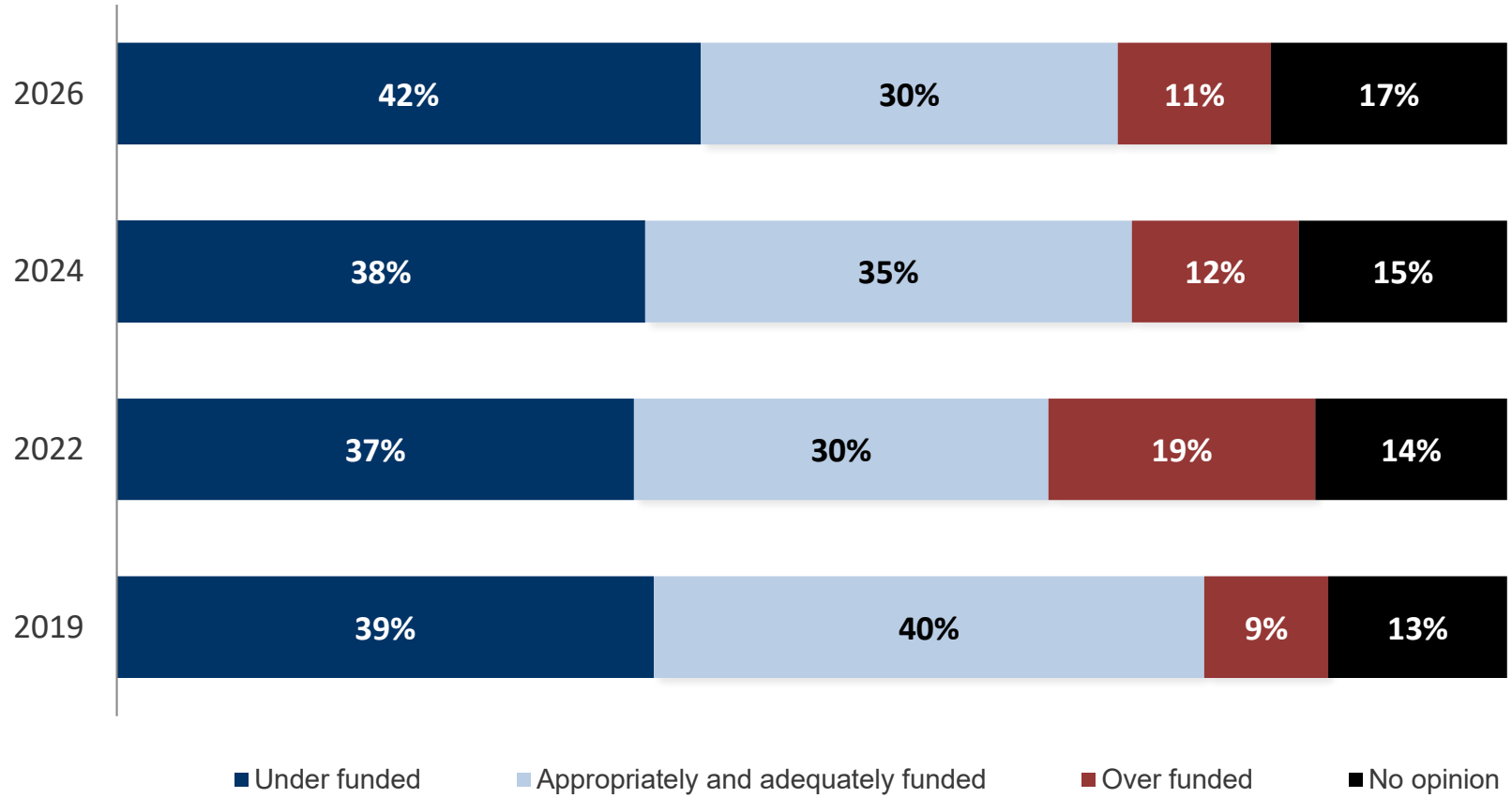
NUMBER OF WINNIPEG POLICE OFFICERS

J5. How would you rate the number of officers in the City of Winnipeg?



FUNDING OF WINNIPEG POLICE SERVICE

J4. How would you rate the level of funding received by the Winnipeg Police Service?



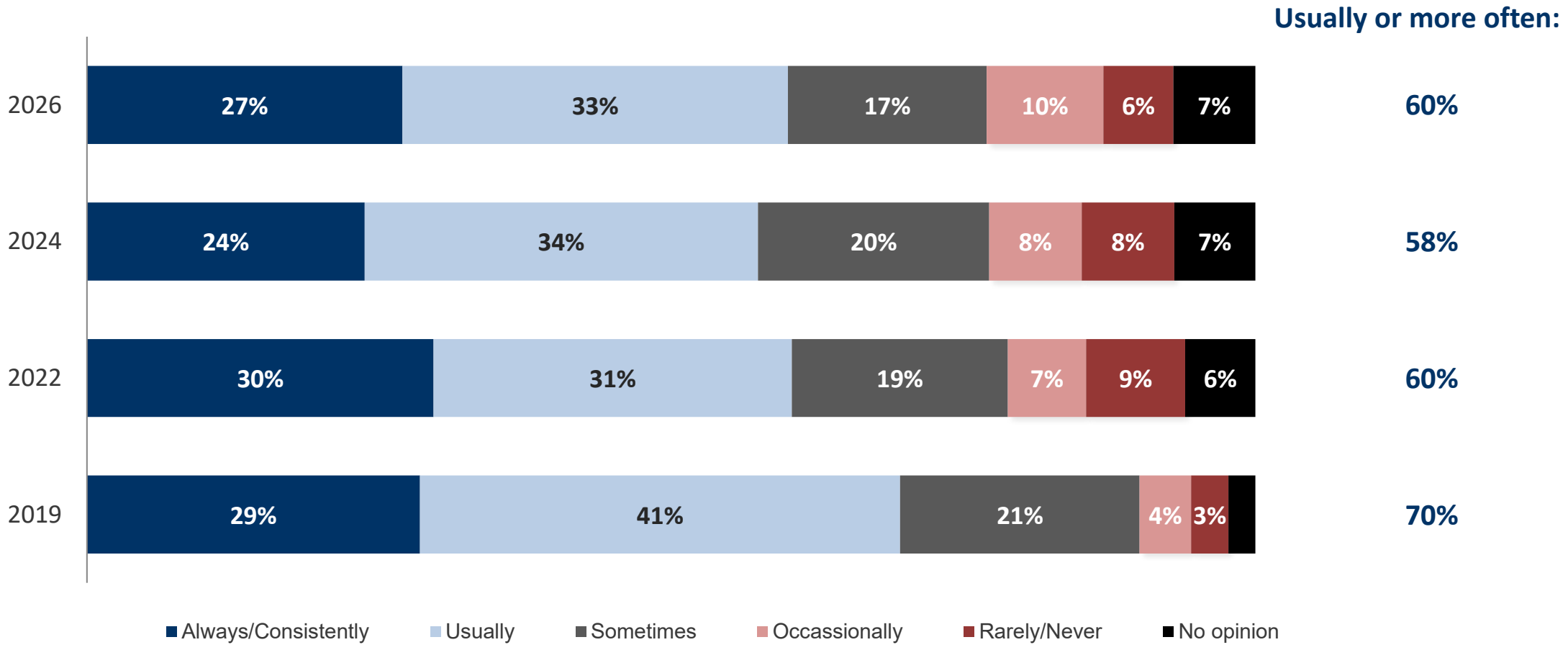
18-34 years old
24% under funded

55+ years old
59% under funded

> 25 years in Winnipeg
51% under funded

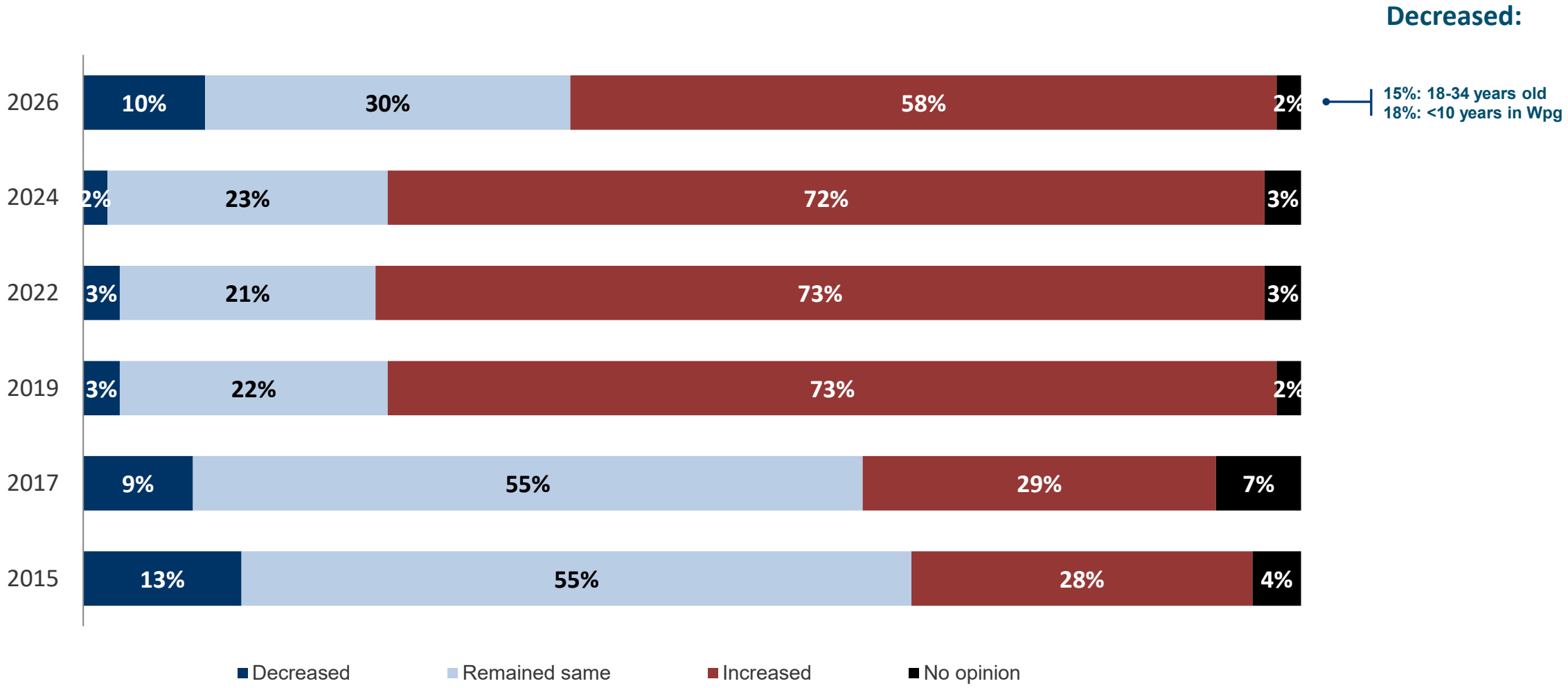
WINNIPEG POLICE SERVICE MEETING EXPECTATIONS

J6. How often does the Winnipeg Police Service meet your needs, values and expectations?



CHANGES IN WINNIPEG CRIME IN LAST YEAR

B1. Thinking of the last year or so, do you think that crime has increased, decreased, or remained about the same in the city of Winnipeg?



SAFETY WALKING ALONE DOWNTOWN BY GENDER

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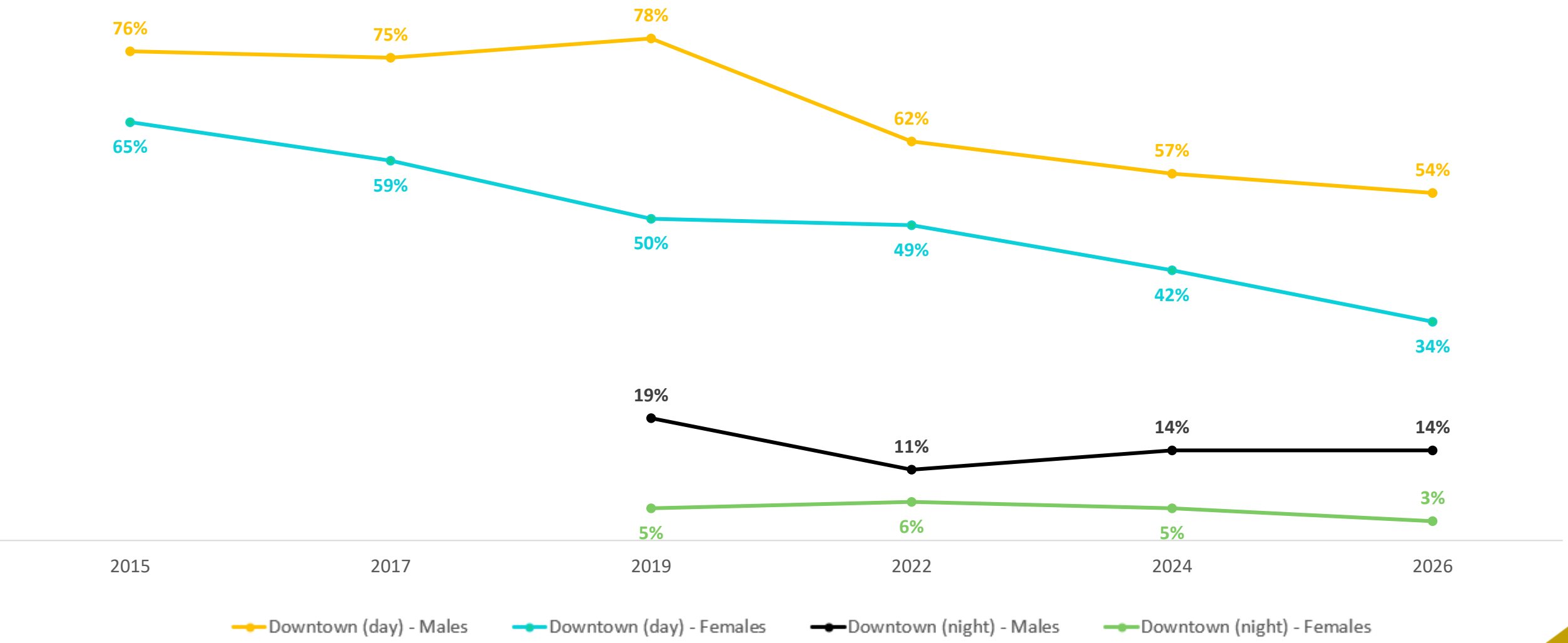
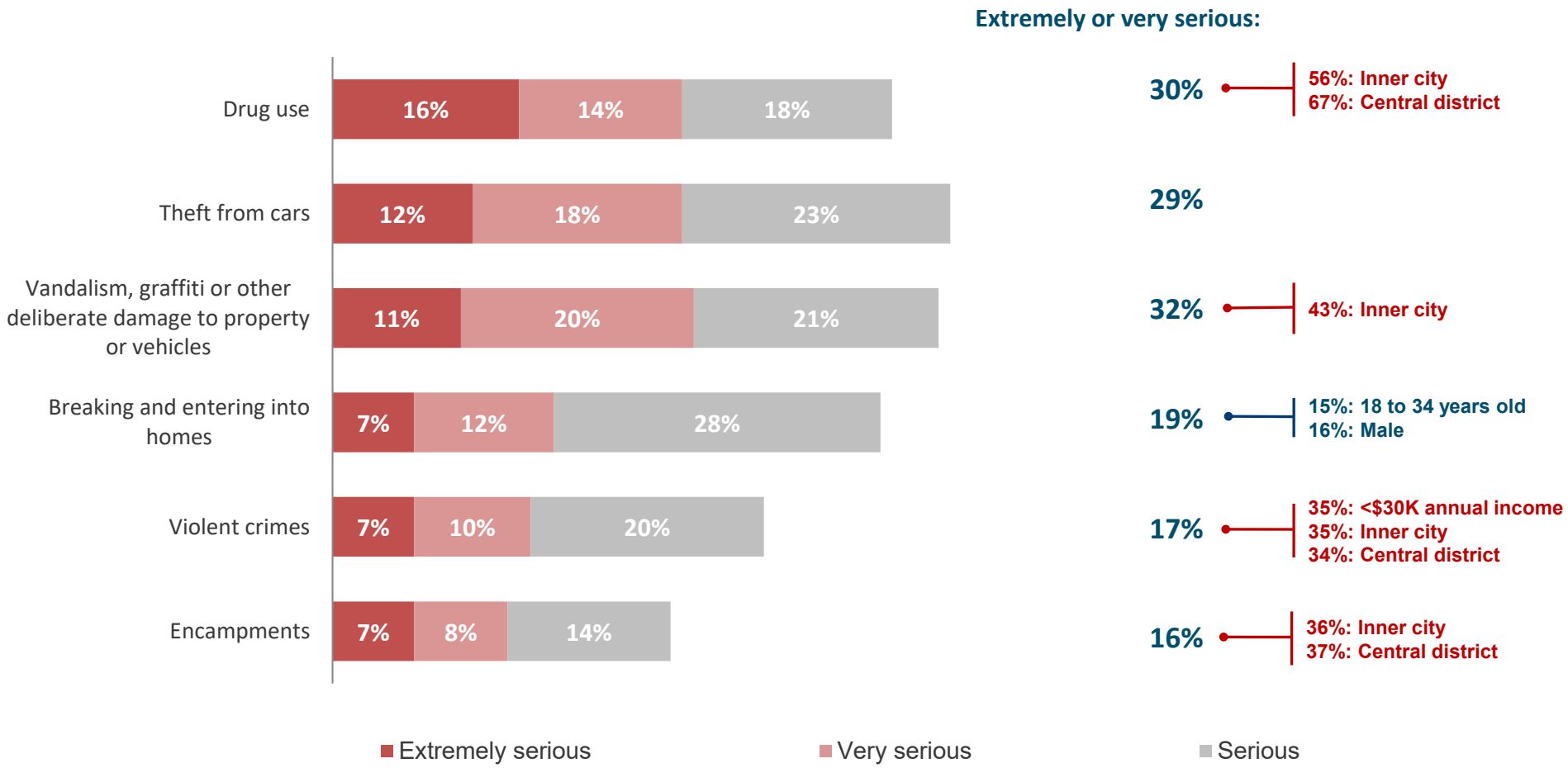


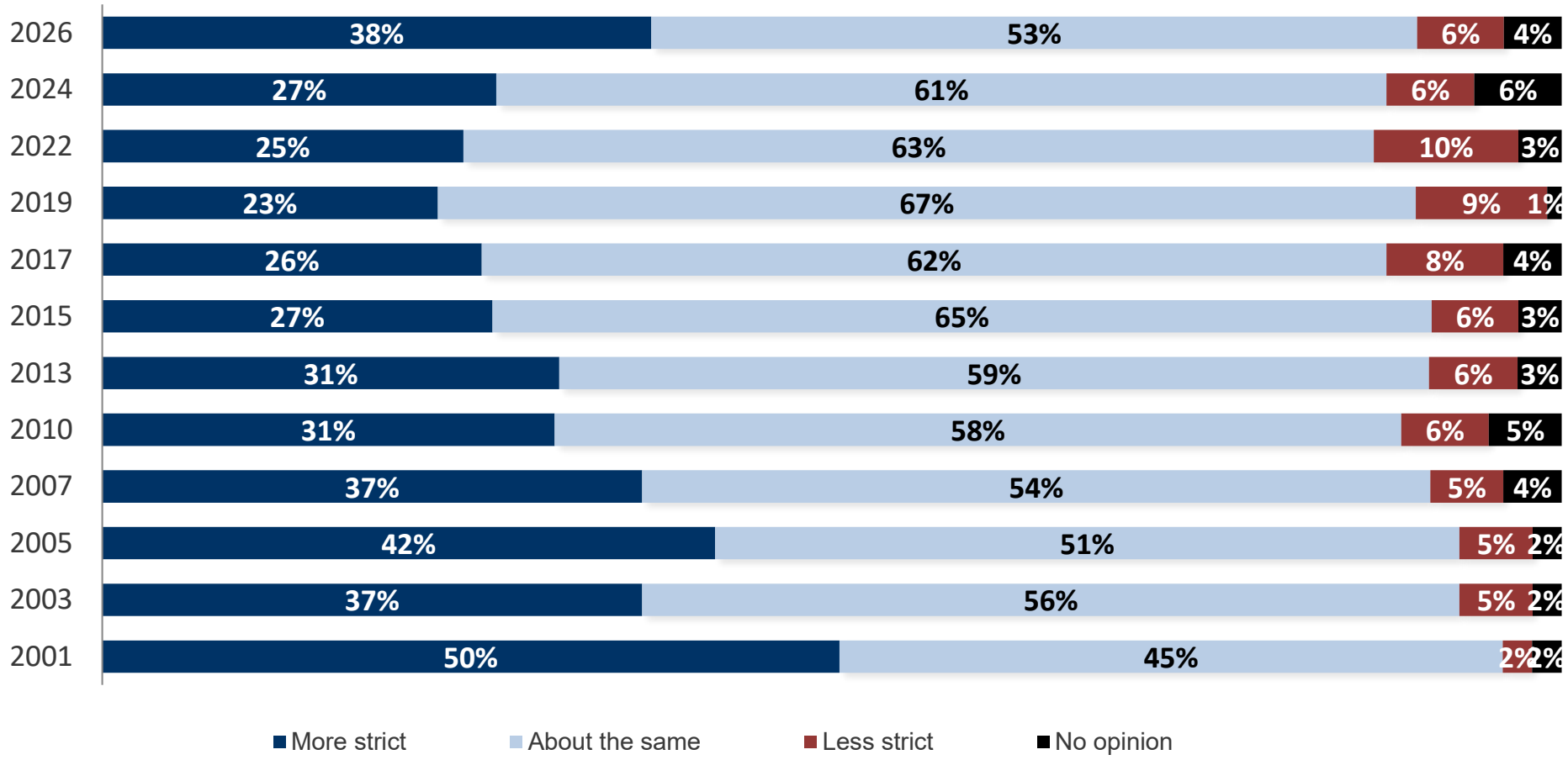
PERCEPTIONS OF NEIGHBOURHOOD PROBLEMS

B4. I am now going to read you a few statements about the seriousness of various problems in your neighbourhood only. On a scale from 1 to 5 in which 1 is not at all serious, 2 is somewhat serious, 3 is serious, 4 is very serious, and 5 is extremely serious, how serious is…?



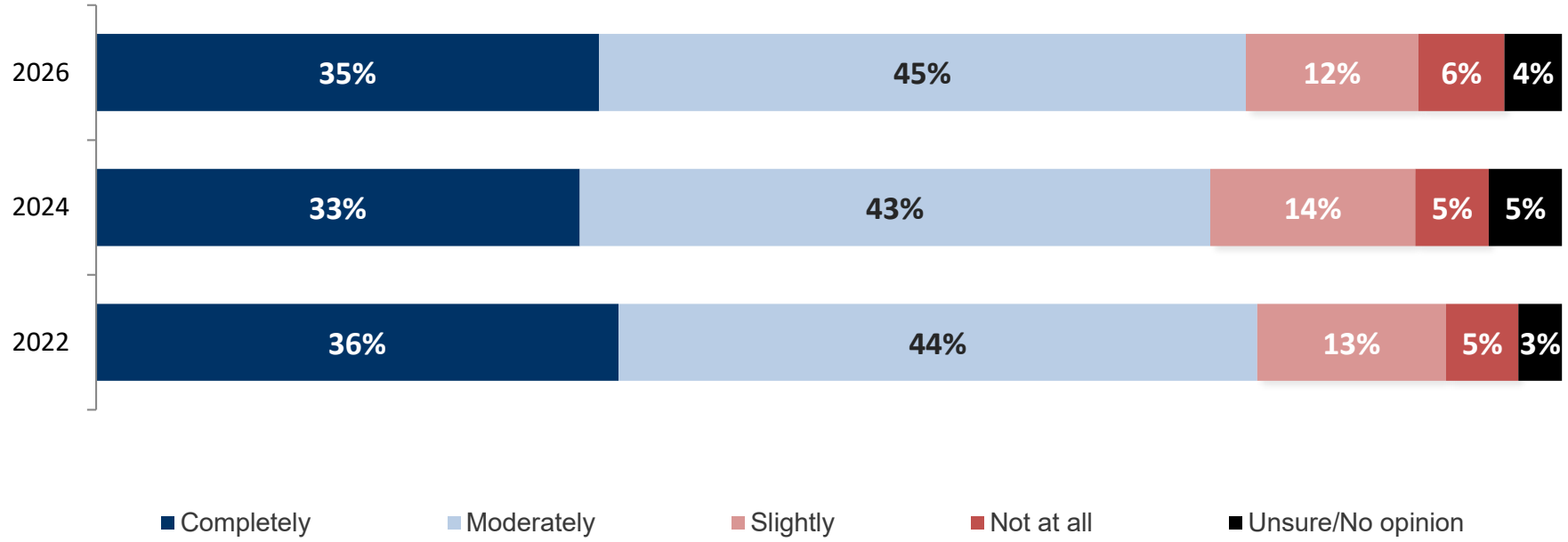
PERCEPTIONS OF TRAFFIC ENFORCEMENT

F9. With respect to enforcing traffic laws, should the police be more strict, less strict or about the same as in the past?



TRUST IN NEWS FROM THE POLICE

G4. How trustworthy do you consider the Winnipeg Police Service to be as a source of local public safety news?

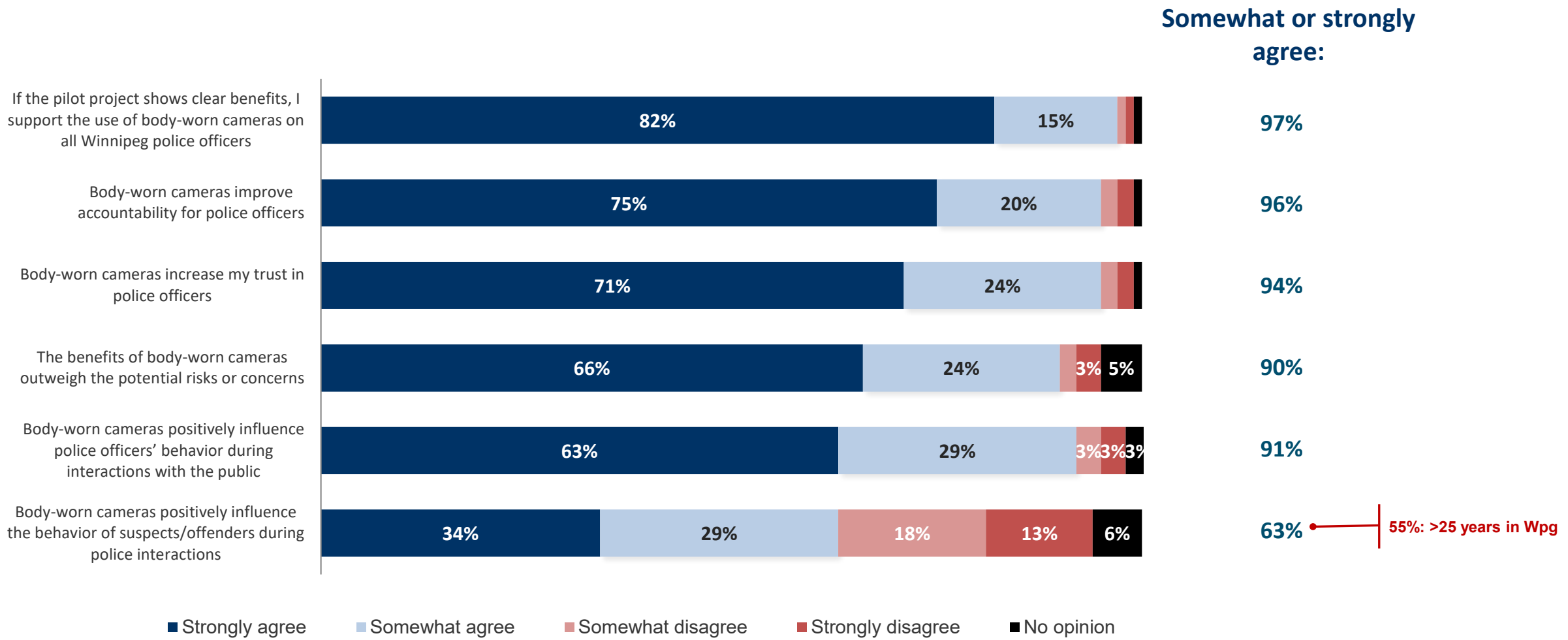


Moderately or completely trustworthy:

2026	79%
2024	76%
2022	80%

PERCEPTIONS OF BODY-WORN CAMERAS

I3. Beginning in June 2026, some members of the Winnipeg Police Service started using body-worn cameras as part of an ongoing pilot project. Thinking about police use of body-worn cameras, how strongly do you agree or disagree with the following statements?



KEY FINDINGS

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Perceptions of police slightly higher than 2024

- In 2026, 56% of Winnipeggers rated the quality of the Winnipeg Police Service as excellent or good, which is up slightly from 54% in 2024. When asked to rate eight different police activities, Winnipeggers are more positive on all eight activities in 2026 than in 2024, increasing 2 to 10 percentage points from 2024.

Responding to calls is most important

- Responding quickly to calls is seen as the most important aspect of policing for Winnipeggers in 2026, as 93% rate it as important; however, it is this activity where the Winnipeg Police Service is rated lowest among eight aspects tested – 44% rated as excellent or good in 2026 (up from 39% in 2024).

Drug use and property crimes seen as the most serious problem in neighbourhoods

- Amongst several types of neighbourhood problems, residents tend to rate drug use and property crimes as the most serious problem.

Downtown safety an issue

- Perceptions of downtown safety during the day decreased from 2024, as 44% say they feel very or reasonably safe walking alone in downtown during the day (down from 49% in 2024). Perceptions of walking alone at night (8% safe) are also very low.

Belief that additional resources are needed for the police

- In 2026, 57% of Winnipeggers say there are too few police officers in the City of Winnipeg (up from 50% in 2024) and 42% of Winnipeggers believe the Winnipeg Police Service is underfunded, compared to 11% who say it is over funded.