

# Council Agenda Item 10(a) – Consent Agenda

For the Regular Meeting of Council September 19, 2024

If you wish to separate an Item from the Consent Agenda, please contact the Municipal Clerk prior to the meeting so a resolution can be prepared for any item requiring debate.

Requests for support from other municipalities, agencies etc. will be considered at the meeting.

1. Correspondence from mayor Liggett City of Cambridge re: mental health and addictions crisis
2. Public Opinion Research – City of Cambridge Mental Health and Addictions Report
3. RCJTC – Letter of August 12, 2024 regarding student transportation for the 2024/2025 school year
4. Community Emergency Preparedness Grant
5. Township of Terrace Bay – Support for OINP (Ontario Immigrant Nominee Program)
6. Township of Nairn and Hyman – Concerns with the Transport and Deposition of Naturally Occurring Radioactive Material (NORM) at the Agnew Lake Tailings Management Area (ALTMA)
7. City of Quinte West – Notice of Motion Councillor Stedall – The Canada Community-Building Fund
8. Township of Red Rock – Catch and Release
9. Hydro One – Vegetation Maintenance Program

## The Corporation of the City of Cambridge

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Cambridge ON N1R 5W8  
(519) 740-4517



OFFICE OF THE MAYOR  
AND COUNCIL

**Delivered by hand and electronic mail.**

August 15, 2024

Dear Mayors, CAOs, Provincial, and Federal Party Leaders,

### Re: Mental Health and Addictions Crisis

I do not think it is an overstatement: the current mental health and addictions crisis is the greatest calamity of our time. This crisis has leached into the very fabric of our lives – it has turned our streets into the theatre of mental crises and places for open drug use, it has affected economic development on a micro and macro scale, and most importantly, the negative impact to the health and wellness of our community members of all ages will be felt for generations.

For about three decades, we have debated and engaged in discourse on this topic with very little to show for it. The situation has never been worse. Actions taken to this point have only exacerbated the crisis. Daily, my office is inundated with calls and emails regarding the lack of mental health and addiction services in our community.

When I became mayor, one of the goals I set out to accomplish was to make a difference where it counted, to change the ever-increasing numbers of people in the throes of addiction and mental health crises; or at the very least stabilize the numbers. We have been spinning in circles, not achieving anything while we continue to talk at people. I felt I knew what needed to be done but I wanted to hear from the people who live with this every day. As the leader of my community, I realized I needed to take it to the people and then listen carefully, so I decided to do a poll. I believe this poll captures what every government needs to know when allocating funds, which is how do we help in the best way possible. If we as leaders do this, we can change the catastrophic future of our current path

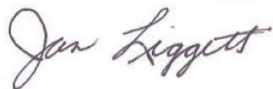
Last year, I was presented with the opportunity to begin work on an Ontario-wide study to determine how Ontarians feel about the current state of mental health and addictions

services. The study, conducted by Campaign Research, indicates that Ontarians want to see this crisis addressed. Ontarians overwhelmingly support the idea of a dedicated revenue stream to solve the problem and have expressed a desire for the provincial government to institute legislative changes to allow families and physicians to provide mental health and addiction treatment to involuntary patients. I attach herewith the condensed findings for your review.

I am comforted to see that across regional and political lines and market segments Ontarians want to see this crisis solved.

I encourage you to share the results of this study with your network. I am eager to discuss this matter further and work together towards a solution for this is happening on our collective watch. Please feel free to reach out to my Executive Assistant, Ana Djukic, by email at [djukica@cambridge.ca](mailto:djukica@cambridge.ca), should you wish to obtain a full copy of the results or schedule a time for us to speak.

Sincerely,

A handwritten signature in cursive script that reads "Jan Liggett".

Jan Liggett  
Mayor



MARKET RESEARCH & BUSINESS INTELLIGENCE SERVICES

WHAT'S YOUR CHALLENGE? ?

Aug 1<sup>st</sup>, 2024

**Public Opinion Research  
City of Cambridge  
Mental Health and Addictions  
1 August 2024**



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# METHODOLOGY

# METHODOLOGY

## Mental Health and Addictions

## Public Opinion Research

## Quantitative Market Research - Ontario



This study was conducted from July 30<sup>th</sup> 2024 to July 31<sup>st</sup> 2024, among a sample of 2027 respondents who are residents of Ontario and are members of Maru Blue's online panel. For comparison purposes, a probability sample of a similar size would have a margin of error of +/- 2%, 19 times out of 20.

Discrepancies in or between totals are due to rounding.

## Where & How is the Study Conducted?

The study included respondents from an online panel of eligible voters in Ontario, 18 years old and older. The sample is weighted to regional, age and gender demographics, as per Statistics Canada.

## STATS TESTING

-  Significantly higher than Ontario
-  Significantly lower than Ontario



# EXECUTIVE SUMMARY

### **Awareness of existing mental health and addiction services in the community**

67% of Ontario adults were aware of existing mental health and addiction services in their community while 33% said they were “not very aware” or “not at all aware”. Awareness of these services was somewhat higher with younger male respondents (under 35 years of age) and somewhat higher with females under 55 years of age. Interestingly, respondents who resided outside the Greater Toronto and Hamilton Area (GTHA) were more aware of existing mental health and addiction services compared to residents in the GTHA. [Slides 13-14](#)

### **Importance of accessible and timely mental health and addiction services**

Nearly all Ontario adults believed it was “important” to have accessible and timely mental health and addiction services in their community. Six out of 10 respondents believed it was “very important”. Females were much stronger in their views that it was “very important”. Respondents broke out roughly the same way across the regions of Ontario. [Slides 15-16](#)

### **Are current mental health and addiction services adequate**

22% of respondents believed that current mental health and addiction services were adequate while 44% disagreed. 34% of the respondents were “unsure”. Females were more of the view that these services were inadequate. Respondents were consistent across Ontario. [Slides 17-18](#)

### **Who has accessed mental health or addiction services**

1 out of 3 Ontario adults said that they had personally accessed mental health or addiction services. Nearly half of all respondents under 35 years of age said that they had personally accessed these services. [Slides 19-20](#)

6 out of 10 respondents said they knew someone who had accessed either mental health or addiction services. Two-thirds of those under 35 years of age said they knew someone who had accessed these services. [Slides 21-22](#)

### **Quality of mental health and addiction services that are currently available**

Respondents were split on the quality of the mental health and addiction services available. 33% of the respondents said “excellent” or “good” while 44% said “fair” or “poor” and 24% said they were “unsure” (only 16% said “poor”). Younger respondents were more positive about the quality of services compared to older respondents. Female respondents who were somewhat more negative about the quality compared to males. Respondents broke out roughly the same way across Ontario. [Slides 23-24](#)

### **Is a lack of government funding seen as the overall problem with mental health and addictions (Forced Choice)**

33% of respondents believed the overall problem with mental health and addiction was not necessarily a lack of government funding while 45% believed that government needed to spend much more on mental health and addiction services to address the ever-growing problem. Females were much more of the view that government needed to spend much more money on mental health and addiction services. [Slide 25-26](#)

### **Support/ oppose government creating a dedicated stream of money to fund mental health and addiction services**

Four out of 5 respondents supported the government of Ontario creating a dedicated a stream of money to specifically fund mental health and addiction services. Despite strong support from males, females were even more supportive of a creating a dedicated stream of money to fund these services. Respondents broke out roughly the same way across the regions of Ontario. [Slides 27-28](#)

### **Support/ oppose a new tax to fund mental health and addiction services**

Respondents were more split on whether the government should create a new tax to fund mental health and addiction services. 40% of respondents supported a new tax to fund these services while 48% were opposed. Respondents who were over 54 years of age were much more opposed to a new tax compared to younger respondents. Respondents residing in more rural areas of Ontario were more opposed to the creation of a new tax to fund these services. [Slides 29-30](#)

**Willingness to pay additional taxes to support mental health and addiction services**

50% of respondents were not willing to pay additional taxes to support mental health and addiction services while 30% said they would. Those over 34 years of age were much more opposed compared to respondents under 35 years of age. Respondents broke out the same way across most regions across Ontario. [Slides 31-32](#)

**How much in additional taxes would Ontarian's be willing to pay to support mental health services**

33% of respondents were not willing to pay any additional taxes to support mental health and addiction services. Another 34% of respondents were willing to pay between \$0-\$25 per year in new taxes and another 19% were willing to pay between \$25-\$100 in new taxes per year to fund these services. Younger respondents were more willing to pay a new tax compared to older respondents. Respondents broke out roughly the same way across the regions of Ontario. [Slides 33-34](#)

**Perceived effectiveness of a dedicated revenue stream to improve mental health and addiction services**

Two to 1, respondents believed a dedicated revenue stream would be effective to improve mental health and addiction services. Younger respondents held this view much more than older respondents. Respondents broke out roughly the same way across Ontario. [Slides 35-36](#)

**Mental health and addiction services that should be prioritized with new funding** [Slide 37](#)

57% - Youth and adult mental health services

51% - Mental Health Crisis intervention services

37% - Rehabilitation programs and facilities

23% - Community-based support groups like Alcoholics Anonymous, Narcotics Anonymous etc.

16% - Inpatient detox facilities

### **Support/ oppose a political candidate (political party) willing to raise taxes to fund mental health and addiction services**

Nearly half of the respondents said they would support a political candidate who was willing to raise taxes to increase mental health/ addiction services while 36% were opposed. Males were slightly more opposed compared to females. Respondents residing in Eastern region (not including the City of Ottawa) were much more opposed (48%) compared to others in Ontario, who were more supportive. [Slides 38-39](#)

### **Necessity of building new brick-and-mortar facilities for mental health and addiction services**

Two to 1, respondents believed that building new facilities for mental health and addiction services was necessary. Respondents broke out roughly the same way across the regions of Ontario. [Slides 40-41](#)

### **Barriers faced when trying to access mental health and addiction services** [Slide 42](#)

- 54% - Availability of services
- 44% - Cost
- 29% - Quality of services
- 27% - Stigma
- 19% - Lack of information

### **How government should sustain the funding for mental health and addictions services** [Slide 43](#)

- 59% - Reallocate existing funds
- 48% - Public-private partnerships
- 44% - Private donations and grants
- 26% - Increase taxes (to create a dedicated revenue stream for mental health and addiction services)

**Agree/ disagree to government partnerships with private organizations to fund mental health and addictions services**

Three out of 4 respondents agreed that the government of Ontario should explore partnerships with private organizations to fund mental health and addiction services. Respondents broke out roughly the same way across Ontario. [Slides 44-45](#)

**Agree/ disagree that larger corporations should contribute a portion of profits to fund mental health and addiction services**

Seven out of 10 respondents agreed that larger corporations should contribute a portion of their profits to fund mental health and addictions. Respondents broke out roughly the same way across Ontario. [Slides 46-47](#)

**Agree/ disagree that laws in Ontario need to change for involuntary patients**

Two-thirds of respondents agreed that Ontario's laws needed to change to allow families and physicians to provide mental health and addiction treatment to involuntary patients. Respondents broke out roughly the same way across Ontario. [Slides 48-49](#)

**Agree/ disagree that "Drug Treatment Courts" should be offered more widely in Ontario**

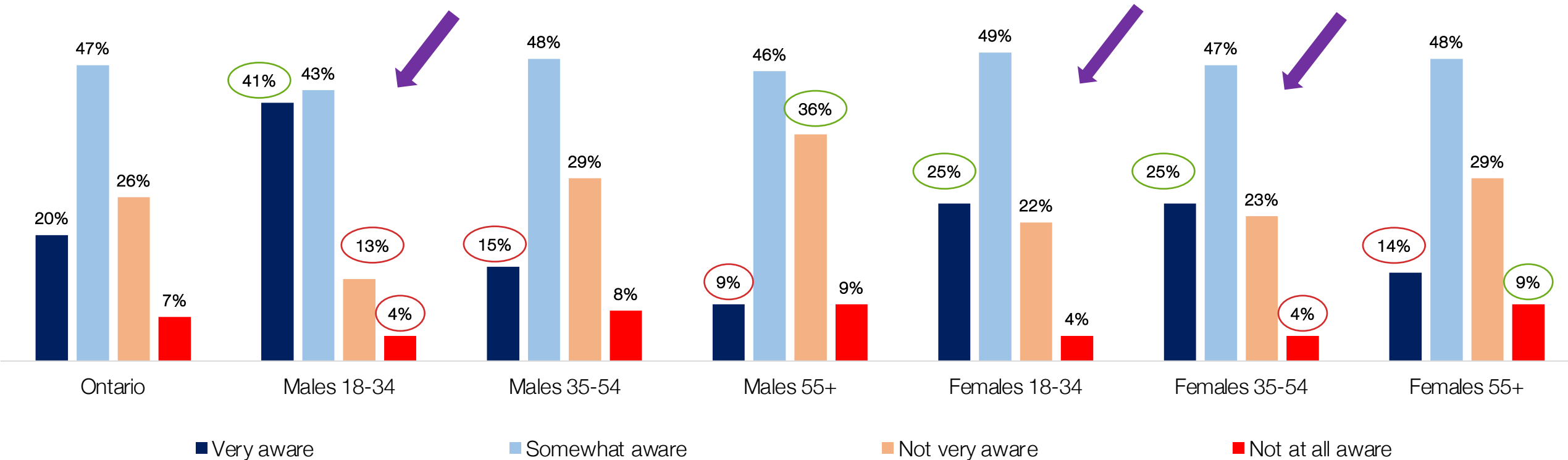
68% of respondents agreed that Drug Treatment Courts should be offered more widely in Ontario. Females were even stronger in their support of Drug Treatment Courts compared to males. Respondents broke out roughly the same way across the regions of Ontario. [Slides 50-51](#)

# DETAILED FINDINGS

## Awareness of existing mental health and addiction services in the community

Age and Gender

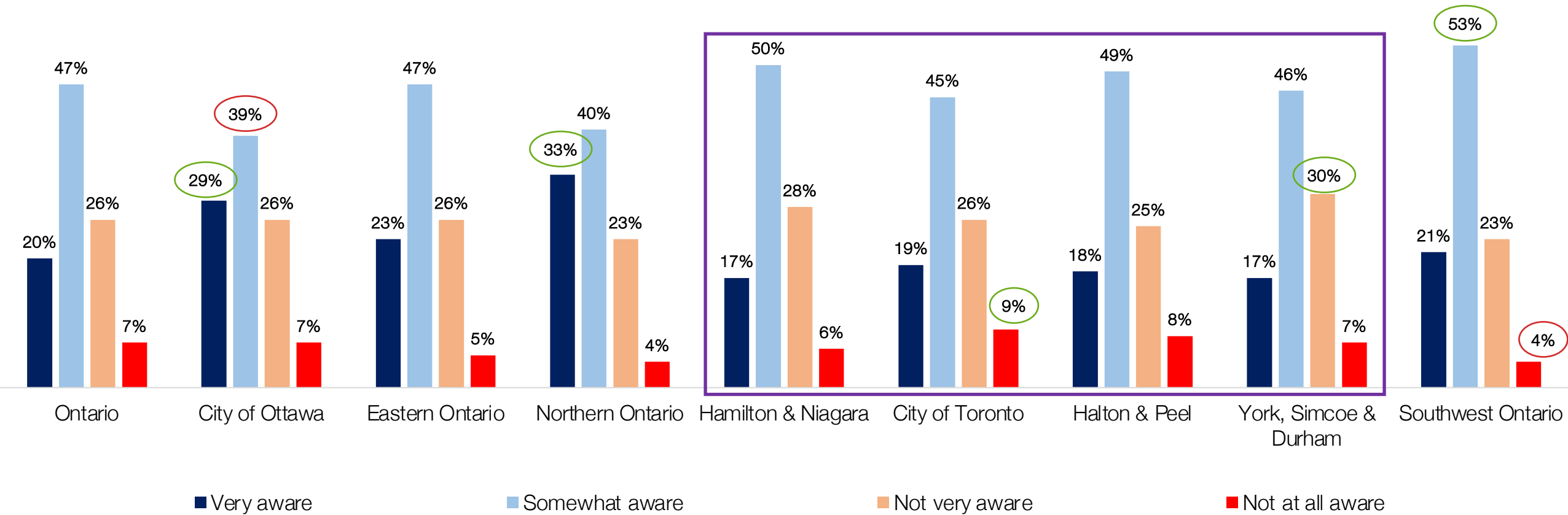
67% of Ontario adults were “aware” of existing mental health and addiction services in their community while 33% said they were “not very aware” or “not at all aware”. Awareness of these services was somewhat higher among younger male respondents (under 35 years of age) and females (under 55 years of age) compared to older respondents (over 54 years of age).





## Awareness of existing mental health and addiction services in the community

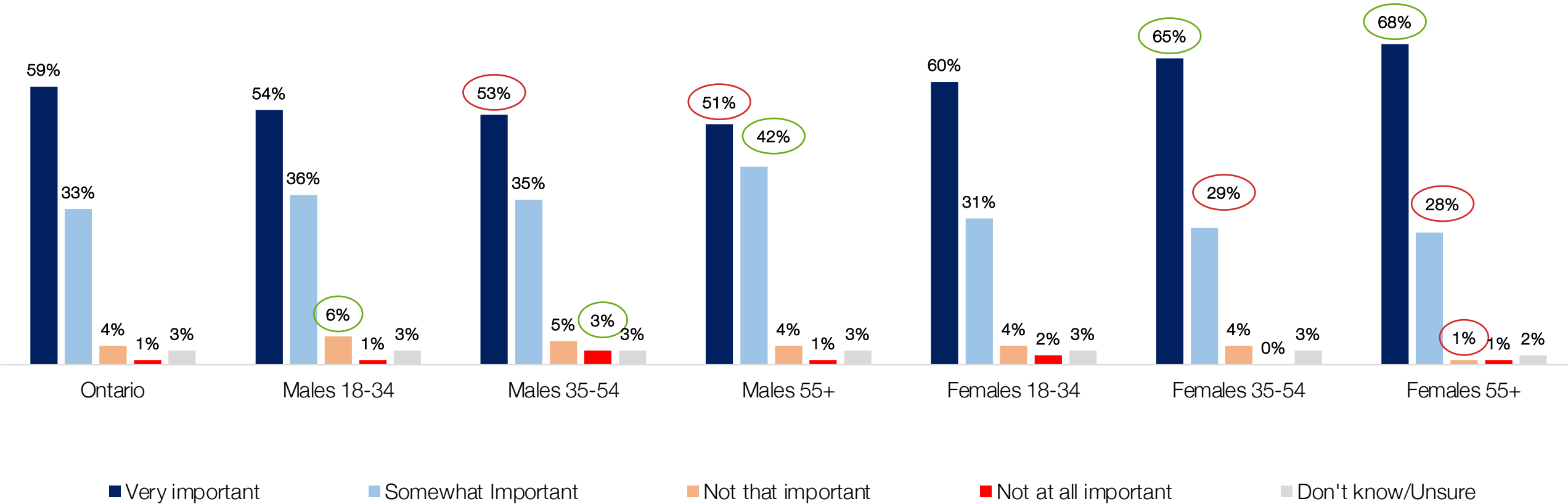
Awareness of existing mental health and addiction services was slightly higher in all the regions outside the Greater Toronto and Hamilton Area (GTHA).



## i Importance of accessible and timely mental health and addiction services

Age and Gender

Nearly all Ontario adults believed it was 'important' to have accessible and timely mental health and addiction services in their community, with six out of 10 respondents indicating it was 'very important'. Females were much stronger in their view that it was “very important” compared to males.

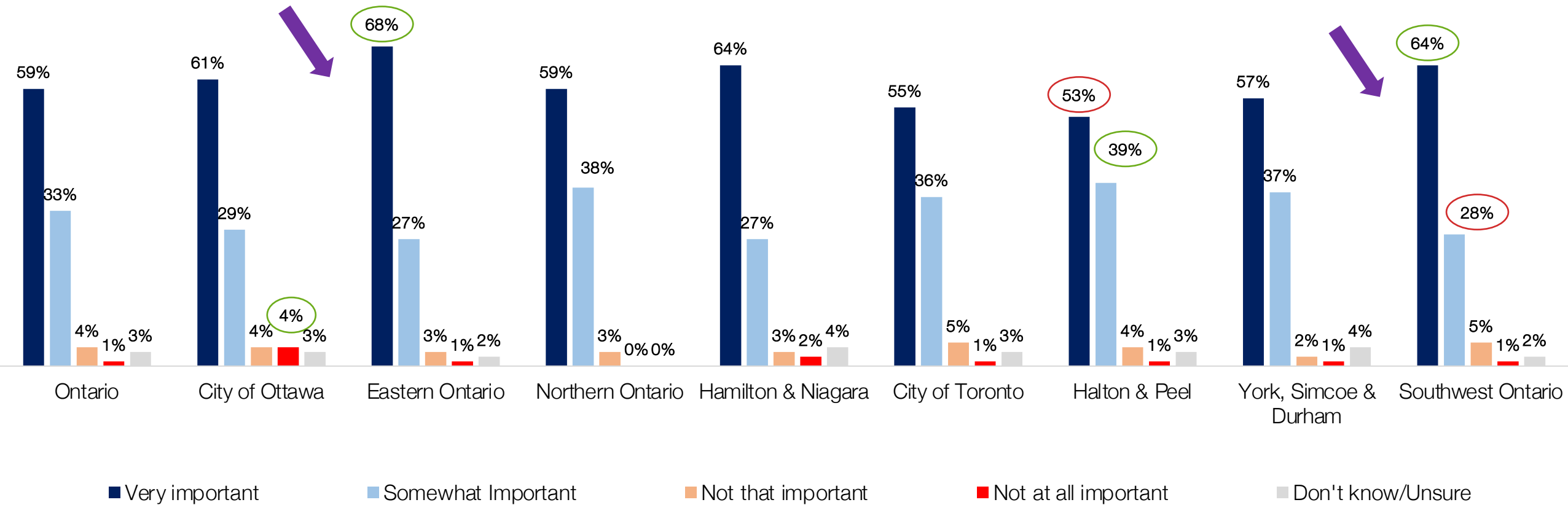


Q2 - How important do you think it is to have accessible and timely mental health and addiction services in your community? Base = 2027

## Importance of accessible and timely mental health and addiction services

Regions

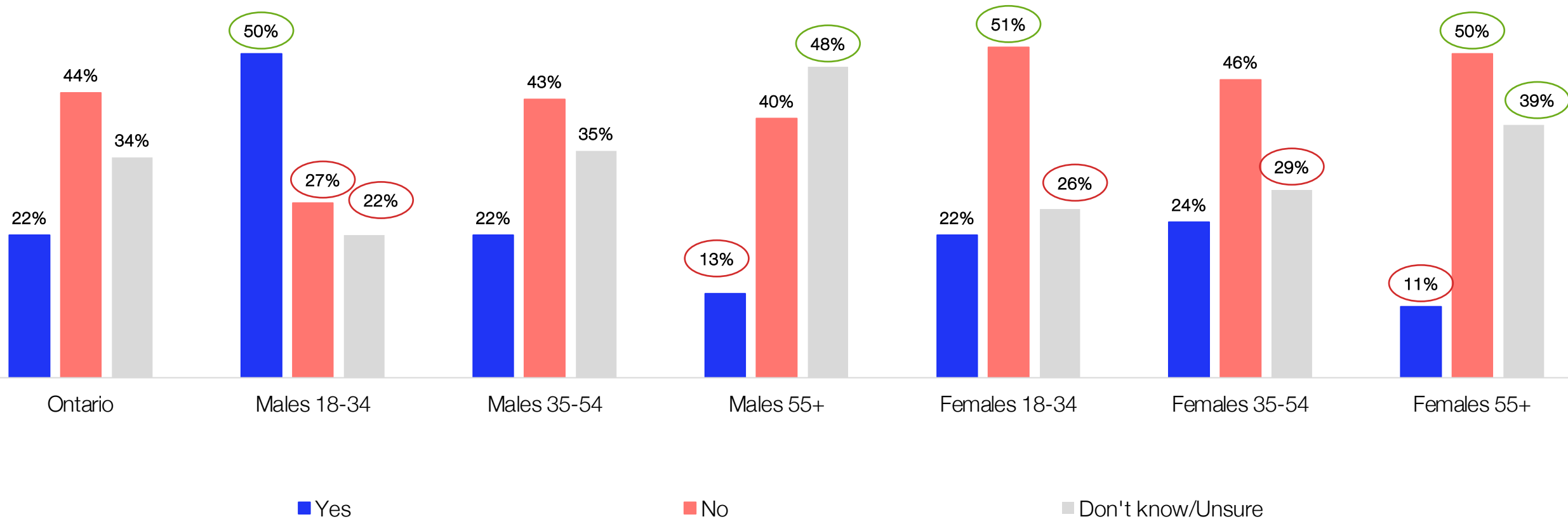
Findings were consistent across the regions of Ontario, with significantly more respondents residing in the Eastern and Southwestern regions who believed it was “very important”.



Q2 - How important do you think it is to have accessible and timely mental health and addiction services in your community? Base = 2027

## Are current mental health and addiction services adequate

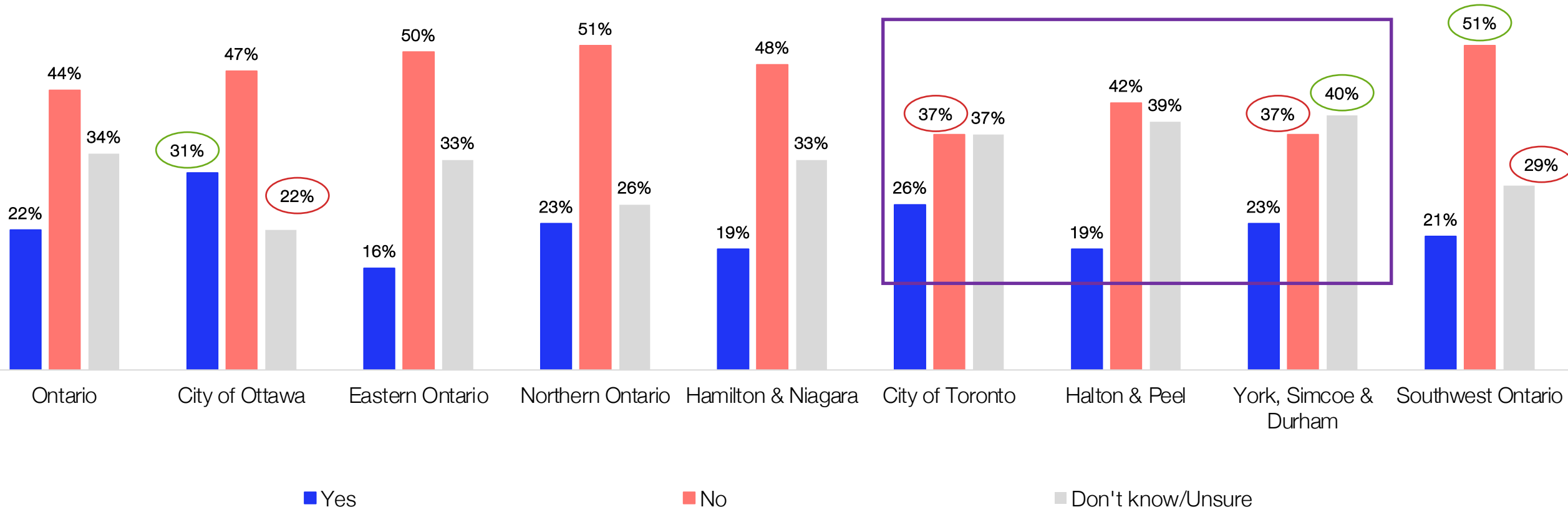
Only 22% of respondents believed that current mental health and addiction services (in their communities) were adequate while twice as many, (44%) disagreed. 34% of the respondents were “unsure”. Females were much more of the view that these services were inadequate compared to males.



## Are current mental health and addiction services adequate

Regions

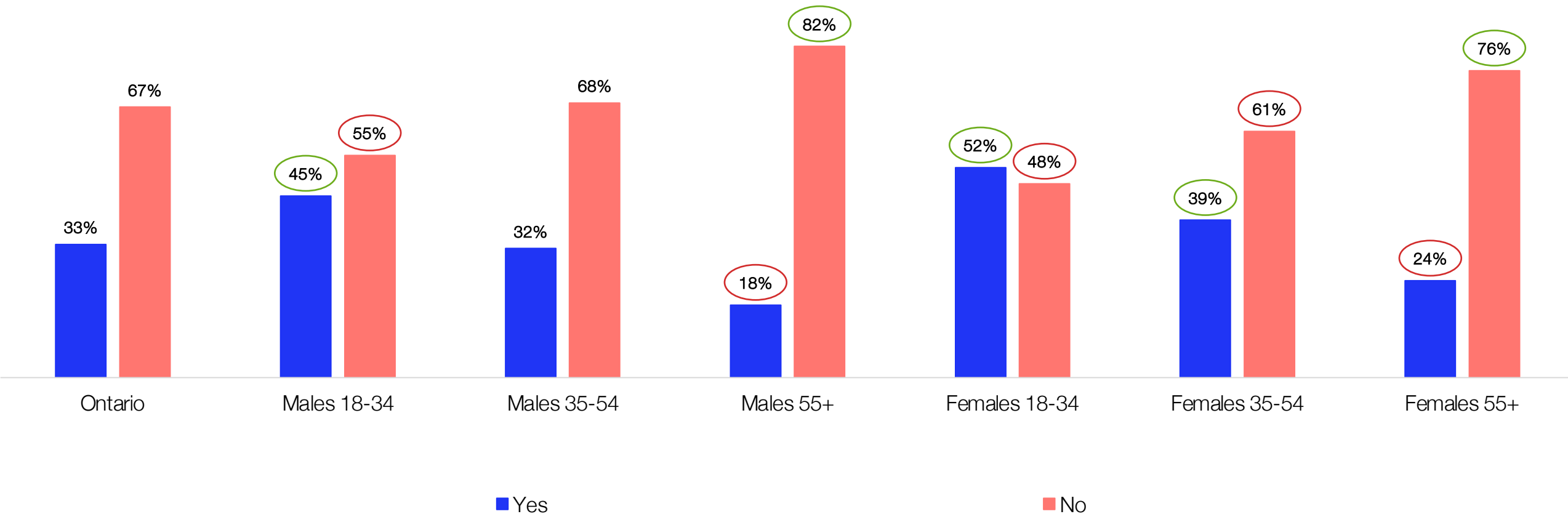
Respondents broke out roughly the same way across the regions of Ontario. In the GTA respondents were somewhat more “unsure” compared to those residing in other regions.



## Personally accessed mental health or addiction services

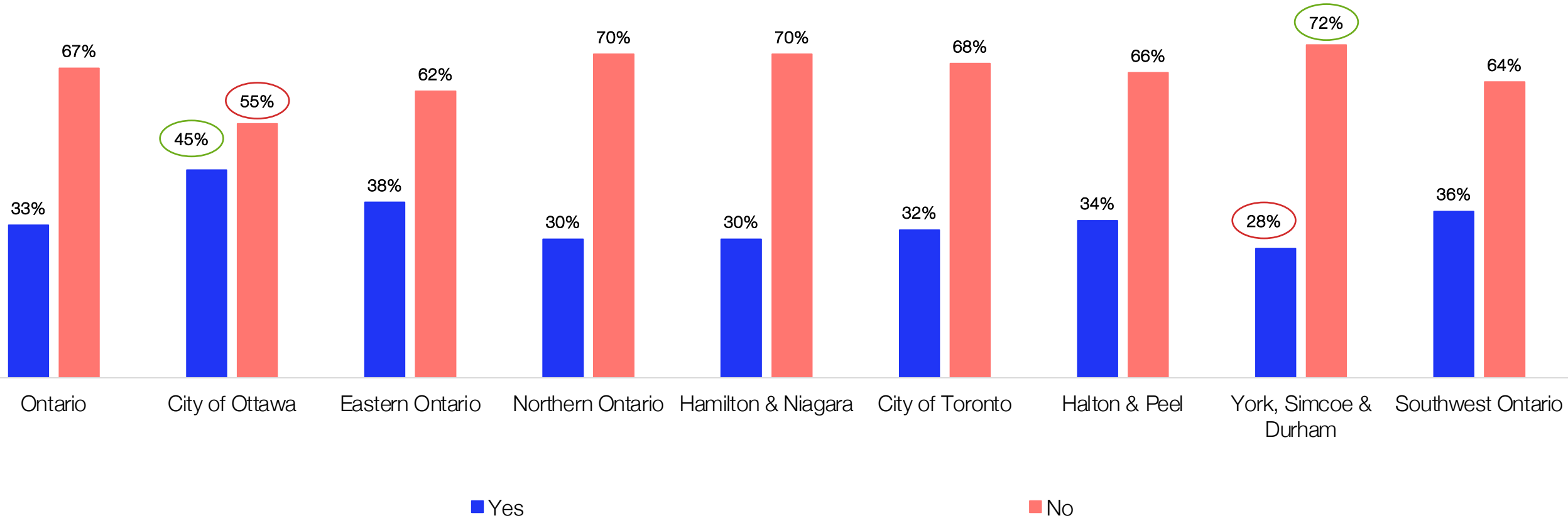
Age and Gender

1 out of 3 respondents said they had personally accessed mental health or addiction services. Nearly half of all respondents under 35 years of age said they had personally accessed these services.



## Personally accessed mental health or addiction services

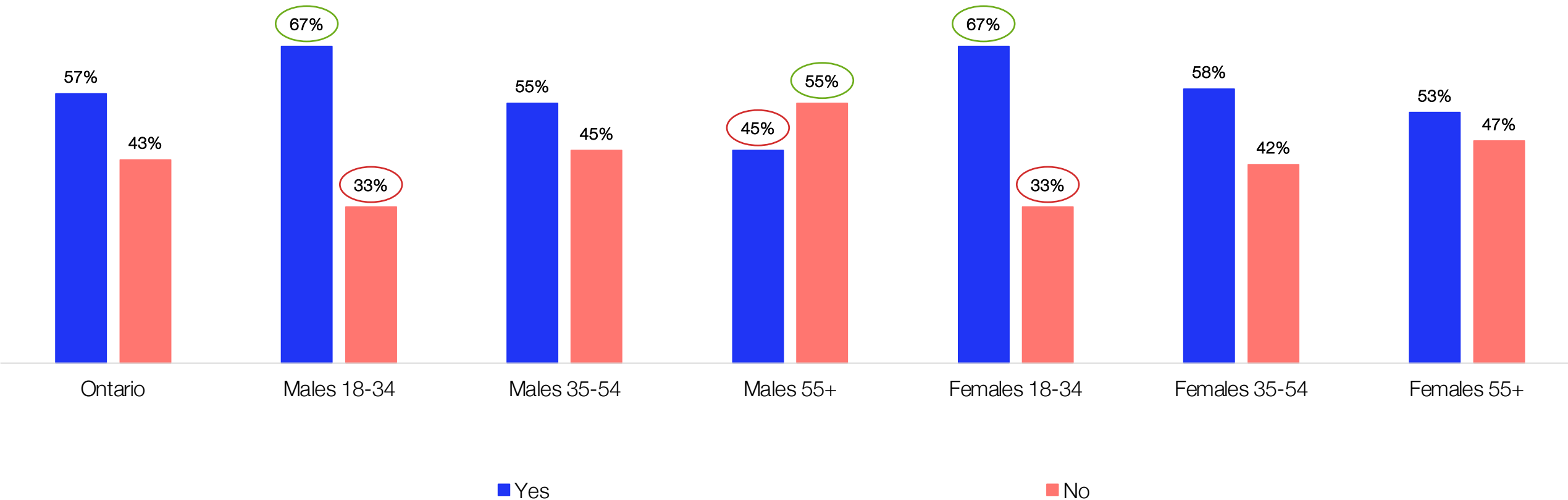
Responses were largely uniform across all regions of Ontario with those respondents residing in the City of Ottawa region saying they had accessed mental health and/or addiction services much more than all others.



## Has anyone you know ever accessed mental health or addiction services

Age and Gender

Overall, nearly 6 out of 10 respondents said they knew someone who had accessed either mental health or addiction services. 2/3<sup>rd</sup>s of respondents under 35 years of age said they knew someone who had accessed these services.

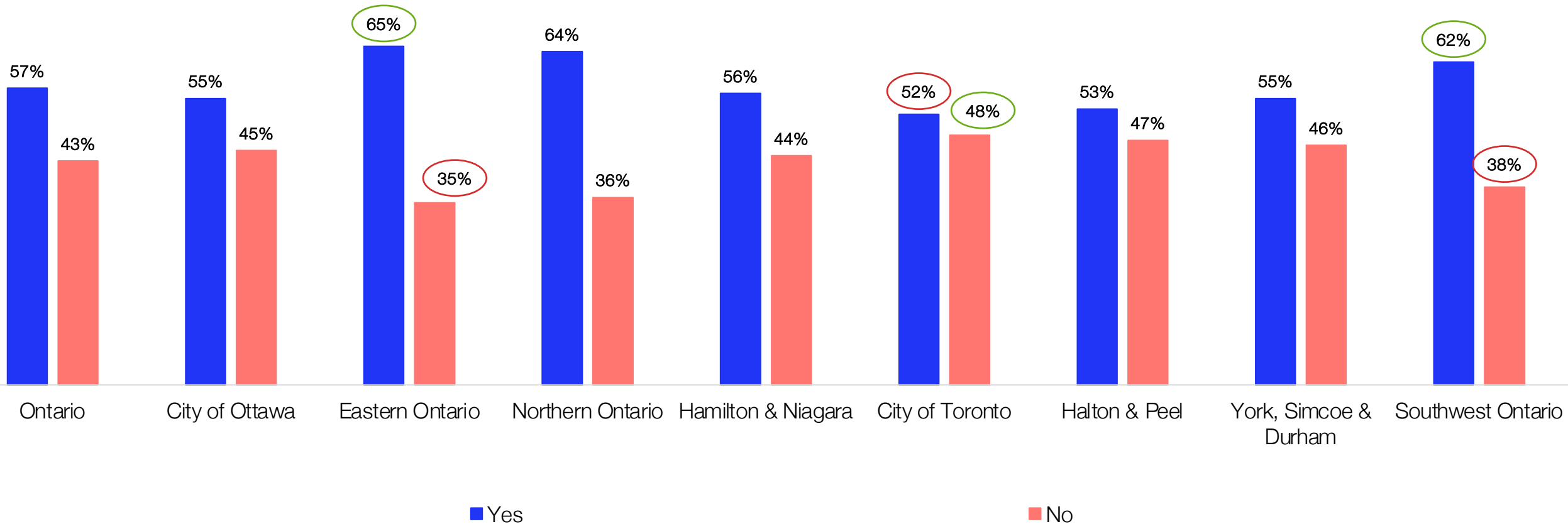




## Has anyone you know ever accessed mental health or addiction services

Regions

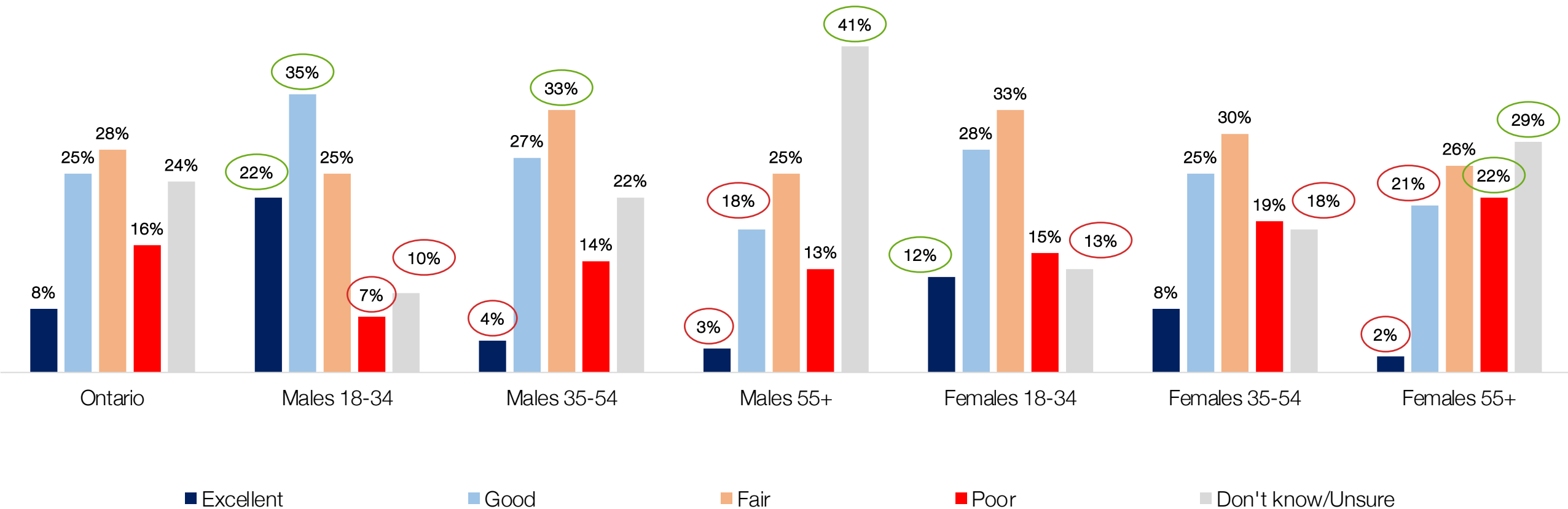
Interestingly, residents in less urban/ more suburban and/ or rural regions were more likely to know someone that had accessed these services compared to those residing in the GTA regions.



## Rate the quality of mental health and addiction services that are currently available

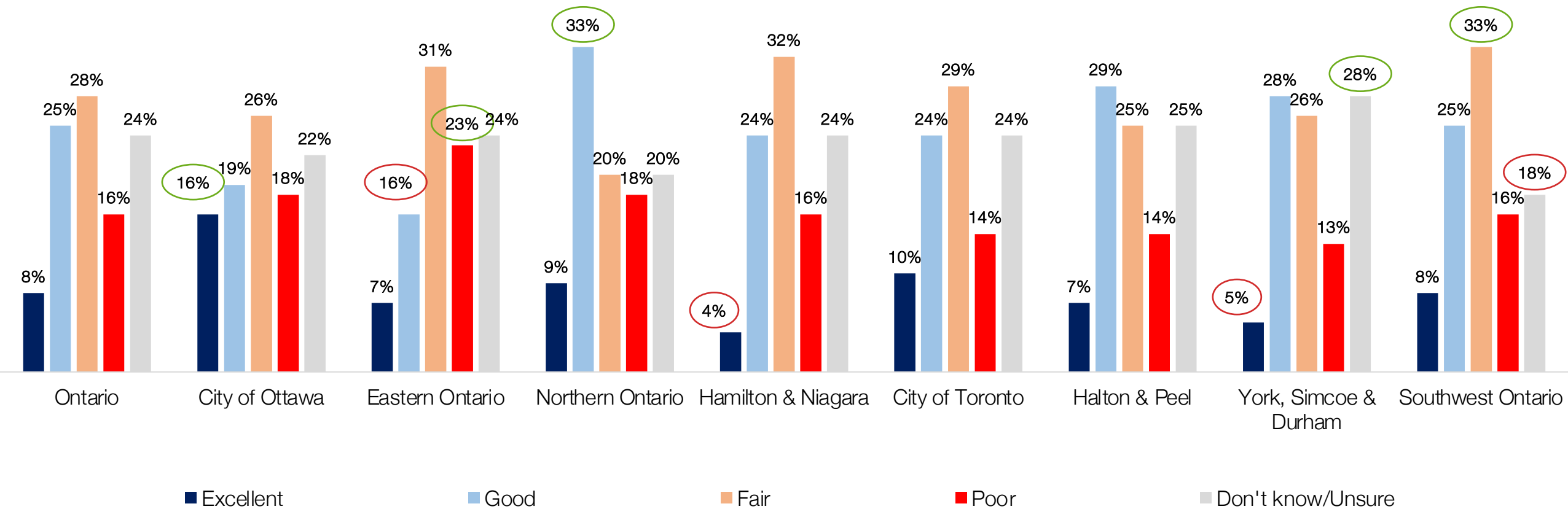
Age and Gender

Respondents were split on the quality of the mental health and addiction services available in their area. 33% of the respondents said “excellent” or “good” while 44% said “fair” or “poor” and 24% said they were “unsure”. Younger respondents were more positive about the quality of services compared to older respondents and female respondents who were somewhat more negative.



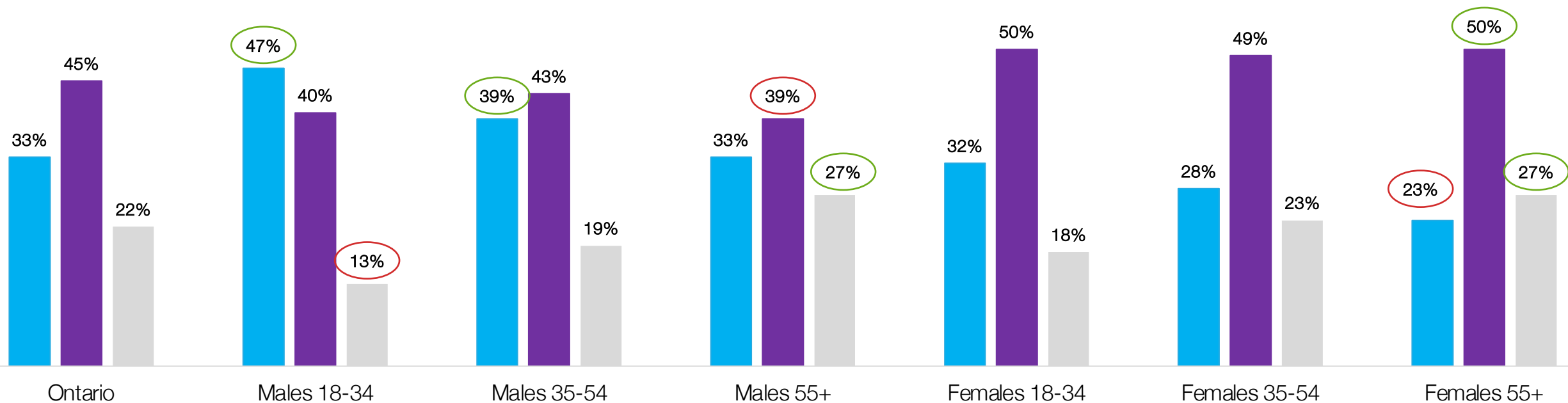
# Rate the quality of mental health and addiction services that are currently available

Respondents broke out roughly the same way across the regions of Ontario.



# Forced Choice: Is the overall problem around mental health and addictions a lack of government funding or something else?

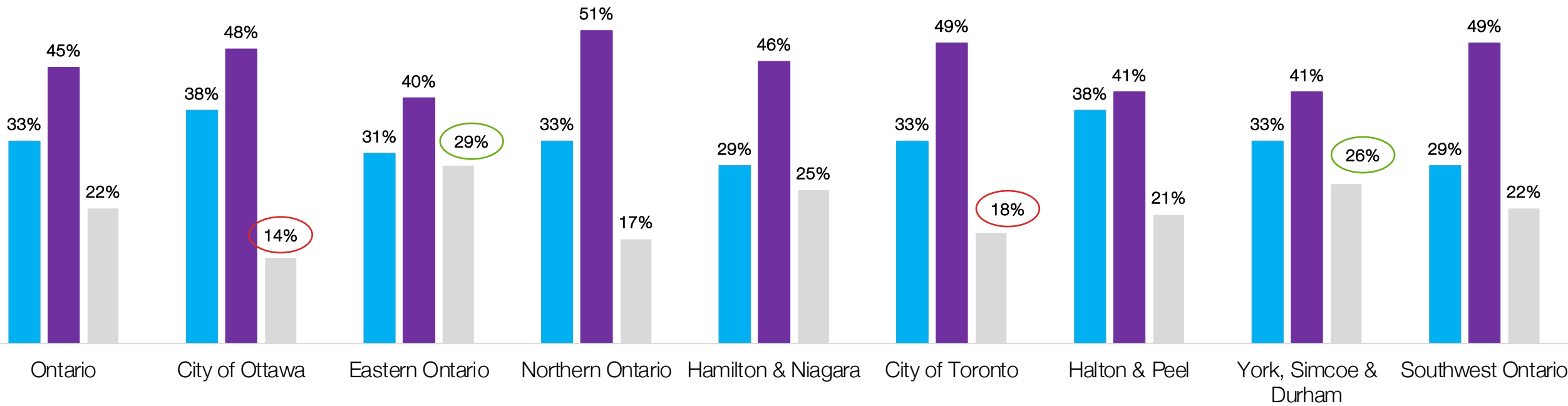
33% of respondents believed the overall problem with mental health and addiction was not necessarily a lack of government funding while 45% believed that government needed to spend much more on mental health and addiction services to make progress with the ever-growing problem. Females were much more of the view that government needed to spend much more on mental health and addiction services.



- Some people say that governments are already spending billions upon billions of dollars on mental health and addiction services and the overall problem isn't a lack of funding
- Other people say that governments must spend much more on mental health and addiction services to make significant progress on getting ahead of this ever growing problem
- Don't know/Unsure

# Forced Choice: Is the overall problem around mental health and addictions a lack of government funding or something else?

Responses were aligned across the regions of Ontario.

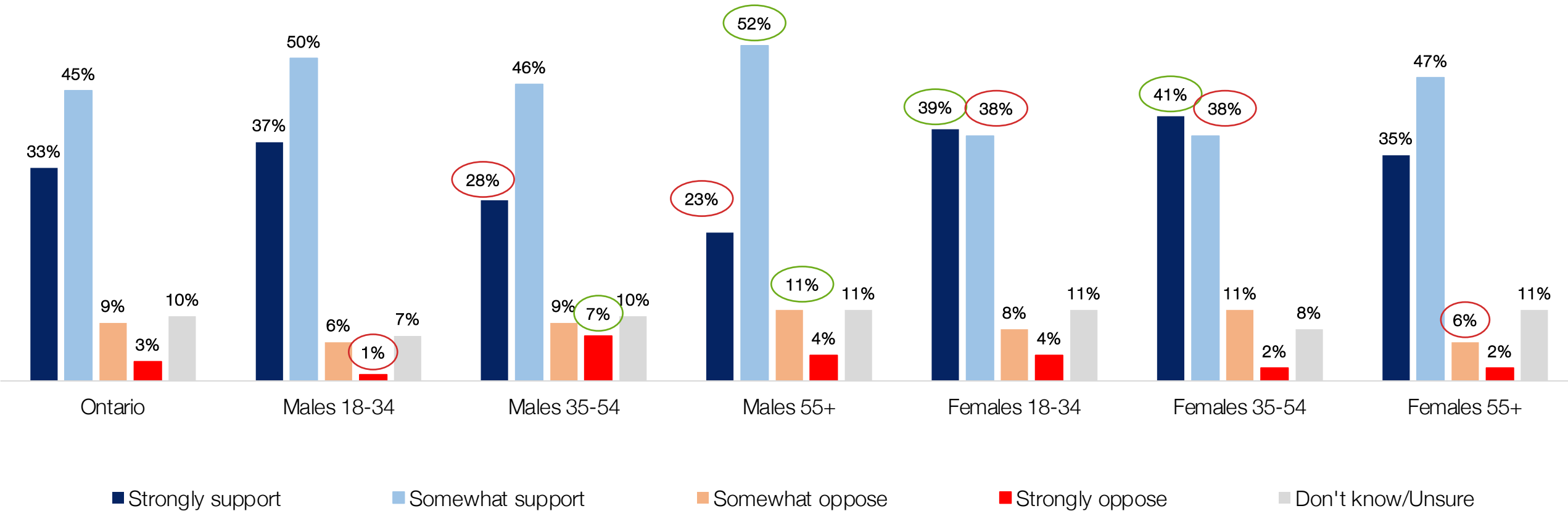


- Some people say that governments are already spending billions upon billions of dollars on mental health and addiction services and the overall problem isn't a lack of funding
- Other people say that governments must spend much more on mental health and addiction services to make significant progress on getting ahead of this ever growing problem
- Don't know/Unsure

# Support/ oppose government creating a dedicated stream of money to fund mental health and addiction services

Age and Gender

4 out of 5 respondents supported dedicating a stream of money to specifically fund mental health and addiction services in Ontario. Even with the high level of support coming from males, females were even more supportive of a dedicated stream of money to fund these service.

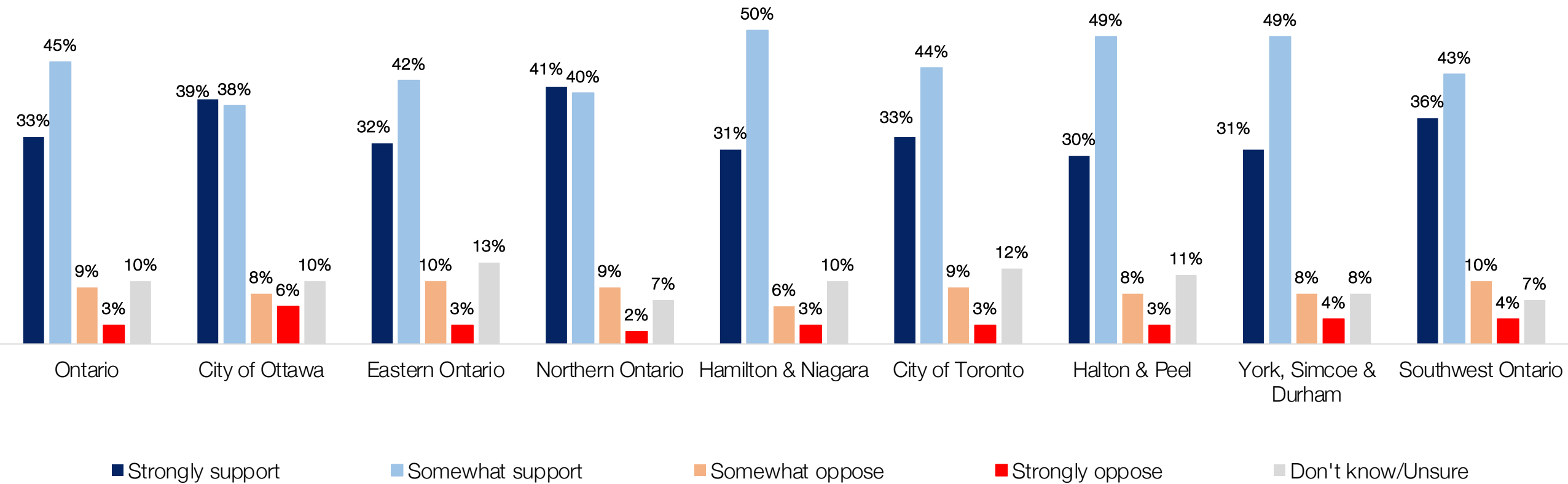


Q8 - Do you support or oppose the government of Ontario creating a dedicated stream of money that would be specifically set aside each year to fund mental health and addiction services in Ontario? Base = 2027

# Support/ oppose government creating a dedicated stream of money to fund mental health and addiction services

Regions

Respondents broke out roughly the same way across the regions of Ontario.

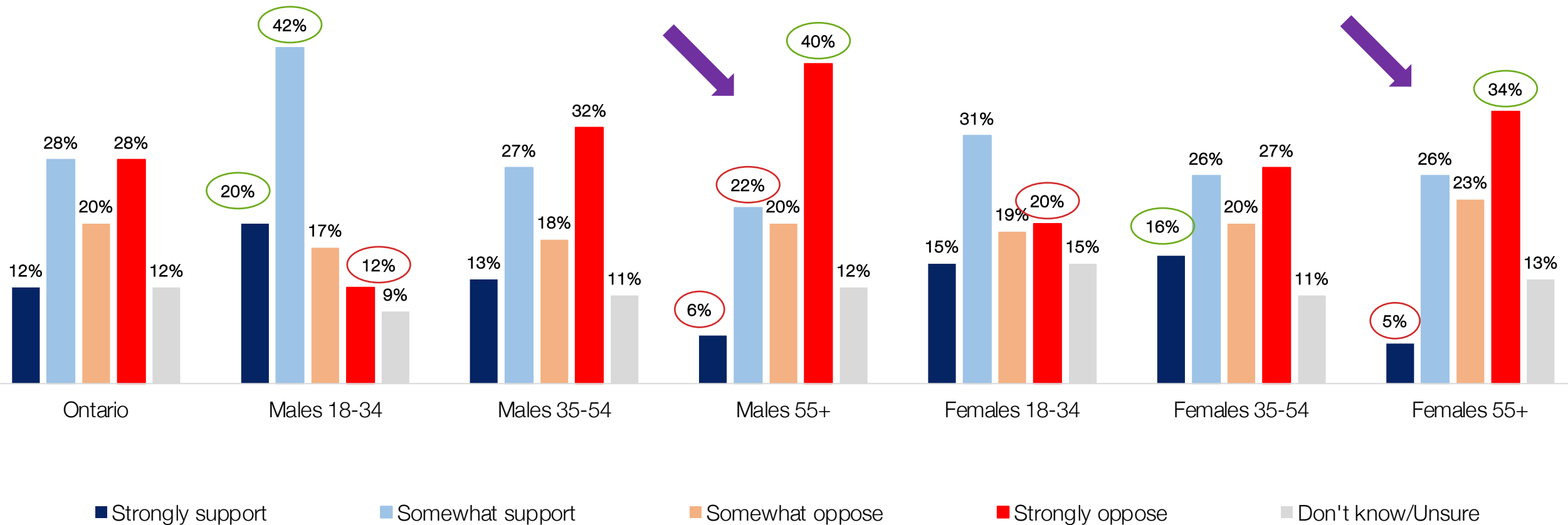


Q8 - Do you support or oppose the government of Ontario creating a dedicated stream of money that would be specifically set aside each year to fund mental health and addiction services in Ontario? Base = 2027

# j Support/ oppose a new tax to fund mental health and addiction services

Age and Gender

Respondents were split when it came to whether the government should create a new tax to use to fund mental health and addiction services in Ontario. 40% of respondents were supportive while 48% were opposed. Respondents over 54 years of age were much more opposed compared to younger respondents.

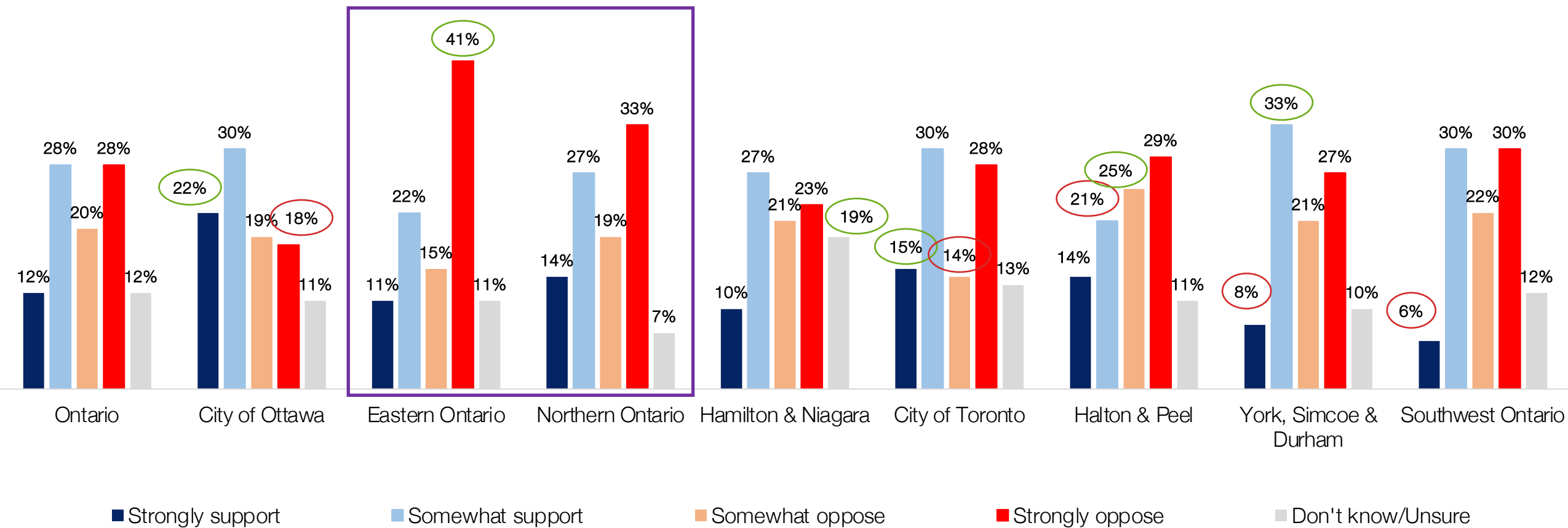


Q9 - More specifically, do you support or oppose the government of Ontario creating a new tax that would be collected and used specifically to fund mental health and addiction services in Ontario? Base = 2027



## Support/ oppose a new tax to fund mental health and addiction services

Respondents residing in the more rural areas of Ontario were more opposed to the government creating a new tax to use to fund mental health and addiction services.

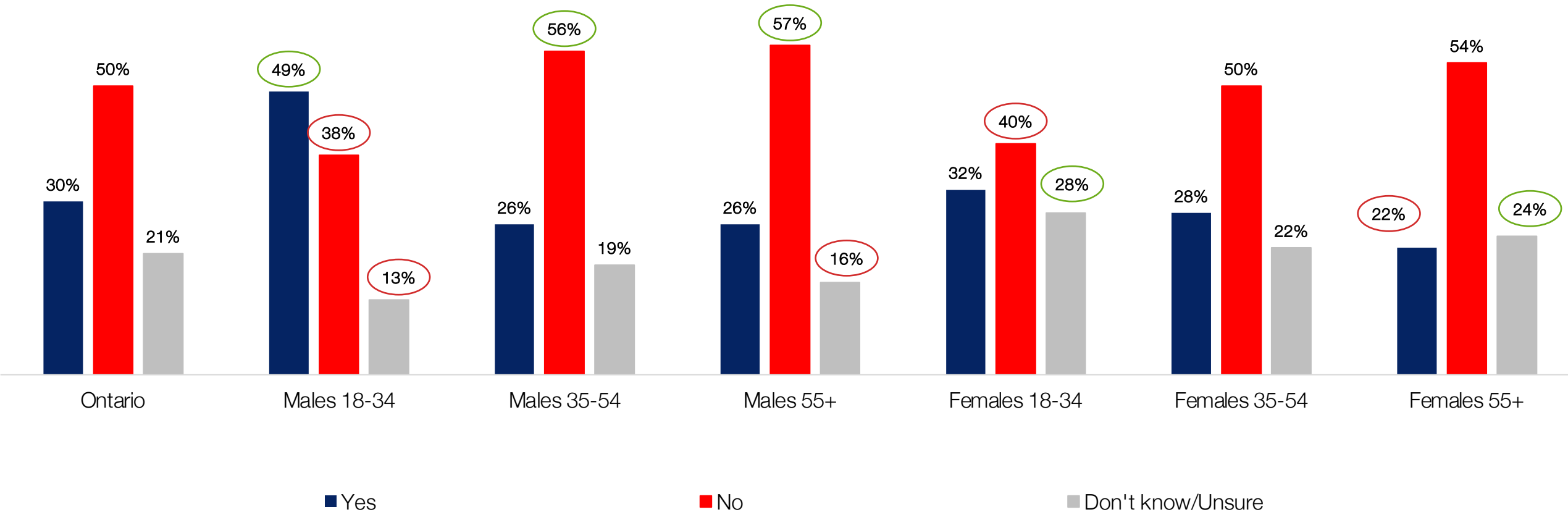


Q9 - More specifically, do you support or oppose the government of Ontario creating a new tax that would be collected and used specifically to fund mental health and addiction services in Ontario? **Base = 2027**

## Willingness to pay additional taxes to support mental health and addiction services

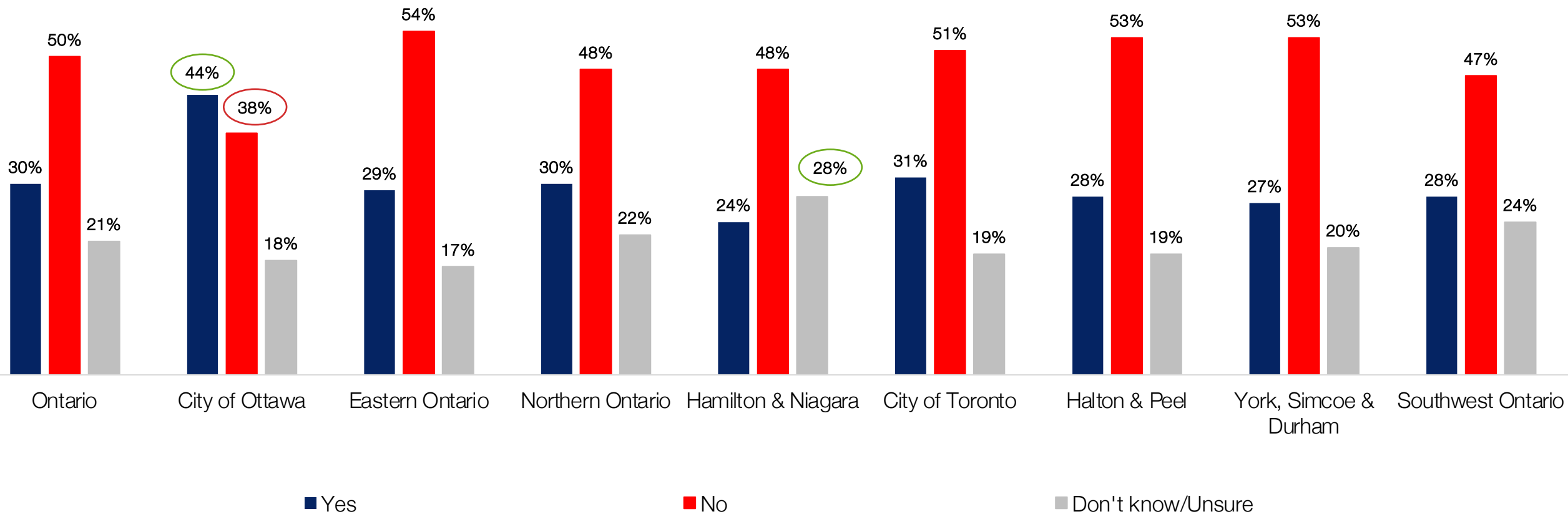
Age and Gender

Half of the respondents (50%) were not willing to pay additional taxes to support mental health and addiction services while 30% said they would. Respondents over 34 years of age were much more opposed to paying additional taxes to support these services compared to respondents under 35 years of age.



## Willingness to pay additional taxes to support mental health and addiction services

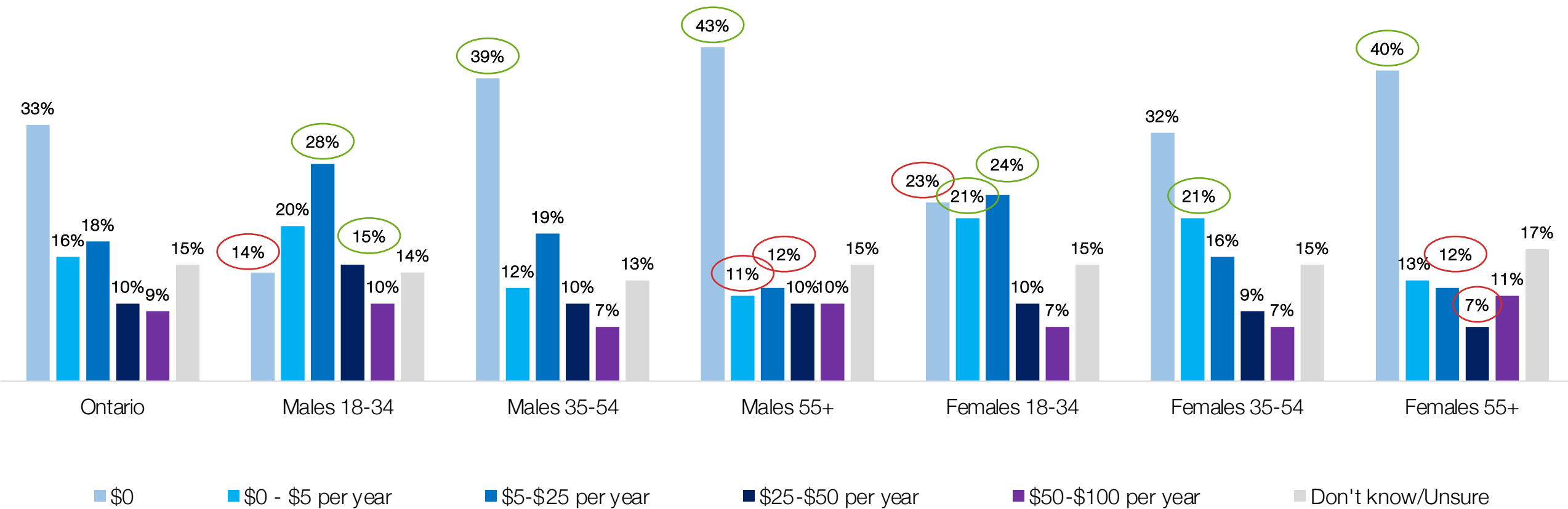
Most regions of Ontario broke out the same way (50% unwilling to pay additional taxes and 30% willing to pay) except for the City of Ottawa region where they were much more evenly split on the question (38% unwilling to pay additional taxes and 30% willing to pay).



# How much in additional taxes would Ontarian's be willing to pay to support mental health services?

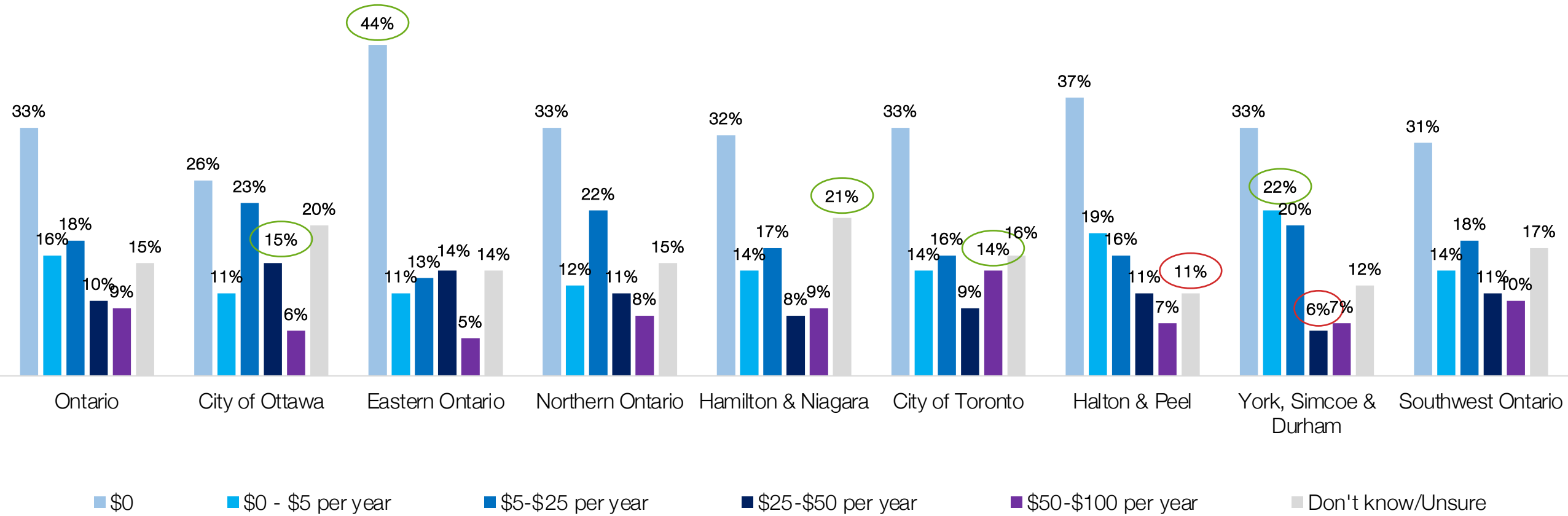
Age and Gender

33% of respondents were not willing to pay any additional taxes to support mental health and addiction services. Another 34% of respondents were willing to pay between \$0-\$25 per year in new taxes to support mental health and addiction services and another 19% were willing to pay between \$25-\$100 in new taxes per year to fund these services. Younger respondents were more willing to pay a new tax compared to older respondents.



# How much in additional taxes would Ontarian's be willing to pay to support mental health services?

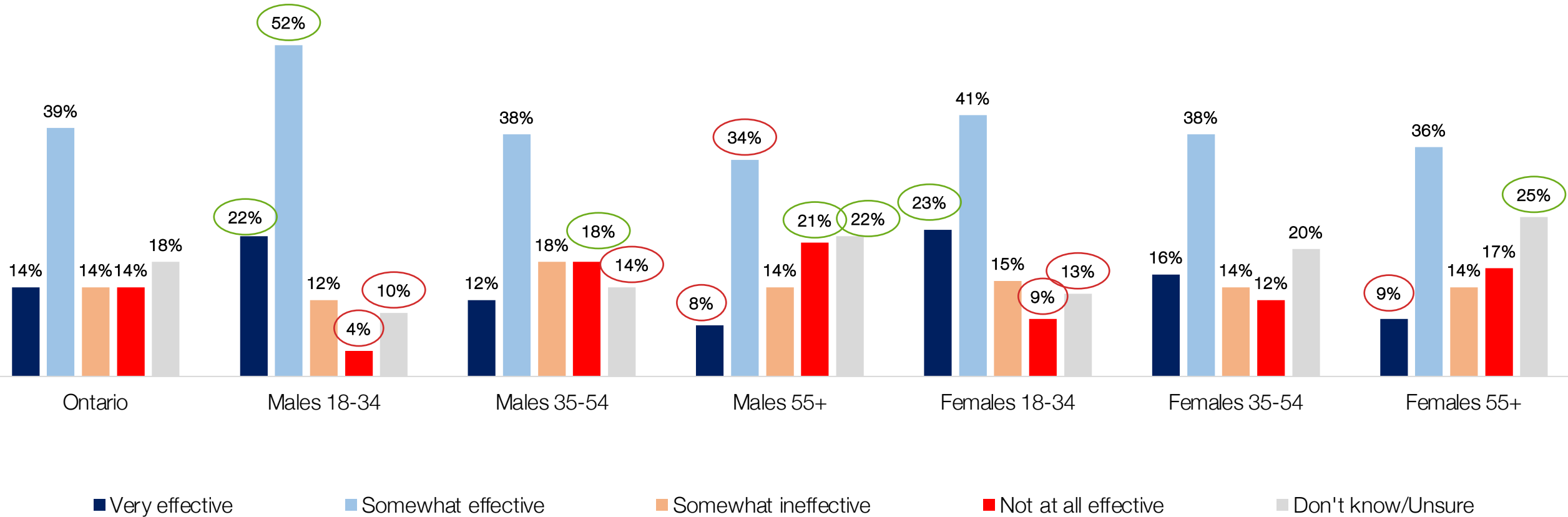
Respondents broke out roughly the same way across the regions of Ontario.



# Perceived effectiveness of a dedicated revenue stream to improve mental health and addiction services

Age and Gender

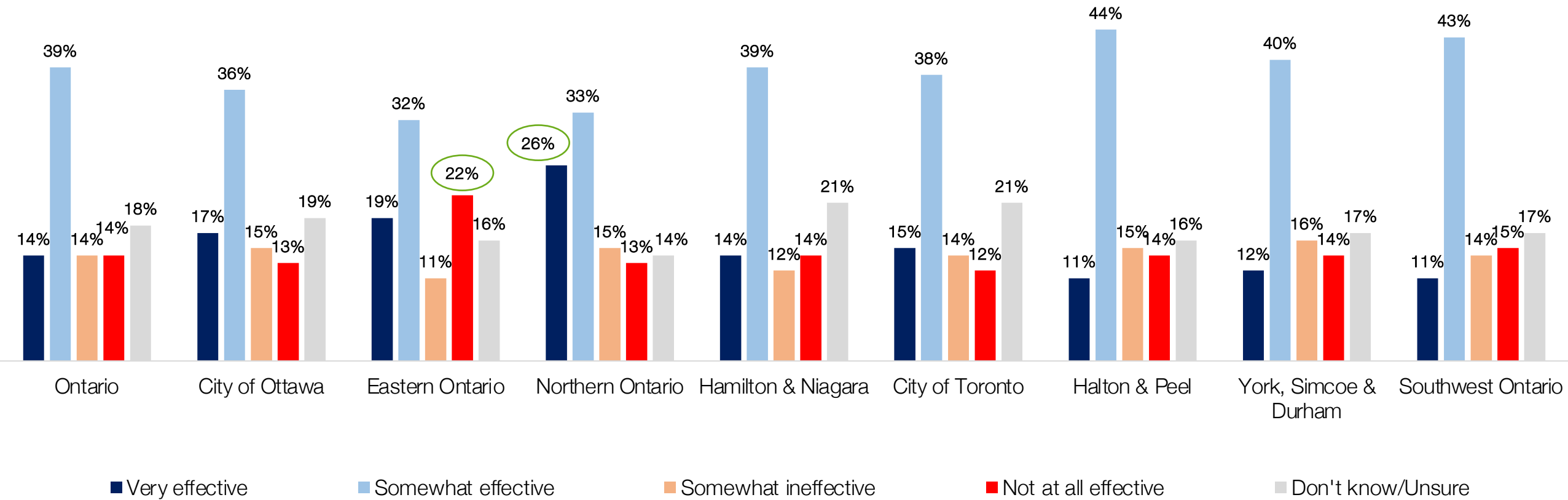
2 to 1, respondents believed a dedicated revenue stream would be effective in improving mental health and addiction services. Younger respondents were more of this view compared to older respondents.



Q12 - How effective do you believe a dedicated revenue stream would be in improving mental health and addiction services? Base = 2027

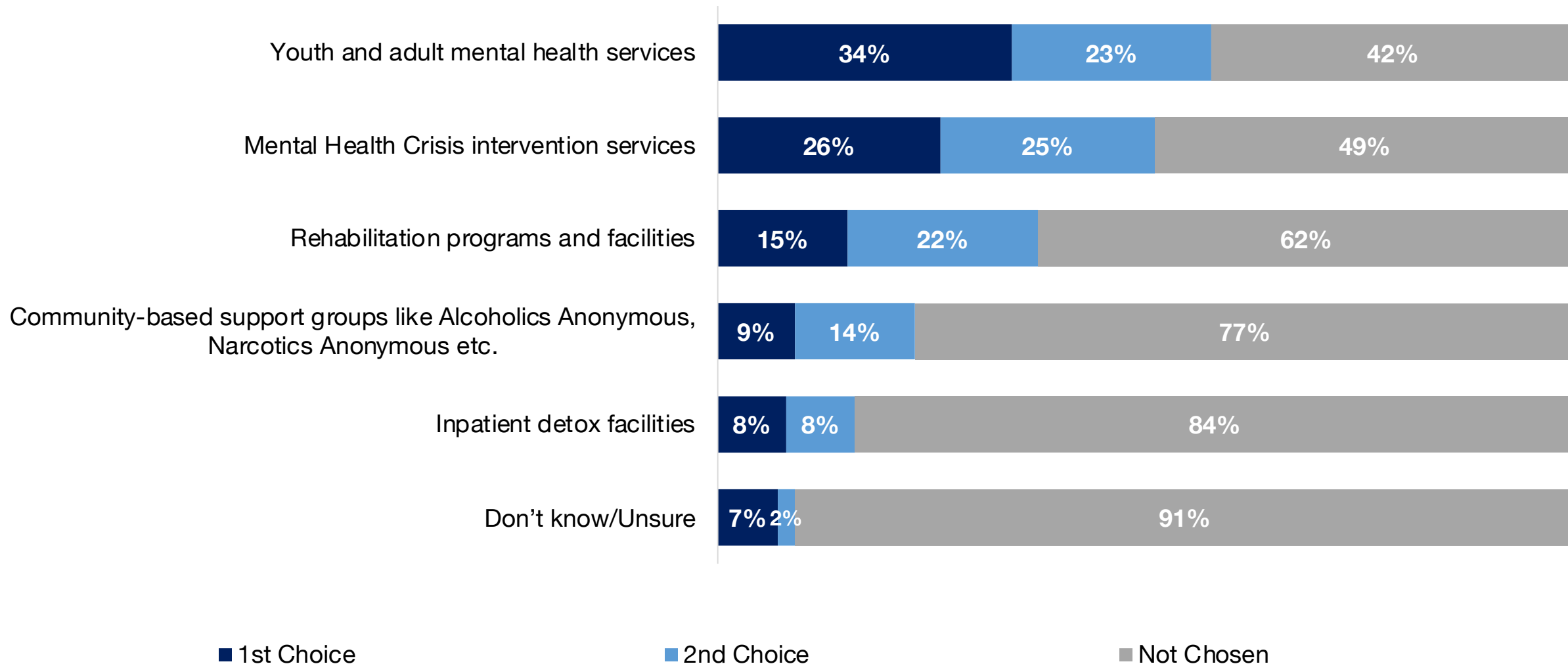
# Perceived effectiveness of a dedicated revenue stream to improve mental health and addiction services

Respondents broke out roughly the same way across the regions of Ontario.



Q12 - How effective do you believe a dedicated revenue stream would be in improving mental health and addiction services? Base = 2027

## i Top 2 choices: Mental health and addiction services that should be prioritized with new funding



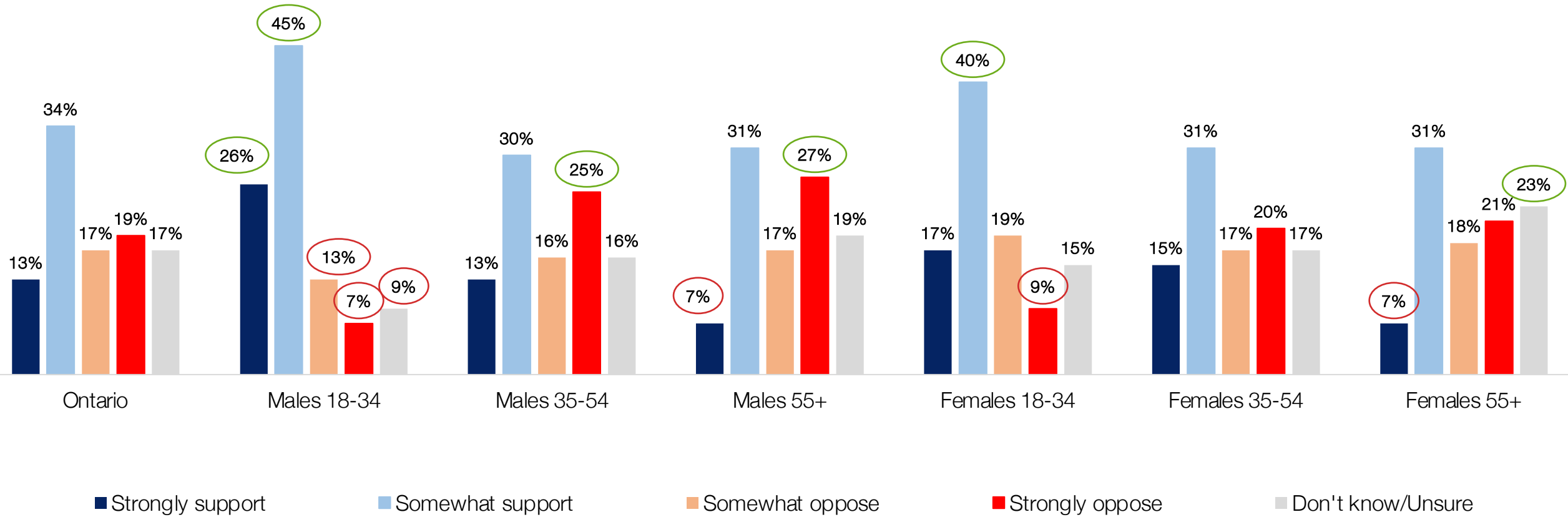
Q13 - Which type of mental health and addiction services do you think should be prioritized with new funding? Please select your top 2 choices with a "1" and a "2" beside your preferred choice. Base = 2027



# Support/ oppose a political candidate/ political party willing to raise taxes to fund mental health and addiction services?

Age and Gender

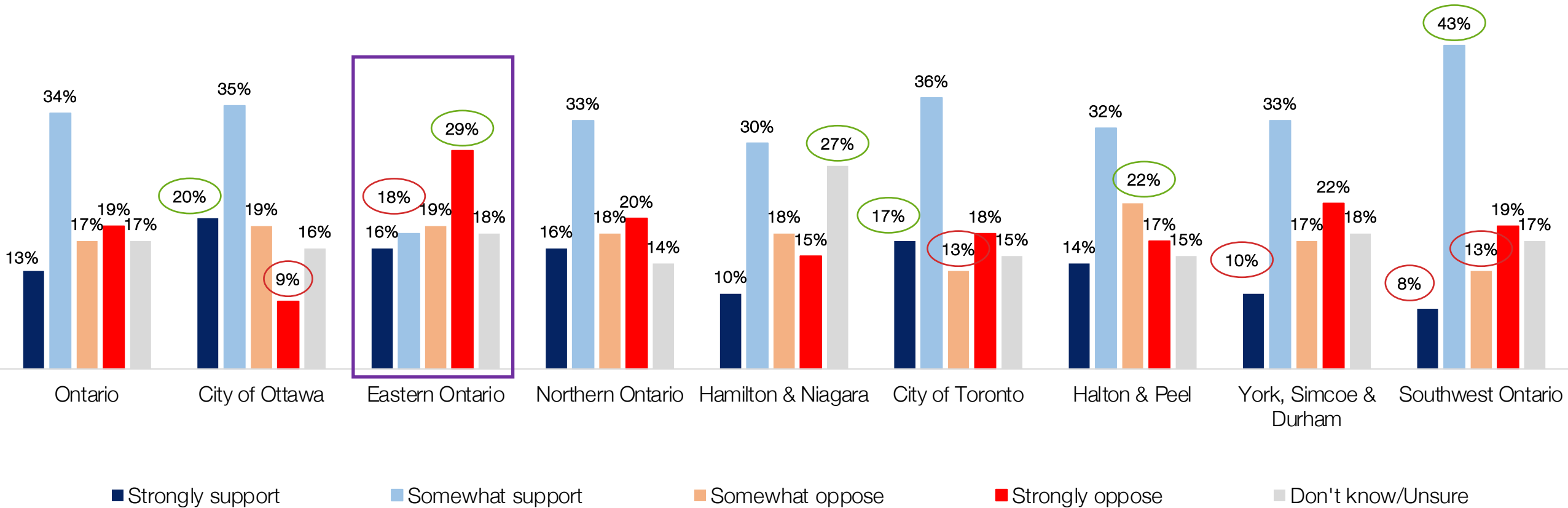
Nearly half of the respondents (47%) would support a political candidate who was willing to raise taxes to increase mental health and addiction services while 36% were opposed. Males were slightly more opposed compared to females.



Q14 - Would you support or oppose a political candidate/ political party who was willing to raise taxes for increased funding for mental health and addiction services? Base = 2027

# Support/ oppose a political candidate/ political party willing to raise taxes to fund mental health and addiction services?

Except those respondents residing in Eastern region (not including the City of Ottawa), the remaining respondents broke out roughly the same way in the question.

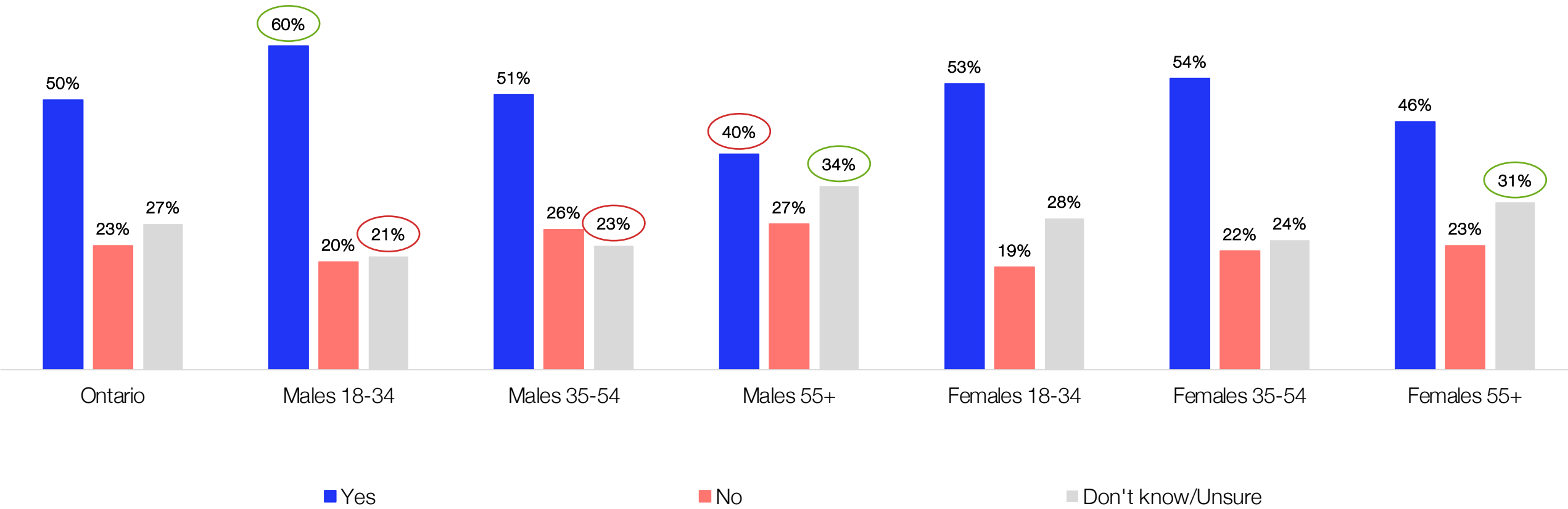


Q14 - Would you support or oppose a political candidate/ political party who was willing to raise taxes for increased funding for mental health and addiction services? Base = 2027

# Necessity of building new brick-and-mortar facilities for mental health and addiction services?

Age and Gender

2 to 1, respondents believed that building new facilities for mental health and addiction services was necessary.

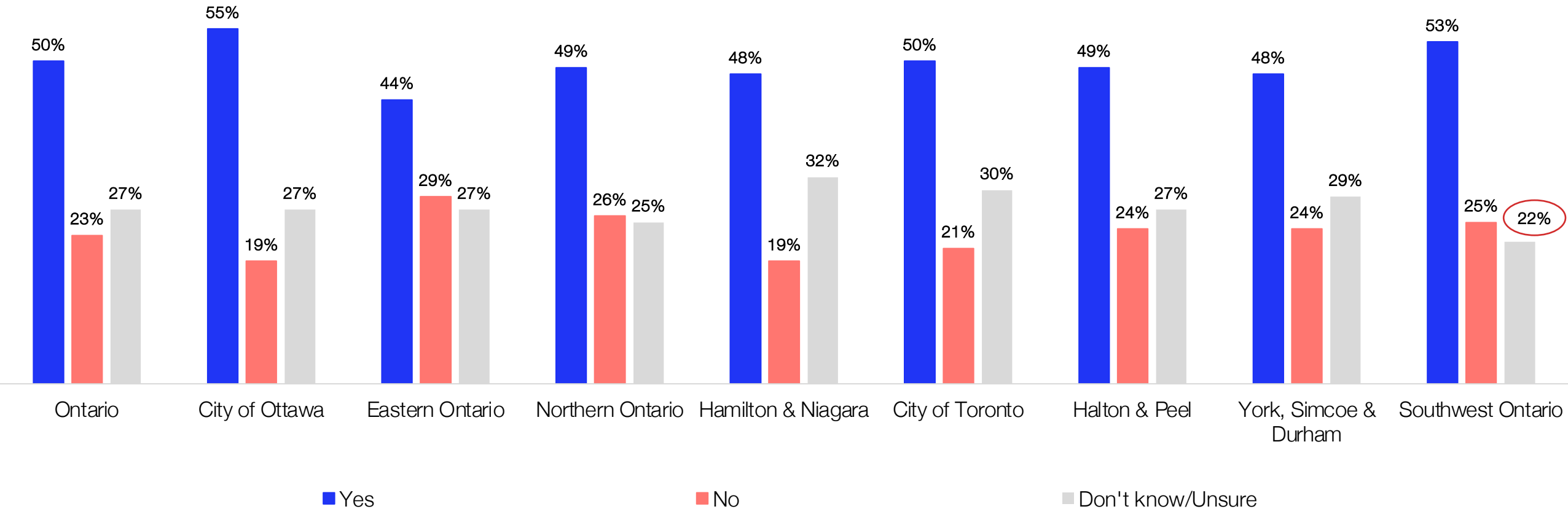


Q15 - Do you think building new brick-and-mortar facilities for mental health and addiction services is necessary in Ontario? Base = 2027

# Necessity of building new brick-and-mortar facilities for mental health and addiction services?

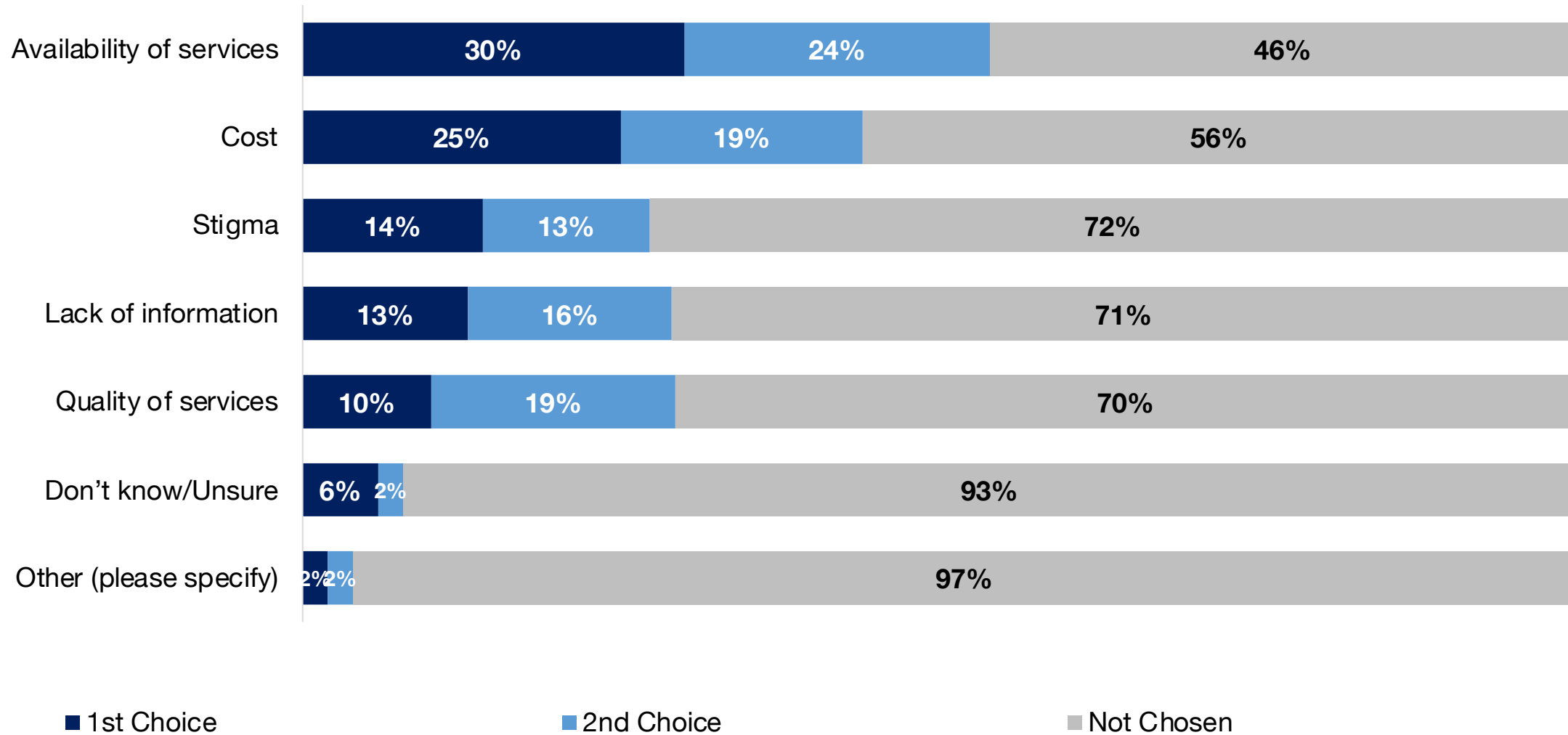
Regions

Results were consistent across the regions of Ontario.



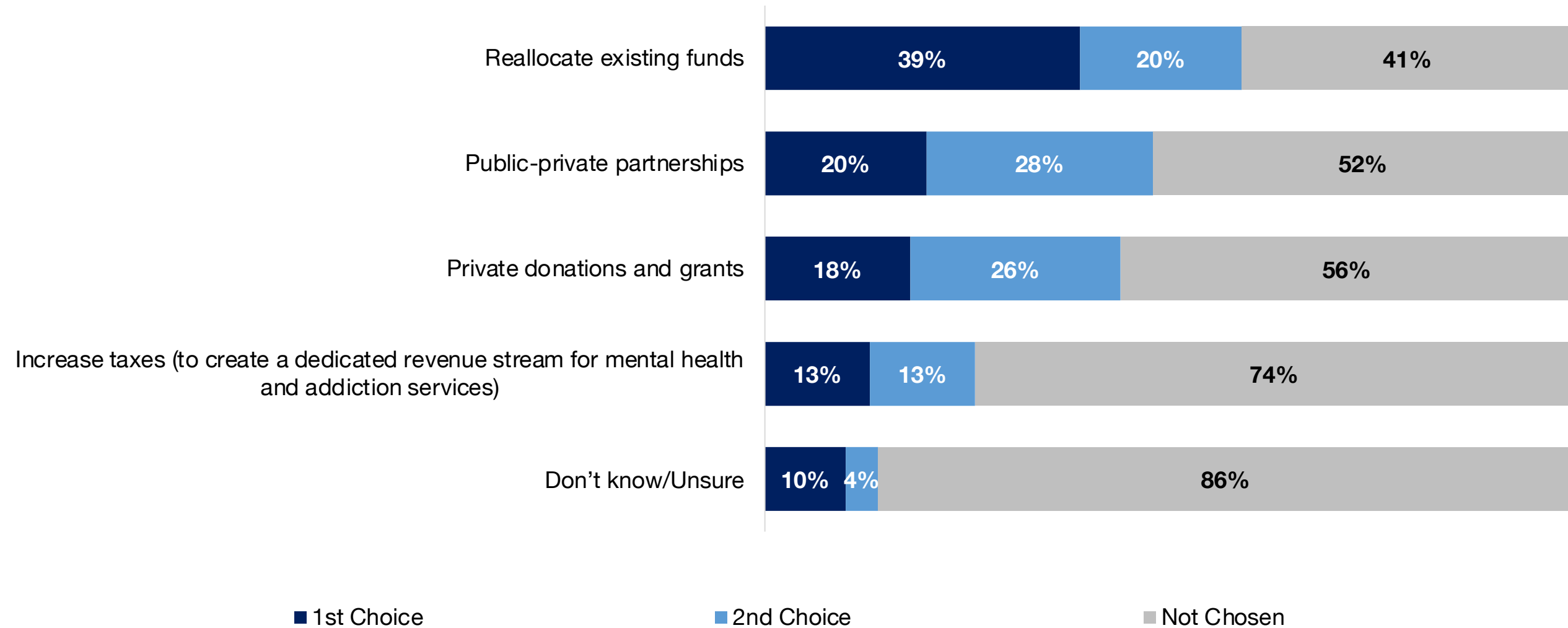
Q15 - Do you think building new brick-and-mortar facilities for mental health and addiction services is necessary in Ontario? Base = 2027

## i Top 2 choices: Barriers faced when trying to access mental health and addiction services



Q16 - What barriers do you think people face when trying to access mental health and addiction services? Please select your top 2 choices with a "1" and a "2" beside your preferred choice. **Base = 2027**

## i Top 2 choices: How government should sustain the funding for mental health and addictions services

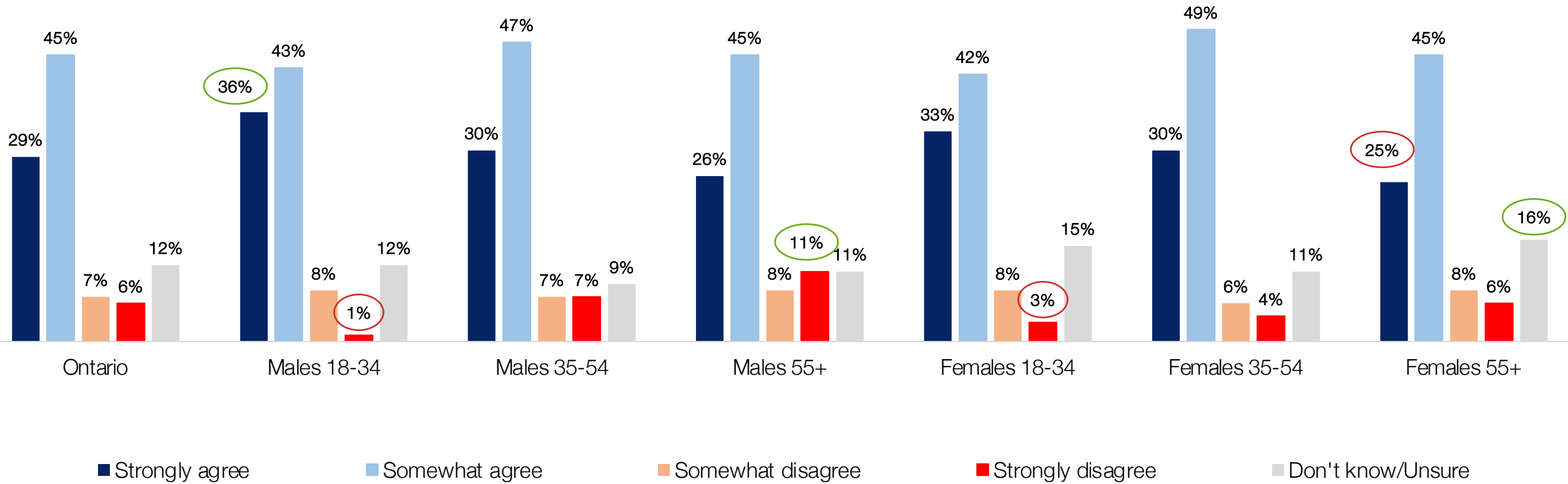


Q17 - How should the government ensure the sustainability of funding for mental health and addiction services? Please select your top 2 choices with a "1" and a "2" beside your preferred choice. **Base = 2027**

# Agree/ disagree to government partnerships with private organizations to fund mental health and addictions services?

Age and Gender

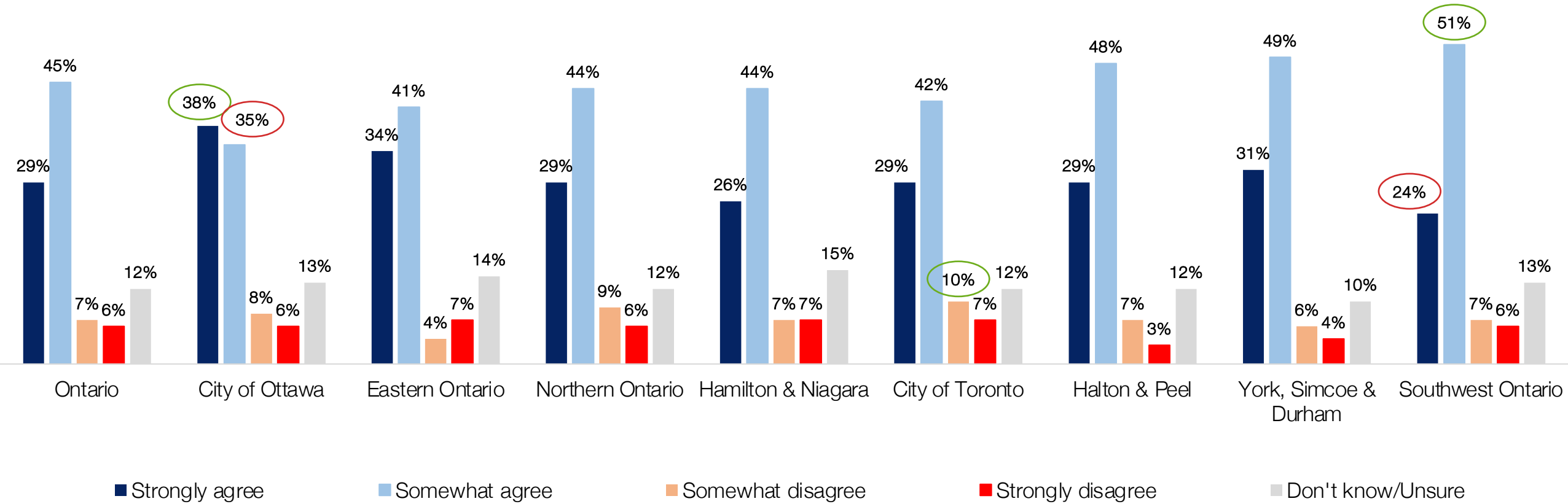
3 out of 4 respondents agreed that the government of Ontario should explore partnerships with private organization to fund mental health and addiction services.



Q18 - Do you agree or disagree that the government of Ontario should explore partnerships with private organizations to fund mental health and addiction services? Base = 2027

# Agree/ disagree to government partnerships with private organizations to fund mental health and addictions services?

Findings were consistent across the regions of Ontario.



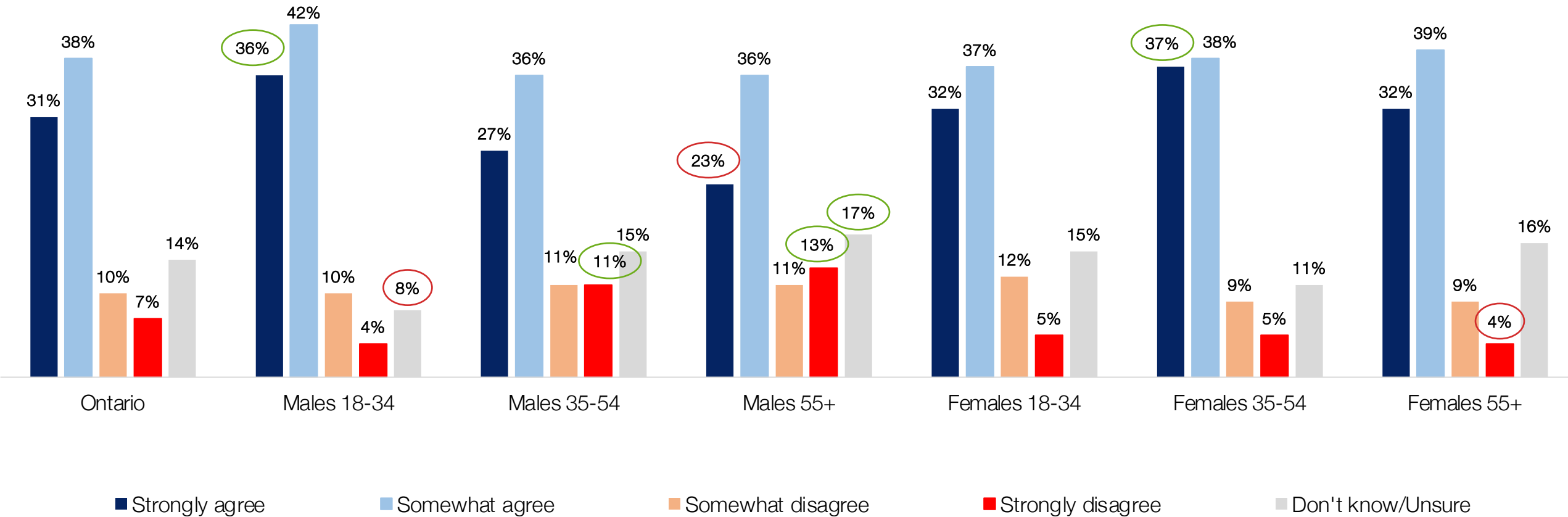
Q18 - Do you agree or disagree that the government of Ontario should explore partnerships with private organizations to fund mental health and addiction services? Base = 2027



# Agree/ disagree that larger corporations contribute a portion of profits to fund mental health and addiction services?

Age and Gender

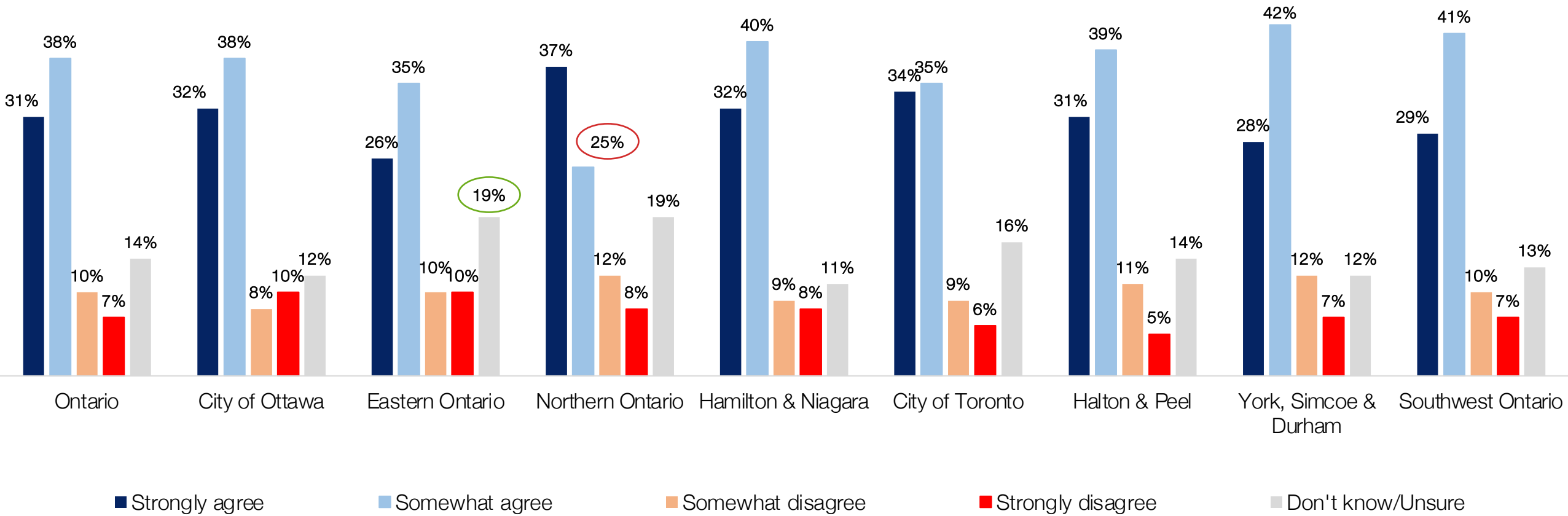
7 out of 10 respondents agreed that larger corporations should contribute a portion of their profits to fund mental health and addictions.



Q19 - Do you agree or disagree that larger corporations operating in Ontario should contribute a portion of their profits a new tax to fund mental health and addiction services? Base = 2027

# Agree/ disagree that larger corporations contribute a portion of profits to fund mental health and addiction services?

Respondents broke out roughly the same way across the regions of Ontario.

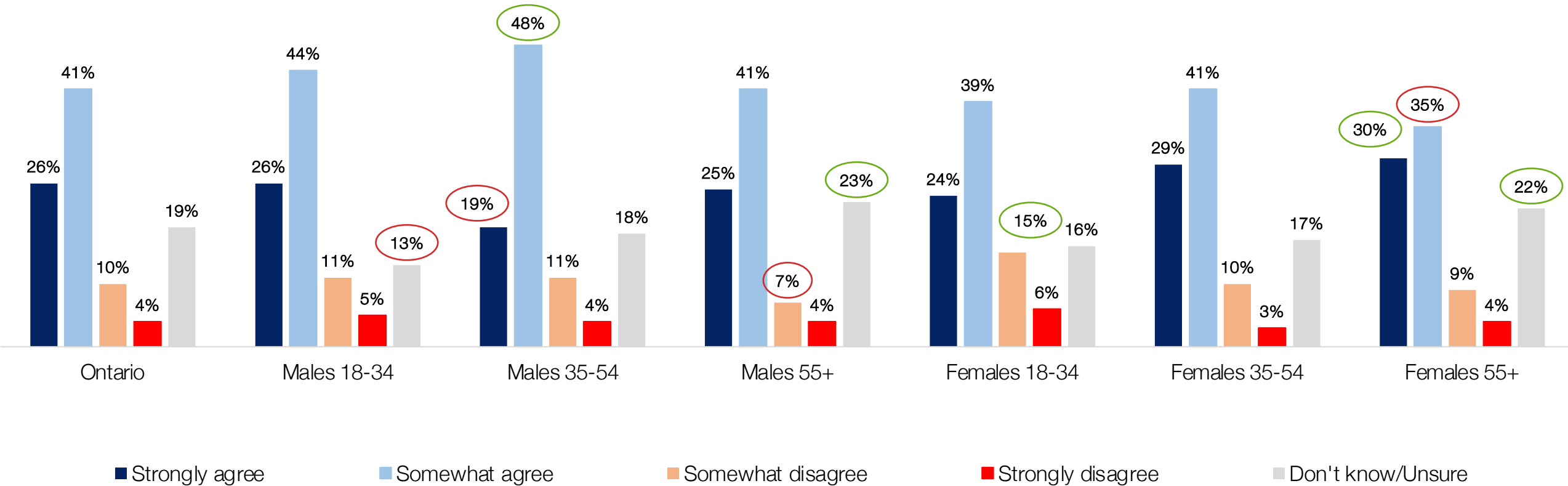


Q19 - Do you agree or disagree that larger corporations operating in Ontario should contribute a portion of their profits a new tax to fund mental health and addiction services? Base = 2027

## Agree/ disagree that laws in Ontario need to change for involuntary patients

Age and Gender

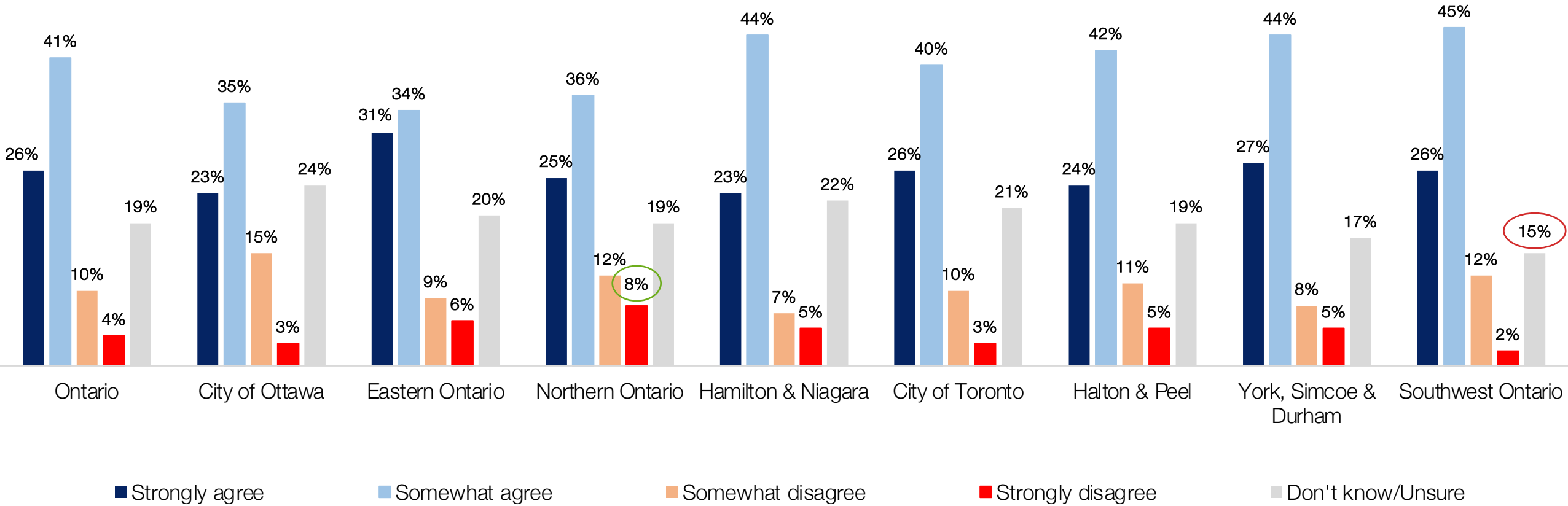
2/3<sup>rd</sup>'s of respondents agreed the laws in Ontario needed to change so that families and physicians could provide mental health and addiction treatment to involuntary patients.



Q20 - Do you agree or disagree that the laws in Ontario need to change so that families and physicians can provide mental health and addictions treatment to involuntary patients? **Base = 2027**

# Agree/ disagree that laws in Ontario need to change for involuntary patients

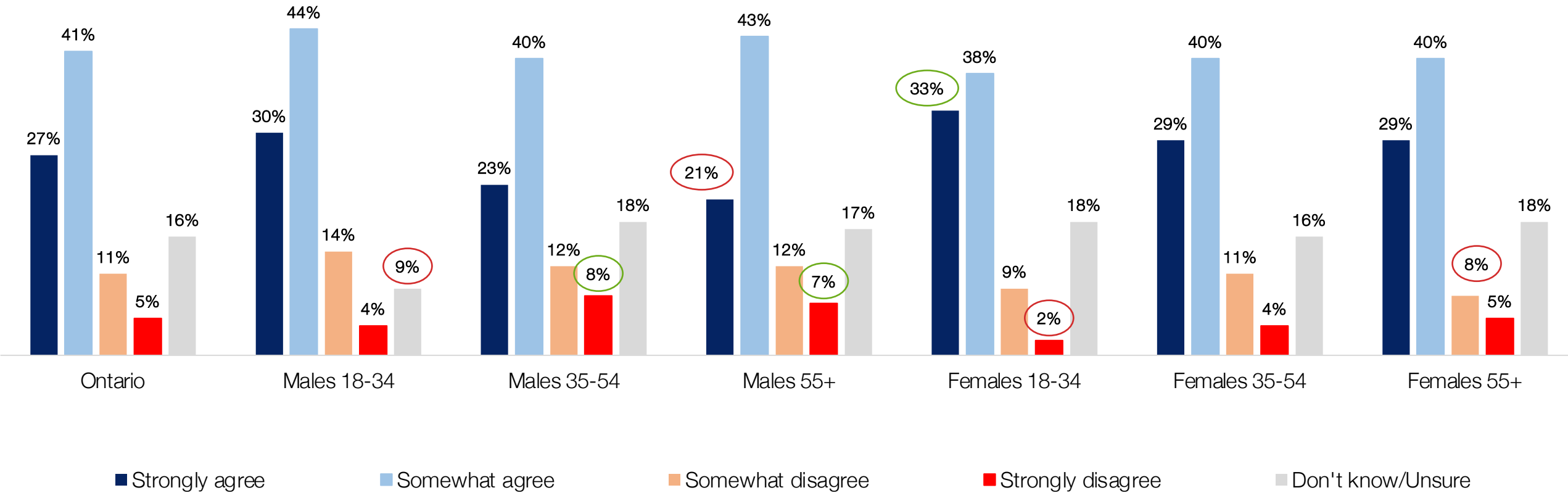
Respondents broke out roughly the same way across the regions of Ontario.



Q20 - Do you agree or disagree that the laws in Ontario need to change so that families and physicians can provide mental health and addictions treatment to involuntary patients? Base = 2027

# Agree/ disagree that "Drug Treatment Courts" should be offered more widely in Ontario

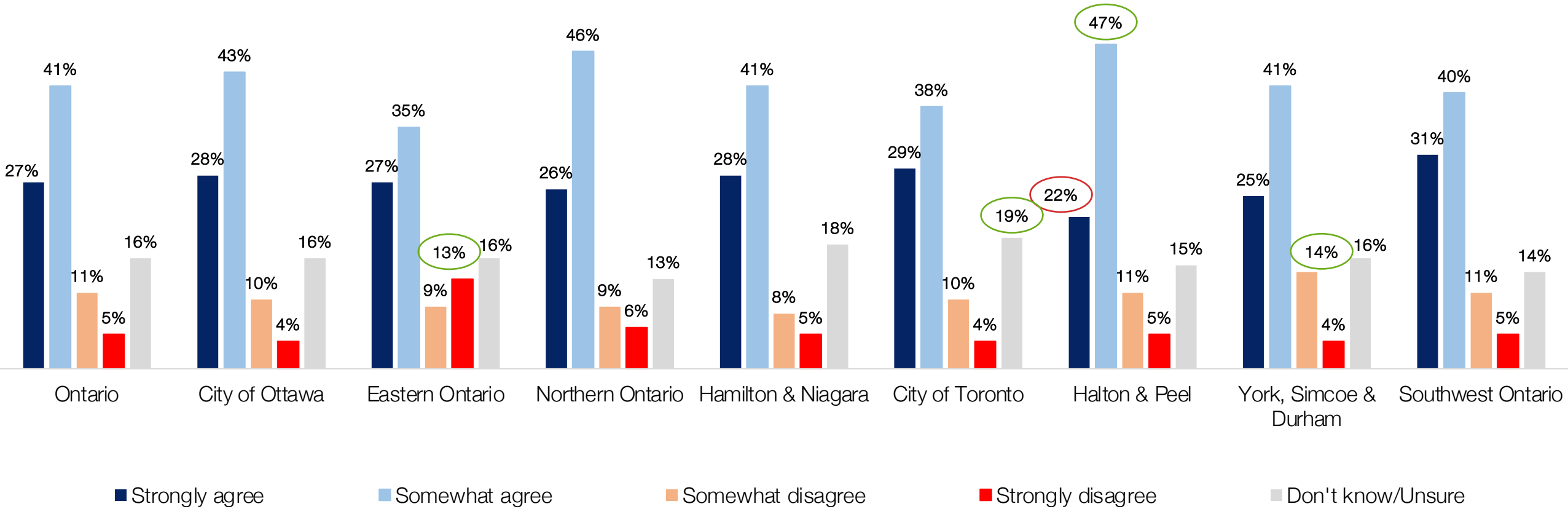
7 out of 10 respondents agreed that drug treatment courts should be offered more widely in Ontario. Females were even stronger in their support of drug treatment courts compared to males.



**Q21 - Drug Treatment Courts provide judicially-supervised treatment instead of incarcerating individuals who have a substance use problem that is related to their criminal activities (e.g., drug-related offences such as drug possession, use, or non-commercial trafficking and/or property offences committed to support their drug use). Do you agree or disagree that "Drug Treatment Courts" should be offered more widely throughout Ontario? Base = 2027**

# Agree/ disagree that "Drug Treatment Courts" should be offered more widely in Ontario

Respondents broke out roughly the same way across the regions of Ontario.



**Q21 - Drug Treatment Courts provide judicially-supervised treatment instead of incarcerating individuals who have a substance use problem that is related to their criminal activities (e.g., drug-related offences such as drug possession, use, or non-commercial trafficking and/or property offences committed to support their drug use). Do you agree or disagree that "Drug Treatment Courts" should be offered more widely throughout Ontario? Base = 2027**



**Email:** [trans@onthebus.ca](mailto:trans@onthebus.ca)  
**Website:** [www.onthebus.ca](http://www.onthebus.ca)

999 Cecelia Street  
Pembroke, ON  
K8B 1A4

Monday, August 12, 2024

Dear Students and Families,

The Renfrew County Joint Transportation Consortium (RCJTC) has been in discussions with school bus service companies to secure student transportation services for the upcoming school year. Unfortunately, the school bus service companies have yet to agree to the terms we have put forward for the 200 bus routes which we coordinate for students across the RCDSB and RCCDSB.

Unlike years before, the school bus service companies are refusing to guarantee that there will be student transportation services in September unless contract extensions are reached. Our goal is to continue working hard to secure services for students and their families. However, you need to be aware that buses may not be running for the first day of school on September 4, in order to consider what other options may be available.

The most recent contract extension offers from RCJTC have been rejected by the school bus service companies.

RCJTC has enormous respect and appreciation for the school bus drivers and the important role they play in our students' education. However, our funding comes from the Ministry of Education, through the school boards. The funding provides a set amount specifically for student transportation. This means we are limited in what we can offer for rate increases to school bus service companies and the length of contracts we can agree to. Although our offers have included unprecedented increases to rates, meeting the current demands is simply not possible without cuts to programs and services that directly impact classroom education.

School bus service companies are private, for-profit businesses. These companies are ultimately responsible for hiring, training, and paying individual school bus drivers. The service companies have informed us that they will not have buses on the road in September without contracts in place.

We understand this may be stressful news to hear over the summer, but we want to make sure students and families have time to plan ahead. We hope to reach contract extensions that are fair and reasonable for everyone involved. RCJTC is exploring all options to secure student transportation services, which may include exploring alternative companies to service our bus routes.

We will provide students and their families with updates on new developments. If a disruption to services appears likely, we will do our best to inform families as early as possible.

An FAQ is available here: [www.onthebus.ca/updates](http://www.onthebus.ca/updates)

Sincerely,

Justin Jeffrey  
General Manager  
Renfrew County Joint Transportation Consortium

**Treasury Board Secretariat**

Office of the Deputy Minister and  
Commissioner of Emergency  
Management  
2nd Floor, 25 Morton Shulman Ave  
Toronto ON M3M 0B1  
Telephone: 416-325-1607

**Secrétariat du Conseil du Trésor**

Bureau du sous-ministre et  
Commissaire à la gestion des  
urgences  
2<sup>e</sup> étage, 25, avenue Morton  
Shulman  
Toronto (Ontario) M3M 0B1  
Téléphone: 416 325-1607

**DATE:** August 16, 2024

**MEMORANDUM TO:** Community Emergency Management Professionals  
Ministry Emergency Management Coordinators

**SUBJECT:** Community Emergency Preparedness Grant Round 2  
launching in September 2024

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I am pleased to share that Emergency Management Ontario (EMO) will be launching a second round of the [Community Emergency Preparedness Grant](#) through an additional \$5 million investment. This will increase local resilience and provide communities and organizations across the province with the resources and equipment they need to prepare for natural disasters and emergencies.

The application period is expected to begin late September 2024. Like Round 1, small- and medium-sized municipalities, local services boards, First Nations communities, Indigenous organizations and non-governmental organizations with mandates in emergency management are eligible to apply. The grant will allow recipients to purchase critical supplies and equipment and deliver training and services to improve local emergency preparation and response. Please note, recipients who received funding as part of Round 1 will be ineligible to apply. This will allow other communities and organizations to benefit from this program as well.

Once the application window opens, EMO will host information sessions to help guide applicants through the process. More information will be communicated in the coming weeks on the [Community Emergency Preparedness Grant webpage](#).

The Community Emergency Preparedness Grant is part of the government's \$110 million commitment to strengthen emergency preparedness in Ontario. These targeted investments are another step the government is taking to provide communities with the resources they need. For any questions, please reach out to [EMOCommunityGrants@ontario.ca](mailto:EMOCommunityGrants@ontario.ca).

.../2



-2-

I look forward to continuing to work together to keep our province safe, practiced and prepared.

Best always,

A handwritten signature in black ink, appearing to read 'Bernie Derible', with a stylized, cursive script.

Bernie Derible  
Deputy Minister and Commissioner of Emergency Management  
Treasury Board Secretariat

Cc:

Lisa Priest, Assistant Deputy Minister, Emergency Management Preparedness, Programs and Planning Division, Emergency Management Ontario, Treasury Board Secretariat



# The Corporation of the Township of Terrace Bay

P.O. Box 40, 1 Selkirk Avenue, Terrace Bay, ON, P0T 2W0  
Phone: (807) 825-3315 Fax: (807) 825-9576

August 14, 2024

NOMA  
P.O. Box 10308  
Thunder Bay, Ontario  
P7B 6T8

To Whom It May Concern:

At the Township of Terrace Bay Regular Council Meeting held on August 6, 2024 the following resolution was passed.

## **RE: NOMA Resolution - Support for OINP (Ontario Immigrant Nominee Program)**

**Resolution: 239-2024**

**Moved by: Councillor Adduono**

**Seconded by: Councillor Dube**

WHEREAS employers across Northern Ontario are experiencing a critical shortage of skilled workers, contributing to a shrinking labour market.

WHEREAS, the labour shortage is causing significant economic hardship for Northern Ontario communities, including reduced productivity and business closures; and

WHEREAS population and migration trends to 2021 suggest that Northern Ontario needs 100,000 newcomers by 2041 to sustain current population; and

WHEREAS the success of the federal Rural and Northern Immigration Pilot (RNIP) demonstrates the effectiveness of allocating nomination spots to address regional labour shortages in attracting newcomers to Northern Ontario; and

WHEREAS, the Ontario Immigrant Nominee Program has been expanded from 9,750 nominees in 2022 to a goal of 21,500 nominees in 2024;

NOW, THEREFORE, BE IT RESOLVED BY the COUNCIL of the Township of Terrace Bay

1. Urges the Government of Ontario to address the critical labour market shortage in Northern Ontario by allocating 3,000 Ontario Immigrant Nominee Program spots to support the region's economic growth and development.

BE IT FURTHER RESOLVED THAT Copies of this resolution be forwarded to: the Ontario Minister of Labour, Immigration, Training & Skills Development; local Members of Provincial Parliament; the Northwestern Ontario Municipal Association/Federation of Northern Ontario Municipalities; and the Aguasabon and Thunder Bay Chambers of Commerce



## The Corporation of the Township of Terrace Bay

P.O. Box 40, 1 Selkirk Avenue, Terrace Bay, ON, P0T 2W0  
Phone: (807) 825-3315 Fax: (807) 825-9576

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Sincerely,

Jon Hall  
Chief Administrative Officer/Clerk

CC:

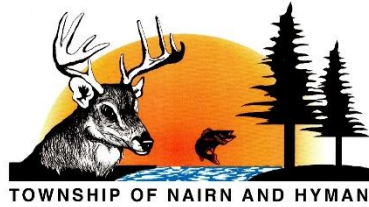
MLITSD David Piccini – [David.piccini@ontario.ca](mailto:David.piccini@ontario.ca)

MPP – Thunder Bay Superior North – Lise Vaugeois – [Lvaugeois-QP@ndp.on.ca](mailto:Lvaugeois-QP@ndp.on.ca)

FONOM – [fonom.info@gmail.com](mailto:fonom.info@gmail.com)

Aguasabon Chamber of Commerce – [aguasabonchamber@gmail.com](mailto:aguasabonchamber@gmail.com)

Thunder Bay Chamber of Commerce – [chamber@tbchamber.ca](mailto:chamber@tbchamber.ca)



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August 21, 2024

Sent via email: [premier@ontario.ca](mailto:premier@ontario.ca)

The Honourable Doug Ford  
Premier of Ontario  
Premier's Office, Room 281  
Legislative Building, Queen's Park  
Toronto, ON M7A 1A1

**RE: Concerns with the Transport and Deposition of Naturally Occurring Radioactive Material (NORM) at the Agnew Lake Tailings Management Area (ALTMA)**

Dear Premier Ford,

I am writing to you on behalf of the Council of the Township of Nairn and Hyman and the Council of the Township of Baldwin to formally submit the attached resolution passed jointly by the two Councils at a Joint Emergency Council Meeting on August 19, 2024.

Our two Townships very recently learned of the decision to transport naturally occurring radioactive material (NORM) from the former Beaucage Mine Site and Nipissing First Nation reserve lands and deposit it at the Agnew Lake Tailings Management Area in the Township of Nairn and Hyman. The decision to transport and deposit NORM has far-reaching implications for the environment, public health, and safety of our communities, and this significant decision was made without any consultation with our municipalities and the other municipalities located near Agnew Lake or along the Highway 17 corridor.

In addition to the participation of our municipalities in this Emergency Council Meeting, many representatives from surrounding First Nations attended the meeting, underscoring the widespread concern across our region about this impending project. The planned transportation of NORM is scheduled to begin in the coming weeks, therefore we respectfully request your attention to this urgent matter.

The resolution reads as follows:

**RESOLUTION:** 2024-EM1-2

**DATE:** August 19, 2024

**MOVED BY:** Councillor McVey

**SECONDED BY:** Councillor Cote

**WHEREAS** the Council of the Corporation of the Township of Nairn and Hyman and the Council of the Corporation of the Township of Baldwin have been informed of the decision to transport naturally occurring radioactive material (NORM) from the former Beaucage Mine and Nipissing First Nation reserve land, and deposit it at the Agnew Lake Tailings Management Area (ALTMA) in the Township of Nairn and Hyman; and

**WHEREAS** this decision has significant implications for the environment, public health, and safety of the surrounding communities, including those within the Township of Nairn and Hyman and the Township of Baldwin; and

**WHEREAS** the decision to transport and deposit NORM to the ALTMA site was made without any consultation with the Township of Nairn and Hyman or the other municipalities bordering Agnew Lake, resulting in the exclusion of local municipalities from the decision-making process; and

**WHEREAS** the exclusion of local municipalities from this process represents a serious breach of trust and a disregard for the well-being of the residents of these communities; and

**WHEREAS** there are significant concerns among residents regarding the potential contamination of drinking water sources, particularly Agnew Lake, which many residents rely on for safe drinking water; and

**WHEREAS** the risks associated with NORM are well-documented, and the proximity of the ALTMA to Agnew Lake heightens the concerns regarding the potential contamination of this vital water source; and

**WHEREAS** according to information received from the Ministry of Mines, there are already some areas of the ALTMA site where dose estimates exceed the Canadian Nuclear Safety Commission's regulatory limit for casual site users; and

**WHEREAS** the Council of the Corporation of the Township of Nairn and Hyman and the Council of the Corporation of the Township of Baldwin held a joint Emergency Council Meeting on August 19, 2024;

**THEREFORE BE IT RESOLVED THAT** the Council of the Corporation of the Township of Nairn and Hyman and the Council of the Corporation of the Township of Baldwin respectfully demands that the Province of Ontario, the Ministry of Mines and the Ministry of Transportation immediately halt the project involving the transportation and deposition of NORM at the ALTMA site until a clear line of communication is established with local municipalities; and

**BE IT FURTHER RESOLVED THAT** the Council of the Corporation of the Township of Nairn and Hyman and the Council of the Corporation of the Township of Baldwin respectfully demands full disclosure of all pertinent details regarding the proposed future NORM transportation and deposition plan, including specific transportation routes, emergency response plans, safety protocols, and the future management plan for the ALTMA site; and

**THAT** the Council of the Corporation of the Township of Nairn and Hyman and the Council of the Corporation of the Township of Baldwin insists that environmental and health impact assessments be conducted with input from independent experts, and that these assessments include opportunities for public hearings to ensure transparency and community involvement; and

**THAT** the Province of Ontario enact legislation that consultation with municipalities is a requirement of any projects that include the transportation or deposition of NORM; and

**THAT** a copy of this resolution be forwarded to the Honourable Doug Ford, Premier of Ontario; the Honourable George Pirie, the Minister of Mines; the Honourable Prabmeet Sarkaria, the Minister of Transportation; the Honourable Andrea Khanjin, the Minister of the Environment, Conservation and Parks; Chief Toulouse and Sagamok Anishnawbek Council Members; Chief Nootchtai and Atikameksheng Anishnawbek Council Members; the Ontario Ombudsman; the Canadian Nuclear Safety Commission; the Canadian Environmental Law Association; MP Carol Hughes; MPP Michael Mantha; the Association of Ontario Municipalities and all Ontario Municipalities.

**CARRIED**

For more information regarding this matter, please contact our municipal office by email at [belindaketchabaw@nairncentre.ca](mailto:belindaketchabaw@nairncentre.ca) or by phone at (705) 869-4232.

Yours truly,



Belinda Ketchabaw  
CAO Clerk Treasurer  
Township of Nairn and Hyman

---

Cc:

Honourable George Pirie, the Minister of Mines  
Honourable Prabmeet Sarkaria, the Minister of Transportation  
Honourable Andrea Khanjin, the Minister of the Environment, Conservation and Parks  
Chief Toulouse and Sagamok Anishnawbek Council Members  
Chief Nootchtai and Atikameksheng Anishnawbek Council Members  
Ontario Ombudsman  
Canadian Nuclear Safety Commission  
Canadian Environmental Law Association  
MP Carol Hughes  
MPP Michael Mantha  
Association of Ontario Municipalities  
All Ontario Municipalities

P.O. Box 490  
7 Creswell Drive  
Trenton, Ontario K8V 5R6  
www.quintewest.ca



A Natural Attraction

Tel: 613-392-2841  
Toll Free: 1-866-485-2841  
virinial@quintewest.ca  
clerk@quintewest.ca

Virginia LaTour, Deputy City Clerk

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August 15, 2024

The Right Honourable Justin Trudeau  
Office of the Prime Minister  
80 Wellington Street  
Ottawa, ON K1A 0A2  
Via Email - justin.trudeau@parl.gc.ca

**RE: Notice of Motion – Councillor Stedall – The Canada Community-Building Fund**

Dear Prime Minister:

This letter will serve to advise that at a meeting of City of Quinte West Council held on August 14, 2024 Council passed the following resolution:

**Motion No 24-366 – Notice of Motion - Councillor Stedall - The Canada Community-Building Fund**  
Moved by Councillor Stedall  
Seconded by Councillor McCue

Whereas the City of Quinte West is entering into an agreement to receive Canada Community-Building Funds, which is administered by the Association of Ontario Municipalities of Ontario (AMO) on behalf of the Federal government;

And whereas the funding allocations are less that 2% year over year for the next 5 years;

And whereas the amounts allocated in the past 5 years were less than 2% year over year;

And whereas non-residential construction price inflation has risen by 29% since the end of 2020 and municipalities are facing soaring costs for infrastructure projects without a corresponding growth in revenue;

And whereas there is a requirement for municipalities to complete an asset management plan and a housing needs analysis;

And whereas both of these plans show the large funding gap between infrastructure and housing needs and funds available from property taxation;

And whereas The City of Quinte West has over \$1.5 billion in core infrastructure assets and, like other municipalities, its infrastructure is aging and in need of upgrades and replacement;

And whereas The City's Asset Management Plan requires \$37 million annually to maintain existing assets which, based on current available funding, is resulting in an annual infrastructure deficit of over \$17.1 million;

And whereas municipalities are facing a gap in federal infrastructure funding as the 10-year Investing in Canada Infrastructure Program has come to an end;

Now therefore be it resolved that the City of Quinte West calls on the Federal Government to provide a supplement to the allocations provided to municipalities under the AMO CBBF agreement for 2024 - 2028 for the same amount that was allocated, effectively doubling the allocation for those years;

And further that this resolution be forwarded to MFOA, AMO, MP Ryan Williams, and Federal Finance Minister Chrystia Freeland, and all Municipalities in Ontario.  
**Carried**

We trust that you will give favourable consideration to this request.

Yours Truly,

CITY OF QUINTE WEST

A handwritten signature in black ink, appearing to read 'Virginia LaTour', written over a horizontal line. The signature is stylized and somewhat cursive.

Virginia LaTour,  
Deputy City Clerk

cc: Donna Herridge, Executive Director, MFOA  
Colin Best, President, AMO  
Ryan Williams, MP, Bay of Quinte  
Hon. Chrystia Freeland, Deputy Prime Minister and Minister of Finance  
All Municipalities of Ontario



TOWNSHIP OF RED ROCK

MOVED BY: Muir DATE: AUGUST 12, 2024

SECONDED BY: Smith RES.NO: 13

WHEREAS this council believes that the safety of our community and its protection from crime in all its forms is of utmost importance.

WHEREAS our taxpayer-funded judicial system exists to protect the public, who in return for their tax dollars are entitled to a system that works.

WHEREAS the number of charges laid for failure to comply with court orders – primarily failure to comply with the terms of a promise to appear, undertaking, recognizance, probation order, or peace bond – are steadily on the rise in the province of Ontario.

WHEREAS there has been a notable increase in the number of violent offences committed in the province of Ontario by individuals who are concurrently subject to release orders.

WHEREAS the Ontario justice system is backlogged, court systems under strain, and police and prosecutors overwhelmed by their caseloads.

WHEREAS we have seen a dramatic lowering of the threshold for release, resulting in violent, serious, or repeat offenders who should by rights have been reasonably detained in custody, released on supervision plans that are increasingly deficient.

WHEREAS the general sense among the criminal population is that breaching bail conditions will not result in much by way of consequence for the offender, as evidenced by a clear pattern province-wide of unjustifiable release, a pattern which is bound to continue given insufficient resources to conduct Crown bail reviews, surety bond estreatment hearings, and ensure the subsequent collection of surety bond funds after judgment.

WHEREAS a ‘catch and release’ system constitutes a failure of government to perform a core function of its existence, that being the protection of public.

WHEREAS the current hard drug crisis has contributed to a desperate criminal element that is exacting a significant financial and emotional toll on communities across Canada.

WHEREAS our police services are being demoralized by expending precious time and resources having to manage the repeated arrests of these habitual criminal offenders within a system that limits their ability to effectively protect the public.

AND WHEREAS this ineffective follow-through by our judicial system unfairly erodes the public’s trust in our police services, who consequently become the target of frustrated and angry residents who feel they are no longer being protected from crime.

AND WHEREAS the increasing erosion of public faith and trust in our judicial system ultimately brings the administration of justice in the province of Ontario into disrepute and leads to a growing feeling amongst residents that they are no longer protected by a system perceived to prioritize the rights and freedoms of the criminal over the rights and safety of themselves and their families.

NOW THEREFORE BE IT RESOLVED, that the Township of Red Rock send a letter to the Right Honourable Justin Trudeau, Prime Minister of Canada, the Honourable Arif Virani, Minister of Justice and Attorney General of Canada, Attorney General of Ontario Doug Downey, Ontario Solicitor General Michael Kerzner, the Honourable Doug Ford Premier of Ontario, MP Patty Hajdu, MPP Lise Vaugeois, Staff Sergeant David Moscall, Nipigon OPP, all Ontario Police Associations and Police Departments, Ontario Provincial Police, all Ontario MPPs and MPs, and all municipalities throughout Ontario for their endorsement consideration, requesting additional funding in Ontario's legal system to support a meaningful resistance to the current "catch and release" practice, including hiring sufficient court staff, with a specific focus on additional assistant Crown Attorneys.

FOR: 4

AGAINST: \_\_\_\_\_

  
MAYOR'S SIGNATURE



Hydro One Networks Inc.

483 Bay Street  
8th Floor South Tower  
Toronto, Ontario M5G 2P5

HydroOne.com

Fall 2024, Winter 2025

Dear Resident:

**Re: Vegetation Maintenance Program**

I am writing to inform you that Hydro One Networks Inc. (Hydro One) is scheduled to complete right-of-way vegetation maintenance along the transmission corridor on or adjacent to your property in 2025.

Hydro One regularly monitors the conditions of its transmission corridors and schedules routine vegetation maintenance to identify incompatible vegetation along our rights-of-way, including tree species or brush that can grow tall enough to compromise the safe operation of power. Keeping vegetation, a safe distance from power lines is necessary to ensure minimum clearance requirements established by our regulator, provincial agencies, and our utility partners across North America, to prevent tree related outages and for public safety. Maintaining our assets and infrastructure is vital to providing Ontario with the electricity we all depend on.

Hydro One uses an integrated approach to vegetation management and our forestry technicians assess each right-of-way to determine what work is required in the area. The work in your community will include the removal of non-compatible brush as well as pruning branches away from power lines and removing any dead or hazardous trees that have the potential to interfere with the safe and reliable operation of the power line. In areas where there is a higher density of brush, mechanical equipment may be used.

To ensure our required clearance until the next vegetation maintenance cycle, Garlon RTU (Registration #29334) may be selectively applied, where deemed necessary, to control the re-growth of vegetation.

If you have any questions regarding the planned work, please contact Jason Swant at 613-334-6464 or by email at Jason.swant@hydroone.com or our Forestry Department at 1-888-797-4023 or by emailing Forestry.FBC@HydroOne.com. If you are a tenant, we ask that you forward this letter to the property owner.

Thank you for your co-operation as we complete this important work.

Sincerely,

Jason Swant  
Forestry Technician

R01