



**TOWN OF AMHERSTBURG
SPECIAL COUNCIL MEETING - PLANNING**

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Wednesday, February 8, 2023

5:00 PM

Council Chambers

271 Sandwich Street South, Amherstburg, ON, N9V 2A5

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Pages

- 1. CALL TO ORDER**
- 2. ROLL CALL**
- 3. DISCLOSURE OF PECUNIARY INTEREST & GENERAL NATURE THEREOF**
(Public Council Meeting Agenda Items)

4. LAND ACKNOWLEDGEMENT

We will begin by acknowledging that the land on which we gather is the traditional territory of the Three Fires Confederacy of First Nations (comprising the Ojibway, the Odawa, and the Potawatomie Peoples), and of the Huron-Wendat and Wyandot Peoples. We recognize the land as an expression of gratitude to those whose traditional territory we reside on, and a way of honouring the Indigenous people who have been living and thriving on the land since time immemorial. We value the significant historical and contemporary contributions of local and regional First Nations and all of the Original Peoples of Turtle Island.

5. ORDER OF BUSINESS

5.1 Contract for Policing Services between the Town of Amherstburg and Windsor Police Services Board

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It is recommended that:

1. The report from the CAO dated January 23, 2023, regarding the renewal of the policing contract with Windsor Police Services **BE RECEIVED**; and,
2. The CAO **BE DIRECTED** to exercise the renewal clause in the contract dated October 12, 2018 between the Town of Amherstburg and the Windsor Police Services Board, (“WPSB”) for the five-year period commencing January 1, 2024 and ending December 31, 2028.

6. ADJOURNMENT

That Council rise and adjourn at p.m.



THE CORPORATION OF THE TOWN OF AMHERSTBURG

OFFICE OF THE CAO

MISSION STATEMENT: Committed to delivering cost-effective and efficient services for the residents of the Town of Amherstburg with a view to improve and enhance their quality of life.

Author's Name: Valerie Critchley	Report Date: January 23, 2023
Author's Phone: 519 736 0012 ext. 2238	Date to Council: February 8, 2023
Author's E-mail: vcritchley@amherstburg.ca	Resolution #:

To: Mayor and Members of Town Council

Subject: Contract for Policing Services between the Town of Amherstburg and Windsor Police Services Board

1. **RECOMMENDATION:**

It is recommended that:

1. The report from the CAO dated January 23, 2023, regarding the renewal of the policing contract with Windsor Police Services **BE RECEIVED**; and,
2. The CAO **BE DIRECTED** to exercise the renewal clause in the contract dated October 12, 2018 between the Town of Amherstburg and the Windsor Police Services Board, ("WPSB") for the five-year period commencing January 1, 2024 and ending December 31, 2028.

2. **BACKGROUND:**

On February 26, 2018, Council adopted the following motion:

That:

1. *The report from the CAO dated February 9, 2018 regarding police services for the Town of Amherstburg **BE RECEIVED**;*
2. *The CAO **BE DIRECTED** to finalize the terms and conditions of a contract for policing services with the Windsor Police Services Board/City of Windsor for a term of 20 years commencing January 1, 2019; and,*
3. *The CAO **BE DIRECTED** to bring back a final contract **SUBJECT TO APPROVAL** by the Ontario Civilian Police Commission.*

On October 12, 2018, as contemplated by the above noted resolution, two contracts were entered into, one with the City of Windsor and the other with the WPSB for the provision of policing services to the Town of Amherstburg, “the ‘Agreements’”. Article 2 of the agreement with the WPSB states as follows:

Article 2 – Term:

This Agreement shall run for a period of five (5) years commencing at 12:01a.m. on the 1st day of January, 2019 (the “Commencement Date”). This Agreement shall be renewed automatically for succeeding terms of five (5) years each (a “Renewal Term”) not to exceed a maximum total length of twenty (20) years, unless: (i) either party provides notice to the other party at least eighteen (18) months prior to the expiration of the then current term; or (ii) otherwise terminated pursuant to the terms and provisions herein.

By the terms of this Agreement, if either party had wished not to renew the Agreement, notice was to be given prior to June 30, 2022. However, as Council is aware, due to the staff changes in Administration at the Town, and investigations into the future required replacement of the police radio system, this date was extended by the agreement of both parties to March 31, 2023.

At the time of the initial decision to enter into the Agreements, Council directed that, before a decision was made on the renewal of the Agreements, a public meeting was to be held in order to evaluate the results of the first term and also to allow an opportunity for any member of the public that wished to delegate on the matter to do so

3. DISCUSSION:

In order to fulfill the direction of Council, as stipulated above, this report will consider the following:

1. Levels of service experienced during the first term of the agreements;
2. Financial savings during the first term of the agreements;
3. Notable terms of the proposed renewal of the agreements; and,
4. Options for Council moving forward.

Levels of Service –January 2019-December, 2022

When the Request for Proposals (RFP) for policing services was developed in 2017, the document defined the levels of service that would be acceptable to the Town with a high degree of specificity and required that proponents had to **meet or exceed** the then current service levels being offered by the Amherstburg Police Service (APS).

As per the Agreements, the statistics of Policing Activity are provided to Council on a quarterly basis. Attached for Council’s review, as Appendix “A” are the annual statistics for the WPS-Amherstburg Detachment for the first four years of the first term of the Agreement.

The proposal submitted by the Windsor Police Service (WPS) offered a number of additional services (included in the contract cost structure) which, at the time were not

offered directly by the APS, but were contracted for indirectly through others such as the Ontario Provincial Police (OPP).

In general terms these additional services offered by WPS and included in the service Agreements are in the following areas:

1. Canine Units (24/7)
2. Emergency response (tactical) unit (24/7)
3. Explosive disposal
4. Crime scene/forensic expertise
5. Collision reconstruction
6. Crime Prevention expertise
7. Enhanced training/professional development opportunities
8. State of the art technology and technical support
9. Certified crisis negotiators

In terms of the usage of these services during the first 4 years of the Agreement, the statistics have been provided by the WPS and are attached to this Report as Appendix "B".

In addition to the above noted "regular" and "augmented" levels of service provided by WPS during the first term of the Agreements, WPS also introduced and provided to Amherstburg residents a number of technological initiatives through many online tools that were not formerly available due to resourcing and budget constraints. Examples of these online reporting tools include:

1. Online Crime Reporting
2. Police Record Checks
3. Traffic Complaints
4. Autism Registry
5. Vulnerable Persons Registry
6. Bicycle Registry
7. Sexual Assault Reporting
8. Media Portal
9. Interactive Crime Reporting

Finally, in preparing its Strategic Plan for 2023-2024, WPS conducted a community survey in Amherstburg. The results of the survey, together with a comparison of the survey results done in 2020, are attached as Appendix "C". Highlights of the survey include:

- 90% of residents surveyed said they feel safe overall in the Town
- 80+% of residents surveyed have a favourable opinion of the WPS
- 75% of residents surveyed are satisfied with the overall performance of the WPS

In addition, the ongoing relationship between Administration, Council and the WPS has been open and productive with no ongoing issues regarding service levels being raised.

Financial Savings During First Term of the Agreement

During the first 5 years of the Agreement with the WPSB, the costs of policing in Amherstburg were as follows:

	2019	2020	2021	2022	2023	Avg. 5 Year Cost	Avg. Cost Per Person 2023
Pop. 23,854	\$5,482,568**	\$5,287,253	\$5,411,932	\$5,397,437	\$5,533,808	\$5,422,600	\$232
Annual % Change	---	(3.6%)	2.3%	(0.27%)	2.5%	---	

***2019 included transitional costs*

The average projected annual cost of the APS for the years 2019-2023, had it continued, which was calculated in the 2018 report to council in order to compare “apples to apples” when reviewing the WPSB Proposal, was \$5,771,041. In order to further substantiate this number a comparison of two similar sized municipalities that have their own police forces was undertaken. As only the data for 2019-2021 was available, and in order to find a comparable 5 year average cost, the same percentage increases/decreases incurred in Amherstburg were added for the years 2022 and 2023 to the costs of the comparator municipalities. The chart below is illustrative of the annual costs, the average cost over 5 years and the average cost per person for 2023.

	2019	2020	2021	2022	2023	Avg. 5 Year Cost	Avg. Cost Per Person 2023
Lasalle Pop. 34,023	\$7,497,261	\$7,589,645	\$8,041,208	\$8,019,497	\$8,219,984	\$7,873,519	\$241.60
Strathroy/Caradoc Pop. 23,871	\$5,473,321	\$5,677,854	\$5,763,072	\$5,747,512	\$5,891,200	\$5,710,592	\$246.79

Based on this data, Strathroy/Caradoc would be the closest comparator to the Town of Amherstburg based on population size. As stated above the average projected annual cost for the APS for the years 2019-2023 was \$5,771,041 and when compared to the average 5 year policing cost for Strathroy/Caradoc, being \$5,710,592, the costs projected for the APS appear reasonable. Therefore, the average annual savings experienced by the Town during the first term of the Agreement are as follows:

Average Annual Cost of APS	\$5,771,041
Average Annual Cost of WPS	\$5,442,600
Average Annual Savings	\$ 348,441
Total Average Savings over 5 Year Term	\$1,742,205

In addition, Amherstburg has also benefitted in accessing skilled and trained police services without the cost of recruitment & retention, ensuring staffing levels to cover for training and vacation days, reduced insurance costs, and risk mitigation through the transfer of risk to WPS.

Notable Terms of the Proposed Renewal of the Agreements

As is set out above, unless either party notifies the other of its intention to terminate the Agreements prior to March 31, 2023, the Agreements will automatically renew on the same terms and conditions.

While this clause confirms that the intention of the parties on a renewal is not to re-negotiate the terms of the Agreements, two articles in the Agreement with the WPSB are of particular note:

a) Article 9 – Cost of Service:

Article 9.2 sets out how the cost of service will be calculated after the initial term of the Agreement and states as follows:

9.2 *Following the conclusion of the Initial Term, the fees for the Contracted Services shall be determined as per Article 9.3 for “Estimated Operating Fees” and Article 9.4 for “Estimated Capital Costs” and the cost principles as set out in Schedule 9.2 attached hereto. The fees for Contracted Services following the conclusion of the Initial term will include both an operating cost component as contemplated by Section 9.3 and a capital cost component as contemplated by Section 9.4.*

Of particular importance in the terms of the Cost Principles set out in Schedule 9.2 is article 3 which guarantees Amherstburg budgetary parity with the WPS Operating Budget in each contract year of any renewal term. The article states:

Subject to the exceptions noted in Section 4 of this Schedule 9.2. budgetary parity for the purposes of each Contract Year in a Renewal Term would result in equal adjustments to the cost of the Contracted Services and the Police Service's annual operating budget. For example: a 2 % increase in the operating budget for the Police Service in any given Contract Year after the fifth (5'h) Contract Year would result in a 2% increase to the cost of the Contracted Services for that Contract Year.

This clause ensures that the future contract rates in each renewal year will be in line with the same cost increases being experienced by the WPS and that the Town of Amherstburg will not be unfairly or unreasonably charged.

b) Article 14 – Communications

Article 14.1 sets out the role of the Town on the WPSB and states:

14.1 The following shall determine the role of the Town with respect to the Board:

(a) The City shall appoint the Mayor or his/her designate to the Board for the remaining term of Council until November 14, 2022, starting with the commencement of this Agreement on January 1, 2019.

- (b) *The City may consider the appointment of the Mayor or his or her designate for subsequent terms of Council provided that the City is providing police services to the Town.*
- (c) *If at any time during the Initial Term or any Renewal Term, the Mayor or his or her designate is not appointed to the Board, the City agrees to allow the Mayor, or his or her designate to become an advisor to the Board, as contemplated by the Act with the full ability to attend all meetings of the Board.*

For further clarification regarding 14.1(c), “all meetings of the Board” shall include in-camera meetings and the advisor shall also receive all reports and correspondence as a full member of the Board would receive, subject to the advisor signing a confidentiality and non-disclosure agreement.

As Council is aware, the former Mayor was appointed to the WPSB in accordance with article 14.1(a) of the Agreement and Mayor Prue has now been appointed as an advisor to the WPSB pursuant to article 14.1(c) of the Agreement.

It is important to note that the Agreement with the WPSB was negotiated between February 26, 2018 and October 12, 2018, which predated the 2018 Municipal Election. Therefore, apart from the former Mayor and Deputy Mayor, no members of the 2018-2022 term of Council, or the present Council, were privy to the negotiations or the updates that were provided to the members of the 2014-2018 term of Council.

In addition, no current members of Administration were involved in the negotiations and accordingly, the writer of this report reviewed all reports that were presented to Council regarding the negotiations surrounding the Agreement, both in regular and in camera sessions. Of particular relevance to the issue of the appointment of the Mayor (or designate) to the WPSB was an in camera report dated June 25, 2018, a copy of which has been provided to Council for consideration in closed session.

Of further note is that the RFP submission that was made by the WPSB, and upon which the 2018 Town Council approval for negotiations for an Agreement with the WPSB was based, proposed that the Mayor (or Councillor) would automatically become an ‘advisor’ to the WPSB, which is now the arrangement reflected in the Agreement.

Further, this “advisor” role is specifically contemplated in section 6.1 of the *Police Services Act* in situations where a municipality enters into a contract with another for the provision of police services. That section states as follows:

Municipal agreements for providing police services

6.1 (1) *The councils of two municipalities may enter into an agreement for the provision of police services for one municipality by the board of the other municipality, on the conditions set out in the agreement, if the municipality that is to receive the police services is contiguous to the municipality that is to provide the police services or is contiguous to any other municipality that receives police services from the same municipality.*

Advisors to board

(2) The council of a municipality that receives police services pursuant to an agreement made under subsection (1) may select a person to advise the other municipality's board with respect to objectives and priorities for police services in the municipality that receives the police services.

Term of office

(3) The term of office for a person selected to advise another municipality's board shall be as set by the council when the person is selected, but shall not exceed the term of office of the council that selected him or her.

Ultimately, the current wording of Article 14.1 was negotiated and agreed to by both Parties.

Options Moving Forward:

Pursuant to section 5(1) the *Police Services Act*, there are six (6) options for the delivery of policing services available to a municipality. These options are:

- 1. The council may establish a police force, the members of which shall be appointed by the board under clause 31 (1) (a).*
- 2. The council may enter into an agreement under section 33 with one or more other councils to constitute a joint board and the joint board may appoint the members of a police force under clause 31 (1) (a).*
- 3. The council may enter into an agreement under section 6 with one or more other councils to amalgamate their police forces.*
- 4. The council may enter into an agreement under section 6.1 with the council of another municipality to have its police services provided by the board of the other municipality, on the conditions set out in the agreement, if the municipality that is to receive the police services is contiguous to the municipality that is to provide the police services or is contiguous to any other municipality that receives police services from the same municipality.*
- 5. The council may enter into an agreement under section 10, alone or jointly with one or more other councils, to have police services provided by the Ontario Provincial Police.*
- 6. With the Commission's approval, the council may adopt a different method of providing police services. 1997, c. 8, s. 4.*

Reviewing these possible methods of service delivery, the Town now has three clear options available:

Option 1 – Re-establish the Amherstburg Police Service;

Option 2 – Issue an RFP for Police Services; or

Option 3 – Renew the Agreement with the WPSB for the 5 year term commencing January 1, 2024 and concluding December 31, 2028

Option 1 – Re-establish the Amherstburg Police Service

Re-establishing the APS is an option that is before Council. In analyzing this option there are several considerations Council should be aware of:

1. Time Constraints - as Council is aware, once the decision was made to pursue the Agreement with the WPSB on February 26, 2018, the total transition time for the provision of policing services from the APS to the WPSB was approximately 10 months. The timeframe from today to the expiration of the first term of the Agreement on December 31, 2023 is also 10 months, however the work involved in re-establishing a police force is much more intensive than the work to wind a service down and have another established police force provide service. For example, a police chief would need to be hired as soon as possible in order to oversee the transition. In addition, recruitment would have to start immediately in order to ensure that service would be in place on January 1, 2024. While some WPSB officers might be interested in these positions, that is not guaranteed. Further, a new Collective Agreement would need to be negotiated which could take considerable time.
2. Increased Annual Policing Costs - as reported above, the anticipated annual cost of a standalone police force for the Town of Amherstburg would be approximately \$348,411 more than the cost of the current contract with the WPSB. This amount equates to an approximate increase of 1-1.5% on the tax base. In addition, many of the enhanced services which are now provided by the WPSB would either no longer be in place, or further costs would be incurred to implement these services in addition to the base additional cost.
3. Lost Opportunity to Share Costs for Renewed Radio Infrastructure - as was reported to Council when the decision was made in 2018 to negotiate an agreement with the WPSB, the current Amherstburg radio system does not offer the level of redundancy and resilience in first responder communications that is now required and the Town will need to make significant additional capital upgrades to its existing radio infrastructure. The capital cost of this project is projected to be in the range of \$500,000 to \$2,000,000, however, if the Town were to renew the contract with the WPSB there would be an opportunity for reduced costs as a result of sharing existing WPSB radio infrastructure and resources.
4. Start-up costs – there will be one time costs associated with re-establishing the APS. A complete analysis of these costs has not been undertaken, however some of these costs would include but are not limited to:
 - Human Resources and IT consultancy costs to assist with recruitment as the current staff have no capacity for a project of this size in addition to their current workload

- Staff costs associated with the re-integration of the APS payroll into the Town financial systems
 - Replacement of any capital assets transferred back to the Town that are at end of life (a full analysis has not been done of these assets at this time)
 - Replacement of Radio Infrastructure – as noted above the immediate capital cost of this issue alone is estimated at between \$500,000 and \$2,000,000 depending on what option for replacement is chosen.
5. Funds Available in the Police Reserve Account – at the time of the transition to the WPSB Agreement, Council discussed the concept of transferring the annual savings experienced to the Police Reserve account as “seed” money should the Town ever wish to re-establish its own police force or choose another alternate service delivery model for policing. A history of the activity in the Police Reserve from 2019 to present is as follows:

2019 -Opening balance of \$344,776
 -No further activity

2020 -Draft budget recommended a transfer to reserves of \$564,000
 -Recommended amount was decreased to \$100,000 during budget deliberations
 -End balance of \$451,394 (including interest)

2021 -Council approved a transfer of \$100,000 to the reserve
 -End balance of \$557,806 (including interest)

2022 - Budget did not include any transfers to the reserve

Therefore, the current funds available in the Police Reserve are \$557,806 plus some accumulated interest for 2022. This amount will not be sufficient to cover the costs for re-establishing the APS as outlined above as the capital cost for the required replacement of the police radio contract alone will use all of these funds.

Weighed against these considerations are the possible benefits to be gained by re-establishing the APS. The results of the recent WPS survey suggest that the majority of Amherstburg residents are satisfied with the current policing arrangement from a service perspective. Certainly, a town operated and governed police force could produce the same level of satisfaction, however at this point, level of service does not appear to be a driving concern and the cost of policing would certainly rise with the re-establishment of the APS.

Re-establishing the APS would allow the Town to participate in the direct governance of the police force through the establishment of a Police Services Board, which would be comprised of two members of Council, two provincial appointees and one citizen. As has been explained, the Town currently has an advisory, non-voting, role on the WPSB, is able to participate in all open and in camera meetings of the Board and in all discussions and debate.

Considering all of the factors set out above, particularly the cost implications of re-establishing the APS, this option is NOT recommended by Administration.

Option 2 – Issue an RFP for Police Services

This option would involve the preparation of an RFP for Policing Services, which could be delivered in one of three of ways:

- By an agreement under section 33 of *Police Act* with another Council to constitute a joint police service board in order to govern a joint police force (the only possible partnership in Essex County would be with the Town of Lasalle as the policing in all other municipalities is delivered by the OPP);
- By an agreement with another Council to have police services delivered by the police services board of another municipality. This is what the Town currently has in place with the WPSB. It is conceivable that the Town of Lasalle might also be interested in such an arrangement; or
- Council could enter into an agreement with the OPP for the provision of police services.

It should be noted that when the Town issued RFP-PP-PS-17-15 for policing services on July 10, 2017, it was the culmination of 14 months of preparatory work which had commenced on March 7, 2016. Once the RFP closed in October, 2017, there was further review and consultation before the decision to proceed to negotiate an Agreement with the WPSB was made on February 26, 2018, some four months later. Subsequent to that, there were eight months of negotiations before the necessary approvals were obtained and the Agreement was executed on October 12, 2018. WPS then commenced providing policing service to the Town on January 1, 2019. Therefore, from start to finish, the process took some 33 months to complete. Also of interest, although not pre-determinative of any future process, is the fact that, when the RFP for policing services was issued in 2017, the only submission received was from the WPSB although both the Town of LaSalle and the OPP were invited to bid.

While it is not anticipated that the process would take the same amount of time moving forward, a reasonable time frame for an RFP to be issued and a transition to occur would be 18 months, which is why that time frame was negotiated as an “off ramp” in the current Agreement. As there are now only 10 months until the end of the first term with the WPSB, it is the view of Administration that there is not sufficient time to successfully administer a full and transparent RFP, contract negotiation and transition of service process. For all of the above noted reasons, this option is NOT recommended.

Option 3 – Renew the Agreement with the WPSB for a 5 year term (January 2024-December 31, 2028)

Option 3 is to renew the Agreement with the WPSB for a further five-year term (January 1, 2024 - December 31, 2028). Having considered the financial and operational benefits this option provides, Administration recommends this option. Should Council wish to investigate alternate options for police services for the Town of Amherstburg, which may

be pursued in the future, it could also direct Administration to complete those investigations and to bring a further report back to Council regarding the same.

4. RISK ANALYSIS:

There are several risk factors to consider in this matter:

There is political risk associated with a decision on this issue regardless of the outcome. When this issue was initially dealt with there were members of the community that were very opposed to a change in policing and some still hold this view. However, the recent WPS survey suggests an overall satisfaction with policing in the community and so this risk must be weighed against all others.

A risk associated with financial impact to the Town of Amherstburg. Renewing the Agreement with the WPSB provides Amherstburg the greatest opportunity to maintain service levels in a fiscally responsible manner. To date, a savings of 1.7M has been achieved. These savings have assisted in keeping the tax rate low, and have allowed Council to invest in other community priorities. Moving away from this Agreement will result in higher policing costs for the same level of service.

A risk associated with the loss of control or input in the way the police service is run (governance). Although there may be the perception that transitioning to an “advisory” role on the WPSB presents risk to the Town, this risk has been mitigated in several ways. Firstly, the Agreement with the WPSB contains defined levels of service which are maintained and monitored through a legal binding contract. Any deviations from that contract must be approved by the Town. Additionally, the role of “advisor” to the WPSB does allow the Mayor to attend all in camera and open meetings of the WPSB and to participate fully in debate on all issues. There is an argument that this role will not provide Amherstburg with sufficient representation at the Board level however, with the legal protection that the Agreement provides, the WPSB is required to ensure that WPS has required the services available to Amherstburg to ensure contract compliance. Further, the *Police Services Act* legislates the requirement for adequate and effective policing services and requirements therein.

5. FINANCIAL MATTERS:

The financial considerations associated with all options have been canvassed throughout the report.

6. CONSULTATIONS:

Director of Corporate Services/CFO

7. CONCLUSION:

Considering all of the options available to Council, Administration recommends renewal of the policing agreement with WPSB. Should Council wish to investigate alternate

options for police services for the Town of Amherstburg, which may be pursued in the future, it could also direct Administration to complete those investigations and to bring a further report back to Council regarding the same.


Valerie Critchley
Chief Administrative Officer

Attachments:

Appendix A – Policing Statistics in the Town of Amherstburg 2019-2022

Appendix B – Special Unit Usage Statistics

Appendix C – Service Satisfaction Survey

Report Approval Details

Document Title:	Renewal of Policing Services Contract with Windsor Police Services.docx
Attachments:	- Appendix A - Policing Statistics in the Town of Amherstburg 2019-2022.pdf - Appendix B - Special Unit Usage Statistics.pdf - Appendix C - Service Satisfaction Survey - Forum Research Inc.pdf
Final Approval Date:	Feb 3, 2023

This report and all of its attachments were approved and signed as outlined below:



Tracy Prince



Valerie Critchley



Kevin Fox

Policing Activities in the Town of Amherstburg				
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Calls for Service	2019	2020	2021	2022
Dispatch Generated Incidents	6278	5508	5813	5906
Self-Generated Walk-In Incidents	984	216	0	0
Total Incidents:	7262	5724	5813	5906

Provincial Offences	2019	2020	2021	2022
Traffic Offences (Part III Summons)	2032 (50)	1149 (49)	1996 (78)	2161 (97)
Liquor Offences	11	8	4	3
Other Provincial Offences	0	0	25	48
Total:	2093	1206	2103	2309

Crime Statistics	2019	2020	2021	2022
Homicide/Attempted Murder	0	0	0	0
Robbery (All)	1	4	2	2
Break and Enter	69	45	41	40
Theft Over \$5,000	7	3	5	3
Theft Under \$5,000	118	109	62	72
Possession of Stolen Property	7	4	6	6
Fraud	80	64	70	60
Mischief	62	68	50	61
Assaults (All)	46	58	50	71
Drugs	8	3	8	2
Firearms	0	0	9	1
Arson	6	3	2	2
Impaired Driving	13	11	21	15
Federal Statutes	0	4	0	2
Other Criminal Code	209	223	141	56
Total Criminal Offences	626	599	467	393

Amhersturg - Specialty Units Dispatched to Calls

UNIT	2019	2020	2021	2022	TOTAL
Traffic Unit / Accident Reconstruction Unit	380	84	23	27	514
BD – Bomb Disposal Truck	0	1	0	0	1
CB – Command Bus	0	0	0	0	0
CIU – Intelligence/Surveillance	0	0	2	0	2
CR – former Community Response Unit , POP Unit	1	1	2	18	22
RPAS - Drone	0	0	0	0	0
DIGS - Drugs and Guns Unit	0	2		0	2
ESU - Emerg Services Unit	4	3	4	4	15
FCU - Financial Crimes	0	4	1	2	7
MPV - Multi-Purpose Veh.	0	0	0	0	0
IB – Investigative Branch (fraud/arson, MCB, Target, Auto Thft,youth crime)	33	134	183	375	725
FIU -Ident	14	15	5	7	41
PDU - Police Dog Unit	17	24	29	19	89
MCB – Major Crimes	24	5	2	3	34
Morality Unit	6	1	0	14	21
SVU – Special Victims Unit	0	0	0	0	0
Prop Crime – Target Base	3	1	0	1	5

Amherstburg - Report entry by Specialty Units

UNIT	2019	2020	2021	2022	TOTAL
ICE - Int. Child Exploit	7	3	2	3	15
CIU	9	11	2	0	22
DRUGS	100	56	37	40	233
Traffic / Traffic Reconst	107	97	25	30	259
ESU	1	6	1	3	11
IDENT	25	33	26	20	104
MCB	94	50	34	38	216
MORALITY	1	10	0	3	14
PATS - Prov. Anti Terr.	1	0	0	0	1
PROP. CRM & Auto thft	65	81	111	103	360
ROPE	0	0	1	1	2
SOURCE Handling	2	0	1	0	3
SURVL	1	0	1	0	2
SVU	2	51	73	47	173



Windsor Police Service

Community Survey

Town of Amherstburg

January 2023



FORUM
RESEARCH INC.

Methodology

Method CATI (Computer Aided Telephone Interview)
CAWI (Computer Aided Web Interview)

Criteria for Participation Residents of the Town of Amherstburg who are 16 years of age or older

Sample Size n=313

Average Length 17.4 minutes

Margin of Error ± 5.5%

Fieldwork Dates November 29th – December 18th, 2022

Additional Notes

- CATI sample was drawn using random digit dialing (RDD) among Town of Amherstburg residents. A mix of landline and cell phone sample was used to reach cell phone-only households.
- Results throughout this report have been statistically weighted by age and gender, to ensure that the sample reflects the target population according to 2021 Census data.
- Significant differences across sub-groups are noted where they exist.
- A CAWI (Computer Aided Web Interview) open-link survey was hosted online by the WPS in tandem with the telephone survey. The sample from CAWI consist of only self-selected respondents, who have chosen to take part in the survey on their own accord, and all having computer access and internet connection. Due to this fact, CAWI data is not reported on, as it is affected by self-selection bias and cannot be representative of Amherstburg demographics.

Reporting Considerations

TOP2 / BTM2

Top 2 (TOP2) and Bottom 2 (BTM2) reference the collected TOP2 positive and BTM2 negative responses, respectively where applicable. For example, a TOP2 grouping referred to as “satisfied” may be the combined result of “very satisfied” and “somewhat satisfied,” where a grouping of “not satisfied” (BTM2) may be the combined result of “not very satisfied” and “not at all satisfied.”

Rounding

Due to rounding, numbers presented throughout this document may not add up to the totals provided. For example, in some cases, the sum of all question values may add up to 101% instead of 100%. Similar logic applies to TOP2 and BTM2 groupings.

Multi-mentions

In some cases, more than one answer option is applicable to a respondent. Multiple mention questions allow respondents to select more than one answer category for a question. For questions that ask for multiple mentions (e.g., “Why did you decide not to report the incident to the police?”), it is important to note that the percentages typically add to over 100%. This is because the total number of answer categories selected for a question can be greater than the number of respondents who answered the question. For example, respondents were able to select “assumed police wouldn’t take any action” and “it would have been too time-consuming” as their answer.



Detailed Findings

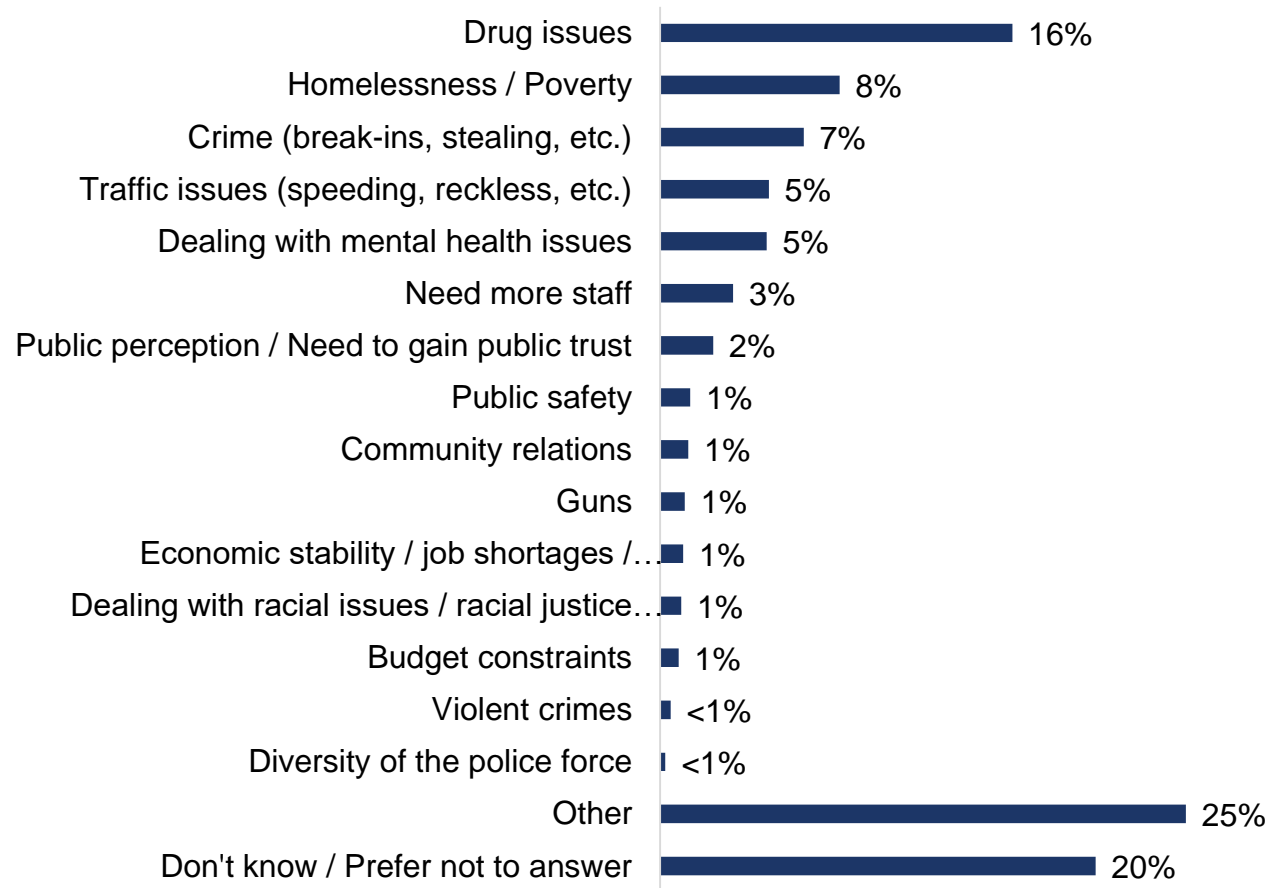
Feelings of Safety



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Greatest Challenge in the Next 3 Years

Drug issues (16%) are the greatest challenges residents of Amherstburg said the Windsor Police will face in the next 3 years. This is followed by homelessness and poverty (8%) and crime (7%).



Q14. What do you see as the greatest challenge the Windsor Police will face in the next 3 years?

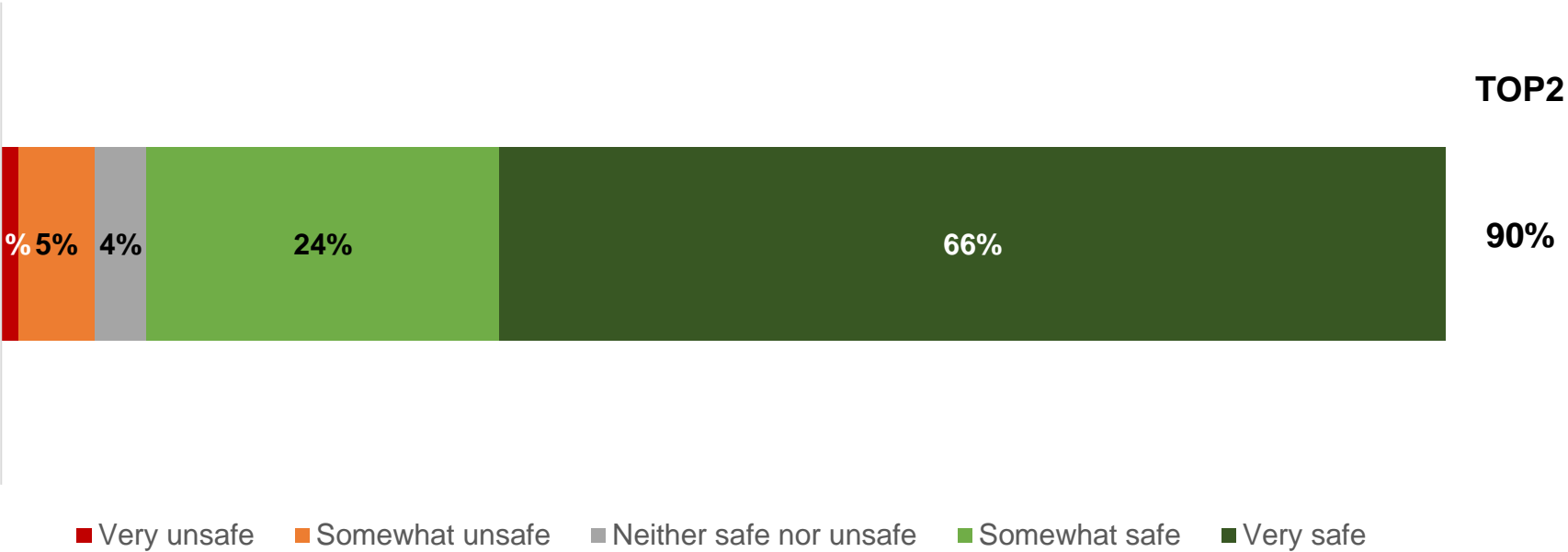
Sample Size: n=313

Framework: All respondents



Overall Feeling of Safety

The vast majority of Amherstburg residents (TOP2: 90%) said they feel safe overall in the town.

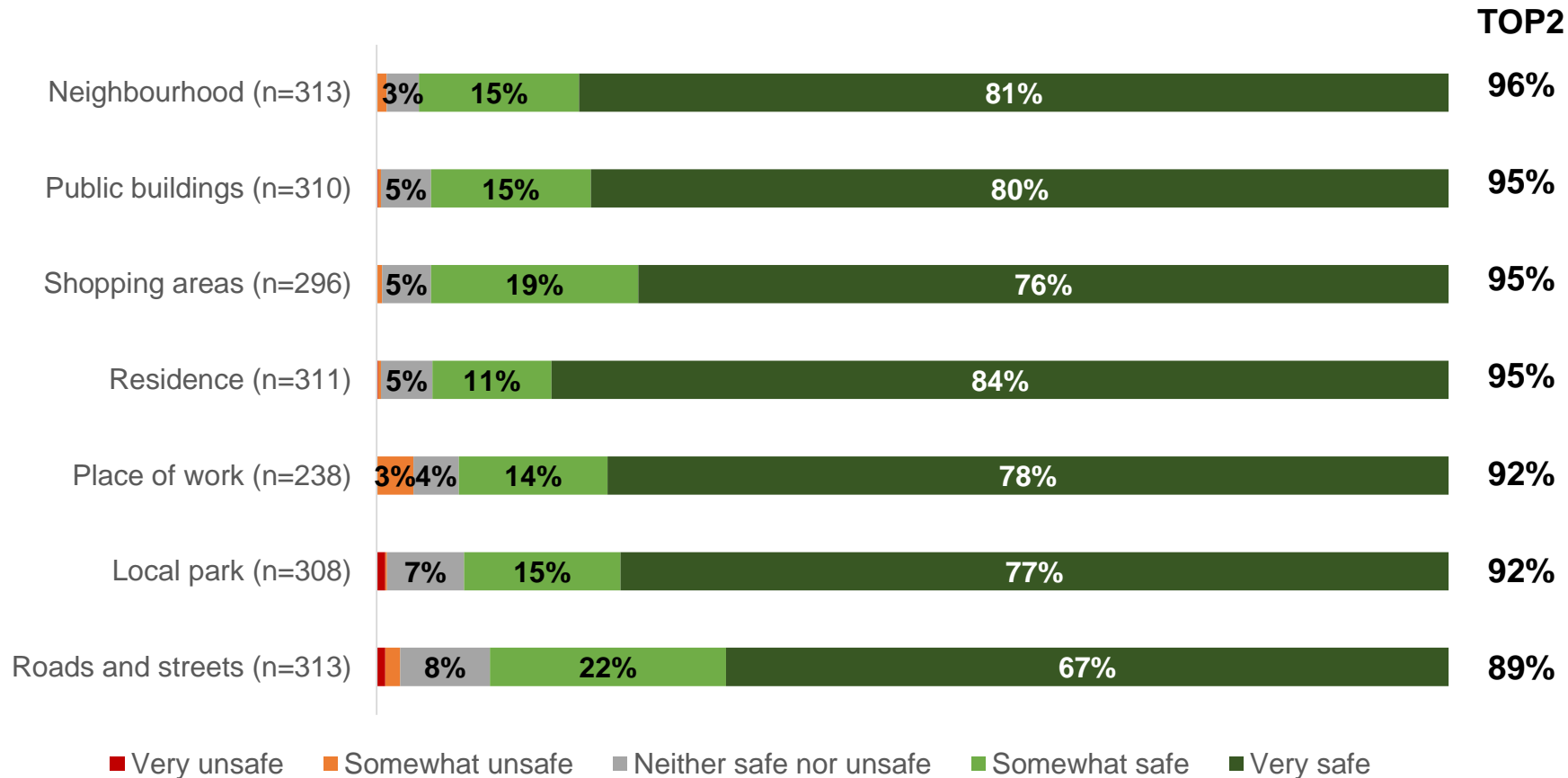


Q8. Generally speaking, how safe do you feel overall in the Town of Amherstburg? Do you feel ... (Excluding 'don't know')
Sample Size: 309
Framework: All respondents



Feeling of Safety (Daylight)

The vast majority of Amherstburg residents feel safe in the daylight in all locations throughout the town, especially in their neighbourhoods (TOP2: 96%).



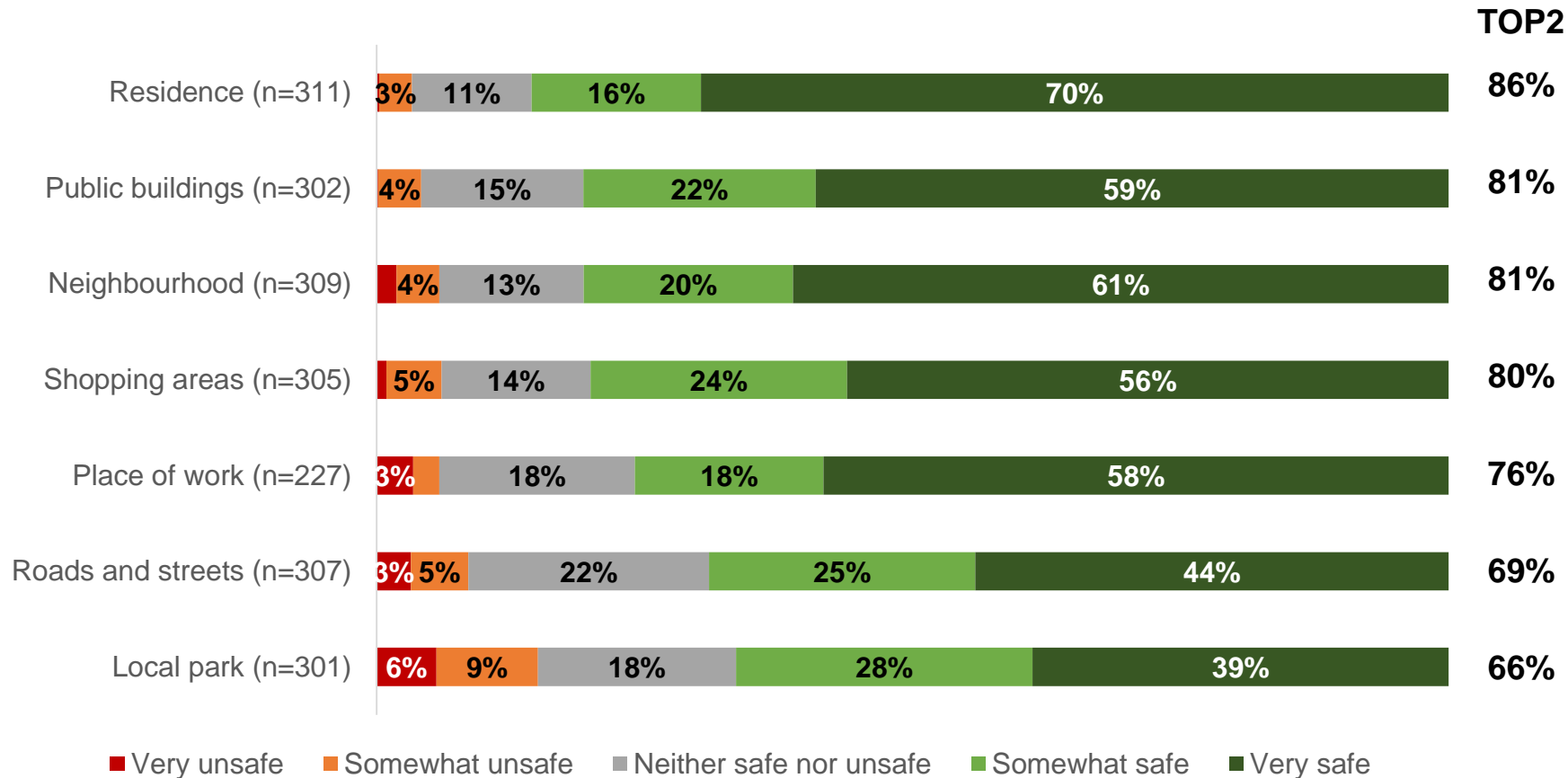
Q9. For each of the following, please use the scale of 1 to 5 where 1 means you feel very unsafe and 5 means you feel very safe. How safe do you feel in Amherstburg?

Framework: All respondents



Feeling of Safety (Night)

Most residents say they feel safe at night in different parts of the town with at least 8 in 10 residents saying feel safe at night in their residences (TOP2: 86%, public buildings (TOP2: 81%) neighbourhoods (TOP2: 81%), and shopping areas (TOP2: 80%).



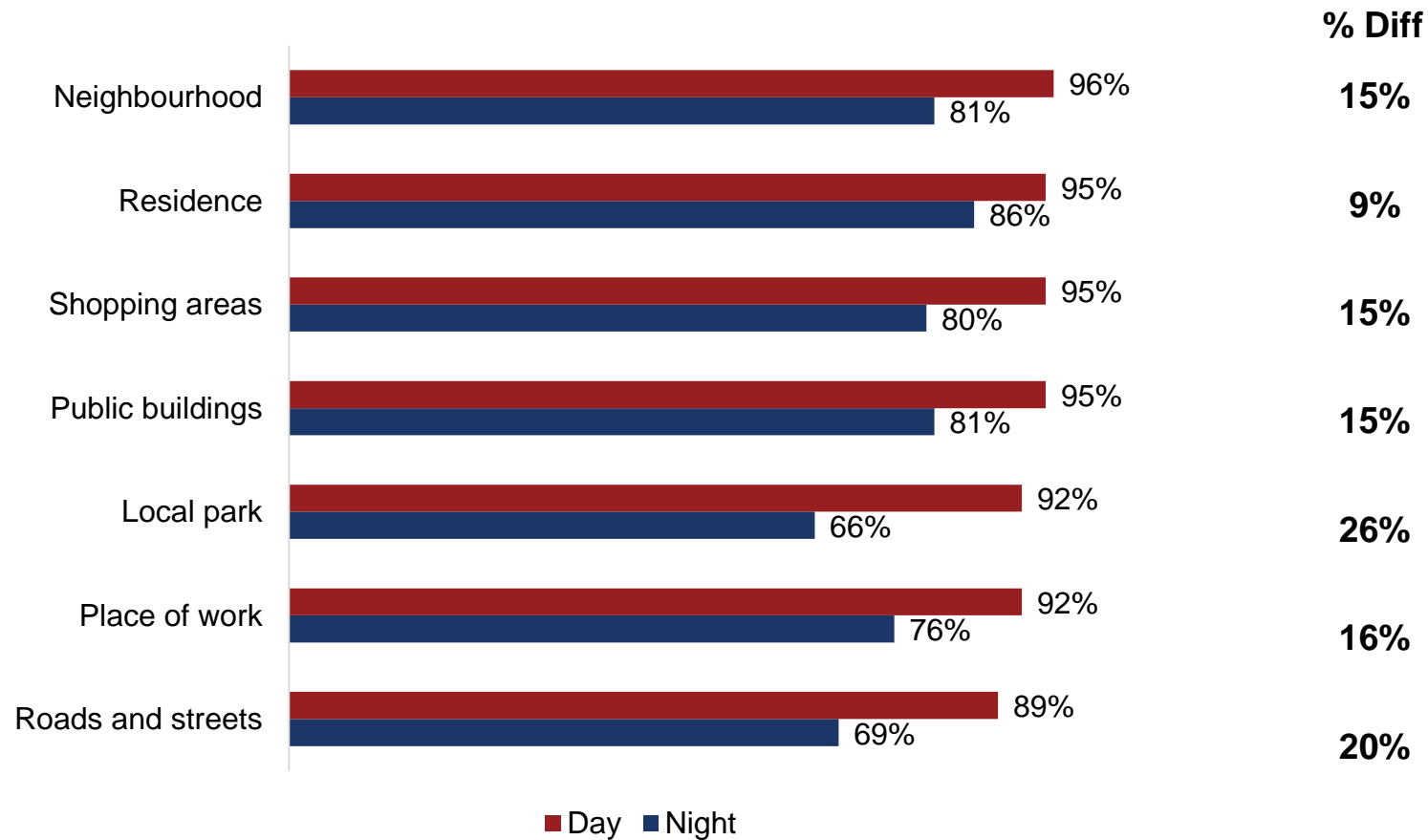
Q9. For each of the following, please use the scale of 1 to 5 where 1 means you feel very unsafe and 5 means you feel very safe. How safe do you feel in Amherstburg?

Framework: All respondents



Feeling of Safety (Daylight vs Night)

Generally, residents feel more safe during the daytime compared to night. Feelings of safety in the local park drops the most during the night compared to other locations (26% decrease).



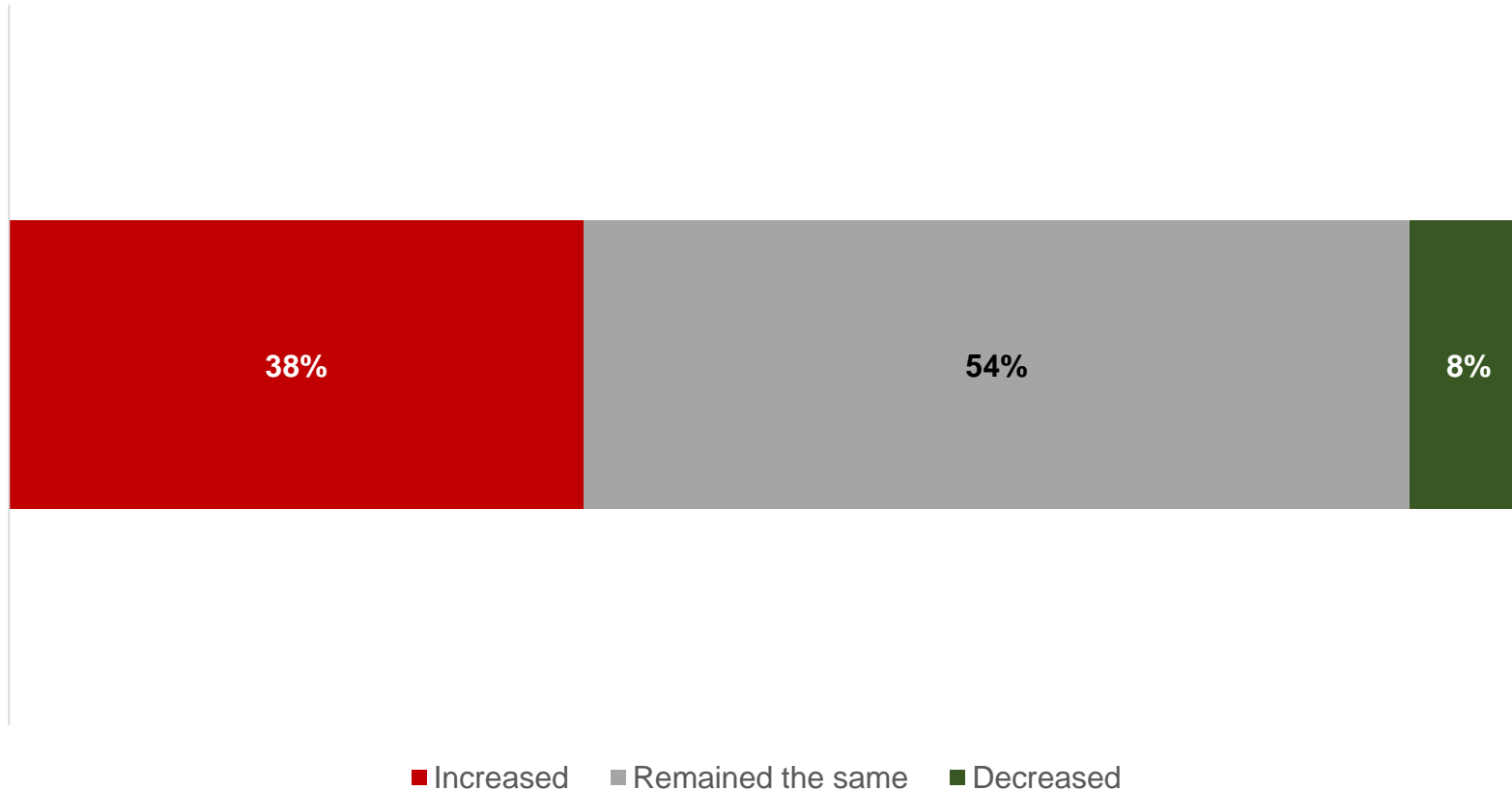
Q9. For each of the following, please use the scale of 1 to 5 where 1 means you feel very unsafe and 5 means you feel very safe. How safe do you feel in Amherstburg?

Framework: All respondents



Level of Crime in Neighbourhood

Around 4 in 10 (38%) residents think the level of crime in their neighbourhood had increased, meanwhile 5 in 10 (54%) residents said it has remained the same. Only 1 in 10 (8%) think the level of crime in their neighbourhood has decreased.

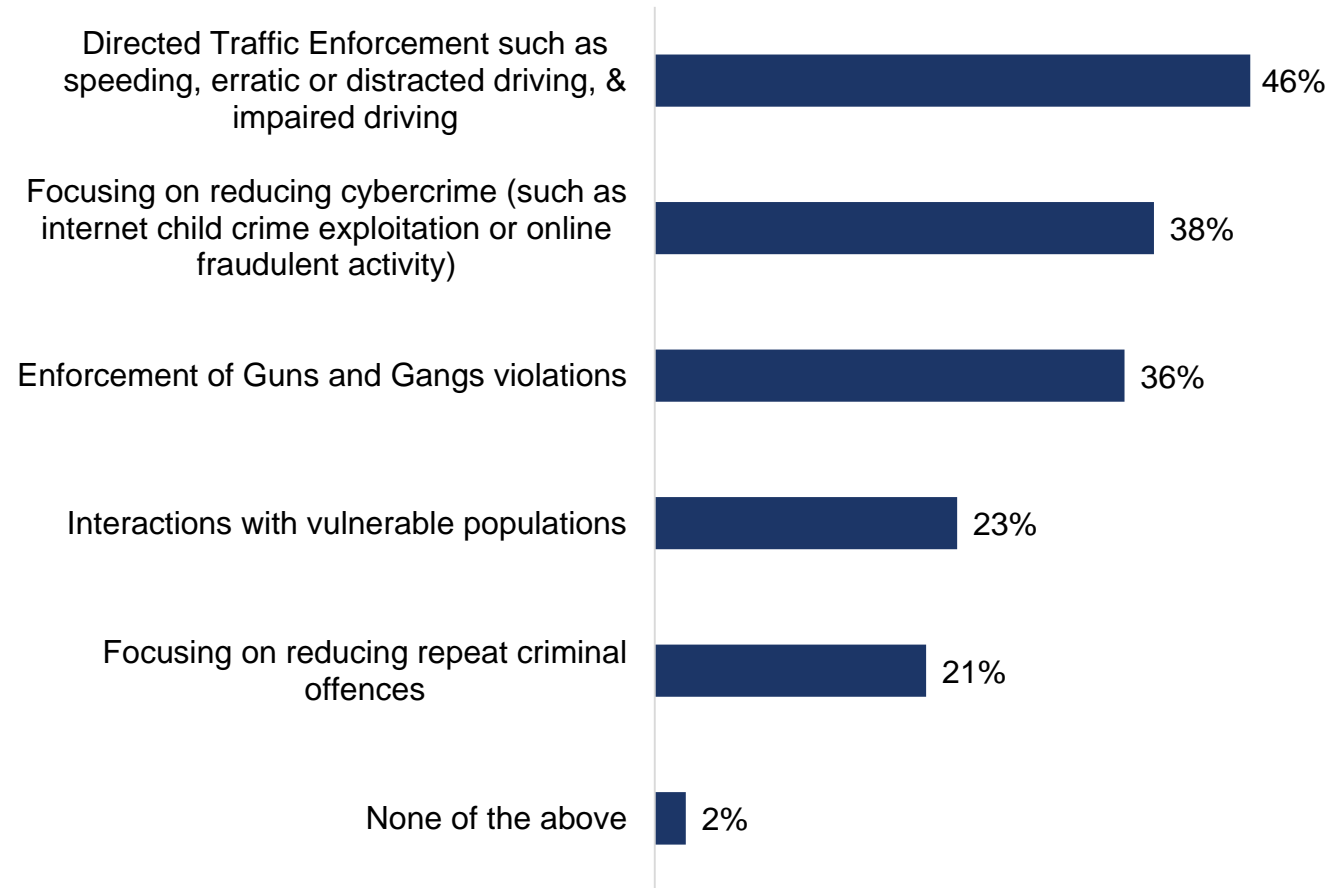


Q12. During the past one to two years, do you think that the level of crime in your neighbourhood has ...? (Excluding 'don't know')
Sample Size: n=298
Framework: All respondents



Strategies to Enhance Public Safety

Directed traffic enforcement (46%) was identified by nearly half of the Amherstburg residents as the top focus of the Windsor Police Service on its strategies for enhancing public safety.



Q29. Of the following types of strategies, which TWO would you most like to see the Windsor Police Service continue to enhance public safety?

(Excluding 'don't know')

Sample Size: n=313

Framework: All respondents



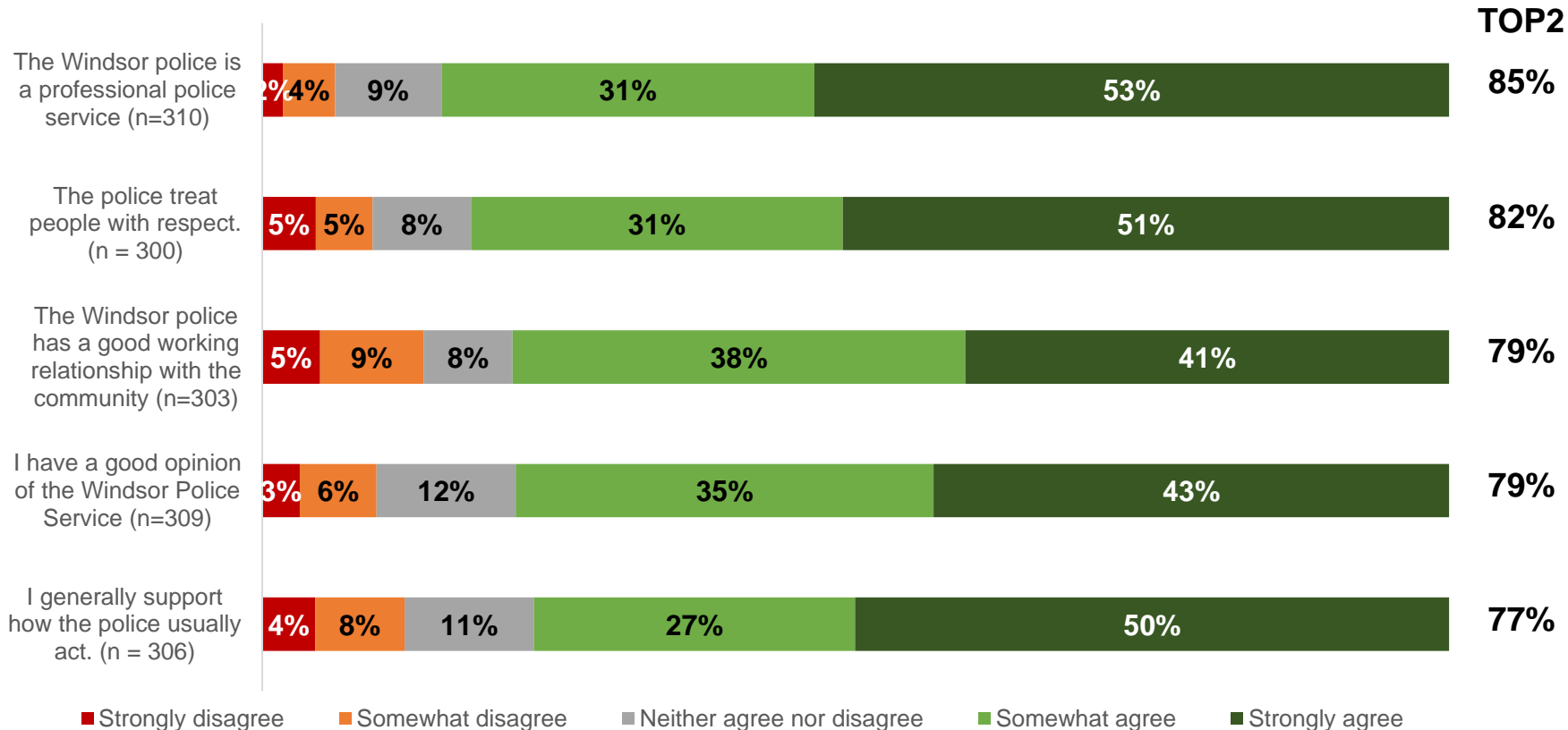
Detailed Findings

Opinions of the Police



Perception of Police

Amherstburg residents tend to have a positive opinion of the Windsor Police Service. At least 8 in 10 think that the police are professional (TOP2: 85%) and that they treat people with respect (TOP2: 82%)

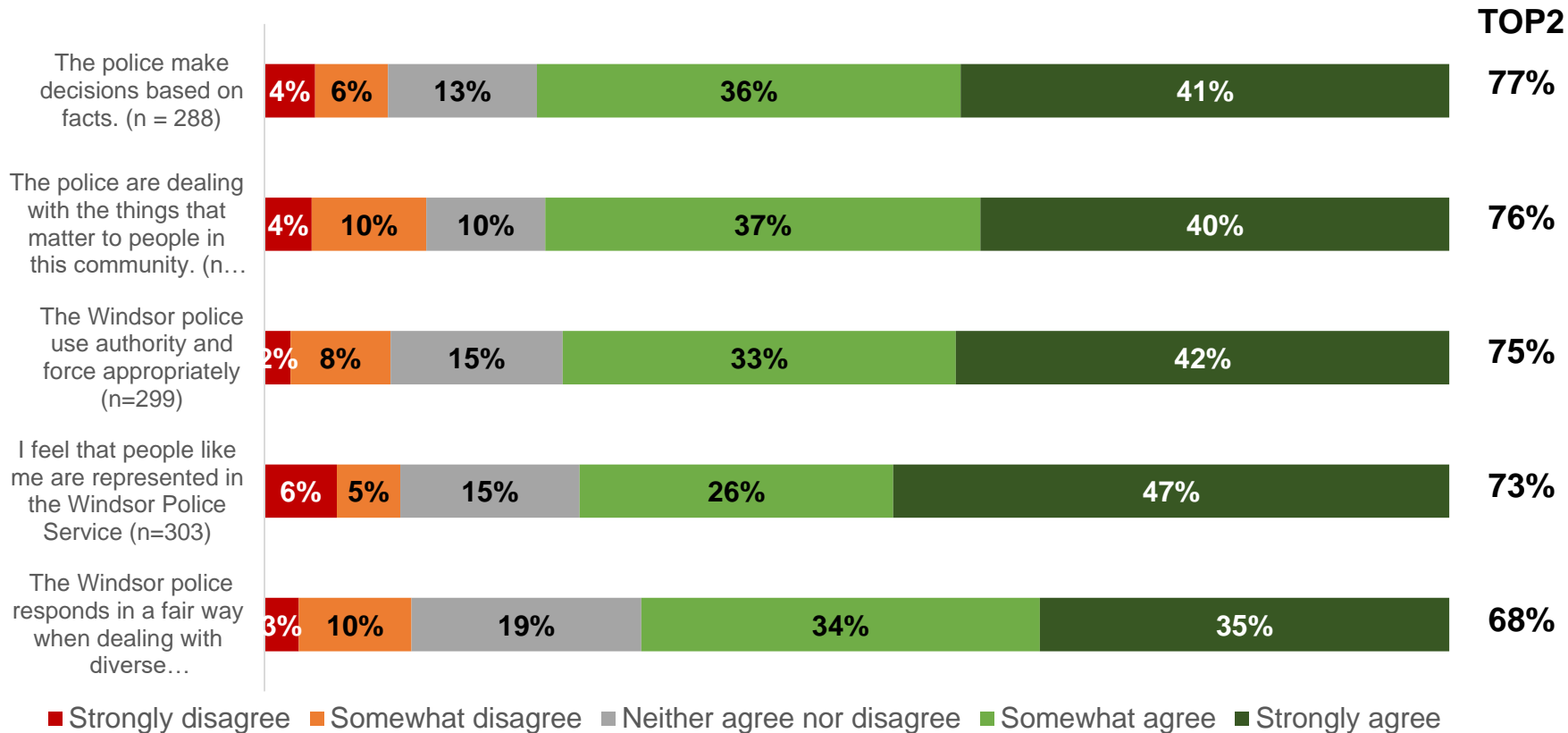


Q1/Q7. When you think about the Windsor Police Service, to what extent do you agree or disagree with each of the following statements?
 (Excluding 'don't know')
 Framework: All respondents



Perception of Police (cont'd)

Only 2 in 3 (TOP2: 68%) Amherstburg residents think the Windsor Police Service responds in a fair way dealing with diverse communities.

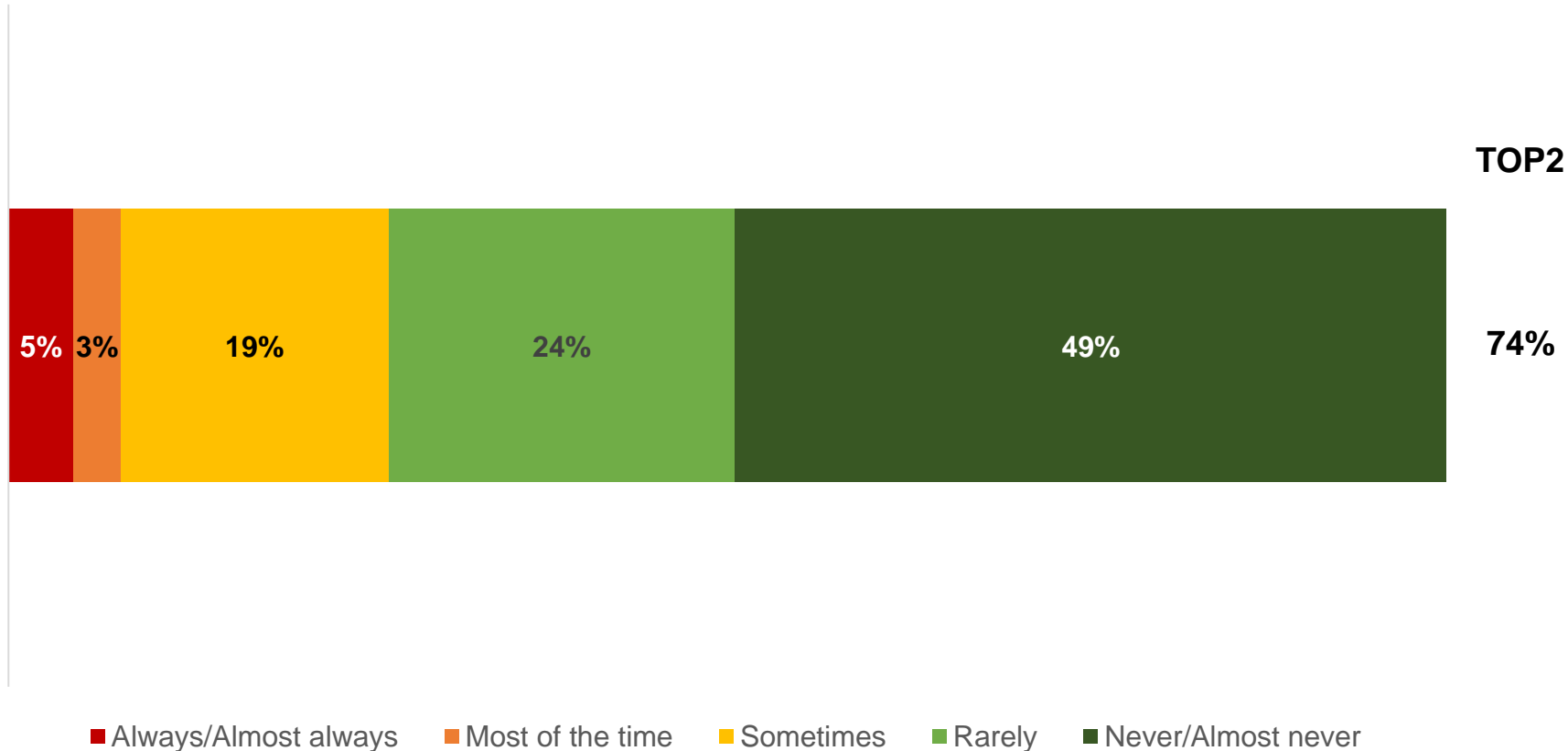


Q1/Q7. When you think about the Windsor Police Service, to what extent do you agree or disagree with each of the following statements?
 (Excluding 'don't know')
 Framework: All respondents



Police Exceeding Authority

Half (49%) of residents say the police in their neighbourhood never or almost never exceeds their authority, while a quarter (24%) say they rarely exceed their authority.

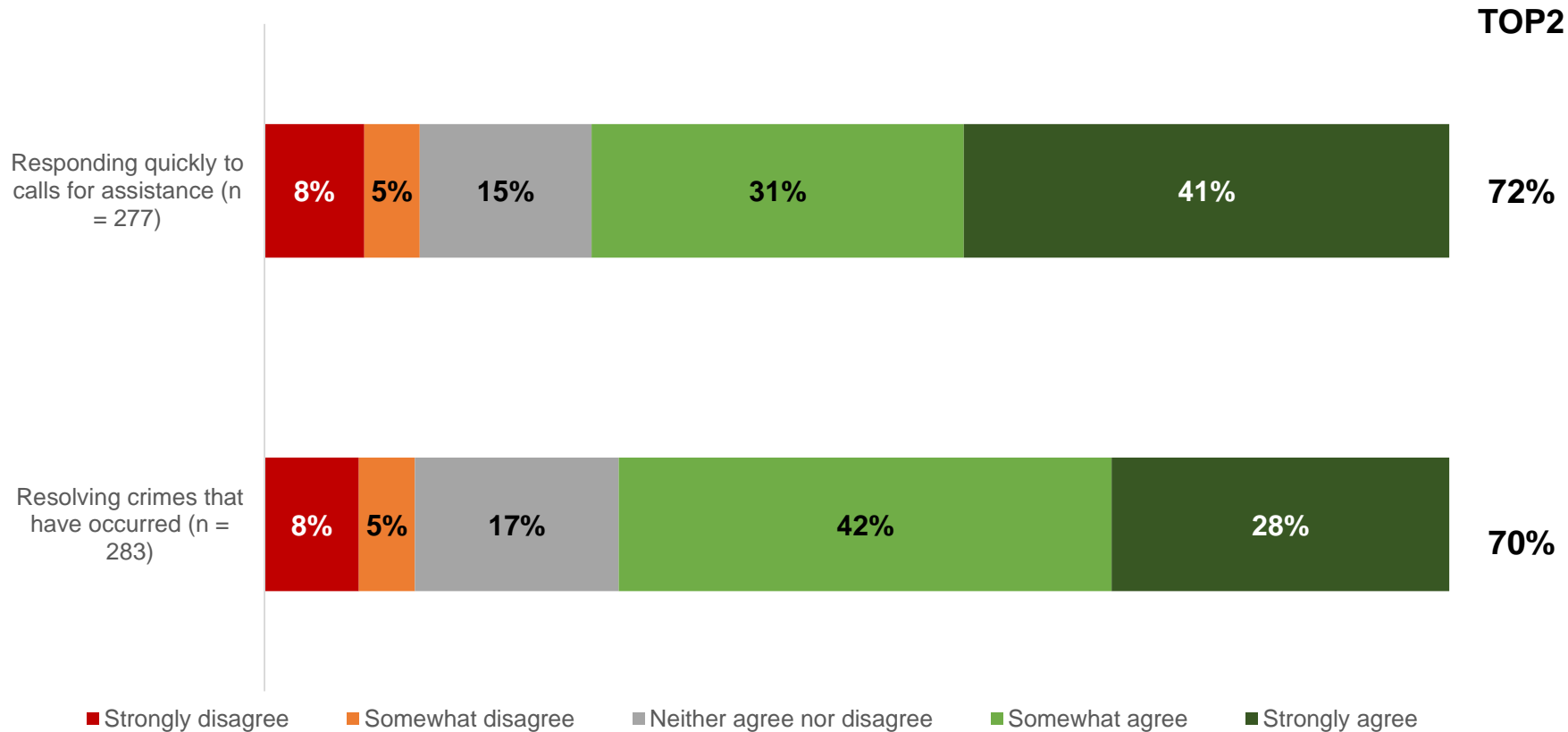


Q2. About how often would you say that the police in your neighbourhood exceed their authority? (Excluding 'don't know')
Sample Size: n=278
Framework: All respondents



Police Qualities

Around 7 in 10 residents say the police are effective at responding quickly to calls for assistance (72%) and resolving crimes that have occurred (TOP2: 70%).

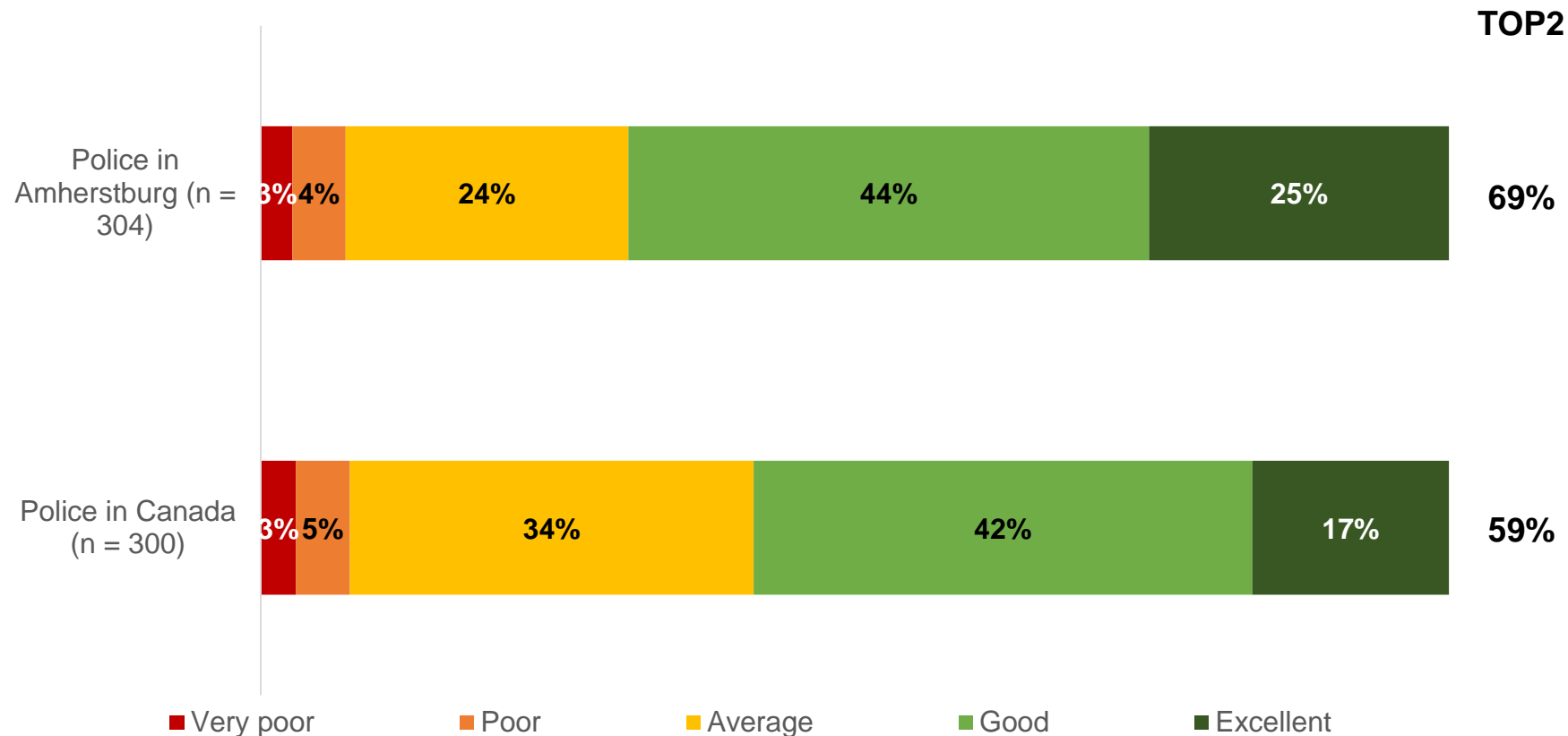


Q3. In general, to what extent do you agree that the Windsor Police Service is effective at:
Sample Size:
Framework: All respondents



Police in Amherstburg vs Canada

Around 7 in 10 (TOP2: 69%) think the police in Amherstburg do a good or excellent job. This is higher than their opinion of police in Canada in general (TOP2: 59%)

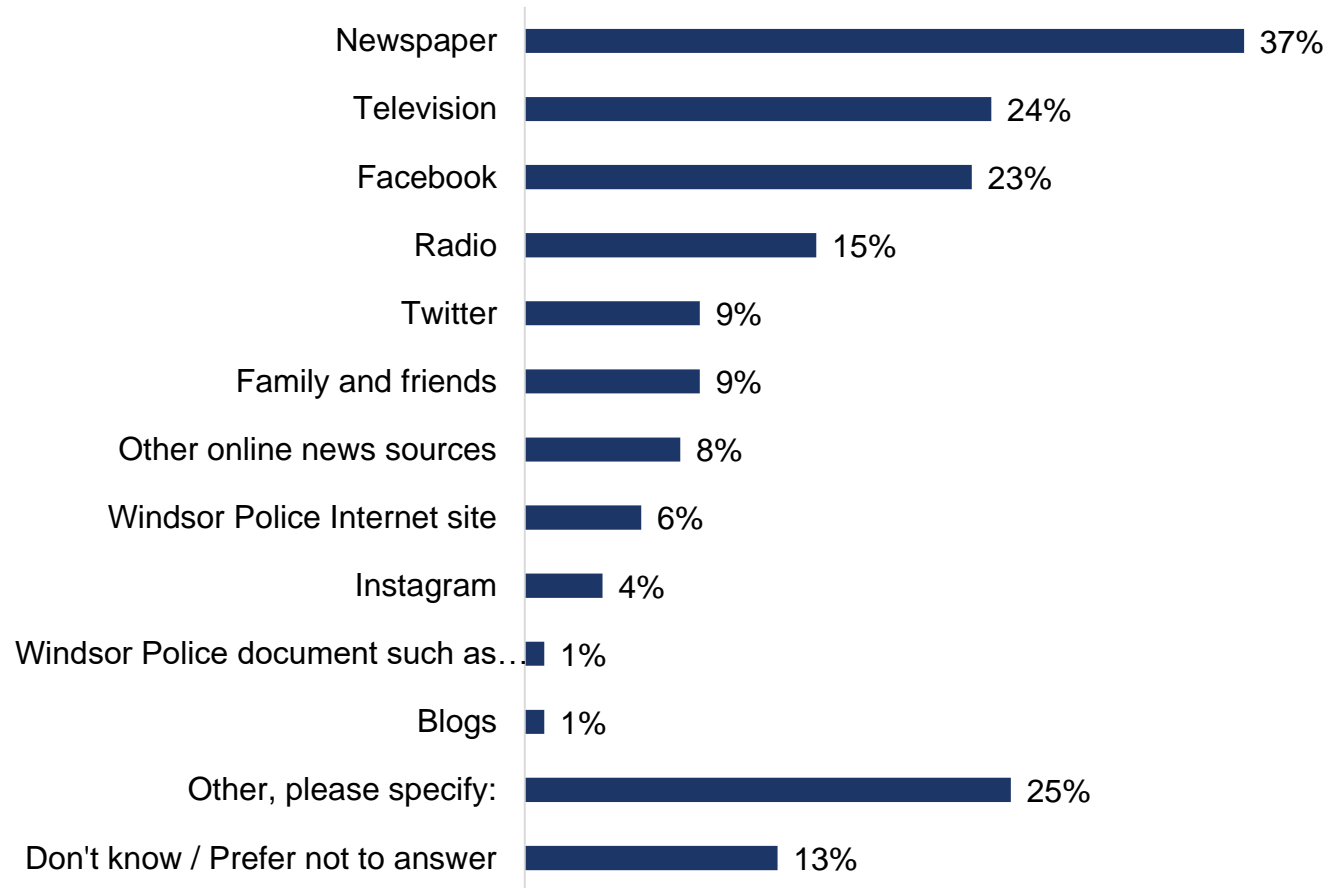


Q4 Taking everything into account, how good a job do you think the police in Amherstburg are doing? / Q5. Taking everything into account, how good a job do you think the police in this country are doing? (Excluding 'don't know')
Framework: All respondents



Sources of Information

Residents of Amherstburg get their information about the Windsor Police Service most commonly from the newspapers (37%), television (24%) and Facebook (23%).



Q15. What are your primary sources of information about the activity, programs and services provided by the Windsor Police Service?

Sample Size: N=313

Framework: All respondents



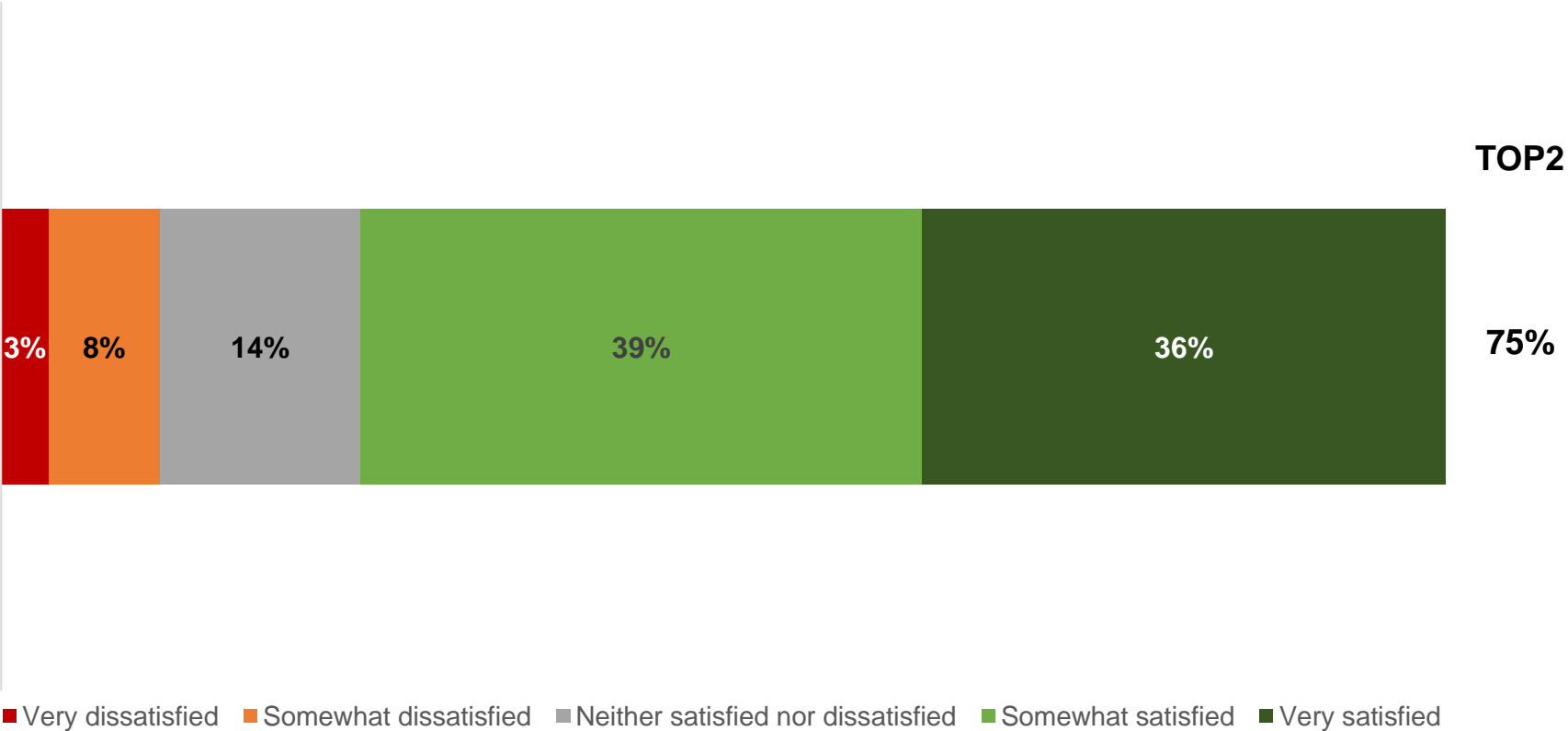
Detailed Findings

Police Services



Overall Satisfaction

Three quarters of Amherstburg residents (TOP2: 75%) are satisfied with the overall performance of the Windsor police.

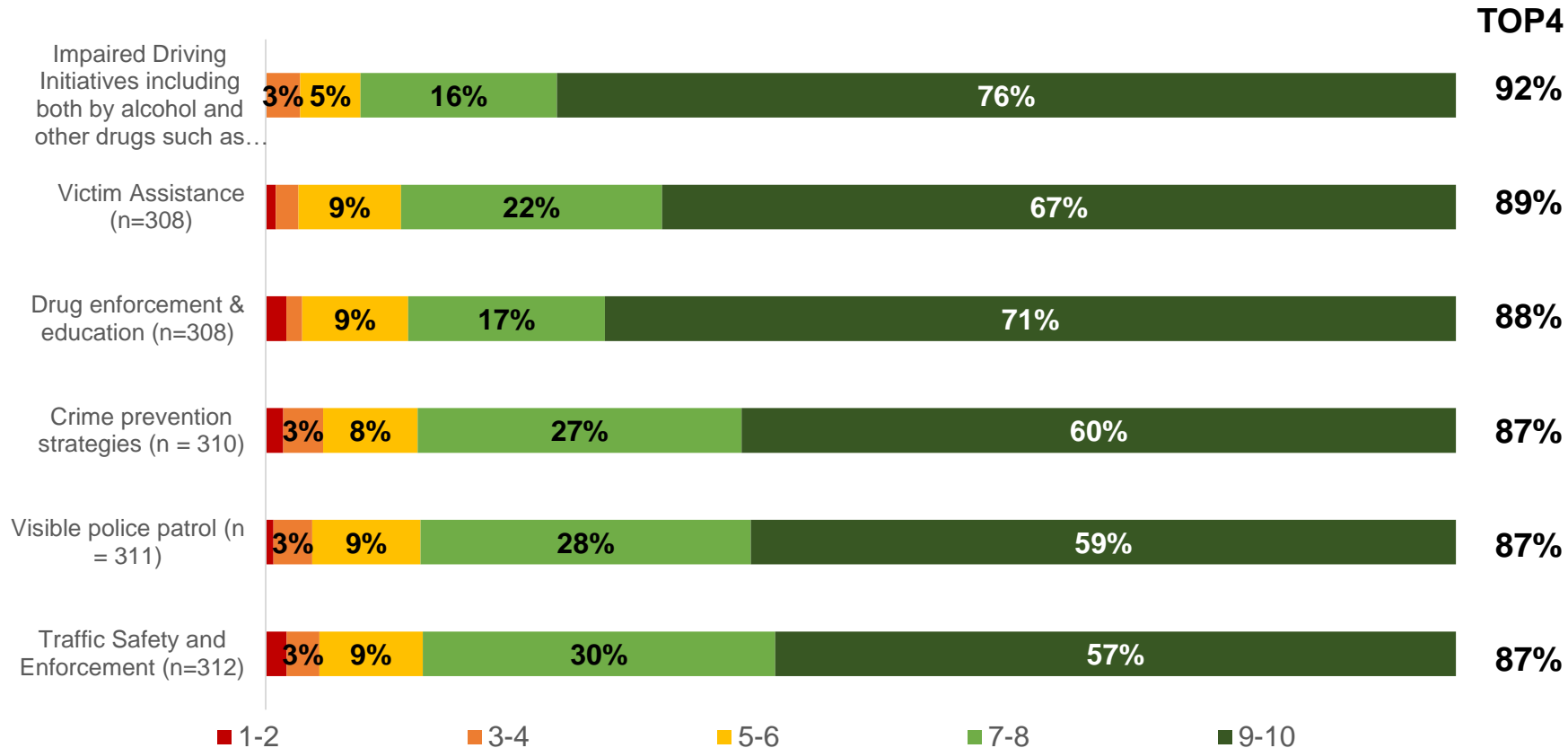


NEWQ17. How satisfied are you with the overall performance of the Windsor police?
Sample Size: n=312
Framework: All respondents



Importance of Police Services

Residents find Impaired Driving Initiatives (TOP4: 92%), Victim Assistance (TOP4: 89%) and Drug enforcement & education (TOP4: 88%) to be the most important services the Windsor Police Service provides.



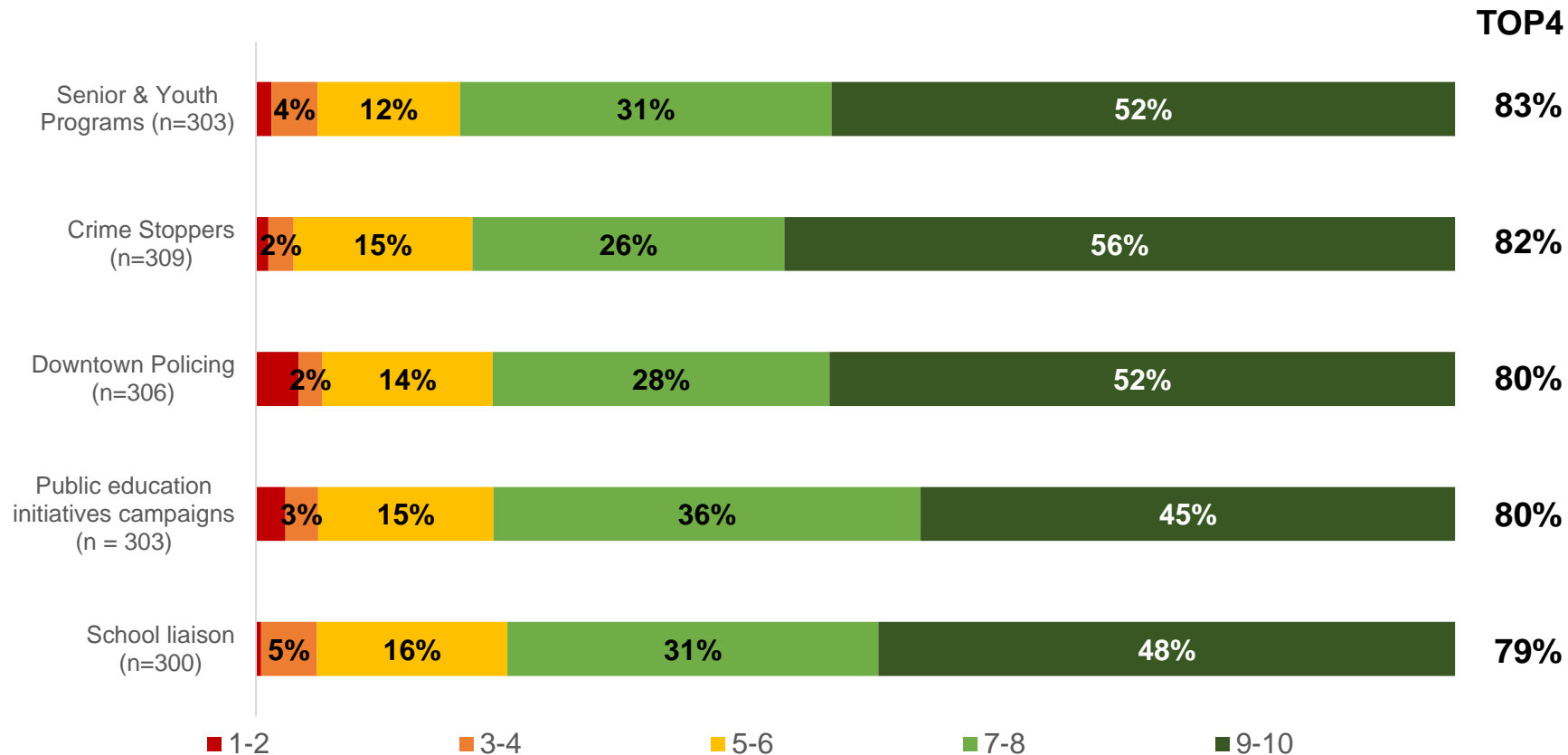
Q19. While you may not have had direct experience with the following services, how important are each of the following to you as a resident of Amherstburg. Please use the scale of 1 to 10 where 1 means not at all important and 10 means very important. You may use a 1 or a 10 or any number in between. How important is: (Excluding 'don't know')

Framework: All respondents



Importance of Police Services (cont'd)

Most residents also find other police services to be important with at least 8 in 10 saying so. School liaisons are the least important service for Amherstburg residents.



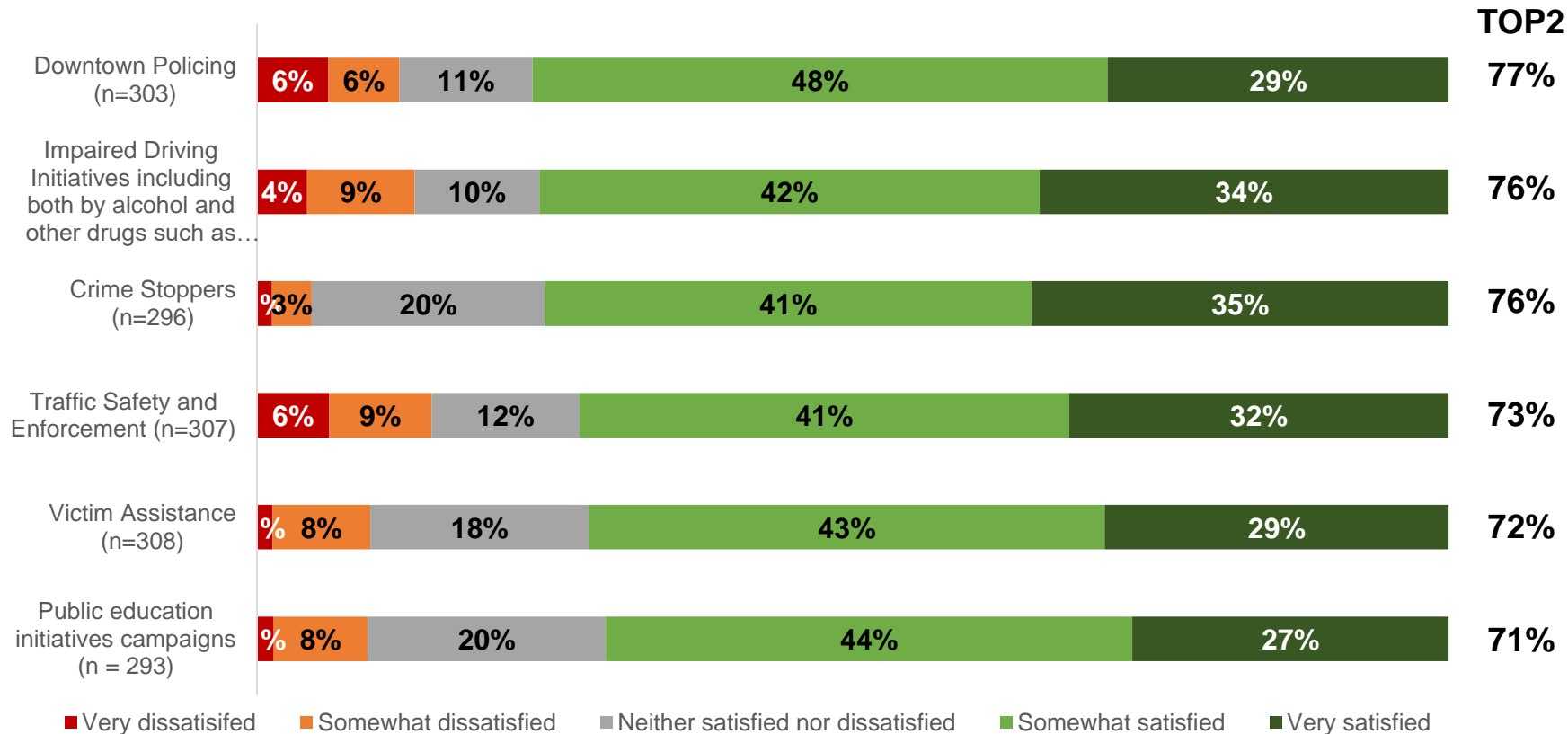
Q19. While you may not have had direct experience with the following services, how important are each of the following to you as a resident of Amherstburg. Please use the scale of 1 to 10 where 1 means not at all important and 10 means very important. You may use a 1 or a 10 or any number in between. How important is: (Excluding 'don't know')

Framework: All respondents



Satisfaction with Police Services

Residents are most satisfied with the Windsor Police Service when it comes to Downtown Policing (TOP2: 77%), Impaired Driving Initiatives (TOP2: 76%), and Crime Stoppers (TOP2: 76%).

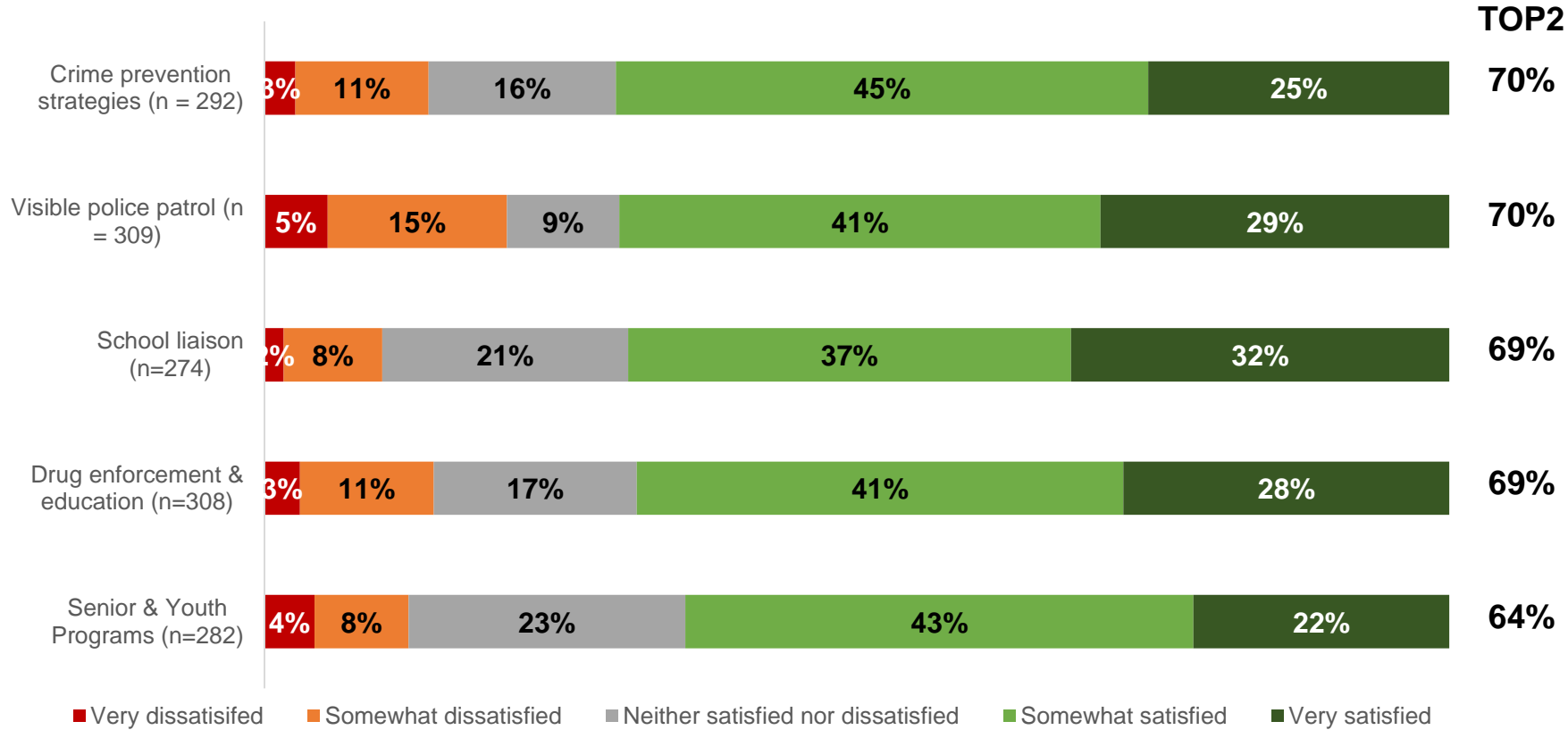


NEWQ20. How satisfied are you with Windsor police performance in each of the following areas? Are you very satisfied, somewhat satisfied, neither satisfied nor dissatisfied, somewhat dissatisfied, or very dissatisfied? (Excluding 'don't know')
 Framework: All respondents



Satisfaction with Police Services

Residents are least satisfied with the Senior & Youth programs provided by the Windsor Police (TOP2: 64%).



NEWQ20. How satisfied are you with Windsor police performance in each of the following areas? Are you very satisfied, somewhat satisfied, neither satisfied nor dissatisfied, somewhat dissatisfied, or very dissatisfied? (Excluding 'don't know')
 Framework: All respondents



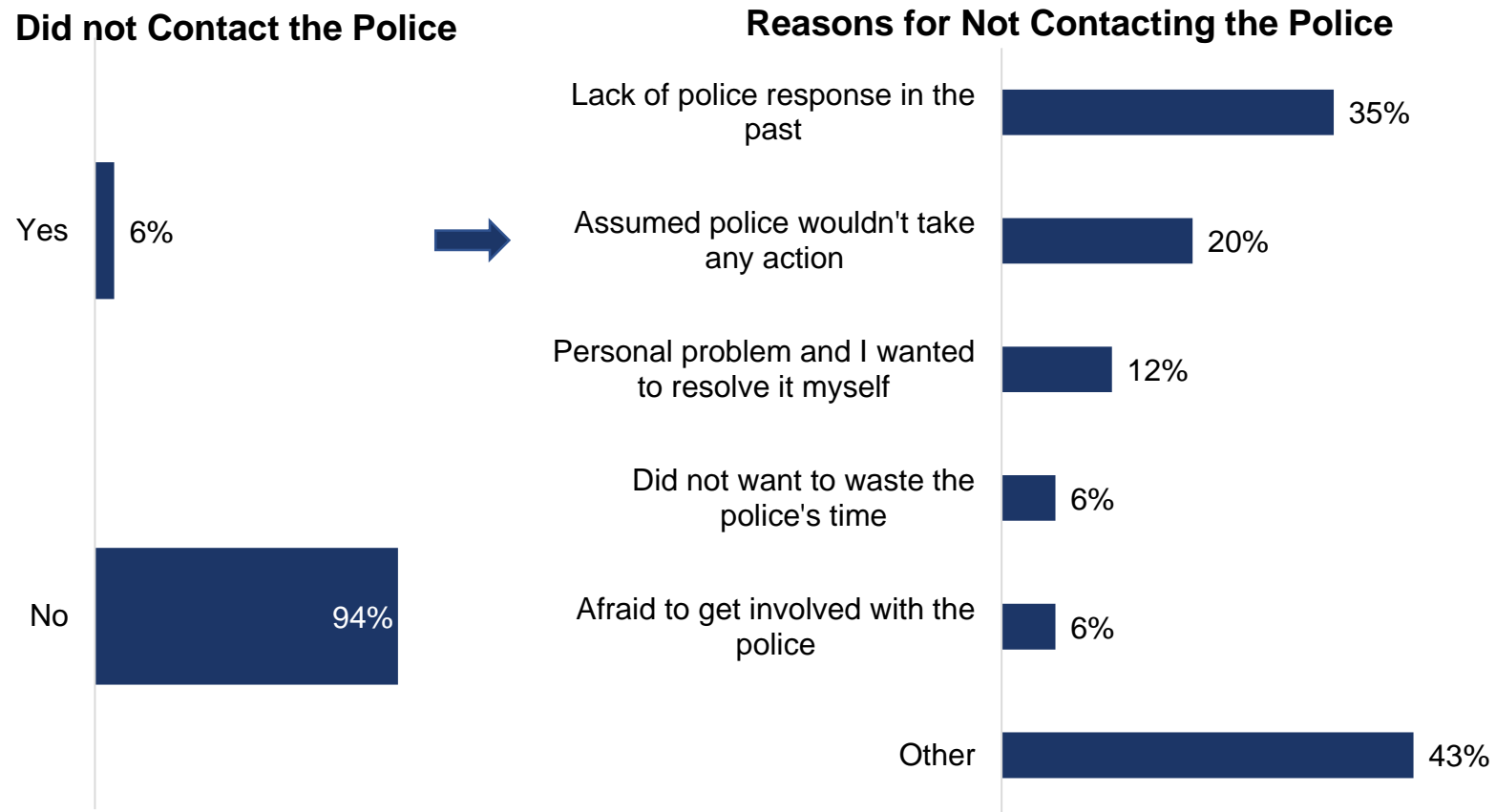
Detailed Findings

Experiences with the Police



Reporting Crime

Of the less than 1 in 10 residents who opted not to contact the police for police assistance, over a third (35%) said it was due to the lack of police response in the past.



Q23. Has anything happened to you or a member of your household within the last year that required police assistance, but you did not contact the police? / Q25. Why did you or someone in your household not report the incident to the police? (Excluding 'don't know')

Sample Size: Q23: n = 309 / Q25: n = 19

Framework: Q23: All respondents / Q25: Those who had something happened to themselves or a member of their household within the last year that required police assistance, but did not contact the police



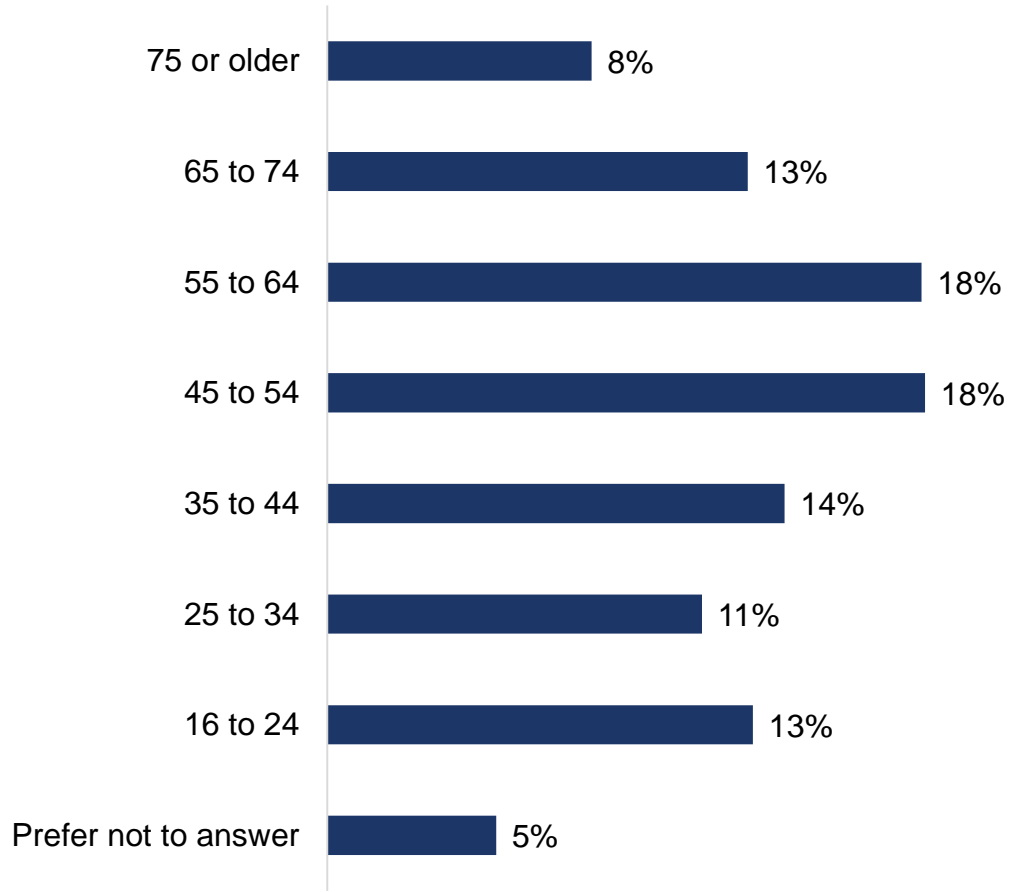
Respondent Profile



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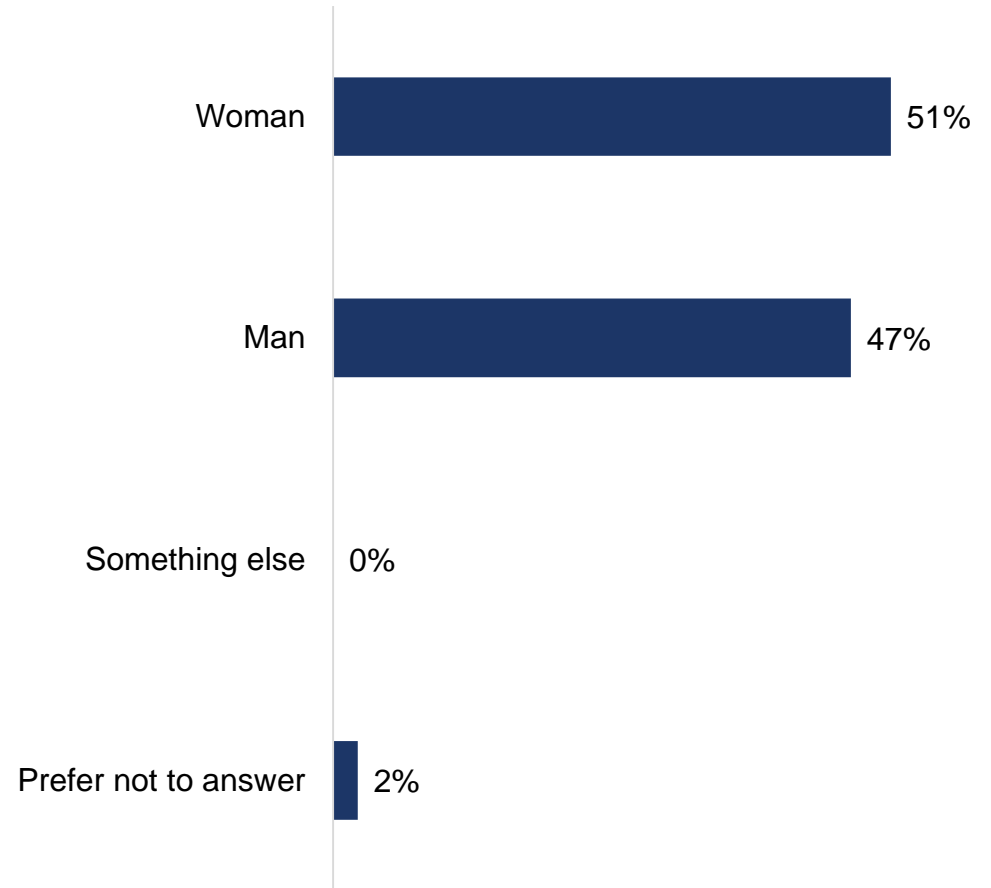
Respondent Profile

Age



Sample Size: n = 313
Framework: All respondents

Gender

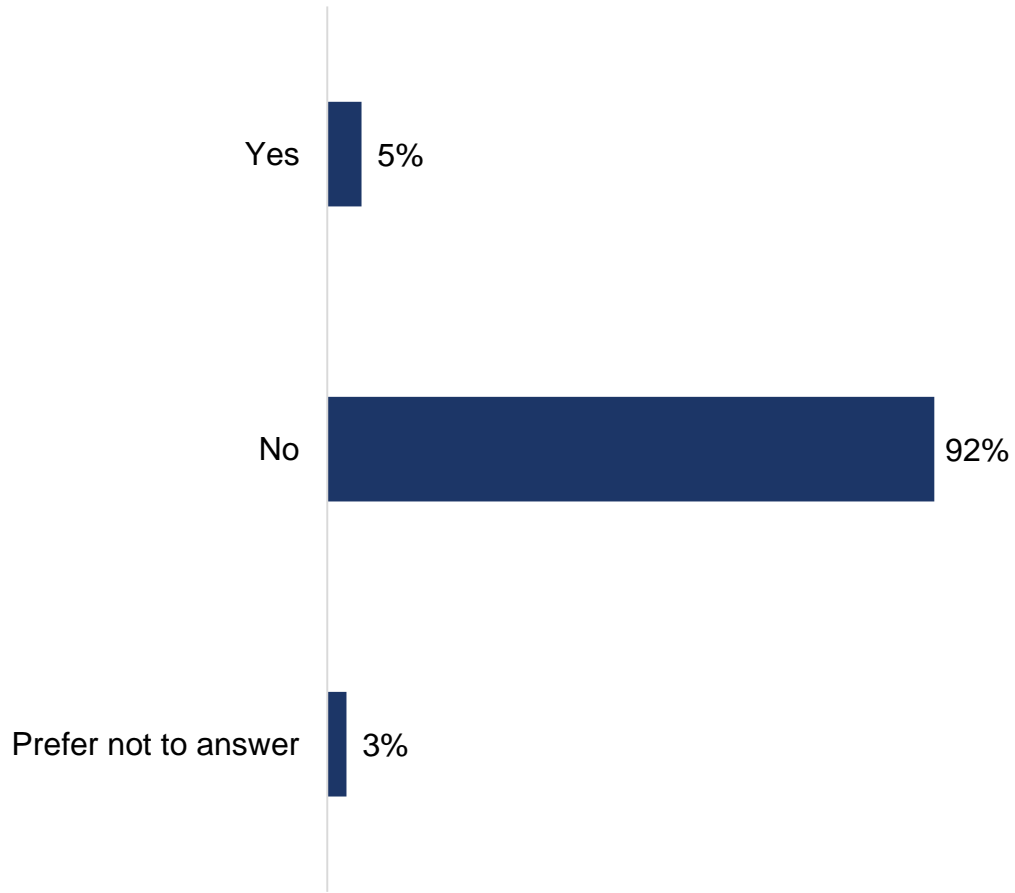


Sample Size: n = 313
Framework: All respondents



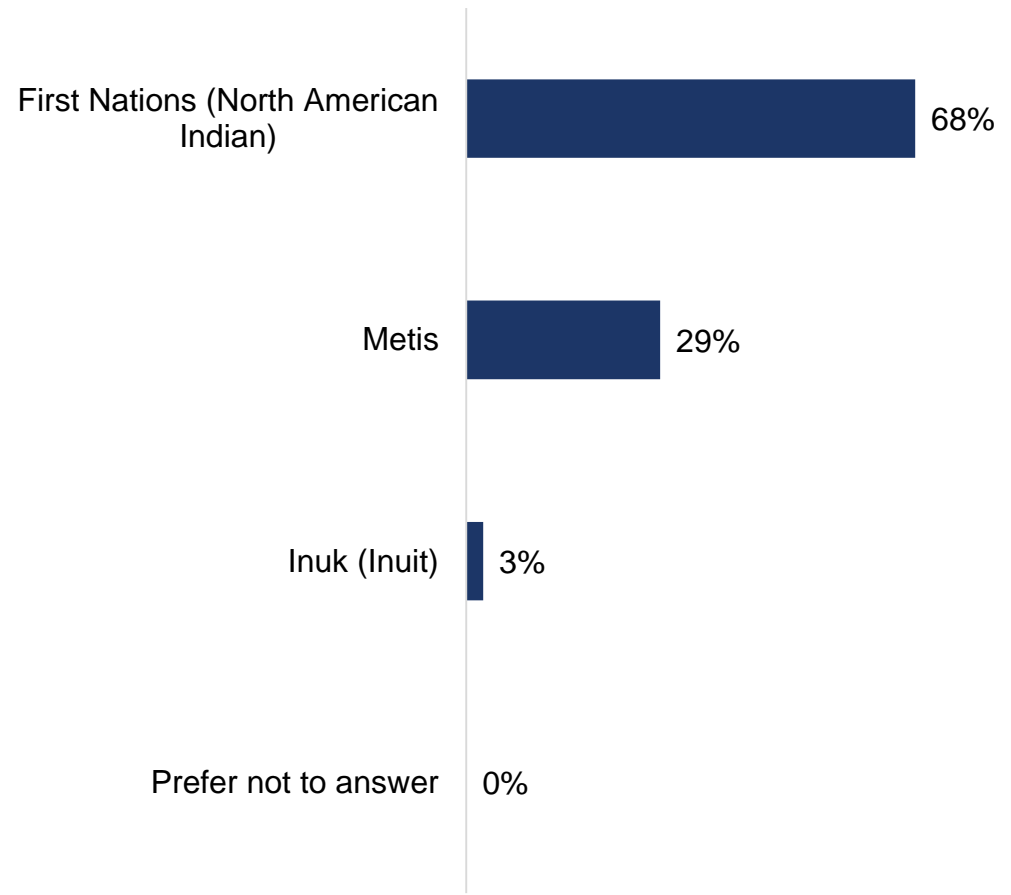
Respondent Profile

Identification to an Indigenous Group



Sample Size: n = 313
Framework: All respondents

Indigenous Group Affiliation

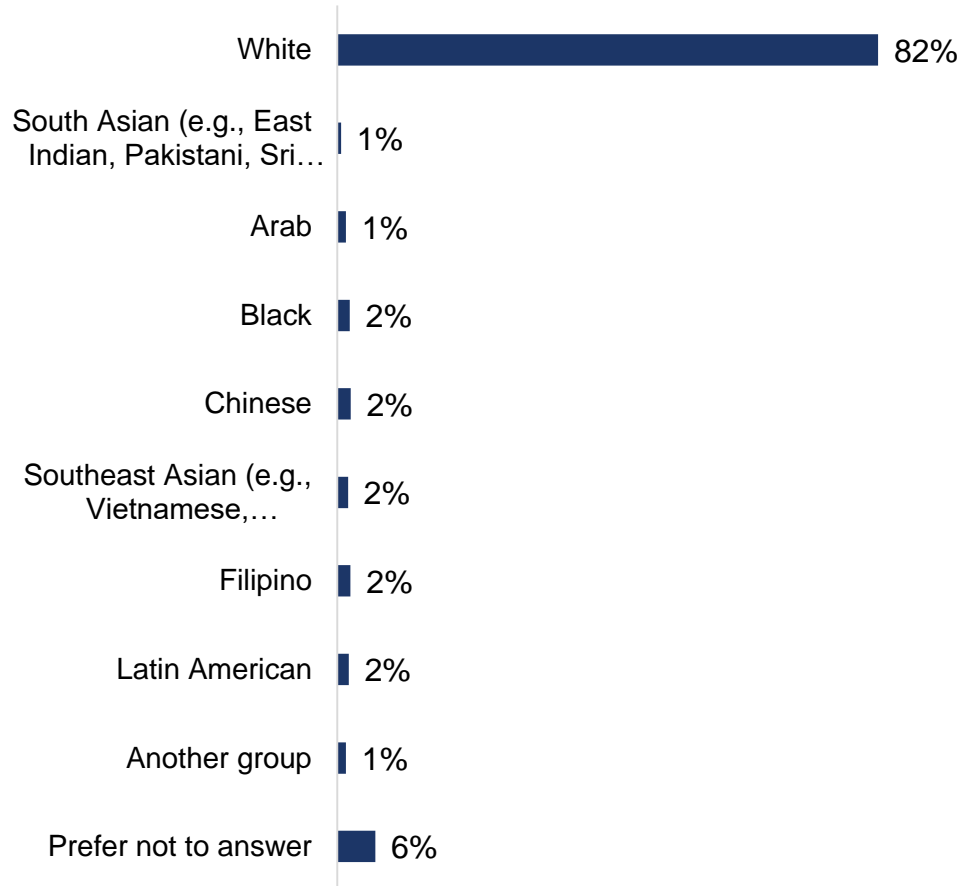


Sample Size: n = 16
Framework: Those who identify as First Nations, Metis or Inuk (Inuit)



Respondent Profile

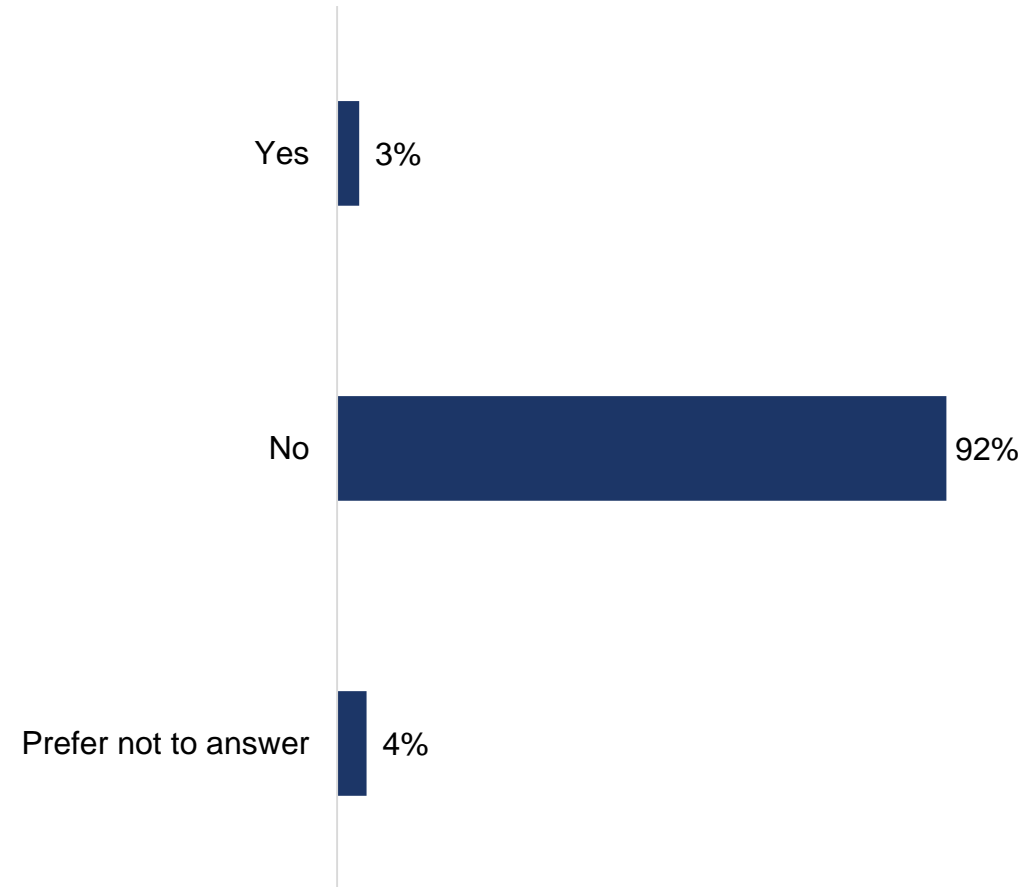
Ethnicity



Sample Size: n = 654

Framework: Those who do not identify as First Nations, Metis or Inuk (Inuit)

LGBTQ2IA+ Affiliation



Sample Size: n = 687

Framework: All respondents





PUBLIC SURVEY ON POLICING SERVICES

Town of Amherstburg: Comparison of 2020 vs. 2022 data Collection Periods

Prepared by: **Barry Horrobin, B.A., M.A., CLEP, CMM-III**
Director of Planning & Physical Resources
WINDSOR POLICE SERVICE

The following is a comparative analysis of the Windsor Police public surveys conducted in 2020 versus 2022 for the Town of Amherstburg. This comparison reviews all questions where a discernible difference existed in response rates between the two study periods. Responses not referenced should be interpreted as having little or no difference between the 2020 vs. 2022 surveys.

What do you see as the greatest challenge the Windsor Police will face in the next 3 years?

	2020	2023
Drug Issues	24%	16%
Public perception/need to gain public trust	9	2
Dealing with mental health issues	8	5
Don't know/prefer not to answer	38	20

How safe (somewhat or very) do you feel in the Town of Amherstburg (daylight hours)?

	2020	2023
At your place of work	59%	92%
While driving	80	92

How safe (somewhat or very) do you feel in the Town of Amherstburg (at night)?

	2020	2023
At your place of work	56%	76%

While driving	79	69
In public buildings	71	81
In your neighbourhood	76	81
In your local park	60	66

During the past one to two years, do you think that the level of crime in your neighbourhood has ...?

	2020	2023
Increased	24%	38%
Stayed the same	68	54

Which TWO enforcement strategies would you most like to see the Windsor Police Service continue to enhance public safety?

	2020	2023
Cybercrime (focused on child exploitation, fraud)	60%	38%
Targeting repeat offenders	37	21
Enforcement of guns and gangs	31	36
Focusing on vulnerable populations	N/A	23

About how often would you say police in your neighbourhood exceed their authority?

	2020	2023
Rarely/Never	66%	74%
Always/most of the time	12	8

In general, to what extent do you agree that the Windsor Police Service is effective at?

	2020	2023
Responding quickly to calls for assistance	82%	72%
Resolving crimes where violence is involved	65	70

What are your primary sources of information about the activity, programs and services provided by the Windsor Police Service?

	2020	2023
Newspaper	44%	37%

Television	42	24
Radio	36	15
Facebook	33	23
Other online news sources	24	8
Twitter	4	9
Don't Know/prefer not to answer	4	13

How important are each of the following to you as a resident of Amherstburg?

	2020	2023
Crime prevention strategies	71%	87%
Visible police patrols	64	87
Traffic safety and enforcement	63	87
Public education initiatives	71	80
Crime Stoppers	70	82
Senior and youth programs	69	83
School liaisons	63	79
Downtown policing	63	80
Drug enforcement and education	83	88

Has anything happened to you or a member of your household within the last year that required police assistance, but you did not contact the police?

	2020	2023
Did not call the police	18%	6%
Called police	82	94

Demographic profile of respondents

- There were no discernible differences in the demographic profiles (age, gender, etc.) of Amherstburg survey respondents in 2023 compared to 2020 except for one variable:
 - In 2020, 90% of survey respondents identified their ethnic origin as "white", while this number decreased to 82% in the 2022 survey. Of this difference, those identifying as Indigenous rose from 2% to 5% of the total.