



# Vermonters' Views on Housing Availability and Affordability

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Key findings from a statewide telephone survey of 404 registered voters

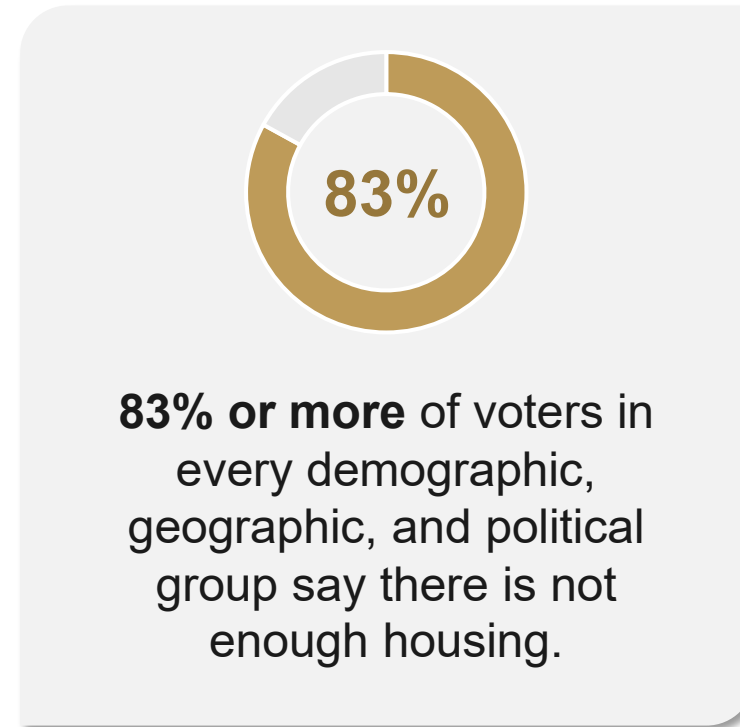
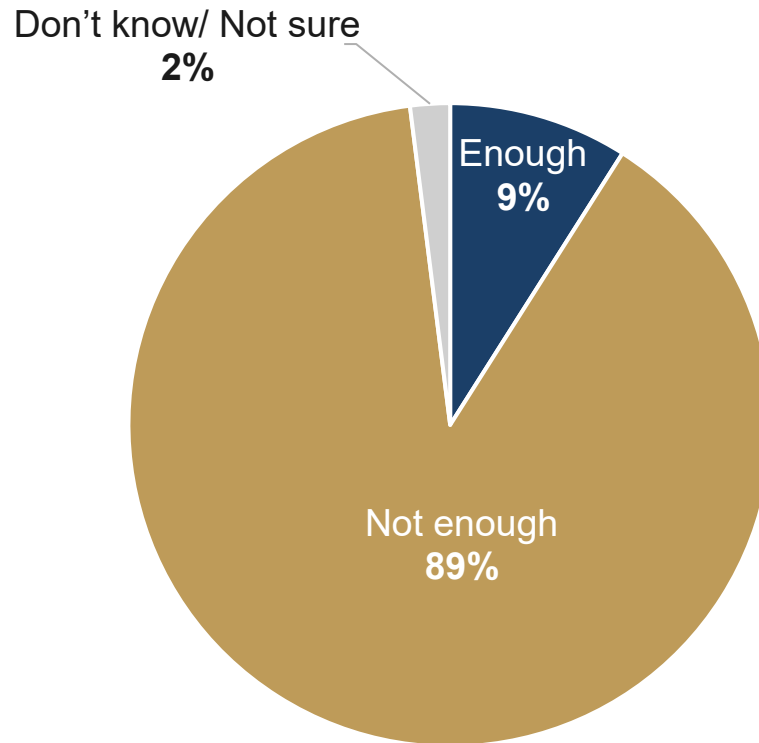
Conducted February 12-16, 2026

Margin of error:  $\pm 4.9$  percentage points



# There is no debate among Vermonters: there is not enough housing that people can afford.

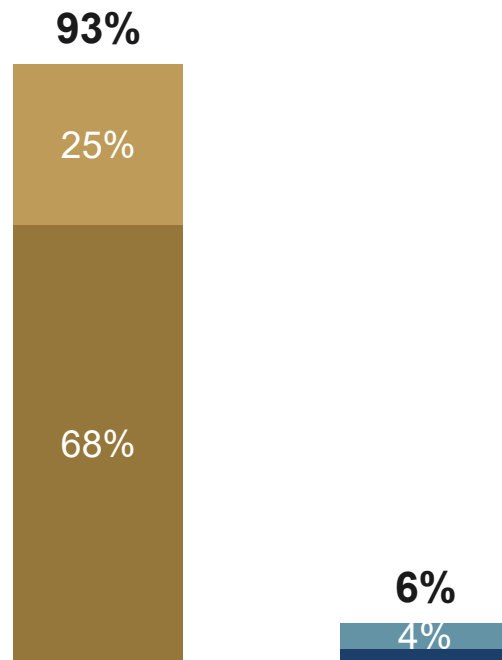
*Generally speaking, do you think Vermont has enough homes that are affordable for average people to buy or rent, or not enough?*



# The cost of housing is viewed as a huge problem, especially for younger Vermonters.

Would you say that the cost of renting or buying a home in Vermont is a ...

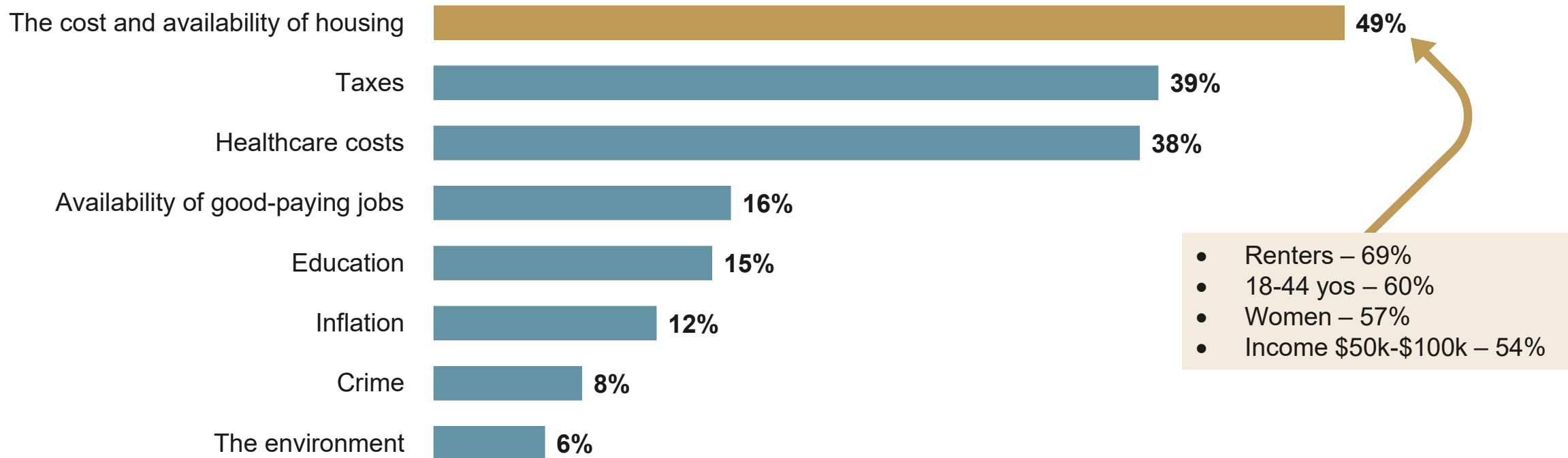
■ Major problem ■ Somewhat of a problem ■ Minor problem ■ Not really a problem



| Major problem %   |    |
|-------------------|----|
| 18-44             | 73 |
| 45-64             | 66 |
| 65 and older      | 66 |
| Parents of <18    | 80 |
| Non-parents       | 65 |
| Northern counties | 76 |
| Chittenden        | 70 |
| Central counties  | 67 |
| Southern counties | 63 |

# Even in the context of other key issues, housing is paramount in importance.

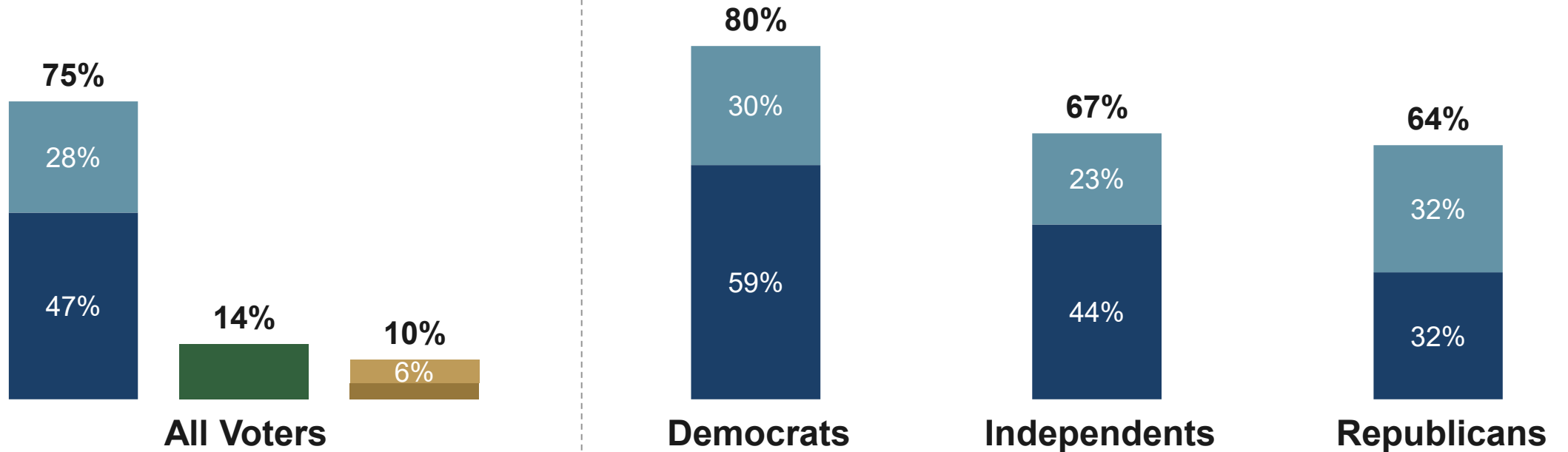
*Most important issues or challenges facing Vermont (1 to 2 chosen)*



# Three in four say it's important for the legislature to take action on housing.

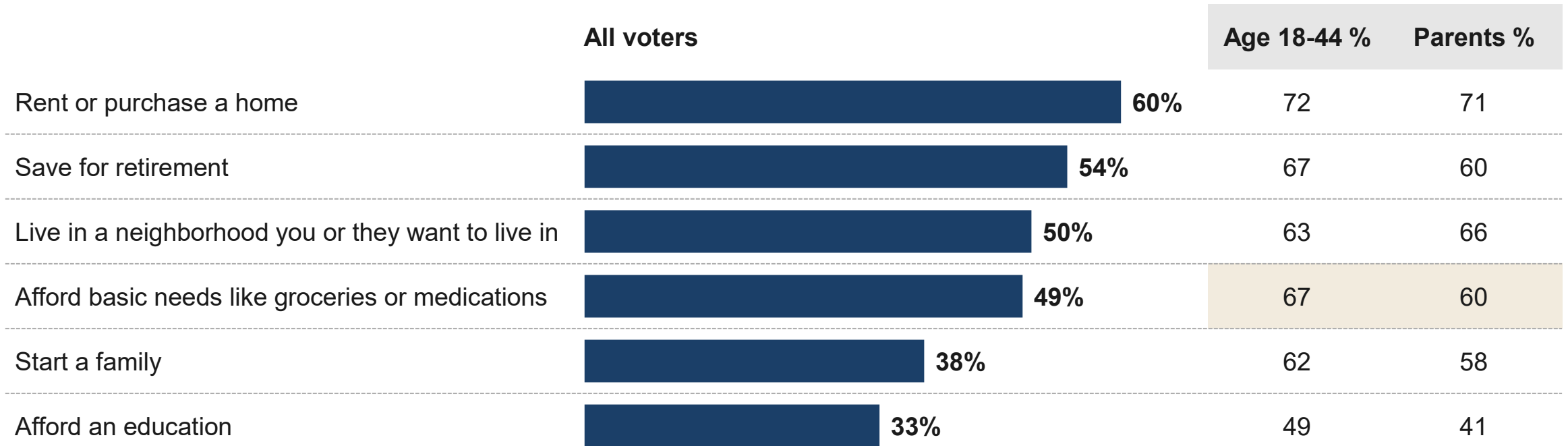
*How important do you think it is that the state legislature takes action to deal with the housing situation in the state?*

■ Extremely important   ■ Pretty important   ■ Just somewhat important   ■ Not that important   ■ Not important at all



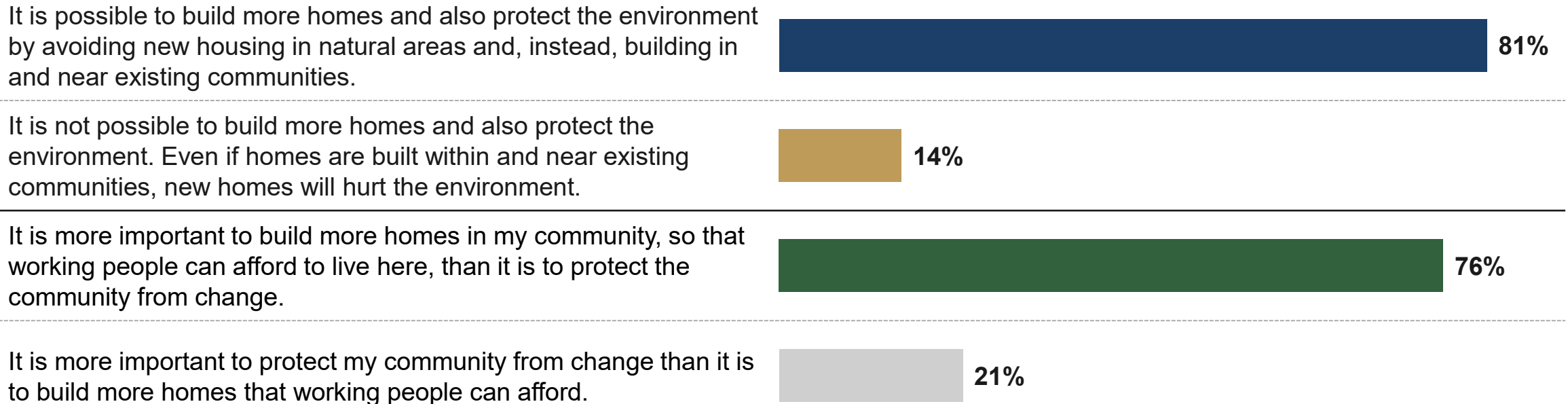
# The cost of housing has real and extensive downstream effects on people's lives.

*Have housing costs had a negative impact on your ability, or the ability of anyone you know in your community in Vermont, to do any of the following?*



# Vermonters firmly reject two premises: more housing has to hurt the environment and protecting communities from change is a priority over building housing.

*Which of the following is closer to your view?*



# In a mini “debate” about how to approach housing, voters come down on the side of doing more by over two-to-one.

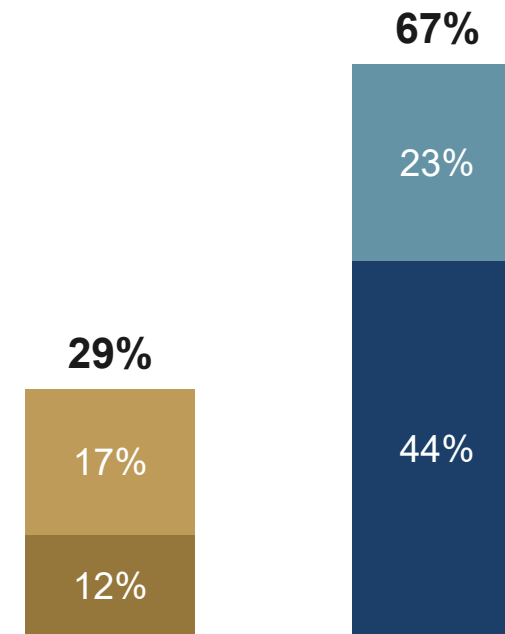
**STATEMENT A:** Rapidly building more homes is the wrong way to address Vermont’s housing crisis. It would lead to overcrowding, harm the environment, and hurt people’s quality of life. Any development should be a gradual process to ensure a safe and sustainable long-term solution.

**STATEMENT B:** Vermont's housing shortage is hurting our economy and communities. A lack of homes means sky-high housing costs, fewer workers, struggling businesses, and an aging population that threatens the viability of our schools, hospitals, and essential services. We can build homes, protect the environment and create a more affordable and vibrant state.

*Which statement do you agree with more?*

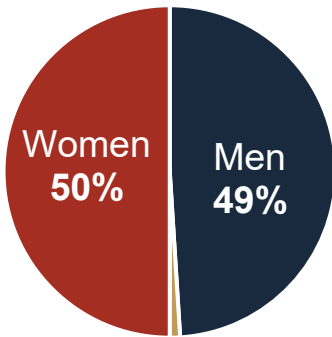
- A - somewhat more
- A - much more

- B - somewhat more
- B - much more

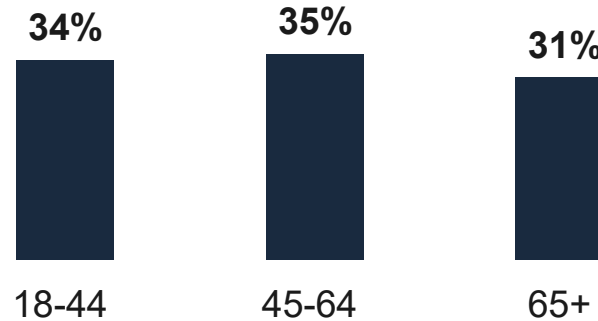


# Appendix: Profile of the Sample

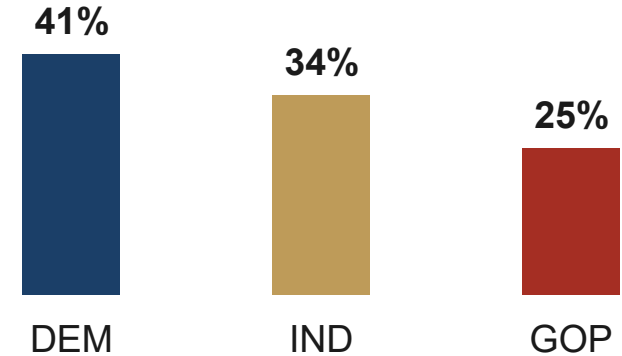
*Gender*



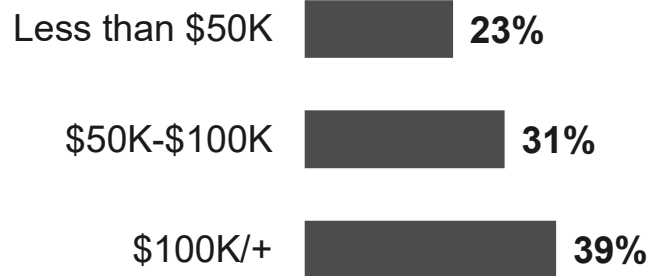
*Age*



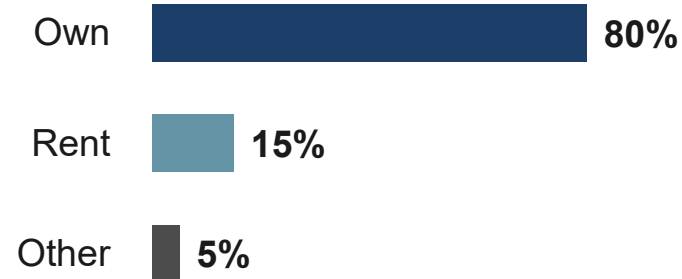
*Party ID*



*Household Income*



*Housing Situation*



*Parental Status*

