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Gain Insight



# Kern Council of Governments: 2026 Community Survey

May 2026

- Data Collection Telephone and online interviewing
- Universe 665,552 adult (age 18 or older) residents of Kern County
- Fielding Dates January 26 through February 23, 2026
- Interview Length 25 minutes (Phone)
- Sample Size n=1,182 Adult residents  
(Cell=185; Landline=27; Text/online=970)  
49 interviews were conducted in Spanish
- Margin of Error  $\pm 2.85\%$

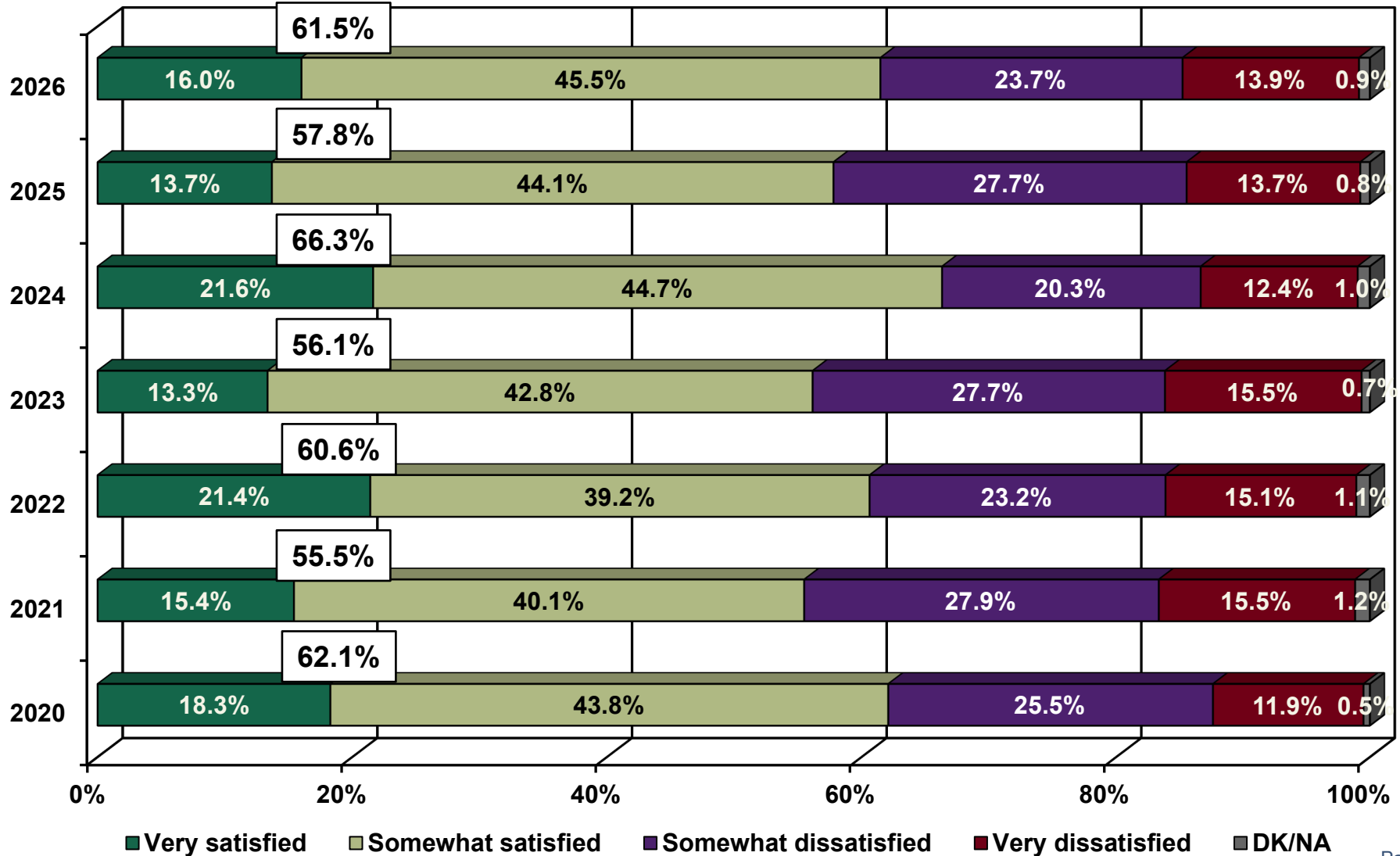


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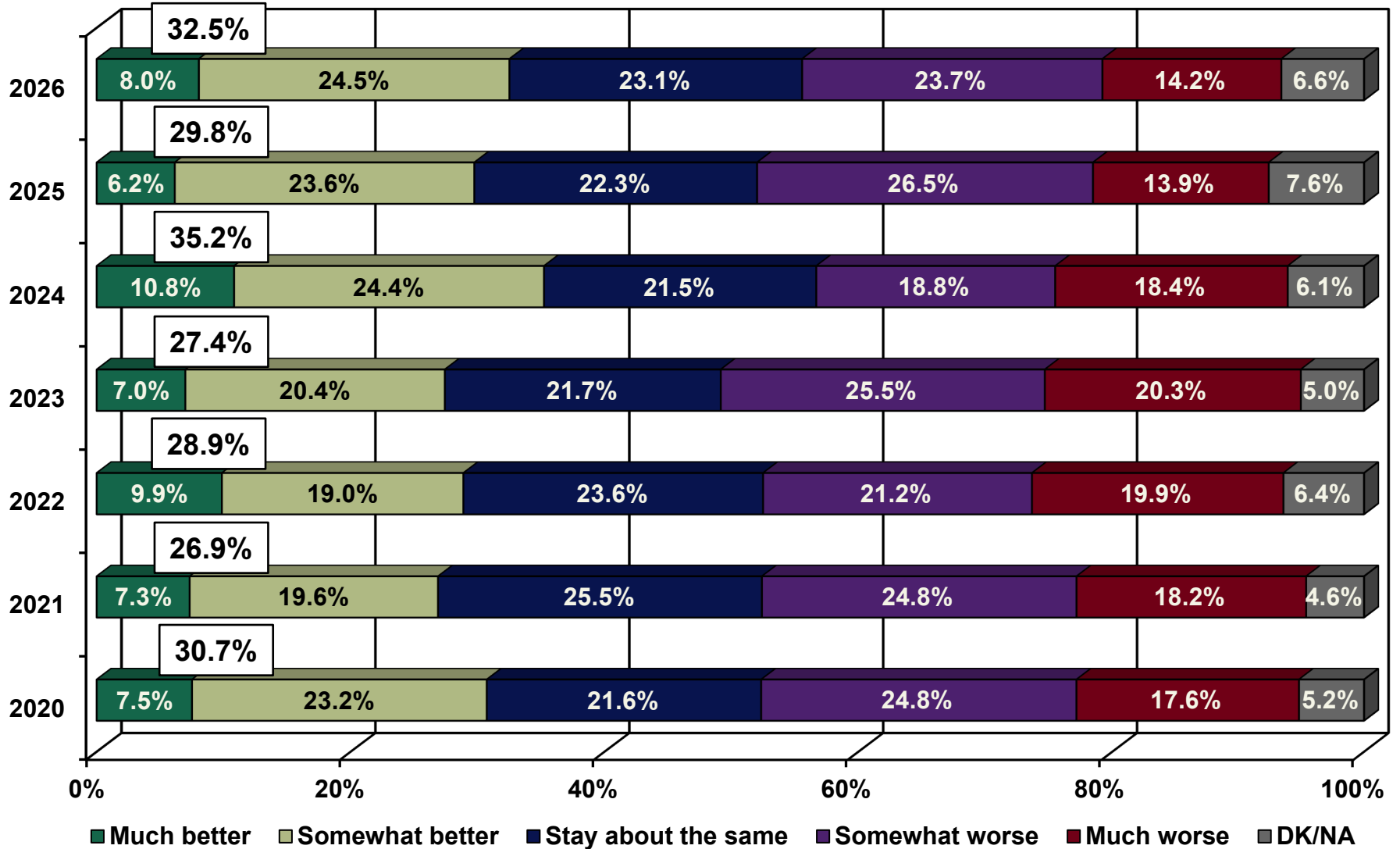


## Key Findings

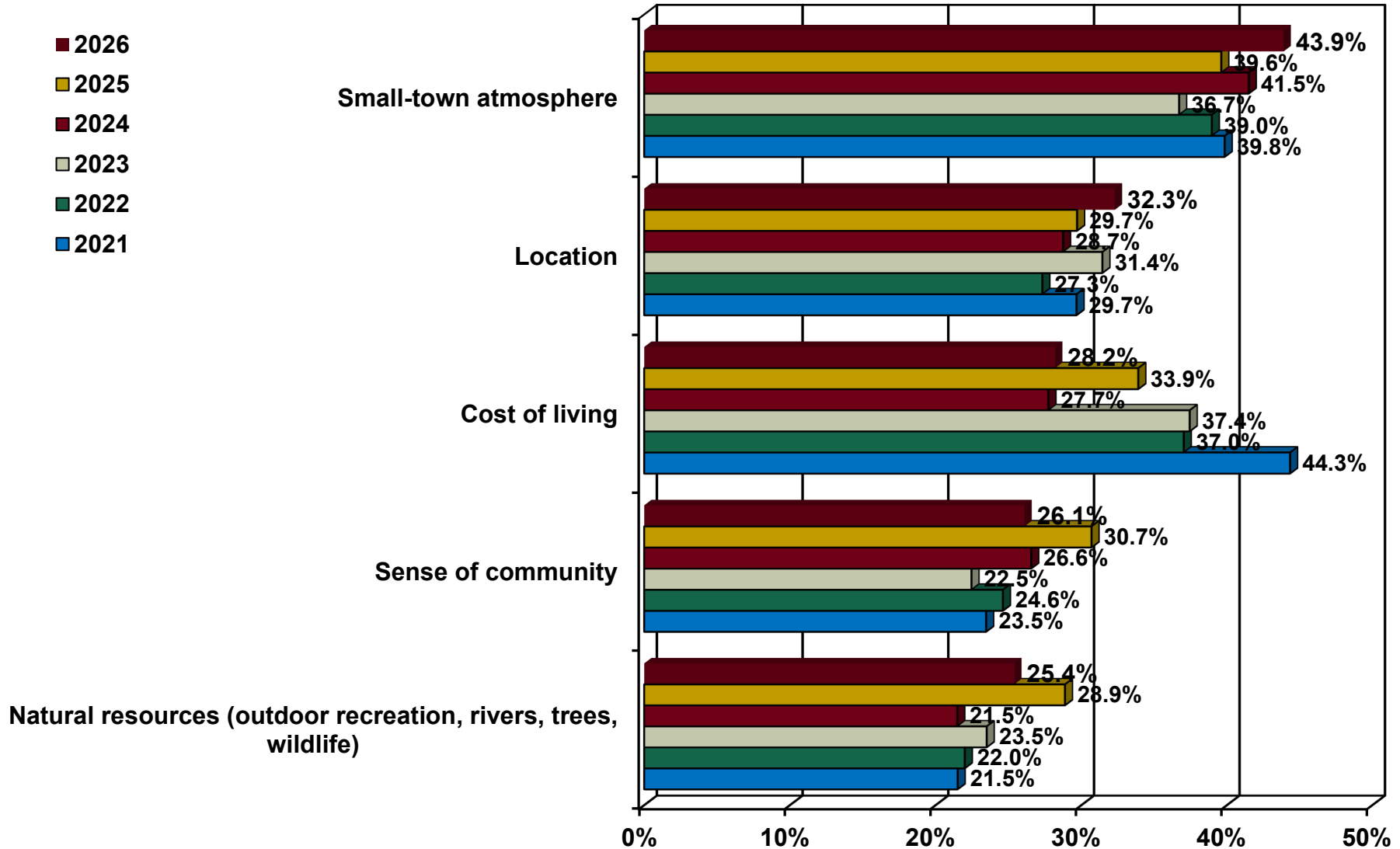
# Q1. Satisfaction with Quality of Life



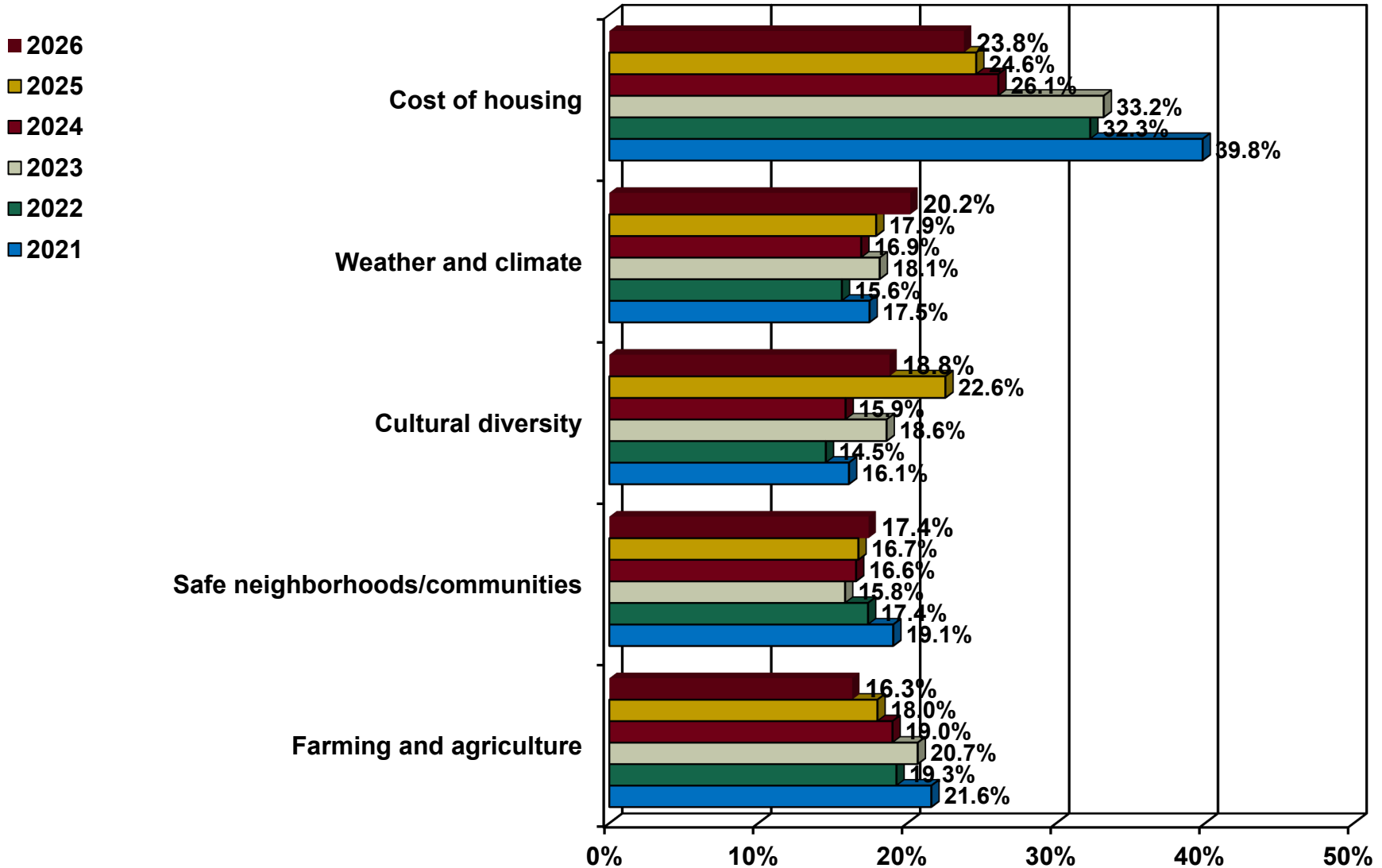
# Q2. Outlook on Future Quality of Life



# Q3. Most Liked Features of City or Town I

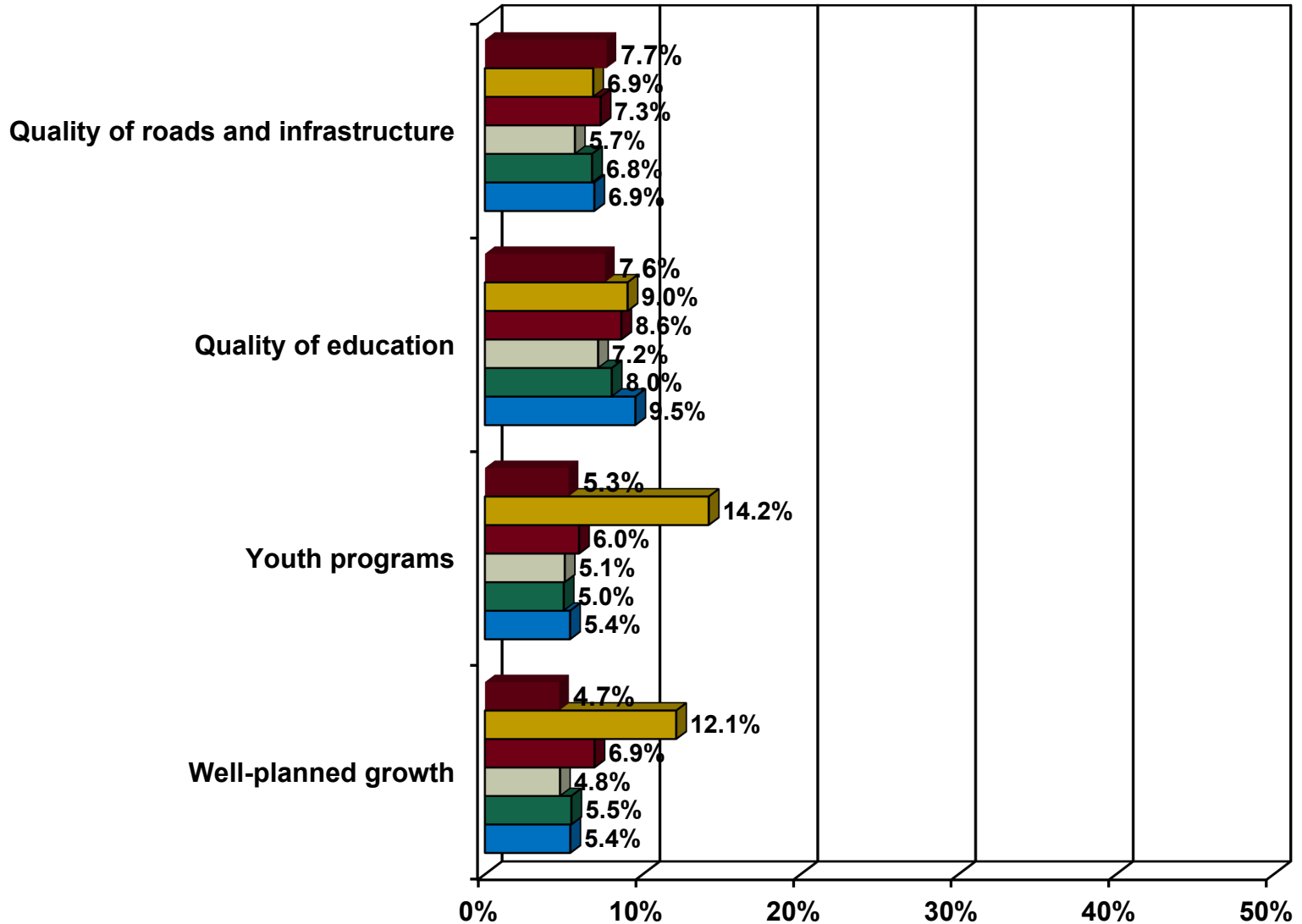


# Q3. Most Liked Features of City or Town II



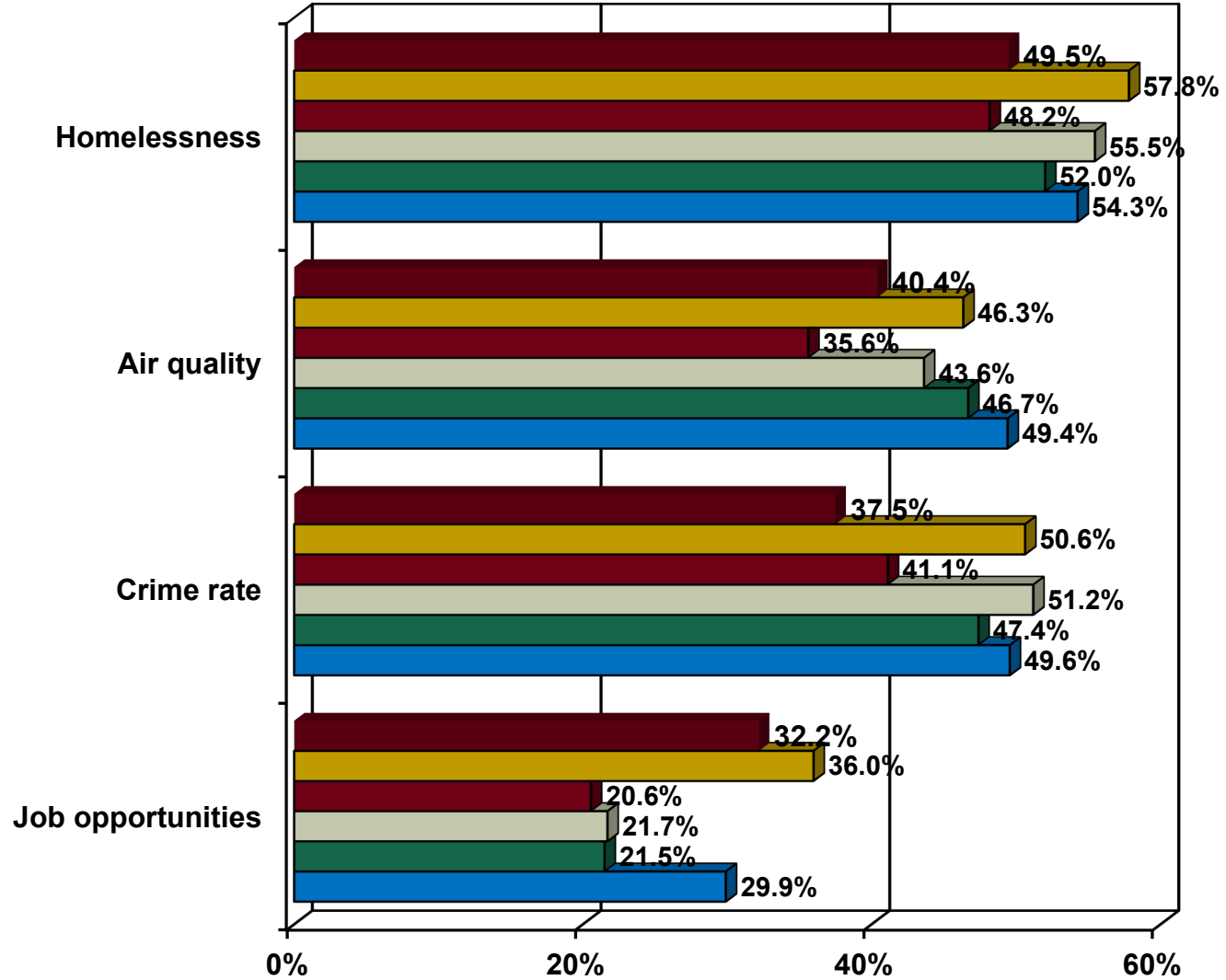
# Q3. Most Liked Features of City or Town III

- 2026
- 2025
- 2024
- 2023
- 2022
- 2021

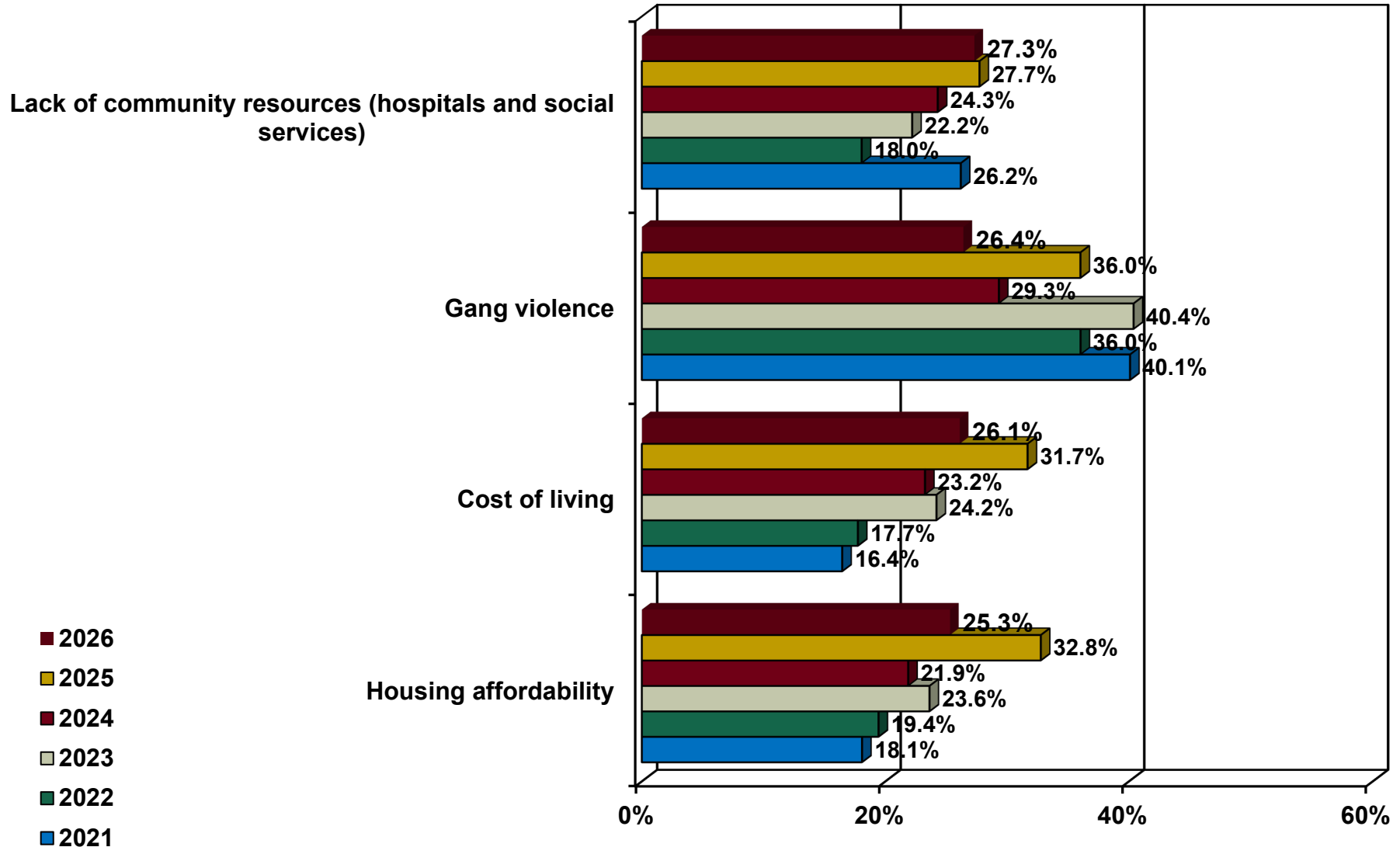


# Q4. Least Liked Features of City or Town I

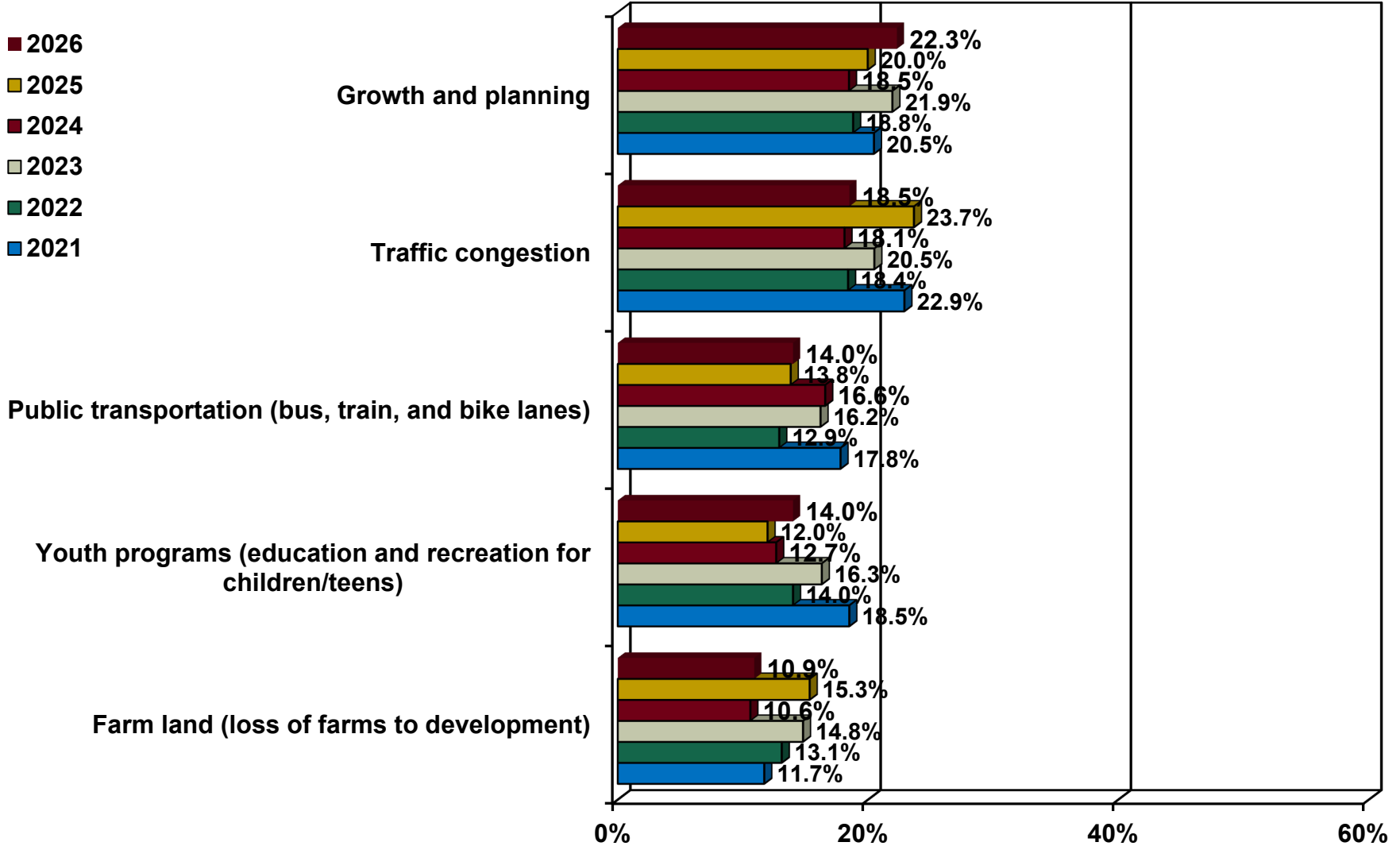
- 2026
- 2025
- 2024
- 2023
- 2022
- 2021



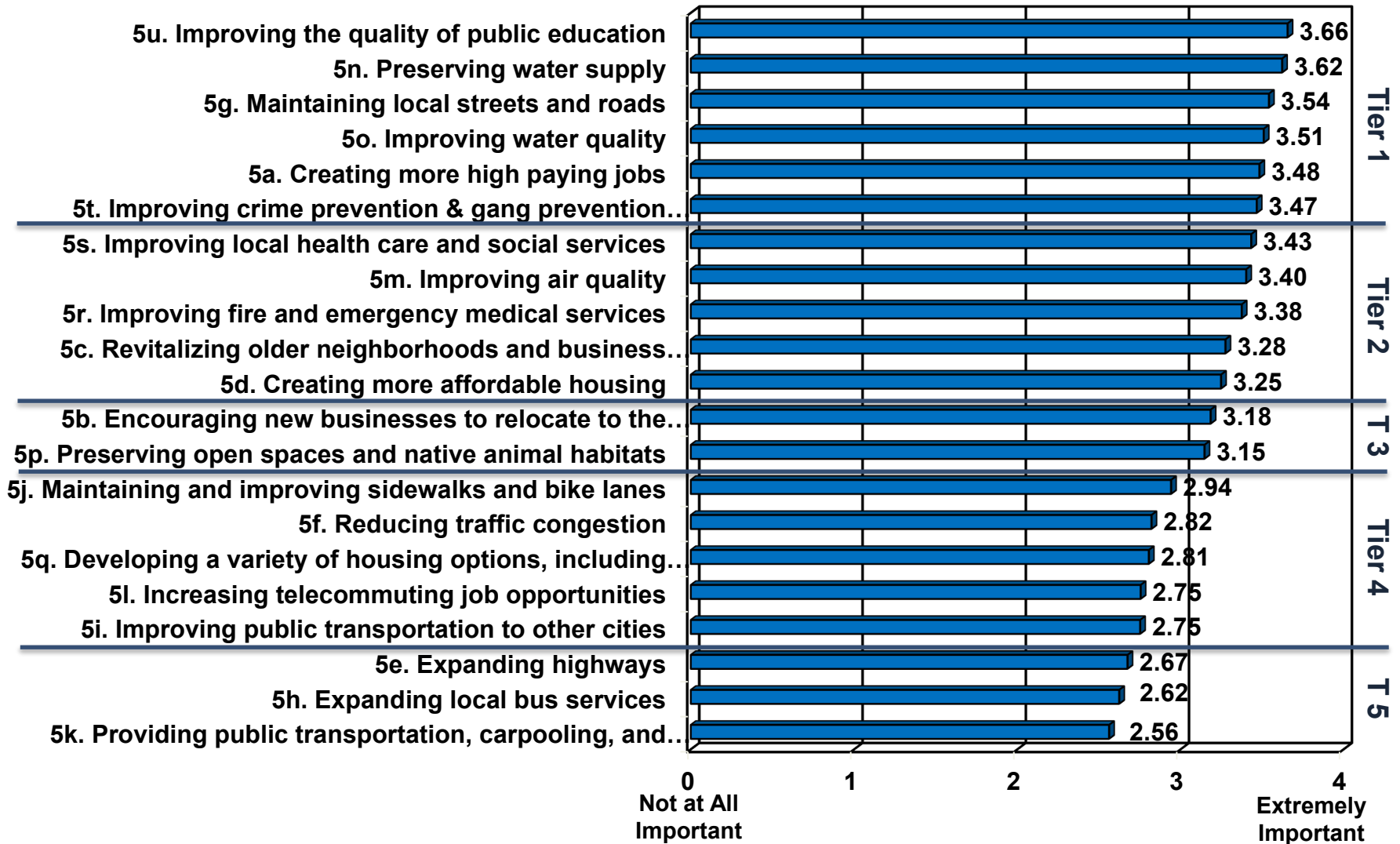
# Q4. Least Liked Features of City or Town II



# Q4. Least Liked Features of City or Town III

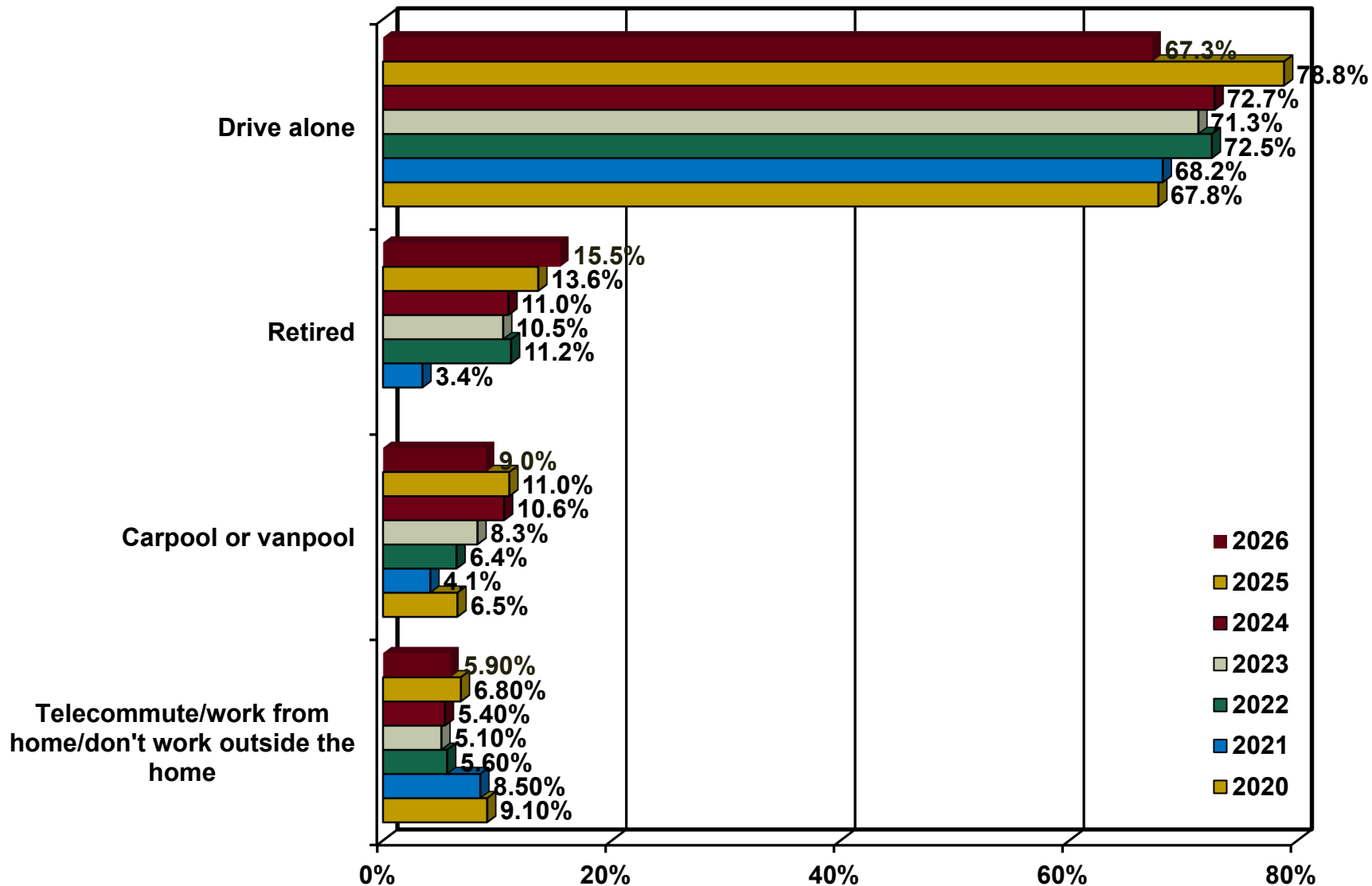


# Q5. Economic Vitality and Equitable Services

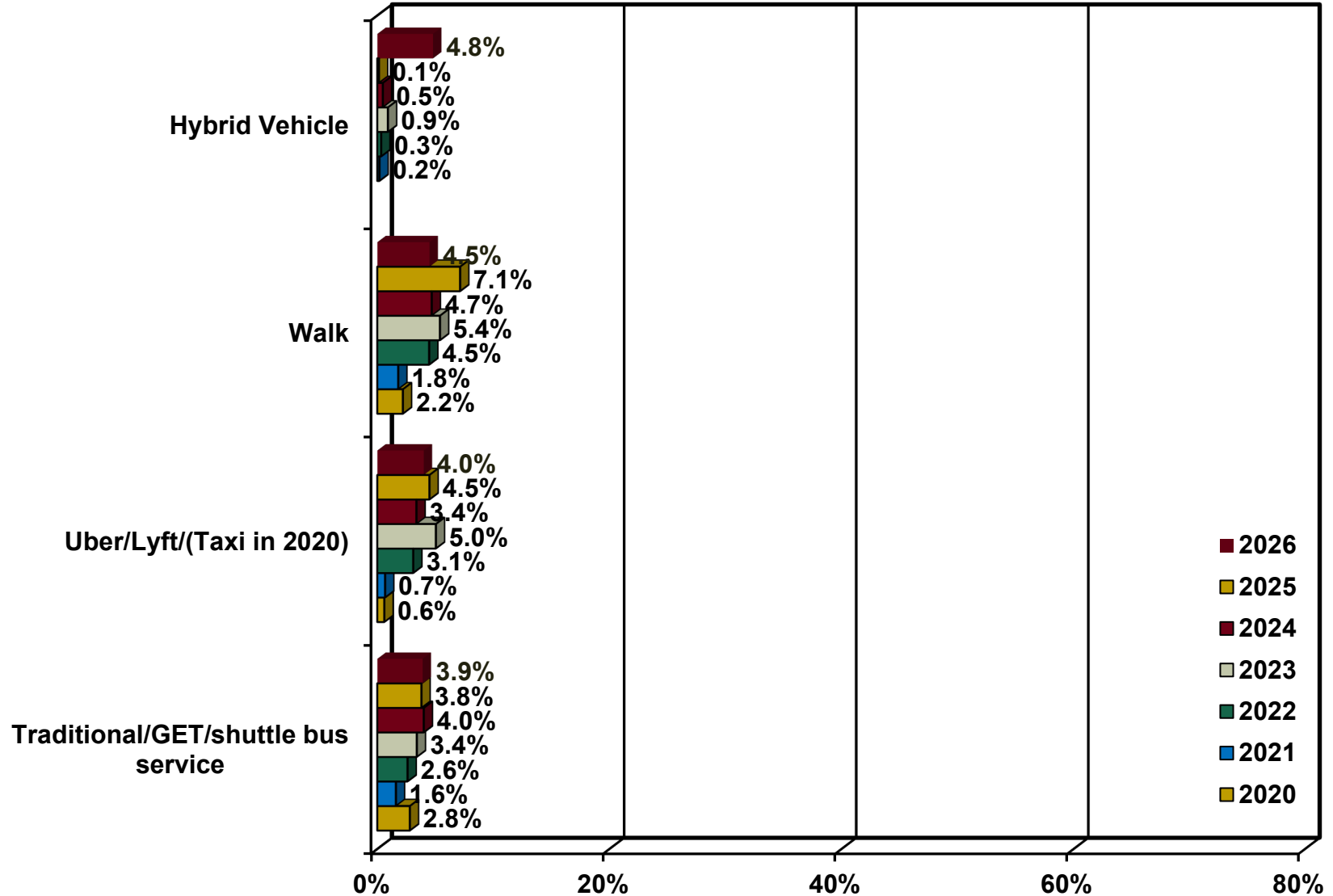


Note: The above rating questions have been abbreviated for charting purposes, and responses were recoded to calculate mean scores: "Extremely Important 4" = +4, "3" = +3, "2" = +2, "1" = +1, and "Not at all Important 0" = 0

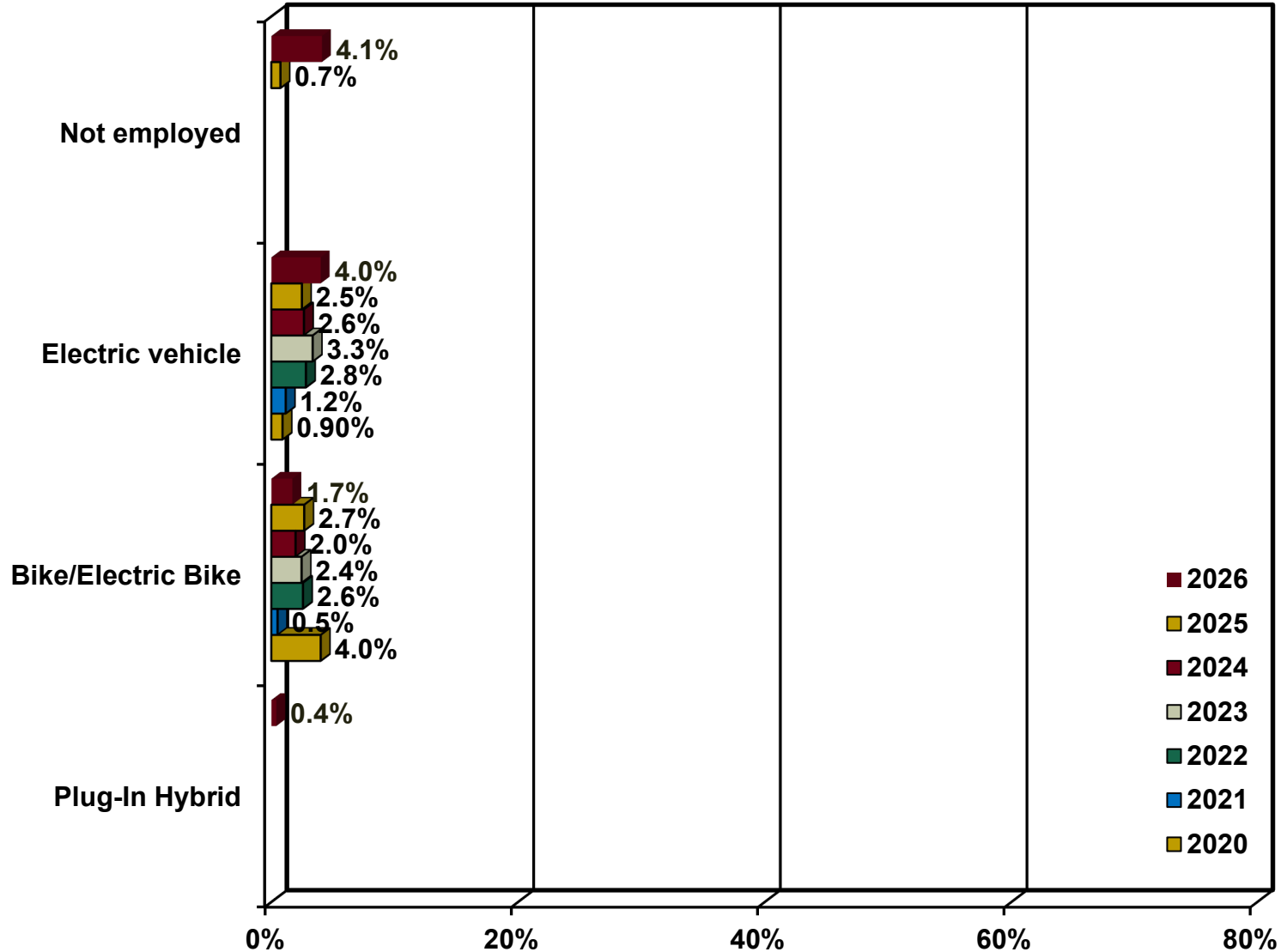
# Q6. Primary Type of Transportation Used Traveling to Work or School I



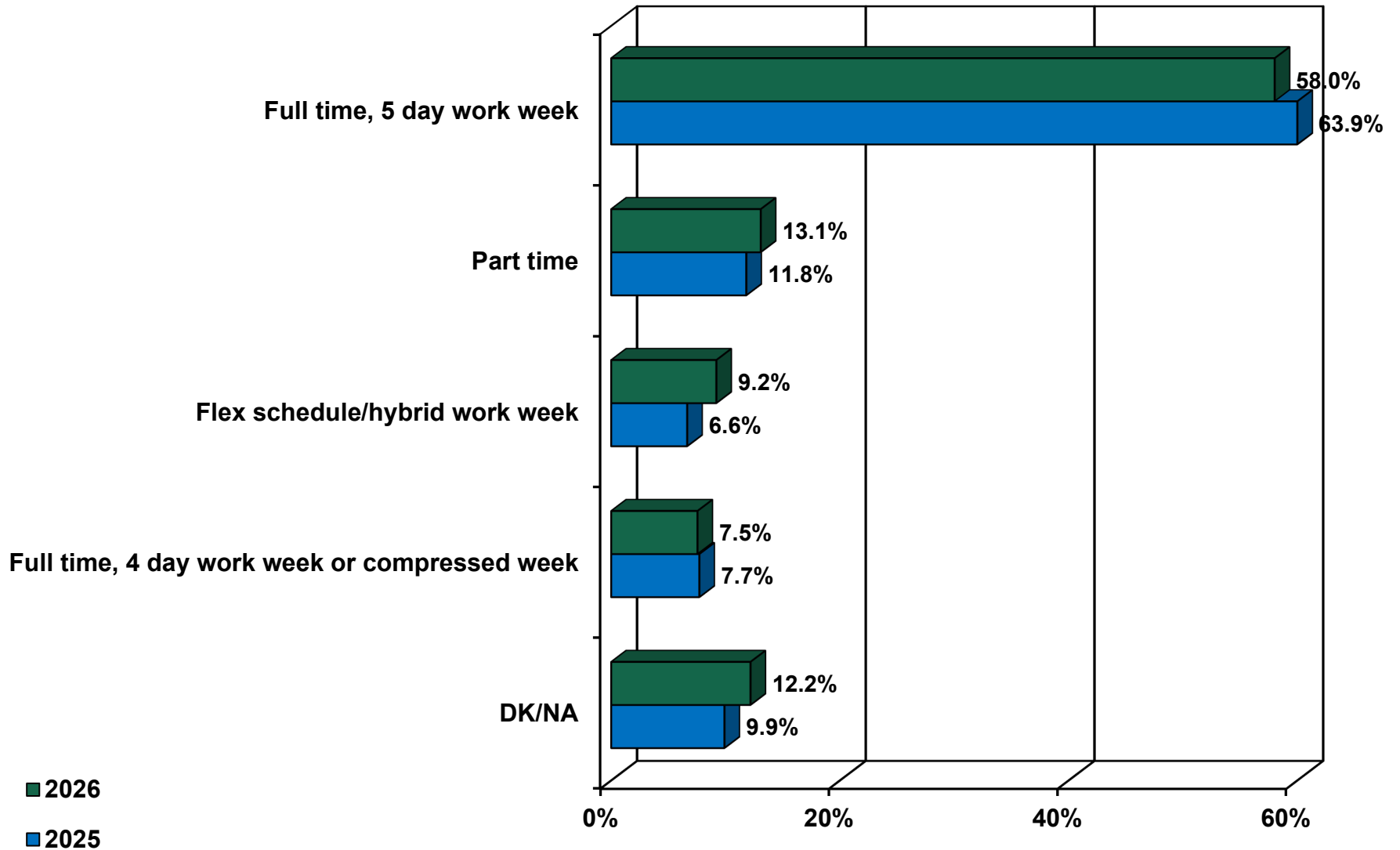
# Q6. Primary Type of Transportation Used Traveling to Work or School II



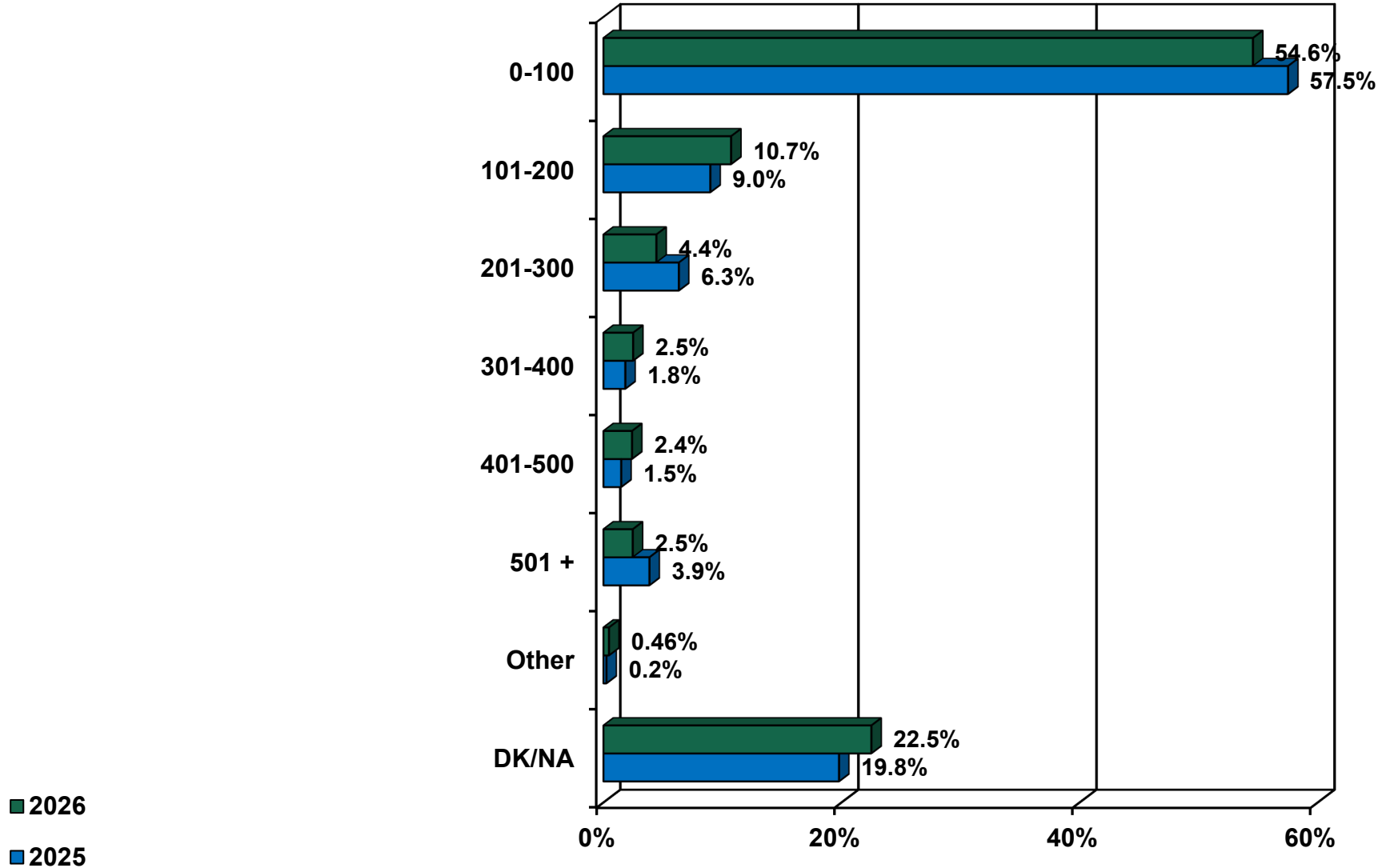
# Q6. Primary Type of Transportation Used Traveling to Work or School III



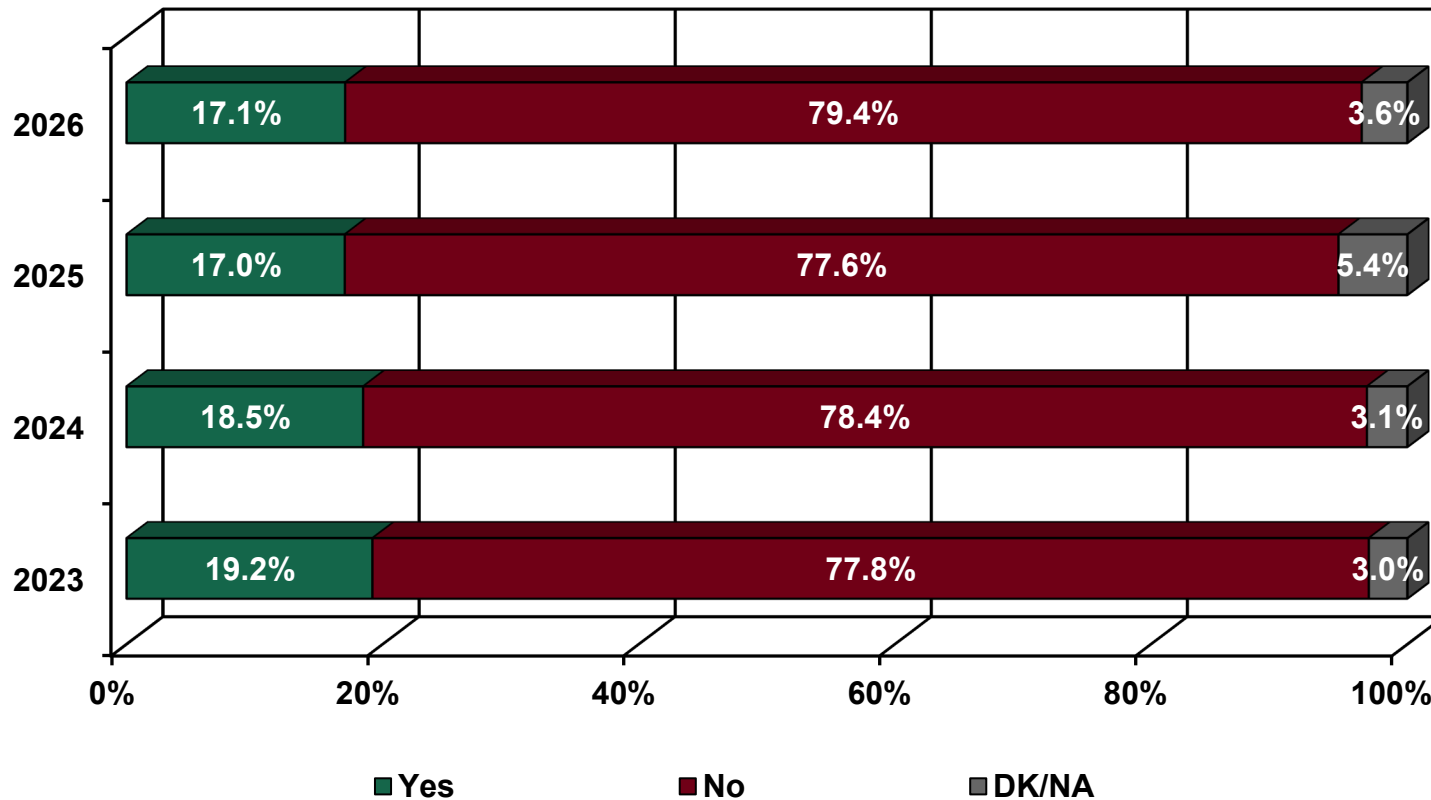
# Q7. Work Schedule



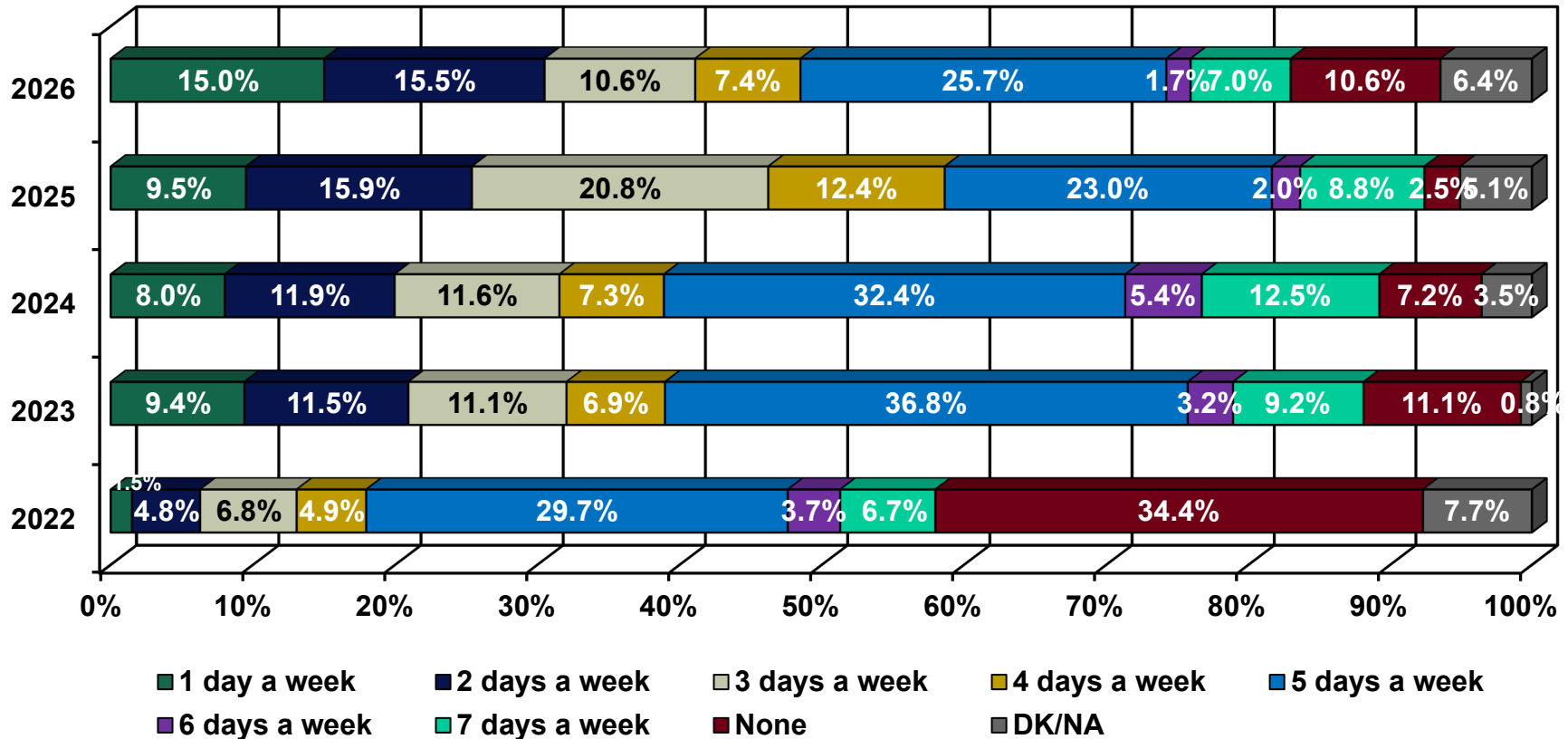
# Q8. Weekly Commute Distance



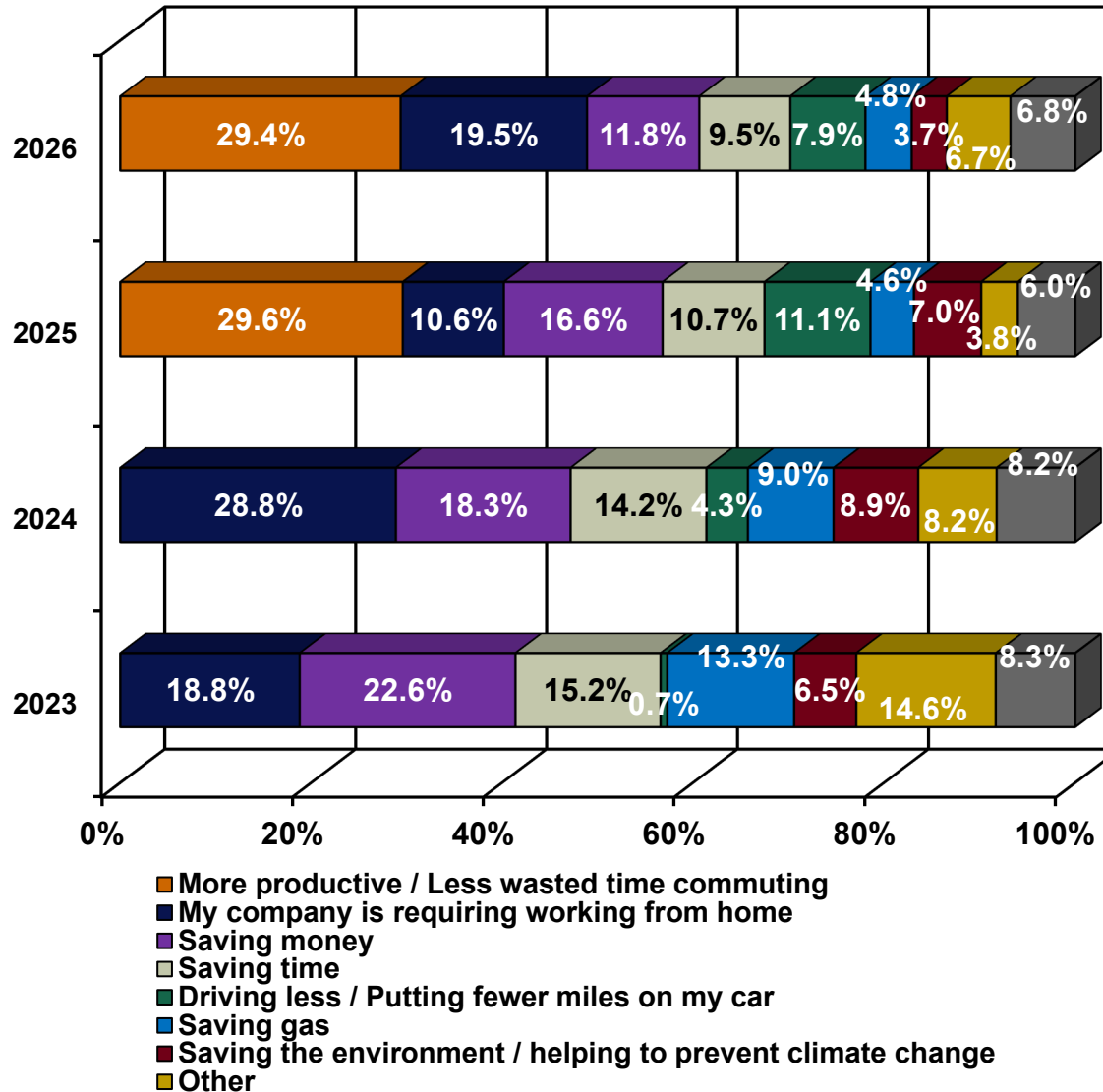
# Q9. Telecommute or Work From Home (Not IDed as telecommuters or retired in Q6)



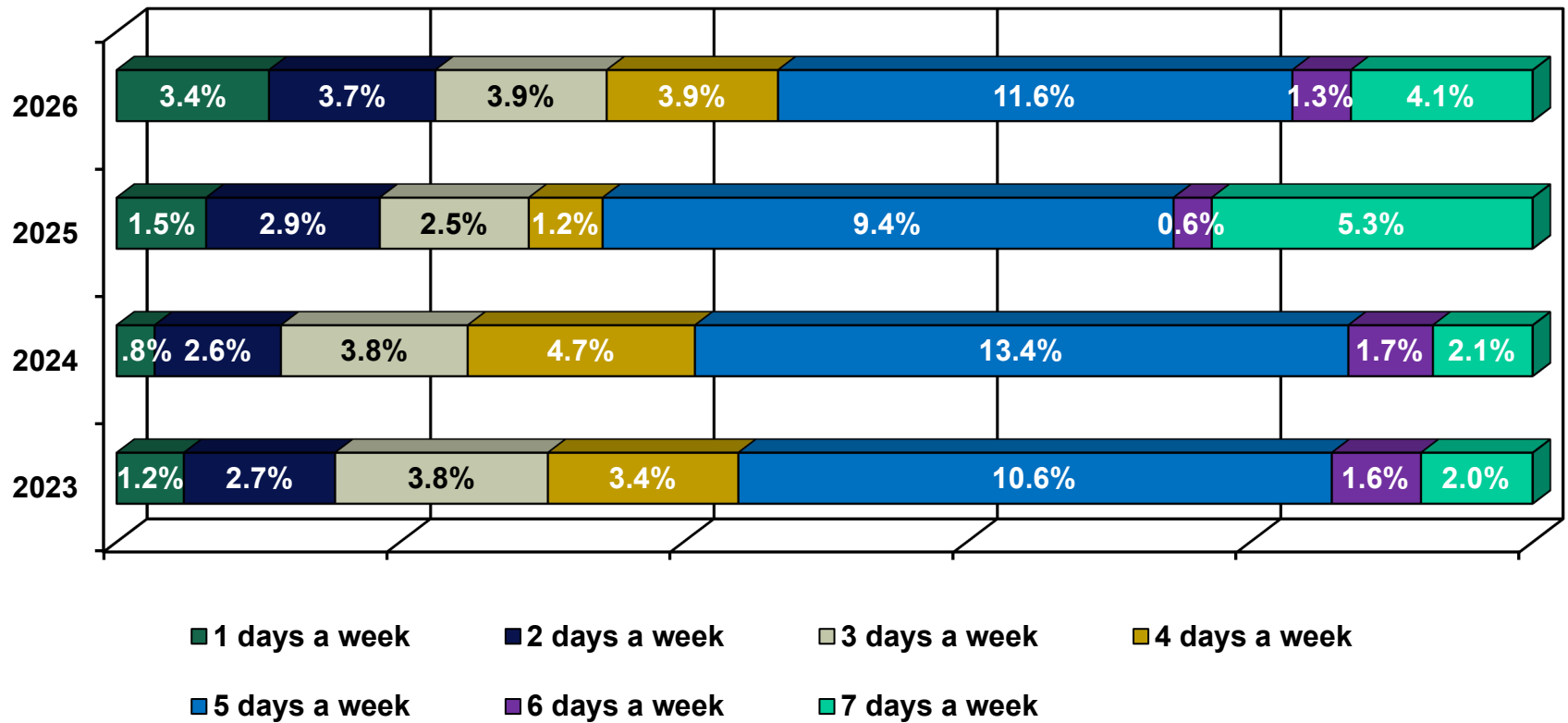
# Q10. Number of Days Per Week Telecommuting or Working From Home (telecommute/work from home from Q6 and Q9) (n=274)



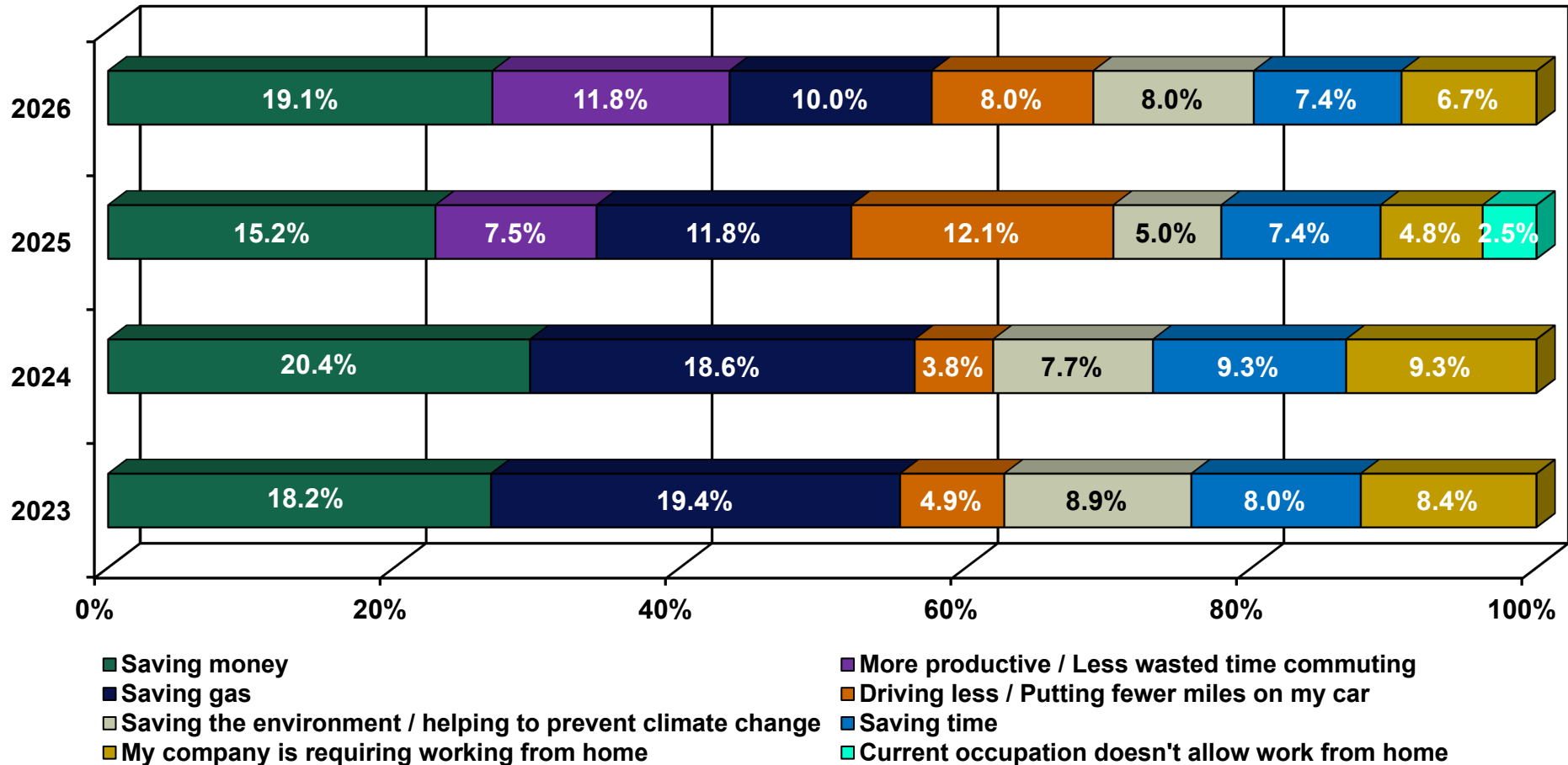
# Q11. Most Important Reason to Continue Telecommuting or Working From Home (telecommute/work from home from Q6 and Q9) (n=265)



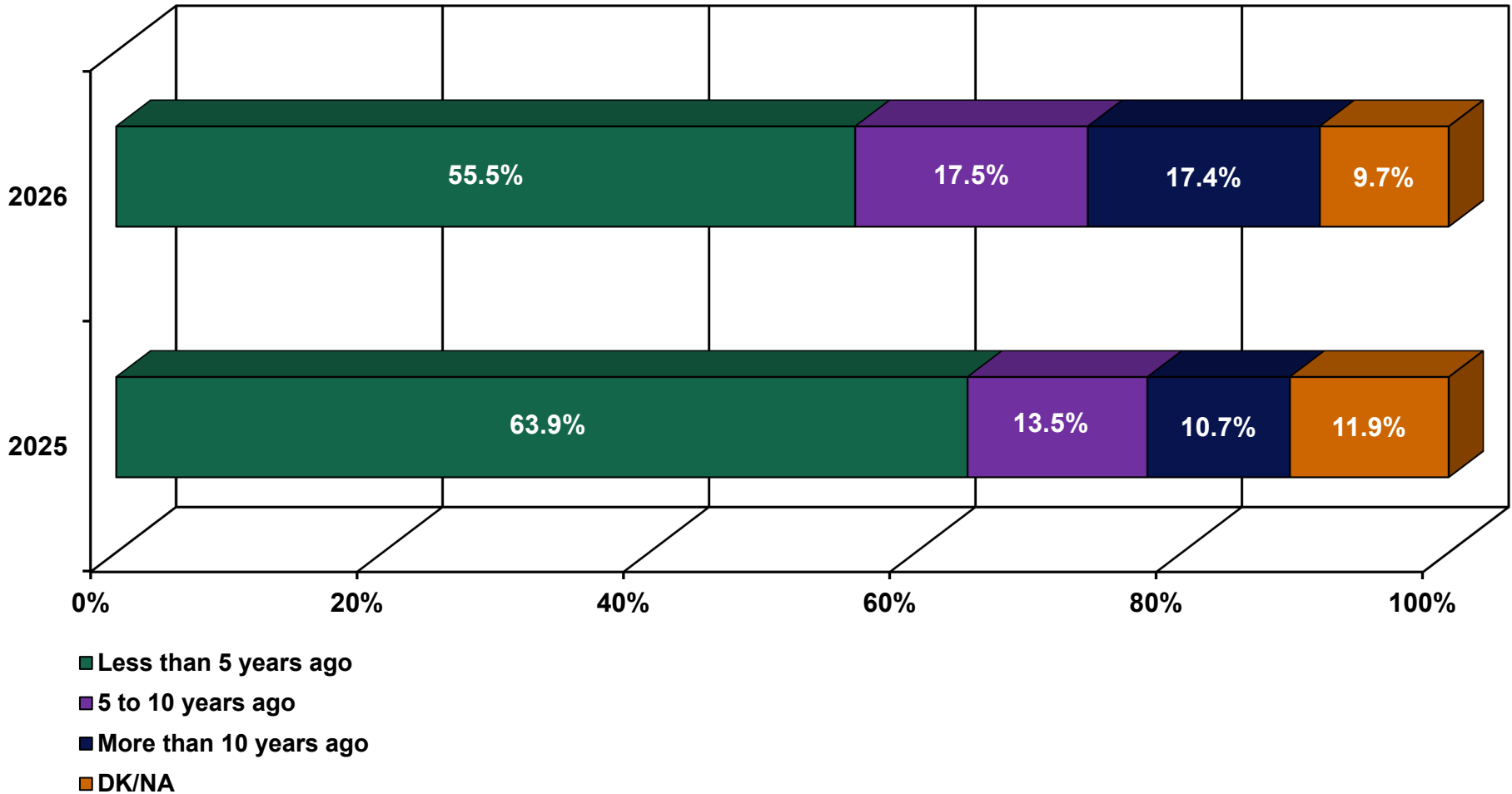
# Q12. Number of Days Per Week Could Telecommute or Work From Home (non-telecommuters from Q6 & Q9)



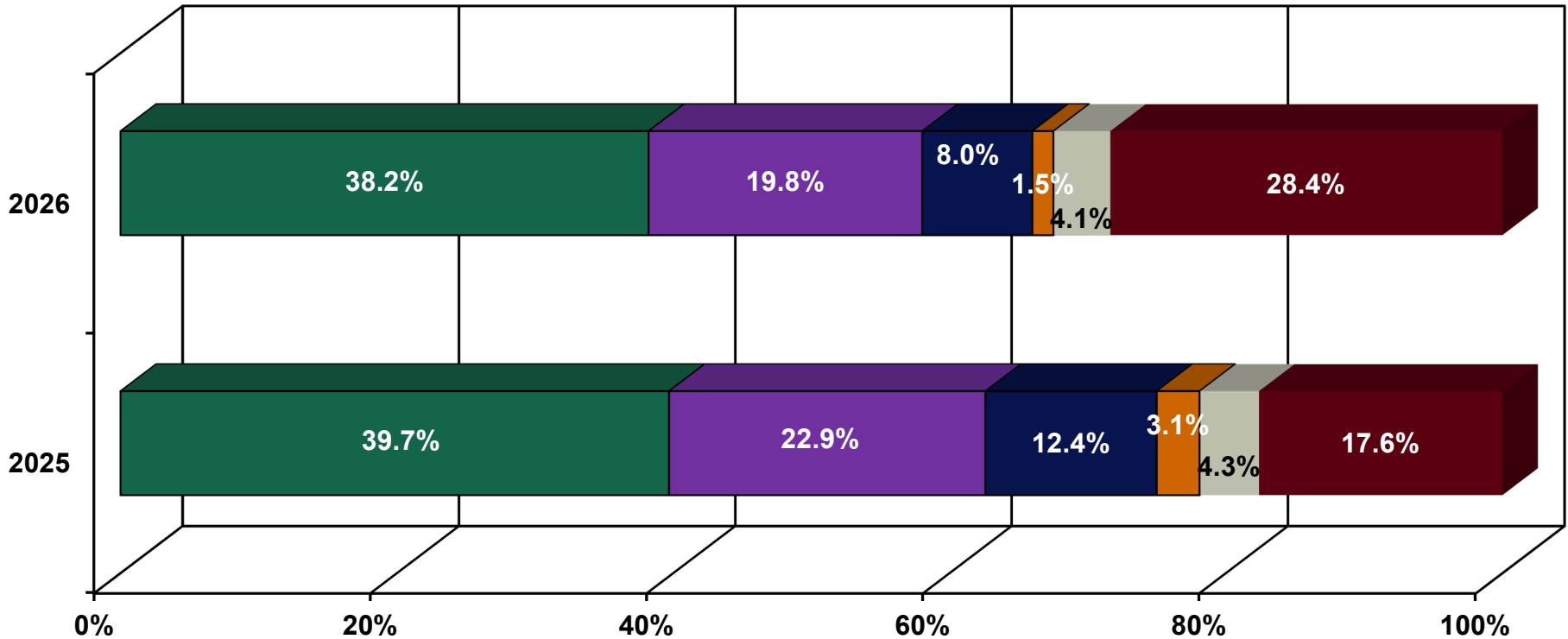
# Q13. Most Important Reason to Begin Telecommuting or Working From Home (non-telecommuters from Q6 & Q9)



# Q14. When Did You Start Telecommuting or Working From Home (telecommuters from Q6 & Q9)

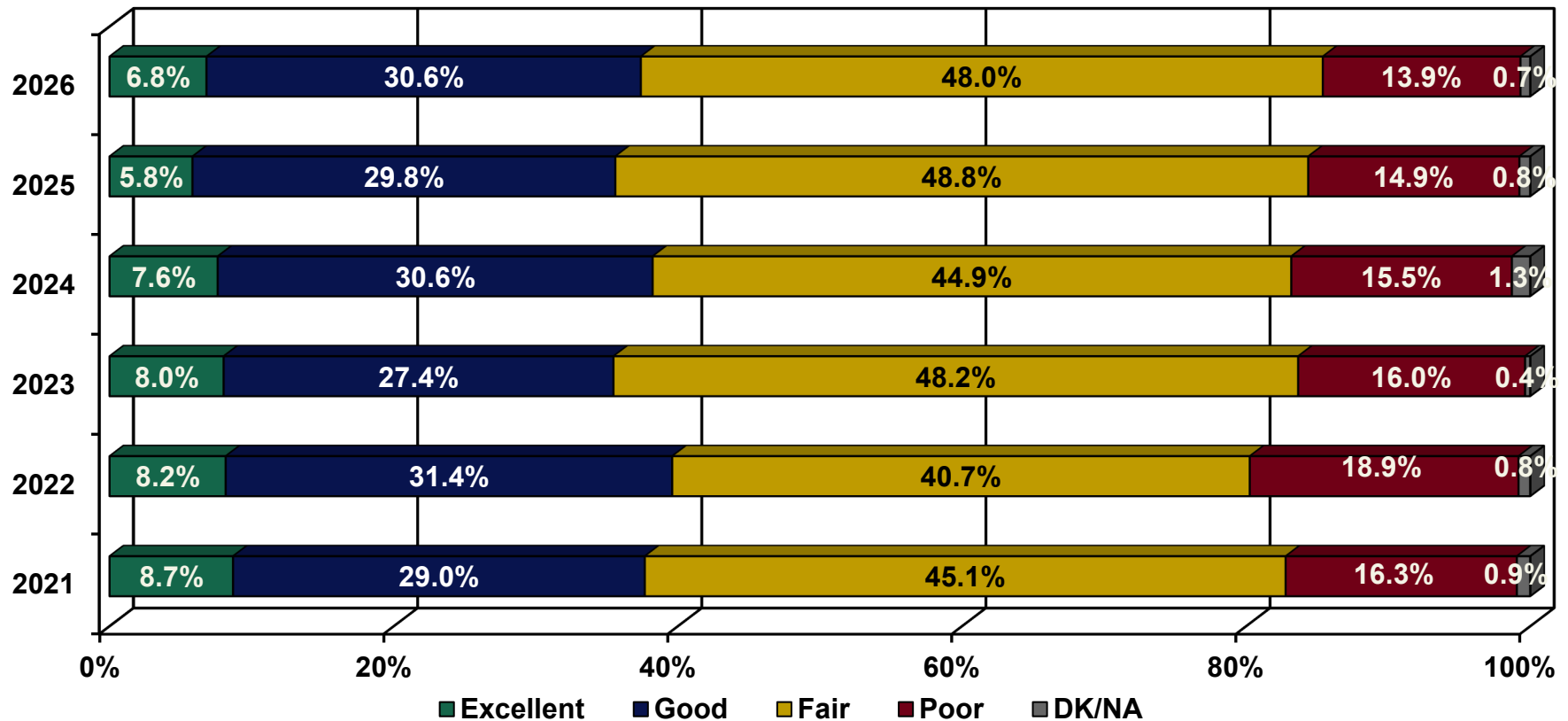


# Q15. Change in Yearly Commute Miles Due to Telecommuting (Q6 or Q9 = telecommuters)

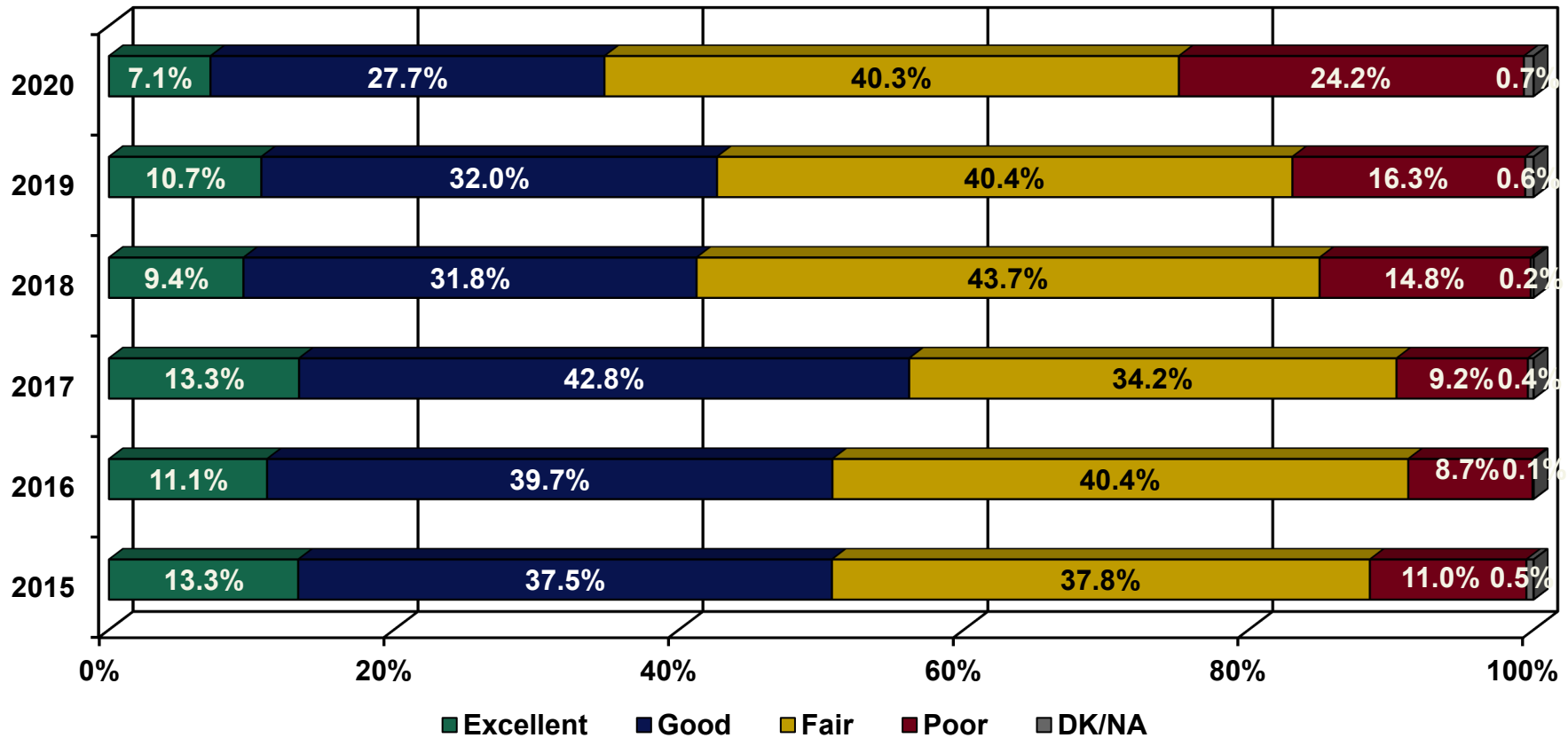


- Decreased by 1 to 5,000 miles
- Decreased by 5,001 miles or more
- About the same miles as driven as before
- Increased by 1 to 5,000 miles
- Increased by 5,001 miles or more
- DK/NA

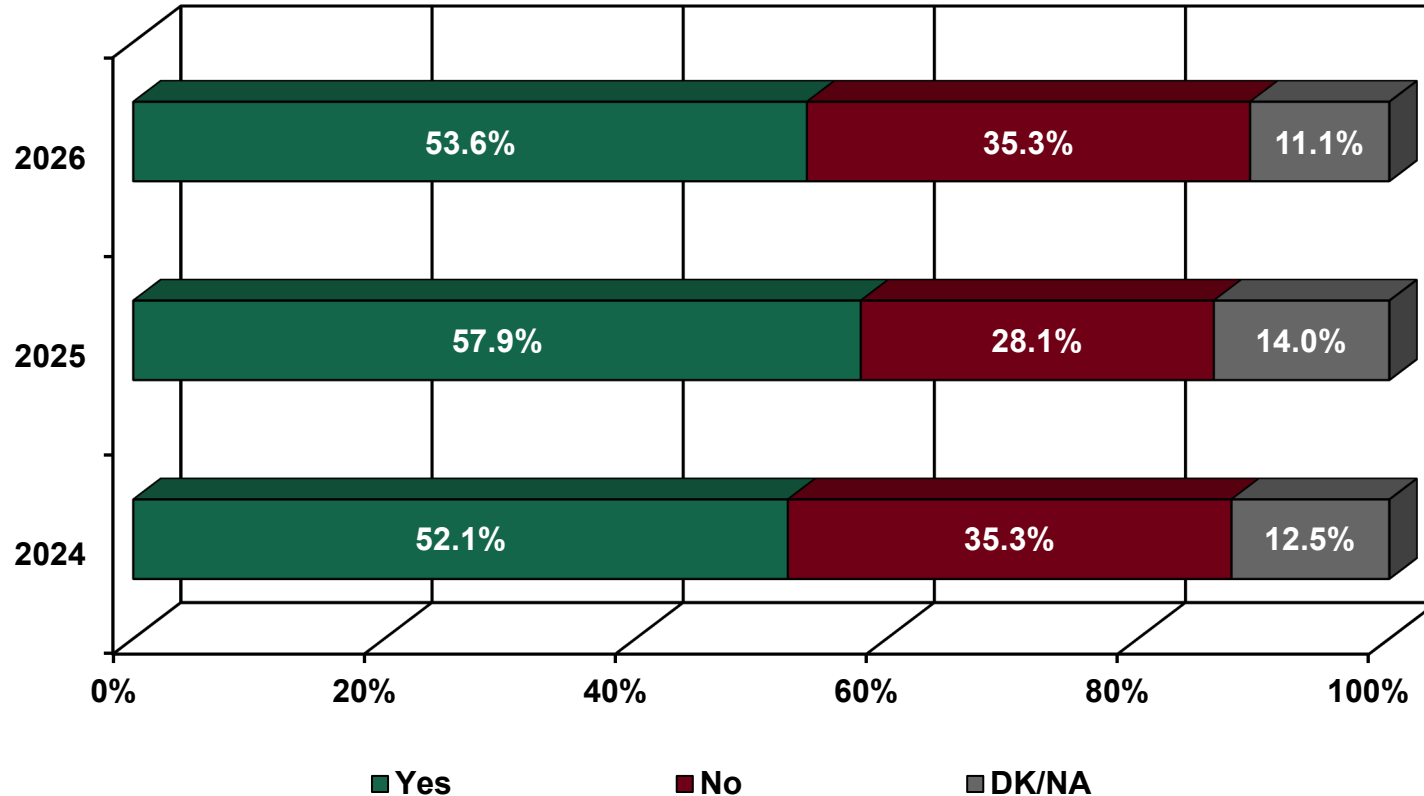
# Q16. Rating of Traffic Flow in City or Town



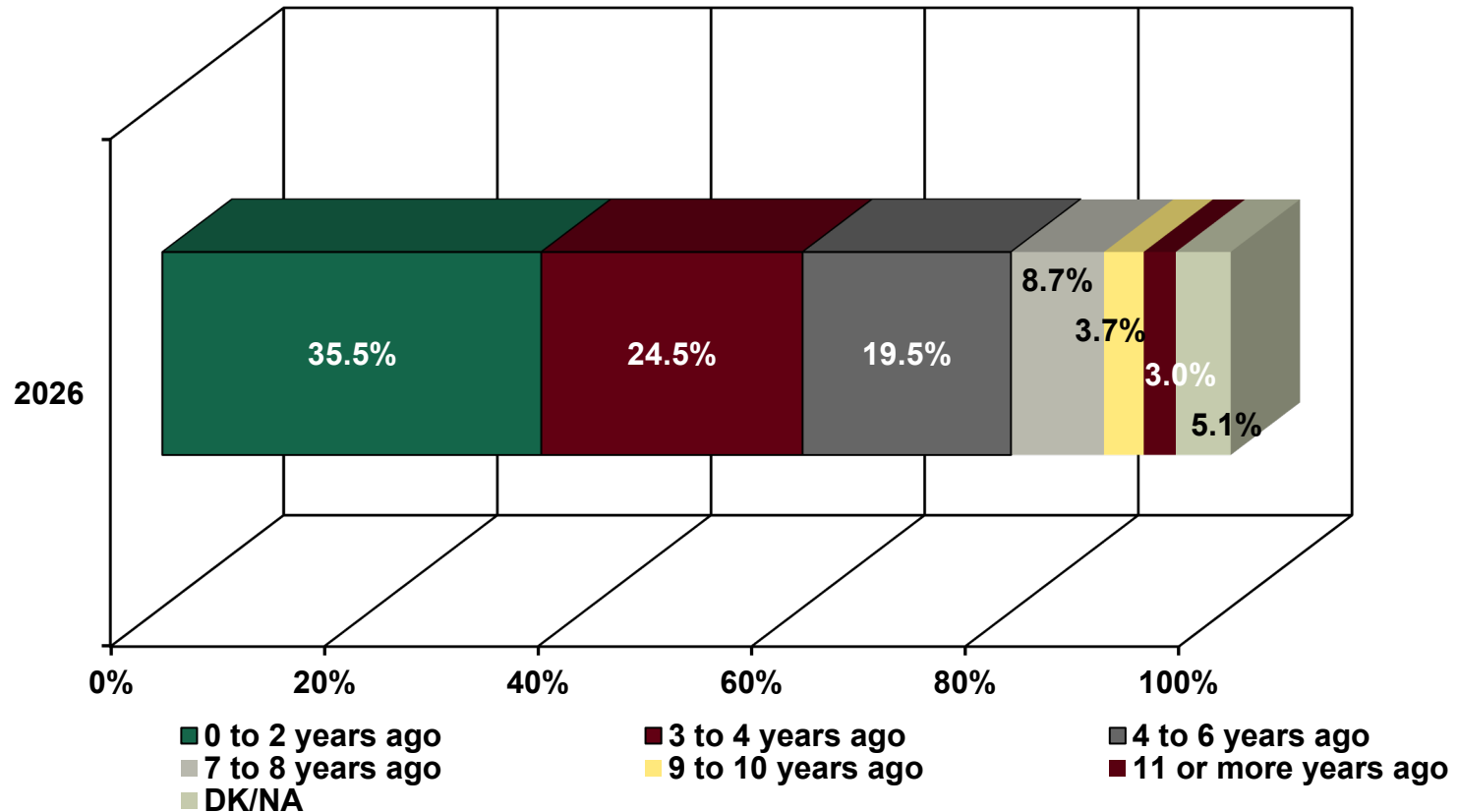
# Q16. Rating of Traffic Flow in City or Town



# Q17. Noticed An Increase in Commercial Truck Traffic in Last 3 Years (n=1,400)

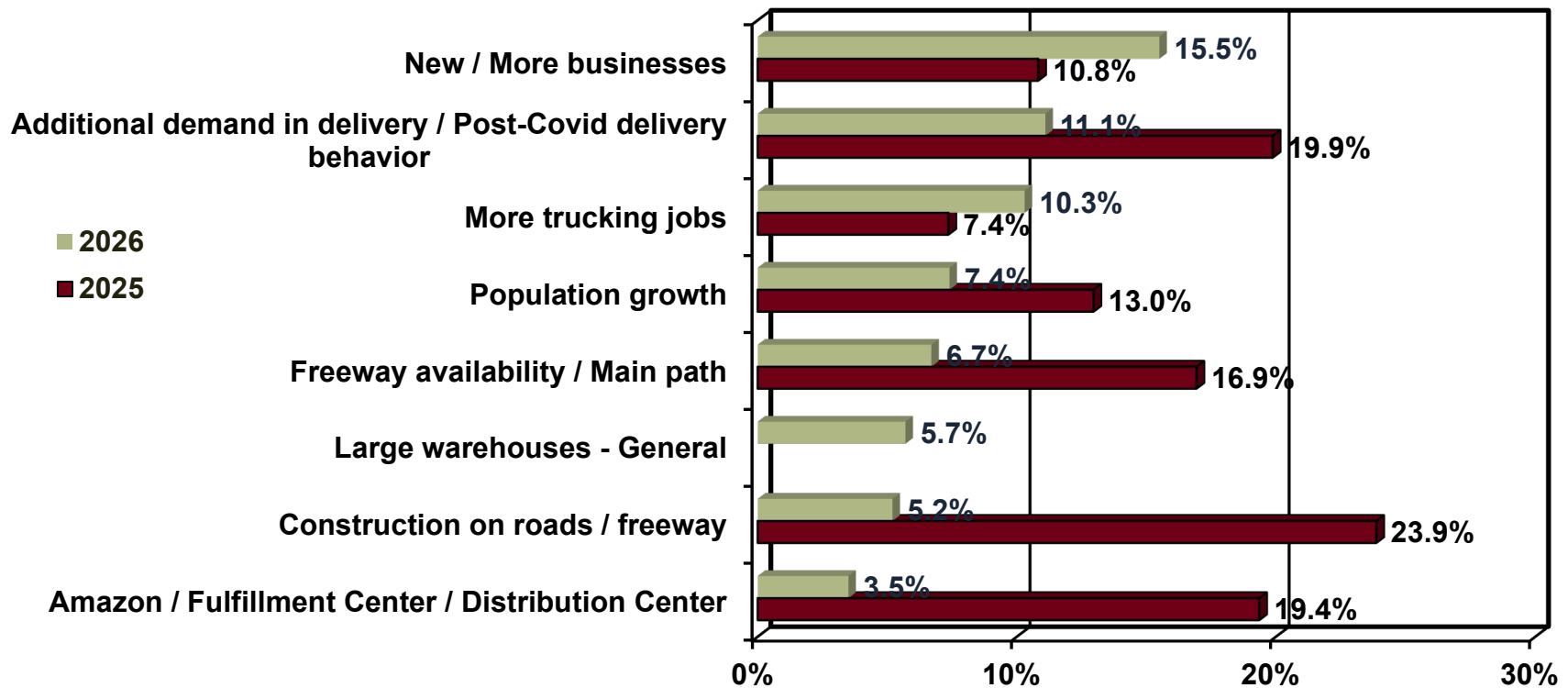


# Q18. When Did You First Notice the Increase in Commercial Truck Traffic

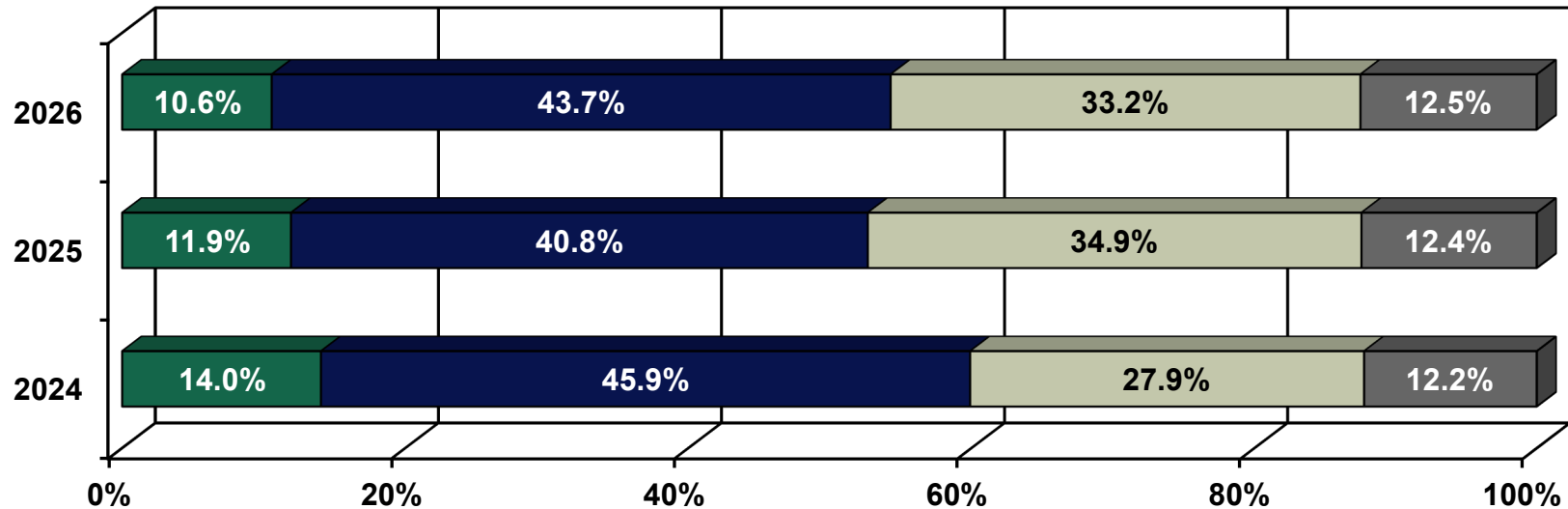


# Q19. Reasons for Increased Commercial Truck Traffic

(noticed commercial truck traffic increase only from Q18)

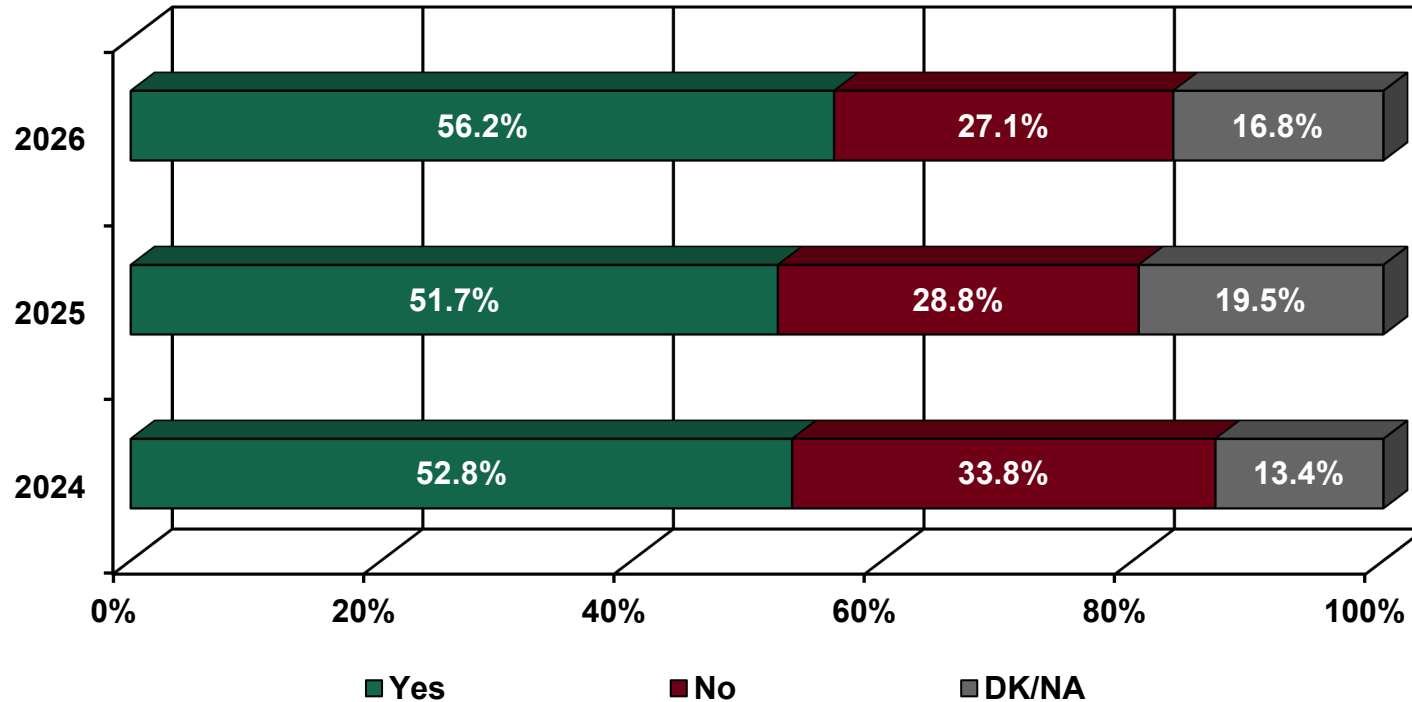


# Q20. Opinion on New Local Warehouse Facilities' Built in Last 3 Years Impact

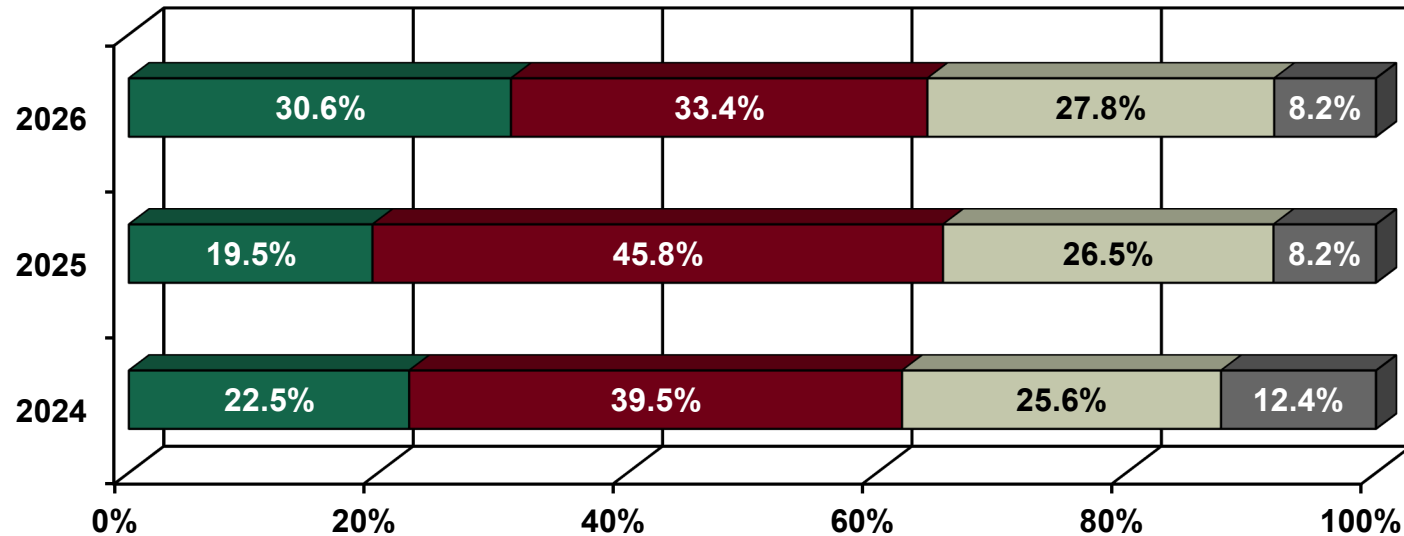


- The new warehouse facilities built in the last few years have caused more commercial truck traffic and are not worth the extra traffic, safety hazards and cost of additional road repairs
- The new warehouse facilities built in the last few years have created new construction and distribution jobs, and increased sales and property tax revenues in Kern County and are a benefit to the County
- Mixed opinions
- DK/NA

# Q21. Should Commercial Trucks Pay a Higher Vehicle Registration Fee to Offset Road Repair



# Q22. Opinion on Registration Fees for Electric Vehicles

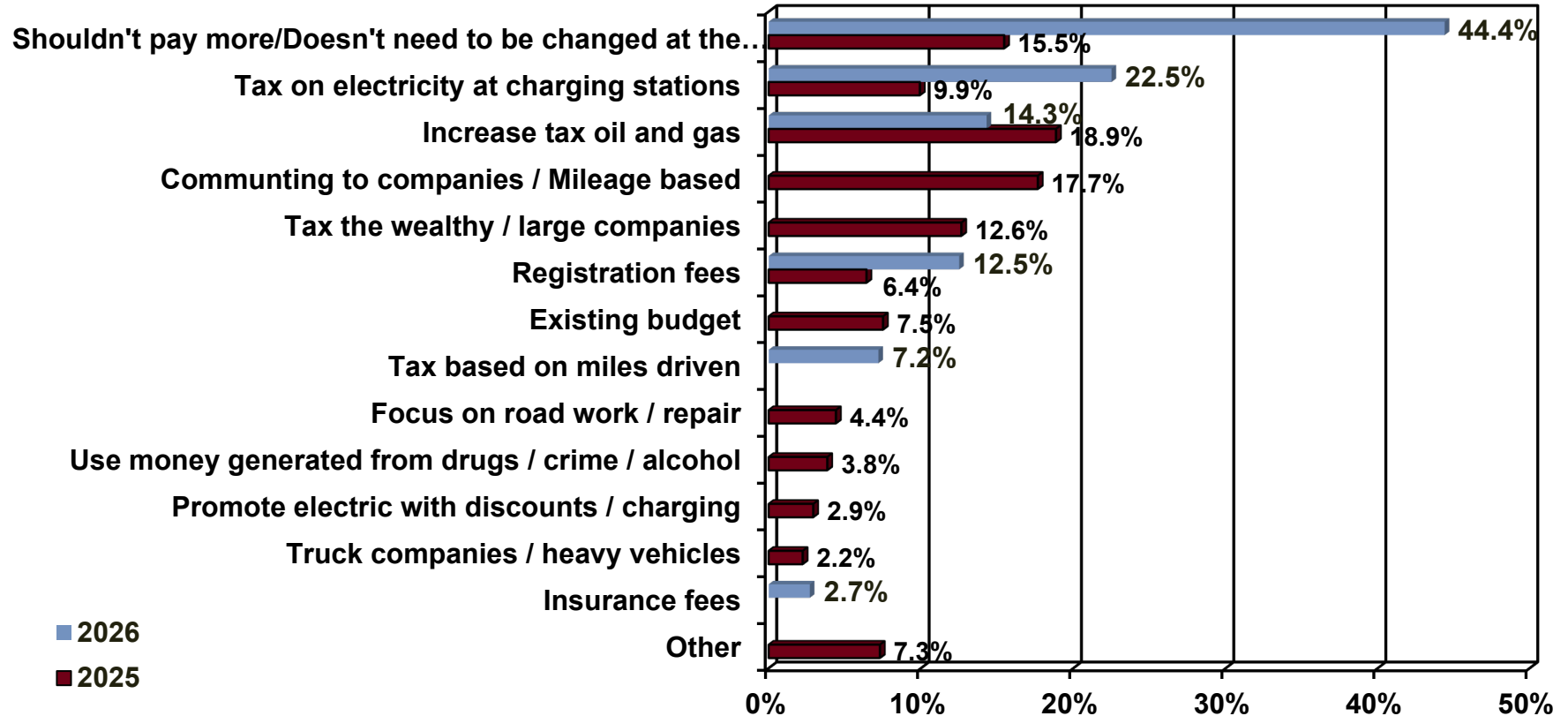


- Some people say that electric vehicles, plug-in hybrid vehicles and hybrid vehicles should receive a discounted registration fee in order to provide car buyers more incentive to purchase an electric vehicle
- Some people say that electric vehicles, plug-in hybrid vehicles and hybrid vehicles should pay higher registration fees
- Mixed opinions
- DK/NA

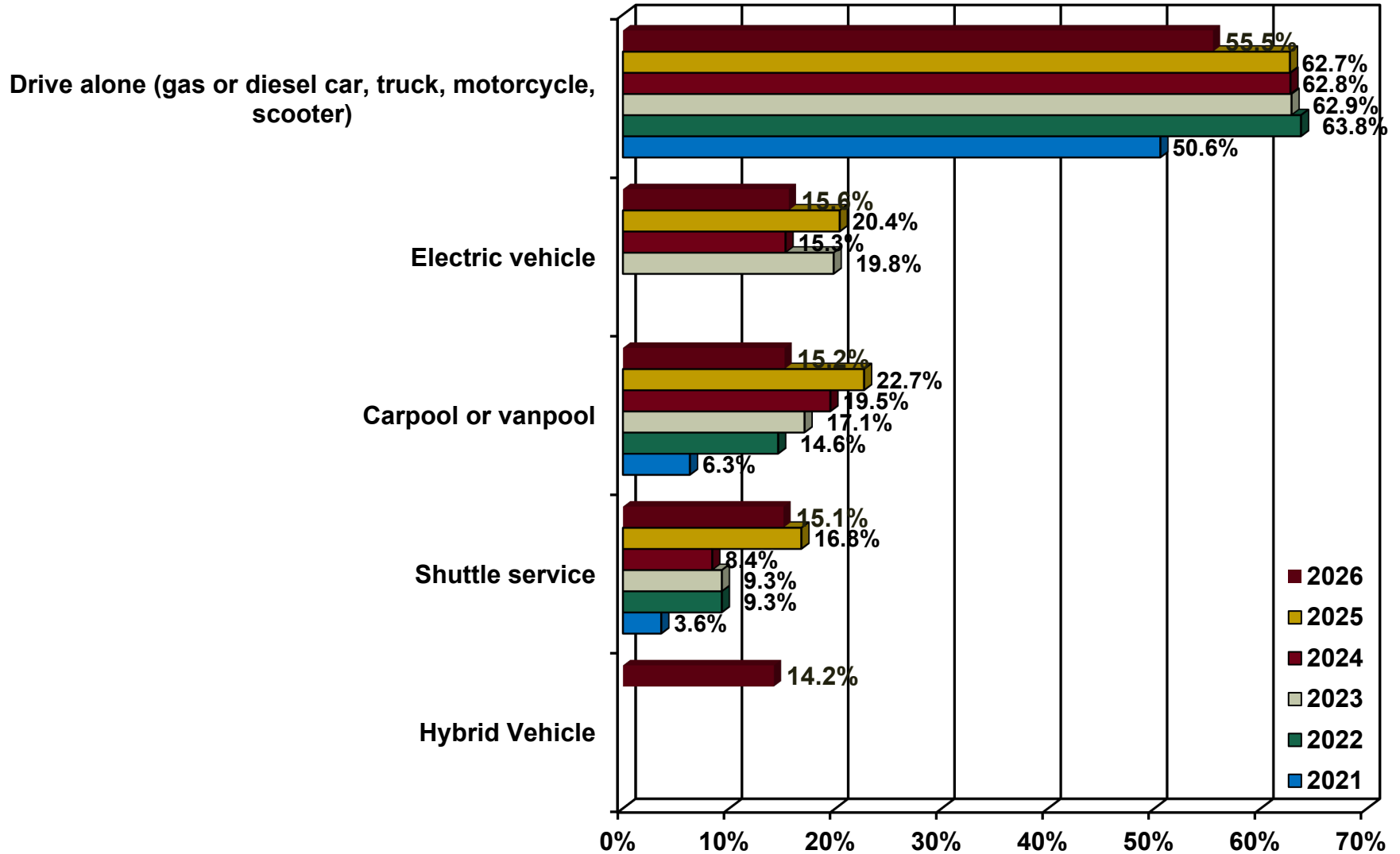
Note: The phrase “plug-in hybrid vehicles and hybrid vehicles” was added to the first opinion in 2026.

# Q23. Preferences for Replacement of Gas Tax Revenue

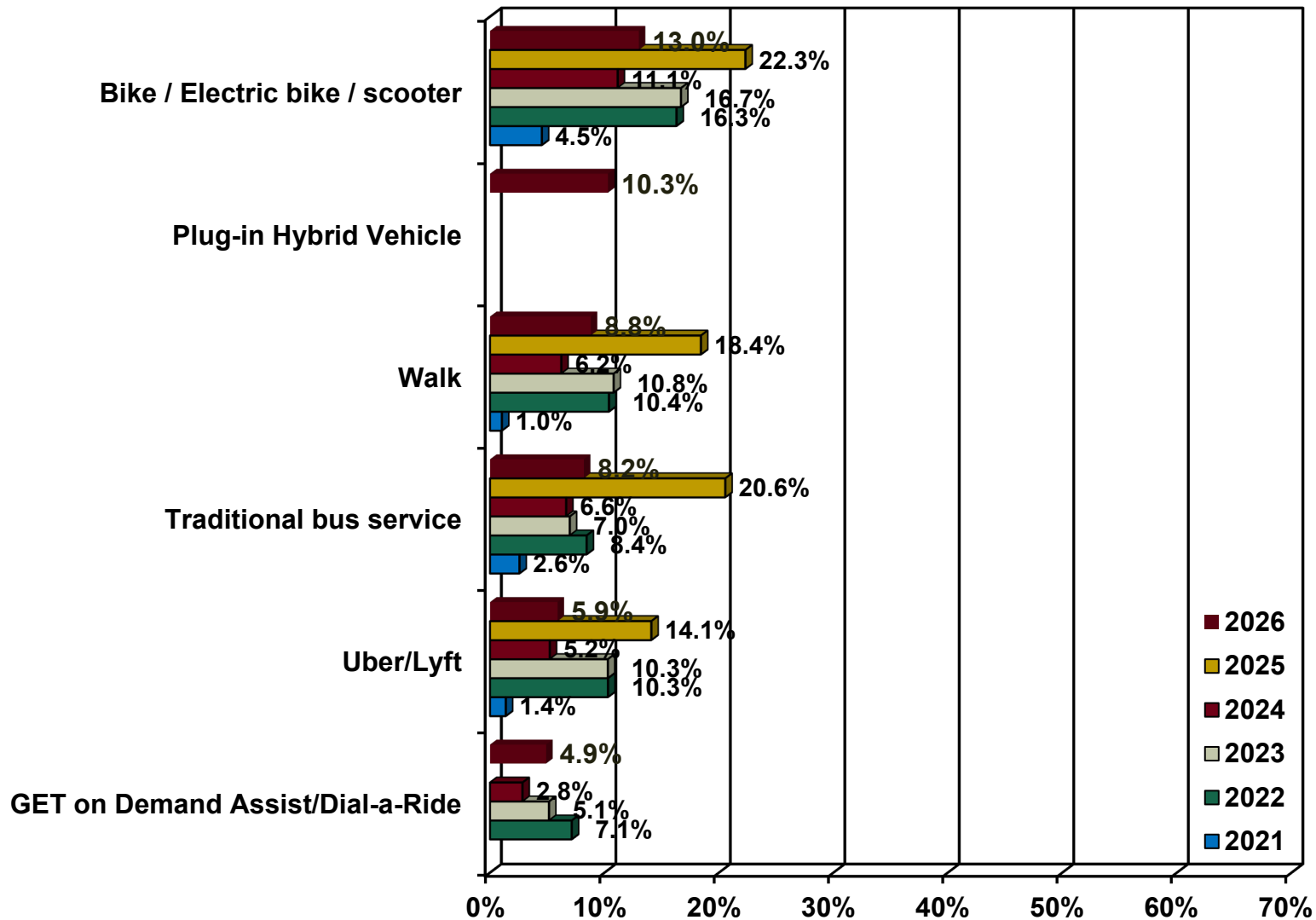
(support discounted fees for EVs from Q22)



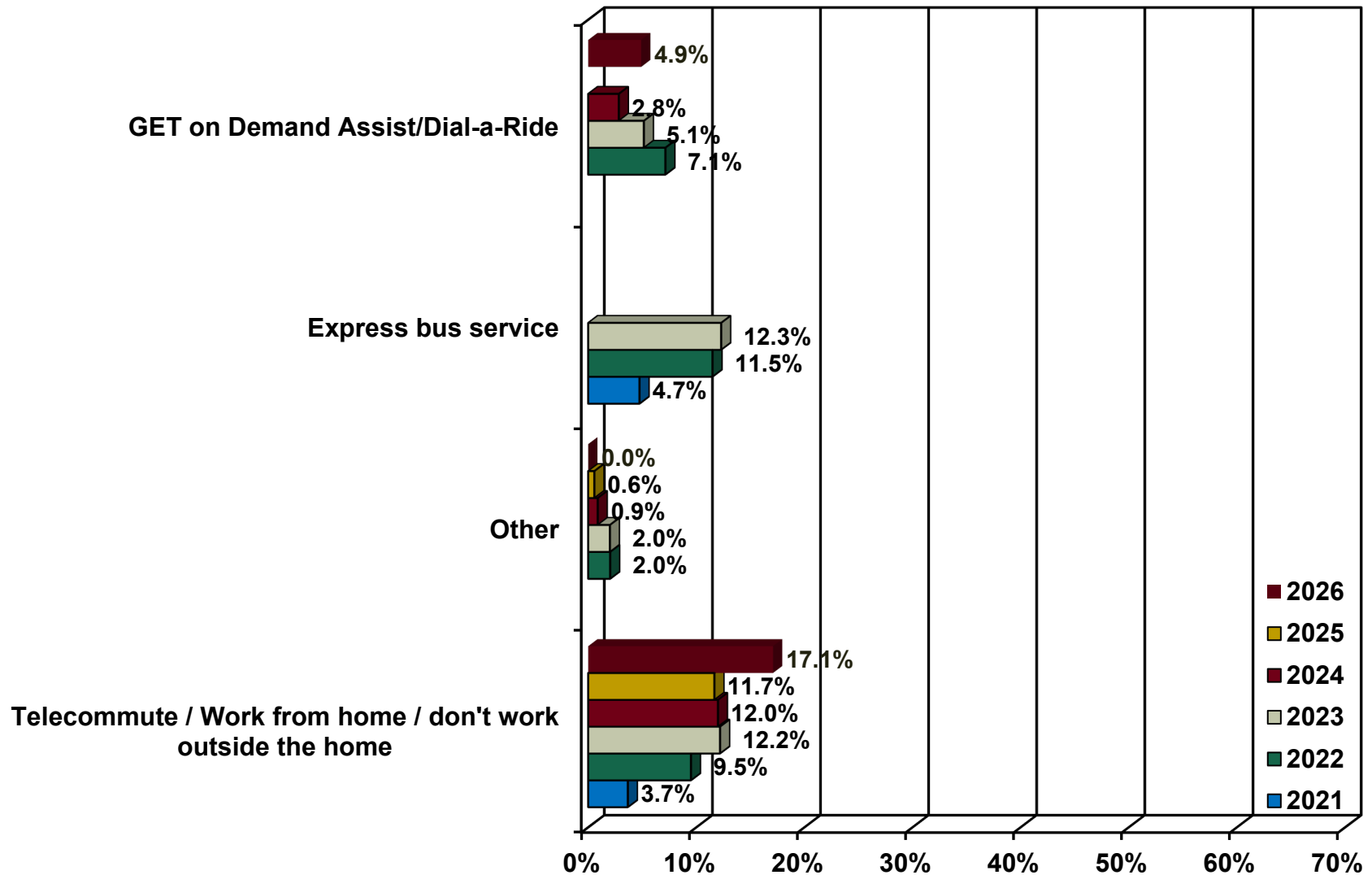
# Q24. Most Likely Alternative Transportation (drive alone only from Q6)



# Q24. Most Likely Alternative Transportation (drive alone only from Q6) (n= 1,066) Continued



# Q24. Most Likely Alternative Transportation (drive alone only from Q6) (n= 1,066) Continued



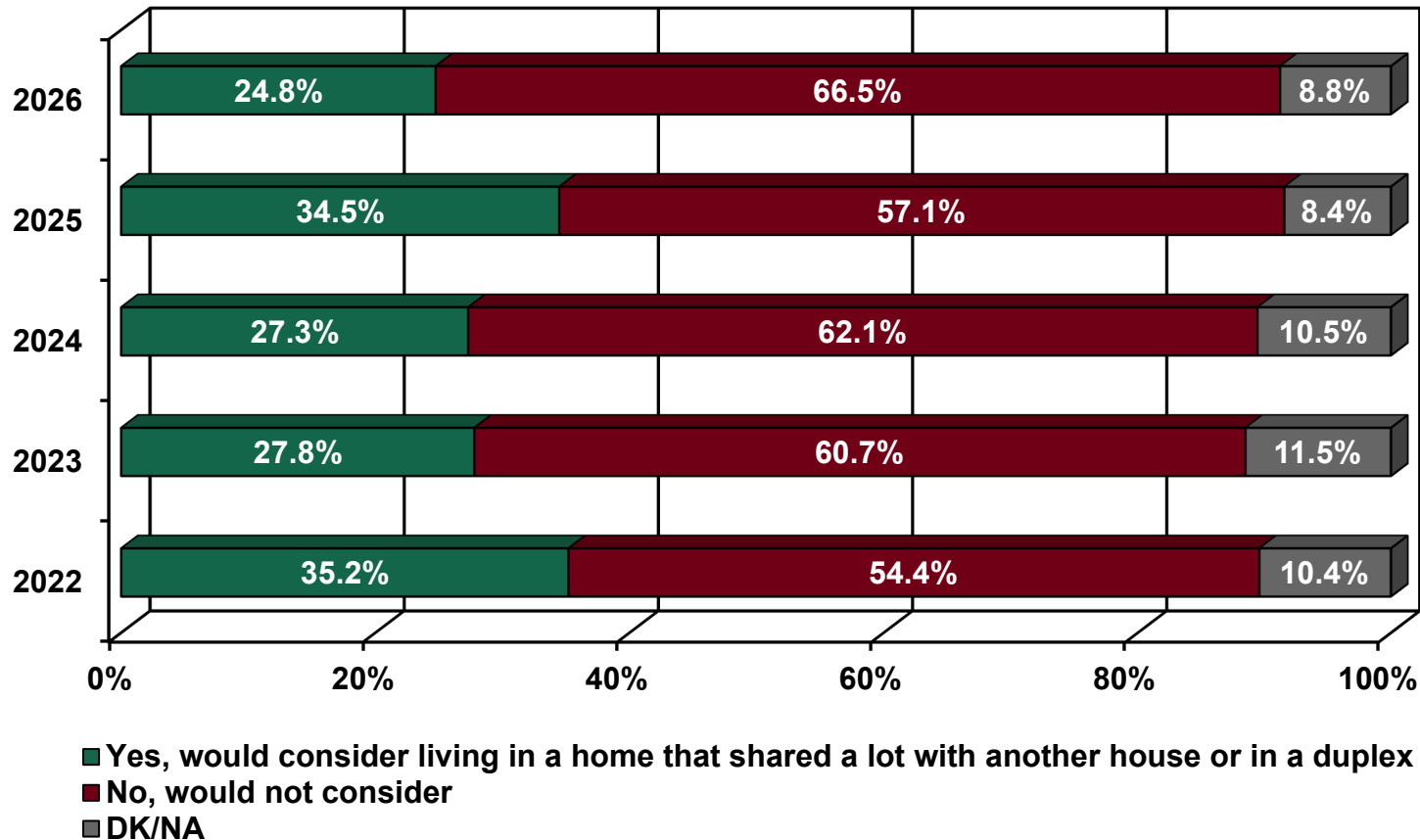
# Q25 & Q26. Housing Option Preferences

## Current Housing Comparisons

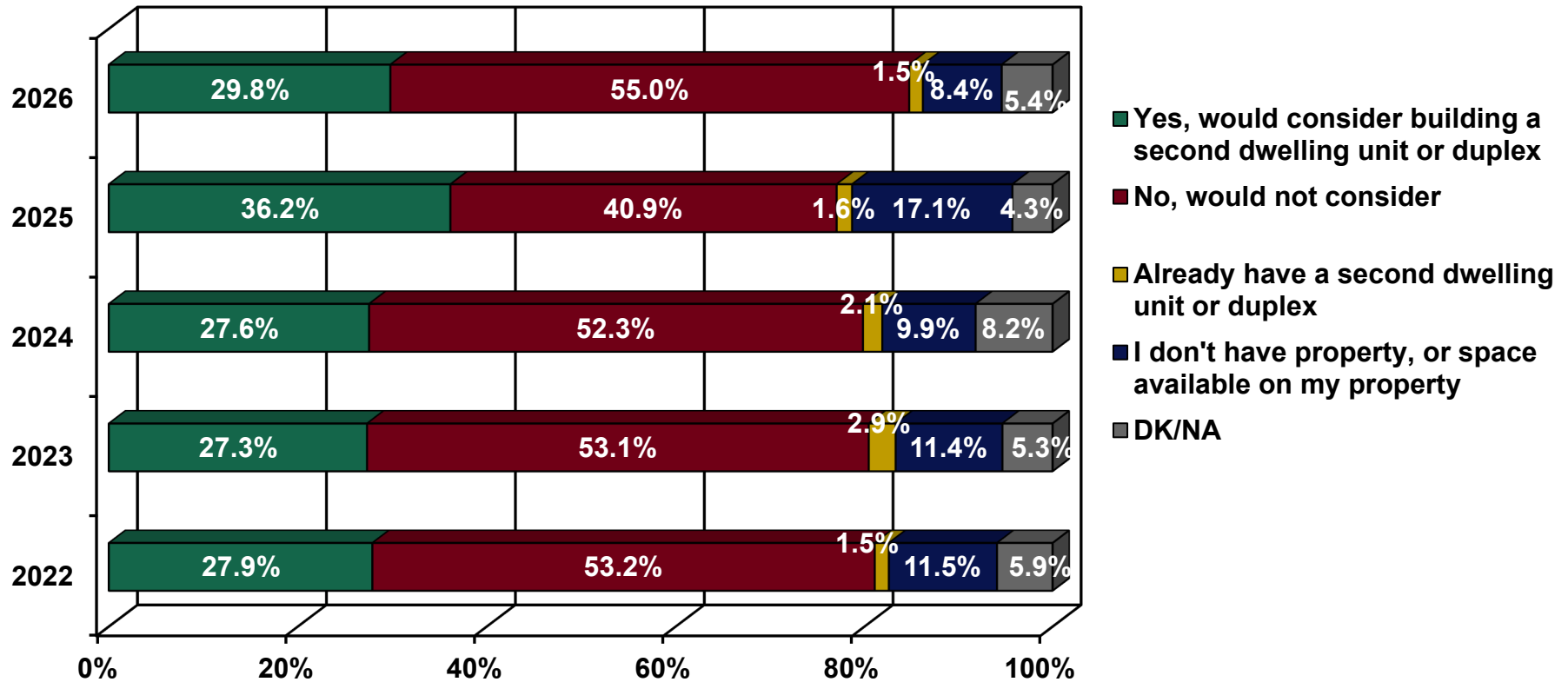
		25. Next, please consider a variety of housing issues. Do you currently live in _____												
		A single-family home with a small yard		A single-family home with a large yard		A townhouse or condominium		A building with offices and stores on the first floor and condominiums on the upper floors		An apartment		DK/NA		
		Column N %	Count	Column N %	Count	Column N %	Count	Column N %	Count	Column N %	Count	Column N %	Count	
26. Given your household income, would you consider living in _____ if you were to relocate within Kern County?	26a. A single-family home with a small yard	Definitely Yes	51.4%	228	22.6%	128	43.4%	10	0.0%	0	57.3%	62	29.6%	11
		Probably Yes	31.2%	138	37.2%	211	51.3%	12	0.0%	0	29.6%	32	29.6%	11
		No	11.5%	51	35.8%	203	5.2%	1	0.0%	0	9.5%	10	23.0%	9
		DK/NA	5.9%	26	4.4%	25	0.0%	0	0.0%	0	3.6%	4	17.8%	7
		Total Yes	82.6%		59.8%		94.8%		0.0%		86.9%		59.2%	
	26b. A single-family home with a large yard	Definitely Yes	50.7%	224	61.6%	350	67.5%	16	0.0%	0	57.9%	63	36.0%	14
		Probably Yes	24.6%	109	24.5%	139	18.6%	4	0.0%	0	20.5%	22	30.4%	12
		No	17.1%	76	10.2%	58	9.8%	2	0.0%	0	18.7%	20	13.5%	5
		DK/NA	7.6%	34	3.6%	21	4.1%	1	0.0%	0	2.9%	3	20.0%	8
		Total Yes	75.3%		86.2%		86.1%		0.0%		78.4%		66.4%	
	26c. A townhouse or condominium	Definitely Yes	9.6%	42	8.3%	47	47.6%	11	0.0%	0	43.1%	47	14.2%	5
		Probably Yes	20.0%	89	22.5%	128	19.6%	5	0.0%	0	25.9%	28	26.0%	10
		No	60.4%	268	63.0%	358	27.1%	6	0.0%	0	21.5%	23	29.3%	11
		DK/NA	10.0%	44	6.2%	35	5.8%	1	0.0%	0	9.5%	10	30.6%	12
		Total Yes	29.6%		30.8%		67.1%		0.0%		69.0%		40.1%	
	26d. A building with offices and stores on the first floor and condominiums on the upper floors	Definitely Yes	7.7%	34	6.8%	39	11.2%	3	0.0%	0	20.0%	22	14.2%	5
		Probably Yes	15.4%	68	16.2%	92	22.2%	5	0.0%	0	21.2%	23	8.8%	3
		No	70.0%	310	71.6%	407	56.1%	13	0.0%	0	52.8%	57	49.1%	19
		DK/NA	6.9%	30	5.3%	30	10.5%	2	0.0%	0	6.1%	7	27.9%	11
		Total Yes	23.1%		23.0%		33.5%		0.0%		41.1%		23.0%	
26e. An apartment	Definitely Yes	8.3%	37	4.3%	24	17.1%	4	0.0%	0	42.9%	47	20.1%	8	
	Probably Yes	18.1%	80	11.3%	64	21.8%	5	0.0%	0	36.1%	39	16.5%	6	
	No	68.3%	302	80.2%	455	37.6%	9	0.0%	0	12.9%	14	37.6%	15	
	DK/NA	5.3%	24	4.3%	24	23.5%	6	0.0%	0	8.0%	9	25.9%	10	
	Total Yes	26.4%		15.5%		38.9%		0.0%		79.1%		36.5%		

Note Q27 is shown in the demographic section

# Q28. Consider Living in a Home That Shares a Lot With Another House or Living in a Duplex



# Q29. Consider Building Second Dwelling Unit or Converting Home to Duplex (homeowners only)





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