

2025 City of Newton Community Survey
Findings Report

Presented to the City of Newton, KS

October 2025

ETC INSTITUTE

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Purpose

ETC Institute administered a community survey for the City of Newton in September 2025. The survey was conducted as part of the City's effort to gather resident opinions and feedback on programs and services. The results of the survey will be used to help the City focus on future growth, especially land use, infrastructure, transportation, housing, and urban design. This is the first community survey ETC Institute has conducted for the City of Newton.

Methodology

A five-page survey was mailed to a random sample of households throughout the City of Newton. The mailed survey included a postage-paid return envelope and a cover letter. The cover letter explained the purpose of the survey, encouraged residents to return their surveys in the mail, and provided a link to an online survey for those who preferred to complete the survey over the internet.

After the surveys were mailed, ETC Institute followed up with residents to encourage participation. To prevent people who were not residents of Newton from participating, everyone who completed the survey online was required to enter their home address prior to submitting the survey. ETC Institute then matched the addresses that were entered online with the addresses that were originally selected from the random sample. If the address from a survey completed online did not match one of the addresses selected for the sample, the online survey was not counted.

The goal was to receive at least 400 completed surveys. This goal was far exceeded, with a total of 506 households completing the survey. The results for the random sample of 506 households have a 95% level of confidence with a precision of at least +/- 4.3%.

Interpretation of "Don't Know" Responses. The percentage of "don't know" responses has been excluded from many of the graphs in this report to assess satisfaction with residents who had used City services and to facilitate valid comparisons with other communities in the benchmarking analysis. Since the number of "don't know" responses often reflects the utilization and awareness of City services, the percentage of "don't know" responses has been included in the tabular data in Section 4 of this report. When the "don't know" responses have been excluded, the text of this report will indicate that the responses have been excluded with the phrase "who had an opinion."

This report contains the following:

- a summary of the methodology for administering the survey and major findings
- charts showing the overall results of the survey (Section 1)
- benchmarking data that show how the results for the City of Newton compare to results in other communities in the Plains Region and across the U.S. (Section 2)

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- Importance-Satisfaction analysis that identifies priorities for investment (Section 3)
- tabular data showing the overall results for all questions on the survey (Section 4)
- a copy of the cover letter and survey instrument (Section 5)

Perceptions of the City

Two-thirds (67%) of the residents surveyed, *who had an opinion,* are either "very satisfied" or "satisfied" with the overall quality of City services in Newton; 59% are satisfied with the overall quality of life in the City, and 57% are satisfied with the overall condition of housing in their neighborhood.

Satisfaction with Specific City Services

Public Safety. The highest levels of satisfaction with public safety services, based upon the combined percentage of "very satisfied" and "satisfied" responses among residents *who had an opinion*, were: overall quality of local fire protection (89%), overall quality of local EMS services (86%), how quickly public safety personnel respond to emergencies (82%), and overall feeling of safety in neighborhoods (78%).

Based on the sum of their top three choices, the public safety services that residents thought should receive the most emphasis over the next two years were: 1) the City's overall efforts to prevent crime, overall quality of local police protection, and 3) visibility of police in neighborhoods.

Perception of Safety. The highest levels of safety perception items in the City, based upon the combined percentage of "very safe" and "safe" responses among residents *who had an opinion*, were: in neighborhoods during the day (93%), in commercial and retail areas in the City (77%), and in neighborhoods at night (73%).

Parks and Recreation. The highest levels of satisfaction with parks and recreation, based upon the combined percentage of "very satisfied" and "satisfied" responses among residents *who had an opinion*, were: community events (76%), walking and biking trails in the City (73%), appearance and maintenance of City parks (74%), and quality of park facilities such as playgrounds, open space, and picnic shelters (73%).

Based on the sum of their top three choices, the parks and recreation service that residents thought should receive the most emphasis over the next two years were: 1) quality of park facilities such as playgrounds, open space, and picnic shelters, 2) appearance and maintenance of City parks, and 3) walking and biking trails in the City.

Code Enforcement. The highest levels of satisfaction with code enforcement, based upon the combined percentage of "very satisfied" and "satisfied" responses among residents *who had an opinion*, were: enforcing the maintenance of residential property (42%), enforcing the maintenance of commercial property (42%), and enforcing the cleanup of litter and debris (38%).

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Based on the sum of their top three choices, the code enforcement services that residents thought should receive the most emphasis over the next two years were: 1) enforcing the cleanup of litter and debris, 2) enforcing the mowing and trimming of residential property, and 3) enforcing the maintenance of residential property.

Leadership. The highest levels of satisfaction with City leadership, based upon the combined percentage of "very satisfied" and "satisfied" responses among residents *who had an opinion*, were: overall effectiveness of the City Manager and Department Heads (38%) and overall quality of leadership provided by the City's elected officials (35%).

Communication. The highest levels of satisfaction with communication, based upon the combined percentage of "very satisfied" and "satisfied" responses among residents *who had an opinion*, were: availability of information about City programs and services (52%), content of the City's e-newsletters (46%)m and the City's efforts to keep residents informed about local issues (46%).

City Maintenance. The highest levels of satisfaction with parks and recreation, based upon the combined percentage of "very satisfied" and "satisfied" responses among residents *who had an opinion*, were: weekly trash collection service (88%), bulky-item pickup program (79%), maintenance of City buildings, such as City Hall (72%), maintenance of traffic signals/signs (72%) and overall cleanliness of city streets and other public areas (66%).

Based on the sum of their top three choices, the City maintenance services that residents thought should receive the most emphasis over the next two years were: 1) maintenance of neighborhood streets, 2) snow removal on City streets, and 3) maintenance of major City streets.

Other Findings

- Sixty-five percent (65%) of residents indicated their primary source of information about City issues, services, and events is social media (Facebook, Instagram). Other sources include: mailers and bill inserts (39%), the City website (34%), and local newspapers (31%). *Multiple selections could be made for this question.*
- Forty percent (40%) of residents surveyed indicated they had called, emailed, or visited the City with a question, problem, or complaint during the past year. Of those, 63% thought it was "very easy" or "easy" to contact the person they needed to reach. When asked about the frequency that City employees displayed various behaviors, 88% *who had an opinion* indicated employees were "always" or "usually" courteous and polite, and 81% indicated that employees "always" or "usually" gave prompt, accurate, and complete answers to their questions.

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- Fifty-four percent (54%) of residents indicated the type of business or community space they would like to see in the redeveloped area of 320 N. Main after the old Dillons building has been demolished is retail/entertainment/shopping. Other types of businesses or community spaces residents would like to see include: event space/farmers market (51%) and public park/green space (32%). *Multiple selections could be made for this question.*

- Nearly three-fourths (73%) of residents surveyed, *who had an opinion*, indicated they are "very supportive" or "supportive" of the City investing public dollars in The Depot and its redevelopment; 17% are "not very supportive" and 10% are "not at all supportive" of this investment.

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How the City of Newton Compares to Other Communities Nationally

Satisfaction levels for the City of Newton **rated above the U.S. average in 31 of the 39 areas** that were assessed. The City rated significantly higher than the U.S. average (difference of 5% or more) in 24 of these areas. Listed below are the comparisons between Newton and the U.S. average:

Service	Newton, KS	U.S.	Difference	Category
Bulky-item pickup program	79.3%	45.3%	34.0%	City Maintenance
How quickly public safety personnel respond to emergencies	81.9%	51.7%	30.2%	Public Safety Services
Weekly trash collection service	88.0%	60.8%	27.2%	City Maintenance
Overall quality of City services	67.4%	42.9%	24.5%	Perceptions of the City
Overall quality of local police protection	70.8%	49.0%	21.8%	Public Safety Services
Maintenance of major city streets	64.8%	43.5%	21.3%	City Maintenance
Overall quality of local EMS services	86.1%	65.2%	20.9%	Public Safety Services
Maintenance of City buildings, such as City Hall	72.2%	51.5%	20.7%	City Maintenance
Overall quality of local fire protection	88.5%	68.0%	20.5%	Public Safety Services
In your neighborhood during the day	92.5%	72.3%	20.2%	Perception of Safety
In commercial and retail areas in the City	76.5%	57.2%	19.3%	Perception of Safety
Maintenance of traffic signals/signs	71.7%	54.4%	17.3%	City Maintenance
In your neighborhood at night	73.4%	56.2%	17.2%	Perception of Safety
Overall cleanliness of city streets and other public areas	65.8%	49.2%	16.6%	City Maintenance
Mowing and trimming along city streets, parks, and other public areas	65.1%	49.3%	15.8%	City Maintenance
Overall flow of traffic and congestion management	57.1%	43.2%	13.9%	City Maintenance
Adequacy of city street lighting	64.7%	52.4%	12.3%	City Maintenance
The City's overall efforts to prevent crime	56.6%	46.0%	10.6%	Public Safety Services
In City parks and recreation facilities	60.8%	52.4%	8.4%	Perception of Safety
The availability of information about City programs and services	51.6%	44.1%	7.5%	Communication
Enforcement of local traffic laws	54.0%	46.6%	7.4%	Public Safety Services
Maintenance of neighborhood streets	50.3%	43.2%	7.1%	City Maintenance
The visibility of police in neighborhoods	55.8%	50.3%	5.5%	Public Safety Services
Quality of animal control	51.0%	45.7%	5.3%	Public Safety Services
The visibility of police in retail areas	52.3%	48.7%	3.6%	Public Safety Services
The City's efforts to keep you informed about local issues	45.6%	42.0%	3.6%	Communication
The content of the City's social media accounts	45.0%	42.0%	3.0%	Communication
Maintenance of curbs and sidewalks	45.1%	42.8%	2.3%	City Maintenance
Overall effectiveness of the City Manager and Department Heads	37.9%	36.3%	1.6%	Leadership
The user-friendliness of the City's website	42.8%	42.4%	0.4%	Communication
Enforcing the maintenance of residential property in your neighborhood	42.2%	42.1%	0.1%	Code Enforcement
How open the City is to public involvement and input from residents	34.3%	34.7%	-0.4%	Communication
Overall value that you receive for your City tax dollars and fee	31.7%	32.7%	-1.0%	Perceptions of the City
Overall quality of leadership provided by the City's elected officials	34.6%	36.7%	-2.1%	Leadership
Overall image of the City	42.2%	44.6%	-2.4%	Perceptions of the City
Enforcing the maintenance of commercial property in your neighborhood	42.0%	44.7%	-2.7%	Code Enforcement
Enforcing the cleanup of litter and debris	38.3%	42.5%	-4.2%	Code Enforcement
Snow removal on city streets	45.3%	51.9%	-6.6%	City Maintenance
Enforcing the mowing and trimming of residential property	33.5%	43.1%	-9.6%	Code Enforcement

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How the City of Newton Compares to Other Communities in the Region

Satisfaction levels for the City of Newton **rated above the Plains regional average in 29 of the 39 areas** that were assessed. The City rated significantly higher than the Plains Region (difference of 5% or more) in 20 of these areas. Listed below are the comparisons between Newton and the Plains regional average:

Service	Newton, KS	Plains Region	Difference	Category
Bulky-item pickup program	79.3%	45.8%	33.5%	City Maintenance
Weekly trash collection service	88.0%	61.0%	27.0%	City Maintenance
How quickly public safety personnel respond to emergencies	81.9%	55.6%	26.3%	Public Safety Services
Maintenance of major city streets	64.8%	45.3%	19.5%	City Maintenance
Overall quality of local police protection	70.8%	53.5%	17.3%	Public Safety Services
Maintenance of traffic signals/signs	71.7%	54.5%	17.2%	City Maintenance
Overall quality of local EMS services	86.1%	69.3%	16.8%	Public Safety Services
In commercial and retail areas in the City	76.5%	60.5%	16.0%	Perception of Safety
Overall quality of City services	67.4%	51.5%	15.9%	Perceptions of the City
Maintenance of City buildings, such as City Hall	72.2%	56.9%	15.3%	City Maintenance
Overall quality of local fire protection	88.5%	74.7%	13.8%	Public Safety Services
In your neighborhood during the day	92.5%	79.3%	13.2%	Perception of Safety
Mowing and trimming along city streets, parks, and other public areas	65.1%	53.5%	11.6%	City Maintenance
In your neighborhood at night	73.4%	62.2%	11.2%	Perception of Safety
Overall cleanliness of city streets and other public areas	65.8%	55.2%	10.6%	City Maintenance
Adequacy of city street lighting	64.7%	55.0%	9.7%	City Maintenance
The availability of information about City programs and services	51.6%	43.7%	7.9%	Communication
Overall flow of traffic and congestion management	57.1%	49.3%	7.8%	City Maintenance
Quality of animal control	51.0%	45.7%	5.3%	Public Safety Services
In City parks and recreation facilities	60.8%	55.5%	5.3%	Perception of Safety
Maintenance of neighborhood streets	50.3%	45.4%	4.9%	City Maintenance
Overall effectiveness of the City Manager and Department Heads	37.9%	33.5%	4.4%	Leadership
How open the City is to public involvement and input from residents	34.3%	32.3%	2.0%	Communication
The City's efforts to keep you informed about local issues	45.6%	44.0%	1.6%	Communication
The visibility of police in retail areas	52.3%	51.1%	1.2%	Public Safety Services
The City's overall efforts to prevent crime	56.6%	55.4%	1.2%	Public Safety Services
The user-friendliness of the City's website	42.8%	41.9%	0.9%	Communication
Maintenance of curbs and sidewalks	45.1%	44.2%	0.9%	City Maintenance
The content of the City's social media accounts	45.0%	44.7%	0.3%	Communication
Enforcement of local traffic laws	54.0%	54.2%	-0.2%	Public Safety Services
Overall quality of leadership provided by the City's elected officials	34.6%	35.5%	-0.9%	Leadership
Enforcing the maintenance of residential property in your neighborhood	42.2%	44.7%	-2.5%	Code Enforcement
The visibility of police in neighborhoods	55.8%	59.2%	-3.4%	Public Safety Services
Enforcing the maintenance of commercial property in your neighborhood	42.0%	45.7%	-3.7%	Code Enforcement
Overall image of the City	42.2%	46.8%	-4.6%	Perceptions of the City
Overall value that you receive for your City tax dollars and fees	31.7%	39.4%	-7.7%	Perceptions of the City
Enforcing the mowing and trimming of residential property	33.5%	43.3%	-9.8%	Code Enforcement
Enforcing the cleanup of litter and debris	38.3%	49.4%	-11.1%	Code Enforcement
Snow removal on city streets	45.3%	57.8%	-12.5%	City Maintenance

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Investment Priorities

Recommended Priorities for the Next Two Years. In order to help the City identify investment priorities for the next two years, ETC Institute conducted an Importance-Satisfaction (I-S) analysis. This analysis examined the importance that residents placed on each City service and the level of satisfaction with each service. By identifying services of high importance and low satisfaction, the analysis identified which services will have the most impact on overall satisfaction with City services over the next two years. If the City wants to improve its overall satisfaction rating, the City should prioritize investments in services with the highest Importance Satisfaction (I-S) ratings. Details regarding the methodology for the analysis are provided in the Section 3 of this report.

Priorities for the City by Department. This analysis reviewed the importance of and satisfaction with City departmental services. Based on the results of this analysis, the services that are recommended as the top priorities for investment over the next two years in order to raise the City's overall satisfaction rating are listed below:

Public Safety: the City's overall efforts to prevent crime, visibility of police in neighborhoods, and overall quality of public interaction with the police department

Parks and Recreation: quality of park facilities such as playgrounds, open space, and picnic shelters, appearance and maintenance of City parks, and walking and biking trails in the City

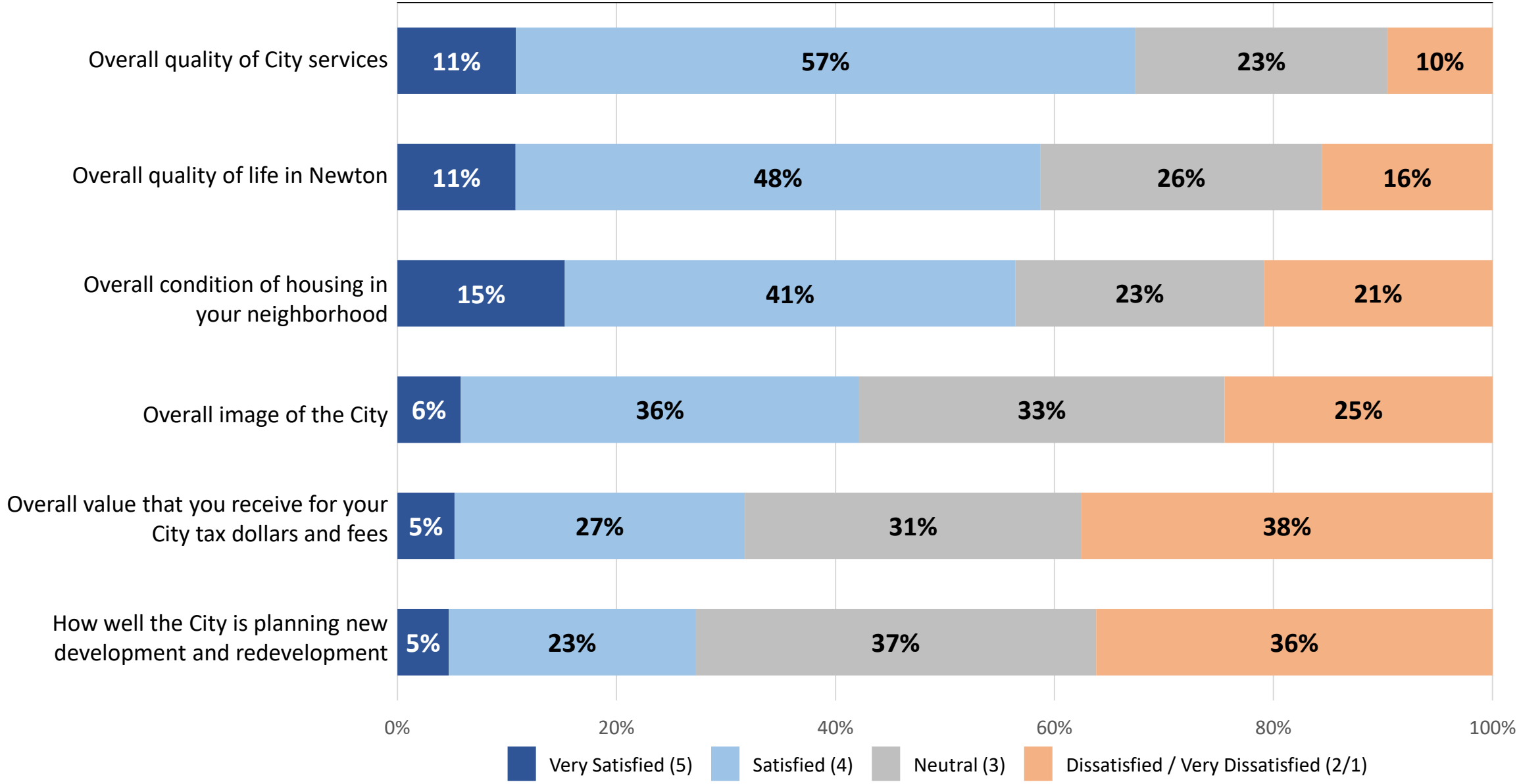
Code Enforcement: enforcing the cleanup of litter and debris and enforcing the mowing and trimming of residential property

City Maintenance: maintenance of neighborhood streets and snow removal on City streets

1 Charts and Graphs

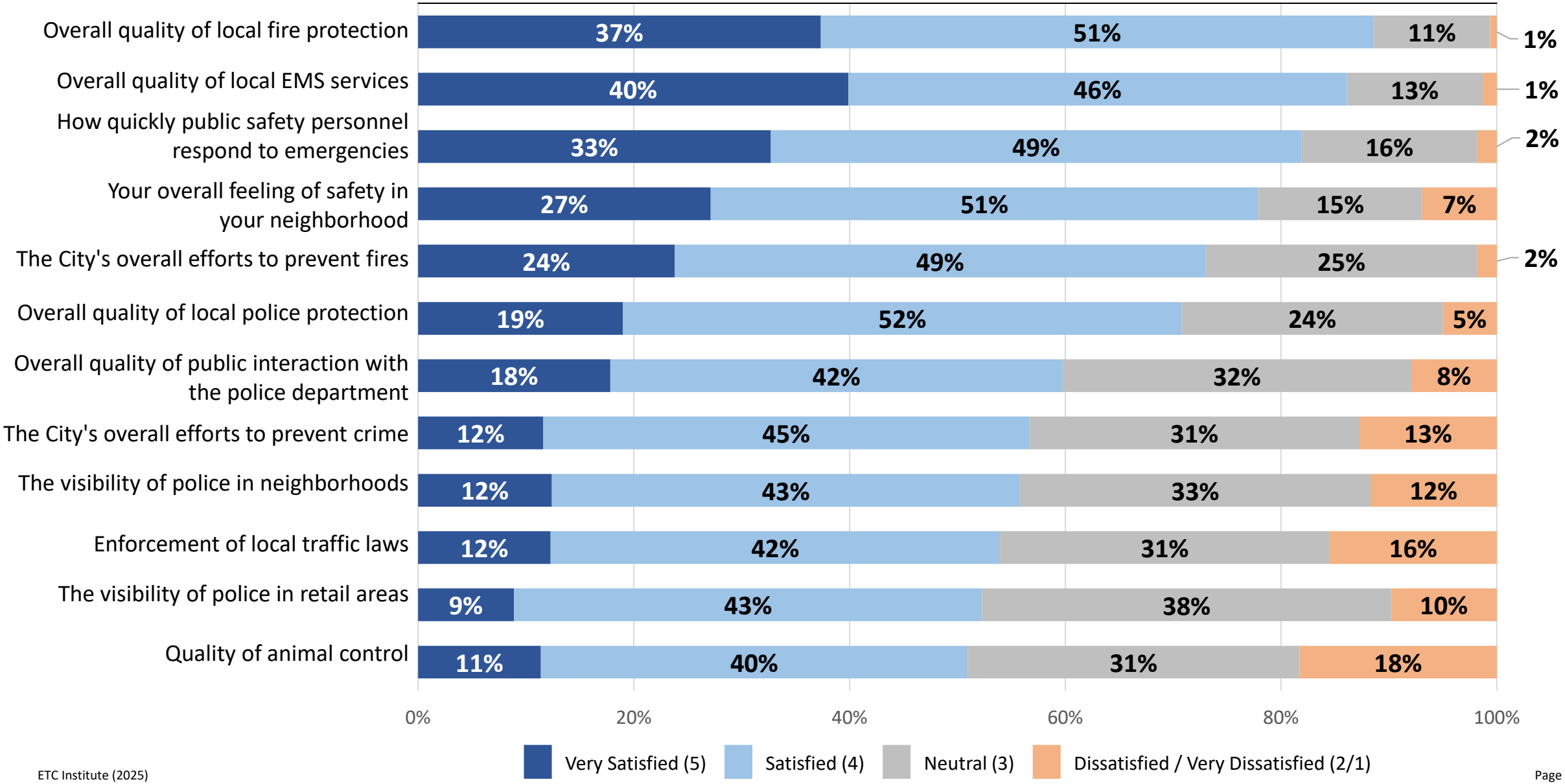
Q1. Satisfaction with Perceptions of the City

by percentage of respondents (excluding "don't know")



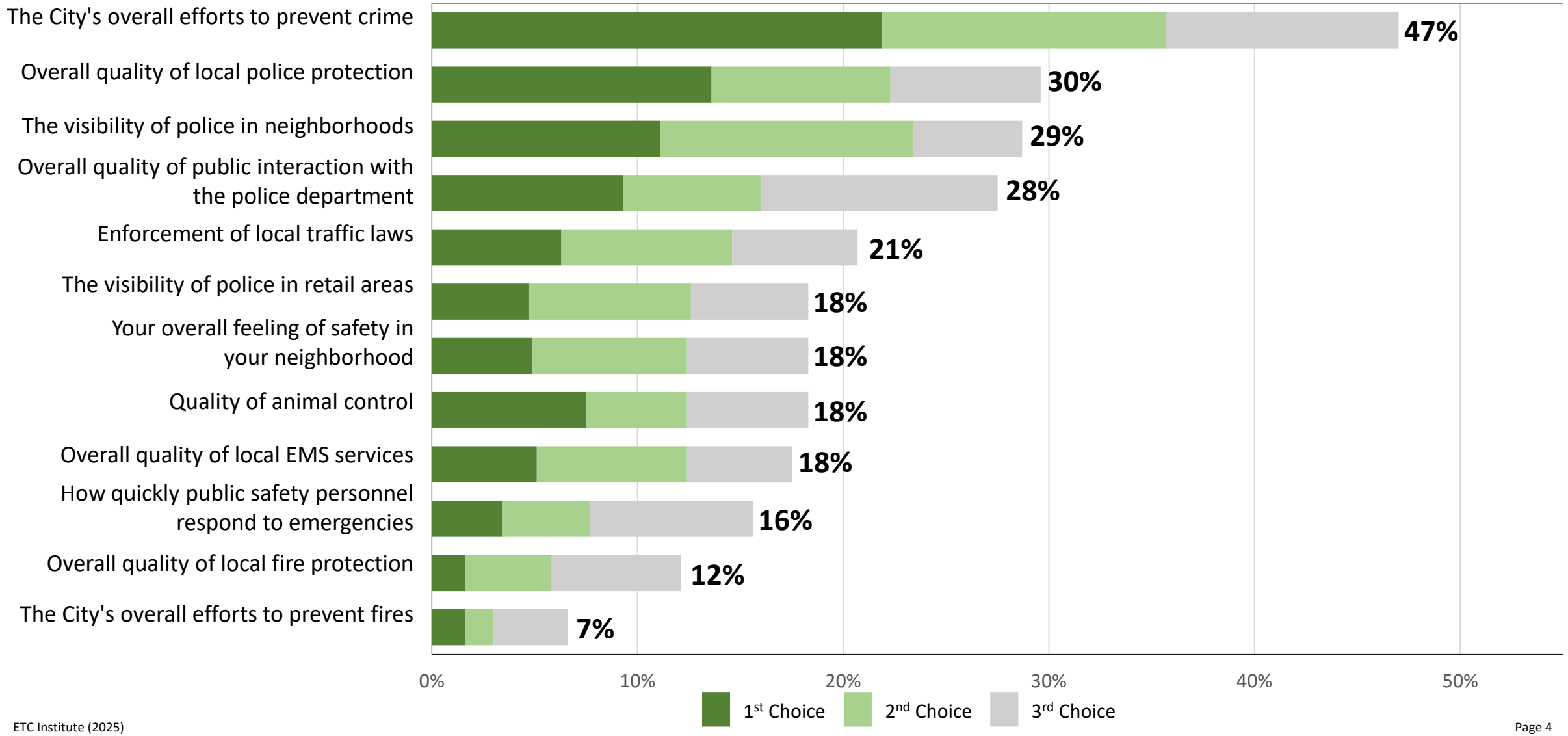
Q2. Satisfaction with Public Safety Services

by percentage of respondents (excluding "don't know")



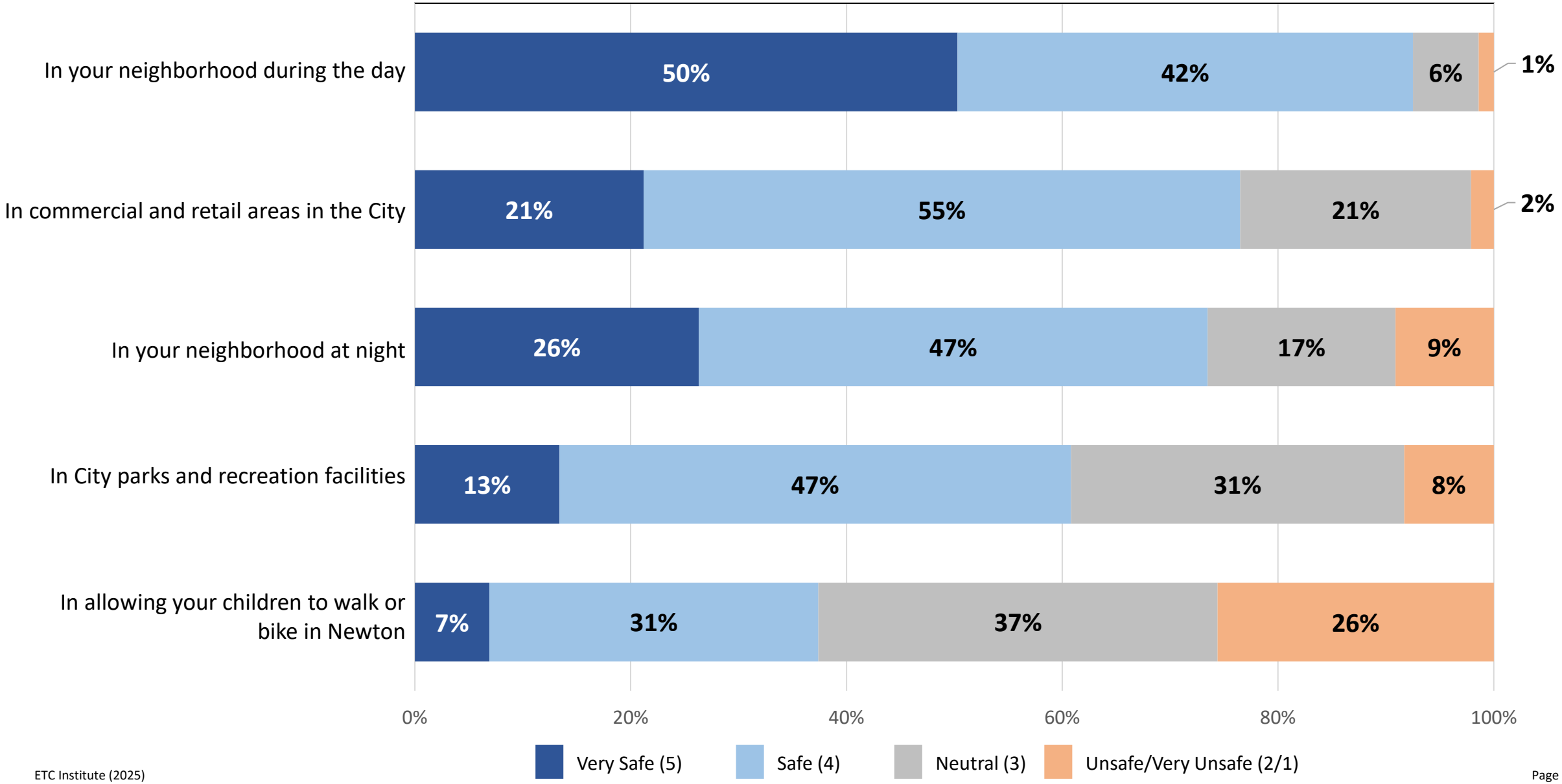
Q3. Public Safety Services That Should Receive the Most Emphasis Over the Next Two Years

by percentage of respondents who selected the item as one of their top three choices



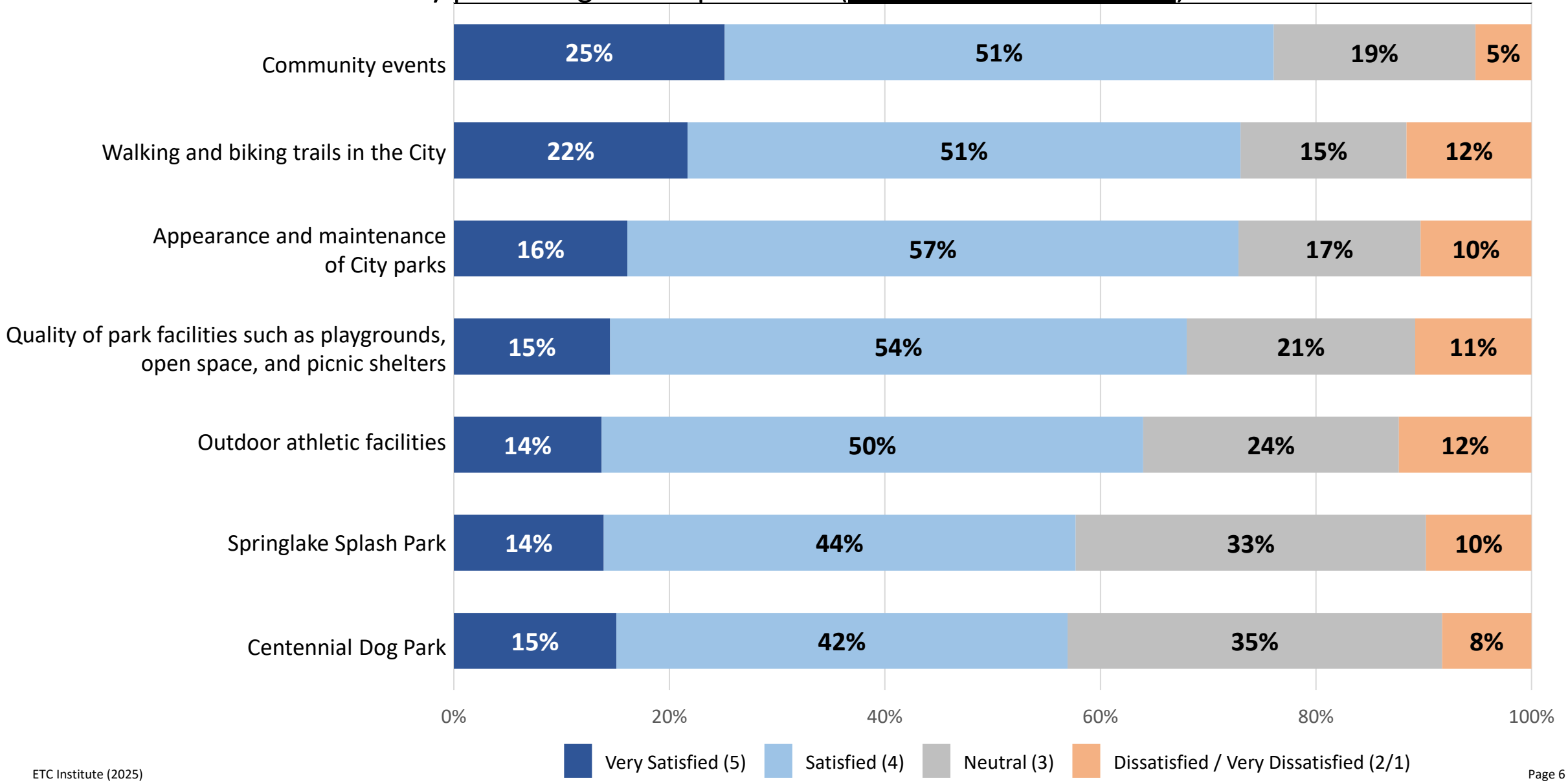
Q4. Perception of Safety

by percentage of respondents (excluding "don't know")



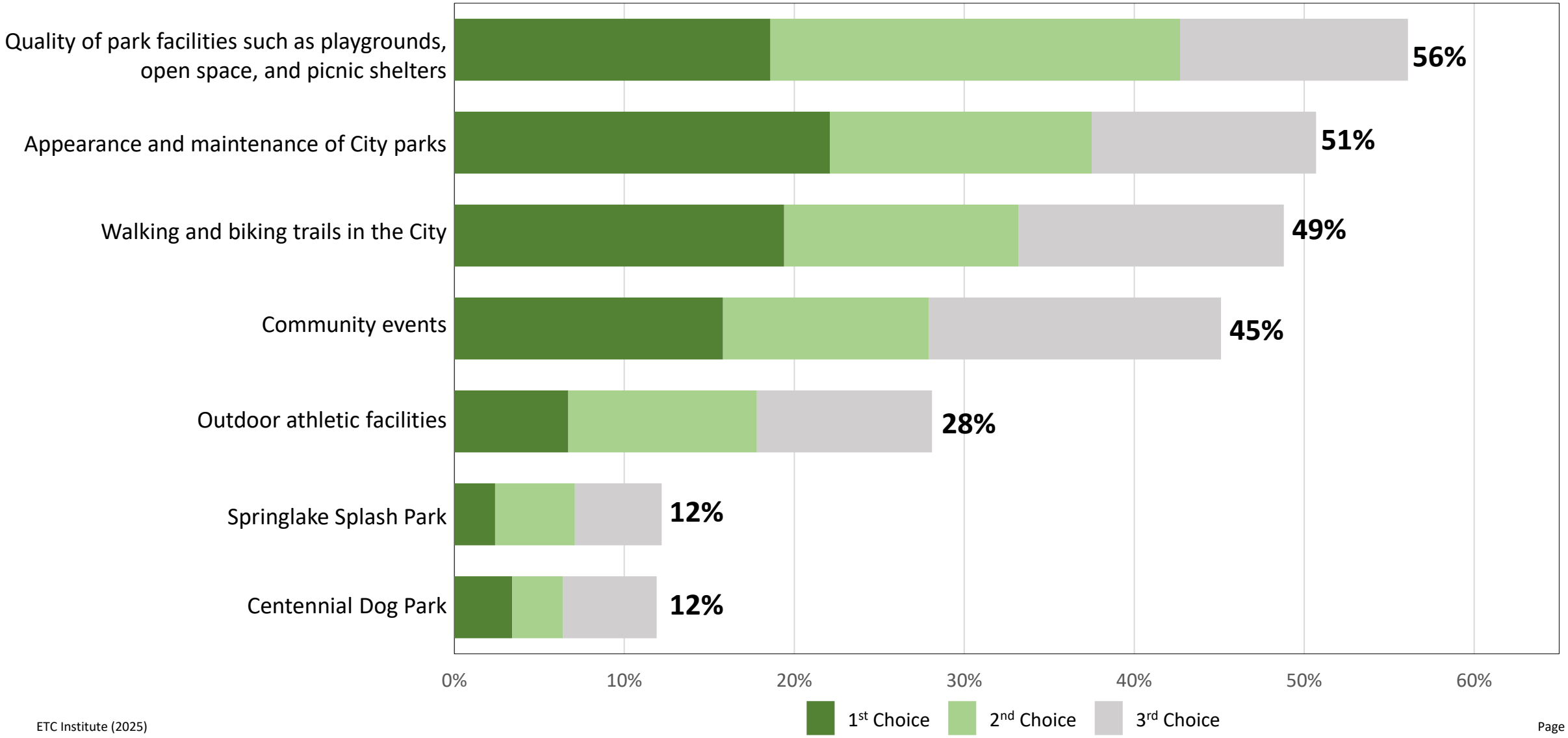
Q5. Satisfaction with Parks and Recreation

by percentage of respondents (excluding “don’t know”)



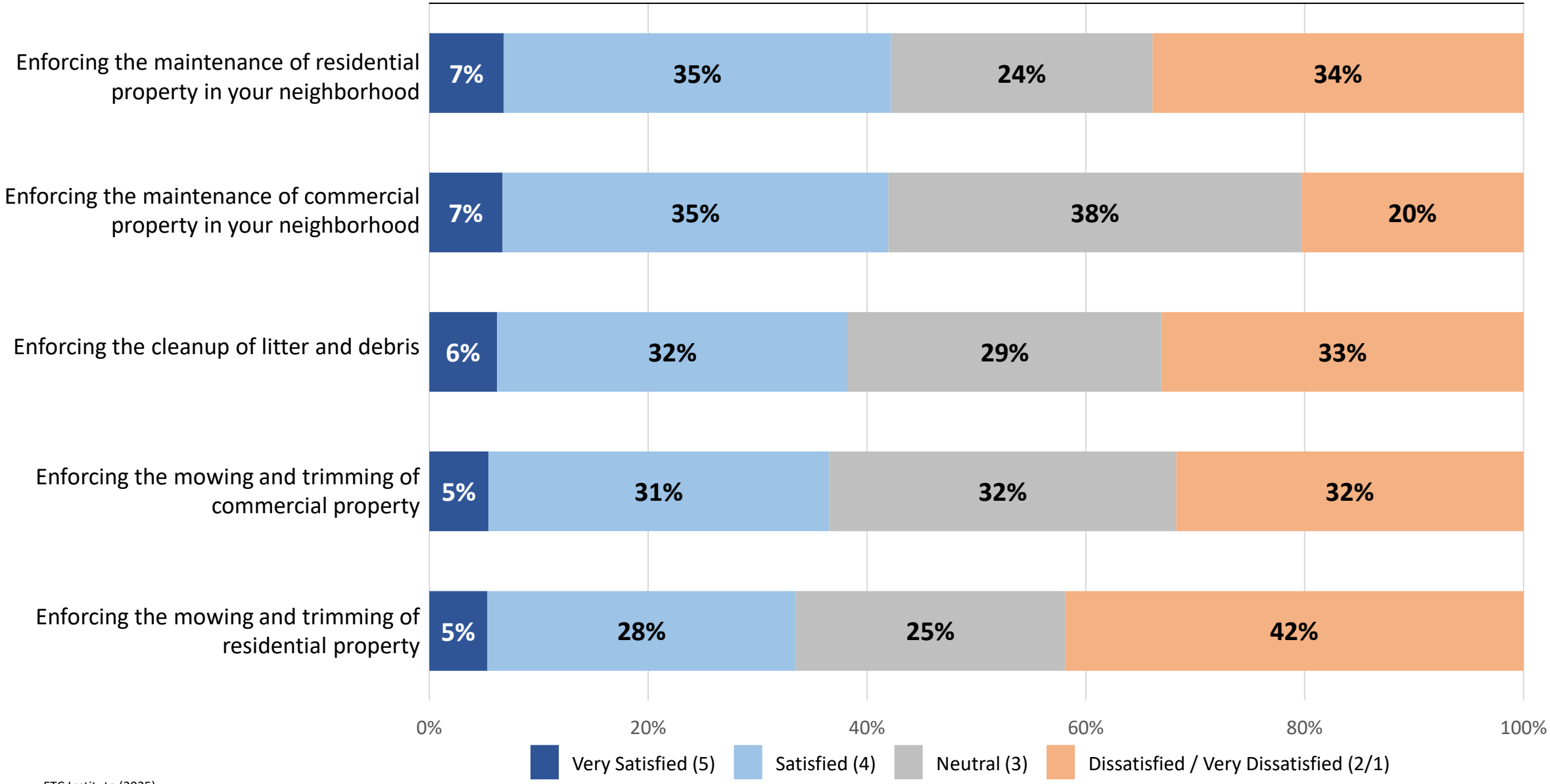
Q6. Parks and Recreation Services That Should Receive the Most Emphasis Over the Next Two Years

by percentage of respondents who selected the item as one of their top three choices



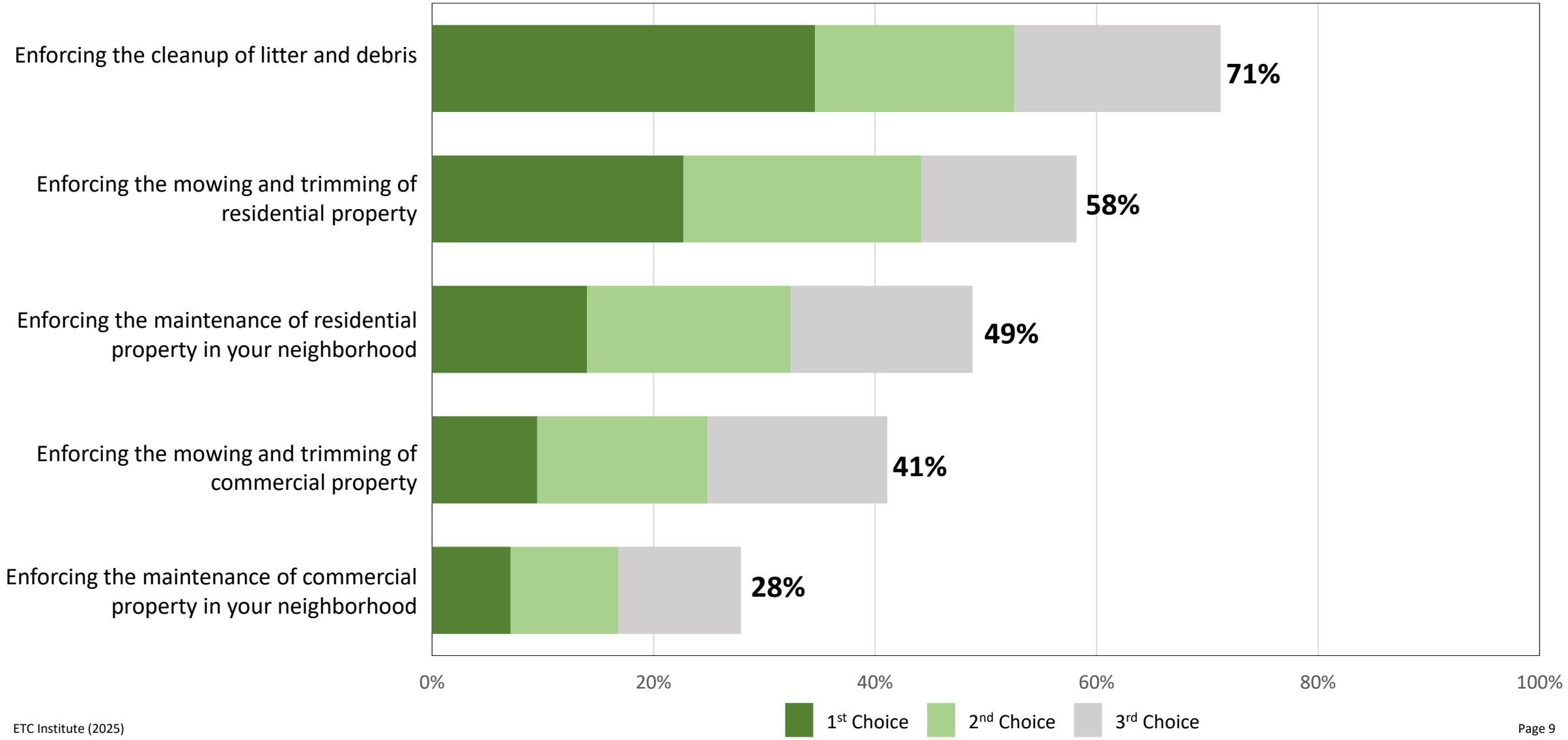
Q7. Satisfaction with Code Enforcement

by percentage of respondents (excluding "don't know")



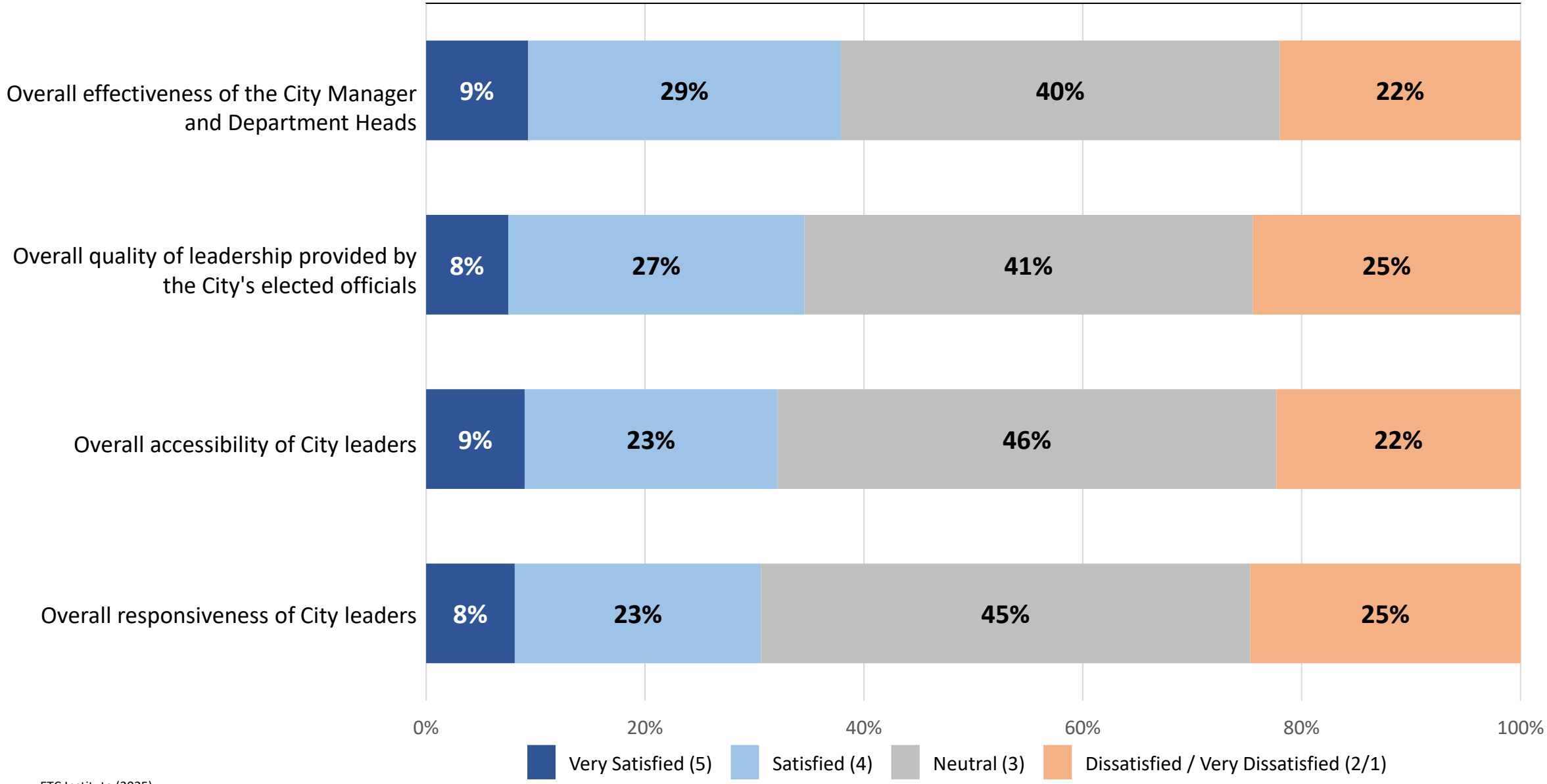
Q8. Code Enforcement Services That Should Receive the Most Emphasis Over the Next Two Years

by percentage of respondents who selected the item as one of their top three choices



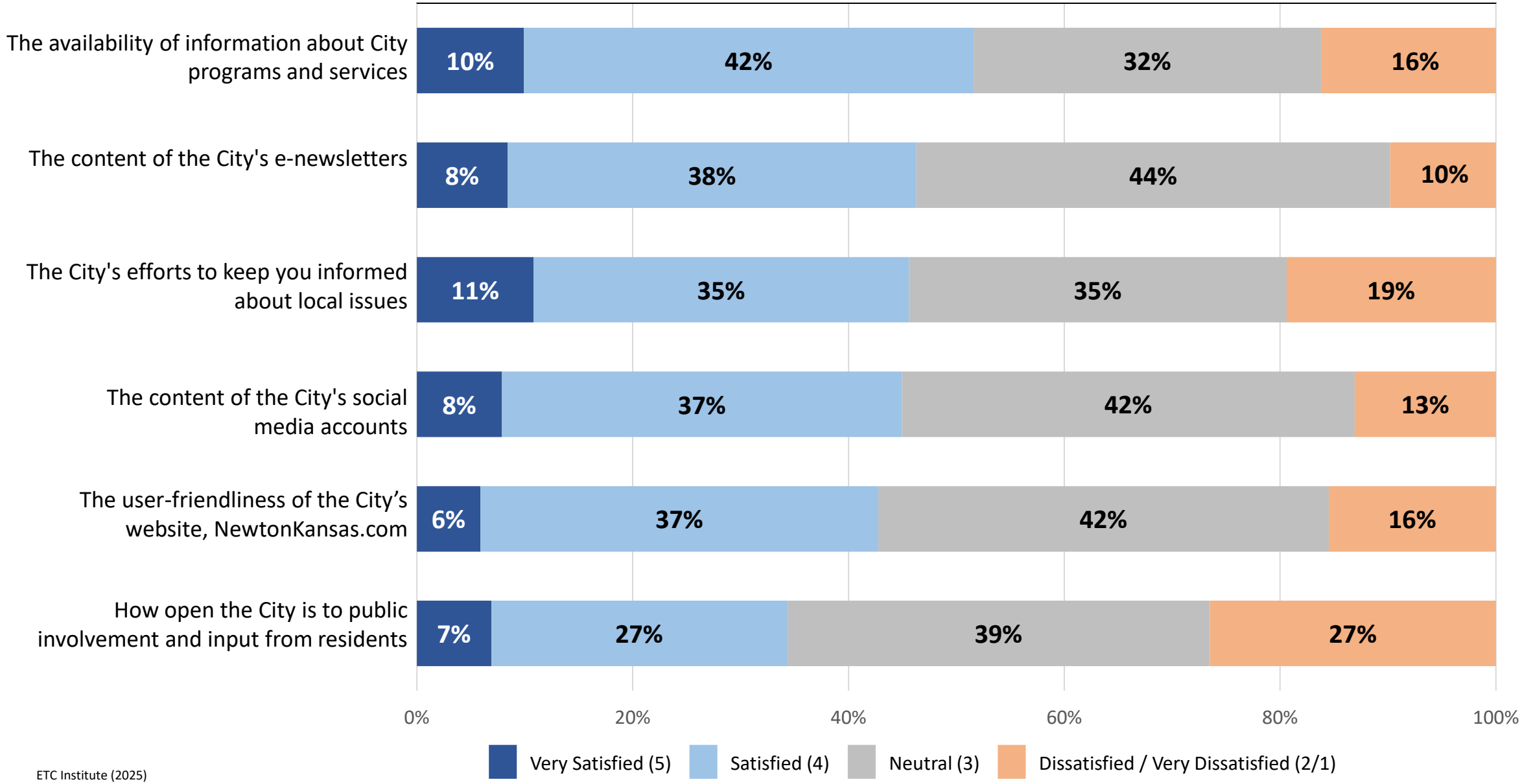
Q9. Satisfaction with Leadership

by percentage of respondents (excluding "don't know")



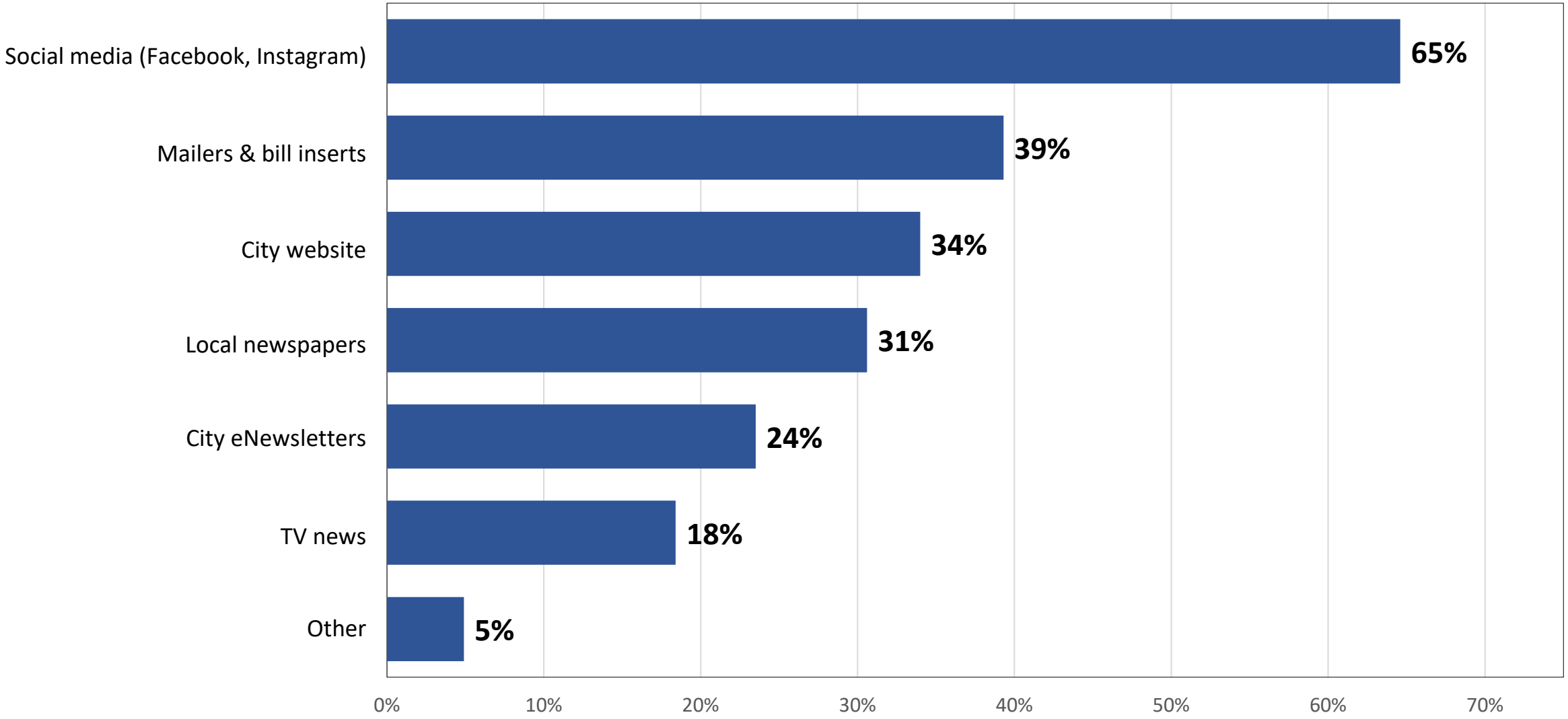
Q10. Satisfaction with Communication

by percentage of respondents (excluding "don't know")



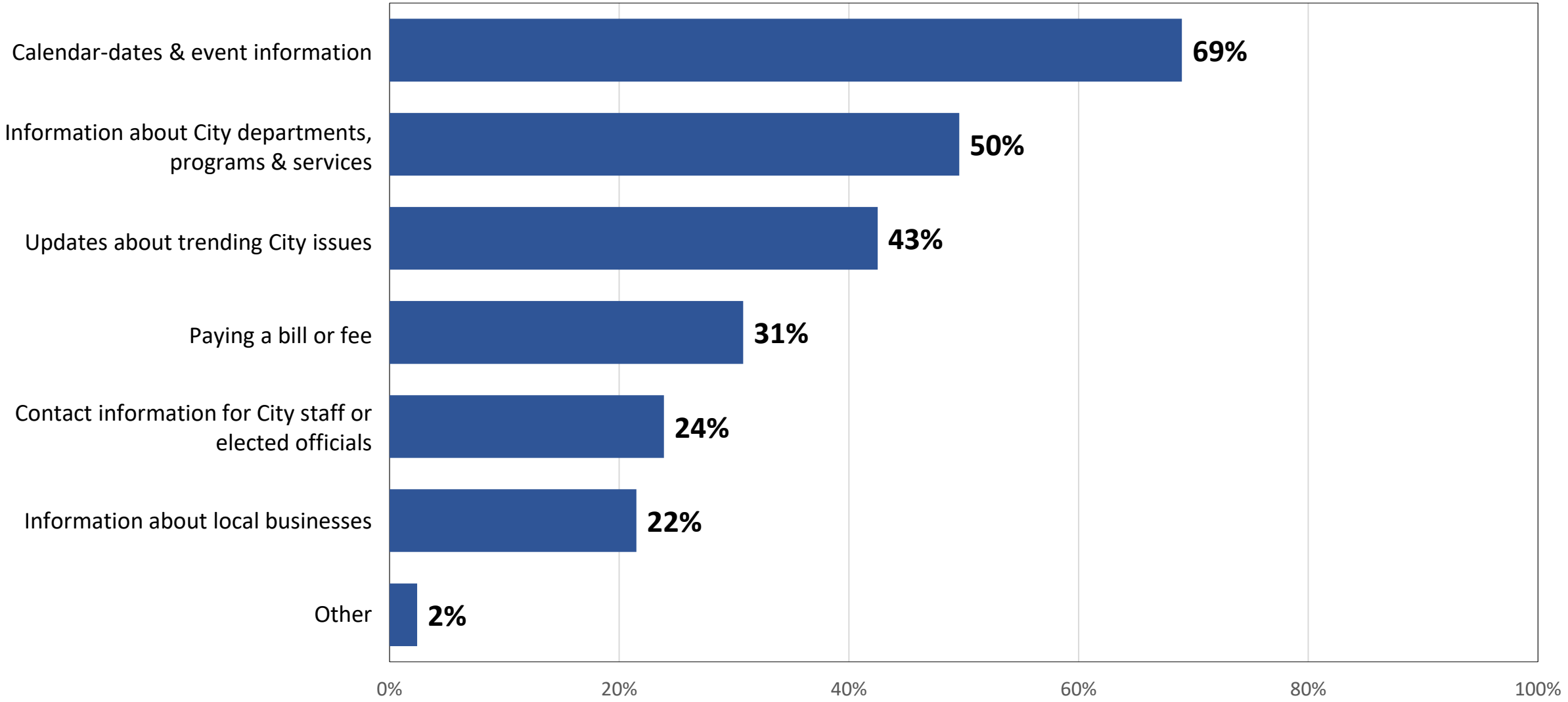
Q11. Primary Sources of Information about City Issues, Services, and Events

by percentage of respondents (multiple selections could be made)



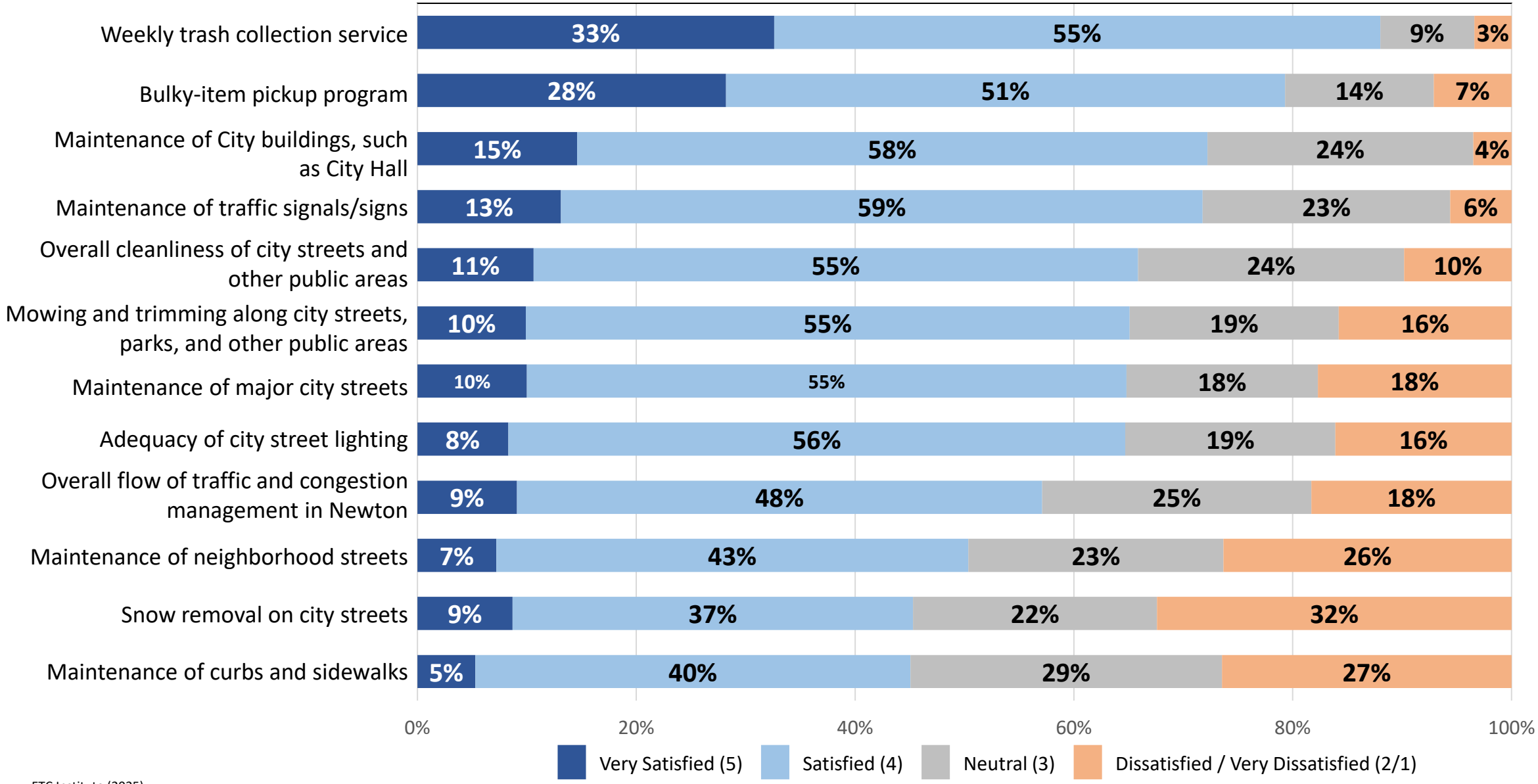
Q12. Types of Information Respondents Usually Seek Through the City's Communications Tools

by percentage of respondents (multiple selections could be made)



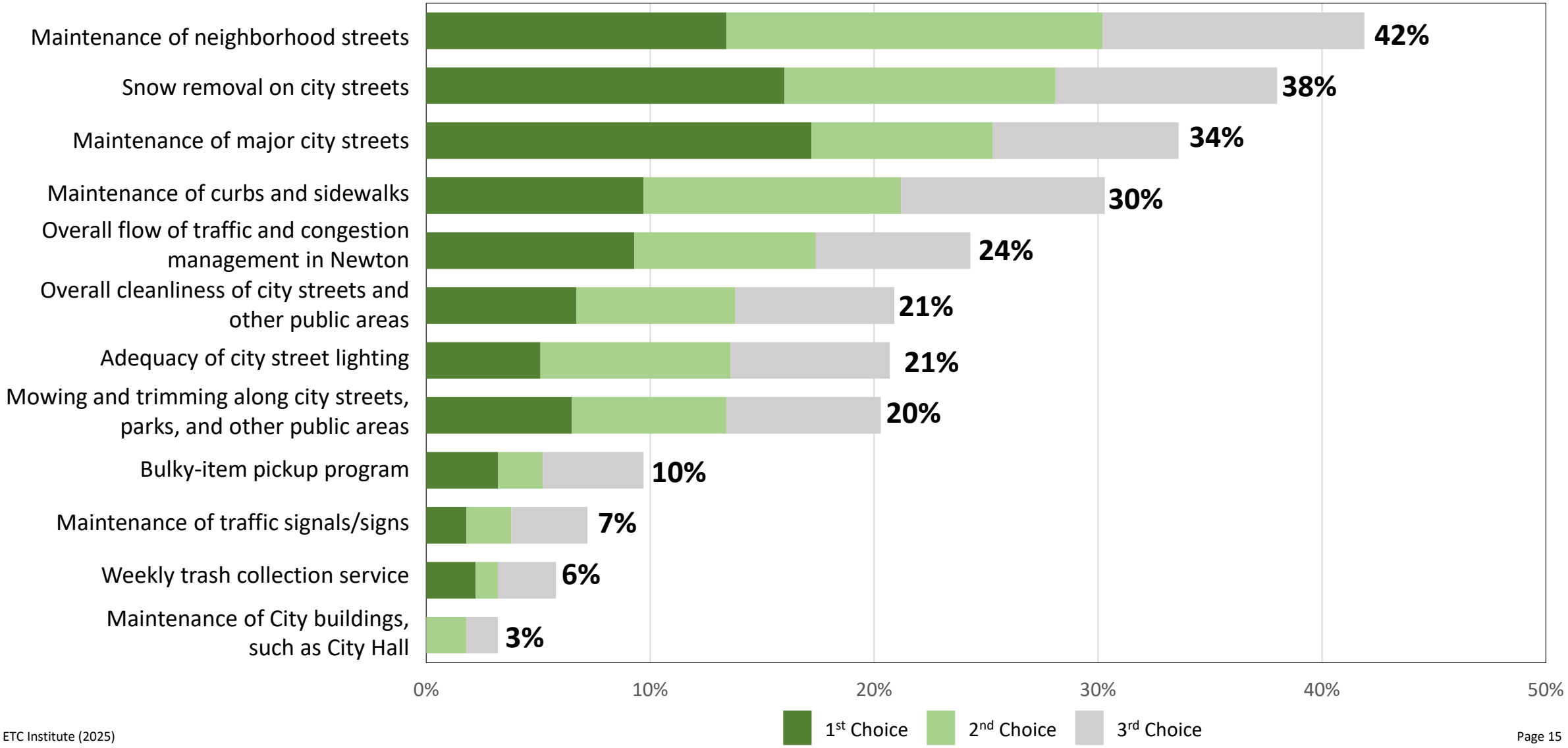
Q13. Satisfaction with City Maintenance

by percentage of respondents (excluding "don't know")



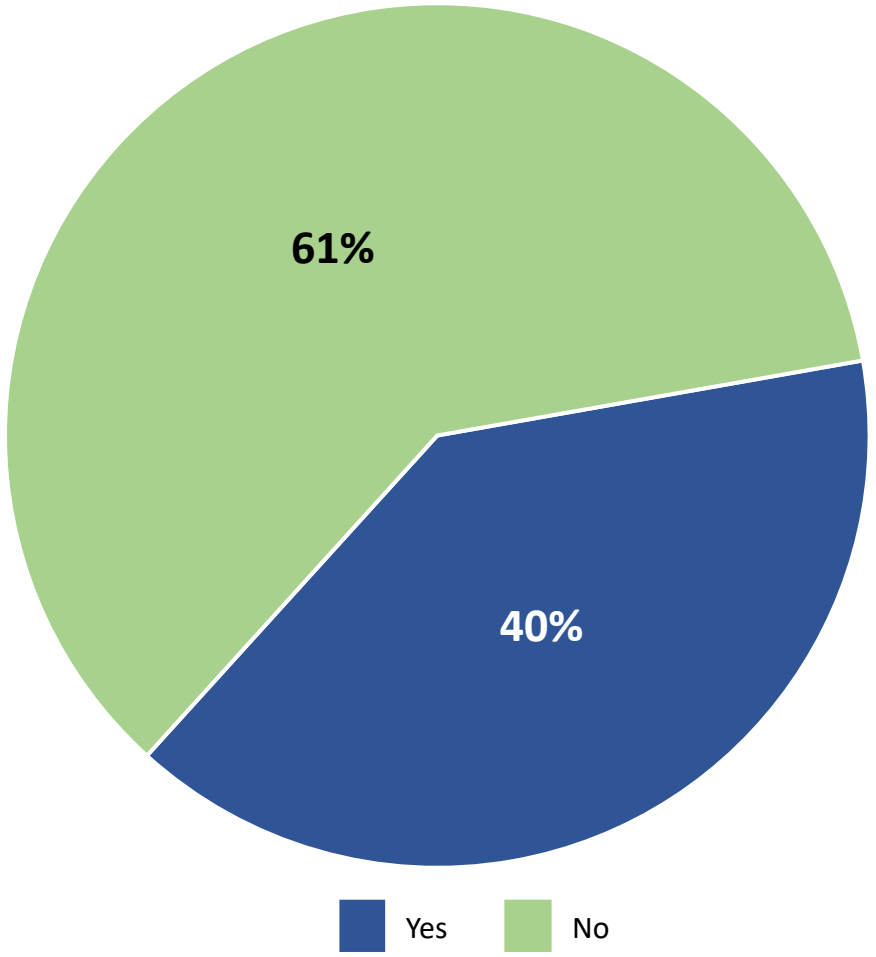
Q14. City Maintenance Services That Should Receive the Most Emphasis Over the Next Two Years

by percentage of respondents who selected the item as one of their top three choices



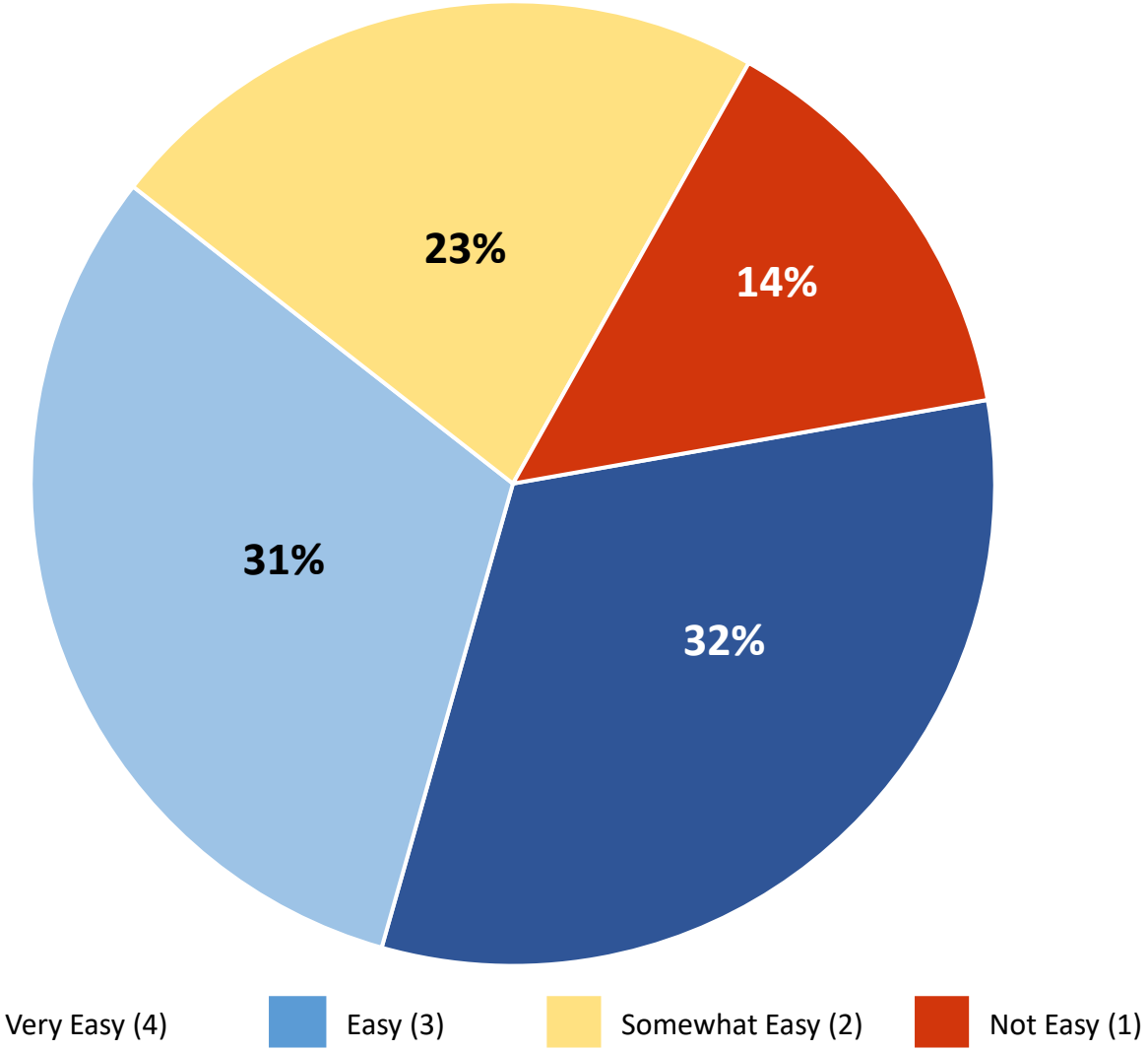
Q15. Have you called, emailed, or visited the City with a question, problem, or complaint during the past year?

by percentage of respondents (excluding "don't know")



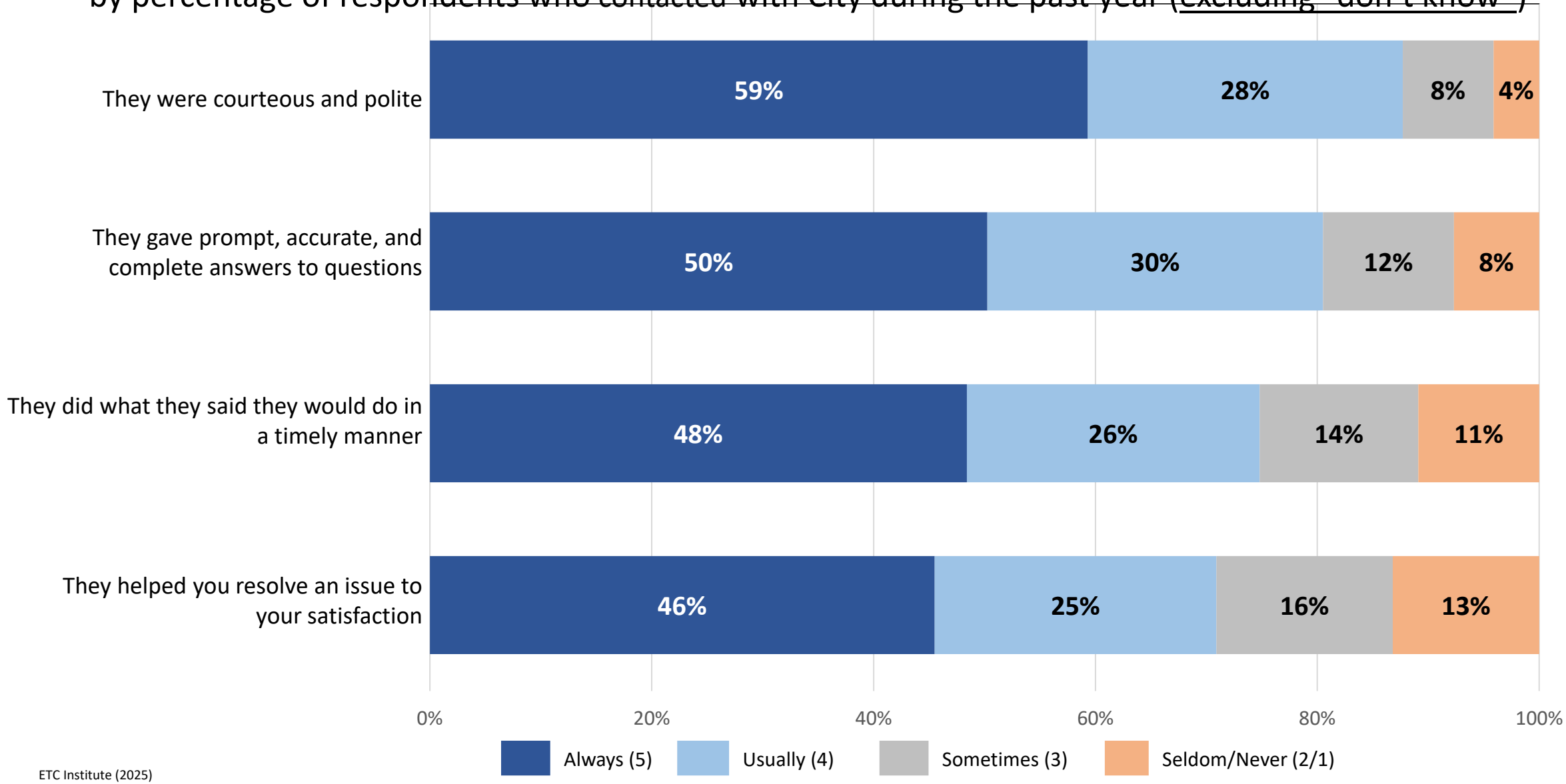
Q15a. How easy was it to contact the person you needed to reach?

by percentage of respondents who contacted with City during the past year (excluding "don't know")



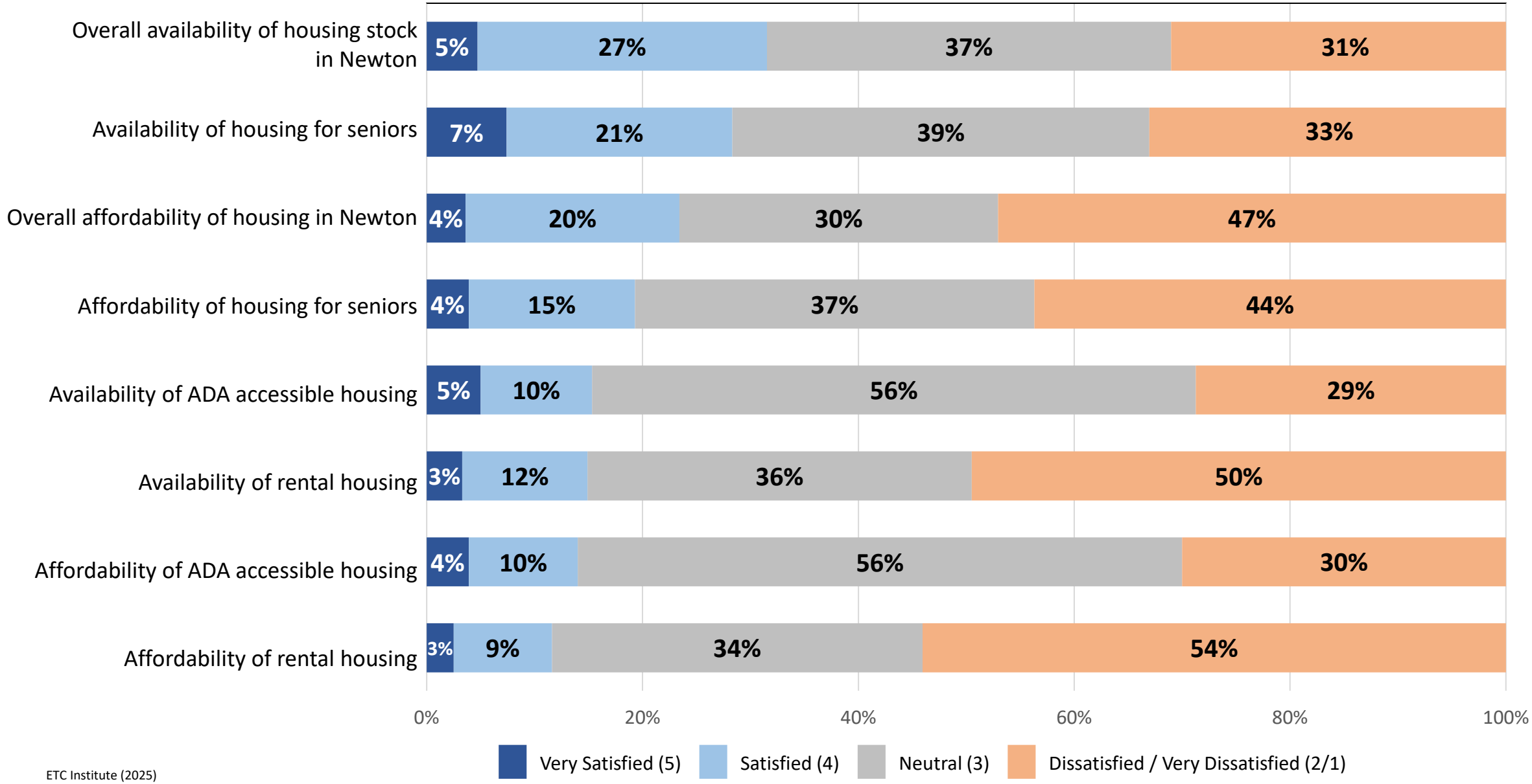
Q15b. Frequency That City Employees Displayed the Following Behaviors

by percentage of respondents who contacted with City during the past year (excluding "don't know")



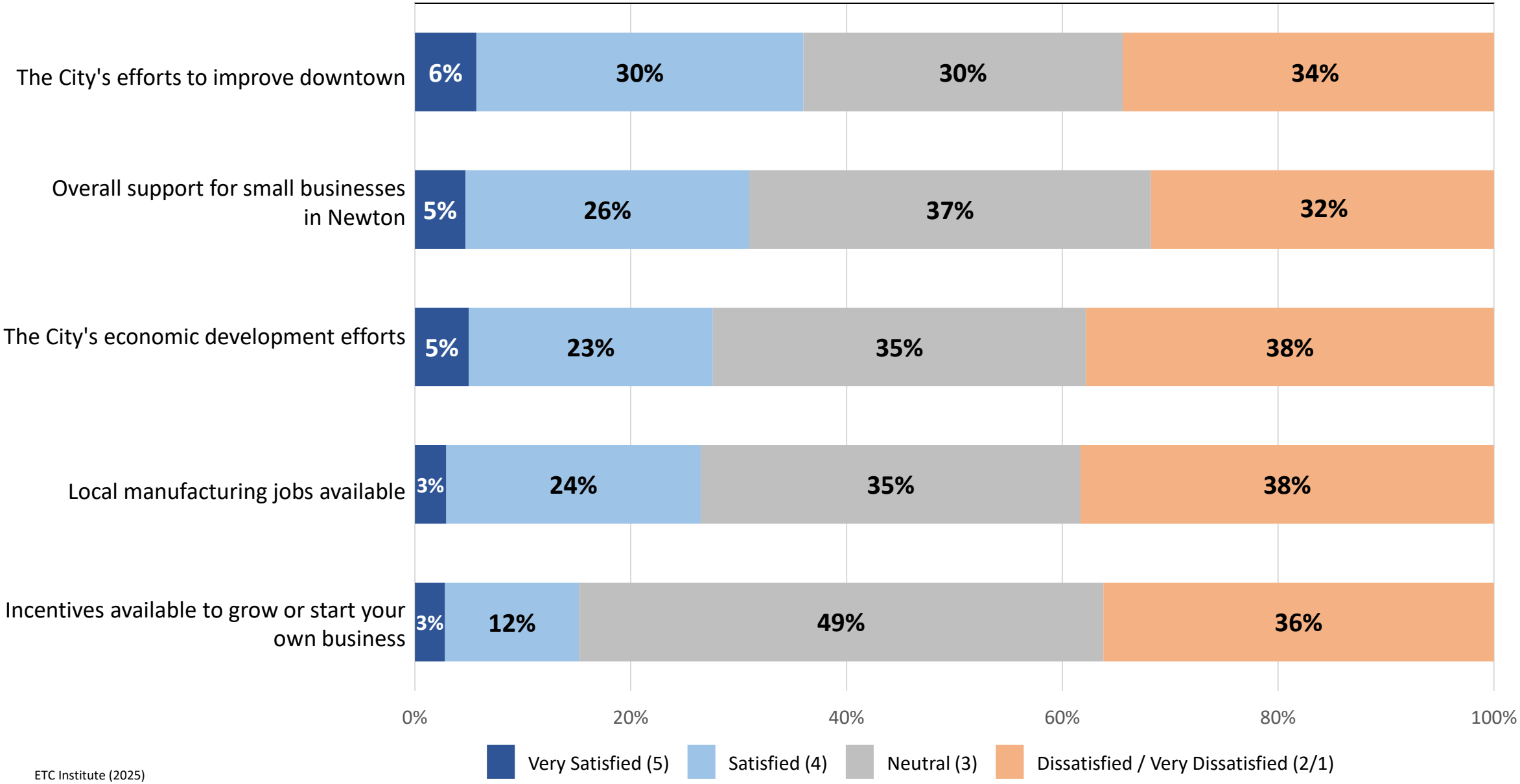
Q16. Satisfaction with Housing

by percentage of respondents (excluding "don't know")



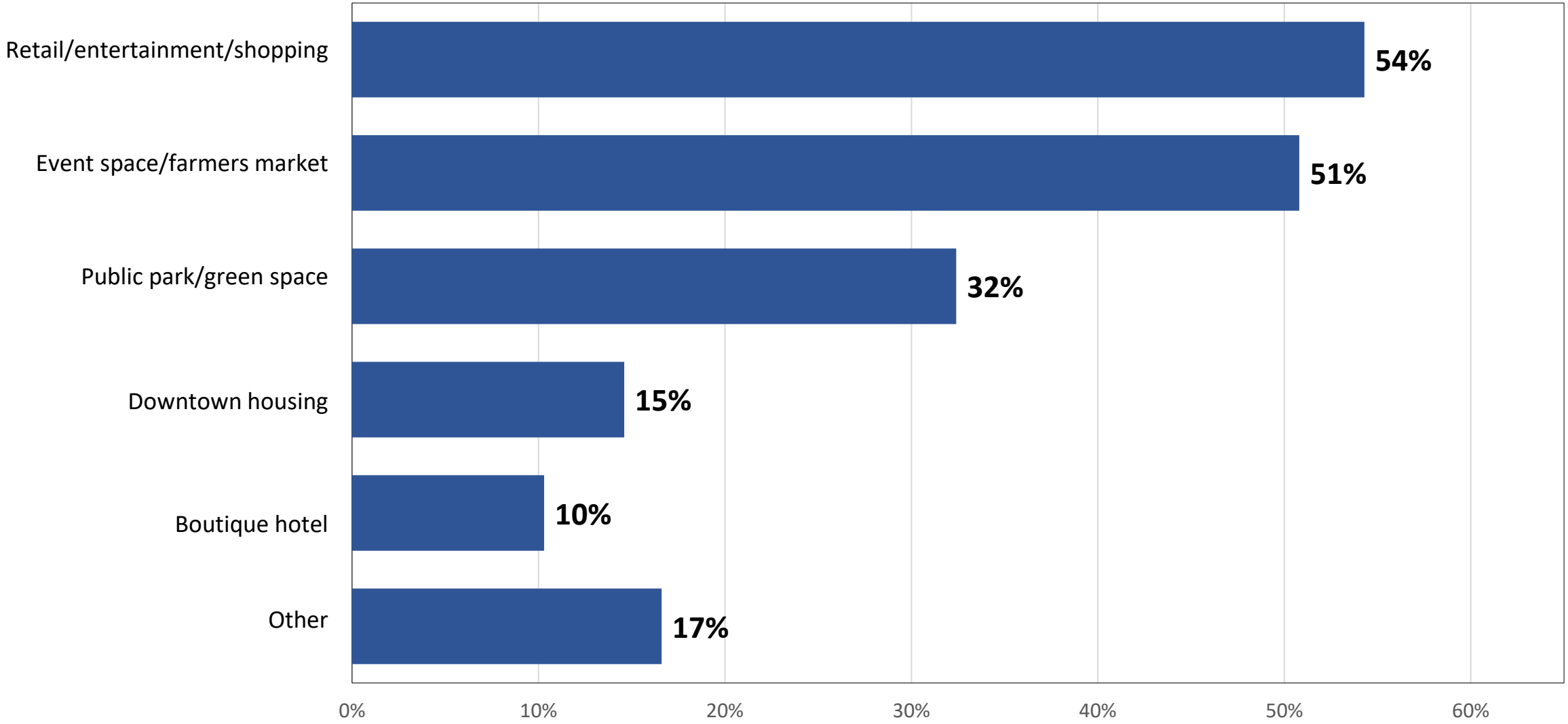
Q17. Satisfaction with Industrial and Commercial Development

by percentage of respondents (excluding "don't know")



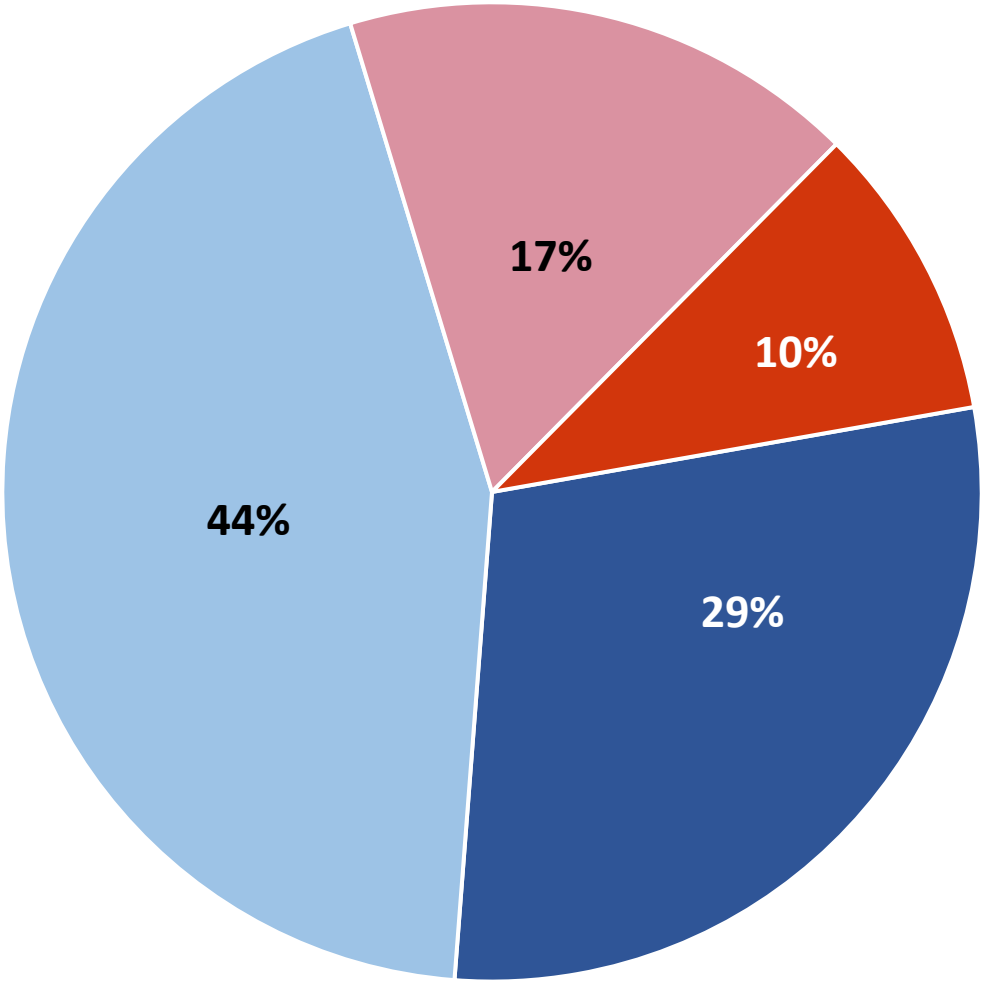
Q18. Types of Businesses or Community Spaces Respondents Would Like to See in the Redeveloped Area of 320 N. Main After the Old Dillons Building Has Been Demolished

by percentage of respondents (multiple selections could be made)



Q19. Support for the City Investing Public Dollars in The Depot and Its Redevelopment

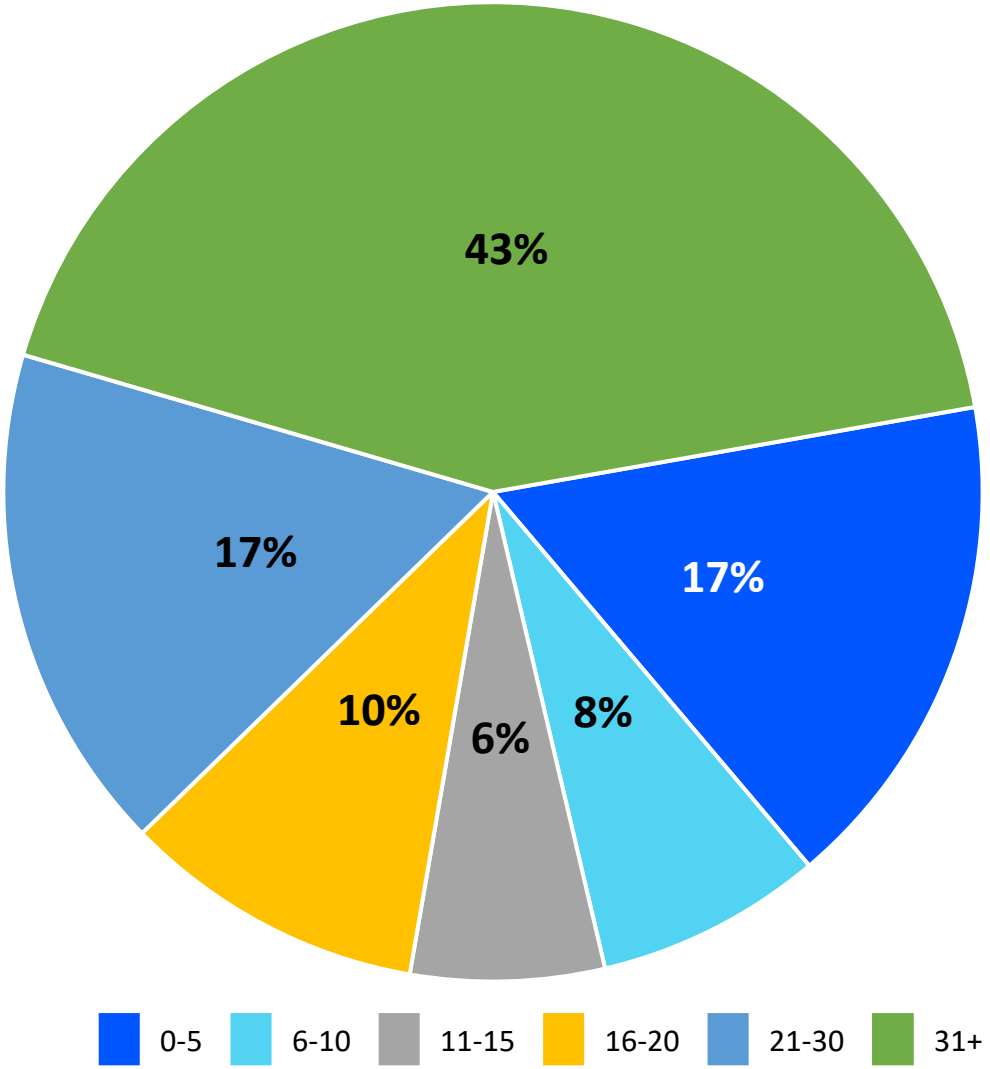
by percentage of respondents (excluding "don't know")



Demographics

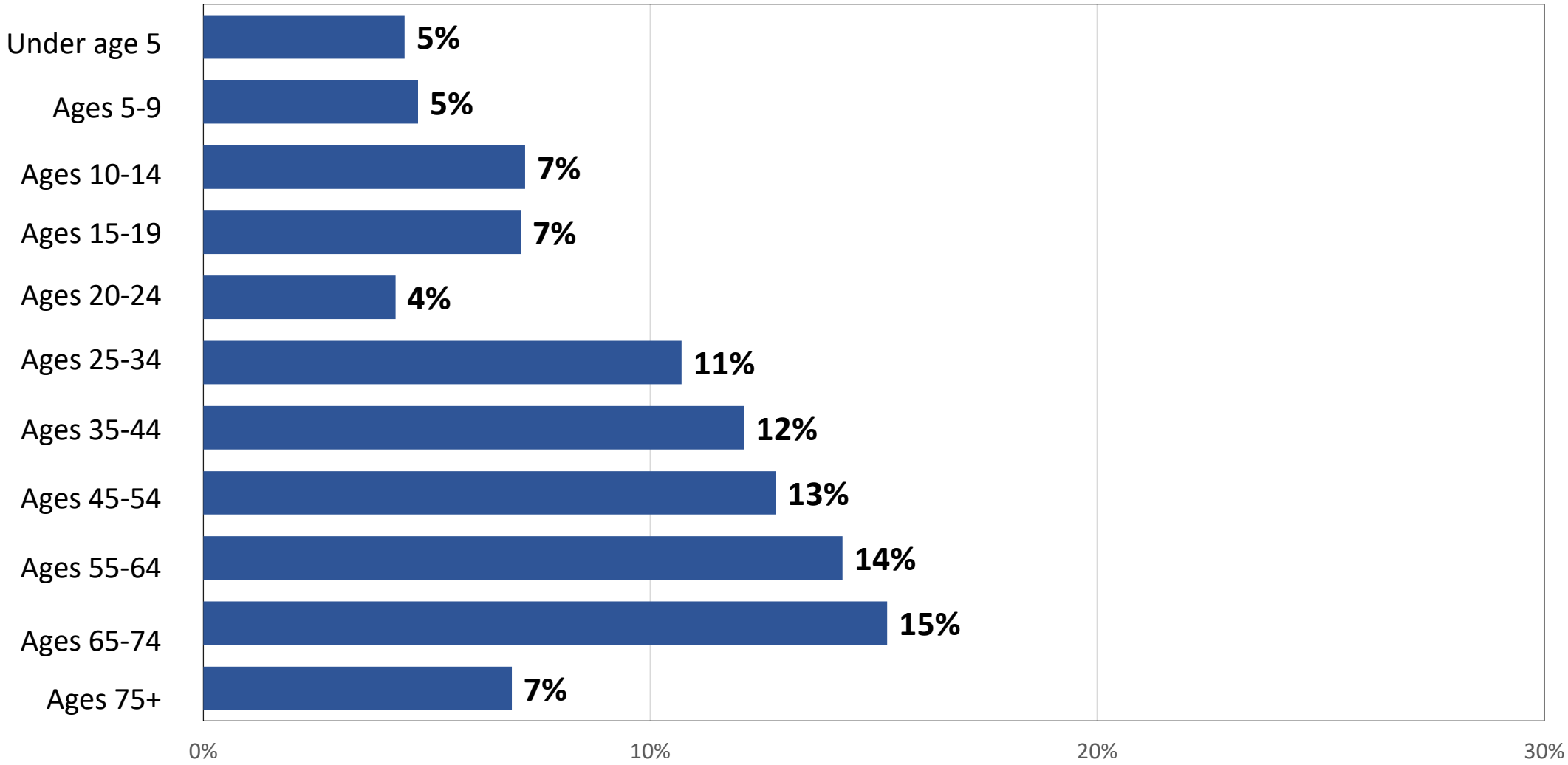
Q22. Approximately how many years have you lived in the City of Newton?

by percentage of respondents (excluding "not provided")



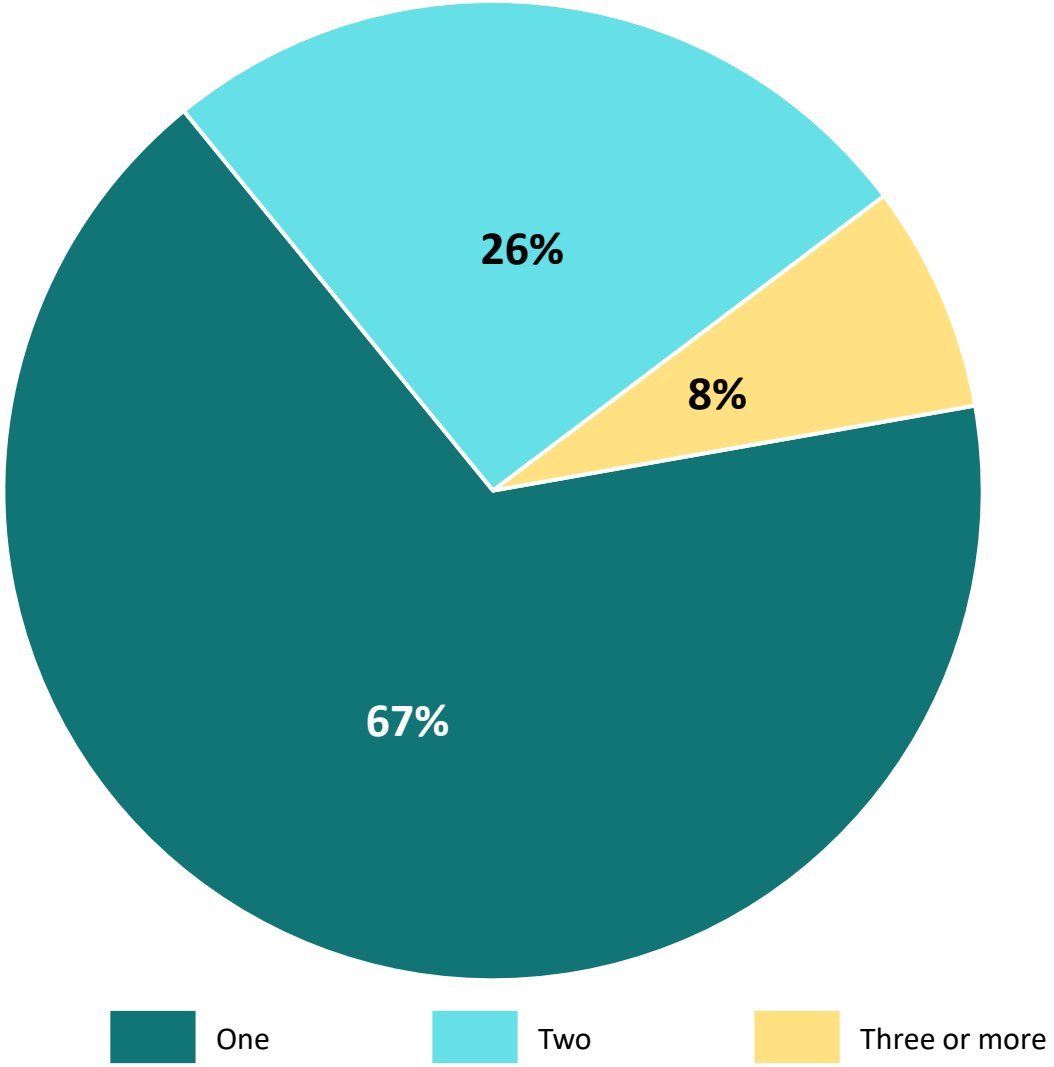
Q23. Including yourself, how many people in your household are each of the following age groups?

by percentage of persons in the household



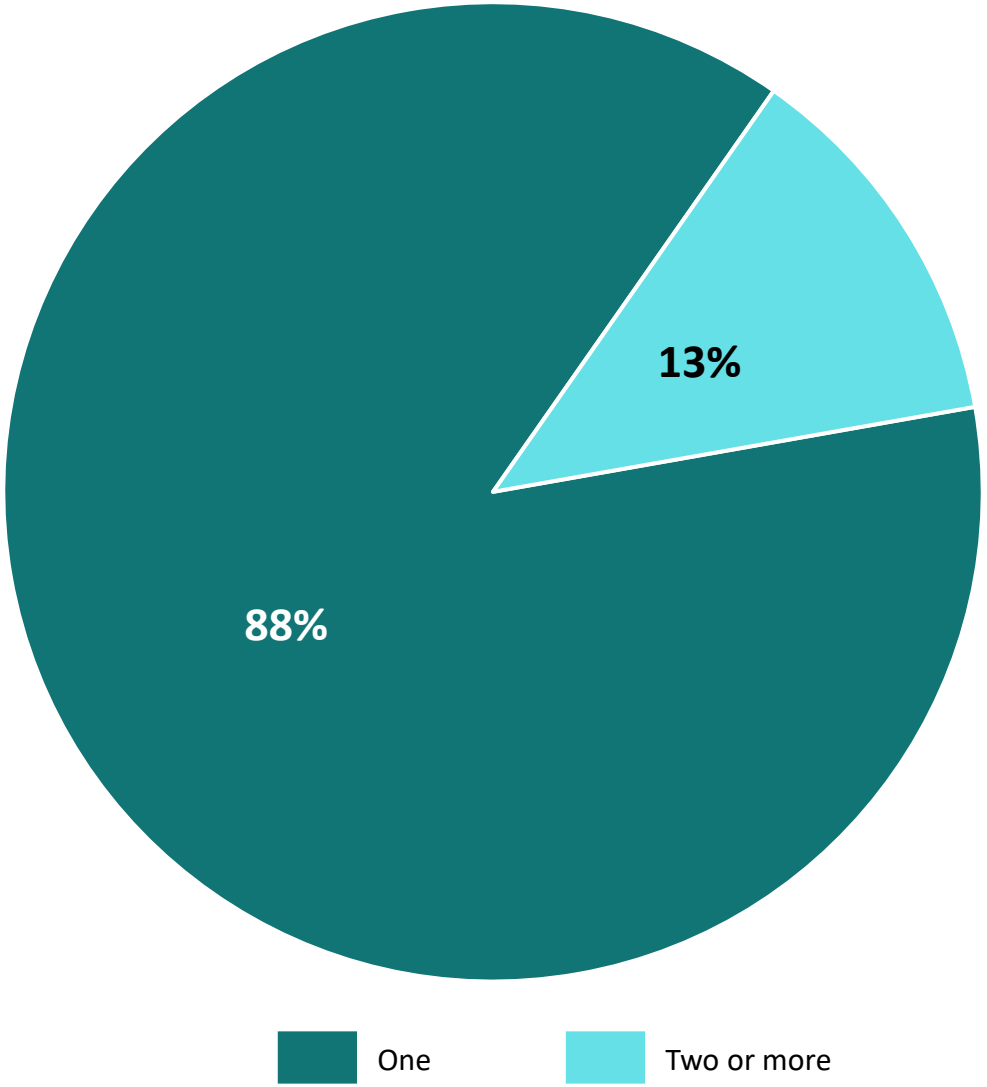
Q24[1]. Including yourself, how many persons in your household are employed within the City limits of Newton (including working from home)?

by percentage of respondents (excluding "not provided")



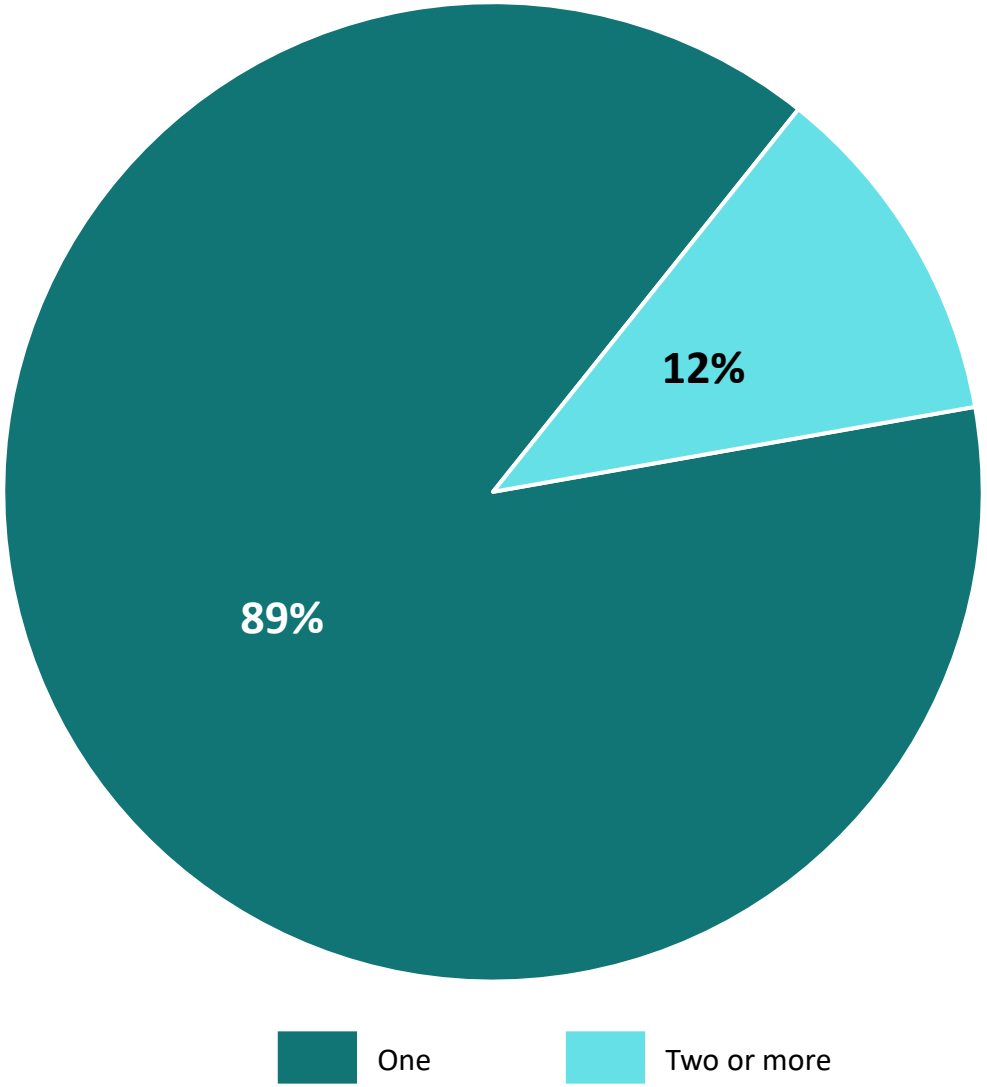
Q24[2]. Including yourself, how many persons in your household are employed outside Newton, but within Harvey County?

by percentage of respondents (excluding "not provided")



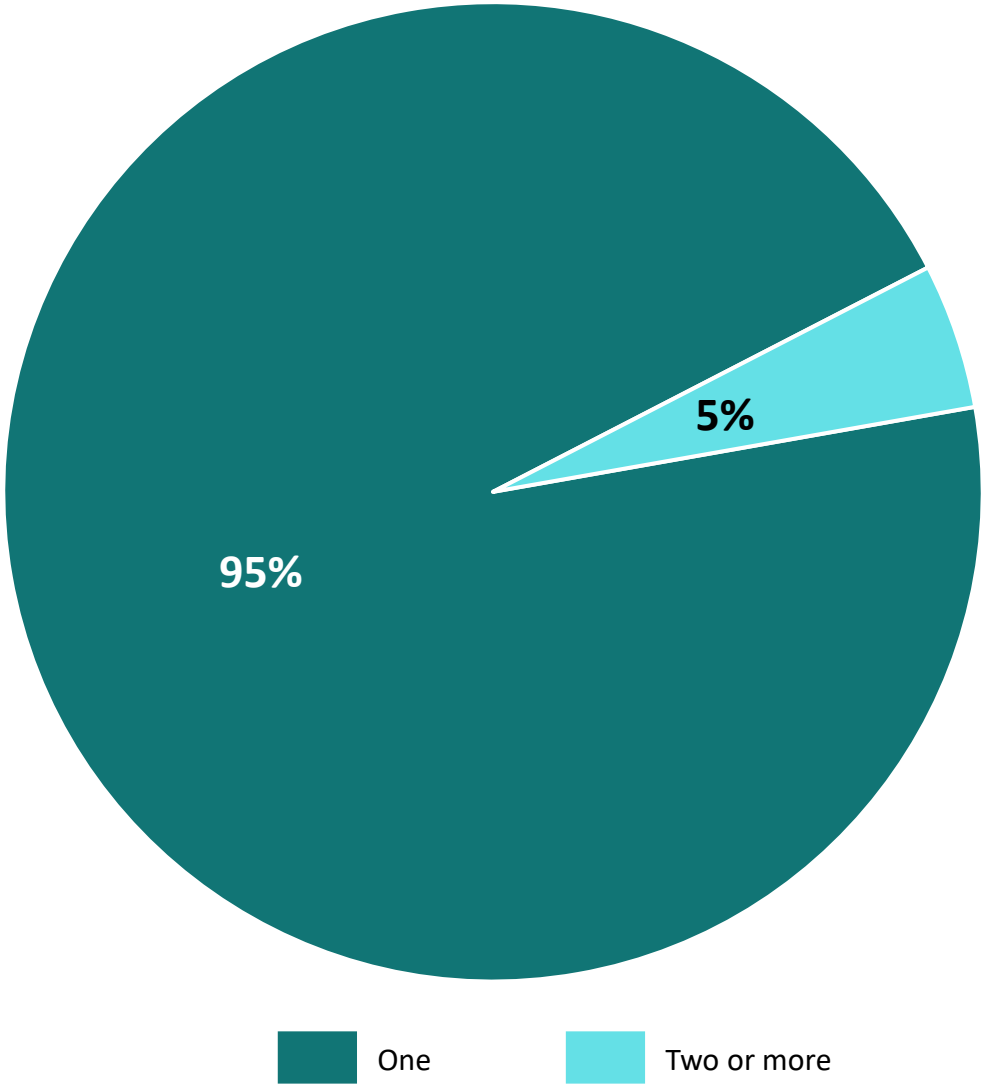
Q24[3]. Including yourself, how many persons are employed outside of Harvey County, but within the Wichita metro area?

by percentage of respondents (excluding "not provided")



Q24[4]. Including yourself, how many persons are employed outside of the Wichita metro area?

by percentage of respondents (excluding "not provided")



2 Benchmarking Analysis

Benchmarking Analysis

Overview

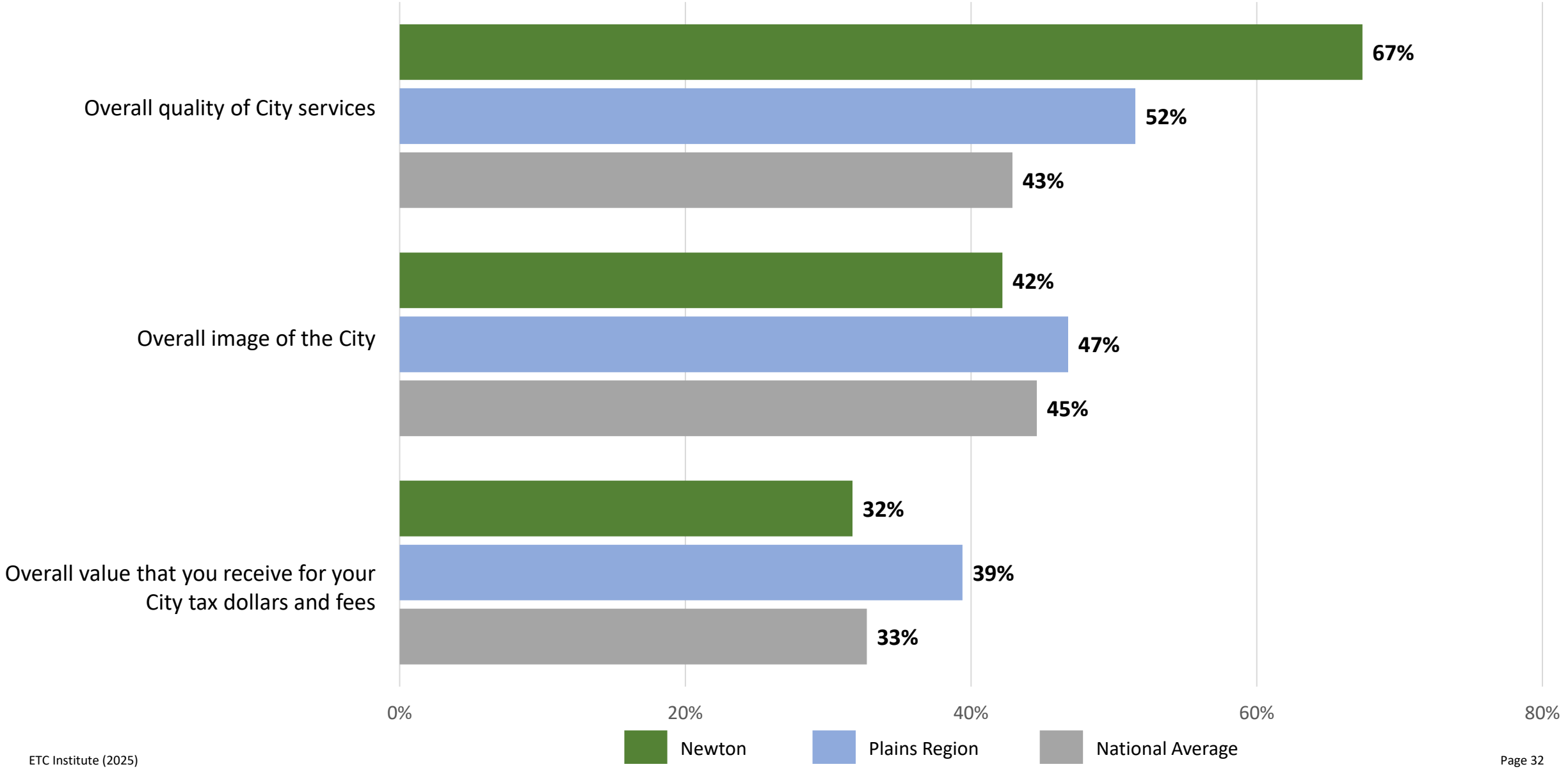
ETC Institute's *DirectionFinder®* program was originally developed in 1999 to help community leaders use statistically valid community survey data as a tool for making better decisions. Since November 1999, the survey has been administered in more than 500 cities and counties in 49 states. Most participating communities conduct the survey on an annual or biennial basis.

This report contains benchmarking data from two sources: (1) a national survey that was administered by ETC Institute during the summer of 2025 to a random sample of residents in the continental United States and (2) a regional survey that was administered by ETC Institute during the summer of 2025 to a random sample of residents living in the Plains Region of the United States. The Plains Region includes the states of Kansas, Missouri, Illinois, Iowa, Minnesota, and Nebraska.

The charts on the following pages show how the results for the City of Newton compare to the national average and the Plains regional average. The green bar shows the results for Newton. The blue bar shows the Plains regional average from communities that administered the *DirectionFinder®* survey during the summer of 2025. The gray bar shows the results of a national survey that was administered by ETC Institute to a random sample of U.S. residents during the summer of 2025.

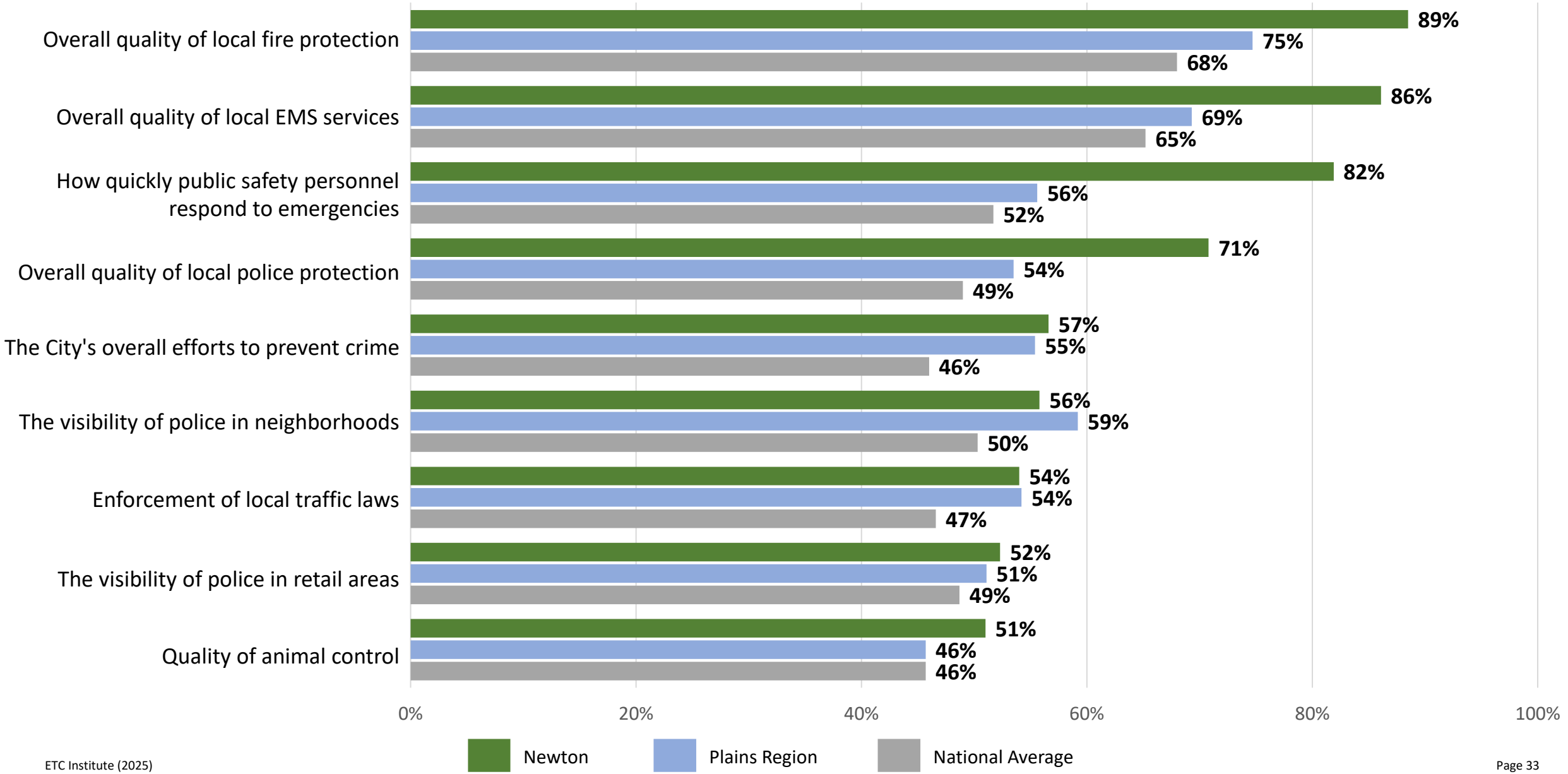
Satisfaction with Perceptions of the City

Newton vs. Plains Region vs. National Average



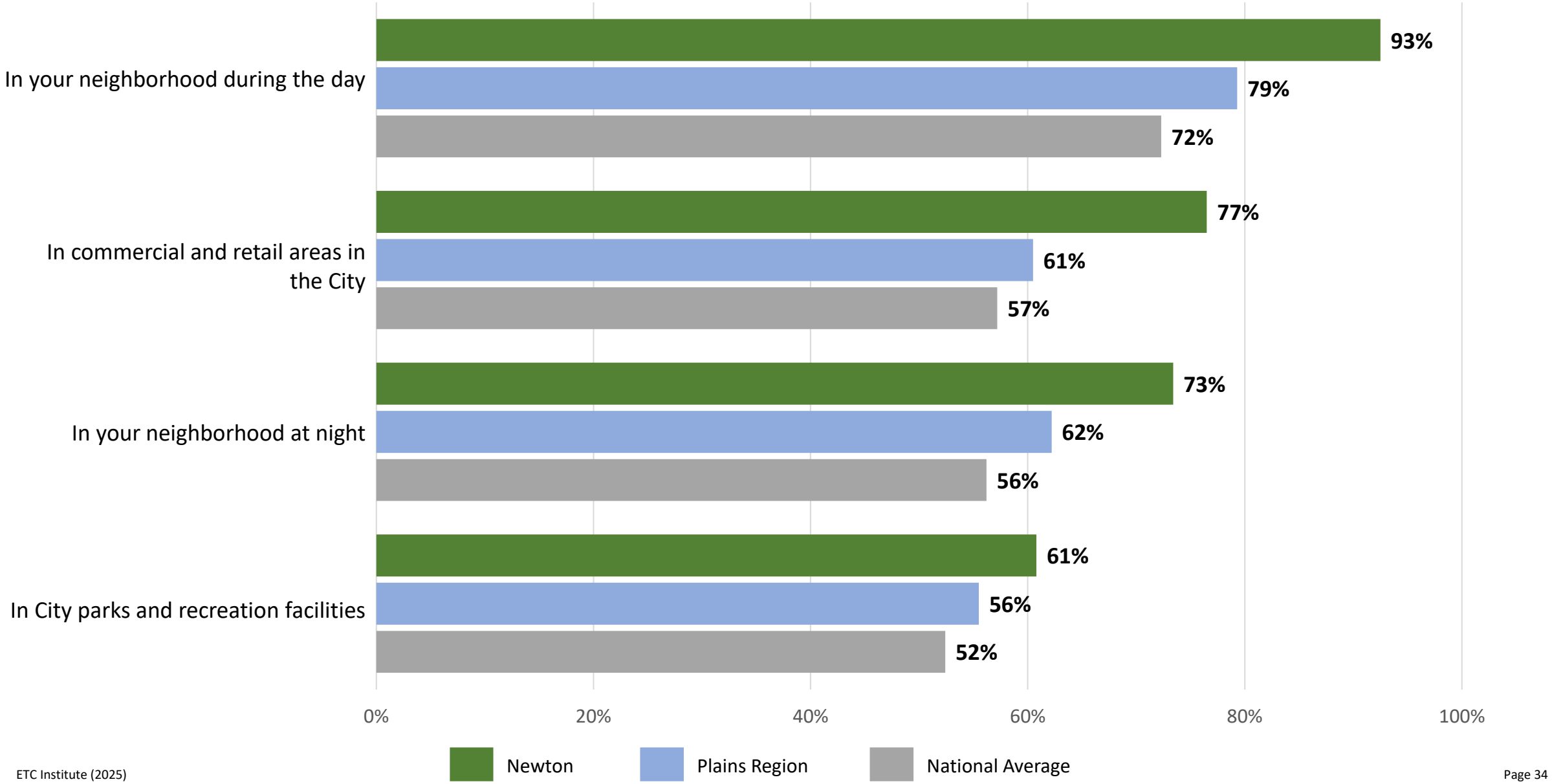
Satisfaction with Public Safety Services

Newton vs. Plains Region vs. National Average



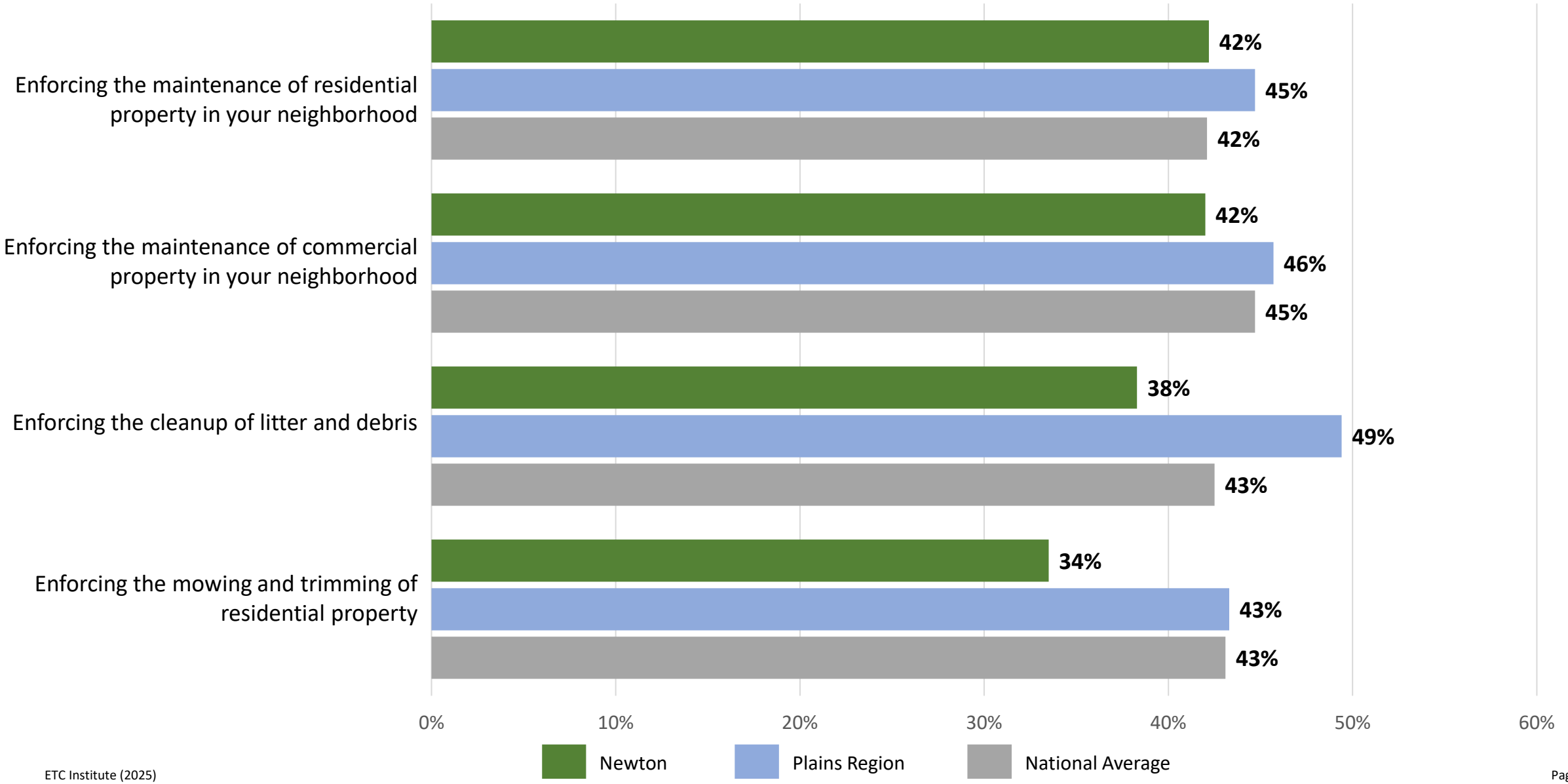
Perception of Safety

Newton vs. Plains Region vs. National Average



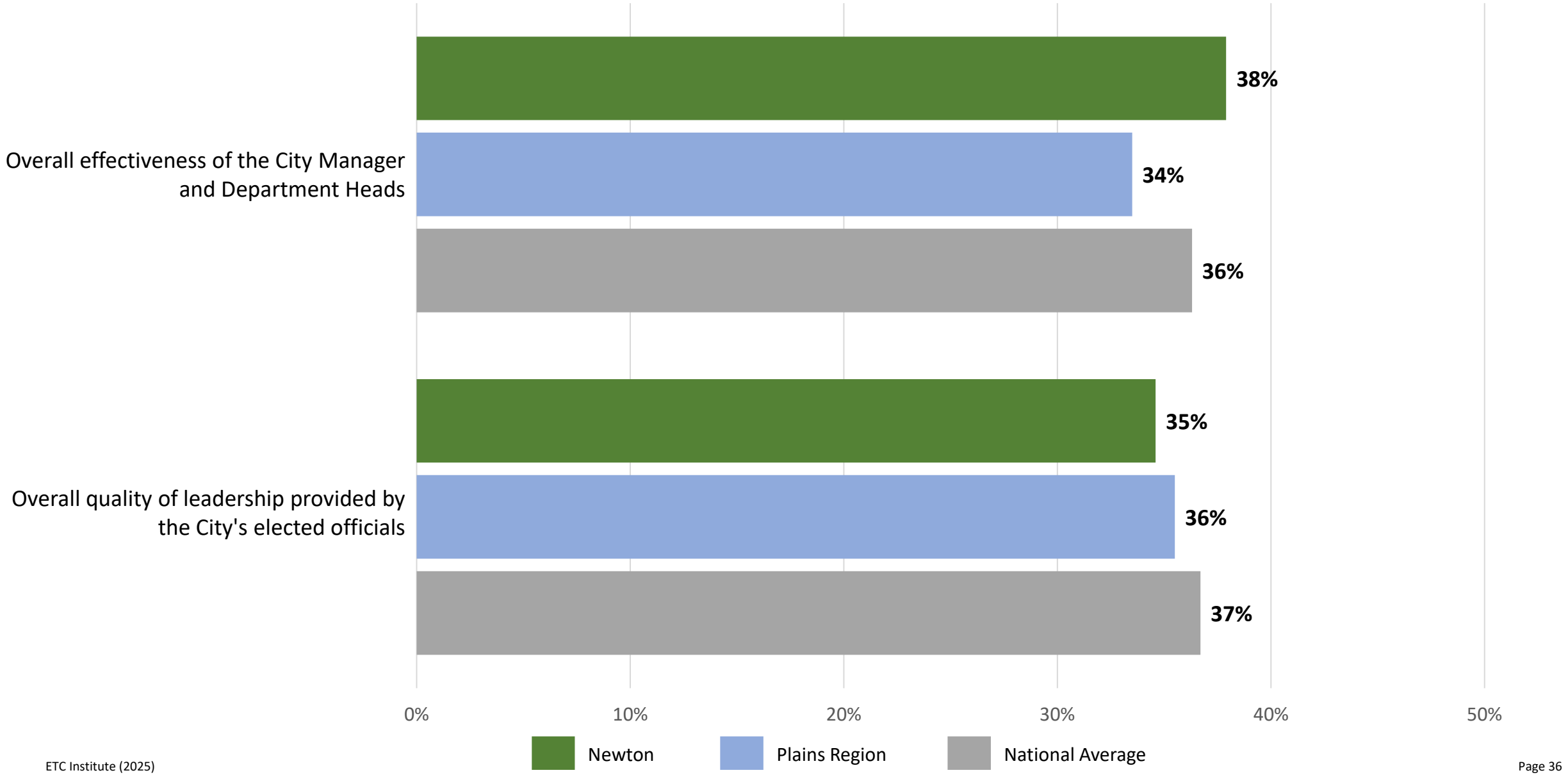
Satisfaction with Code Enforcement

Newton vs. Plains Region vs. National Average



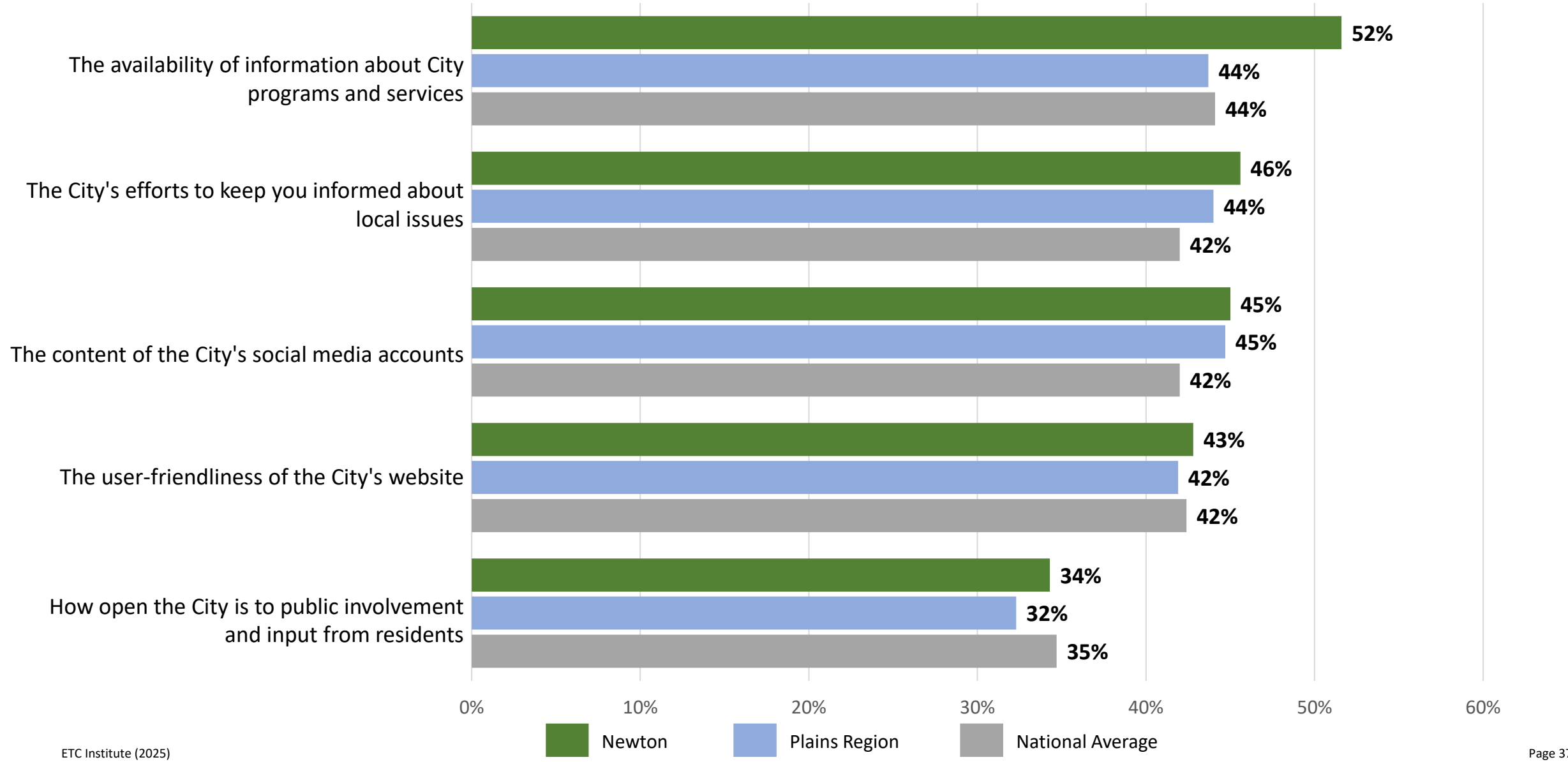
Satisfaction with Leadership

Newton vs. Plains Region vs. National Average



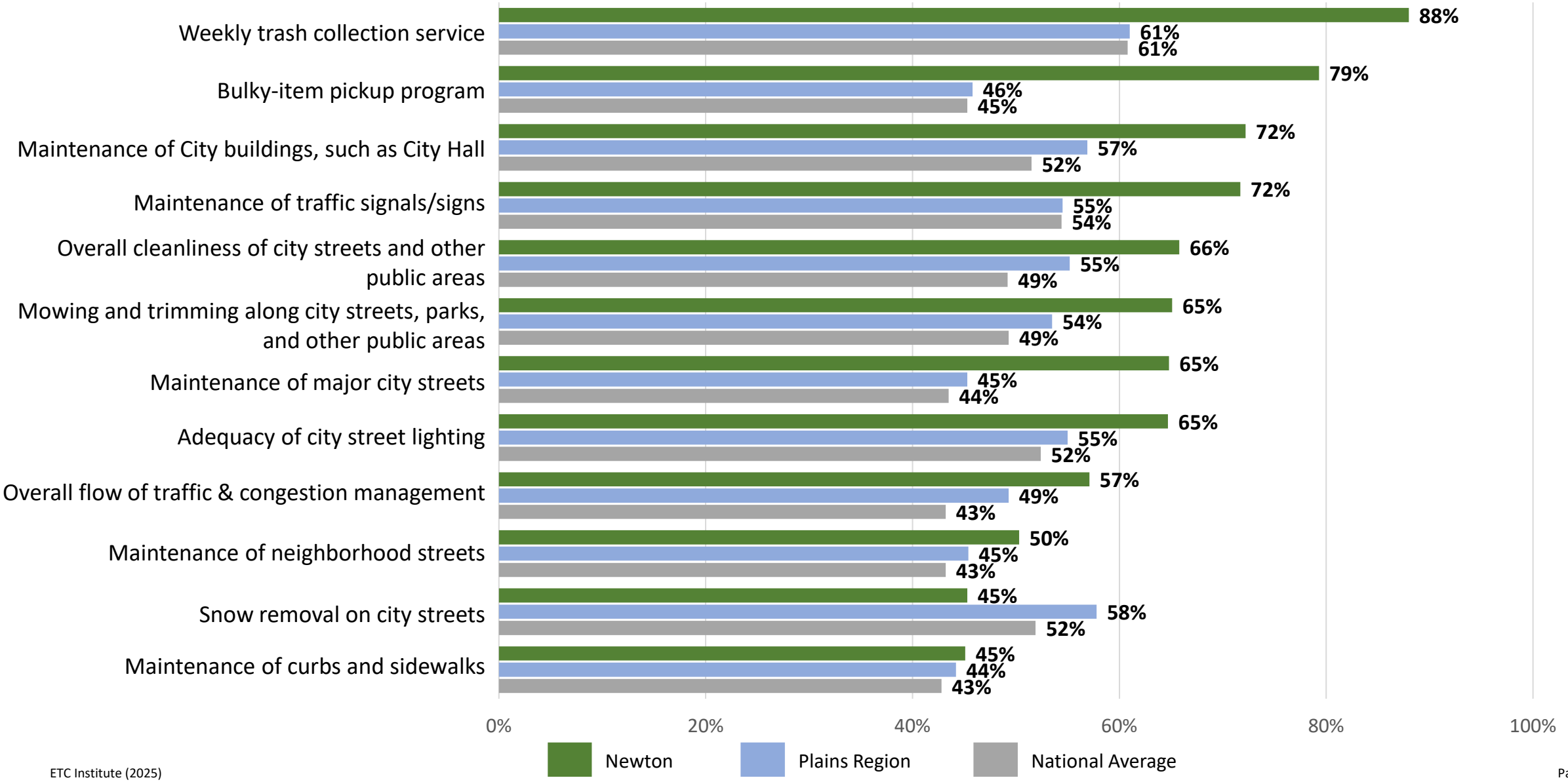
Satisfaction with Communication

Newton vs. Plains Region vs. National Average



Satisfaction with City Maintenance

Newton vs. Plains Region vs. National Average



3 Importance-Satisfaction Analysis

Importance-Satisfaction Analysis

Overview

Today, community leaders have limited resources which need to be targeted to activities that are of the most benefit to their residents. Two of the most important criteria for decision making are (1) to target resources toward services of the highest importance to residents; and (2) to target resources toward those services where residents are the least satisfied.

The Importance-Satisfaction (I-S) rating is a unique tool that allows public officials to better understand both of these highly important decision-making criteria for each of the services they are providing. The Importance-Satisfaction (I-S) rating is based on the concept that public agencies will maximize overall customer satisfaction by emphasizing improvements in those areas where the level of satisfaction is relatively low, and the perceived importance of the service is relatively high.

The rating is calculated by summing the percentage of responses for items selected as the most important services for the City to emphasize over the next two years. The sum is then multiplied by 1 minus the percentage of respondents who indicated they were positively satisfied with the City's performance in the related area (the sum of the ratings of 4 and 5 on a 5-point scale excluding "don't know" responses). "Don't know" responses are excluded from the calculation to ensure the satisfaction ratings among service categories are comparable.

I-S Rating = Importance x (1-Satisfaction)

Example of the Calculation

Respondents were asked to identify the public safety services that are most important to emphasize over the next two years. Nearly half (47%) of the respondent households selected *"the City's overall efforts to prevent crime"* as one of the services that are most important to emphasize over the next two years.

With regard to satisfaction, 56.6% of respondents surveyed rated *"the City's overall efforts to prevent crime"* as a "4" or "5" on a 5-point scale (where "5" means "Very Satisfied") excluding "don't know" responses. The I-S rating was calculated by multiplying the sum of the most important percentages by one minus the sum of the satisfaction percentages. In this example, 47% was multiplied by 43.4% (1-0.566). This calculation yielded an I-S rating of 0.2040, which ranked first out of twelve public safety services analyzed.

Importance-Satisfaction Analysis

The maximum rating is 1.00 and would be achieved when 100% of the respondents select an item as one of their top three choices of importance and 0% indicate they are positively satisfied with the delivery of the service.

The lowest rating is 0.00 and could be achieved under either of the following two situations:

- If 100% of the respondents were positively satisfied with the delivery of the service
- If none (0%) of the respondents selected the service as one of the most important areas.

Interpreting the Ratings

Ratings that are greater than or equal to 0.20 identify areas that should receive significantly more emphasis. Ratings from 0.10 to 0.20 identify service areas that should receive increased emphasis. Ratings less than 0.10 should continue to receive the current level of emphasis.

- *Definitely Increase* Emphasis (I-S > 0.20)
- *Increase* Current Emphasis (I-S = 0.10 - 0.20)
- *Maintain* Current Emphasis (I-S < 0.10)

Tables showing the results for the City of Newton are provided on the following pages.

Importance-Satisfaction Rating
City of Newton, KS
Public Safety

Service	Most Important %	Most Important Rank	Satisfaction %	Satisfaction Rank	Importance-Satisfaction Rating	I-S Rating Rank
Very High Priority (IS >.20)						
The City's overall efforts to prevent crime	47%	1	57%	8	0.2040	1
High Priority (IS .10-.20)						
The visibility of police in neighborhoods	29%	3	56%	9	0.1269	2
Overall quality of public interaction with the police department	28%	4	60%	7	0.1108	3
Medium Priority (IS <.10)						
Enforcement of local traffic laws	21%	5	54%	10	0.0952	4
Quality of animal control	18%	8	51%	12	0.0897	5
The visibility of police in retail areas	18%	6	52%	11	0.0873	6
Overall quality of local police protection	30%	2	71%	6	0.0864	7
Your overall feeling of safety in your neighborhood	18%	7	78%	4	0.0406	8
How quickly public safety personnel respond to emergencies	16%	10	82%	3	0.0282	9
Overall quality of local EMS services	18%	9	86%	2	0.0243	10
The City's overall efforts to prevent fires	7%	12	73%	5	0.0178	11
Overall quality of local fire protection	12%	11	89%	1	0.0139	12

Note: The I-S Rating is calculated by multiplying the "Most Important" % by (1-'Satisfaction' %)

Most Important %: The "Most Important" percentage represents the sum of the first, second, and third most important responses for each item. Respondents were asked to identify the services that should receive the most emphasis over the next two years.

Satisfaction %: The "Satisfaction" percentage represents the sum of the ratings "4" and "5" excluding 'don't knows.' Respondents ranked their level of satisfaction with each of the items on a scale of 1 to 5 with "5" being very satisfied and "1" being very dissatisfied.

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Importance-Satisfaction Rating
City of Newton, KS
Parks and Recreation

Service	Most Important %	Most Important Rank	Satisfaction %	Satisfaction Rank	Importance-Satisfaction Rating	I-S Rating Rank
High Priority (IS .10-.20)						
Quality of park facilities such as playgrounds, open space, and picnic shelters	56%	1	68%	4	0.1795	1
Appearance and maintenance of City parks	51%	2	73%	3	0.1379	2
Walking and biking trails in the City	49%	3	73%	2	0.1318	3
Community events	45%	4	76%	1	0.1082	4
Outdoor athletic facilities	28%	5	64%	5	0.1014	5
Medium Priority (IS <.10)						
Springlake Splash Park	12%	6	58%	6	0.0516	6
Centennial Dog Park	12%	7	57%	7	0.0512	7

Note: The I-S Rating is calculated by multiplying the "Most Important" % by (1-'Satisfaction' %)

Most Important %:

The "Most Important" percentage represents the sum of the first, second, and third most important responses for each item. Respondents were asked to identify the services that should receive the most emphasis over the next two years.

Satisfaction %:

The "Satisfaction" percentage represents the sum of the ratings "4" and "5" excluding 'don't knows.' Respondents ranked their level of satisfaction with each of the items on a scale of 1 to 5 with "5" being very effective and "1" being very ineffective.

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Importance-Satisfaction Rating
City of Newton, KS
Code Enforcement

Service	Most Important %	Most Important Rank	Satisfaction %	Satisfaction Rank	Importance-Satisfaction Rating	I-S Rating Rank
Very High Priority (IS >.20)						
Enforcing the cleanup of litter and debris	71%	1	38%	3	0.4393	1
Enforcing the mowing and trimming of residential property	58%	2	34%	5	0.3870	2
Enforcing the maintenance of residential property in your neighborhood	49%	3	42%	1	0.2821	3
Enforcing the mowing and trimming of commercial property	41%	4	37%	4	0.2610	4
High Priority (IS .10-.20)						
Enforcing the maintenance of commercial property in your neighborhood	28%	5	42%	2	0.1618	5

Note: The I-S Rating is calculated by multiplying the "Most Important" % by (1-'Satisfaction' %)

Most Important %: The "Most Important" percentage represents the sum of the first, second, and third most important responses for each item. Respondents were asked to identify the services that should receive the most emphasis over the next two years.

Satisfaction %: The "Satisfaction" percentage represents the sum of the ratings "4" and "5" excluding 'don't knows.' Respondents ranked their level of satisfaction with each of the items on a scale of 1 to 5 with "5" being very satisfied and "1" being very dissatisfied.

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Importance-Satisfaction Rating
City of Newton, KS
City Maintenance

Service	Most Important %	Most Important Rank	Satisfaction %	Satisfaction Rank	Importance-Satisfaction Rating	I-S Rating Rank
Very High Priority (IS >.20)						
Maintenance of neighborhood streets	**42%**	**1**	**50%**	**10**	**0.2082**	**1**
Snow removal on city streets	**38%**	**2**	**45%**	**11**	**0.2079**	**2**
High Priority (IS .10-.20)						
Maintenance of curbs and sidewalks	**30%**	**4**	**45%**	**12**	**0.1663**	**3**
Maintenance of major city streets	**34%**	**3**	**65%**	**7**	**0.1183**	**4**
Overall flow of traffic and congestion management in Newton	**24%**	**5**	**57%**	**9**	**0.1042**	**5**
Medium Priority (IS <.10)						
Adequacy of city street lighting	**21%**	**7**	**65%**	**8**	**0.0731**	**6**
Overall cleanliness of city streets and other public areas	**21%**	**6**	**66%**	**5**	**0.0715**	**7**
Mowing and trimming along city streets, parks, and other public areas	**20%**	**8**	**65%**	**6**	**0.0708**	**8**
Maintenance of traffic signals/signs	**7%**	**10**	**72%**	**4**	**0.0204**	**9**
Bulky-item pickup program	**10%**	**9**	**79%**	**2**	**0.0201**	**10**
Maintenance of City buildings, such as City Hall	**3%**	**12**	**72%**	**3**	**0.0089**	**11**
Weekly trash collection service	**6%**	**11**	**88%**	**1**	**0.0070**	**12**

Note: The I-S Rating is calculated by multiplying the "Most Important" % by (1-'Satisfaction' %)

Most Important %: The "Most Important" percentage represents the sum of the first, second, and third most important responses for each item. Respondents were asked to identify the services that should receive the most emphasis over the next two years.

Satisfaction %: The "Satisfaction" percentage represents the sum of the ratings "4" and "5" excluding 'don't knows.' Respondents ranked their level of satisfaction with each of the items on a scale of 1 to 5 with "5" being very satisfied and "1" being very dissatisfied.

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4 Tabular Data

Q1. Overall Perception. Some items that may influence your perception of the City of Newton are listed below. Please rate each item using a scale of 1 to 5, where 5 is "Very Satisfied" and 1 is "Very Dissatisfied."

(N=506)

	Very satisfied	Satisfied	Neutral	Dissatisfied	Very dissatisfied	Don't know
Q1-1. Overall quality of City services	10.7%	55.9%	22.7%	7.7%	1.8%	1.2%
Q1-2. Overall value that you receive for your City tax dollars & fees	5.1%	26.1%	30.2%	25.7%	11.3%	1.6%
Q1-3. Overall image of City	5.7%	36.2%	33.2%	19.4%	4.9%	0.6%
Q1-4. How well City is planning new development & redevelopment	4.3%	20.8%	33.8%	25.3%	8.1%	7.7%
Q1-5. Overall quality of life in Newton	10.7%	47.6%	25.5%	12.1%	3.4%	0.8%
Q1-6. Overall condition of housing in your neighborhood	15.2%	40.9%	22.5%	14.8%	5.9%	0.6%

WITHOUT "DON'T KNOW"

Q1. Overall Perception. Some items that may influence your perception of the City of Newton are listed below. Please rate each item using a scale of 1 to 5, where 5 is "Very Satisfied" and 1 is "Very Dissatisfied." (without "don't know")

(N=506)

	Very satisfied	Satisfied	Neutral	Dissatisfied	Very dissatisfied
Q1-1. Overall quality of City services	10.8%	56.6%	23.0%	7.8%	1.8%
Q1-2. Overall value that you receive for your City tax dollars & fees	5.2%	26.5%	30.7%	26.1%	11.4%
Q1-3. Overall image of City	5.8%	36.4%	33.4%	19.5%	5.0%
Q1-4. How well City is planning new development & redevelopment	4.7%	22.5%	36.6%	27.4%	8.8%
Q1-5. Overall quality of life in Newton	10.8%	48.0%	25.7%	12.2%	3.4%
Q1-6. Overall condition of housing in your neighborhood	15.3%	41.2%	22.7%	14.9%	6.0%

Q2. Public Safety. Please rate your satisfaction with each of the following items using a scale of 1 to 5, where 5 is "Very Satisfied" and 1 is "Very Dissatisfied."

(N=506)

	Very satisfied	Satisfied	Neutral	Dissatisfied	Very dissatisfied	Don't know
Q2-1. Overall quality of local police protection	18.8%	51.2%	23.9%	3.6%	1.4%	1.2%
Q2-2. Visibility of police in neighborhoods	12.1%	42.3%	31.6%	10.3%	1.2%	2.6%
Q2-3. Visibility of police in retail areas	8.3%	40.3%	35.2%	8.3%	0.8%	7.1%
Q2-4. City's overall efforts to prevent crime	10.7%	41.3%	28.1%	10.1%	1.6%	8.3%
Q2-5. Your overall feeling of safety in your neighborhood	27.1%	50.6%	15.2%	6.1%	0.8%	0.2%
Q2-6. Enforcement of local traffic laws	11.7%	39.5%	29.1%	10.7%	4.0%	5.1%
Q2-7. Quality of animal control	10.5%	36.4%	28.3%	12.1%	4.7%	8.1%
Q2-8. Overall quality of local EMS services	36.2%	41.9%	11.5%	0.8%	0.4%	9.3%
Q2-9. Overall quality of local fire protection	34.0%	46.6%	9.9%	0.4%	0.2%	8.9%
Q2-10. City's overall efforts to prevent fires	20.4%	42.1%	21.5%	1.4%	0.2%	14.4%
Q2-11. How quickly public safety personnel respond to emergencies	29.1%	43.7%	14.4%	1.0%	0.6%	11.3%
Q2-12. Overall quality of public interaction with the police department	16.4%	38.5%	29.6%	5.5%	1.8%	8.1%

WITHOUT "DON'T KNOW"

Q2. Public Safety. Please rate your satisfaction with each of the following items using a scale of 1 to 5, where 5 is "Very Satisfied" and 1 is "Very Dissatisfied." (without "don't know")

(N=506)

	Very satisfied	Satisfied	Neutral	Dissatisfied	Very dissatisfied
Q2-1. Overall quality of local police protection	19.0%	51.8%	24.2%	3.6%	1.4%
Q2-2. Visibility of police in neighborhoods	12.4%	43.4%	32.5%	10.5%	1.2%
Q2-3. Visibility of police in retail areas	8.9%	43.4%	37.9%	8.9%	0.9%
Q2-4. City's overall efforts to prevent crime	11.6%	45.0%	30.6%	11.0%	1.7%
Q2-5. Your overall feeling of safety in your neighborhood	27.1%	50.7%	15.2%	6.1%	0.8%
Q2-6. Enforcement of local traffic laws	12.3%	41.7%	30.6%	11.3%	4.2%
Q2-7. Quality of animal control	11.4%	39.6%	30.8%	13.1%	5.2%
Q2-8. Overall quality of local EMS services	39.9%	46.2%	12.6%	0.9%	0.4%
Q2-9. Overall quality of local fire protection	37.3%	51.2%	10.8%	0.4%	0.2%
Q2-10. City's overall efforts to prevent fires	23.8%	49.2%	25.2%	1.6%	0.2%
Q2-11. How quickly public safety personnel respond to emergencies	32.7%	49.2%	16.3%	1.1%	0.7%
Q2-12. Overall quality of public interaction with the police department	17.8%	41.9%	32.3%	6.0%	1.9%

Q3. Which THREE of the Public Safety items listed in Question 2 do you think should receive the MOST EMPHASIS from City leaders over the next TWO years?

Q3. Top choice	Number	Percent
Overall quality of local police protection	69	13.6 %
Visibility of police in neighborhoods	56	11.1 %
Visibility of police in retail areas	24	4.7 %
City's overall efforts to prevent crime	111	21.9 %
Your overall feeling of safety in your neighborhood	25	4.9 %
Enforcement of local traffic laws	32	6.3 %
Quality of animal control	38	7.5 %
Overall quality of local EMS services	26	5.1 %
Overall quality of local fire protection	8	1.6 %
City's overall efforts to prevent fires	8	1.6 %
How quickly public safety personnel respond to emergencies	17	3.4 %
Overall quality of public interaction with the police department	47	9.3 %
None chosen	45	8.9 %
Total	506	100.0 %

Q3. Which THREE of the Public Safety items listed in Question 2 do you think should receive the MOST EMPHASIS from City leaders over the next TWO years?

Q3. 2nd choice	Number	Percent
Overall quality of local police protection	44	8.7 %
Visibility of police in neighborhoods	62	12.3 %
Visibility of police in retail areas	40	7.9 %
City's overall efforts to prevent crime	70	13.8 %
Your overall feeling of safety in your neighborhood	38	7.5 %
Enforcement of local traffic laws	42	8.3 %
Quality of animal control	25	4.9 %
Overall quality of local EMS services	37	7.3 %
Overall quality of local fire protection	21	4.2 %
City's overall efforts to prevent fires	7	1.4 %
How quickly public safety personnel respond to emergencies	22	4.3 %
Overall quality of public interaction with the police department	34	6.7 %
None chosen	64	12.6 %
Total	506	100.0 %

Q3. Which THREE of the Public Safety items listed in Question 2 do you think should receive the MOST EMPHASIS from City leaders over the next TWO years?

Q3. 3rd choice	Number	Percent
Overall quality of local police protection	37	7.3 %
Visibility of police in neighborhoods	27	5.3 %
Visibility of police in retail areas	29	5.7 %
City's overall efforts to prevent crime	57	11.3 %
Your overall feeling of safety in your neighborhood	30	5.9 %
Enforcement of local traffic laws	31	6.1 %
Quality of animal control	30	5.9 %
Overall quality of local EMS services	26	5.1 %
Overall quality of local fire protection	32	6.3 %
City's overall efforts to prevent fires	18	3.6 %
How quickly public safety personnel respond to emergencies	40	7.9 %
Overall quality of public interaction with the police department	58	11.5 %
None chosen	91	18.0 %
Total	506	100.0 %

SUM OF TOP 3 CHOICES

Q3. Which THREE of the Public Safety items listed in Question 2 do you think should receive the MOST EMPHASIS from City leaders over the next TWO years? (top 3)

Q3. Sum of top 3 choices	Number	Percent
Overall quality of local police protection	150	29.6 %
Visibility of police in neighborhoods	145	28.7 %
Visibility of police in retail areas	93	18.4 %
City's overall efforts to prevent crime	238	47.0 %
Your overall feeling of safety in your neighborhood	93	18.4 %
Enforcement of local traffic laws	105	20.8 %
Quality of animal control	93	18.4 %
Overall quality of local EMS services	89	17.6 %
Overall quality of local fire protection	61	12.1 %
City's overall efforts to prevent fires	33	6.5 %
How quickly public safety personnel respond to emergencies	79	15.6 %
Overall quality of public interaction with the police department	139	27.5 %
None chosen	45	8.9 %
Total	1363	

Q4. Perception of Safety. Using a scale of 1 to 5, where 5 is "Very Safe" and 1 is "Very Unsafe," please rate how safe you feel in the following situations.

(N=506)

	Very safe	Safe	Neutral	Unsafe	Very unsafe	Don't know
Q4-1. In your neighborhood during the day	50.2%	42.1%	6.1%	1.2%	0.2%	0.2%
Q4-2. In your neighborhood at night	26.3%	47.0%	17.4%	7.9%	1.2%	0.2%
Q4-3. In City parks & recreation facilities	12.5%	44.1%	28.7%	6.9%	0.8%	7.1%
Q4-4. In commercial & retail areas in City	20.4%	53.0%	20.6%	1.8%	0.2%	4.2%
Q4-5. In allowing your children to walk or bike in Newton	5.5%	24.3%	29.4%	16.4%	4.0%	20.4%

WITHOUT "DON'T KNOW"

Q4. Perception of Safety. Using a scale of 1 to 5, where 5 is "Very Safe" and 1 is "Very Unsafe," please rate how safe you feel in the following situations. (without "don't know")

(N=506)

	Very safe	Safe	Neutral	Unsafe	Very unsafe
Q4-1. In your neighborhood during the day	50.3%	42.2%	6.1%	1.2%	0.2%
Q4-2. In your neighborhood at night	26.3%	47.1%	17.4%	7.9%	1.2%
Q4-3. In City parks & recreation facilities	13.4%	47.4%	30.9%	7.4%	0.9%
Q4-4. In commercial & retail areas in City	21.2%	55.3%	21.4%	1.9%	0.2%
Q4-5. In allowing your children to walk or bike in Newton	6.9%	30.5%	37.0%	20.6%	5.0%

Q5. Parks and Recreation. Please rate your satisfaction with each of the following items using a scale of 1 to 5, where 5 is "Very Satisfied" and 1 is "Very Dissatisfied."

(N=506)

	Very satisfied	Satisfied	Neutral	Dissatisfied	Very dissatisfied	Don't know
Q5-1. Appearance & maintenance of City parks	15.8%	55.5%	16.6%	8.1%	2.0%	2.0%
Q5-2. Quality of park facilities such as playgrounds, open space, & picnic shelters	13.8%	51.0%	20.2%	8.7%	1.6%	4.7%
Q5-3. Walking & biking trails in City	20.4%	48.0%	14.4%	8.5%	2.4%	6.3%
Q5-4. Outdoor athletic facilities (e.g., basketball, tennis, pickleball, disk golf)	11.9%	43.5%	20.6%	7.9%	2.8%	13.4%
Q5-5. Centennial Dog Park	10.5%	29.1%	24.1%	4.2%	1.6%	30.6%
Q5-6. Springlake Splash Park	9.3%	29.2%	21.7%	4.7%	1.8%	33.2%
Q5-7. Community events (Taste of Newton, Sand Creek Summer Daze, Third Thursdays, concerts, Parade of Lights, etc.)	23.5%	47.8%	17.6%	4.2%	0.8%	6.1%

WITHOUT "DON'T KNOW"

Q5. Parks and Recreation. Please rate your satisfaction with each of the following items using a scale of 1 to 5, where 5 is "Very Satisfied" and 1 is "Very Dissatisfied." (without "don't know")

(N=506)

	Very satisfied	Satisfied	Neutral	Dissatisfied	Very dissatisfied
Q5-1. Appearance & maintenance of City parks	16.1%	56.7%	16.9%	8.3%	2.0%
Q5-2. Quality of park facilities such as playgrounds, open space, & picnic shelters	14.5%	53.5%	21.2%	9.1%	1.7%
Q5-3. Walking & biking trails in City	21.7%	51.3%	15.4%	9.1%	2.5%
Q5-4. Outdoor athletic facilities (e.g., basketball, tennis, pickleball, disk golf)	13.7%	50.2%	23.7%	9.1%	3.2%
Q5-5. Centennial Dog Park	15.1%	41.9%	34.8%	6.0%	2.3%
Q5-6. Springlake Splash Park	13.9%	43.8%	32.5%	7.1%	2.7%
Q5-7. Community events (Taste of Newton, Sand Creek Summer Daze, Third Thursdays, concerts, Parade of Lights, etc.)	25.1%	50.9%	18.7%	4.4%	0.8%

Q6. Which THREE of the Parks items listed in Question 5 do you think should receive the MOST EMPHASIS from City leaders over the next TWO years?

Q6. Top choice	Number	Percent
Appearance & maintenance of City parks	112	22.1 %
Quality of park facilities such as playgrounds, open space, & picnic shelters	94	18.6 %
Walking & biking trails in City	98	19.4 %
Outdoor athletic facilities (e.g., basketball, tennis, pickleball, disk golf)	34	6.7 %
Centennial Dog Park	17	3.4 %
Springlake Splash Park	12	2.4 %
Community events (Taste of Newton, Sand Creek Summer Daze, Third Thursdays, concerts, Parade of Lights, etc.)	80	15.8 %
None chosen	59	11.7 %
Total	506	100.0 %

Q6. Which THREE of the Parks items listed in Question 5 do you think should receive the MOST EMPHASIS from City leaders over the next TWO years?

Q6. 2nd choice	Number	Percent
Appearance & maintenance of City parks	78	15.4 %
Quality of park facilities such as playgrounds, open space, & picnic shelters	122	24.1 %
Walking & biking trails in City	70	13.8 %
Outdoor athletic facilities (e.g., basketball, tennis, pickleball, disk golf)	56	11.1 %
Centennial Dog Park	15	3.0 %
Springlake Splash Park	24	4.7 %
Community events (Taste of Newton, Sand Creek Summer Daze, Third Thursdays, concerts, Parade of Lights, etc.)	61	12.1 %
None chosen	80	15.8 %
Total	506	100.0 %

Q6. Which THREE of the Parks items listed in Question 5 do you think should receive the MOST EMPHASIS from City leaders over the next TWO years?

Q6. 3rd choice	Number	Percent
Appearance & maintenance of City parks	67	13.2 %
Quality of park facilities such as playgrounds, open space, & picnic shelters	68	13.4 %
Walking & biking trails in City	79	15.6 %
Outdoor athletic facilities (e.g., basketball, tennis, pickleball, disk golf)	52	10.3 %
Centennial Dog Park	28	5.5 %
Springlake Splash Park	26	5.1 %
Community events (Taste of Newton, Sand Creek Summer Daze, Third Thursdays, concerts, Parade of Lights, etc.)	87	17.2 %
None chosen	99	19.6 %
Total	506	100.0 %

SUM OF TOP 3 CHOICES

Q6. Which THREE of the Parks items listed in Question 5 do you think should receive the MOST EMPHASIS from City leaders over the next TWO years? (top 3)

Q6. Sum of top 3 choices	Number	Percent
Appearance & maintenance of City parks	257	50.8 %
Quality of park facilities such as playgrounds, open space, & picnic shelters	284	56.1 %
Walking & biking trails in City	247	48.8 %
Outdoor athletic facilities (e.g., basketball, tennis, pickleball, disk golf)	142	28.1 %
Centennial Dog Park	60	11.9 %
Springlake Splash Park	62	12.3 %
Community events (Taste of Newton, Sand Creek Summer Daze, Third Thursdays, concerts, Parade of Lights, etc.)	228	45.1 %
None chosen	59	11.7 %
Total	1339	

Q7. Code Enforcement. Please rate your satisfaction with each of the following items using a scale of 1 to 5, where 5 is "Very Satisfied" and 1 is "Very Dissatisfied."

(N=506)

	Very satisfied	Satisfied	Neutral	Dissatisfied	Very dissatisfied	Don't know
Q7-1. Enforcing cleanup of litter & debris	5.7%	29.8%	26.7%	21.5%	9.3%	6.9%
Q7-2. Enforcing mowing & trimming of residential property	4.9%	26.3%	22.9%	24.1%	15.0%	6.7%
Q7-3. Enforcing mowing & trimming of commercial property	4.9%	28.3%	28.9%	18.4%	10.5%	9.1%
Q7-4. Enforcing maintenance of residential property in your neighborhood	6.3%	33.0%	22.3%	21.5%	10.1%	6.7%
Q7-5. Enforcing maintenance of commercial property in your neighborhood	5.3%	28.3%	30.2%	10.5%	5.7%	20.0%

WITHOUT "DON'T KNOW"

Q7. Code Enforcement. Please rate your satisfaction with each of the following items using a scale of 1 to 5, where 5 is "Very Satisfied" and 1 is "Very Dissatisfied." (without "don't know")

(N=506)

	Very satisfied	Satisfied	Neutral	Dissatisfied	Very dissatisfied
Q7-1. Enforcing cleanup of litter & debris	6.2%	32.1%	28.7%	23.1%	10.0%
Q7-2. Enforcing mowing & trimming of residential property	5.3%	28.2%	24.6%	25.8%	16.1%
Q7-3. Enforcing mowing & trimming of commercial property	5.4%	31.1%	31.7%	20.2%	11.5%
Q7-4. Enforcing maintenance of residential property in your neighborhood	6.8%	35.4%	23.9%	23.1%	10.8%
Q7-5. Enforcing maintenance of commercial property in your neighborhood	6.7%	35.3%	37.8%	13.1%	7.2%

Q8. Which THREE of the Code Enforcement items listed in Question 7 do you think should receive the MOST EMPHASIS from City leaders over the next TWO years?

Q8. Top choice	Number	Percent
Enforcing cleanup of litter & debris	175	34.6 %
Enforcing mowing & trimming of residential property	115	22.7 %
Enforcing mowing & trimming of commercial property	48	9.5 %
Enforcing maintenance of residential property in your neighborhood	71	14.0 %
Enforcing maintenance of commercial property in your neighborhood	36	7.1 %
None chosen	61	12.1 %
Total	506	100.0 %

Q8. Which THREE of the Code Enforcement items listed in Question 7 do you think should receive the MOST EMPHASIS from City leaders over the next TWO years?

Q8. 2nd choice	Number	Percent
Enforcing cleanup of litter & debris	91	18.0 %
Enforcing mowing & trimming of residential property	109	21.5 %
Enforcing mowing & trimming of commercial property	78	15.4 %
Enforcing maintenance of residential property in your neighborhood	93	18.4 %
Enforcing maintenance of commercial property in your neighborhood	49	9.7 %
None chosen	86	17.0 %
Total	506	100.0 %

Q8. Which THREE of the Code Enforcement items listed in Question 7 do you think should receive the MOST EMPHASIS from City leaders over the next TWO years?

Q8. 3rd choice	Number	Percent
Enforcing cleanup of litter & debris	94	18.6 %
Enforcing mowing & trimming of residential property	71	14.0 %
Enforcing mowing & trimming of commercial property	82	16.2 %
Enforcing maintenance of residential property in your neighborhood	83	16.4 %
Enforcing maintenance of commercial property in your neighborhood	56	11.1 %
None chosen	120	23.7 %
Total	506	100.0 %

SUM OF TOP 3 CHOICES

Q8. Which THREE of the Code Enforcement items listed in Question 7 do you think should receive the MOST EMPHASIS from City leaders over the next TWO years? (top 3)

Q8. Sum of top 3 choices	Number	Percent
Enforcing cleanup of litter & debris	360	71.1 %
Enforcing mowing & trimming of residential property	295	58.3 %
Enforcing mowing & trimming of commercial property	208	41.1 %
Enforcing maintenance of residential property in your neighborhood	247	48.8 %
Enforcing maintenance of commercial property in your neighborhood	141	27.9 %
None chosen	61	12.1 %
Total	1312	

Q9. Leadership. Please rate your satisfaction with each of the following items using a scale of 1 to 5, where 5 is "Very Satisfied" and 1 is "Very Dissatisfied."

(N=506)

	Very satisfied	Satisfied	Neutral	Dissatisfied	Very dissatisfied	Don't know
Q9-1. Overall quality of leadership provided by City's elected officials	6.7%	24.3%	36.8%	15.2%	6.7%	10.3%
Q9-2. Overall effectiveness of City Manager & Department Heads	8.1%	24.9%	35.0%	12.8%	6.3%	12.8%
Q9-3. Overall accessibility of City leaders	7.3%	18.8%	37.2%	12.1%	6.1%	18.6%
Q9-4. Overall responsiveness of City leaders	6.5%	18.0%	35.8%	14.2%	5.5%	20.0%

WITHOUT "DON'T KNOW"

Q9. Leadership. Please rate your satisfaction with each of the following items using a scale of 1 to 5, where 5 is "Very Satisfied" and 1 is "Very Dissatisfied." (without "don't know")

(N=506)

	Very satisfied	Satisfied	Neutral	Dissatisfied	Very dissatisfied
Q9-1. Overall quality of leadership provided by City's elected officials	7.5%	27.1%	41.0%	17.0%	7.5%
Q9-2. Overall effectiveness of City Manager & Department Heads	9.3%	28.6%	40.1%	14.7%	7.3%
Q9-3. Overall accessibility of City leaders	9.0%	23.1%	45.6%	14.8%	7.5%
Q9-4. Overall responsiveness of City leaders	8.1%	22.5%	44.7%	17.8%	6.9%

Q10. Communication. Please rate your satisfaction with each of the following items using a scale of 1 to 5, where 5 is "Very Satisfied" and 1 is "Very Dissatisfied."

(N=506)

	Very satisfied	Satisfied	Neutral	Dissatisfied	Very dissatisfied	Don't know
Q10-1. Availability of information about City programs & services	9.3%	39.1%	30.2%	11.9%	3.4%	6.1%
Q10-2. City's efforts to keep you informed about local issues	10.3%	33.2%	33.4%	14.4%	4.2%	4.5%
Q10-3. How open City is to public involvement & input from residents	6.1%	24.3%	34.8%	16.0%	7.5%	11.3%
Q10-4. Content of City's social media accounts	6.7%	31.4%	35.6%	7.7%	3.4%	15.2%
Q10-5. User-friendliness of City's website, NewtonKansas.com	4.9%	31.0%	35.2%	9.7%	3.4%	15.8%
Q10-6. Content of City's eNewsletters	6.3%	28.5%	33.0%	4.9%	2.4%	24.9%

WITHOUT "DON'T KNOW"

Q10. Communication. Please rate your satisfaction with each of the following items using a scale of 1 to 5, where 5 is "Very Satisfied" and 1 is "Very Dissatisfied." (without "don't know")

(N=506)

	Very satisfied	Satisfied	Neutral	Dissatisfied	Very dissatisfied
Q10-1. Availability of information about City programs & services	9.9%	41.7%	32.2%	12.6%	3.6%
Q10-2. City's efforts to keep you informed about local issues	10.8%	34.8%	35.0%	15.1%	4.3%
Q10-3. How open City is to public involvement & input from residents	6.9%	27.4%	39.2%	18.0%	8.5%
Q10-4. Content of City's social media accounts	7.9%	37.1%	42.0%	9.1%	4.0%
Q10-5. User-friendliness of City's website, NewtonKansas.com	5.9%	36.9%	41.8%	11.5%	4.0%
Q10-6. Content of City's eNewsletters	8.4%	37.9%	43.9%	6.6%	3.2%

Q11. Which of the following are your PRIMARY SOURCES of information about City issues, services, and events?

Q11. Your primary sources of information about City issues, services, & events	Number	Percent
City website	172	34.0 %
City eNewsletters	119	23.5 %
Local newspapers	155	30.6 %
TV news	93	18.4 %
Mailers & bill inserts	199	39.3 %
Social media (Facebook, Instagram)	327	64.6 %
Other	25	4.9 %
Total	1090	

Q11-7. Other:

Q11-7. Other	Number	Percent
Word of mouth	12	48.0 %
Radio	2	8.0 %
City of Newton app	1	4.0 %
Friends and family	1	4.0 %
Friends	1	4.0 %
Flyers	1	4.0 %
City employees	1	4.0 %
Neighbors and family	1	4.0 %
Social media	1	4.0 %
Chamber	1	4.0 %
Co-workers and customers	1	4.0 %
Text	1	4.0 %
Neighbors	1	4.0 %
Total	25	100.0 %

Q12. What types of information are you usually seeking through the City's communications tools?

Q12. Types of information you seek through City's communications tools	Number	Percent
Calendar-dates & event information	349	69.0 %
Contact information for City staff or elected officials	121	23.9 %
Information about City departments, programs & services	251	49.6 %
Information about local businesses	109	21.5 %
Paying a bill or fee	156	30.8 %
Updates about trending City issues	215	42.5 %
Other	12	2.4 %
Total	1213	

Q12-7. Other

- City business decisions like GAF: were they required to submit an environmental impact statement, if not, why? Where is the tax revenue coming from to replace the budget gap that GAF is currently exempt from...is that why my house appraisal value was artificially inflated? I don't like the behind closed doors politics in this town! People are in positions that they don't have the skills/knowledge for!
- City ordinance or regulations.
- CRIME
- ECONOMIC GROWTH AND NEW BUSINESSES
- Mail
- More job listings
- OPEN RECORD ON ANIMAL RECORD IE DOG TAG RECORD SHOTS, ETC
- SCHEDULING A BULKY ITEM PICKUP
- STREET CLOSURES, CONSTRUCTION, SAFETY ALERTS
- talking to neighbors
- Tax info
- Where our tax dollars are going. Shy water rates are so high

Q13. City Maintenance. Please rate your satisfaction with each of the following items using a scale of 1 to 5, where 5 is "Very Satisfied" and 1 is "Very Dissatisfied."

(N=506)

	Very satisfied	Satisfied	Neutral	Dissatisfied	Very dissatisfied	Don't know
Q13-1. Maintenance of major City streets	9.9%	54.0%	17.2%	13.2%	4.2%	1.6%
Q13-2. Maintenance of neighborhood streets	7.1%	42.3%	22.9%	20.0%	5.9%	1.8%
Q13-3. Maintenance of curbs & sidewalks	5.1%	38.9%	27.9%	19.4%	6.5%	2.2%
Q13-4. Maintenance of traffic signals/signs	12.8%	57.3%	22.1%	4.3%	1.2%	2.2%
Q13-5. Adequacy of City street lighting	8.1%	55.1%	18.8%	11.7%	4.2%	2.2%
Q13-6. Maintenance of City buildings, such as City Hall	13.2%	52.4%	22.1%	2.6%	0.6%	9.1%
Q13-7. Snow removal on City streets	8.5%	36.0%	21.9%	21.1%	10.7%	1.8%
Q13-8. Mowing & trimming along City streets, parks, & other public areas	9.7%	53.8%	18.6%	10.1%	5.3%	2.6%
Q13-9. Overall cleanliness of City streets & other public areas	10.5%	54.3%	23.9%	8.1%	1.6%	1.6%
Q13-10. Overall flow of traffic & congestion management in Newton	8.9%	46.6%	23.9%	13.4%	4.3%	2.8%
Q13-11. Weekly trash collection service	32.2%	54.7%	8.5%	2.0%	1.4%	1.2%
Q13-12. Bulky-item pickup program	25.1%	45.5%	12.1%	4.3%	2.0%	11.1%

WITHOUT "DON'T KNOW"

Q13. City Maintenance. Please rate your satisfaction with each of the following items using a scale of 1 to 5, where 5 is "Very Satisfied" and 1 is "Very Dissatisfied." (without "don't know")

(N=506)

	Very satisfied	Satisfied	Neutral	Dissatisfied	Very dissatisfied
Q13-1. Maintenance of major City streets	10.0%	54.8%	17.5%	13.5%	4.2%
Q13-2. Maintenance of neighborhood streets	7.2%	43.1%	23.3%	20.3%	6.0%
Q13-3. Maintenance of curbs & sidewalks	5.3%	39.8%	28.5%	19.8%	6.7%
Q13-4. Maintenance of traffic signals/signs	13.1%	58.6%	22.6%	4.4%	1.2%
Q13-5. Adequacy of City street lighting	8.3%	56.4%	19.2%	11.9%	4.2%
Q13-6. Maintenance of City buildings, such as City Hall	14.6%	57.6%	24.3%	2.8%	0.7%
Q13-7. Snow removal on City streets	8.7%	36.6%	22.3%	21.5%	10.9%
Q13-8. Mowing & trimming along City streets, parks, & other public areas	9.9%	55.2%	19.1%	10.3%	5.5%
Q13-9. Overall cleanliness of City streets & other public areas	10.6%	55.2%	24.3%	8.2%	1.6%
Q13-10. Overall flow of traffic & congestion management in Newton	9.1%	48.0%	24.6%	13.8%	4.5%
Q13-11. Weekly trash collection service	32.6%	55.4%	8.6%	2.0%	1.4%
Q13-12. Bulky-item pickup program	28.2%	51.1%	13.6%	4.9%	2.2%

Q14. Which THREE of the City Maintenance items listed in Question 13 do you think should receive the MOST EMPHASIS from City leaders over the next TWO years?

Q14. Top choice	Number	Percent
Maintenance of major City streets	87	17.2 %
Maintenance of neighborhood streets	68	13.4 %
Maintenance of curbs & sidewalks	49	9.7 %
Maintenance of traffic signals/signs	9	1.8 %
Adequacy of City street lighting	26	5.1 %
Snow removal on City streets	81	16.0 %
Mowing & trimming along City streets, parks, & other public areas	33	6.5 %
Overall cleanliness of City streets & other public areas	34	6.7 %
Overall flow of traffic & congestion management in Newton	47	9.3 %
Weekly trash collection service	11	2.2 %
Bulky-item pickup program	16	3.2 %
None chosen	45	8.9 %
Total	506	100.0 %

Q14. Which THREE of the City Maintenance items listed in Question 13 do you think should receive the MOST EMPHASIS from City leaders over the next TWO years?

Q14. 2nd choice	Number	Percent
Maintenance of major City streets	41	8.1 %
Maintenance of neighborhood streets	85	16.8 %
Maintenance of curbs & sidewalks	58	11.5 %
Maintenance of traffic signals/signs	10	2.0 %
Adequacy of City street lighting	43	8.5 %
Maintenance of City buildings, such as City Hall	9	1.8 %
Snow removal on City streets	61	12.1 %
Mowing & trimming along City streets, parks, & other public areas	35	6.9 %
Overall cleanliness of City streets & other public areas	36	7.1 %
Overall flow of traffic & congestion management in Newton	41	8.1 %
Weekly trash collection service	5	1.0 %
Bulky-item pickup program	10	2.0 %
None chosen	72	14.2 %
Total	506	100.0 %

Q14. Which THREE of the City Maintenance items listed in Question 13 do you think should receive the MOST EMPHASIS from City leaders over the next TWO years?

Q14. 3rd choice	Number	Percent
Maintenance of major City streets	42	8.3 %
Maintenance of neighborhood streets	59	11.7 %
Maintenance of curbs & sidewalks	46	9.1 %
Maintenance of traffic signals/signs	17	3.4 %
Adequacy of City street lighting	36	7.1 %
Maintenance of City buildings, such as City Hall	7	1.4 %
Snow removal on City streets	50	9.9 %
Mowing & trimming along City streets, parks, & other public areas	35	6.9 %
Overall cleanliness of City streets & other public areas	36	7.1 %
Overall flow of traffic & congestion management in Newton	35	6.9 %
Weekly trash collection service	13	2.6 %
Bulky-item pickup program	23	4.5 %
None chosen	107	21.1 %
Total	506	100.0 %

SUM OF TOP 3 CHOICES

Q14. Which THREE of the City Maintenance items listed in Question 13 do you think should receive the MOST EMPHASIS from City leaders over the next TWO years? (top 3)

Q14. Sum of top 3 choices	Number	Percent
Maintenance of major City streets	170	33.6 %
Maintenance of neighborhood streets	212	41.9 %
Maintenance of curbs & sidewalks	153	30.2 %
Maintenance of traffic signals/signs	36	7.1 %
Adequacy of City street lighting	105	20.8 %
Maintenance of City buildings, such as City Hall	16	3.2 %
Snow removal on City streets	192	37.9 %
Mowing & trimming along City streets, parks, & other public areas	103	20.4 %
Overall cleanliness of City streets & other public areas	106	20.9 %
Overall flow of traffic & congestion management in Newton	123	24.3 %
Weekly trash collection service	29	5.7 %
Bulky-item pickup program	49	9.7 %
None chosen	45	8.9 %
Total	1339	

Q15. Customer Service. Have you called, emailed, or visited the City with a question, problem, or complaint during the past year?

Q15. Have you called, emailed, or visited City with a question, problem, or complaint during past year	Number	Percent
Yes	200	39.5 %
No	306	60.5 %
Total	506	100.0 %

Q15a. How easy was it to contact the person you needed to reach?

Q15a. How easy was it to contact the person you needed to reach	Number	Percent
Very easy	64	32.0 %
Easy	62	31.0 %
Somewhat easy	45	22.5 %
Not easy	28	14.0 %
Don't know	1	0.5 %
Total	200	100.0 %

WITHOUT "DON'T KNOW"

Q15a. How easy was it to contact the person you needed to reach? (without "don't know")

Q15a. How easy was it to contact the person you needed to reach	Number	Percent
Very easy	64	32.2 %
Easy	62	31.2 %
Somewhat easy	45	22.6 %
Not easy	28	14.1 %
Total	199	100.0 %

Q15b. Several factors that may influence your perception of the quality of customer service you received from City employees are listed below. For each item, please rate how often the employees you have contacted during the past year have displayed the behavior described using a scale of 1 to 5, where 5 means "Always" and 1 means "Never."

(N=200)

	Always	Usually	Sometimes	Seldom	Never	Don't know
Q15b-1. They were courteous & polite	57.5%	27.5%	8.0%	3.5%	0.5%	3.0%
Q15b-2. They gave prompt, accurate, & complete answers to questions	49.0%	29.5%	11.5%	5.5%	2.0%	2.5%
Q15b-3. They did what they said they would do in a timely manner	44.0%	24.0%	13.0%	5.5%	4.5%	9.0%
Q15b-4. They helped you resolve an issue to your satisfaction	43.0%	24.0%	15.0%	6.5%	6.0%	5.5%

WITHOUT "DON'T KNOW"

Q15b. Several factors that may influence your perception of the quality of customer service you received from City employees are listed below. For each item, please rate how often the employees you have contacted during the past year have displayed the behavior described using a scale of 1 to 5, where 5 means "Always" and 1 means "Never." (without "don't know")

(N=200)

	Always	Usually	Sometimes	Seldom	Never
Q15b-1. They were courteous & polite	59.3%	28.4%	8.2%	3.6%	0.5%
Q15b-2. They gave prompt, accurate, & complete answers to questions	50.3%	30.3%	11.8%	5.6%	2.1%
Q15b-3. They did what they said they would do in a timely manner	48.4%	26.4%	14.3%	6.0%	4.9%
Q15b-4. They helped you resolve an issue to your satisfaction	45.5%	25.4%	15.9%	6.9%	6.3%

Q16. Housing. Please rate your satisfaction with each of the following items using a scale of 1 to 5, where 5 is "Very Satisfied" and 1 is "Very Dissatisfied."

(N=506)

	Very satisfied	Satisfied	Neutral	Dissatisfied	Very dissatisfied	Don't know
Q16-1. Overall availability of housing stock in Newton	4.0%	22.3%	31.2%	19.4%	6.5%	16.6%
Q16-2. Overall affordability of housing in Newton	3.2%	17.2%	25.7%	26.3%	14.6%	13.0%
Q16-3. Availability of rental housing	2.4%	8.3%	25.5%	23.3%	12.1%	28.5%
Q16-4. Affordability of rental housing	1.8%	6.5%	24.5%	22.9%	15.6%	28.7%
Q16-5. Availability of housing for seniors	4.9%	14.0%	25.9%	15.2%	6.9%	33.0%
Q16-6. Affordability of housing for seniors	2.6%	10.1%	24.3%	19.0%	9.7%	34.4%
Q16-7. Availability of ADA accessible housing	2.6%	5.3%	28.9%	9.3%	5.5%	48.4%
Q16-8. Affordability of ADA accessible housing	2.0%	5.1%	28.5%	9.1%	6.1%	49.2%

WITHOUT "DON'T KNOW"

Q16. Housing. Please rate your satisfaction with each of the following items using a scale of 1 to 5, where 5 is "Very Satisfied" and 1 is "Very Dissatisfied." (without "don't know")

(N=506)

	Very satisfied	Satisfied	Neutral	Dissatisfied	Very dissatisfied
Q16-1. Overall availability of housing stock in Newton	4.7%	26.8%	37.4%	23.2%	7.8%
Q16-2. Overall affordability of housing in Newton	3.6%	19.8%	29.5%	30.2%	16.8%
Q16-3. Availability of rental housing	3.3%	11.6%	35.6%	32.6%	16.9%
Q16-4. Affordability of rental housing	2.5%	9.1%	34.3%	32.1%	21.9%
Q16-5. Availability of housing for seniors	7.4%	20.9%	38.6%	22.7%	10.3%
Q16-6. Affordability of housing for seniors	3.9%	15.4%	37.0%	28.9%	14.8%
Q16-7. Availability of ADA accessible housing	5.0%	10.3%	55.9%	18.0%	10.7%
Q16-8. Affordability of ADA accessible housing	3.9%	10.1%	56.0%	17.9%	12.1%

Q17. Industrial and Commercial Development. Please rate your satisfaction with each of the following items using a scale of 1 to 5, where 5 is "Very Satisfied" and 1 is "Very Dissatisfied."

(N=506)

	Very satisfied	Satisfied	Neutral	Dissatisfied	Very dissatisfied	Don't know
Q17-1. Local manufacturing jobs available	2.0%	16.2%	24.1%	19.6%	6.7%	31.4%
Q17-2. Incentives available to grow or start your own business	1.6%	7.1%	27.9%	12.3%	8.5%	42.7%
Q17-3. Overall support for small businesses in Newton	3.6%	20.0%	28.3%	15.6%	8.5%	24.1%
Q17-4. City's economic development efforts	4.0%	18.0%	27.5%	19.0%	11.1%	20.6%
Q17-5. City's efforts to improve downtown	5.1%	27.3%	26.7%	20.6%	10.5%	9.9%

WITHOUT "DON'T KNOW"

Q17. Industrial and Commercial Development. Please rate your satisfaction with each of the following items using a scale of 1 to 5, where 5 is "Very Satisfied" and 1 is "Very Dissatisfied." (without "don't know")

(N=506)

	Very satisfied	Satisfied	Neutral	Dissatisfied	Very dissatisfied
Q17-1. Local manufacturing jobs available	2.9%	23.6%	35.2%	28.5%	9.8%
Q17-2. Incentives available to grow or start your own business	2.8%	12.4%	48.6%	21.4%	14.8%
Q17-3. Overall support for small businesses in Newton	4.7%	26.3%	37.2%	20.6%	11.2%
Q17-4. City's economic development efforts	5.0%	22.6%	34.6%	23.9%	13.9%
Q17-5. City's efforts to improve downtown	5.7%	30.3%	29.6%	22.8%	11.6%

Q18. What types of businesses or community spaces would you like to see in the redeveloped area of 320 N. Main after the old Dillons building has been demolished?

Q18. Types of businesses or community spaces you would like to see in redeveloped area of 320 N. Main after old Dillons building has been demolished	Number	Percent
Public park/green space	164	32.4 %
Retail/entertainment/shopping	275	54.3 %
Event space/farmers market	257	50.8 %
Boutique hotel	52	10.3 %
Downtown housing	74	14.6 %
Other	84	16.6 %
Total	906	

Q19. How supportive are you of the City investing public dollars in The Depot and its redevelopment?

Q19. How supportive are you of City investing public dollars in The Depot & its redevelopment	Number	Percent
Very supportive	119	23.5 %
Supportive	181	35.8 %
Not very supportive	70	13.8 %
Not at all supportive	40	7.9 %
Don't know	96	19.0 %
Total	506	100.0 %

WITHOUT “DON’T KNOW”

Q19. How supportive are you of the City investing public dollars in The Depot and its redevelopment? (without "don't know")

Q19. How supportive are you of City investing public dollars in The Depot & its redevelopment	Number	Percent
Very supportive	119	29.0 %
Supportive	181	44.1 %
Not very supportive	70	17.1 %
Not at all supportive	40	9.8 %
Total	410	100.0 %

Q22. Approximately, how many years have you lived in the City of Newton?

Q22. How many years have you lived in City of Newton	Number	Percent
0-5	80	15.8 %
6-10	36	7.1 %
11-15	31	6.1 %
16-20	48	9.5 %
21-30	81	16.0 %
31+	206	40.7 %
Not provided	24	4.7 %
Total	506	100.0 %

WITHOUT "NOT PROVIDED"

Q22. Approximately, how many years have you lived in the City of Newton? (without "not provided")

Q22. How many years have you lived in City of Newton	Number	Percent
0-5	80	16.6 %
6-10	36	7.5 %
11-15	31	6.4 %
16-20	48	10.0 %
21-30	81	16.8 %
31+	206	42.7 %
Total	482	100.0 %

Q23. Including yourself, how many persons in your household are in each of the following age groups?

	Mean	Sum
number	2.5	1243
Under age 5	0.1	56
Ages 5-9	0.1	60
Ages 10-14	0.2	89
Ages 15-19	0.2	88
Ages 20-24	0.1	54
Ages 25-34	0.3	133
Ages 35-44	0.3	150
Ages 45-54	0.3	159
Ages 55-64	0.4	178
Ages 65-74	0.4	190
Ages 75+	0.2	86

Q24. Including yourself, how many persons in your household are employed within the City limits of Newton (including working from home)?

Within City limits of Newton (including working from home)	Number	Percent
1	188	37.2 %
2	72	14.2 %
3+	21	4.2 %
Not provided	225	44.5 %
Total	506	100.0 %

WITHOUT "NOT PROVIDED"

Q24. Including yourself, how many persons in your household are employed within the City limits of Newton (including working from home)? (without "not provided")

Within City limits of Newton (including working from home)	Number	Percent
1	188	66.9 %
2	72	25.6 %
3+	21	7.5 %
Total	281	100.0 %

Q24. Including yourself, how many persons in your household are employed outside Newton, but within Harvey County?

Outside Newton, but within Harvey County	Number	Percent
1	70	13.8 %
2+	10	2.0 %
Not provided	426	84.2 %
Total	506	100.0 %

WITHOUT "NOT PROVIDED"

Q24. Including yourself, how many persons in your household are employed outside Newton, but within Harvey County? (without "not provided")

Outside Newton, but within Harvey County	Number	Percent
1	70	87.5 %
2+	10	12.5 %
Total	80	100.0 %

Q24. Including yourself, how many persons in your household are employed outside of Harvey County, but within the Wichita metro area?

Outside of Harvey County, but within Wichita metro area	Number	Percent
1	115	22.7 %
2+	15	3.0 %
Not provided	376	74.3 %
Total	506	100.0 %

WITHOUT "NOT PROVIDED"

Q24. Including yourself, how many persons in your household are employed outside of Harvey County, but within the Wichita metro area? (without "not provided")

Outside of Harvey County, but within Wichita metro area	Number	Percent
1	115	88.5 %
2+	15	11.5 %
Total	130	100.0 %

Q24. Including yourself, how many persons in your household are employed outside the Wichita metro area?

Outside Wichita metro area	Number	Percent
1	40	7.9 %
2+	2	0.4 %
Not provided	464	91.7 %
Total	506	100.0 %

WITHOUT "NOT PROVIDED"

Q24. Including yourself, how many persons in your household are employed outside the Wichita metro area? (without "not provided")

Outside Wichita metro area	Number	Percent
1	40	95.2 %
2+	2	4.8 %
Total	42	100.0 %

Q25. Would you be willing to participate in future surveys sponsored by the City of Newton?

Q25. Would you be willing to participate in future surveys sponsored by City of Newton	Number	Percent
Yes	299	59.1 %
No	207	40.9 %
Total	506	100.0 %

5 Survey Instrument

Office of the Mayor

City of Newton, Kansas
201 E. Sixth St.
Newton, Kansas 67114

Dear Newton resident,

The City of Newton wants your input!

This fall, we are launching our next 10-year Comprehensive Plan, **Newton Next**. Our previous plan, ReNewton, was developed in 2010, and its goals and objectives have now generally been accomplished – we have a lot to be proud of!

Newton Next will focus on Newton's future growth, especially land use, infrastructure, transportation, housing, and urban design.

To kick off the process, you are invited to participate in a community-wide survey. Will you share your views on City services, safety, quality-of-life, and new development?

The data collected will be used to help City leaders make decisions about planning, development, and how best to use your tax dollars. We want to remain focused on the services and priorities that are most important to you. Your individual responses will remain confidential.

Instructions: Please return your completed survey in the next week using the postage-paid envelope provided. Or if you prefer, you can complete the survey online at: ***newton.etcsurvey.org***.

Questions? Please contact Director of Communications Erin McDaniel at 316-284-6055 or emcdaniel@newtonkansas.com.

Thank you for taking the time to make your voice heard and thank you for being part of our community!
Sincerely,



Mayor Rich Stinnett
City of Newton

2025 City of Newton Community Survey

Thank you for taking time to complete this important survey. One of our biggest goals is to make sure our citizens always feel like their City government is both open and accessible. Your feedback through this survey will help guide City leaders as they evaluate current initiatives and plan for the future of Newton. Please contact Erin McDaniel, Communications Director, at 316-284-6055, with questions.

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1. <u>Overall Perception</u>. Some items that may influence your perception of the City of Newton are listed below. Please rate each item using a scale of 1 to 5, where 5 is "Very Satisfied" and 1 is "Very Dissatisfied."

		Very Satisfied	Satisfied	Neutral	Dissatisfied	Very Dissatisfied	Don't Know
1.	Overall quality of City services	5	4	3	2	1	9
2.	Overall value that you receive for your City tax dollars and fees	5	4	3	2	1	9
3.	Overall image of the City	5	4	3	2	1	9
4.	How well the City is planning new development and redevelopment	5	4	3	2	1	9
5.	Overall quality of life in Newton	5	4	3	2	1	9
6.	Overall condition of housing in your neighborhood	5	4	3	2	1	9

2. <u>Public Safety</u>. Please rate your satisfaction with each of the following items using a scale of 1 to 5, where 5 is "Very Satisfied" and 1 is "Very Dissatisfied."

		Very Satisfied	Satisfied	Neutral	Dissatisfied	Very Dissatisfied	Don't Know
01.	Overall quality of local police protection	5	4	3	2	1	9
02.	The visibility of police in neighborhoods	5	4	3	2	1	9
03.	The visibility of police in retail areas	5	4	3	2	1	9
04.	The City's overall efforts to prevent crime	5	4	3	2	1	9
05.	Your overall feeling of safety in your neighborhood	5	4	3	2	1	9
06.	Enforcement of local traffic laws	5	4	3	2	1	9
07.	Quality of animal control	5	4	3	2	1	9
08.	Overall quality of local EMS services	5	4	3	2	1	9
09.	Overall quality of local fire protection	5	4	3	2	1	9
10.	The City's overall efforts to prevent fires	5	4	3	2	1	9
11.	How quickly public safety personnel respond to emergencies	5	4	3	2	1	9
12.	Overall quality of public interaction with the police department	5	4	3	2	1	9

3. Which THREE of the public safety items listed in Question 2 do you think should receive the MOST EMPHASIS from City leaders over the next TWO years? *[Write in your answers below using the numbers from the list in Question 2.]*

1st: ____ 2nd: ____ 3rd: ____

4. <u>Perception of Safety</u>. Using a scale of 1 to 5, where 5 is "Very Safe" and 1 is "Very Unsafe," please rate how safe you feel in the following situations.

		Very Safe	Safe	Neutral	Unsafe	Very Unsafe	Don't Know
1.	In your neighborhood during the day	5	4	3	2	1	9
2.	In your neighborhood at night	5	4	3	2	1	9
3.	In City parks and recreation facilities	5	4	3	2	1	9
4.	In commercial and retail areas in the City	5	4	3	2	1	9
5.	In allowing your children to walk or bike in Newton	5	4	3	2	1	9

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5. <u>Parks and Recreation</u>. Please rate your satisfaction with each of the following items using a scale of 1 to 5, where 5 is "Very Satisfied" and 1 is "Very Dissatisfied."

		Very Satisfied	Satisfied	Neutral	Dissatisfied	Very Dissatisfied	Don't Know
1.	Appearance and maintenance of City parks	5	4	3	2	1	9
2.	Quality of park facilities such as playgrounds, open space, and picnic shelters	5	4	3	2	1	9
3.	Walking and biking trails in the City	5	4	3	2	1	9
4.	Outdoor athletic facilities (e.g., basketball, tennis, pickleball, disk golf)	5	4	3	2	1	9
5.	Centennial Dog Park	5	4	3	2	1	9
6.	Springlake Splash Park	5	4	3	2	1	9
7.	Community events (Taste of Newton, Sand Creek Summer Daze, Third Thursdays, concerts, Parade of Lights, etc.)	5	4	3	2	1	9

6. Which THREE of the Parks items listed in Question 5 do you think should receive the MOST EMPHASIS from City leaders over the next TWO years? *[Write in your answers below using the numbers from the list in Question 5.]*

1st: ____ 2nd: ____ 3rd: ____

7. <u>Code Enforcement</u>. Please rate your satisfaction with each of the following items using a scale of 1 to 5, where 5 is "Very Satisfied" and 1 is "Very Dissatisfied."

		Very Satisfied	Satisfied	Neutral	Dissatisfied	Very Dissatisfied	Don't Know
1.	Enforcing the cleanup of litter and debris	5	4	3	2	1	9
2.	Enforcing the mowing and trimming of residential property	5	4	3	2	1	9
3.	Enforcing the mowing and trimming of commercial property	5	4	3	2	1	9
4.	Enforcing the maintenance of residential property in your neighborhood	5	4	3	2	1	9
5.	Enforcing the maintenance of commercial property in your neighborhood	5	4	3	2	1	9

8. Which THREE of the code enforcement items listed in Question 7 do you think should receive the MOST EMPHASIS from City leaders over the next TWO years? *[Write in your answers below using the numbers from the list in Question 7.]*

1st: ____ 2nd: ____ 3rd: ____

9. <u>Leadership</u>. Please rate your satisfaction with each of the following items using a scale of 1 to 5, where 5 is "Very Satisfied" and 1 is "Very Dissatisfied."

		Very Satisfied	Satisfied	Neutral	Dissatisfied	Very Dissatisfied	Don't Know
1.	Overall quality of leadership provided by the City's elected officials	5	4	3	2	1	9
2.	Overall effectiveness of the City Manager and Department Heads	5	4	3	2	1	9
3.	Overall accessibility of City leaders	5	4	3	2	1	9
4.	Overall responsiveness of City leaders	5	4	3	2	1	9

10. <u>Communication</u>. Please rate your satisfaction with each of the following items using a scale of 1 to 5, where 5 is "Very Satisfied" and 1 is "Very Dissatisfied."

		Very Satisfied	Satisfied	Neutral	Dissatisfied	Very Dissatisfied	Don't Know
1.	The availability of information about City programs and services	5	4	3	2	1	9
2.	The City's efforts to keep you informed about local issues	5	4	3	2	1	9
3.	How open the City is to public involvement and input from residents	5	4	3	2	1	9
4.	The content of the City's social media accounts	5	4	3	2	1	9
5.	The user-friendliness of the City's website, NewtonKansas.com	5	4	3	2	1	9
6.	The content of the City's e-newsletters	5	4	3	2	1	9

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11. Which of the following are your PRIMARY SOURCES of information about City issues, services, and events? *[Check all that apply.]*

____(1) City website
____(2) City e-newsletters
____(3) Local newspapers
____(4) TV news
____(5) Mailers and bill inserts
____(6) Social media (Facebook, Instagram)
____(7) Other: _____

12. What type of information are you usually seeking through the City's communications tools? *[Check all that apply.]*

____(1) Calendar - dates and event information
____(2) Contact information for City staff or elected officials
____(3) Information about City departments, programs and services
____(4) Information about local businesses
____(5) Paying a bill or fee
____(6) Updates about trending City issues
____(7) Other: _____

13. <u>City Maintenance</u>. Please rate your satisfaction with each of the following items using a scale of 1 to 5, where 5 is "Very Satisfied" and 1 is "Very Dissatisfied."

		Very Satisfied	Satisfied	Neutral	Dissatisfied	Very Dissatisfied	Don't Know
01.	Maintenance of major city streets	5	4	3	2	1	9
02.	Maintenance of neighborhood streets	5	4	3	2	1	9
03.	Maintenance of curbs and sidewalks	5	4	3	2	1	9
04.	Maintenance of traffic signals/signs	5	4	3	2	1	9
05.	Adequacy of city street lighting	5	4	3	2	1	9
06.	Maintenance of City buildings, such as City Hall	5	4	3	2	1	9
07.	Snow removal on city streets	5	4	3	2	1	9
08.	Mowing and trimming along city streets, parks, and other public areas	5	4	3	2	1	9
09.	Overall cleanliness of city streets and other public areas	5	4	3	2	1	9
10.	Overall flow of traffic and congestion management in Newton	5	4	3	2	1	9
11.	Weekly trash collection service	5	4	3	2	1	9
12.	Bulky-item pickup program	5	4	3	2	1	9

14. Which THREE of the City maintenance items listed in Question 13 do you think should receive the MOST EMPHASIS from City leaders over the next TWO years? *[Write in your answers below using the numbers from the list in Question 13.]*

1st: ____ 2nd: ____ 3rd: ____

15. <u>Customer Service</u>. Have you called, e-mailed, or visited the City with a question, problem, or complaint during the past year?

____(1) Yes *[Answer Q15a-b.]* ____(2) No *[Skip to Q16.]*

15a. How easy was it to contact the person you needed to reach?

____(4) Very easy ____(2) Somewhat easy ____(9) Don't know
____(3) Easy ____(1) Not easy

15b. Several factors that may influence your perception of the quality of customer service you received from City employees are listed below. For each item, please rate how often the employees you have contacted during the past year have displayed the behavior described using a scale of 1 to 5, where 5 means "Always" and 1 means "Never."

		Always	Usually	Sometimes	Seldom	Never	Don't Know
1.	They were courteous and polite	5	4	3	2	1	9
2.	They gave prompt, accurate, and complete answers to questions	5	4	3	2	1	9
3.	They did what they said they would do in a timely manner	5	4	3	2	1	9
4.	They helped you resolve an issue to your satisfaction	5	4	3	2	1	9

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16. <u>Housing</u>. Please rate your satisfaction with each of the following items using a scale of 1 to 5, where 5 is "Very Satisfied" and 1 is "Very Dissatisfied."

		Very Satisfied	Satisfied	Neutral	Dissatisfied	Very Dissatisfied	Don't Know
1.	Overall availability of housing stock in Newton	5	4	3	2	1	9
2.	Overall affordability of housing in Newton	5	4	3	2	1	9
3.	Availability of rental housing	5	4	3	2	1	9
4.	Affordability of rental housing	5	4	3	2	1	9
5.	Availability of housing for seniors	5	4	3	2	1	9
6.	Affordability of housing for seniors	5	4	3	2	1	9
7.	Availability of ADA accessible housing	5	4	3	2	1	9
8.	Affordability of ADA accessible housing	5	4	3	2	1	9

17. <u>Industrial and Commercial Development</u>. Please rate your satisfaction with each of the following items using a scale of 1 to 5, where 5 is "Very Satisfied" and 1 is "Very Dissatisfied."

		Very Satisfied	Satisfied	Neutral	Dissatisfied	Very Dissatisfied	Don't Know
1.	Local manufacturing jobs available	5	4	3	2	1	9
2.	Incentives available to grow or start your own business	5	4	3	2	1	9
3.	Overall support for small businesses in Newton	5	4	3	2	1	9
4.	The City's economic development efforts	5	4	3	2	1	9
5.	The City's efforts to improve downtown	5	4	3	2	1	9

18. What types of businesses or community spaces would you like to see in the redeveloped area of 320 N. Main after the old Dillons building has been demolished? *[Check all that apply.]*

____(1) Public park/green space
____(2) Retail/entertainment/shopping
____(3) Event space/farmers market
____(4) Boutique hotel
____(5) Downtown housing
____(6) Other: _____

19. How supportive are you of the City investing public dollars in The Depot and its redevelopment?

____(4) Very supportive
____(3) Supportive
____(2) Not very supportive
____(1) Not at all supportive
____(9) Don't know

20. What makes Newton unique, and how should the City protect or enhance that quality?

_____

_____

21. What is the single most important improvement the City of Newton could make in the next five years?

_____

_____

Demographics

22. Approximately how many years have you lived in the City of Newton? _____ years

23. Including yourself, how many persons in your household are in each of the following age groups?

Under age 5: _____
Ages 5-9: _____
Ages 10-14: _____
Ages 15-19: _____
Ages 20-24: _____
Ages 25-34: _____
Ages 35-44: _____
Ages 45-54: _____
Ages 55-64: _____
Ages 65-74: _____
Ages 75+: _____

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24. Including yourself, how many persons in your household are employed in each of the following areas?

Within the City limits of Newton (including working from home): _____
Outside Newton, but within Harvey County: _____
Outside of Harvey County, but within the Wichita metro area: _____
Outside the Wichita metro area: _____

25. Would you be willing to participate in future surveys sponsored by the City of Newton?

____(1) Yes *[Answer Q25a.]* ____(2) No

25a. Please provide your contact information.

Mobile Phone Number: _____

Email Address: _____

This concludes the survey. Thank you for your time!

Please return your completed survey in the enclosed postage-paid envelope addressed to:
ETC Institute, 725 W. Frontier Circle, Olathe, KS 66061

Your responses will remain completely confidential. The information printed to the right will ONLY be used to help identify which areas of the City are having difficulties with City services. If your address is not correct, please provide the correct information. Thank you.

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2025 City of Newton Community Survey

Open-Ended Comments

Presented to the City of Newton, KS

October 2025

ETC INSTITUTE



Contents

Question 18-6 [Other]: *"What types of businesses or community spaces would you like to see in the redeveloped area of 320 N. Main after the old Dillions building has been demolished?"* 1

Question 20: *"What makes Newton unique, and how should the City protect or enhance that quality?"* 4

Question 21: *"What is the single most important improvement the City of Newton could make in the next five years?"* 16

Q18-6 [Other]. What types of businesses or community spaces would you like to see in the redeveloped area of 320 N. Main after the old Dillons building has been demolished?

- A buffalo wild wings, Dutch Bros, some sort of arcade like Dave n busters
- a good downtown restaurant
- A more affordable grocery store such Aldi, etc.
- a new grocery chain, Whole Foods, HEB Aldi, etc.
- A nice sit down restaurant that serves a wide variety of foods that is not Mexican and is reasonably priced so a family can afford to eat there.
- AFFORDABLE ENTERTAINMENT FOR YOUTH
- Aldi
- Aldi
- Along with event space.. food truck park
- amphitheater for concerts, town square
- Amtrak
- ANOTHER GROCERY OPTION/DECENT CAR WASH
- ANY OF THE ABOVE WOULD BE FINE
- Anything that provides a livable employment
- APARTMENTS COMBINED WITH SHOPS AND FOOD SERVICE
- Applebee, Olive Garden
- Big box, retail store, etc.
- Brew pub, or something like the Hub in Moundridge
- Brewery
- Brewery
- Brewery
- Brewery with food
- BREWERY WITH LIVE ENTERTAINMENT
- Close the eyesore motel on first Street and attract new motel. Embarrassing to bring family in.
- daycare
- Depot into great space, food, entertainment, lodging
- Developed housing with basement and garage
- Distillery or microbrewery, restaurants
- Don’t leave to be wasting tax for dollars on BS
- DONT KNOW IF I CARE
- EMPTY BUSINESSES ALL OVER TOWN
- Family restaurant
- Family style restaurant/buffet. Resources for homeless or below poverty singles and families.
- Fast food, more normal restaurants are much needed in town!
- food truck venue with electric, water, green space, tables/benches

- Fun things to do to attract people in the area to visit
- Give Aldi fair incentives
- Good sports facilities
- grocery store
- higher end restaurants
- I am thinking about this question, but have no great answer today.
- I like the idea of a community/event space combined with a green space, something that would be versatile and sustainable for downtown events.
- I thought it was to be honest for the new Newton PD?
- I wish every section of this survey would allow for an explanation of thought. Doesn't mean anything to be satisfied or unsatisfied if you don't know why. I think whatever is put in this spot should be for the people of Newton. Some sort of entertainment to pay back the people for the ridiculous amount of tax payer dollars that have been wasted on this property. The businesses you kicked out just to have a building sit unused and dilapidated. This town lacks meaningful entertainment. A water park, indoor mall, or activity center, like sports world, would be nice. Maybe a movie theater.
- IF AMTRAC IS STOPPING, PUT COFFEE SHOP OR NIC NAK SHOP PARTNERSHIP
- maker space, arcade, STEM option for kids
- No business in residential living areas. It's for living not people make bleave business.
- No churches or low income housing or any new parks. They generate very little or no tax revenue.
- No Mexican or pizza
- Parking area for downtown
- Parking for train station
- POLICE HEADQUARTERS
- police/fire/sheriff offices
- Public library should have gone here to preserve green parks already in place.
- Public restrooms such as in downtown Hays.
- QUALITY CHAIN RESTAURANT
- Restaurants
- restaurant chain
- RESTAURANT OTHER THAT PIZZA AND MEXICAN FOOD
- RESTAURANT-NICE
- Restaurants
- Restaurants
- Restaurants
- Restaurants
- Restaurants and breweries
- Restaurants-not fast foods or Mexican
- restaurants that are not Mexican
- Safe parking

- Safety health
- Sit down restaurants
- Sit down restaurants like a diner or steakhouse chain
- Sit down restaurants
- Sit down restaurants
- SOMETHING HONORING THE HISTORY OF NEWTON-RAILROAD, ETC
- Something like Old Town with shops, farmers market and restaurants to draw people into downtown
- something similar to the Silos in Waco Tx.
- SOMETHING TO HELP PEOPLE COMING ON TRAIN EARLY IN MORNING-FOOD, LODGING, CAR RENTAL
- Splash pad that actually works
- STEAK HOUSE
- SUB SHOP
- Target retail store
- The original plan for an updated police station was a good idea. Moving different government entities to several locations causes confusion. Departments with similar jobs should be housed in the same location.
- This town is in dire need of a sports bar and grille. A place similar to a Buffalo Wild Wings that residents and families can go and watch ANY sporting event and have quality food & drink. This town only has fast food, Mexican Restaurants, or pizza.
- Use it for what they said they were going to use it for in the beginning, law enforcement.

Q20. What makes Newton unique, and how should the City protect or enhance that quality?

- 25 YEARS AGO HOUSING WAS AFFORDABLE -WOULD LIKE TO SEE THAT REMAIN
- ALL HISTORICAL SITES ARE IMPORTANT AND NEED TO MARKET OUR CITIZENS AS IF WE WOULD TOUR ON VACATION
- Allow contractors to improve buildings w/o all the red tape that is holding up projects.
- Amtrak access, downtown small businesses; need a nice place to get a good beer downtown (brewery? Or something like the Hub in Moundridge?)
- Amtrak service, depot,
- AMTRAK, COWBOY HISTORY, RAILROAD-HARVEY GIRLS AND DEPOT. MAKE DEPOT AREA USER FRIENDLY-FOOD LODGING, CAR RENTAL
- As a retiree I moved here during the pandemic and there are many resources here, in one location, I also fit in the population demographic and enjoy the small town culture. However: I am penalized because I am single as I pay twice the amount of water, sewage and trash than I actually use...the minimums are prejudiced against singles. Trash pick up in Chicago is by the actual container that gets picked up...I could probably use once a month. My house is reappraised each year! In LA it is only reappraised when sold AND not all houses are equal in value just because of square footage...you've got to be kidding me! I've already had to pay out monies to make my home safe from deficiencies not notated at time of purchase...and more is needed. Don't take my home repair money from me.
- at one time was railroad & retail shopping
- ATSF. Hispanic community. The new library.
- Availability of hospital care
- Be willing to support new business to come here. This helps overall economic structure.
- Because of the railroad. Cattle that were loaded from here. Agriculture.
- Bethel College, rural, safe
- Born and raised in Newton. It used to be a safe. Affordable place to raise a family. Housing, property taxes, and utilities are outrageous. There is literally drug addicts walking all over town. Get rid of the homeless shelter and quit having mirrors Inc. bus in addicts that end up falling out of treatment and living here.
- BUSINESSES NEED PEOPLE TO HAVE THAT ARE NOT DRUG ADDICTS
- Celebrating the history with art (murals), open spaces/parks that you can walk/bike to. Decorate/enhance from 1st street to 8th street. Don’t forget 1st - 4th-especially if developing old Dillons lot.
- CITY WIDE EVENTS-SUPPORT WITH FUNDING; SMALL BUSINESSES-SUPPORT WITH GRANTS OR LOANS
- CLEAN NEIGHBORHOODS, MORE DOWNTOWN EVENTS
- Clean, tidy businesses and neighborhoods give great 'curb appeal ' to residents and visitors.
- Close to Wichita
- Close to Wichita for multiple shopping, events, social activities
- CLOSE TO WICHITA-HAS SOME TRANSPORTATION FOR PUBLIC, HAS PLENTY OF BUSINESSES, SOME HELP TO SENIORS, LOVE THEIR SCHOOLS, GOOD OUTLET MALL
- Community vibes. Enhance opportunity for growth. without overdevelopment
- Continue to embrace railroad history. Continue supporting special events downtown and expand hours at Warkentine House and historical museum during those events.
- Continue to grow and develop

- Core of small businesses downtown, good schools. More effort is needed to recruit /retain good teachers to compete with other, nearby districts. This attracts families to live here and businesses to choose Newton for their location.
- Cultural activities and foods
- Depot, event space, restaurant. Senior center, Christmas Lights, Downtown theme. Indoor kids park. Coffee shop
- Depot. I do wish 1st street train tracks didn't derail my car.
- DISTANCE FROM WICHITA BUT PART OF WICHITA MSA. NEED TO REALLY EMPHASIZE 'COMMUNITY OF CHOICE' IN SE KANSAS
- Do more to help citizens and non-profit who struggle to sustain or thrive.
- DO SOMETHING ABOUT TRAINS
- DOESNT NEED TO BE UNIQUE. SLOW PACE OF LIFE. TOO MUCH MANUFACTURING
- DONT BUILD ANOTHER MCDONALDS; TOO MUCH FAST FOOD, GIVE US FAMILY FRIENDLY THINGS
- Down town business. Parks, local events
- Downtown
- EMPHASIS ON DOWNTOWN DEVELOPMENT, INCLUDING NEW SHOPS AND COMMUNITY EVENTS-I LOVE PRAIRIE AND CARRIAGE FACTORY
- Energize
- Events, efforts to make progress on amenities, quality of city staff, transparency of city staff and their willingness to solve problems.
- Find a place for the homeless instead of in the parks.
- Follow a budget
- For goodness sake, focus some effort on the older areas in town to make them brighter and better. My house is the only one on my block with a well cleaned yard and curb appeal. Everything else is just decrepit. The city does nothing about it. Weeds growing through the cracks of the old brick street that city officials say is “normal wear.” Brighten downtown a bit. You look at so many cities surrounding and they all have that one nice place downtown and we don’t.
- FRIENDLY SMALL TOWN ATMOSPHERE WITH A NICE DOWNTOWN AND COLLEGE FEEL
- From social media posts made by other cities organizations have made about Newton I would have to say it's fees and taxes are out of line when compared to them. That is unique.
- Fun, clean safe city
- Get rid of all city council
- Get rid of eye sores, the run down buildings on Main st.
- Get rid of Jerry Lewis
- Get rid of vape shops on Main Street. Makes us look trashy. Move them out on Meridian or first street. This is not the image we want. Give them enhancements to move.
- Get the stores downtown filled with places to shop for clothing, shoes etc. like it was in 80’s and 90’s. McPherson has more to offer than Newton. Keep us shopping local instead of heading to Wichita.
- Good size and a great place to raise a family. The new public library is awesome and they are doing a great job in including things for all age groups to do. Always something going on in the Downtown area.
- Good size city with positive energy. Look to attract more families, fund schools better
- Great healthcare , rec center is great. Many housing options, decent parks
- Great history. Restore the old building and history that is left.
- Great park locations, Bike path

- HAVE PEOPLE THAT OWN PROPERTY TO KEEP YARDS CUT AND MORE CLEAN UP IN THE ALLEYS AND HOMES. IT IS A REALLY GOOD TOWN TO LIVE IN
- HERITAGE
- Highest taxes in the area. Need to do away with personal property tax on seniors.
- Historical significance, proximity to Wichita
- Historical sites such as depot, library, downtown structures. Sand Creek
- Historical train station town. Would be great to have a restaurant like the Fred Harvey, the Santa Fe Depot.
- History of Newton, railroad , multi-cultural
- History, promote education, not sports
- History. Make more of Old West history such as Chisholm Trail.
- History: the City should take every opportunity to keep downtown district looking historical. Look at old photos
- How we help each other. I also think we have a very clean town
- I appreciate the combination of cultures in the city, including our schools. Coordinate with the district to improve the schools.
- I appreciate the trains. They make us all slow down our pace.
- I don't really feel like Newton is unique in any meaningful way. The only things that make us unique is higher than normal cost of city utilities. Highest sales tax, highest water bill (by a huge margin), highest property taxes, and nothing to show for all the extra money we spend except band new police vehicles and paintings nobody really cares about. Why wasn't my street important enough for a steam roller when you shopped a coat of black top down. Now my tires wear fast, I can't walk bare foot, and my skin is removed if I fall. Plus it looks like a toddler painted it on.
- I feel safer here than Wichita
- I feel very safe in Newton and the police here respond very quickly for issues. On Christmas Eve, I burned some sugar cookies and opened my doors to air out the house. An officer came up to my door to make sure everything was OK. That was nice. I feel like Newton could do a better job maintaining all the parks. Some are much better maintained than others.
- I grew up in Newton in the 80's & 90's and come from a railroad family and it should protect the image of it being a *Railroad Town*. Both my great-gpa, my gpa & my mom all three worked for the Santa Fe.
- I love how safe it feels here. Having more police out when the kids are going to school and going home would help. Giving the homeless somewhere safe to go so they were not at the parks and the rec center so kids felt safer going there.
- I love my hometown, wish they had not torn down the beautiful old courthouse.
- I need to start thinking about what they're doing the city officials work for us. We don't work for now so they need to listen to us.
- I really wish downtown had more variety of businesses like it did years ago. Woolworths , Ben Franklin, pet stores, and businesses that were more cost friendly to consumers from young to older. It used to be fun shopping downtown. We need to get back to that kind of feeling.
- I would like to see downtown restored to its original glory. Restore not modernized. Including the canopies.
- increase in development with houses. Make more areas with affordable houses, after school programs, and positive police interactions with youth
- Intersecting major highways. Take advantage of this. Restaurant corridor, not Mexican food. Not just laborers jobs.

- It has a lot of services but maintains the small town atmosphere
- IT HAS ALL THE ESSENTIALS YOU NEED
- It is a family oriented city. Need more family oriented entertainment.
- It is a quiet place to live and not far from a bigger city. We need better restaurant choices here.
- It is a railroad down with beautiful brick buildings. Needs things to do downtown for families.
- It is a small town with so much potential, seek our new businesses. Need to clean up areas of town.
- It is small, near a bigger city. Its' growth hasn't caught up. Focus on Small plan and finish it.
- IT STARTS AND ENDS WITH RAILROADS, CROSSINGS NEED CONSTANT IMPROVEMENT. TRAINS SHOULD NOT CREATE TOTAL GRIDLOCK
- It’s ethnic heritage
- It’s history.
- It’s railroad history, although that’s a blessing and a curse, traffic-wise. I believe working with the railroad to bring through a steam engine once or twice a year would go over well and bring in tourism. The car shows also seem to go over well, and we enjoy the small town atmosphere and night-time lighted Christmas parade.
- It’s small town feel and atmosphere. To grow it with family friendly businesses, restaurants and events.
- It's a calm city, keep the nature aspect
- It's a combination of history and location
- It's a nice small and safe town to raise a family
- It's far enough away from Wichita
- It's heritage, makes Newton unique; but needs to grow and develop in community pride.
- It's location is unique and special. There needs to be stricter regulations on maintaining the appearance of houses and streets if you want people to want to stay. There are a lot of houses with great bones that could be beautiful, but residents allow it to go to waste and get trashed. Also, downtown needs more trees and more restaurants and shops, instead of other the types of businesses using up valuable downtown store fronts (law office, etc.). Those store fronts down main street should be reserved for more casual every-day type of businesses, such as boutiques, restaurants, ice cream store, nail spa, craft store, book store, pub with live music, etc.
- It's location with their highway are town should be able to attract more manufacturing. Bike path & sand creek river are both unique.
- It's Mennonite heritage, vibrant downtown, Bethel College
- ITS NOT TOO BIG AND KEEPS THE SMALL TOWN FEEL AND VALUES. CITY SHOULD SUPPORT GROWTH OF MORE UNIQUE BUSINESSES AND RESTAURANTS
- Its not unique, its honestly just not keeping up, My family and I travel to Wichita, Kansas City areas all the time for shopping and dining experiences, We did not need another fast food junk food place on the south end of town (McDonalds) What we have in this town is an abundance of Churches, Banks, and Mexican restaurants. The fact that the homeless shelter is very close in my area is concerning to the fact we are looking to move because we have had a few of the resident from this place make us feel very uncomfortable, we also live by two half way houses as well so I no longer feel safe to walk during the day or evening. At this rate I think I see more For Sale signs then I do Sold for housing, People just can not afford to live here especially when in surrounding towns there are affordable options.
- ITS RAIL HISTORY SHOULD BE MORE PREVALENT. MAYBE A PARK BY THE DEPOT WITH PLACARDS OF INFO?
- It's the people. Newton has great caring involved people.

- Its unique from the history we hold here and how much little shops are down town.
- Just another small Kansas town with politicians that like to spend tax payer money
- Keep it Midwest-country not big city
- Keep small town appearance keep downtown historic buildings and public safety high priorities
- Keep small town charm. Have entertainment on the weekend.
- Keep supporting and promoting local businesses. Do more to help middle class income families with small children. Fix the splash park. Keep costs at the rec center down. Fund the local library to help with free activities for citizens. Find ways to help with childcare for families that don't cost their whole paycheck.
- Keep trains from blocking major street during the day.
- Leverage the railroad heritage in developing the old South Dillons property
- Like small town close to city. Taxes are going to run us out of town.
- Little shops all over town, more Mom and Pop restaurants.
- Local businesses! Also don’t make it harder for them with extra restrictions. We need more local businesses
- Location to bigger towns, we do need retail here.
- Location to Major highways. Railroad history, wheat history, Fourth of July, Parade, Chisholm Trail festival, Mexican softball, golf tournament.
- location-near big city but far enough away. Access-major highways are very accessible.
- Low crime rate. Continue law enforcement services.
- Lower real estate taxes for Seniors.
- Lower taxes and increase quality of public spaces.
- MAIN ST HISTORY EVENTS-DO MORE
- MAINTAIN PAINTING ON OPEN WALLS DOWNTOWN
- Major move toward reducing taxes and fees.
- Many rest homes
- Mexican American heritage, could we see more Spanish around town?
- More development on the infrastructure and retail/restaurants downtown. Possibly incentives for small business to start downtown.
- Most people are very friendly, kind and have giving heart and it comes out in your downtown events. So try to have more downtown and focused areas in Newton events this draws in more people to the Newton area and help promote business at the some time. Do some downtown flea markets like Hillsboro they draw in a lot of people on there events. P.S. this could be done in the Old Dillons parking out currently.
- Need restaurants
- Need to improve downtown, and attract retailers that provide products other than boutique items. When I moved to Newton in the 70’s, our downtown was vibrant with many retail stores. Now it’s almost a ghost town.
- Need to support schools.
- Neighbors willing to help neighbors. Small town with a big heart. Newton is filled with people who care about their community. We just may not know how to get involved.
- Newness changing. Senior housing options our increasing. Housing units are only an asset if they are maintained while overtime and not become an eyesore. Curb appeal of the town is critical to draw people in.

- Newton and North Newton have an absolutely amazing trail system. The railroad is not particularly unique (many other Kansas towns were influenced by the railroad) but we should still celebrate it with a restaurant in the depot and exhibits in the Amtrak lobby.
- Newton Has a great Farmers Market , good small markets
- Newton has a lot of people who are very vocal. I wish the city could encourage positive talk and discourage negative talkers.
- Newton has a reputation for being a "weird" city. while I don't endorse that idea, I do see where that idea comes from. Newtonians are very proud of this city (or at least I am) and we know that we are not like other larger cities (IE: Wichita, Salina, Hutch). I believe the city has done a good job with branding itself...but it has come at a cost of development in certain areas. Newton needs to partner with higher quality food/retail chains into a niche shopping location (such as a New Market Square or Bradley Fair kind of idea) which could entice people to coming and staying in our city. I am thinking, Chick-fil-A, Chipotle, Target, Meddys, larger box stores, Etc..
- Newton has been good to me.
- Newton has great people. Newton also has a long railroad history. We have a nice downtown with many historic buildings. It would be an improvement if these historic buildings could be better developed. Especially the main street buildings.
- Newton has several very active folks who have been working to build a sense of community and their efforts are really starting to payoff and snowball. The more community involvement, the better.
- Newton is a mostly safe and quiet city. The police department should be supportive of that and organize citizen comities to let them know when there are problems that need to be addressed.
- Newton is a nice community but it would be nice if they were more things for people to do.
- NEWTON IS A NICE SIZE TOWN. WORK NEEDS TO BE DONE WITH KIDS. THERE SEEMS TO BE A RISE IN TEENS BEING AGRESSIVE
- Newton is a small city, so it's not too crowded, and we have everything we need.
- Newton is close enough to Wichita to become a community, but far enough to have its own identity. So Newton should enhance evening and weekend infrastructure to keep people in town.
- Newton is definitely growing in size. It's pretty amazing seeing how much busier it's gotten. We see growth such as a Starbucks and a new McDonalds and love it. This also means that more people are here. I've noticed the traffic has become way more careless in how they drive. Often the area by Walmart and the hospital. It's very congested around there.
- NEWTON IS FALLING APART. NOT MUCH TO DO HERE. WE GO TO PARK CITY AND WICHITA FOR ENTERTAINMENT. OLD FASHIONED IDEAS. DOWNTOWN BUSINESS IS DEAD
- Newton is Not unique, but it could be. Newton has good access to larger cities (Wichita, McPherson, Hutchinson, etc.), as well as a lot of smaller locales nearby, which makes it both a draw and a good place to base out of. What Newton does not have is a truly unique draw, or something that makes it truly stand out. The restaurant scene is fairly blasé, the city sponsored events create "something to do", but do not make you feel like they are Must Go activities.
- Newton is one of the most delightful small towns I've ever seen and Main Street is incredibly traversable on foot or by car while also having just about everything you could feasibly need on a week to week basis. I see people riding their bikes everyday! I think it would be great to see our sidewalks expanded and maintenance throughout neighborhoods and across 1st street from Meridian to Spencer so that more people could enjoy the whole town safely.
- Newton is probably the most involved city I have lived in. The people are friendly, the streets are kept safe and clean, and they really do care. I think they already do a very good job of enhancing

that quality. I think the City should keep protecting it and not forget about what it is that makes this city great. They should keep up with the work, it's awesome.

- newton is unique because its small and we all are friends
- Newton is unique because of the small town feel and not having a ton of chain stores or restaurants downtown. To be able to enhance it the City should continue supporting small businesses and promoting small business growth downtown.
- Newton is unique with the Amtrak station and it's additional option of travel, the yearly rodeo with demo derby and the Taste of Newton event. To enhance newton would be to clean up/tear down vacant rundown houses and businesses and for people to not be allowed to have numerous vehicles in disrepair and piles of junk on their property.
- NEWTON IS VERY 'HOMEY' AND EVERYTHING SEEMS TO BE AT A SLOWER PACE AND MORE RELAXED THAN OTHER CITIES
- Newton isn't unique. It is very much like all the other 10-25 thousand population towns in Kansas. It should however embrace becoming unique. Try things that other Kansas towns don't. Dream big and be newsworthy.
- Newton proximity to Wichita, KS makes it a perfect place for families who do not want to raise their kids in a large city. However, Newton struggles to keep young people here after high school graduation due to lack of opportunities for fun things to do and jobs. Bringing in new employers and clean industry, beefing up downtown with entertainment, good food and festivals/events is what will make people want to live and work here. Encouraging downtown housing will attract younger residents, especially if there are things to do! I'm sure Newton loses tax dollars to Wichita each weekend because people have to go there for restaurants, fun kids events, etc.
- Newton used to be a small, conservation, Mennonite town, but it is now a smaller version of Wichita.
- Newton's historical markers. Newton being a Mennonite town. Keeping the small town feel and keeping BIG chain companies from taking over our little town. Invest in helping local residents by helping them to establish a business of their own.
- Newton's history is unique. We have a small town feel, it is not a suburb, but has all services.
- Not far from Wichita
- NOT SURE RIGHT NOW-NEWTON SEEMS TO BE SOMEWHAT STAGNANT AND UNFORTUNATELY MANY OTHER COMMUNITIES ARE GROWING AROUND US
- Not sure what makes Newton unique, but we are getting a reputation for drugs and crime even in our schools now.
- Offers variety of Commerce, ease of shopping, small town atmosphere with big town amenities. Safe environment daytime, great library services.
- Our history and the people who live here. Downtown and the events throughout the year.
- peaceful atmosphere, friendly people, kind
- PEOPLE ARE HAPPY TO LIVE AND WORK HERE. MAKING SURE WE HAVE A SAFE, CLEAN AND WELL MAINTAINED CITY WITH OPPORTUNITIES FOR LOCAL ACTIVITIES AND ENTERTAINMENT IS KEY
- Preserve our Main St downtown and historic districts
- Price of water makes Newton unique.
- Promote hometown and community. In small ways. Every day in the little ways.
- Promote railroad heritage
- Protect the downtown retail, attend to Amtrac to make first impression positive.
- Proximity to Wichita
- Quality of life that is offered.....good schools, friendly and caring people, good government agencies, .

- Quiet and peaceful
- Quiet, less crime in traffic, friendly people
- Railroad history
- RAILROAD PAST
- Railroad. Market.
- RAILROADS, LOCATION AND TRANSPORTATION ACCESS
- Raised here so I've seen it grow . Maybe spruce up some of the downtown buildings along main st
- Really need to embrace the train connection
- Safe and family friendly. Small town feel.
- Safe and simple to get around town
- Safe events, cleaning up of some old areas and drug areas.
- Safe streets and residents
- Sand creek
- Sand Creek golf course allow for improvements and facilities of golf course
- SAND CREEK GOLF STATION; WORKENTIN HOUSE;TRAIN DEPOT; OLD MILL; CARRIAGE GALLERY ART
- Sand Creek station Golf course-maintain and upgrade the cart fleet.
- Sand Creek walk and bike path
- Small but friendly town feel. Continue good police protection, deal with crime quickly
- SMALL CITY ATMOSPHERE
- Small city, easy access to big city if needed.
- Small railroad town with friendly people. Promote events, activities to keep people in town.
- Small size but close to available services in Wichita; good hospital and medical services available without having to travel much; proximity of secondary education.
- small town atmosphere
- small town atmosphere
- small town atmosphere but close to major city
- Small town atmosphere with accessibility to big city benefits, bring in business that isn't fast food so we don't always have to go to Wichita.
- Small town atmosphere, while keeping retail support.
- SMALL TOWN BUT NOT TOO SMALL WITH LOW CRIME AND EASY PACE OF LIVING
- Small town charm and more emphasis on this could make it a destination
- SMALL TOWN COMMUNITY-KEEP IT THAT WAY
- SMALL TOWN FEEL
- Small town feel & green space. To protect it, prioritize green spaces and support local.
- SMALL TOWN FEEL BUT CLOSE TO LARGE CITY. EASY ACCESS TO HIGHWAYS
- Small town feel but still close to bigger cities.
- Small town feel for families with close proximity to larger city
- SMALL TOWN FEEL WITH BIG TOWN AMENITIES
- Small town feel. No homeless people on the streets.
- Small town feel. Better support for small and/or local business that try to start up.
- Small town feel. Need more emphasis on walking and/or biking rather than auto travel.
- Small town feel. The shops on downtown Main Street need to be filled. I see other small towns and all the shops are filled. Maybe we are charging too much in the first few years for a small business to get established.

- SMALL TOWN LIVEABILITY; NEED MORE SHOPPING; QUALITY RESTAURANTS AND ENFORECE REMOVAL OF OLD CARS FROM DRIVEWAYS
- SMALL TOWN LIVING
- Small town living at its best. Keeping Newton clean and safe. Demolish houses that are no longer useful, so a better house can be built.
- Small town living in a mid sized city
- Small town that is clean and safe
- Small town vibes. Work on all those abandoned building on Main St. Either clean em up on the exterior or make them affordable for small businesses to move in.
- Small town with access to Wichita amenities. The best of both worlds.
- SMALL TOWN WITH CONVENIENT ACCESS TO WICHITA; ADD MORE RESTAURANTS SIMILAR TO WHAT IS AVAILABLE IN WICHITA AND SURROUNDING AREAS
- SMALL TOWN WITH MOST THINGS NEEDED, COULD USE MORE SHOPPING
- Small town with quick accessibility to larger towns for items you can't get here. Great public parks.
- SMALL TOWN, GREAT HOSPITALS AND SPECIALISTS, MOSTLY QUIET; BETTER TRAFFIC ENFORCEMENT ON S KANSAS, GRANDVIEW-LOUD CARS, TOO FAST FOR AREA; ELIMINATE FIREWORKS
- SMALL TOWN, LOTS OF CHURCHES AND FAITH COMMUNITY, GREAT PLACE TO RAISE A FAMILY, LOTS OF GREEN SPACE, PROMOTES WELLNESS AND WALKING, BIKING, TRAILS, QUALITY OF LIFE, FEELS SO SAFE
- Small town. Small town living
- SMALL VS WICHITA-CLOSE TO WICHITA FOR MAJOR SHOPPING-ENTERTAINMENT-AIRPORT
- Small, friendly town, keep it up.
- Still a small town, has the know your neighbor feel. Community events.
- Still has the friendly small-town feel.
- STILL MIDWEST SMALL TOWN
- STOP GROWING AND RAISING TAXES-COST TOO MUCH TO LIVE HERE
- taste of Newton
  Taste of Newton is uniquely Newton. Continue to support it; encourage new ideas associated with it so it doesn't become stagnant. (Being a Chamber event, maybe the City doesn't have much control but support it how you can.). The train depot/station is very unique for this size of town. Work to not let it get run down, become a liability to the city rather than an asset. Compared to the other towns surrounding Wichita, Newton feels like a suburb without being physically connected to Wichita. Makes it feel like a home town but still living close enough to Wichita to access services. Continue to annex into city limits along I135 as appropriate but keep the 'stand alone' charm of the city. Hwy 50 and I135 intersecting in Newton and our railroad traffic make it a unique transportation hub. Continue to seek state support for these transportation corridors-especially expansion of hwy 50 within Harvey county. Ember Hope and New Hope Shelter Continue to support these important social support services as the City is able.
- The antique arcature of the buildings on main street and the surrounding areas are what I find unique about Newton. We should work on preserving and maintaining those properties for future generations.
- The city could be so much better. Enforce downtown rules. Tattoo shop signage and window is bad. Bring in fun areas to downtown. Utilize Ali off for public seating and beautification.
- The city elites are snobby narcissists who aren't actually helping
- The city has good access to Wichita; fairly clean and attractive with low crime impact; needs to limit the loud base noise at entertainment venues, and how late it can be.

- The closeness to Wichita, and keeps the small town feel.
- The community they should emphasize events and social media.
- THE DEPOT IS BEAUTIFUL AND NEEDS TO BE KEP THAT WAY-FAIRLY NICE DOWNTOWN
- The depot, old building The railroad office building
- The downtown area
- The golf course is the main draw. I feel people only visit the city for the course. There are no other draws. The golf course is lacking too without a true restaurant. Hotel accommodations are lacking and when teams coming to town they have to stay in Wichita. Food options are limited and again people have to go to Wichita to eat. I think the course needs some upgrades and a restaurant.
- THE GREAT NEW LIBRARY AND PUBLIC SPACES. KEEP SUPPORTING THEM
- The history behind the city of Newton. From the Harvey girls serving in the Depot, the railroad, the cowboys that fought in the streets. The demolition of the old Dillon's store would be a great place for a green space with highlights of Newton history provided. Maybe a walking tour of historical downtown points of interest. I sometimes look at the buildings leading into downtown from the perspective of a visitors and just cringe. Not a very appealing first impression if you are coming into downtown from south of the tracks.
- The locally owned and operated businesses and restaurants
- The Mennonite heritage.
- The nature trails keep them clean.
- The old traditions and values
- The past of Newton has made Newton more prosperous and beautiful
- The people always pull together when needed to help each other, but needs to be done all the time not just in emergencies.
- The railroad and wheat farming history. Work to improve family amenities like parks and recreation opportunities.
- THE RAILROAD WEST TOWN HISTORY MAKES NEWTON UNIQUE. THE RAILROAD DEPOT IS A SYMBOL OF THAT. AS MUCH AS PEOPLE COMPLAIN ABOUT THE TRAINS, IT IS SORT OF OUR HISTORY AND PRESENT
- The river and the old housing stock are exceptionally charming and should be better maintained and featured. I moved from the gentrified east coast and love the old houses here!
- The small town atmosphere is the most appealing. Improve on existing without growing to match vibes a bigger city.
- THE SMALL TOWN FEEL AND HAS THINGS THAT I DONT HAVE TO GO TO WICHITA FOR
- The small town feel and high trust environment is what makes Newton unique. This should be protected by limiting government housing and eliminating the housing of immigrants, illegal immigrants, and refugees
- The small town feeling still is here. Doesn't have the busy/past pace like Wichita.
- THE SMALL TOWN FLAVOR STILL
- The traditional look it possessed. And to protect and enhance that quality is by taking care of old buildings such as Anderson.
- The train theme and colors
- The trains
- The trains running right through town. Offer some kind of entertainment and/or dinning at the Depot or around. Have events around trains and holidays like a Polar Express or Santa train ride to bring in crowds.
- The trains, of course, make Newton unique. Maybe making the depot into a train museum with a restaurant/cafe, along with a candy store. The diversity of Newton might not be unique, but

should be celebrated. Having new events for Octoberfest, Cinco de Mayo, St. Patrick's Day, etc. to celebrate diversity and culture. Reasons for the people of Newton to get together. That is why I think the area at 320 N. Main should be open space, with both green and paved areas.

- The trains. Use them to promote our town. A train museum. A caboose as our "mascot".
- The visibility of police is second to none. Keep patrolling the streets, stay visible.
- The walking and biking trails are really nice. The plan to connect the trail from 14th to 1st street would be important to continue for the city.
- The walking path, parks, safety, YMCA, Library
- The water bill and it needs to be lowered.
- There is nothing unique about Newton.
- There is nothing unique about Newton.
- there's not that many people so everyone knows everyone
- This is home to many many families for generations. It's small town but people are being taxed out of there homes, this needs to be fixed
- To help with improvement of streets and roads, curbs in the city and stop signs, maintenance stop and go signals.
- TRAIN DEPOT, SAND CREEK. PUT SOME SHOPPING AND RESTROOMS ALONG SAND CREEK
- Train history, depot. Historic buildings along Downtown Main st. tax breaks for those who do their upkeep on houses.
- TRAIN TOWN WITH MANY CULTURES IN TOWN
- TRAINS MAKE CREW SWITCHING HAPPEN OUTSIDE OF TOWN
- Trains. Improve transportation to decrease traffic blockage due to trains stopping on tracks.
- TRAINS-MAKE THE DEPOT A FOCAL POINT OR CENTRAL HUB
- Tram Depot, Historical Museum
- Trashy areas. Dead trees. Designate one weekend a month for cleanup
- Unique: Quality of life in the community. Enhance: Quality of public education system and facilities. Enhance: Quality of city services (Community Growth, Fire/EMS, Police Protection, Eating establishments other than Hispanic food, Shopping Venues, Bar/Brewery).
- Unique-unrealistic cost of water and taxes. Fix budget better so citizens can't afford it.
- Waiting so long for trains.
- Walkability of downtown area, mix of businesses downtown, great library. The City can help by maintaining attractive public spaces, helping get the word out about events, continuing to provide great support for events (setup, takedown).
- Walkway along the railroad tracks near the Old Flour Mill-this walkway would be perfect for placement of art pieces and sculptures. Revitalization of downtown is making Newton a town that you want to invite others to come to-as a tourist and guest-events destination. Add more paths. Create bike/e-bike and walking events to take place on these paths-highlight the great things that you do have.
- We are a train town, and we should embrace that through the train depot and the 320 N Main project. Newton has a small town feel with just enough distance from Wichita to be unique (not just a suburb). We should continue to emphasize and build on that, not try to copy or compete against Wichita or the suburbs. We have a downtown that could benefit from more development and intentional design to make it a place people love to visit and hang out.
- We are at a crossroads of HWY 50 and 1-35 that could be doing a lot more for us than it is....bringing people to town; the Railroad needs more attention
- We are not Wichita, and we shouldn't try to be. We need to reflect and embrace what Newton is. Our town is very unique and we have our own identity. We need to advertise our unique

differences. Antique stores, family owned, locally owned Business, we have several events throughout the year. Let's focus on our citizens and small business owners, support them and they will make Newton even greater.

- We are such a lovely sized town - big enough to host special community events, close enough to a city that provides more variety. Small enough for a feeling of neighborliness, large enough to have terrific schools with EVERY option for students
- We are very unique in that we have a small town feel with big city amenities. We need to keep that small town feel while also investing in bigger city amenities.
- We have a downtown that's not dead yet. the city needs to keep moving forward with efforts to help businesses build and move to the downtown. That is the heart of every city.
- We have always tried to keep our community clean with all the older properties being purchased as rental properties, we are running into issues with the renters not helping keeping the properties clean. Land owners need to do a better job of keeping their properties clean.
- We have some parts of downtown that have the potential to really be a place to spend time and money.
- We have the most expensive city bill around.
- We need more things to do here, all we really have is the skating rink and that's not even a good place to skate because the floors all messed up. We need a trampoline park or something like that, something fun to do indoors.
- We need to enforce land lords and property owners to pickup and maintain properties for curb appeal.
- We need to open up our eyes to the fact if a business wants to come to downtown newton, we ought to work fully and with the intent of helping that business be successful and quit handcuffing building owners. Also, the City seems to be very proactive towards advancing the industrial sector in proportionally verses downtown.
- well maintained parks, civic pride, business owners investing in community
- What makes Newton unique is our history.
- WHAT MAKES NEWTON UNIQUE IS TRAINS THAT SPLIT THE TOWN IN HALF THEN SIT THERE FOR HOURS-BUILD AN UNDERPASS AND ELIMINATE THE ISSUE
- When my family first moved here 40 years ago Newton seemed to have more pride, a good mix of local and national retailers, and a much more neighborly feel. I don't think that culture is as strong as it once was
- Would like to see down town buildings return to the vintage look of the 1940s.

Q21. What is the single most important improvement the City of Newton could make in the next five years?

- A nice inexpensive sit down restaurant for families.
- A shooting range for gun owners.
- A soccer complex. Newton is known for its quality soccer program through club soccer. Practice space is very limited. There is no where to practice in inclement weather and we can't host tournaments.
- ACTIVITIES FOR KIDS TO KEEP THEM OUT OF TROUBLE. CLEANING UP VACANT LOTS (ALCO) AND EMPTY BUILDINGS-OLD SOUTH DILLONS
- ADD MORE SIDEWALKS
- Adding more businesses
- ADMIT AND ACKNOWLEDGE THE CORRUPTION OF THE COURT SYSTEM IE COURT SERVICES, DRUG COURT
- Affordability of housing, utilities and shopping. Food eating places that are family friendly and affordable and open for all meals.
- Affordability to live-taxes, water, bill, etc.
- AFFORDABLE HOUSING
- Affordable housing
- Affordable housing available
- Affordable housing for everyone
- Affordable housing for lower income e families
- AFFORDABLE HOUSING, VARIETY OF RESTAURANTS, FAMILY THINGS, SHOPPING-I CAN ONLY WEAR SO MANY THINGS FROM CATO
- Affordable public transportation.
- All city sidewalks need to be ADA accessible. Meaning all city visuals need to have an curb ramp & be in good repair. We have allot of seniors who can't get around without having to go into the street in their wheelchair or walkers.
- ALL THE THINGS IN THIS SURVEY, BUT WE NEED A COUPLE OF NICE, SIT DOWN RESTAURANTS THAT SERVE AMERICAN FOOD
- Allow more sit down restaurants in. NO MORE MEXICAN FOOD
- Animal control, homeless population, lower water/waste cost, allow property owners to park on their backyard grass that they pay for, and bring back factory jobs.
- ANOTHER RAIL OVER/UNDERPASS
- Appearance and an attraction.
- Assist in school bond program
- At least one midtown railroad overpass/ underpass
- Attract another restaurant other than Mexican or Pizza. Connect old Main over or under Hwy 50
- ATTRACT MORE EATING PLACES; ATTRACT MORE HOTELS AND BED AND BREAKFAST PLACES
- Attract more good jobs.
- Attracting more jobs... the economy isn't looking to get any better on a national level. We need to look into the future to see how we can fill gaps with struggling businesses and job creation.
- BETTER AND MORE AVAILABLE PUBLIC TRANSPORTATION; RAISE THE QUALITY OF SLUM LORD HOUSING
- Better enforcement of laws and codes, increase staff of LED and EMS and Fire Dept
- Better quality of available housing

- Better restaurants. Stop endorsing WOKE, like pride month.
- Bike path expansion
- Bring businesses to vacant downtown spaces
- BRING IN BUSINESS. GIANT AMERICAN FLAG AT 50 AND 135 JUNTION
- Bring in companies that manufacturer transformers and micro-chips
- Bring in more business. Be certain businesses are legitimate.
- Bring in more manufacturing jobs that pay decent wages.
- Bring in restaurants
- BRING IN STORES THAT SELL APPLIANCES -REFRIGERATORS, WASHERS, DRYERS, ETC
- Bring more jobs
- Bring nationally recognized restaurants and businesses to town. Regional restaurants-Hogwild, Spangles, Bernards, ETC. National ones as well.
- Bringing a restaurant to the golf course. Also bringing in new work opportunities. New industry and create job growth. However will be hard with property taxes being so high. We have several neighbors discussing moving due to the high property taxes.
- Bringing in more businesses and neighborhood redevelopment.
- Build a Bride over main Street tracks tires of trains all the time
- Build a bridge over the tracks as traffic is growing rapidly.
- Build an overpass over the rail road track so people don't have to wait so long before crossing. Get the railroad company to pay for it.
- Building an Over Pass for the traffic to be above to go over the trains.
- Business development
- BUSINESS DEVELOPMENT ON SOUTH WASHINGTON-NEAR NEW MCDONALDS
- BUSINESSES FOR FOOD. POSSIBLY A FOOD STORE LIKE ALDIS
- Change the current residential speed laws which are based on a Kansas antiquated catch all speed limit that allows a 30 mph speed limit where none is posted. This no longer fits the needs of this community and the need for safety. Since the police allow "five over" the limit that means residential streets have 35 mph traffic on the streets which is totally unacceptable. The speed limit in a residential street should be 20 mph. As an elderly resident who walks six miles per day with no sidewalks or alleys I have to walk on the streets with speeding cars. I experience close calls with traffic on a regular basis. The state speed municipal code was written for an era where there was less traffic and houses were spread out. I worry about my safety every single day and the close calls increasing. Also, there is NO traffic enforcement or presence in my area. I haven't seen a cop in my neighborhood for over a year.
- CITY EMPLOYEES NEVER SHUT TRUCKS OFF. WHAT DOES THIS COST MEAN IN FUEL? A CALL TO STREET SUPERVISOR DOES NOTHING
- City streets are important and we've allowed so many side streets to get bad. I've seen more action in the recent past to fix areas, but we are very much behind in our overall street repair.
- Clean up areas in Newton, such as car junk yard North end of town. Tear down old greenhouse on 11th street. People have old boats, cars, trucks parked in back yards that are basically junk. There needs to be codes for storage. I drive around town and I am shocked how some areas look. If I was looking at moving here I might change my mind.
- CLEAN UP CREEK BANKS, WATERWAY BANKS, DRAINAGE BANKS AND SAND CREEK-THEY LOOK HORRIBLE
- Clean up the neighborhoods of crappy houses and yards full of trash. Quit letting so many cars park on residential streets when there is parking in the back yards with alley access. Trailers that

sit on the street and that haven't been moved. Give citations to move them. Have more of a police presence in the neighborhoods. Make downtown look appealing instead of a ghost town.

- CLEAN, SAFE
- Cleaning up residential neighborhoods, again demolish houses that are no longer useful in the neighborhoods. Fixing curbs, driveways, and handicapped walkways.
- Cleanup rundown, lots and houses; more activities for kids at a price that is affordable.
- Communication
- Community involvement with events and show casing what is available within the community
- COMPLETE THE BIKE PATH ALONG SAND CREEK. BETWEEN 14TH AND 1ST
- Connect bike, walking paths and maintain mowing during the summer
- Continue development of the downtown, including the depot.
- Continue improving green spaces and sports facilities. Fun events. Redo downtown.
- Continue to invest in and support quality of life in the community
- Create a senior over 55 community housing
- Create a space similar to the Silos in Waco Texas. We want to have something to similar for years.
- Creative thinking about empty retail spaces around town
- CRIME
- Curb appeal of residential areas specially around /in the older part of town and around the downtown area. Revitalize that area of town!
- Deal with train traffic on Main st. Attract more retail and mainstream restaurants
- Dealing with railroad and traffic problems, they create; clean up trashy neighborhoods
- Decrease property taxes!
- decrease time waiting on trains
- Definitely need affordable housing to rent or own especially for all but especially low-income and senior persons. Need more events on Sunday p.m. or businesses that are open, i.e., coffee shops or library.
- Defund 1/2 of the police force and use the money for something else. We don't need police that just drive around town punitive policing. (29 in a 20, slow roll through a stop sign, etc.) Just need a force to protect and serve.
- Defund half of the police dept. The police have little to do and they drive around town punitive policing. Stopping people doing 29 in a 20 MPH, slow roll thru stop signs, etc. We don't need punitive policing in Newton. Wichita could really use the defunded police. Newton could use the money for something else.03
- Demolish condemned buildings. Remodel old buildings, instead of building new. No more ball fields. We don't use the ones we have.
- Demolish old Dillons. Repave WALNUT s. and First st
- Department of public art so every project addition included a mural or sculpture.
- develop the depot area in historically accurate and useful way to attract visitors as well as serve train travelers.
- Development of the mid-section of town. Many streets are still brick and very rough. Sidewalks are rough or non-existent. Sidewalks should not be owners responsibility to repair. We continue to grow out but the center of our community is in decline. Maybe grants to help homeowners repair homes.
- DO A BETTER JOB WITH STREETS AND TRACKS
- Do something with empty buildings.

- Do what we can to bring in more businesses. A big hardware store, more places to eat, Kohl's, anything that a place like hutch or derby can have so can we. Let's make it happen.
- Downtown and improving residential streets.
- Downtown as more of an entertainment/shopping venue that supports growth of local small businesses.
- Downtown is good - but they need to move towards great to the extent that they become famous
- Downtown night life/ activities, a tree and dirt walking trail
- Downtown redevelopment and strengthening opportunities for businesses to succeed the west side (Meridian)
- Downtown sidewalks and lights
- Draw more family dining places. We do not need banks, gas stations, Mexican or hotels. Need good home style restaurants.
- Draw more industry. We need to draw people who make money in order to increase tax base. I appreciate that we have a lot of programs to help folks out, but we need to draw folks who will spend money here
- Drug and alcohol related issues. Addiction is a crisis.
- DRUG PROBLEMS
- Ease of traffic control
- Economic development that brings jobs to middle class workers.
- Either addressing the claims other cities are making by pointing out their errors or, if claims are correct, addressing the reason for the claims.
- Eliminate train interference on major thoroughfares (Main St. Broadway St. 1st Street) - start with Main Street.
- Embrace urbanism by investing in downtown, density, and biking infrastructure.
- encourage maintenance of houses and roads!
- Encourage retail business in downtown
- Encouraging more restaurants in town. Something besides fast food and Mexican/pizza places.
- End the union except for EMT, fire department and police.
- Enforce existing codes for dog barking, leash dogs, yard maintenance and parking
- Enhance shopping downtown or bring in relevant strip malls. Grow Newton's shopping base.
- ENTERTAINMENT. STORES REOPENED DOWNTOWN. PUT ALL PARADES-FAIRS AND SCHOOL BACK ON MAIN AND USE IT TO BUILD NEWTON PRIDE IN ALL AREAS. CLEAN UP THE POOL HOUSE AND LAWN AREA
- Entice restaurants and business
- Enticing more businesses to come to Newton and invest in our community with the goal of reducing costs for residents. Our city bill is one of the highest in the Midwest for a town of our size. What can be done to reduce the cost of living for residents so that people want to move here? People are turned off by the high costs associated with the city.
- Filling up empty buildings with businesses and parking for them.
- Find a solution with the railroad trains sitting on the tracks in town, blocking roads like 1st street and main street. why don't they wait outside of town.
- find a way to keep our young families here. The amount of people we are trying to move here, there is lack of affordable childcare or activities for young families, indoor playgrounds, etc.
- Find a way to restart the city wide recycling program.
- Fix the streets
- fix the train tracks so car be pass it easier

- Fixed the railroad crossing on 1st street
- Fixing the railroads on main streets.
- FOCUS ON RESIDENTIAL GROWTH TO INCREASE THE TAX BASE AND THE ECONOMIC BASE
- Focus on the first street, I 35 interchange. Right now it's a Poore first view of our city. Clean hotel space. Housing for economic growth.
- Focus some of the development on the north side of Newton, the older parts are the community that are further away from the primary development areas are declining, the housing is dated with a wide variety of conditions, almost all business development has been on the south side.
- Focusing on neighborhood blight and creating plans for tax relief or incentive for home improvement in those areas.
- Follow a budget
- Forcing residential homes to clean up their homes and yards. Junky homes make the neighborhood look bad - Newton has A LOT of low income looking homes.
- Free after school programs. Doing something about the traffic after and during stopped trains.
- GET COST OF LIVING DOWN
- Get homeless population off the streets, it is scary . No loitering/begging using shopping carts
- Get more set down restaurants besides Mexican food and pizza. Make it easier and more inviting for the big restaurant to join the community
- Get one or two micro breweries established here in Newton
- Get people with common sense
- Get rid of all the Oxford houses make our streets better so our kids can walk up and down and people can enjoy our streets. You got 10 people living in a three bedroom house single-family no eat as windows once you start forcing the laws like that.
- GET RID OF PRIDE MONTH-THE CITY WENT TO HELL WHEN THIS STARTED, THERE IS NOTHING ABOUT LGBT TO BE PROUD OF. ITS SHAMEFUL
- Get rid of Rod Kreie, he seems to be the one behind all the development.
- Get rid of the cynical, tear it down attitude to any change of improvement or upgrade.
- Get rid of vacant houses. Either fix them or remove them. They are a blight
- Get rid of vape shops on Main Street. Let’s continue to revitalize downtown.
- Get the citizens to support local, small and their own. Newtonians are horrible about going to shop in Wichita, Hutchinson, etc. I gave up a 2 year business that I started to support other small businesses because of the lack of support. I tried to bring a place here to help small businesses stay local but it only works if Newtonians shop local.
- Getting in large & small businesses. All businesses & care homes must pay taxes, enforce property owners, keep trash out of yards, mow yards, that way property value is not lowered & is safe.
- Getting out of real estate business, be responsive to citizens with water, sewer, police, fire, Ems, maintenance only.
- Green space
- GROW THE HOUSING AND THUS THE TAX BASE
- Have more adult entertainment.
- Have safe fun places for teens to go, clean up the homeless.
- Having more family style restaurants to help the citizens stay here locally.
- Hire people who have a desire to enforce regulations to clean up residential areas. It is such an eyesore.
- Housing increase to increase population

- Housing is the biggest issue. We need a lot more housing and infill. Wichita has done an excellent job allowing multi family housing on infill lots in the last decade. Newton should as well.
- Housing, affordability for seniors, taxes are too high
- I don't want to be taxed out of my home! I should not be responsible for closing the city's revenue gap. I'm 73 with no family in this state...I don't even get my street snow plowed when there's 8 inches of snow! This city is focusing more on bringing in new Newtonians than taking care of those of us already here, my quality of life has slipped in the 4 years that I've lived here. You asked about compliance re: police and emt service how about restaurants that serve food without proper food handling...no gloves, hair nets...serving up my ice cream while getting their hands covered scooping it out, etc. Traffic safety including railroad crossings with loose rails. Does anyone keep track of the UN (United Nations hazmat) codes on those railroad cars? I sometimes see codes for caustic chemicals that become poisonous gas when mixed with air should a car derail in our community. Is that even legal to have those toxins go through town? We do need compliance but first we need people to know the code standards!
- I have no idea. Haven't lived here long.
- I love the small town vibes with the beauty of growth. I think stores like ross or Aldis would be a perfect fit to attract more people and give the locals more things to look forward to.
- I perceive we have something of a tough reputation- crime, drugs, lower socioeconomic community, fair amount of residents with mental health issues etc. Not saying it is justified but I feel like that is the reputation within the greater Wichita area. As such I feel like the city getting a handle on what it can have an effect on, primarily crime and drugs in the community would make a big difference on quality of life in Newton. Tied in to this: I don't know the stats so I may be off base here but I also feel like Newton does not attract higher income earners as residents very readily. The higher end housing at Sand Creek Station and Campus Woods in North Newton are very nice but seems like they have taken a long time to fully develop. Getting the GAF plant will likely bring some upper middle class earners but only a relative few. Incentivizing higher capitalized companies to this area would be great. Hard to do I'm sure so not being critical of what's been done in the past.
- I think the best thing the city could do is to invest in running a few routine buses across main street from the North Dillons down to Walmart so that people could access more of what they need without spending as much money on gas. Running a more sporadic route out from there to the factories, hotels, and event center would really help the community to get everything they need while also bringing more people together as one public.
- I think the single most important improvement might be adding more streetlighting down by the creek. The tunnels get very dark at night, and the lights are pretty dim.
- I think we need to bring in more entertainment venues. i.e.: carnival type amusement park or a small casino. Maybe a couple of hotels. I think that would greatly increase the local economy.
- I wish there was more job opportunities, more retail stores, more things for teens and college age kids to have fun. Also the traffic flow around Walmart needs to be fix. The 3 way stop and traffic light to get out do the parking out does not work well enough for all the traffic going through that area since you can't turn left anywhere else.
- I would like the City of Newton to offer more benefits to new businesses,
- I would like to see a park development to the south of the Sand Creek Station Golf Course Clubhouse. There is parking there and would enhance the experience for people who come into the area. Since the grill area is small, people could take their food to the park. When hosting big events at the course, it would give another option for spectators and participants to go as they wait.

- I would say an outdoor amphitheater type of structure to attract Jazz at lunch time, bluegrass, blues, folk, classical, solo acts, country, etc.
- I'd like to see an attitude shift - if you could make that happen :) My husband and I work proudly to lift up small businesses, recruit new businesses to town. All to often people just complain about prices or hours or whatever and then spend their time and money driving to Wichita rather than supported local neighbors.
- If we are going to be taxed to death, please make all the city streets look good, have adequate lighting, and be open to the public. Get rid of all these abandoned, awful buildings around the city.
- Improve bathroom building at Washington Park
- Improve cost of living (utility bills). Enhance the marketing of events and activities in town.
- Improve downtown and fi d a way to buy back the fox theater as a focal point. Turning that into a church was by far the biggest bone head move the city allowed. That should be a focal point of fun and a way to bring folks to the area. Get shops, and more restaurants downtown. Make it lively and something worth visiting. Nothing downtown makes me want to stop and shop.
- Improve housing needs and address issues with slum lords.
- Improve railroad crossing
- IMPROVE SCHOOL BUILDINGS
- Improve the parks and bike path. Follow up on the master plan that is already paid for.
- Improve the quality of life for residents. Enforce policy, such as no parking in yards and doing more things to make Newton look less trashy. We need people that care about the traditions of the community living in Newton. Not people that have their own traditions and don't care about investing in Newton.
- IMPROVE THE SCHOOLS-STAFF, BUILDINGS, CURB APPEAL, PROGRAMS, ETC
- Improve the visual image of the city.
- Improving downtown. This includes maintenance of buildings, more shopping stores, lighting, beautification, and safety.
- IMPROVING THE QUALITY AND TASTE OF THE CITY WATER/ENFORCEMENT ON RESIDENTIAL MAINTENANCE IS A BIT OVERKILL
- Improving the streets.
- Increase commercial business here.
- Increase food choices, shopping, in downtown. Please something other than Mexican food.
- Industrial growth, jobs, find companies to take over buildings on S Meridian. More patio homes (not duplexes). Maintenance and improvements in city park facilities, children equipment, properly take care of Spring Lakes and Moss problem as well as mowing around it, a lot of people wish to fish not standing in 3' high grass, as well as moss control, when a little child falls in and can't be found and drowns (very sad day) tough questions. Improve City pool (poor maintenance last 2 years as black mold grows in pool), add on a splash park.
- Industrial Park, more business out there
- Invest in attracting people to the area
- Invest in improvement of schools. Until our school system is improved, nothing can change or improve at the city level.
- Invest in the preventative maintenance to avoid larger problems
- Invest more in quality of life amenities, including parks, playgrounds and city beautification.
- Investing in quality of life enhancements - parks, trails, events, school
- investment in children. create fresh spaces to encourage families to come to Newton. Bike paths, outdoor space. splash parks. playgrounds

- ITS NOT AN IMPROVEMENT BUT KEEP OUR HIGH QUALITY FIRE, POLICE AND EMT DEPARTMENTS. DEPOT AREA-MAKE SURE THE OUTLET MALL AREA IS INCLUDED IN TOWN EVENTS. KEEP DOWNTOWN ACTIVE AND SFE
- Jobs that pay a living wage , affordable housing, both rental and owning, When you have people asking the same amount for rent that you would pay as a house payment is outrageous, at this point todays youth will never move out because they will never be able to afford it. Decreased water bills, (this alone is a good reason to move out of Newton) dining experiences other than Mexican restaurants or Chinese.
- Keep building friendly informative relationships with Newtonians. I think Coney is good.
- Keep building up downtown including 320 Main and the Depot
- KEEP DOWNTOWN-FILLED UP AND SUPPORTED-IMPROVE LIGHTING AND DECORATIONS
- Keep focus on downtown.
- Keep jobs local
- KEEPING PRIVATE PROPERTY CLEAN AND TALL WEEDS OFF THE PROPERTY -OLD CARS, JUNK
- Kind of a question really, why does local police department frequent QT in middle of the night every night ? I've counted 8-police 12 vehicles plus and everyone's standing around ? I work on call so I'm in there often at odd hours .. too me it's like who's patrolling ? It's turned into a giant hangout it seems . Doesn't look good when safety is some residents concern and prob the majority of staff on duty is just hanging around in a group in the lot
- Less Mexican food restaurants, etc. and allowing other cultural restaurants. Make residents preserve property and not trash the neighborhood.
- Less radio interference for us ham radio operators it can be really tough sometimes especially on HF bands
- Listen to tax payer
- LOCAL WELL PAYING JOBS. MAYBE MANUFACTURING, RESTAURANTS THAT PAY $20 AN HOUR? HEALTHCARE?
- LOW INCOME HOUSING TO SUPPORT THE CLIENTS OF PRAIRIE VIEW, ETC TINY HOME DEVELOPMENT
- Lower city bill. Need a round about at South Walmart entrance. Fire Jerry L.
- LOWER HOUSING/RENTAL COSTS. KEEP CITY EMPLOYEES GAINFULLY EMPLOYED IN THE AREAS THEY WERE HIRED FOR. IF THEY CANT BE GAINFULLY EMPLOYED, REMOVE THEM
- Lower mill levy on property owners. Decrease utility cost to attract new businesses and residential investors. Reduce unnecessary spending, Reduce department administration/administration assistance.
- LOWER PROPERTY TAXES BY A LOT. I'M A SINGLE SENIOR BUYING MY HOME. INCENTIVES IN THE FORM OF CHEAPER SERVICES, LOWER TAXES WITH SIGNIFICANT ASSISTANCE WITH HOME MAINTENANCE/KEEP ME HERE. WOULD BE A MJOR PLUS. 75 YEAR OLD HOME-I NEED WINDOWS
- Lower property taxes, and increase communication with community members. Make all community members feel welcomed.
- Lower property taxes, budget better, and get snobby rich people out of office
- Lower property taxes, stop over valuing properties to get more taxes.
- LOWER PROPERTY TAXES. HIGHER PROPERTY TAXES ARE KILLING AVERAGE FAMILIES
- LOWER PROPERTY TAXES-WE CANT AFFORD TO FIX MY HOUSE WE OWN AND OUTTAXED HERE-TRIPLED IN LESS THAN 10 YEARS
- Lower real estate taxes for Seniors
- Lower real estate taxes, do not give big tax breaks to get new business here.
- Lower tax mill levy for senior citizens

- Lower taxes
- Lower taxes
- Lower taxes
- Lower taxes and city bill
- lower taxes and the cost of water. Affordable housing, not public housing. Get rid of Jerry.
- Lower taxes and utility bill. Make the RR clean up weeds and trash along tracks. Ghetto looking
- Lower taxes and water bill
- LOWER TAXES AND WATER RATES; NEW BUSINESS; EMBRACE THE WICHITA METRO IDEA TO GROW-MORE RETAILS, ENTERTAINMENT, FOOD
- Lower taxes/water
- Lower the mill level to reduce taxes and focus on helping senior citizens keep there house because of higher property taxes or by reducing property taxes to 50% on the seniors 62 years and older with low incomes ($40,000 - $60,000) range
- Lower the mill rate.
- Lower the water bills. We pay 150 a month. Outrageous.
- Lower the water rates.
- Lower water bill, it is more than my electric bill
- LOWER WATER BILL; AFFORDABLE TO LIVE; MORE AND BETTER RESTAURANTS
- LOWER WATER BILLS. I KNOW PEOPLE WHO HAVE NOT MOVED HERE BECAUSE OF TAXES AND WATER BILLS
- Lower water bills/taxes
- Lower water rates!!!
- Lowering property taxes, reducing water rates. reduce city spending, lower the city's budget
- lowering taxes, it has to happen
- lowering taxes, to bring more people and businesses to Newton.
- MAINTAIN STREETS, PUT OFFICERS ON STREET AND MAINTAIN THE BEAT SYSTEM AND TURN OFF RADIO SCRAMBLED SYSTEM, WHEN SEVERE WEATHER IS COMING. NEED JUSTIFICATION FOR UPGRADES. BRING BACK COMMUNITY FELLOWSHIP
- MAINTAINING/MOWING ON HWY 50 ROUNDABOUT AND SIDEWALK DOWN SW 14TH TO WETLANDS AREA-CONTINUE SIDEWALKS AND CONNECT BIKE PATH
- Make a bypass on First st because of the trains.
- Make citizens proud to live here.
- Make downtown an attraction - affordable shops, good food, festivals, a boutique hotel, etc.
- Make housing more affordable and available
- Make housing more affordable for young families
- MAKE IT A SAFE COMMUNITY, CLEAN AND AFFORDABLE-SENIORS, RETIRED HAVE TROUBLE MAKING PROPERTY TAX PAYMENT. FIXED INCOME WITH NO RELIEF IN UTILITIES, FOOD ETC
- Make it feel sustainable, less reliant on corporations. Produce and consume locally
- MAKE IT SO THE TRAINS CANT COVER THE TRACKS FOR MORE THAN 10 MINUTES AT A TIME AT ANY GIVEN TIME
- MAKE LAWS AND ENFORCE THEM-TO HAVE LANDLORDS FIX UP AND TAKE CARE OF THE RENTALS THEY HAVE FOR PEOPLE TO LIVE IN
- Make our town inviting, the exits here do not tempt growth of our community. We only have one exit to Newton from I35
- Make some sort of communication, whether through the City of Newton app or text every time there's a train that's coming to cross across all sets of tracks. Stop allowing too long of trains

coming into town, and slowing down traffic too much. Consider building a bridge over tracks on main street and first.

- Make the area around the depot attractive, adding businesses there that will increase sales tax revenue!
- Making it a place people want to visit, both in looks and attractions
- Making renters and owners of houses keep their properties nicer than they are right now. Retail stores and eating establishment's. Upkeeping our parks better.
- Making the old dillons into public outdoor event complex with out spending lots of money. It can be done with input from the public and not a bunch of engineering
- Making the traffic signals from YMCA intersection and south so they do not detain you so long.
- Making traffic along the railway flow better. Bridges maybe? Something to keep traffic flowing.
- MERIDIAN RD WOULD LIKE TO SEE SOMETHING ELSE DONE WITH THE OLD GIBSONS BLDG
- More accessibility over the railroad tracks
- More accessible permanent facilities to visitors
- more accessible splash park not located in a far south residential area, more neutral like Centinel or by the library.
- MORE AFFORDABLE HOUSING
- More bike paths
- More businesses downtown. Boutique, brewery, gift store.
- MORE DINING OPTIONS-HIGHER SCALE
- More entertainment
- More entertainment for adults and children more community events.
- More food options
- more food places
- More fun activities to do within our town
- More growth, jobs
- More housing!
- MORE LARGE RETAIL-LIKE KOHLS-WHICH SELL MENS AND WOMENS CLOTHING AND MORE SMALLER CLOTHING SHOPS DOWNTOWN
- More nature
- More police presence and a feeling of safety. Just seeing police in and around the stores make me feel safer.
- MORE PROPERTY CLEAN UPS AND YARD WORK KEPT UP
- More retail and restaurants
- More retail stores and historical data
- More routes around the trains.
- More shopping, mainly clothes, other food options.
- MORE SIDEWALKS THAT CONNECT TO GET AROUND EASIER AND SAFER. STOP LIGHT TO GET ON HIGHWAY 50
- More specialty business downtown
- More swim events
- More traffic control thru the town. like Broadway and High st. More walking friendly city.
- More variety of restaurants
- Move fire stations to better cover the north and east sides of town.
- Mow along Sand Creek. The natural planting looks trashy and is infested with snakes. You can’t fish from the banks anymore.

- Mow the banks of Sand Creek so they don't look ugly and unkempt. That river could be such a bonus for our town if it could be used for recreation.
- Mowing and trimming around the creek all the way through down. It used to be done long ago and now is so overgrown and looks really bad for the city especially the bike/walking path. It would really improve the city to keep it trimmed.
- Much needed good paying jobs
- Need affordable housing
- NEED AGOOD FISH PLACE, A STEAK HOUSE, GET RID OF OVER 1/2 OF THE MEXICAN RESTAURANTS
- Need to do away with personal property taxes on seniors
- Negotiate with railroad to reduce their traffic at Main St. Please move the refueling away to another location. Attract development to reduce our taxes.
- Neighborhood streets and sidewalks
- New buildings and developments south of highway 50. The railway congestion and lack of space downtown makes development seem unreasonable.
- New businesses and affordable restaurants
- New businesses.
- New city manager.
- No new social programs or parks. Let's maintain what we have and lower taxes and utilities
- No one stops at stop signs. 90% of the time drivers do the ol California non stop slow down and run stop sign. Enforce the damn law.
- None that I can think of
- Obviously adding a bridge over the train tracks isn’t gonna happen but could we add cameras that can be checked to see which crossings are still open? Like how Wichita uses them for traffic.
- Offer incentives to develop in the core of the city, not just the edges.
- One concern that really stands out to me is the overall lack of pride in property upkeep among many residents. A number of houses are in poor condition, and yard work often stops at basic mowing, while weeds, sometimes six feet tall, grow unchecked around homes and fences. Many sidewalks are in disrepair, with cracks, overgrowth, and non ADA compliant surfaces making them unsafe and unwelcoming. Across Newton, too many old and underused buildings sit vacant, like the former Dock 44, Partridge junk yard, Norcraft, and Food 4 Less. On top of that, eye sores such as the massive RV storage facility on Hwy 50 and the rundown, questionable hotels off the First Street roundabout leave a poor impression on anyone passing through. First impressions matter, and right now, Newton is not putting its best foot forward.
- ONE RR OVERPASS SO TRAINS DONT BLOCK EVERY CROSSING IN TOWN
- Our Caring hands shelter struggles to meet needs of people who want animal but housing/landlords make it impossible. Can you help?
- OUR RAILROAD TRACKS NEED TO BE FIXED SO BAD. THEY ARE VERY ROUGH TO DRIVE ON. ANIMAL CONTROL NEEDS IMPROVEMENT IMMENSELEY-GIVE INCENTIVE TO BUSINESSES TO COME HERE
- OVERPASS OR UNDERPASS ON MAIN ON THE RAILROAD-TIRED OF WAITING ON TRAINS
- Overpass the trains on main street
- Placing a stoplight at the intersection of SE 8th and Washington. This is a very awkward and dangerous intersection with too many roads intersecting diagonally. We have seen multiple crashes in the past five years of living here and many other close calls. This is also a known area for people street racing and speeding. Adding this light could help reduce accidents as well as reducing the distance between the 1st street and 14th street stoplights making it harder for people to speed and race each other.
- Please fix Spencer Road.

- Please lower the cost of our water bills. I remember when the city said they would reduce our bills by restructuring how we paid for the water treatment plant. My bill stayed basically the same and I noticed they reduced that portion of our bill but added almost that exact amount to our sewer service even though our water used amount remained the same? Not happy.
- Please open the public bathrooms around Raider Field when Newton HS has games there, one to the south and one to the east.
- PROTECTION OF KIDS GOING TO SCHOOL-SIDEWALKS FOR THE KIDS, THESE CHILDREN ARE THE FUTURE-SOUTHSIDE RESIDENTS
- Provide incentive for owners to improve small, trashy looking houses, whether they are rentals or owner occupied.
- public spaces
- PUBLIC TRANSPORTATION AND LOW RENT HOUSING, BETTER AVAILABILITY FOR LOWER BUYER OPTIONS
- Put in a train overpass somewhere!!! But that's probably not realistic so…..Please work to bring in more variety of restaurants. We've got Mexican and pizza adequately covered!! Can we please get something different? We need both fast food and sit down options. But we don't need fine dining. We need reasonably priced, family friendly options. Chick-fil-A would be wonderful! But also anything like a Panera or McAlister's type restaurant. I don't care if it's chains or mom & pop places or both, we just need more variety.
- QUALITATIVE-CONTINUE TO CREATE A UNIQUE IDENTITY OF NEWTON; QUALATATIVE: WE TAKE CARE OF WHAT HAVE, BUT NEEDS TO BE REPLACED IS DESPERATE. STREETS AND SIDEWALKS ARE WITHER GREAT OR SO BAD THAT THEY HAVE TO BE REPLACED
- Railroad crossings backup is a horrible wait.
- Railroad overpass
- Rebuilding downtown and better public transportation across the city.
- Redeveloping locations like the old Dillons and Alco would be great.
- Redirect the trains to allow a flow of traffic down main street.
- Redo egress from side streets to Main streets, remove the island blockage
- REDUCE property tax rate. Enough is enough. Residents are not an ATM machine.
- Reduce public water and waste prices. Also do a better job working with the school district. They are trying to raise our taxes as the city is trying to raise our taxes at the same time, maybe you guys can put your priorities in order…I can support both tax increases.
- reduce the cost of the water and sewage bills!!!! it is outrageous compared to other local cities!!!
- Reduce the cost of water! Start recycling again!
- Reduce the cost of water/trash/sewer. Invest in youth opportunities, foster growth, alleviate trouble.
- Reduce water and sewer rates. Make police responsive to trespass calls
- Reduce water bills
- Reduced water bill. No more hikes. Have talked to several people who moved from witchita to Newton and then turn around and move back because of water bill and lack of shopping options.
- REGULATE THE POLICE DEPARTMENT-THEY NEED SOMEBODY TO KEEP THEM IN CHECK AND ENSURE THEY UPHOLD THE LAW NOT ABUSE IT. THEY NEED SOMEBODY TO ENFORCE THEIR ACCOUNTABILITY
- Remove Jerry Lewis
- Repair bad sidewalks and crack down on people's junk on their property.
- REPAIR SIDEWALKS AND STREETS, MOW AND EDGE LAWNS-APPEARANCES MATTER
- Reroute trains from downtown.

- Residential beautification
- restaurants, shopping and amenities developments
- retired. Maybe an over or underpass to avoid trains
- Revitalization of Newton visually from the highway / hospital area all the way to downtown. Incentives for homeowners along this route for restoring and maintaining and creating a Welcome entry to the city. New banners for the downtown and entryway into the downtown-blocks ahead of the actual downtown. #1 CONCERN; The city needs to stop allowing and approving CBD/KRATOM/VAPE shops along the Main Street if town-these show a declining town and as I live next door to one…I see daily how this is impacting our citizens-addictions are fed here. A place for the next generation to be introduced to unregulated substances… trash thrown in my yard daily-people walking through my front yard-I am building a fence to work to upgrade our home's security and historic integrity-and this Discount Smokes, Vapes, Kratom etc. is Newton's welcome to downtown. We can do better Time to plan what we want for the future. 2 of these shops in 2 blocks. Black mark on our city and place of loitering, sanitation nightmare-(their dumpster is right under our bedroom window-left open constantly-What a crime magnet.
- Revitalize empty buildings and tear down if can not be redone. Clean up spaces
- Revive the downtown a little more. It's kind of dead down there.
- SAFETY-CONTROL DRUGS AND TEEN CRIMES
- save tax dollars
- SEEK OUT ADVANCED AND CUTTING EDGE BUSINESSES SUCH AS AERO SPACE AND AVIATION-WHY NOT MAKE NEWTON A SPACE PORT?
- Shopping in newton
- SHOPPING, RESTAURANTS
- Significantly more housing. Residential, multi family, apartments
- some sort of tax relief, or recognition is some way that many who live here are strapped financially
- Something to improve the schools. It's the single most problematic issue for residents with kids. On many fronts it's a risk for the city. If I picked a second: it would be investing in attracting entertainment and arts to downtown (music venue, theater).
- Something to support the elderly and youth of this community.
- Sprucing up downtown.
- Stop raising property taxes on homeowners before you end up driving them all away. Homeowners are the backbone of Newton, yet you keep building rental properties attracting more and more people who will not be paying Property Taxes on there living spaces. You need to learn to live within your means like the rest of us and stop raising the property taxes on my house every time you want to spend more money. My wife and I are seniors and living on fixed incomes, I've almost got my house paid off and if you keep raising my property taxes I may have to sell it and move out of Newton. My wife is 75 yrs old and will enter her 4th yr of suffering COPD the first of the yr and I don't expect she'll make it to the end of next year. You want to raise my property taxes on my home ANOTHER $500.00 next year, on top of what you already charge us for the privilege of living in our home. You want to know how to improve Newton over the next 5 years. STOP TAXING YOUR HOMEOWNERS INTO THE POOR HOUSE11
- Stop raising taxes and lower the cost of water the cost of water in Newton is two to three times as much as every other town in the area it's ridiculous
- Stop wasting money on unneeded projects like the industrial project and the airport. Focus improving Main Street, and attracting new businesses.
- Streets
- Streets, brick

- Support for trees, Being a tree city is very expensive for home owners.
- Support more affordable housing efforts.
- Supporting local businesses. More housing. More entertainment and supporting schools.
- Take advantage of the increase of people downtown due to the opening of Isaac Shue pottery shop!
- Take away red tape on improvements
- Taxing of the citizens, getting this fixed before Newton looses a lot of people who have lived here for many many years. They Re being taxed out of there homes and town they were born in that's sad
- The city does a very good job.
- The junk car yard across from La Casa. It is an eyesore.
- The older ports of town are unkempt in many areas. Empty houses are not maintained in many cases. Even the good neighborhoods are suffering from rental neglect by landlord's or renters.
- The outlet mall area needs improving. Newton can be a fun stop on the way to KC or OKC.
- The price of water!
- The quality of the maintenance done on our public green spaces. Centennial Park's walking path and obstacles/equipment are mowed around, but NOT trimmed around. The path itself is very muddy in places after a rain. The natural prairie grass in this area at Centennial Park is being overrun with elm saplings and cottonwood trees. The whole area needs burned or mowed once a year to maintain a healthy prairie grass. The grass in Plumbrook park reaches 8-10 inches before it is mowed and there are sticker patches developing in random areas, not to mention the stickers in the sand. I realize that many of these issues are due to manpower or resources.
- The schools.
- The single most important improvement the city needs to make is better cost of living. Let’s remove the extra sales tax and lower the mill levy. Lower the city budget. Stop buying so many chairs or something. The whole city payroll doesn’t need a new computer every 3 years, I’ve had the same computer at my work for 11 years. Maybe if you lowered the tax burden, more businesses would come to Newton to increase your tax income. Outside that we could use some smarter traffic lights and a bridge over, or under the train tracks. Maybe connect Broadway to 12th at I135 like was promised in renewton 2030
- There is no place to shop except Walmart and dollar stores. Christmas is awful because there is nowhere to shop.
- To keep spending reasonable
- To keep up with litter and trash.
- To make manufacturing jobs available.
- To many tax dollars are wasted through city spending across all departments.. a 3rd party audit should be done
- Trains hold up traffic too much. Stop harassing folks for having things in their own yard, on their property. It is non of your business. I believe we still live in a free country.
- TRAINS-TOO DIFFICULT TO GET AROUND
- Trees. Plant trees. More free or low cost amenities supported by tax dollars. Childcare and elder care, free school lunch, before/after school program, higher minimum wage, annual free yard waste or bulky item pick up, free limb pick up after storms, fenced-in playgrounds, community gardens, public transportation, adult sized playground. Eliminate corporate property tax breaks in order to provide more tax money for the school system. Small corner shops in otherwise residential zones.
- Try to get a few quality restaurants and shopping places.

- UNDERPASS OR OVERPASS ON MAIN ST RAIL CROSSING
- Vibrant downtown
- Visible, tangible progress on Main Street, particularly redeveloping 320 N Main in line with a re-introduced or revisited "Master Plan for the Newton Downtown Redevelopment District" will begin to draw people to that area and help them see the potential for the community of a vibrant downtown.
- WATER BILL
- Water bill rates.
- Water bills! Our water bill included recycling, and I'm sure cost was included, and then a $1.80 charge was added for recycling. When recycling was discontinued, there was no reduction in our bills. We received no benefit from the new sewer plant getting paid off early. And you have the nerve to increase our exorbitant bills. Greedy town that provided almost no amenities.
- Ways to not spend 20 minutes waiting on trains
- We are not Wichita, and we shouldn't try to be. We need to reflect and embrace what Newton is. Our town is very unique and we have our own identity. We need to advertise our unique differences. Antique stores, family owned, locally owned Business, we have several events throughout the year. Let's focus on our citizens and small business owners, support them and they will make Newton even greater.
- We need factory employment, not flea markets
- WE NEED MORE BUSINESS THEN HOUSING, HELP THE CITY TO ATTRACT PEOPLE
- We need to find something to make us stand out and make people want to stay. Invest in good restaurants and things to do so we don't have to leave town to spend money elsewhere.
- We need: -more diverse quality restaurants that are not chains, brew pubs and decent places to have dinner and drinks, quality hotels, boutique stores, Viatour type excursions on Newton and Harvey County history.
- We should get something fun to do for the kids, and we should get a chipotle.
- What do you have to show after spending the money?
- Wise planning and carry through of projects so that we don't purchase land, then resell it because the projects get to the construction process.
- Wisely utilizing the space from the demolition of the old Dillons store with the community as a whole in mind.
- Wish we could get more business here, so we do not have to go to Wichita so much.
- With new industry bringing jobs, focus on affordable housing and shopping opportunities to keep people here where they can find essentials and enjoy the town.
- Work on lowering property taxes and break the cycle of increased rental rates on subpar housing.
- Work on the drug problem and how it is affecting our schools.
- Work with school district to enhance reputation so we stop losing families.
- Work with school district to improve schools.