

Communication from Public

Name: Jamie

Date Submitted: 04/27/2021 10:53 AM

Council File No: 20-0692

Comments for Public Posting: I disagree with the proposal to increase the LAPD's budget for this next fiscal year. There's no reason that they deserve more money, they want money to train their officers and social media scanners and 3 million to "build" relationships with protesters?? That literally makes no sense. They aren't going to be better officers because you give them more money, they are just using the protests as leverage. You think LAPD cares about protestors? Why would they? Why not provide millions of dollars to community investing, instead? Or homelessness solutions?

Communication from Public

Name: Jessica Jewell

Date Submitted: 04/27/2021 10:56 AM

Council File No: 20-0692

Comments for Public Posting: I am appalled that in the wake of national mourning and ongoing police violence against communities of color, Mayor Garcetti is offering the LAPD MORE money in his annual budget proposal. They already spend \$3.2 BILLION a year and their operating budget is over \$1.7 billion and consumes over half of the city's discretionary funds. How can he justify increasing their budget by \$40 million while virtue-signaling that he was going to divert funds to more community outreach and mental health outreach to unhoused people? It's been proven that communities that have more services for people and less of a police presence thrive more and suffer less state-sanctioned violence. I urge City Council, especially my councilmember who has an awful track record, Mitch O'Farrell to not back this. We need more services, not militarized police gangs.

Communication from Public

Name: MJ King

Date Submitted: 04/27/2021 11:07 AM

Council File No: 20-0692

Comments for Public Posting: City Council's Budget and Finance Committee public comment: Mayor Garcetti is proposing to increase LAPD spending by \$40 million at a time of widespread calls to defund the police as well as growing poverty & dire revenue shortfalls. This is more of his blank check for police, austerity for everyone else. A Loyola Marymount study found last fall that almost 2/3 of Angelenos want to redirect more LAPD funding and over 1/3 want to COMPLETELY DISMANTLE police. Calls to defund the police are extremely popular because funding services promotes community success. People across the U.S. took to the streets last summer to demand defunding the police. Every dollar LAPD spent on surveillance, violence, & caging could instead pay for the life-affirming investments that actually make communities safer, like health care, housing, schools, social services, & jobs. The LAPD budget has increased by over half a billion dollars – over \$500 million dollars – since Garcetti became mayor in 2013. We need to stop rewarding the most murderous police department in the US with a blank check. LAPD spends \$65 million on technology, more than the size of some whole city departments. We need to defund LAPD's tools of harm, like the Palantir platform that LAPD & ICE use to target, banish, & control our communities. At the same time city officials want increased money for LAPD, they are hiding full accounting of LAPD's budget. In February the Stop LAPD Spying Coalition filed a public records lawsuit demanding LAPD's budget. LAPD & City Attorney Mike Feuer are fighting to keep those records secret. Why? What are they hiding? I demand full transparency for tax payer dollars. In November Angelenos overwhelmingly passed Measure J; reflecting our community's commitment to funding community investment like youth development programs, job training and jobs for low-income people, rent assistance and affordable housing, & alternatives to incarceration like restorative justice programs, pre-trial non-custody services, community-based health services, wellness and prevention programs, treatment services, reentry programs & etc. Not policing. Amid a global pandemic when Angelenos are suffering, fund services to help our neighbors recover, not police.

Communication from Public

Name: Kristen Ippolito

Date Submitted: 04/27/2021 11:26 AM

Council File No: 20-0692

Comments for Public Posting: I have lived in LA for over 10 years, and have been inaction of the City Council and the Mayor to listen to the people of the City. Why is the Council considering increasing the LAPD budget by \$40 MILLION when the LAPD has proven to be a deadly and gang ridden organization that terrorizes it's people? See how the LAPD responded against it's people during the protests last year was shocking and a disgrace on City leadership. Please do not allow things to continue the way the have. Show the people that you hear us, and will put an end to the corruption and killer cops. Please help us divert funds away from cops and into the resources for the people.

Communication from Public

Name: Carter Moon

Date Submitted: 04/27/2021 12:10 PM

Council File No: 20-0692

Comments for Public Posting: Angelenos do not want more power and money going to police under any circumstances. Mayor Garcetti's proposed increases to LAPD spending are remarkably out of touch with how the citizens of LA want their tax dollars spent. LAPD is a murderous organization that must be dismantled and replaced with well-funded social programs which actually support the thriving of all communities within this complex city.

Communication from Public

Name: Kelly Reilly

Date Submitted: 04/27/2021 12:40 PM

Council File No: 20-0692

Comments for Public Posting: Mayor Garcetti is proposing to increase LAPD spending by \$40 million at a time of widespread calls to defund the police as well as growing poverty and dire revenue shortfalls. This is more of his blank check for police, austerity for everyone else. The LAPD budget has increased by over half a billion dollars – over \$500 million dollars – since Garcetti became mayor in 2013. We need to stop rewarding the most murderous police department in the US with a blank check. Calls to defund the police are extremely popular. A Loyola Marymount study found last fall that almost 2/3 of Angelenos want to redirect more LAPD funding and over 1/3 want to COMPLETELY DISMANTLE police. LAPD spends \$65 million on technology, more than the size of some whole city departments. We need to defund LAPD's tools of harm, for example the Palantir platform that LAPD and ICE use to target, banish, and control our communities. People across the U.S. took to the streets last summer to demand defunding the police. Every dollar LAPD spends on surveillance, violence, and caging could instead pay for the life-affirming investments that actually make communities safer, like housing, health care, schools, social services, and jobs. At the same time city officials want all this money for LAPD, they are hiding full accounting of LAPD's budget. In February the Stop LAPD Spying Coalition filed a public records lawsuit demanding LAPD's budget. LAPD and City Attorney Mike Feuer are fighting to keep those records secret.

Communication from Public

Name:

Date Submitted: 04/27/2021 12:59 PM

Council File No: 20-0692

Comments for Public Posting: It is morally unconscionable for Eric to be increasing the LAPD budget months after he unleashed them on Angelenos, after he shut down testing and vaccination sites, as the world contends with the increasingly apparent incompatibility of policing with basic civil rights. Loyola Marymount University's StudyLA report in Fall 2020 (attached for your convenience) found last fall that almost 2/3 of Angelenos want to redirect more LAPD funding, and over 1/3 want to COMPLETELY DISMANTLE police. It's likely that these proportions have grown. I study the psychological outcomes of racial discrimination and changes in policy attitudes at UCLA. I think I know a thing or two about this particular issue. Here's my (free!) advice: block Eric's budget, cut funding for LAPD and move it towards critical services (in drastic need of more funding!). Thanks.

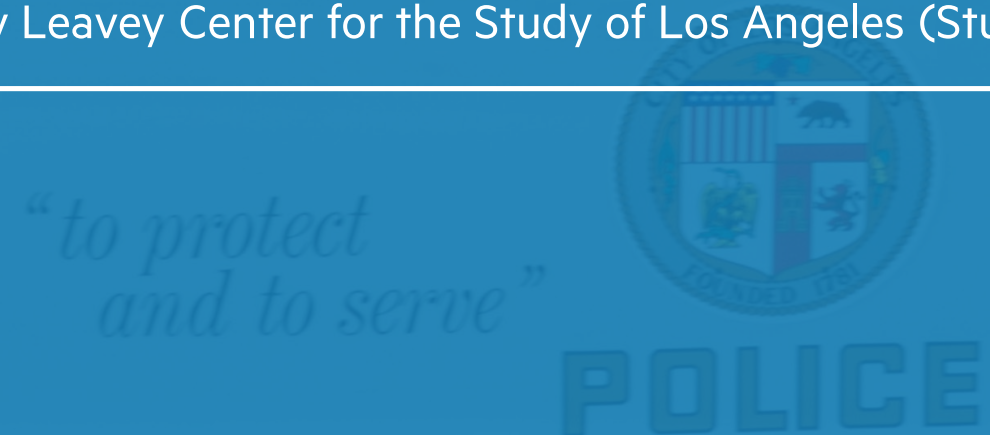
Public Opinion on Policing in Los Angeles

StudyLA's 2020 Police and Community Relations Survey

Fall 2020

Loyola Marymount University
Thomas and Dorothy Leavey Center for the Study of Los Angeles (StudyLA)

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Max Dunsker
Alejandra Alarcon



LMU
Loyola Marymount University

**StudyLA advocates for a better,
more equitable Los Angeles**
through research, student
mentorship, and engagement with
the region's residents and leaders.



In the wake of nationwide demonstrations for racial justice prompted by the murders of Breonna Taylor, Ahmaud Arbery, George Floyd, and countless other Black individuals, Los Angeles has become a focal point for critical discussions around police and community relations.

StudyLA's 2020 Police and Community Relations Survey focuses on the attitudes and opinions of adult city of Los Angeles residents toward the Los Angeles Police Department (LAPD) following this period of nationwide demonstrations. Residents were asked a range of questions to measure public opinion on policing. Specifically, we gauge how residents feel the LAPD is doing with respect to the many facets of its mission: to safeguard the lives and property of the people the LAPD serves, to reduce the incidence and fear of crime, and to enhance public safety while working with the diverse communities to improve quality of life.

About This Study

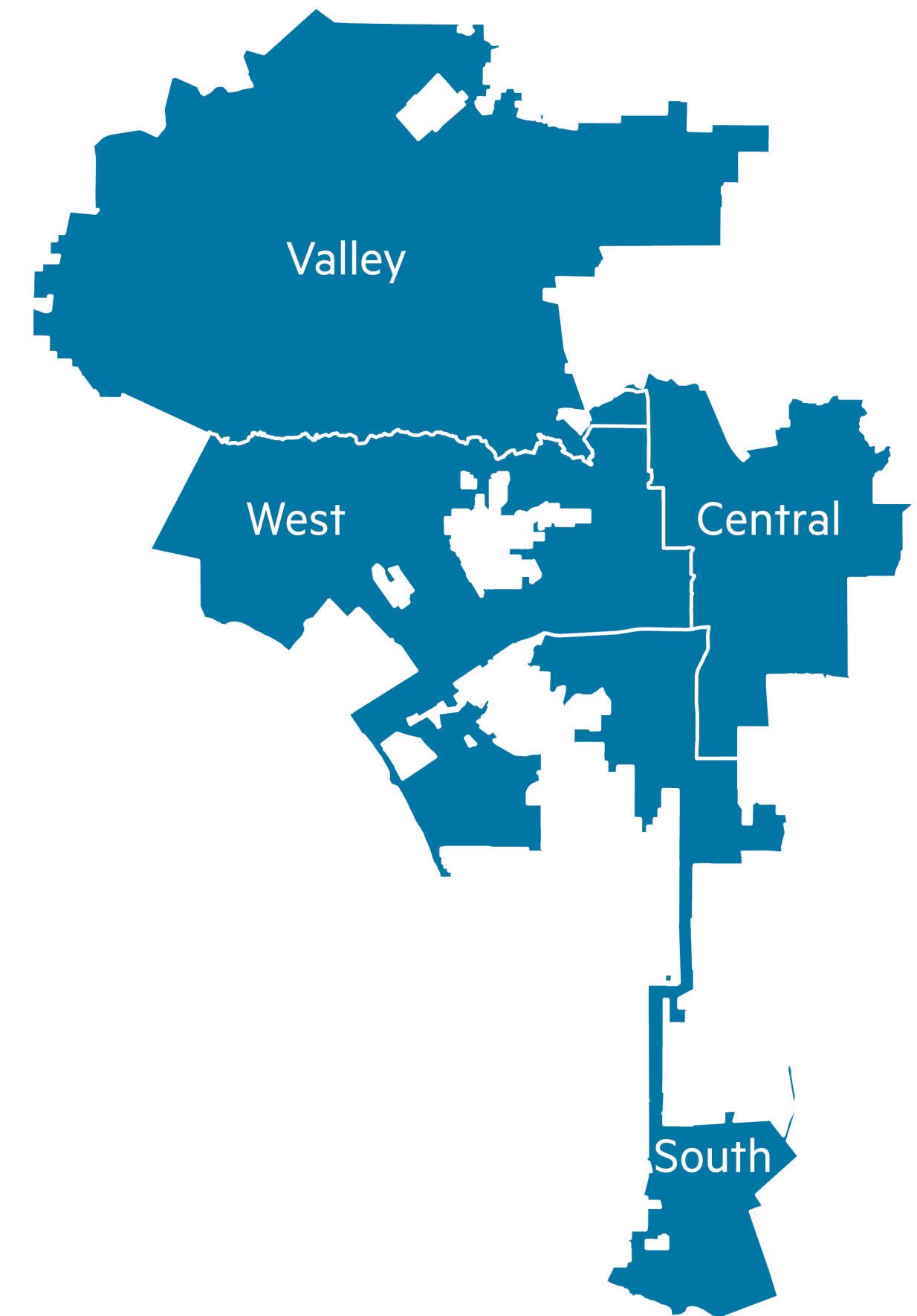
In Fall 2020, StudyLA conducted the 2020 Police and Community Relations Survey to measure public opinion on policing in Los Angeles, asking about topics such as trust in the police, community engagement efforts by the police, race relations, and personal experiences with the police.

To develop questions and select themes that reflected the interests of residents, StudyLA held focus groups and one-on-one conversations with 99 individuals from a variety of backgrounds, from activism to academia, non-profit organizations to neighborhood councils.

The survey involved 20-minute telephone interviews, online surveys, and face-to-face interviews with 1,753 adults living in the city of Los Angeles. A minimum of 400

residents from each of the four LAPD command areas, referred to as bureaus (see map), were surveyed. Data collection took place from August 31 to October 25, 2020. The survey was administered in English, Spanish, Mandarin, and Korean. The margin of error for the entire sample is $\pm 2.5\%$. More on the methodology for this study can be found in the data brief, available at [LMU.edu/studyLA](https://www.lmu.edu/studyLA).

For questions about this and other StudyLA research, please contact Associate Director Brianne Gilbert at brianne.gilbert@lmu.edu.



About This Report

This report presents topline (total responses for each question) and crosstabs (all questions crossed by major demographics) pertaining to substantive questions.

All questions were asked of the entire sample (n=1,753) except for the three questions on the most impactful experience with the LAPD. These questions were only asked of respondents who indicated that they had previous experiences with the LAPD (n=1,127).

The survey also had three open-ended questions, allowing respondents to put their thoughts into their own words. The answers were thematically coded by StudyLA researchers to create categories, and a

question could be coded by multiple categories. Thus, the sum of response categories may not add up to 100.0% on the charts for open-ended questions. If a respondent's answer was off-topic and did not address the question, it was coded as "Not a response" and not included in further analysis. Additionally, only open-ended responses that were mentioned by at least 8.0% are included in the crosstabs.

Recommended Citation

Guerra, Fernando; Gilbert, Brianne; Vizireanu, Mariya; Dunsker, Max; & Alarcon, Alejandra (2020). *Public Opinion on Policing in Los Angeles*. Thomas and Dorothy Leavey Center for the Study of Los Angeles, Loyola Marymount University, Los Angeles, California.



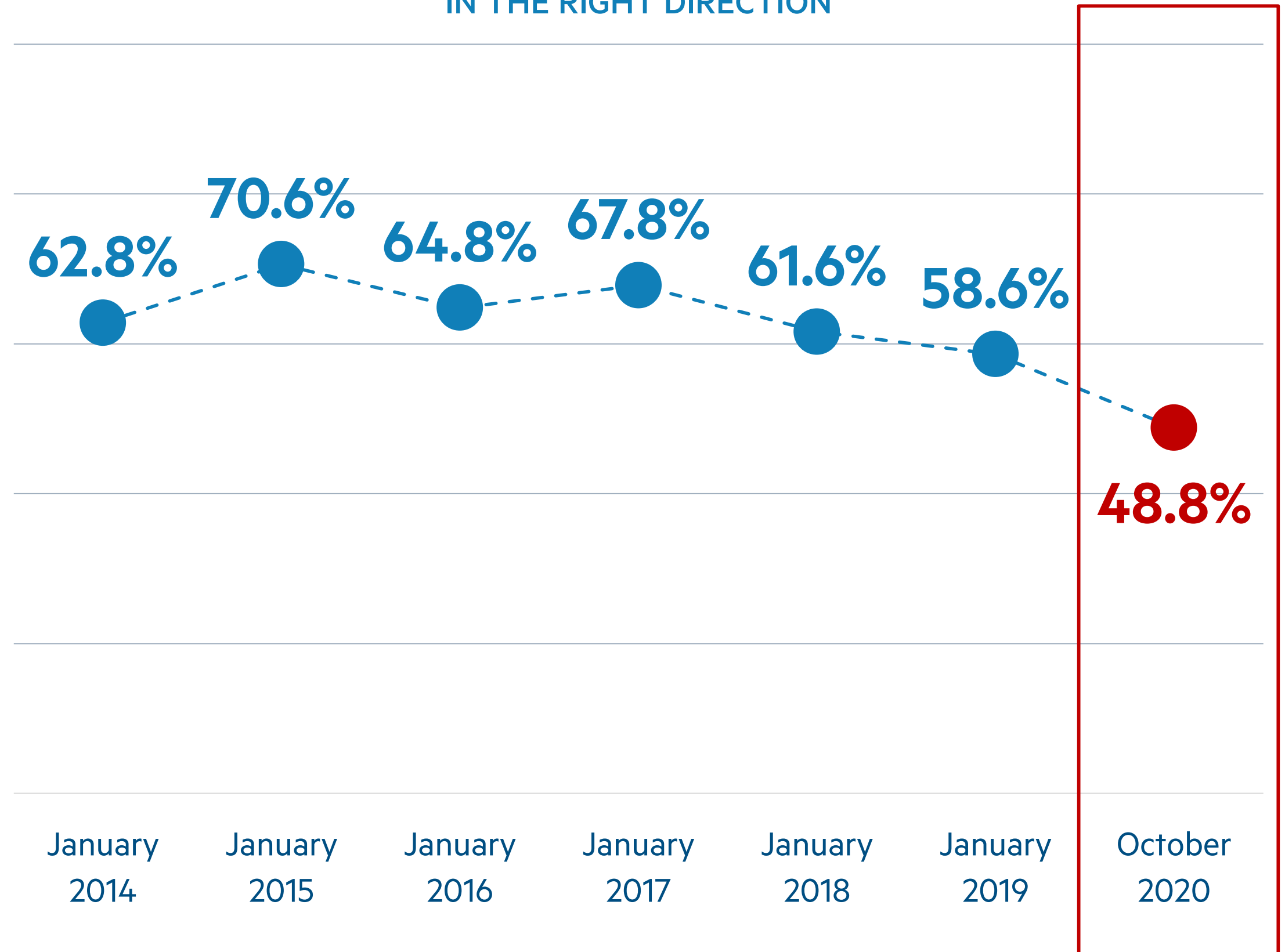
Residents are split over whether things in the city are going in the right direction or wrong direction

How do you think things are going in the city of Los Angeles? StudyLA asks city residents this core question every year. This question is a great barometer of attitudes and captures the respondent's feelings about society in general.

Levels of optimism over how things are going in the city of Los Angeles had the biggest drop since 2014.

How do you think things are going in the city of Los Angeles?

IN THE RIGHT DIRECTION

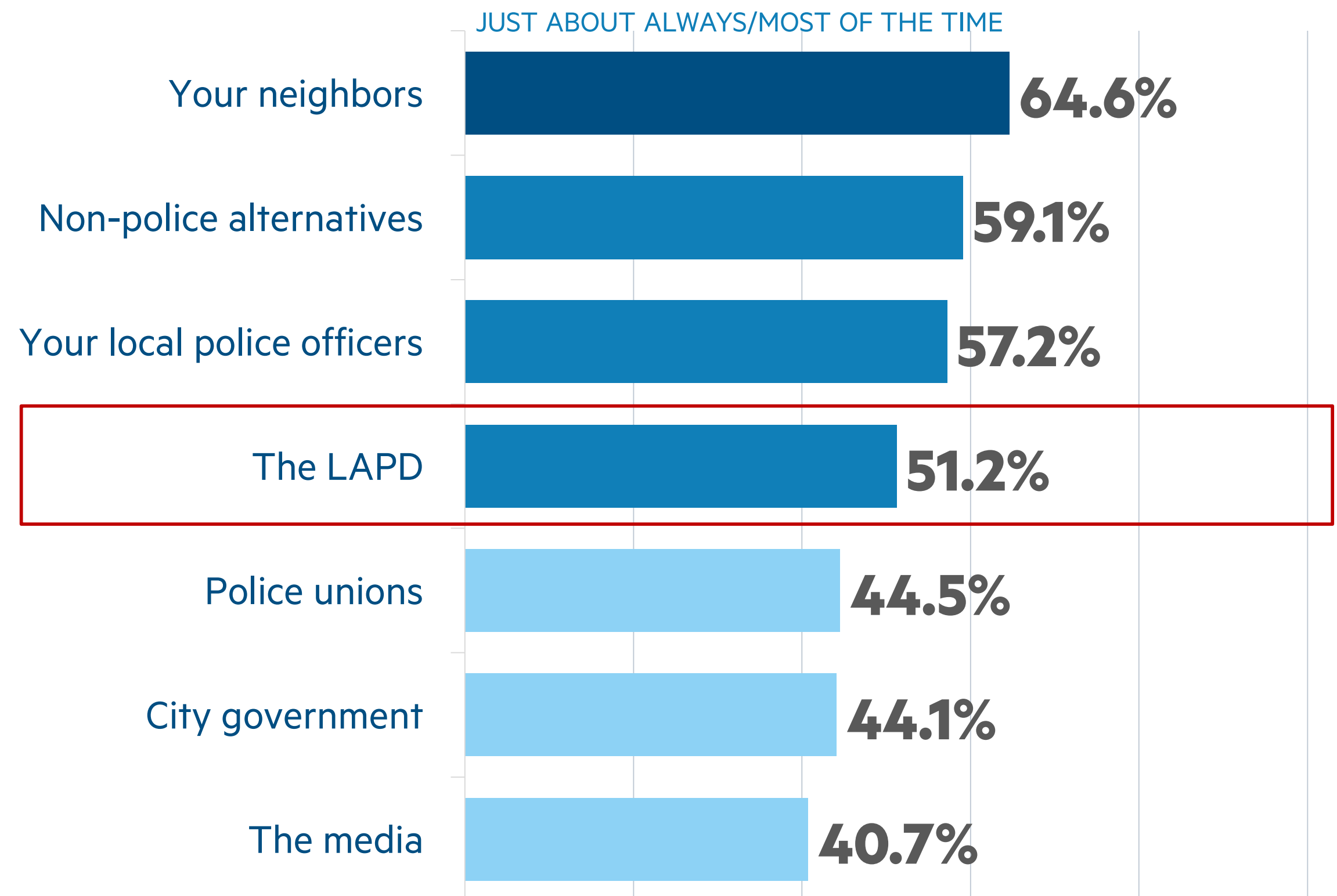


Residents are split over whether or not they can trust the LAPD to do what is right

Residents have more trust in their local police officers and even more trust in non-police alternatives like unarmed social and mental health professionals than they do in the LAPD.

By race, three in five Asian and White residents trust the LAPD to do what is right. Meanwhile, only one in three Black residents do. Black residents are most likely to say that they trust the LAPD none of the time.

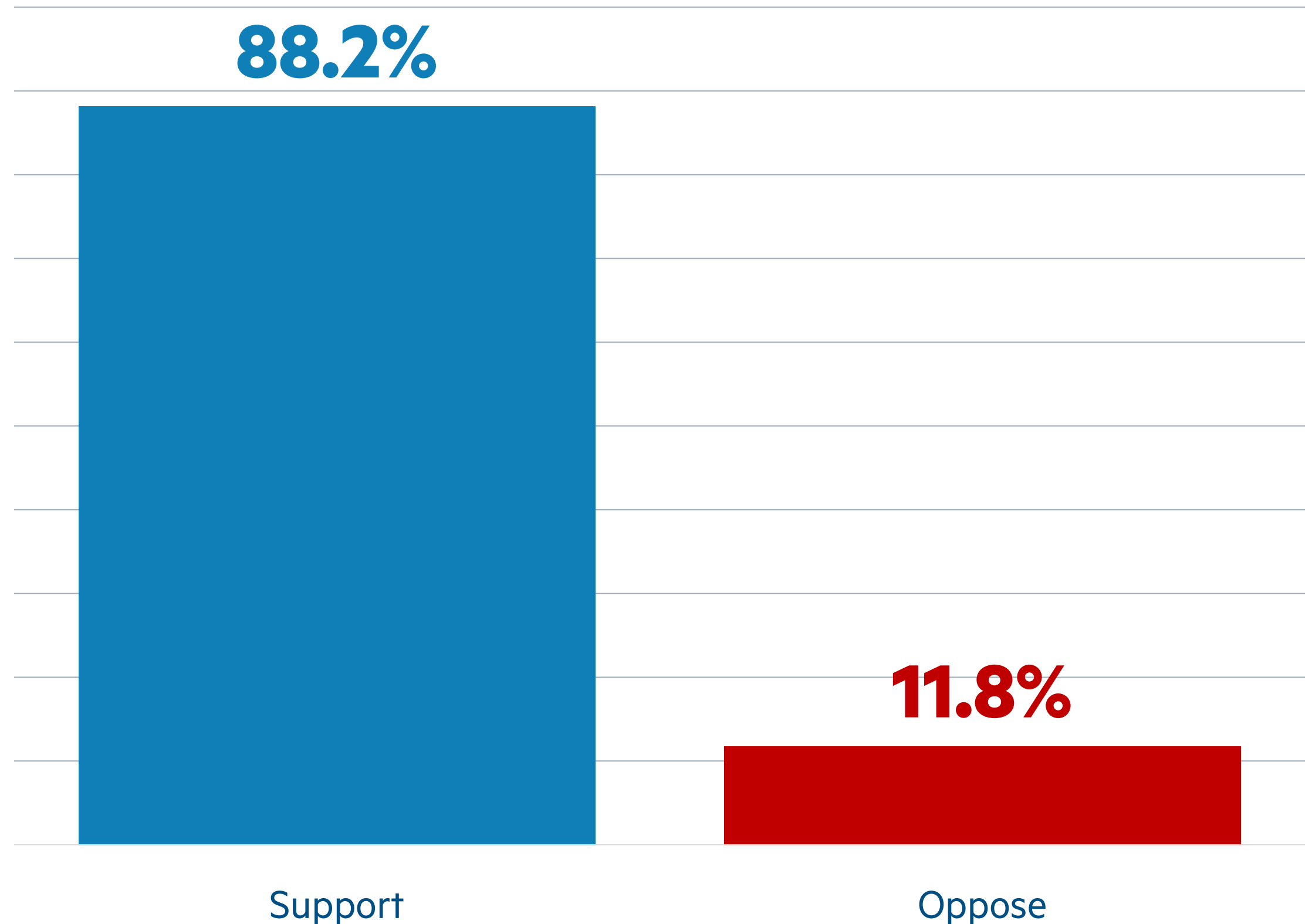
How much of the time do you think you can trust the following groups to do what is right?



Angelenos show overwhelming support for community policing

Support for community policing is high – 80.0% or higher for all demographic or geographic groups.

Community policing focuses on having officers build ties and work closely with community members. Do you support or oppose community policing?



Two in three Angelenos agree the LAPD is doing a good job maintaining public safety

Most residents think the LAPD is doing a good job in several aspects with the exception of responding to mental health crises. Black residents, however, think the LAPD is doing a bad job in all aspects except maintaining public safety. Notably, Black residents give lower ratings for gaining the trust of local residents, engaging positively with their community, and listening to the needs of their community than other groups.

In the area around where you live, how is LAPD doing in each of the following?

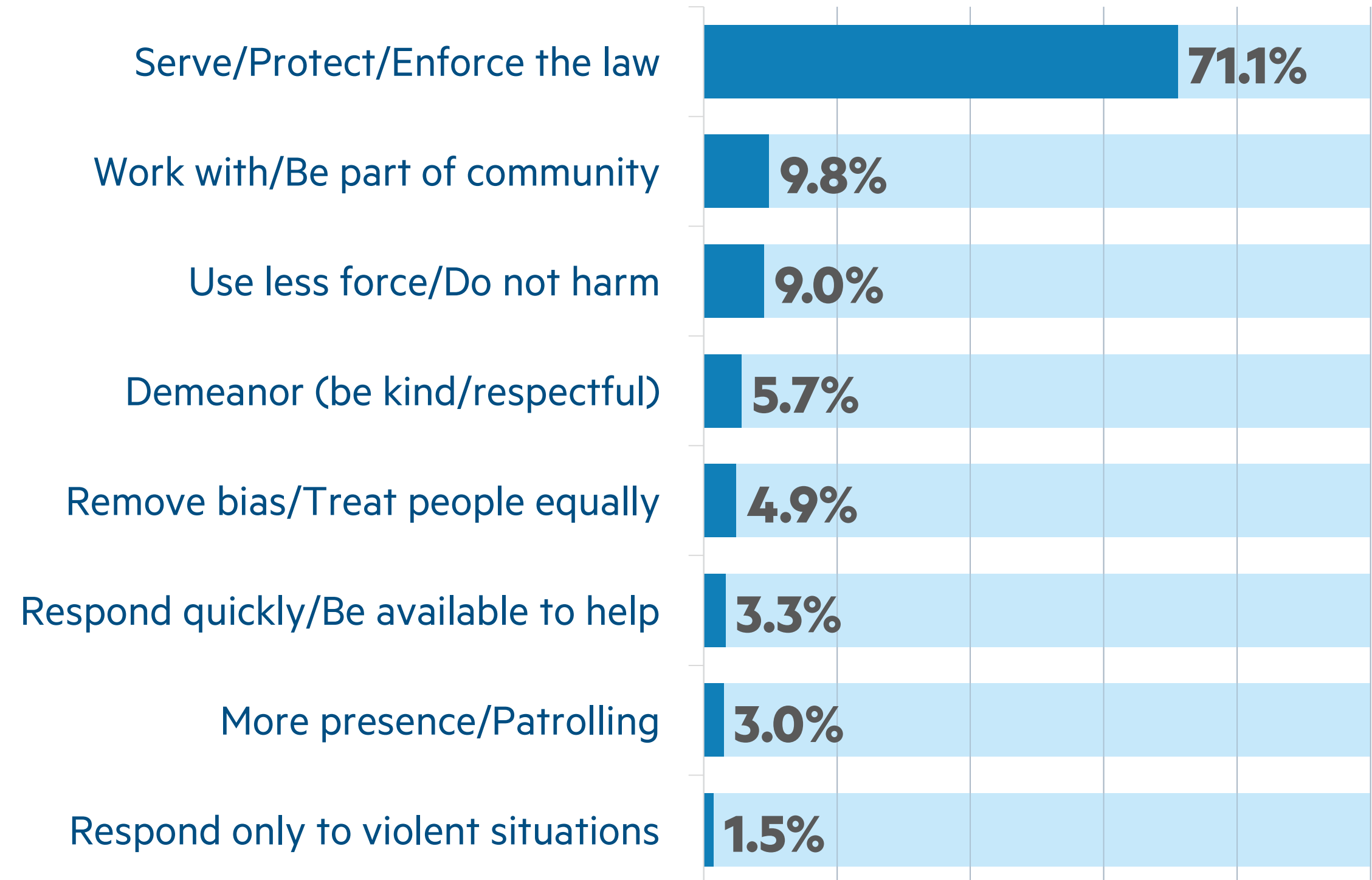
	GOOD	BAD	DON'T KNOW
Maintaining public safety	66.4%	27.3%	6.3%
Treating your community with respect	61.2%	28.1%	10.7%
Responding with appropriate amount of officers	57.9%	28.2%	13.9%
Engaging positively with your community	57.3%	30.2%	12.4%
Gaining the trust of local residents	54.4%	34.2%	11.5%
Listening to the needs of your community	53.5%	33.6%	12.9%
Responding to mental health crises	45.4%	36.7%	17.9%

Overwhelmingly, residents say the LAPD's role in their communities should be to serve, protect, and enforce the law

When asked what the LAPD's role should be in their own communities, the majority of residents described the interconnectedness of serving, protecting, and enforcing the law.

What do you think the LAPD's role should be in your community?

OPEN-ENDED QUESTION – MULTIPLE RESPONSE ALLOWED



Black residents don't believe the LAPD is serving and protecting their neighborhood or people like them

In fact, the majority of Black residents believe the LAPD perceives them as a threat. This perception is even greater among Black men – six out of ten believe the LAPD perceives them as a threat.

In addition, nearly one in three younger residents age 18-29 believes the LAPD perceives them as a threat.

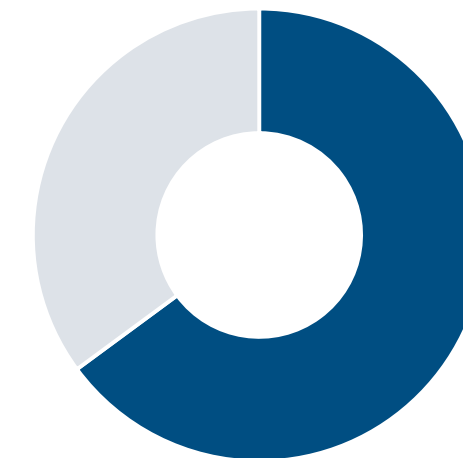
Which statement comes closer to your own views – even if neither is exactly right?

I believe that the LAPD is serving and protecting my neighborhood **OR** I believe that the LAPD is not serving and protecting my neighborhood



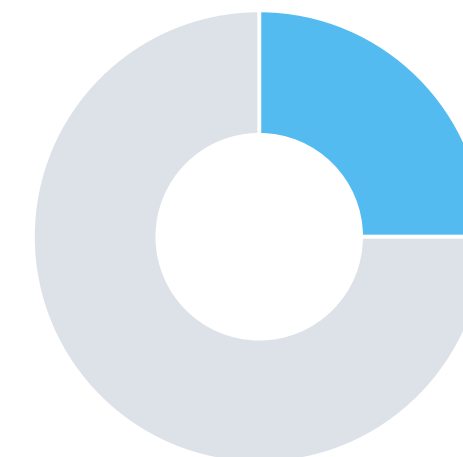
63.3%
LAPD is serving and protecting my neighborhood

I believe that the LAPD is serving and protecting people like me **OR** I believe that the LAPD is not serving and protecting people like me



64.9%
LAPD is serving and protecting people like me

The LAPD perceives me as a threat **OR** The LAPD does not perceive me as a threat



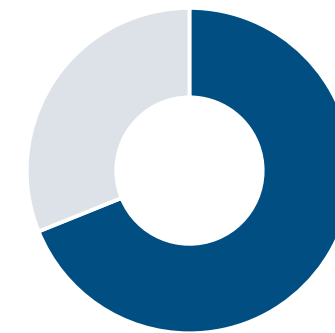
25.0%
The LAPD perceives me as a threat

Angelenos believe the LAPD stops some people without good reason and officers do not treat all racial and ethnic groups equally

Only 17.6% of Black residents agree that police officers treat all racial and ethnic groups equally.

In addition, three out of ten Black residents agree that police officers only use the amount of force necessary or that police officers are held accountable when misconduct occurs.

Do you agree or disagree with the following statements?



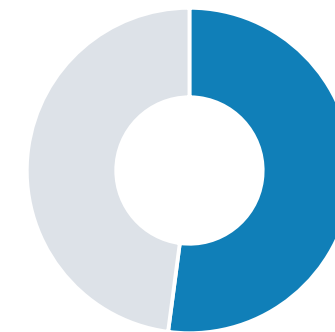
68.9%

agree that police officers stop some people without good reason



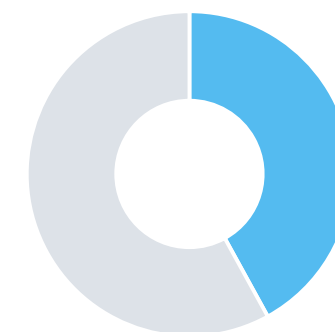
53.6%

agree that police officers are held accountable by the LAPD when misconduct occurs



52.1%

agree that police officers only use the amount of force necessary to accomplish their tasks



42.0%

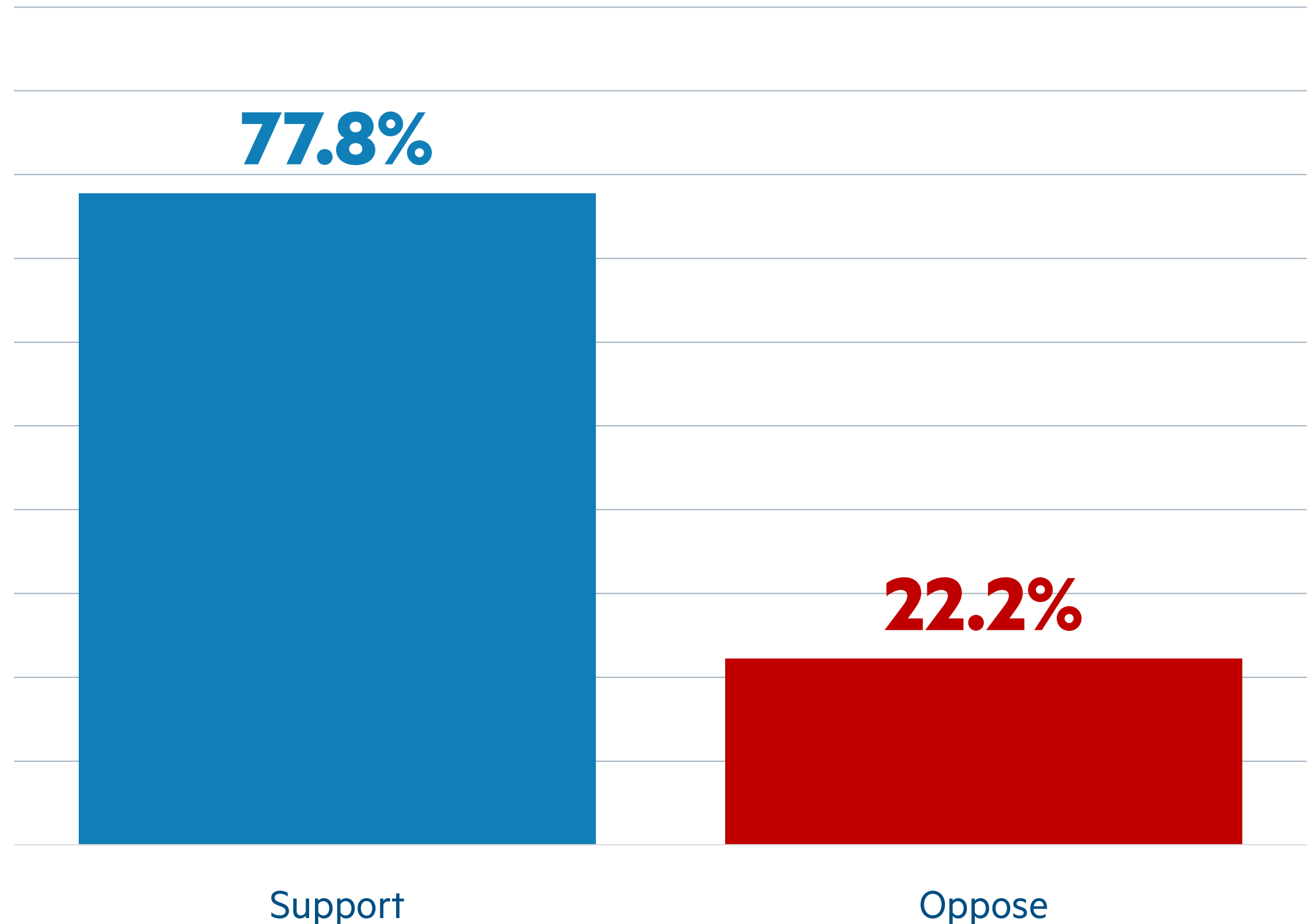
agree that police officers treat all racial and ethnic groups equally

Angelenos show massive support for Black Lives Matter

City of Los Angeles residents were asked a similar question in 2017 with 73.7% in support of the Black Lives Matter movement. Three years later, a greater number of residents are in support.

Liberals, students, LGBTQ residents, Black residents, and younger residents age 18-29 show the most support for the movement. Support for the movement is high – 55.1% or higher for all demographic or geographic groups.

From what you've read and heard,
how do you feel about the Black Lives Matter movement?



Nearly half of residents feel the LAPD used too much force against protestors during demonstrations against police brutality

Nearly half of residents feel that the LAPD used an appropriate amount of force in the protection of property.

The majority of Black and Latina/o residents feel that the LAPD used too much force against protestors. Black residents were also more likely to feel that the LAPD used too much force in the protection of property.

Thinking about the LAPD’s response to this year’s demonstrations against police brutality, do you feel that police officers used too much force, an appropriate amount of force, or not enough force?

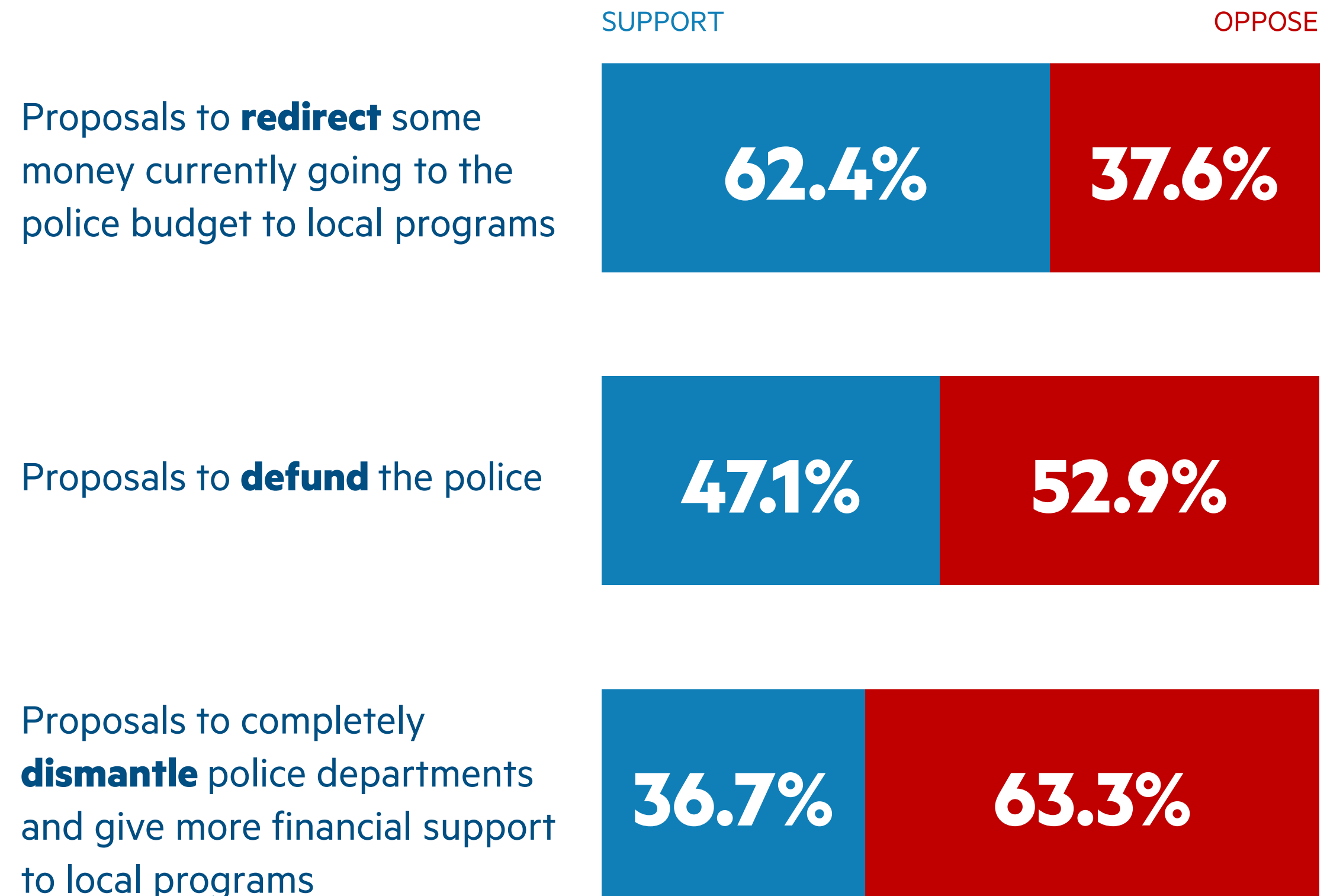
	TOO MUCH FORCE	APPROPRIATE FORCE	NOT ENOUGH FORCE
Police treatment of protestors	47.5%	40.5%	12.1%
Police protection of property	30.0%	45.7%	24.3%

A majority of residents support proposals to redirect funds from the police budget to local programs

Black and Latina/o residents are more supportive of these proposals than White and Asian residents.

By geography, residents who live in the South Bureau are more supportive than residents in the other three bureaus.

How much do you support or oppose each of the following?



Angelenos want to see the city respond to emergency calls with teams of officers and non-police alternatives

The second-most preferred option regarding emergency calls about sexual assault, domestic violence, and neighbor disputes was for the city to respond with police officers only. Alternatively, the second-most preferred options regarding emergency calls about people experiencing homelessness and mental health crises was for the city to respond with non-police alternatives only.

How would you like the city to address the following types of emergency calls?

	only with LAPD officers	with teams of LAPD officers and non-police alternatives	only with non-police alternatives
Calls about mental health crises	16.6%	52.5%	30.8%
Calls about substance abuse	26.4%	51.2%	22.4%
Calls about domestic violence	40.6%	50.7%	8.7%
Calls about suicide prevention	21.1%	49.6%	29.2%
Calls about sexual assault	43.3%	48.6%	8.2%
Calls about neighbor disputes	37.7%	46.4%	15.9%
Calls about people experiencing homelessness	21.1%	45.9%	33.1%

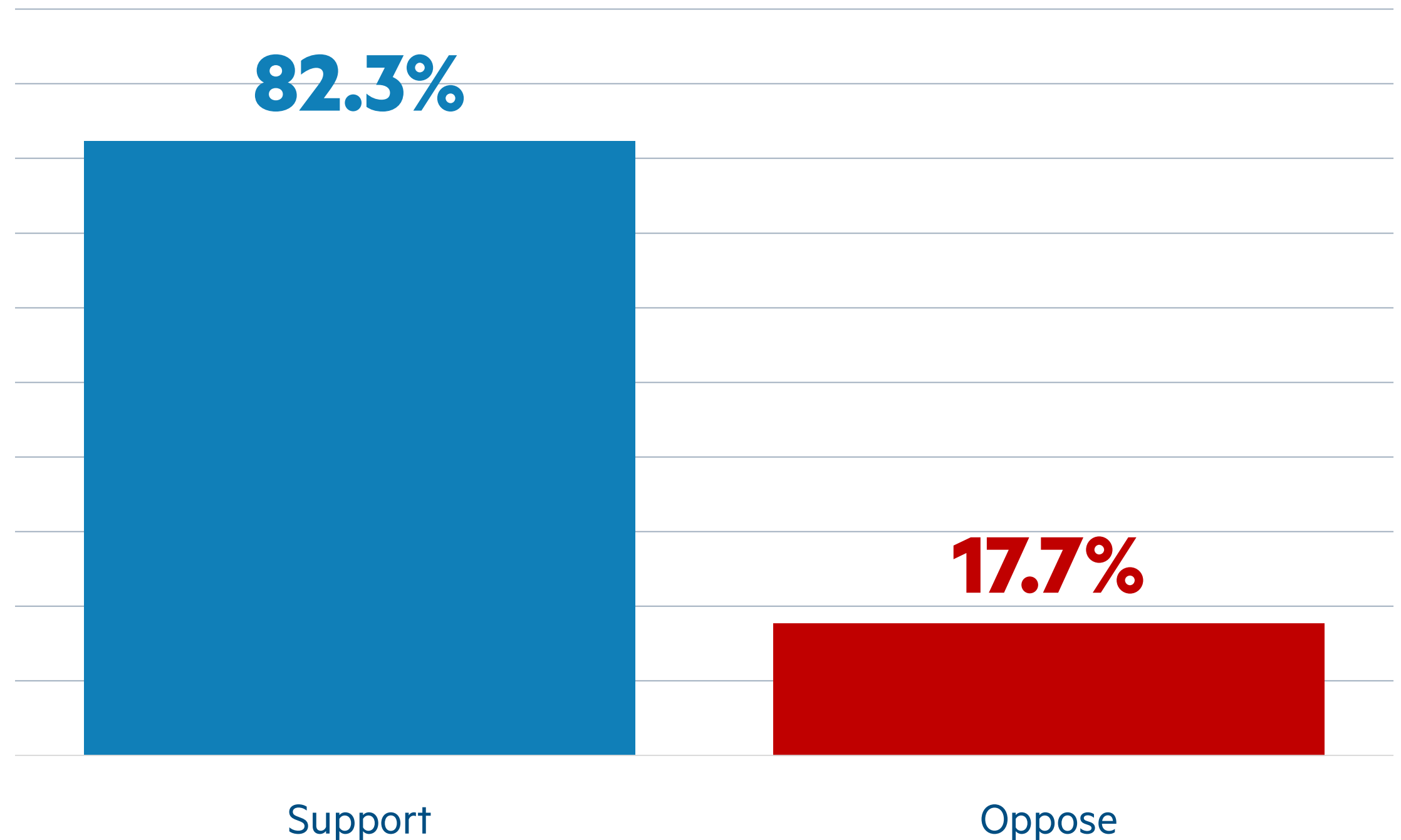
Angelenos show overwhelming support for an unarmed model of crisis response

Black and Latina/o residents as well as LGBTQ residents show the most support for an unarmed model of crisis response.

Support lessens by age, but younger residents age 18-29 still show high levels of support for this alternative model.

By geography, nine out of ten residents in the South Bureau support an unarmed model of crisis response.

The unarmed model of crisis response has been proposed in Los Angeles. This model would divert calls for service in non-violent situations away from the LAPD and toward unarmed social and mental health professionals. Do you support or oppose this alternative model?



Residents believe civilians need to be able to bring lawsuits against police officers

While conservatives are evenly split over whether or not police officers need to be protected against lawsuits, an overwhelming majority of liberals believe civilians need to have the power to bring lawsuits against police officers. In fact, liberals show the highest levels of support for this, followed by younger residents age 18-29, Black residents, and LGBTQ residents.

Which statement comes closer to your own views –
even if neither is exactly right?



Both historical and recent events shape the attitudes of residents toward the LAPD the most

Angelenos have a wealth of information available to them that informs their attitudes and opinions on local police and community relations.

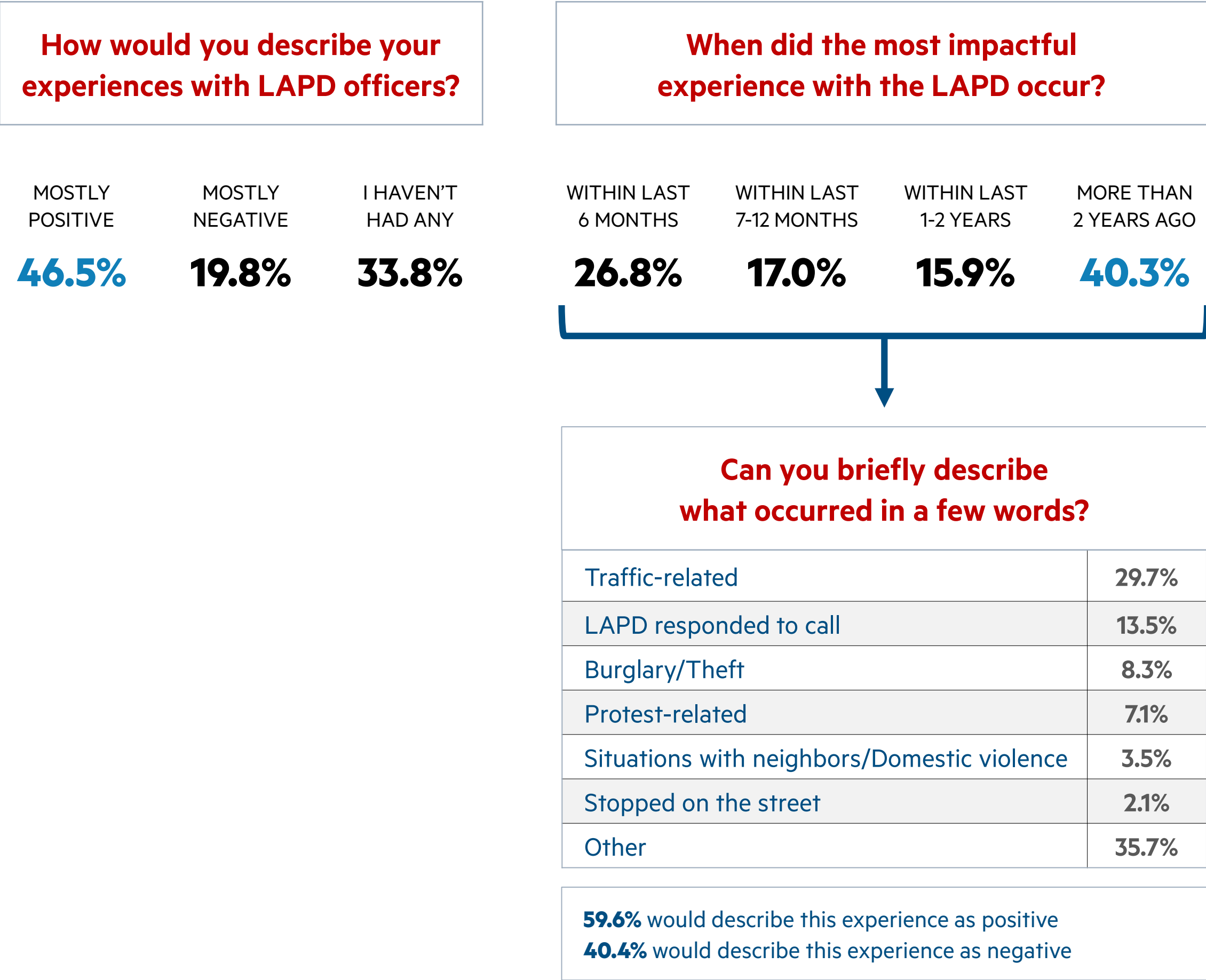
When considering your attitudes toward the LAPD, how much have the following shaped your attitudes?

	A LOT/ SOME	A LITTLE/ NOT AT ALL
Recent events in Los Angeles	74.3%	25.7%
Historical events in Los Angeles	71.2%	28.8%
Events outside of Los Angeles	66.3%	33.7%
Experiences of family and friends	61.1%	38.9%
Personal experiences	57.2%	42.8%
Depictions in film, TV, and music	48.5%	51.5%

One in five residents describes their experiences with LAPD officers as mostly negative

Residents in the South Bureau are much more likely to describe their experiences with LAPD officers as negative compared to residents in the other three bureaus.

Note: The follow-up questions about experiences with the LAPD were only asked of residents who indicated that they had previous experiences with the LAPD (n=1,127).



More residents recommend the LAPD focus on decreasing use of force and aggression than any other area of improvement

Overall, residents would like the LAPD to focus on using less force and less aggression. Residents also recommend more training and better recruiting, as well as improving attitude toward people and treatment of people.

If you could choose, what is one thing that you would like the LAPD to improve over the next year?

OPEN-ENDED QUESTION – MULTIPLE RESPONSE ALLOWED



Conclusion

Overall, residents think the LAPD is doing a good job. However, differences are clear by racial and ethnic groups: Asian and White residents think the LAPD is doing a good job, Latina/o residents are split in their views, and Black residents think the LAPD is doing a bad job.

Similarly, a majority of residents believe that the LAPD's role in their communities should be to serve, protect, and enforce the law. However, residents are divided over whether or not they can trust the LAPD to do what is right, with trust split heavily along racial and ethnic lines: a majority of White and Asian residents trust the LAPD while Black and Latina/o residents do not.

Trust is highly correlated with those who think the LAPD is serving their neighborhood or people like them. One

out of three Angelenos does not think the LAPD is meeting either of these directives, and one out of four believes the LAPD perceives them as a threat. A majority of residents believe the LAPD stops some people without good reason, and do not believe that police officers treat all racial and ethnic groups equally. One out of five would describe their experiences with the LAPD as mostly negative.

Angelenos want to see changes to policing in Los Angeles. Residents show an overwhelming support for community policing, as well as an unarmed model of crisis response. A majority of residents believe that the city would be better served by responding to non-violent emergency calls with teams of LAPD officers and social and mental health professionals rather than only sending

LAPD officers. Further, nearly two-thirds of residents support proposals to redirect funds from the police budget to local programs, and one-third support proposals to completely dismantle the police department. Additionally, residents show massive support for the Black Lives Matter movement.

Overall, the number one recommendation from residents on how to improve the LAPD is to decrease the use of force or to use less aggression, followed by more training and better recruitment, or by improving the overall attitude in the treatment of Angelenos.



Loyola Marymount University StudyLA

Thomas and Dorothy Leavey
Center for the Study of Los Angeles

[LMU.edu/studyLA](https://lmu.edu/studyLA)

For more information about this and other StudyLA research,
please contact Brianne Gilbert at brianne.gilbert@lmu.edu

Communication from Public

Name: Jeffrey Adams

Date Submitted: 04/27/2021 02:02 PM

Council File No: 20-0692

Comments for Public Posting: Stop increasing funding for the police! Use their insanely bloated budget to invest in poor, black, and brown communities. Want to decrease crime rates? That's how you do it. Cops don't help stove crime. They just brutalize and kill the poor and marginalized. We don't want it v anymore! Give money to the poor and take money from the pigs.

Communication from Public

Name: Marley O.

Date Submitted: 04/27/2021 02:04 PM

Council File No: 20-0692

Comments for Public Posting: The fact that after everything that has happened this past year, Mayor Garcetti believes his constituents want to INCREASE money for the police, is honestly wild. And so completely out of touch. The LAPD budget has increased by over HALF A BILLION DOLLARS since Garcetti became mayor in 2013. We need to stop rewarding the most murderous police department in the US with a blank check. Our city needs money for housing, schools, mental health, things that ACTUALLY make us safer and healthier. The LAPD does the opposite. DEFUND THE POLICE. Re-invest in our communities.

Communication from Public

Name: Christine Campbell

Date Submitted: 04/28/2021 11:25 AM

Council File No: 20-0692

Comments for Public Posting: I oppose Mayor Garcetti's proposed increase to LAPD's spending. This money needs to go toward critical services that actually help people like housing, medical and mental health care, reducing food deserts and scarcity and other resources that are needed in this community. I'm not referring to painted squares in an empty parking lot when I say housing. Adding funds to LAPD is a disregard for what the people have been demanding which is divesting from an institution that continues to brutalize it's citizens. I am asking that you listen to the people that you are suppose to represent. Do not approve Mayor Garcetti's increased spending to the LAPD.