Legal Action Center

Policy Proposals Research
New York Oversample
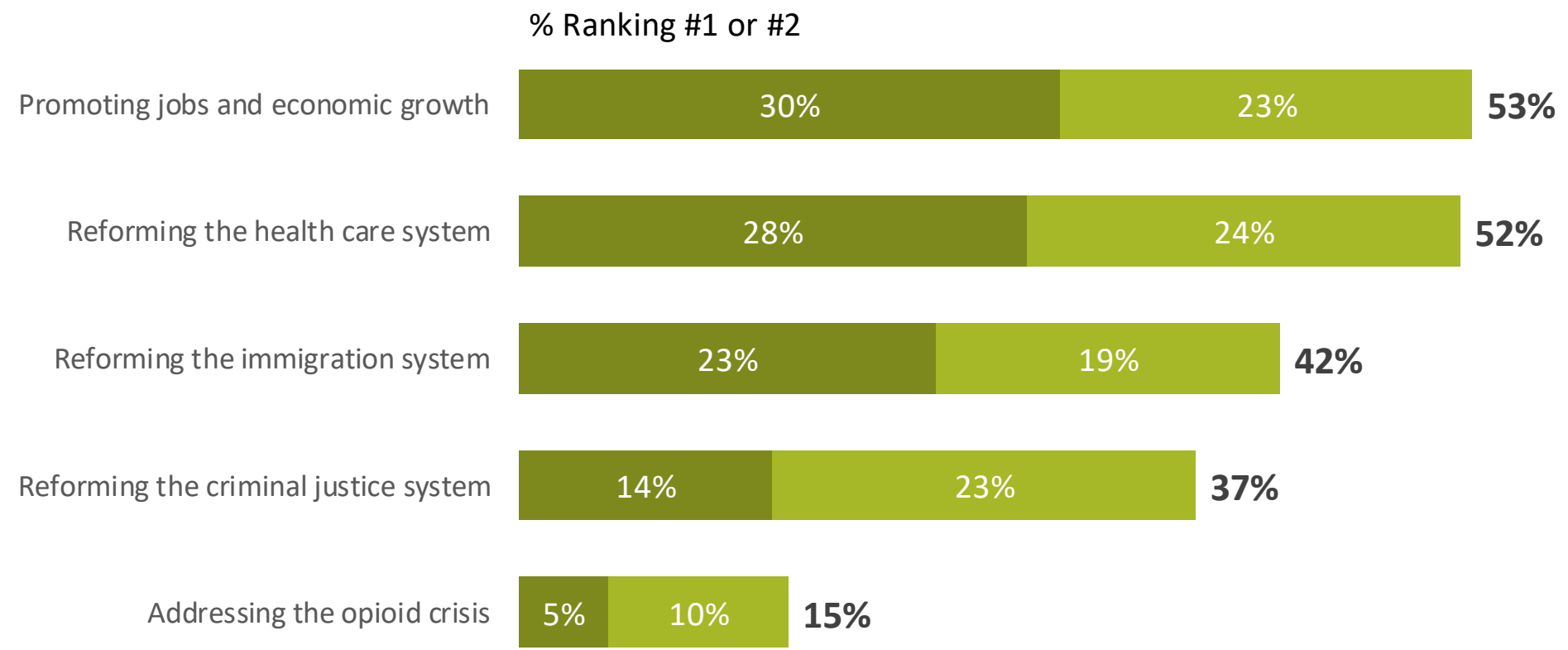
Conducted by Prime Group
July 2024

Methodology

- Online nationwide survey fielded June 13 – 28, 2024

- n=3,055 nationwide completes, including oversamples in the following five states:
  - n=309 Georgia
  - n=307 Kentucky
  - n=304 Maryland
  - n=313 North Carolina
  - **n=1,000 New York**

- Samples in each state were balanced and weighted to be representative of the state population by gender, age, and race/ethnicity.

- The overall nationwide sample of n=3,055 was weighted to be representative of the nationwide population by gender, age, race/ethnicity, and geography.

NOTE: Data have been rounded for readability.

Most Important Issues

Please rank the following issues in terms of how important you think it is for government to deal with that issue by putting a "1" next to the most important, a "2" next to the second most important, and so on.

% Ranking #1 or #2

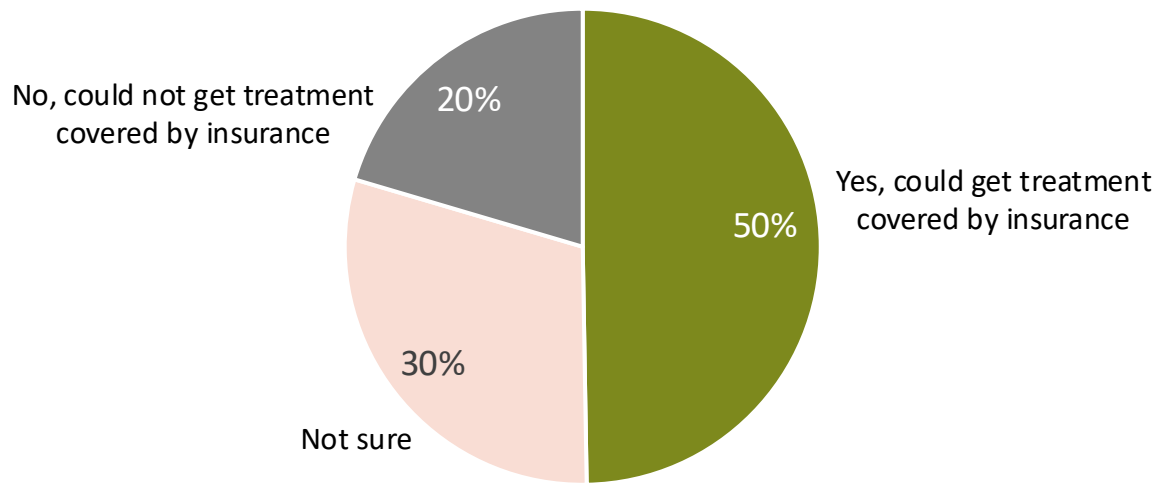| Issue	#1	#2	Total
Promoting jobs and economic growth	30%	23%	**53%**
Reforming the health care system	28%	24%	**52%**
Reforming the immigration system	23%	19%	**42%**
Reforming the criminal justice system	14%	23%	**37%**
Addressing the opioid crisis	5%	10%	**15%**

NEW YORK

Do you personally know anyone who is struggling or has struggled with substance use? *Please select all that apply.*

Response	Percentage
Yes, a friend or co-worker is struggling or has struggled with substance use	36%
Yes, a family member is struggling or has struggled with substance use	30%
Yes, I am struggling or have struggled with substance use	10%
No, I do not know anyone who is struggling or has struggled with substance use	38%
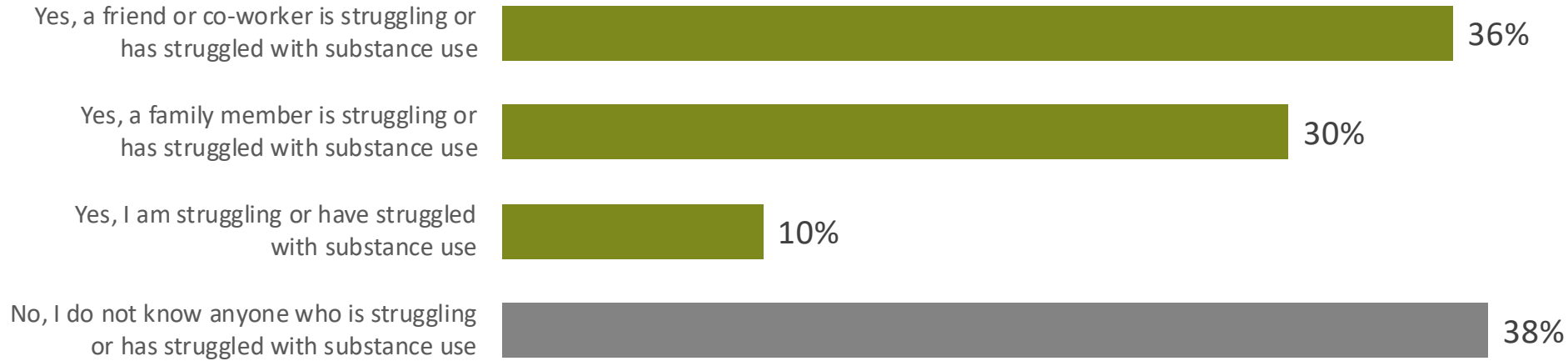
If a family member or friend struggled with substance use, do you think they could find treatment that would be covered by their health insurance?
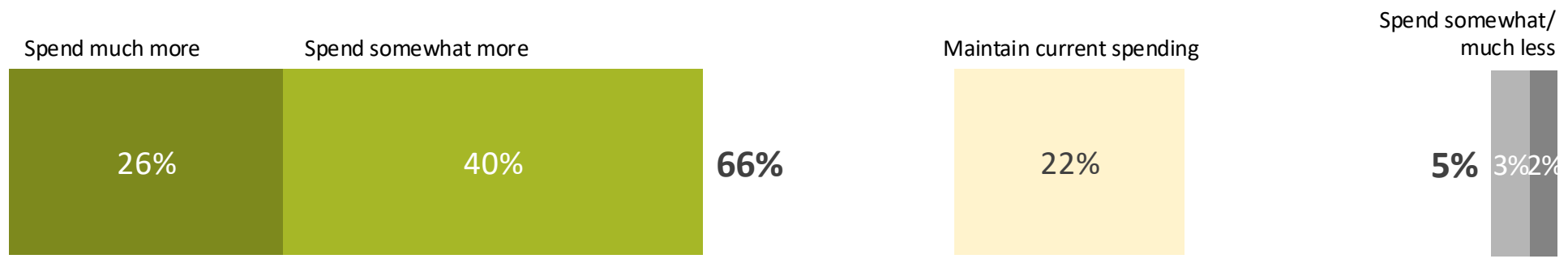
After the split sample questions and prior to the questions on this slide, respondents were provided with this definition:

In this survey we will ask your opinions about "substance use". A person who struggles with substance use may be using alcohol, opioids, or other drugs with harmful impacts to their overall health and wellbeing. Some people may use other language such as drug or alcohol addiction, substance or drug abuse, or substance use disorder to describe someone struggling with substance use. For the purposes of this survey "substance use" accounts for all of these situations.

Pie chart:
- Yes, could get treatment covered by insurance: 50%
- Not sure: 30%
- No, could not get treatment covered by insurance: 20%

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Views on Treating Substance Use

Compared with current spending on programs to prevent and treat substance use, do you think the federal government should:

Spend much more	Spend somewhat more		Maintain current spending	Spend somewhat/ much less
26%	40%	66%	22%	5% 3%2%

Do you agree or disagree with the following statement?
We need to treat substance use more as a health problem and less as a criminal problem.

Strongly agree	Somewhat agree		Neither	Somewhat/strongly disagree
48%	32%	80%	11%	8% 5% 3%

NEW YORK

The following is a list of policy proposals to address substance use and criminal justice issues in the United States. In an election for statewide office such as Governor or the United States Senate, would you be more likely or less likely to support a candidate who favors each of the following policy proposals?

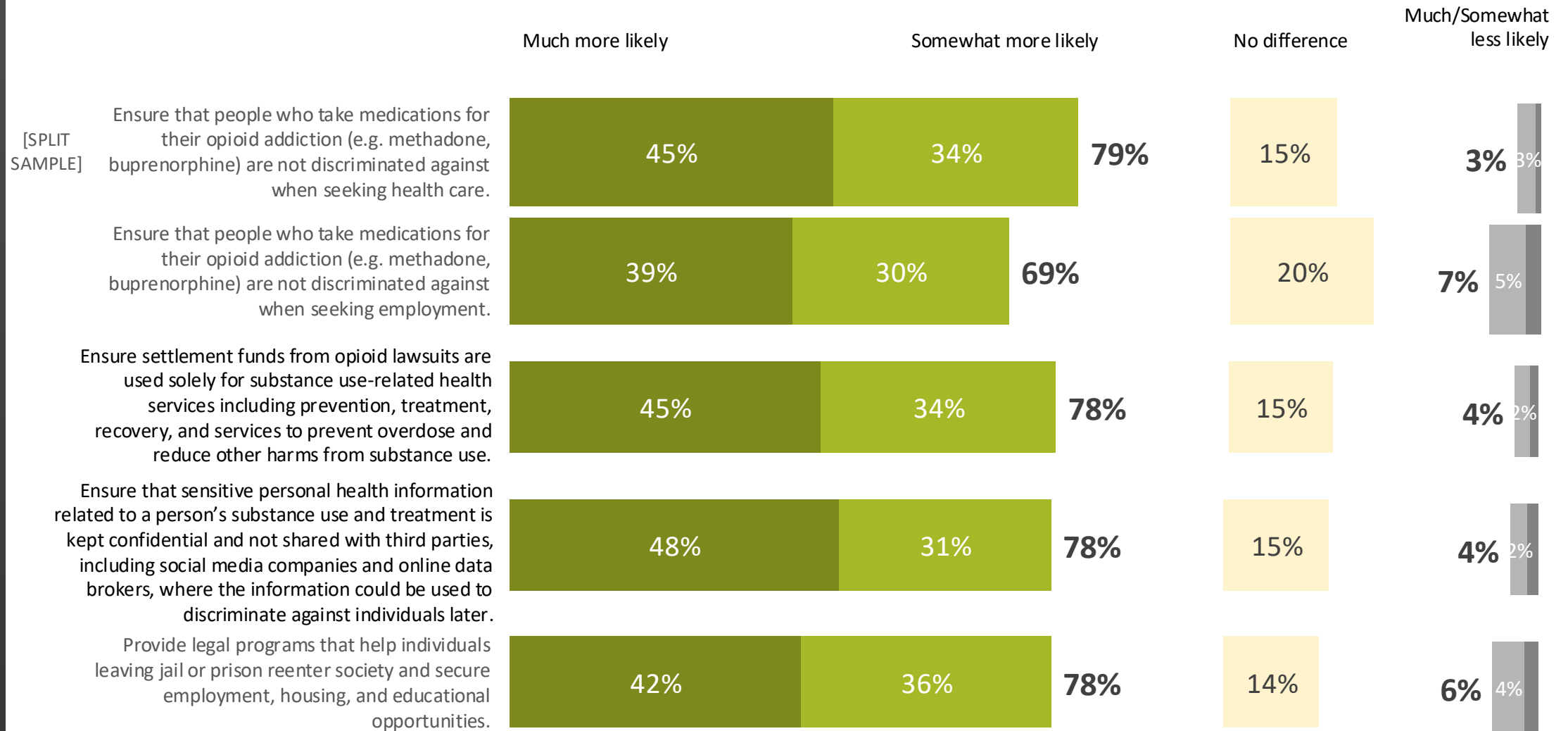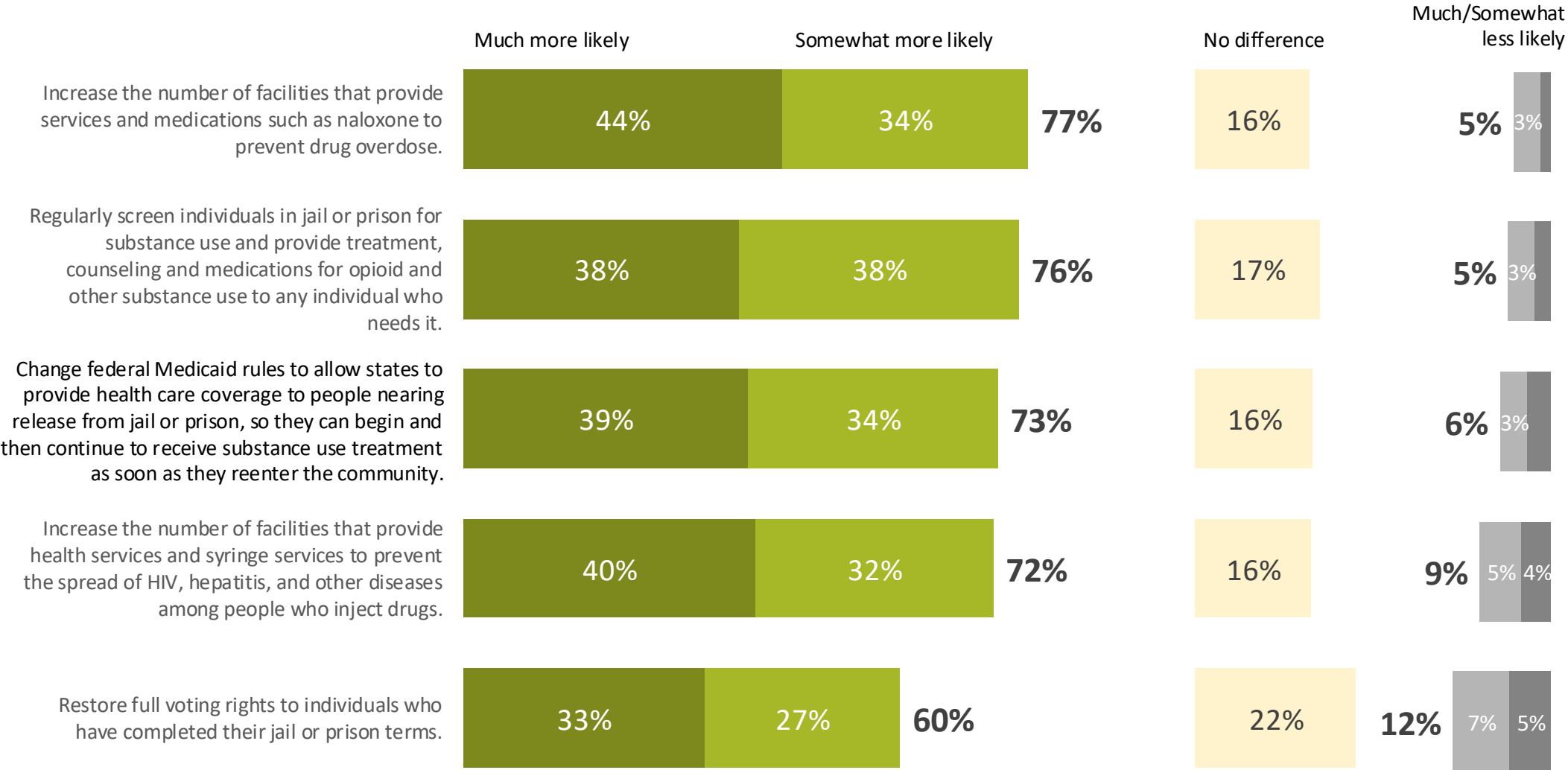|	Much more likely	Somewhat more likely		No difference	Much/Somewhat less likely
Ensure that treatment for substance use is readily available and affordable for everyone who needs it.	55%	31%	**85%**	11%	**2%**
Ensure that individuals on Medicare have access to affordable, comprehensive substance use care at a doctor's office or treatment program when needed.	51%	32%	**83%**	11%	**3%** 2%
Expand the number of health professionals treating substance use, so care is available in all communities – urban, suburban, and rural.	49%	34%	**83%**	13%	**3%**
Ensure that health insurance providers cover substance use treatment services at levels that are equal to coverage for other health conditions such as cancer or diabetes.	47%	33%	**80%**	12%	**5%** 3%

NEW YORK

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	Much more likely	Somewhat more likely	No difference	Much/Somewhat less likely

[SPLIT SAMPLE]

Ensure that people who take medications for their opioid addiction (e.g. methadone, buprenorphine) are not discriminated against when seeking health care.
45% | 34% | **79%** | 15% | **3%** 3%

Ensure that people who take medications for their opioid addiction (e.g. methadone, buprenorphine) are not discriminated against when seeking employment.
39% | 30% | **69%** | 20% | **7%** 5%

Ensure settlement funds from opioid lawsuits are used solely for substance use-related health services including prevention, treatment, recovery, and services to prevent overdose and reduce other harms from substance use.
45% | 34% | **78%** | 15% | **4%** 2%

Ensure that sensitive personal health information related to a person's substance use and treatment is kept confidential and not shared with third parties, including social media companies and online data brokers, where the information could be used to discriminate against individuals later.
48% | 31% | **78%** | 15% | **4%** 2%

Provide legal programs that help individuals leaving jail or prison reenter society and secure employment, housing, and educational opportunities.
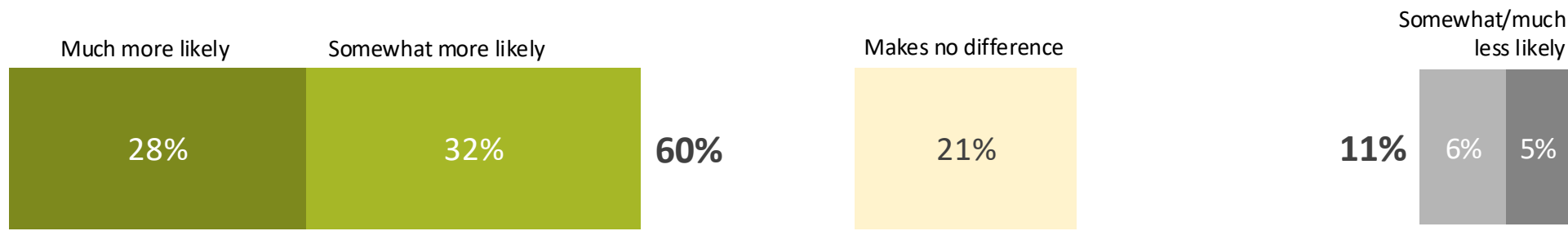42% | 36% | **78%** | 14% | **6%** 4%

NEW YORK

The following is a list of policy proposals to address substance use and criminal justice issues in the United States. In an election for statewide office such as Governor or the United States Senate, would you be more likely or less likely to support a candidate who favors each of the following policy proposals?

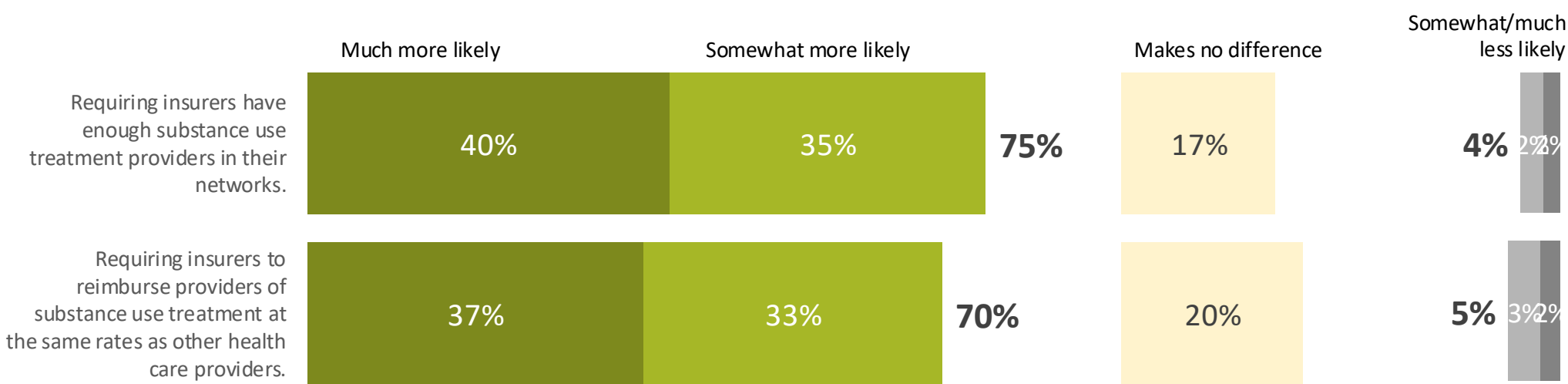|	Much more likely	Somewhat more likely		No difference	Much/Somewhat less likely
Increase the number of facilities that provide services and medications such as naloxone to prevent drug overdose.	44%	34%	**77%**	16%	**5%** 3%
Regularly screen individuals in jail or prison for substance use and provide treatment, counseling and medications for opioid and other substance use to any individual who needs it.	38%	38%	**76%**	17%	**5%** 3%
Change federal Medicaid rules to allow states to provide health care coverage to people nearing release from jail or prison, so they can begin and then continue to receive substance use treatment as soon as they reenter the community.	39%	34%	**73%**	16%	**6%** 3%
Increase the number of facilities that provide health services and syringe services to prevent the spread of HIV, hepatitis, and other diseases among people who inject drugs.	40%	32%	**72%**	16%	**9%** 5% 4%
Restore full voting rights to individuals who have completed their jail or prison terms.	33%	27%	**60%**	22%	**12%** 7% 5%

NEW YORK

Some states have recently passed laws prohibiting health insurers from requiring their prior approval before someone could be prescribed medications by their doctor to treat substance use.
Based on this description and anything else you may know, would you be more likely or less likely to support a candidate who voted for those laws?
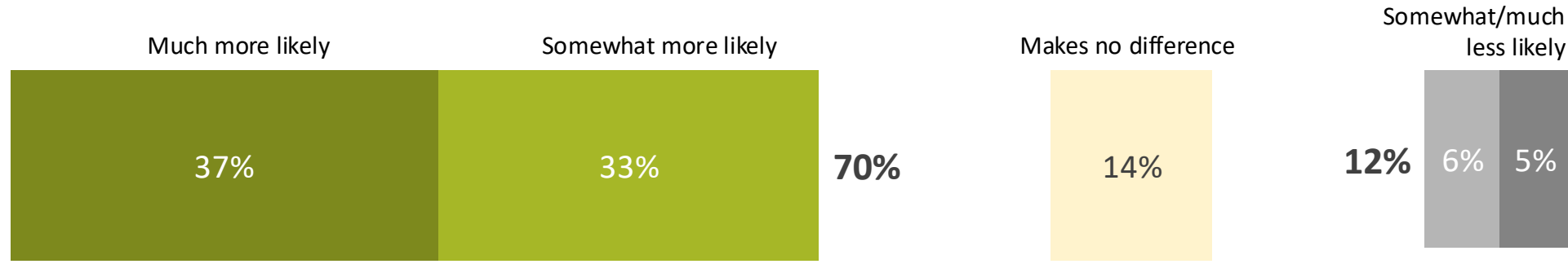
Much more likely	Somewhat more likely		Makes no difference		Somewhat/much less likely
28%	32%	**60%**	21%	**11%**	6% / 5%

Would you be more likely or less likely to support a candidate who favors the following further actions to make it easier for people struggling with substance use to obtain treatment:

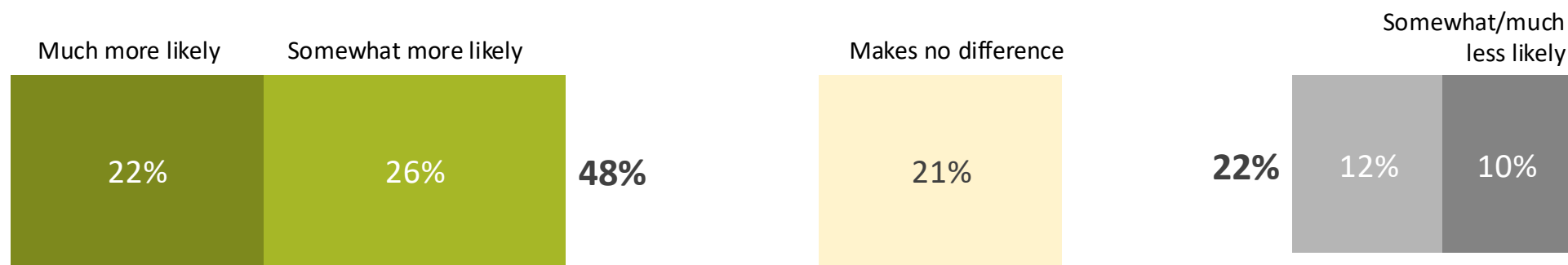|	Much more likely	Somewhat more likely		Makes no difference		Somewhat/much less likely
Requiring insurers have enough substance use treatment providers in their networks.	40%	35%	**75%**	17%	**4%**	2% 2%
Requiring insurers to reimburse providers of substance use treatment at the same rates as other health care providers.	37%	33%	**70%**	20%	**5%**	3% 2%

NEW YORK

New York State recently passed a law, known as Clean Slate, to automatically seal eligible conviction records after a waiting period of eight years (for felonies) or three years (for misdemeanors), so that people who have completed their sentences, had no additional convictions, and paid their debt to society will be better able to secure a job and place to live.
Would you be more likely or less likely to support a candidate who voted for this law?

Much more likely	Somewhat more likely		Makes no difference		Somewhat/much less likely	
37%	33%	**70%**	14%	**12%**	6%	5%

The New York State Senate has passed a bill, known as Elder Parole, to provide individuals in jail or prison aged 55 and older who have already served at least 15 years the opportunity to apply for parole.
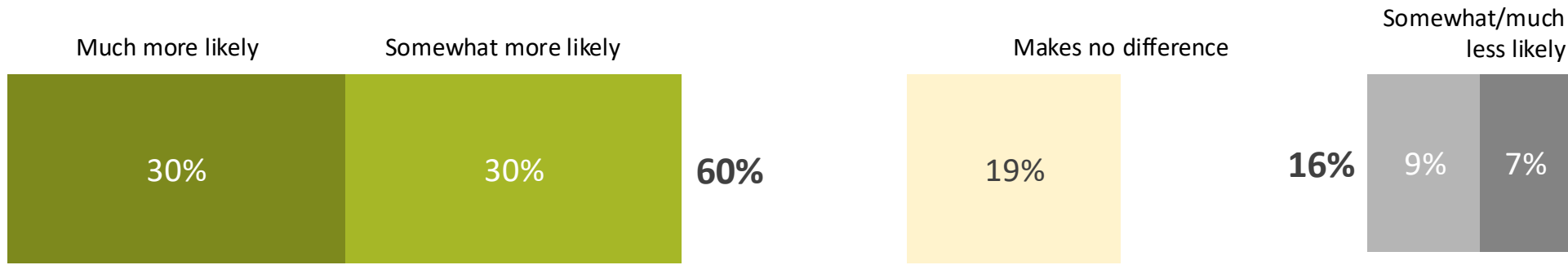Would you be more likely or less likely to support a candidate who voted for this law?

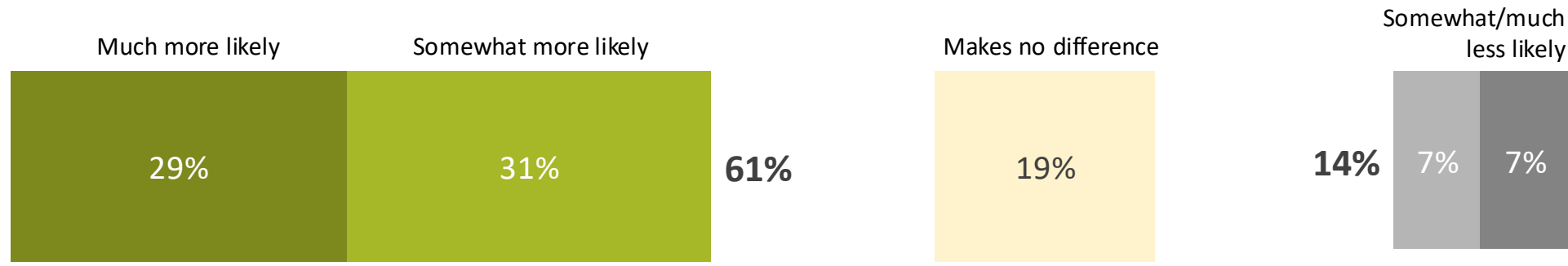| Much more likely	Somewhat more likely		Makes no difference		Somewhat/much less likely	
22%	26%	**48%**	21%	**22%**	12%	10%

NEW YORK

New York State has recently doubled funding for alternatives to jail or prison and tripled funding for services that help people reenter society after being in jail or prison.
Would you be more likely or less likely to support a candidate who voted for this expansion of services?

Much more likely	Somewhat more likely		Makes no difference		Somewhat/much less likely
30%	30%	**60%**	19%	**16%**	9% 7%

Would you be more likely or less likely to support a candidate who voted to invest additional money in these services so they could be available in all parts of New York State?

Much more likely	Somewhat more likely		Makes no difference		Somewhat/much less likely
29%	31%	**61%**	19%	**14%**	7% 7%

Sample Demographic Summary

	Total (n=1,000)
Gender	
Male	49%
Female	50%
Latino/Hispanic	
Yes	20%
No	79%
Ethnicity	
White	69%
Black or African American	19%
Asian	10%
Mixed	2%
Religion	
Catholic	32%
Protestant	12%
Evangelical Christian	8%
Atheist	4%
Agnostic	5%
Jewish	7%
Something else	4%
No religious preference	17%
Prefer not to answer	4%

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Sample Demographic Summary

	Total (n=1,000)
Urban/Rural	
Urban	46%
Suburban	42%
Rural	12%
Children under 18	
Yes	28%
No	72%
Education	
Some high school	1%
High school graduate	17%
Some college, no degree	18%
Vocational training/2-year college	10%
4-year college/bachelor's degree	29%
Some postgraduate work, no degree	3%
2 or 3 years' postgraduate work/master's degree	16%
Doctoral/law degree	5%
Income	
Less than $49,999	32%
$50,000 - $99,999	33%
$100,000 - $149,999	17%
$150,000 or more	15%