

JCSD and RCSD Voter Survey - Report on Results -

June 4, 2014



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JCSD and RCSD Voter Survey

Report on results

From Saturday, May 31 through Tuesday, June 3, 2014 Probolsky Research conducted a telephone survey voters within the boundaries of Jurupa Community Services District and Rubidoux Community Services District.

A total of 300 surveys were collected. A survey of this size yields a margin of error of +/- 5.8% with a 95% degree of confidence. Interviews were conducted with respondents on both landline and cell phones and were offered in English and Spanish languages.

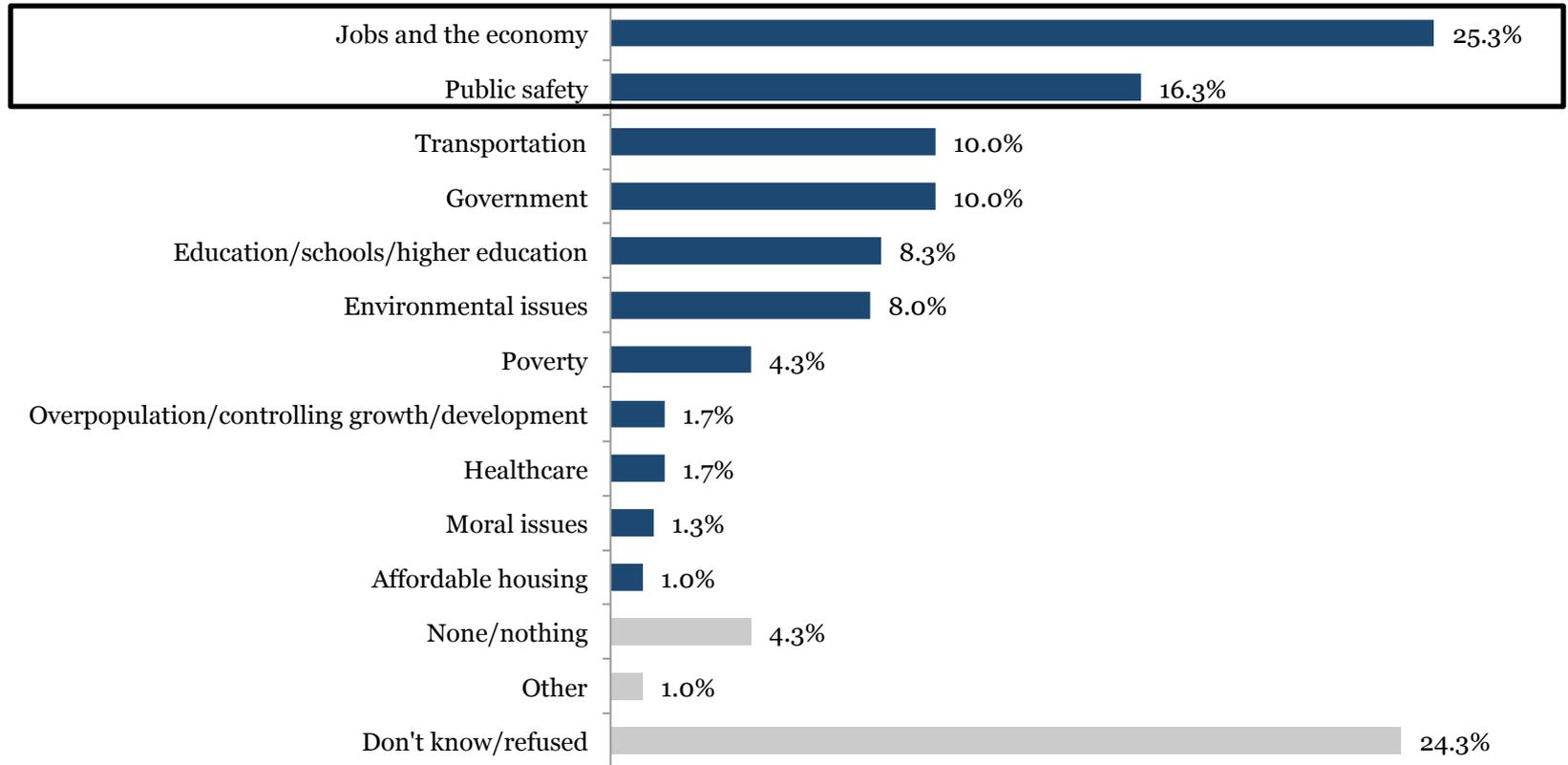
Probolsky Research specializes in opinion research on behalf of government, business, special interest and media clients.



Jobs and the economy, followed by public safety

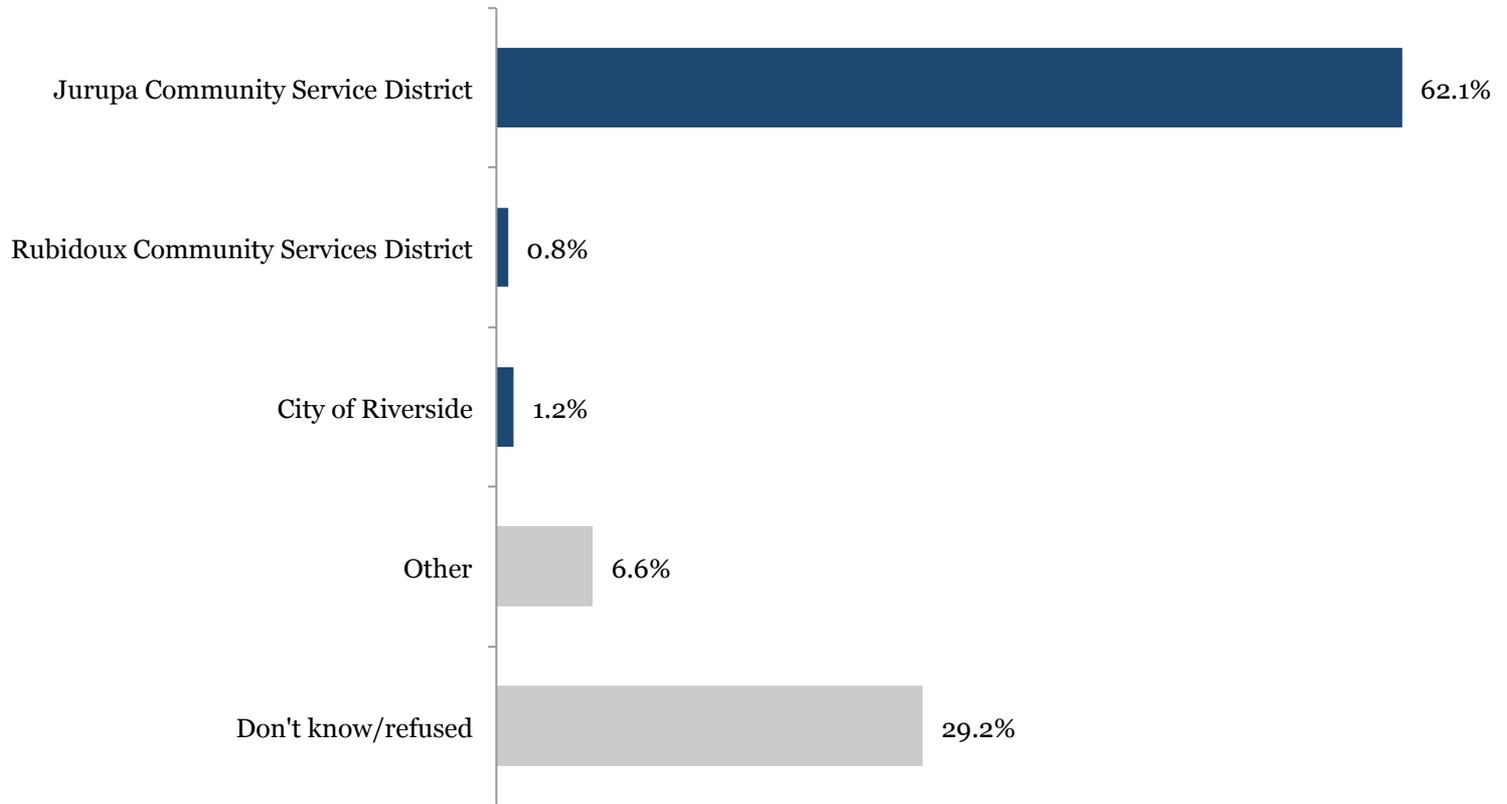
Are the most important issues facing the communities

Question: What is the most important issue facing your community today?



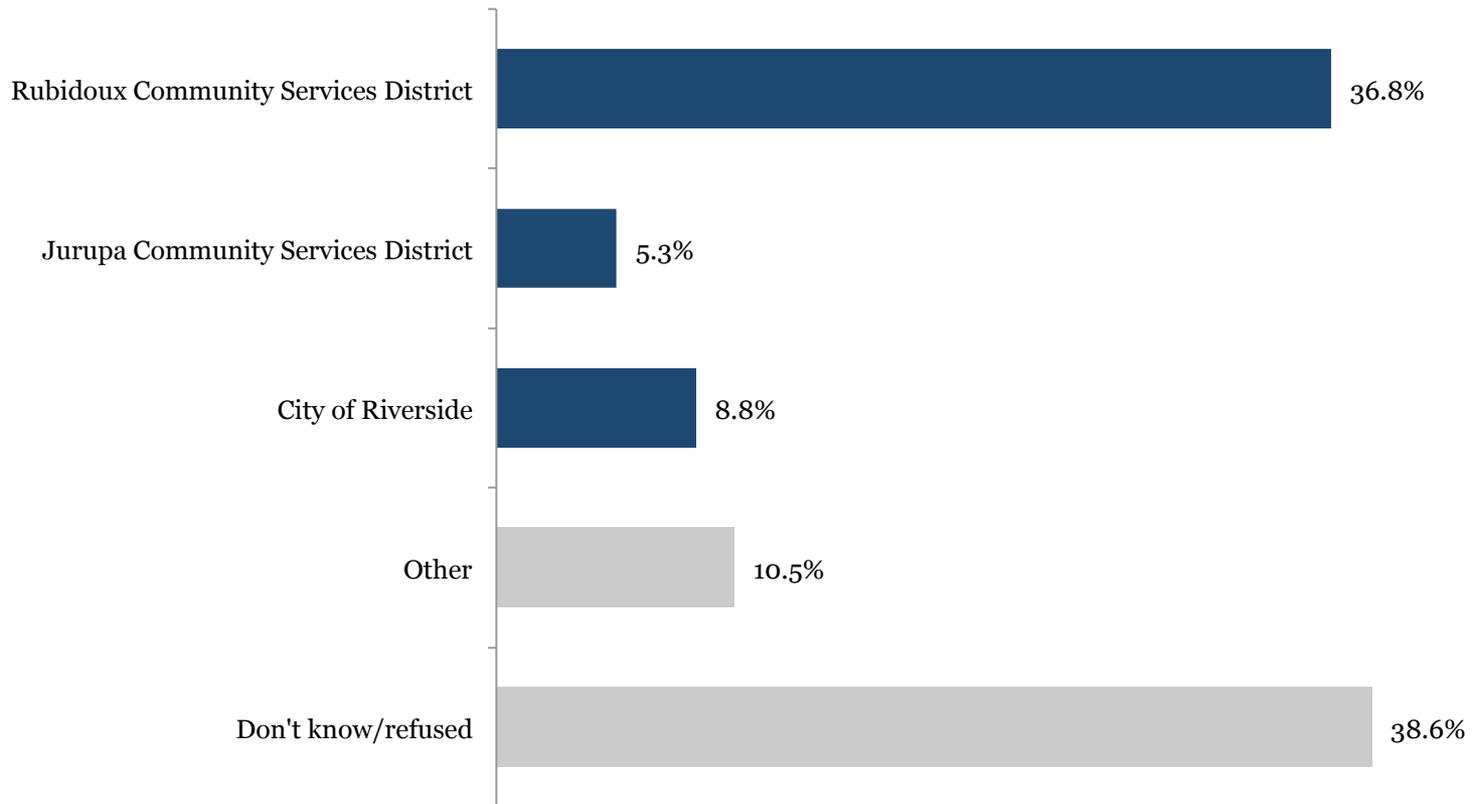
62.1% of JCSD voters correctly identify The District as their water service provider

Question: Can you tell me who provides the water service for your home?



36.8% of RCSD voters correctly identify The District as their water service provider

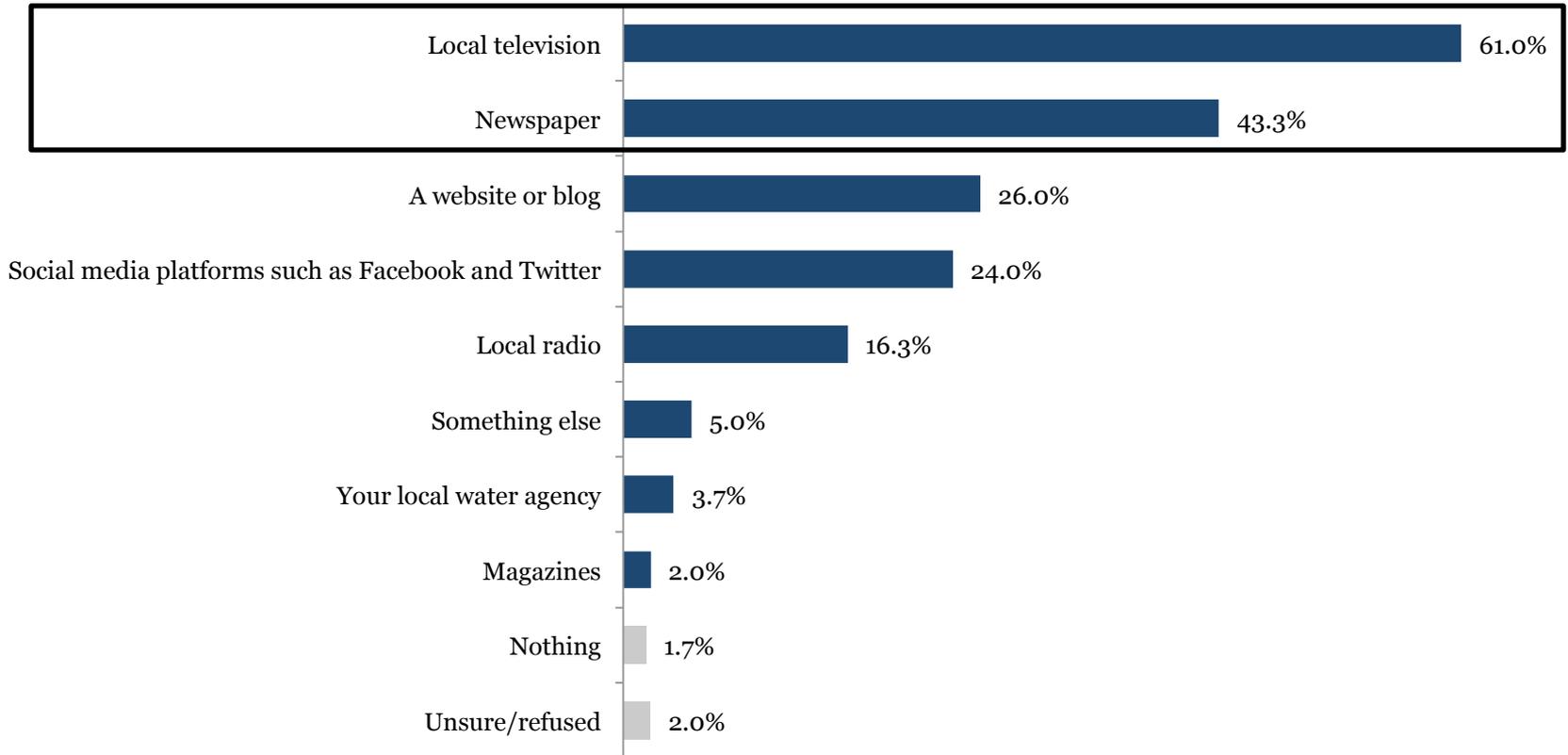
Question: Can you tell me who provides the water service for your home?



Local television and newspapers

Are the most popular sources for news and information about local gov't

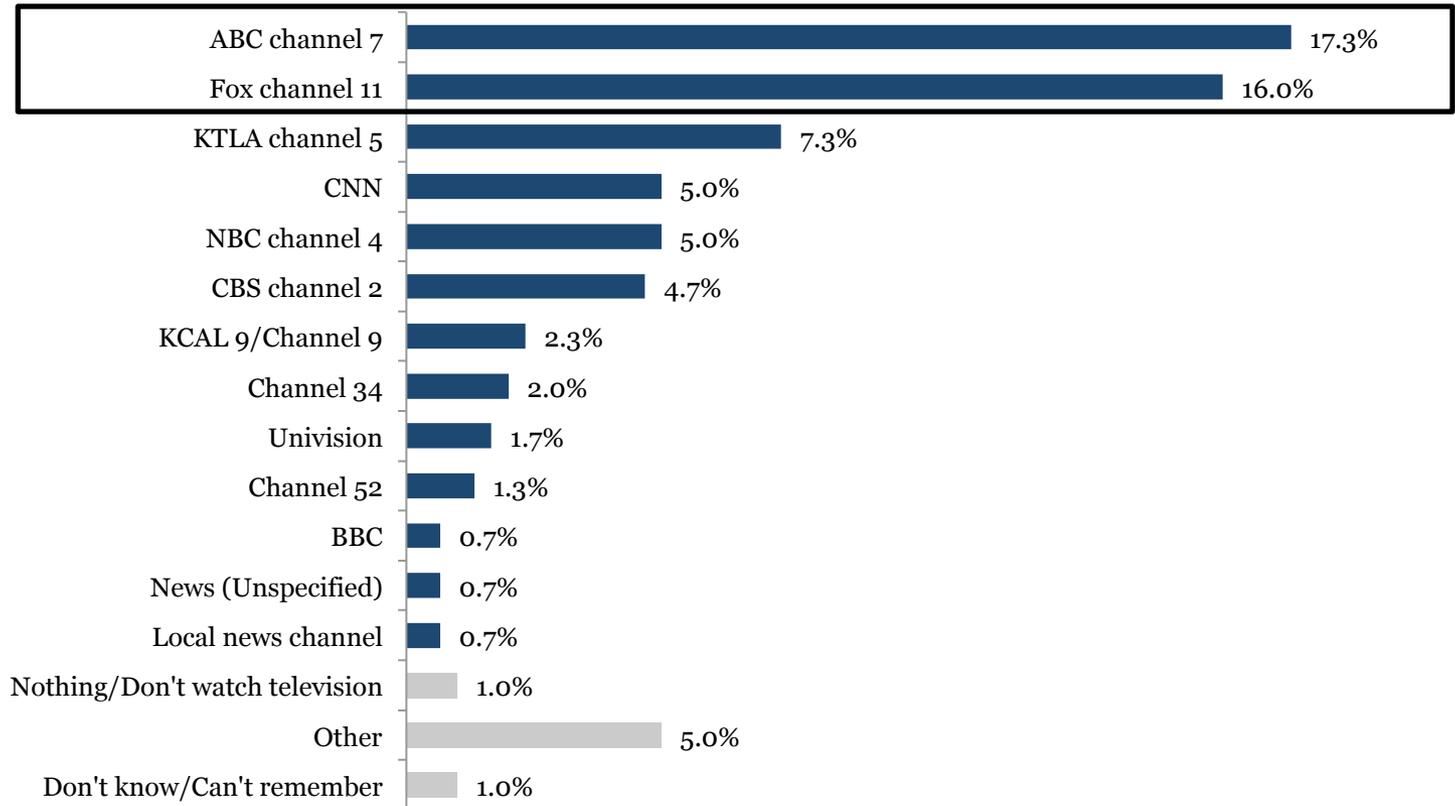
Question: What are your top two sources for news and information about local government and related issues?



ABC Channel 7 and Fox Channel 5

Are the most popular television channels

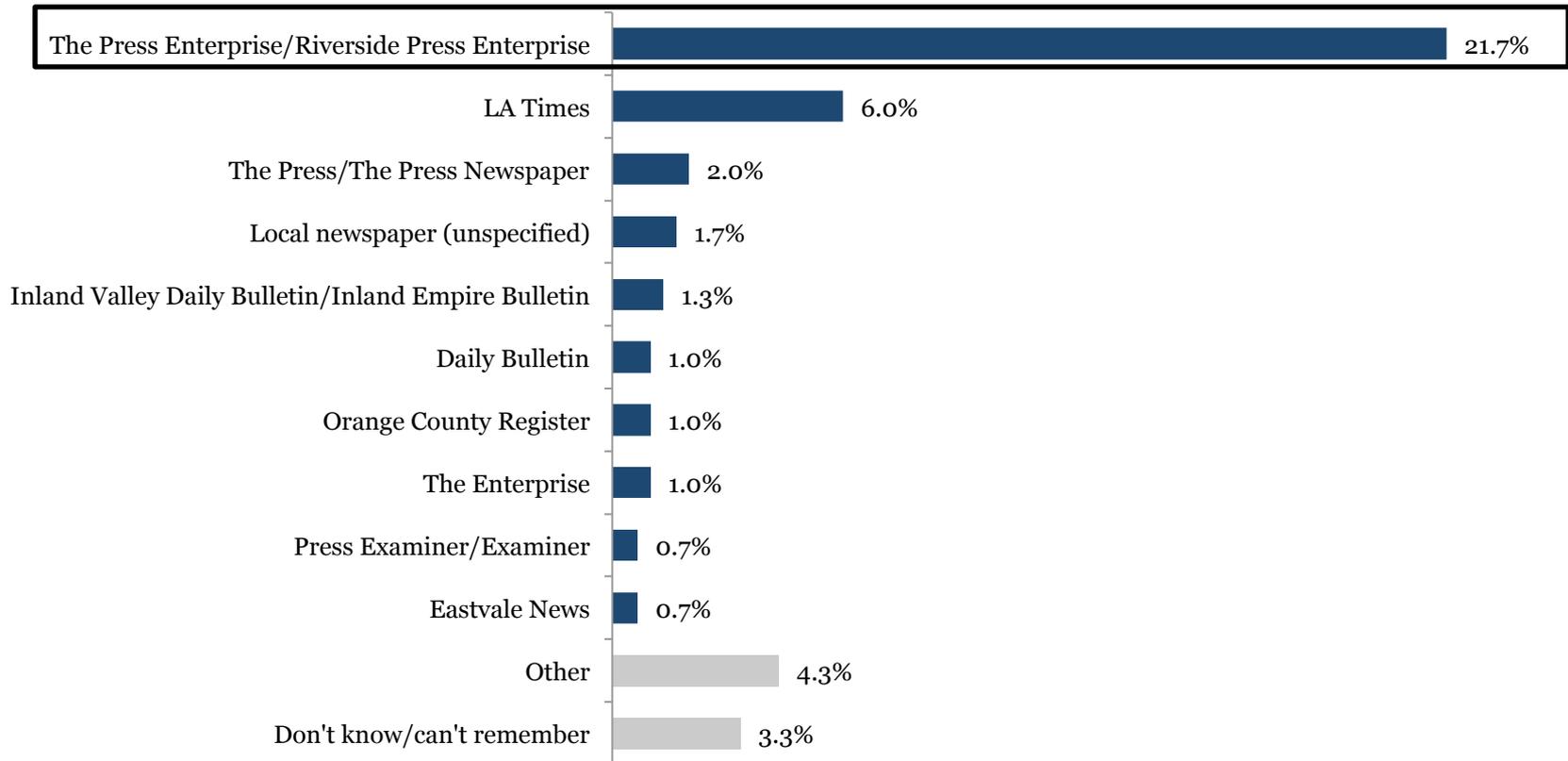
Question: What are your top two sources for news and information about local government and related issues?



The Riverside Press Enterprise

Is the most popular newspaper

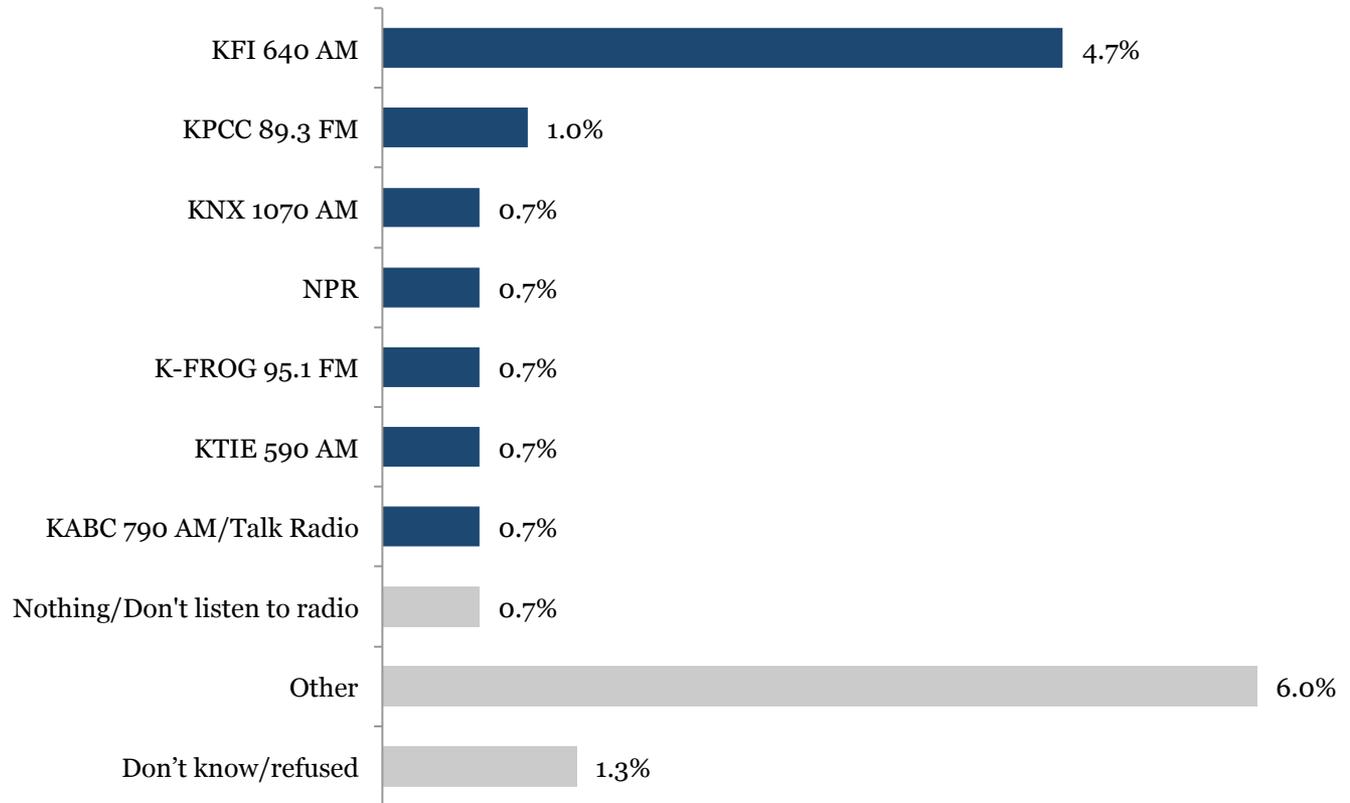
Question: What are your top two sources for news and information about local government and related issues?



KFI 640 AM

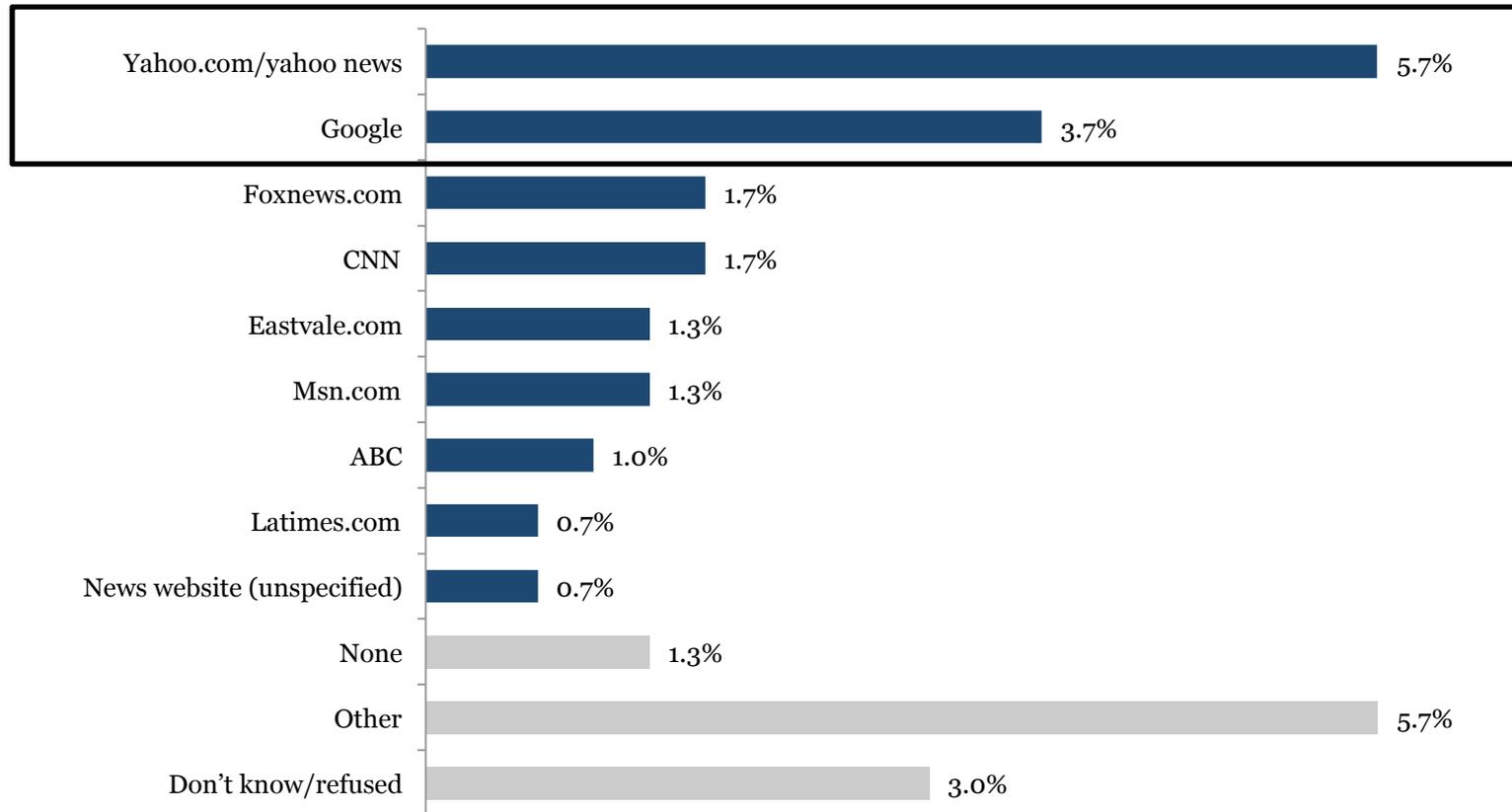
Is the most popular radio station

Question: What are your top two sources for news and information about local government and related issues?



Yahoo appears to be the most popular Website or blog, followed by Google

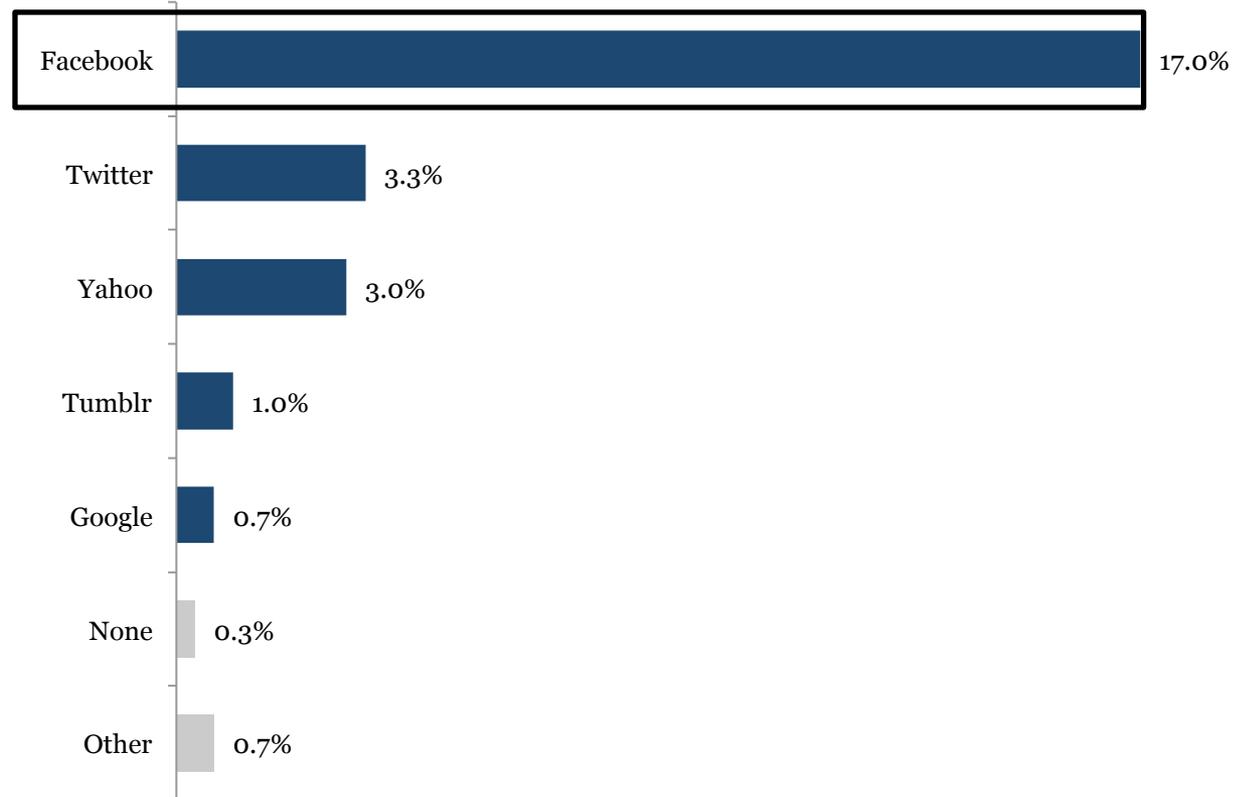
Question: What are your top two sources for news and information about local government and related issues?



Facebook is the clear leader

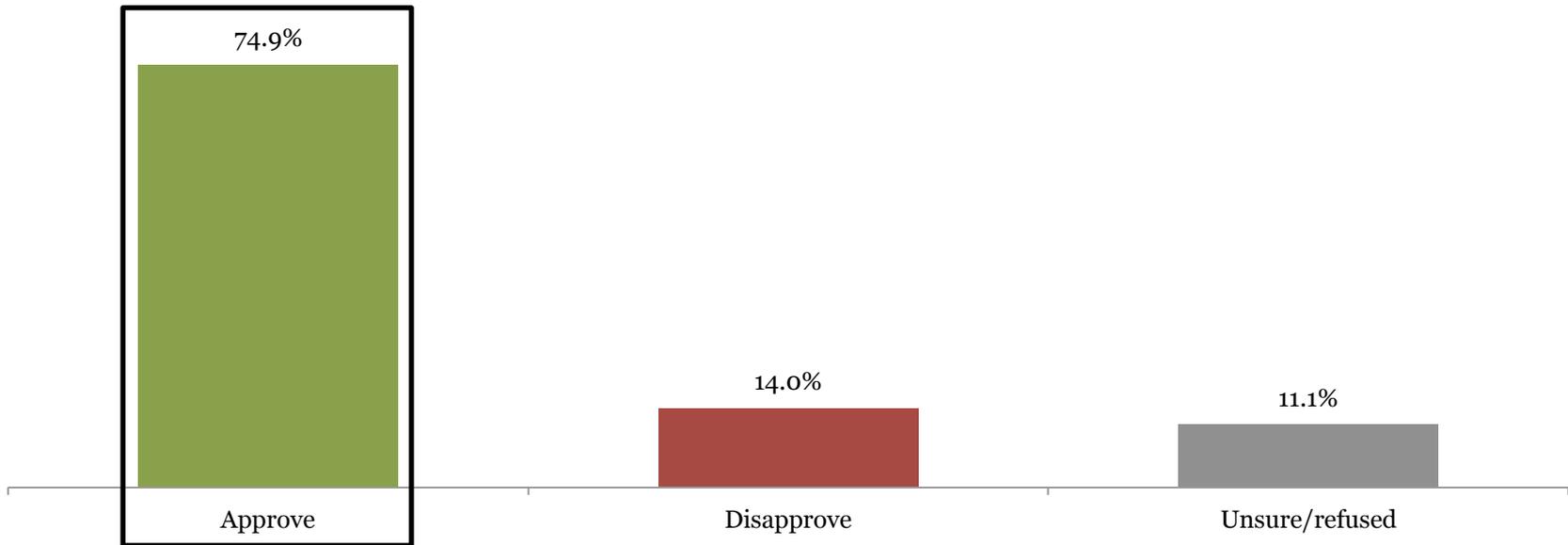
Among social media platforms such as Facebook and Twitter

Question: What are your top two sources for news and information about local government and related issues?



Three quarters (74.9%) of JCSD voters approve of the job The Jurupa Community Services District is doing

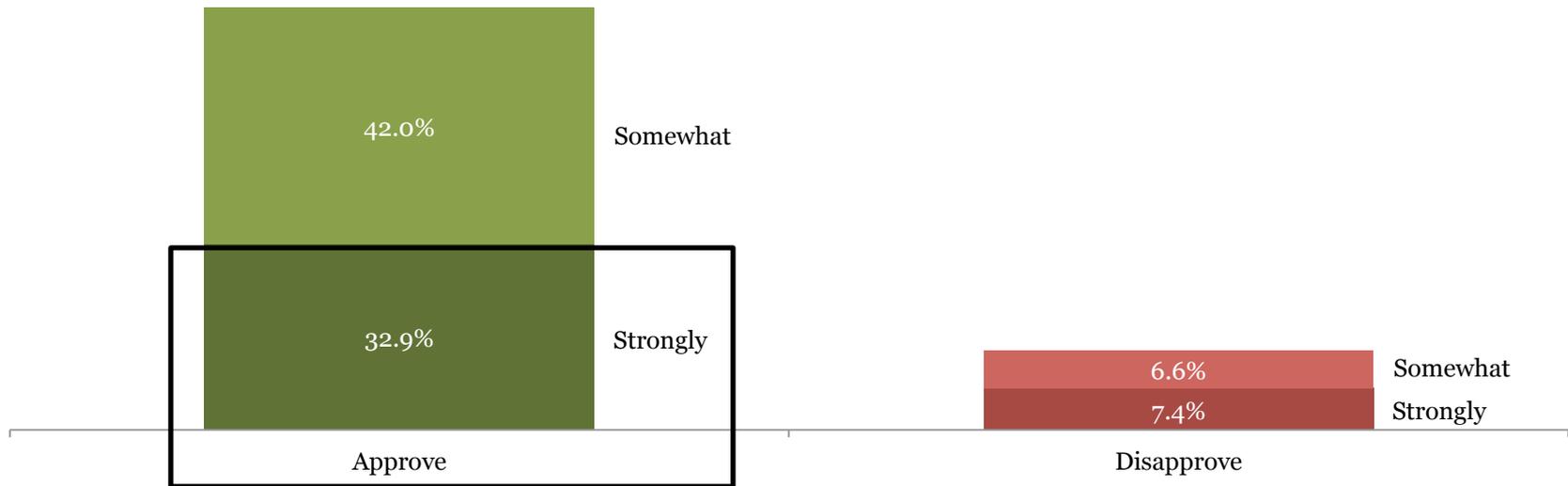
Question: The Jurupa Community Services District, or JCSD, is responsible for providing water, sewer and street lights for over 107,000 people and for maintaining more than 160 acres of parks and over 25 miles of frontage landscape in newly incorporated areas of the City of Jurupa Valley and the City of Eastvale, a 48-square-mile region of western Riverside County. In general, do you approve or disapprove of the job that the Jurupa Community Services District is doing?



Intensity of approval of JCSD is high:

One third (32.9%) *strongly* approve

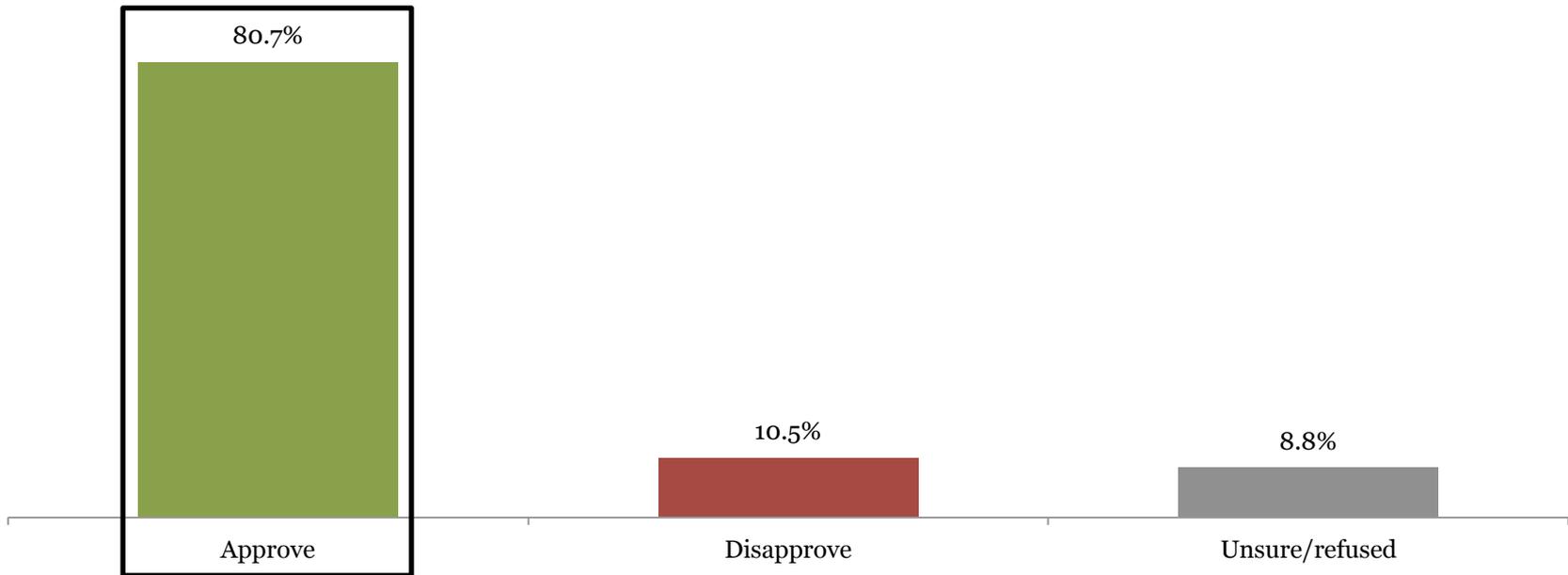
Question: And would you say that you strongly or somewhat (approve/disapprove)?



80.7% of RCSD voters approve of the job

The Rubidoux Community Services District is doing

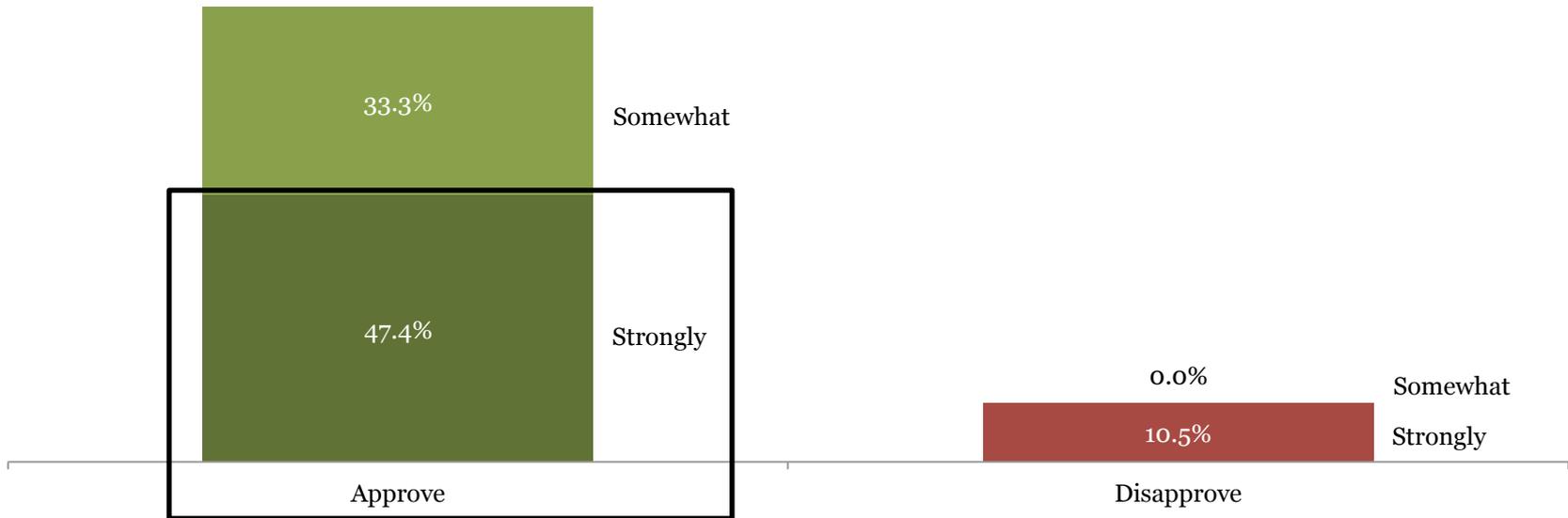
Question: The Rubidoux Community Services District, or RCSD, is responsible for providing water, wastewater and fire protection services to a community of over 26,000. Expanded services include trash collection and disposal, street lighting, weed abatement and fire prevention programs. In general, do you approve or disapprove of the job that the Rubidoux Community Services District is doing?



Intensity of approval of RCSD is high:

Nearly one-half (47.4%) *strongly* approve

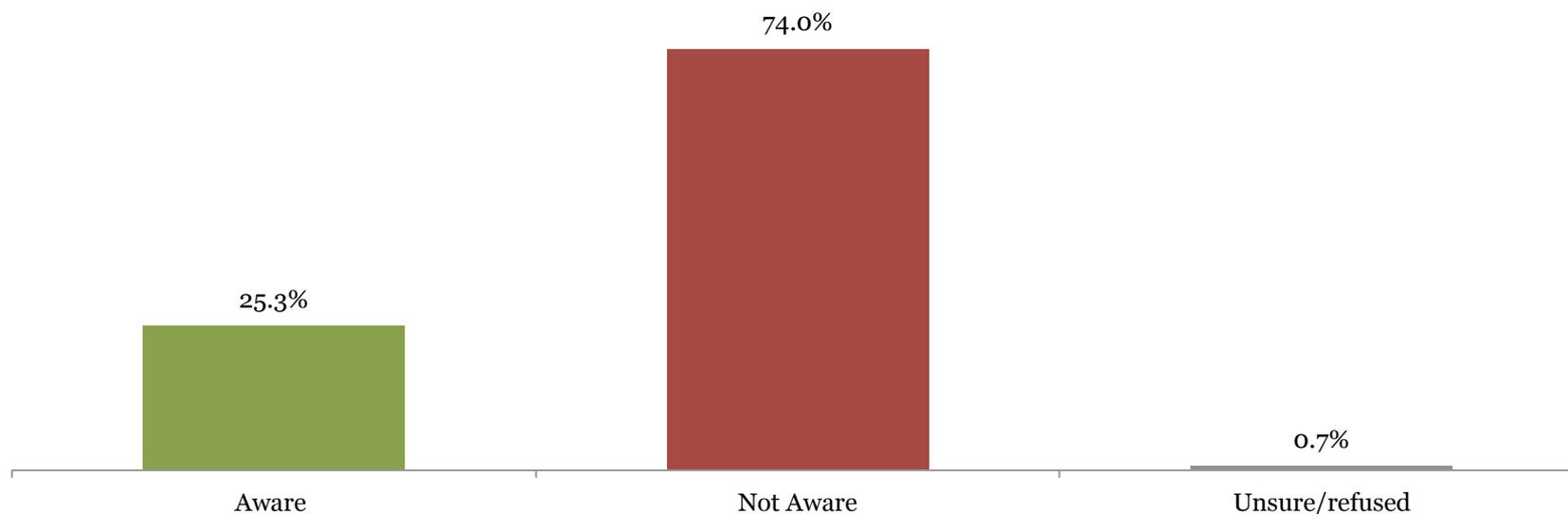
Question: And would you say that you strongly or somewhat (approve/disapprove)?



Nearly three quarters (74.0%) are unaware

Of the CSD's contract with Riverside for the treatment of wastewater

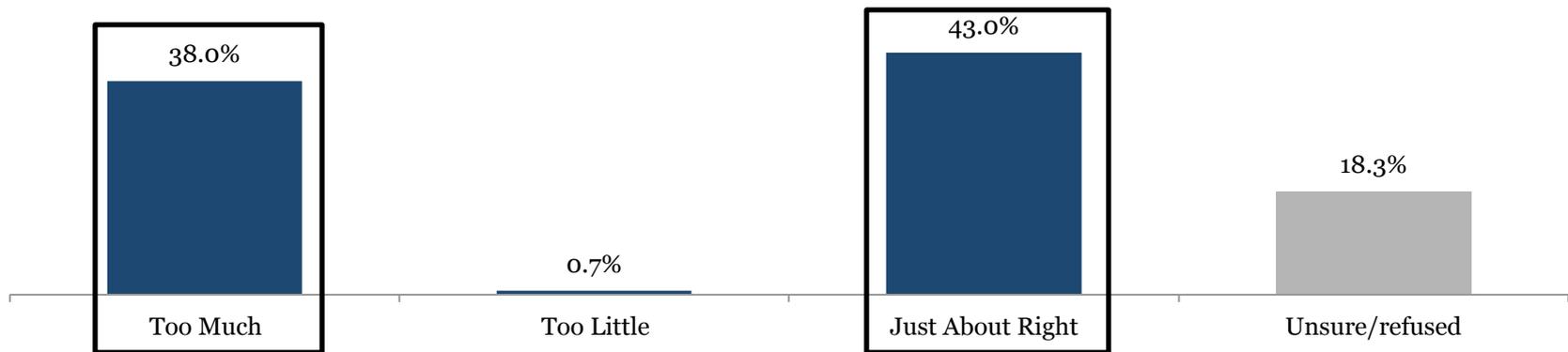
Question: (Jurupa Community Services District/Rubidoux Community Services District) contracts with the City of Riverside Public Works Department for treatment of wastewater. Were you aware or not aware that (Jurupa Community Services District/Rubidoux Community Services District) contracted with the City of Riverside to treat wastewater?



Voters are divided as to whether they pay to much

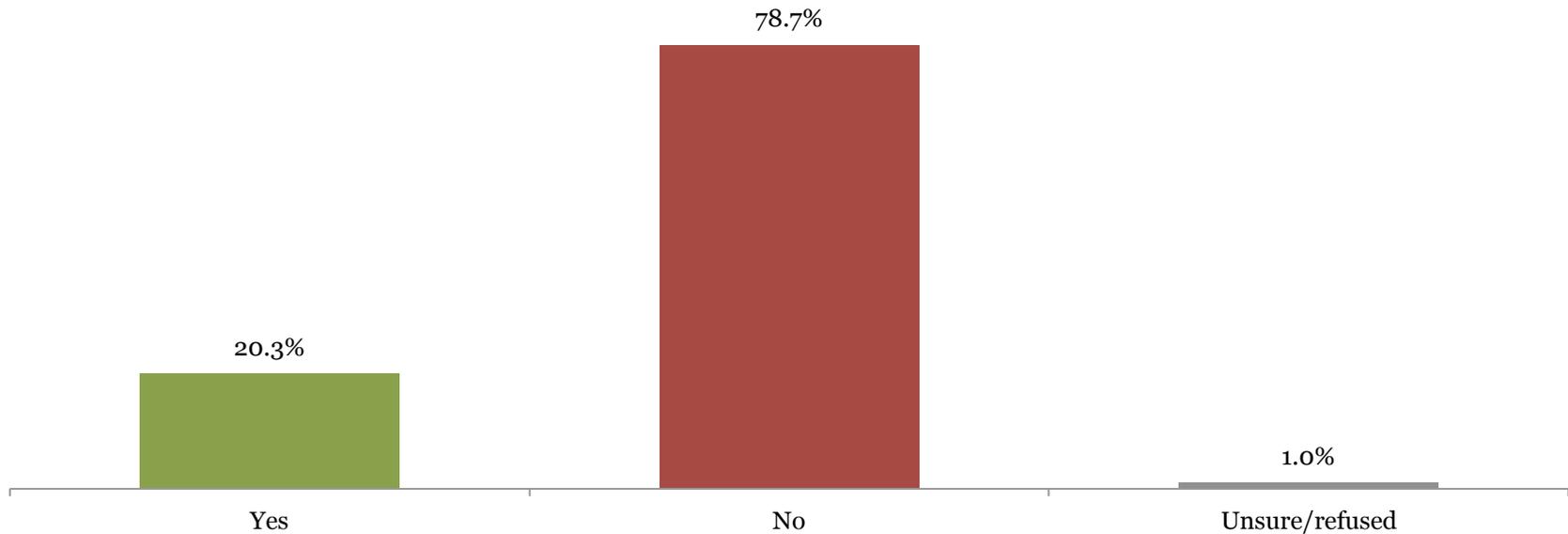
For sewer service, or if the amount is just about right

Question: Thinking about the amount that you pay for sewer service for your home, would you say that you pay too much, too little or just about the right amount?



78.7% have not heard of Riverside's Water Quality Control Plant upgrade

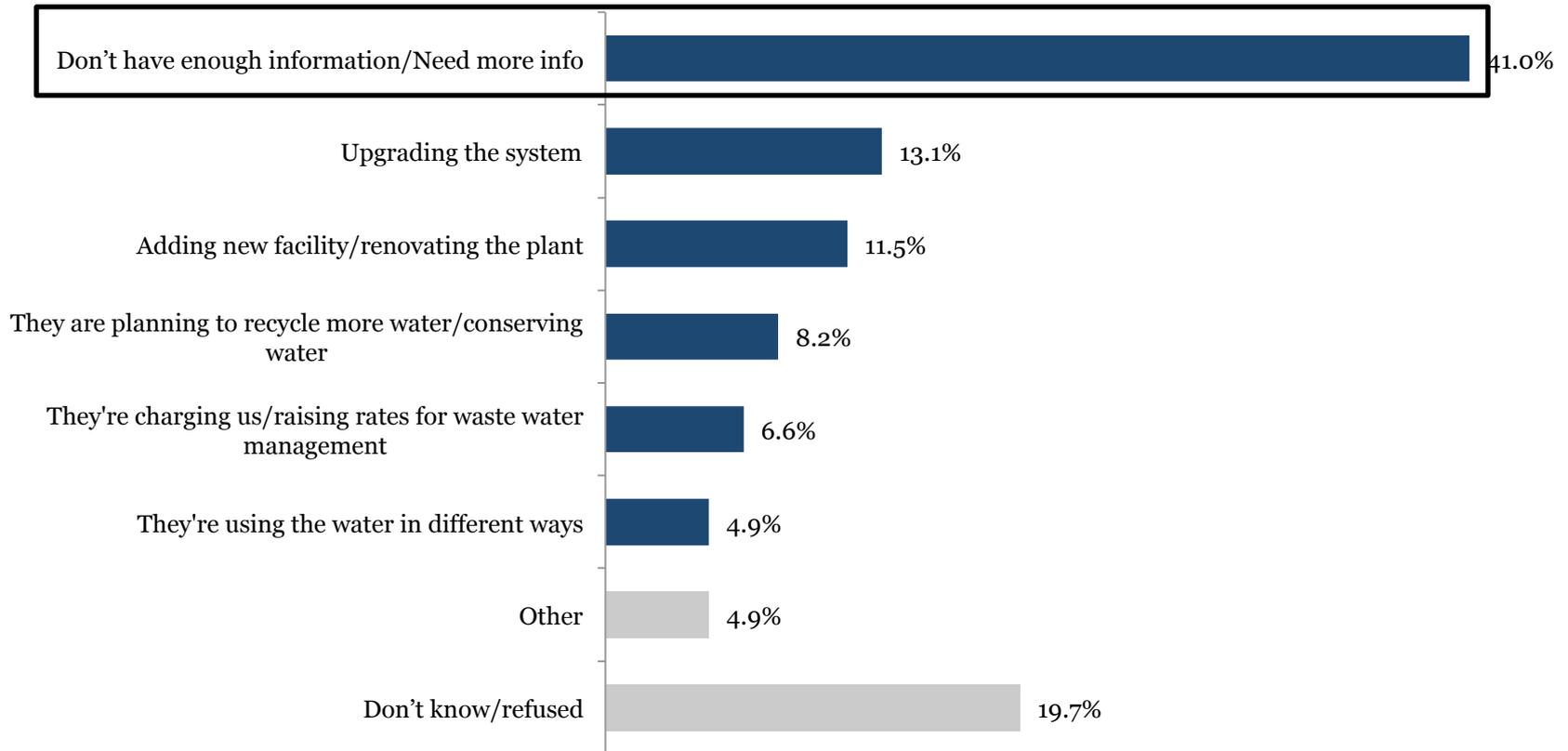
Question: Have you heard of the City of Riverside's project that upgrades one of the City's Water Quality Control Plants that is used to treat wastewater?



Respondents know very little

About the upgrade project

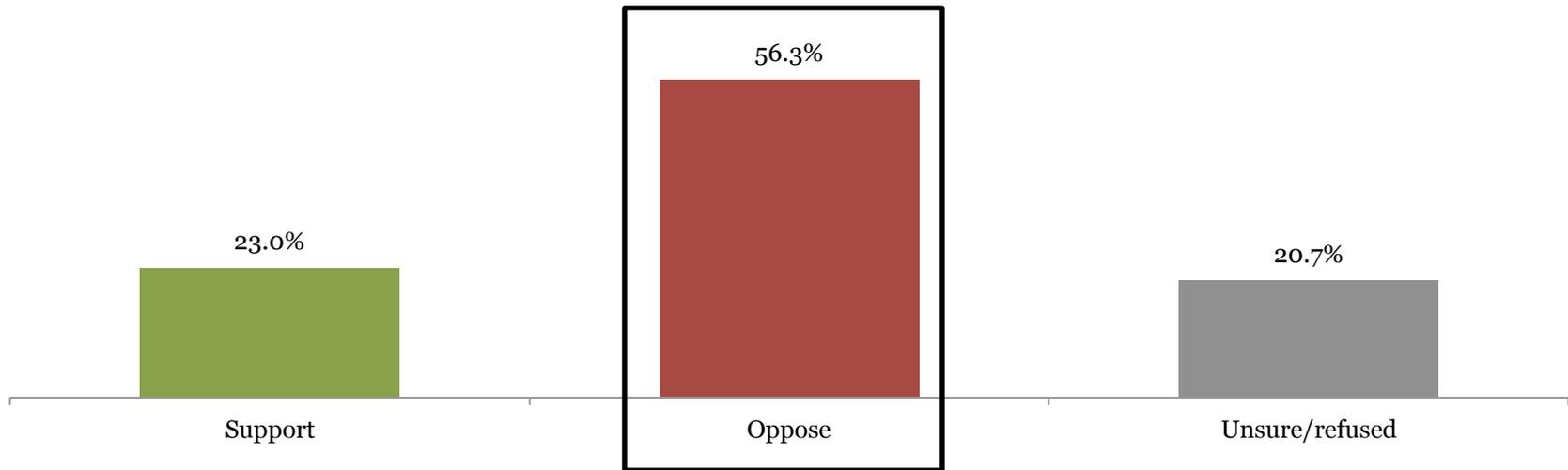
Question: In your own words, please tell me what you know about the City's plans to upgrade one of its Water Quality Control Plants?



56.3% oppose Riverside's plan to sue the CSDs

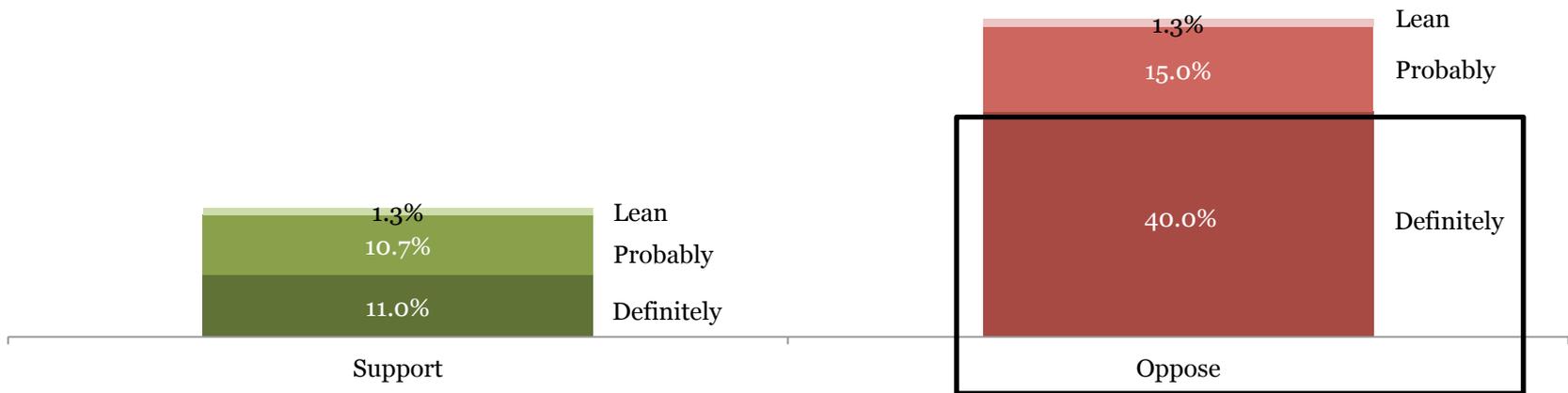
To help pay for the upgrade

Question: The City of Riverside is currently undergoing a 250 million dollar upgrade to Plant Number One, which is one of the City's Water Quality Control Plants and was built in the 1940's. The City claims the upgrade will expand the plant's capacity and add new technologies designed to treat wastewater to a level that meets state and federal standards and can be used throughout the region for non-drinking water purposes such as landscaping irrigation. However, some experts question the need for these upgrades since the City already operates within state and federal guidelines. This is important to residents who live in the (Jurupa Community Services District/Rubidoux Community Services District) service area, because the City of Riverside in a legal battle with Jurupa and Rubidoux Community Service Districts, trying to bully the Districts into paying tens of millions of dollars to subsidize the skyrocketing costs of the City's project. Do you support the City of Riverside's plan sue the Jurupa Community Services District and the Rubidoux Community Services District to help pay for the 250 million dollar upgrade to one of the City's wastewater treatment plants?



The intensity of opposition is significant: 40.0% *strongly* opposes Riverside's plan

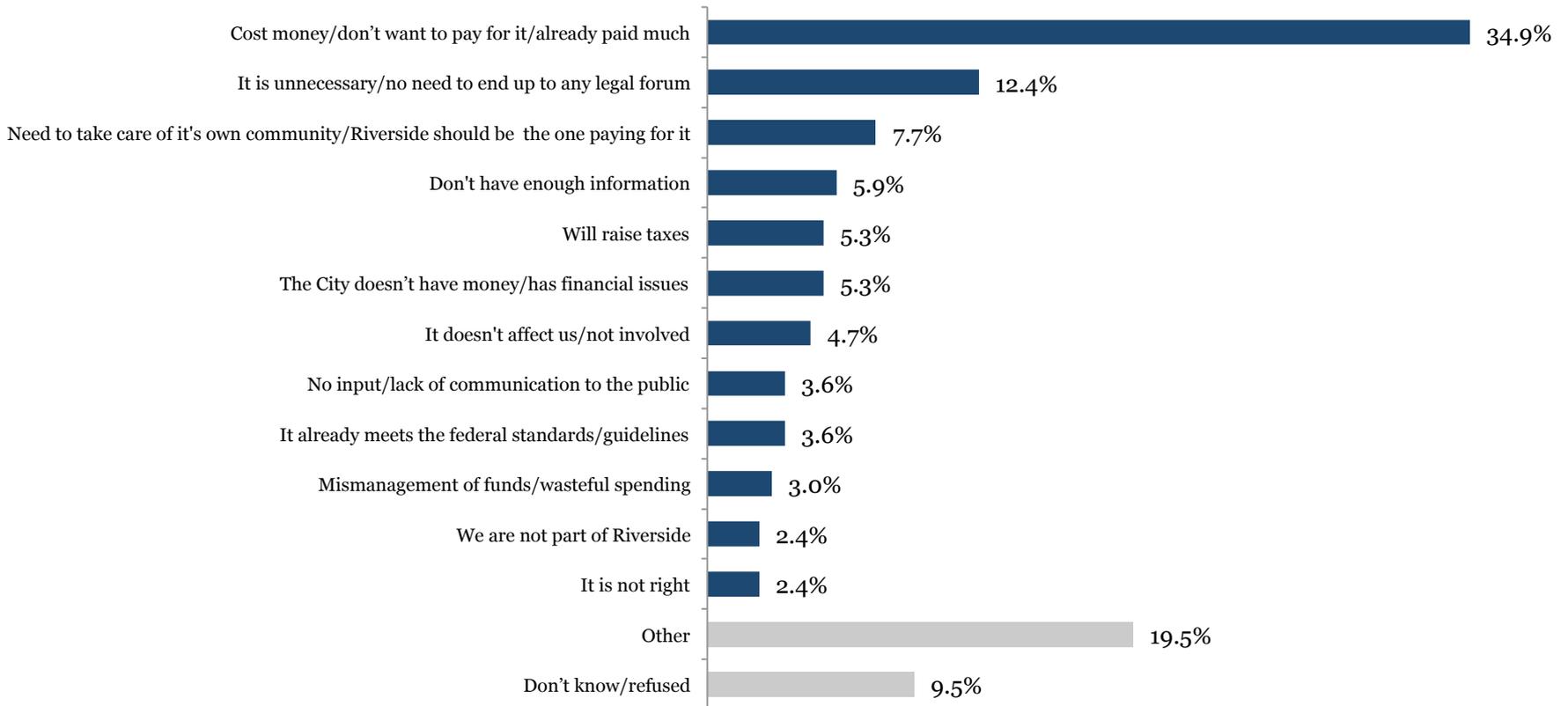
Question: And would you say that you would lean one way or the other?



Cost concerns lead reasons

For opposing Riverside's plan

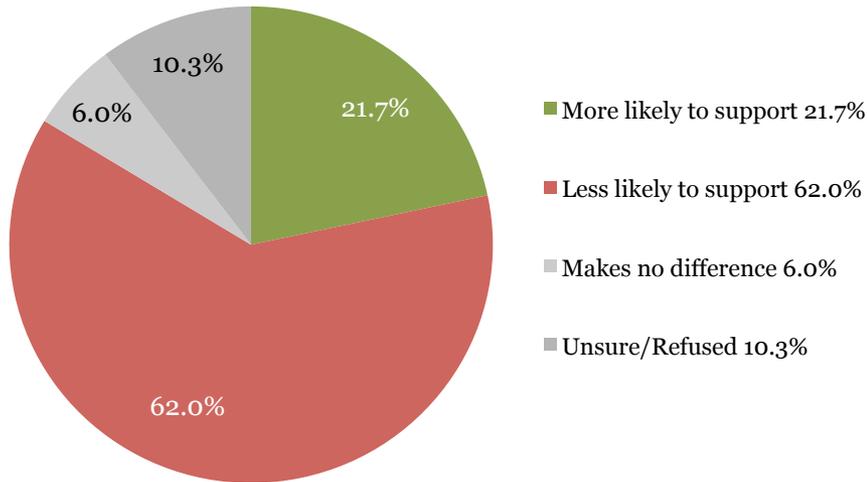
Question: Thinking specifically, why would you oppose the City of Riverside suing the Jurupa Community Services District and the Rubidoux Community Services District to help pay for the 250 million dollar upgrade to one of the City's wastewater treatment plants?



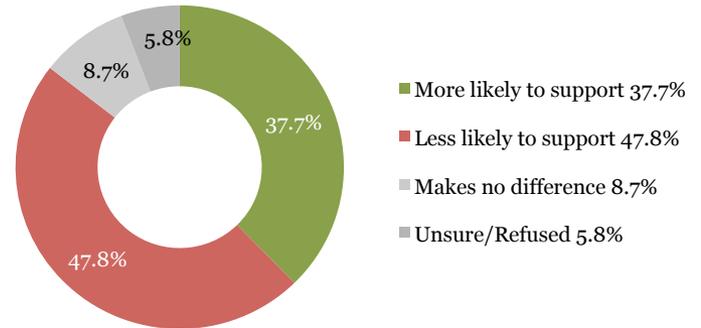
Knowing that questions have been raised about funding

Makes 62.0% less likely to support the plan

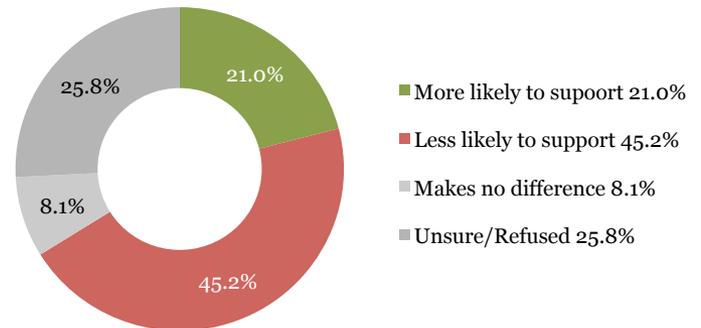
Question: Serious questions have been raised about how the City of Riverside has spent the funds that were supposed to be set aside for upgrades of its sewer facilities, and two of the City's own Council members have asked the state Controller to audit the City's sewer fund. Does knowing this make you more likely or less likely to support the City of Riverside suing the Jurupa Community Services District and the Rubidoux Community Services District to help pay for the 250 million dollar upgrade to one of the City's wastewater treatment plants?



Among those who initially supported



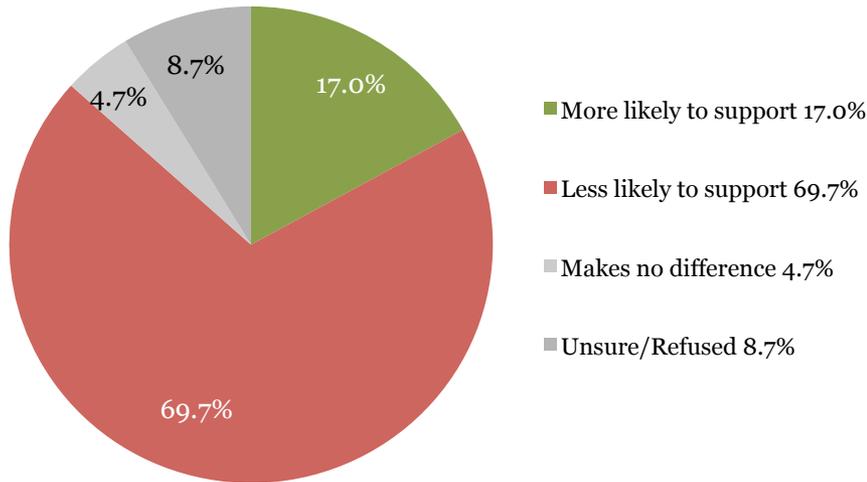
Among those who were unsure



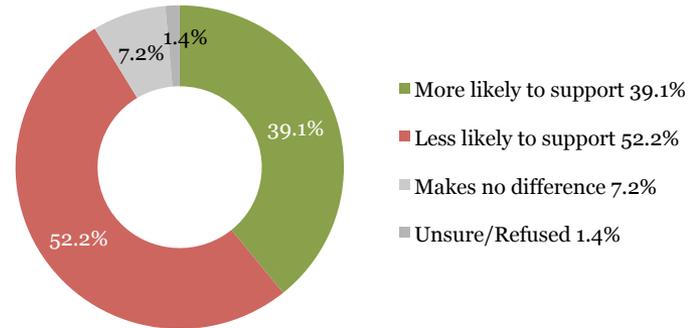
Knowing of the City's failures to plan for future costs

Makes 69.7% less likely to support the plan

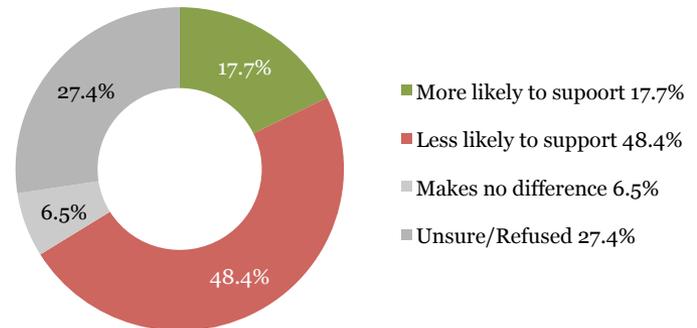
Question: After it became clear that the City of Riverside no longer had the ability to pay for the 250 million dollars required to upgrade its wastewater treatment Plant Number One, the City decided to try to force small regional Community Services Districts to pay about 30 million dollars to subsidize the plant's cost. Does knowing this make you more likely or less likely to support the City suing the Jurupa Community Services District and the Rubidoux Community Services District to help pay for the 250 million dollar upgrade to one of the City's wastewater treatment plants?



Among those who initially supported



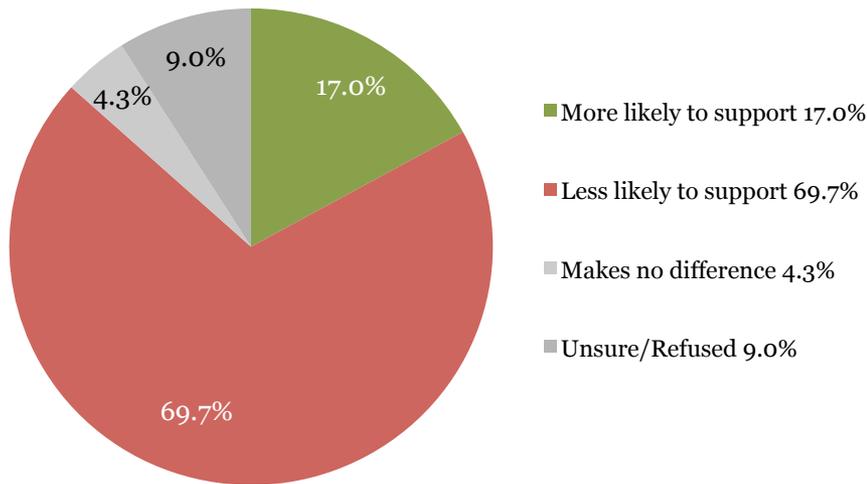
Among those who were unsure



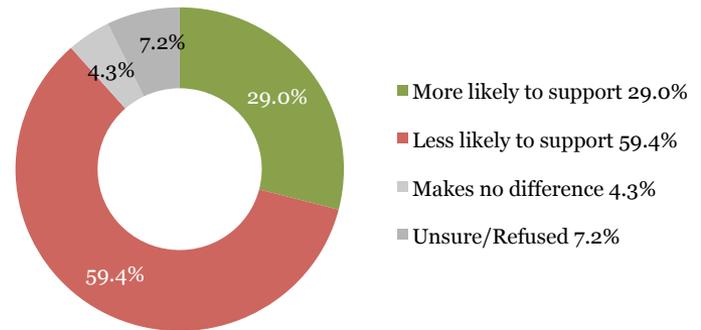
Knowing of the City's refusal to fix the Wildlife Area

Makes 69.7% less likely to support the plan

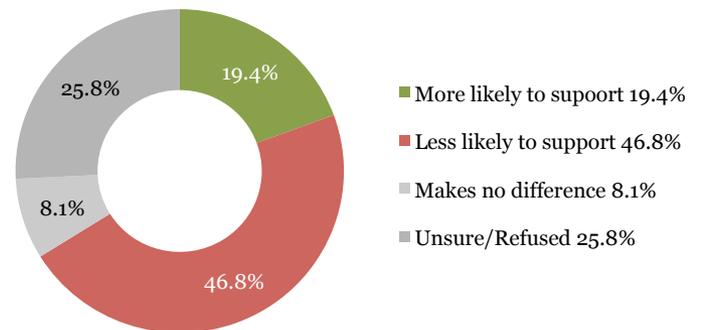
Question: The City refuses to fix the Hidden Valley Wildlife Area in northwest Riverside. The wetlands haven was an attraction for children and Riverside residents to see thousands of migratory waterfowl such as egrets, great blue herons, Canada geese and wood ducks, but it has dried up and is uninhabited by wildlife after being damaged a few years ago by flooding. The Wetlands also helped treat wastewater by removing nitrogen, which helped the plant meet its regulatory requirements. Even though it's the City of Riverside's responsibility to maintain the wildlife refuge, the City has said it doesn't have the money to repair it. Meanwhile, the City is spending 250 million dollars for a gold-plated upgrade to its wastewater treatment plant. Does knowing this make you more likely or less likely to support the City of Riverside suing the Jurupa Community Services District and the Rubidoux Community Services District to help pay for the 250 million dollar upgrade to one of the City's wastewater treatment plants?



Among those who initially supported

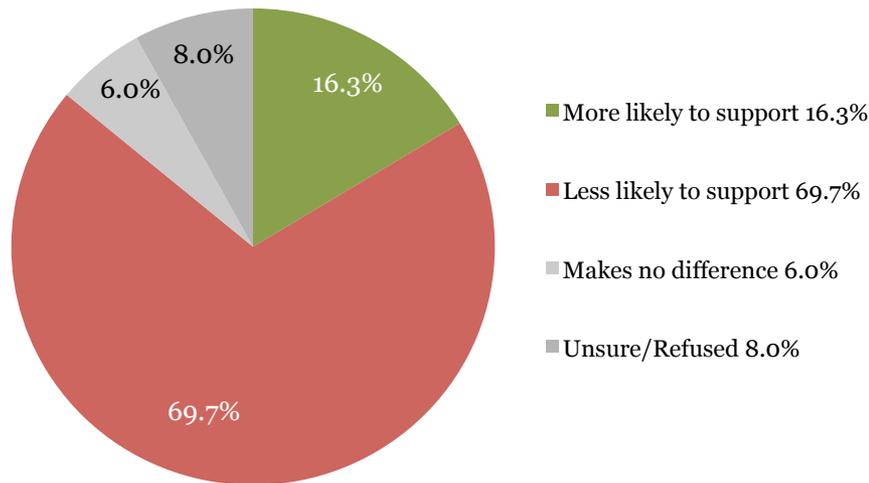


Among those who were unsure

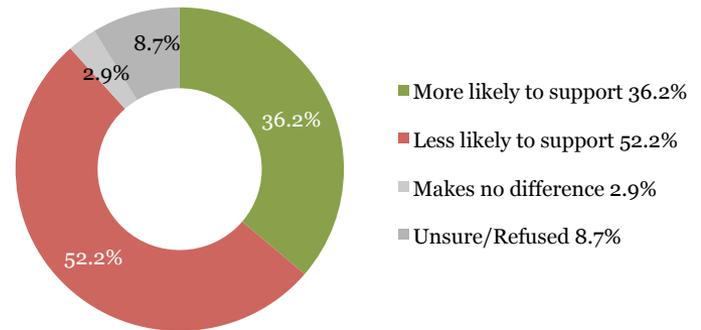


Knowing received federal and state funds but didn't set them aside for future projects makes 69.7% less likely to support the plan

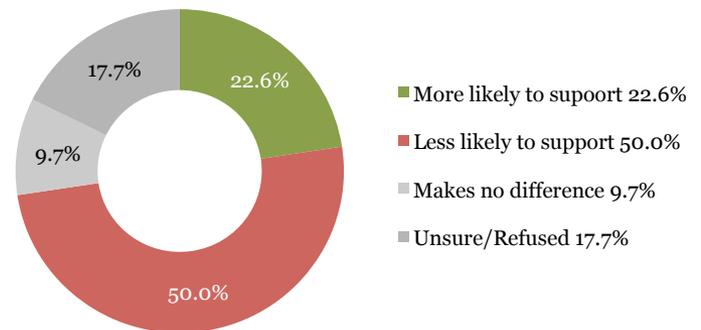
Question: Public agencies that receive Clean Water Act Grant Funds from the Federal government and the state of California are responsible for establishing a special fund that ensures these agencies save responsibly for future projects, upgrades and facilities replacement. In the late 1970's through the early 80's, Riverside received these funds to build its second wastewater treatment plant, Plant Number Two. But they never set aside the required funds. Does knowing this make you more likely or less likely to support the City of Riverside using the Jurupa Community Services District and the Rubidoux Community Services District to help pay for the 250 million dollar upgrade to one of the City's wastewater treatment plants?



Among those who initially supported



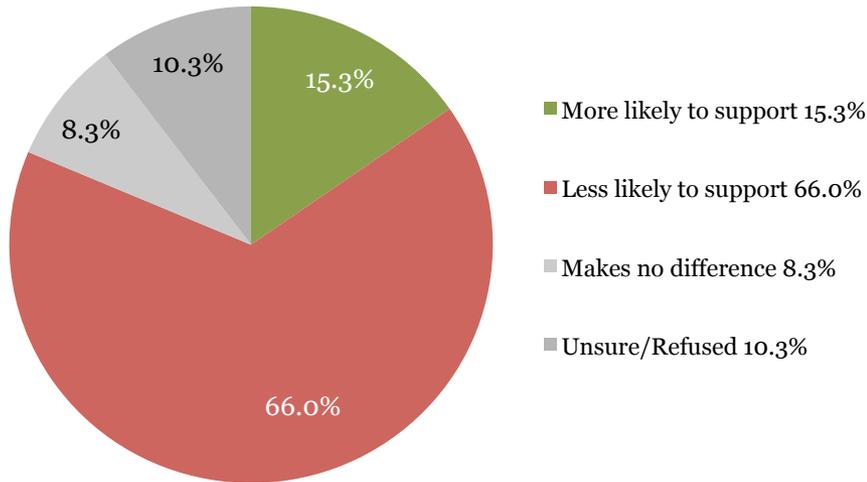
Among those who were unsure



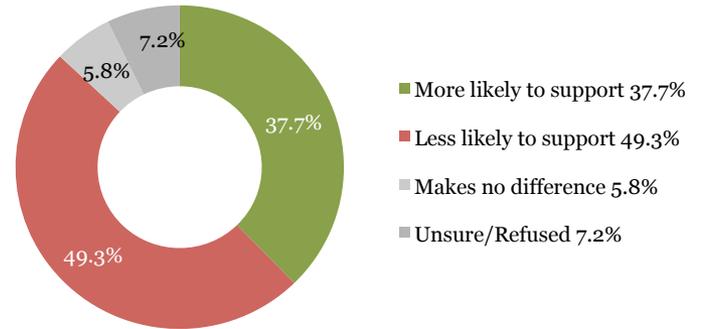
Knowing of the MBR's higher expenses

Makes a 66.0% less likely to support the plan

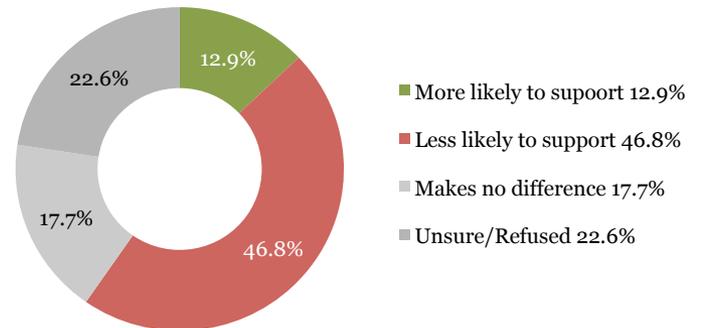
Question: The City of Riverside opted to replace the existing conventional wastewater treatment technology process in Plant one with a new system called Membrane Bioreactor. Membrane Bioreactor systems are dramatically more expensive than conventional facilities, requiring higher construction, maintenance and ongoing operational costs. Does knowing this make you more likely or less likely to support the City of Riverside suing the Jurupa Community Services District and the Rubidoux Community Services District to help pay for the 250 million dollar upgrade to one of the City's wastewater treatment plants?



Among those who initially supported



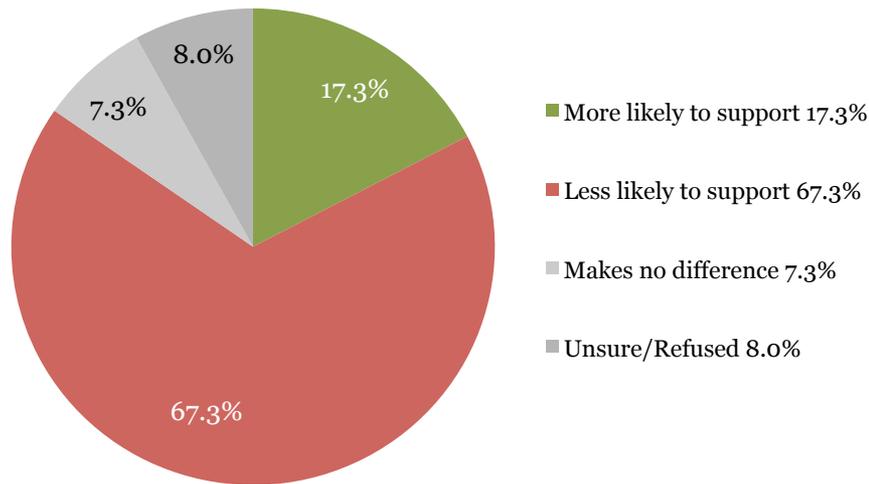
Among those who were unsure



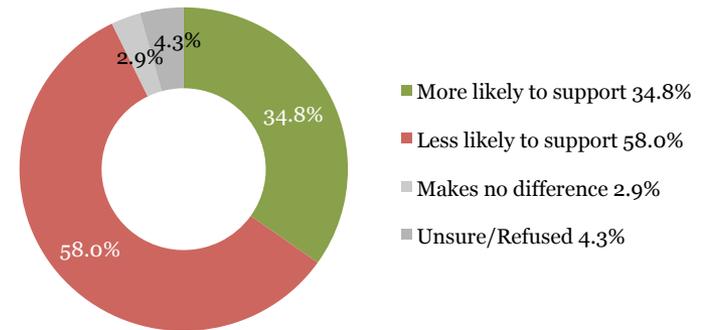
Knowing the MBR conversion went far beyond requirements

Makes 67.3% less likely to support the plan

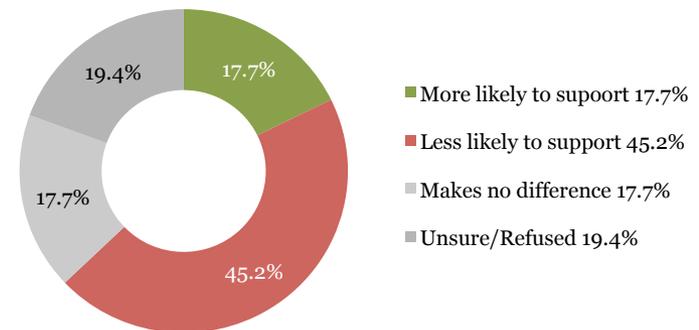
Question: The City of Riverside’s engineers estimated that the Membrane Bioreactor conversion alone costs over 54 million dollars. The conversion to a Membrane Bioreactor system goes far beyond what is required. All state and federal regulatory requirements and the region’s current and projected needs would have been met simply by maintaining the existing conventional system. Does knowing this make you more likely or less likely to support the City of Riverside suing the Jurupa Community Services District and the Rubidoux Community Services District to help pay for the 250 million dollar upgrade to one of the City’s wastewater treatment plants?



Among those who initially supported



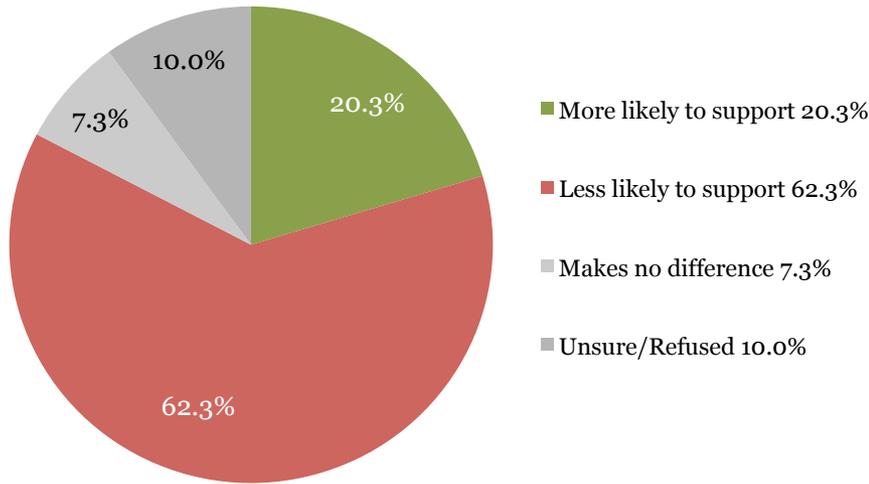
Among those who were unsure



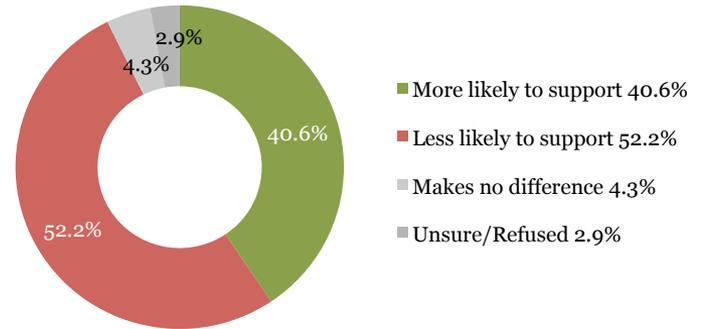
Knowing no other MBR plant of this size is in California

Makes 62.3% less likely to support the plan

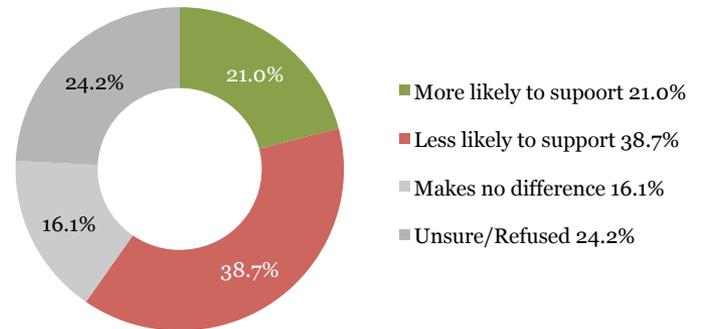
Question: Riverside's new Membrane Bioreactor system will be the largest in California. No other Membrane Bioreactor plant has been built on this scale or proven effective in our state. There are only four other comparably sized Membrane Bioreactor plants under construction, including those being built in the Middle East in Dubai and Oman, as well as in Las Vegas. Does knowing this make you more likely or less likely to support the City of Riverside suing the Jurupa Community Services District and the Rubidoux Community Services District to help pay for the 250 million dollar upgrade to one of the City's wastewater treatment plants?



Among those who initially supported



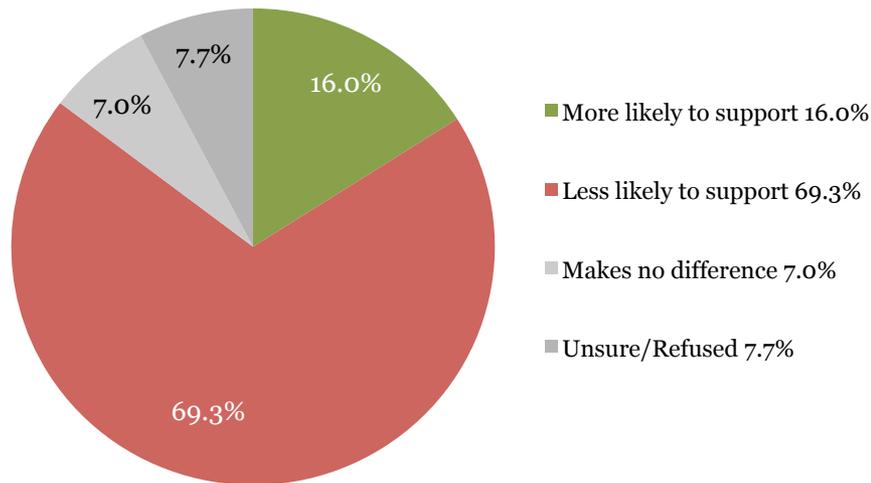
Among those who were unsure



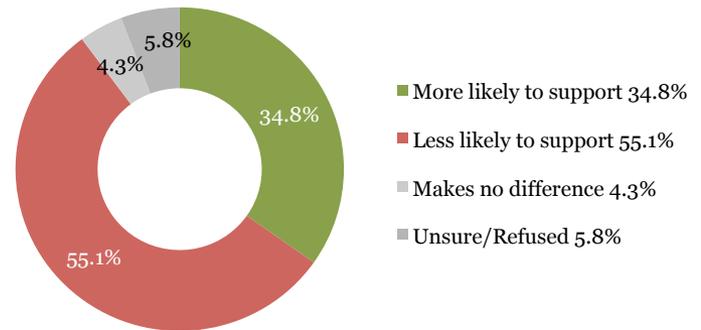
Knowing MBR is unproven and scarcely adopted

Makes 69.3% less likely to support the plan

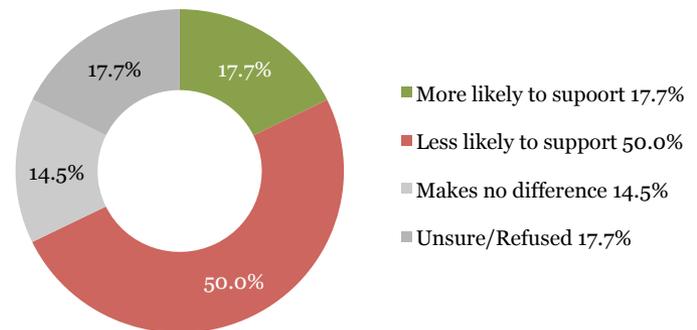
Question: Even though conventional treatment systems are used by the vast majority of municipalities throughout California because of their efficacy and cost savings, the City of Riverside chose to implement the considerably more expensive, unproven Membrane Bioreactor technology. Does knowing this make you more likely or less likely to support the City of Riverside suing the Jurupa Community Services District and the Rubidoux Community Services District to help pay for the 250 million dollar upgrade to one of the City's wastewater treatment plants?



Among those who initially supported



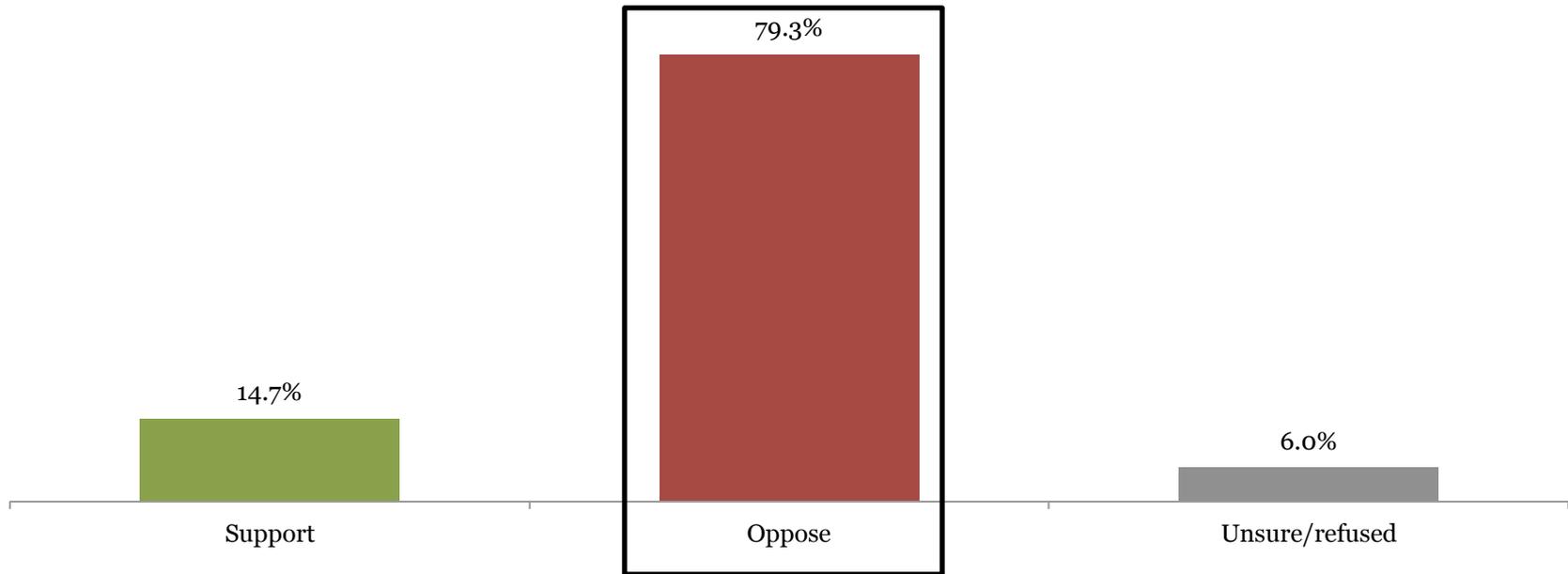
Among those who were unsure



Nearly 8 out of 10 voters (79.3%) oppose

The City forcing the CSDs to pay about \$30 million to offset upgrade costs

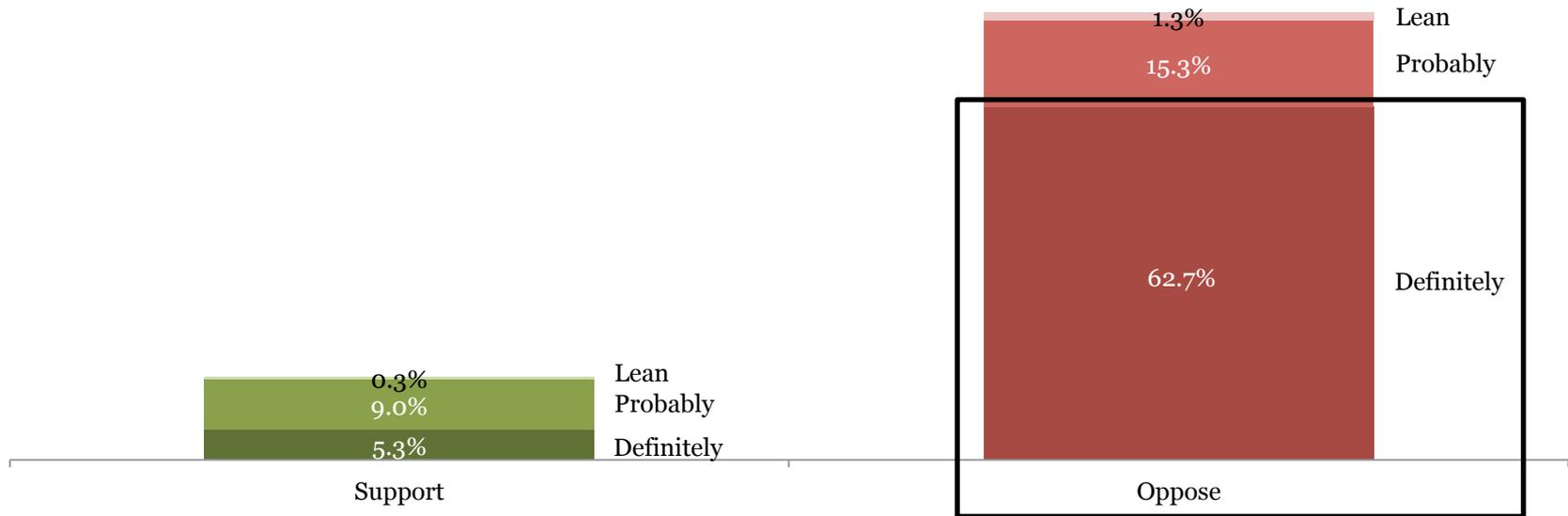
Question: Over twenty years ago, the City of Riverside entered into an agreement for with neighboring Community Services Districts: Jurupa and Rubidoux for those Districts to pay for waste water treatment and for ongoing operations, as well as repair and replacement costs for the existing conventional system of wastewater treatment on the more modern City of Riverside Plant Number Two. The agreement specifically excluded the Districts from paying for any future plant conversions, additions or modifications. The current 250 million dollar upgrade project is for the older Plant one. After it became clear that the City of Riverside failed to save for future plant upgrades even though the state requires them to, and that they no longer had the ability to pay for the 250 million dollar cost to upgrade its wastewater treatment plant, the City decided to reinterpret the 1990 agreements and sue the region's three Community Services Districts, attempting to force them to pay about 30 million dollars to help subsidize the plant's cost. If the City of Riverside is successful, this 30 million dollar charge will be passed on to the residents of those Districts, including Jurupa Community Services District and Rubidoux Community Services District. Do you support the City of Riverside forcing [Jurupa Community Services District/Rubidoux Community Services District] to pay the City about 30 million dollars to help offset the costs of the City's 250 million dollar upgrade to one of its wastewater treatment plants?



The intensity of opposition is high:

62.7% *strongly* oppose

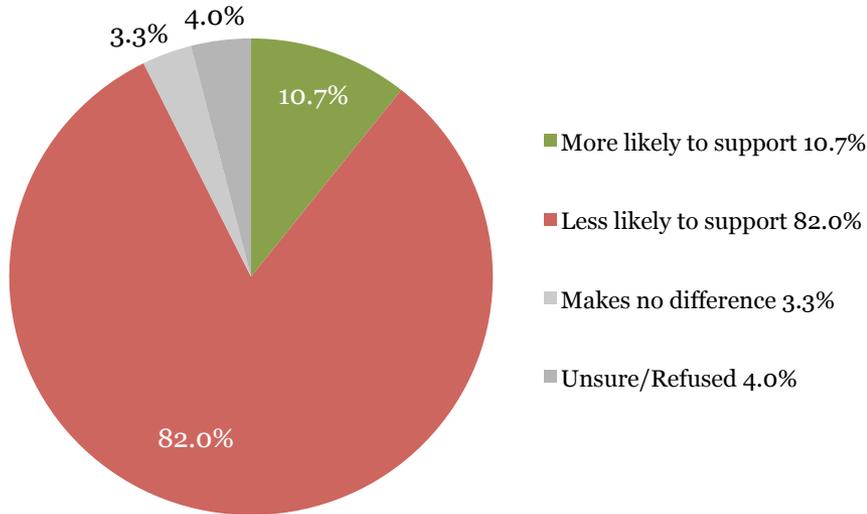
Question: And would you say that you definitely or probably (support/oppose)? And would you say that you would lean one way or the other?



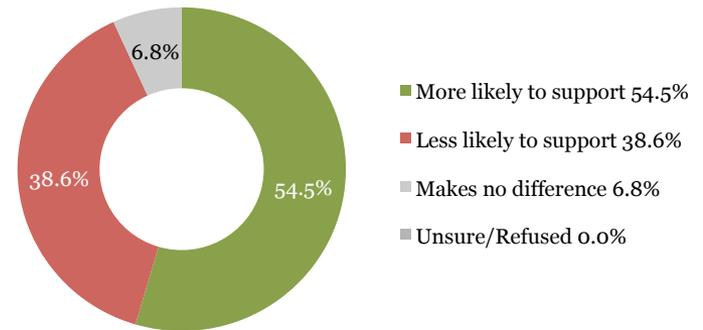
Knowing that Riverside has refused to negotiate

Makes 82.0% less likely to support the City forcing the CSDs to pay some \$30MM

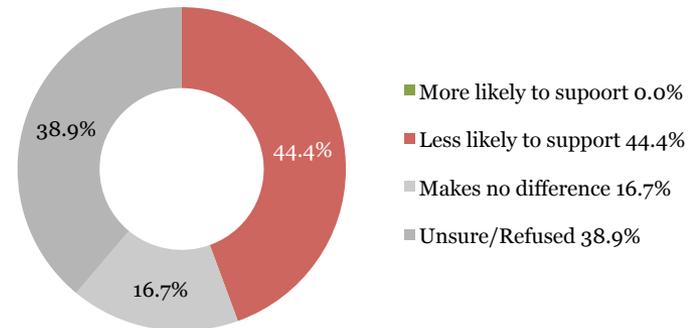
Question: Both Jurupa Community Services District and the Rubidoux Community Services District have repeatedly asked the City of Riverside to find a solution out of court that will work both for the City of Riverside AND the Community Services Districts, but Riverside has refused to negotiate. Instead, the City has spent nearly 200 thousand dollars so far suing the Districts. Does knowing this make you more likely or less likely to support the City of Riverside trying to force Jurupa Community Services District and the Rubidoux Community Services District to pay the City about 30 million dollars to help pay for the 250 million dollar upgrade to one of its wastewater treatment plants?



Among those who second supported



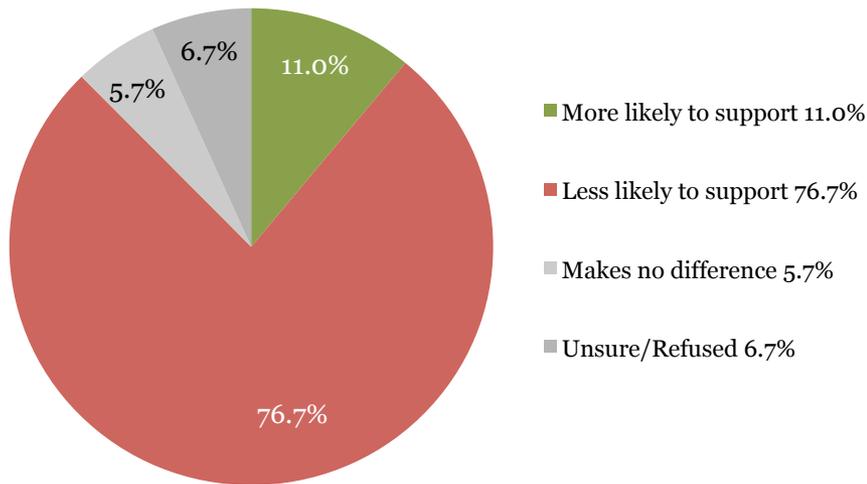
Among those who were unsure



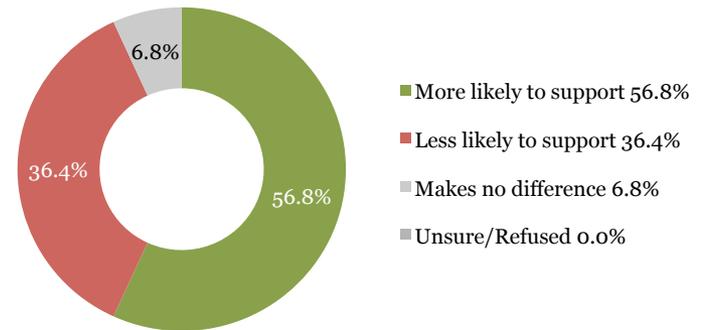
Knowing that Riverside compromised with Edgemont

Makes 76.7% less likely to support the City forcing the CSDs to pay some \$30MM

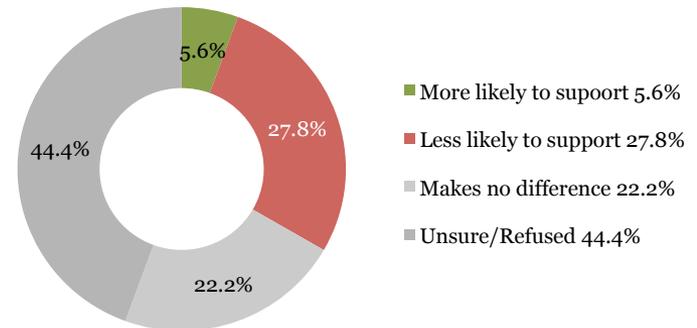
Question: The City of Riverside reached an agreement with nearby Edgemont Community Services District, yet refuses to compromise with either Jurupa or Rubidoux Community Services Districts. Does knowing this make you more likely or less likely to support the City of Riverside trying to force Jurupa Community Services District and Rubidoux Community Services District to pay the City about 30 million dollars to help pay for the 250 million dollar upgrade to one of its wastewater treatment plants?



Among those who second supported



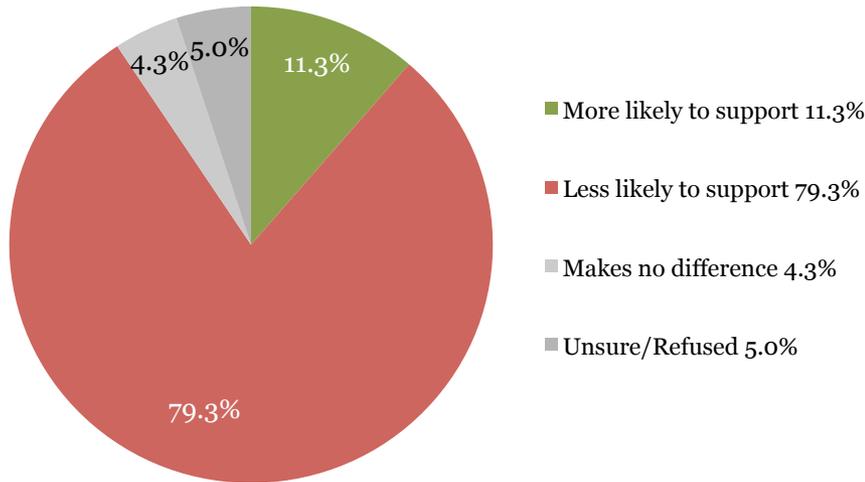
Among those who were unsure



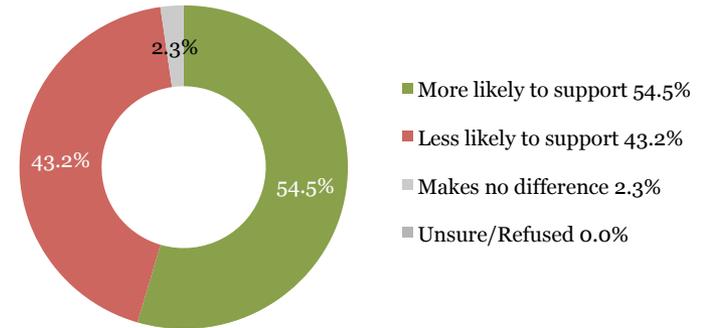
Knowing that monthly bills will skyrocket

Makes 79.3% less likely to support the City forcing the CSDs to pay some \$30MM

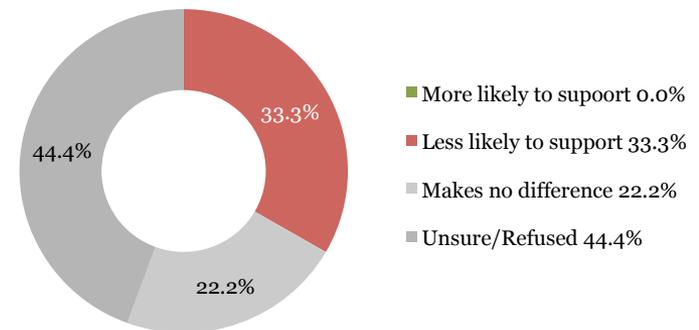
Question: If the Community Services Districts lose the lawsuit the City of Riverside has brought against them, the Districts will be forced to pass on most of the 30 million dollar cost to ratepayers. The average ratepayer's monthly bill will increase by about six dollars per month. Does knowing this make you more likely or less likely to support the City of Riverside trying to force Jurupa Community Services District and the Rubidoux Community Services District to pay the City about 30 million dollars to help pay for the 250 million dollar upgrade to one of its wastewater treatment plants?



Among those who second supported



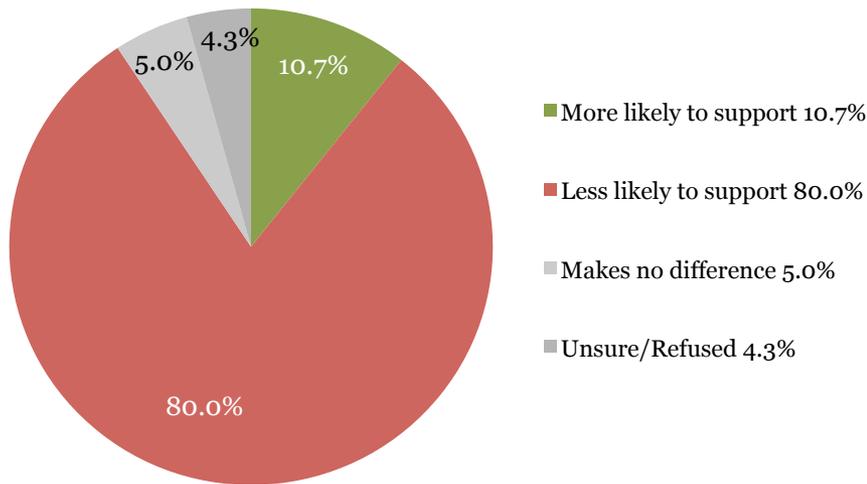
Among those who were unsure



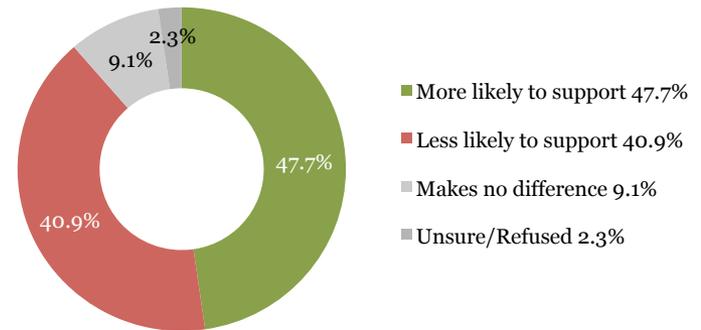
Knowing that this lawsuit is just the beginning

Makes 80.0% less likely to support the City forcing the CSDs to pay some \$30MM

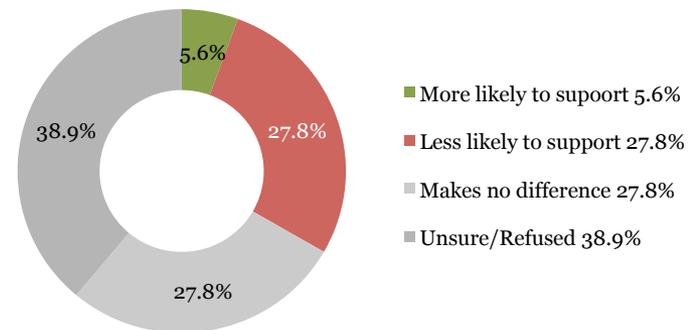
Question: If the City of Riverside wins its lawsuit against the Community Services Districts, that won't be the end of the story. Riverside has already started to talk about needing another 22 million dollars to perform upgrades to Plan Number Two, a cost the City will almost certainly expect the Community Services Districts to shoulder. Does knowing this make you more likely or less likely to support the City of Riverside trying to force Jurupa Community Services District and the Rubidoux Community Services District to pay the City about 30 million dollars to help for the 250 million dollar upgrade to one of its wastewater treatment plants?



Among those who second supported



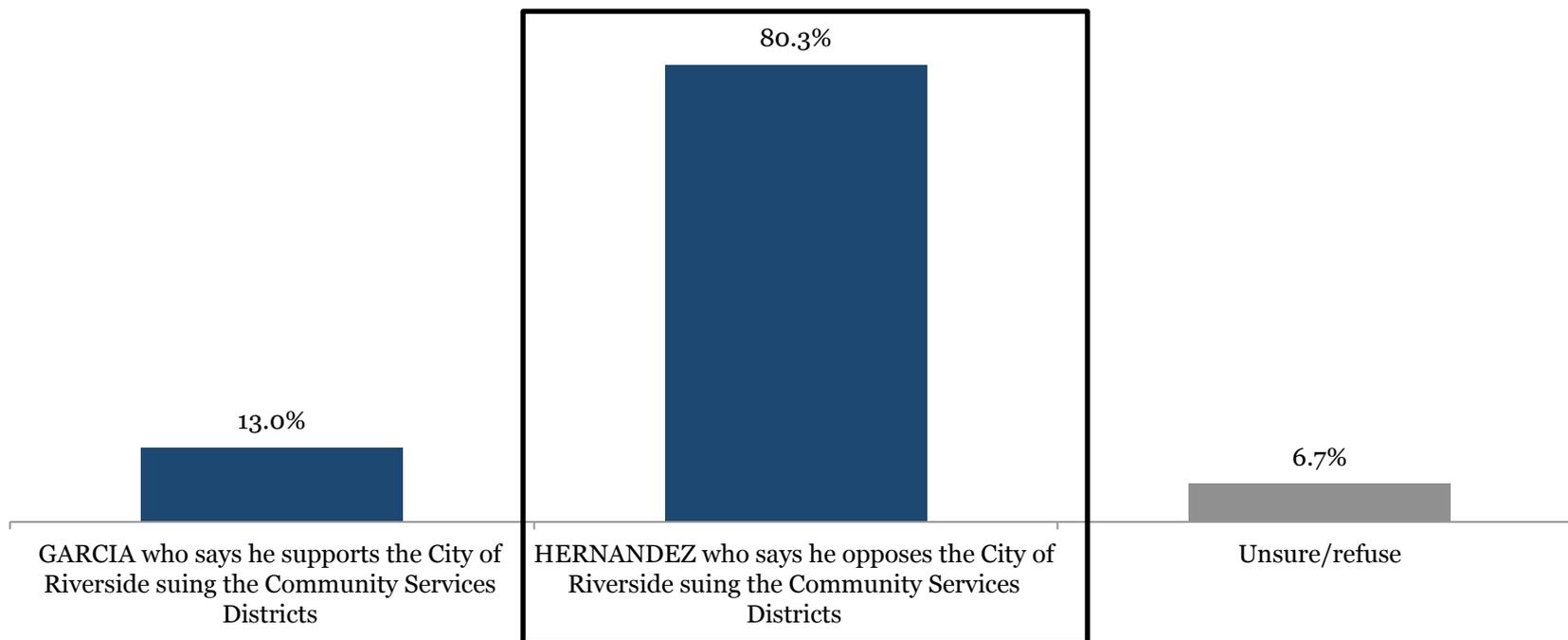
Among those who were unsure



80.3% agree with Hernandez, who says There's no way he'll support Riversides lawsuit against the CSDs

Question: GARCIA says: "I support the City of Riverside forcing the Community Services Districts to pay their fair share for the upgrades to wastewater treatment plant one."

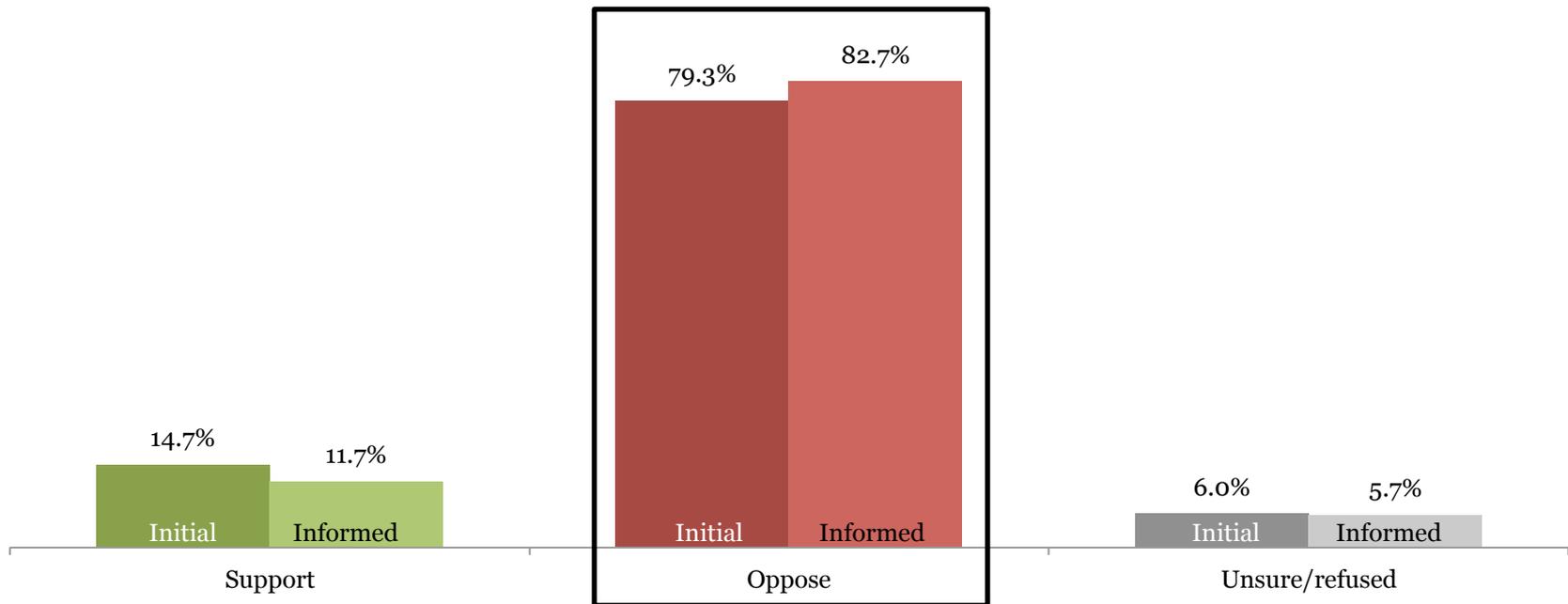
HERNANDEZ says: "There's no way I support Riverside suing the Community Services Districts to pay for Riverside's mismanagement of funds. The new treatment plant is a boondoggle – as testimony, Riverside recently received a national award for the current facility's outstanding compliance. Why should our communities be sued into subsidizing Riverside's bad decisions? It's not legal and it's not fair." With whom do you agree more, GARCIA or HERNANDEZ?



Opposition to Riverside's upgrade plans

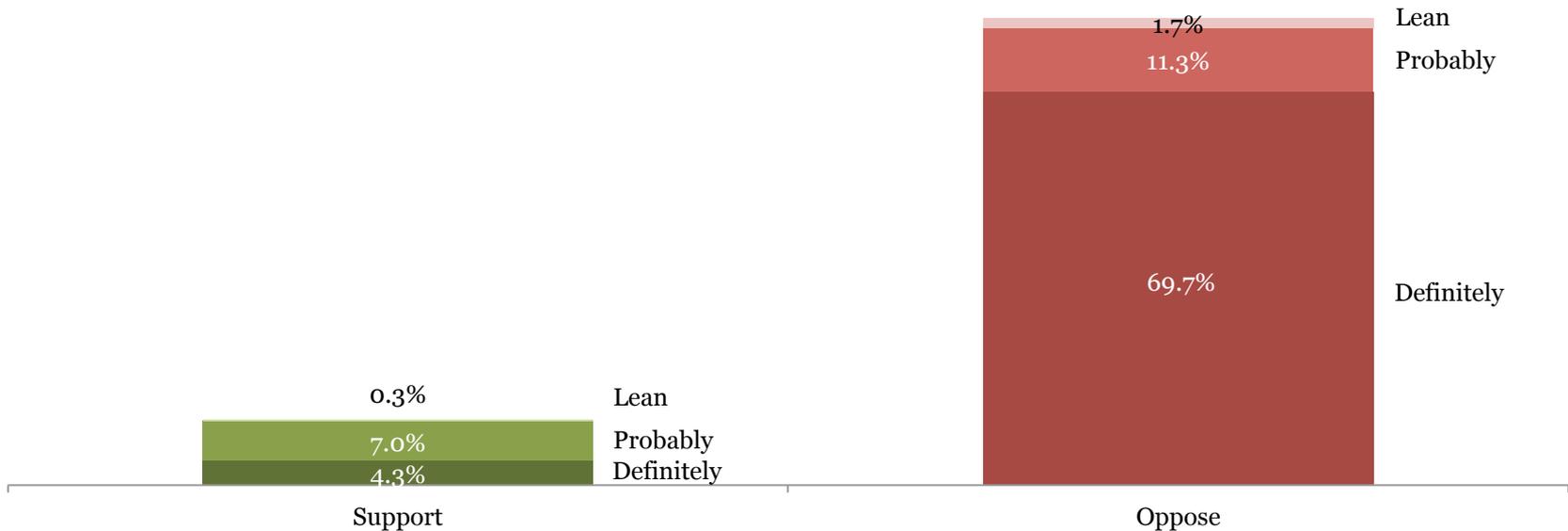
Increases to 82.7%

Question: Knowing what you do now, would you say that you support the City of Riverside raising sewer rates and suing nearby communities to help pay for the 250 million dollar upgrade to one of the City's wastewater treatment plants?



The intensity of opposition is in the supermajority range: 69.7% *strongly* oppose the plan

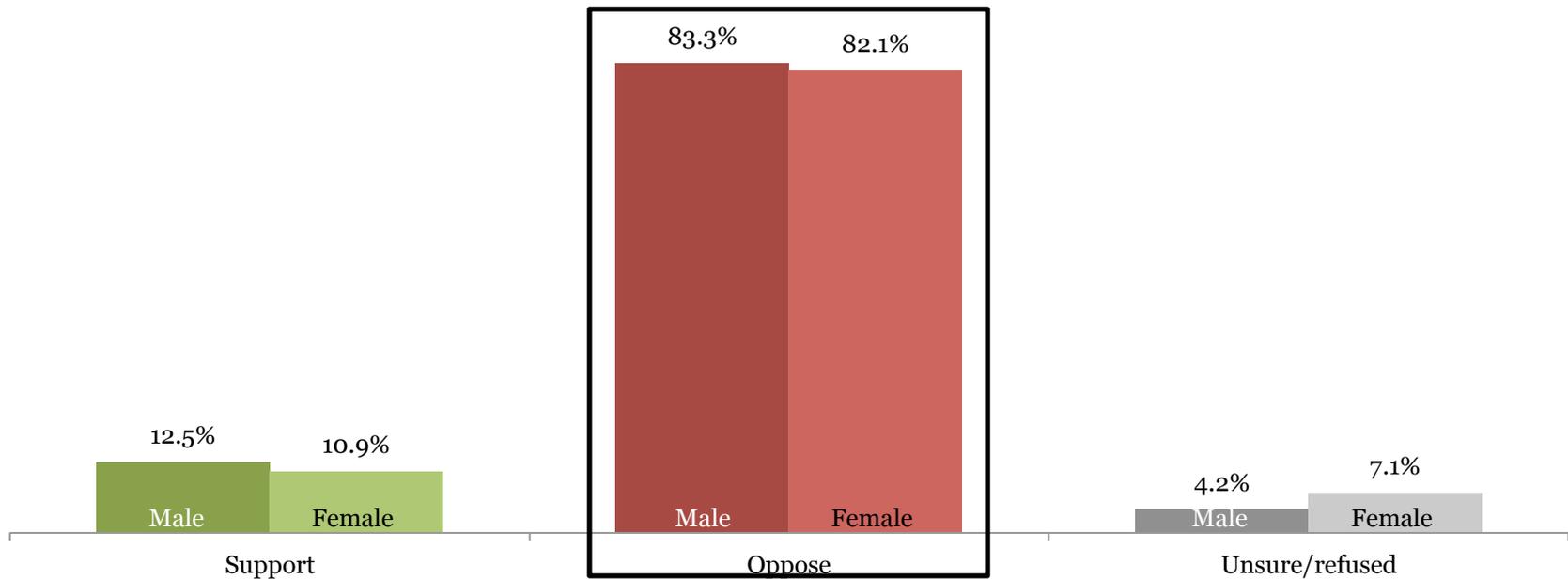
Question: And would you say that you definitely or probably (support/oppose)? And would you say that you would lean one way or the other?



Women and men exhibit similar opposition

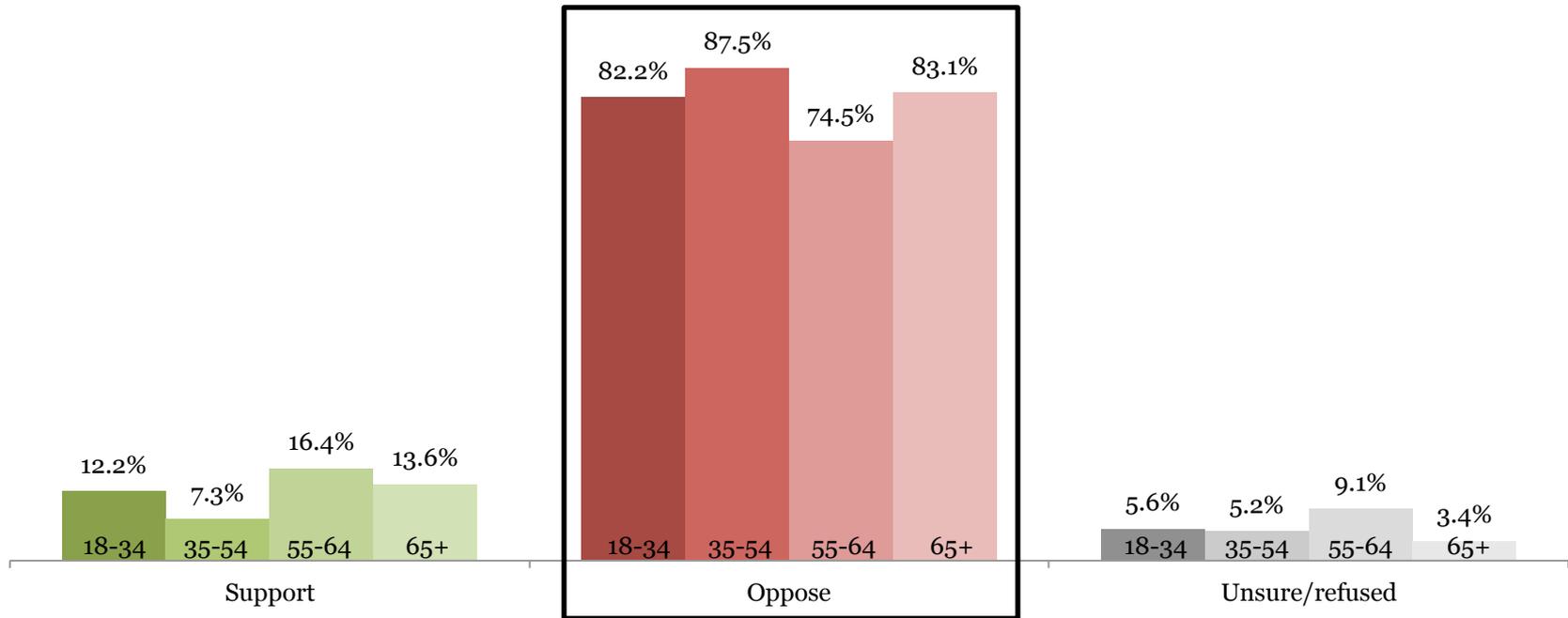
To the plan

Question: Knowing what you do now, would you say that you support the City of Riverside raising sewer rates and suing nearby communities to help pay for the 250 million dollar upgrade to one of the City's wastewater treatment plants?



Among age groups, opposition is especially high among Those aged 35-54 and 65+

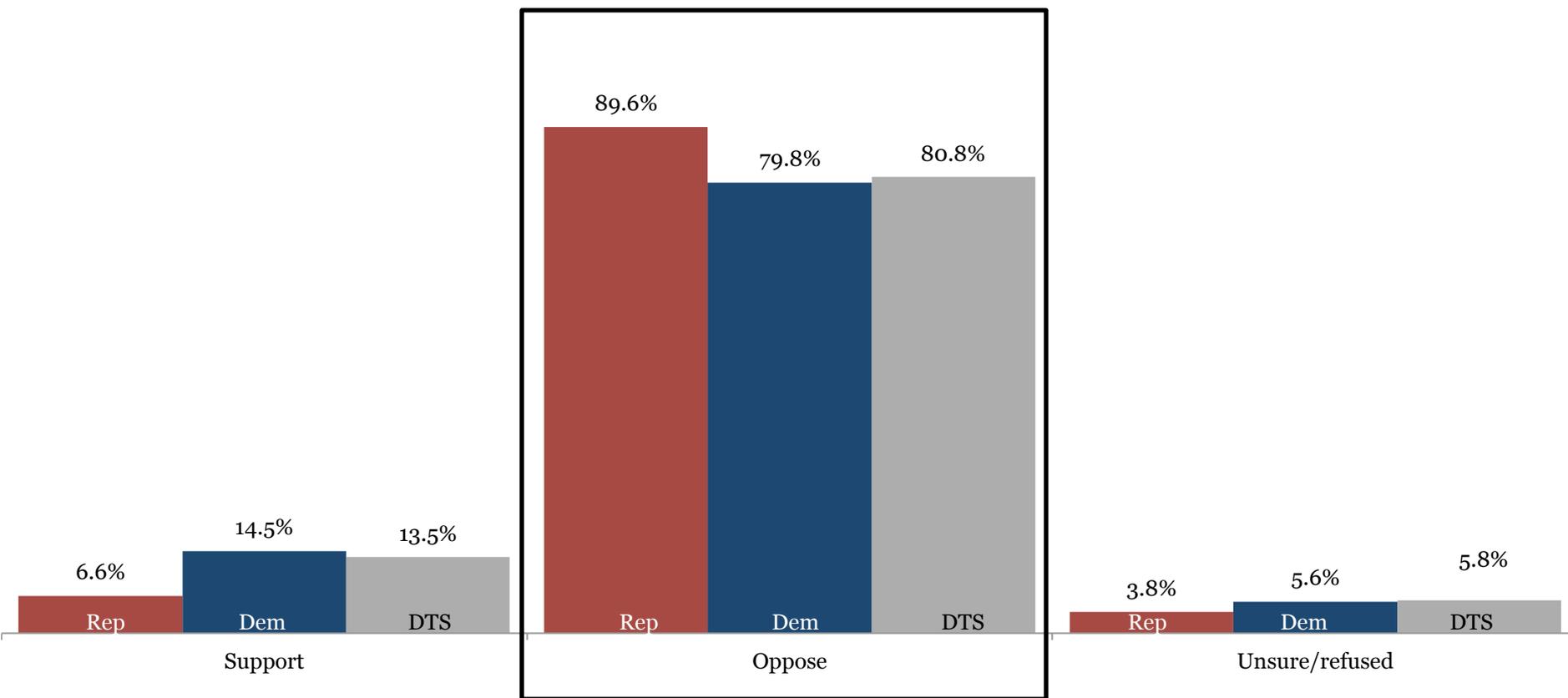
Question: Knowing what you do now, would you say that you support the City of Riverside raising sewer rates and suing nearby communities to help pay for the 250 million dollar upgrade to one of the City's wastewater treatment plants?



Republicans

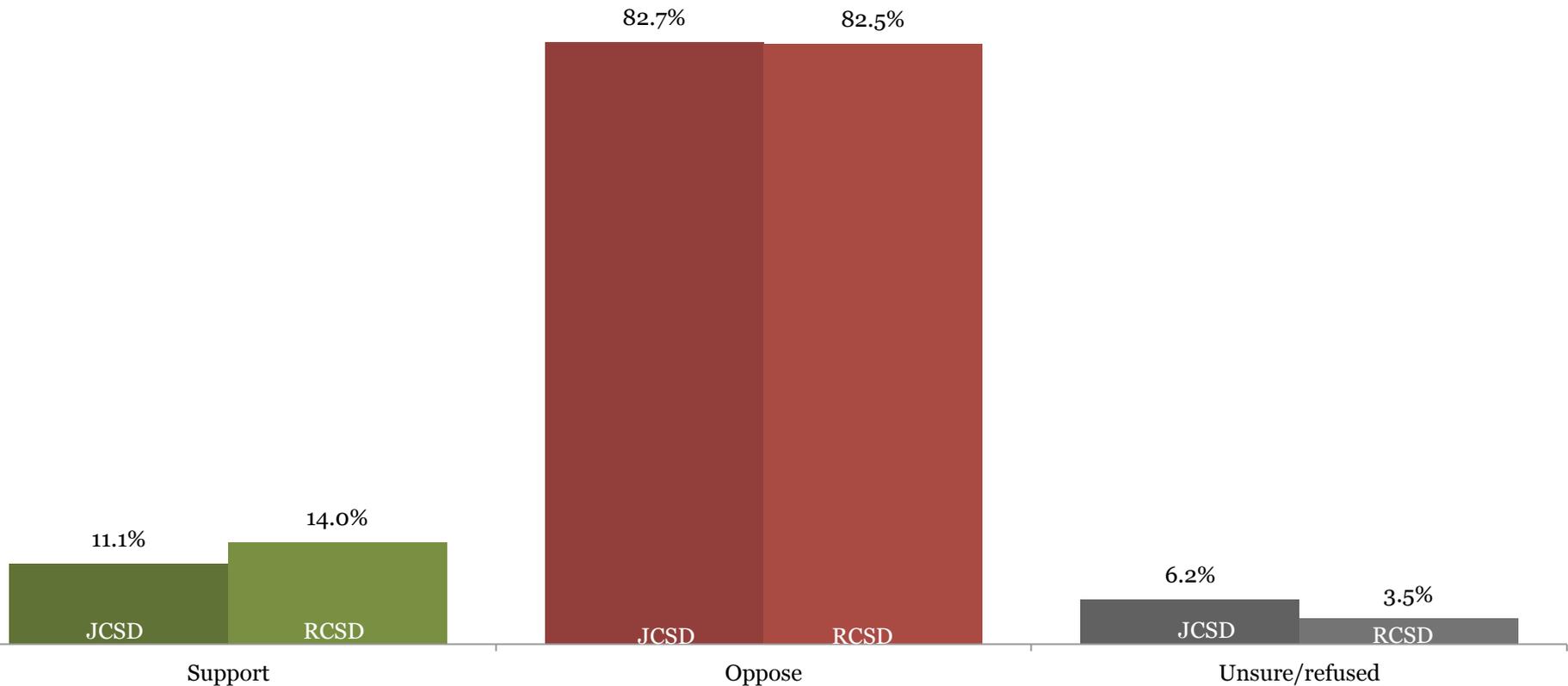
Are especially likely to oppose the plan

Question: Knowing what you do now, would you say that you support the City of Riverside raising sewer rates and suing nearby communities to help pay for the 250 million dollar upgrade to one of the City's wastewater treatment plants?



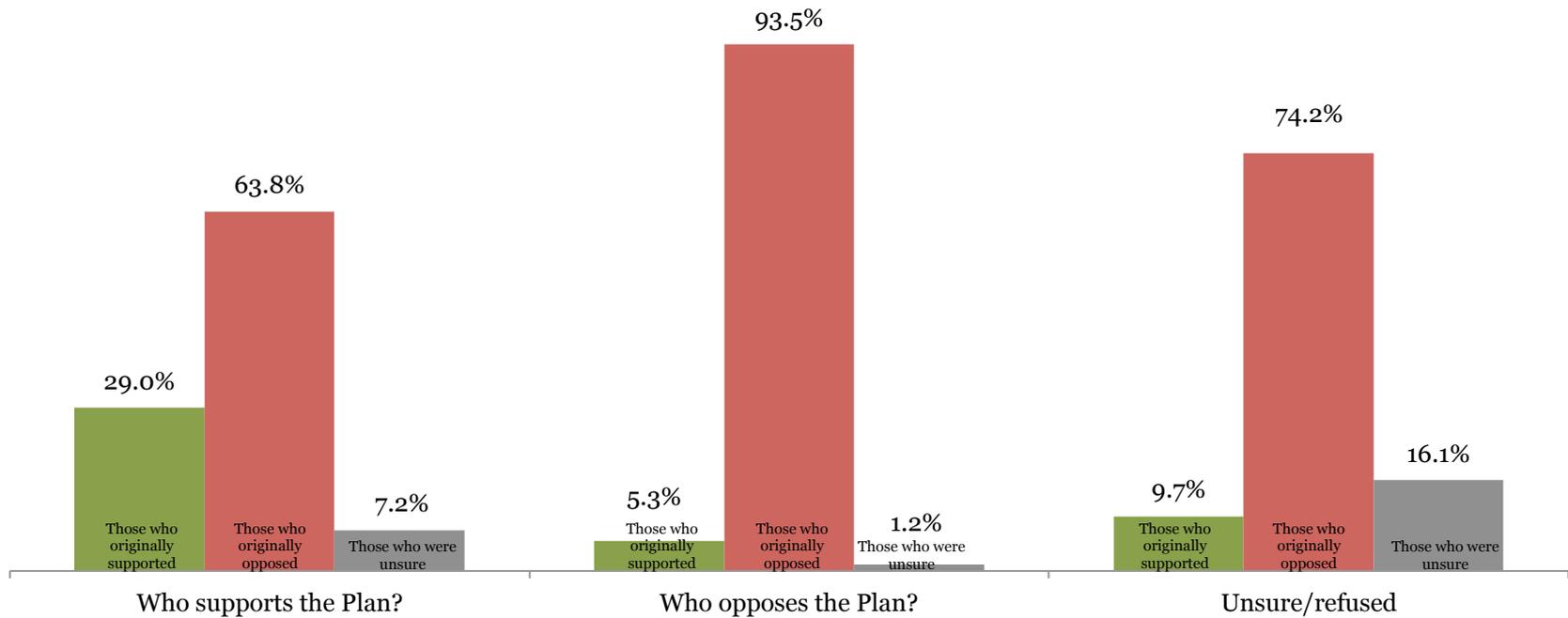
Who does support and opposition look In terms of geography?

Question: Knowing what you do now, would you say that you support the City of Riverside raising sewer rates and suing nearby communities to help pay for the 250 million dollar upgrade to one of the City's wastewater treatment plants?



How does support/opposition Change from the initial test?

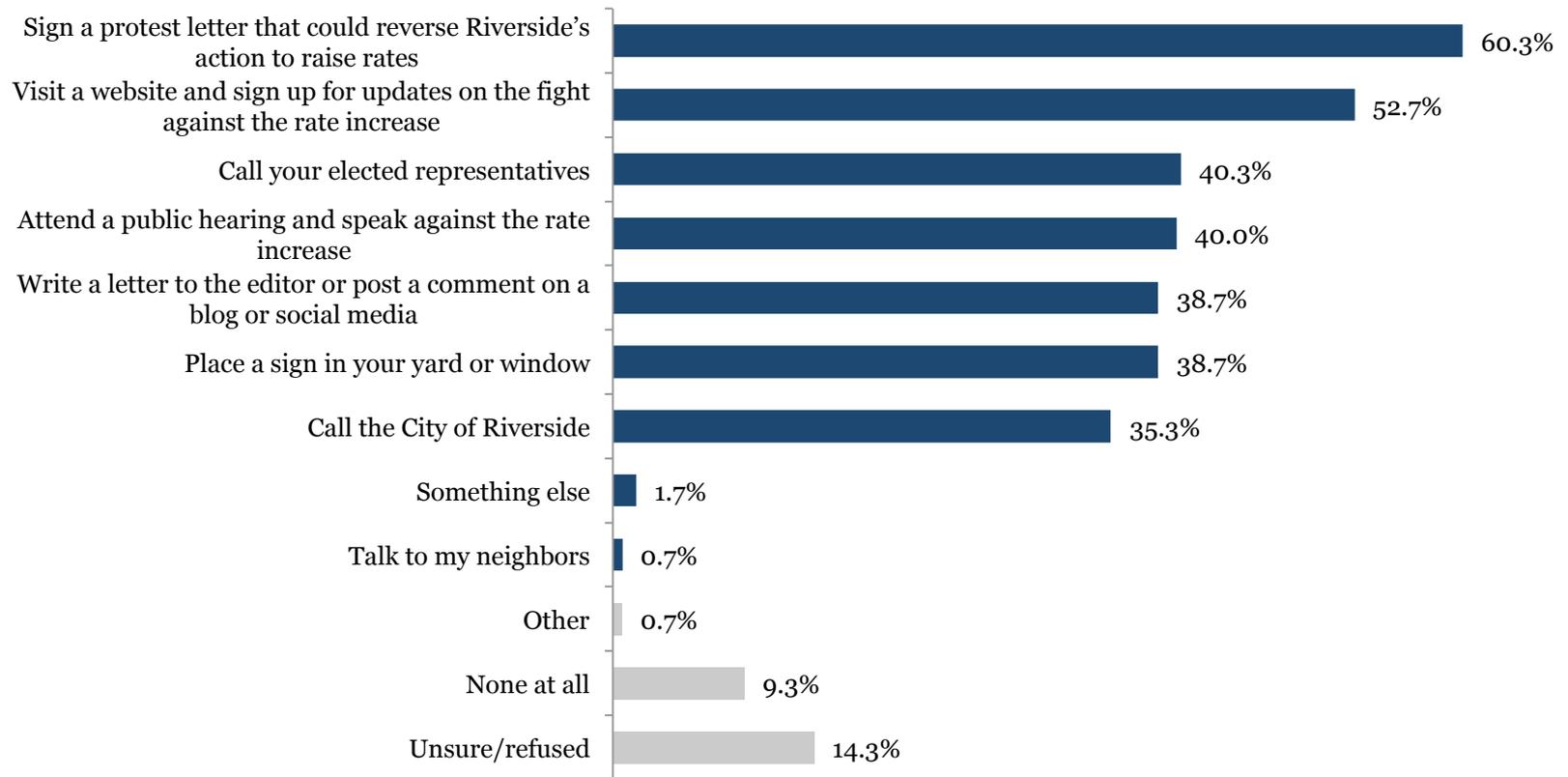
Question: Knowing what you do now, would you say that you support the City of Riverside raising sewer rates and suing nearby communities to help pay for the 250 million dollar upgrade to one of the City's wastewater treatment plants?



What actions are those who oppose the plan

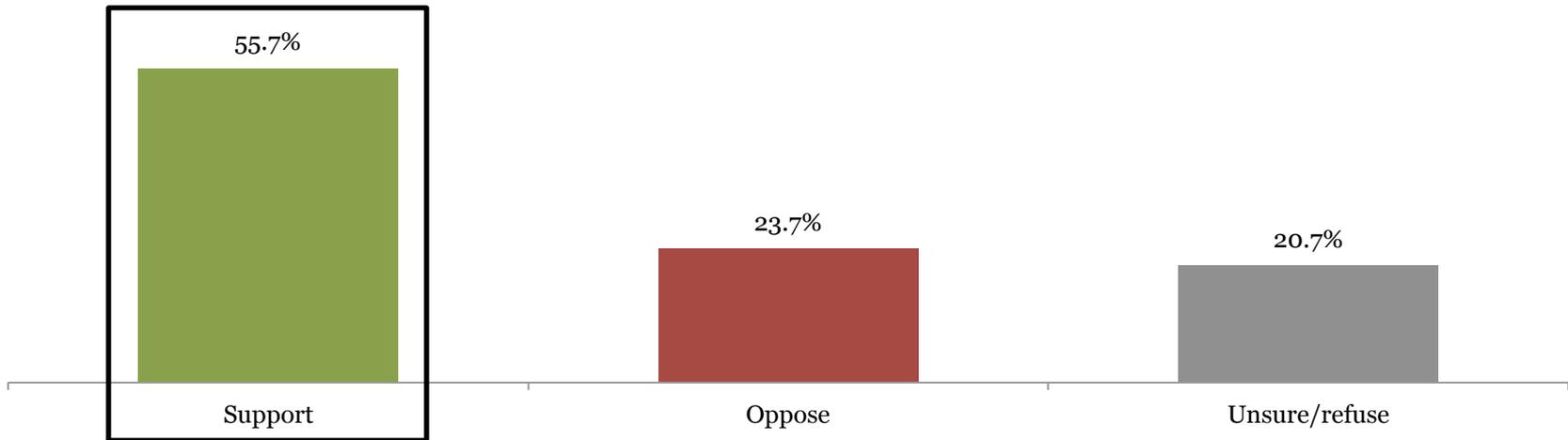
Willing to take?

Question: I'm going to list a number of different actions you could take to speak out against the City's 250 million dollar upgrade to one of its wastewater treatment plants and suing the Jurupa Community Services District and the Rubidoux Community Services District. Please tell me which ones you would be most likely to do. You can choose as many as you like, or none at all.



55.7% support the CSDs building their own, Locally controlled wastewater treatment plant

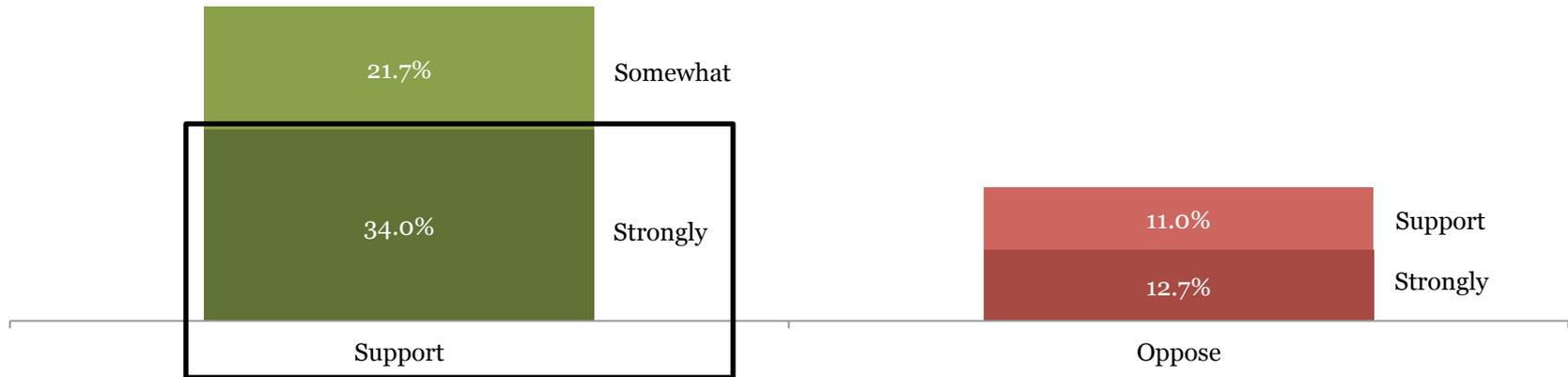
Question: It would cost about 100 million dollars to build a wastewater treatment plant. In general, do you support or oppose (Jurupa Community Services District/Rubidoux Community Services District) building its own, locally controlled wastewater treatment plant rather than contracting with the City of Riverside?



The intensity of support is significant:

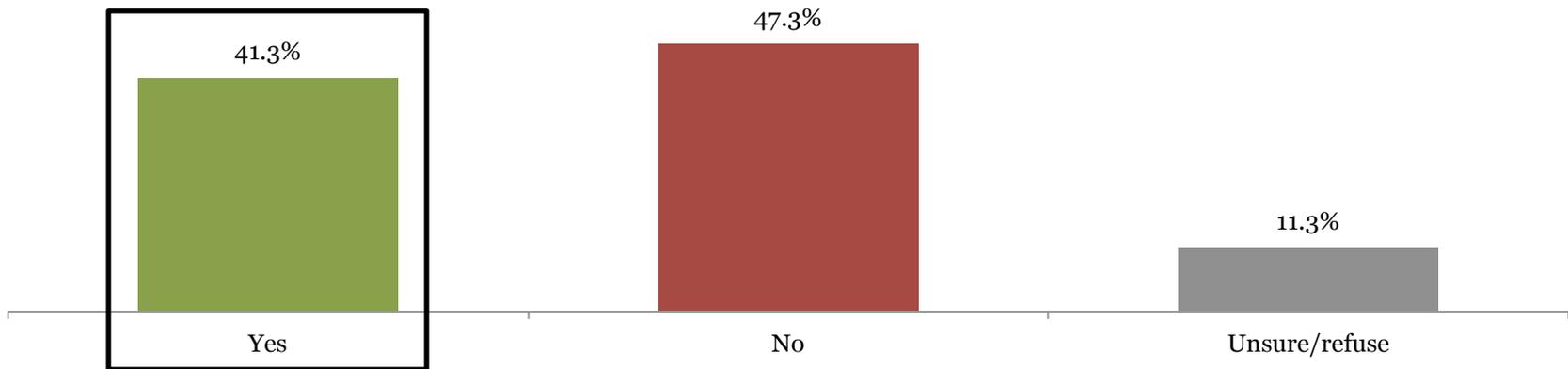
About one-third (34.0%) *strongly* support

Question: And would you say that you definitely or probably (support/oppose)? And would you say that you would lean one way or the other?



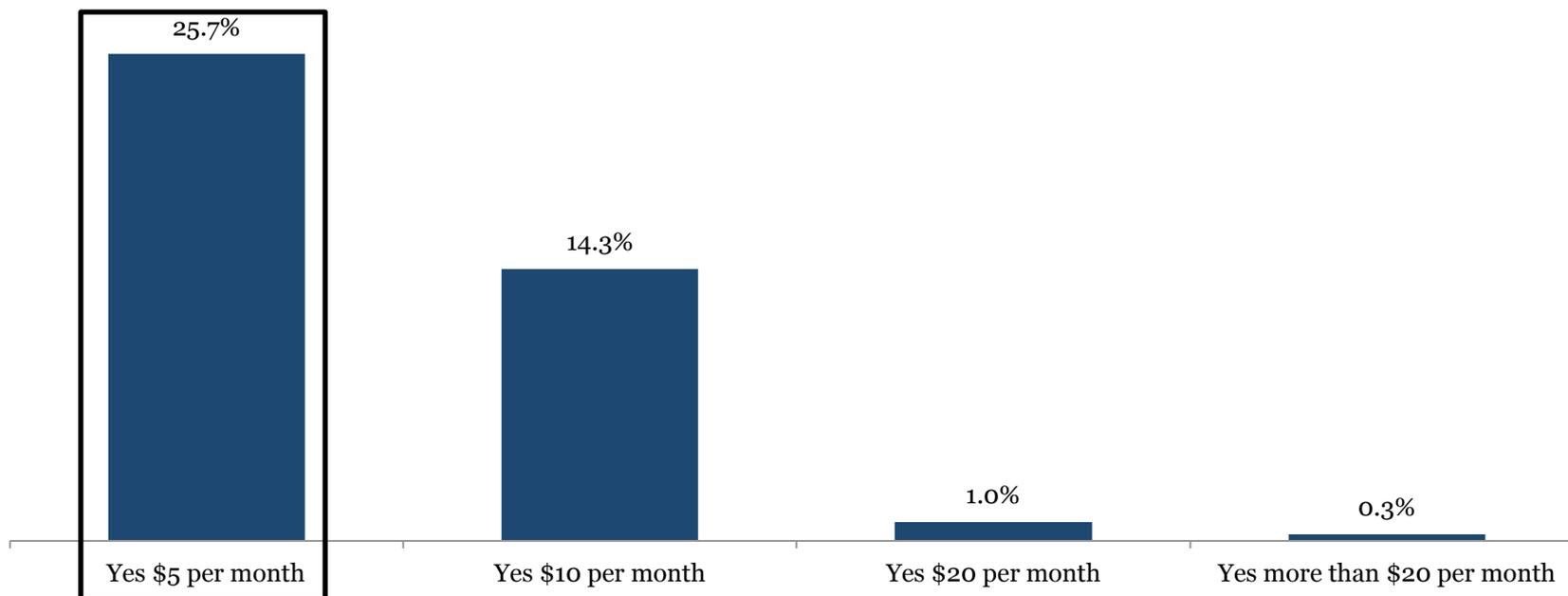
41.3% of voters are willing to pay more every month To pay for a locally controlled wastewater plant

Question: The costs for [Jurupa Community Services District/Rubidoux Community Services District] to build a locally controlled wastewater treatment plant would be funded in part by an increase in sewer bills on ratepayers who directly benefit from its construction, including residents such as you. Would you be willing pay more every month on your monthly sewer bill to pay for a locally controlled wastewater treatment plant and the reliability it provides?



Voters are most likely to support paying \$5 more per month

Question: The costs for [Jurupa Community Services District/Rubidoux Community Services District] to build a locally controlled wastewater treatment plant would be funded in part by an increase in sewer bills on ratepayers who directly benefit from its construction, including residents such as you. Would you be willing pay more every month on your monthly sewer bill to pay for a locally controlled wastewater treatment plant and the reliability it provides?



Thank you



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