

Michigan local government leaders' views on medical and recreational marijuana

CLOSUP Webinar

October 17, 2018

Presenters: Natalie Fitzpatrick and Debra Horner

Presentation Outline

- Overview of MPPS survey program
- Findings on local government officials' views on a range of issues regarding medical and recreational marijuana from the Spring 2018 survey wave, including:
 - ✓ Approach to the MMFLA
 - ✓ History of medical marijuana facilities in the jurisdiction
 - ✓ Support or opposition to allowing medical marijuana facilities in the jurisdiction
 - ✓ Problems and benefits regarding medical marijuana experienced in the jurisdiction
 - ✓ Legalization of recreational marijuana

The Michigan Public Policy Survey

- **Census survey** – all 1,856 counties, cities, villages, and townships
- **Respondents** – chief elected and appointed officials
- **Administered** – online and via hardcopy
- **Topics** – wide range, such as fiscal health, budget priorities, roads, public safety, economic development, intergovernmental cooperation, service privatization, employee policies, labor unions, environmental sustainability, Great Lakes, citizen engagement, much more.

MPPS is not a typical opinion poll

- **70+% response rates**
- **Transparency**
 - Questionnaires online
 - Pre-run data tables online
 - Sharing of (anonymized) datasets with other researchers
- **Expert advisors on questionnaire content**
- **Research partnership with Michigan local government associations**
 - MAC, MML, & MTA
- **Borrowing from other proven sources such as NLC and ICMA**

How many local jurisdictions responded to the Spring 2018 MPFS?

1,372 local units total (74% of all statewide)

By Population Size

488 local units <1500

521 local units 1500-5000

137 local units 5001-10,000

134 local units 10,001-30,000

92 local units >30,000

By Region

143 in the Upper Peninsula

235 in the Northern LP

259 in the Central West

236 in the Central East

230 in the Southwest

269 in the Southeast

Background

Medical Marijuana

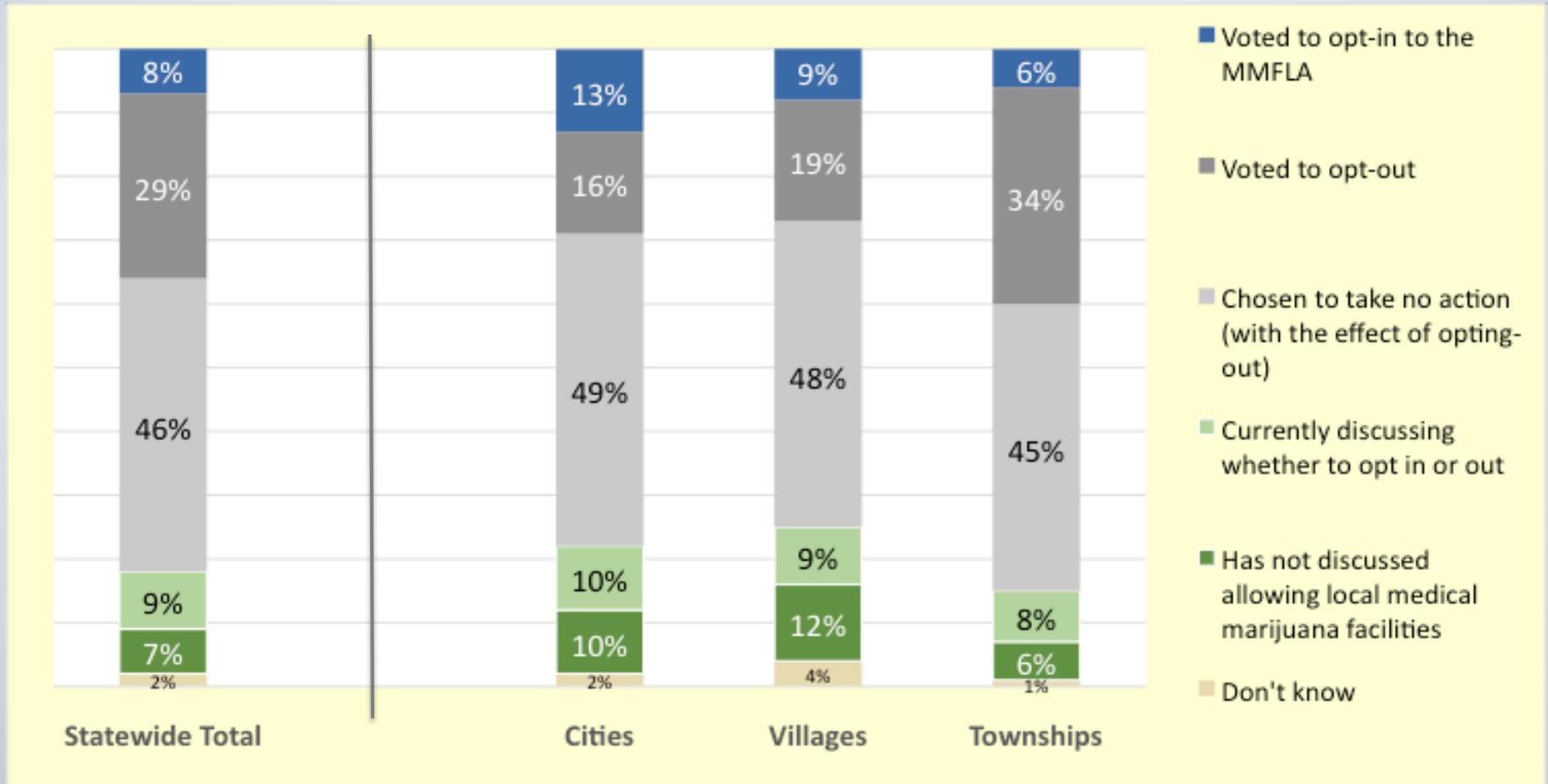
- **November 2008:** voters passed Michigan Medical Marijuana Initiative
 - Implemented under Michigan Medical Marijuana Act
- **February 2013:** State Supreme Court rules dispensaries are illegal
- **December 2016:** Medical Marijuana Facilities Licensing Act (MMFLA)
- **December 2017:** Applications for facilities licenses begin

Recreational Marijuana

- **November 2012:** Colorado and Washington legalize recreational marijuana
- **November 2018:** Michigan Proposal 1 (to authorize and legalize possession, use, and cultivation of marijuana products by individuals who are at least 21 years of age and older, and commercial sales of marijuana through state-licensed retailers)

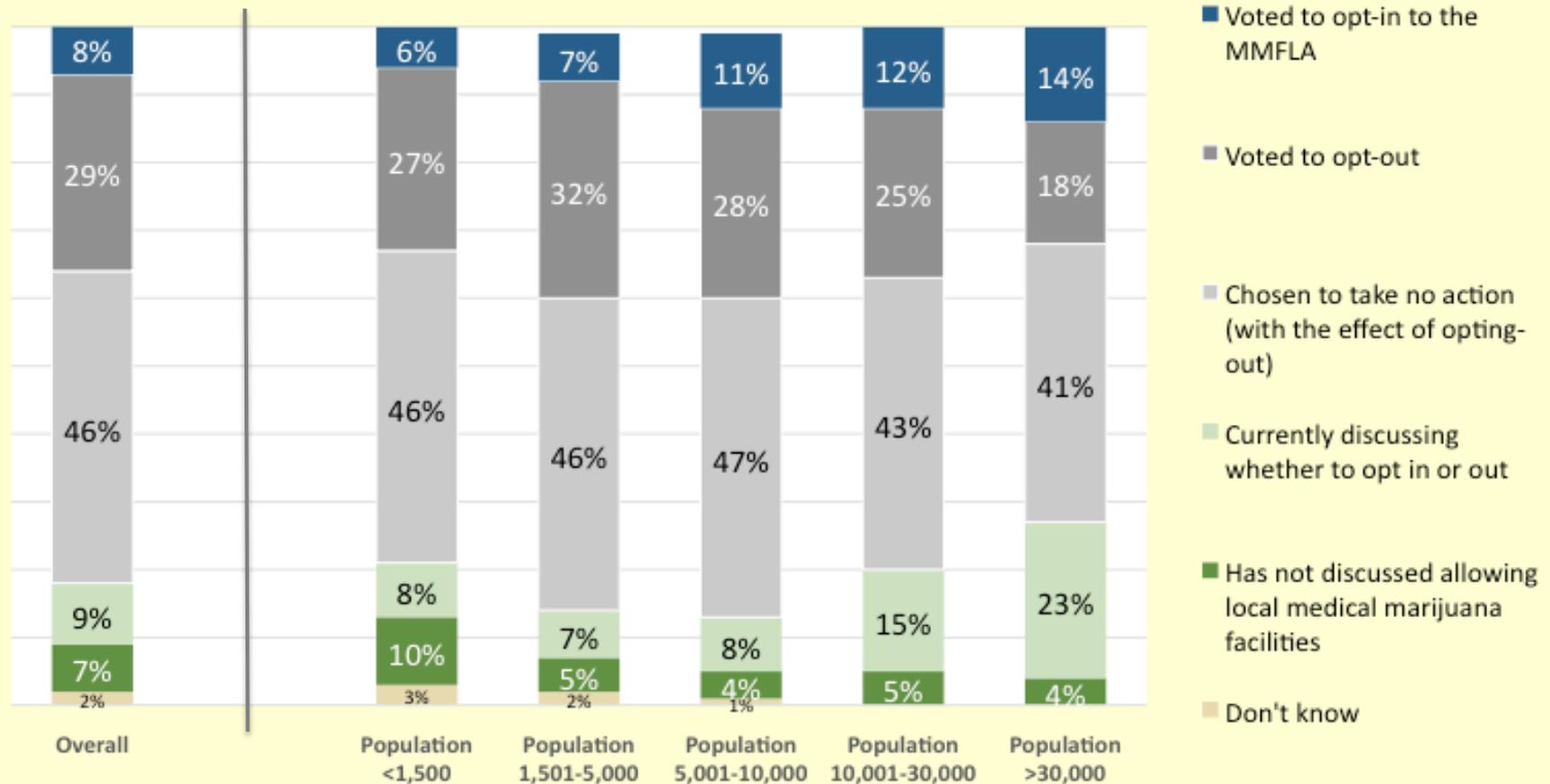
Who is opting in or opting out?

Which of the following best describes **your jurisdiction's approach** to allowing medical marijuana facilities in the jurisdiction?



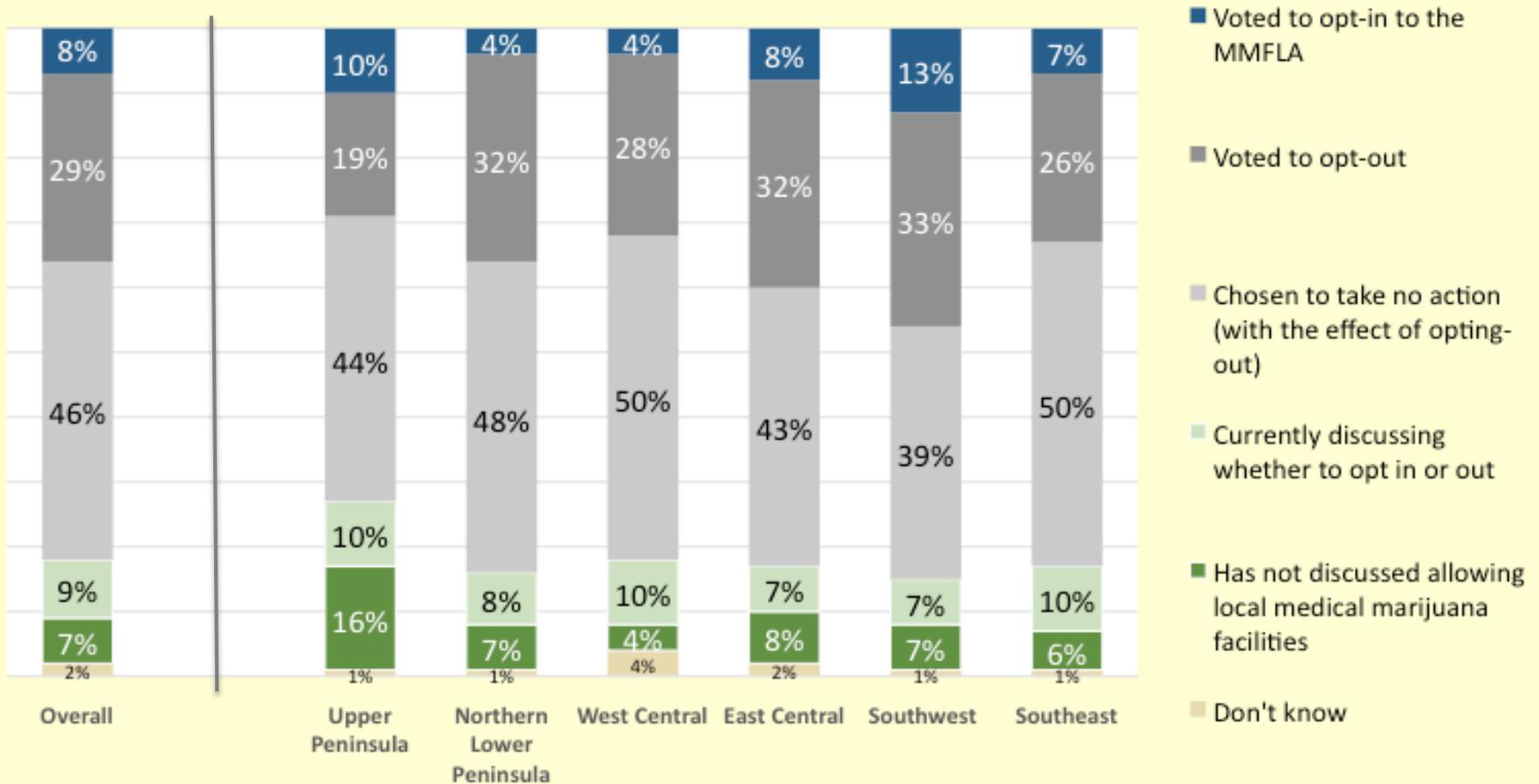
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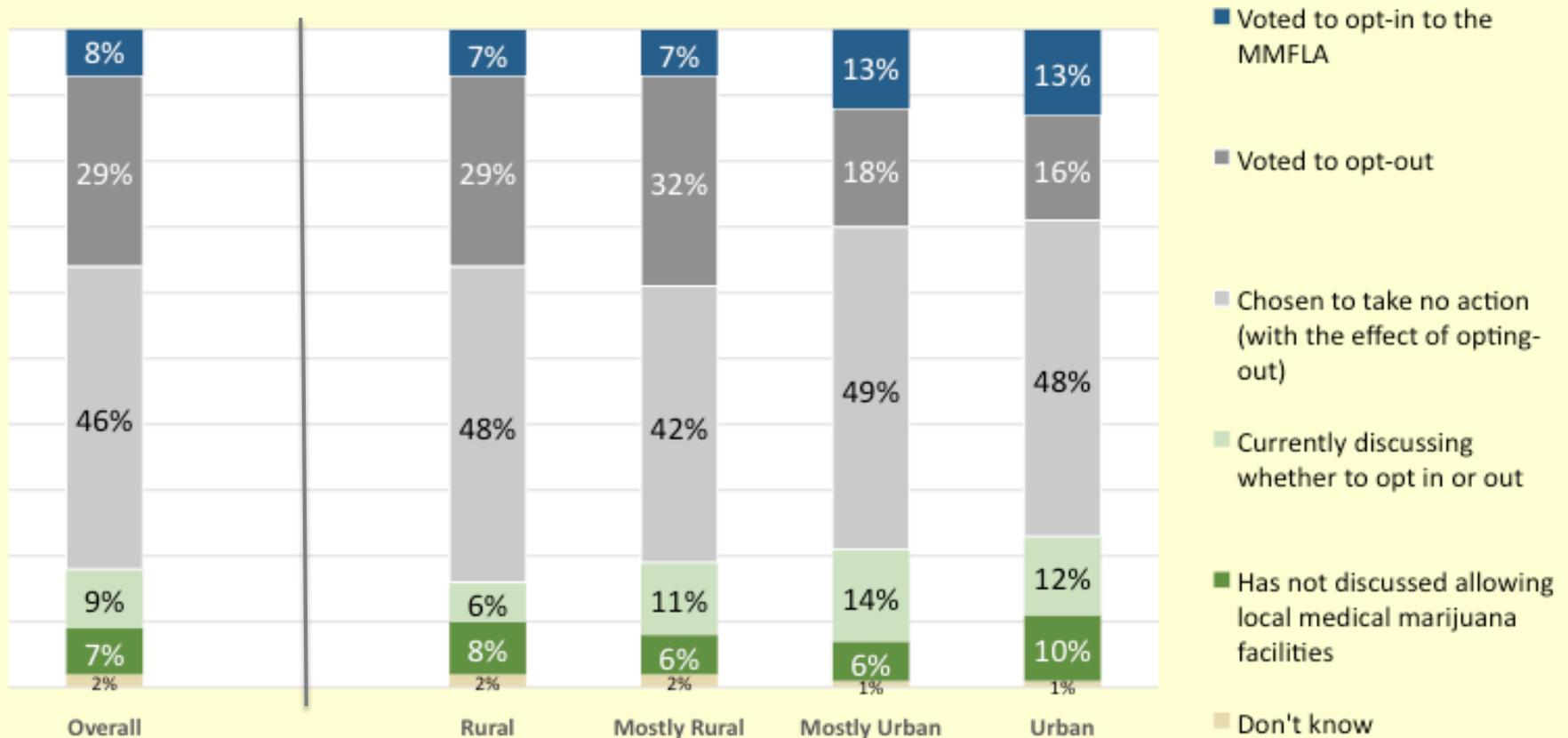
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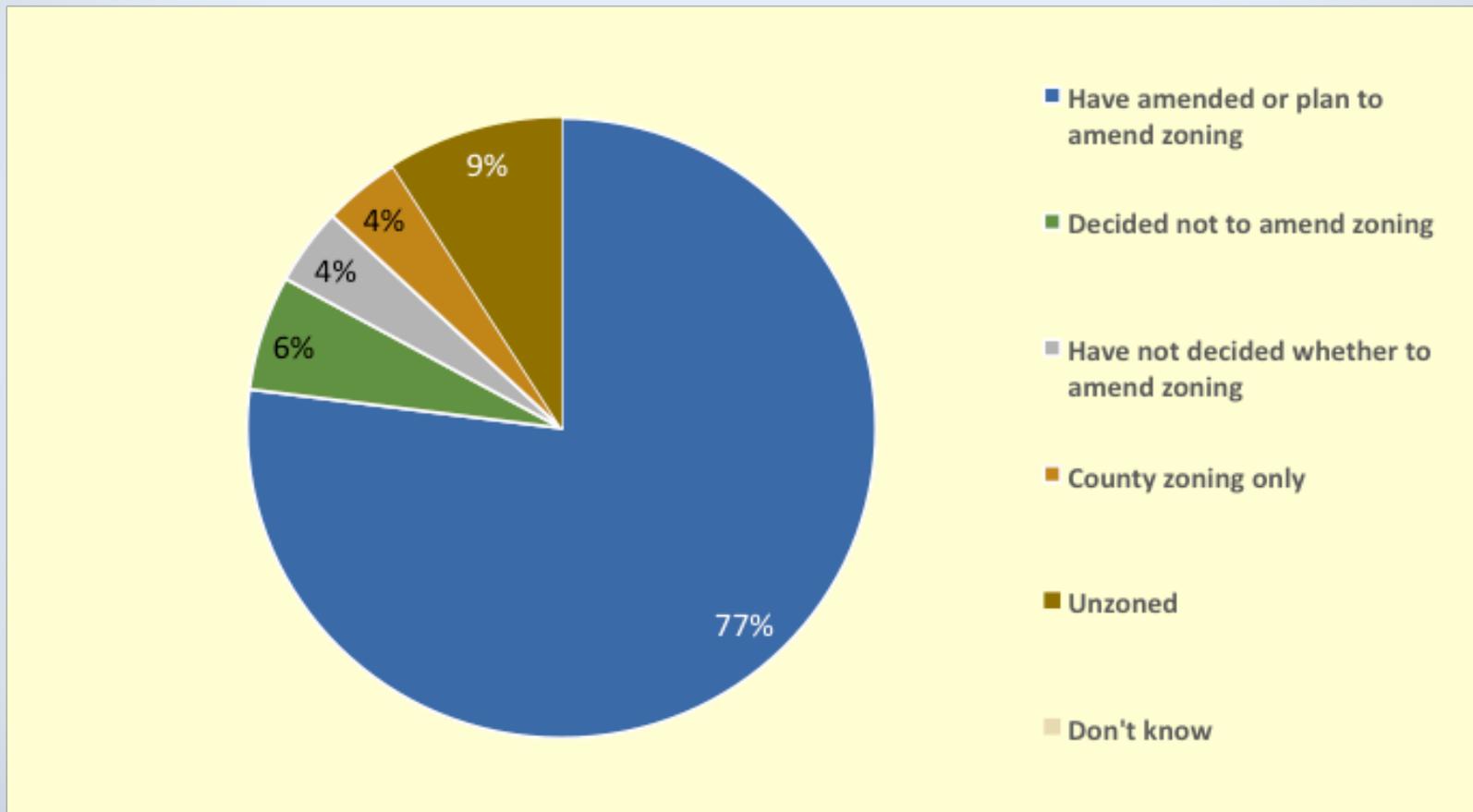
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Who has amended their zoning ordinance?

What is the **current status of zoning** in your jurisdiction related to medical marijuana facilities?
(among jurisdictions that **have opted in** to the MMFLA)



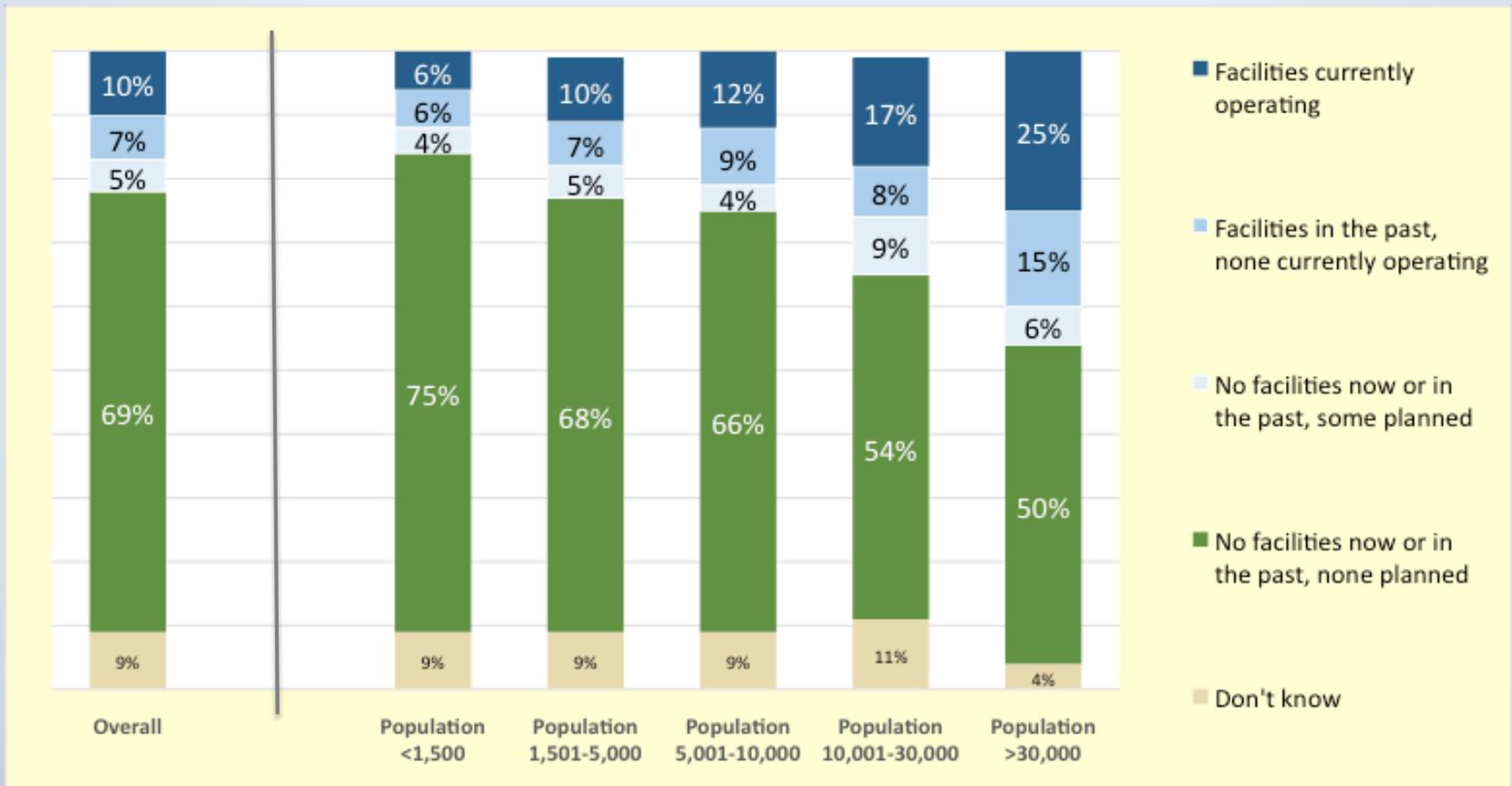
How have they amended the zoning ordinance?

As far as you know, which of the following **types of policies** are included **in your local ordinance(s)** related to medical marijuana facilities?
(among jurisdictions that have or will amend their zoning ordinance)



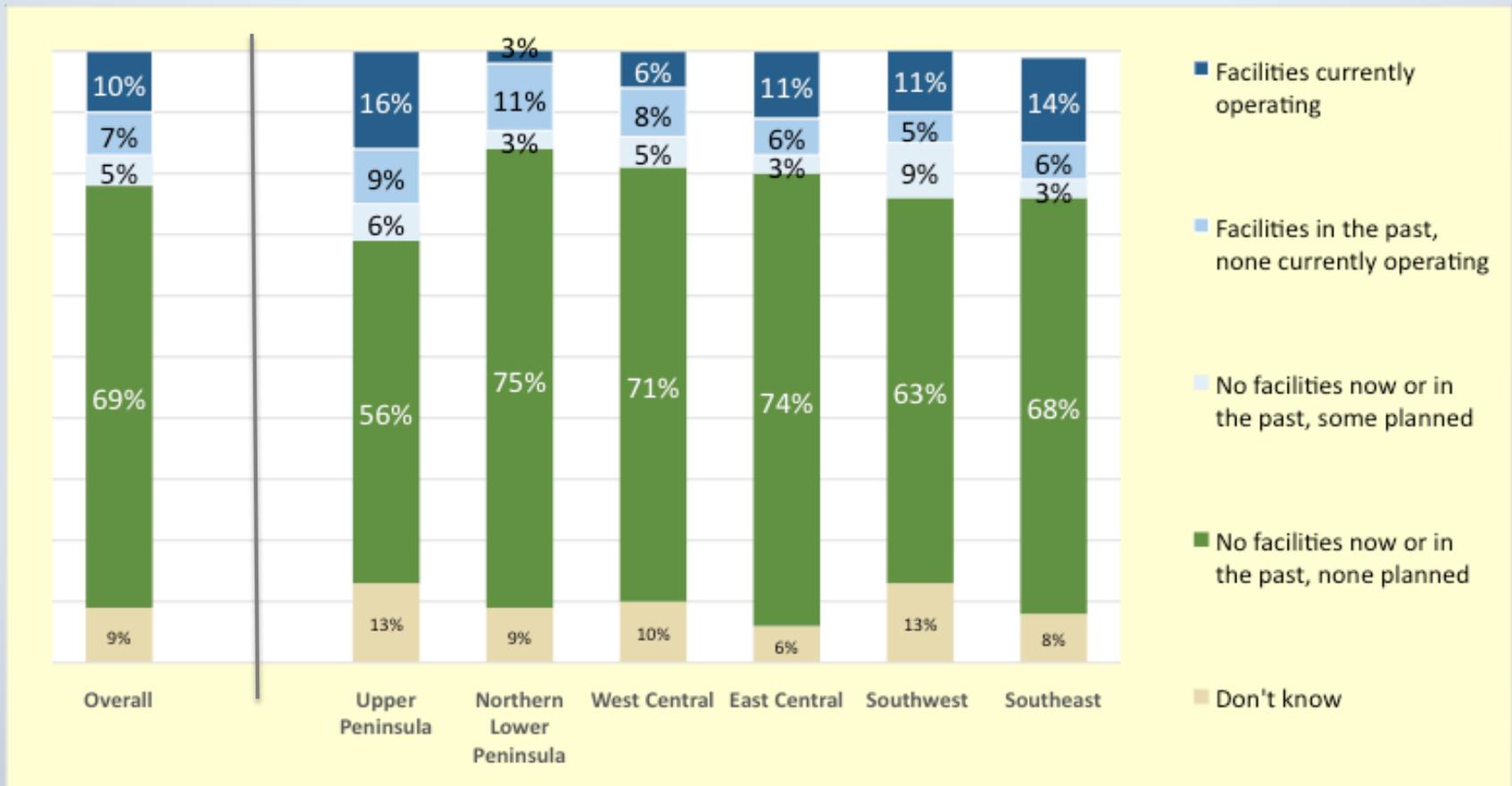
Who has medical marijuana facilities?

To help us understand **which communities have had experiences** with medical marijuana facilities — now or in the past — which of the following describe your jurisdiction's experience?
(among cities, villages, and townships)



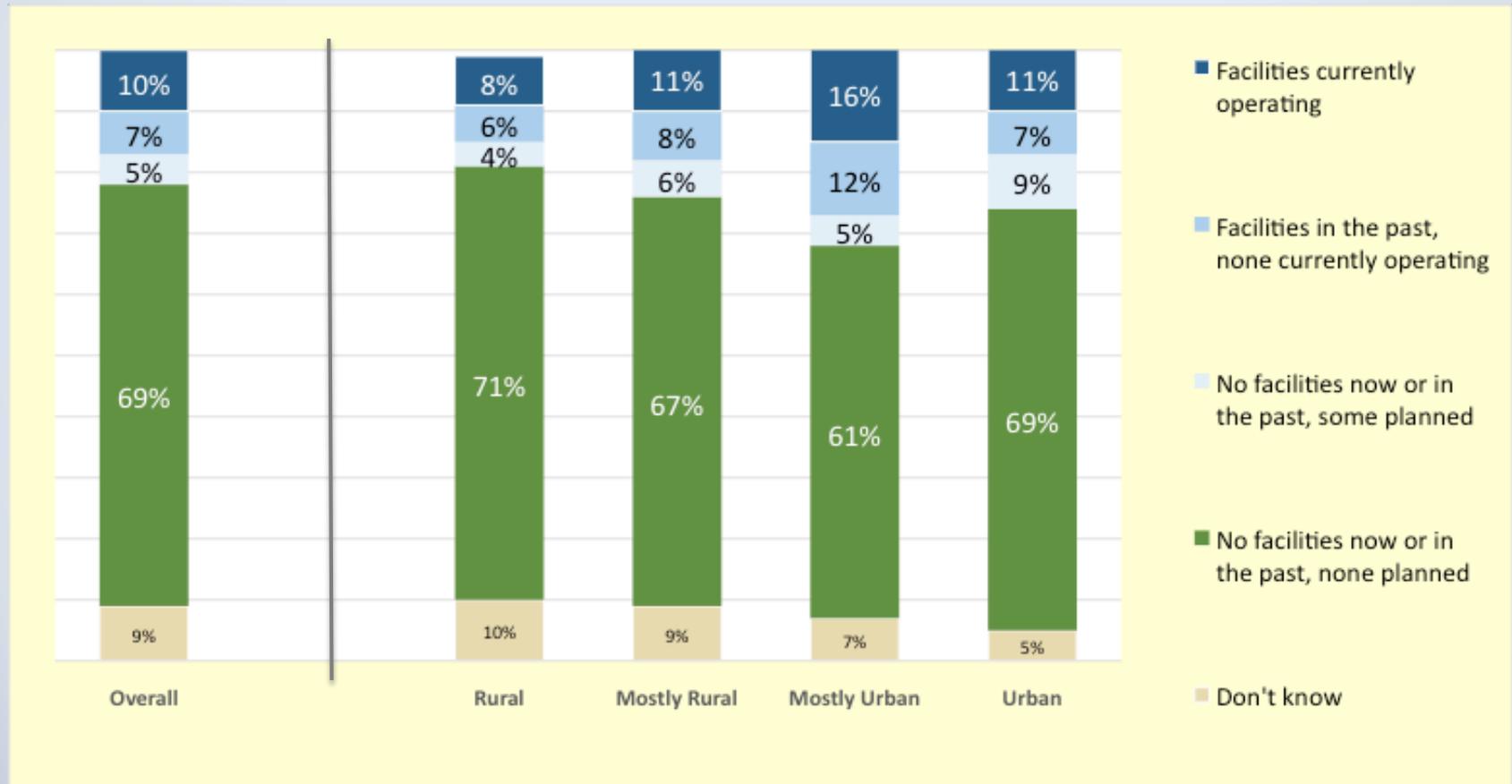
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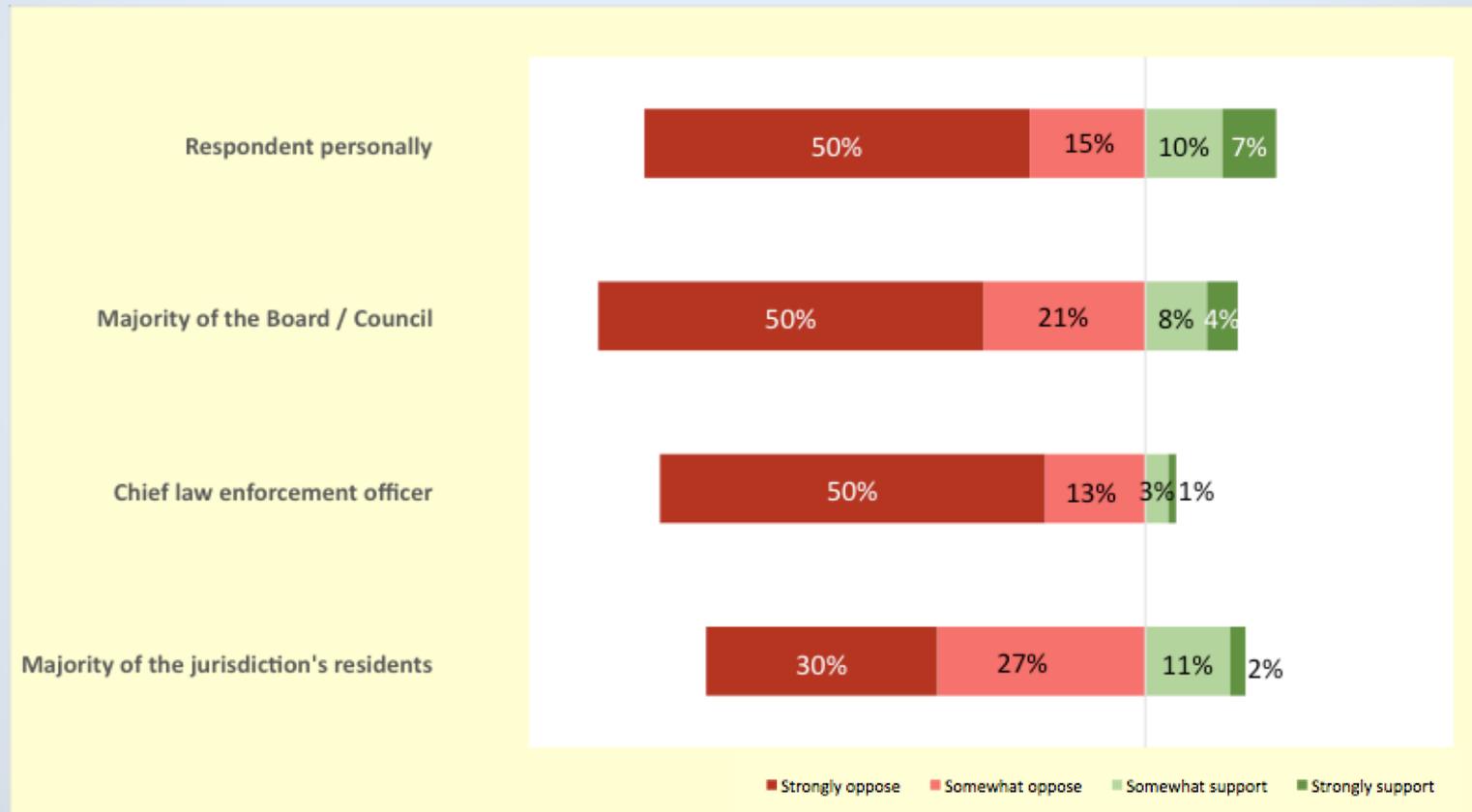
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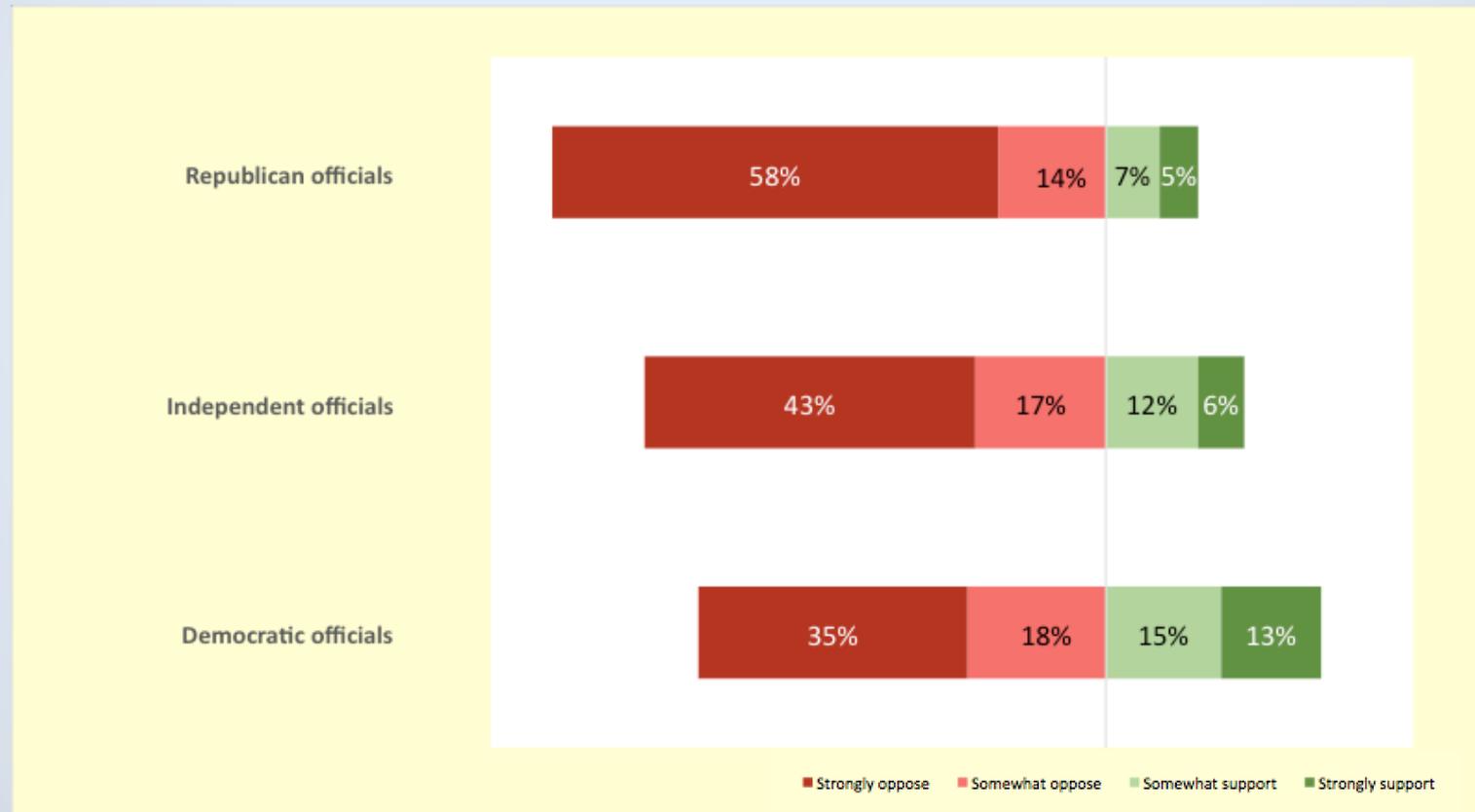
Who supports allowing local facilities?

Regardless of whether or not there are currently any medical marijuana facilities operating in your jurisdiction, to what extent do you think that the following **groups or individuals support or oppose** allowing any such facilities within your jurisdiction?



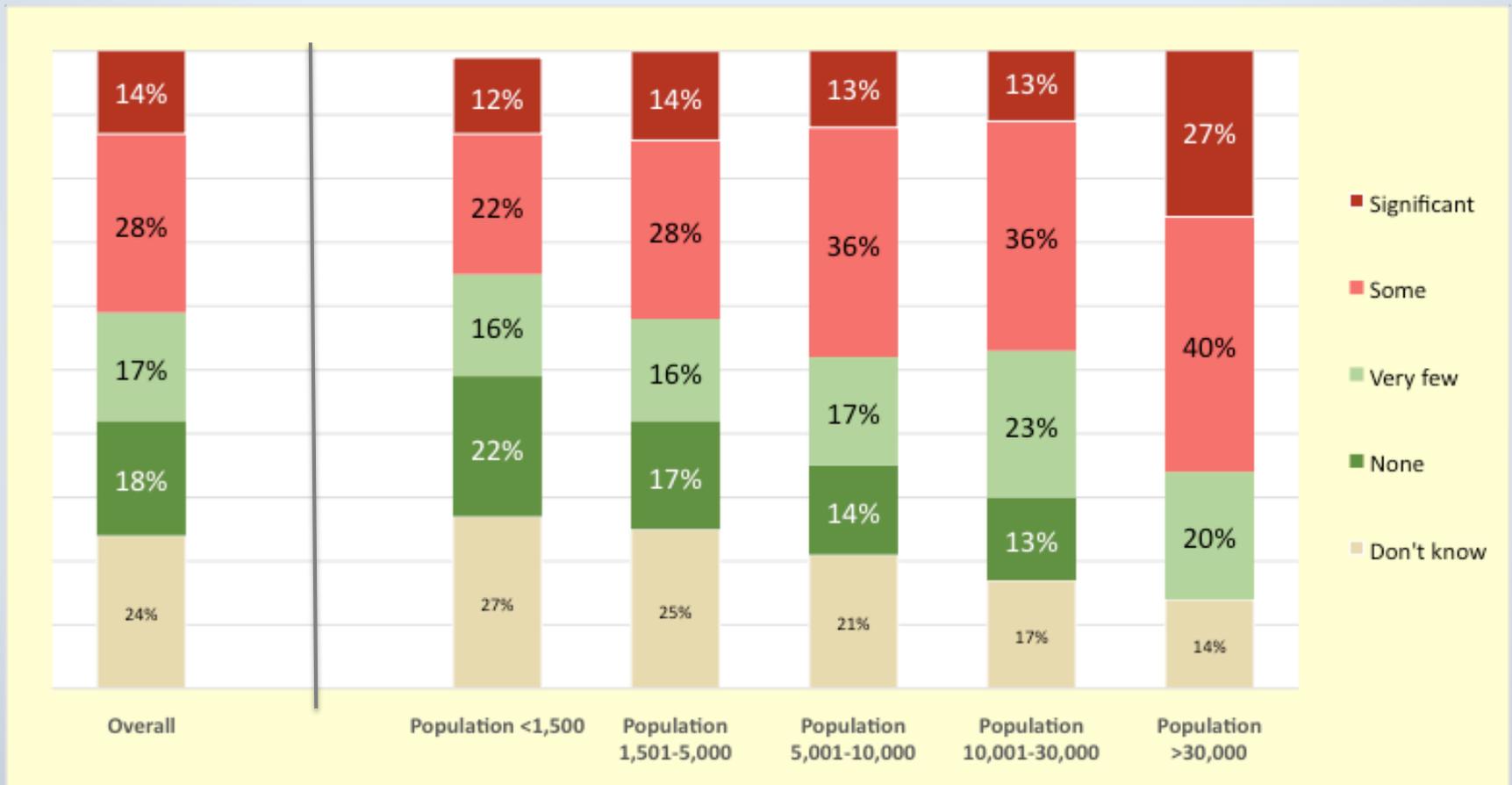
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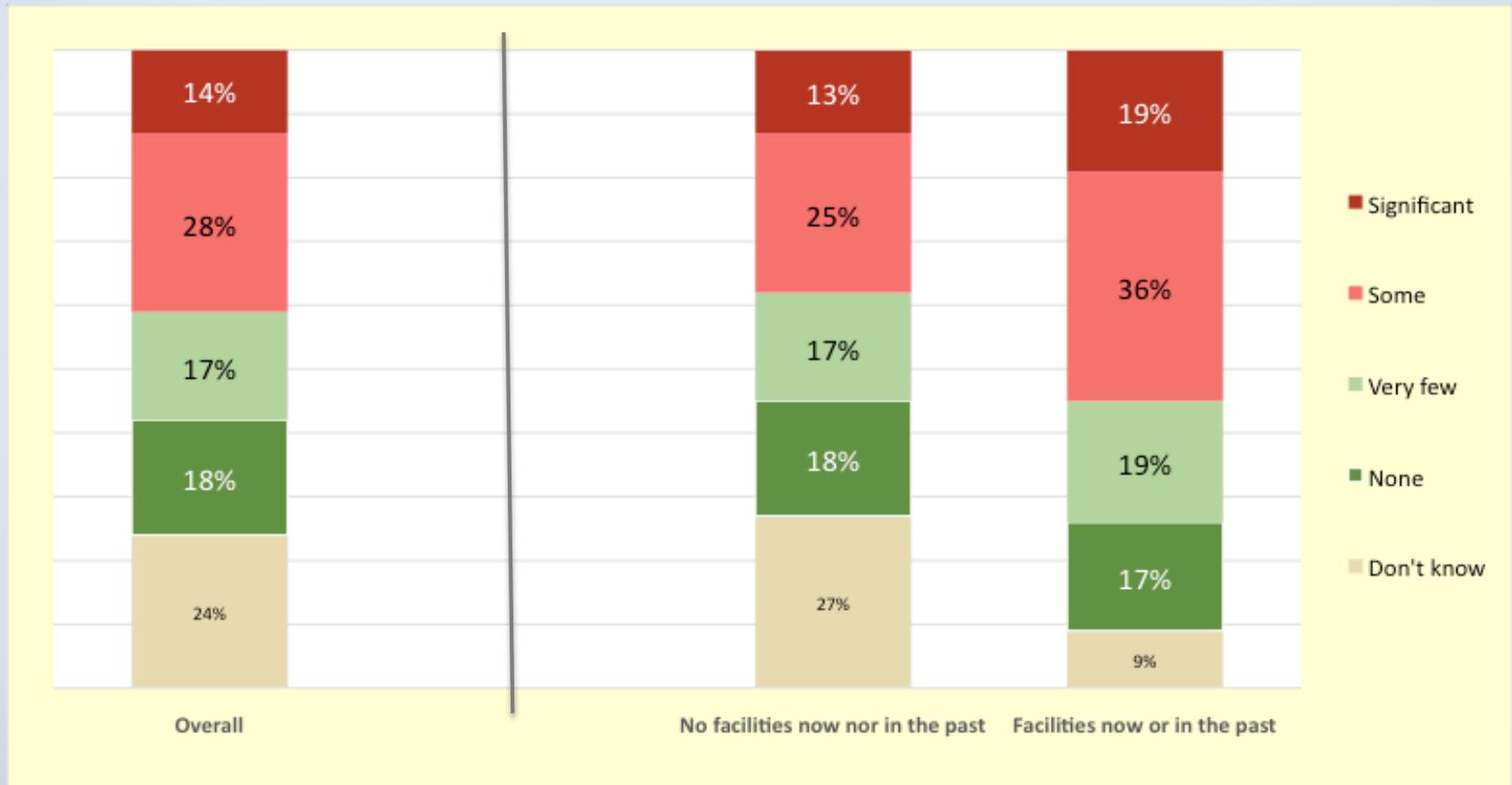
Any problems regarding medical marijuana?

...regardless of whether or not there are currently any medical marijuana facilities operating in your jurisdiction, **to what extent** would you say there have **been problems — if any** — regarding medical marijuana in your community?



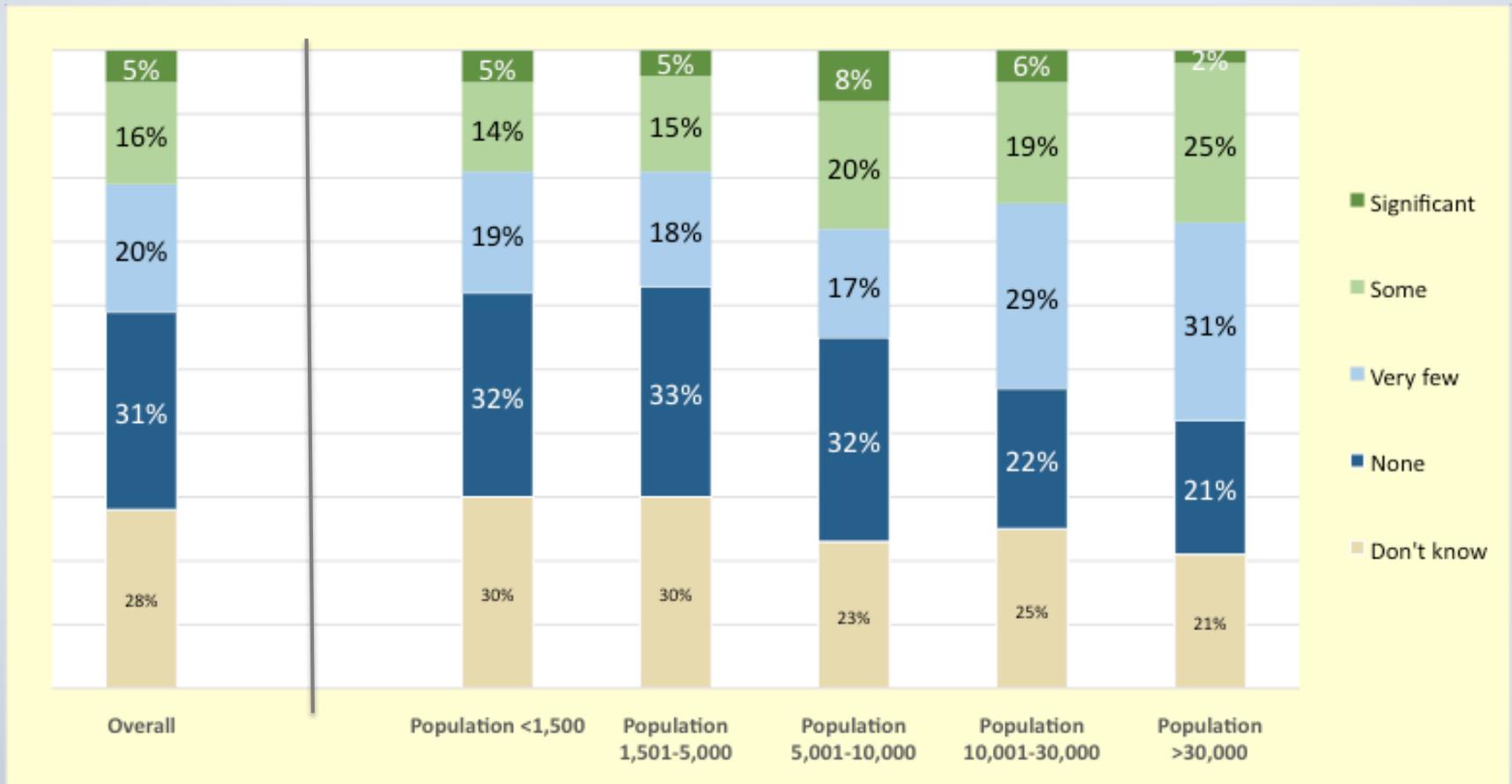
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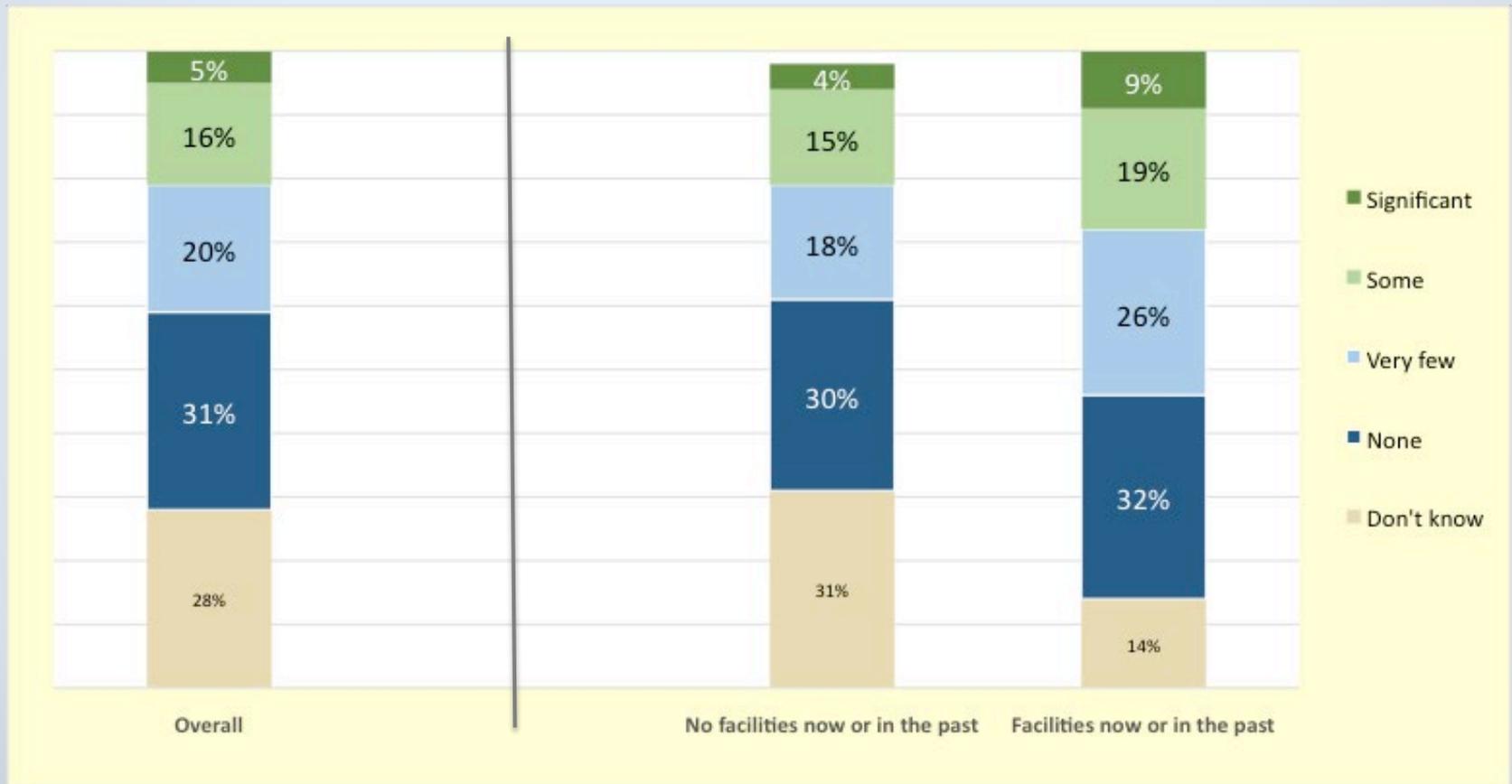
Any benefits from medical marijuana?

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Describing problems and benefits

We're interested in lessons from your community's experiences. Please briefly describe any problems or benefits regarding medical marijuana in your community.

- **Problems:**

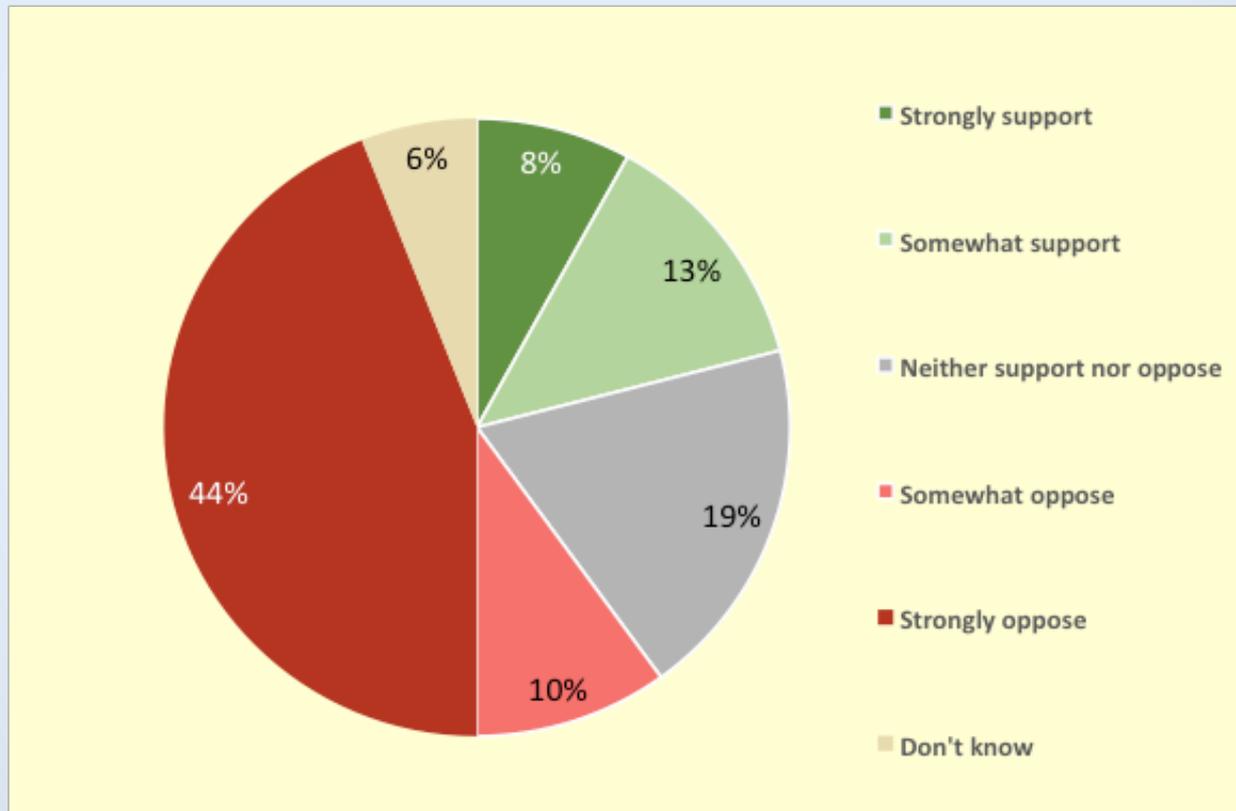
- Illegitimate use of medical marijuana cards
- Illegal growers and dispensaries
- Crime
- Neighborhood and community concerns

- **Benefits:**

- Medical benefits to residents
- New revenue sources

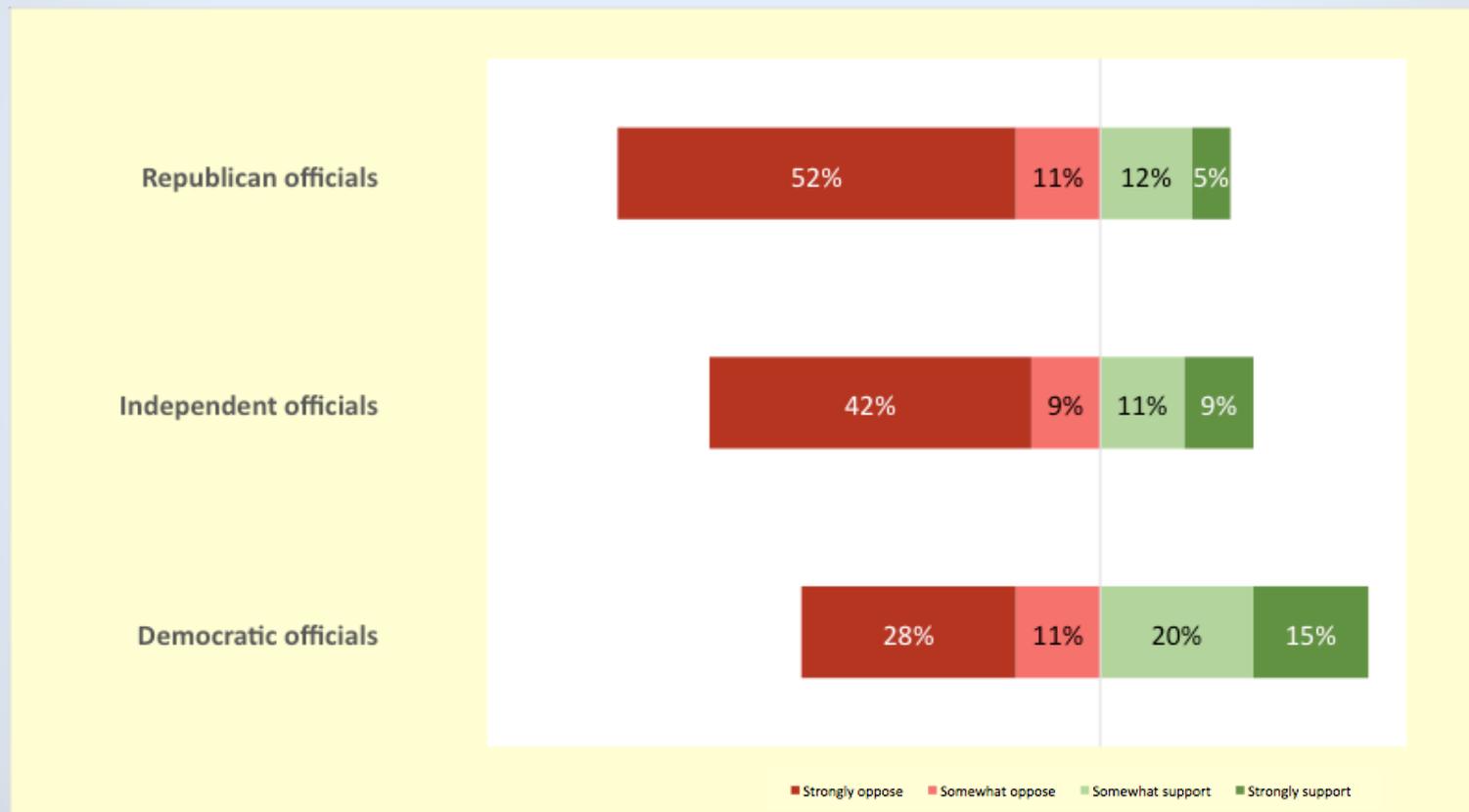
Who supports recreational marijuana?

There is currently an initiative to legalize, regulate, and tax recreational marijuana in Michigan through a ballot proposal in November's statewide election. Regardless of the details of that specific proposal, to what extent would you – in your role as a local official – **generally support or oppose legalizing, regulating, and taxing recreational marijuana** in Michigan?



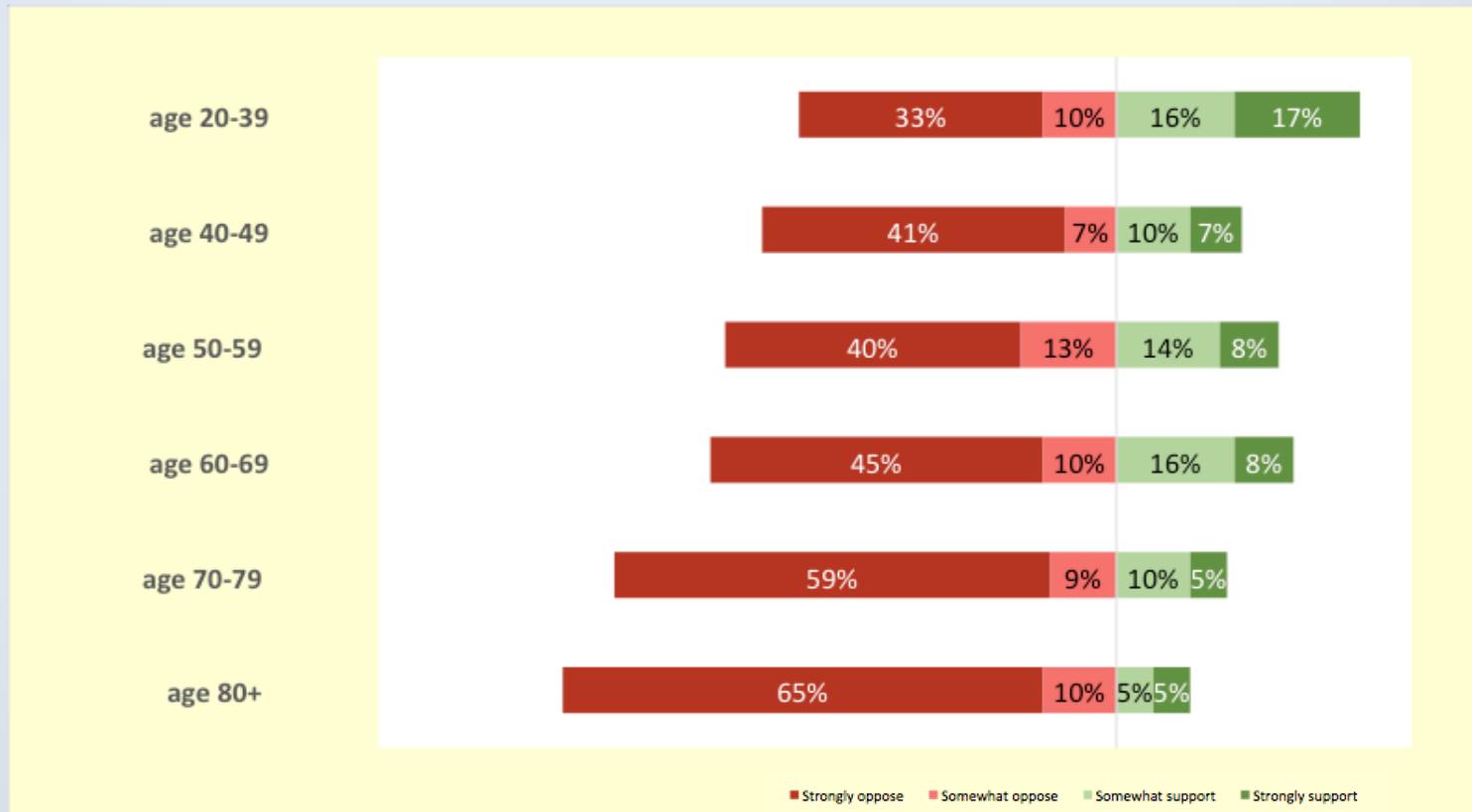
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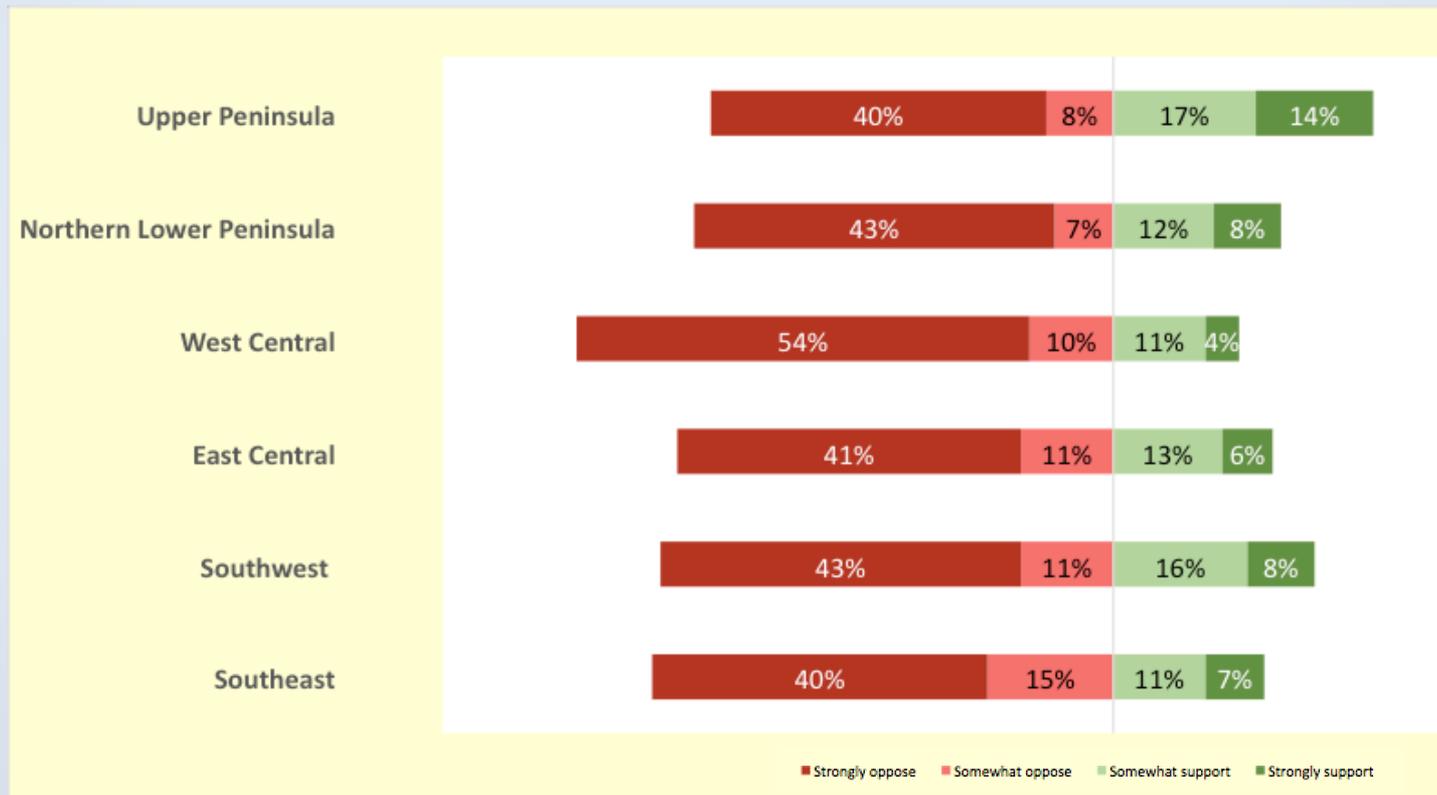
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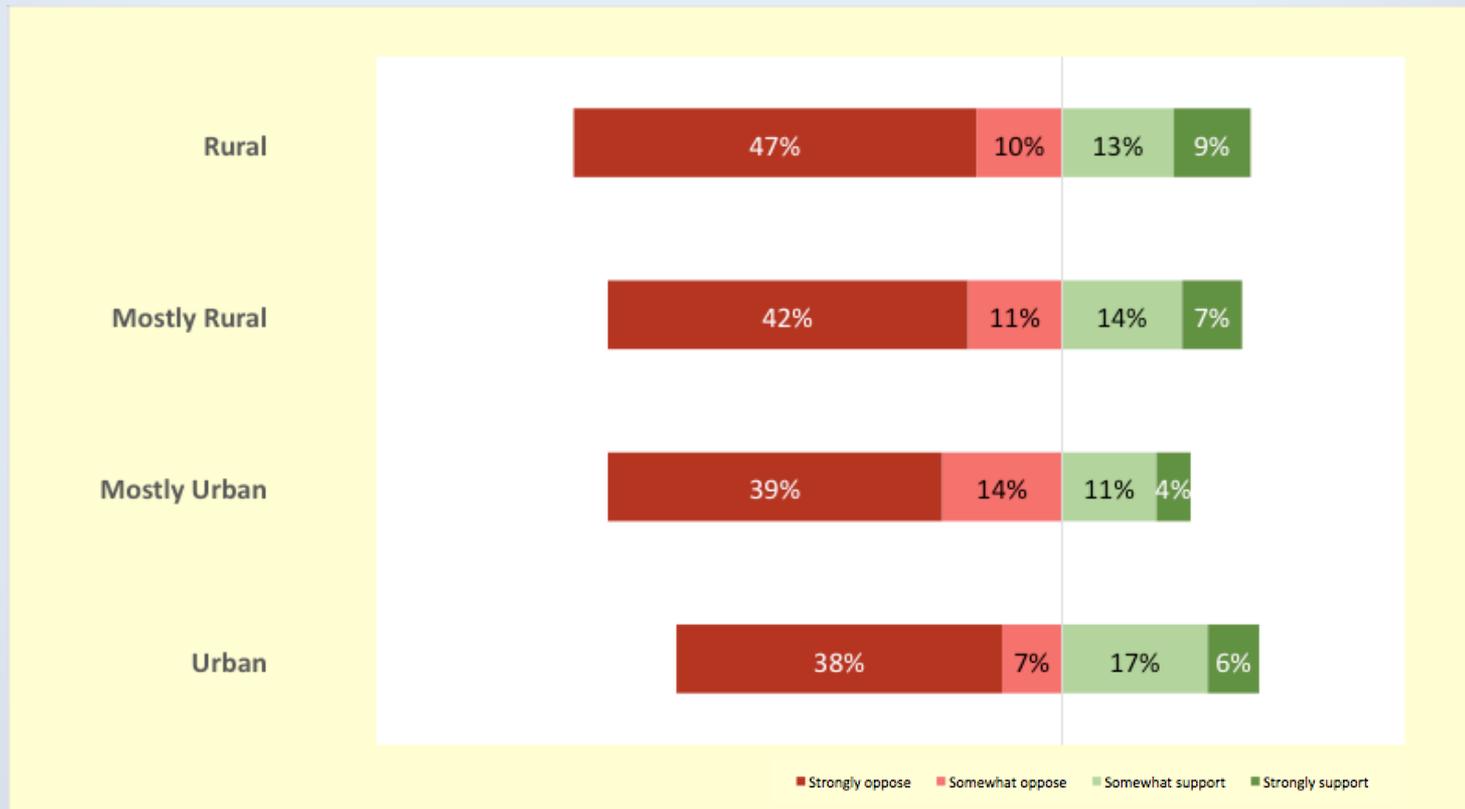
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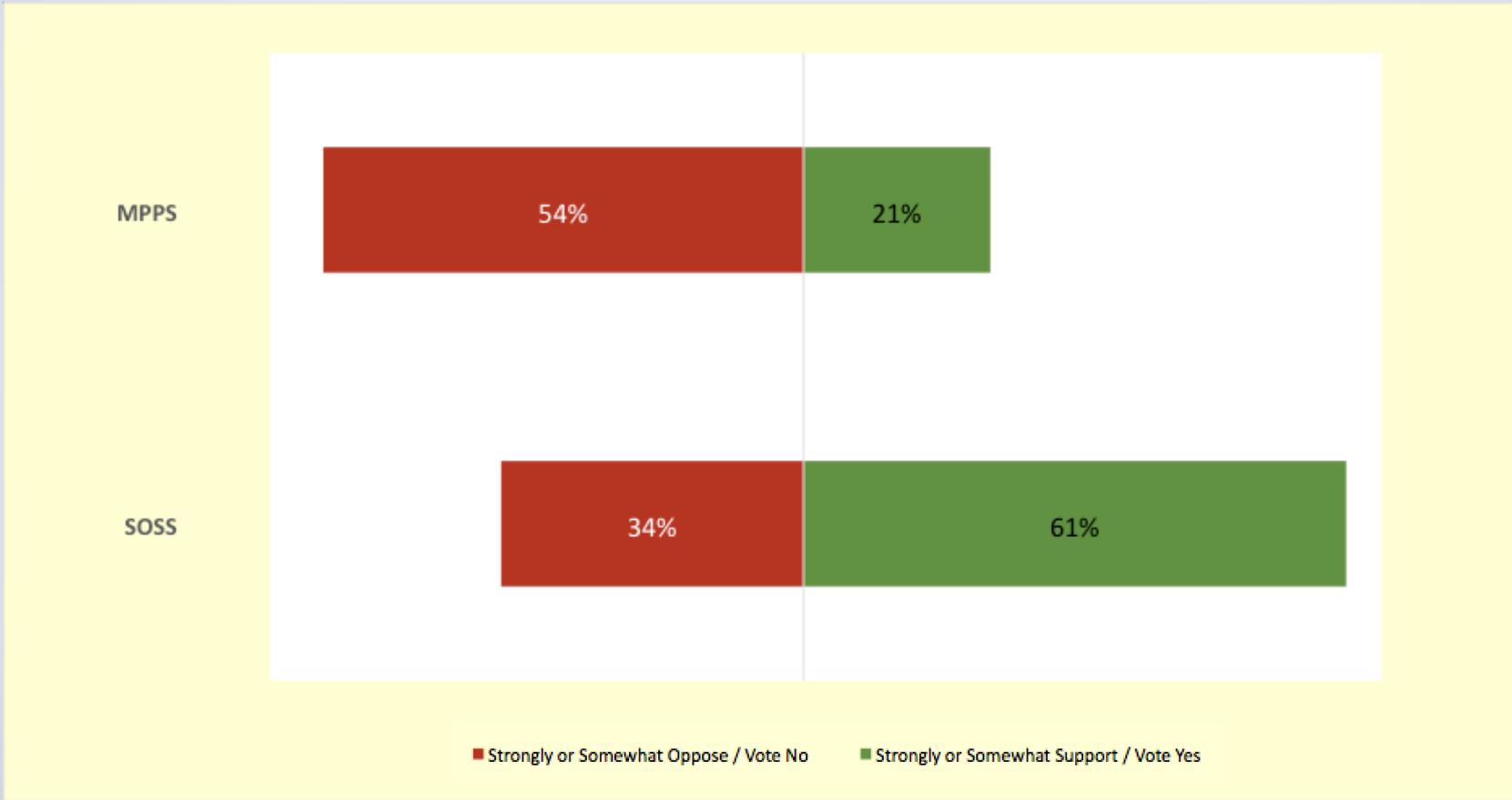


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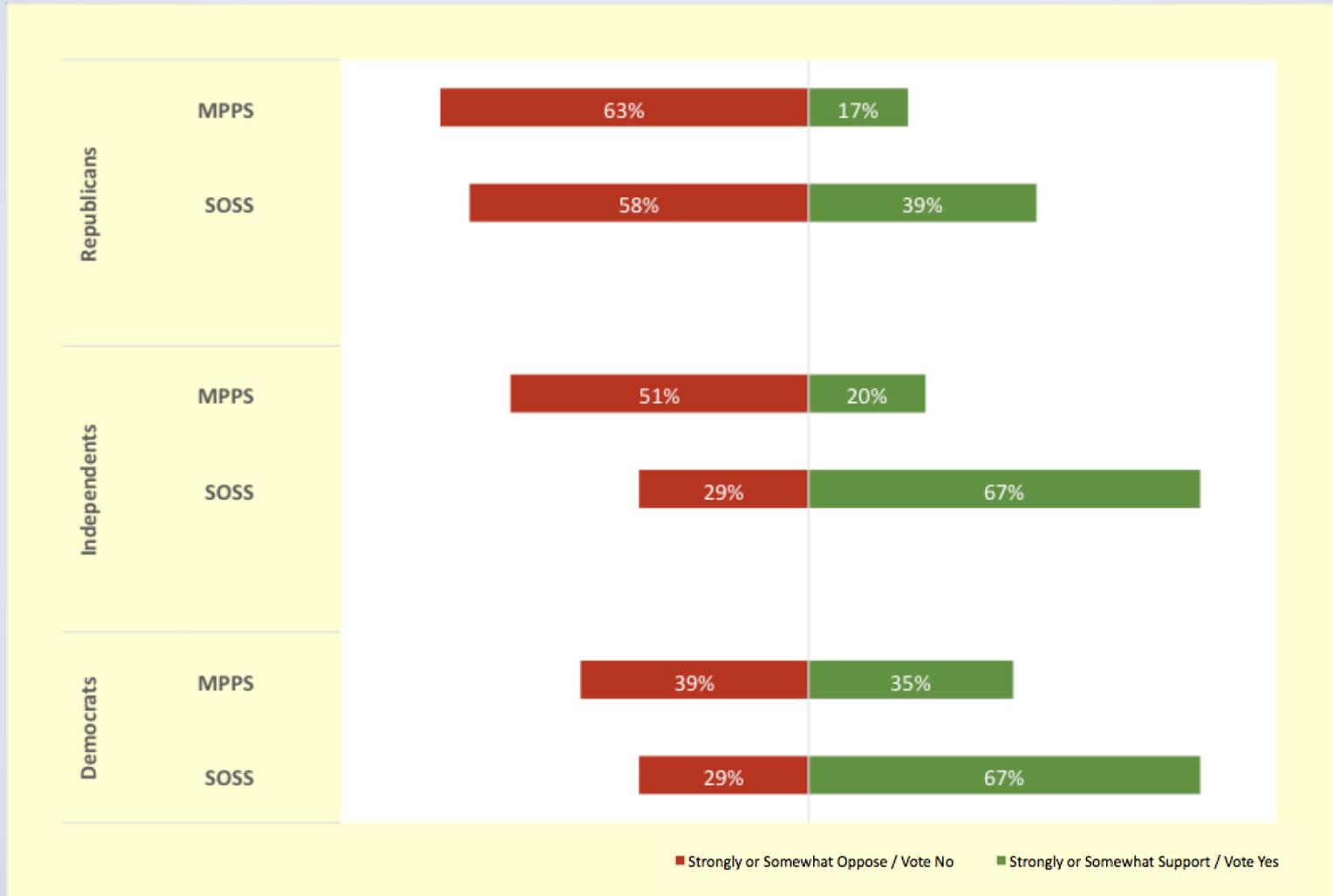
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How do local officials compare with citizens?



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Michigan Local Officials' Views on Medical and Recreational Marijuana

Summary

- Three-quarters of Michigan local governments have decided to keep medical marijuana facilities out of their jurisdiction
- Most local officials oppose allowing medical marijuana facilities in their jurisdiction; most also believe there is significant opposition among their jurisdiction's Board/Council, chief law enforcement officer, and residents
- 42% of jurisdictions report having experienced problems related to medical marijuana in their jurisdiction, but just 14% report that these problems have been significant. By comparison, 21% of communities report seeing benefits.
- There is low support for legalizing recreational marijuana among local officials, particularly when compared to public support

The Michigan Public Policy Survey (MPPS)

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