



CT Gubernatorial Race

Poll of Registered Voters (#3 of 3)



Report of Findings

October 14, 2026

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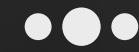
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Our Story

Sacred Heart University and GreatBlue Research partner to research salient issues facing the United States. This collaboration combines the academic excellence of a top-rated private University and the research design, analysis and reporting expertise of GreatBlue Research.

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Areas of Investigation

As the final of three planned polls, Sacred Heart University leveraged a quantitative digital research approach to address the following areas of investigation:

- ◉ Gubernatorial election ballot testing
- ◉ Governor and General Assembly job approval
- ◉ Perceptions of Connecticut's direction and economy
- ◉ Quality of life, personal finances, and migration intentions
- ◉ Key factors, issues, and candidate qualities influencing voter decisions
- ◉ Candidate favorability, perceptions, and trust on key issues
- ◉ Reactions to political movements and candidate ideology
- ◉ Support for data center development and reasons for support or opposition
- ◉ Preferred policies and guardrails for future data center development

Research Methodology | Snapshot

Methodology Digital survey*	No. of Completes 1,000	No. of Questions 35**	Sample Registered Voters
Target Market Connecticut***	Margin of Error +/- 3.1%	Confidence Level 95%	Research Dates October 6-12, 2026

* Data quality personnel, in addition to computer-aided interviewing platforms, ensure the integrity of the data is accurate.

** This represents the total possible number of questions; not all respondents will answer all questions based on skip patterns and other instrument bias.

***The original sample invitations were stratified by Connecticut county to ensure geographic representation. The final sample was weighted according to age, gender, education, and political affiliation. Demographic weighting targets were originally derived from the U.S. Census Bureau's 2024 American Community Survey (ACS) 1-Year Estimates and adjusted to better reflect the demographic composition of Connecticut's registered voter population.

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71.5%

would still purchase
at an increased
price point

5.4%

8.9%

2.8%

0.0%

Negative Impact

Boomers

State of the Connecticut Gubernatorial Race Poll | Executive Summary

This report provides an in-depth analysis of the views held by registered voters in Connecticut between the dates of October 6-12, 2026. The following are the key themes and insights:

- ❖ **Lamont Expands His Lead as the Race Enters Its Final Stretch.** After the race tightened in September, Ned Lamont has increased his advantage over Ryan Fazio, leading 53.4% to 31.1% among registered voters (59.3% to 32.7% among likely voters). When undecided voters are asked which candidate they lean toward, Lamont's support increases to 56.3% compared to 33.1% for Fazio. Lamont benefits from stronger support among Democrats (88.0%) than Fazio receives among Republicans (76.8%), while Independents currently favor Lamont 49.7% to 28.6%.
- ❖ **Voters Continue to Want Change, But Lamont Holds Broader Candidate Advantages.** While voters continue to express dissatisfaction with the direction of the State and a desire for change, those sentiments have not translated directly into support for Fazio. Lamont is more likely to be seen as understanding the challenges facing people like them (45.4% vs. 31.2%), but holds a narrower advantage as the candidate more likely to bring meaningful change to state government (41.3% vs. 35.5%). Lamont also leads Fazio on voter trust across each of the 11 issues tested, with particularly large advantages on education and public schools (50.3% vs. 23.2%) and healthcare costs and access (49.6% vs. 24.2%).
- ❖ **Affordability Remains Central to Voters' Experiences and Election Decisions.** Cost of living/inflation remains the top voting issue across major demographic and partisan groups, including Democrats (35.5%), Republicans (26.2%), and Independents (38.7%). Financial pressures also remain evident at the household level, with 44.9% reporting their personal finances are worse than one year ago and six-in-ten (60.2%) experiencing difficulty maintaining their standard of living. Notably, electricity and energy costs represent one of Fazio's most competitive issues on candidate trust, with 33.1% trusting Fazio compared to 41.3% for Lamont.
- ❖ **Data Center Concerns Persist, With Voters Favoring Greater Guardrails Around Development.** One-half of registered voters (50.3%) oppose additional data center development in Connecticut, compared to 33.8% who support it, with opposition extending across Democrats (57.2%) and Independents (57.0%). Rather than uniformly rejecting development, however, voters show the greatest support for requiring data centers to provide or pay for the additional electricity and grid infrastructure they require (47.7%), followed by greater local control over development (36.6%) and environmental or clean-energy requirements (35.4%).

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Negative Impact

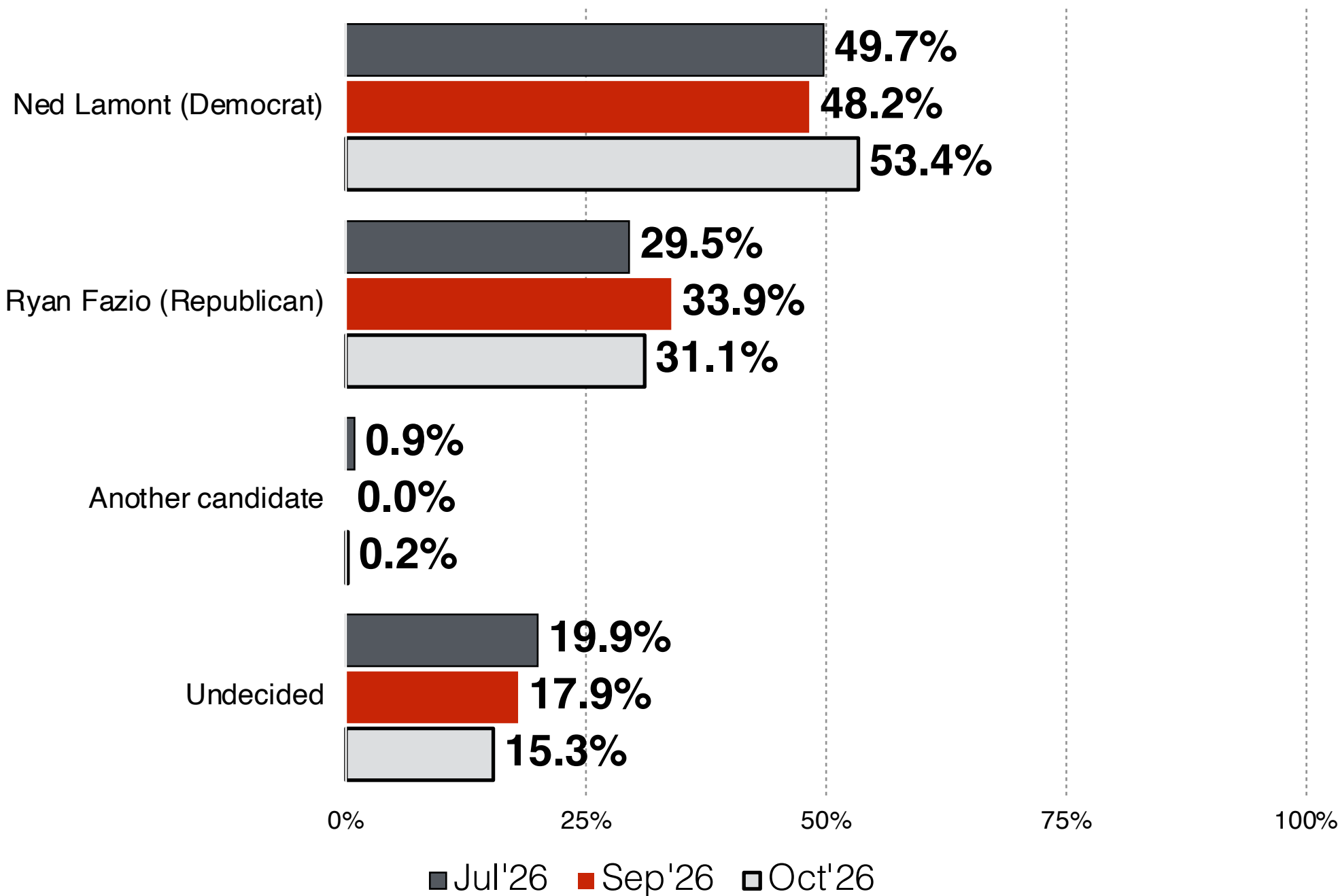
Boomers

Overall State of the Race | Current Choice for Governor

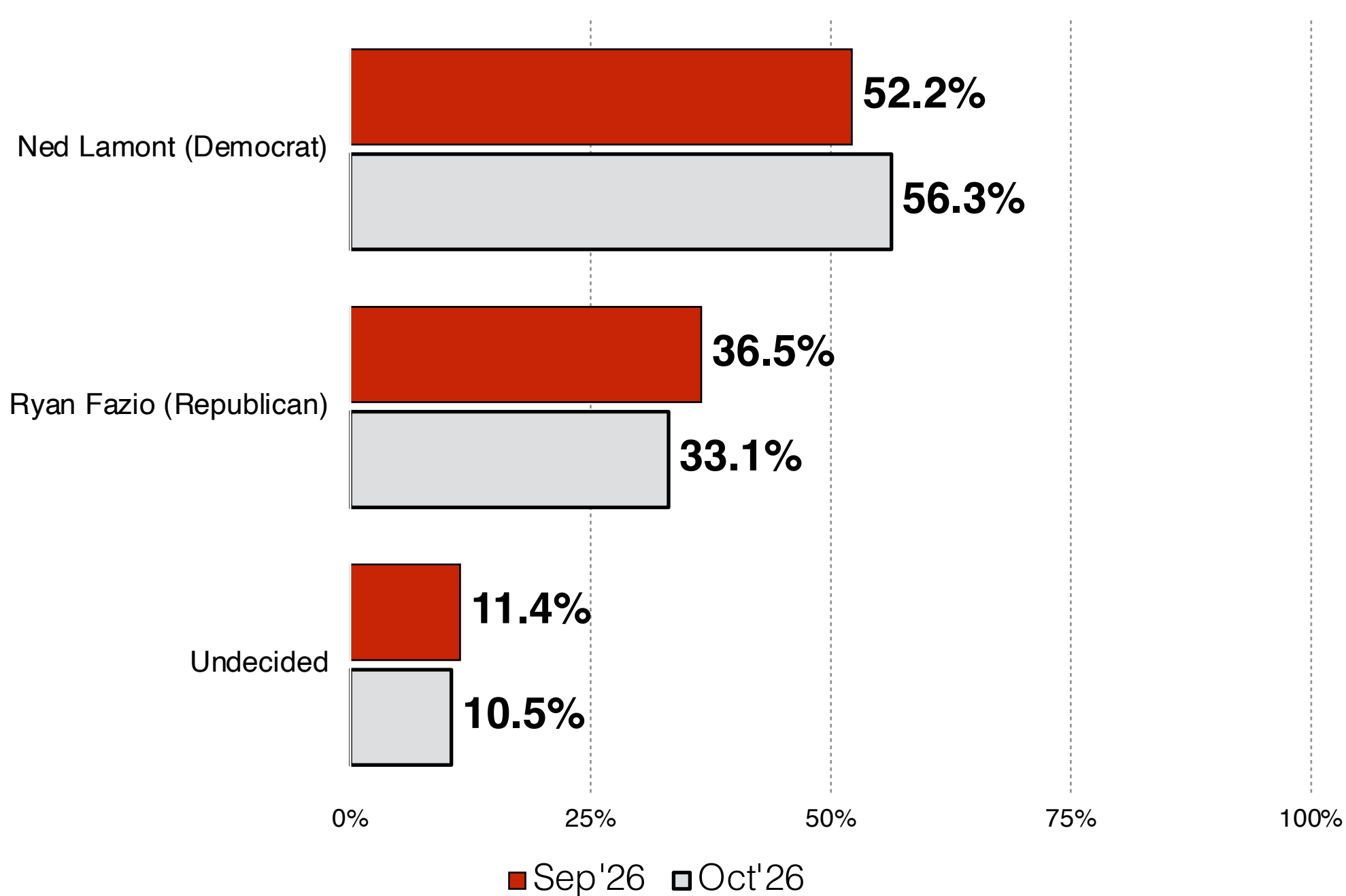
As of October 2026, Ned Lamont has expanded his lead over Ryan Fazio in the race for Connecticut Governor, receiving support from 53.4% of registered voters compared to 31.1% for Fazio. After the race tightened in September, Lamont gained 5.2 percentage points while Fazio declined 2.8 points, resulting in a 22.3-percentage point advantage. When undecided voters are asked which candidate they lean toward, Lamont’s support increases to 56.3% compared to 33.1% for Fazio, while 10.5% remain undecided.

- ❖ **Likely Voters:**
 - ❖ Lamont’s advantage expands considerably among likely voters, with 59.3% supporting Lamont compared to 32.7% for Fazio. Just 7.8% of likely voters remain undecided.
 - ❖ When including leaners with the likely voters, Lamont’s advantage grows to 61.5% compared to 34.3% for Fazio, with just 4.2% remaining undecided.
- ❖ **Political Party:**
 - ❖ Lamont receives particularly strong support among Democrats (88.0%), exceeding Fazio’s support among Republicans (76.8%).
 - ❖ Independents currently favor Lamont by a sizable margin (49.7% vs. 28.6%), though more than one-in-five (21.1%) remain undecided.
- ❖ **Urbanicity:**
 - ❖ Lamont holds substantial advantages among both urban (59.9% vs. 25.4%) and suburban voters (54.7% vs. 32.5%). The race is considerably closer among rural voters, where 44.1% support Lamont and 36.6% support Fazio, with 19.3% undecided.

Ned Lamont (D) Vs. Ryan Fazio (R)



Ned Lamont (D) Vs. Ryan Fazio (R) (with “Leaners” included)



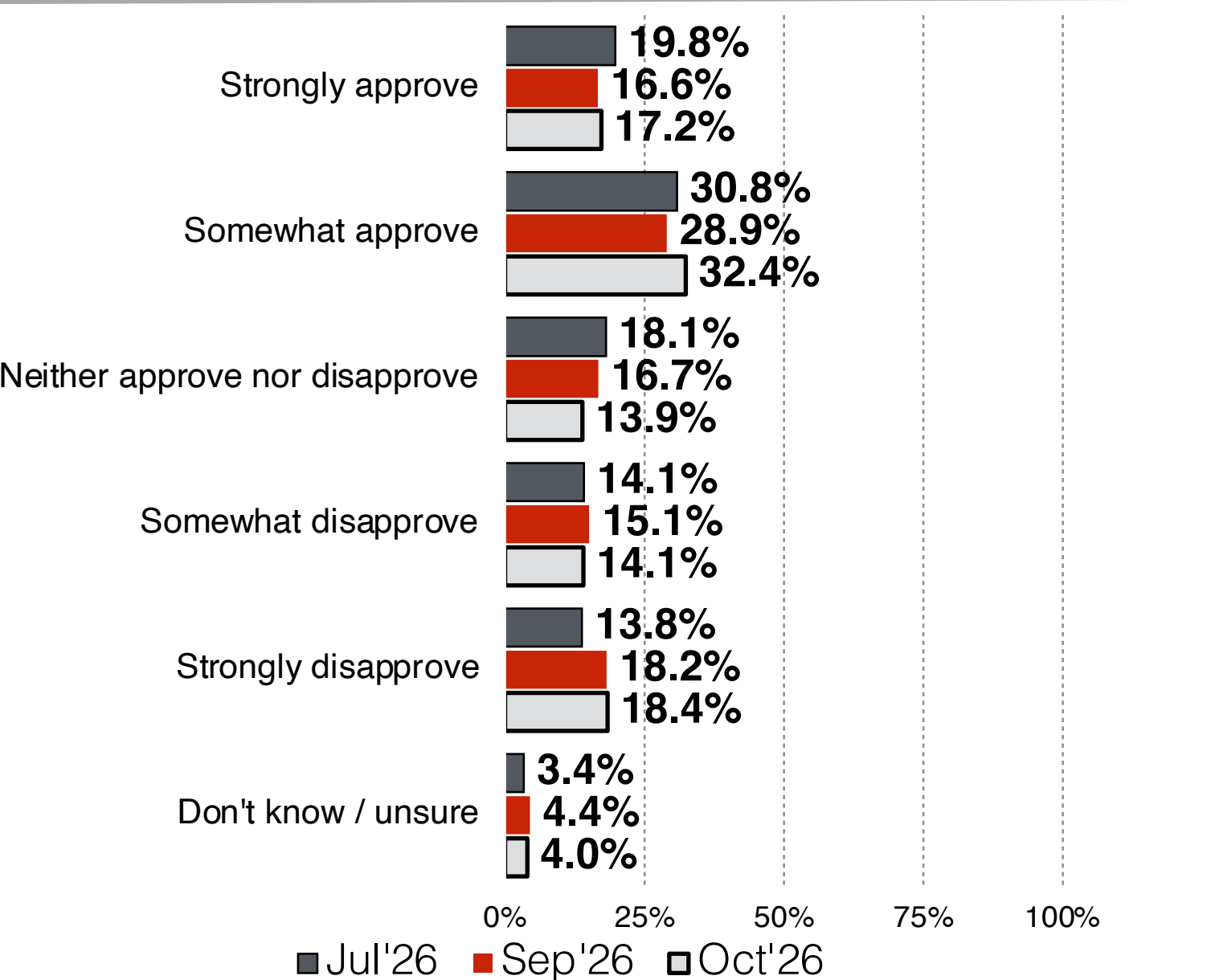
N=1,000 (July 2026), 1,000 (September 2026), 1,000 (October 2026)
Q: If the general election for Governor were held today, for whom would you vote?
Q: Even if you have not made up your mind, if you had to choose between Ned Lamont and Ryan Fazio today, which candidate would you be more likely to vote for?

State of Connecticut Governance | Job Approval

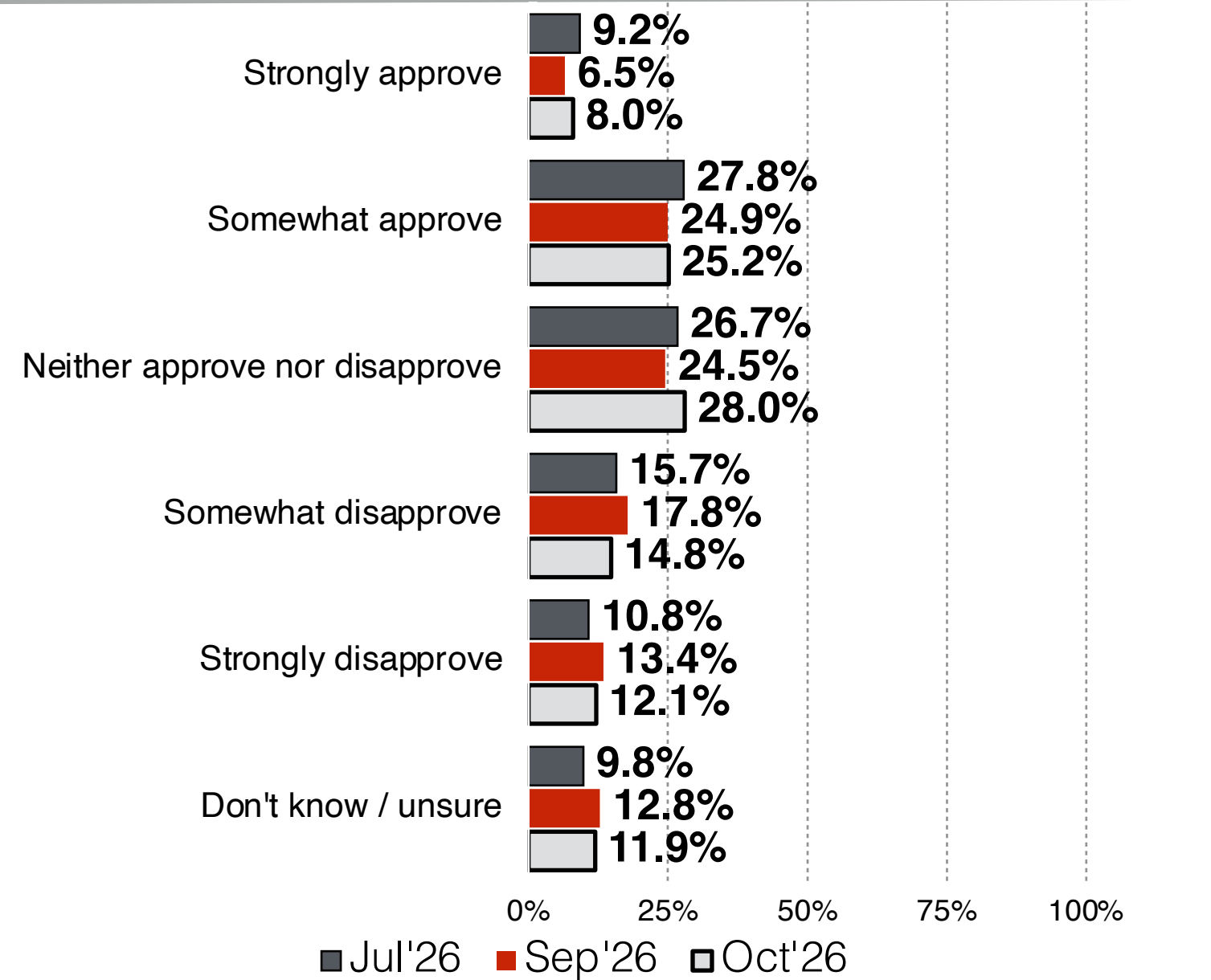
Governor Ned Lamont continues to receive net-positive job approval in October 2026, with 49.6% approving of his performance compared to 32.5% who disapprove. Overall approval increased from 45.5% in September. Perceptions of the Connecticut General Assembly remained relatively stable, with 33.2% approving of its performance and 26.9% disapproving. Meanwhile, confidence in state government improved slightly, with 47.8% confident in its ability to address the issues that matter to residents, although a similar share (46.5%) remain not confident.

- ❖ **Age:**
 - ❖ Voters 65 or older report the highest approval of Lamont’s job performance (58.7%), compared to 52.2% of 18-34-year-olds and 42.7% of 35-64-year-olds. Older voters are also considerably more likely to “strongly approve” (27.7%).
- ❖ **Political Party:**
 - ❖ Lamont receives strong approval among Democrats (74.3%), compared to 45.4% of Independents and 24.1% of Republicans. A majority of Republicans (63.2%) disapprove, including 41.4% who “strongly disapprove.”
- ❖ **Education:**
 - ❖ College graduates are substantially more likely to approve of Lamont’s performance (58.0%) than voters without a college degree (43.1%). Non-college voters are also more likely to disapprove (36.6% vs. 27.3%).
- ❖ **Likely Voters:**
 - ❖ Lamont’s job approval is higher among likely voters, with a majority (55.6%) approving of his performance compared to 32.7% who disapprove.

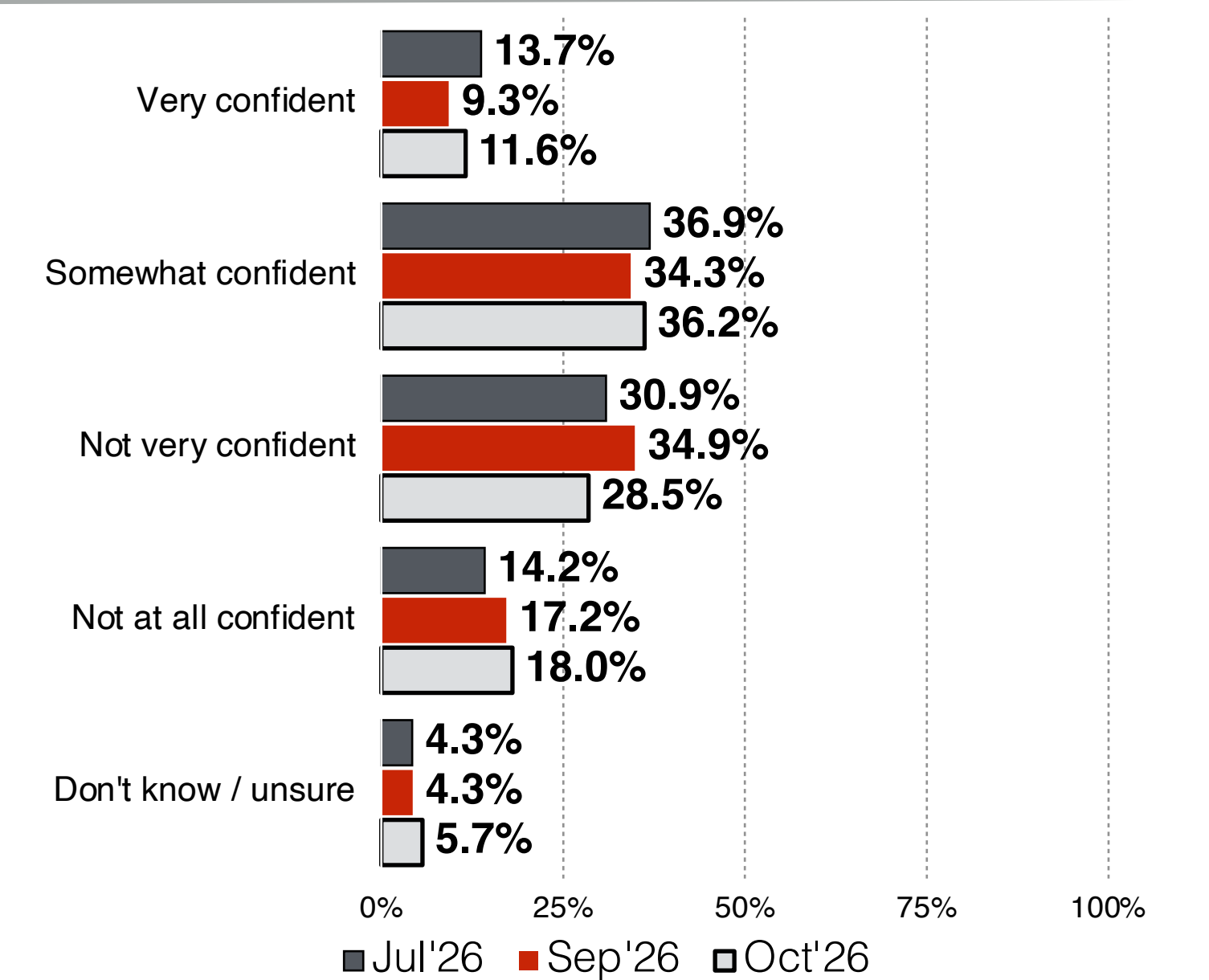
Job Approval: Governor Ned Lamont



Job Approval: CT General Assembly



Confidence in CT State Government



N=1,000 (July 2026), 1,000 (September 2026), 1,000 (October 2026)
Q: Overall, do you approve or disapprove of the way Governor Ned Lamont is handling his job as Governor?
Q: Overall, do you approve or disapprove of the way the Connecticut General Assembly is handling its job?
Q: How confident are you that Connecticut's state government can effectively address the issues that matter most to you?

Views on Connecticut | Right Track/Wrong Track & Economy



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As of October 2026, registered voters remain more likely to believe Connecticut is on the “wrong track” (35.3%) than headed in the “right direction” (27.2%), continuing the more pessimistic outlook observed in September. Views of Connecticut’s economy also remain largely negative, with 47.6% believing conditions are worse than one year ago compared to 18.2% who believe they have improved. While overall perceptions changed only modestly from September, fewer voters now say the economy is “about the same” (30.3%, down from 35.6%), as the share saying it is “somewhat worse” increased to 31.6%.

❖ Age:

- ❖ 35-64-year-olds express the most negative outlook across both measures, with just 21.0% believing Connecticut is headed in the right direction and 53.1% saying the State’s economy is worse than one year ago, compared to 41.9% of 18-34-year-olds and 43.5% of voters 65 or older.

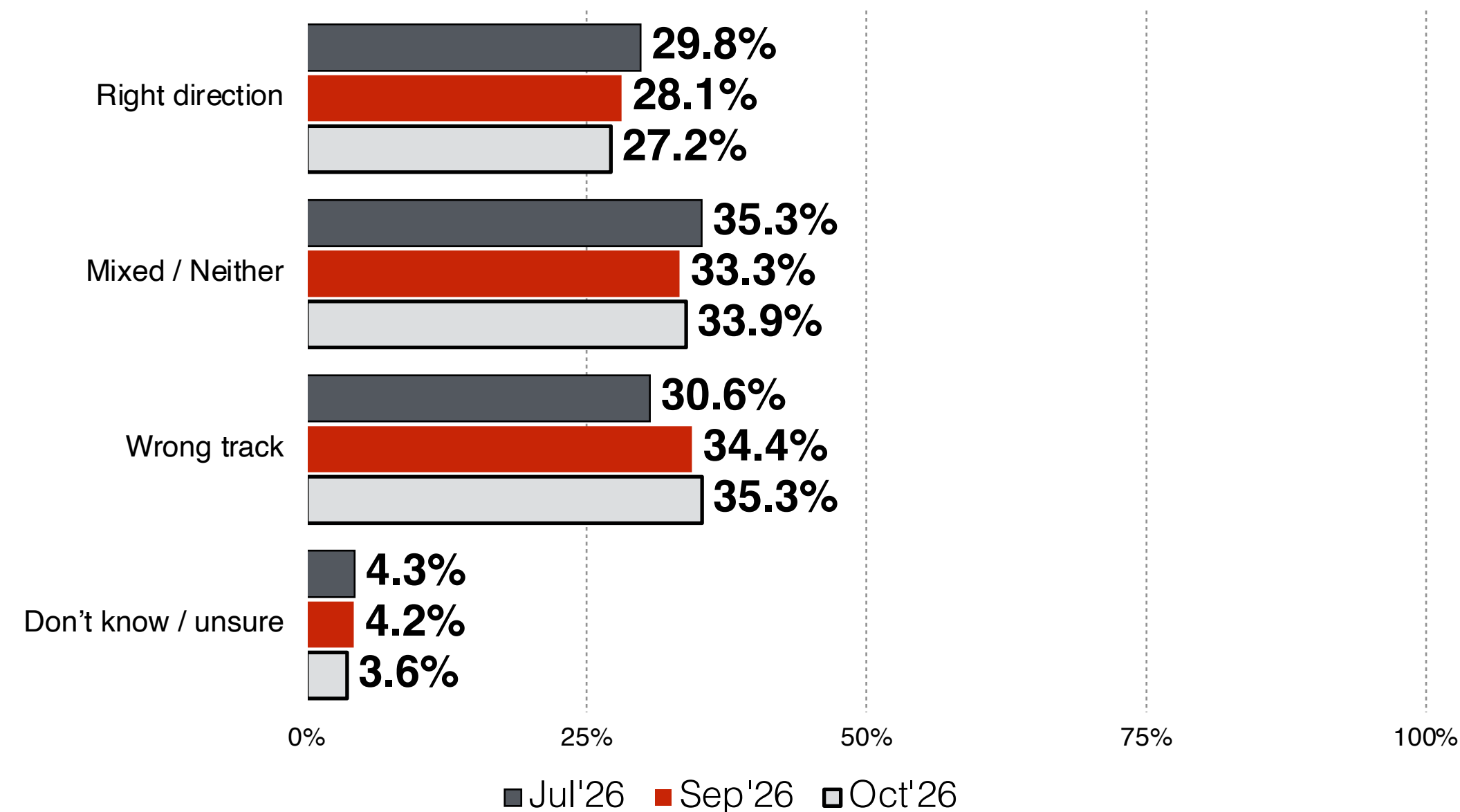
❖ Political Party:

- ❖ Democrats are considerably more positive about the State’s direction, with 44.6% saying Connecticut is headed in the right direction, compared to 21.3% of Republicans and 17.8% of Independents. A majority of Republicans (55.2%) believe the State is on the wrong track.
- ❖ Republicans (53.7%) and Independents (54.3%) are considerably more likely than Democrats (34.9%) to believe Connecticut’s economy has worsened over the past year.

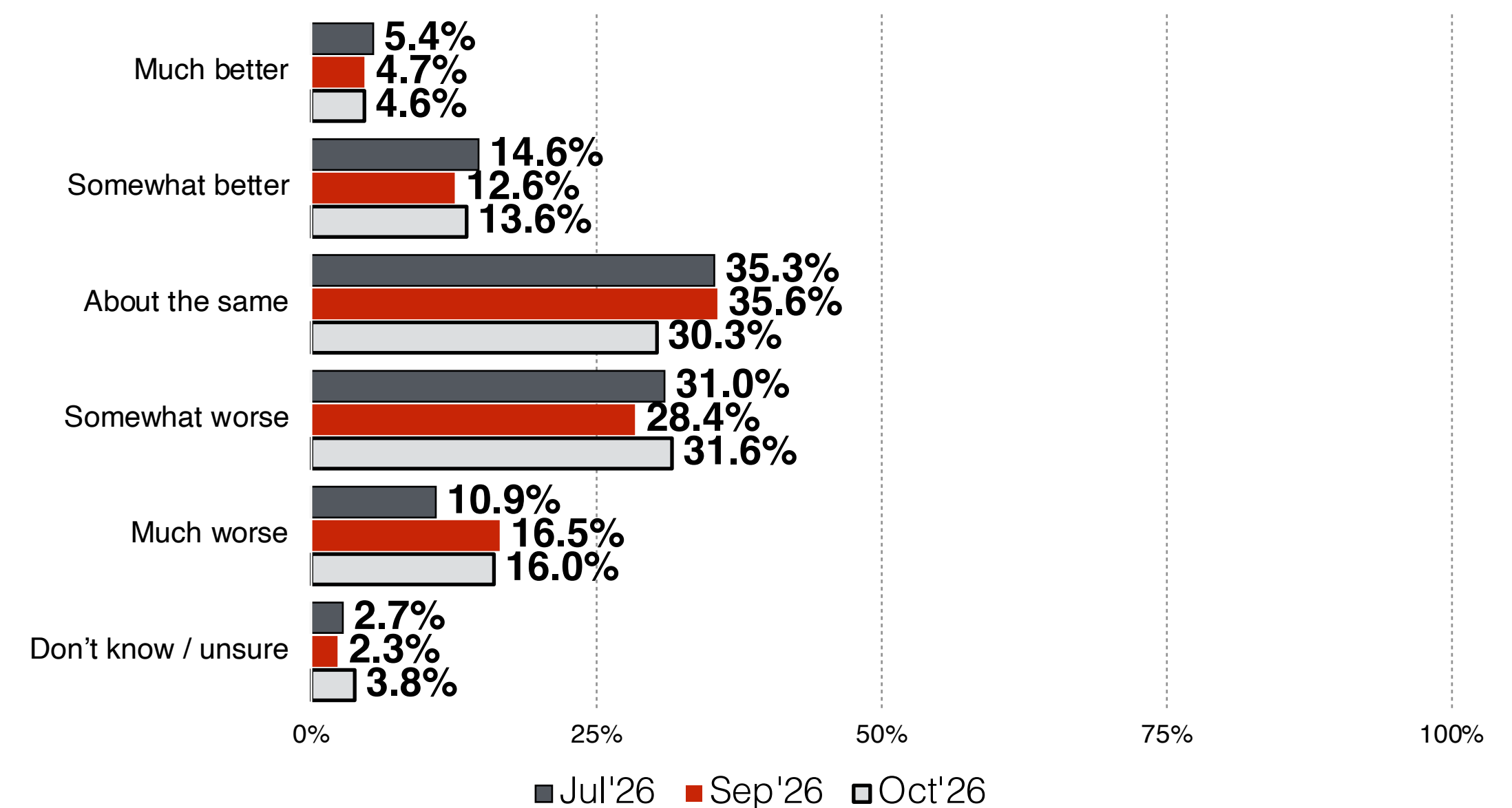
❖ Education:

- ❖ College graduates are more positive about the State’s direction (30.7%), while non-college voters are more likely to say the State is on the wrong track (40.5% vs. 28.6%).
- ❖ However, perceptions of the economy are more nuanced: 48.0% of college graduates believe conditions have worsened on par with 47.2% of non-college voters, though non-college voters are more likely to say the economy is “much worse” (19.7% vs. 11.3%).

State of Connecticut: Right Direction vs. Wrong Track



Views on CT Economy Compared to One Year Ago



N=1,000 (July 2026), 1,000 (September 2026), 1,000 (October 2026)

Q: Overall, to begin, do you think things in Connecticut are generally headed in the right direction, or are they on the wrong track?

Q: Compared to one year ago, would you say Connecticut's economy is...

Views on Connecticut | Voter's Quality of Life and Finances



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Approximately seven-in-ten registered voters (68.5%) rate their quality of life in Connecticut positively as of October 2026, rebounding somewhat from 65.5% in September and approaching the 71.1% recorded in July. However, financial pressures remain pronounced at the household level. Nearly one-half (44.9%) report their personal finances are worse than one year ago, up from 40.9% in September and 38.0% in July. Meanwhile, six-in-ten (60.2%) continue to report difficulty maintaining their current standard of living, primarily consistent across all three waves.

❖ Age:

- ❖ Financial experiences vary considerably by age. Voters 65 or older are most likely to say their finances have worsened (47.2%), while 35–64-year-olds are most likely to say they are “very difficult” to maintain their standard of living (22.1%). In contrast, 18–34-year-olds are substantially more likely to report improved finances (30.7%).

❖ Political Party:

- ❖ Independents report the greatest financial pressure, with 52.2% saying their household finances are worse than one year ago, compared to 40.9% of Democrats and 39.1% of Republicans. Nearly two-thirds of Independents (63.9%) also report difficulty maintaining their standard of living.

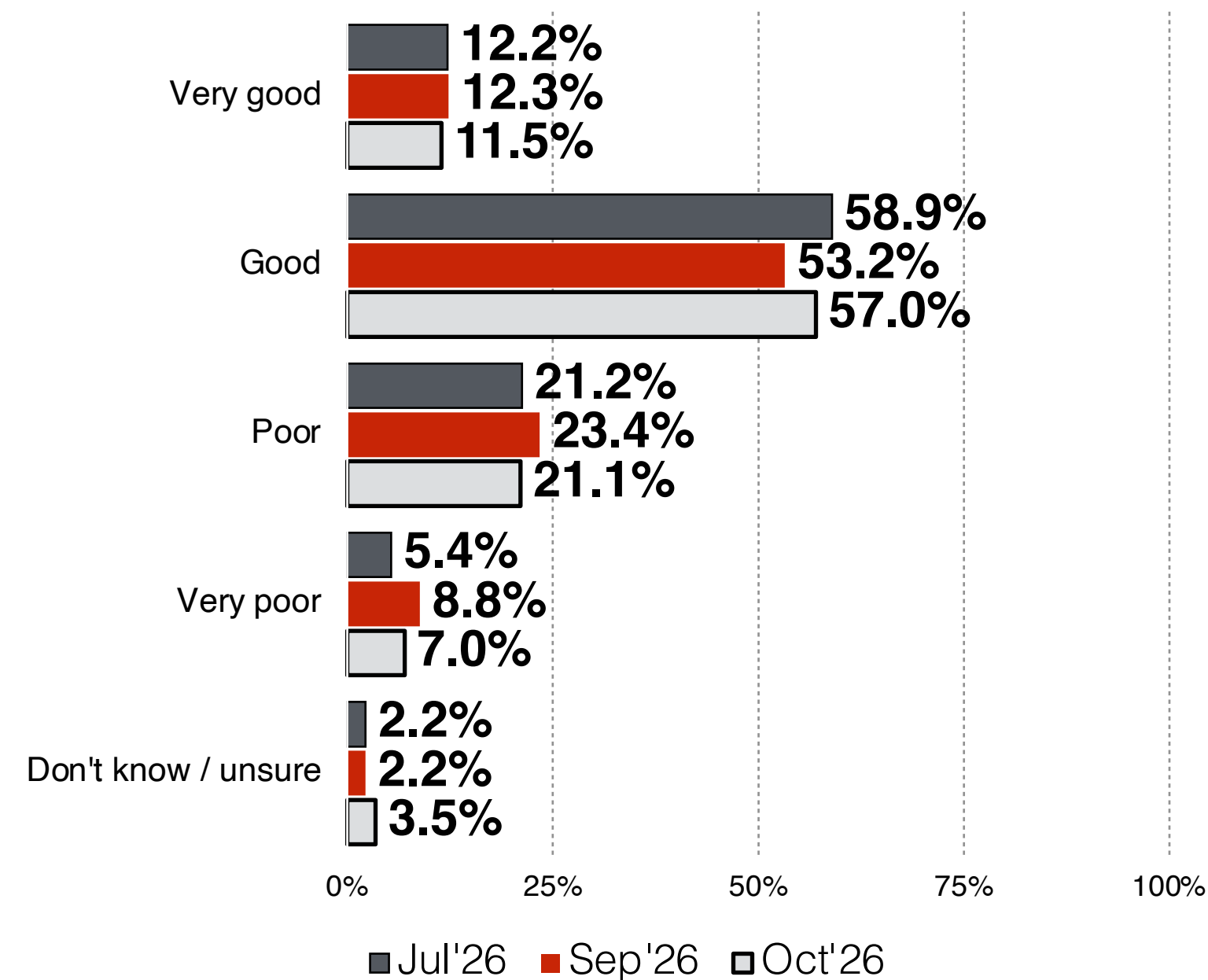
❖ Education

- ❖ Non-college voters are more likely to experience difficulty maintaining their standard of living (63.6%) than college graduates (55.7%), including 17.1% who describe it as “very difficult.”

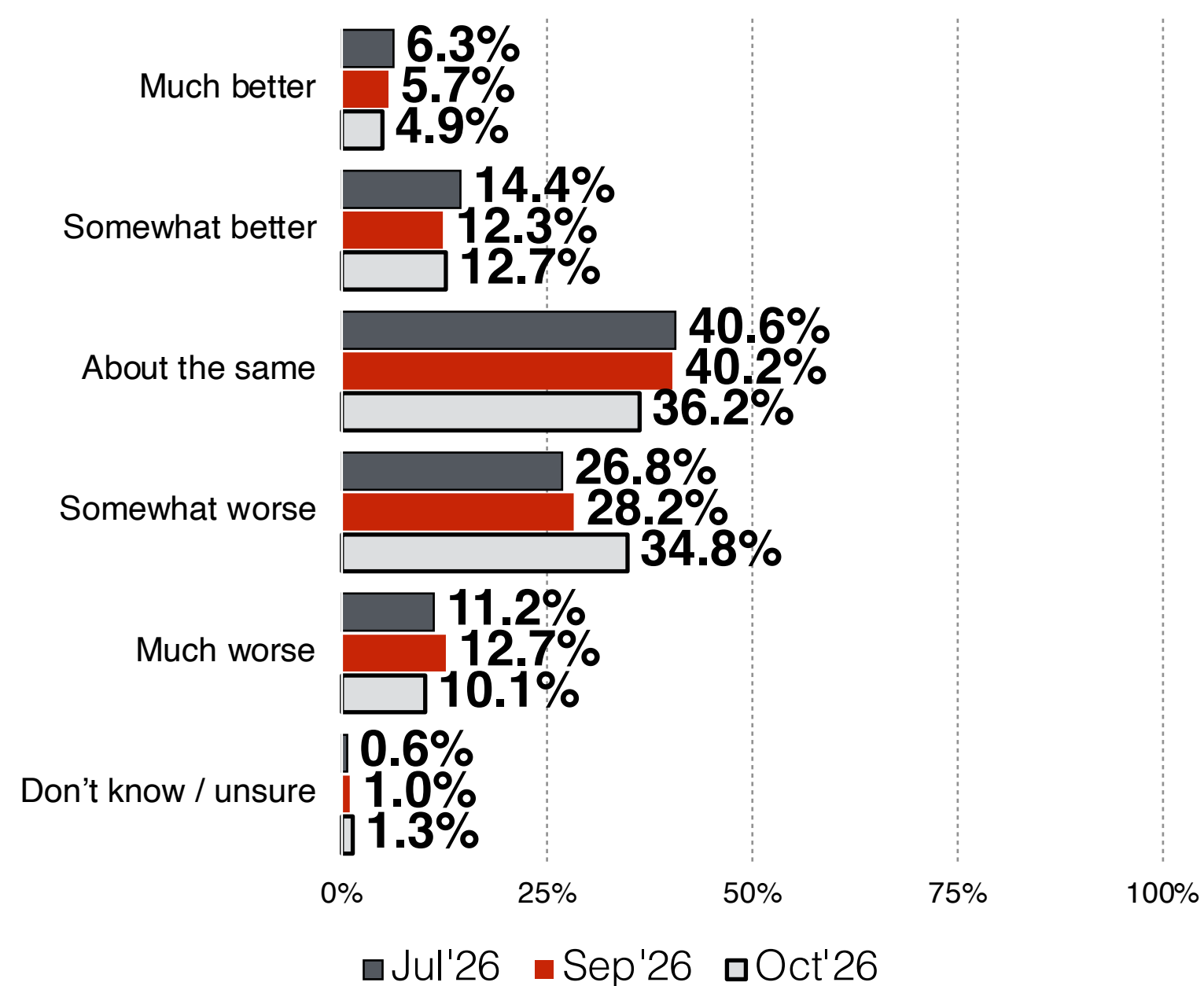
❖ Urbanicity:

- ❖ Rural voters report the greatest difficulty maintaining their standard of living (68.8%), compared to 57.5% of suburban and 60.9% of urban voters.

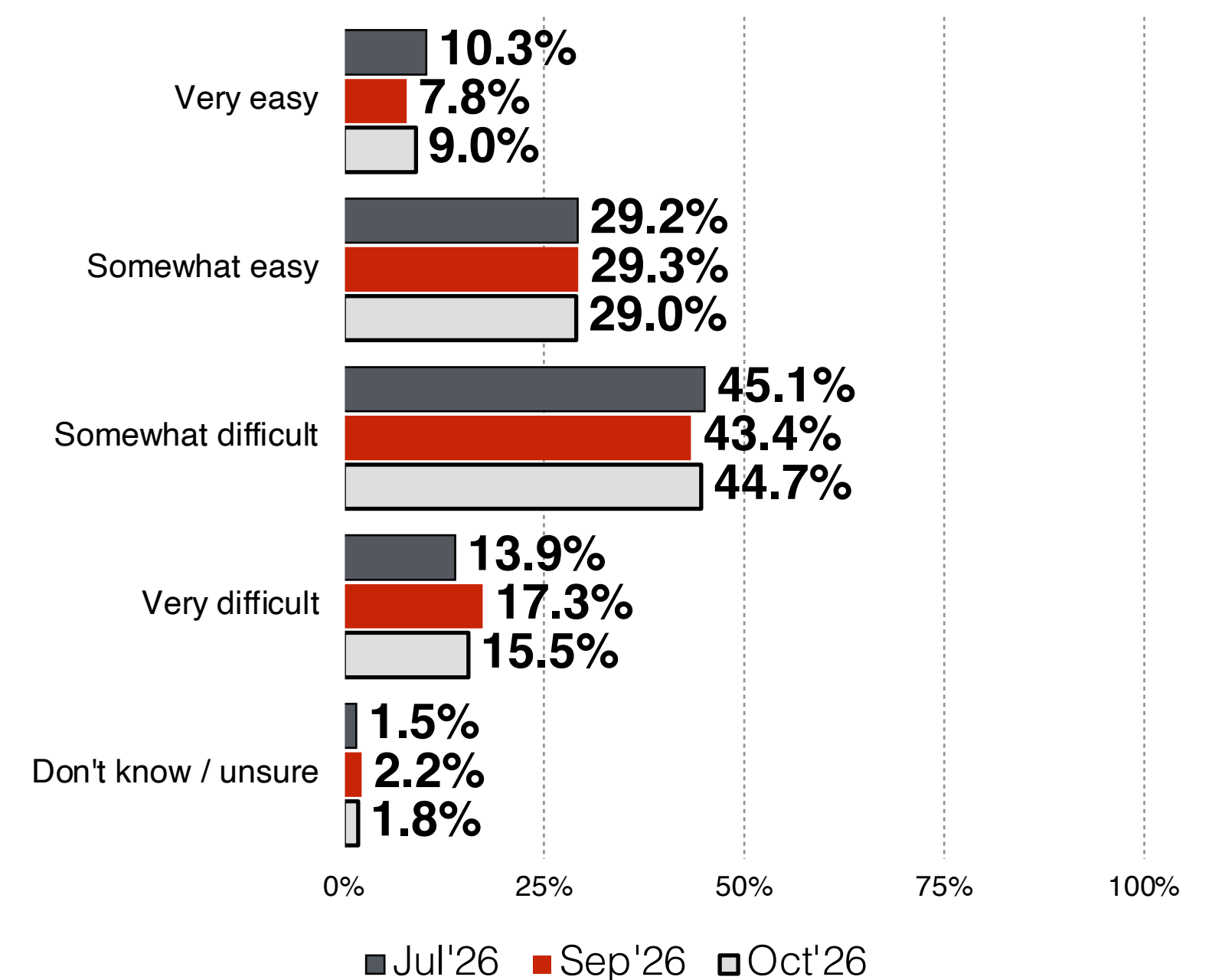
Voter's Quality of Life



Views on Personal Finances Compared to One Year Ago



Ease or Difficulty Maintaining Standard of Living



N=1,000 (July 2026), 1,000 (September 2026), 1,000 (October 2026)

Q: Thinking about all aspects of your life, how would you rate your overall quality of life living in Connecticut?

Q: Compared to one year ago, would you say your household's financial situation is...

Q: Based on your household's current financial situation, how easy or difficult is it to maintain your current standard of living?



Views on Connecticut | Likelihood to Move/Relocate

As of October 2026, approximately two-thirds of registered voters (68.3%) expect to still be living in Connecticut five years from now, remaining relatively consistent across all three waves. Meanwhile, one-quarter (25.0%) indicate they may leave the State. Among those considering relocating (n=264), affordability remains the dominant factor, with the high cost of living (36.5%) cited as the leading reason, followed by housing costs (11.9%), better quality of life elsewhere (11.8%), and state taxes (9.9%).

❖ Age:

- ❖ Voters 65 or older are considerably more likely to expect to remain in Connecticut (73.6%) than both 18-34-year-olds and 35-64-year-olds (65.9%, each). Conversely, younger voters are somewhat more likely to indicate they may leave the State, including 29.8% of 18-34-year-olds and 26.6% of 35-64-year-olds.

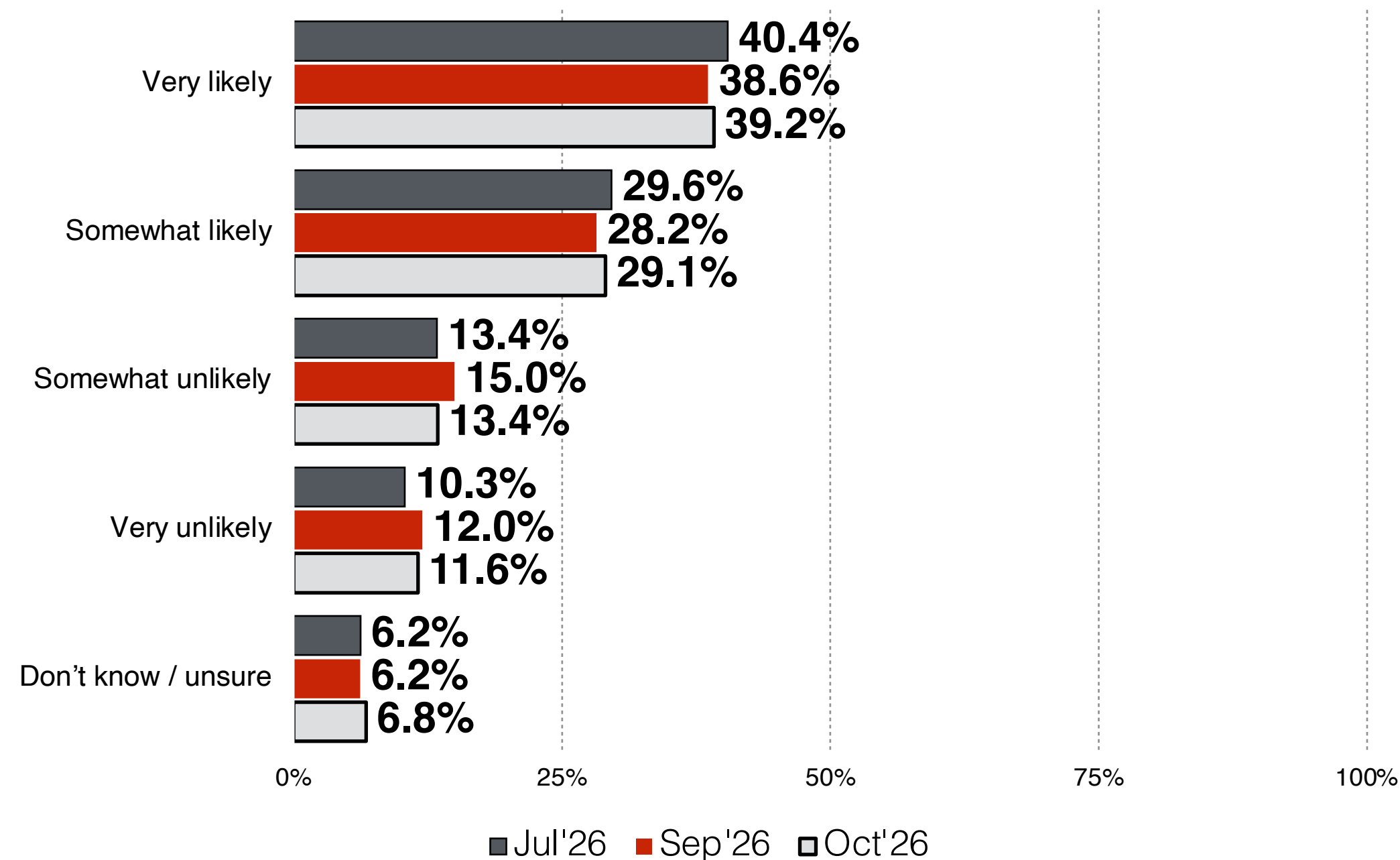
❖ Political party:

- ❖ Democrats are the most likely to expect to remain in Connecticut (75.2%), compared to 65.9% of Independents and 64.6% of Republicans. Republicans are the most likely to indicate they may leave (30.4%), followed by Independents (23.5%) and Democrats (21.1%).

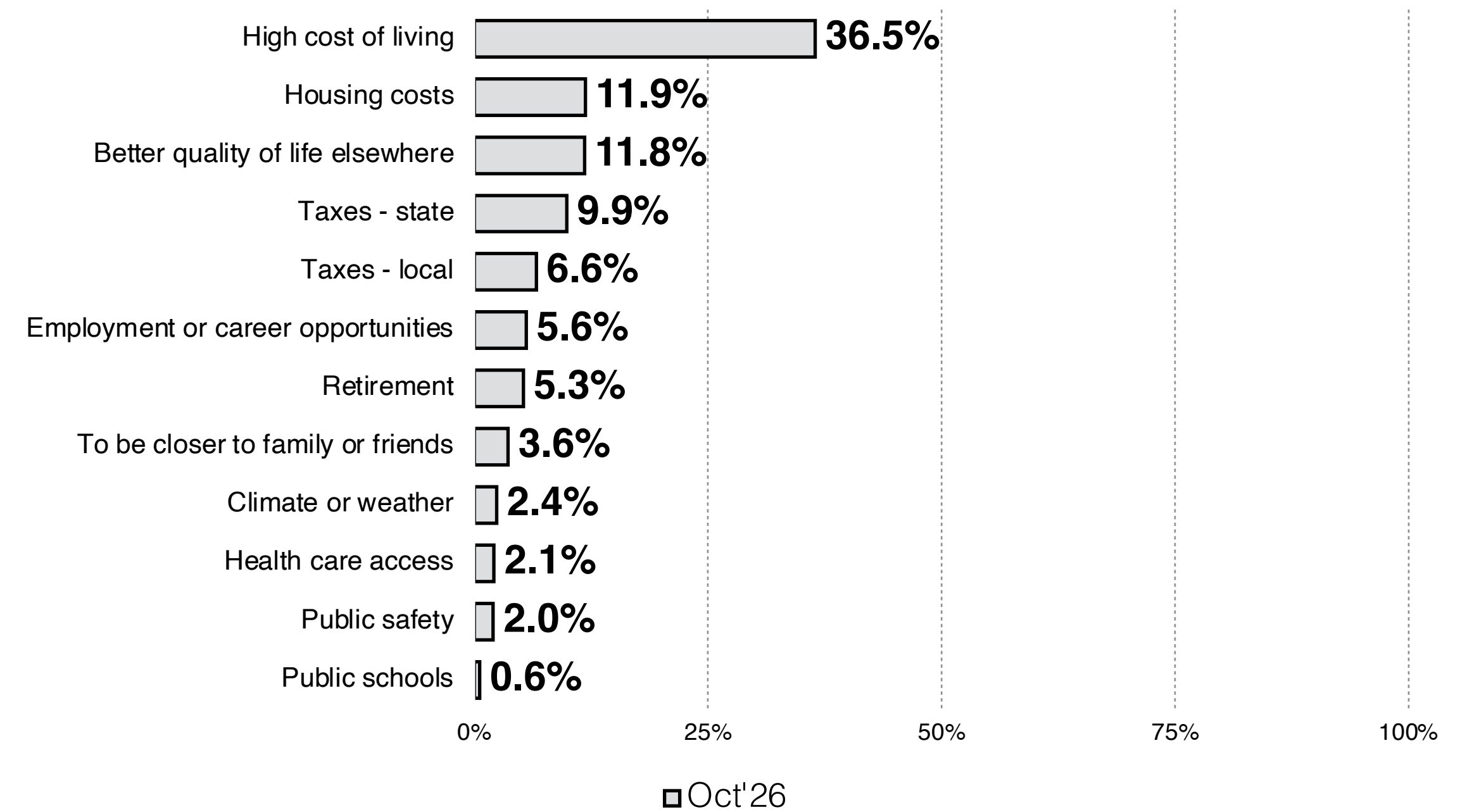
❖ Education:

- ❖ College graduates are more likely to expect to remain in Connecticut (75.0%) than non-college voters (63.0%), while non-college voters are more likely to indicate they may leave (28.9% vs. 19.7%).

Likelihood to Remain Living in CT in Five Years



Reasons Why Voters May Relocate (n=264)



N=1,000 (July 2026), 1,000 (September 2026), 1,000 (October 2026)

Q: How likely do you think it is that you will still be living in Connecticut five years from now?

Q: Which of the following is the **PRIMARY** reason you think you may leave Connecticut within the next five years?

Voter Motivation | Candidate Preferences and Preferred Direction



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Voters continue to place the greatest emphasis on substance when deciding who to support for Governor, with candidates' positions on issues (22.1%) and plans for Connecticut's future (22.0%) remaining the two most influential factors in October 2026. Preference for a younger candidate or new generation of leadership declined to 4.8% (from 7.0% back in July). However, voters continue to favor some degree of change from the next Governor, though preferences shifted toward a more moderate approach in October. More than four-in-ten (41.5%) want some changes while keeping many current policies, while 37.4% favor significant changes or a completely different direction; down from 41.6% in September.

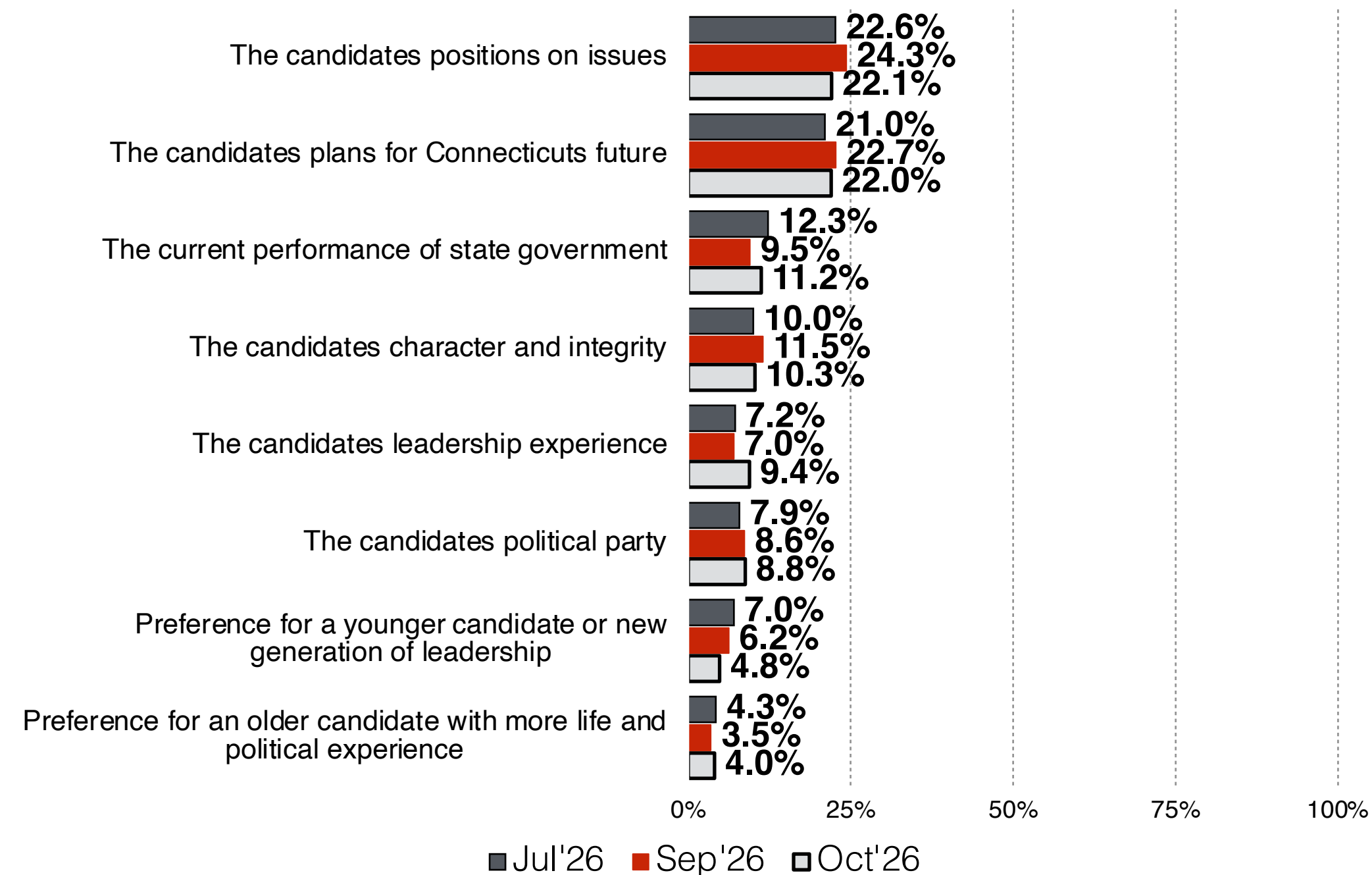
❖ Age:

- ❖ Voters 65 or older place considerably greater emphasis on ideological alignment (35.3%) and a proven record of delivering results (30.3%), while 18-34-year-olds are more likely to prioritize a new generation of leadership (16.2%).
- ❖ Age differences also emerge in immediate voting considerations: voters 65 or older are most likely to prioritize candidates' positions on issues (30.0%), while 35-64-year-olds place greater emphasis on candidates' plans for Connecticut's future (26.7%).

❖ Political Party:

- ❖ Democrats place substantially greater emphasis on a candidate's proven record of delivering results (32.3%) than Republicans (12.7%), while Republicans are somewhat more likely to prioritize a different approach or direction (16.7%, Republican vs. 8.9%, Democrat).

Key Factors Influencing Voter's Decision for Governor

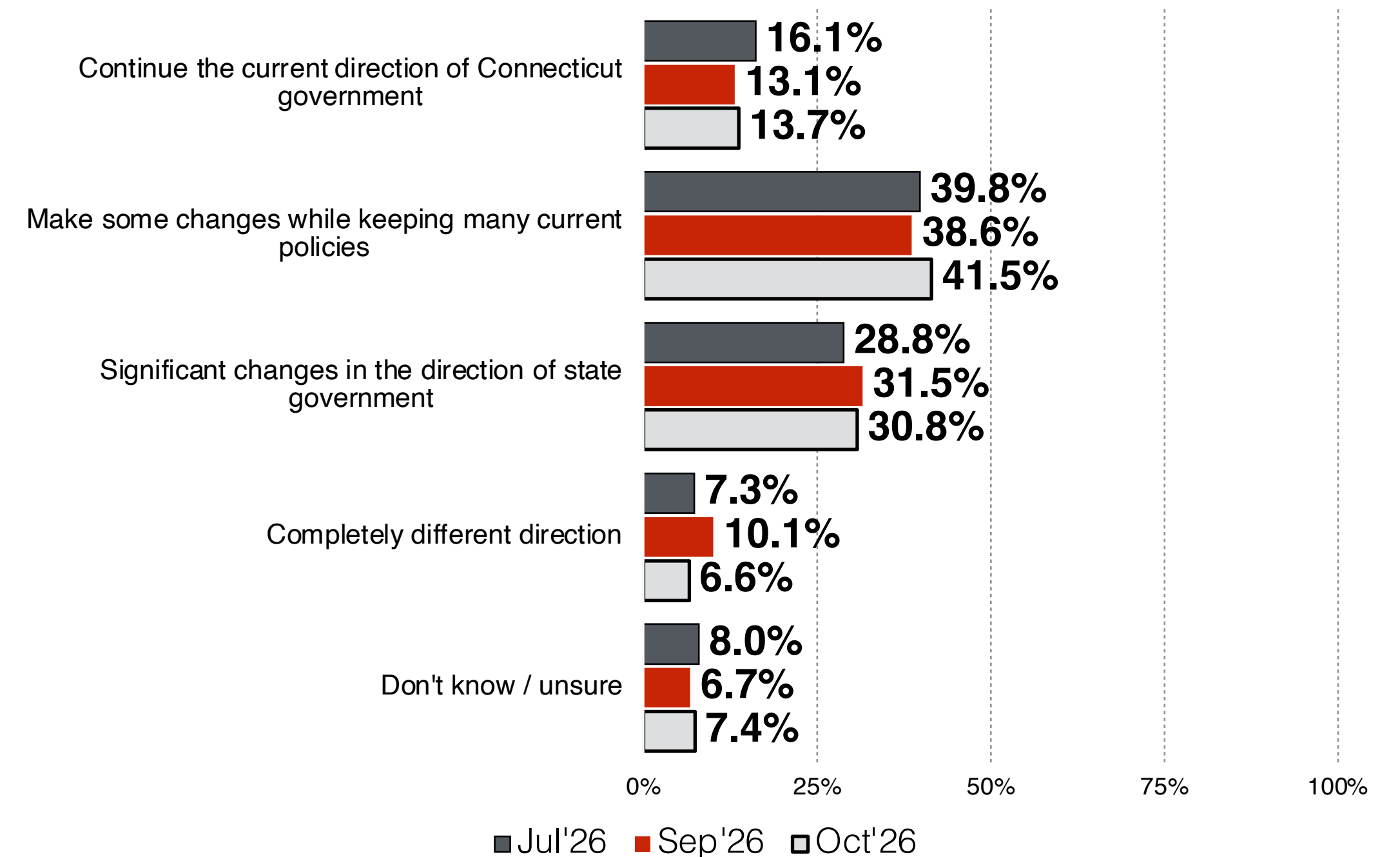


N=1,000 (July 2026), 1,000 (September 2026), 1,000 (October 2026)

Q: When deciding how to vote for Governor in November, which of the following will have the greatest influence on your decision?

Q: Thinking about the next Governor, which best reflects what you want?

Preferred Direction of the Next Governor



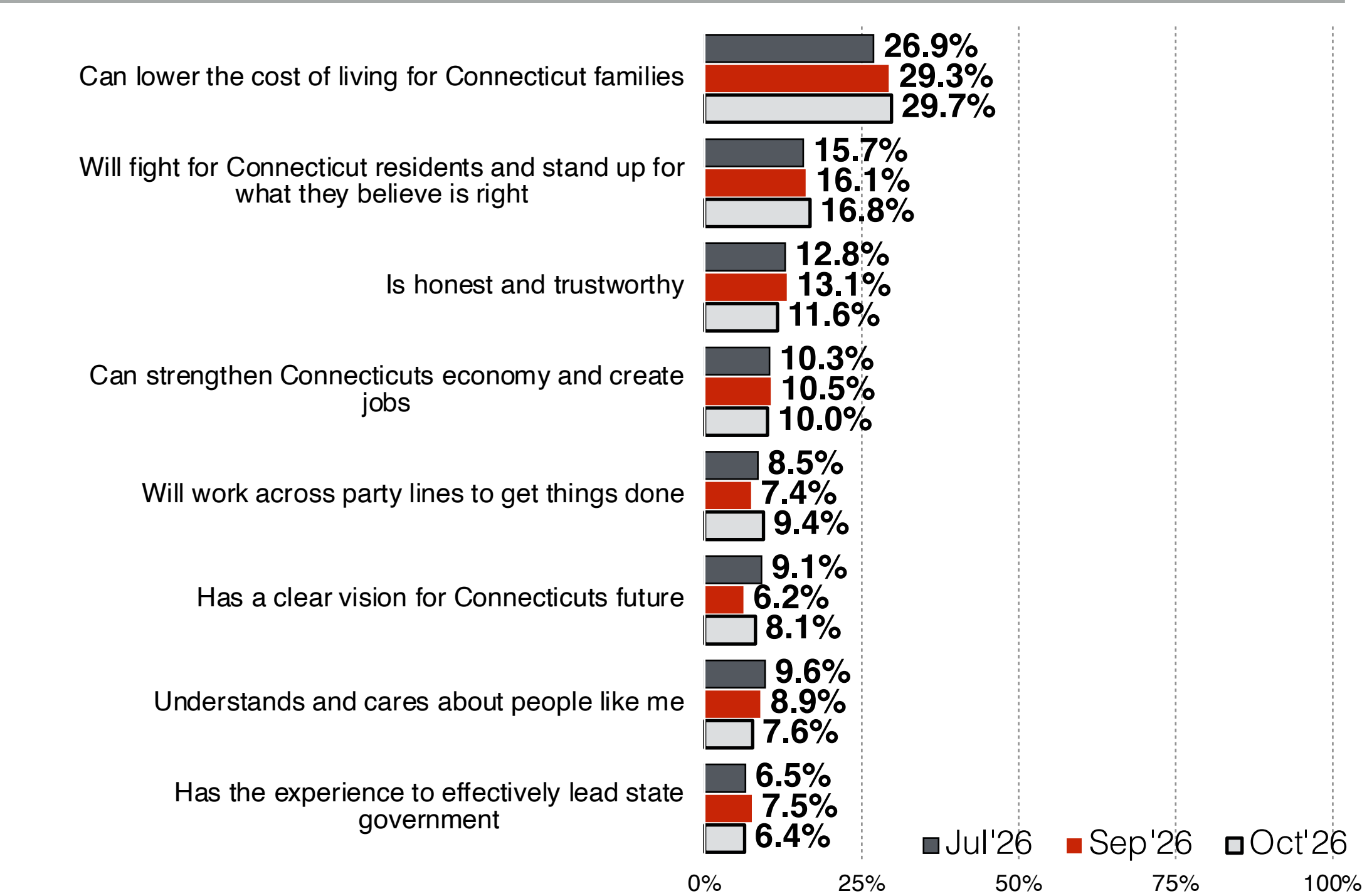
Voter Motivation | Candidate Qualities and Key Issues



As of October 2026, affordability has further solidified its position as the defining issue of the gubernatorial election. One-third of registered voters (33.9%) continued to identify cost of living/inflation as the most important issue when deciding who to support, increasing from 31.4% in September and 29.4% in July. The ability to lower costs also remains the most important quality voters seek in the next Governor, increasing slightly to 29.7% from 26.9% back in July. Meanwhile, jobs and the economy increased to 11.2% as a voting issue, while taxes declined to 9.7%.

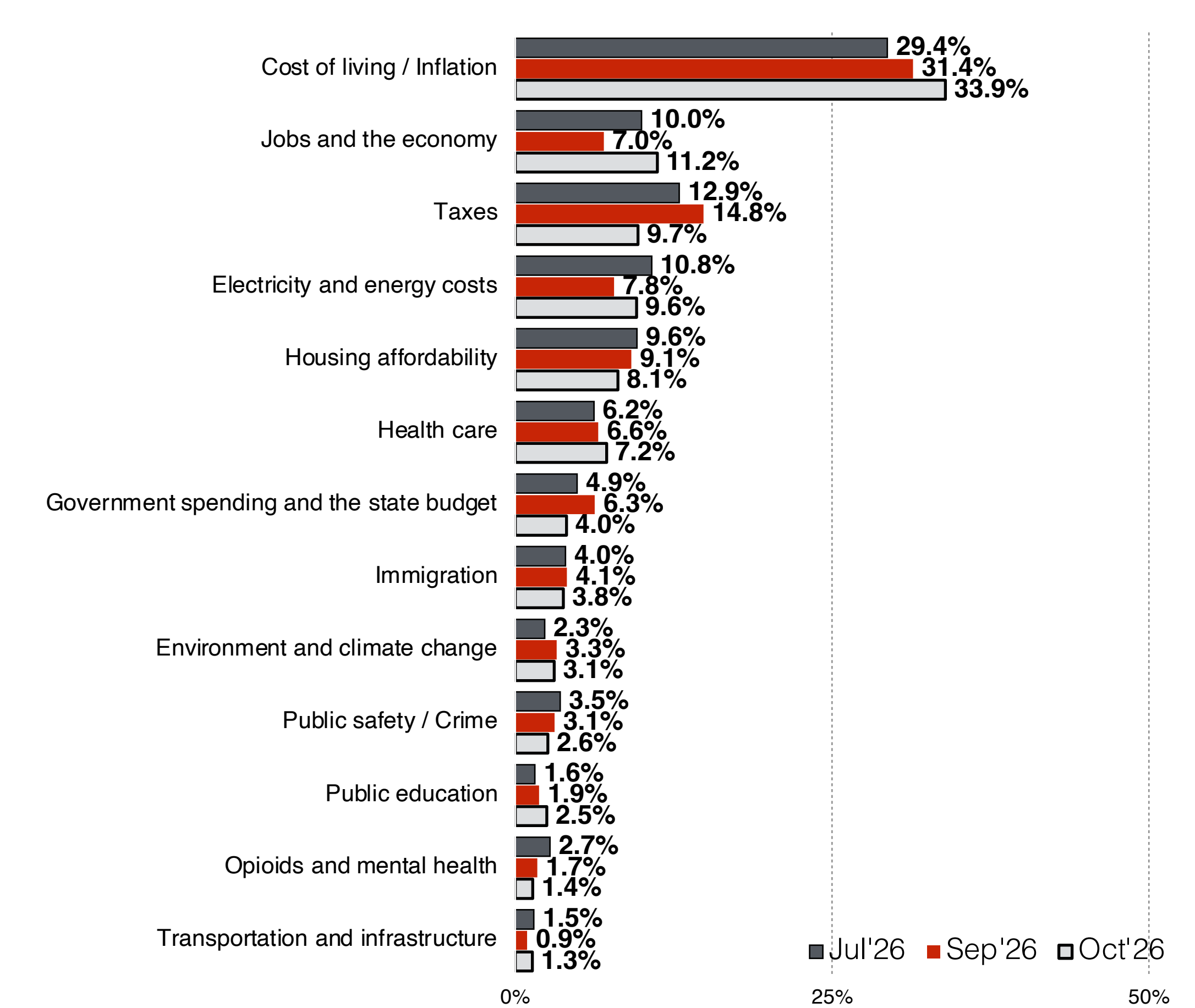
- ❖ Cost of living/inflation is the top issue across every major demographic subgroup, including Democrats (35.5%), Republicans (26.2%), and Independents (38.7%).
- ❖ Jobs and the economy show somewhat greater variation, carrying more weight among 35-64-year-olds (14.3%), men (13.9%), college graduates (13.9%), and Independents (12.9%).

Most Important Gubernatorial Candidate Quality



N=1,000 (July 2026), 1,000 (September 2026), 1,000 (October 2026)
Q: Which ONE QUALITY is most important to you in a candidate for Governor?
Q: Which ONE ISSUE will be the most important in deciding your vote for Governor this November?

Most Important Issue in the Upcoming Gubernatorial Election



Election Issues | National Political Movements



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Voter reactions to candidates associated with the Democratic Socialist and MAGA movements remain largely consistent with prior waves. Approximately three-in-ten voters (29.0%) say a Democratic Socialist affiliation would make them more likely to support a candidate, compared to 23.5% for a MAGA affiliation. Both movements generate negative reactions among sizable portions of the electorate, though opposition to MAGA remains considerably stronger. More than one-half (55.3%) say a MAGA affiliation would make them less likely to support a candidate, compared to 35.5% for DSA.

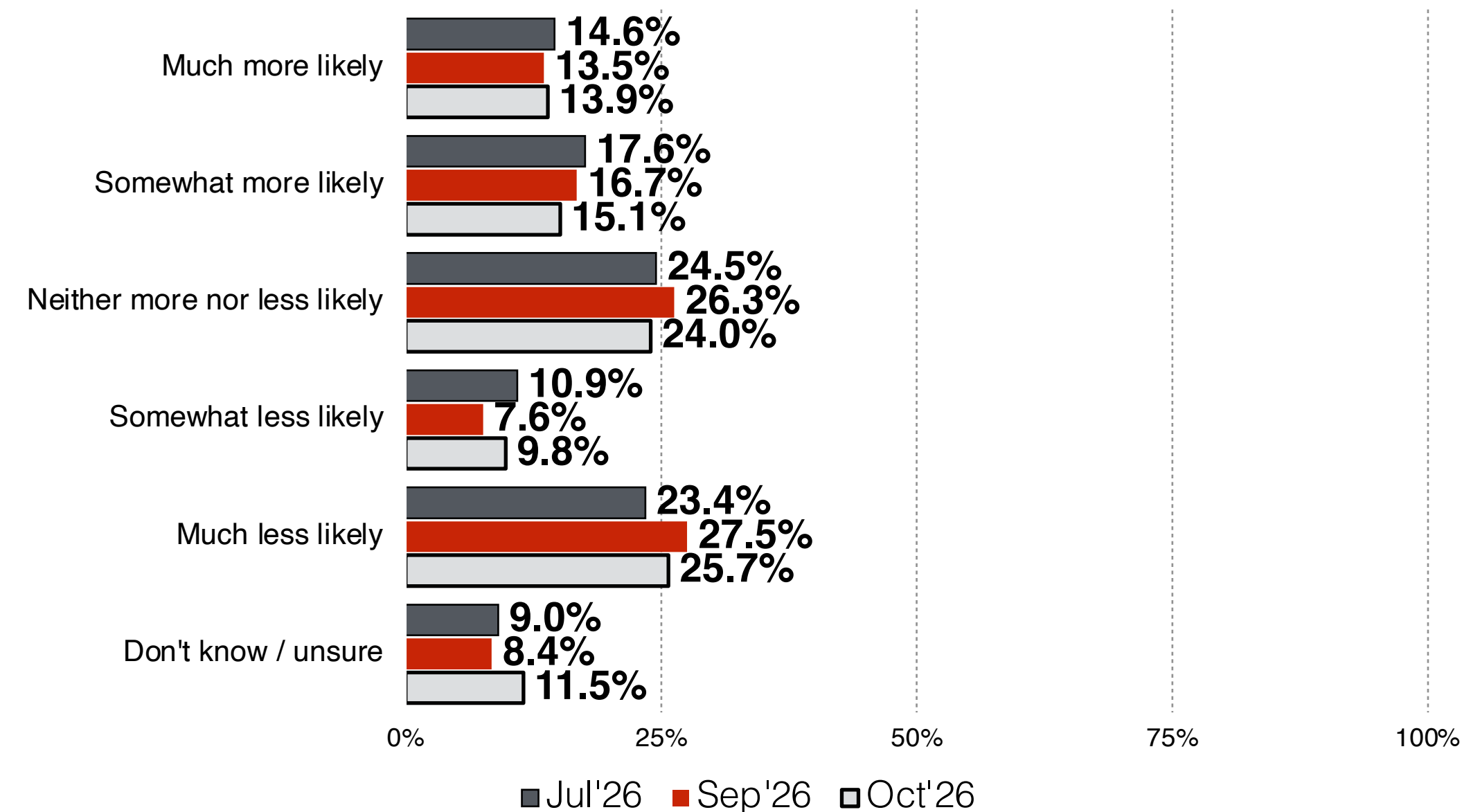
❖ Political Party:

- ❖ Reactions to both movements remain highly partisan: Democrats are more likely to support a candidate associated with Democratic Socialism (50.0%), while Republicans are more likely to support a MAGA-aligned candidate (63.8%). Conversely, 63.0% of Republicans are less likely to support a Democratic Socialist candidate, while 71.7% of Democrats are less likely to support a MAGA-aligned candidate.

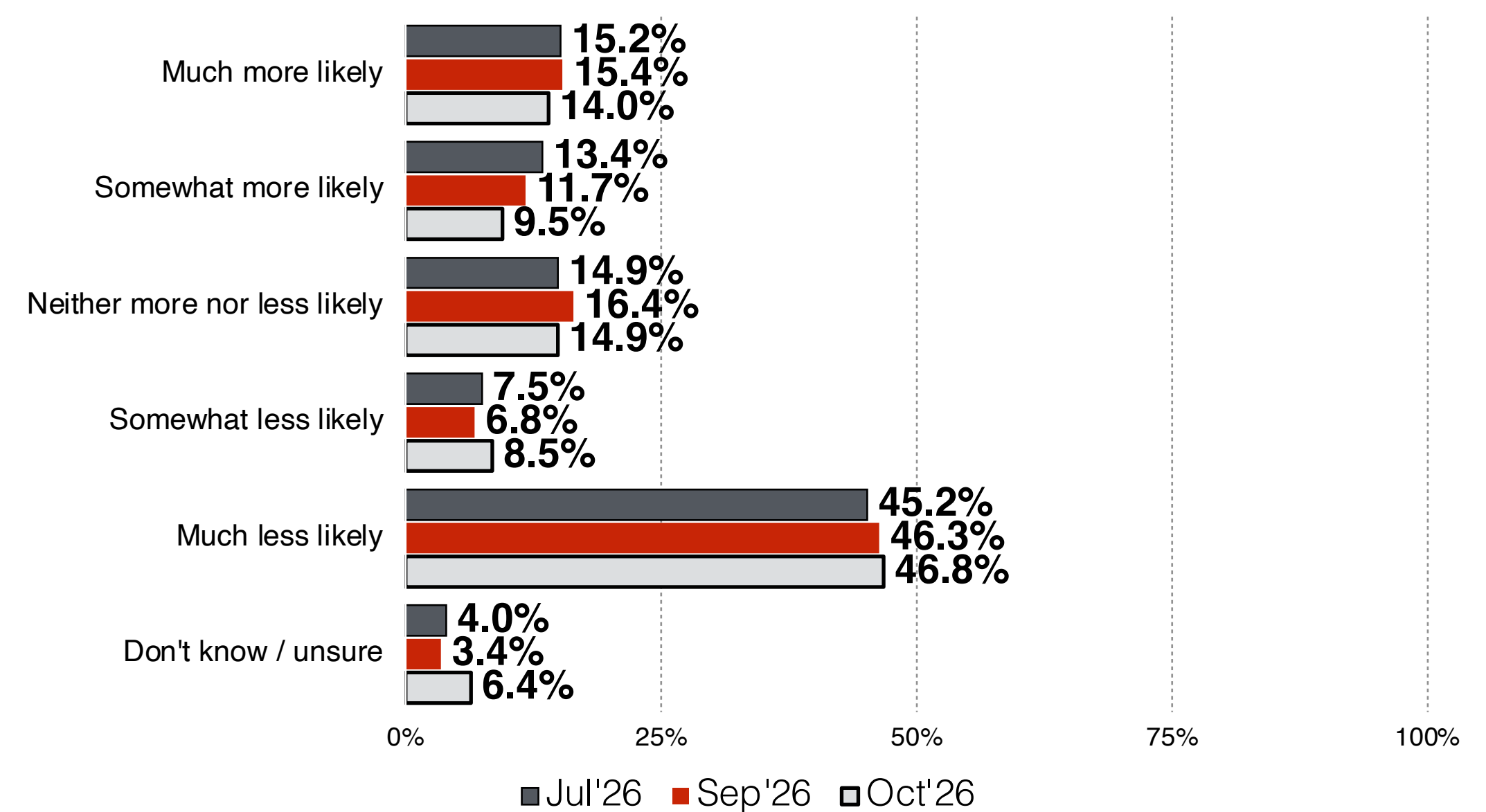
❖ Age:

- ❖ Younger voters are more receptive to Democratic Socialist candidates, with 42.7% of 18–34-year-olds saying the affiliation would make them more likely to support a candidate, compared to 27.1% of 35–64-year-olds and 21.3% of voters 65 or older. However, opposition to MAGA also increases with age, with 55.8% of 18–34-year-olds saying the affiliation would make them less likely to support a candidate, compared to 50.6% of 35–64-year-olds and 62.0% of voters 65 or older.

Likelihood to Vote for Candidate within DSA (Democratic Socialist) Movement



Likelihood to Vote for Candidate within MAGA (Make America Great Again) Movement



N=1,000 (July 2026), 1,000 (September 2026), 1,000 (October 2026)

Q: In general, would you be more likely or less likely to vote for a candidate for Governor who identifies with each of the following political movements?

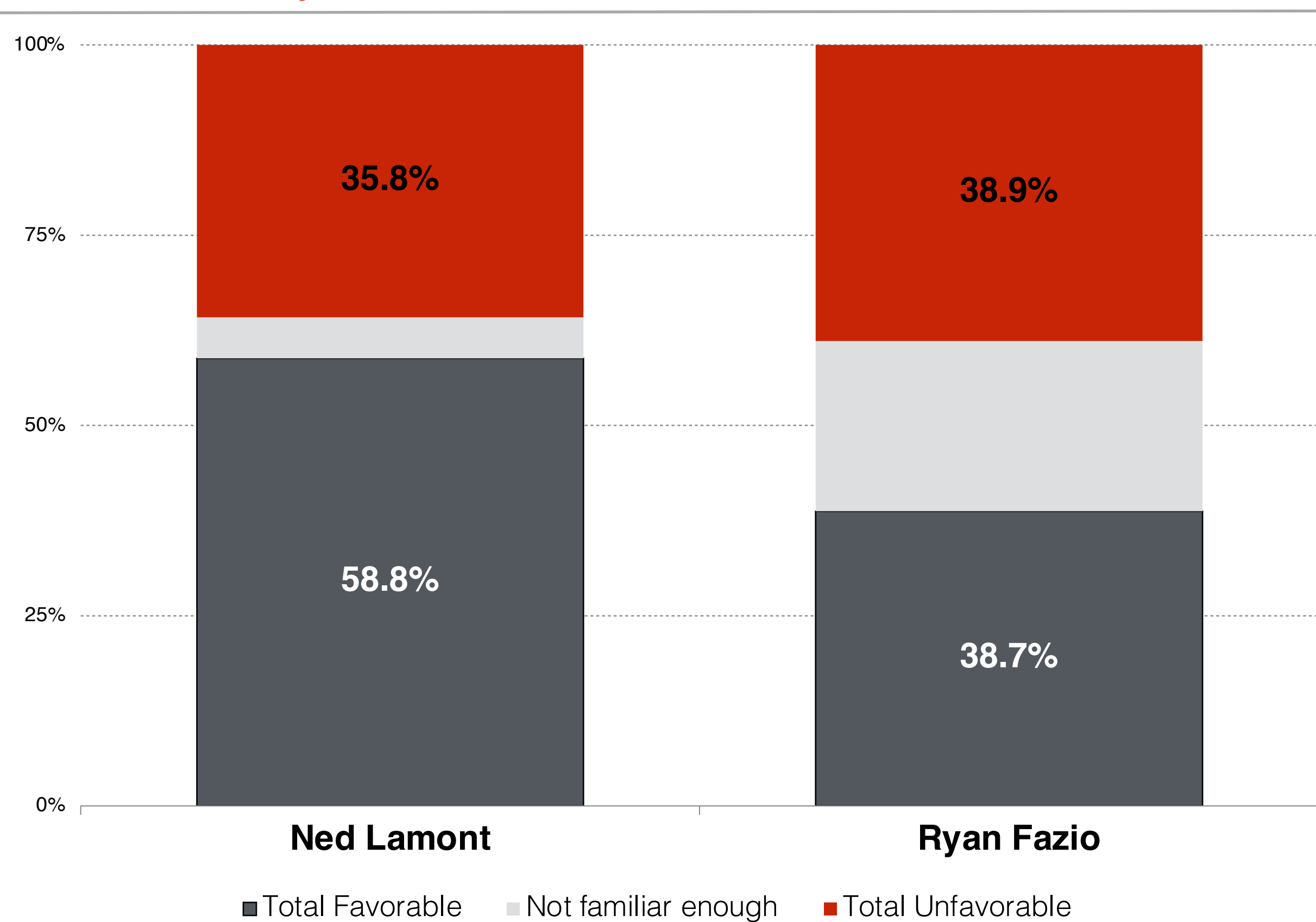
Election Issues | General Favorability

As of October 2026, Ned Lamont holds a net-positive favorability rating among registered voters, with 58.8% viewing him favorably compared to 35.8% who view him unfavorably. Views of Ryan Fazio are considerably more divided, with nearly equal shares viewing him favorably (38.7%) and unfavorably (38.9%). Approximately one-in-five voters (22.4%) remain insufficiently familiar with Fazio to offer an opinion.

Age:

- ❖ Lamont’s favorability is highest among voters 65 or older (64.2%) and 18-34-year-olds (66.2%), compared to 51.8% among 35-64-year-olds. Fazio’s favorability is more consistent across age groups, ranging from 35.8% to 41.0%.
- ❖ **Political Party:**
 - ❖ Both candidates receive strong favorable ratings within their own parties, though Lamont is viewed favorably by 89.7% of Democrats compared to 80.0% of Republicans who view Fazio favorably.
 - ❖ Among Independents, Lamont is viewed more favorably (56.5%) than Fazio (38.4%), while nearly three-in-ten Independents (29.8%) remain unfamiliar with Fazio.
- ❖ **Urbanicity:**
 - ❖ Lamont’s favorability is highest among urban (65.5%) and suburban voters (60.1%), while Fazio performs best among rural voters (44.4%). Even among rural voters, however, Lamont’s favorable rating (49.1%) remains somewhat higher than Fazio’s.

Candidate Favorability



N=1,000 (October 2026)
Q: Based on what you know about each candidate, is your overall opinion of each very favorable, somewhat favorable, somewhat unfavorable, or very unfavorable?

Election Issues | Candidate Trust



Registered voters are more likely to trust Ned Lamont than Ryan Fazio across each of the 11 issues tested, with Lamont holding his largest advantages on education and public schools (50.3% vs. 23.2%), healthcare costs and access (49.6% vs. 24.2%), and housing affordability (45.8% vs. 24.4%). Fazio is comparatively more competitive on several of the cost-focused issues that have emerged as priorities throughout the polling series. The gap is narrowest on electricity and energy costs (41.3% Lamont; 33.1% Fazio), followed by taxes and state government spending (42.6%; 31.2%) and lowering the cost of living (42.3%; 30.6%).

❖ **Political Party:**

- ❖ Democrats overwhelmingly trust Lamont on energy costs (72.6%), healthcare (81.1%), and education (81.9%), while Republicans favor Fazio on these issues (71.4%, 66.8%, and 63.5%, respectively). Fazio’s strongest advantage among Republicans is on electricity and energy costs.

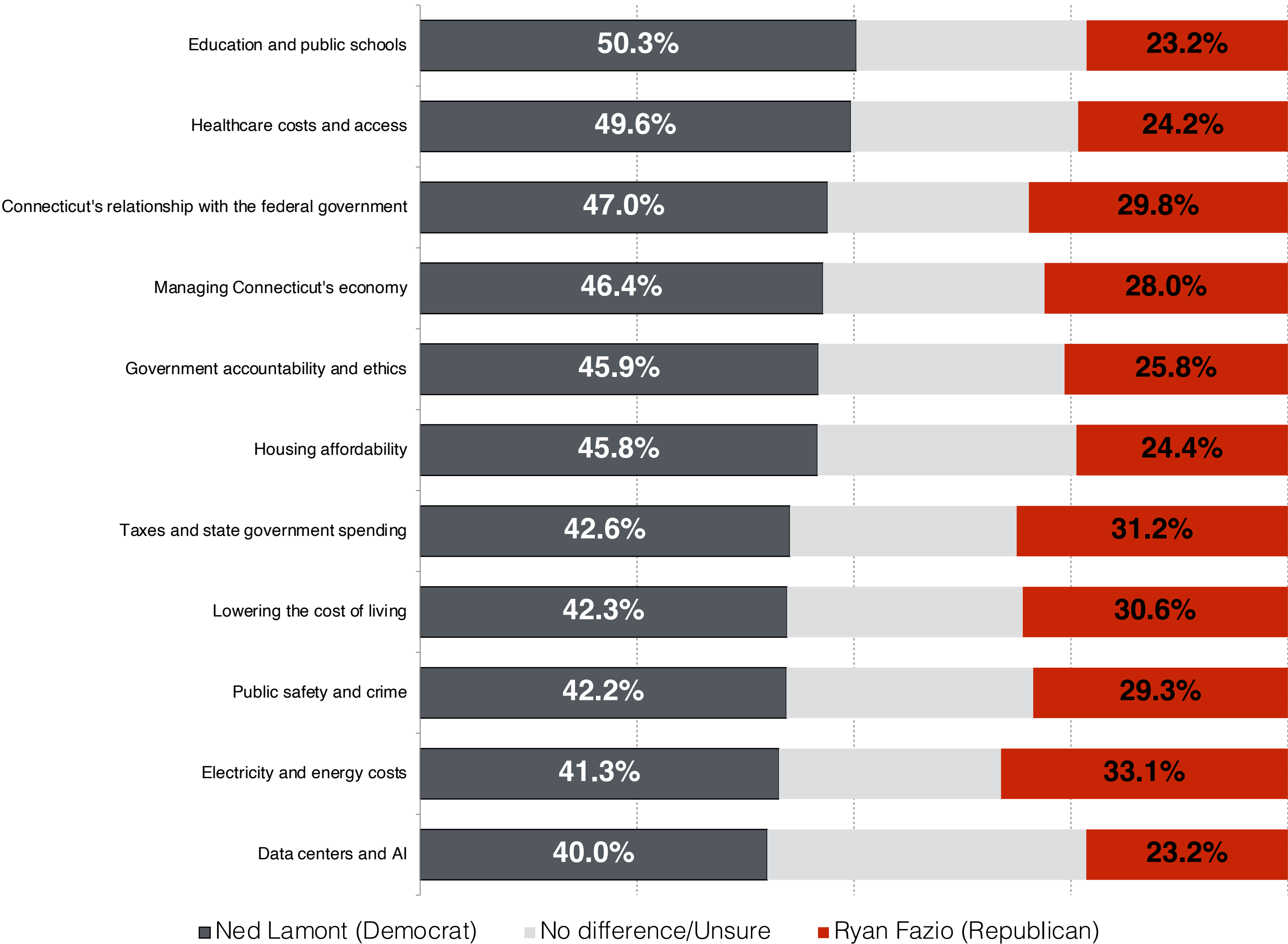
❖ **Age:**

- ❖ Lamont’s advantages on healthcare and education are particularly pronounced among voters 65 or older, who trust him over Fazio by 55.0% to 22.3% on healthcare and 58.5% to 22.9% on education.
- ❖ Energy costs are more competitive among 35-64-year-olds (39.3% Lamont; 35.0% Fazio).

❖ **Urbanicity:**

- ❖ Energy costs show a notable geographic divide: urban voters trust Lamont over Fazio by 55.7% to 28.5%, while rural voters favor Fazio 35.6% to 23.1%.
- ❖ In contrast, Lamont maintains an advantage among rural voters on healthcare (41.9% vs. 25.6%) and education (43.1% vs. 25.6%).

Candidate Voters Trust More on Key Issues



N=1,000 (October 2026)
Q: Regardless of which candidate you currently support, who do you trust more to handle each of the following issues as Governor of Connecticut?

Election Issues | Views on Candidates

Registered voters are more likely to believe Ned Lamont better understands the challenges facing people like them, with 45.4% selecting Lamont compared to 31.2% selecting Ryan Fazio. However, perceptions are more closely divided when it comes to bringing meaningful change to Connecticut state government, with 41.3% selecting Lamont compared to 35.5% for Fazio.

Age:

- ❖ Lamont's advantage on understanding voters' challenges is greatest among those 65 or older (54.0% vs. 30.0%), while perceptions are closer among 35-64-year-olds (39.5% Lamont; 34.3% Fazio).
- ❖ On bringing meaningful change, Fazio narrowly leads among 35-64-year-olds (39.9% vs. 38.8%), while Lamont leads among both younger and older voters.

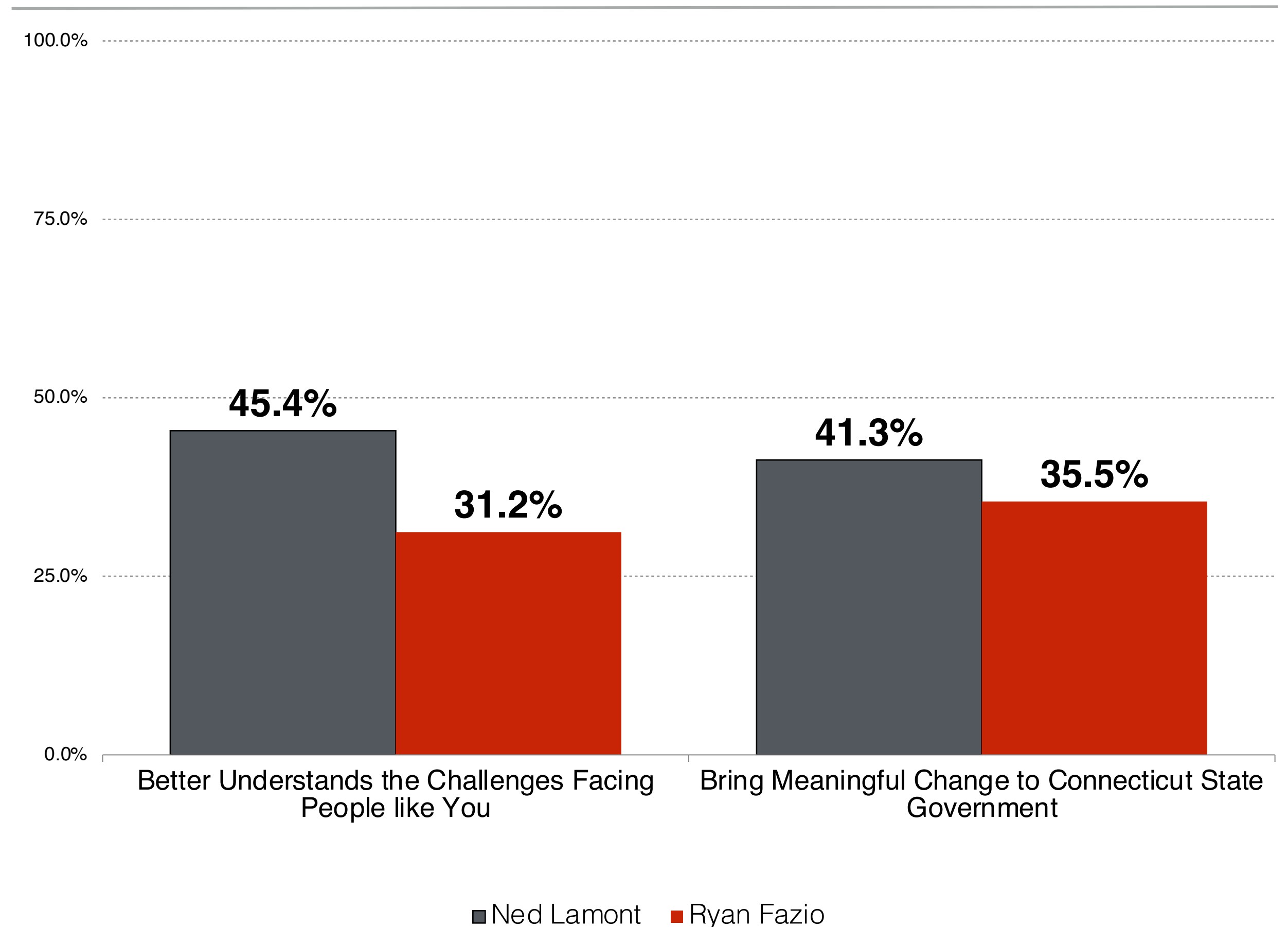
Political Party:

- ❖ Perceptions largely follow partisan lines, though Independents distinguish between the two candidate attributes: Lamont leads Fazio on understanding their challenges (38.3% vs. 26.3%), while Fazio leads on bringing meaningful change (36.4% vs. 27.8%).

Urbanicity:

- ❖ Lamont leads substantially among urban and suburban voters on understanding their challenges, while rural voters narrowly favor Fazio (34.8% vs. 32.3%).
- ❖ The rural advantage for Fazio is more pronounced on bringing meaningful change (39.4% vs. 31.9%).

Candidate Perceptions



N=1,000 (October 2026)

Q: Regardless of which candidate you currently support, who do you believe better understands the challenges facing people like you?

Q: Which candidate do you believe would be more likely to bring meaningful change to Connecticut state government?

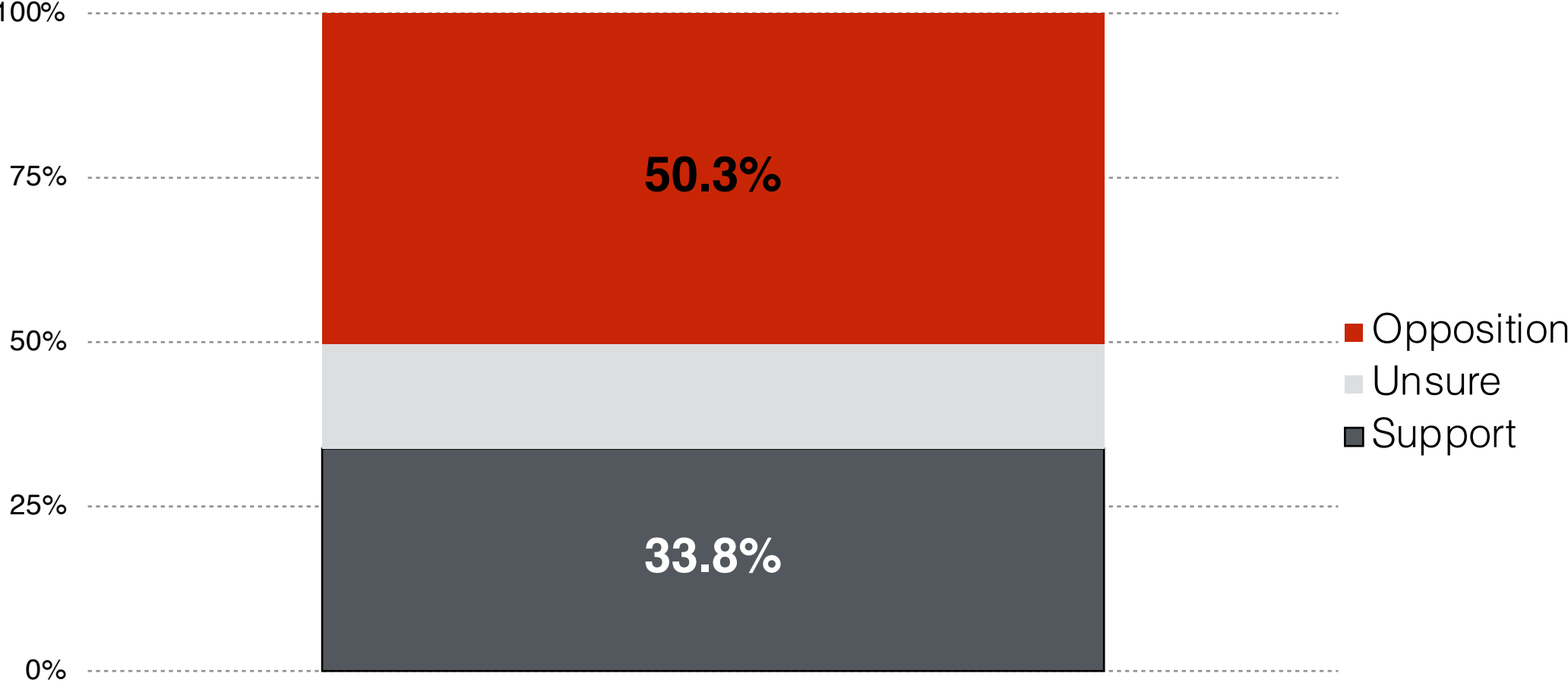
Election Issues | Data Centers

As of October 2026, one-half of registered voters (50.3%) oppose the development of additional data centers in Connecticut, compared to one-third (33.8%) who support development. Concerns about the potential costs and resource demands of data centers are the most common reasons shaping voters’ opinions. Potential increases in electricity costs (16.9%) rank first, followed by environmental impacts (15.5%), and electricity use (11.3%). By comparison, potential job creation and economic investment (7.9%), support for new technology and AI development (7.7%), and additional tax revenue (4.9%) are less frequently cited.

- ❖ **Age:**
 - ❖ Younger voters are the most supportive of additional data center development, with 40.6% of 18-34-year-olds supportive compared to 31.8% of 35-64-year-olds and 31.5% of voters 65 or older. Opposition is highest among voters 65 or older (56.5%).
- ❖ **Political Party:**
 - ❖ Opposition to additional data center development extends across party lines, including majorities of Democrats (57.2%) and Independents (57.0%). Republicans are comparatively more supportive (50.0%), with 36.8% opposed.
- ❖ **Urbanicity:**
 - ❖ Urban voters are more supportive of additional data centers (46.5%) than suburban (28.5%) or rural voters (33.8%). Opposition reaches a majority among both suburban (56.0%) and rural voters (50.7%).

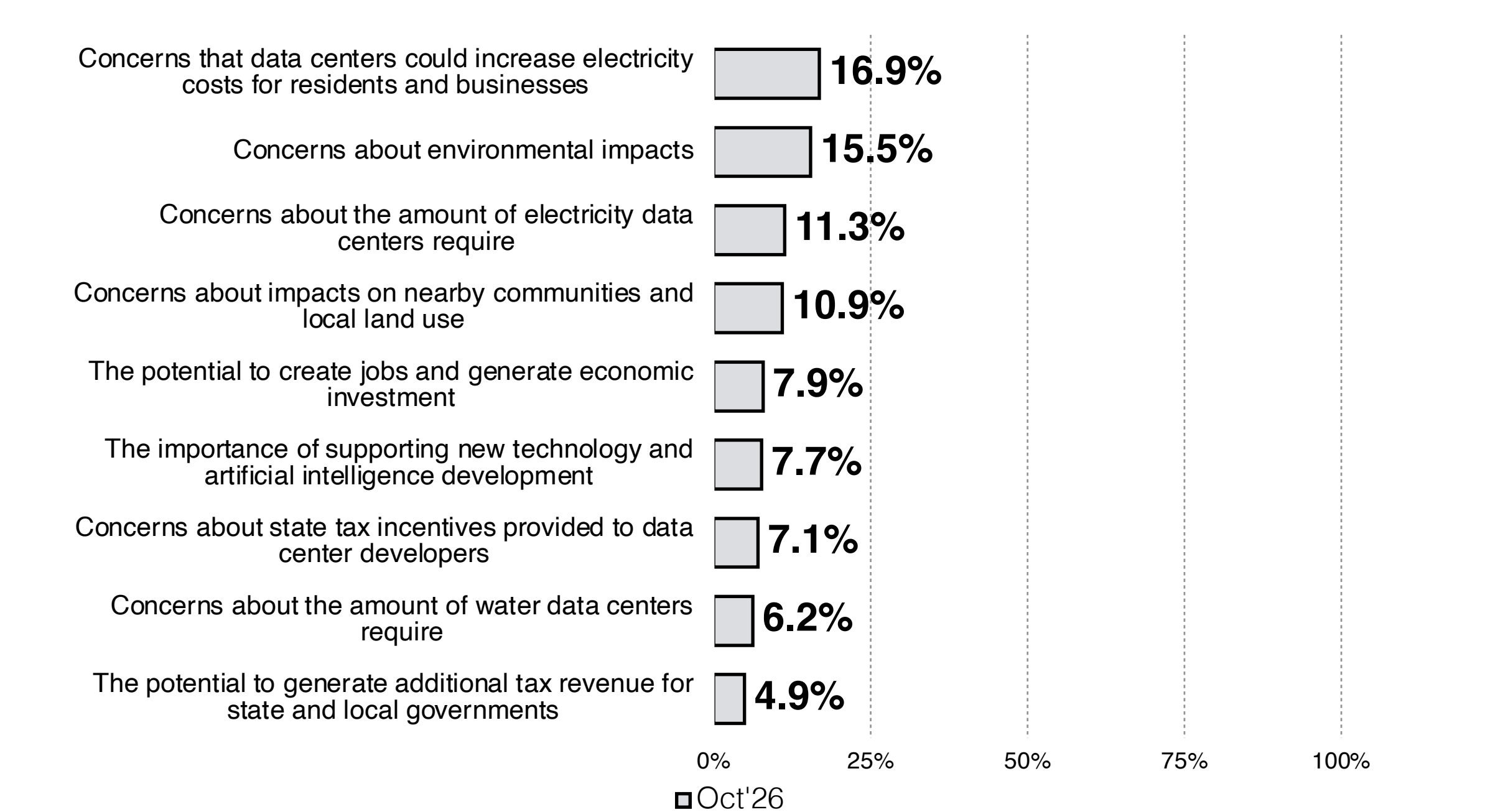
Voters Support for or Opposition to Data Center Development

Data centers defined as: *Large facilities that house computer systems used to store and process digital information, including the technology that supports artificial intelligence. Supporters say data centers can bring investment, jobs, and tax revenue to Connecticut, while opponents raise concerns about their electricity and water use, potential impacts on utility costs, and effects on surrounding communities.*



N=1,000 (October 2026)
Q: Overall, based on everything you know or have heard, do you support or oppose the development of additional data centers in Connecticut?
Q: Which of the following comes closest to the main reason for your opinion about additional data center development in Connecticut?

Reasons for Support for/Opposition to Data Center Development



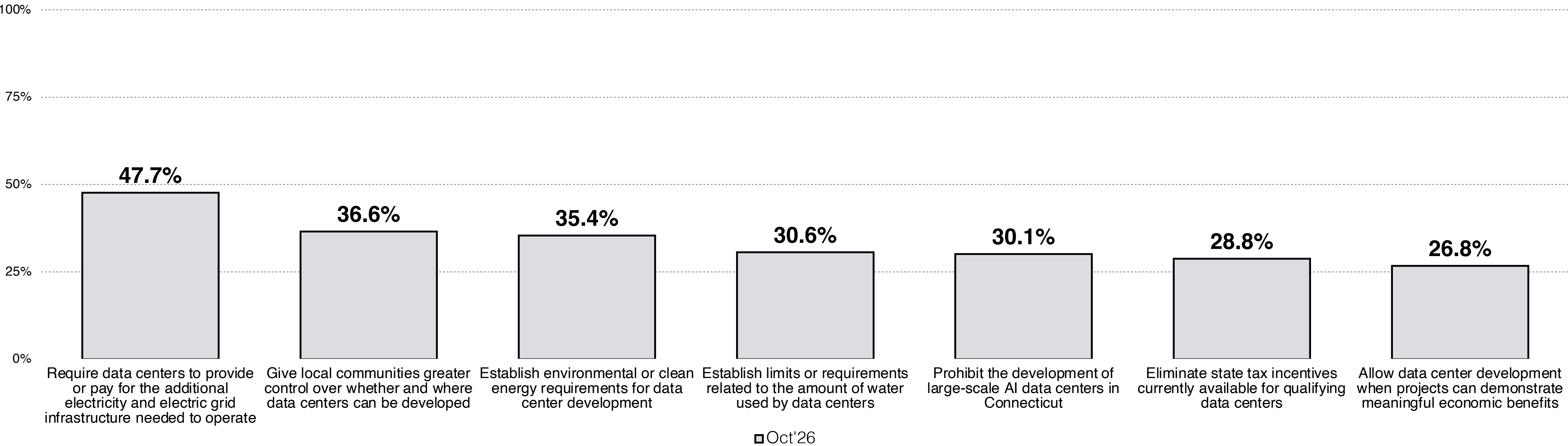
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Election Issues | Data Centers

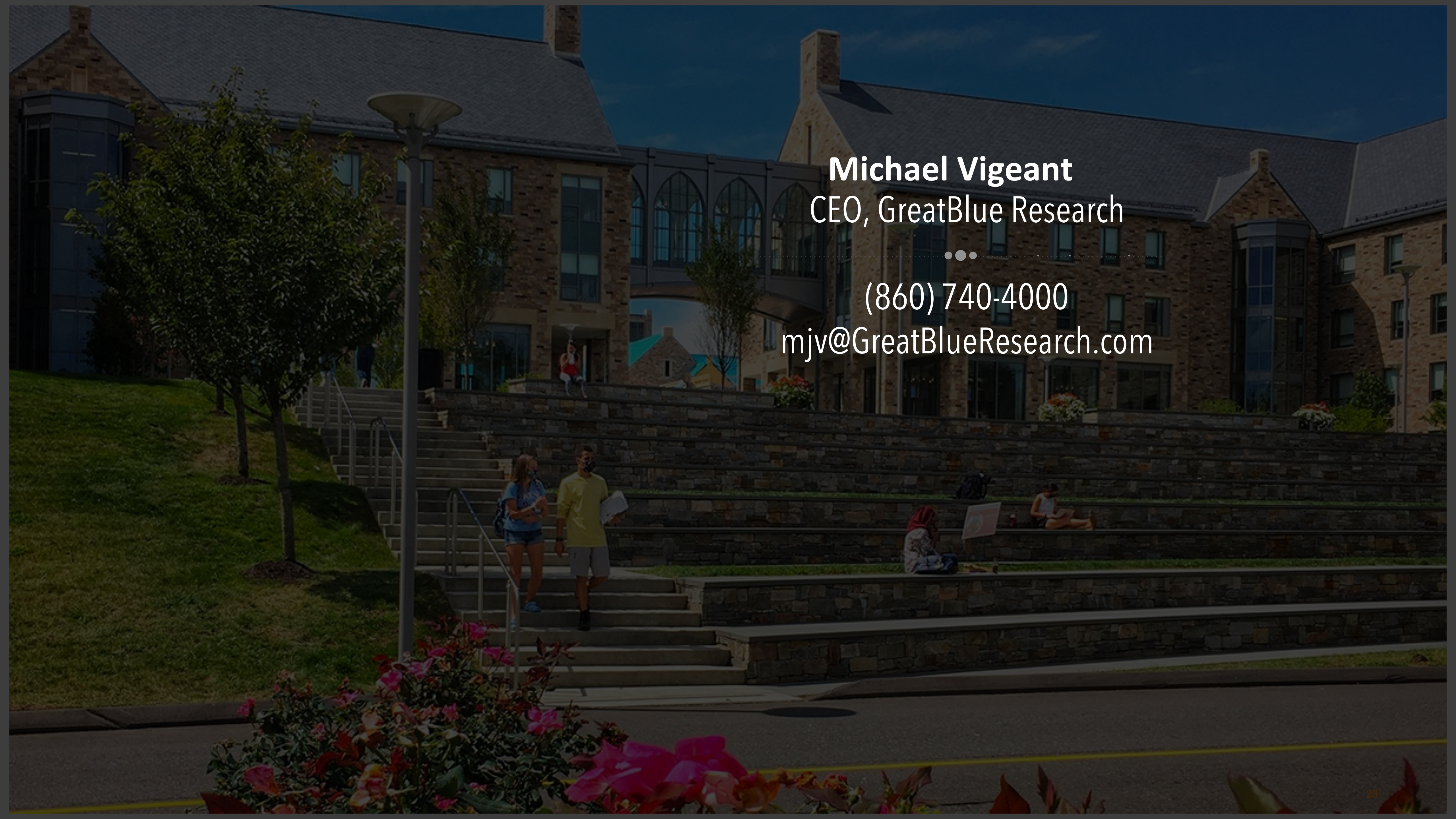
Voters express the greatest support for requiring data centers to provide or pay for the additional electricity and electric grid infrastructure needed to operate (47.7%), making it the most widely supported policy tested. Other frequently supported approaches focus on greater oversight of development, including giving local communities more control over where data centers can be developed (36.6%) and establishing environmental or clean-energy requirements (35.4%).

- ❖ **Age:**
 - ❖ Voters 65 or older are particularly supportive of requiring data centers to provide or pay for additional electricity and grid infrastructure (57.5%), compared to 44.1% of 18–34-year-olds and 43.1% of 35–64-year-olds. Younger voters are somewhat more supportive of environmental/clean-energy requirements (41.2%).
- ❖ **Political Party:**
 - ❖ Requiring data centers to provide or pay for needed electricity and grid infrastructure receives broad support across parties, including 56.7% of Independents, 47.6% of Republicans, and 46.1% of Democrats. Independents are also the most supportive of greater local control (43.2%).
- ❖ **Education:**
 - ❖ College graduates express greater support than non-college voters for several regulatory approaches, including grid infrastructure requirements (54.9% vs. 42.0%), environmental/clean-energy requirements (43.3% vs. 29.2%), and greater local control (42.2% vs. 32.2%).

Voters Support for Various Data Center Development Policies



N=1,000 (October 2026)
Q: Which of the following policies, if any, would you support regarding the development of new data centers in Connecticut? Please select all that apply.



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