

San Francisco Police Department Fall 2023 Community Survey

Commissioned by

Conducted by



Emerson College
P O L L I N G

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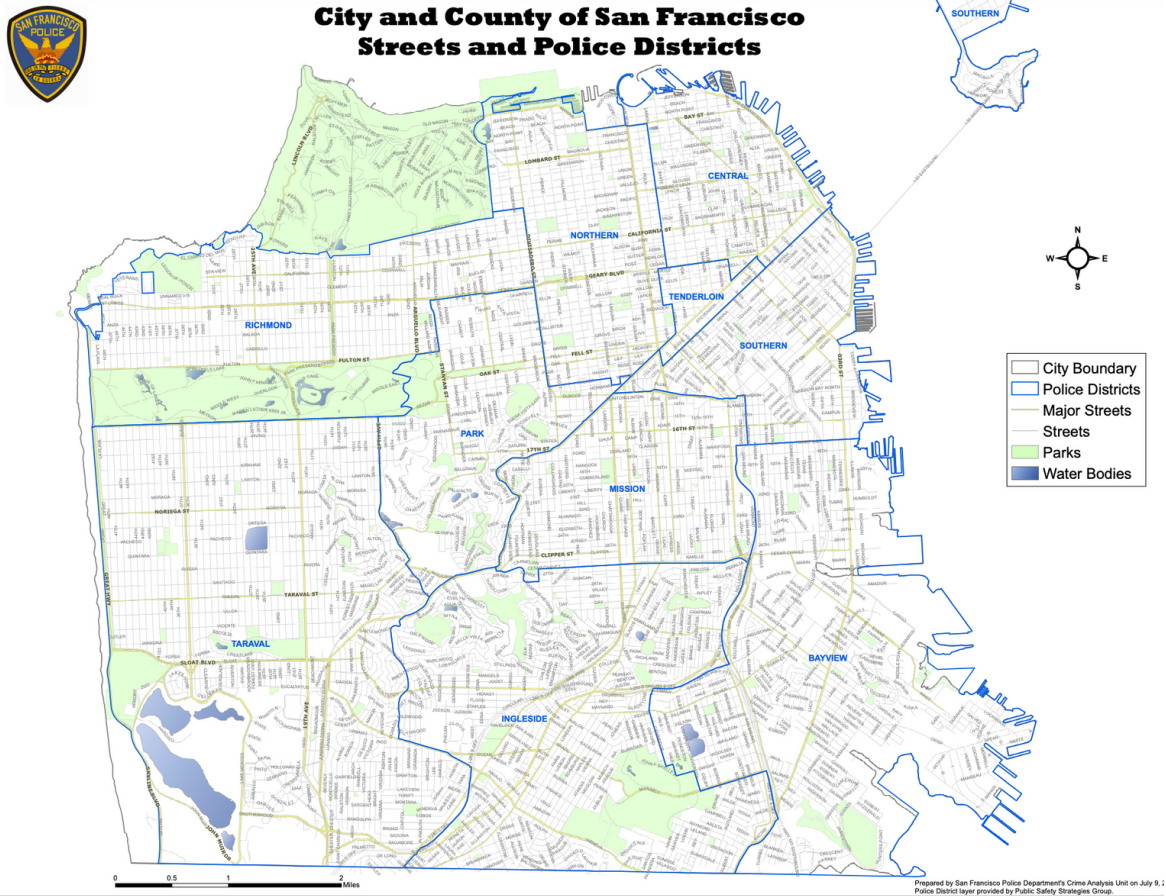
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METHODOLOGY

Emerson College Polling conducted a survey of San Francisco residents, commissioned by the San Francisco Police Department (SFPD). The sample size for the total sample is N=1,668, and each of the ten police districts has a sample size of n=167.



Data was weighted by San Francisco city parameters. The credibility interval, similar to a poll's margin of error, for the overall sample is +/- 2.3%; each police district has a credibility interval of +/- 7.6%. The survey was administered via cellphones via SMS-to-web, an online panel, and a consumer list of emails. Data was collected between September 26-30, 2023.

EXECUTIVE SUMMARY

Southern Police District (PD) residents see the police as responsive, notice their presence in their communities, and are most likely to think SFPD is effective at solving crime. They are the most likely to have had contact with the SFPD, and their experience with the SFPD was generally positive in their interactions.

Taraval PD residents rate their perception and interactions with police high in all areas. They report less interaction with the police than their surrounding districts, but over 4 in 5 report feeling safe in their neighborhood, and would rather have more police around than less police.

Those in the Richmond PD are most likely to say officers treated them with respect in their interactions than any other district. They are also least likely to agree that the SFPD addresses problems that concern people in their neighborhood. They are also among those least likely to report seeing police patrols in their neighborhood.

Tenderloin PD residents rate their interactions with and confidence in police lower than surrounding districts. They rank the lowest in noting the police are there when they need them, are least likely to say police in their neighborhood treat people with respect, and are least likely to agree that police in their neighborhood use force only when necessary.

Ingleside residents are most likely to say police in their neighborhood take time to listen to people. They have the second highest rating of feeling safe in their neighborhood, and are most likely to say SFPD officers de-escalate or reduce tension in high stress situations. That said, about 1 in 5 residents say they would like to see less police rather than more police patrolling their community.

Central PD residents tend to fall more towards the average of opinion among the districts in terms of effectiveness and experiences with the SFPD. They are second most likely to report police patrols in their neighborhood. Safety is an issue: 46% do not feel safe in their neighborhood. They are also among those least satisfied with the job SFPD is doing on quality of life crimes.

Those in the Northern PD are among the bottom three when it comes to satisfaction with the SFPD addressing issues in that concern people in their neighborhood. That said, they generally think the SFPD treats people with respect and can rely on officers to be there when they need them.

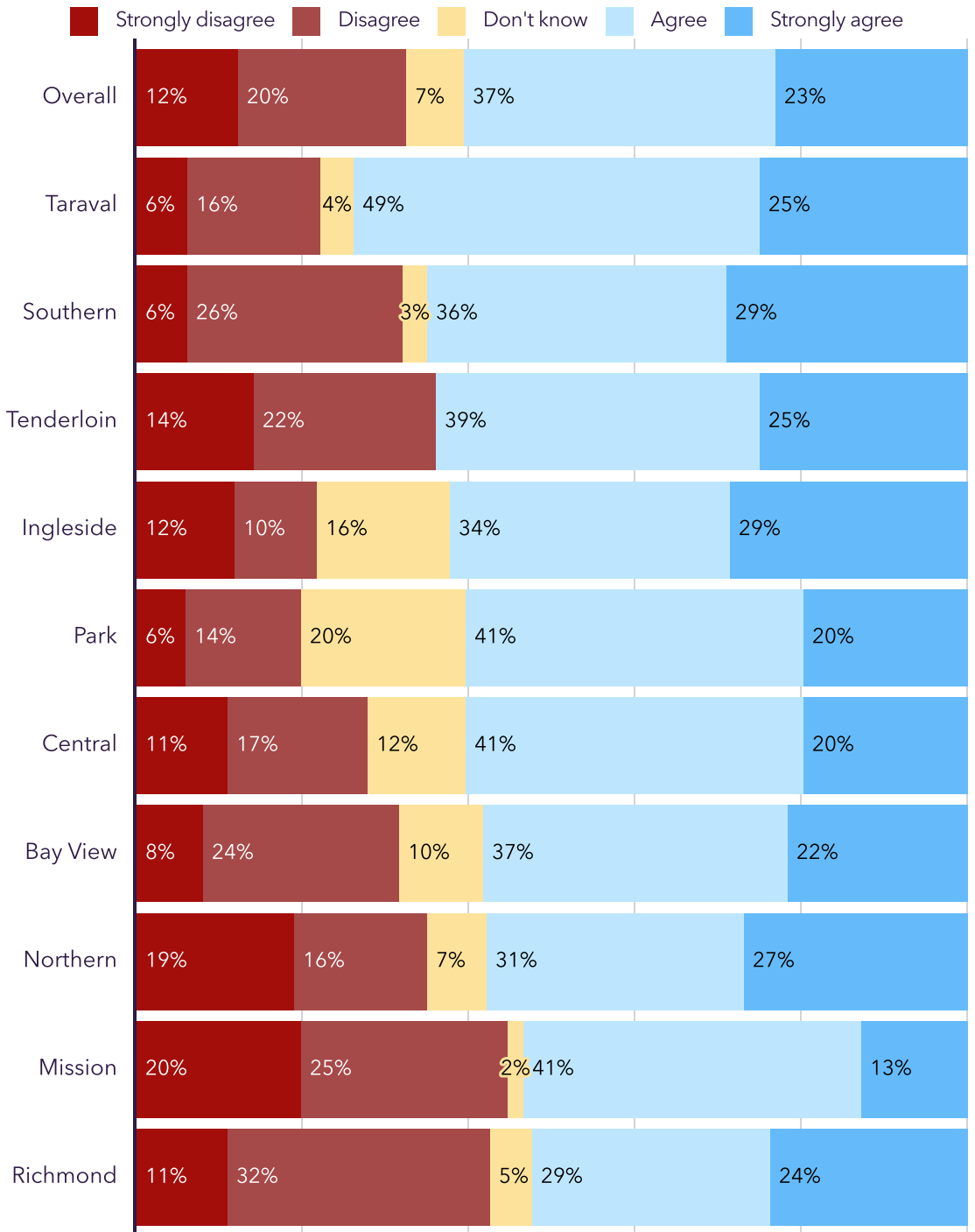
Mission residents are least likely to report seeing police patrols in their neighborhood. They are also least likely to agree police take time to listen to people in their community, and least likely to report feeling safe in their neighborhood. About 1 in 5 Mission residents describe their encounter with SFPD to be negative.

Bay View residents have similar views as Mission residents. They are second least likely to agree police officers can be relied on, and have a lower than average feeling of safety.

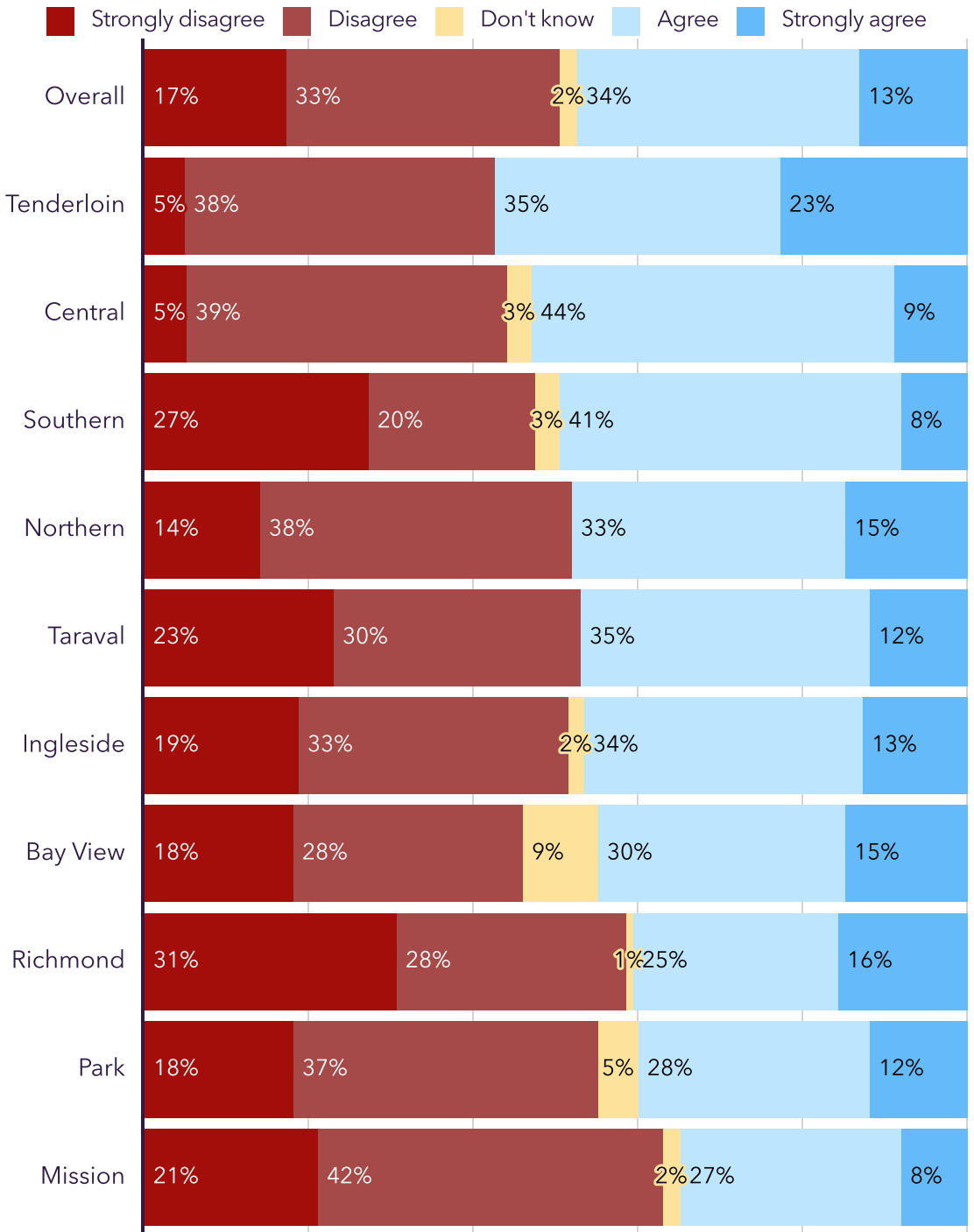
Park is among those least likely to report seeing police in their neighborhood, but also are also among the most likely to agree the SFPD treats people in their neighborhood with respect, and feel safe in their neighborhood.

SURVEY RESULTS

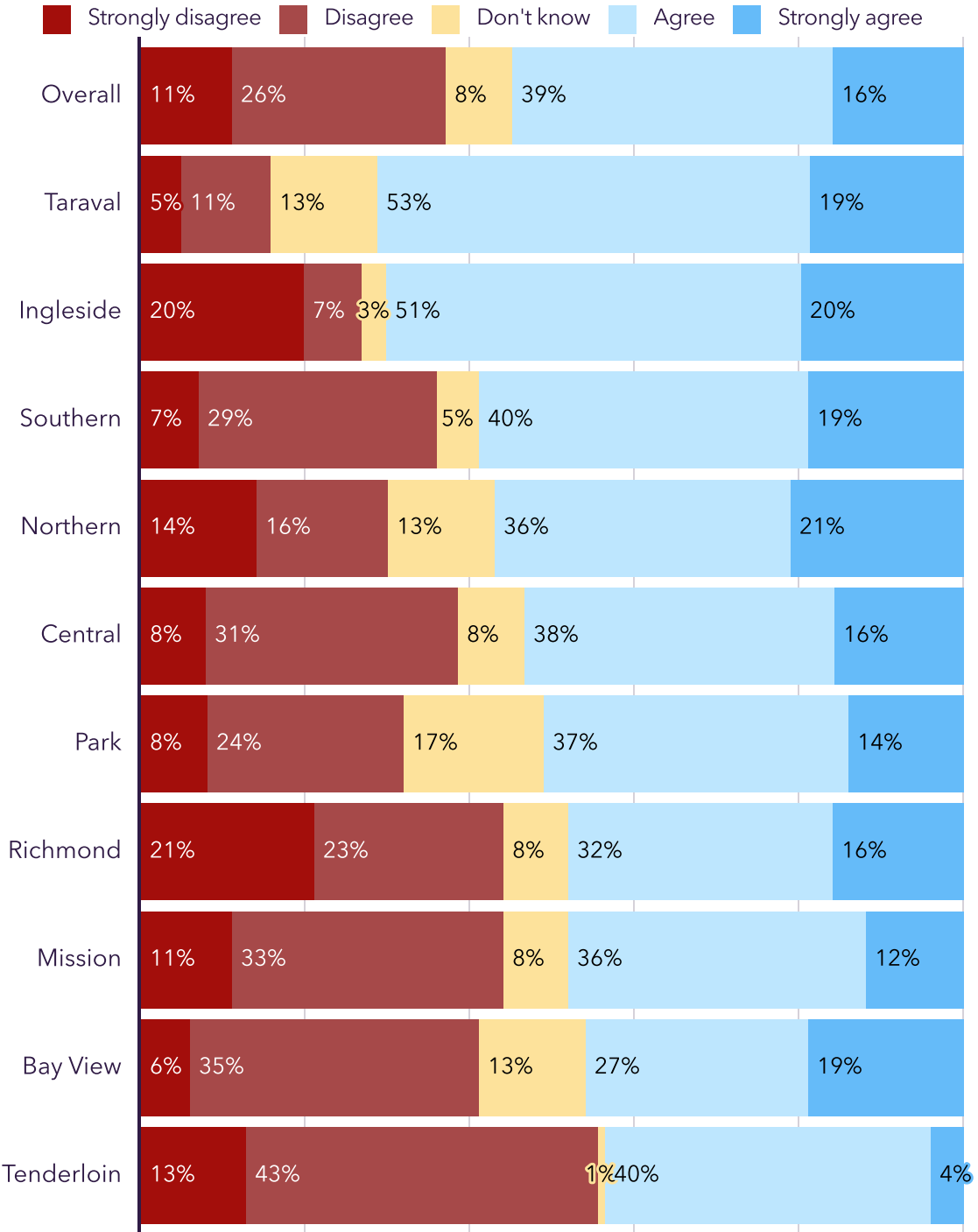
To what extent do you agree or disagree that the SFPD addresses problems that concern people in your neighborhood?



To what extent do you agree or disagree that you frequently see police patrols in your neighborhood?

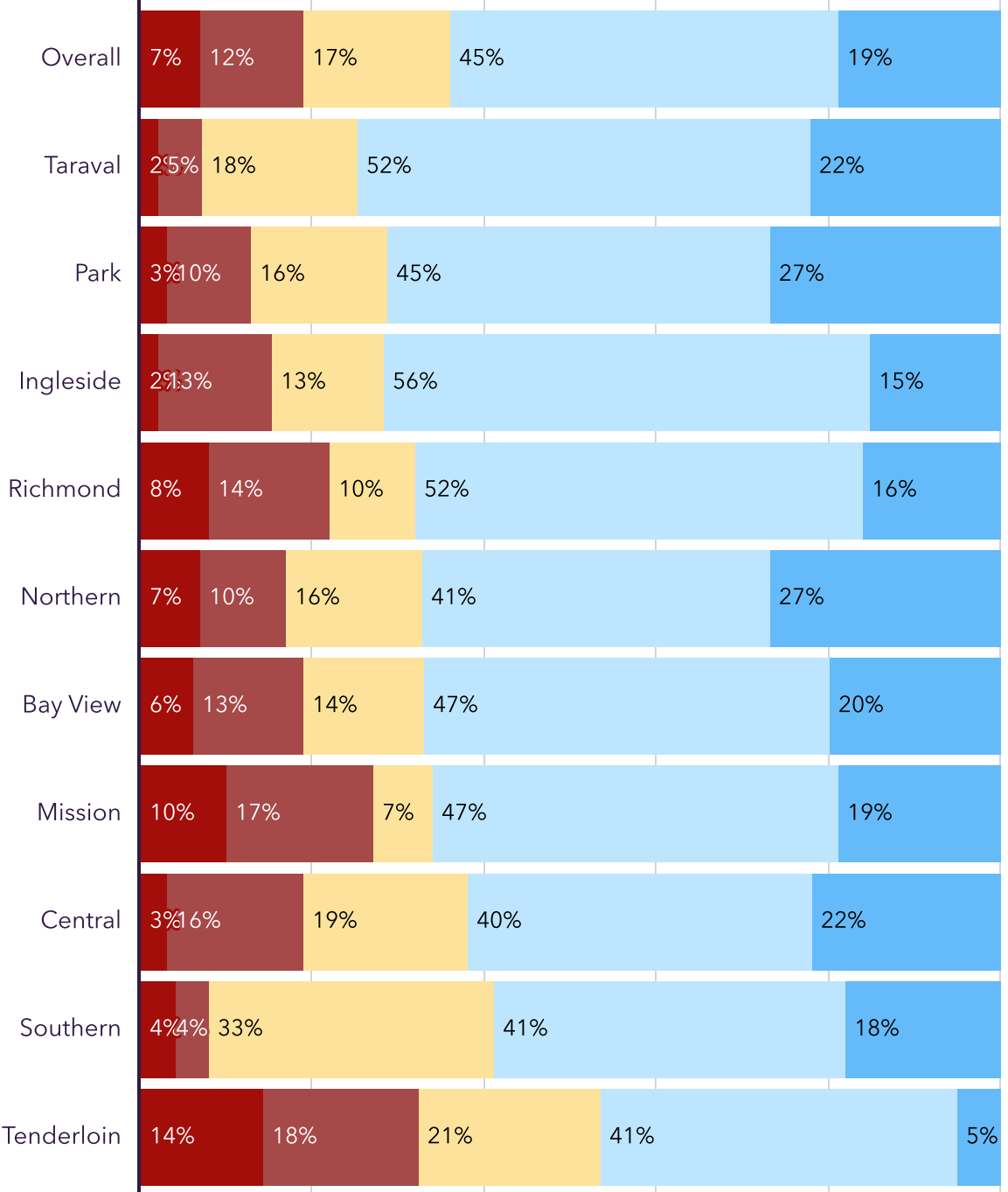


To what extent do you agree or disagree that police officers in your neighborhood can be relied on to be there when you need them?

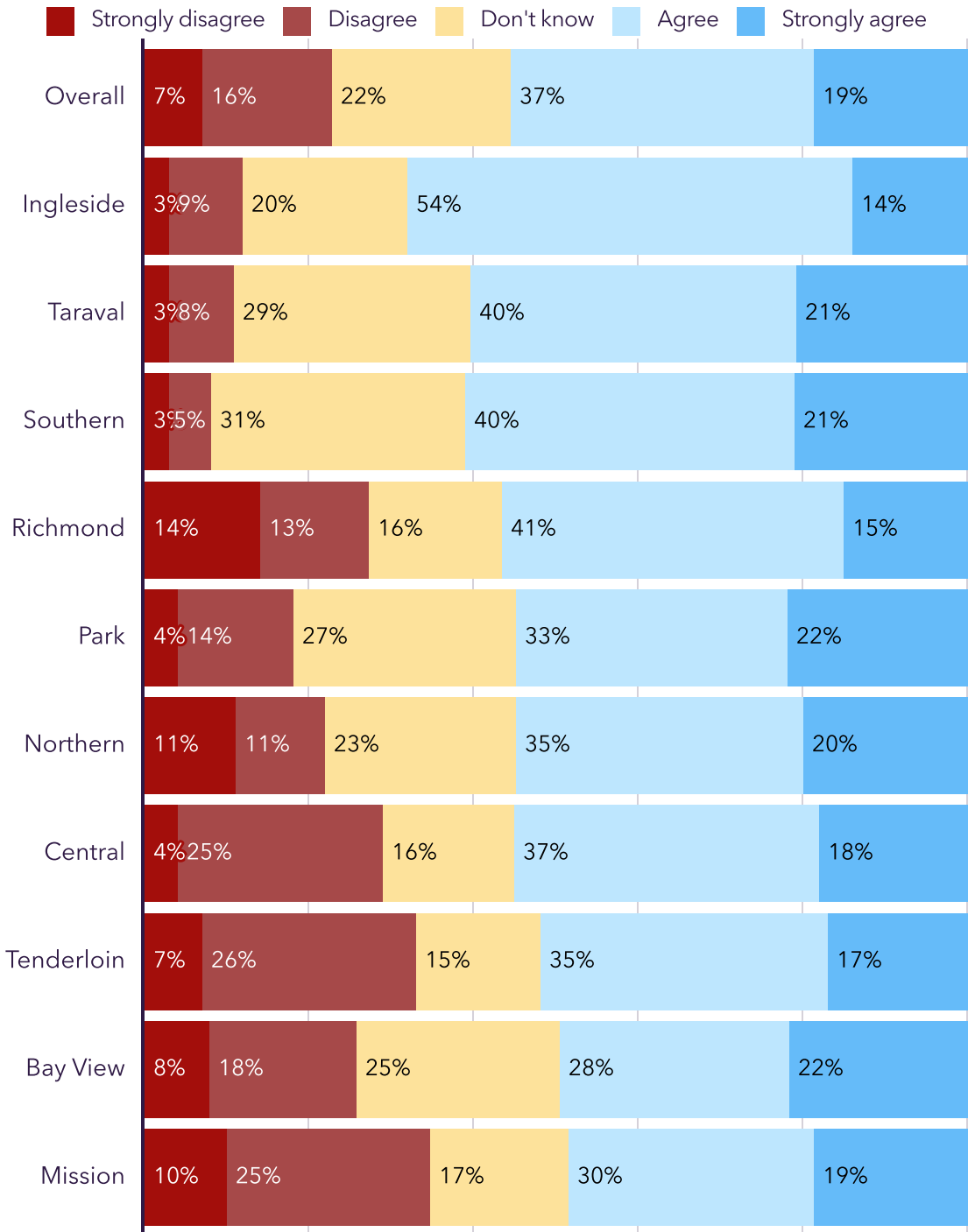


To what extent do you agree or disagree that the police in your neighborhood treat people with respect?

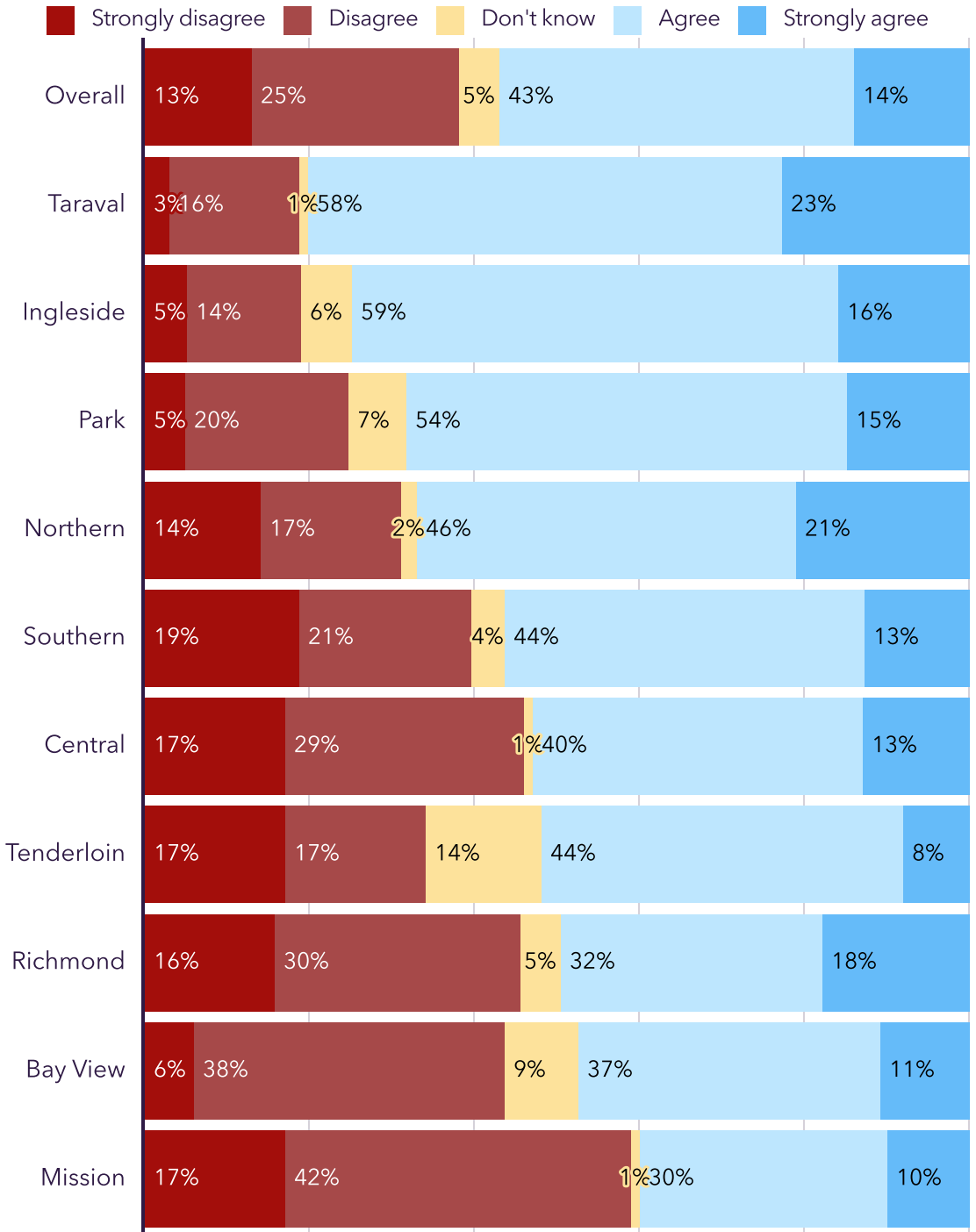
Strongly disagree Disagree Don't know Agree Strongly agree



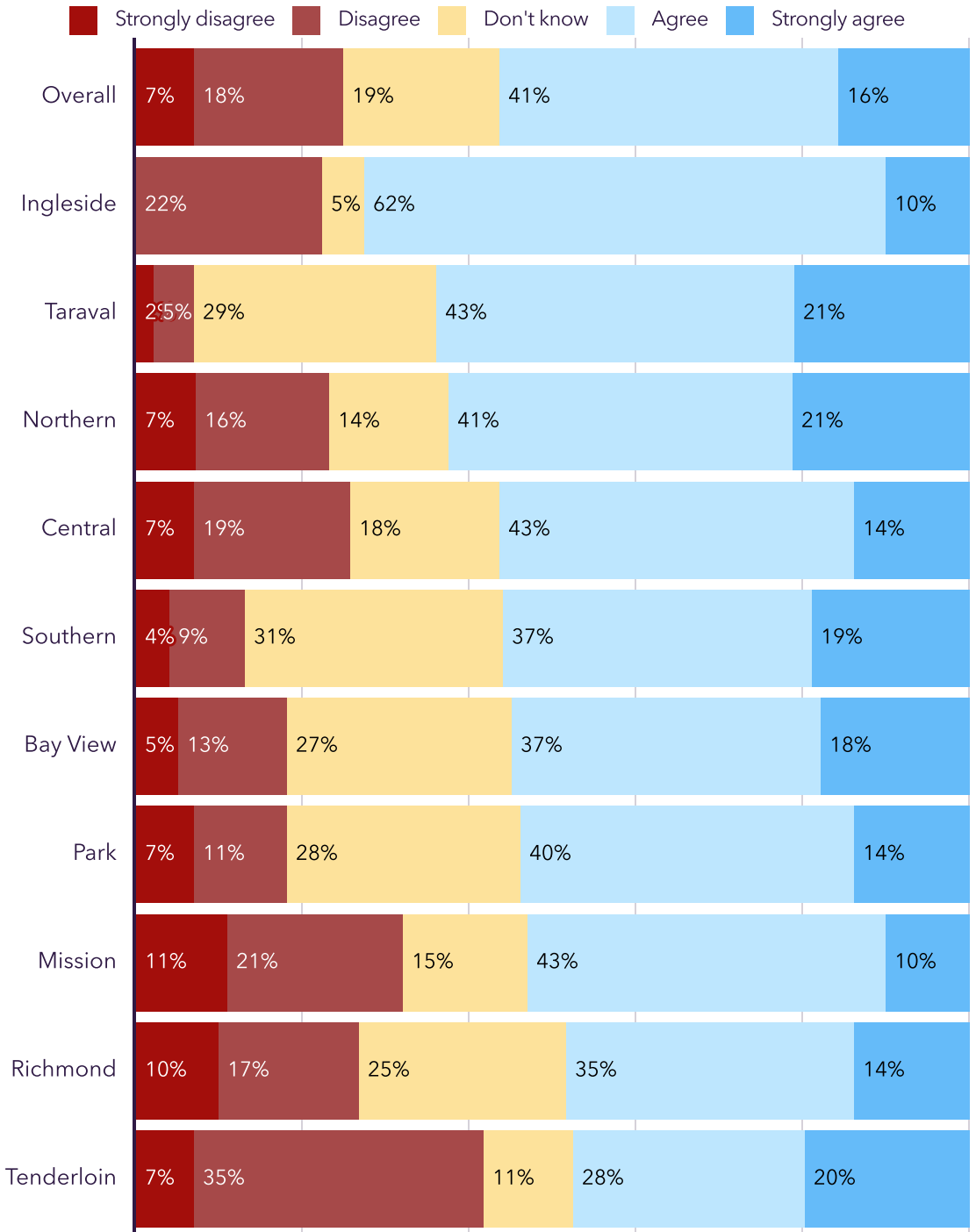
To what extent do you agree or disagree that the police in your neighborhood take time to listen to people?



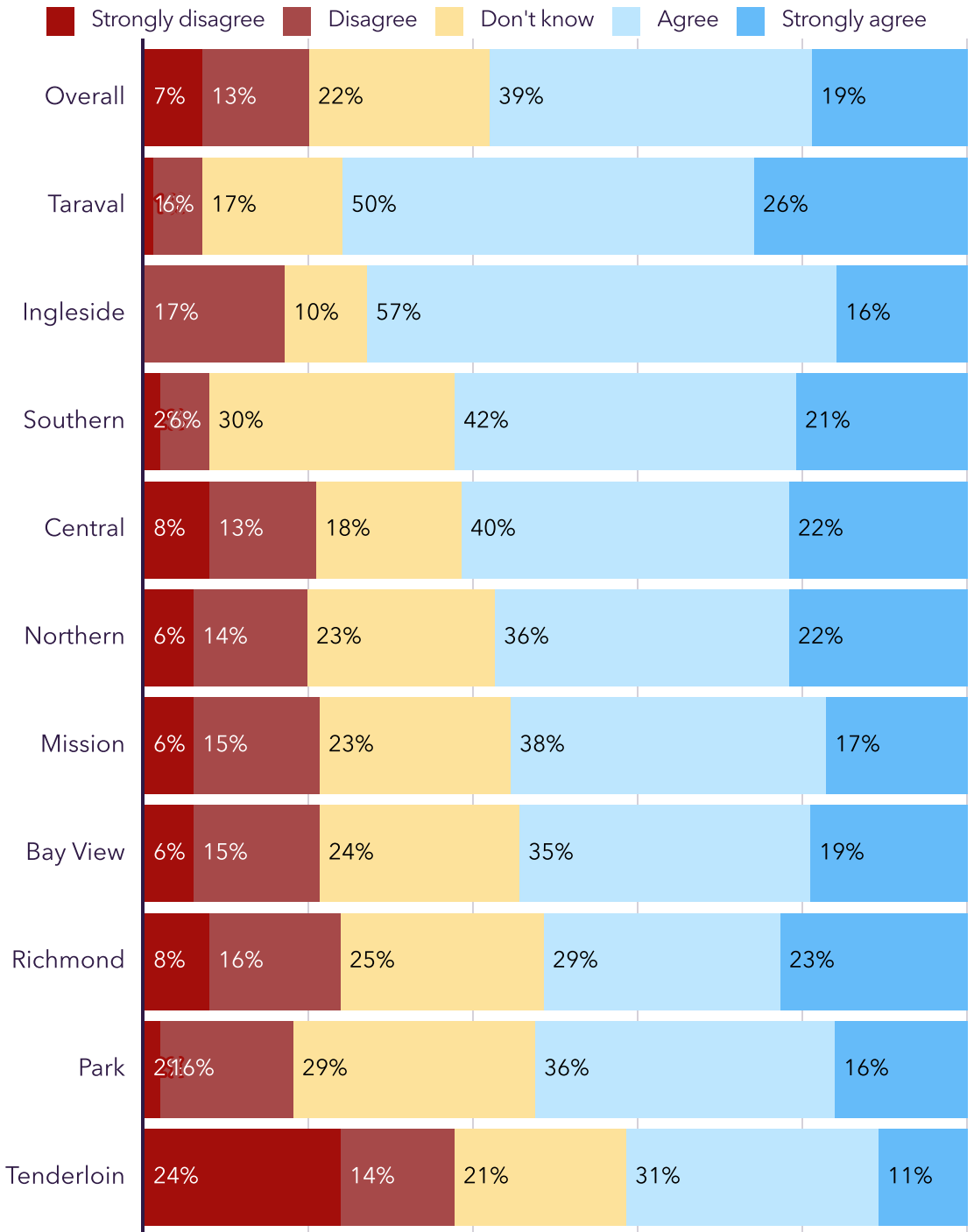
To what extent do you agree or disagree that in general, you feel safe in your neighborhood?



To what extent do you agree or disagree that the SFPD officers de-escalate or reduce the tension in high stress situations?

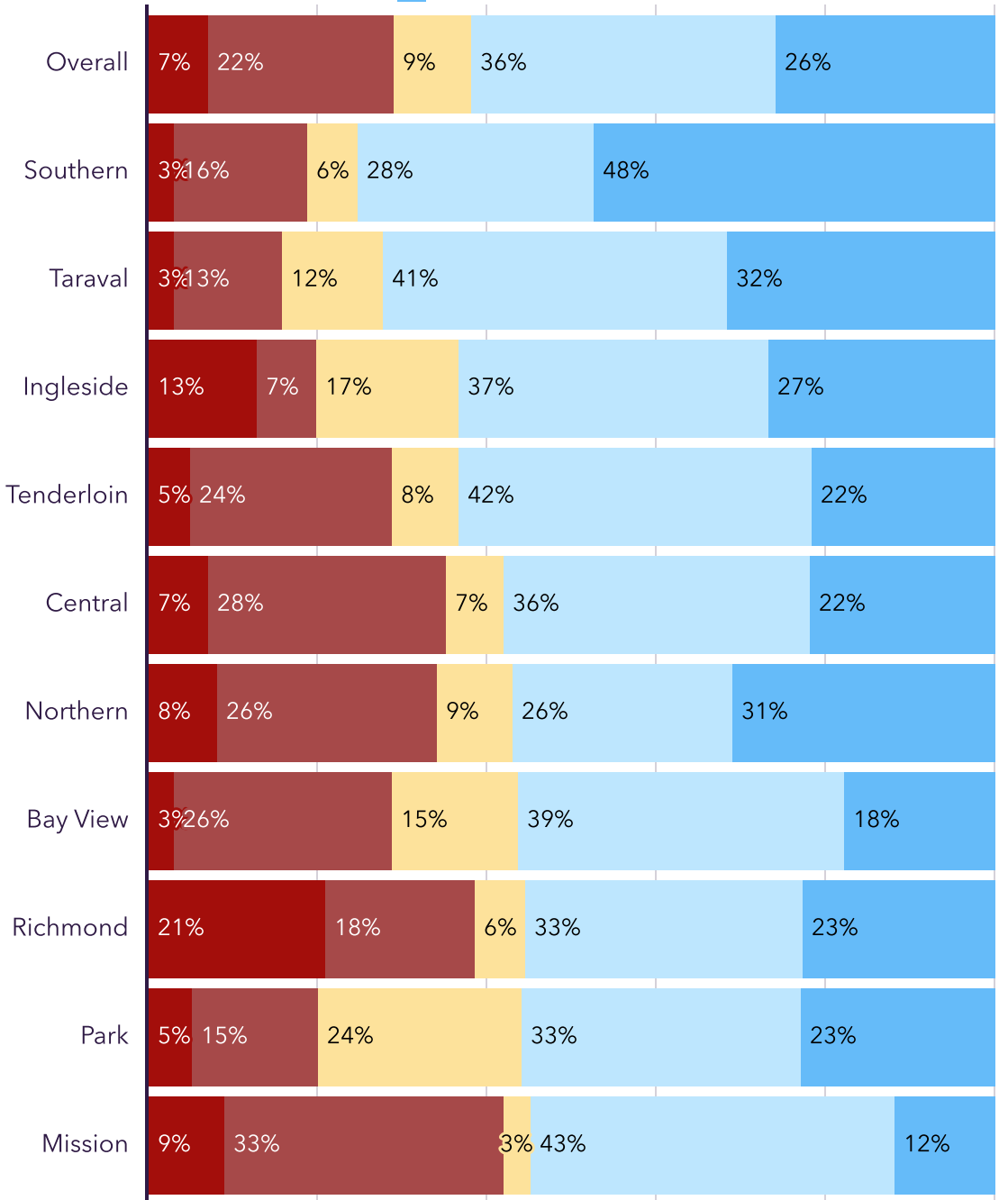


To what extent do you agree or disagree that the police in your neighborhood only use force when necessary?

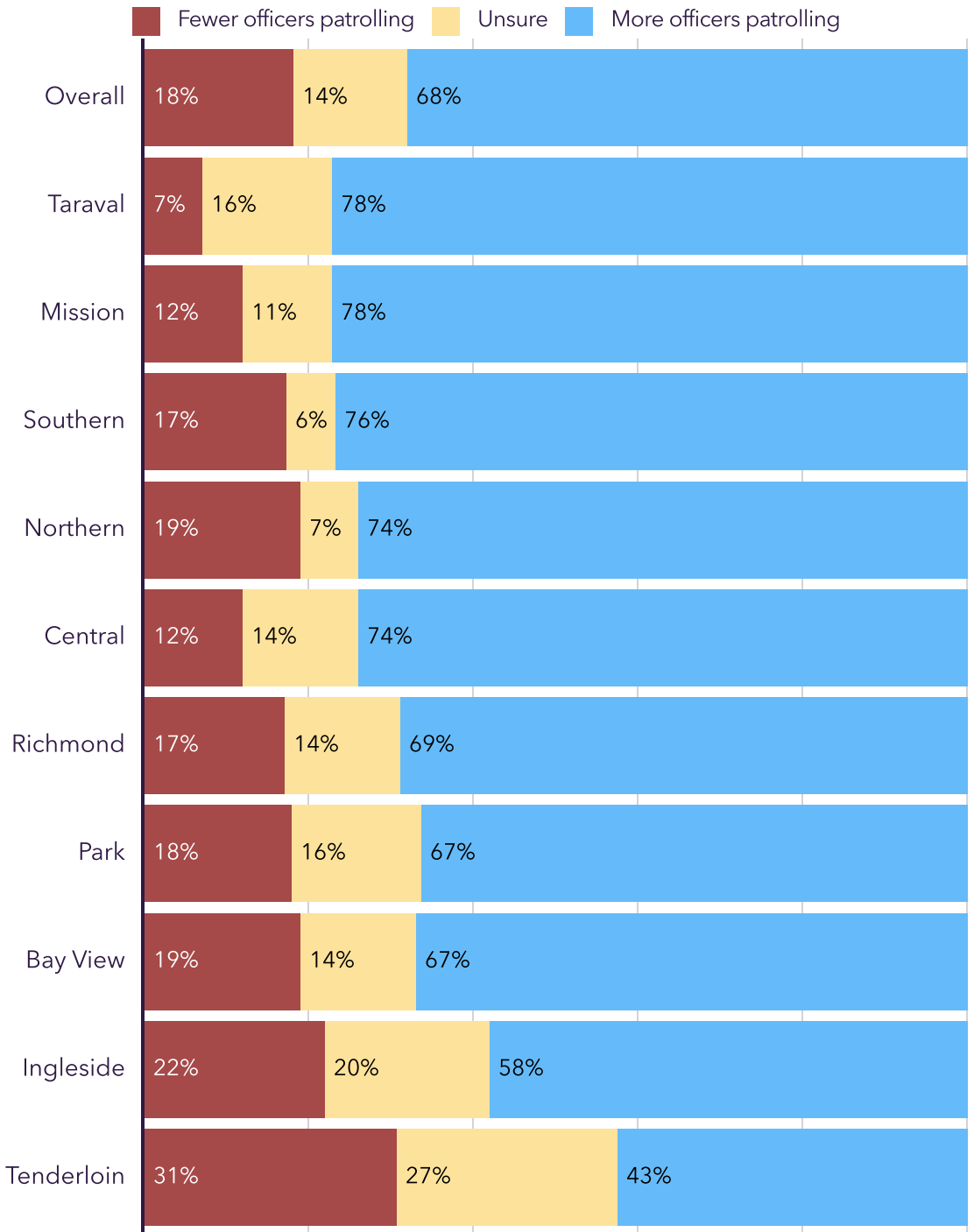


When public safety issues are brought up by the community, how responsive has the San Francisco Police Department been in addressing them?

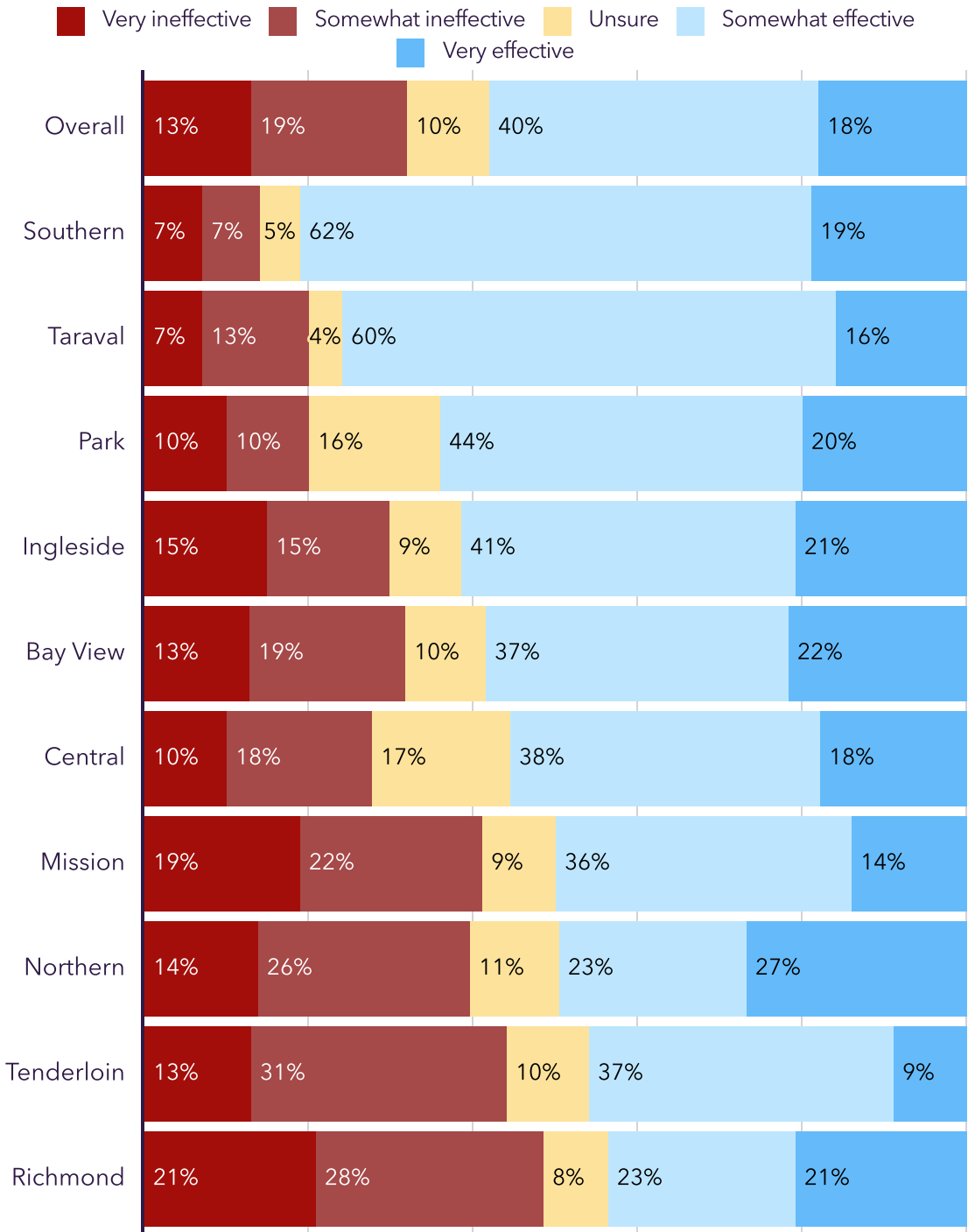
■ Not at all responsive
 ■ Not very responsive
 ■ Don't know
 ■ Somewhat responsive
 ■ Very responsive



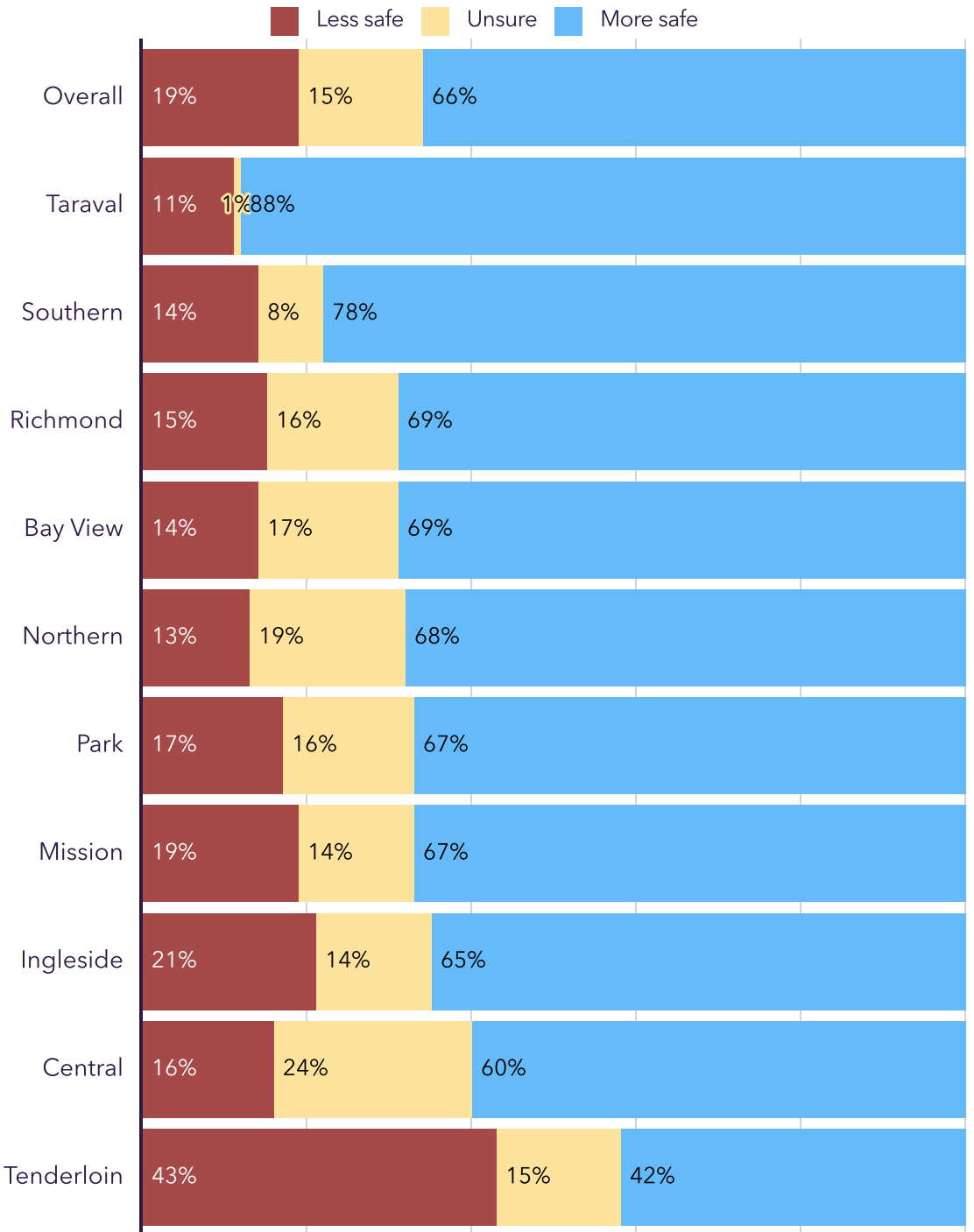
If you could choose, would you prefer to see more or fewer SFPD officers patrolling your neighborhood?



To what extent do you believe SFPD is effective at solving crimes?

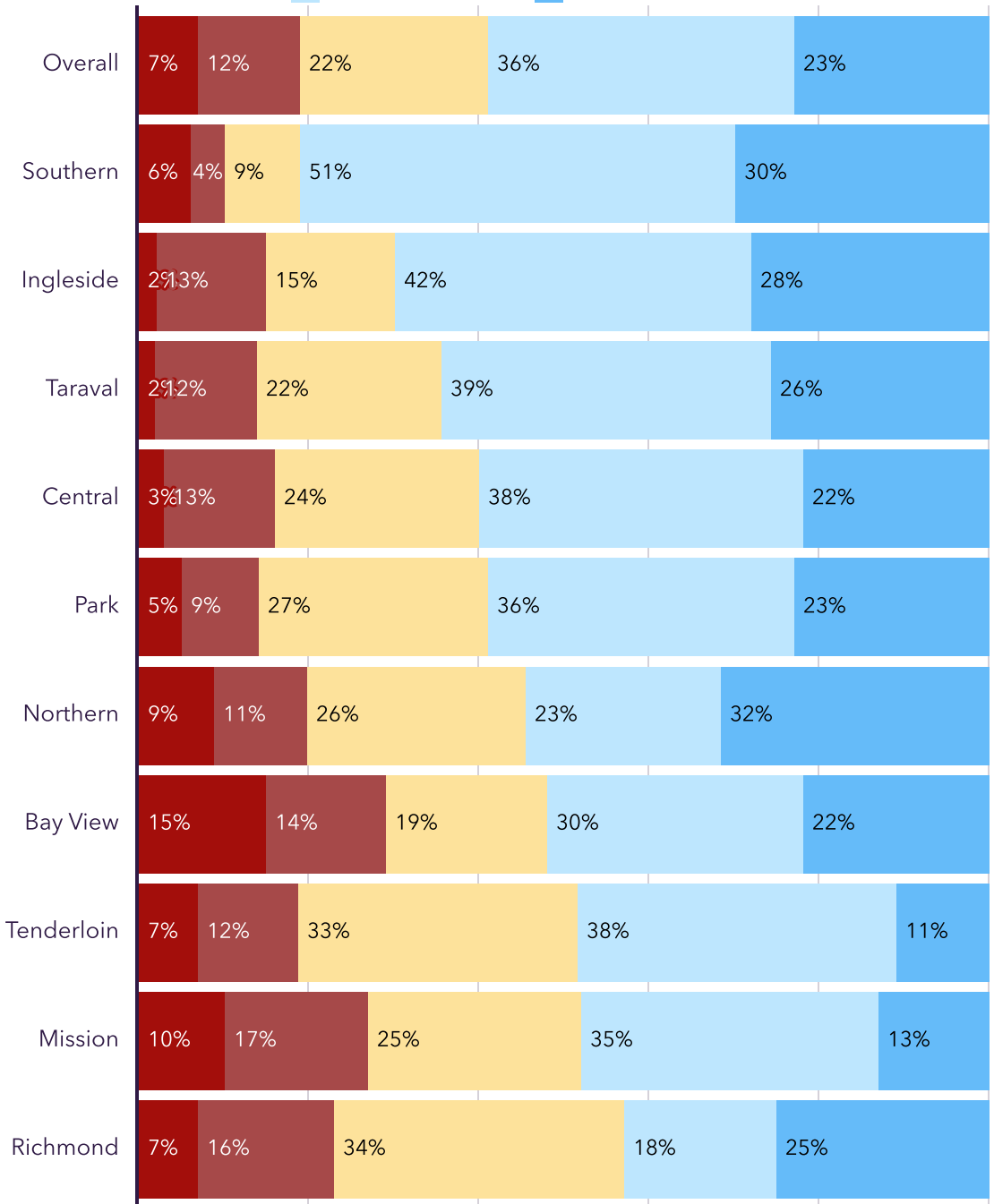


When you see a police officer in your neighborhood does that make you feel more safe or less safe?



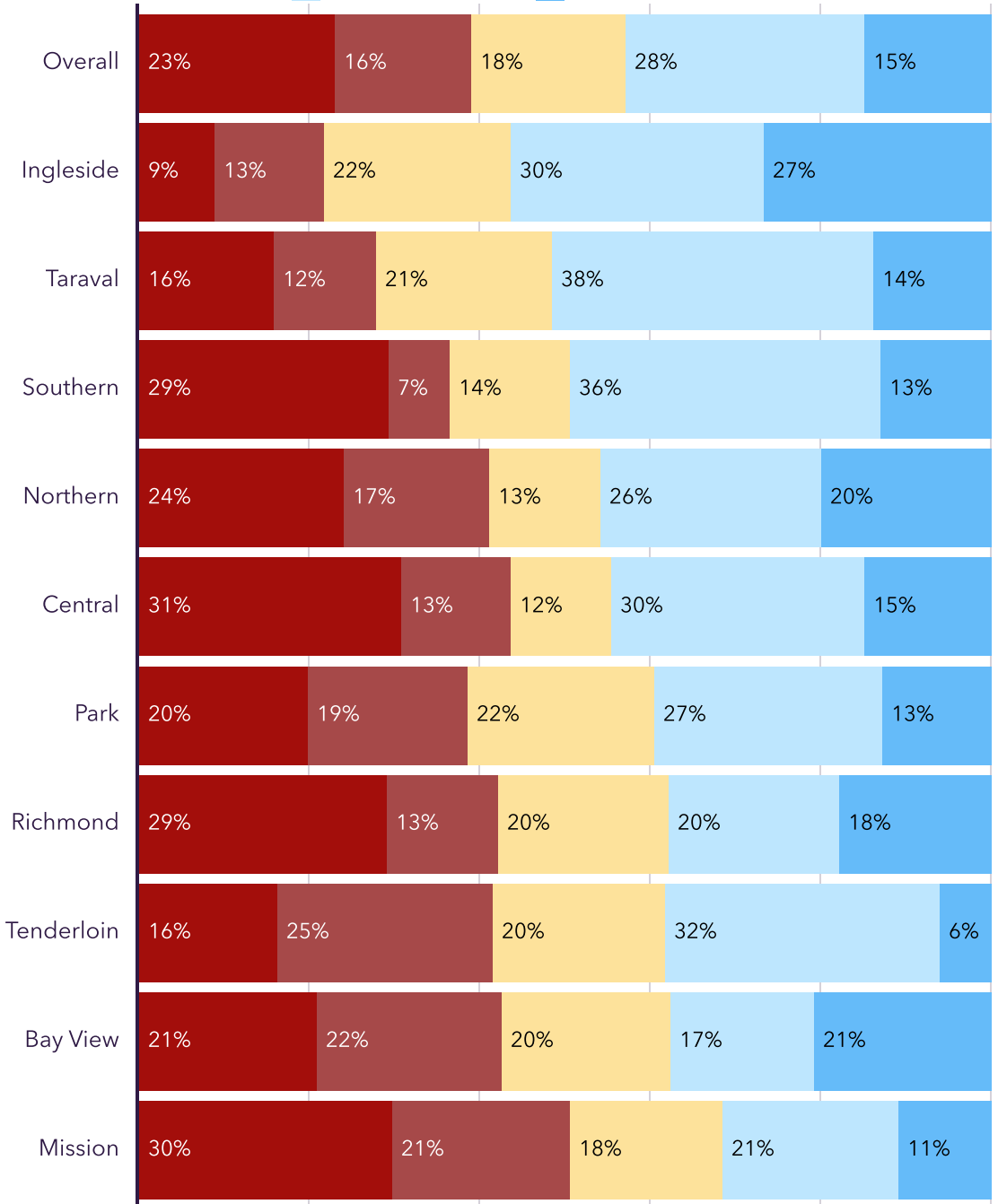
How satisfied are you with the job being done by the SFPD to address violent crime? (Murder, Rape, Assault, Robbery)

■ Very dissatisfied
 ■ Somewhat dissatisfied
 ■ Neither satisfied nor dissatisfied
 ■ Somewhat satisfied
 ■ Very satisfied



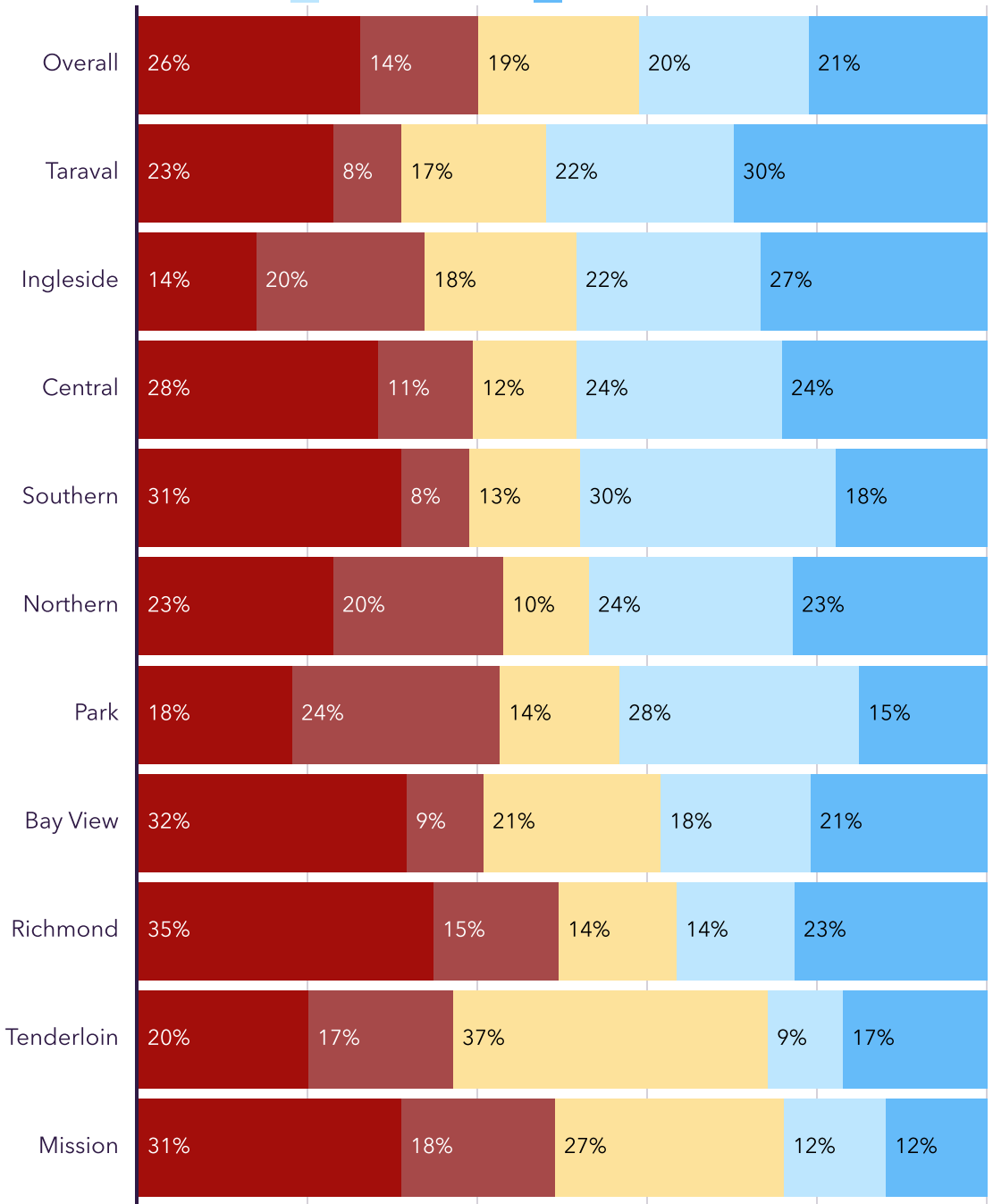
How satisfied are you with the job being done by the SFPD to address quality-of-life crimes? (Vandalism, public intoxication, etc)

■ Very dissatisfied
 ■ Somewhat dissatisfied
 ■ Neither satisfied nor dissatisfied
 ■ Somewhat satisfied
 ■ Very satisfied

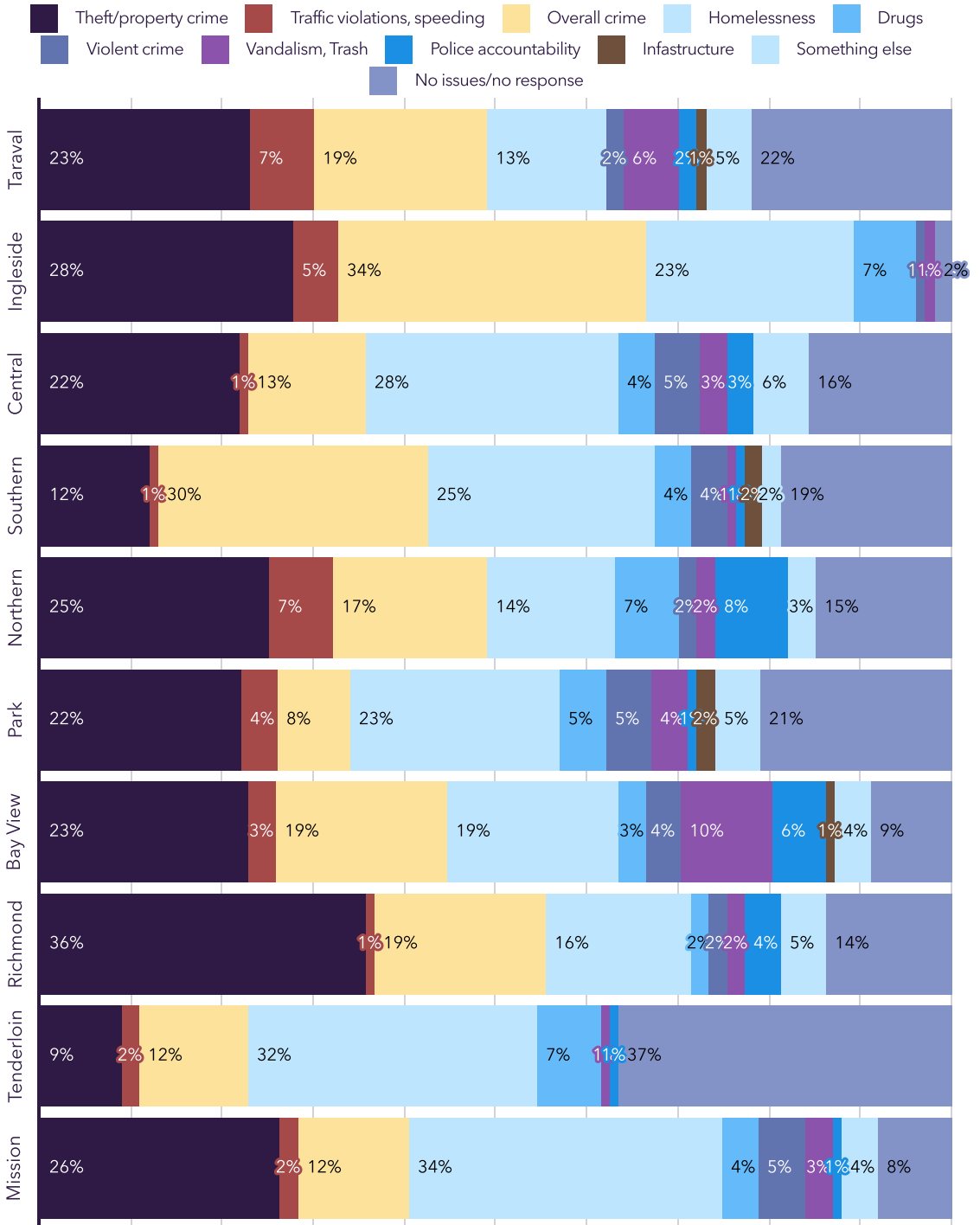


How satisfied are you with the job being done by the SFPD to address property crime? (Car Theft, Burglary, Arson, Car Break-ins)

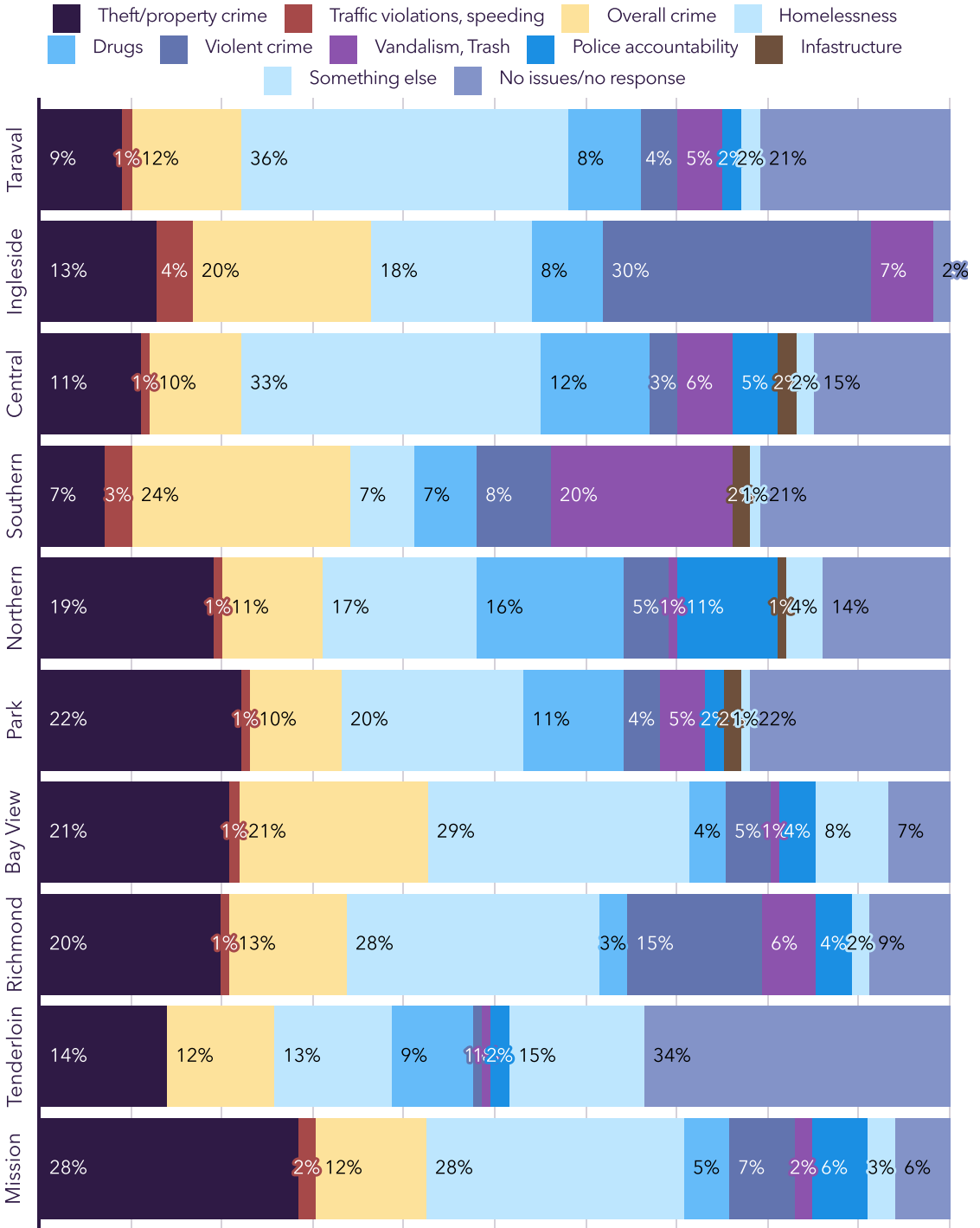
■ Very dissatisfied
 ■ Somewhat dissatisfied
 ■ Neither satisfied nor dissatisfied
■ Somewhat satisfied
 ■ Very satisfied



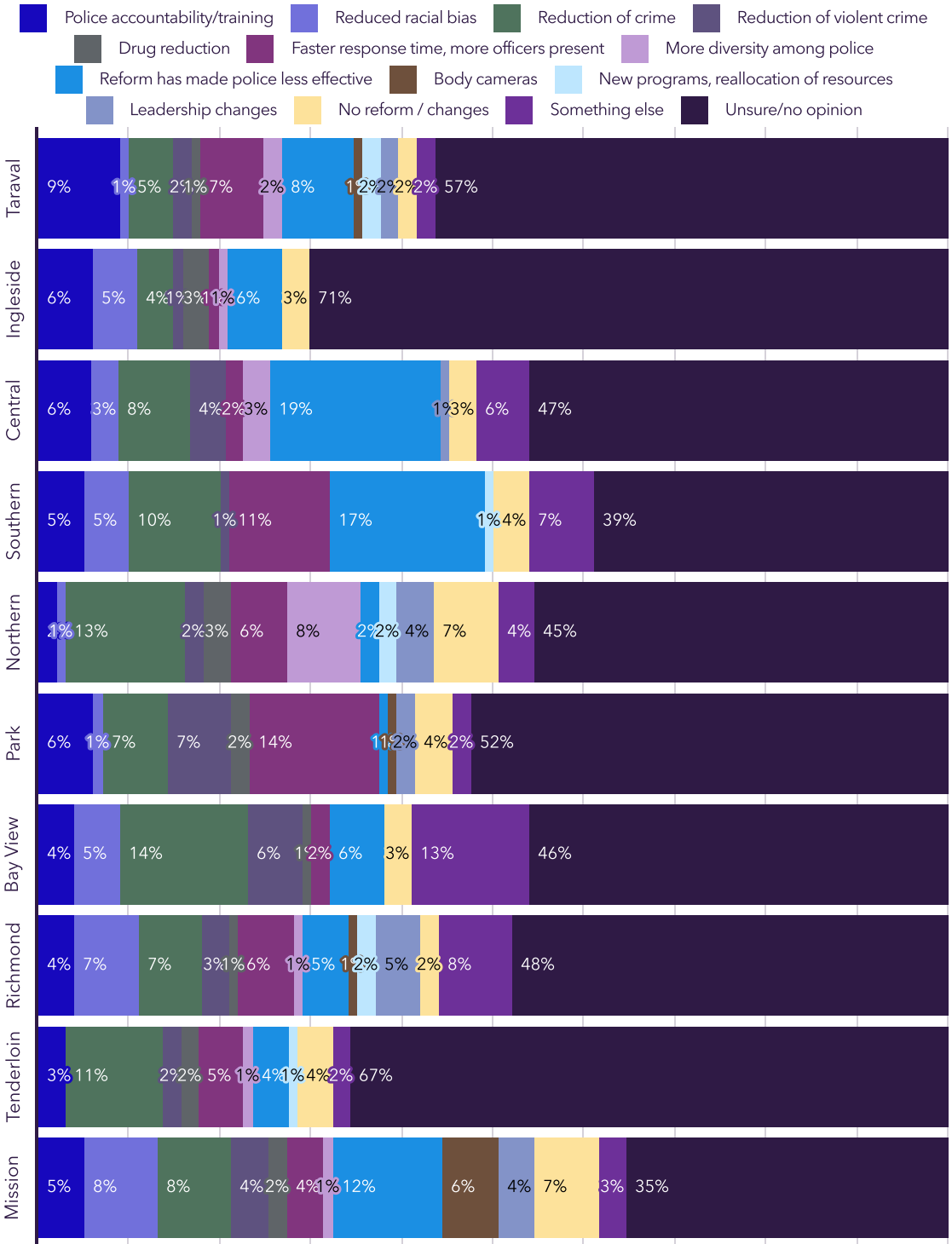
What is the number one issue or problem in your neighborhood that you would like the police to deal with? (open ended)



What is the number one issue or problem across the whole city that you would like the police to deal with? (open ended)

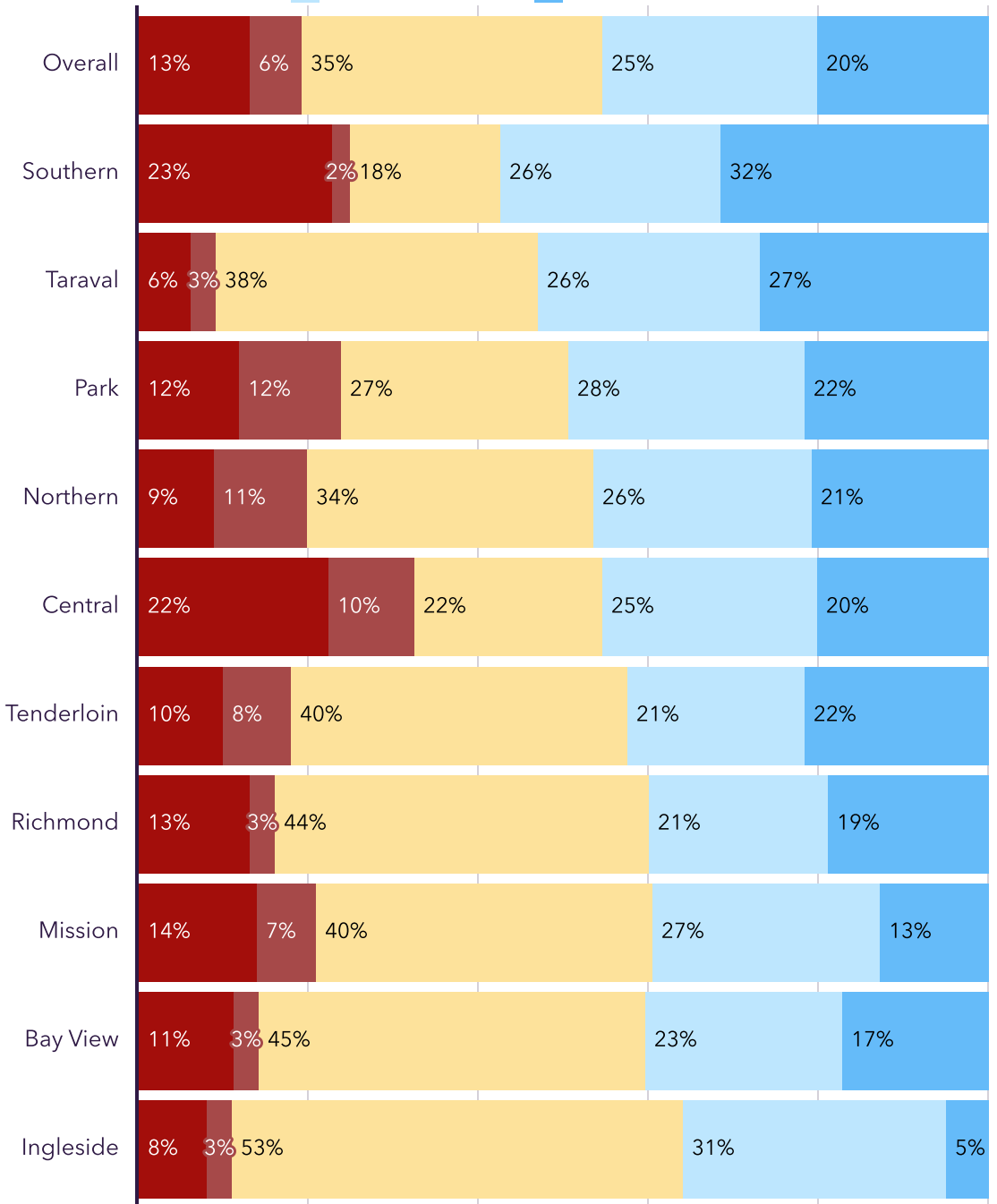


What was the most significant police reform undertaken by the SFPD in the past 5 years?



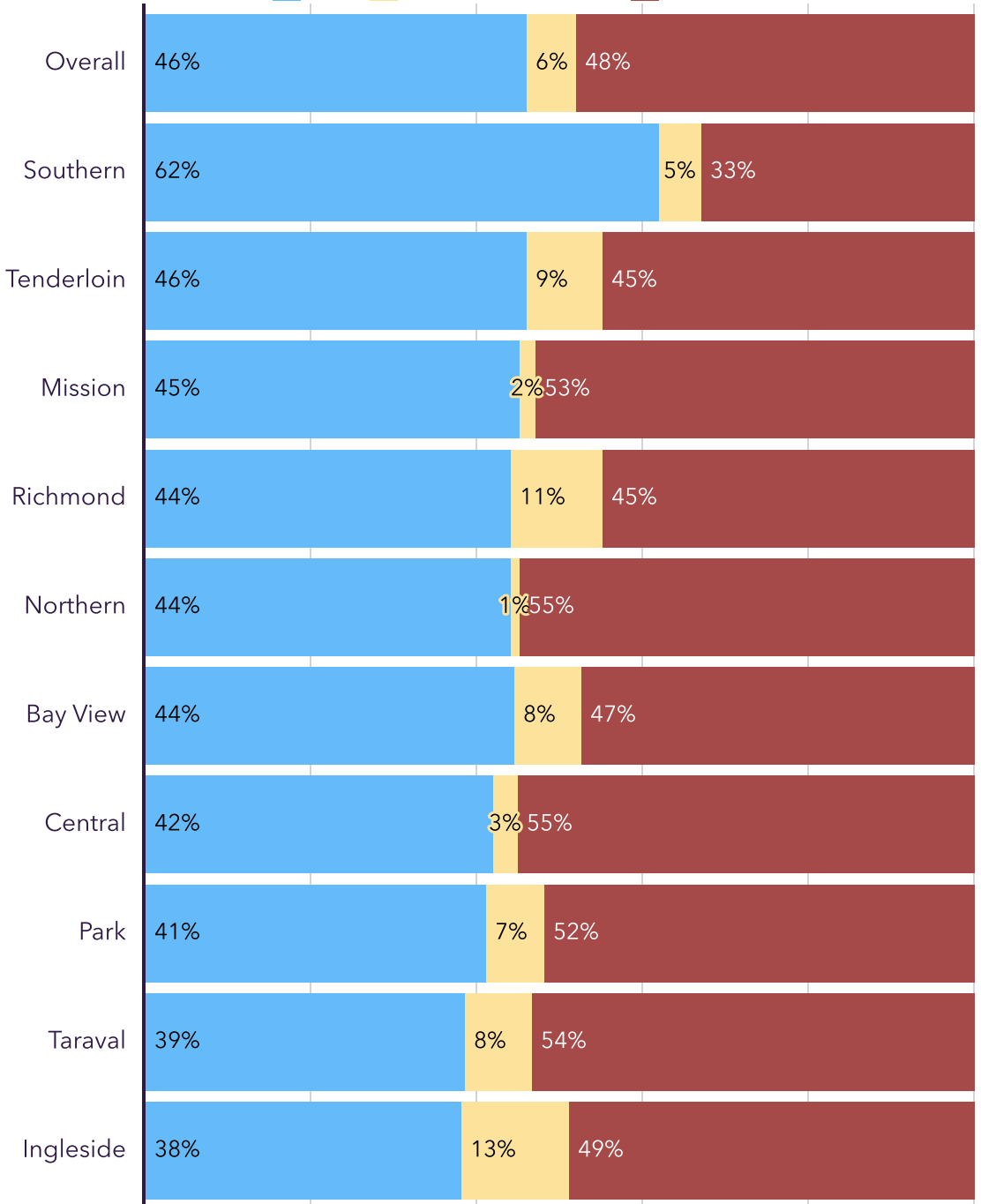
How satisfied are you with how the SFPD implemented the police reform you noted?

■ Very dissatisfied
 ■ Somewhat dissatisfied
 ■ Neither satisfied nor dissatisfied
 ■ Somewhat satisfied
 ■ Very satisfied



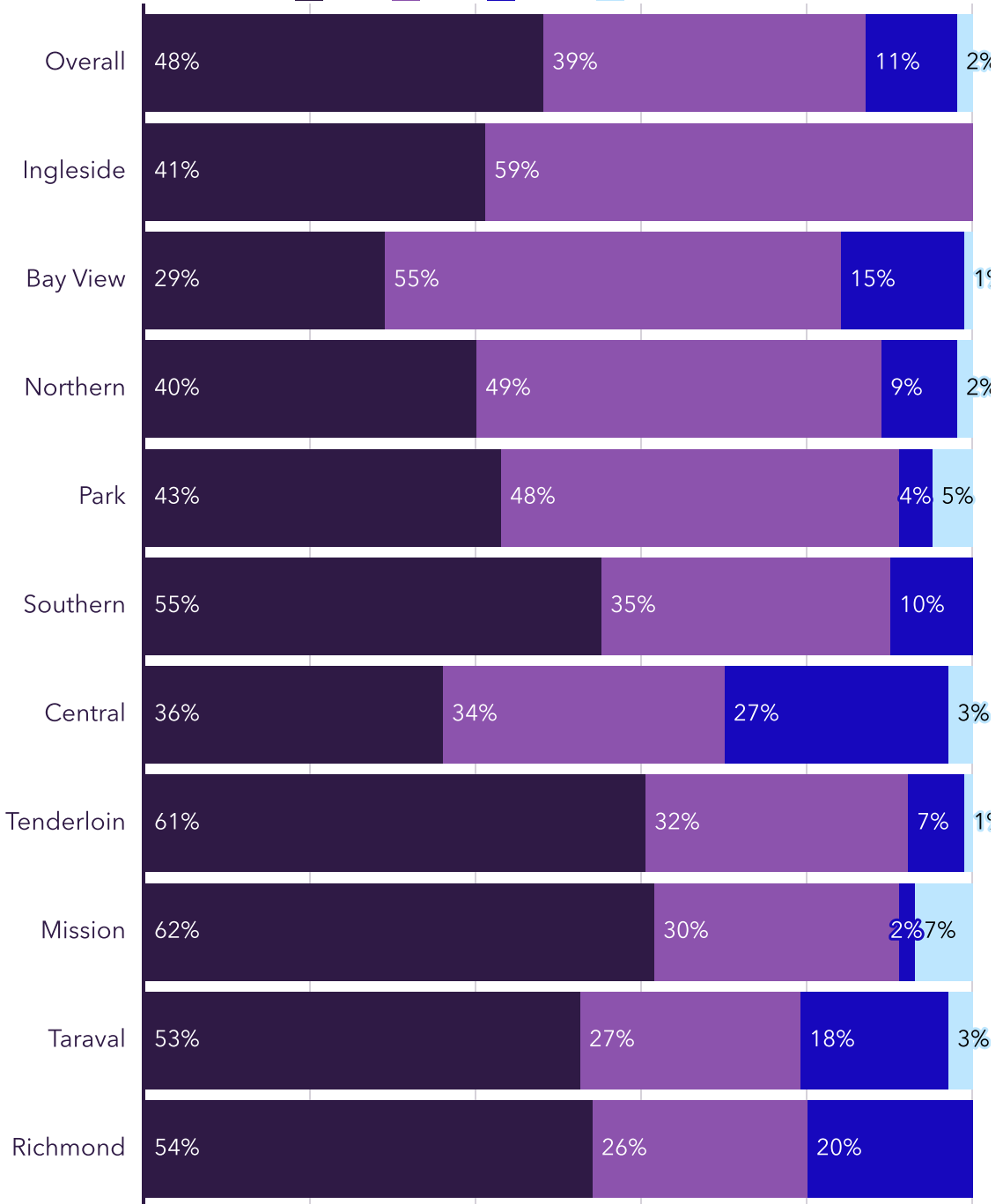
In the last 12 months, have you personally had any contact with the San Francisco police, in-person, over the phone, or in some other way?

Yes Don't know/refused No

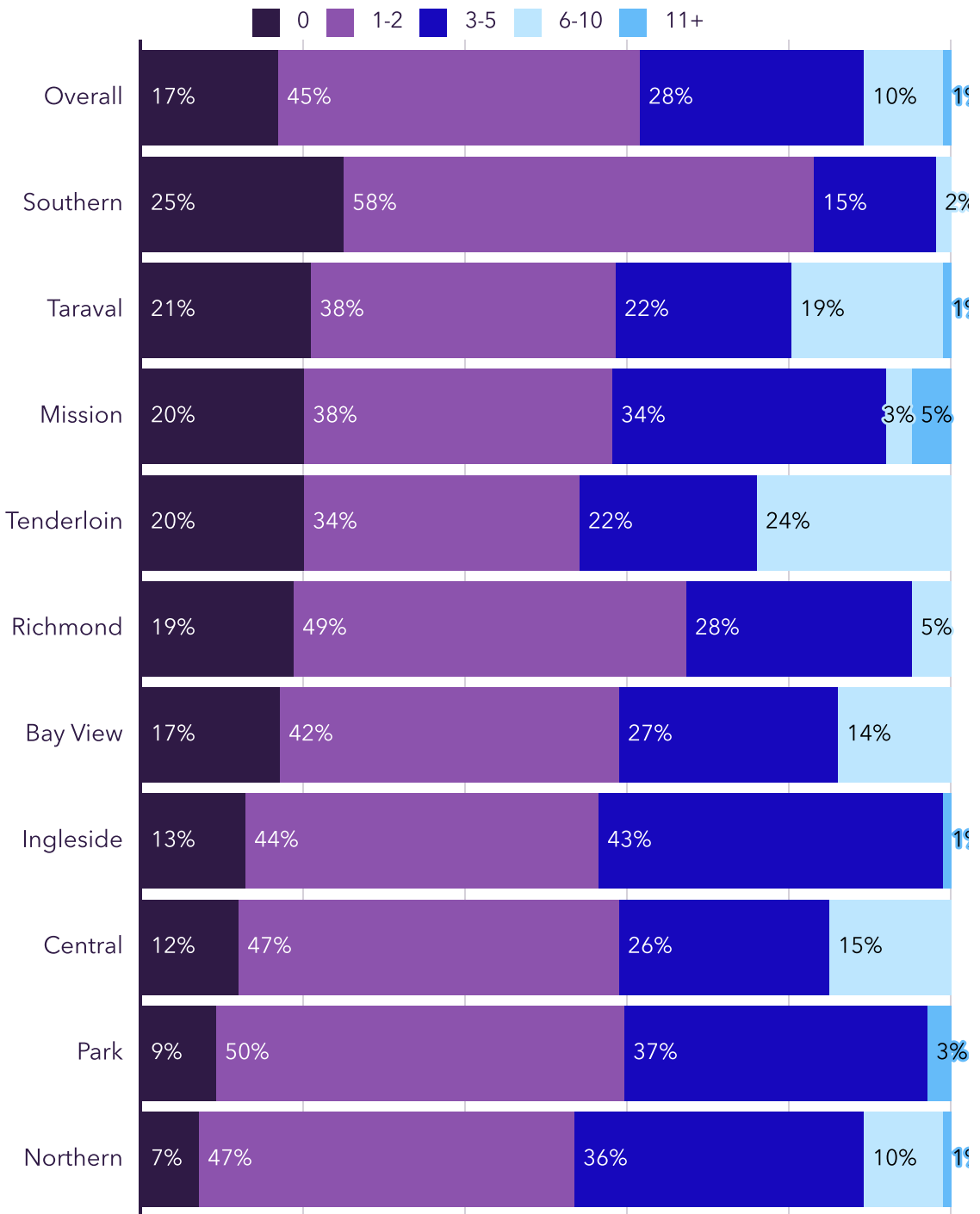


How many times have you interacted with a member or members of the SFPD in the last year?

1-2 3-5 6-10 11+

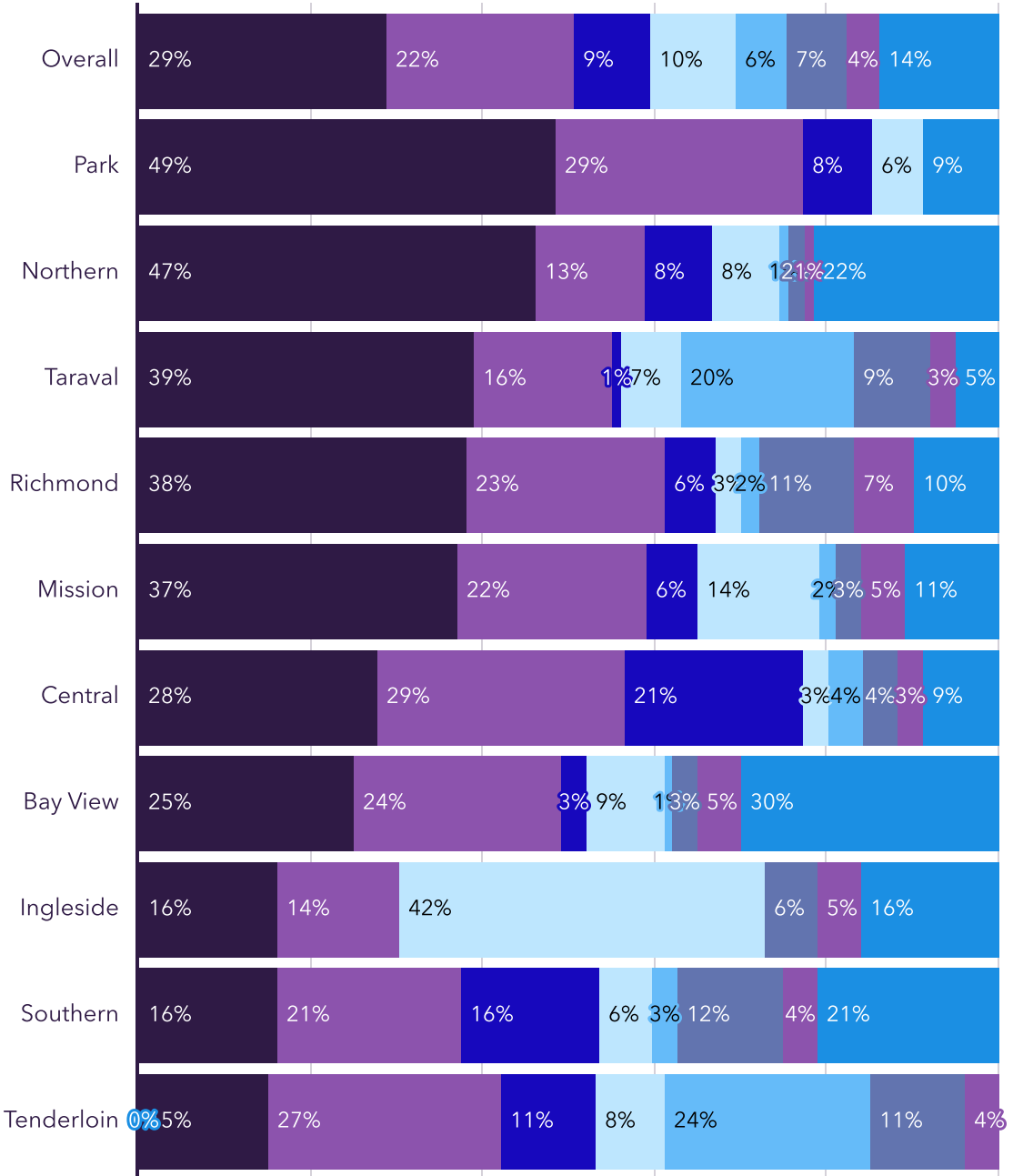


How many of the times you interacted with the SFPD in the last year were voluntary interactions?



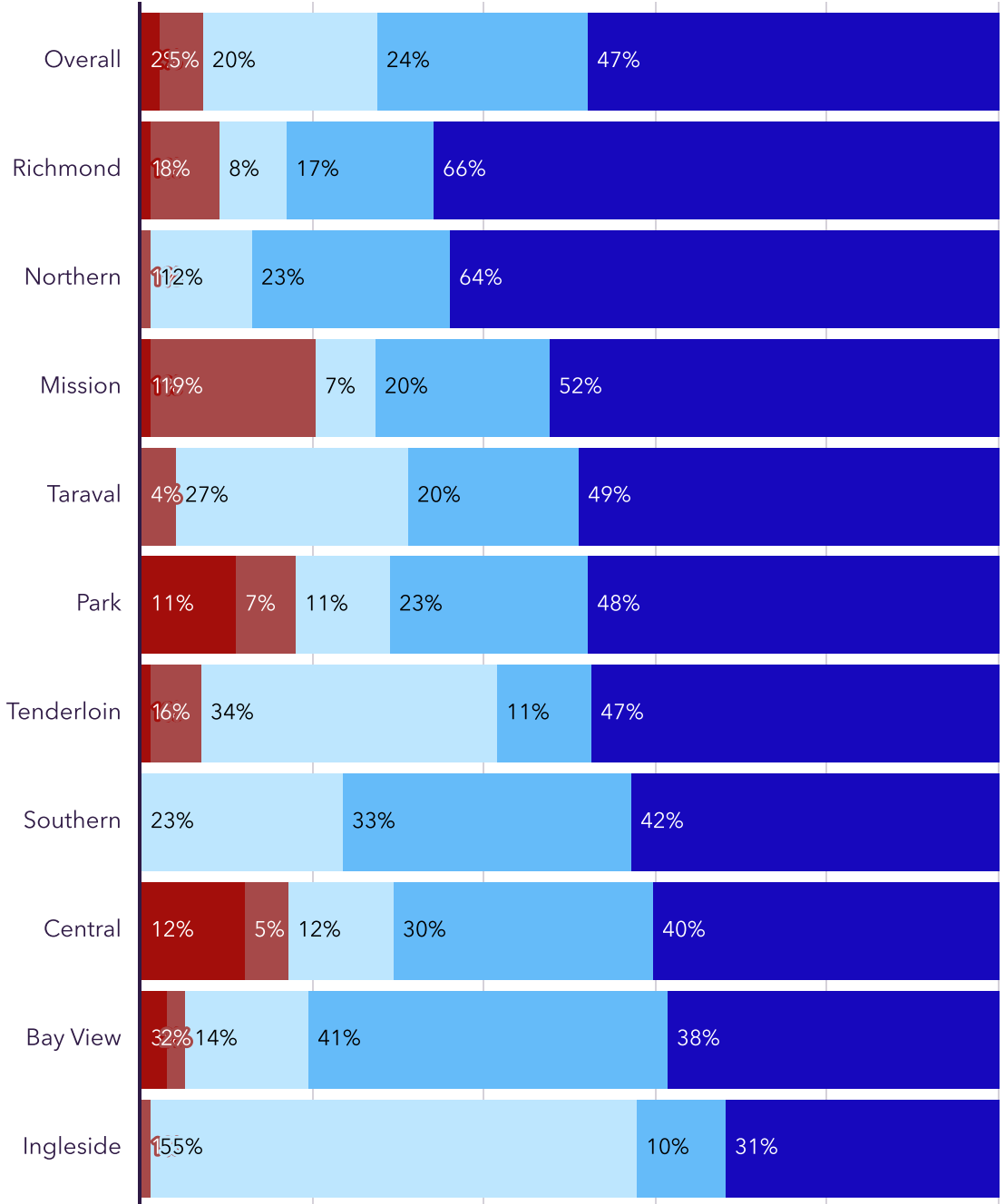
Which of the following best describes the kind of contact you had most often with the San Francisco police?

- Police responded to a 911 call I made
- Asked a police officer for service in person
- Records request to the SFPD
- Traffic stop by police officer
- Other enforcement stop by police officer
- Community meeting or presentation
- Community Event (parade, block party, etc)
- Other



Based on your personal experience, what best describes your encounter with the SFPD?

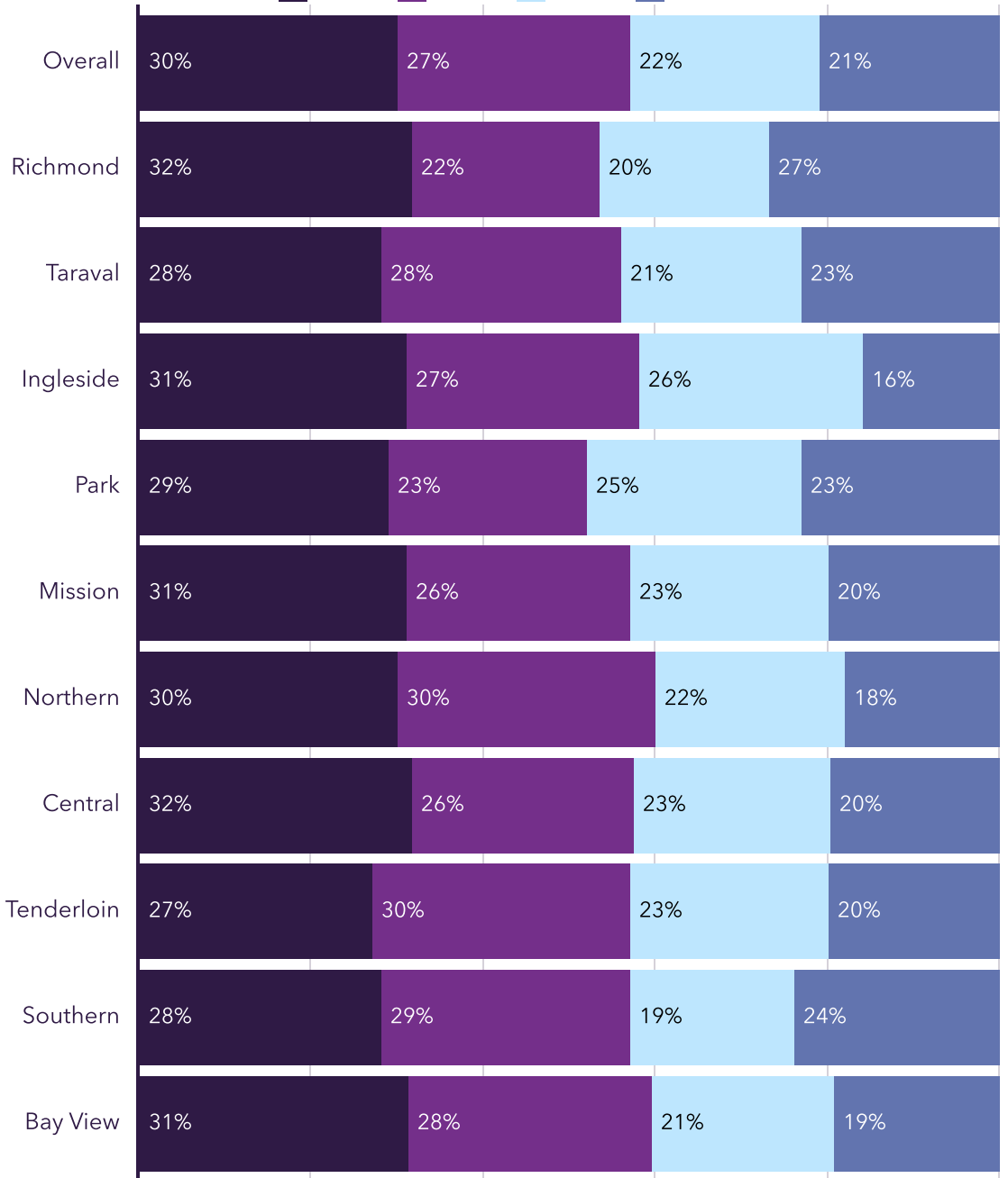
- None of the officers treated me with respect
- Most officers did not treat me with respect
- About the same treated me with respect as did not treat me with respect
- Most officers treated me with respect
- All officers treated me with respect



DEMOGRAPHICS

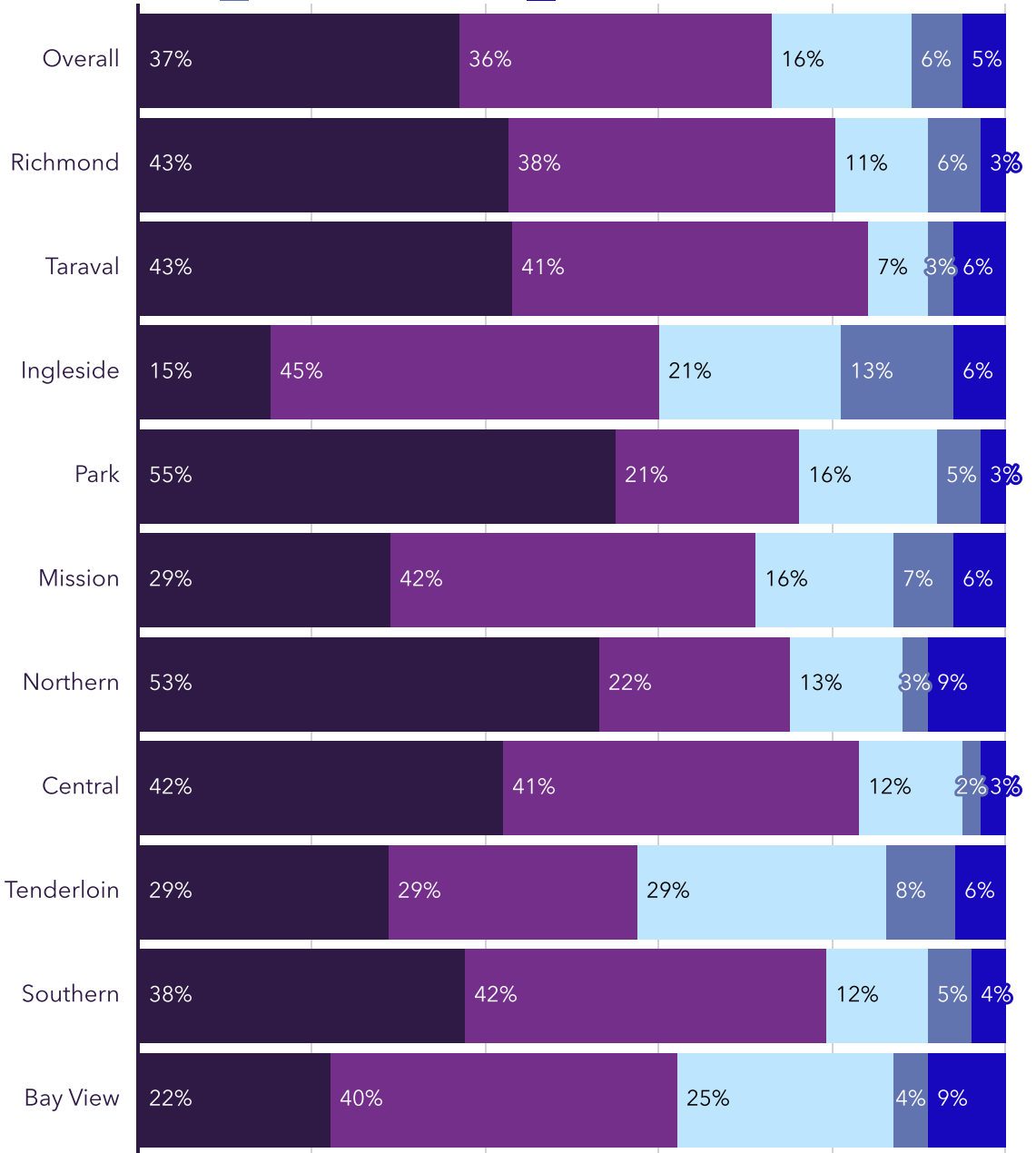
AGE

18-34 35-49 50-64 65 +

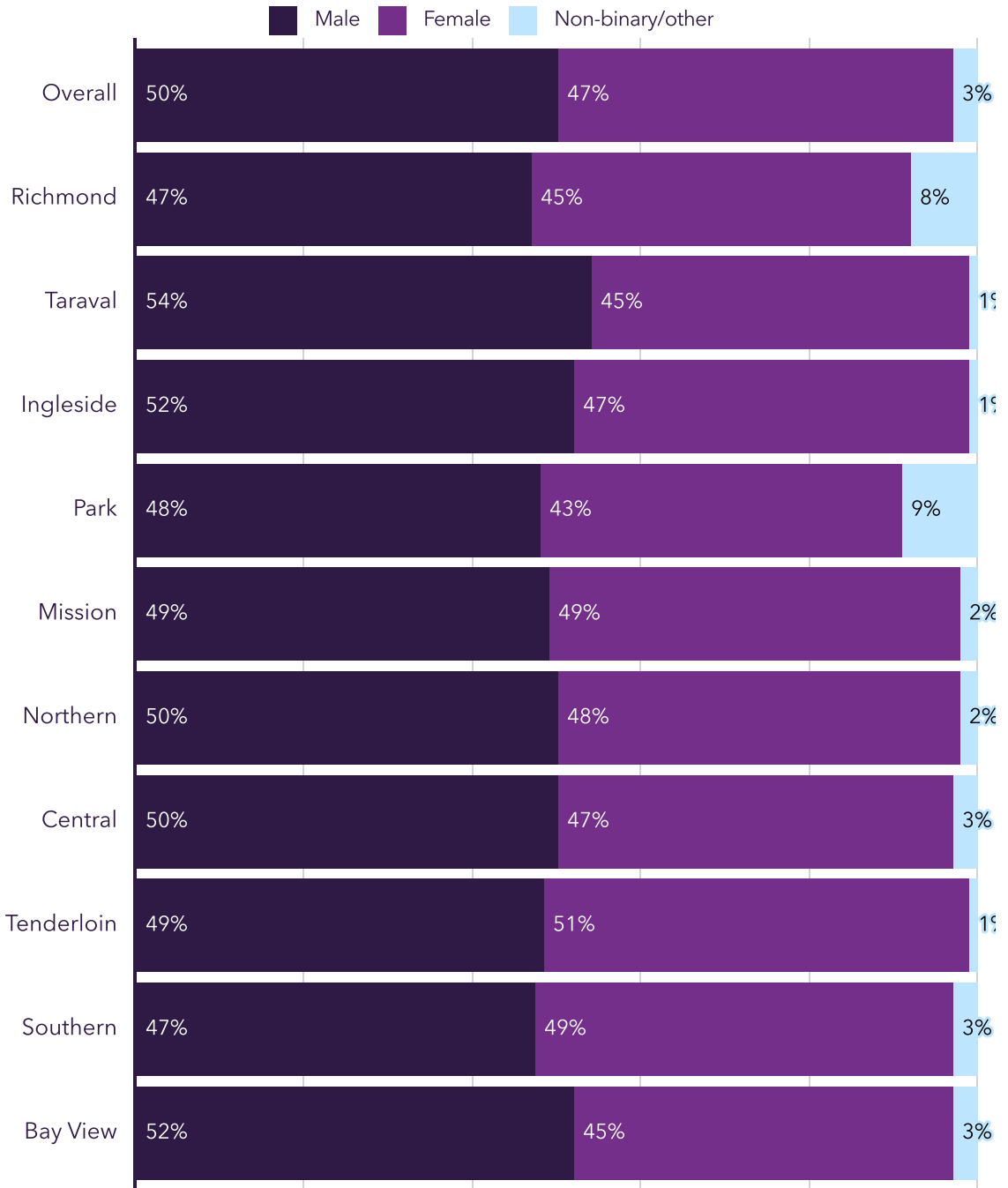


RACE/ETHNICITY

White or Caucasian
 Asian/Pacific Islander
 Hispanic or Latino of any race
 Black or African American
 Other or multiple races



GENDER





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POLLING