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# Minnesota Meeting 2026

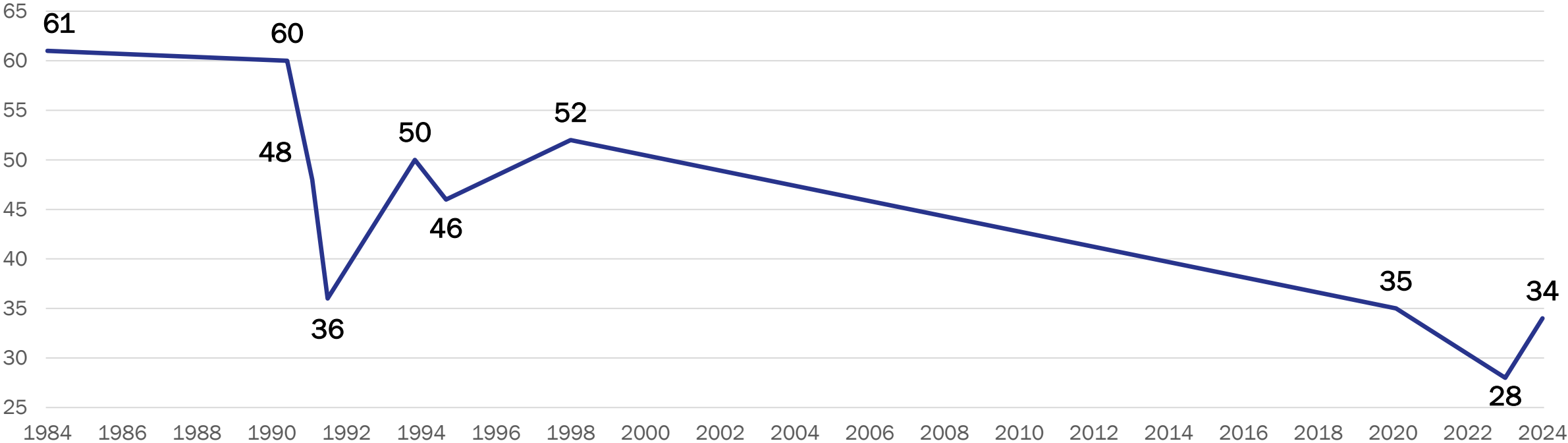
Data from the Kettering Foundation and  
Gallup's Democracy for All Project



# Americans' Satisfaction With the Way Democracy Is Working in the U.S.

Are you satisfied or dissatisfied with the way democracy is working in this country?

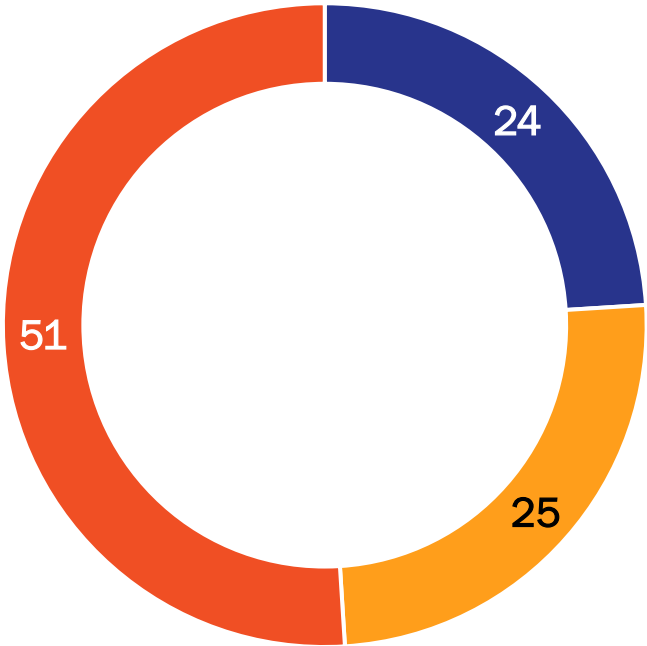
— % Satisfied



# Democracy Gets a Poor Performance Review (2025)

Whether or not you agree with current political leadership,  
how do you think U.S. democracy is doing?

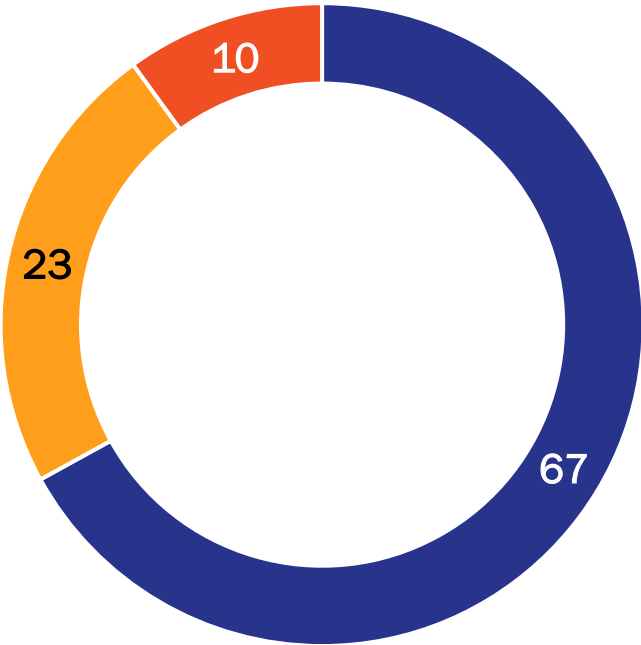
■ % Very/Moderately well    ■ % Okay    ■ % Very/Moderately poorly



# Do Americans Believe that Democracy is the Best Form of Government? (2025)

Democracy is the best form of government.

■ % Strongly agree/Agree    ■ % Neither agree nor disagree    ■ % Strongly disagree/Disagree



# Who Is Democracy Working For?

**Compared with those who believe democracy is doing poorly right now those who believe democracy is working well are more likely to be**

Living  
comfortably  
on present  
income

“Thriving” in  
their overall  
well-being

65+ or older

# Americans Are Split in Their Views of Citizen Power in Democracy

## How Much Power Do Americans Believe Ordinary Citizens Have to Create Change in Our Nation?

■ % A great deal   ■ % A moderate amount   ■ % Some   ■ % Very little   ■ % Almost none

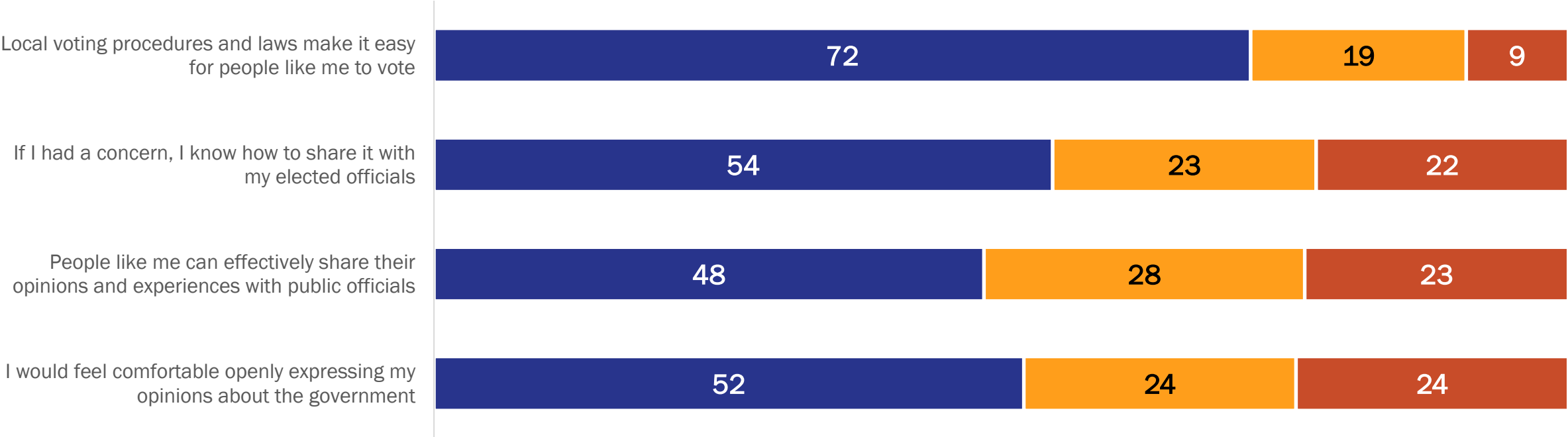


Note: Values shown may not total 100% due to rounding and exclusion of DK/REF responses.

# Americans Express Greater Access to Voting Than Other Civic Actions

## Perceived Opportunities for Democratic Participation

■ % Strongly agree/Agree   ■ % Neither agree nor disagree   ■ % Strongly disagree/Disagree



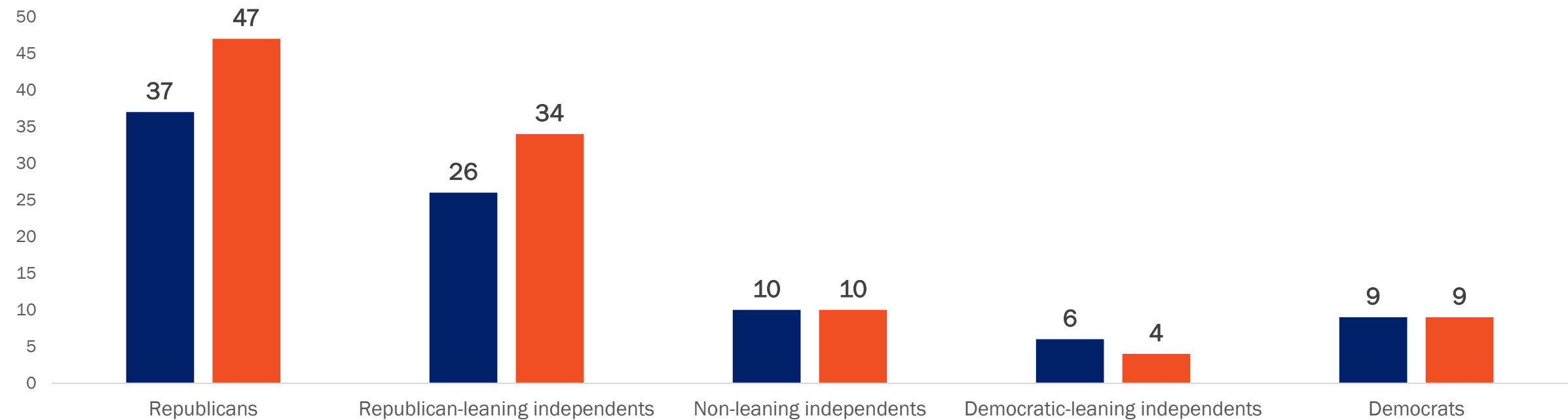
Note: Values shown may not total 100% due to rounding and exclusion of DK/REF responses.

# Growing Dissatisfaction Among Republicans and Republican-Leaners

Whether or not you agree with current political leadership, how do you think U.S. democracy is doing?

% Very/Moderately well

■ 2026 ■ 2025

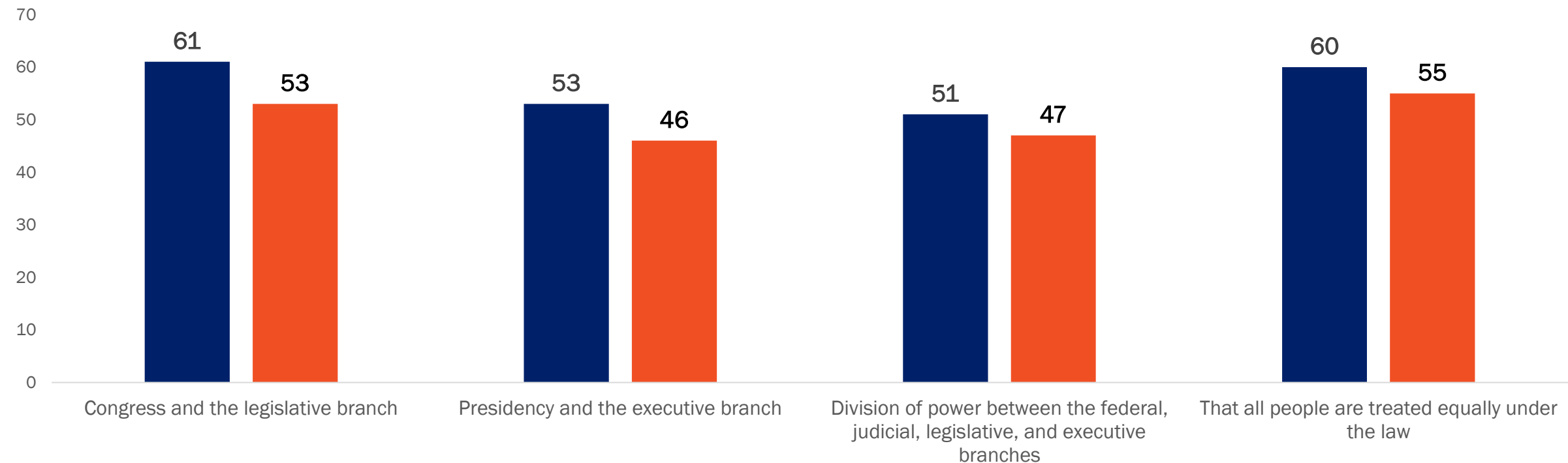


# Public Opinion Shifts: Institutions

Regardless of who is in power, how well do you think each of these institutions or processes are generally working in our democracy?

*% Very or moderately poorly*

■ 2026 ■ 2025



# A Majority of Americans Say the Executive Branch Holds Too Much Power

## Americans' Views of the Power Held by the Three Branches of the Federal Government

*Do you think each of the following branches of the U.S. government currently has too much power, the right amount, or too little power?*

■ % Too little power   ■ % The right amount of power   ■ % Too much power



The presidency and executive branch



The Supreme Court and judicial branch

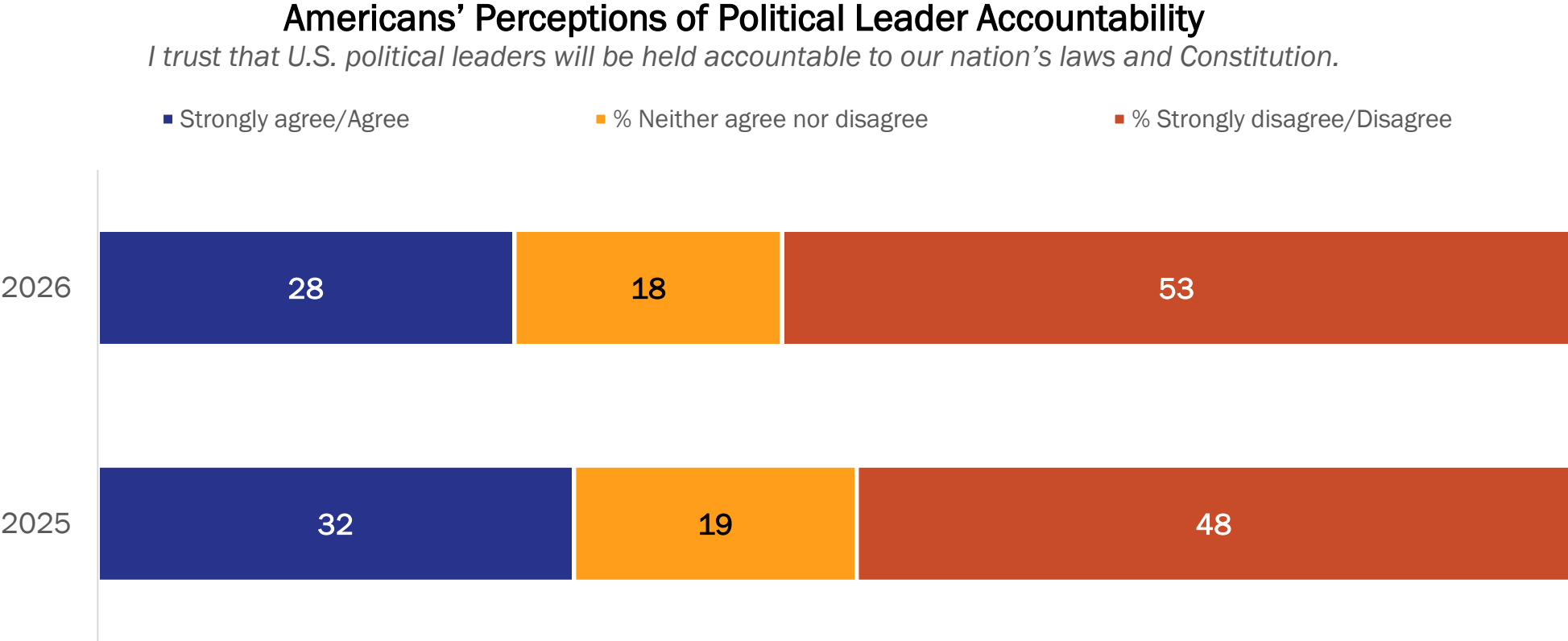


Congress and the legislative branch



Note: Values shown may not total 100% due to rounding and exclusion of "don't know" responses and/or missing data.

# Doubts About Leaders' Accountability to Law and Constitution Rise



Note: Values shown may not total 100% due to rounding and exclusion of DK/REF responses.

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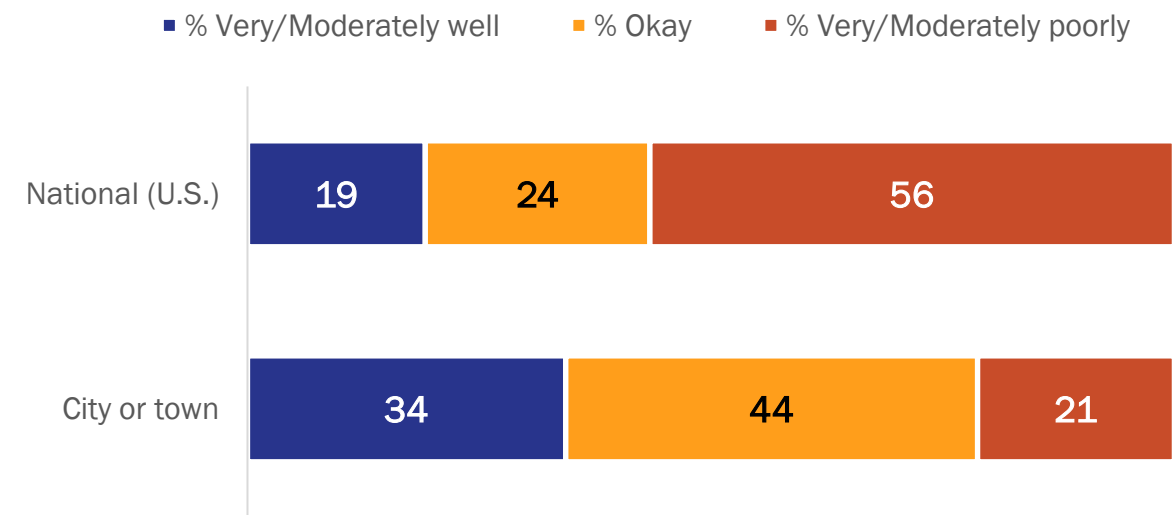
# Optimism for Local Democracy



# Two Democracies: Local vs. National Perceptions

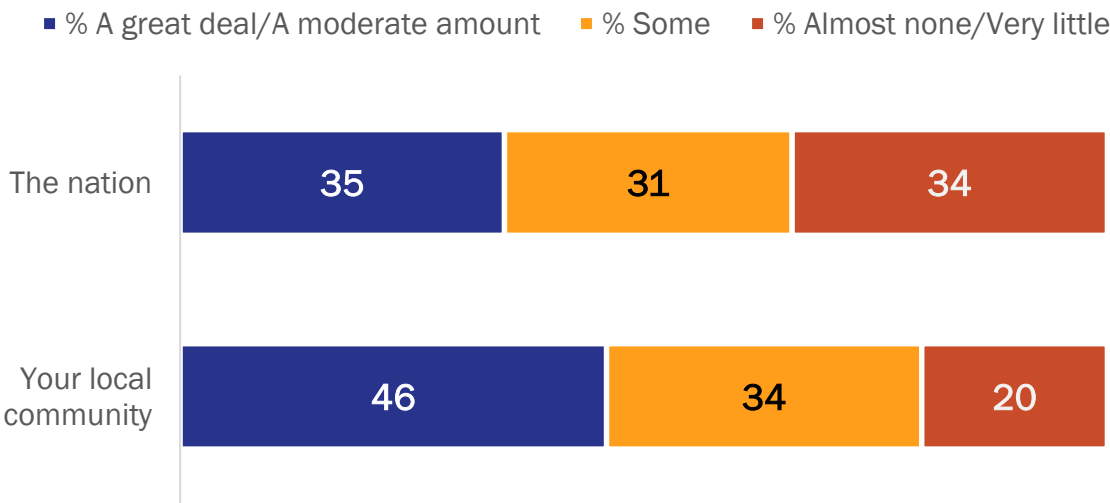
## Perceptions of National and Local Democratic Performance

*Whether [or not you agree/you agree or disagree] with current political leadership, how do you think [U.S. democracy is doing/democracy is doing in your city or town]?*



## Perceptions of Americans' Power to Create Change, Nationally and Locally

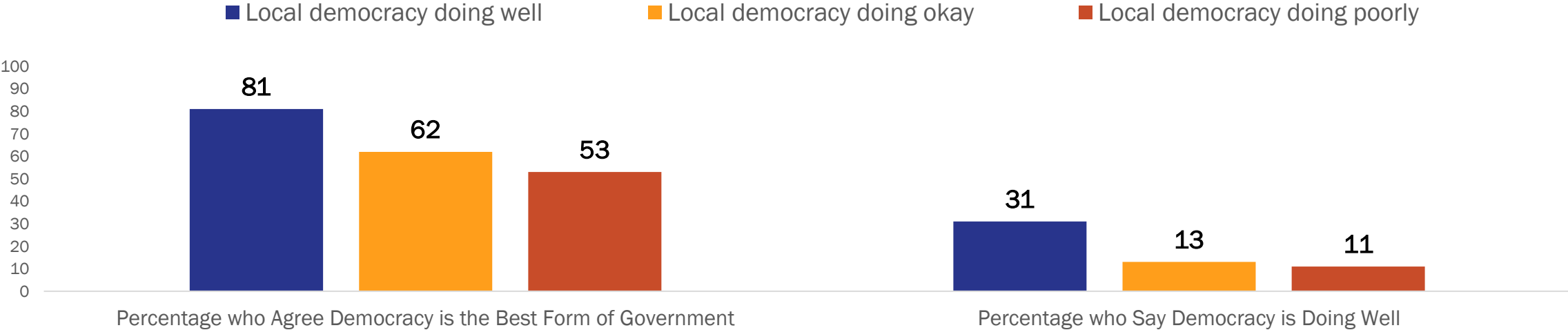
*How much power do ordinary people have to create change [in our nation/in your local community]?*



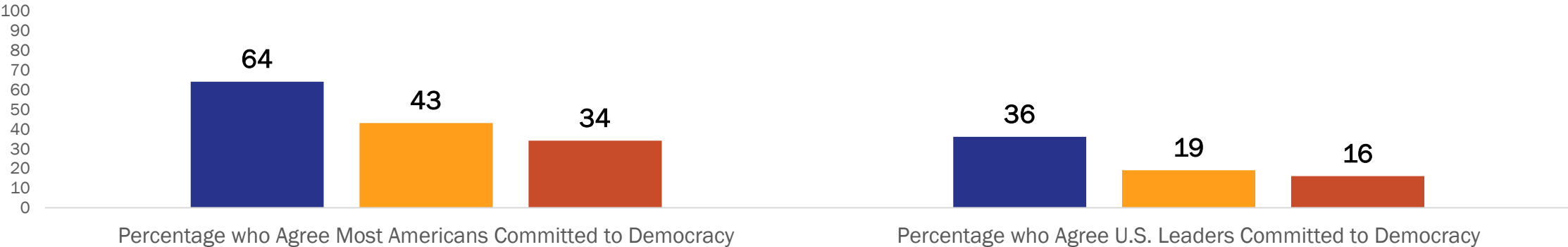
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# Local Experiences Shape Views of National Democracy

Perceptions of National Democracy, by Ratings of How Local Democracy is Doing



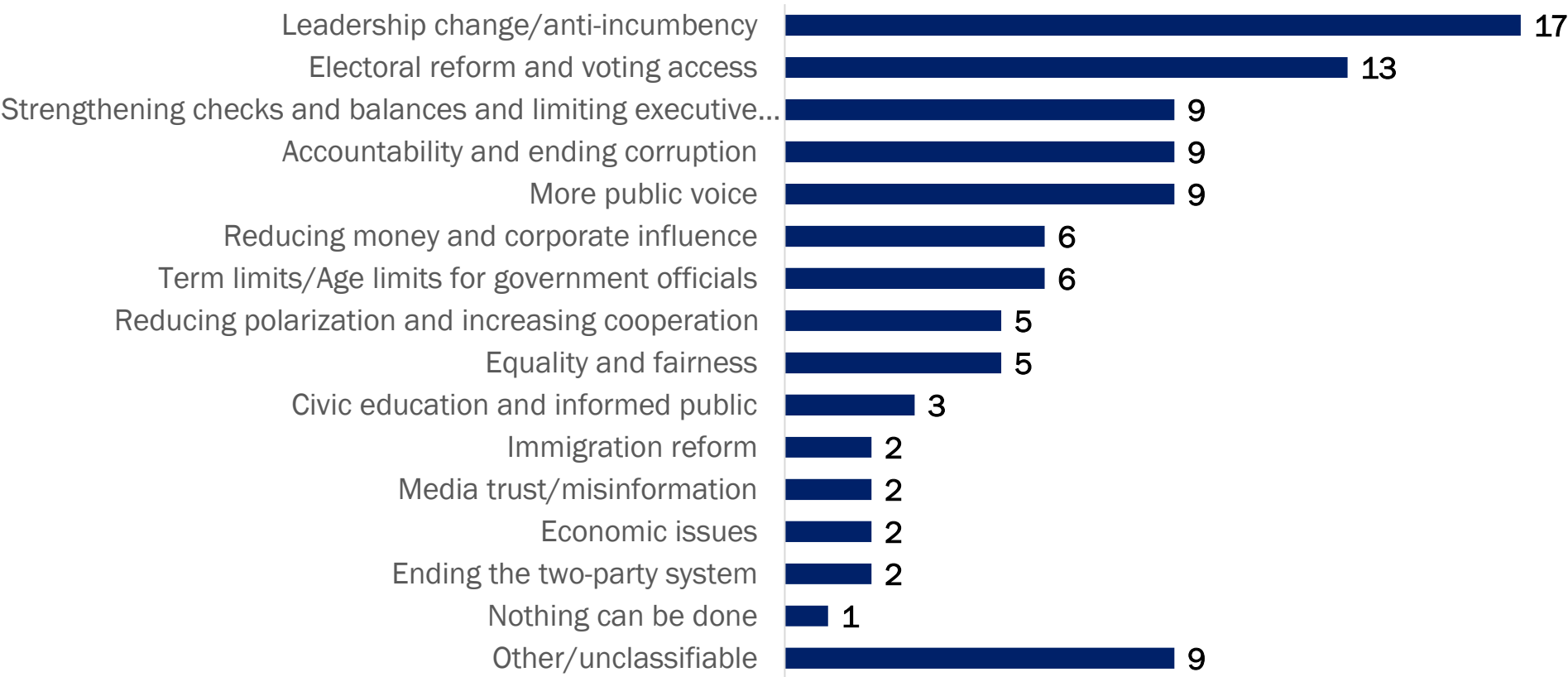
Perceptions of Democratic Commitment, by Ratings of How Local Democracy Is Doing



# How to Improve U.S. Democracy

What is the one thing that could be done that you think would most improve U.S. democracy in the future?

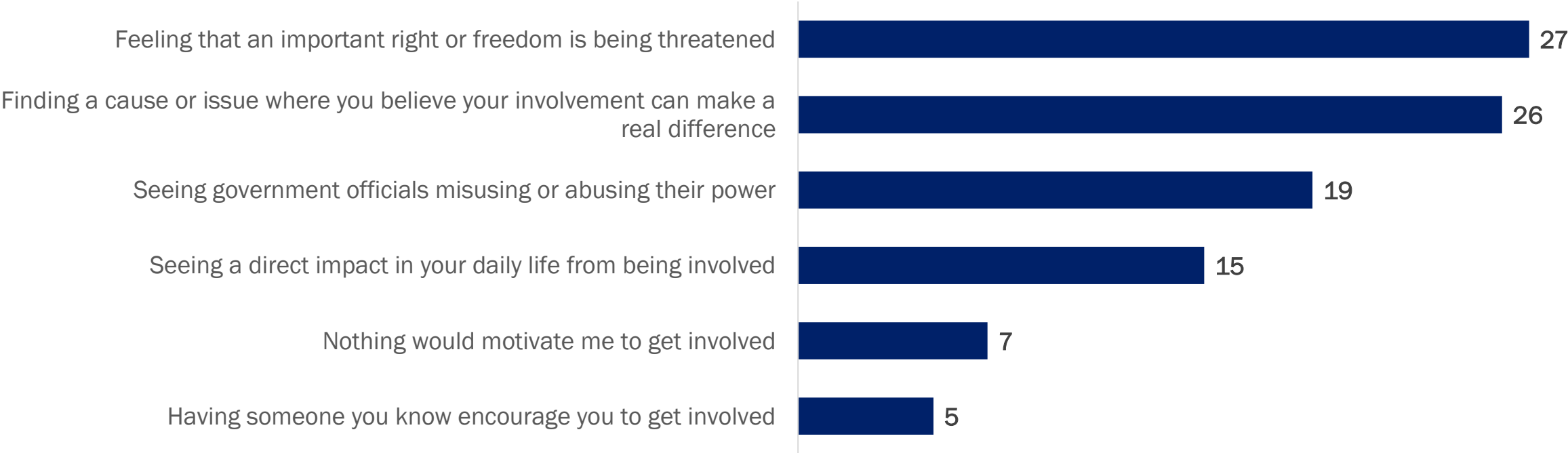
*% Reporting*



# Top Motivations for Getting Involved in Public Affairs

People differ in what motivates them to engage in social or political causes. Regardless of whether or not you are currently involved, which of the following would be most likely to make you get involved?

*% Reporting*



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# Civic Engagement in Minnesota

Data Source: Kettering-Gallup Democracy for All Studies, 2025-2026

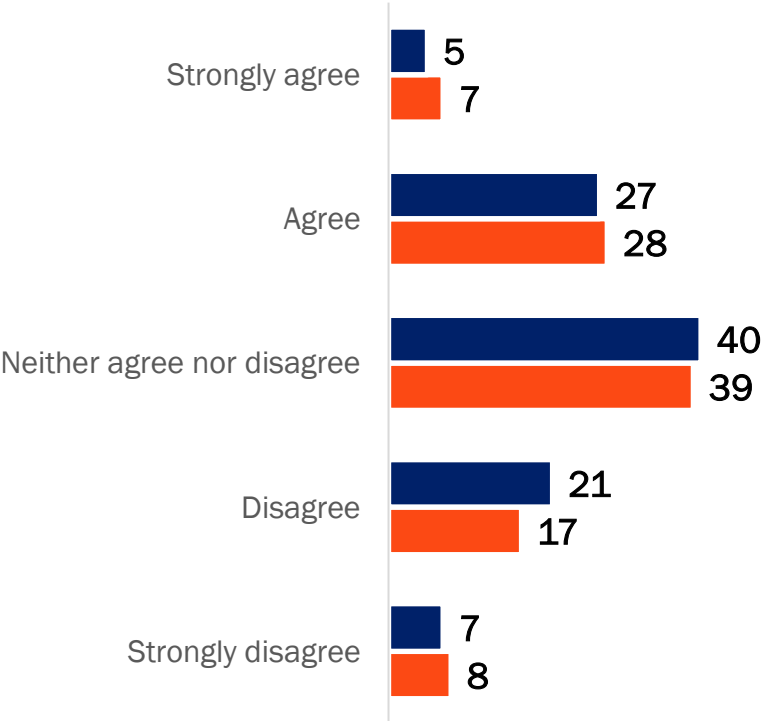


# Fewer than one in five Minnesotans say U.S. democracy is doing very or moderately well

Roughly one in three agree or strongly agree the experiences and beliefs of people like them are valued and that ordinary citizens have a great deal or a moderate amount of power (32% each)

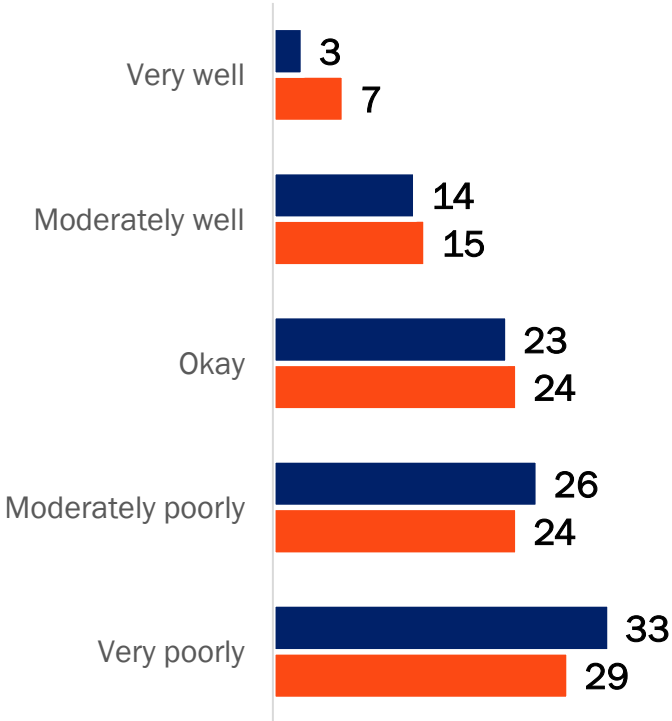
The experiences and beliefs of people like me are valued and respected by other people in this country.

■ % Minnesotans    ■ % Residents of other states



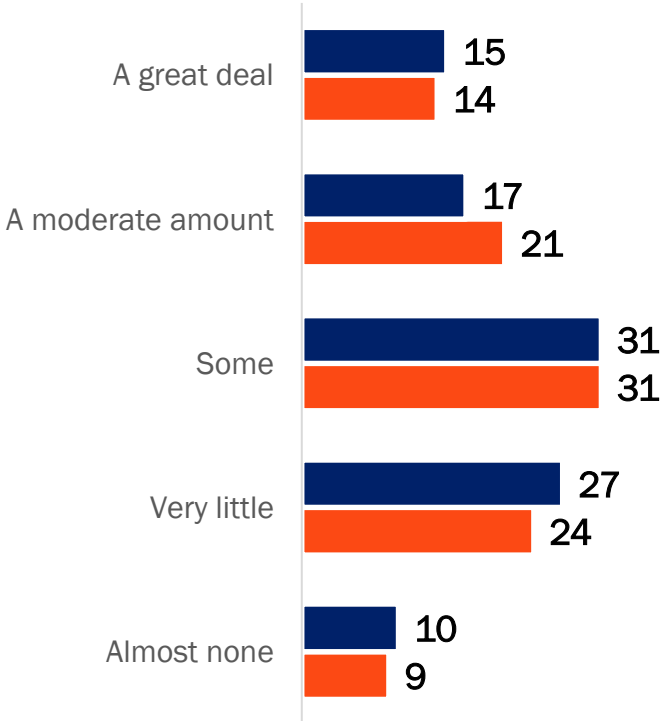
Whether or not you agree with current political leadership, how do you think U.S. democracy is doing?

■ % Minnesotans    ■ % Residents of other states



How much power do ordinary citizens have to create change in our nation?

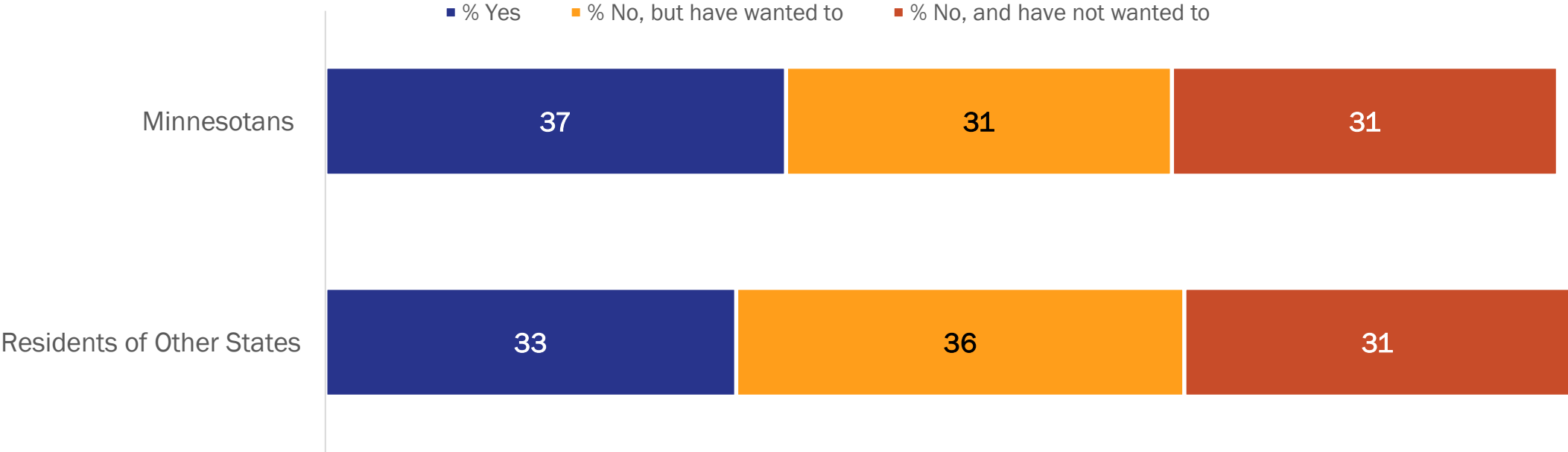
■ % Minnesotans    ■ % Residents of other states



# Minnesotans are slightly more likely to have volunteered in the past 12 months compared to residents of other states

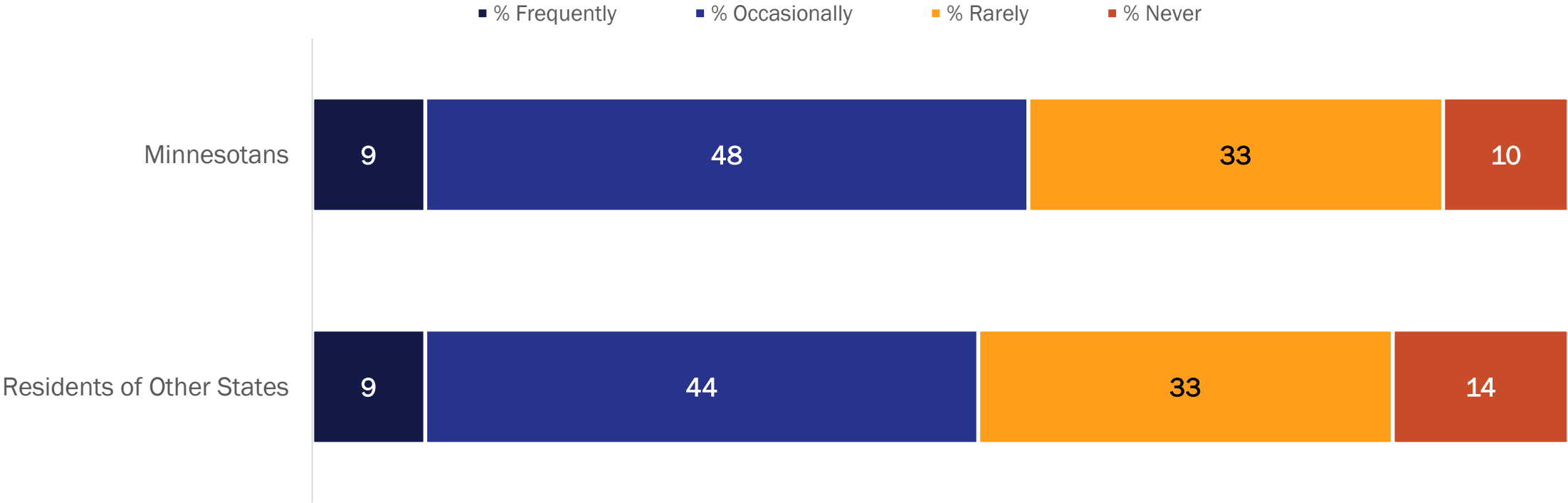
Consistent with other states, about a third of Minnesotans have not volunteered in their communities and do not want to.

In the past 12 months, have you volunteered or actively participated in organizations or groups that are designed to improve conditions in your community?



# Minnesotans are slightly less likely to say they never attend events in their community

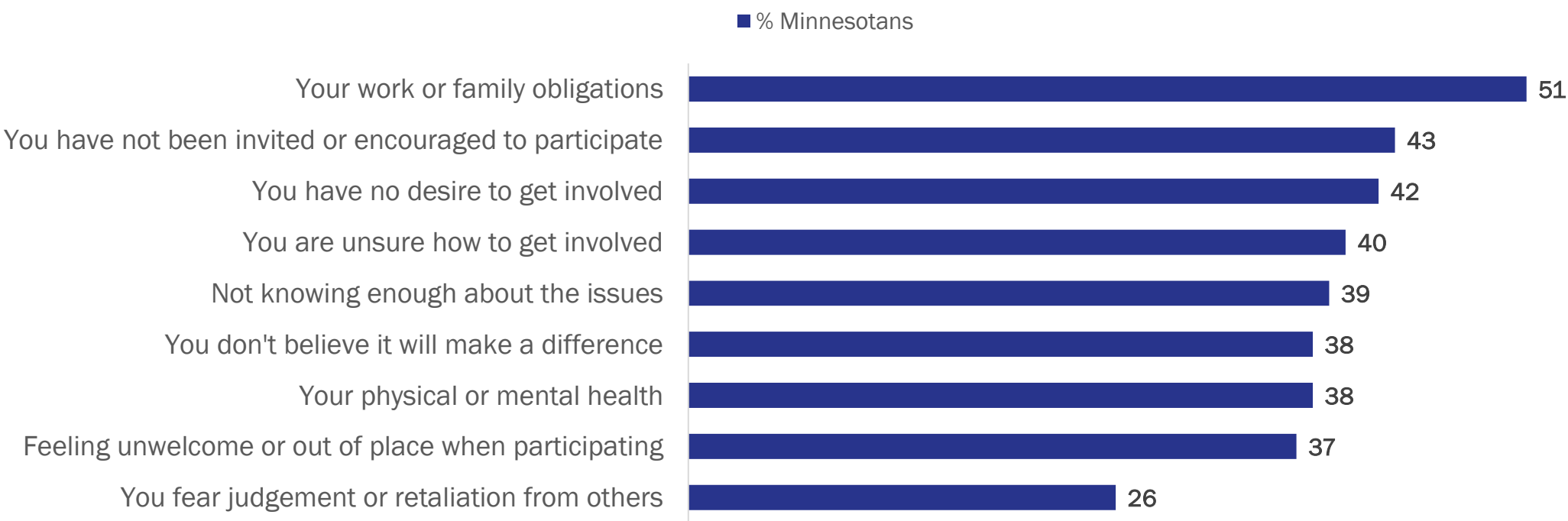
How often do you attend events in your community, such as festivals, town halls, arts performances, etc.?



# For almost half of Minnesotans, work or family obligations is a barrier for community involvement

Lack of encouragement, desire, and knowledge of how to get involved are also barriers for at least two in five Minnesotans.

Do any of the following prevent you from getting involved in activities that help support issues or causes you care about?



# Minnesotans are more likely to identify as an American than as a member of their local community

How strongly do you identify as each of the following...

■ % Very strongly   ■ % Strongly   ■ % Not very strongly   ■ % Not at all strongly

A member of your local community



An American





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