



City and County of Denver Term Limits Survey

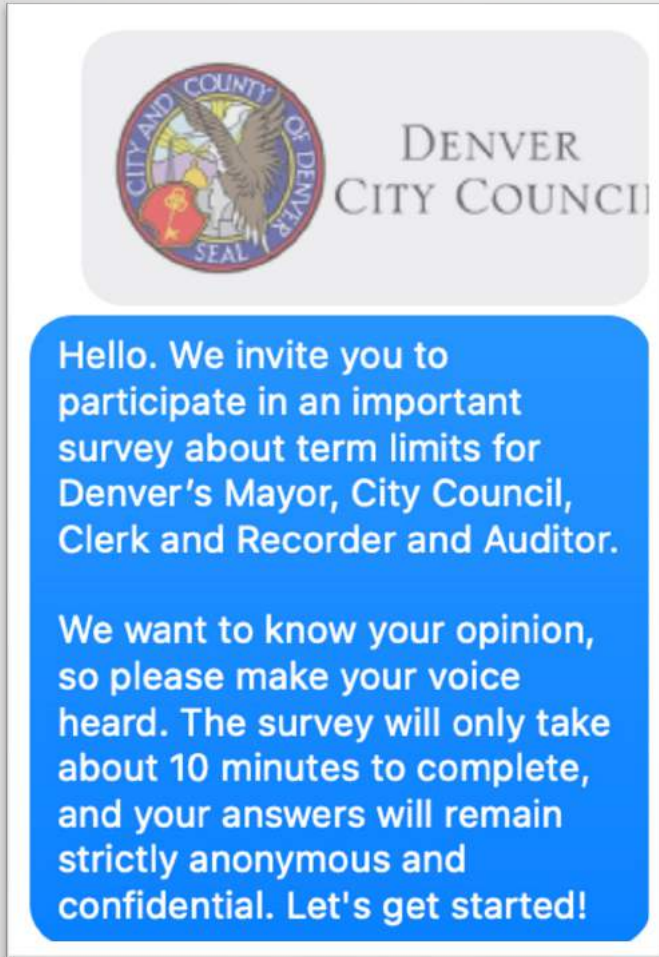
May 7th to May 14th, 2024



DENVER
CITY COUNCIL



Methodology

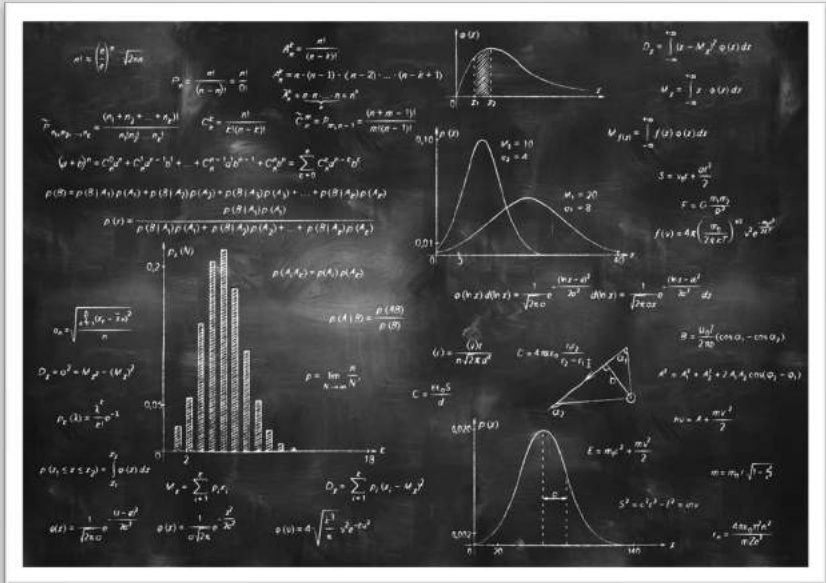


Magellan Strategies is pleased to present the results of a survey of 1,595 voters in the City and County of Denver. The interviews were conducted from May 7th to May 14th, 2024. Respondents were able to take the survey in English, Spanish, Vietnamese, and Amharic.

The overall survey responses have a margin of error of +/- 2.45% at the 95% confidence interval. Population subgroups will have a higher margin of error than the overall sample.

The survey data were weighted to be representative of the voter demographics for a presidential election cycle in the City of Denver.

Survey Goals & Objectives



The primary objective of this survey was to measure voter support and opposition levels for a ballot measure that would reduce the number of terms the mayor, city council members, clerk and recorder, and city auditor could serve from three four-year terms to two four-year terms.

City and County of Denver Voter Registration and Past Turnout Demographics

City of Denver Magellan Strategies Voter Registration and Past Election Turnout Report

Sex	Registration		2022		2021		2020		2019	
	Count	%	Count	%	Count	%	Count	%	Count	%
Female	266,140	50.4%	147,528	52.2%	86,852	52.0%	207,201	52.2%	85,970	52.2%
Male	261,875	49.6%	134,952	47.8%	80,110	48.0%	190,095	47.8%	78,764	47.8%
Total	528,015	100.0%	282,480	100.0%	166,962	100.0%	397,296	100.0%	164,734	100.0%

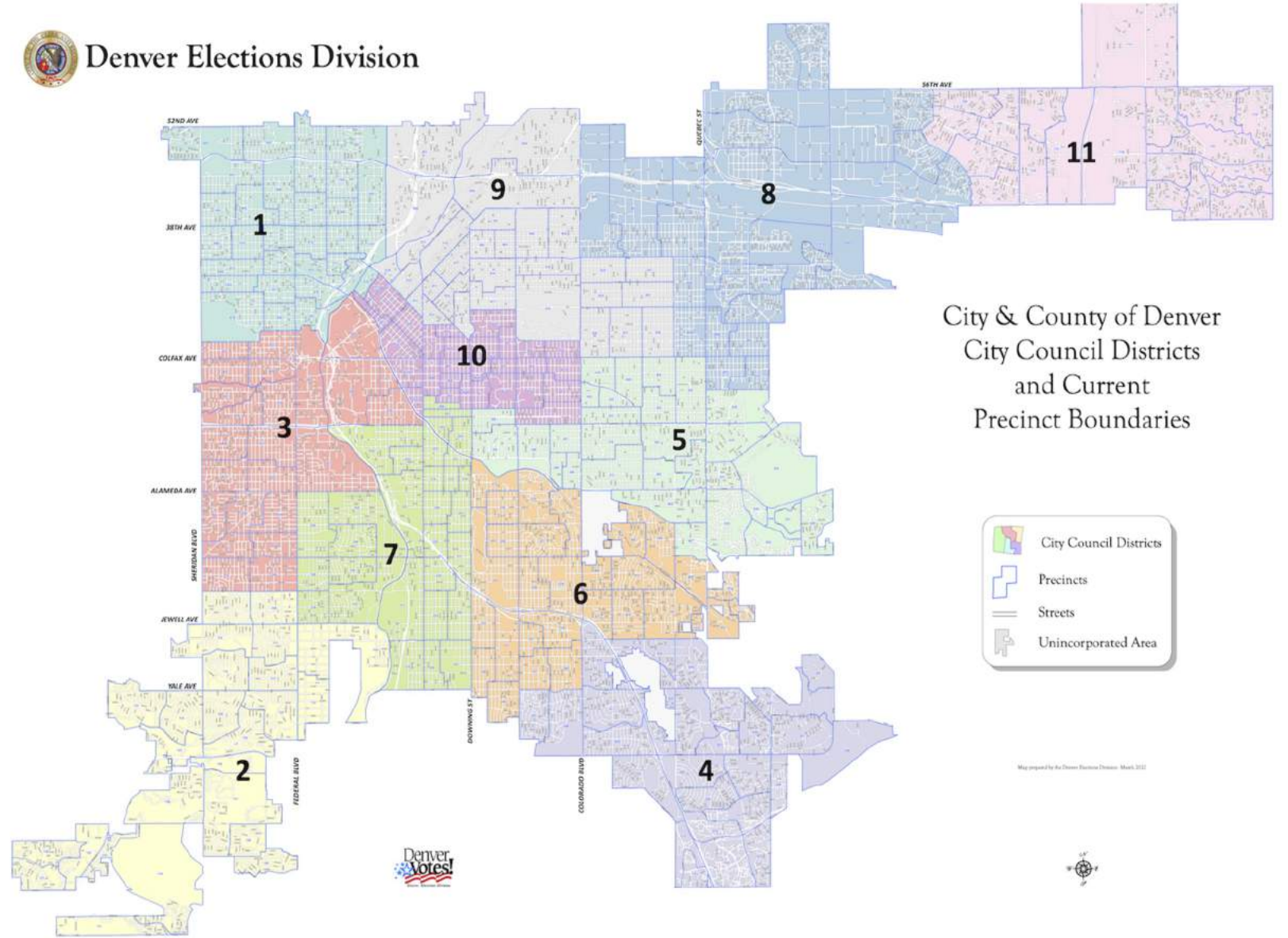
Age Group	Registration		2022		2021		2020		2019	
	Count	%	Count	%	Count	%	Count	%	Count	%
18-34	209,952	39.8%	84,330	29.9%	35,889	21.5%	146,578	36.9%	35,661	21.6%
35-44	111,341	21.1%	58,033	20.5%	32,393	19.4%	79,685	20.1%	30,214	18.3%
45-54	67,910	12.9%	41,304	14.6%	25,095	15.0%	53,967	13.6%	24,736	15.0%
55-64	55,188	10.5%	36,454	12.9%	25,330	15.2%	47,939	12.1%	26,789	16.3%
65+	83,624	15.8%	62,359	22.1%	48,255	28.9%	69,127	17.4%	47,334	28.7%
Total	528,015	100.0%	282,480	100.0%	166,962	100.0%	397,296	100.0%	164,734	100.0%

Party	Registration		2022		2021		2020		2019	
	Count	%	Count	%	Count	%	Count	%	Count	%
Unaffiliated	249,508	47.3%	110,523	39.1%	57,790	34.6%	151,746	38.2%	51,822	31.5%
Democrat	219,231	41.5%	139,925	49.5%	88,598	53.1%	194,144	48.9%	88,099	53.5%
Republican	49,009	9.3%	28,866	10.2%	19,086	11.4%	45,759	11.5%	23,007	14.0%
Libertarian	4,883	0.9%	1,922	0.7%	932	0.6%	3,725	0.9%	1,153	0.7%
Other	5,384	1.0%	1,244	0.4%	556	0.3%	1,922	0.5%	653	0.4%
Total	528,015	100.0%	282,480	100.0%	166,962	100.0%	397,296	100.0%	164,734	100.0%

City and County of Denver City Council Districts



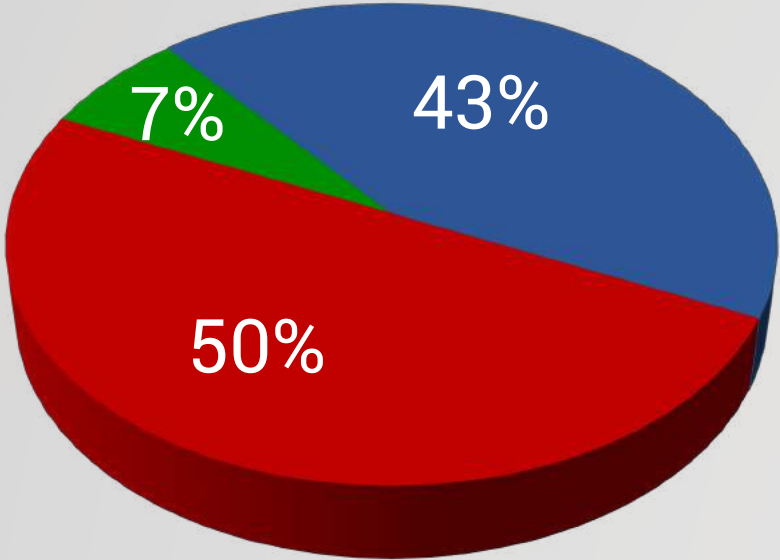
Denver Elections Division



City & County of Denver
City Council Districts
and Current
Precinct Boundaries

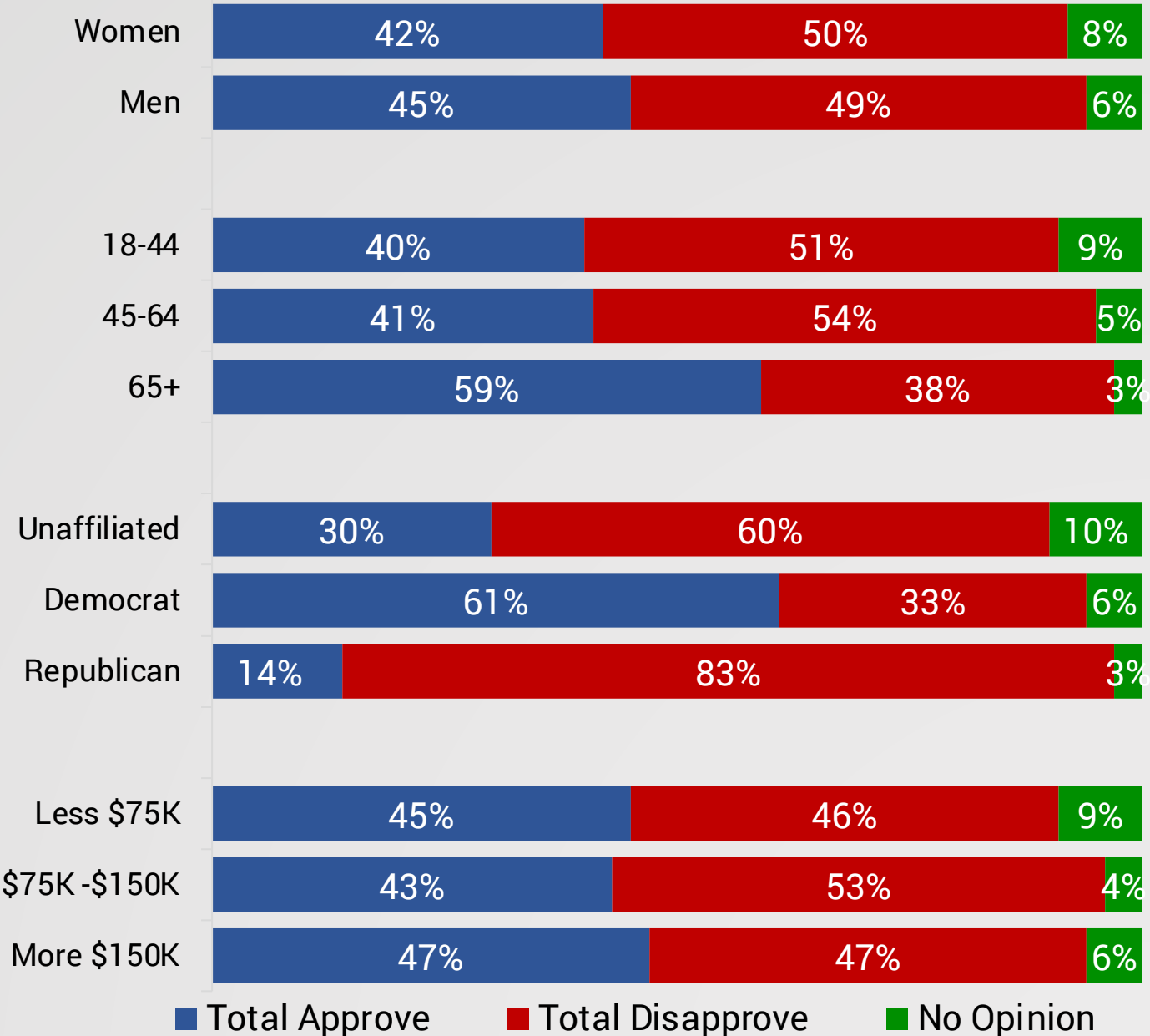
Do you approve or disapprove of the job the following elected officials in Denver are doing?

Mayor Mike Johnston



- Total Approve
- Total Disapprove
- No Opinion

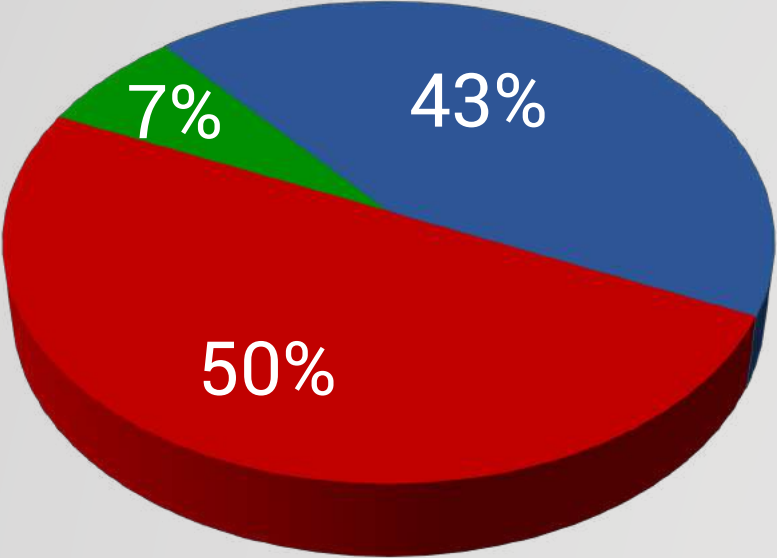
Strongly Approve	13%
Somewhat Approve	30%
Strongly Disapprove	34%
Somewhat Disapprove	16%



- Total Approve
- Total Disapprove
- No Opinion

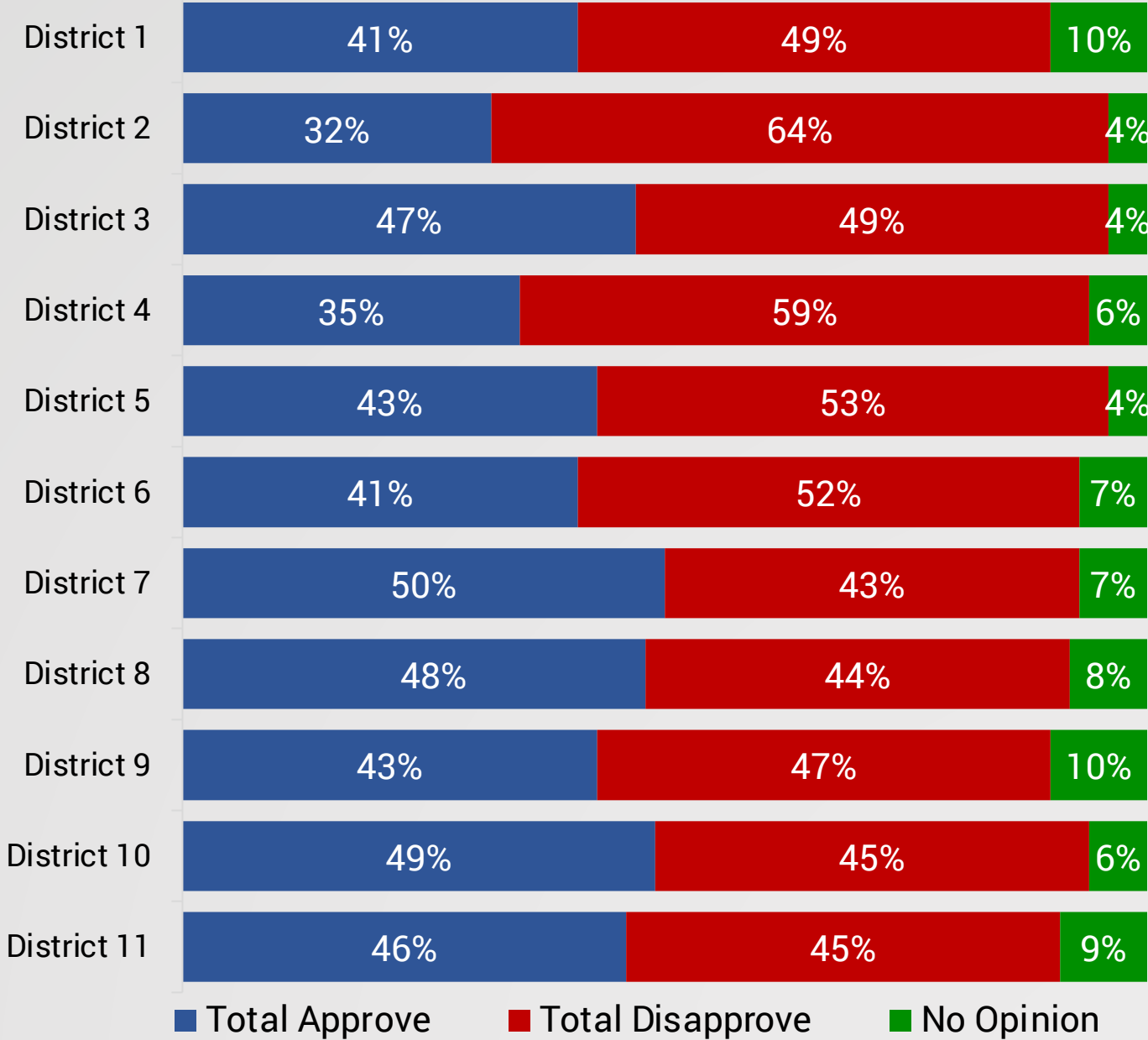
Do you approve or disapprove of the job the following elected officials in Denver are doing?

Mayor Mike Johnston



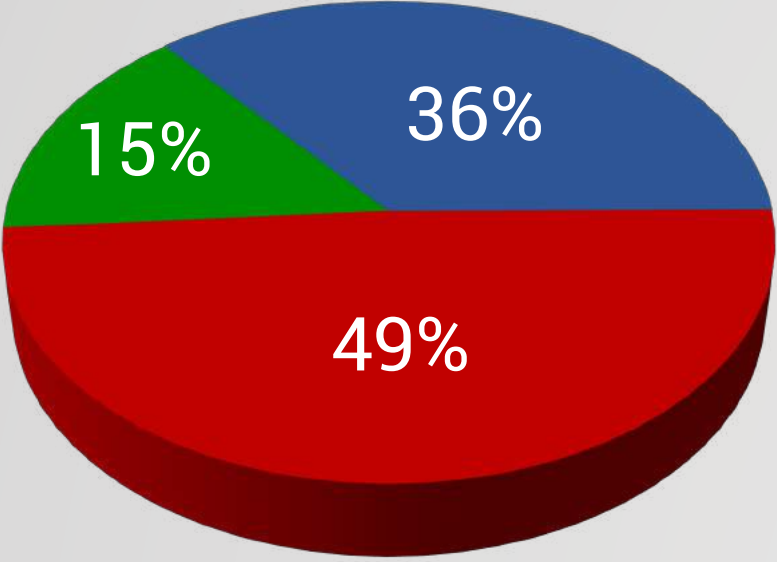
- Total Approve
- Total Disapprove
- No Opinion

Strongly Approve	13%
Somewhat Approve	30%
Strongly Disapprove	34%
Somewhat Disapprove	16%



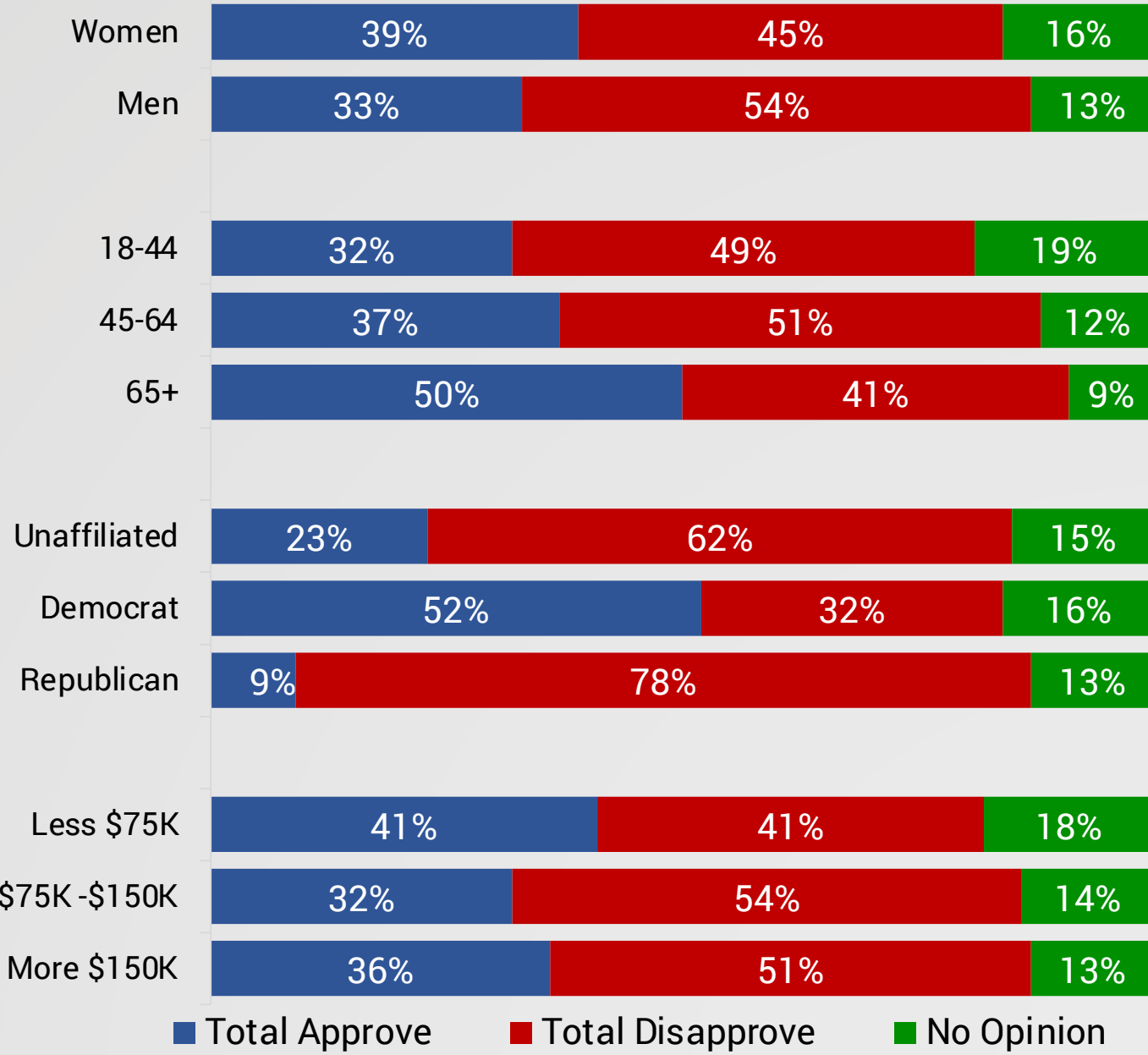
- Total Approve
- Total Disapprove
- No Opinion

Do you approve or disapprove of the job the following elected officials in Denver are doing? Denver City Council



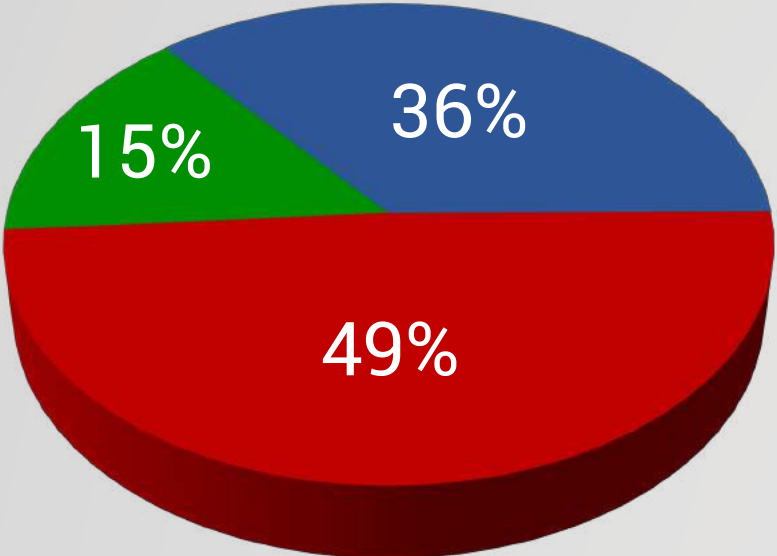
- Total Approve
- Total Disapprove
- No Opinion

Strongly Approve	6%
Somewhat Approve	30%
Strongly Disapprove	29%
Somewhat Disapprove	20%



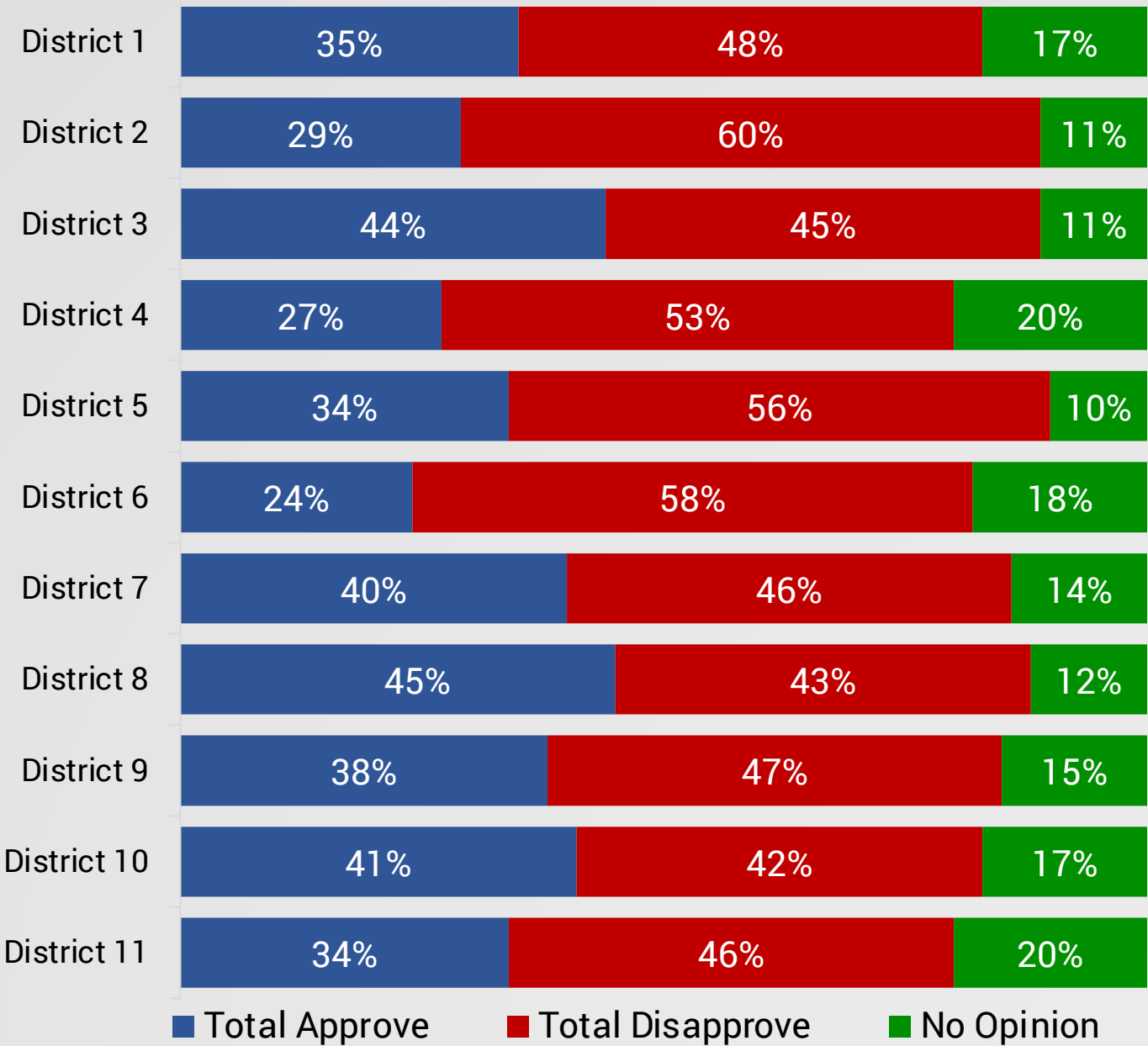
- Total Approve
- Total Disapprove
- No Opinion

Do you approve or disapprove of the job the following elected officials in Denver are doing? Denver City Council



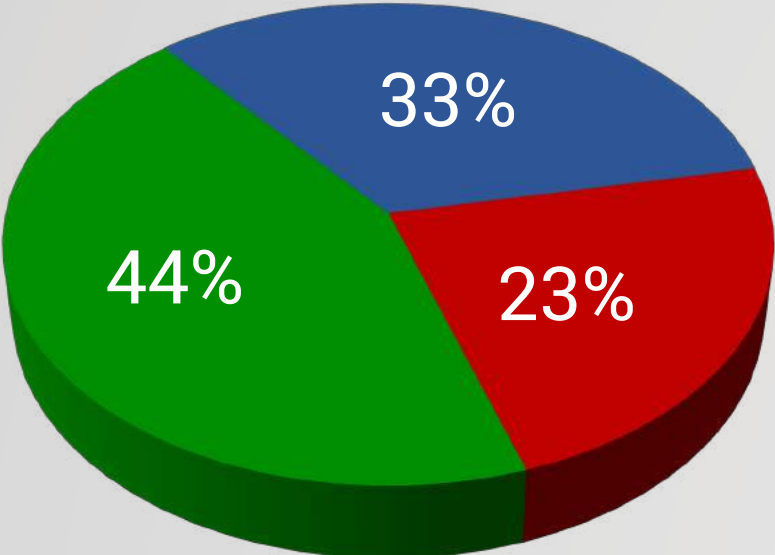
- Total Approve
- Total Disapprove
- No Opinion

Strongly Approve	6%
Somewhat Approve	30%
Strongly Disapprove	29%
Somewhat Disapprove	20%



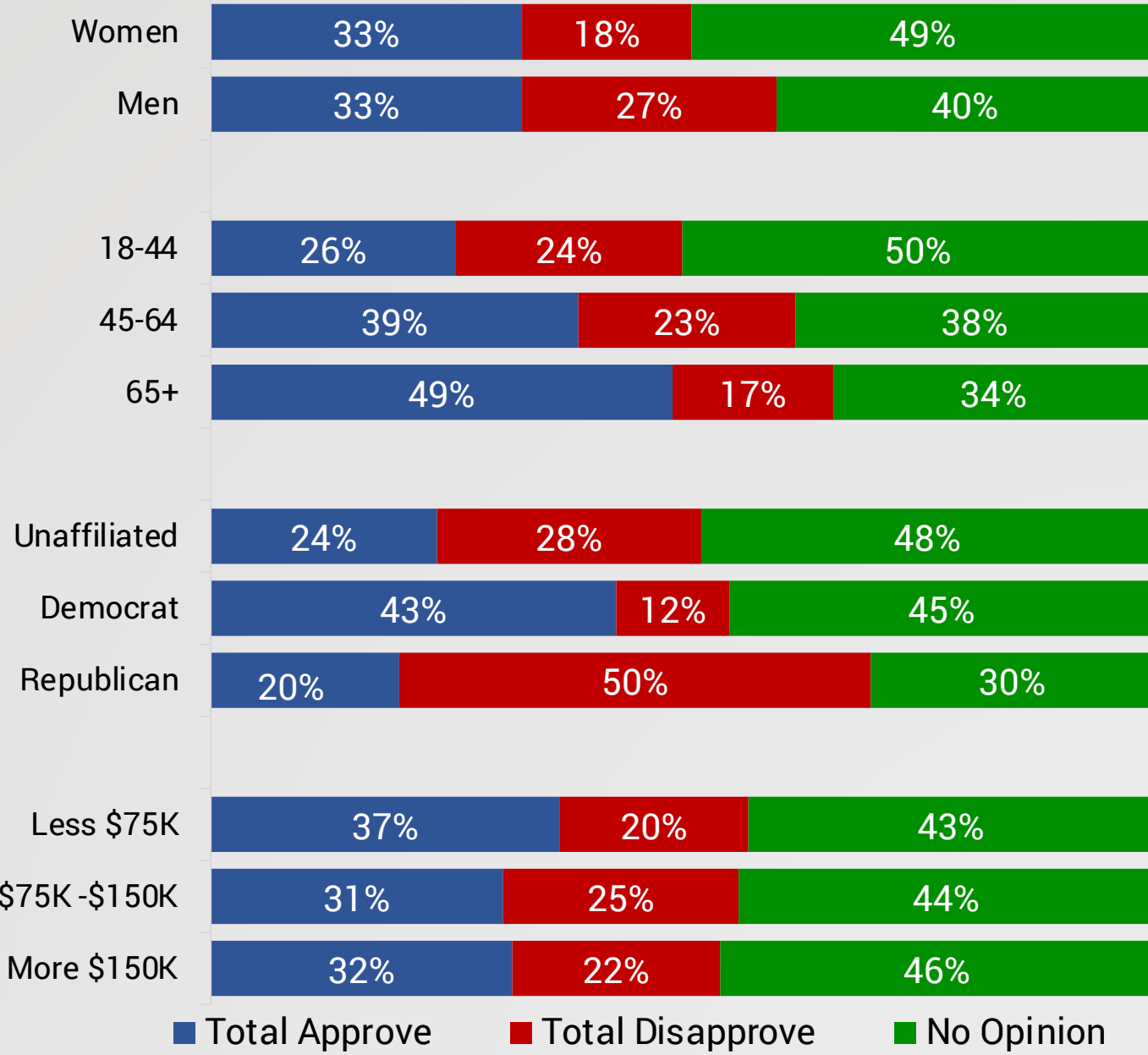
Do you approve or disapprove of the job the following elected officials in Denver are doing?

**City Clerk and Recorder
Paul López**



- Total Approve
- Total Disapprove
- No Opinion

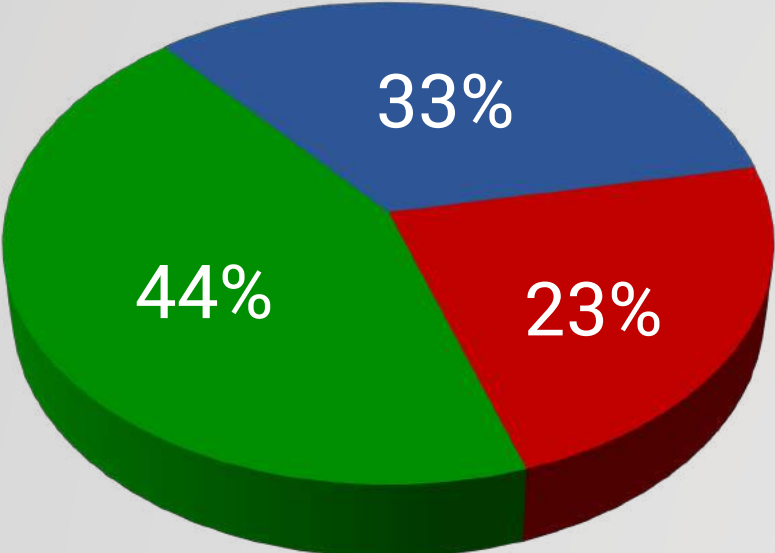
Strongly Approve	14%
Somewhat Approve	19%
Strongly Disapprove	15%
Somewhat Disapprove	8%



- Total Approve
- Total Disapprove
- No Opinion

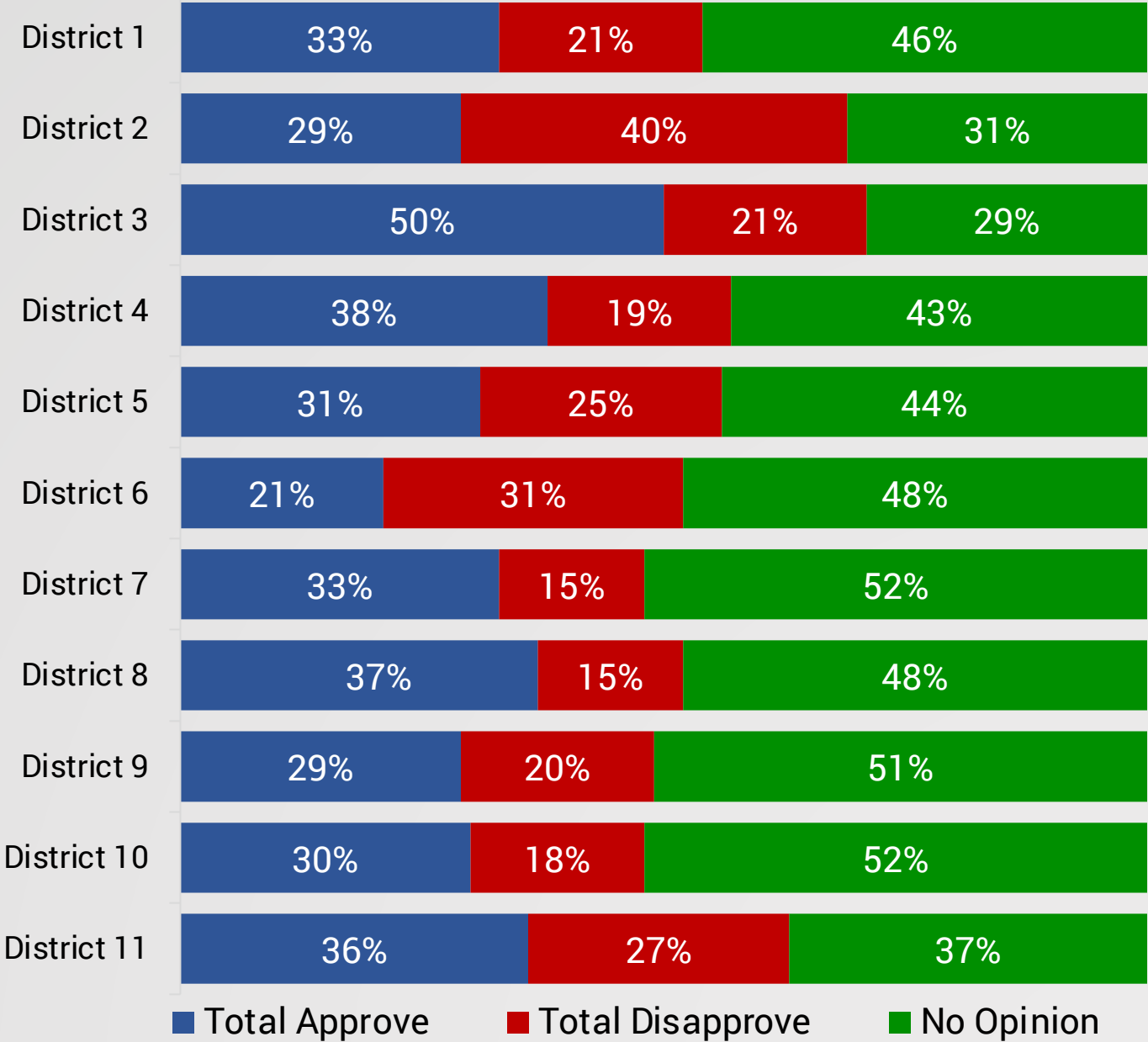
Do you approve or disapprove of the job the following elected officials in Denver are doing?

**City Clerk and Recorder
Paul López**



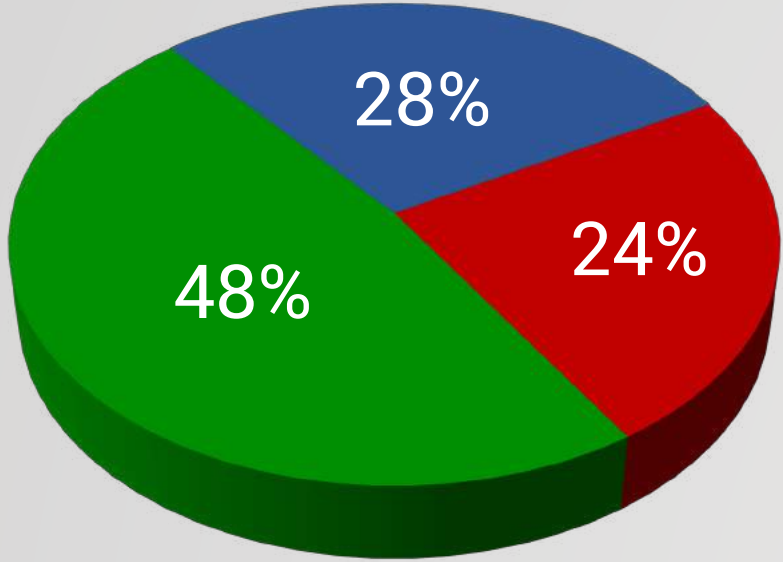
- Total Approve
- Total Disapprove
- No Opinion

Strongly Approve	14%
Somewhat Approve	19%
Strongly Disapprove	15%
Somewhat Disapprove	8%



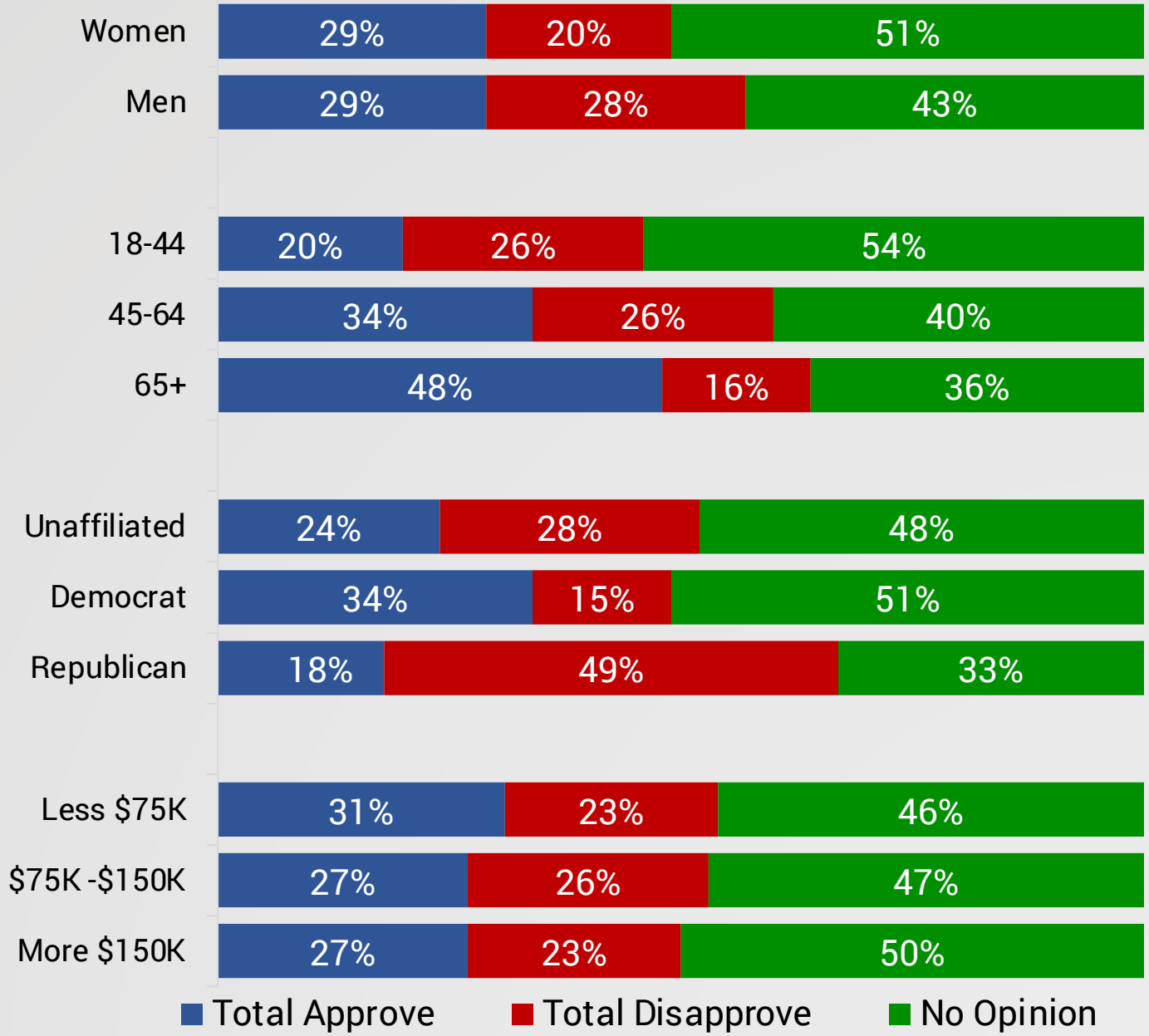
- Total Approve
- Total Disapprove
- No Opinion

Do you approve or disapprove of the job the following elected officials in Denver are doing? City Auditor Timothy O'Brien



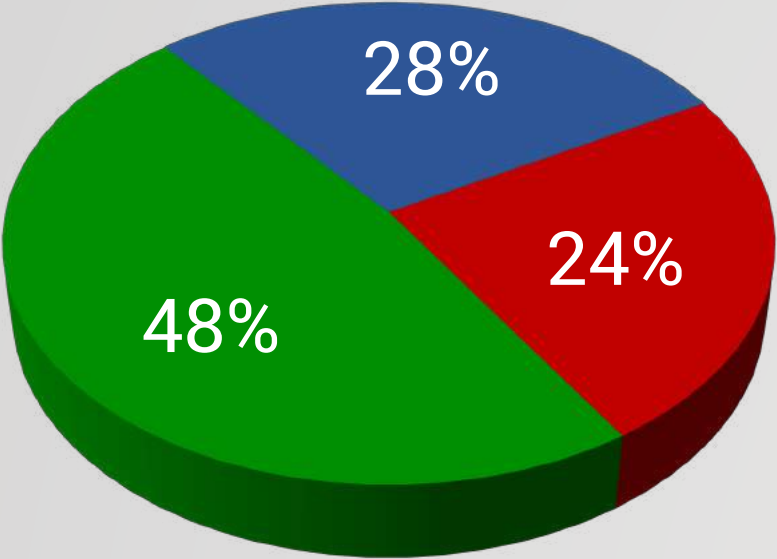
- Total Approve
- Total Disapprove
- No Opinion

Strongly Approve	9%
Somewhat Approve	19%
Strongly Disapprove	15%
Somewhat Disapprove	9%



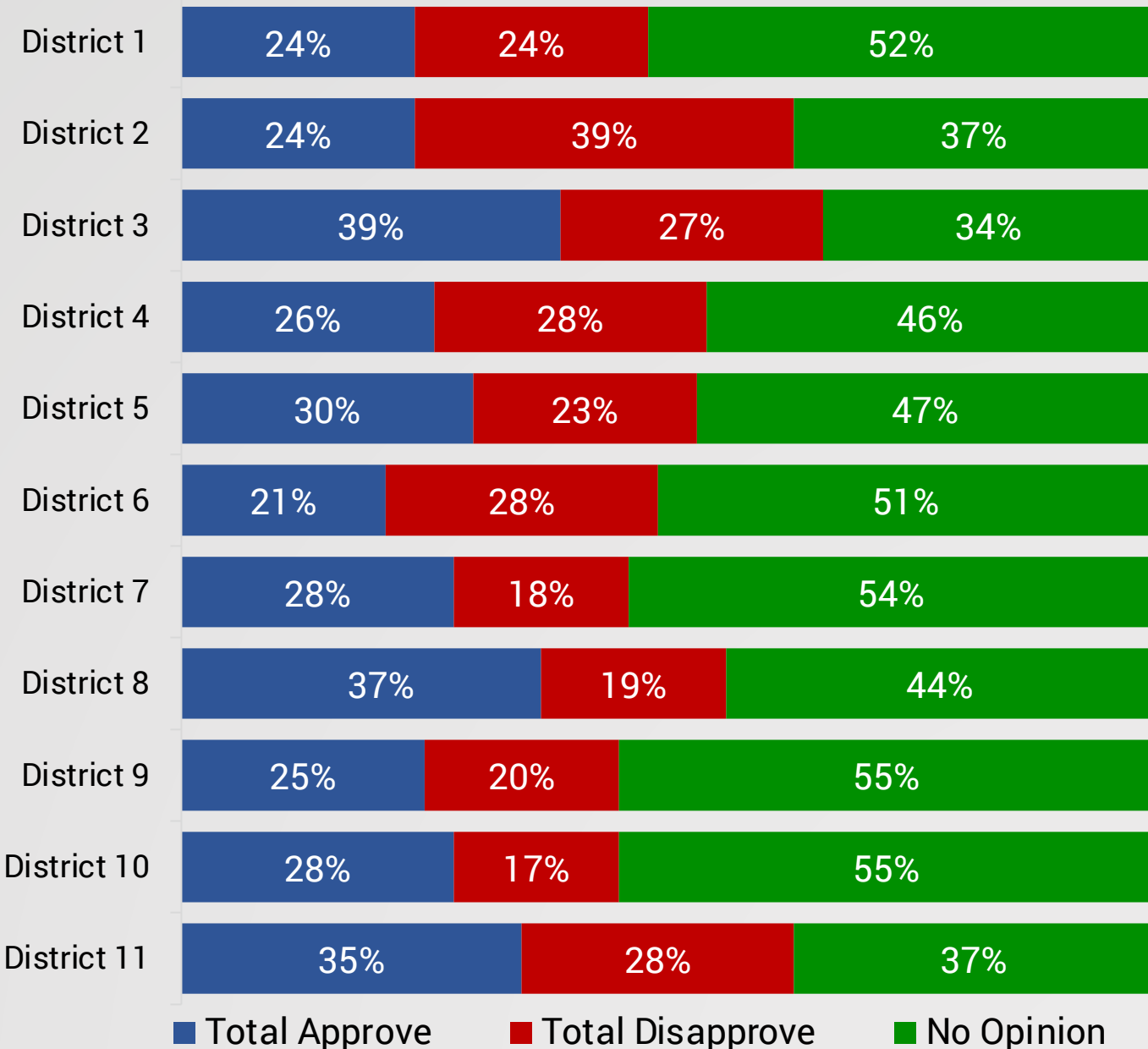
- Total Approve
- Total Disapprove
- No Opinion

Do you approve or disapprove of the job the following elected officials in Denver are doing? City Auditor Timothy O'Brien



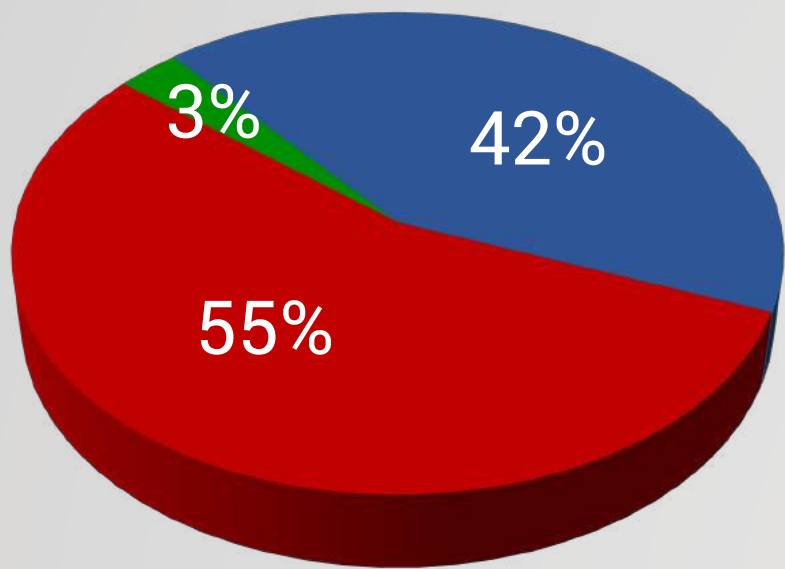
- Total Approve
- Total Disapprove
- No Opinion

Strongly Approve	9%
Somewhat Approve	19%
Strongly Disapprove	15%
Somewhat Disapprove	9%



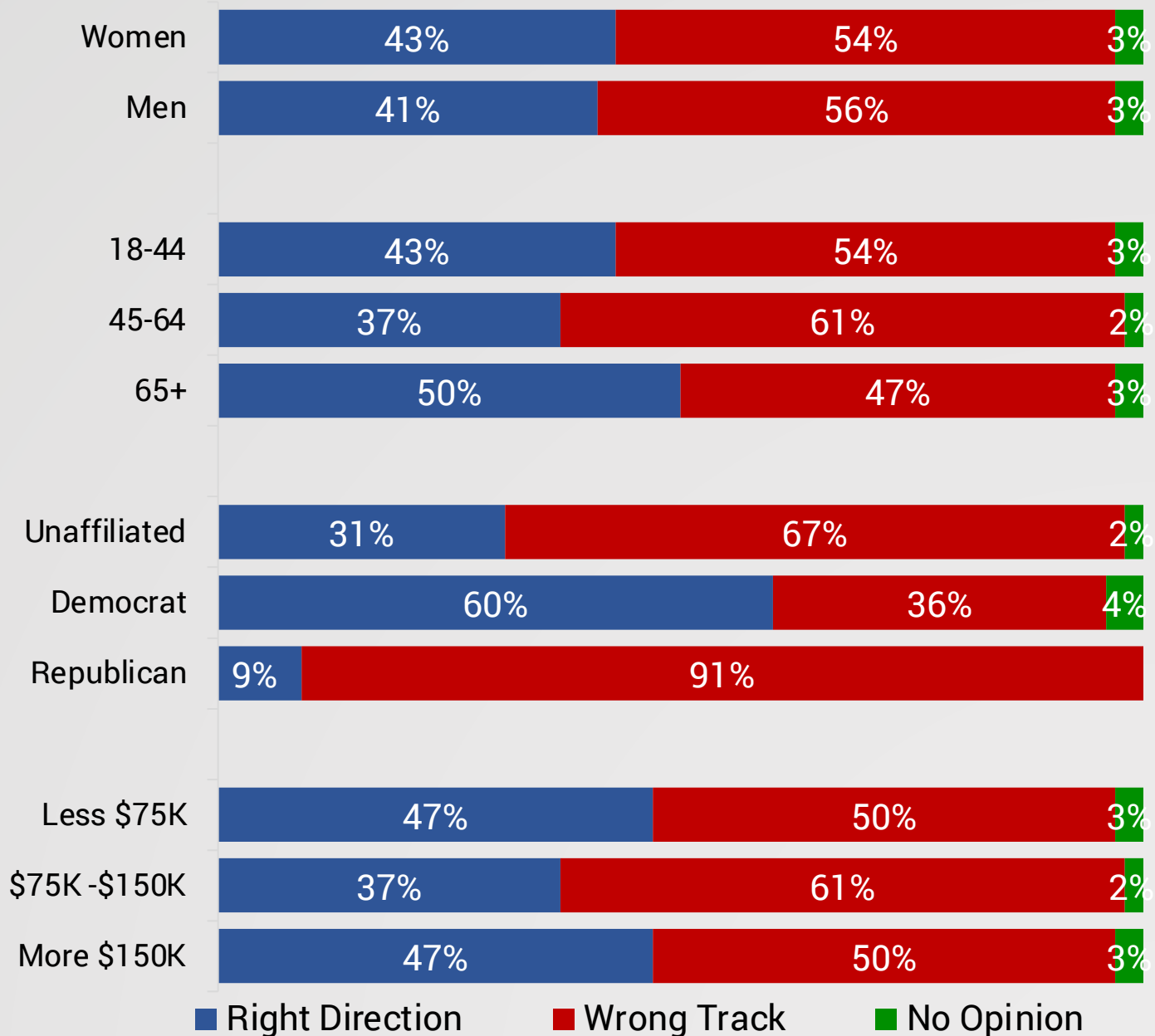
- Total Approve
- Total Disapprove
- No Opinion

Do you think things in Denver are heading in the right direction, or do you feel things are off on the wrong track?

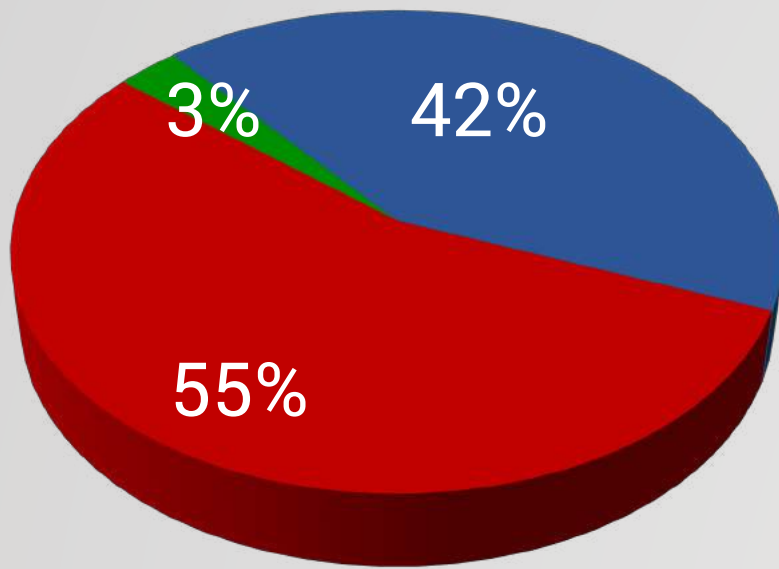


- Right Direction
- Wrong Track
- No Opinion

Definitely Right Direction	8%
Probably Right Direction	34%
Definitely Wrong Track	38%
Probably Wrong Track	17%

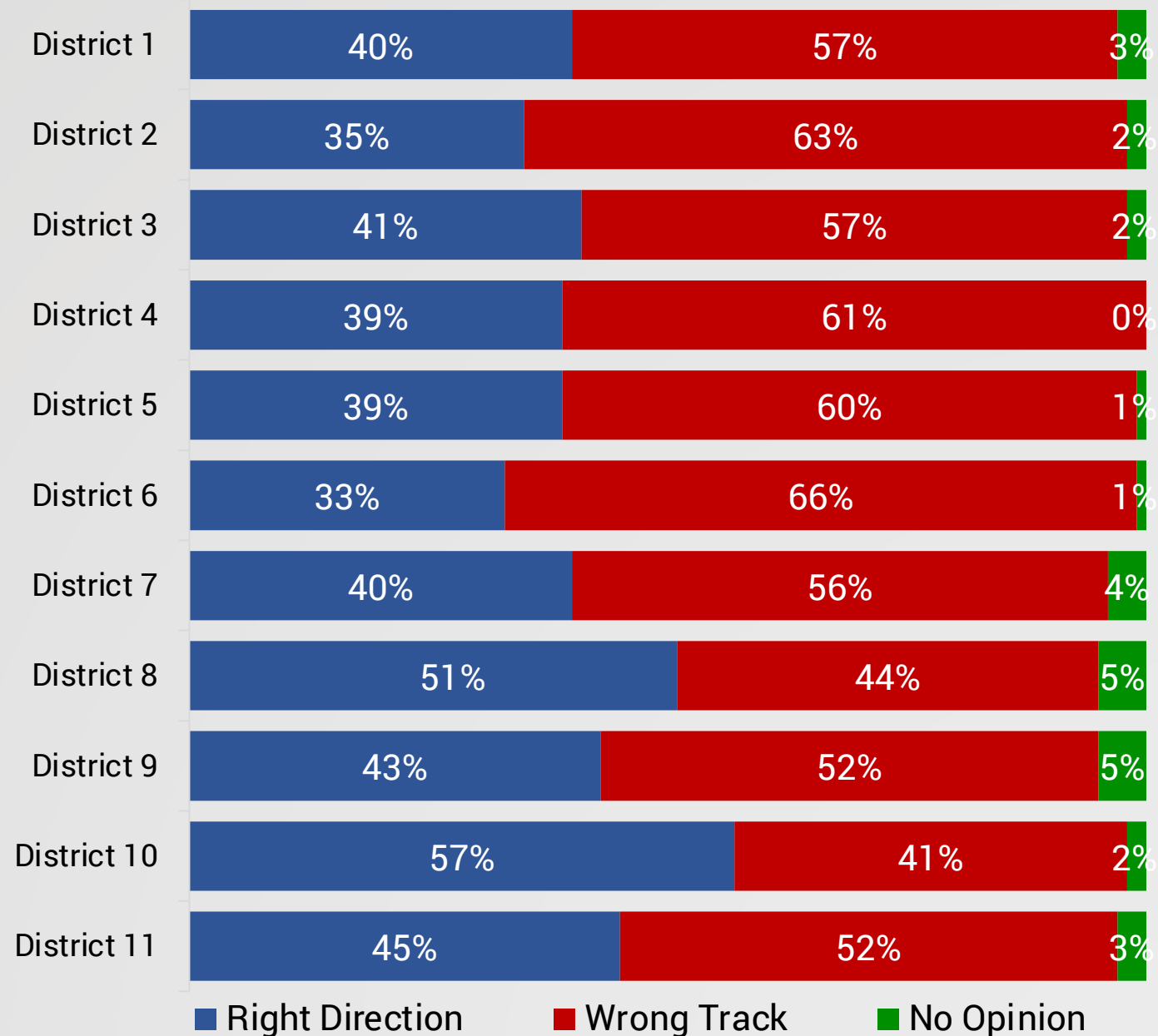


Do you think things in Denver are heading in the right direction, or do you feel things are off on the wrong track?



- Right Direction
- Wrong Track
- No Opinion

Definitely Right Direction	8%
Probably Right Direction	34%
Definitely Wrong Track	38%
Probably Wrong Track	17%



Respondent Information



As you may know, there has recently been some discussion among Denver's City Council members and the charter review committee about a possible ballot measure that would reduce the time elected officials in Denver can stay in office.

Before we continue, you should know that there have been no decisions made about whether to place this ballot measure before voters this November. However, your participation in this survey will be an important part of the decision-making process. Let's continue the survey now.

Denver Term Limit Uninformed Ballot Measure Tests



A possible ballot measure would reduce the maximum time that the mayor, city council members, clerk and recorder, and city auditor could stay in office from three four-year terms to two four-year terms.

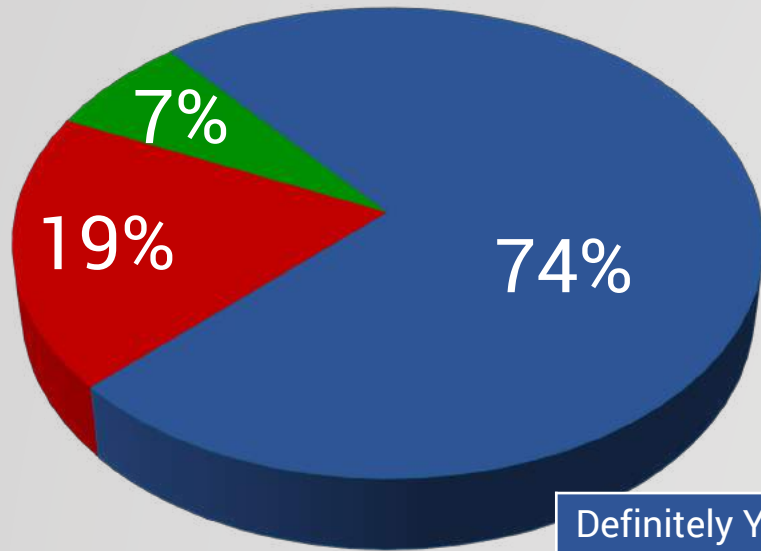
This would mean that these elected officials could serve for at most eight years. The reduced term limits would not apply to any currently serving elected officials.

If an election were being held today, would you vote yes and approve or vote no and reject a ballot measure to reduce the term limits for the following Denver elected officials from three terms to two terms?

- A. Mayor
- B. City Council
- C. City Clerk and Recorder
- D. City Auditor

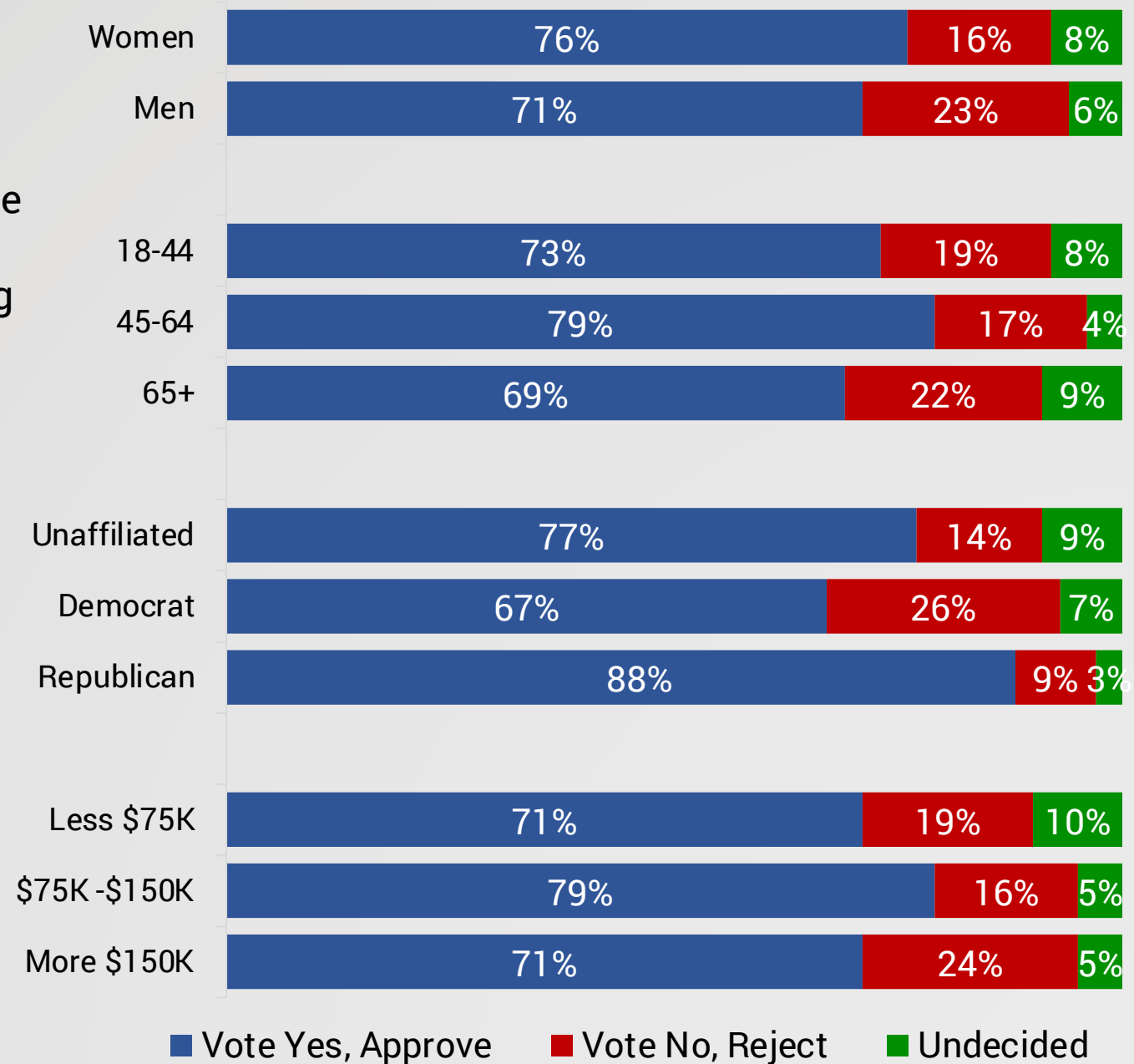
Uninformed Term Limits Ballot Test for Mayor

If an election were being held today, would you vote yes and approve or vote no and reject a ballot measure to reduce the term limits for the following Denver elected officials from three terms to two terms?



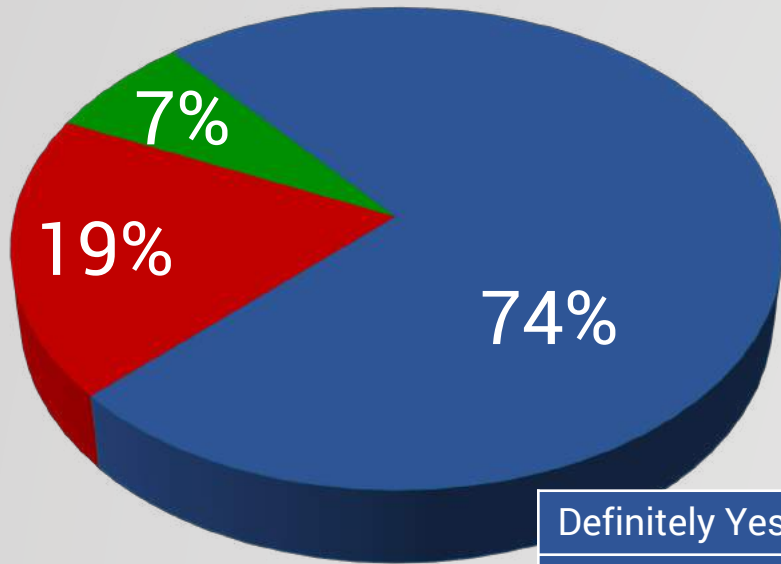
■ Vote Yes, Approve
■ Vote No, Reject
■ Undecided

Definitely Yes, Approve	55%
Probably Yes, Approve	19%
Definitely No, Reject	8%
Probably No, Reject	11%



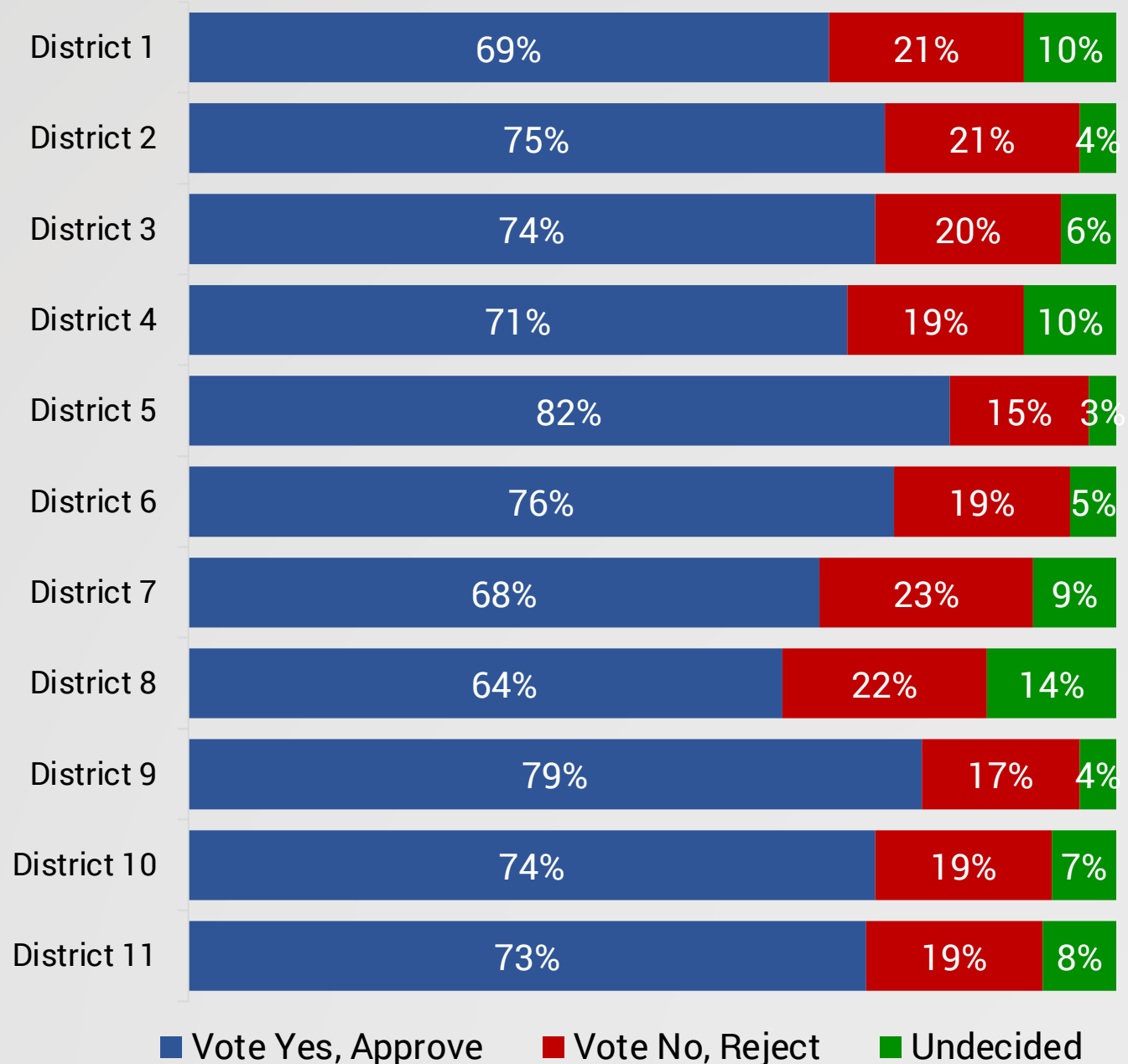
Uninformed Term Limits Ballot Test for Mayor

If an election were being held today, would you vote yes and approve or vote no and reject a ballot measure to reduce the term limits for the following Denver elected officials from three terms to two terms?



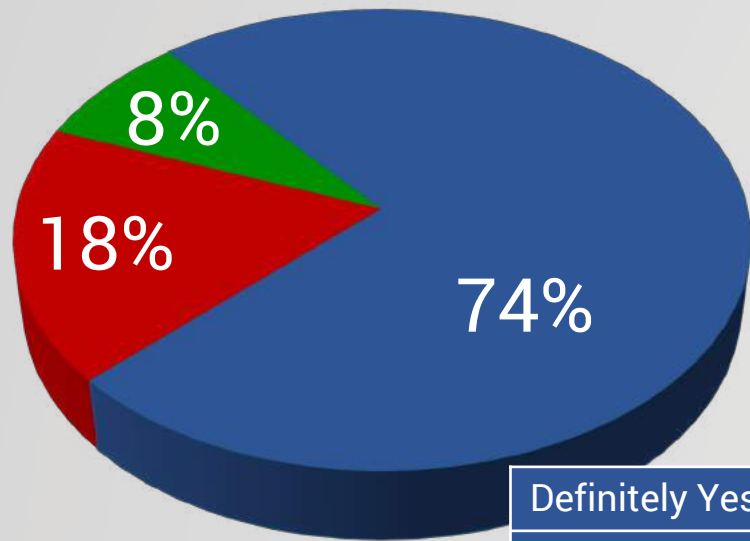
■ Vote Yes, Approve
■ Vote No, Reject
■ Undecided

Definitely Yes, Approve	55%
Probably Yes, Approve	19%
Definitely No, Reject	8%
Probably No, Reject	11%



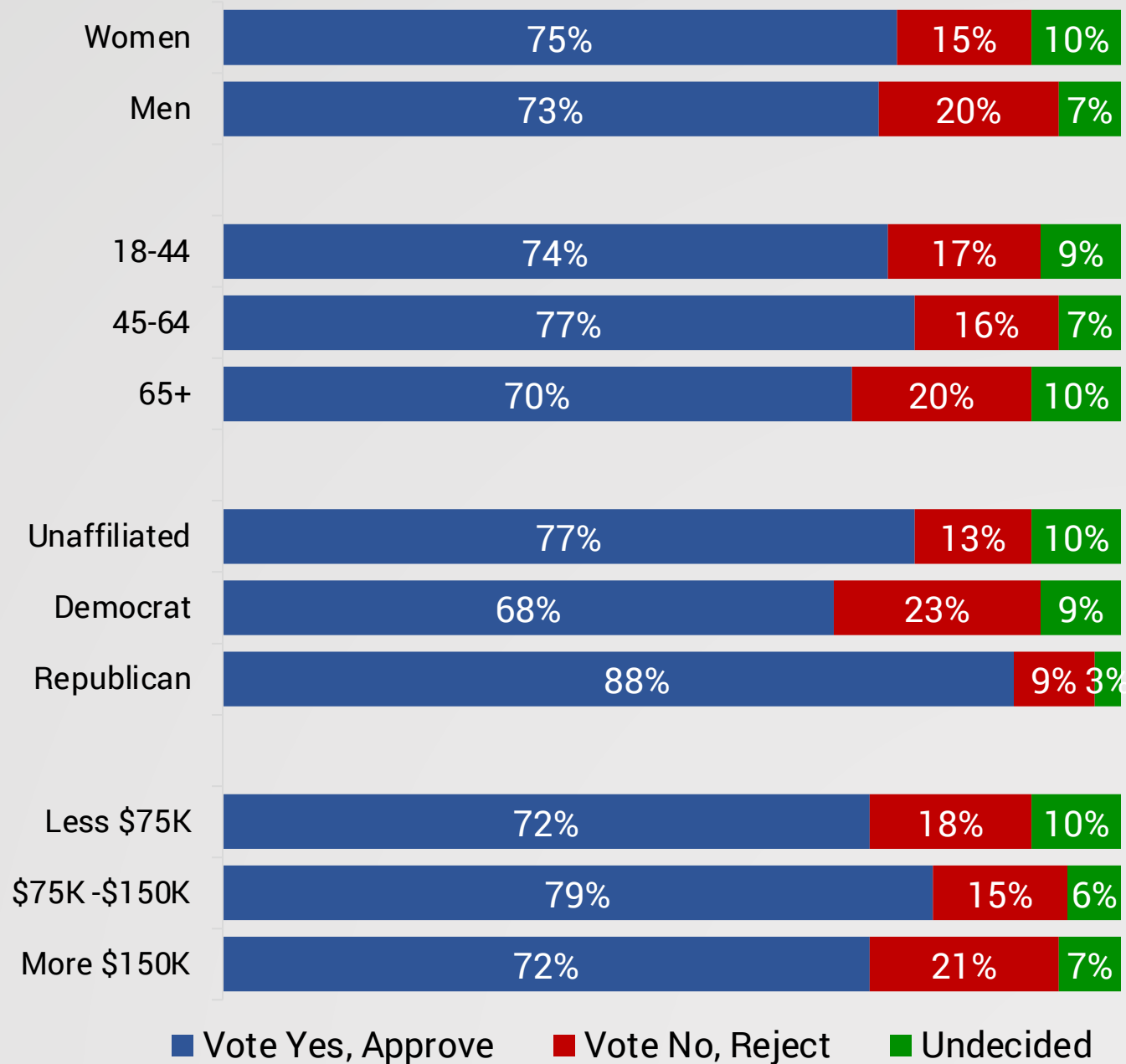
Uninformed Term Limits Ballot Test for City Council

If an election were being held today, would you vote yes and approve or vote no and reject a ballot measure to reduce the term limits for the following Denver elected officials from three terms to two terms?



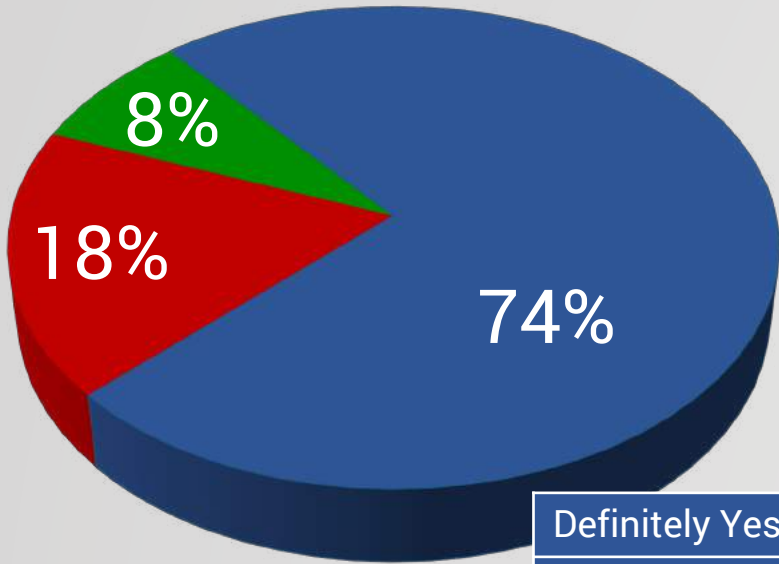
■ Vote Yes, Approve
■ Vote No, Reject
■ Undecided

Definitely Yes, Approve	55%
Probably Yes, Approve	19%
Definitely No, Reject	8%
Probably No, Reject	10%



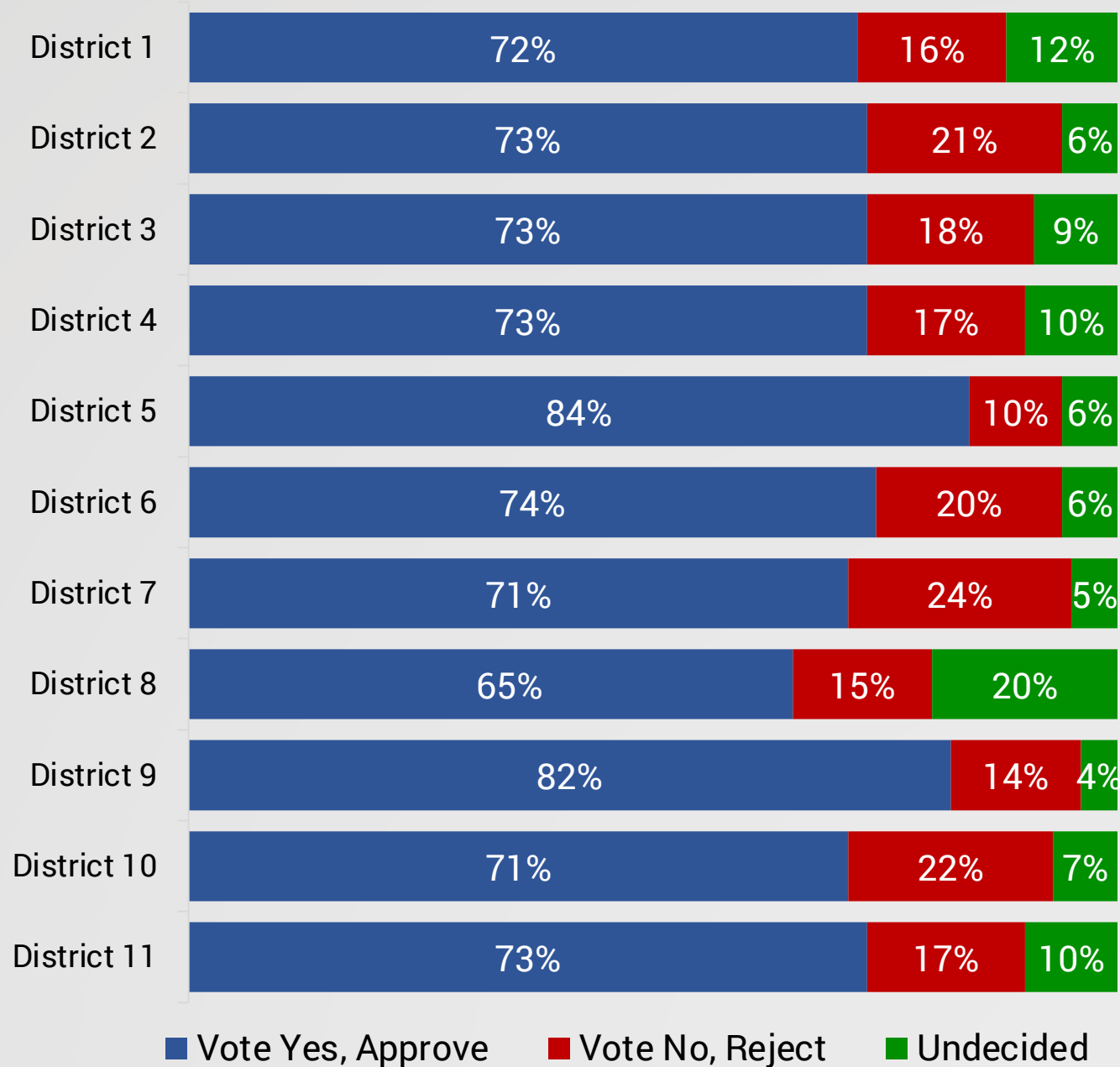
Uninformed Term Limits Ballot Test for City Council

If an election were being held today, would you vote yes and approve or vote no and reject a ballot measure to reduce the term limits for the following Denver elected officials from three terms to two terms?



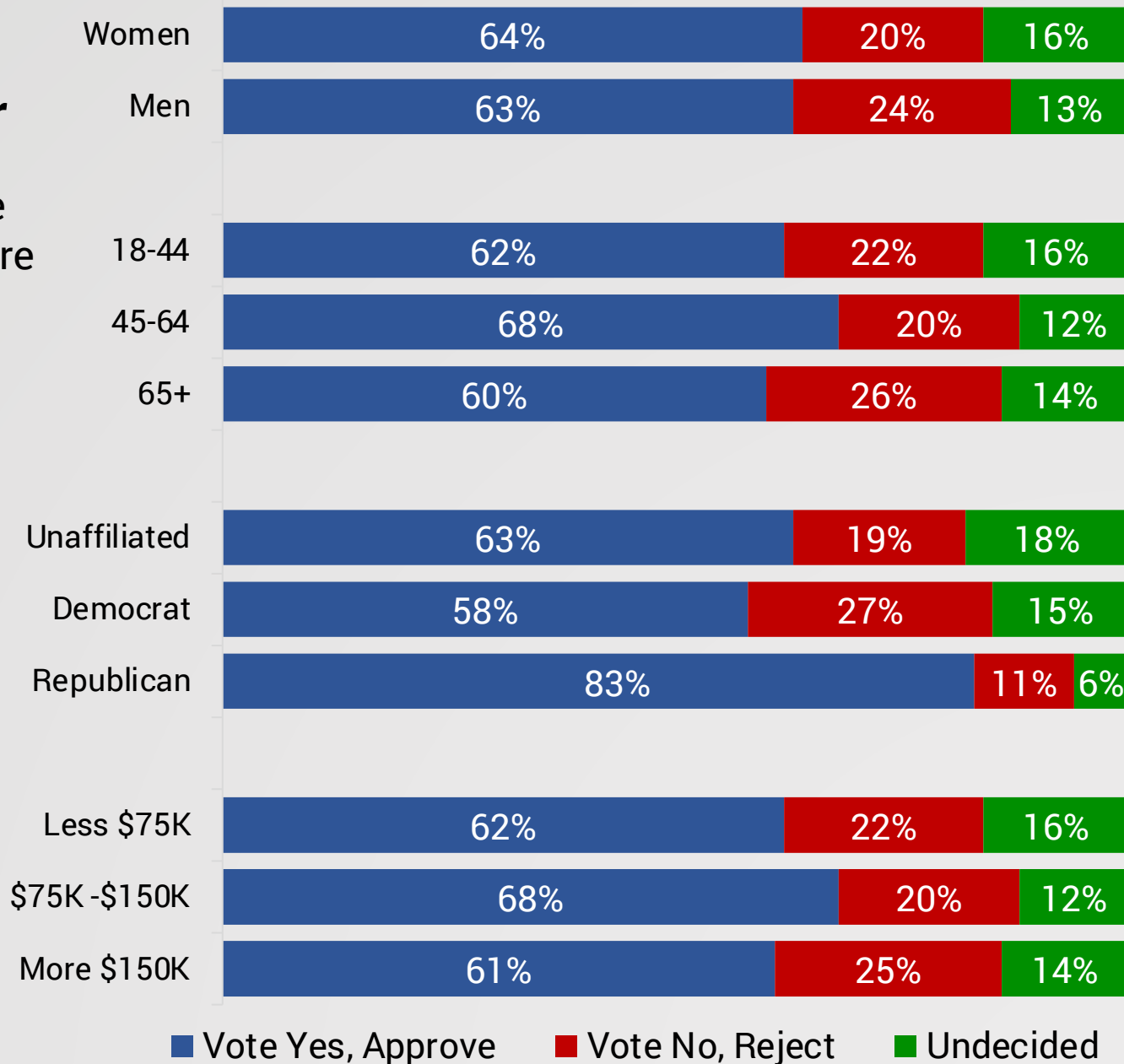
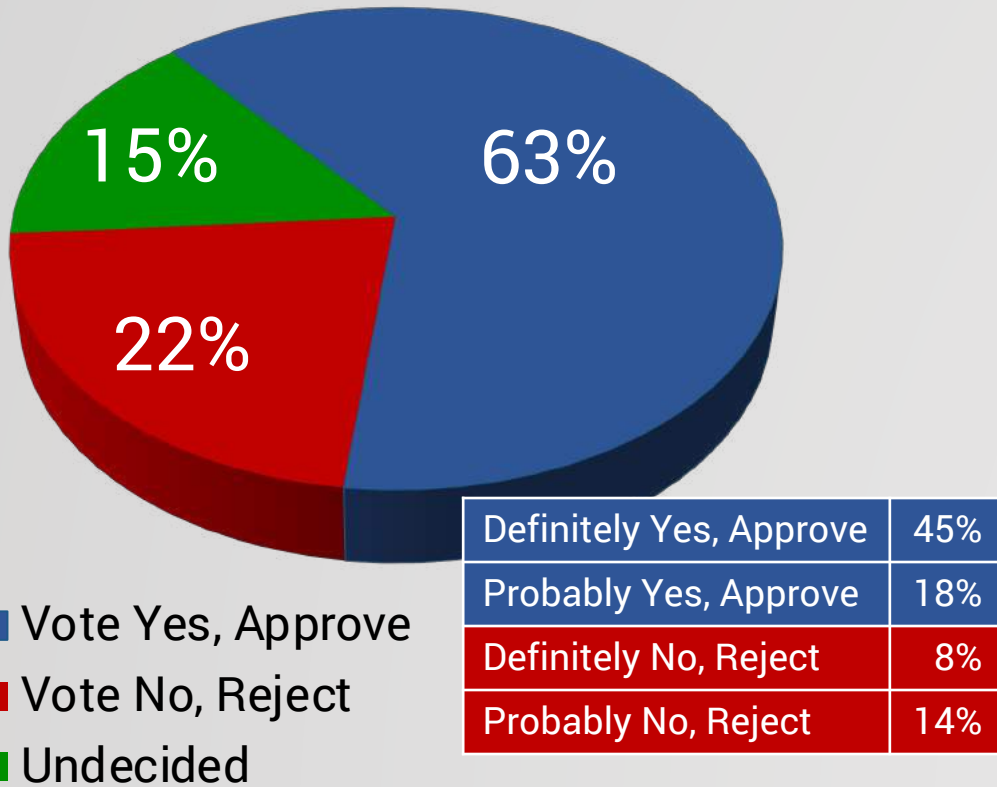
■ Vote Yes, Approve
■ Vote No, Reject
■ Undecided

Definitely Yes, Approve	55%
Probably Yes, Approve	19%
Definitely No, Reject	8%
Probably No, Reject	10%



Uninformed Term Limits Ballot Test for City Clerk and Recorder

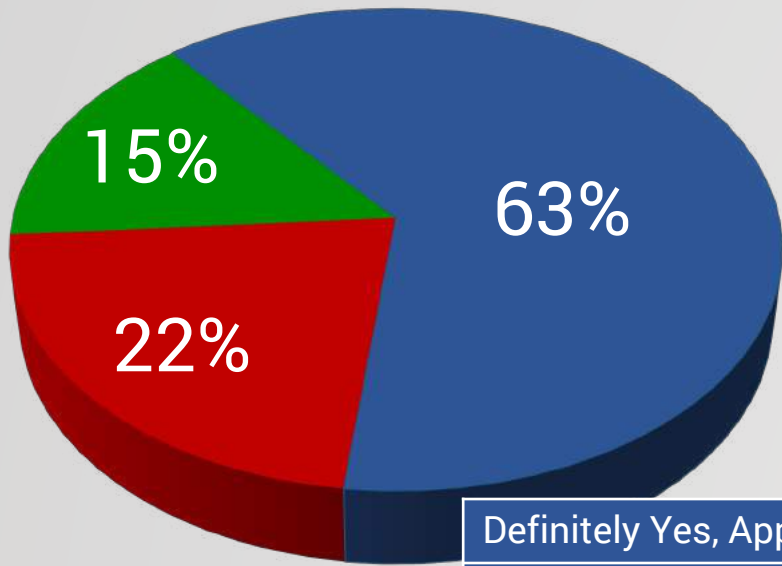
If an election were being held today, would you vote yes and approve or vote no and reject a ballot measure to reduce the term limits for the following Denver elected officials from three terms to two terms?



Uninformed Term Limits

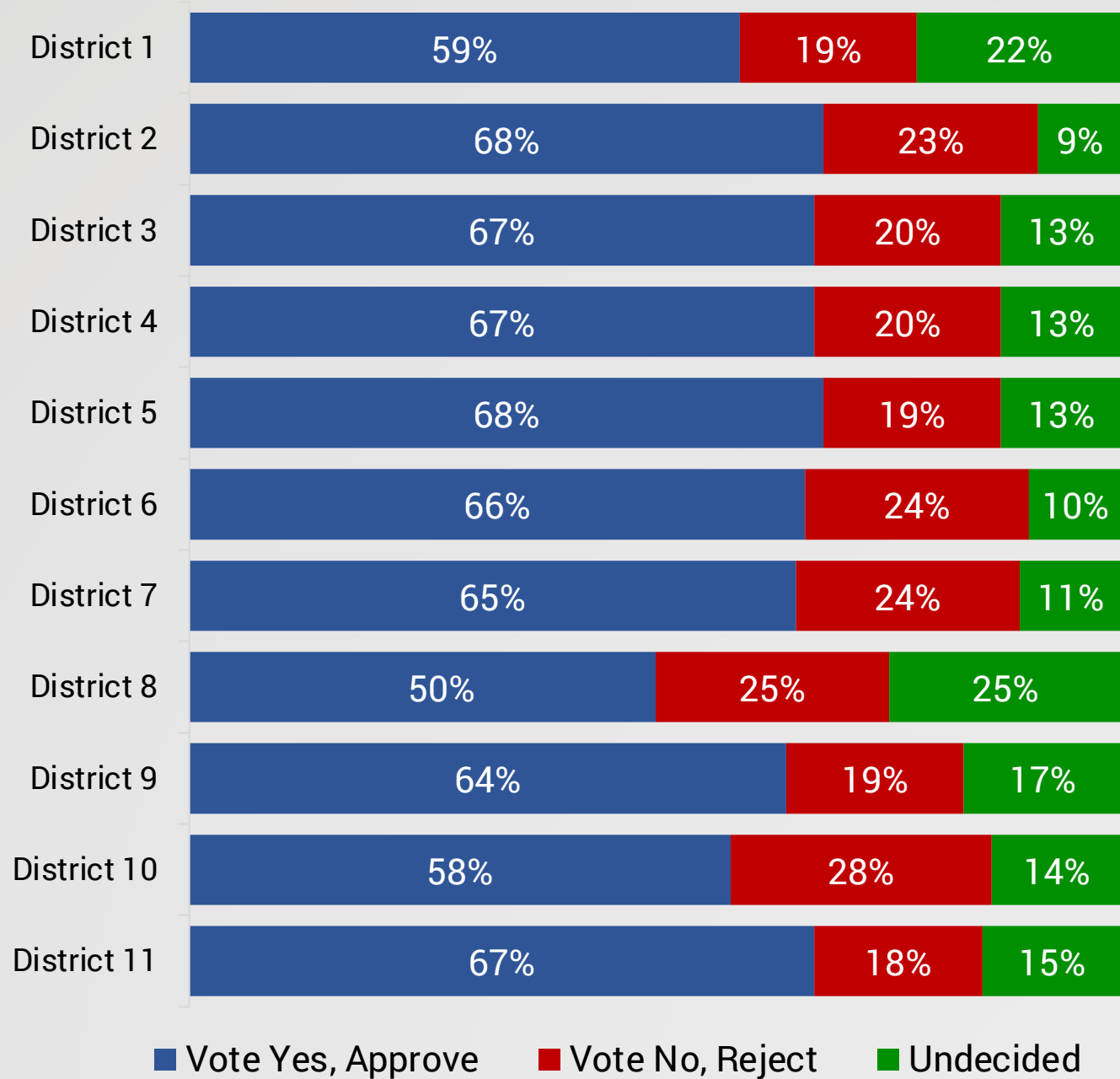
Ballot Test for City Clerk and Recorder

If an election were being held today, would you vote yes and approve or vote no and reject a ballot measure to reduce the term limits for the following Denver elected officials from three terms to two terms?



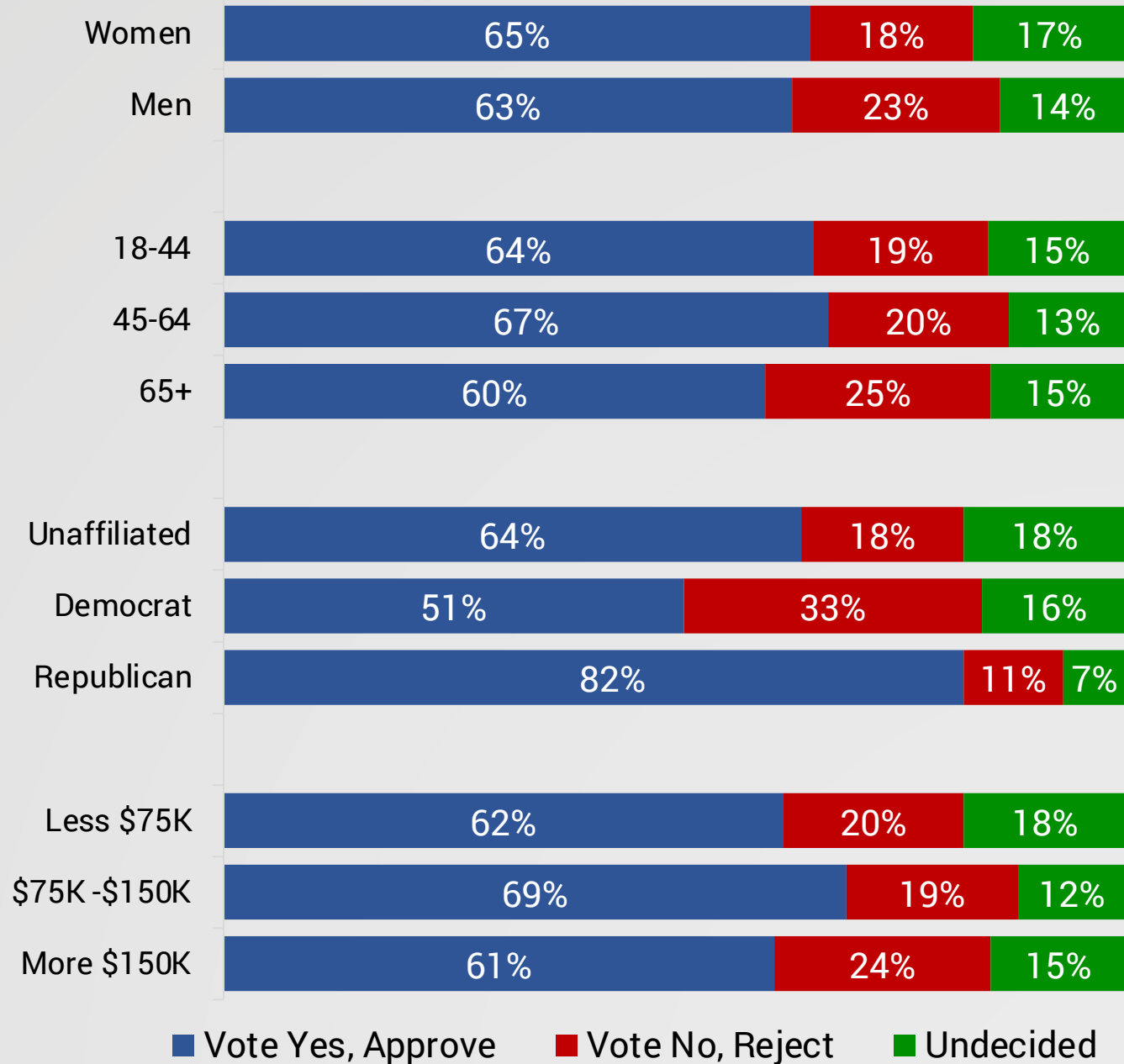
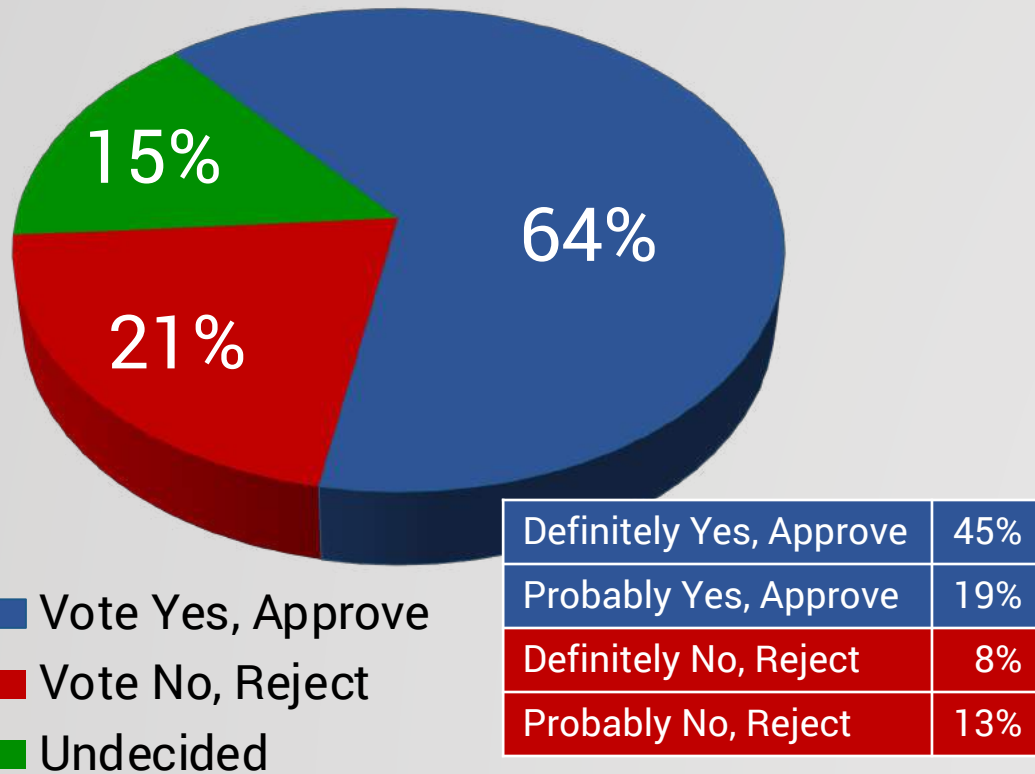
■ Vote Yes, Approve
 ■ Vote No, Reject
 ■ Undecided

Definitely Yes, Approve	45%
Probably Yes, Approve	18%
Definitely No, Reject	8%
Probably No, Reject	14%



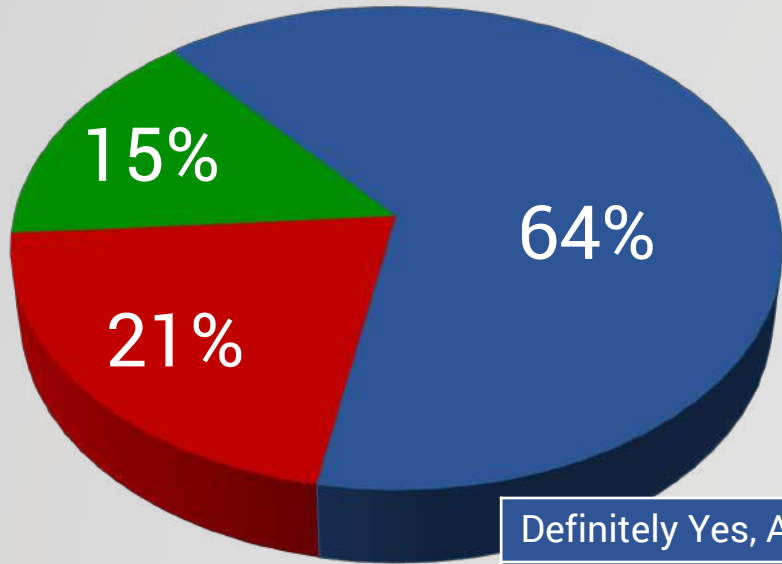
Uninformed Term Limits Ballot Test for City Auditor

If an election were being held today, would you vote yes and approve or vote no and reject a ballot measure to reduce the term limits for the following Denver elected officials from three terms to two terms?



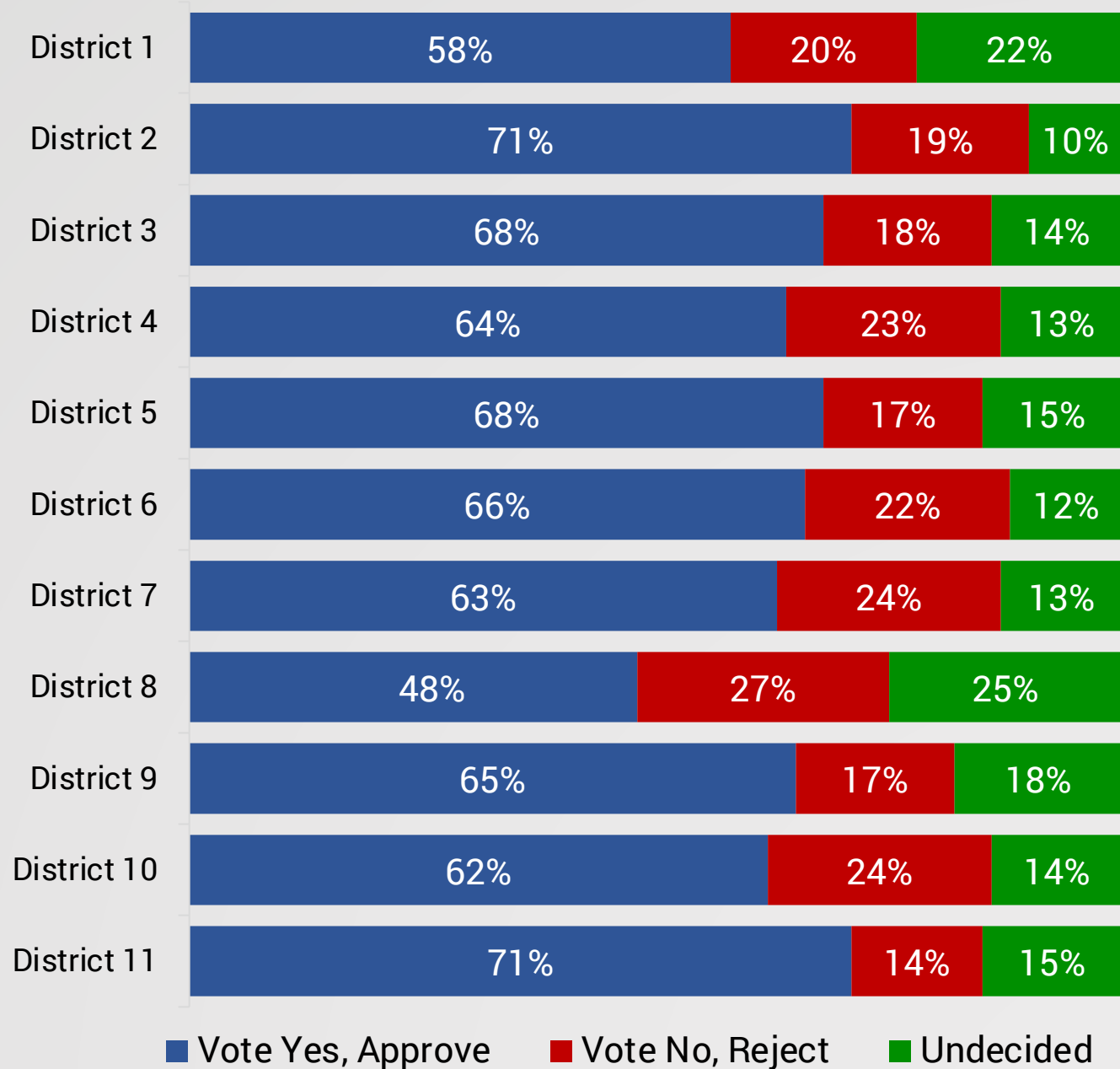
Uninformed Term Limits Ballot Test for City Auditor

If an election were being held today, would you vote yes and approve or vote no and reject a ballot measure to reduce the term limits for the following Denver elected officials from three terms to two terms?



■ Vote Yes, Approve
■ Vote No, Reject
■ Undecided

Definitely Yes, Approve	45%
Probably Yes, Approve	19%
Definitely No, Reject	8%
Probably No, Reject	13%



Ballot Measure Information Questions



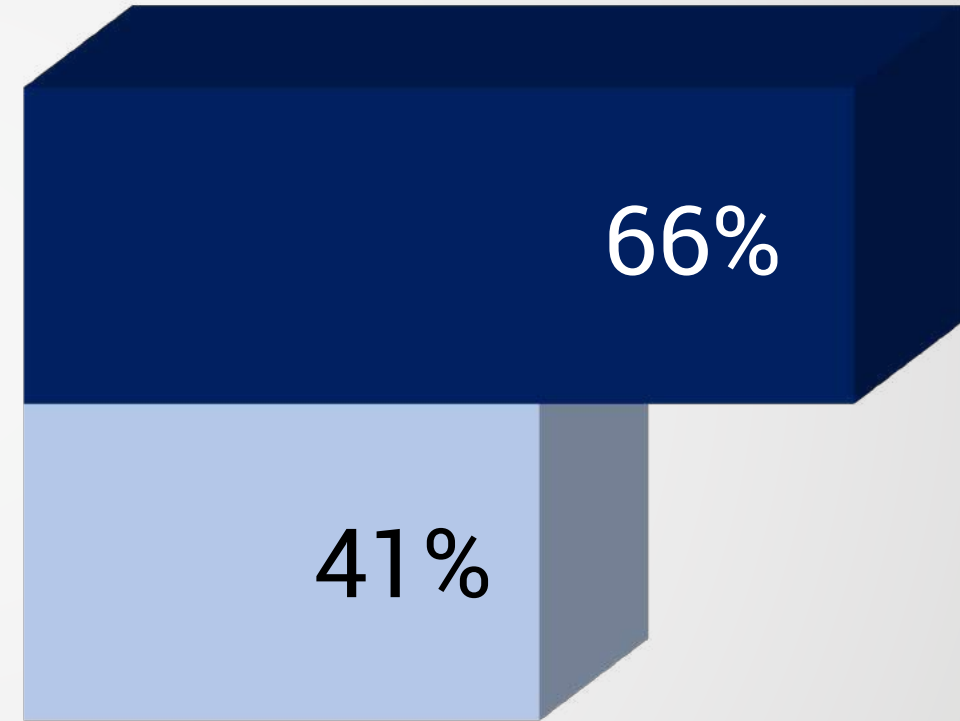
We will now share some information from supporters and opponents of shorter-term limits for elected officials, the history of term limits in Denver, and more about why this ballot measure is being discussed.

After reading the information, please indicate if you are more likely to vote yes and approve the ballot measure or if you are more likely to vote no and reject it. Let's get started:

City and County of Denver Term Limits Information Questions

Ranked by Total More Likely to Approve

Some supporters of a two-term limit for elected officials argue that incumbents have a significant advantage when running for re-election and limiting them to two terms helps to make sure that new elected officials bring fresh ideas to city government.

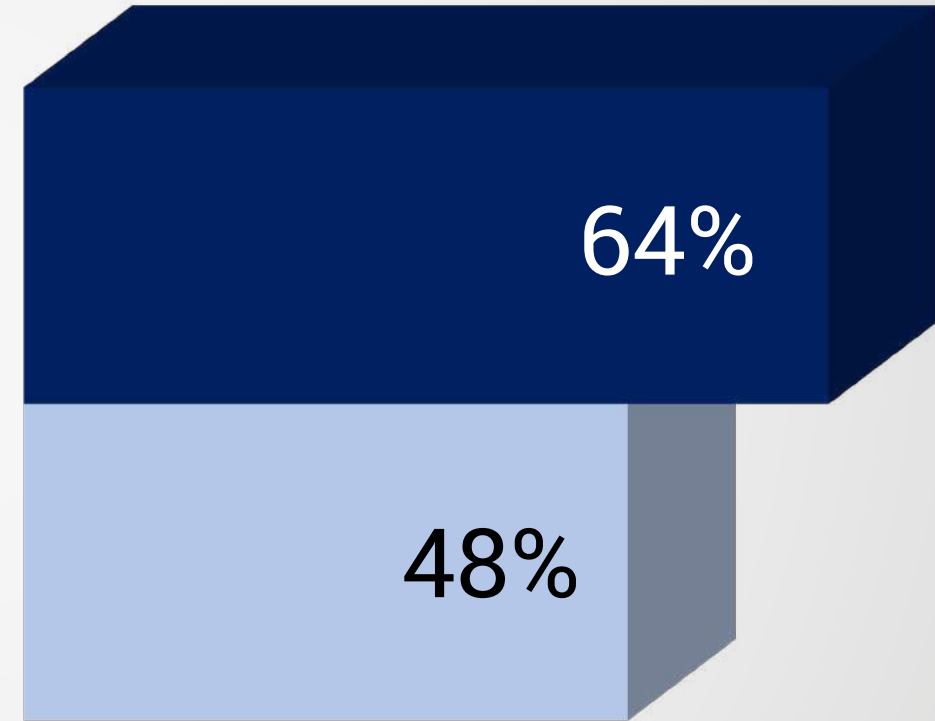


- Total More Likely to Approve
- Much More Likely to Approve

City and County of Denver Term Limits Information Questions

Ranked by Total More Likely to Approve

In 1994, Colorado voters approved an amendment to the state constitution that limited local elected officials to two terms in office. In 2000, Denver voters approved a measure to allow the city's elected officials to serve for three terms or 12 years. This ballot measure would change the limit back to two terms.

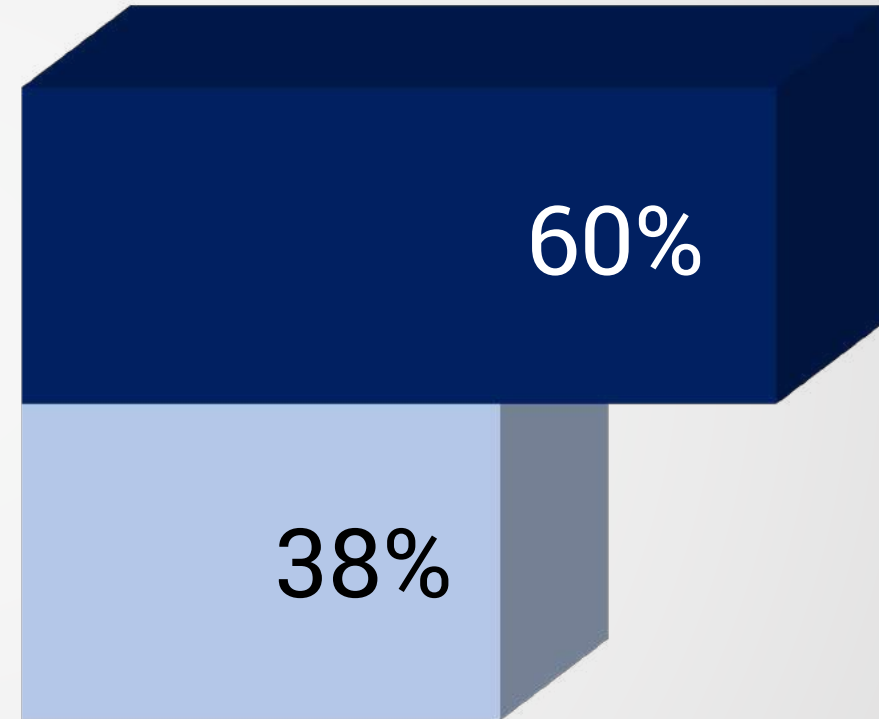


- Total More Likely to Approve
- Much More Likely to Approve

City and County of Denver Term Limits Information Questions

Ranked by Total More Likely to Approve

Some supporters of a two-term limit for elected officials argue that with growing demands on city officials, there is a concern that elected officials may suffer from burnout after serving more than two terms.

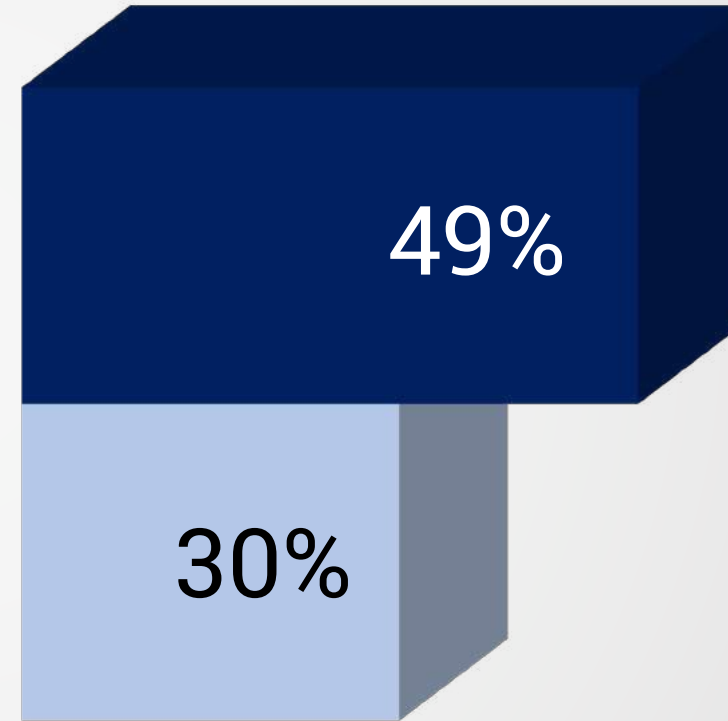


- Total More Likely to Approve
- Much More Likely to Approve

City and County of Denver Term Limits Information Questions

Ranked by Total More Likely to Approve

Some opponents of a two-term limit for elected officials argue that if voters elect someone who they are very happy with and who they feel represents them well, that person should be able to serve for 12 years instead of 8 years.

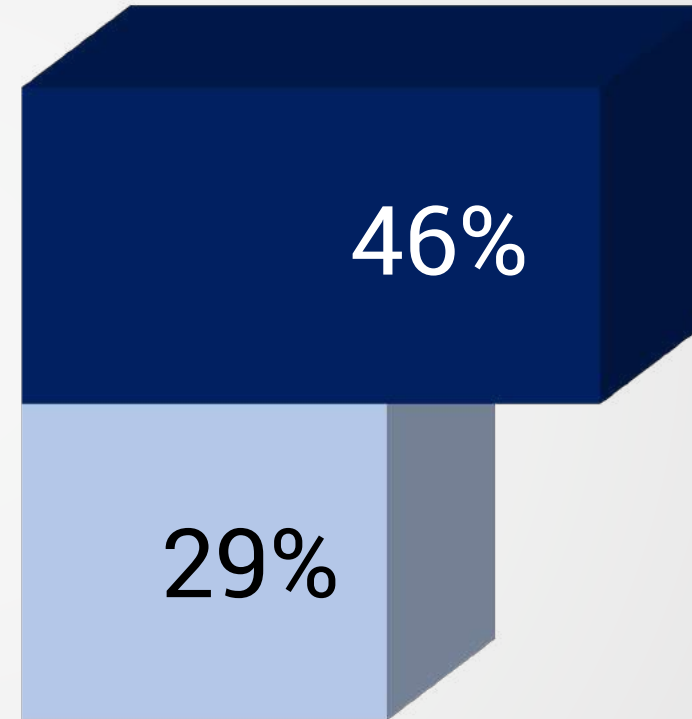


- Total More Likely to Approve
- Much More Likely to Approve

City and County of Denver Term Limits Information Questions

Ranked by Total More Likely to Approve

Some opponents of a two-term limit for elected officials argue that three terms provide the right balance of experience and fresh ideas, and that the city would miss out on the important knowledge held by officials who serve longer than 8 years.

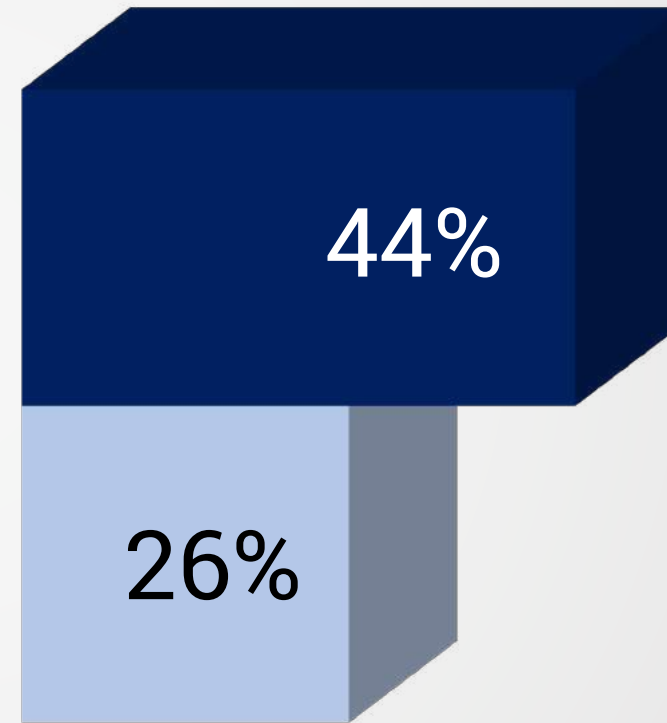


- Total More Likely to Approve
- Much More Likely to Approve

City and County of Denver Term Limits Information Questions

Ranked by Total More Likely to Approve

Some opponents of a two-term limit for elected officials argue that shorter term limits give lobbyists more power because they have greater knowledge of how the city works than newer elected officials.



- Total More Likely to Approve
- Much More Likely to Approve

Denver Term Limit Uninformed Ballot Measure Tests



Thank you again for reading through the information about the ballot measure...

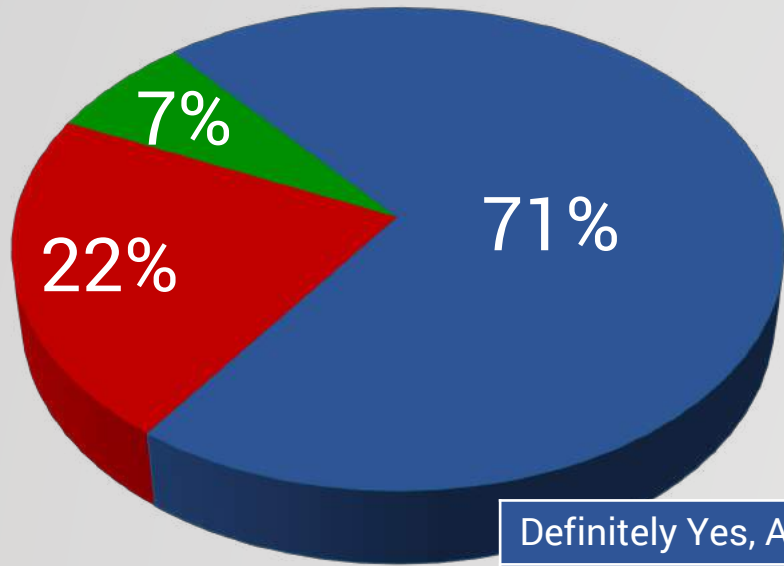
As mentioned before, a possible ballot measure would reduce the maximum time that the mayor, city council members, clerk and recorder, and city auditor could stay in office from three four-year terms to two four-year terms. This would mean that these elected officials could serve for at most eight years. The reduced term limits would not apply to any currently serving elected officials.

If an election were being held today, would you vote yes and approve or vote no and reject a ballot measure to reduce the term limits for the following Denver elected officials from three terms to two terms?

- A. Mayor
- B. City Council
- C. City Clerk and Recorder
- D. City Auditor

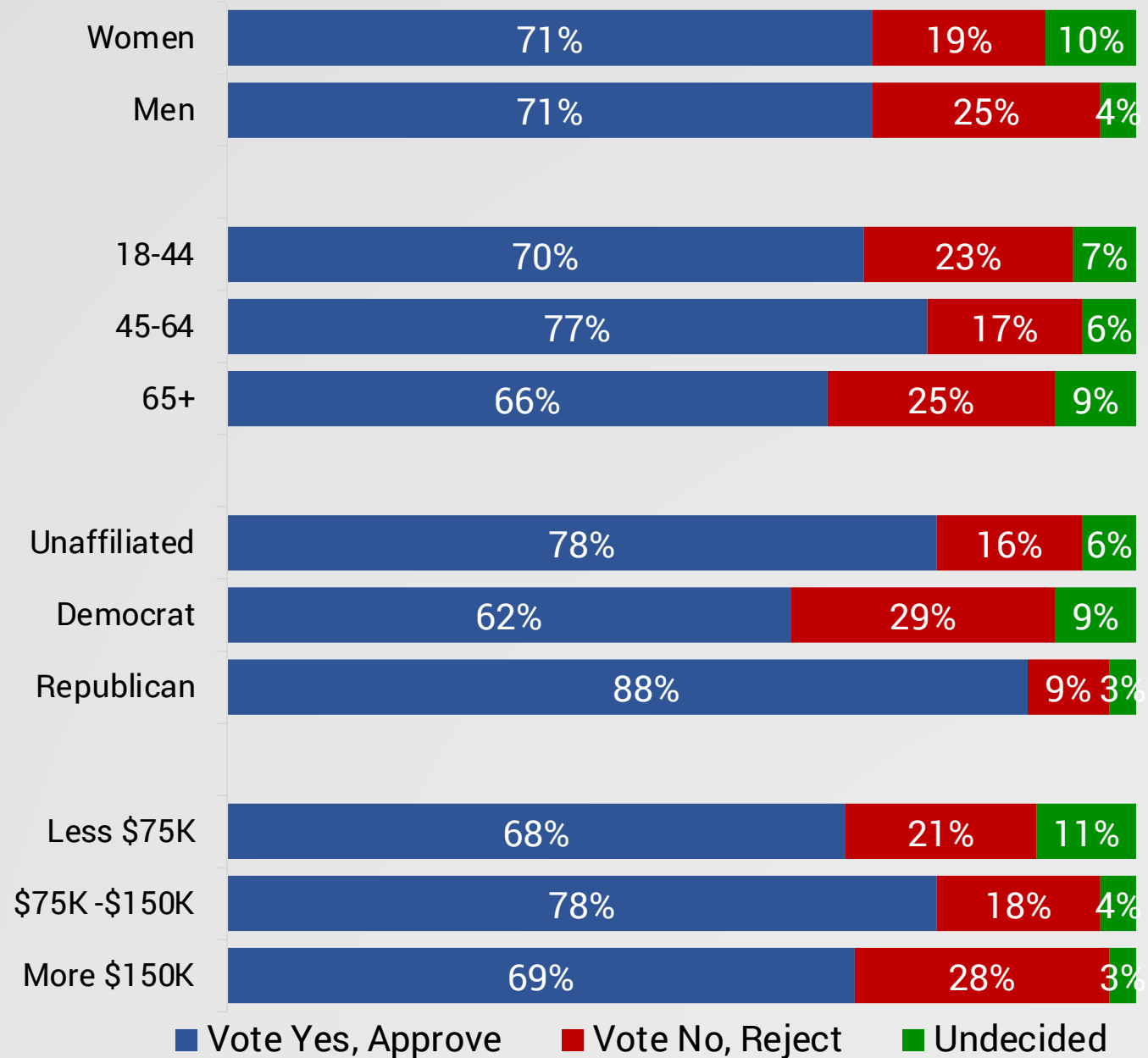
Informed Term Limits Ballot Test for Mayor

If an election were being held today, would you vote yes and approve or vote no and reject a ballot measure to reduce the term limits for the following Denver elected officials from three terms to two terms?



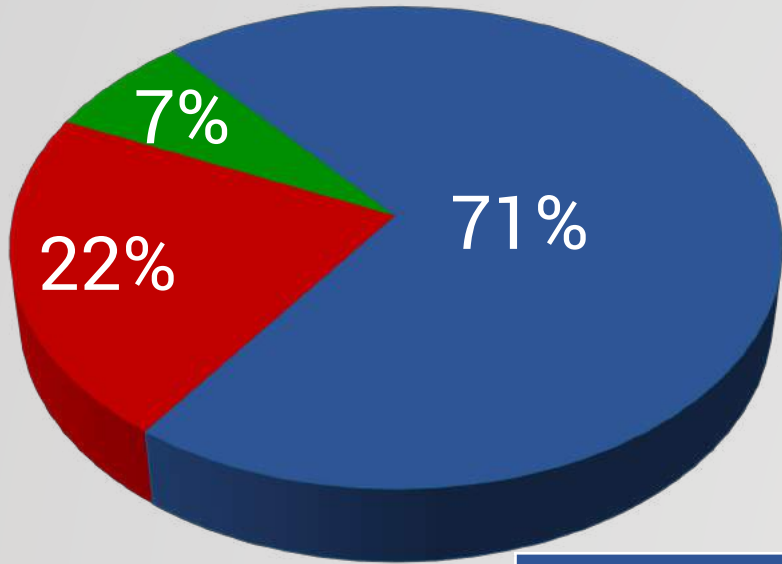
■ Vote Yes, Approve
■ Vote No, Reject
■ Undecided

Definitely Yes, Approve	52%
Probably Yes, Approve	19%
Definitely No, Reject	10%
Probably No, Reject	12%



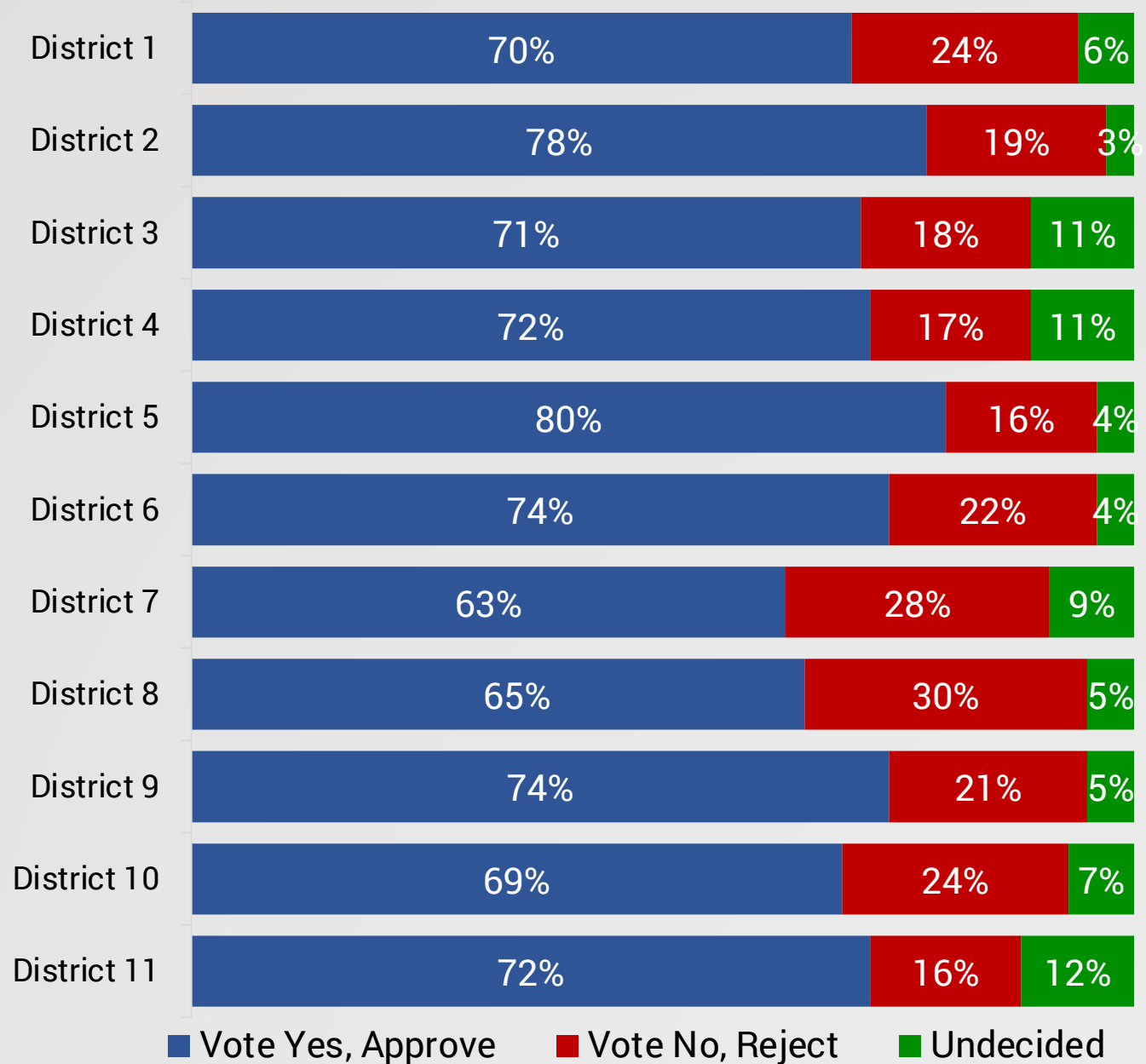
Informed Term Limits Ballot Test for Mayor

If an election were being held today, would you vote yes and approve or vote no and reject a ballot measure to reduce the term limits for the following Denver elected officials from three terms to two terms?



- Vote Yes, Approve
- Vote No, Reject
- Undecided

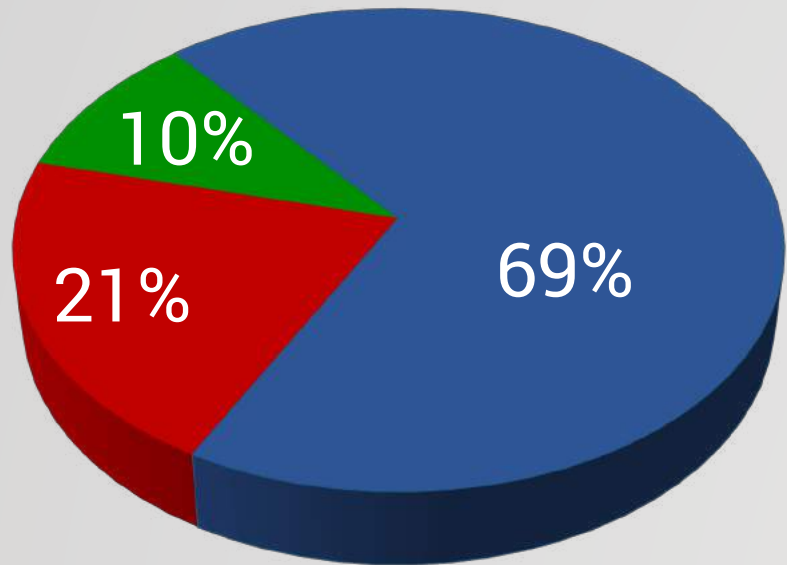
Definitely Yes, Approve	52%
Probably Yes, Approve	19%
Definitely No, Reject	10%
Probably No, Reject	12%



- Vote Yes, Approve
- Vote No, Reject
- Undecided

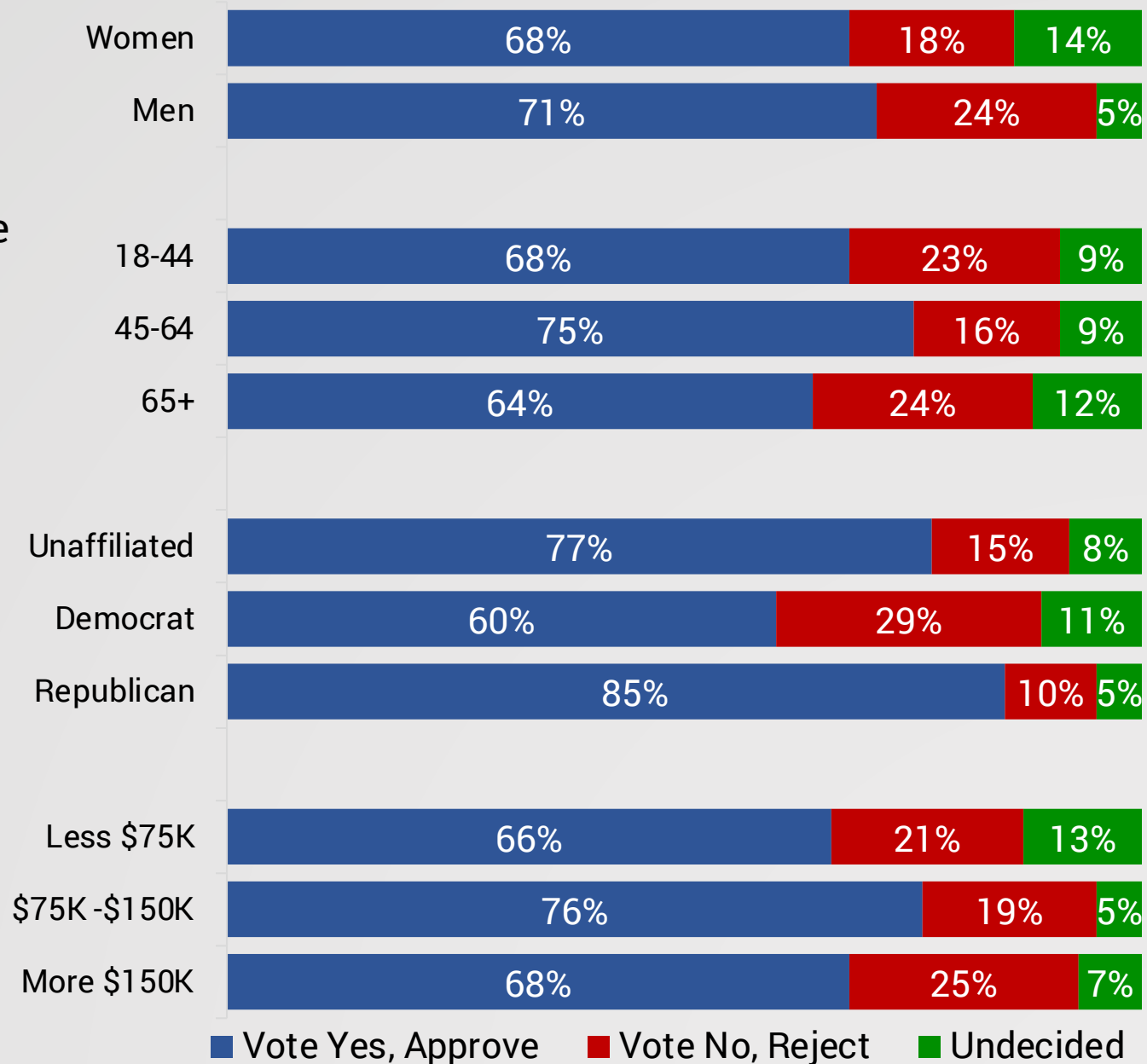
Informed Term Limits Ballot Test for City Council

If an election were being held today, would you vote yes and approve or vote no and reject a ballot measure to reduce the term limits for the following Denver elected officials from three terms to two terms?



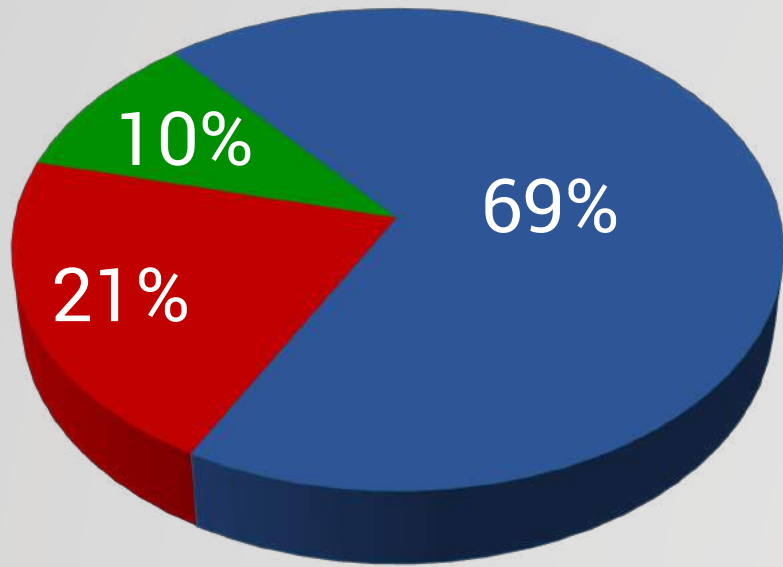
■ Vote Yes, Approve
■ Vote No, Reject
■ Undecided

Definitely Yes, Approve	50%
Probably Yes, Approve	19%
Definitely No, Reject	9%
Probably No, Reject	12%



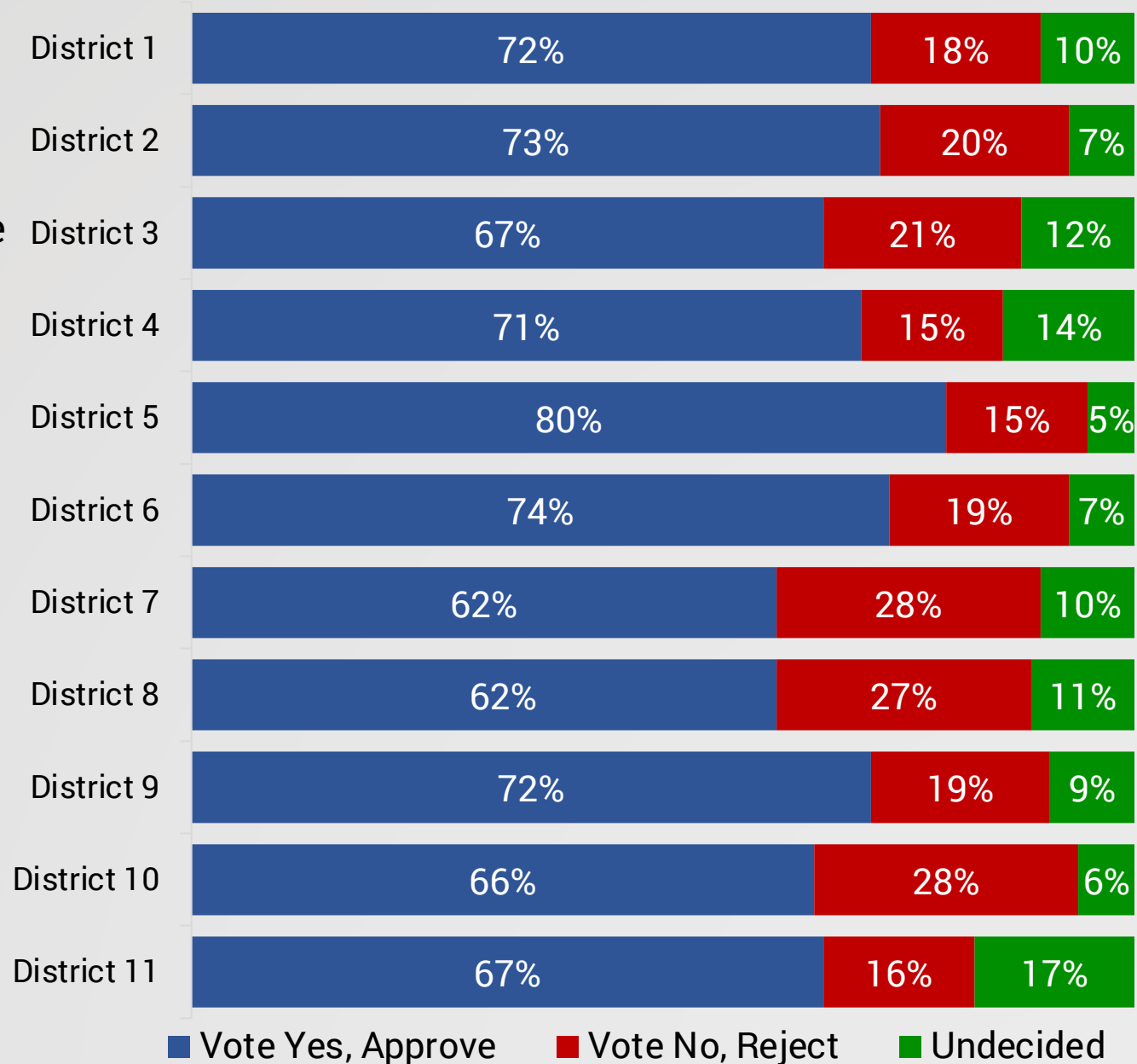
Informed Term Limits Ballot Test for City Council

If an election were being held today, would you vote yes and approve or vote no and reject a ballot measure to reduce the term limits for the following Denver elected officials from three terms to two terms?



■ Vote Yes, Approve
■ Vote No, Reject
■ Undecided

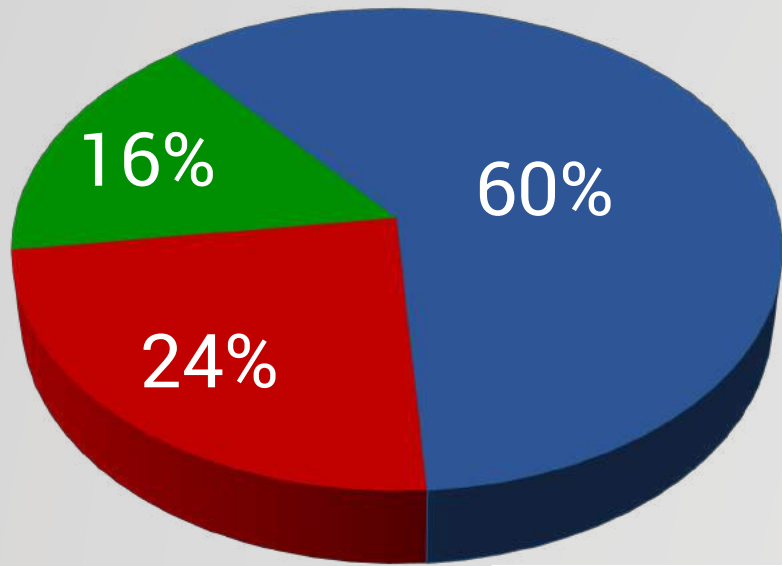
Definitely Yes, Approve	50%
Probably Yes, Approve	19%
Definitely No, Reject	9%
Probably No, Reject	12%



Informed Term Limits

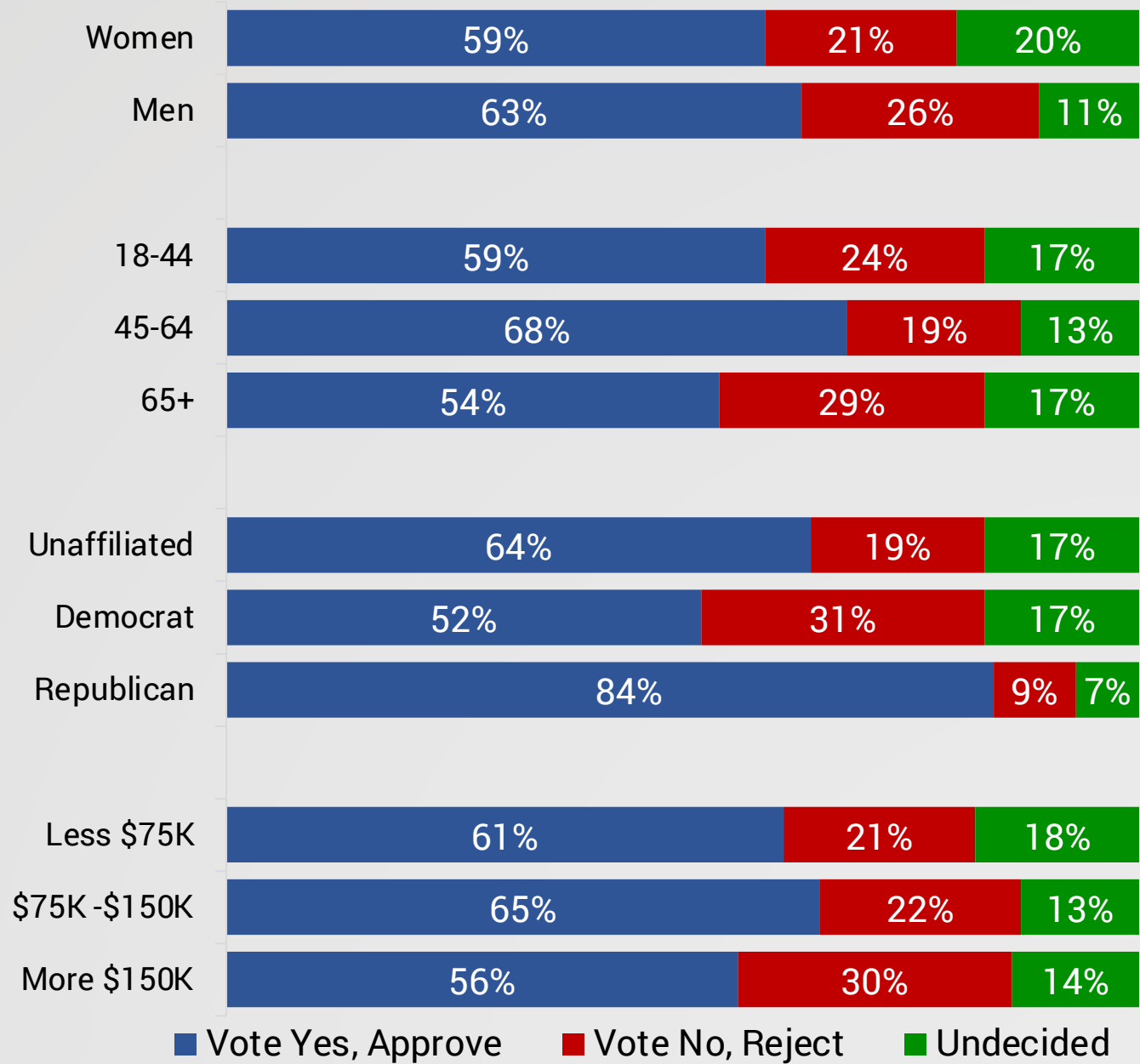
Ballot Test for Clerk and Recorder

If an election were being held today, would you vote yes and approve or vote no and reject a ballot measure to reduce the term limits for the following Denver elected officials from three terms to two terms?



■ Vote Yes, Approve
■ Vote No, Reject
■ Undecided

Definitely Yes, Approve	42%
Probably Yes, Approve	18%
Definitely No, Reject	10%
Probably No, Reject	14%

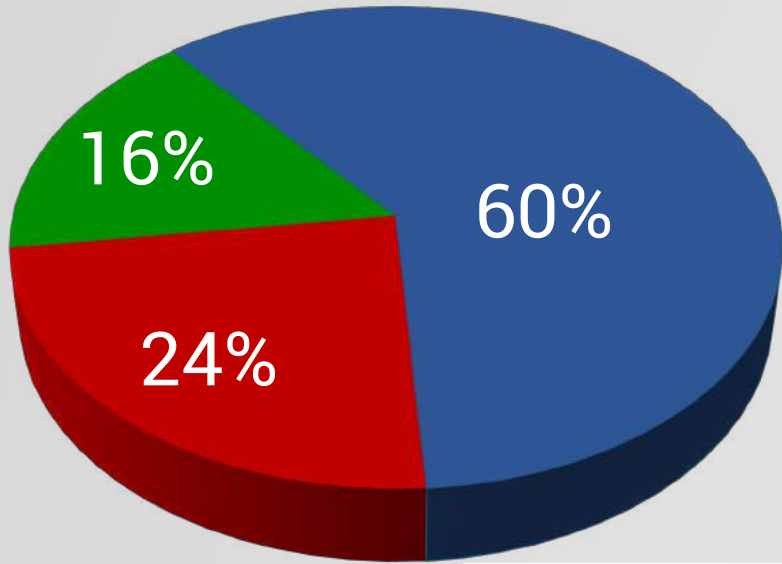


■ Vote Yes, Approve
 ■ Vote No, Reject
 ■ Undecided

Informed Term Limits

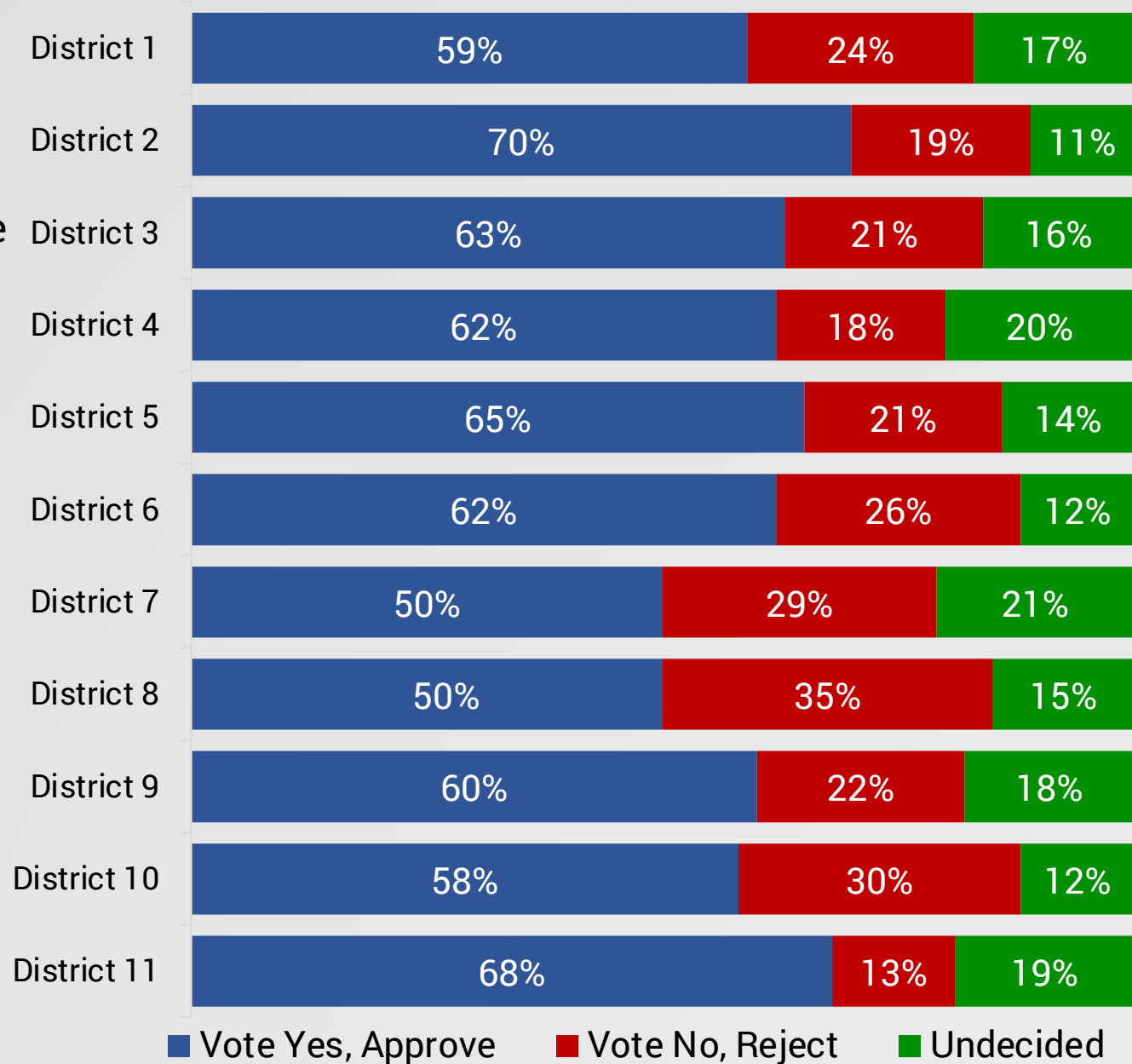
Ballot Test for Clerk and Recorder

If an election were being held today, would you vote yes and approve or vote no and reject a ballot measure to reduce the term limits for the following Denver elected officials from three terms to two terms?



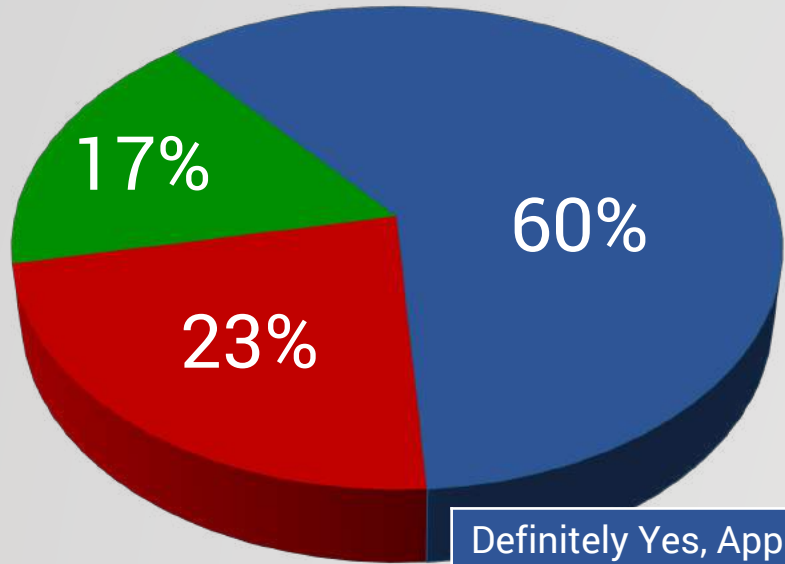
■ Vote Yes, Approve
■ Vote No, Reject
■ Undecided

Definitely Yes, Approve	42%
Probably Yes, Approve	18%
Definitely No, Reject	10%
Probably No, Reject	14%



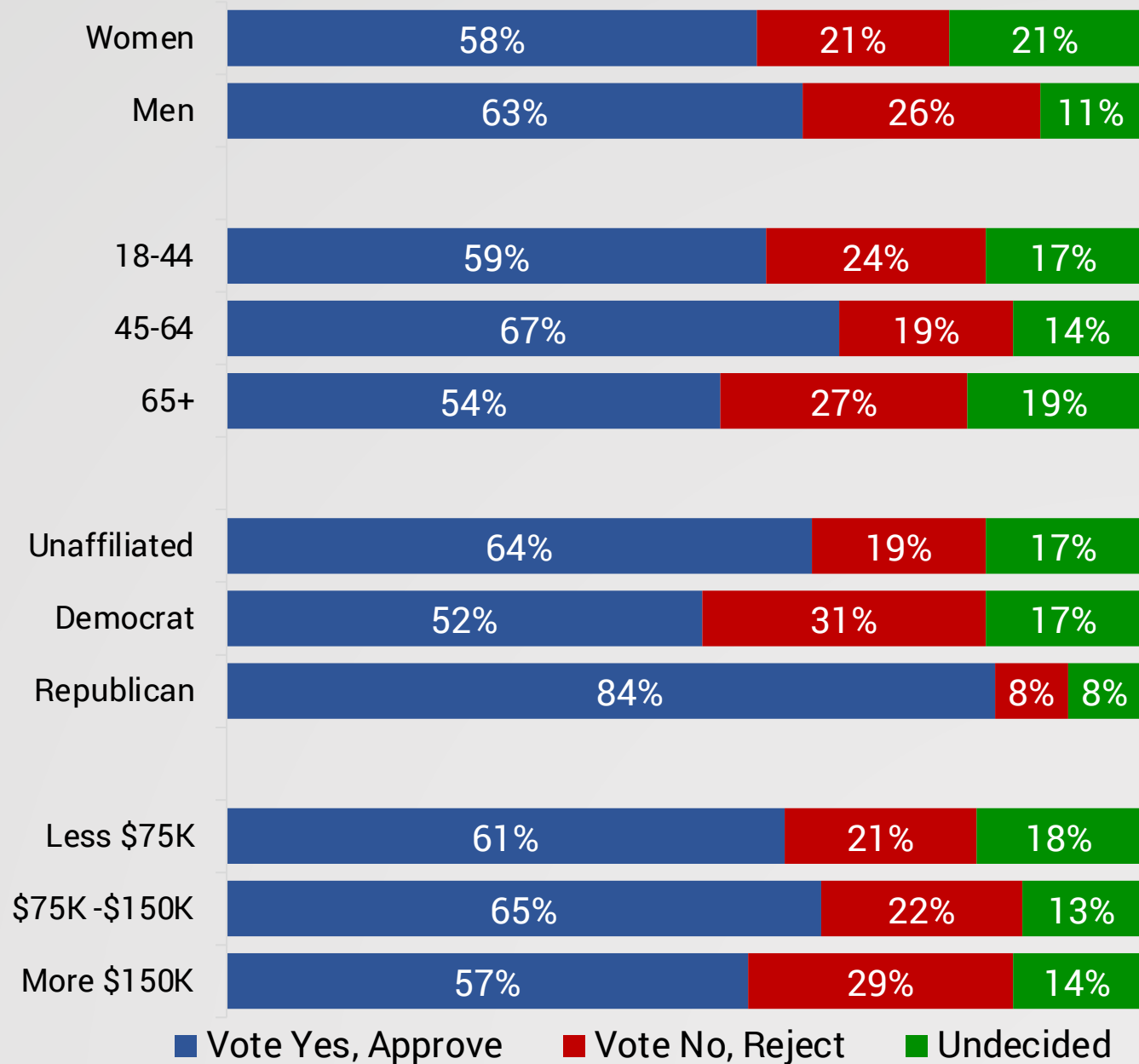
Informed Term Limits Ballot Test for City Auditor

If an election were being held today, would you vote yes and approve or vote no and reject a ballot measure to reduce the term limits for the following Denver elected officials from three terms to two terms?



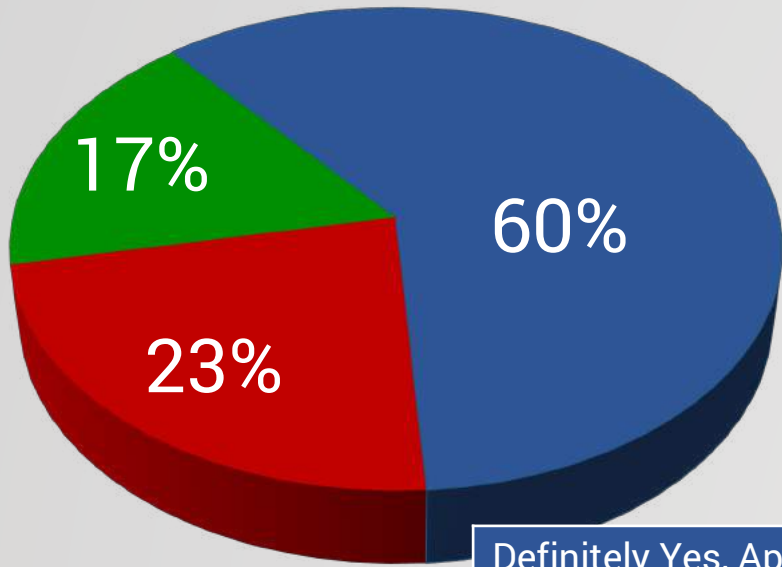
■ Vote Yes, Approve
■ Vote No, Reject
■ Undecided

Definitely Yes, Approve	42%
Probably Yes, Approve	18%
Definitely No, Reject	10%
Probably No, Reject	13%



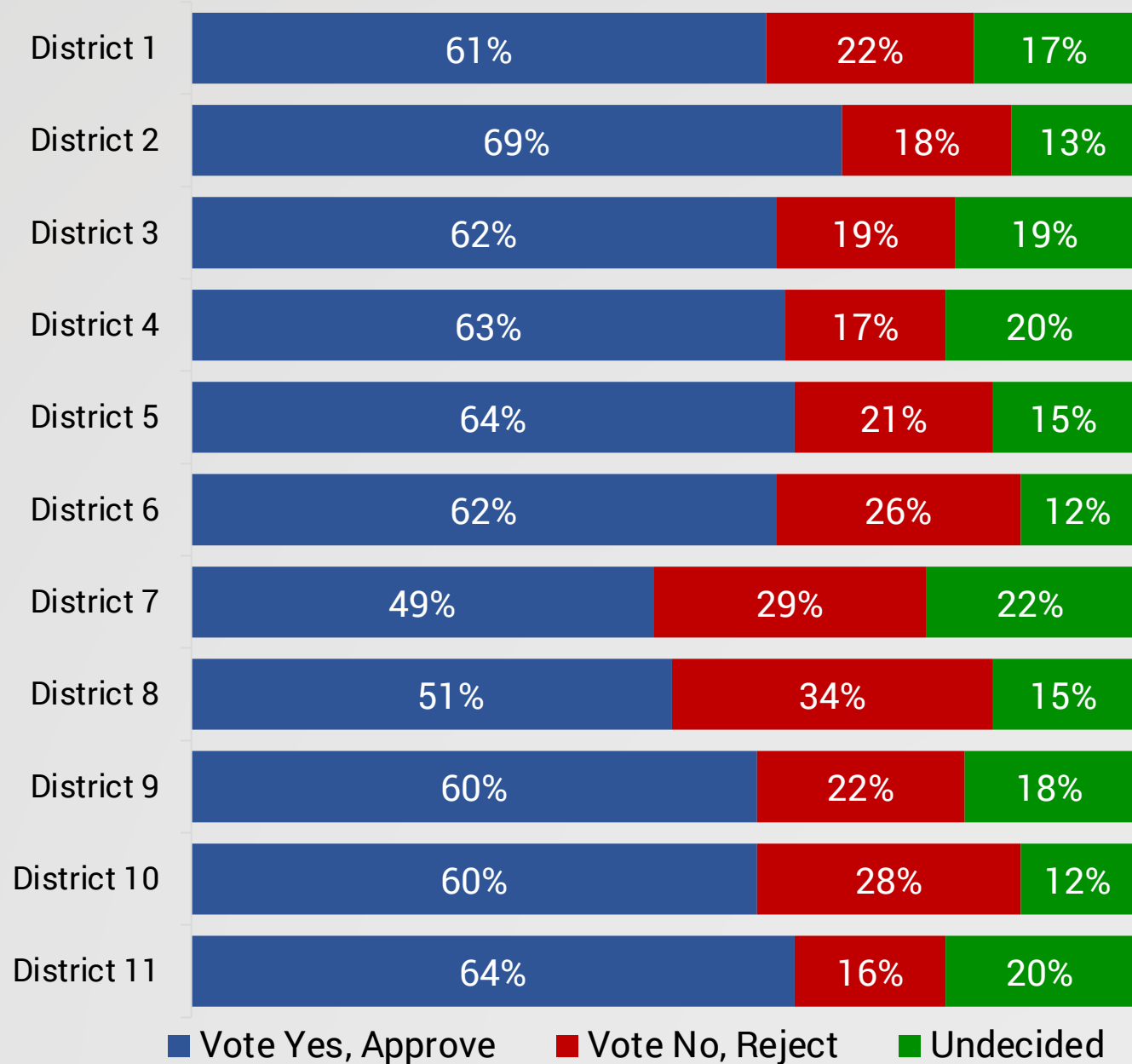
Informed Term Limits Ballot Test for City Auditor

If an election were being held today, would you vote yes and approve or vote no and reject a ballot measure to reduce the term limits for the following Denver elected officials from three terms to two terms?



■ Vote Yes, Approve
■ Vote No, Reject
■ Undecided

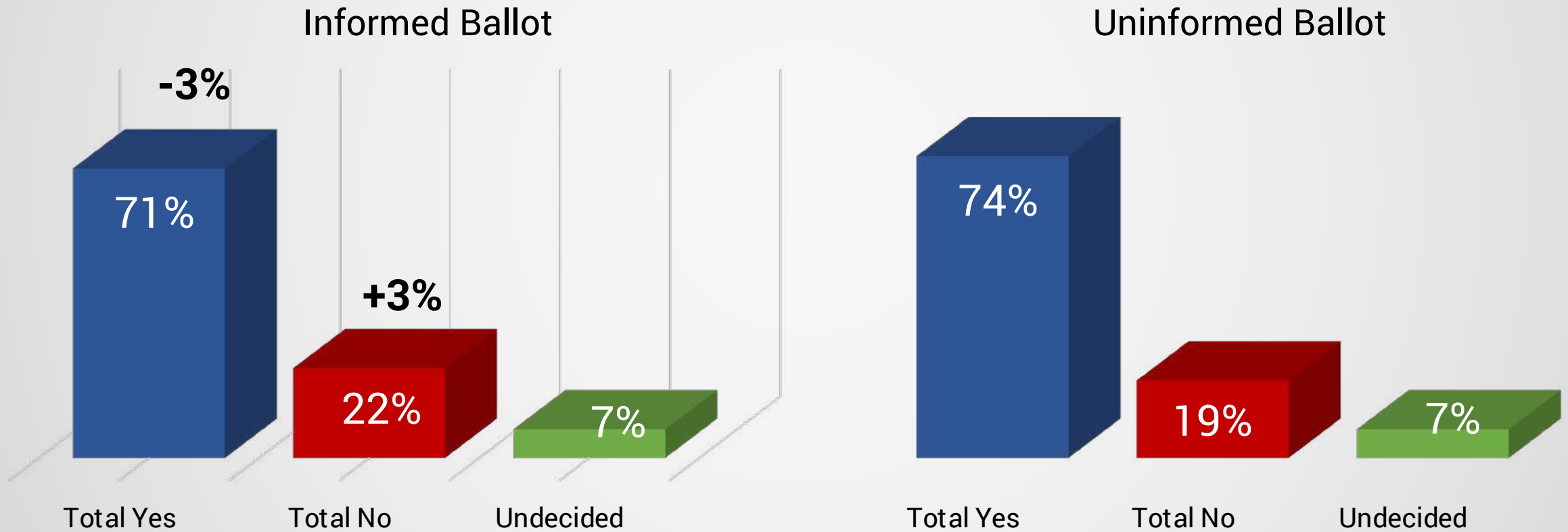
Definitely Yes, Approve	42%
Probably Yes, Approve	18%
Definitely No, Reject	10%
Probably No, Reject	13%



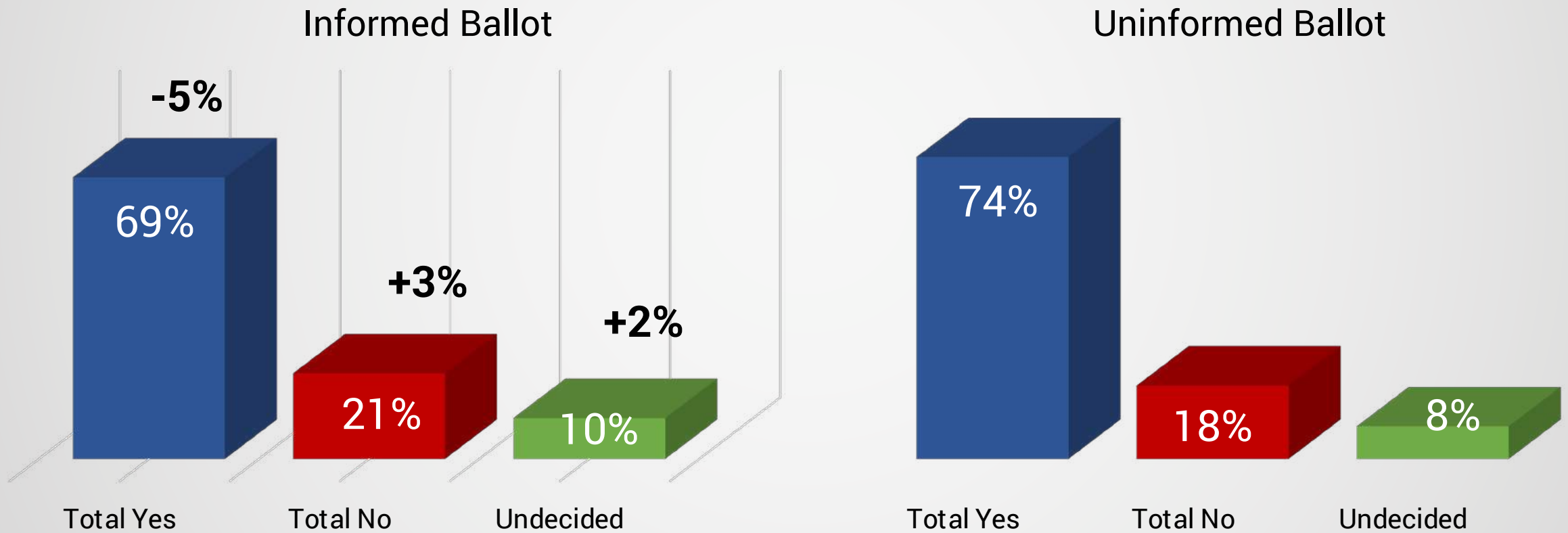
Do you have any final thoughts to share about term limits for Denver's mayor, city council, city clerk and recorder, and city auditor?

- **Frustration with Incumbents:** Many respondents expressed frustration with incumbent officials, feeling that they have too much power, are out of touch with the people's needs, or are beholden to special interests.
- **Concerns about Policy Priorities:** There are concerns about the current administration's policy priorities, with some feeling that resources are misallocated and priorities are misplaced, particularly regarding handling the migrant situation, drugs, violence, and homelessness.
- **Desire for Change:** There is a widespread desire for change among respondents, with many expressing a desire for new leadership and fresh ideas to address the city's challenges.
- **Immigration Policy:** Several respondents specifically mentioned concerns about immigration policy, advocating for stricter policies or expressing frustration with the perceived prioritization of immigrants over citizens.
- **Support for Term Limits:** While opinions on term limits varied, there was a notable proportion of respondents who supported term limits as a means of preventing corruption, maintaining accountability, and ensuring turnover of leadership.

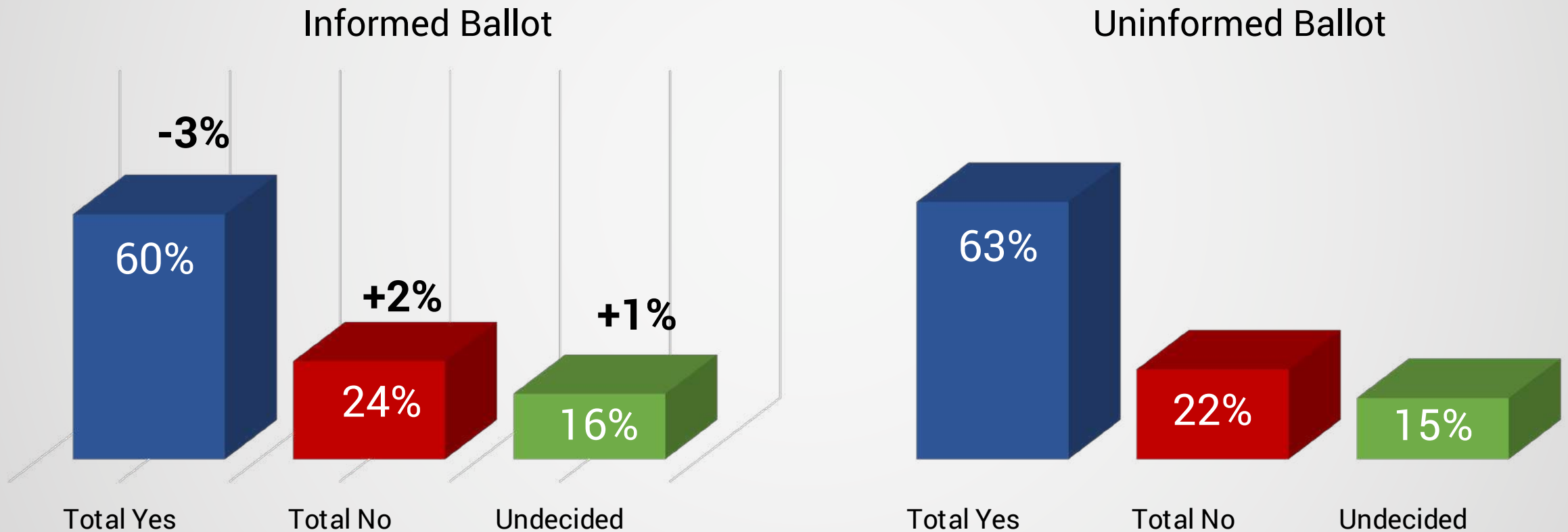
City and County of Denver Term Limits Ballot Question for **Mayor**



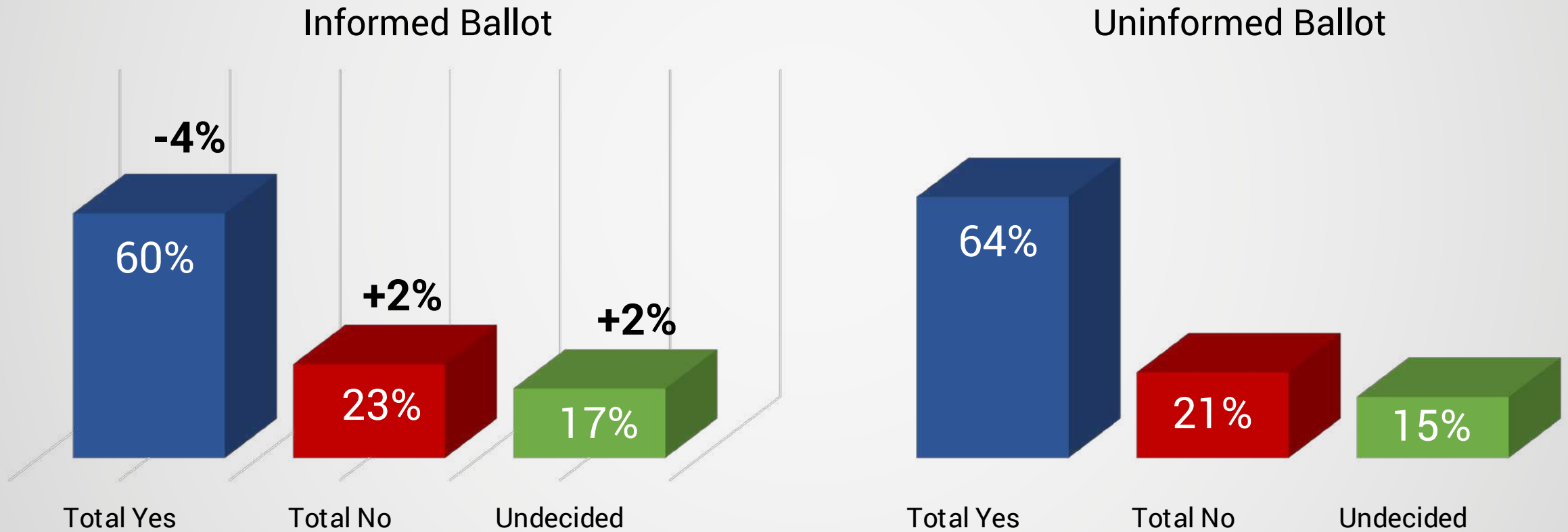
City and County of Denver Term Limits Ballot Question for **City Council**



City and County of Denver Term Limits Ballot Question for **City Clerk & Recorder**

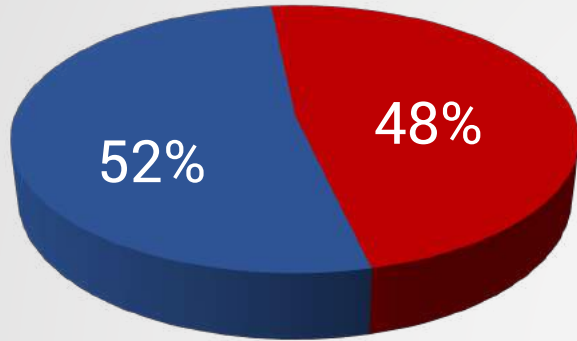


City and County of Denver Term Limits Ballot Question for **City Auditor**

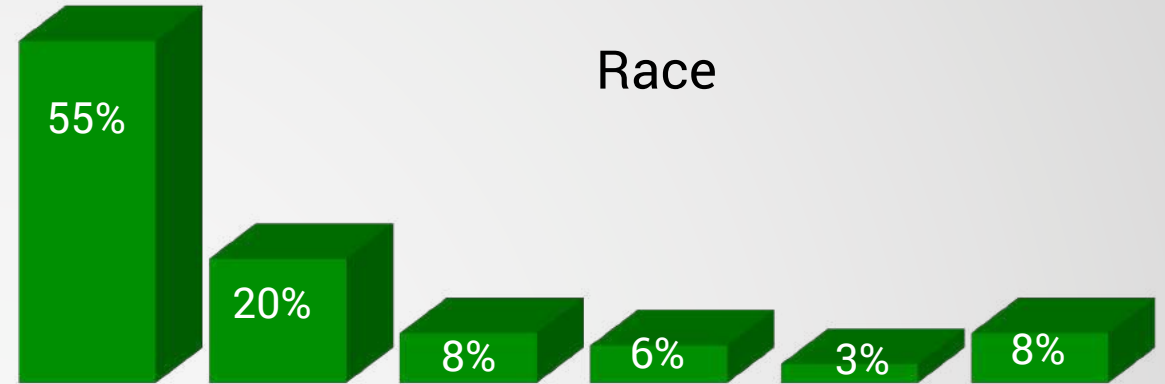


Survey Demographics

Gender



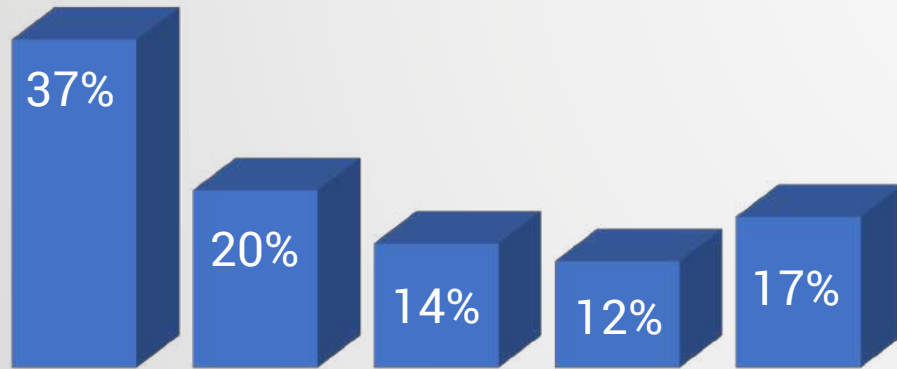
■ Female ■ Male ■ Identify Differently



Race

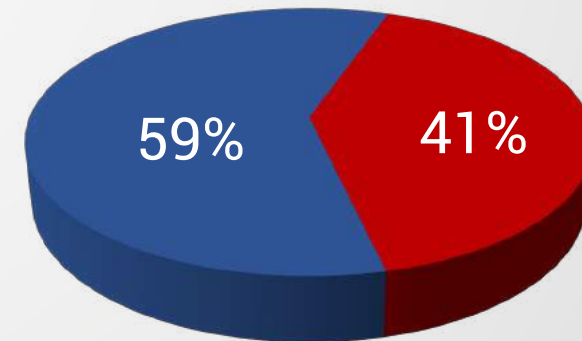
White Hispanic Other Black/ African American Asian Prefer Not to Say

Age Range



18-34 35-44 45-54 55-64 65+

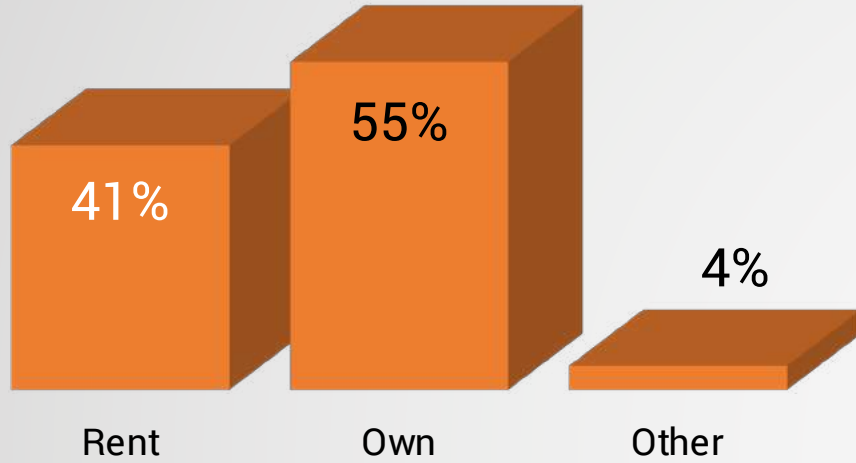
4-Year Degree



■ Yes ■ No

Survey Demographics

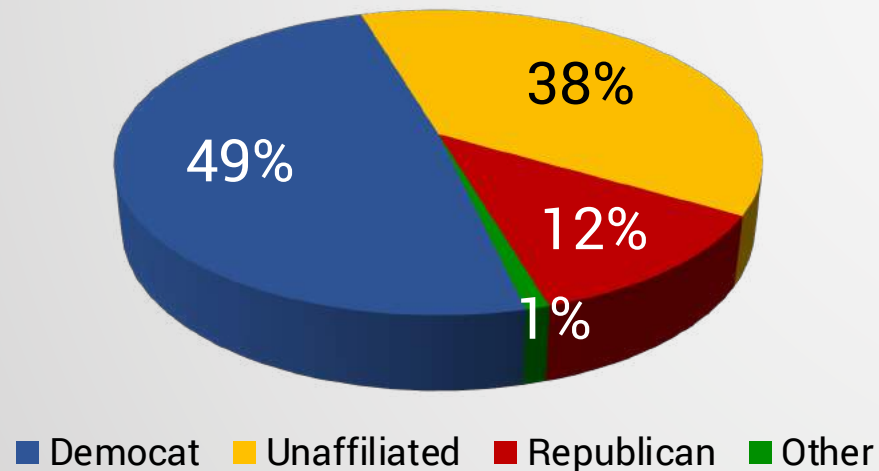
Living Situation



Income

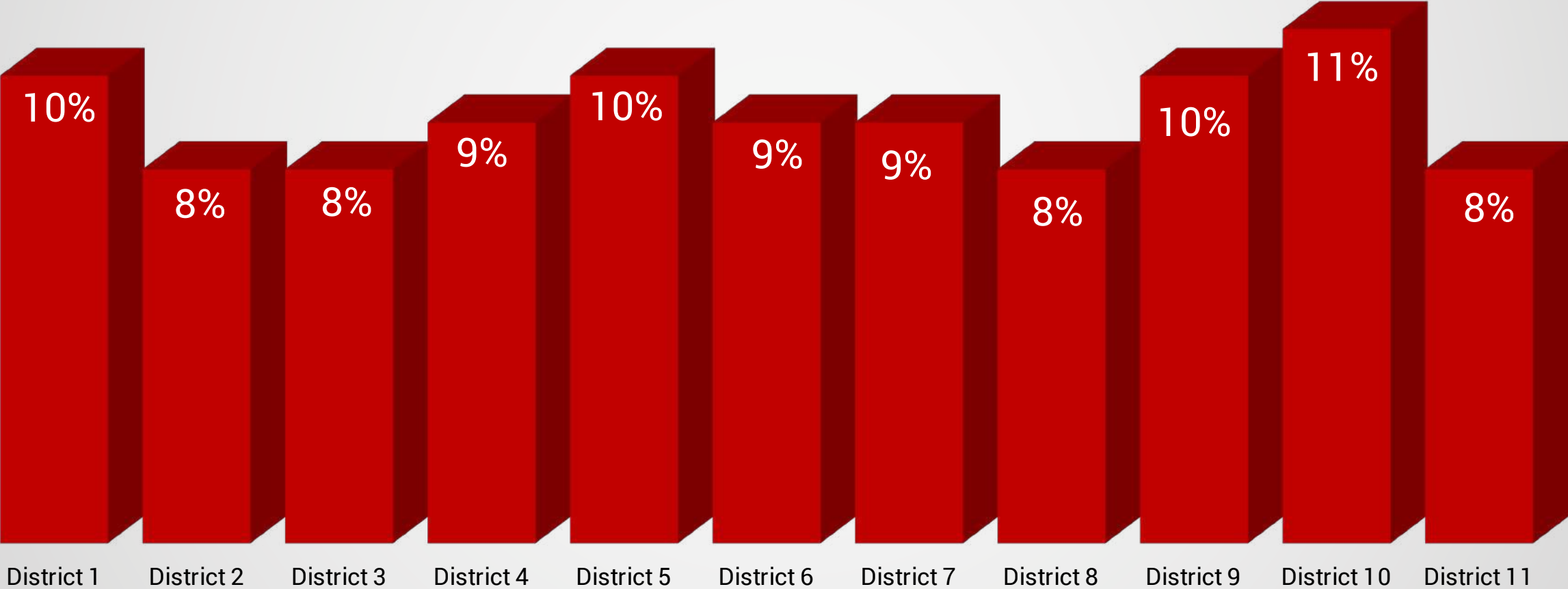


Party Affiliation



Survey Demographics

City Council District



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