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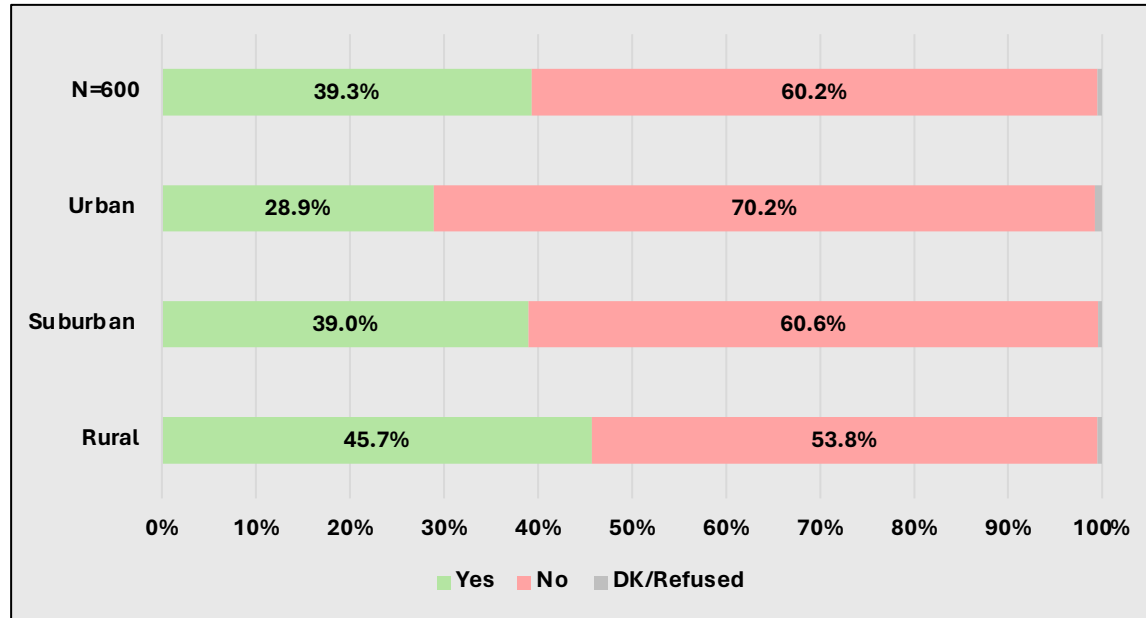
Methodology

- Strategic Partners Solutions, LLC polled 600 registered voters living in North Carolina. The poll was conducted via telephone by professional interviewers from April 13 – April 15, 2024. The survey included 70% cell phones and 30% landline interviews. Interview selection was random within predetermined election units. These units were structured to correlate with voter participation from past midterm/Presidential General Election cycles.
- The poll of 600 likely general election voters has a margin of error of +/- 4% at a 95% confidence interval.
- Paul Shumaker served as project manager and Hays Shumaker was the research coordinator.





Nationally and here in North Carolina, there has been a dramatic increase in accidental overdose deaths. Do you know anyone in your community who has had a friend or family member die from a drug overdose?

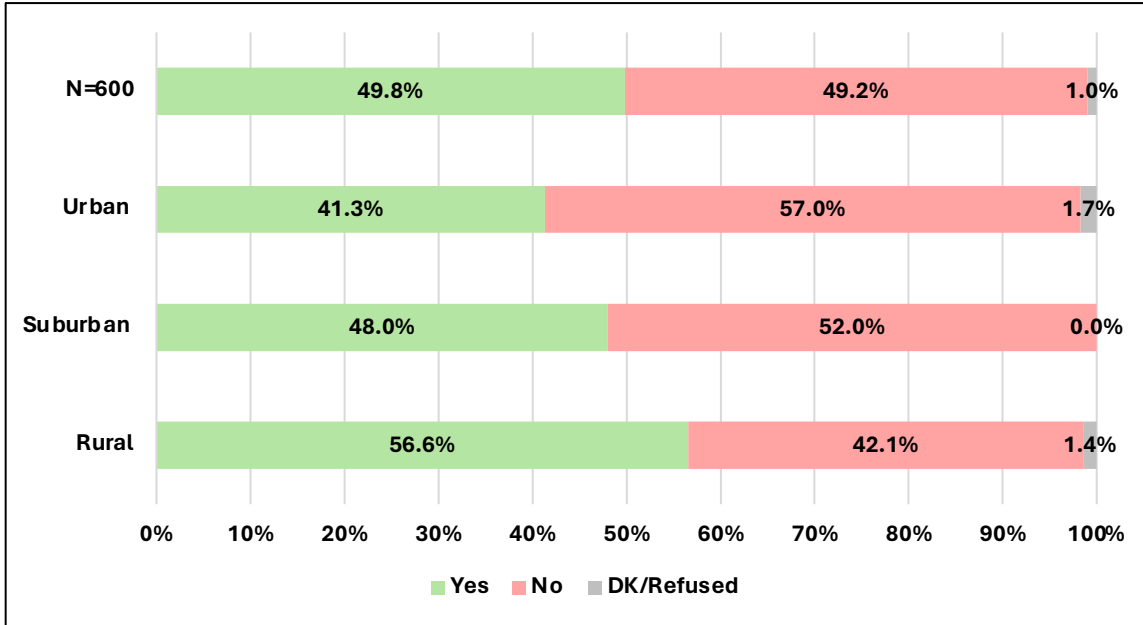


Nearly 2 out of 5 voters said they have had a friend or family member die from a drug overdose. It was slightly higher in rural areas than any other region in the state. In addition, voters under the age of forty were more impacted than voters over the age of forty. Still, over one out of three voters over the age of forty said they knew someone who has had a friend or family member die from a drug overdose.

	N=	Yes	No	DK/Refused
<40	110	55.5%	44.5%	0.0%
>40	482	36.1%	63.3%	0.6%
White	413	41.2%	58.6%	0.2%
Non- White	157	35.0%	63.7%	1.3%
Black	125	32.0%	66.4%	1.6%
Male	282	41.1%	58.5%	0.4%
Female	318	37.7%	61.6%	0.6%



Do you have a friend or family member who has experienced problems with substance use, including prescription drugs or alcohol?



Nearly half of all voters said they have a friend or family member who has experienced problems with substance use, including prescription drugs or alcohol. 56.6% of voters in rural said so, compared to 48% in suburban and 41.3% in urban.

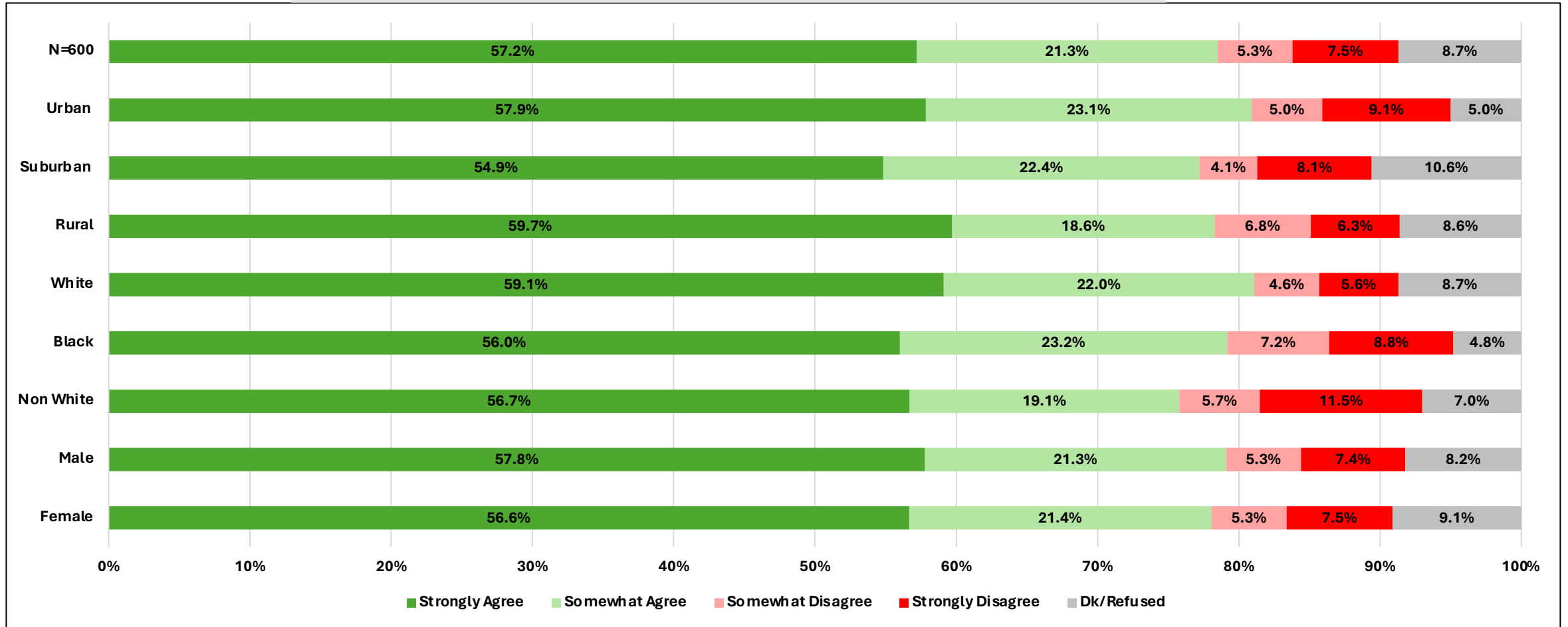
Voters under forty said 55.5% compared to 49.2% for voters over forty.

	N=	Yes	No	DK/Refused
<40	110	55.5%	44.5%	0.0%
>40	482	49.2%	49.6%	1.2%
White	413	52.8%	46.5%	0.7%
Non-White	157	42.7%	56.1%	1.3%
Black	125	40.8%	57.6%	1.6%
Male	282	50.0%	48.6%	1.4%
Female	318	49.7%	49.7%	0.6%



To help combat overdose deaths, most states have enacted laws known as “Good Samaritan Laws.” These laws provide limited immunity to a person who calls for medical assistance for a possible overdose and the person in need of that assistance. The state legislature is considering reforming North Carolina’s law to save lives. Please tell me if you agree or disagree with the following statements.

Saving the life of someone who has overdosed should be more important than catching the person who supplied the drugs.





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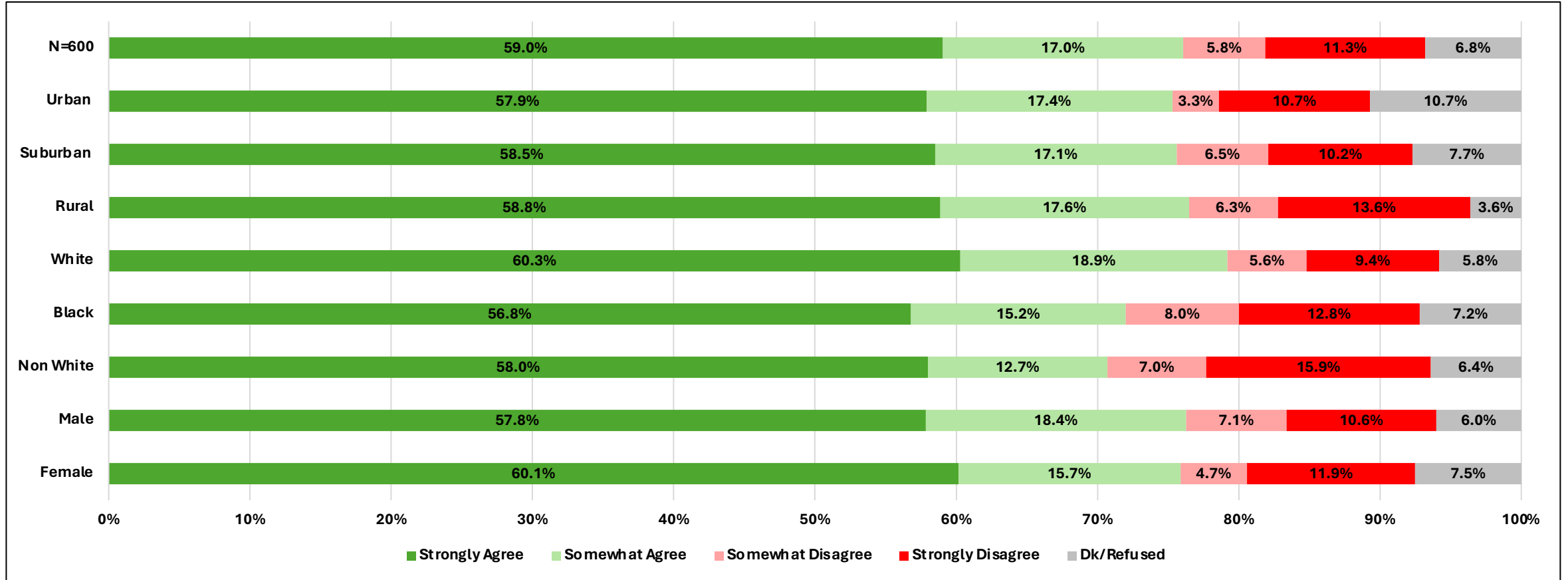
	N=	Agree	Strongly Agree	Somewhat Agree	Disagree	Somewhat Disagree	Strongly Disagree	Dk/Refused
N=	600	78.5%	57.2%	21.3%	12.8%	5.3%	7.5%	8.7%
Republican	173	77.5%	56.1%	21.4%	15.6%	5.8%	9.8%	6.9%
Democrat	209	82.8%	61.7%	21.1%	9.1%	3.3%	5.7%	8.1%
Unaffiliated	188	77.1%	56.4%	20.7%	13.3%	6.4%	6.9%	9.6%
<40	110	81.8%	56.4%	25.5%	10.9%	3.6%	7.3%	7.3%
>40	482	77.6%	57.3%	20.3%	13.5%	5.8%	7.7%	8.9%
H.S. Degree	87	79.3%	55.2%	24.1%	11.5%	4.6%	6.9%	9.2%
Some College	144	72.9%	48.6%	24.3%	18.1%	9.0%	9.0%	9.0%
College Grad	334	81.1%	60.8%	20.4%	10.5%	4.2%	6.3%	8.4%

Voters across all partisan political lines and key voting demographics agree that saving someone’s life is more important than catching the person who supplied the drugs. Over half of all voters strongly agree which is reflective of strong intensity on the issue choice.



To help combat overdose deaths, most states have enacted laws known as “Good Samaritan Laws.” These laws provide limited immunity to a person who calls for medical assistance for a possible overdose and the person in need of that assistance. The state legislature is considering reforming North Carolina’s law to save lives. Please tell me if you agree or disagree with the following statements.

When a person calls 911 for medical assistance in an overdose situation, that person shouldn’t have to worry about being charged with drug possession, as long as they are not a drug trafficker.





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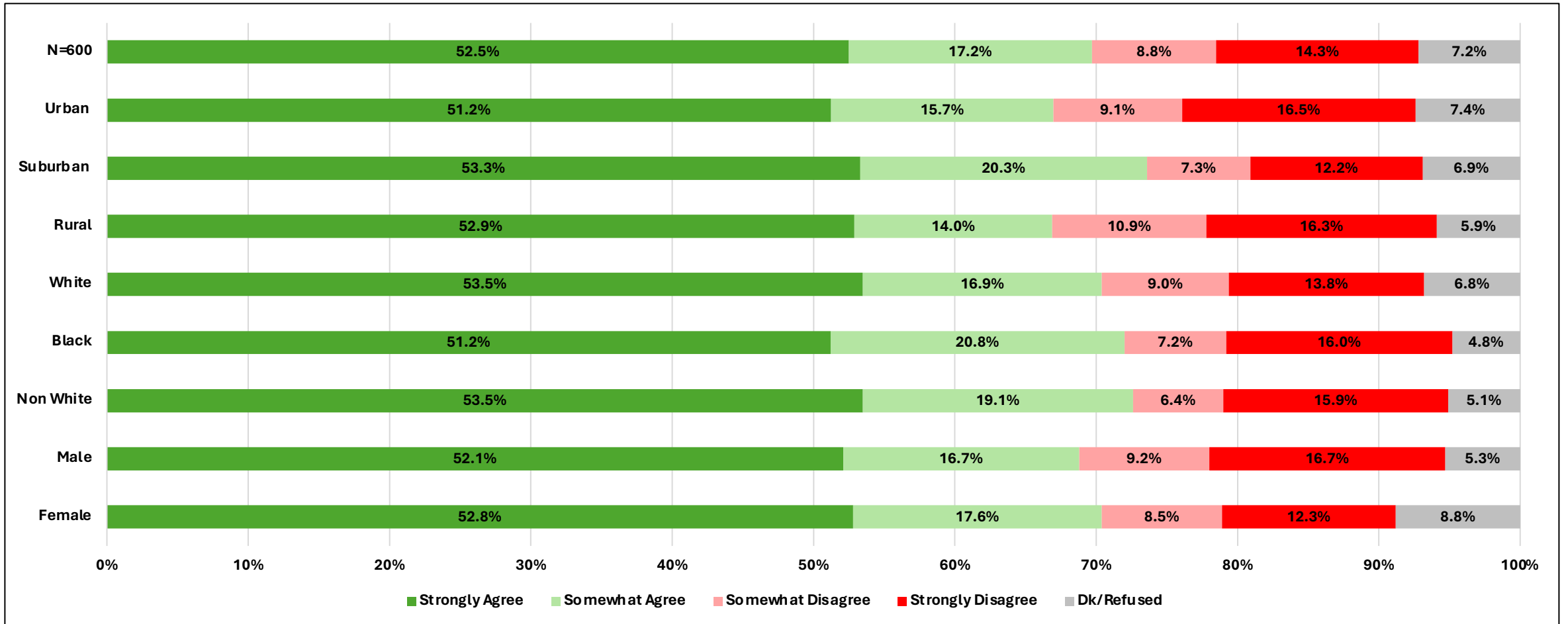
Over two-thirds of all voters across all demographic subsets agree that a person call 911 for assistance in a drug overdose situation, should not be charged with possession as long as they are not a drug trafficker. Nearly 60 % of all voters strongly agree.

	N=	Agree	Strongly Agree	Somewhat Agree	Disagree	Somewhat Disagree	Strongly Disagree	Dk/Refused
N=	600	76.0%	59.0%	17.0%	17.2%	5.8%	11.3%	6.8%
Republican	173	68.2%	52.0%	16.2%	22.5%	6.4%	16.2%	9.2%
Democrat	209	82.8%	67.5%	15.3%	11.5%	3.3%	8.1%	5.7%
Unaffiliated	188	77.7%	58.5%	19.1%	17.6%	7.4%	10.1%	4.8%
<40	110	75.5%	61.8%	13.6%	20.9%	5.5%	15.5%	3.6%
>40	482	76.1%	58.7%	17.4%	16.6%	6.0%	10.6%	7.3%
H.S. Degree	87	70.1%	57.5%	12.6%	25.3%	10.3%	14.9%	4.6%
Some College	144	77.8%	58.3%	19.4%	13.9%	4.9%	9.0%	8.3%
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When someone calls 911 to report an overdose, immunity from prosecution should be applied to all individuals who are offering assistance.





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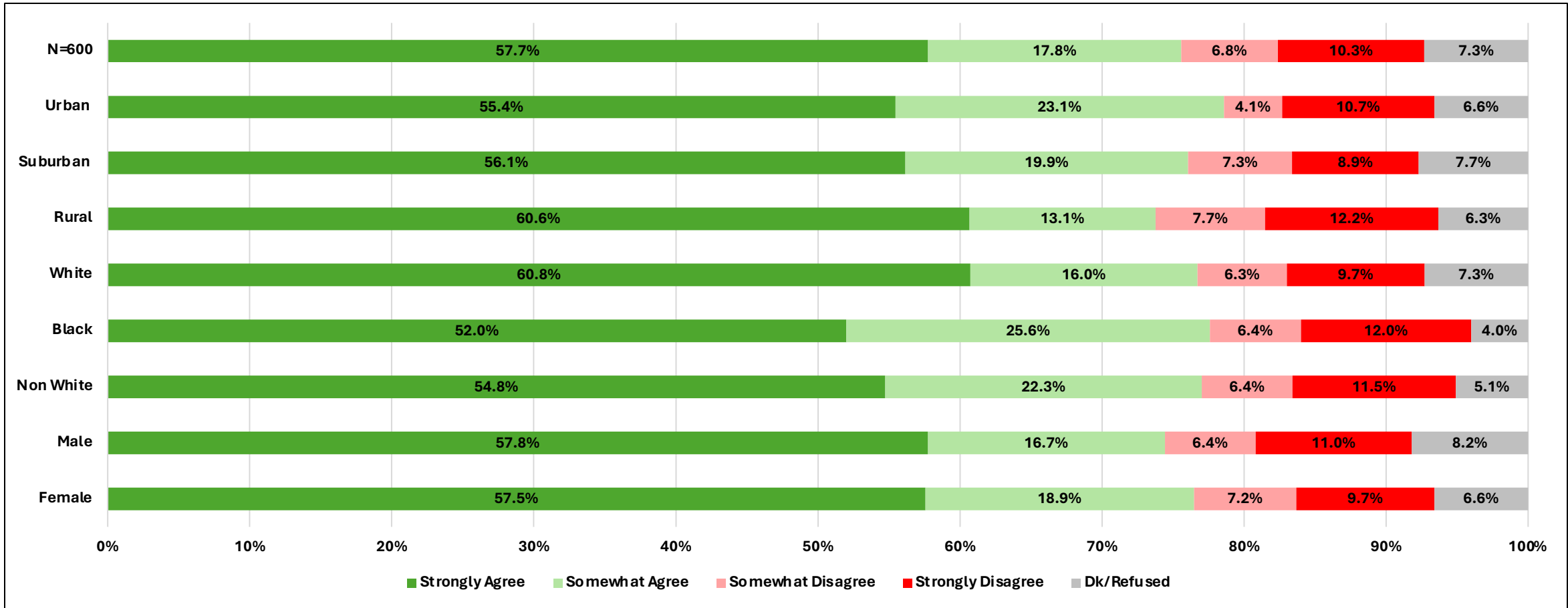
	N=	Agree	Strongly Agree	Somewhat Agree	Disagree	Somewhat Disagree	Strongly Disagree	Dk/Refused
N=	600	69.7%	52.5%	17.2%	23.2%	8.8%	14.3%	7.2%
Republican	173	64.2%	51.4%	12.7%	27.2%	11.0%	16.2%	8.7%
Democrat	209	75.1%	56.5%	18.7%	18.7%	4.8%	13.9%	6.2%
Unaffiliated	188	70.7%	51.1%	19.7%	22.9%	10.6%	12.2%	6.4%
<40	110	74.5%	57.3%	17.3%	20.9%	3.6%	17.3%	4.5%
>40	482	68.9%	51.9%	17.0%	23.7%	10.2%	13.5%	7.5%
H.S. Degree	87	66.7%	51.7%	14.9%	23.0%	13.8%	9.2%	10.3%
Some College	144	67.4%	48.6%	18.8%	25.0%	10.4%	14.6%	7.6%
College Grad	334	72.5%	54.5%	18.0%	21.9%	7.2%	14.7%	5.7%

A large majority of voters are all focused on providing assistance to the overdose victim. Over half of all voters, in all key demographic voting groups, strongly agree that immunity from prosecution should be applied to all who are trying to help the victim of the overdose.



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University students who call campus security to report an overdose should be protected from legal prosecution as well as any university disciplinary procedures.





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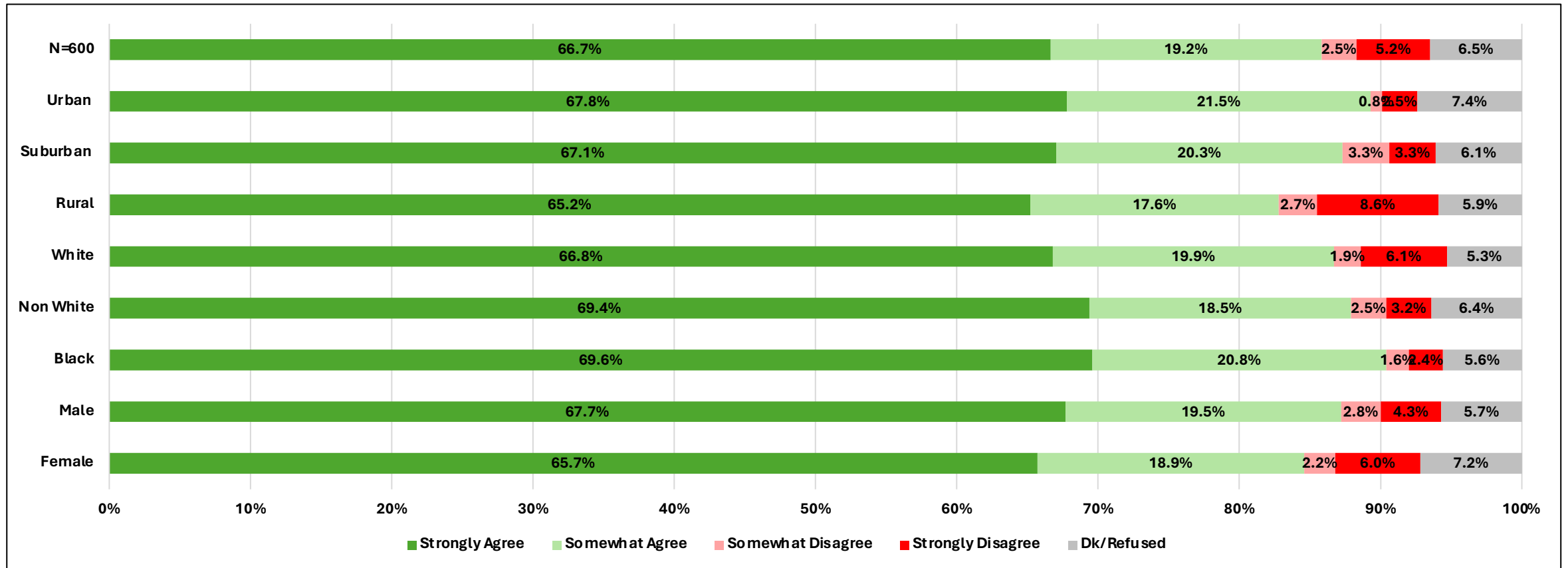
	N=	Agree	Strongly Agree	Somewhat Agree	Disagree	Somewhat Disagree	Strongly Disagree	Dk/Refused
N=	600	75.5%	57.7%	17.8%	17.2%	6.8%	10.3%	7.3%
Republican	173	68.2%	52.0%	16.2%	22.0%	5.8%	16.2%	9.8%
Democrat	209	83.7%	63.6%	20.1%	12.4%	3.3%	9.1%	3.8%
Unaffiliated	188	72.9%	58.0%	14.9%	18.6%	11.7%	6.9%	8.5%
<40	110	79.1%	61.8%	17.3%	13.6%	4.5%	9.1%	7.3%
>40	482	74.7%	57.3%	17.4%	18.3%	7.5%	10.8%	7.1%
H.S. Degree	87	74.7%	49.4%	25.3%	13.8%	5.7%	8.0%	11.5%
Some College	144	73.6%	58.3%	15.3%	18.8%	6.3%	12.5%	7.6%
College Grad	334	77.2%	59.0%	18.3%	16.8%	7.2%	9.6%	6.0%

Voters also overwhelmingly agree on providing protection to university students who call to report an overdose. The majority of voters strongly agree and overall, over 75% of voters agree with the statement.



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During a drug overdose event, providing immunity from arrest and charge, could help increase a person’s willingness to call 911 for help.





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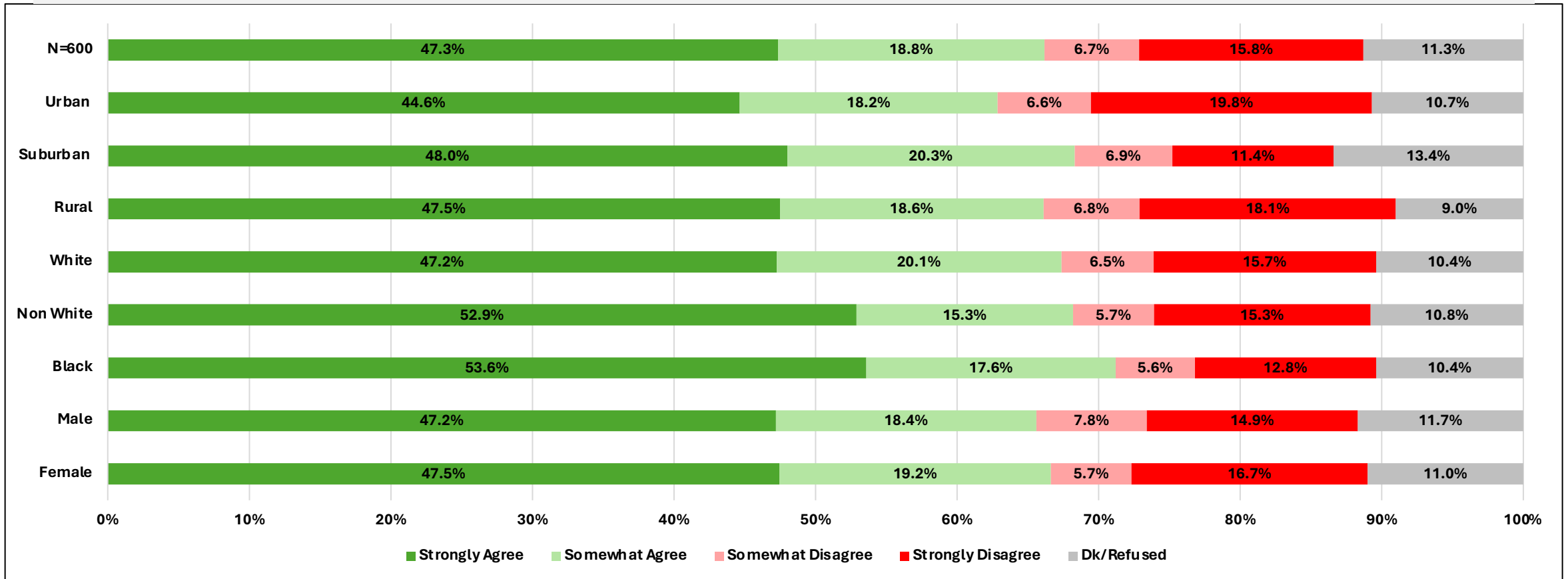
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N=	600	85.8%	66.7%	19.2%	7.7%	2.5%	5.2%	6.5%
Republican	173	80.9%	58.4%	22.5%	12.1%	2.3%	9.8%	6.9%
Democrat	209	90.0%	73.2%	16.7%	3.8%	0.5%	3.3%	6.2%
Unaffiliated	188	84.0%	67.6%	16.5%	9.0%	5.3%	3.7%	6.9%
<40	110	95.5%	77.3%	18.2%	1.8%	0.0%	1.8%	2.7%
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H.S. Degree	87	87.4%	63.2%	24.1%	5.7%	0.0%	5.7%	6.9%
Some College	144	81.3%	63.9%	17.4%	11.8%	4.2%	7.6%	6.9%
College Grad	334	88.6%	68.9%	19.8%	6.0%	2.4%	3.6%	5.4%

There is almost universal agreement among voters that providing immunity from arrest and charge will help increase a person’s willingness to call 911 during an overdose event. Two-thirds of all voters strongly agree. It should be noted that with voters under the age of 40, 77.3% strongly agree and 95.5% agree.



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If a person who shares drugs calls for help in an overdose situation and the overdose victim does not survive, the caller can be charged with drug-induced homicide, also known as Death by Distribution. Many people say that fear of this charge deters people from calling for help. Do you think that people who offer assistance at an overdose should receive immunity from this charge?





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Democrat	209	70.8%	52.6%	18.2%	16.7%	4.3%	12.4%	12.4%
Unaffiliated	188	73.4%	49.5%	23.9%	16.0%	5.9%	10.1%	10.6%
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College Grad	334	66.8%	46.1%	20.7%	22.2%	5.7%	16.5%	11.1%

Nearly two-thirds of all voters agree that a person should not be charge with Death by Distribution if they called for assistance. Intensity was strongest with voters under the age of 40.

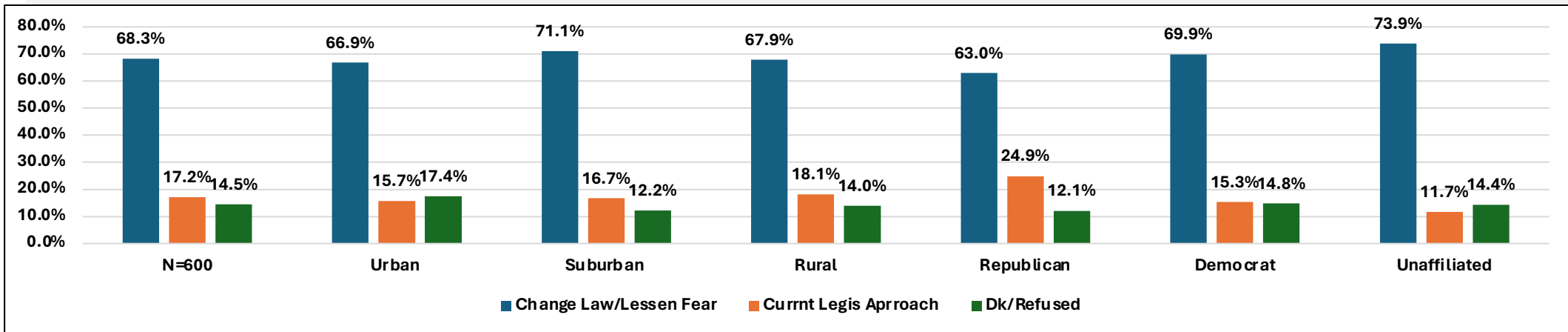
Just over 10% of all voters said they did not know, which indicates these voters needed more information about the circumstance.

However, the intensity on the strongly agree remained high across all voting demographics.



Research has shown Good Samaritan laws that provide more protection make people more willing to call for help during an overdose, which can save lives. North Carolina lawmakers have taken a different approach by toughening criminal laws, which deter people from calling for assistance because of fear of prosecution.

Do you favor changing North Carolina’s Good Samaritan Law to lessen people’s fear of criminalization when assisting an overdose victim, or do you agree with the current legislative approach of potentially prosecuting everyone present when an overdose happens?



Over two-thirds of all voters think North Carolina’s law should be changed to lessen fear of criminal charges for those who assist a victim of a drug overdose. Only 24.9% of Republican voters agree with the current legislative approach of toughening criminal laws. Support for changing the law was strongest with Unaffiliated voters.

	N=	Change Law/Lessen Fear	Current Legislative Approach	Dk/Refused
<40	110	72.7%	19.1%	8.2%
>40	482	68.3%	16.4%	15.4%
White	413	71.7%	16.5%	11.9%
Non-White	157	66.2%	16.6%	17.2%
Black	125	64.8%	15.2%	20.0%
H.S. Degree	87	66.7%	14.9%	18.4%
Some College	144	66.0%	20.8%	13.2%
College Grad	334	71.9%	15.0%	13.2%
Male	282	70.6%	16.0%	13.5%
Female	318	66.4%	18.2%	15.4%



Key Findings

- Overdose and substance abuse are real life events for many North Carolina voters.
- Two out of five know someone or have had a family member die from a drug overdose.
- Over half of all voters, have had a family member or friend who has experienced problems with substance use such as alcohol or prescription drugs.
- Given the very strong agreement voters shared on key issues, it is apparent that they have a clear understanding of the issue and circumstances in drug overdose events.



Key Findings

- When it comes to an overdose event, voters overwhelmingly agree that our laws should encourage people to call for assistance to help an overdose victim without fear of criminal prosecution.
- Most importantly is the intensity in which voters strongly agree about removing the fear of criminal prosecution for those who attempt to help a victim of a drug overdose.
- Voters do not agree with the current legislative approach of toughening criminal laws for the “non-drug dealer” participates in an event that leads to an overdose event.
- Voters put a greater emphasis on saving a life rather than criminally prosecuting people directly or indirectly involved in an overdose event.



Demographic Overview (N=600)

20.2% Urban
41% Suburban
36.8% Rural

47% Male
53% Female

65% Cell Phone
35% Landline

40.5% Entire Life
31.5% + 20 Years
13.2% 11-20 Years
13.8% < 10 Years

68.8% White
20.8% Black
2.7% Hispanic
0.7% Asian
2% Other
5% Refused

19% Post-Graduate
36.7% College Degree
24% Some College
14.5% High School Degree
4.2% Some High School



Demographic Overview (N=600)

26.2% 65+
29.3% 55-64 Yrs. Old
24.8% 41-54 Yrs. Old
14.5% 26-40 Yrs. Old
3.8% 18-25 Yrs. Old

28.8% Republican
34.8% Democratic
31.3% Unaffiliated
0.7% Other
4.3% DK/Refused

40.8% Vote Democrat
24.3% Always Democrat
16.5% Usually Democrat
19.3% Splits Ticket
15.8% Usually Republican
13.8% Always Republican
29.7% Vote Republican

26.7% Liberal
17.7% Very Liberal
9% Smwht Liberal
29% Moderate
35.8% Conservative
11.7% Smwht Conservative
24.2% Very Conservative