



Comhairle Cathrach  
Bhaile Átha Cliath  
Dublin City Council

# Your Dublin, Your Voice

## *Build Back Better*

### August 2020 – Executive Report



Survey Reference Period: August 2020

Report by



**Delve Research**

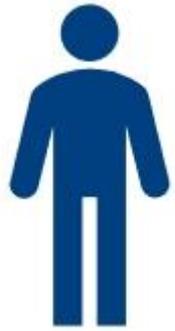
Survey Research & Analysis

[www.delve-research.com](http://www.delve-research.com)

I.	Background and Respondent Profile	2
II.	Summary of Results	7
III.	Working Arrangements and Commute	14
IV.	Encouraging Walking and Cycling	19
V.	Energy Use and Household Activities	21
VI.	Behaviours Since mid-March	24
VII.	Experience of Nature and Wildlife	26
VIII.	Would Like to See in Place as We Adapt	28
IX.	Going to the City Centre and Other Behaviours	30
X.	Priorities for Retail Businesses	41
XI.	Preferred Initiatives	43
XII.	Would Like to See From Business	51
XIII.	Would Like to See From Local Authority	55
XIV.	Hopes for Dublin	59



- Online survey, 13th August - 21st August 2020
  -
- 951 respondents from the "Your Dublin, Your Voice" opinion panel
  -
- 20% response rate
  -
- Global margin of error +/- 3.2%
  -
- Robust panel in existence since 2010, recruitment through various channels

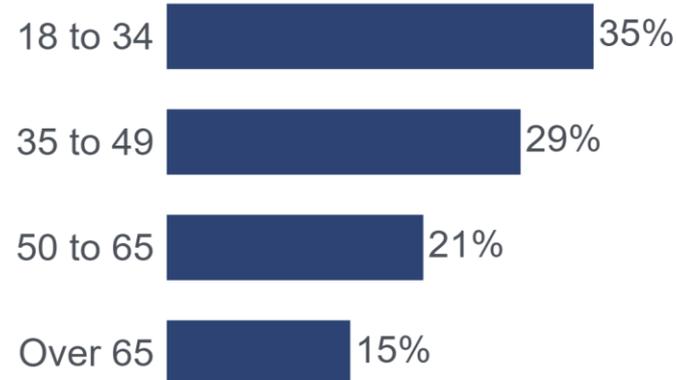


49%

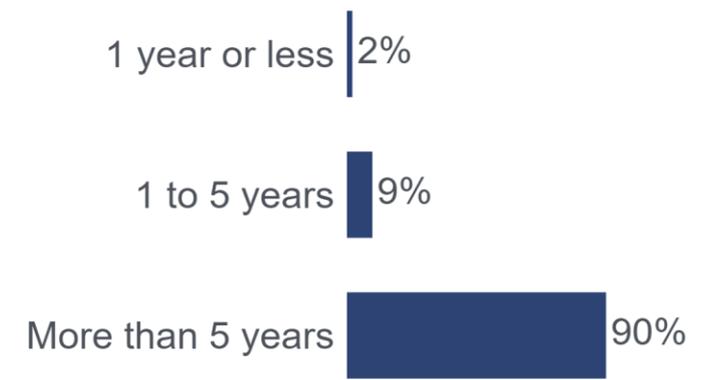


51%

## Age Group

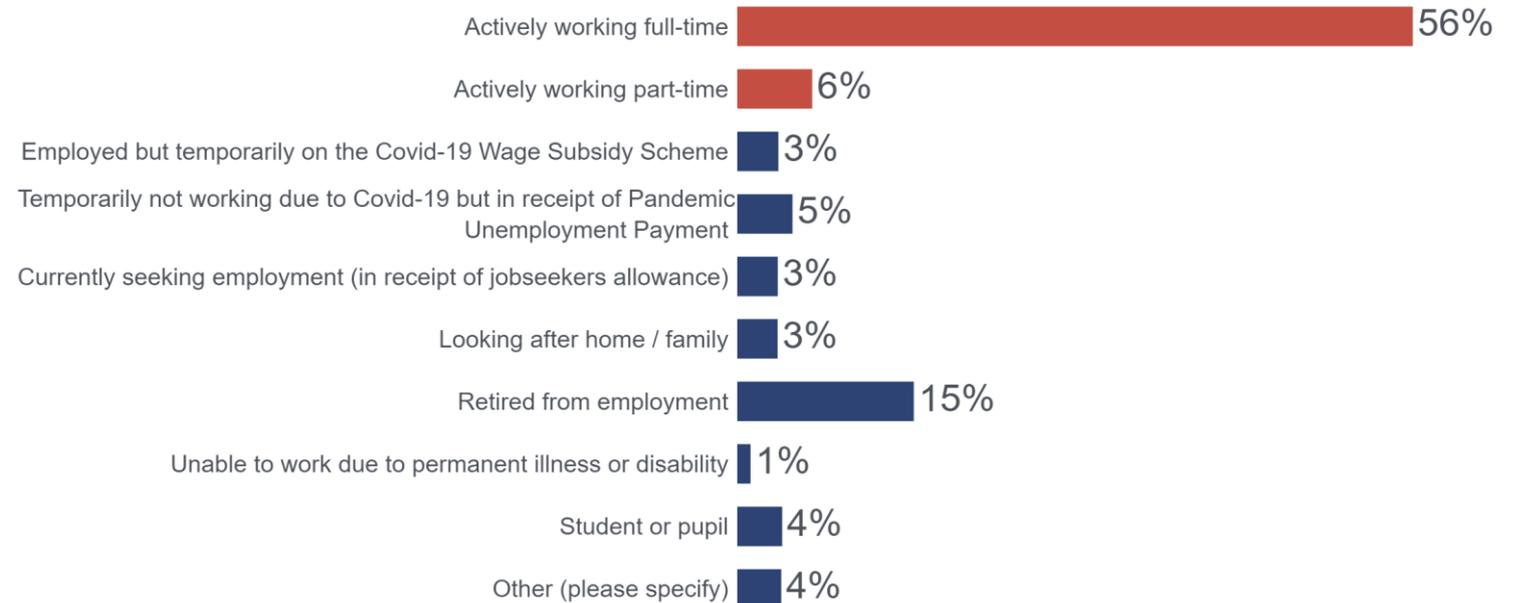


## Time Living in Dublin



22% with dependent children in household

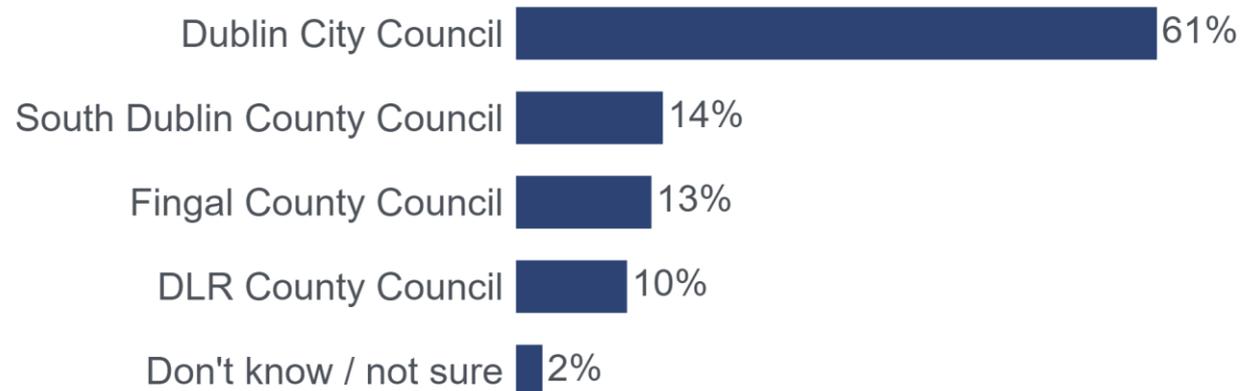
## Employment Status



30 nationalities represented on this survey, 90% Irish



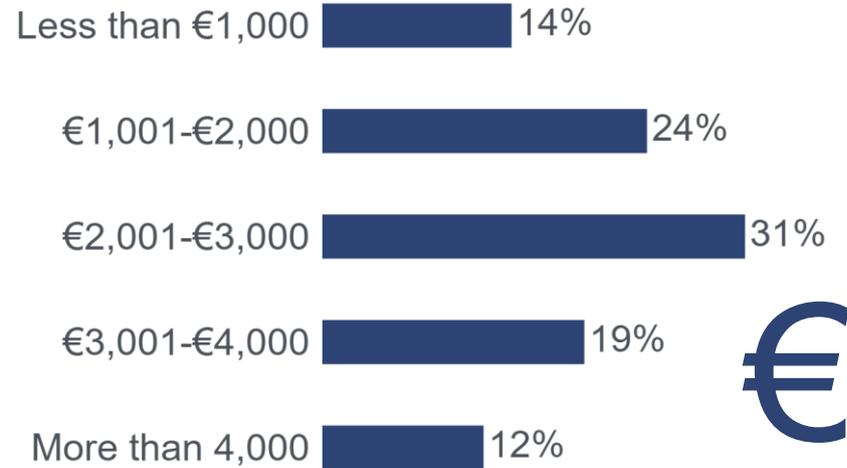
## Local Authority



## Current Area of Residence

	%
Dublin 1	3%
Dublin 2	2%
Dublin 3	5%
Dublin 4	3%
Dublin 5	4%
Dublin 6	5%
Dublin 6W	3%
Dublin 7	7%
Dublin 8	9%
Dublin 9	8%
Dublin 10	1%
Dublin 11	4%
Dublin 12	7%
Dublin 13	4%
Dublin 14	4%
Dublin 15	3%
Dublin 16	3%
Dublin 17	0%
Dublin 18	2%
Dublin 20	1%
Dublin 22	2%
Dublin 24	2%
County Dublin	12%
Outside County Dublin	6%

## Monthly Income After Taxes, Before Bills



## Monthly Disposable Income After Bills Are Paid



I.	Background and Respondent Profile	2
II.	Summary of Results	7
III.	Working Arrangements and Commute	14
IV.	Encouraging Walking and Cycling	19
V.	Energy Use and Household Activities	21
VI.	Behaviours Since mid-March	24
VII.	Experience of Nature and Wildlife	26
VIII.	Would Like to See in Place as We Adapt	28
IX.	Going to the City Centre and Other Behaviours	30
X.	Priorities for Retail Businesses	41
XI.	Preferred Initiatives	43
XII.	Would Like to See From Business	51
XIII.	Would Like to See From Local Authority	55
XIV.	Hopes for Dublin	59

## Working From Home

- 56% of those working worked from home on a daily basis in August 2020. This figure was down from 76% in May 2020.
- 41% of those at work felt that they would be working from home in the medium to long term.

## Commute

- The average commute distance for those at work or studying was 8.9km. Those rose to 10.3km among those with dependent children.
- Pre-COVID, 32% of those travelling to work or study used public transport. 20% plan to use public transport post-COVID.

## Encouraging Walking or Cycling

- An improved cycle lane network in the city was the most common factor selected which would encourage respondents to cycle more, followed by less traffic on the roads and increased / safe cycle parking. More pedestrianised areas and improved and wider footpaths would offer the strongest encouragement to people to walk more.
- Males were more likely to want improved cycling and pedestrian infrastructure, while females were more likely to want cycle training or a bike buddy programme
- Cycling and pedestrian infrastructure would be of greatest encouragement to the 18 to 34 year-old age group
- All potential encouragements were most popular among those living in Dublin 1 to 5 years

## Household Energy Use During the Restrictions

- 61% reported that their household was using more energy during the COVID-19 restrictions.
- A majority of respondents reported an increase in charging of PCs, laptops and other devices (79%), as well as food preparation (71%).
- Those aged under 65, those at work, and those with dependent children were more likely to report increases in energy consuming activities.

## Changes in Behaviour Since mid-March

- A majority of respondents said that they were shopping locally more often (56%) and buying more food (51%) since mid-March. 49% reported an increase in cleaning and 47% reported an increase in entertainment / exercise in their household.

## Experience of Wildlife and Nature during the COVID-19 Restrictions

- 50% of respondents reported that wildlife had helped them cope during the COVID-19 restrictions.
- Similar numbers said that they spent more time in nature during the restrictions (49%) and that they actively sought out nature and wildlife during the restrictions (48%).
- 18% reported that their experience of nature and wildlife did not change during that period.
- Increased engagement with nature and wildlife tended to be higher among the under 50s and was particularly higher among those living in Dublin 1 to 5 years.

## Adapting to a “New Normal”

- Majorities would like to see the retention of the temporary cycle lanes and wider footpaths (67%) and the promotion and protection of wildlife as part of government plans and actions (64%) as we move on from COVID-19. These tended to be more popular areas for focus among younger respondents.
- 46% would like to see financial incentives for making their home more energy efficient – this was higher among older respondents.

## Post-COVID Anticipated Behaviours

- 45% of respondents anticipated that they will use public transport less post-COVID than they had previously. 38% anticipated going less often to the city centre for socialising, 36% anticipated going less often to the city centre to eat out or for shopping (non-grocery).
- 51% anticipated having a staycation in Ireland (outside of Dublin) more often post-COVID. 15% anticipated staycationing in Dublin more often.

## Encouraging post-COVID Behaviours

- “Better / cheaper / safer public transport” was the most commonly mentioned thing to encourage people to go to the city centre more often for shopping and socialising.
- “Cheaper food / offers” was the most commonly mentioned thing to encourage people to go to the city centre more often to eat out.
- Among pre-pandemic public transport users, mandatory face coverings or better face covering compliance were the most commonly mentioned thing to encourage them to use public transport more post-pandemic.
- “Cheaper prices / better value” would be the biggest enticement for people to staycation in Ireland more, both in Dublin and outside Dublin.

## Priorities for Retail Business

- Respondents felt that the number one priority for retail businesses should be taking all possible measures to ensure public health. They expected that the actual priority for businesses would be returning to pre-pandemic turnover / sales levels as quickly as possible.

## “Build Back Better” Initiatives

- The top three “Build Back Better” initiatives among respondents were:
  - Keeping more money in our local economy (e.g. through changing how we buy and procure goods and services) (70% selecting)
  - Building equality, fairness and impartiality into all policies and programmes (65%)
  - Only using our funds to invest in projects that will be good for the environment (54%)

## “Business Ecosystem” Initiatives

- The top three “Business Ecosystem” initiatives among respondents were:
  - Providing incentives to businesses that operate green or pro-environmental practices (64% selecting)
  - Providing more support for sectors most badly affected by COVID-19 (e.g. the hospitality sector) (62%)
  - Making sure all businesses can access the finance they need to adapt and grow (51%)

## “People” Initiatives

- The top three “People” initiatives among respondents were:
  - Retraining / reskilling workers for an increasingly changing world (68% selecting)
  - Supporting the unemployed to find and secure work (67%)
  - Supporting creative workers e.g. musicians, writers, actors etc. (58%)

## “Place” Initiatives

- The top three “Place” initiatives among respondents were:
  - Improving the vibrancy and attractiveness of local places (55% selecting)
  - Providing more residential accommodation in the city centre (54%)
  - Supporting local cultural events and venues (53%)

## “Infrastructure” Initiatives

- The top three “Infrastructure” initiatives among respondents were:
  - Investing in green infrastructure e.g. planting trees, parks etc. (63% selecting)
  - Investing in public transport (63%)
  - Improving cycle lanes (52%)

## “Green Recovery” Initiatives

- The top three “Green Recovery” initiatives among respondents were:
  - Investing in renewable energy resources (57% selecting)
  - Investing in more walking and cycling routes (55%)
  - Improving houses so that they are more energy efficient (52%)

## Consideration of the Environment

- 58% of respondents felt that they would be more considerate of the environment as the economy emerges from the pandemic restrictions. 25% felt that individuals around them would be more considerate of the environment.

## Would Like to See From Business

- The most common thing that respondents would like to see from businesses as they emerge from the pandemic restrictions is for them to be more sustainable / green and to encourage active commuting. This was followed by adherence to public health guidelines and support for employees.

## Would Like to See From Your Local Authority

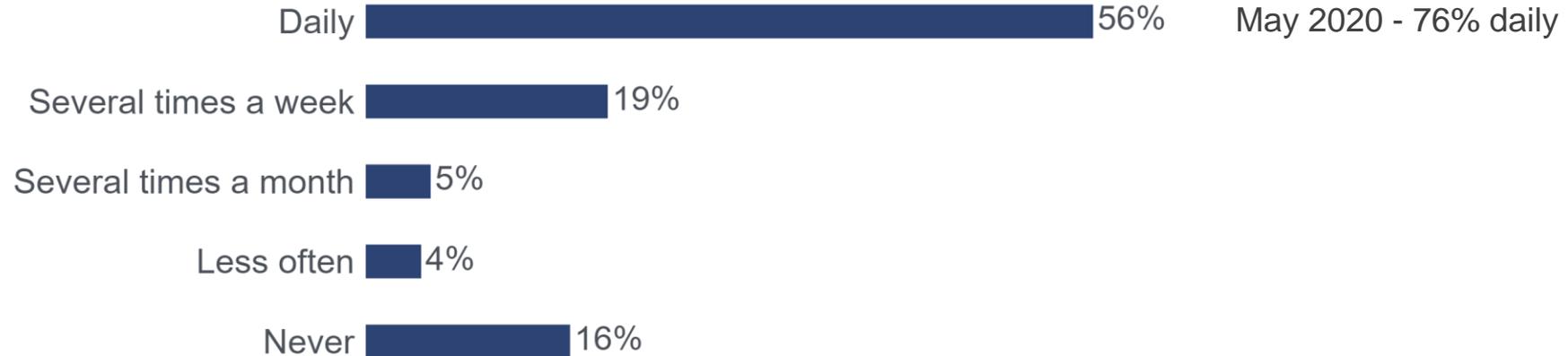
- The most common things that respondents would like to see from their local authority as communities emerge from the pandemic restrictions are improved cycling infrastructure, more outdoor seating / amenities / green spaces and reductions in traffic / more pedestrianisation.

## Hopes for Dublin

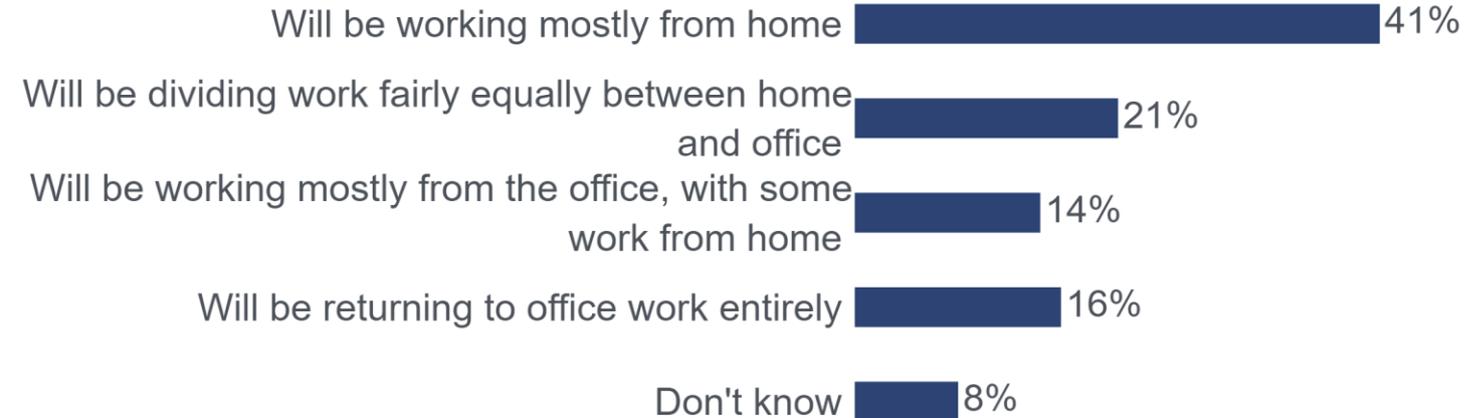
- The most hoped for things for Dublin among respondents as the city emerges from the pandemic restrictions are that it will be a cleaner and greener city, that there will be less traffic / more pedestrianisation, and that it will be a more people friendly city putting people first.

I.	Background and Respondent Profile	2
II.	Summary of Results	7
III.	Working Arrangements and Commute	14
IV.	Encouraging Walking and Cycling	19
V.	Energy Use and Household Activities	21
VI.	Behaviours Since mid-March	24
VII.	Experience of Nature and Wildlife	26
VIII.	Would Like to See in Place as We Adapt	28
IX.	Going to the City Centre and Other Behaviours	30
X.	Priorities for Retail Businesses	41
XI.	Preferred Initiatives	43
XII.	Would Like to See From Business	51
XIII.	Would Like to See From Local Authority	55
XIV.	Hopes for Dublin	59

## How frequently do you currently work from home?

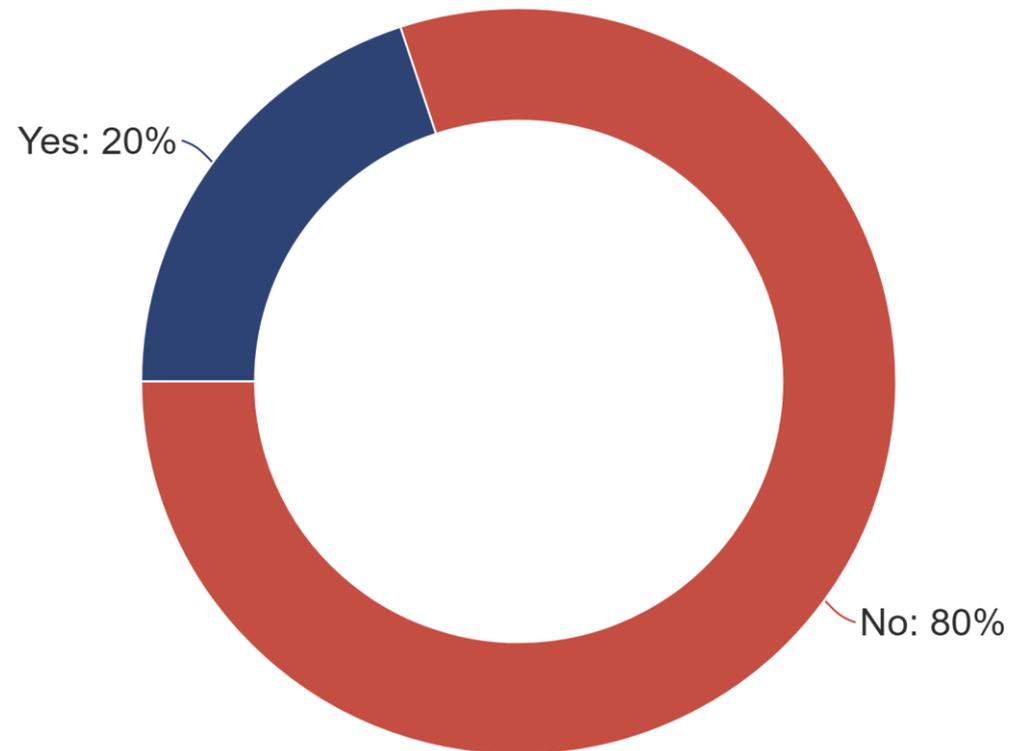


## How do you see yourself working in the medium to long term?



sample size: 615

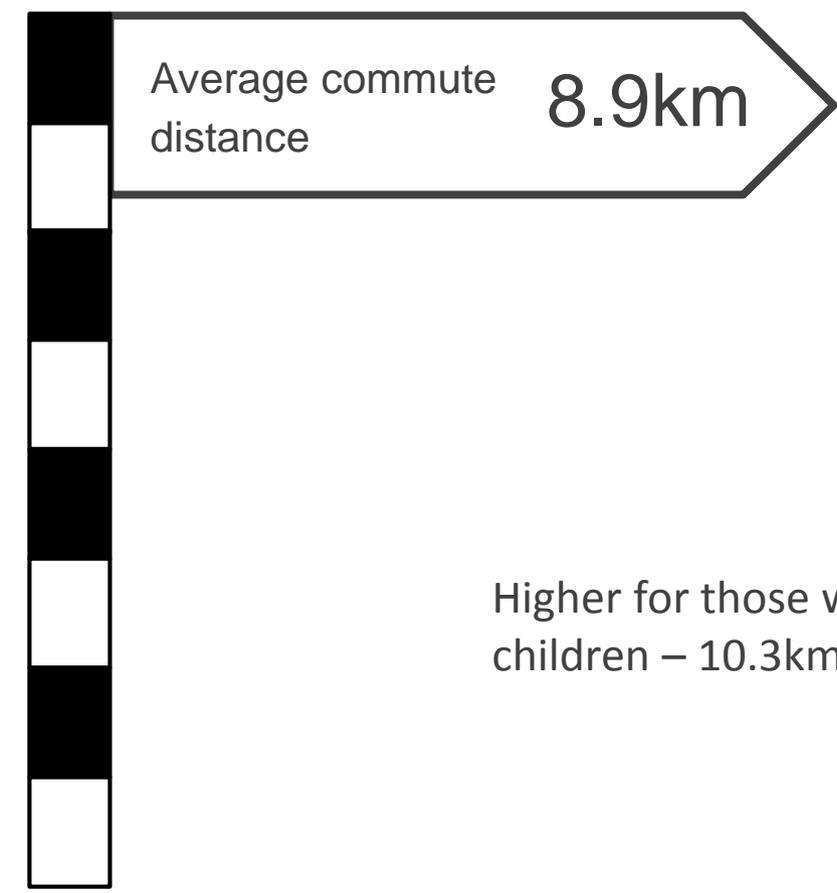
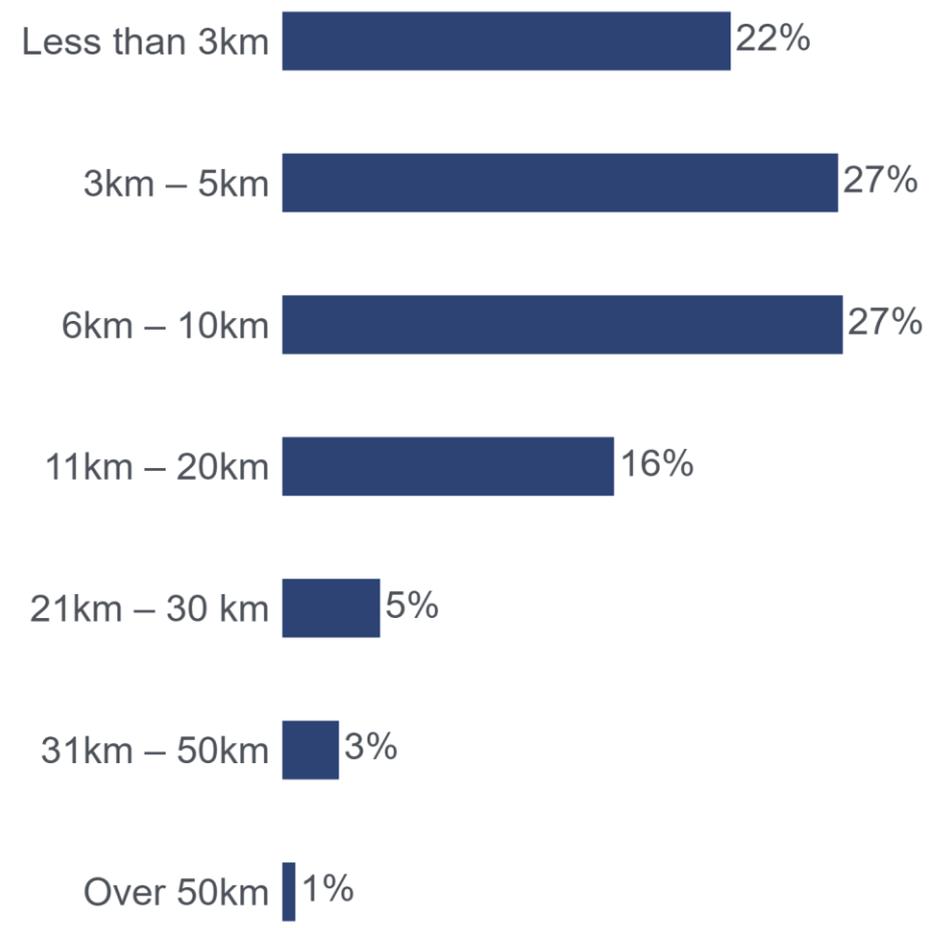
Has your occupation status changed since the implementation of COVID-19 measures in mid-March?



"Yes" was highest among 18 to 34 year-olds at **27%**

sample size: 947

What is the one-way distance of your normal (pre-COVID-19) commute to work or school / college?

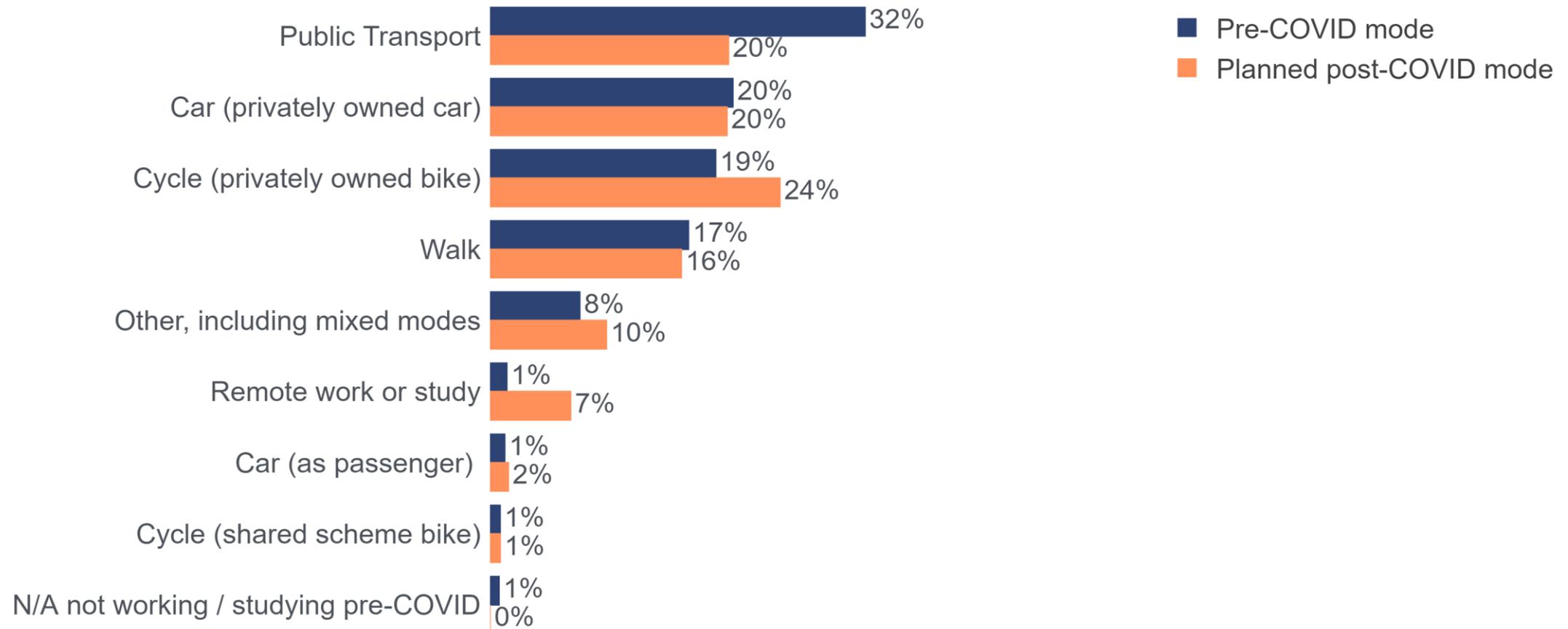


Higher for those with dependent children – 10.3km

sample size: 703

Before the COVID-19 restrictions, how did you usually travel to and from work or school / college?  
How do you plan to travel to and from work (or school / college) once the COVID-19 restrictions are lifted?

□

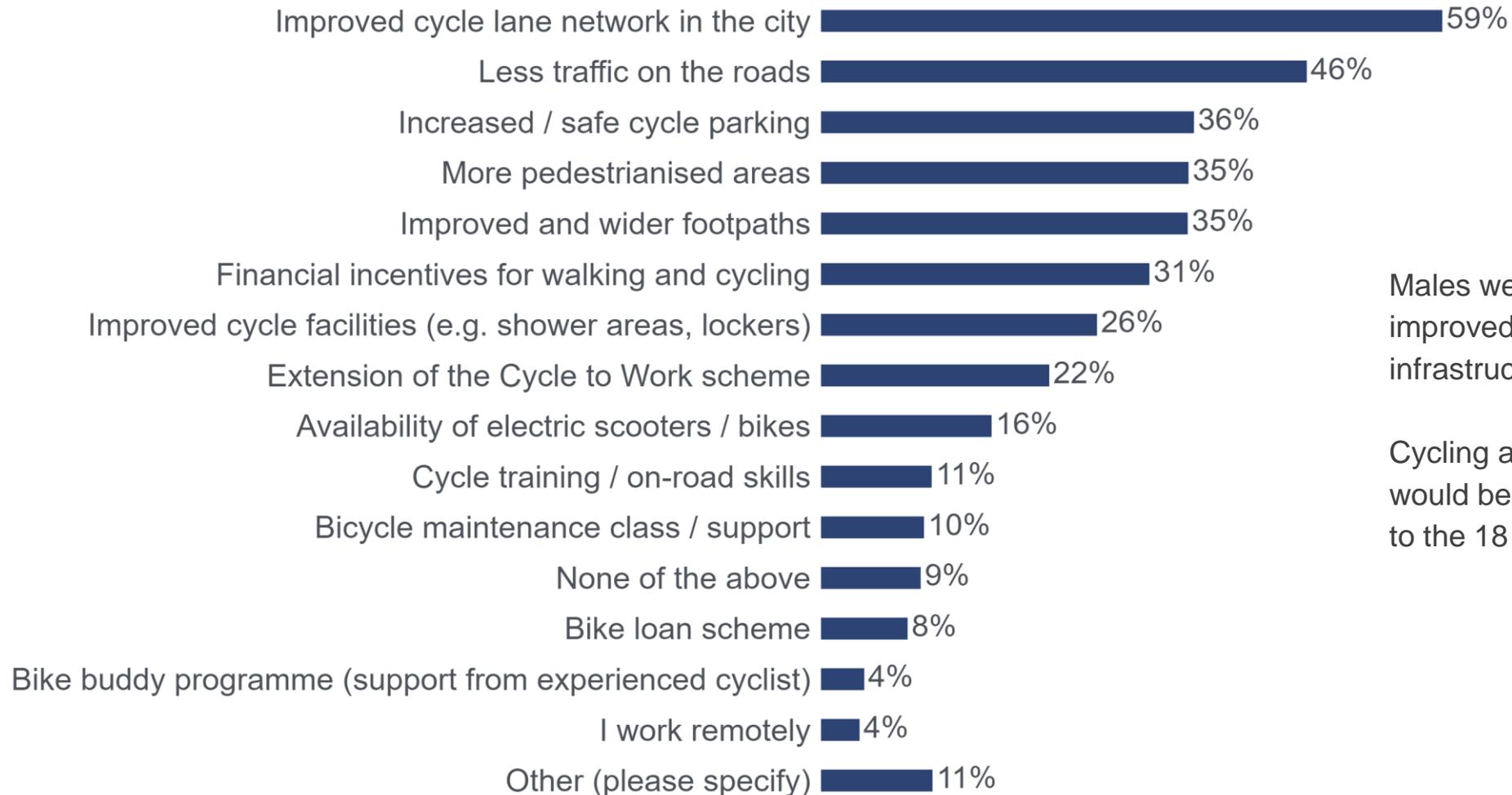


sample size: 710

I.	Background and Respondent Profile	2
II.	Summary of Results	7
III.	Working Arrangements and Commute	14
IV.	Encouraging Walking and Cycling	19
V.	Energy Use and Household Activities	21
VI.	Behaviours Since mid-March	24
VII.	Experience of Nature and Wildlife	26
VIII.	Would Like to See in Place as We Adapt	28
IX.	Going to the City Centre and Other Behaviours	30
X.	Priorities for Retail Businesses	41
XI.	Preferred Initiatives	43
XII.	Would Like to See From Business	51
XIII.	Would Like to See From Local Authority	55
XIV.	Hopes for Dublin	59

Which of the following would encourage you to walk or cycle, or would make you more comfortable with walking or cycling if you already do? Please select as many as apply.

% selecting



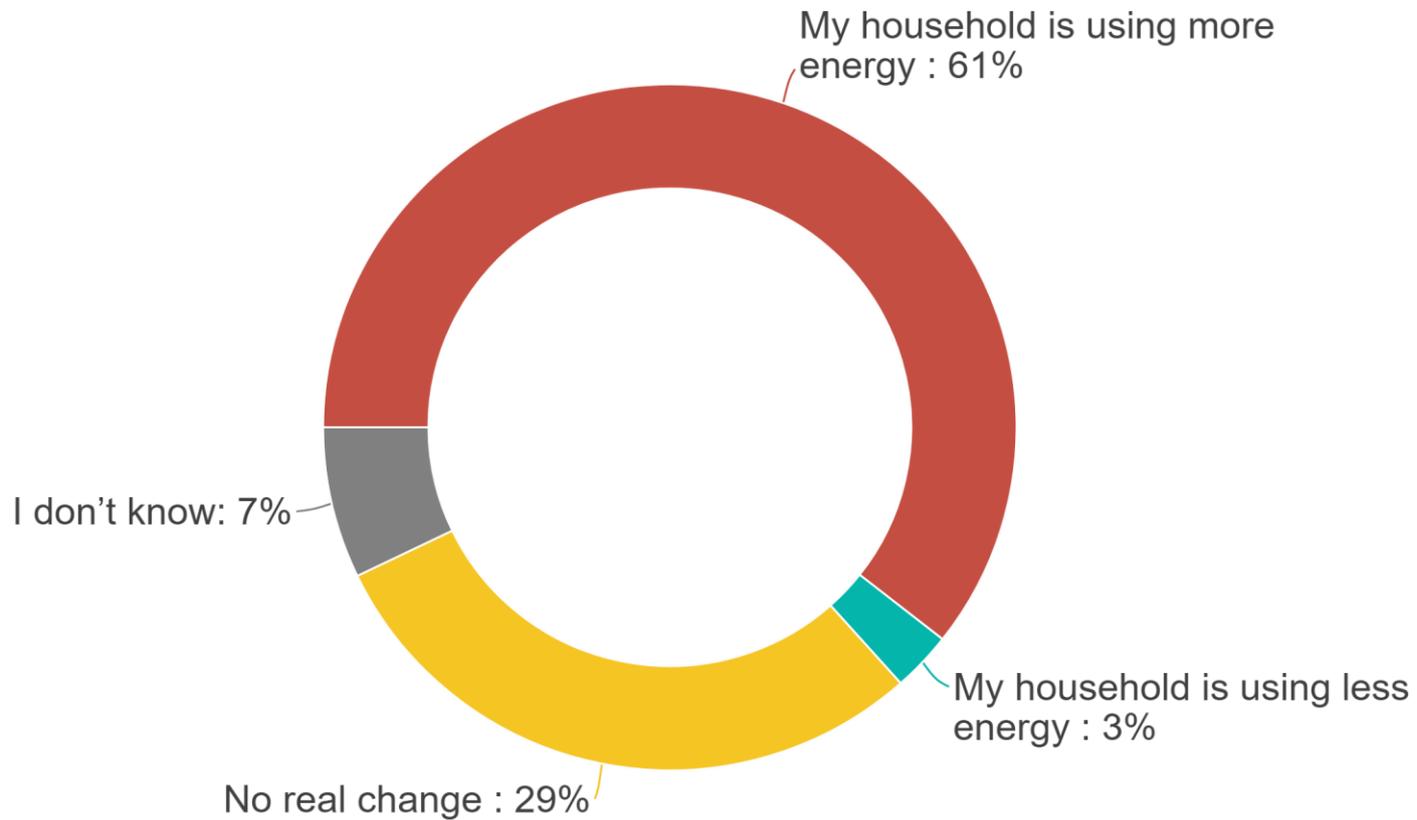
Males were more likely to want improved cycling and pedestrian infrastructure.

Cycling and pedestrian infrastructure would be of greatest encouragement to the 18 to 34 year-old age group

sample size: 951

I.	Background and Respondent Profile	2
II.	Summary of Results	7
III.	Working Arrangements and Commute	14
IV.	Encouraging Walking and Cycling	19
V.	Energy Use and Household Activities	21
VI.	Behaviours Since mid-March	24
VII.	Experience of Nature and Wildlife	26
VIII.	Would Like to See in Place as We Adapt	28
IX.	Going to the City Centre and Other Behaviours	30
X.	Priorities for Retail Businesses	41
XI.	Preferred Initiatives	43
XII.	Would Like to See From Business	51
XIII.	Would Like to See From Local Authority	55
XIV.	Hopes for Dublin	59

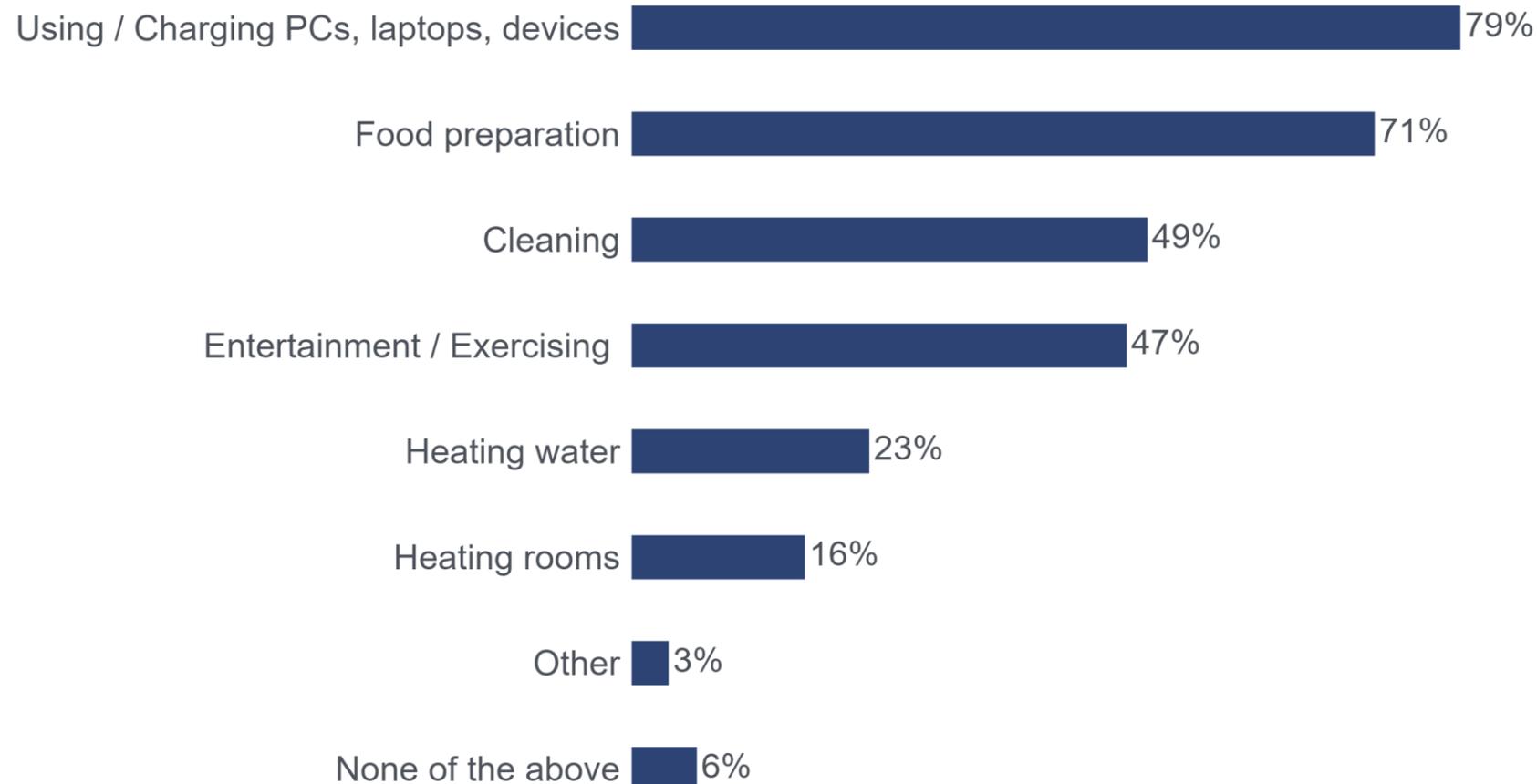
Which of the following best describes your energy usage in your household during the COVID-19 restrictions?



61% reported that their household was using more energy during the COVID-19 restrictions

Household energy use during the restrictions was more likely to be higher than normal among those under 65, among those working, and among those with dependent children in the household

Which of the following activities have increased in your household during the COVID-19 restrictions? Please select as many as apply.  
% selecting



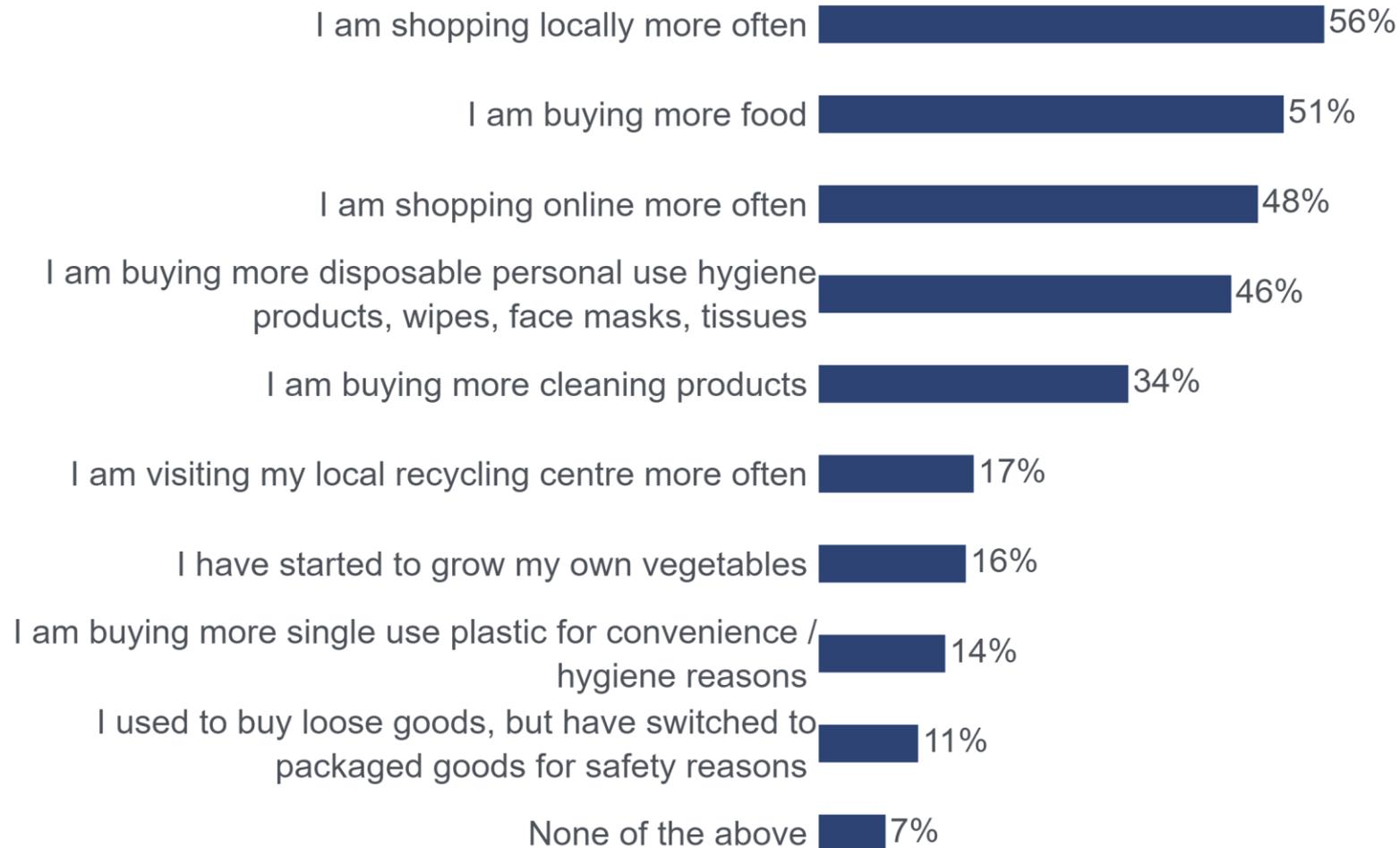
94% of respondents reported an increase in at least one of these activities in their household.

□ Those aged under 65, those at work, and those with dependent children were more likely to report increases in these activities.

I.	Background and Respondent Profile	2
II.	Summary of Results	7
III.	Working Arrangements and Commute	14
IV.	Encouraging Walking and Cycling	19
V.	Energy Use and Household Activities	21
VI.	Behaviours Since mid-March	24
VII.	Experience of Nature and Wildlife	26
VIII.	Would Like to See in Place as We Adapt	28
IX.	Going to the City Centre and Other Behaviours	30
X.	Priorities for Retail Businesses	41
XI.	Preferred Initiatives	43
XII.	Would Like to See From Business	51
XIII.	Would Like to See From Local Authority	55
XIV.	Hopes for Dublin	59

## Which of the following statements are true for you since mid-March?

% selecting



A majority of respondents said that they were shopping locally more often (56%) and buying more food (51%) since mid-March.

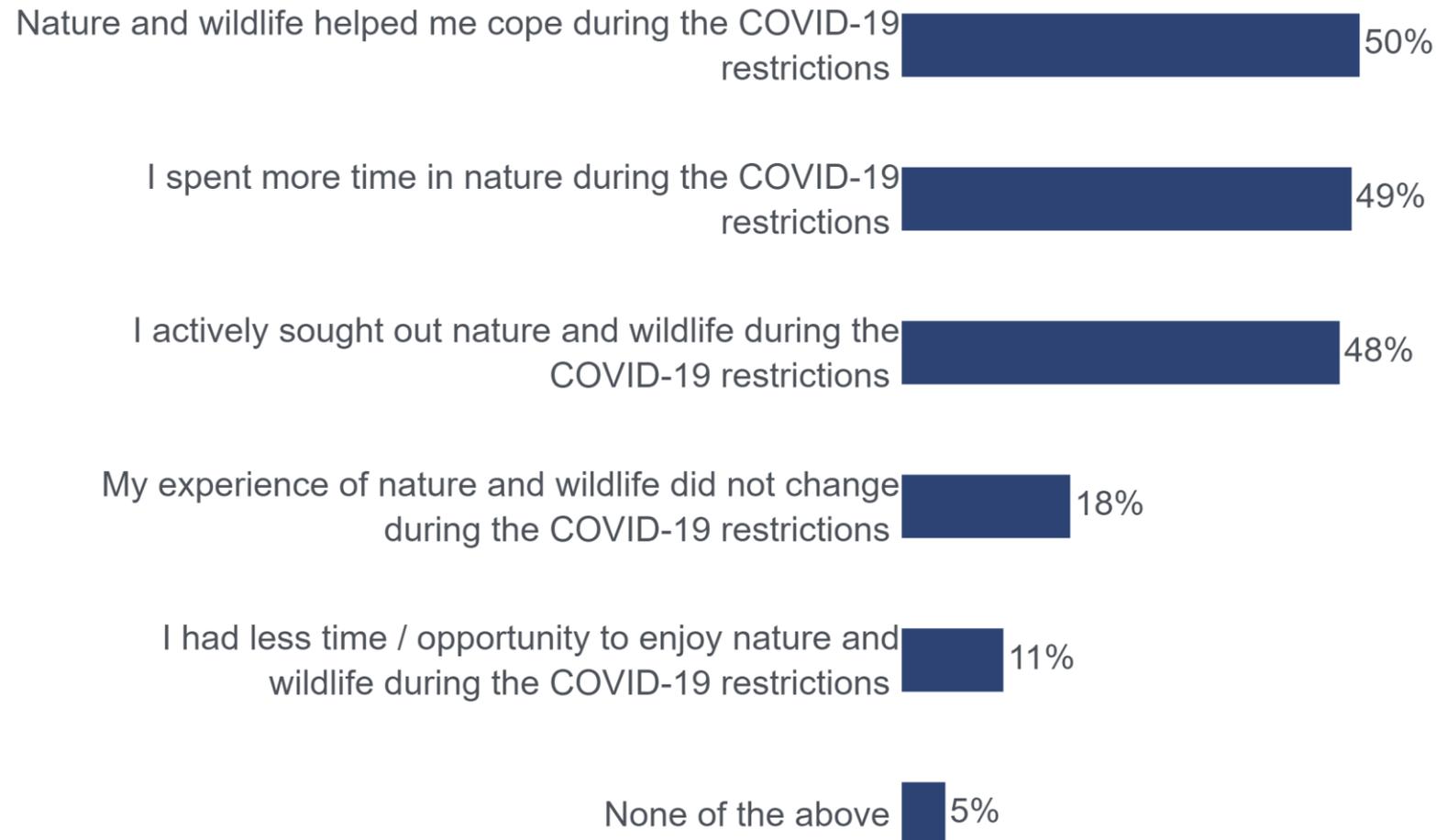
Those aged 50 to 65 were most likely to be shopping locally more often. Under 50s were more likely to be buying more food and to be shopping online more often.



Over 65s were more likely than younger respondents to have started growing their own vegetables, while younger respondents were more likely to be buying more single use plastic.

I.	Background and Respondent Profile	2
II.	Summary of Results	7
III.	Working Arrangements and Commute	14
IV.	Encouraging Walking and Cycling	19
V.	Energy Use and Household Activities	21
VI.	Behaviours Since mid-March	24
<b>VII.</b>	<b>Experience of Nature and Wildlife</b>	<b>26</b>
VIII.	Would Like to See in Place as We Adapt	28
IX.	Going to the City Centre and Other Behaviours	30
X.	Priorities for Retail Businesses	41
XI.	Preferred Initiatives	43
XII.	Would Like to See From Business	51
XIII.	Would Like to See From Local Authority	55
XIV.	Hopes for Dublin	59

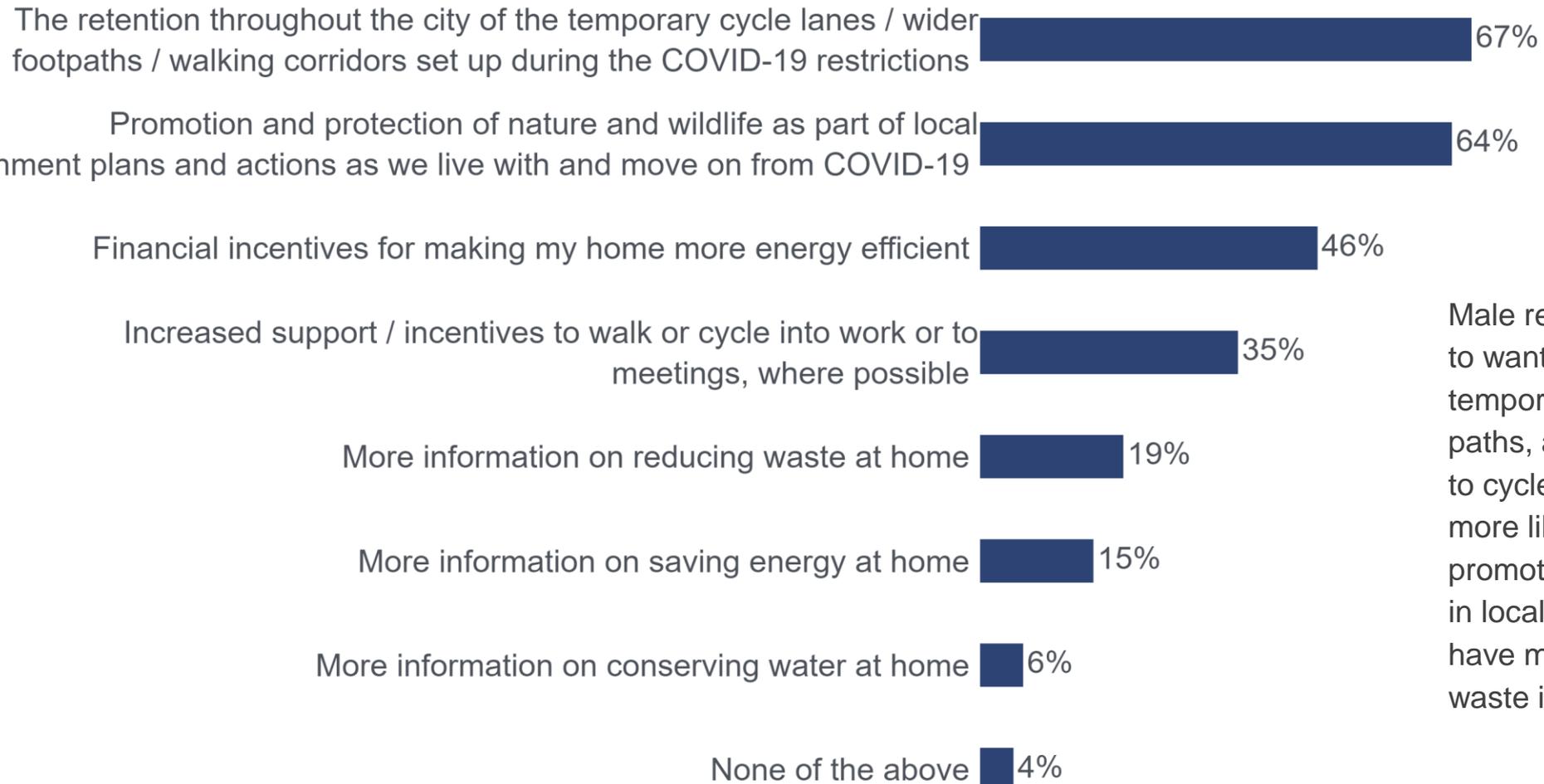
Which of the following statements describe your experience of nature and wildlife during the COVID-19 Restrictions?  
% selecting



Increased engagement with nature and wildlife tended to be higher among the under 50s and was particularly higher among those living in Dublin for 1 to 5 years.

I.	Background and Respondent Profile	2
II.	Summary of Results	7
III.	Working Arrangements and Commute	14
IV.	Encouraging Walking and Cycling	19
V.	Energy Use and Household Activities	21
VI.	Behaviours Since mid-March	24
VII.	Experience of Nature and Wildlife	26
<b>VIII.</b>	<b>Would Like to See in Place as We Adapt</b>	<b>28</b>
IX.	Going to the City Centre and Other Behaviours	30
X.	Priorities for Retail Businesses	41
XI.	Preferred Initiatives	43
XII.	Would Like to See From Business	51
XIII.	Would Like to See From Local Authority	55
XIV.	Hopes for Dublin	59

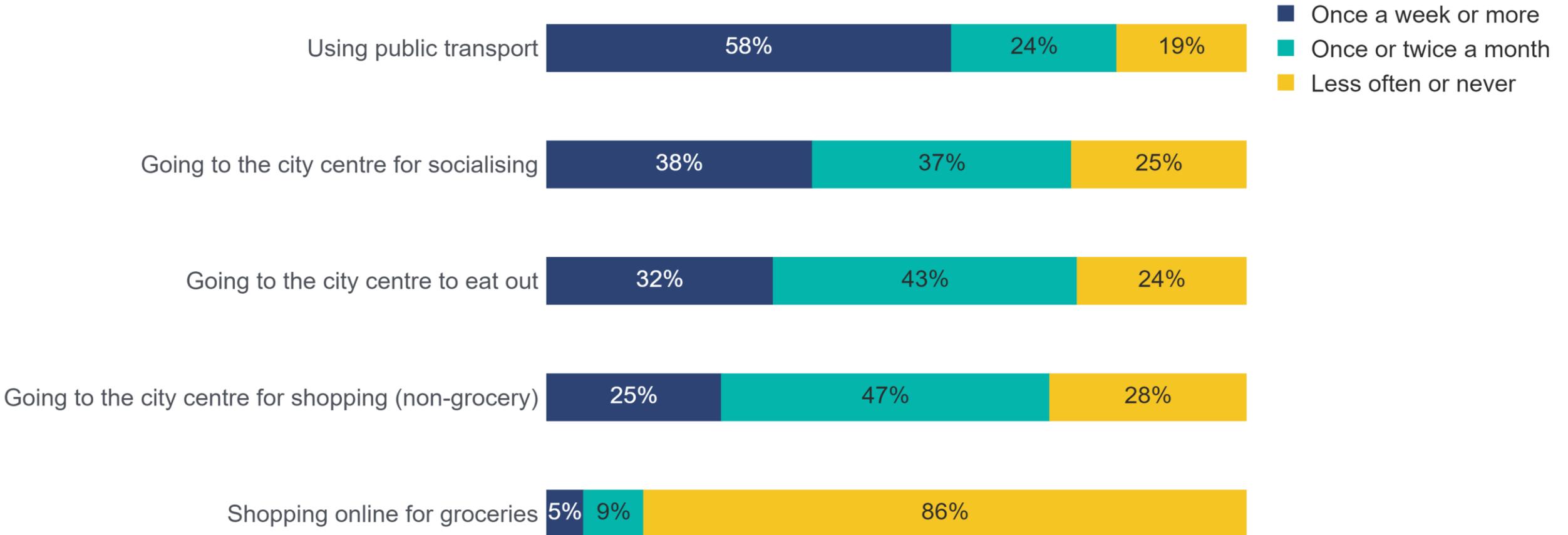
## Which of the following would you like to see in place as we adapt to a 'new normal' as a result of COVID-19?



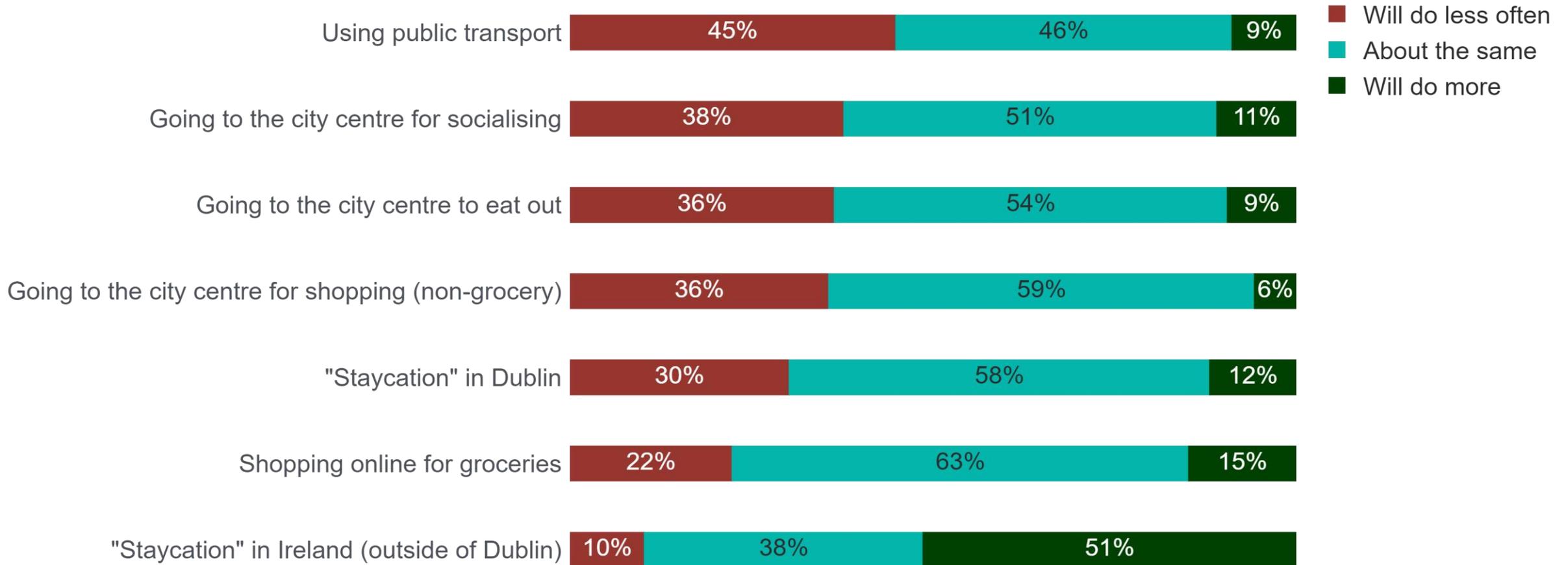
Male respondents were more likely to want to see the retention of temporary cycle lanes and walking paths, as well as financial incentives to cycle or walk. Females were more likely to be in favour of the promotion and protection of wildlife in local government plans, and to have more information on reducing waste in the home

I.	Background and Respondent Profile	2
II.	Summary of Results	7
III.	Working Arrangements and Commute	14
IV.	Encouraging Walking and Cycling	19
V.	Energy Use and Household Activities	21
VI.	Behaviours Since mid-March	24
VII.	Experience of Nature and Wildlife	26
VIII.	Would Like to See in Place as We Adapt	28
<b>IX.</b>	<b>Going to the City Centre and Other Behaviours</b>	<b>30</b>
X.	Priorities for Retail Businesses	41
XI.	Preferred Initiatives	43
XII.	Would Like to See From Business	51
XIII.	Would Like to See From Local Authority	55
XIV.	Hopes for Dublin	59

Before the COVID-19 restrictions, how often did you engage in each of the following activities?



Please imagine when the COVID-19 situation is over and everything is "the new normal". How do you think you will be engaging in each of the following activities compared with your pre-COVID habits?



Respondents who indicated "Will do less" or "Will do about the same" for any of these activities were asked what would encourage them engage in each activity more:



- Going to the city centre for shopping (non-grocery)
- Going to the city centre for socialising
- Going to the city centre to eat out
- Using public transport
- Staycation in Ireland (outside Dublin)
- Staycation in Dublin



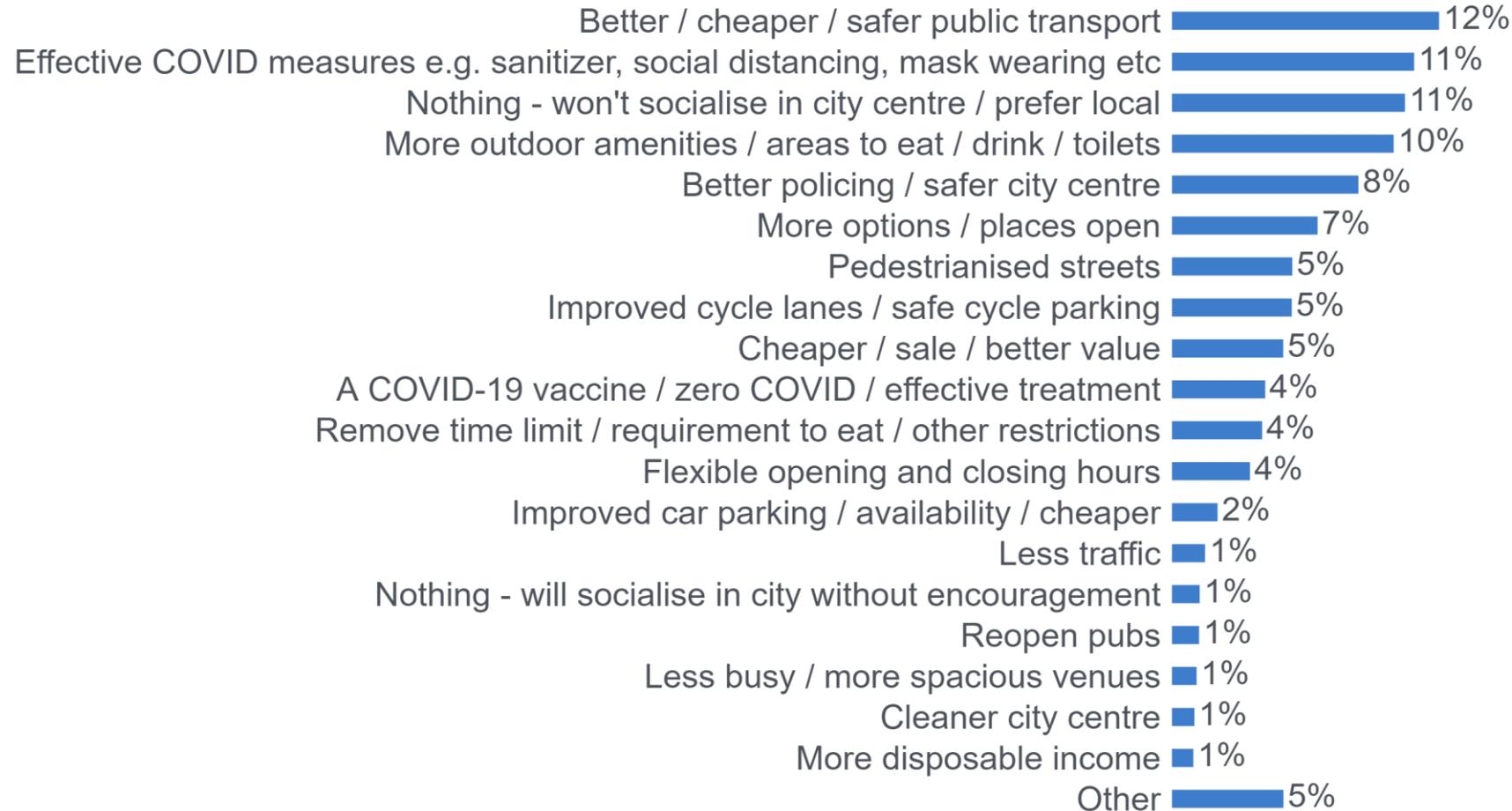
## What would encourage you to engage in each of these activities more in a post-COVID world? - Going to the city centre for shopping (non-grocery)

coded verbatim comments, % first mentions



## What would encourage you to engage in each of these activities more in a post-COVID world? - Going to the city centre for socialising

coded verbatim comments, % first mentions



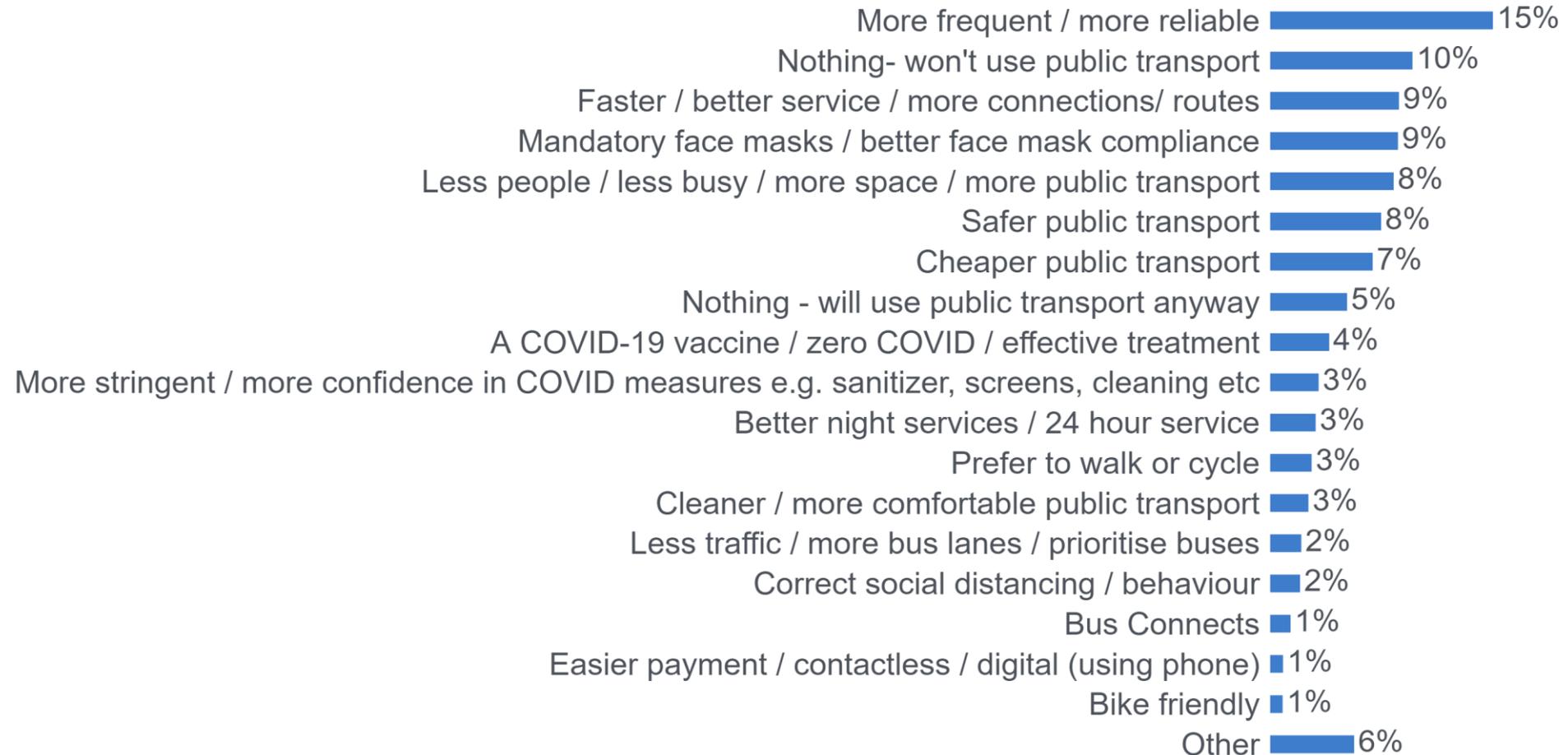
## What would encourage you to engage in each of these activities more in a post-COVID world? - Going to the city centre to eat out

coded verbatim comments, % first mentions



## What would encourage you to engage in each of these activities more in a post-COVID world? - Using public transport

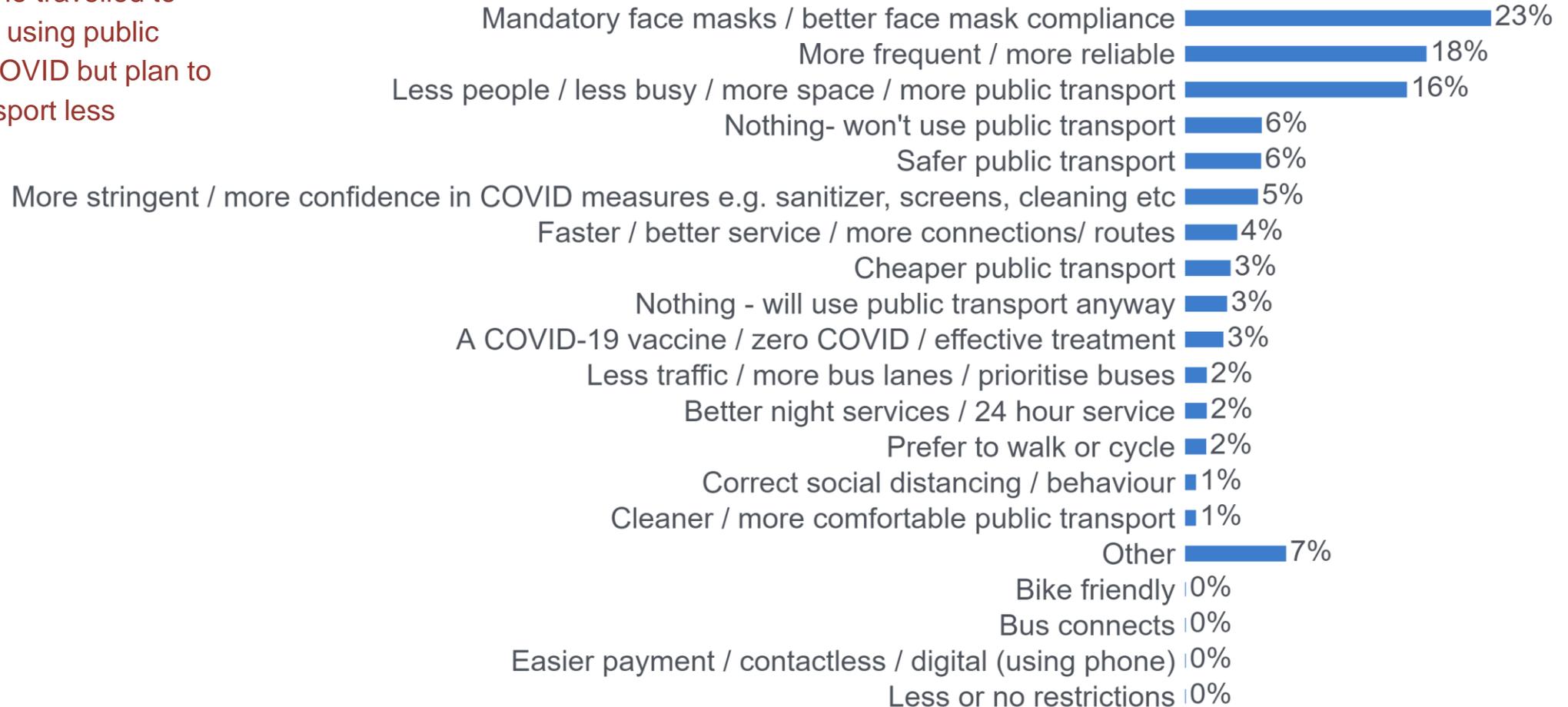
coded verbatim comments, % first mentions



## What would encourage you to engage in each of these activities more in a post-COVID world? - Using public transport

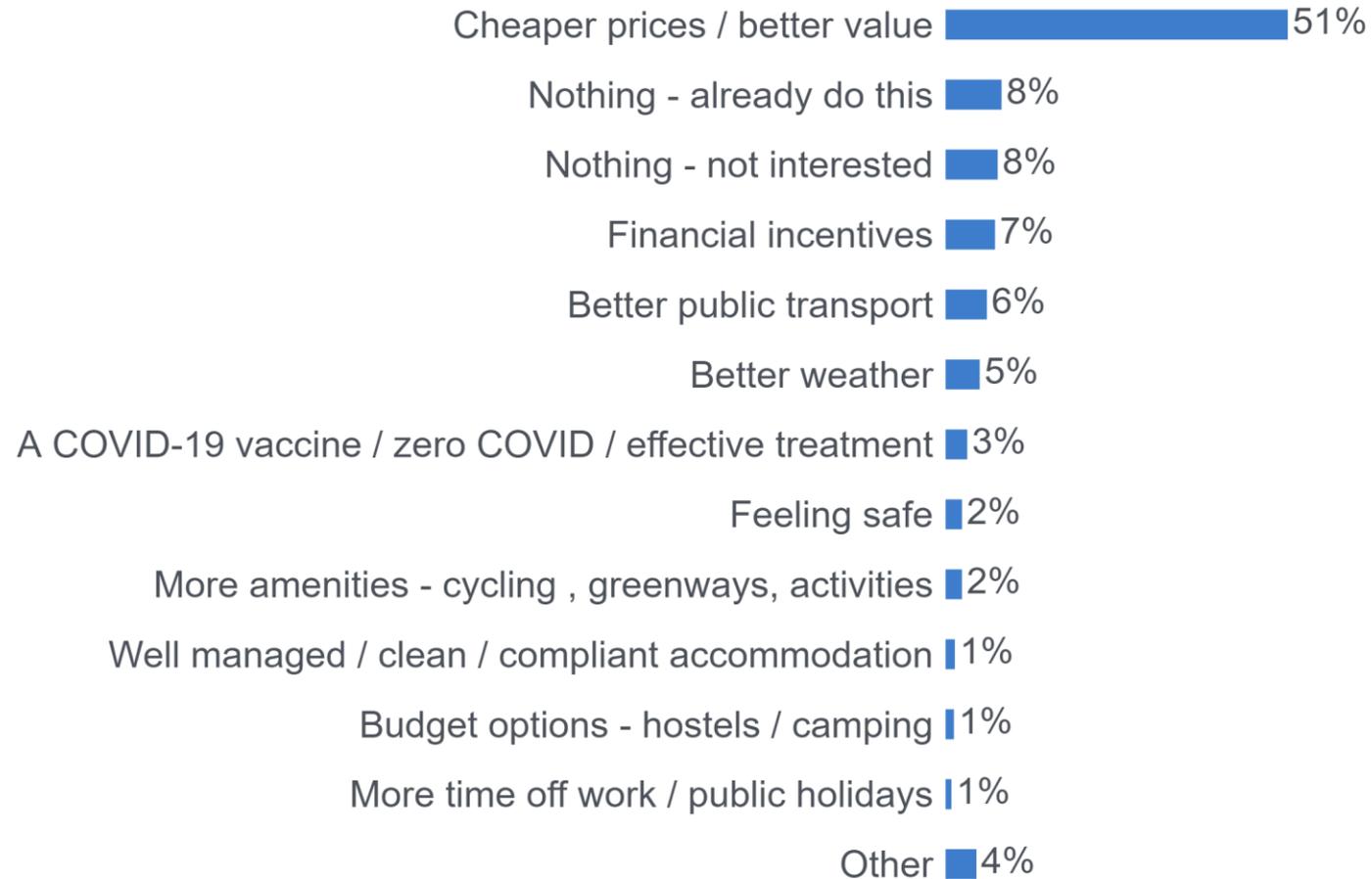
coded verbatim comments, % first mentions

Base - those who travelled to work or college using public transport pre-COVID but plan to use public transport less



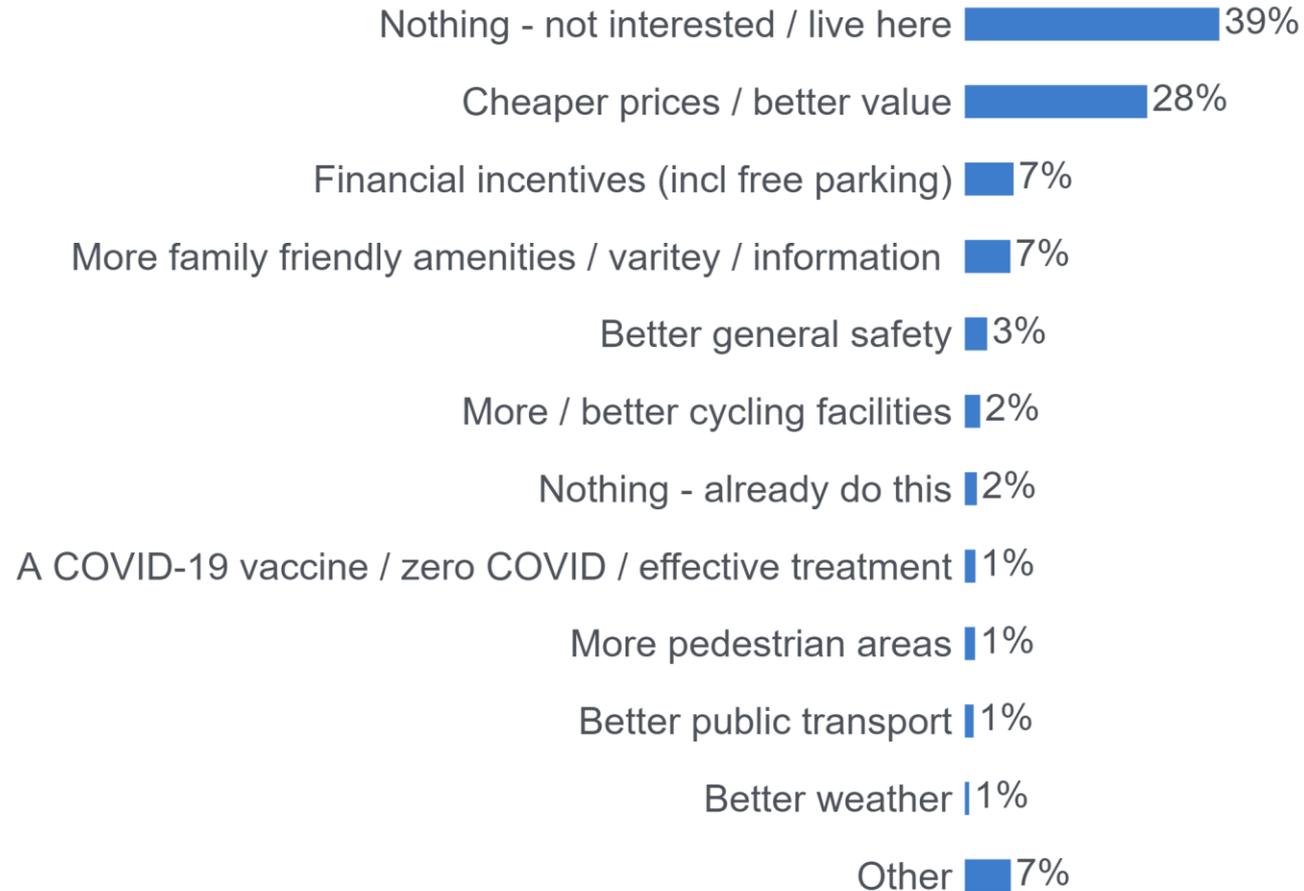
## What would encourage you to engage in each of these activities more in a post-COVID world? - Staycation in Ireland (outside Dublin)

coded verbatim comments, % first mentions



## What would encourage you to engage in each of these activities more in a post-COVID world? - Staycation Dublin

coded verbatim comments, % first mentions



I.	Background and Respondent Profile	2
II.	Summary of Results	7
III.	Working Arrangements and Commute	14
IV.	Encouraging Walking and Cycling	19
V.	Energy Use and Household Activities	21
VI.	Behaviours Since mid-March	24
VII.	Experience of Nature and Wildlife	26
VIII.	Would Like to See in Place as We Adapt	28
IX.	Going to the City Centre and Other Behaviours	30
<b>X.</b>	<b>Priorities for Retail Businesses</b>	<b>41</b>
XI.	Preferred Initiatives	43
XII.	Would Like to See From Business	51
XIII.	Would Like to See From Local Authority	55
XIV.	Hopes for Dublin	59

As the economy emerges from the pandemic restrictions, please rank what you think **should** and **will** be the priorities for retail businesses

□

## Should be:

highest priority



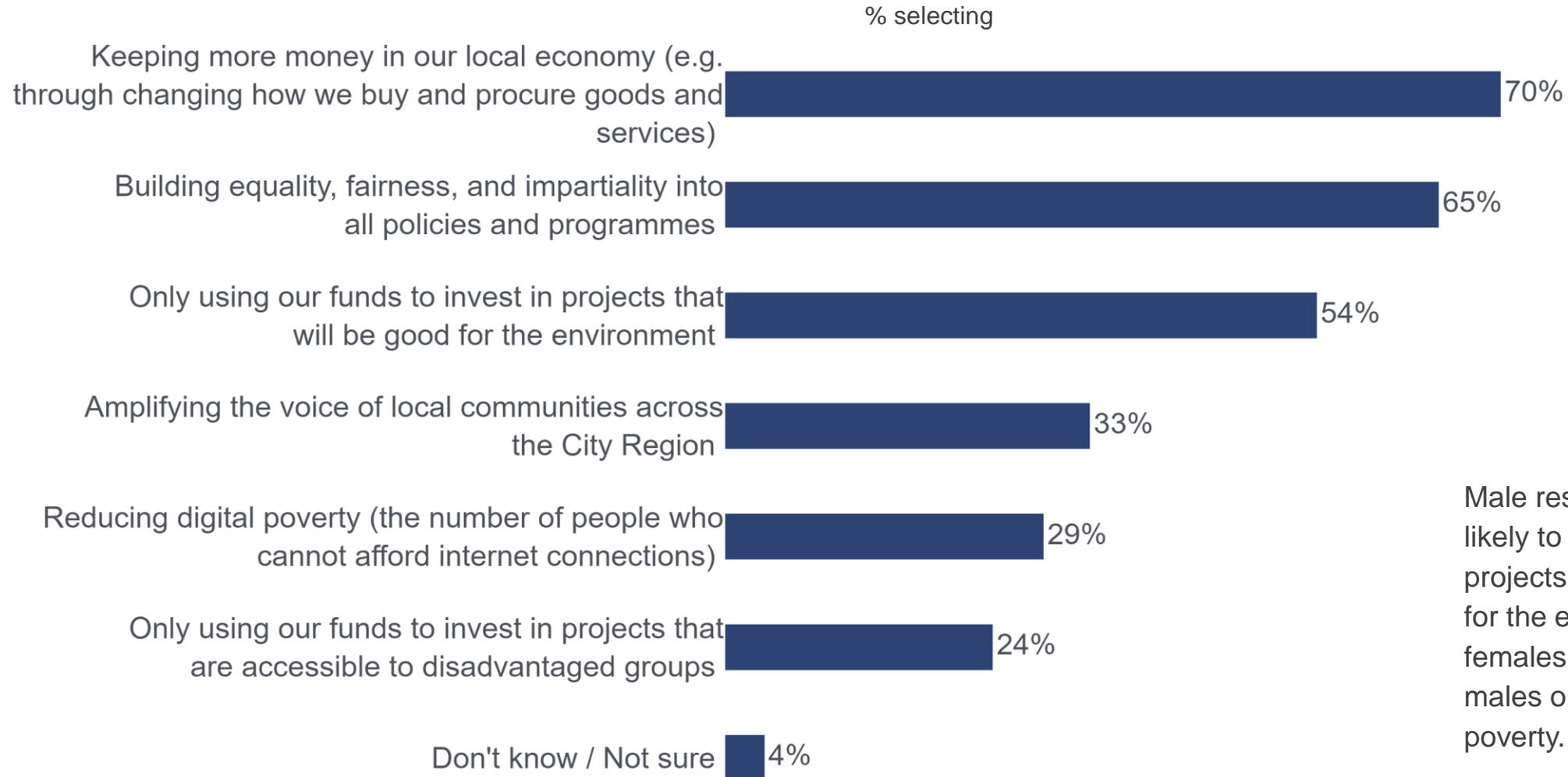
lowest priority

## Will be:



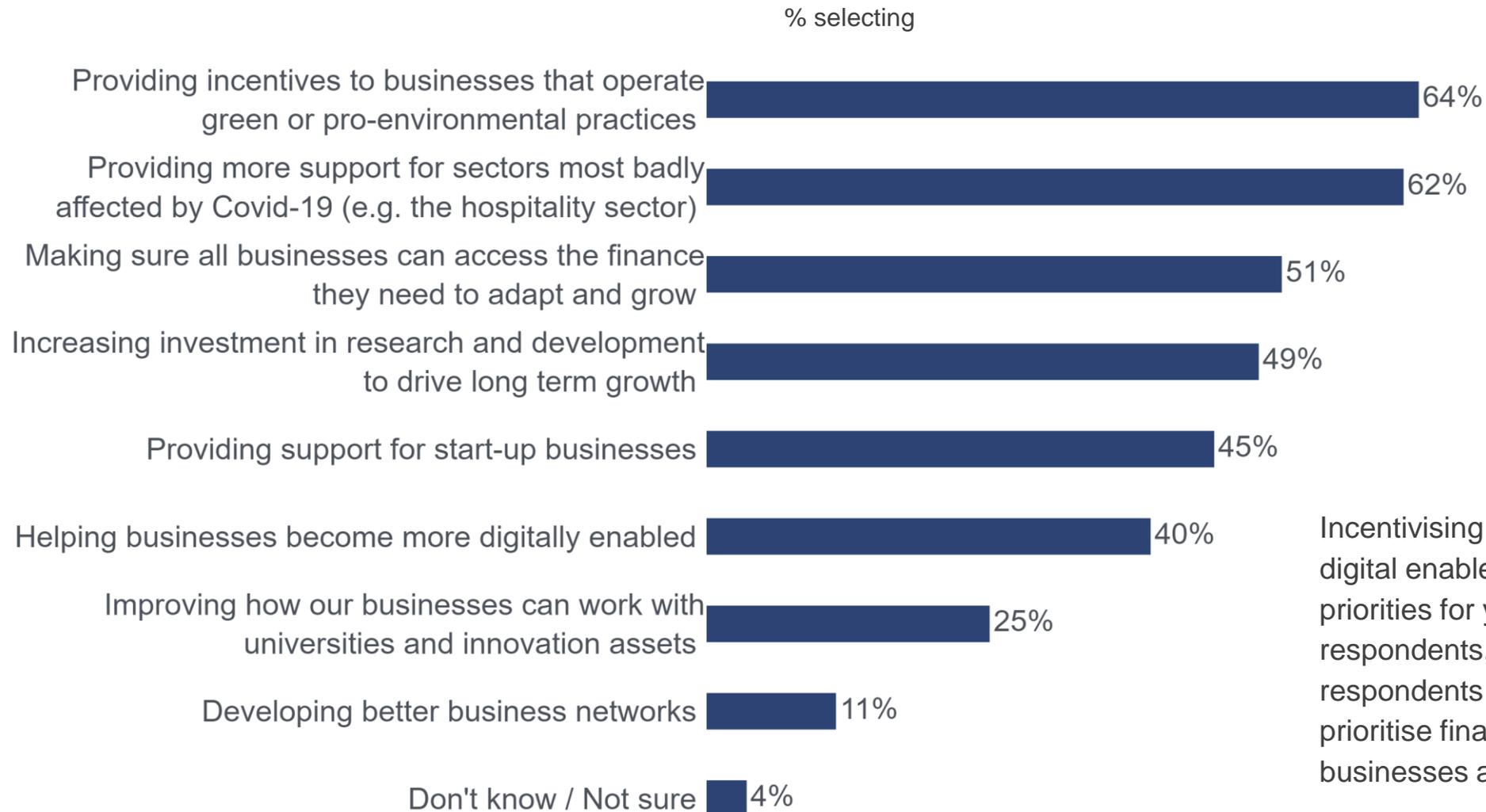
I.	Background and Respondent Profile	2
II.	Summary of Results	7
III.	Working Arrangements and Commute	14
IV.	Encouraging Walking and Cycling	19
V.	Energy Use and Household Activities	21
VI.	Behaviours Since mid-March	24
VII.	Experience of Nature and Wildlife	26
VIII.	Would Like to See in Place as We Adapt	28
IX.	Going to the City Centre and Other Behaviours	30
X.	Priorities for Retail Businesses	41
<b>XI.</b>	<b>Preferred Initiatives</b>	<b>43</b>
XII.	Would Like to See From Business	51
XIII.	Would Like to See From Local Authority	55
XIV.	Hopes for Dublin	59

Please select up to 3 "Build Back Better" initiatives / programmes that you feel are most important for the recovery as we rebuild after the pandemic.



Male respondents were more likely to favour investment in projects that would be good for the environment, while females were keener than males on reducing digital poverty.

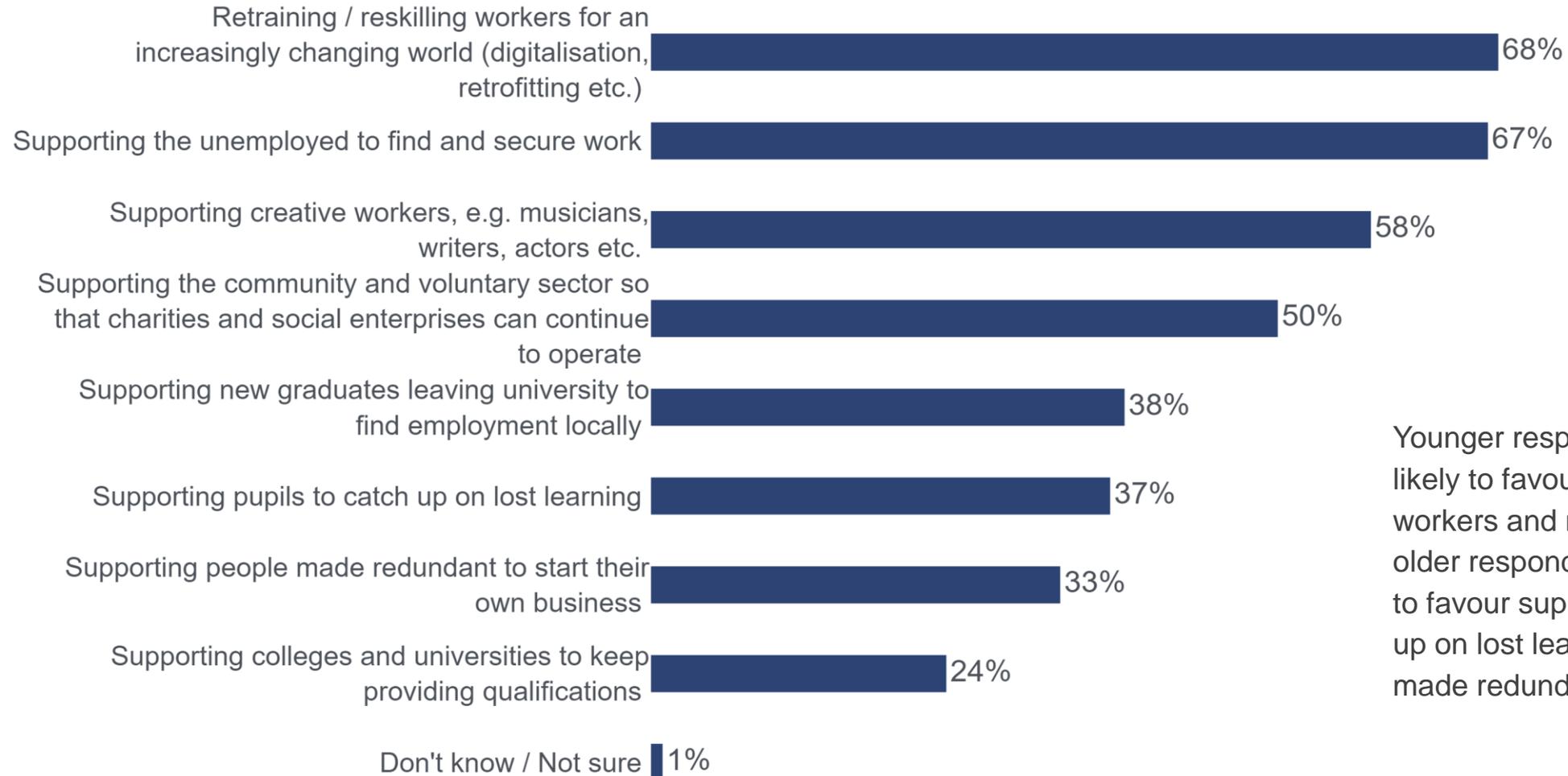
Please select up to 4 Business Ecosystem initiatives / programmes that you feel are most important for our recovery.



Incentivising green practices and digital enablement were higher priorities for younger respondents, while older respondents were more likely to prioritise finance for existing businesses and start-ups

Please select up to 4 People initiatives / programmes that you feel are most important for our recovery.

% selecting



Younger respondents were more likely to favour support for creative workers and new graduates, while older respondents were more likely to favour support for pupils to catch up on lost learning and for those made redundant.

Please select up to 3 Place initiatives / programmes that you feel are most important for our recovery.

% selecting

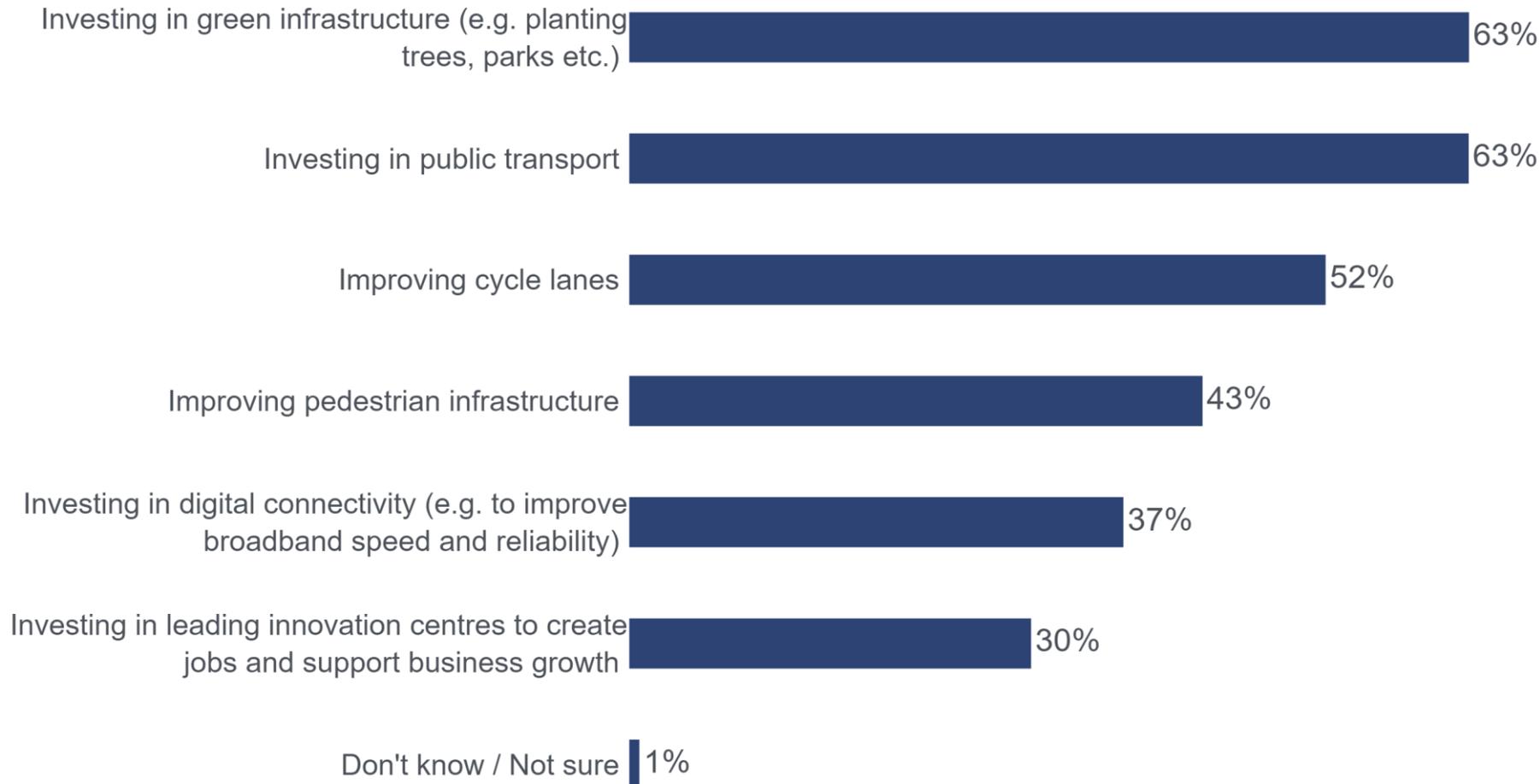


Younger respondents were more likely to favour providing more residential accommodation in the city centre, supporting local events and venues, and repurposing outdoor spaces for social distancing requirements.

Older respondents were more likely to favour supporting the tourism and visitor sector.

Please select up to 3 Infrastructure initiatives / programmes that you feel are most important for our recovery.

% selecting



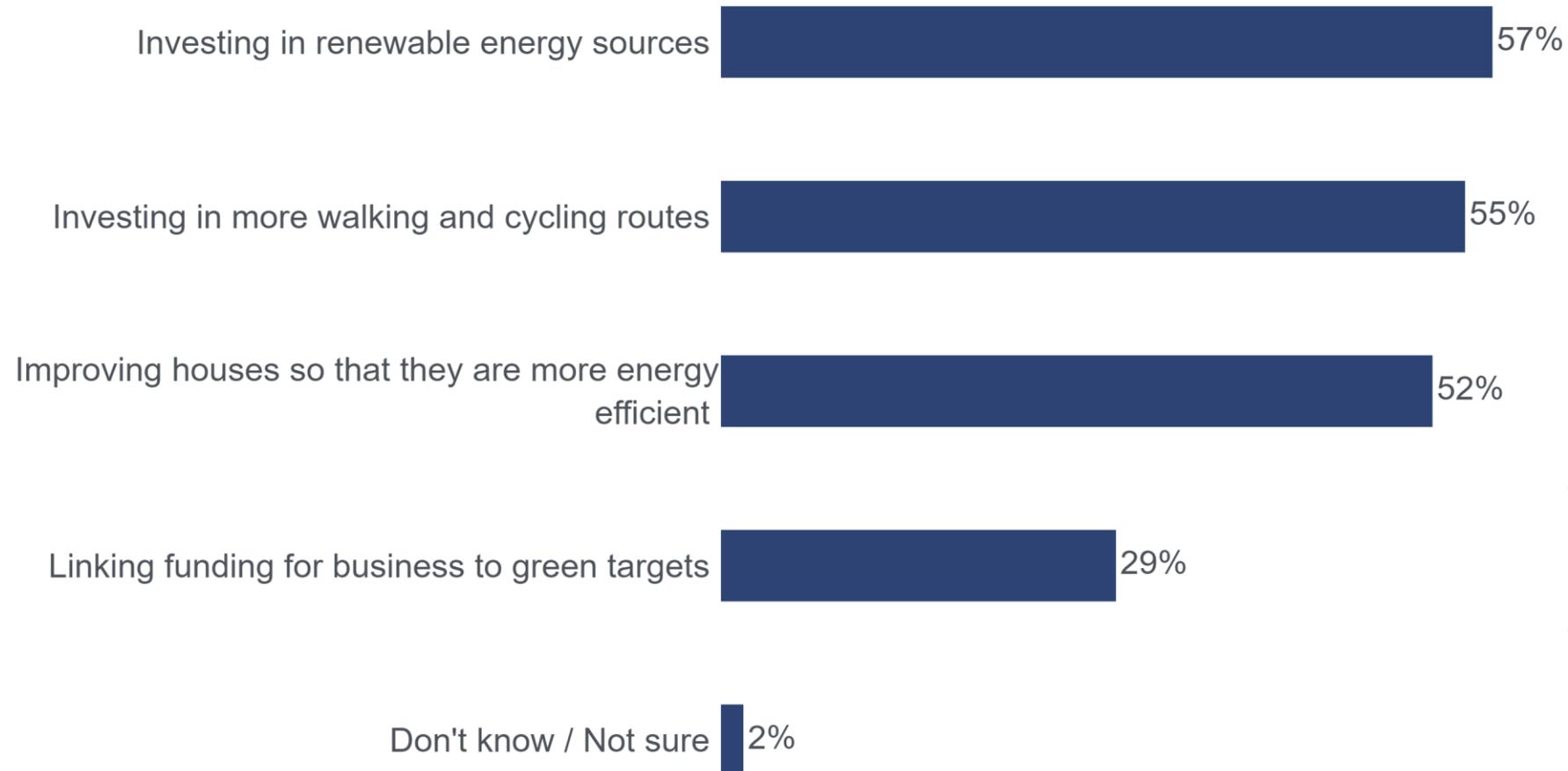
Younger respondents were more likely to favour investing in green infrastructure and improving cycle lanes. Over 50s were more likely to favour investing in innovation centres.



35 to 49 year-olds were less favourable than other age groups towards investing in public transport.

Please select up to 2 Green Recovery initiatives / programmes that you feel are most important for our recovery.

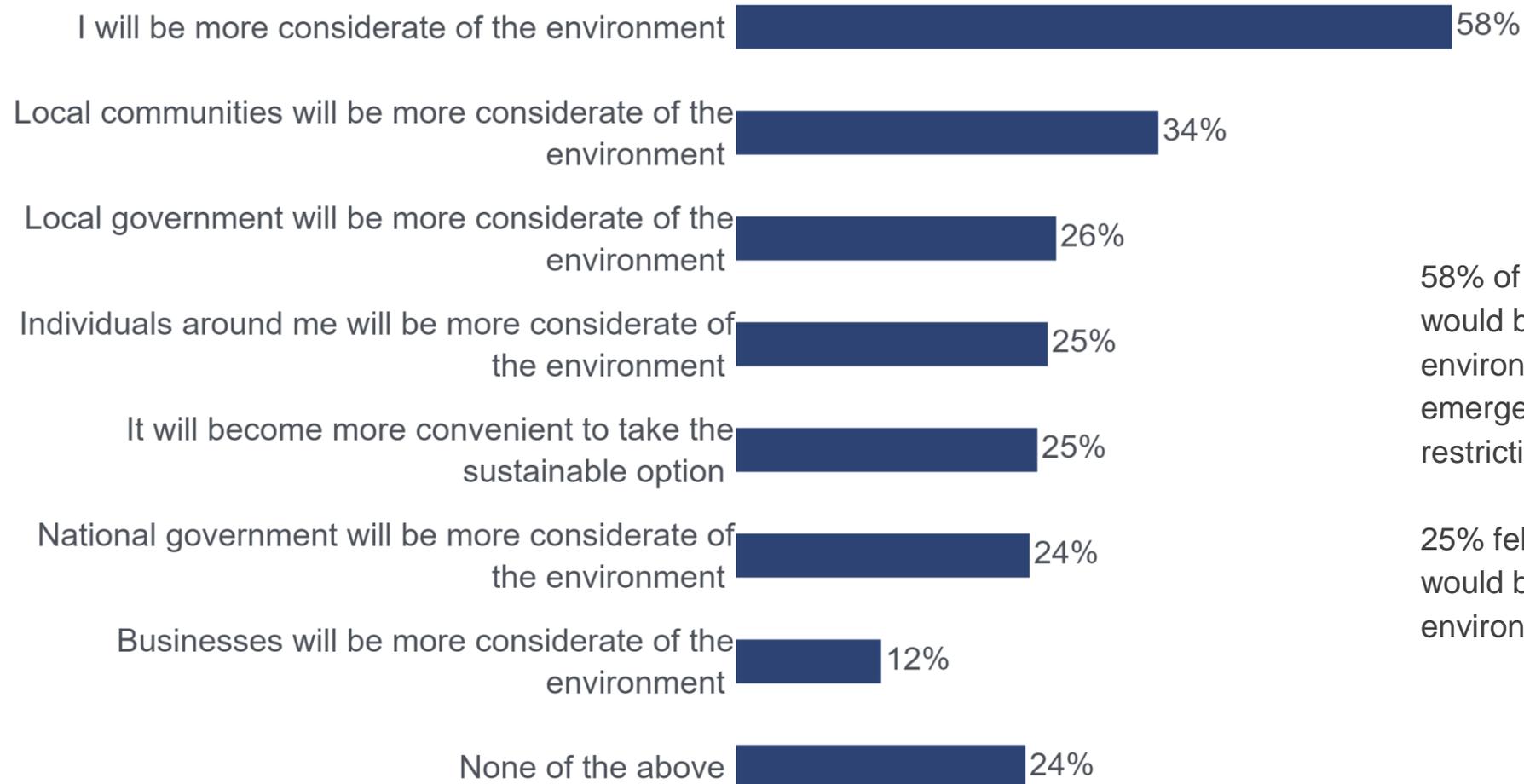
% selecting



Those aged under 50 were keener on investing in more walking and cycling routes, while those aged over 50 were more likely to prioritise improving the energy efficiency of houses.

As the economy emerges from the pandemic restrictions, which of the following do you think will be true? Please select as many as apply.

% selecting



58% of respondents felt that they would be more considerate of the environment as the economy emerges from the pandemic restrictions.

25% felt that individuals around them would be more considerate of the environment.

I.	Background and Respondent Profile	2
II.	Summary of Results	7
III.	Working Arrangements and Commute	14
IV.	Encouraging Walking and Cycling	19
V.	Energy Use and Household Activities	21
VI.	Behaviours Since mid-March	24
VII.	Experience of Nature and Wildlife	26
VIII.	Would Like to See in Place as We Adapt	28
IX.	Going to the City Centre and Other Behaviours	30
X.	Priorities for Retail Businesses	41
XI.	Preferred Initiatives	43
<b>XII.</b>	<b>Would Like to See From Business</b>	<b>51</b>
XIII.	Would Like to See From Local Authority	55
XIV.	Hopes for Dublin	59

## What would you like to see businesses do more of, or do in a new way, as they emerge from the pandemic restrictions?

verbatim comments coded



Female respondents were more likely to mention adherence to guidelines and support for remote working than males.

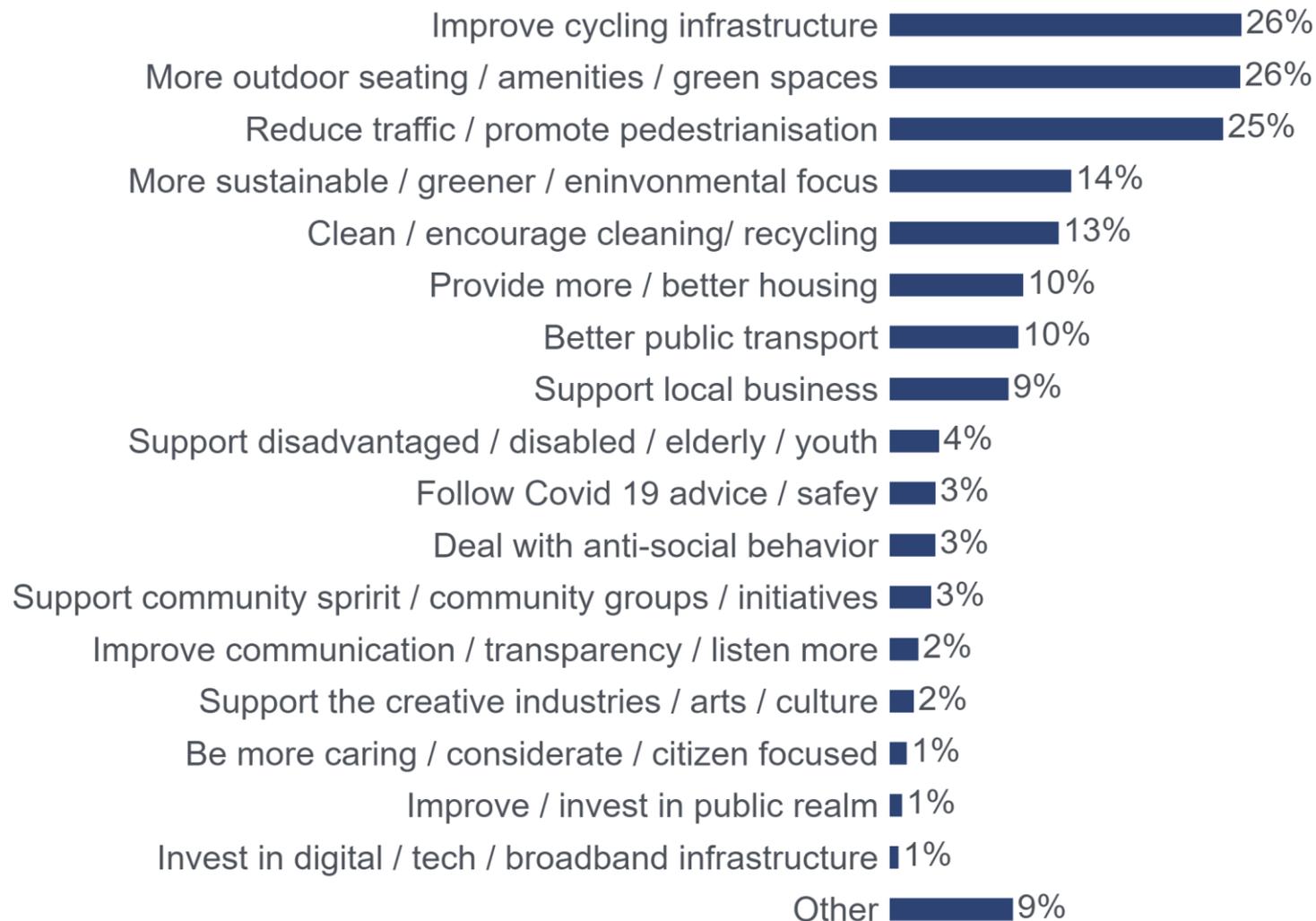
□ Older respondents were more likely to mention improved customer service.



I.	Background and Respondent Profile	2
II.	Summary of Results	7
III.	Working Arrangements and Commute	14
IV.	Encouraging Walking and Cycling	19
V.	Energy Use and Household Activities	21
VI.	Behaviours Since mid-March	24
VII.	Experience of Nature and Wildlife	26
VIII.	Would Like to See in Place as We Adapt	28
IX.	Going to the City Centre and Other Behaviours	30
X.	Priorities for Retail Businesses	41
XI.	Preferred Initiatives	43
XII.	Would Like to See From Business	51
<b>XIII.</b>	<b>Would Like to See From Local Authority</b>	<b>55</b>
XIV.	Hopes for Dublin	59

## What would you like to see your local authority do more of, or do in a new way, as communities emerge from the pandemic restrictions?

verbatim comments coded



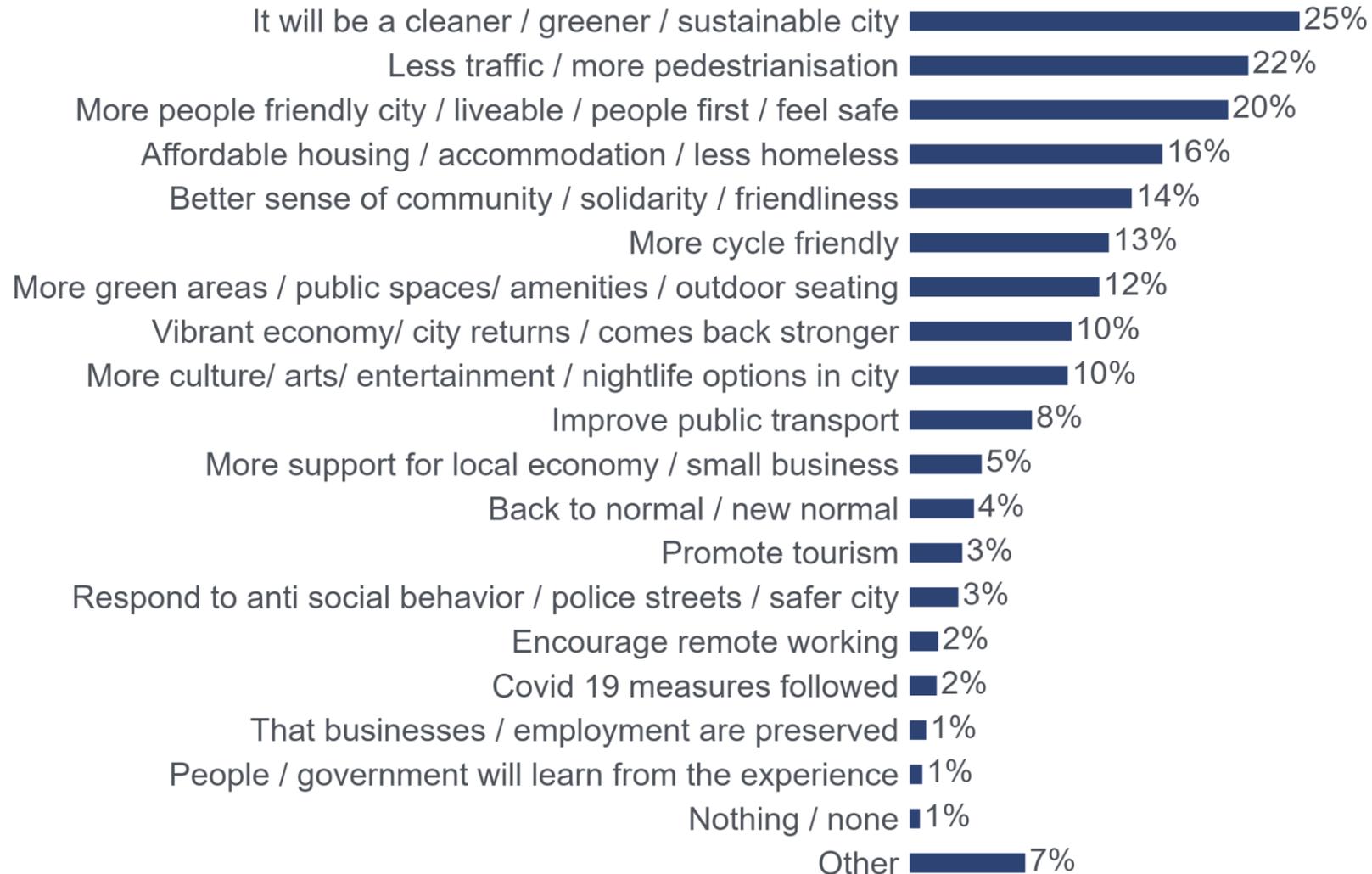
Male respondents and younger respondents were more likely to mention improved cycling infrastructure and reduced traffic.



I.	Background and Respondent Profile	2
II.	Summary of Results	7
III.	Working Arrangements and Commute	14
IV.	Encouraging Walking and Cycling	19
V.	Energy Use and Household Activities	21
VI.	Behaviours Since mid-March	24
VII.	Experience of Nature and Wildlife	26
VIII.	Would Like to See in Place as We Adapt	28
IX.	Going to the City Centre and Other Behaviours	30
X.	Priorities for Retail Businesses	41
XI.	Preferred Initiatives	43
XII.	Would Like to See From Business	51
XIII.	Would Like to See From Local Authority	55
<b>XIV.</b>	<b>Hopes for Dublin</b>	<b>59</b>

## What are your hopes for Dublin as the city emerges from the pandemic restrictions?

verbatim comments coded



Female respondents and those aged under 35 were more likely to mention affordable housing and more green areas.



# END

For further information please contact:

- Economic Development Office
- Dublin City Council
- 01 222 5611
- [research@dublincity.ie](mailto:research@dublincity.ie)