2022 Tree Protection Survey

Final Report – August 3, 2022

Prepared for The City of Calgary by:

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Research Summary

Calgarians are split on whether to introduce restrictions on removing trees on private property.

Unsure: 3%

Oppose: 42%

Support: 56%
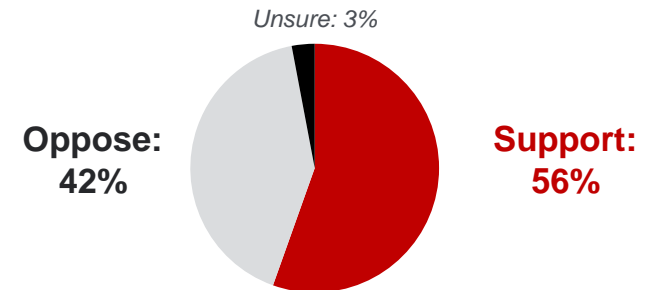
Calgarians are most likely to be motivated to plant or preserve a tree if they receive…

A property tax credit for having trees

Free tree care services

Rebates for purchasing new trees

The most agreed-upon benefits of trees include…

Maintaining the character of surrounding neighbourhoods

Supporting biodiversity

Increasing property values

35% of Calgarians feel knowledgeable about what is being done preserve the tree canopy.

(26% in 2011)

74% are satisfied with The City's efforts to protect the canopy.

Methodology

- The City of Calgary commissioned Probe Research to conduct a telephone survey with a random and representative sample of N=500 Calgarians aged 18 years and older regarding protecting and preserving trees on private and public lands.

- The survey was conducted between June 6th and 16th, 2022.
  - A significant rain and wind event which led to some mature trees being damaged occurred while this survey was in field, which may have had some effect on the results.

- With a sample of 500, one can say with 95 percent certainty that the results are within ± 4.38 percentage points of what they would have been if the entire adult population of Calgary had been surveyed. The margin of error is higher within each of the survey's population sub-groups.

- Random digit dialing, including both landline and wireless numbers, ensured all Calgary adults had an equal opportunity to participate in this survey.

- Some tracking results shown in this survey are from an earlier online survey conducted between October 31st and November 11th, 2011 with N=860 members from a vendor online research panel.

Methodology (cont'd)

- Minor statistical weighting has been applied to this sample to ensure that region, age and gender characteristics properly reflect known attributes of the city's population (based on the 2021 Census). All data analysis was performed using SPSS statistical analysis software.

- Results may not add to exactly 100% in this report due to rounding.

- Results of <2% are not labelled in the graphs.

- In addition to breaking down the results by quadrant, this report also examines key differences among those who live in areas with high, medium and low canopy coverage. These proportions were based on geospatial data provided by The City.

Type of Area	% Coverage
High canopy coverage	15% or more
Medium canopy coverage	8%-15%
Low canopy coverage	<8%
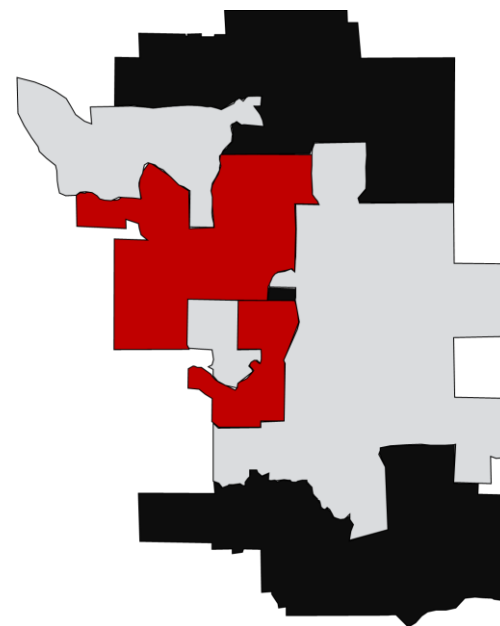
Key Findings

Views on Potential City Initiatives

- About one-third of Calgary adults believe The City has bylaws or regulations in place to preserve trees on private property – despite the fact that these do not currently exist.

- More than one-half of those surveyed support having restrictions on removing trees from private property, including one-quarter who strongly support this measure.

- Those who care for yards are most likely to say that receiving a property tax credit for having trees on their properties, tree care support programs (such as free pruning) and tree planting rebates are most likely to encourage them to plant a new tree or protect an existing tree. More than three-quarters like the idea of receiving a free tree, while seven in ten yard stewards would participate in an education program or take information from The City on how to care for trees.

Perceptions of Calgary's Tree Canopy

- The proportion of Calgarians who feel they know about what is being done to protect trees and increase the tree canopy has increased during the past decade, with more than one-third now saying they are very or somewhat knowledgeable about these efforts (35%, vs. 26% in 2011).

- Calgarians are somewhat more likely to estimate the tree canopy is larger today, with nearly four in ten indicating that it covers at least 30 per cent of the land within the city despite the fact actual canopy coverage is only eight per cent. More than eight in ten Calgarians agree efforts should be made to increase the size of the tree canopy.

- Three-quarters of adult Calgarians are satisfied with the steps The City is taking to protect trees, including just 16 per cent who are very satisfied and nearly six in ten (58%) who are somewhat satisfied.

Key Findings (cont'd)

Perceived Benefits and Threats

- Virtually all Calgarians say trees are important to them, including eight in ten who say they are very important.

- The vast majority of adult Calgarians believe it is important to protect mature trees to maintain the character and canopy in surrounding neighbourhoods, with more than nine in ten also agreeing a healthy urban forest supports biodiversity and helps maintain air quality. More than eight in ten believe trees contribute to higher property values, with a slightly smaller proportion agreeing that increasing the tree canopy will help mitigate against climate change. Slightly fewer than one-half would be willing to pay more in property taxes to increase the tree canopy.

- More than eight in ten Calgarians agree infill developments limit the opportunity to save existing trees, with a slightly smaller proportion agreeing it is difficult to save trees on lands that are under development. Only about four in ten say it is expensive to maintain healthy trees or that the local climate makes it difficult to grow trees to maturity.

  - The proportion who strongly or somewhat agree that development makes it challenging to save trees has increased substantially during the past decade (from 47% in 2011 to 69%).

- While about one-half of those who maintain lawns say the size of their property makes it difficult to plant trees, only about one in five agree with the notion that caring for trees is a nuisance.

Key Findings (cont'd)

Participation in Tree-Related Behaviours

- About three-quarters of adult Calgarians adults have pruned or watered trees on private property during the past year. About one-third say they have planted a tree, with slightly fewer than one in five saying they removed a tree. Participation in tree-related activities is similar to what it was 10 years ago.

- Three in ten Calgarians who care for a yard intend to plant trees on their property during the coming year, while two-thirds indicate they have no plans to do so.

Conclusions/Recommendations

Those who have the most direct degree of interaction with trees are also the most likely to oppose any efforts to limit how they are maintained.

- As the results of this survey show, those who regularly plant and care for trees – and who are likely to do so in the future – are among those who are more likely to oppose a bylaw that places restrictions on when and how trees can be removed from private property. Support for this type of measure is much higher among those for whom trees are highly beneficial, but somewhat abstract – namely, younger and less-established residents who are less likely to own property themselves and/or care for a yard.

If The City moves towards introducing restrictions on tree removal on private land, it should strongly consider conducting significant public engagement with homeowners in well-treed areas of the city.

- Although there is a reasonable level of support for introducing rules regarding private tree removal throughout Calgary, such a proposal will almost certainly encounter opposition in areas where residents care for trees already and do not want to be instructed as to when, where and how they can remove trees on their property. If incentive programs are contemplated, offering an individual benefit (such as a property tax credit) is more likely to be enticing than a program-based solution, such as a free tree or subsidized tree maintenance.

Conclusions/Recommendations (cont'd)

When it comes to messaging, Calgarians are most likely to agree that keeping mature trees helps enhance the surrounding neighbourhood.

- This message resonates strongly with all demographic sub-groups and segments, as Calgarians in both well-treed and emerging neighbourhoods recognize that trees will maintain the character of the communities they live in. The notion that trees enhance urban biodiversity and that the urban forest enhances air quality are also important secondary arguments The City should use when talking about the benefits of trees and forests.

  - **At the same time, Calgarians think their city is more treed than it actually is.** When asked to estimate what percentage of Calgary is covered in trees, the average guess was more than three times higher than the actual percentage (29% vs. 8%). This points to an opportunity for The City to educate Calgarians about how small the current canopy is (especially compared to similar-sized North American cities) and underscore the importance of protecting the trees that exist today. Since a significant proportion of Calgarians also agree the canopy coverage should be increased, there should be relatively strong buy-in for messaging that emphasizes the need to protect the existing canopy and build upon it.

Conclusions/Recommendations (cont'd)

The City may want to avoid using the term "climate change" in its messaging and emphasize the economic value of trees at both a macro and micro level.

- Although three-quarters of Calgarians agree increasing the number of trees will help slow down the effects of climate change, certain segments of the population are significantly less likely to buy into this message. At the same time, even though there is broad support for increasing the size of the canopy, fewer than one-half indicate they would be willing to pay more in property taxes to do this.

  - **Therefore, when talking about how to increase the canopy, The City should touch upon climate resilience arguments indirectly** – for example, by emphasizing how trees lower air temperature and therefore reduce energy costs related to air conditioning, or by pointing out that by retaining and filtering stormwater they can help avoid basement flooding. While these arguments are both tied to climate change, they place more emphasis on the financial benefits trees provide both to the individual homeowner and – on a broader scale – to The City.

Views on Potential City Initiatives

Belief In Existence of Tree Preservation Rules on Private Property

Those who are most likely to believe these rules exist include:
- Residents aged 35-49 (43% vs. 24% 18-34).
- University graduates (38%).
- Residents in households with 2 people (42% vs. 20% in single-person households).
- Residents who support tree removal restrictions (38%).

Legend: ■ Yes ■ No ■ (Unsure)

Year	Yes	No	(Unsure)
2011	21%	22%	57%
2022	33%	29%	37%
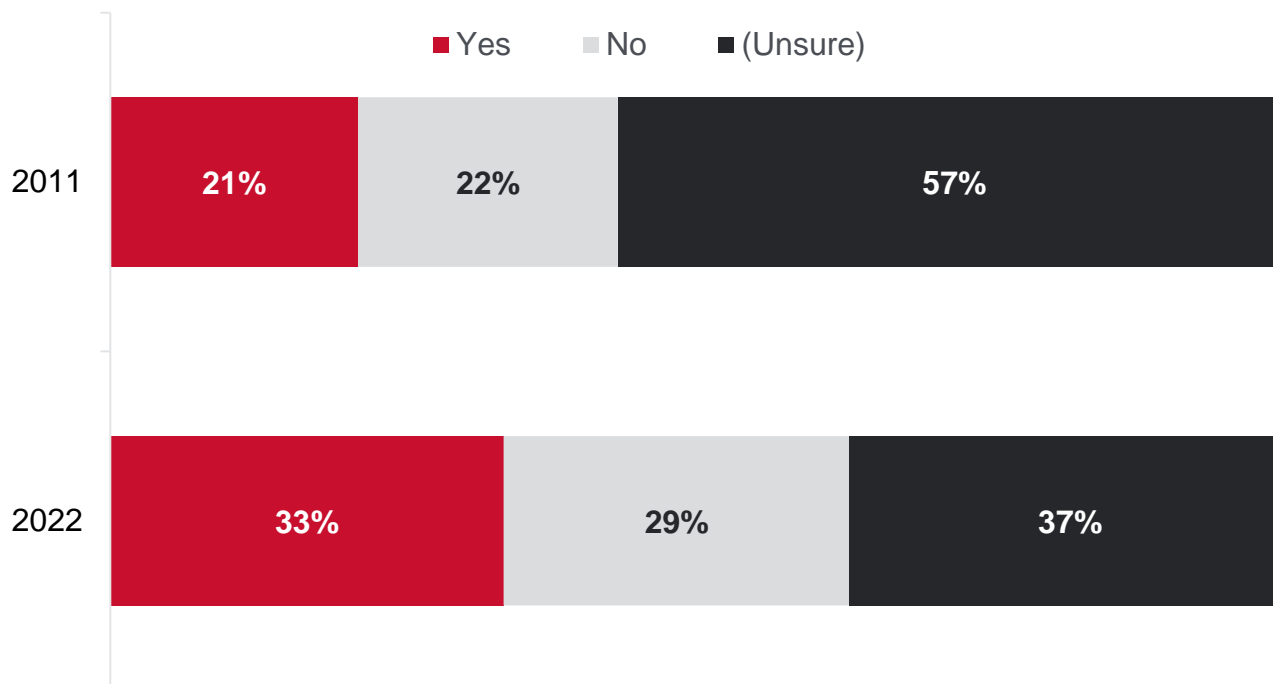
rounding

Q15. To the best of your knowledge, does The City of Calgary have any legislation, bylaws or regulations in place to preserve trees on private property?
*This question is a measure of respondent opinion/self-reported knowledge only.
Base size: All respondents (2011: n=860; 2022: n=500)

Support for Tree Removal Restrictions

Response	Percentage
Strongly support	24%
Somewhat support	32%
Somewhat oppose	19%
Strongly oppose	22%
Refuse/unsure	3%

Support: 56%

Oppose: 42%

rounding
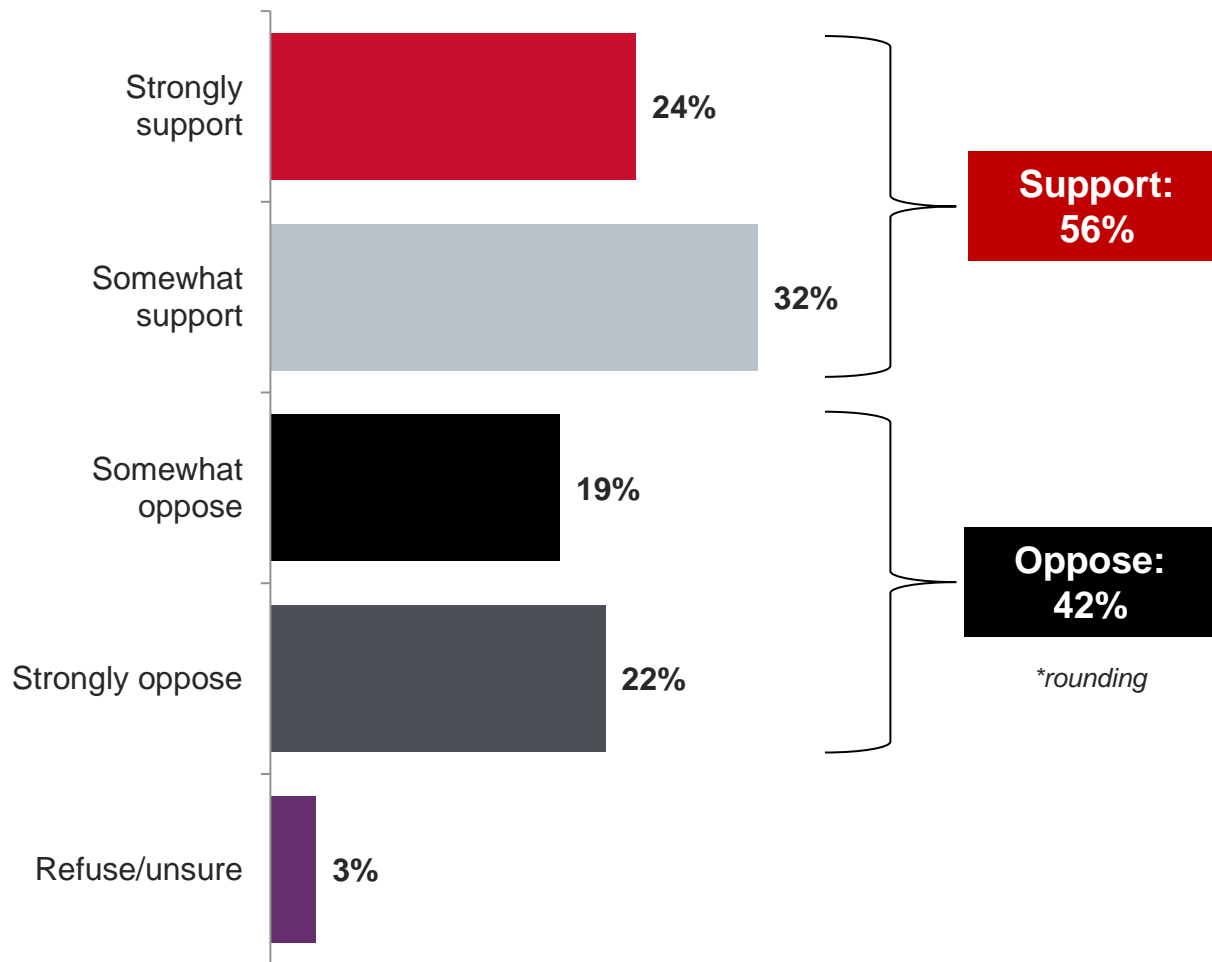
Higher among:
- Shorter-term Calgary residents (70% <10 years vs. 47% among those residing 30+ years).
- Younger residents (69% 18-34 vs. 42% among those 55+).
- Immigrants (67% vs. 50% among non-immigrants).
- Residents who believe there are tree preservation guidelines in place (64%).

Higher among:
- Longer-term Calgary residents (49% 20+ years).
- Older residents (53% aged 55+).
- Non-immigrants (47%).
- Those who do not know if there are rules related to planting and removing trees on private property (45%).
- Residents who have participated in 3 to 4 tree-related activities (51%).

Q16. Do you support or oppose The City of Calgary placing restrictions on removing trees on private property?
Base: All respondents (n=500)

Views on Potential Incentives

	Very likely	Somewhat likely	Somewhat unlikely	Very unlikely	Don't know	Likely: *rounding*
Receiving a property tax credit for having trees on your property	60%	26%	4%	8%		86%
Receiving free services like pruning or support for tree care on private property	54%	28%	6%	11%		81%*
Receiving a rebate when you purchase a new tree to plant on your property	45%	35%	6%	11%	3%	80%
Receiving a free tree from The City of Calgary to plant on your property	52%	24%	9%	12%		76%
Participating in an education program or getting information on how to care for trees from The City of Calgary website	33%	37%	14%	13%	3%	70%
Receiving public recognition from The City for protecting an existing tree on your property	24%	28%	19%	27%	2%	51%*

Q17. For each of the following, please indicate if you think this would make you very likely, somewhat likely, somewhat unlikely or very unlikely to participate in tree planting and preservation activities:
Base size: All respondents who have yards (n=385)

Views on Potential Incentives
Variations by Sub-Group

Those most likely to to participate if there is a **property tax credit for having trees** include:

- University graduates (90%) and those with higher household incomes (94% $120K+ vs. 81% <$60K).

- Those residing in households with 3+ people (89% vs. 74% among those living alone).

Those most likely to to take part if **free services or support for tree care** are offered include:

- Younger residents (93% aged 18-34 vs. 68% among those 55+).

- New Canadians (90%) and BIPOC Calgarians (88%).

- Those living in single-family detached houses (83%).

Those most likely to participate if they **receive public recognition from The City for protecting an existing tree** include:

- Those in the Northeast (65%).

- Those with lower household incomes (64% <$60K vs. 41% $120K+).

- New Canadians (66%).

- BIPOC Calgarians (63%).

Views on Potential Incentives
Variations by Sub-Group

Those most likely to participate after **receiving a free tree from The City** include:

- BIPOC Calgarians (87%).

- Newer Calgarians (95% <10 years).

- Renters (89%).

- Those living in single-family detached houses (77%).

- Those residing in households with 3+ people (82% vs. 68% among those living alone).

Those most likely to participate after **participating in an education program or receiving information on how to care for trees from The City's website** include:

- Those living in neighbourhoods with lower levels of tree coverage (79% vs. 60% among those in higher-canopy areas).

- Younger residents and those aged 35-49 (74% each vs. 60% among those 55+).

- New Canadians (84%).

Those most likely to take part if they get a **rebate when they purchase a new tree** include:

- Newer Calgary residents (95% residing <10 years).

- Younger adults (91%).

- New Canadians (88%).

- University graduates (85%).

Perceptions of Calgary's Tree Canopy

Overall Knowledge of Tree Preservation Efforts

Self-reported knowledge of what is being done to protect trees and increase the canopy is higher among:
- Older residents (54% aged 55+ vs. 26% among those 18-34).
- Longer-term Calgary residents (46% among those living in Calgary 30+ years).

■ Very knowledgeable
■ Not very knowledgeable
■ Somewhat knowledgeable
■ Not at all knowledgeable

Knowledgeable:

	Very	Somewhat	Not very	Not at all	Knowledgeable
2022	5%	30%	38%	27%	35%
2011*		25%	48%	25%	26%
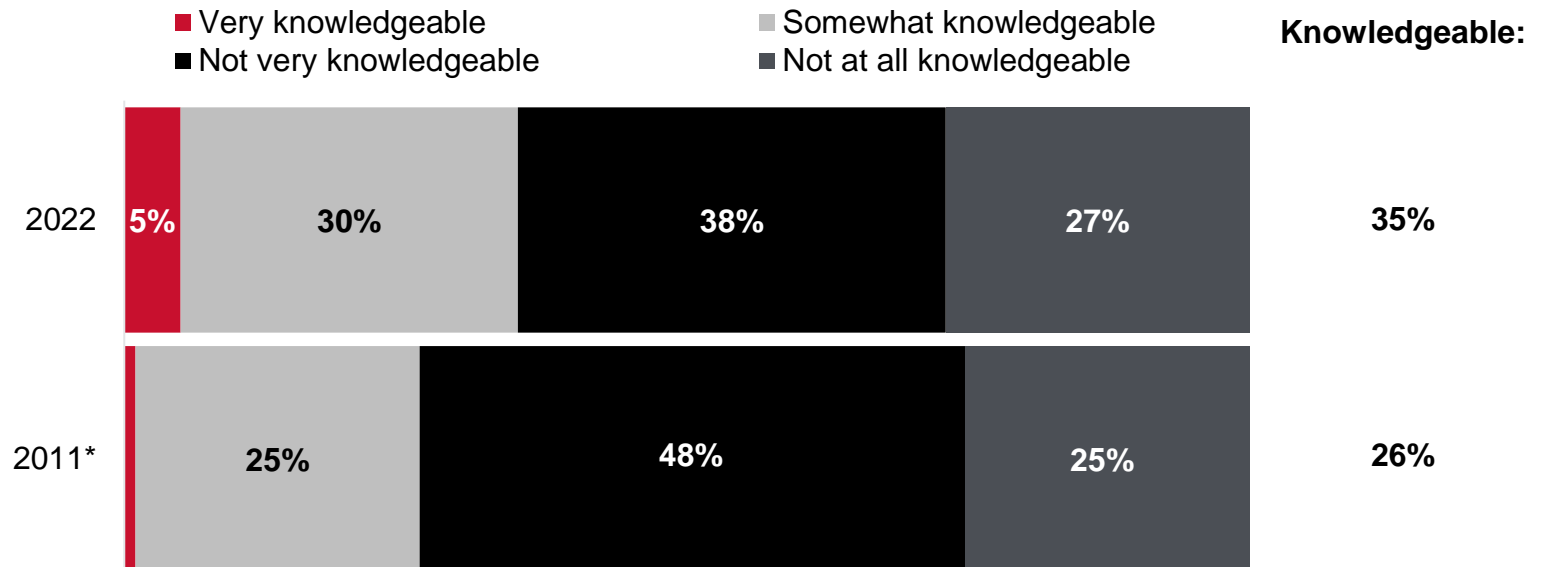
Responses of <2% are not shown

Q2. The term tree canopy refers to the layer of leaves, branches and stems that cover the ground when viewed from above. Overall, how knowledgeable would you say you are about what is being done to protect trees and increase the city's tree canopy? Would you say you are….
*Question wording was slightly different in 2011 survey
Base size: All respondents (2011: n=860; 2022: n=500)

Overall Awareness of Calgary's Tree Canopy Coverage
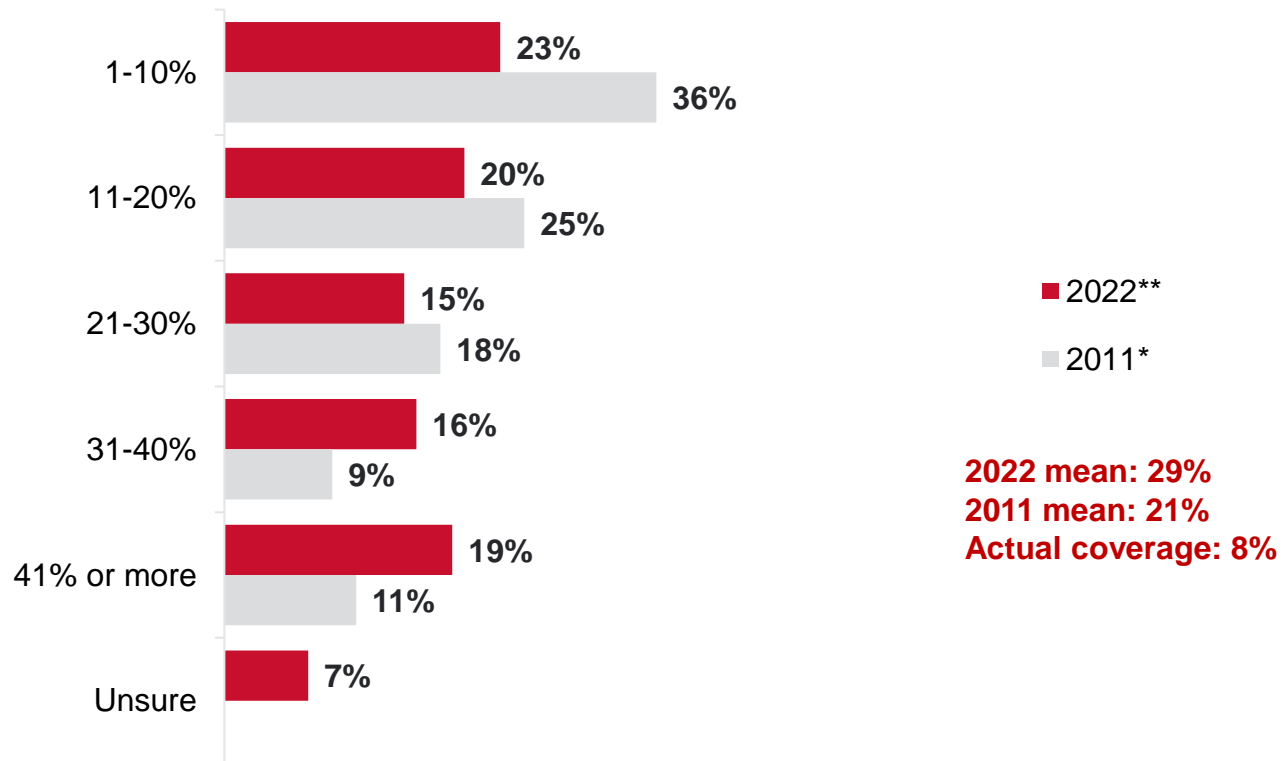
Residents with lower levels of education and household income, as well as those living in multi-family dwellings, are most likely to be unable to estimate the percentage of Calgary currently covered in trees.

Legend:
- 2022**
- 2011*

1-10%
- 2022: 23%
- 2011: 36%

11-20%
- 2022: 20%
- 2011: 25%

21-30%
- 2022: 15%
- 2011: 18%

31-40%
- 2022: 16%
- 2011: 9%

41% or more
- 2022: 19%
- 2011: 11%

Unsure
- 2022: 7%

2022 mean: 29%
2011 mean: 21%
Actual coverage: 8%

Q3. To the best of your knowledge, what percentage of the city is currently covered in trees? That is the layer of leaves, branches and stems that cover the ground when viewed from above, and does not include green spaces or grass. Your best guess is fine.*

*Question wording was slightly different in 2011 survey

**The 2011 survey was conducted online and did not have an unsure option. Results shown for 2022 are net results that do not include DK/NA (7%).

***This question is a measure of respondent opinion/self-reported knowledge only.

Base size: All respondents (2011: n=860; 2022: n=500)

Overall Views on Increasing Tree Canopy Coverage

Those most likely to say Calgary's tree canopy coverage should be increased include:
- Younger residents (90% aged <35 vs. 72% among those 55+).
- Those in favour of placing tree removal restrictions on private property (89% vs. 74% among those who oppose).

Increase — 82% (2022), 78% (2011)
Stay the same — 15% (2022), 18% (2011)
Decrease — 1% (2022), 1% (2011)
Unsure — 2% (2022), 3% (2011)
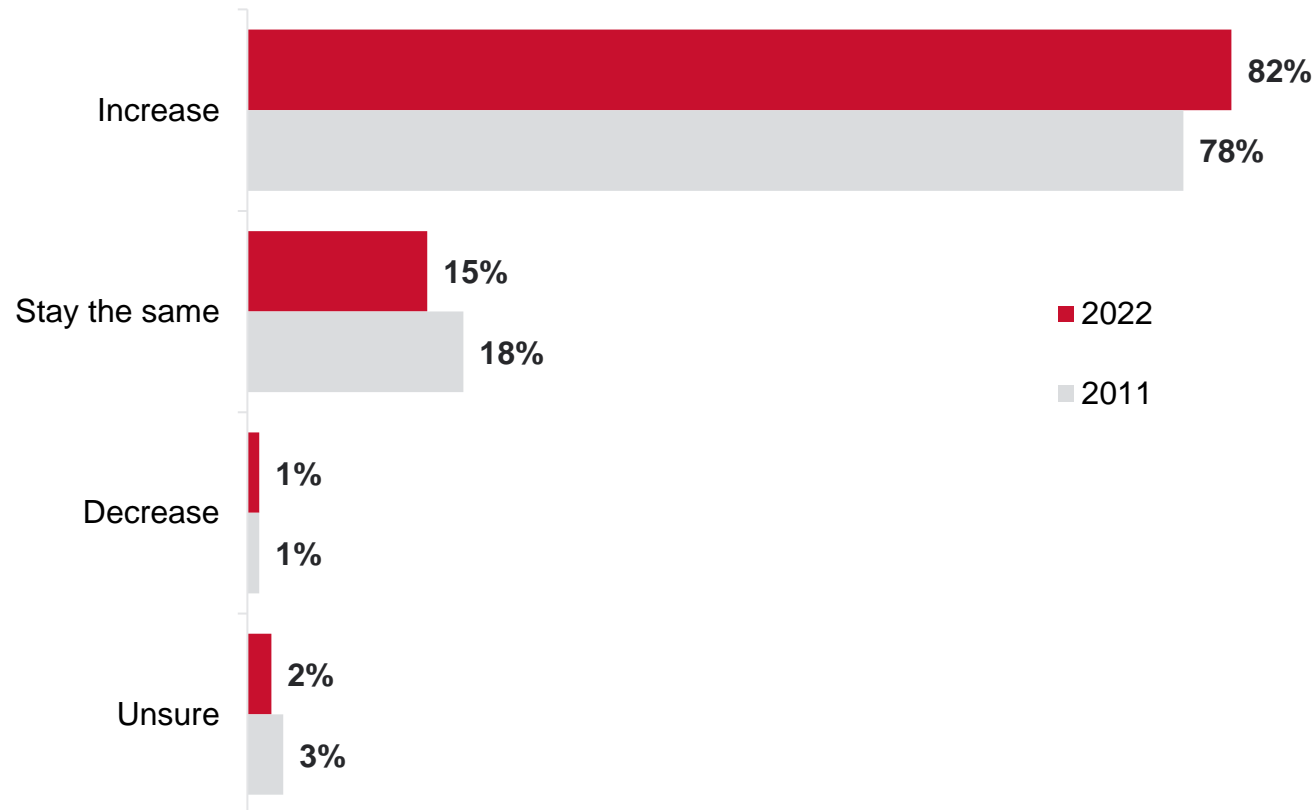
- 2022
- 2011

Q4. You said that you believe that _____% of Calgary is currently covered in trees. Do you feel that this should increase, stay the same or decrease?
Base size: Those who provided an estimate of the canopy coverage in Calgary (2011: n=860; 2022: n=463)

Satisfaction with The City's tree protection initiatives is higher among:
- Those residing in larger households (77% among those in households with 3+ people vs. 64% among those living alone).
- Those who believe there are rules related to planting and removing trees (80% vs. 72% among those who say they do not know this).

Category	Percentage
Very satisfied	16%
Somewhat satisfied	58%
Somewhat dissatisfied	11%
Very dissatisfied	4%
Refused/unsure	10%

Satisfied: 74%

Dissatisfied: 16%

rounding
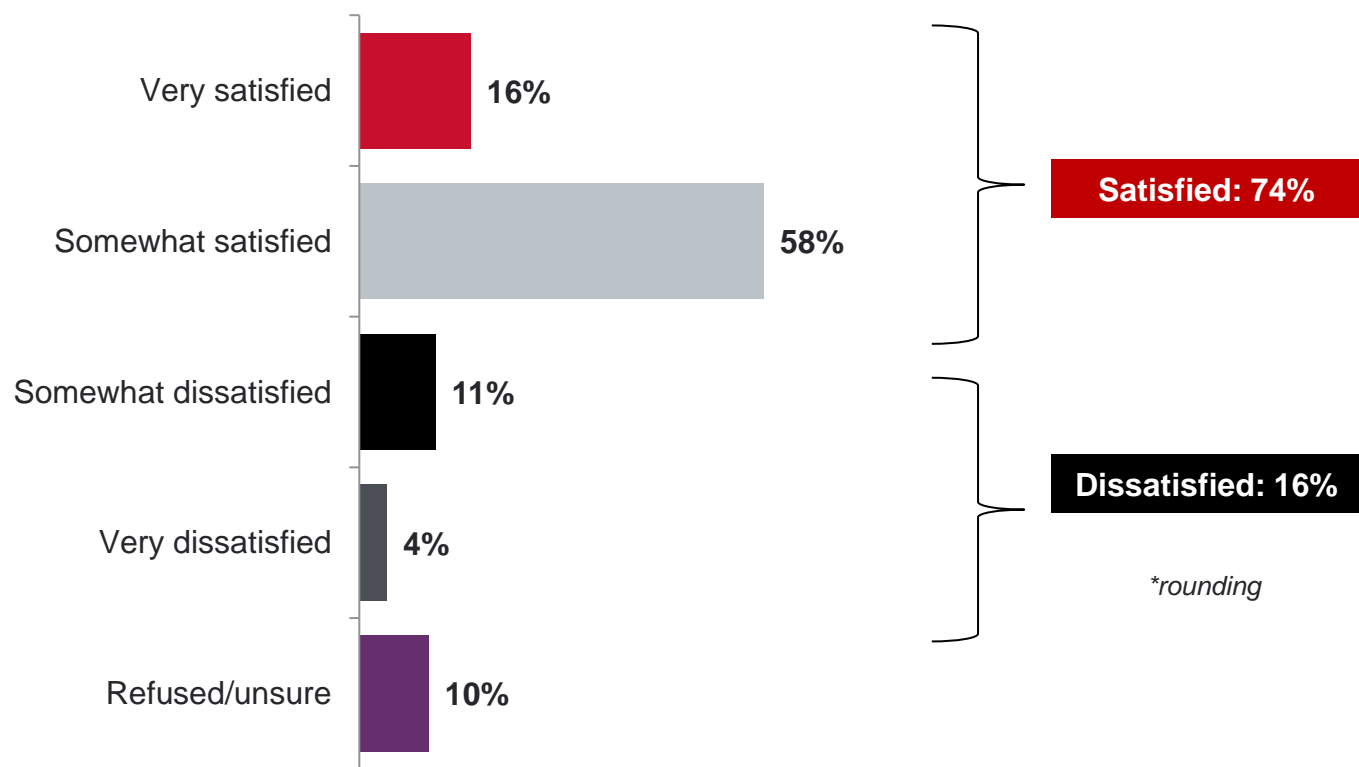
Q9. Overall, how satisfied are you with how The City of Calgary is protecting trees within the city? Are you…
Base: All respondents (n=500)

Reasons for Dissatisfaction
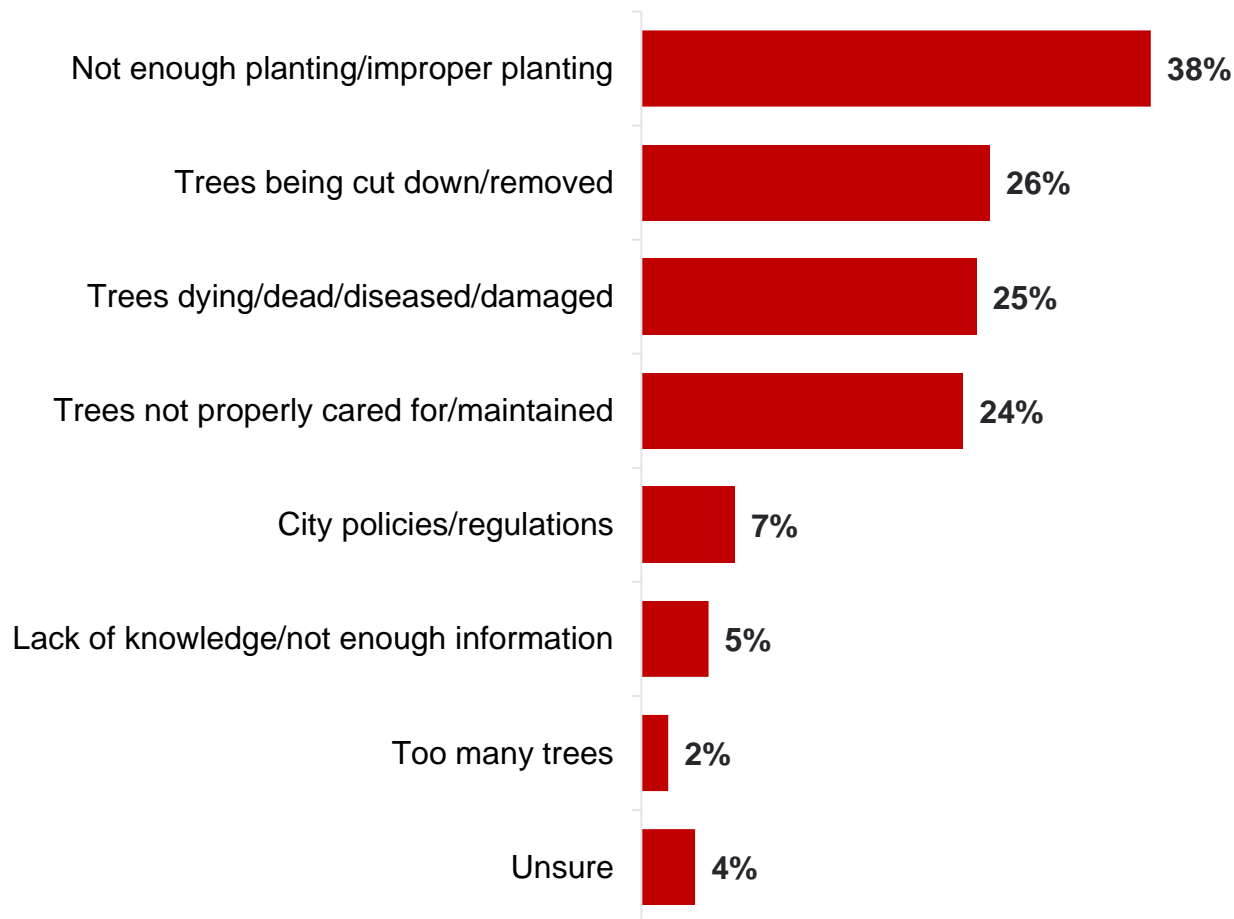
Q10. Why are you less satisfied with how the City is managing the trees within the City?
Open-ended question; multiple responses accepted
Base size: All respondents who are dissatisfied with The City's tree protection initiatives (n=82)*
*Caution: Small base size

Perceived Benefits and Threats

Those who are most likely to say trees are **very important** to them personally include:
- Those living in the Northeast (91%).
- Homeowners (82% vs. 70% among renters).
- Women (83% vs. 74% among men).
- Those aged 35-54 (85%).
- New Canadians (88% vs. 74% Canadian-born).
- Those who are more knowledgeable about trees and more likely to care for them in some way.

Very important	79%
Somewhat important	20%
Not very important	1%
Not at all important	0%

Important: 98%

rounding
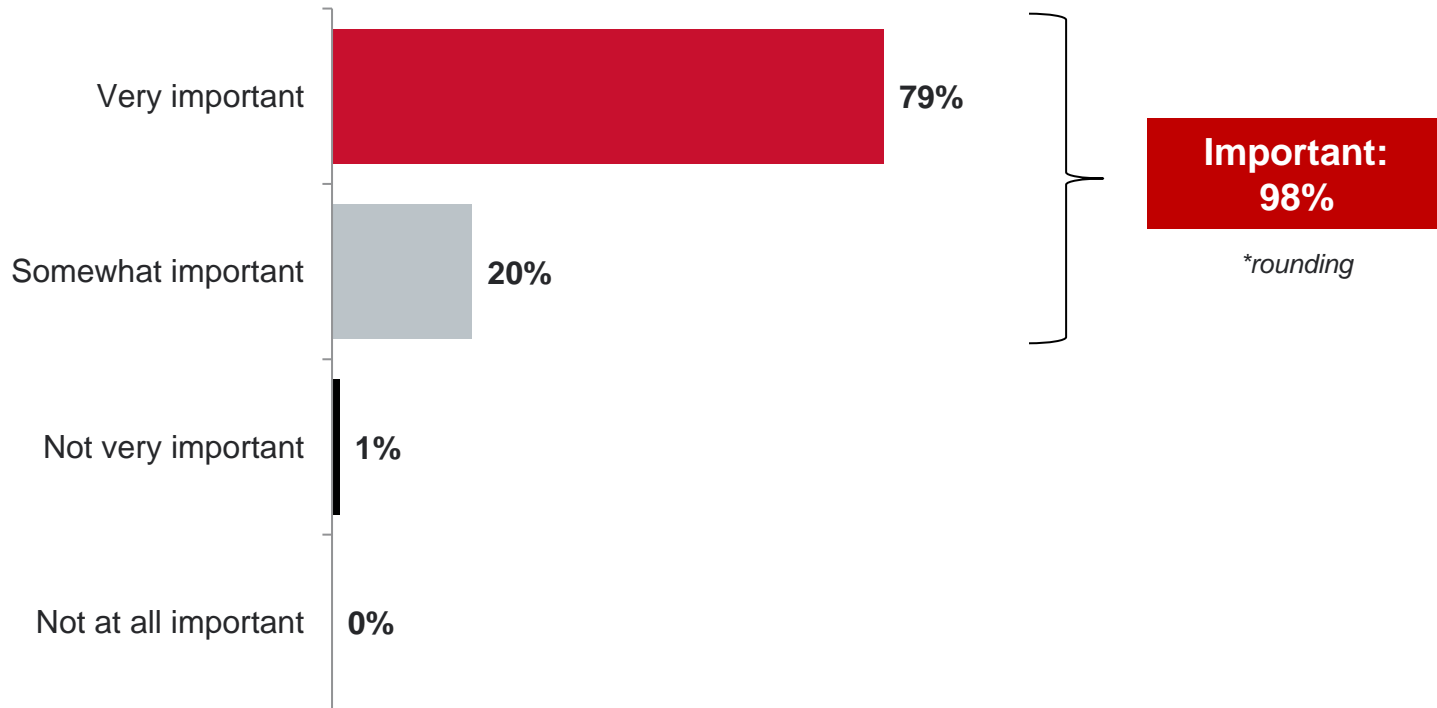
Q1. Overall, how important are trees to you?
Base: All respondents (n=500)

Top 3 mentions

Benefit	2022	2011
Contribute to better air quality/purify the air	57%	63%
Trees beautify/add vibrancy to the city	52%	65%
Provides food/shelter for living things	26%	4%
Provide break from the weather (sun, wind, rain)	26%	36%
Increases resilience/helps the city deal with climate change	12%	
Helps prevent soil erosion	2%	13%
Contributes to better mental health for people	7%	
Absorbs water runoff during storms	<1%	
Improved health	<1%	
Conservation/important to preserve existing trees	1%	2%
Acts as a sound barrier	0%	4%
Increase neighbourhood privacy	0%	3%
Increased safety	0%	
Helps increase property values		2%
Other*		2%
Unsure	2%	12%

Q11. What would you say are the main benefits of trees in the city?
Open-ended question; multiple responses accepted
*Mentioned by 1% or fewer respondents in 2011 survey
Base size: All respondents (2011: n=860; 2022: n=500)

Those most likely to believe **trees beautify/add vibrancy to the city** include:

- Those in the southwest (62%).

- Those living in neighbourhoods with high and medium levels of tree coverage (63% and 55% vs. 42% among those in lower-canopy areas).

- Longer-term residents (63% among those living in Calgary 30+ years).

- Those with higher household incomes (63% $120K+).

- Those living in single-family detached homes and those who care for a yard (29% each).

- Those living in multi-person households (56% with 2+ people).

- Those who have participated in at least one tree-related activity.

Perceived Benefits of Trees
Variations by Sub-Group

Those most likely to believe **trees help increase resilience against the effects of climate change** include:

- BIPOC Calgarians (17%).

Those most likely to say **trees provide respite from the weather** include:

- Older residents (38% aged 55+ vs. 18% 18-34).
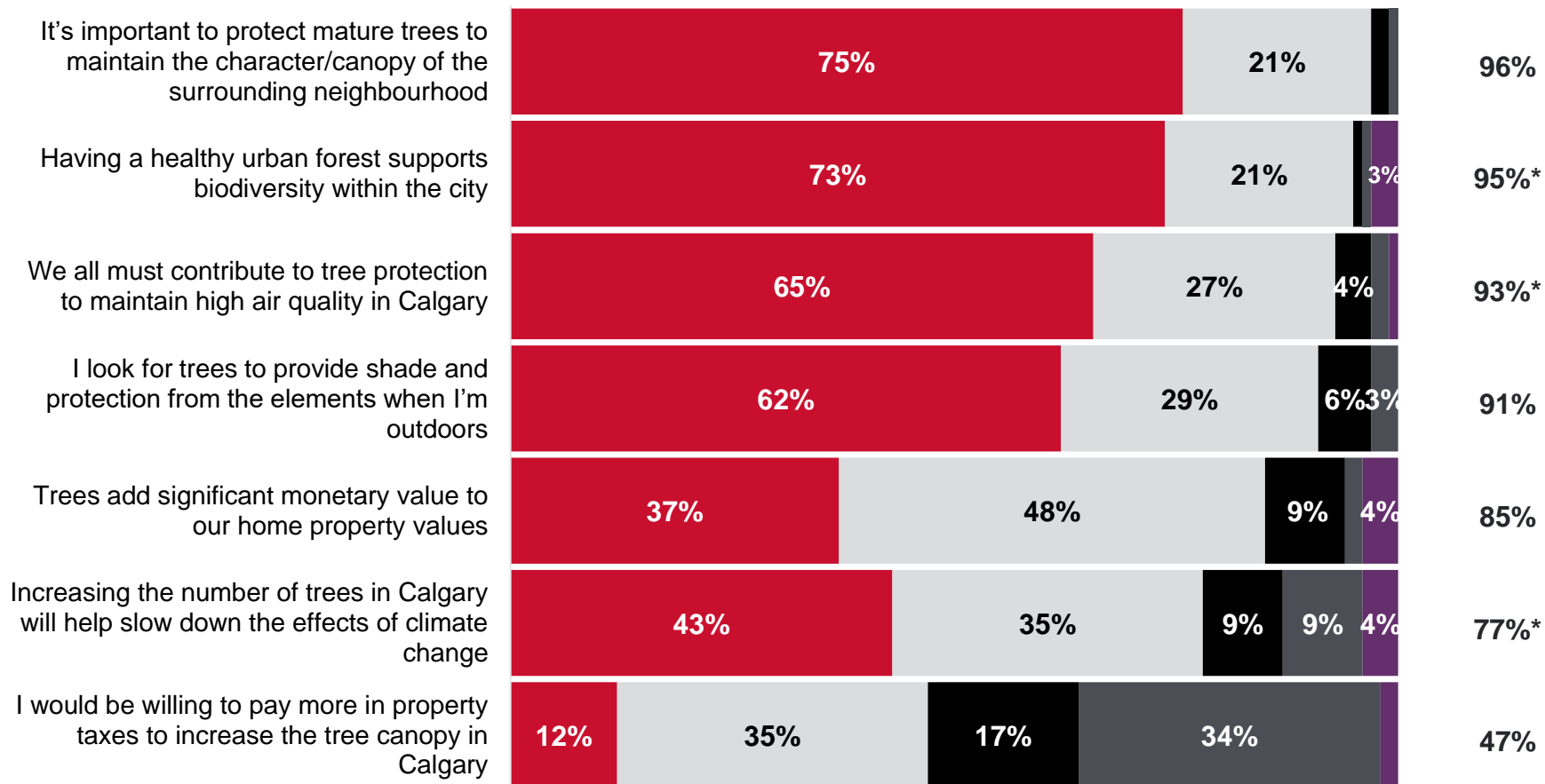
- Those who care for their yards (29%).

Those most likely to point out **trees provide food and shelter for living things** include:

- Younger residents (33% aged 18-35 vs. 16% 55+).

- Non-immigrants (31%).
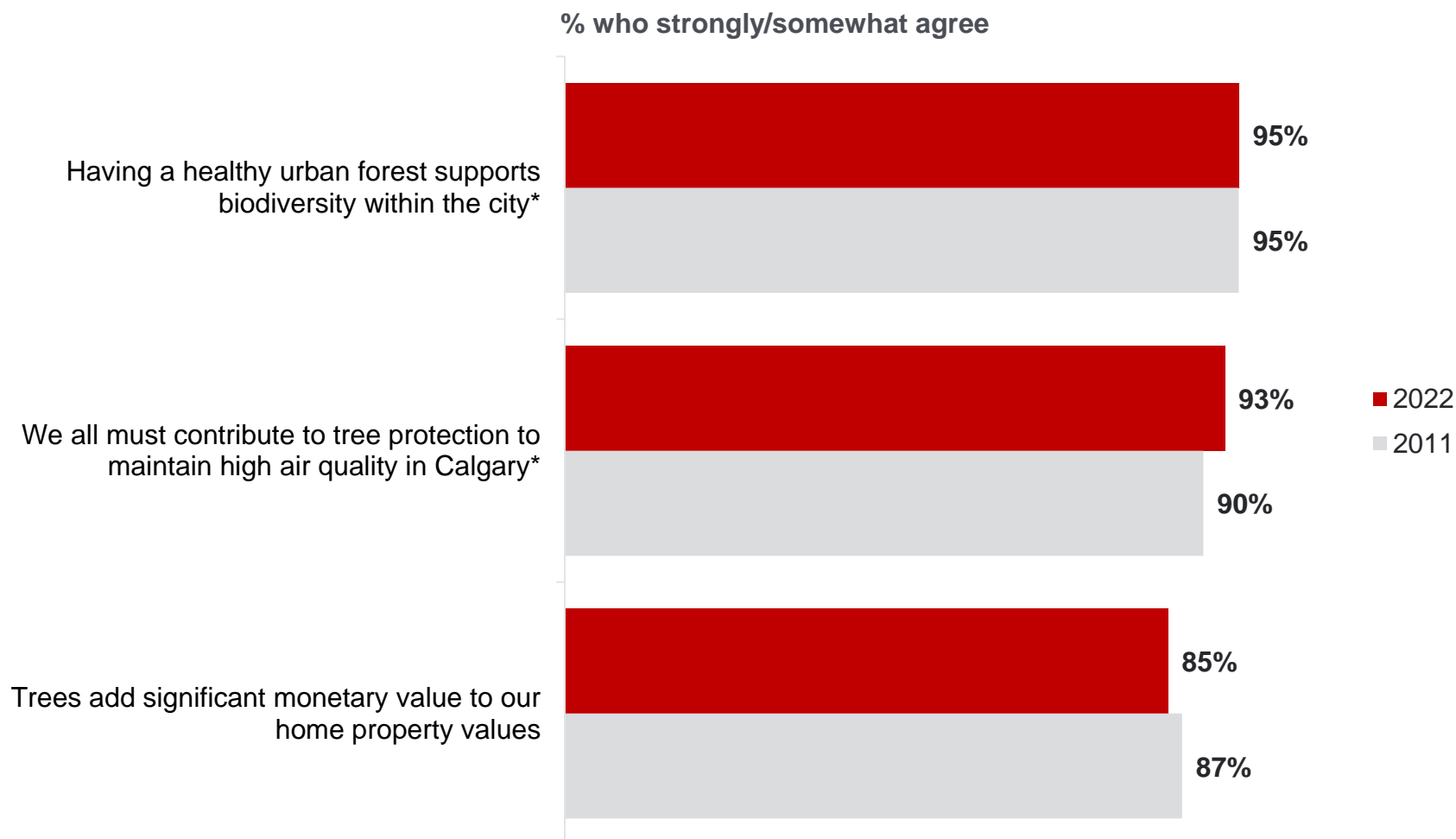
Views on the Benefits of Trees

Those in favour of placing tree removal restrictions on private property are more likely to agree with most of these statements.

Legend: ■ Strongly agree · □ Somewhat agree · ■ Somewhat disagree · ■ Strongly disagree · ■ (Refused/unsure)

Agree: *rounding*

Statement	Strongly agree	Somewhat agree	Somewhat disagree	Strongly disagree	Agree
It's important to protect mature trees to maintain the character/canopy of the surrounding neighbourhood	75%	21%			96%
Having a healthy urban forest supports biodiversity within the city	73%	21%	3%		95%*
We all must contribute to tree protection to maintain high air quality in Calgary	65%	27%	4%		93%*
I look for trees to provide shade and protection from the elements when I'm outdoors	62%	29%	6%	3%	91%
Trees add significant monetary value to our home property values	37%	48%	9%	4%	85%
Increasing the number of trees in Calgary will help slow down the effects of climate change	43%	35%	9%	9% / 4%	77%*
I would be willing to pay more in property taxes to increase the tree canopy in Calgary	12%	35%	17%	34%	47%

Q12. Please tell me whether you agree or disagree with the following statements about tree preservation and growth in Calgary.
Base size: All respondents (n=500)

Views on the Benefits of Trees: Tracking

% who strongly/somewhat agree

Having a healthy urban forest supports biodiversity within the city*
- 2022: 95%
- 2011: 95%

We all must contribute to tree protection to maintain high air quality in Calgary*
- 2022: 93%
- 2011: 90%

Trees add significant monetary value to our home property values
- 2022: 85%
- 2011: 87%

Legend:
- ■ 2022
- ■ 2011

Q12. Please tell me whether you agree or disagree with the following statements about tree preservation and growth in Calgary.
*Question wording was slightly different in 2011 survey
Base size: All respondents (2011 n=860; 2022 n=500)

Views on the Benefits of Trees
Variations by Sub-Group

Those most likely to **strongly agree** that **increasing number of trees will help slow down effects of climate change** include:

- Those living in neighbourhoods with lower levels of tree coverage (49%).

- Shorter-term Calgary residents (60% <10 years).

- New Canadians (61%) and BIPOC Calgarians (56%).

Those most likely to **strongly agree** that **trees add significant monetary value to their property** include:

- Those living in the Southeast (46%).

- Older residents (45% 55+).

Those most likely to **strongly agree** that they would be **willing to pay more property taxes to increase tree canopy** include:

- Relatively new Calgarians (20% living in the city for <10 years).

Q12. Please tell me whether you agree or disagree with the following statements about tree preservation and growth in Calgary.
Base size: All respondents (n=500)

Views on the Benefits of Trees
Variations by Sub-Group

Residents who support tree removal restrictions are more likely to strongly agree with the majority of these statements.

Those most likely to **strongly agree** that **everyone must contribute to tree protection to maintain high air quality** include:

- Those living in areas with medium canopy cover (70%).

- Women (72% vs. 58% among men).

- Younger adults (73% 18-34).

- Immigrants (77%) and BIPOC Calgarians (74%).

Those most likely to **strongly agree** that **a healthy urban forest supports biodiversity** include:
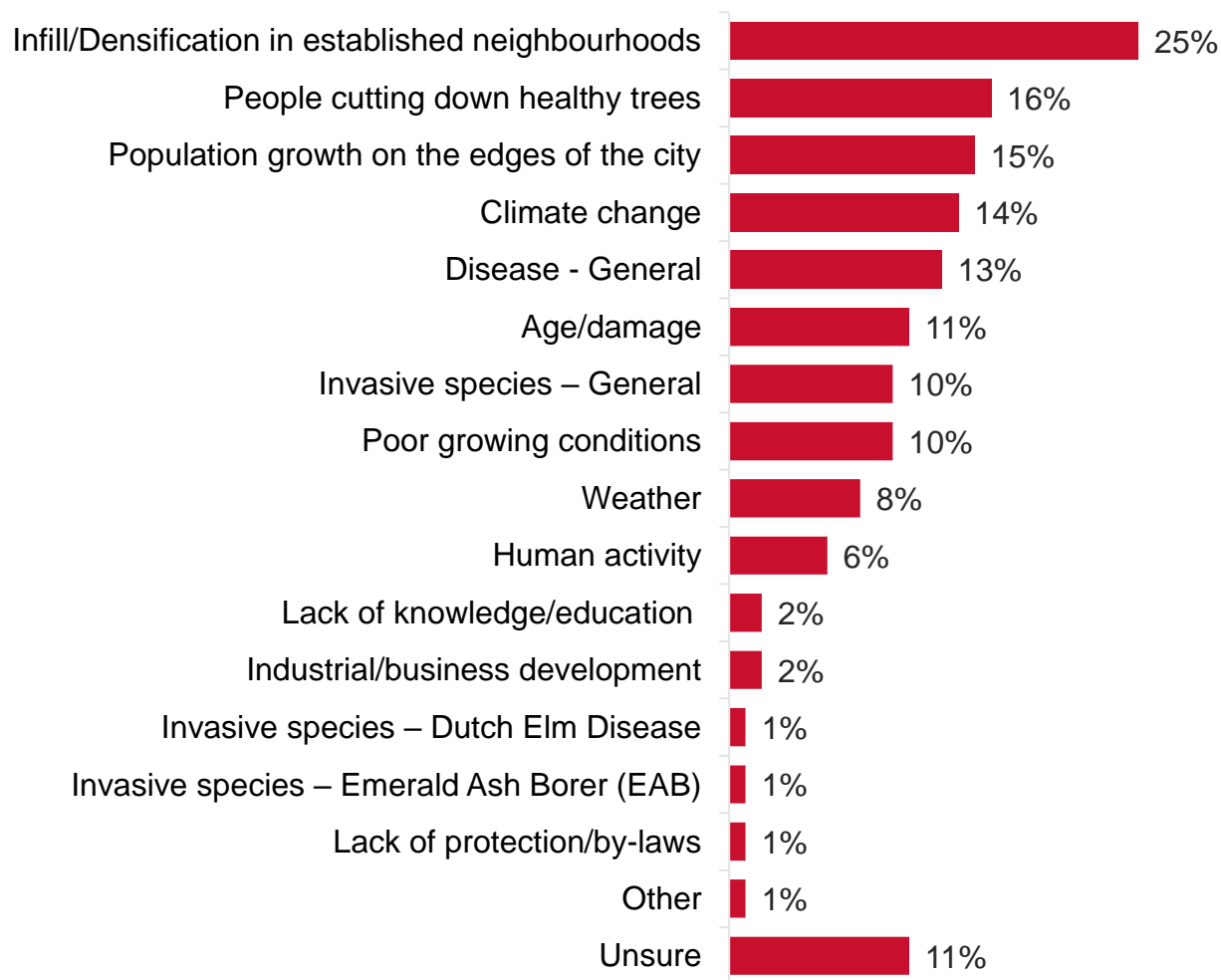
- Women (78% vs. 69% among men).

- Those age 35-54 (80% vs. 54% age 55+).

- University graduates (78%).

Q12. Please tell me whether you agree or disagree with the following statements about tree preservation and growth in Calgary.
Base size: All respondents (n=500)

Perceived Threats to Trees

Top 3 mentions

Category	Percentage
Infill/Densification in established neighbourhoods	25%
People cutting down healthy trees	16%
Population growth on the edges of the city	15%
Climate change	14%
Disease - General	13%
Age/damage	11%
Invasive species – General	10%
Poor growing conditions	10%
Weather	8%
Human activity	6%
Lack of knowledge/education	2%
Industrial/business development	2%
Invasive species – Dutch Elm Disease	1%
Invasive species – Emerald Ash Borer (EAB)	1%
Lack of protection/by-laws	1%
Other	1%
Unsure	11%

Q13. What would you say are the main threats to trees and forests in Calgary?
Open-ended question; multiple responses accepted
Base size: All respondents (n=500)

Perceived Threats to Trees

Those who are most likely to be concerned about losing trees due to **infill/densification** include:

- Those living in areas with high or medium canopy cover (30% and 31% vs. 16% among those in low cover areas).

Those who are most likely to be concerned about **people cutting down healthy trees** include:

- Those in the northeast (33% vs. 17% among those in the southeast)
- Those living in medium canopy cover areas (21% vs. 9% among those in high canopy cover areas).
- Younger adults aged 18-34 (23% vs. 9% among those 55+).
- University graduates (31%).
- Renters (23% vs. 13% among homeowners).

Those who are most likely to be concerned about **population growth on the edge of the city** leading to losses of trees include:

- Those in areas with high amounts of canopy cover (22% vs. 12% in medium cover areas).

Those who are most likely to be concerned about the **effects of climate change** include:

- Younger adults (20% vs. 11% among those over the age of 35.)
- Higher income earners (19% $120K+).

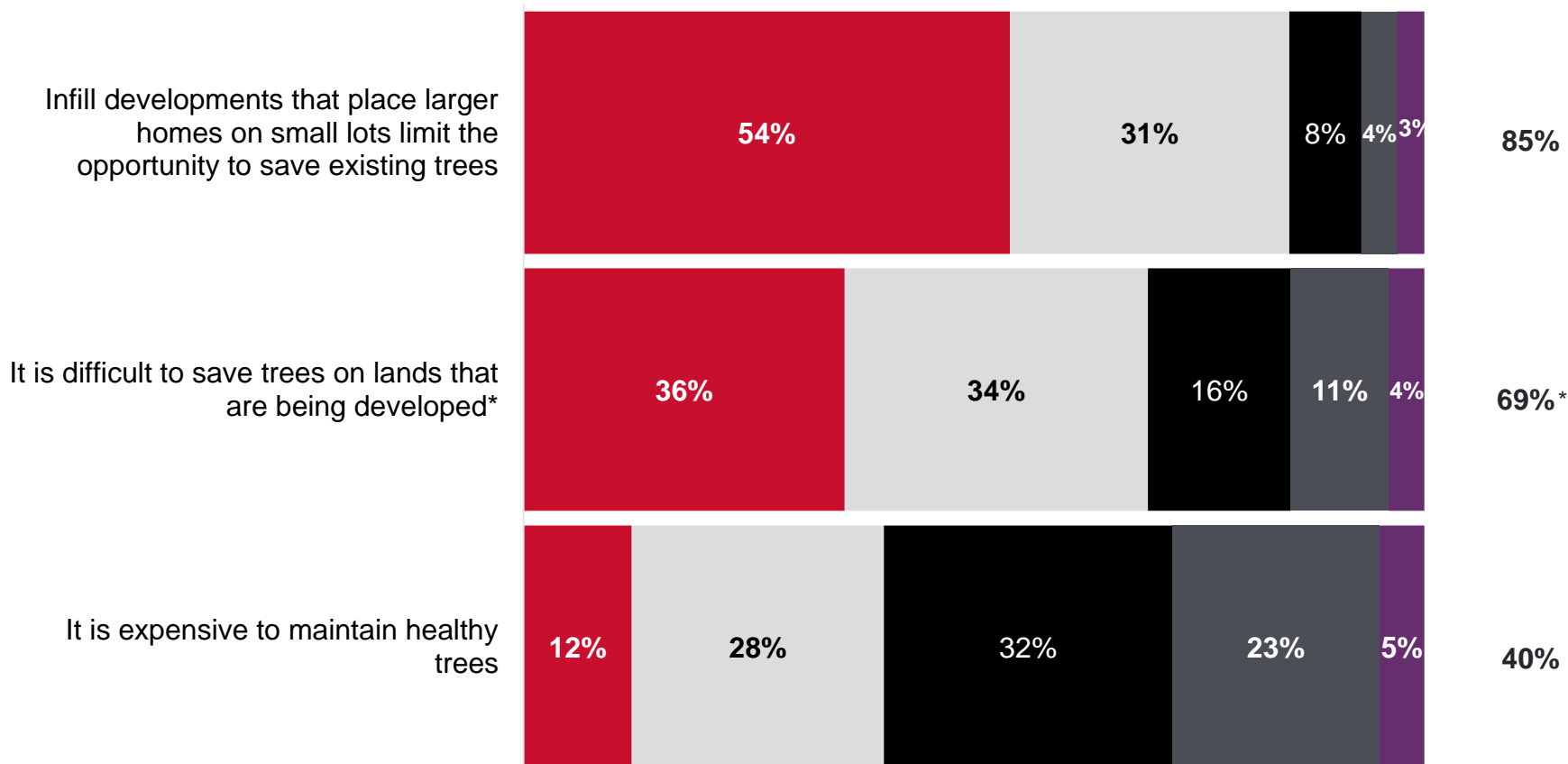Q13. What would you say are the main threats to trees and forests in Calgary?
Open-ended question; multiple responses accepted
Base size: All respondents (n=500)

Views on Tree Preservation Challenges

Agree:

rounding

Legend: ■ Strongly agree | ■ Somewhat agree | ■ Somewhat disagree | ■ Strongly disagree | ■ (Unsure)

Statement	Strongly agree	Somewhat agree	Somewhat disagree	Strongly disagree	(Unsure)	Agree:
Infill developments that place larger homes on small lots limit the opportunity to save existing trees	54%	31%	8%	4%	3%	85%
It is difficult to save trees on lands that are being developed*	36%	34%	16%	11%	4%	69%*
It is expensive to maintain healthy trees	12%	28%	32%	23%	5%	40%

Q14. To what extent do you agree or disagree with the following statements? (And is that strongly or somewhat?)
Base size: All respondents (n=500)

Views on Tree Preservation Challenges
Variations by Sub-Group

Those most likely to agree **it is difficult to save trees on lands being developed** include:

- Younger residents (81% <35).

- Those earning $60K-$119K (75%).

- Renters (81%).

- Those who do not know if there are rules related to planting and removing trees on private property (75%).

Those most likely to agree **it is expensive to maintain healthy trees** include:

- Those with lower household incomes (55% <$60K).

- New Canadians (47%).

- Renters (48%).

- Those who are satisfied with The City's tree protection initiatives (45%).

- Those who oppose tree removal restrictions (47%).

Q14. To what extent do you agree or disagree with the following statements? (And is that strongly or somewhat?)
Base size: All respondents (n=500)

Agree:

The size of my property does not allow a great deal of opportunity to plant trees

Strongly agree	Somewhat agree	Somewhat disagree	Strongly disagree	Don't know
27%	27%	17%	25%	4%

54%

Taking care of trees on my property is a nuisance

| 6% | 13% | 16% | 63% | 2% |

19%
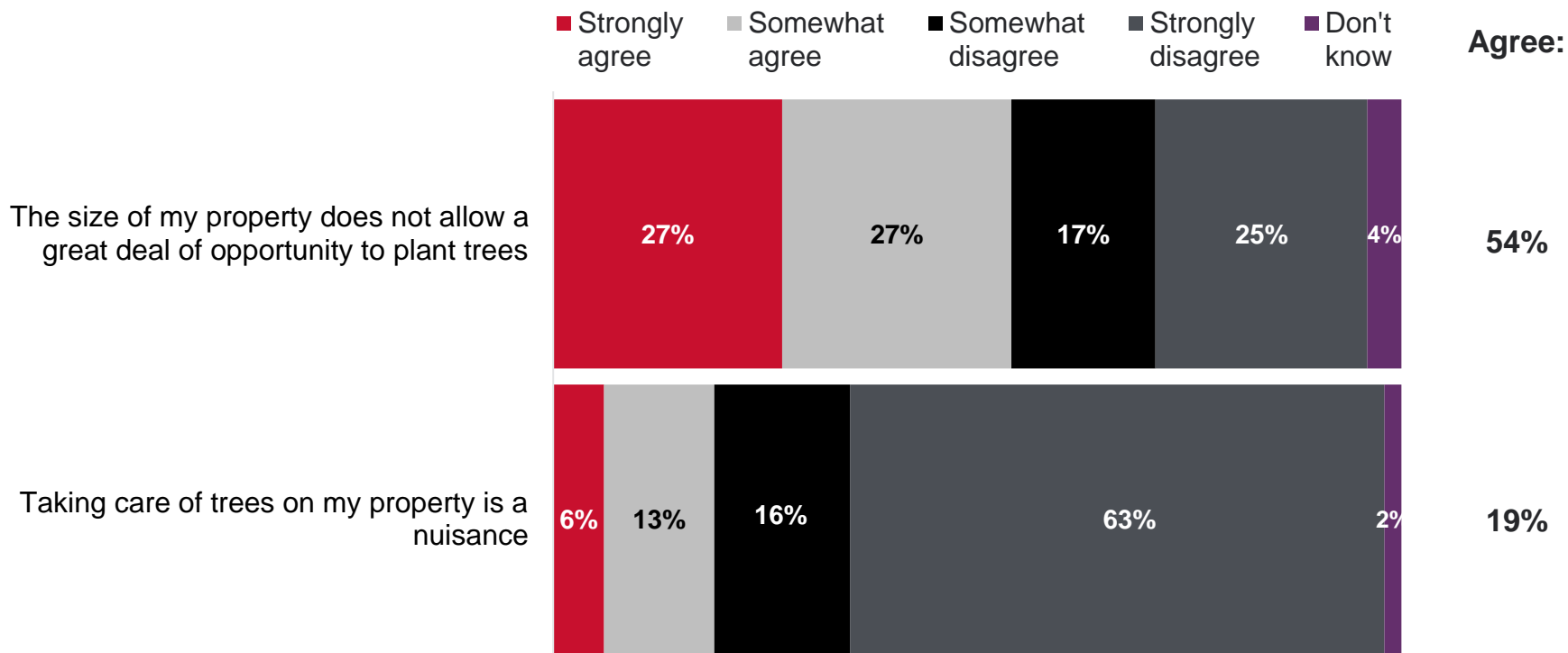
Q12i. Please tell me whether you agree or disagree with the following statement about tree preservation and growth in Calgary: Taking care of the trees on my property is a nuisance.
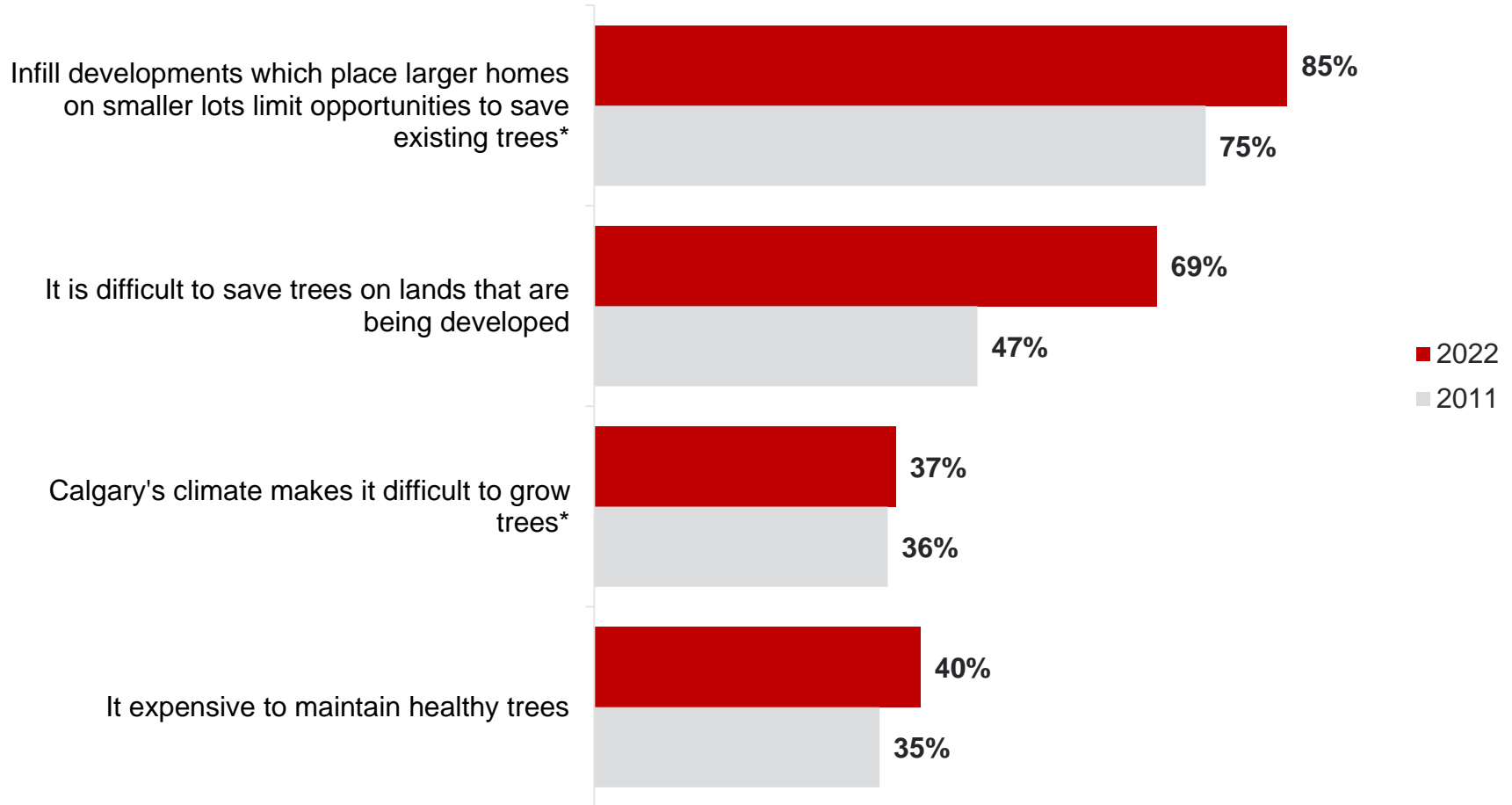Base size: All respondents who maintain yards (n=385)

Q14d. To what extent do you agree or disagree with the following statement: the size of my property does not allow a great deal of opportunity to plant trees (And is that strongly or somewhat?)
Base size: All respondents who maintain yards (n=385)

% who strongly/somewhat agree

Infill developments which place larger homes on smaller lots limit opportunities to save existing trees*
- 2022: 85%
- 2011: 75%

It is difficult to save trees on lands that are being developed
- 2022: 69%
- 2011: 47%

Calgary's climate makes it difficult to grow trees*
- 2022: 37%
- 2011: 36%

It expensive to maintain healthy trees
- 2022: 40%
- 2011: 35%

Legend: ■ 2022 ■ 2011

Q14. To what extent do you agree or disagree with the following statements? (And is that strongly or somewhat?)
*Question wording was slightly different in 2011 survey
Base size: All respondents (2011 n=860; 2022 n=500)

Those most likely to agree that **the size of their property does not allow them to plant trees** include:

- Those in the Northeast (66%).

- Those living in neighbourhoods with medium and low levels of tree coverage (60% vs. 36% among those in higher-canopy areas).

- Younger residents (75% <35).

- Those with high school or less (73% vs. 49% among university graduates).

- BIPOC Calgarians (71%).

- Those who are satisfied with The City's tree protection initiatives (58%).

Those most likely to agree that **taking care of trees on their property is a nuisance** include:

- New Canadians (30%).

- Those who are satisfied with The City's tree protection initiatives (22%).

Q14. To what extent do you agree or disagree with the following statements? (And is that strongly or somewhat?)
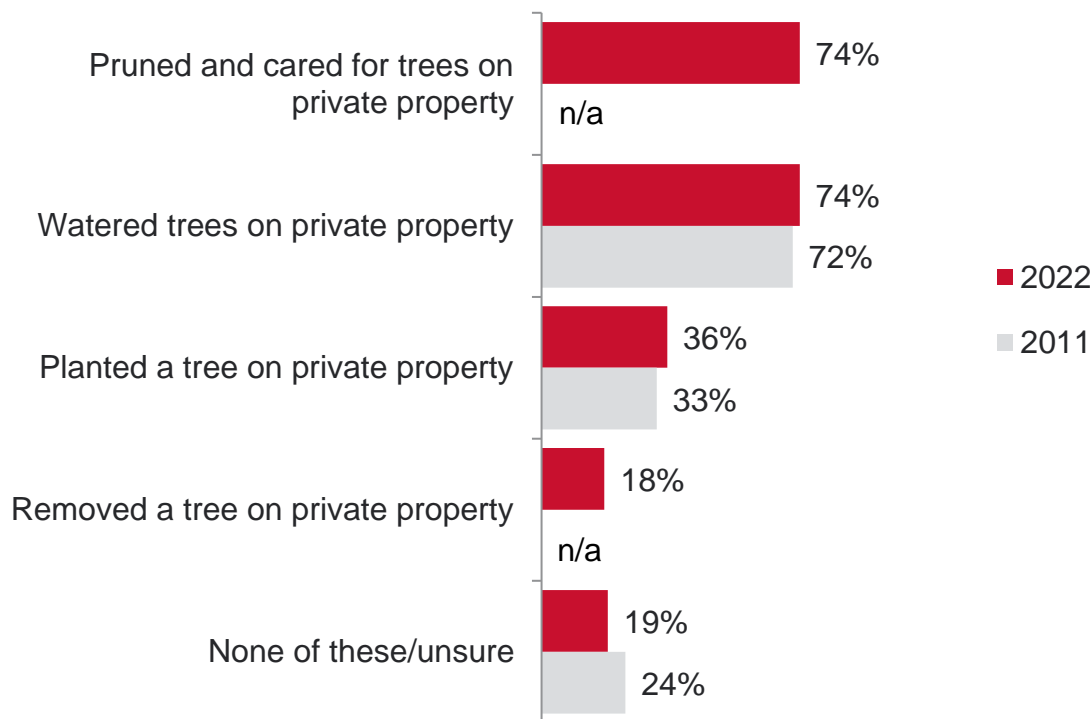*Question wording was slightly different in 2011 survey
Base size: All respondents (2011 n=860; 2022 n=500)

Participation in Tree-Related Activities

Participation in Tree-Related Activities

Pruned and cared for trees on private property
- 2022: 74%
- 2011: n/a

Watered trees on private property
- 2022: 74%
- 2011: 72%

Planted a tree on private property
- 2022: 36%
- 2011: 33%

Removed a tree on private property
- 2022: 18%
- 2011: n/a

None of these/unsure
- 2022: 19%
- 2011: 24%

■ 2022 ■ 2011

Number of Activities Completed	
Zero	19%
1-2	45%
3	25%
All 4	11%

Those who are most likely to have participated in **all four** of these tree-related activities include:
- Those living in the southwest (16%) and Northwest (14%).
- Those living in areas with a medium level of tree canopy (15% vs. 7% of those in lower-canopy areas).
- Younger adults (18% among those 18-34 vs. 5% among those 55+).
- Homeowners (12% vs. 5% among renters).

Q5. The next questions are about your own personal involvement in protecting and planting trees. Which of the following have you done within the past year?

*Question wording was slightly different in 2011 survey

Base size: All respondents (2011 n=860; 2022 n=500)

Intent to Plant Trees on Private Property in the Next 12 Months

Those who are most likely to plant trees on their property in the next year include:
- Residents who have participated in 3-4 tree-related activities (44% vs.10% among those who have not planted or cared for a tree in any way).
- Men (36% vs. 24% among women).
- Those aged 35-54 (37% vs. 23% among those 55+).
- Those born outside Canada (39% vs. 26% among those born in Canada).
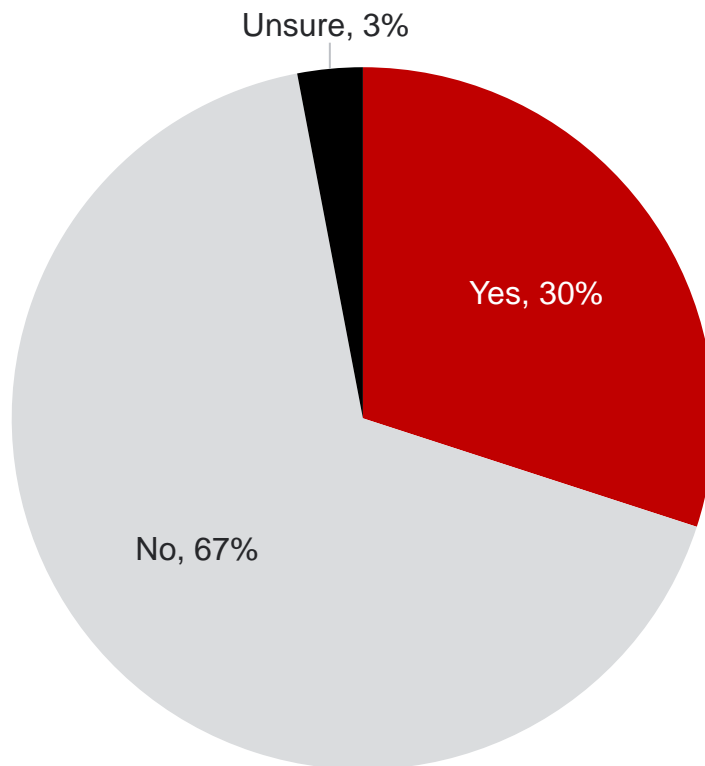
Q6. Do you intend to plant trees on your property in the next 12 months?
Base size: All respondents who are responsible for maintaining a yard (n=385)

Rationale for Planting Trees

To beautify my property — 24%
To help with climate change — 17%
To provide shade or protection — 14%
To replace a tree/trees — 11%
I like trees — 9%
To provide privacy — 7%
To grow fruit as a food source — 6%
To help clean the air — 4%
To provide food and shelter for birds, insects, and animals — 1%
As a memorial or tribute — 1%
Other* — 3%
Unsure — 1%
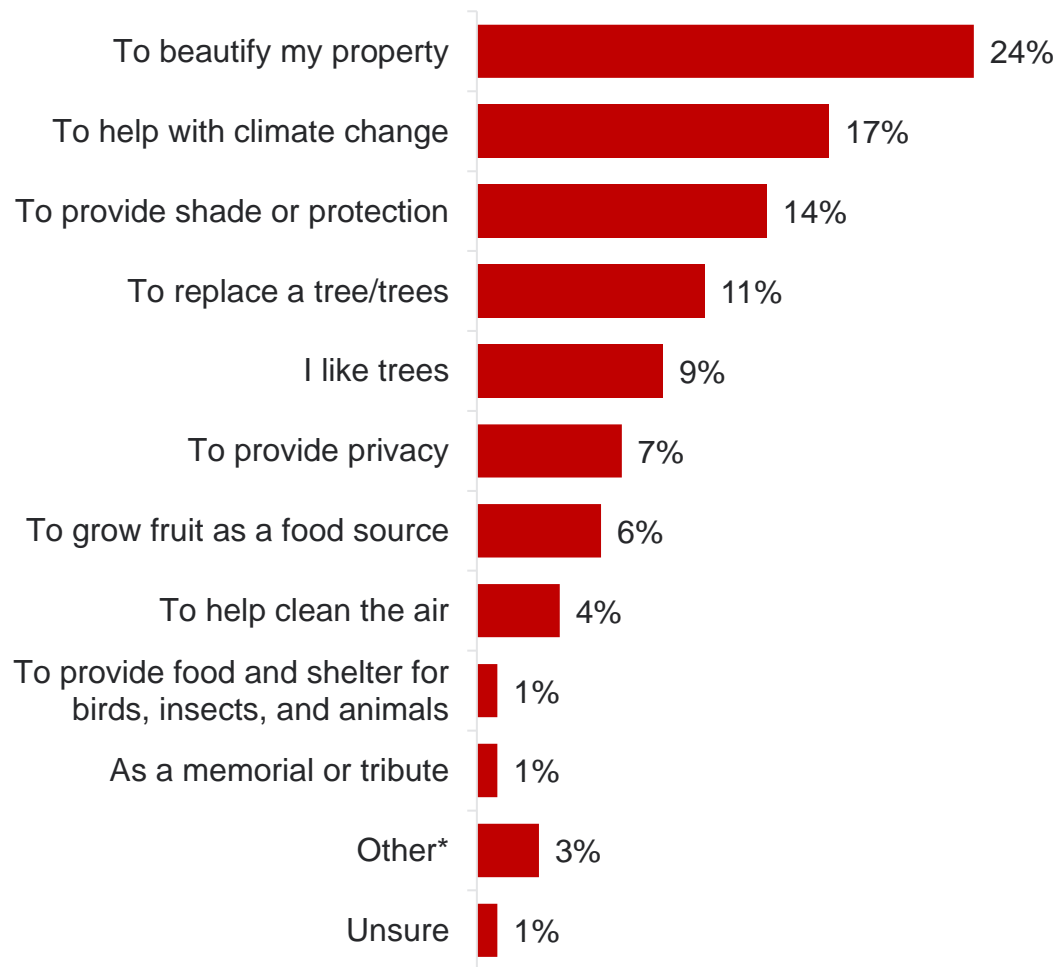
Q7. Why do you plan to plant trees?
Open-ended question; multiple responses accepted.
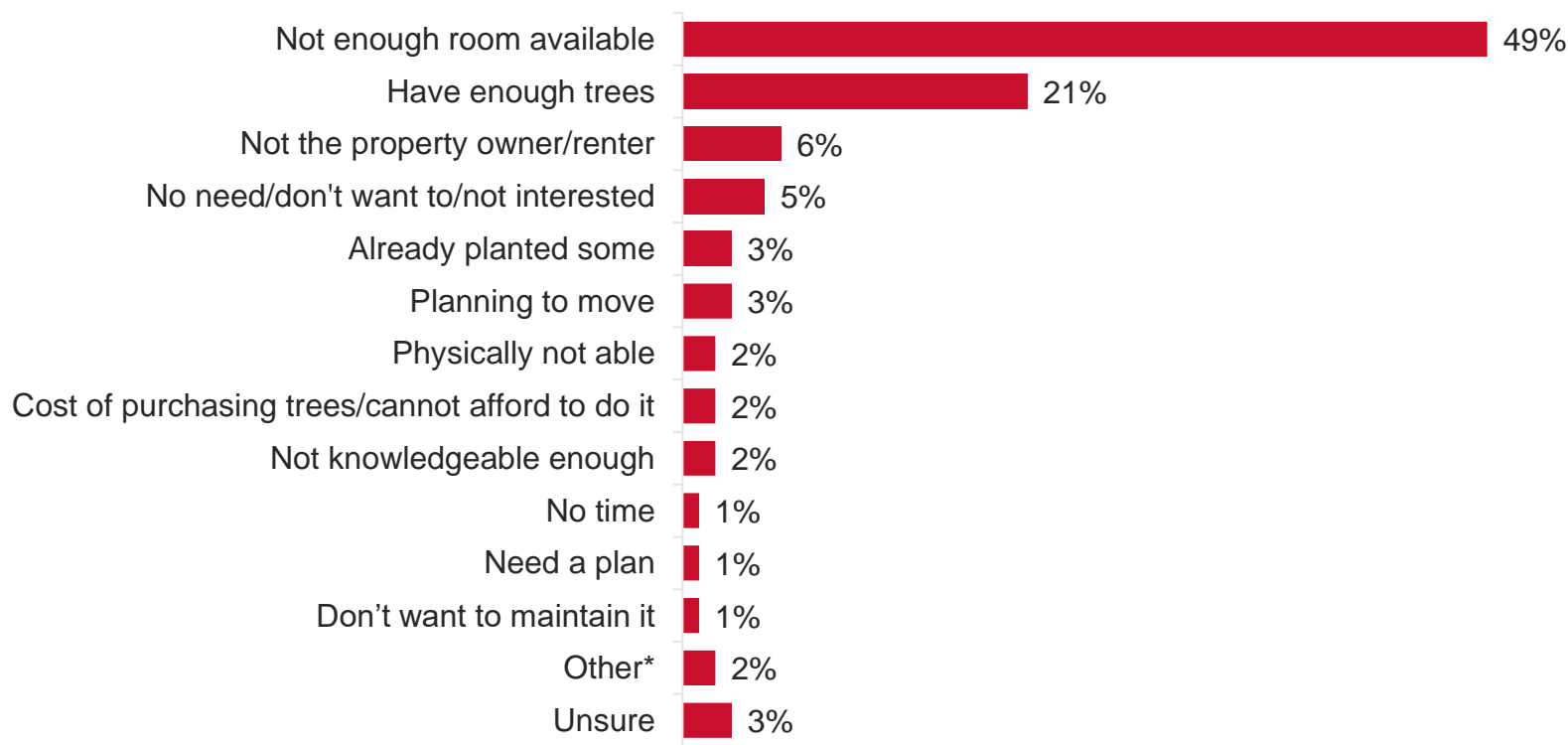*Mentioned by <1% of respondents
Base size: All respondents who intend to plant trees on their property (n=110)

Reasons for not Planting Trees

Those who are most likely to say they do not have enough room to plant a tree include:
- Younger residents (63% aged <35 vs. 42% among those aged 55+).
- Residents with less self-reported knowledge about trees (55% vs. 36% among those who are knowledgeable).

Older residents are most likely to say they already have enough trees (32% aged 55+ vs. 10% among those 35-54).

Reason	%
Not enough room available	49%
Have enough trees	21%
Not the property owner/renter	6%
No need/don't want to/not interested	5%
Already planted some	3%
Planning to move	3%
Physically not able	2%
Cost of purchasing trees/cannot afford to do it	2%
Not knowledgeable enough	2%
No time	1%
Need a plan	1%
Don't want to maintain it	1%
Other*	2%
Unsure	3%

Q8. Why do you not plan to plant a tree?
*Mentioned by <1% of respondents
Base size: All respondents who don't intend to plant trees (n=275)

Demographics

Demographics

Age

	City Wide
18 to 24	11%
25 to 34	22%
35 to 44	22%
45 to 54	17%
55 to 64	11%
65 or older	17%

Education

	City Wide
Completed high school or less	19%
Some post-secondary/ completed a college diploma	22%
Completed university or post-graduate degree	57%

Household Income

	City Wide
Less than $30,000	7%
$30,000 to <$45,000	7%
$45,000 to <$60,000	10%
$60,000 to <$75,000	12%
$75,000 to <$90,000	8%
$90,000 to <$105,000	9%
$105,000 to <$120,000	7%
$120,000 to <$150,000	6%
$150,000 or more	21%

Gender

	City Wide
Male	50%
Female	50%

Base: Valid respondents (bases vary)

Demographics (cont'd)

Dwelling Type

	City Wide
Single-family detached	67%
Duplex/townhouse	13%
Apartment/condo	16%

Own/Rent

	City Wide
Own	69%
Rent	24%

Have a Yard

	City Wide
Yes	75%
No	25%

Household Size

	City Wide
1	17%
2	26%
3 or more	55%

Children <18 in Household

	City Wide
Yes	36%
No	64%

Base: Valid respondents (bases vary)

Demographics (cont'd)

Area of Calgary

	City Wide
Northwest	28%
Northeast	20%
Southwest	28%
Southeast	25%

Tenure in Calgary

	City Wide
Less than 10 years	19%
10 to 29 years	42%
30 years or more	39%

Identify as BIPOC/ Racialized Person

	City Wide
Yes	30%
No	66%

Born in Canada

	City Wide
Yes	68%
No	32%

Identify as Indigenous

	City Wide
Yes	2%
No	96%

Base: Valid respondents (bases vary)