

Extreme Urban Heat Survey

In the summer of 2025, MCE conducted a survey & seven community meetings to understand St. Louis residents' experience of extreme urban heat. The following slides summarize participant concerns and impacts, helping to inform MCE's policy plan for mitigating rising temperatures and extreme heat in St. Louis.



Read more about Urban Heat policy work and the Extreme Urban Heat Survey by visiting the MCE website.

Extreme Urban Heat Survey

All Wards

EXTREME URBAN HEAT SURVEY

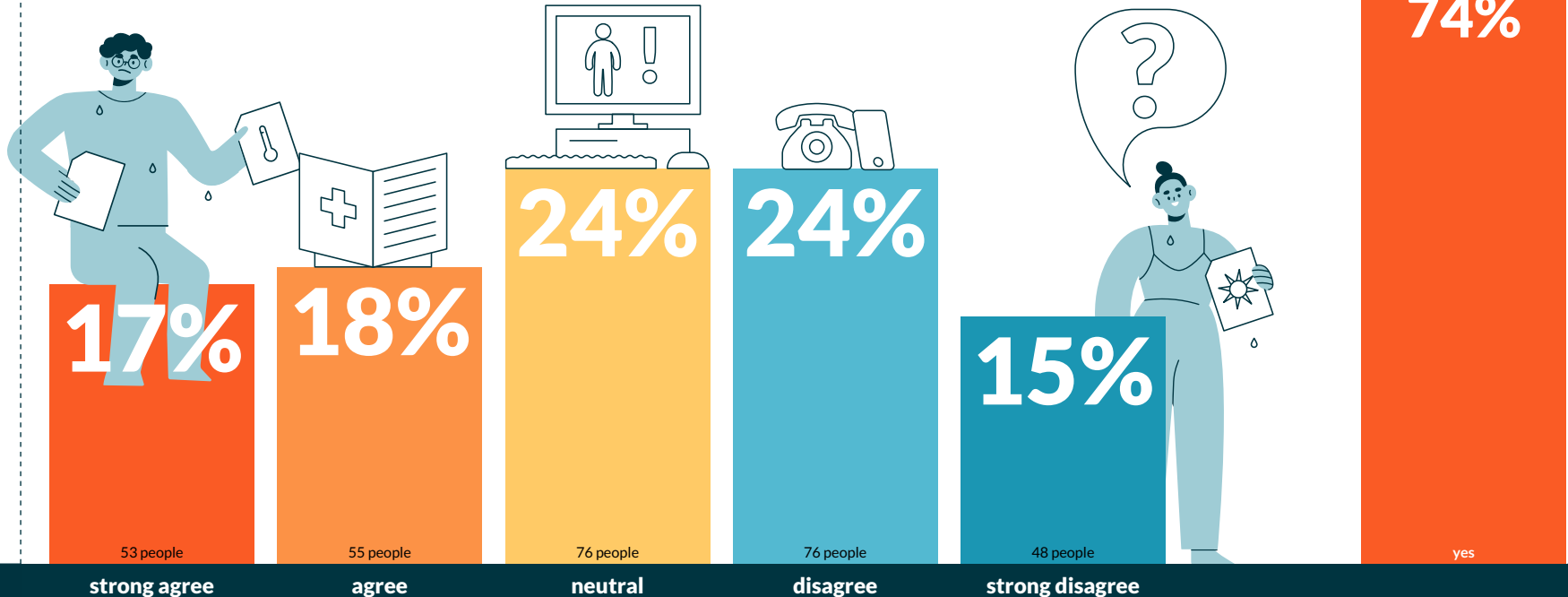


Over two-thirds of respondents think: City of St. Louis officials need to **treat extreme heat as a more urgent issue.**

Survey Statement: City of St. Louis officials need to treat extreme heat as a more urgent issue in our community.

Less than half of respondents say: they know where to find resources **to help with extreme heat's health impacts.**

Survey Statement: I know where to find resources to help me with the health impacts of extreme heat.



Extreme Heat Impacts & Resources

All Wards

Slide 1

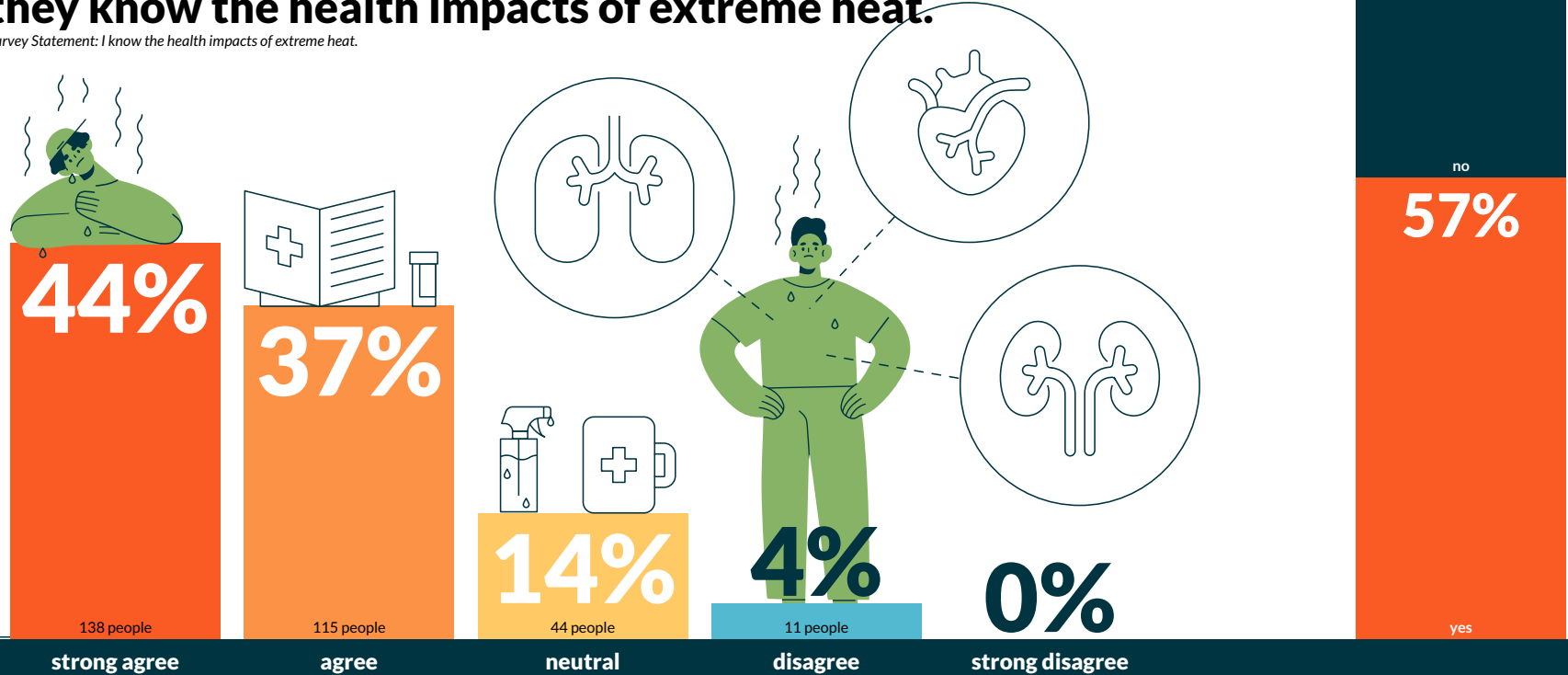
EXTREME URBAN HEAT SURVEY

A majority of respondents: have suffered from or know someone who has **suffered from or died because of heat illness.**

Survey Statement(s): Do you know someone who has suffered from or died because of heat illness?
and/or: Have you suffered from heat illness?

Most of respondents say:
they know the health impacts of extreme heat.

Survey Statement: I know the health impacts of extreme heat.



Health Impacts & Heat Illness

All Wards

Slide 2

EXTREME URBAN HEAT SURVEY

Most of respondents currently have:
air conditioning at home.

Survey Statement: Does your current home have air conditioning?

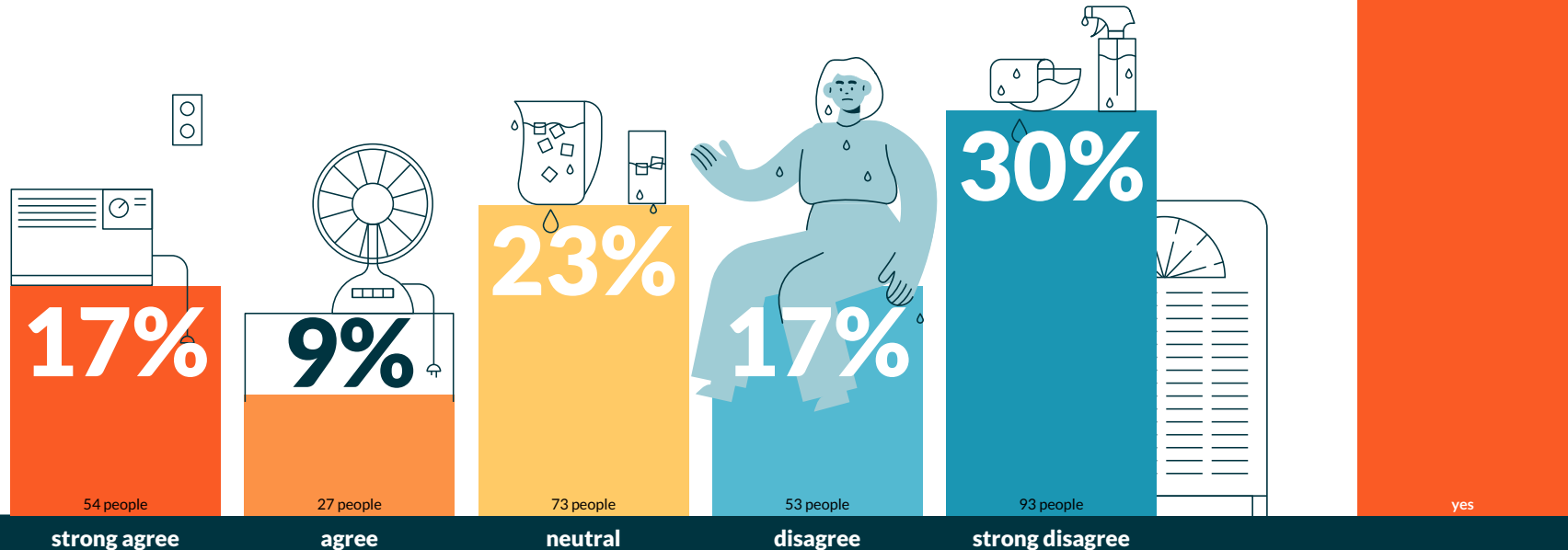
14%

no answer

82%

Less than one-third of respondents know: a friend, neighbor, or family member who is over 65 who are at risk
because they don't have or don't turn on their air conditioning.

Survey Statement: I have a friend, neighbor, or family member who is over 65 who are at risk because they don't have or don't turn on their air conditioning.



Air Conditioning Access

All Wards

Slide 3

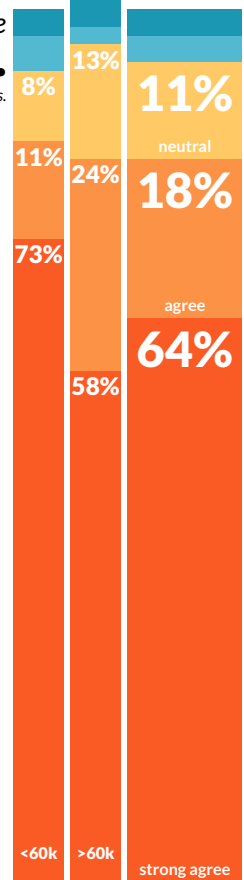
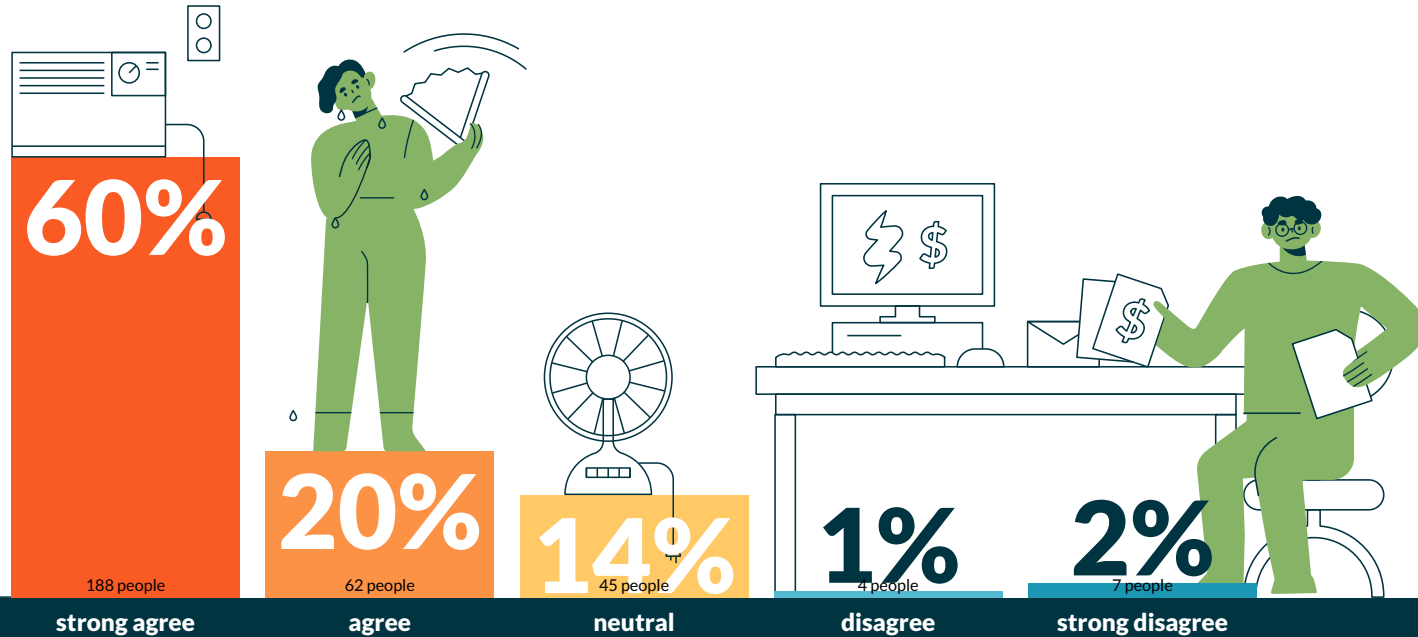
EXTREME URBAN HEAT SURVEY

Most of respondents think: the city of St. Louis should offer more **financial assistance to help electricity bills.**

Survey Statement: The city of St. Louis should offer more financial assistance for those who cannot pay their electricity bills.

Over two-thirds of respondents think: **electricity rates are too high.**

Survey Statement: Electricity rates are too high.



Electrical Costs

All Wards

Slide 4

EXTREME URBAN HEAT SURVEY

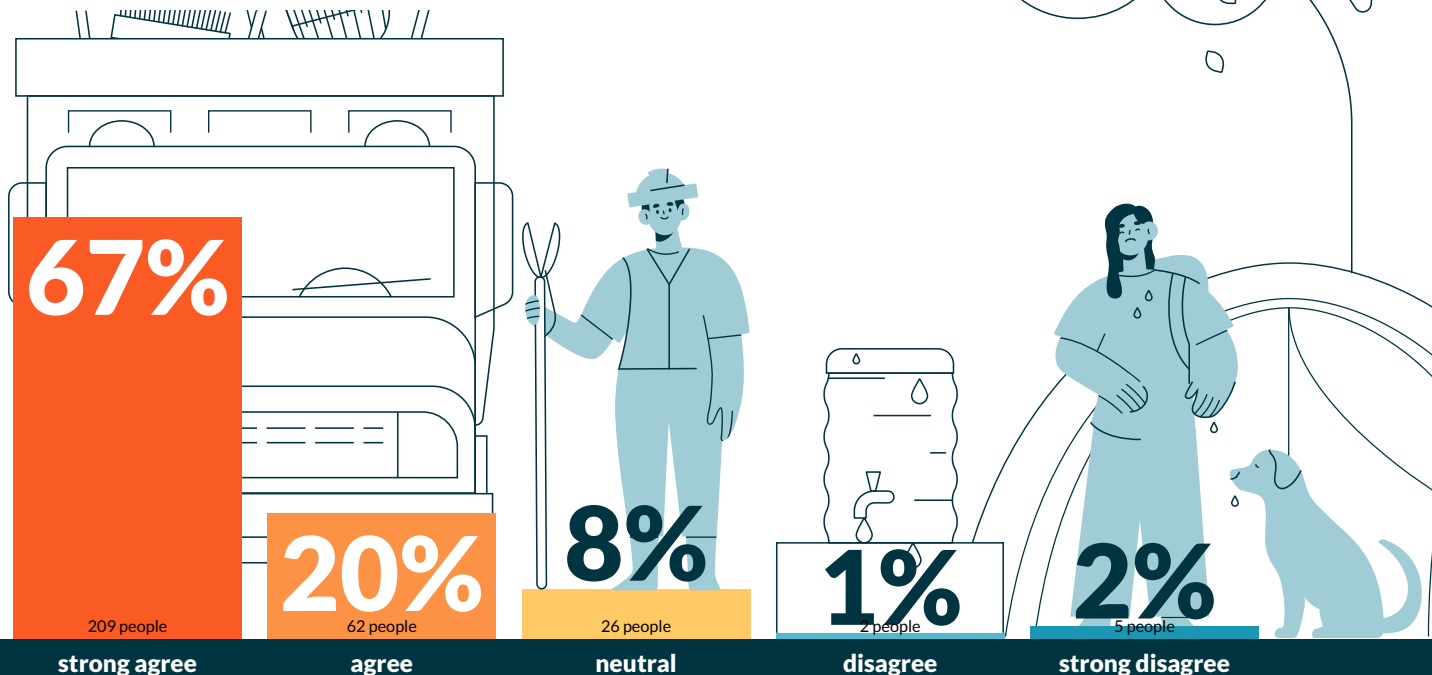
Most of respondents are: concerned about the impact of heat on the city's unhoused residents.

Survey Statement: I am concerned about the health impact of heat on the city's unhoused residents.



Most of respondents agree: more legal protections are needed for those working outdoors.

Survey Statement: We need more legal protections for those working outdoors in the city of St. Louis.



Outdoor Heat Exposure

All Wards

Slide 5

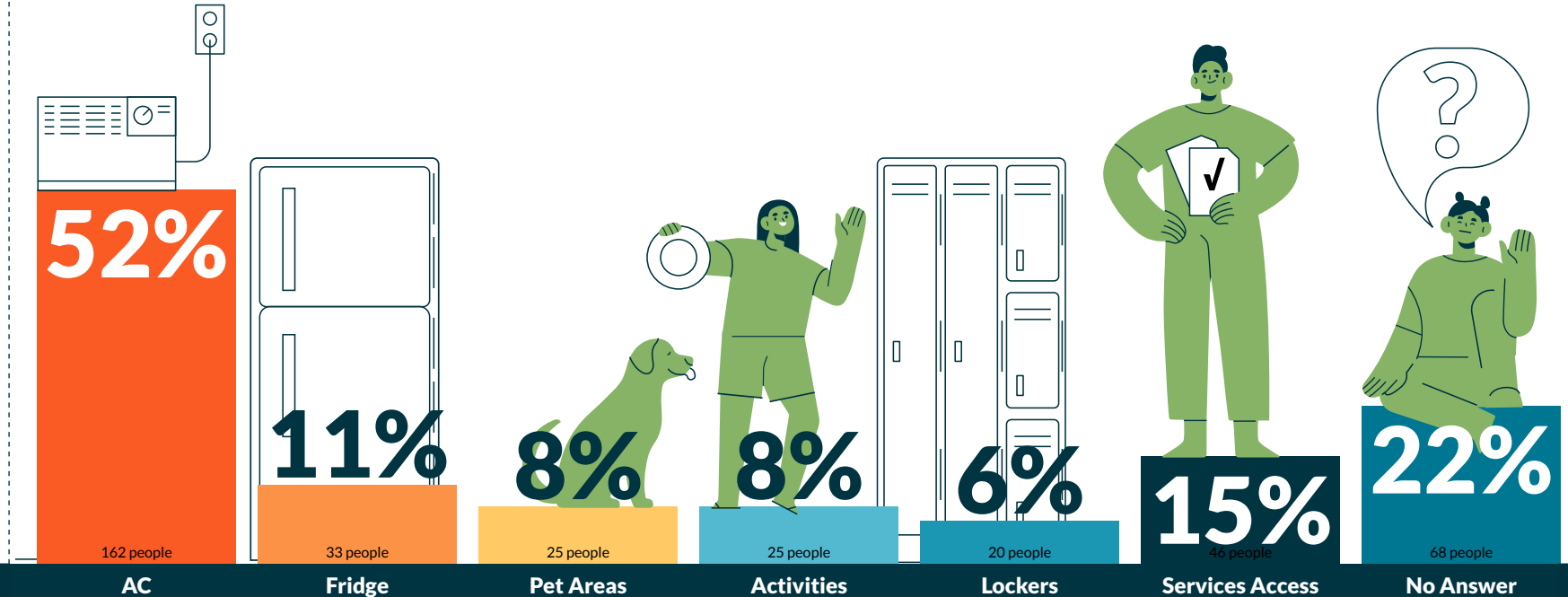
EXTREME URBAN HEAT SURVEY

Only 17% of respondents found: the nearest cooling center close enough or knew where the nearest cooling center was.

Survey Statement(s): The cooling center nearest to my home is close enough.
and/or: I'm not sure where the nearest cooling center to my home is.

Most of respondents identified the following:
amenities they knew are available at a cooling center.

Survey Statement: Check all of the following amenities you know are available at a cooling center:



Cooling Center Amenities

All Wards

Slide 6

EXTREME URBAN HEAT SURVEY

Only 5% of respondents think: there are enough drinking fountains in their neighborhood.

Survey Statement: There are enough drinking fountains in my neighborhood.

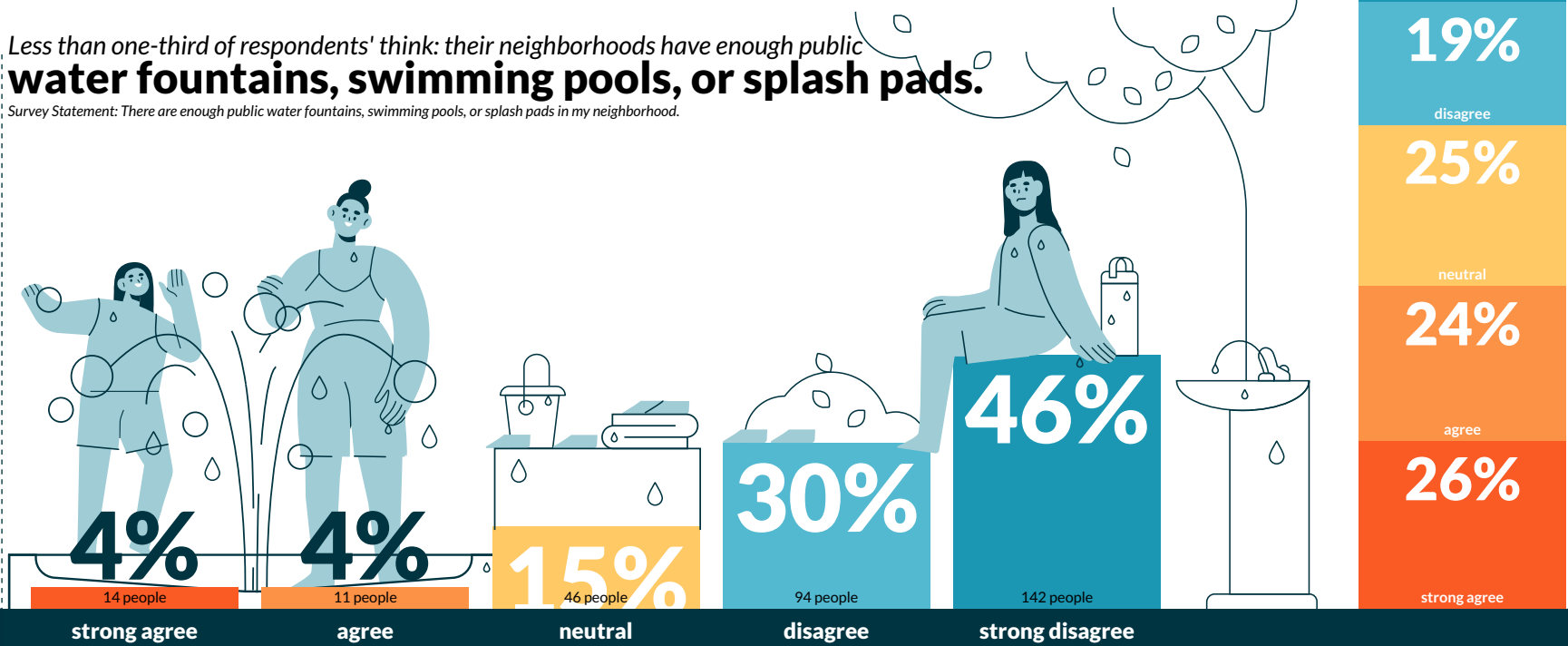
their neighborhood has enough parks or green space.

A majority of respondents think:

Survey Statement: My neighborhood has enough parks or green space.

Less than one-third of respondents' think: their neighborhoods have enough public water fountains, swimming pools, or splash pads.

Survey Statement: There are enough public water fountains, swimming pools, or splash pads in my neighborhood.



Public Parks and Water Resources

All Wards

Slide 7

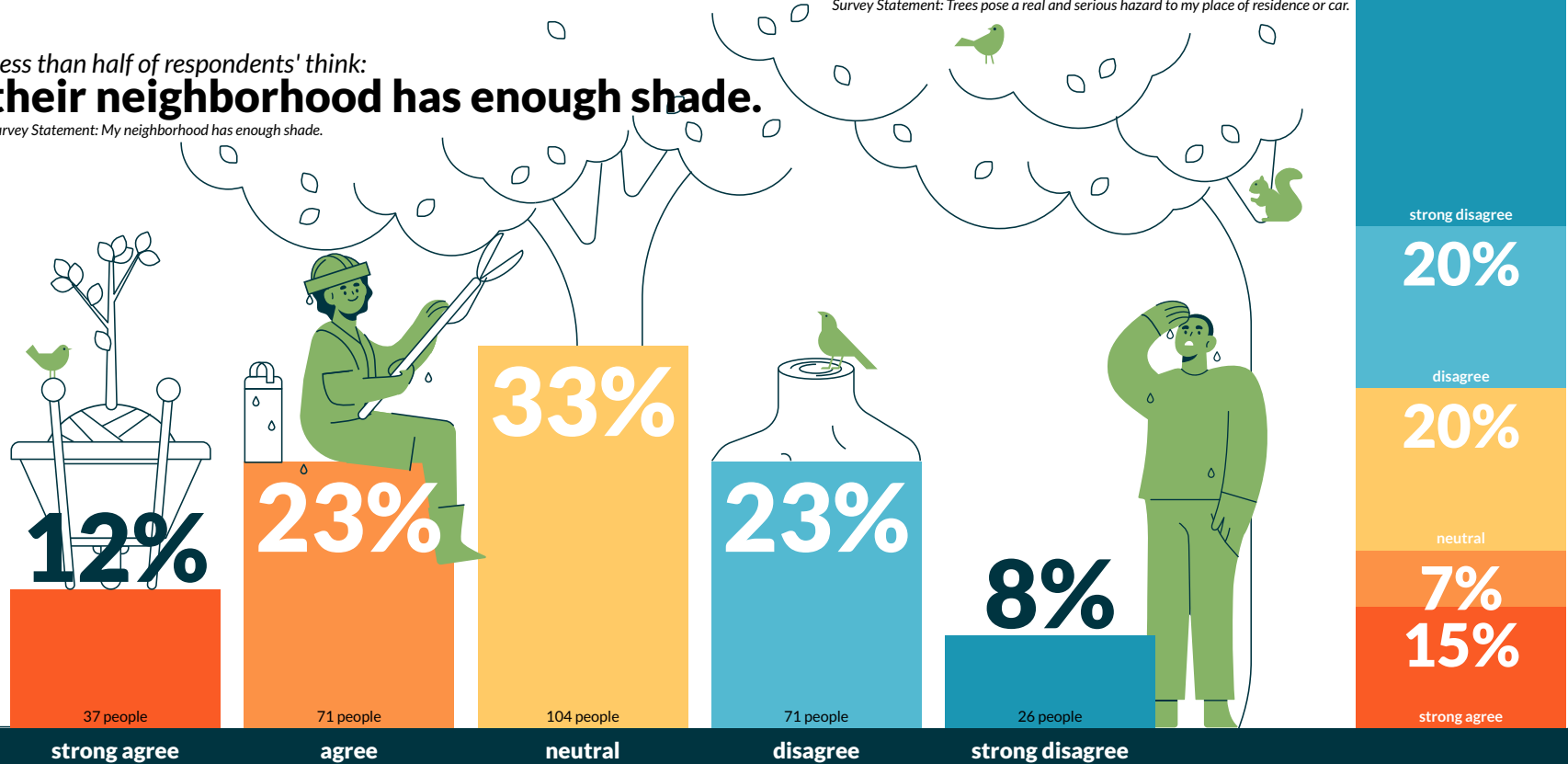
EXTREME URBAN HEAT SURVEY

Less than one-third of respondents think: their residence or car
is endangered by trees.

Survey Statement: Trees pose a real and serious hazard to my place of residence or car.

Less than half of respondents' think:
their neighborhood has enough shade.

Survey Statement: My neighborhood has enough shade.



Resources for Shade

All Wards

Slide 8

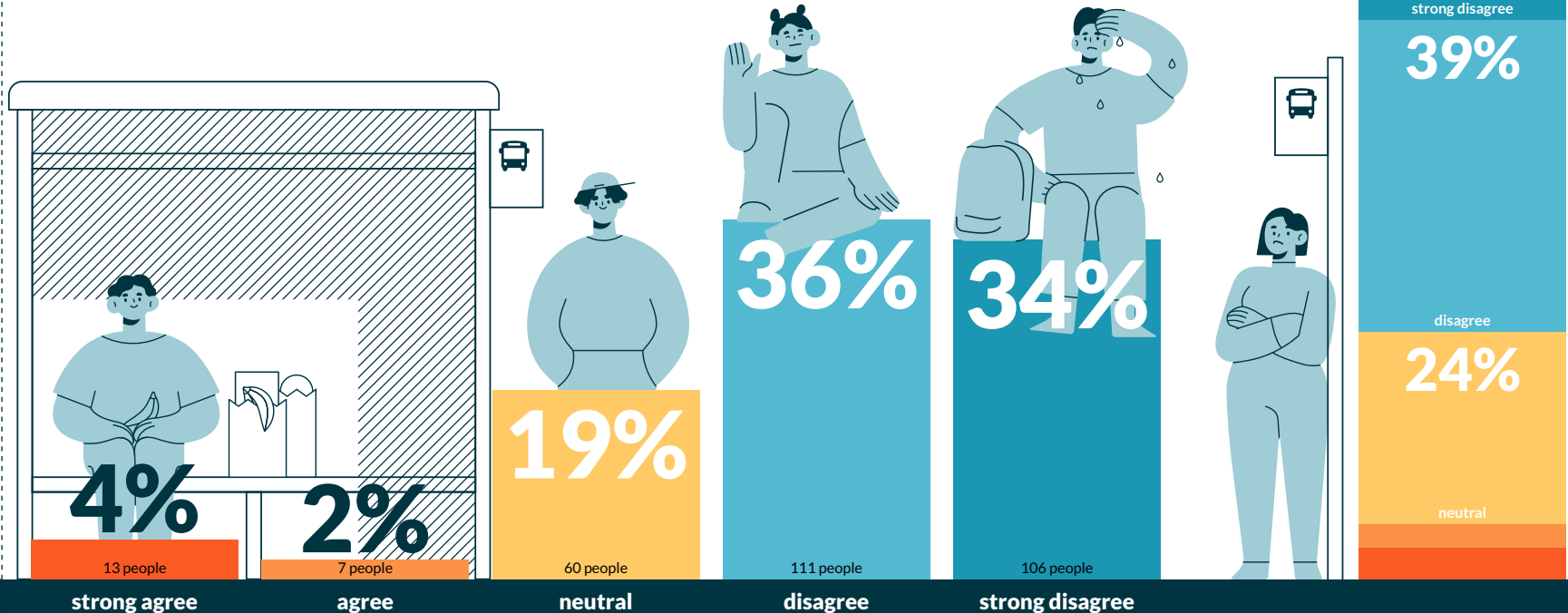
EXTREME URBAN HEAT SURVEY

Less than one-third of respondents think:
the places they travel have enough bus shelters.

Survey Statement: Places I travel in the city have enough bus shelters.

Less than one-third of respondents think:
their neighborhood has enough bus shelters.

Survey Statement: My neighborhood has enough bus shelters.



Transit & Shade - Bus Stops

All Wards

Slide 9

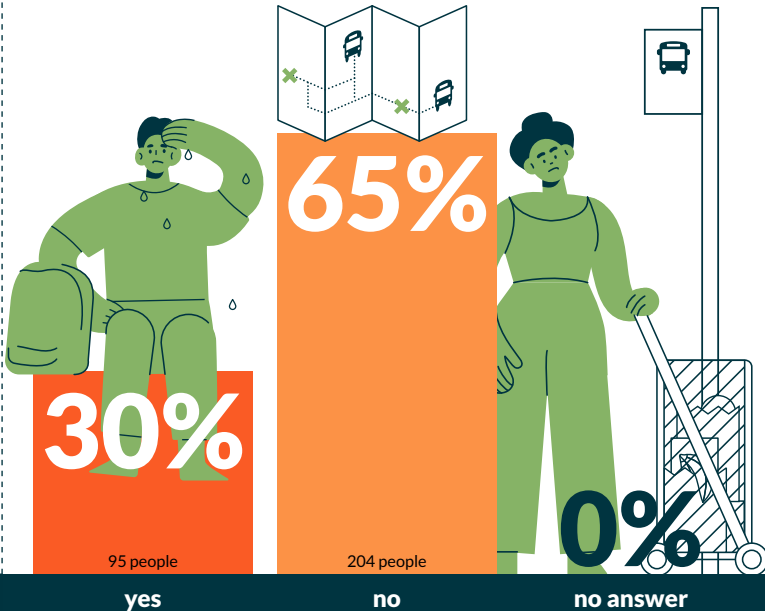
EXTREME URBAN HEAT SURVEY

81% of respondents would use transit if: it was more frequent or convenient.

People responding yes to the Survey Statement, "Would you use public transit more if it was more frequent or convenient."

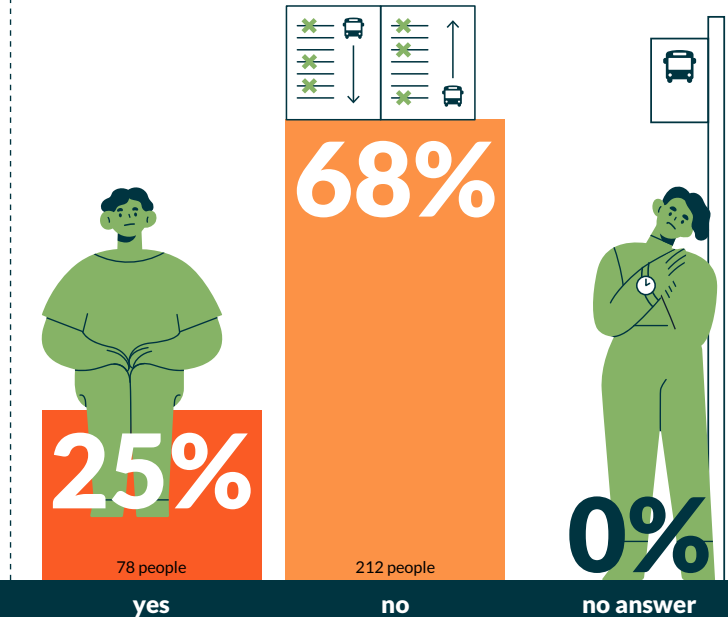
Less than one-third of respondents find: public transit convenient.

Survey Statement: St. Louis' public transportation system is convenient.



Less than one-third of respondents find: trains and buses run frequently enough.

Survey Statement: St. Louis' buses and trains run frequently enough.



Transit - Convenience & Frequency

All Wards

Slide 10

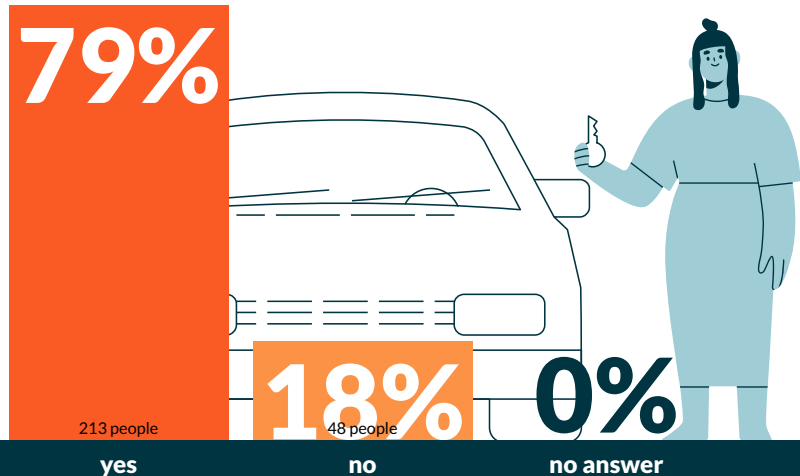
EXTREME URBAN HEAT SURVEY



Most car owners & infrequent riders would use transit more...

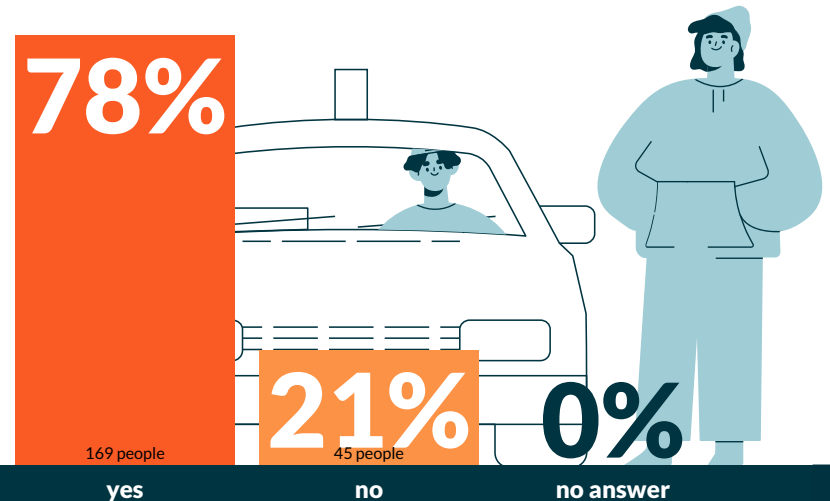
Over two-thirds of car owners would use public transit:
if it was more frequent or convenient.

Survey Statement(s): I would use public transportation in St. Louis more often if the service was more frequent.
and/or: I would use public transportation in St. Louis more often if the routes were more convenient to places like my home or work.



Over two-thirds of infrequent riders would use public transit:
if it was more frequent or convenient.

Survey Statement(s): I would use public transportation in St. Louis more often if the service was more frequent.
and/or: I would use public transportation in St. Louis more often if the routes were more convenient to places like my home or work.



Transit - Non-Rider Usage

All Wards

Slide 11

EXTREME URBAN HEAT SURVEY

Extreme Urban Heat Survey

Thanks for exploring the survey results. Stay tuned for MCE's policy proposals addressing urban heat!

Notes on the Survey Summary Slides:

1. **Not all graph percentages total to 100%.** Many 1-5 statements and Y/N questions had some survey participants that declined to answer.
2. Some slide charts and summary statements show the response to two questions, such as 'Have you suffered from heat illness?' and 'Do you know anyone who has suffered or died from heat illness?' In these instances a 'Yes' to either question was counted as a positive response by that participant. This means those Y/N percentage may not total, or they may exceed 100%.
3. The textural summaries for each slide (the large text) relate to the underlying data as follows:
 - "Most of " = > 80% or more of agree & strong agree responses (or Y for Y/N questions)
 - "Over two-thirds of " = > 65% "
 - "A majority of " = > 50% "
 - "Less than half of " = > 33% "
 - "Less than one-third of " = 6%-33% "
 - "Few of " = 5% or less



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Notes on Data

EXTREME URBAN HEAT SURVEY