Methodology

- Mixed-mode (live phone, email-to-web, and text-to-web) survey of Registered Voters in the City of Seattle
- Conducted September 14 – 24, 2023
- 700 completed interviews; effective margin of error: ±3.9 points
- Data weighted by key demographic variables to accurately reflect the Registered Voter population
- Where available, results are compared to the survey of Seattle Registered Voters, conducted Spring 2023

*Please note that due to rounding, some percentages may not add up to exactly 100%.*
Research Notes

• The sample universe for The Index is All Registered Voters (ARV), not Likely Voters (LV), because the focus is on tracking attitudes over time, not on modeling and analyzing the opinion environment for a specific election.
  • The Registered Voter universe is younger, more progressive, more likely to be renters, more likely to be new to the city, and more likely to be people of color.

• Six-in-10 Seattle voters identify as Democrats, making them the primary driver of overall opinion on all survey questions.
Summary

• The Index has leveled off after back-to-back increases, primarily due to increased voter concern about public safety.

• The Index is now at 4.23 on a 0-to-10 scale – compared to 4.20 in the spring.

• Overall optimism is statistically unchanged (33% right direction / 63% wrong track), as is voter perception of quality of life compared to 4 years ago (12% Better / 19% Same / 68% Worse).

• Most ratings and attitudes are unchanged since the spring, with the exception of public safety related issues where concern is up across the board.

• Concern about public safety (48%; +20 points) is at its highest level since The Index began in the fall of 2021 and is now tied with homelessness as the issue voters are most frustrated or concerned about.

• Concerns about affordability have fallen slightly, but roughly 1-in-5 voters still cite it as a top concern.

• Despite the setback on public safety, most voters still say they are proud to call themselves a Seattleite and a majority agree that they are optimistic about the future of this region.
Summary

• Voter concern about public safety is evident throughout the survey.

• “Addressing violent crime” (88%) has displaced “closing encampments” as the top action voters feel would most improve quality of life – and 3 of the top 4 actions are public safety related. Nearly two-thirds of voters (63%) say “addressing violent crime” would have “very significant impact.”

• More than 8-in-10 say “helping local businesses deal with public safety concerns” (86%) and “addressing property crime like theft and car break ins” (81%) would improve quality of life with a majority saying these actions would have a “very significant impact” on quality of life.

• Two-thirds of Seattle voters say that “hiring more police officers” and “addressing racially biased policing” would improve quality of life.

• Three-in-four voters agree that “hiring more police officers should be an immediate priority of the City” with a majority of voters indicating they “strongly agree.”

• Six-in-ten voters continue to say they feel less safe in their own neighborhood than they did two years ago, nearly a third say they would feel unsafe visiting downtown during the day and two-thirds say they would feel unsafe visiting downtown at night.
Summary

• In two new questions, Seattle voters overwhelmingly agree (81%), with 61% strongly agreeing, that the City’s hands off approach to illegal public drug use is impeding downtown’s recovery. And two thirds disagree, with 51% strongly disagreeing, that drug use laws should not be enforced until underlying causes are addressed.

• Voters continue to recognize that downtown Seattle is central to the region’s economy, 85% agree they’re worried about downtown’s future, and only 14% say they’re optimistic about downtown’s economic future.

• Nearly two-thirds of voters (63%) continue to be concerned about their personal financial situation given current economic conditions and 6-in-10 think Seattle’s taxes are too high for the level of services the city provides.

• Two-thirds do not trust the city on spending and most (84%) do not think the city has an effective plan to address critical issues.
Quality of Life: The Index

- After back-to-back increases, The Index is statistically unchanged from the spring survey.

- The Index aggregates the following quality of life survey questions:
  - Right Direction/Wrong Track
  - Quality of life compared to 4 years ago
  - Actively considered leaving Seattle
  - Optimism about the region’s future
  - Perception of safety
  - Concern about Downtown’s future
  - Likelihood to visit Downtown for activities other than work

- The Index does not include measures of local government or elected leaders.

<table>
<thead>
<tr>
<th></th>
<th>August '21</th>
<th>March '22</th>
<th>Sept. '22</th>
<th>March '23</th>
<th>Sept. '23</th>
</tr>
</thead>
<tbody>
<tr>
<td>Very Positive</td>
<td>10</td>
<td>10</td>
<td>10</td>
<td>10</td>
<td>10</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Average</td>
<td>3.79</td>
<td>3.47</td>
<td>3.89</td>
<td>4.20</td>
<td>4.23</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Very Negative</td>
<td>0</td>
<td>0</td>
<td>0</td>
<td>0</td>
<td>0</td>
</tr>
</tbody>
</table>
Quality of Life: By the Numbers

“Do you feel that things in the city of Seattle are generally going in the right direction, or do you feel things have gotten pretty seriously off on the wrong track?”

“Do you think the overall quality of life in Seattle is better, the same, or worse than it was 4 years ago?”

“I’m optimistic about the future of this region.”

Agree 56% (-0)
- Somewhat 38%
- Strongly 18%

Disagree 44% (+1)
- Somewhat 25%
- Strongly 19%

“I’m proud to call myself a Seattleite.”

Agree 68% (-5)
- Somewhat 33%
- Strongly 36%

Disagree 32% (+5)
- Somewhat 20%
- Strongly 12%

After improving for two consecutive surveys, optimism about the city and the region has flattened out as has the trend on overall quality of life.
“Do you feel that things in the city of Seattle are generally going in the right direction, or do you feel things have gotten pretty seriously off on the wrong track?”

Wrong Track
- 68% in August 2021
- 76% in March 2022
- 69% in September 2022
- 62% in March 2023
- 63% in September 2023

Right Direction
- 28% in August 2021
- 23% in March 2022
- 30% in September 2022
- 31% in March 2023
- 33% in September 2023

(Don't know)
- 5% in August 2021
- 1% in March 2022
- 1% in September 2022
- 6% in March 2023
- 3% in September 2023
### Best Thing About Living in Seattle

**“What is the best thing about living in Seattle?”**

<table>
<thead>
<tr>
<th>Category</th>
<th>Percentage</th>
<th>Change</th>
</tr>
</thead>
<tbody>
<tr>
<td>Environment/Nature/Outdoors/Natural beauty</td>
<td>39% (-5)</td>
<td></td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Weather/Summer/Climate</td>
<td>19% (+8)</td>
<td></td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Community/Culture/Neighborhoods/Small city</td>
<td>14% (-3)</td>
<td></td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Location/Geography/Puget Sound</td>
<td>13% (+5)</td>
<td></td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Amenities/Food/Entertainment/Music/Sports</td>
<td>10% (-0)</td>
<td></td>
</tr>
</tbody>
</table>

Things related to being outdoors – the natural beauty, the environment, and climate – are what people like best about living in Seattle.
Top Concerns
Top Concerns

“What are the issues facing Seattle that you are most frustrated or concerned about?”

- Homelessness: 51% (-5)
- Crime/Drugs/Public safety: 48% (+10)
- Cost of living/Affordable housing: 19% (-4)
- Racial issues/Policing/Police brutality: 12% (+5)
- Government/Politicians/Public leaders: 7% (+0)
- Mental health/Healthcare cost/access: 4% (+2)
- Jobs/Economy: 4% (+1)
- Taxes: 3% (-1)
- Public transportation: 3% (+0)
- Cleanliness of city/Garbage: 3% (+0)
- Traffic/Congestion: 2% (-1)
- Streets/Roads/Infrastructure: 2% (-2)
- Growth/Development/Population: 1% (-1)
- Climate change/Environment: 1% (+0)

Homelessness and Public Safety continue to be the top concerns for Seattlesites.
Top Three Concerns - Trend

<table>
<thead>
<tr>
<th></th>
<th>August '21</th>
<th>March '22</th>
<th>Sep '22</th>
<th>March '23</th>
<th>Sep '23</th>
</tr>
</thead>
<tbody>
<tr>
<td>Homelessness</td>
<td>65%</td>
<td>61%</td>
<td>57%</td>
<td>56%</td>
<td>51%</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Crime/Public Safety</td>
<td>28%</td>
<td>46%</td>
<td>45%</td>
<td>38%</td>
<td>48%</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Affordability/Housing</td>
<td>15%</td>
<td>22%</td>
<td>19%</td>
<td>23%</td>
<td>19%</td>
</tr>
</tbody>
</table>

After a drop in the spring, concerns about public safety are on the rise again and are now on a par with concerns about homelessness. Affordability concerns are relatively flat.
Improving Quality of Life
Improving Quality of Life

“How much impact do you think each of the following would have on improving quality of life in Seattle?”

- **Addressing violent crime and gun violence**: 63% (7) - Very significant impact, 25% (5/6) Total impact: 88% (+6)
- **Closing encampments in parks, on sidewalks, public ways**: 59% (7) - Very significant impact, 21% (5/6) Total impact: 79% (+1)
- **Helping local businesses deal with public safety concerns**: 53% (7) - Very significant impact, 33% (5/6) Total impact: 86% (+3)
- **Addressing property crime like theft and car break ins**: 52% (7) - Very significant impact, 30% (5/6) Total impact: 81% (+2)
- **Making Seattle a good place to do business**: 47% (7) - Very significant impact, 31% (5/6) Total impact: 78% (+0)
- **Building more affordable housing**: 43% (7) - Very significant impact, 29% (5/6) Total impact: 72% (+2)
- **Maintaining bridges and infrastructure**: 42% (7) - Very significant impact, 41% (5/6) Total impact: 83% (-3)
- **Hiring more police officers**: 37% (7) - Very significant impact, 28% (5/6) Total impact: 65% (+3)
- **Addressing racially biased policing**: 35% (7) - Very significant impact, 32% (5/6) Total impact: 67% (+4)
- **Investing in more public transit**: 32% (7) - Very significant impact, 34% (5/6) Total impact: 66% (+3)
- **Reducing carbon emissions and climate pollution**: 22% (7) - Very significant impact, 29% (5/6) Total impact: 51% (-2)

Addressing violent crime has displaced closing encampments as the action that voters feel would have the most impact on improving quality of life. Three of the top four items are public safety related.
Leaving Seattle

“Have you actively considered moving out of Seattle?” (If YES) "And are you still actively considering moving out of Seattle?"

<table>
<thead>
<tr>
<th></th>
<th>Aug '21</th>
<th>Mar '22</th>
<th>Sep '22</th>
<th>Mar '23</th>
<th>Sep '23</th>
</tr>
</thead>
<tbody>
<tr>
<td>Actively</td>
<td>60%</td>
<td>67%</td>
<td>63%</td>
<td>55%</td>
<td>53%</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Considered</td>
<td></td>
<td></td>
<td></td>
<td></td>
<td></td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Still</td>
<td></td>
<td></td>
<td></td>
<td></td>
<td></td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Considering</td>
<td>51%</td>
<td>46%</td>
<td>43%</td>
<td></td>
<td></td>
</tr>
</tbody>
</table>

“What is the main reason you have considered moving?” (Among those who have considered moving)

- Expensive (Cost of living/Housing): 33% (+9)
- Crime/Drugs/Public safety: 30% (-1)
- Gov’t/Politics: 11% (-0)
- Homelessness: 6% (-1)

Green box
Public Safety
"Thinking about safety in your neighborhood, including property crime and violent crime, would you say you feel more safe or less safe than you did two years ago?"

More Safe 11% (+2)  
 Same 30% (-2)  
 Less Safe 60% (+0)

"I would feel safe visiting downtown Seattle during the day"

Agree 69% (-3)  
 Disagree 30% (+3)

"I would feel safe visiting downtown Seattle at night"

Agree 32% (+1)  
 Disagree 67% (+0)

A majority of Seattle voters continue to say they are feeling less safe in their own neighborhoods. One-in-three don’t feel safe visiting downtown during the day and two-thirds say they would not feel safe visiting downtown at night.

Public Safety Downtown
"Seattle's hands-off approach to people using illegal drugs like fentanyl and meth in public is contributing to rampant street crime and is making it much harder for our city to recover."

In two new questions, Seattle voters overwhelmingly agree, with 61% strongly agreeing, that the City's hands off approach to illegal public drug use is impeding downtown's recovery. And two thirds disagree, with 51% strongly disagreeing, that drug use laws should not be enforced until underlying causes are addressed.

"We should not enforce laws against public use of illegal drugs like fentanyl and meth until we first address the underlying issues driving addiction like economic inequality, lack of opportunity, and inadequate treatment options."
Illegal Public Drug Use

Now I’d like to read you a set of statements. Please tell me which one is closest to your opinion.

Statement A: The City’s hands off approach to public drug use is making our city unsafe. Illegal drug users need to be offered treatment first, but if they refuse, they need to be arrested and prosecuted.

Statement B: Arresting people for addiction is a return to the failed War on Drugs approach. It is not the solution to our current crisis and has repeatedly been shown to do more harm than good. People should never be arrested for addiction.

Prosecute if refuse treatment 71%

Never arrest 27%

In another new question, by a 44-point margin Seattle voters say illegal drug users need to be arrested and prosecuted if they refuse treatment rather than left alone because arresting people for addiction is wrong and ineffective.
I trust the Seattle City Council to reform the Seattle Police Department without endangering public safety

Agree 23% (-6)  Disagree 75% (+7)

Hiring more police officers should be an immediate priority for the City

Agree 74% (+6)  Disagree 26% (-5)

A strong majority continue to agree the hiring more police officers needs to be an immediate priority and three quarters now say they DO NOT trust this City Council to reform SPD.
Downtown & Economic Recovery
"And currently, for activities other than work, are you visiting downtown Seattle more, less, or about the same as you did before the pandemic?"

After a 10-point increase in the percentage of people saying they visit downtown the same or more than pre-pandemic, reported visitation has leveled off.
Downtown & Economic Recovery

Using a scale from 1 to 5, with 1 being very pessimistic, and 5 being very optimistic, how do you feel about the downtown Seattle economy?

- **1-2 Pessimistic**: 45% (-6)
- **3/(Don’t Know)**: 42% (+5)
- **4-5 Optimistic**: 14% (+1)

“Downtown Seattle cannot fully recover until the homelessness and public safety problems are addressed”

- **Agree**: 91% (+1)
- **Disagree**: 9% (-1)

“A thriving downtown Seattle is critical to our region’s economic recovery”

- **Agree**: 91% (+1)
- **Disagree**: 8% (-1)

“I’m worried about the future of downtown Seattle”

- **Agree**: 85% (+3)
- **Disagree**: 14% (-3)

Voters continue to overwhelmingly agree that a thriving downtown is critical to our regional economy and that downtown cannot fully recover until homelessness and public safety are addressed.

Most also say they are worried about downtown’s future and only 14% are optimistic about the downtown Seattle economy.
Taxes & Spending
### Taxes & Spending

"How concerned are you about your personal financial situation given current economic conditions?"

<table>
<thead>
<tr>
<th>Concerned</th>
<th>Not Concerned</th>
</tr>
</thead>
<tbody>
<tr>
<td>63% (-1)</td>
<td>37% (+1)</td>
</tr>
</tbody>
</table>

"Would you say that taxes in Seattle are too high, too low, or about right for the level of services the city provides"

<table>
<thead>
<tr>
<th>Too High</th>
<th>About Right/ (Don’t Know)</th>
<th>Too Low</th>
</tr>
</thead>
<tbody>
<tr>
<td>61% (+3)</td>
<td>31% (-3)</td>
<td>8% (-1)</td>
</tr>
</tbody>
</table>

"I trust the city of Seattle to spend my tax dollars responsibly"

<table>
<thead>
<tr>
<th>Agree</th>
<th>Disagree</th>
</tr>
</thead>
<tbody>
<tr>
<td>32% (-2)</td>
<td>68% (+2)</td>
</tr>
</tbody>
</table>

"I trust that the City has an effective plan to address the critical issues facing our city like homelessness, affordability, and public safety."

<table>
<thead>
<tr>
<th>Agree</th>
<th>Disagree</th>
</tr>
</thead>
<tbody>
<tr>
<td>15% (-1)</td>
<td>84% (+2)</td>
</tr>
</tbody>
</table>

### Analysis

- **Concern with Personal Financial Situation**: 63% are concerned, down 1 point from last year.
- **Taxes Perception**: 61% believe taxes are too high, a 3-point increase from last year.
- **Trust in City Spending**: 32% agree the city spends responsibly, a 2-point decrease from last year.
- **Trust in City’s Plan**: 15% believe the city has a plan to address critical issues, a 1-point decrease from last year.

**Key Insights**

- **Economic Concern**: Over six in ten (63%) are concerned about their personal financial situation.
- **Tax Burden**: Only a small fraction (8%) think taxes are too low, indicating a majority view that taxes are too high.
- **Citizen Trust**: Trust in the city’s spending and effective plan is declining, with 84% disagreeing the city has an effective plan.

**Key Quote**

"Nearly two-thirds of voters remain concerned about their personal financial situation and 6-in-10 think local taxes are too high for the level of services the city provides. Voters continue to distrust the city on spending and very few trust that the city has an effective plan to address critical issues."
Growth & Housing
Addressing Housing Affordability

<table>
<thead>
<tr>
<th>Statement</th>
<th>Agree</th>
<th>Disagree</th>
</tr>
</thead>
<tbody>
<tr>
<td>&quot;I support the building of new housing in my neighborhood&quot;</td>
<td>69% (+1)</td>
<td>30% (-1)</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>&quot;All things considered, growth and development has been a positive for my area&quot;</td>
<td>53% (+0)</td>
<td>47% (+1)</td>
</tr>
</tbody>
</table>

Despite being divided on the overall impacts of growth, a strong majority of Seattle voters continue to say they support the building of new housing in their neighborhood.”
Respondent Profile

**Age**
- 18-29: 19%
- 30-39: 25%
- 40-49: 18%
- 50-64: 20%
- 65+: 18%

**Gender**
- Male: 50%
- Female: 50%

**Ethnicity**
- White: 69%
- POC: 25%
- (Refused): 6%

**Homeowner**
- 50% Homeowner
- 50% Renter

**Length of Residency**
- 1-10 years: 25%
- 11-20 years: 28%
- 20+ years: 47%

**Party**
- Socialist: 7%
- Democrat: 62%
- Independent: 21%
- Republican: 10%

**Education**
- <College: 24%
- College+: 76%
Seattle Regions

- Results weighted to the proportional share of voters in each District

<table>
<thead>
<tr>
<th>Region</th>
<th>Districts</th>
<th>Weighted %</th>
</tr>
</thead>
<tbody>
<tr>
<td>North Seattle</td>
<td>4, 5 and 6</td>
<td>43%</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Central Seattle</td>
<td>3 and 7</td>
<td>29%</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>South Seattle</td>
<td>1 and 2</td>
<td>29%</td>
</tr>
</tbody>
</table>
# Quality of Life - The Index

## Quality of Life Index
March 2023

<table>
<thead>
<tr>
<th>Partisan Identification</th>
<th>Quality Score</th>
</tr>
</thead>
<tbody>
<tr>
<td>Socialist (7%)</td>
<td>4.8</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Democrat (62%)</td>
<td>4.6</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Independent (21%)</td>
<td>3.4</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Republican (10%)</td>
<td>3.0</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>18-22 (19%)</td>
<td>4.1</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>23-35 (25%)</td>
<td>4.5</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>36-49 (18%)</td>
<td>4.2</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>50-64 (25%)</td>
<td>3.8</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>65+ (18%)</td>
<td>4.5</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>White (69%)</td>
<td>4.3</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>POC (25%)</td>
<td>4.2</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>1-10 years (28%)</td>
<td>4.6</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>11-20 years (25%)</td>
<td>3.9</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>20+ years (47%)</td>
<td>4.2</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Owner (60%)</td>
<td>4.2</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Renter (50%)</td>
<td>4.3</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>South (24%)</td>
<td>3.9</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Central (25%)</td>
<td>4.6</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>North (43%)</td>
<td>4.2</td>
</tr>
</tbody>
</table>

*Partisan identification is the strongest driver of quality of life attitudes with less liberal voters being more negative on quality of life.*
A majority of voters in most subgroups are optimistic about the region’s future. Independents and Republicans are much less optimistic than other groups.
Quality of Life

Quality of Life Compared to 4 Years Ago

Self-identified socialists are the only subgroup where a majority think quality of life has not declined over the past four years. Newer residents are more optimistic than long term residents.
A strong majority of voters in every subgroup except Independents and Republicans say they are proud to call themselves Seattleites.
Top Concerns - Homelessness

“What are the issues facing Seattle that you are most frustrated or concerned about?”
(% Mentioning Homelessness)

Democrats are much more likely than other partisans to mention homelessness as a top concern.
Top Concerns - Public Safety

“What are the issues facing Seattle that you are most frustrated or concerned about?”
(% Mentioning Crime, Drugs, or Public Safety)

Socialists are the most significant outlier on concern about public safety. There is little difference in concern by region or ethnicity.
Safety Downtown: Daytime

Would Feel Safe Visiting Downtown During the Day

A majority of voters in every subgroup except Republicans say they would feel safe visiting downtown during the day.
Safety Downtown: Nighttime

Would Feel Safe Visiting Downtown at Night

- Strongly Agree
- Somewhat Agree

Socialists are the only subgroup where a majority say they would feel safe visiting downtown at night.
Roughly 6-in-10 voters in all three regions of the city say they feel less safe in their own neighborhood than they did two years ago. Partisan identification is a strong driver of attitudes about neighborhood safety.
Prioritize Hiring More Officers

Prioritizing Hiring More Police Officers

- Strongly Agree
- Somewhat Agree

A strong majority of voters in every subgroup except Socialists say the city should immediately prioritize hiring more officers.
Trust Council to Reform SPD

Trust City Council to Reform SPD without Endangering Public Safety

- **Strongly Agree**
- **Somewhat Agree**

Very few voters trust the City Council to reform SPD without endangering public safety.
Three-quarters or more of voters in every subgroup except Socialists think Seattle’s hands off approach to illegal public drug use is contributing to street crime and making it harder for the city to recover.
Must Address Underlying Issues First

Address Underlying Issues Causing Addiction before Enforcement

Only Socialists agree that laws against public drug use should NOT be enforced until the underlying conditions contributing to addiction are addressed.
New Housing in Your Neighborhood

Support New Housing in Your Neighborhood

<table>
<thead>
<tr>
<th>Group</th>
<th>Strongly Agree</th>
<th>Somewhat Agree</th>
</tr>
</thead>
<tbody>
<tr>
<td>All Voters</td>
<td>69%</td>
<td>37%</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Socialist</td>
<td>80%</td>
<td>60%</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Democrat</td>
<td>76%</td>
<td>39%</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Independent</td>
<td>57%</td>
<td>43%</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Republican</td>
<td>47%</td>
<td>53%</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>18-29 (19%)</td>
<td>73%</td>
<td>45%</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>30-39 (25%)</td>
<td>74%</td>
<td>40%</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>40-49 (18%)</td>
<td>71%</td>
<td>29%</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>50-64 (20%)</td>
<td>68%</td>
<td>31%</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>65+ (18%)</td>
<td>56%</td>
<td>44%</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>White (69%)</td>
<td>70%</td>
<td>30%</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>POC (25%)</td>
<td>70%</td>
<td>30%</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>1-10 years (28%)</td>
<td>81%</td>
<td>19%</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>11-20 years (25%)</td>
<td>70%</td>
<td>30%</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>&gt;20 years (47%)</td>
<td>61%</td>
<td>39%</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Homeowner</td>
<td>71%</td>
<td>29%</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Renter</td>
<td>68%</td>
<td>32%</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>South (29%)</td>
<td>66%</td>
<td>34%</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Central (29%)</td>
<td>68%</td>
<td>32%</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>North (43%)</td>
<td>71%</td>
<td>29%</td>
</tr>
</tbody>
</table>

A majority of voters in most subgroups agree that they would support additional housing in their neighborhood and there is no difference in support between homeowners and renters.
Actively Considered Moving

Voters of all stripes say they have considered leaving Seattle.
Worried About Downtown

Worried About Downtown’s Future

A majority of voters in every subgroup say they are worried about downtown’s future. Socialists are the least worried.
A strong majority of voters in every subgroup — including nearly three-quarters of Socialists — agree that downtown cannot fully recover until homelessness and public safety are addressed.
A majority of voters in every subgroup – including nearly three-quarters of Socialists – agree that downtown is critical to our region’s economic recovery.
Most voters say they are visiting downtown less often for non-work activities than they did pre-pandemic.
A majority of voters in every subgroup except Socialists say that taxes in Seattle are too high for the level of services the city provides.
Trust on Spending

Trust City on Spending

Few voters trust the city on spending.
Trust The City Has An Effective Plan

Trust that the City has an effective plan to address the critical issues facing our city

![Bar Chart]

Across subgroups voters do NOT believe that the city has an effective plan to address critical issues.
Trend Data
"Do you feel that things in the city of Seattle are generally going in the right direction, or do you feel things have gotten pretty seriously off on the wrong track?"

- **Wrong Track**
  - August 2021: 68%
  - March 2022: 76%
  - September 2022: 69%
  - March 2023: 62%
  - September 2023: 63%

- **Right Direction**
  - August 2021: 28%
  - March 2022: 23%
  - September 2022: 30%
  - March 2023: 31%
  - September 2023: 33%

- **(Don't know)**
  - August 2021: 5%
  - March 2022: 1%
  - September 2022: 1%
  - March 2023: 6%
  - September 2023: 3%
Agree/Disagree Trend

“I’m optimistic about the future of this region”

- Total Agree 50% (August 2021: 50%, March 2022: 50%, September 2022: 55%, March 2023: 56%, September 2023: 56%)
- Strongly Agree 18% (August 2021: 12%, March 2022: 15%, September 2022: 21%, March 2023: 18%)
Agree/Disagree Trend

“A thriving downtown Seattle is crucial to our region’s economic recovery.”

- Total Agree: 87%
  - August 2021: 91%
  - March 2022: 91%
  - September 2022: 91%
  - March 2023: 90%
  - September 2023: 91%

- Strongly Agree: 59%
  - August 2021: 62%
  - March 2022: 65%
  - September 2022: 64%
  - March 2023: 62%
Agree/Disagree Trend

"I’m worried about the future of downtown Seattle."

Total Agree 78%
Strongly Agree 53%

August 2021: 61%
March 2022: 57%
September 2022: 53%
March 2023: 55%
September 2023: 85%
Agree/Disagree Trend

“I would feel safe visiting downtown Seattle during the day.”

- Total Agree: 66%
  - August 2021: 61%
  - March 2022: 66%
  - September 2022: 72%
  - March 2023: 69%
  - September 2023: 69%

- Strongly Agree: 34%
  - August 2021: 25%
  - March 2022: 28%
  - September 2022: 34%
  - March 2023: 36%
  - September 2023: 36%
“I would feel safe visiting downtown Seattle at night.”

A trend chart showing the agreement levels for the statement over time:

- **Total Agree**
  - August 2021: 30%
  - March 2022: 26%
  - September 2022: 28%
  - March 2023: 31%
  - September 2023: 32%

- **Strongly Agree**
  - August 2021: 8%
  - March 2022: 8%
  - September 2022: 9%
  - March 2023: 11%
  - September 2023: 11%
Agree/Disagree Trend

“Downtown Seattle cannot fully recover until the homelessness and public safety problems are addressed.”

<table>
<thead>
<tr>
<th></th>
<th>August 2021</th>
<th>March 2022</th>
<th>September 2022</th>
<th>March 2023</th>
<th>September 2023</th>
</tr>
</thead>
<tbody>
<tr>
<td>Total Agree</td>
<td></td>
<td>91%</td>
<td>91%</td>
<td>89%</td>
<td>91%</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Strongly Agree</td>
<td></td>
<td>76%</td>
<td>76%</td>
<td>69%</td>
<td>72%</td>
</tr>
</tbody>
</table>
Agree/Disagree Trend

“I support the building of new housing in my neighborhood.”

- **Total Agree**: 64%, 66%, 67%, 68%, 69%
- **Strongly Agree**: 30%, 34%, 31%, 36%, 37%

- **August 2021**: 64%
- **March 2022**: 66%
- **September 2022**: 67%
- **March 2023**: 68%
- **September 2023**: 69%
Agree/Disagree Trend

“I trust the City of Seattle to spend my tax dollars responsibly.”
“All things considered, growth and development has been a positive for my area.”

<table>
<thead>
<tr>
<th>Month</th>
<th>Total Agree</th>
<th>Strongly Agree</th>
</tr>
</thead>
<tbody>
<tr>
<td>August 2021</td>
<td>49%</td>
<td>12%</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>March 2022</td>
<td>51%</td>
<td>14%</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>September 2022</td>
<td>53%</td>
<td>14%</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>March 2023</td>
<td>53%</td>
<td>14%</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>September 2023</td>
<td>53%</td>
<td>16%</td>
</tr>
</tbody>
</table>
Agree/Disagree Trend

“I’m proud to call myself a Seattleite.”

- Total Agree: September 2022 = 71%, March 2023 = 73%, September 2023 = 68%
- Strongly Agree: September 2022 = 37%, March 2023 = 39%, September 2023 = 36%
Agree/Disagree Trend

“I trust the Seattle City Council to reform the Seattle Police Department without endangering public safety.”

August 2021: Total Agree 30%, Strongly Agree 7%
March 2022: Total Agree 30%, Strongly Agree 7%
September 2022: Total Agree 26%, Strongly Agree 5%
March 2023: Total Agree 30%, Strongly Agree 6%
September 2023: Total Agree 23%, Strongly Agree 5%
"Hiring more police officers should be an immediate priority for the City."

<table>
<thead>
<tr>
<th></th>
<th>September 2022</th>
<th>March 2023</th>
<th>September 2023</th>
</tr>
</thead>
<tbody>
<tr>
<td>Total Agree</td>
<td>73%</td>
<td>67%</td>
<td>74%</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Strongly Agree</td>
<td>54%</td>
<td>47%</td>
<td>51%</td>
</tr>
</tbody>
</table>
Agree/Disagree Trend

“I trust that the City has an effective plan to address the critical issues facing our city like homelessness, affordability, and public safety.”

- **September 2022**
  - Total Agree 17%
  - Strongly Agree 2%

- **March 2023**
  - Total Agree 17%
  - Strongly Agree 3%

- **September 2023**
  - Total Agree 15%
  - Strongly Agree 3%
Quality of Life Impact Trend

Impact on Quality of Life: “Closing encampments in parks, on sidewalks, and on other public right of ways.”

- Significant Impact (5-7)
  - March 2022: 78%
  - September 2022: 79%
  - March 2023: 78%
  - September 2023: 79%

- 7 - Very Significant Impact
  - March 2022: 62%
  - September 2022: 65%
  - March 2023: 59%
  - September 2023: 59%
Quality of Life Impact Trend

Impact on Quality of Life: “Helping local businesses deal with public safety concerns.”

- Significant Impact (5-7): 80% in March 2022, 82% in September 2022, 82% in March 2023, 86% in September 2023
- 7 - Very Significant Impact: 47% in March 2022, 53% in September 2022, 49% in March 2023, 53% in September 2023
Quality of Life Impact Trend

Impact on Quality of Life: “Addressing property crime like theft and car break ins.”

- **Significant Impact (5-7)**
  - March 2022: 82%
  - September 2022: 81%
  - March 2023: 79%
  - September 2023: 81%

- **7 - Very Significant Impact**
  - March 2022: 47%
  - September 2022: 53%
  - March 2023: 50%
  - September 2023: 52%
Quality of Life Impact Trend

Impact on Quality of Life: "Reducing carbon emissions and climate pollution."

- Significant Impact (5-7)
  - March 2022: 54%
  - September 2022: 57%
  - March 2023: 53%
  - September 2023: 51%

- 7 - Very Significant Impact
  - March 2022: 28%
  - September 2022: 32%
  - March 2023: 23%
  - September 2023: 22%
Quality of Life Impact Trend

Impact on Quality of Life: “Maintaining bridges and infrastructure.”

Significant Impact (5-7)
- March 2022: 86%
- September 2022: 83%
- March 2023: 86%
- September 2023: 83%

7 - Very Significant Impact
- March 2022: 43%
- September 2022: 47%
- March 2023: 46%
- September 2023: 42%
Quality of Life Impact Trend

Impact on Quality of Life: "Addressing racially biased policing."

- Significant Impact (5-7)
  - March 2022: 62%
  - September 2022: 65%
  - March 2023: 63%
  - September 2023: 67%

- 7 - Very Significant Impact
  - March 2022: 35%
  - September 2022: 38%
  - March 2023: 33%
  - September 2023: 35%
Quality of Life Impact Trend

Impact on Quality of Life: “Making Seattle a good place to do business.”

- Significant Impact (5-7):
  - March 2022: 72%
  - September 2022: 76%
  - March 2023: 77%
  - September 2023: 78%

- 7 - Very Significant Impact:
  - March 2022: 41%
  - September 2022: 47%
  - March 2023: 44%
  - September 2023: 47%
Quality of Life Impact Trend

Impact on Quality of Life: “Addressing violent crime and gun violence.”

Significant Impact (5-7)
- 86% in March 2022
- 82% in September 2022
- 82% in March 2023
- 88% in September 2023

7 - Very Significant Impact
- 59% in March 2022
- 58% in September 2022
- 58% in March 2023
- 63% in September 2023
Quality of Life Impact Trend

Impact on Quality of Life: “Investing in more public transit.”

Significant Impact (5-7)
- March 2022: 66%
- September 2022: 67%
- March 2023: 63%
- September 2023: 66%

7 - Very Significant Impact
- March 2022: 33%
- September 2022: 39%
- March 2023: 29%
- September 2023: 32%
Quality of Life Impact Trend

Impact on Quality of Life: "Building more affordable housing."

<table>
<thead>
<tr>
<th>Significant Impact (5-7)</th>
<th>72%</th>
<th>72%</th>
<th>71%</th>
<th>72%</th>
</tr>
</thead>
<tbody>
<tr>
<td>7 - Very Significant Impact</td>
<td>44%</td>
<td>44%</td>
<td>40%</td>
<td>43%</td>
</tr>
</tbody>
</table>

March 2022 | September 2022 | March 2023 | September 2023
Quality of Life Impact Trend

Impact on Quality of Life: "Hiring more police officers."

- Significant Impact (5-7): 69% in September 2022, 62% in March 2023, 65% in September 2023
- 7 - Very Significant Impact: 42% in September 2022, 36% in March 2023, 37% in September 2023
“Would you say that taxes in Seattle are too high, too low, or about right for the level of services the city provides?”

- Too High: 59%, 57%, 57%, 61%
- Much Too High: 24%, 28%, 32%, 32%

“Thinking about safety in your neighborhood, including property crime and violent crime, would you say you feel more safe or less safe than you did two years ago?”

<table>
<thead>
<tr>
<th></th>
<th></th>
<th></th>
<th></th>
<th></th>
</tr>
</thead>
<tbody>
<tr>
<td>Less Safe</td>
<td>73%</td>
<td>70%</td>
<td>60%</td>
<td>60%</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Much Less Safe</td>
<td>47%</td>
<td>45%</td>
<td>33%</td>
<td>36%</td>
</tr>
</tbody>
</table>
Downtown Seattle

"And currently, for activities other than work, are you visiting downtown Seattle more, less, or about the same as you did before the pandemic?"

<table>
<thead>
<tr>
<th></th>
<th>August 2021</th>
<th>March 2022</th>
<th>September 2022</th>
<th>March 2023</th>
<th>September 2023</th>
</tr>
</thead>
<tbody>
<tr>
<td>Less Often</td>
<td>46%</td>
<td>51%</td>
<td>78%</td>
<td>68%</td>
<td>70%</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Same/(DK)</td>
<td>39%</td>
<td>33%</td>
<td>19%</td>
<td>26%</td>
<td>22%</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>More Often</td>
<td>15%</td>
<td>15%</td>
<td>3%</td>
<td>6%</td>
<td>7%</td>
</tr>
</tbody>
</table>
Overall Quality of Life Trend

“Do you think the overall quality of life in Seattle is better, the same, or worse than it was 4 years ago?”

<table>
<thead>
<tr>
<th>August 2021</th>
<th>March 2022</th>
<th>September 2022</th>
<th>March 2023</th>
<th>September 2023</th>
</tr>
</thead>
<tbody>
<tr>
<td>Worse</td>
<td>76%</td>
<td>81%</td>
<td>78%</td>
<td>68%</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Same/(DK/Ref)</td>
<td>16%</td>
<td>14%</td>
<td>15%</td>
<td>23%</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Better</td>
<td>8%</td>
<td>5%</td>
<td>7%</td>
<td>9%</td>
</tr>
</tbody>
</table>
Considered Moving Trend

"Have you actively considered moving out of Seattle?"
(IF YES) "And are you still actively considering moving out of Seattle?"

Actively Considered
- Aug '21: 60%
- Mar '22: 67%
- Sep '22: 63%
- Mar '23: 55%
- Sep '23: 53%

- Aug '21: 43%
- Mar '22: 46%
- Sep '22: 51%
Reasons To Leave Trend

"What is the main reason you have considered moving?"

- Cost of living/housing: 23%
  - Aug. 2021: 29%
  - Mar. 2022: 35%
  - Sep. 2022: 33%
  - Mar. 2023: 31%
  - Sep. 2023: 33%

- Crime/Public safety: 22%
  - Aug. 2021: 26%
  - Mar. 2022: 24%
  - Sep. 2022: 30%
  - Mar. 2023: 30%
  - Sep. 2023: 30%

- Homelessness: 14%
  - Aug. 2021: 12%
  - Mar. 2022: 11%
  - Sep. 2022: 11%
  - Mar. 2023: 11%
  - Sep. 2023: 11%

- Gov't/Leadership: 11%
  - Aug. 2021: 9%
  - Mar. 2022: 10%
  - Sep. 2022: 7%
  - Mar. 2023: 6%
  - Sep. 2023: 6%