# Summary of Proprietary Findings from the Critical Insights on Maine™ Survey for The Maine Law Enforcement Coalition

Fall 2022



### Introduction

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## Background

- Each spring and fall, Digital Research, Inc. conducts the *Critical Insights on Maine<sup>TM</sup>* tracking survey, a comprehensive, statewide public opinion survey of registered voters that covers a variety of topics of interest to businesses, government, and the general public.
- Critical Insights on Maine™ has been documenting the attitudes, perceptions, and preferences of Maine's residents for more than 25 years, making it the longest-running consistently-administered tracking survey in the Northeast.
  - In addition to general-interest items (the results of which are released to the media as a public service), the survey also includes a number of
    proprietary items for sponsoring entities, with results of those items released only to the sponsors of those specific questions.
  - This document presents the results of questions included in the fall 2022 wave of the survey on behalf of the Maine Law Enforcement Coalition.
     The same questions were asked in the spring 2021 wave, with high-level comparisons of the results shown in this report for reference.

## **Methodology**

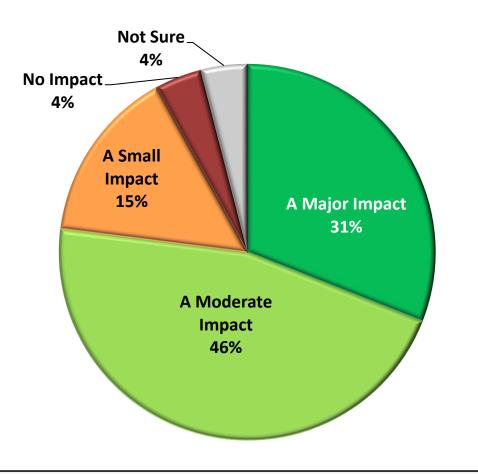
- All survey respondents were registered voters who live in Maine.
- This wave of the survey included a total of 620 respondents across the state who were surveyed by phone (307 respondents) or online (313 respondents) in September and October of 2022.
  - Final data reflect the demographics of the state's population and were statistically weighted to ensure that those responding by phone or
    online had an equal impact on the overall results.
  - With a total sample of 620 respondents, results presented here have a margin of sampling error of +/- 3.9 percentage points at the 95% confidence level.
- On average, the survey took participants 20 minutes to complete including both general-interest items and all proprietary subscriber items.



### **Proprietary Results**

Almost all voters believe law enforcement has an impact on safety in Maine, with many believing law enforcement has a *major* impact on safety in the state (31%).

### Impact of Law Enforcement on Safety in Maine



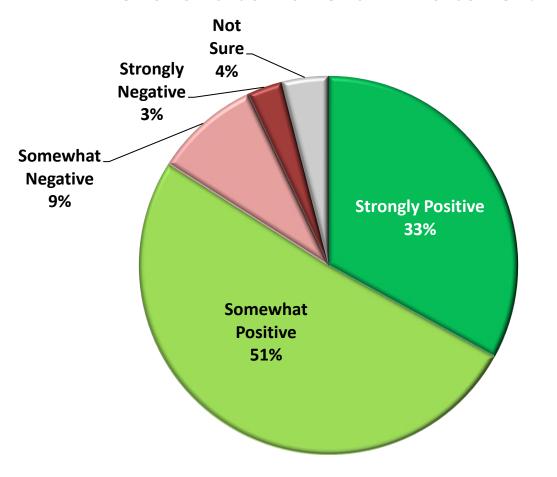
Major/Moderate Impact: 77%

2022: (n=620)



Overall, eight out of ten Mainers have a positive view of law enforcement in Maine, with many having a *strongly* positive view of law enforcement (33%).

#### **Views Towards Maine Law Enforcement**



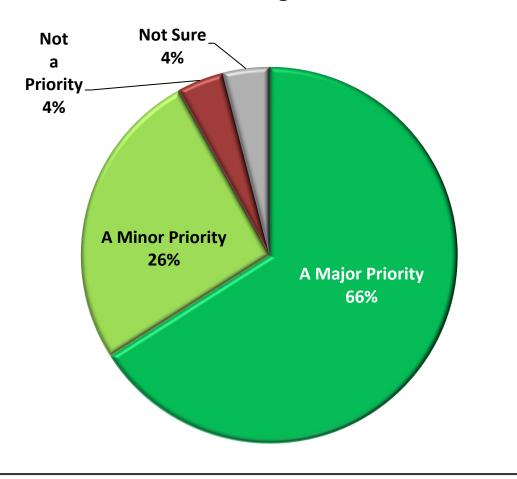
**Strongly/Somewhat Positive: 84%** 

2022: (n=620)



Nine out of ten voters in Maine believe the state's shortage of law enforcement officers should be a priority for lawmakers, including two out of three who believe this shortage should be a *major* priority (66%).

### **Views Toward the Shortage of Law Enforcement Officers**



**Total Priority: 92%** 

2022: (n=620)

