

DOC PUBLIC PULSE OF CONSERVATION

Monthly Topline Report – November 2022

Jonathan Dodd

29 November, 2022



GAME CHANGERS



KEY FINDINGS – NOVEMBER '22

- There has been an overall increase in visits to DOC-managed places, with satisfaction and related measures all improving.
- The average number of visits to Protected Natural Areas in the last month has risen to 2.2. This is the highest recorded since tracking began (which was after COVID-19 began).
- Protected Heritage Places' NPS has significantly increased, as has satisfaction with the overall experience at Protected Heritage Places. This reflects a large increase in those having a 'exceptionally good' experience.
- Visitor satisfaction at Protected Heritage Places for facilities and in particular, signage/maintenance has increased.
- Protected Natural Areas' NPS has increased due to a decrease in Detractors.
- The main issues people recall from DOC relate to *predator and pest control* and *climate change*, followed closely by *Great Walks* and *general hut / campsite information*.
- *Friends / family / local people* are the most commonly used source of information used for planning visits to Protected Natural Areas, closely followed by weather forecasts.
- There has been a significant increase in the number of people who cite a *beach / coastal location* as being especially important to them. There has been a significant decrease of those saying the same about *bush / forest* locations.



SUMMARY


- 1. Background & Methodology**
- 2. Visitation Frequency**
- 3. Visit Satisfaction**
- 4. NPS**
- 5. 'Thrive' Module**

BACKGROUND & METHODOLOGY



Sample size

1,000




Fieldwork dates
November 7-21, 2022

Interview duration
5 minutes



Methodology

Interviews were conducted online (self-completion). Respondents were recruited from Ipsos and Ipsos partner panels.



Weighting procedures

No weighting has been applied to the data, as in-field quotas ensured a representative sample was obtained.

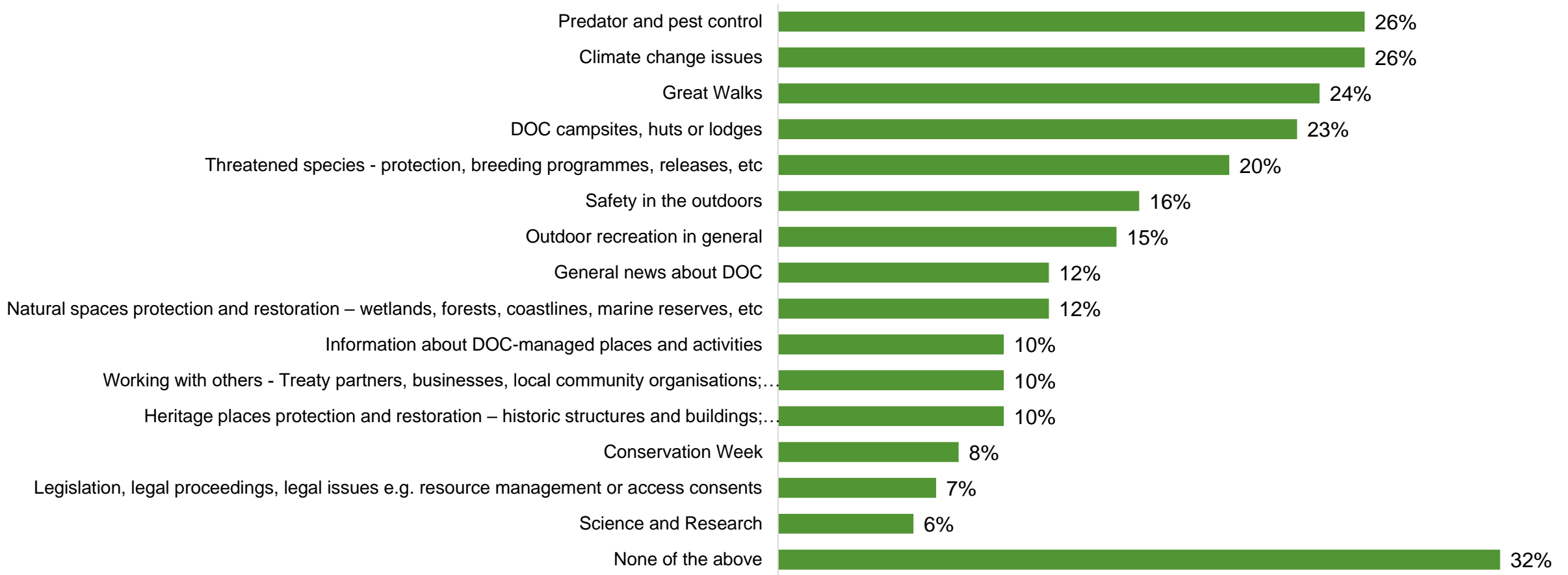
| Previous waves | |
|----------------|----------------------|
| Jun 21 | 10–21 June, 2021 |
| Jul 21 | 6–12 July, 2021 |
| Aug 21 | 2–6 August, 2021 |
| Sep 21 | 3–9 September, 2021 |
| Oct 21 | 1–7 October, 2021 |
| Nov 21 | 5–12 November, 2021 |
| Dec 21 | 3–9 December, 2021 |
| Jan 22 | 6–15 January, 2022 |
| Feb 22 | 5–15 February, 2022 |
| Mar 22 | 3–10 March, 2022 |
| Apr 22 | 1–11 April, 2022 |
| May 22 | 5–16 May, 2022 |
| Jun 22 | 3–11 June, 2022 |
| Jul 22 | 4–13 July, 2022 |
| Aug 22 | 15-24 August, 2022 |
| Sep 22 | 7-17 September, 2022 |
| Oct 22 | 5-17 October, 2022 |

DOC MEDIA PROFILE



The main issues people recall from DOC relate to *predator and pest control* and *climate change*, followed closely by *Great Walks* and *general hut / campsite information*.

Aspects of the Department of Conservation seen / read / heard about in the past 4 weeks



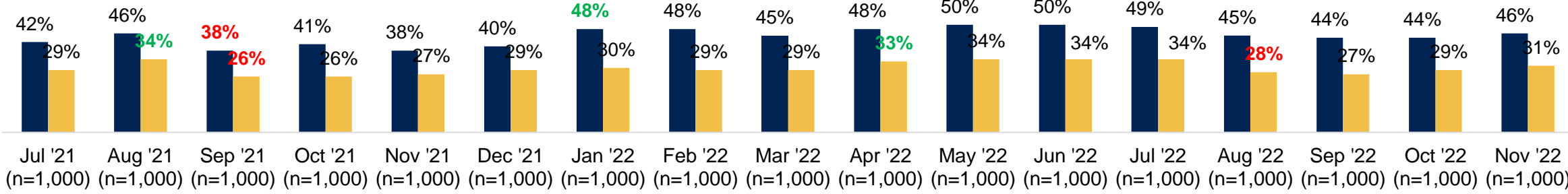
Q50: Which, if any, of the following aspects of the Department of Conservation have you seen, read, or heard about in the past 4 weeks?

Base: Total sample

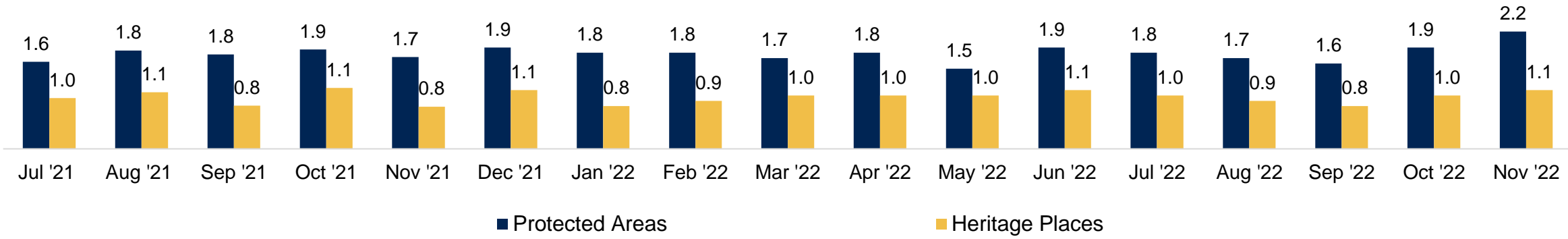
VISITATION FREQUENCY

At 2.2, the average number of visits to Protected Natural Areas in the last month is the highest recorded since tracking began (which was after COVID-19 began).

New Zealanders visiting at least one Protected Natural Area or Protected Heritage Place in the last month



Average number of visits in the last month*

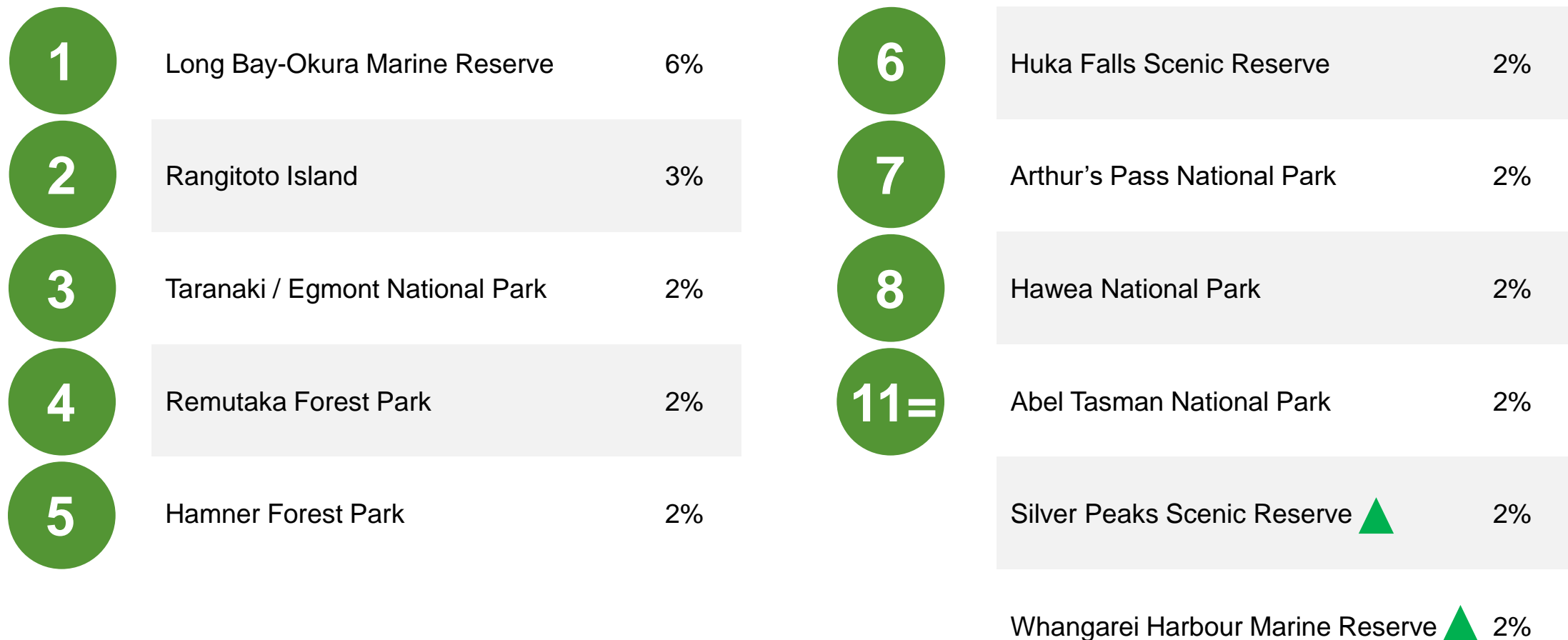


Green / red indicates significantly higher / lower than previous month

Q6a: How many times, if any, have you visited any of New Zealand's Protected Natural Areas within the last month? / Q18a: How many times, if any, have you visited any of New Zealand's Protected Heritage Places within the last month? *Note: 'Unsure' responses are excluded. Bases vary for Protected Natural Areas and Protected Heritage Places. **Note: Significant differences versus total.



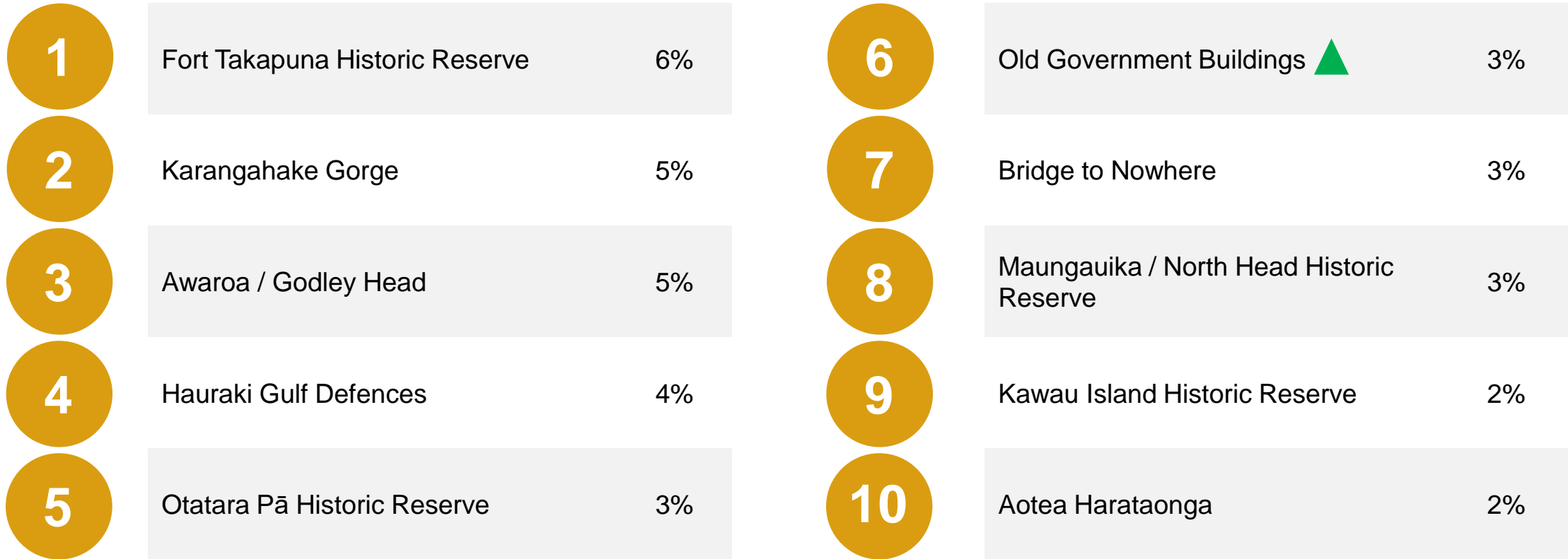
TOP-10 PROTECTED NATURAL AREAS VISITED: JUN 2021–NOV 2022.



Q8: Which of these Protected Natural Areas did you visit most recently? Select the location that is strongest in your memory.

Base: Those who have visited a Protected Natural Area (n=8,027)

TOP-10 PROTECTED HERITAGE PLACES VISITED: JUN 2021–NOV 2022



Green / red indicates increase / decrease in rank position compared to previous month

Q20: Which of these Protected Heritage Places did you visit most recently? Select the location that is strongest in your memory.

Base: Those who have visited a Protected Heritage Place (n=5,363)

Short walks & sightseeing remain the most common activities at Protected Natural Areas.

Top activities when visiting Protected Natural Areas*

| | Total | Jun'21 | Jul'21 | Aug'21 | Sep'21 | Oct'21 | Nov'21 | Dec'21 | Jan'22 | Feb'22 | Mar'22 | Apr'22 | May'22 | Jun'22 | Jul'22 | Aug'22 | Sep'22 | Oct'22 | Nov'22 |
|--|-------|--------|--------|--------|--------|--------|--------|--------|--------|--------|--------|--------|--------|--------|--------|--------|--------|--------|--------|
| Base (n=) | 7,562 | 392 | 422 | 464 | 380 | 407 | 379 | 401 | 478 | 477 | 450 | 484 | 504 | 498 | 492 | 451 | 436 | 442 | 465 |
| Short walk (<3 hours) | 38% | 37% | 38% | 36% | 38% | 35% | 33% | 33% | 41% | 33% | 41% | 38% | 38% | 38% | 38% | 44% | 42% | 40% | 41% |
| Sightseeing | 30% | 29% | 28% | 29% | 32% | 29% | 29% | 24% | 31% | 27% | 30% | 30% | 32% | 31% | 30% | 35% | 34% | 28% | 31% |
| Photography | 25% | 25% | 29% | 26% | 26% | 21% | 22% | 21% | 24% | 24% | 27% | 24% | 25% | 24% | 25% | 26% | 26% | 26% | 27% |
| Bird / wildlife watching | 24% | 25% | 27% | 28% | 24% | 26% | 26% | 24% | 22% | 20% | 24% | 25% | 24% | 24% | 25% | 26% | 24% | 24% | 24% |
| Connecting with nature | 23% | 22% | 21% | 25% | 22% | 17% | 25% | 21% | 21% | 21% | 24% | 24% | 25% | 25% | 26% | 20% | 22% | 25% | 22% |
| Day walk / hike (>3 hours but not overnight) | 23% | 25% | 25% | 23% | 26% | 21% | 25% | 26% | 22% | 21% | 20% | 24% | 21% | 26% | 21% | 23% | 23% | 23% | 21% |
| Picnic, barbeque, etc | 20% | 20% | 21% | 17% | 19% | 17% | 20% | 19% | 22% | 21% | 22% | 22% | 18% | 19% | 20% | 20% | 21% | 21% | 20% |
| Connecting with history | 13% | 10% | 13% | 14% | 14% | 11% | 17% | 10% | 12% | 11% | 16% | 14% | 14% | 13% | 13% | 10% | 13% | 17% | 15% |
| Connecting with culture | 10% | 8% | 9% | 11% | 11% | 8% | 11% | 12% | 10% | 11% | 10% | 10% | 12% | 7% | 11% | 8% | 8% | 13% | 11% |
| Camping | 12% | 15% | 14% | 12% | 14% | 14% | 14% | 12% | 16% | 14% | 13% | 12% | 11% | 11% | 11% | 11% | 8% | 10% | 11% |
| Boating / sailing | 8% | 9% | 9% | 10% | 5% | 8% | 8% | 8% | 10% | 10% | 10% | 9% | 9% | 8% | 8% | 7% | 6% | 9% | 9% |

Green / red indicates significantly higher / lower than previous month

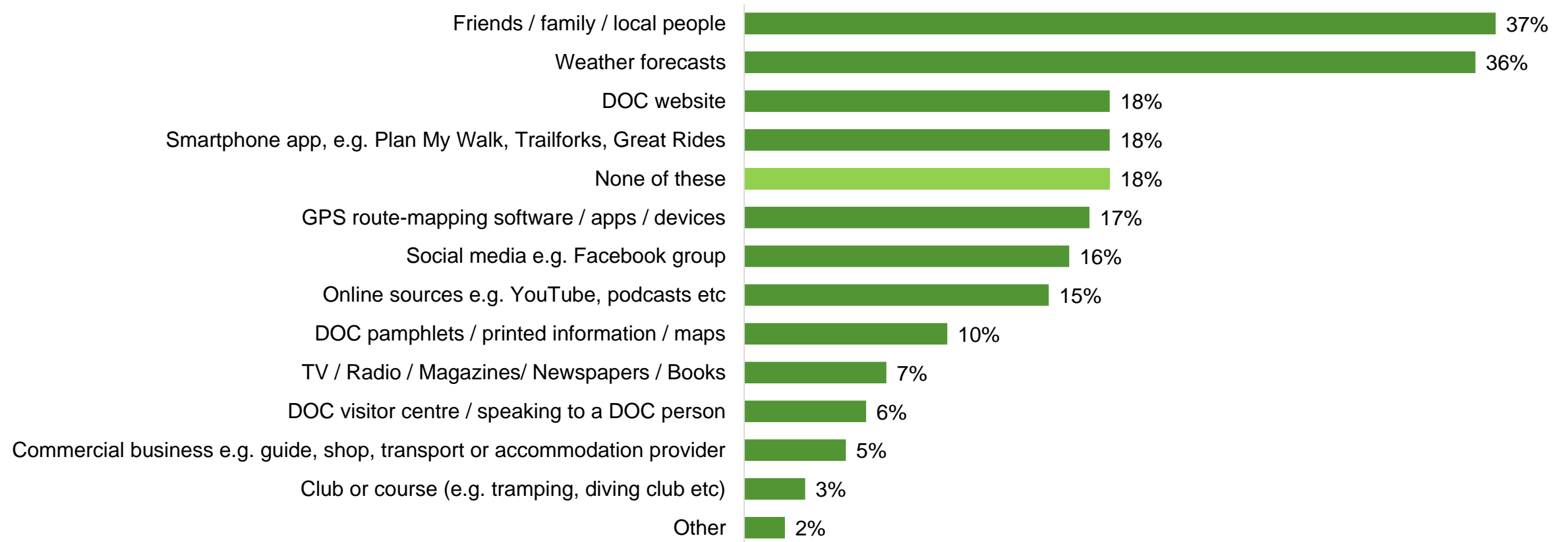
Q12: Thinking about your most recent visit to <LOCATION SELECTED IN Q8>, which of the following activities did you engage in?

Base: Those who visited a Protected Natural Area in the last month. *Note: Only activities 6% and above for current month displayed. **Caution: Low base size (n<100), results indicative only.

VISIT SATISFACTION

Friends / family / local people are the most commonly used source of information used for planning visits to Protected Natural Areas, closely followed by weather forecasts.

Sources of Information used for Planning



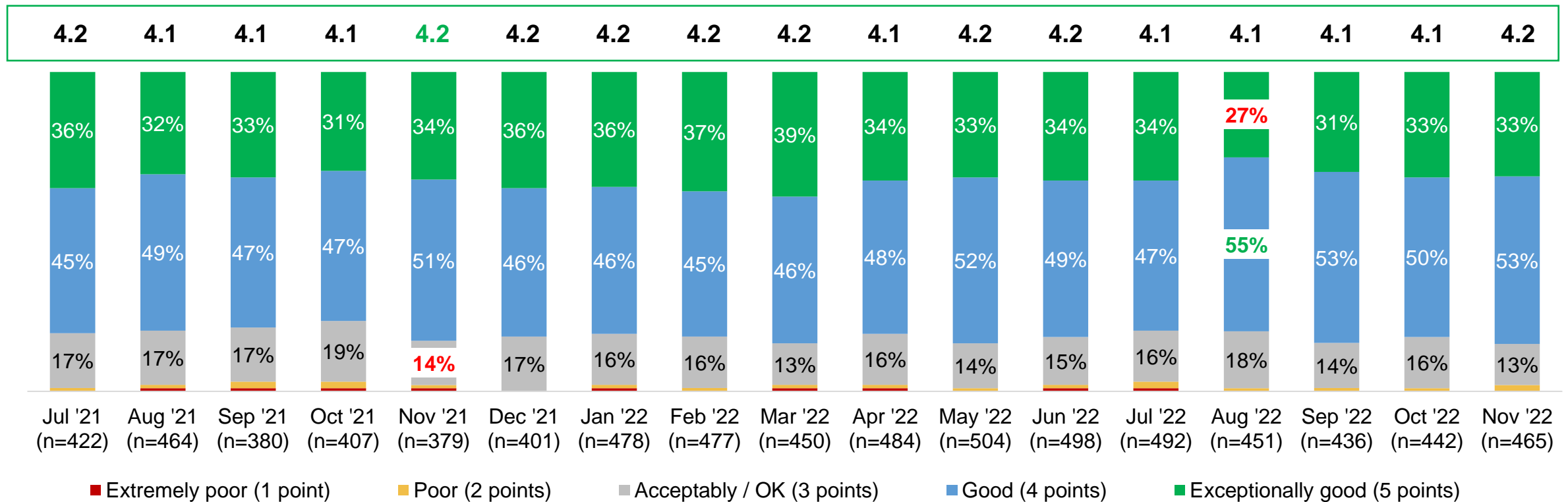
Q12b: Thinking about your most recent visit to <LOCATION SELECTED IN Q8>, what, if any information sources did you use to help plan for a successful trip?

Base: Those who visited a Protected Natural Area in the last month (n=465)

Satisfaction with the overall experience at Protected Natural Areas remains high.

Protected Natural Areas – Overall Experience

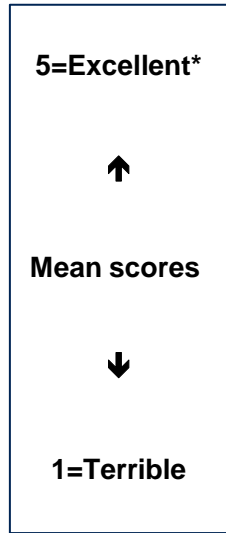
Mean Score



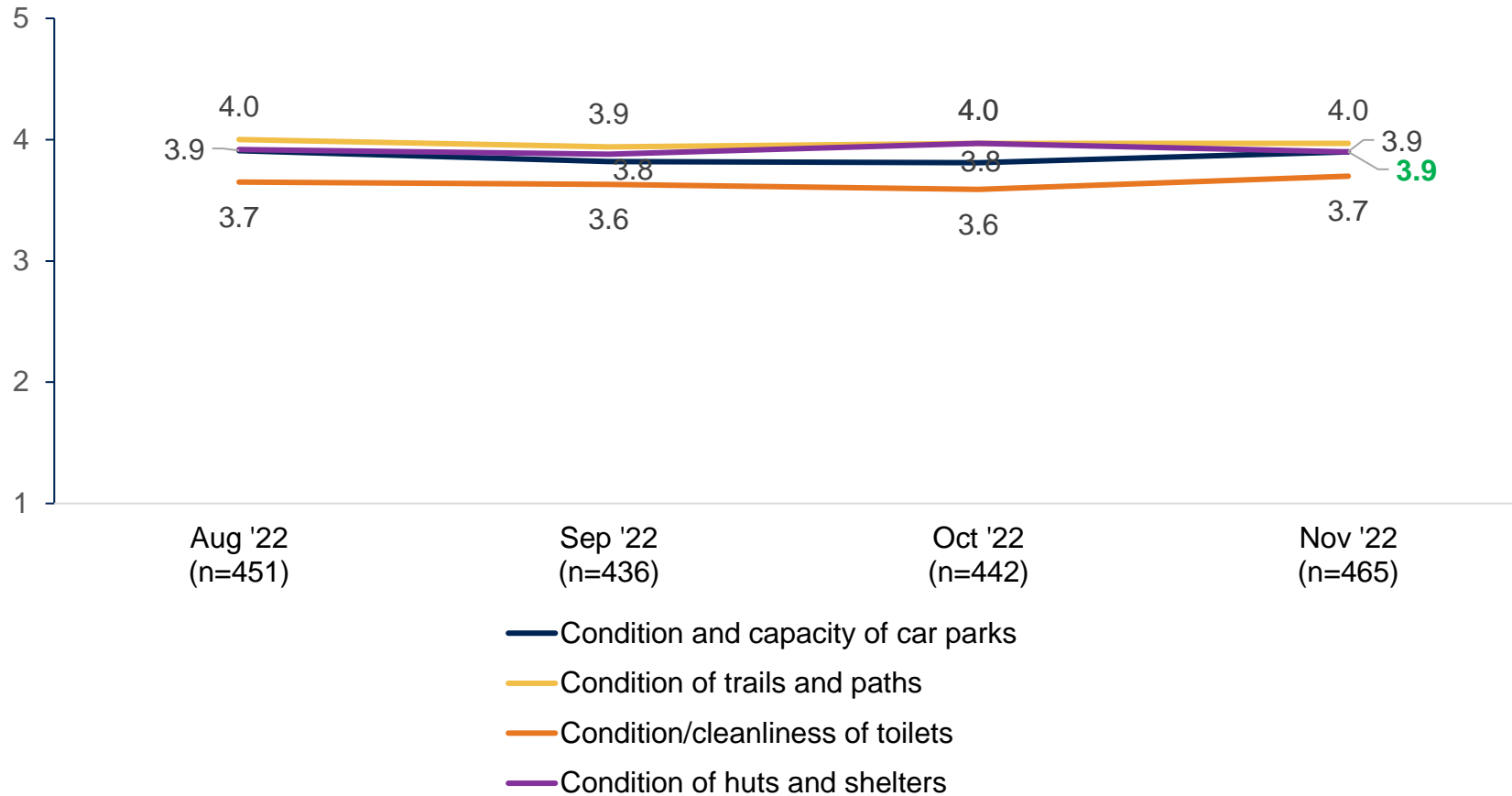
Q15: Overall, how would you rate your experience at <LOCATION SELECTED IN Q8>?

Base: Those who visited a Protected Natural Area in the last month

Visitors' satisfaction with the *condition and capacity of car parks* has increased this month.



Satisfaction with Protected Natural Areas: Facilities



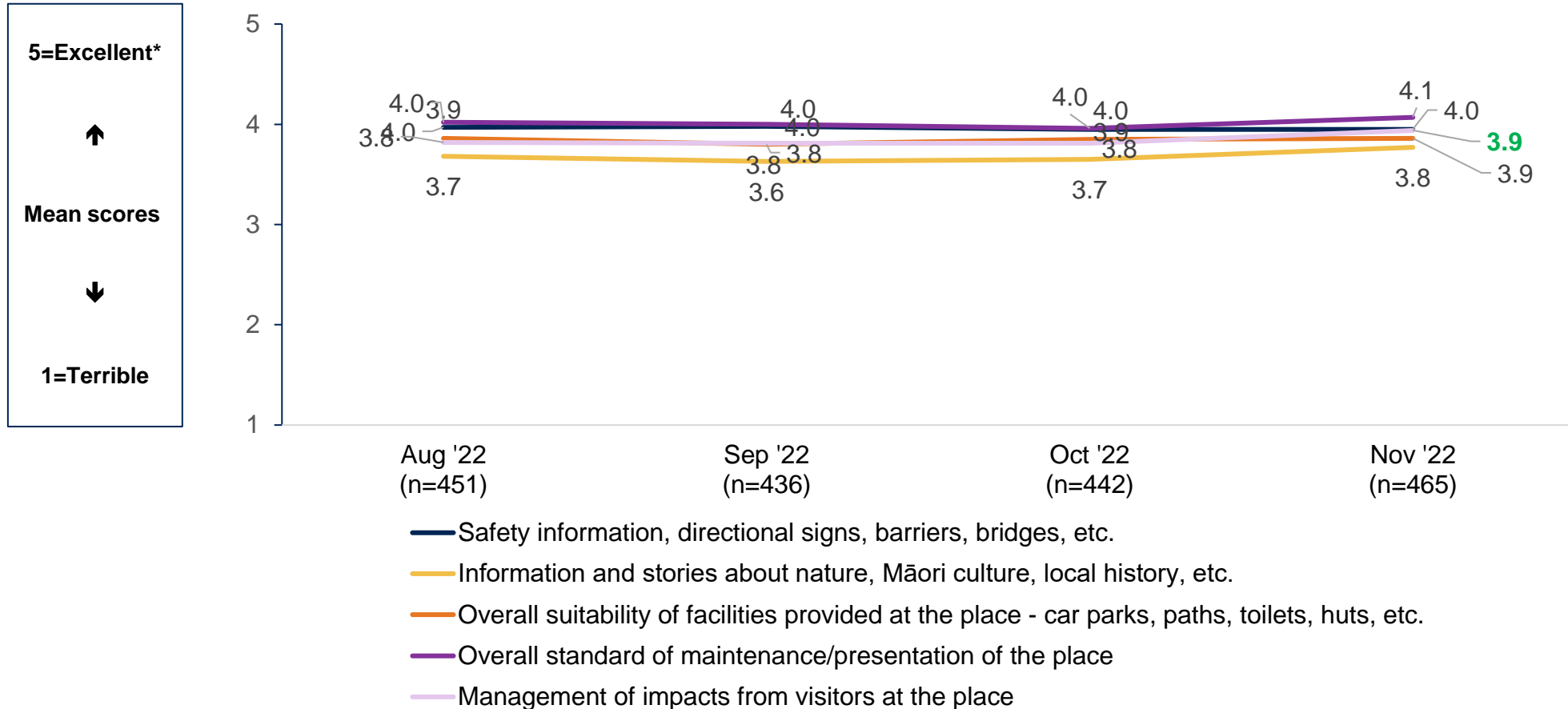
Green / red indicates significantly higher / lower than previous month

Q14a: Still thinking about your most recent visit to <LOCATION SELECTED IN Q8>, how would you rate the following aspects listed below?

Base: Those who visited a Protected Natural Area in the last month. *Note: The mean score excludes 'Don't know / not applicable' responses. Higher mean scores are desirable.

Visitor satisfaction of the *management of impacts from visitors* at Protected Natural Areas has increased this month.

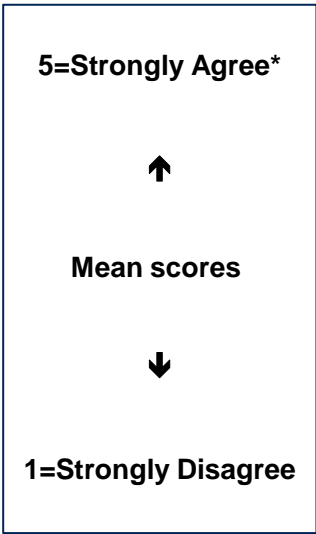
Satisfaction with Protected Natural Areas: Signage and Maintenance



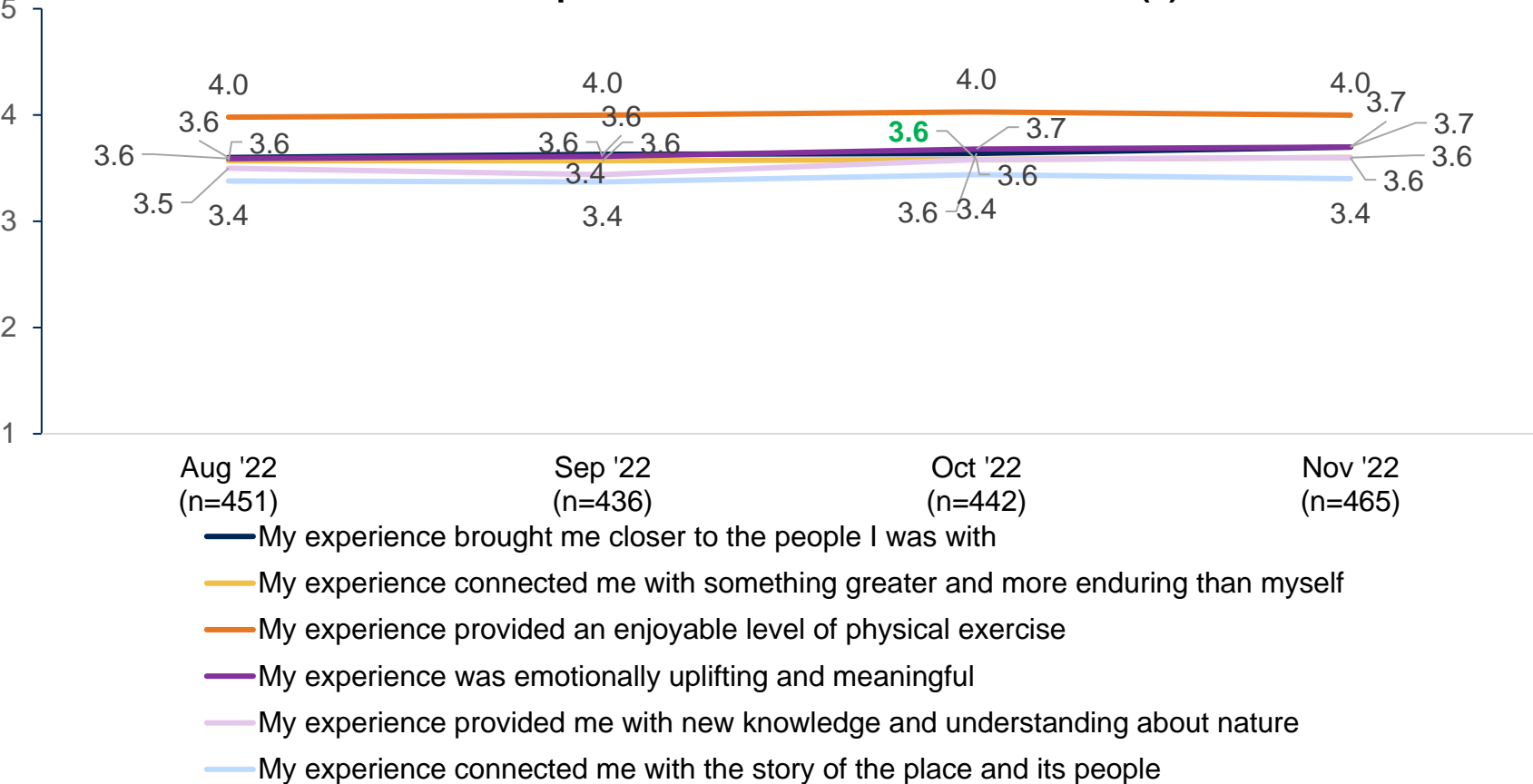
Q14a: Still thinking about your most recent visit to <LOCATION SELECTED IN Q8>, how would you rate the following aspects listed below?

Base: Those who visited a Protected Natural Area in the last month. ***Note:** The mean score excludes 'Don't know / not applicable' responses. Higher mean scores are desirable.

Visits to Protected Natural Areas continue to be well-rated, especially for the exercise.



Personal Experience at Protected Natural Areas (1)



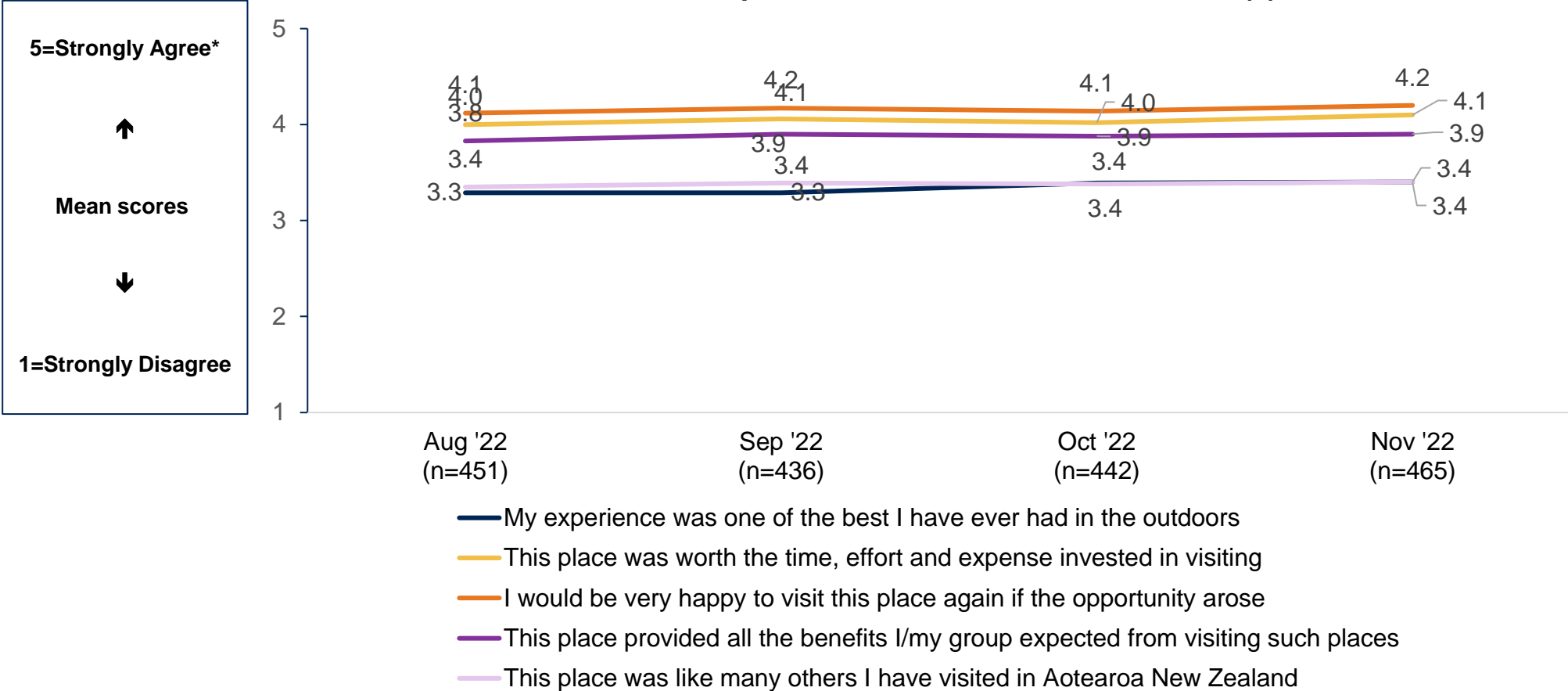
Green / red indicates significantly higher / lower than previous month

Q14b: Still thinking about your most recent visit to <LOCATION SELECTED IN Q8>, how much do you agree or disagree with each of the statements below?

Base: Those who visited a Protected Natural Area in the last month. *Note: Higher mean scores are desirable.

Most feel that they would be happy to revisit the Protected Natural Areas they had been to; fewer felt that the visited Areas were like many others they had visited.

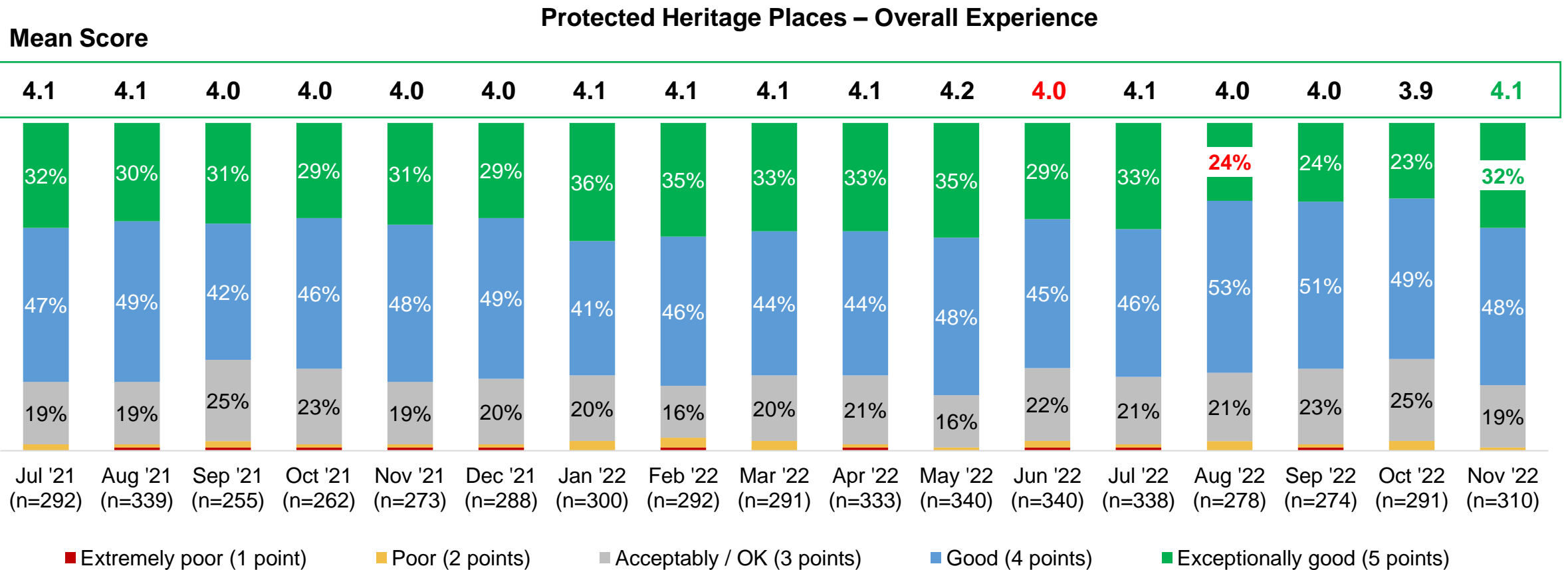
Personal Experience at Protected Natural Areas (2)



Q14b: Still thinking about your most recent visit to <LOCATION SELECTED IN Q8>, how much do you agree or disagree with each of the statements below?

Base: Those who visited a Protected Natural Area in the last month. *Note: Higher mean scores are desirable.

Satisfaction with the overall experience at Protected Heritage Places has increased significantly, reflecting a large increase in those having a 'exceptionally good' experience.



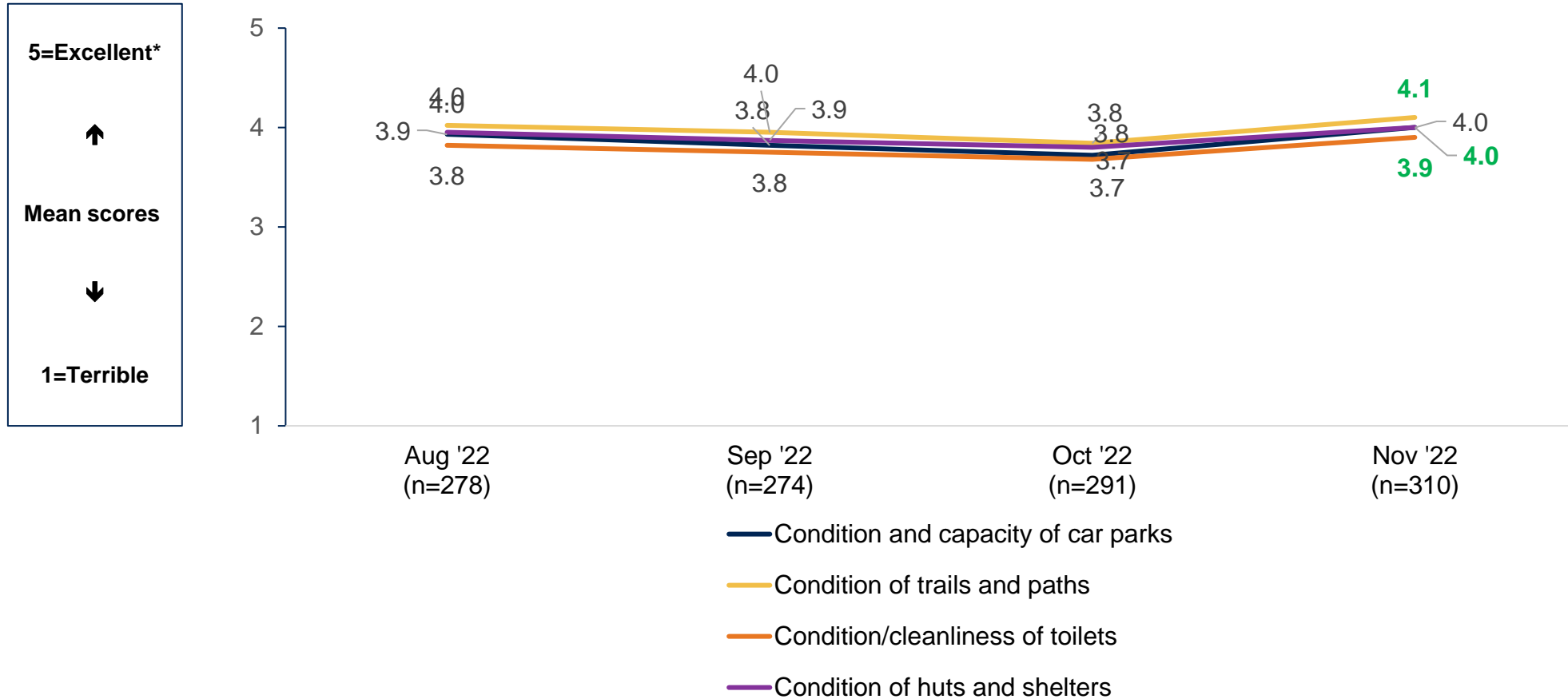
Green / red indicates significantly higher / lower than previous month

Q27: Overall, how would you rate your experience at <LOCATION SELECTED IN Q20>?

Base: Those who visited a Protected Heritage Place in the last month

Visitor satisfaction with facilities at Protected Heritage Places has increased following a very slow decline over the past couple of months.

Satisfaction with Protected Heritage Places: Facilities

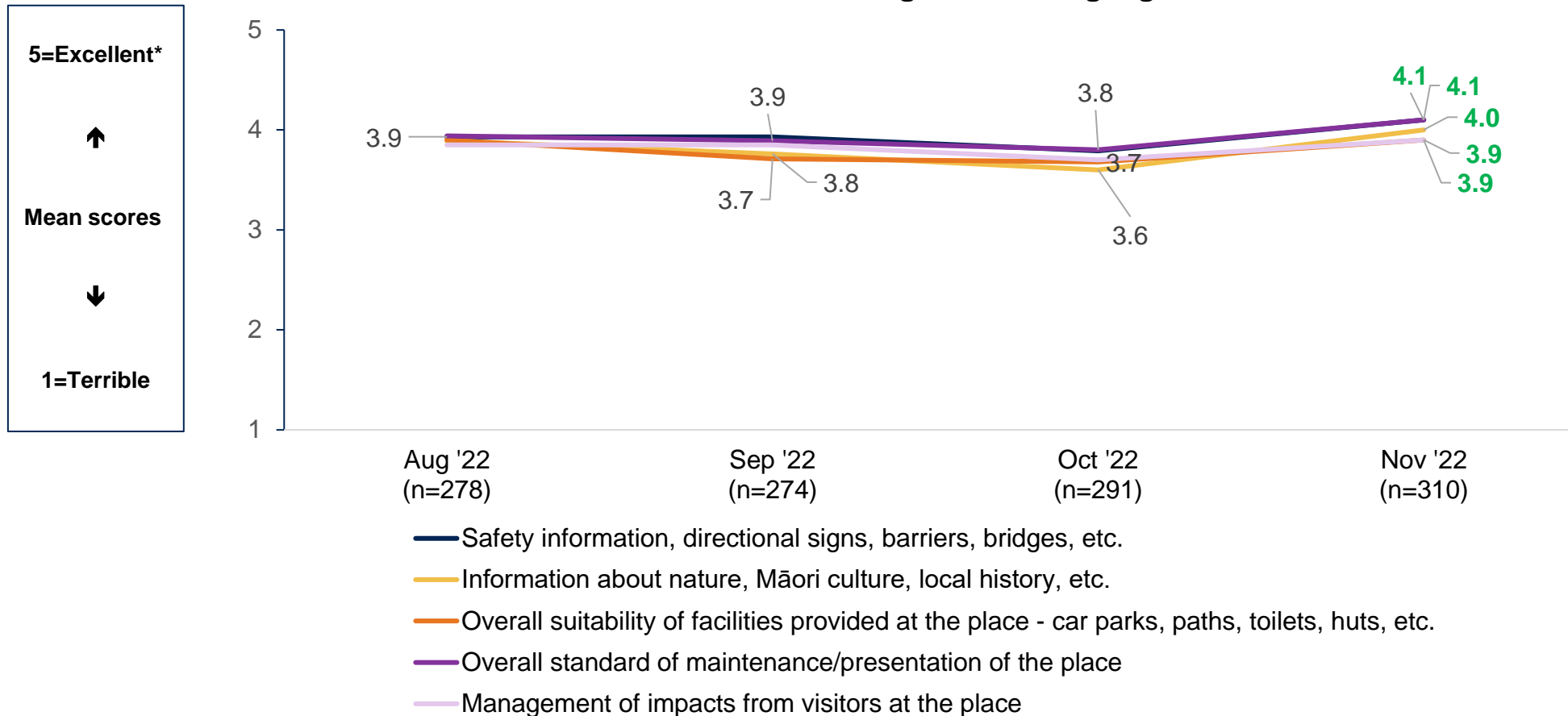


Q26a: Still thinking about your most recent visit to <LOCATION SELECTED IN Q20>, how would you rate the following aspects listed below?

Base: Those who visited a Protected Heritage Place in the last month. *Note: The mean score excludes 'Don't know / not applicable' responses. Higher mean scores are desirable.

Satisfaction with signage and maintenance at Protected Heritage Places has significantly increased across the board in the past month.

Satisfaction with Protected Heritage Places: Signage and Maintenance

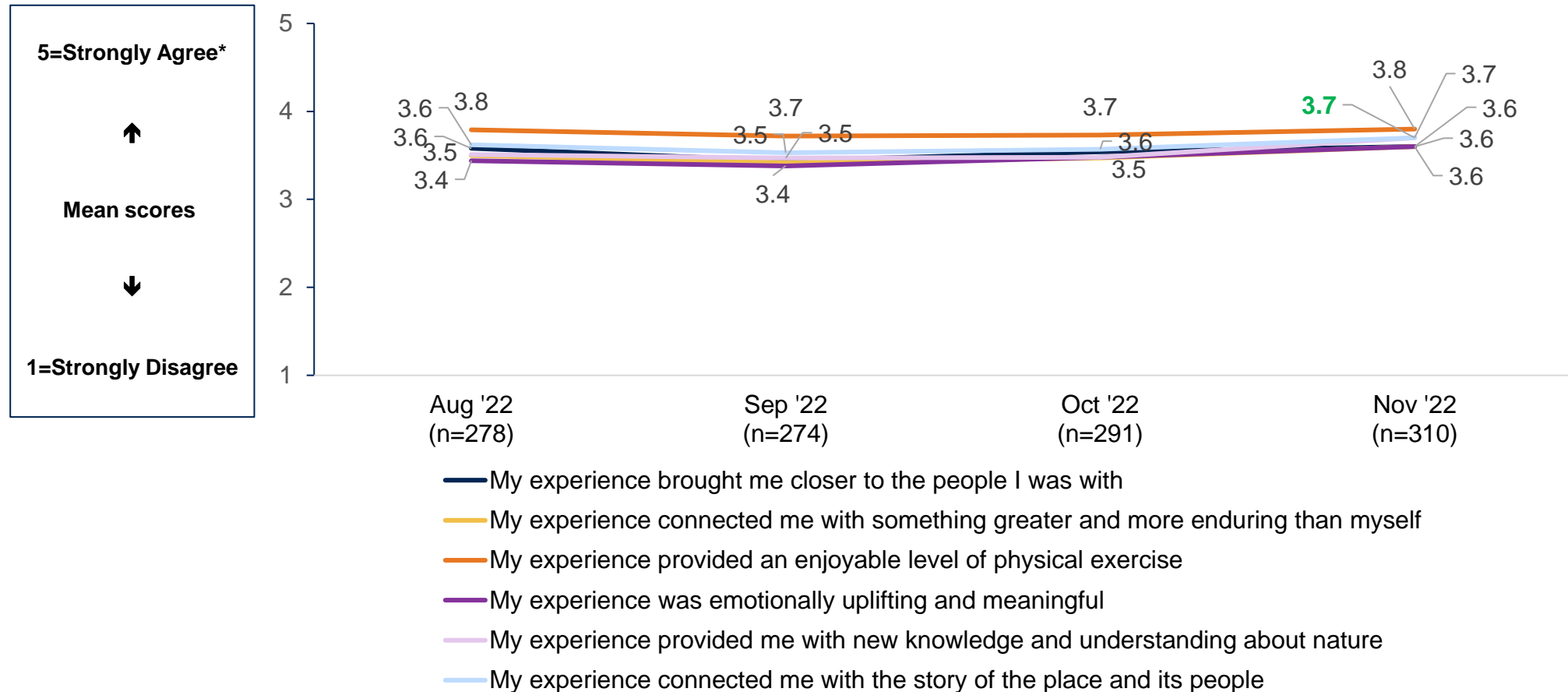


Q26a: Still thinking about your most recent visit to <LOCATION SELECTED IN Q20>, how would you rate the following aspects listed below?

Base: Those who visited a Protected Heritage Place in the last month. ***Note:** The mean score excludes 'Don't know / not applicable' responses. Higher mean scores are desirable.

All measures of personal experience have increased this month, particularly *new knowledge and understanding about nature*.

Personal Experience at Protected Heritage Places (1)

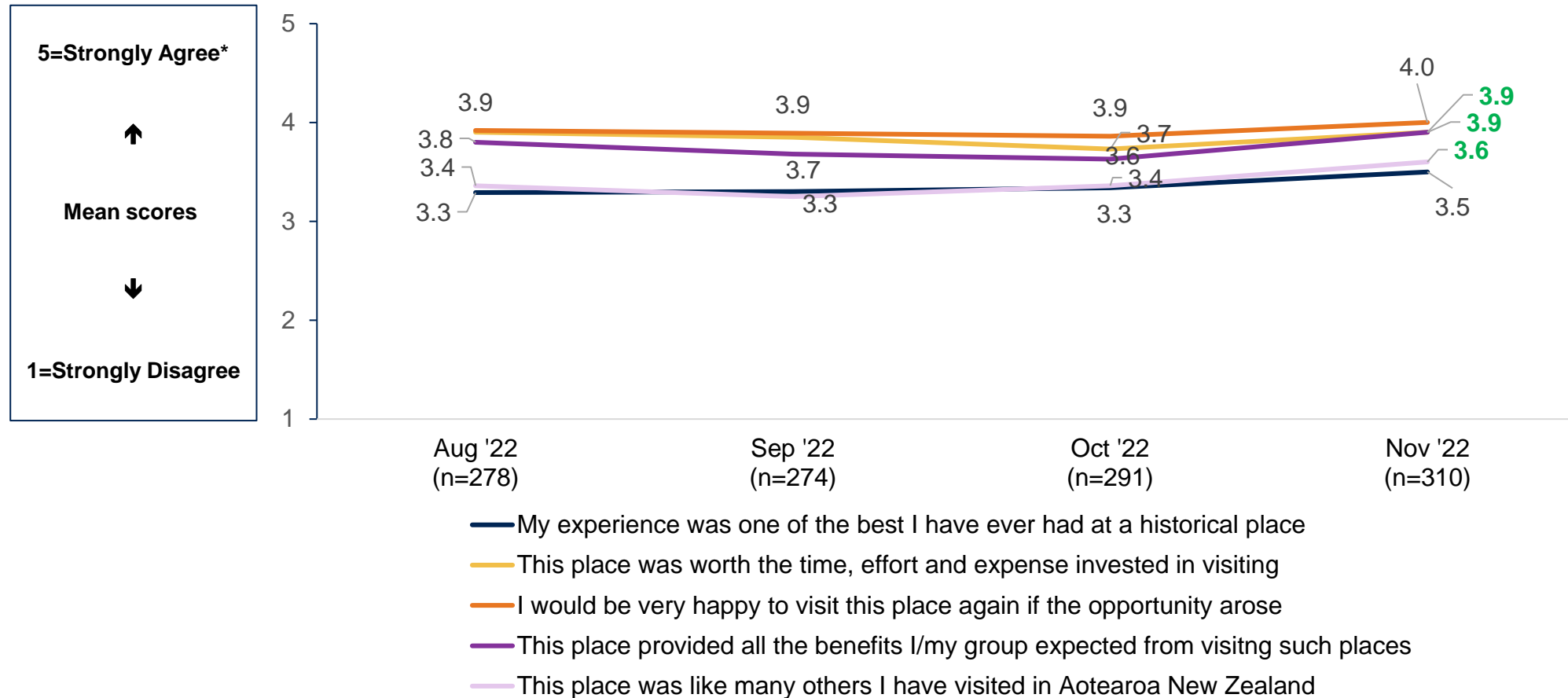


Q26b: Still thinking about your most recent visit to <LOCATION SELECTED IN Q20>, how much do you agree or disagree with each of the statements below?

Base: Those who visited a Protected Heritage Place in the last month. *Note: Higher mean scores are desirable.

More PHP visitors agreed their location met their expectations and was worth the effort visiting.

Personal Experience at Protected Heritage Places (2)



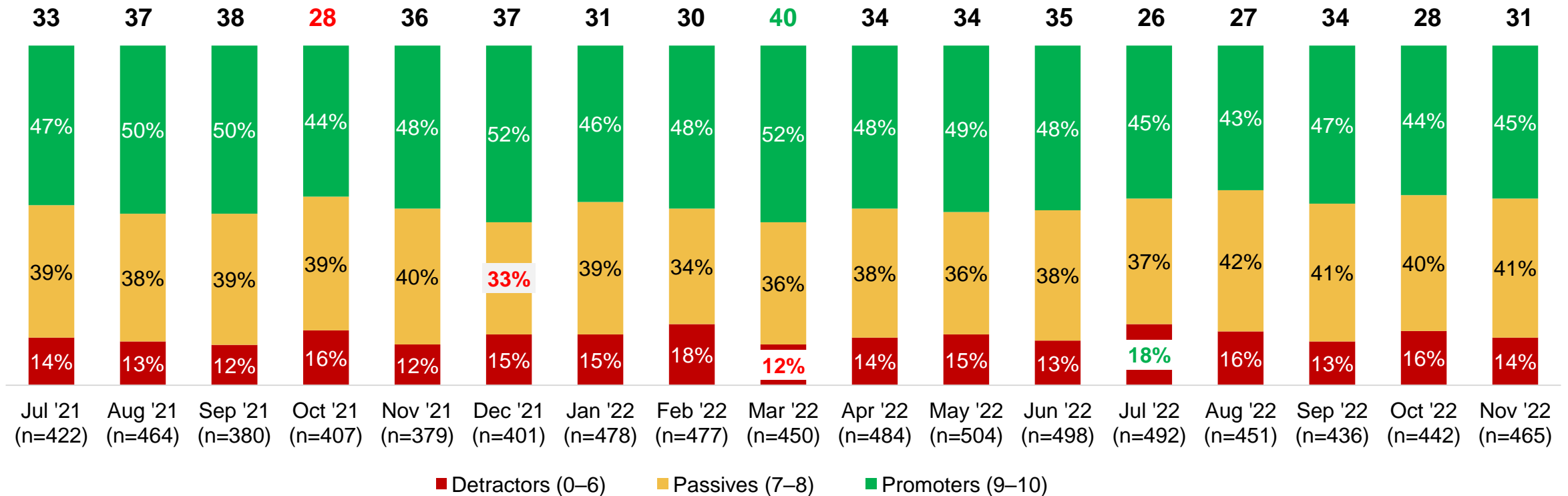
Q26b: Still thinking about your most recent visit to <LOCATION SELECTED IN Q20>, how much do you agree or disagree with each of the statements below?

Base: Those who visited a Protected Heritage Place in the last month. *Note: Higher mean scores are desirable.

NPS

Protected Natural Areas' NPS has increased due to a decrease in Detractors.

Protected Natural Areas – NPS



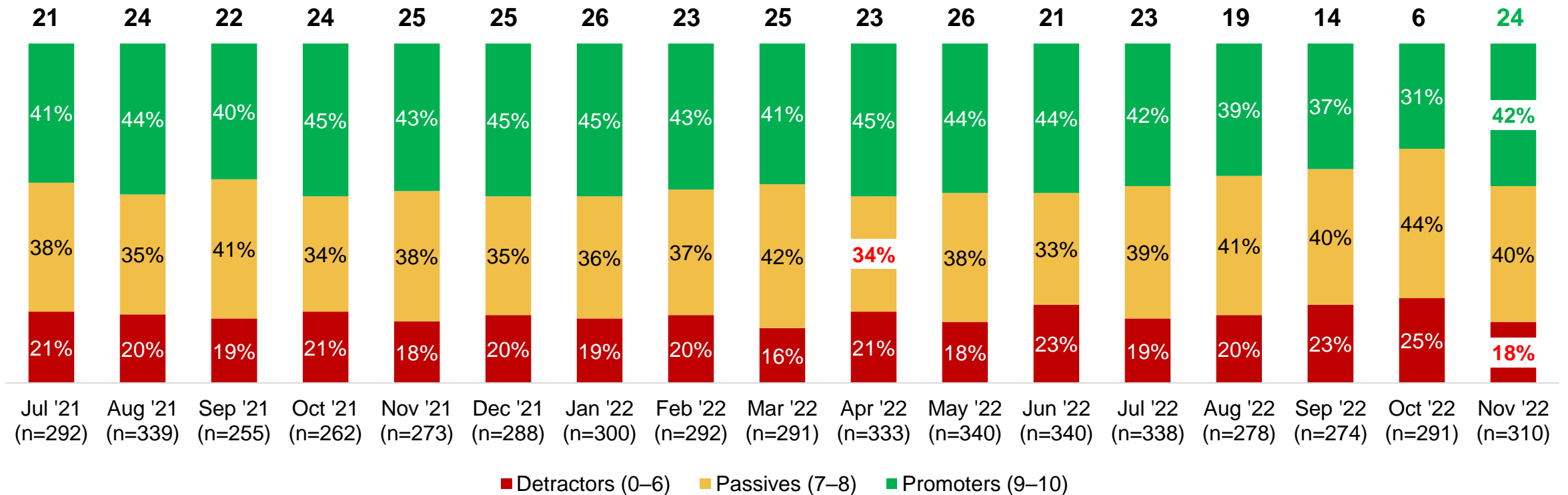
Green / red indicates significantly higher / lower than previous month

Q16: How LIKELY is it you would RECOMMEND <LOCATION SELECTED IN Q8> to your family or friends?

Base: Those who visited a Protected Natural Area in the last month

Protected Heritage Places' NPS has significantly increased, with a significant drop in Detractors mirrored by an increase in Promoters.

Protected Heritage Places – NPS



Green / red indicates significantly higher / lower than previous month

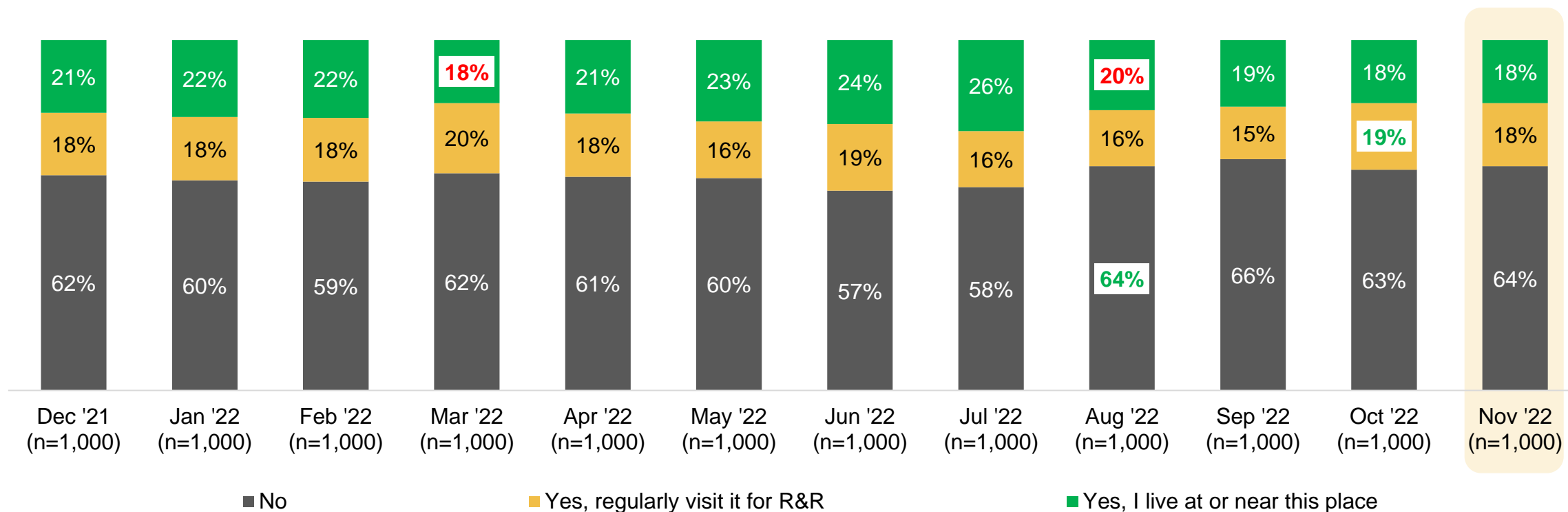
Q28: How LIKELY is it you would RECOMMEND <LOCATION SELECTED IN Q20> to your family or friends?

Base: Those who visited a Protected Heritage Place in the last month

‘THRIVE’ MODULE

The number of visitors who regularly visit a PNA of personal importance to them was unchanged after a significant increase in October.

Is there a Protected Natural Area in New Zealand that is especially important to you that you live at or regularly visit?



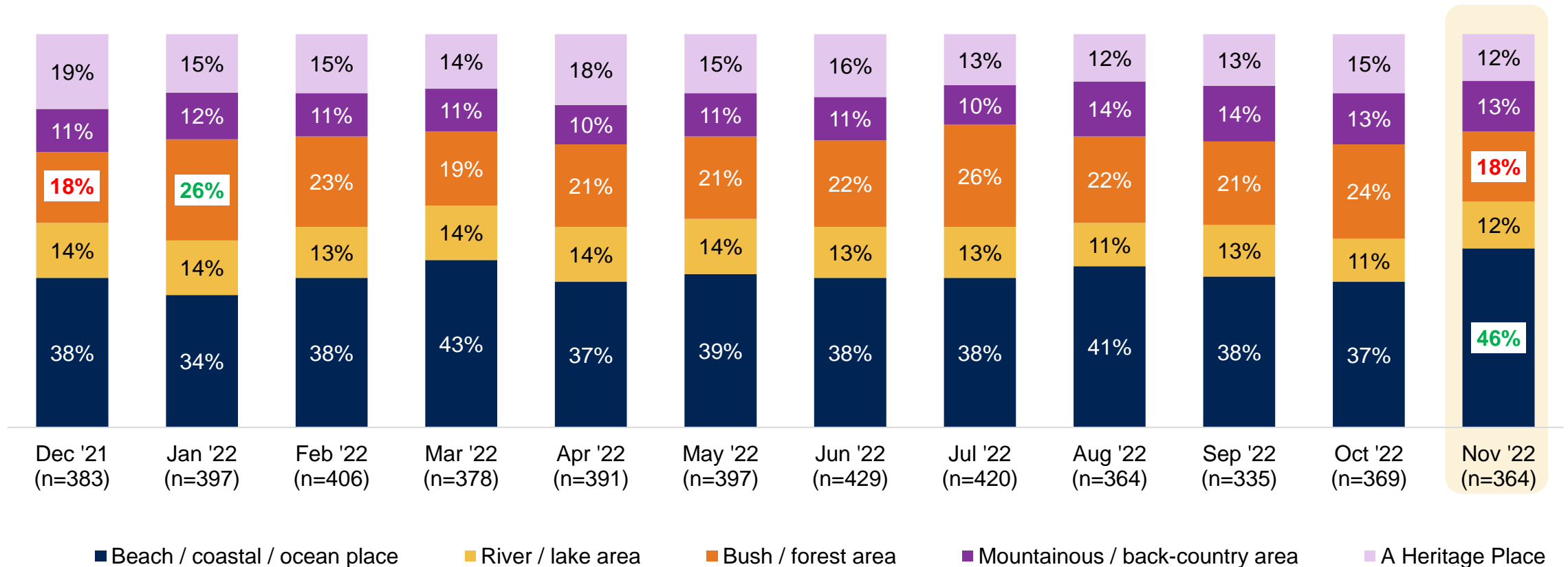
Green / red indicates significantly higher / lower than previous month

Q40: Is there a Protected Natural Area in New Zealand that is especially important to you? If there is more than one such place, please think about the place that is the MOST important to you.

Base: Total sample

There has been a significant increase in the number of people who cite a *beach / coastal location* as being especially important to them. There has been a significant decrease of those saying the same about *bush / forest* locations.

Which of the following best describes the location of this place?



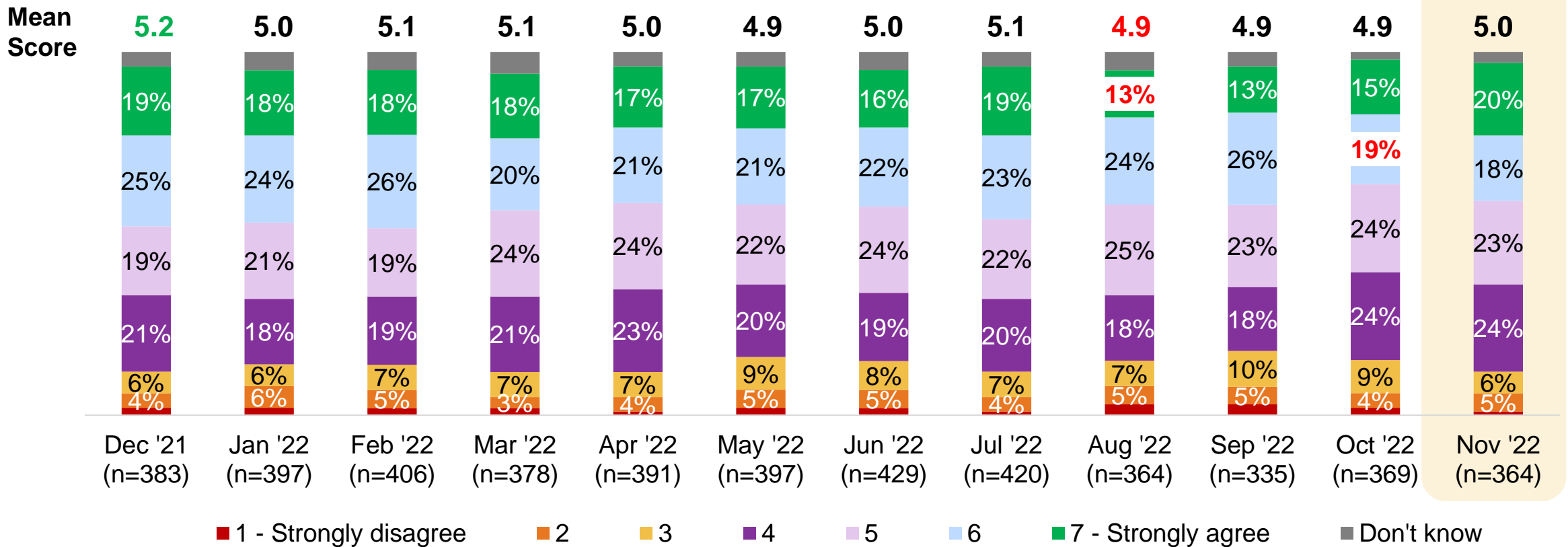
Green / red indicates significantly higher / lower than previous month

Q41: Which of the following best describes the location of this place?

Base: Those who live near or regularly visit this place

The number of people who strongly agree that *visitors enable local stories, identities & traditions* has increased.

“Visitors to this Protected Natural Area enable stories, identities and traditions to be shared between visitors and local people”



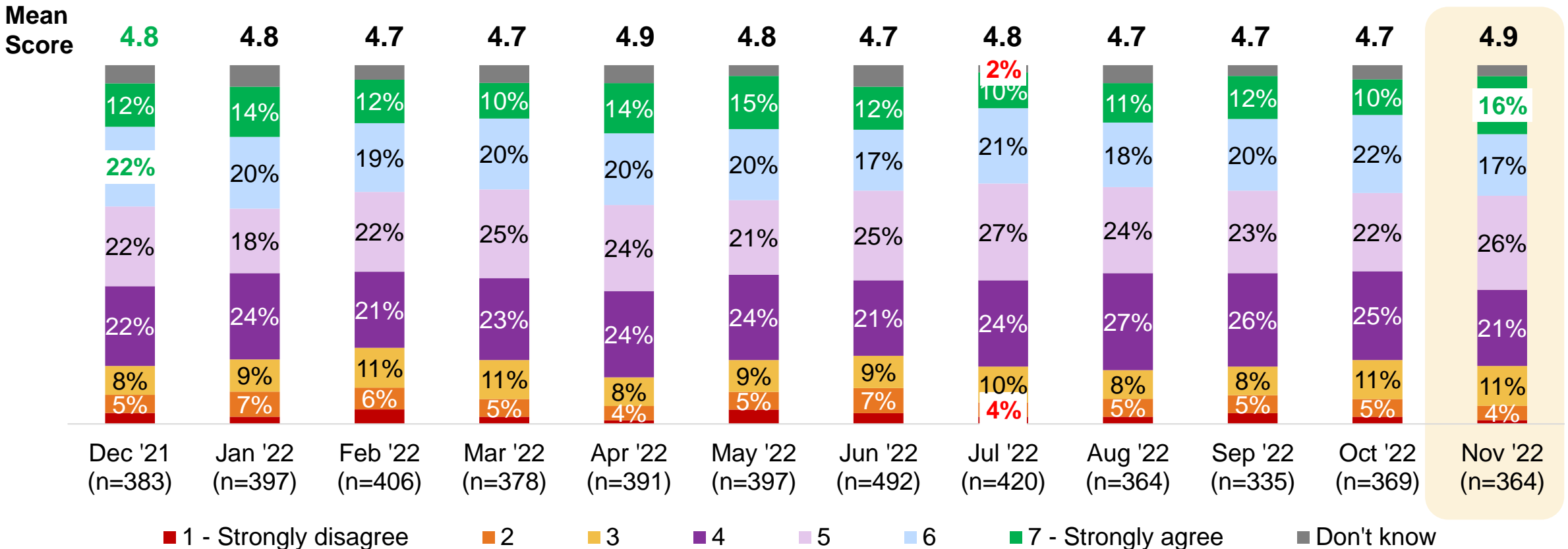
Green / red indicates significantly higher / lower than previous month

Q42: How much do you agree or disagree with each of the following statements?

Base: Those who live near or regularly visit this place

Strong agreement that *visitors improve the quality of life of the local communities* has significantly increased.

“Visitors to this Protected Natural Area improve the quality of life of the local communities”



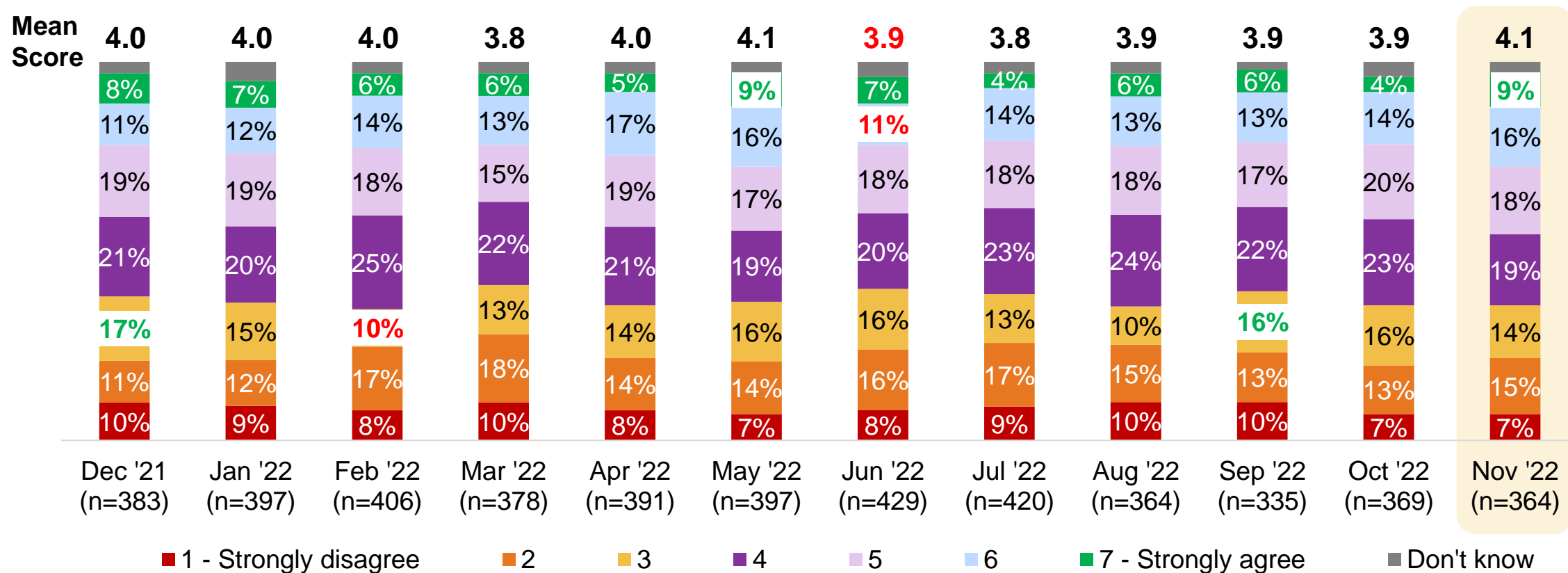
Green / red indicates significantly higher / lower than previous month

Q42: How much do you agree or disagree with each of the following statements?

Base: Those who live near or regularly visit this place

Despite increased belief in the positive social aspects of visitation, there has been a significant increase in those strongly agreeing that their 'special' PNA suffers from *visitor-created damage*.

“This Protected Natural Area is damaged by the activities resulting from these visitors”



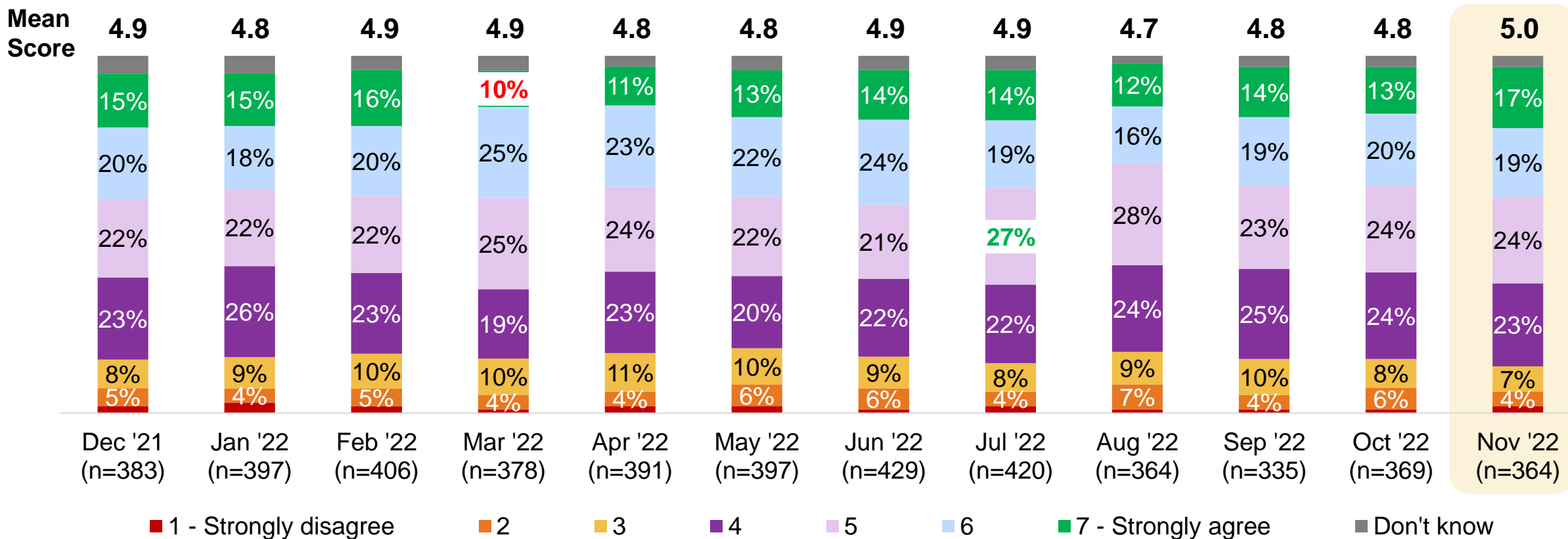
Green / red indicates significantly higher / lower than previous month

Q42: How much do you agree or disagree with each of the following statements?

Base: Those who live near or regularly visit this place. *Note: Significant differences versus total.

Despite the increase in those agreeing that their 'special' PNA suffers from *visitor-created damage*, the perception that *visitors' to PNAs help ensure areas are protected & improved* remains the majority view.

“Visitors to this Protected Natural Area help ensure the areas they visit are protected and improved”



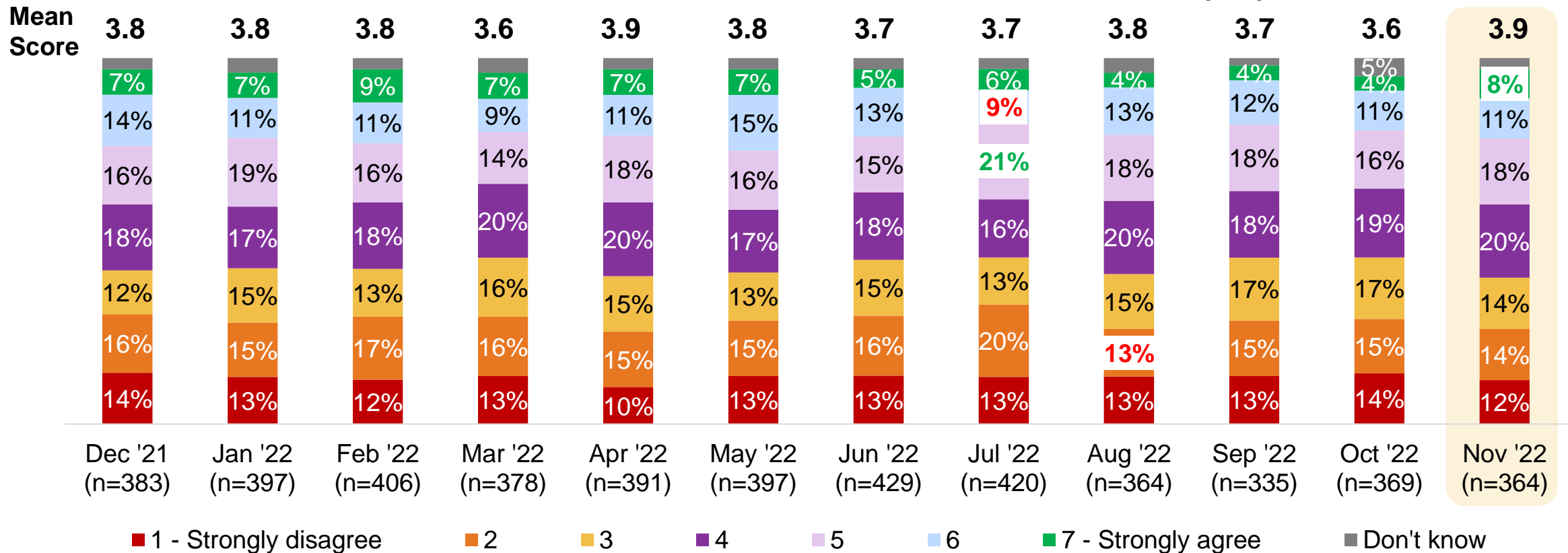
Green / red indicates significantly higher / lower than previous month

Q42: How much do you agree or disagree with each of the following statements?

Base: Those who live near or regularly visit this place. *Note: Significant differences versus total. **Caution: Low base size (n<100), results indicative only.

Perceptions of *visitors affecting the attractiveness of the PNA* vary widely, with the mean score almost equally dividing the sample.

“Visitors to this Protected Natural Area make it less attractive for local people to visit it”



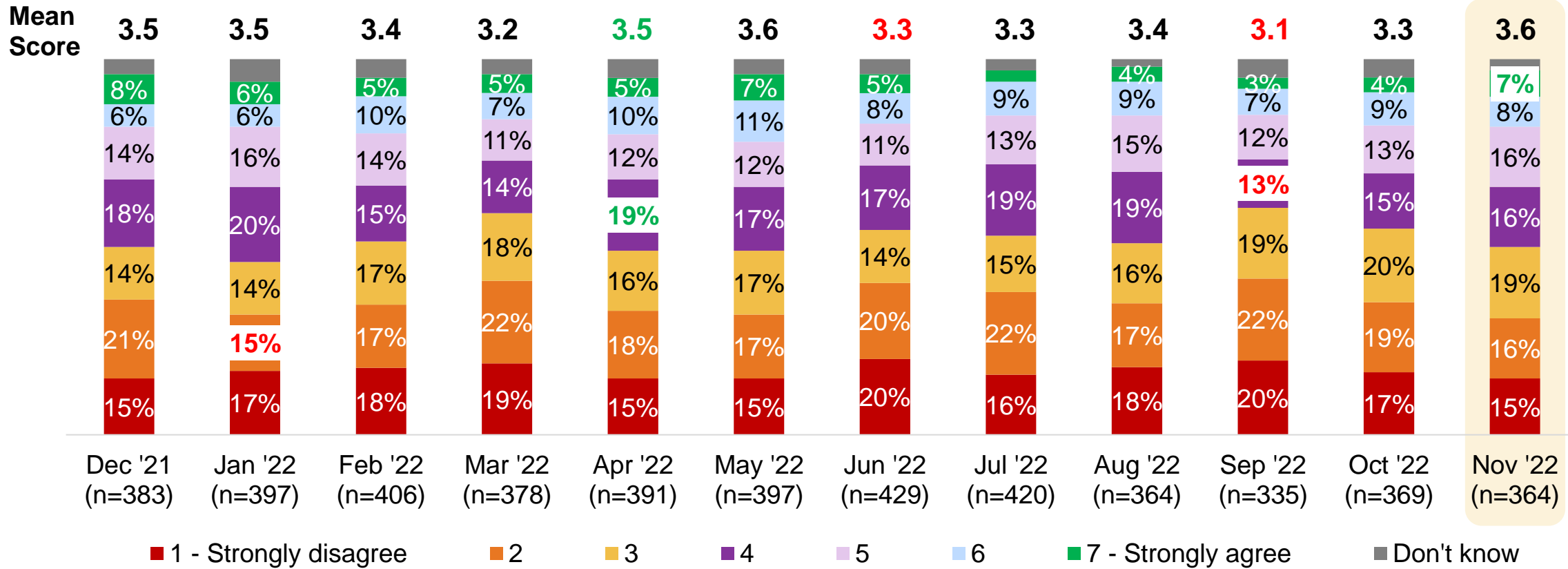
Green / red indicates significantly higher / lower than previous month

Q42: How much do you agree or disagree with each of the following statements?

Base: Those who live near or regularly visit this place. *Note: Significant differences versus total. **Caution: Low base size (n<100), results indicative only.

People are still more likely to disagree that *visitors weaken local traditions & cultures*, however those that strongly agree have increased from last month.

“Visitors to this Protected Natural Area weaken the local communities’ traditions and cultures”



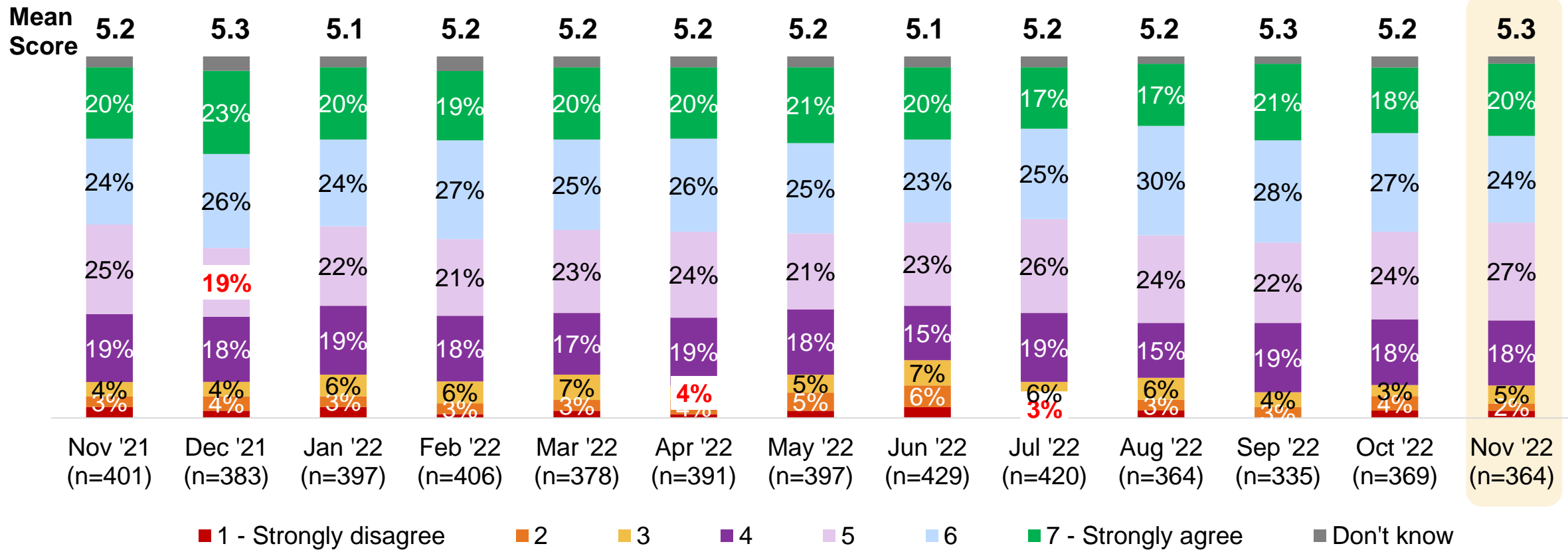
Green / red indicates significantly higher / lower than previous month

Q42: How much do you agree or disagree with each of the following statements?

Base: Those who live near or regularly visit this place *Note: Significant differences versus total. **Caution: Low base size (n<100), results indicative only.

Most continue to agree that *PNA* visitors improve the local economy.

“Visitors to this Protected Natural Area improve the local economy”



Green / red indicates significantly higher / lower than previous month

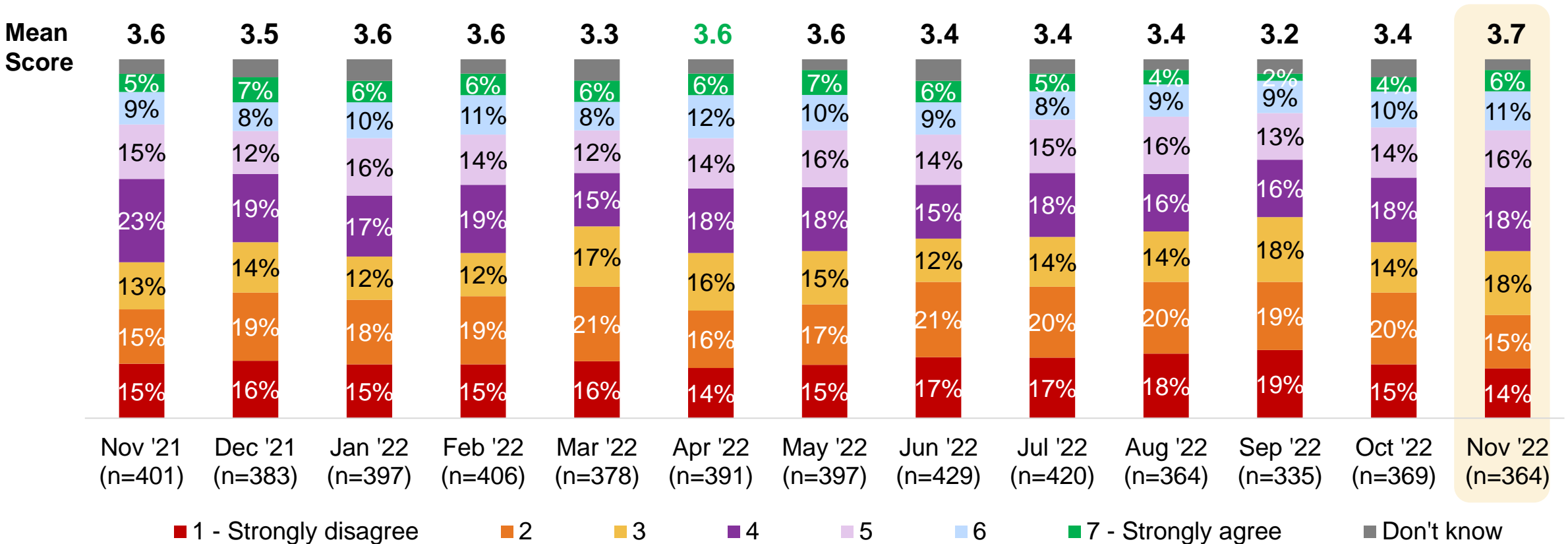
Q42: How much do you agree or disagree with each of the following statements?

Base: Those who live near or regularly visit this place

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Most continue to disagree that *visitors add unwanted financial burdens to local communities*.

“Visitors to this Protected Natural Area add unwanted financial burdens onto the local communities”








Green / red indicates significantly higher / lower than previous month

Q42: How much do you agree or disagree with each of the following statements?

Base: Those who live near or regularly visit this place. *Note: Significant differences versus total. **Caution: Low base size (n<100), results indicative only.

People are more likely to see positive effects for *heritage places* and negative effects for *river / lake* and *back country* communities, while impressions about the effects on *bush / forest* communities tend to be more neutral.

| | | Mean* | | | | | |
|------------------|--|-------|---|---|---|---|---|
| | | |  |  |  |  |  |
| | | n= | Beach / Coast | River / Lakes | Bush / Forest | Back-Country | Heritage Place |
| | | Total | 1,869 | 613 | 1,045 | 567 | 726 |
| Positive Effects | Visitors to this Protected Natural Area improve the local economy | 5.2 | 5.3 | 5.2 | 5.0 | 5.2 | 5.1 |
| | Visitors to this Protected Natural Area enable stories, identities & traditions to be shared between visitors & local people | 5.0 | 4.9 | 5.1 | 4.8 | 5.1 | 5.3 |
| | Visitors to this Protected Natural Area help ensure the areas they visit are protected & improved | 4.8 | 4.8 | 4.8 | 4.8 | 4.7 | 5.0 |
| | Visitors to this Protected Natural Area improve the quality of life of the local communities | 4.7 | 4.7 | 4.9 | 4.6 | 4.8 | 4.8 |
| | AVERAGE AGREEMENT WITH POSITIVE STATEMENTS (<i>higher numbers are better</i>) | 4.9 | 4.9 | 5.0 | 4.8 | 5.0 | 5.1 |
| Negative Effects | This Protected Natural Area is damaged by the activities resulting from these visitors | 4.0 | 4.0 | 4.2 | 3.7 | 4.1 | 3.8 |
| | Visitors to this Protected Natural Area make it less attractive for local people to visit the Protected Natural Area | 3.7 | 3.8 | 4.1 | 3.4 | 3.9 | 3.6 |
| | Visitors to this Protected Natural Area add unwanted financial burdens onto the local communities | 3.5 | 3.4 | 3.9 | 3.3 | 3.6 | 3.5 |
| | Visitors to this Protected Natural Area weaken the local communities' traditions & cultures | 3.4 | 3.4 | 3.8 | 3.1 | 3.5 | 3.5 |
| | AVERAGE AGREEMENT WITH NEGATIVE STATEMENTS (<i>lower numbers are better</i>) | 3.7 | 3.7 | 4.0 | 3.4 | 3.8 | 3.6 |

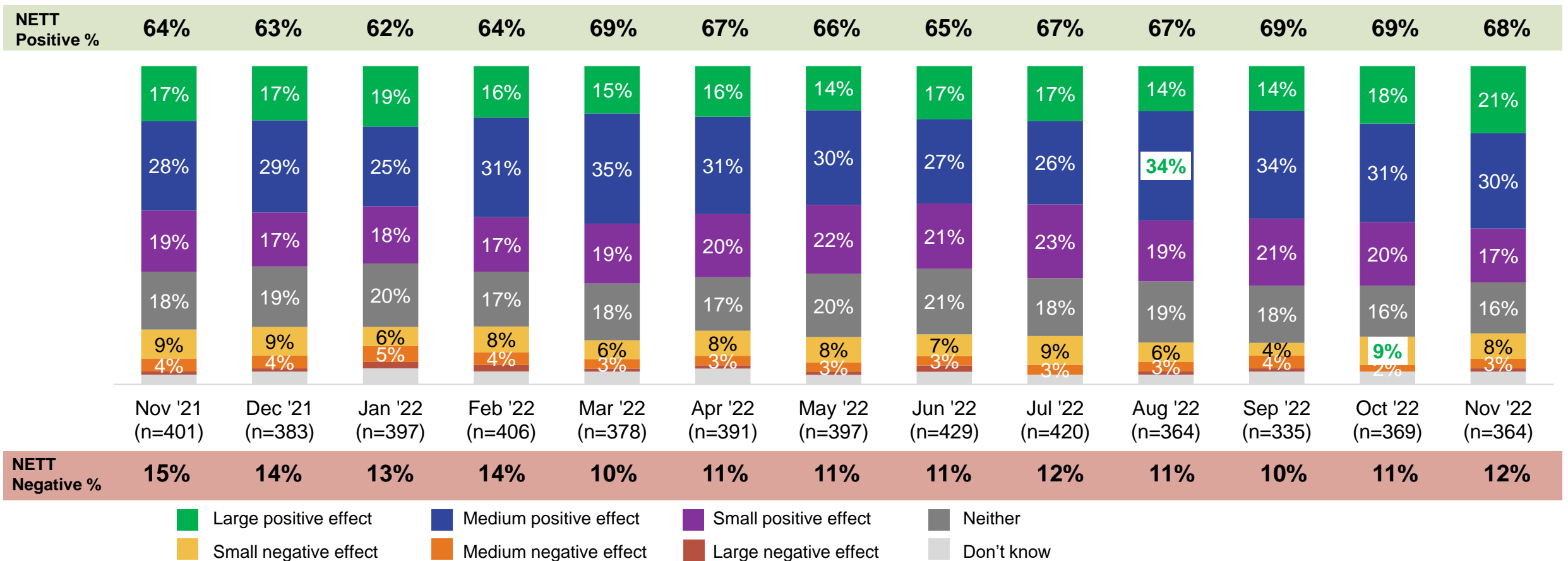
Green / red indicates significantly higher / lower than total

Q42: How much do you agree or disagree with each of the following statements?

Base: Total sample of those who live near or regularly visit this place. *Note: Mean score based on a scale of 1 – Strongly Disagree to 7 – Strongly Agree. “Don’t know” responses are excluded.

The majority of residents & visitors to these places believe the effect of visitors is positive.

The effect of visitors on this area



Q43: Overall, what effect do you think visitors to this Protected Natural Area have on the local people who live at or near to it, at this time of year?

Base: Those who live near or regularly visit this place. *Note: Significant differences versus total. **Caution: Low base size (n<100), results indicative only.

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ABOUT IPSOS

Ipsos is the third largest market research company in the world, present in 90 markets and employing more than 18,000 people.

Our research professionals, analysts and scientists have built unique multi-specialist capabilities that provide powerful insights into the actions, opinions and motivations of citizens, consumers, patients, customers or employees. Our 75 business solutions are based on primary data coming from our surveys, social media monitoring, and qualitative or observational techniques.

“Game Changers” – our tagline – summarises our ambition to help our 5,000 clients to navigate more easily our deeply changing world.

Founded in France in 1975, Ipsos is listed on the Euronext Paris since July 1st, 1999. The company is part of the SBF 120 and the Mid-60 index and is eligible for the Deferred Settlement Service (SRD).

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GAME CHANGERS

In our world of rapid change, the need for reliable information to make confident decisions has never been greater.

At Ipsos we believe our clients need more than a data supplier, they need a partner who can produce accurate and relevant information and turn it into actionable truth.

This is why our passionately curious experts not only provide the most precise measurement, but shape it to provide True Understanding of Society, Markets and People.

To do this we use the best of science, technology and know-how and apply the principles of security, simplicity, speed and substance to everything we do.

So that our clients can act faster, smarter and bolder. Ultimately, success comes down to a simple truth:
You act better when you are sure.



**THANK
YOU**

GAME CHANGERS

