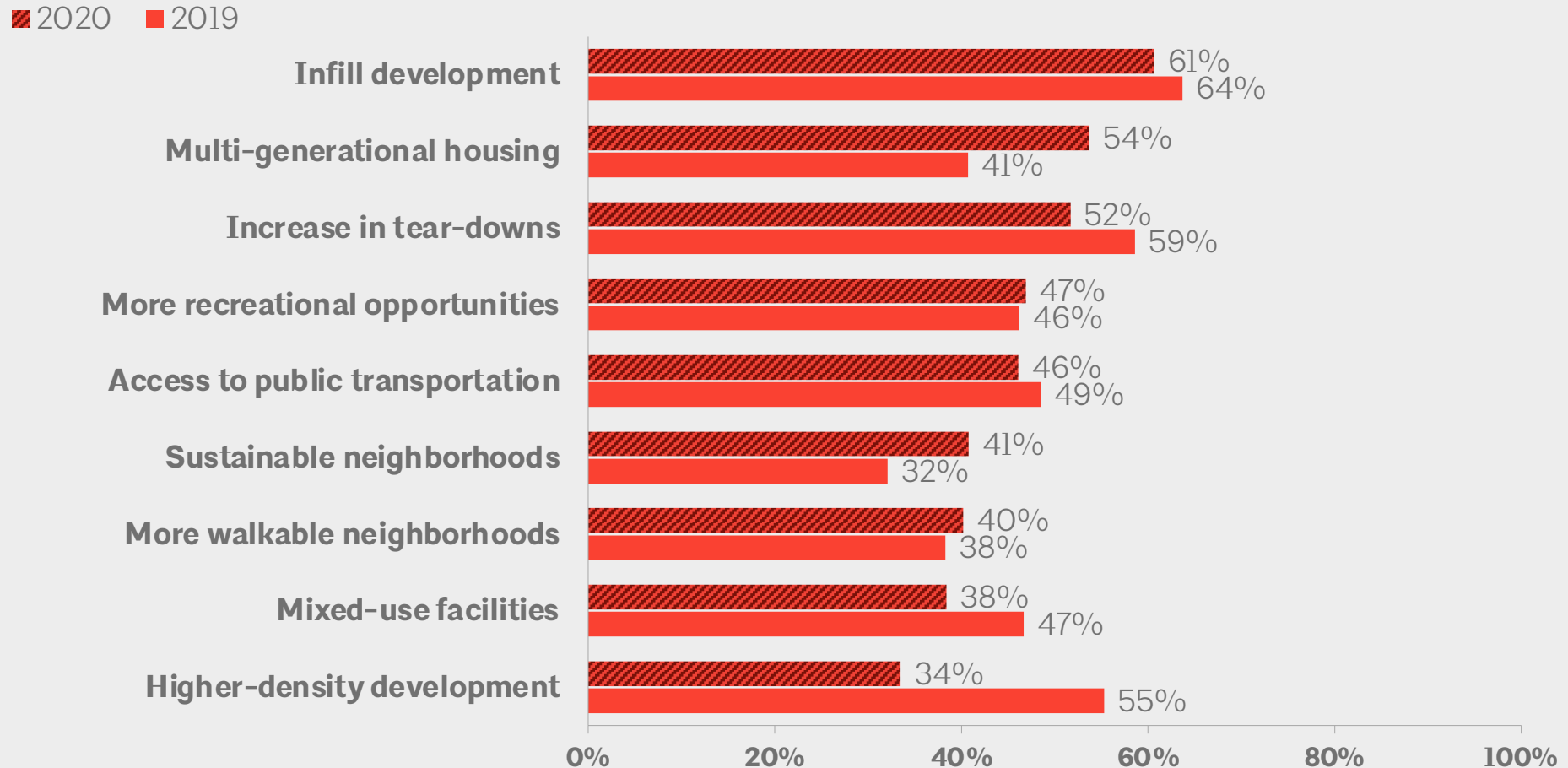**FIGURE 1**

Multi-generational housing increases in popularity due to the pandemic while higher-density development decreases
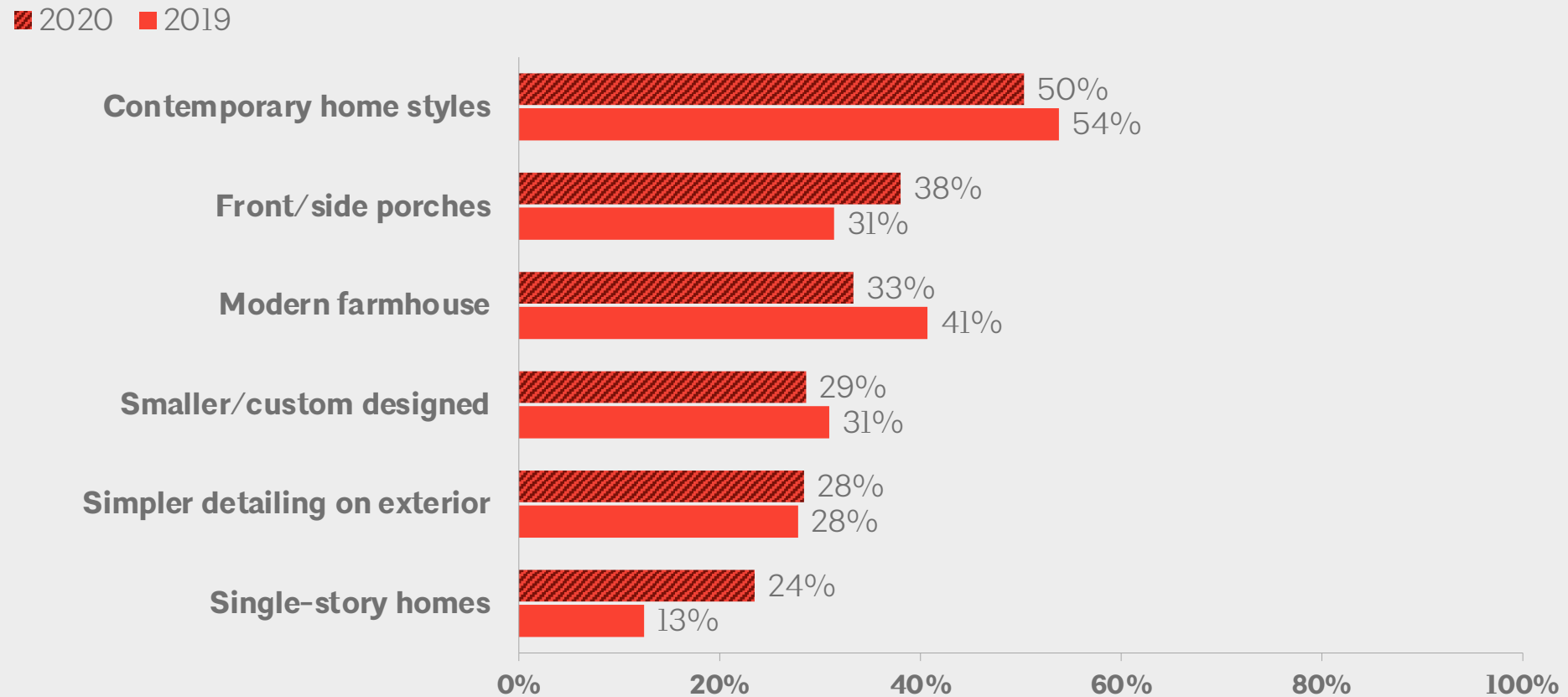
% of respondents reporting popularity of neighborhood/community trend "increasing" minus % reporting "decreasing;" data from Q3 2020 compared to data from Q3 2019

■ 2020 ■ 2019

Infill development — 61% / 64%
Multi-generational housing — 54% / 41%
Increase in tear-downs — 52% / 59%
More recreational opportunities — 47% / 46%
Access to public transportation — 46% / 49%
Sustainable neighborhoods — 41% / 32%
More walkable neighborhoods — 40% / 38%
Mixed-use facilities — 38% / 47%
Higher-density development — 34% / 55%

Source: The American Institute of Architects Home Design Trends Survey

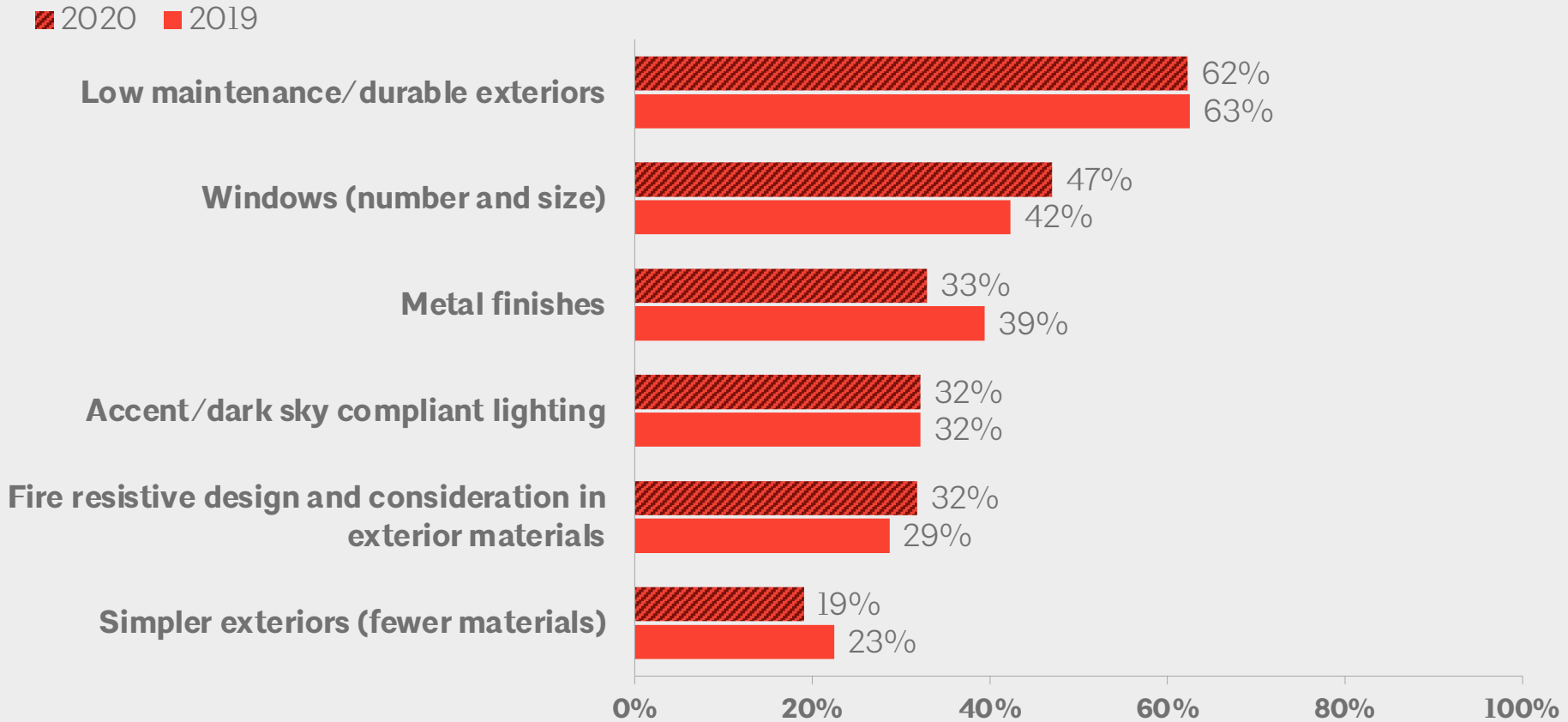**FIGURE 2** **Contemporary home styles top the list of home styles while front/side porches increase in popularity**

% of respondents reporting popularity of home style "increasing" minus % reporting "decreasing;" data from Q3 2020 compared to data from Q3 2019

■ 2020   ■ 2019

Contemporary home styles
- 2020: 50%
- 2019: 54%

Front/side porches
- 2020: 38%
- 2019: 31%

Modern farmhouse
- 2020: 33%
- 2019: 41%

Smaller/custom designed
- 2020: 29%
- 2019: 31%

Simpler detailing on exterior
- 2020: 28%
- 2019: 28%

Single-story homes
- 2020: 24%
- 2019: 13%

(x-axis: 0%, 20%, 40%, 60%, 80%, 100%)

Source: The American Institute of Architects Home Design Trends Survey

FIGURE 3 **Durability/low maintenance remains a popular choice for home exteriors and fire resistant materials continue to increase in popularity**

% of respondents reporting popularity of home exterior "increasing" minus % reporting "decreasing;" data from Q3 2020 compared to data from Q3 2019

■ 2020   ■ 2019

Category	2020	2019
Low maintenance/durable exteriors	62%	63%
Windows (number and size)	47%	42%
Metal finishes	33%	39%
Accent/dark sky compliant lighting	32%	32%
Fire resistive design and consideration in exterior materials	32%	29%
Simpler exteriors (fewer materials)	19%	23%

Source: The American Institute of Architects Home Design Trends Survey

FIGURE 4 **Project billings, inquiries, and design contracts rebound from record decline in Q1**
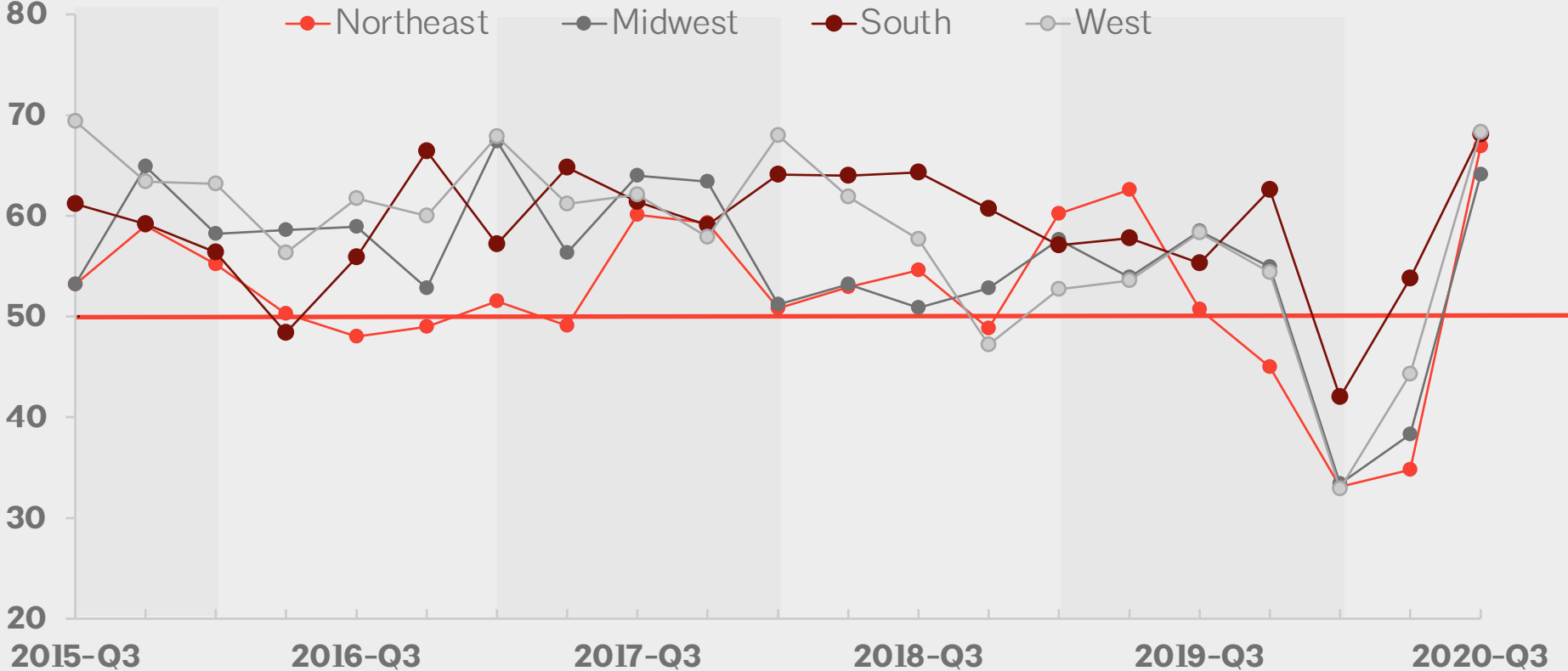
Diffusion index: 50 = no change from previous quarter; data are seasonally adjusted; data from Q3 2015-Q3 2020

Source: The American Institute of Architects Home Design Trends Survey

FIGURE 5   Firms in all regions report strong growth in Q3

Diffusion index for billings: 50 = no change from previous quarter; data are seasonally adjusted; data from Q3 2015–Q3 2020

Source: The American Institute of Architects Home Design Trends Survey

FIGURE 6   **Project backlogs at residential firms continue to increase in the third quarter**

Number of months of project backlogs, averages across all firms; data are not seasonally adjusted; data from Q3 2015–Q3 2020
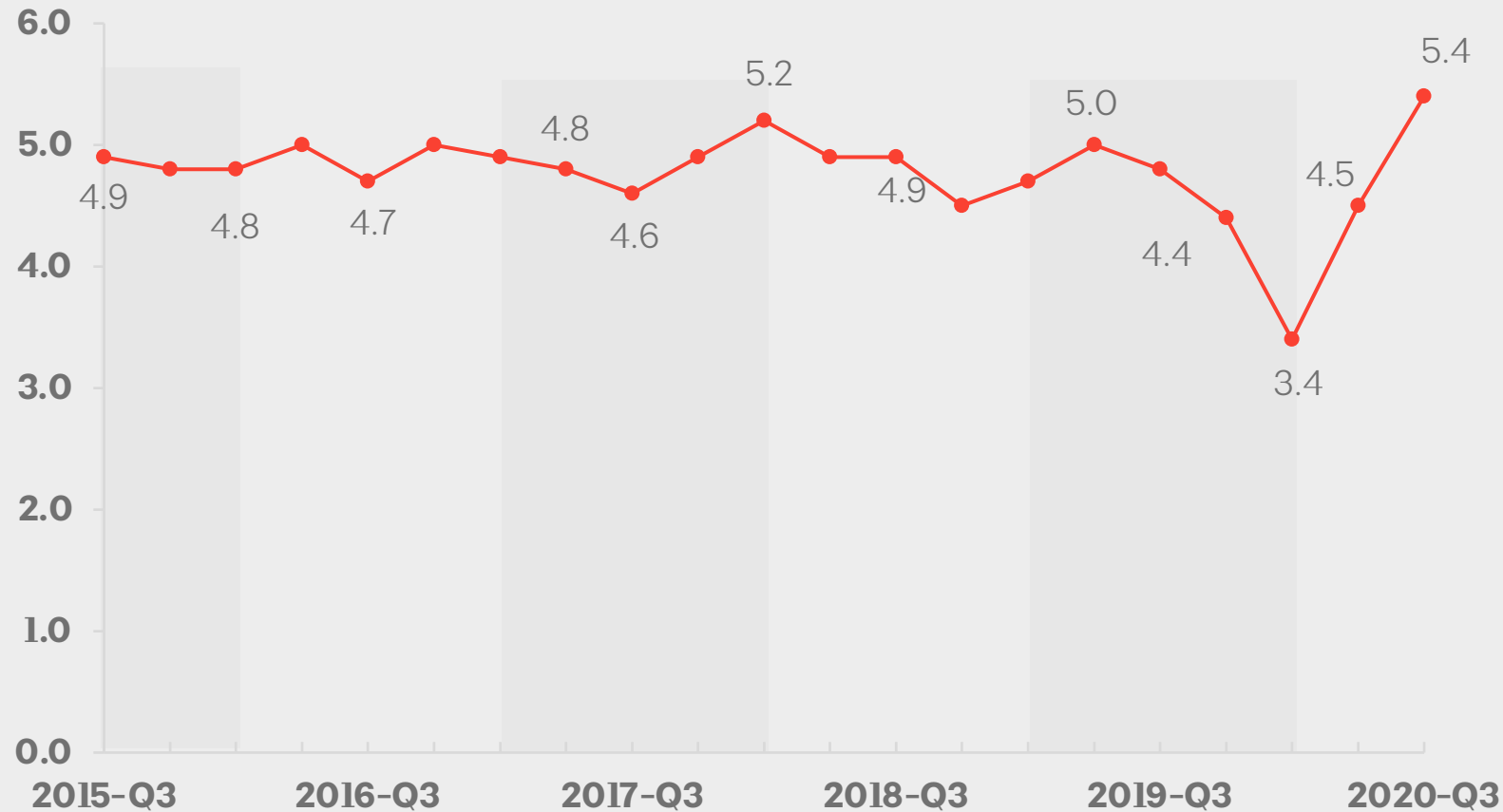
FIGURE 7 **On average firms reported about a 6% increase in the value of backlogs from the second quarter of 2020 to the third quarter of 2020**

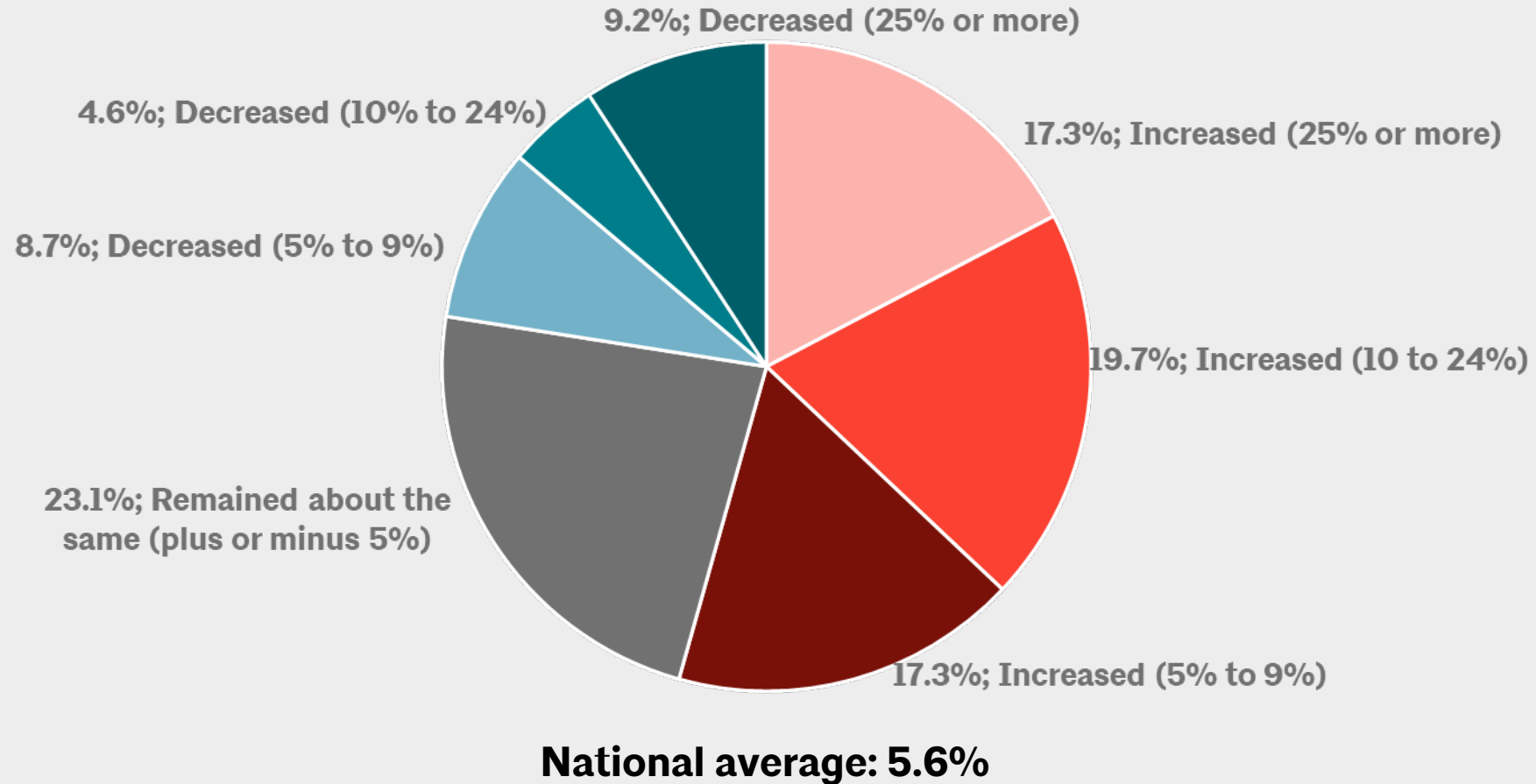% of respondents estimated change in the value of backlogs in Q3 2020 from Q2 2020

9.2%; Decreased (25% or more)

4.6%; Decreased (10% to 24%)

8.7%; Decreased (5% to 9%)

23.1%; Remained about the same (plus or minus 5%)

17.3%; Increased (25% or more)

19.7%; Increased (10 to 24%)

17.3%; Increased (5% to 9%)
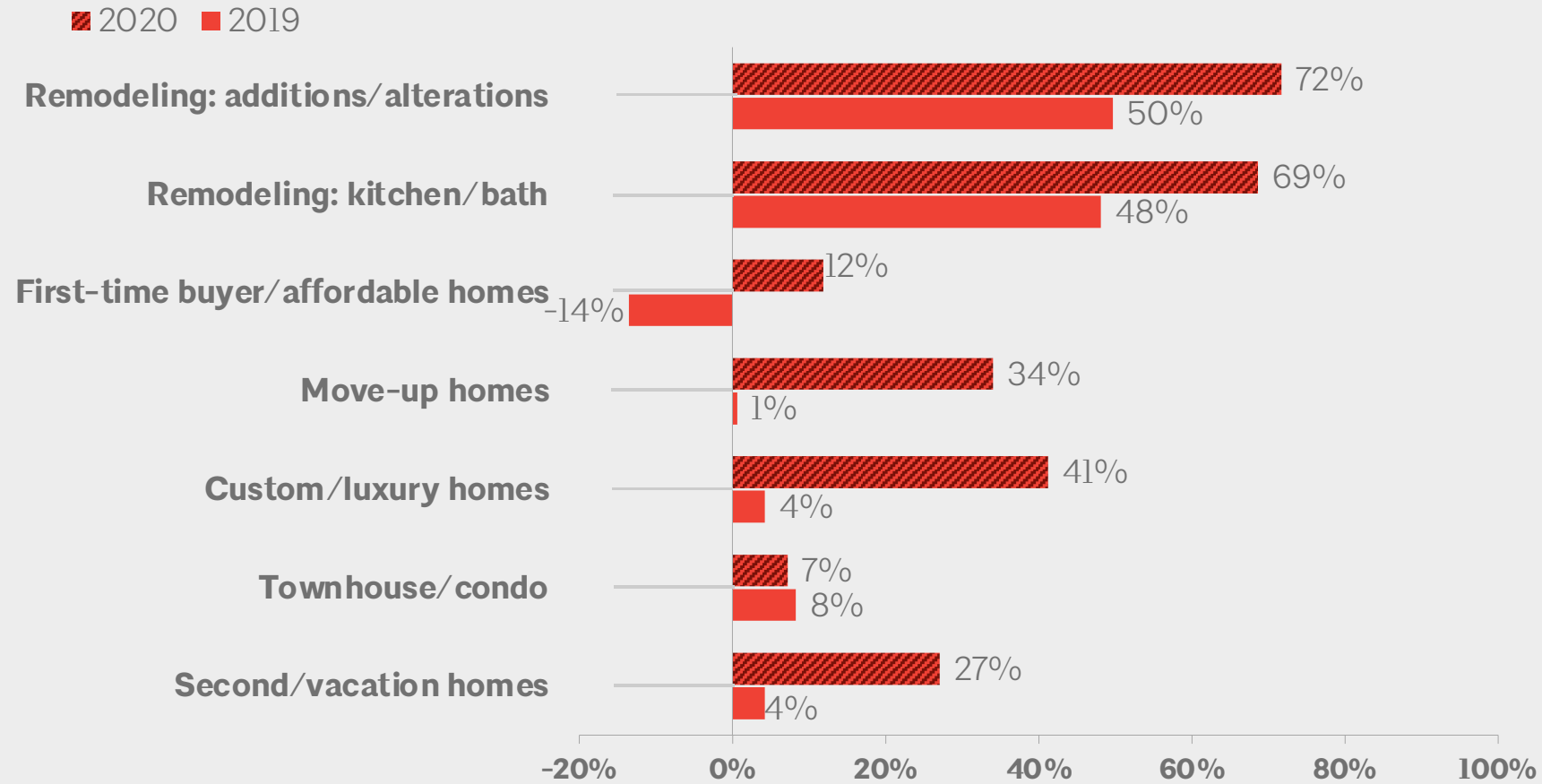
National average: 5.6%

FIGURE 8   **All sectors reported growth with home improvement reporting the strongest gains**

% of respondents reporting popularity of sector "increasing" minus % reporting "decreasing;" data from Q3 2020 compared to data from Q3 2019

Legend: 2020, 2019

Remodeling: additions/alterations — 72%, 50%

Remodeling: kitchen/bath — 69%, 48%

First-time buyer/affordable homes — 12%, -14%

Move-up homes — 34%, 1%

Custom/luxury homes — 41%, 4%

Townhouse/condo — 7%, 8%

Second/vacation homes — 27%, 4%

X-axis: -20%, 0%, 20%, 40%, 60%, 80%, 100%

Source: The American Institute of Architects Home Design Trends Survey