



KEY FINDINGS

THE 2022 SURVEY OF THE ATTITUDES OF VOTERS IN EIGHT WESTERN STATES

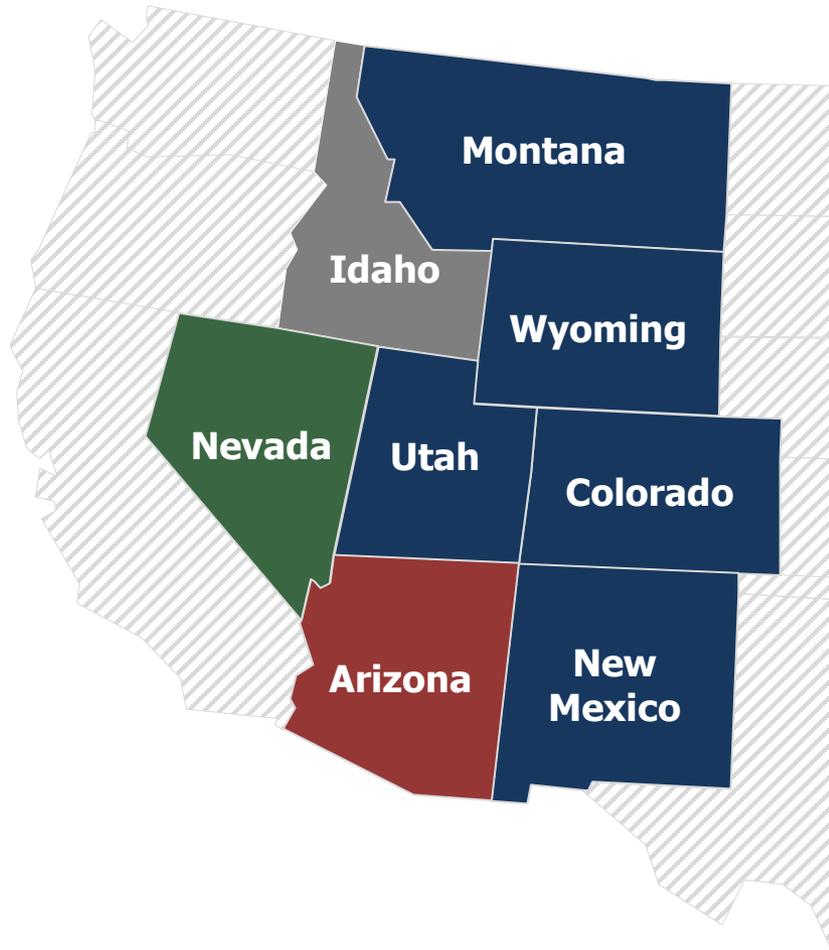


JANUARY 2022

**CONDUCTED BY: LORI WEIGEL / NEW BRIDGE STRATEGY
DAVE METZ / FAIRBANK, MASLIN, MAULLIN, METZ & ASSOCIATES**

Methodology

- ❖ 3,440 telephone (cell and landline) and online interviews via email invitation with registered voters in eight states: Arizona (N=488), Colorado (N=430), Idaho (N=406), Montana (N=416), Nevada (N=443), New Mexico (N=434), Utah (N=418), and Wyoming (N=405).
- ❖ Two oversamples were conducted in order to have greater ability to report distinctions among racial/ethnic sub-groups. We conducted additional interviews to reach a total of N=202 Black voters and a total of N=209 Native American voters, which were then weighted back to reflect their true proportions within the electorate in this region.
- ❖ Interviews were conducted January 5-23, 2022, in Spanish and English.
- ❖ The effective margin of error is $\pm 2.4\%$ at the 95% confidence interval for the total sample; and at most $\pm 4.8\%$ for each state.
- ❖ The total numbers have been statistically weighted to reflect the true geographic distribution of voters throughout the region. Interviews within each state were distributed proportionally by region.
- ❖ Comparisons are made to similarly conducted surveys each year from 2011 to 2021.
- ❖ Bi-partisan research team of New Bridge Strategy (R) and Fairbank, Maslin, Maullin, Metz & Associates (D).



Over the past decade, the number of states included in this survey has increased.

In order to provide accurate comparisons over time, we compare data based on only the states interviewed in that year as follows:

2011 5 States: CO, MT, NM, UT & WY

2012-2015 6 States: AZ, CO, MT, NM, UT & WY

2016-2017 7 States: AZ, CO, MT, NM, NV, UT & WY

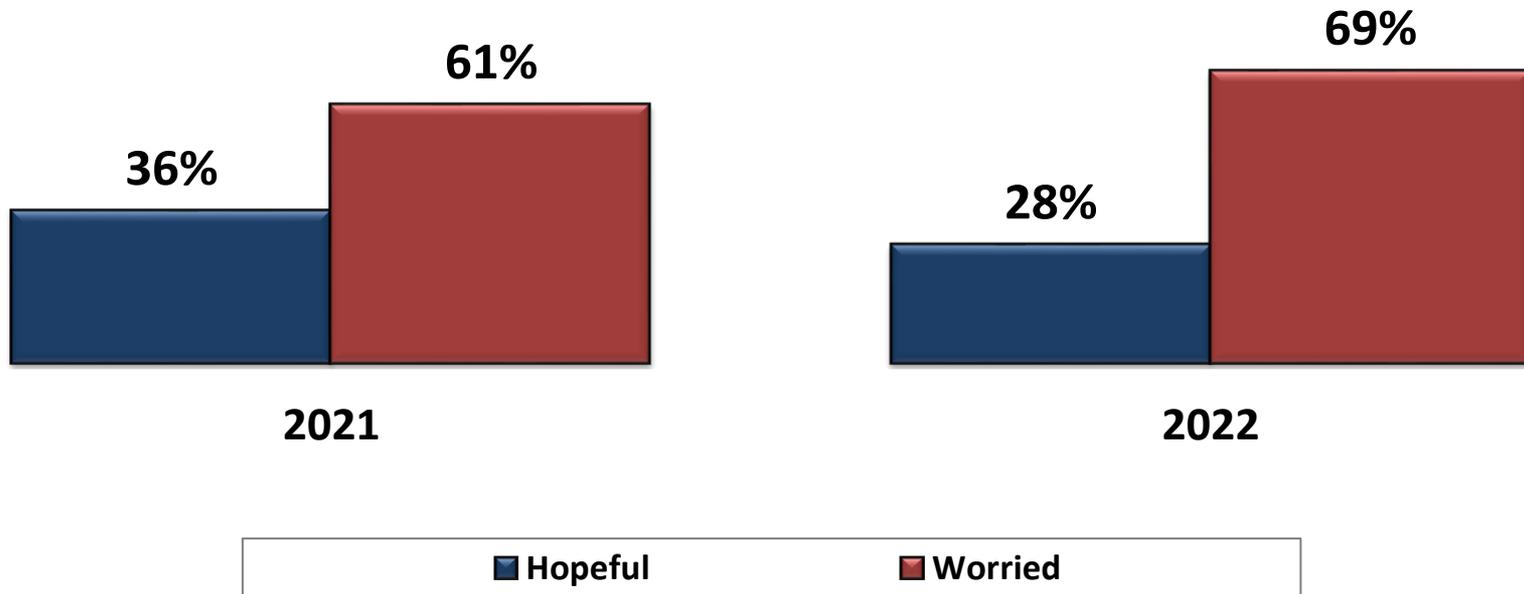
2018-2022 8 States: AZ, CO, ID, MT, NM, NV, UT & WY



Nature in 2022

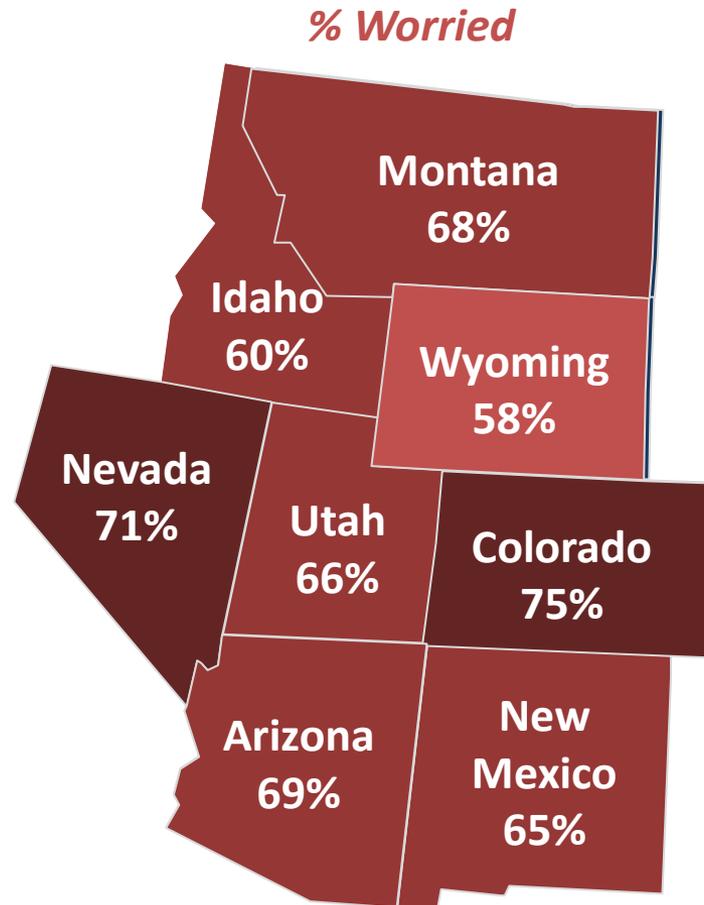


Western voters hold an increasingly dim view of the future of nature.



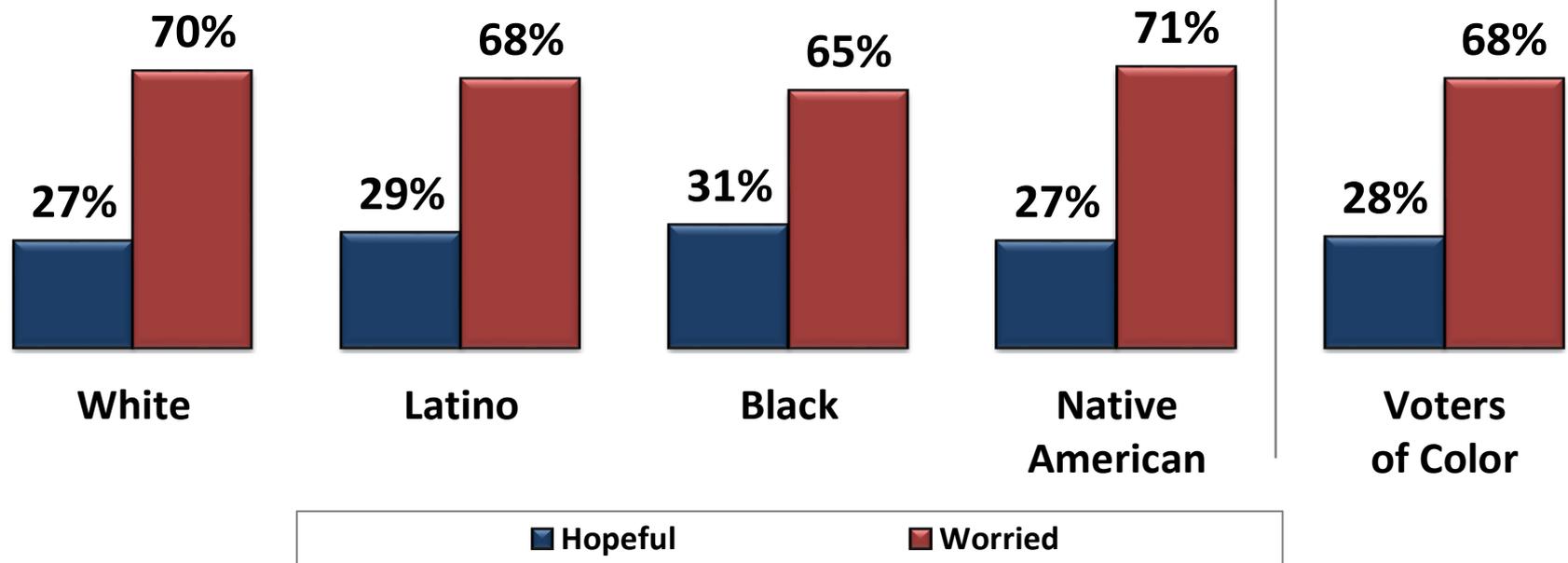
When you think about the future of nature, meaning our land, water, air and wildlife, would you say that you feel – more hopeful or more worried?

Three-in-five or more in every state express concern for the future of nature.



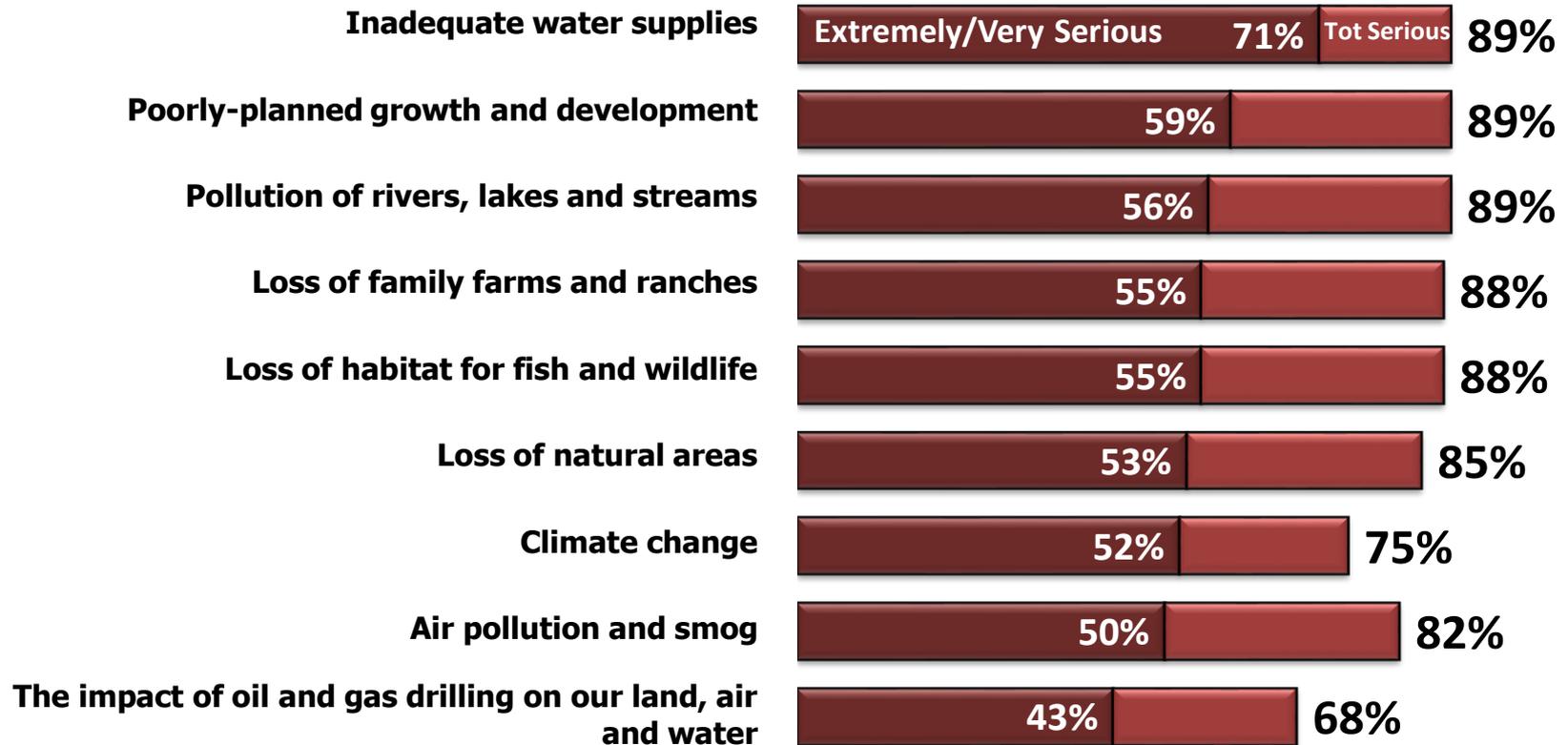
When you think about the future of nature, meaning our land, water, air and wildlife, would you say that you feel – more hopeful or more worried?

Pessimism is evident at similar levels among voters of different ethnic backgrounds.



When you think about the future of nature, meaning our land, water, air and wildlife, would you say that you feel – more hopeful or more worried?

There are a wide range of conservation issues that voters perceive to be serious problems in their state.



Next, I'm going to read you a list of issues some people say are problems in (STATE). For each one, please tell me if you think it is an extremely serious problem, a very serious problem, a somewhat serious problem, or not a problem in (STATE).

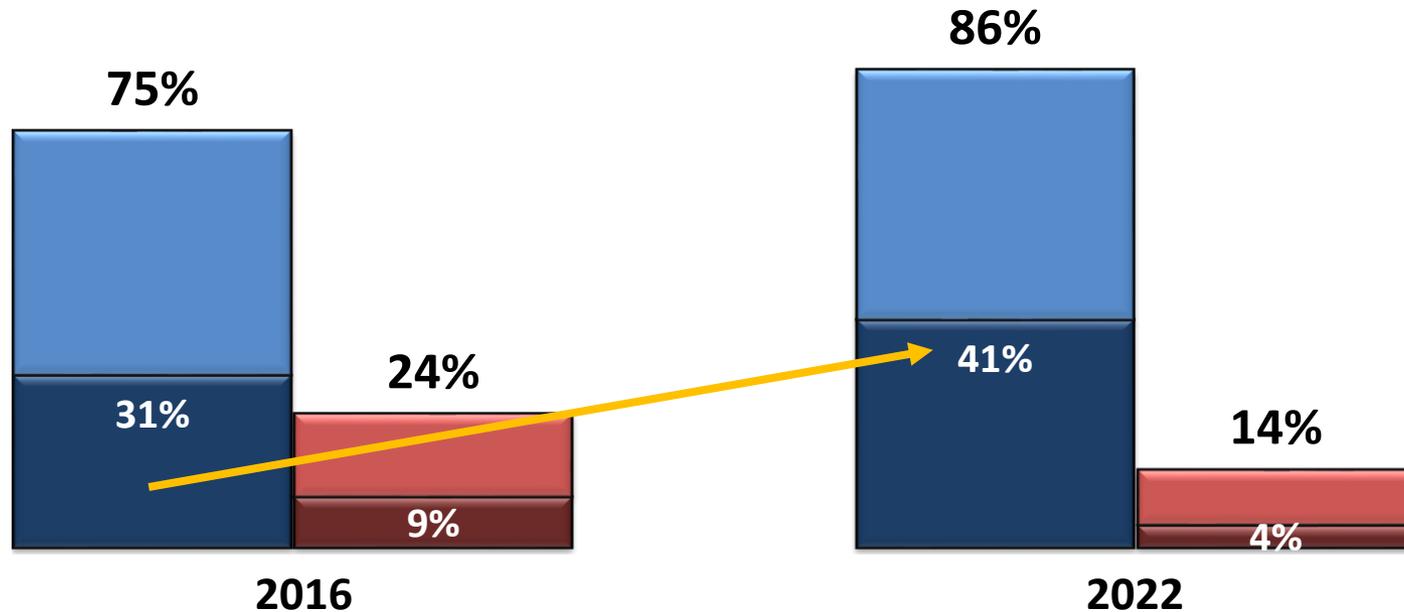
Every single issue tested in 2011 to today has seen a jump in concern.

<i>Problems Ranked by % Increase in Ext/Very Serious</i>	2011	2022	% Change
Inadequate water supplies	40%	70%	+30%
Climate change	27%	52%	+25%
Loss of natural areas	36%	55%	+19%
Loss of habitat for fish and wildlife	38%	55%	+17%
Poorly-planned growth and development	42%	60%	+18%
Pollution of rivers, lakes and streams	42%	54%	+12%
The impact of oil and gas drilling on our land, air and water	31%	41%	+10%
Air pollution and smog	40%	49%	+9%
Loss of family farms and ranches	50%	58%	+8%

Next, I'm going to read you a list of issues some people say are problems in (STATE). For each one, please tell me if you think it is an extremely serious problem, a very serious problem, a somewhat serious problem, or not a problem in (STATE).

Showing 2022 data by just 2011 states: CO, MT, NM, UT, WY

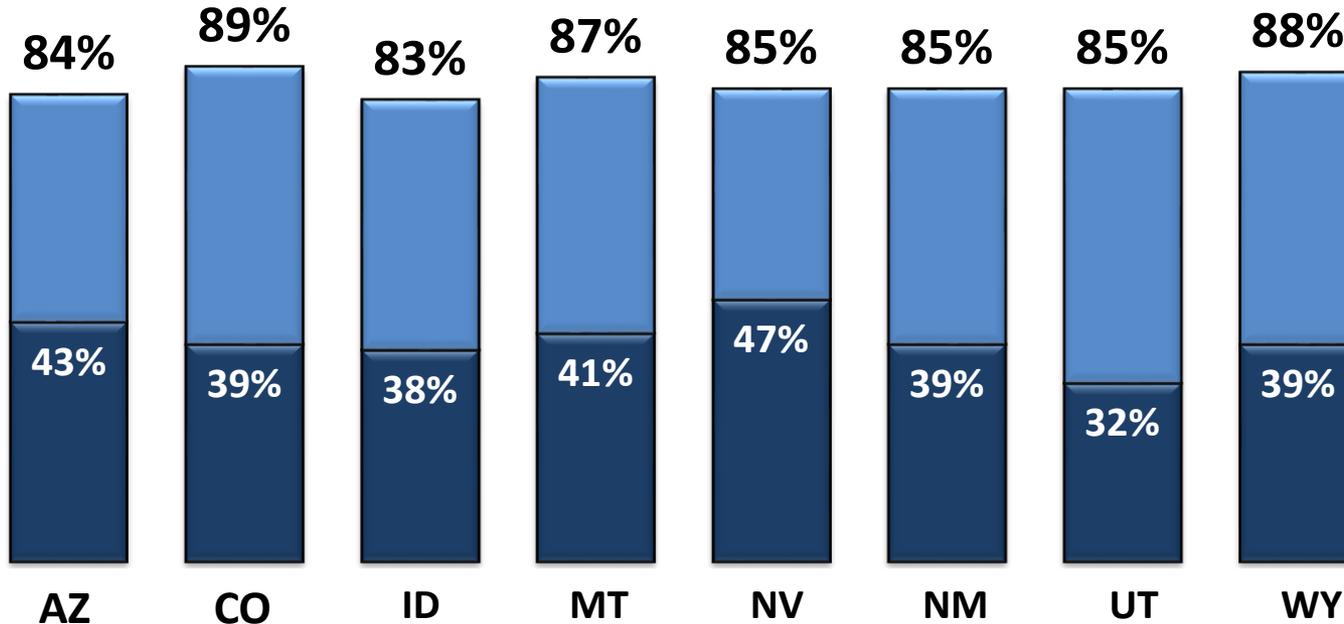
A public official's stance on the environment is even more important this year than when we first asked this in 2016.



- Very Important/Primary Factor
- Total Important/Several Issues Considered
- Not At All Important
- Total Not Important/Not Significant Factor

*Compared to other issues like the economy, health care and education, how important are issues involving clean water, clean air, wildlife and public lands for you in deciding whether to support an elected public official?
Showing 2022 data by just 2016 states: AZ, CO, MT, NM, NV, UT & WY*

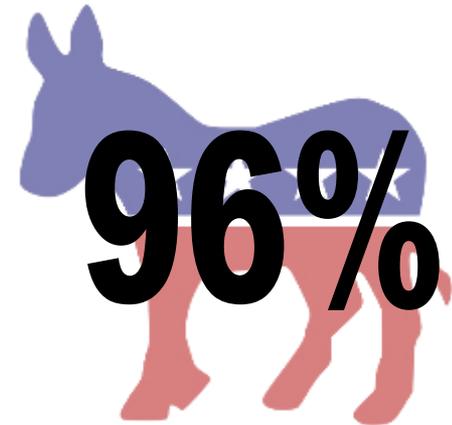
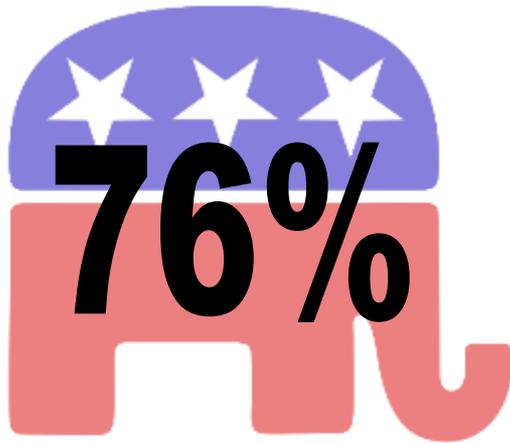
This year, a majority of those in each state say a public official's stance on the environment is important to know before supporting them.



Very Important/Primary Factor
 Total Important/Several Issues Considered

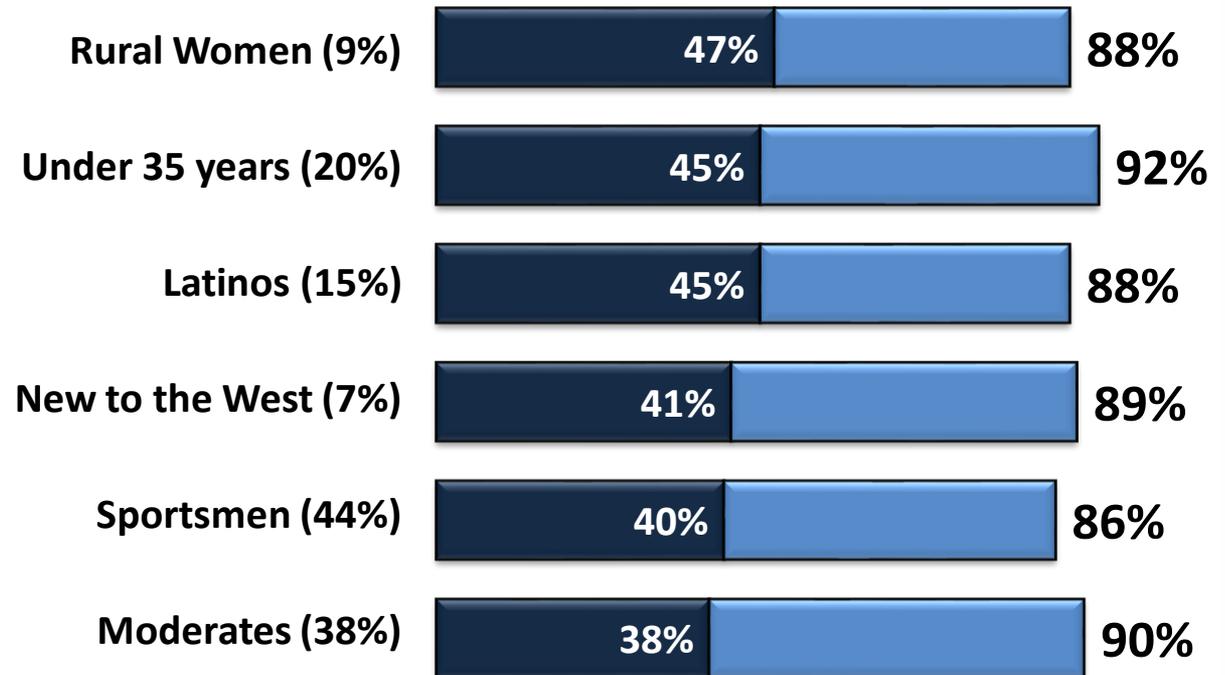
Compared to other issues like the economy, health care and education, how important are issues involving clean water, clean air, wildlife and public lands for you in deciding whether to support an elected public official?

Voters from across the political spectrum say a public officials' position on conservation issues will be an important factor in determining their support.



Compared to other issues like the economy, health care and education, how important are issues involving clean water, clean air, wildlife and public lands for you in deciding whether to support an elected public official?

Conservation issues are deemed important by many of the most critical “swing” sub-groups.



■ Very Important/Primary Factor

■ Total Important/Several Issues Considered

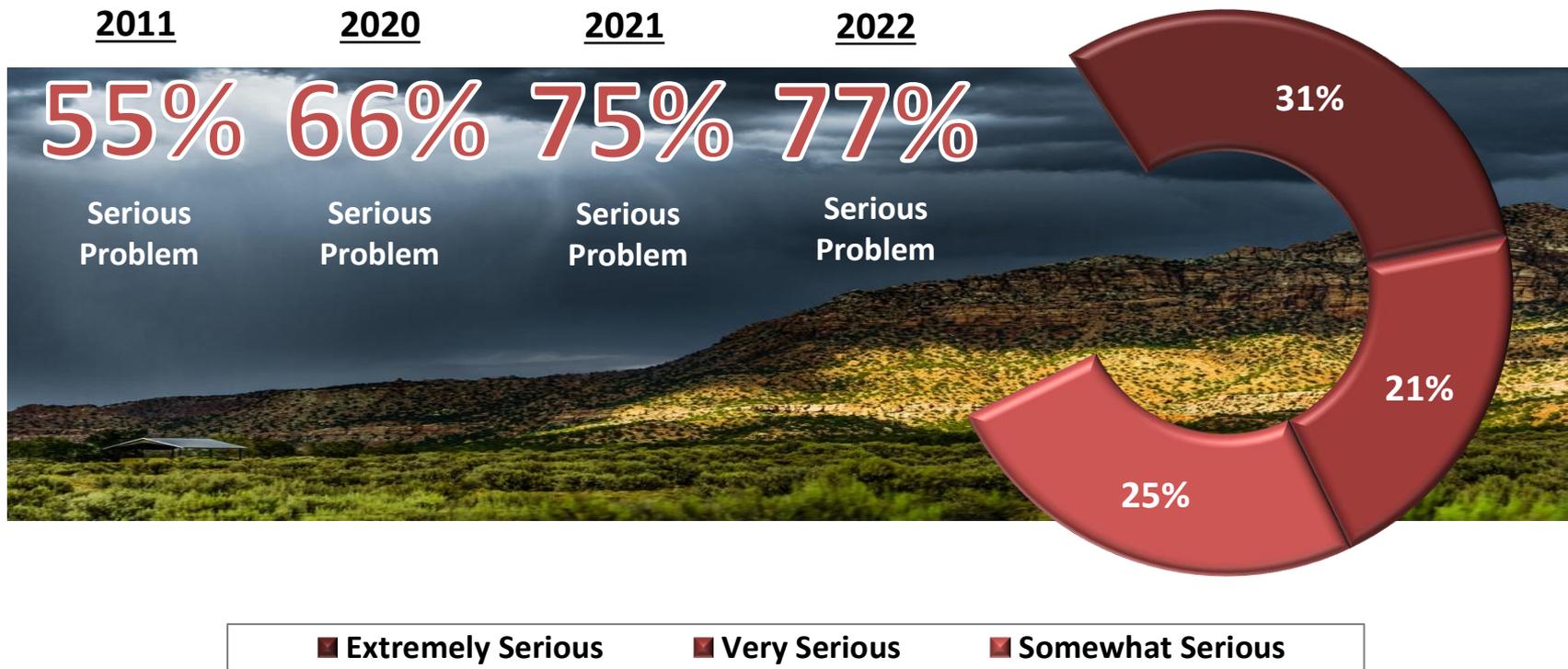
Compared to other issues like the economy, health care and education, how important are issues involving clean water, clean air, wildlife and public lands for you in deciding whether to support an elected public official?



Climate Change



Three-in-four voters say climate change is a serious problem, a significant increase from 2011.



For each one, please tell me if you think it is an extremely serious problem, a very serious problem, a somewhat serious problem, or not a problem in your state... **Climate change**

Showing 2021 and 2022 data by just 2011 states: CO, MT, NM, UT & WY

Voters are increasingly interested in action being taken to address climate change.

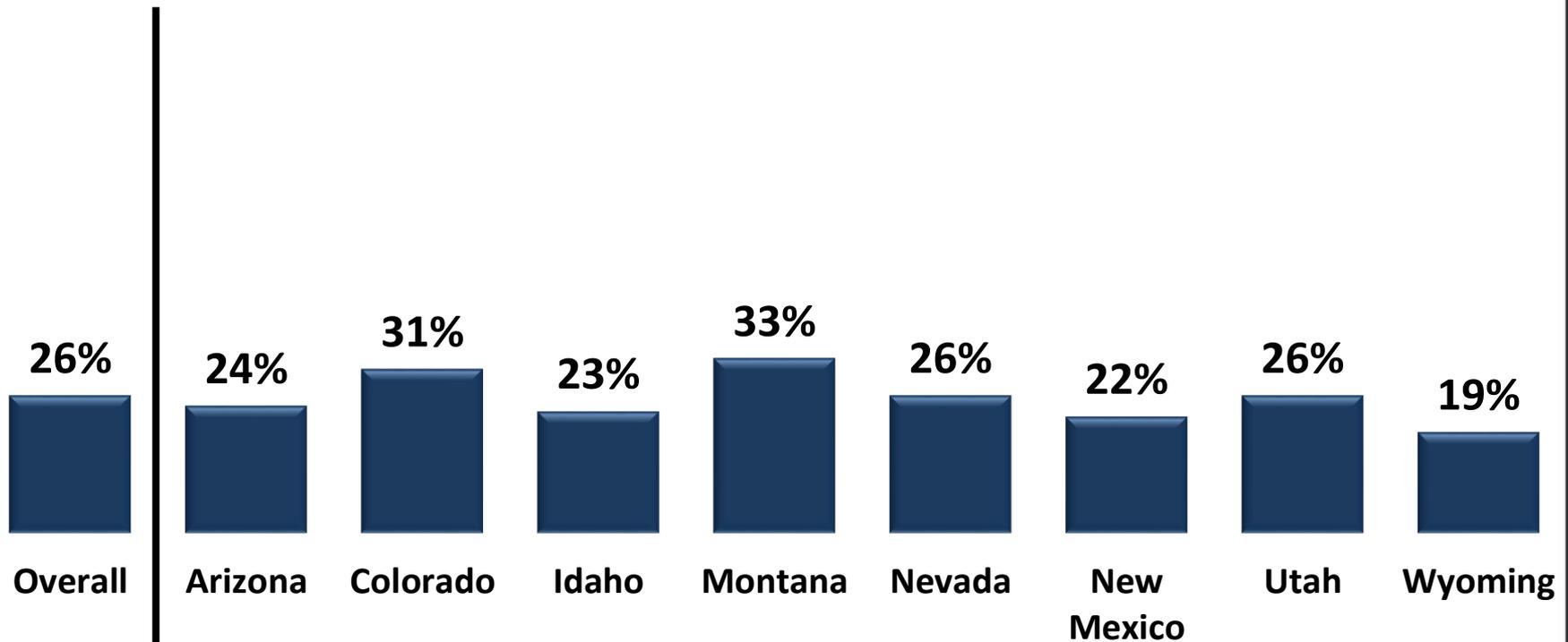
	2011*	2020	2022
Climate change has been established as a serious problem, and immediate action is necessary.	24%	40%	44%
There is enough evidence that climate change is taking place that some action should be taken.	24%	19%	21%
We don't know enough about climate change, and more research is necessary before we take action.	19%	15%	13%
Concern about climate change has been greatly exaggerated.	32%	25%	21%

*From what you know about climate change, sometimes referred to as global warming, which of the following four statements is closest to your opinion? **Showing 2020-2022 data by just 2011 states: CO, MT, NM, UT & WY***

**In 2011, the question language read "Switching topics, from what you know about global warming which of the following four statements is closest to your opinion?" The phrase "global warming" replaced "climate change" in the four answer choices as well.*

Overall, over one-quarter say they have changed where or when they recreate outdoors due to changes in the climate.

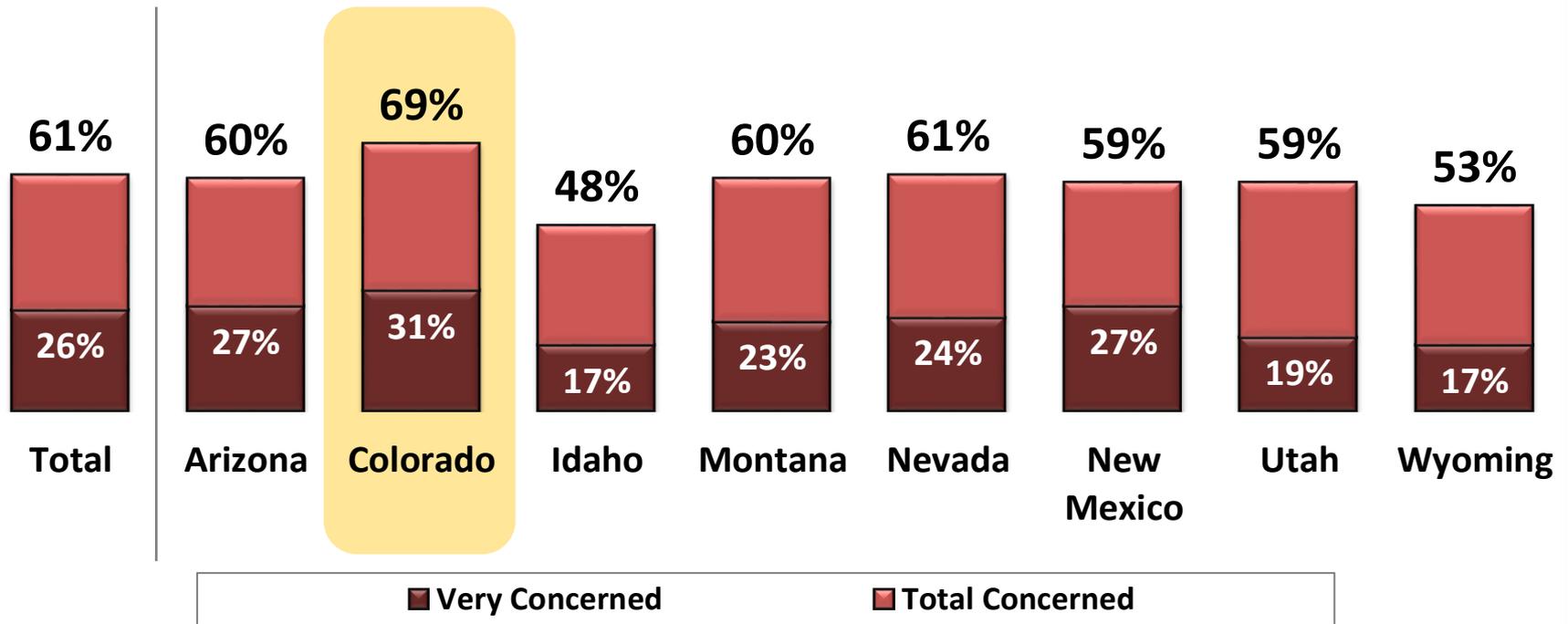
Changes in the climate, such as fires or less snow or water



In the last two or three years, have you made changes in where or when you recreate outdoors, due to ...

Coloradans are most likely to express concern about extreme weather events in their state...

Extreme weather events like intense storms or floods



The following are different events that have happened recently in STATE. For each one, please indicate whether you are very concerned about that, somewhat concerned, not too concerned, or not at all concerned about it: **Extreme weather events like intense storms or floods**

But Western voters across the board say that the lack of planning for natural disasters like floods or fires is a serious problem.

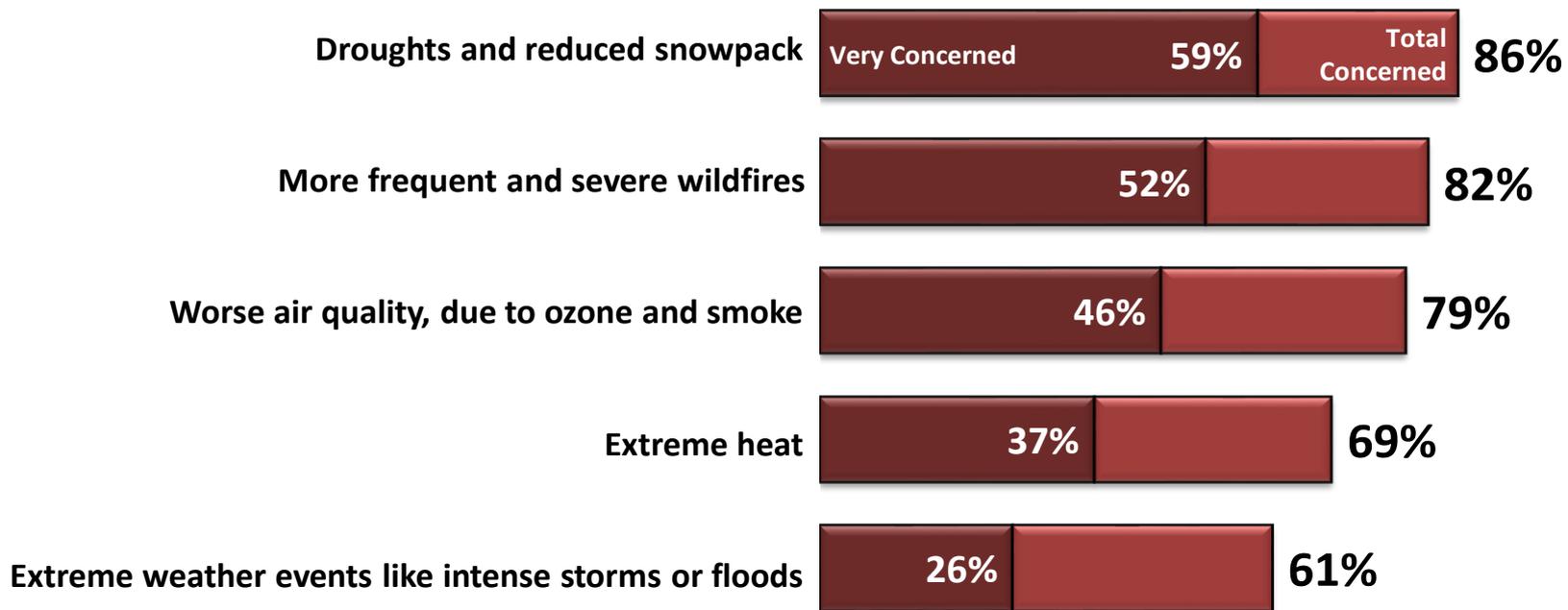


Lack of Planning for Natural Disasters

- Extremely Serious
- Very Serious
- Somewhat Serious

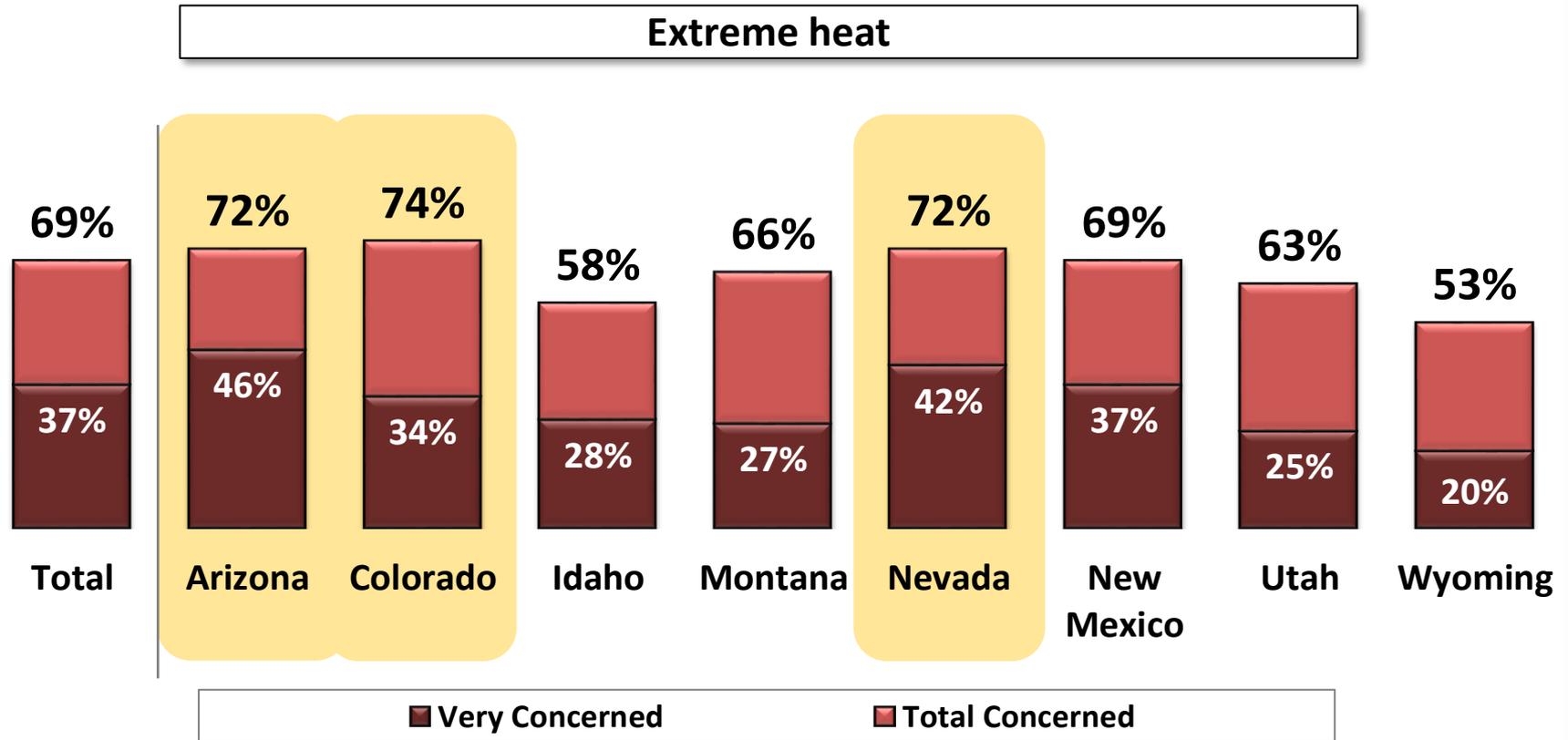
*I'm going to read you a list of issues some people say are problems in STATE. For each one, please tell me if you think it is (an extremely serious problem, a very serious problem, a somewhat serious problem, or not a problem in STATE: **Lack of planning for potential natural disasters, like floods or wildfires** (Asked of N=1,727)*

Overall, a majority of voters are very concerned about droughts/ reduced snowpack and more frequent and severe wildfires.



The following are different events that have happened recently in STATE. For each one, please indicate whether you are very concerned about that, somewhat concerned, not too concerned, or not at all concerned about it.

Extreme heat is a concern in all states, but particularly Arizona, Colorado and Nevada.



The following are different events that have happened recently in STATE. For each one, please indicate whether you are very concerned about that, somewhat concerned, not too concerned, or not at all concerned about it: **Extreme heat**

Wildfires are seen as a more serious problem now than ever before in the West.



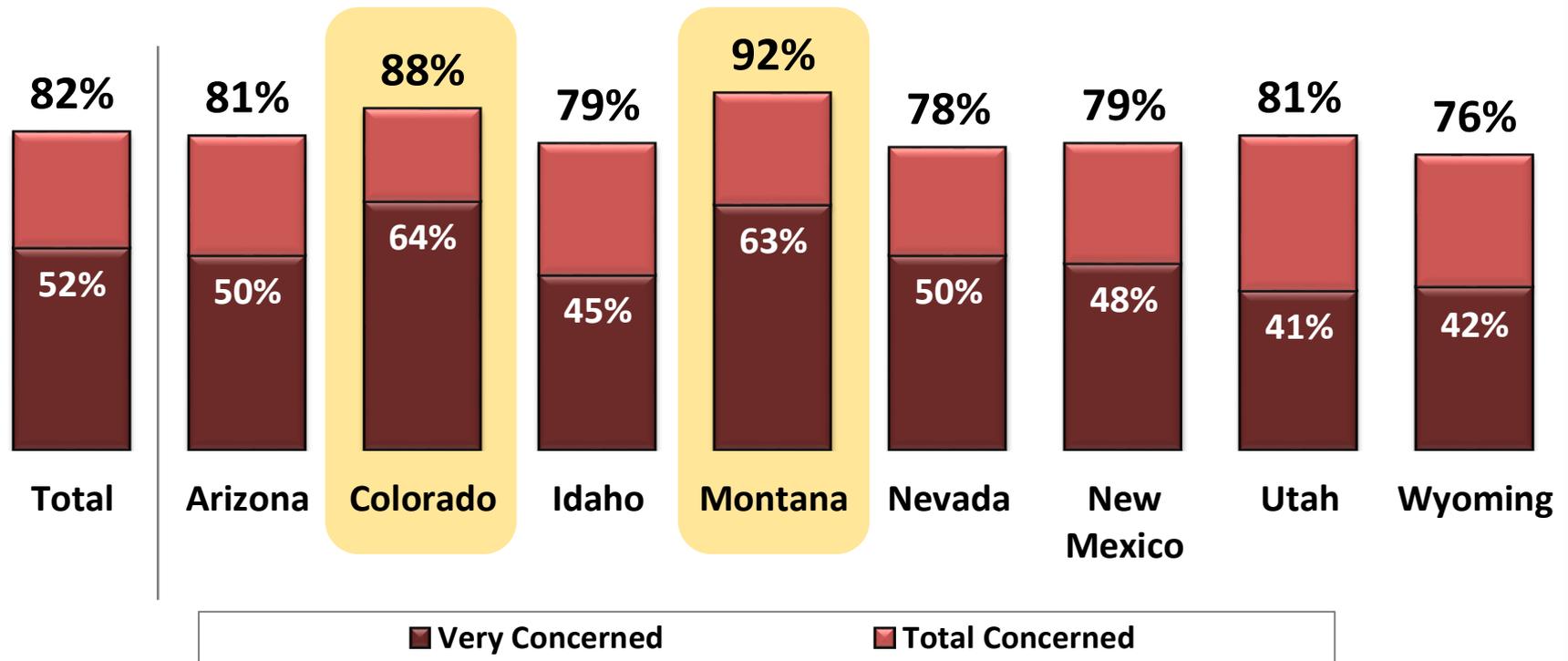
Uncontrollable Wildfires



For each one, please tell me if you think it is an extremely serious problem, a very serious problem, a somewhat serious problem, or not a problem in your state: **Uncontrollable wildfires that threaten homes and property - Showing 2020-2022 data by just 2016 states: AZ, CO, MT, NM, NV, UT & WY**

This concern is most pronounced in Colorado and Montana.

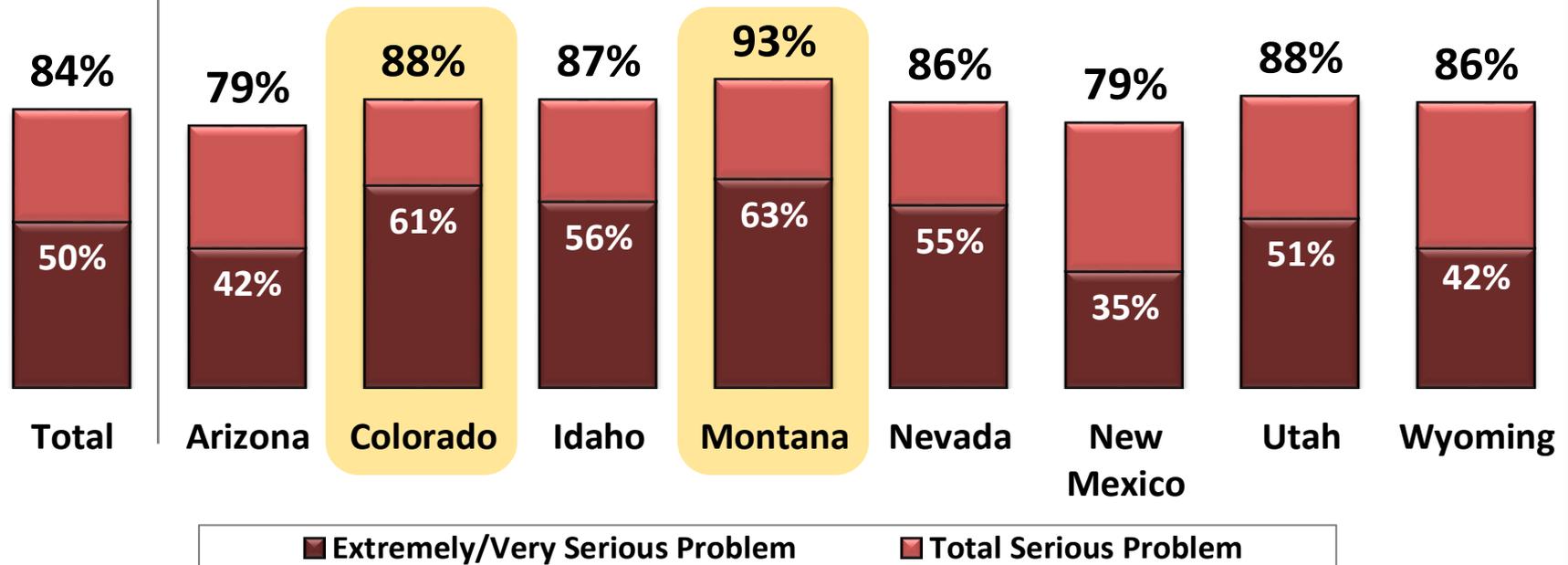
More frequent and severe wildfires



The following are different events that have happened recently in STATE. For each one, please indicate whether you are very concerned about that, somewhat concerned, not too concerned, or not at all concerned about it: **More frequent and severe wildfires**

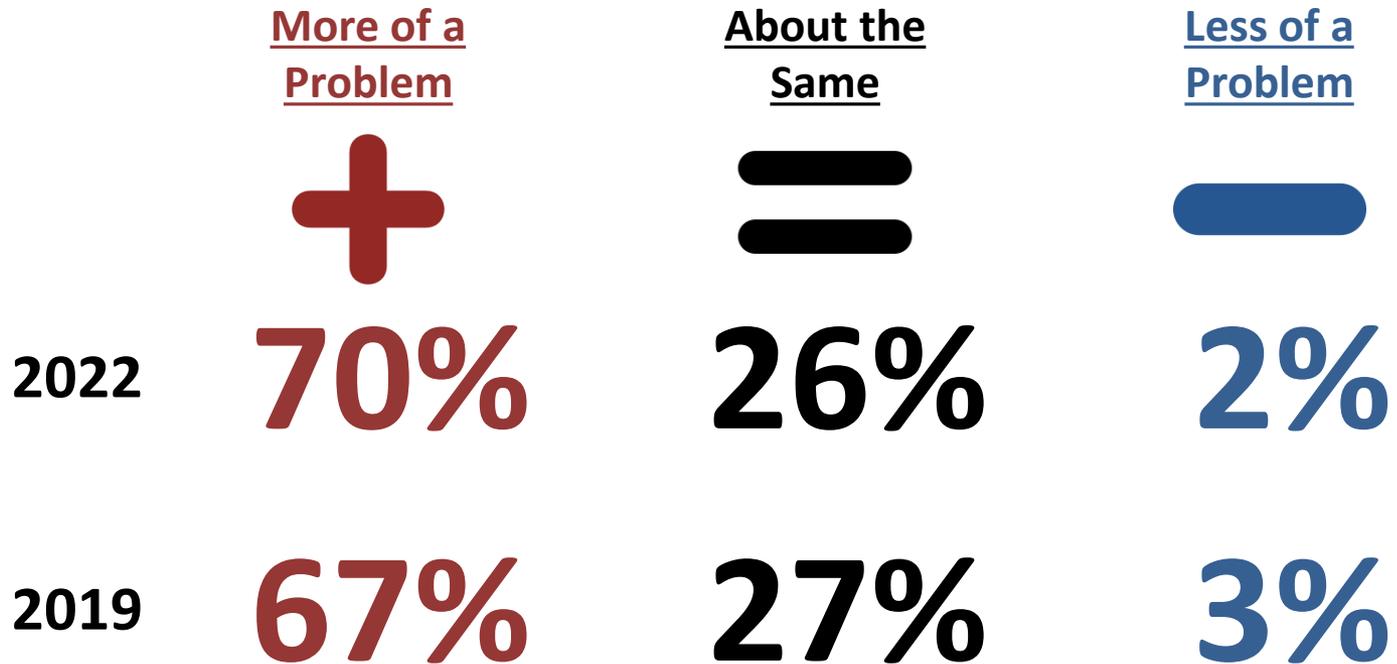
Those two states also are the most likely to view smoke from wildfires as an extremely or very serious problem in their state.

Smoke from wildfires during fire season



*For each one, please tell me if you think it is an extremely serious problem, a very serious problem, a somewhat serious problem, or not a problem in your state... **Smoke from wildfires during fire season** - (Asked N=1,727 Respondents)*

Voters also continue to view wildfires as an increasing problem in the West.



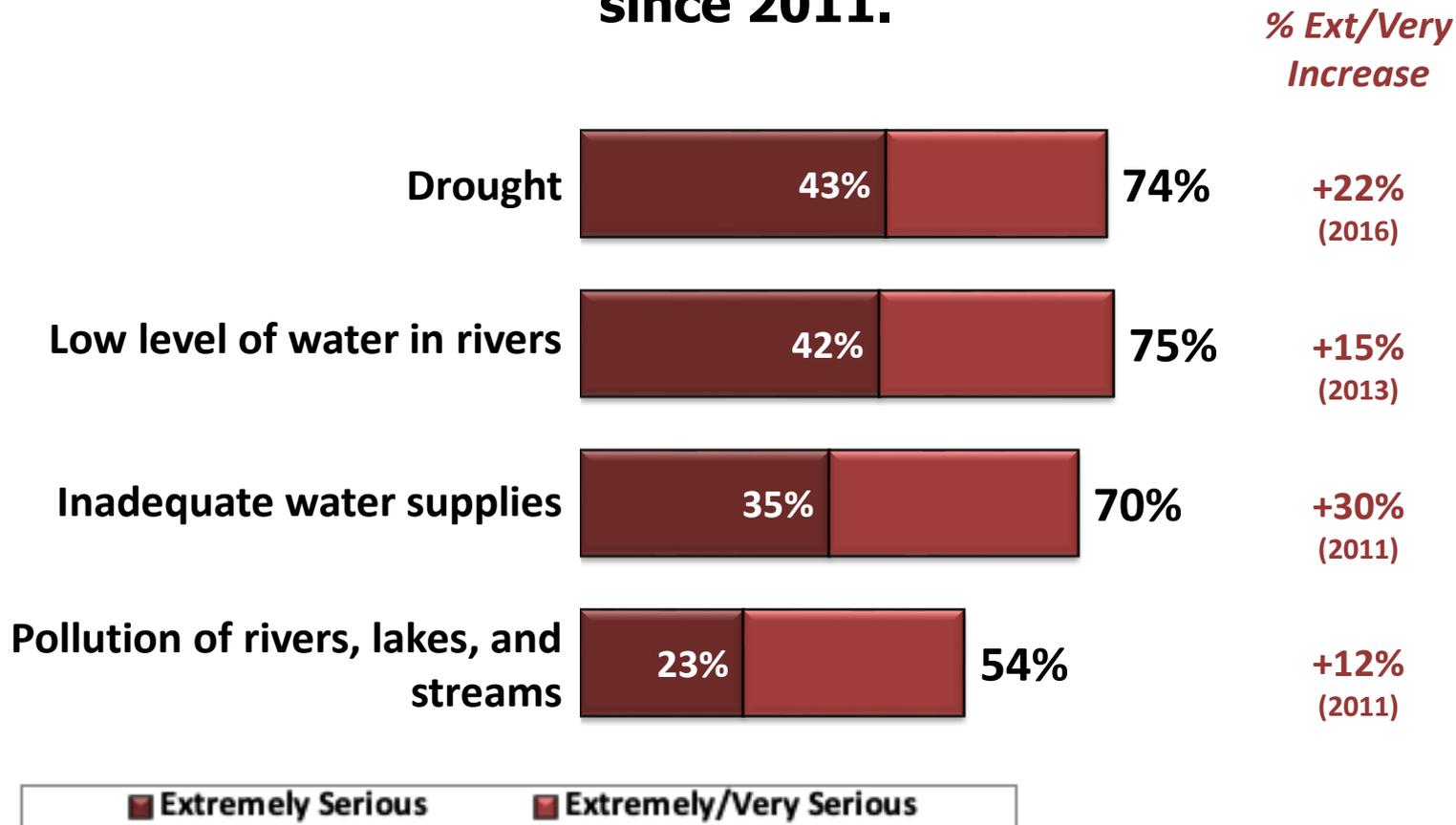
Thinking about the issue of wildfires – Do you think wildfires in the West are more of a problem than ten years ago, less of a problem than ten years ago -- or about the same?



Water



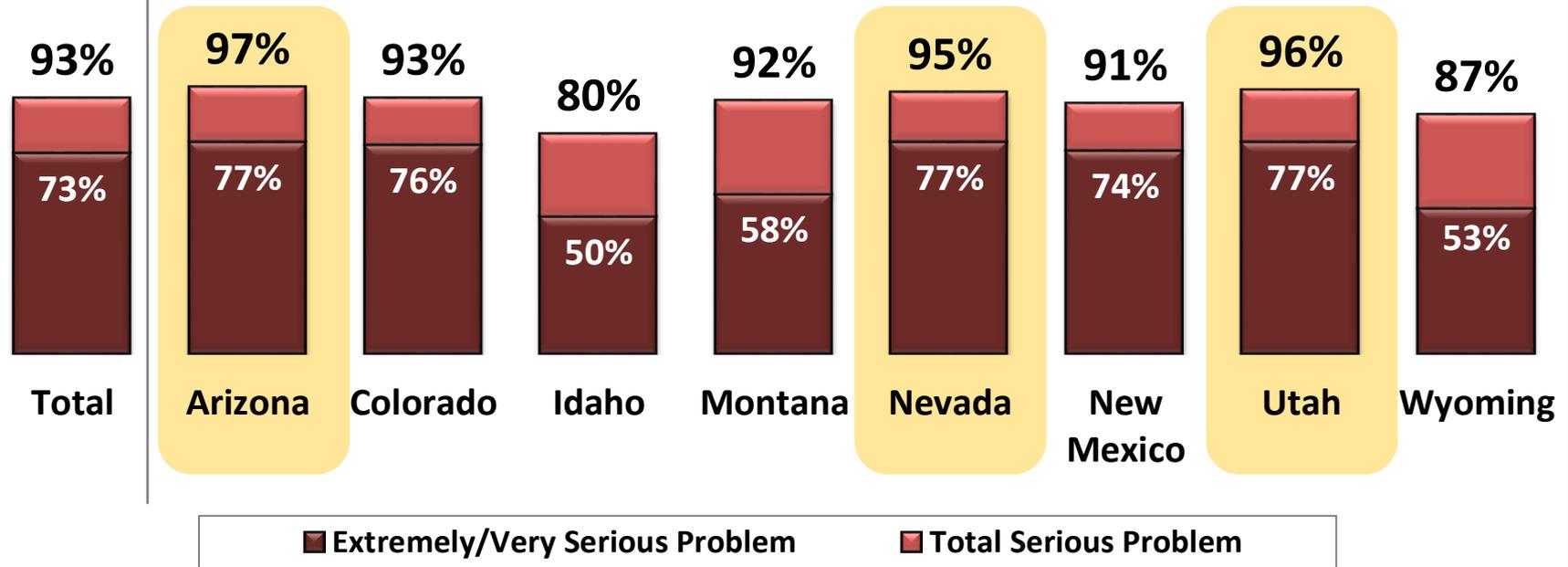
The seriousness of water problems has risen by double digits over the last decade, with highest increase for water supplies since 2011.



For each one, please tell me if you think it is an extremely serious problem, a very serious problem, a somewhat serious problem, or not a problem in your state... **Showing 2022 data by earliest data points available.**

The overwhelming concern about rivers is evident in every state this year.

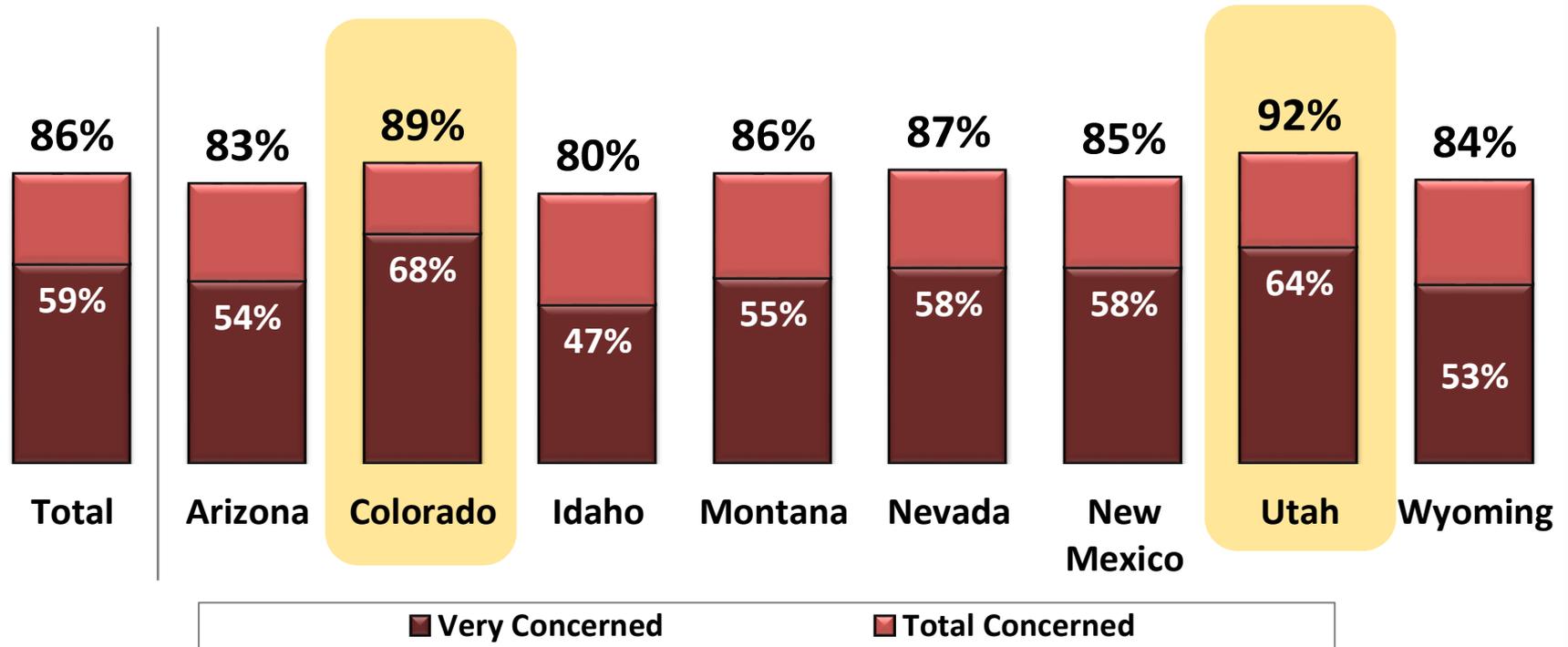
Low level of water in rivers



For each one, please tell me if you think it is an extremely serious problem, a very serious problem, a somewhat serious problem, or not a problem in your state... **Low level of water in rivers**- (Asked N=1,713 Respondents)

Voters express high levels of concern about droughts and reduced snowpack, with Utah and Colorado most intensely concerned.

Droughts and reduced snowpack



The following are different events that have happened recently in STATE. For each one, please indicate whether you are very concerned about that, somewhat concerned, not too concerned, or not at all concerned about it: **Droughts and reduced snowpack**

By nearly a six-to-one margin, Westerners say they want an emphasis on water conservation over diversions to cities.

Use our current water supply more wisely by encouraging more water conservation, reducing use, and increasing recycling of water

81%

Divert more water from rivers in less populated areas of the state to communities where more people live

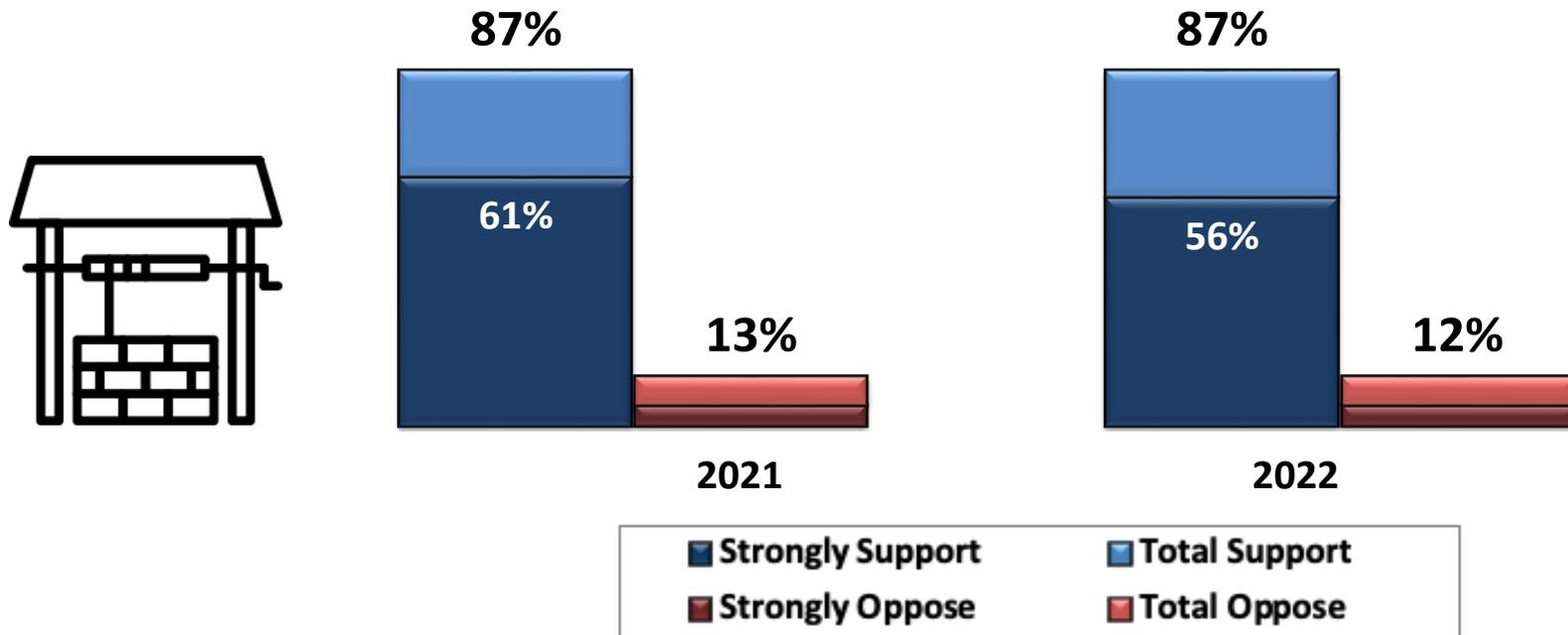
14%

Many experts say that (STATE) will likely face water shortage situations in the future. They say that we face a choice in how we address that shortage. So, which one of the following would you prefer state water officials invest more time and resources in pursuing?

Asked only of AZ, CO, NV, NM, UT, WY (N=3,047 respondents)

There is consistent support for extending federal funding for increased rural and tribal water access.

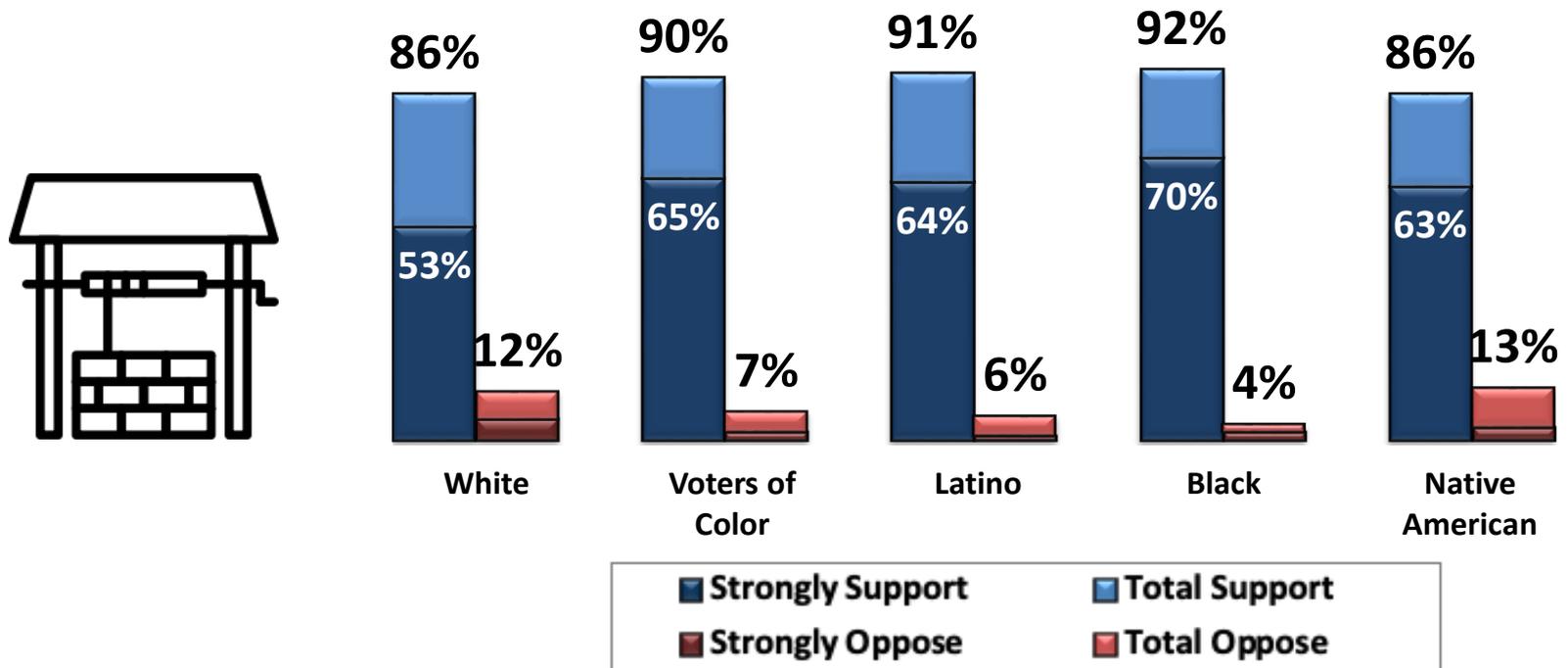
Federal Funding for Rural and Tribal Water and Sanitation



For each one, please tell me if you would support or oppose a similar proposal in your state... **Increasing federal funding to extend running water and sanitation services to rural areas and tribal communities that currently lack access.** (Asked N=1,713 Respondents)

Regardless of ethnicity, most voters support extending federal funding for increased rural and tribal water access.

Federal Funding for Rural and Tribal Water and Sanitation



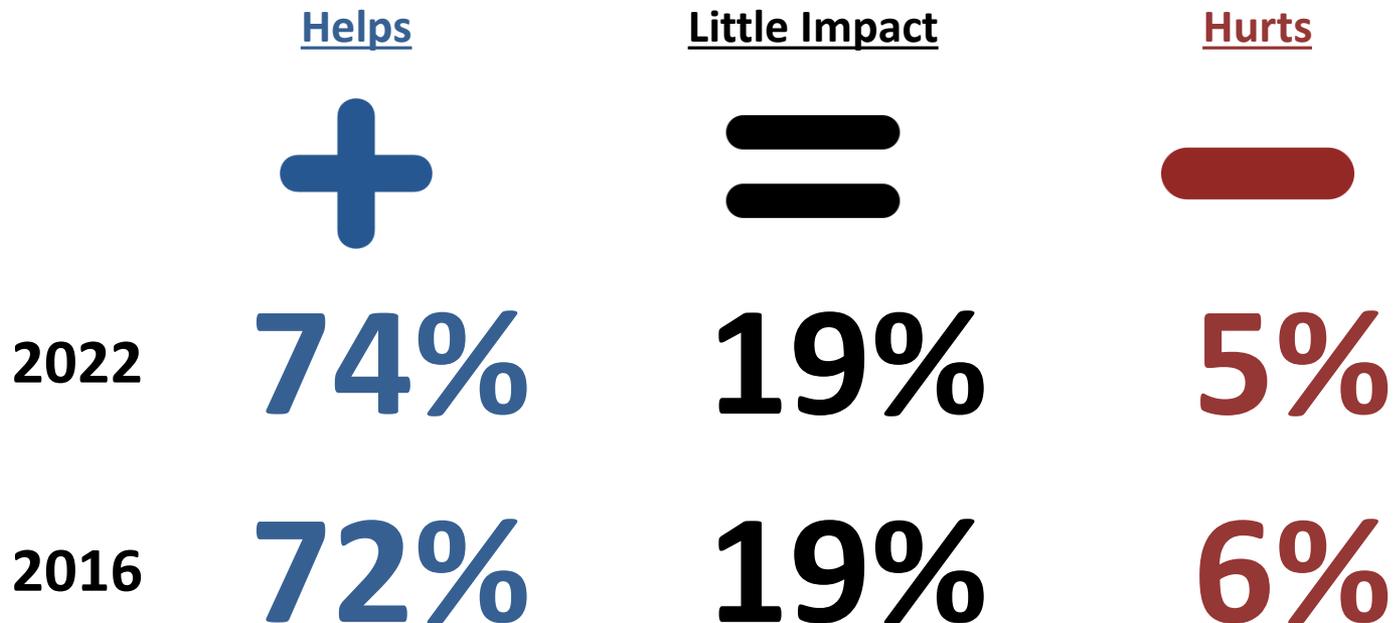
For each one, please tell me if you would support or oppose a similar proposal in your state... **Increasing federal funding to extend running water and sanitation services to rural areas and tribal communities that currently lack access.** (Asked N=1,713 Respondents)



Public Lands



National public lands continue to be perceived as a boost to state economies.



*When you think about the presence of national public lands in STATE such as national parks, national forests, national monuments, or national wildlife refuges, do you think that having such lands helps our economy, hurts our economy, or has little impact on our economy?
Showing 2021 & 2022 data by just 2016 states: AZ, CO, MT, NM, NV, UT & WY*

Two-thirds prefer that their Member of Congress emphasizes protecting resources and natural lands over drilling or mining.

2019

2020

2021

2022

Ensuring we protect sources of clean water, our air quality and wildlife habitat while providing opportunities to visit and recreate on our national public lands.

65%

67%

69%

67%

Ensuring we produce more domestic energy by maximizing the amount of national public lands available for responsible oil and gas drilling and mining.

24%

25%

27%

28%

Which one would you prefer your Member of Congress place more emphasis on in upcoming decisions regarding national public lands?

Respondents also considered how to handle oil and gas production on national public lands.

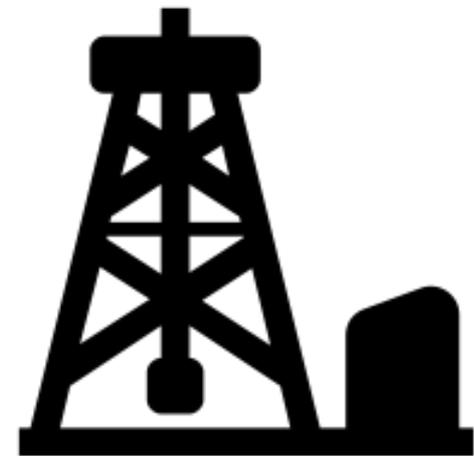
Currently, oil and gas companies lease more than 25 million acres of national public lands from the U.S. government. Oil and gas drilling is already taking place on half that land.

Which one best describes what you think should happen with oil and gas development on national public lands in the future? Do you think that...

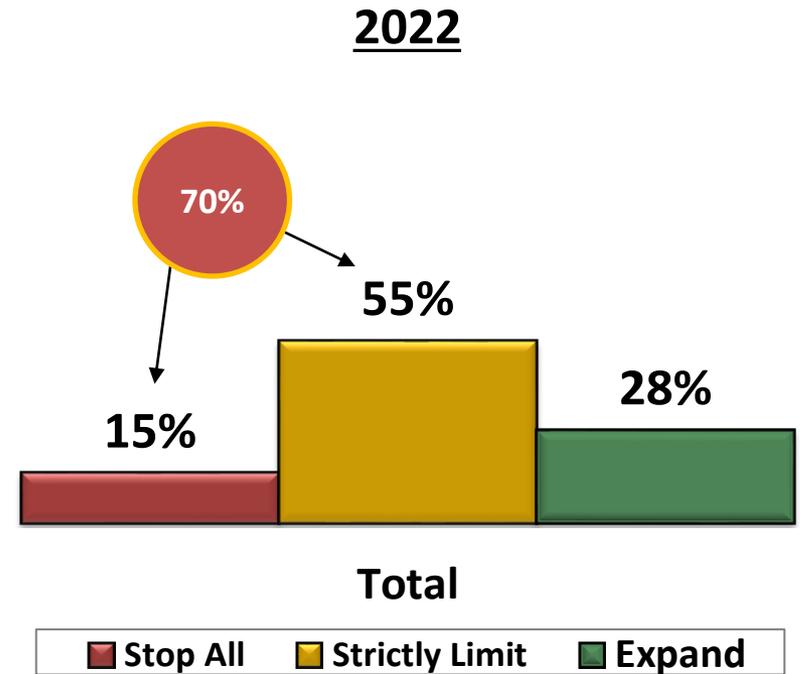
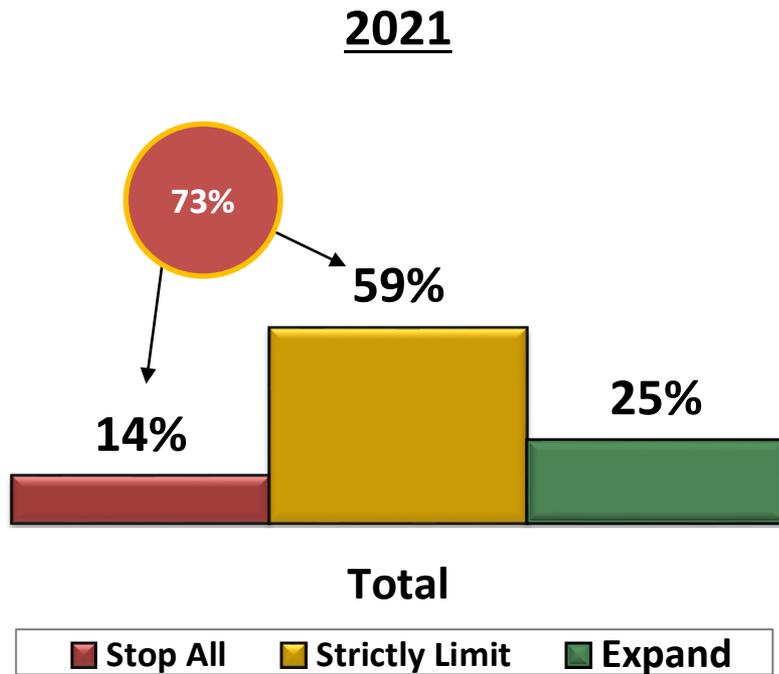
We should stop all oil and gas development on public lands;

We should strictly limit where and how new oil and gas development takes place on public lands, or

We should expand oil and gas development on public lands?



A strong majority continue to want to either stop or strictly limit oil and gas development on public lands.



Which one best describes what you think should happen with oil and gas development on national public lands in the future? Do you think that... we should stop all oil and gas development on public lands, we should strictly limit where and how new oil and gas development takes place on public lands, or we should expand oil and gas development on public lands?

These views are consistent despite the fact that most Westerners say the price of gasoline is also a serious problem.

2022

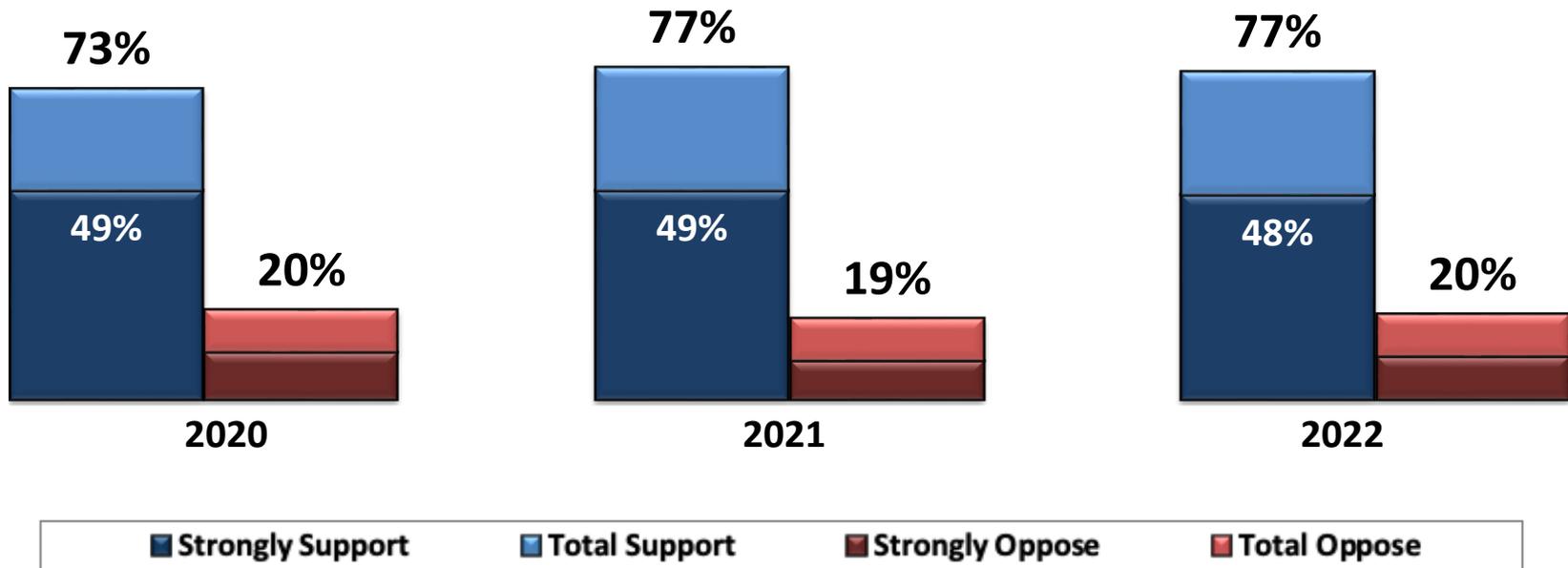


■ Extremely Serious ■ Very Serious ■ Somewhat Serious

*For each one, please tell me if you think it is an extremely serious problem, a very serious problem, a somewhat serious problem, or not a problem in your state... **The price of gasoline***

Enthusiasm for setting a national goal of conserving thirty percent of land and inland waters in America and thirty percent of ocean areas by the year 2030 has remained solid over the last year.

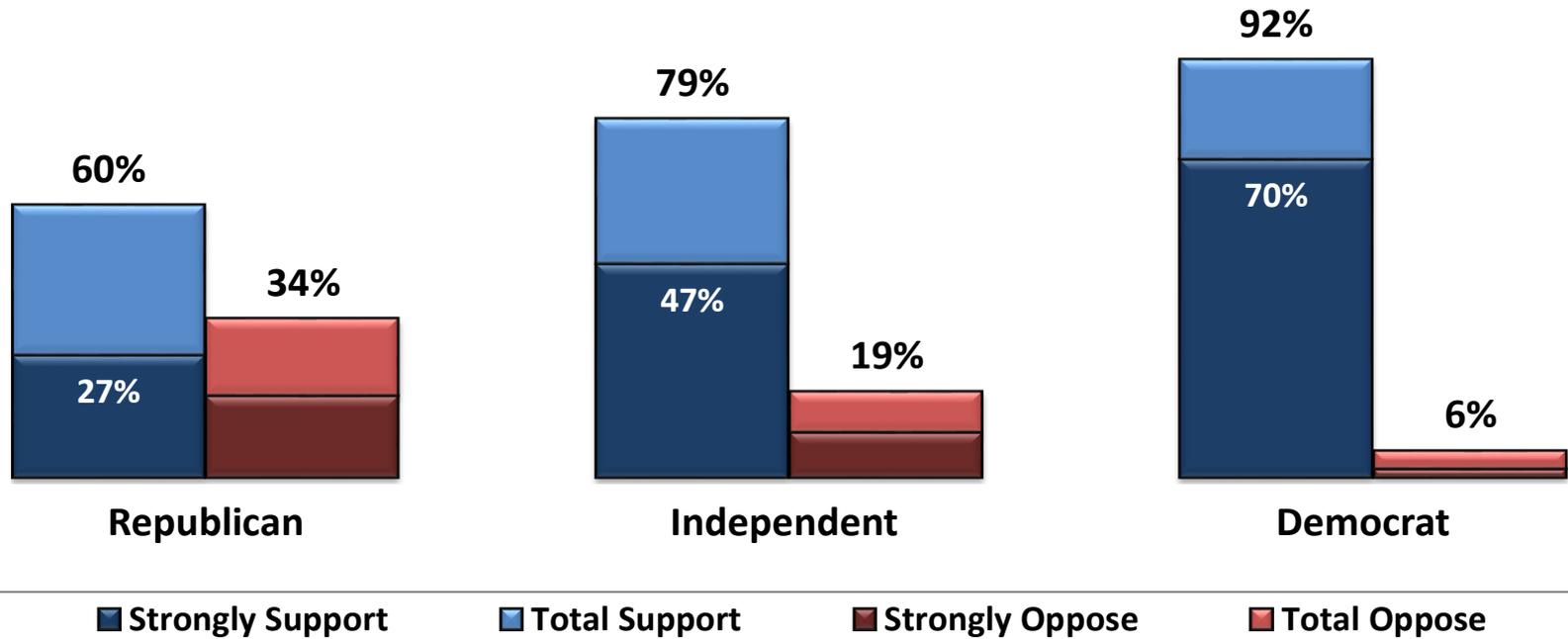
National 30% Conservation Goals



For each one, please tell me if you would support or oppose a similar proposal in your state... **Setting a national goal of conserving thirty percent of land and inland waters in America, and thirty percent of its ocean areas by the year 2030.** (Asked N=1,727 Respondents)

Republicans, Independents, and Democrats all support this conservation goal.

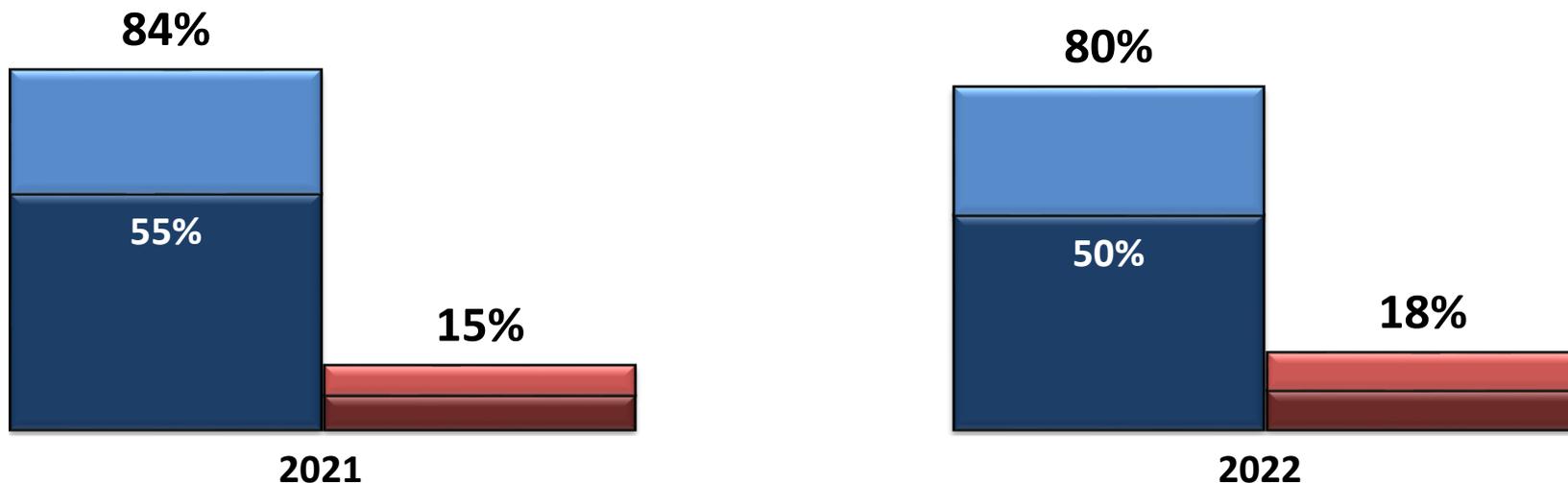
National 30% Conservation Goals



For each one, please tell me if you would support or oppose a similar proposal in your state... **Setting a national goal of conserving thirty percent of land and inland waters in America, and thirty percent of its ocean areas by the year 2030.** (Asked N=1,727 Respondents)

Support for creating new national parks, monuments, wildlife refuges and tribal protected areas is fairly consistent with last year.

Creating New National Parks, Monuments, Wildlife Refuges, and Tribal Protected Areas



■ Strongly Support

■ Total Support

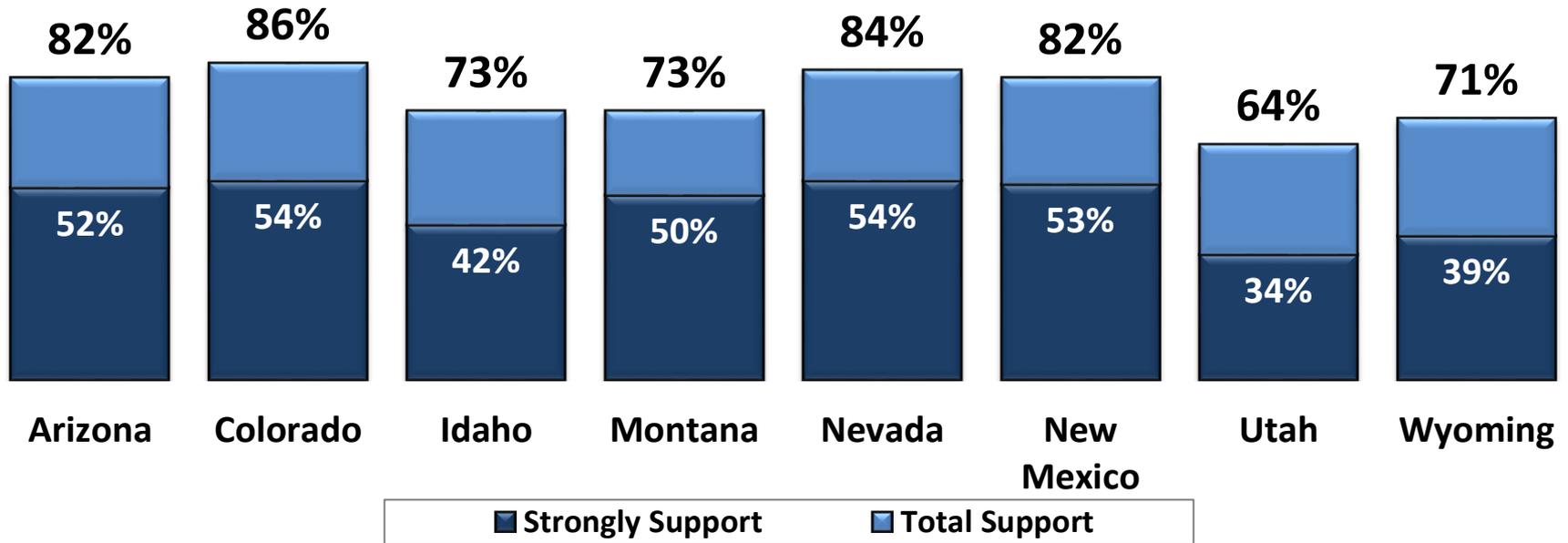
■ Strongly Oppose

■ Total Oppose

*For each one, please tell me if you would support or oppose a similar proposal in your state... **Creating new national parks, national monuments, national wildlife refuges and tribal protected areas to protect historic sites or areas for outdoor recreation.** (Asked N=1,727 Respondents)*

More than three-in-five in each state support creating new protected public lands.

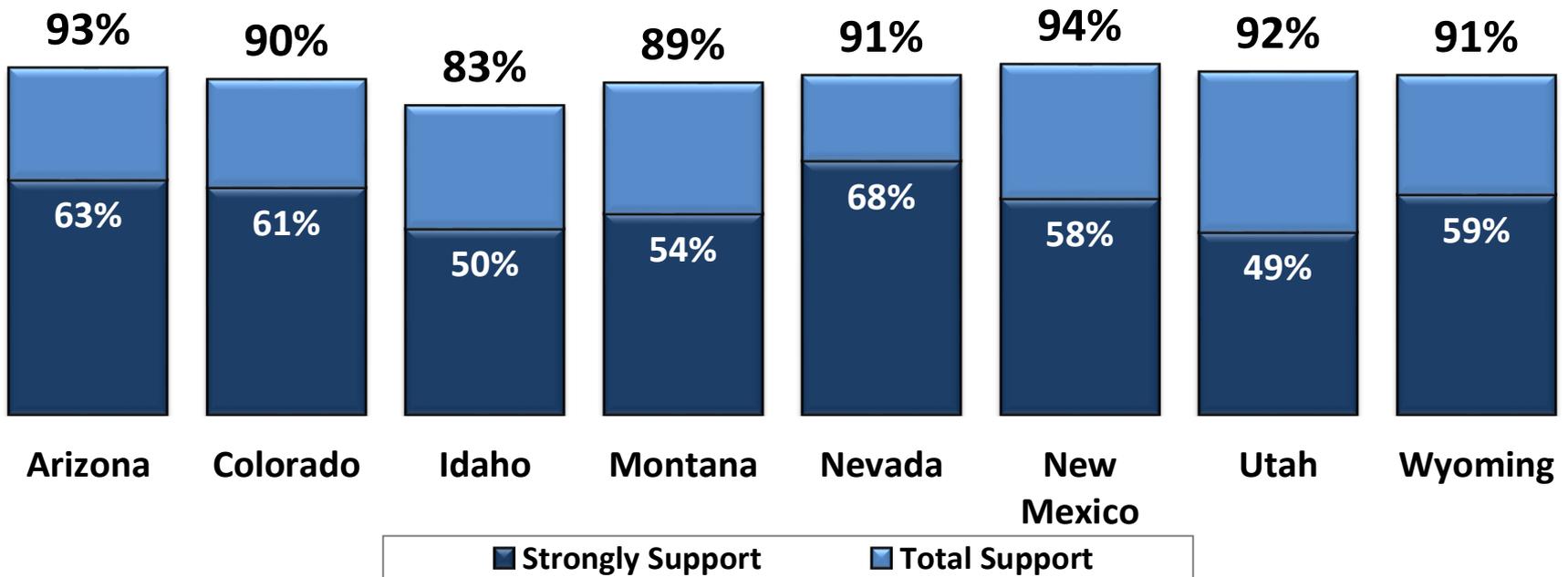
Creating New National Parks, Monuments, Wildlife Refuges, and Tribal Protected Areas



*For each one, please tell me if you would support or oppose a similar proposal in your state... **Creating new national parks, national monuments, national wildlife refuges and tribal protected areas to protect historic sites or areas for outdoor recreation.** (Asked N=1,727 Respondents)*

There is also support across all eight states to address the backlog of infrastructure repairs on national public lands.

Addressing Backlog of Repairs



For each one, please tell me if you would support or oppose a similar proposal in your state... **Addressing the backlog of infrastructure repairs, reducing risk of wildfires, and natural resource protection on national public lands such as National Parks by providing jobs and training to unemployed people.** (Asked N=1,713 Respondents)

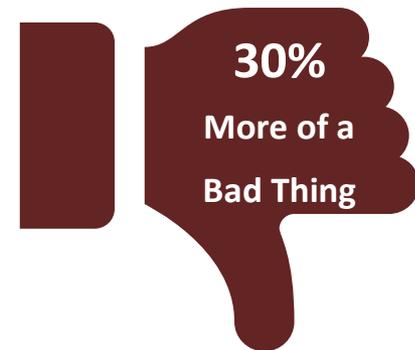
There is overwhelming support in each state where we tested a specific proposal to strengthen protections on public lands.

	Strongly Support	Total Support
Arizona: Enacting legislation that would make permanent the current ban on new uranium and other mining on existing public lands, roughly one million acres, surrounding the Grand Canyon.	42%	61%
Colorado: Protecting existing public lands surrounding the Dolores River Canyon in western Colorado to conserve important wildlife habitat, and safeguard the area's scenic beauty and support outdoor recreation.	60%	89%
Montana: Enacting the Blackfoot Clearwater Stewardship Act in western Montana, which would ensure hunting and fishing access, safeguard streams flowing into the Blackfoot River, add nearly eighty thousand acres of existing public lands to the Bob Marshall, Scapegoat, and Mission Mountains wilderness areas, and create two new recreation areas and sustain timber harvest and habitat restoration.	48%	79%
New Mexico: Designating existing national public lands in the Caja del Rio plateau as a National Conservation Area, which would increase protections for the grasslands and canyons along the Santa Fe River and other small rivers flowing into the Rio Grande. This means these lands would continue to be accessible for outdoor recreation, but a proposed highway and power transmission would not be built.	44%	73%
Nevada: Designating existing public lands just east of the Mojave National Preserve in southern Nevada as the Spirit Mountain national monument, which would ensure outdoor recreation and help preserve sacred Native sites while not allowing energy development or mining on these lands.	55%	79%

There are a number of different proposals addressing public lands, water and wildlife in the West, some of which have already been put into place in some Western states or are being considered. For each one, please tell me if you would support or oppose a similar proposal in your state.

Utah residents agree that Bears Ears protections are a good thing for the state.

As you may know, President Biden recently restored protections for over a million acres of existing public lands in southeastern Utah, known as Bears Ears National Monument. This action was supported by five Native American tribes, and will protect natural areas and sacred Native sites while allowing continued access to camp, fish, hike, hunt, view wildlife, or ride ATVs. It would not allow new mining claims or oil and gas development, but existing leases and grazing rights are not affected. Do you think this is more of a good thing for the state, or more of a bad thing for the state?



Do you think this is more of a good thing for the state, or more of a bad thing for the state?



Energy



Voters increasingly view the environmental impact of oil and gas drilling as a serious problem in their state.



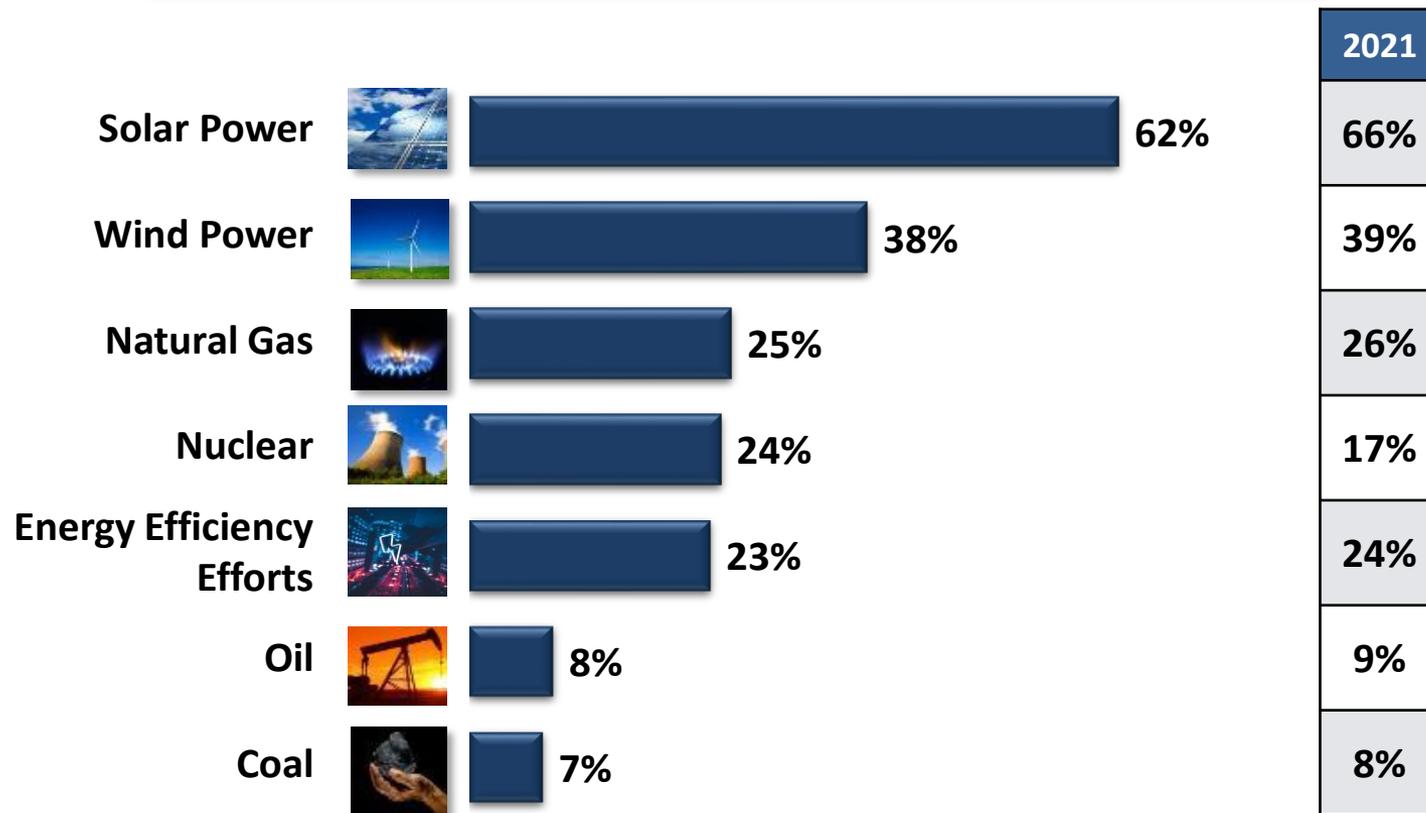
Impact of Oil & Gas Drilling

Extremely Serious
 Very Serious
 Somewhat Serious

For each one, please tell me if you think it is an extremely serious problem, a very serious problem, a somewhat serious problem, or not a problem in your state... **The impact of oil and gas drilling on our land, air, and water** - (Asked N=1,727 Respondents)
 Showing 2020-2022 data by just 2011 states: CO, MT, NM, UT & WY

Voters continue to show enthusiasm for solar and wind power.

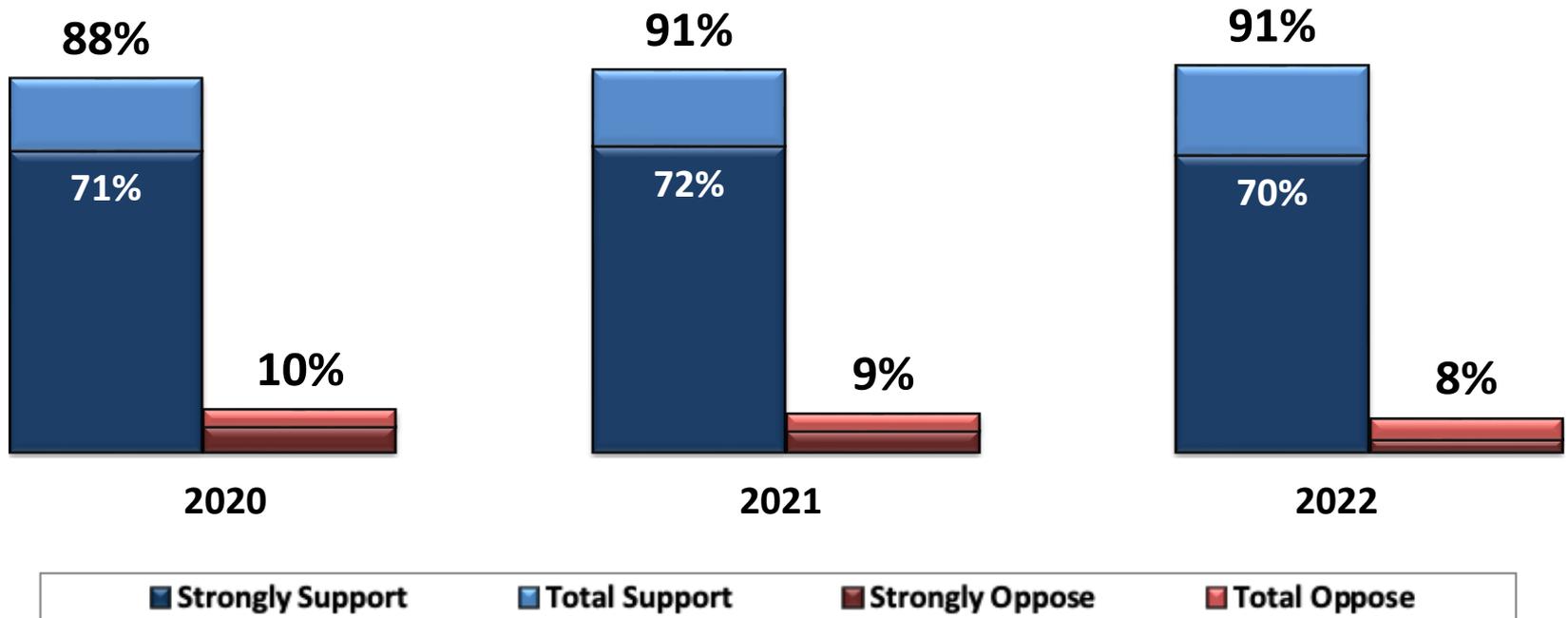
Energy Sources Voters Want to Encourage the Use Of



Which one or two of the following sources of energy would you want to encourage the use of here in STATE?

Requirements to reduce methane leaks continue to be a very popular proposal.

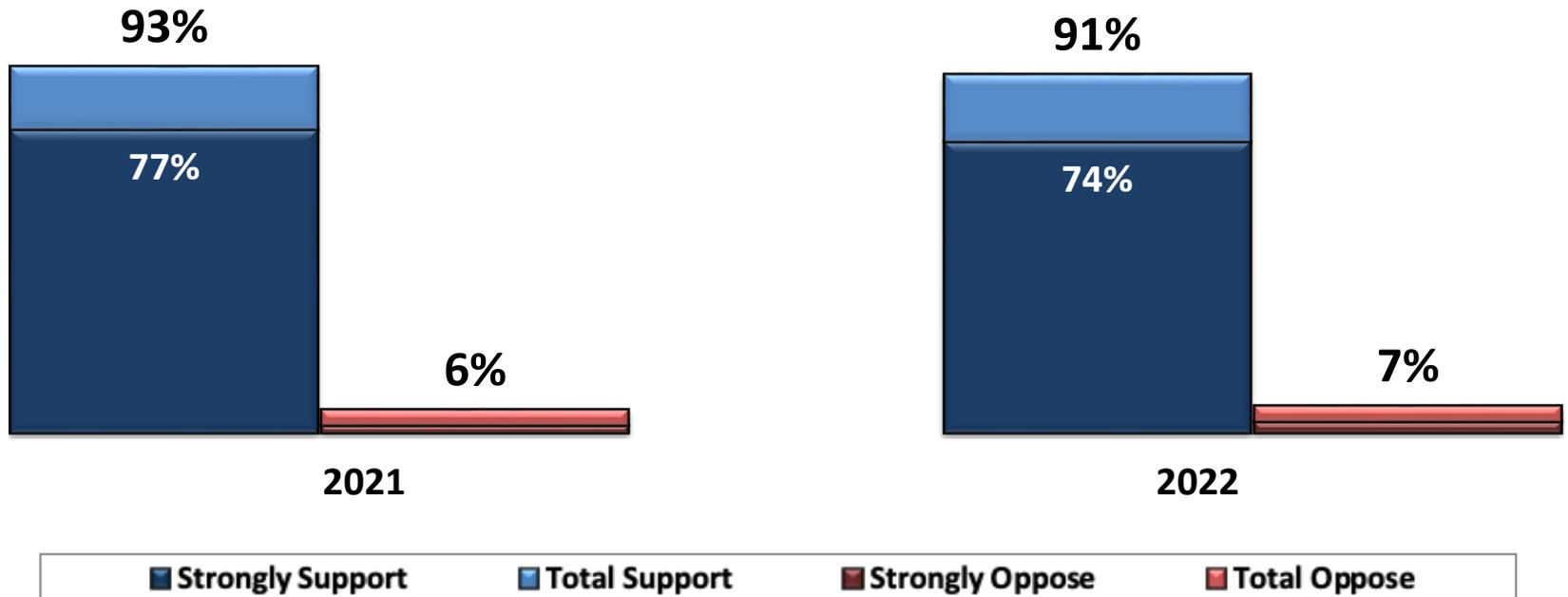
Requiring Oil & Gas Companies to Reduce Methane Leaks



*For each one, please tell me if you would support or oppose a similar proposal in your state... **Requiring oil and gas companies to use updated equipment and technology to prevent leaks of methane gas and other pollution into the air.** (Asked N=1,713 Respondents)*

Placing the onus on companies rather than government to fund restoration following drilling is a no-brainer for Western voters.

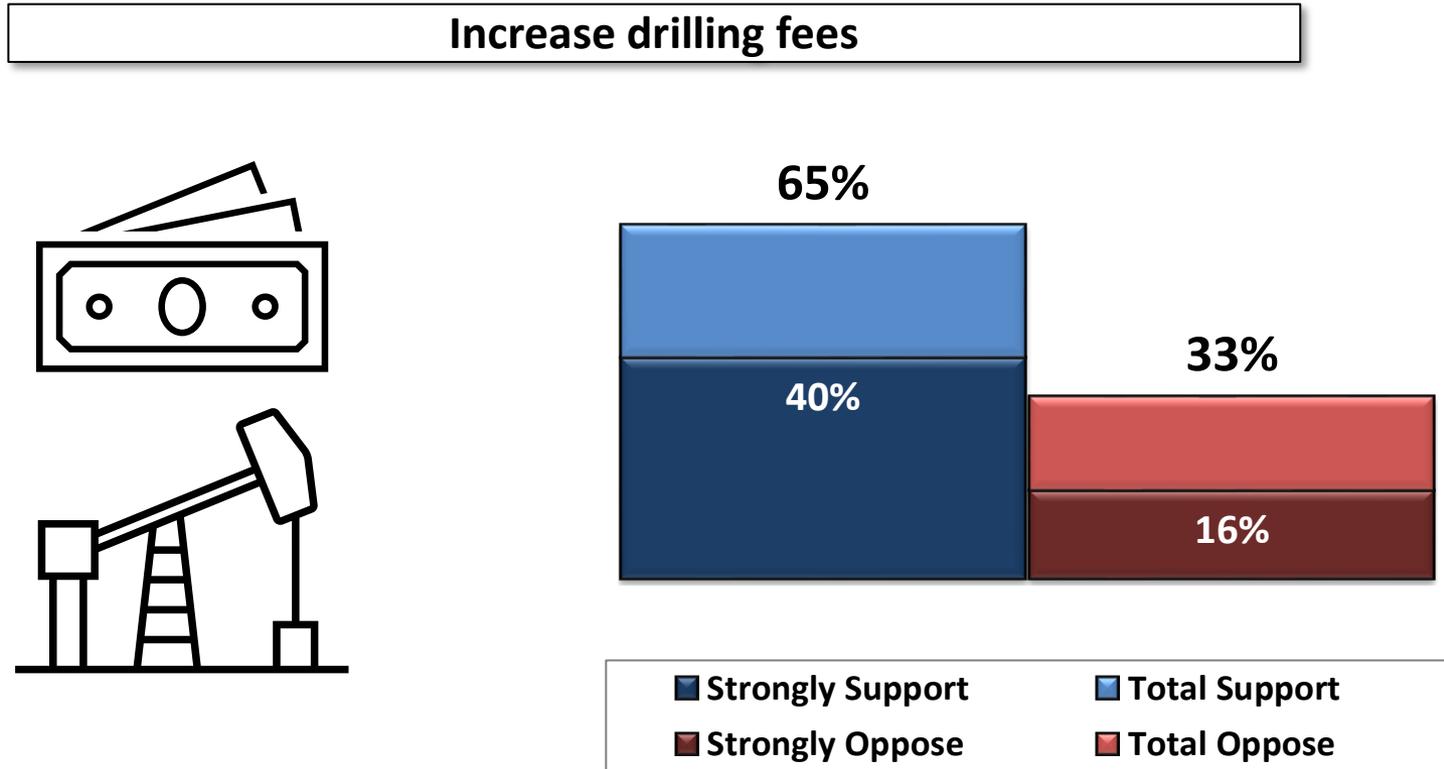
Requiring Oil & Gas Companies to Pay For Cleanup/Restoration



For each one, please tell me if you would support or oppose a similar proposal in your state... **Requiring oil and gas companies, rather than federal and state governments, to pay for all of the clean-up and land restoration costs after drilling is finished.**

(Asked N=1,727 Respondents)

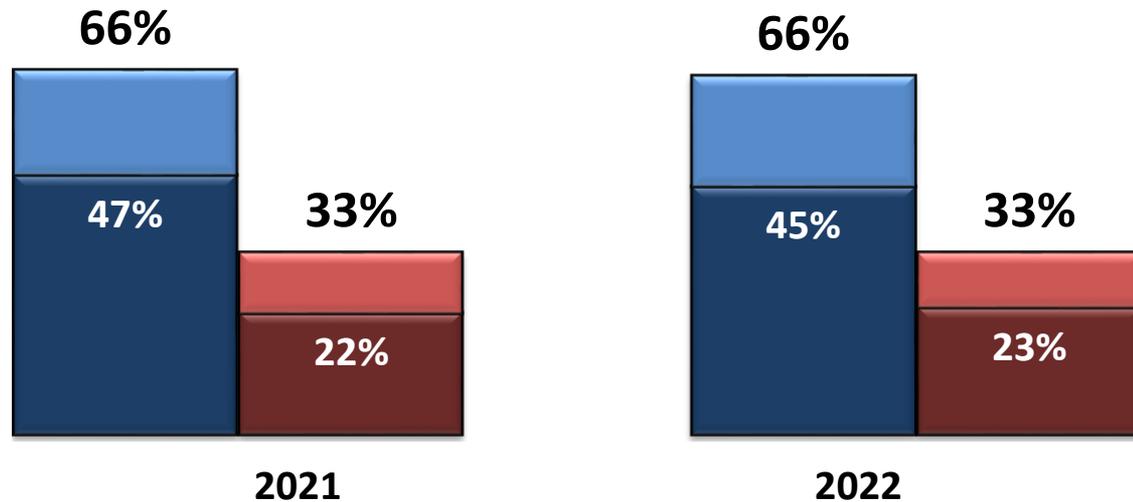
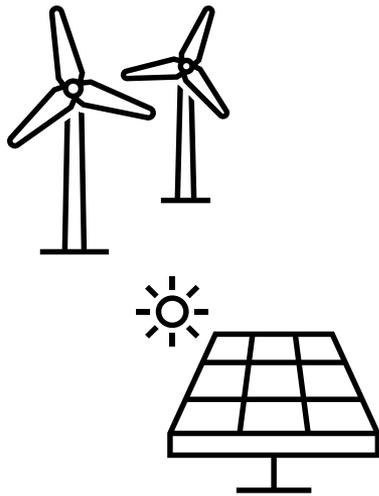
Over six-in-ten Western voters support increasing fees for drilling on national public lands.



*For each one, please tell me if you would support or oppose a similar proposal in your state...
Increasing the fees that oil and gas companies pay to have the opportunity to drill on national public lands. (Asked N=1,713 Respondents)*

Two-in-three continue to support a plan to transition 100% of energy production to renewable sources in the next ten to fifteen years.

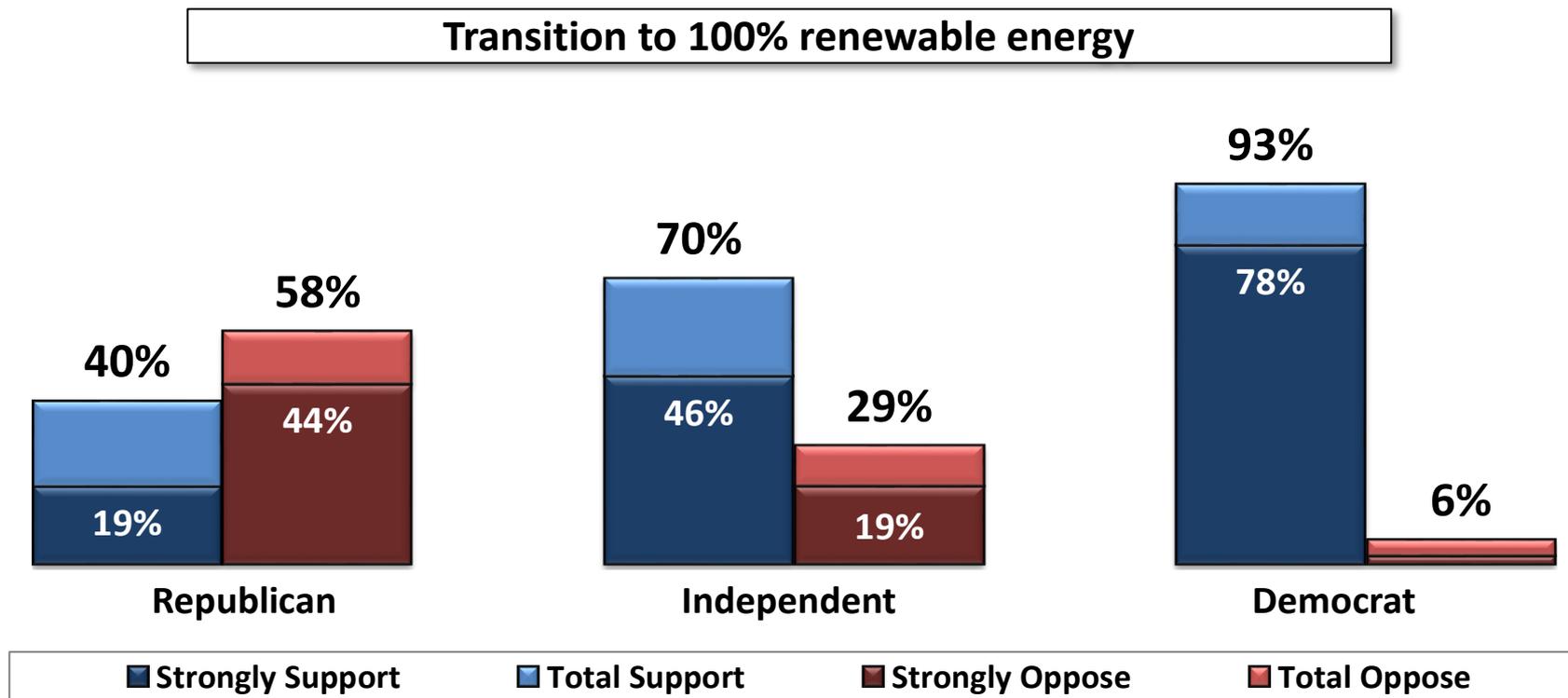
Transition to 100% renewable energy



■ Strongly Support ■ Total Support
■ Strongly Oppose ■ Total Oppose

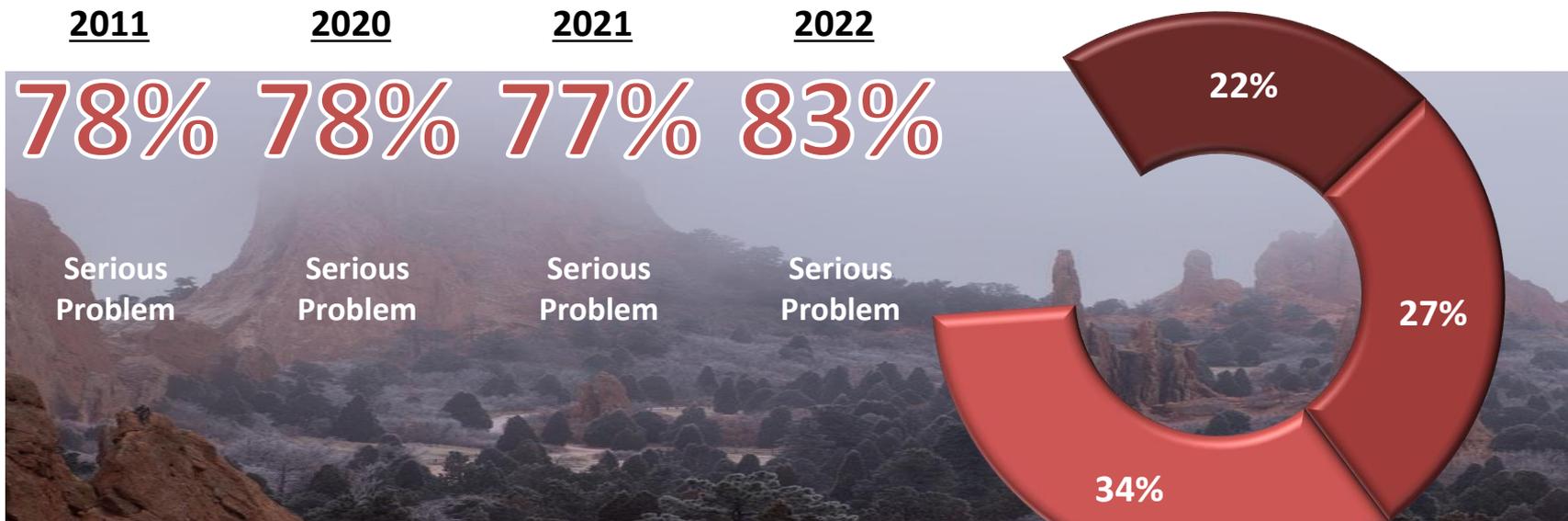
For each one, please tell me if you would support or oppose a similar proposal in your state...
Gradually transitioning to one hundred percent of our energy being produced from clean, renewable sources like solar and wind over the next ten to fifteen years. (Asked N=1,713 Respondents)

Moving to 100% renewable energy has more support among Independents and Democrats, although two-in-five Republicans support it too.



*For each one, please tell me if you would support or oppose a similar proposal in your state...
 Gradually transitioning to one hundred percent of our energy being produced from clean, renewable sources like solar and wind
 over the next ten to fifteen years. (Asked N=1,713 Respondents)*

Some appeal of renewables may be due to air pollution continuing to be seen as a serious problem.

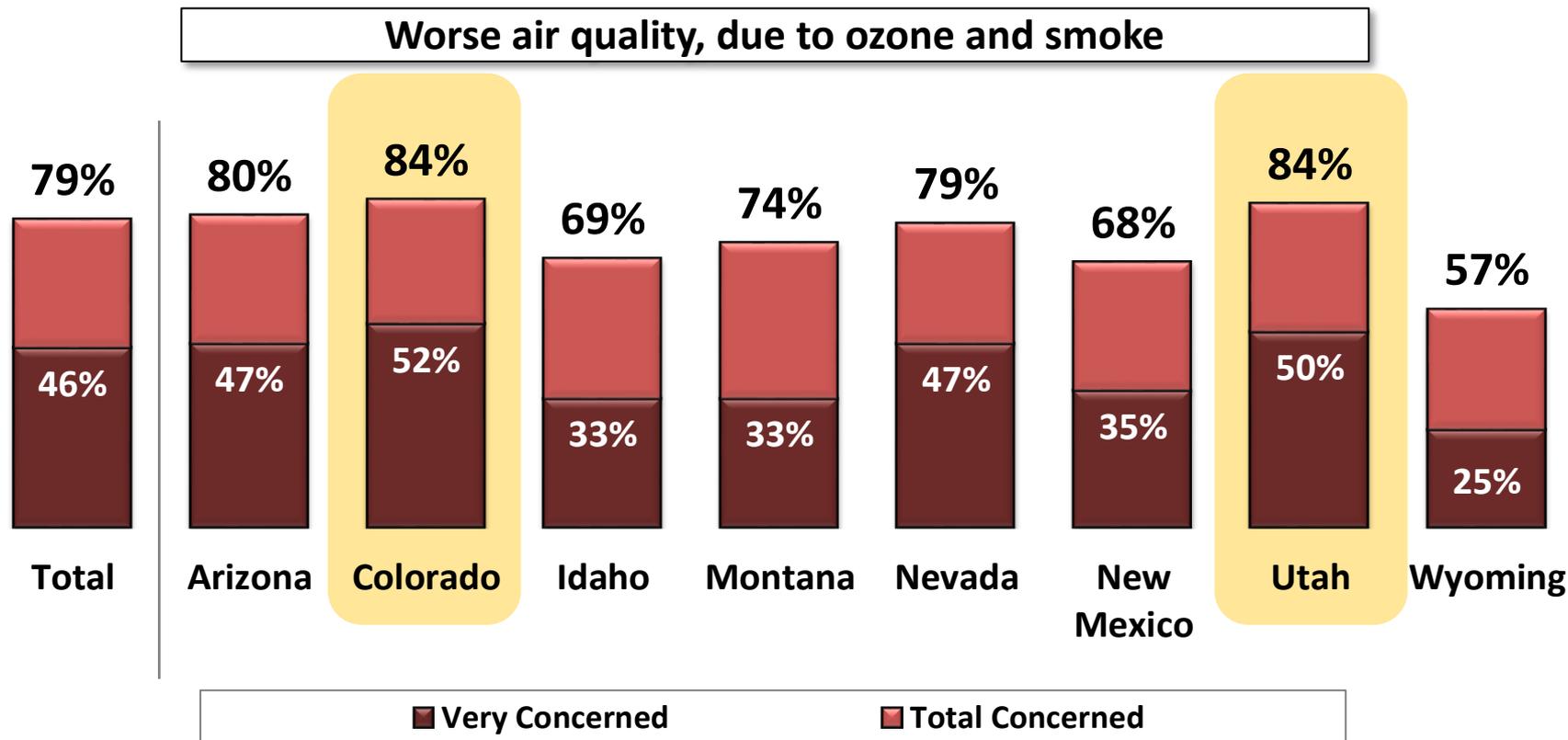


Air Pollution & Smog

■ Extremely Serious ■ Very Serious ■ Somewhat Serious

For each one, please tell me if you think it is an extremely serious problem, a very serious problem, a somewhat serious problem, or not a problem in your state... **Air pollution and smog** - (Asked N=1,727 Respondents)
Showing 2022 data by just 2011 states: CO, MT, NM, UT & WY

Worries about air quality are highest in Colorado and Utah, followed closely by Arizona and Nevada.



The following are different events that have happened recently in STATE. For each one, please indicate whether you are very concerned about that, somewhat concerned, not too concerned, or not at all concerned about it: **Worse air quality, due to ozone and smoke**



Outdoor Recreation



Hiking and camping are by far the most common outdoor activities.



74%

Hiking/Running/
Walking



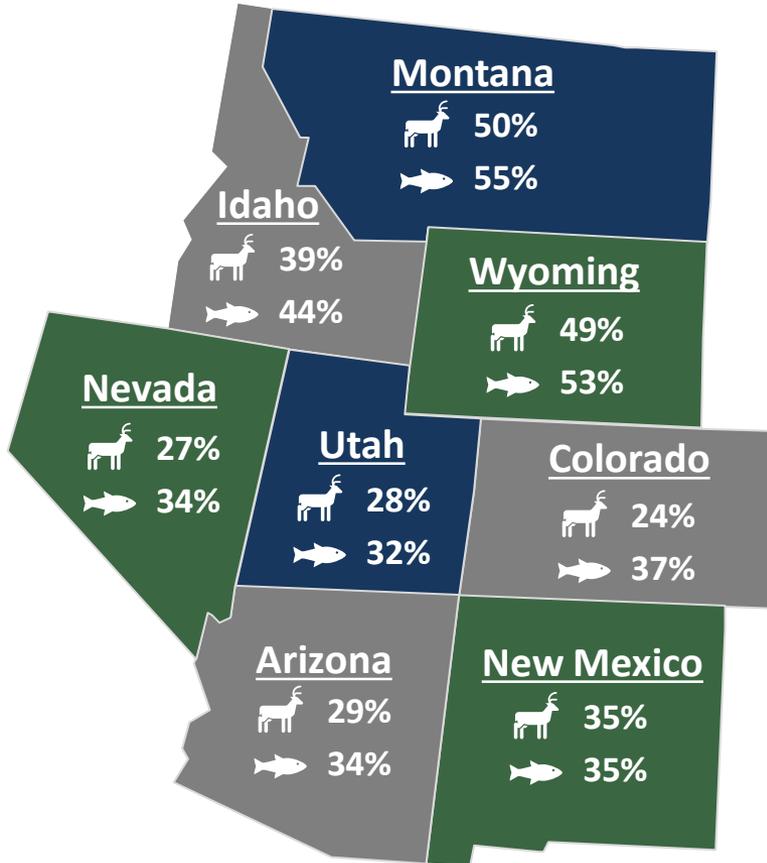
49%

Camping

Picnicking	37%
Bird Watching/ Viewing Wildlife	35%
Boating/Rafting/Kayaking	29%
Off-Road/Snowmobile	23%
Skiing/Snowshoeing	22%
Mountain/Trail Biking	20%
Hunting/Fishing	16%
Sports	10%

Which of the following types of outdoor recreation, if any, do you participate in regularly?

Many Western voters consider themselves to be a hunter or angler too, especially in northern states.



Overall for West

44% Total Hunter/Angler



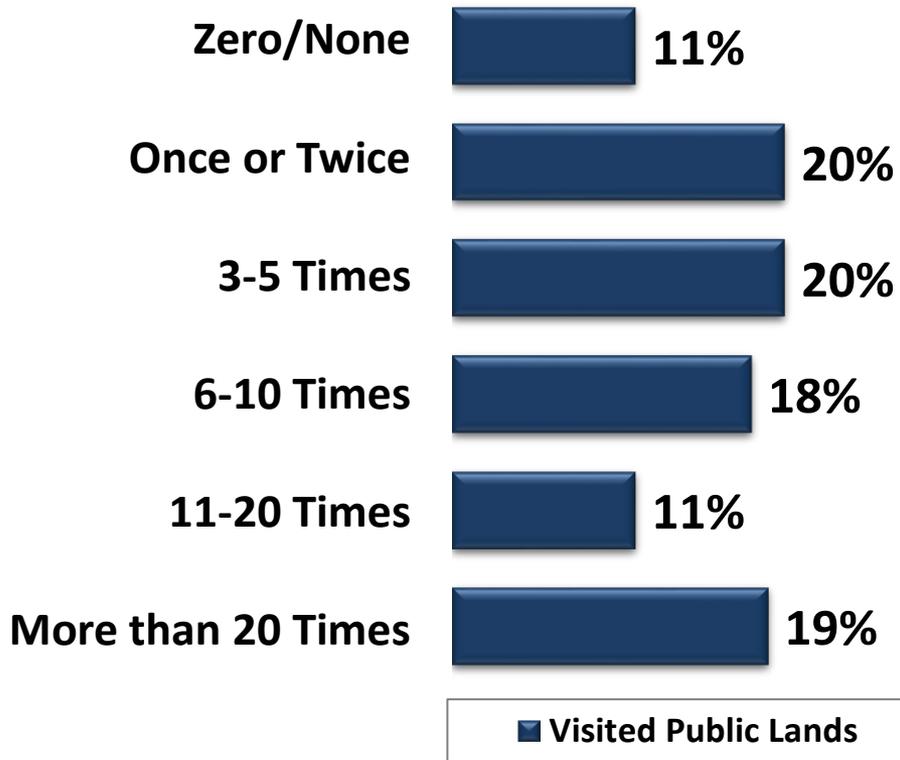
30% Hunter



37% Angler

Do you consider yourself a hunter, an angler or both?

In the last year, 88 percent of voters have visited national public lands, with many frequently visiting them.



Over the past year, how many times do you think you have visited national public lands such as national parks, national forests, national monuments, national wildlife refuges, or other national public lands?

Black voters are less likely to have visited national public lands compared to others.

<i>Visited Park</i>	Total	White	Latino	Black	Native Am	Voters of Color
Zero/None	11%	10%	11%	23%	14%	14%
Once or Twice	20%	19%	25%	28%	22%	25%
3-5 Times	20%	21%	19%	22%	19%	19%
6-10 Times	18%	17%	22%	13%	17%	19%
11-20 Times	11%	12%	12%	7%	9%	10%
More Than 20 Times	19%	21%	11%	7%	19%	12%

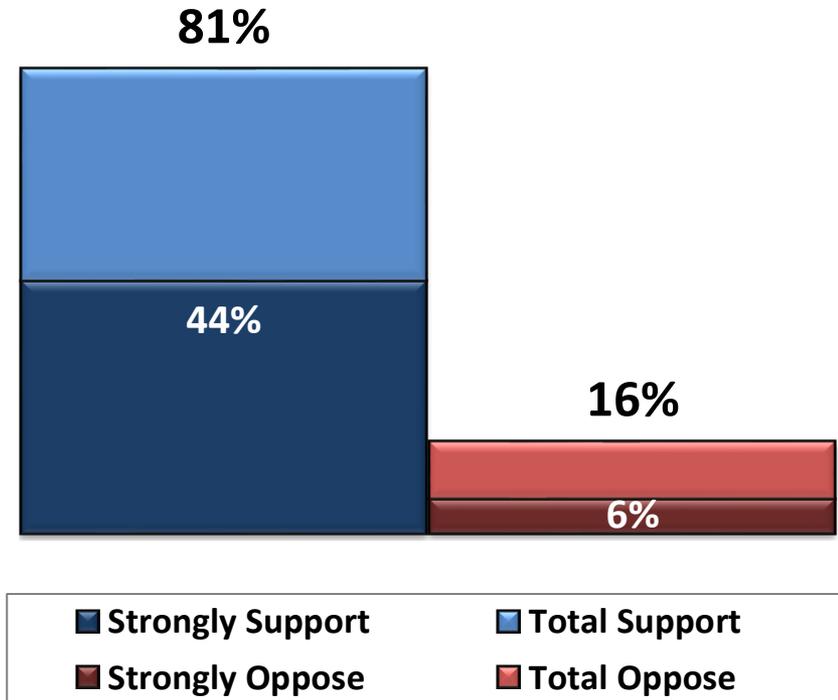
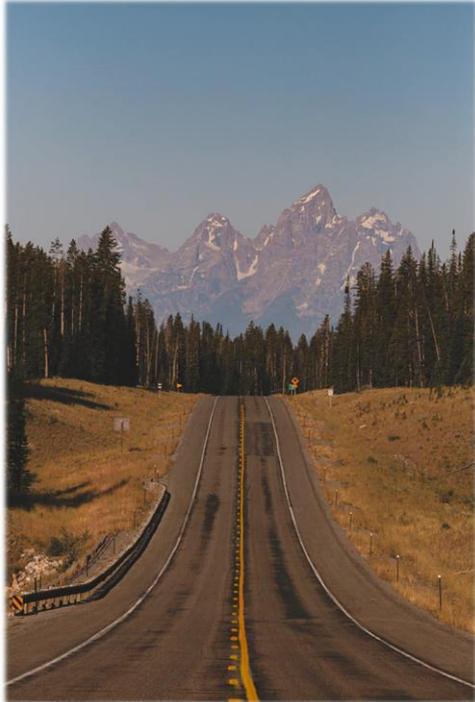
Over the past year, how many times do you think you have visited national public lands such as national parks, national forests, national monuments, national wildlife refuges, or other national public lands?

Nearly half of Westerners say they have changed where and when they recreate outdoors due to crowding, and more than one-in-four have changed due to impacts of climate change.

<i>Reason for Change</i>	Total	AZ	CO	ID	MT	NV	NM	UT	WY
Crowding and more people	48%	45%	58%	52%	50%	37%	42%	53%	47%
Changes in the climate, such as fires or less snow or water	26%	24%	31%	23%	33%	26%	22%	26%	19%

In the last two or three years, have you made changes in where or when you recreate outdoors, due to ...

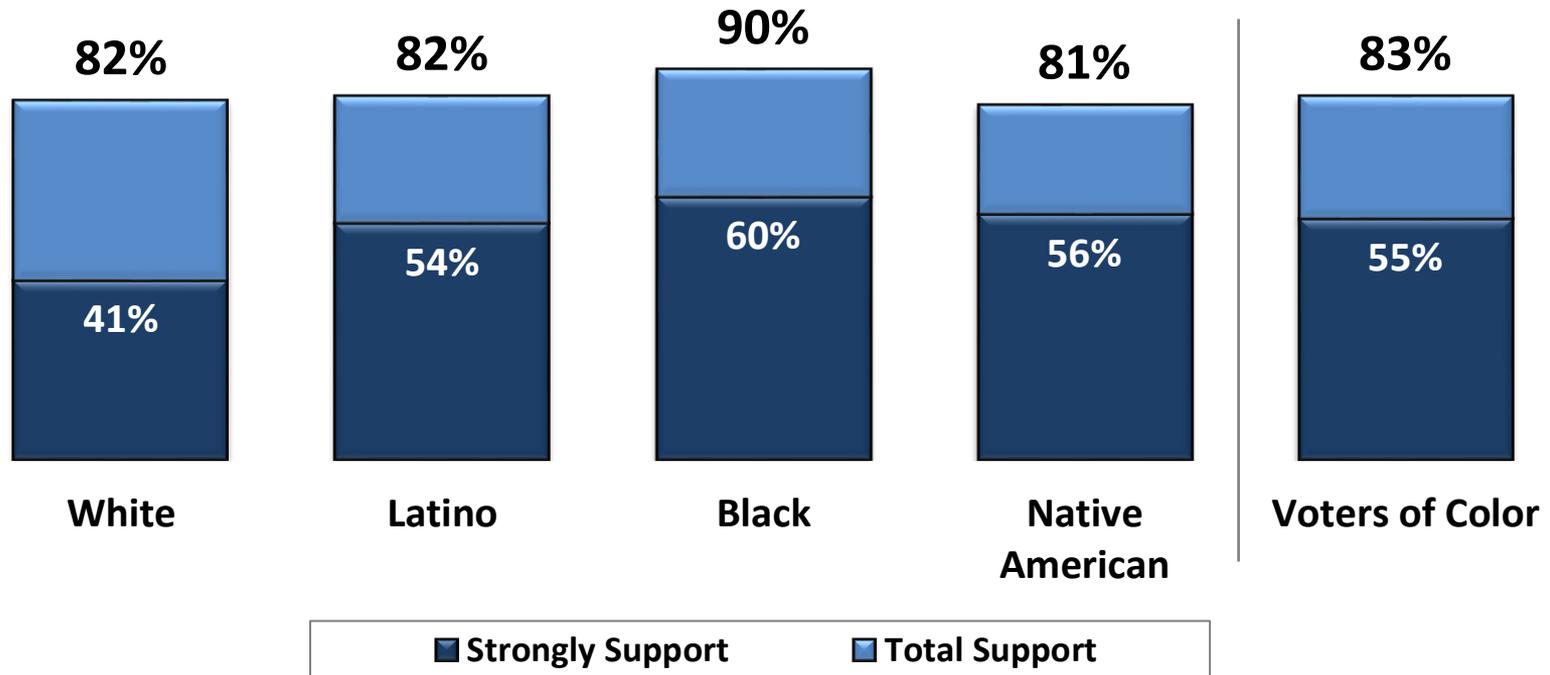
Voters overwhelmingly support directing funding to increase access for those that have historically lacked access to safe and nearby parks and natural areas.



For each one, please tell me if you would support or oppose a similar proposal in your state...

Providing funding to ensure more communities, especially those that have historically lacked access, have safe and nearby parks and natural areas. (Asked N=1,727 Respondents)

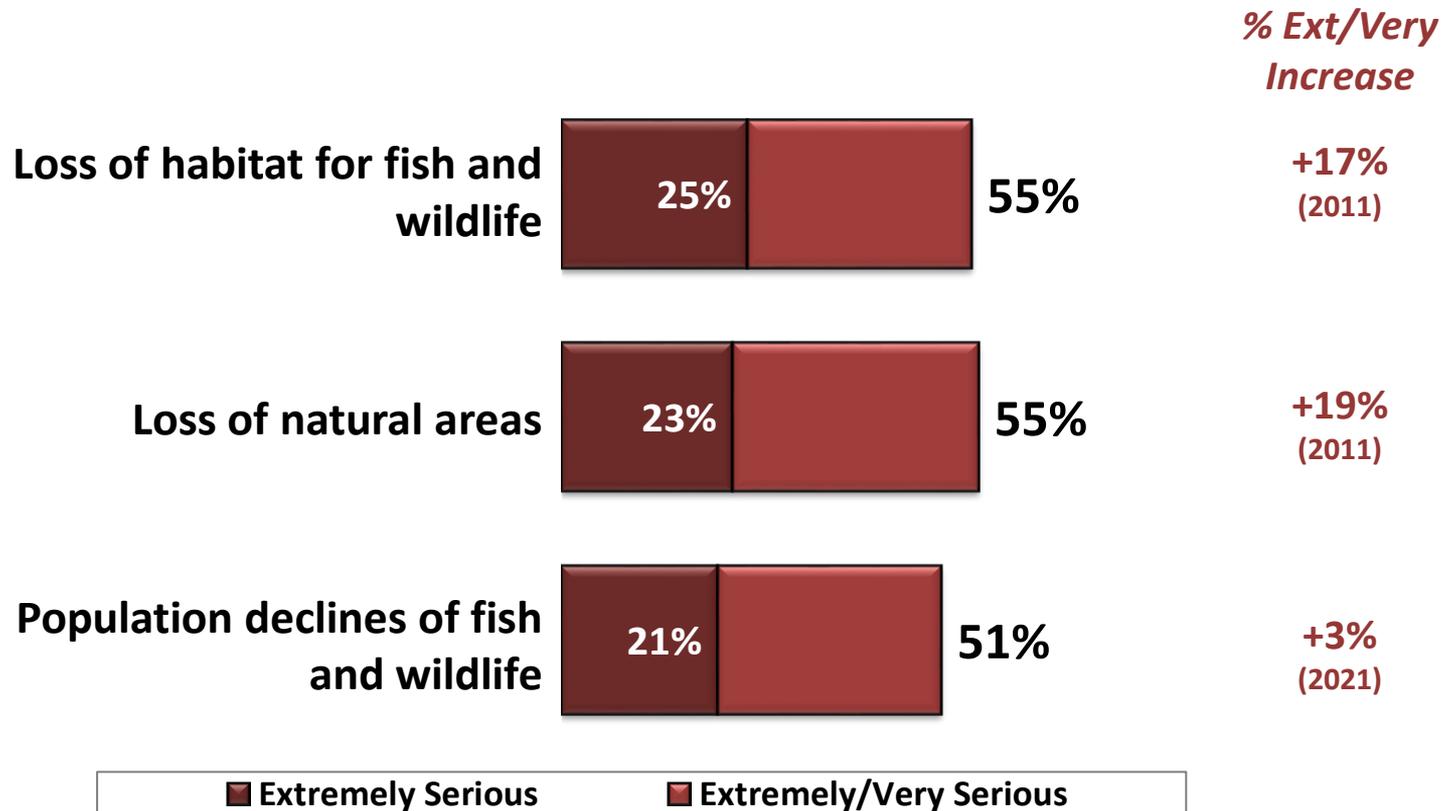
Support is strongest among Black voters.



For each one, please tell me if you would support or oppose a similar proposal in your state...

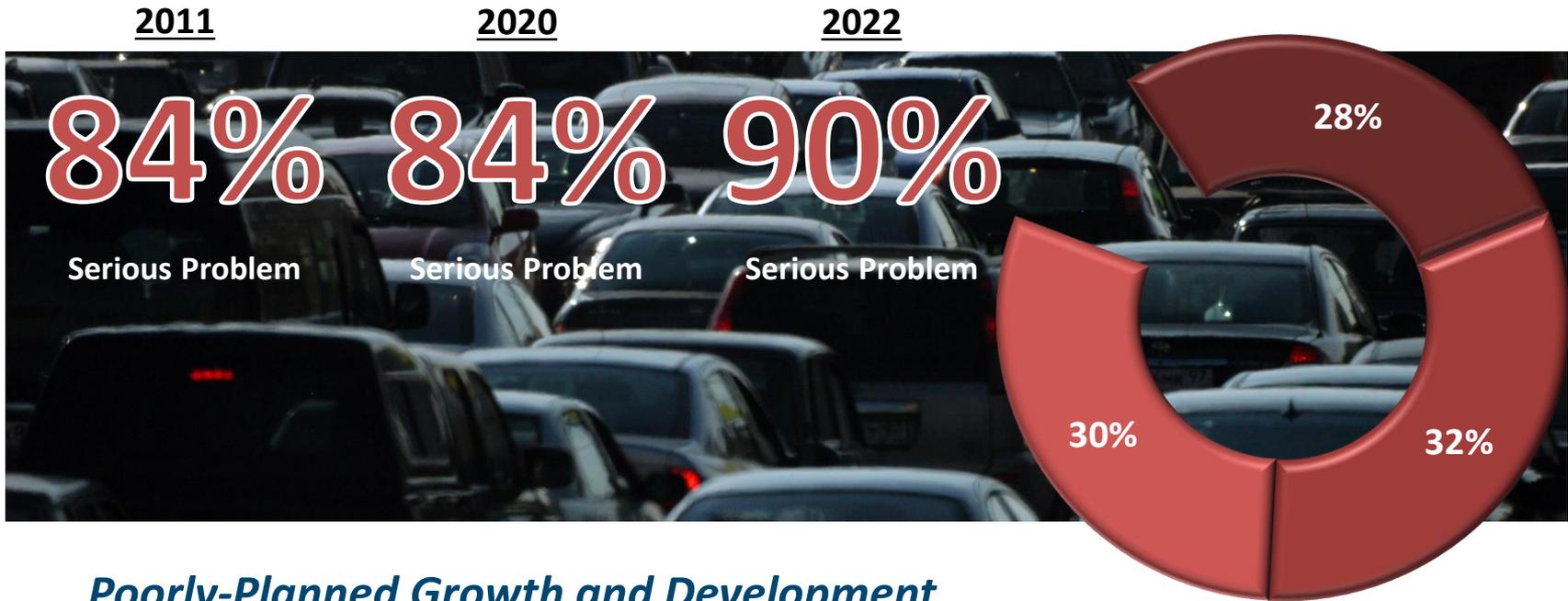
Providing funding to ensure more communities, especially those that have historically lacked access, have safe and nearby parks and natural areas. (Asked N=1,727 Respondents)

Concern about loss of natural areas has risen over the last decade; majority has concerns about declining numbers of wildlife too.



For each one, please tell me if you think it is an extremely serious problem, a very serious problem, a somewhat serious problem, or not a problem in your state... **Showing "loss of habitat for fish and wildlife" and "loss of natural areas" by just 2011 states: CO, MT, NM, UT & WY**

Poorly-planned growth and development is also now perceived as a problem by almost all voters.



Poorly-Planned Growth and Development

■ Extremely Serious ■ Very Serious ■ Somewhat Serious

For each one, please tell me if you think it is an extremely serious problem, a very serious problem, a somewhat serious problem, or not a problem in your state... **Poorly-planned growth and development**
Showing 2020 and 2022 data by just 2011 states: CO, MT, NM, UT & WY

Western voters are unanimous in saying that the rising cost of living is a serious problem. Two-in-five say it is an extremely serious problem.

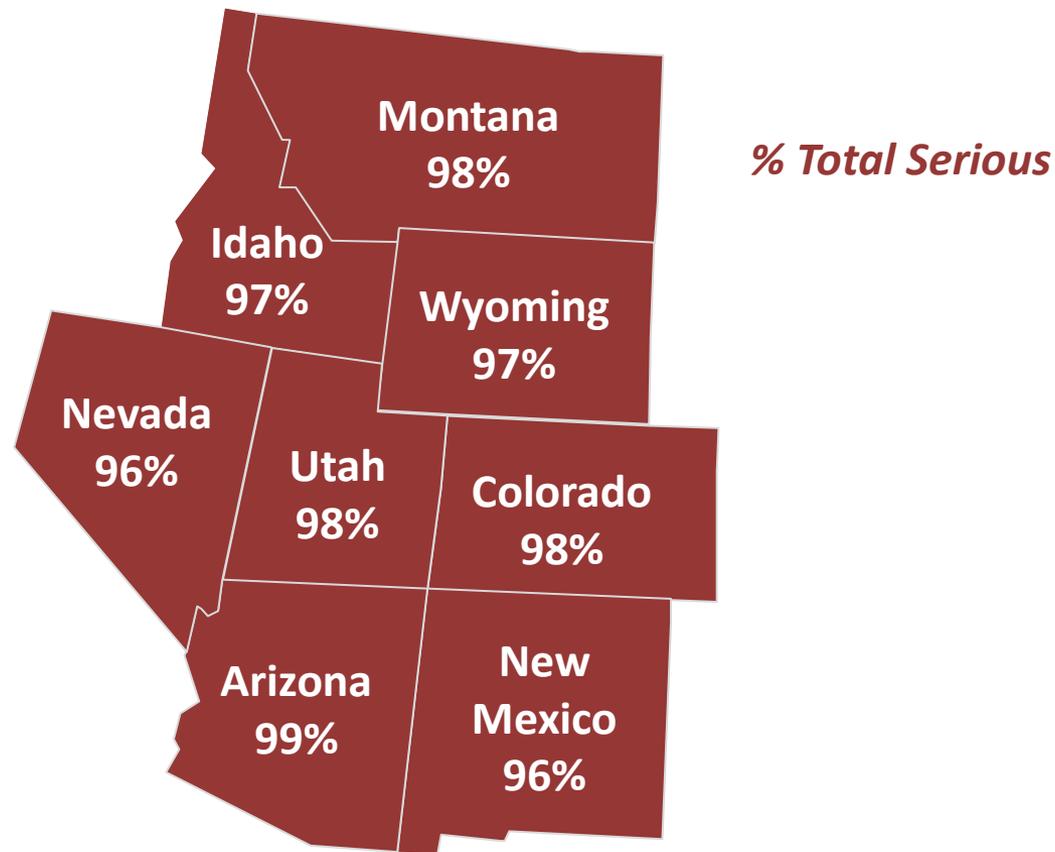
2022



■ Extremely Serious ■ Very Serious ■ Somewhat Serious

*For each one, please tell me if you think it is an extremely serious problem, a very serious problem, a somewhat serious problem, or not a problem in your state... **The rising cost of living** (Asked of N=1,713 Respondents)*

This sentiment is shared in every state and across every key sub-groups.



For each one, please tell me if you think it is an extremely serious problem, a very serious problem, a somewhat serious problem, or not a problem in your state... **The rising cost of living** (Asked of N=1,713)



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COLORADO COLLEGE
**State of the
Rockies Project**

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The 2022 Survey Covered:

- ❖ The Future of Nature, including deepening concerns and an increase in those saying an elected official's stance on conservation policy will factor into their decisions this year
- ❖ Water, including increasing concern over water supplies, rivers and drought
- ❖ Public Lands, including prioritization of conservation value over energy extraction
- ❖ Energy, including policies to transition to renewable energy
- ❖ Climate Change, including tracking views of the problem and how recreation has been impacted
- ❖ Wildfires, including increasing concern about smoke and air quality
- ❖ Core perceptions of the economy

We tested a significant number of policies...

Addressing the backlog of infrastructure repairs, reducing risk of wildfires, and natural resource protection on national public lands such as National Parks by providing jobs and training to unemployed people.

Providing funding to ensure more communities, especially those that have historically lacked access, have safe and nearby parks and natural areas.

Requiring oil and gas companies to use updated equipment and technology to prevent leaks of methane gas and other pollution into the air.

Requiring oil and gas companies, rather than federal and state governments, to pay for all of the clean-up and land restoration costs after drilling is finished.

Increasing the fees that oil and gas companies pay to have the opportunity to drill on national public lands.

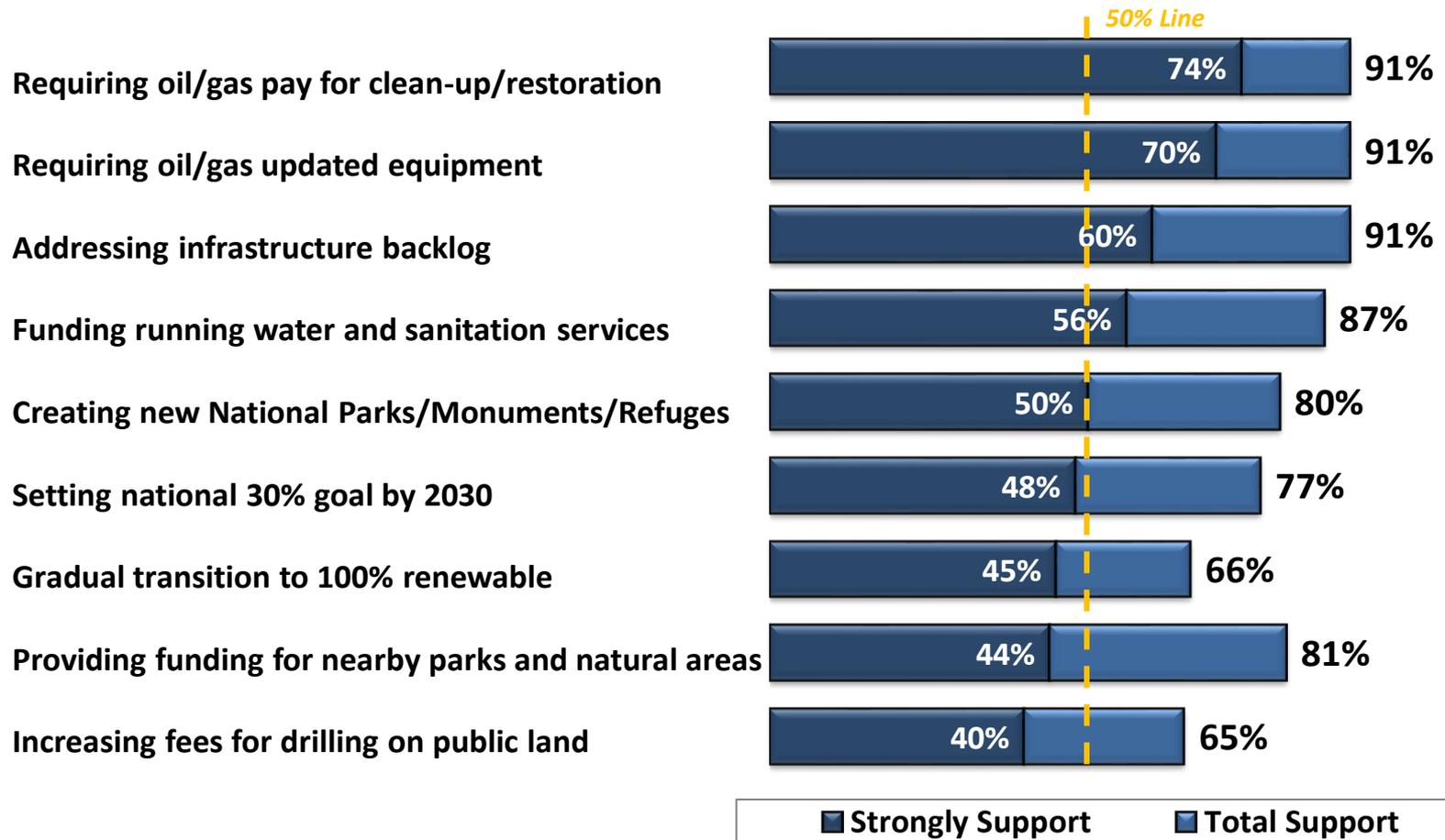
Setting a national goal of conserving thirty percent of land and inland waters in America, and thirty percent of its ocean areas by the year 2030.

Gradually transitioning to one hundred percent of our energy being produced from clean, renewable sources like solar and wind over the next ten to fifteen years.

Creating new national parks, national monuments, national wildlife refuges and tribal protected areas to protect historic sites or areas for outdoor recreation.

Increasing federal funding to extend running water and sanitation services to rural areas and tribal communities that currently lack access.

There is strong consensus on this pro-conservation agenda, with almost two-thirds supporting every pro-conservation policy tested.



For each one, please tell me if you would support or oppose a similar proposal in your state...