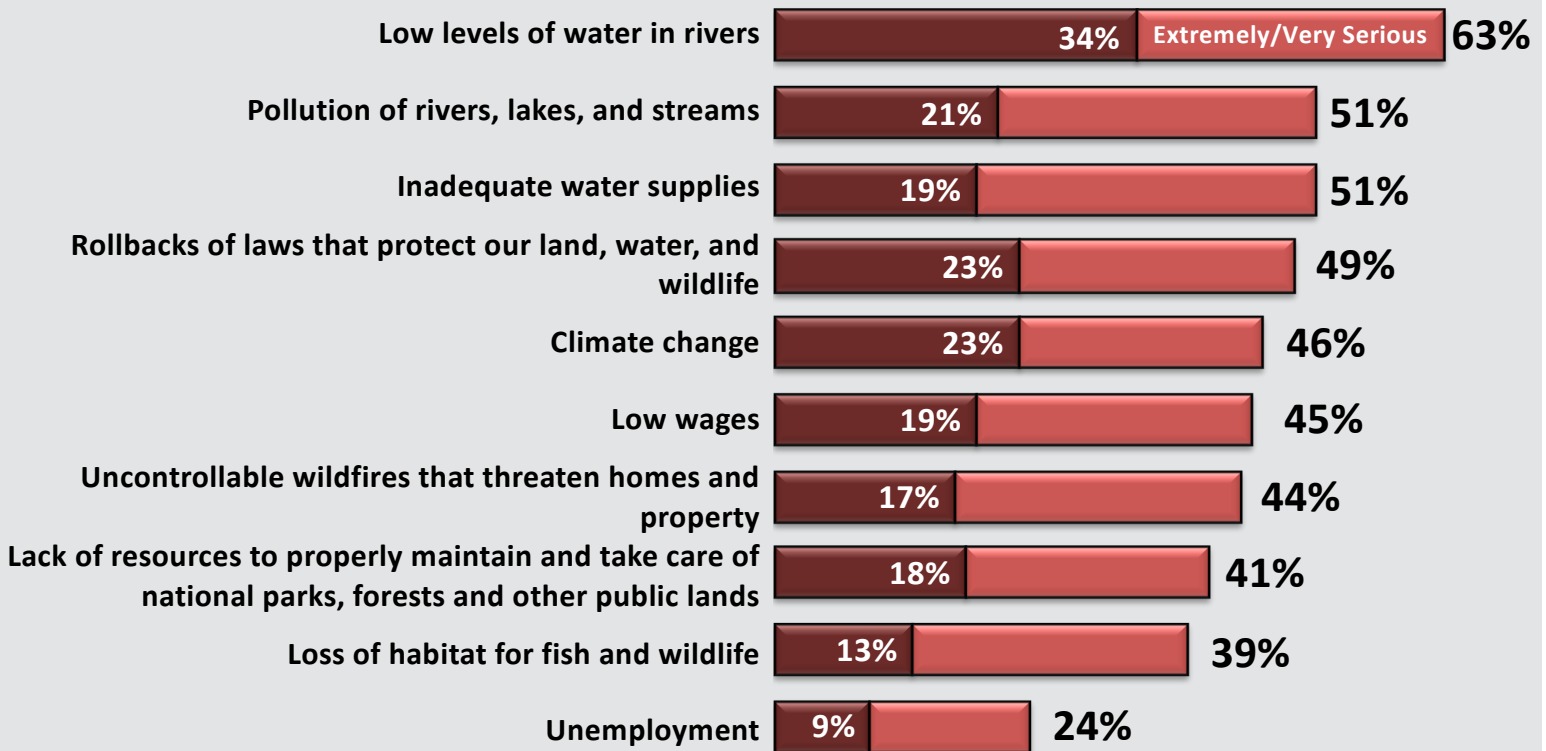


# Water in the West

***Water-related concerns top the list of most serious problems for voters in the West.***

Water-related concerns, such as low levels of water in rivers, water quality, and inadequate water supplies outweigh economic issues and other conservation concerns across the region.

## Problems Ranked by % Extremely/Very Serious

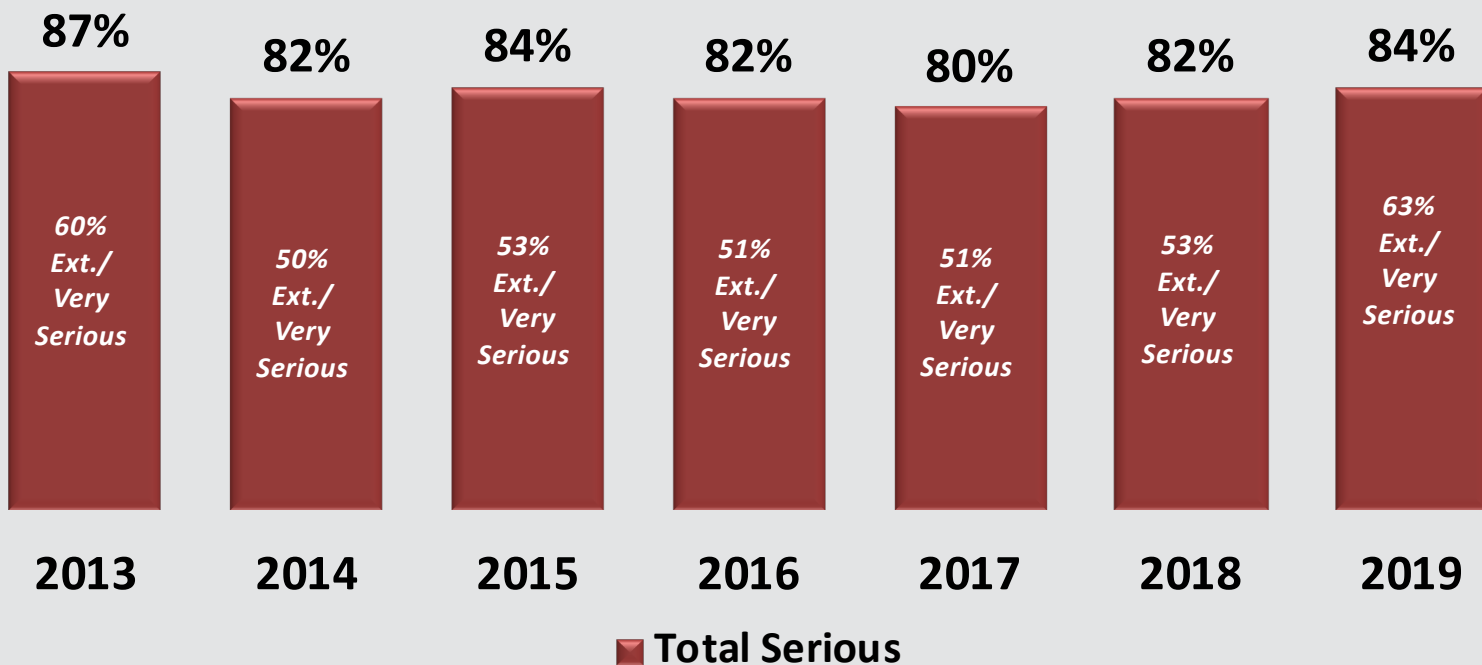


Inadequate water supplies is more likely to be seen as a very serious problem than eight years ago when we first asked Western voters about this problem. In 2011, 40% of respondents said inadequate water supplies was an extremely/very serious problem, this year, 51% of respondents say it is an extremely/very serious problem.

As the next graph depicts, there has been consistent concern about low level of water in rivers, but the intensity of concern is now at the highest level since 2013, with nearly two-thirds (63%) saying that low level of water in rivers is an extremely or very serious problem today (ten points higher than one year ago).

***This is the highest proportion since 2013 that say the condition of rivers is a very serious problem.***

**Low Levels of Water in Rivers Viewed as a Serious Problem – Trend**

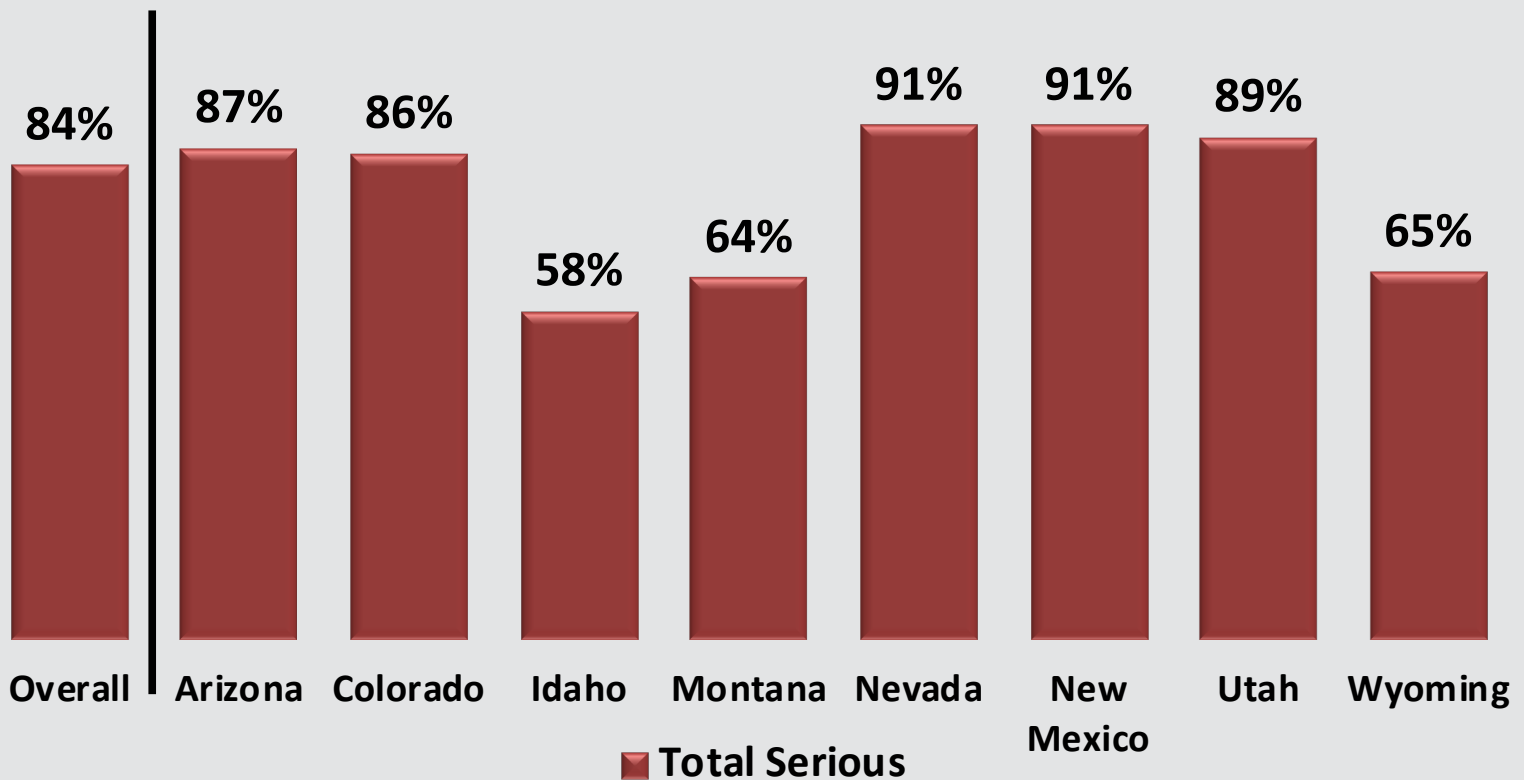


*2013-2015 excludes NV; 2013-2017 excludes ID*



*There are some differences between more northern states and the rest in levels of concern about rivers.*

**Low Levels of Water in Rivers Viewed as a Serious Problem – By State**



The low level of water in rivers tops 85% who view it as a serious problem in all of the states from Colorado and Utah southward.

There is a similar split on the issue of inadequate water supplies. This is viewed as a major issue in Nevada (59% extremely/very serious), New Mexico (65%), Arizona (56%), Utah (49%), and Colorado (52%) As we saw with the low level of water in rivers, voters in upstream states like Montana (21%), Idaho (26%) and Wyoming (22%) do not have the same level of intensity this year about this issue.

*Two-thirds of Western voters say that water supplies in the West are becoming more unpredictable.*

Water supplies in the West are becoming more unpredictable every year.

67%

The amount of rain and snow in the West is pretty predictable over time.

27%

A majority in each state say that water is becoming more unpredictable, as the next graph depicts.

Water Supply Predictability – By State

