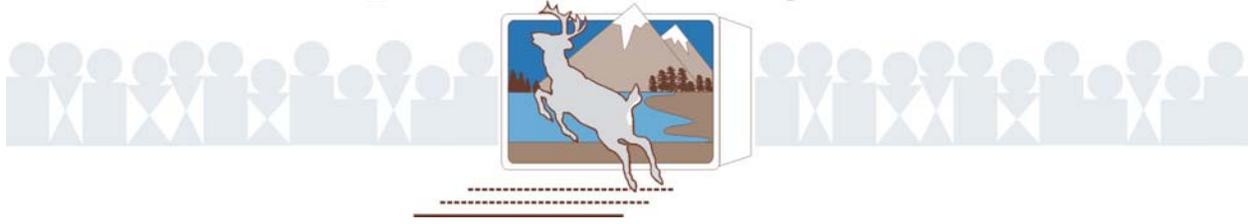


Responsive Management



PUBLIC OPINION ON HUNTING AND WILDLIFE MANAGEMENT IN WASHINGTON

Conducted for the Washington Department of Fish and Wildlife

by Responsive Management

2008

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EXECUTIVE SUMMARY

INTRODUCTION AND METHODOLOGY

This study was conducted for the Washington Department of Fish and Wildlife (the Department) to determine public opinion on hunting and wildlife management in the state. The study entailed a telephone survey of Washington residents 18 years old and older.

For the survey, telephones were selected as the preferred sampling medium because of the universality of telephone ownership. The telephone survey questionnaire was developed cooperatively by Responsive Management and the Department. Responsive Management conducted a pre-test of the questionnaire and made any necessary revisions based on the pre-test.

Interviews were conducted Monday through Friday from 9:00 a.m. to 9:00 p.m., Saturday noon to 5:00 p.m., and Sunday from 5:00 p.m. to 9:00 p.m., local time. The survey was conducted in January 2008. Responsive Management obtained a total of 805 completed interviews. The software used for data collection was Questionnaire Programming Language 4.1.

The analysis of data was performed using Statistical Package for the Social Sciences software as well as proprietary software developed by Responsive Management. The results were weighted to increase the representation of younger people in the survey, as slightly fewer younger people were reached than would be representative of their actual proportion in the population. This was most likely caused by younger people's greater use of cell phones in lieu of traditional land lines, as the sampling for the general population was of households, which are based on a listing of land-line telephones.

Throughout this report, findings of the telephone survey are reported at a 95% confidence interval. For the entire sample of Washington residents, the sampling error is at most plus or minus 3.45 percentage points. Sampling error was calculated using the formula described below, with a sample size of 805 and a population size of 4,867,922 Washington residents aged 18 years and older.

Trends in the data are shown, based on a previous survey conducted in 2001-2002 (hereinafter referred to as the 2002 survey).

PARTICIPATION IN HUNTING AND OTHER OUTDOOR RECREATION

- The most popular outdoor recreation activities of Washington residents in the past 2 years (of the seven activities about which the survey asked) were hiking (57% did this), wildlife viewing (49%), and camping (48%). A second tier of activities were boating (41%), fishing (40%), and swimming in natural waters (38%).

GENERAL SUPPORT OF OR OPPOSITION TO HUNTING

- The large majority of Washington residents (82%) approve of legal, regulated hunting, and only 12% disapprove. Most approval is *strong* approval (51% *strongly* approve).
 - Those who disapprove of hunting were asked why they disapprove. Most commonly they give an animal rights answer and/or say that they are against killing animals. These respondents who disapprove of hunting were then asked if there was anything that would change their mind about disapproving of hunting. The large majority said that there is nothing that would change their mind. Otherwise, a few would change their mind if they knew that there were environmental reasons/wildlife had to be controlled.
 - Trend: Overall approval of hunting remained nearly the same from 2002 to 2008.
- The survey asked respondents about their support of or opposition to hunting for five specific reasons. These results suggest that concern for the welfare of the animal is greater than concern for humans. The reasons pertaining to animal welfare have markedly higher support than the rest: hunting to prevent the spread of animal disease (79% support) and hunting to prevent damage to habitat caused by overpopulation of wildlife (71% support). Lower percentages support hunting for reasons related to human welfare: 54% support hunting to address nuisance animals, 47% to address wildlife conflicts, and 41% to reduce animal-vehicle collisions. (Indeed, the latter is the only reason for which a majority—slightly more than 50%—oppose.)

OPINIONS ON HUNTERS' BEHAVIOR AND HUNTER ETHICS

- The survey asked Washington residents how they would characterize the behavior of hunters in Washington. The most common answer is that they do not know (32%). Otherwise, the percentage saying that hunters' behavior is excellent or good (46%) exceeds the percentage

who rate hunters' behavior as fair or poor (22%). Note that the middle answers (good or fair) of the scale exceed the extremes (excellent or poor).

- Trend: There is only a small difference in perceptions of hunter behavior between 2002 and 2008 (unweighted data). Excellent and good ratings are about the same (46% in 2002 gave an excellent or good rating, while 45% did so in 2008). On the other hand, it appears that "Don't know" responses grew (25% in 2002, 33% in 2008) at the expense of fair/poor ratings (29% in 2002, 22% in 2008).
- The survey asked Washington residents to indicate the percentage of Washington hunters they think comply with all hunting regulations. While only 2% think that *all* hunters comply with all hunting regulations, 48% give an answer of 75 percent or more who comply. (Again, the "don't know" responses are high—24%.)

OPINIONS ON USING DOGS TO HUNT

- The survey directly asked Washington residents if they support or oppose the use of dogs to hunt cougar. Opposition (46%) slightly exceeds support (41%). Note, however, that most opposition is *strong* opposition (34% *strongly* oppose), while support is evenly divided between strong and moderate.
- When specific reasons for hunting cougar with dogs are presented, support increases over the support in general discussed above (in which 41% support). At the top is support of using dogs to hunt cougar to protect human safety (65% support), followed by two more reasons with majorities in support: to protect pets or livestock (56%) and to produce a healthy age structure in the state's elk herd, which is preyed upon by cougars (also 56%). At the bottom, with only 33% in support, is using dogs to hunt cougar for recreation. Indeed, the latter is the only reason for which a majority *oppose* hunting cougar with dogs (60% oppose).

OPINIONS ON PREDATOR MANAGEMENT IN GENERAL

- The survey asked respondents about their support of or opposition to reducing predators for four reasons. Majorities support reducing predators for the health of threatened or endangered species (65%) or for human safety (62%), and half support it for protecting pets

and domestic animals (50%). The lowest is to increase game populations (40%), which is the only reason for which a majority oppose (slightly more than 50%).

- Trend: Support for reducing predators is less in 2008 (unweighted data) than it was in 2002 for three of the four reasons: to address human safety (84% in 2002, 63% in 2008), to protect threatened or endangered species (76% in 2002, 64% in 2008), and to prevent loss of domestic animals or pets (69% in 2002, 53% in 2008). Support for reducing predators to increase game populations was about the same in the two years of study (40% in 2002, 42% in 2008).

OPINIONS ON MANAGEMENT OF COUGAR AND BLACK BEAR

- Washington residents most commonly think that threats to humans from cougars have remained stable in the past 4 years (43% gave this answer); otherwise, they more often think threats have increased (24%) than decreased (7%). A quarter (25%) do not know.
 - Those who say the threats to humans have *increased* most commonly attribute the increase to habitat encroachment by humans or simply more media reports about threats; only a few think threats have increased because the number of cougars has increased.
 - Those who say the threats to humans have *decreased* most commonly attribute the decrease to fewer media reports/fewer sightings or to their belief that human encroachment has forced cougars out of the area and thereby reduced threats (i.e., cougars just are not around anymore).
- Washington residents most commonly think that threats to livestock or pets from cougars have remained stable in the past 4 years (39% gave this answer); otherwise, they more often think threats have increased (24%) than decreased (5%). Almost a third (31%) do not know.
 - Those who say the threats to livestock or pets have *increased* most commonly attribute the increase to habitat encroachment by humans or simply more media reports about threats; only a few think threats have increased because the number of cougars has increased.
 - Those who say the threats to livestock or pets have *decreased* most commonly attribute the decrease to fewer media reports, fewer cougars, or better cougar population management.

- Washington residents were asked whether *local* opinion should be given more weight than *statewide* opinion in cougar management decisions, and the large majority of residents (74%) think local opinion should be given more weight.
 - A crosstabulation found that those who live in urban areas are less likely to support, and *much* less likely to *strongly* support, giving more weight to local opinion.

- Those who disapprove of hunting were asked if they support or oppose using cougar hunting as a way to manage cougar populations in situations where deer and/or elk herds are below population objectives and need to be increased. Given this stipulation, 45% of those who disapprove of legal, regulated hunting support cougar hunting to increase deer and/or elk herds when necessary.

- The survey asked those who had not previously indicated that they disapprove of legal, recreational hunting a specific question about zone management of cougars. First, an explanation was given that zone management of cougars would mean that different zones of the state could have different population objectives for cougar (e.g., keeping the cougar population stable in one zone while reducing the cougar population in another zone), and that different population objectives, in turn, could require different hunting methods in the different zones. These respondents were then asked if they support or oppose zone management with its different population objectives, and a large majority (79%) support zone management, while 12% oppose.

- The survey asked Washington residents which of four actions they would support to reduce cougar when Department biologists consider it necessary to do so. Trap and relocate is the most popular (75%), the only with a majority in support. With medium support is regulated hunting by licensed hunters (48%) and hunting by Department staff (40%). The lowest support is for hunting by paid professionals other than Department staff (24%).

- The survey asked a similar question to that discussed immediately above pertaining to black bears instead of cougars. The results are nearly the same. Trap and relocate is the most popular (75%), followed by regulated hunting by licensed hunters (47%), hunting by

Department staff (38%), and, the lowest, hunting by paid professionals other than Department staff (22%).

OPINIONS ON MANAGEMENT OF WOLVES

- The large majority of Washington residents (75%) support allowing wolves to recover in Washington; meanwhile, 17% oppose.
 - A crosstabulation found that those who live in urban and suburban areas are more likely to support wolf recovery; while those residing in small city/town or rural area are more likely to oppose. Note that those living on ranches or farms are the most likely to *strongly* oppose.
 - When the stipulation is put on wolf recovery that it could result in localized declines in elk and deer populations, support declines slightly: 61% support wolf recovery if it will result in some localized declines in elk and deer populations, and 28% oppose.
- Most Washington residents (61%) support some level of lethal wolf control to protect at-risk livestock; however, 31% oppose. Additionally, a majority of residents (56%) support having the state pay compensation out of the General Fund to ranchers who have documented losses to livestock from wolves, but 35% oppose.
- When asked how worried, while recreating outdoors, they would be about wolves, respondents most commonly say that they would not be worried at all (39%), and 26% would be only a little worried; in sum, 65% would be only a little worried or not worried at all. On the other hand, 33% would be very or moderately worried, with 11% *very* worried.
- In a question tangentially related to wolf management, the survey found that wildlife viewing specifically of wild wolves would appear to be popular, as 54% of residents say that they would travel to see or hear wild wolves in Washington.

OPINIONS ON MANAGEMENT OF COYOTES

- The survey asked whether residents support or oppose reducing coyote populations for four specific reasons. Majorities support each reason, with little difference among them: to

protect threatened or endangered species (60% support), to increase wildlife populations (60%), to prevent the loss of domestic animals (59%), and to address human safety (58%).

OPINIONS ON MANAGEMENT OF RACCOONS

- Similar to the series of questions about reducing coyote populations, the survey asked whether residents support or oppose reducing raccoon populations for four specific reasons. Majorities support each reason, with the top reason being to protect threatened or endangered species (65% support), followed by to increase wildlife populations (58%), to prevent the loss of domestic animals (54%), and, at the bottom again, to address human safety (53%). Opposition is greatest for these last two reasons: 40% oppose reducing raccoon populations to address human safety, and 39% oppose to prevent the loss of domestic animals.

SOURCES OF INFORMATION ON WILDLIFE MANAGEMENT

- Just under a third (31%) of Washington residents have seen or heard information about how Washington manages its wild animal populations; however, most Washington residents (69%) have not seen or heard any such information.
 - The most common sources from which residents had heard or seen information about how Washington manages its wild animal populations were newspapers, word-of-mouth, and television. Other important sources included brochures/pamphlets, hunting regulations handbook, Internet sites other than agency websites, and magazines.
 - When asked to indicate the best way that the state could communicate with them about wildlife management, the top choice is direct mail, followed by television, newspapers, the Internet, e-mail, or brochures/pamphlets.

HUMAN-WILDLIFE CONFLICTS AND NUISANCE WILDLIFE

- A little more than a quarter of Washington residents (29%) had problems with wild animals or birds within the past 2 years. The most common such wildlife were raccoons, coyotes, and deer. The most common types of problems were damage to property/landscaping or attacks on pets or livestock. Another common problem was animals getting into trash.
 - Trend: A slightly greater percentage of respondents in 2008 relative to 2002 had problems with wildlife: 26% had a problem in 2002, while 31% had a problem in 2008

(unweighted data). Problems with raccoons appeared to decline between 2002 and 2008, while problems with deer appeared to increase.

- Those who had problems with wild animals or birds within the past 2 years were asked who they believe should pay for nuisance wildlife control and pay for damage caused by wildlife, and they most commonly say the homeowner, state government, or local government.
 - Trend: In 2008, a slightly lower percentage think the homeowner should pay, relative to 2002.

- In answer to a direct question, more Washington residents support (46%) than oppose (39%) hunting to address human-wildlife conflicts. Also, more residents support (54%) than oppose (38%) hunting to address nuisance animals. On the other hand, fewer residents support (41%) than oppose (50%) hunting to reduce animal-vehicle collisions.

- In questions about reducing predator populations (respondents were informed, if they asked, that predators are animals such as bears that hunt and eat other animals), slightly more Washington residents support (50%) than oppose (43%) reducing predator populations to prevent the loss of domestic animals or pets. Many more residents support (62%) than oppose (32%) reducing predator populations to address human safety.
 - Trend: Support for reducing predator populations to prevent the loss of domestic animals or pets appears to have dropped from 2002 to 2008. In 2002, 69% supported, while 53% support in 2008 (unweighted data).
 - Trend: Support for reducing predator populations to address human safety also appears to have dropped from 2002 to 2008. In 2002, 84% supported, while 63% support in 2008 (unweighted data).

- In questions about raccoons that are similar to the questions above regarding predators, more Washington residents support (54%) than oppose (39%) reducing local raccoon populations to prevent the loss of domestic animals. Also, more support (52%) than oppose (40%) reducing local raccoon populations to address human safety.

- In questions about coyotes that are similar to questions regarding predators, more Washington residents support (59%) than oppose (37%) reducing local coyote populations to prevent the loss of domestic animals. Also, more support (58%) than oppose (38%) reducing local coyote populations to address human safety.
- The survey asked questions specifically about hunting cougar with dogs with similar conditions as those asked about predators, raccoons, and coyotes discussed above. In these questions, more Washington residents support (57%) than oppose (37%) hunting cougar with dogs to protect pets or livestock. Also, more than double the percentage support (65%) than oppose (29%) hunting cougar with dogs to address human safety.
- As reported previously, but which also pertains to this section, Washington residents were asked whether *local* opinion should be given more weight than *statewide* opinion in cougar management decisions, and the large majority of residents (74%) think local opinion should be given more weight.
- Also as reported previously, but which also pertains to this section, Washington residents most commonly think that threats to humans from cougars have remained stable in the past 4 years (43% give this answer); otherwise, they more often think threats have increased (24%) than decreased (7%). A quarter (25%) do not know. (This graph is shown in the section of this report titled, “Opinions on Management of Cougar and Black Bear.”)
- Again, as reported previously, but which also pertains to this section, Washington residents most commonly think that threats to livestock or pets from cougars have remained stable in the past 4 years (39% give this answer); otherwise, they more often think threats have increased (24%) than decreased (5%). Almost a third (31%) do not know. (This graph is shown in the section of this report titled, “Opinions on Management of Cougar and Black Bear.”)
- Finally, as reported previously, but which also pertains to this section, in a question specifically pertaining to wolf predation of livestock, most Washington residents (61%)

support some level of lethal wolf control to protect at-risk livestock; however, a substantial percentage (31%) oppose. Additionally, a majority of residents (56%) support having the state pay compensation out of the General Fund to ranchers who have documented losses to livestock from wolves, but 35% oppose.

MEMBERSHIP IN WILDLIFE-RELATED ORGANIZATIONS

- A substantial percentage of Washington residents (38%) are members of or donate to a wildlife organization that promotes conservation or habitat enhancement. The most common organizations are Ducks Unlimited, the Rocky Mountain Elk Foundation, the Sierra Club, the World Wildlife Fund, the National Rifle Association, and the Nature Conservancy.
 - Trend: The graph of trends shows affiliation with specific organizations, with no marked differences between the two years of study.

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INTRODUCTION AND METHODOLOGY

This study was conducted for the Washington Department of Fish and Wildlife (the Department) to determine public opinion on hunting and wildlife management in the state. The study entailed a telephone survey of Washington residents 18 years old and older. Specific aspects of the research methodology are discussed below.

For the survey, telephones were selected as the preferred sampling medium because of the universality of telephone ownership. In addition, a central polling site at the Responsive Management office allowed for rigorous quality control over the interviews and data collection. Responsive Management maintains its own in-house telephone interviewing facilities. These facilities are staffed by interviewers with experience conducting computer-assisted telephone interviews on the subjects of natural resources and outdoor recreation. The telephone survey questionnaire was developed cooperatively by Responsive Management and the Department. Responsive Management conducted a pre-test of the questionnaire and made any necessary revisions based on the pre-test.

To ensure the integrity of the telephone survey data, Responsive Management has interviewers who have been trained according to the standards established by the Council of American Survey Research Organizations. Methods of instruction included lecture and role-playing. The Survey Center Managers and other professional staff conducted project briefings with the interviewers prior to the administration of this survey. Interviewers were instructed on type of study, study goals and objectives, handling of survey questions, interview length, termination points and qualifiers for participation, interviewer instructions within the survey instrument, reading of the survey instrument, skip patterns, and probing and clarifying techniques necessary for specific questions on the survey instrument. The Survey Center Managers and statisticians monitored the data collection, including monitoring of the actual telephone interviews without the interviewers' knowledge, to evaluate the performance of each interviewer and ensure the integrity of the data.

Interviews were conducted Monday through Friday from 9:00 a.m. to 9:00 p.m., Saturday noon to 5:00 p.m., and Sunday from 5:00 p.m. to 9:00 p.m., local time. A five-callback design was used to maintain the representativeness of the sample, to avoid bias toward people easy to reach

by telephone, and to provide an equal opportunity for all to participate. When a respondent could not be reached on the first call, subsequent calls were placed on different days of the week and at different times of the day. The survey was conducted in January 2008. Responsive Management obtained a total of 805 completed interviews.

The software used for data collection was Questionnaire Programming Language 4.1 (QPL). The survey data were entered into the computer as each interview was being conducted, eliminating manual data entry after the completion of the survey and the concomitant data entry errors that may occur with manual data entry. The survey instrument was programmed so that QPL branched, coded, and substituted phrases in the survey based on previous responses to ensure the integrity and consistency of the data collection. The analysis of data was performed using Statistical Package for the Social Sciences software as well as proprietary software developed by Responsive Management.

The results were weighted to increase the representation of younger people in the survey, as slightly fewer younger people were reached than would be representative of their actual proportion in the population. This was most likely caused by younger people's greater use of cell phones in lieu of traditional land lines, as the sampling for the general population was of households, which are based on a listing of land-line telephones. The tabulation below shows the weighting factors.

Weighting Factors

Age	Actual Population by Age	Population Proportion by Age	Actual Sample by Age	Proportion of Sample by Age	Weighting Factor	Weighted Proportion of Sample by Age
18-24	614,340	12.62%	37	4.60%	2.7457	12.62%
25-34	888,641	18.26%	60	7.45%	2.4492	18.26%
35-44	948,214	19.48%	144	17.89%	1.0889	19.48%
45-54	970,799	19.94%	190	23.60%	0.8449	19.94%
55-64	709,212	14.57%	188	23.35%	0.6238	14.57%
65 or older	736,716	15.13%	186	23.11%	0.6550	15.13%
Total	4,867,922	100%	805	100%	NA	NA

Throughout this report, findings of the telephone survey are reported at a 95% confidence interval. For the entire sample of Washington residents, the sampling error is at most plus or minus 3.45 percentage points. This means that if the survey were conducted 100 times on different samples that were selected in the same way, the findings of 95 out of the 100 surveys would fall within plus or minus 3.45 percentage points of each other. Sampling error was calculated using the formula described below, with a sample size of 805 and a population size of 4,867,922 Washington residents aged 18 years and older.

Sampling Error Equation

$$B = \left(\sqrt{\frac{N_p(.25) - .25}{N_s}} \right) (1.96)$$

Where: B = maximum sampling error (as decimal)
 N_p = population size (i.e., total number who could be surveyed)
 N_s = sample size (i.e., total number of respondents surveyed)

Derived from formula: p. 206 in Dillman, D. A. 2000. *Mail and Internet Surveys*. John Wiley & Sons, NY.

Note: This is a simplified version of the formula that calculates the maximum sampling error using a 50:50 split (the most conservative calculation because a 50:50 split would give maximum variation).

Trends in the data are shown, based on a previous survey conducted in 2001-2002 (hereinafter referred to as the 2002 survey or 2002 data). Note that the previous study did not weight the data based on age as did this study, which may affect the trends. For this reason, the trends show comparisons of the 2002 data with both the weighted and unweighted data from 2008.

Note that some results may not sum to exactly 100% because of rounding. Additionally, rounding on the graphs may cause apparent discrepancies of 1 percentage point between the graphs and the reported results of combined responses (e.g., when “strongly support” and “moderately support” are summed to determine the total percentage in support).

A note about the layout of the report: some graphs pertain to more than one section, so these graphs are discussed in more than one section of the report. In these instances, the graph is shown only in one section, with a call-out in the other section indicating where the graph is located.

PARTICIPATION IN HUNTING AND OTHER OUTDOOR RECREATION

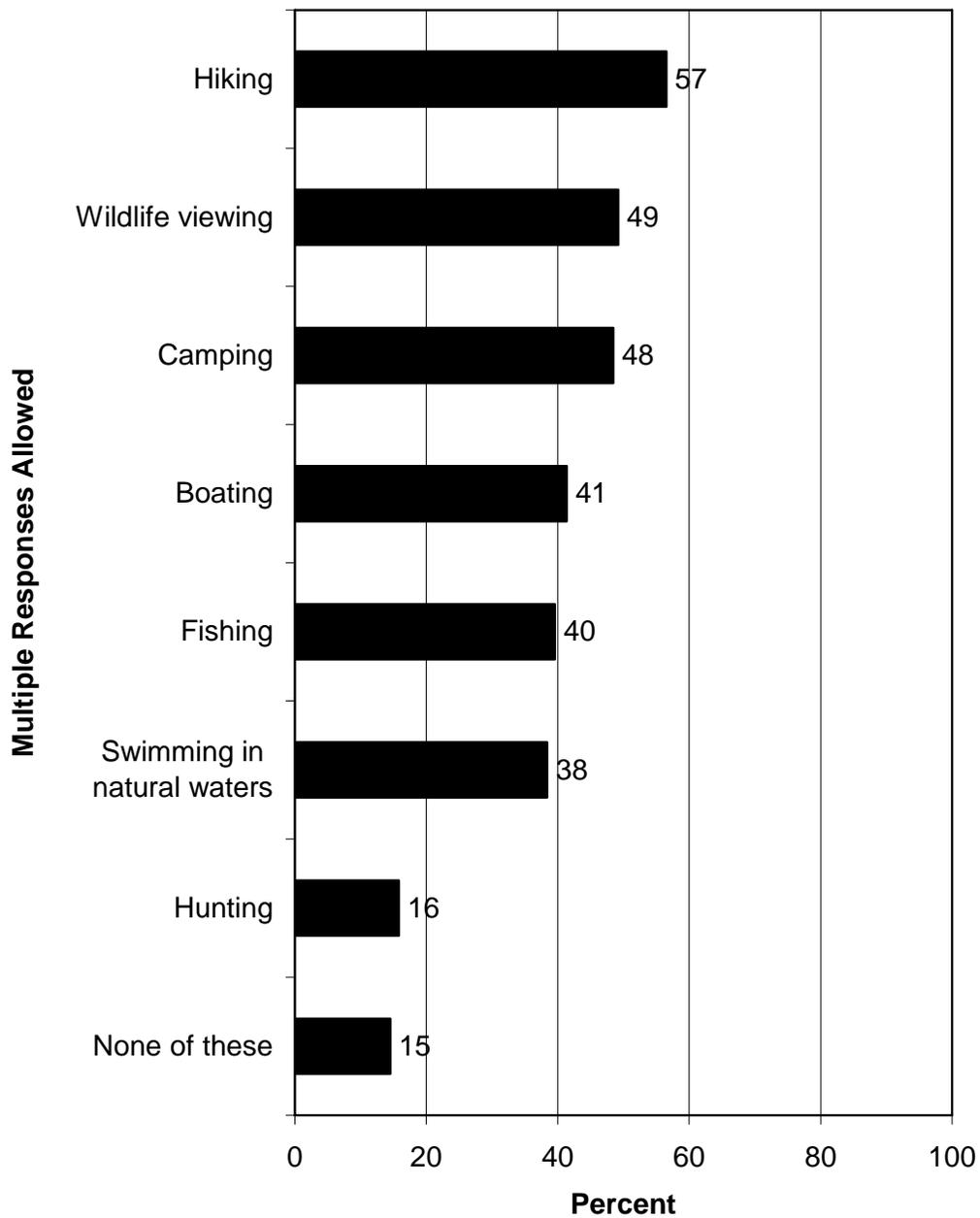
- The most popular outdoor recreation activities of Washington residents in the past 2 years (of the seven activities about which the survey asked) were hiking (57% did this), wildlife viewing (49%), and camping (48%). A second tier of activities were boating (41%), fishing (40%), and swimming in natural waters (38%). Hunting had a participation rate of 16%.
 - Wildlife viewing specifically of wild wolves would appear to be popular, as 54% of residents say that they would travel to see or hear wild wolves in Washington. (This graph is shown in the section of this report titled, “Opinions on Management of Wolves.”)
 - When asked how worried, while recreating outdoors, they would be about wolves, most respondents (65%) would be only a little worried or not worried at all. On the other hand, 33% would be very or moderately worried. (This graph is shown in the section of this report titled, “Opinions on Management of Wolves.”)
 - A note about the participation rate in hunting: The rate shown should be viewed with caution, as it may appear higher than otherwise expected. This can occur for several reasons, one of the primary being “telescoping,” wherein we ask about a 2-year timeframe, but respondents answer based on slightly longer periods of time simply because of faulty memory—in other words, if they hunted 3 years previous, for instance, they remember it as having occurred in the previous 2 years. Another reason is that some people may have accompanied others hunting, for instance going to a cabin used as the hunting base, although they may not have actually carried a gun and hunted in the field. Nonetheless, even without having hunted according to the legal definition of the term, they may consider that they have gone hunting. Finally, the process of “churning” may serve to raise the apparent hunting rate. Churning refers to the fact that in any given year, the total pool of hunters consists of those very avid hunters who go every year, as well as those who go only some years; this second portion is replaced the following year with other hunters who do not go every year. In other words, the pool of hunters from year to year are not the *same* hunters; only a portion are the same from the previous year, while the rest consist of occasional hunters who are different from year to year. In such as

situation, it may be that 10% go hunting in the first year of study, and 10% in the second year of study, but more than 10% hunted in that 2-year period.

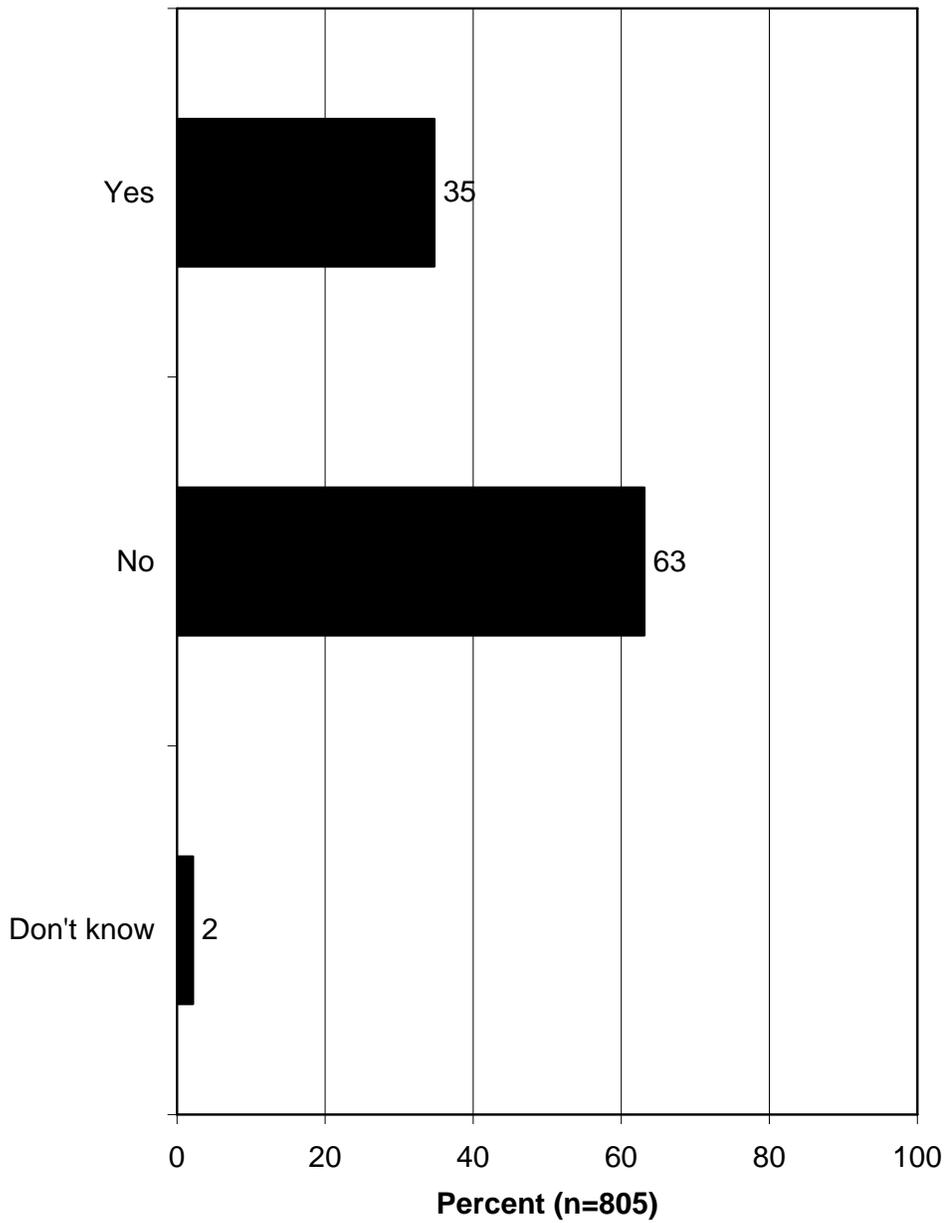
- Trend: The questions about hunting participation were asked differently between the 2002 survey and the 2008 survey, so the trends are not shown. Nonetheless, in 2002, 13% of the general population indicated that they had purchased a license *and* gone hunting.

- Those who had not hunted in the past 2 years were asked if they had ever hunted, and combining these people with those who hunted in the past 2 years in Washington (from the question discussed above), the results indicate that 35% of respondents hunted at some time in Washington. (Note that with no timeframe, respondents could have hunted, for instance, only as a youth and still count as having hunted in Washington. This 35% should not be taken as active hunters.) Of those who have hunted in Washington, 81% report having purchased a license (suggesting that some of the respondents may have hunted as youth, when they may not have been required to purchase a license).
 - Most respondents who had not hunted in Washington at any time had never hunted anywhere (79%); nonetheless, there were 18% who had hunted outside Washington but not in the state. (Again, respondents could have hunted outside Washington only as a youth and still answer in the affirmative in this question.)
 - Those who had never hunted outside of Washington were asked for their reasons for not hunting outside of Washington (also note that these respondents had not hunted in Washington either, so the responses are among those who have not hunted at all). Most commonly, it was because they do not hunt, because they dislike hunting/do not believe in it, or because they are not interested.
 - Those who had never hunted in Washington but had hunted outside of the state were asked why they had never hunted *in* Washington. Most commonly, they said that their reasoning is lack of time, that they no longer hunt, that they dislike/do not agree with hunting, that they recently moved into the state, or that they are not interested in hunting. At the bottom of the list is that they hunt elsewhere, so it does not appear that better hunting elsewhere is driving people to choose *not* to hunt in Washington.

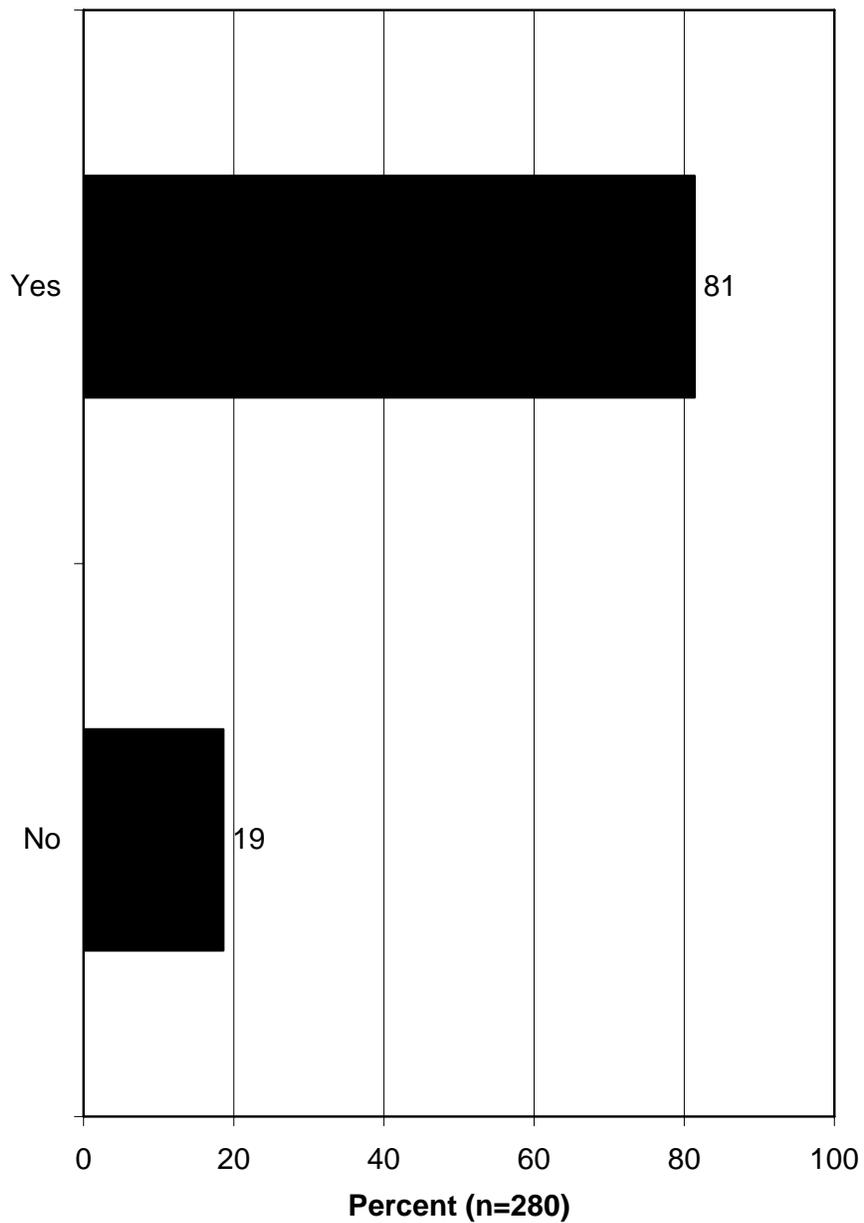
Q9. In the past 2 years in Washington, have you participated in any of these outdoor recreation activities?



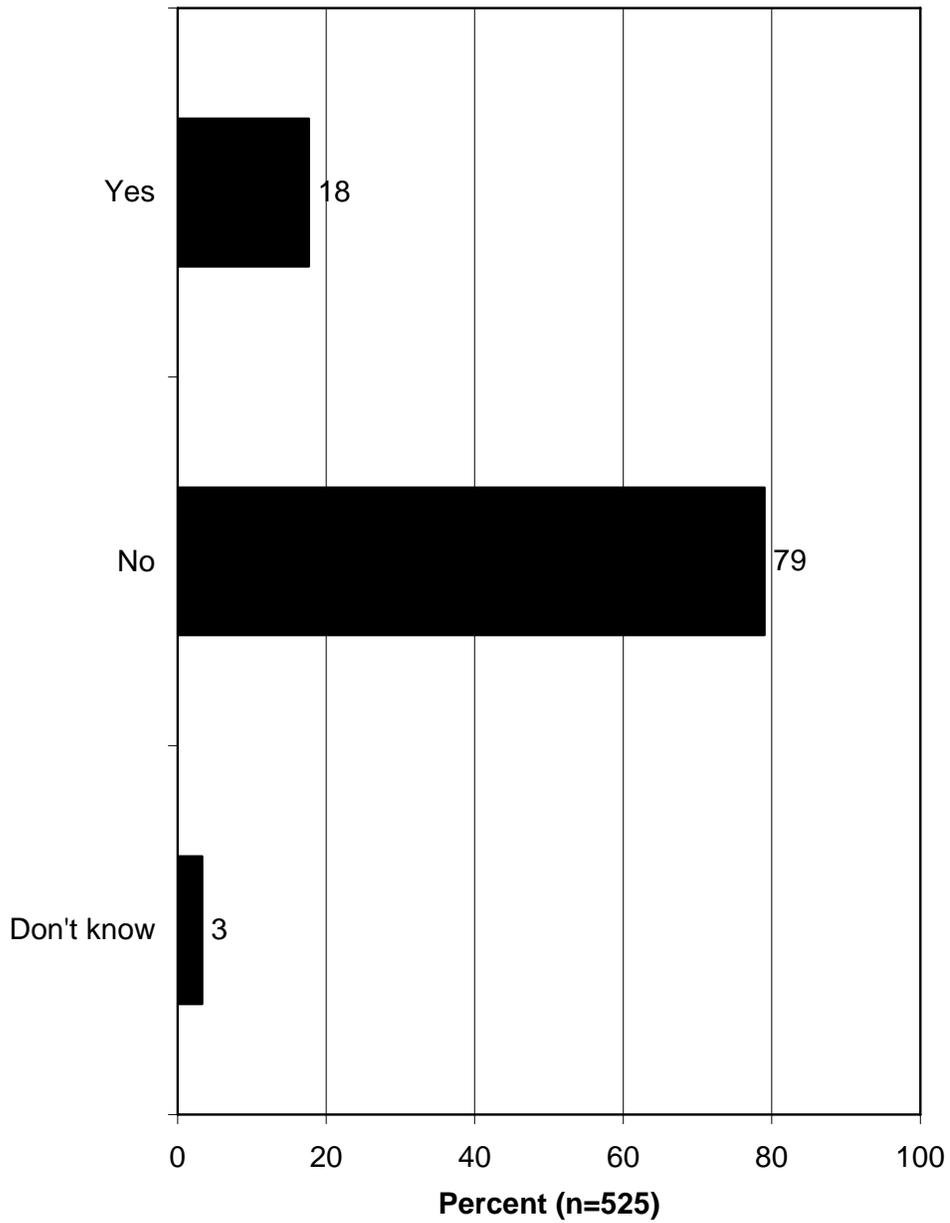
**Q100. Have you ever gone hunting in Washington?
(Among all respondents.)**



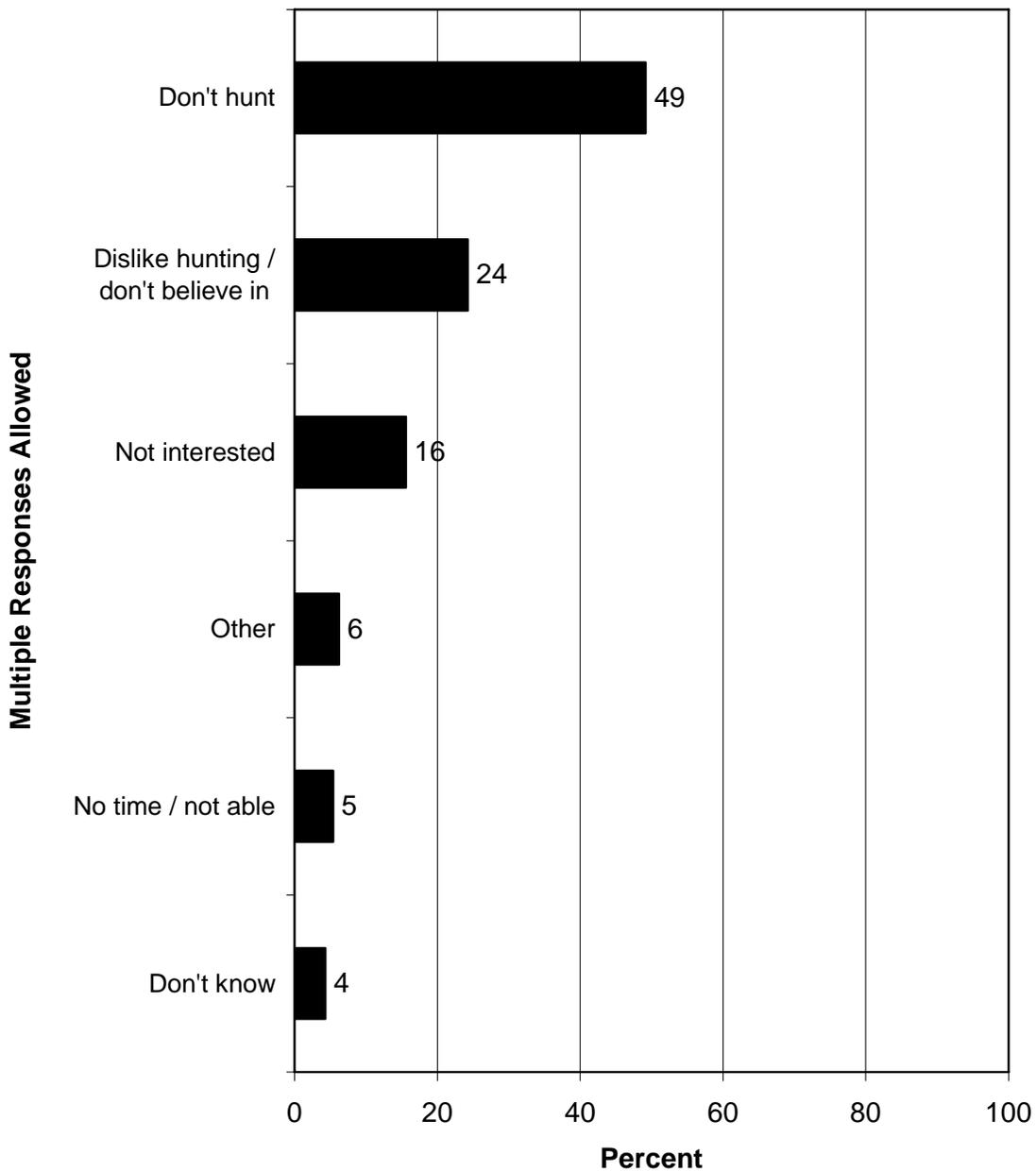
Q105. Have you ever purchased a hunting license in Washington? (Asked of those who have gone hunting in Washington.)



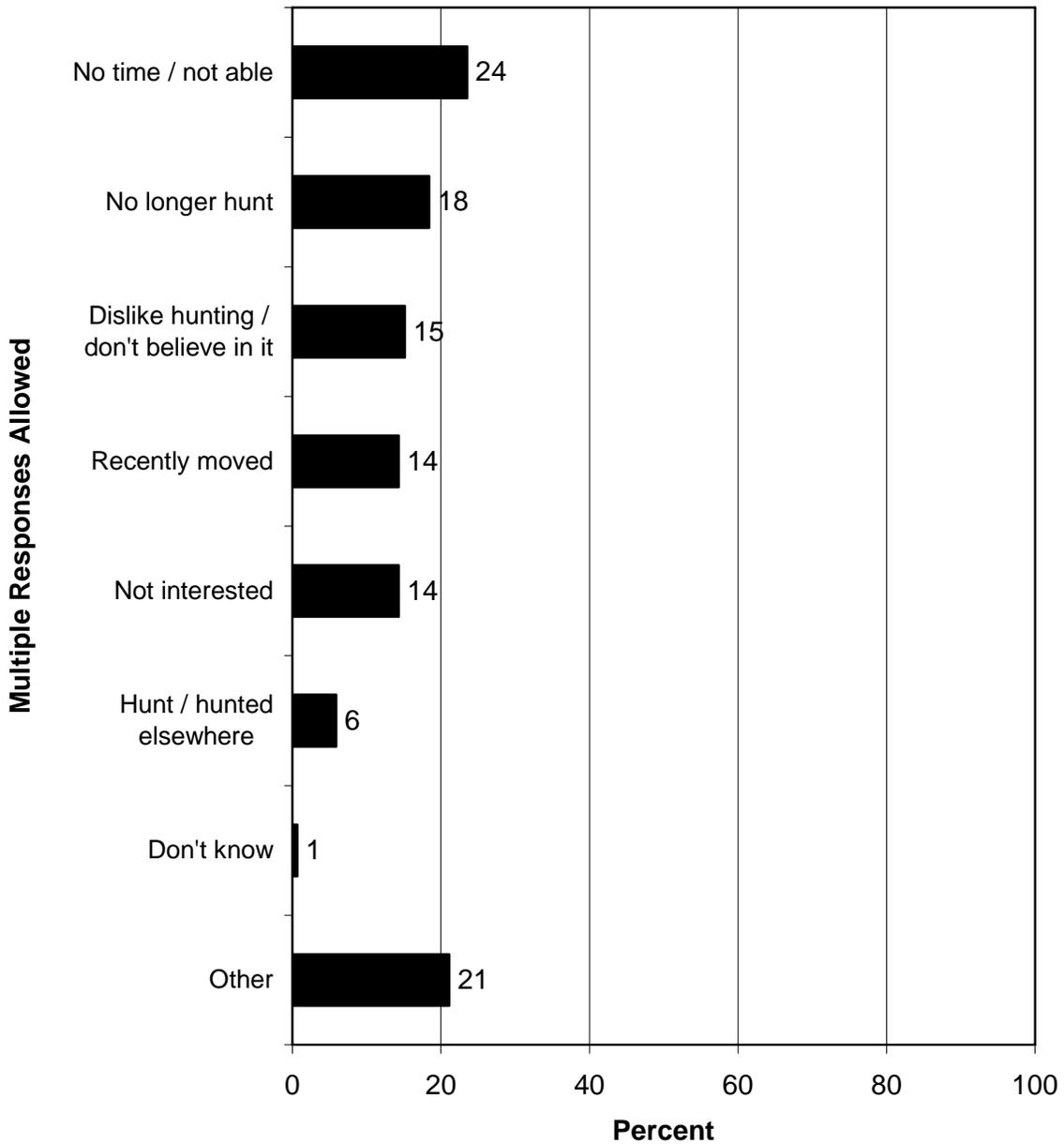
Q102. Have you ever gone hunting anywhere outside of Washington? (Asked of those who have never gone hunting in Washington .)



Q104. Why haven't you ever hunted outside of Washington? (Asked of those who have never gone hunting.)



**Q103. Why haven't you ever hunted in Washington?
(Asked of those who have never gone hunting in
Washington, but have gone hunting outside of
Washington.)**



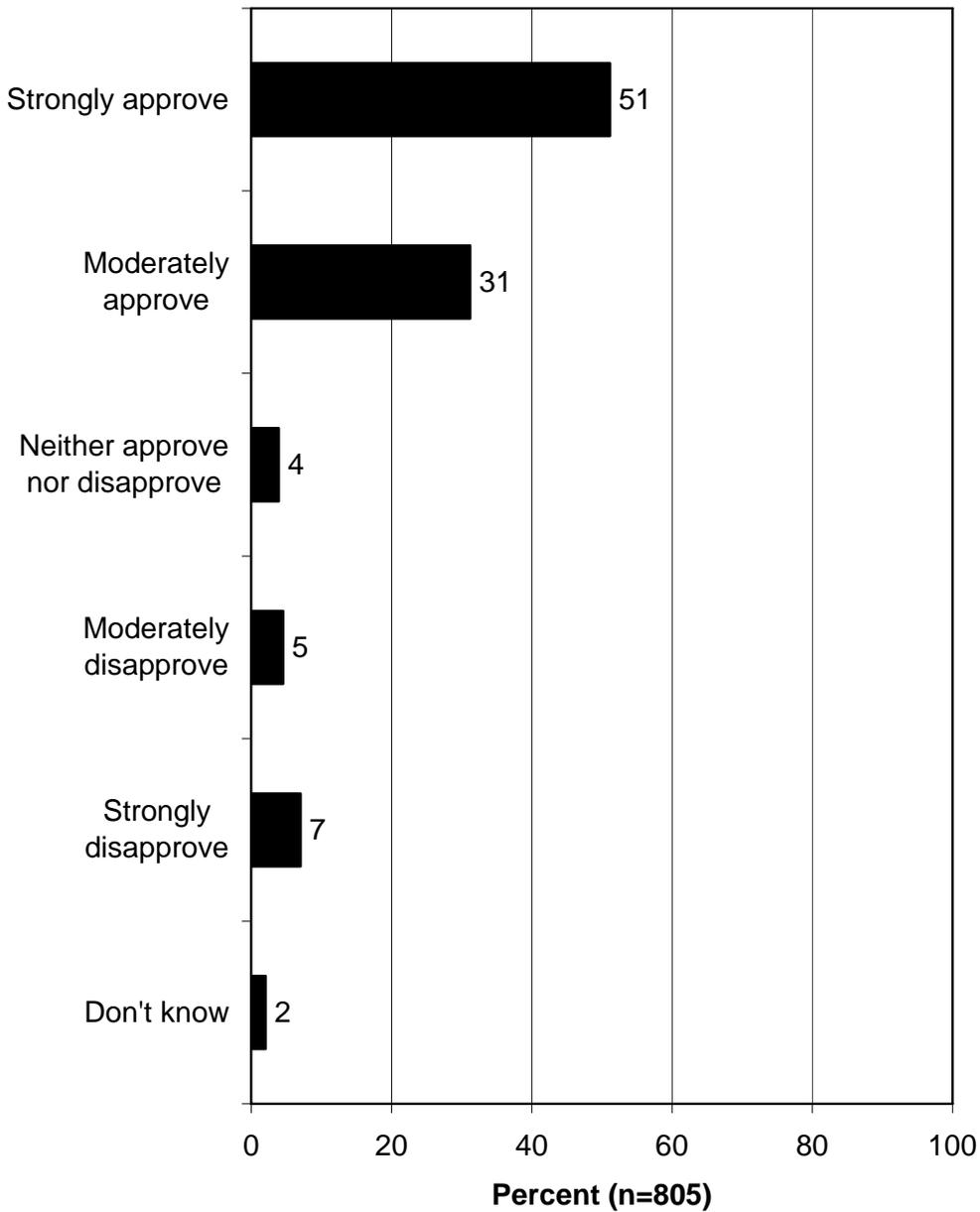
PUBLIC OPINIONS ON HUNTING AND WILDLIFE MANAGEMENT

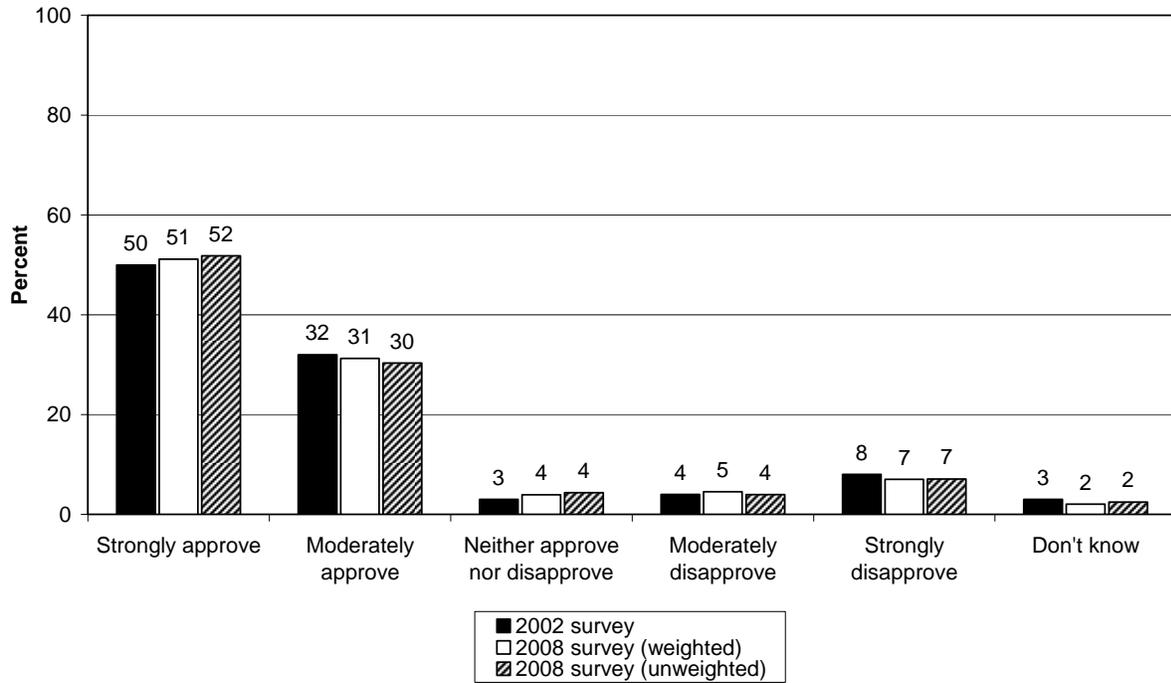
GENERAL SUPPORT OF OR OPPOSITION TO HUNTING

- The large majority of Washington residents (82%) approve of legal, regulated hunting, and only 12% disapprove. Most approval is *strong* approval (51% *strongly* approve).
 - Those who disapprove of hunting were asked why they disapprove. Most commonly they give an animal rights answer and/or say that they are against killing animals. Other less common reasons are that they are against trophy hunting or that hunting damages wildlife populations/the ecosystem. These respondents who disapprove of hunting were then asked if there was anything that would change their mind about disapproving of hunting. The large majority said that there is nothing that would change their mind. Otherwise, a few would change their mind if they knew that there were environmental reasons/wildlife had to be controlled.
 - Trend: Overall approval of hunting remained nearly the same from 2002 to 2008.

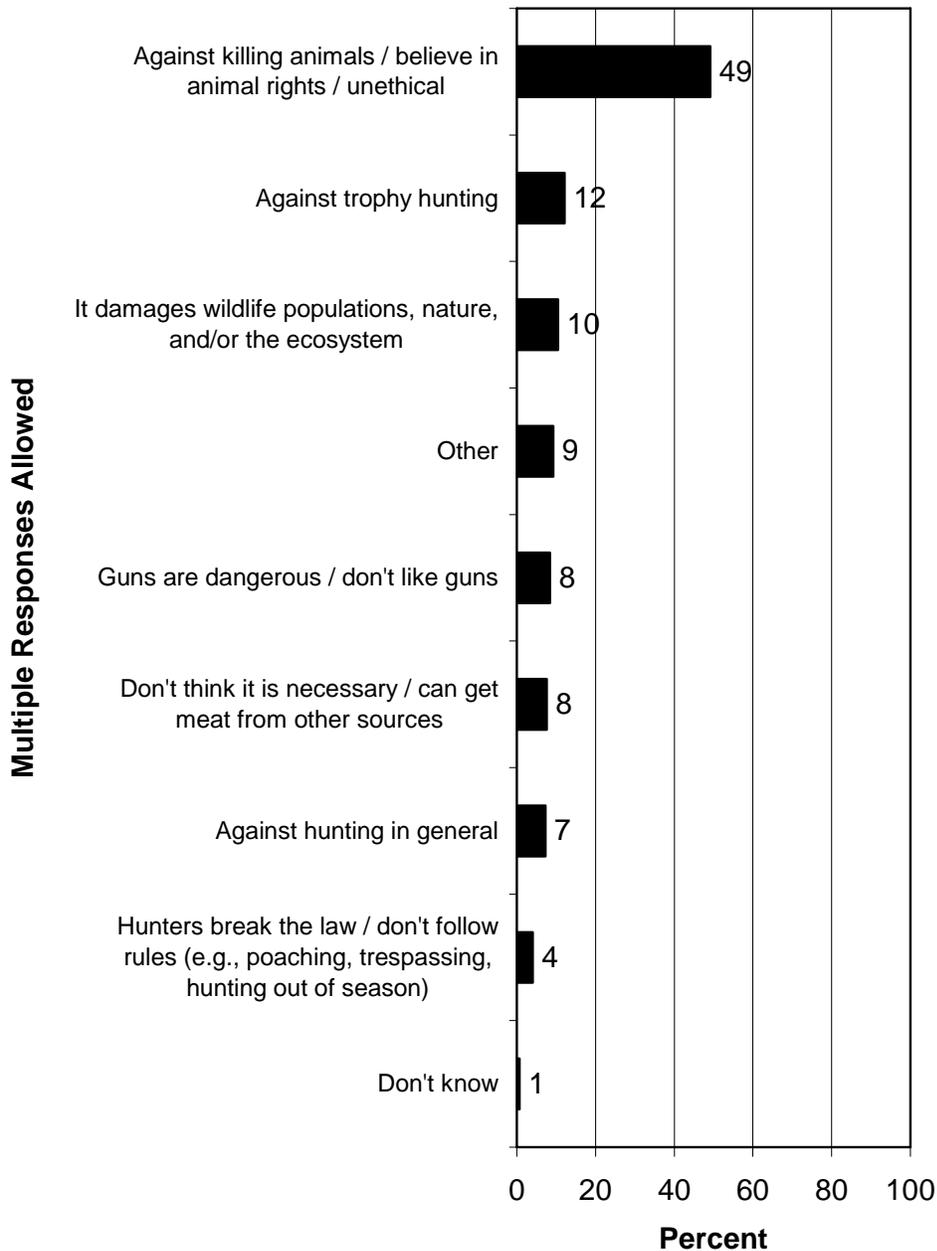
- The survey asked respondents about their support of or opposition to hunting for five specific reasons. These results suggest that concern for the welfare of the animal is greater than concern for humans. The reasons pertaining to animal welfare have markedly higher support than the rest: hunting to prevent the spread of animal disease (79% support) and hunting to prevent damage to habitat caused by overpopulation of wildlife (71% support). Lower percentages support hunting for reasons related to human welfare: 54% support hunting to address nuisance animals, 47% to address wildlife conflicts, and 41% to reduce animal-vehicle collisions. (Indeed, the latter is the only reason for which a majority—slightly more than 50%—oppose.)
 - Note that there is a wording difference between the first question discussed in this section (approval or disapproval of hunting) and this series of questions (support of or opposition to hunting). The latter connotes a little more action (support) than the former (approval), which may explain the slightly lower *support* of hunting for any particular reason when compared to the overall *approval* of hunting.

Q11. In general, do you approve or disapprove of legal, regulated hunting?

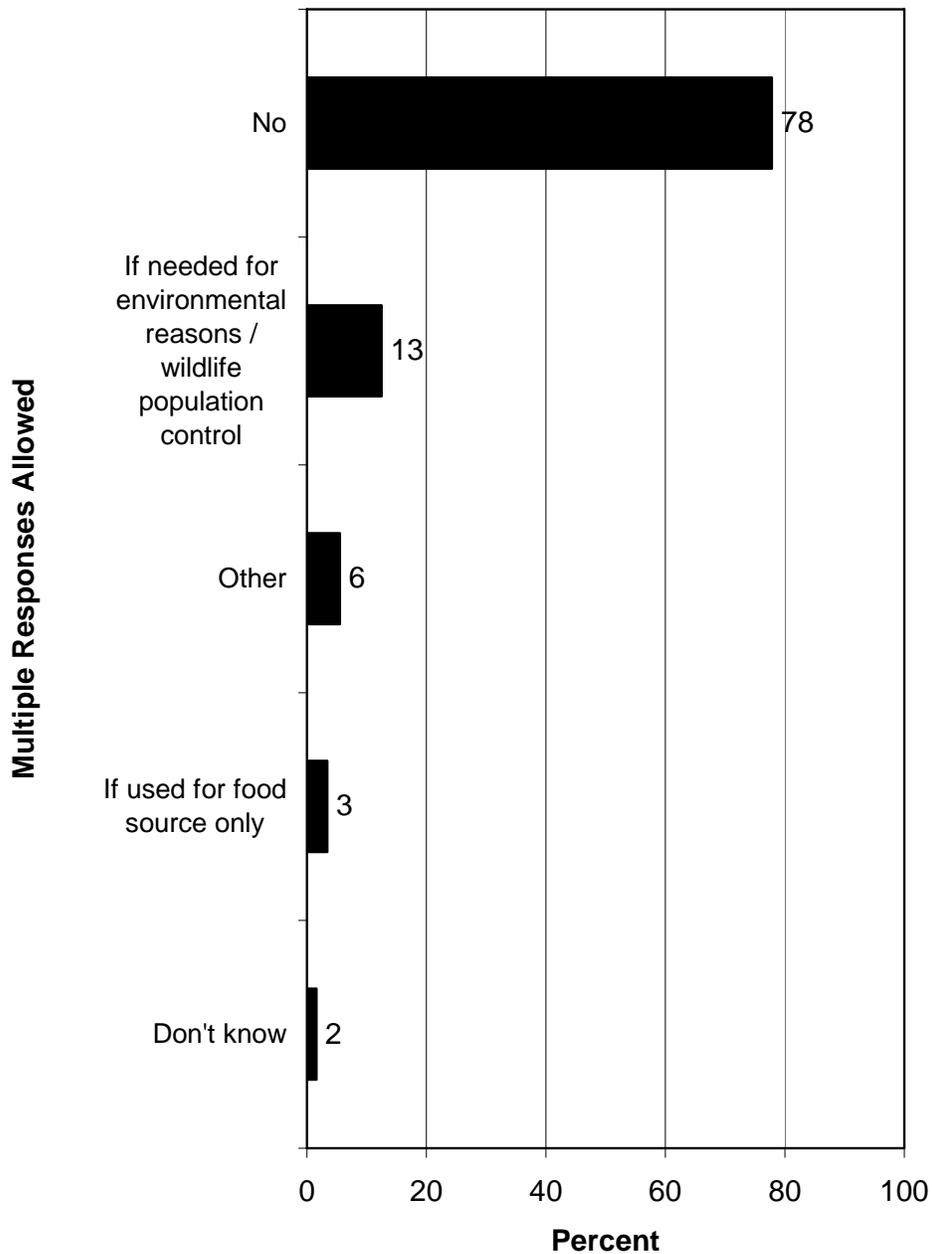


In general, do you approve or disapprove of legal, regulated hunting?

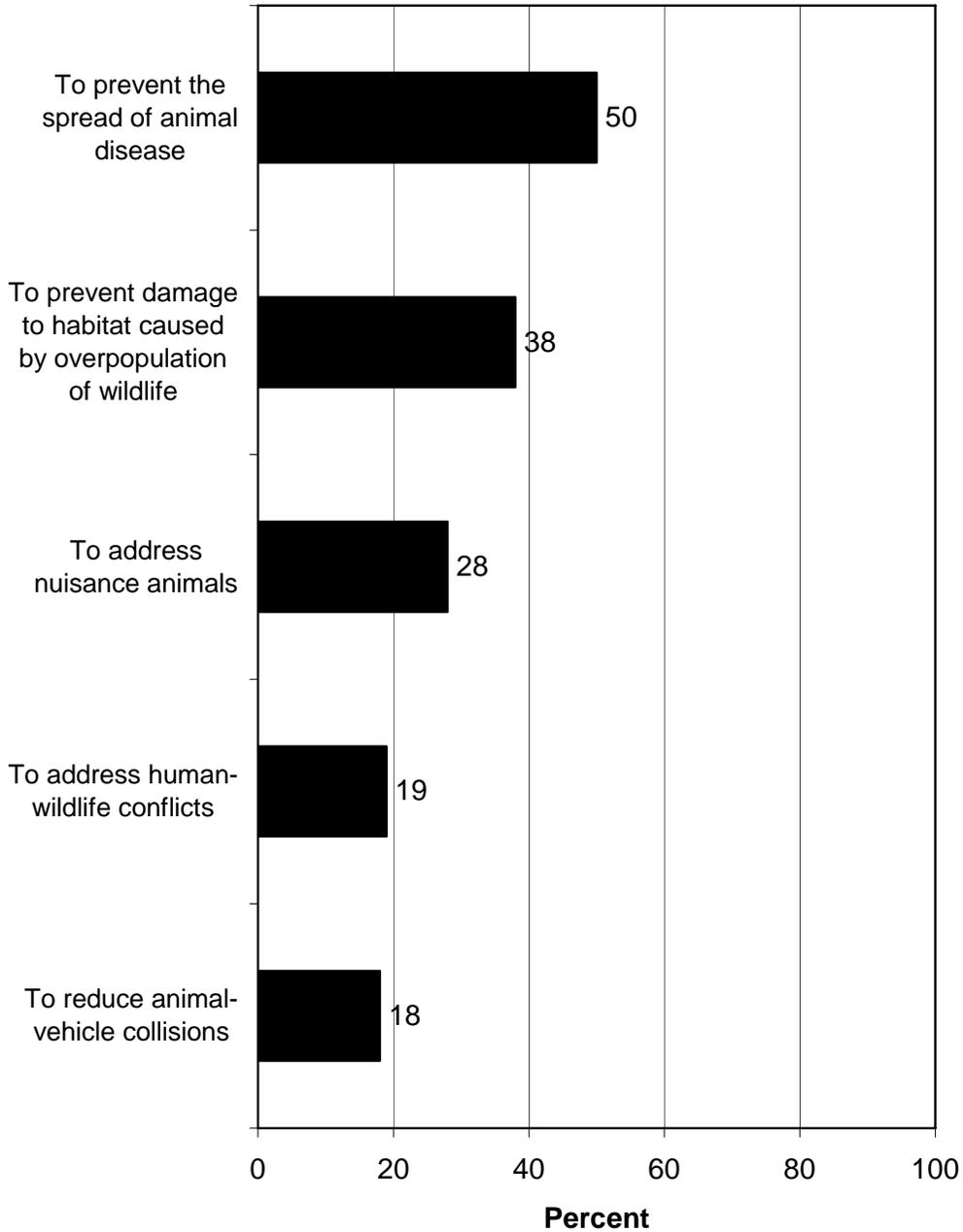
**Q12. You indicated that you disapprove of hunting.
Why do you disapprove of hunting? (Asked of
those who disapprove of legal, regulated hunting.)**



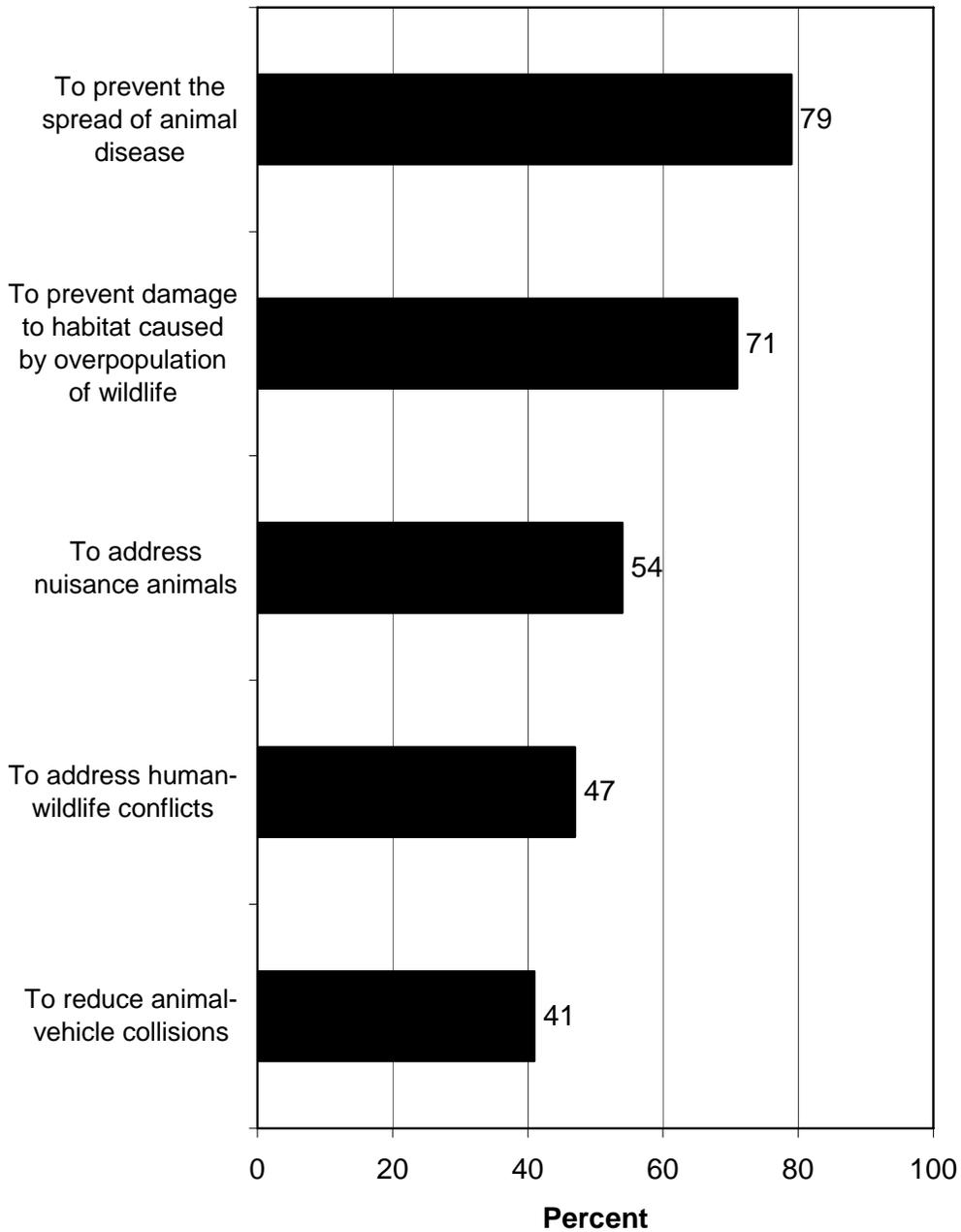
Q13. Is there anything that would change your mind about disapproving of hunting? (Asked of those who disapprove of legal, regulated hunting.)



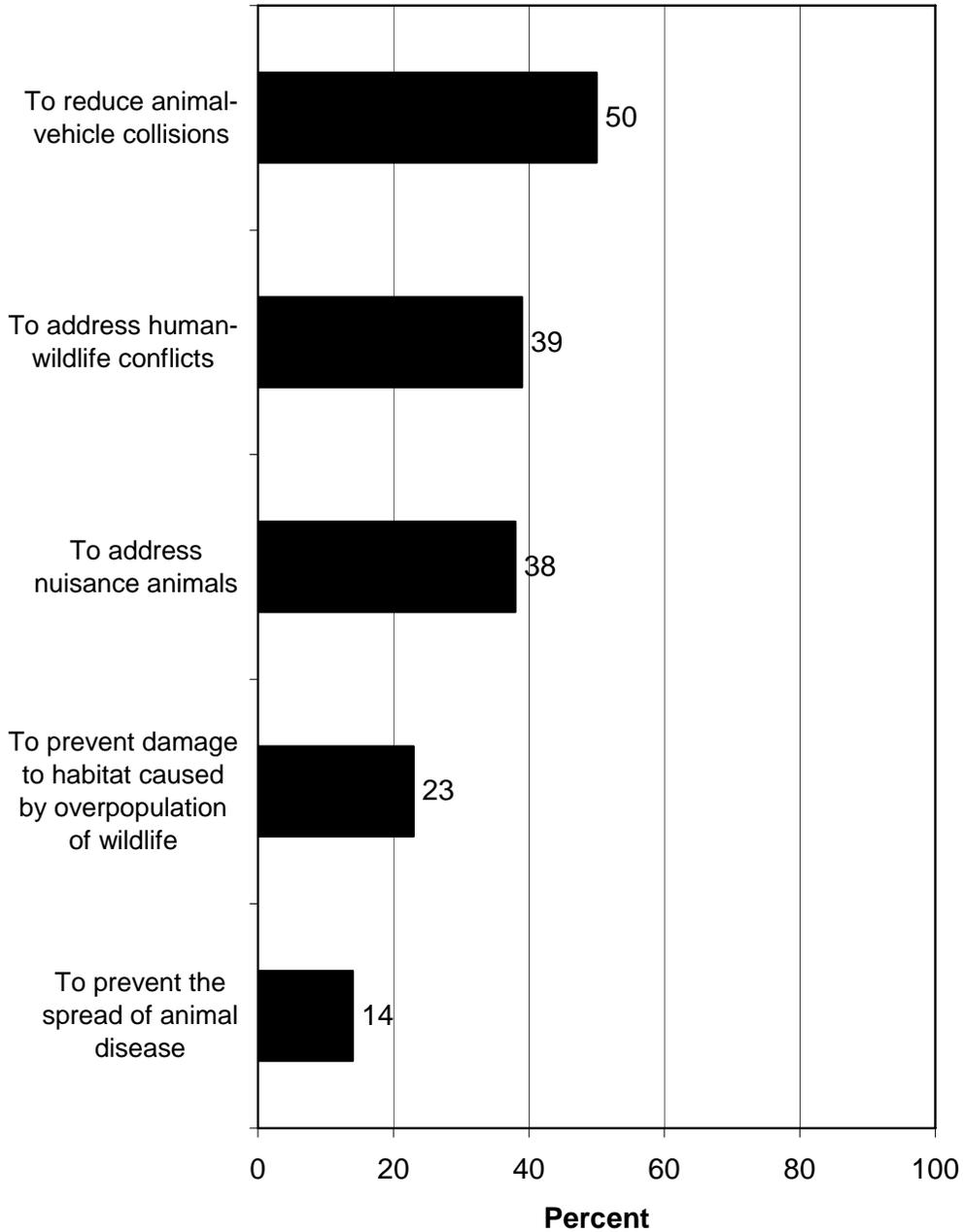
Q31-35. Percent who strongly support hunting for the following conditions.



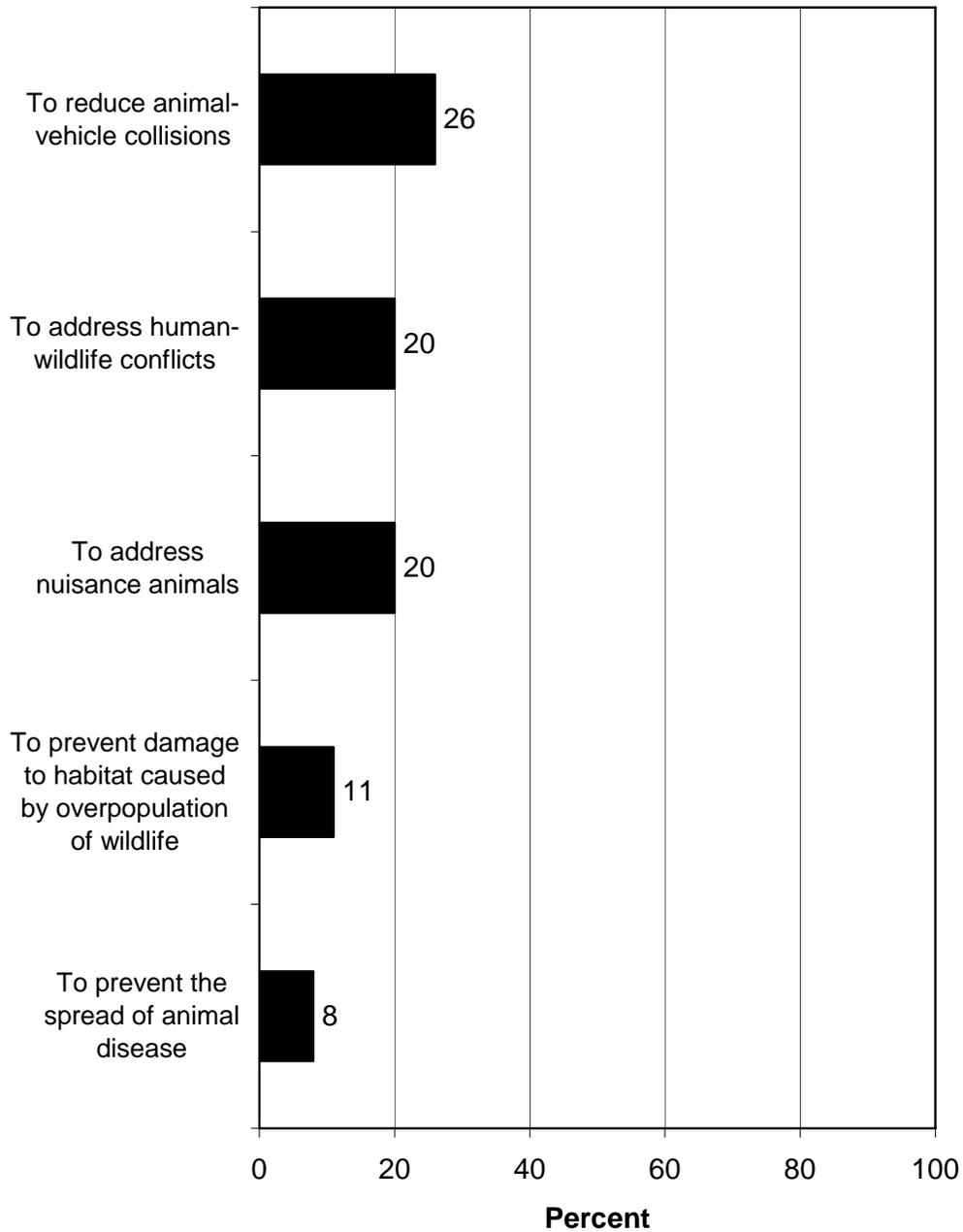
Q31-35. Percent who support hunting for the following conditions.



Q31-35. Percent who oppose hunting for the following conditions.



Q31-35. Percent who strongly oppose hunting for the following conditions.

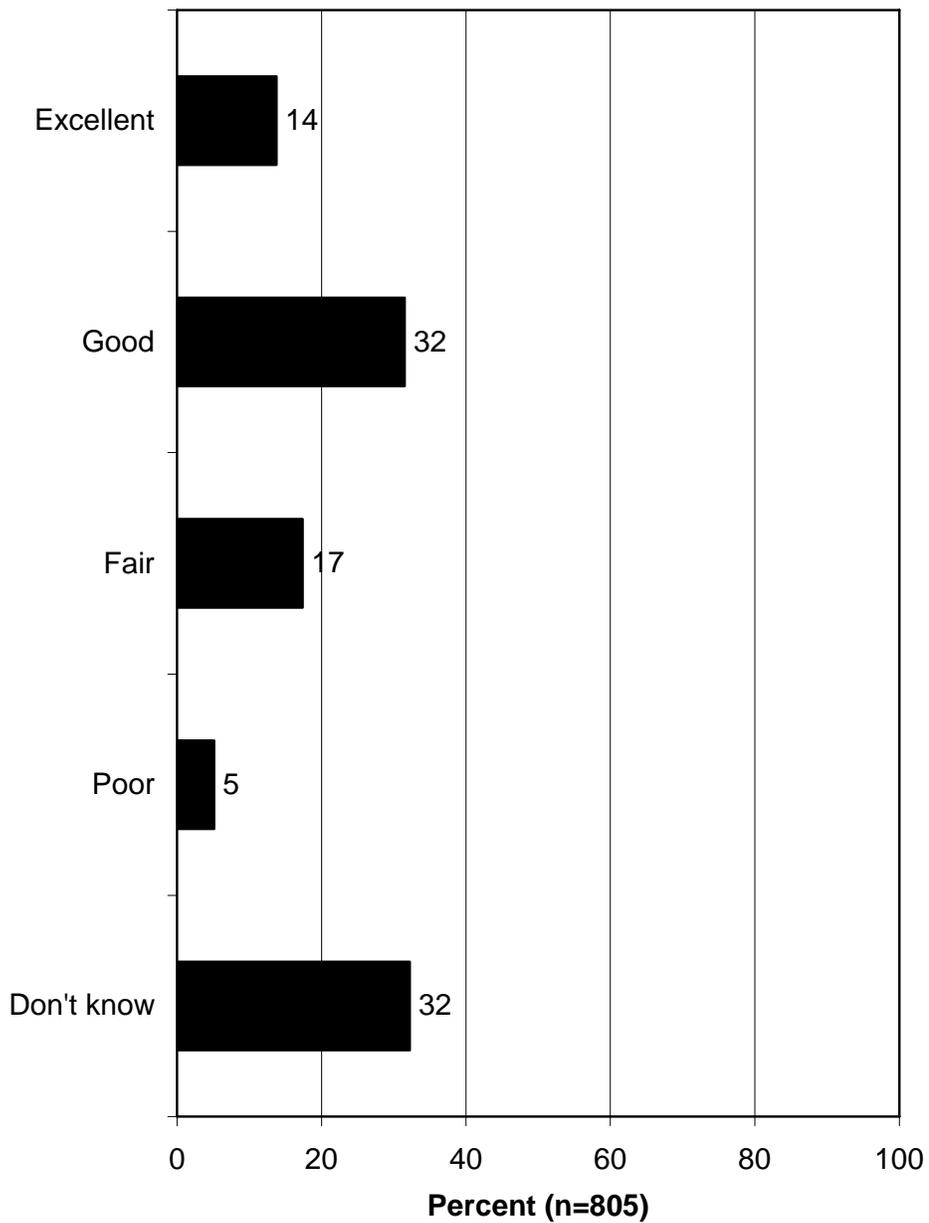


OPINIONS ON HUNTERS' BEHAVIOR AND HUNTER ETHICS

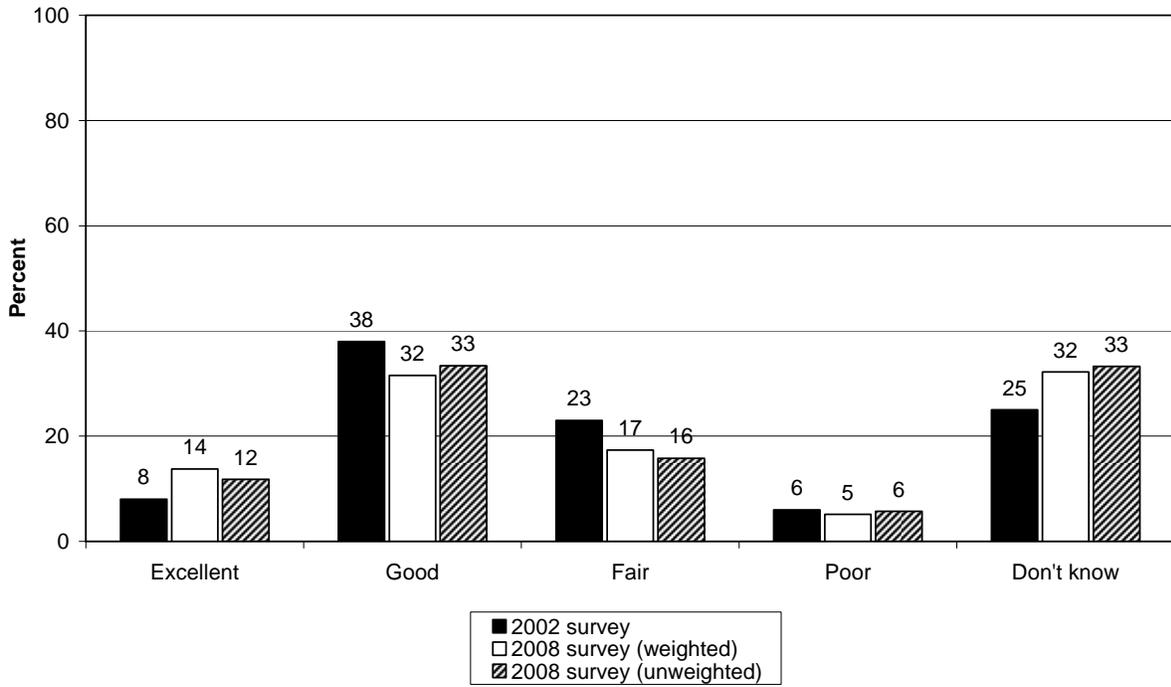
- The survey asked Washington residents how they would characterize the behavior of hunters in Washington. The most common answer is that they do not know (32%). Otherwise, the percentage saying that hunters' behavior is excellent or good (46%) exceeds the percentage who rate hunters' behavior as fair or poor (22%). Note that the middle answers (good or fair) of the scale exceed the extremes (excellent or poor).
 - Those who gave a rating of anything except excellent were asked if there is anything that would improve their opinion of hunters. The most common thing that could be done is if hunters are more courteous (e.g., they do not litter, they respect landowners' property) or if they follow the laws and regulations.
 - Trend: There is only a small difference in perceptions of hunter behavior between 2002 and 2008 (unweighted data). Excellent and good ratings are about the same (46% in 2002 gave an excellent or good rating, while 45% did so in 2008). On the other hand, it appears that "Don't know" responses grew (25% in 2002, 33% in 2008) at the expense of fair/poor ratings (29% in 2002, 22% in 2008).

- The survey asked Washington residents to indicate the percentage of Washington hunters they think comply with all hunting regulations. While only 2% think that *all* hunters comply with all hunting regulations, 48% give an answer of 75 percent or more who comply. (Again, the "don't know" responses are high—24%.)
 - In follow-up, any respondent who did not answer that "100 percent" of hunters comply with all hunting regulations were asked how they think Washington state could improve the compliance of hunters. "Don't know" is the most common answer, distantly followed by various ways, the top few being as follows: dispatch more law enforcement officers, provide better education to hunters, enforce the law more strictly/have more checks, and have more strict punishment and fines.

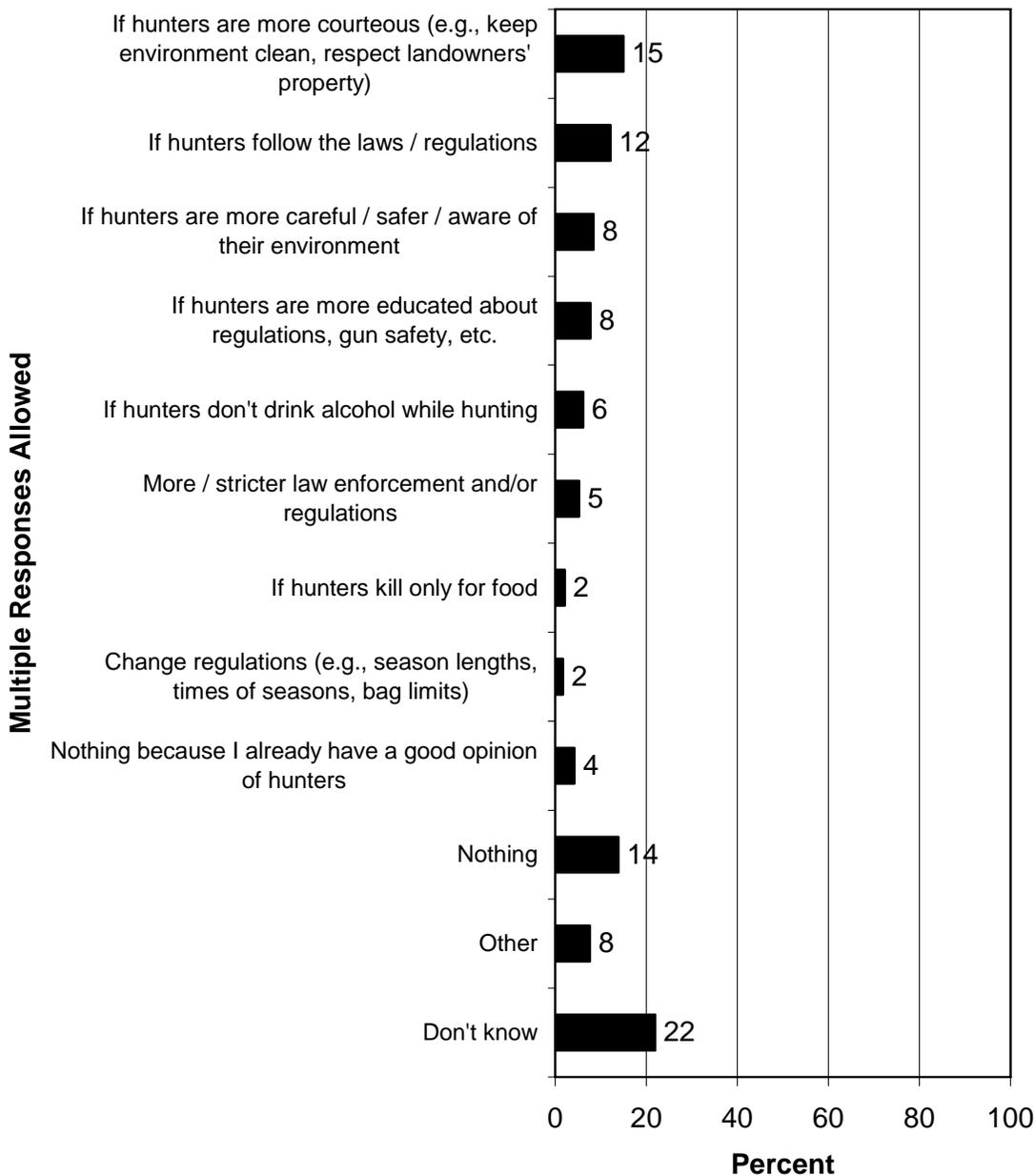
**Q14. In general, how would you characterize the behavior of hunters while hunting in Washington?
Would you say their behavior, in general, is excellent, good, fair or poor?**



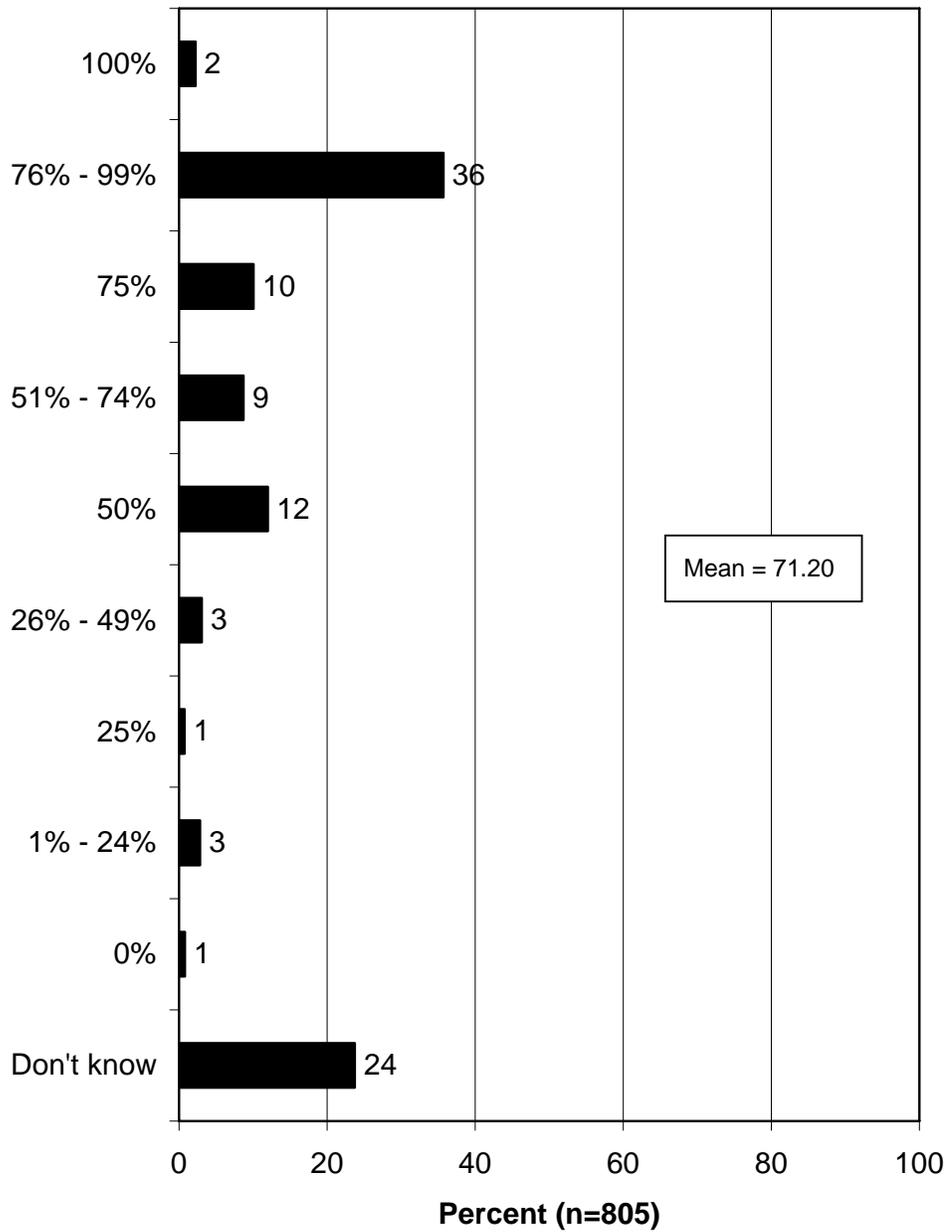
In general, how would you characterize the behavior of hunters while hunting in Washington?



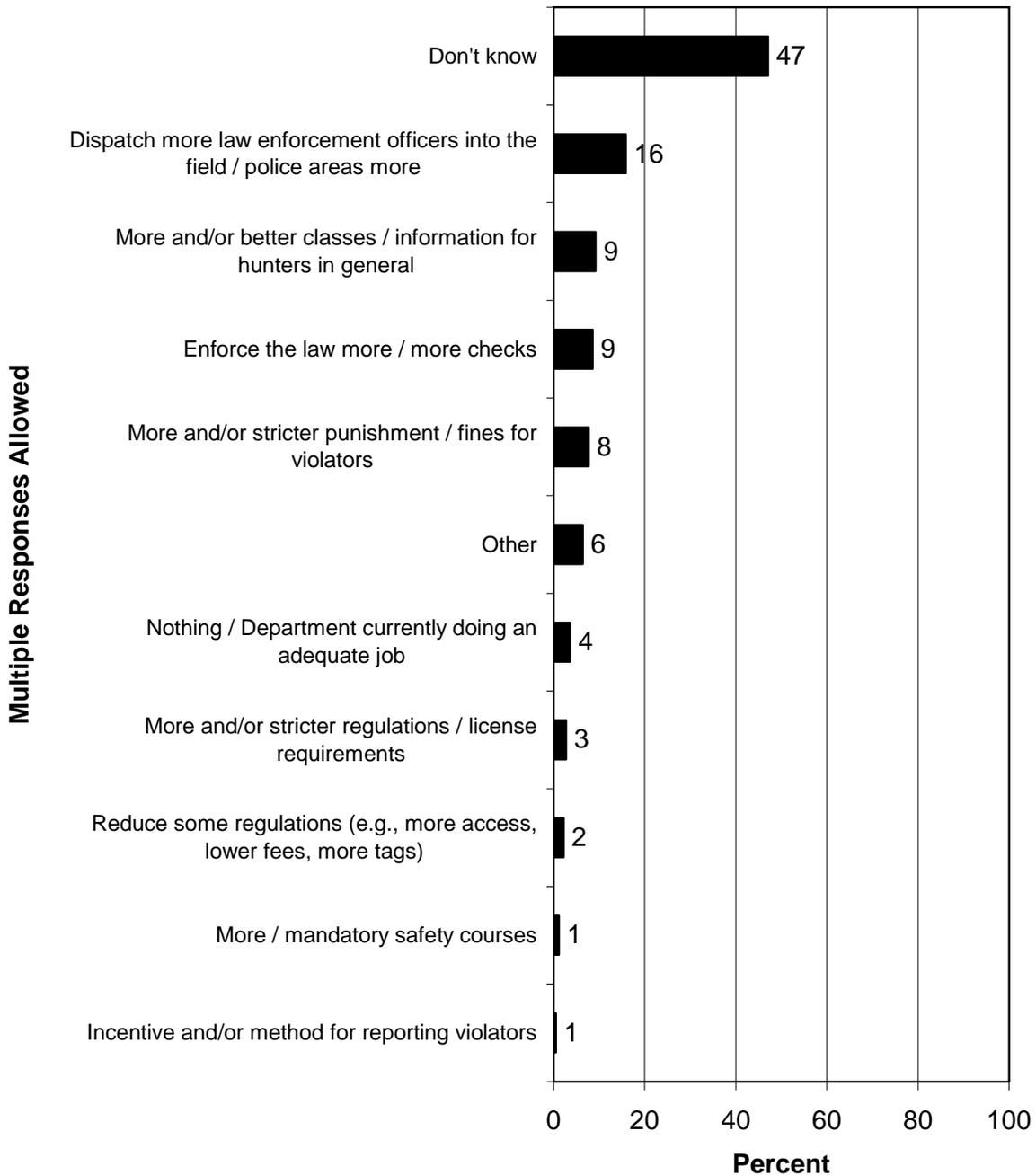
Q15. What would it take to improve your opinion of hunters? (Asked of those who characterize hunter behavior during hunting as either good, fair, or poor.)



Q16. What percentage of hunters do you think comply with all hunting regulations?



Q17. How would you suggest the Department improve the compliance of hunters? (Asked of those who did not believe that 100% of hunters comply with all hunting regulations.)

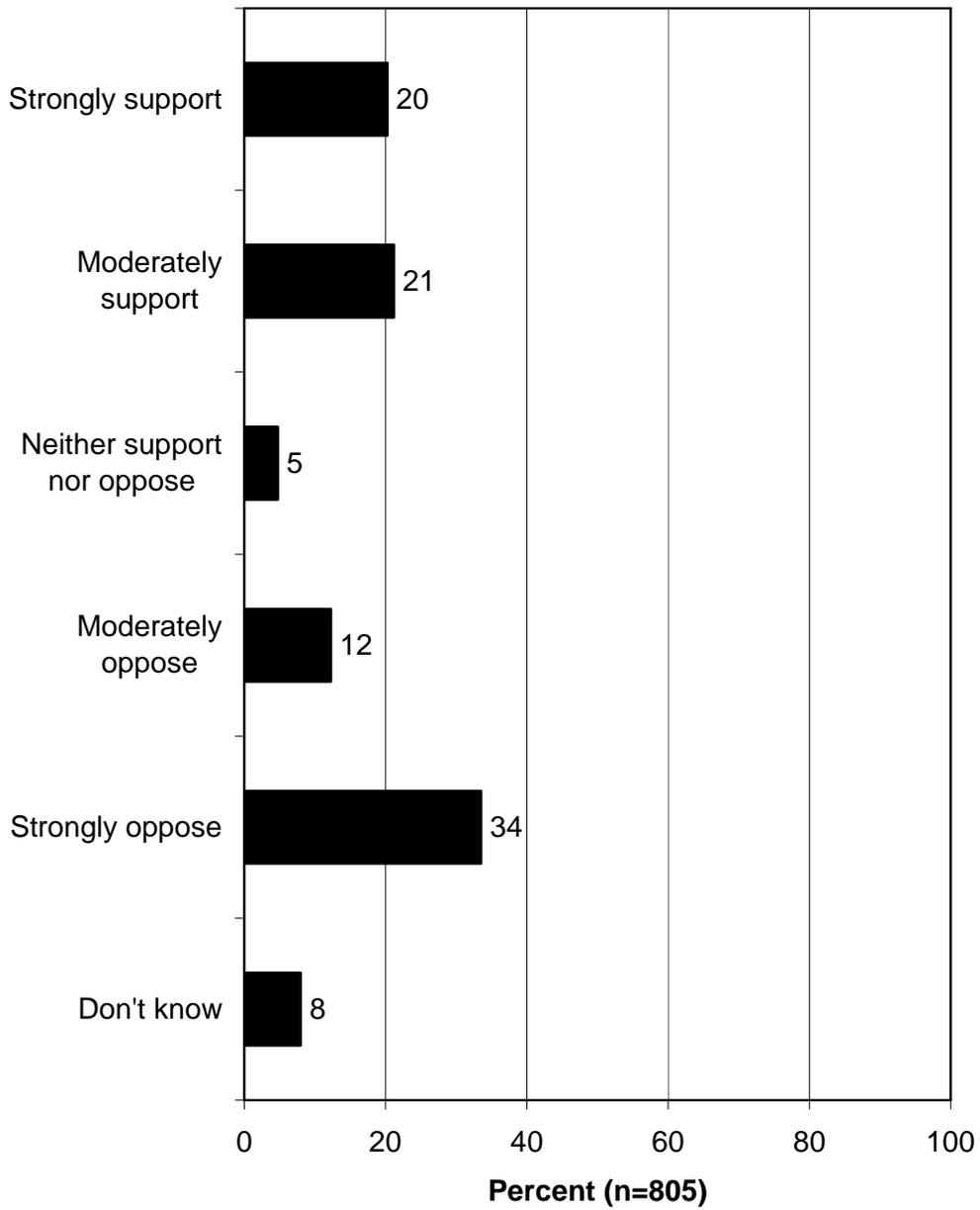


OPINIONS ON USING DOGS TO HUNT

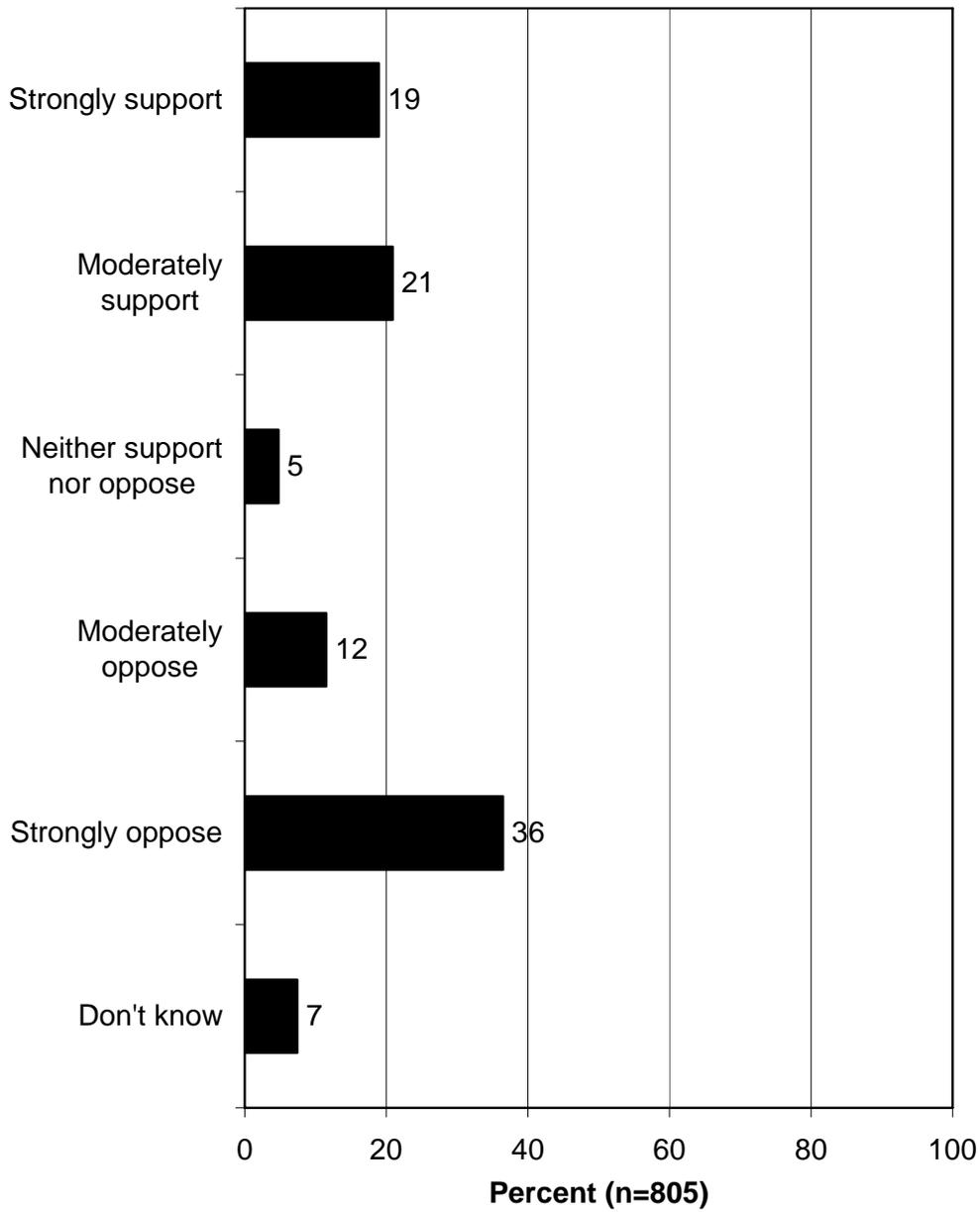
- The survey directly asked Washington residents if they support or oppose the use of dogs to hunt cougar. Opposition (46%) slightly exceeds support (41%). Note, however, that most opposition is *strong* opposition (34% *strongly* oppose), while support is evenly divided between strong and moderate.
 - The survey also asked about support of or opposition to use of dogs to hunt cougar specifically in the respondent's county of residence, with almost identical results: opposition (48%) slightly exceeds support (40%).

- When specific reasons for hunting cougar with dogs are presented, support increases over the support in general discussed above (in which 41% support). At the top is support of using dogs to hunt cougar to protect human safety (65% support), followed by two more reasons with majorities in support: to protect pets or livestock (56%) and to produce a healthy age structure in the state's elk herd, which is preyed upon by cougars (also 56%). At the bottom, with only 33% in support, is using dogs to hunt cougar for recreation. Indeed, the latter is the only reason for which a majority *oppose* hunting cougar with dogs (60% oppose).

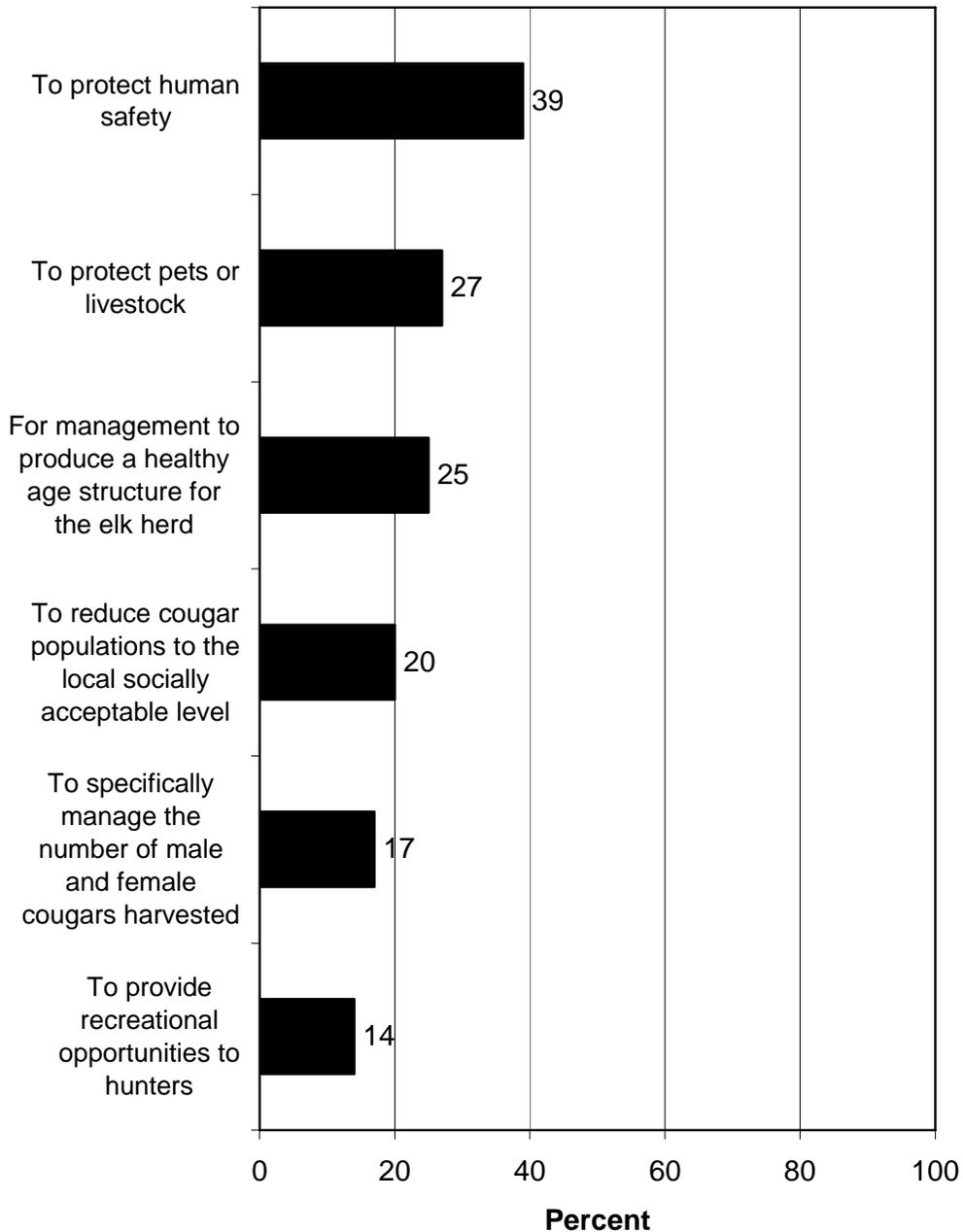
Q68. In general, do you support or oppose the use of dogs to hunt cougar?



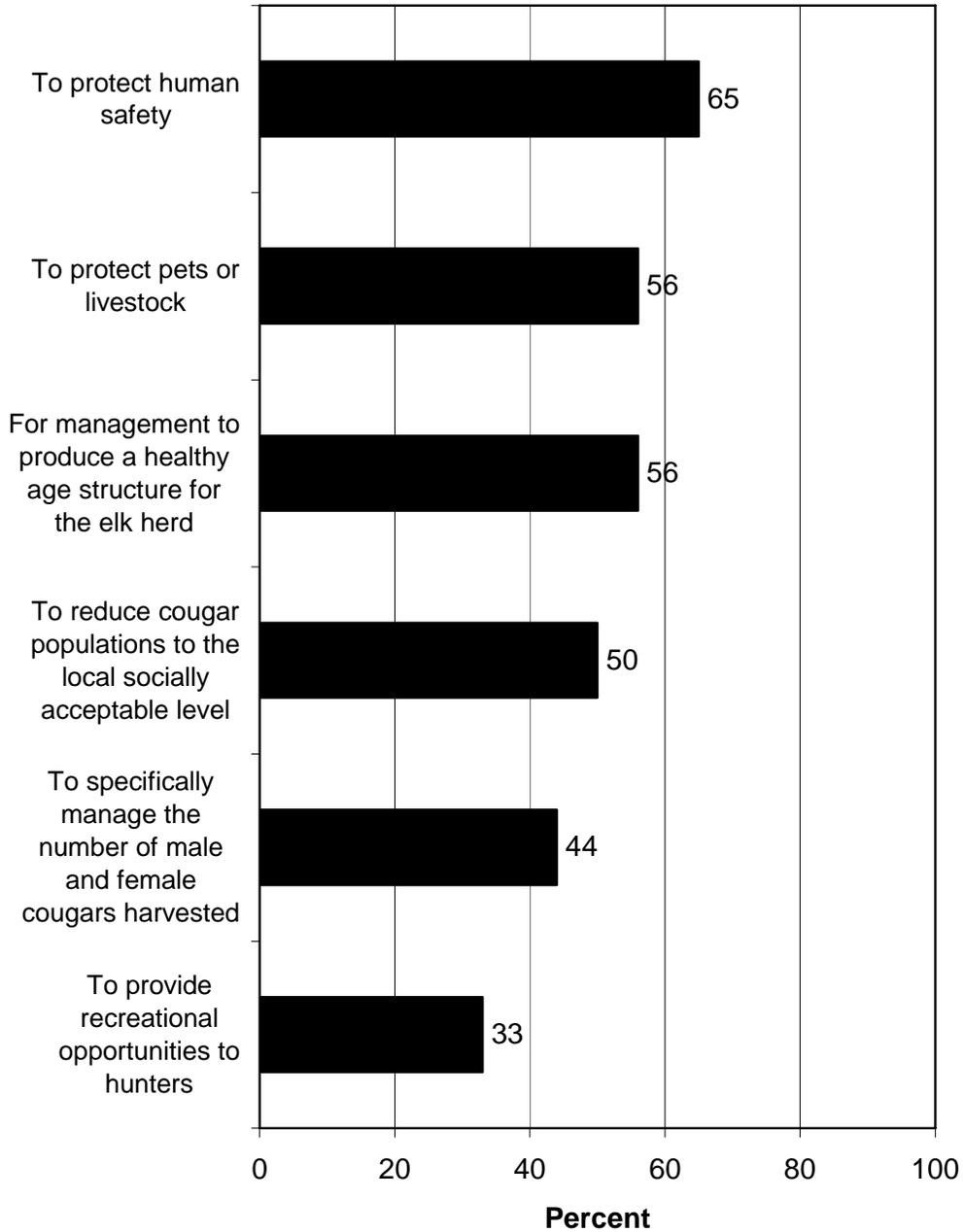
Q69. Do you support or oppose the use of dogs to hunt cougar in your county?



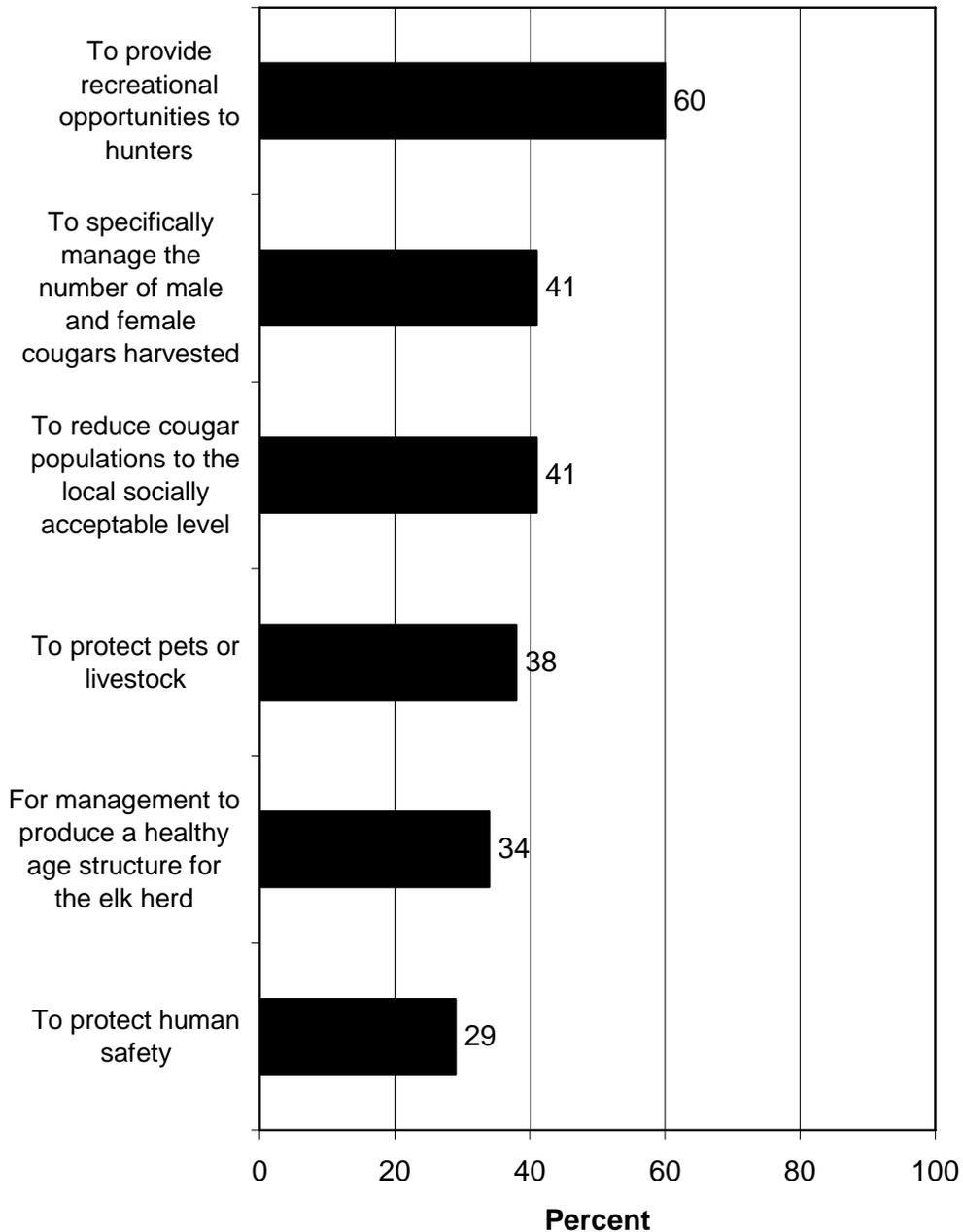
Q71-76. Percent who strongly support the use of dogs to hunt cougar for the following reasons.



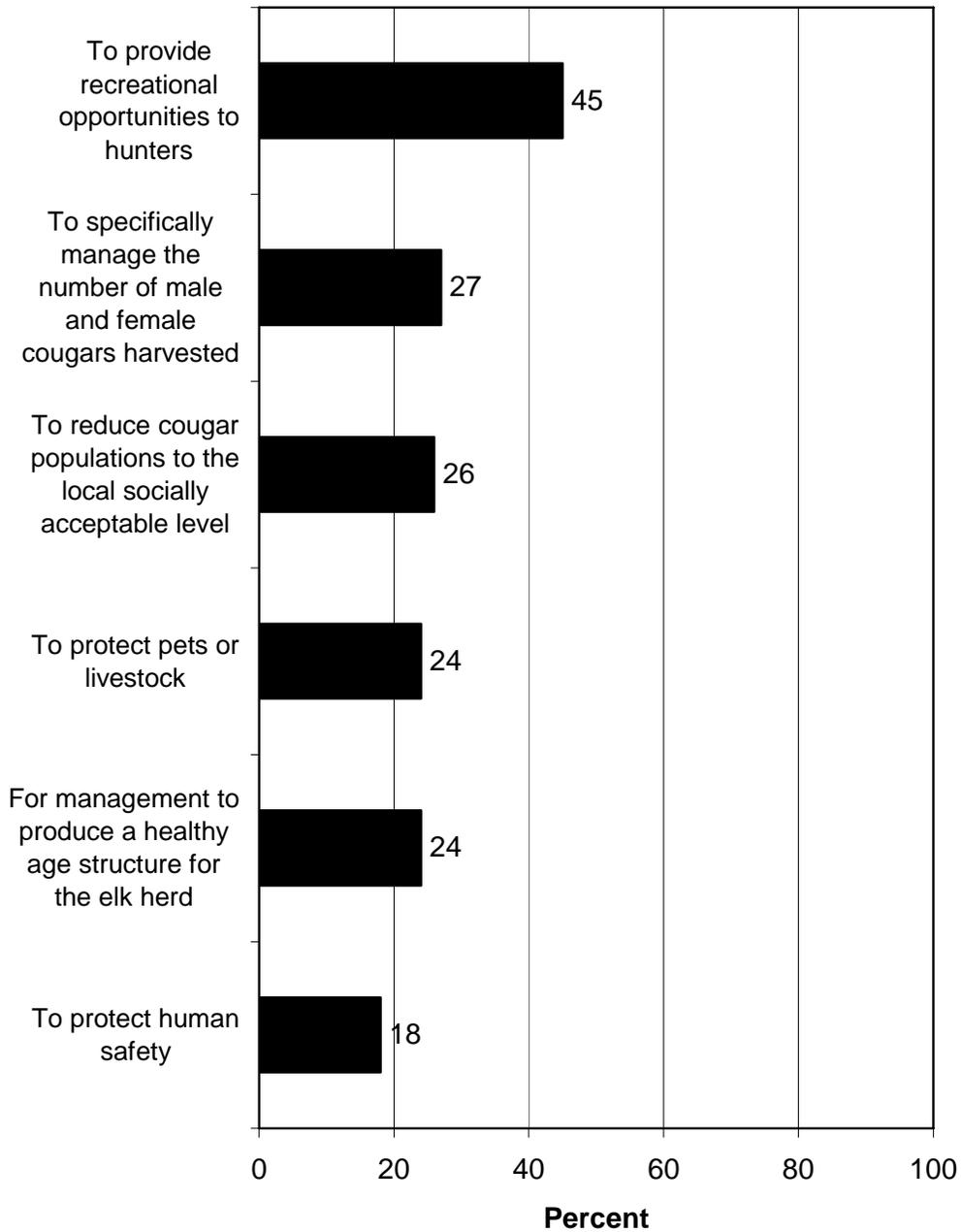
Q71-76. Percent who support the use of dogs to hunt cougar for the following reasons.



Q71-76. Percent who oppose the use of dogs to hunt cougar for the following reasons.



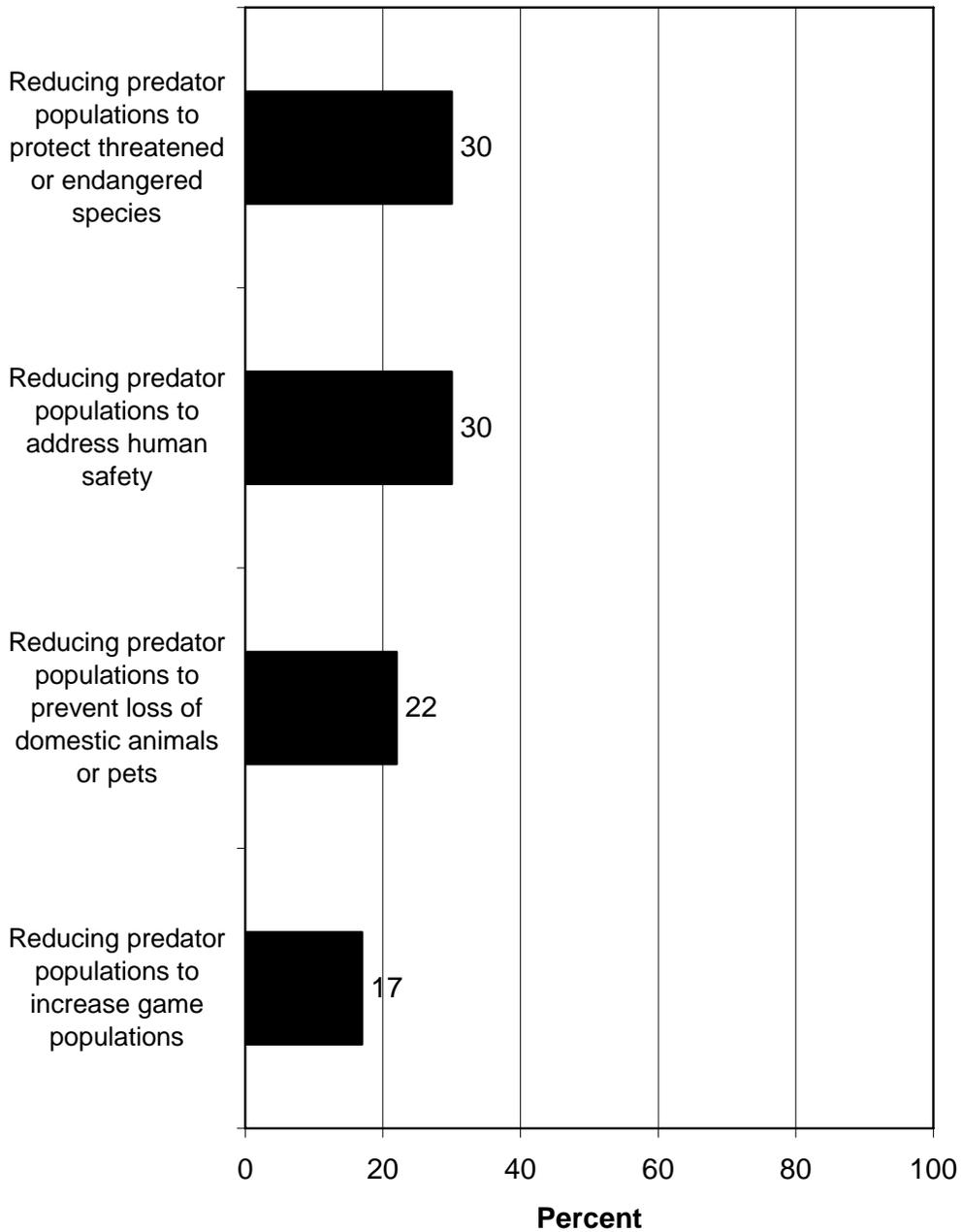
Q71-76. Percent who strongly oppose the use of dogs to hunt cougar for the following reasons.



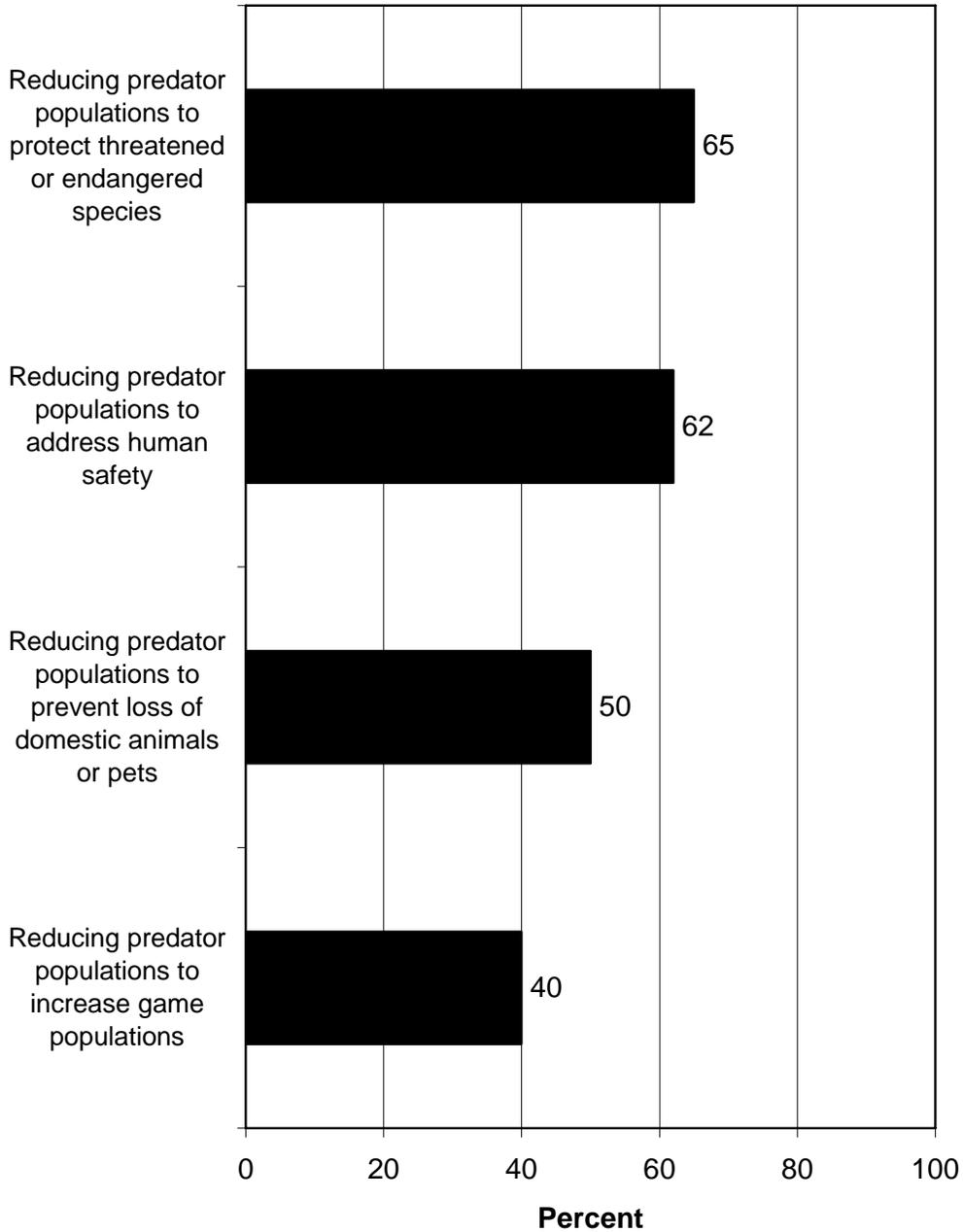
OPINIONS ON PREDATOR MANAGEMENT IN GENERAL

- The survey asked respondents about their support of or opposition to reducing predators for four reasons. Majorities support reducing predators for the health of threatened or endangered species (65%) or for human safety (62%), and half support it for protecting pets and domestic animals (50%). The lowest is to increase game populations (40%), which is the only reason for which a majority oppose (slightly more than 50%).
 - Trend: Support for reducing predators is less in 2008 (unweighted data) than it was in 2002 for three of the four reasons: to address human safety (84% in 2002, 63% in 2008), to protect threatened or endangered species (76% in 2002, 64% in 2008), and to prevent loss of domestic animals or pets (69% in 2002, 53% in 2008). Support for reducing predators to increase game populations was about the same in the two years of study (40% in 2002, 42% in 2008).

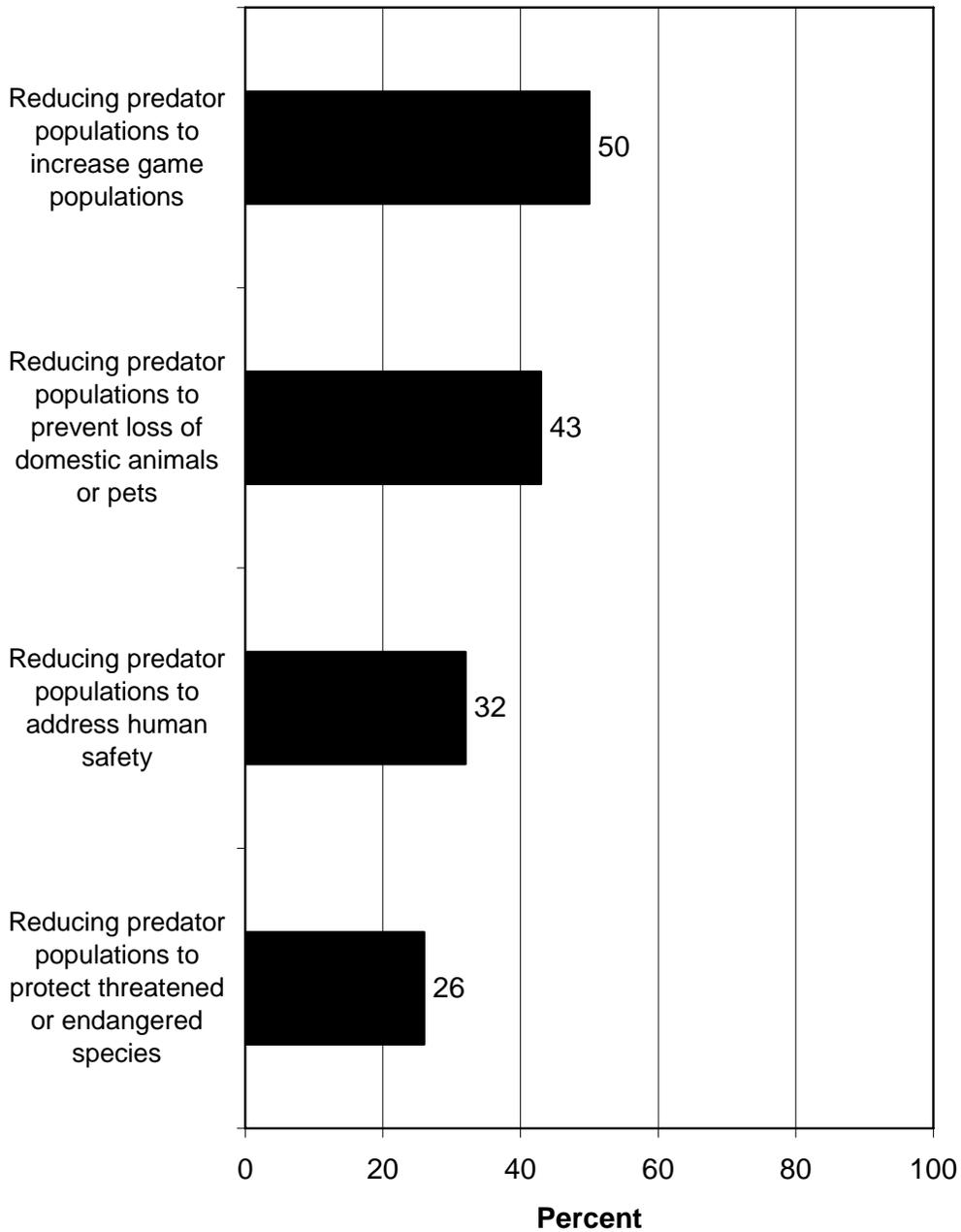
Q38-41. Percent who strongly support the following items as they relate to predator management.



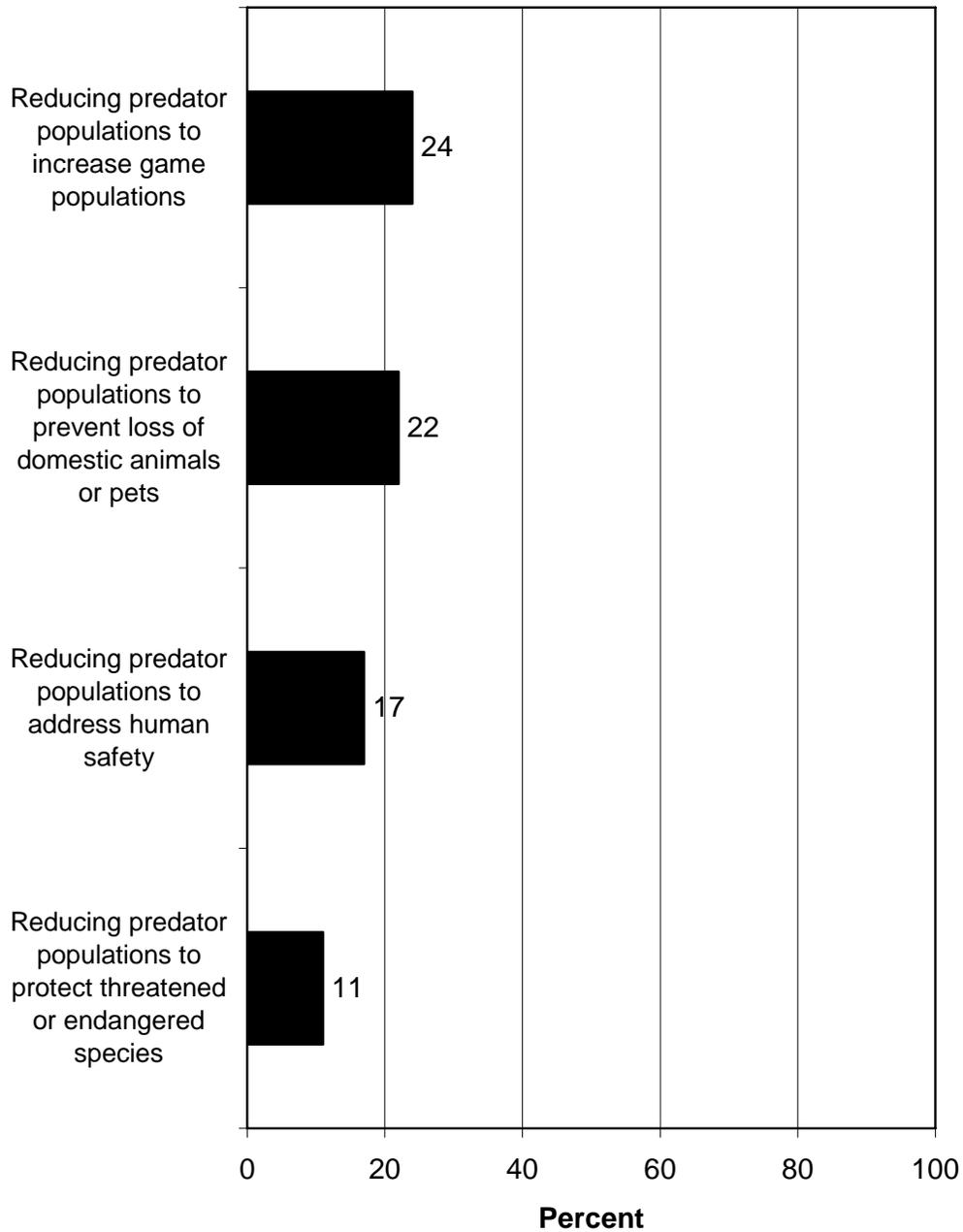
Q38-41. Percent who support the following items as they relate to predator management.



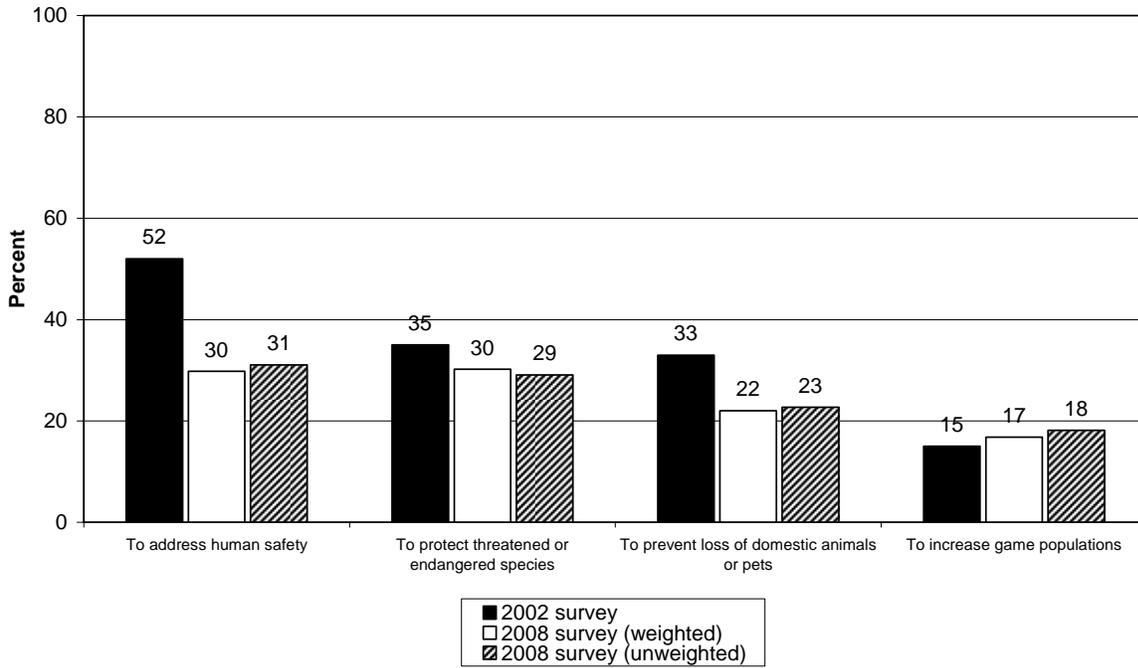
Q38-41. Percent who oppose the following items as they relate to predator management.



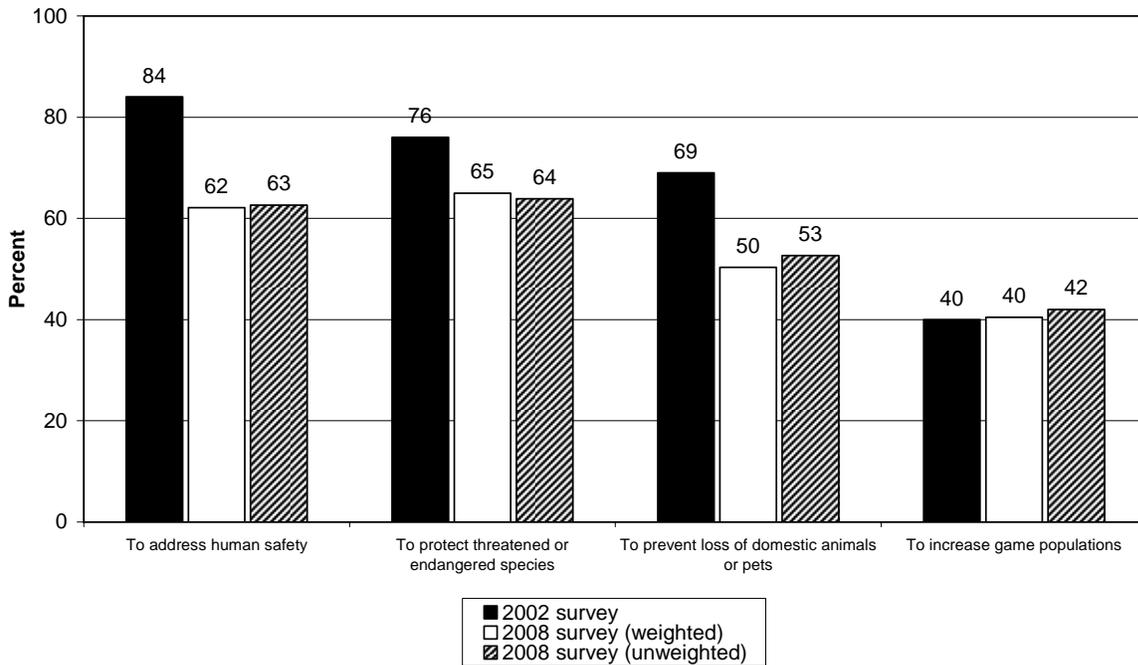
Q38-41. Percent who strongly oppose the following items as they relate to predator management.



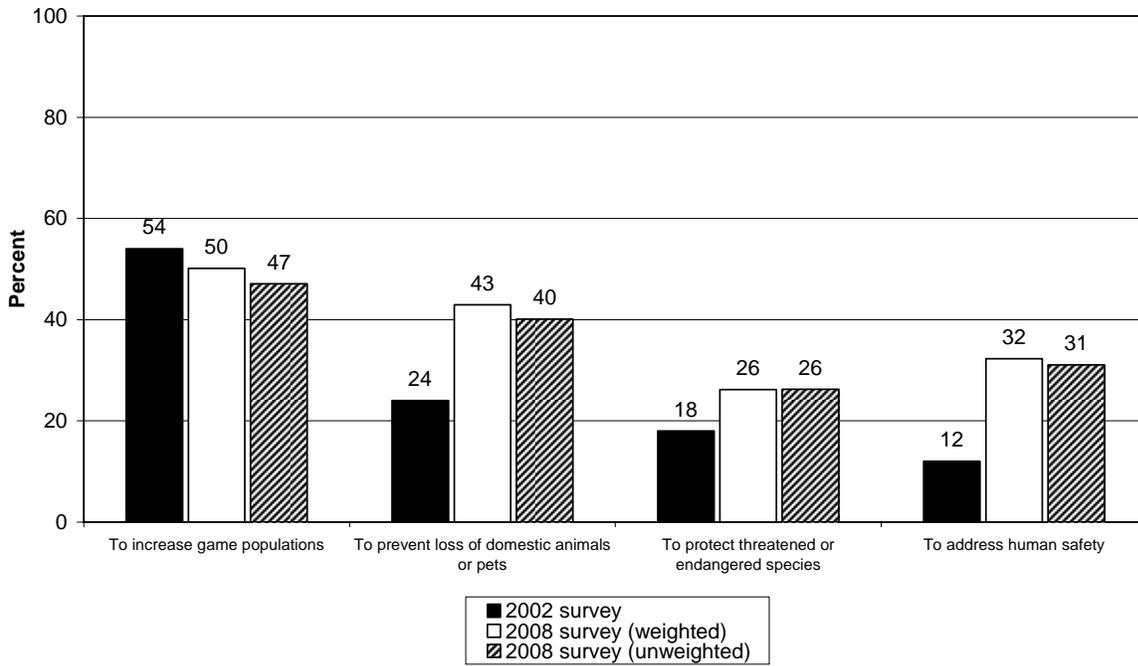
Percent who strongly support each reason to reduce predator populations.



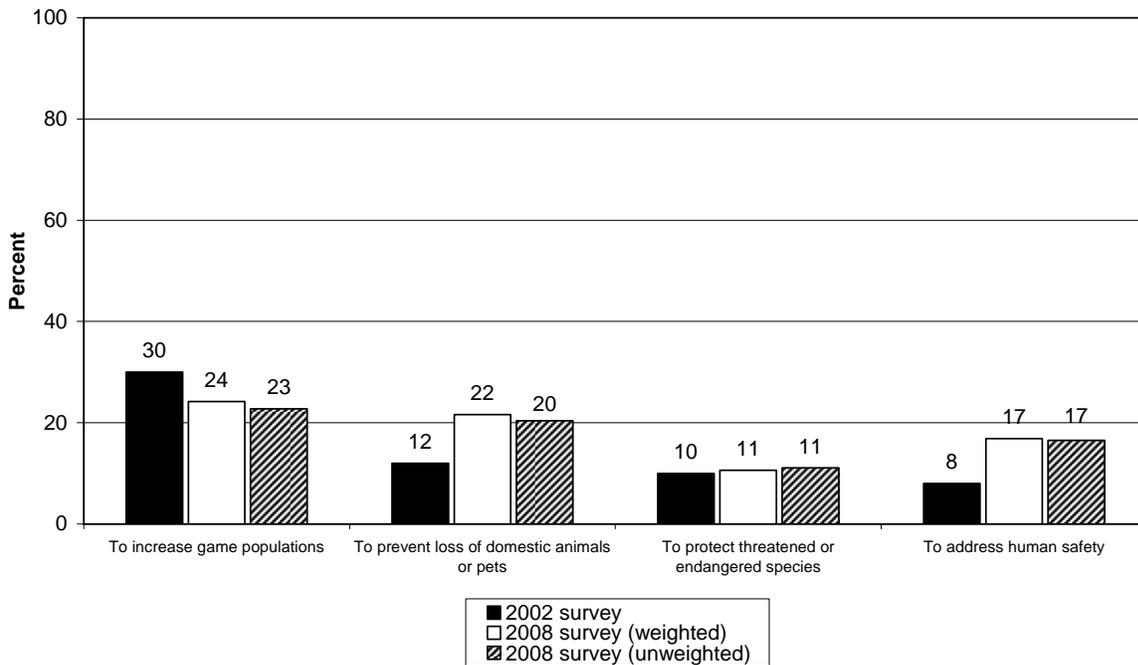
Percent who support each reason to reduce predator populations.



Percent who oppose each reason to reduce predator populations.



Percent who strongly oppose each reason to reduce predator populations.



OPINIONS ON MANAGEMENT OF COUGAR AND BLACK BEAR

- Washington residents most commonly think that threats to humans from cougars have remained stable in the past 4 years (43% gave this answer); otherwise, they more often think threats have increased (24%) than decreased (7%). A quarter (25%) do not know.
 - Those who say the threats to humans have *increased* most commonly attribute the increase to habitat encroachment by humans or simply more media reports about threats; only a few think threats have increased because the number of cougars has increased.
 - Those who say the threats to humans have *decreased* most commonly attribute the decrease to fewer media reports/fewer sightings or to their belief that human encroachment has forced cougars out of the area and thereby reduced threats (i.e., cougars just are not around anymore).

- Washington residents most commonly think that threats to livestock or pets from cougars have remained stable in the past 4 years (39% gave this answer); otherwise, they more often think threats have increased (24%) than decreased (5%). Almost a third (31%) do not know.
 - Those who say the threats to livestock or pets have *increased* most commonly attribute the increase to habitat encroachment by humans or simply more media reports about threats; only a few think threats have increased because the number of cougars has increased.
 - Those who say the threats to livestock or pets have *decreased* most commonly attribute the decrease to fewer media reports, fewer cougars, or better cougar population management.

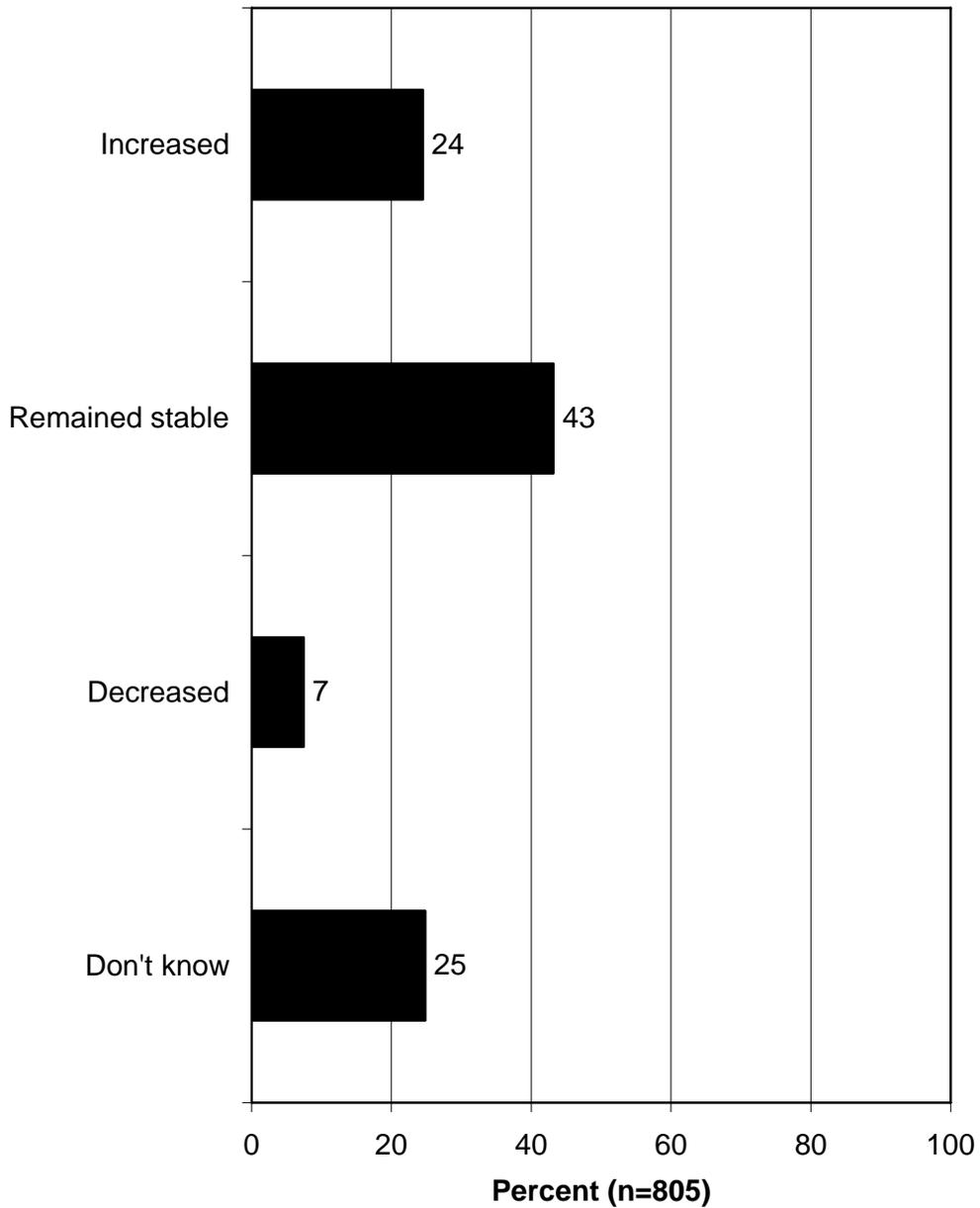
- Washington residents were asked whether *local* opinion should be given more weight than *statewide* opinion in cougar management decisions, and the large majority of residents (74%) think local opinion should be given more weight.
 - A crosstabulation found that those who live in urban areas are less likely to support, and *much* less likely to *strongly* support, giving more weight to local opinion.

- Those who disapprove of hunting were asked if they support or oppose using cougar hunting as a way to manage cougar populations in situations where deer and/or elk herds are below

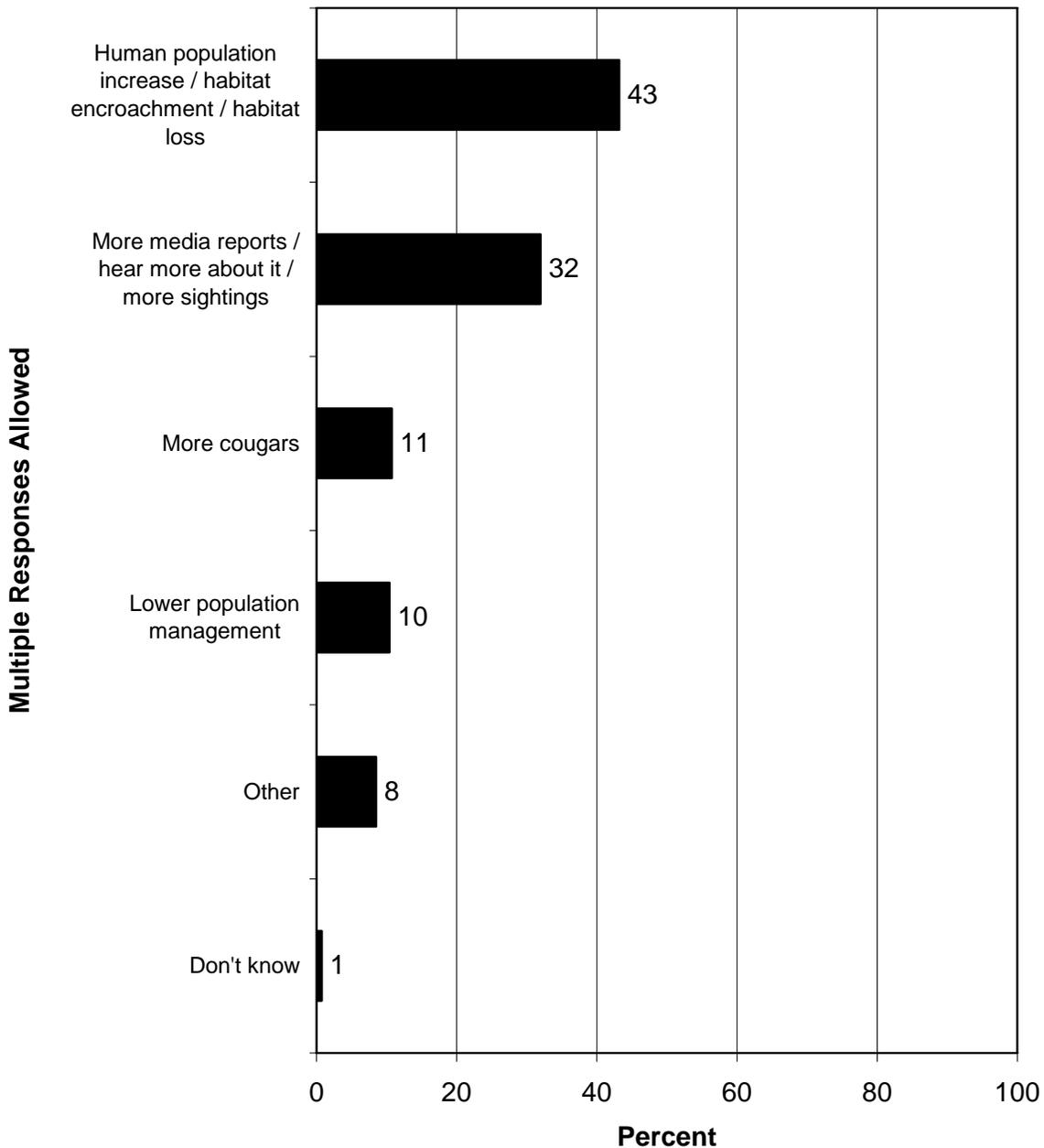
population objectives and need to be increased. Given this stipulation, 45% of those who disapprove of legal, regulated hunting support cougar hunting to increase deer and/or elk herds when necessary.

- Those who oppose were asked why they oppose. The most common answer is that they believe nature will balance itself, followed by that the respondent believes there are better alternatives such as trapping and relocating or that the respondent does not approve of hunting/killing animals.
- The survey asked those who had not previously indicated that they disapprove of legal, recreational hunting a specific question about zone management of cougars. First, an explanation was given that zone management of cougars would mean that different zones of the state could have different population objectives for cougar (e.g., keeping the cougar population stable in one zone while reducing the cougar population in another zone), and that different population objectives, in turn, could require different hunting methods in the different zones. These respondents were then asked if they support or oppose zone management with its different population objectives, and a large majority (79%) support zone management, while 12% oppose.
- The survey asked Washington residents which of four actions they would support to reduce cougar when Department biologists consider it necessary to do so. Trap and relocate is the most popular (75%), the only with a majority in support. With medium support is regulated hunting by licensed hunters (48%) and hunting by Department staff (40%). The lowest support is for hunting by paid professionals other than Department staff (24%).
- The survey asked a similar question to that discussed immediately above pertaining to black bears instead of cougars. The results are nearly the same. Trap and relocate is the most popular (75%), followed by regulated hunting by licensed hunters (47%), hunting by Department staff (38%), and, the lowest, hunting by paid professionals other than Department staff (22%).

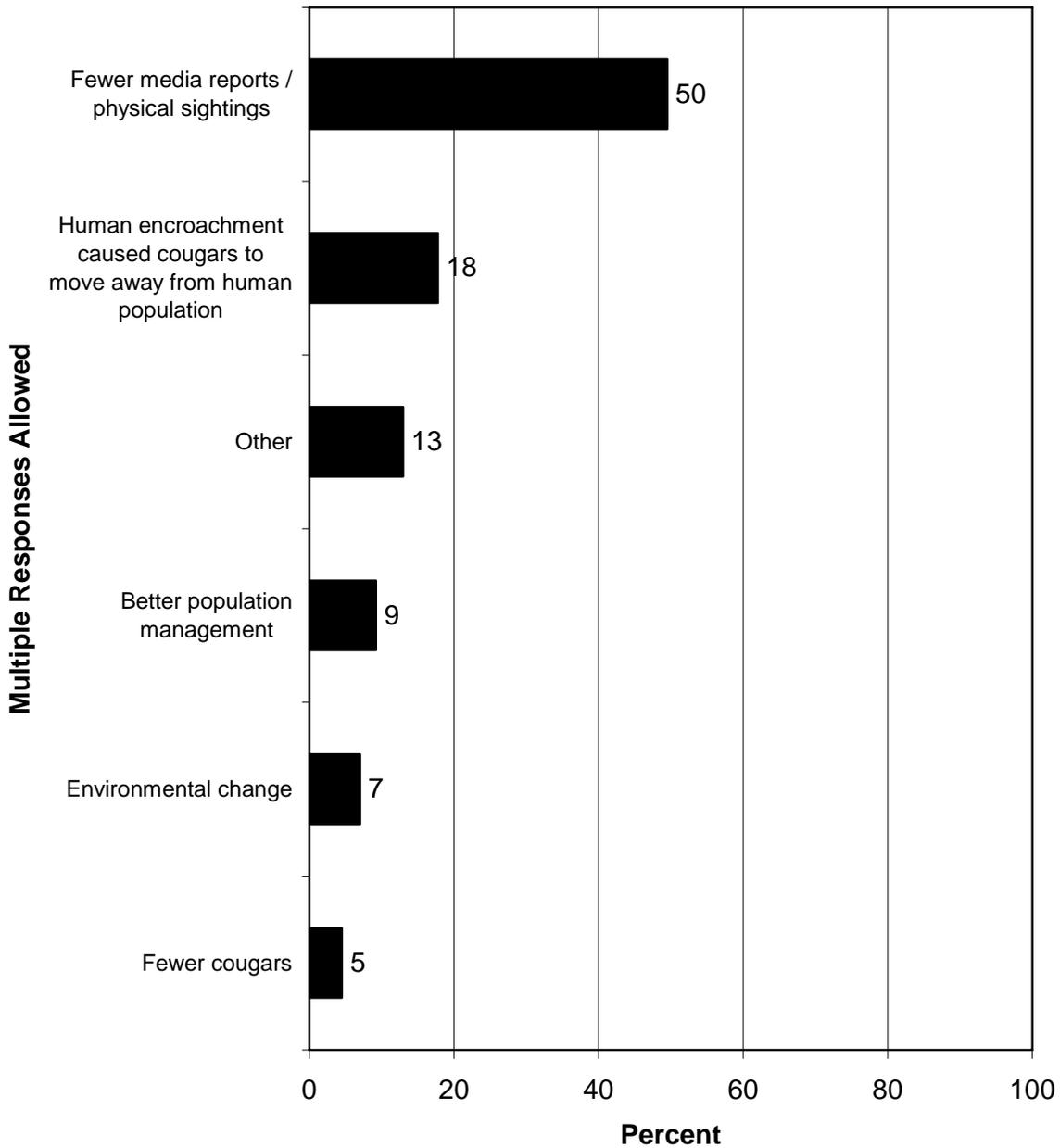
Q78. Do you think threats to humans by cougars have increased, decreased, or remained stable in the past 4 years?



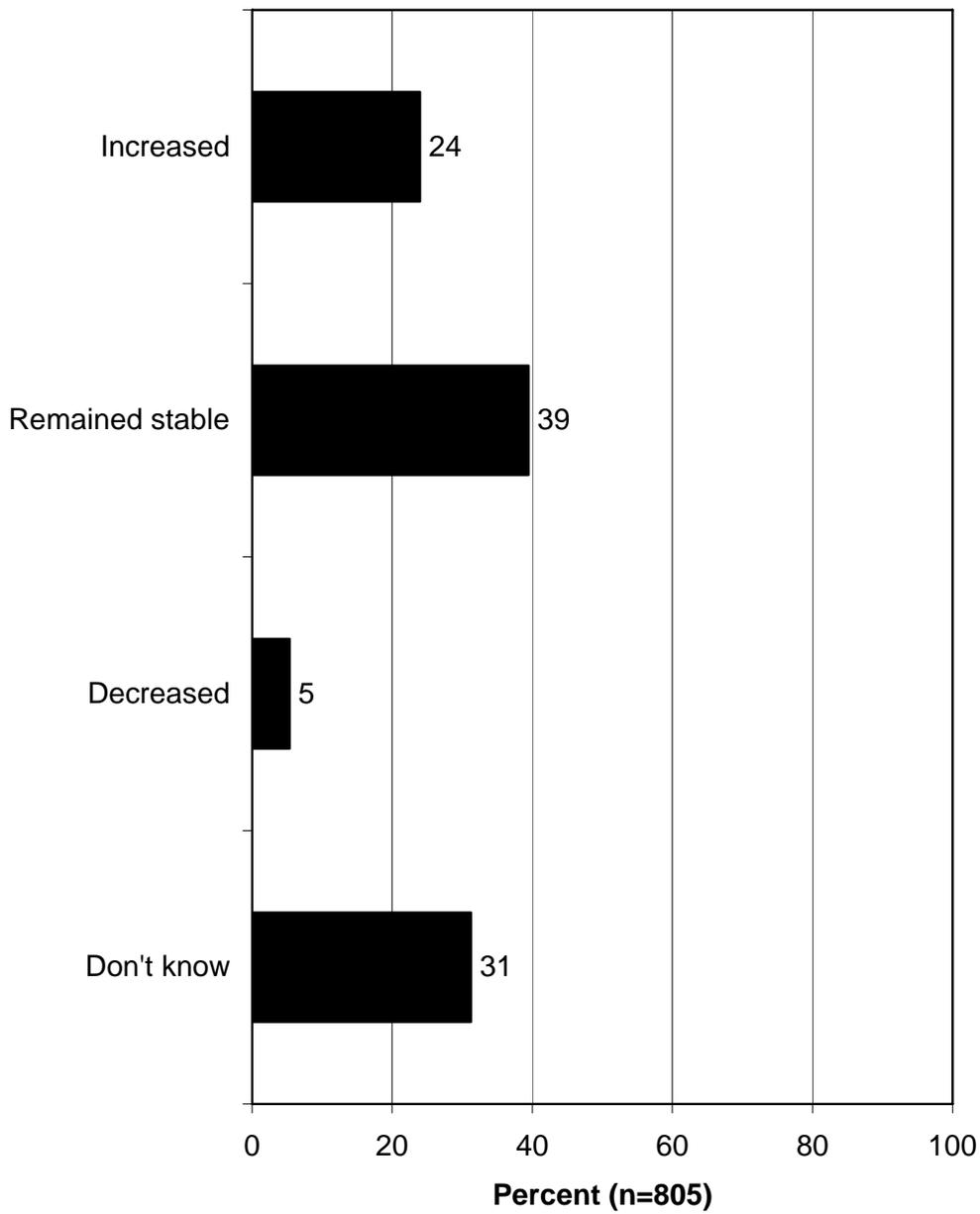
Q79. Why do you think threats to humans have increased in the last 4 years? (Asked of those who believe that threats to humans by cougars have increased in the past 4 years.)



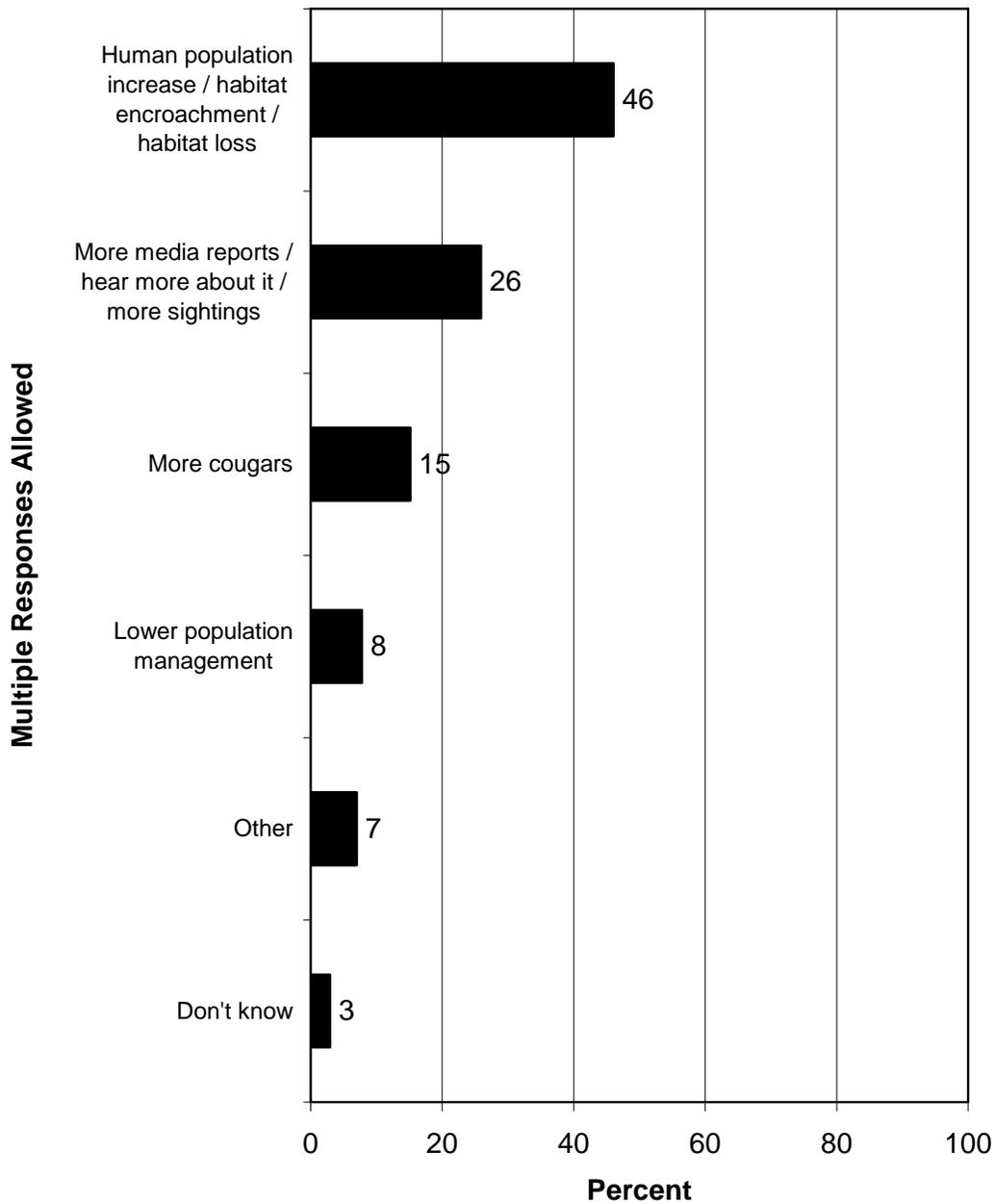
Q80. Why do you think threats to humans have decreased in the last 4 years? (Asked of those who believe that threats to humans by cougars have decreased in the past 4 years.)



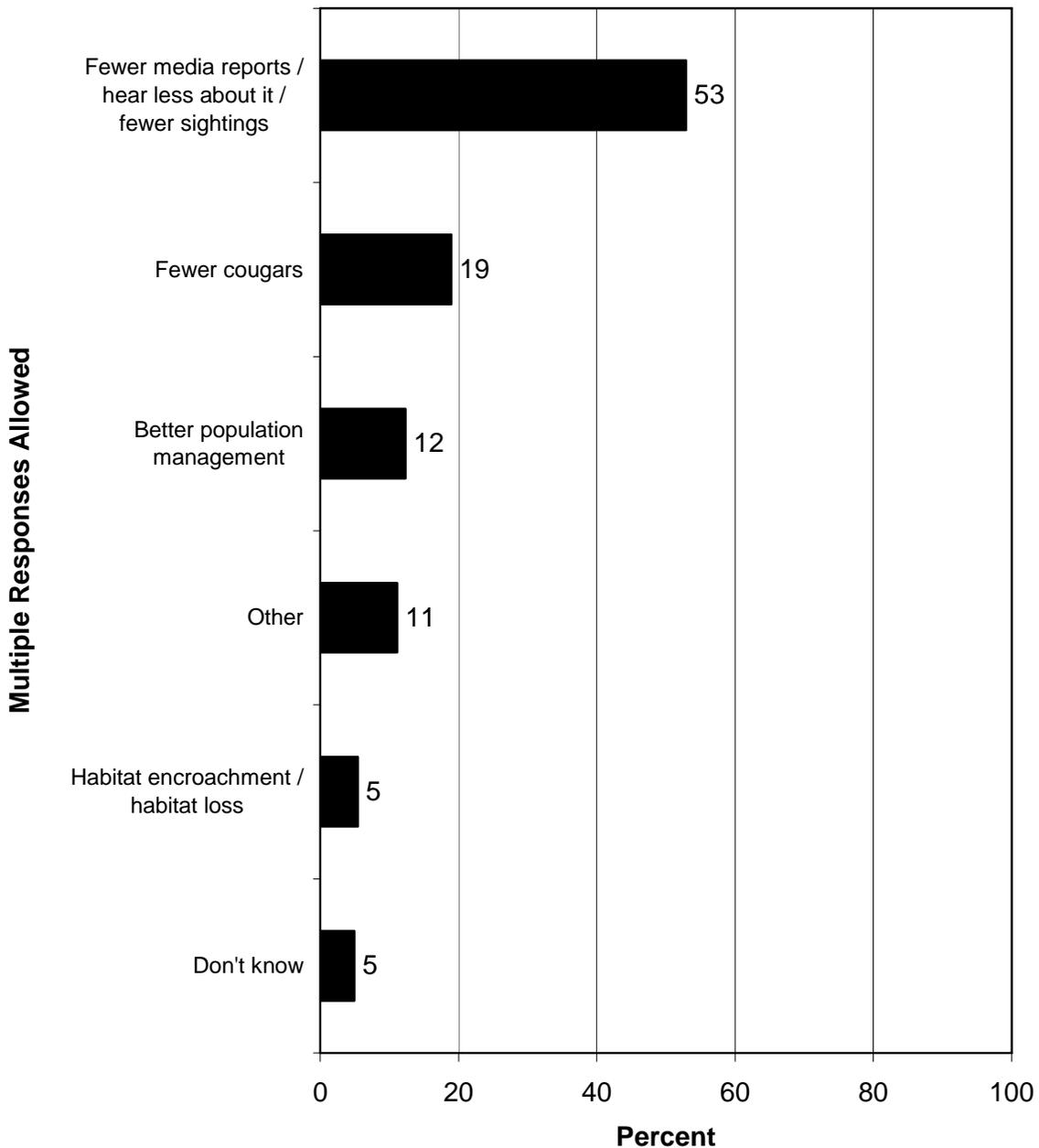
Q81. Do you think threats to livestock or pets by cougars have increased, decreased, or remained stable in the past 4 years?



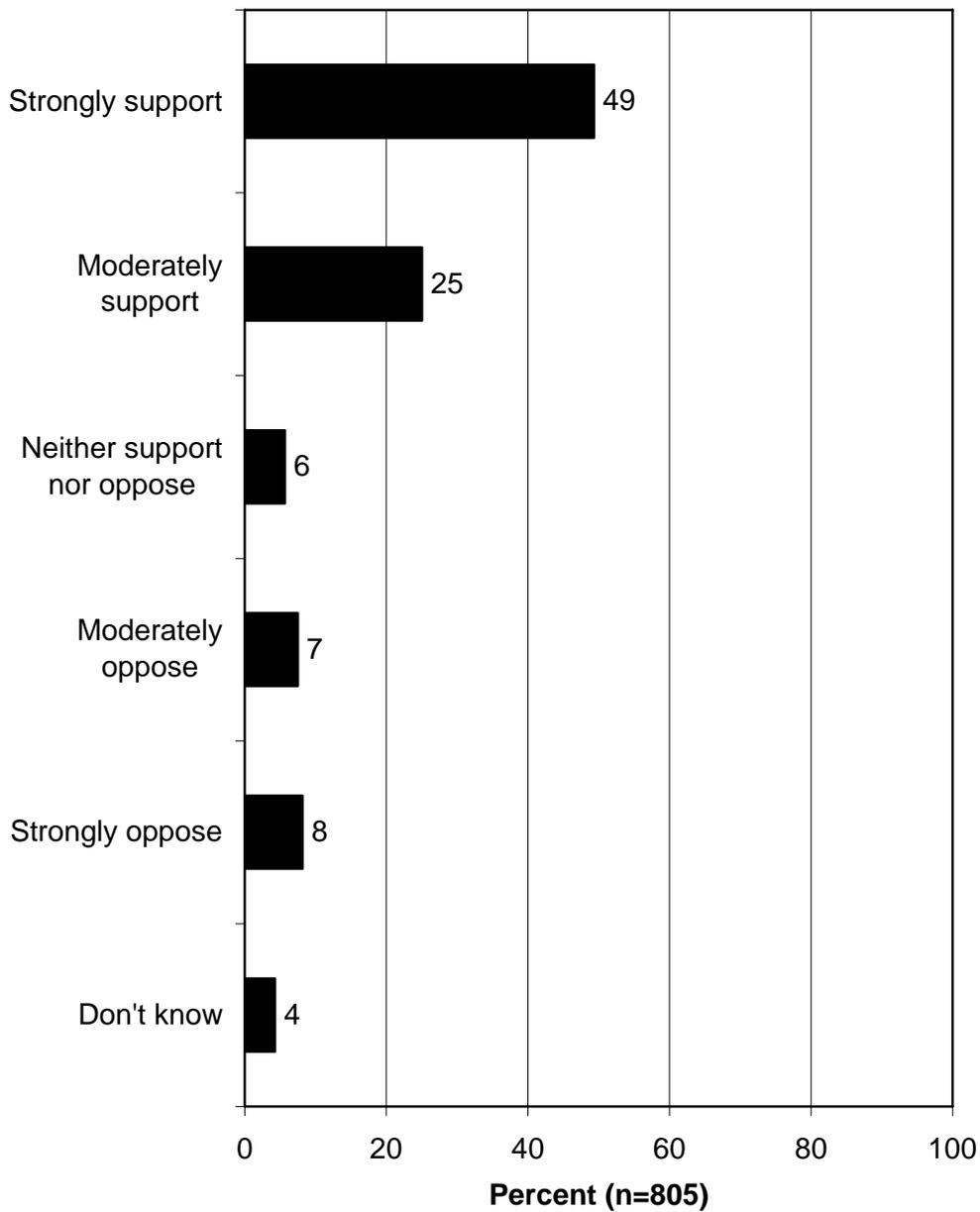
Q82. Why do you think threats to livestock or pets have increased in the last 4 years? (Asked of those who believe that threats to livestock or pets by cougars have increased in the past 4 years.)



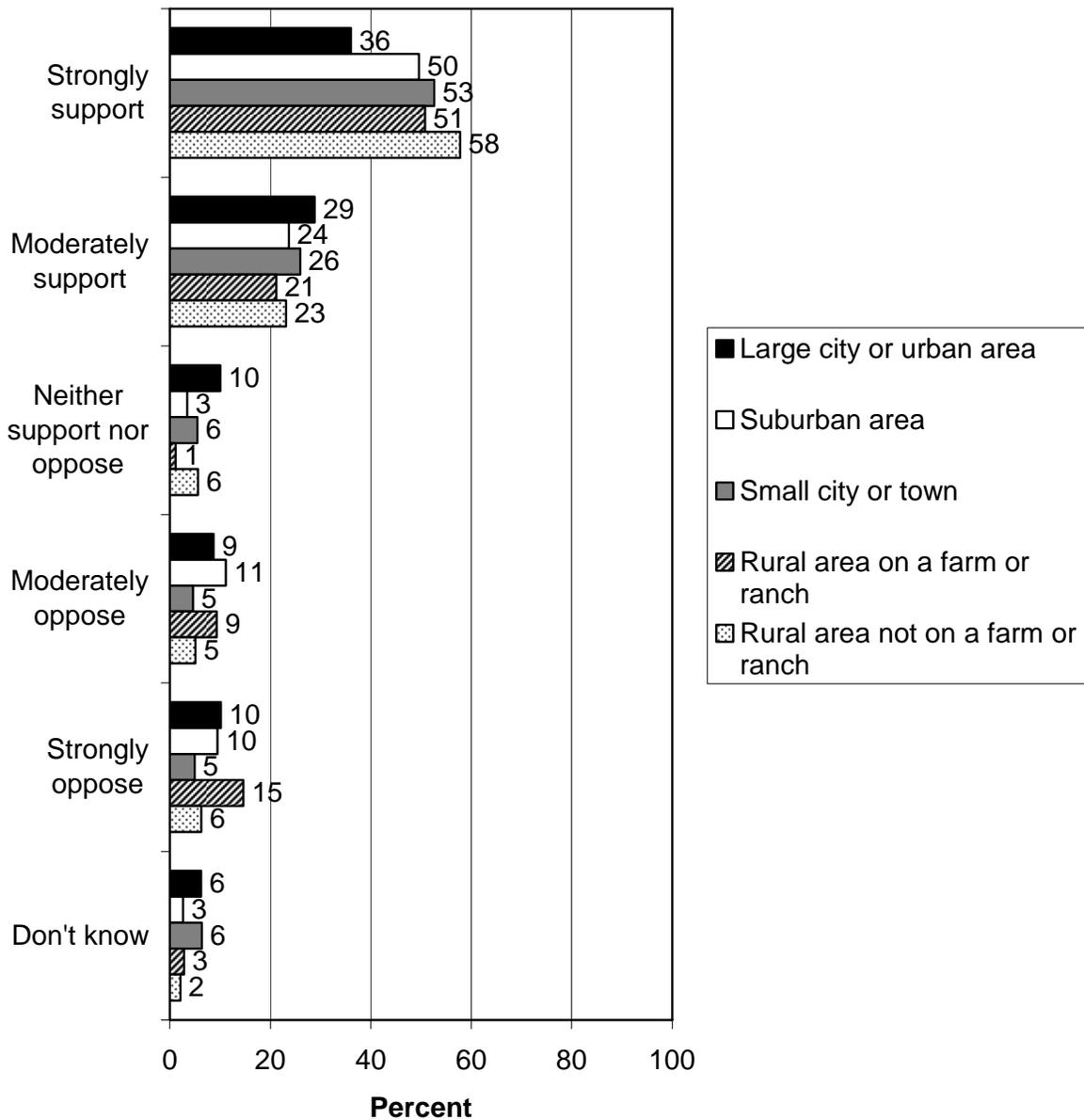
Q83. Why do you think threats to livestock or pets have decreased in the last 4 years? (Asked of those who believe that threats to livestock or pets by cougars have decreased in the past 4 years.)



Q77. When the Department makes decisions about cougar management, do you support or oppose weighting local public input more than statewide public input for local cougar management issues?



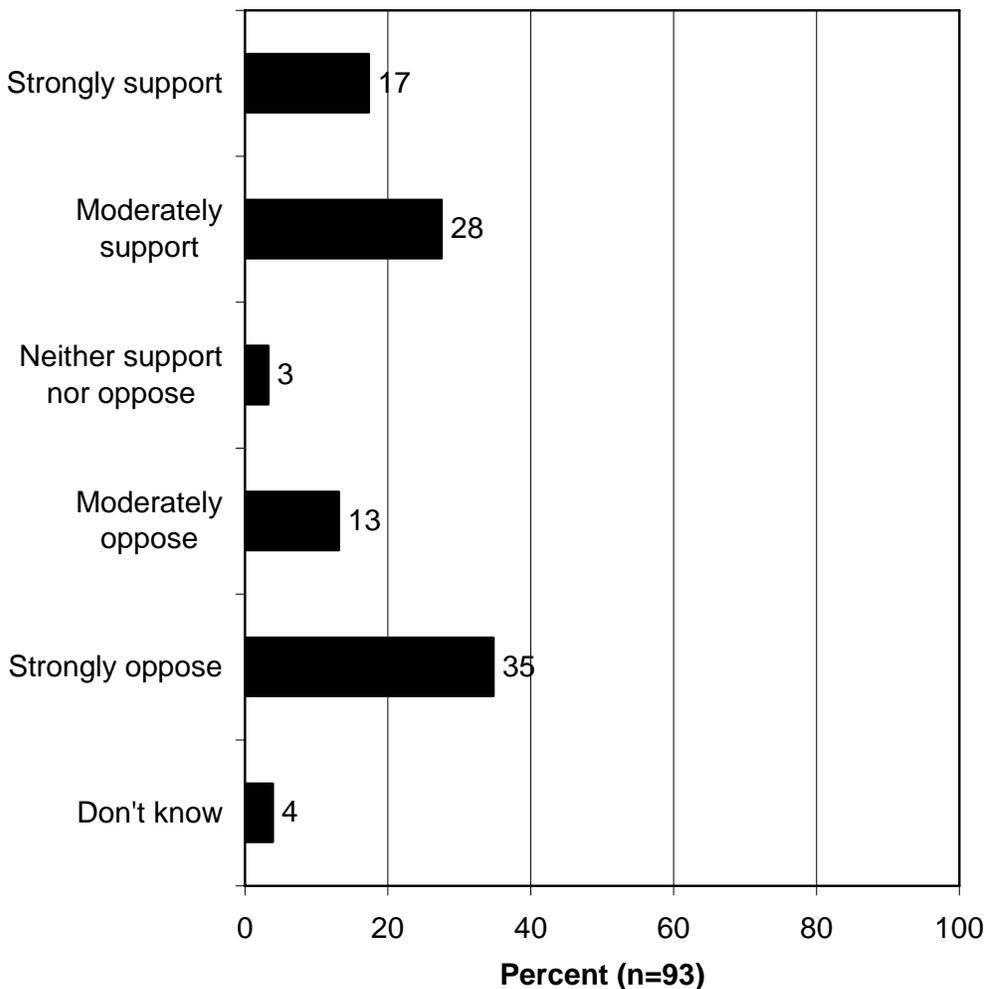
Q77. When the Department makes decisions about cougar management, do you support or oppose weighting local public input more than statewide public input for local cougar management issues?



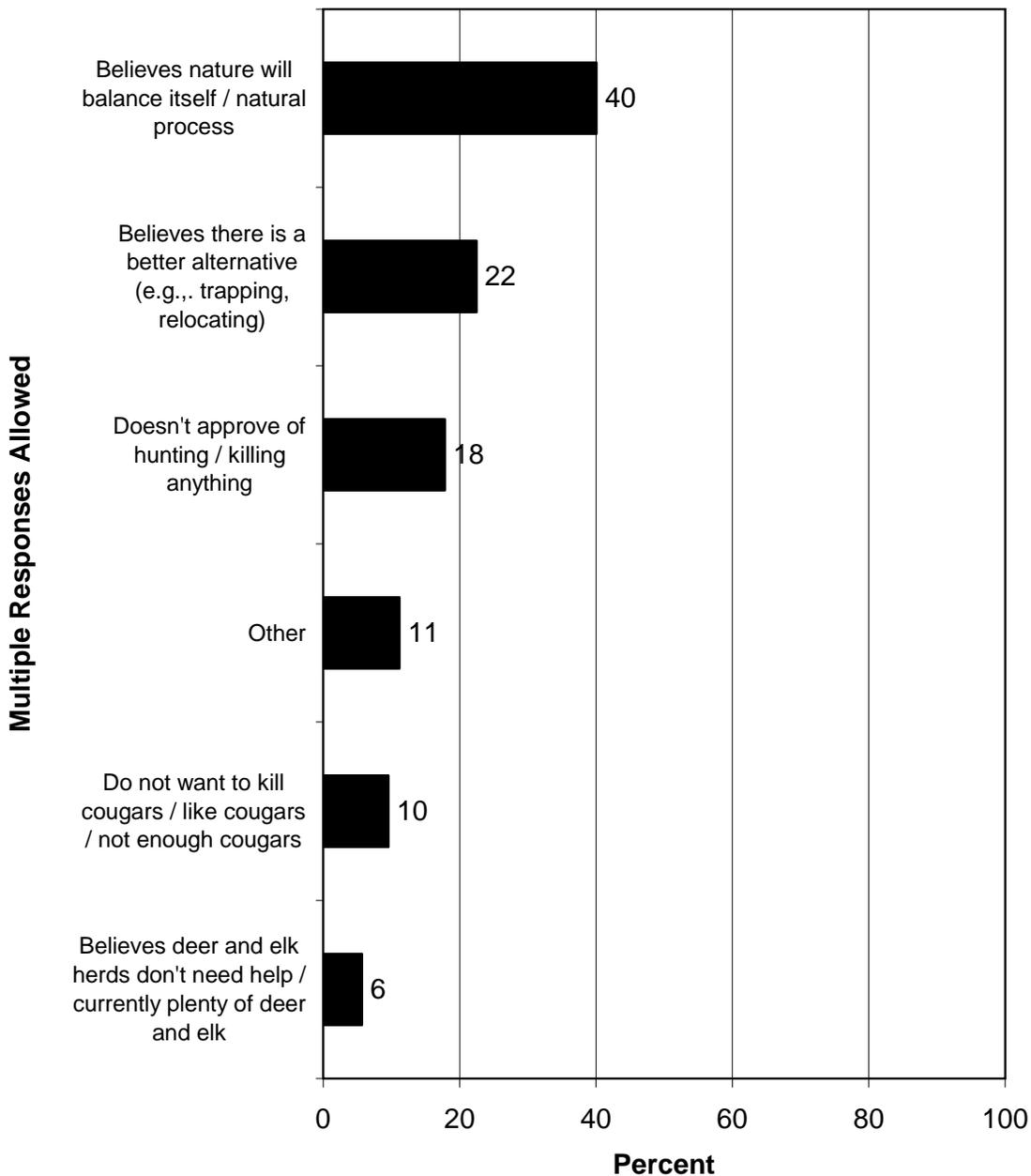
Q65. The overall health of deer and elk populations can vary due to factors like severe winters or poor habitat conditions.

In some cases, when a deer or elk population is already depressed, predators such as cougar can hinder the population's ability to rebound. In cases like this, do you support or oppose using cougar hunting as a management tool to reduce cougar populations to increase deer or elk herds that are below population objectives?

(Asked of those who disapprove of legal, regulated hunting.)



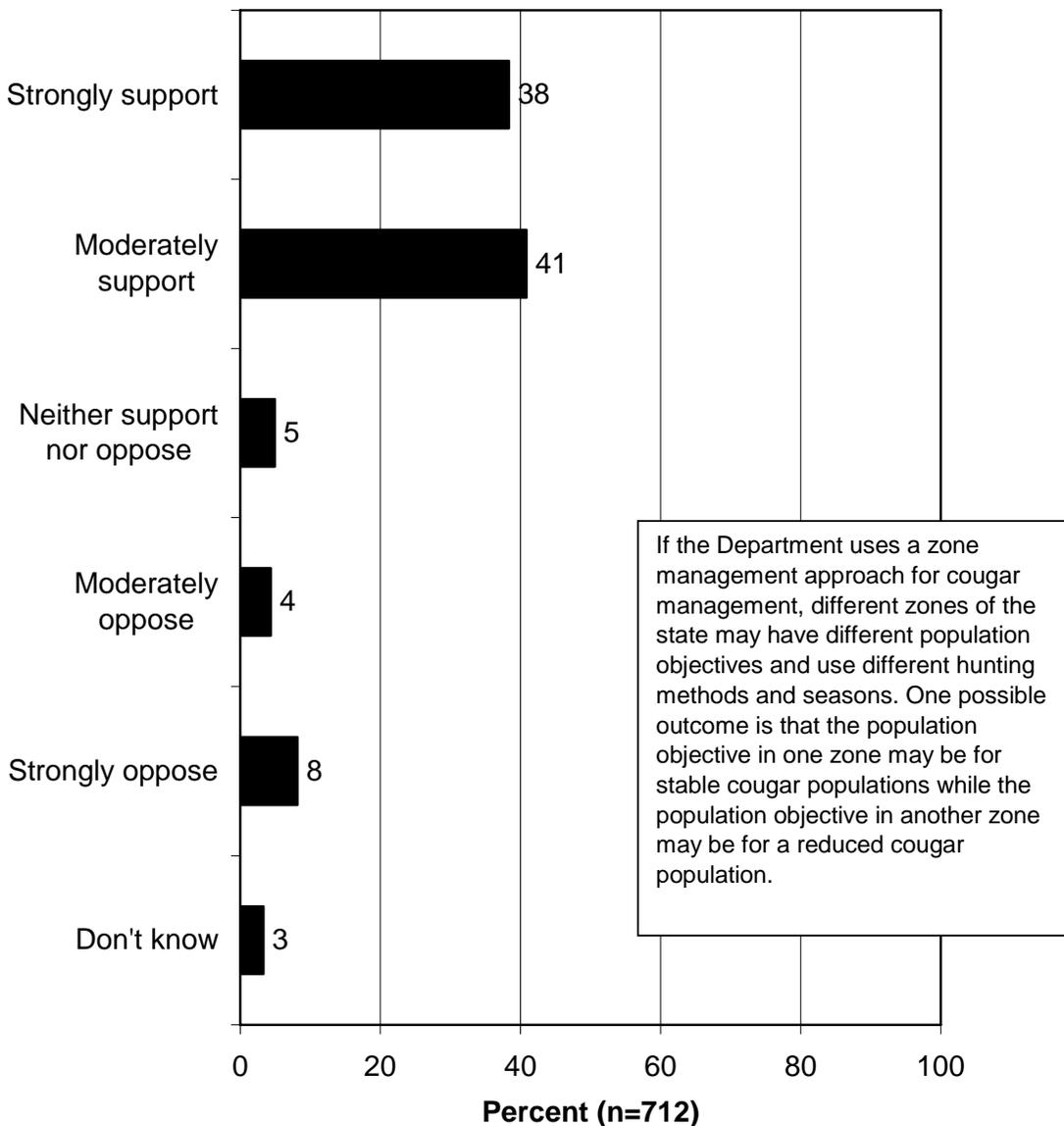
Q66. Why do you oppose reducing cougar populations to enhance deer or elk herds that are below herd objectives? (Asked of those who oppose using cougar hunting as a management tool to help deer or elk populations rebound.)



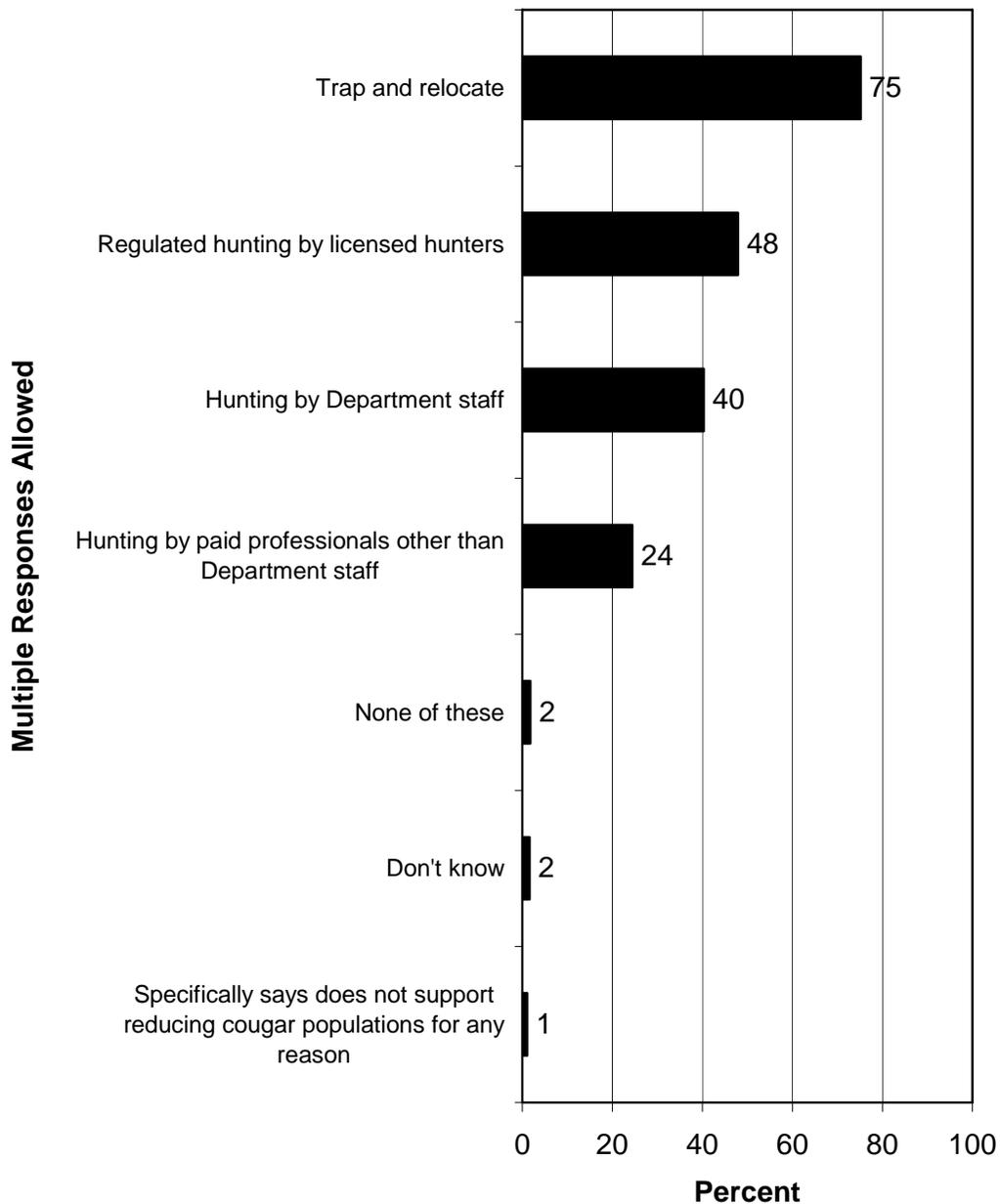
Q63. (PRIOR TO THE QUESTION, THE ZONE MANAGEMENT APPROACH WAS EXPLAINED TO RESPONDENTS, AS SHOWN IN INSERT.)

Do you support having some zones with an objective of reducing cougar populations as long as other zones are managed for stable populations?

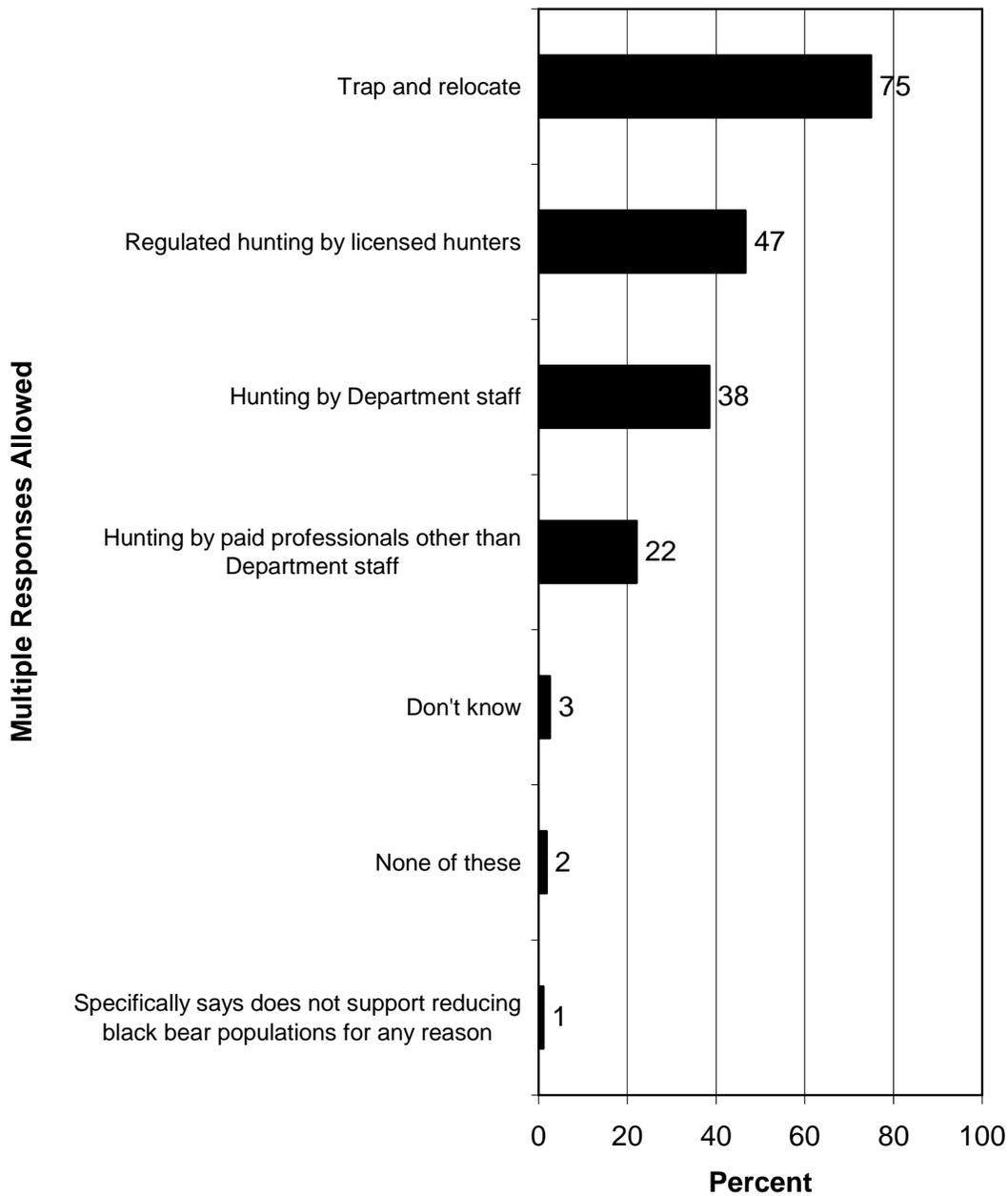
(Asked of those who did not previously indicate disapproval of legal, regulated hunting.)



Q58. Please tell me which, if any, of the following actions you would support to reduce cougar populations in situations where Department biologists determine it necessary.



Q61. Please tell me which, if any, of the following actions you would support to reduce black bear populations in situations where Department biologists determine it necessary.



OPINIONS ON MANAGEMENT OF WOLVES

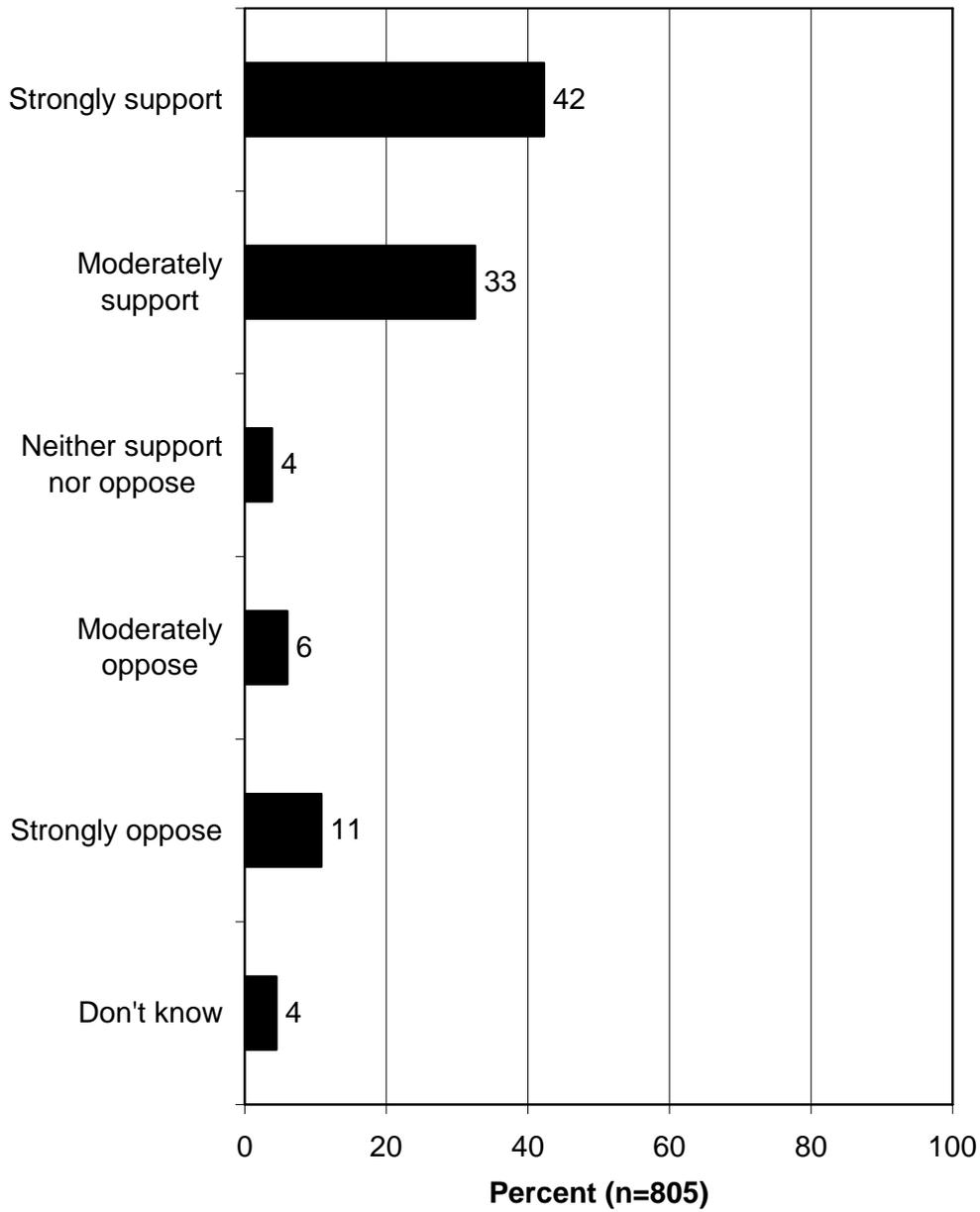
- The large majority of Washington residents (75%) support allowing wolves to recover in Washington; meanwhile, 17% oppose.
 - A crosstabulation found that those who live in urban and suburban areas are more likely to support wolf recovery; while those residing in small city/town or rural area are more likely to oppose. Note that those living on ranches or farms are the most likely to *strongly* oppose.
 - When the stipulation is put on wolf recovery that it could result in localized declines in elk and deer populations, support declines slightly: 61% support wolf recovery if it will result in some localized declines in elk and deer populations, and 28% oppose.

- Most Washington residents (61%) support some level of lethal wolf control to protect at-risk livestock; however, 31% oppose. Additionally, a majority of residents (56%) support having the state pay compensation out of the General Fund to ranchers who have documented losses to livestock from wolves, but 35% oppose.

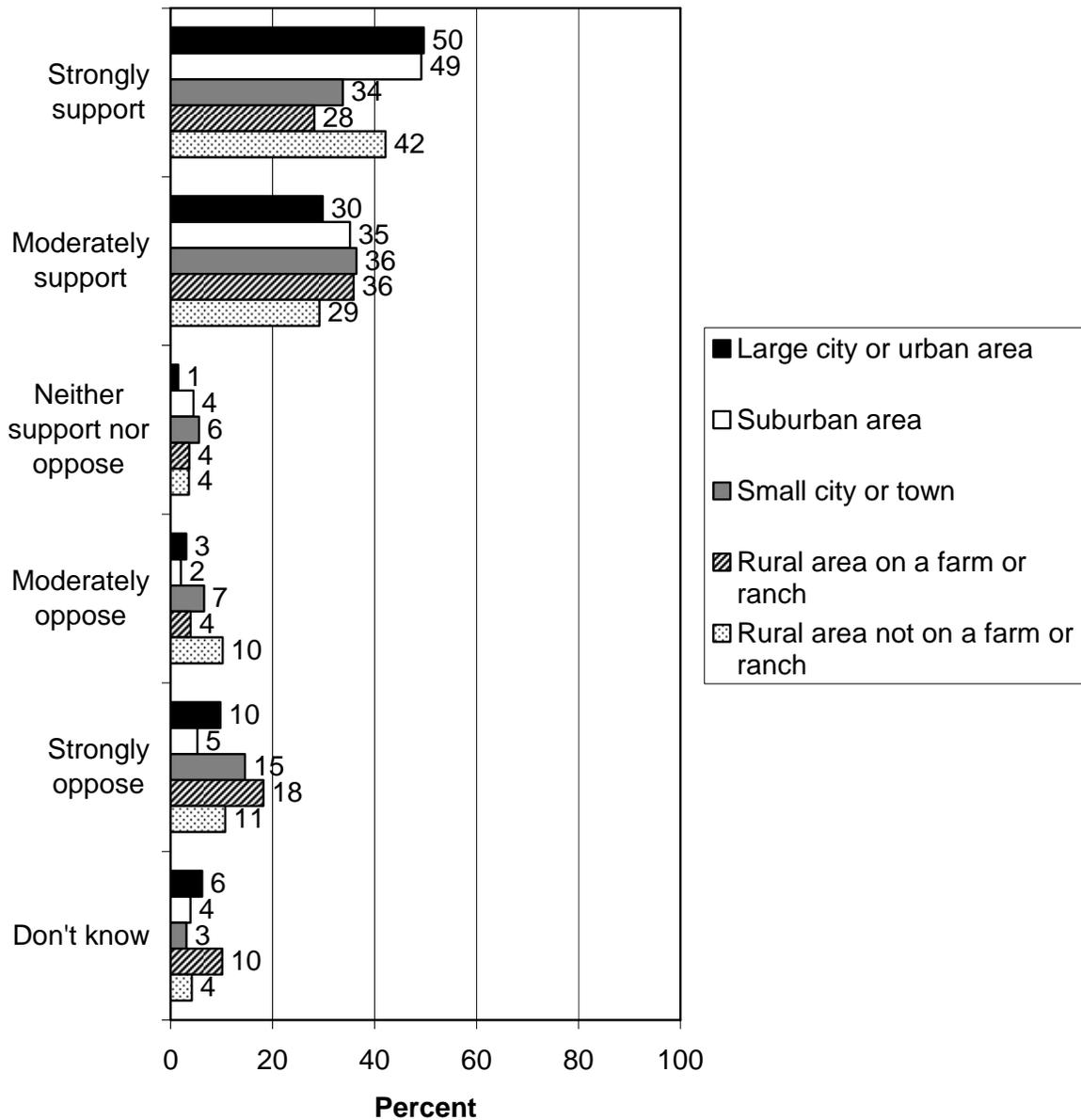
- When asked how worried, while recreating outdoors, they would be about wolves, respondents most commonly say that they would not be worried at all (39%), and 26% would be only a little worried; in sum, 65% would be only a little worried or not worried at all. On the other hand, 33% would be very or moderately worried, with 11% *very* worried.

- In a question tangentially related to wolf management, the survey found that wildlife viewing specifically of wild wolves would appear to be popular, as 54% of residents say that they would travel to see or hear wild wolves in Washington. (Note that 2% of respondents say that they would not need to travel, as they have wild wolves nearby already.)

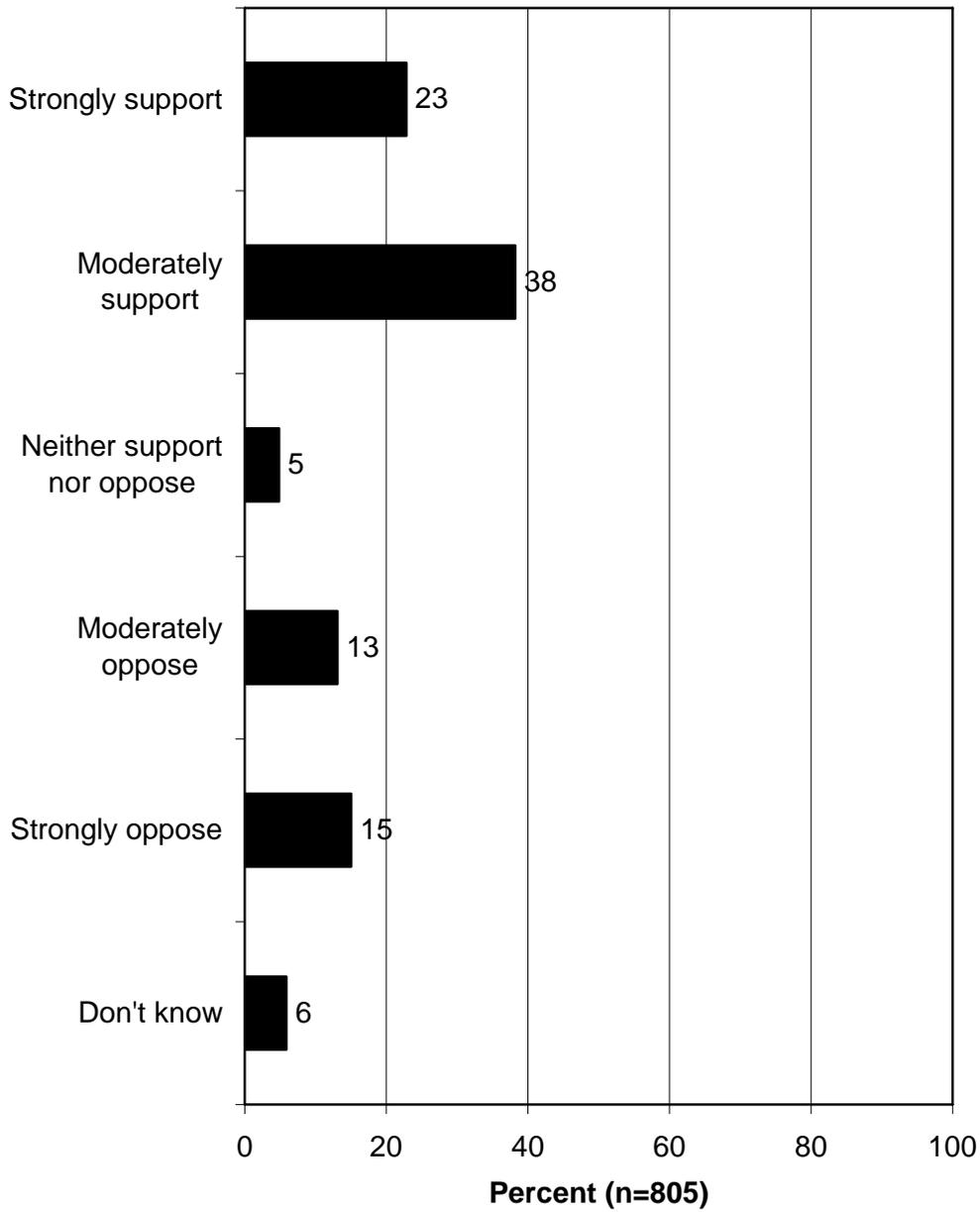
**Q93. Would you support or oppose allowing
wolves to recover in Washington?**



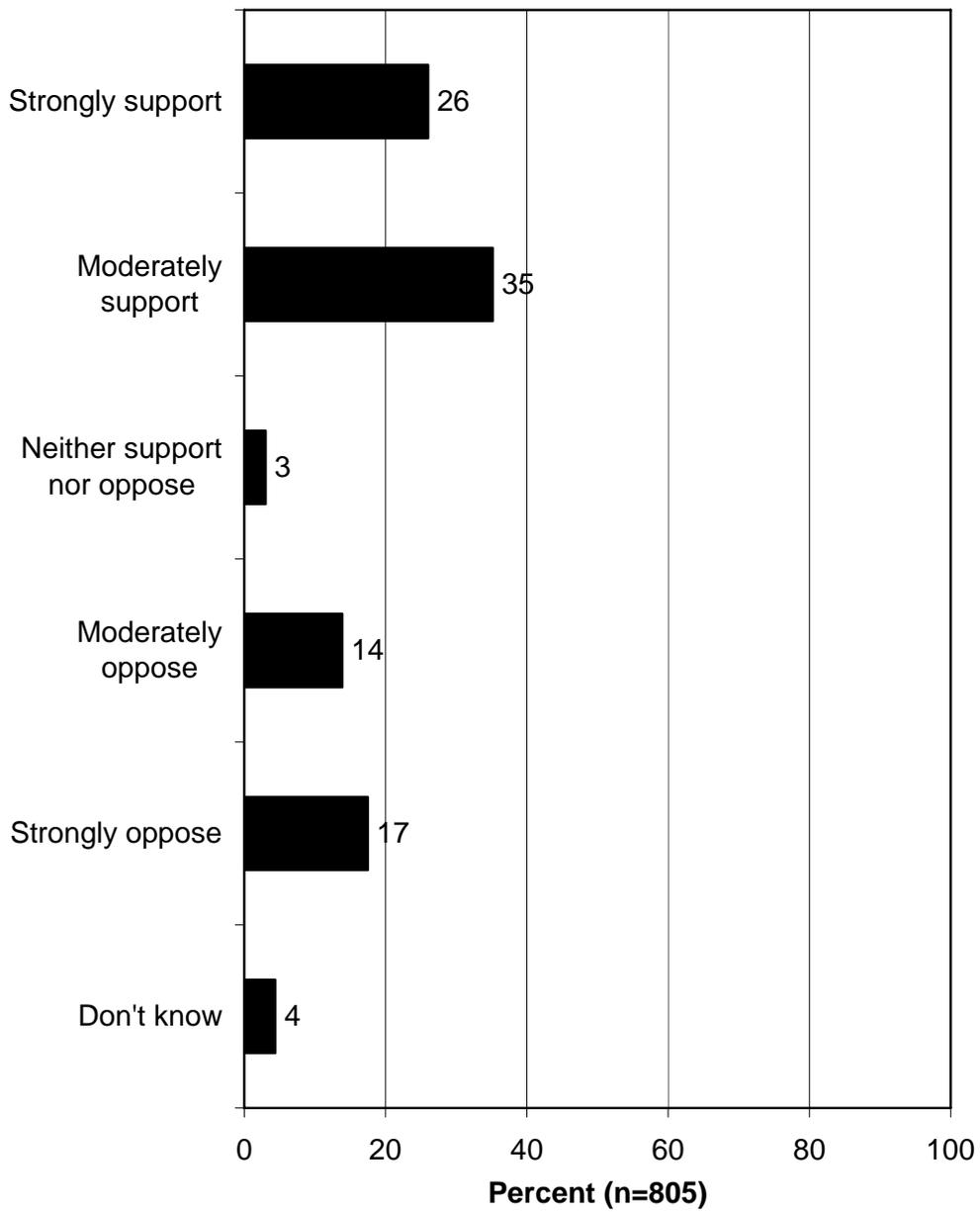
Q93. Would you support or oppose allowing wolves to recover in Washington?



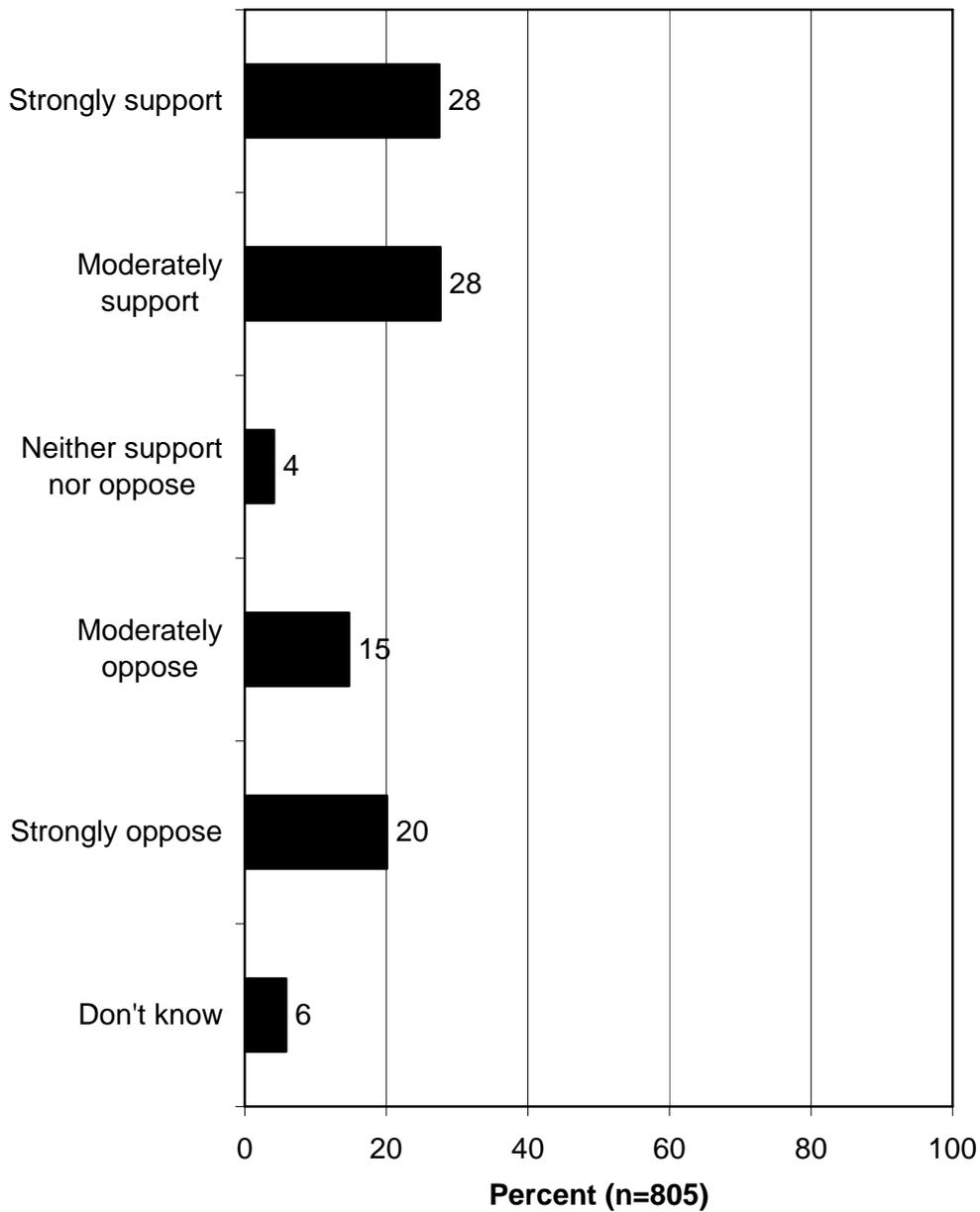
Q96. Would you support or oppose wolf recovery in Washington if it resulted in some localized declines in elk and deer populations?



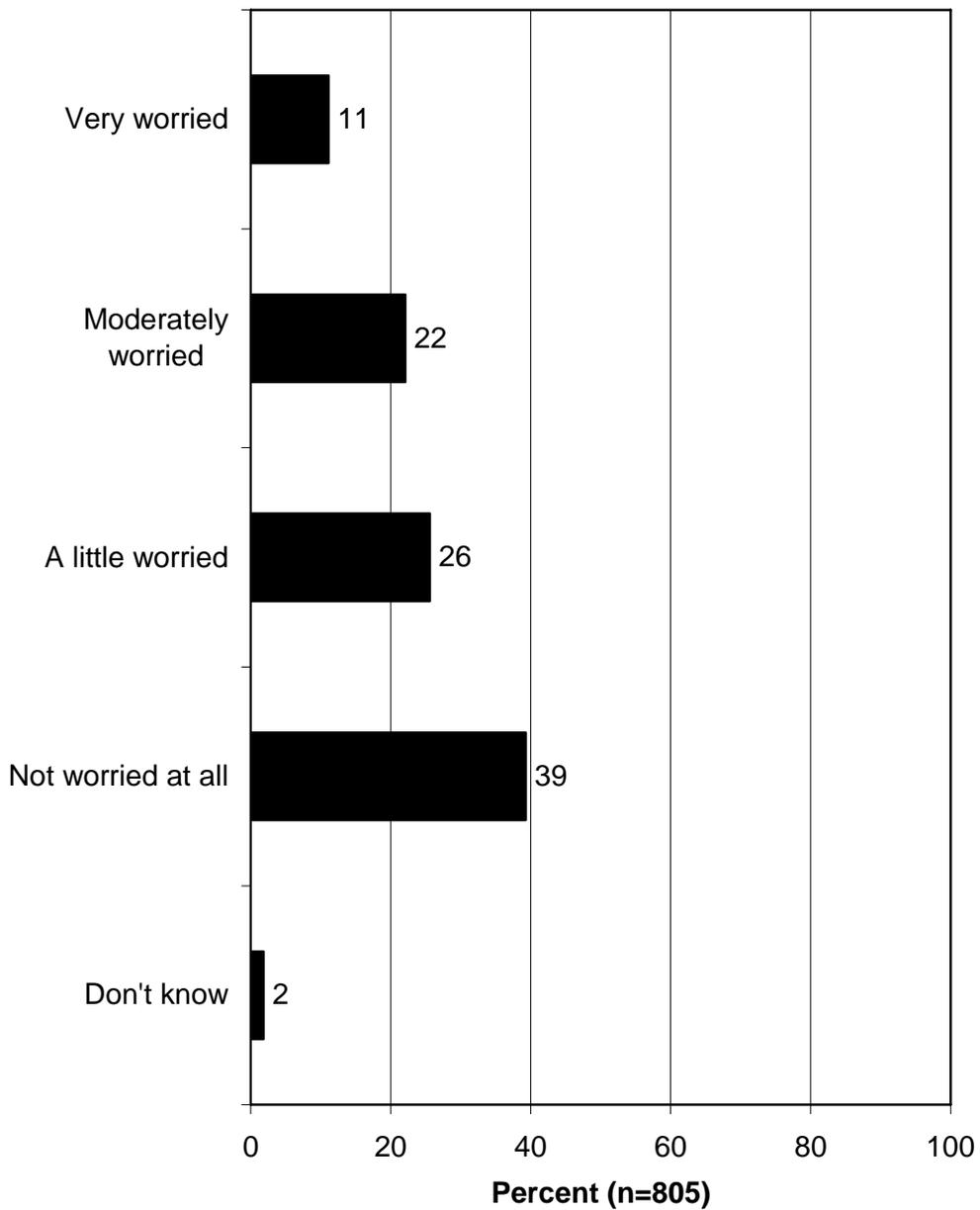
Q94. Would you support or oppose some level of lethal wolf control to protect at-risk livestock in Washington?



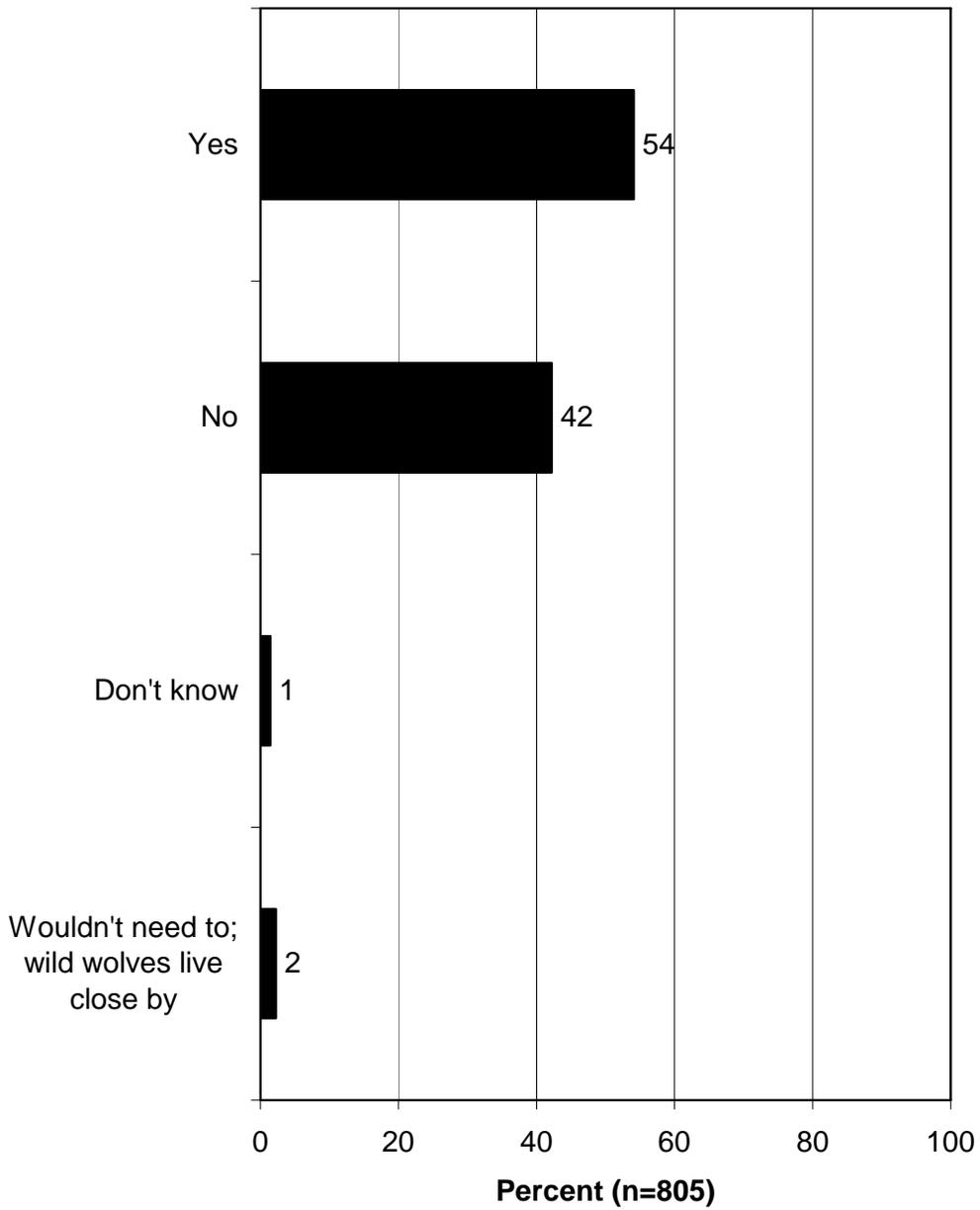
Q95. Would you support or oppose the State of Washington paying compensation out of the General Fund to ranchers and other livestock owners for documented losses of livestock caused by wolves?



Q98. How worried would you be about your personal safety when recreating outdoors in areas occupied by wolves?



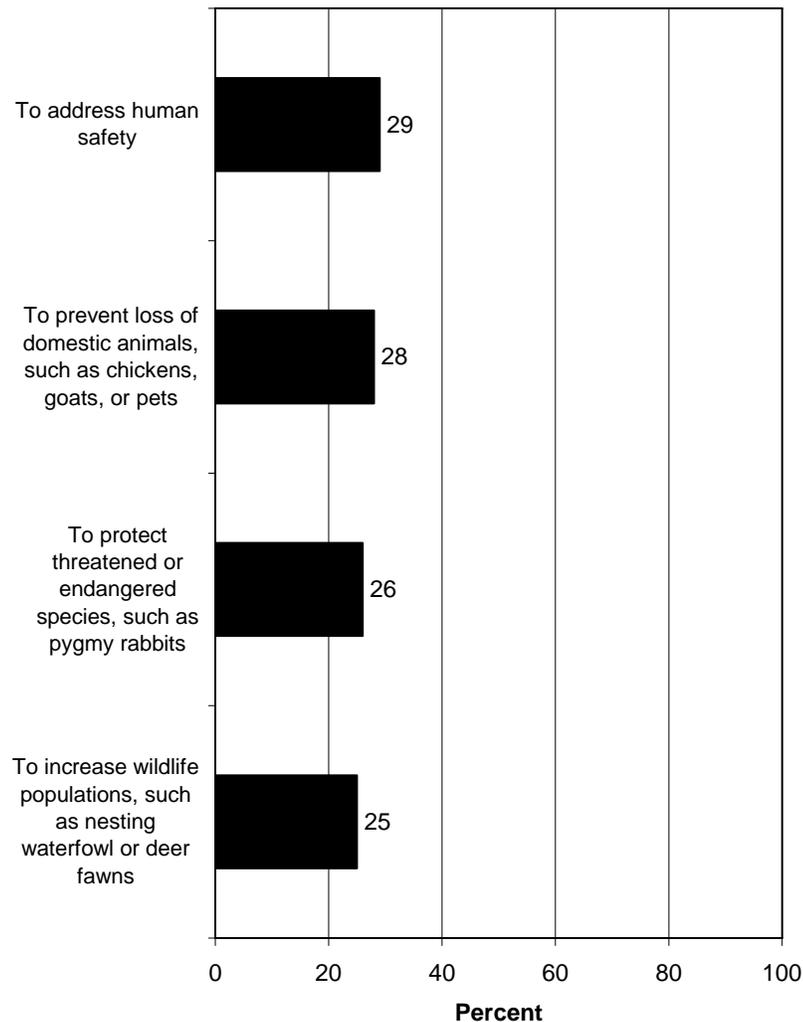
Q97. Would you travel to see or hear wild wolves in Washington?



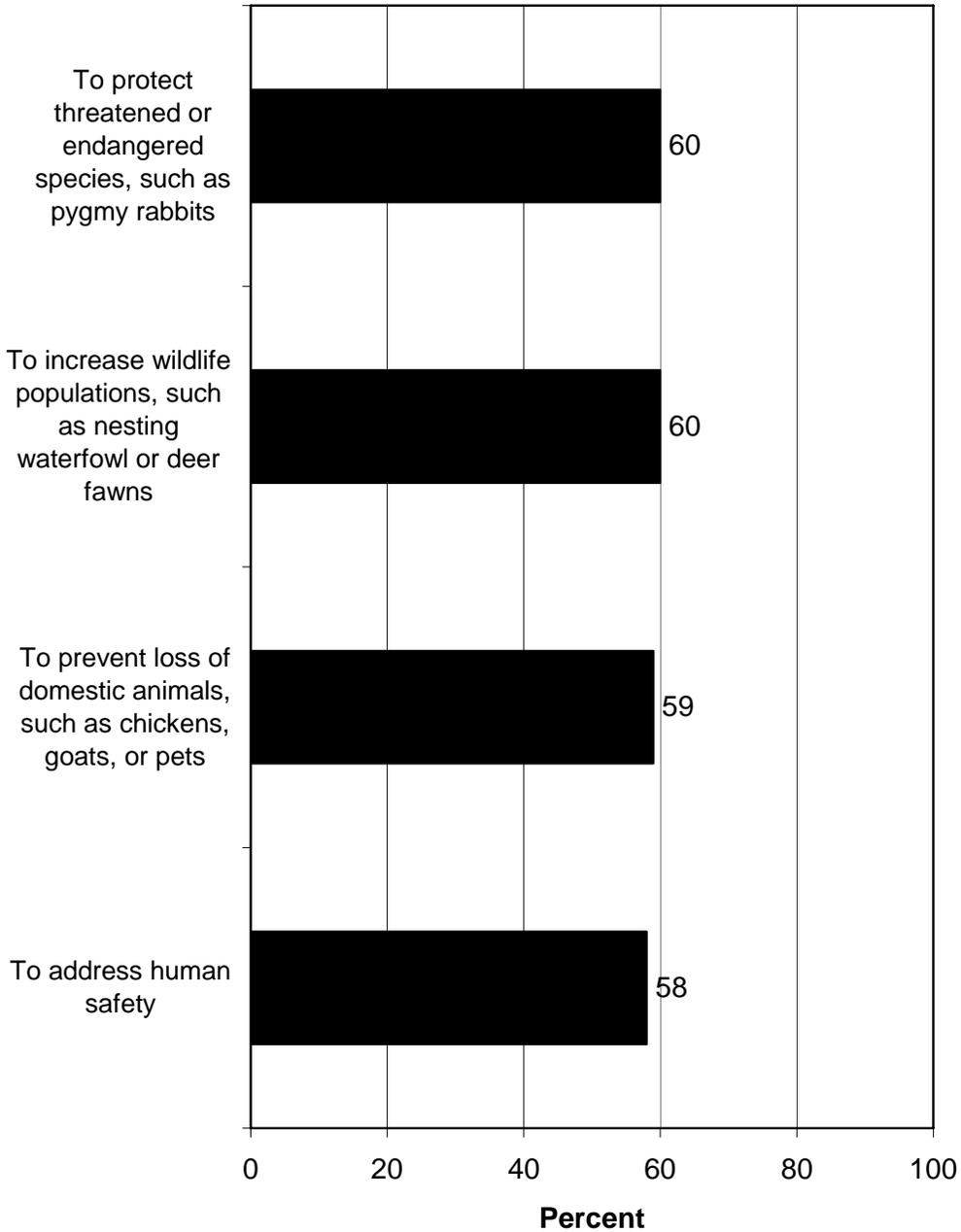
OPINIONS ON MANAGEMENT OF COYOTES

- The survey asked whether residents support or oppose reducing coyote populations for four specific reasons. Majorities support each reason, with little difference among them: to protect threatened or endangered species (60% support), to increase wildlife populations (60%), to prevent the loss of domestic animals (59%), and to address human safety (58%). Note that opposition is also similar among these reasons, ranging from 30% to 38%.

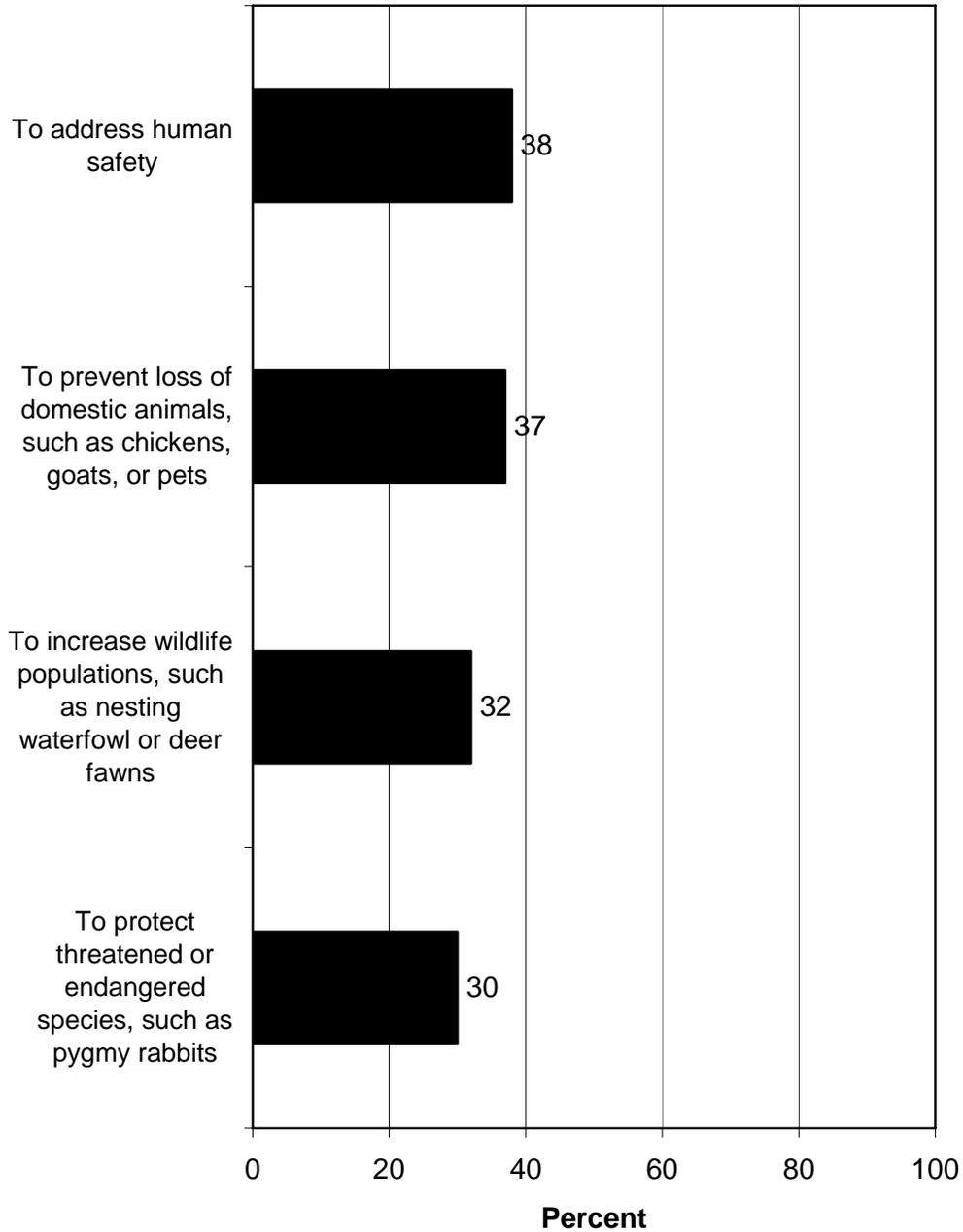
Q50-53. Percent who strongly support reducing coyote populations for the following reasons.



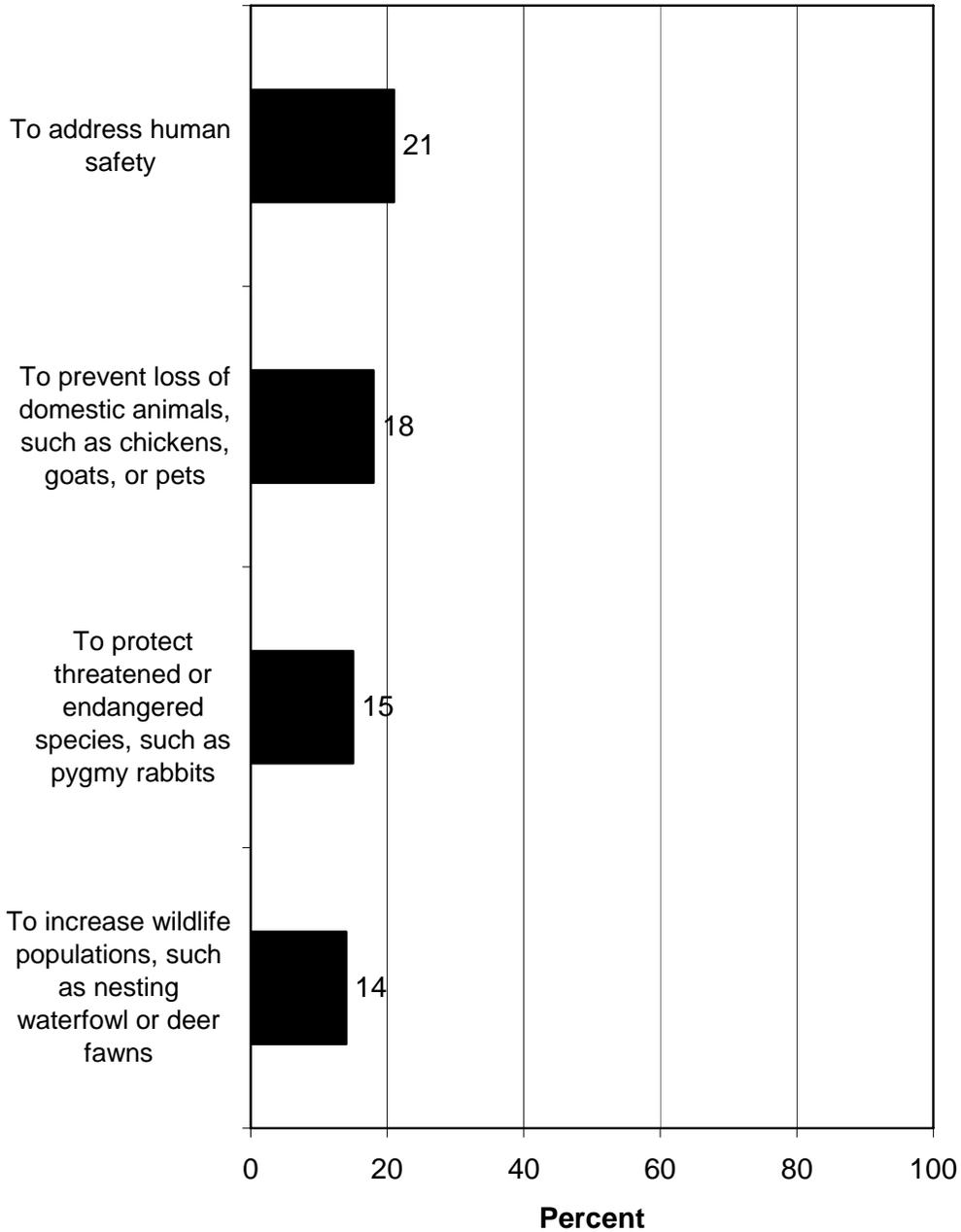
Q50-53. Percent who support reducing coyote populations for the following reasons.



Q50-53. Percent who oppose reducing coyote populations for the following reasons.



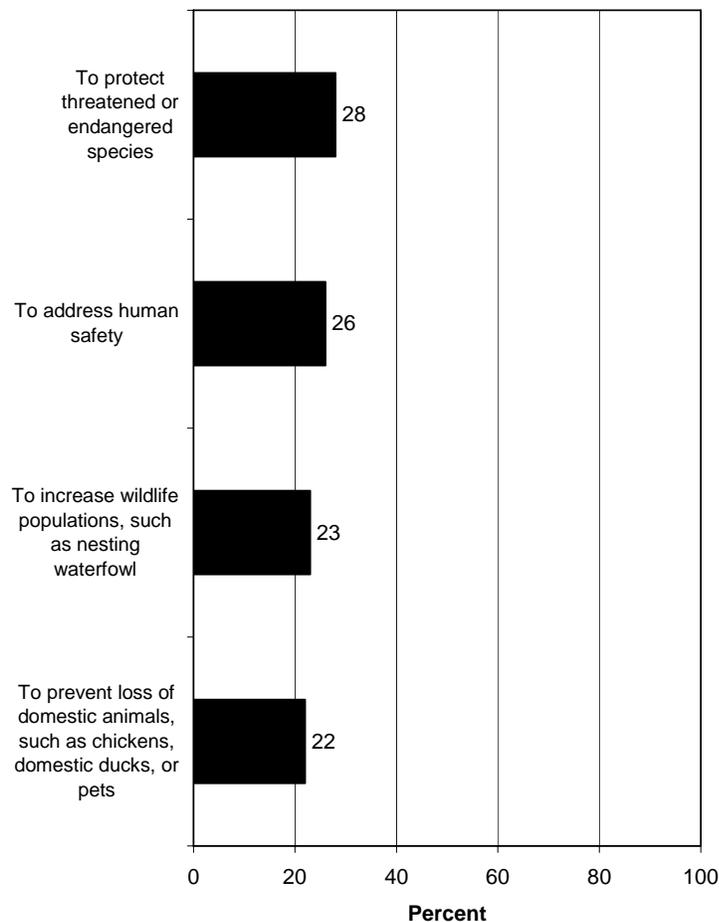
Q50-53. Percent who strongly oppose reducing coyote populations for the following reasons.



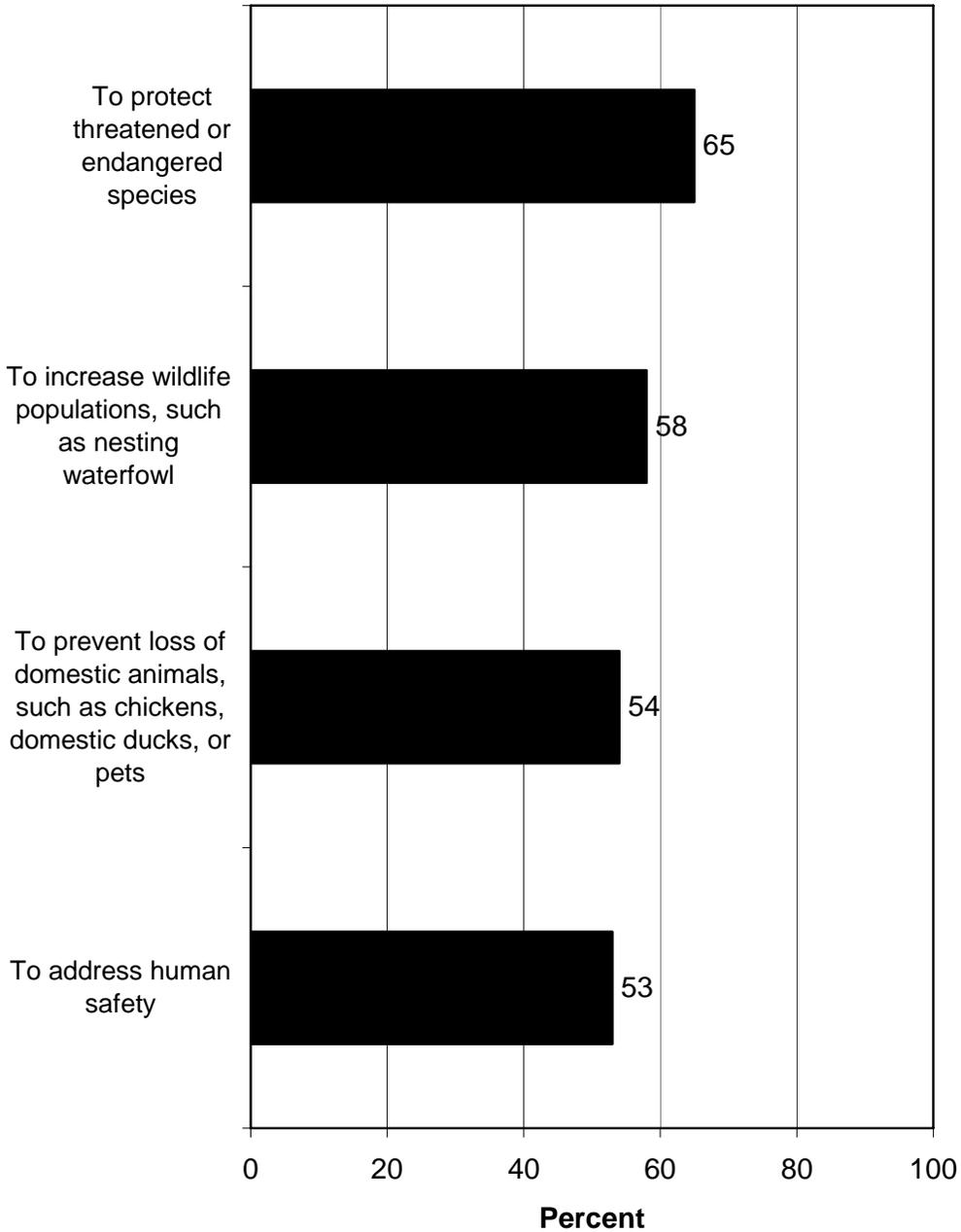
OPINIONS ON MANAGEMENT OF RACCOONS

- Similar to the series of questions about reducing coyote populations, the survey asked whether residents support or oppose reducing raccoon populations for four specific reasons. Majorities support each reason, with the top reason being to protect threatened or endangered species (65% support), followed by to increase wildlife populations (58%), to prevent the loss of domestic animals (54%), and, at the bottom again, to address human safety (53%). Opposition is greatest for these last two reasons: 40% oppose reducing raccoon populations to address human safety, and 39% oppose to prevent the loss of domestic animals.

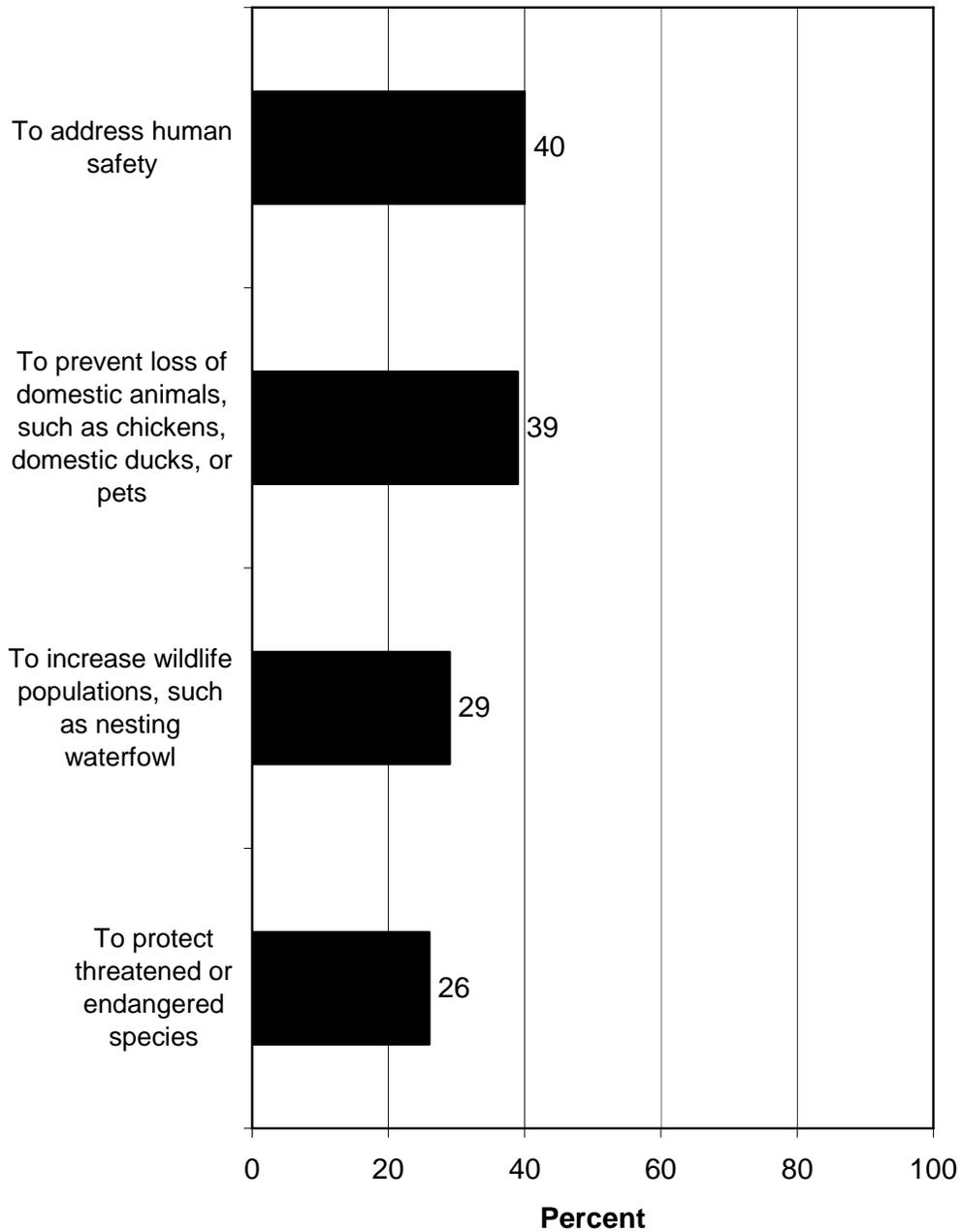
Q44-47. Percent who strongly support reducing racoon populations for the following reasons.



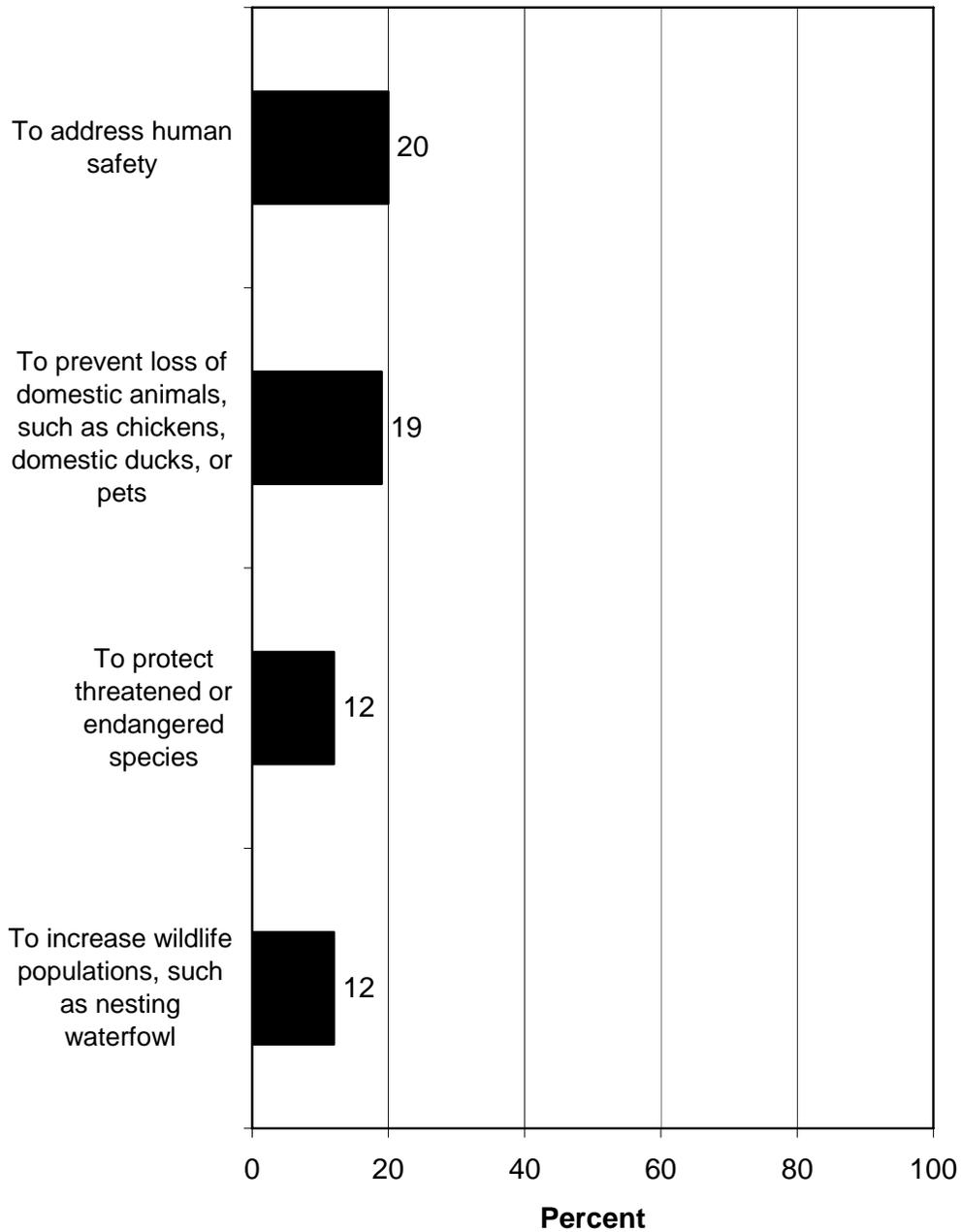
Q44-47. Percent who support reducing racoon populations for the following reasons.



Q44-47. Percent who oppose reducing racoon populations for the following reasons.



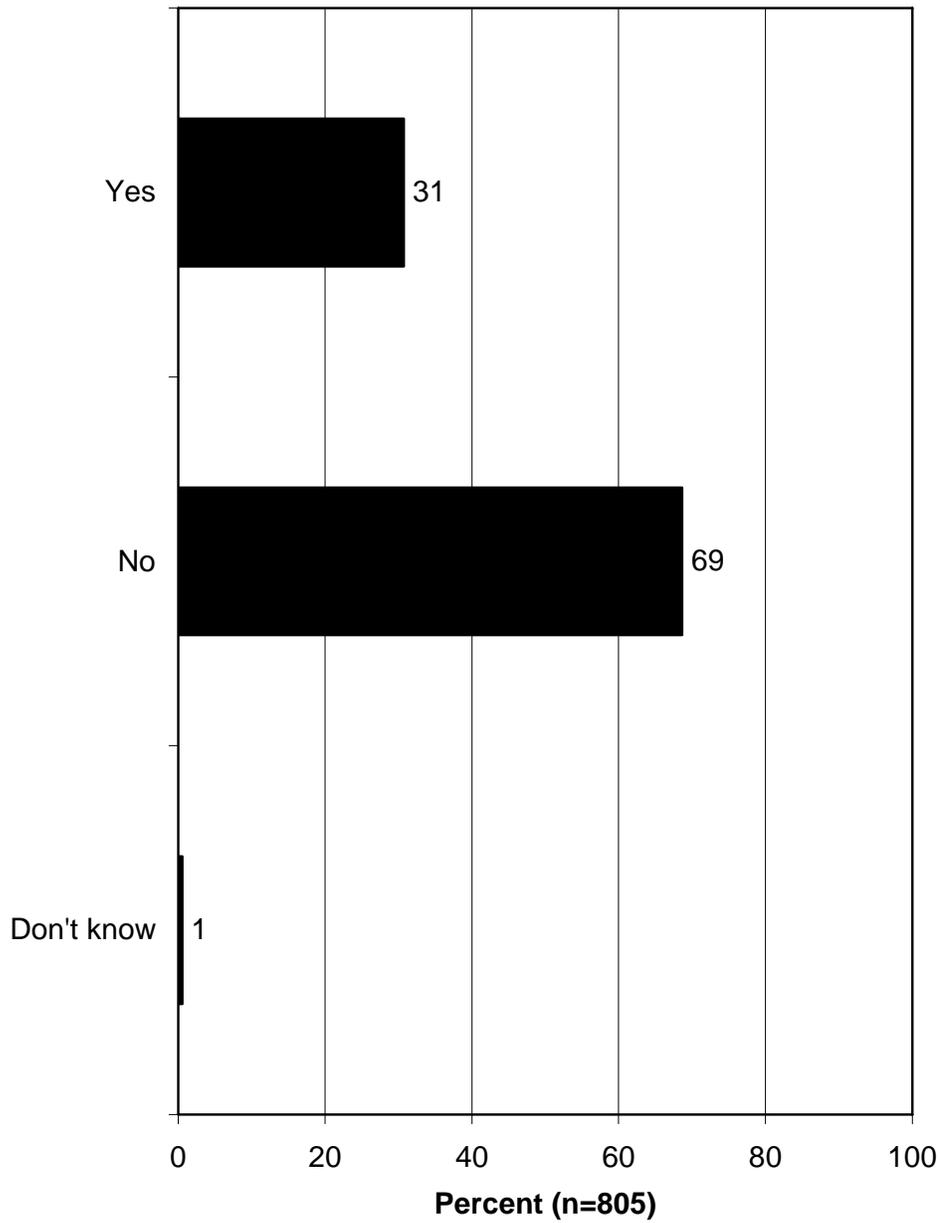
Q44-47. Percent who strongly oppose reducing raccoon populations for the following reasons.



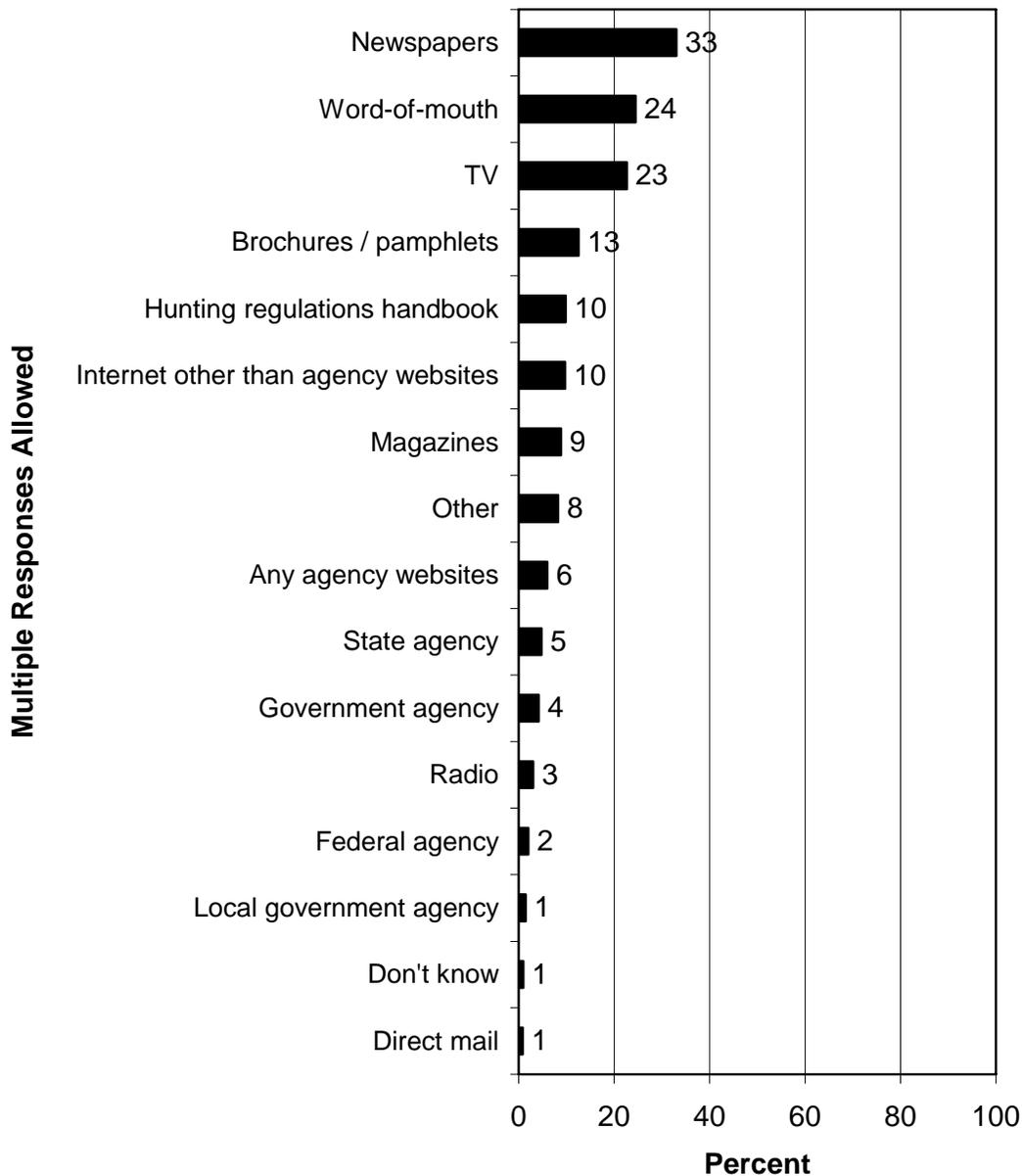
SOURCES OF INFORMATION ON WILDLIFE MANAGEMENT

- Just under a third (31%) of Washington residents have seen or heard information about how Washington manages its wild animal populations; however, most Washington residents (69%) have not seen or heard any such information.
 - The most common sources from which residents had heard or seen information about how Washington manages its wild animal populations were newspapers, word-of-mouth, and television. Other important sources included brochures/pamphlets, hunting regulations handbook, Internet sites other than agency websites, and magazines.
 - When asked to indicate the best way that the state could communicate with them about wildlife management, the top choice is direct mail, followed by television, newspapers, the Internet, e-mail, or brochures/pamphlets.

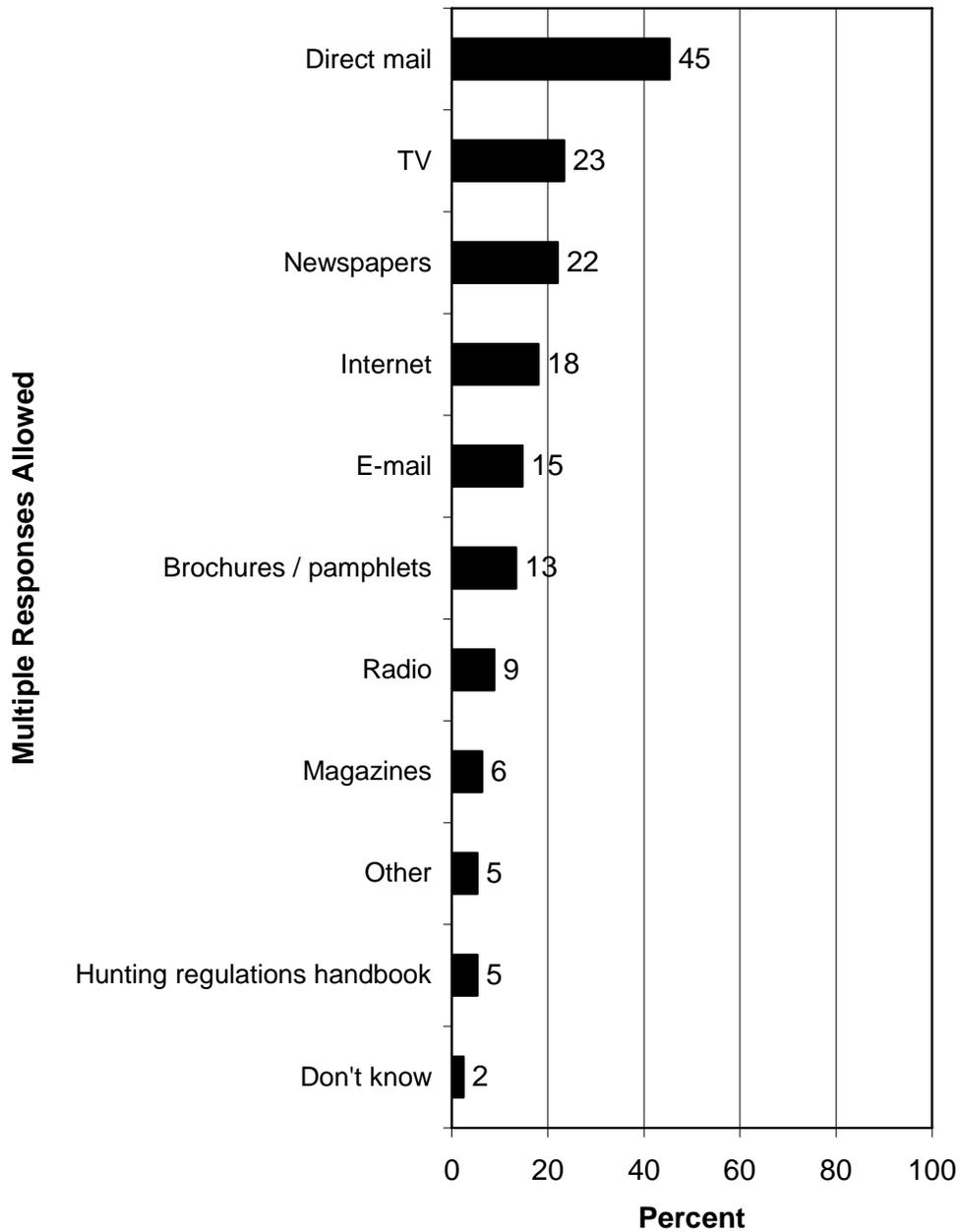
Q84. Have you ever heard or seen, outside of this survey, any information about how Washington State manages its wild animal populations?



Q87. From what sources did you hear or see information about how Washington State manages its wild animal populations? (Asked of those who have previously heard or seen any information about how Washington State manages its wild animal populations.)



Q91. If the state wished to inform you about its wildlife management efforts, what do you think is the best way to provide you with information?



HUMAN-WILDLIFE CONFLICTS AND NUISANCE WILDLIFE

- A little more than a quarter of Washington residents (29%) had problems with wild animals or birds within the past 2 years. The most common such wildlife were raccoons, coyotes, and deer. The most common types of problems were damage to property/landscaping or attacks on pets or livestock. Another common problem was animals getting into trash.
 - Trend: A slightly greater percentage of respondents in 2008 relative to 2002 had problems with wildlife: 26% had a problem in 2002, while 31% had a problem in 2008 (unweighted data). Problems with raccoons appeared to decline between 2002 and 2008, while problems with deer appeared to increase.

- Those who had problems with wild animals or birds within the past 2 years were asked who they believe should pay for nuisance wildlife control and pay for damage caused by wildlife, and they most commonly say the homeowner. However, substantial percentages say the state government or local government.
 - Trend: In 2008, a slightly lower percentage think the homeowner should pay, relative to 2002.

- In answer to a direct question, more Washington residents support (46%) than oppose (39%) hunting to address human-wildlife conflicts. Also, more residents support (54%) than oppose (38%) hunting to address nuisance animals. On the other hand, fewer residents support (41%) than oppose (50%) hunting to reduce animal-vehicle collisions.
 - Trend: Support of hunting to address human-wildlife conflicts appears to have dropped from 76% in 2003 to 47% in 2008 (in comparing unweighted data). However, the 2002 survey included slightly different wording—specifically adding examples of human-wildlife conflicts: “nuisance animals, preventing the spread of disease, or reducing animal-vehicle collisions.” This latter wording was not added to the 2008 survey question. It may be that the provision of specific examples prompted greater support in 2002 when compared to 2008.

- In questions about reducing predator populations (respondents were informed, if they asked, that predators are animals such as bears that hunt and eat other animals), slightly more

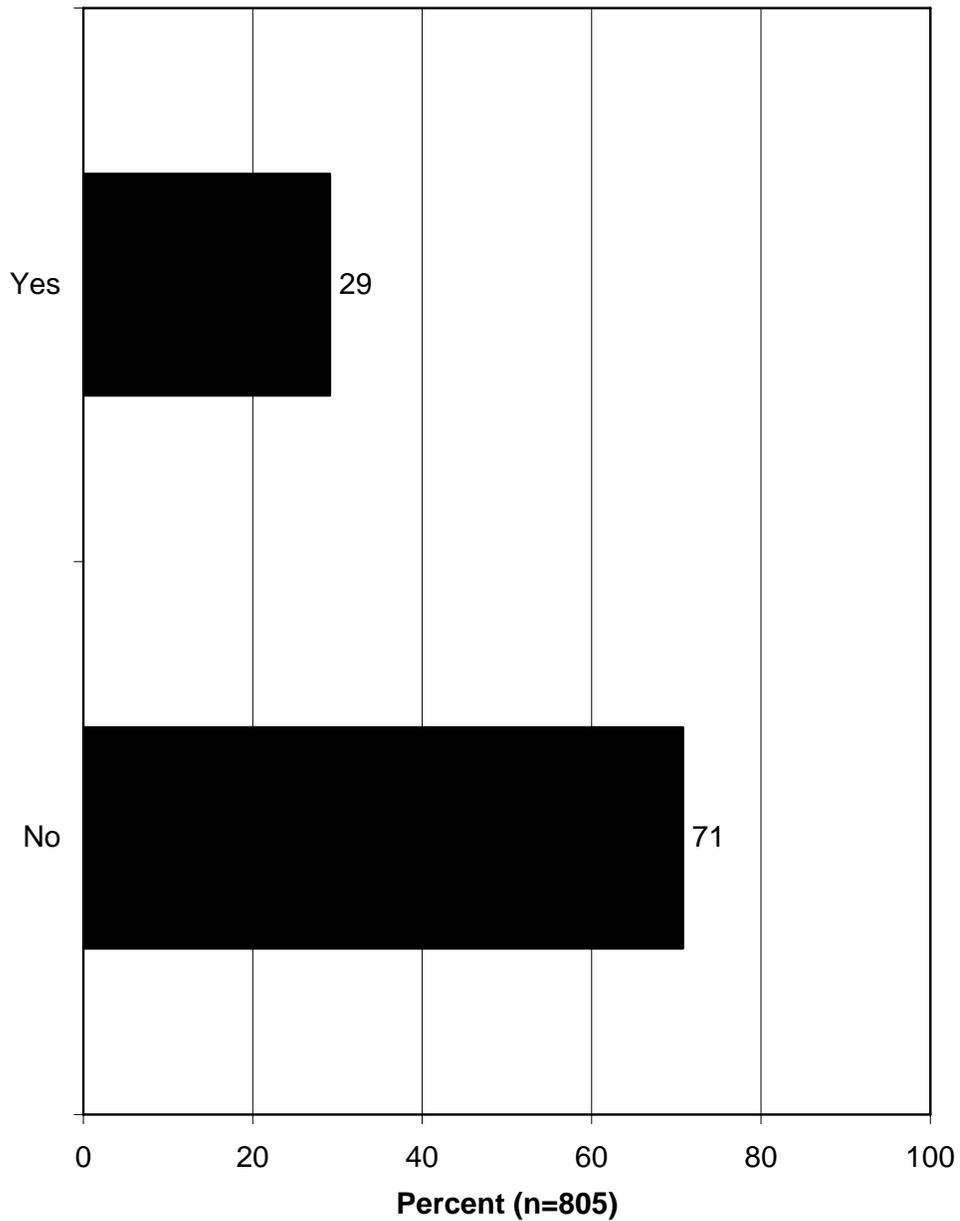
Washington residents support (50%) than oppose (43%) reducing predator populations to prevent the loss of domestic animals or pets. Many more residents support (62%) than oppose (32%) reducing predator populations to address human safety.

- Trend: Support for reducing predator populations to prevent the loss of domestic animals or pets appears to have dropped from 2002 to 2008. In 2002, 69% supported, while 53% support in 2008 (unweighted data).
 - Trend: Support for reducing predator populations to address human safety also appears to have dropped from 2002 to 2008. In 2002, 84% supported, while 63% support in 2008 (unweighted data).
- In questions about raccoons that are similar to the questions above regarding predators, more Washington residents support (54%) than oppose (39%) reducing local raccoon populations to prevent the loss of domestic animals. Also, more support (52%) than oppose (40%) reducing local raccoon populations to address human safety.
- In questions about coyotes that are similar to questions regarding predators, more Washington residents support (59%) than oppose (37%) reducing local coyote populations to prevent the loss of domestic animals. Also, more support (58%) than oppose (38%) reducing local coyote populations to address human safety.
- The survey asked questions specifically about hunting cougar with dogs with similar conditions as those asked about predators, raccoons, and coyotes discussed above. In these questions, more Washington residents support (57%) than oppose (37%) hunting cougar with dogs to protect pets or livestock. Also, more than double the percentage support (65%) than oppose (29%) hunting cougar with dogs to address human safety.
- Washington residents were asked whether *local* opinion should be given more weight than *statewide* opinion in cougar management decisions, and the large majority of residents (74%) think local opinion should be given more weight. (This graph is shown in the section of this report titled, “Opinions on Management of Cougar and Black Bear.”)

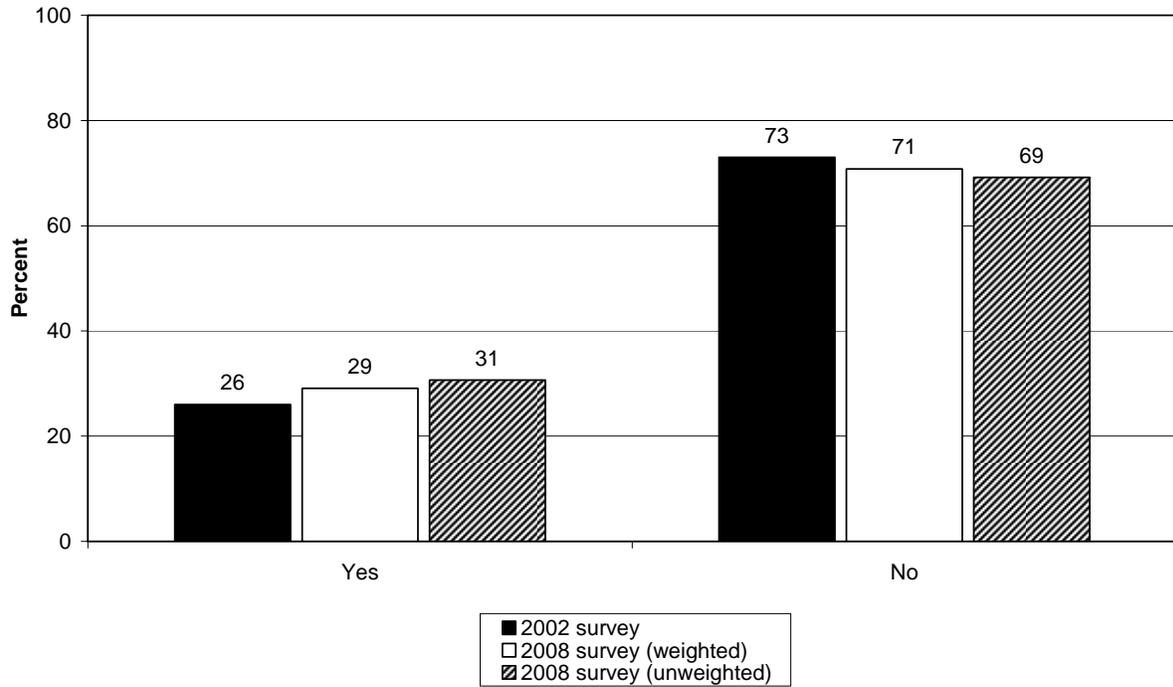
- Washington residents most commonly think that threats to humans from cougars have remained stable in the past 4 years (43% give this answer); otherwise, they more often think threats have increased (24%) than decreased (7%). A quarter (25%) do not know. (This graph is shown in the section of this report titled, “Opinions on Management of Cougar and Black Bear.”)
- Those who say the threats to humans have *increased* most commonly attribute the increase to habitat encroachment by humans or simply more media reports about threats; only a few think threats have increased because the number of cougars has increased. (This graph is shown in the section of this report titled, “Opinions on Management of Cougar and Black Bear.”)
 - Those who say the threats to humans have *decreased* most commonly attribute the decrease to fewer media reports/fewer sightings or to their belief that human encroachment has forced cougars out of the area and thereby reduced threats (i.e., cougars just are not around anymore). (This graph is shown in the section of this report titled, “Opinions on Management of Cougar and Black Bear.”)
- Washington residents most commonly think that threats to livestock or pets from cougars have remained stable in the past 4 years (39% give this answer); otherwise, they more often think threats have increased (24%) than decreased (5%). Almost a third (31%) do not know. (This graph is shown in the section of this report titled, “Opinions on Management of Cougar and Black Bear.”)
- Those who say the threats to livestock or pets have *increased* most commonly attribute the increase to habitat encroachment by humans or simply more media reports about threats; only a few think threats have increased because the number of cougars has increased. (This graph is shown in the section of this report titled, “Opinions on Management of Cougar and Black Bear.”)
 - Those who say the threats to livestock or pets have *decreased* most commonly attribute the decrease to fewer media reports, fewer cougars, or better cougar population management. (This graph is shown in the section of this report titled, “Opinions on Management of Cougar and Black Bear.”)

- In a question specifically pertaining to wolf predation of livestock, most Washington residents (61%) support some level of lethal wolf control to protect at-risk livestock; however, a substantial percentage (31%) oppose. Additionally, a majority of residents (56%) support having the state pay compensation out of the General Fund to ranchers who have documented losses to livestock from wolves, but 35% oppose. (These graphs are shown in the section of this report titled, “Opinions on Management of Wolves.”)

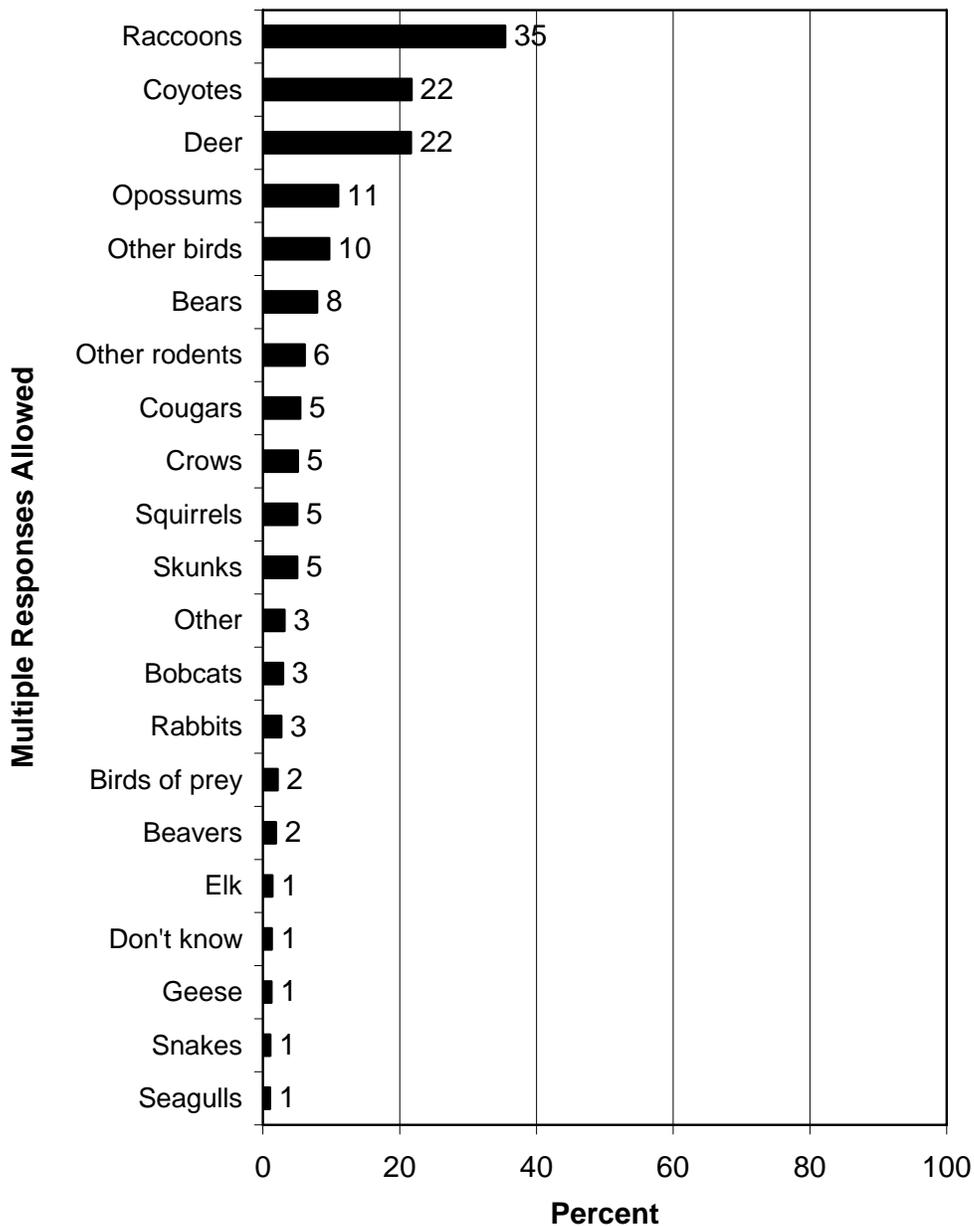
Q18. Sometimes people have problems with wildlife in their neighborhoods or around their homes. Have you had any problems with any wild animals or birds within the past 2 years?



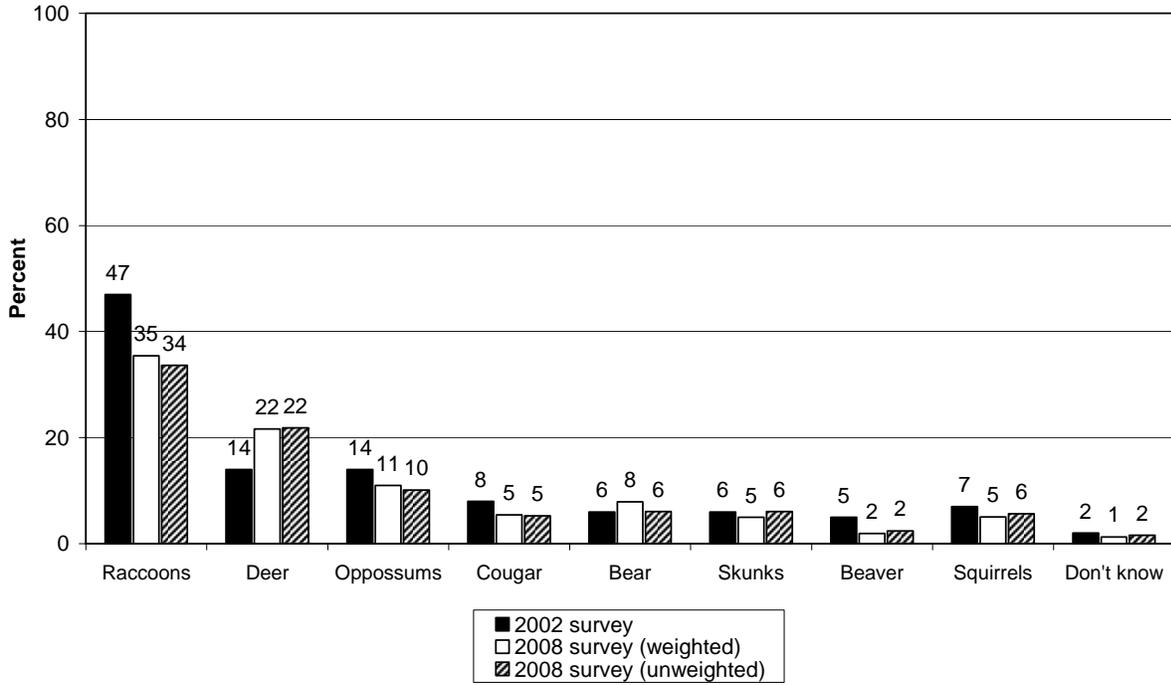
Have you had any problems with any wild animals or birds within the past 2 years?



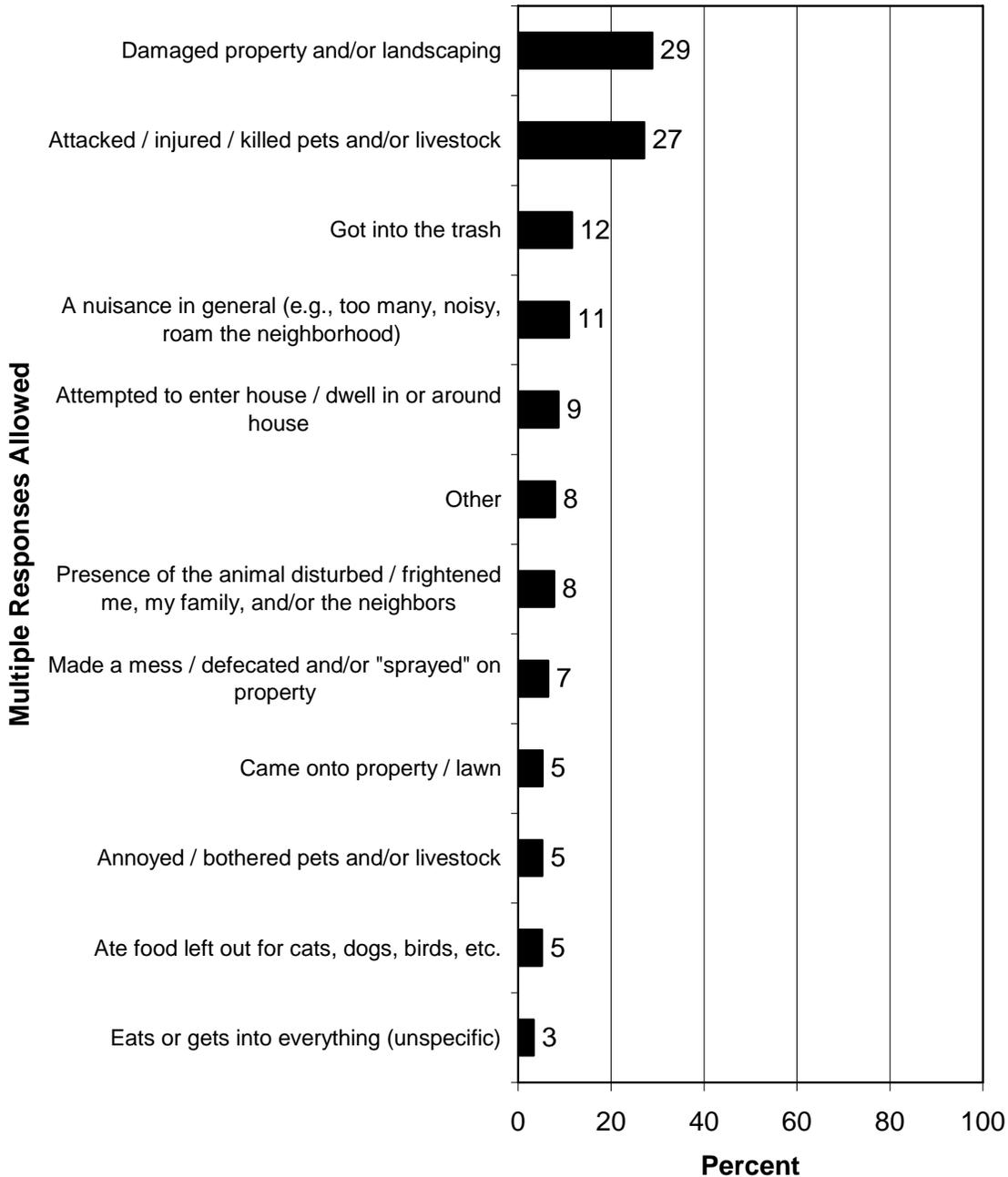
Q21. Which wild animals or birds caused you problems? (Asked of those who have experienced problems with wildlife near their home in the past 2 years.)



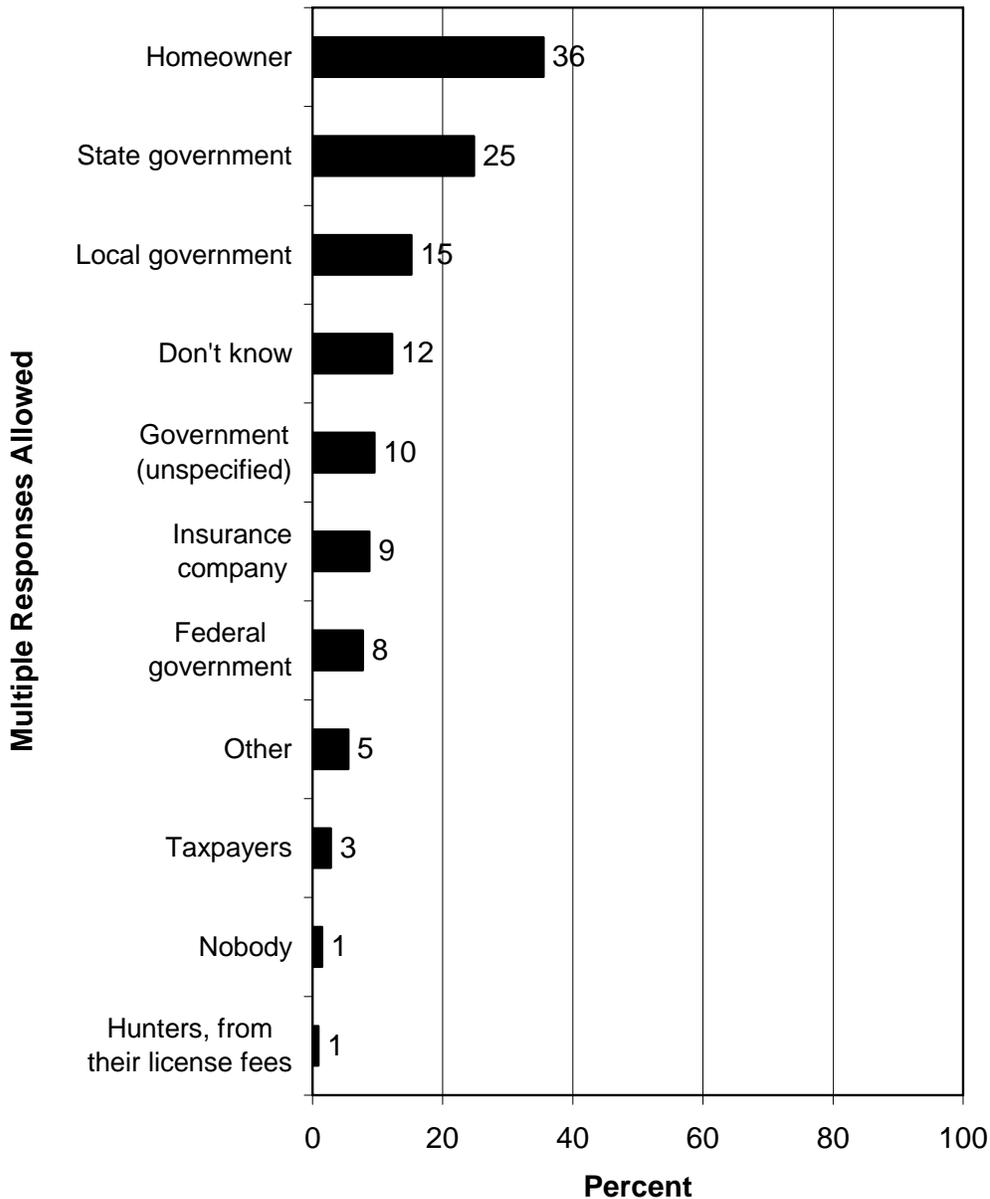
Which wild animals or birds caused you problems?



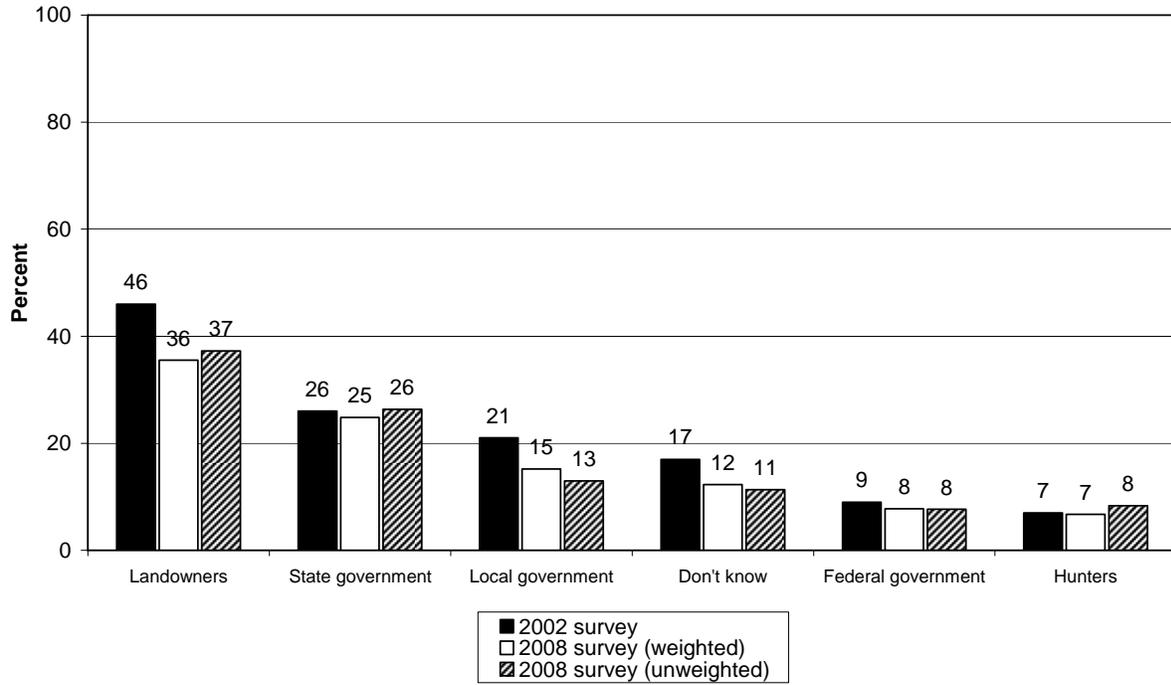
Q23. What problems did the wildlife cause? (Asked of those who have had problems with wildlife in the past 2 years.)



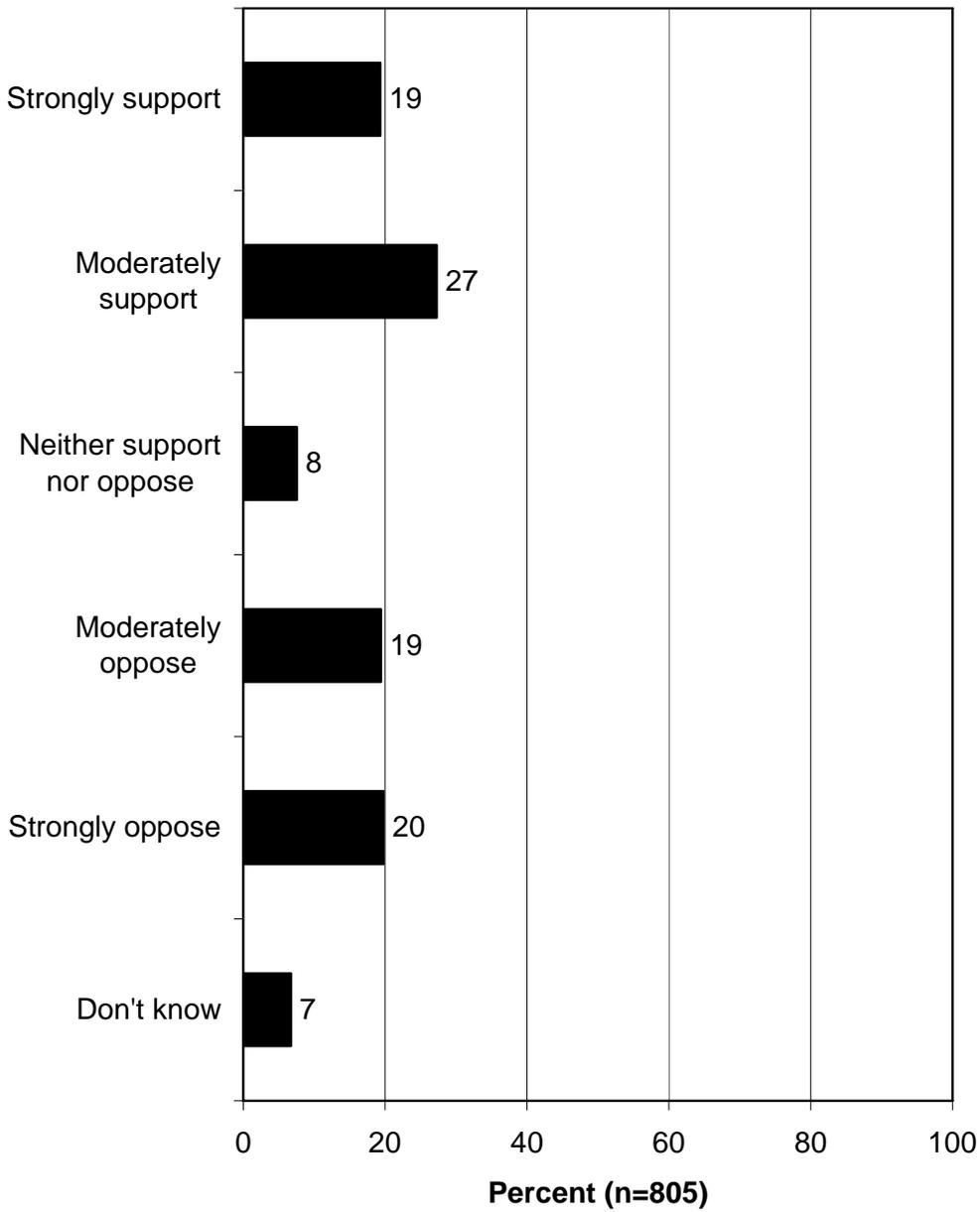
Q26. Who do you think should pay for nuisance wildlife control and pay for damage caused by wildlife? (Asked of those who have experienced problems with wildlife near their home in the past 2 years.)



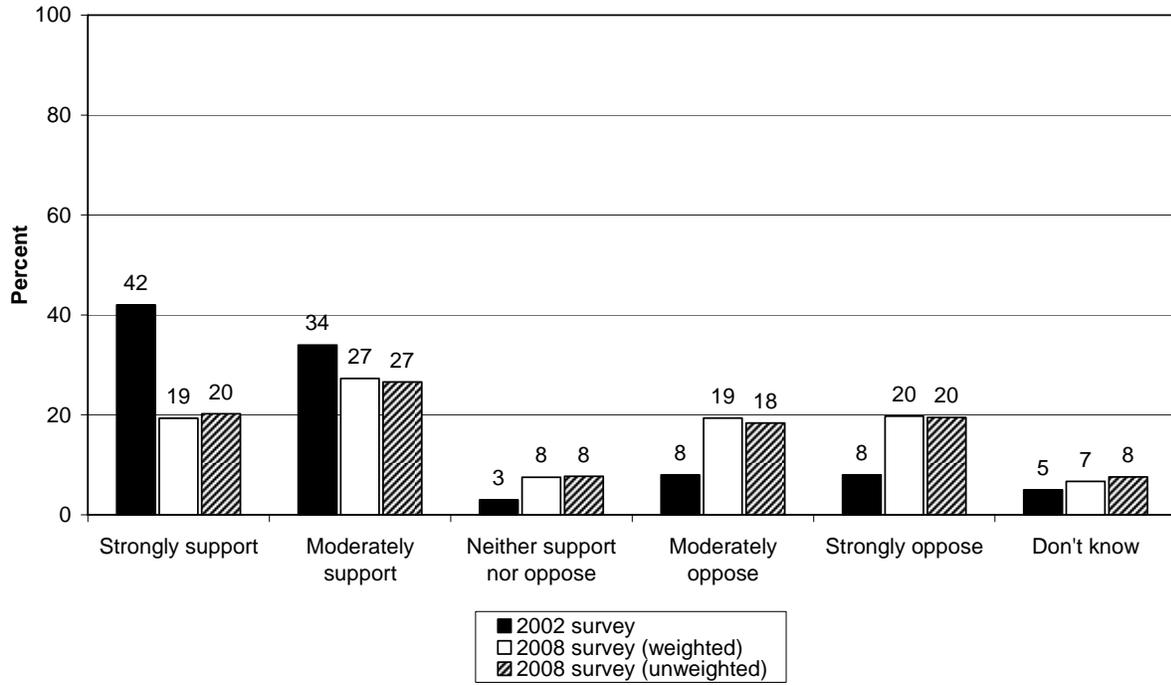
Who do you think should pay for nuisance wildlife control and pay for damage caused by wildlife?



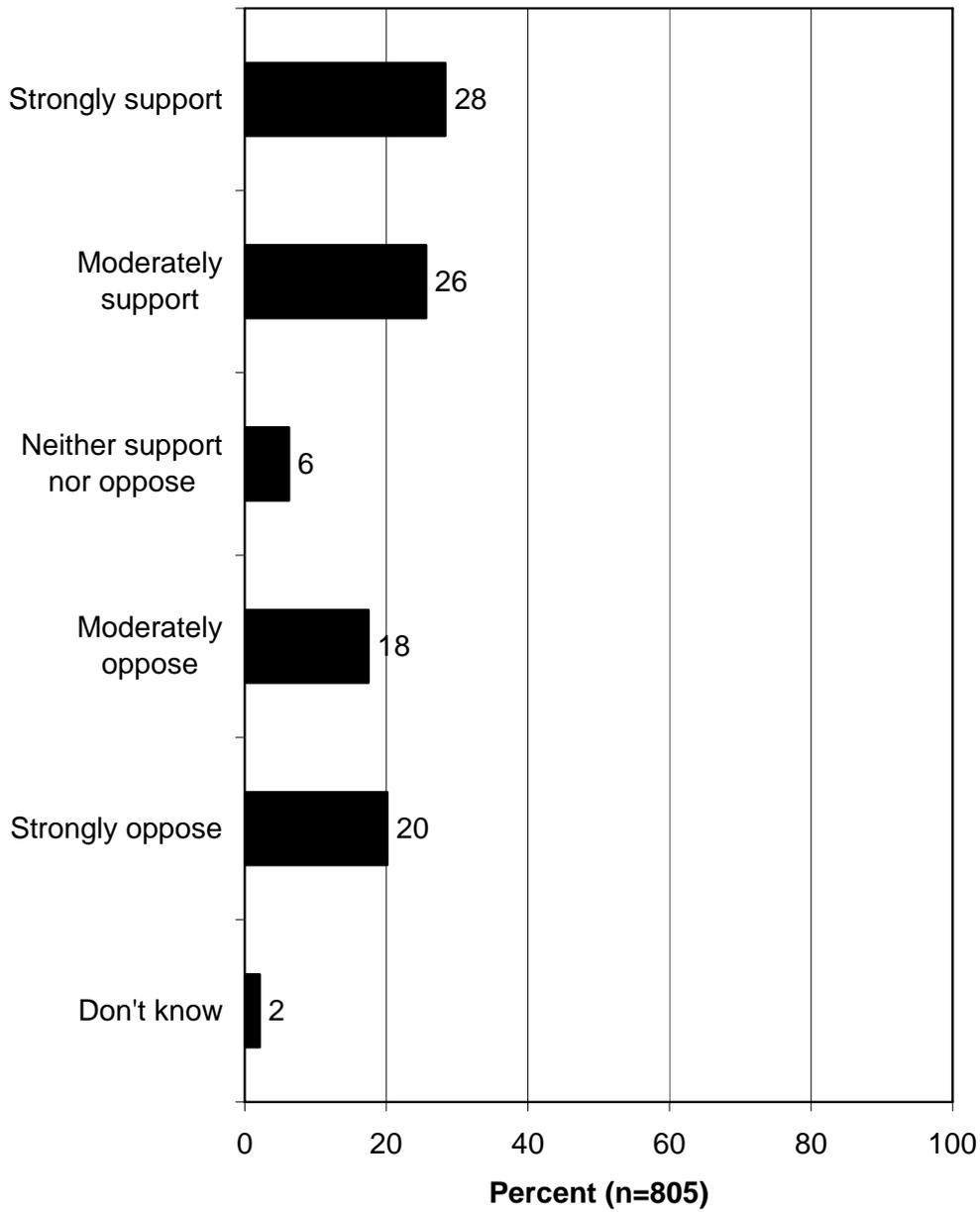
Q31. Do you support or oppose hunting to address human-wildlife conflicts?



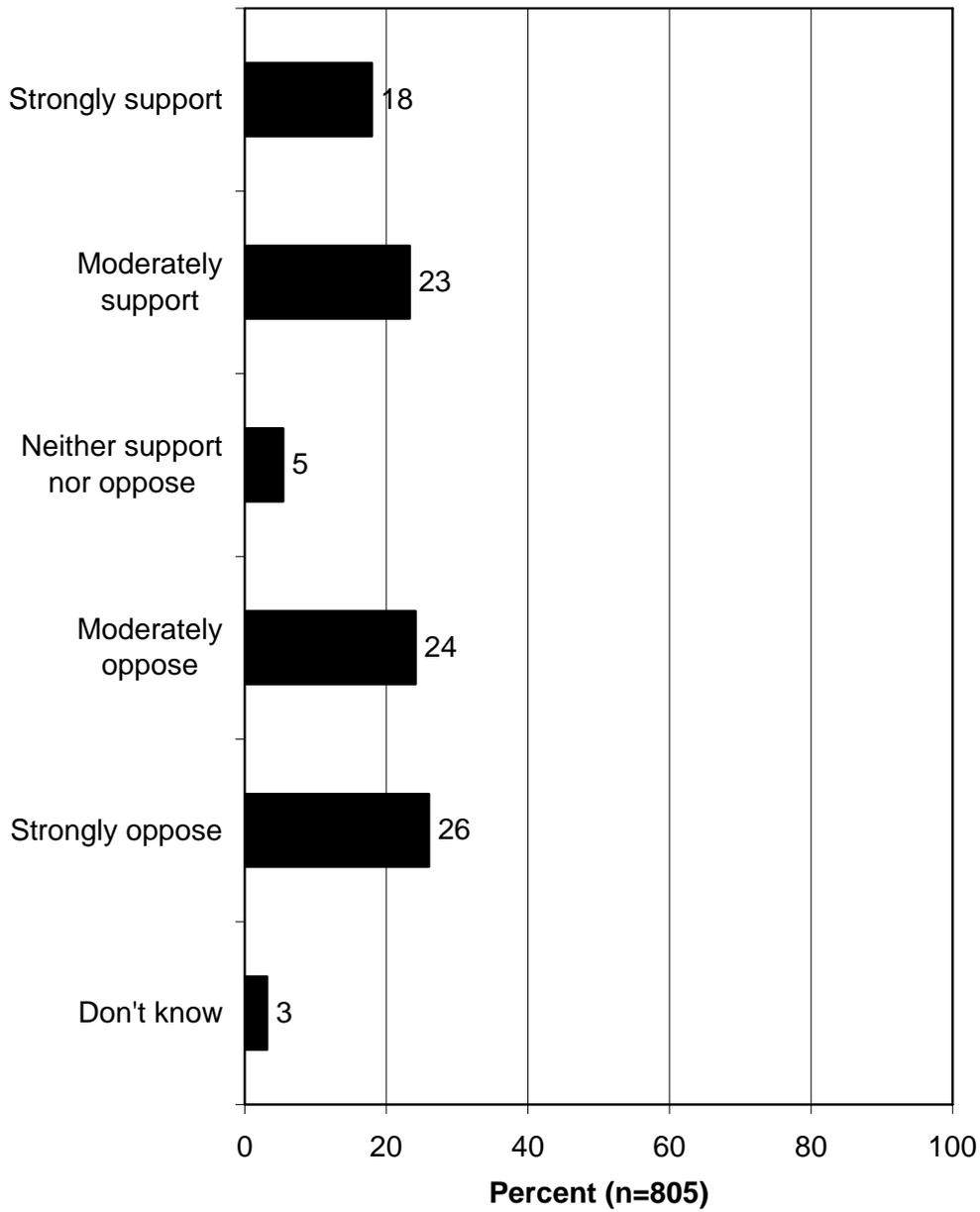
Do you support or oppose hunting to address human-wildlife conflicts?



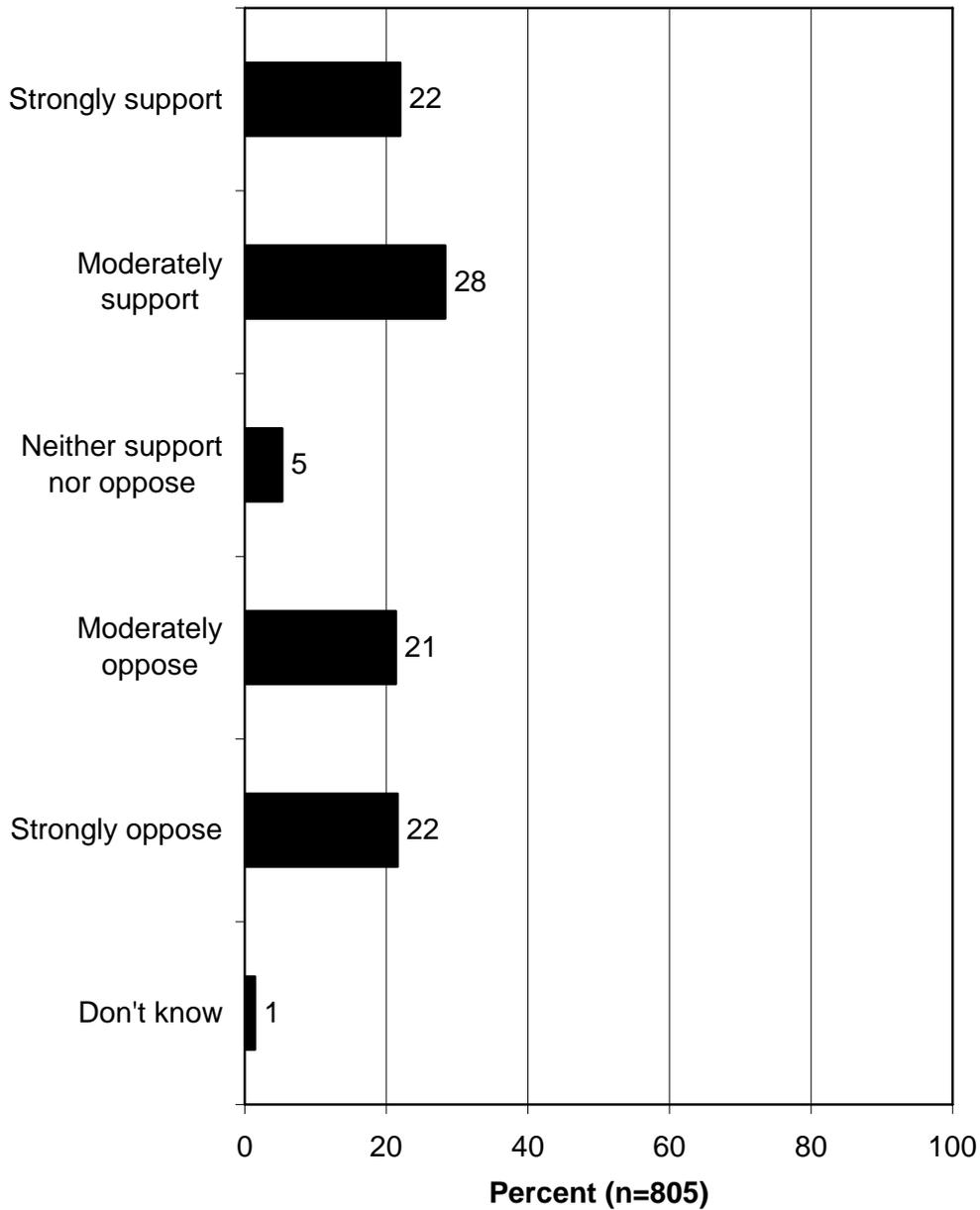
Q32. Do you support or oppose hunting to address nuisance animals?



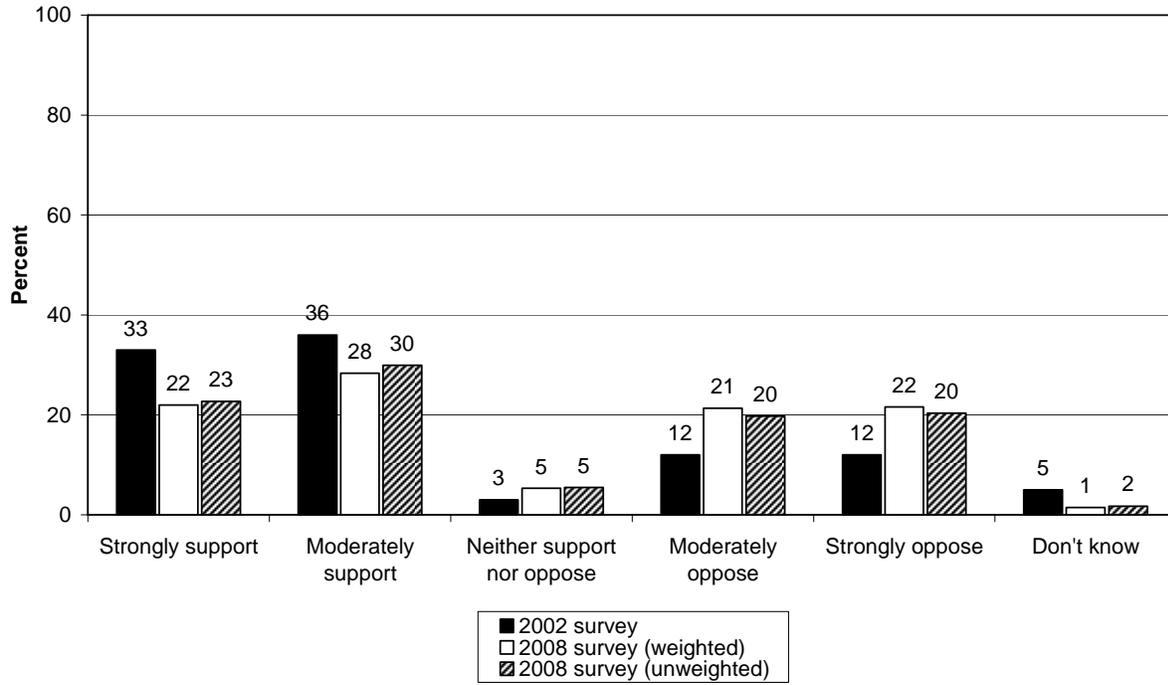
Q34. Do you support or oppose hunting to reduce animal-vehicle collisions?



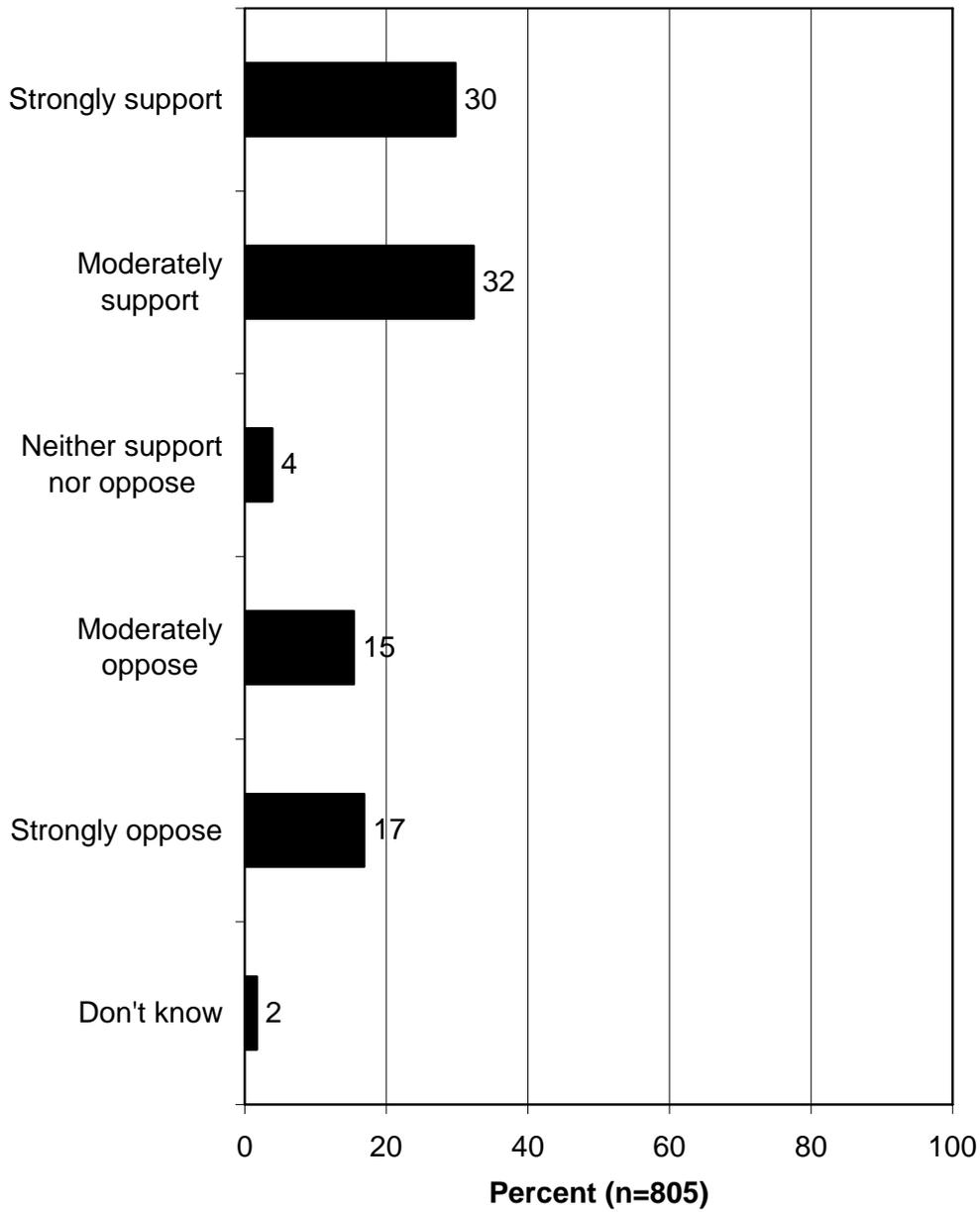
Q38. Do you support or oppose reducing predator populations to prevent loss of domestic animals or pets?



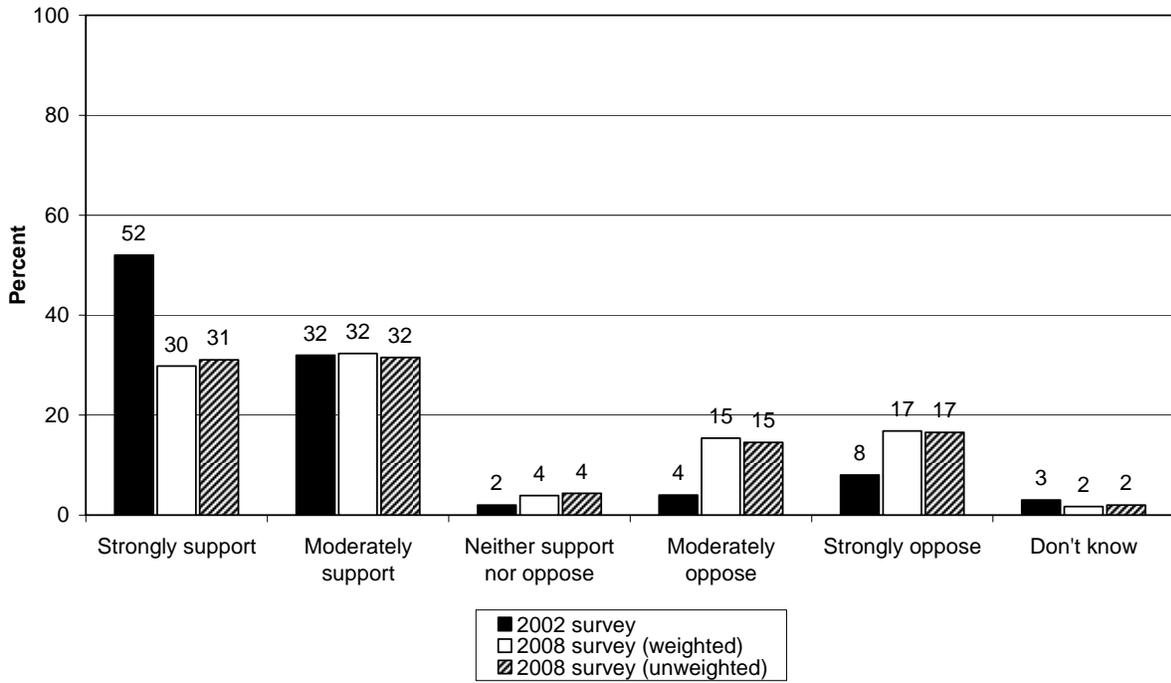
Do you support or oppose reducing predator populations to prevent loss of domestic animals or pets?



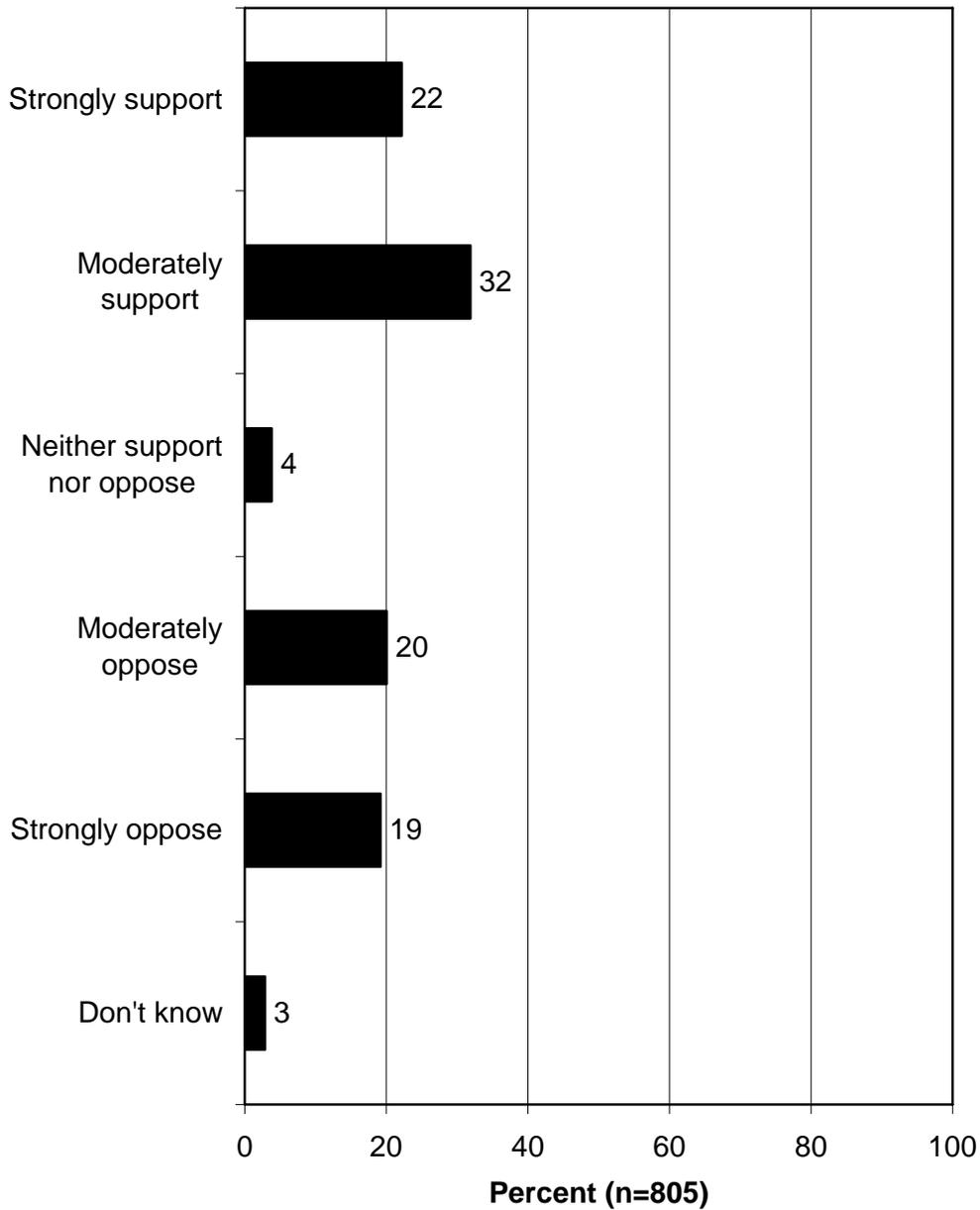
Q41. Do you support or oppose reducing predator populations to address human safety?



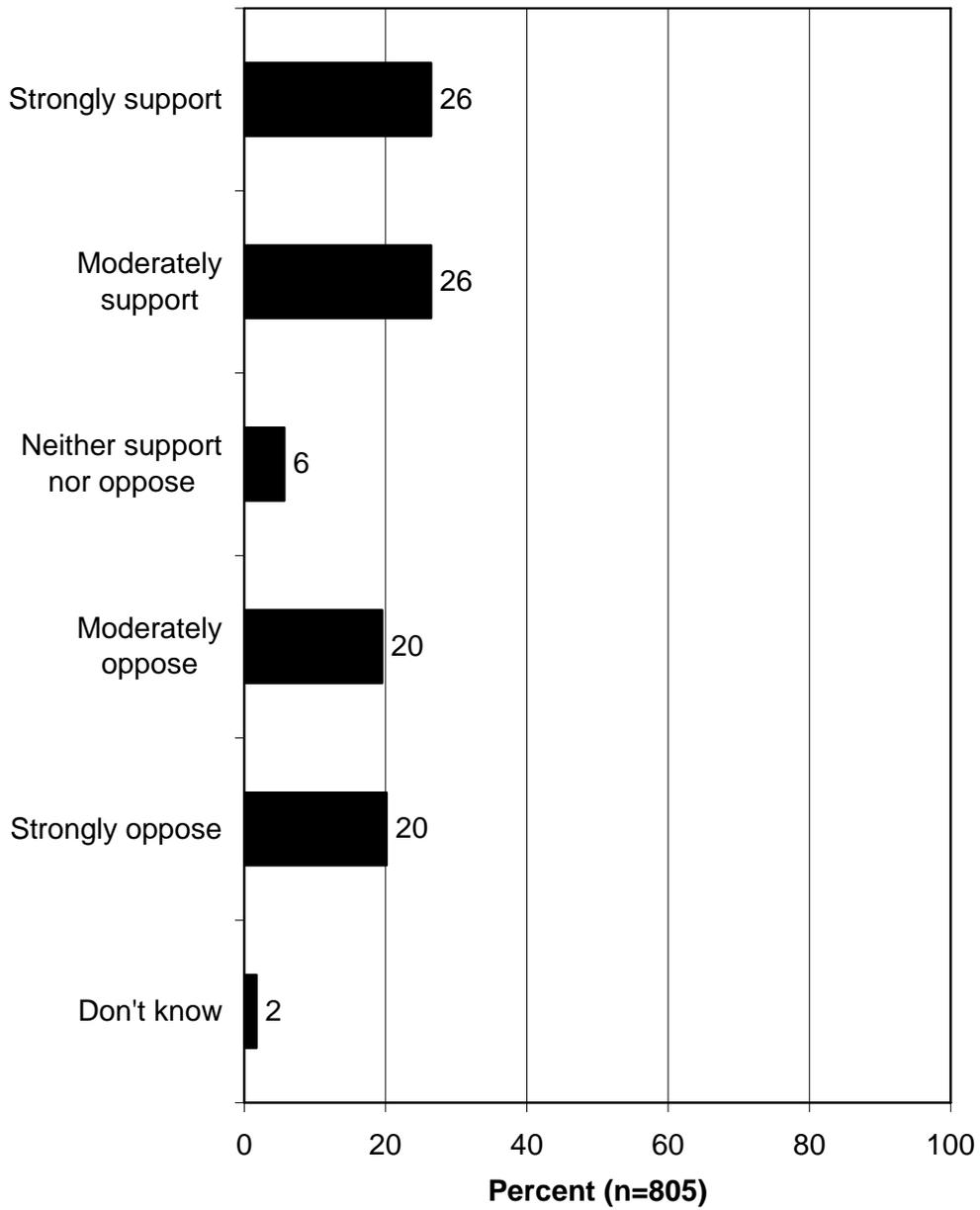
Do you support or oppose reducing predator populations to address human safety?



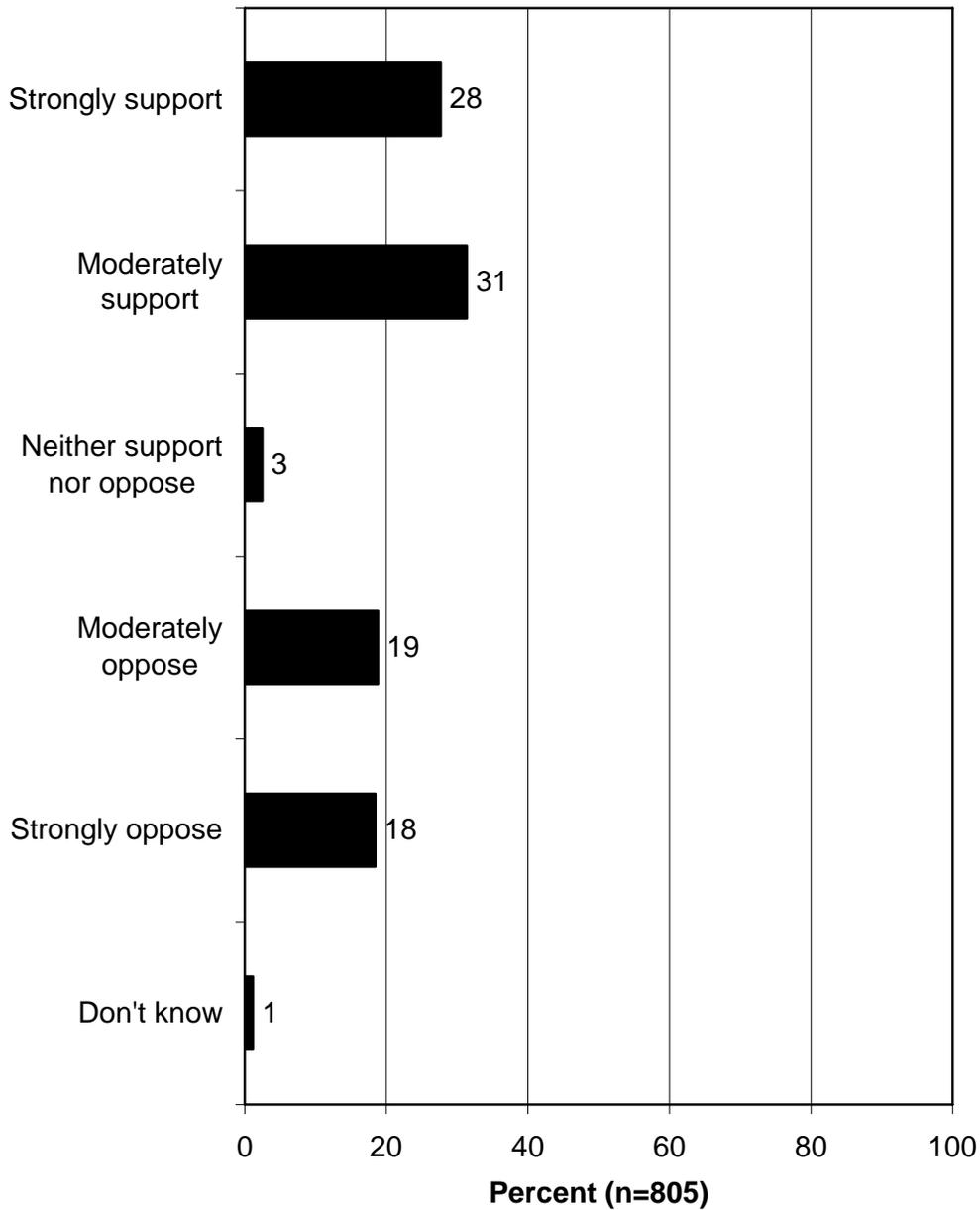
Q44. Do you support or oppose reducing local raccoon populations to prevent loss of domestic animals, such as chickens, domestic ducks, or pets?



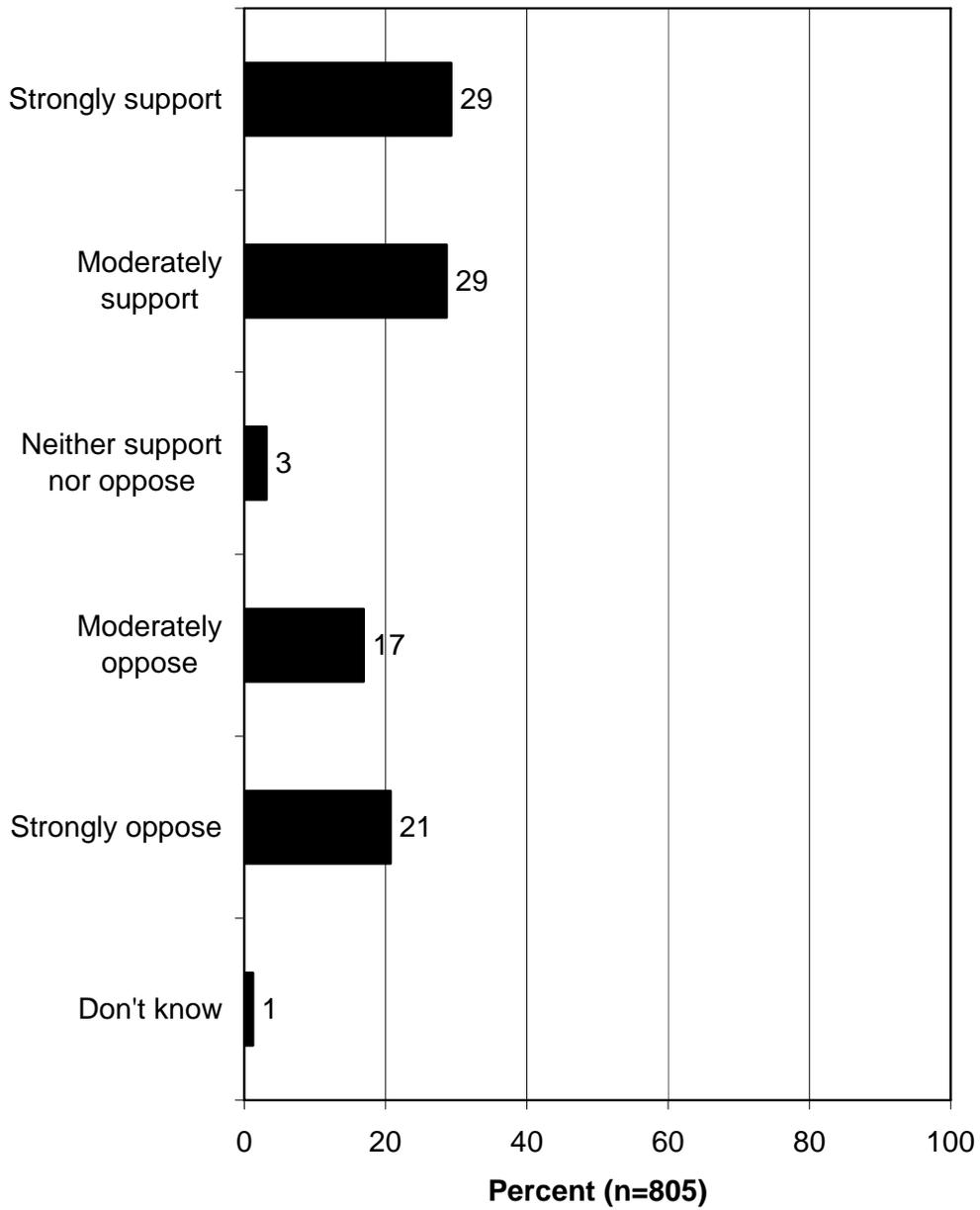
Q47. Do you support or oppose reducing local raccoon populations to address human safety?



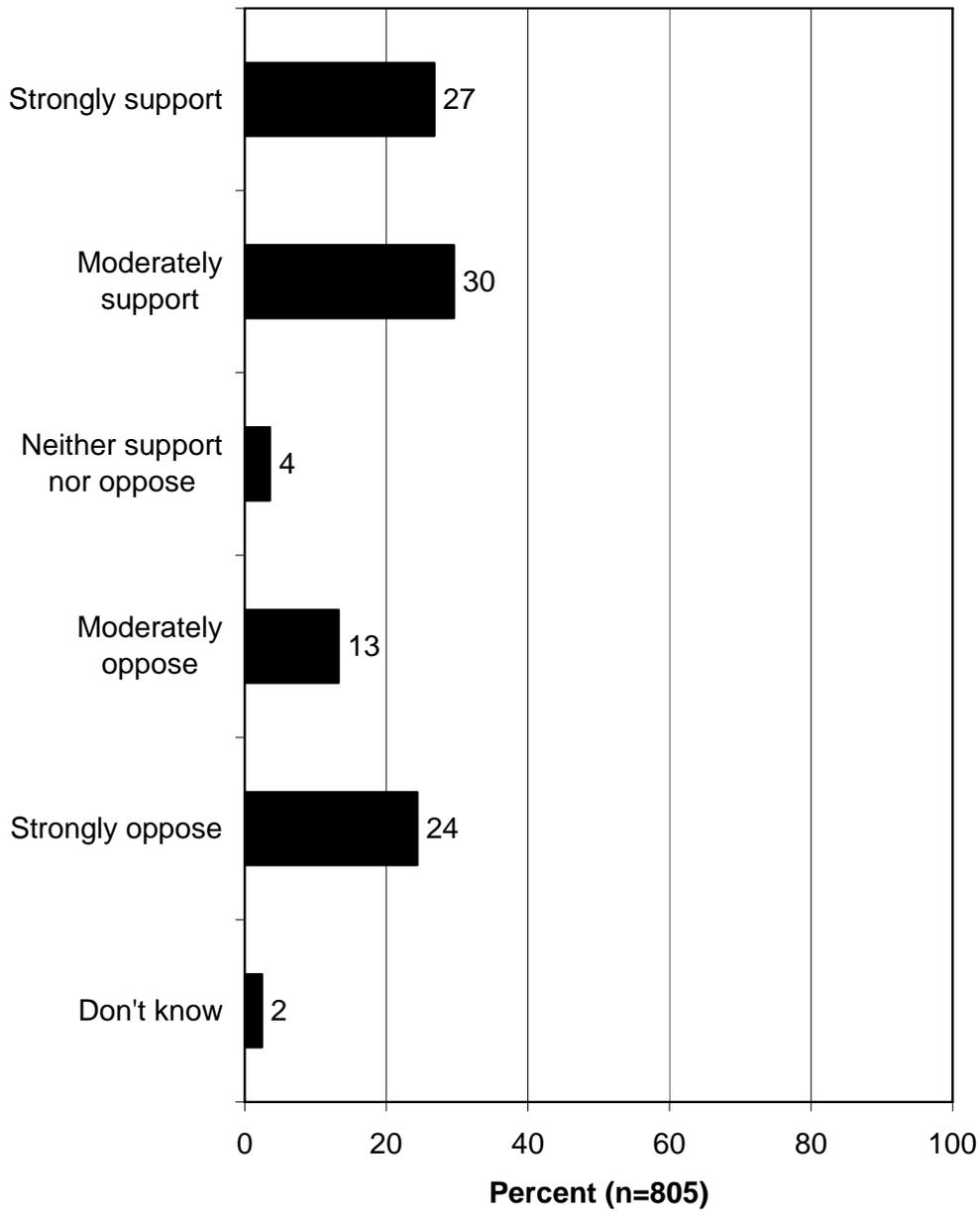
Q50. Do you support or oppose reducing local coyote populations to prevent loss of domestic animals, such as chickens, goats, or pets?



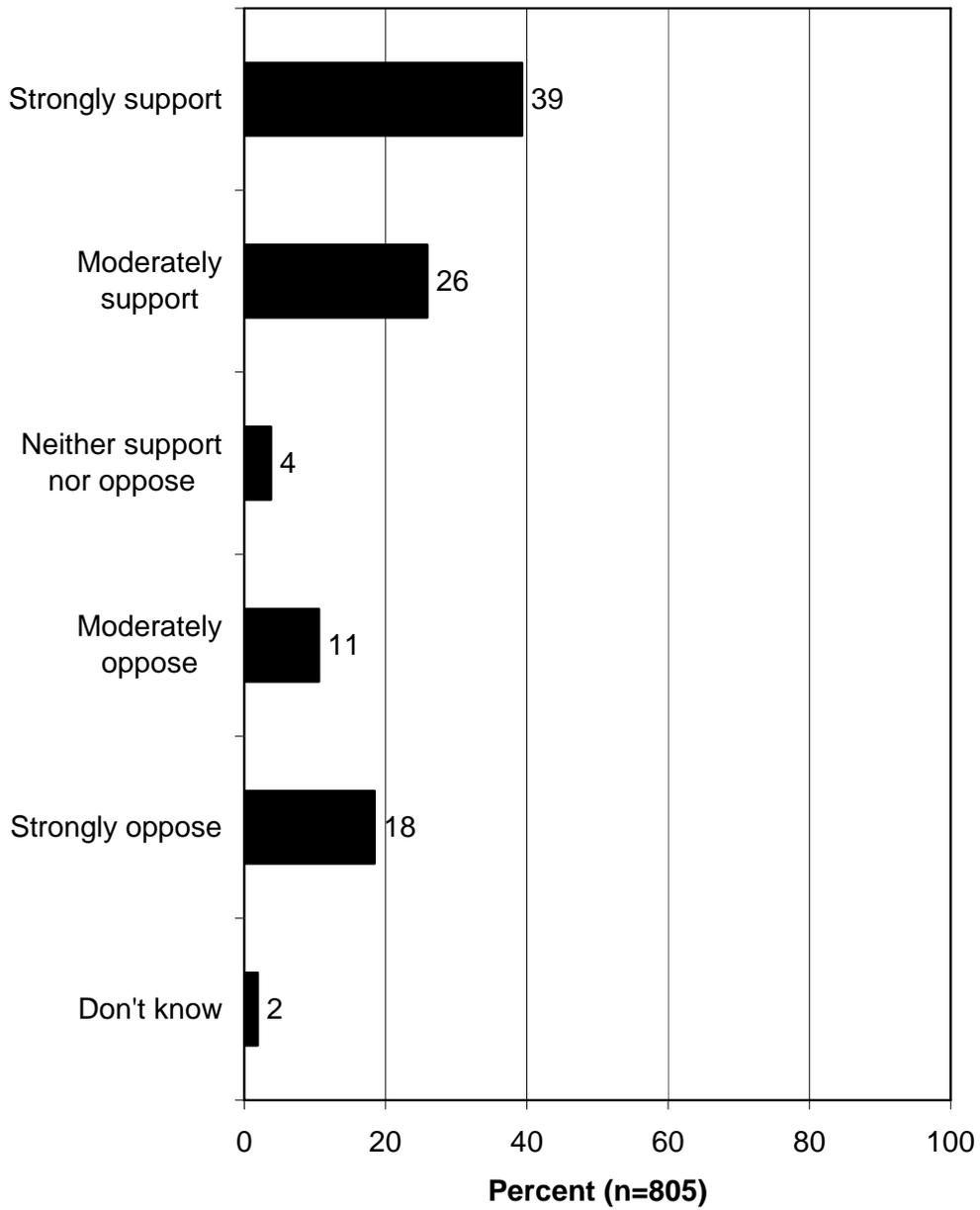
Q53. Do you support or oppose reducing local coyote populations to address human safety?



Q72. Do you support or oppose the use of dogs to hunt cougar to protect pets or livestock?



Q71. Do you support or oppose the use of dogs to hunt cougar to protect human safety?

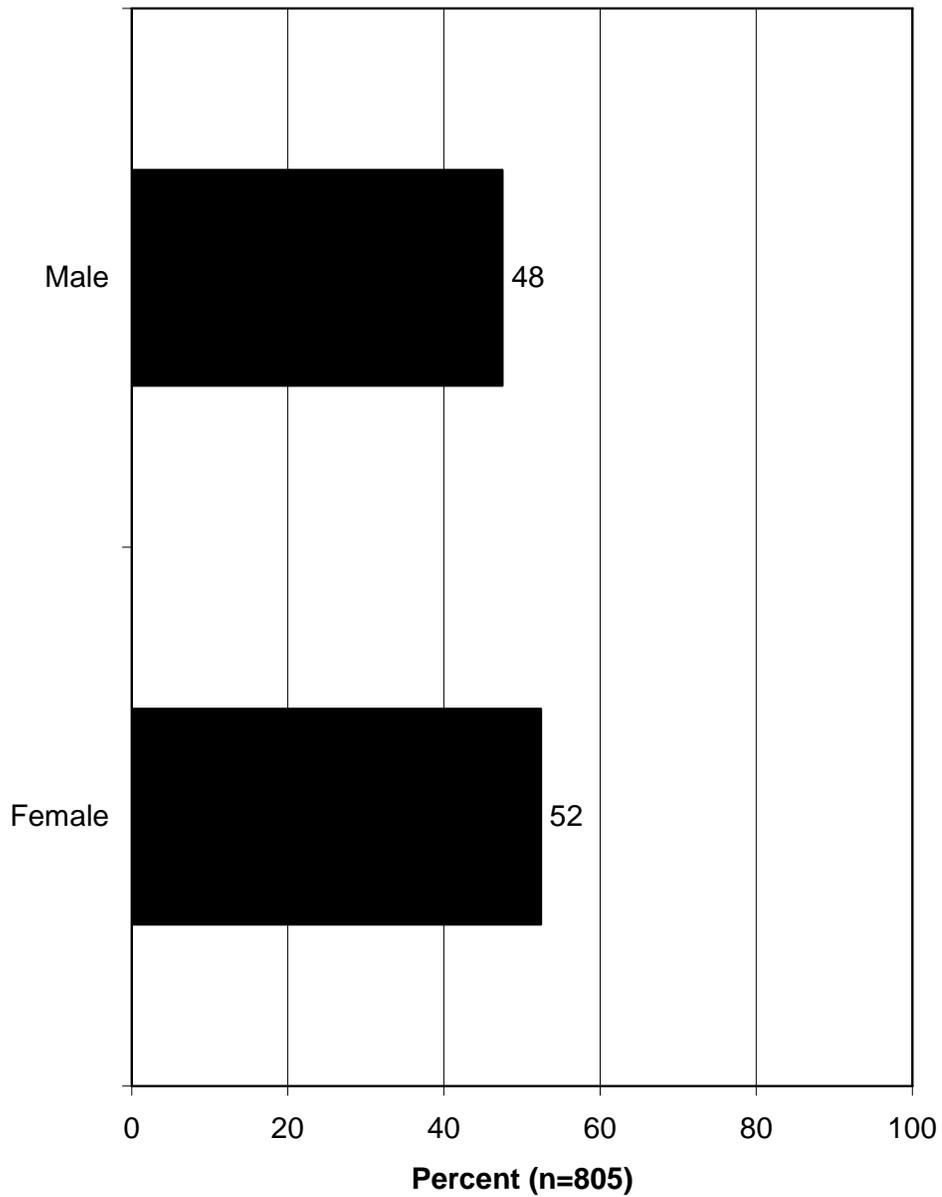


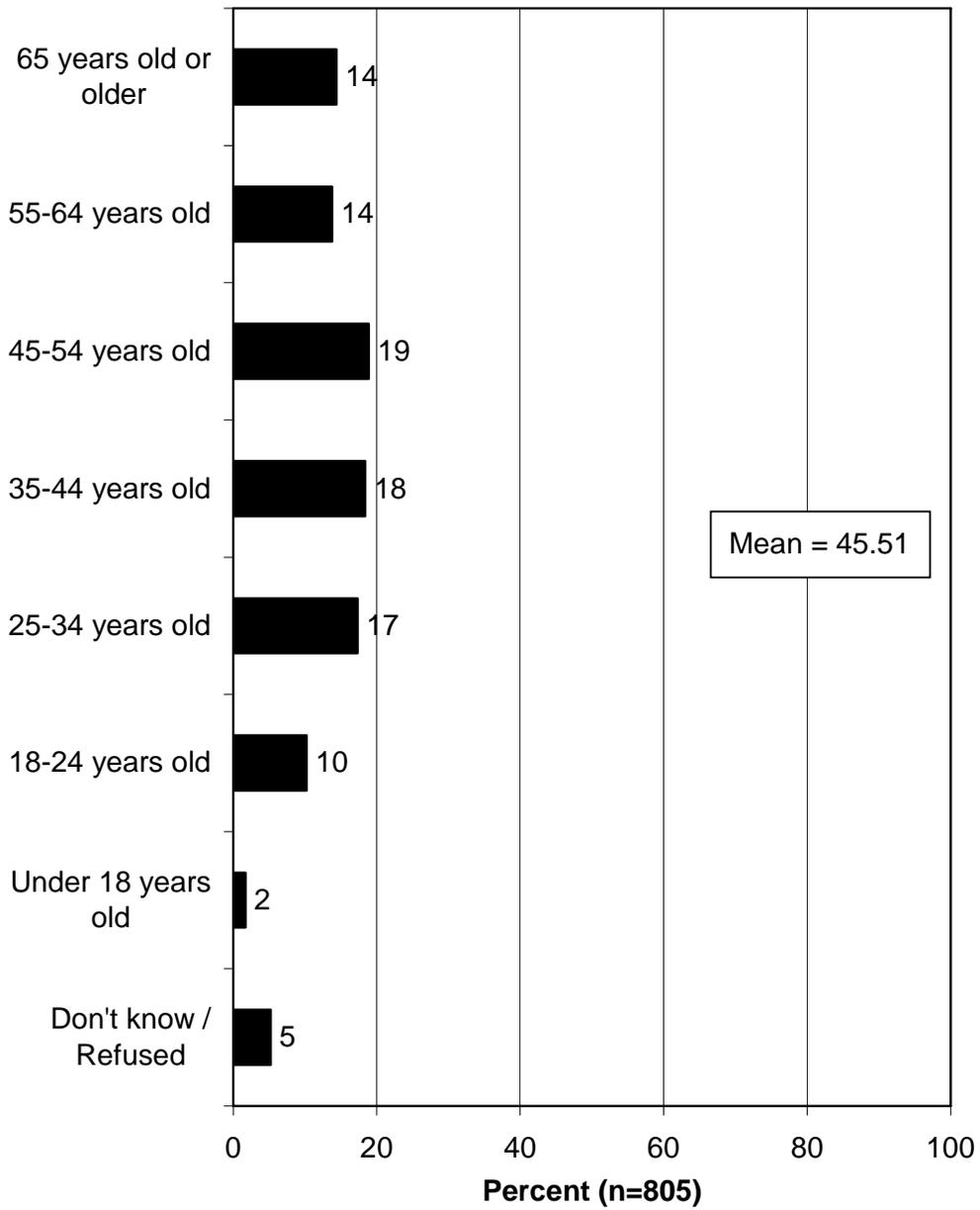
DEMOGRAPHIC CHARACTERISTICS AND MEMBERSHIP IN WILDLIFE-RELATED ORGANIZATIONS

- The gender split of the sample is nearly even, with 52% females and 48% males.
- Ages of respondents are shown, fairly evenly distributed among age categories. Note that the data were weighted by age to ensure proper representation of younger respondents, and this graph reflects the weighting.
- The ethnicity of respondents is shown. The majority of Washington residents (82%) answer that their ethnic background includes white/Caucasian.
- When asked to characterize the area in which they live, 39% of respondents describe it as a large city/urban area or a suburban area. Meanwhile, 27% describe it as a small city or town, and 31% describe it as rural.
- Counties of residence are shown, with the leading counties being King, Pierce, Snohomish, Clark, Spokane, and Kitsap (all with more than 5% of respondents).
- Educational attainment of Washington residents is shown: 69% have some college or trade school coursework, with or without a degree, and 35% have a Bachelor's degree, with or without a higher degree.
- Occupations of respondents are shown.
- Incomes of respondents are shown, which follow a bell curve with the peak in the \$60,000 to \$79,000 category.

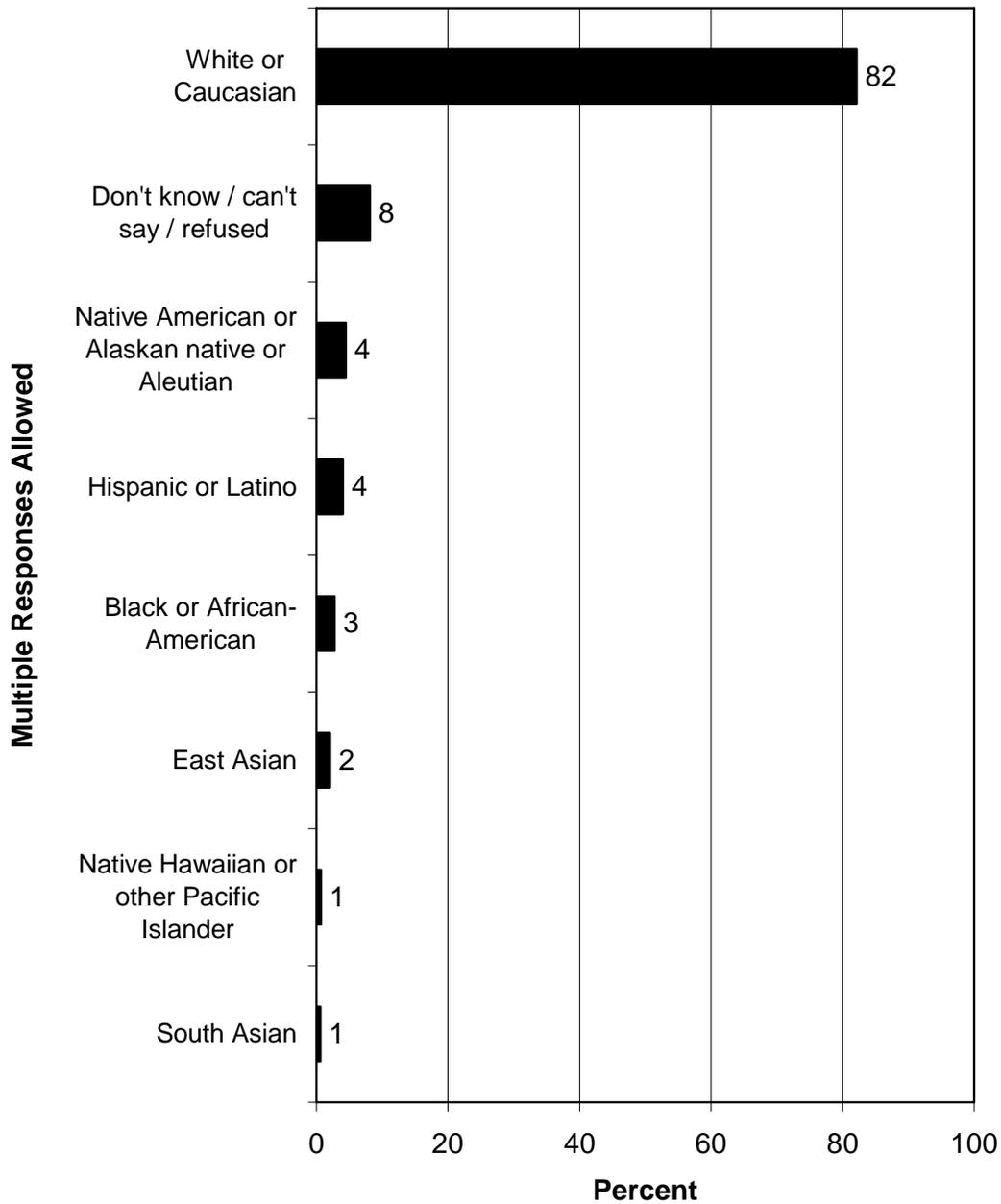
- A substantial percentage of Washington residents (38%) are members of or donate to a wildlife organization that promotes conservation or habitat enhancement. The most common organizations are Ducks Unlimited, the Rocky Mountain Elk Foundation, the Sierra Club, the World Wildlife Fund, the National Rifle Association, and the Nature Conservancy.
- Trend: The graph of trends shows affiliation with specific organizations, with no marked differences between the two years of study. (Trends were not shown on total “participation” in an organization, as the 2002 survey asked only about *membership in* an organization, while the 2008 survey asked about *membership in or having donated to* an organization; it is likely that some may have donated to organizations without becoming full members.)

Q125. Respondent's gender. (Observed by interviewer, not asked.)

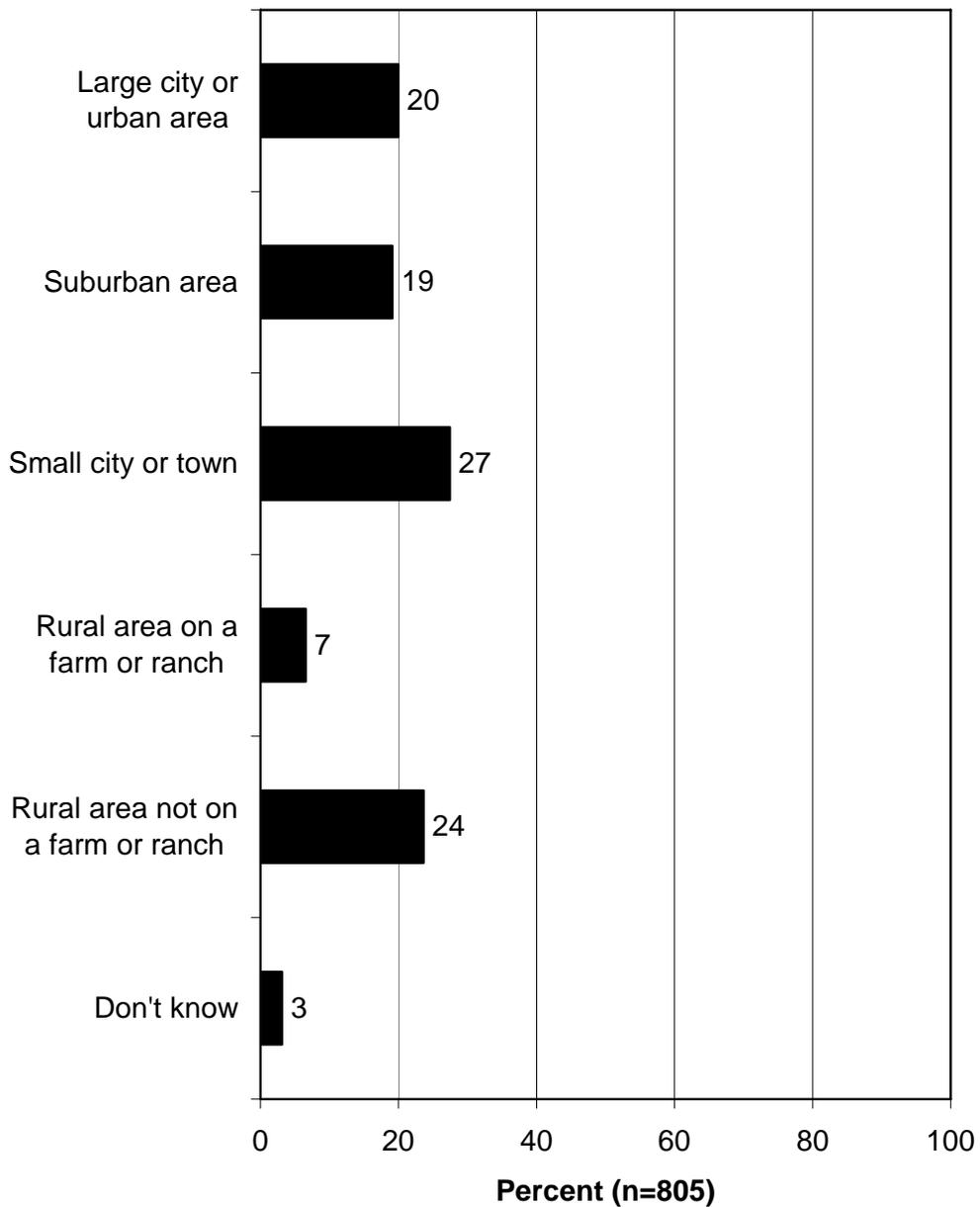


Q119. Respondent's age.

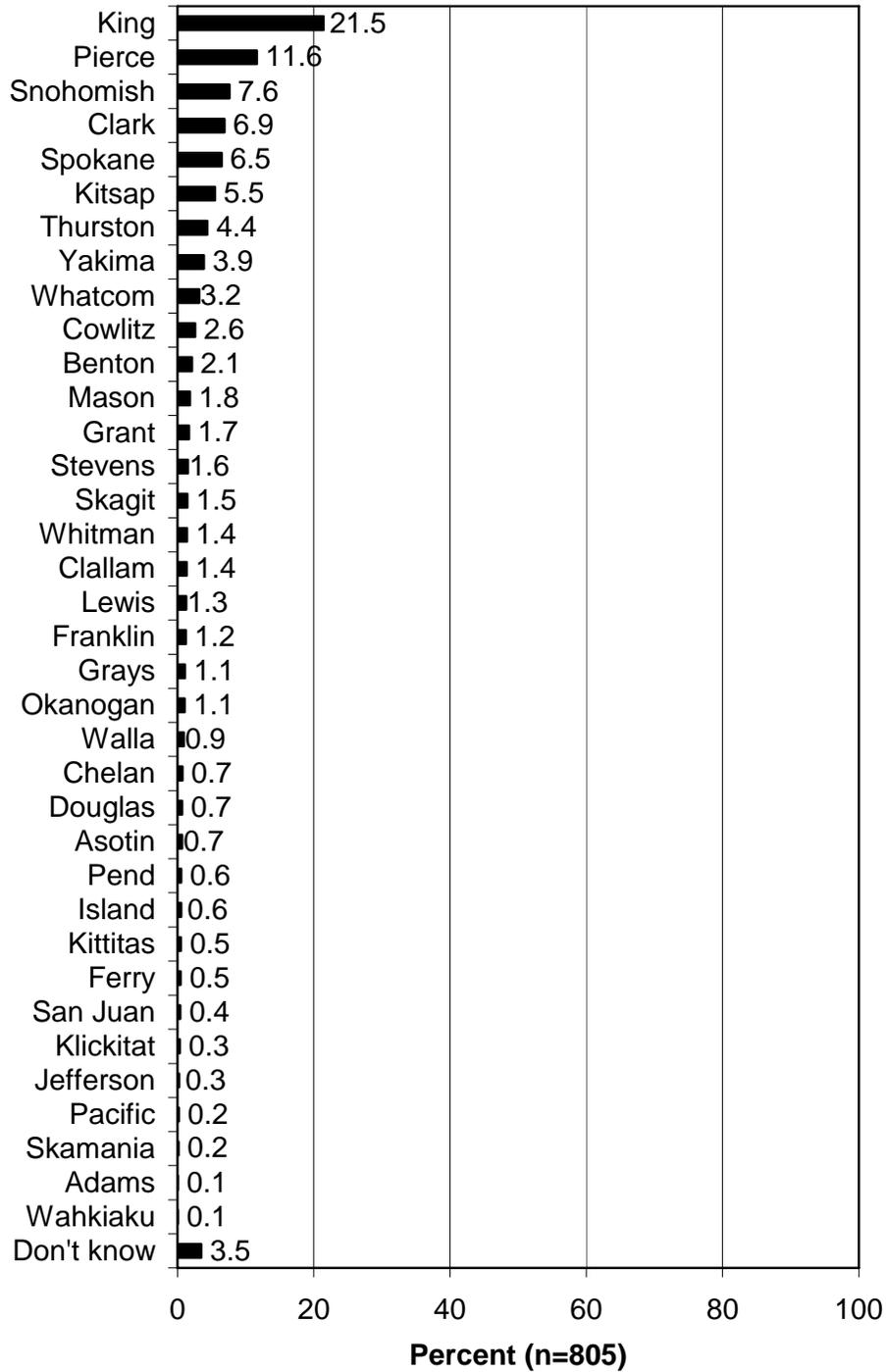
Q114. What races or ethnic backgrounds do you consider yourself, and please mention all that apply?



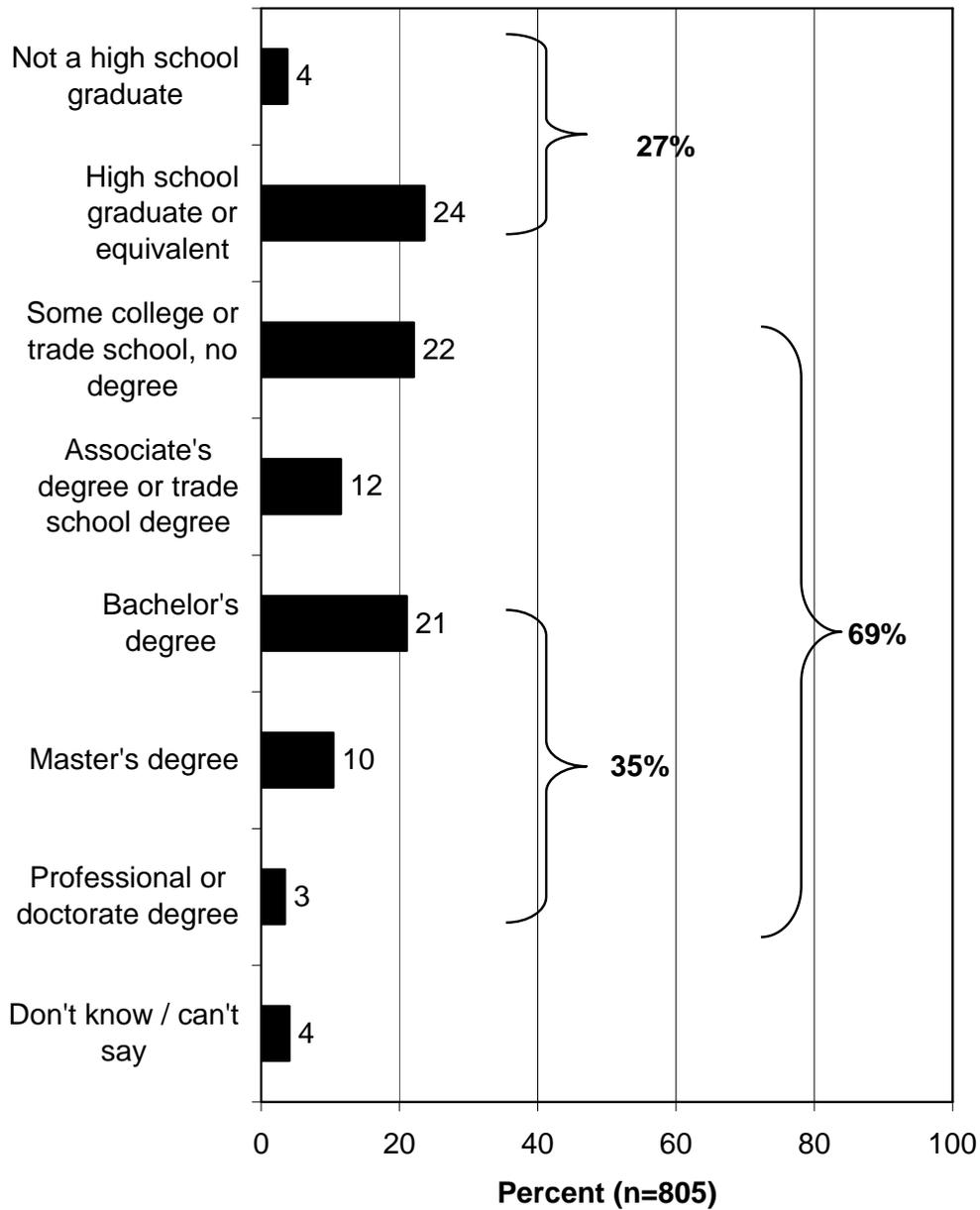
Q108. Do you consider your place of residence to be in a large city or urban area, a suburban area, a small city or town, or a rural area?



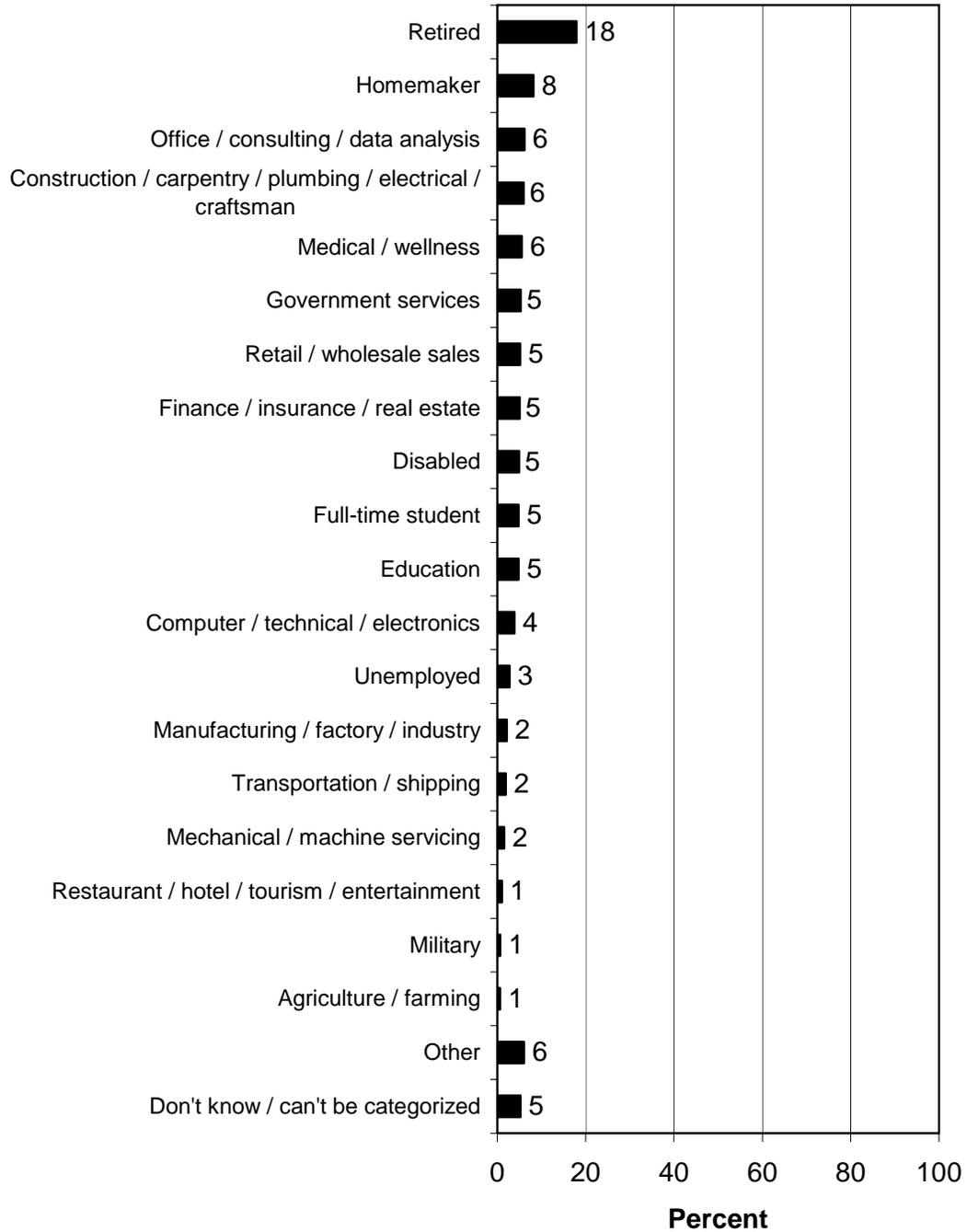
Q109. In what county do you live?



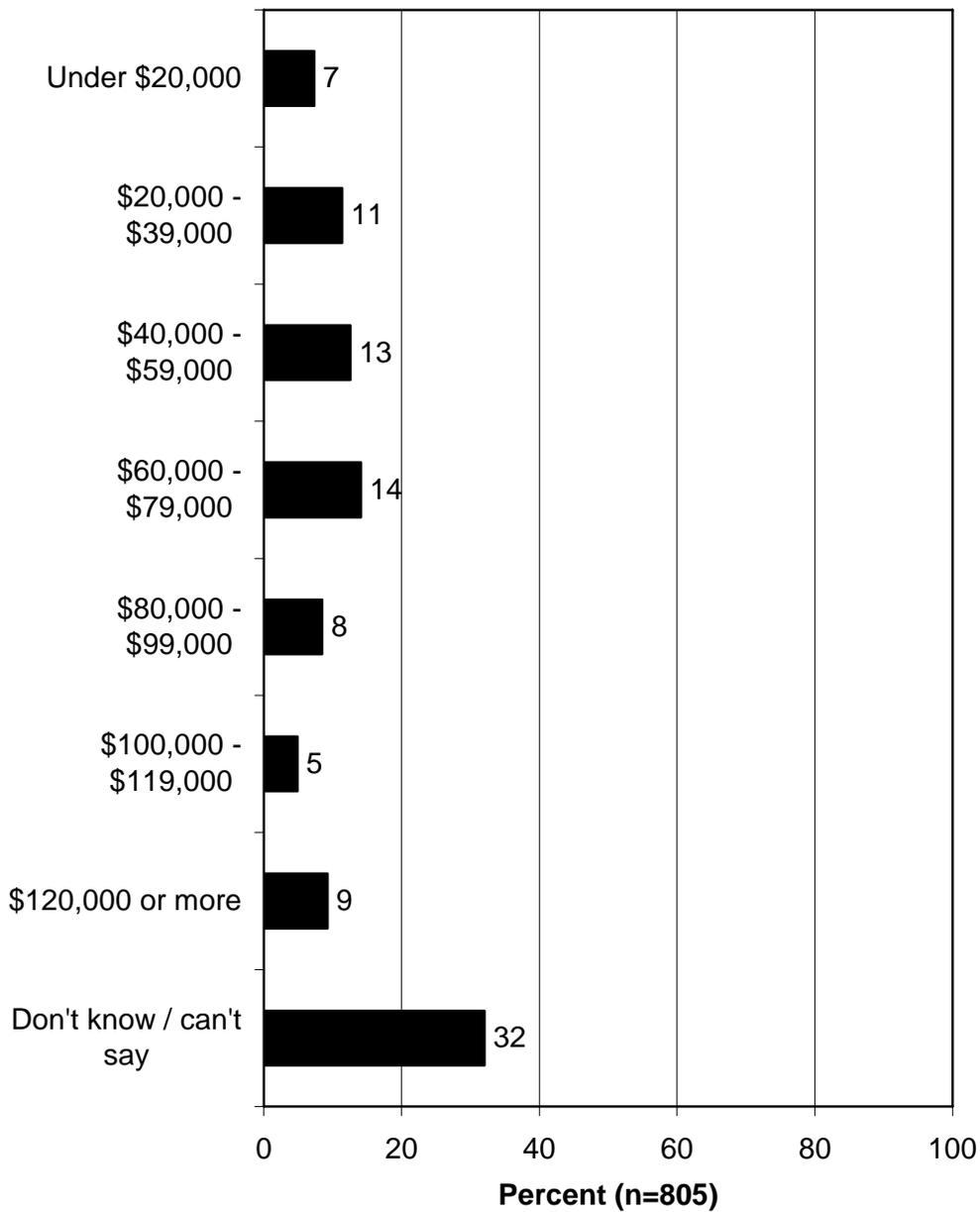
Q110. What is the highest level of education you have completed?



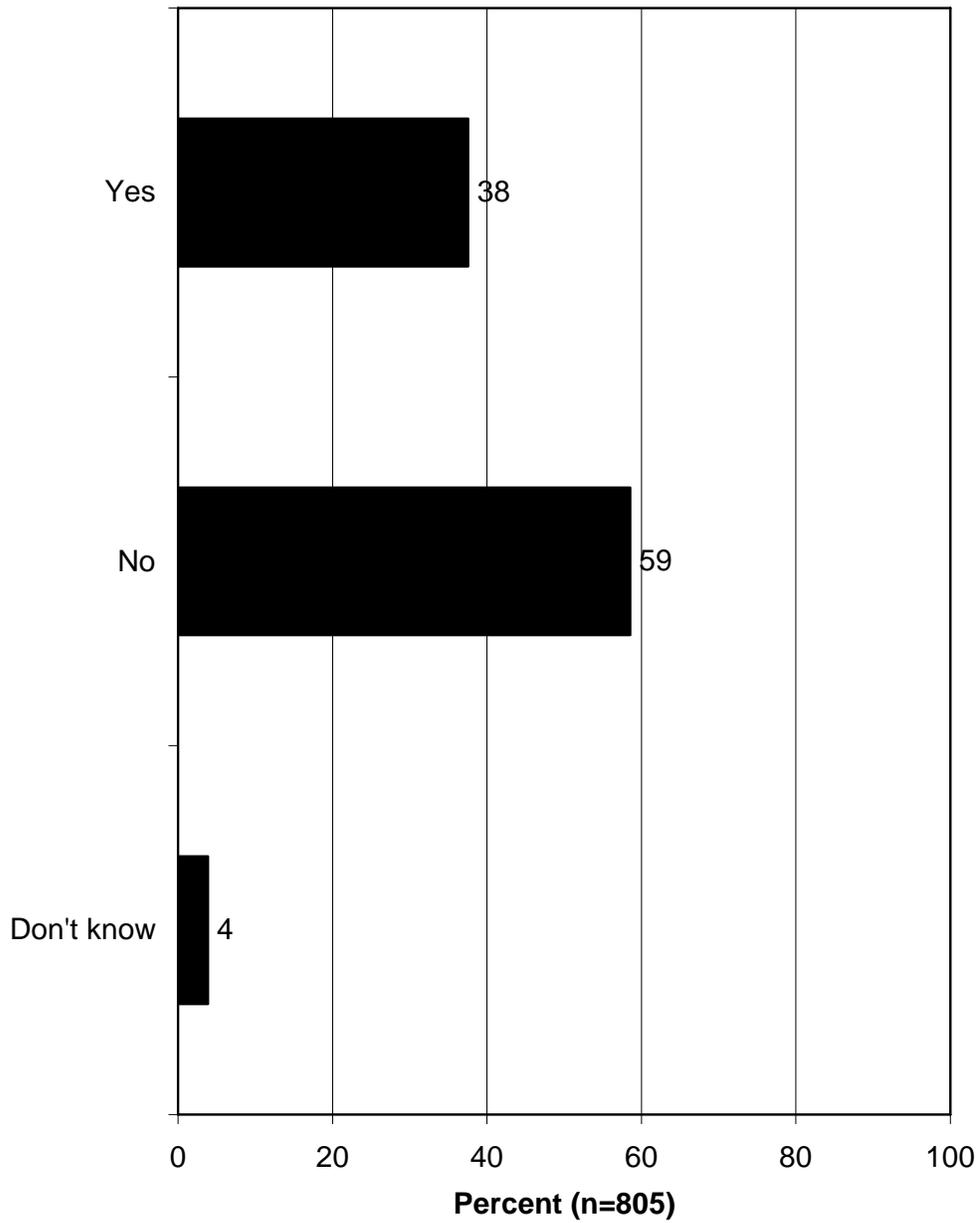
Q116/117. Respondent's occupation.



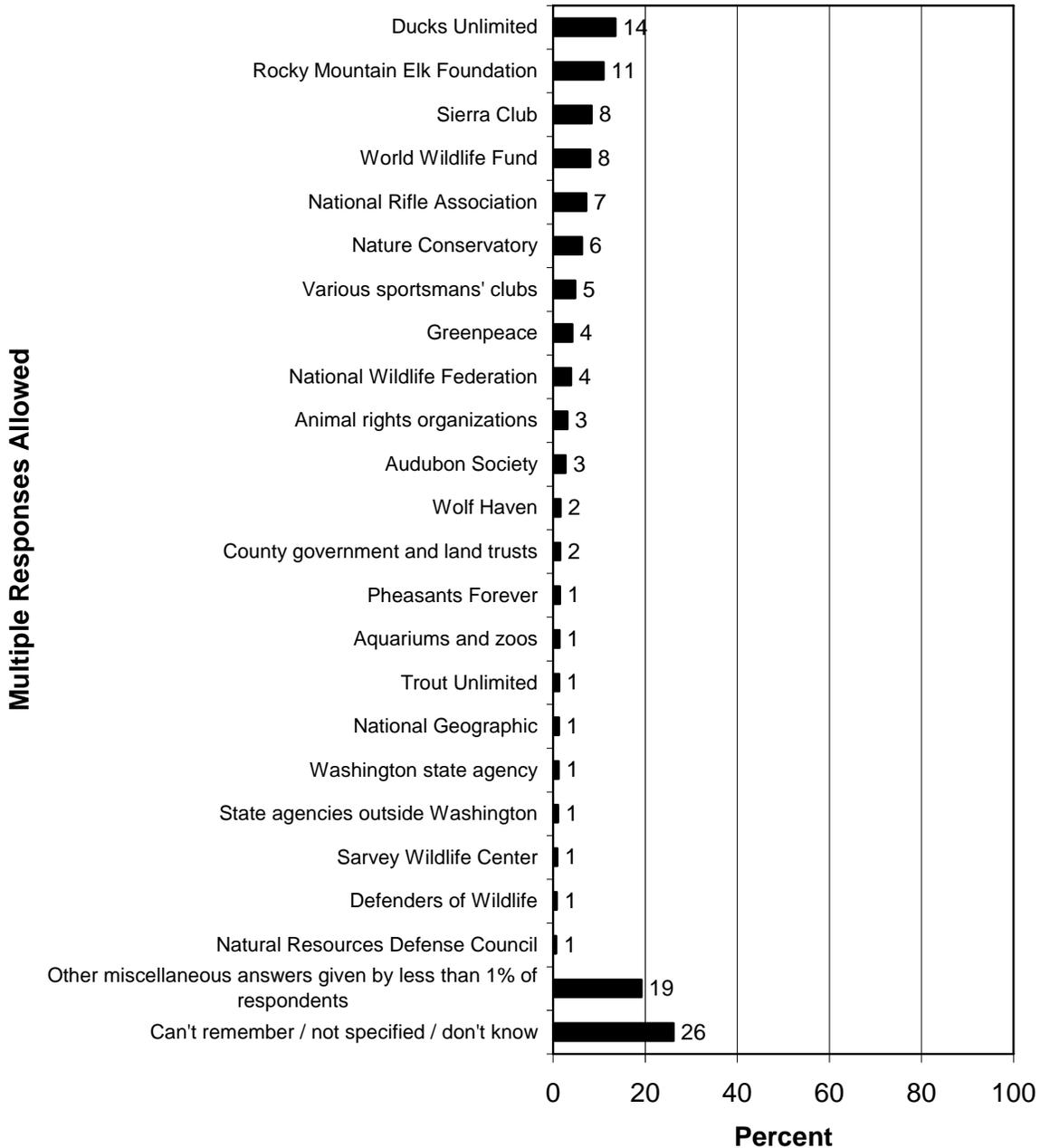
Q111. Which of these categories best describes your total household income before taxes last year?



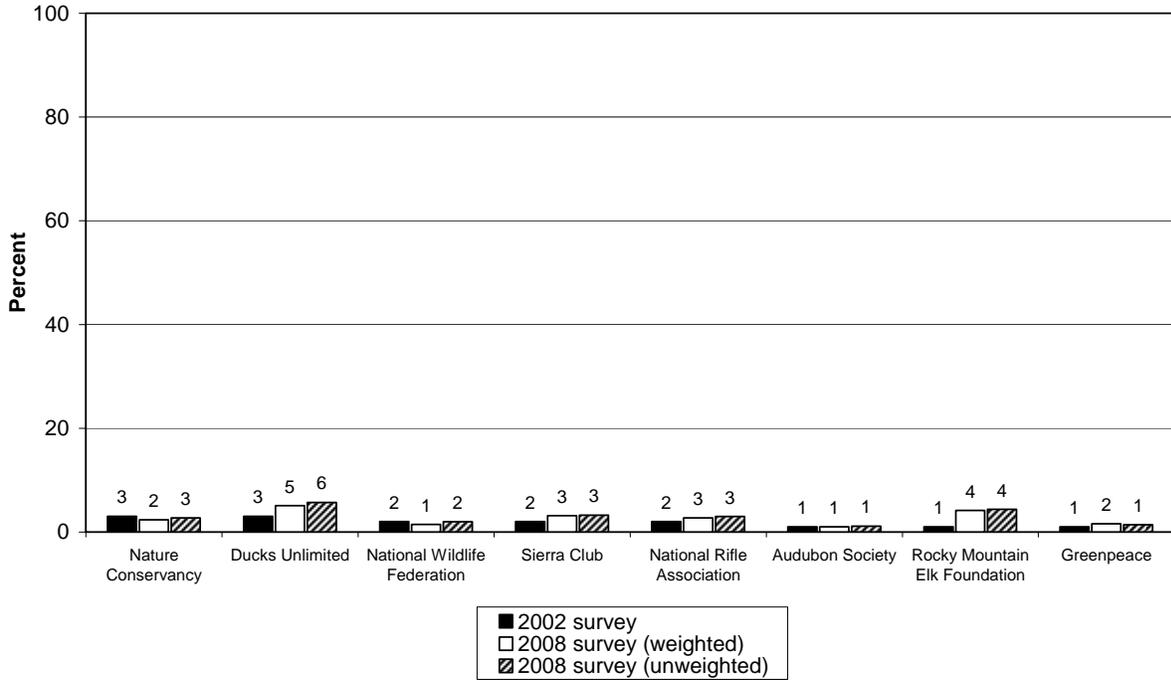
Q106. Are you a member of or have you donated to any organization that promotes wildlife conservation or habitat enhancement?



Q107. What conservation organization are you a member of or donated to? (Asked of those who have donated to or are a member of any organization that promotes wildlife conservation or habitat enhancement.)



What conservation organization are you a member of/donated to?



ABOUT RESPONSIVE MANAGEMENT

Responsive Management is a nationally recognized public opinion and attitude survey research firm specializing in natural resource and outdoor recreation issues. Its mission is to help natural resource and outdoor recreation agencies and organizations better understand and work with their constituents, customers, and the public.

Utilizing its in-house, full-service, computer-assisted telephone and mail survey center with 45 professional interviewers, Responsive Management has conducted more than 1,000 telephone surveys, mail surveys, personal interviews, and focus groups, as well as numerous marketing and communications plans, need assessments, and program evaluations on natural resource and outdoor recreation issues.

Clients include most of the federal and state natural resource, outdoor recreation, and environmental agencies, and most of the top conservation organizations. Responsive Management also collects attitude and opinion data for many of the nation's top universities, including the University of Southern California, Virginia Tech, Colorado State University, Auburn, Texas Tech, the University of California—Davis, Michigan State University, the University of Florida, North Carolina State University, Penn State, West Virginia University, and others.

Among the wide range of work Responsive Management has completed during the past 20 years are studies on how the general population values natural resources and outdoor recreation, and their opinions on and attitudes toward an array of natural resource-related issues. Responsive Management has conducted dozens of studies of selected groups of outdoor recreationists, including anglers, boaters, hunters, wildlife watchers, birdwatchers, park visitors, historic site visitors, hikers, and campers, as well as selected groups within the general population, such as landowners, farmers, urban and rural residents, women, senior citizens, children, Hispanics, Asians, and African-Americans. Responsive Management has conducted studies on environmental education, endangered species, waterfowl, wetlands, water quality, and the reintroduction of numerous species such as wolves, grizzly bears, the California condor, and the Florida panther.

Responsive Management has conducted research on numerous natural resource ballot initiatives and referenda and helped agencies and organizations find alternative funding and increase their memberships and donations. Responsive Management has conducted major agency and organizational program needs assessments and helped develop more effective programs based upon a solid foundation of fact. Responsive Management has developed Web sites for natural resource organizations, conducted training workshops on the human dimensions of natural resources, and presented numerous studies each year in presentations and as keynote speakers at major natural resource, outdoor recreation, conservation, and environmental conferences and meetings.

Responsive Management has conducted research on public attitudes toward natural resources and outdoor recreation in almost every state in the United States, as well as in Canada, Australia, the United Kingdom, France, Germany, and Japan. Responsive Management routinely conducts surveys in Spanish and has also conducted surveys and focus groups in Chinese, Korean, Japanese, and Vietnamese.

Responsive Management's research has been featured in most of the nation's major media, including CNN, ESPN, *The Washington Times*, *The New York Times*, *Newsweek*, *The Wall Street Journal*, and on the front pages of *The Washington Post* and *USA Today*.

Visit the Responsive Management Website at:

www.responsivemanagement.com