

# NYS Environmental Sentiments: Insights from Public Opinion Survey



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# NEW YORK ENVIRONMENTAL ISSUES STUDY



COMD210 - Community Research and  
Consulting

**Please See Our Booklet For More Info!**

**BOOKLET**



1 | 11 points

According to the Support Memo, what is the purpose of Assembly Bill A964A?

- To develop a clean fuel standard in New York State
- To remove renewable energy projects from tax cap calculations
- To align the Public Service Commission regulatory scope to fall within the goals of the Climate Leadership and Community Protection Act
- To reduce packaging waste and improve recycling infrastructure

2 | 11 points

What is the financial impact of Assembly Bill A964A?

- Bills households for their carbon emissions
- Creates congestion pricing across the state
- Increases the gasoline tax on commuters
- Fuel providers may be charged registration fees to cover the cost of administering the program

resID	county	smp	paq	safe	state2	buscell
RES0001	Albany	Landline	Upstate		New York	
RES0002	Monroe	Cell	Upstate	Yes	New York	Both
RES0003	Sullivan	Cell	Upstate	Yes	New York	Both
RES0004	Ontario	Landline	Upstate		New York	
RES0005	Albany	Cell	Upstate	Yes	New York	Both
RES0006	Schenectady	Landline	Upstate		New York	
RES0007	Kings	Landline	NYC		New York	
RES0008	Suffolk	Landline	Suburbs		New York	
RES0009	Onondaga	Landline	Upstate		New York	
RES00010	Onondaga	Landline	Upstate		New York	
RES00011	Oneida	Cell	Upstate	Yes	New York	Personal us
RES00012	Suffolk	Landline	Suburbs		New York	
RES00013	Rockland	Landline	Suburbs		New York	
RES00014	Queens	Landline	NYC		New York	
RES00015	Cayuga	Cell	Upstate	Yes	New York	Personal us
RES00016	Monroe	Landline	Upstate		New York	
RES00017	Washington	Landline	Upstate		New York	

**QRCYCLE:**  
permutation -> QUNPLUG  
How often do you recycle waste including paper, cardboard and plastic?  
Very often ..... 1  
Sometimes ..... 2  
Not very often ..... 3  
Not at all ..... 4

**QCWATER:**  
How often do you actively cut back on your water usage in order to conserve water?  
Very often ..... 1  
Sometimes ..... 2  
Not very often ..... 3  
Not at all ..... 4

**QCELECTR:**  
How often do you actively cut back on your electricity usage in order to conserve energy?  
Very often ..... 1  
Sometimes ..... 2  
Not very often ..... 3  
Not at all ..... 4

**QRBAGS:**  
How often do you use reusable bags while shopping?  
Very often ..... 1  
Sometimes ..... 2  
Not very often ..... 3  
Not at all ..... 4

Interview Based  
Research Training

Reading  
Quizzes

Data  
Analysis  
Labs

Survey  
Methods

TIMELINE

# Clare Boone

Senior Legislative Analyst at  
New York State Assembly

# Brian Keegan

Director of Communications & Marketing at  
Environmental Advocates New York



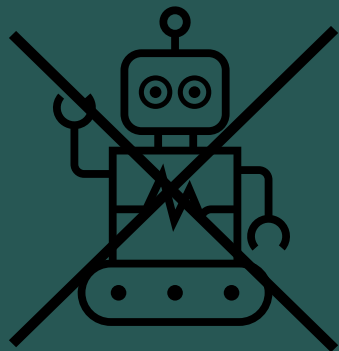
**GUEST SPEAKERS**



**915 Respondents**

**+/- 3.6% error**

Data Weighting
Age
Party Affiliation
Region
Race
Gender



**Bias**

Respondent

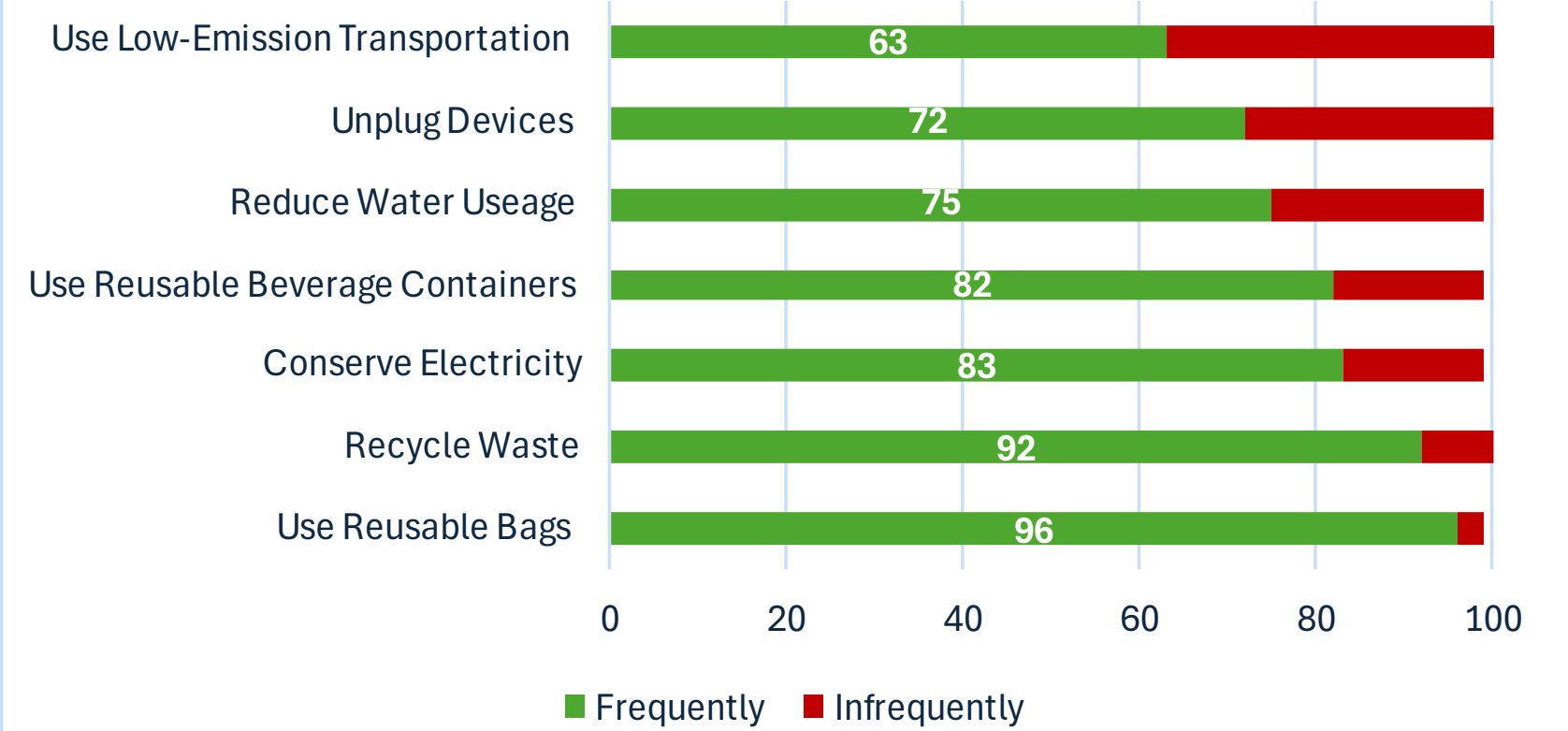
Self-Selection

Social Desirability

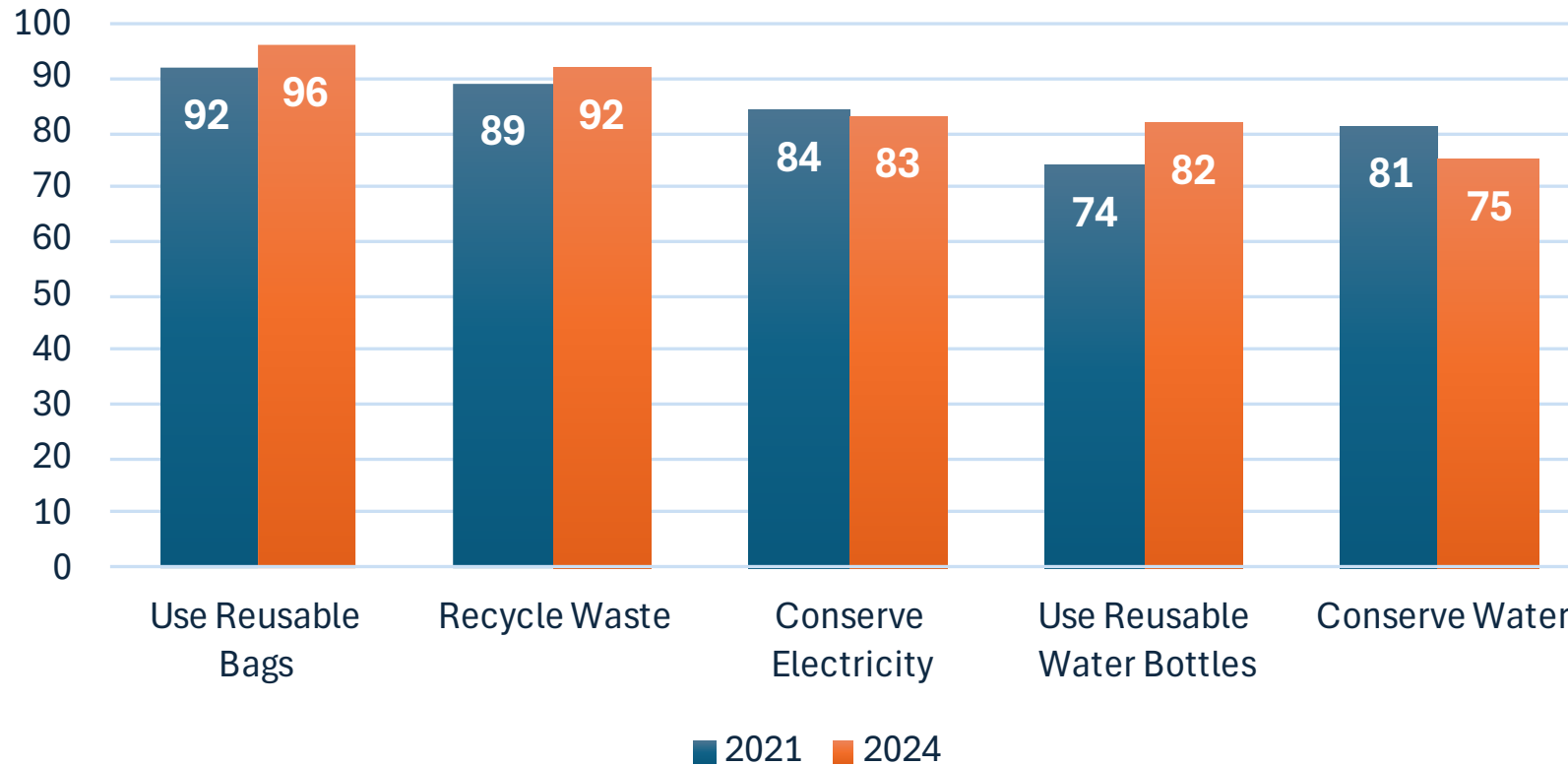
Sampling

# 10Q "For the following actions or behaviors, please indicate how often you engage in the activity."

## Frequency of Environmental Actions - Total

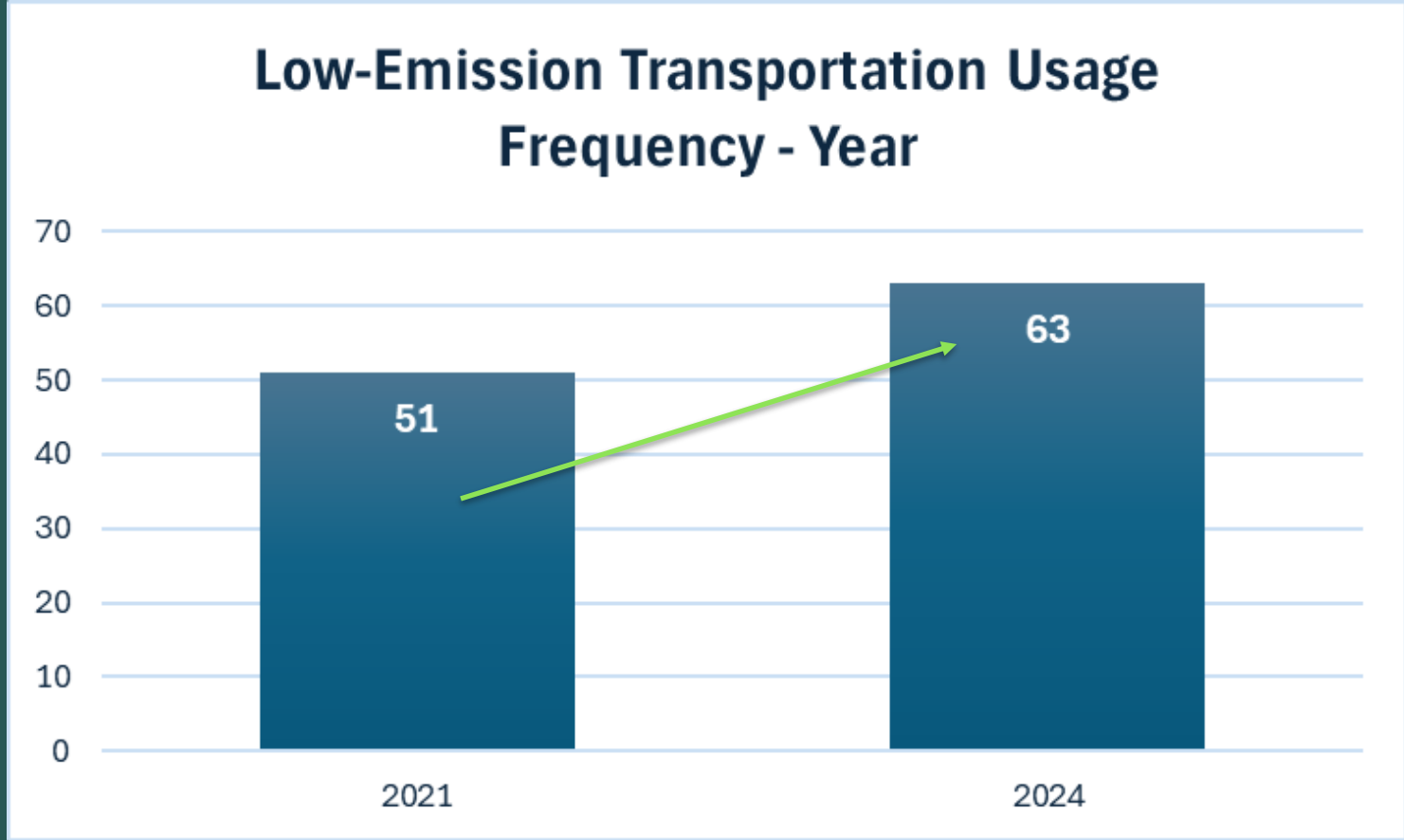


## Environmental Conservation Actions - Year

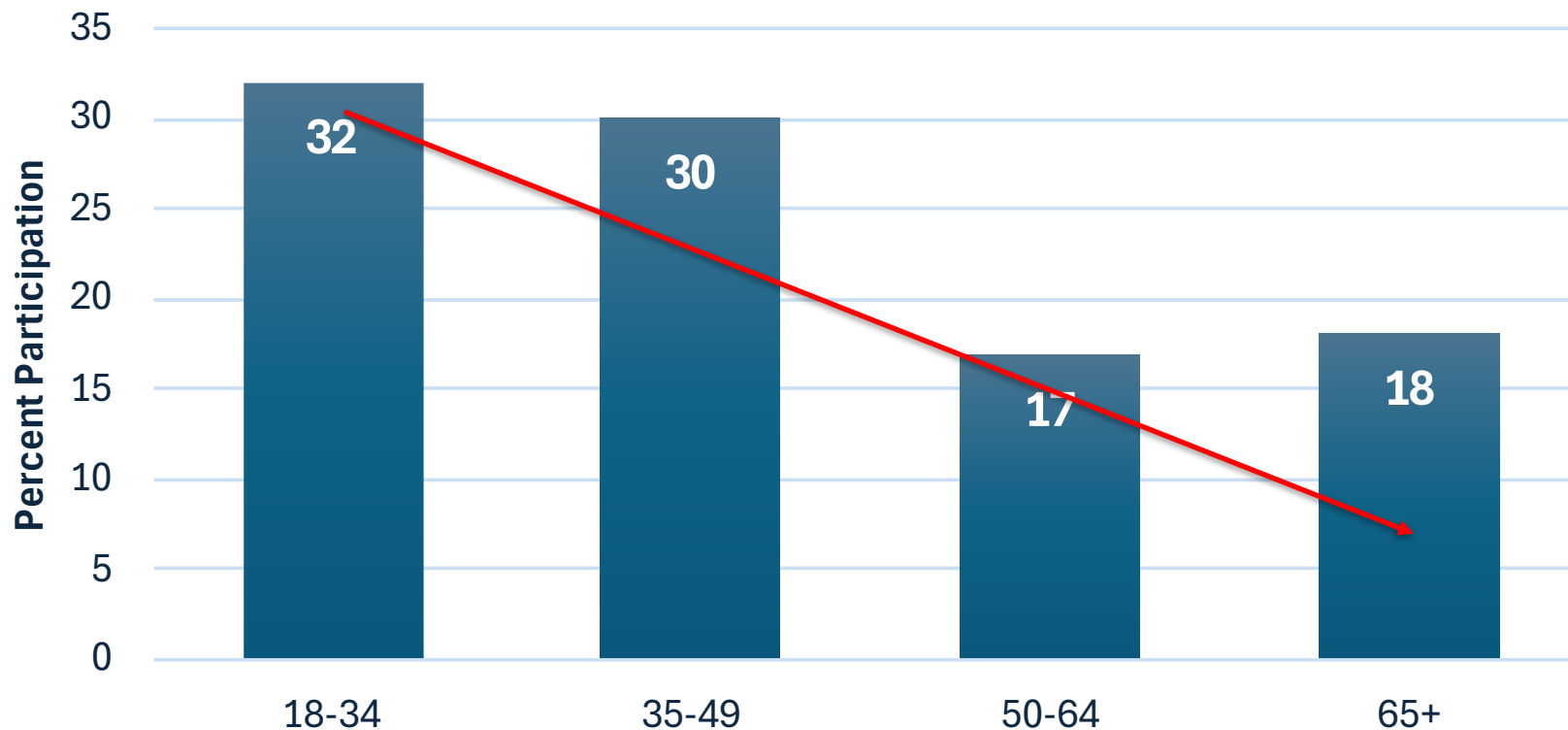




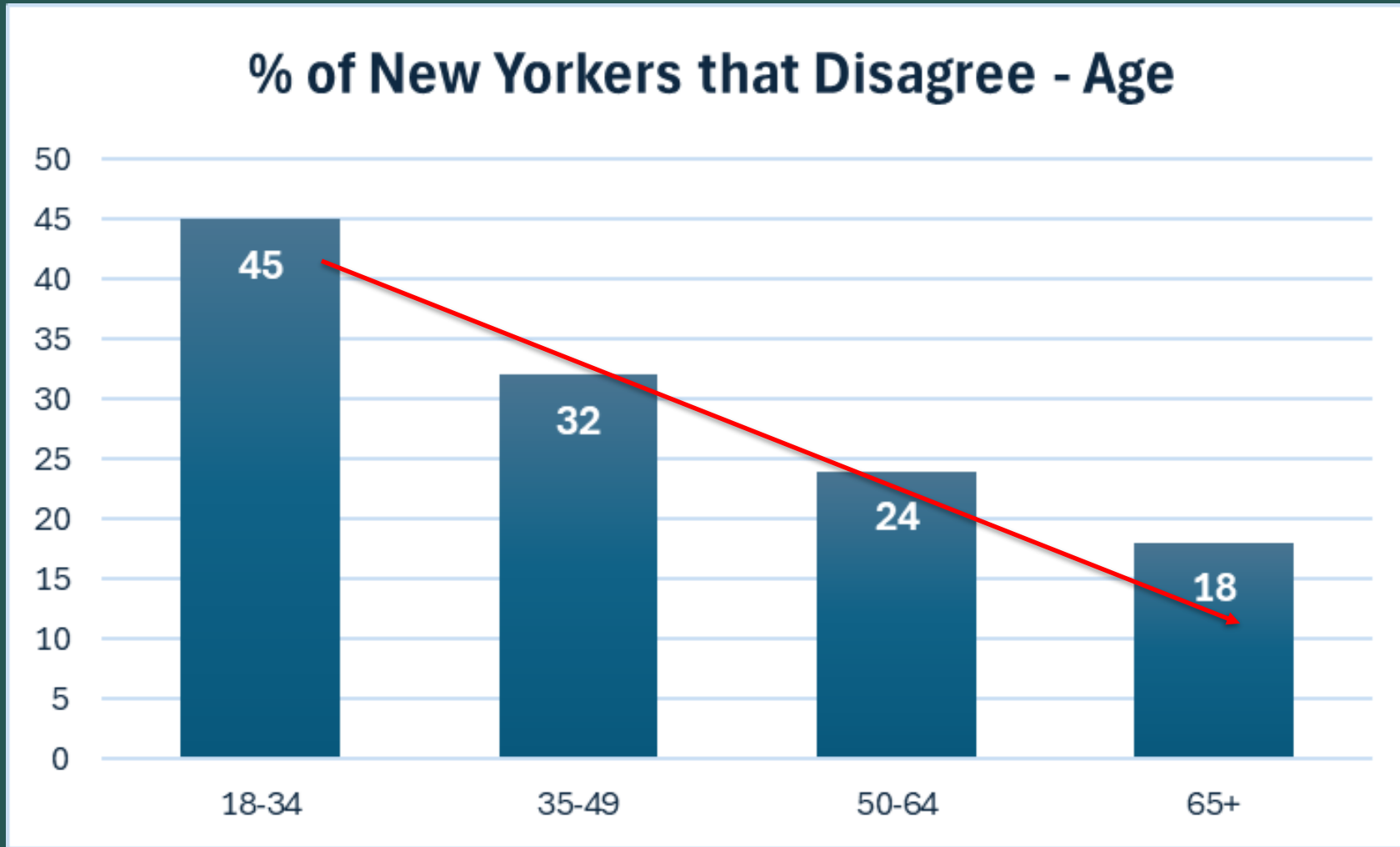
- Includes public transportation, carpooling, walking and biking



## Participation in Environmental Advocacy - Age

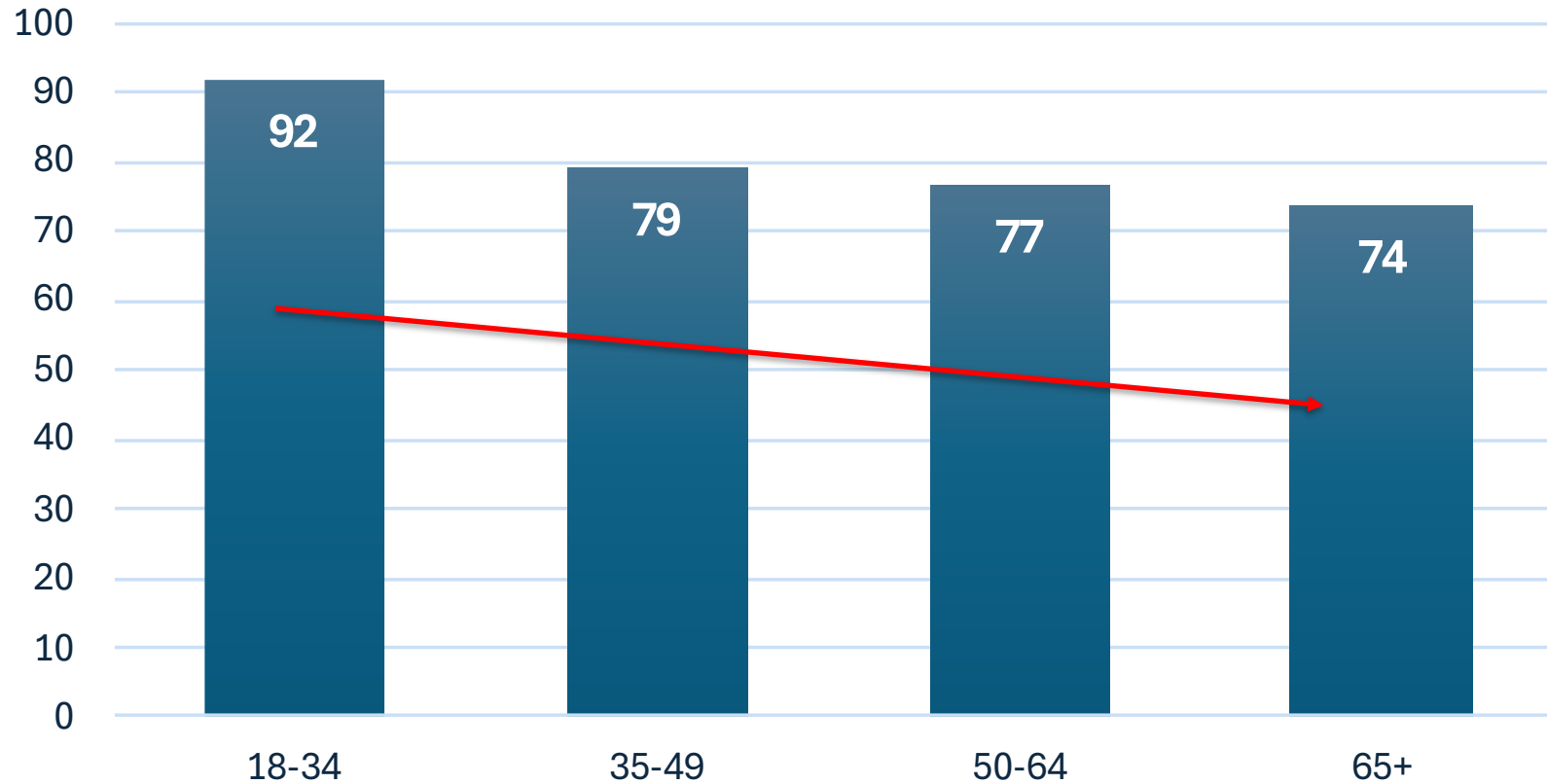


"Fossil fuels will always be part of the energy mix and it is impossible to phase them out"

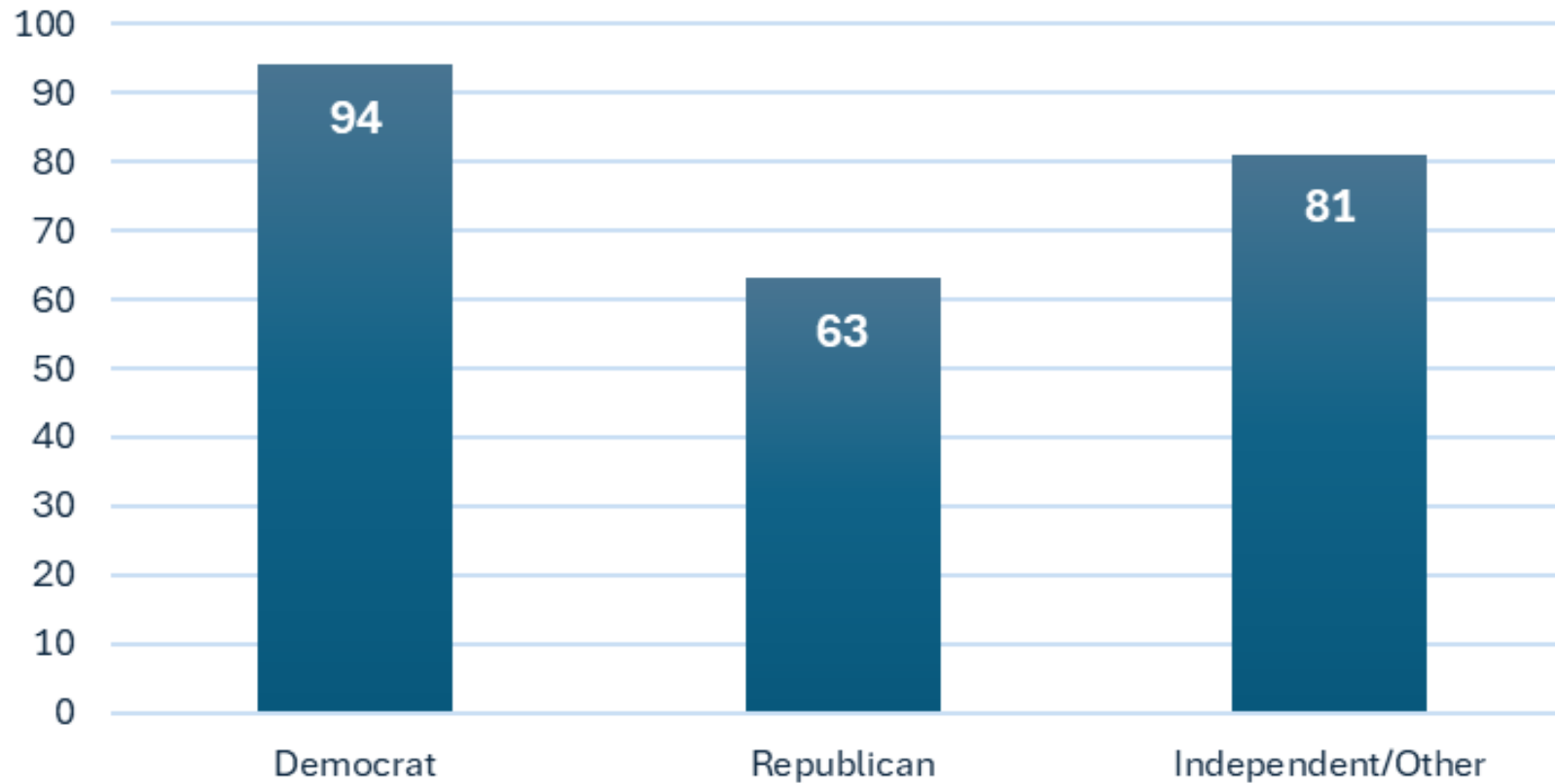


**PHASING OUT OF FOSSIL FUELS**

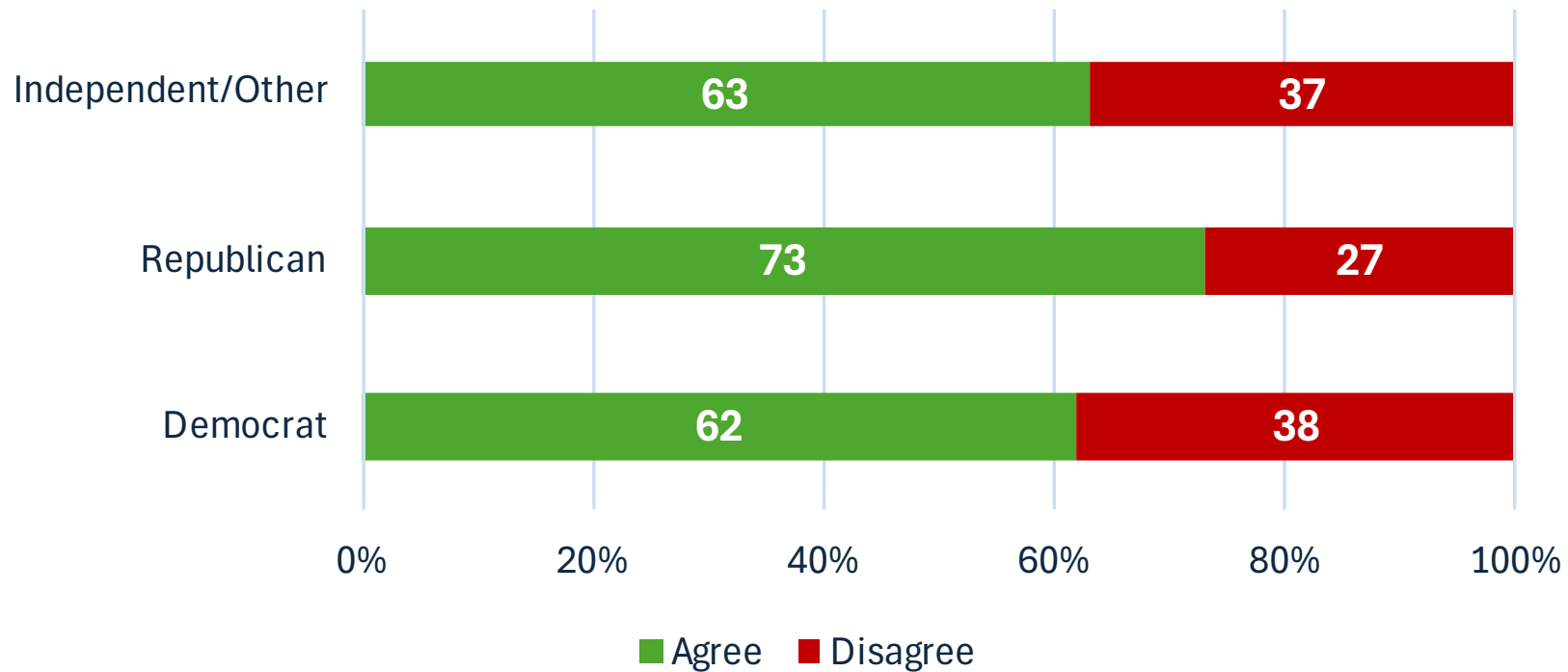
## Belief in Climate Change - Age



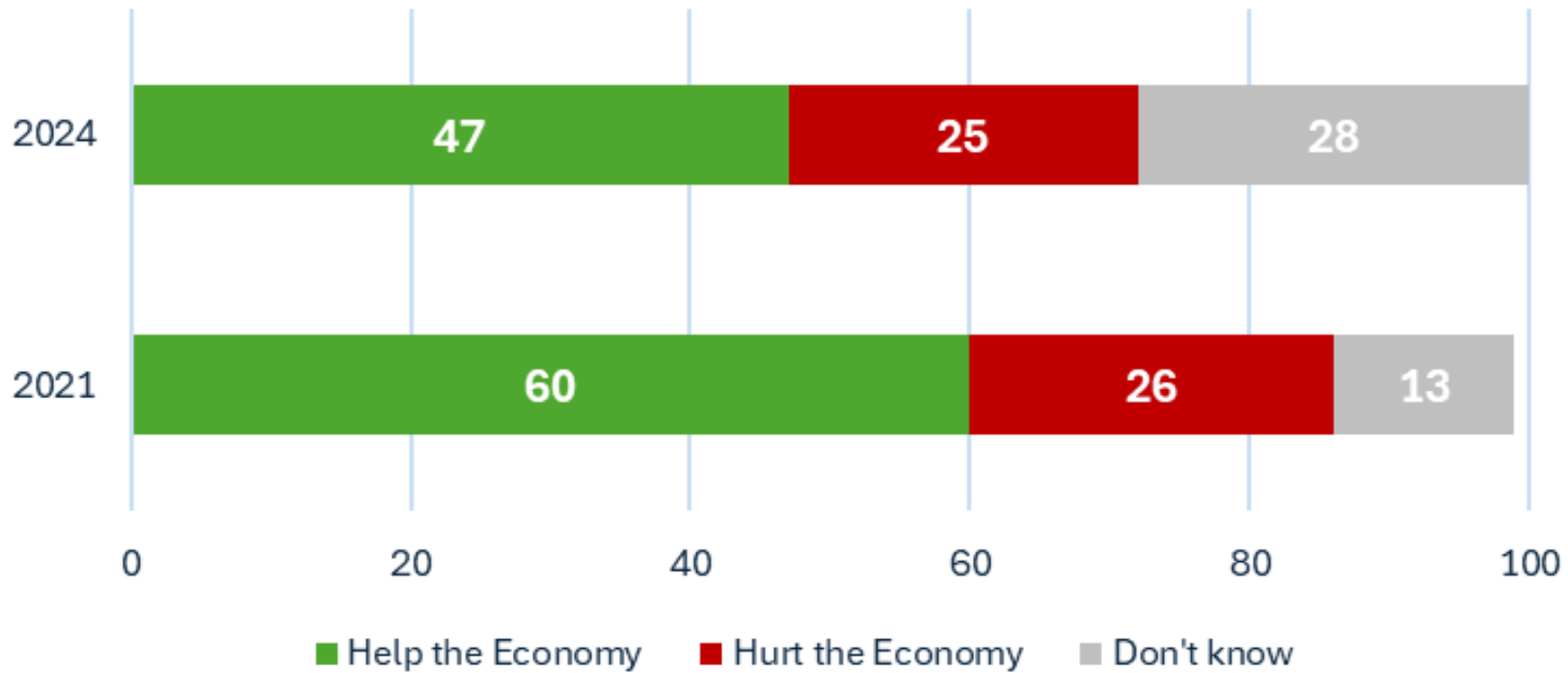
## Concern for Climate Change - Party



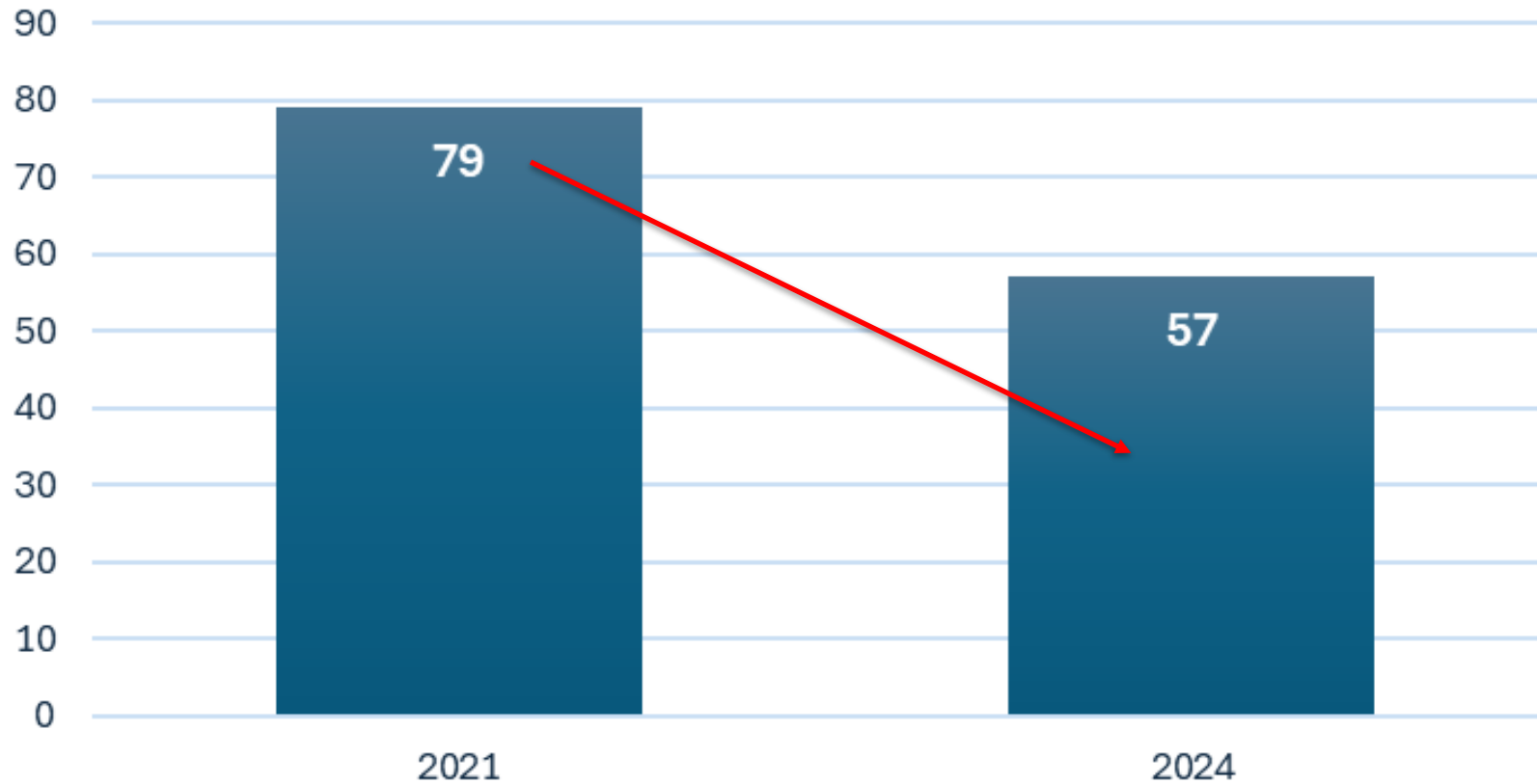
## Climate-Resilient Infrastructure Support Versus Reducing Emissions - Party



## Belief of Environmental Policy on the Economy - Year



## Support for Electric Car Use - Year

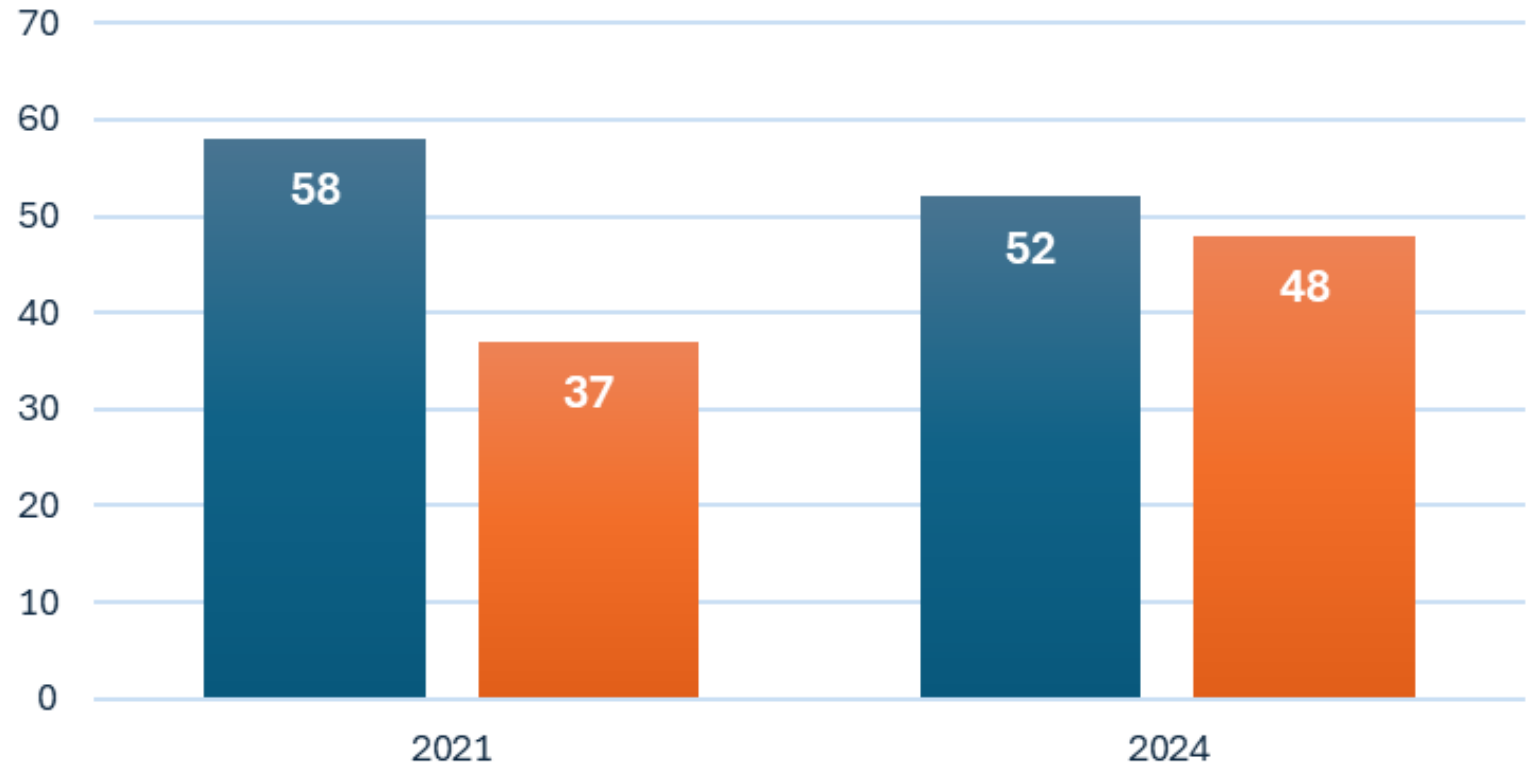




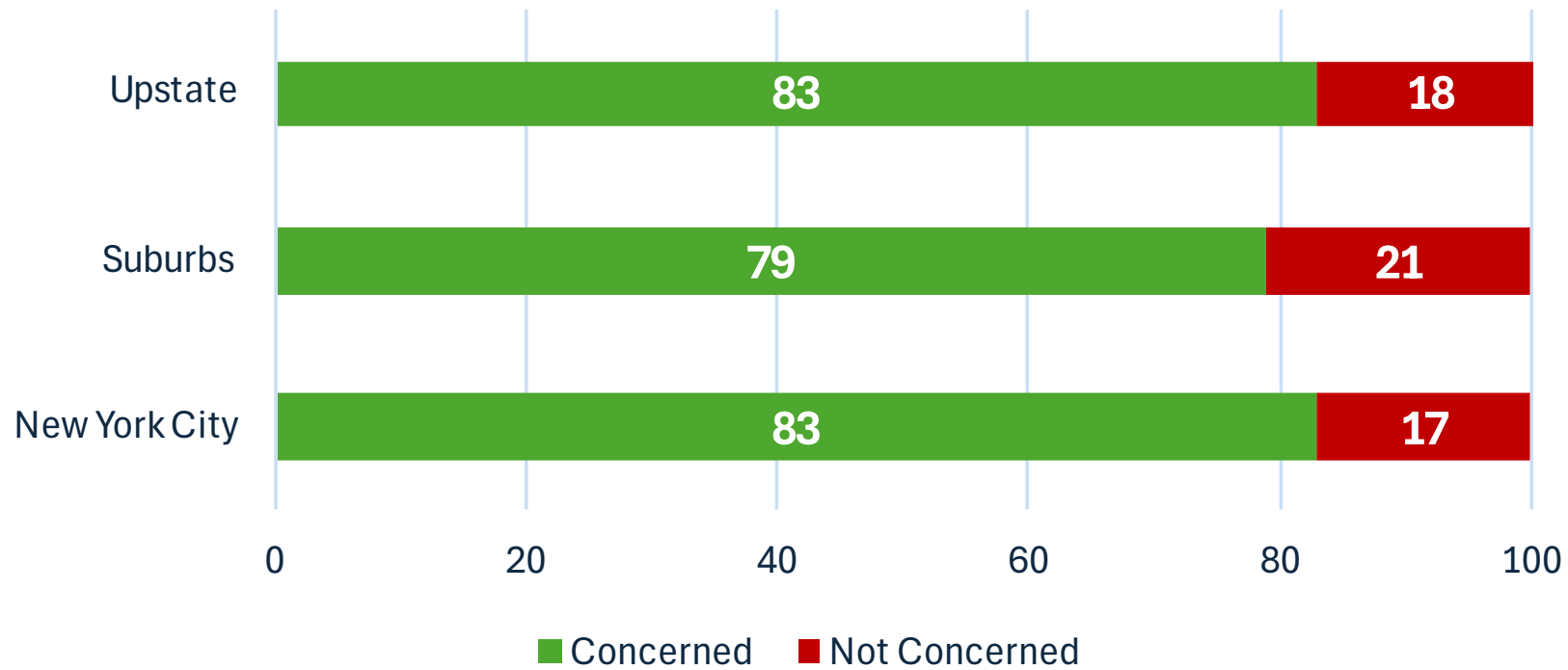
**■** We are at the point of no return. If our government, businesses and population don't actively address the threats to our environment, we will do irreparable damage to our planet.

**■** I support efforts to protect clean water and air, but I think we are doing as much as we should to protect the environment right now. Doing too much is too expensive for us personally and for our nation.

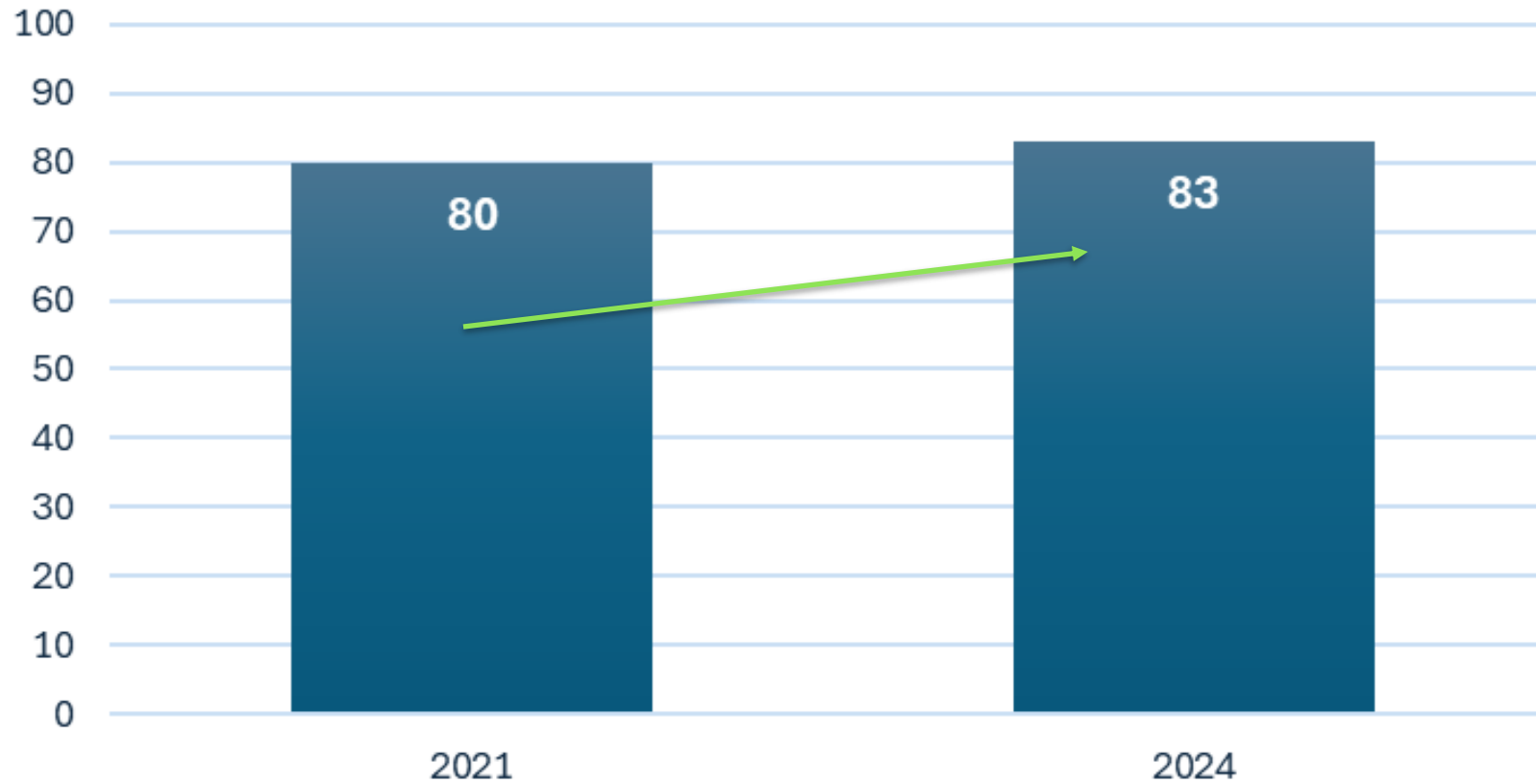
## Opinion of Conditions - Year



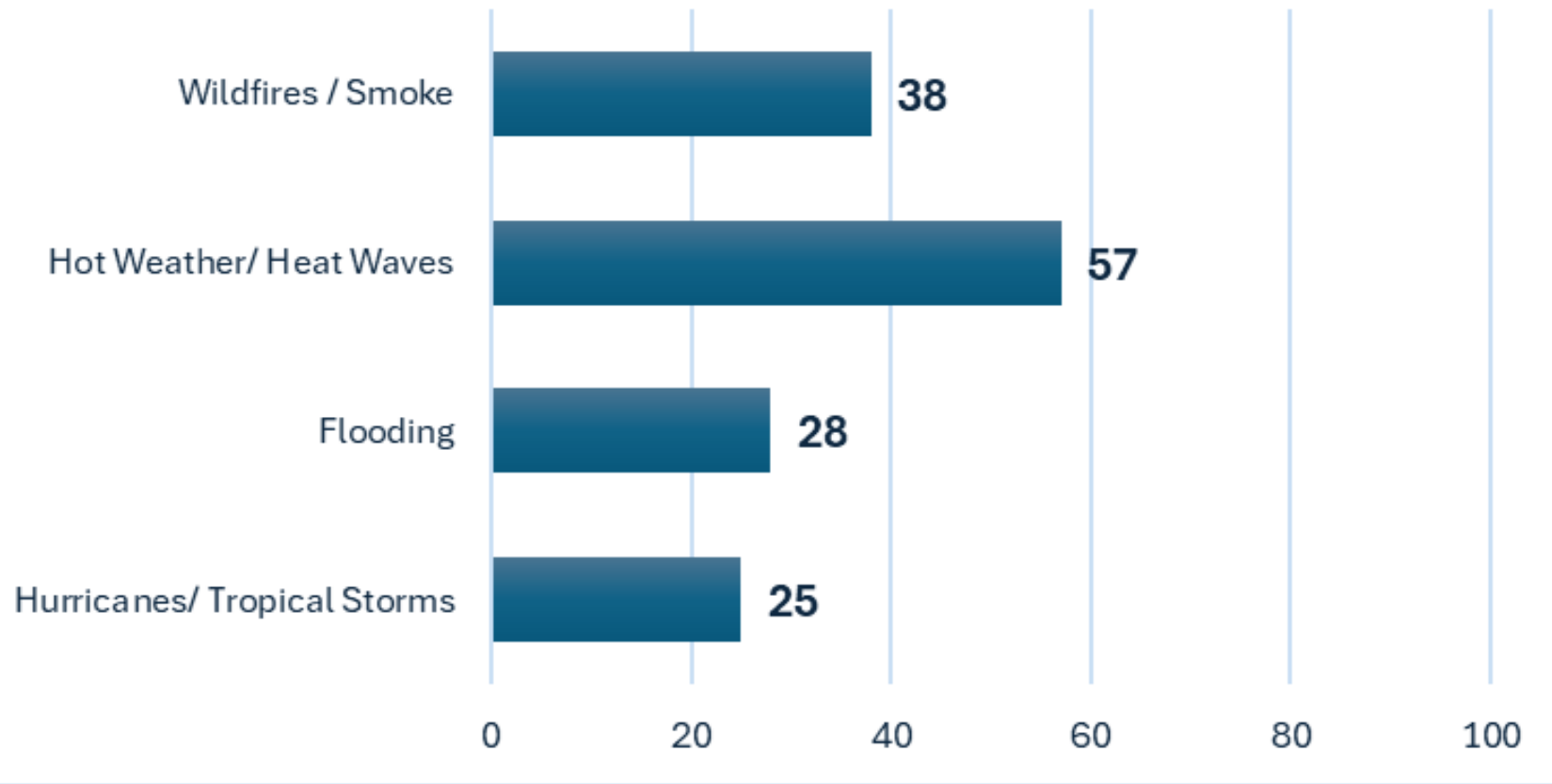
## Concern for Species Endangerment and Extinction - Region



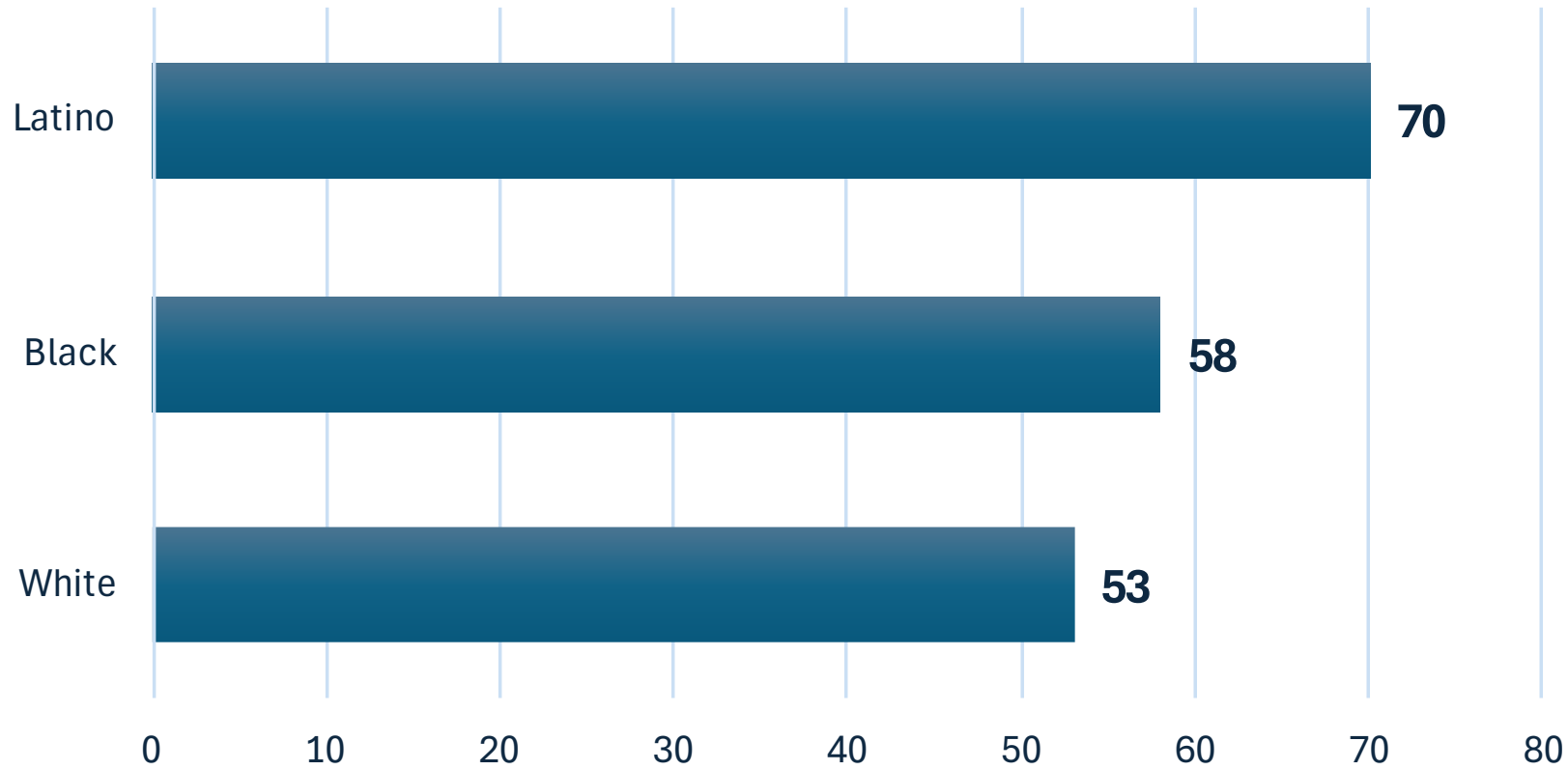
## Concern for Climate Change - Year



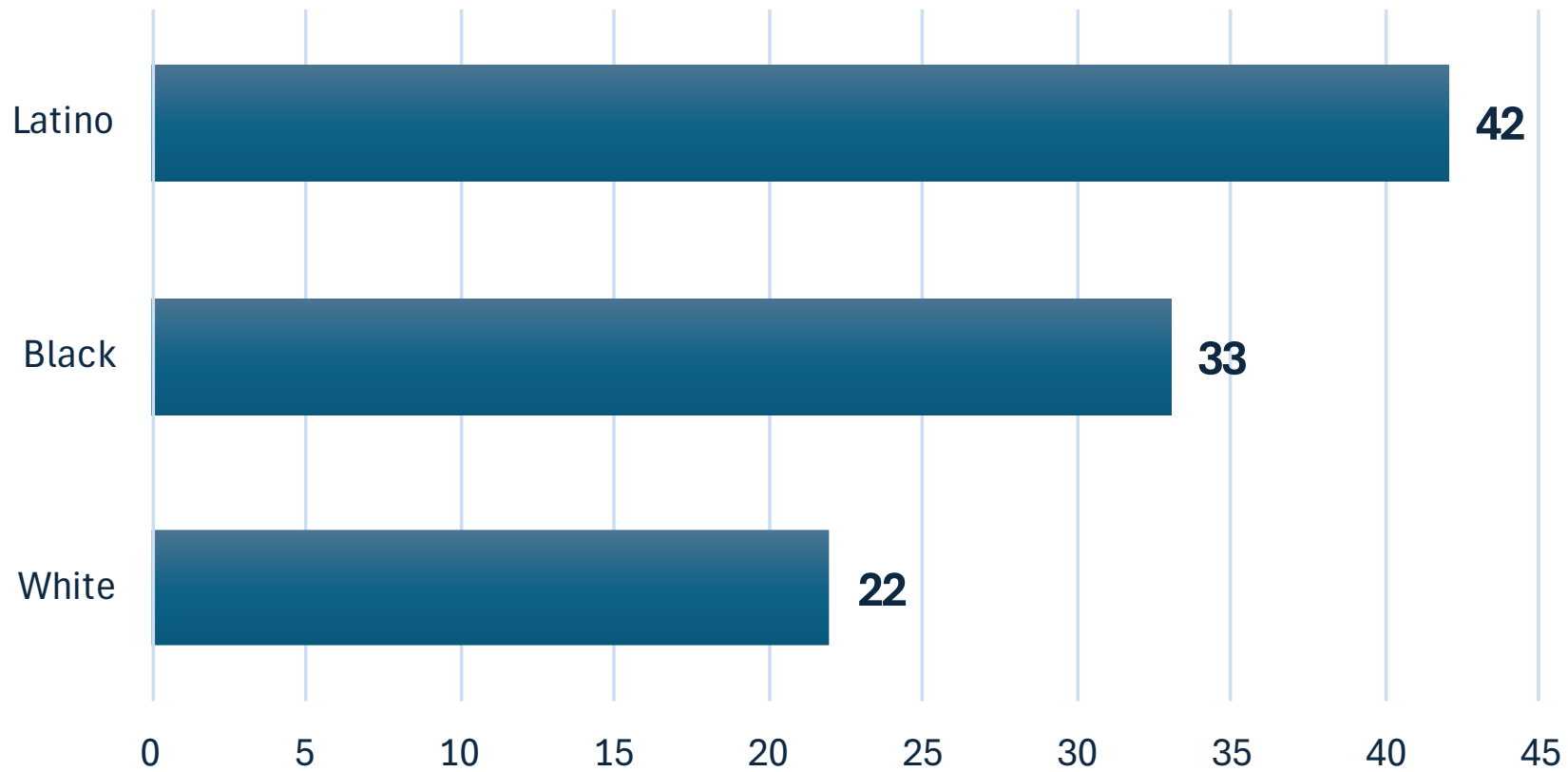
## Affected by Extreme Weather Events



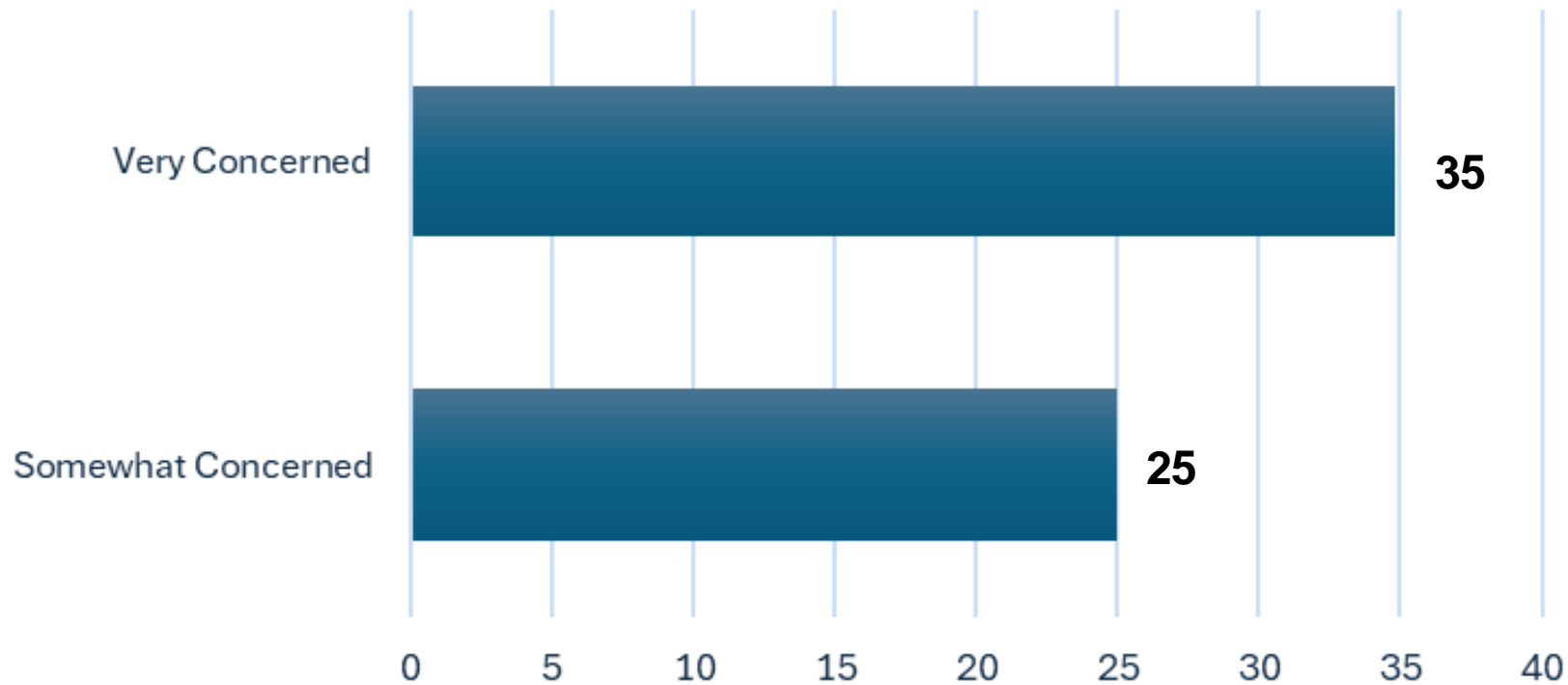
## Affected by Heat Waves - Ethnicity



## Affected by Major Flooding - Ethnicity



## Concern for Increasing Bottle Deposit Cost - Democrats making < 50k



- New York respondents that make 50k or less, are either somewhat concerned or very concerned about the environment and they are either strongly opposed or supportive of implementing this environmental policy.
- When asked how concerned people are about increasing the price of bottle deposits from 5 to 10 cents there was a strong divide between somewhat concerned or very concerned.

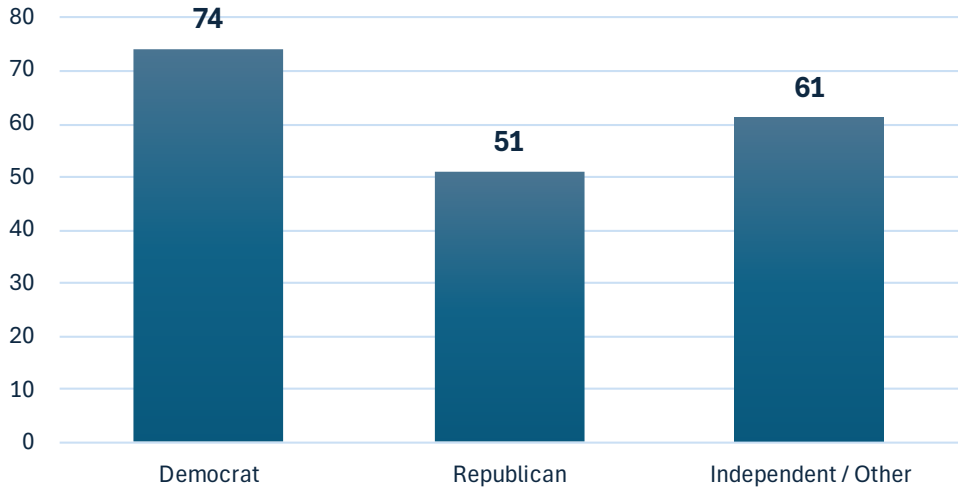
- Goal is to assign a score of respondent's activities pertaining to categories of environmental actions
  - Behaviors, beliefs, concerns
- Formula is derived from question sets that fall under the specific category
  - Factor analysis utilized to confirm sectioning of questions



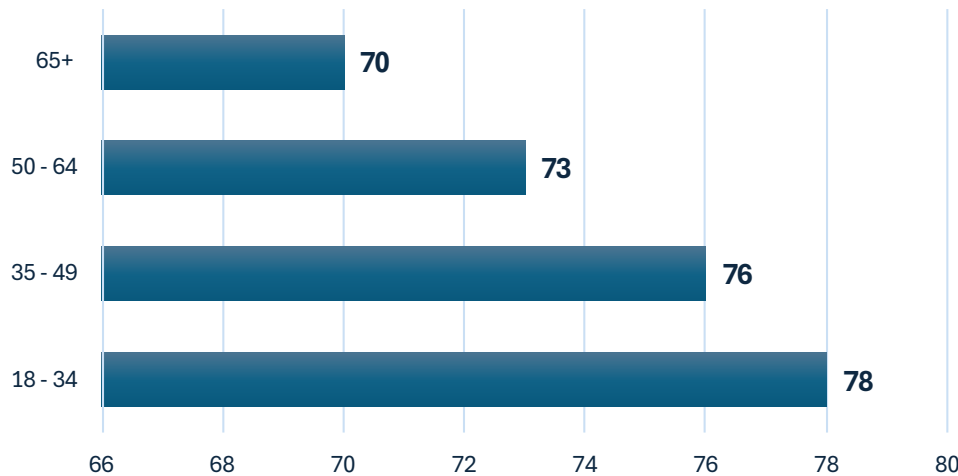
- An individual will receive a score for each variable of the category (i.e. a score of 2 for recycling) based on their level of belief or action.
- Formula
  - Individual Score = (Recycling + Water + Electricity + Bags + Containers + Unplug)
  - N = Maximum score one can receive
  - $\Sigma (\text{Individual's score}) / N$

<b>Total Environmental POP Score</b>	
Which of the following general income categories is your total household income before taxes?	
<b>General Income Categories</b>	<b>Mean</b>
Under \$50,000	74
At least \$50,000 but under \$100,000	73
\$100,000 or more	77
<b>Total</b>	<b>74</b>

**Policy Support POP Score - Party**



**Concern POP Score - Age**



- Democrats (80) and Latinos (81) show the highest POP scores for environmental concern
- New York City residents show a 10-point higher value of policy support than the next highest region (Suburbs - 61)
- Those who earn more than 100k per year show the highest POP scores for environmental conservation behaviors (80)

Q48. To what degree do you support or oppose cutting state funding for the Clean Water Infrastructure Act?

Response	Total
Strongly Support	17%
Somewhat Support	19%
Total Support	36%
Somewhat Oppose	19%
Strongly Oppose	31%
Total Oppose	50%
Don't Know	13%

Clean Water Infrastructure Funding -  
Enacted Budget

**\$500m**  
to clean water  
infrastructure



**Professor Travis  
Brodbeck**



**Siena College  
Research Institute**



**COMD210  
Spring 2024 Class**

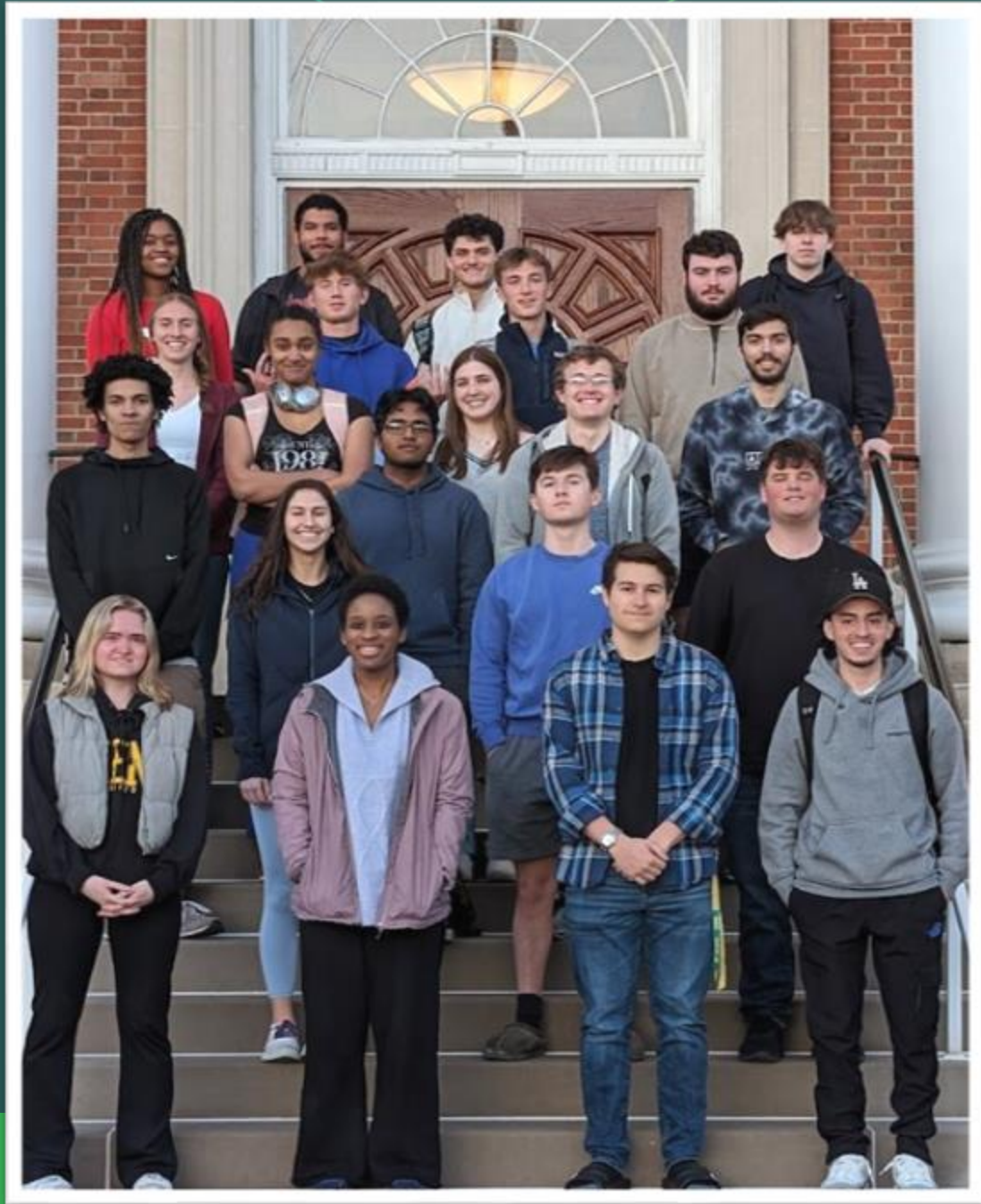


**New York Survey  
Respondents**



**Guest Speakers  
Clare Boone and  
Brian Keegan**

**THANK YOU!**



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<https://www.census.gov/>

## REFERENCES