

National Survey of Hunters and Anglers

Conducted for

**The National Wildlife
Federation**

By

Bellwether Research & Consulting
June, 2004

Methodology

- A total of 752 telephone interviews were completed: 500 with respondents randomly selected from a national list of current fishing license holders and 252 with respondents randomly selected from a national list of current hunting license holders.
- All respondents are self-identified registered voters.
- All said hunting or fishing is an “important” part of their lifestyle.
- Interviewing was conducted June 8th –June 20th, 2004
- Sampling error for all data reported is \pm 3.6% at a 95% confidence level.

Profile of Hunter-Angler voters vs. the 2000 electorate

Hunters-Anglers

- 91% Male
- 66% Conservative
- 42% Republican
- 35% Independent
- 21% Democrat
- 68% voted for George W. Bush for President

2000 Voters

- 48% Male
- 29% Conservative
- 35% Republican
- 26% Independent
- 39% Democrat
- 48% voted for George W. Bush for President

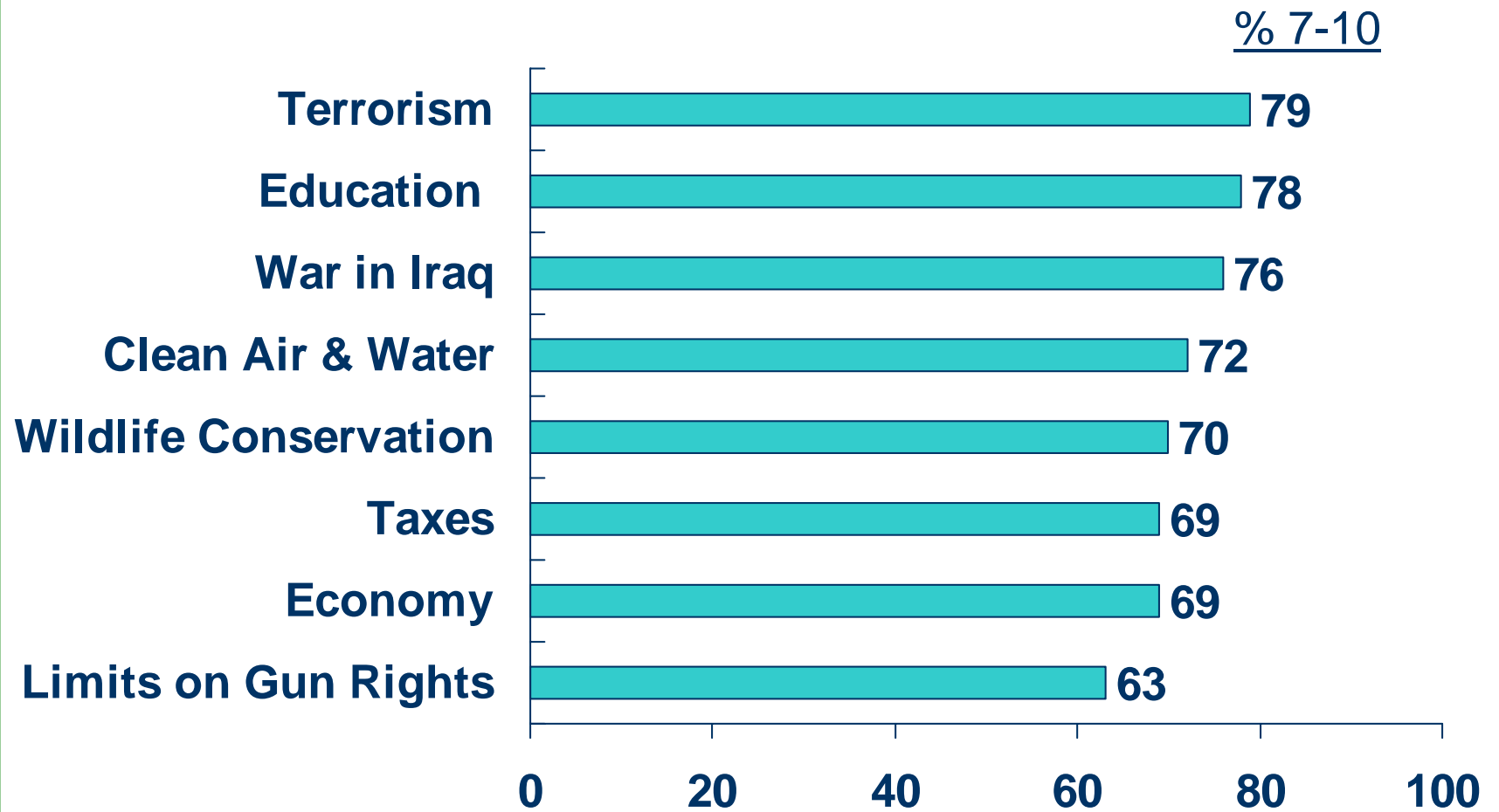
Source: 2000 VNS exit survey

Importance of hunting and fishing

- 69% consider hunting or fishing to be a “very” important part of their lifestyle.
- 86% say wildlife and conservation issues will be very (36%) or somewhat (50%) important in deciding their vote for president.

National concerns

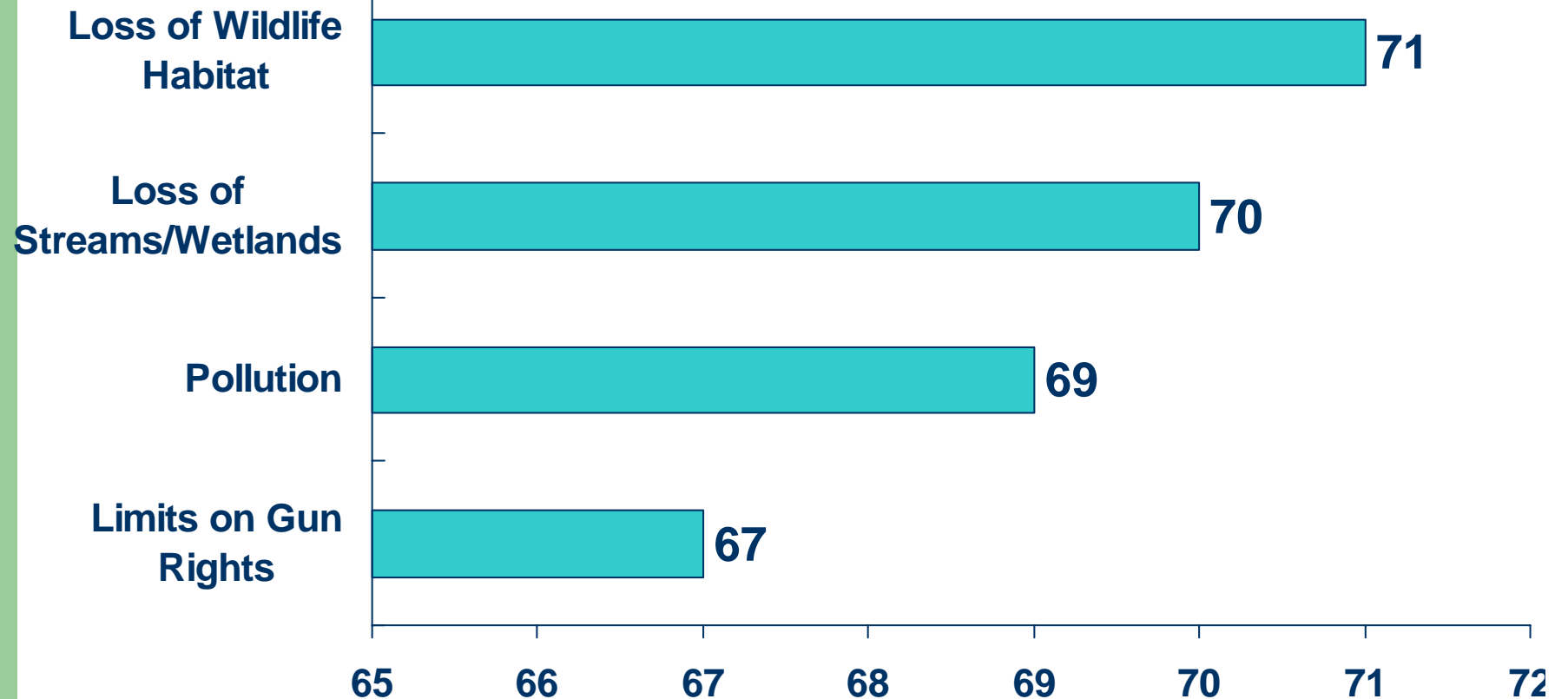
0 to 10 scale



Top issues impacting hunting and fishing

0 to 10 scale

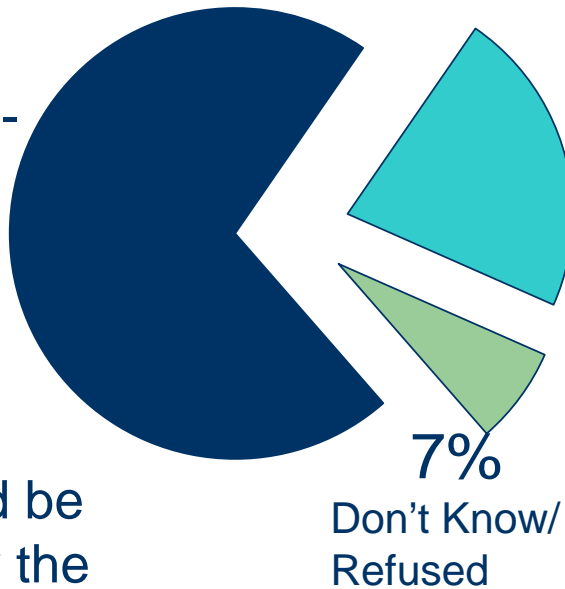
% 7-10



Approach to mercury clean-up

71%

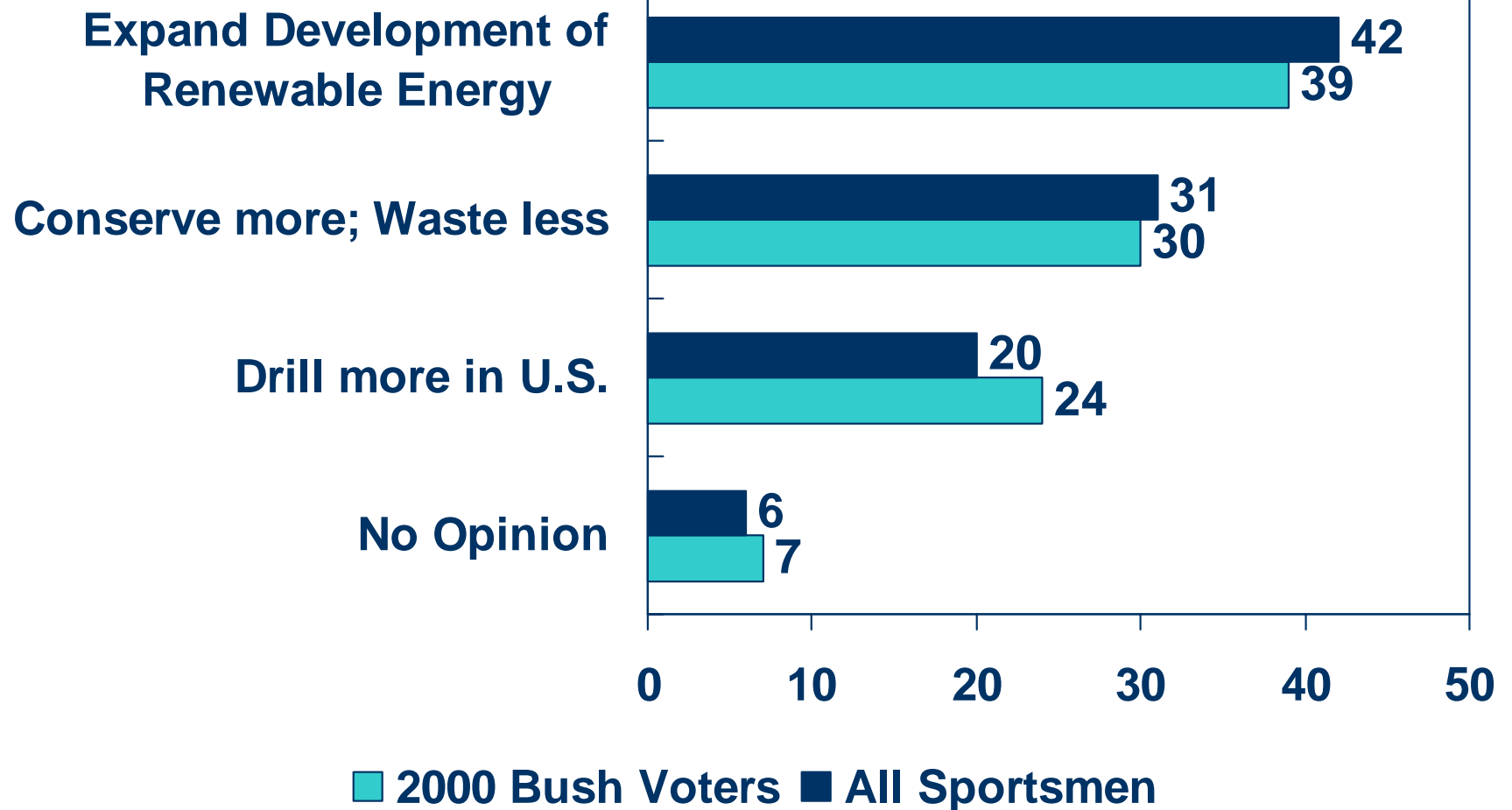
Some people say that existing technologies could remove almost all of the mercury pollution from coal-fired power plants, and that they should be required to do so by the end of the decade because mercury poses a risk to people, particularly pregnant women and children, and to wildlife. **(66% among 2000 Bush voters)**



22%

Other people say that the technology to eliminate mercury pollution from coal-fired power plants is not yet widely available, making it too expensive and causing higher energy costs for businesses and households, so industry should be given up to two decades to meet this pollution reduction target. **(25% among 2000 Bush voters)**

Best way to address America's energy needs

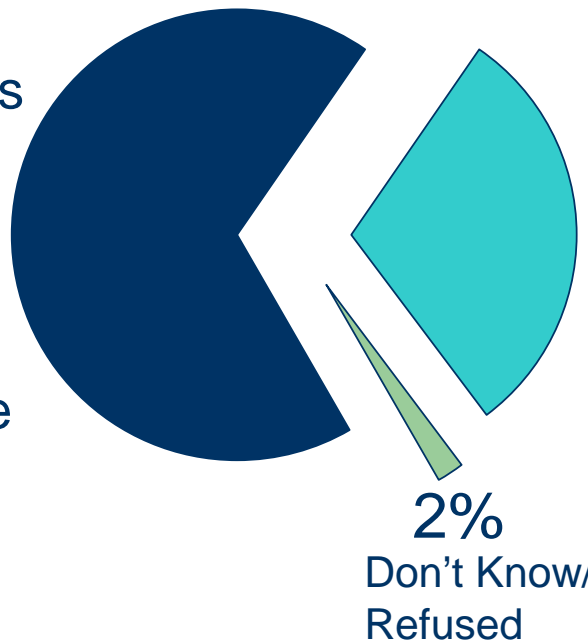


Wetlands

68%

Some people say that natural wetlands should not be filled or drained in most cases, even if developers replace them with manmade wetlands, because manmade wetlands do not replicate all the important functions of natural wetlands.

(66% among 2000 Bush Voters)



30%

Other people say natural wetlands can be filled or drained as long as developers are required to create new wetlands to replace those that are destroyed.

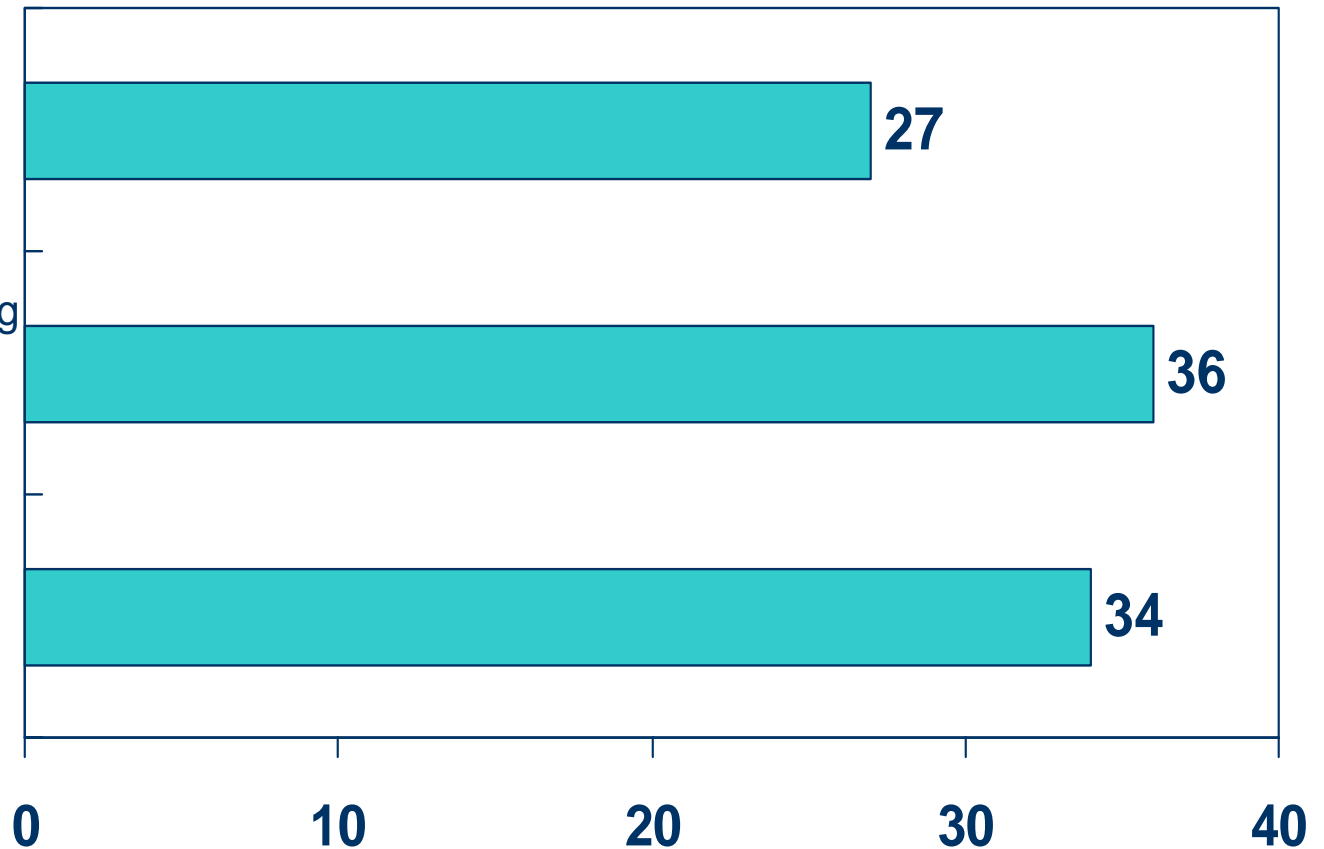
(32% among 2000 Bush Voters)

Global Warming's impact on hunting and fishing conditions

Global warming is already beginning to impact hunting and fishing conditions.

Global warming will impact hunting/fishing conditions in future generations.

Global warming will have little or no impact on hunting and fishing conditions and concern about it is overblown.



Global Warming: Reduce Emissions

“The U.S. should reduce its emissions of greenhouse gases like Carbon Dioxide that contribute to global warming and threaten fish and wildlife habitat.”

75%
Agree



21%
Disagree

4% Don't Know

Global Warming: Support for Renewable Energy

“Addressing global warming is a high priority. We can improve our environment & strengthen the economy by investing in clean, renewable energy technologies that create jobs while reducing greenhouse gas pollution.”

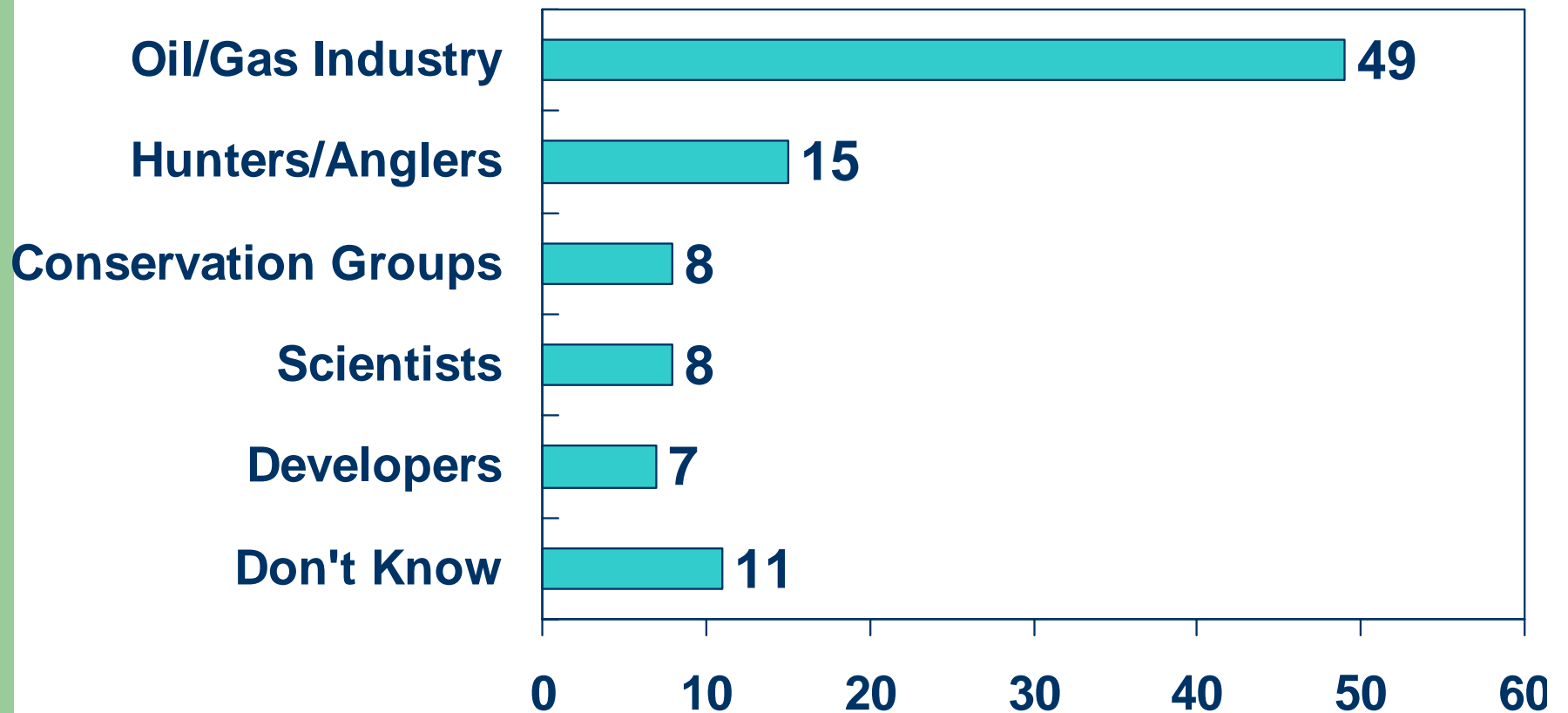
74%
Agree



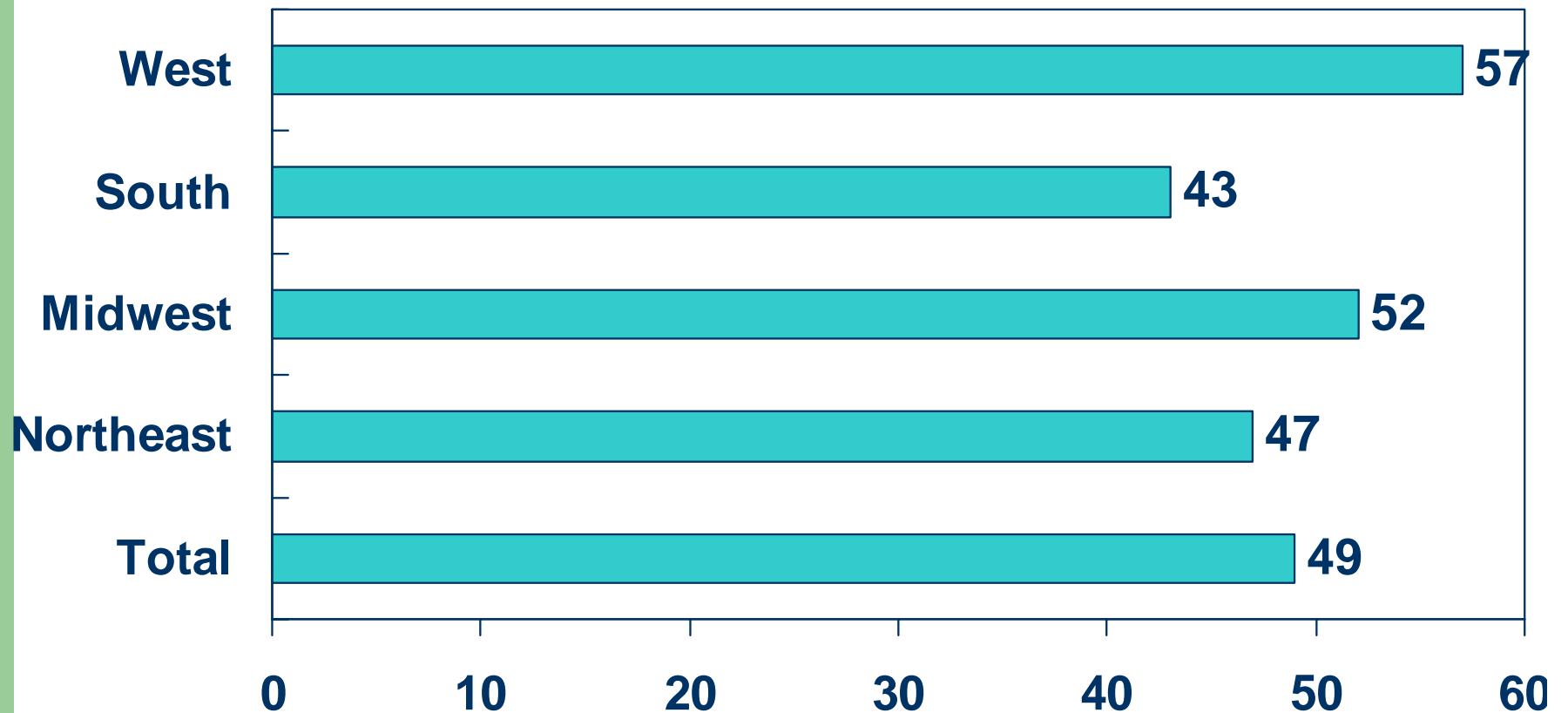
23%
Disagree

3% Don't Know

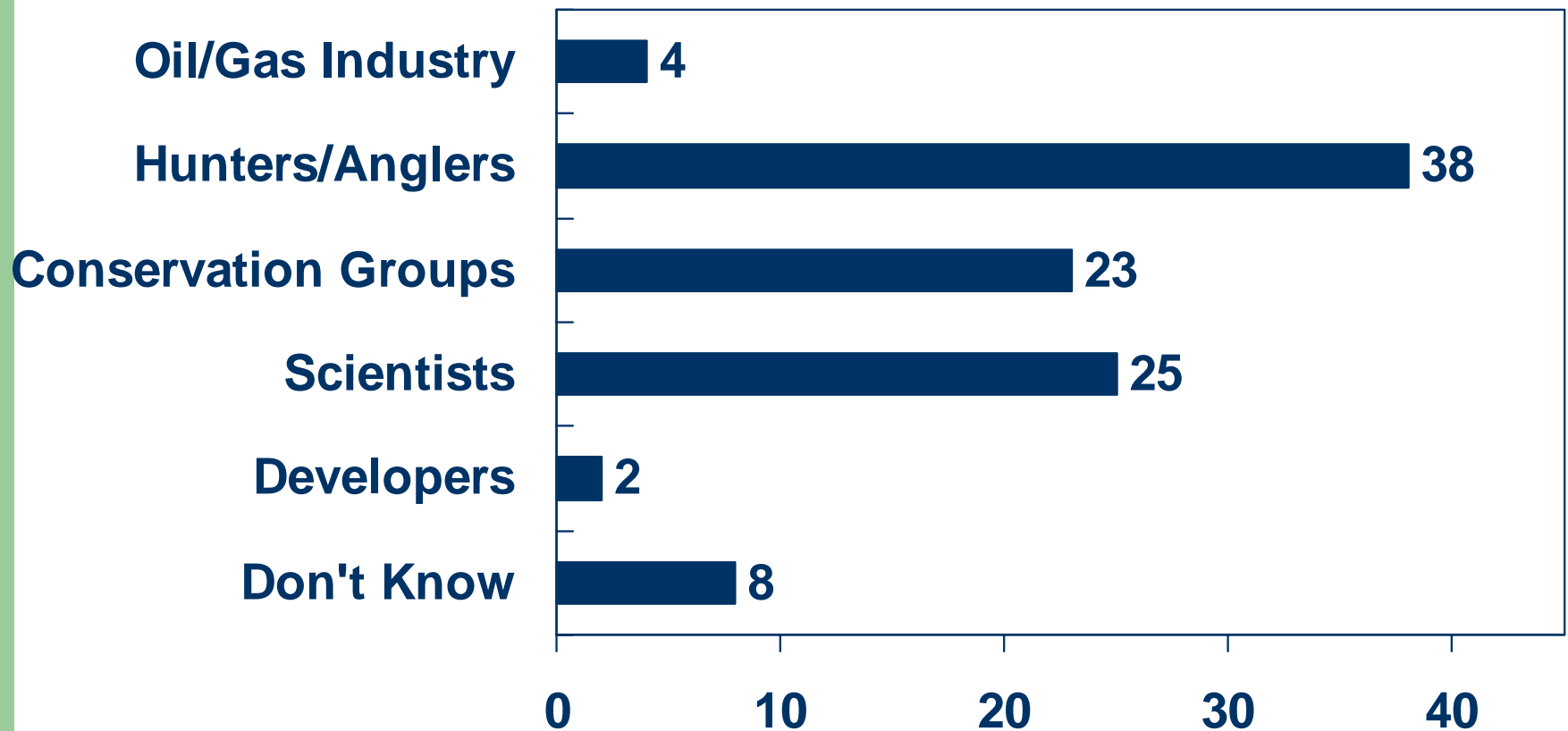
Who has “most say” with Bush Administration on conservation or hunting/fishing issues



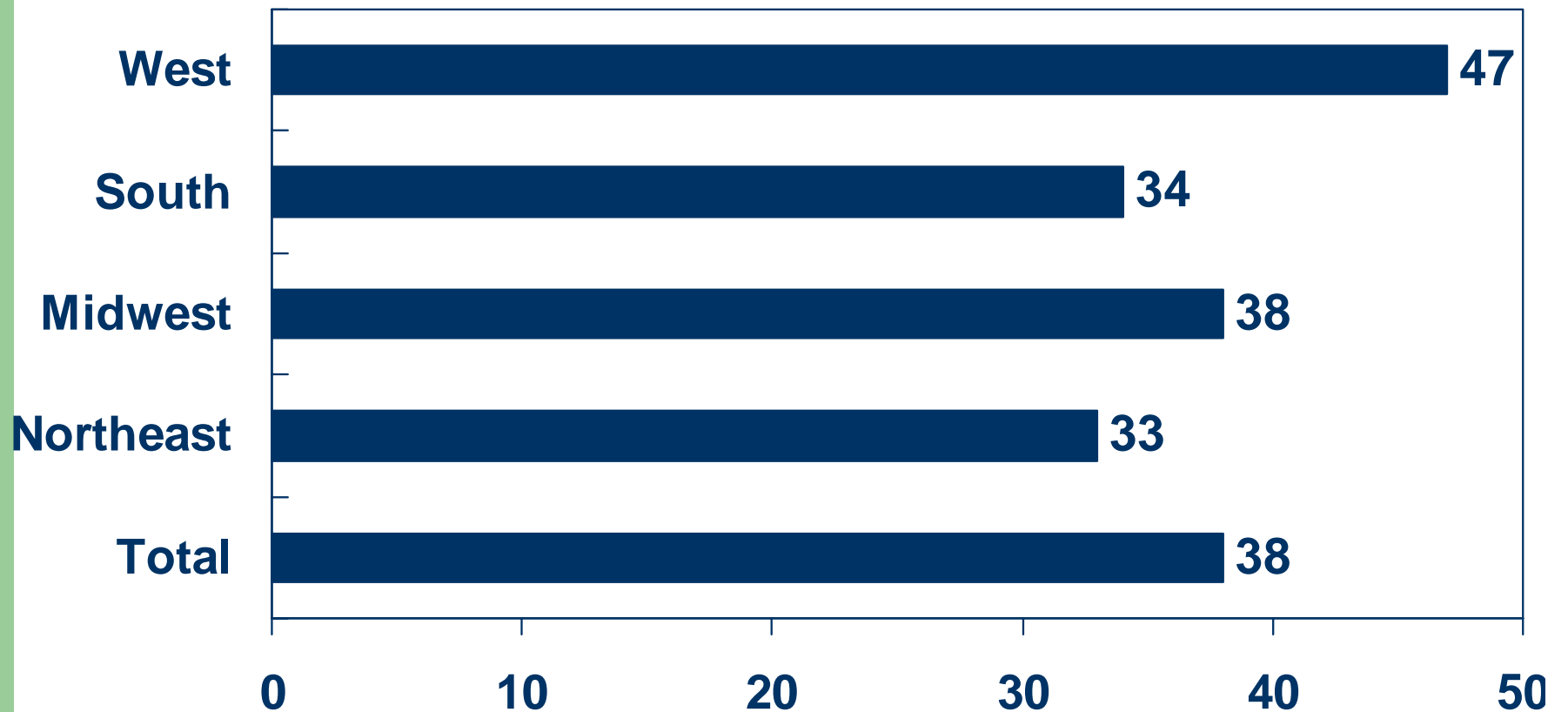
Oil & Gas Industry has “most say” with Administration: By Region



Who *Should* have “most say” with Bush Administration on conservation or hunting/fishing issues



Hunters-Anglers *should* have “most say” with Administration: By Region

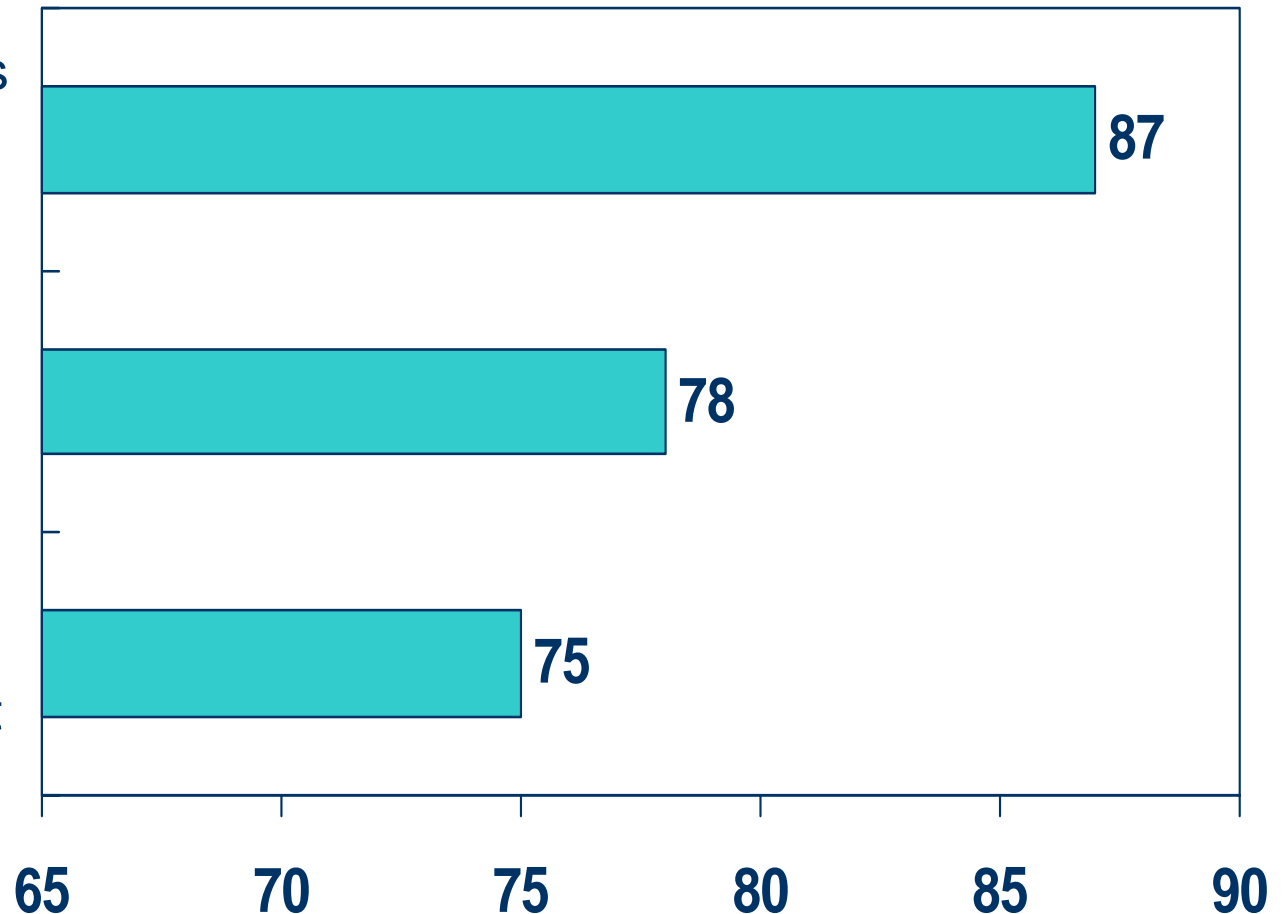


Support for Bush Administration Conservation Policies

Expanded Partners for Fish & Wildlife Program.

More than doubled funding for Forest Legacy Program.

Full funding for FL Everglades Restoration-largest conservation effort in history.

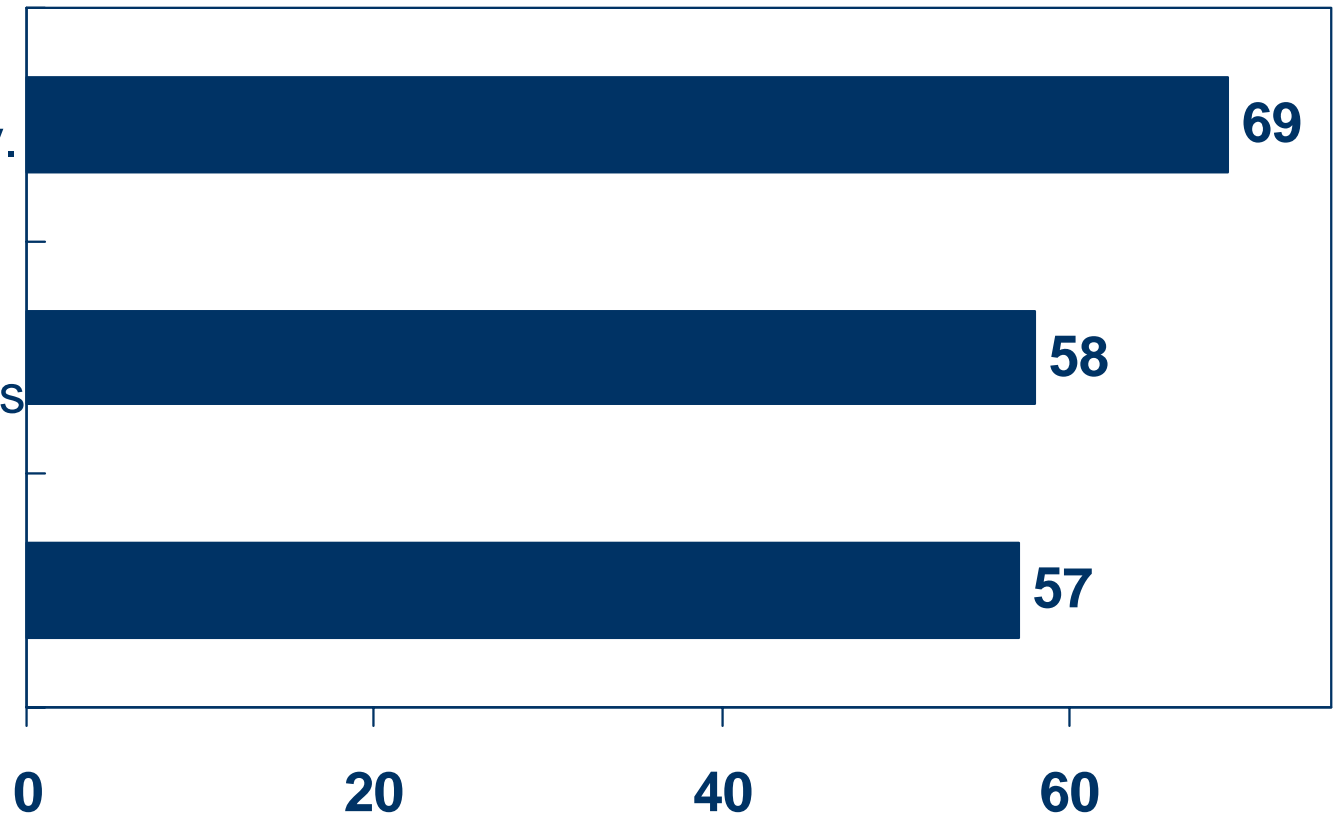


Opposition to Key Bush Administration Policies

Flexibility for coal-fired power plants to reduce mercury.

New Clean Water Act Guidelines-eliminate Wetlands protections.

Clean Water Act exemptions to expedite oil/gas development.



Opposition to Key Bush Administration Policies: By 2000 Bush voters

Flexibility for coal-fired power plants to reduce mercury.

66

New Clean Water Act Guidelines-eliminate Wetlands protections.

55

Clean Water Act exemptions to expedite oil/gas development.

52

0

20

40

60