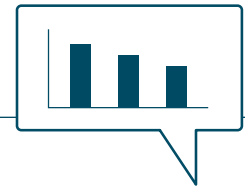


# American Climate Perspectives: 2017 Annual Summary

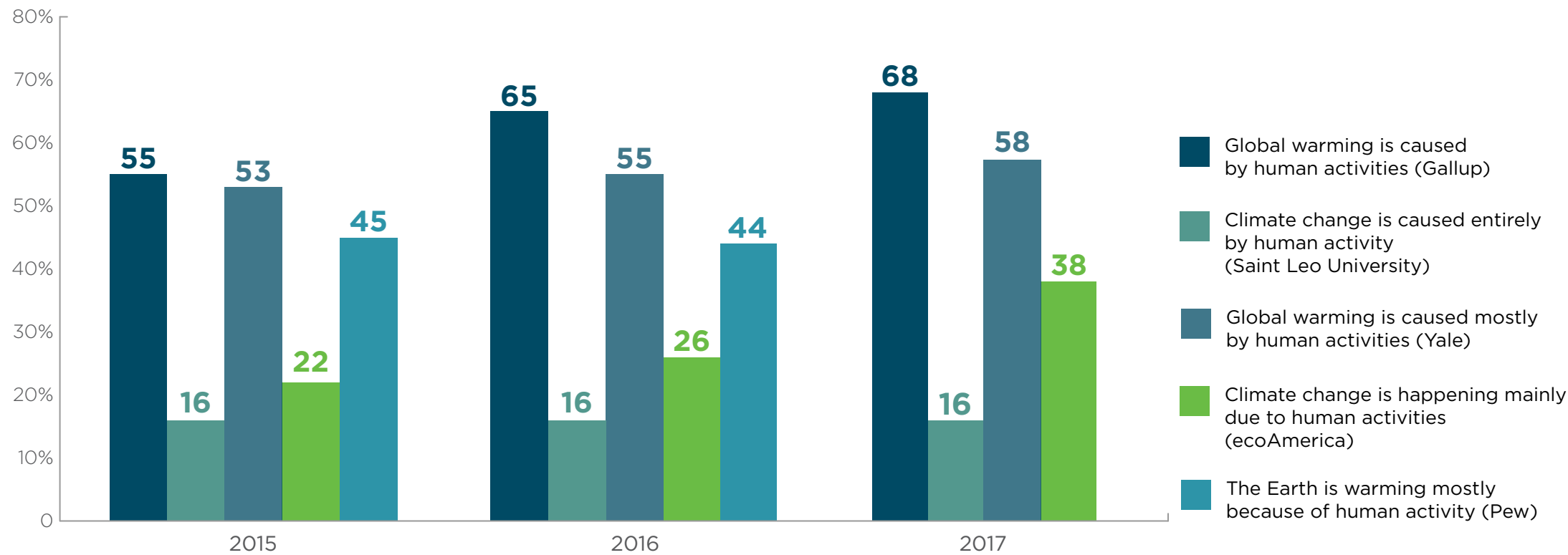


# **Belief and Concern: Concern for our climate climbs**



# Majority of Americans think the rise in global temperatures is due to human activities, but not all agree it is the sole cause:

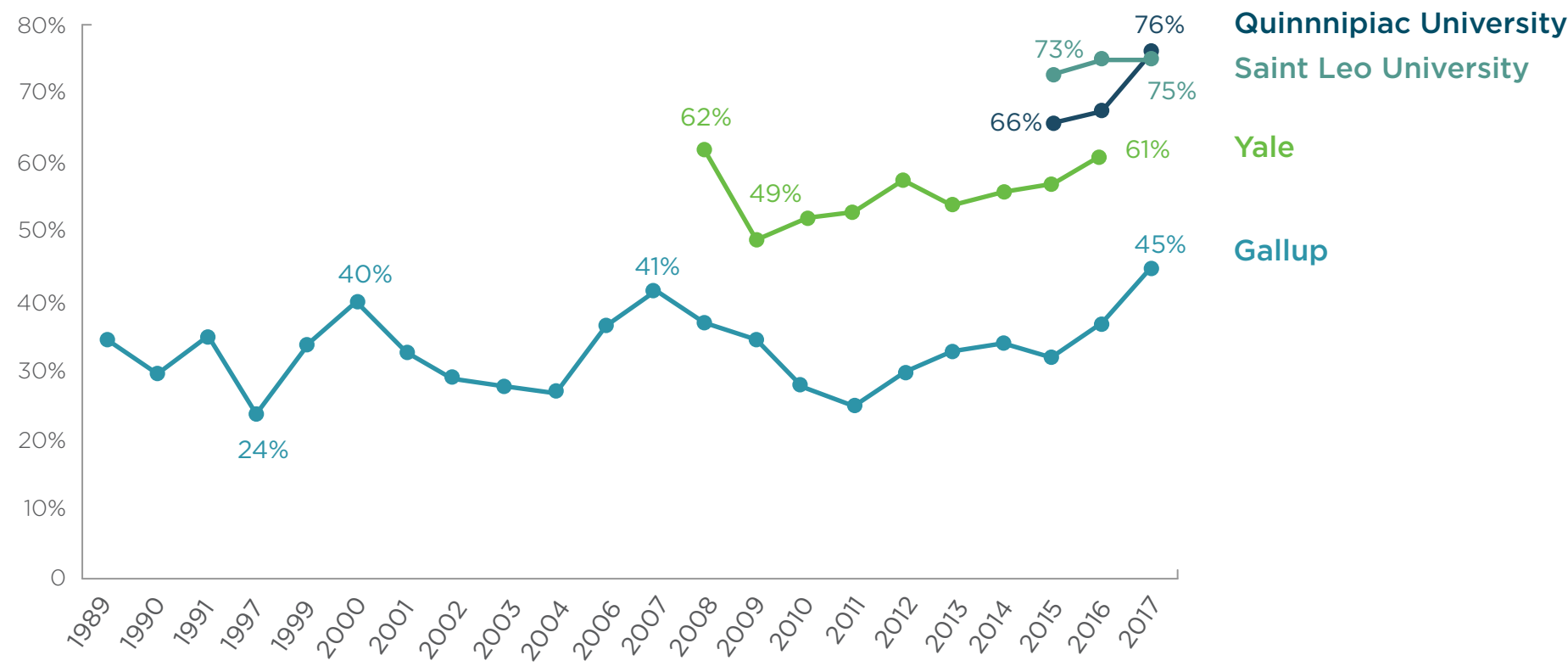
% of Americans that believe...





# Within the past year, personal concern has soared and reached an all time high over the past 30 years:

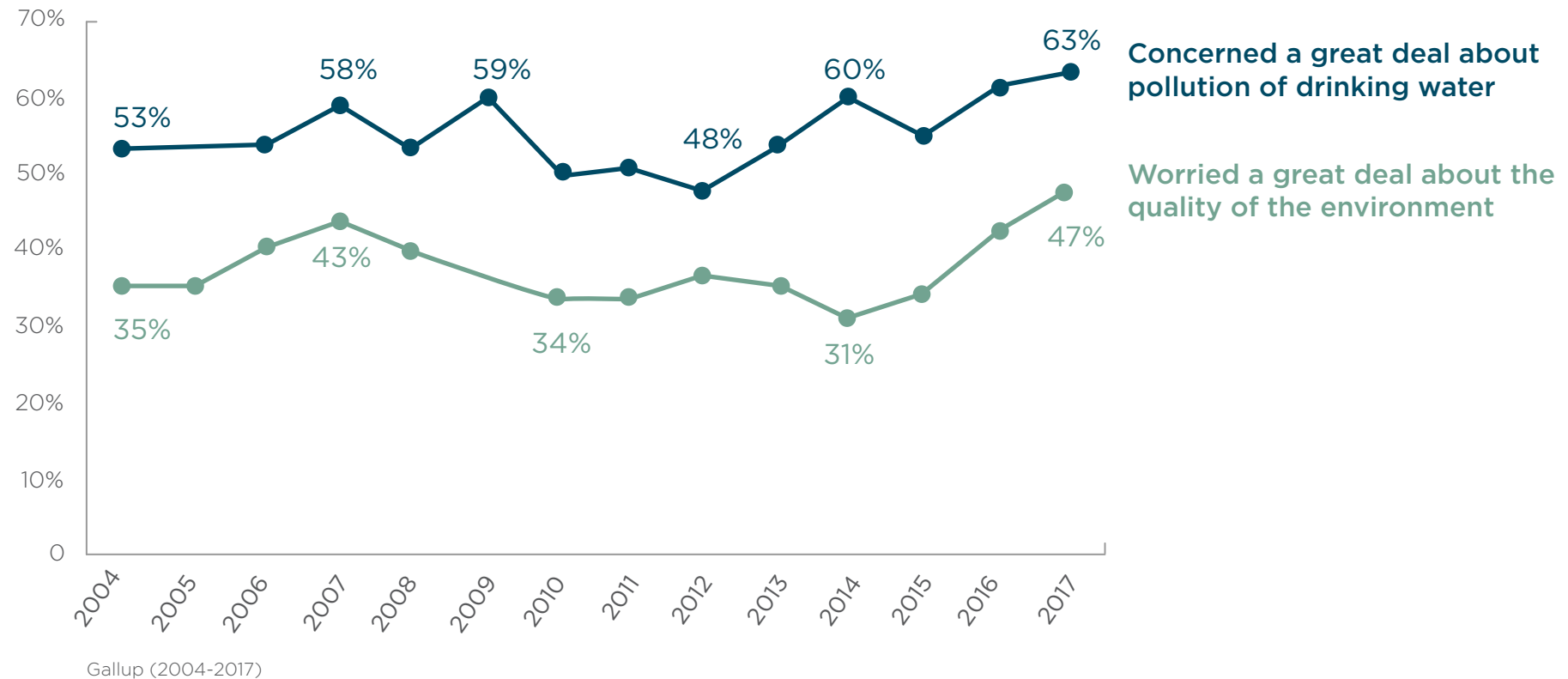
% of Americans that are personally concerned a great deal about global warming or climate change





## Americans are concerned about the enviroment's quality:

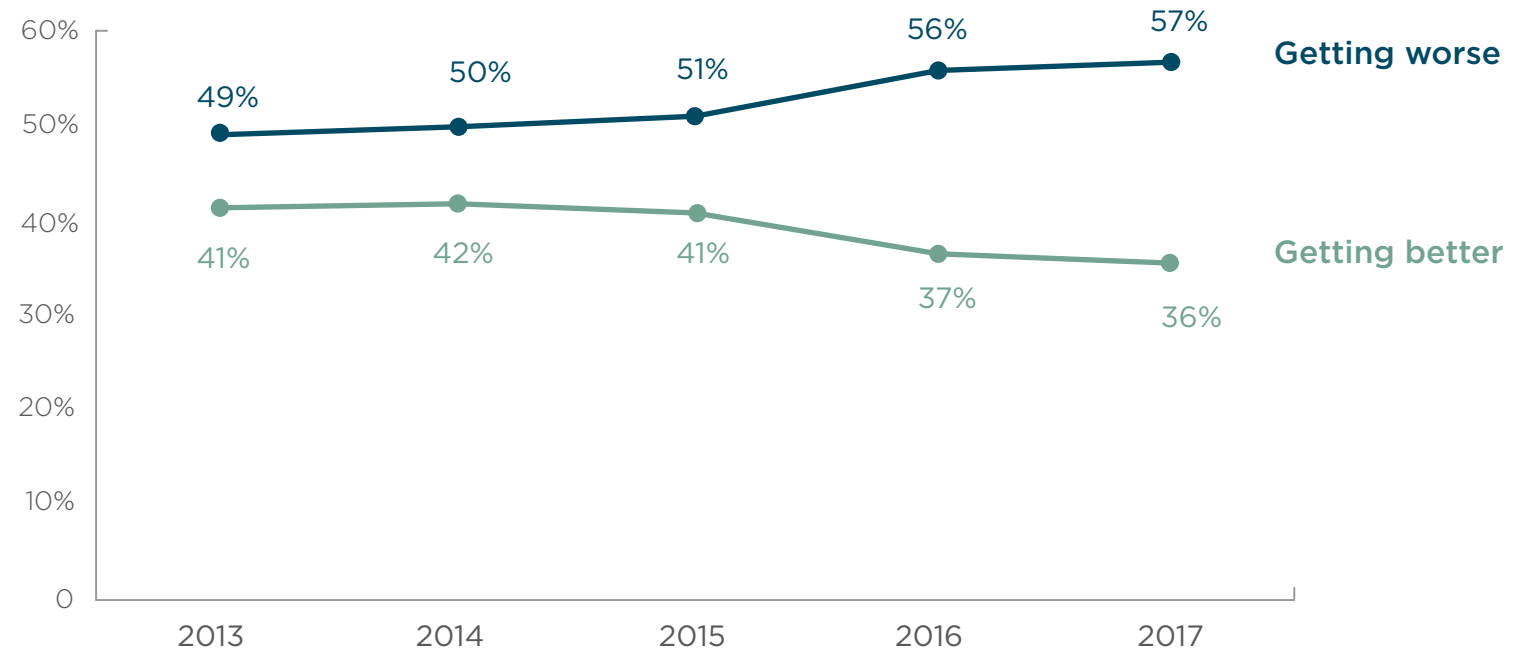
% of Americans that are...





# More Americans think the quality our environment is getting worse:

% of Americans that think the quality of the environment is getting better vs. getting worse

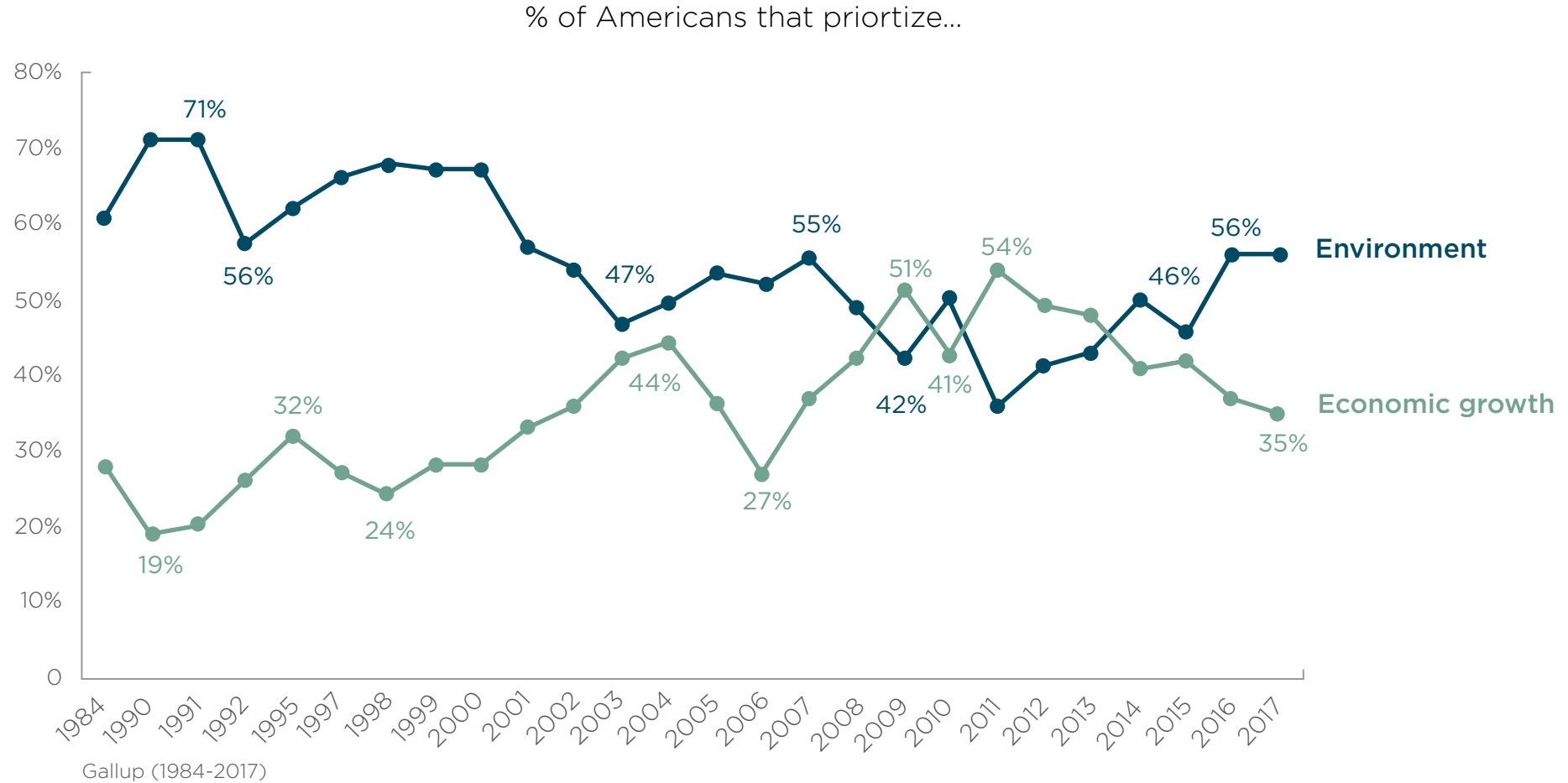


Gallup (2013-2017)

Note: Large partisan gaps exist amongst this question with 53% of Republicans saying the future of the environment is getting better, whereas only 22% of Democrats agree with this.



## While many pit the economy against our environment, Americans agree the environment is a priority:





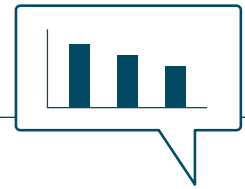
## In context of issues our nation faces, climate remains low:

What would you think is the most important problem facing the country today?

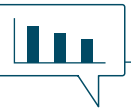
	August 2017 (%)	April 2017 (%)	October 2016 (%)
Economy in general	20	24	31
Unemployment/jobs	7	5	6
Dissatisfaction with government/poor leadership	20	21	12
Healthcare	17	9	4
Unifying the country	6	7	2
Race relations/racism	7	4	10
Education	3	3	2
Environment/pollution	2	4	3

Gallup (2016-2017)



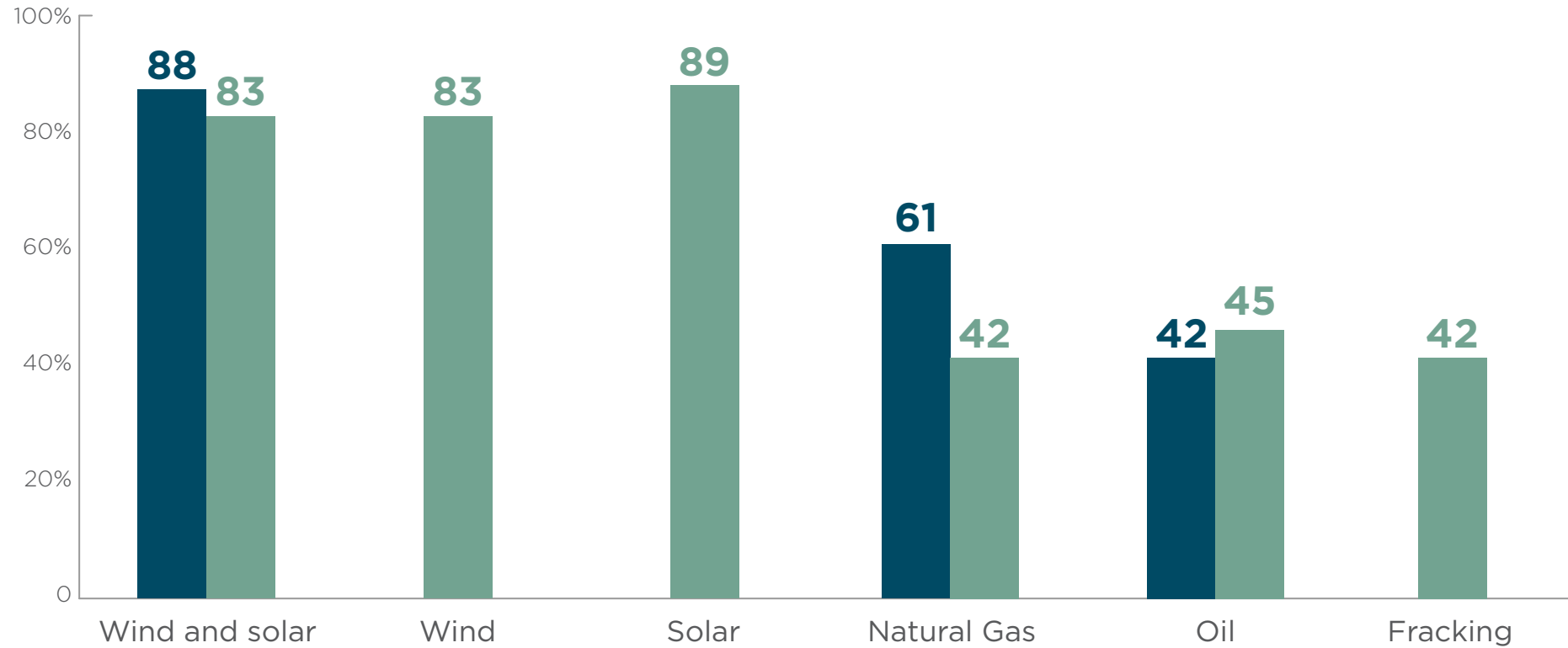


# Energy: American support for clean energy mounts



## Americans support clean energy:

% of Americans that favor expansion or more production of...



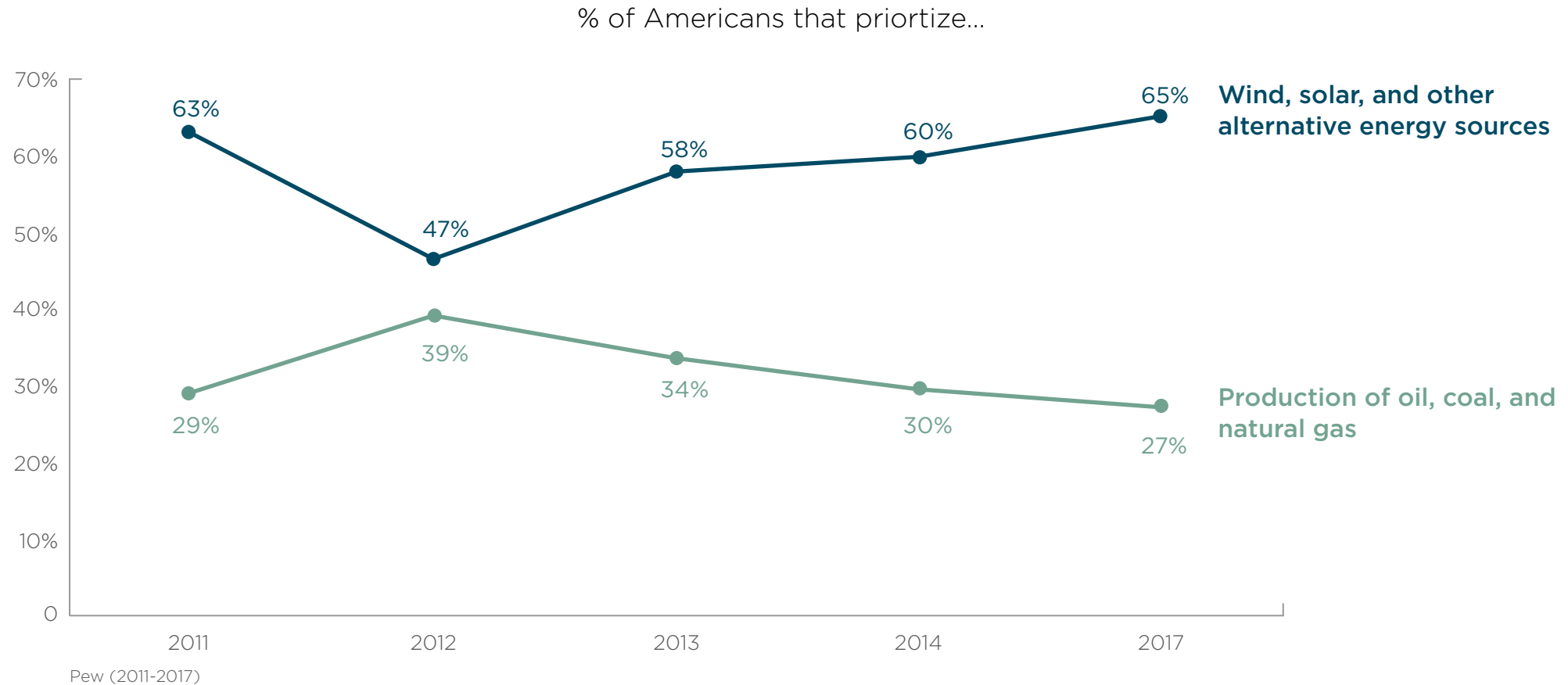
ecoAmerica (2016) and Pew (2016)

\*Note no data exists from ecoAmerica on wind, solar, and fracking separately

ecoAmerica Pew

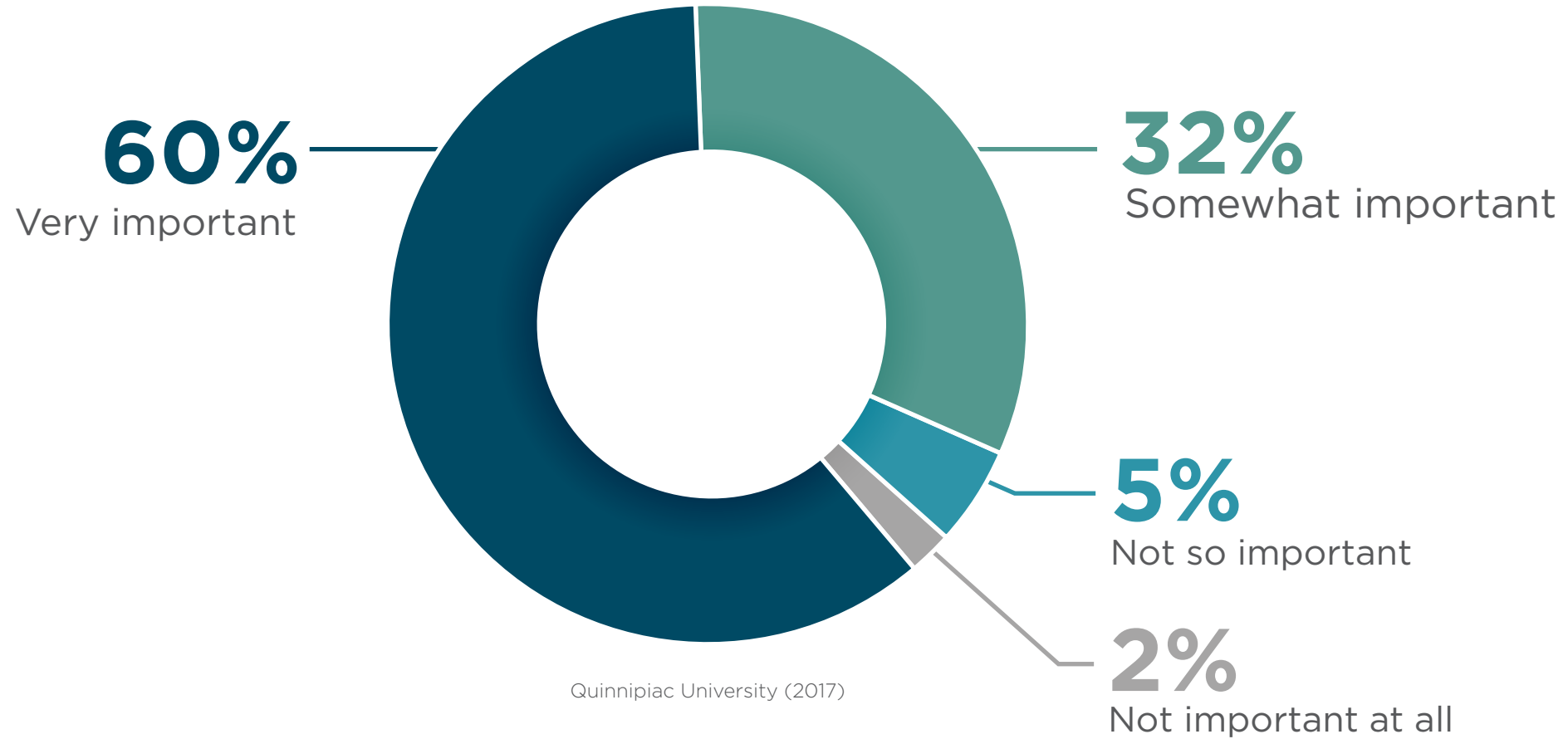


## Americans increasingly see the priority of clean energy for America's energy supply:





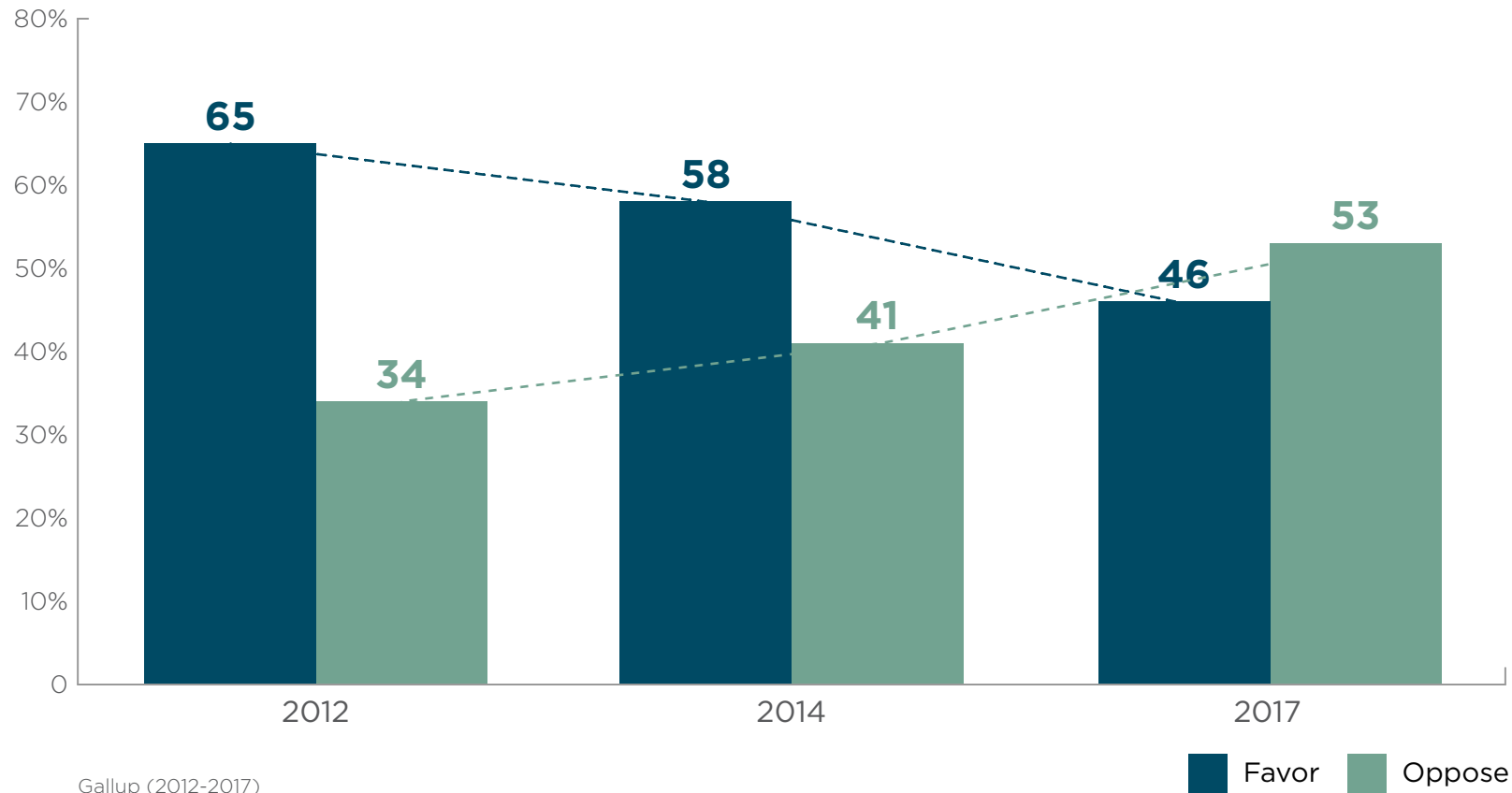
## Americans think energy independence is of upmost importance:





## More Americans now oppose oil exploration on federal lands:

% of Americans that favor vs. oppose oil exploration on federal lands

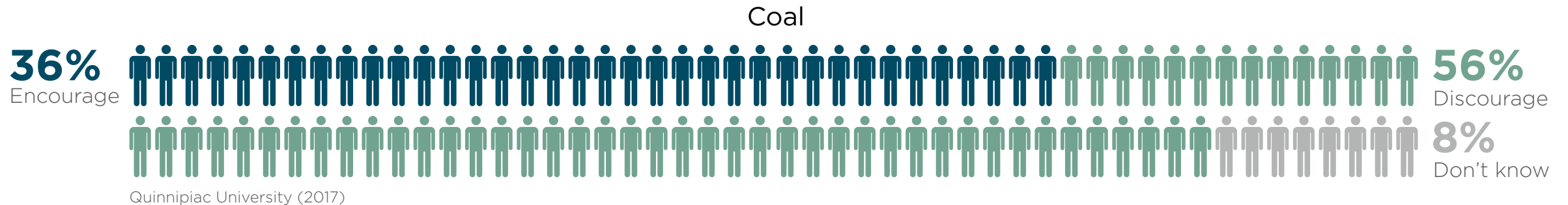
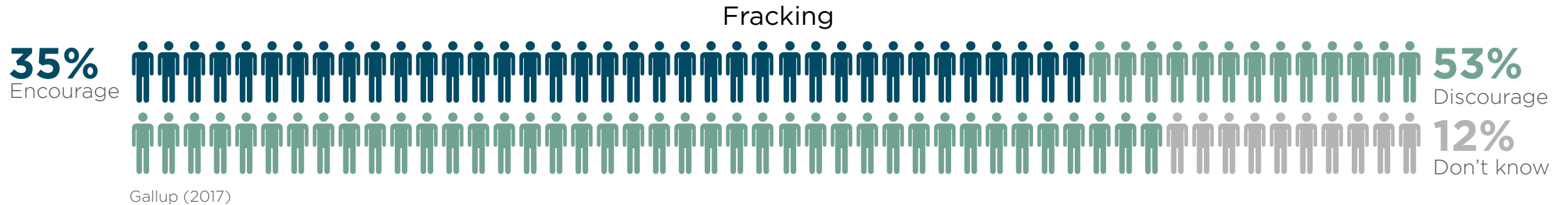


Gallup (2012-2017)



## Over half of Americans oppose fracking and are split on whether we should use coal:

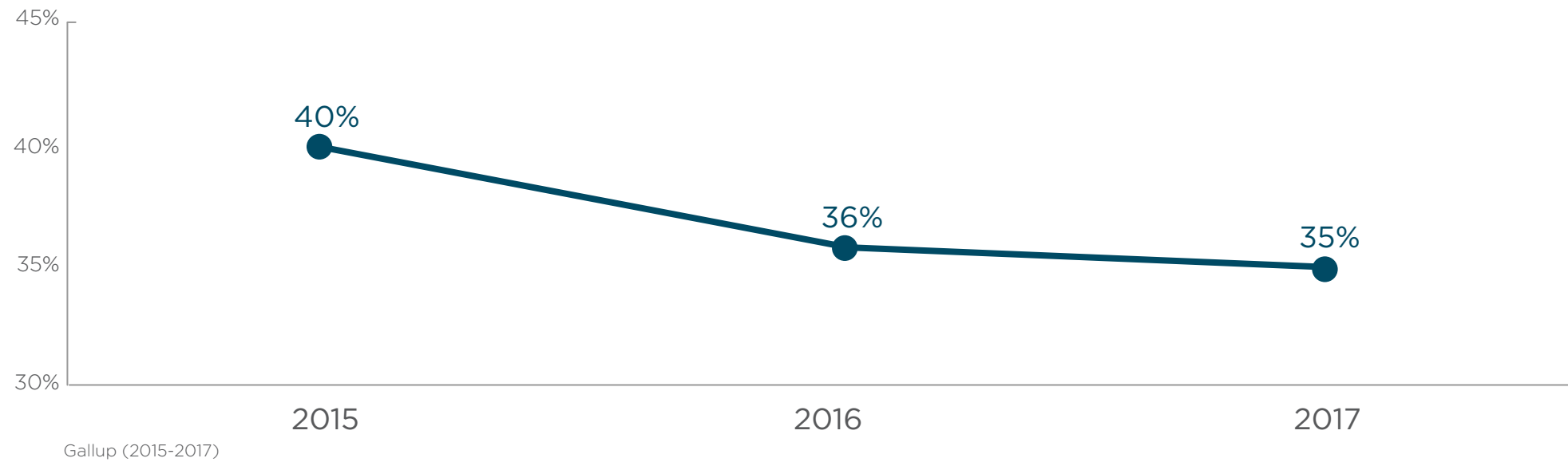
% of Americans who encourage vs. discourage coal and fracking





## Support for fracking continues to decline:

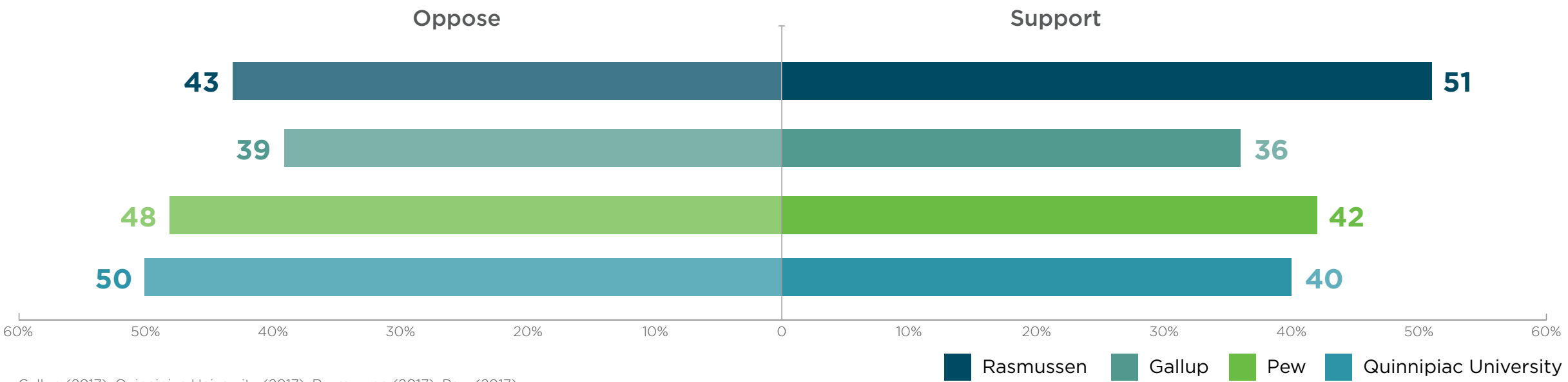
% of Americans that support fracking





# However, Americans are divided on advancing major oil pipelines:

% of Americans that oppose vs. support the Keystone XL and Dakota Access pipelines in 2017



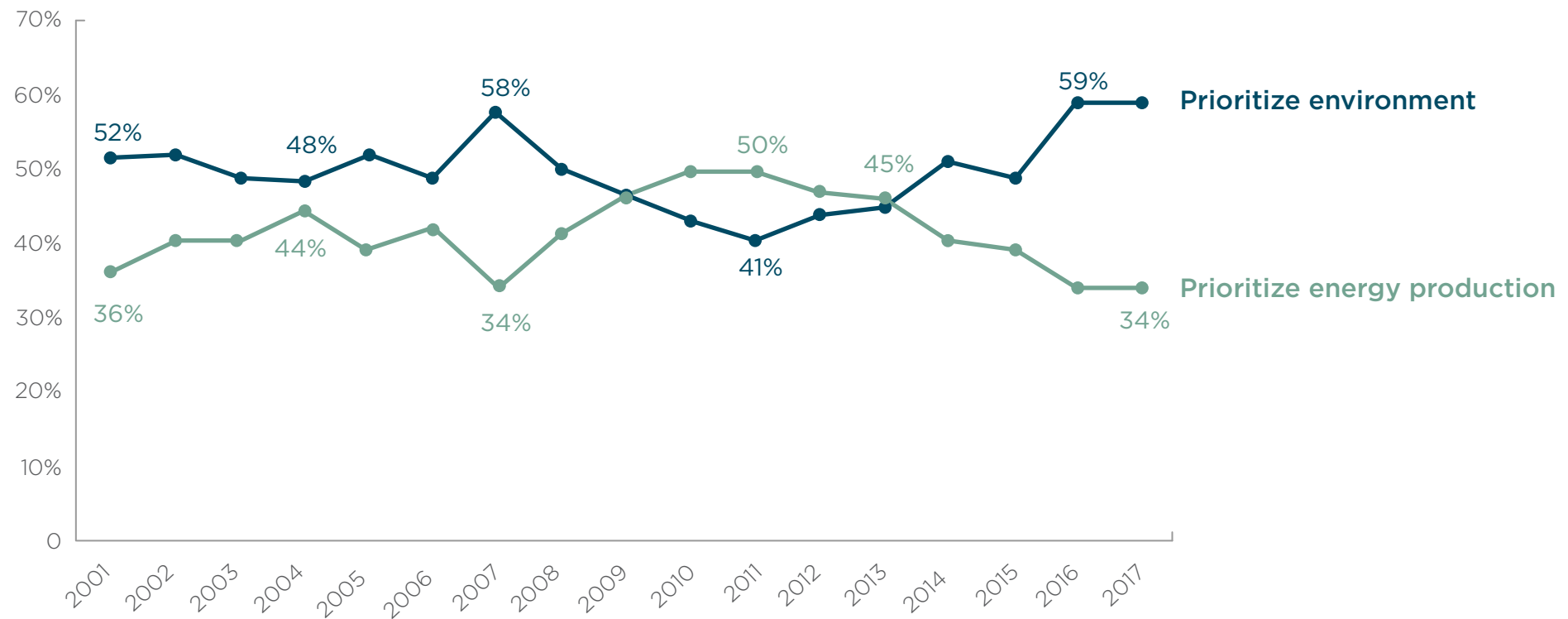
Gallup (2017), Quinnipiac University (2017), Rasmussen (2017), Pew (2017)





# Americans are increasingly putting the environment before energy production:

% of Americans that prioritize environment vs. those that prioritize energy production



Gallup (2001-2017)

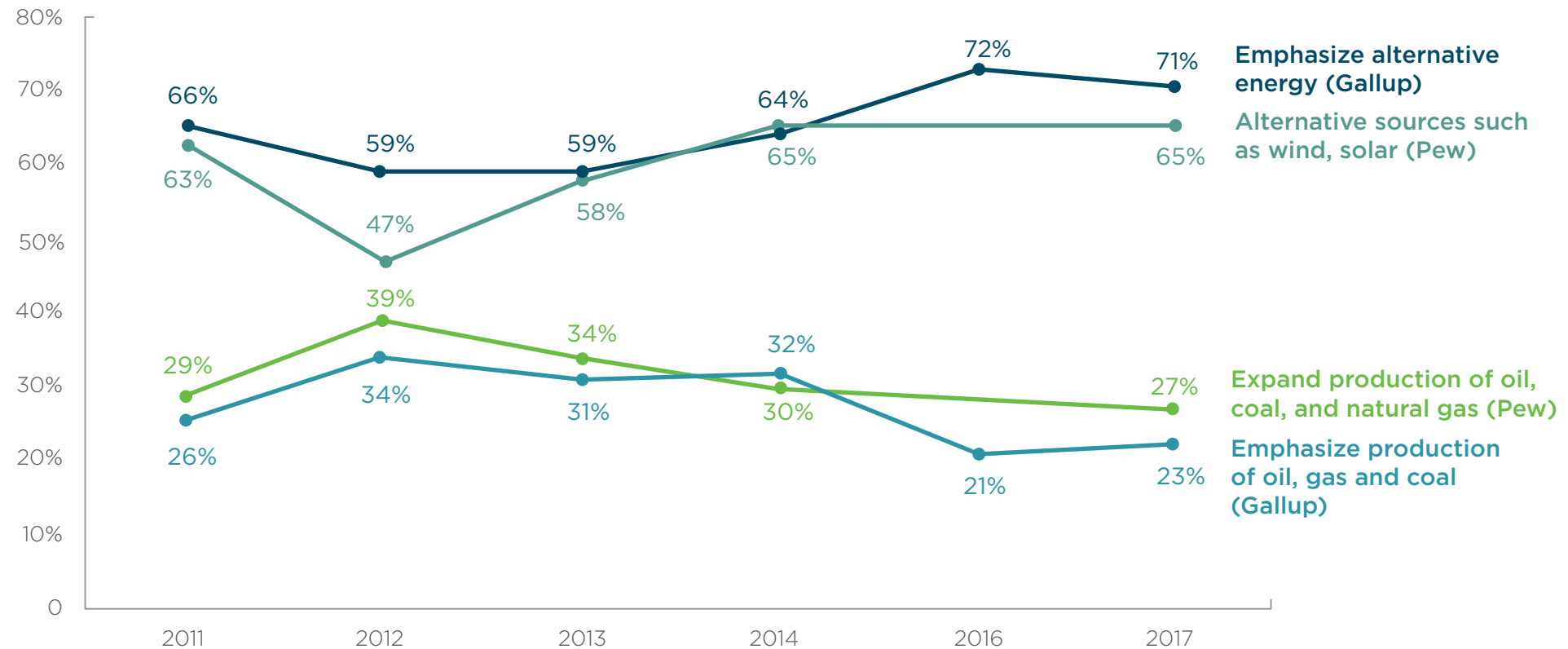


**Solutions: Americans are quickly turning solutions that benefit our environment and economy**



# What Americans say our priority should be in addressing our energy supply:

% of Americans who agree how we should be solving America's energy supply

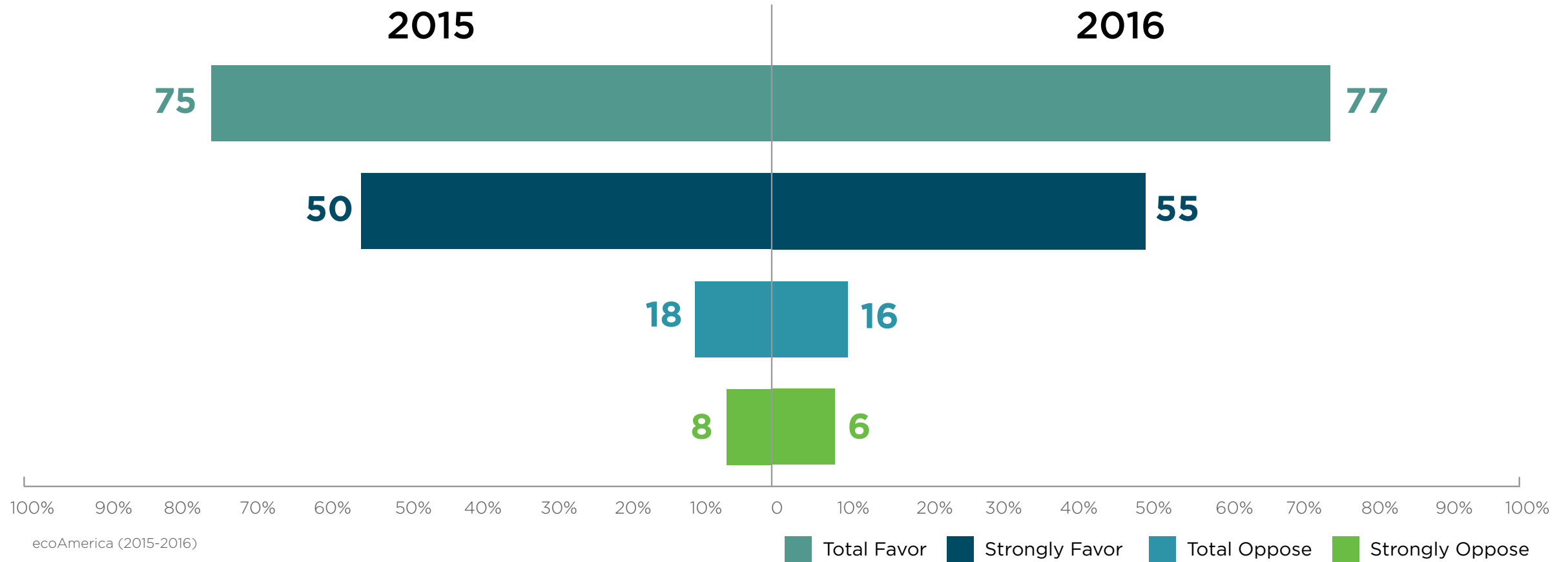


Gallup (2011-2017), Pew (2011-2014, 2017)  
\*Note none of the pollings have 2015 data



# Americans increasingly favor charging large companies fees for their pollution:

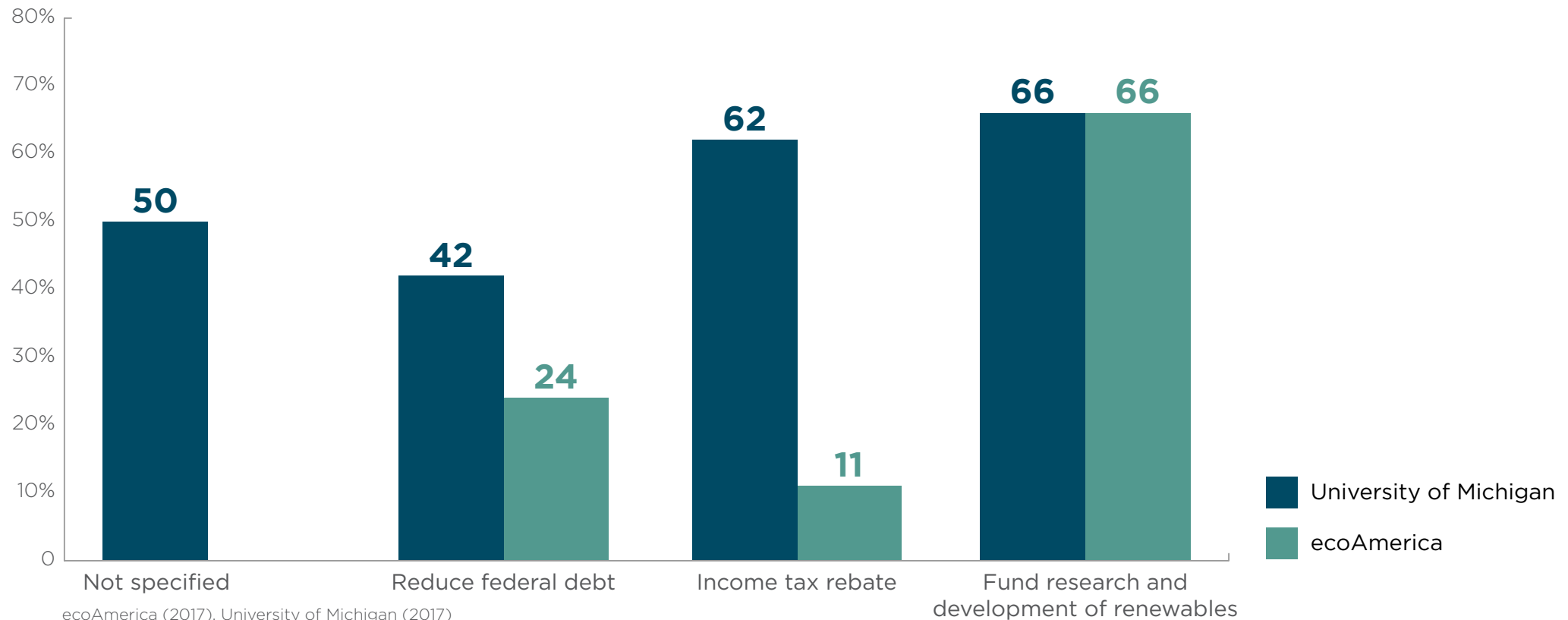
% of Americans that favor vs. oppose





# Americans support taxing carbon, especially when the tax money goes towards developing more clean energy:

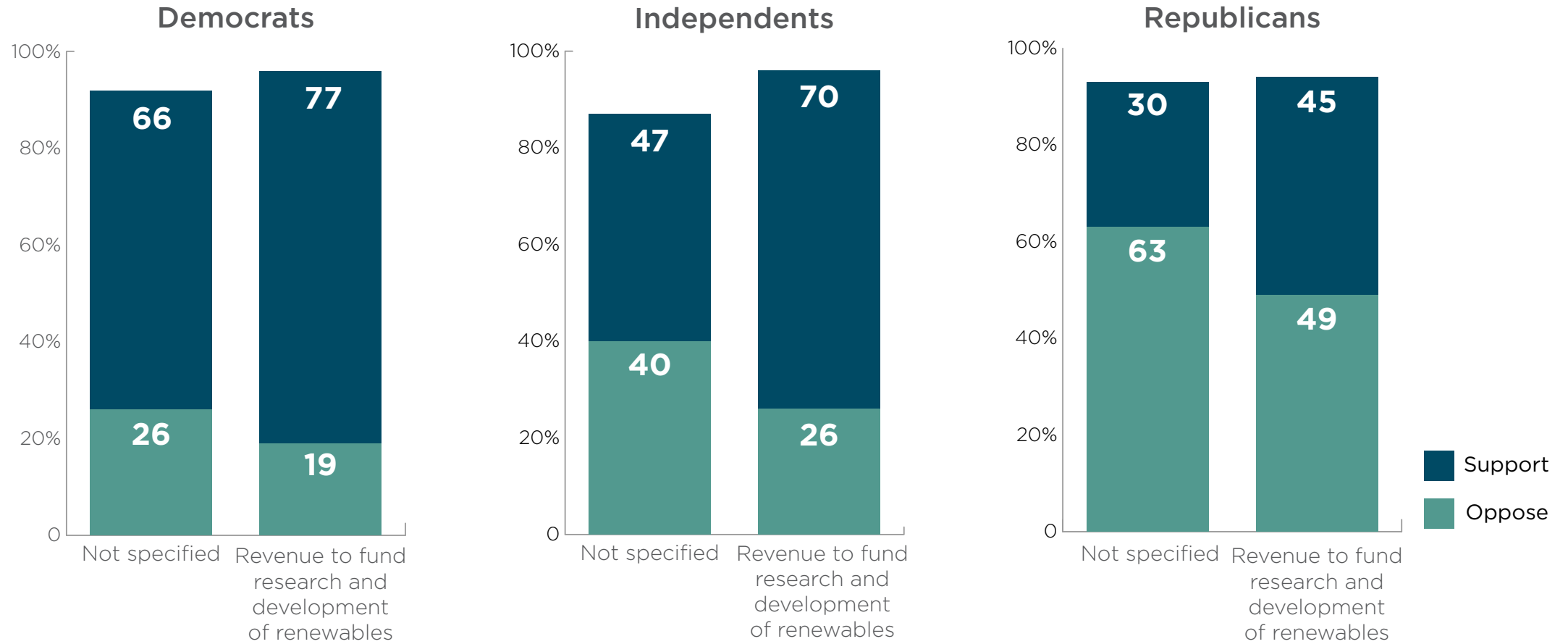
If there were a fee or tax on climate change pollution, how should the U.S. use the money?



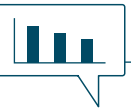
ecoAmerica (2017), University of Michigan (2017)  
\*Note no data exists for "Not specified" from ecoAmerica



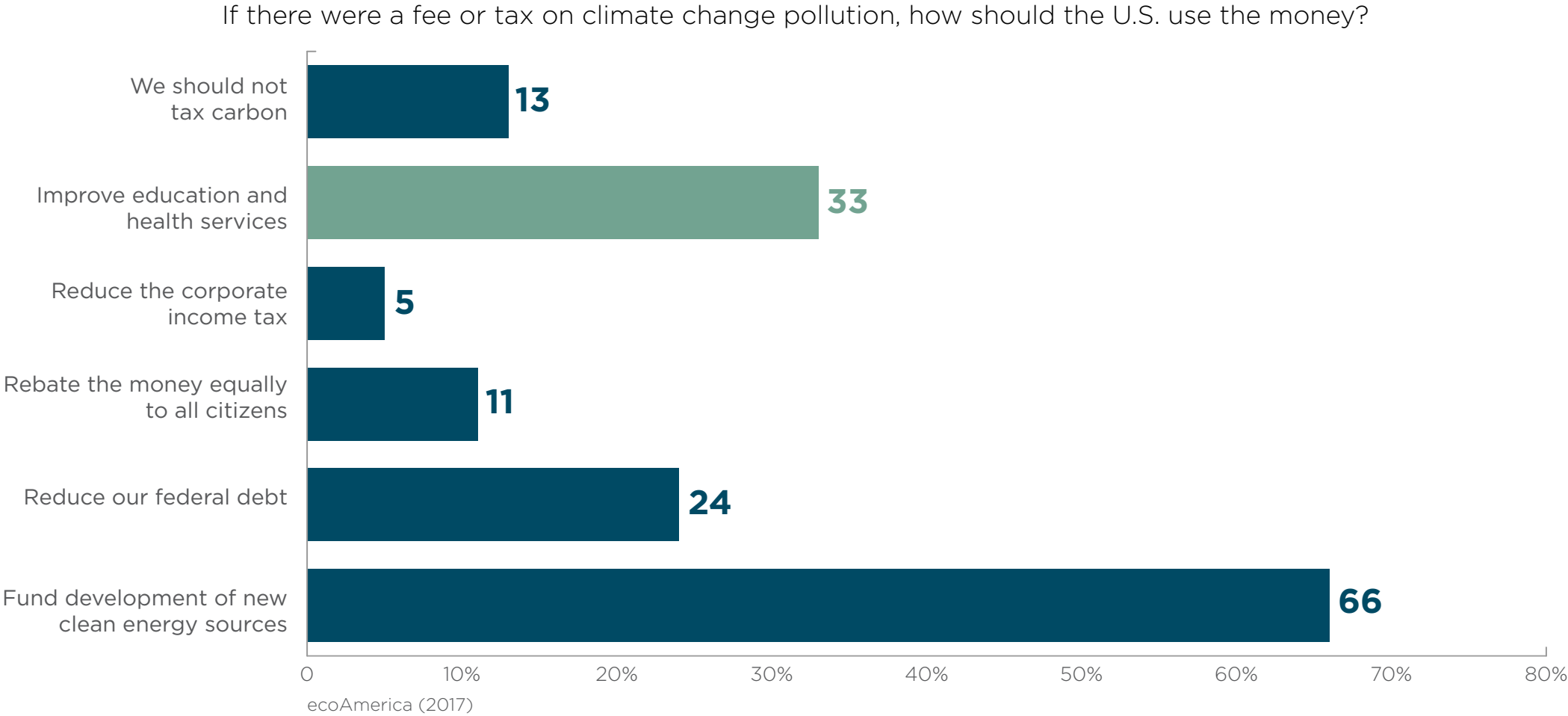
## Support especially grows amongst Republicans when researchers specified where the tax money would go:



University of Michigan (2017)



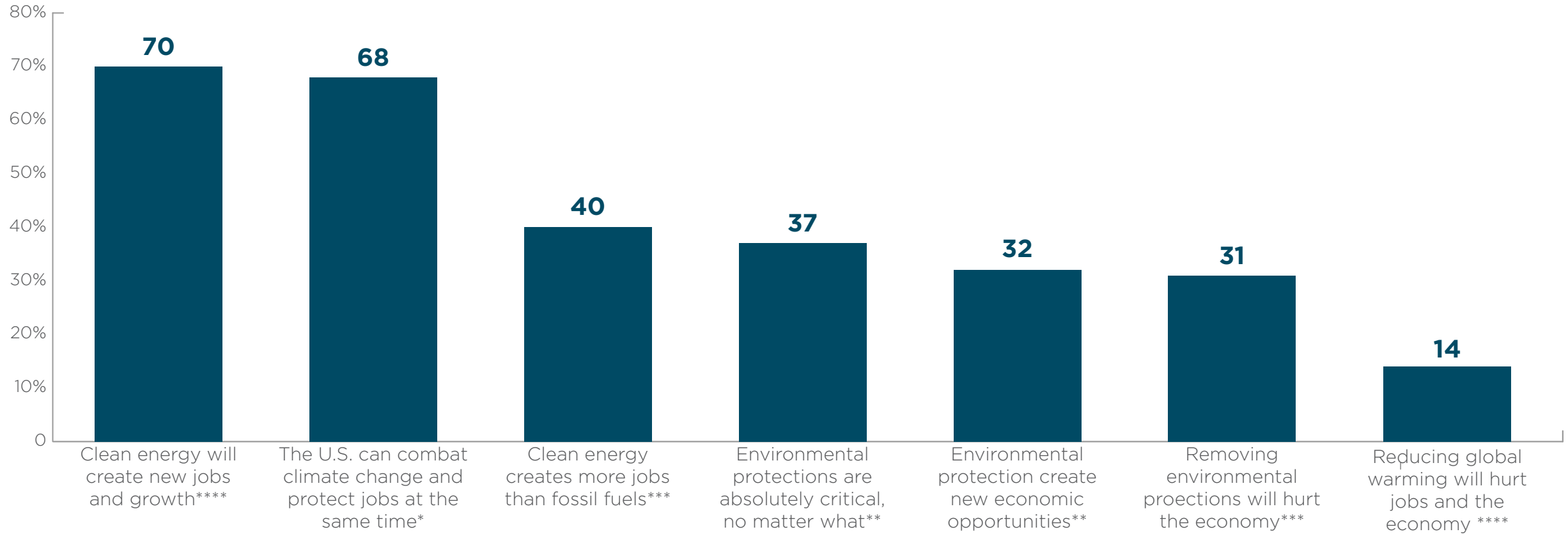
# Support also builds when options such as improving education and health services is provided:





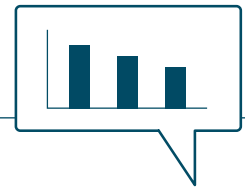
# Americans believe we can act on climate solutions and grow our economy:

% of Americans that agree...

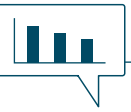


\*Quinnipiac University (2017), \*\*Saint Leo University (2017), \*\*\*ecoAmerica(2017), \*\*\*\*Ipsos/Reuters(2017)

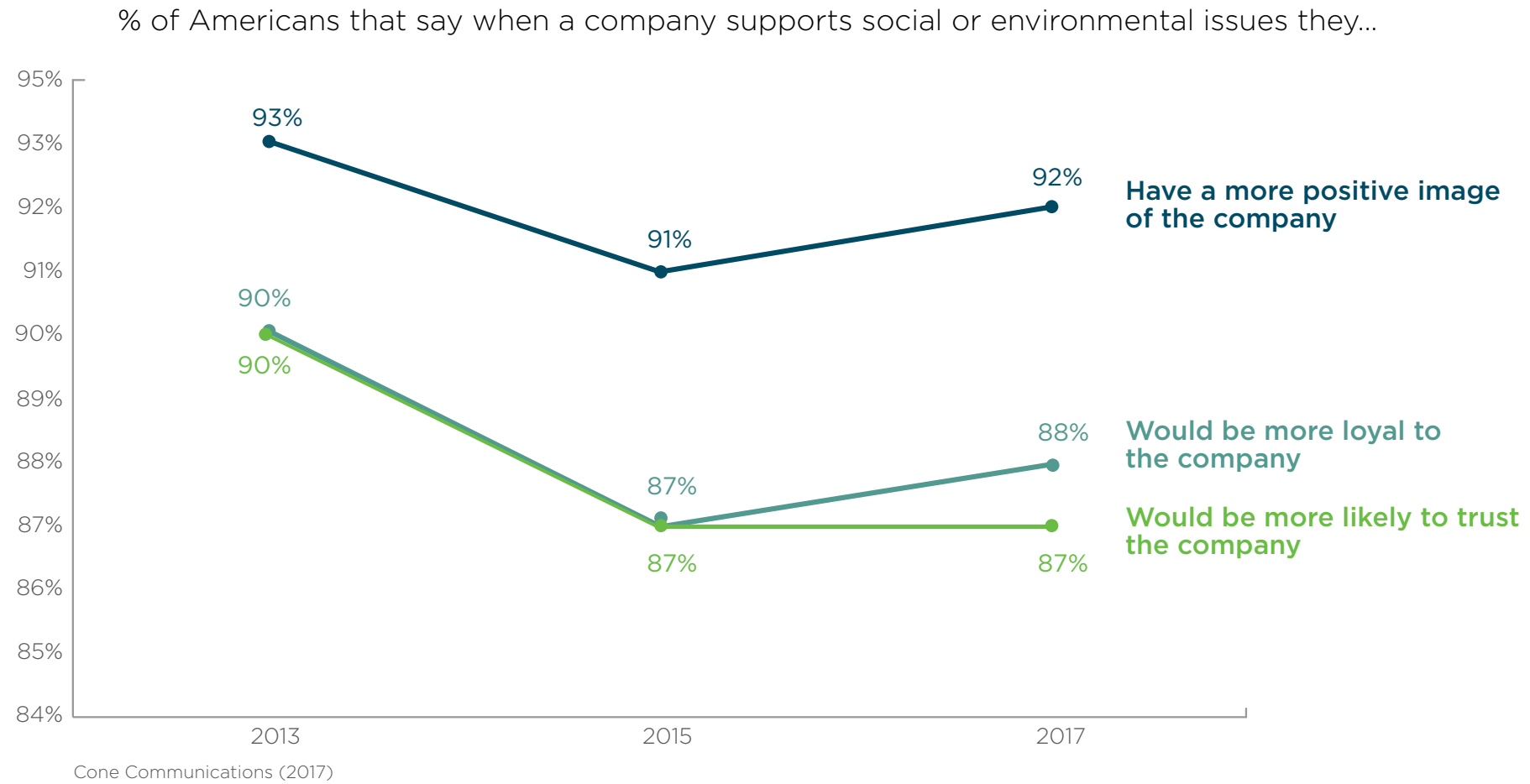




# Behaviors: How Americans are acting on solutions



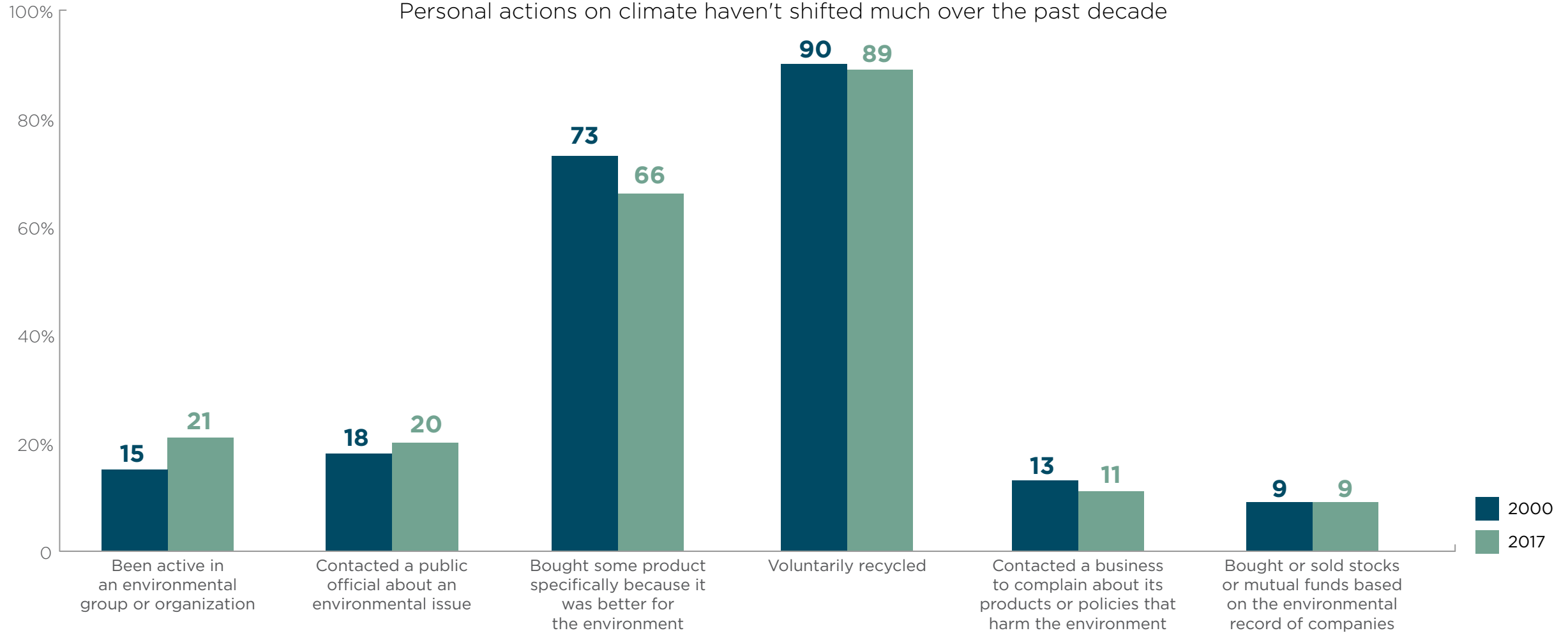
## A majority of Americans are loyal to and trust companies that support social and environmental issues:



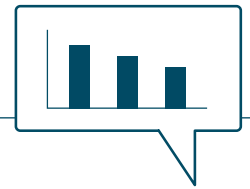


## Where do Americans stand on taking action themselves?

Personal actions on climate haven't shifted much over the past decade



Gallup (2000, 2017)

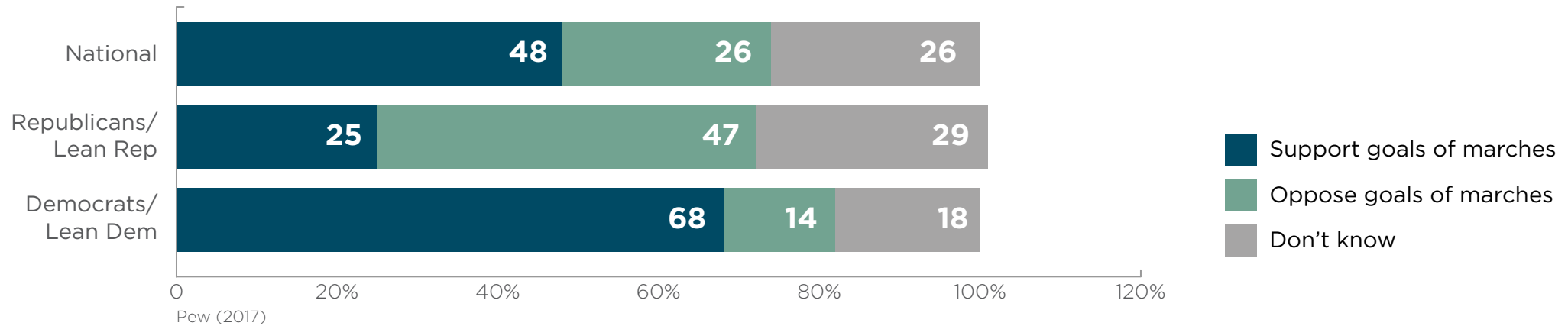


# Activism: Reflecting on the 2017 science marches, protests, and demonstrations

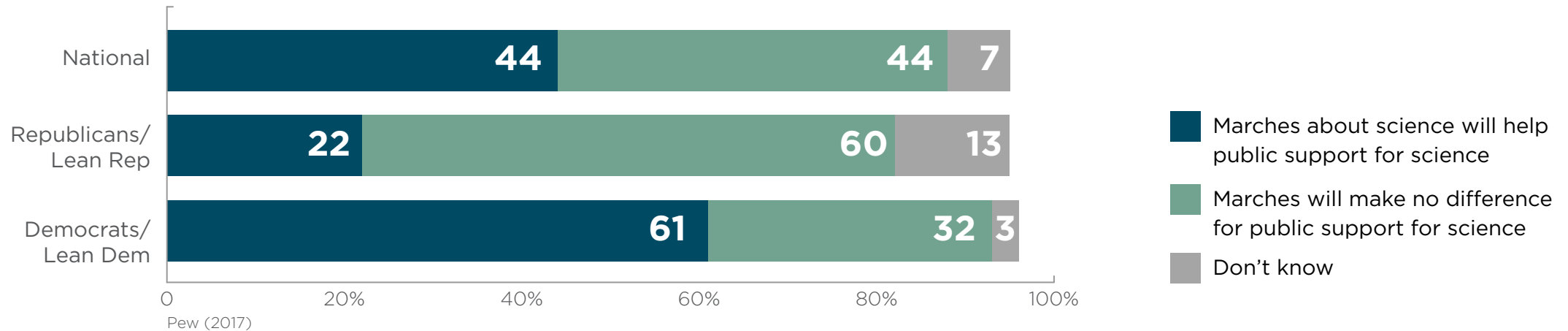


# Americans are divided on the effectiveness the April 2017 science marches:

% of Americans who support vs. oppose the marches



% of Americans who think the marches help vs. make no difference



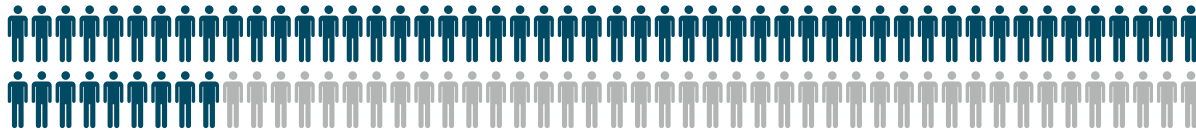


# About half of Americans say the climate marches will increase and encourage efforts for science and policy collaboration:

% of U.S. adults who say protests, marches and demonstrations about science held in April 2017 will be effective at...

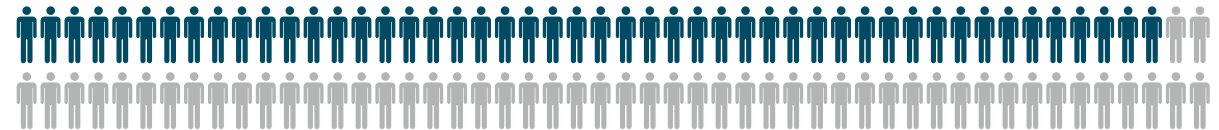
59%

Encouraging scientists to be more active in civic and public affairs



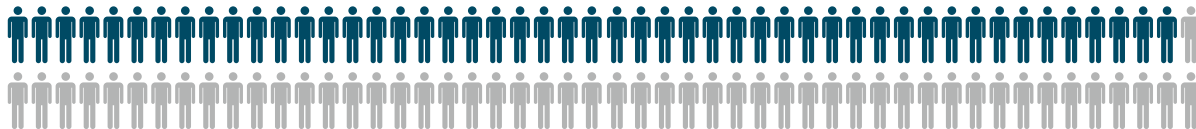
48%

Raising support for government funding of science



49%

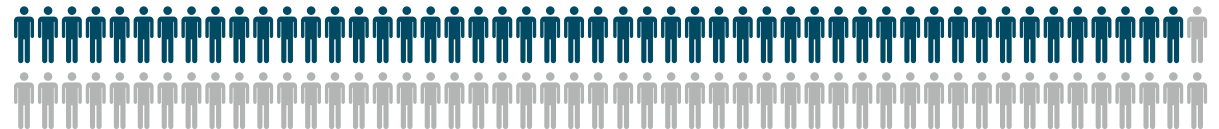
Increasing efforts to address global climate change



Pew (2017)

49%

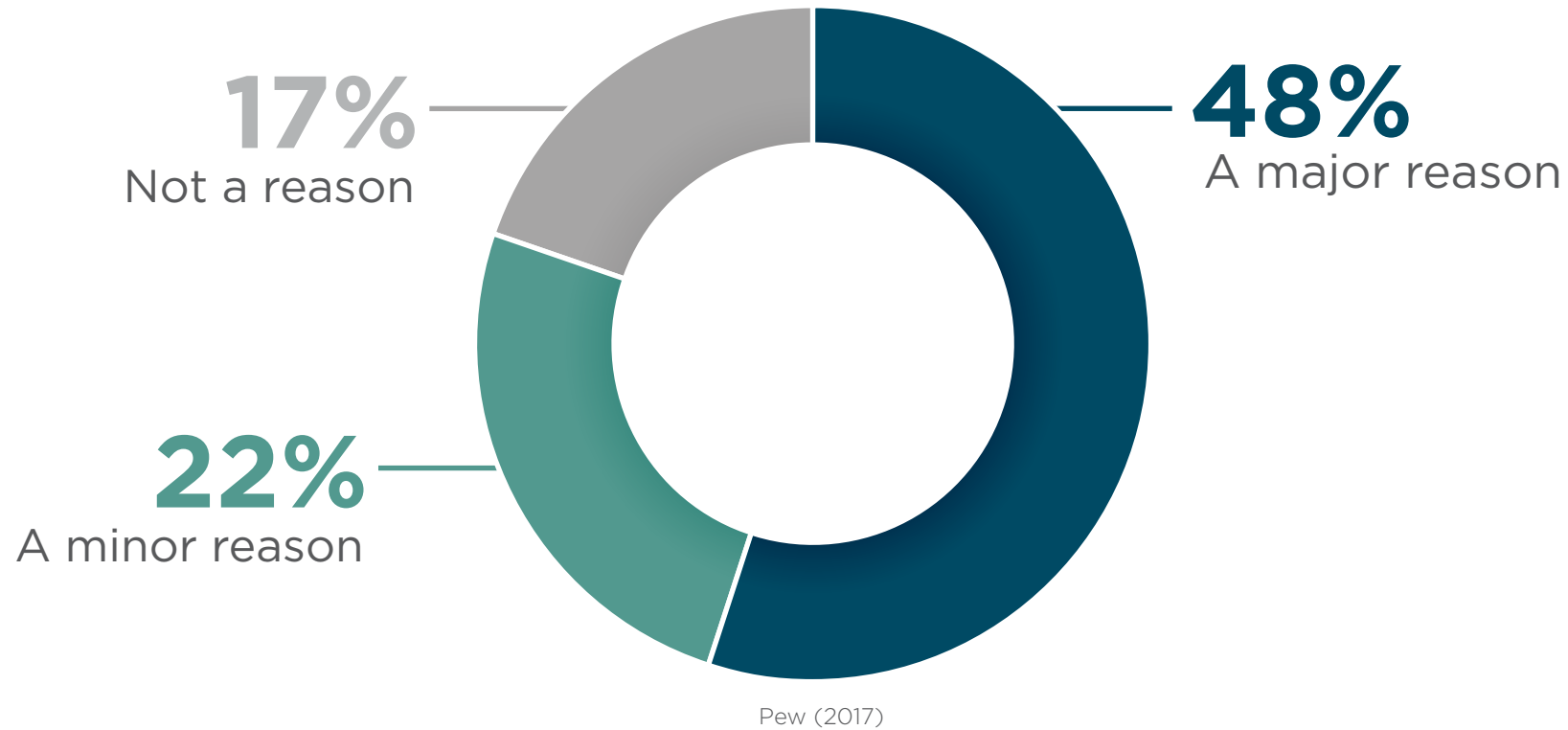
Encouraging policymakers to rely more on advice of scientific experts

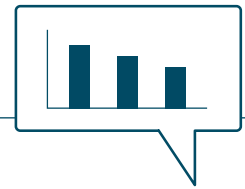




## Nearly half of Americans believe participation in the climate marches stems from opposition to Trump:

% of Americans that think Trump's handling of science issues is a major vs. minor reason for participation in the 2017 climate marches



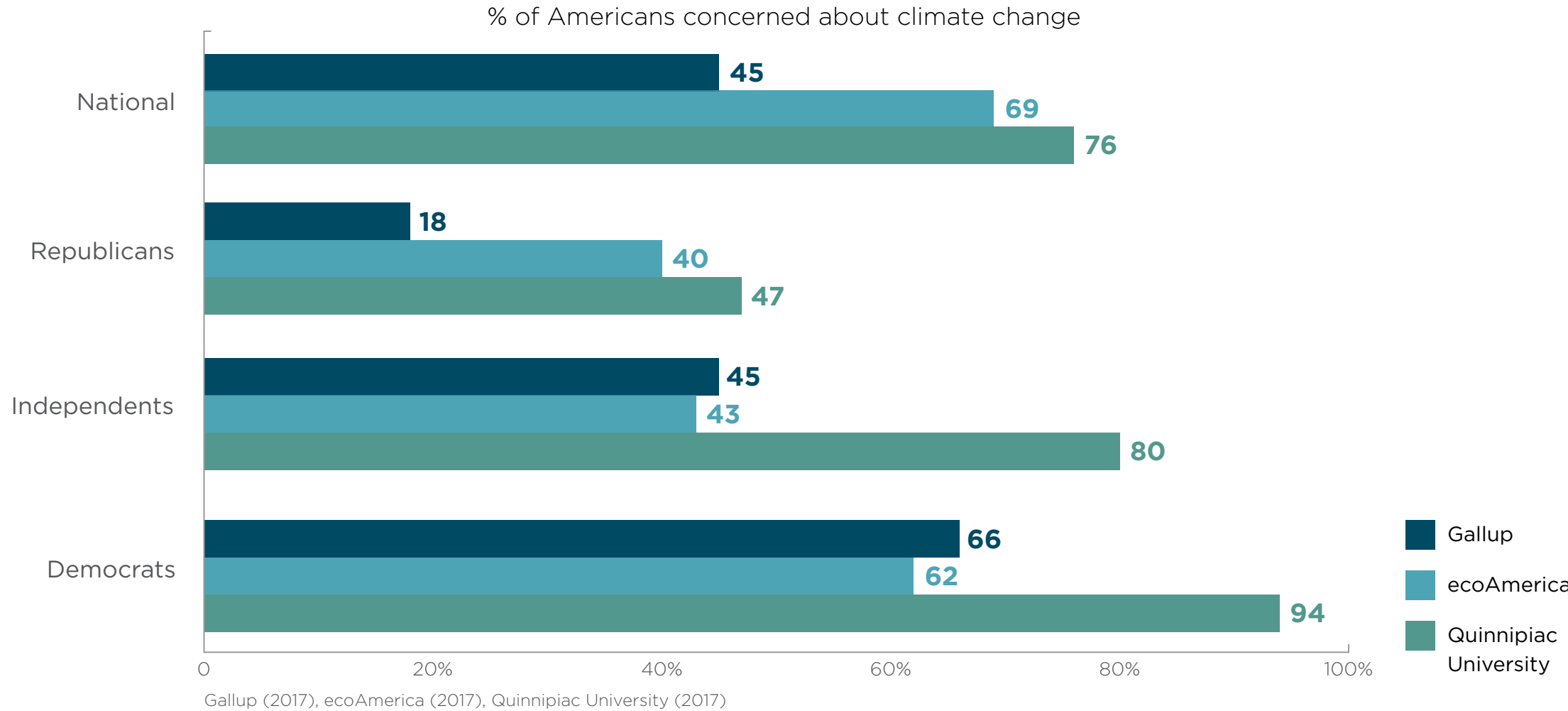


# Politics: Climate wedges a political divide





# Large disparities exist among political affiliation when it comes to climate change:

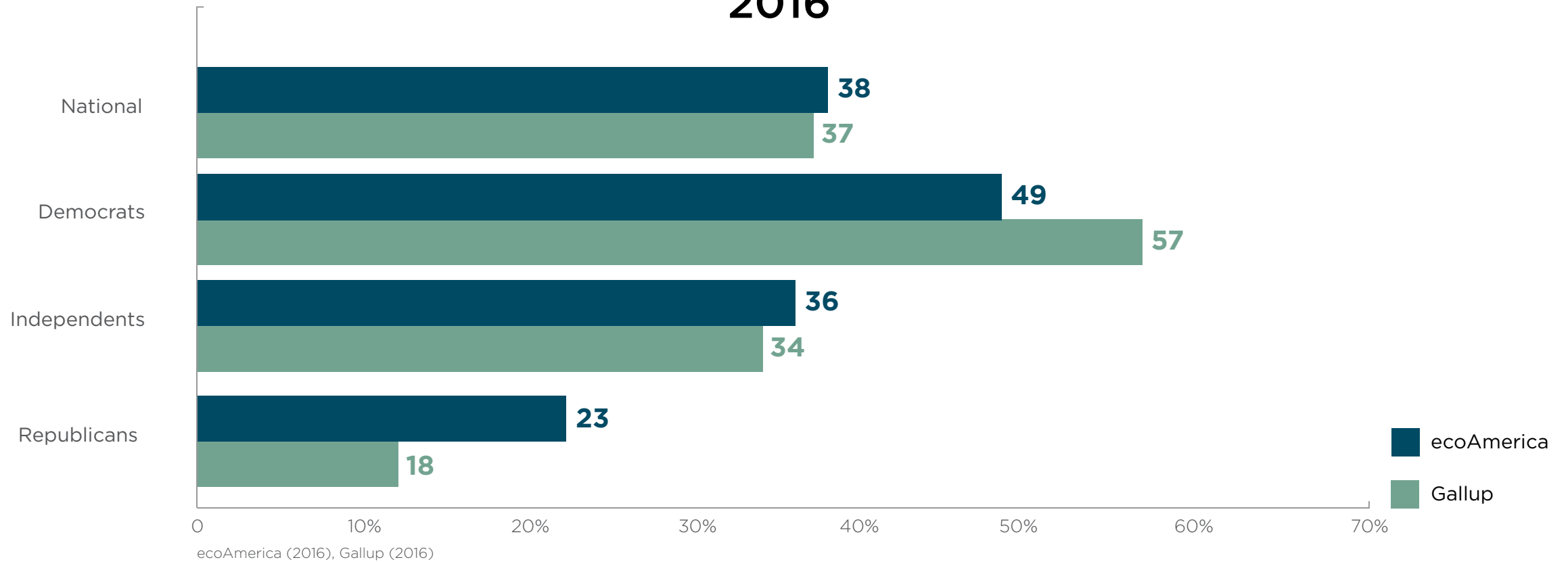




# Americans are concerned about climate change:

% of Americans concerned a great deal about climate change

2016

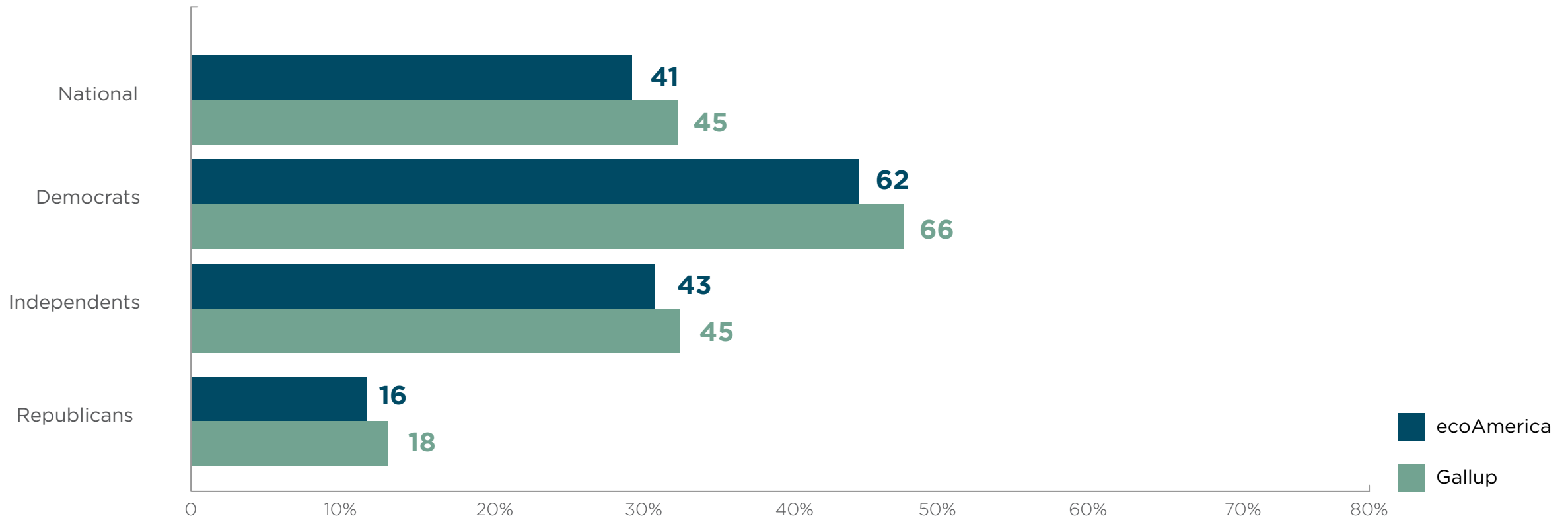




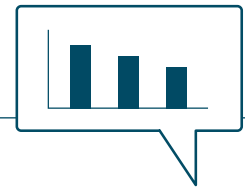
# In the past year concern has jumped across the political spectrum, with the exception of Republicans:

% of Americans concerned a great deal about climate change

2017



ecoAmerica (2017), Gallup (2017)

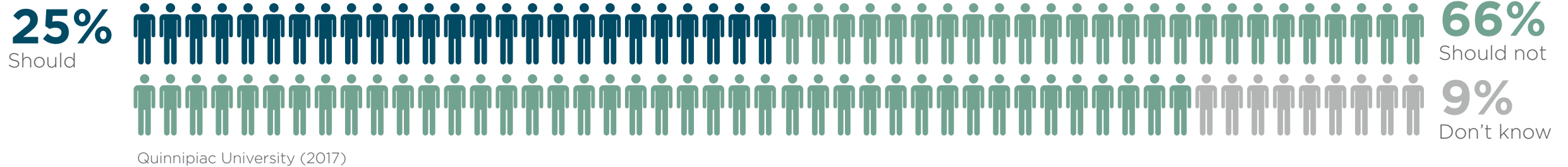


# President Trump and Government: The role of climate policy for America's future



## More Americans say we need regulation to combat climate change:

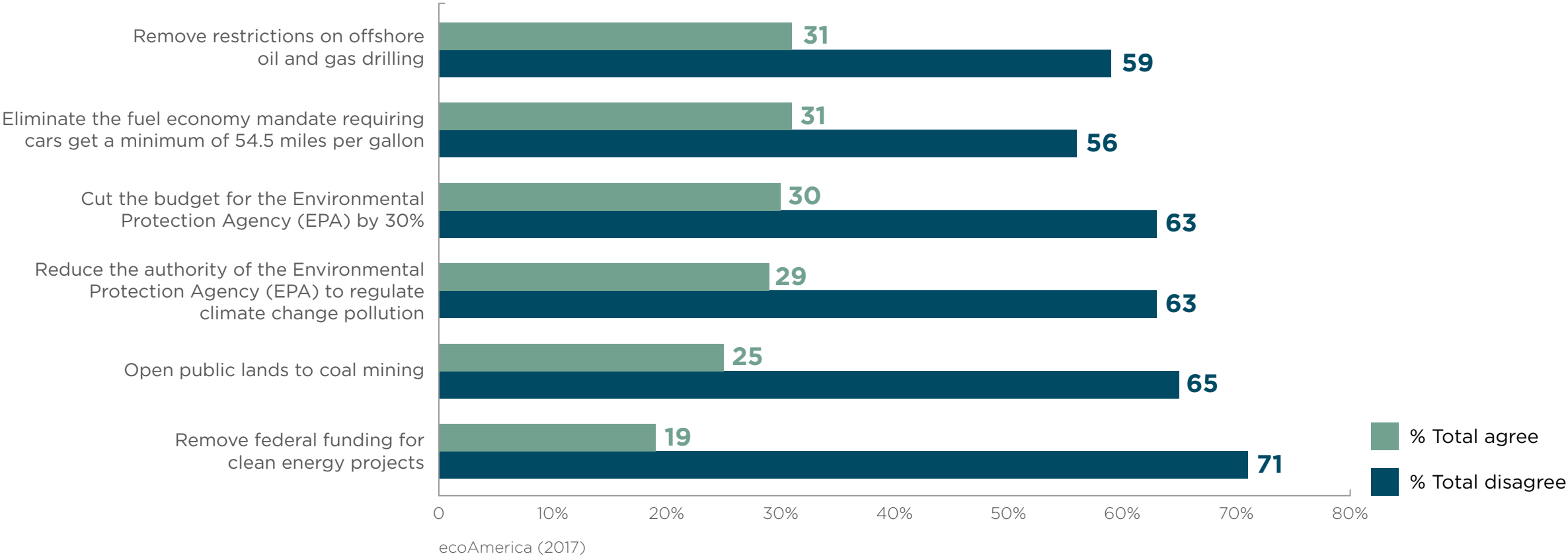
% of Americans that say Trump should remove regulations that combat climate change vs. those who disagree





# Diving into specifics we see Americans disagree with Trump’s anti-climate agenda, especially when it comes to clean energy:

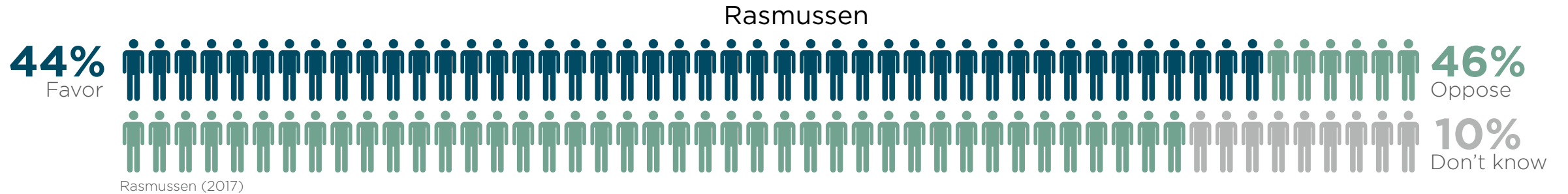
% of Americans that agree vs. disagree with President Trump that America should...





## On the issue of the Environmental Protection Agency (EPA):

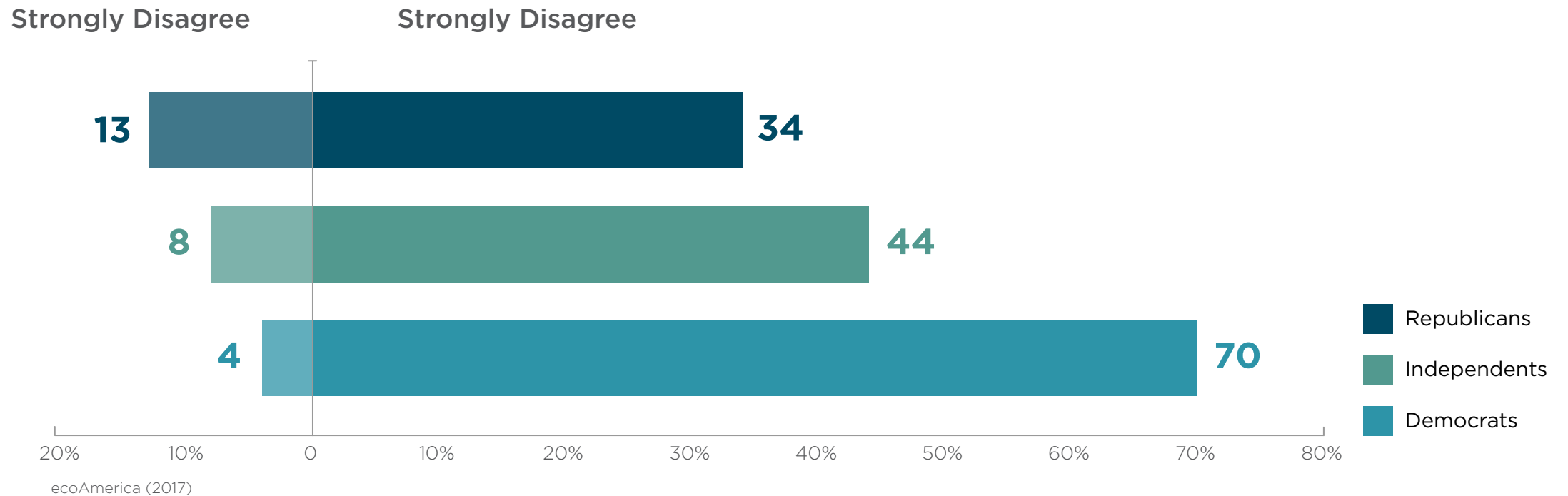
% of Americans that favor vs. oppose cutting the EPA's budget





## Across the political spectrum Americans strongly disagree with President Trump that America should remove restrictions on offshore oil and gas drilling:

% of Americans that strongly disagree vs. strongly agree

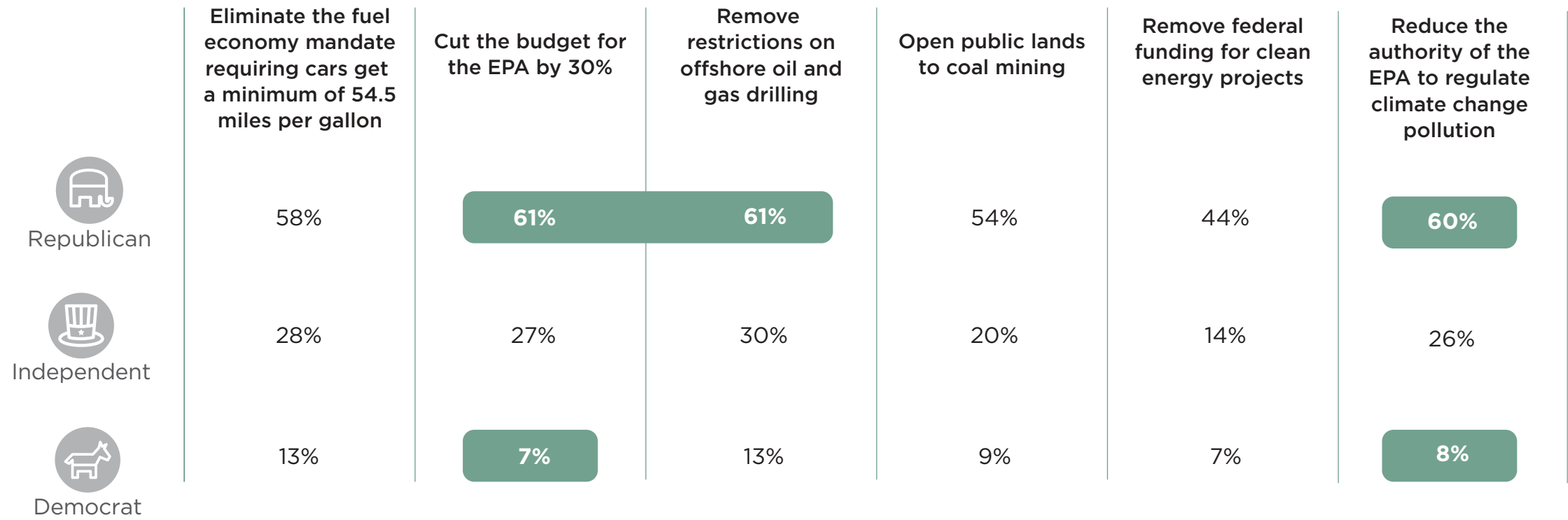






# Republicans are also likely to agree with Trump’s executive orders at rates double or more than Democrats or Independents:

% Total agree, findings by political party

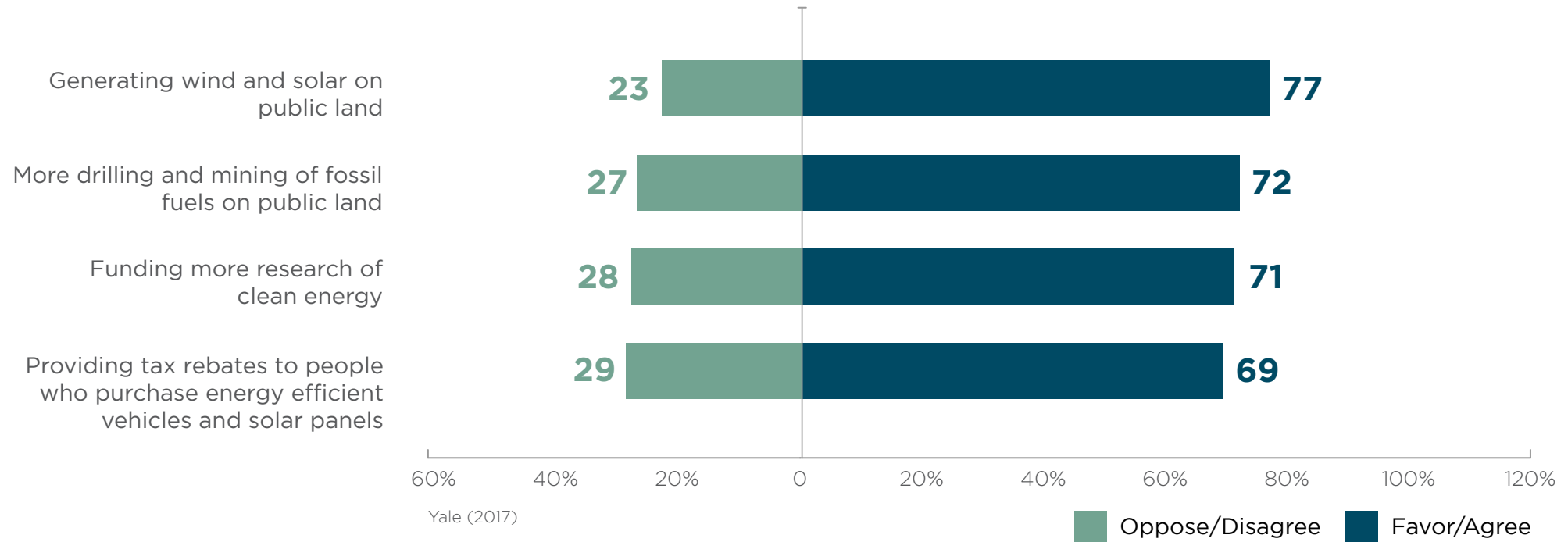


ecoAmerica (2017)



## Yet, Trump voters favor most climate solutions:

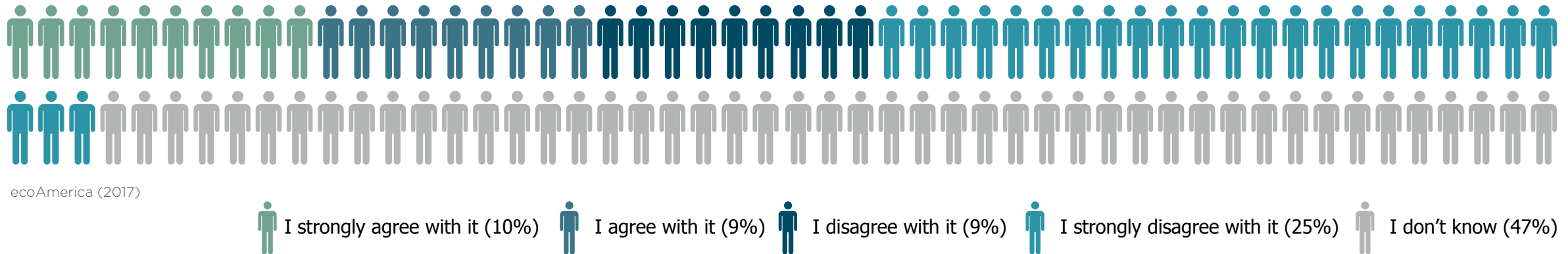
% of Trump voters that favor vs. oppose the following...





## And in recent turn of events, Trump has acted out against what his voters and Americans want:

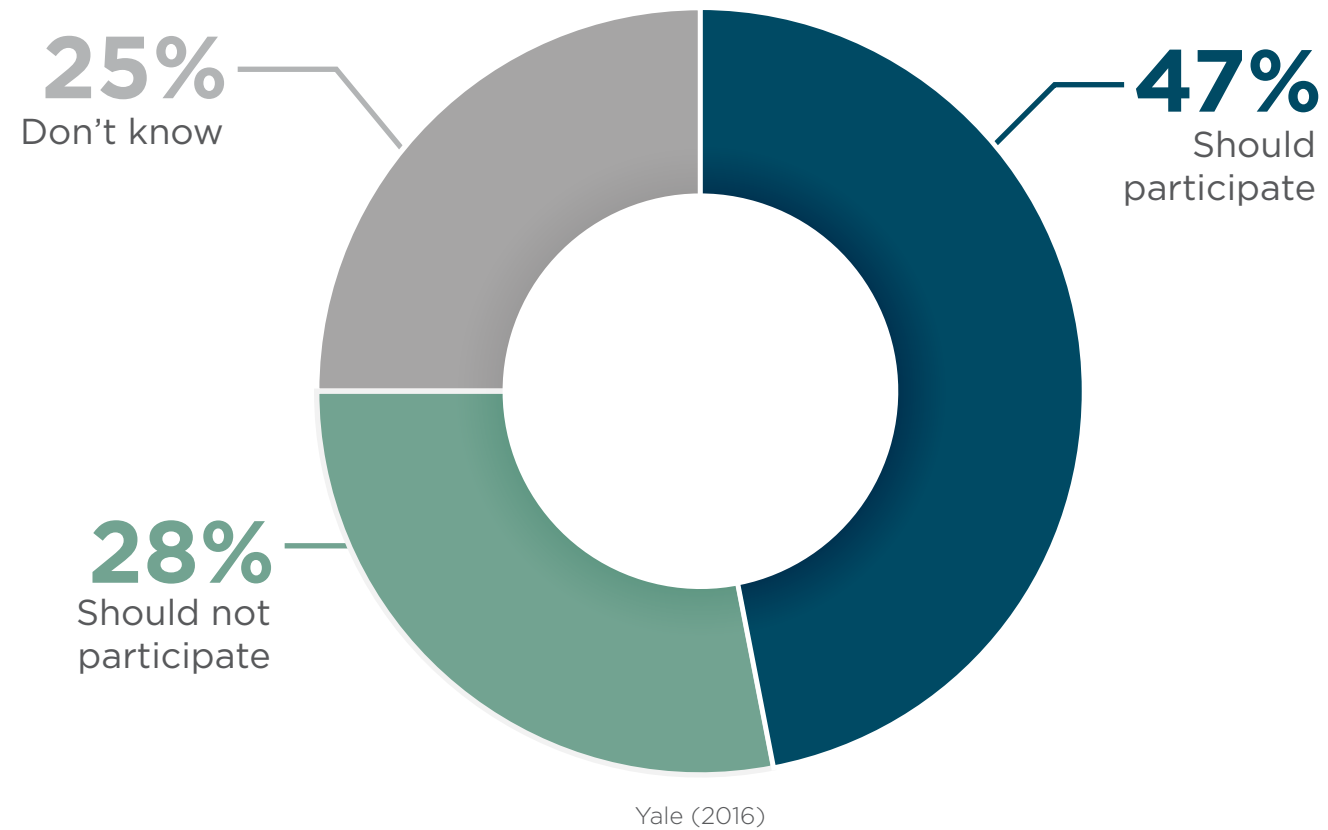
% of Americans that agree vs. disagree with Trump's withdrawal from the Paris Agreement





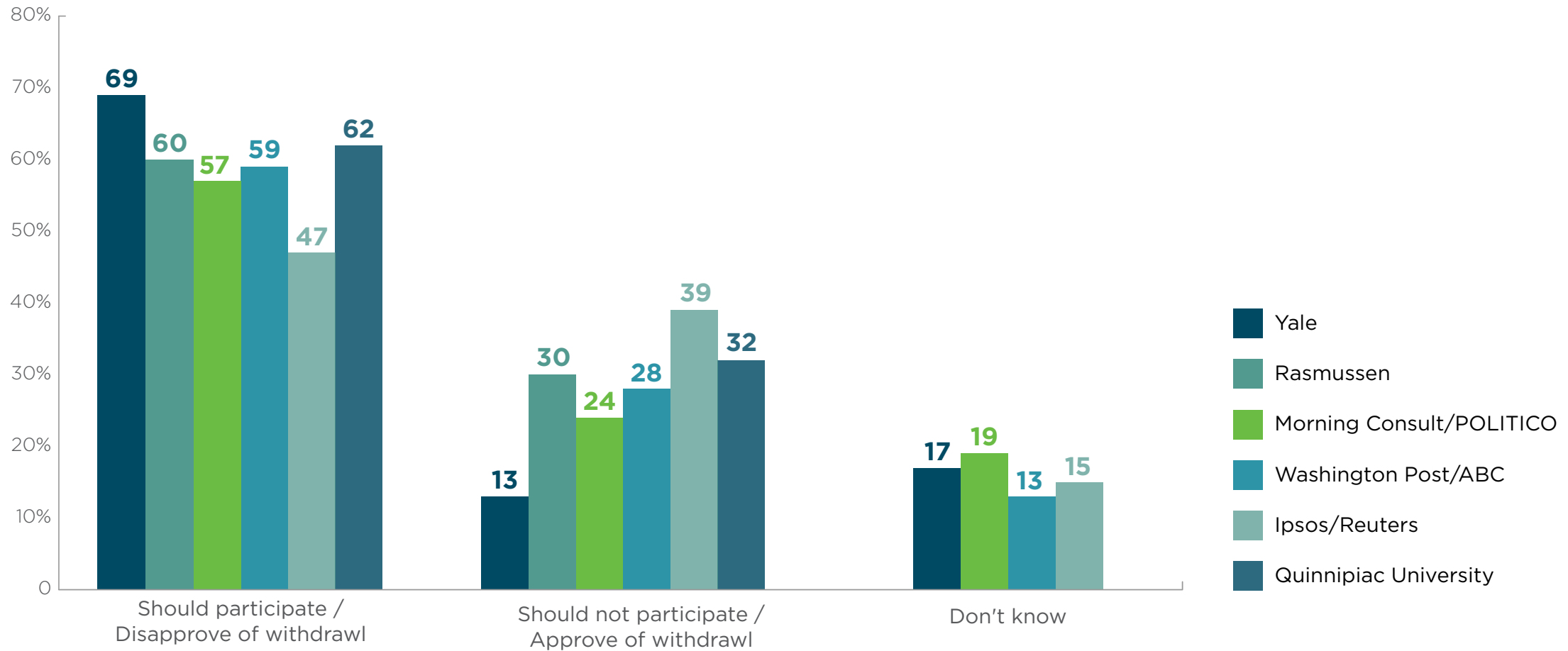
## Nearly half of Trump voters disagree with his withdrawal from the Paris Agreement:

% of Trump voters that support vs. oppose the withdrawal from the Paris agreement





## A majority of Americans say we should remain in the agreement:



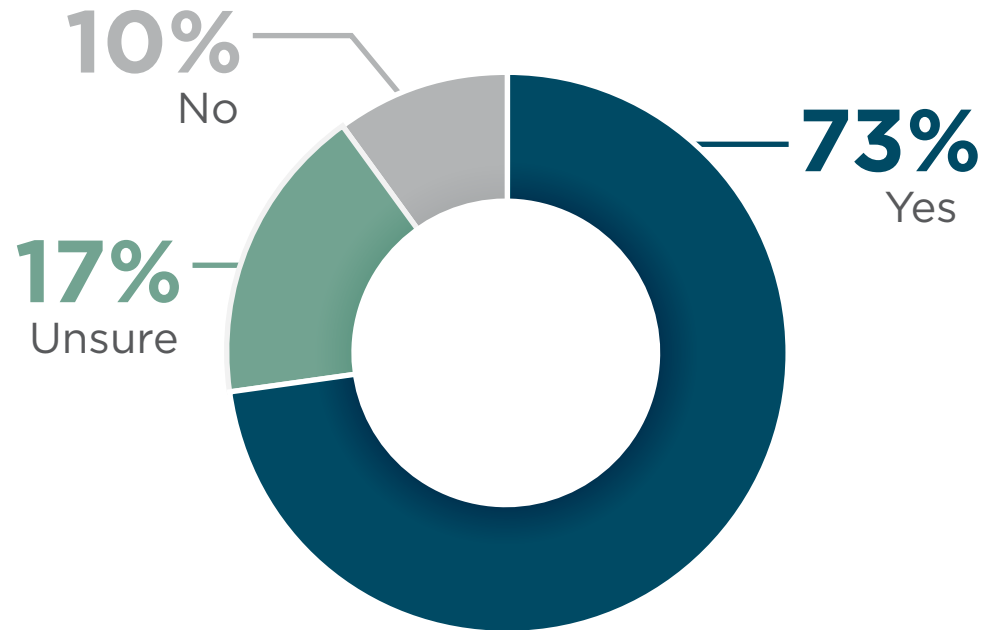
Yale (2016), Rasmussen (2017), Morning Consult/POLITICO (2017), WashingtonPost/ABC (2017) Ipsos/Reuters (2017), Quinnipiac University (2017)

\*Note there is no 2017 data from Rasmussen or Quinnipiac University

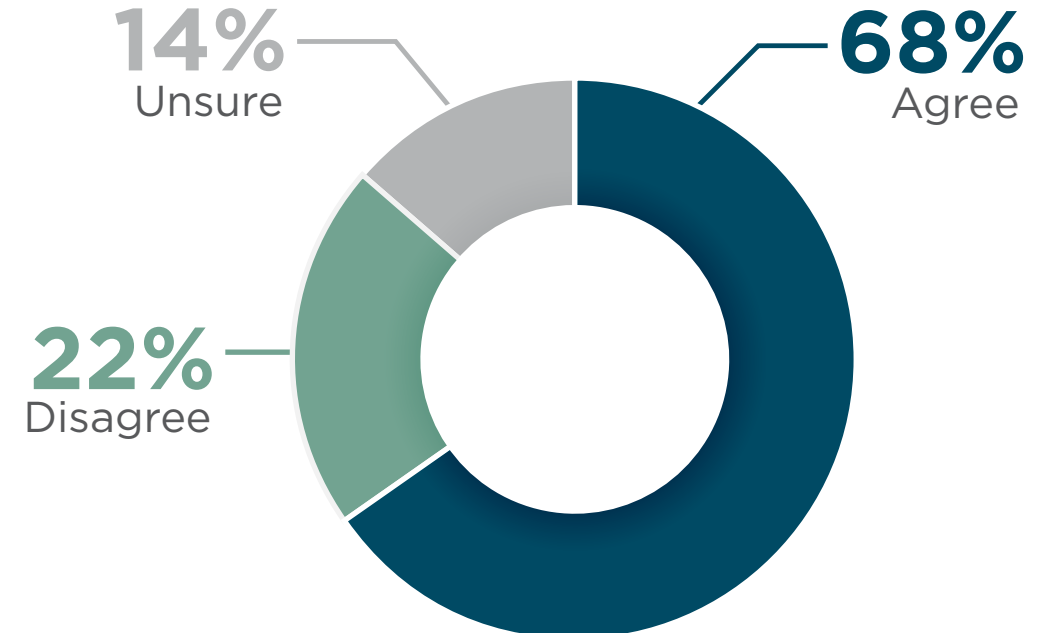


## Following the announcement to pull out of the agreement, Americans still say we should lead on climate action, but are divided on dedicating funds toward the cause:

Do you approve of the United States working with other countries to limit global warming?



Should the United States lead the fight against climate change?



Ipsos/Reuters (2017)



## Americans who agree the U.S. should:

Support the creation of a \$100 billion internationally managed fund to help developing countries adapt to climate change



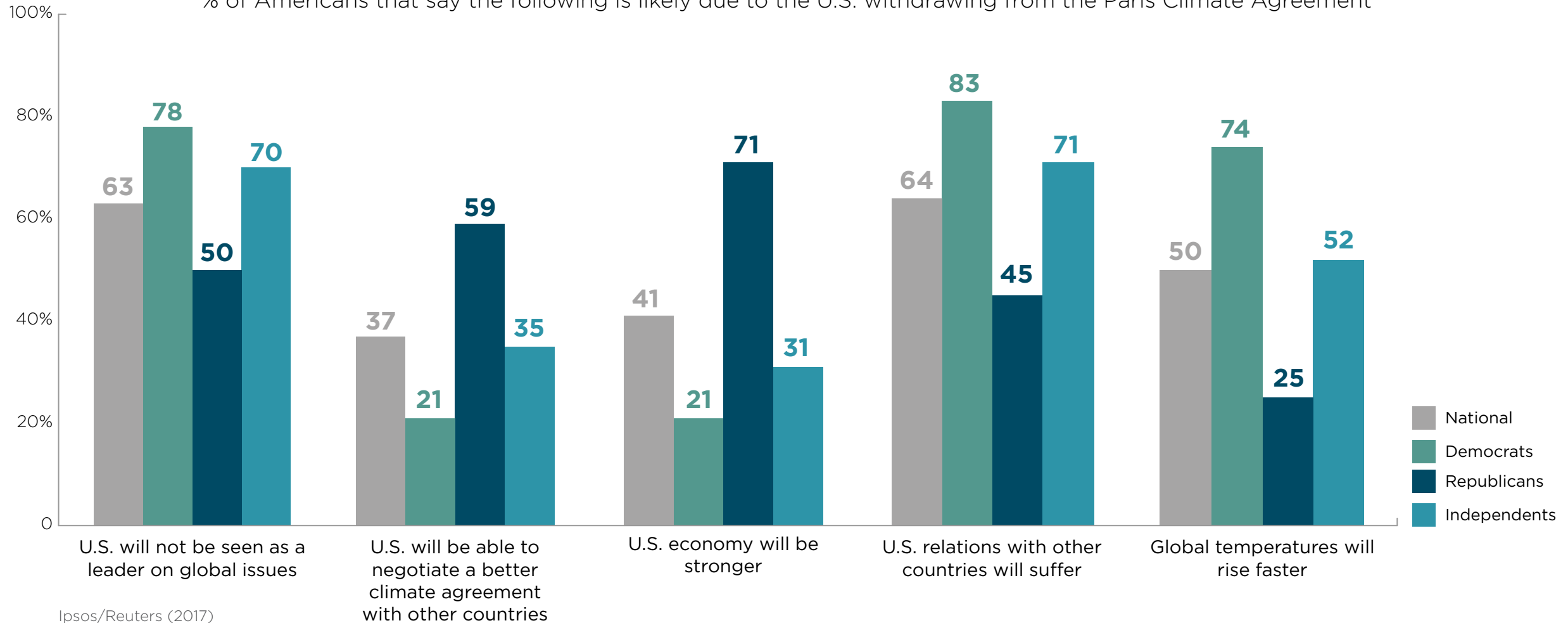
Follow through on a \$3 billion pledge to help developing countries adapt to climate change





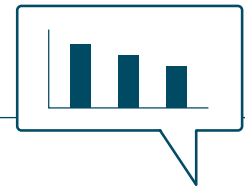
## Americans don't agree on the ramifications of pulling out of the agreement:

% of Americans that say the following is likely due to the U.S. withdrawing from the Paris Climate Agreement



Ipsos/Reuters (2017)



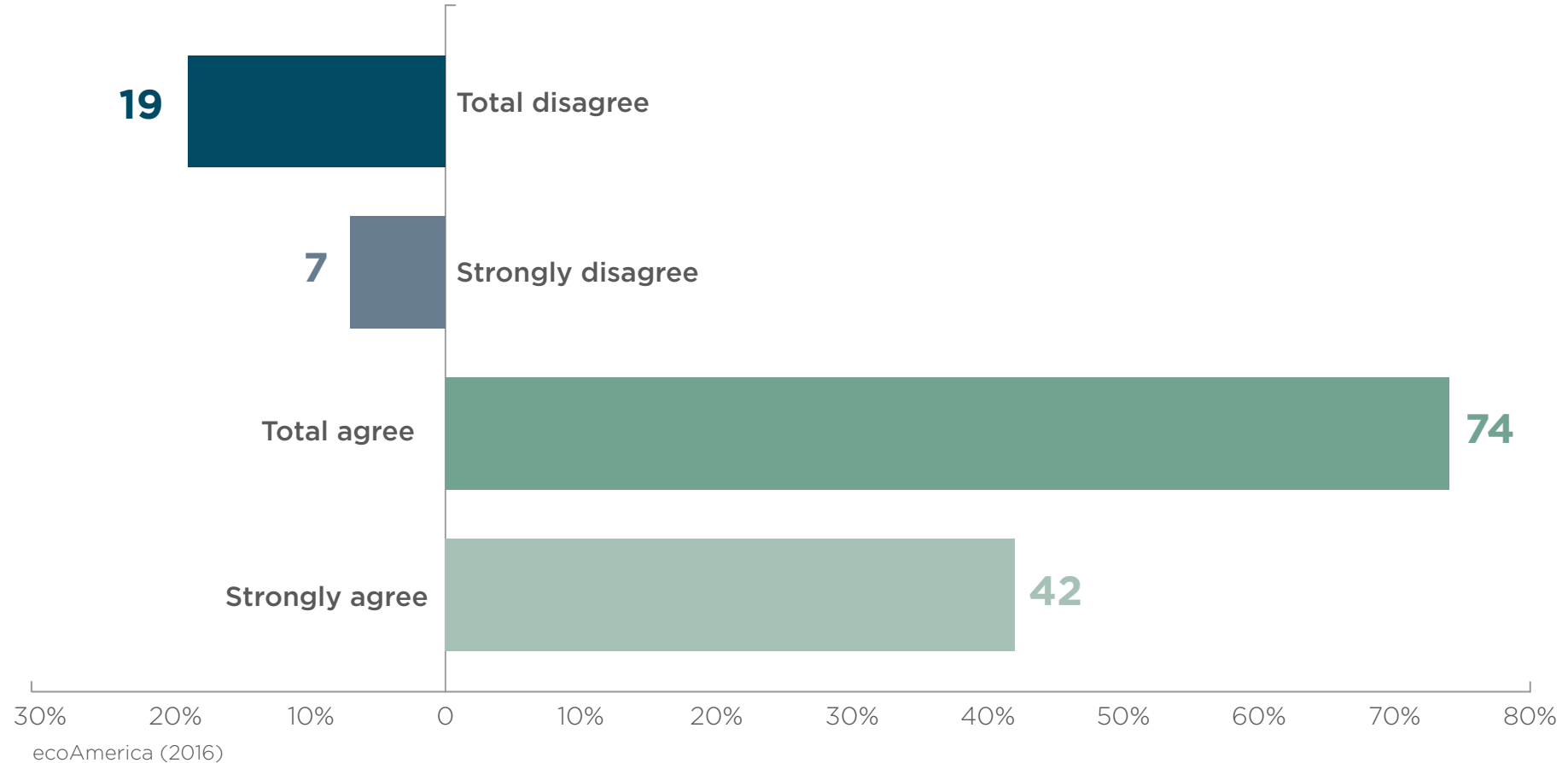


# Bringing It Home: Americans turn to their communities to take up the mantle on climate solutions



## Americans know we can't wait for Washington to act:

% of Americans that say we could address climate change effectively, but our government is broken and can't agree on how to do it

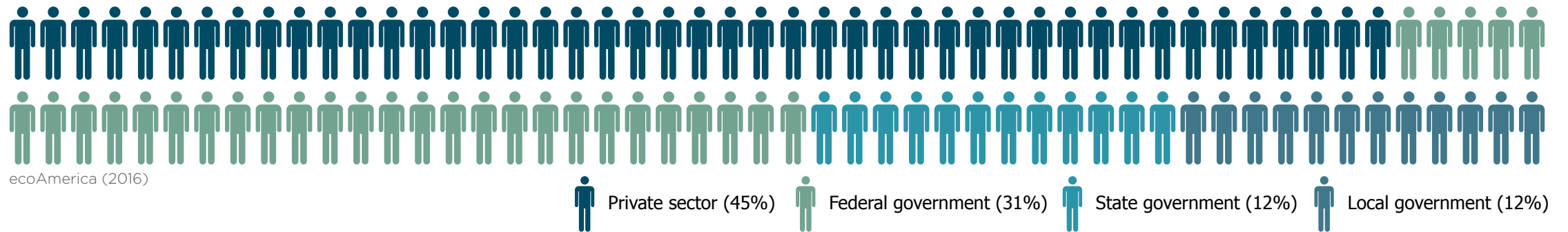




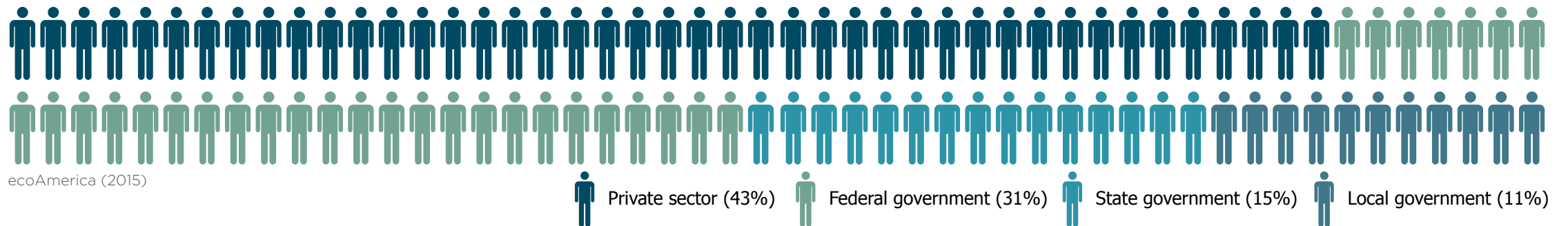
# Who Americans believe will act on climate solutions:

% of Americans that think that the following is most likely to advance climate solutions

2016

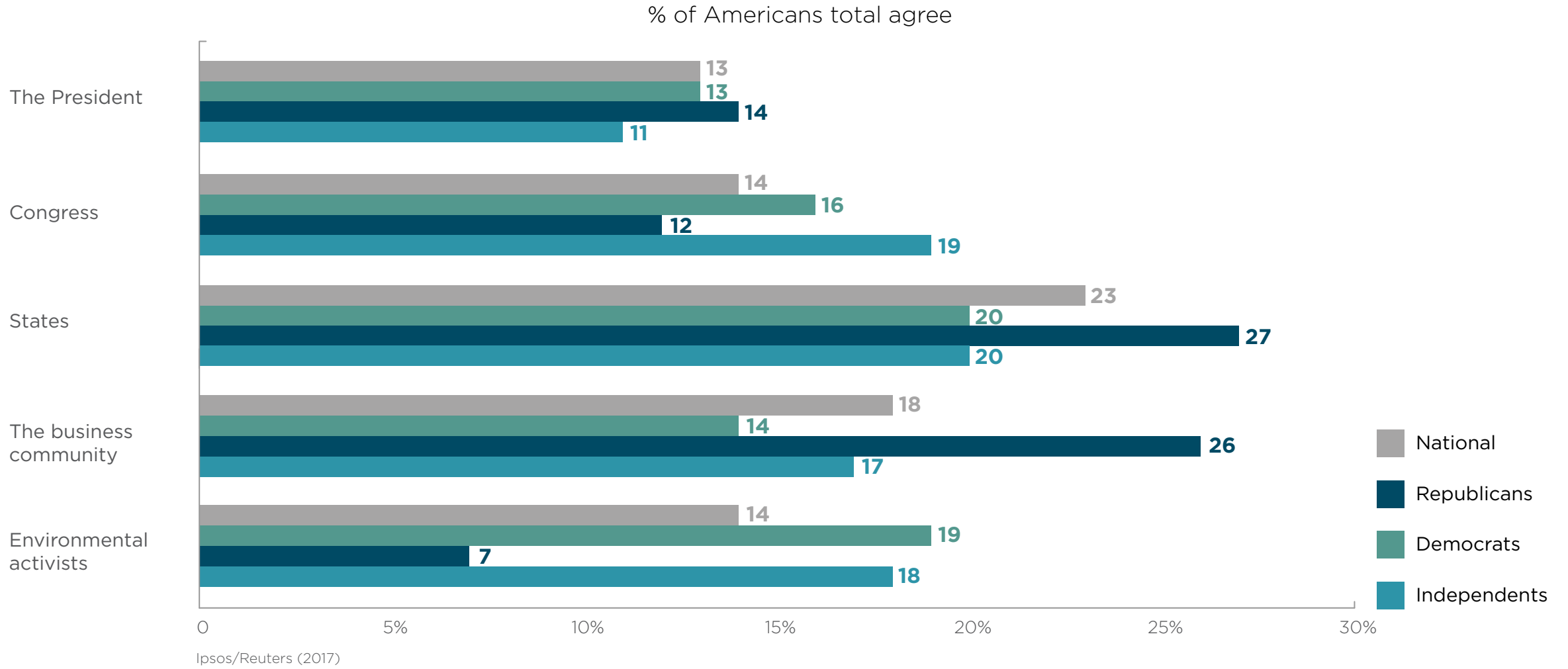


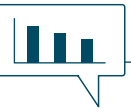
2015





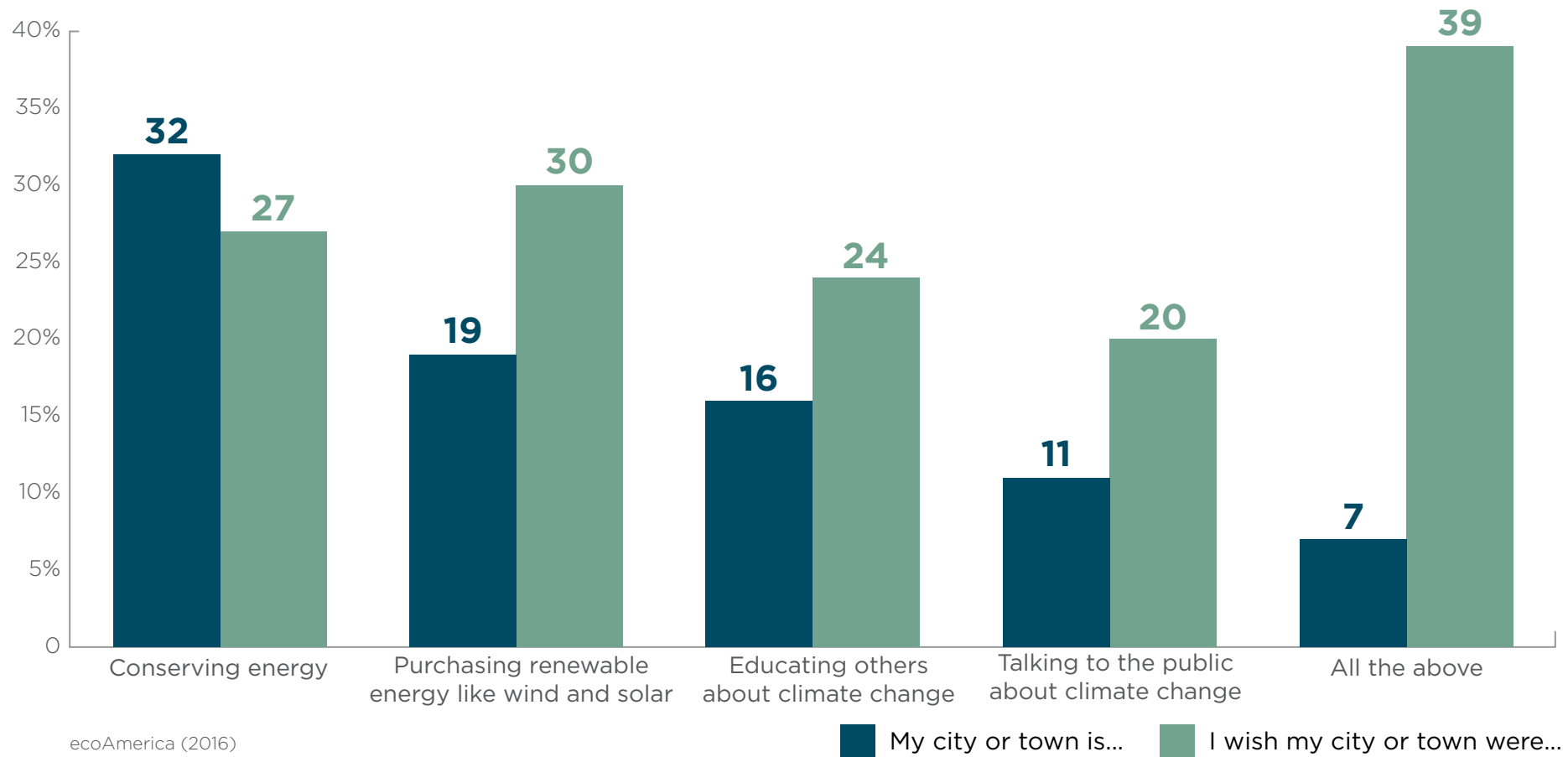
## Who Americans think is best able to protect the environment:

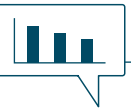




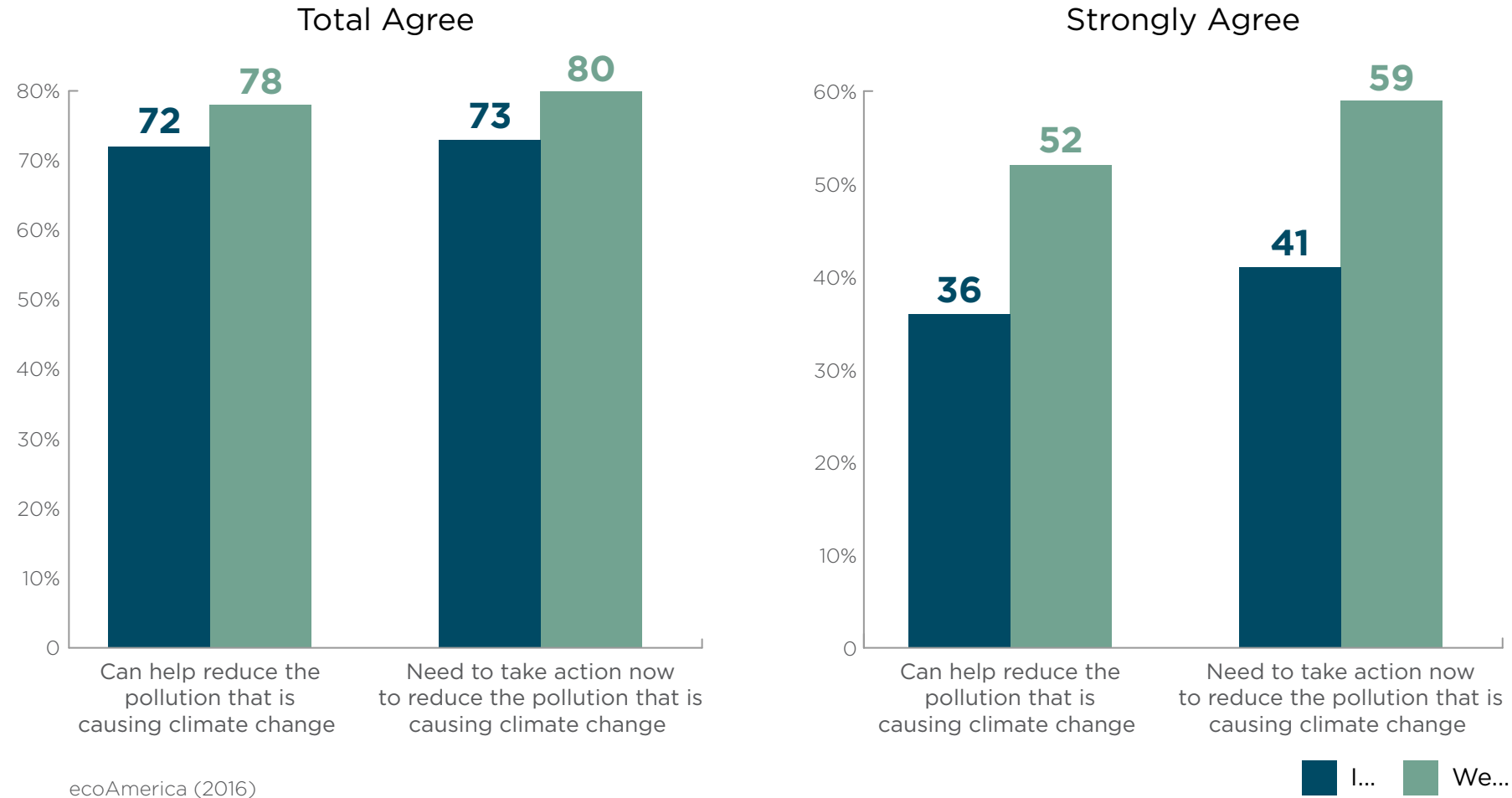
## Americans want to bring solutions home to their communities and take on action:

What Americans say their city or town is doing vs. what they wish they were doing





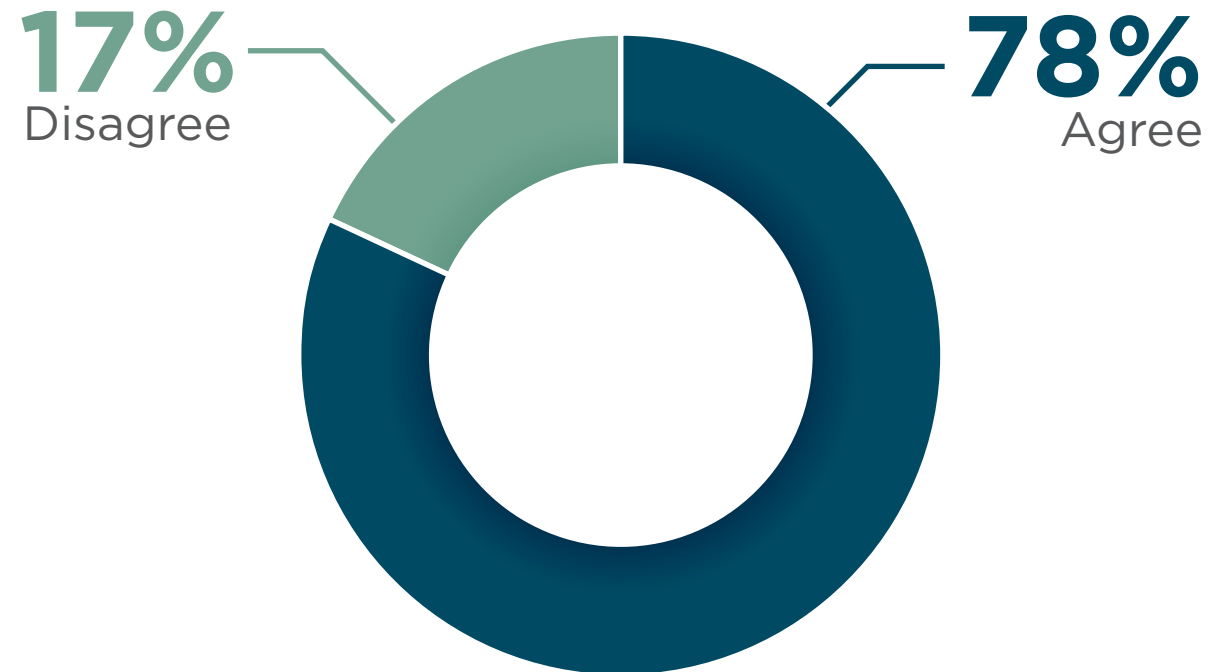
## Americans believe they personally, and we collectively, can and need to take action on climate:



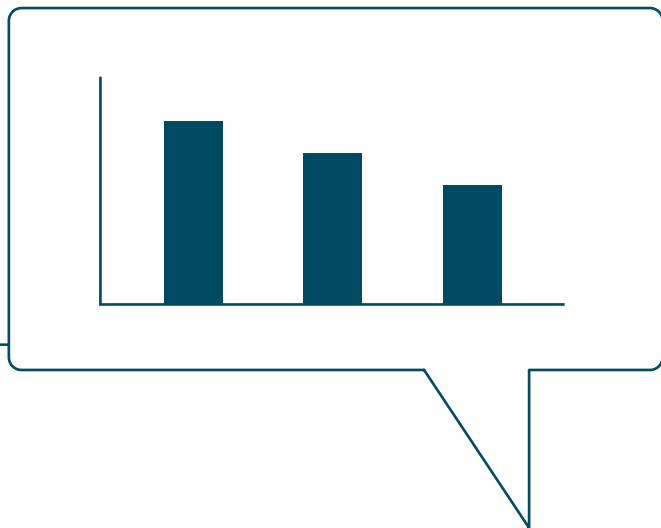


## Americans are very hopeful for the future:

% of Americans that agree vs. disagree that we can reduce the pollution that is causing climate change



ecoAmerica (2016)



# Thank you!

ecoAmerica builds a critical mass of institutional leadership,  
public support and political will for definitive climate solutions in the United States.

Learn more at [ecoAmerica.org](https://ecoAmerica.org)