



# Pennsylvania Fish and Boat Commission 2023 Trout Angler Survey



The Pennsylvania Fish and Boat Commission (PFBC) partnered with Responsive Management in 2023 to conduct a multi-modal (telephone and online) survey of Pennsylvania's trout anglers. The survey yielded a total of 3,383 questionnaires regarding anglers' opinions, satisfactions, dissatisfactions, fishing locations, methods, and other topics pertaining to both wild and stocked trout fishing in 2022. Sixty-one percent (550,000) of licensed anglers purchased a Trout Permit or a Combination Trout/Lake Erie Permit in 2022. Results from this survey will guide management of Pennsylvania's wild trout and stocked trout programs. Some of the survey results are highlighted below, but a full report can be found on the PFBC website.

## **Angler Satisfactions and Motivations**

- The majority of wild and stocked trout anglers (69% for both) were satisfied with their trout fishing in 2022.
- The four most important reasons for fishing in Pennsylvania for trout anglers include to be close to nature, relaxation, for sport, and to be with family and friends.
- Most trout anglers consider improving habitat and water quality to make conditions favorable for wild trout, implementing additional special regulation areas, and acquiring access as very important programs to increase angler satisfaction.
- Seventy-three percent of wild trout anglers and 81% of stocked trout anglers stated that catching one or more trout is important to the overall satisfaction of their fishing trip.
- Forty-eight percent of wild trout anglers and 55% of stocked trout anglers consider catching large, trophy-size trout important.



## **Fishing Locations**

- The top four wild trout fishing counties were Carbon, Centre, Clinton, and Potter. The top four stocked trout fishing counties were Berks, Cumberland, Potter, and Westmoreland.
- Proximity of fishing location to an anglers' home was important to both wild and stocked trout anglers. Wild trout anglers were willing to travel on average approximately 17 miles farther per fishing trip compared to stocked trout anglers.
- Angler use on streams and lakes was approximately equal when comparing the number of stocked trout opportunities being provided in each water type. Seventy-four percent of stocked trout anglers primarily fished in streams which aligns with the PFBC stocking approximately 80% of trout in streams and 20% in lakes.

## **Angling Regulations**

- Wild trout anglers (45%) most commonly had no preference for fishing in waters managed under special regulations compared to general regulations. Stocked trout anglers more often liked to fish general regulations (46%), but 39% also had no preference. A large percentage of both wild trout and stocked trout anglers had no preference; however, special regulations do play an important role in the satisfaction of anglers that fish in waters managed under special regulations.
- The Delayed Harvest Artificial Lures Only (DHALO) and Keystone Select Stocked Trout Waters (KS-STW) special regulation programs continue to be popular. Forty-eight percent of stocked trout anglers that fished in a water managed with special regulations fished in a DHALO section. Twenty-one percent of stocked trout anglers fished one or more of the KS-STW waters within the past three years of the survey being conducted.
- Wild trout anglers prefer fishing catch and release areas and other waters managed with special regulations that provide protection to wild trout populations.
- Most trout anglers (85%) support increasing the minimum size limit of trout to nine inches to better protect wild Brook Trout.
- Both wild and stocked trout anglers practice a combination of catch and release and harvest of trout. Wild trout anglers (66%) and stocked trout anglers (48%) harvested five or fewer trout each year. The 2023 survey provided preliminary data on angler harvest, but additional data will need to be collected to properly identify wild versus hatchery trout and species harvested.



## **Improving Trout Fishing in Pennsylvania**

- The primary constraint to fishing for wild trout anglers was lack of access. The two primary constraints for stocked trout anglers were crowding of stocked trout fisheries and disliking some aspect of the stocking program such as the schedule, stocking locations, and not spreading the fish out. Acquiring additional access and improving PFBC stocking procedures will reduce these limitations and provide for a better angling experience.
- Providing stream access locations and maps would be the most beneficial information to increase angler satisfaction and participation.
- Most anglers interested in gaining more information would prefer it to be on the PFBC website.

The 2023 survey provided data on a variety of PFBC programs. Results will be used as a tool to make water-specific, regional, and statewide management decisions to properly manage Pennsylvania's wild trout resources and optimize the use of stocked trout to improve recreational fisheries.



# Trout Fishing in Pennsylvania



Photo credit: Terry Malloy

**Conducted for the  
Pennsylvania Fish and Boat Commission  
By Responsive Management  
2023**



# **Trout Fishing in Pennsylvania**

**2023**

## **Responsive Management**

Mark Damian Duda, Executive Director  
Martin Jones, Senior Research Associate  
Tom Beppler, Senior Research Associate  
Amanda Center, Research Associate  
Andrea Criscione, Senior Research Associate  
Patrick Doherty, Research Associate  
Gregory L. Hughes, P.E., Research Associate  
Jeremiah Morris, Survey Center Manager  
Alison Lanier, Business Manager

P.O. Box 1828  
Harrisonburg, VA 22801-9500  
540/432-1888  
Email: [mark@responsivemanagement.com](mailto:mark@responsivemanagement.com)  
[www.responsivemanagement.com](http://www.responsivemanagement.com)

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## **EXECUTIVE SUMMARY**

This study was conducted for the Pennsylvania Fish and Boat Commission (PFBC or the Commission) to gather information on Pennsylvania trout anglers' participation in various types of trout fishing and their attitudes toward related regulations, their satisfactions and dissatisfactions with trout fishing experiences in the state, their opinions on the PFBC and its programs, and their trout fishing locations and methods used, among other topics. The study entailed a scientific, probability-based multi-modal survey of resident and non-resident licensed Pennsylvania trout anglers.

## **METHODOLOGY**

The PFBC and Responsive Management designed the questionnaires (a telephone survey and an online survey) cooperatively, based on the research team's familiarity with outdoor recreation and natural resources. The version of the survey developed for telephone was coded for integration with Responsive Management's computer-assisted telephone interviewing system. The online version of the survey was coded in an online platform by Responsive Management. Responsive Management conducted pre-tests of the questionnaires to ensure proper wording, flow, and logic in the survey.

The sample of licensed anglers was provided by the PFBC and was representative of licensed anglers as a whole in the state. Screener questions required that they were at least 18 years old, they had a Pennsylvania fishing license in 2022, and they had fished for brook, brown, or rainbow trout anywhere in Pennsylvania in 2022. These trout anglers were then separated into groups based on whether they primarily fished for wild trout, stocked trout, or both about equally. Resource-specific and general questions were then asked of each group. Anglers who indicated that they fish for wild trout and stocked trout about equally were randomly assigned into one of the groups.

The survey was conducted by telephone and online. The method of contact depended on the information available for the angler in the database. Note that the online survey was closed, meaning it was available only to respondents who were specifically selected for the survey. The survey could not be accessed through a general internet search. The survey was conducted from March to May 2023. Responsive Management obtained 3,383 completed questionnaires.

The analysis of data was performed using IBM SPSS Statistics as well as proprietary software developed by Responsive Management. The results were weighted by age, gender, region, and license type to fully represent Pennsylvania licensed anglers who fished for trout in the previous year in their proper statewide proportions. Some results can be compared—when question wording and sampling are the same—to the results of an angler survey conducted by Responsive Management in the state in 2008.

## **TROUT FISHING METHODS AND TROUT SPECIES FISHED**

Stocked trout fishing far exceeded wild trout fishing: 54% of trout anglers fished for stocked trout primarily, 37% fished for wild and stocked trout about equally, and 8% fished for wild trout primarily.

The survey then asked wild trout anglers which species they fished: 80% fished for wild brook trout, and 76% fished for wild brown trout.

Anglers who preferred wild trout over stocked trout most commonly cited the challenge of catching wild trout, the solitude of wild trout waters, and that wild fish were better quality fish over stocked fish. Anglers who preferred stocked trout fishing most often cited the ease of access to the waters and that stocked trout are easier to catch than wild trout. The body of the report shows the full listing of reasons given in both of these open-ended questions.

The survey also looked at the equipment that anglers use for all three species of trout and among both wild trout anglers and stocked trout anglers. This includes use of flies, lures, and bait; the use of single or treble hooks; and the use of barbed or barbless hooks. These results are fully detailed in the body of the report.

Another method examined is catch-and-release, asked only of wild trout anglers: 64% of wild trout anglers practice catch-and-release all of the time, and 33% do so some of the time. Only 3% never do so.

A question asked only of stocked trout anglers found that stocked trout fishing is at its peak in April and May: the overwhelming majority fish in one (or both) of these months. June is another high-participation month. These results are similar to the results from the 2008 survey, which also had the same peak months (April and May), followed by June.

The final question that was explored in this section shows that 60% of all anglers fish on opening weekend, which is the first weekend in April.

## WILD TROUT LOCATIONS

Top three preferred water bodies in which to fish for wild trout. (Wild trout anglers)			
Water body	Percentage of wild trout anglers listing the water body among top three preferred	Water body	Percentage of wild trout anglers listing the water body among top three preferred
Penns Creek	11	Yellow Creek	3
Spring Creek	11	Bush Kill Creek	2
Little Juniata River	9	Cedar Run	2
Kettle Creek	8	Kishacoquillas Creek	2
Allegheny River	7	Monocacy Creek	2
Clarion River	6	Saucon Creek	2
Fishing Creek	6	Valley Creek	2
Lehigh River	6	Young Womans Creek	2
Delaware River	5	Big Spring Creek	1
Little Lehigh Creek	5	Bowman Creek	1
Slate Run	5	Falling Spring Branch	1
Yellow Breeches Creek	5	Honey Creek	1
Bald Eagle Creek	3	Letort Spring Run	1
Lackawanna River	3	Martins Creek	1
Spruce Creek	3	Pohopoco Creek	1
West Branch Delaware River	3	Other	39
West Branch Susquehanna River	3	Do not know	17

The accompanying table shows the results overall among wild trout anglers, with the most popular water bodies at the top. Penns Creek and Spring Creek each attracts more than 10% of wild trout anglers. The body of the report contains the regional results. Note that the regional breakdown is by where the angler lives, not where the angler fishes.

The survey also recorded the county in which the angler's preferred water body is located (or the county in which the angler prefers to fish that particular water body, for those water bodies spanning more than one county). They are ranked from most popular to least popular, with Centre and Potter being the most popular.

Counties in which water bodies are located. (Wild trout anglers)			
County	Percentage of wild trout anglers whose preferred water body is in the county	County	Percentage of wild trout anglers whose preferred water body is in the county
Centre	17	Allegheny	1
Potter	10	Clearfield	1
Clinton	8	Butler	1
Carbon	8	Lawrence	1
Wayne	7	Montgomery	1
Cumberland	7	Dauphin	1
Elk	7	Cameron	1
Lycoming	7	Crawford	1
Huntingdon	7	Snyder	1
Lehigh	5	Lancaster	1
Monroe	4	Mercer	1
Bedford	4	York	1
Warren	3	Franklin	1
Erie	3	Northumberland	1
Union	3	Sullivan	1
Somerset	3	Columbia	1
Mifflin	3	Bradford	1
Lackawanna	3	Pike	1
Fayette	3	Clarion	1
Northampton	2	Indiana	Less than 0.5
Westmoreland	2	Greene	Less than 0.5
Venango	2	Fulton	Less than 0.5
Chester	2	Delaware	Less than 0.5
Berks	2	Lebanon	Less than 0.5
Forest	2	Susquehanna	Less than 0.5
Wyoming	2	Washington	Less than 0.5
Blair	2	Bucks	Less than 0.5
McKean	2	Adams	Less than 0.5
Perry	2	Armstrong	Less than 0.5
Cambria	2	Beaver	Less than 0.5
Tioga	2	Jefferson	Less than 0.5
Schuylkill	2	Montour	Less than 0.5
Luzerne	2	Philadelphia	0
Juniata	1	Not sure of county	11

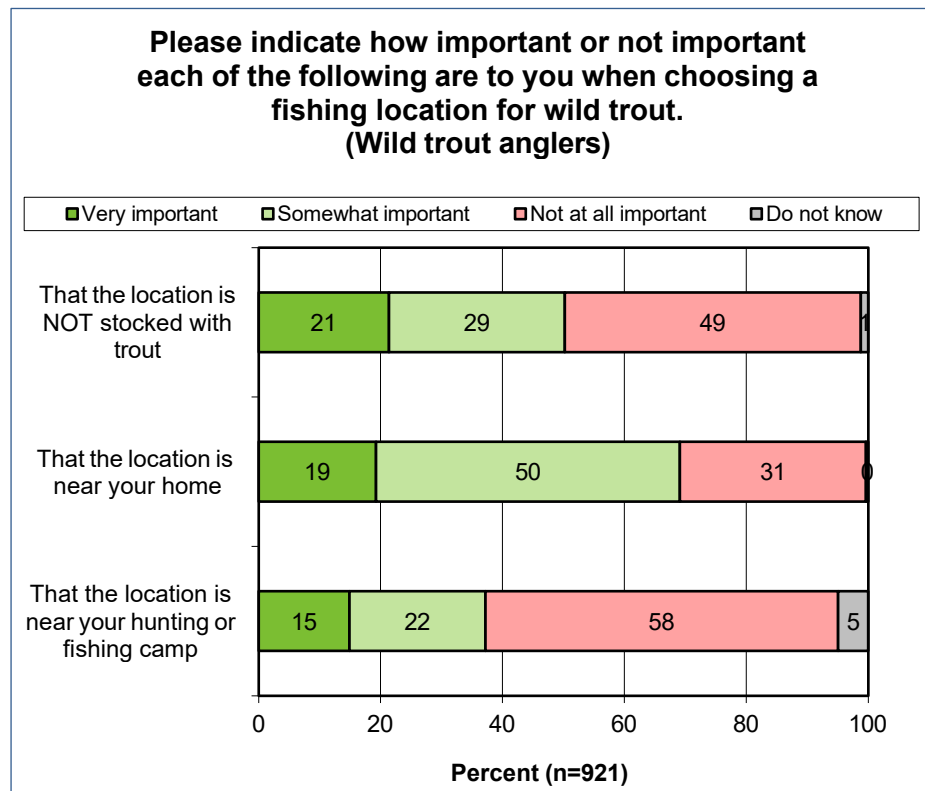


The overwhelming majority of wild trout anglers fished multiple waters for wild trout in Pennsylvania in 2022. The mean number is 5.1 water bodies, and the median is 4 water bodies.

Most wild trout fishing occurs on public land: 70% fished for wild trout mostly on public land, while only 3% did so mostly on private land. Meanwhile, 25% did so on both about equally. Looking at sums, 95% did so mostly or about equally on public land, while 28% did so mostly or about equally on private land.

The survey asked anglers to indicate their travel distance on a typical wild trout fishing trip and their maximum travel distance for wild trout fishing. Overall, for the typical travel distance, the mean among residents is 47.0, and the median among residents is 25 miles (one-way). Regarding the maximum travel distance among residents, the mean is 84.8 miles and the median is 50 miles. Among non-residents, their mean of typical travel distance is 111.5 miles, and their median is 70 miles. Non-residents' farthest distance is as follows: a mean of 165.0 miles, and a median of 140 miles.

Anglers rated the importance of three factors when choosing a location to fish wild trout. They are ranked by *very* important responses, showing that the top factor in *very* important responses is that the location is not stocked. However, in looking at the sum of *very* and *somewhat* important, that the location is close to home is the top factor, being important to 69% of all wild trout anglers.



About three quarters of wild trout anglers (74%) say that a listing of all wild trout waters that places each water into a category such as high, medium, and low biomass of trout in helping them determine where to go wild trout fishing would be *very* or *somewhat* important.

The survey looked at reasons non-residents come into the state to fish for wild trout. The leading answer by far is that they have a prior connection to Pennsylvania, such as an established fishing/hunting camp in the state or family who live in the state.

## STOCKED TROUT LOCATIONS

The top locations for stocked trout fishing are shown in the table. The body of the report contains a table that shows regional results; note that the regional breakdown is by where the angler lives, not where the angler fishes.

Top three preferred water bodies in which to fish for stocked trout. (Stocked trout anglers)					
Waterbody	% fished	Waterbody	% fished	Waterbody	% fished
Yellow Breeches Creek	5	Little Pine Creek	1	Big Cove Creek	1
Pine Creek (Lycoming or Tioga County)	5	Manatawny Creek	1	Little Bush Kill	1
Kettle Creek	3	Canonsburg Lake	1	Trout Creek	1
Neshannock Creek	3	Little Beaver Creek	1	Big Spring Creek	1
Tulpehocken Creek	2	Skippack Creek	1	Fishing Creek (other county or not sure of county)	1
Lehigh River	2	Brodhead Creek	1	Hammer Creek	1
Laurel Hill Creek	2	Keystone Lake	1	Canoe Creek	1
Oil Creek	2	Wissahickon Creek	1	Locust Lake	1
Youghiogheny River	2	Pennypack Creek	1	Medix Run	1
Tionesta Creek	2	Lycoming Creek	1	Schuylkill River	1
Elk Creek	2	White Clay Creek	1	Octoraro Creek	1
Slippery Rock Creek	2	Bull Creek	1	Delaware Canal	1
Pine Creek (other county or not sure of county)	2	Salmon Creek	1	Yellow Creek (Indiana County)	1
Allegheny River	2	Spring Creek	1	Lackawanna Lake	1
French Creek	2	Monocacy Creek	1	Tobyhanna Creek	1
Loyalhanna Creek	2	Bradys Run Lake	1	Pine Creek (Schuylkill County)	1
Pine Creek (Allegheny County)	2	Clarion River	1	West Branch Susquehanna River	1
Bald Eagle Creek	2	Hicks Run	1	Deep Creek	1
Penns Creek	2	Lackawanna River	1	North Park Lake	1
Jordan Creek	2	White Deer Creek	1	Virgin Run Lake	1
Conococheague Creek	2	Sugar Creek	1	Tohickon Creek	1
Kinzua Creek	2	Stony Creek (Dauphin County)	1	Glade Run Lake	1
Bush Kill	2	Antietam Creek	1	Beaver Creek	1
Little Lehigh Creek	2	Yellow Creek (Bedford County)	1	Saucon Creek	1
First Fork Sinnemahoning Creek	2	Chester Creek	1	Shohola Creek	1
Clark Creek	2	Little Sandy Creek	1	Raccoon Creek	1
Brandywine Creek	1	Harveys Creek	1	Twenty Mile Creek	1
Loyalsock Creek	1	Mountain Creek	1	Driftwood Branch Sinnemahoning Creek	1
Mill Creek	1	Little Juniata River	1	Promised Land Lake	1
Perkiomen Creek	1	Brokenstraw Creek	1	Six Mile Run	1
Ridley Creek	1	Fishing Creek (Columbia County)	1	Pohopoco Creek	1
Muddy Creek	1	Sherman Creek	1	Bens Creek	1
Twin Lakes	1	Raystown Branch	1	Pickering Creek	1
Deer Creek	1	Lackawaxen River	1	East Branch Clarion River	1
Four Mile Run	1	Cowans Gap Lake	1	Lake Pleasant	1
Raccoon State Park (Lake)	1	Buffalo Creek (Butler County)	1	Cool Spring Creek	1
Chest Creek	1	Unami Creek	1	Middle Creek (Snyder County)	1
Buffalo Creek (Armstrong County)	1	Dyberry Creek	1	Moon Lake	1
Swatara Creek	1	Mahantango Creek	1	Lizard Creek	1
Bobs Creek	1	Black Moshannon Creek	1	Little Mahoney Creek	1

Top three preferred water bodies in which to fish for stocked trout. (Stocked trout anglers)					
Waterbody	% fished	Waterbody	% fished	Waterbody	% fished
Darby Creek	1	Marvin Creek	*	Curry Run	*
Kishacoquillas Creek	1	Ontelaunee Creek	*	Whipple Lake	*
Stony Creek (Montgomery County)	1	Sandy Lick Creek	*	Little Bald Eagle Creek	*
Upper Woods Pond	*	Martins Creek	*	Northkill Creek	*
Aquashicola Creek	*	George B Stevenson Reservoir	*	Shenango Lake	*
Little Buffalo Creek	*	Woodcock Creek	*	Mehoopany Creek	*
Dunlap Lake	*	Big Swickley Creek	*	Shade Creek	*
Nescopeck Creek	*	West Branch Clarion River	*	East Licking Creek	*
Fishing Creek (Clinton County)	*	Redbank Creek	*	Little Loyalsock Creek	*
Harveys Lake	*	Hokendauqua Creek	*	Bells Gap Run	*
Marquette Lake	*	Little Pine Lake	*	Buffalo Creek (Perry County)	*
Middle Creek (Lancaster County)	*	Parker Lake	*	Hereford Manor Lake	*
Lilly Lake	*	Otter Creek	*	Yellow Creek (other county or not sure of county)	*
Towanda Creek	*	Sunfish Pond	*	Fairview Lake	*
Bowman Creek	*	Pithole Creek	*	Briar Creek	*
South Branch Tunkhannock Creek	*	Millstone Creek	*	Maple Creek	*
Dunbar Creek	*	Shenango River	*	Beaverdale Lake	*
Honey Creek	*	Wykoff Run	*	Ridgway Reservoir	*
Wills Creek	*	Blacklog Creek	*	Little Tonoloway Creek	*
Cove Creek	*	Lake Luxembourg	*	Spring Creek (other county or not sure of county)	*
Crooked Creek	*	Stony Creek (other county or not sure of county)	*	Genesee River	*
Levittown Lake	*	Maiden Creek	*	Kahle Lake	*
Connoquenessing Creek	*	Beltzville Lake	*	Big Poe Creek	*
Muncy Creek	*	Poe Lake	*	Hemlock Run	*
Spring Creek (Elk County)	*	Wolf Creek	*	North Branch Little Conemaugh River	*
Middle Creek (other county or not sure of county)	*	Little Toby Creek	*	Buffalo Creek (other county or not sure of county)	*
Little Fishing Creek	*	North Fork Red Bank Creek	*	Buffalo Creek (Union County)	*
Tuscarora Creek	*	Young Womans Creek	*	Pleasant Stream	*
Blue Jay Creek	*	Kettle Creek Lake	*	Wysox Creek	*
Clover Creek	*	Halfway Lake	*	Bull Run	*
Spring Creek (Forest County)	*	Chapman Dam	*	Pocono Creek	*
Manada Creek	*	Mix Run	*	Other	30
Thorn Creek	*	Big Sandy Creek	*	Do not know	8
Clear Shade Creek	*	Waynesboro Reservoir	*		
Potato Creek	*	Canoe Creek Lake	*		

\* Less than 0.5%

As was done for wild trout waters, the county in which the stocked trout angler's preferred water body is located (or the county in which the angler prefers to fish that particular water body, for those water bodies spanning more than one county) was obtained in the survey, which is shown below. The table shows them ranked from most popular to least popular in the table of the overall results (Westmoreland, Cumberland, Potter, and Berks being the most popular).

Counties in which water bodies are located. (Stocked trout anglers)			
County	Percentage of stocked trout anglers whose preferred water body is in the county	County	Percentage of stocked trout anglers whose preferred water body is in the county
Westmoreland	5	Warren	2
Cumberland	5	Cambria	2
Potter	5	Lebanon	2
Berks	5	Carbon	2
Allegheny	4	Lackawanna	2
Lycoming	4	Clinton	2
Lehigh	4	Huntingdon	2
Somerset	4	Delaware	2
Chester	4	Jefferson	2
Centre	3	Washington	2
Elk	3	Perry	2
Lawrence	3	Union	2
Forest	3	Wayne	2
Erie	3	Cameron	2
Montgomery	3	Mercer	2
Tioga	3	Indiana	1
Dauphin	3	Crawford	1
Fayette	3	Fulton	1
Lancaster	3	Philadelphia	1
Schuylkill	3	Blair	1
Butler	3	Columbia	1
Northampton	3	Sullivan	1
Bucks	2	Adams	1
Franklin	2	Wyoming	1
McKean	2	Mifflin	1
Venango	2	Clarion	1
Luzerne	2	Northumberland	1
York	2	Juniata	1
Bedford	2	Susquehanna	1
Pike	2	Snyder	1
Beaver	2	Bradford	*
Armstrong	2	Greene	*
Monroe	2	Montour	*
Clearfield	2	Not sure of county	10

\* Less than 0.5%

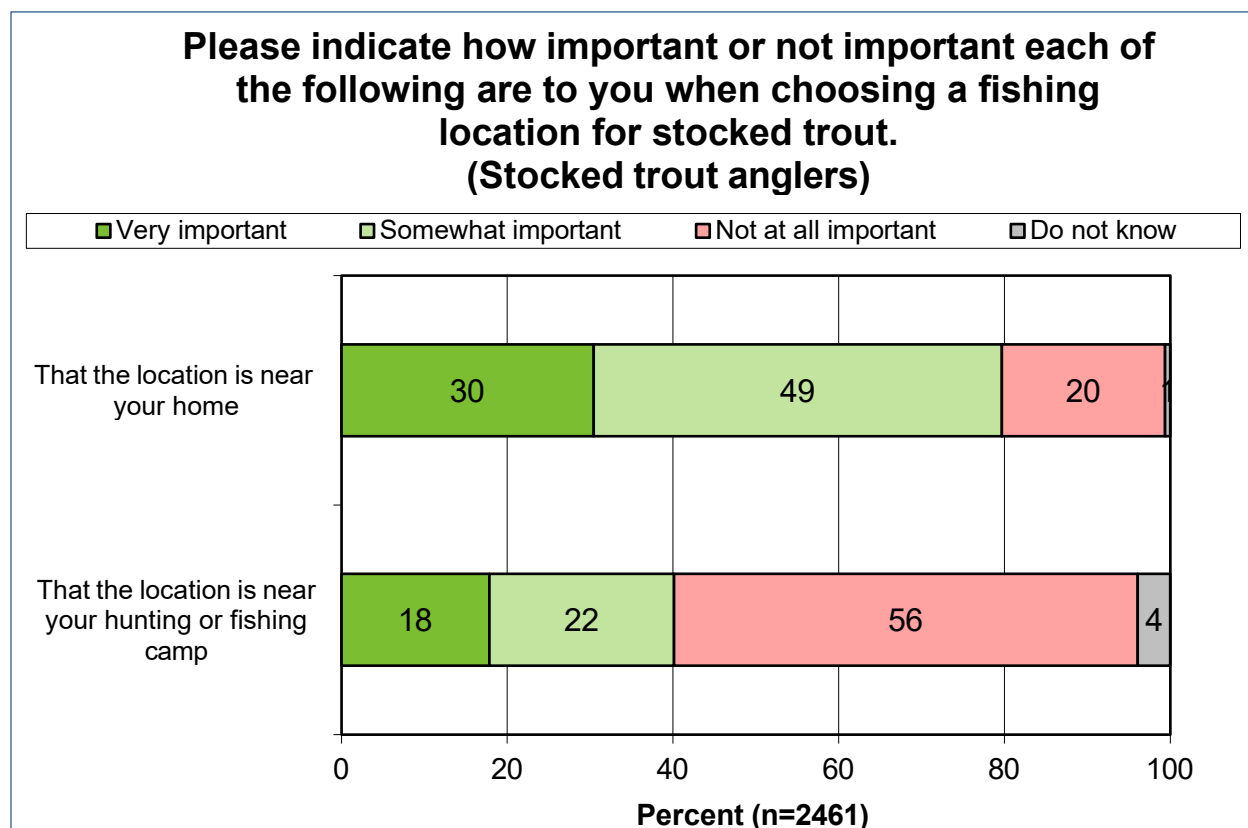
The large majority of stocked trout anglers fished multiple waters in the past year in Pennsylvania. The mean is 4.1 water bodies, and the median is 3 water bodies.

In results similar to those regarding wild trout fishing, most stocked trout fishing occurs on public land: 69% fished for stocked trout mostly on public land, while only 8% did so mostly on private land. Meanwhile, 22% did so on both about equally. Looking at sums, 91% did so mostly or about equally on public land, while 30% did so mostly or about equally on private land.

Stocked trout fishing is much more common in streams than in lakes: 74% primarily fish streams, and 10% primarily fish lakes (16% fish each about equally). In looking at sums, 89% fish streams, and 26% fish lakes.

The survey also obtained information on typical and maximum travel distances for stocked trout fishing. The mean typical travel distance among in-state residents is 29.8 miles, and the median is 15 miles. For the maximum travel distance among residents, the mean is 70.3 miles and the median is 50 miles. Non-residents typically travel a mean distance of 84.1 miles and a median of 40 miles to fish in Pennsylvania for stocked trout. Regarding their farthest distance to fish for stocked trout, non-residents' mean is 118.8 miles, and their median is 90 miles.

Locational decisions for stocked trout fishing depend more on the proximity to home than on the proximity to the anglers' hunting or fishing camp.

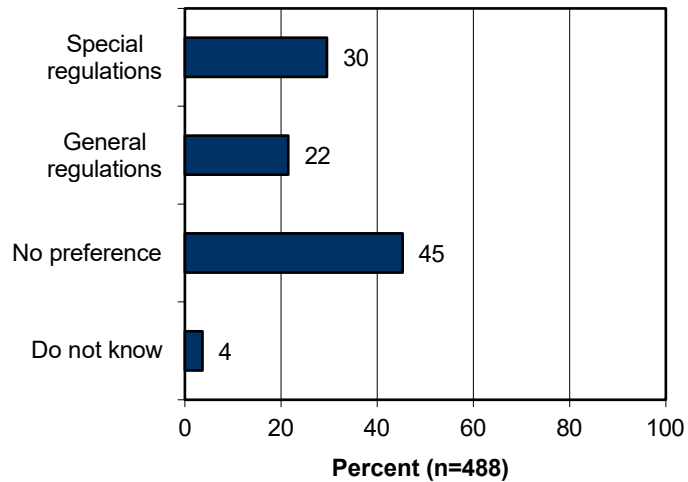


Non-residents coming into Pennsylvania to fish for stocked trout most commonly have a prior connection to Pennsylvania, such as an established fishing/hunting camp in the state or family who live in the state.

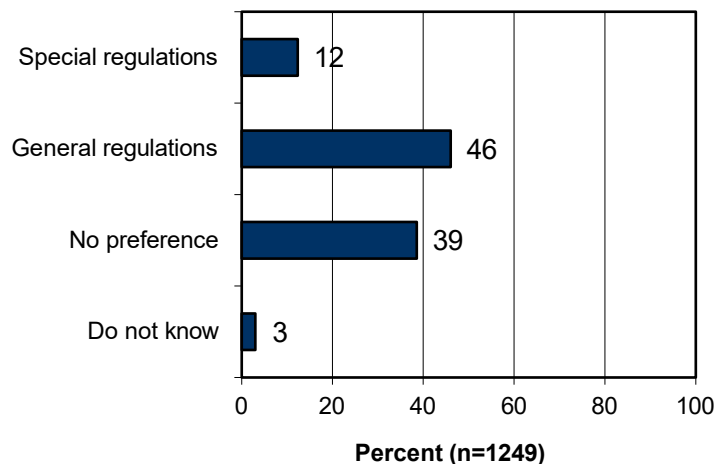
**SPECIAL REGULATION WATERS**

The survey also examined special regulation waters versus general regulations waters. Wild trout anglers more often like to fish special regulation waters than general regulation waters, although the most common response is that they have no preference.

**When fishing for wild trout, do you prefer fishing in waters managed under special regulations or waters managed under general regulations? (Wild trout anglers)**



**When fishing for stocked trout, do you prefer fishing in waters managed under special regulations or waters managed under general regulations? (Stocked trout anglers)**



Stocked trout anglers more often like to fish general regulation waters than special regulation waters.



Among wild trout anglers, the top reasons for preferring areas managed under general regulations rather than special regulations are because special regulations are too restrictive or that general regulations are easier to understand than are special regulations. The body of the report shows the full list of reasons given in this open-ended question.

The top reasons for preferring areas managed under special regulations, among wild trout anglers, are to fish catch-and-release areas and that the regulations protect fish populations.

Among stocked trout anglers, the top reasons for preferring special regulation areas are to fish catch-and-release and because those areas are less crowded. Other popular reasons are that those regulations protect fish populations and that there are more fish in those areas.

Stocked trout anglers most commonly prefer fishing in areas managed under general regulations because they can select whether to use bait or lures and so forth, because the regulations are easier to understand, that they have more access to such areas, and that they feel that special regulations are too restrictive.

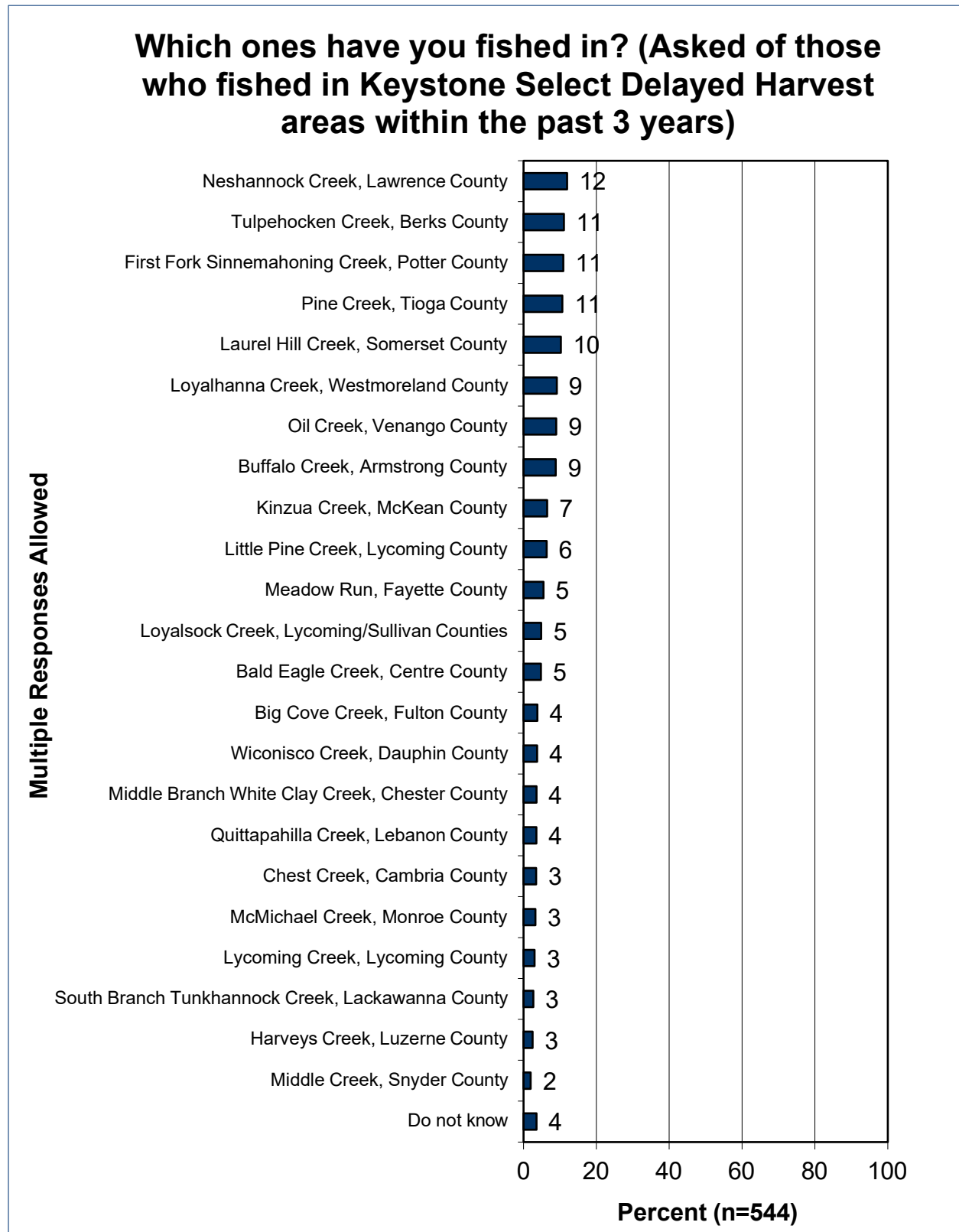
Anglers estimated the percentage of their time that they fished waters managed with special regulations when wild trout fishing. The mean was a third of their time (33.6 percent of their time), while the median was about a quarter of their time (25 percent of their time). Regarding stocked trout fishing, the mean is 16.7 percent of their time, and the median is only 2 percent of their time.

A majority of wild trout anglers who spend at least some of their time fishing in waters managed with special regulations (62%) consider it important to fish in a special regulation area for their overall fishing experience.

About half of stocked trout anglers who spend at least some of their time fishing in waters managed with special regulations (51%) consider it important to fish in a special regulation area for their overall fishing experience.

Among stocked trout anglers who fish in waters managed with special regulations, about half of them (48%) fish in Delayed Harvest Artificial Lures Only areas.

About a fifth of stocked trout anglers (21%) have fished one (or more) of the Keystone Select Delayed Harvest Waters within the past 3 years. The graph shows the results regarding which waters they fished.

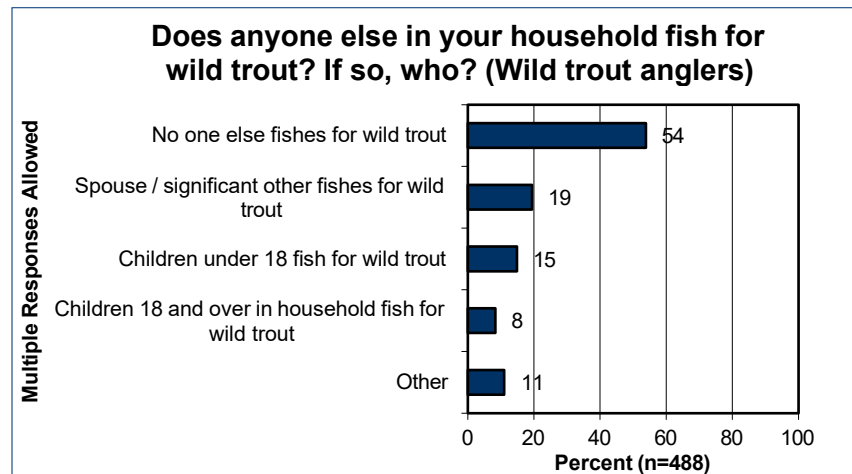


## DAYS OF FISHING ACTIVITY AND YEARS FISHING

Among wild trout anglers, the mean days of fishing is 27.7 days, and the median is 15 days. Wild trout anglers tend to fish more than stocked trout anglers. Among stocked anglers, the mean is 20.6 days, and the median is 12 days.

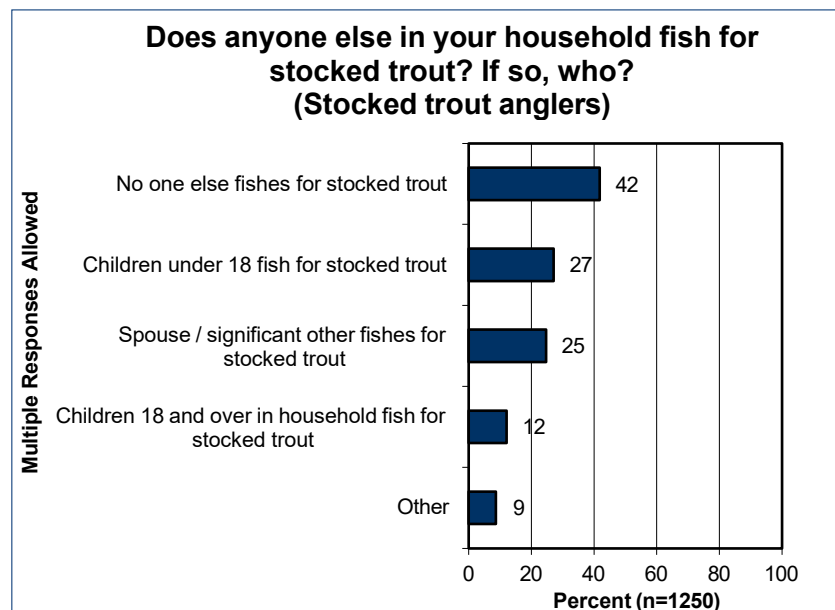
Among wild trout anglers, the mean amount of experience is 23.5 years, and the median is 20 years. Among stocked trout anglers, the mean and median are somewhat higher: 29.4 years and 30 years, respectively.

## FISHING COMPANIONS

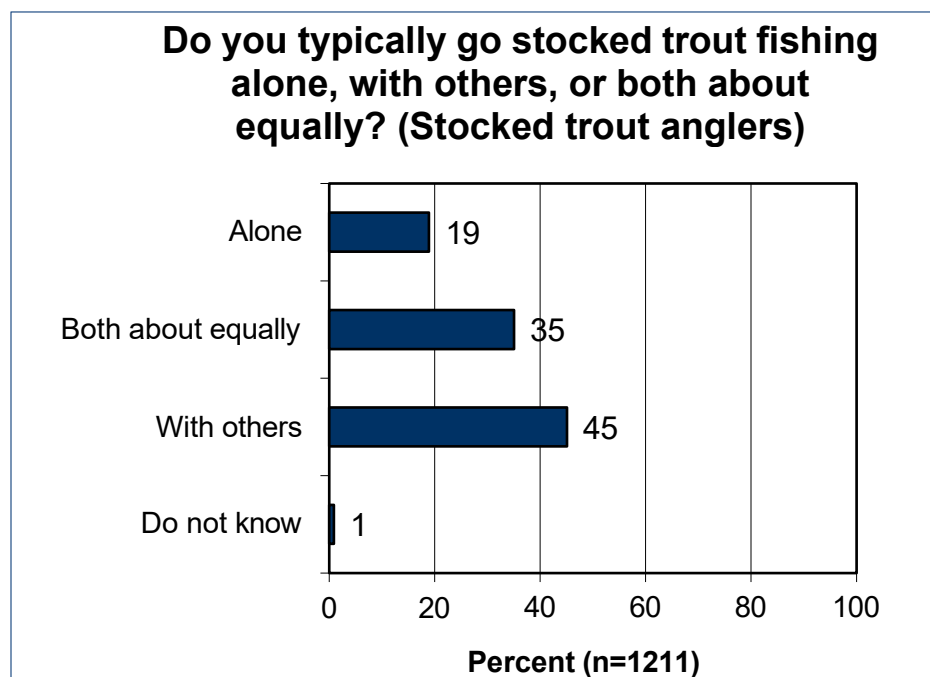
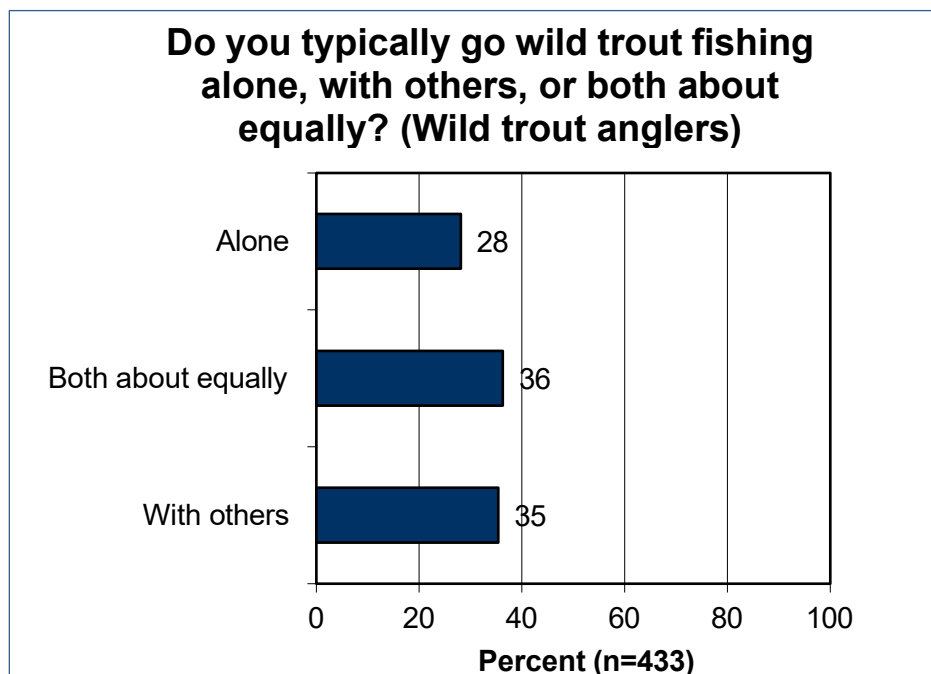


Most wild trout anglers are the sole people in their family fishing for wild trout: 54% indicate that nobody else in their family fishes for wild trout. Otherwise, 19% of their spouses and 15% of their minor children fish for wild trout.

Regarding stocked trout fishing, slightly more family members fish for them: only 42% of stocked trout anglers indicate that nobody else in their family fishes. Otherwise, minor children are the most common participants (27%), followed by spouses (25%).

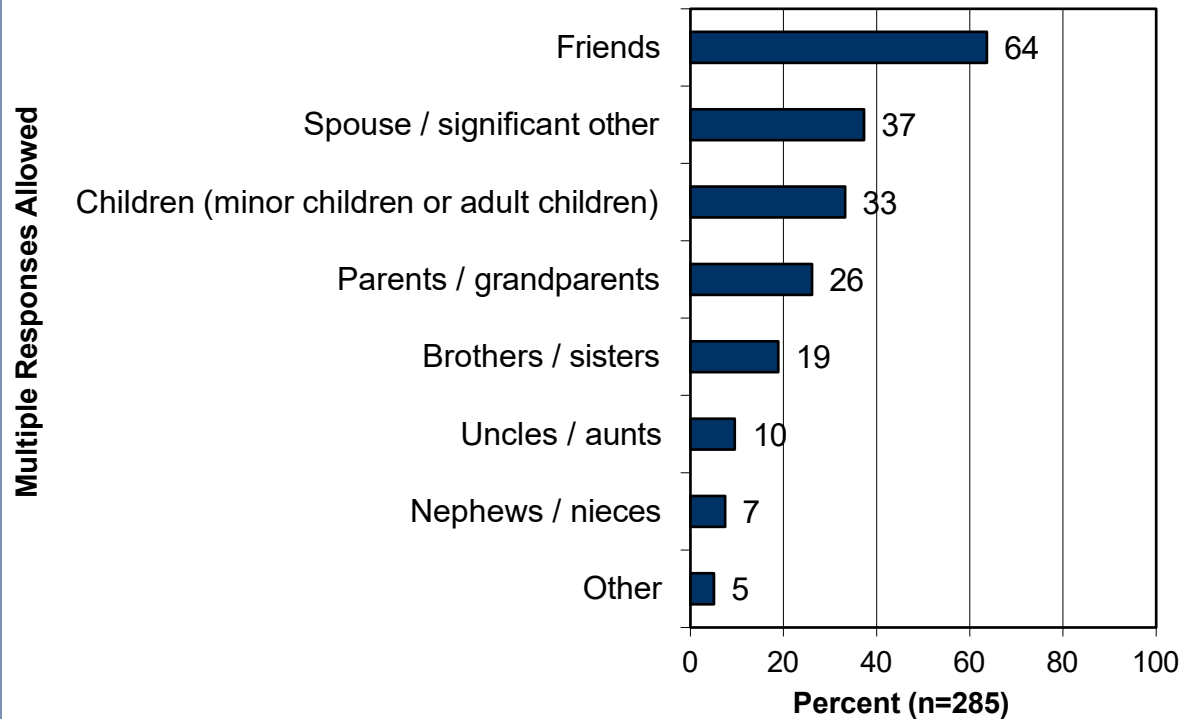


Nearly two thirds of wild trout anglers (64%) go fishing alone at least some of the time, while 72% go fishing with others at least some of the time. Regarding stocked trout fishing, 54% go fishing alone at least part of the time, while 80% go fishing with others at least part of the time.

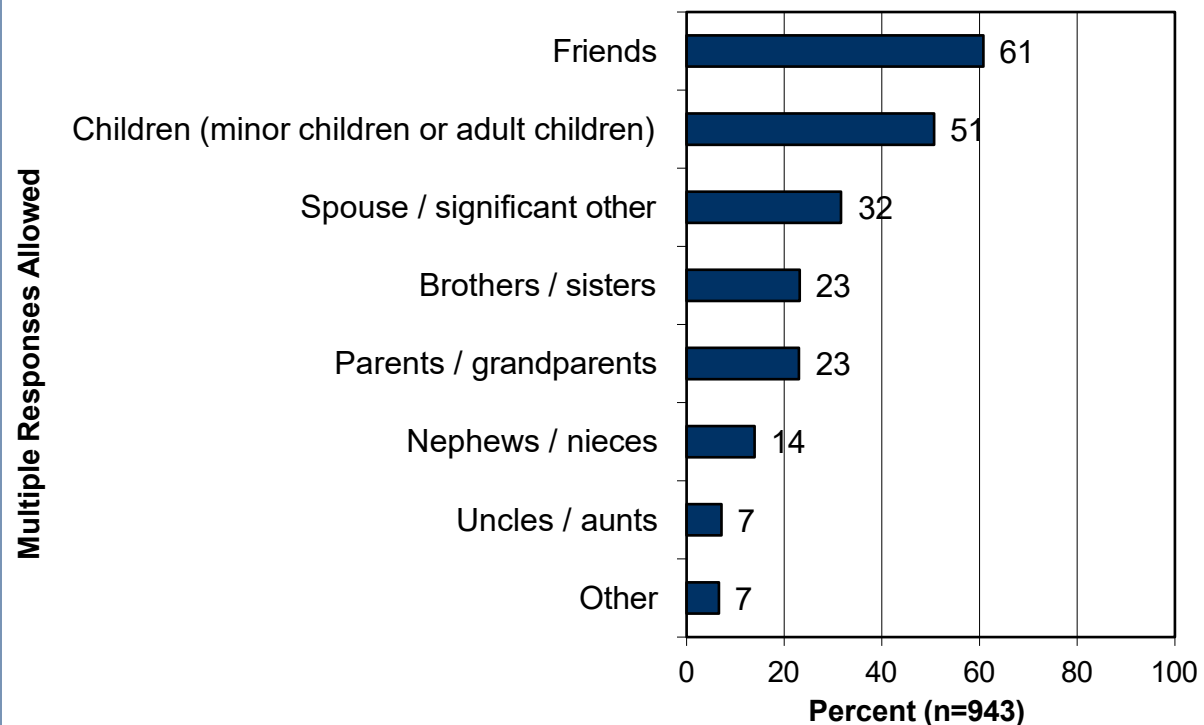


Typical companions for fishing excursions, among those who fish with others, are shown for wild trout fishing and for stocked trout fishing on the following page.

**Who do you go wild trout fishing with? (Asked of those who fish for wild trout with others)**



**Who do you go stocked trout fishing with? (Asked of those who fish for stocked trout with others)**



## CONSUMPTION OF TROUT

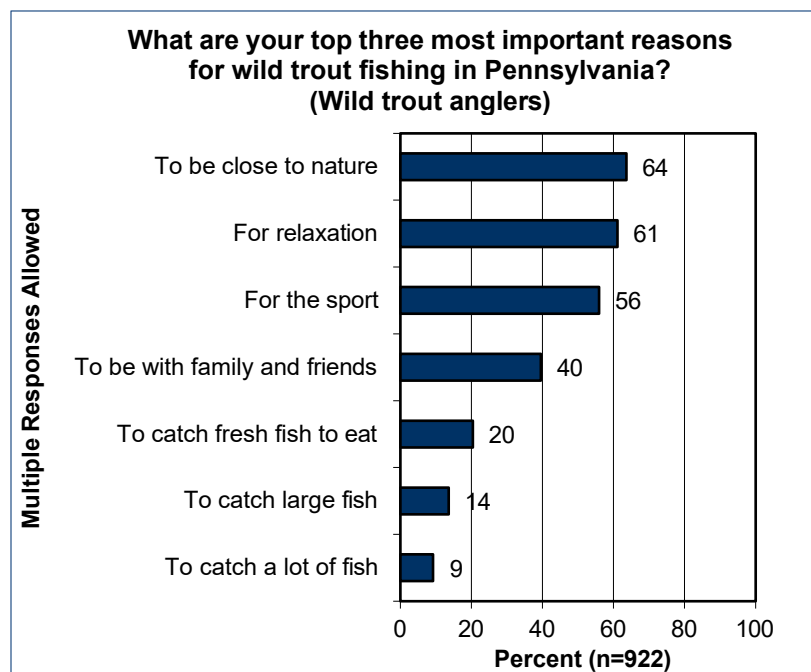
Recall as shown earlier that 64% of wild trout anglers release all of the trout that they catch; however, 36% of wild trout anglers keep some (or all) of the trout that they catch. Those who keep some of the fish that they catch were asked to estimate their annual harvest. Among wild trout anglers:

- Most (66%) keep 5 or fewer brook trout; the mean is 6.6 brook trout, and the median is 2 brook trout.
- Most (66%) keep 5 or fewer brown trout; the mean is 6.4 brown trout, and the median is 2 brown trout.
- Most (65%) keep 5 or fewer wild rainbow trout; the mean is 6.8 rainbow trout, and the median is 3 rainbow trout.
  - All means and medians are among those who kept some of their fish.

Stocked trout anglers were asked about their harvest of stocked trout and then their harvest of all three species of wild trout while fishing for stocked trout. Among stocked trout anglers:

- Just under half of stocked trout anglers (48%) keep 5 or fewer stocked trout; the mean is 15.5 stocked trout, and the median is 5 stocked trout.
- Regarding wild brook trout, 43% say that they catch some of them while fishing for stocked trout, and among those who catch them, the mean number kept is 1.9, and the median is 0 wild brook trout.
- Regarding wild brown trout, 36% say that they catch some of them while fishing for stocked trout, and among those who catch them, the mean number kept is 1.9 wild brown trout, and the median is 0 wild brown trout. (This is not a misprint: both this mean and the one above are 1.9 fish.)
- None indicated keeping wild rainbow trout.
  - All means and medians are among those who kept some of their fish.

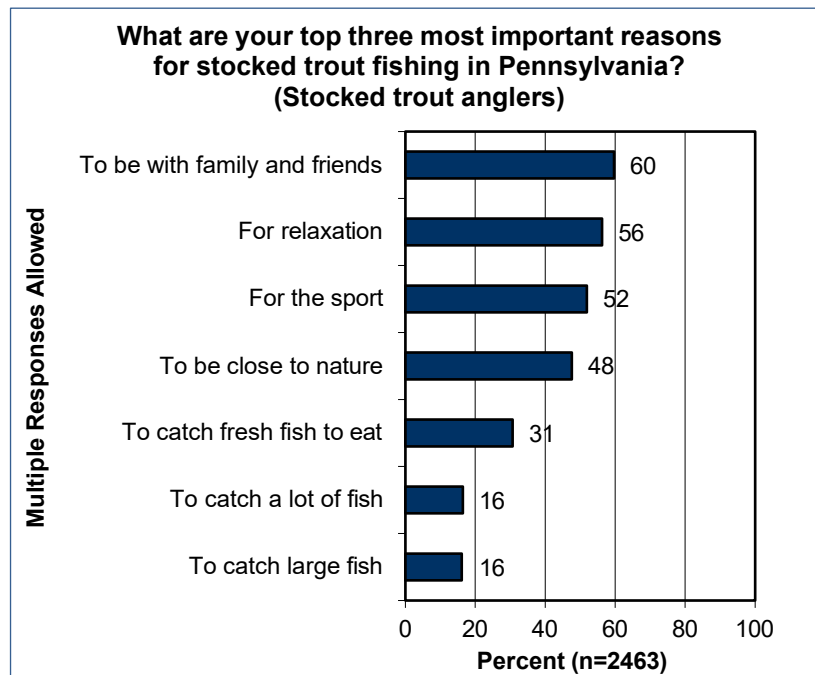
## MOTIVATIONS FOR TROUT FISHING IN PENNSYLVANIA



Three motivations for fishing for wild trout are in the top tier of the seven that were asked about: to be close to nature, for relaxation, and for the sport—all having a majority giving it as a reason for fishing for wild trout.



Four reasons emerge as important for stocked trout fishing, including the three that are important for wild trout fishing (for relaxation, for the sport, and to be close to nature) and an additional one: to be with family and friends. This latter is the most important reason for stocked trout fishing.



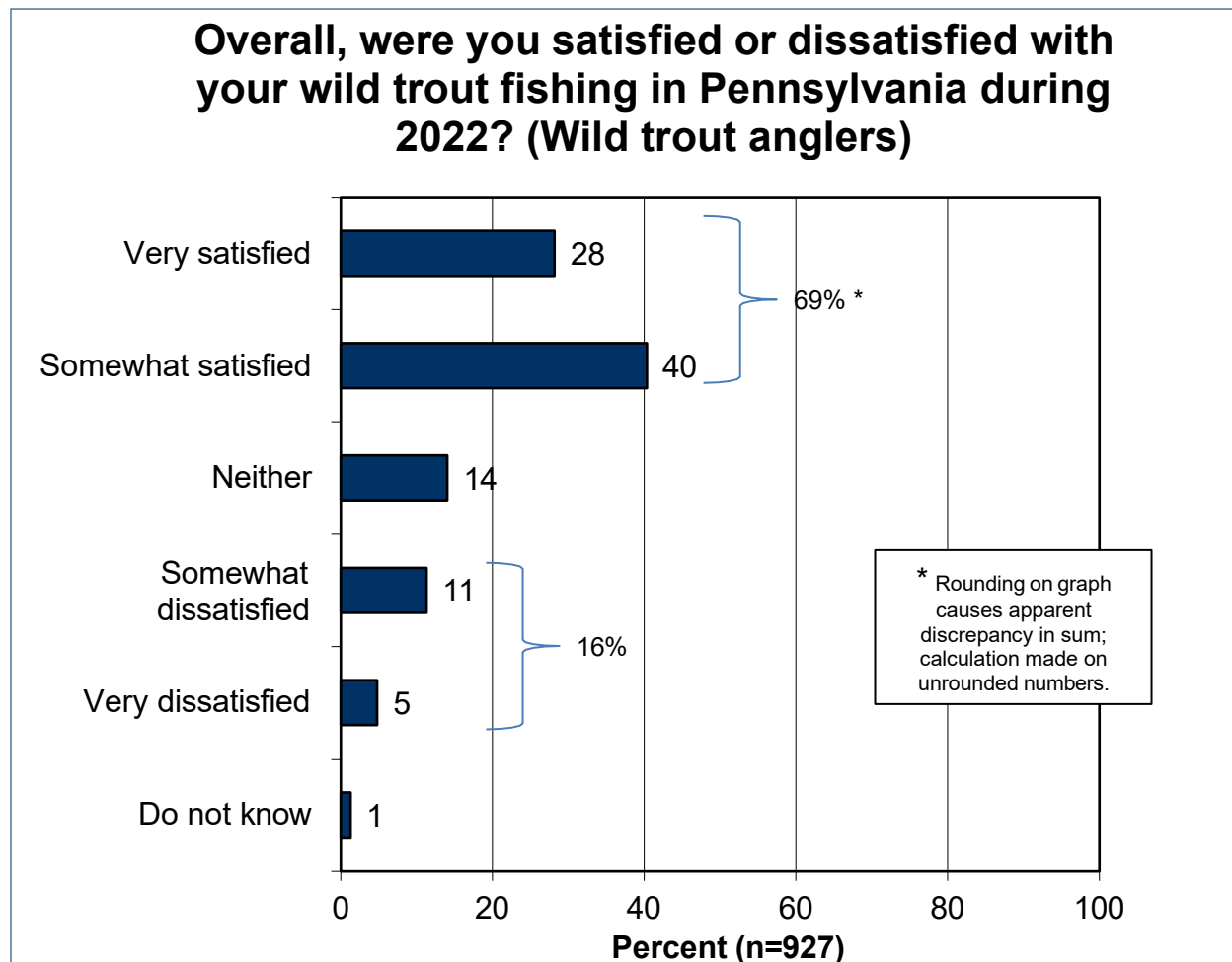
Nearly three quarters of wild trout anglers (73%) say that catching one or more wild trout is *very* or *somewhat* important to their overall satisfaction with their fishing trip. The overwhelming majority of stocked trout anglers (81%) say that catching one or more stocked trout is *very* or *somewhat* important to their overall satisfaction with their fishing trip.

Harvesting wild trout is not as important as just catching them: 22% say that keeping some of the wild trout that they catch is *very* or *somewhat* important. Among stocked trout anglers, 39% say that it is *very* or *somewhat* important to keep some of the stocked trout that they catch.

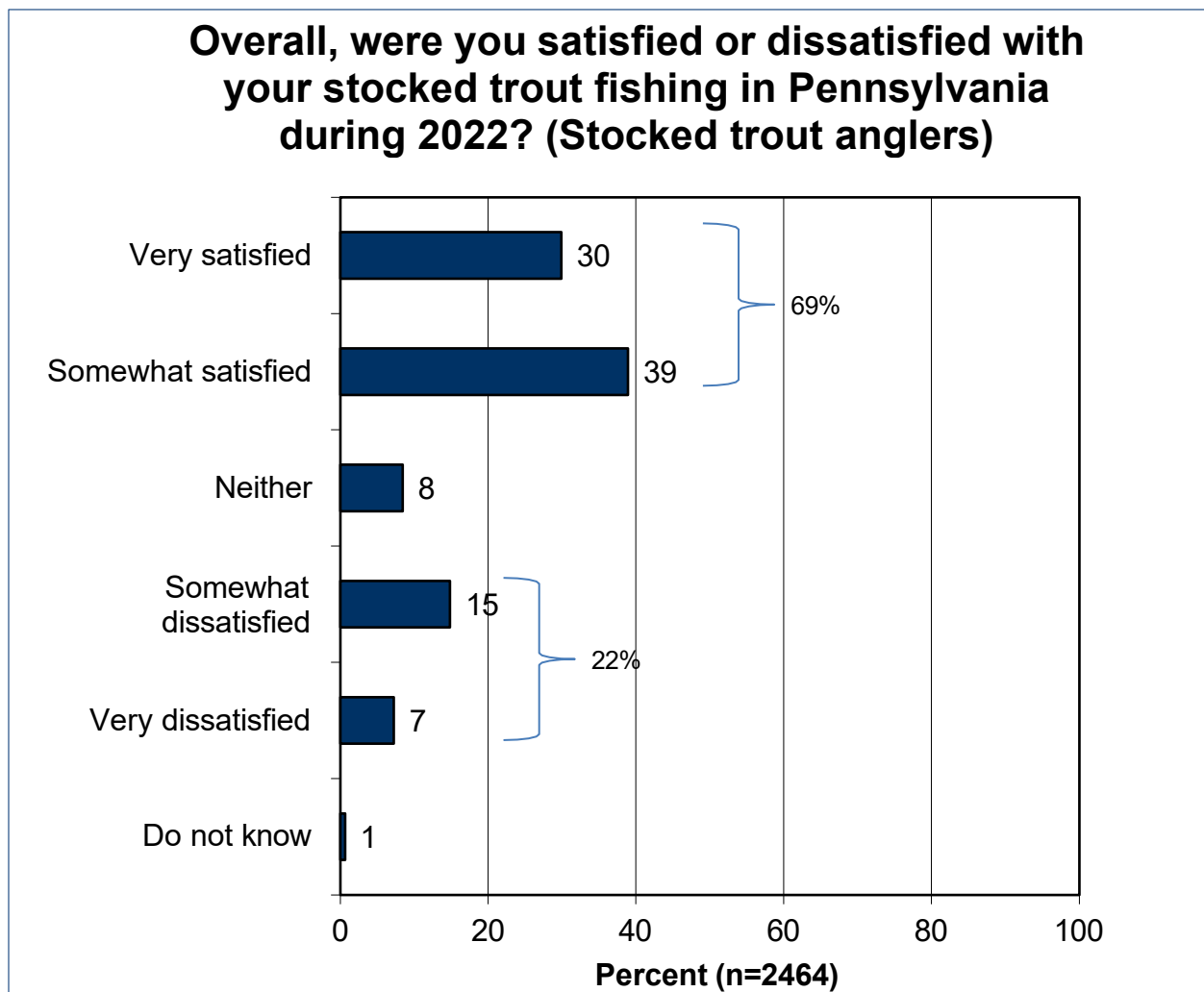
Nearly half of wild trout anglers (48%) consider catching large, trophy-size trout as *very* or *somewhat* important. Meanwhile, 55% of stocked trout anglers say it is *very* or *somewhat* important to catch large, trophy-size trout while fishing for stocked trout.

**SATISFACTION OR DISSATISFACTION WITH TROUT FISHING IN PENNSYLVANIA**

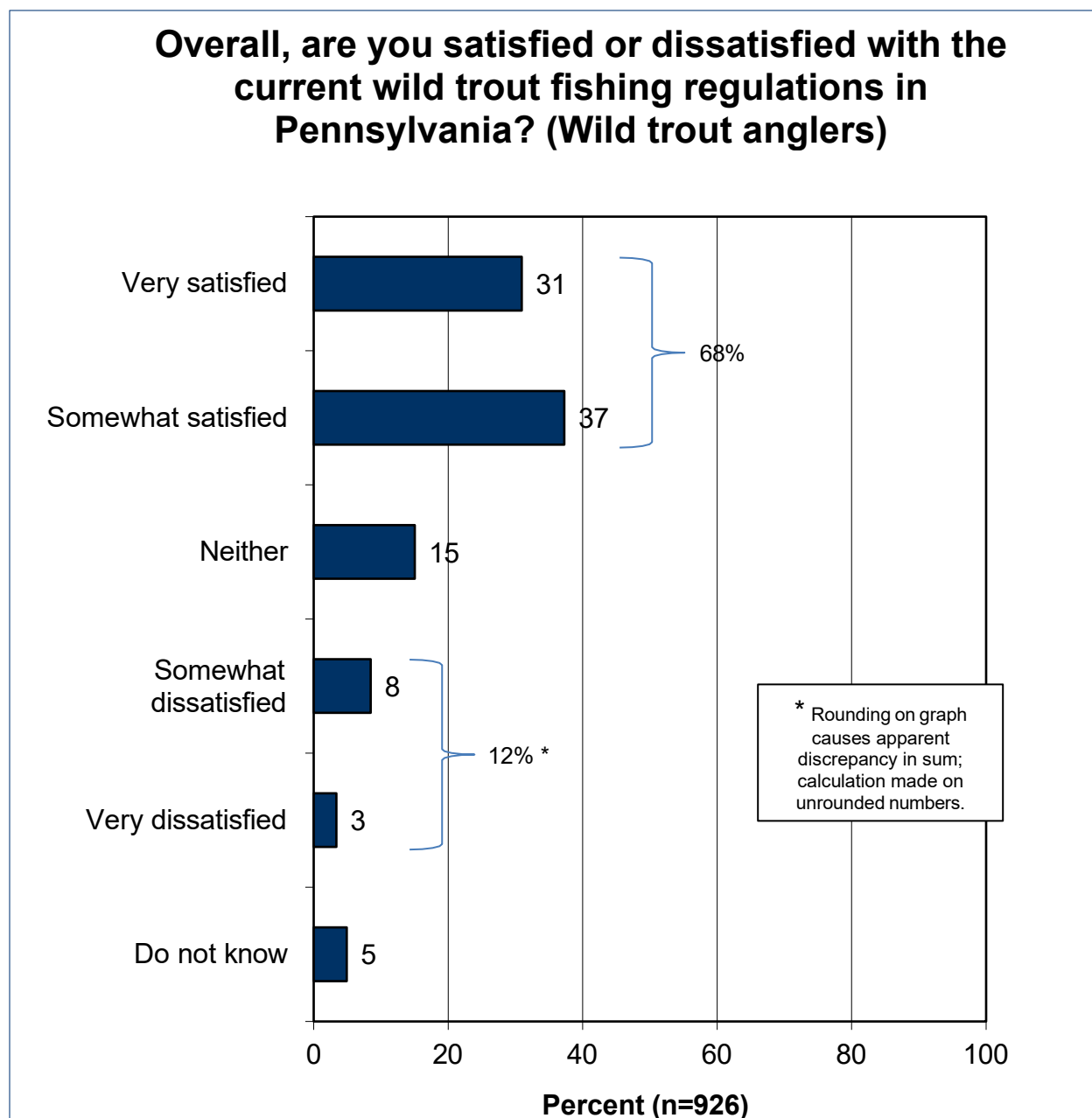
The survey asked about satisfaction with wild and stocked trout fishing overall and with the regulations for both. The large majority of wild trout anglers (69%) were satisfied with their wild trout fishing in Pennsylvania in 2022, but 16% were dissatisfied.



As shown on the next page, 69% of stocked trout anglers were satisfied with their stocked trout fishing in Pennsylvania in 2022. On the other hand, 22% of stocked trout anglers were dissatisfied.

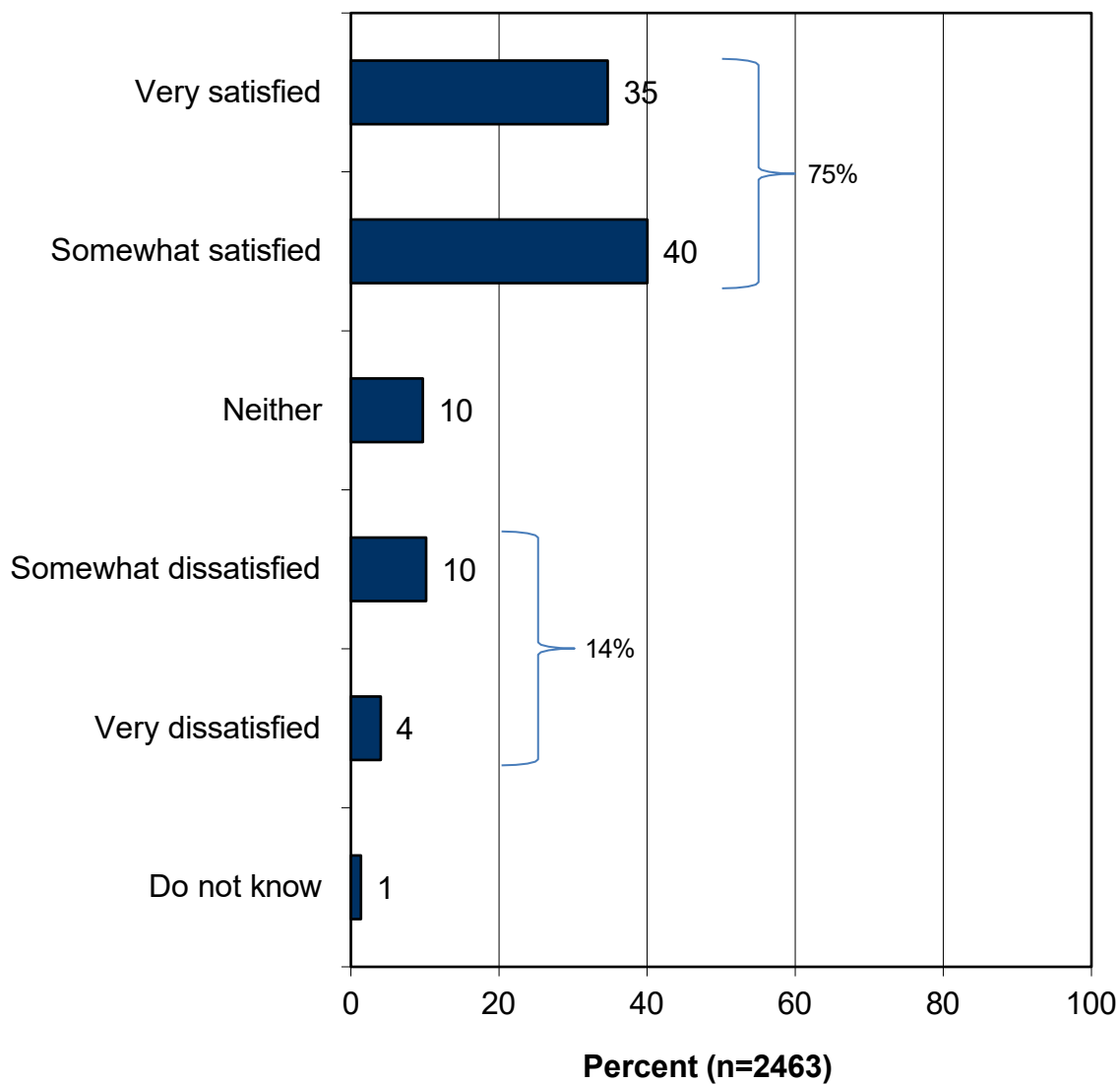


The large majority (68%) of wild trout anglers are satisfied with the wild trout fishing regulations, while 12% are dissatisfied. This graph is shown on the next page. The top reasons for being dissatisfied are centered around the conservation of the wild trout: that there should be no stocking in waters that have wild trout, that there should be more protection of wild trout, a dislike of the limits (nearly always that they are too high rather than too low), a need for more protection of the waters, and because there are not enough catch-and-release waters.



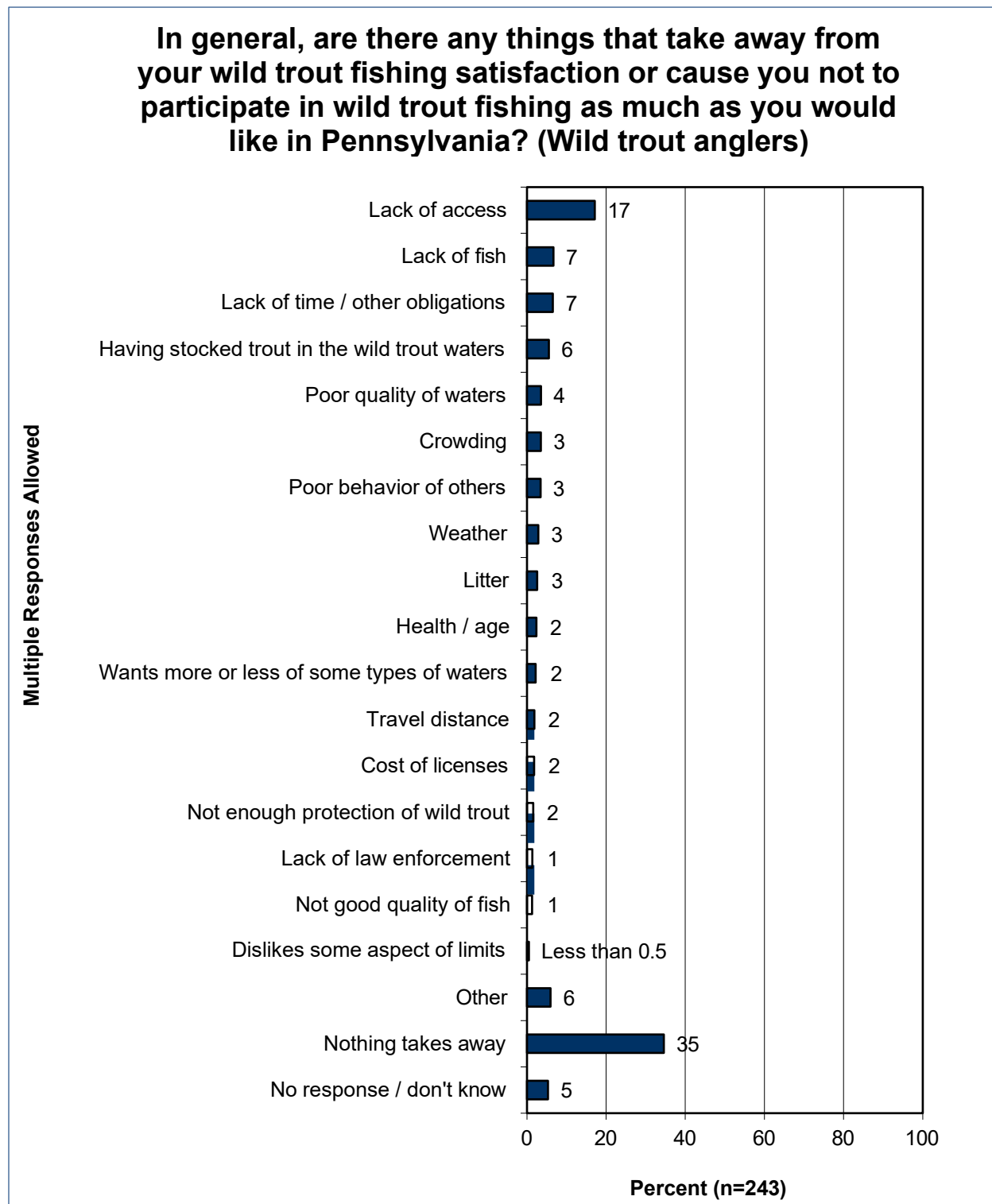
Three quarters of stocked trout anglers (75%) are satisfied with the stocked trout fishing regulations, with 14% being dissatisfied, as shown on the next page. Top reasons for being dissatisfied with the current stocked trout fishing regulations are the lack of fish, a dislike of the limits, problems with the youth fishing days—almost always being that adults are harvesting more fish than the youth, the desire for more stocking being done, a dislike of the current season dates, and the perception that the stocking is not spread out enough.

**Overall, are you satisfied or dissatisfied with the current stocked trout fishing regulations in Pennsylvania? (Stocked trout anglers)**



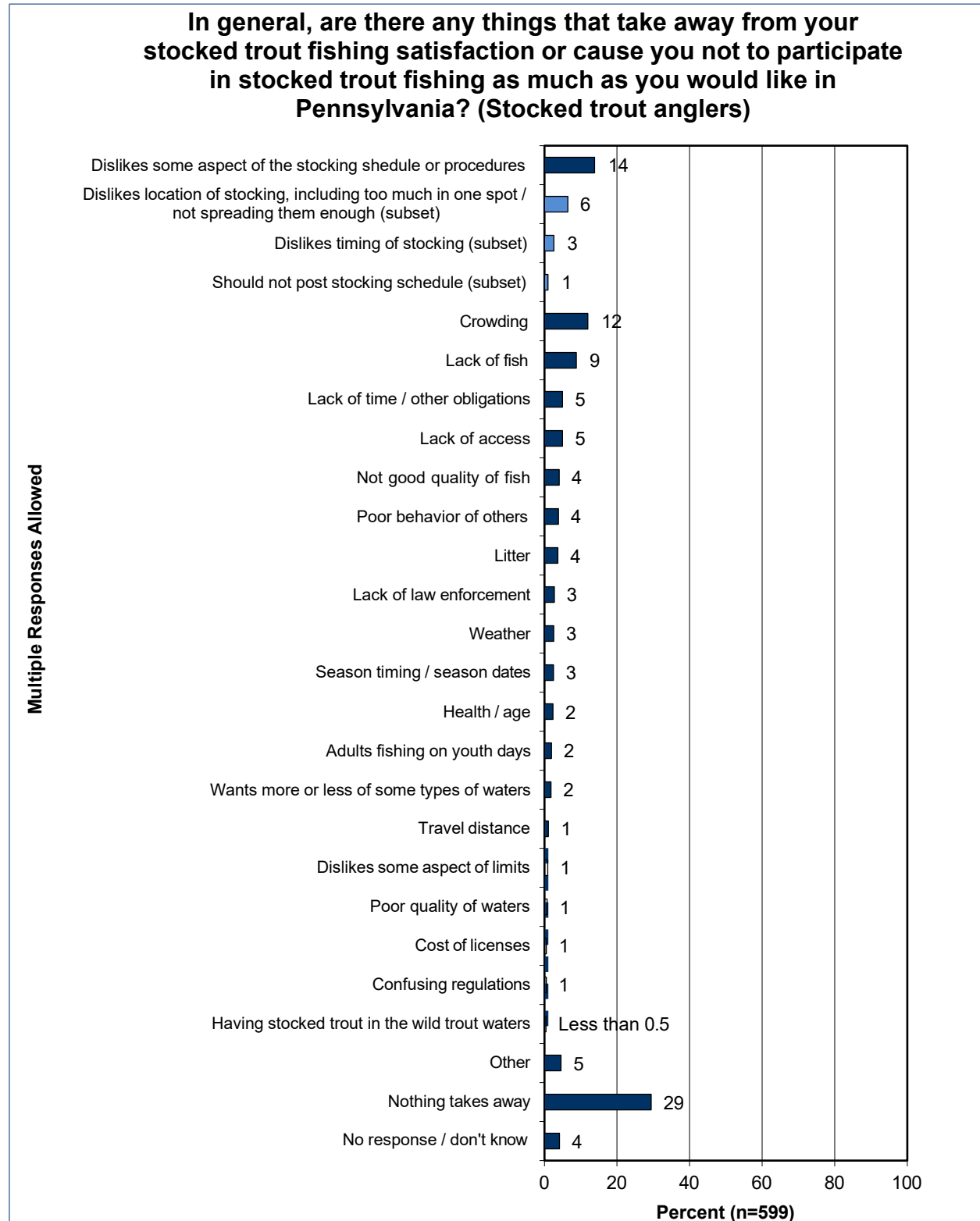
### CONSTRAINTS TO TROUT FISHING PARTICIPATION

Lack of access is the biggest constraint to or dislike of wild trout fishing. Of lesser importance, but still named by more than 5%, are a lack of fish, lack of time to fish, and having stocked trout in wild trout waters.



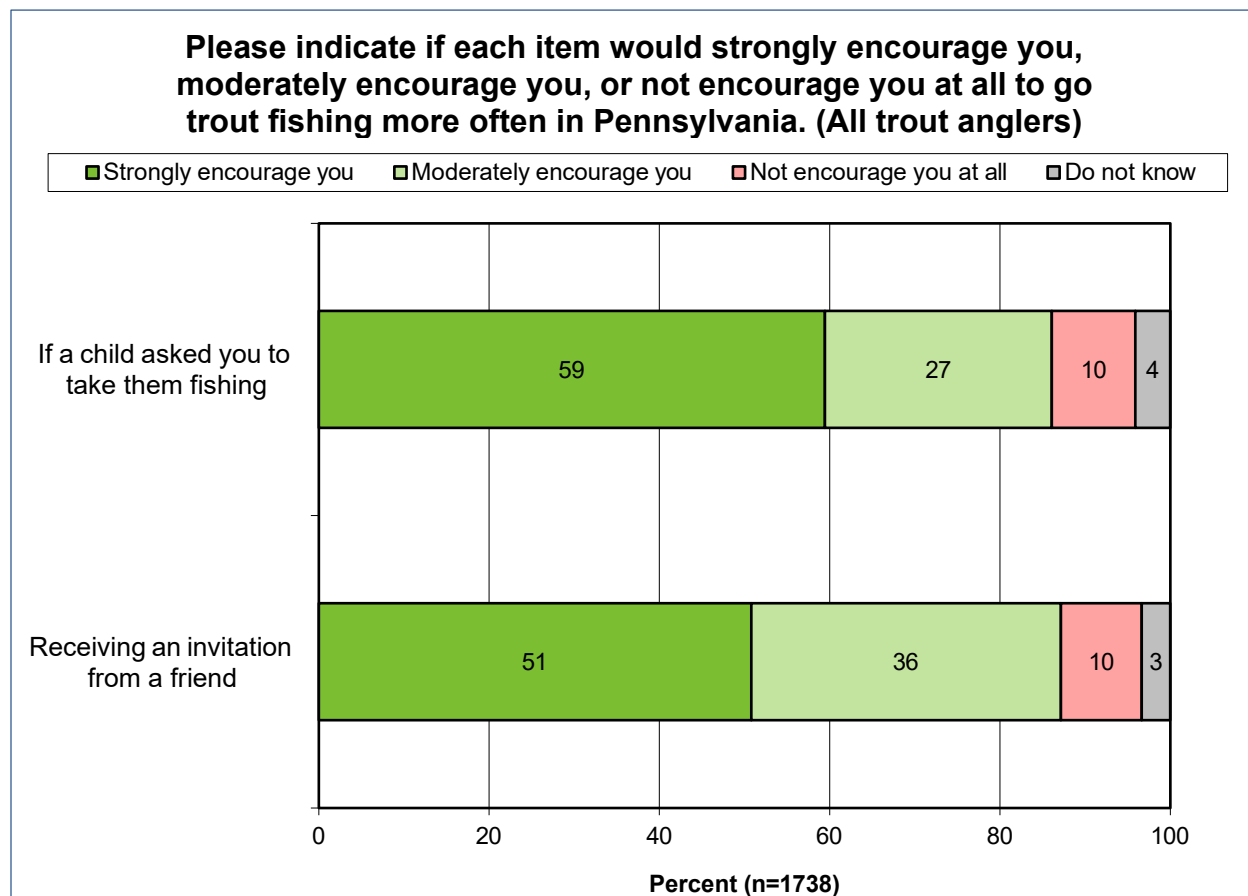


Things that constrain participation or are disliked are some aspect of stocking (often that the fish are not spread out enough or are too close to a bridge or easy access to the stocking trucks), crowding, and lack of fish. Note in the analysis that a dislike of some aspect of the stocking was further broken down.



## ENCOURAGEMENTS TO GO FISHING

Two potential encouragements were asked about, and both have a majority of anglers who say that they would be *strongly* encouraged to go trout fishing more often: if a child asked to be taken fishing and receiving an invitation from a friend. The sums of *strongly* and *moderately* are 86% and 87%, respectively, for the two potential encouragements.



## OPINIONS ON CREEL/BAG AND SIZE LIMITS

All trout anglers were asked about the creel or bag limit in Pennsylvania, which is currently 5 trout per day. Half of them (50%) want the same creel limit of 5 fish per day. Otherwise, a much greater percentage want the limit lowered (30% do) than want it raised (12% do).

The large majority of trout anglers (85%) would support increasing the minimum size limit to 9 inches to better protect wild brook trout, including 63% who would *strongly* support. Only 7% would oppose.

## OPINIONS ON STOCKING REGULATIONS

Among stocked trout anglers, there is more opposition to (43%) than support for (34%) removing some waters from the stocking program that receive low angler use and moving the stocked trout allocation to other waters that receive higher angler use or creating new stocked trout waters that are likely to have higher angler use.

An overwhelming majority of stocked trout anglers (80%) would support more frequent stocking in trout streams and lakes that receive very high angler use, while only 9% would oppose.

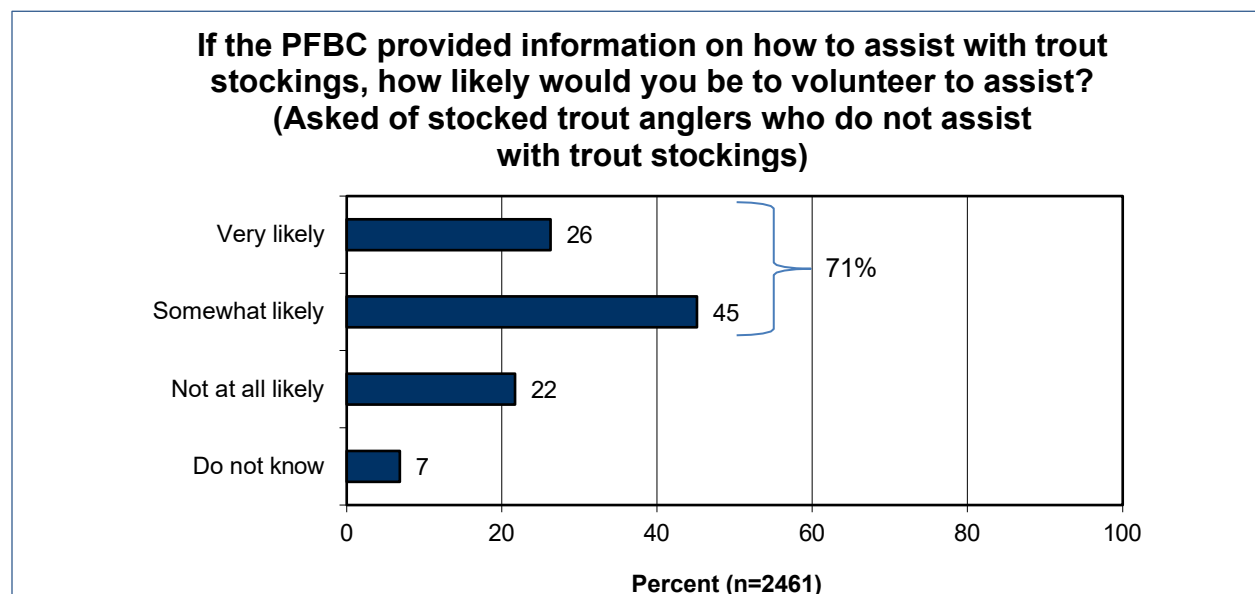
The large majority of stocked trout anglers (68%) want the stocking done without the dates being exactly posted (to help stop “truck following” and immediate overfishing of the stocked spots), with the schedule saying only the week of the stocking but not the exact day. On the other hand, 12% would oppose this change.

A majority of stocked trout anglers (54%) agree that the PFBC is properly spreading out the trout when doing the stocking. However, about a quarter (26%) disagree.

The large majority of all anglers (58%) would support removing stocked waters with wild trout and stocking at a nearby location without wild trout. On the other hand, 16% would oppose. There is a preference component to the results: those who fish mostly for wild trout are much more supportive of this (76% support, compared to 57% of mostly stocked trout anglers and 56% of those who fish wild and stocked about equally). Opposition is 8% among the mostly wild anglers, compared to 17% for both the mostly stocked anglers and those doing them equally.

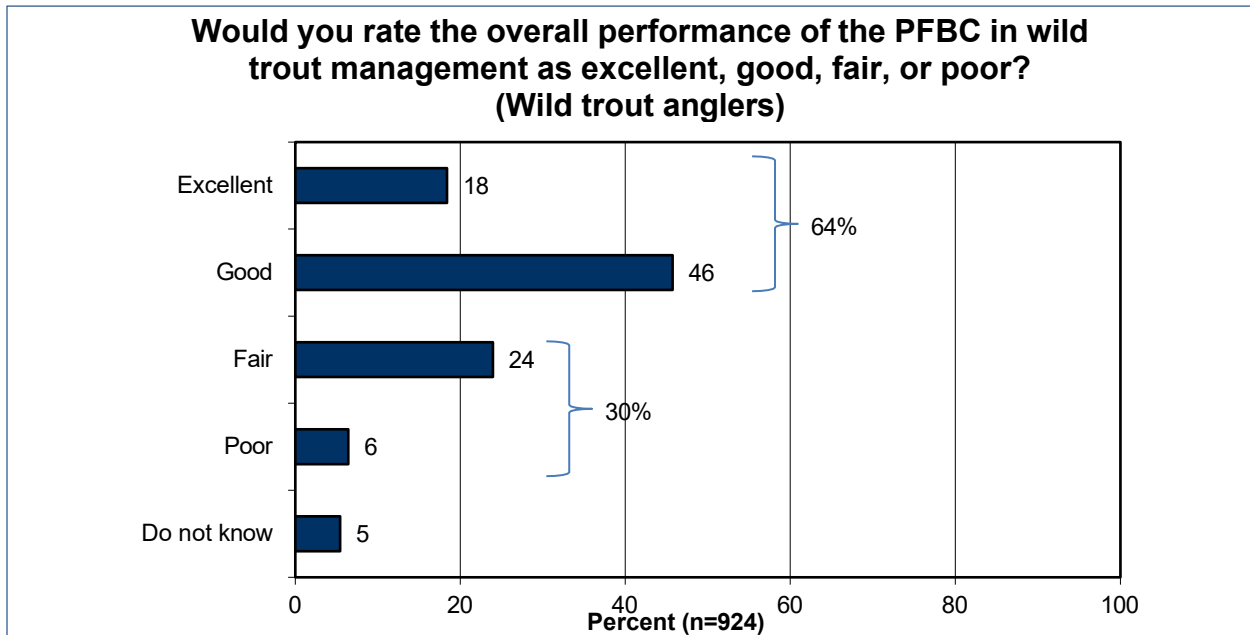
### **VOLUNTEERING TO ASSIST STOCKING**

Among those who do not volunteer to assist with stockings, lack of time and lack of knowledge are the reasons most commonly given for *not* assisting with the stocking of trout. The majority of stocked trout anglers who do not currently assist with stocking (71% of these anglers) say that they would likely help with stocking if there were more information about it.

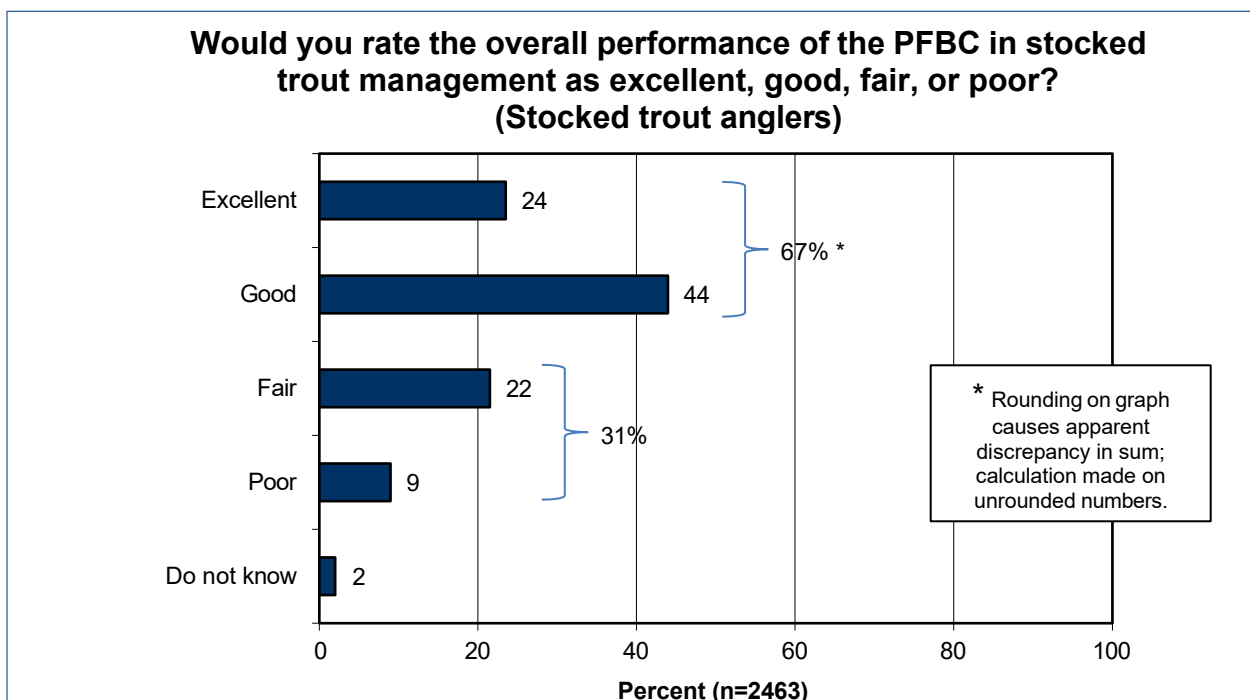


## RATINGS OF THE FISH AND BOAT COMMISSION AND THE IMPORTANCE OF COMMISSION PROGRAMS

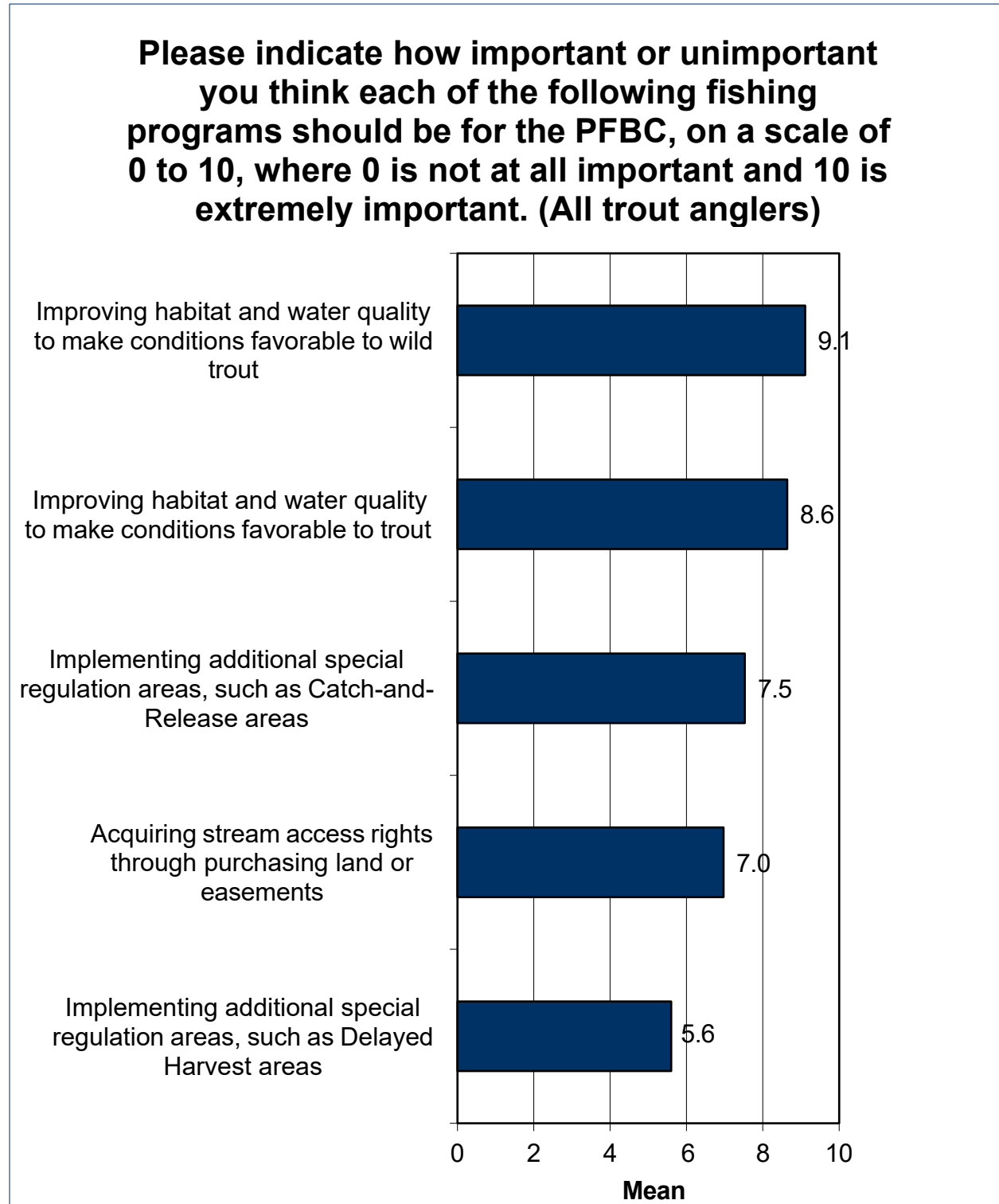
Ratings of the performance of the PFBC in wild trout management are more in the top half of the scale (excellent and good) than in the bottom half (64% to 30%). In particular, ratings of *excellent* are three times as high as ratings of *poor*.



Ratings of stocked trout management are similar to ratings of wild trout management: 67% rate stocked trout management as *excellent* or *good*, while 31% rate it *fair* or *poor*.



Trout anglers rated the importance of five PFBC efforts, with two emerging as the highest rated: improving habitat and water quality to make conditions favorable to wild trout and improving habitat and water quality to make conditions favorable to trout (this latter referring to trout in general).



## IMPROVING FISHING IN PENNSYLVANIA

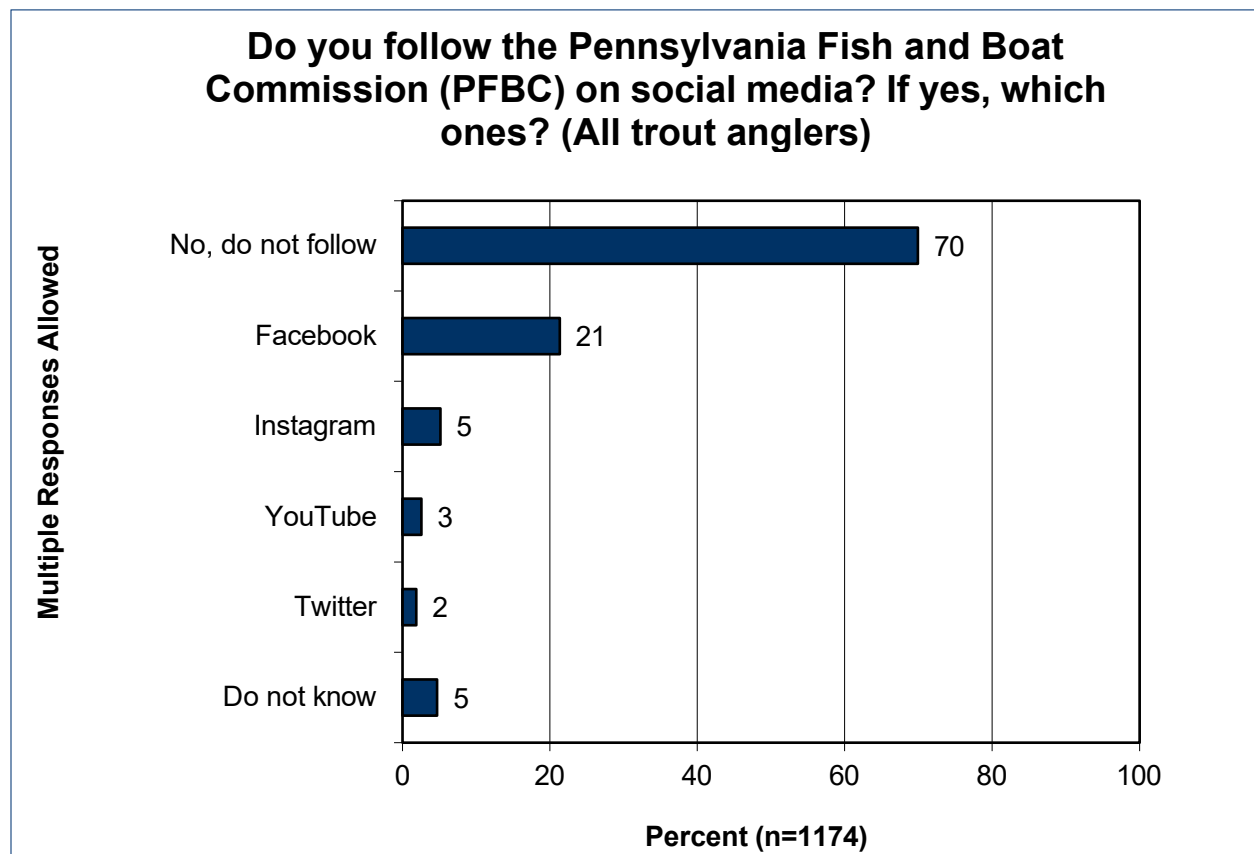
Improving water quality/reducing pollution, improving/protecting habitat, and not stocking trout in wild trout waters are the three most commonly indicated improvements to wild trout fishing that were suggested in this open-ended question. The body of the report shows the full listing.

The most commonly given things in this open-ended question that could be done to improve stocked trout fishing is to stock more and to spread out the stocking more.

## INFORMATION ABOUT FISHING IN PENNSYLVANIA

When asked what types of information on trout fishing the PFBC could provide to increase satisfaction and/or help encourage more fishing, anglers most commonly said information on access locations/maps. Most of those who wanted information would want it on the PFBC website.

A quarter of trout anglers follow the PFBC on one of its social media platforms, with Facebook being the most common by far.





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## INTRODUCTION AND METHODOLOGY

This study was conducted for the Pennsylvania Fish and Boat Commission (PFBC or the Commission) to gather information on Pennsylvania trout anglers' participation in various types of trout fishing and their attitudes toward related regulations, their satisfactions and dissatisfactions with trout fishing experiences in the state, their opinions on the PFBC and its programs, and their trout fishing locations and methods used, among other topics. The study entailed a scientific, probability-based multi-modal survey of resident and non-resident licensed Pennsylvania trout anglers.

### BACKGROUND

According to the Strategic Plan for the Management of Trout Fisheries in Pennsylvania 2020-2024, angler use, harvest, and opinion data pertaining to Pennsylvania's trout fisheries are lacking and/or outdated. These data are critically important to inform water-specific and statewide trout management.

The PFBC provides stocked trout angling opportunities in nearly 700 streams totaling over 4,500 miles and 126 lakes throughout the state. In addition to stocked trout opportunities, the PFBC actively manages almost 5,800 streams totaling over 17,000 miles for wild trout.

Given the vast number of trout angling opportunities in the Commonwealth, approximately 550,000 anglers, or 61% of all anglers that purchased a Pennsylvania fishing license in 2022, also purchased a Combination Trout/Lake Erie Permit or a Trout Permit, outlining the importance of trout fishing in the Commonwealth.

The results of this survey will enable the PFBC to:

- Assess wild trout and stocked trout-focused angler satisfaction, preferences, and priorities.
- Assess wild trout and stocked trout-focused angler use and harvest.
- Identify methods to improve angler participation.
- Make water-specific, regional, and statewide management recommendations.

Specific aspects of the research methodology are discussed below.

### QUESTIONNAIRE DESIGN

The PFBC and Responsive Management designed the questionnaires (a telephone survey and an online survey) cooperatively, based on the research team's familiarity with outdoor recreation and natural resources. There were slight differences between the telephone and online versions of the survey to accommodate each survey mode, but otherwise the surveys were identical.

The version of the survey developed for telephone was coded for integration with Responsive Management's computer-assisted telephone interviewing system. The online version of the survey was coded in an online platform by Responsive Management. An important aspect of both the online and telephone versions of the survey is that the computer controls which questions are asked and allows for immediate data entry. Note, however, that the telephone

version of the survey was administered by a live interviewer; the computer merely controls which questions are asked depending on the responses to the questions.

The questionnaires were designed so that some questions or groups of questions were administered to a randomized split of potential respondents. This ensured that every question that the PFBC wanted to ask could be included in the survey without burdening each individual respondent with an excessively long survey (and thereby reducing the chances of early terminations). Nonetheless, each question had a sufficiently large sample size for statistically valid results.

Responsive Management conducted pre-tests of the questionnaires to ensure proper wording, flow, and logic in the survey.

### **SURVEY SAMPLE**

The sample of licensed anglers was provided by the PFBC. Note that the sample was used only for this survey and was deleted from Responsive Management's database management system at the conclusion of the survey; Responsive Management does not maintain angler (or hunter) license lists for surveys. From the database of license holders, Responsive Management first randomly selected a sampling of licensed anglers to be surveyed and then attempted to contact them as explained in the next section of the report.

The sample was representative of licensed anglers as a whole in the state. Screener questions required that they were at least 18 years old, they had a Pennsylvania fishing license in 2022, and they had fished for brook, brown, or rainbow trout anywhere in Pennsylvania in 2022.

Following the screener questions, the first survey question asked anglers if they had primarily fished for wild trout, stocked trout, or both about equally during 2022. That determined whether anglers were given the wild trout survey path or the stocked trout survey path; those who responded "both about equally" were randomly assigned to one of the survey paths. The anglers are hereinafter simply referred to as "all trout anglers" (wild and stocked trout angler paths combined), "wild trout anglers," or "stocked trout anglers."

### **MULTI-MODAL SURVEY ADMINISTRATION**

The survey was conducted by telephone and online, with the method of contact depending on the information available for the angler in the database. Note that the online survey was closed, meaning it was available only to anglers who were specifically selected for the survey. Anglers could complete the survey only once. The survey could not be accessed through a general internet search.

In the first step in the surveying process, Responsive Management randomly selected a sampling of licensed anglers to be surveyed from the database of license holders. After the sample was selected, the method of initial contact was determined. For anglers with a telephone number but no email contact information, attempts were made to contact them by telephone. Simultaneously, for those with an email, attempts were made by email, with follow-up telephone calls if necessary for those who had an email *and* telephone contact. Finally, for those for which a contact had been attempted by telephone, if the number was a

cell phone, a text to encourage participation was sent with an invitation to the survey. A copy of the email invitation to take the survey is presented below.

### Email Invitation to Take the Survey

Hello [name],

The Pennsylvania Fish and Boat Commission is conducting a study of licensed anglers about their fishing participation, experiences, and opinions on fisheries management in Pennsylvania.

[Click Here to Start the Survey](#)

We value your input on fishing in Pennsylvania--as a licensed angler your participation in this survey is important to ensure scientific management and regulation of fisheries in Pennsylvania, including trout.

Your answers will be kept completely confidential and will not be associated with your name, license, or contact information in any way.

Responsive Management, an independent research firm that specializes in natural resource and fish and wildlife issues, has been contracted by the Commission to conduct this study. If you need technical assistance with the survey, please contact Responsive Management via email at [research@responsivemanagement.com](mailto:research@responsivemanagement.com).

Thank you for your time and feedback. You are helping make fishing in Pennsylvania better.

Sincerely,  
Pennsylvania Fish and Boat Commission

After the initial email was sent, a reminder email was sent to potential respondents approximately 5 days after the original email invitation. This was sent only to those who had not yet responded to the original invitation. Also, any potential respondents who had reached out to the technical assistance email contact were offered a telephone number to call to take the survey by telephone if they preferred that mode.

Surveys conducted by telephone were administered by a live interviewer. Telephone interviews were conducted Monday through Friday from noon to 9:00 p.m. and Saturday from noon to 7:00 p.m., local time, using interviewers with experience conducting computer-assisted surveys about fishing, conservation, and outdoor recreation in general. A five-callback design was used 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 at the time of initial contact, or a callback time was set that was more convenient for the respondent.

The survey was conducted from March to May 2023. Responsive Management obtained 3,383 completed questionnaires.

### **SURVEY QUALITY CONTROL**

For both the online and telephone versions of the survey, the questionnaire was programmed to branch and substitute phrases in the survey based on previous responses to ensure the integrity and consistency of the data collection. The survey questionnaire also contained error checkers and computation statements to ensure quality and consistent data.

Additionally, for quality control, Survey Center managers monitored the interviews in real time and provided feedback to the interviewers. To ensure the integrity of the telephone survey data, Responsive Management has interviewers who have been trained according to the highest industry standards established by the American Association for Public Opinion Research. Methods of instruction included lecture and role-playing. The Survey Center managers and other professional staff conducted 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 questionnaire, reading of the survey questions, skip patterns, and probing and clarifying techniques necessary for specific questions on the survey questionnaires.

After the surveys were obtained, the Survey Center managers and statisticians checked each completed survey to ensure clarity and completeness and to filter out any invalid respondents. Analysts reviewed all individual survey responses to identify potential invalid submittals, such as surveys that were completed in an unrealistically brief timeframe, which suggests that respondents were clicking through responses without reading and evaluating the questions, or “straight-lining” of responses, which is when respondents select (for example) the first or same response options throughout the survey. Also, open-ended responses to the final question asking for additional comments were used to identify and remove invalid respondents. All completed surveys of questionable quality were removed prior to data analysis.

### **DATA ANALYSIS AND SAMPLING ERROR**

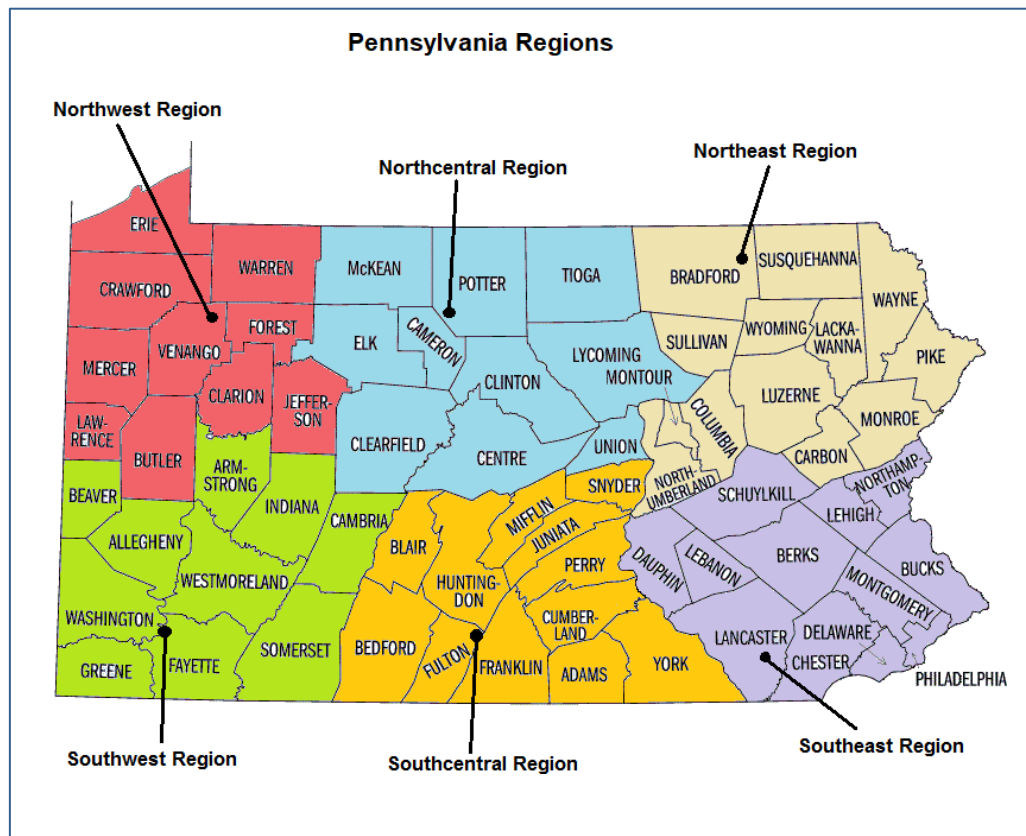
The analysis of data was performed using IBM SPSS Statistics as well as proprietary software developed by Responsive Management. The results were weighted by age, gender, region, and license type to fully represent Pennsylvania licensed anglers who fished for trout in the previous year in their proper statewide proportions.

As noted above, the type of fishing license was a variable used for weighting the results. The following license types were included in the study:

- Resident Annual Fishing license (64% of respondents had this license in 2022)
- Senior Lifetime Fishing license (18%)
- 3-Year Resident Fishing license (5%)
- Non-Resident Annual Fishing license (5%)
- Other type of license with trout fishing privileges (8%), consisting of:
  - 1-Day Resident Fishing license
  - 5-Year Resident Fishing license
  - 10-Year Resident Fishing license
  - Senior Resident Annual Fishing license
  - 3-Year Senior Resident Fishing license
  - 5-Year Senior Fishing license
  - Non-Resident PA Student Annual Fishing license
  - 3-Year Non-Resident Fishing license
  - 5-Year Non-Resident Fishing license
  - 10-Year Non-Resident Fishing license
  - 1-Day Tourist Fishing license
  - 3-Day Tourist Fishing license
  - 7-Day Tourist Fishing license

A similar study of Pennsylvania trout anglers was conducted in 2008. Most of the survey questions in 2008 were addressed to all trout anglers, whereas in this survey the wild trout anglers and stocked trout anglers went through separate survey paths. Therefore, most of the results to identical questions in the two studies could not be compared in a trends analysis because of the different sample groups. A few questions, however, could be presented as trends in this report because the 2008 survey asked them of stocked trout anglers only.

Survey results are shown on graphs for overall statewide results, followed by tables showing crosstabulations by the six PFBC regions. Non-residents are included in these crosstabulations as a seventh region. Note that regional analyses were based on where the anglers live, which may or may not be the regions in which they fished. The PFBC regions are shown in the map that follows.



Throughout this report, findings of the telephone survey are reported at a 95% confidence interval. For the entire sample of licensed anglers, the sampling error is at most plus or minus 1.68 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 1.68 percentage points of each other. Sampling error was calculated using the formula that follows, with a sample size of 3,383 and an estimated population size of 666,117 licensed anglers 18 years old and older.

### Sampling Error Equation

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

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).

## PRESENTATION OF RESULTS

In examining the results, it is important to be aware that the questionnaire included several types of questions:

- Single response questions: Some questions allow only a single response.
- Multiple response questions: Other questions allow respondents to give more than one response or choose all that apply. Those that allow more than a single response are indicated on the graphs with the label, “Multiple Responses Allowed.”
- Closed-ended questions have an answer set from which to choose.
- Open-ended questions are those in which no answer set is presented to the respondents; rather, they can respond with anything that comes to mind from the question.
- Scaled questions: Many closed-ended questions (but not all) are in a scale, such as one that ranges from very important to not at all important.
- Series questions: Many questions are part of a series, and the results are primarily intended to be examined relative to the other questions in that series (although results of the questions individually can also be valuable). Typically, results of all questions in a series are shown together.

Regarding open-ended questions, analysts read through all anglers’ verbatim responses and assigned them into response categories that could be quantified and presented on “Multiple Responses Allowed” graphs. Overall, analysts categorized over 4,000 open-ended responses.

Graphs and tables show results rounded to the nearest integer; however, all data are stored in decimal format, and all calculations are performed on unrounded numbers. For this reason, some results may not sum to exactly 100% because of this rounding on the graphs and tables. Additionally, rounding may cause apparent discrepancies of 1 percentage point between the graphs/tables and the reported results of combined responses (e.g., when “very satisfied” and “somewhat satisfied” are summed to determine the total percentage of satisfaction).

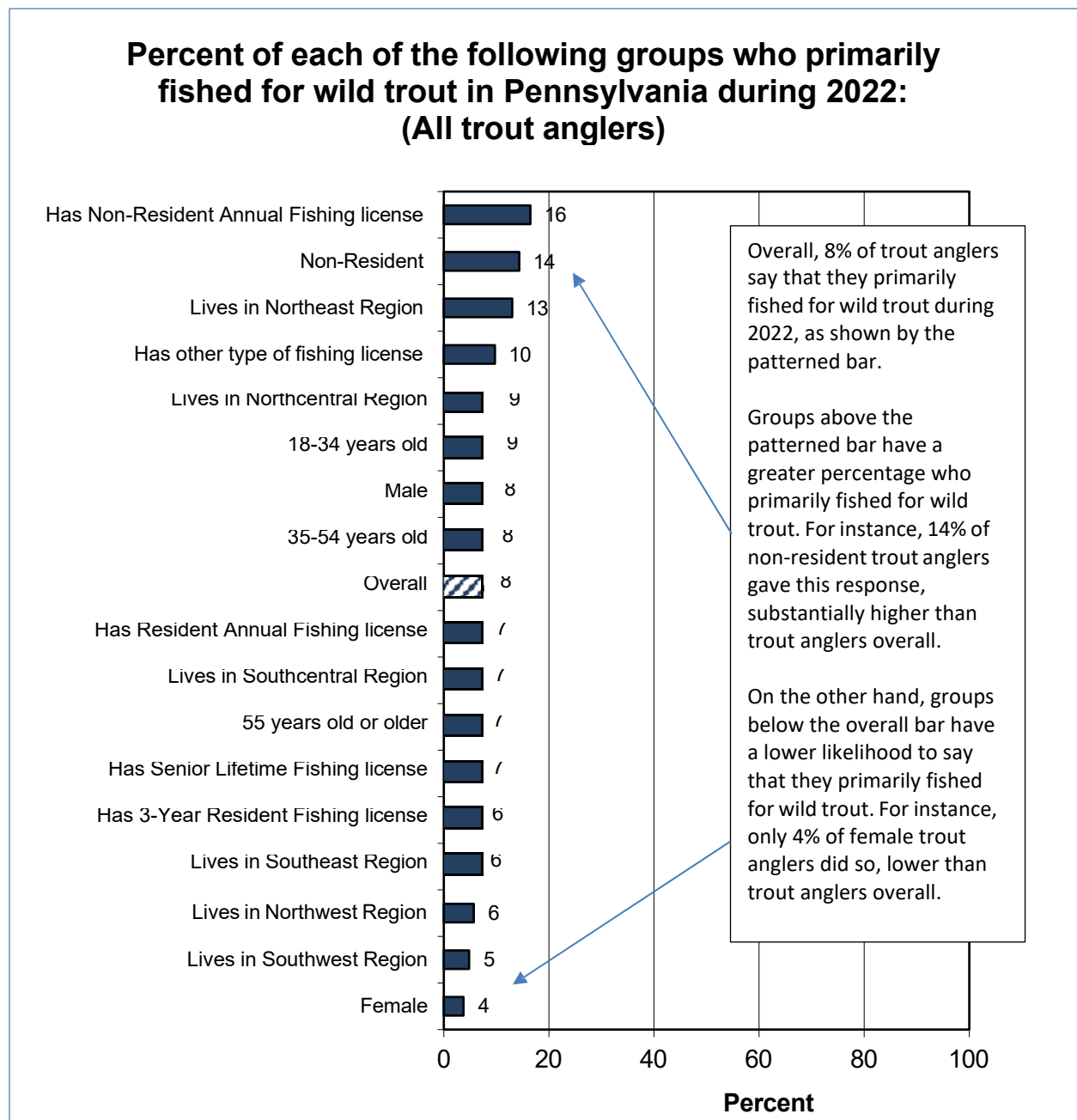
The report also includes special graphs that show how various demographic groups respond to certain questions, hereinafter simply referred to as demographic analyses graphs. Only select questions that were determined to be of the most interest or utility were analyzed in this way. The example on the following page is being provided to explain how to interpret these graphs.

The example graph shows the percentages of the various trout angler groups who primarily fished for wild trout in Pennsylvania during 2022. Overall, 8% of trout anglers primarily fished for wild trout, as shown by the patterned bar. Specific angler groups shown above the overall bar have a higher percentage who primarily fished for wild trout. For instance, 14% of non-resident trout anglers primarily fished for wild trout, higher than among trout anglers overall. Meanwhile, those groups below the overall bar have lower percentages who focused on wild trout. In this example, only 4% of female trout anglers did so.

When one group is above the overall bar (for instance, in this example, males), its counterpart or one of its counterparts (in this instance, females) will typically be below the overall bar. The distance from the overall bar matters, as well. If a group is close to the overall bar (for instance, those who are 35 to 54 years old in this example), then the group should not be considered



markedly different from respondents overall. A rule of thumb is that the difference should be 5 percentage points or more for the difference to be noteworthy.

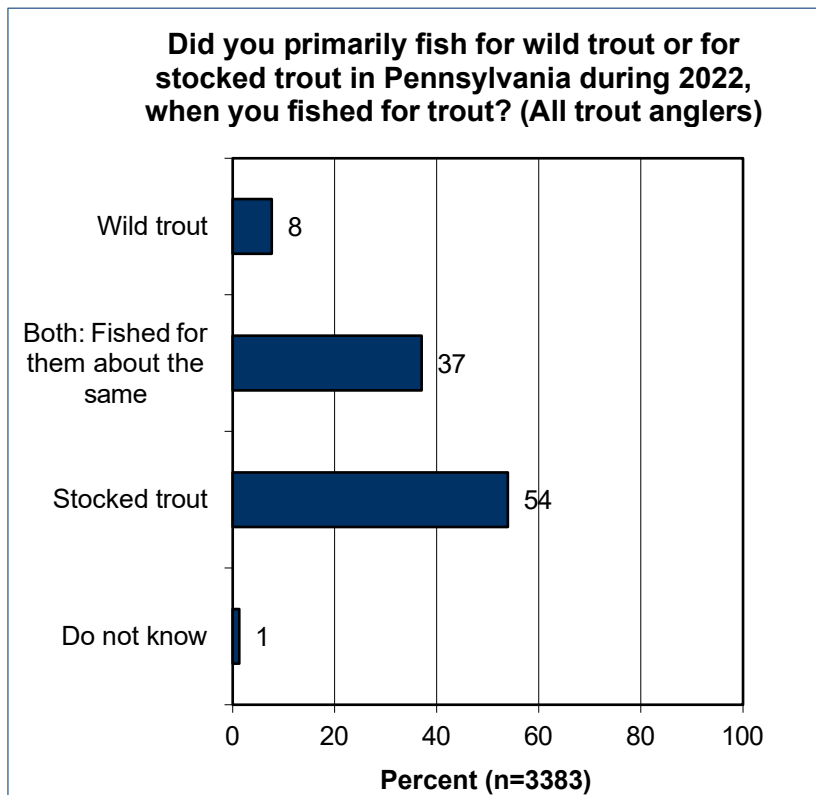


The variables in this analysis included four major license types and an “other” license category as previously discussed. The analysis also included regions (six Pennsylvania regions and non-residents as a region). Both the regional variable labeled “Non-Resident” and the license variable labeled “Has Non-Resident Annual Fishing license” were included because they are not synonymous: the “Non-Resident” variable contains more anglers than the specific license type variable, “Has Non-Resident Annual Fishing license.” While they are often close together in these graphs, there are instances when differences emerge between these two variables.

## TROUT FISHING METHODS AND TROUT SPECIES FISHED

Nearly all trout anglers (91%) fished for stocked trout at least some of the time in 2022, including just over half (54%) who primarily did so. On the other hand, 45% fished for wild trout, including 8% doing so primarily.

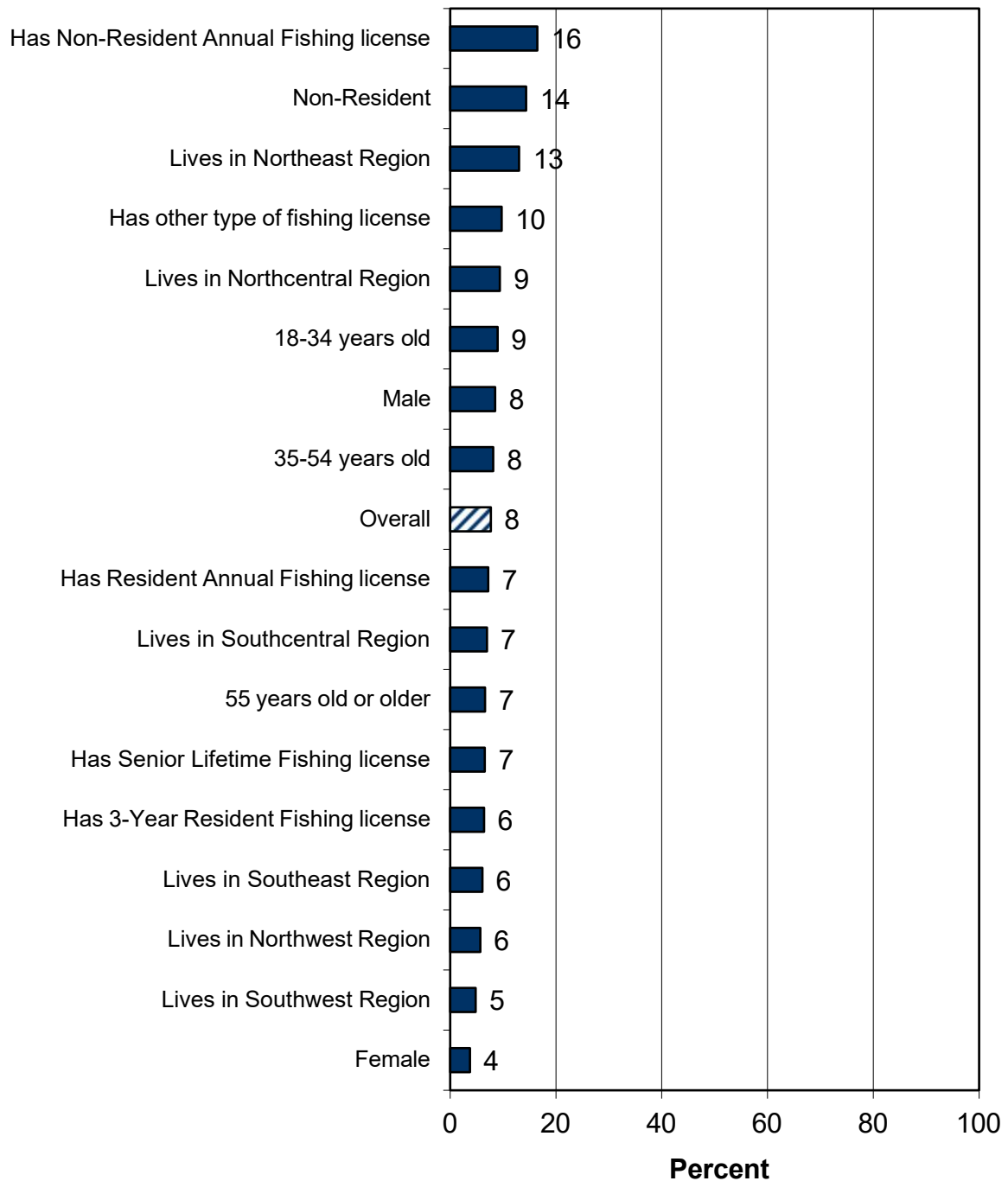
The accompanying table shows the regional results. Wild trout was fished for most often by anglers from the Northcentral Region and non-resident anglers.



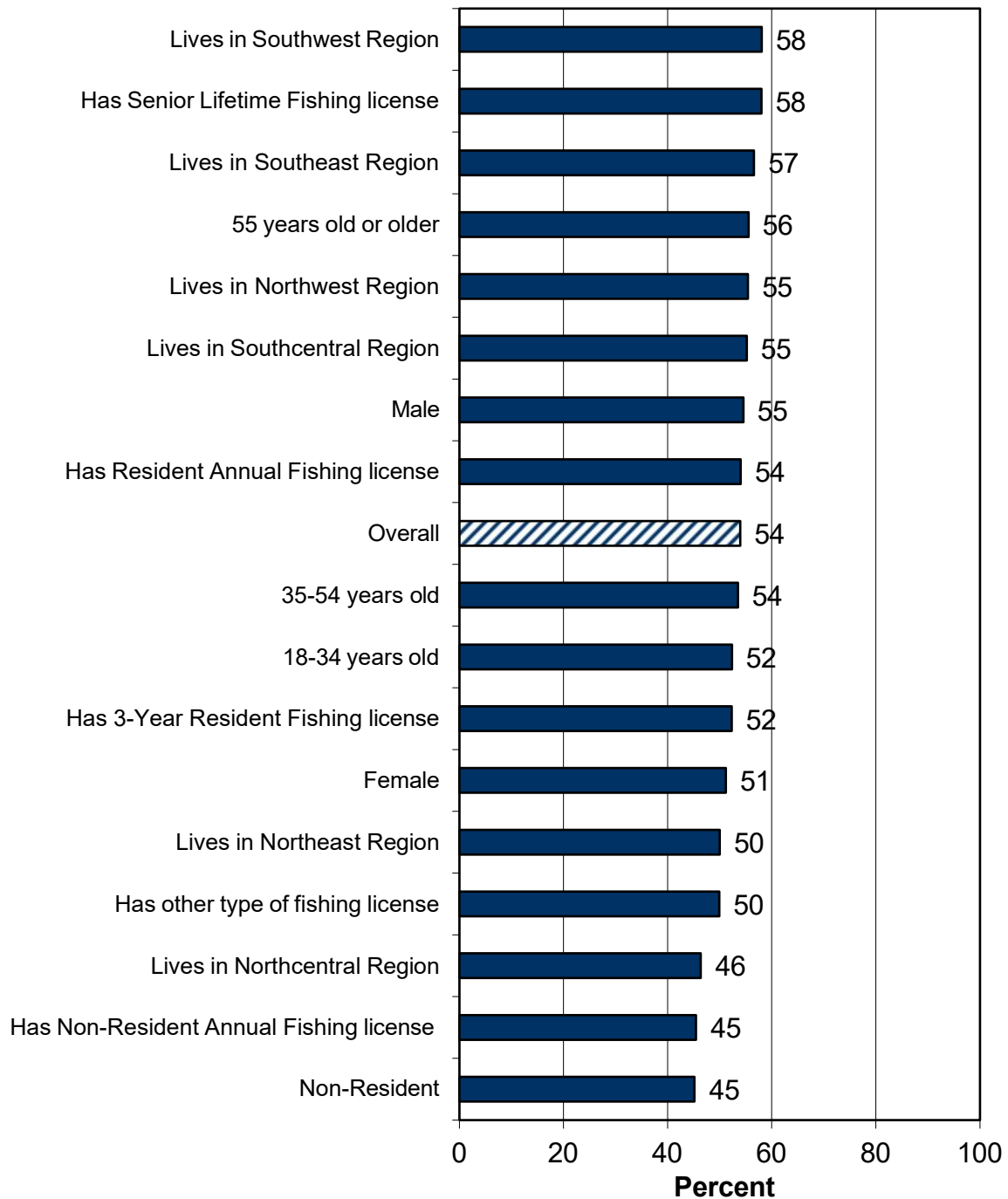
Did you primarily fish for wild trout or for stocked trout in Pennsylvania during 2022, when you fished for trout? (All trout anglers)							
	Northwest (n=315)	Northcentral (n=327)	Northeast (n=347)	Southwest (n=700)	Southcentral (n=519)	Southeast (n=788)	Non-Resident (n=387)
Wild trout	6	9	13	5	7	6	14
Both: Fished for them about the same	39	43	36	35	35	36	39
Stocked trout	55	46	50	58	55	57	45
Do not know	0	1	1	2	3	1	2
Any wild trout (sum of wild and both)	45	53	49	40	42	43	53
Any stocked trout (sum of stocked and both)	94	90	86	93	90	93	84

The demographic analyses graph shows that Non-Resident Annual Fishing license holders (and non-residents in general) and anglers living in the Northeast Region are the most likely to fish *primarily* for wild trout. The demographic analyses graph regarding fishing *primarily* for stocked trout shows that no group is markedly higher than trout anglers overall on that response. Finally, anglers from the Northcentral Region are markedly more likely to fish for *both about the same* than are trout anglers overall. These three graphs start on the next page.

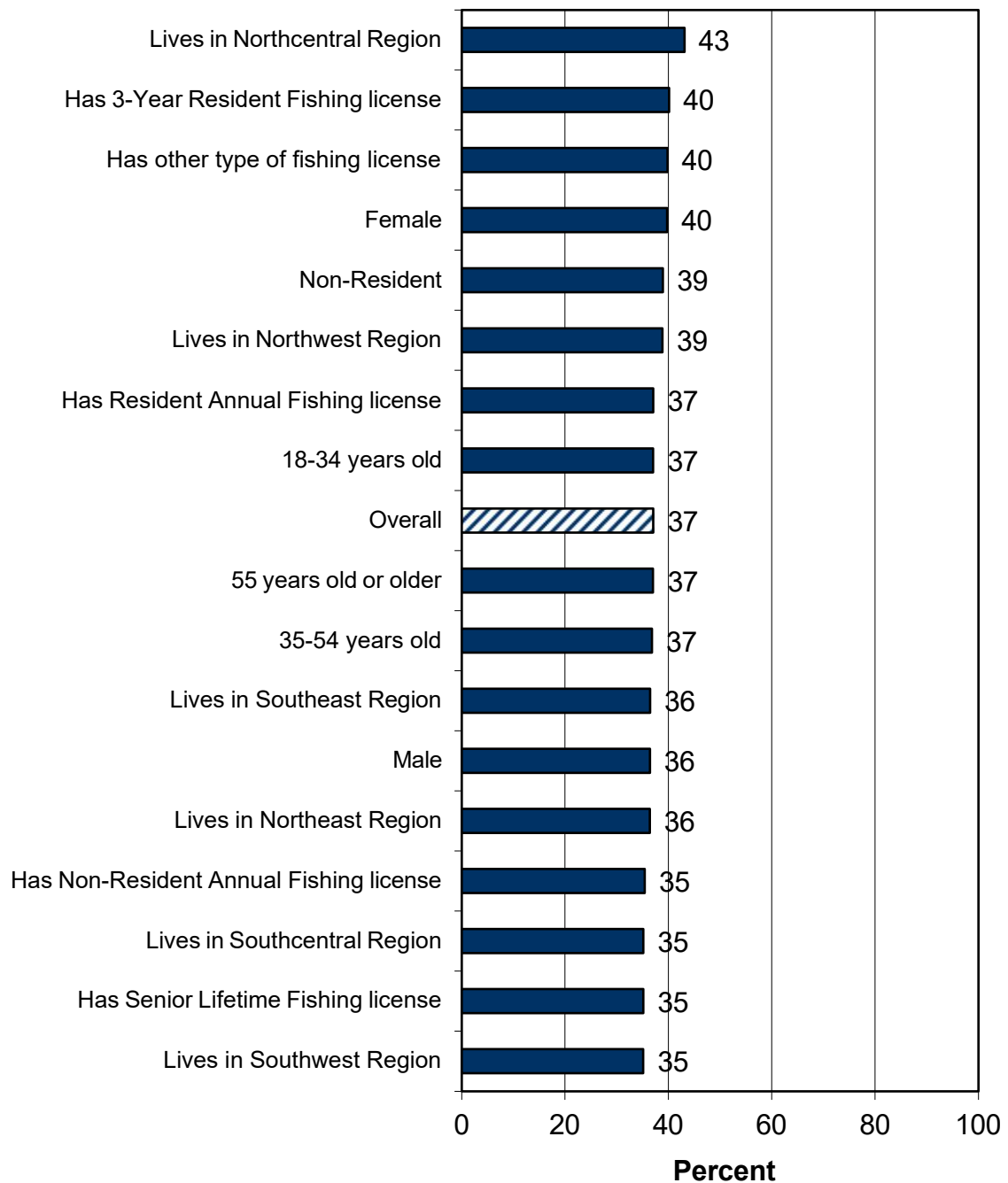
**Percent of each of the following groups who primarily fished for wild trout in Pennsylvania during 2022: (All trout anglers)**



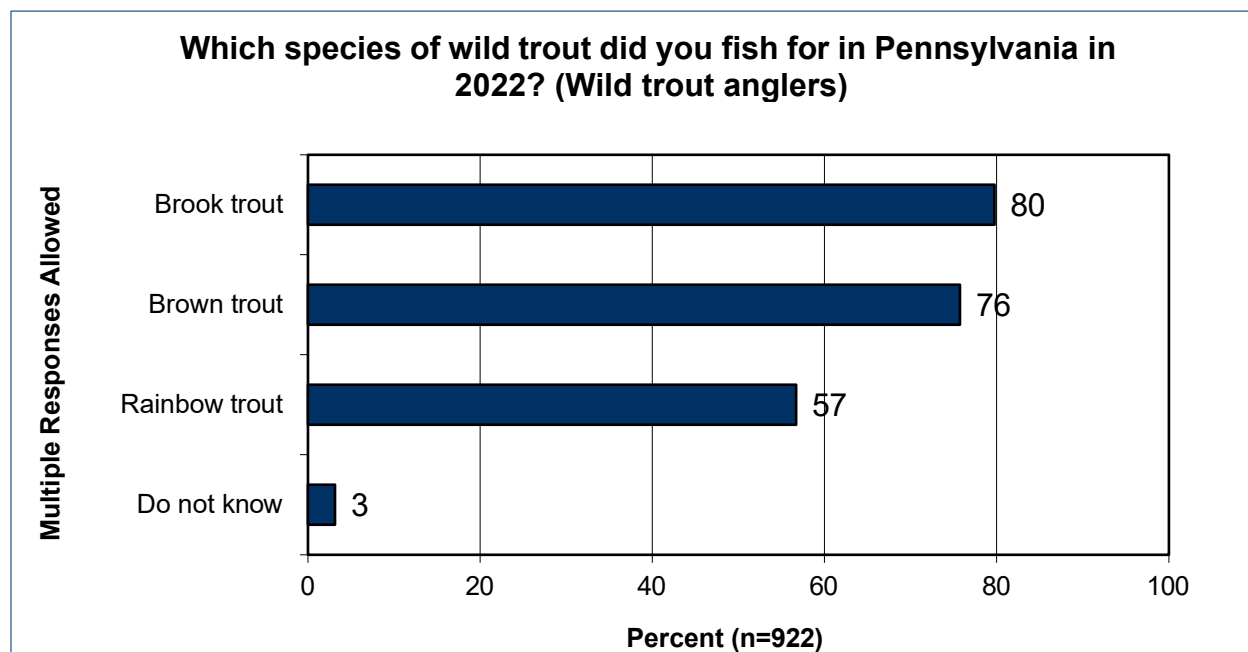
**Percent of each of the following groups who primarily fished for stocked trout in Pennsylvania during 2022: (All trout anglers)**



**Percent of each of the following groups who  
fished for wild trout and stocked trout about  
equally in Pennsylvania during 2022:  
(All trout anglers)**



The survey then asked which species had been fished for by wild trout anglers. At the top are brook and brown trout (fished by 80% and 76%, respectively), with rainbow trout\* at the bottom. The regional results are presented as well, with brook trout fishing especially prevalent among anglers from the Northcentral Region and brown trout fishing especially prevalent among anglers from the Northwest Region and among non-resident anglers.

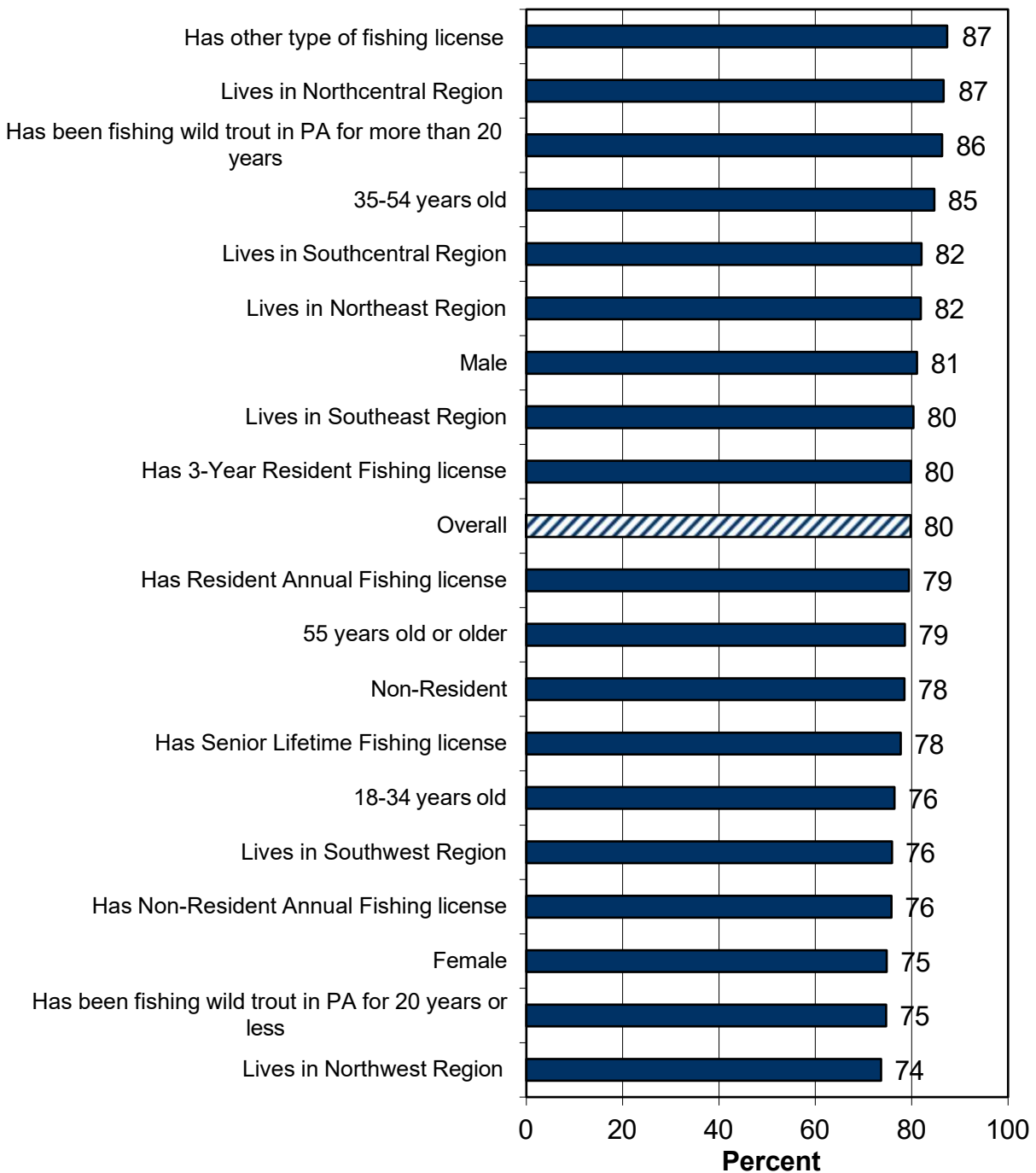


Which species of wild trout did you fish for in Pennsylvania in 2022? (Wild trout anglers)							
	Northwest (n=75)	Northcentral (n=106)	Northeast (n=106)	Southwest (n=169)	Southcentral (n=139)	Southeast (n=192)	Non-Resident (n=135)
Brook trout	74	87	82	76	82	80	78
Brown trout	81	76	71	74	72	77	83
Rainbow trout	62	45	49	58	55	60	65
Do not know	0	2	4	5	5	3	1

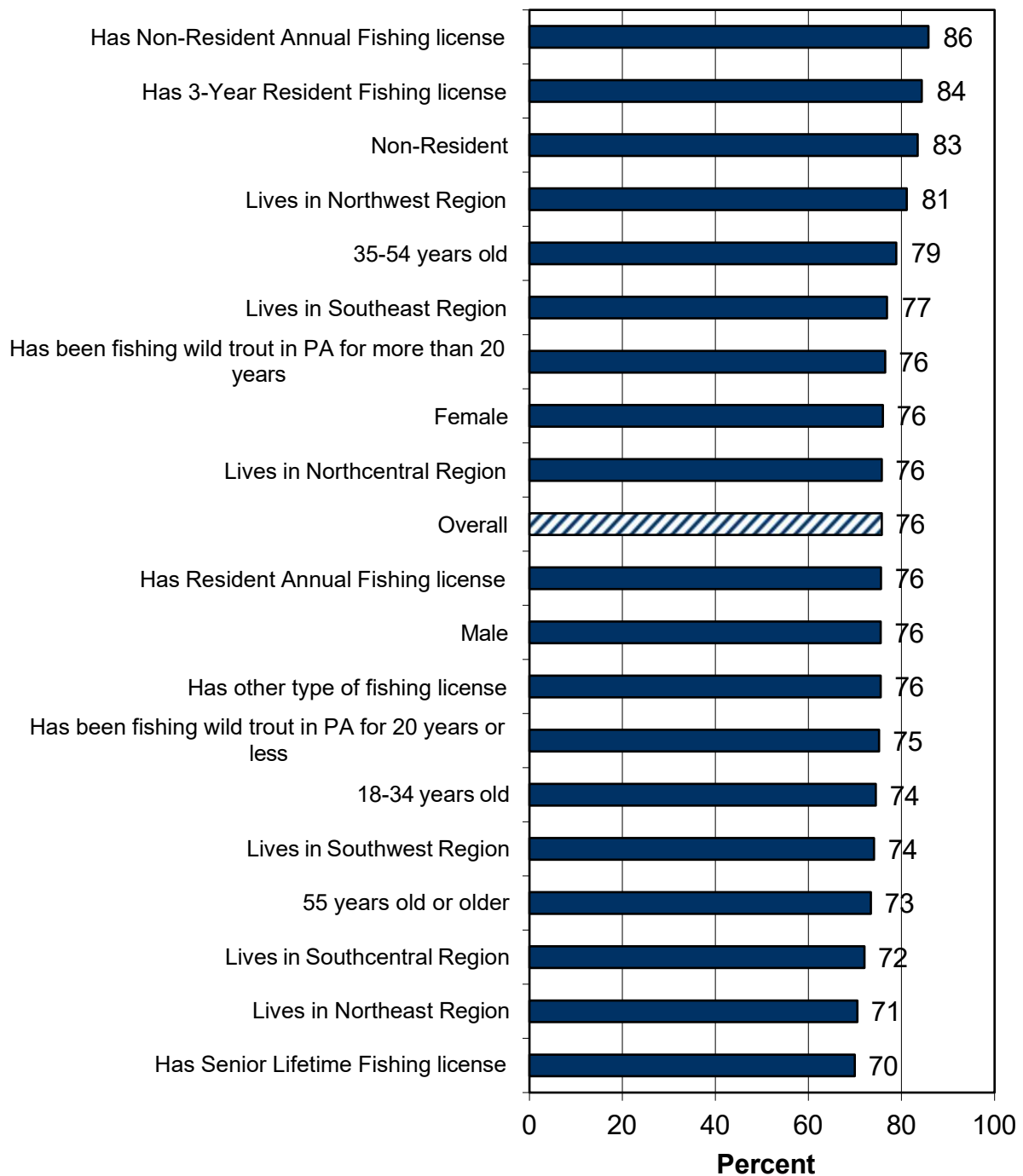
Starting on the next page are demographic analyses graphs showing wild trout anglers. Note that anglers could have fished for multiple species and might be represented on all three graphs. Those most likely to fish for brook trout include anglers with an “other” type of license, anglers from the Northcentral Region, long-time anglers, and anglers in the middle age bracket. Trout anglers most likely to fish for brown trout are holders of a Non-Resident Annual Fishing (and non-residents in general) or a 3-Year Resident Fishing license and anglers living in the Northwest Region. Finally, trout anglers most likely to fish for wild rainbow trout are female anglers, holders of a Non-Resident Annual Fishing license (and non-residents in general), young anglers, and anglers who have been fishing for 20 years or less.

\* Given the relatively low frequency of wild rainbow trout fisheries in Pennsylvania, the angler response rate of 57% likely includes anglers that were fishing for steelhead in Lake Erie tributaries and some stocked rainbow trout in other waters across the commonwealth rather than just anglers targeting wild rainbow trout.

**Percent of each of the following groups who fished for wild brook trout in Pennsylvania during 2022: (Wild trout anglers)**

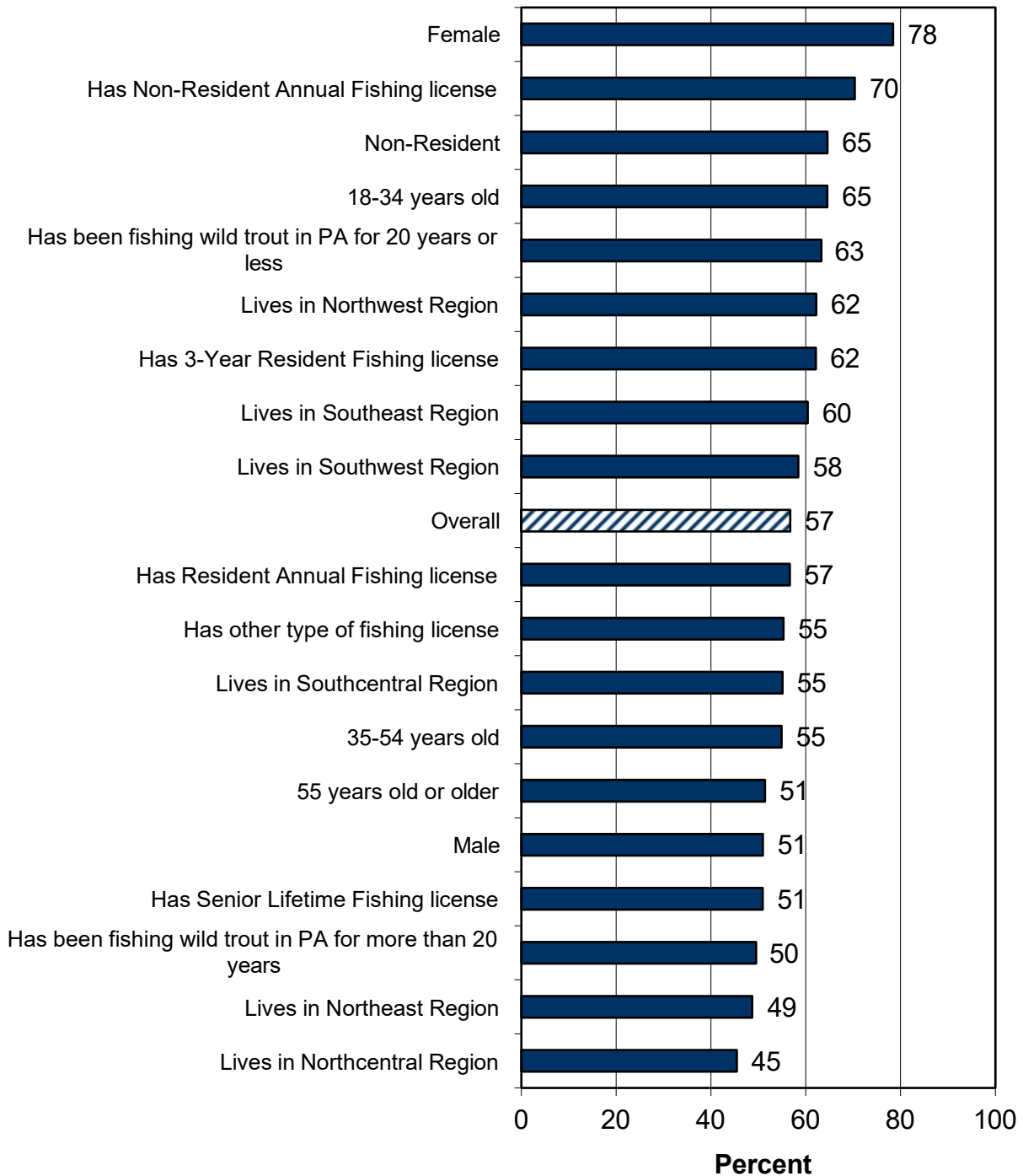


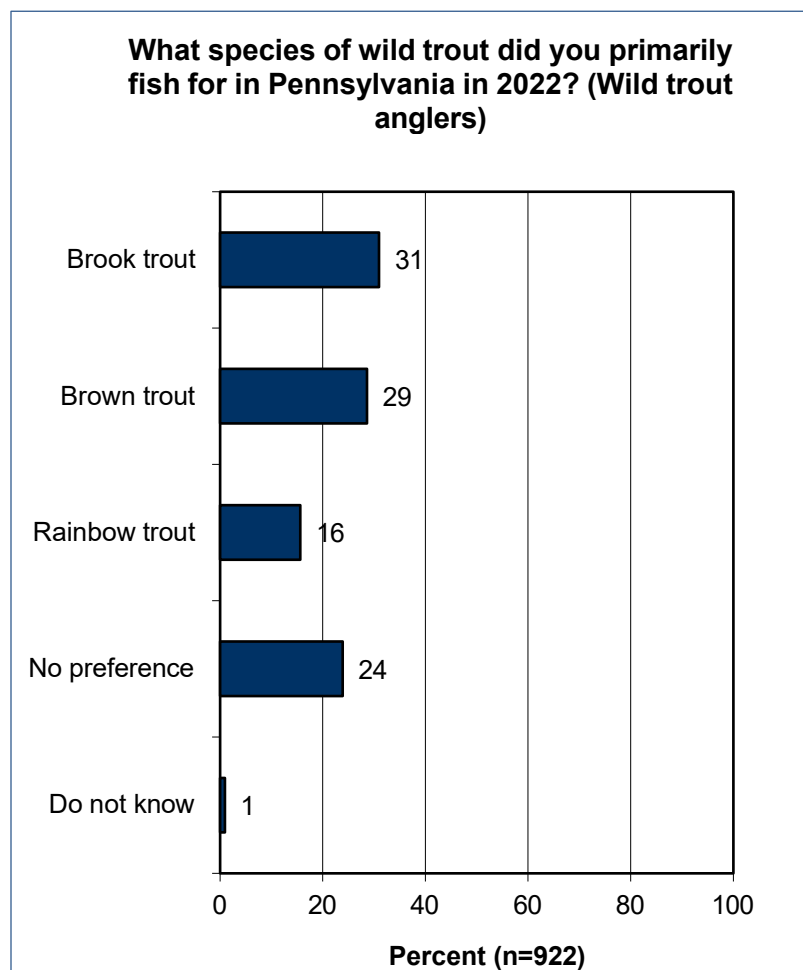
**Percent of each of the following groups who fished for wild brown trout in Pennsylvania during 2022: (Wild trout anglers)**





**Percent of each of the following groups who fished for wild rainbow trout in Pennsylvania during 2022: (Wild trout anglers)**





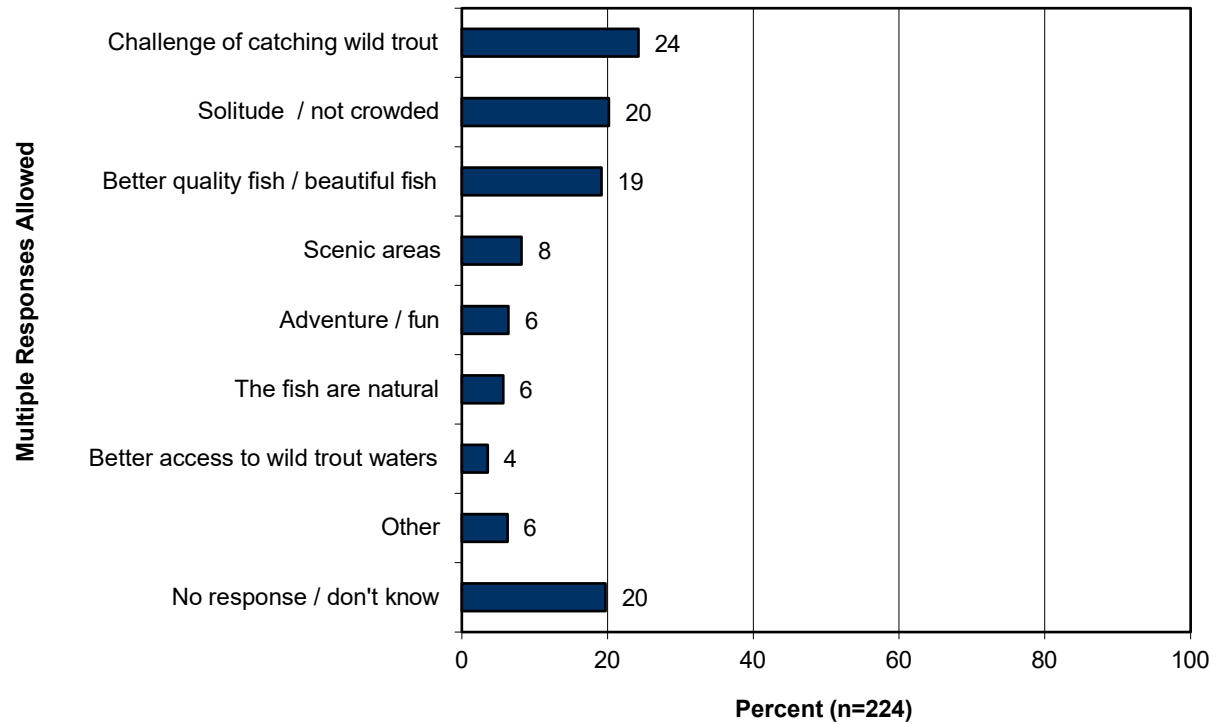
Among the wild trout species, brook and brown trout are fished more than wild rainbow trout, although about a quarter of wild trout anglers had no preference (when asked to choose one that they primarily fished). The footnote previously included about wild rainbow trout applies here, as well.

Northeast Region anglers have a much higher percentage fishing for brook trout, compared to anglers from the other regions. Meanwhile, brown trout was more commonly fished by anglers from the Northcentral Region than anglers from any other region. Finally, anglers from the Northwest Region had the highest percentage fishing primarily for wild rainbow trout.

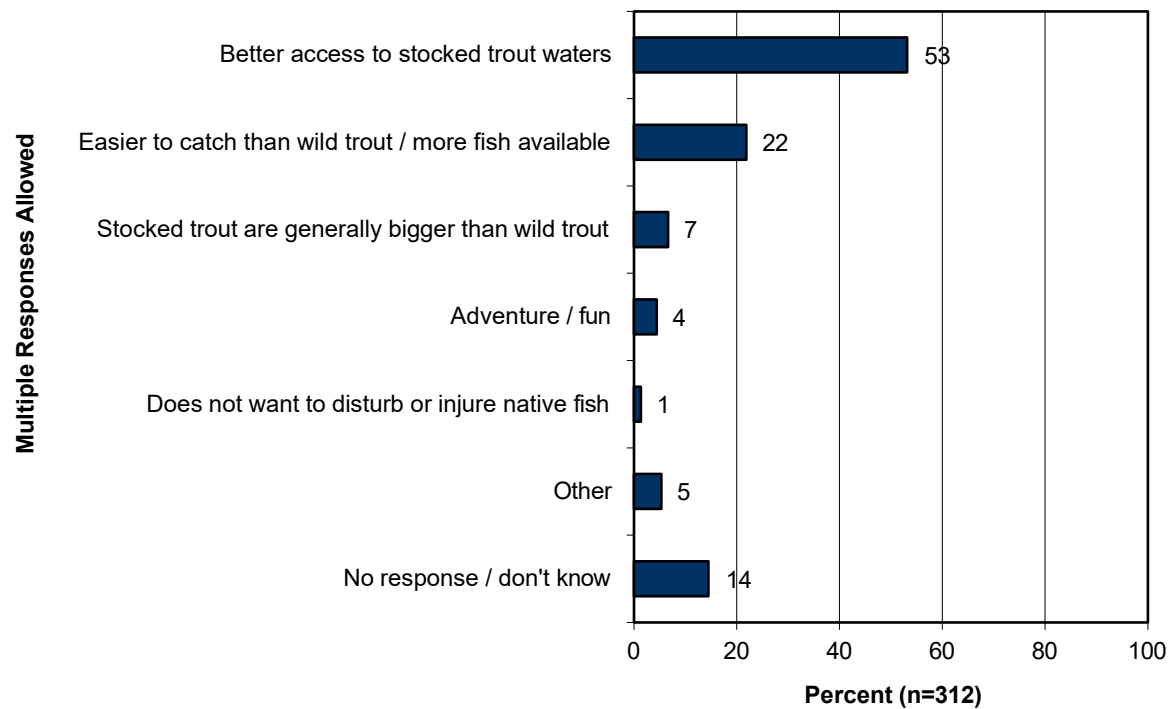
What species of wild trout did you primarily fish for in Pennsylvania in 2022? (Wild trout anglers)							
	Northwest (n=75)	Northcentral (n=106)	Northeast (n=106)	Southwest (n=169)	Southcentral (n=139)	Southeast (n=192)	Non-Resident (n=135)
Brook trout	31	30	41	30	35	26	24
Brown trout	18	41	23	25	22	33	43
Rainbow trout	25	3	10	18	20	16	13
No preference	26	26	27	26	19	25	19
Do not know	0	0	0	1	5	0	1

The survey then asked anglers, in open-ended questions, for their reasons that they preferred wild trout or stocked trout, shown in the next two graphs. Those who preferred wild trout over stocked trout most commonly cited the challenge of catching wild trout, the solitude of wild trout waters, and that wild fish were better quality fish over stocked fish. On the other hand, anglers who preferred stocked trout fishing most often cited the ease of access to the waters and that stocked trout are easier to catch than wild trout. The graphs show the full listing of reasons given in both questions.

### What are the reasons you primarily fish for wild trout more than stocked trout? (Wild trout anglers)

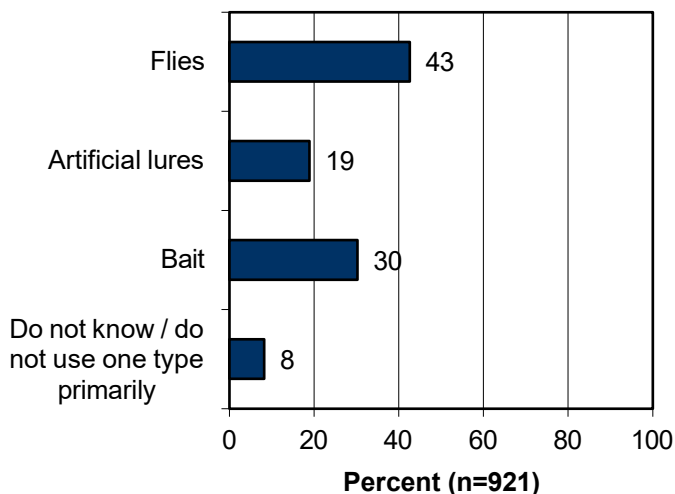


### What are the reasons you primarily fish for stocked trout more than wild trout? (Stocked trout anglers)



The survey also looked at the equipment anglers use. Flies are primarily used more than artificial lures or bait for wild trout. The regional results are tabulated, as well, with fly use markedly low in the Northeast Region. There are only slight variations in use of artificial lures for wild trout by region, and bait use is markedly high in the Northcentral and Northeast Regions.

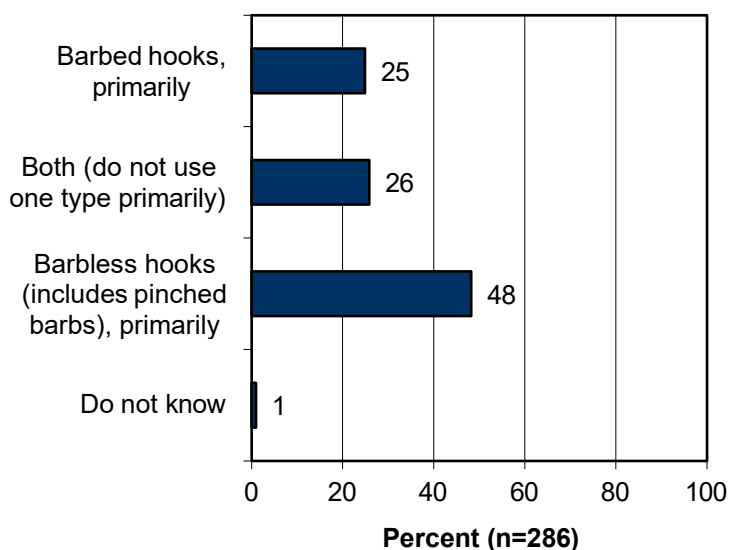
**When wild trout fishing in Pennsylvania, do you primarily use flies, artificial lures, or bait? (Wild trout anglers)**



**When wild trout fishing in Pennsylvania, do you primarily use flies, artificial lures, or bait? (Wild trout anglers)**

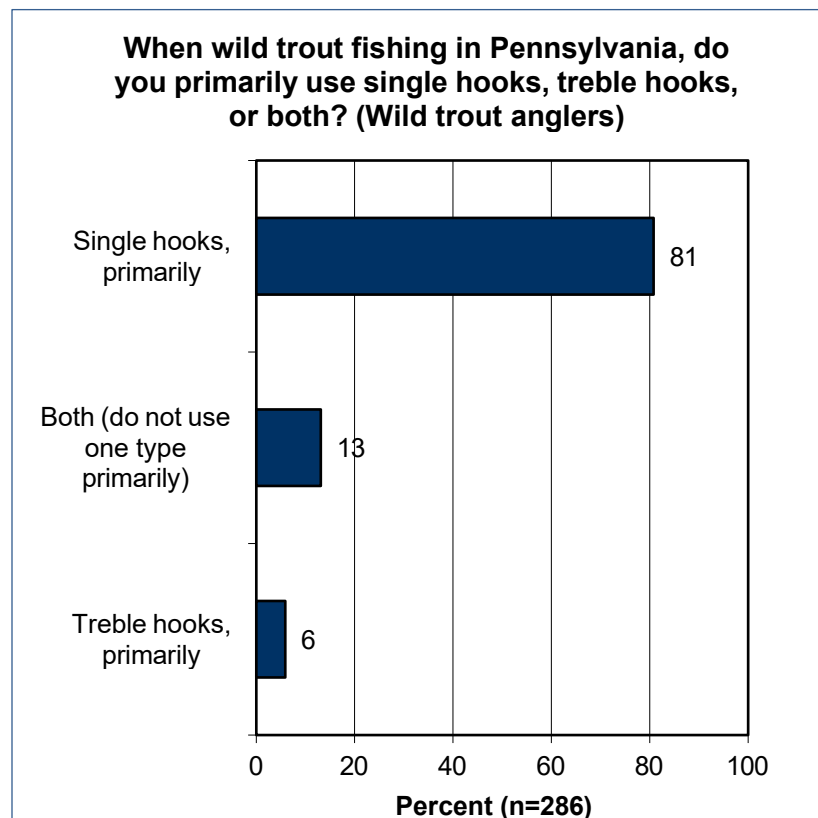
	Northwest (n=75)	Northcentral (n=105)	Northeast (n=106)	Southwest (n=169)	Southcentral (n=139)	Southeast (n=192)	Non-Resident (n=135)
Flies	43	45	31	37	43	43	64
Artificial lures	17	15	19	23	17	21	17
Bait	25	36	37	33	32	28	18
Do not know / do not use one type primarily	15	4	12	7	7	9	1

**When wild trout fishing in Pennsylvania, do you primarily use barbed hooks, barbless hooks (includes pinched barbs), or both? (Wild trout anglers)**



The survey next looked at barbed or barbless hooks, and barbless hooks are used more for wild trout than are barbed hooks. Overall, nearly three quarters (74%) use barbless hooks at least some of the time, while just over half (51%) use barbed hooks at least some of the time. The regional results are in the table that follows.

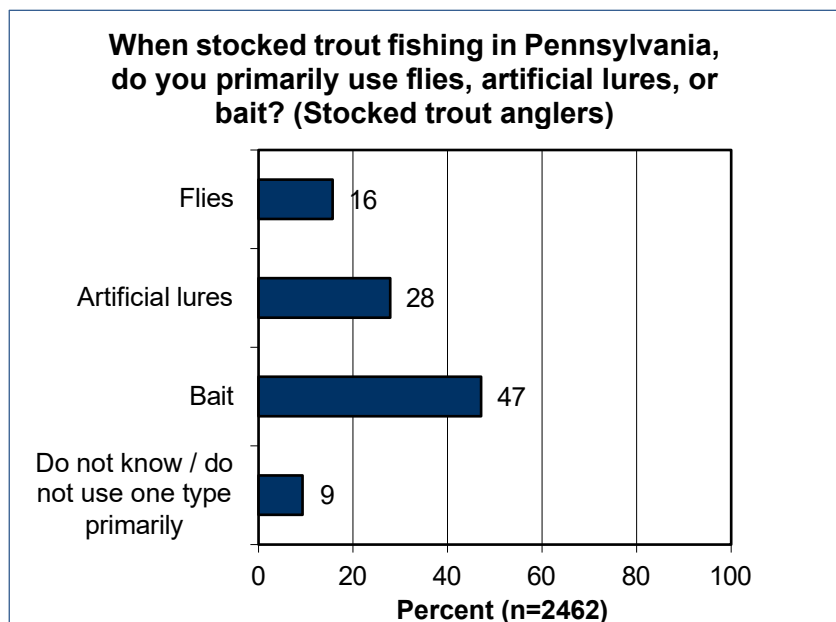
When wild trout fishing in Pennsylvania, do you primarily use barbed hooks, barbless hooks (includes pinched barbs), or both? (Wild trout anglers)							
	Northwest (n=29)	Northcentral (n=33)	Northeast (n=38)	Southwest (n=56)	Southcentral (n=37)	Southeast (n=59)	Non-Resident (n=34)
Barbed hooks, primarily	39	26	28	26	19	18	19
Both (do not use one type primarily)	26	22	30	31	19	23	30
Barbless hooks (includes pinched barbs), primarily	35	52	40	41	63	57	49
Do not know	0	0	2	1	0	1	2



For wild trout, single hooks are overwhelmingly used (81% using them primarily, and 94% using them at all). Meanwhile, 19% use treble hooks some of the time, including 6% using them primarily. The regional results are presented below the graph.

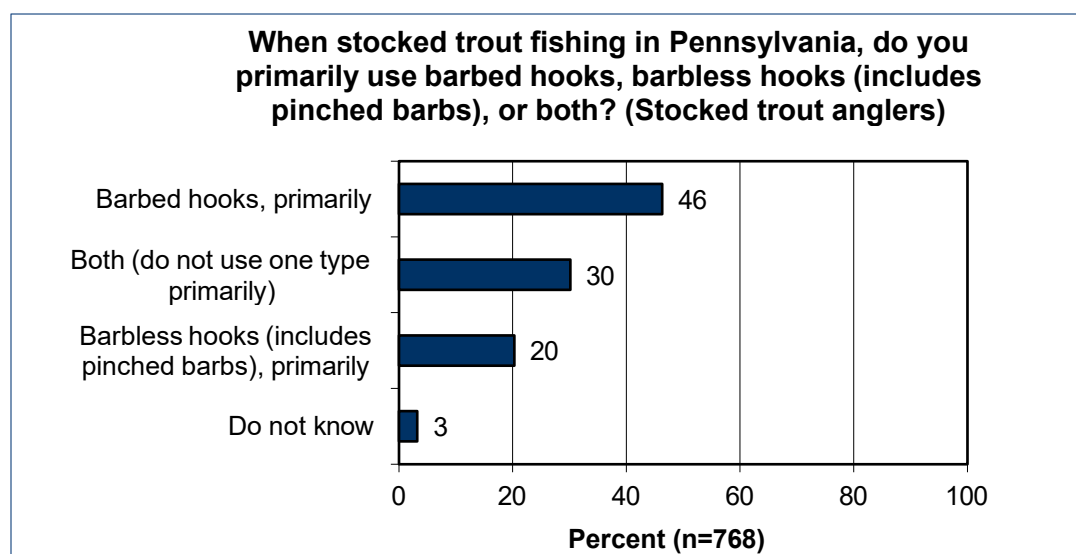
When wild trout fishing in Pennsylvania, do you primarily use single hooks, treble hooks, or both? (Wild trout anglers)							
	Northwest (n=29)	Northcentral (n=33)	Northeast (n=38)	Southwest (n=56)	Southcentral (n=37)	Southeast (n=59)	Non-Resident (n=34)
Single hooks, primarily	87	88	72	84	75	82	74
Both (do not use one type primarily)	9	5	11	12	21	14	22
Treble hooks, primarily	4	7	17	4	4	4	3
Do not know	0	0	0	0	0	0	2

In contrast to anglers fishing for wild trout, those primarily fishing for stocked trout use bait more than they use flies or artificial lures. Regionally, fly use is higher among non-residents than among any of the resident regions. Artificial lure use is particularly high in the Southeast and Northwest Regions, while bait use is particularly high in the Northcentral Region.

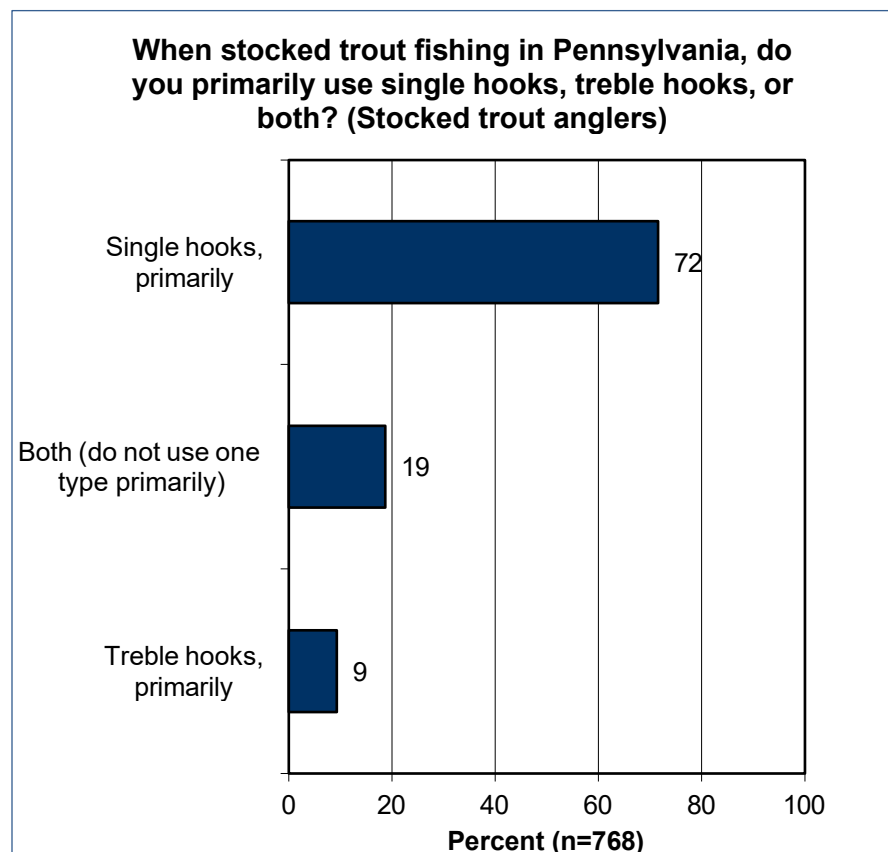


When stocked trout fishing in Pennsylvania, do you primarily use flies, artificial lures, or bait? (Stocked trout anglers)							
	Northwest (n=240)	Northcentral (n=222)	Northeast (n=241)	Southwest (n=532)	Southcentral (n=379)	Southeast (n=596)	Non-Resident (n=252)
Flies	18	19	15	14	12	16	25
Artificial lures	31	17	29	26	25	34	24
Bait	42	57	49	50	52	40	44
Do not know / do not use one type primarily	9	8	7	10	11	10	7

Regarding barbed or barbless hooks, about three quarters of stocked trout anglers (76%) use barbed hooks primarily or equal to their use of barbless hooks. Conversely, half (50%) use barbless hooks primarily or equal to their use of barbed hooks. Regional results are shown in the table that follows.



When stocked trout fishing in Pennsylvania, do you primarily use barbed hooks, barbless hooks (includes pinched barbs), or both? (Stocked trout anglers)							
	Northwest (n=67)	Northcentral (n=69)	Northeast (n=72)	Southwest (n=182)	Southcentral (n=127)	Southeast (n=180)	Non-Resident (n=71)
Barbed hooks, primarily	53	39	42	53	37	52	33
Both (do not use one type primarily)	19	39	31	26	40	25	39
Barbless hooks (includes pinched barbs), primarily	25	21	24	15	20	19	28
Do not know	3	2	2	5	3	3	0

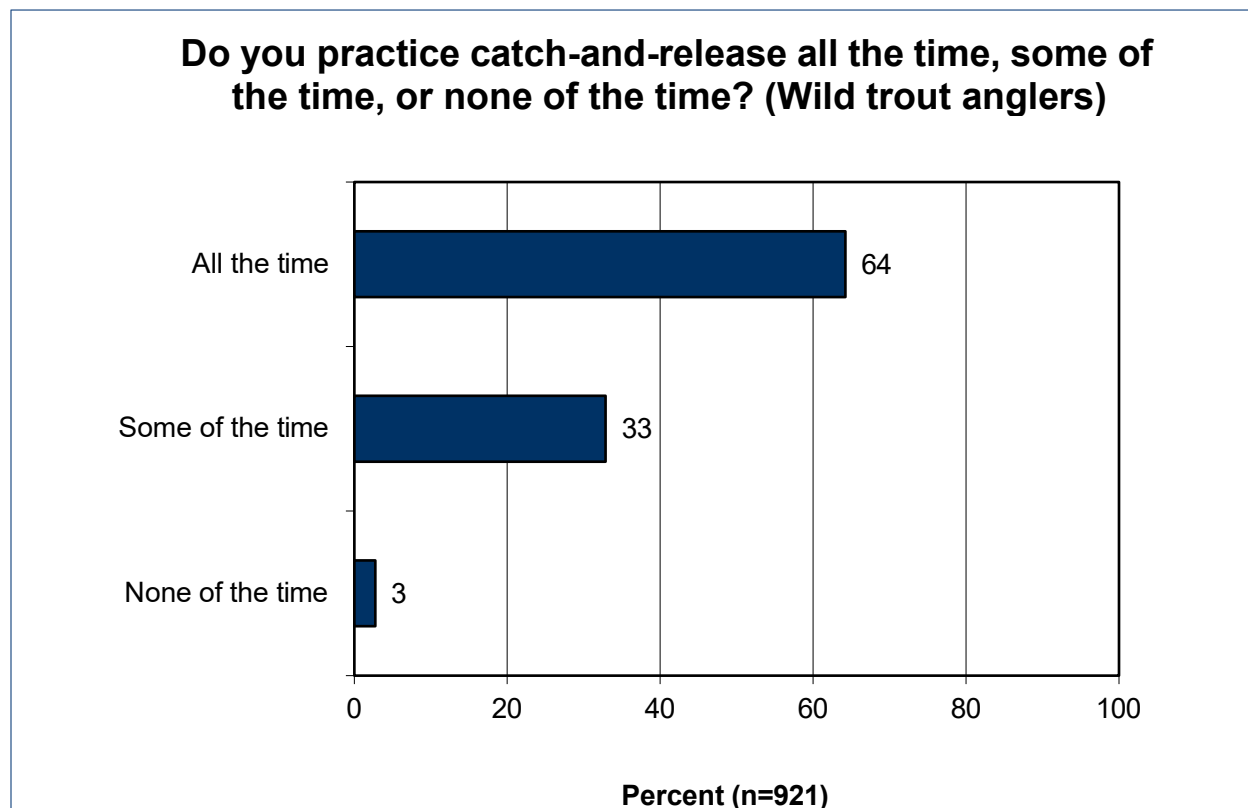


For stocked trout fishing in Pennsylvania, single hooks are used much more often than treble hooks (90% use single hooks primarily or about equal to use of the treble hooks, compared to 28% for using treble hooks primarily or equal to single hook use).

Treble hook use is particularly high in the Northeast and Southcentral Regions.

When stocked trout fishing in Pennsylvania, do you primarily use single hooks, treble hooks, or both? (Stocked trout anglers)							
	Northwest (n=67)	Northcentral (n=69)	Northeast (n=72)	Southwest (n=182)	Southcentral (n=127)	Southeast (n=180)	Non-Resident (n=71)
Single hooks, primarily	76	77	64	78	61	69	84
Both (do not use one type primarily)	16	22	19	14	24	21	11
Treble hooks, primarily	8	1	17	7	14	10	5
Do not know	0	0	0	1	1	0	0

In a question asked only of wild trout anglers, about two thirds of them practice catch-and-release all of the time; only 3% never do so, instead keeping all the wild trout they catch. Northwest Region wild trout anglers are the most likely to keep some (or all) of the wild trout that they catch.

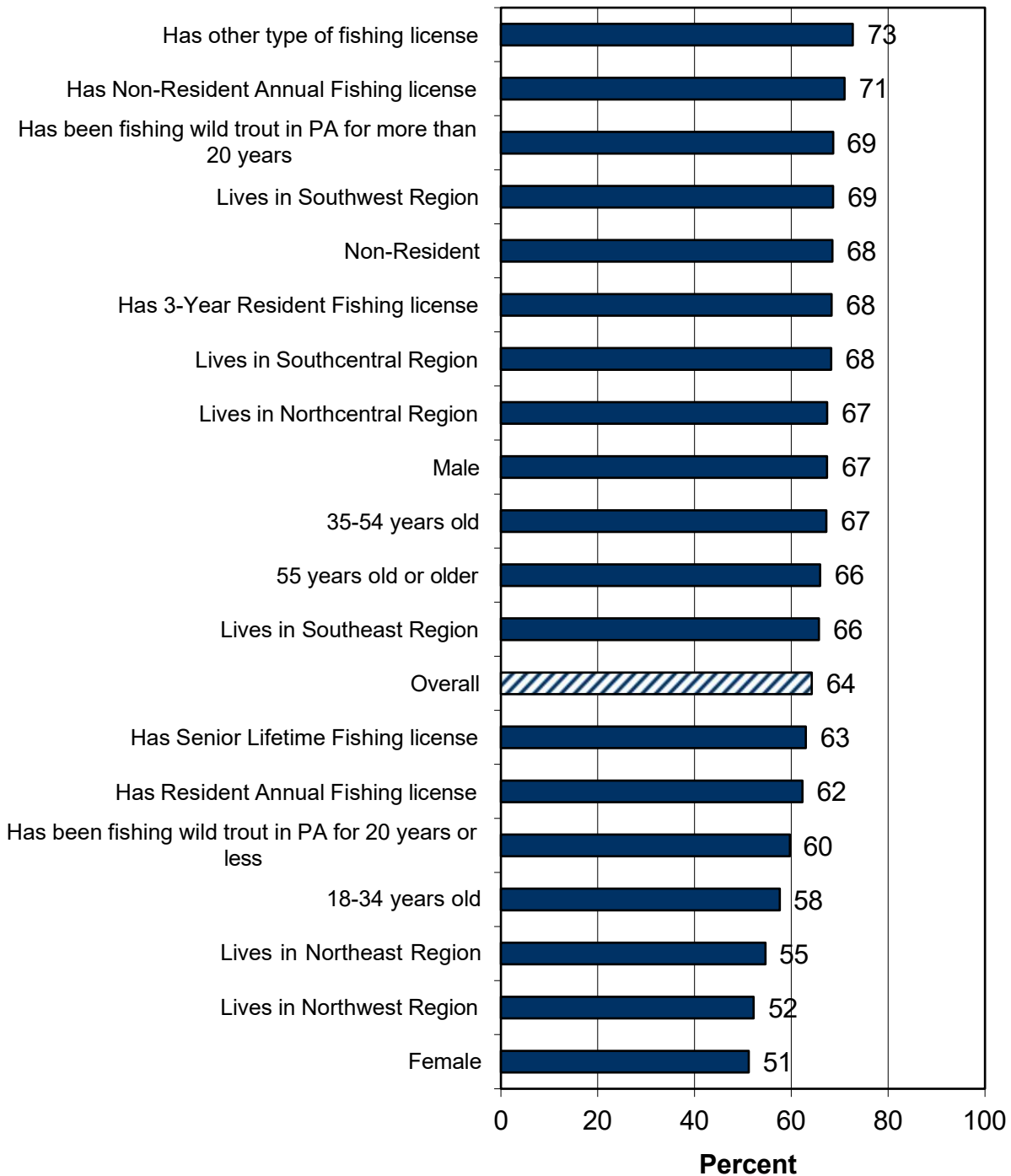


Do you practice catch-and-release all the time, some of the time, or none of the time? (Wild trout anglers)							
	Northwest (n=75)	Northcentral (n=105)	Northeast (n=106)	Southwest (n=169)	Southcentral (n=139)	Southeast (n=192)	Non-Resident (n=135)
All the time	52	67	55	69	68	66	68
Some of the time	47	33	41	29	31	27	30
None of the time	1	0	4	3	1	6	1
Do not know	0	0	0	0	0	1	0

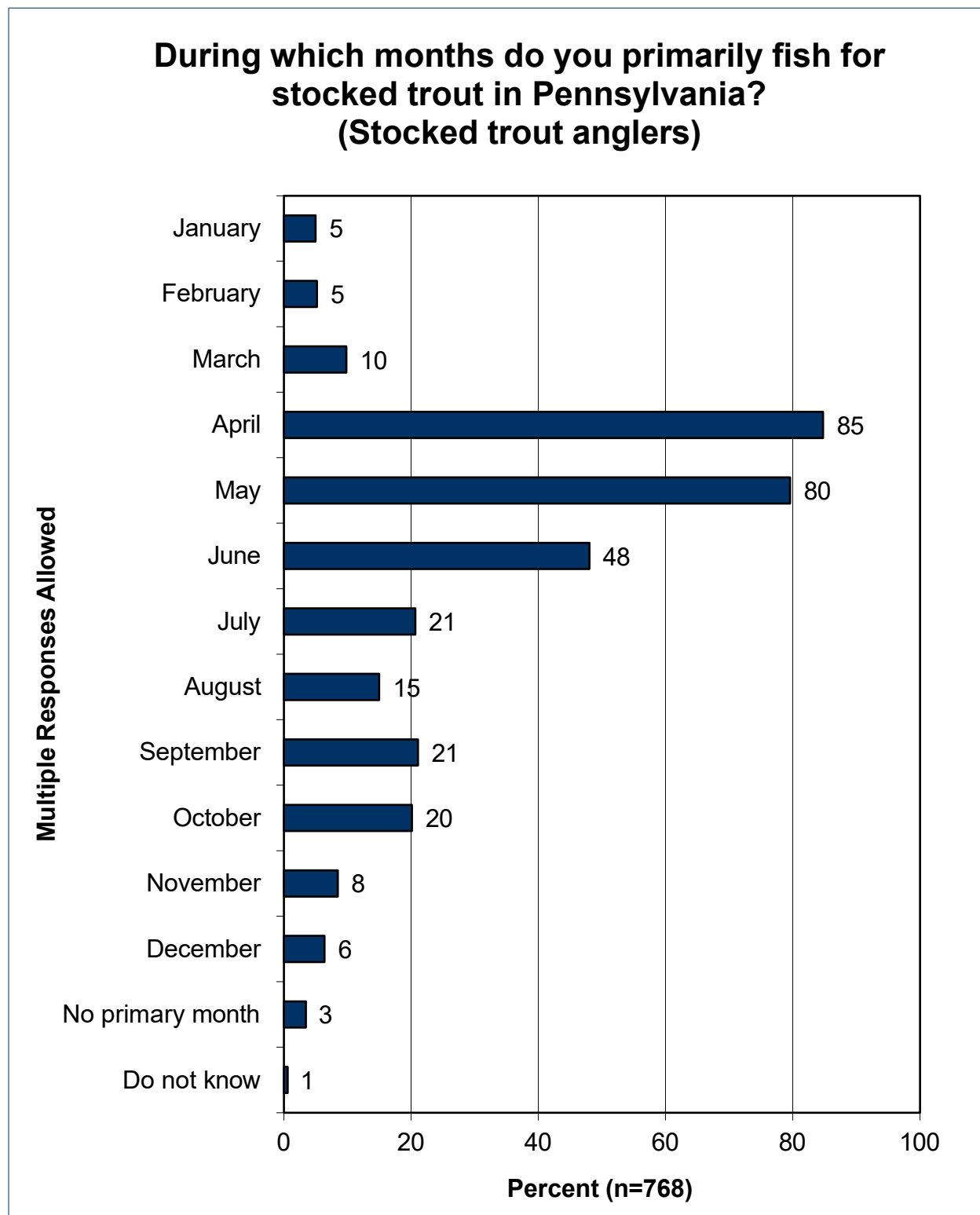
Wild trout anglers who are most likely to release all the wild trout that they catch (as shown in the demographic analyses graph that follows) are those with an “other” category of license, anglers with a Non-Resident Annual Fishing license, long-time anglers, and anglers living in the Southwest Region.



**Percent of each of the following groups who practice catch-and-release all of the time:  
(Wild trout anglers)**

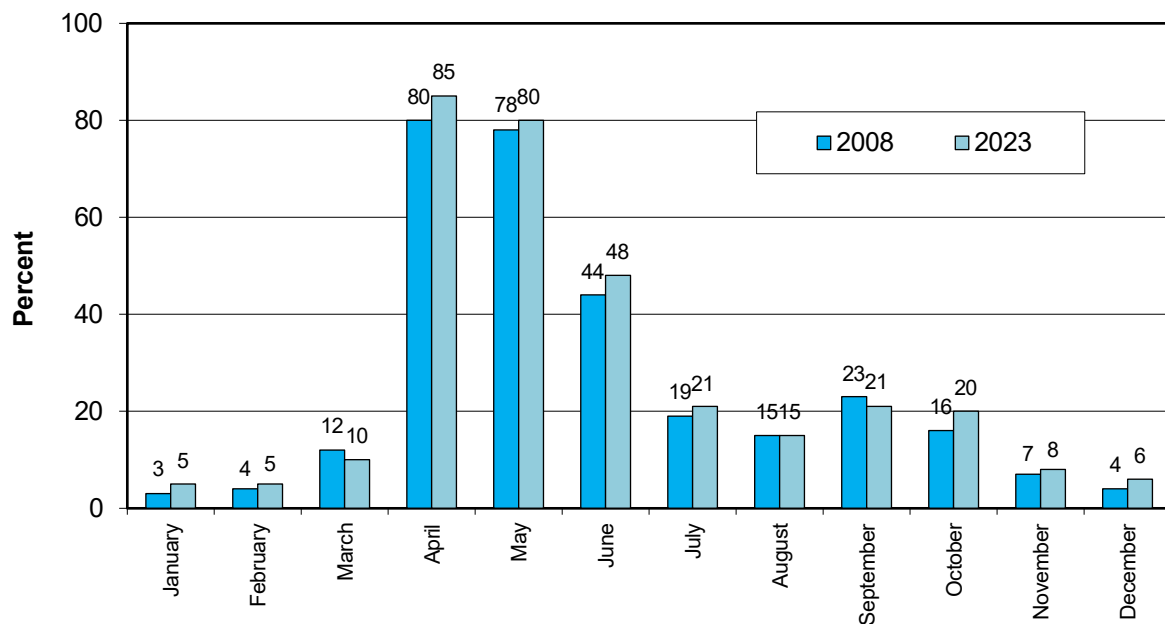


Stocked trout fishing is at its peak in April and May: the overwhelming majority fish in one (or both) of these months. June is another high-participation month. Regional results are shown on the next page, as are the trends (comparing this survey with the one conducted in 2008). The trends do not show a marked change in this pattern of participation.

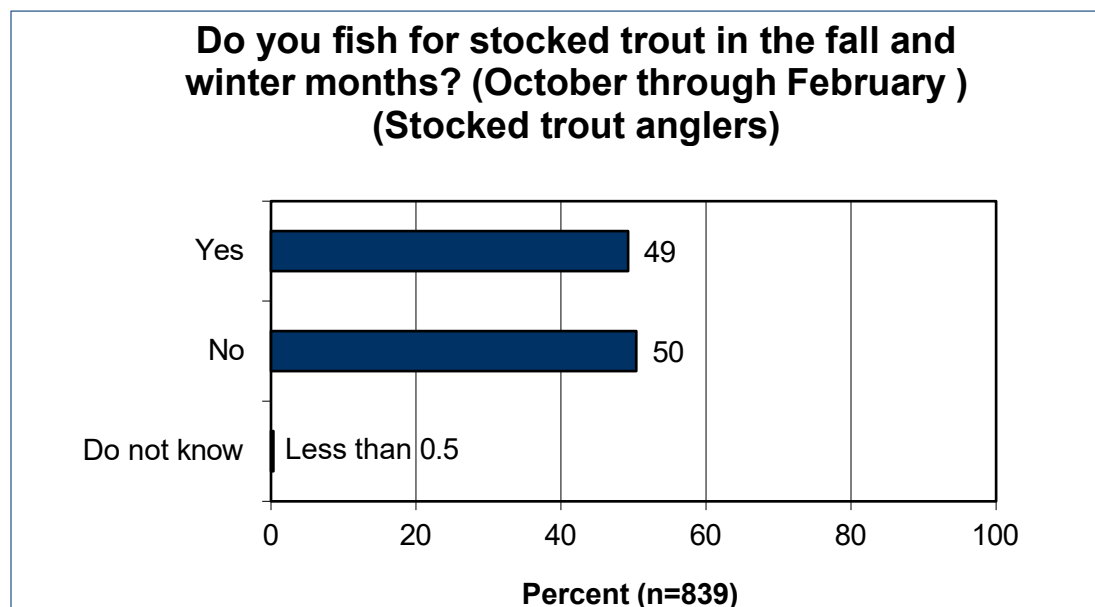


During which months do you primarily fish for stocked trout in Pennsylvania? (Stocked trout anglers)							
	Northwest (n=67)	Northcentral (n=69)	Northeast (n=72)	Southwest (n=182)	Southcentral (n=127)	Southeast (n=180)	Non-Resident (n=71)
January	4	5	7	5	5	6	1
February	3	5	6	6	4	6	4
March	14	5	3	15	5	11	12
April	92	78	88	87	83	83	81
May	76	82	88	79	73	84	73
June	35	53	47	45	53	49	53
July	12	24	26	18	28	18	19
August	12	24	17	14	16	11	19
September	19	25	20	22	17	20	30
October	14	17	19	23	16	23	24
November	8	3	9	12	4	9	10
December	6	5	9	6	7	7	4
No primary month	0	4	5	4	4	3	3

### During which months do you primarily fish for stocked trout in Pennsylvania? (Stocked trout anglers)



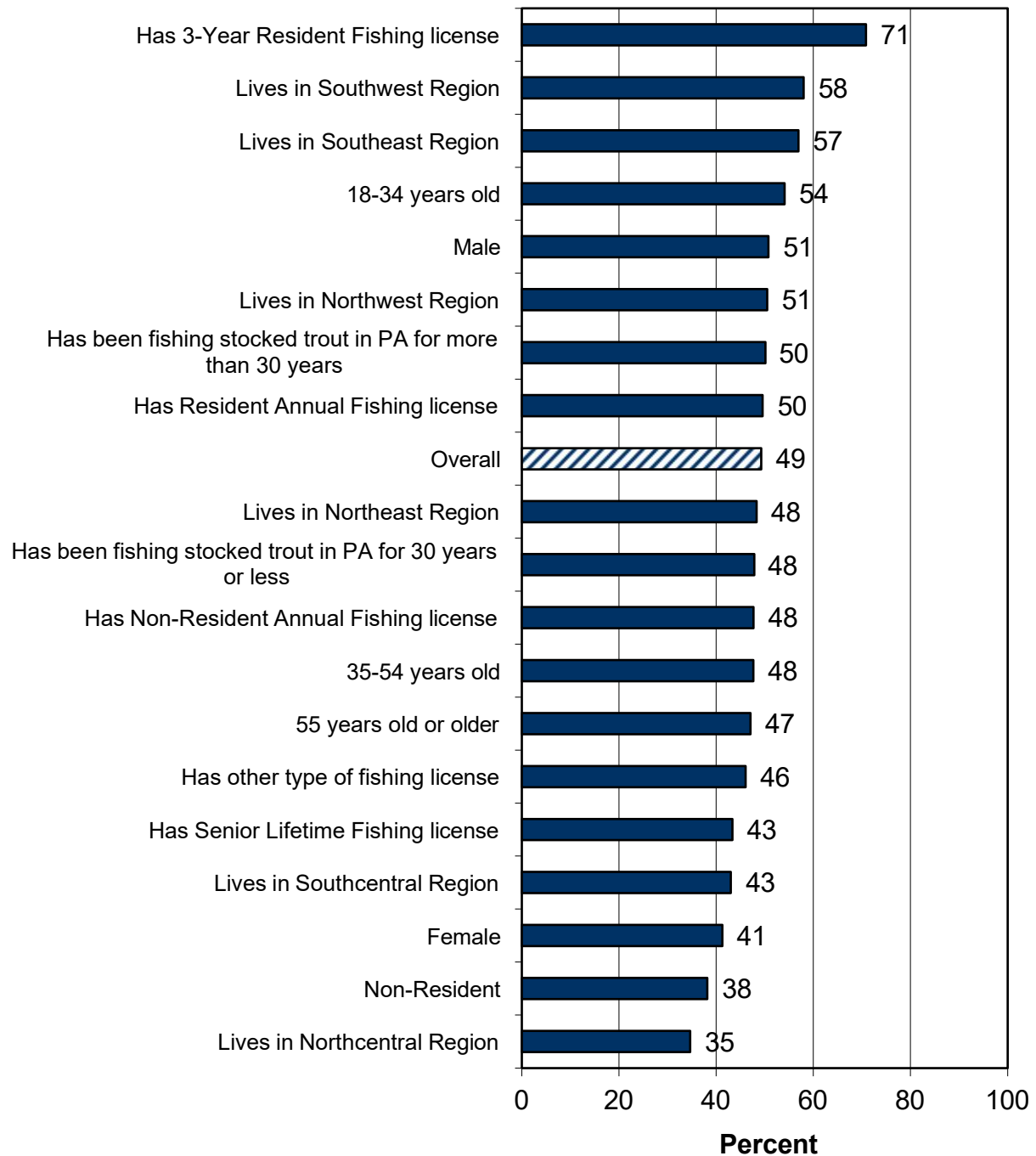
A separate group of stocked trout anglers (the survey used randomly split samples on some questions so that no single respondent had to answer all the questions that the PFBC wanted to ask, as explained in the methods) were asked about fishing for stocked trout in the fall and winter months of October through February: about half do so. Participation in these months is particularly high in the Southwest and Southeast Regions.



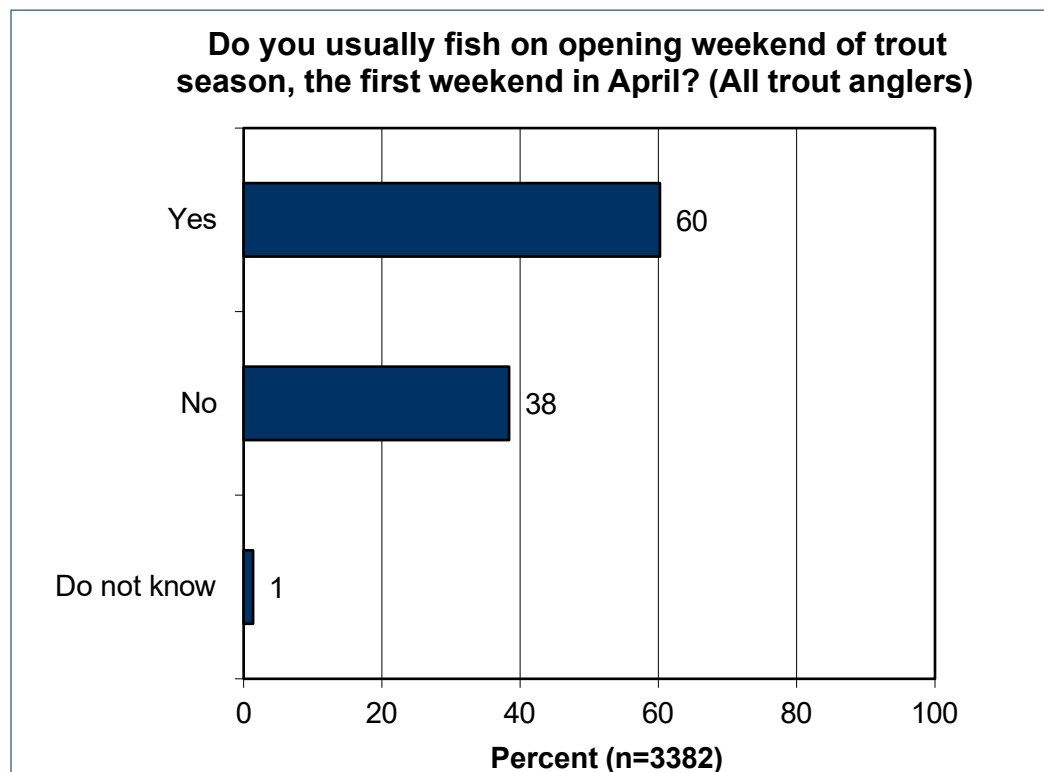
Do you fish for stocked trout in the fall and winter months? (October through February) (Stocked trout anglers)							
	Northwest (n=85)	Northcentral (n=82)	Northeast (n=96)	Southwest (n=160)	Southcentral (n=135)	Southeast (n=188)	Non-Resident (n=93)
Yes	51	35	48	58	43	57	38
No	49	65	52	41	56	43	61
Do not know	0	0	0	1	1	0	1

Anglers with a 3-Year Resident Fishing license are particularly avid in the fall and winter months, as shown in the demographic analyses graph on the next page. Also high on that graph are anglers living in the Southwest and Southeast Regions and younger anglers.

**Percent of each of the following groups who fish for stocked trout in the fall and winter months (October through February): (Stocked trout anglers)**

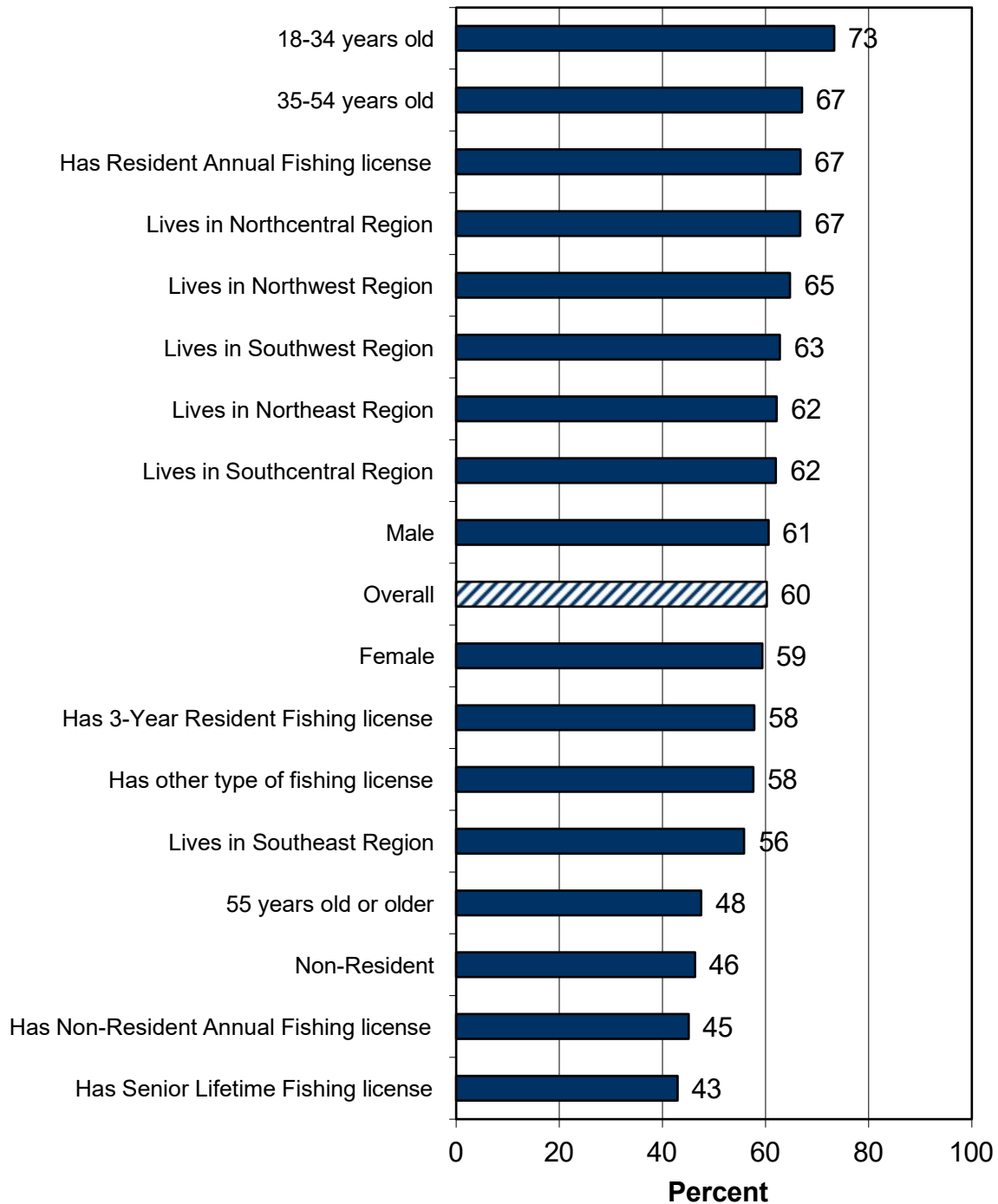


The final question that was explored in this section shows that 60% of all anglers fish on opening weekend, which is the first weekend in April. Anglers from the Southeast Region and non-resident anglers are the least likely to fish on opening day, as shown in the regional table. Finally, the demographic analyses graph (following page) shows that those most likely to fish on opening day are young and middle-aged anglers, holders of a Resident Annual Fishing license, and anglers living in the Northcentral and Northwest Regions.



Do you usually fish on opening weekend of trout season, the first weekend in April? (All trout anglers)							
	Northwest (n=315)	Northcentral (n=327)	Northeast (n=347)	Southwest (n=700)	Southcentral (n=518)	Southeast (n=788)	Non-Resident (n=387)
Yes	65	67	62	63	62	56	46
No	34	32	37	36	36	43	50
Do not know	1	1	1	1	2	1	3

**Percent of each of the following groups who usually fish on opening weeked of trout season (the first weekend in April): (All trout anglers)**



## LOCATIONS FOR TROUT FISHING AND SPECIAL REGULATION AREAS

This section has three subsections: wild trout fishing locations, stocked trout fishing locations, and then locational information about special regulation waters and delayed harvest waters.

### WILD TROUT LOCATIONS

The first table shows the results overall among wild trout anglers, with the most popular water bodies at the top. Penns Creek and Spring Creek each attracts more than 10% of wild trout anglers. The second table (next page) shows the regional results, with the water bodies listed in alphabetical order. Note that the regional breakdown is by where the angler lives, not where the angler fishes. This applies to all these locational tables broken down by region.

Top three preferred water bodies in which to fish for wild trout. (Wild trout anglers)			
Water body (and county)	Percentage of wild trout anglers listing the water body among top three preferred	Water body (and county)	Percentage of wild trout anglers listing the water body among top three preferred
Penns Creek (Centre, Mifflin, and Union Counties)	11	Yellow Creek (Bedford County)	3
Spring Creek (Centre County)	11	Bush Kill Creek (Monroe County)	2
Little Juniata River (Blair and Huntingdon Counties)	9	Cedar Run (Lycoming and Tioga Counties)	2
Kettle Creek (Potter County)	8	Kishacoquillas Creek (Mifflin County)	2
Allegheny River (Warren and Potter Counties)	7	Monocacy Creek (Northampton and Union Counties)	2
Clarion River (Elk County)	6	Saucon Creek (Northampton County)	2
Fishing Creek (Clinton County)	6	Valley Creek (Chester County)	2
Lehigh River (Carbon County)	6	Young Womans Creek (Clinton County)	2
Delaware River (Wayne County)	5	Big Spring Creek (Cumberland County)	1
Little Lehigh Creek (Lehigh County)	5	Bowman Creek (Wyoming County)	1
Slate Run (Lycoming County)	5	Falling Spring Branch (Cumberland County)	1
Yellow Breeches Creek (Cumberland County)	5	Honey Creek (Mifflin County)	1
Bald Eagle Creek (Centre County)	3	Letort Spring Run (Cumberland County)	1
Lackawanna River (Lackawanna and Luzerne Counties)	3	Martins Creek (Northampton and Lehigh Counties)	1
Spruce Creek (Huntingdon County)	3	Pohopoco Creek (Carbon County)	1
West Branch Delaware River (Wayne County)	3	Other	39
West Branch Susquehanna River (Cambria and Montgomery Counties)	3	Do not know	17



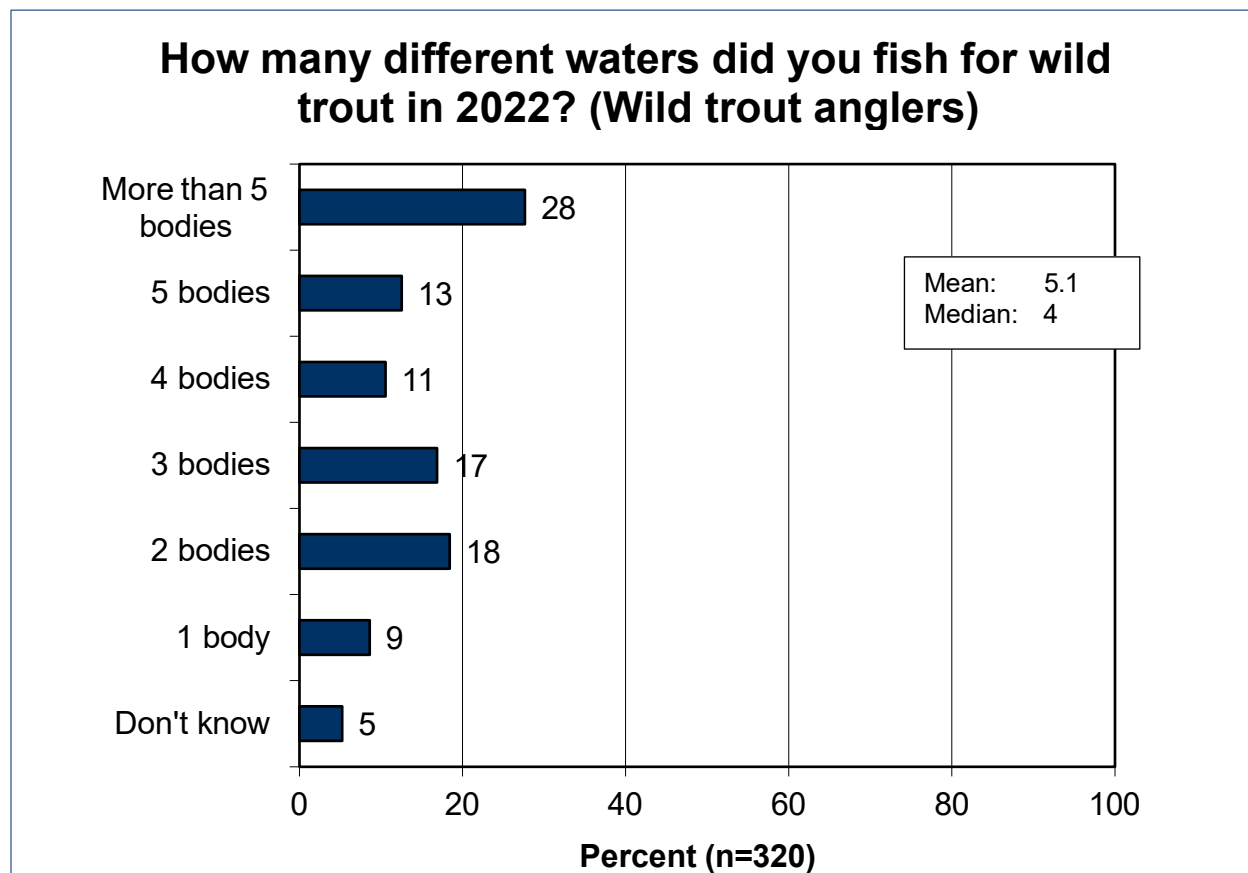
Top three preferred water bodies in which to fish for wild trout. (Wild trout anglers)								
Water body	Percentage of anglers in each region listing the water body among top three preferred							
	Northwest	North-central	Northeast	Southwest	South-central	Southeast	Non-Resident	Overall
Allegheny River	21	10	1	13	2	2	6	7
Bald Eagle Creek	0	15	0	0	3	2	3	3
Big Spring Creek	0	0	1	0	5	1	1	1
Bowman Creek	0	0	7	0	0	2	1	1
Bush Kill Creek	0	0	3	0	0	5	7	2
Cedar Run	1	1	3	0	3	1	3	2
Clarion River	23	13	0	9	1	0	4	6
Delaware River	0	0	15	1	0	8	11	5
Falling Spring Branch	0	0	0	0	2	1	2	1
Fishing Creek	0	17	10	3	5	4	7	6
Honey Creek	0	1	0	0	3	0	0	1
Kettle Creek	5	14	6	10	9	3	12	8
Kishacoquillas Creek	0	4	0	1	7	1	0	2
Lackawanna River	0	0	18	1	0	2	2	3
Lehigh River	2	0	15	0	1	14	6	6
Letort Spring Run	0	0	1	0	6	0	1	1
Little Juniata River	4	10	0	16	15	5	12	9
Little Lehigh Creek	0	2	6	0	0	15	7	5
Martins Creek	0	0	0	0	0	3	0	1
Monocacy Creek	0	0	0	0	0	8	1	2
Penns Creek	0	23	4	8	16	14	14	11
Pohopoco Creek	1	0	2	1	0	4	0	1
Saucon Creek	0	0	0	0	0	6	3	2
Slate Run	5	7	8	2	5	5	7	5
Spring Creek	6	24	2	16	6	10	13	11
Spruce Creek	1	3	1	2	7	1	3	3
Valley Creek	0	0	0	0	0	8	2	2
West Branch Delaware River	0	0	3	0	1	6	8	3
West Branch Susquehanna River	2	6	5	2	2	2	3	3
Yellow Breeches Creek	0	1	0	1	20	5	5	5
Yellow Creek	1	0	0	7	5	0	2	3
Young Womans Creek	1	5	0	1	1	1	5	2
Other	42	36	46	42	38	35	29	39
Do not know	35	11	12	19	21	12	11	17

The survey also recorded the county in which the angler's preferred water body is located (or the county in which the angler prefers to fish that particular water body, for those water bodies spanning more than one county). They are ranked from most popular to least popular in the table of the overall results, with Centre and Potter being the most popular. The table on the following page shows the regional results (with the overall results in the last column).

Counties in which water bodies are located. (Wild trout anglers)			
County	Percentage of wild trout anglers whose preferred water body is in the county	County	Percentage of wild trout anglers whose preferred water body is in the county
Centre	17	Allegheny	1
Potter	10	Clearfield	1
Clinton	8	Butler	1
Carbon	8	Lawrence	1
Wayne	7	Montgomery	1
Cumberland	7	Dauphin	1
Elk	7	Cameron	1
Lycoming	7	Crawford	1
Huntingdon	7	Snyder	1
Lehigh	5	Lancaster	1
Monroe	4	Mercer	1
Bedford	4	York	1
Warren	3	Franklin	1
Erie	3	Northumberland	1
Union	3	Sullivan	1
Somerset	3	Columbia	1
Mifflin	3	Bradford	1
Lackawanna	3	Pike	1
Fayette	3	Clarion	1
Northampton	2	Indiana	Less than 0.5
Westmoreland	2	Greene	Less than 0.5
Venango	2	Fulton	Less than 0.5
Chester	2	Delaware	Less than 0.5
Berks	2	Lebanon	Less than 0.5
Forest	2	Susquehanna	Less than 0.5
Wyoming	2	Washington	Less than 0.5
Blair	2	Bucks	Less than 0.5
McKean	2	Adams	Less than 0.5
Perry	2	Armstrong	Less than 0.5
Cambria	2	Beaver	Less than 0.5
Tioga	2	Jefferson	Less than 0.5
Schuylkill	2	Montour	Less than 0.5
Luzerne	2	Philadelphia	0
Juniata	1	Not sure of county	11

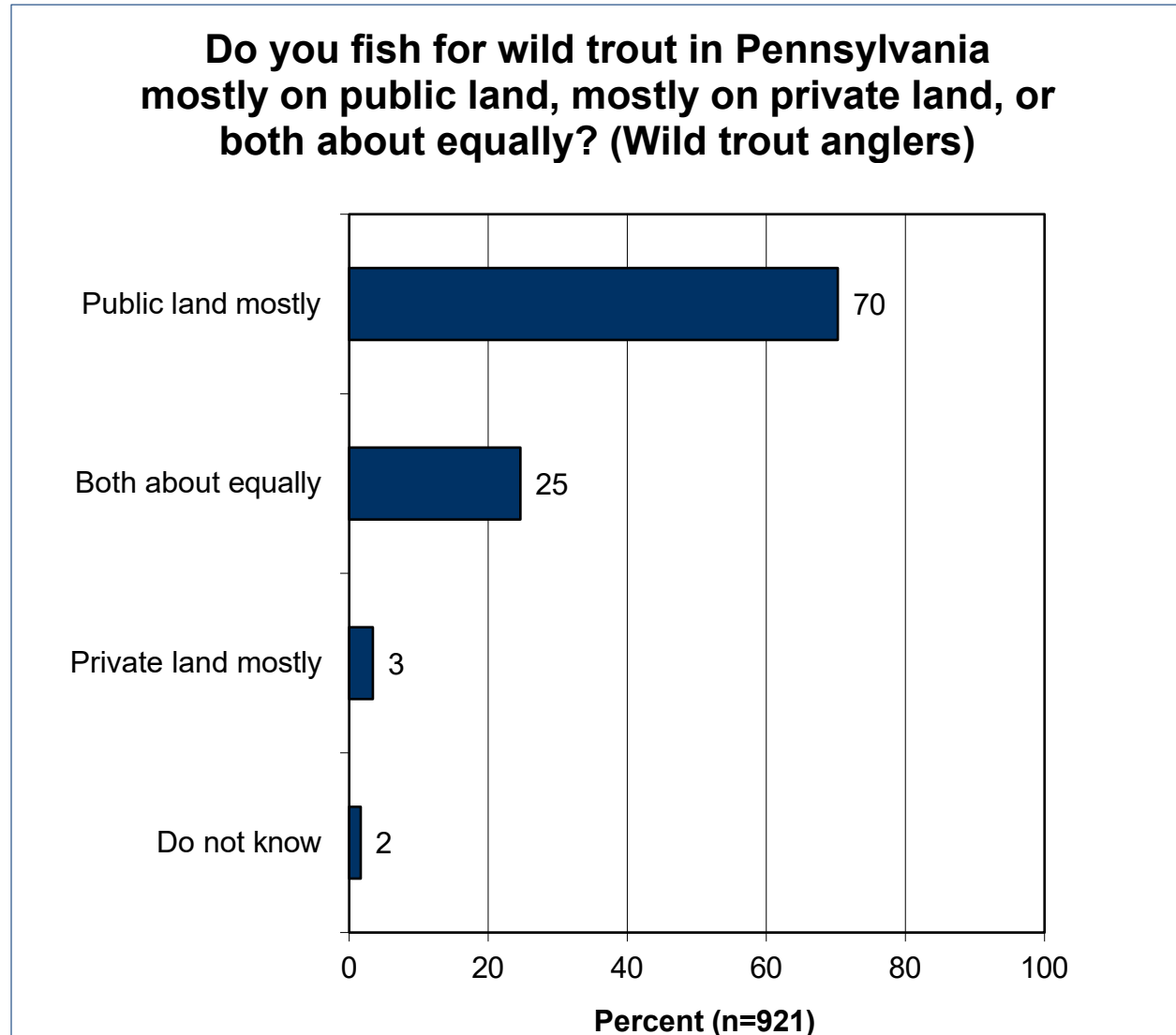
Counties in which water bodies are located. (Wild trout anglers)								
County	Percentage of wild trout anglers in each region whose preferred water body is in the county							
	Northwest	Northcentral	Northeast	Southwest	Southcentral	Southeast	Non-Resident	Overall
Adams	0	0	0	0	1	0	1	0
Allegheny	0	2	0	4	0	1	1	1
Armstrong	0	0	0	1	0	0	0	0
Beaver	0	0	0	1	0	0	0	0
Bedford	1	0	0	11	8	1	2	4
Berks	0	0	0	0	0	10	0	2
Blair	0	1	0	2	7	1	1	2
Bradford	1	0	3	0	0	0	1	1
Bucks	0	0	0	0	0	1	0	0
Butler	8	0	1	2	0	0	0	1
Cambria	2	0	0	7	0	0	2	2
Cameron	1	0	1	2	1	2	0	1
Carbon	3	0	18	1	1	19	6	8
Centre	6	46	5	20	13	16	17	17
Chester	0	0	0	0	0	9	3	2
Clarion	1	0	0	3	0	0	0	1
Clearfield	0	8	0	1	2	0	1	1
Clinton	1	24	13	4	6	5	13	8
Columbia	0	2	4	0	0	0	0	1
Crawford	9	0	0	0	0	0	0	1
Cumberland	0	1	1	2	30	5	7	7
Dauphin	0	1	0	0	5	1	0	1
Delaware	0	0	0	0	0	2	0	0
Elk	26	16	0	10	2	0	4	7
Erie	16	0	0	3	0	1	4	3
Fayette	4	0	0	10	0	0	2	3
Forest	10	0	0	5	0	0	3	2
Franklin	0	0	0	0	5	0	0	1
Fulton	0	0	0	0	1	1	1	0
Greene	0	0	0	2	0	0	1	0
Huntingdon	2	6	1	7	17	4	8	7
Indiana	2	0	0	1	0	0	0	0
Jefferson	0	0	0	0	0	0	1	0
Juniata	0	2	0	2	2	2	1	1
Lackawanna	0	0	18	0	0	1	1	3
Lancaster	0	0	0	0	0	4	0	1
Lawrence	10	0	0	1	0	0	0	1
Lebanon	0	0	0	0	1	1	0	0
Lehigh	0	2	6	0	0	17	7	5
Luzerne	0	0	11	0	0	0	1	2
Lycoming	5	8	14	2	9	5	9	7
McKean	4	6	0	5	0	0	0	2
Mercer	7	0	0	0	0	0	1	1
Mifflin	0	5	0	1	10	1	1	3
Monroe	0	0	8	0	0	7	12	4
Montgomery	0	0	0	0	0	5	1	1
Montour	0	0	0	0	0	0	1	0
Northampton	0	0	0	0	0	9	6	2
Northumberland	0	3	0	0	3	0	0	1
Perry	0	0	0	0	11	0	0	2
Philadelphia	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	0
Pike	0	0	3	0	0	0	1	1
Potter	9	22	7	12	9	5	16	10
Schuylkill	0	0	0	0	3	5	0	2
Snyder	0	2	0	1	3	0	0	1
Somerset	1	0	0	13	0	0	1	3
Sullivan	0	0	4	0	0	0	1	1
Susquehanna	0	0	1	0	0	1	1	0
Tioga	0	4	0	0	2	4	1	2
Union	2	10	1	1	3	2	2	3
Venango	9	1	0	5	0	0	2	2
Warren	16	3	0	3	0	0	3	3
Washington	0	0	0	2	0	0	0	0
Wayne	0	0	21	1	1	13	17	7
Westmoreland	2	0	0	10	0	0	2	2
Wyoming	0	1	10	0	1	3	1	2
York	0	0	0	0	4	0	1	1
Not sure of county	10	11	7	10	11	12	14	11

The overwhelming majority of wild trout anglers fished multiple waters for wild trout in Pennsylvania in 2022, including slightly more than a quarter (28%) who fished more than 5 different water bodies and about half (51%, summed on unrounded numbers) who fished in 4 or more water bodies. The mean number is 5.1 water bodies, and the median is 4 water bodies. Anglers from the Southwest Region are the most active in terms of visiting different water bodies, as shown in the accompanying table.



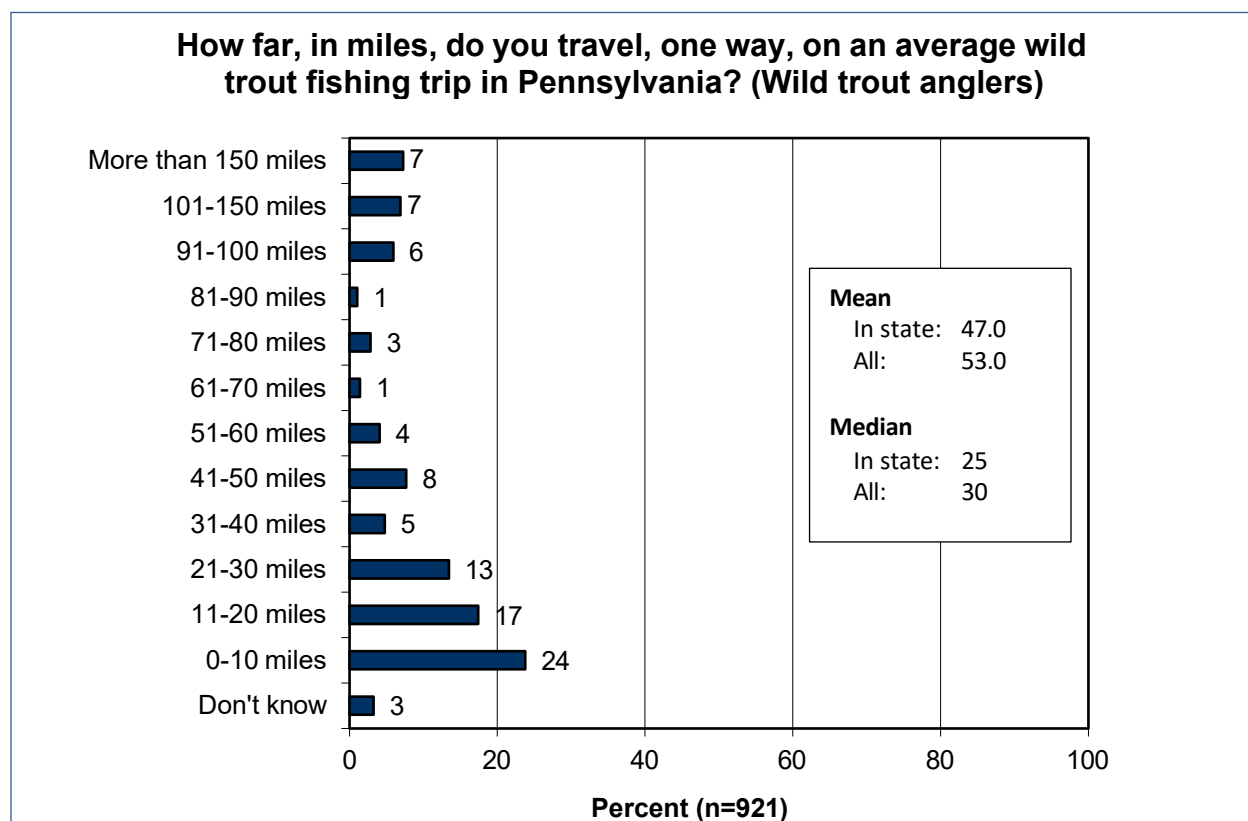
How many different waters did you fish for wild trout in 2022? (Wild trout anglers)							
	Northwest (n=26)	Northcentral (n=29)	Northeast (n=43)	Southwest (n=61)	Southcentral (n=53)	Southeast (n=62)	Non-Resident (n=46)
More than 5 bodies	29	25	19	32	28	27	36
5 bodies	19	9	10	18	11	10	8
4 bodies	3	12	15	11	16	9	2
3 bodies	17	28	15	19	16	14	16
2 bodies	14	6	26	14	15	28	15
1 body	12	17	5	1	11	8	20
Don't know	7	3	10	5	4	5	2
Mean	5.2	5.1	4.8	5.6	4.6	5.5	4.9
Median	5	3	3	5	4	3	3
4 or more	50	46	44	61	55	46	46

Most wild trout fishing occurs on public land: 70% fished for wild trout mostly on public land, and 95% did so mostly or about equally to doing so on public land. This compares to 3% mostly on private land and 28% mostly or equally on private land. Anglers from the Southeast Region, as shown in the table, have the least private land use.



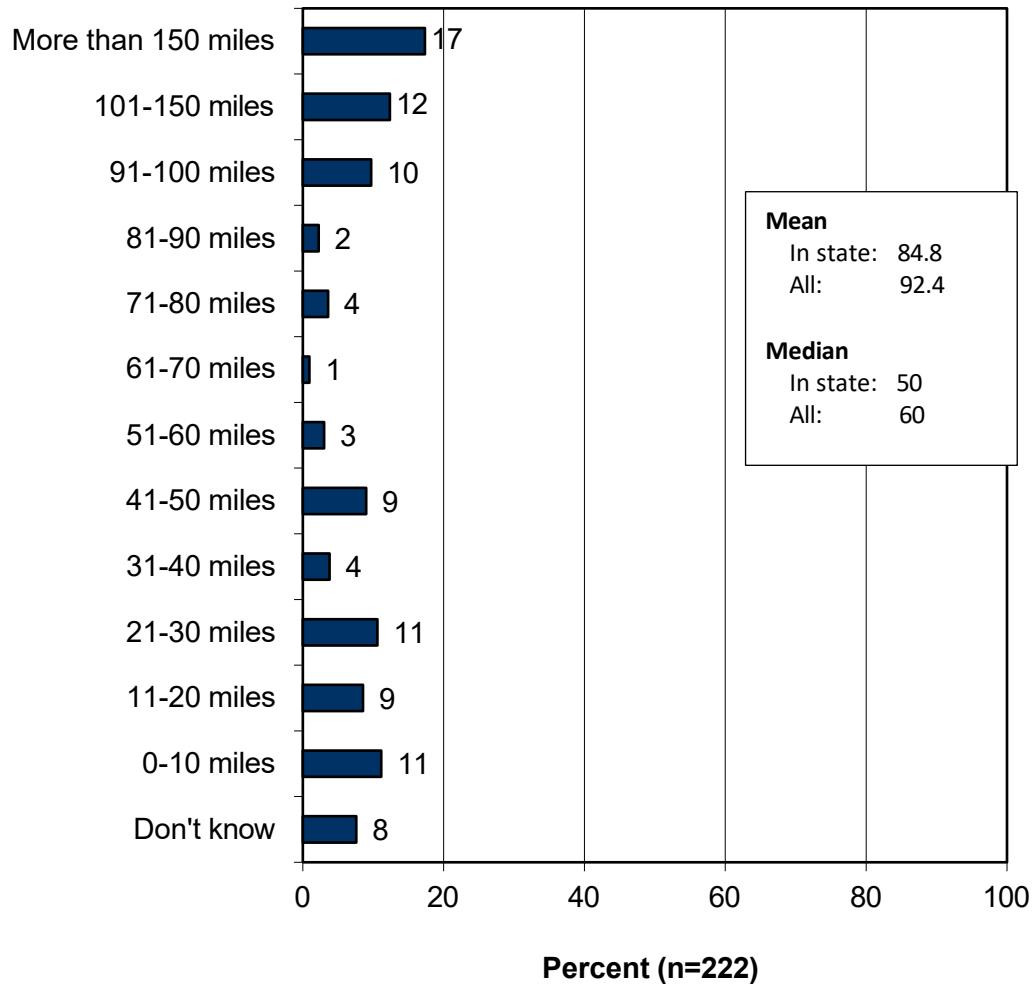
Do you fish for wild trout in Pennsylvania mostly on public land, mostly on private land, or both about equally? (Wild trout anglers)							
	Northwest (n=75)	Northcentral (n=105)	Northeast (n=106)	Southwest (n=169)	Southcentral (n=139)	Southeast (n=192)	Non-Resident (n=135)
Public land mostly	61	73	68	73	68	76	68
Both about equally	36	20	23	23	29	20	26
Private land mostly	3	4	5	3	3	2	6
Do not know	0	3	4	0	1	3	0
Any public	97	93	91	96	96	95	94
Any private	39	24	28	26	31	22	32

The survey asked anglers to indicate their travel distance on a typical wild trout fishing trip and their maximum travel distance for wild trout fishing. Overall, for the typical travel distance, the mean among in-state residents is 47.0, and the median among residents is 25 miles (one-way). About a quarter (24%) typically go no more than 10 miles to fish wild trout in Pennsylvania. Regarding the maximum travel distance among residents, the mean is 84.8 miles and the median is 50 miles. Southwest Region anglers travel the farthest (among the state regions, as non-residents travel farther than any resident angler). Among non-residents, their mean of typical travel distance is 111.5 miles, and their median is 70 miles. Non-residents' farthest distance is as follows: a mean of 165.0 miles, and a median of 140 miles.



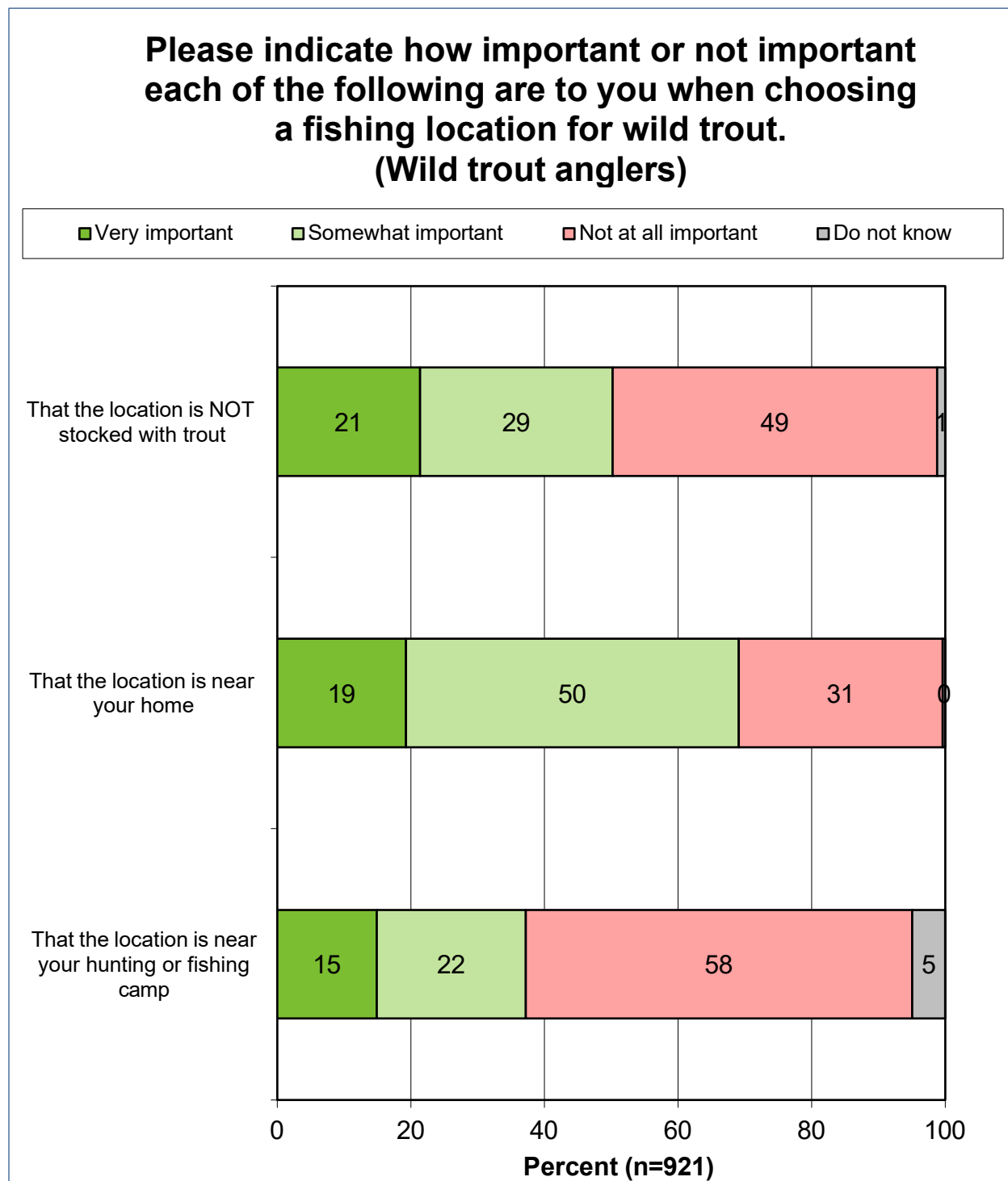
How far, in miles, do you travel, one way, on an average wild trout fishing trip in Pennsylvania? (Wild trout anglers)							
	Northwest (n=75)	Northcentral (n=105)	Northeast (n=106)	Southwest (n=169)	Southcentral (n=139)	Southeast (n=192)	Non-Resident (n=135)
More than 150 miles	4	0	1	8	3	8	30
101-150 miles	2	0	3	14	3	9	12
91-100 miles	7	3	4	9	3	9	4
81-90 miles	1	0	1	3	1	1	1
71-80 miles	7	2	1	4	3	3	2
61-70 miles	4	1	0	1	2	1	2
51-60 miles	3	5	3	7	5	3	3
41-50 miles	7	10	7	10	8	5	7
31-40 miles	2	7	4	8	5	3	3
21-30 miles	12	22	17	7	18	11	11
11-20 miles	20	18	21	14	18	19	10
0-10 miles	31	29	37	10	27	24	11
Don't know	0	3	2	4	6	3	4
Mean	42.2	27.2	28.1	70.5	36.0	58.7	111.5
Median	20	25	20	50	25	30	70

### What's the farthest distance you travel to fish for wild trout in Pennsylvania, one-way? (Wild trout anglers)



What's the farthest distance you travel to fish for wild trout in Pennsylvania, one-way? (Wild trout anglers)							
	Northwest (n=19)	Northcentral (n=22)	Northeast (n=29)	Southwest (n=42)	Southcentral (n=33)	Southeast (n=49)	Non-Resident (n=28)
More than 150 miles	7	9	7	27	16	14	44
101-150 miles	0	4	5	16	14	20	18
91-100 miles	9	15	5	13	10	6	16
81-90 miles	8	0	3	2	0	3	0
71-80 miles	4	9	5	0	5	4	0
61-70 miles	0	0	0	2	0	3	0
51-60 miles	4	4	5	4	2	0	5
41-50 miles	27	14	7	10	6	5	0
31-40 miles	0	8	4	9	2	1	3
21-30 miles	20	9	18	0	16	11	2
11-20 miles	0	9	24	3	4	11	9
0-10 miles	18	16	17	5	8	15	0
Don't know	4	4	0	10	18	8	3
Mean	55.4	69.1	49.2	124.4	88.9	92.8	165.0
Median	45	50	25	100	75	75	140

Anglers rated the importance of three factors when choosing a location to fish wild trout. They are ranked by *very* important responses, showing that the top factor in *very* important responses is that the location is not stocked. However, in looking at the sum of *very* and *somewhat* important, that the location is close to home is the top factor, being important to 69% of all wild trout anglers. Regional results are shown and discussed for each question in this series individually on the following page.





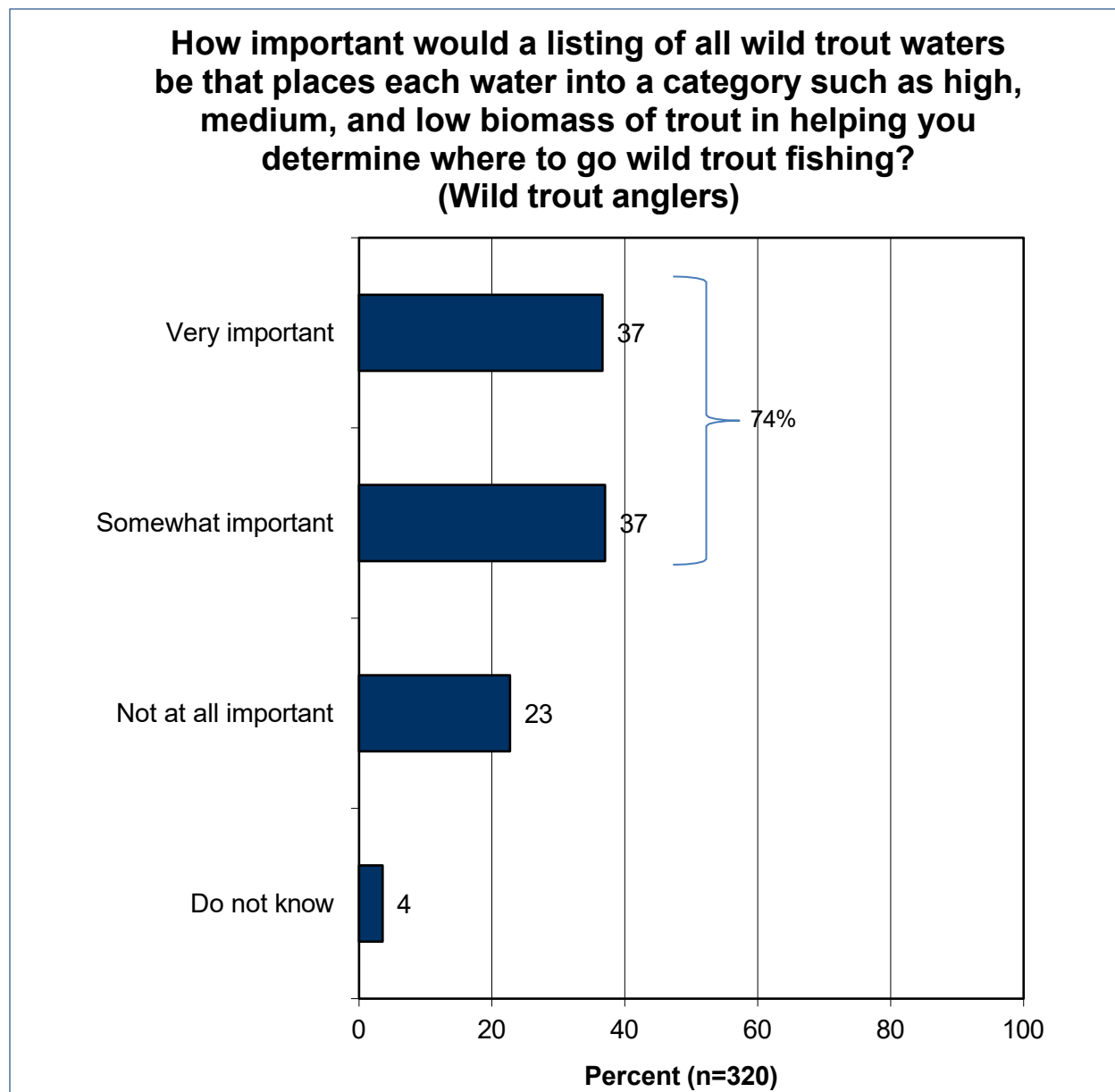
Regionally, anglers from the Northwest Region are markedly less concerned about having a location not stocked with trout. That the location is near the anglers' hunting or fishing camps is most important to anglers from the Southwest Region. Finally, that the location is close to home is most important to anglers from the Northcentral Region.

That the location is NOT stocked with trout. (Wild trout anglers)							
	Northwest (n=75)	Northcentral (n=105)	Northeast (n=106)	Southwest (n=169)	Southcentral (n=139)	Southeast (n=192)	Non-Resident (n=135)
Very important	10	21	24	22	23	22	26
Somewhat important	31	27	26	26	29	34	28
Not at all important	57	50	48	50	47	44	47
Do not know	2	1	2	2	1	1	0

That the location is near your hunting or fishing camp. (Wild trout anglers)							
	Northwest (n=75)	Northcentral (n=105)	Northeast (n=106)	Southwest (n=169)	Southcentral (n=139)	Southeast (n=192)	Non-Resident (n=135)
Very important	17	17	13	21	11	15	9
Somewhat important	27	17	15	22	19	28	28
Not at all important	55	62	67	53	65	50	58
Do not know	1	4	5	5	6	7	5

That the location is near your home. (Wild trout anglers)							
	Northwest (n=75)	Northcentral (n=105)	Northeast (n=106)	Southwest (n=169)	Southcentral (n=139)	Southeast (n=192)	Non-Resident (n=135)
Very important	21	28	22	14	17	23	11
Somewhat important	49	50	47	52	51	55	37
Not at all important	30	21	30	33	32	23	51
Do not know	0	1	1	1	0	0	1

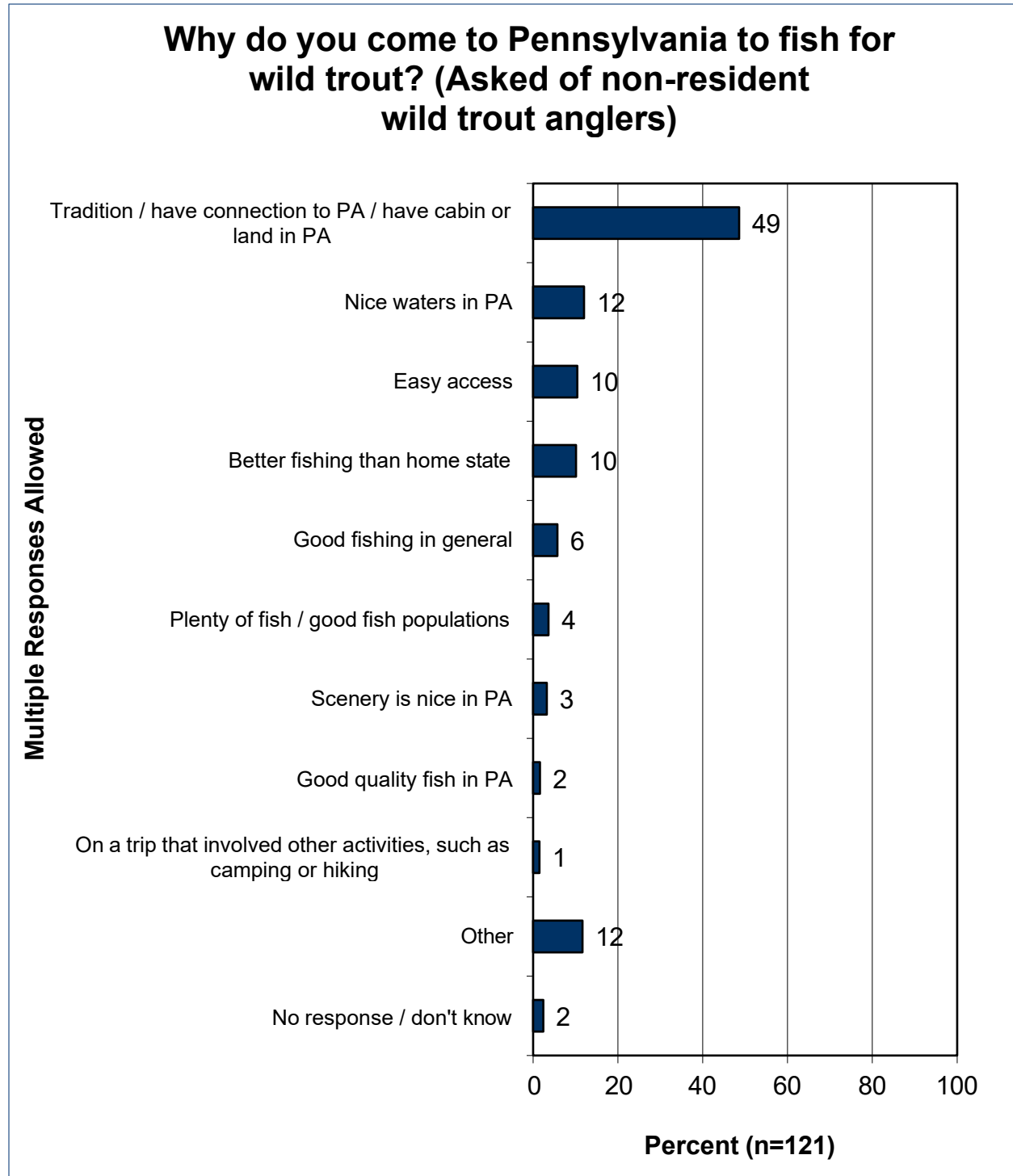
About three quarters of wild trout anglers (74%) say that a listing of all wild trout waters that places each water into a category such as high, medium, and low biomass of trout in helping them determine where to go wild trout fishing would be *very* or *somewhat* important. This would be most important to anglers from the Northwest and Southeast Regions.



Note: Wording is abbreviated to fit properly on the graph; it was not abbreviated in the survey itself.

How important would a listing of all wild trout waters be that places each water into a category such as high, medium, and low biomass of trout in helping you determine where to go wild trout fishing? (Wild trout anglers)							
	Northwest (n=26)	Northcentral (n=29)	Northeast (n=43)	Southwest (n=61)	Southcentral (n=53)	Southeast (n=62)	Non-Resident (n=46)
Very important	43	39	36	36	30	44	27
Somewhat important	38	34	25	37	38	38	53
Not at all important	16	23	38	15	31	16	18
Do not know	3	3	1	12	0	2	2

Most commonly, non-residents coming into Pennsylvania to fish for wild trout have a prior connection to Pennsylvania, such as an established fishing/hunting camp in the state or family who live in the state. Otherwise, they are attracted by the waters in the state, have easy access to Pennsylvania, or consider the fishing better in Pennsylvania than in their home state.



**STOCKED TROUT LOCATIONS**

The table (spanning two pages) shows all the water bodies that were selected in the survey. Note that the regional breakdown is by where the angler lives, not where the angler fishes. This applies to all these locational tables broken down by region.

Top three preferred water bodies in which to fish for stocked trout. (Stocked trout anglers)					
Waterbody	% fished	Waterbody	% fished	Waterbody	% fished
Yellow Breeches Creek	5	Little Pine Creek	1	Big Cove Creek	1
Pine Creek (Lycoming or Tioga County)	5	Manatawny Creek	1	Little Bush Kill	1
Kettle Creek	3	Canonsburg Lake	1	Trout Creek	1
Neshannock Creek	3	Little Beaver Creek	1	Big Spring Creek	1
Tulpehocken Creek	2	Skipack Creek	1	Fishing Creek (other county or not sure of county)	1
Lehigh River	2	Brodhead Creek	1	Hammer Creek	1
Laurel Hill Creek	2	Keystone Lake	1	Canoe Creek	1
Oil Creek	2	Wissahickon Creek	1	Locust Lake	1
Youghiogheny River	2	Pennypack Creek	1	Medix Run	1
Tionesta Creek	2	Lycoming Creek	1	Schuylkill River	1
Elk Creek	2	White Clay Creek	1	Octoraro Creek	1
Slippery Rock Creek	2	Bull Creek	1	Delaware Canal	1
Pine Creek (other county or not sure of county)	2	Salmon Creek	1	Yellow Creek (Indiana County)	1
Allegheny River	2	Spring Creek	1	Lackawanna Lake	1
French Creek	2	Monocacy Creek	1	Tobyhanna Creek	1
Loyalhanna Creek	2	Bradys Run Lake	1	Pine Creek (Schuylkill County)	1
Pine Creek (Allegheny County)	2	Clarion River	1	West Branch Susquehanna River	1
Bald Eagle Creek	2	Hicks Run	1	Deep Creek	1
Penns Creek	2	Lackawanna River	1	North Park Lake	1
Jordan Creek	2	White Deer Creek	1	Virgin Run Lake	1
Conococheague Creek	2	Sugar Creek	1	Tohickon Creek	1
Kinzua Creek	2	Stony Creek (Dauphin County)	1	Glade Run Lake	1
Bush Kill	2	Antietam Creek	1	Beaver Creek	1
Little Lehigh Creek	2	Yellow Creek (Bedford County)	1	Saucon Creek	1
First Fork Sinnemahoning Creek	2	Chester Creek	1	Shohola Creek	1
Clark Creek	2	Little Sandy Creek	1	Raccoon Creek	1
Brandywine Creek	1	Harveys Creek	1	Twenty Mile Creek	1
Loyalsock Creek	1	Mountain Creek	1	Driftwood Branch Sinnemahoning Creek	1
Mill Creek	1	Little Juniata River	1	Promised Land Lake	1
Perkiomen Creek	1	Brokenstraw Creek	1	Six Mile Run	1
Ridley Creek	1	Fishing Creek (Columbia County)	1	Pohopoco Creek	1
Muddy Creek	1	Sherman Creek	1	Bens Creek	1
Twin Lakes	1	Raystown Branch	1	Pickering Creek	1
Deer Creek	1	Lackawaxen River	1	East Branch Clarion River	1
Four Mile Run	1	Cowans Gap Lake	1	Lake Pleasant	1
Raccoon State Park (Lake)	1	Buffalo Creek (Butler County)	1	Cool Spring Creek	1
Chest Creek	1	Unami Creek	1	Middle Creek (Snyder County)	1
Buffalo Creek (Armstrong County)	1	Dyberry Creek	1	Moon Lake	1
Swatara Creek	1	Mahantango Creek	1	Lizard Creek	1
Bobs Creek	1	Black Moshannon Creek	1	Little Mahoney Creek	1

Top three preferred water bodies in which to fish for stocked trout. (Stocked trout anglers)					
Waterbody	% fished	Waterbody	% fished	Waterbody	% fished
Darby Creek	1	Marvin Creek	*	Curry Run	*
Kishacoquillas Creek	1	Ontelaunee Creek	*	Whipple Lake	*
Stony Creek (Montgomery County)	1	Sandy Lick Creek	*	Little Bald Eagle Creek	*
Upper Woods Pond	*	Martins Creek	*	Northkill Creek	*
Aquashicola Creek	*	George B Stevenson Reservoir	*	Shenango Lake	*
Little Buffalo Creek	*	Woodcock Creek	*	Mehoopany Creek	*
Dunlap Lake	*	Big Swickley Creek	*	Shade Creek	*
Nescopeck Creek	*	West Branch Clarion River	*	East Licking Creek	*
Fishing Creek (Clinton County)	*	Redbank Creek	*	Little Loyalsock Creek	*
Harveys Lake	*	Hokendauqua Creek	*	Bells Gap Run	*
Marquette Lake	*	Little Pine Lake	*	Buffalo Creek (Perry County)	*
Middle Creek (Lancaster County)	*	Parker Lake	*	Hereford Manor Lake	*
Lilly Lake	*	Otter Creek	*	Yellow Creek (other county or not sure of county)	*
Towanda Creek	*	Sunfish Pond	*	Fairview Lake	*
Bowman Creek	*	Pithole Creek	*	Briar Creek	*
South Branch Tunkhannock Creek	*	Millstone Creek	*	Maple Creek	*
Dunbar Creek	*	Shenango River	*	Beaverdale Lake	*
Honey Creek	*	Wykoff Run	*	Ridgway Reservoir	*
Wills Creek	*	Blacklog Creek	*	Little Tonoloway Creek	*
Cove Creek	*	Lake Luxembourg	*	Spring Creek (other county or not sure of county)	*
Crooked Creek	*	Stony Creek (other county or not sure of county)	*	Genesee River	*
Levittown Lake	*	Maiden Creek	*	Kahle Lake	*
Connoquenessing Creek	*	Beltzville Lake	*	Big Poe Creek	*
Muncy Creek	*	Poe Lake	*	Hemlock Run	*
Spring Creek (Elk County)	*	Wolf Creek	*	North Branch Little Conemaugh River	*
Middle Creek (other county or not sure of county)	*	Little Toby Creek	*	Buffalo Creek (other county or not sure of county)	*
Little Fishing Creek	*	North Fork Red Bank Creek	*	Buffalo Creek (Union County)	*
Tuscarora Creek	*	Young Womans Creek	*	Pleasant Stream	*
Blue Jay Creek	*	Kettle Creek Lake	*	Wysox Creek	*
Clover Creek	*	Halfway Lake	*	Bull Run	*
Spring Creek (Forest County)	*	Chapman Dam	*	Pocono Creek	*
Manada Creek	*	Mix Run	*	Other	30
Thorn Creek	*	Big Sandy Creek	*	Do not know	8
Clear Shade Creek	*	Waynesboro Reservoir	*		
Potato Creek	*	Canoe Creek Lake	*		

\* Less than 0.5%

This graph, which spans six pages, shows the water bodies preferred by anglers living in the given region. For instance, 3% of anglers living in the Northwest Region included the Allegheny River as one of their preferred three water bodies, while 5% of anglers living in the Northcentral Region did so.

Top three preferred water bodies in which to fish for stocked trout. (Stocked trout anglers)								
Water body	Percentage of stocked trout anglers in each region listing the water body among top three preferred							
	Northwest	North-central	Northeast	Southwest	South-central	Southeast	Non-Resident	Overall
Allegheny River	3	5	0	4	0	1	4	2
Antietam Creek	0	0	0	0	1	2	0	1
Aquashicola Creek	0	0	2	0	0	1	0	0
Bald Eagle Creek	0	11	0	1	3	0	2	2
Beaver Creek	0	0	0	2	0	0	1	1
Beaverdale Lake	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	0
Bells Gap Run	0	0	0	0	1	0	0	0
Beltzville Lake	0	0	1	0	0	0	0	0
Bens Creek	0	0	0	2	0	0	1	1
Big Cove Creek	0	0	0	0	3	0	1	1
Big Poe Creek	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	0
Big Sandy Creek	1	0	0	0	0	0	0	0
Big Spring Creek	0	0	0	0	4	0	1	1
Big Swickley Creek	0	0	0	1	0	0	0	0
Black Moshannon Creek	0	4	1	0	0	0	0	1
Blacklog Creek	0	0	0	0	1	0	1	0
Blue Jay Creek	1	0	0	1	0	0	1	0
Bobs Creek	0	0	0	2	4	0	0	1
Bowman Creek	0	0	3	0	0	0	1	0
Bradys Run Lake	1	0	0	4	0	0	0	1
Brandywine Creek	0	0	0	0	0	6	2	1
Briar Creek	0	0	1	0	0	0	0	0
Brodhead Creek	0	0	4	0	0	2	2	1
Brokenstraw Creek	4	0	0	1	0	0	1	1

Top three preferred water bodies in which to fish for stocked trout. (Stocked trout anglers)								
Water body	Percentage of stocked trout anglers in each region listing the water body among top three preferred							
	Northwest	North-central	Northeast	Southwest	South-central	Southeast	Non-Resident	Overall
Buffalo Creek (Armstrong County)	8	0	0	1	0	0	0	1
Buffalo Creek (Butler County)	4	0	0	2	0	0	0	1
Buffalo Creek (Perry County)	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	0
Buffalo Creek (Union County)	0	1	0	0	0	0	0	0
Buffalo Creek (other county or not sure of county)	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	0
Bull Creek	2	0	0	3	0	0	0	1
Bull Run	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	0
Bush Kill	0	0	2	0	0	5	2	2
Canoe Creek	0	0	0	1	3	0	0	1
Canoe Creek Lake	0	0	0	0	1	0	0	0
Canonsburg Lake	0	0	0	5	0	0	0	1
Chapman Dam	1	0	0	0	0	0	1	0
Chest Creek	0	2	0	4	0	0	4	1
Chester Creek	0	0	0	0	0	3	1	1
Clarion River	2	3	0	1	0	0	1	1
Clark Creek	0	0	0	0	6	2	0	2
Clear Shade Creek	0	0	0	2	0	0	0	0
Clover Creek	0	0	0	0	2	0	0	0
Connoquenessing Creek	1	0	0	1	0	0	0	0
Conococheague Creek	0	0	0	0	9	1	0	2
Cool Spring Creek	3	1	0	0	0	0	0	1
Cove Creek	0	0	0	0	1	0	1	0
Cowans Gap Lake	0	0	0	0	4	0	2	1
Crooked Creek	2	2	0	0	0	0	1	0
Curry Run	0	1	0	0	0	0	0	0
Darby Creek	0	0	0	0	0	2	0	1
Deep Creek	0	1	0	0	0	1	1	1
Deer Creek	3	0	0	4	2	0	0	1
Delaware Canal	0	0	0	0	0	2	0	1
Driftwood Branch Sinnemahoning Creek	0	1	0	1	1	0	1	1
Dunbar Creek	0	0	0	2	0	0	0	0
Dunlap Lake	0	0	0	2	0	0	0	0
Dyberry Creek	0	0	6	0	0	0	0	1
East Branch Clarion River	0	4	0	0	0	0	0	1
East Licking Creek	0	0	0	0	1	0	0	0
Elk Creek	10	1	0	2	0	1	3	2
Fairview Lake	0	0	1	0	0	0	0	0
First Fork Sinnemahoning Creek	1	6	0	2	1	1	2	2

Top three preferred water bodies in which to fish for stocked trout. (Stocked trout anglers)								
Water body	Percentage of stocked trout anglers in each region listing the water body among top three preferred							
	Northwest	North-central	Northeast	Southwest	South-central	Southeast	Non-Resident	Overall
Fishing Creek (Clinton County)	0	3	1	0	0	0	0	0
Fishing Creek (Columbia County)	0	1	4	0	0	1	0	1
Fishing Creek (other county or not sure of county)	0	2	0	1	1	1	1	1
Four Mile Run	1	0	0	5	0	0	2	1
French Creek	5	0	1	0	0	5	1	2
Genesee River	0	1	0	0	0	0	0	0
George B. Stevenson Reservoir	0	2	0	0	1	0	0	0
Glade Run Lake	3	0	0	1	0	0	0	1
Halfway Lake	0	1	1	0	0	0	0	0
Hammer Creek	0	0	0	0	0	3	1	1
Harveys Creek	0	0	6	0	0	0	2	1
Harveys Lake	0	0	4	0	0	0	0	0
Hemlock Run	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	0
Hereford Manor Lake	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	0
Hicks Run	2	2	0	2	0	0	2	1
Hokendauqua Creek	0	0	0	0	0	1	1	0
Honey Creek	1	1	0	0	1	0	0	0
Jordan Creek	0	0	2	0	0	6	0	2
Kahle Lake	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	0
Kettle Creek	1	12	1	3	1	1	6	3
Kettle Creek Lake	0	0	0	0	0	0	1	0
Keystone Lake	1	0	0	4	0	0	1	1
Kinzua Creek	6	4	0	2	1	0	2	2
Kishacoquillas Creek	0	0	0	0	3	0	0	1
Lackawanna Lake	0	0	3	0	0	1	0	1
Lackawanna River	0	0	8	0	0	0	0	1
Lackawaxen River	0	0	6	0	0	0	1	1
Lake Luxembourg	0	0	0	0	0	1	0	0
Lake Pleasant	5	0	0	0	0	0	0	1
Laurel Hill Creek	1	0	0	9	1	0	2	2
Lehigh River	0	1	9	0	0	5	3	2
Levittown Lake	0	0	0	0	0	2	0	0
Lilly Lake	0	0	4	0	0	0	0	0
Little Bald Eagle Creek	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	0
Little Beaver Creek	3	0	0	2	0	1	1	1
Little Buffalo Creek	0	0	0	0	3	0	1	0
Little Bush Kill	0	0	1	0	0	2	0	1
Little Fishing Creek	0	1	3	0	0	0	0	0
Little Juniata River	0	0	0	1	2	0	1	1
Little Lehigh Creek	0	0	0	0	0	6	1	2
Little Loyalsock Creek	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	0
Little Mahoney Creek	0	0	0	1	0	0	2	1
Little Pine Creek	0	3	2	0	1	1	2	1
Little Pine Lake	0	0	2	0	0	0	0	0
Little Sandy Creek	4	2	0	1	0	0	1	1
Little Toby Creek	0	2	0	0	0	0	0	0
Little Tonoloway Creek	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	0



Top three preferred water bodies in which to fish for stocked trout. (Stocked trout anglers)								
Water body	Percentage of stocked trout anglers in each region listing the water body among top three preferred							
	Northwest	North-central	Northeast	Southwest	South-central	Southeast	Non-Resident	Overall
Lizard Creek	0	0	3	0	0	1	0	1
Locust Lake	0	0	2	0	0	1	1	1
Loyalhanna Creek	1	0	0	8	0	0	0	2
Loyalsock Creek	0	2	8	0	1	1	1	1
Lycoming Creek	0	3	4	0	0	0	1	1
Mahantango Creek	0	5	0	0	1	1	0	1
Maiden Creek	0	0	0	0	0	1	0	0
Manada Creek	0	0	0	0	2	0	0	0
Manatawny Creek	0	0	0	0	0	4	0	1
Maple Creek	1	0	0	0	0	0	0	0
Marquette Lake	0	0	0	0	3	0	0	0
Martins Creek	0	0	0	0	0	1	1	0
Marvin Creek	1	1	0	1	0	0	0	0
Medix Run	0	2	0	0	0	0	3	1
Mehoopany Creek	0	0	1	0	0	0	0	0
Middle Creek (Lancaster County)	0	0	0	0	0	2	1	0
Middle Creek (Snyder County)	0	4	0	0	0	0	0	1
Middle Creek (other county or not sure of county)	0	0	0	0	2	0	0	0
Mill Creek	1	4	0	1	0	2	2	1
Millstone Creek	0	0	0	1	0	0	1	0
Mix Run	0	0	0	0	0	0	1	0
Monocacy Creek	0	0	1	0	0	3	0	1
Moon Lake	0	0	4	0	0	0	0	1
Mountain Creek	0	0	0	0	5	0	0	1
Muddy Creek	2	0	0	0	6	1	1	1
Muncy Creek	0	2	1	0	0	0	0	0
Nescopeck Creek	1	0	3	0	0	0	1	0
Neshannock Creek	15	0	0	3	0	0	3	3
North Branch Little Conemaugh River	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	0
North Fork Red Bank Creek	0	1	0	1	0	0	0	0
North Park Lake	1	0	0	2	0	0	0	1
Northkill Creek	0	0	0	0	0	1	0	0
Octoraro Creek	0	0	0	0	0	2	0	1
Oil Creek	12	0	0	3	0	0	3	2
Ontelaunee Creek	0	0	0	0	0	1	0	0
Otter Creek	0	0	0	0	1	0	0	0
Parker Lake	1	1	0	0	0	0	1	0
Penns Creek	1	7	1	0	1	2	3	2
Pennypack Creek	0	0	0	0	0	4	1	1
Perkiomen Creek	0	0	0	0	0	6	1	1
Pickering Creek	0	0	0	0	0	2	1	1

Top three preferred water bodies in which to fish for stocked trout. (Stocked trout anglers)								
Water body	Percentage of stocked trout anglers in each region listing the water body among top three preferred							
	Northwest	North-central	Northeast	Southwest	South-central	Southeast	Non-Resident	Overall
Pine Creek (Allegheny County)	1	0	0	7	0	1	0	2
Pine Creek (Lycoming or Tioga County)	1	10	5	1	5	7	6	5
Pine Creek (Schuylkill County)	0	1	1	0	0	2	0	1
Pine Creek (other county or not sure of county)	5	3	1	1	1	2	4	2
Pithole Creek	1	0	0	1	0	0	0	0
Pleasant Stream	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	0
Pocono Creek	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	0
Poe Lake	0	1	0	0	0	0	0	0
Pohopoco Creek	0	0	2	0	0	1	1	1
Potato Creek	0	0	0	1	0	0	1	0
Promised Land Lake	1	0	3	0	0	1	0	1
Raccoon Creek	0	0	0	2	0	0	0	1
Raccoon State Park (Lake)	0	1	0	5	0	0	1	1
Raystown Branch	0	0	0	1	2	0	0	1
Redbank Creek	1	0	0	0	0	0	1	0
Ridgway Reservoir	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	0
Ridley Creek	0	0	0	0	0	5	1	1
Salmon Creek	3	0	0	2	0	0	3	1
Sandy Lick Creek	1	2	0	0	0	0	0	0
Saucon Creek	0	0	0	0	0	2	0	1
Schuylkill River	0	0	1	0	0	2	1	1
Shade Creek	0	0	0	0	1	0	0	0
Shenango Lake	1	0	0	0	0	0	0	0
Shenango River	2	0	0	0	0	0	1	0
Sherman Creek	0	0	0	0	3	1	0	1
Shohola Creek	0	0	3	0	0	1	0	1
Six Mile Run	0	3	0	0	0	0	3	1
Skippack Creek	0	0	0	0	0	4	1	1
Slippery Rock Creek	13	0	0	2	0	0	1	2
South Branch Tunkhannock Creek	0	0	3	0	0	0	1	0
Spring Creek	1	3	0	1	0	1	0	1
Spring Creek (Elk County)	1	0	0	1	0	0	1	0
Spring Creek (Forest County)	1	0	0	1	0	0	1	0
Spring Creek (other county or not sure of county)	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	0
Stony Creek (Dauphin County)	0	0	0	0	4	0	0	1
Stony Creek (Montgomery County)	0	0	0	0	0	2	0	1
Stony Creek (other county or not sure of county)	0	0	1	0	0	0	0	0
Sugar Creek	4	0	0	1	0	0	2	1
Sunfish Pond	0	0	2	0	0	0	1	0
Swatara Creek	0	0	0	0	3	3	0	1
Thorn Creek	2	0	0	0	0	0	0	0

Top three preferred water bodies in which to fish for stocked trout. (Stocked trout anglers)								
Water body	Percentage of stocked trout anglers in each region listing the water body among top three preferred							
	Northwest	North-central	Northeast	Southwest	South-central	Southeast	Non-Resident	Overall
Tionesta Creek	10	0	0	4	0	0	4	2
Tobyhanna Creek	0	0	2	0	0	1	0	1
Tohickon Creek	0	0	0	0	0	2	0	1
Towanda Creek	0	0	3	0	0	0	0	0
Trout Creek	0	0	0	0	1	2	1	1
Tulpehocken Creek	0	0	0	0	3	7	1	2
Tuscarora Creek	0	0	0	0	0	1	1	0
Twenty Mile Creek	3	1	0	0	0	0	1	1
Twin Lakes	0	3	0	5	0	0	1	1
Unami Creek	0	0	0	0	0	3	0	1
Upper Woods Pond	0	0	5	0	0	0	0	0
Virgin Run Lake	0	0	0	3	0	0	0	1
Waynesboro Reservoir	0	0	0	0	1	0	0	0
West Branch Clarion River	0	3	0	0	0	0	0	0
West Branch Hicks Run	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	0
West Branch Susquehanna River	0	5	0	0	0	0	0	1
Whipple Lake	0	1	0	0	1	0	0	0
White Clay Creek	0	0	0	0	0	3	3	1
White Deer Creek	0	6	2	0	0	0	1	1
Wills Creek	0	0	0	2	0	0	1	0
Wissahickon Creek	0	0	0	0	0	4	1	1
Wolf Creek	1	0	0	0	0	0	0	0
Woodcock Creek	3	0	0	0	0	0	0	0
Wykoff Run	0	0	0	1	0	0	0	0
Wysox Creek	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	0
Yellow Breeches Creek	0	0	0	0	24	3	3	5
Yellow Creek (Bedford County)	0	0	0	1	2	0	1	1
Yellow Creek (Indiana County)	0	0	0	2	0	0	1	1
Yellow Creek (other county or not sure of county)	0	0	1	0	0	0	0	0
Youghiogheny River	1	0	0	8	0	0	3	2
Young Womans Creek	0	1	0	0	0	0	0	0
Other	27	29	43	32	36	24	20	30
Do not know	4	13	4	9	9	7	9	8

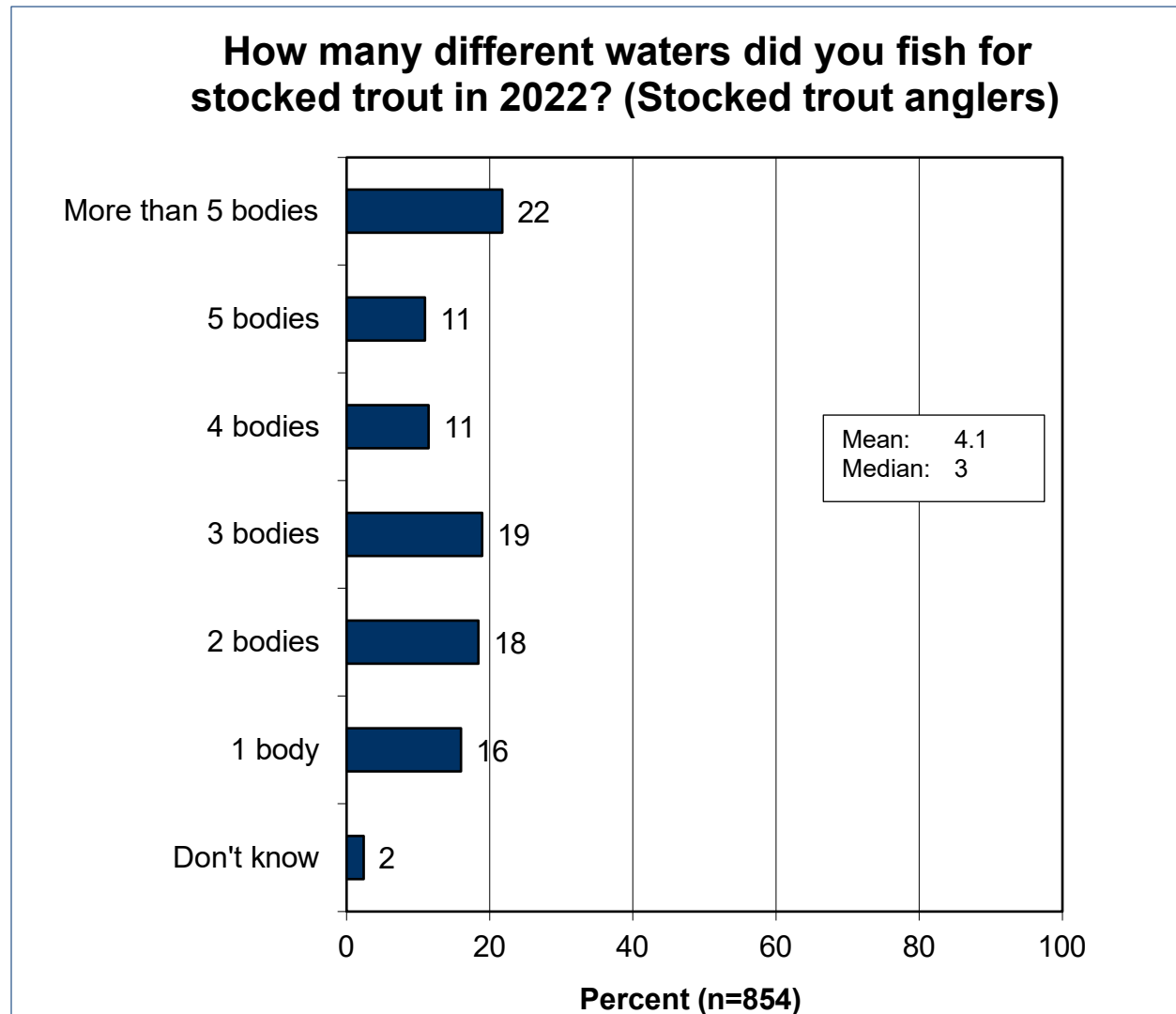
As was done for wild trout waters, the county in which the stocked trout angler's preferred water body is located (or the county in which the angler prefers to fish that particular water body, for those water bodies spanning more than one county) was obtained in the survey. The table shows them ranked from most popular to least popular in the table of the overall results (Westmoreland, Cumberland, Potter, and Berks being the most popular). The table on the following page shows the regional results (with the overall results in the last column) in alphabetical order.

Counties in which water bodies are located. (Stocked trout anglers)			
County	Percentage of stocked trout anglers whose preferred water body is in the county	County	Percentage of stocked trout anglers whose preferred water body is in the county
Westmoreland	5	Warren	2
Cumberland	5	Cambria	2
Potter	5	Lebanon	2
Berks	5	Carbon	2
Allegheny	4	Lackawanna	2
Lycoming	4	Clinton	2
Lehigh	4	Huntingdon	2
Somerset	4	Delaware	2
Chester	4	Jefferson	2
Centre	3	Washington	2
Elk	3	Perry	2
Lawrence	3	Union	2
Forest	3	Wayne	2
Erie	3	Cameron	2
Montgomery	3	Mercer	2
Tioga	3	Indiana	1
Dauphin	3	Crawford	1
Fayette	3	Fulton	1
Lancaster	3	Philadelphia	1
Schuylkill	3	Blair	1
Butler	3	Columbia	1
Northampton	3	Sullivan	1
Bucks	2	Adams	1
Franklin	2	Wyoming	1
McKean	2	Mifflin	1
Venango	2	Clarion	1
Luzerne	2	Northumberland	1
York	2	Juniata	1
Bedford	2	Susquehanna	1
Pike	2	Snyder	1
Beaver	2	Bradford	*
Armstrong	2	Greene	*
Monroe	2	Montour	*
Clearfield	2	Not sure of county	10

\* Less than 0.5%

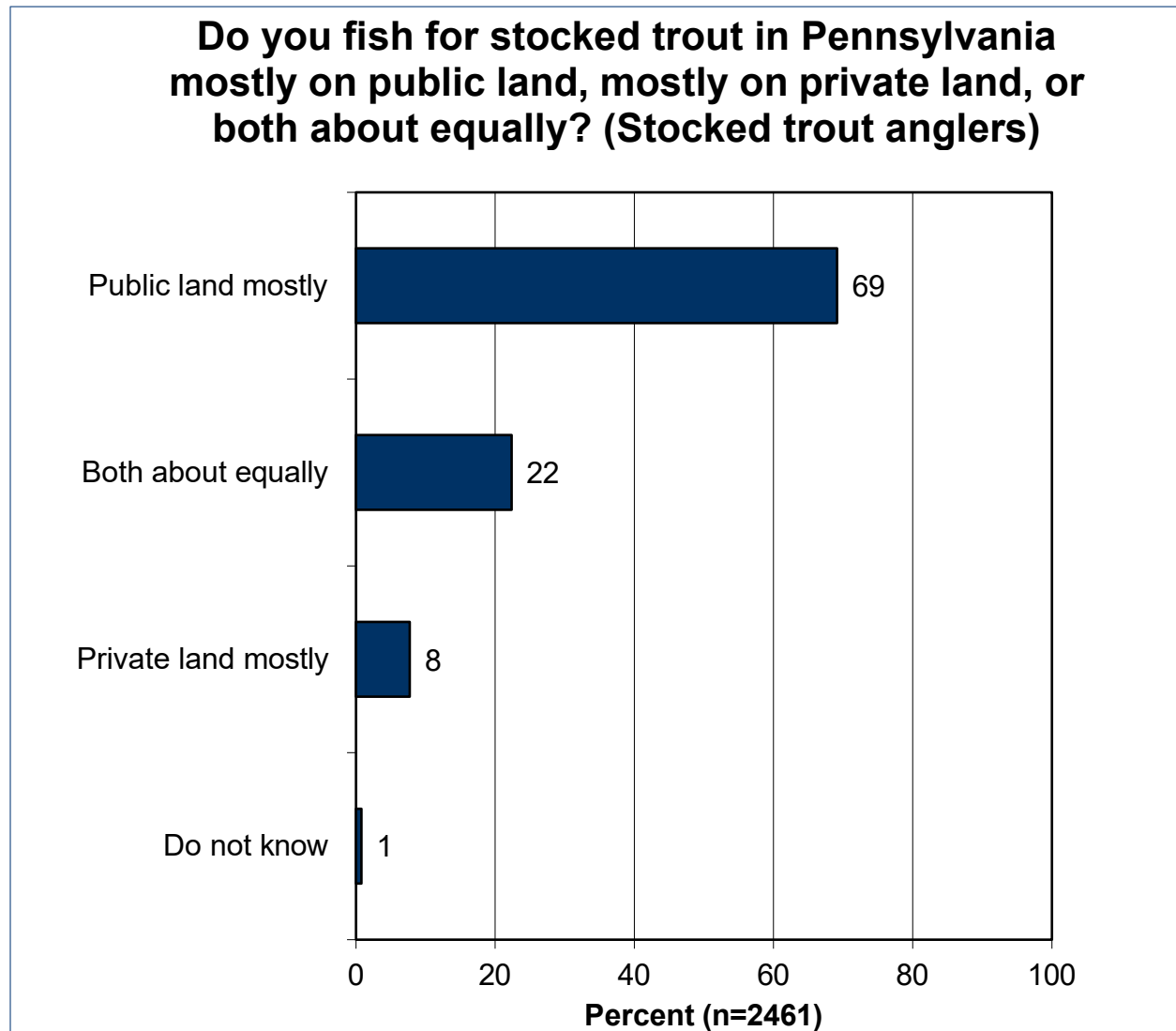
Counties in which water bodies are located. (Stocked trout anglers)								
County	Percentage of stocked trout anglers in each region whose preferred water body is in the county							
	Northwest	North-central	Northeast	Southwest	South-central	Southeast	Non-Resident	Overall
Adams	0	0	0	0	7	0	1	1
Allegheny	6	0	0	18	0	0	0	4
Armstrong	13	0	0	3	1	0	2	2
Beaver	2	0	0	10	0	0	1	2
Bedford	1	0	0	3	8	0	2	2
Berks	0	0	0	0	1	18	1	5
Blair	0	0	0	1	7	0	1	1
Bradford	0	0	3	0	0	0	0	0
Bucks	0	0	0	0	0	10	1	2
Butler	15	0	0	4	0	0	1	3
Cambria	0	0	0	8	1	0	3	2
Cameron	1	5	0	3	1	0	2	2
Carbon	0	0	10	0	0	3	3	2
Centre	1	20	0	1	2	3	3	3
Chester	0	0	1	0	0	13	3	4
Clarion	4	1	0	1	0	0	1	1
Clearfield	1	16	0	1	0	0	3	2
Clinton	1	11	1	1	1	1	1	2
Columbia	0	3	8	0	0	1	1	1
Crawford	11	0	0	1	1	0	1	1
Cumberland	0	0	0	0	25	2	1	5
Dauphin	0	0	0	0	13	2	0	3
Delaware	0	0	0	0	0	7	2	2
Elk	4	12	1	5	1	1	5	3
Erie	19	1	0	4	0	0	2	3
Fayette	1	0	0	12	0	0	1	3
Forest	12	0	0	6	0	0	6	3
Franklin	3	0	0	0	12	0	2	2
Fulton	0	0	0	0	7	0	2	1
Greene	0	0	0	1	0	0	1	0
Huntingdon	0	2	0	1	6	1	1	2
Indiana	0	1	0	5	0	0	3	1
Jefferson	2	8	0	3	0	0	2	2
Juniata	0	0	0	0	3	0	0	1
Lackawanna	0	0	16	0	0	1	0	2
Lancaster	0	0	0	0	1	10	1	3
Lawrence	19	0	0	4	0	0	3	3
Lebanon	0	0	0	0	10	2	0	2
Lehigh	0	1	3	0	0	14	2	4
Luzerne	0	0	20	0	0	0	2	2
Lycoming	0	11	13	0	3	4	2	4
McKean	6	4	0	5	0	0	3	2
Mercer	10	1	0	1	0	0	2	2
Mifflin	0	1	0	0	3	1	0	1
Monroe	0	0	10	0	0	3	3	2
Montgomery	0	0	0	0	0	12	2	3
Montour	0	2	0	0	0	0	0	0
Northampton	0	0	1	0	0	9	2	3
Northumberland	0	7	0	0	0	0	0	1
Perry	0	0	0	0	7	1	1	2
Philadelphia	0	0	0	0	0	5	2	1
Pike	0	0	12	0	0	3	3	2
Potter	1	15	1	4	4	4	9	5
Schuylkill	0	3	2	0	1	7	3	3
Snyder	0	4	0	0	1	0	1	1
Somerset	1	0	0	17	0	0	4	4
Sullivan	0	2	7	0	1	1	1	1
Susquehanna	0	0	5	0	0	1	1	1
Tioga	0	8	0	0	3	5	4	3
Union	0	10	3	0	1	0	1	2
Venango	12	0	0	4	0	0	4	2
Warren	11	1	0	3	0	0	2	2
Washington	0	0	0	8	0	0	1	2
Wayne	0	0	14	0	0	0	1	2
Westmoreland	4	0	0	21	0	0	3	5
Wyoming	0	0	9	0	0	0	2	1
York	0	0	0	0	13	1	1	2
Not sure of county	9	12	7	9	10	10	18	10

The large majority of stocked trout anglers fished multiple waters in the past year in Pennsylvania, with just under a quarter (22%) fishing more than 5 different water bodies and 44% who fished in 4 or more water bodies. The mean is 4.1 water bodies, and the median is 3 water bodies. Anglers from the Northcentral Region visit the most water bodies, in general.



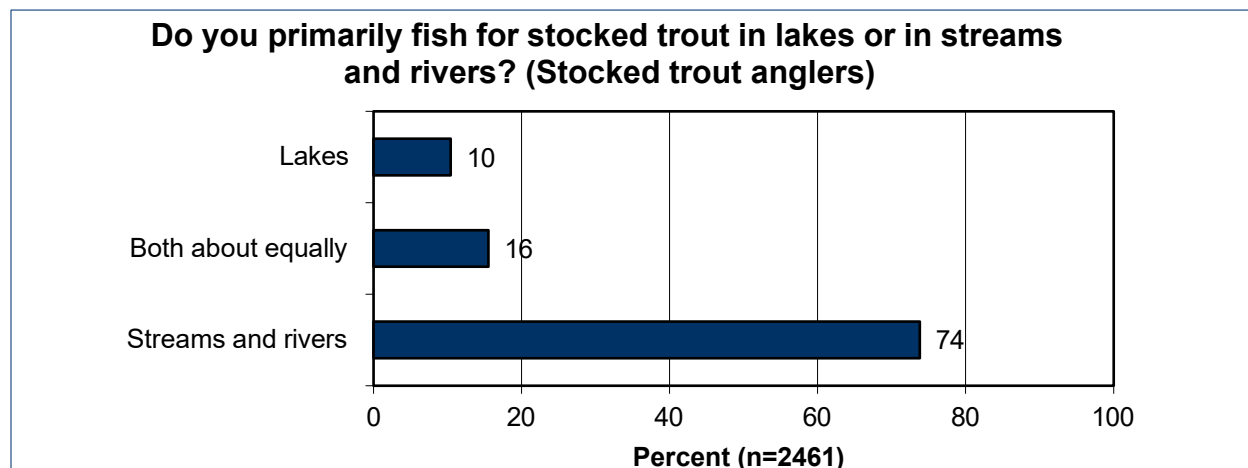
How many different waters did you fish for stocked trout in 2022? (Stocked trout anglers)							
	Northwest (n=88)	Northcentral (n=71)	Northeast (n=73)	Southwest (n=189)	Southcentral (n=117)	Southeast (n=228)	Non-Resident (n=88)
More than 5 bodies	22	35	19	29	18	19	9
5 bodies	12	12	10	9	8	13	15
4 bodies	8	5	13	9	16	14	12
3 bodies	22	15	14	25	17	16	24
2 bodies	20	17	12	15	23	21	15
1 body	13	12	31	11	17	15	23
Don't know	2	5	1	3	1	3	2
Mean	4.0	5.3	3.7	4.7	4.1	3.8	3.2
Median	3	4	3	3	3	3	3
4 or more	43	52	42	46	42	45	37

In results similar to those regarding wild trout fishing, most stocked trout fishing occurs on public land (69% on public land mostly, and 91% giving any public land response). Regarding private land, 8% of stocked trout anglers fish it mostly, and 30% give any private land response. Public land use is particularly high among anglers from the Northeast Region, while private land use is particularly high among anglers from the Northwest and Southcentral Regions.

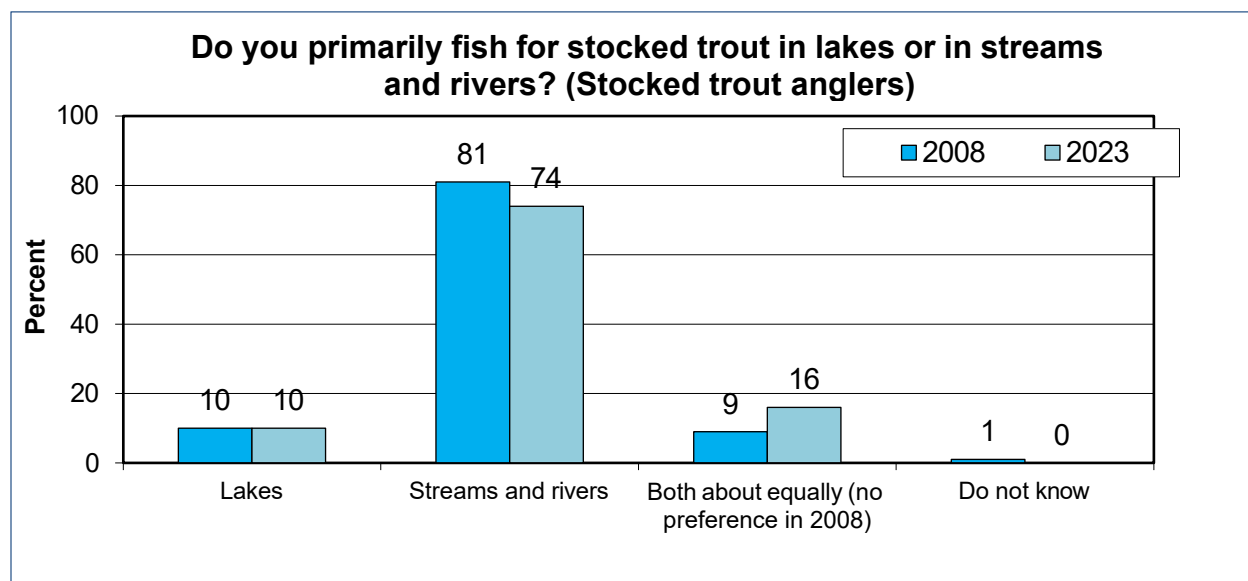


Do you fish for stocked trout in Pennsylvania mostly on public land, mostly on private land, or both about equally? (Stocked trout anglers)							
	Northwest (n=240)	Northcentral (n=222)	Northeast (n=241)	Southwest (n=531)	Southcentral (n=379)	Southeast (n=596)	Non-Resident (n=252)
Public land mostly	63	70	75	70	65	70	71
Both about equally	27	25	22	24	26	18	18
Private land mostly	8	5	3	6	9	11	9
Do not know	2	0	0	1	0	1	2
Any public	90	95	97	93	91	88	89
Any private	35	30	25	29	35	28	27

Stocked trout fishing is much more common in streams than in lakes, with 89% giving a stream response (summed on unrounded numbers) compared to 26% giving a lake response.



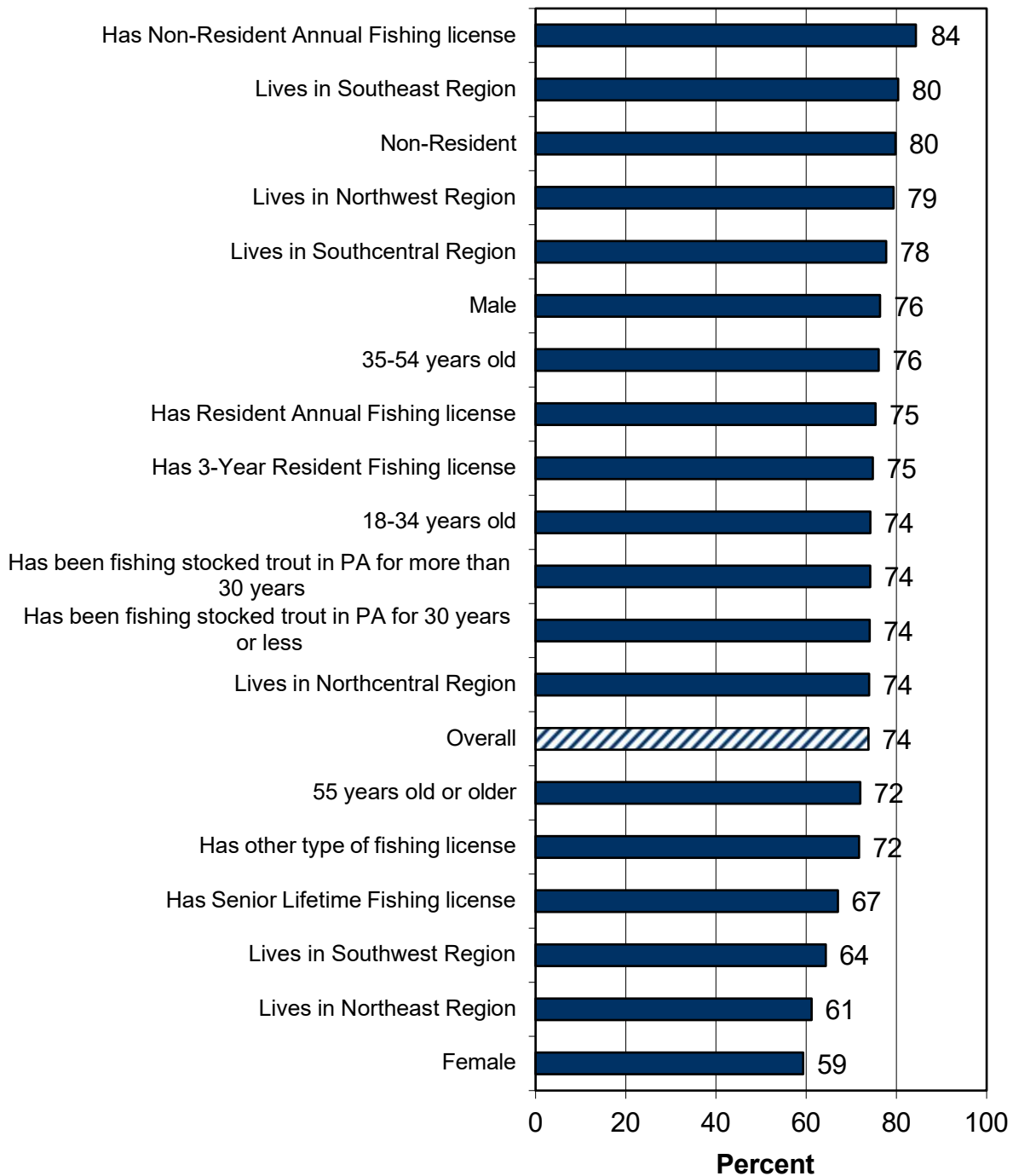
Do you primarily fish for stocked trout in lakes or in streams and rivers? (Stocked trout anglers)							
	Northwest (n=240)	Northcentral (n=222)	Northeast (n=241)	Southwest (n=531)	Southcentral (n=379)	Southeast (n=596)	Non-Resident (n=252)
Lakes	6	12	19	15	7	7	9
Streams and rivers	79	74	61	64	78	80	80
Both about equally	14	14	20	21	15	12	10
Do not know	0	0	0	0	0	0	1



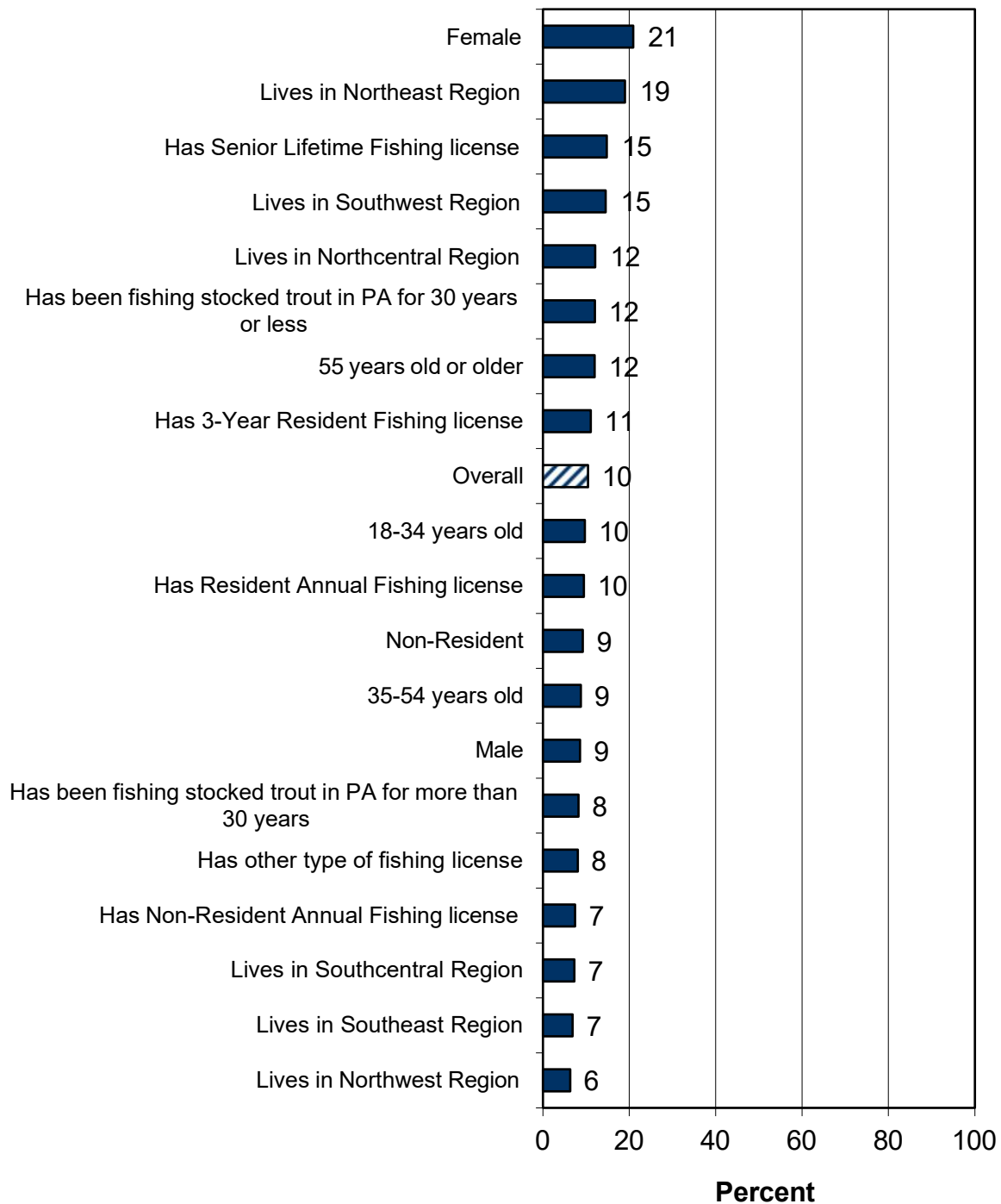
Demographic analyses graphs are included of those primarily fishing in streams/rivers and those primarily fishing in lakes. Angler groups high in likelihood to fish streams/rivers are holders of Non-Resident Annual Fishing licenses (and non-residents in general) and anglers from the Southeast or Northwest Regions. Lake fishing is particularly high among female anglers and those from the Northeast Region.



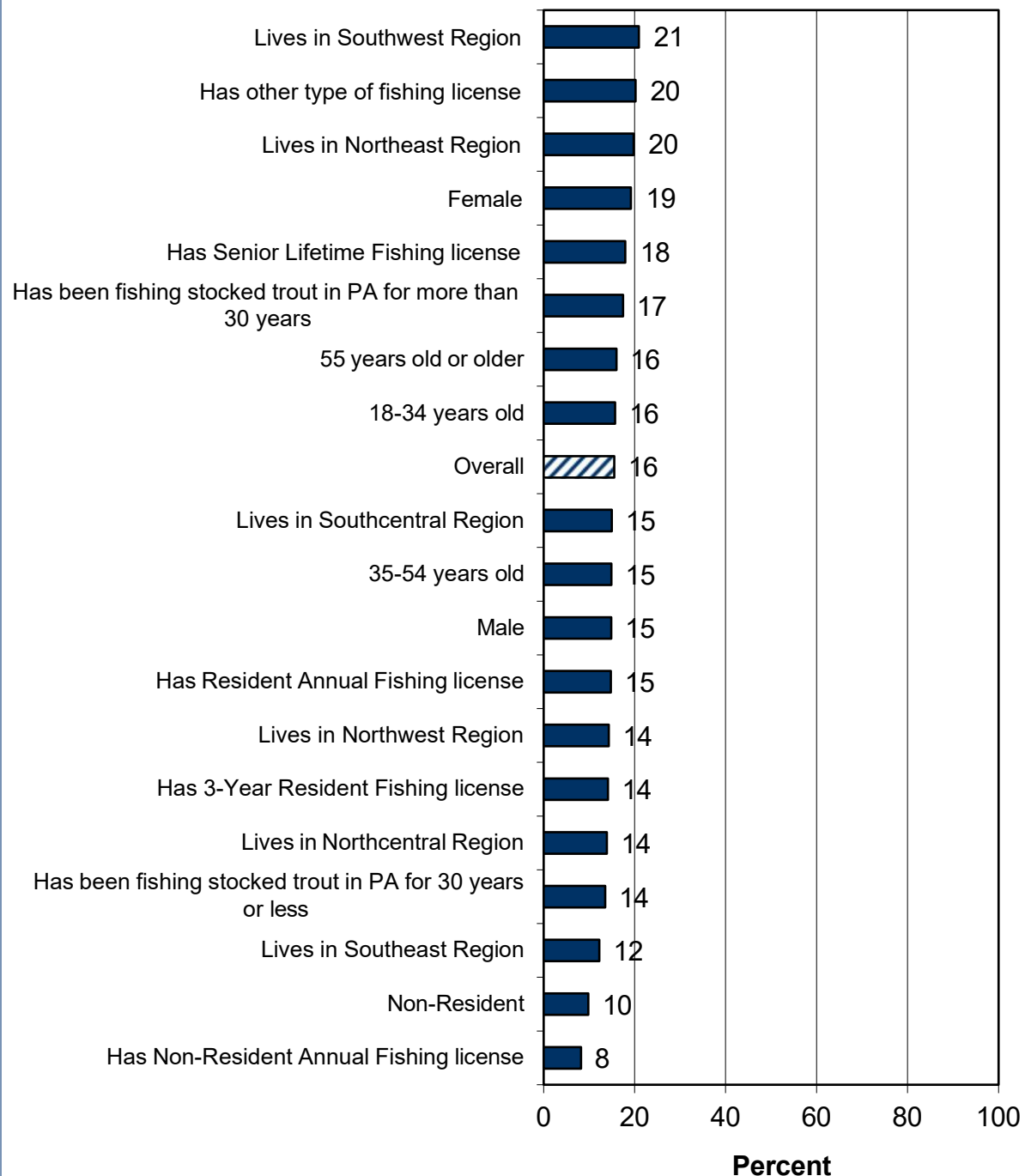
**Percent of each of the following groups who primarily fish for stocked trout in streams and rivers: (Stocked trout anglers)**



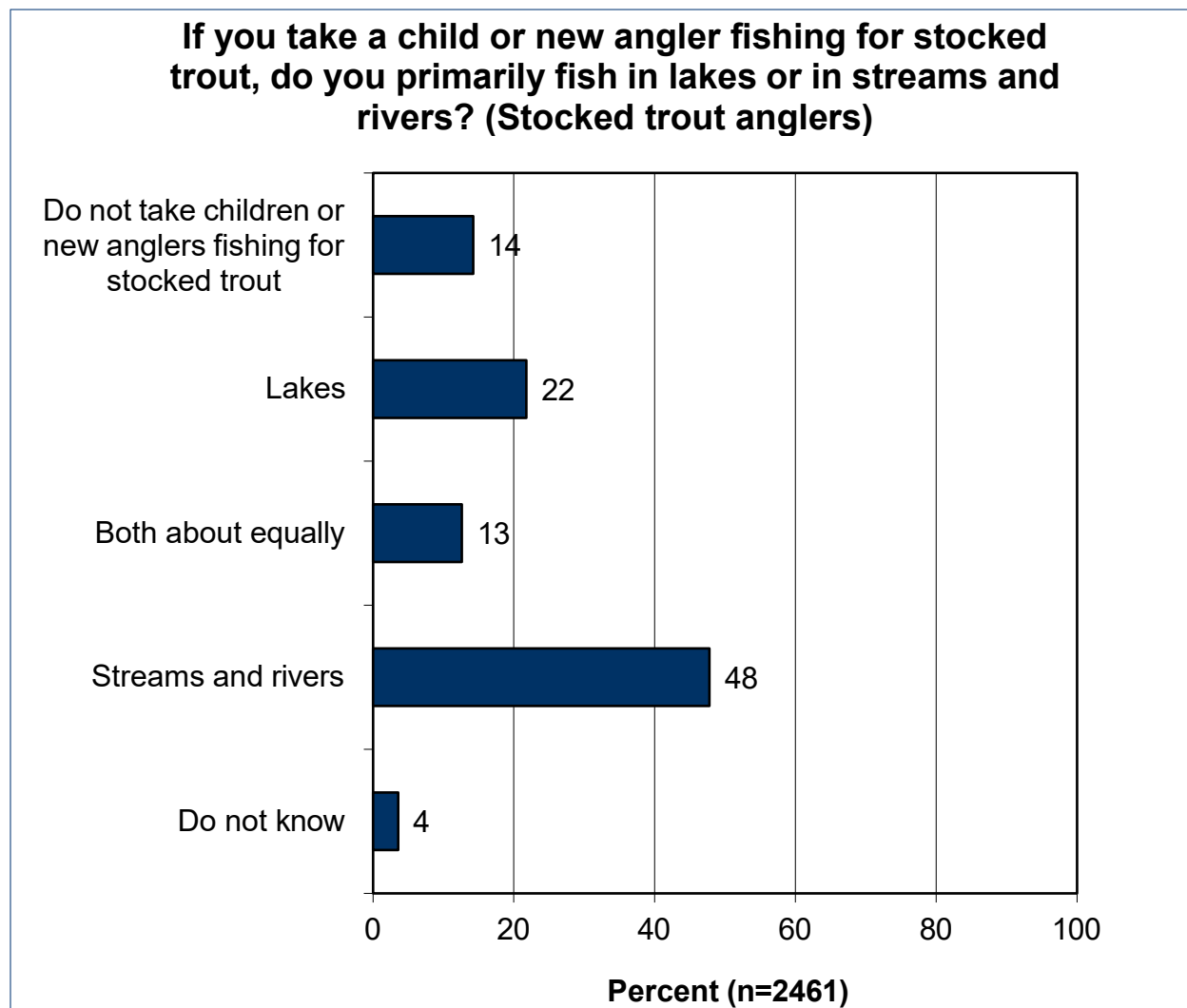
**Percent of each of the following groups who  
primarily fish for stocked trout in lakes:  
(Stocked trout anglers)**



**Percent of each of the following groups who fish for stocked trout in lakes or in streams and rivers about equally: (Stocked trout anglers)**

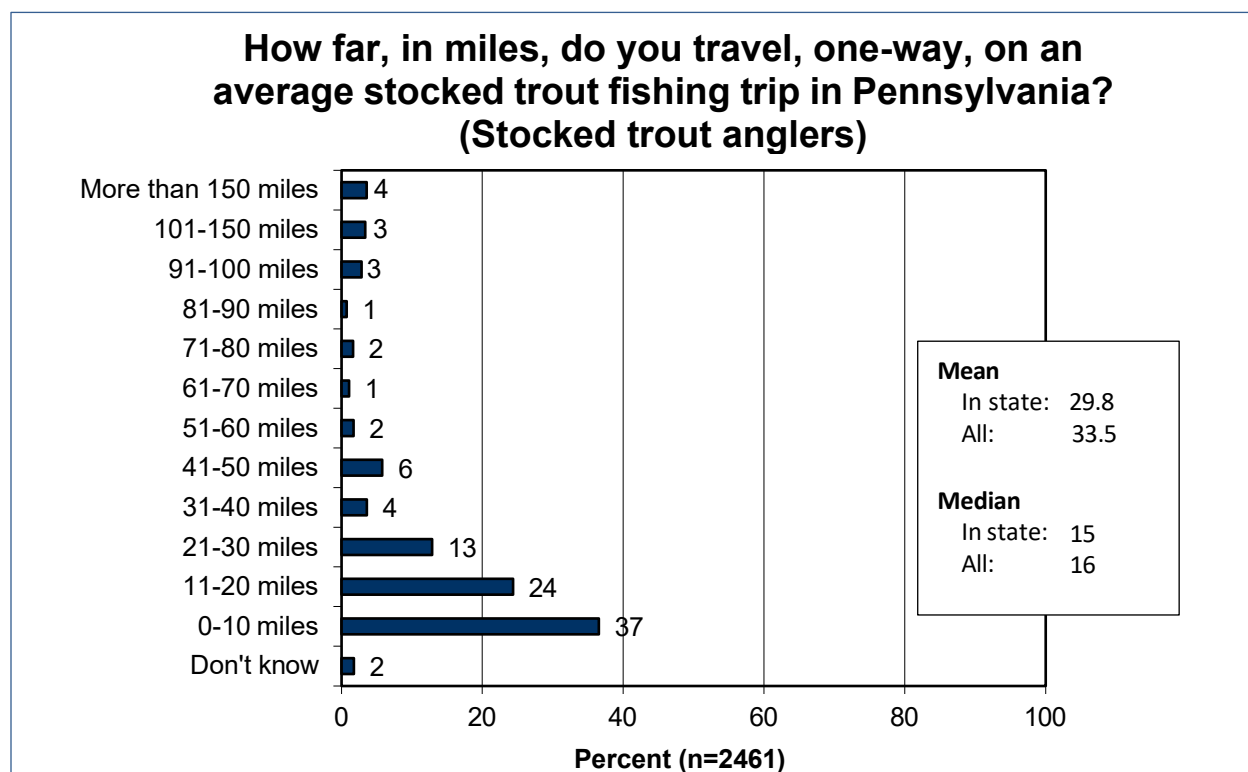


Mirroring the results above, mentors taking beginning anglers fishing for stocked trout more often take them fishing in streams/rivers than in lakes. In looking at sums (on unrounded numbers), 34% gave a lake response, while 60% gave a stream/river response. Regional results are included.



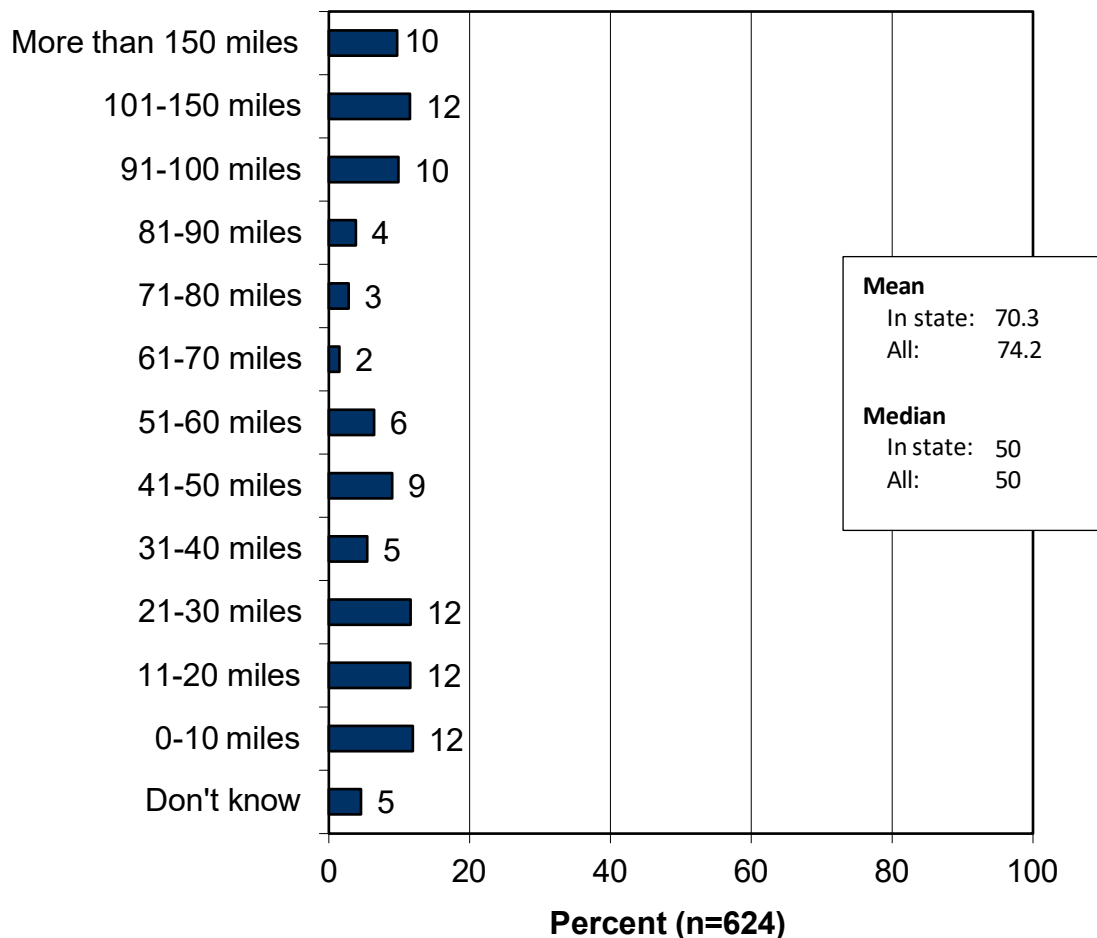
If you take a child or new angler fishing for stocked trout, do you primarily fish in lakes or in streams and rivers? (Stocked trout anglers)							
	Northwest (n=240)	Northcentral (n=222)	Northeast (n=241)	Southwest (n=531)	Southcentral (n=379)	Southeast (n=596)	Non-Resident (n=252)
Do not take children or new anglers fishing for stocked trout	14	6	17	15	13	15	18
Lakes	20	26	30	31	16	16	15
Streams and rivers	47	49	35	38	55	55	49
Both about equally	14	16	14	13	13	10	10
Do not know	5	3	3	3	3	3	8

The survey obtained information on travel distances on typical stocked trout fishing trips and maximum travel distances for stocked trout fishing, and the means/medians are shown for in-state anglers as well as overall including non-resident anglers. Overall, the mean typical travel distance among in-state residents is 29.8 miles, and the median is 15 miles. As to the maximum travel distance among residents, the mean is 70.3 miles and the median is 50 miles. Southwest Region anglers travel the farthest (among the state regions, as non-residents travel farther than any resident angler). Non-residents typically travel a mean distance of 84.1 miles and a median of 40 miles to fish in Pennsylvania for stocked trout. Regarding their farthest distance to fish for stocked trout, non-residents' mean is 118.8 miles, and their median is 90 miles.



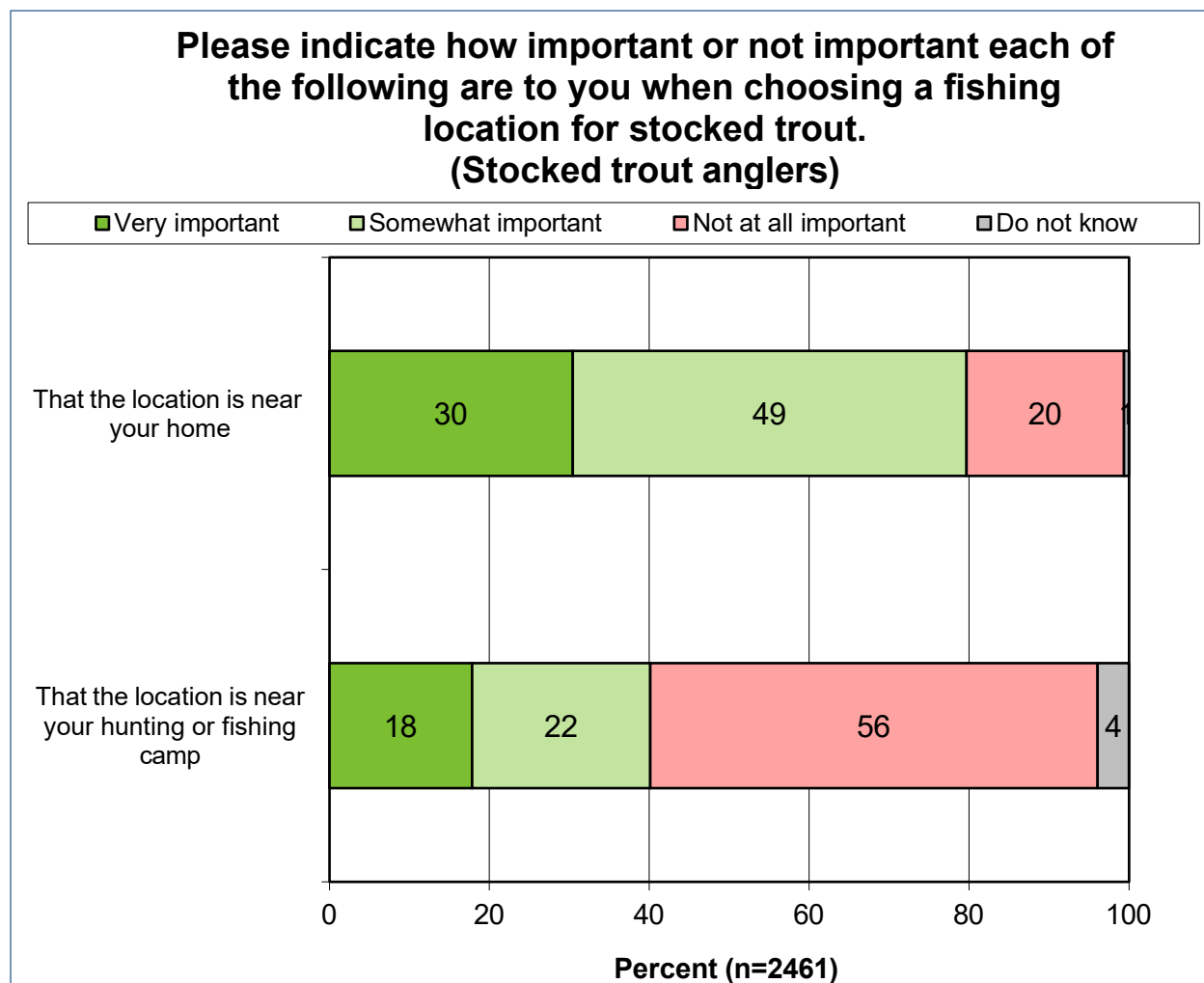
How far, in miles, do you travel, one-way, on an average stocked trout fishing trip in Pennsylvania? (Stocked trout anglers)							
	Northwest (n=240)	Northcentral (n=222)	Northeast (n=241)	Southwest (n=531)	Southcentral (n=379)	Southeast (n=596)	Non-Resident (n=252)
More than 150 miles	1	0	0	3	2	4	21
101-150 miles	3	2	2	6	2	2	9
91-100 miles	3	1	1	6	2	3	3
81-90 miles	0	0	0	1	0	1	2
71-80 miles	3	2	1	2	1	1	4
61-70 miles	3	0	0	2	0	1	1
51-60 miles	3	5	1	3	1	1	2
41-50 miles	4	11	5	8	5	4	6
31-40 miles	3	4	4	4	4	3	4
21-30 miles	12	19	21	13	12	8	13
11-20 miles	26	25	28	24	28	22	14
0-10 miles	37	29	36	28	42	47	18
Don't know	1	1	1	1	1	4	2
Mean	28.8	26.8	21.8	40.4	24.7	29.3	84.1
Median	15	20	15	20	15	12	40

### What's the farthest distance you travel to fish for stocked trout in Pennsylvania, one-way? (Stocked trout anglers)



What's the farthest distance you travel to fish for stocked trout in Pennsylvania, one-way? (Stocked trout anglers)							
	Northwest (n=52)	Northcentral (n=58)	Northeast (n=68)	Southwest (n=138)	Southcentral (n=84)	Southeast (n=148)	Non-Resident (n=76)
More than 150 miles	2	8	4	8	7	12	28
101-150 miles	11	5	5	25	6	9	10
91-100 miles	8	8	6	15	6	12	7
81-90 miles	12	12	2	2	0	2	5
71-80 miles	2	0	2	4	5	1	6
61-70 miles	2	1	0	1	4	0	2
51-60 miles	7	14	3	7	3	8	2
41-50 miles	20	13	14	7	5	5	7
31-40 miles	2	3	11	6	3	6	7
21-30 miles	16	13	20	7	15	11	4
11-20 miles	11	9	15	10	11	15	6
0-10 miles	8	11	12	3	23	16	8
Don't know	0	3	6	4	11	3	7
Mean	59.6	67.0	53.5	89.5	56.6	74.1	118.8
Median	50	50	35	90	30	50	90

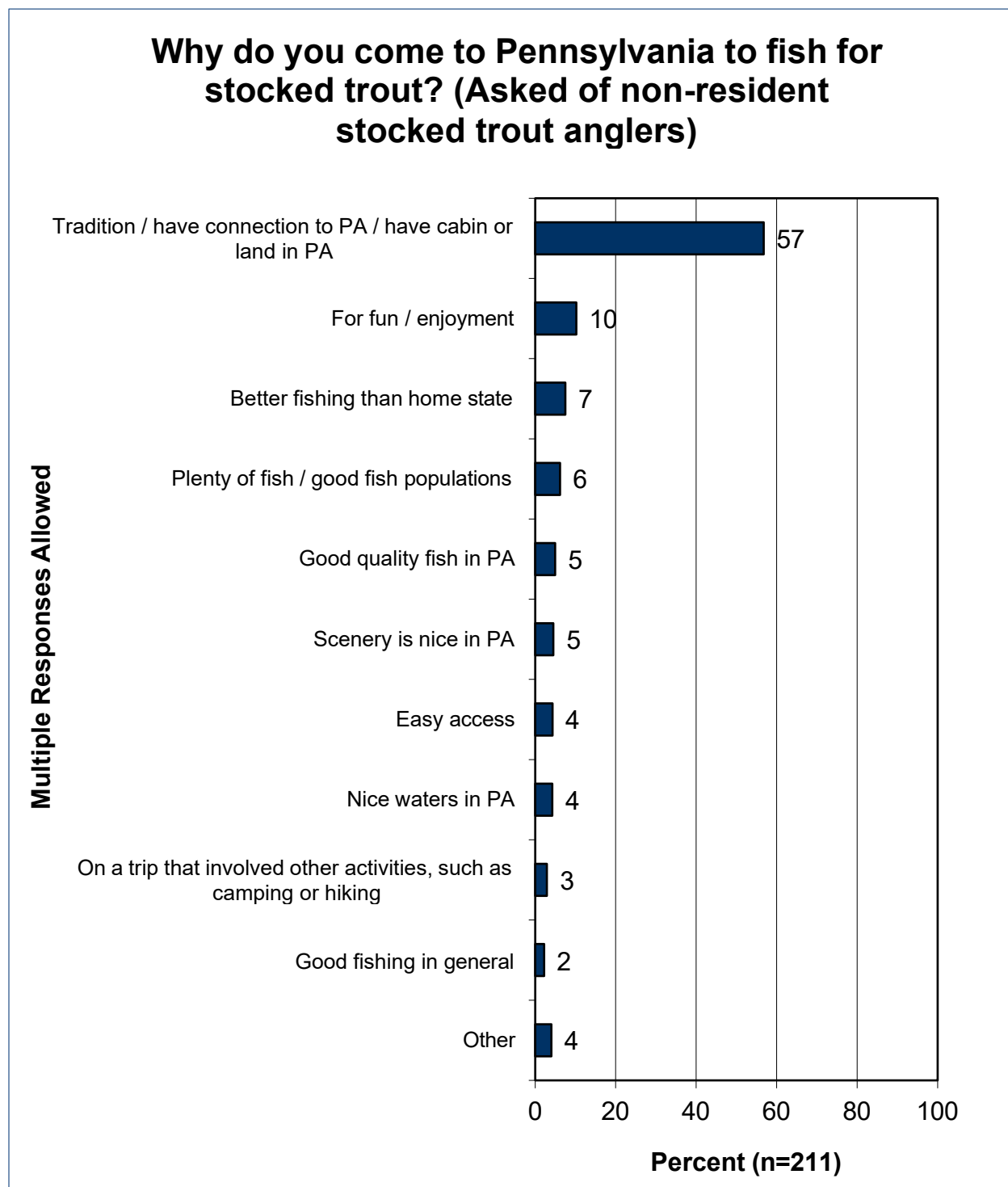
Locational decisions for stocked trout fishing depend more on the proximity to home than on the proximity to the anglers' hunting or fishing camp. That the location is near home is particularly important to anglers from the Southeast and Northeast Regions. That the location is near hunting/fishing camps is particularly important to anglers from the Southeast and Southwest Regions.



That the location is near your home. (Stocked trout anglers)							
	Northwest (n=240)	Northcentral (n=222)	Northeast (n=241)	Southwest (n=531)	Southcentral (n=379)	Southeast (n=596)	Non-Resident (n=252)
Very important	23	31	36	29	30	36	17
Somewhat important	53	49	47	47	55	48	45
Not at all important	23	20	18	22	15	15	37
Do not know	0	0	0	1	1	1	1

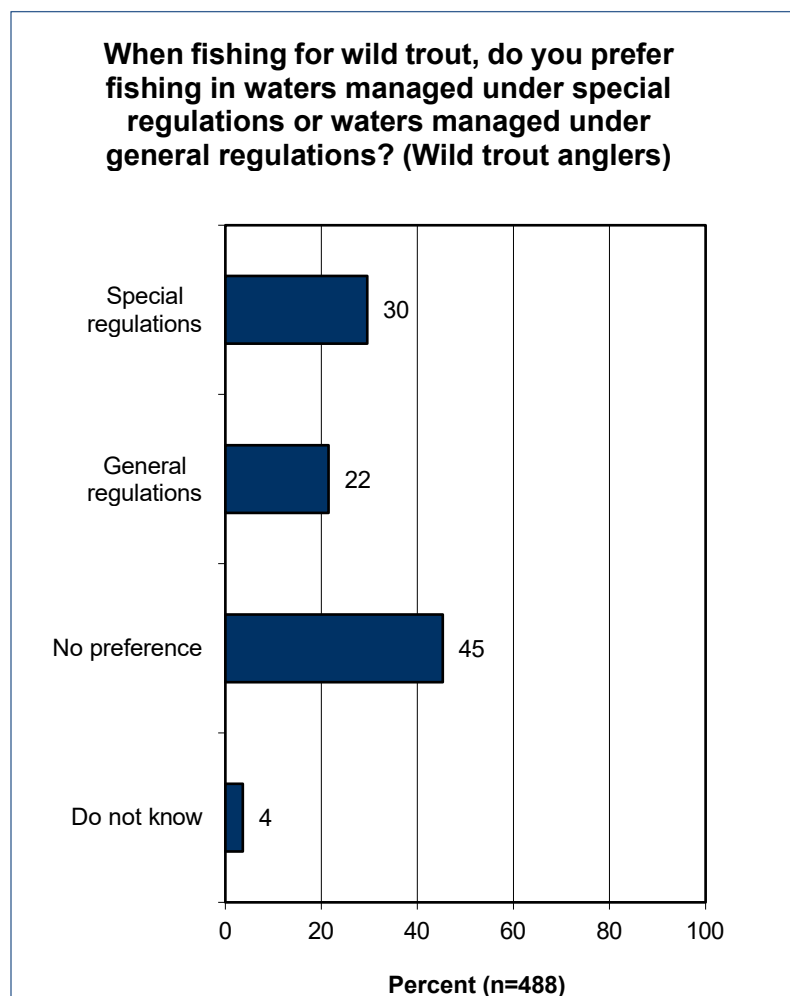
That the location is near your hunting or fishing camp. (Stocked trout anglers)							
	Northwest (n=240)	Northcentral (n=222)	Northeast (n=241)	Southwest (n=531)	Southcentral (n=379)	Southeast (n=596)	Non-Resident (n=252)
Very important	14	16	17	19	17	19	23
Somewhat important	25	20	18	23	19	24	26
Not at all important	58	60	63	53	62	52	45
Do not know	3	4	2	5	3	5	6

Non-residents coming into Pennsylvania to fish for stocked trout most commonly have a prior connection to Pennsylvania, such as an established fishing/hunting camp in the state or family who live in the state. Otherwise, they most commonly cite the fun and enjoyment of fishing in the state as being an attractant or they say that the fishing is better in Pennsylvania than in their home state.





## SPECIAL REGULATION WATERS

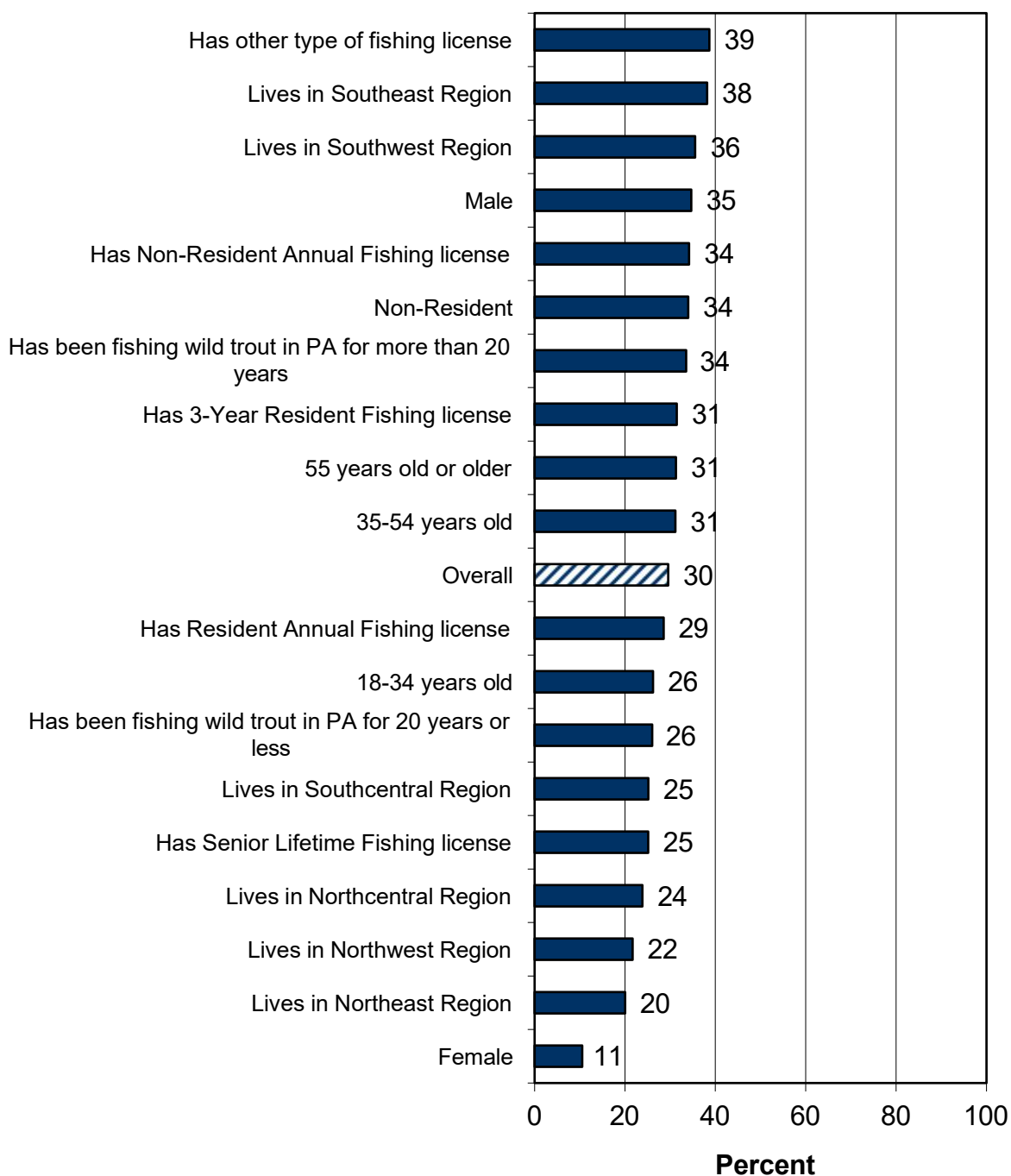


The survey also examined waters managed under special regulations and those managed under general regulations. Wild trout anglers more often like to fish special regulation waters than general regulation waters, although the most common response is that they have no preference. Southeast and Southwest Region anglers are the most likely to want to fish in special regulation waters, while Northeast and Northcentral Region anglers are the most likely to want to fish in general regulation waters. Again, note that the region crosstabulation is by the region of residence, which may or may not be the region of fishing activity.

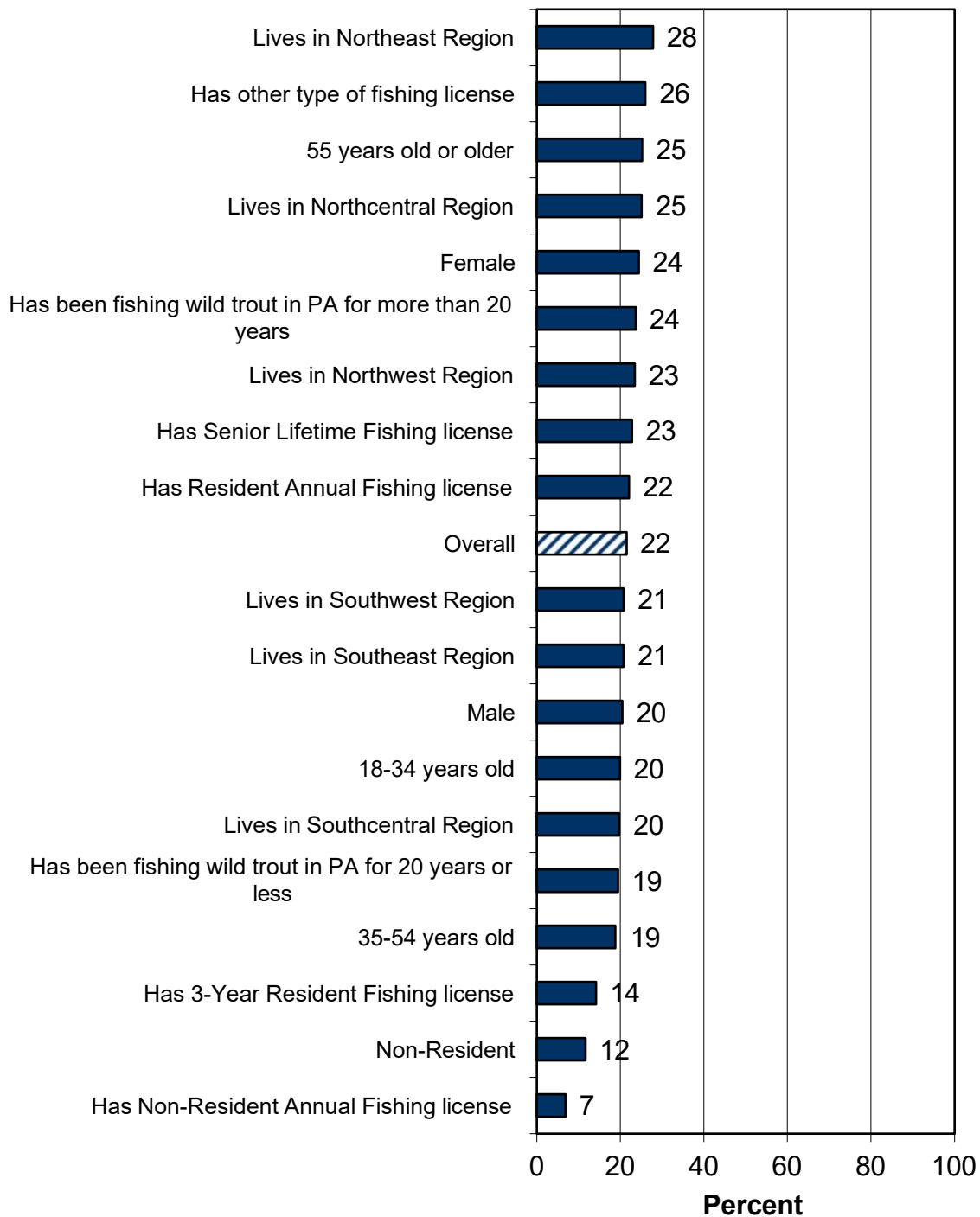
When fishing for wild trout, do you prefer fishing in waters managed under special regulations or waters managed under general regulations? (Wild trout anglers)							
	Northwest (n=43)	Northcentral (n=60)	Northeast (n=58)	Southwest (n=92)	Southcentral (n=69)	Southeast (n=105)	Non-Resident (n=61)
Special regulations	22	24	20	36	25	38	34
General regulations	23	25	28	21	20	21	12
No preference	55	48	47	39	47	39	52
Do not know	0	3	5	4	8	2	2

The demographic analyses graphs on this page and the next show that special regulation waters are especially preferred by those holding an “other” license, anglers from the Southeast or Southwest Regions, and male anglers. Conversely, anglers from the Northeast Region are the most likely to prefer general regulation waters.

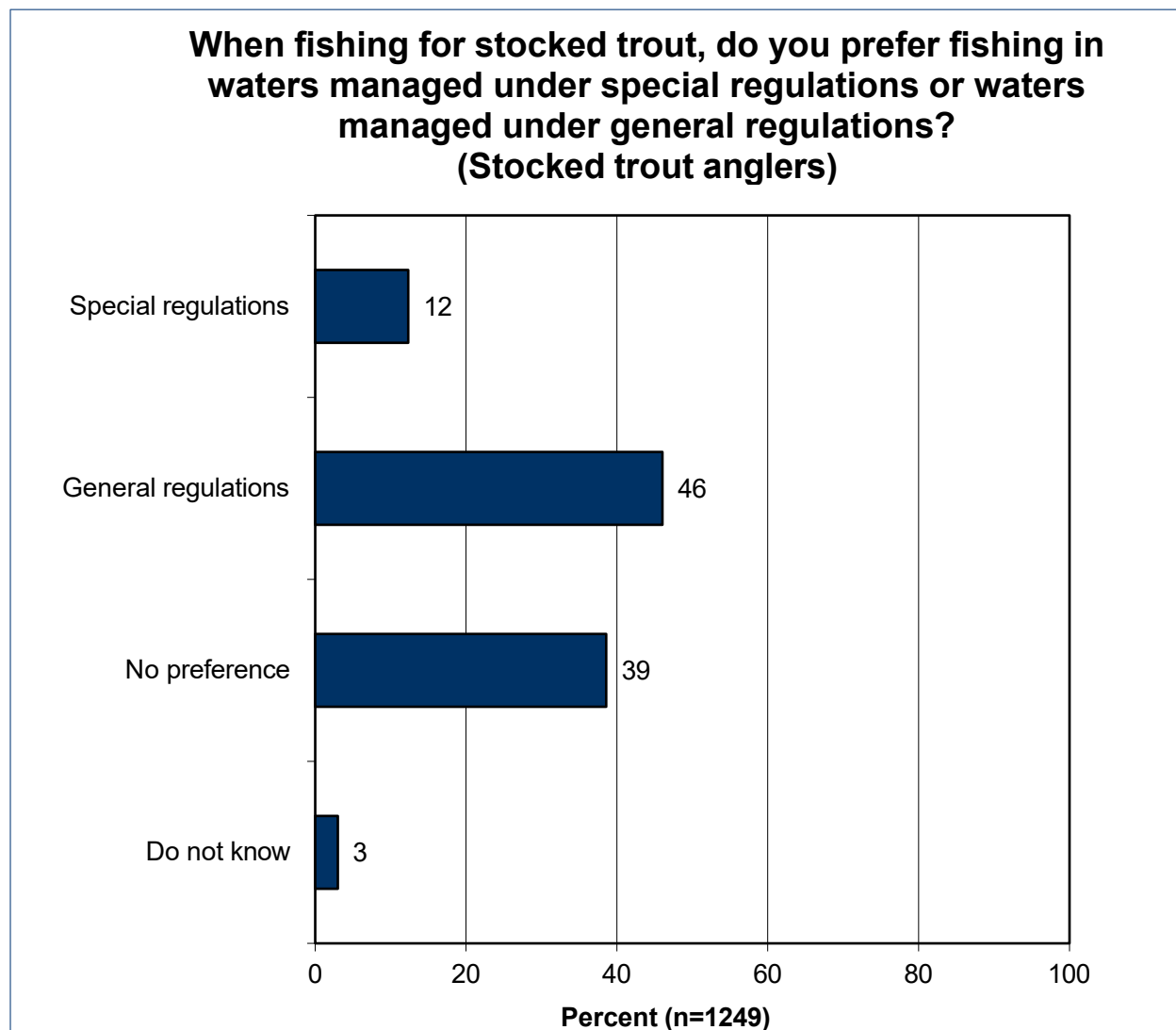
**Percent of each of the following groups who prefer fishing for wild trout in waters managed under special regulations: (Wild trout anglers)**



**Percent of each of the following groups who prefer fishing for wild trout in waters managed under general regulations: (Wild trout anglers)**



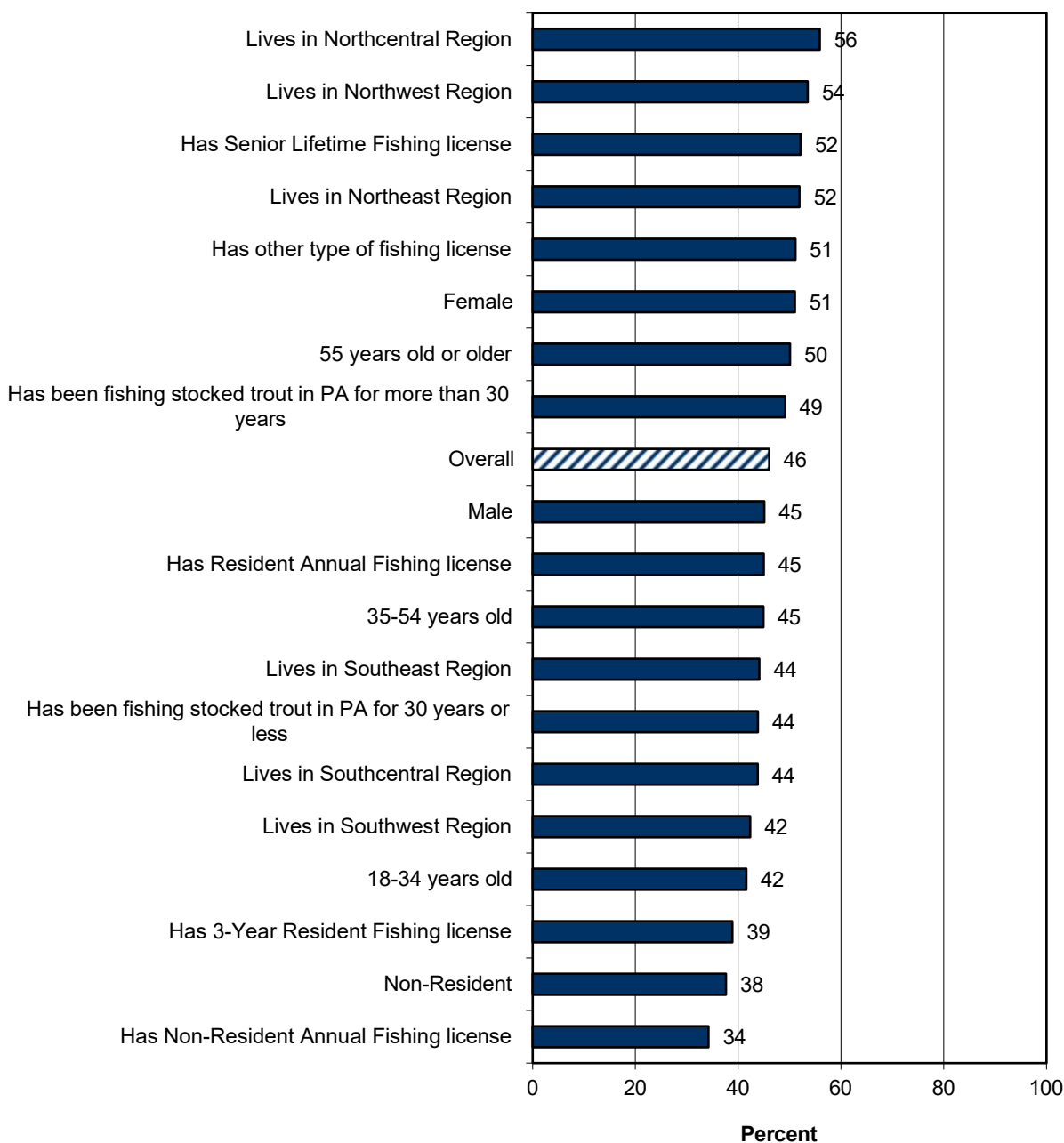
The same questions were asked of stocked trout anglers regarding special regulation waters versus general regulation waters. Stocked trout anglers more often like to fish general regulation waters than special regulation waters. No region is markedly higher in preference for special regulation waters. The three northern regions are more likely than the three southern regions to want to fish in general regulation waters. Note that the region crosstabulation is by the region of residence, which may or may not be the region of fishing activity.



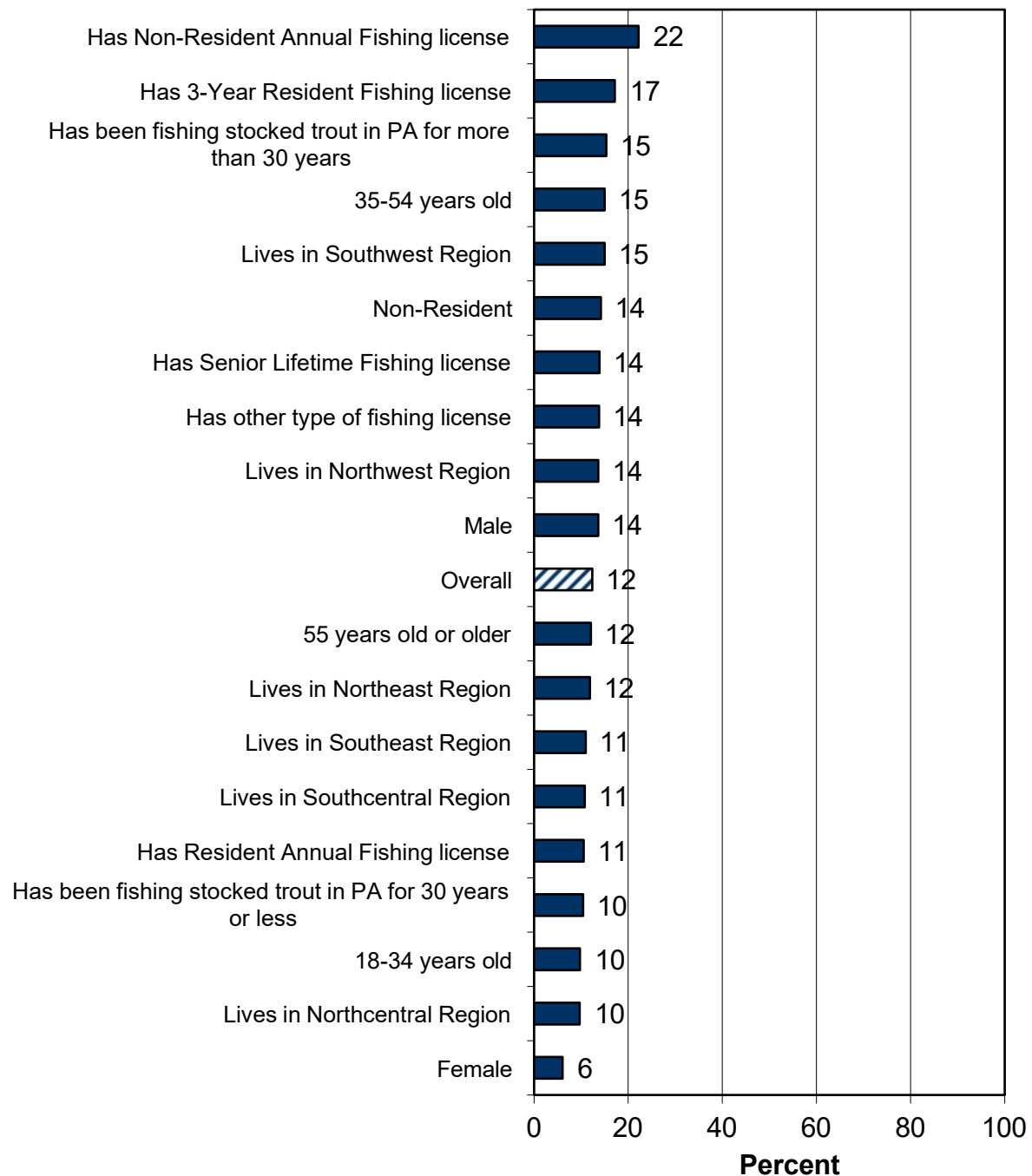
When fishing for stocked trout, do you prefer fishing in waters managed under special regulations or waters managed under general regulations? (Stocked trout anglers)							
	Northwest (n=126)	Northcentral (n=109)	Northeast (n=116)	Southwest (n=272)	Southcentral (n=195)	Southeast (n=292)	Non-Resident (n=139)
Special regulations	14	10	12	15	11	11	14
General regulations	54	56	52	42	44	44	38
No preference	31	33	34	40	41	41	43
Do not know	2	1	2	2	4	4	5

Stocked angler groups most likely to prefer fishing for stocked trout under general regulations are those living in any of the three northern regions as well as those with a Senior Lifetime Fishing license. Meanwhile, special regulation waters are most preferred, among stocked trout anglers, by those with a Non-Resident Annual Fishing license or a 3-Year Resident Fishing license.

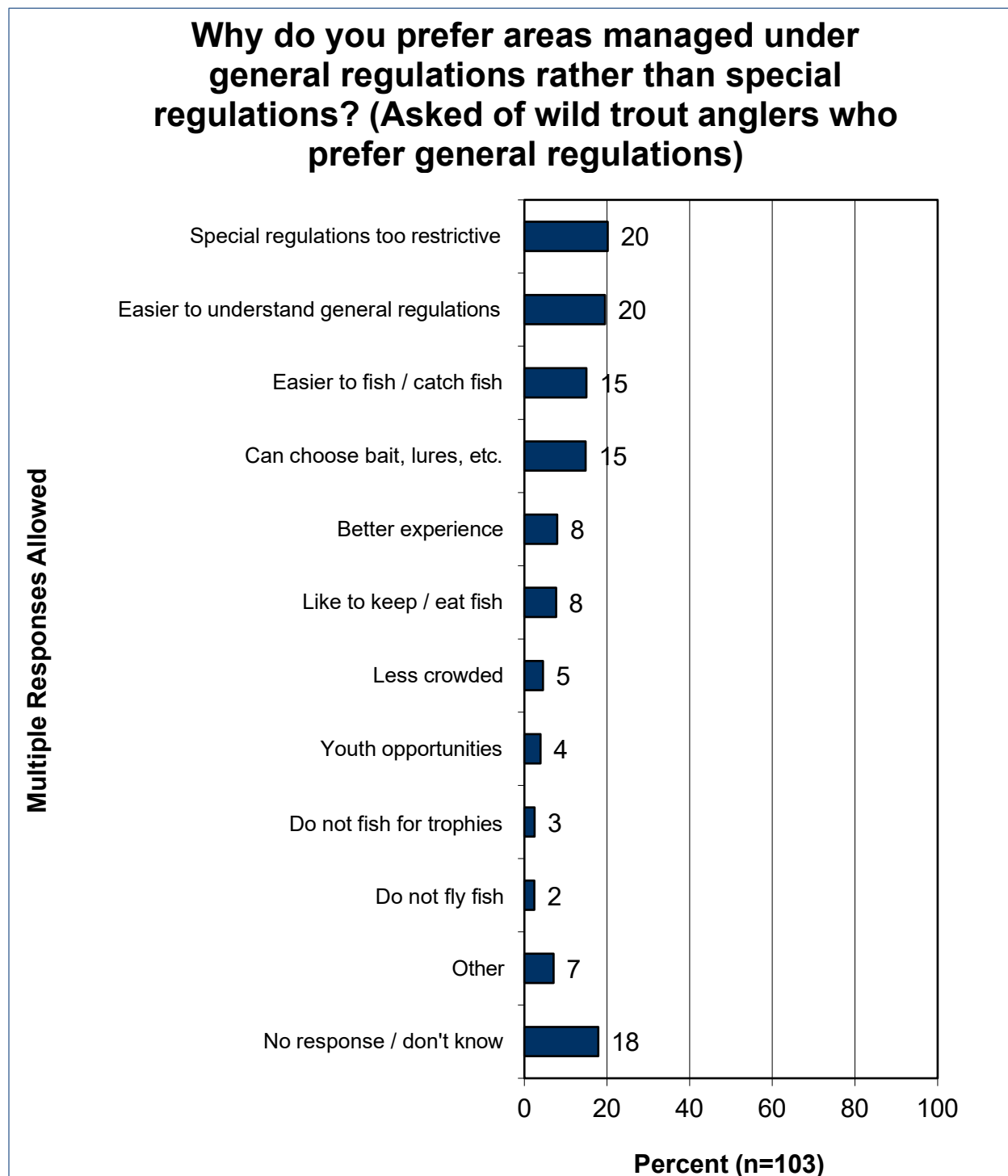
**Percent of each of the following groups who prefer fishing for stocked trout in waters managed under general regulations:  
(Stocked trout anglers)**



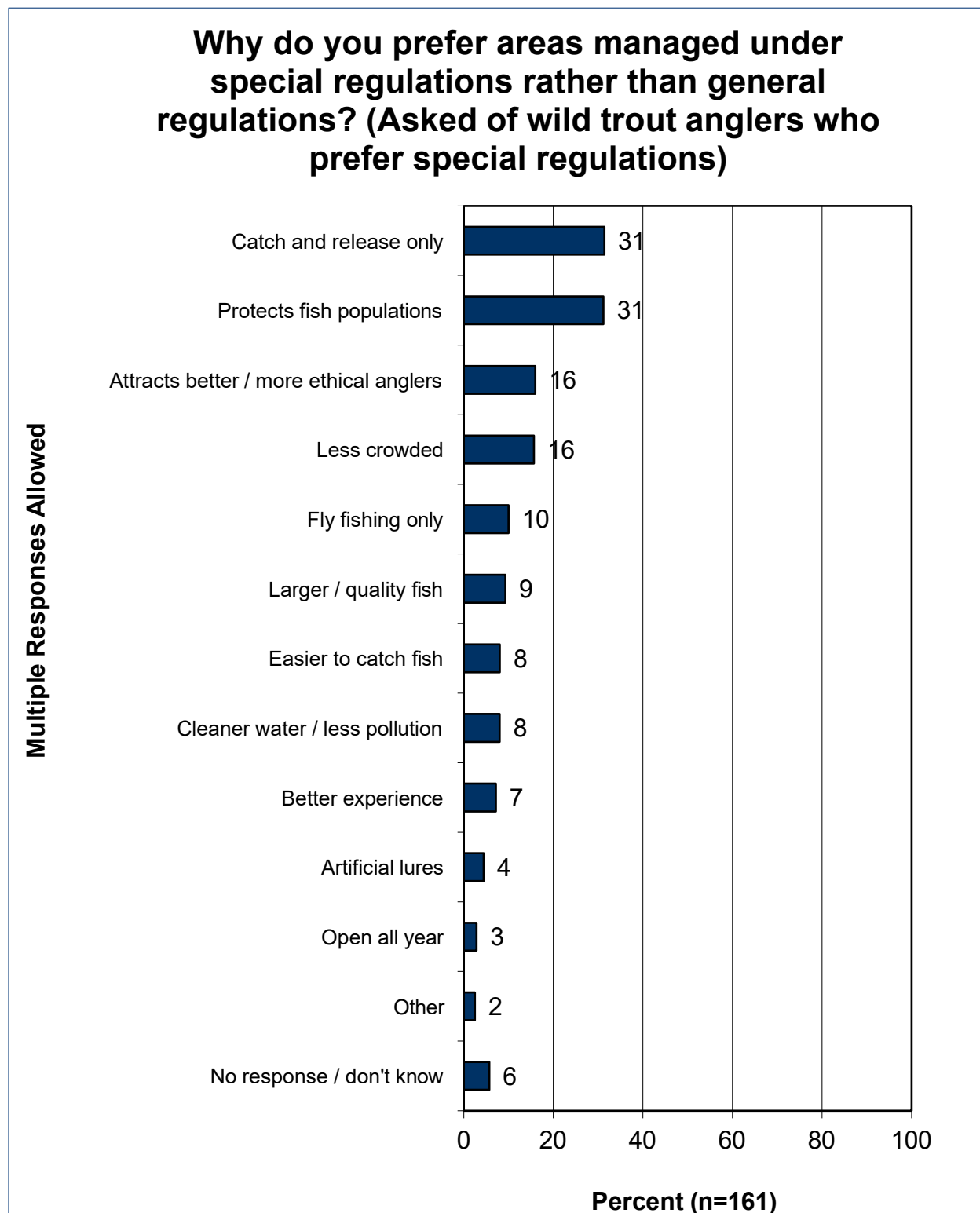
**Percent of each of the following groups who  
prefer fishing for stocked trout in waters  
managed under special regulations:  
(Stocked trout anglers)**



Among wild trout anglers, the top reasons for preferring areas managed under general regulations rather than special regulations are because special regulations are too restrictive or that general regulations are easier to understand than are special regulations. Two other reasons make up the top tier: that fish are easier to catch in general regulation areas and that the areas allow the angler to choose whether to use bait or lures and so forth. The graph shows the full list of reasons given in this open-ended question.

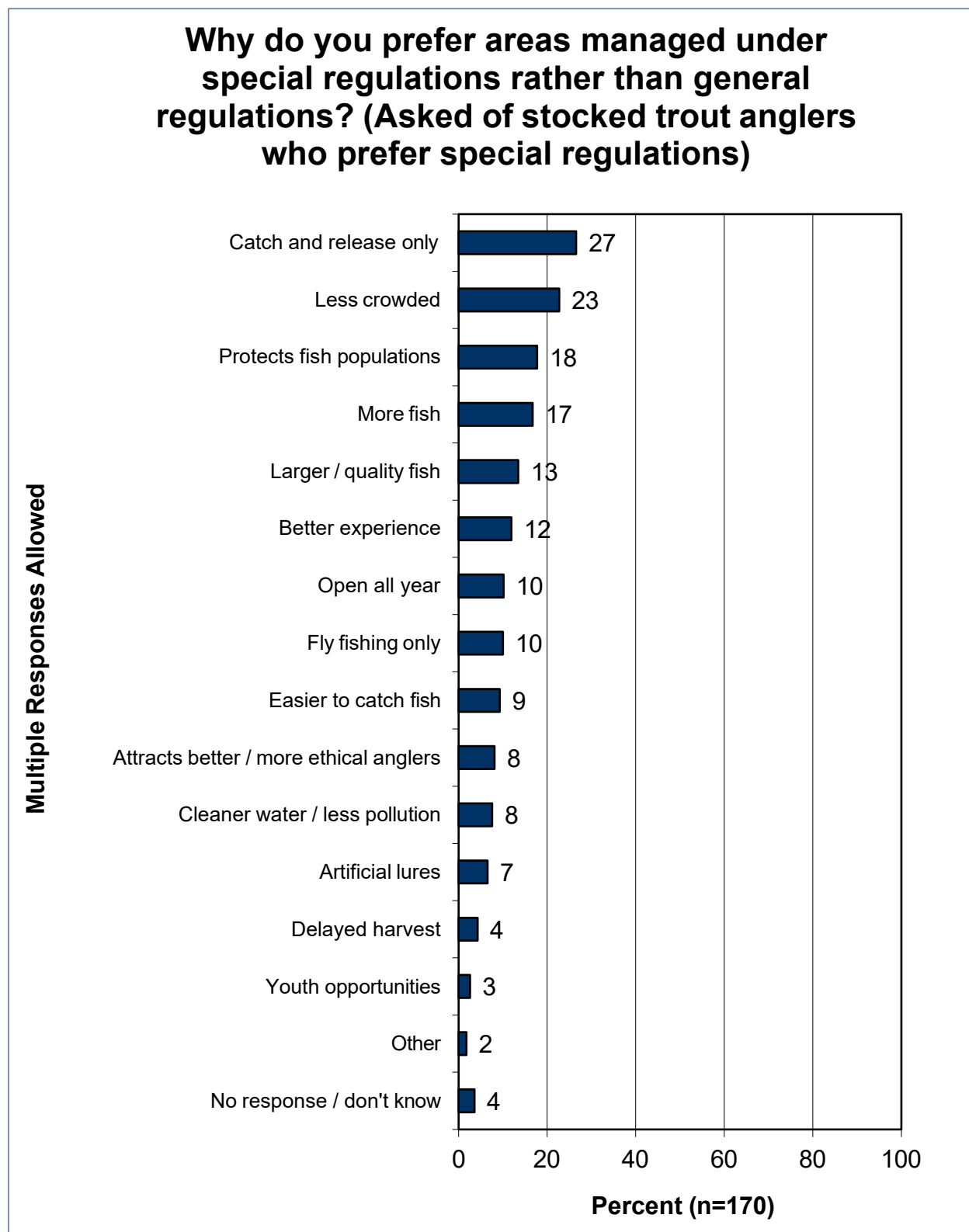


The top reasons for preferring areas managed under special regulations, among wild trout anglers, are to fish catch-and-release areas and that the regulations protect fish populations. Two other response categories were also commonly given: that those areas attract more ethical anglers and that those areas are less crowded.

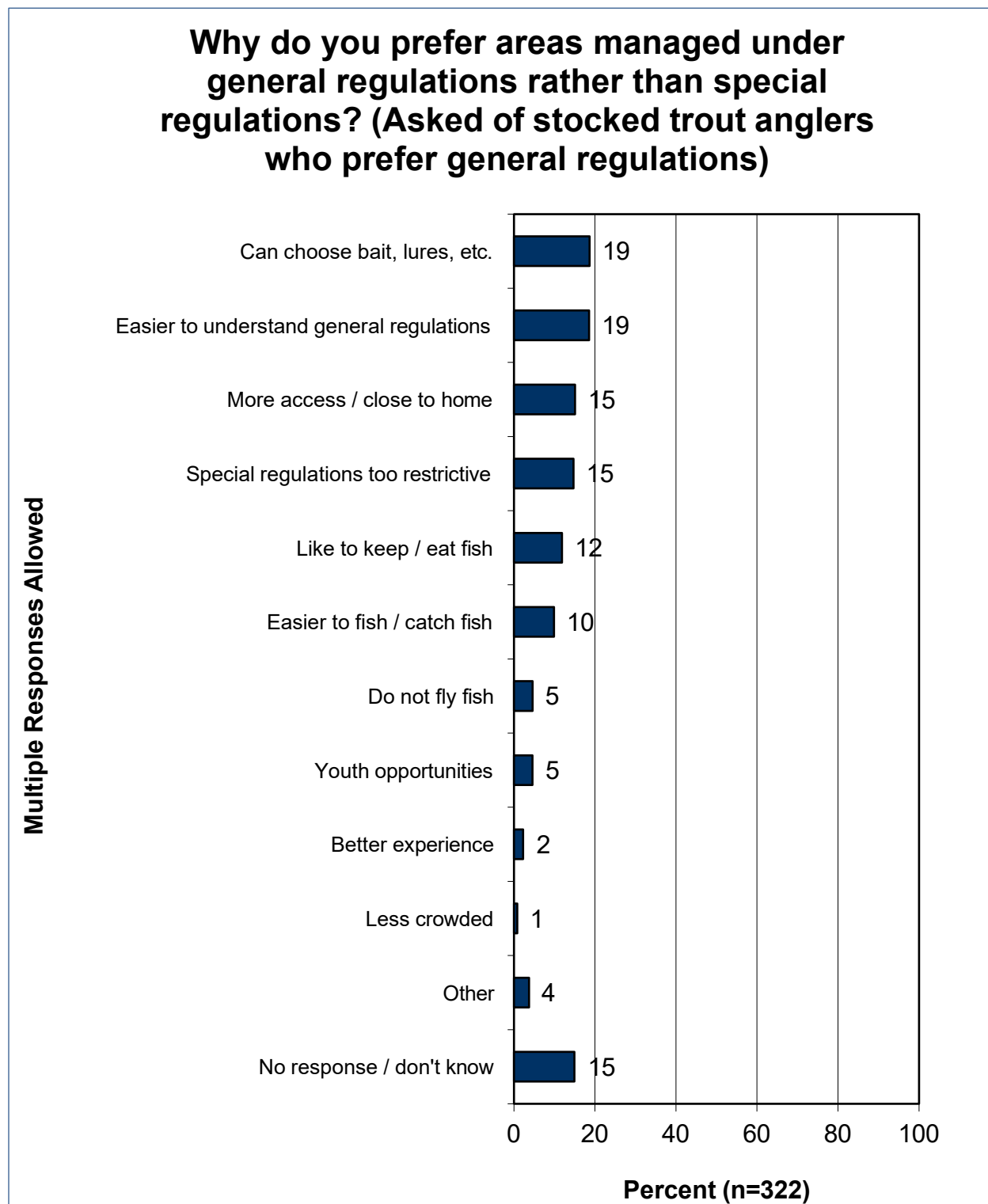




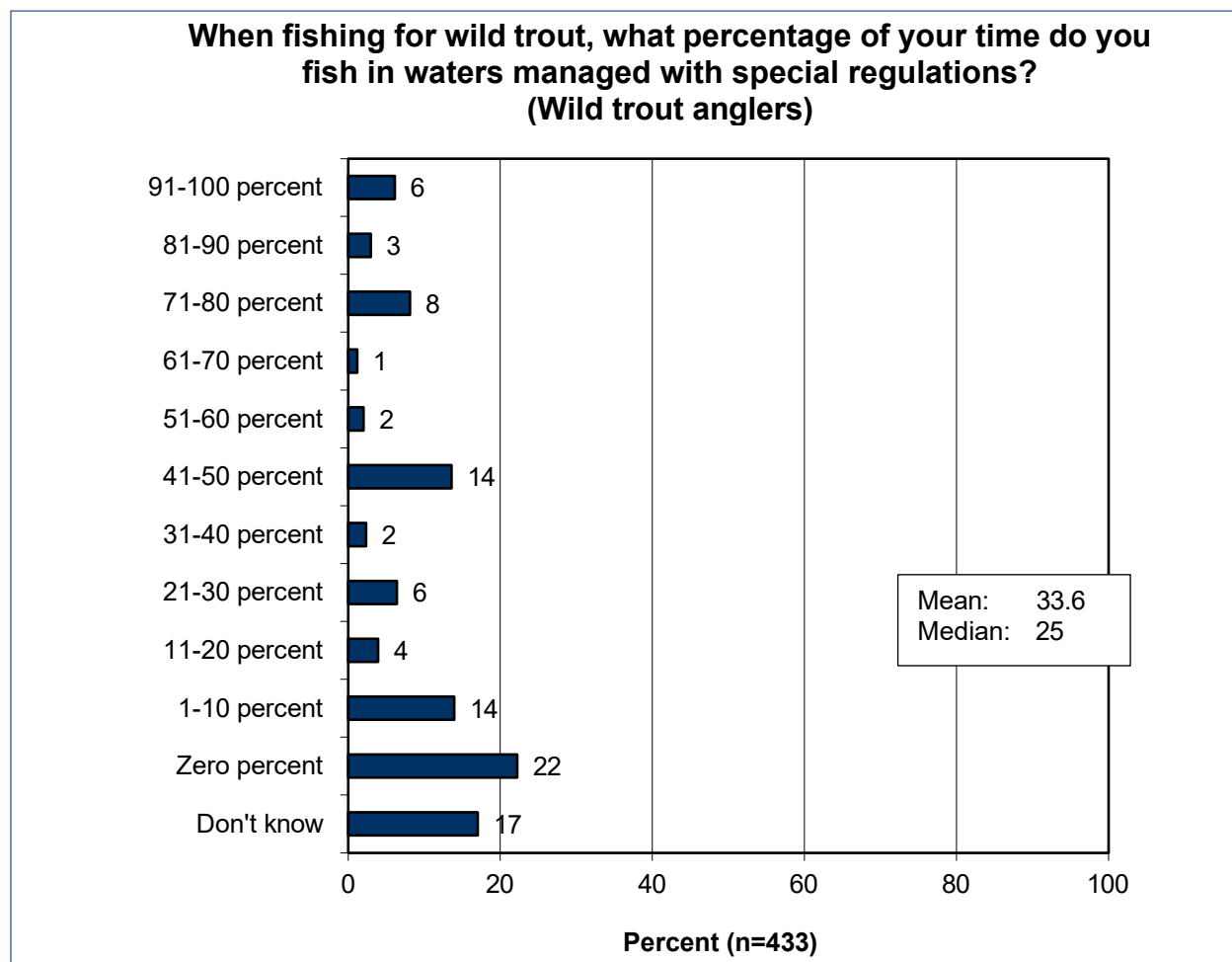
Among stocked trout anglers, the top reasons for preferring special regulation areas are to fish catch-and-release and because those areas are less crowded. Other popular reasons are that those regulations protect fish populations and that there are more fish in those areas.



Stocked trout anglers most commonly prefer fishing in areas managed under general regulations because they can select whether to use bait or lures and so forth, because the regulations are easier to understand, that they have more access to such areas, and that they feel that special regulations are too restrictive.

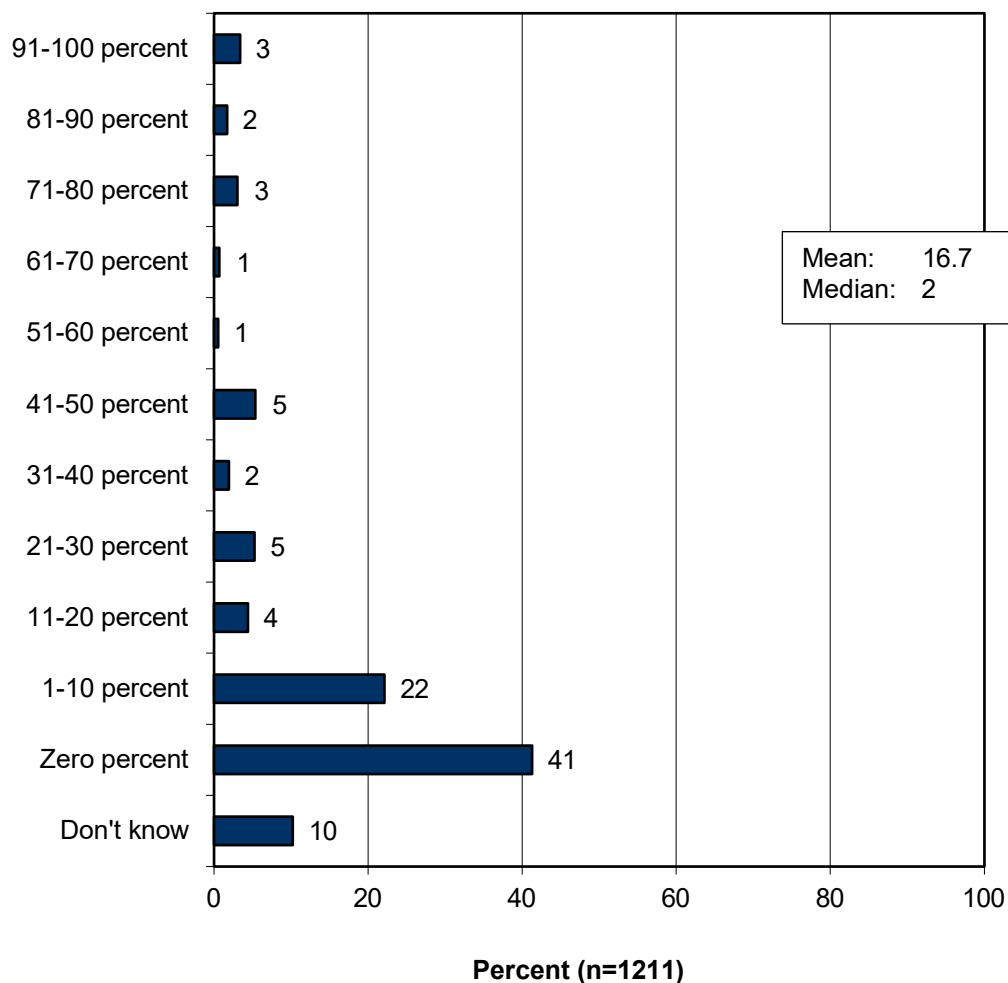


Anglers estimated the percentage of their time that they fished waters managed with special regulations when wild trout fishing. The mean was a third of their time (33.6 percent of their time), while the median was about a quarter of their time (25 percent of their time). Regarding stocked trout fishing (next page), the mean is 16.7 percent of their time, and the median is only 2 percent of their time.



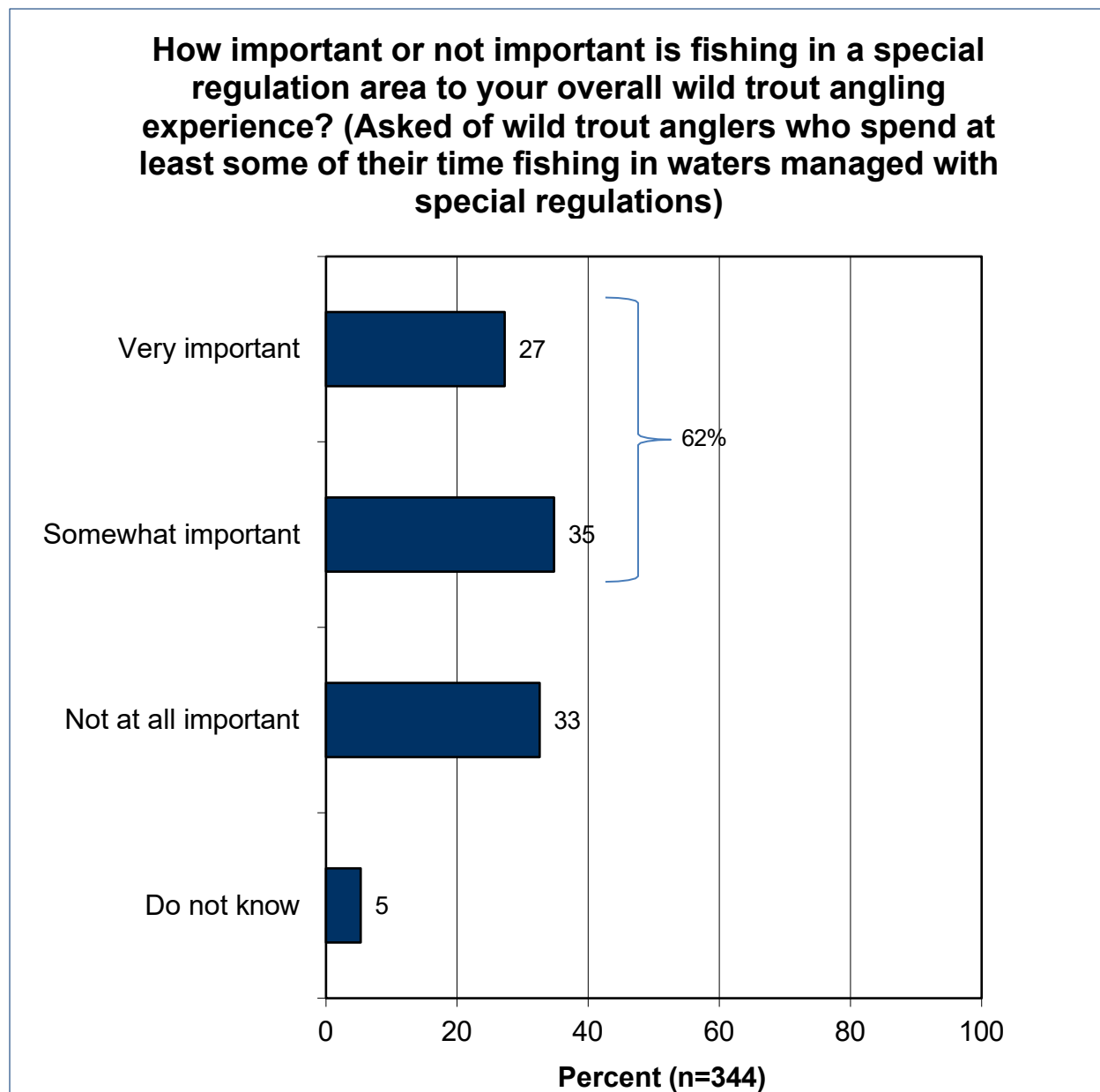
When fishing for wild trout, what percentage of your time do you fish in waters managed with special regulations? (Wild trout anglers)							
	Northwest (n=32)	Northcentral (n=45)	Northeast (n=48)	Southwest (n=77)	Southcentral (n=70)	Southeast (n=87)	Non-Resident (n=74)
91-100 percent	0	19	2	4	7	6	7
81-90 percent	5	3	0	6	0	2	6
71-80 percent	6	7	7	5	11	9	11
61-70 percent	0	0	6	0	0	2	1
51-60 percent	0	7	0	1	2	2	4
41-50 percent	9	10	9	14	12	18	21
31-40 percent	0	3	1	3	7	0	0
21-30 percent	8	5	7	7	6	5	8
11-20 percent	2	5	4	5	7	2	1
1-10 percent	18	11	7	17	16	16	9
Zero percent	45	19	35	17	19	17	13
Don't know	7	10	22	21	13	21	20
Mean	18.7	44.8	24.3	32.4	33.4	37.0	45.8
Median	1	45	6	25	25	30	50

**When fishing for stocked trout, what percentage of your time do you fish in waters managed with special regulations?  
(Stocked trout anglers)**



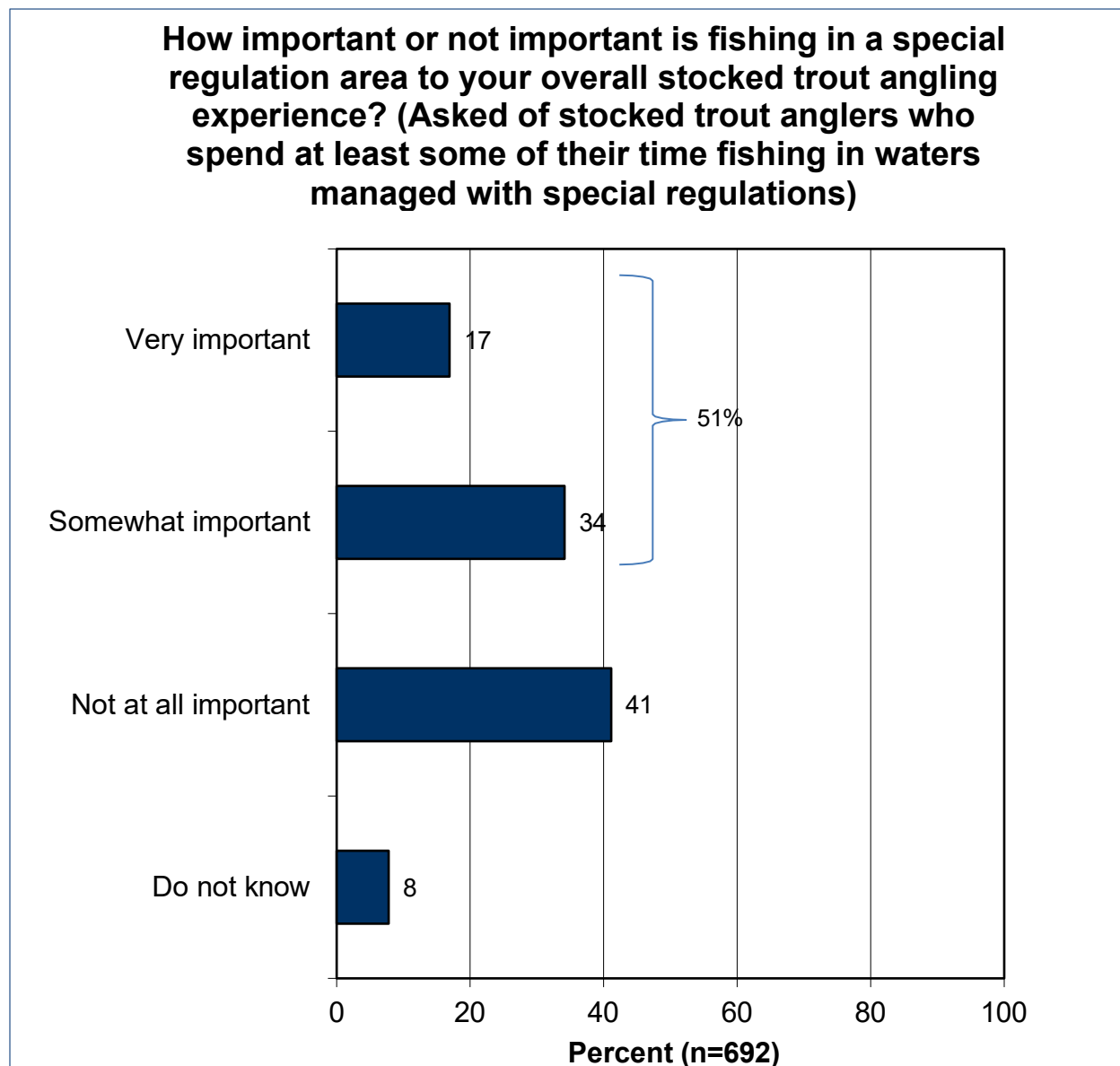
When fishing for stocked trout, what percentage of your time do you fish in waters managed with special regulations? (Stocked trout anglers)							
	Northwest (n=113)	Northcentral (n=113)	Northeast (n=125)	Southwest (n=259)	Southcentral (n=184)	Southeast (n=304)	Non-Resident (n=113)
91-100 percent	1	1	4	3	1	7	4
81-90 percent	8	1	2	1	1	0	1
71-80 percent	3	5	1	4	0	5	4
61-70 percent	1	0	1	1	0	2	0
51-60 percent	1	0	0	1	0	1	2
41-50 percent	10	5	4	6	4	5	6
31-40 percent	4	1	1	3	0	2	3
21-30 percent	8	6	3	6	5	4	7
11-20 percent	4	6	5	5	6	3	3
1-10 percent	19	26	33	21	25	18	15
Zero percent	35	43	34	40	48	43	41
Don't know	6	7	13	10	10	12	14
Mean	23.2	13.6	15.0	17.5	8.8	20.2	19.1
Median	5	2	2	5	0	1	1

A majority of wild trout anglers who spend at least some of their time fishing in waters managed with special regulations (62%) consider it important to fish in a special regulation area for their overall fishing experience. Anglers from the Northeast Region have a particularly high rate of saying this is important.



How important or not important is fishing in a special regulation area to your overall wild trout angling experience? (Asked of wild trout anglers who spend at least some of their time fishing in waters managed with special regulations.)							
	Northwest (n=21)	Northcentral (n=35)	Northeast (n=31)	Southwest (n=65)	Southcentral (n=57)	Southeast (n=73)	Non-Resident (n=62)
Very important	18	32	39	21	27	26	32
Somewhat important	40	34	33	32	36	38	30
Not at all important	38	35	22	42	28	30	32
Do not know	4	0	5	4	9	6	6

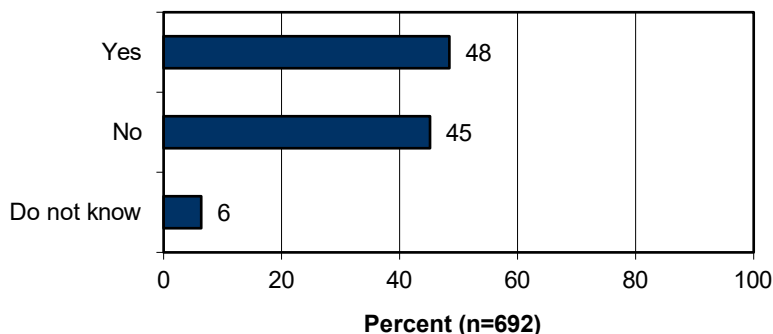
About half of stocked trout anglers who spend at least some of their time fishing in waters managed with special regulations (51%) consider it important to fish in a special regulation area for their overall fishing experience. In particular, anglers from the Northwest Region consider this important.



How important or not important is fishing in a special regulation area to your overall stocked trout angling experience? (Asked of stocked trout anglers who spend at least some of their time fishing in waters managed with special regulations.)							
	Northwest (n=70)	Northcentral (n=57)	Northeast (n=76)	Southwest (n=158)	Southcentral (n=93)	Southeast (n=170)	Non-Resident (n=68)
Very important	26	16	16	14	13	18	18
Somewhat important	41	23	24	35	30	41	41
Not at all important	25	51	53	44	50	33	31
Do not know	7	9	7	8	7	8	9

Among stocked trout anglers who fish in waters managed with special regulations, about half of them (48%) fish in Delayed Harvest Artificial Lures Only areas. Anglers from the Northwest Region are the most likely to do this.

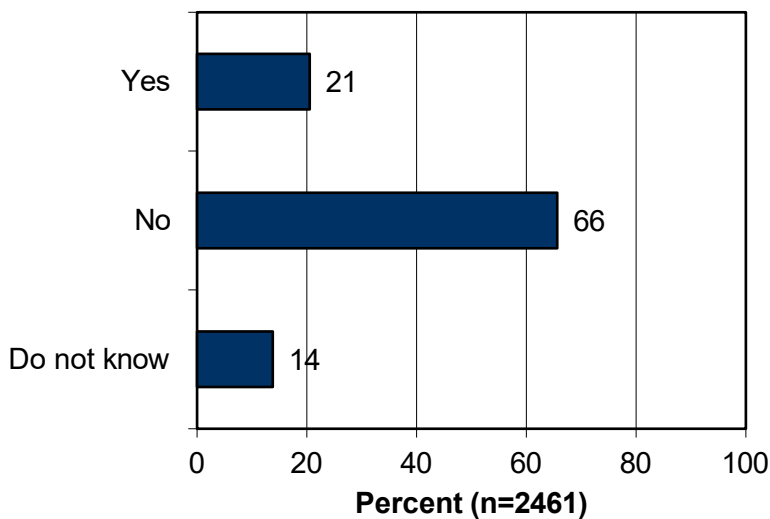
**Do you fish for stocked trout in Delayed Harvest Artificial Lures Only areas? (Asked of stocked trout anglers who spend at least some of their time fishing in waters managed with special regulations)**



**Do you fish for stocked trout in Delayed Harvest Artificial Lures Only areas? (Asked of stocked trout anglers who spend at least some of their time fishing in waters managed with special regulations.)**

	Northwest (n=70)	Northcentral (n=57)	Northeast (n=76)	Southwest (n=158)	Southcentral (n=93)	Southeast (n=170)	Non-Resident (n=68)
Yes	69	38	40	54	35	50	51
No	31	60	53	42	57	40	33
Do not know	0	1	7	4	8	9	16

**Have you fished in any of the 23 Keystone Select Delayed Harvest areas within the past 3 years? (Stocked trout anglers)**



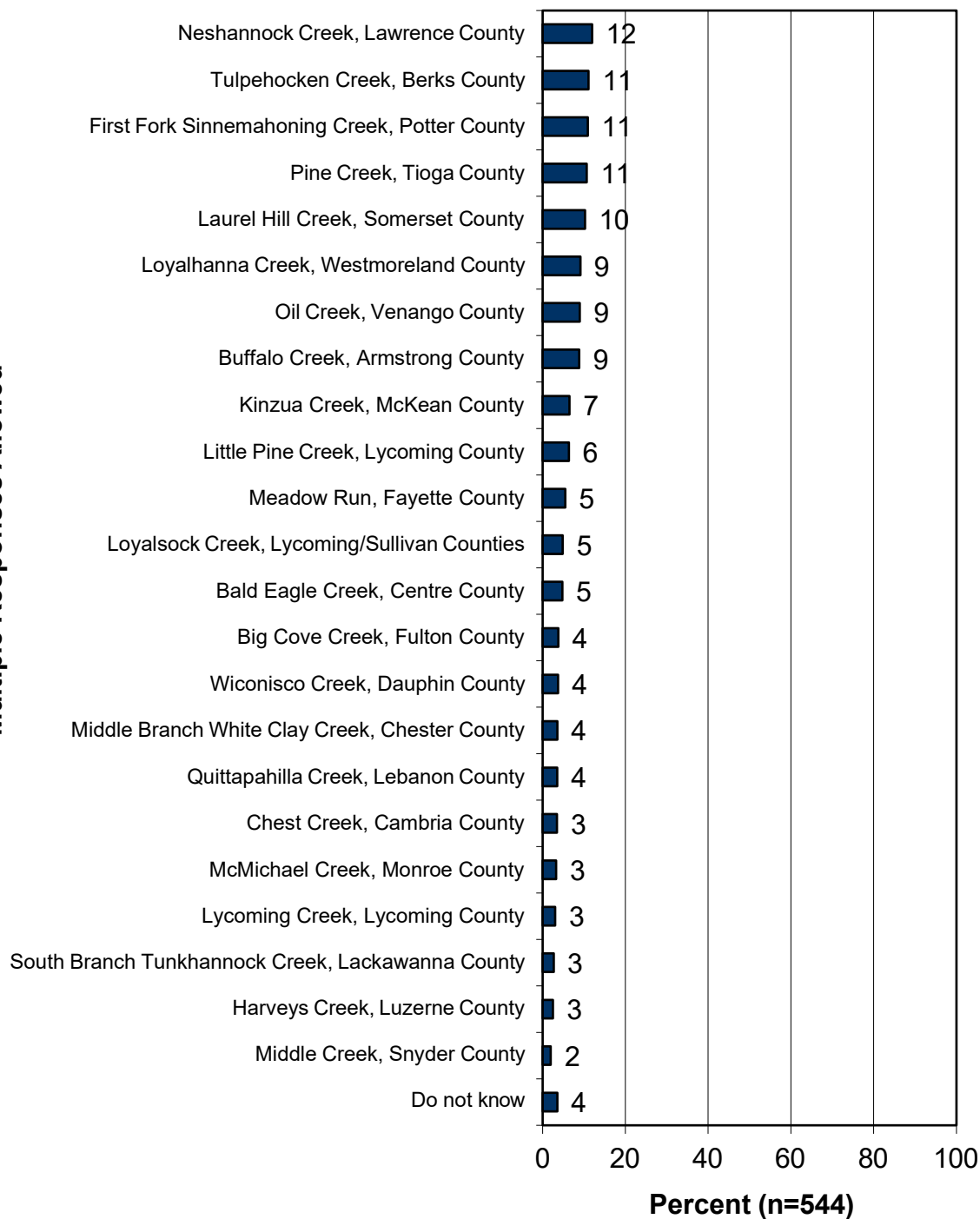
About a fifth of stocked trout anglers (21%) have fished one (or more) of the Keystone Select Delayed Harvest Waters within the past 3 years. Anglers from the Northwest Region are the most likely to have done so. On the following page are the results regarding which waters they fished, with regional results following that.

**Have you fished in any of the 23 Keystone Select Delayed Harvest areas within the past 3 years? (Stocked trout anglers)**

	Northwest (n=240)	Northcentral (n=222)	Northeast (n=241)	Southwest (n=531)	Southcentral (n=379)	Southeast (n=596)	Non-Resident (n=252)
Yes	31	17	19	25	14	19	21
No	59	74	69	61	71	65	65
Do not know	10	9	12	14	15	17	15

### Which ones have you fished in? (Asked of those who fished in Keystone Select Delayed Harvest areas within the past 3 years)

Multiple Responses Allowed

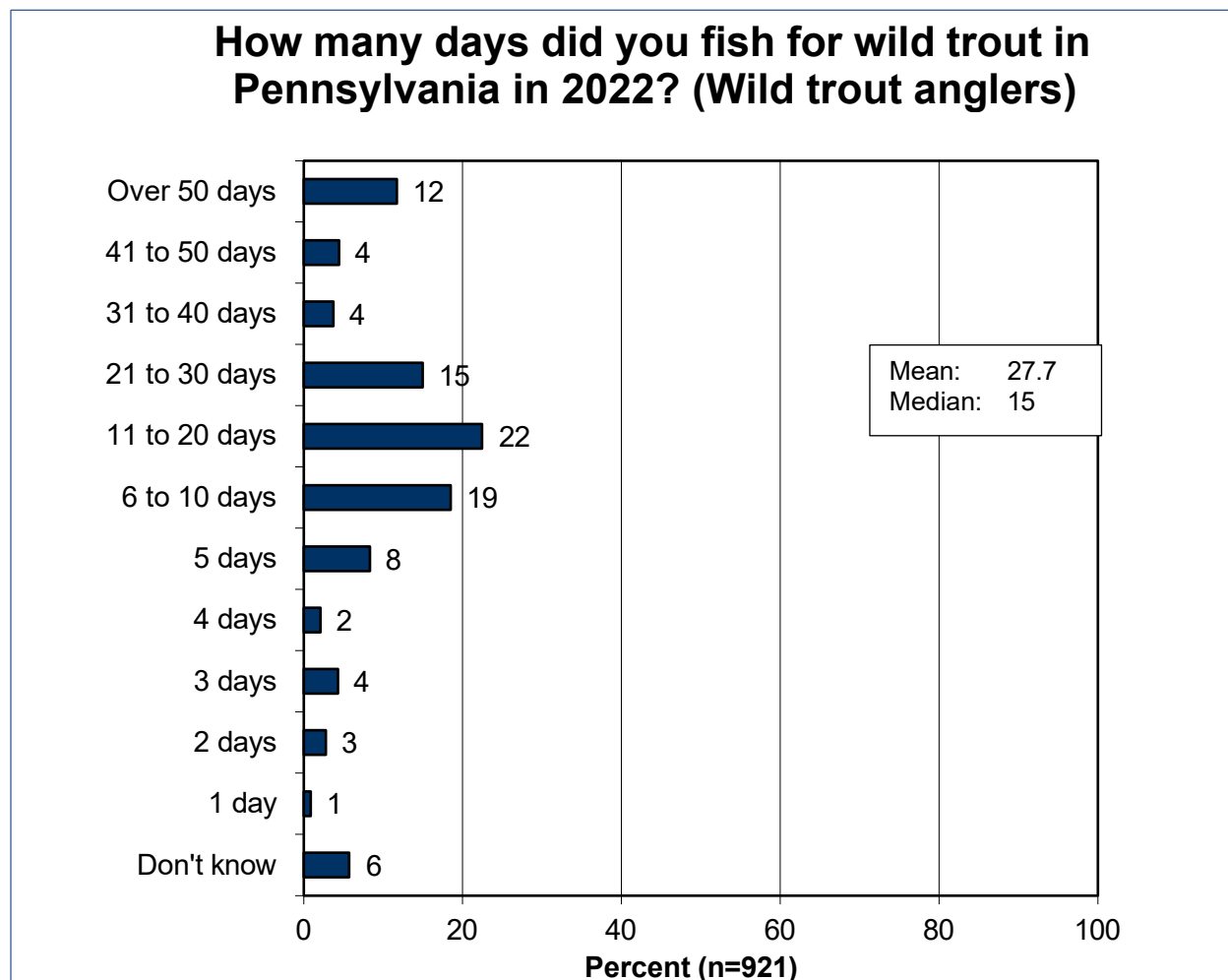




Which ones have you fished in? (Asked of stocked trout anglers who fished in Keystone Select Delayed Harvest areas within the past 3 years.)							
	Northwest (n=74)	Northcentral (n=43)	Northeast (n=48)	Southwest (n=153)	Southcentral (n=54)	Southeast (n=120)	Non-Resident (n=52)
Neshannock Creek, Lawrence Co.	41	0	0	18	0	1	6
Tulpehocken Creek, Berks Co.	0	3	7	0	6	41	5
First Fork Sinnemahoning Creek, Potter Co.	12	33	2	12	11	5	13
Pine Creek, Tioga Co.	1	24	14	3	15	17	15
Laurel Hill Creek, Somerset Co.	7	0	0	32	0	1	14
Loyalhanna Creek, Westmoreland Co.	5	0	0	32	1	0	3
Oil Creek, Venango Co.	28	4	0	11	0	1	14
Buffalo Creek, Armstrong Co.	29	5	2	12	1	0	3
Kinzua Creek, McKean Co.	10	11	0	11	5	0	9
Little Pine Creek, Lycoming Co.	0	16	16	0	10	8	8
Meadow Run, Fayette Co.	1	0	0	19	0	2	2
Loyalsock Creek, Lycoming/Sullivan Counties	0	9	16	0	1	8	7
Bald Eagle Creek, Centre Co.	1	11	2	2	18	3	6
Big Cove Creek, Fulton Co.	0	0	0	1	23	2	6
Wiconisco Creek, Dauphin Co.	0	3	0	0	20	5	2
Middle Branch White Clay Creek, Chester Co.	0	0	0	0	0	13	8
Quittapahilla Creek, Lebanon Co.	0	3	0	0	16	7	0
Chest Creek, Cambria Co.	2	7	2	7	4	0	6
McMichael Creek, Monroe Co.	0	0	11	0	0	8	6
Lycoming Creek, Lycoming Co.	0	7	15	0	1	3	3
South Branch Tunkhannock Creek, Lackawanna Co.	0	0	21	0	0	2	1
Harveys Creek, Luzerne Co.	0	2	17	0	0	1	7
Middle Creek, Snyder Co.	0	16	0	0	0	2	3

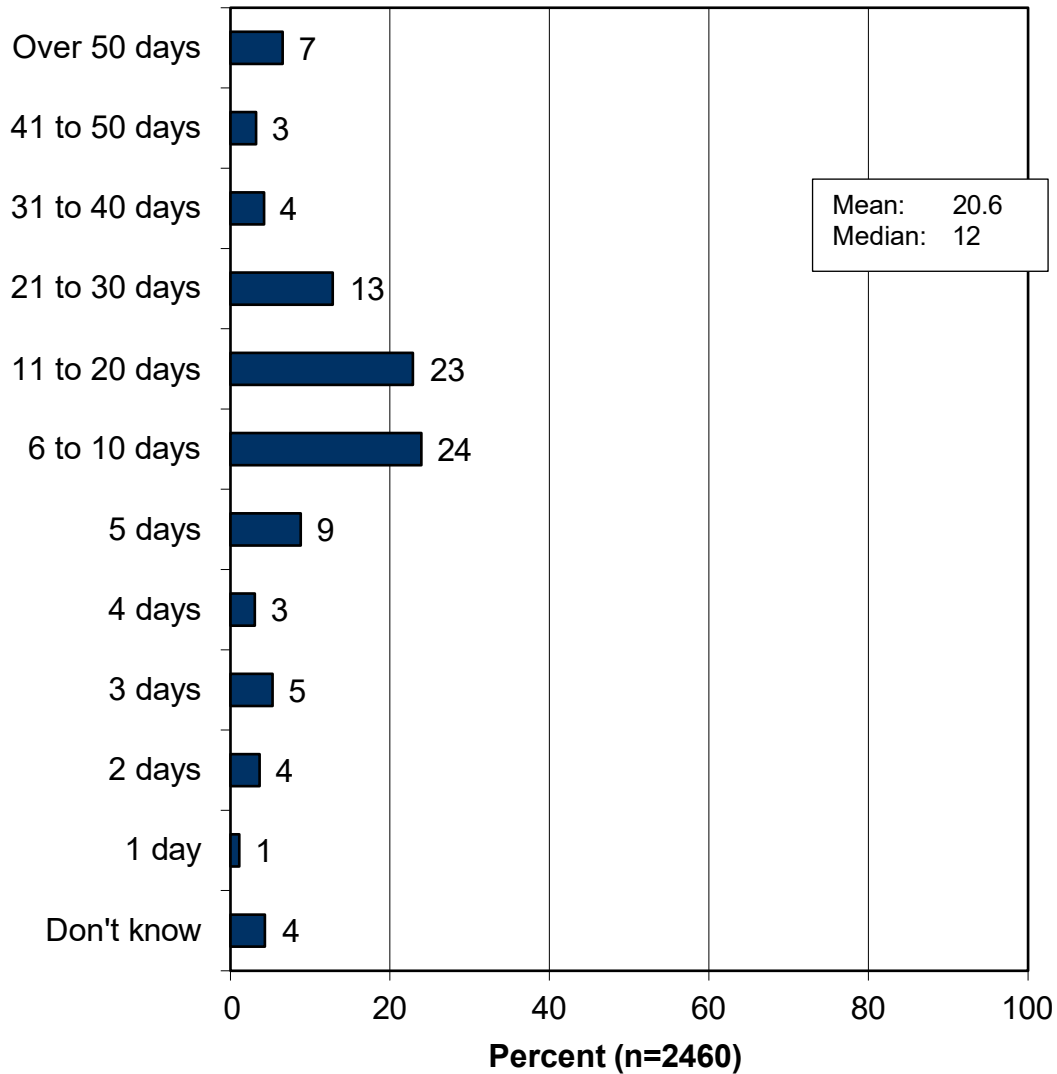
## DAYS OF FISHING ACTIVITY AND YEARS FISHING

A little more than a third of wild trout anglers fished for them for no more than 10 days: 37% fished within the range of 1 to 10 days. The mean is 27.7 days, and the median is 15 days. Wild trout anglers tend to fish more than stocked trout anglers. As shown on the next page, 46% of stocked trout anglers fished in the range of 1 to 10 days. The mean among stocked trout anglers is 20.6 days, and the median is 12 days.



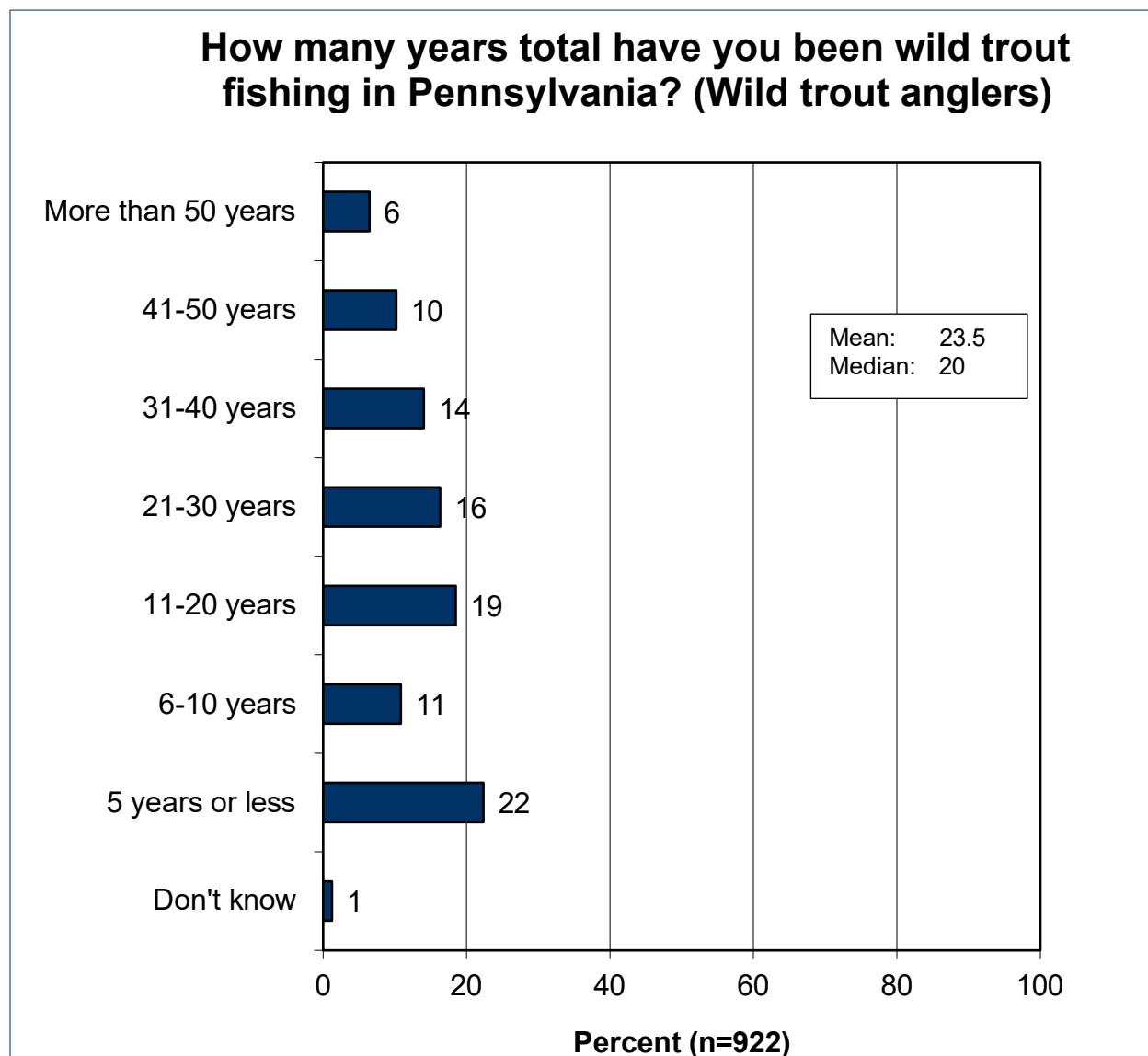
How many days did you fish for wild trout in Pennsylvania in 2022? (Wild trout anglers)							
	Northwest (n=75)	Northcentral (n=105)	Northeast (n=106)	Southwest (n=169)	Southcentral (n=139)	Southeast (n=192)	Non-Resident (n=135)
Over 50 days	5	12	12	9	15	16	9
41 to 50 days	1	10	3	2	11	3	1
31 to 40 days	2	2	5	2	6	5	2
21 to 30 days	7	19	23	16	7	19	10
11 to 20 days	26	23	22	30	16	19	23
6 to 10 days	32	15	17	19	12	16	25
5 days	10	8	6	5	16	7	8
4 days	2	0	0	3	2	2	6
3 days	3	2	6	3	2	6	11
2 days	8	3	1	5	2	1	2
1 day	2	2	0	0	2	0	1
Don't know	3	3	5	8	9	6	3

### How many days did you fish for stocked trout in Pennsylvania in 2022? (Stocked trout anglers)



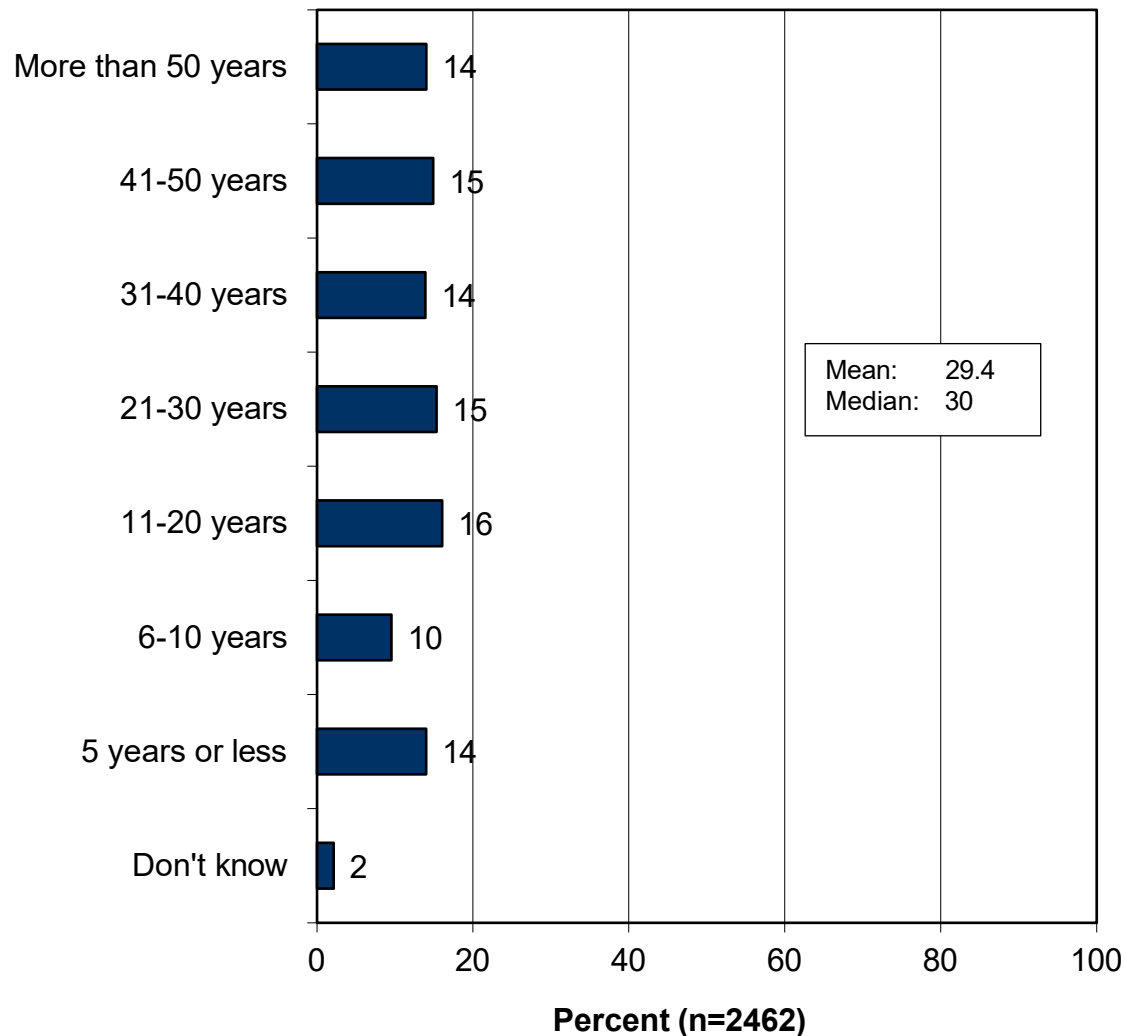
How many days did you fish for stocked trout in Pennsylvania in 2022? (Stocked trout anglers)							
	Northwest (n=240)	Northcentral (n=222)	Northeast (n=241)	Southwest (n=530)	Southcentral (n=379)	Southeast (n=596)	Non-Resident (n=252)
Over 50 days	7	10	8	6	6	6	4
41 to 50 days	3	7	4	2	3	3	3
31 to 40 days	5	7	4	3	5	4	2
21 to 30 days	9	16	10	14	15	13	11
11 to 20 days	24	20	22	23	23	24	22
6 to 10 days	26	21	27	24	22	22	30
5 days	7	8	10	10	7	10	8
4 days	6	1	2	3	2	3	3
3 days	4	4	6	5	8	4	9
2 days	6	1	2	4	5	4	4
1 day	1	1	1	1	0	2	1
Don't know	3	5	5	5	4	4	5

Although the information was gathered primarily for crosstabulations and further analyses, the results on the years of fishing experience are of interest on their own and are presented below. Among wild trout anglers, the mean amount of experience is 23.5 years, and the median is 20 years. Among stocked trout anglers, the mean and median are somewhat higher: 29.4 years and 30 years, respectively.



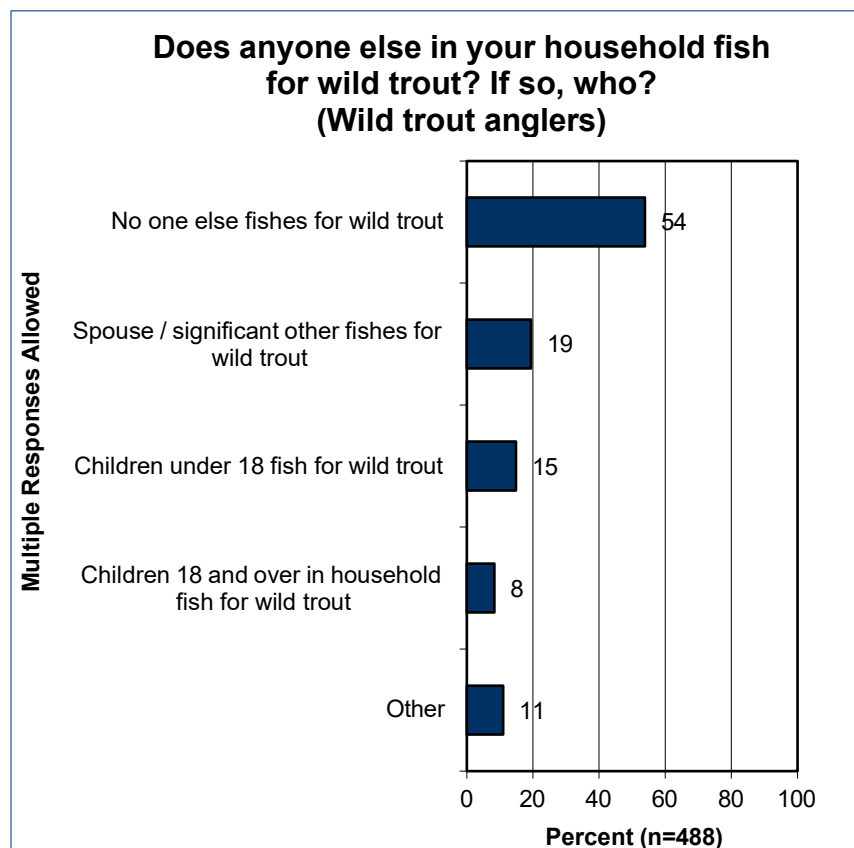
How many years total have you been wild trout fishing in Pennsylvania? (Wild trout anglers)							
	Northwest (n=75)	Northcentral (n=106)	Northeast (n=106)	Southwest (n=169)	Southcentral (n=139)	Southeast (n=192)	Non-Resident (n=135)
More than 50 years	6	11	9	6	4	5	5
41-50 years	8	16	14	7	10	10	11
31-40 years	17	13	12	19	17	11	8
21-30 years	12	22	14	19	14	19	13
11-20 years	27	14	18	17	20	20	11
6-10 years	13	9	6	16	8	8	16
5 years or less	17	14	25	15	25	26	35
Don't know	0	1	1	1	2	1	1

### How many years total have you been stocked trout fishing in Pennsylvania? (Stocked trout anglers)



How many years total have you been stocked trout fishing in Pennsylvania? (Stocked trout anglers)							
	Northwest (n=240)	Northcentral (n=222)	Northeast (n=241)	Southwest (n=532)	Southcentral (n=379)	Southeast (n=596)	Non-Resident (n=252)
More than 50 years	16	18	15	13	14	13	12
41-50 years	18	14	15	18	12	13	12
31-40 years	16	13	12	16	16	11	14
21-30 years	15	21	13	14	16	16	11
11-20 years	17	17	12	15	18	16	17
6-10 years	6	5	15	10	7	11	11
5 years or less	10	10	15	12	13	18	20
Don't know	1	1	2	2	4	2	1

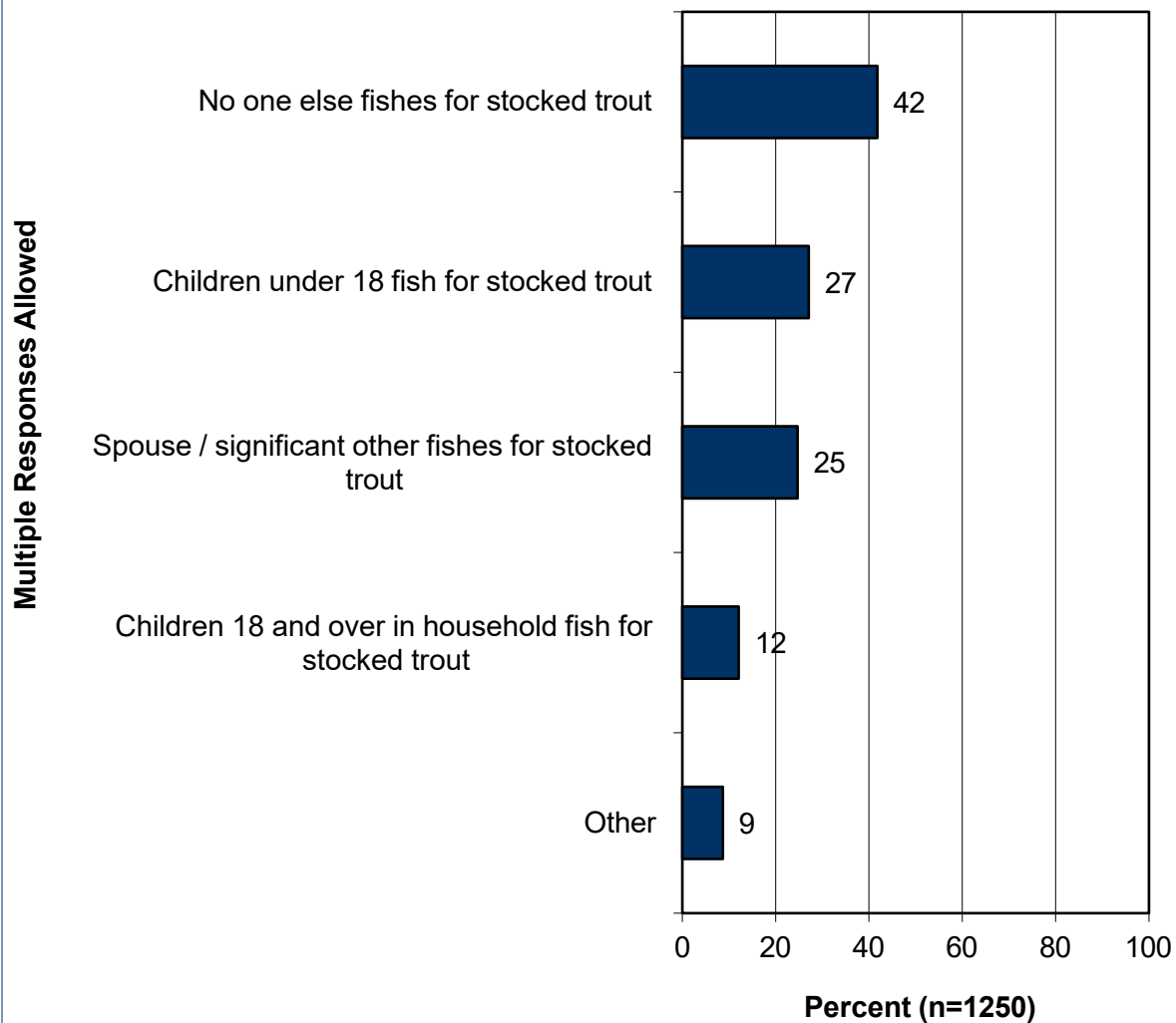
## FISHING COMPANIONS



Most wild trout anglers are the sole people in their family fishing for wild trout: 54% indicate that nobody else in their family fishes for wild trout. Otherwise, 19% of their spouses and 15% of their minor children fish for wild trout. As to stocked trout fishing, slightly more family members fish for them: only 42% of stocked trout anglers indicate that nobody else in their family fishes. Otherwise, minor children are the most common participants (27%), followed by spouses (25%).

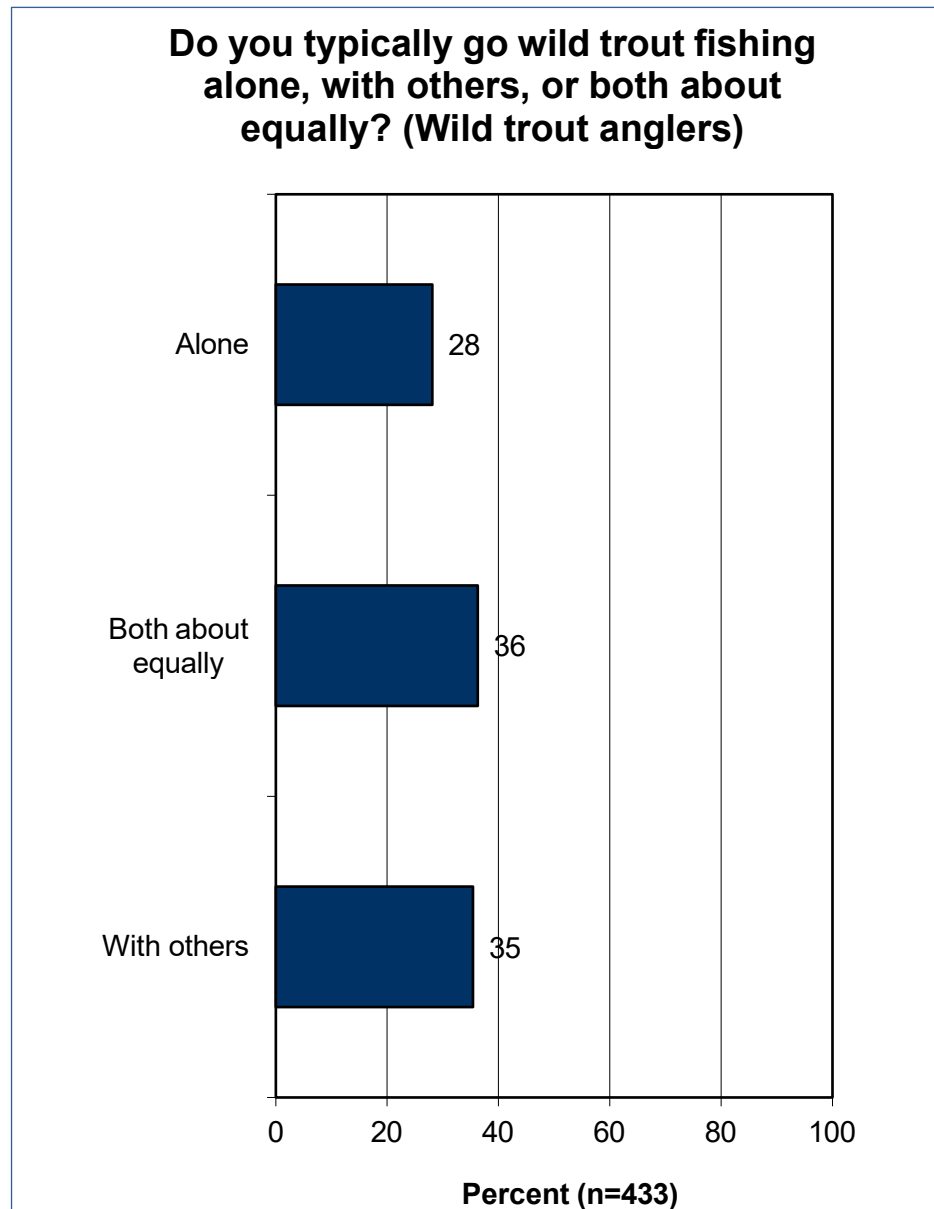
Does anyone else in your household fish for wild trout? If so, who? (Wild trout anglers)							
	Northwest (n=43)	Northcentral (n=60)	Northeast (n=58)	Southwest (n=92)	Southcentral (n=69)	Southeast (n=105)	Non-Resident (n=61)
No one else fishes for wild trout	54	54	61	54	59	49	43
Spouse / significant other fishes for wild trout	20	14	21	23	9	24	21
Children under 18 fish for wild trout	9	26	17	14	12	12	20
Children 18 and over in household fish for wild trout	7	1	1	12	8	12	12
Other	20	12	5	11	11	9	12
Do not know	0	0	4	2	5	1	0

**Does anyone else in your household fish for stocked trout? If so, who?  
(Stocked trout anglers)**



Does anyone else in your household fish for stocked trout? If so, who? (Stocked trout anglers)							
	Northwest (n=127)	Northcentral (n=109)	Northeast (n=116)	Southwest (n=272)	Southcentral (n=195)	Southeast (n=292)	Non-Resident (n=139)
No one else fishes for stocked trout	47	34	50	38	37	44	45
Children under 18 fish for stocked trout	28	32	20	28	26	30	21
Spouse / significant other fishes for stocked trout	22	32	27	26	28	18	27
Children 18 and over in household fish for stocked trout	7	10	11	12	15	12	15
Other	6	9	9	8	9	12	5

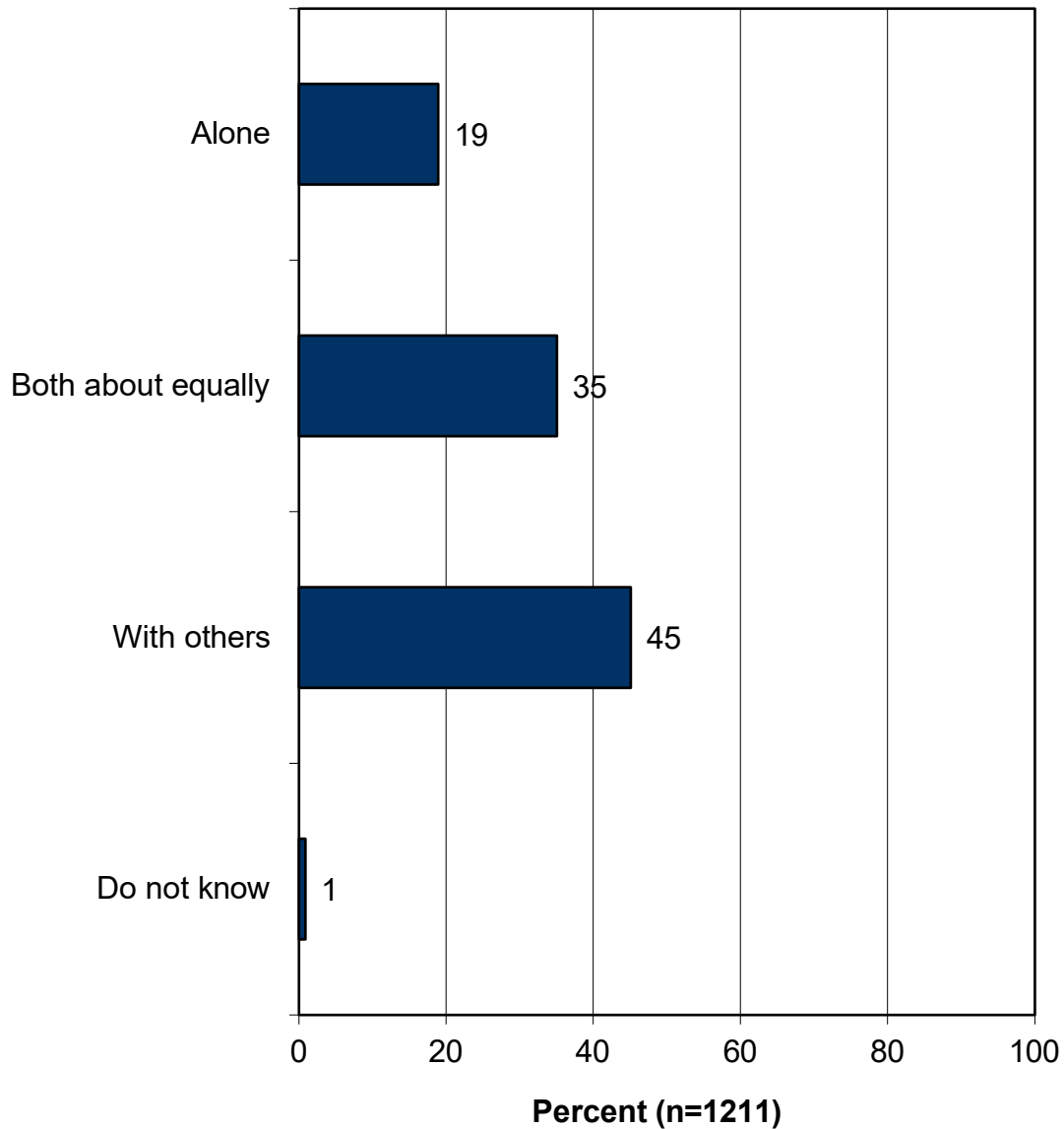
Nearly two thirds of wild trout anglers (64%) go fishing alone at least some of the time, while 72% go fishing with others at least some of the time. Regarding stocked trout fishing, 54% go fishing alone at least part of the time, while 80% go fishing with others at least part of the time. Regional results are also presented.



Do you typically go wild trout fishing alone, with others, or both about equally? (Wild trout anglers)							
	Northwest (n=32)	Northcentral (n=45)	Northeast (n=48)	Southwest (n=77)	Southcentral (n=70)	Southeast (n=87)	Non-Resident (n=74)
Alone	31	24	36	19	24	35	31
Both about equally	30	46	38	36	37	36	31
With others	39	30	26	45	38	29	38
Do not know	0	0	0	1	0	0	0

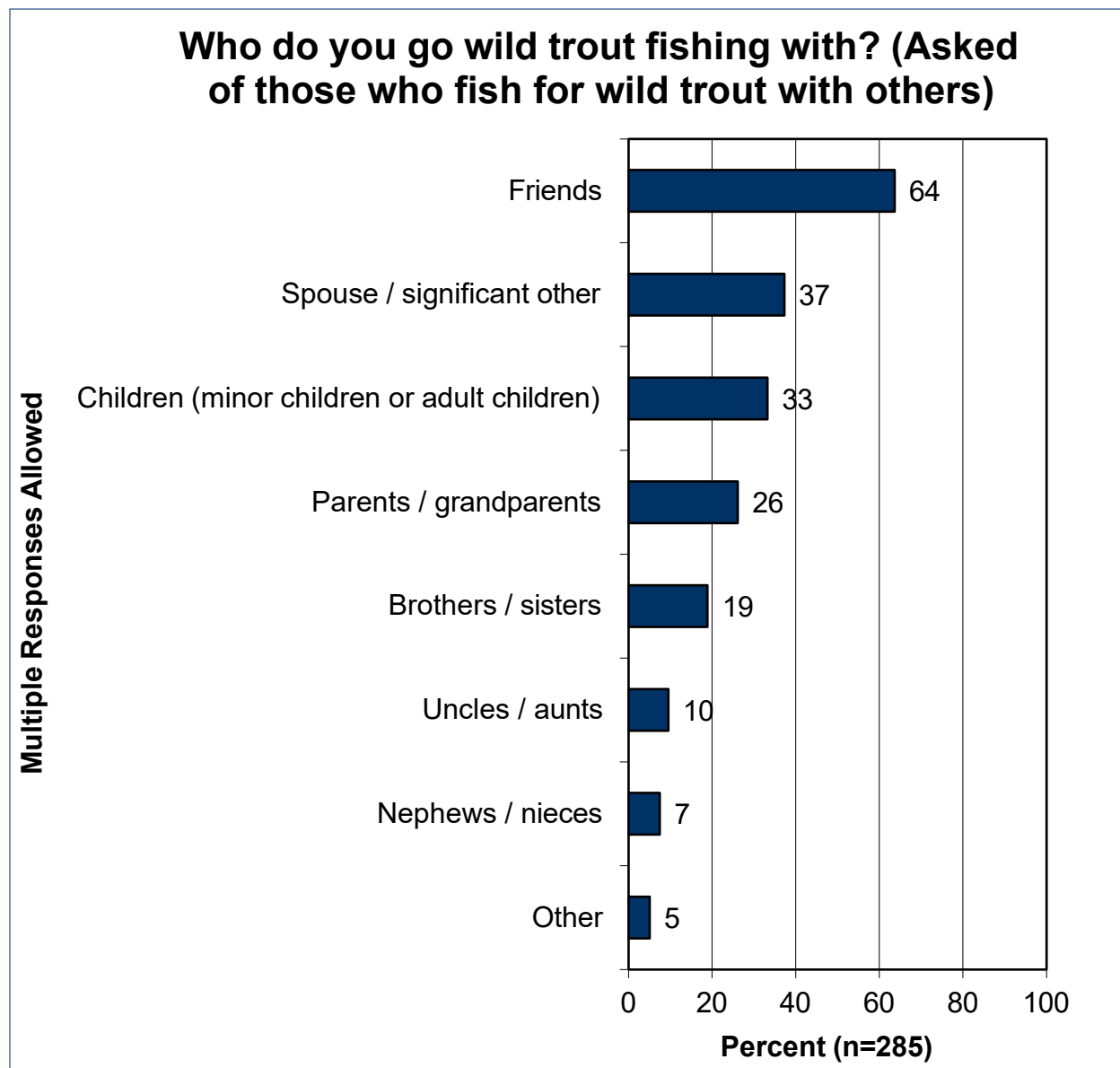


**Do you typically go stocked trout fishing alone, with others, or both about equally?  
(Stocked trout anglers)**

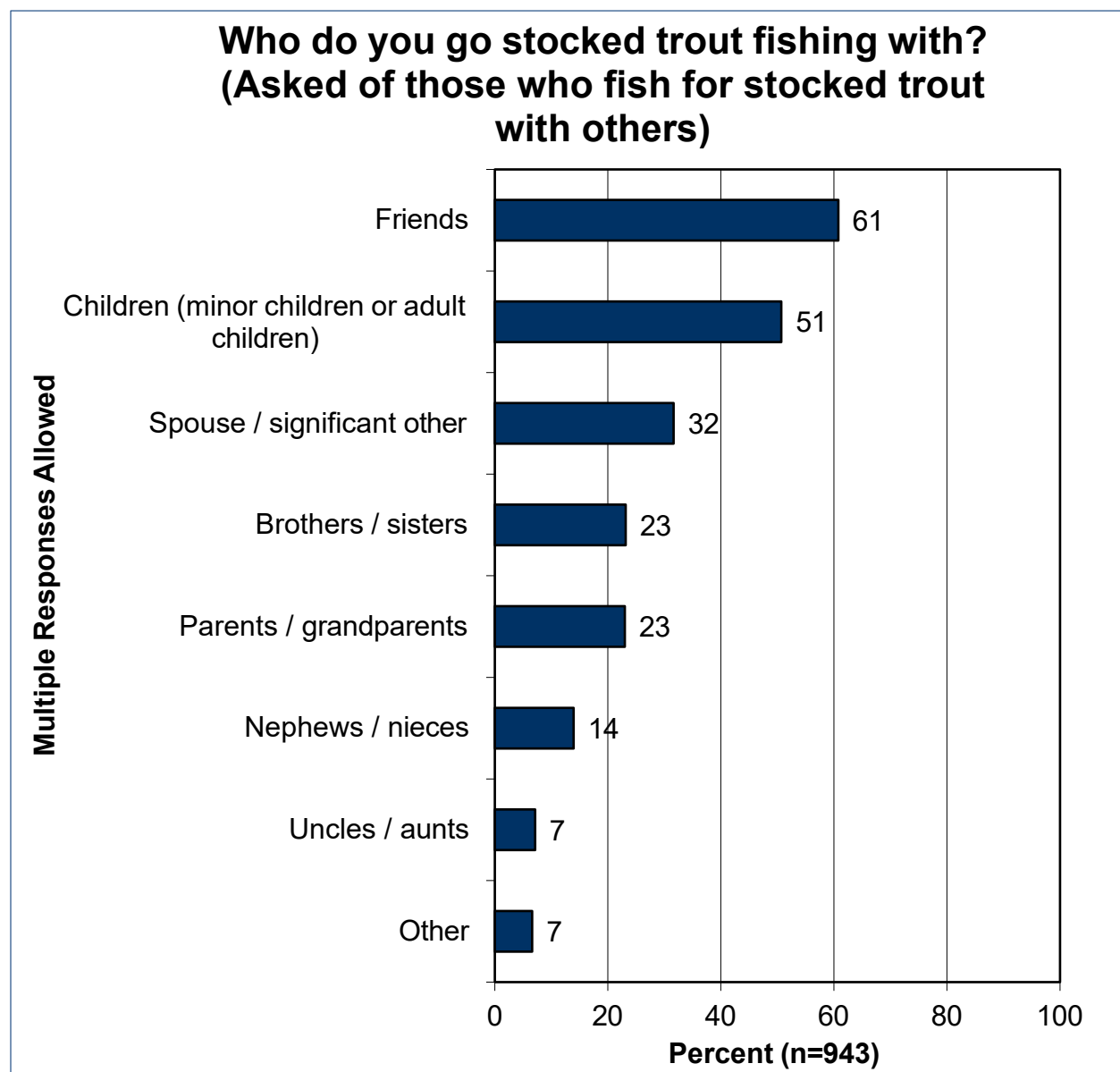


Do you typically go stocked trout fishing alone, with others, or both about equally? (Stocked trout anglers)							
	Northwest (n=113)	Northcentral (n=113)	Northeast (n=125)	Southwest (n=259)	Southcentral (n=184)	Southeast (n=304)	Non-Resident (n=113)
Alone	19	15	21	15	14	28	14
Both about equally	36	39	34	35	41	31	27
With others	42	45	45	50	45	40	59
Do not know	3	1	0	1	0	1	0

Typical companions for fishing excursions, among those who fish with others, are shown for wild trout fishing and for stocked trout fishing. Regional results are presented as well.



Who do you go wild trout fishing with? (Asked of wild trout anglers who fish for wild trout with others.)							
	Northwest (n=19)	Northcentral (n=30)	Northeast (n=29)	Southwest (n=56)	Southcentral (n=47)	Southeast (n=51)	Non-Resident (n=53)
Friends	63	65	67	68	69	53	58
Spouse / significant other	44	32	48	44	35	34	20
Children (minor children or adult children)	20	29	37	30	39	38	32
Parents / grandparents	46	26	31	30	26	16	12
Brothers / sisters	7	21	22	18	19	20	25
Uncles / aunts	14	4	11	11	14	6	4
Nephews / nieces	4	13	13	1	3	14	11
Other	3	17	0	6	5	2	5



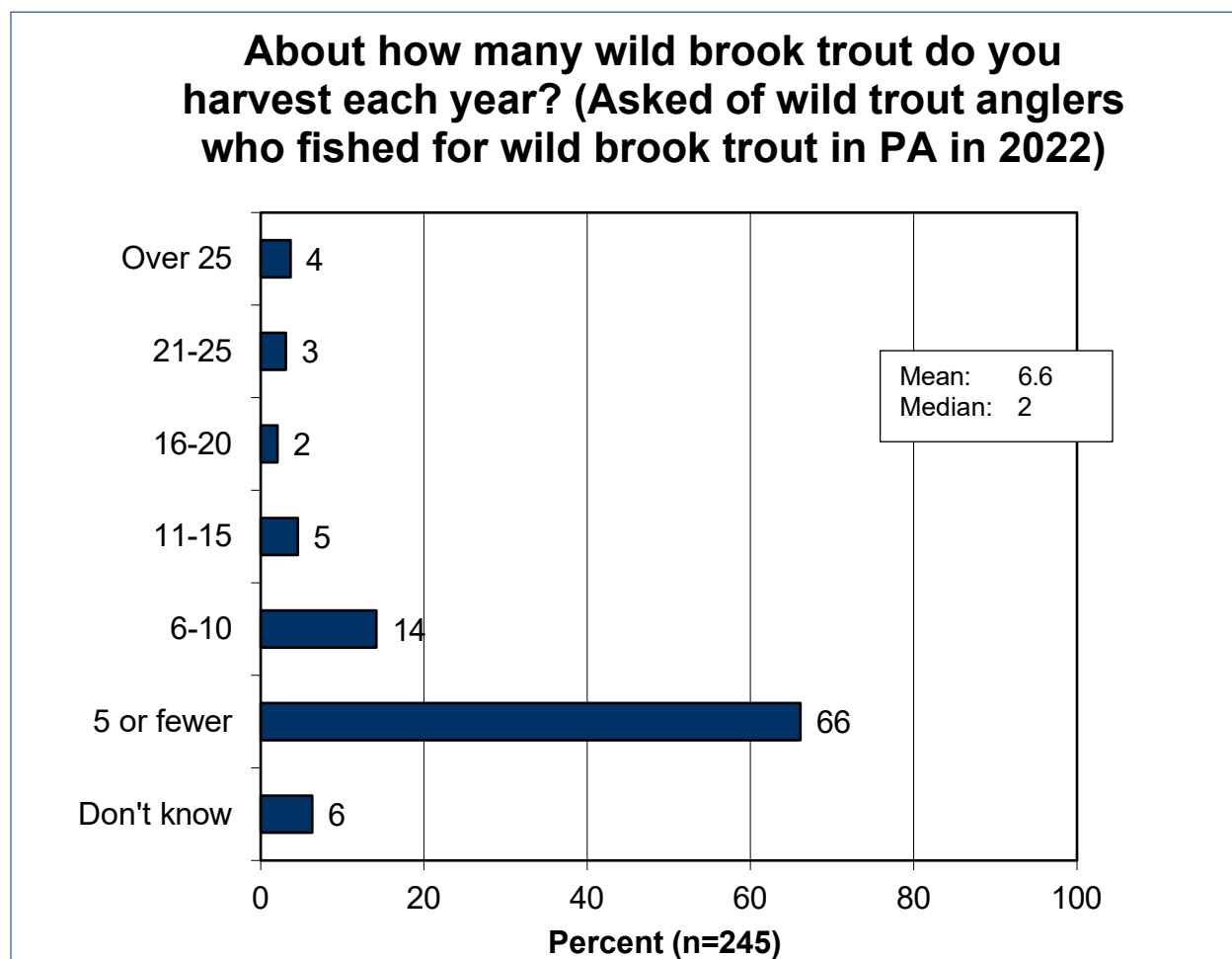
Who do you go stocked trout fishing with? (Asked of stocked trout anglers who fish for stocked trout with others.)							
	Northwest (n=85)	Northcentral (n=89)	Northeast (n=93)	Southwest (n=213)	Southcentral (n=153)	Southeast (n=214)	Non-Resident (n=96)
Friends	71	53	64	55	59	62	69
Children (minor children or adult children)	46	55	57	52	46	52	46
Spouse / significant other	33	38	35	32	28	34	19
Brothers / sisters	34	24	16	25	25	19	20
Parents / grandparents	24	28	16	26	26	21	13
Nephews / nieces	22	14	16	11	12	13	13
Uncles / aunts	7	3	3	7	9	10	9
Other	5	8	7	9	9	3	6

## CONSUMPTION OF TROUT

Two questions that apply to the next report section on motivations, and which are presented in that section, are nonetheless pertinent to this section. Among wild trout anglers, 8% say that keeping some of the wild trout that they catch is *very* important, and another 14% say it is *somewhat* important (a sum of 22%). Likewise, among stocked trout anglers, 13% say that keeping some of the stocked trout that they catch is *very* important, and 26% say it is *somewhat* important (a sum of 39%).

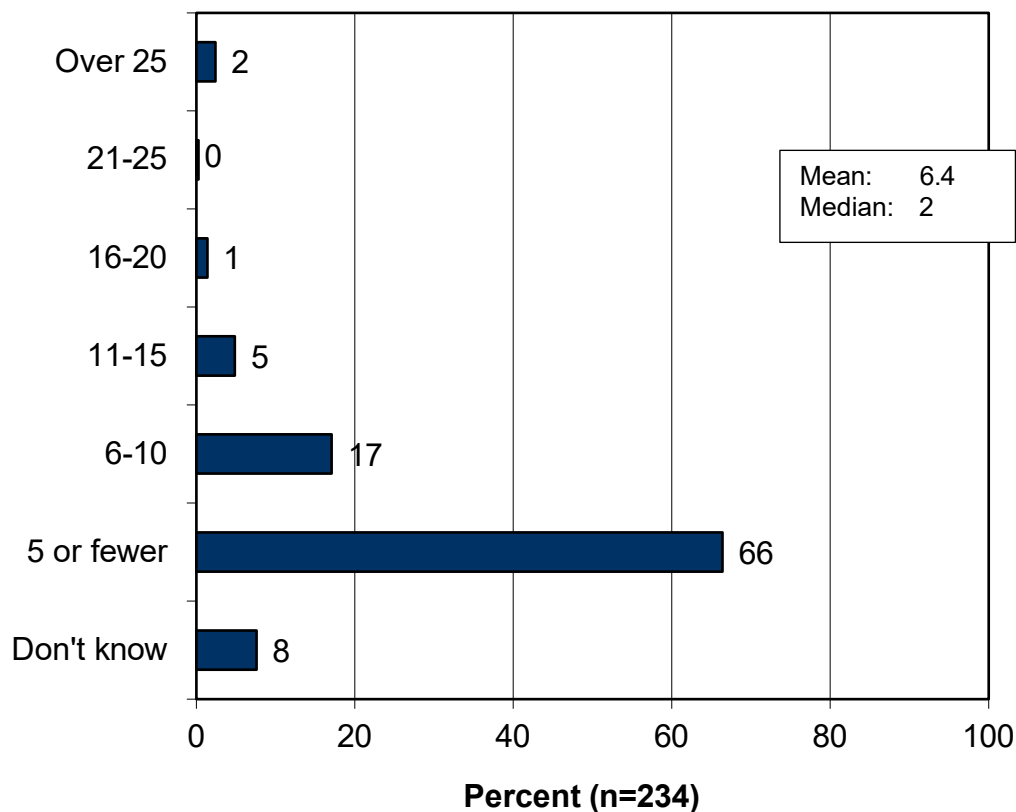
Recall as shown earlier that 64% of wild trout anglers release all of the trout that they catch; however, 36% of wild trout anglers keep some (or all) of the trout that they catch. Those who keep some of the fish that they catch were asked to estimate their annual harvest, as shown in the graphs and tables that follow. Among wild trout anglers:

- Most (66%) keep 5 or fewer brook trout; the mean is 6.6 brook trout, and the median is 2 brook trout.
- Most (66%) keep 5 or fewer brown trout; the mean is 6.4 brown trout, and the median is 2 brown trout.
- Most (65%) keep 5 or fewer wild rainbow trout; the mean is 6.8 rainbow trout, and the median is 3 rainbow trout.
  - All means and medians are among those who kept some of their fish.

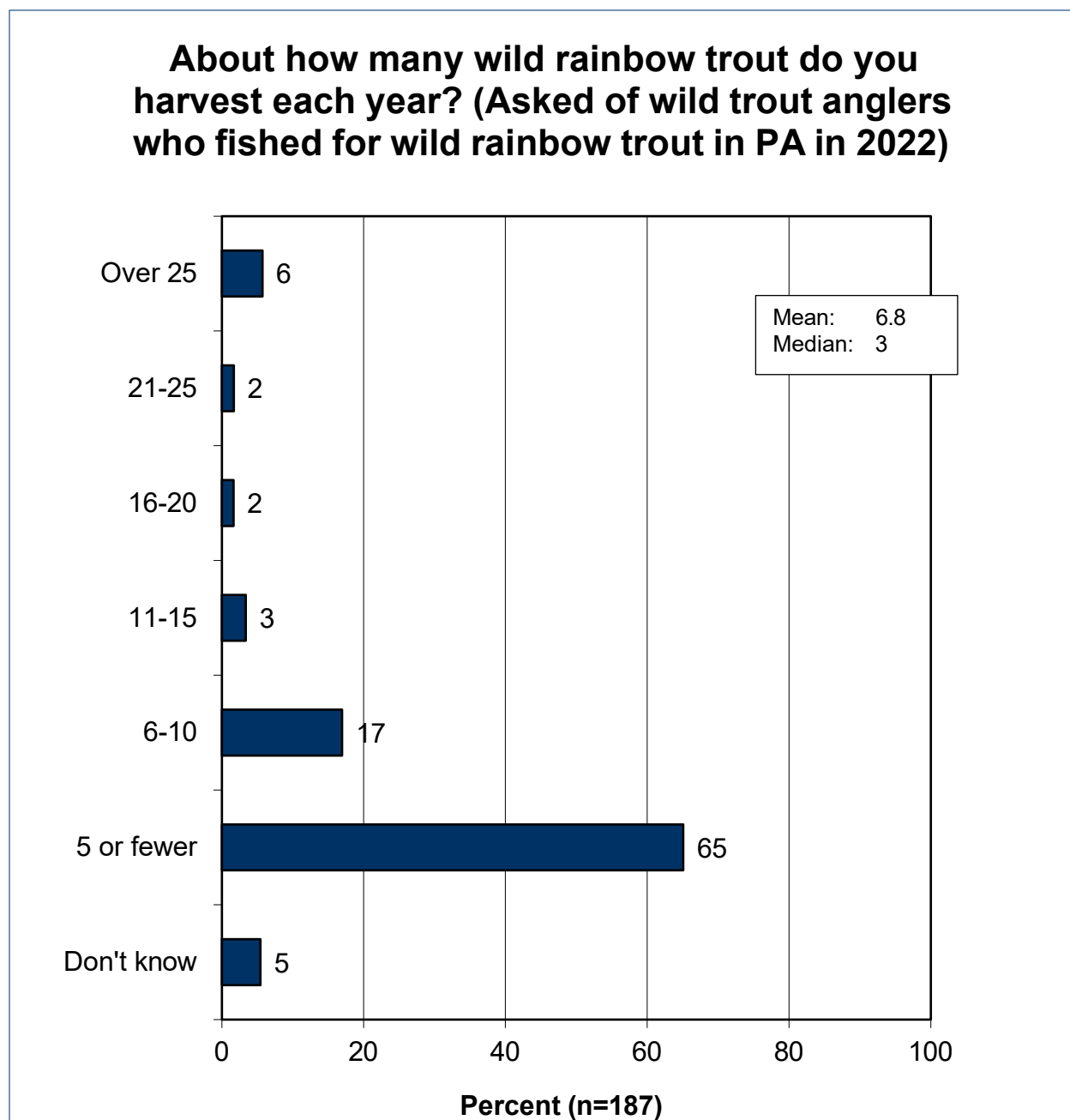


About how many wild brook trout do you harvest each year? (Asked of wild trout anglers who fished for wild brook trout in PA in 2022)							
	Northwest (n=25)	Northcentral (n=33)	Northeast (n=42)	Southwest (n=39)	Southcentral (n=34)	Southeast (n=44)	Non-Resident (n=28)
Over 25	0	11	5	4	0	0	13
21-25	6	0	1	3	0	7	2
16-20	0	3	2	6	2	0	3
11-15	0	6	6	2	10	6	0
6-10	15	2	20	20	12	15	7
5 or fewer	74	76	57	58	71	62	74
Don't know	5	2	8	7	6	10	0

**About how many wild brown trout do you harvest each year? (Asked of wild trout anglers who fished for wild brown trout in PA in 2022)**



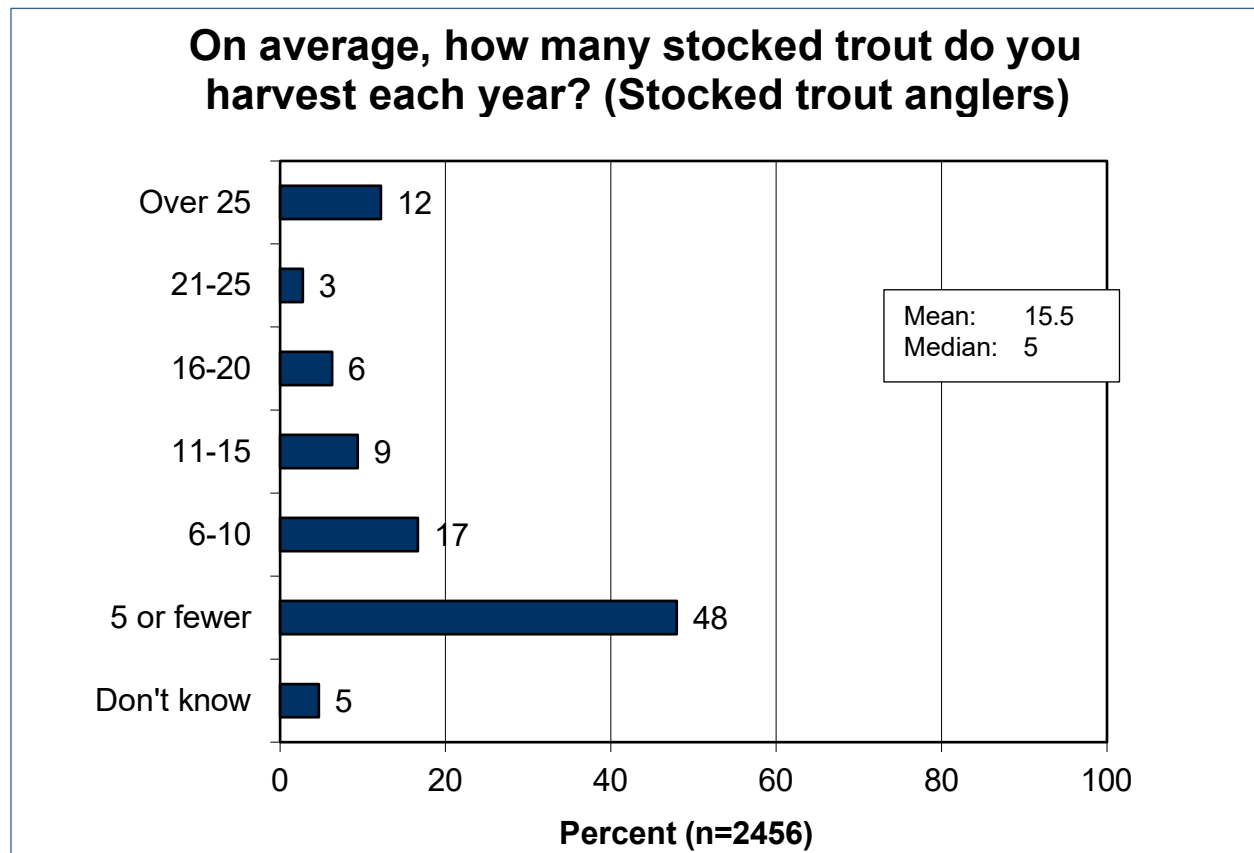
About how many wild brown trout do you harvest each year? (Asked of wild trout anglers who fished for wild brown trout in PA in 2022)							
	Northwest (n=26)	Northcentral (n=27)	Northeast (n=40)	Southwest (n=40)	Southcentral (n=34)	Southeast (n=40)	Non-Resident (n=27)
Over 25	0	4	5	4	2	0	3
21-25	0	0	0	2	0	0	0
16-20	0	4	2	2	0	2	0
11-15	0	6	7	2	3	9	8
6-10	25	12	14	22	17	5	30
5 or fewer	67	75	59	63	74	69	59
Don't know	8	0	13	5	4	14	0



About how many wild rainbow trout do you harvest each year? (Asked of wild trout anglers who fished for wild rainbow trout in PA in 2022)							
	Northwest (n=23)	Northcentral (n=14)	Northeast (n=27)	Southwest (n=39)	Southcentral (n=25)	Southeast (n=34)	Non-Resident (n=25)
Over 25	0	5	10	4	5	11	3
21-25	0	0	2	3	0	3	0
16-20	0	0	0	6	0	2	0
11-15	0	0	6	10	0	2	3
6-10	27	18	9	20	18	10	17
5 or fewer	68	76	66	57	66	60	77
Don't know	4	0	7	0	10	11	0

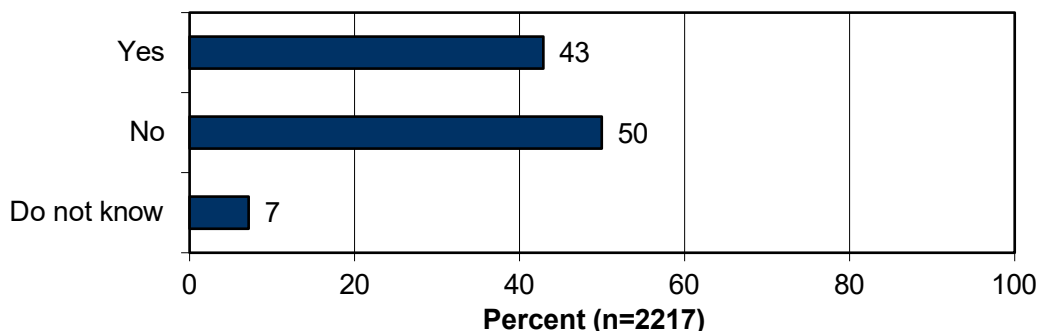
Stocked trout anglers were asked about their harvest of stocked trout and then their harvest of all three species of wild trout while fishing for stocked trout. Among stocked trout anglers:

- Just under half of stocked trout anglers (48%) keep 5 or fewer stocked trout; the mean is 15.5 stocked trout, and the median is 5 stocked trout.
- Regarding wild brook trout, 43% say that they catch some of them while fishing for stocked trout, and among those who catch them, the mean number kept is 1.9, and the median is 0 wild brook trout.
- Regarding wild brown trout, 36% say that they catch some of them while fishing for stocked trout, and among those who catch them, the mean number kept is 1.9 wild brown trout, and the median is 0 wild brown trout. (This is not a misprint: both this mean and the one above are 1.9 fish.)
- None indicated keeping wild rainbow trout.
  - All means and medians are among those who kept some of their fish.



On average, how many stocked trout do you harvest each year? (Stocked trout anglers)							
	Northwest (n=237)	Northcentral (n=222)	Northeast (n=241)	Southwest (n=530)	Southcentral (n=379)	Southeast (n=595)	Non-Resident (n=252)
Over 25	11	15	11	13	16	10	9
21-25	4	3	3	2	3	3	3
16-20	7	7	6	5	8	6	6
11-15	8	9	14	7	13	8	8
6-10	17	15	18	16	14	20	15
5 or fewer	48	44	42	53	44	49	54
Don't know	5	7	6	5	3	4	6

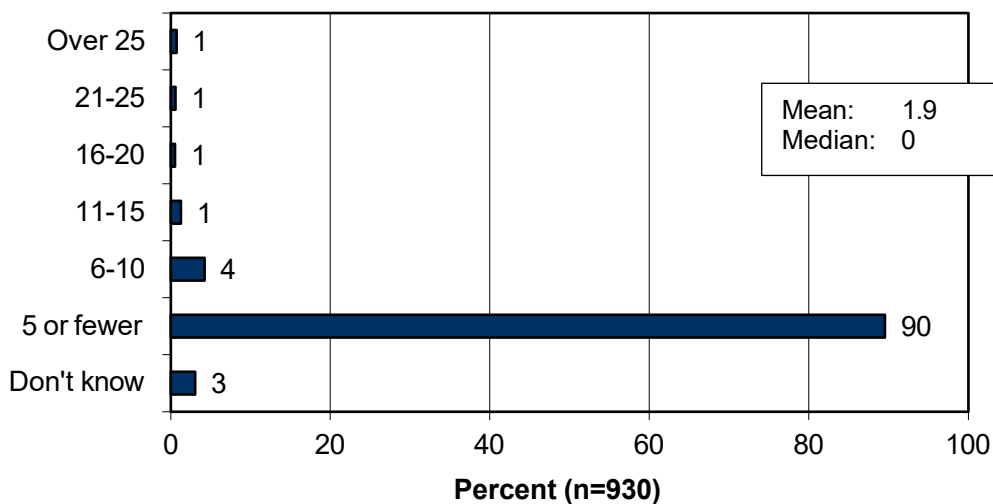
**Do you catch wild brook trout in streams while fishing for stocked trout? (Asked of stocked trout anglers who fished for stocked trout in streams or rivers in PA in 2022)**



**Do you catch wild brook trout in streams while fishing for stocked trout? (Asked of stocked trout anglers who fished for stocked trout in streams or rivers PA in 2022)**

	Northwest (n=223)	Northcentral (n=201)	Northeast (n=197)	Southwest (n=453)	Southcentral (n=355)	Southeast (n=556)	Non-Resident (n=232)
Yes	36	57	47	43	43	39	45
No	57	40	42	50	49	55	49
Do not know	7	3	11	7	8	7	7

**About how many wild brook trout do you harvest each year? (Asked of stocked trout anglers who harvest wild brook trout while fishing for stocked trout in PA)**

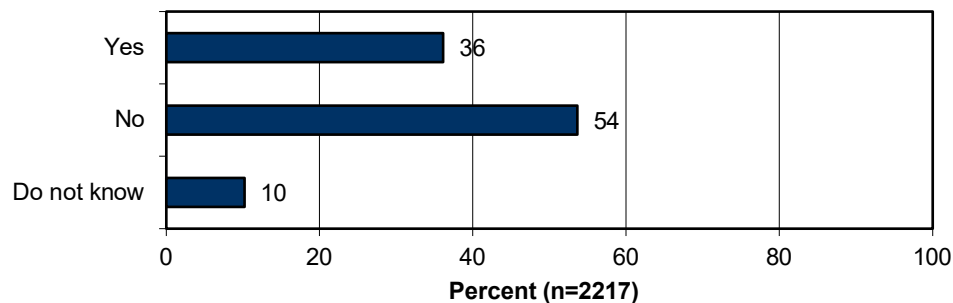


**About how many wild brook trout do you harvest each year? (Asked of stocked trout anglers who harvest wild brook trout while fishing for stocked trout in PA)**

	Northwest (n=74)	Northcentral (n=109)	Northeast (n=100)	Southwest (n=189)	Southcentral (n=152)	Southeast (n=207)	Non-Resident (n=99)
Over 25	4	0	2	0	0	0	0
21-25	1	2	1	0	0	0	0
16-20	0	1	2	0	0	0	0
11-15	0	0	1	1	3	2	0
6-10	7	5	7	4	3	3	2
5 or fewer	88	86	84	91	93	90	93
Don't know	1	6	3	3	1	4	6



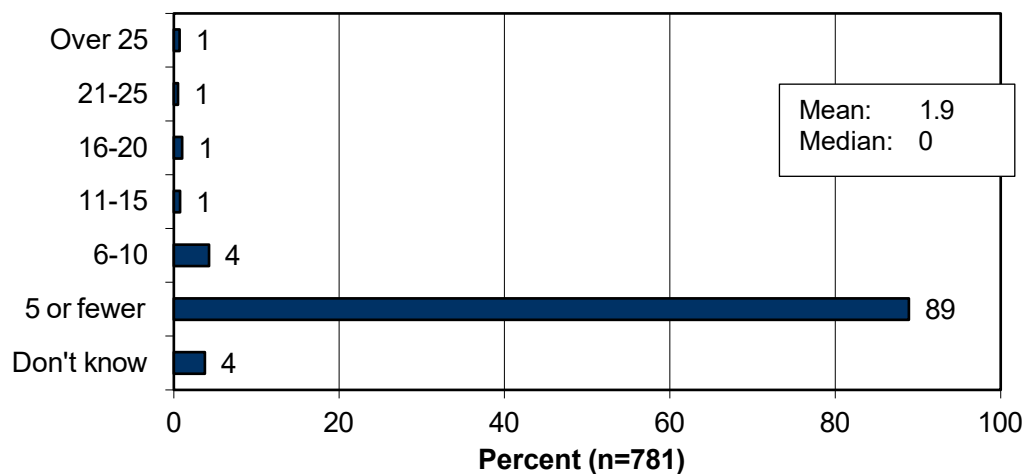
**Do you catch wild brown trout in streams while fishing for stocked trout? (Asked of stocked trout anglers who fished for stocked trout in streams or rivers in PA in 2022)**



**Do you catch wild brown trout in streams while fishing for stocked trout? (Asked of stocked trout anglers who fished for stocked trout in streams or rivers PA in 2022)**

	Northwest (n=223)	Northcentral (n=201)	Northeast (n=197)	Southwest (n=453)	Southcentral (n=355)	Southeast (n=556)	Non-Resident (n=232)
Yes	28	42	43	30	41	36	40
No	64	49	50	59	47	54	48
Do not know	9	10	6	11	12	11	11

**About how many wild brown trout do you harvest each year? (Asked of stocked trout anglers who harvest wild brown trout while fishing for stocked trout in PA)**

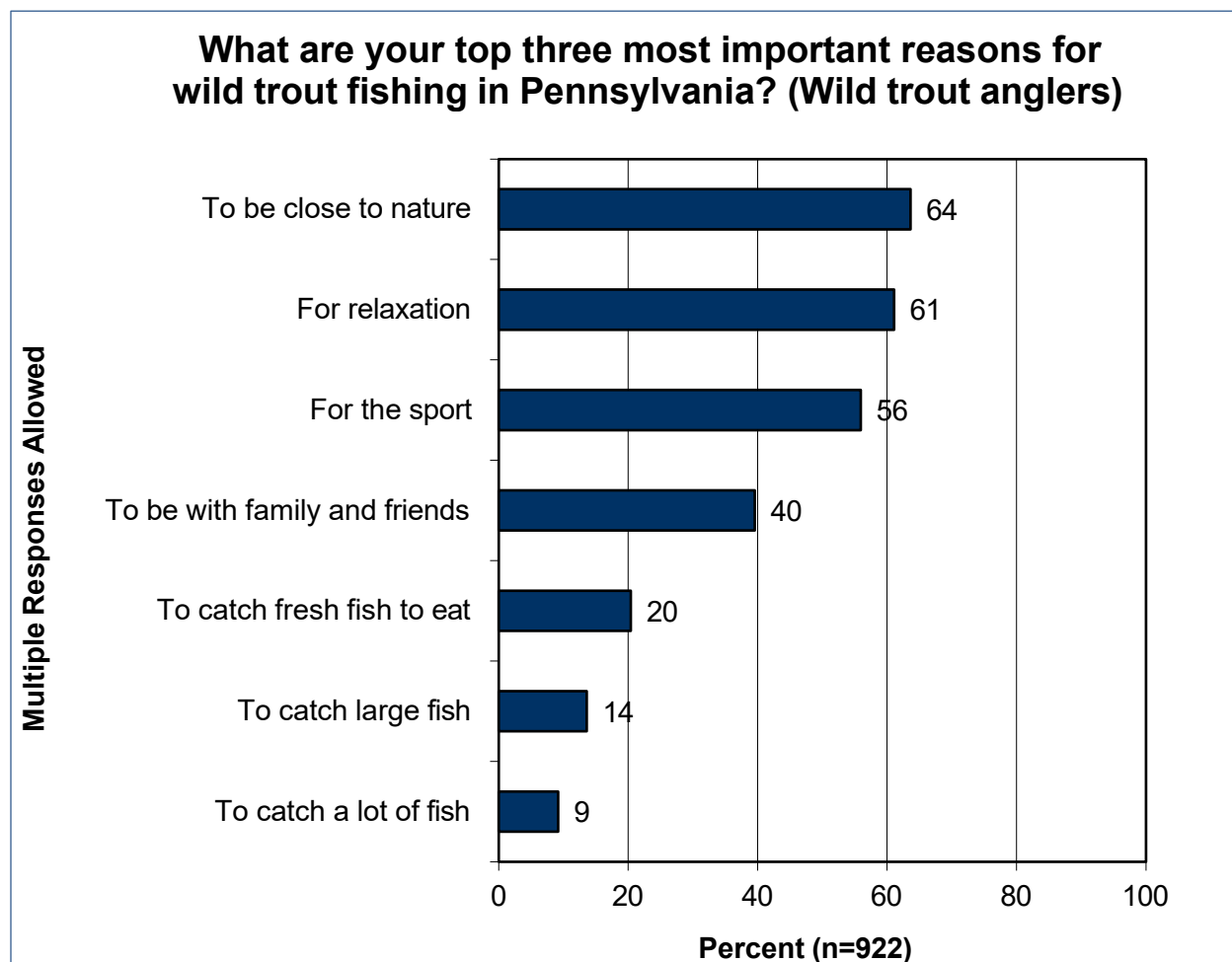


**About how many wild brown trout do you harvest each year? (Asked of stocked trout anglers who harvest wild brown trout while fishing for stocked trout in PA)**

	Northwest (n=59)	Northcentral (n=80)	Northeast (n=90)	Southwest (n=132)	Southcentral (n=148)	Southeast (n=186)	Non-Resident (n=86)
Over 25	2	1	0	1	1	1	0
21-25	1	1	0	1	1	0	0
16-20	0	1	3	0	0	1	2
11-15	0	1	0	1	2	0	0
6-10	7	4	4	1	5	6	2
5 or fewer	88	84	89	94	88	88	90
Don't know	1	7	3	3	3	4	6

## MOTIVATIONS FOR TROUT FISHING IN PENNSYLVANIA

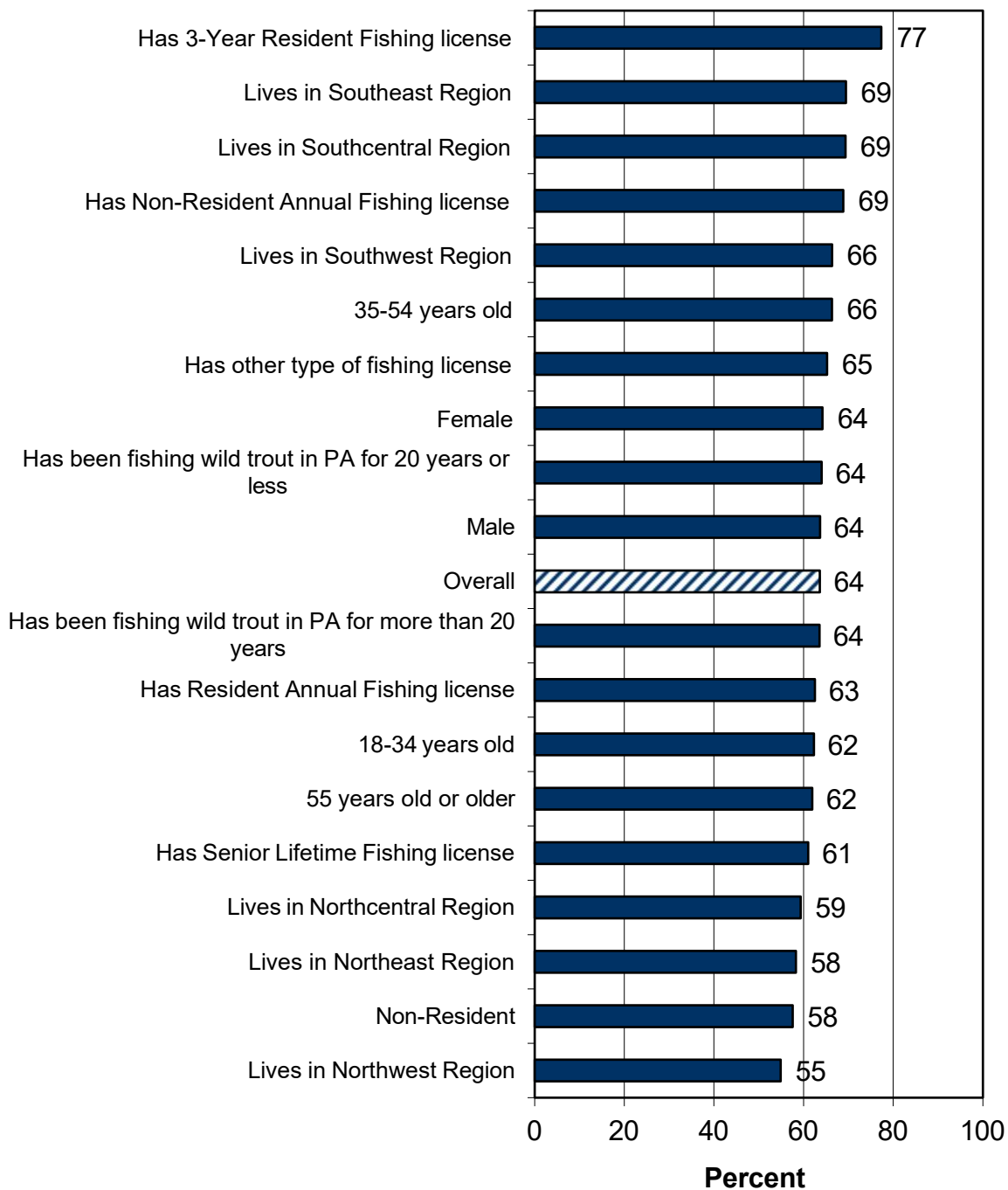
Three motivations for fishing for wild trout are in the top tier of the seven that were asked about: to be close to nature, for relaxation, and for the sport—all having a majority giving it as a reason for fishing for wild trout. (This differs from the top reasons for stocked trout fishing, shown further down in this section.) Regional results are shown.



What are your top three most important reasons for wild trout fishing in Pennsylvania? (Wild trout anglers)							
	Northwest (n=75)	Northcentral (n=106)	Northeast (n=106)	Southwest (n=169)	Southcentral (n=139)	Southeast (n=192)	Non-Resident (n=135)
To be close to nature	55	59	58	66	69	69	58
For relaxation	56	61	65	65	63	58	59
For the sport	61	54	55	56	47	61	59
To be with family and friends	47	43	36	41	38	35	42
To catch fresh fish to eat	31	18	25	19	17	19	15
To catch large fish	6	14	13	17	12	14	19
To catch a lot of fish	11	17	4	7	7	9	12

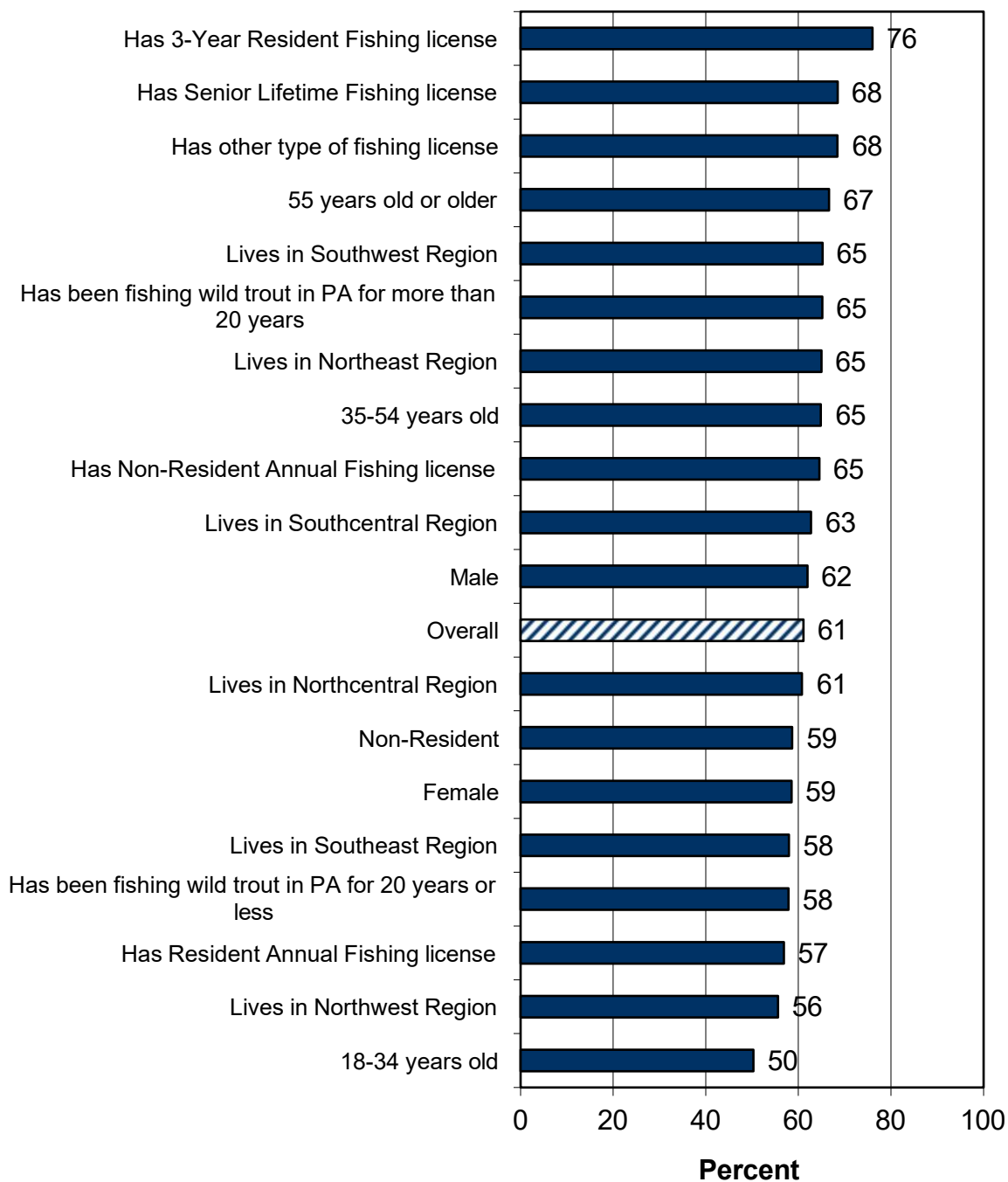
Demographic analyses graphs are shown for the top reasons. Those groups most likely to be fishing to be close to nature are holders of a 3-Year Resident Fishing license, anglers from the Southeast or Southcentral Regions, and holders of a Non-Resident Annual Fishing license.

**Percent of each of the following groups who said that one of the top three reasons for wild trout fishing in Pennsylvania is to be close to nature: (Wild trout anglers)**



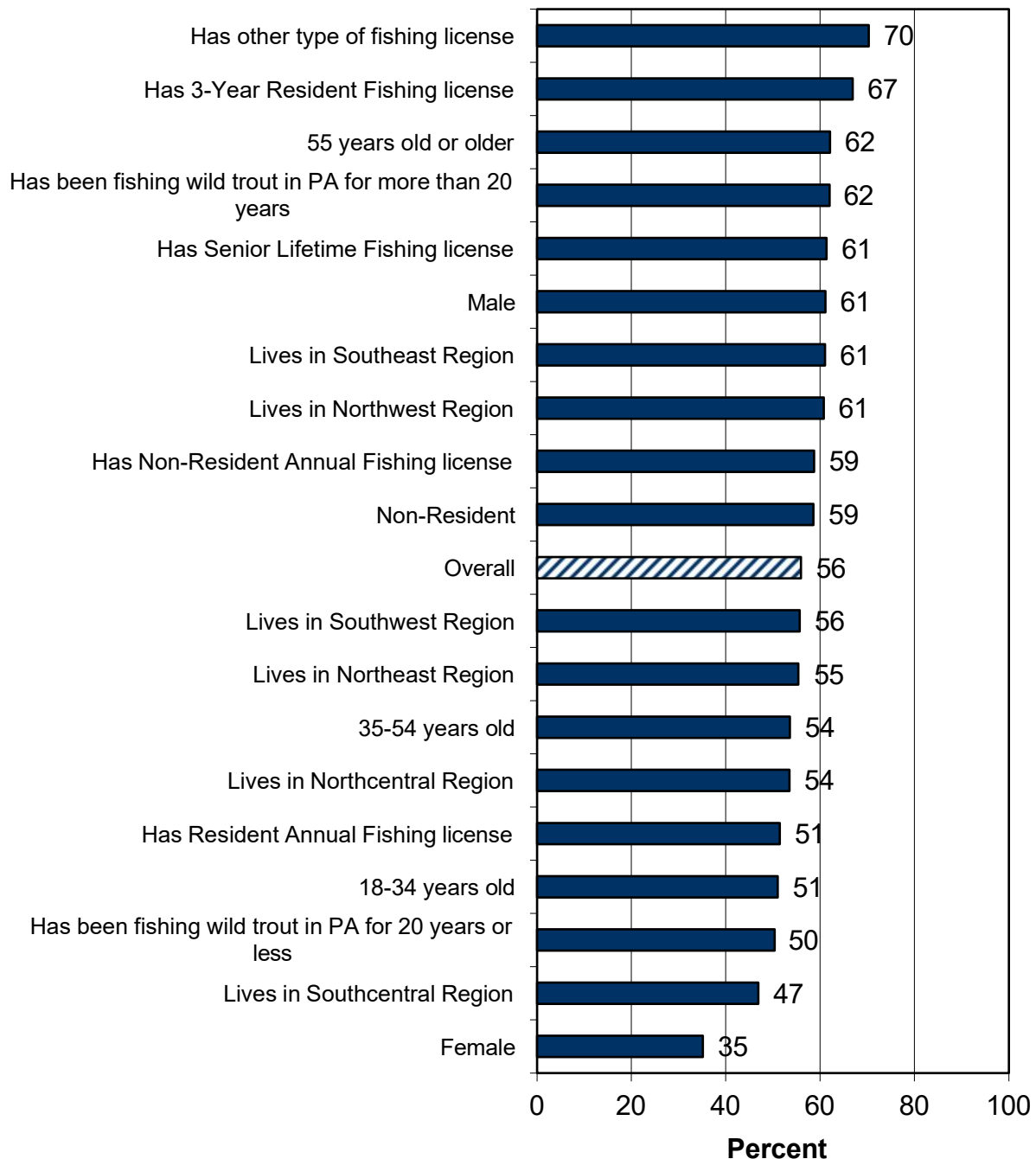
Fishing for wild trout for relaxation is associated with having a 3-Year Resident Fishing license, having a Senior Lifetime Fishing license, having an “other” type of fishing license, and being an older angler.

**Percent of each of the following groups who said that one of the top three reasons for wild trout fishing in Pennsylvania is for relaxation:  
(Wild trout anglers)**

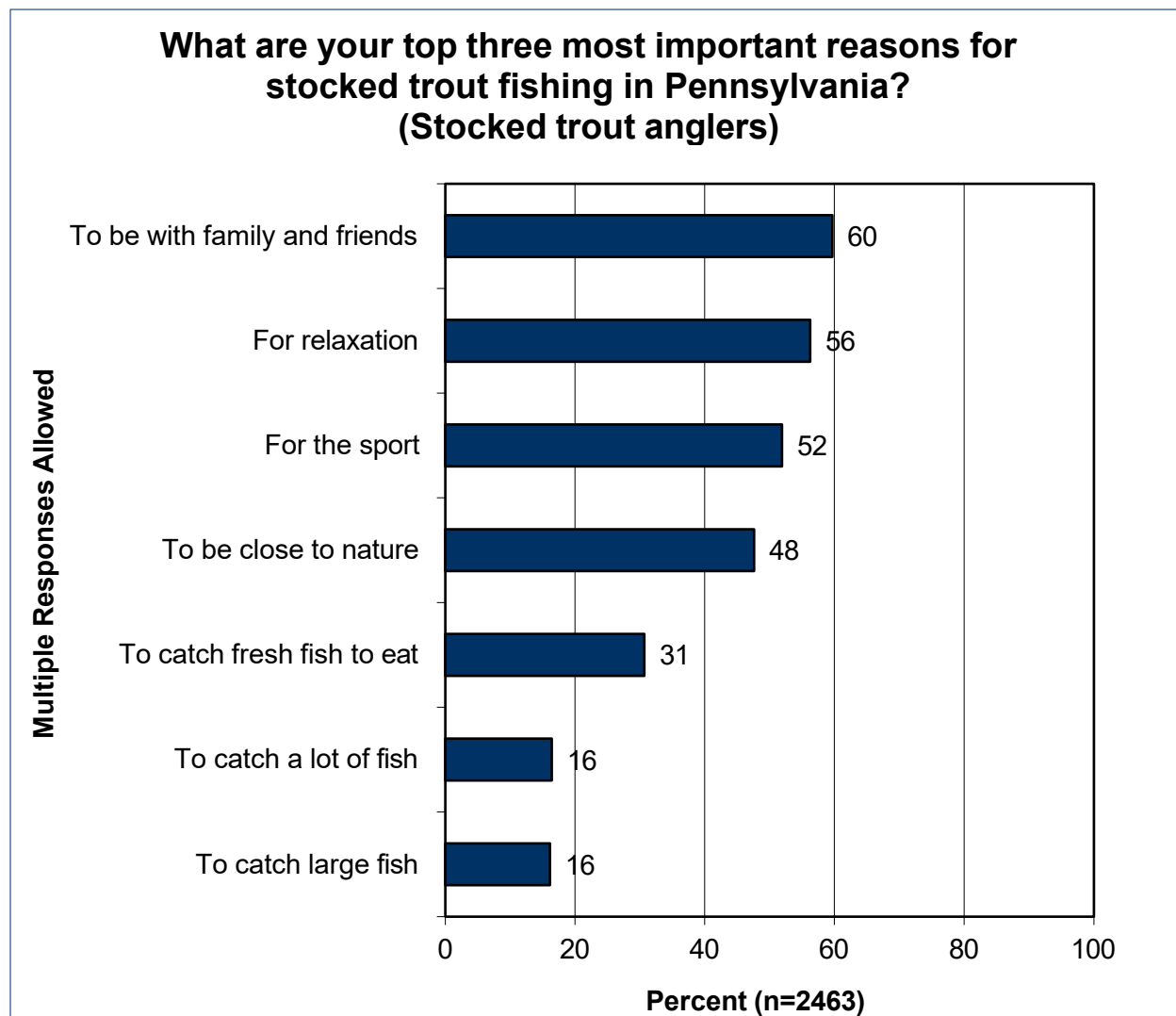


Those groups most likely to be fishing for the sport are holders of an “other” type of license, holders of a 3-Year Resident Fishing license, older anglers, and long-time wild trout anglers.

**Percent of each of the following groups who said that one of the top three reasons for wild trout fishing in Pennsylvania is for the sport:  
(Wild trout anglers)**



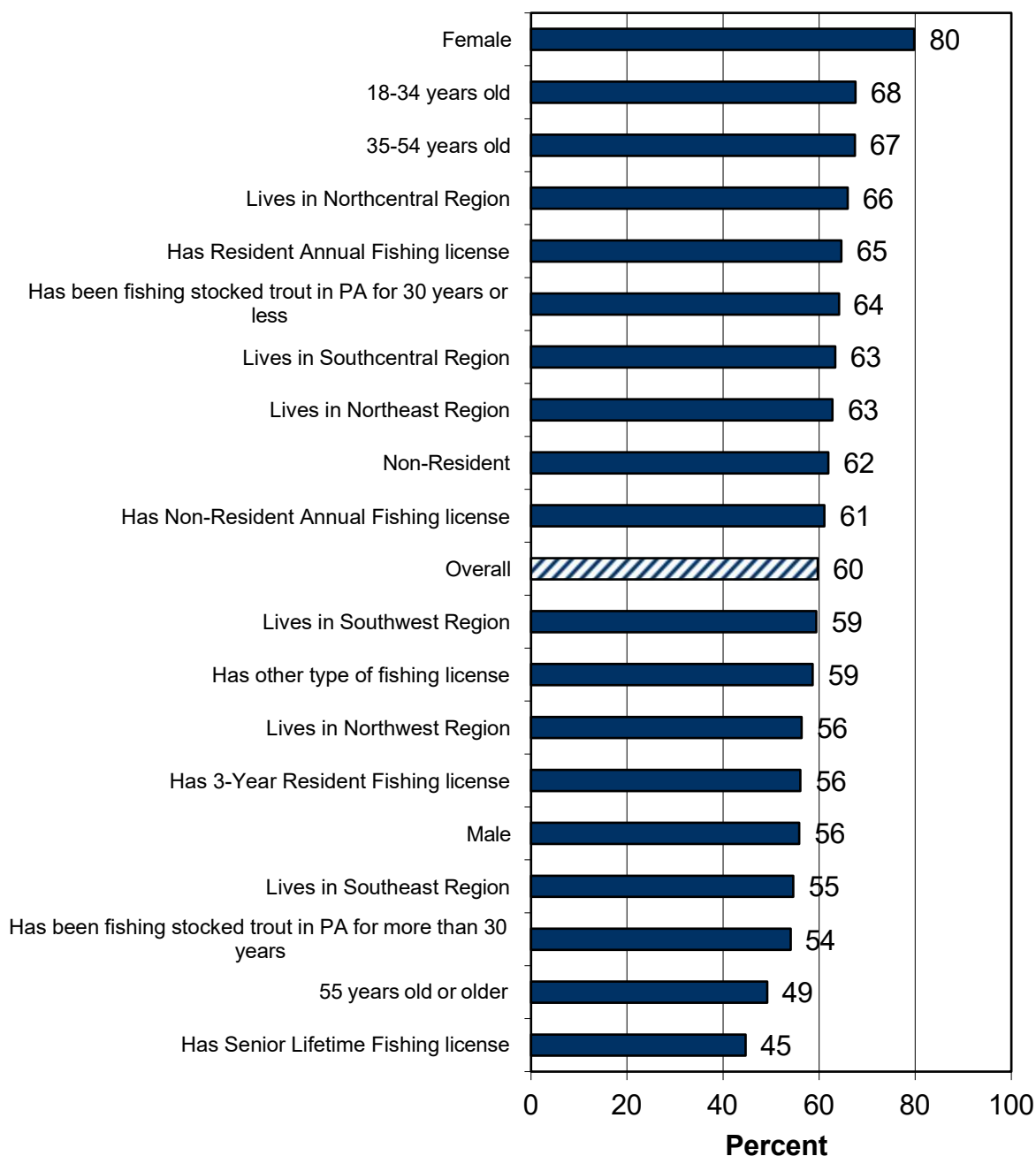
Four reasons emerge as important for stocked trout fishing, including the three that are important for wild trout fishing (for relaxation, for the sport, and to be close to nature) and an additional one: to be with family and friends. This latter is the most important reason for stocked trout fishing.



What are your top three most important reasons for stocked trout fishing in Pennsylvania? (Stocked trout anglers)							
	Northwest (n=240)	Northcentral (n=222)	Northeast (n=241)	Southwest (n=533)	Southcentral (n=379)	Southeast (n=596)	Non-Resident (n=252)
To be with family and friends	56	66	63	59	63	55	62
For relaxation	56	59	51	58	56	57	52
For the sport	58	50	53	51	46	54	57
To be close to nature	46	38	46	46	46	56	44
To catch fresh fish to eat	26	32	31	23	40	33	28
To catch a lot of fish	19	21	14	20	14	12	19
To catch large fish	20	16	16	19	13	14	17

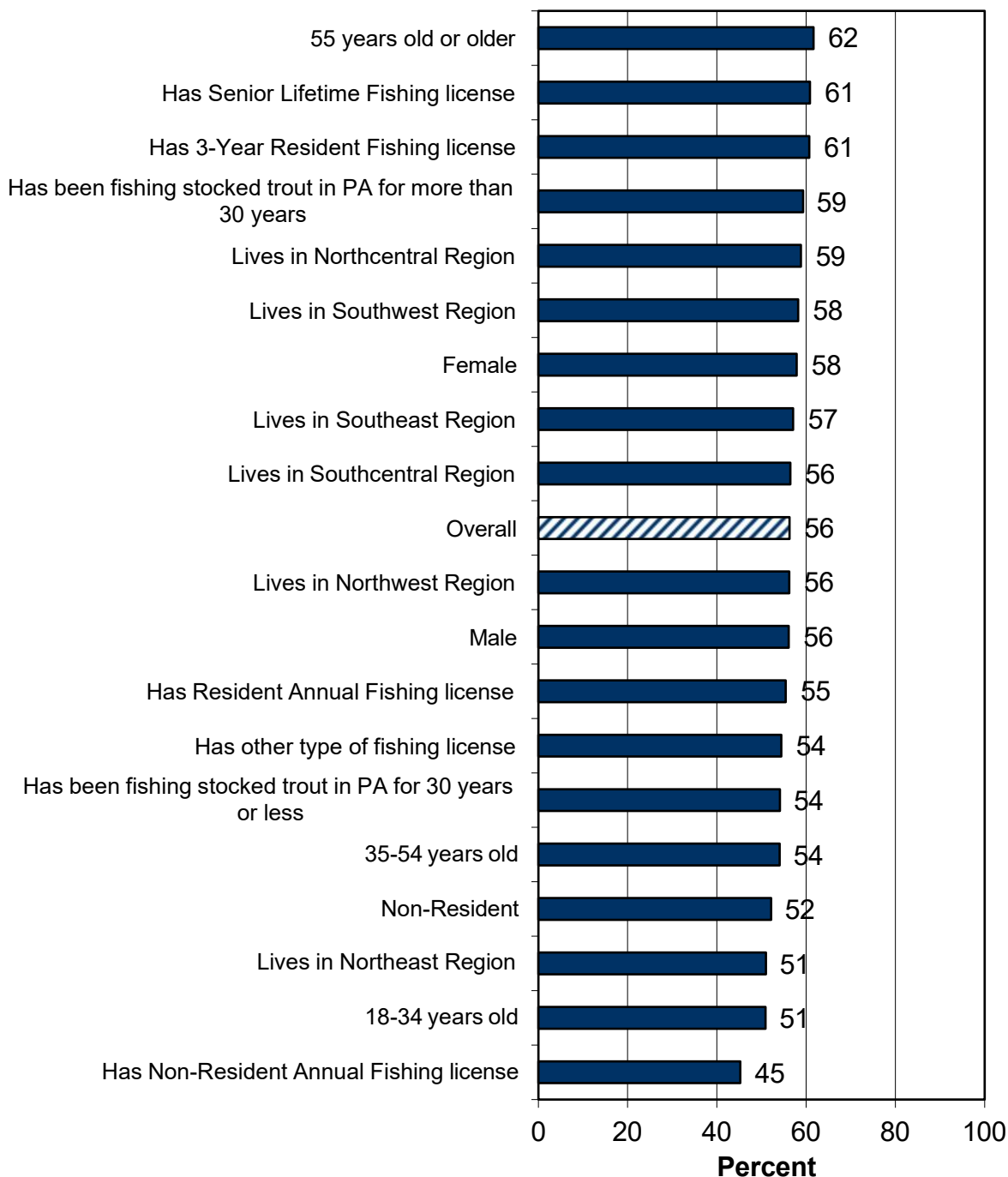
The characteristics associated with the motivations for stocked trout fishing are shown for the top three reasons to go fishing for stocked trout. The stocked anglers groups most likely to fish to be with family and friends are female anglers, young anglers and those in the middle age bracket, anglers from the Northcentral Region, and holders of a Resident Annual Fishing license.

**Percent of each of the following groups who said that one of the top three reasons for stocked trout fishing in Pennsylvania is to be with family and friends: (Stocked trout anglers)**



The stocked angler groups most likely to fish for relaxation are older anglers, holders of a Senior Lifetime Fishing license, and holders of a 3-Year Resident Fishing license.

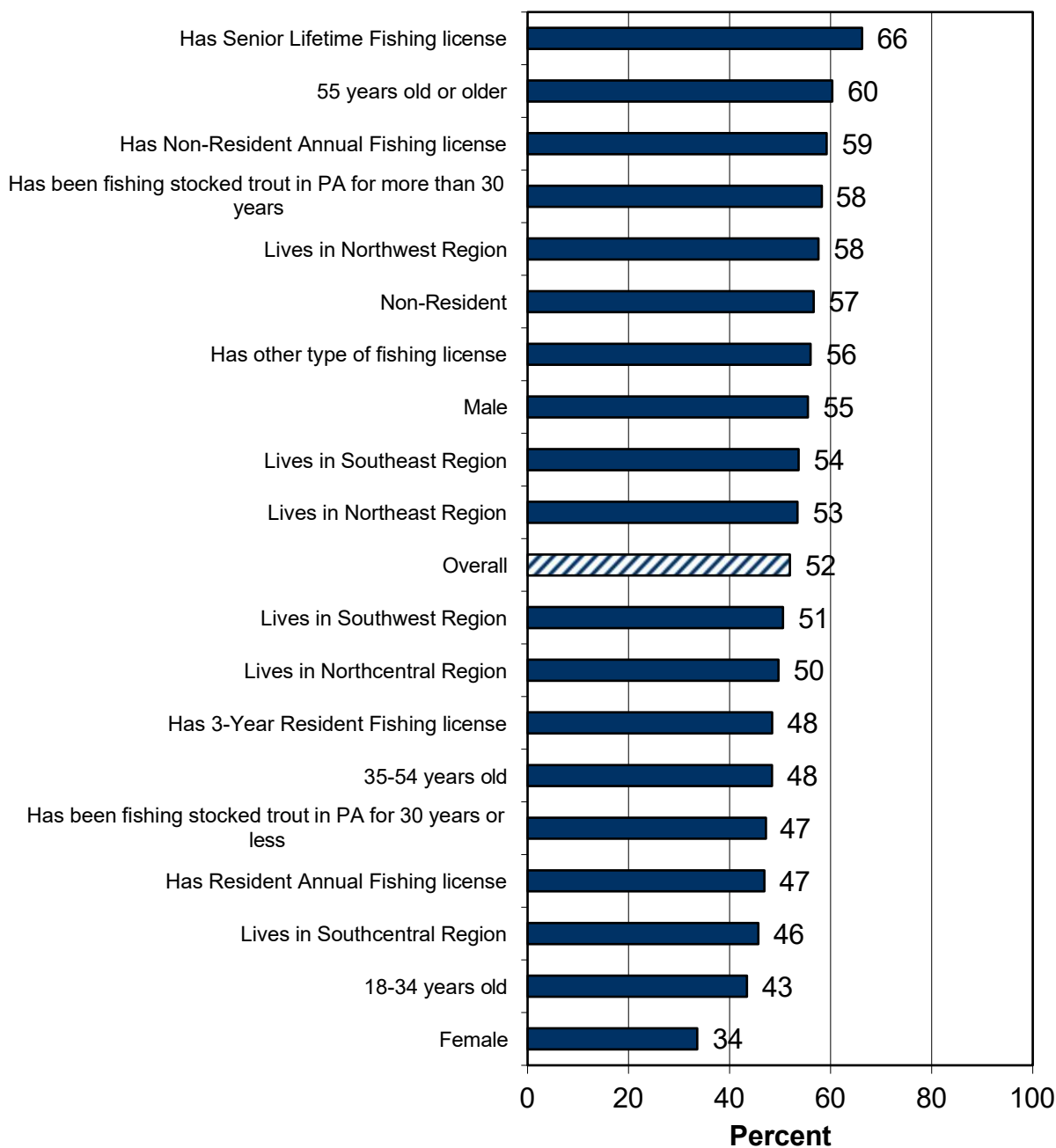
**Percent of each of the following groups who said that one of the top three reasons for stocked trout fishing in Pennsylvania is for relaxation: (Stocked trout anglers)**



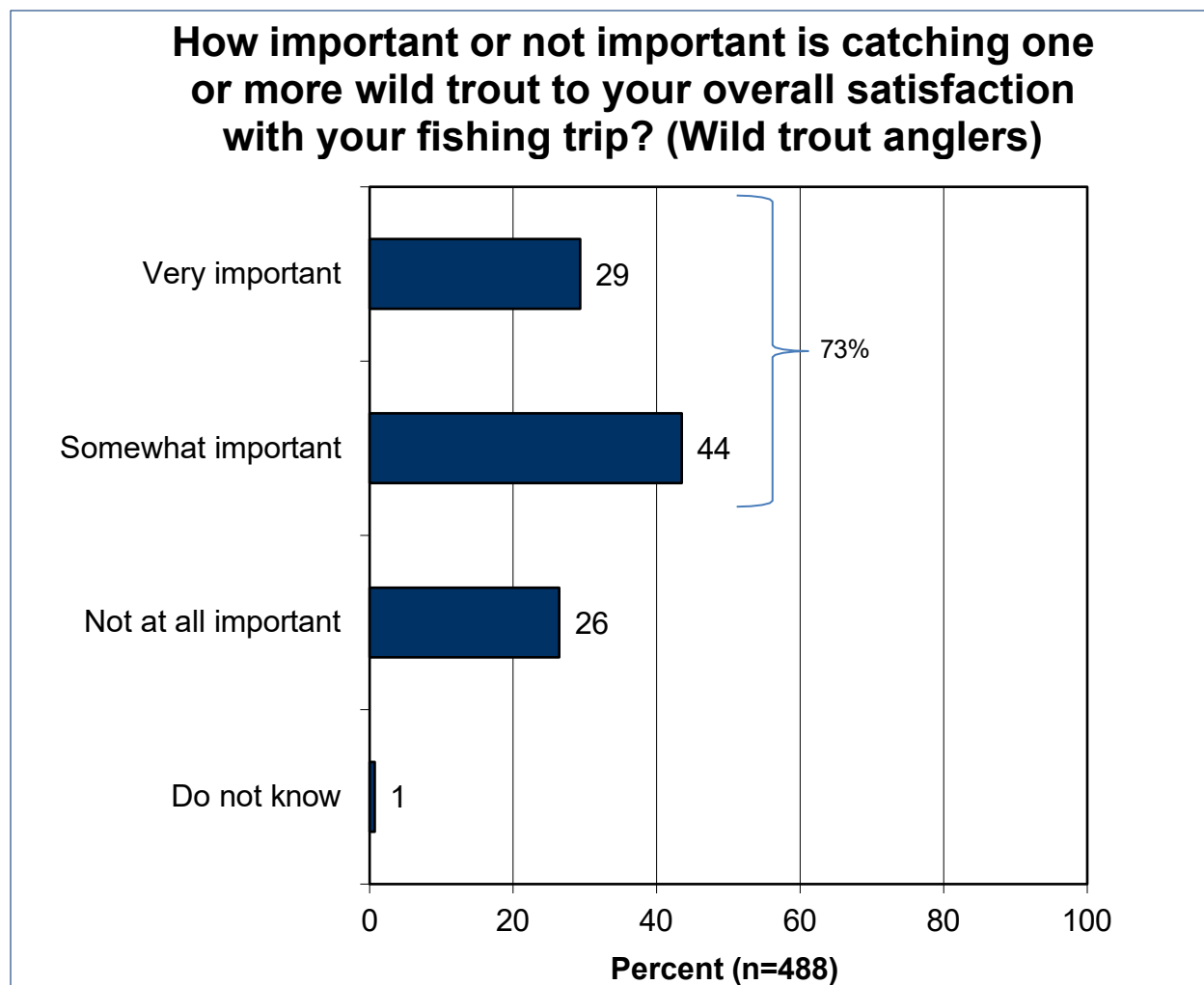


Fishing for the sport among stocked trout anglers is associated with being older in three age-related characteristics: having a Senior Lifetime Fishing license, being 55 years old or older, and having more than 30 years of stocked trout fishing experience. Also associated with fishing for stocked trout for the sport are having a Non-Resident Annual Fishing license, living in the Northwest Region, or being from out of state.

**Percent of each of the following groups who said that one of the top three reasons for stocked trout fishing in Pennsylvania is for the sport: (Stocked trout anglers)**



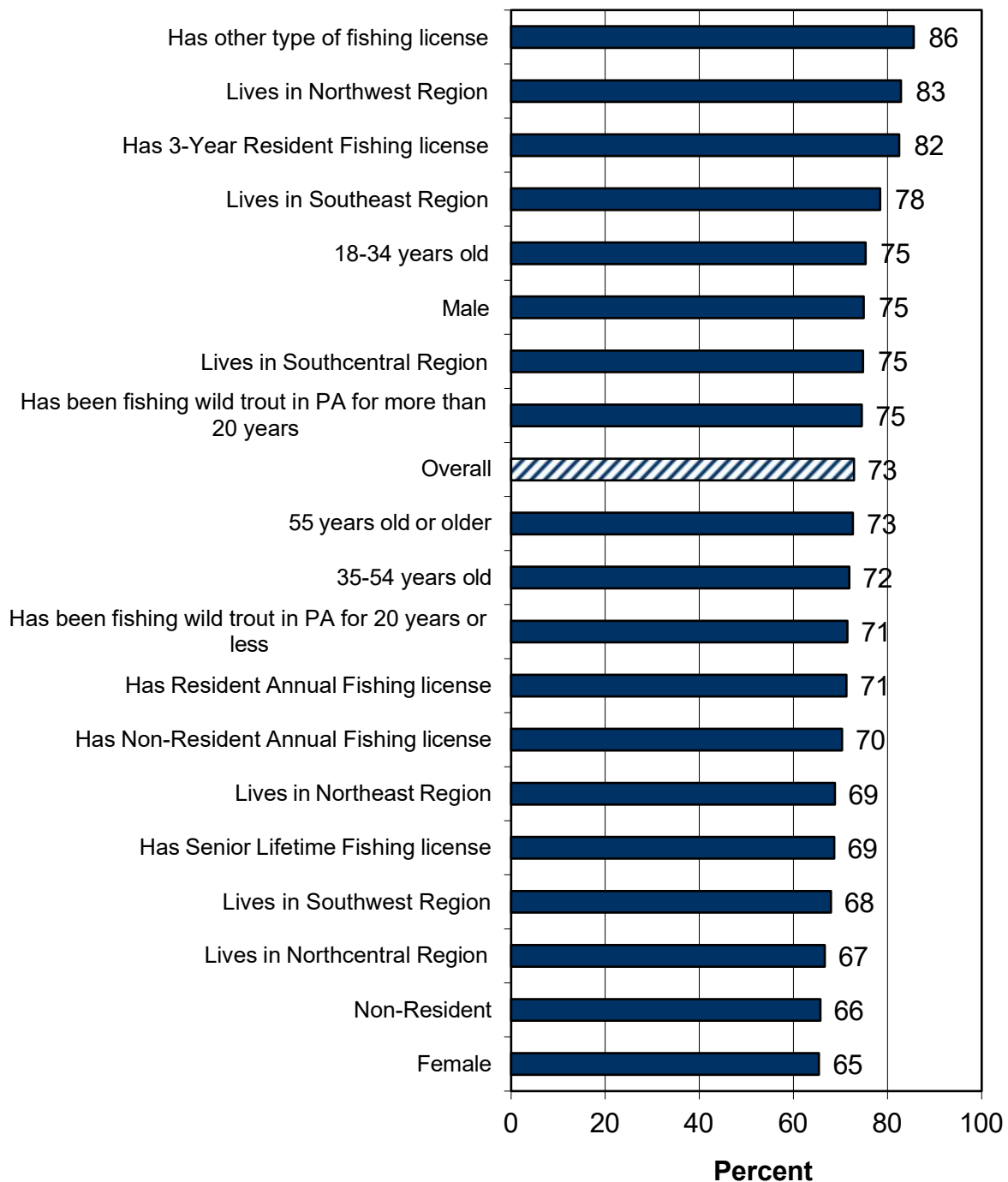
Nearly three quarters of wild trout anglers (73%) say that catching one or more wild trout is *very* or *somewhat* important to their overall satisfaction with their fishing trip. It is particularly important to anglers from the Northwest and Southeast Regions.



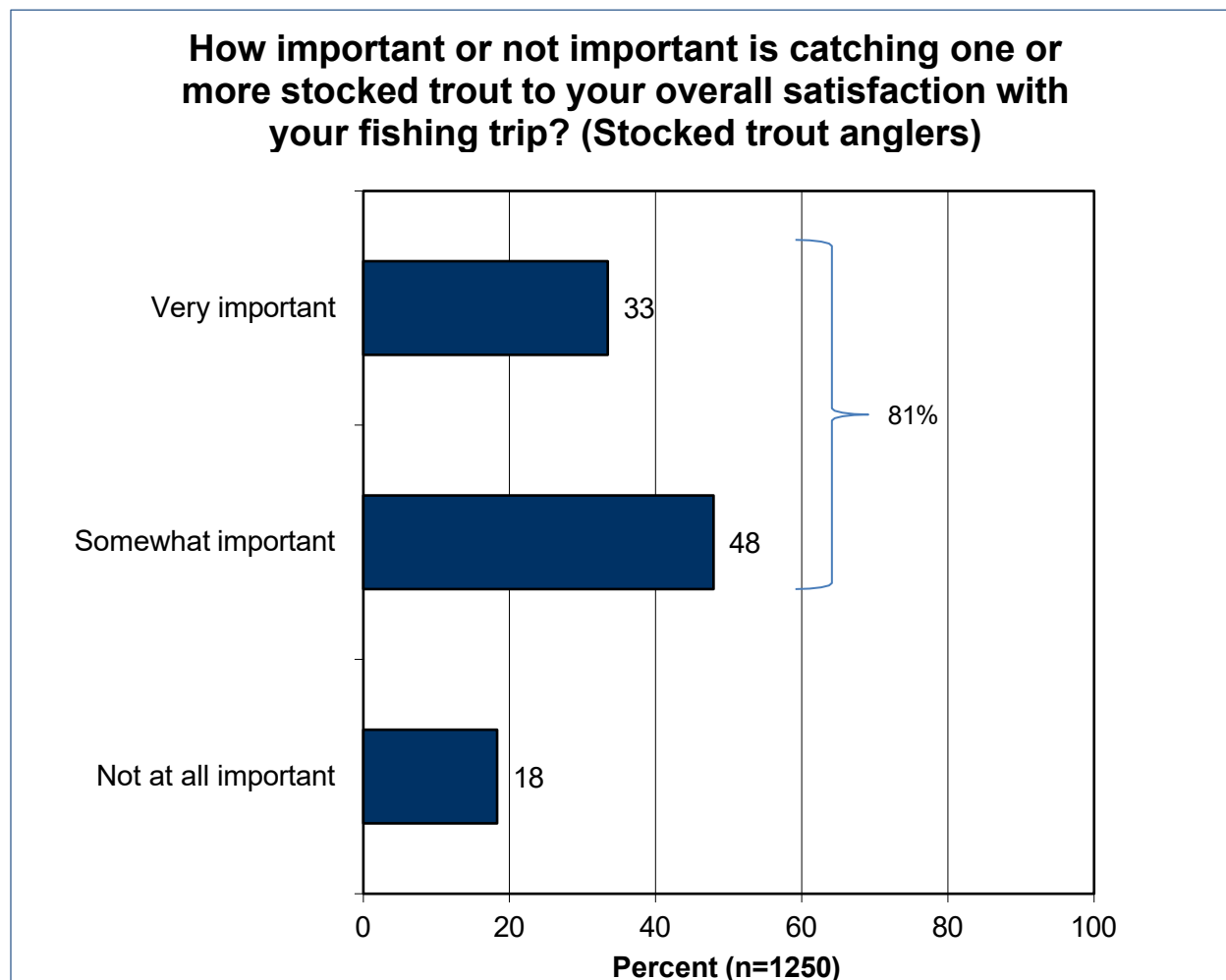
How important or not important is catching one or more wild trout to your overall satisfaction with your fishing trip? (Wild trout anglers)							
	Northwest (n=43)	Northcentral (n=60)	Northeast (n=58)	Southwest (n=92)	Southcentral (n=69)	Southeast (n=105)	Non-Resident (n=61)
Very important	34	20	29	36	23	32	25
Somewhat important	49	46	39	32	52	47	41
Not at all important	17	33	31	29	24	22	34
Do not know	0	0	0	3	1	0	0

As shown in the demographic analyses graph that follows, the wild trout angler groups most likely to say that catching wild trout is important are holders of an “other” type of fishing license or a 3-Year Resident Fishing license and anglers from the Northwest or Southeast Regions.

**Percent of each of the following groups who  
said that catching one or more wild trout is very  
or somewhat important to their overall  
satisfaction with their fishing trip:  
(Wild trout anglers)**

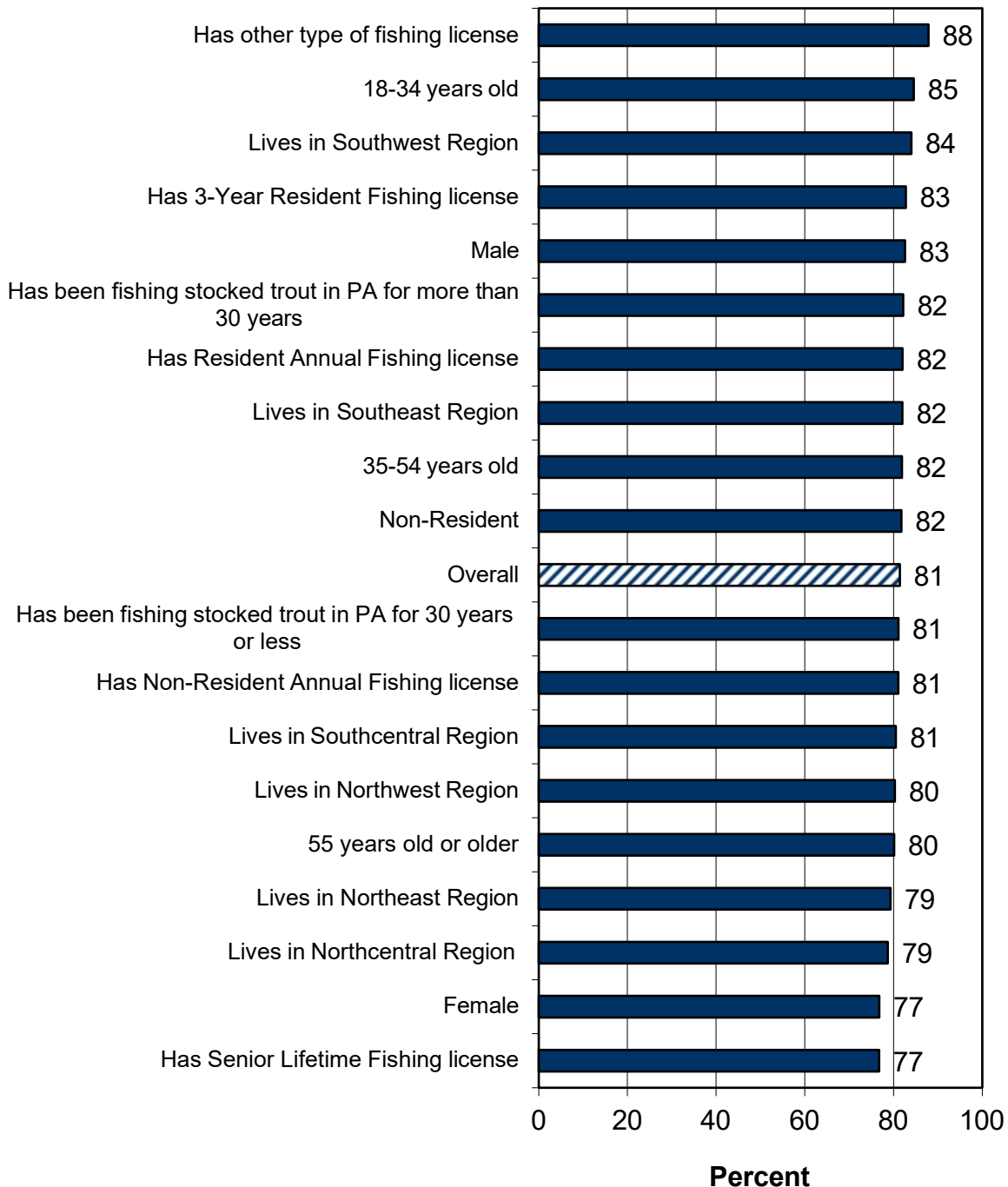


The overwhelming majority of stocked trout anglers (81%) say that catching one or more stocked trout is very or somewhat important to their overall satisfaction with their fishing trip. In the regional results, anglers from the Southwest Region have the lowest percentage saying that it is *not at all* important. A demographic analyses graph also is shown, with one group markedly above the rest: holders of an “other” type of license are more likely to rate this as important.

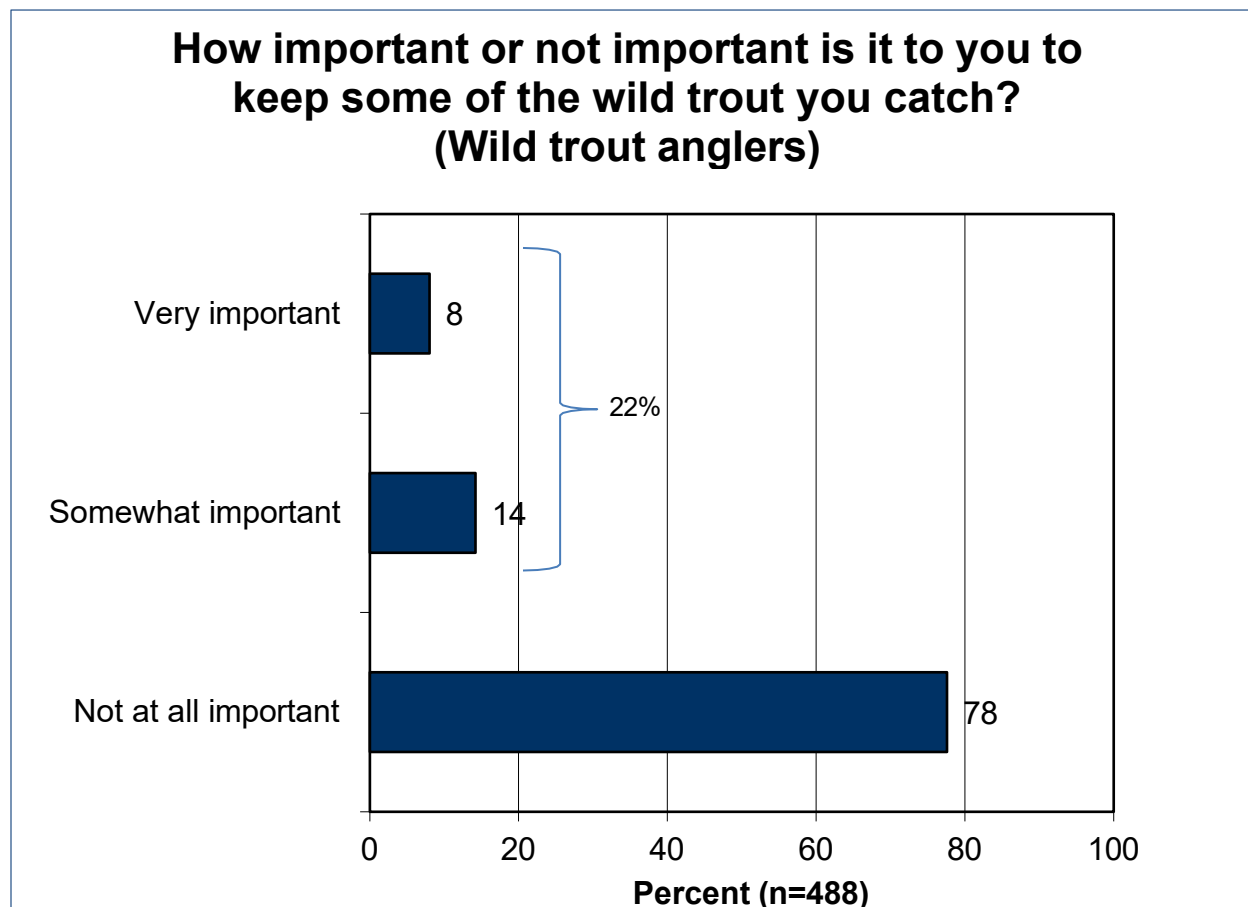


How important or not important is catching one or more stocked trout to your overall satisfaction with your fishing trip? (Stocked trout anglers)							
	Northwest (n=127)	Northcentral (n=109)	Northeast (n=116)	Southwest (n=272)	Southcentral (n=195)	Southeast (n=292)	Non-Resident (n=139)
Very important	37	30	30	32	33	34	38
Somewhat important	43	48	49	52	47	48	44
Not at all important	20	21	21	15	19	18	18
Do not know	0	0	0	1	0	0	0

**Percent of each of the following groups who said that catching one or more stocked trout is very or somewhat important to their overall satisfaction with their fishing trip:  
(Stocked trout anglers)**



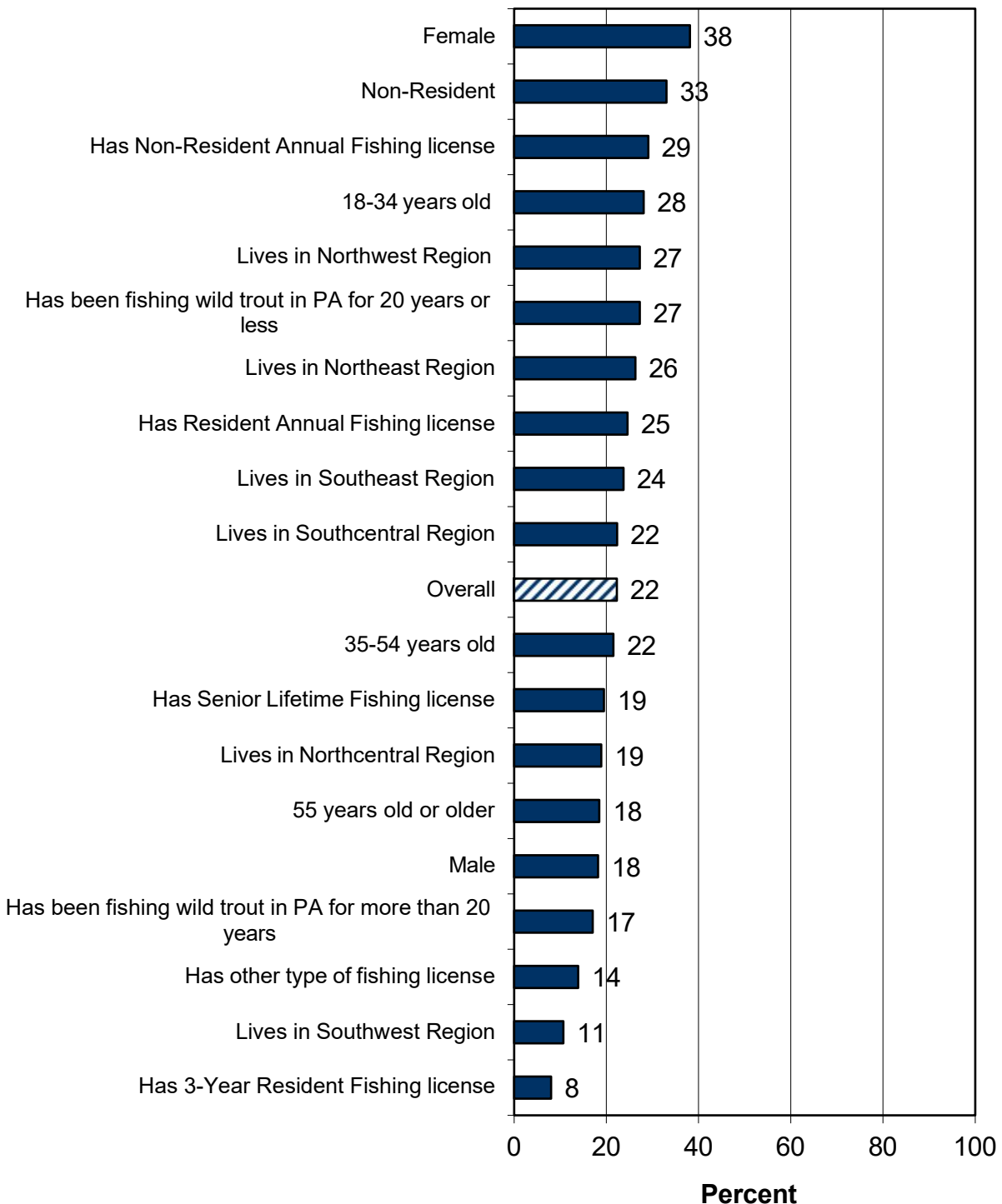
Keeping wild trout (the previous discussion was about *catching* but not necessarily keeping the trout) is not as important as catching wild trout: 22% say that keeping some of the wild trout that they catch is *very* or *somewhat* important. The *least* likely to say that this is important are anglers from the Southwest Region.



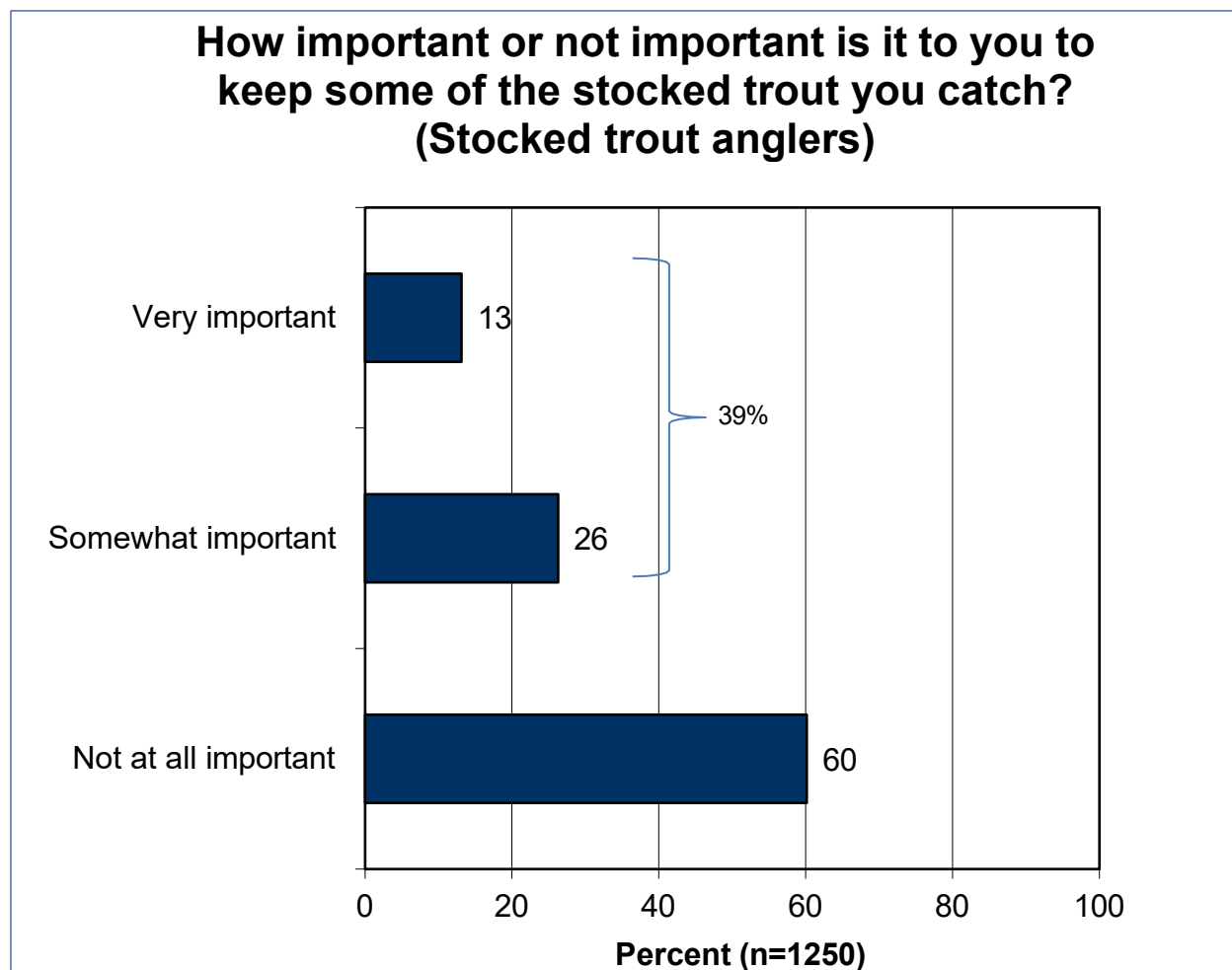
How important or not important is it to you to keep some of the wild trout you catch? (Wild trout anglers)							
	Northwest (n=43)	Northcentral (n=60)	Northeast (n=58)	Southwest (n=92)	Southcentral (n=69)	Southeast (n=105)	Non-Resident (n=61)
Very important	5	2	10	5	6	15	8
Somewhat important	23	17	16	6	16	9	25
Not at all important	73	81	74	88	78	76	67
Do not know	0	0	0	1	0	0	0

The demographic analyses graph that follows shows that female anglers, non-residents (and holders of a Non-Resident Annual Fishing license), and young anglers are the most likely to consider keeping the fish important.

**Percent of each of the following groups who said that keeping some of the wild trout they catch is very or somewhat important:  
(Wild trout anglers)**



Stocked trout anglers were also asked about the importance of keeping some of the trout that they catch: 39% say that it is *very* or *somewhat* important. Anglers from either of the eastern regions have the highest percentages saying that this is *very* important.

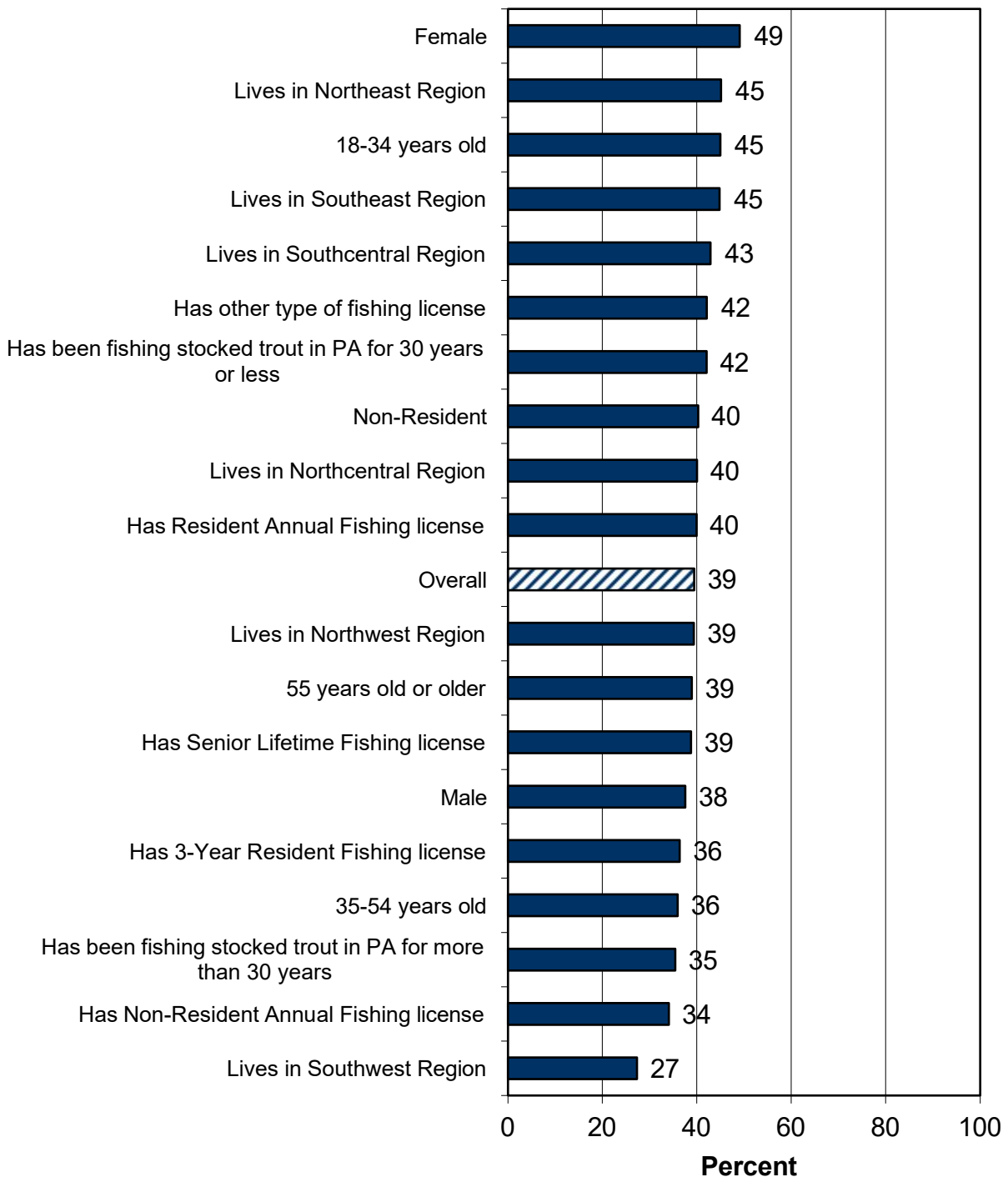


How important or not important is it to you to keep some of the stocked trout you catch? (Stocked trout anglers)							
	Northwest (n=127)	Northcentral (n=109)	Northeast (n=116)	Southwest (n=272)	Southcentral (n=195)	Southeast (n=292)	Non-Resident (n=139)
Very important	7	15	21	7	12	18	12
Somewhat important	33	25	24	20	31	27	28
Not at all important	61	60	55	72	56	55	60
Do not know	0	0	0	1	1	0	0

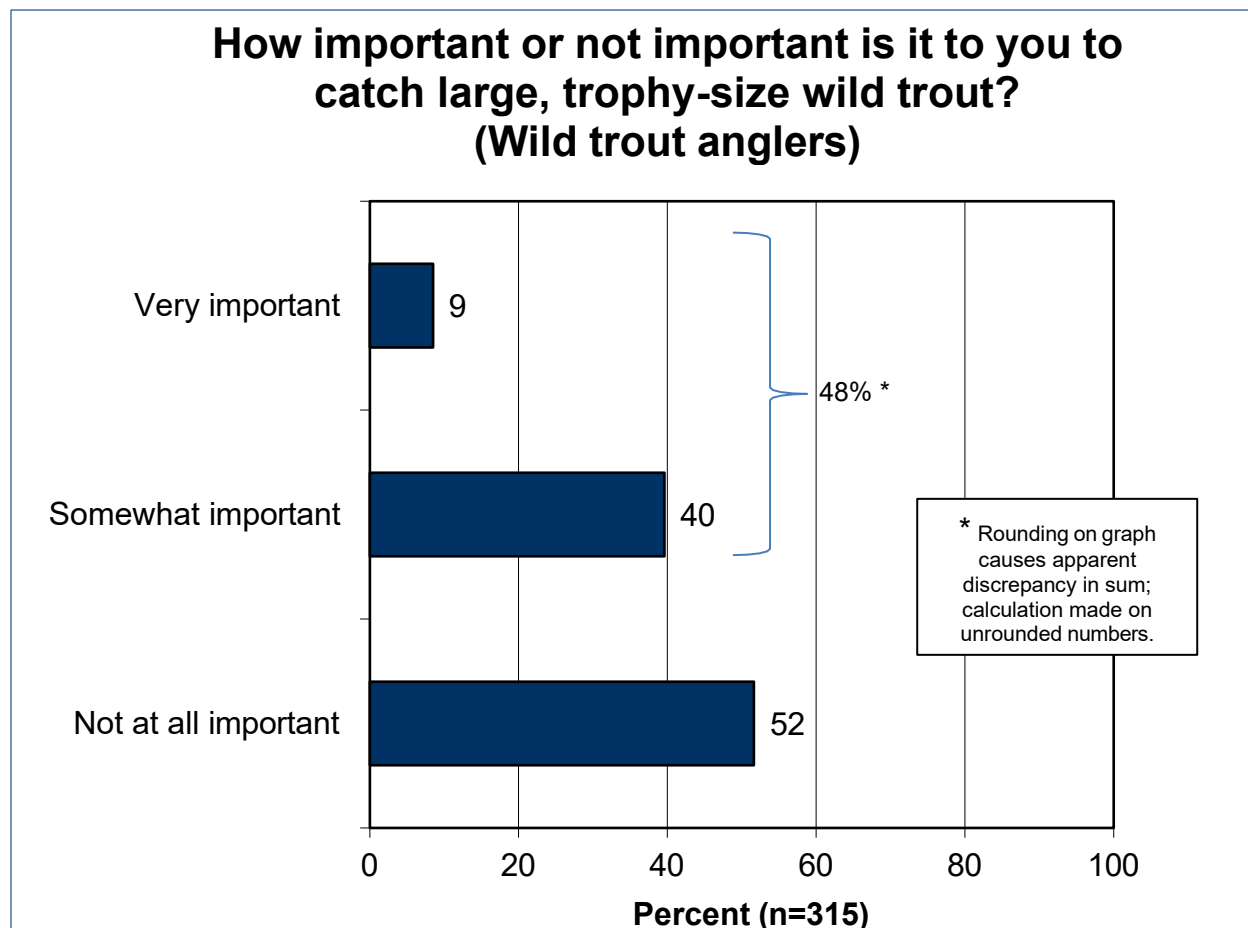
In the demographic analyses, the angler groups most likely to consider keeping some of the fish as *very* or *somewhat* important are female anglers, anglers from the Northeast or Southeast Regions, and young anglers.



**Percent of each of the following groups who  
said that keeping some of the stocked trout they  
catch is very or somewhat important:  
(Stocked trout anglers)**



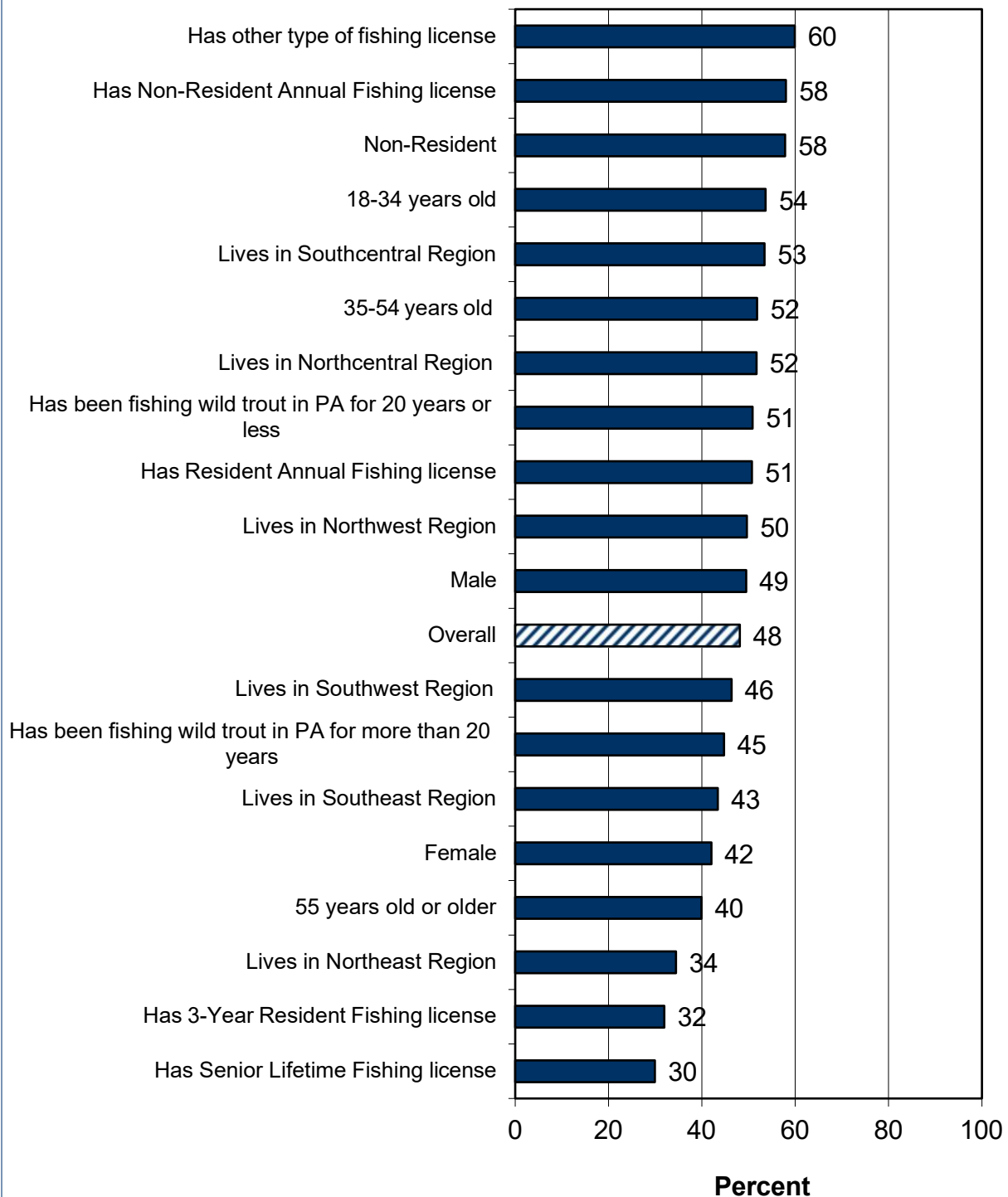
A final motivation explored in the survey was the importance of catching large, trophy-sized trout. Nearly half of wild trout anglers (48%) consider this *very* or *somewhat* important, although this is mostly those saying *somewhat* important rather than *very* important. Anglers from the Northeast Region have the greatest percentage saying that this is *not at all* important.



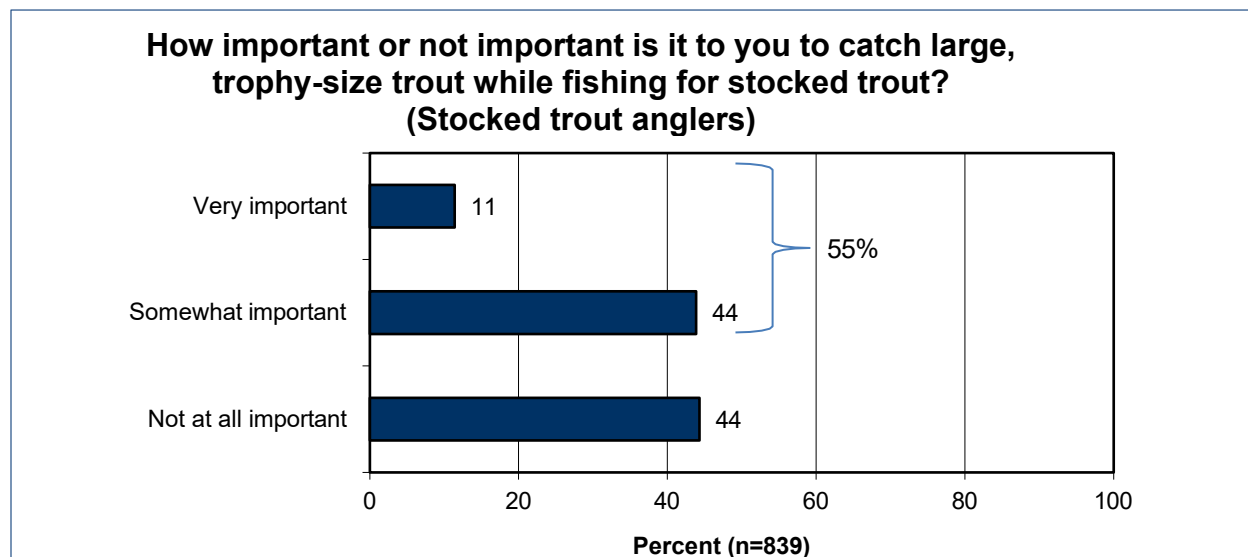
How important or not important is it to you to catch large, trophy-size wild trout? (Wild trout anglers)							
	Northwest (n=20)	Northcentral (n=43)	Northeast (n=25)	Southwest (n=52)	Southcentral (n=49)	Southeast (n=71)	Non-Resident (n=55)
Very important	5	4	4	9	9	12	13
Somewhat important	45	48	31	38	44	32	44
Not at all important	50	48	66	52	47	57	42
Do not know	0	0	0	1	0	0	0

The angler groups found in the demographic analyses (as shown in the graph that follows) to be most associated with rating large, trophy-size trout as important are holders of an “other” type of license, holders of a Non-Resident Annual Fishing license (and non-residents in general), young anglers, and those living in the Southcentral Region.

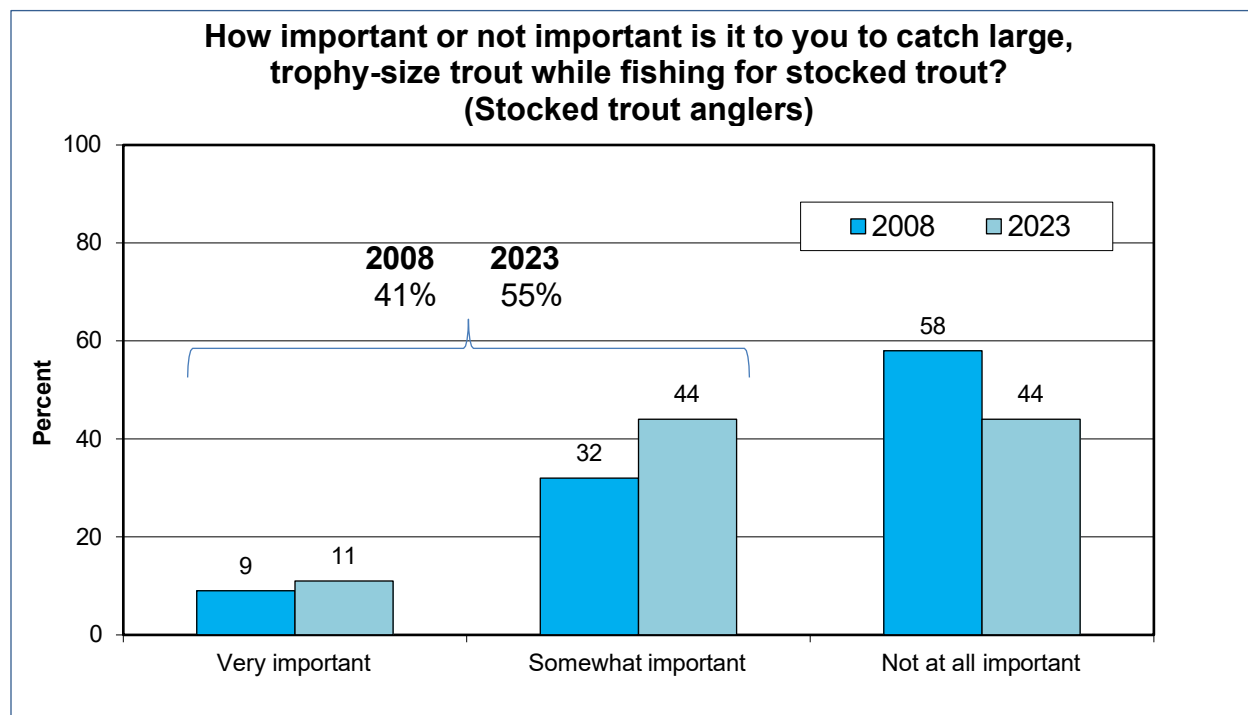
**Percent of each of the following groups who  
said that catching large, trophy-size wild trout is  
very or somewhat important:  
(Wild trout anglers)**



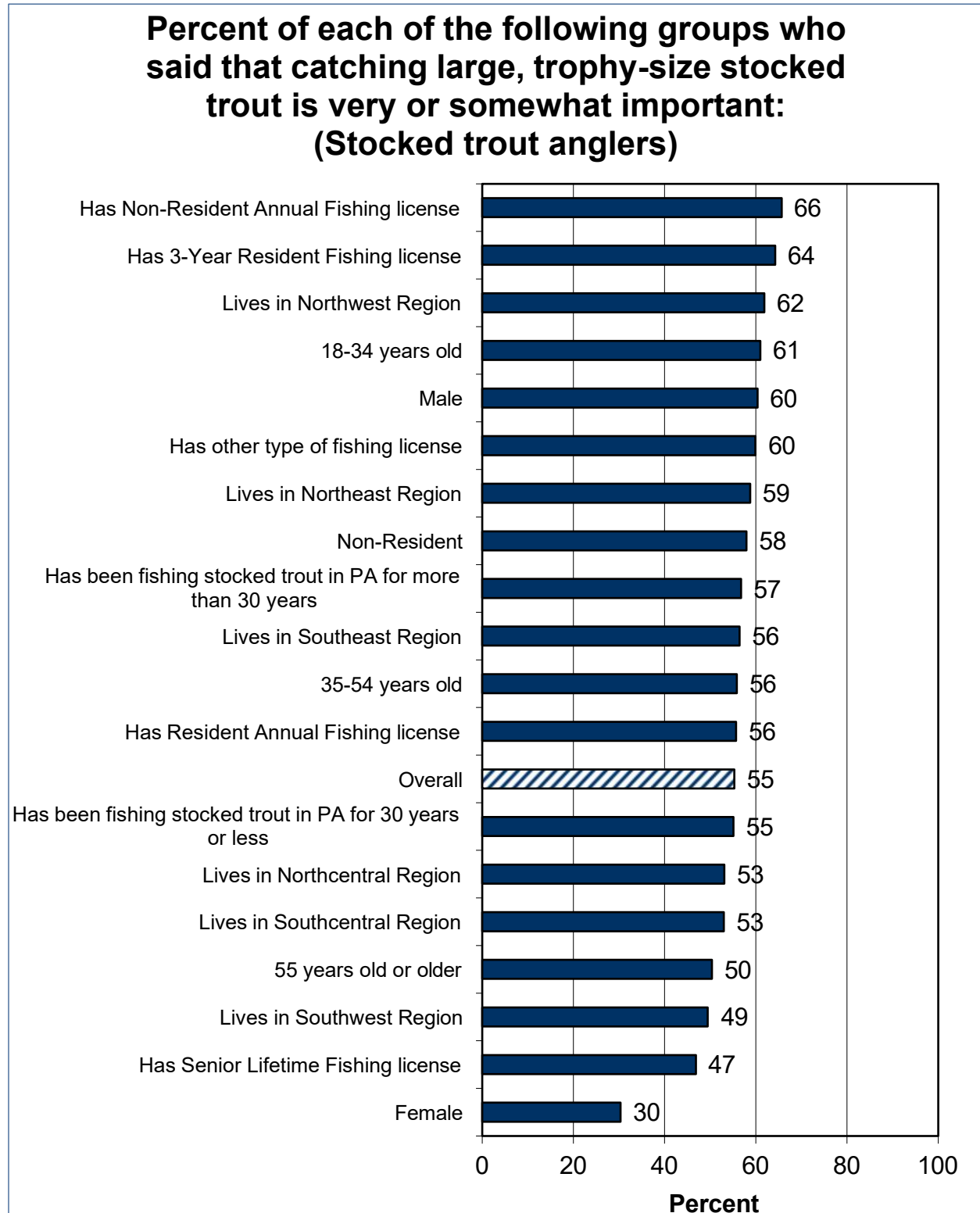
More than half of stocked trout anglers (55%) say it is *very* or *somewhat* important to catch large, trophy-size trout while fishing for stocked trout. Anglers from the Northwest Region are the most likely to say that this is important. The trends graph shows that this has increased in importance since the last survey in 2008.



How important or not important is it to you to catch large, trophy-size trout while fishing for stocked trout? (Stocked trout anglers)							
	Northwest (n=85)	Northcentral (n=82)	Northeast (n=96)	Southwest (n=160)	Southcentral (n=135)	Southeast (n=188)	Non-Resident (n=93)
Very important	15	14	10	8	9	12	17
Somewhat important	47	39	49	42	44	44	40
Not at all important	37	47	41	50	47	44	41
Do not know	1	0	0	1	0	0	1

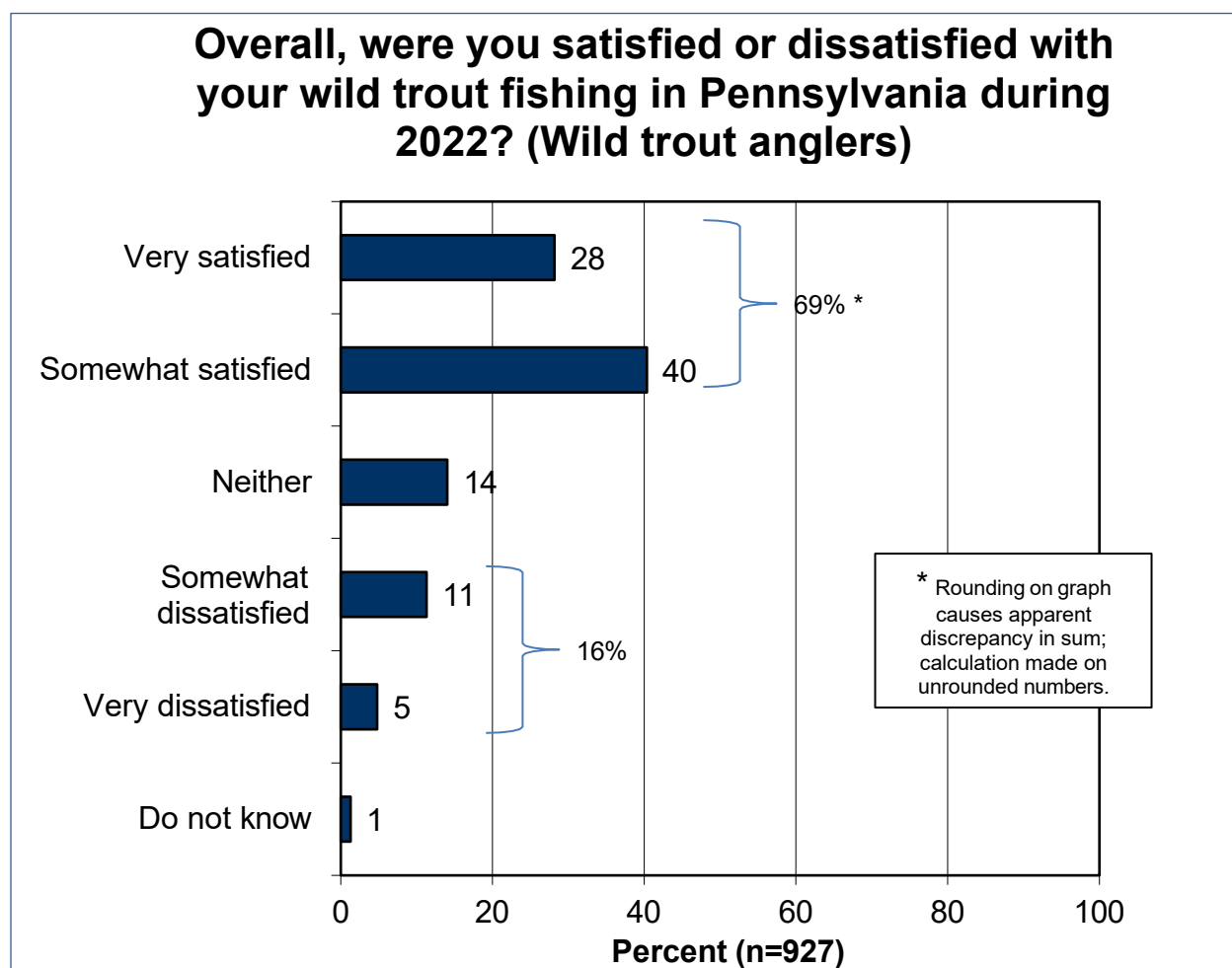


In the demographic analyses, the stocked angler groups most likely to consider large, trophy-size fish as being important are holders of a Non-Resident Annual Fishing license or a 3-Year Resident Fishing license, anglers from the Northwest Region, young anglers, male anglers, and holders of an “other” type of license.



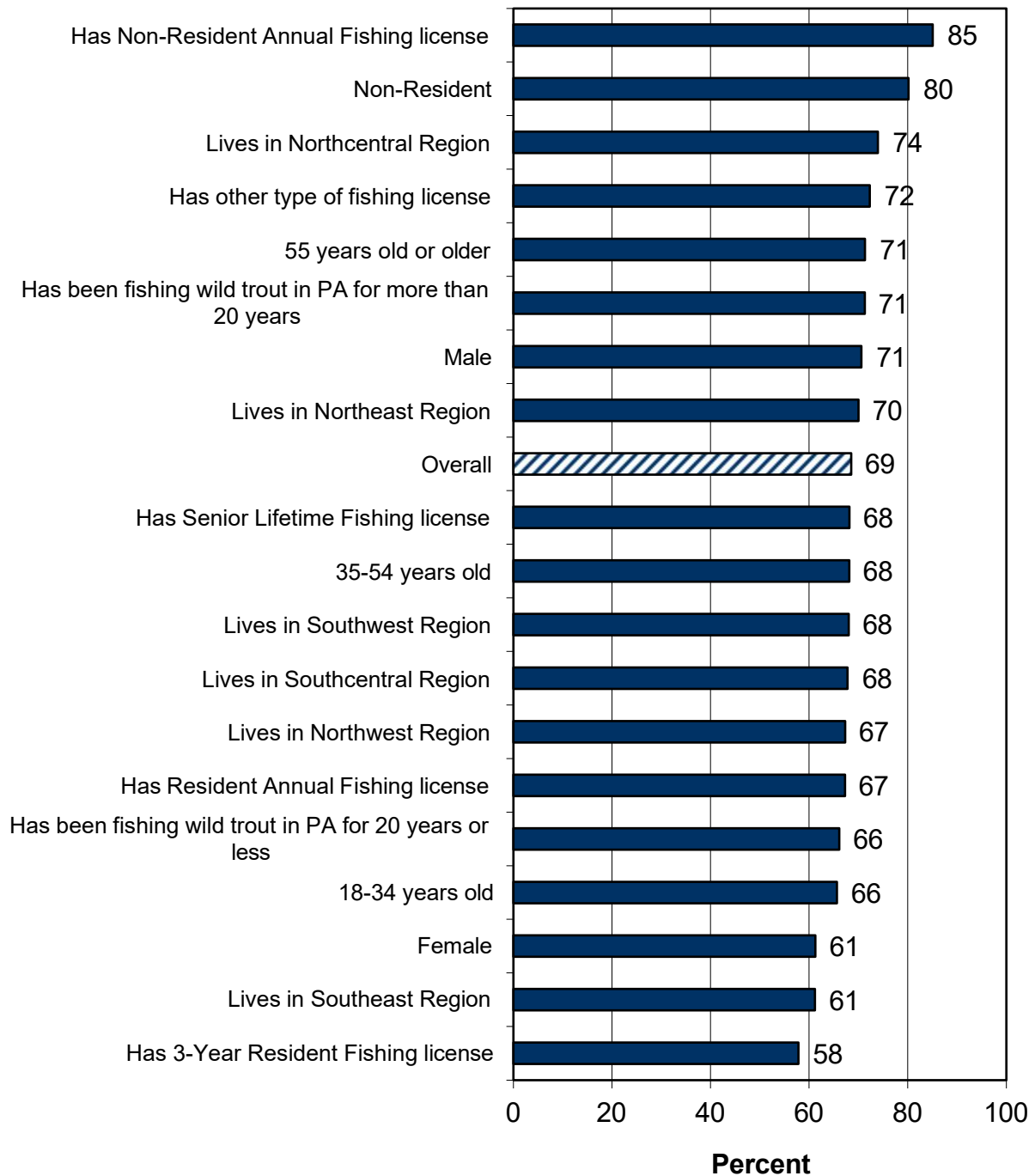
## SATISFACTION OR DISSATISFACTION WITH TROUT FISHING IN PENNSYLVANIA

The survey asked about satisfaction with wild and stocked trout fishing overall and with the regulations for both. The large majority of wild trout anglers (69%) were satisfied with their wild trout fishing in Pennsylvania in 2022, but 16% were dissatisfied. Satisfaction was highest among anglers from the Northcentral Region (as well as non-residents anglers), as shown both in the regional results table and the first demographic analyses graph. The second demographic analyses graph showing dissatisfaction suggests that anglers high in dissatisfaction were those with a 3-Year Resident Fishing license and anglers from the Southeast Region.

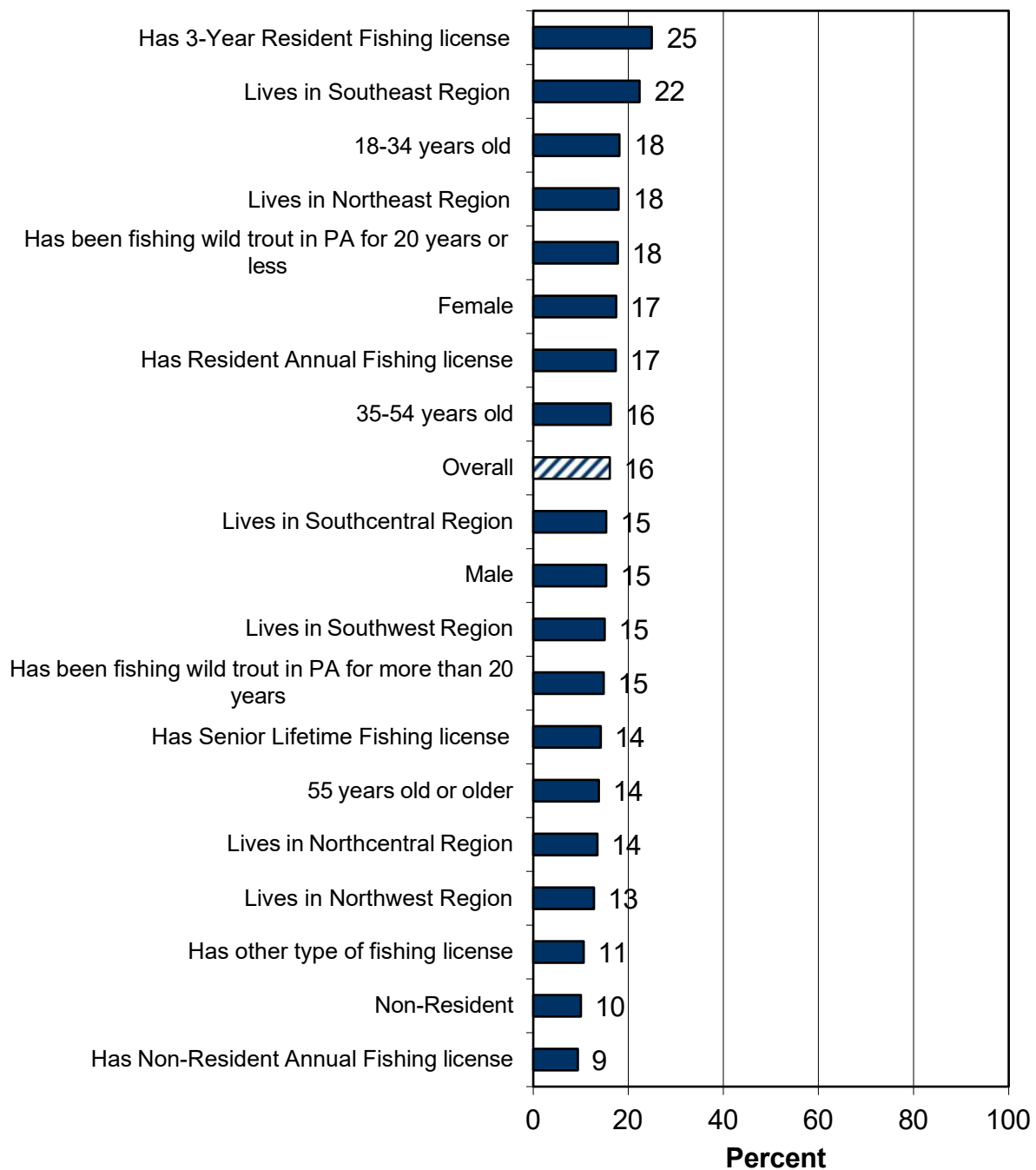


Overall, were you satisfied or dissatisfied with your wild trout fishing in Pennsylvania during 2022? (Wild trout anglers)							
	Northwest (n=77)	Northcentral (n=107)	Northeast (n=106)	Southwest (n=169)	Southcentral (n=140)	Southeast (n=193)	Non-Resident (n=135)
Very satisfied	32	25	37	24	27	24	37
Somewhat satisfied	36	49	33	44	41	37	43
Neither	19	13	12	16	13	14	10
Somewhat dissatisfied	11	10	10	10	10	18	7
Very dissatisfied	2	4	8	5	6	4	3
Do not know	1	0	0	1	4	2	0

**Percent of each of the following groups who were very or somewhat satisfied with their wild trout fishing in Pennsylvania during 2022:  
(Wild trout anglers)**

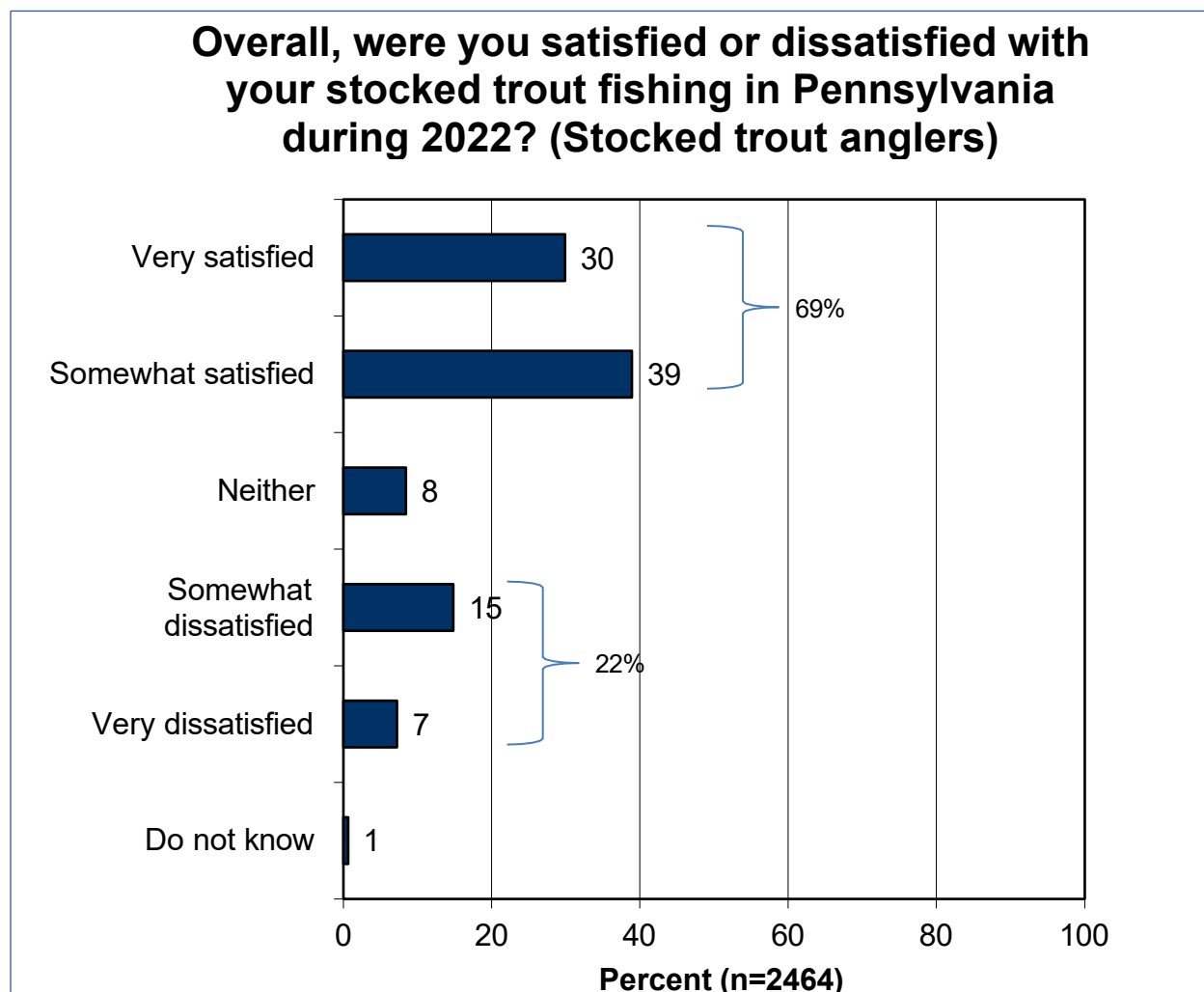


**Percent of each of the following groups who were very or somewhat dissatisfied with their wild trout fishing in Pennsylvania during 2022:  
(Wild trout anglers)**



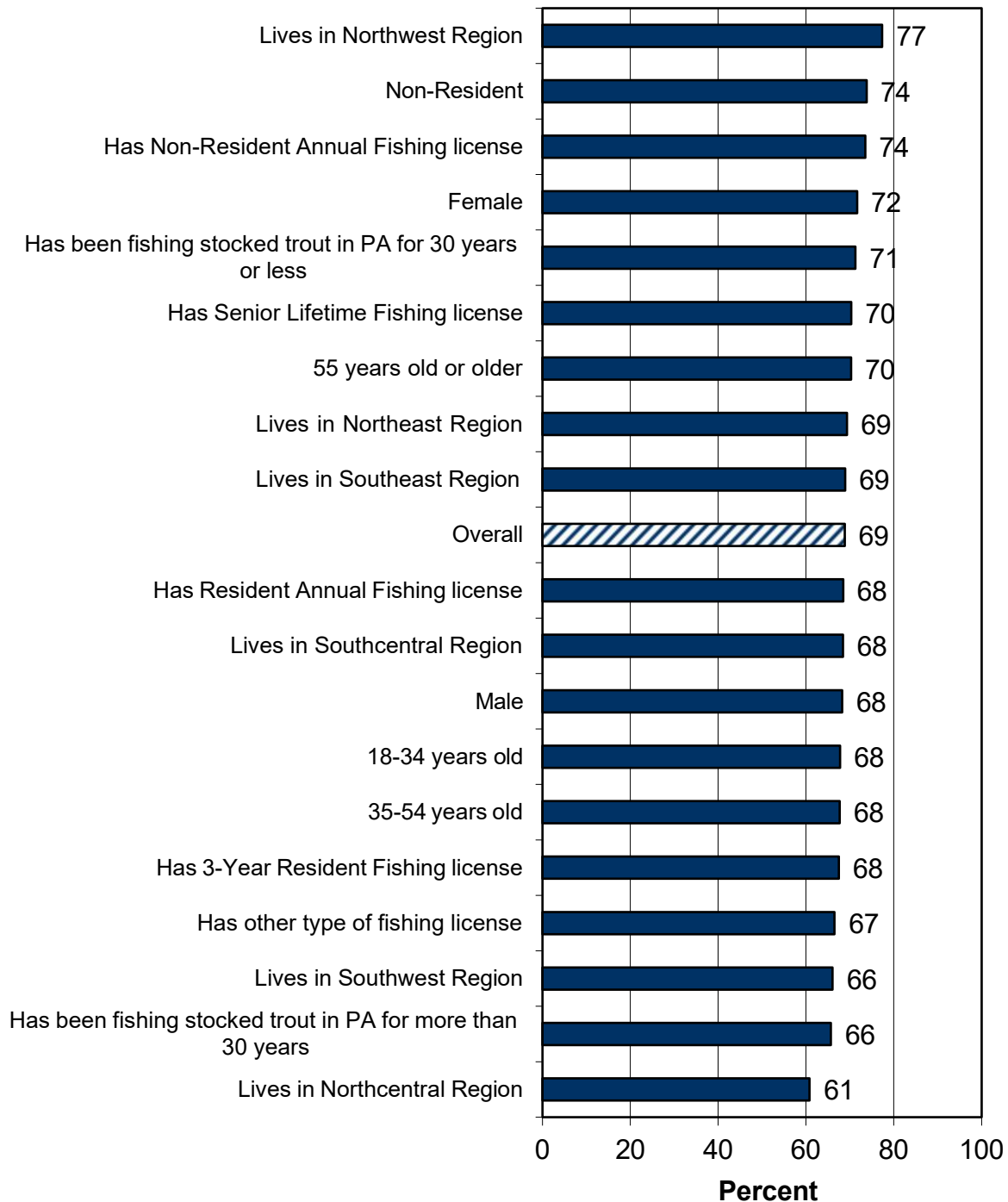


The percentage being *very* satisfied was greater for anglers of stocked trout than for anglers of wild trout (30% were *very* satisfied with *stocked* trout fishing, compared to 28% for *wild* trout fishing as previously shown); however, the overall satisfaction was the same for both groups at 69%. Meanwhile, 22% were dissatisfied with their stocked trout fishing in Pennsylvania in 2022. Satisfaction was highest among anglers from the Northwest Region and among out-of-state anglers—evident from both the regional table and the first demographic analyses graph. Anglers from the Northcentral Region are most associated with being dissatisfied, as shown in the second demographic analyses graph.

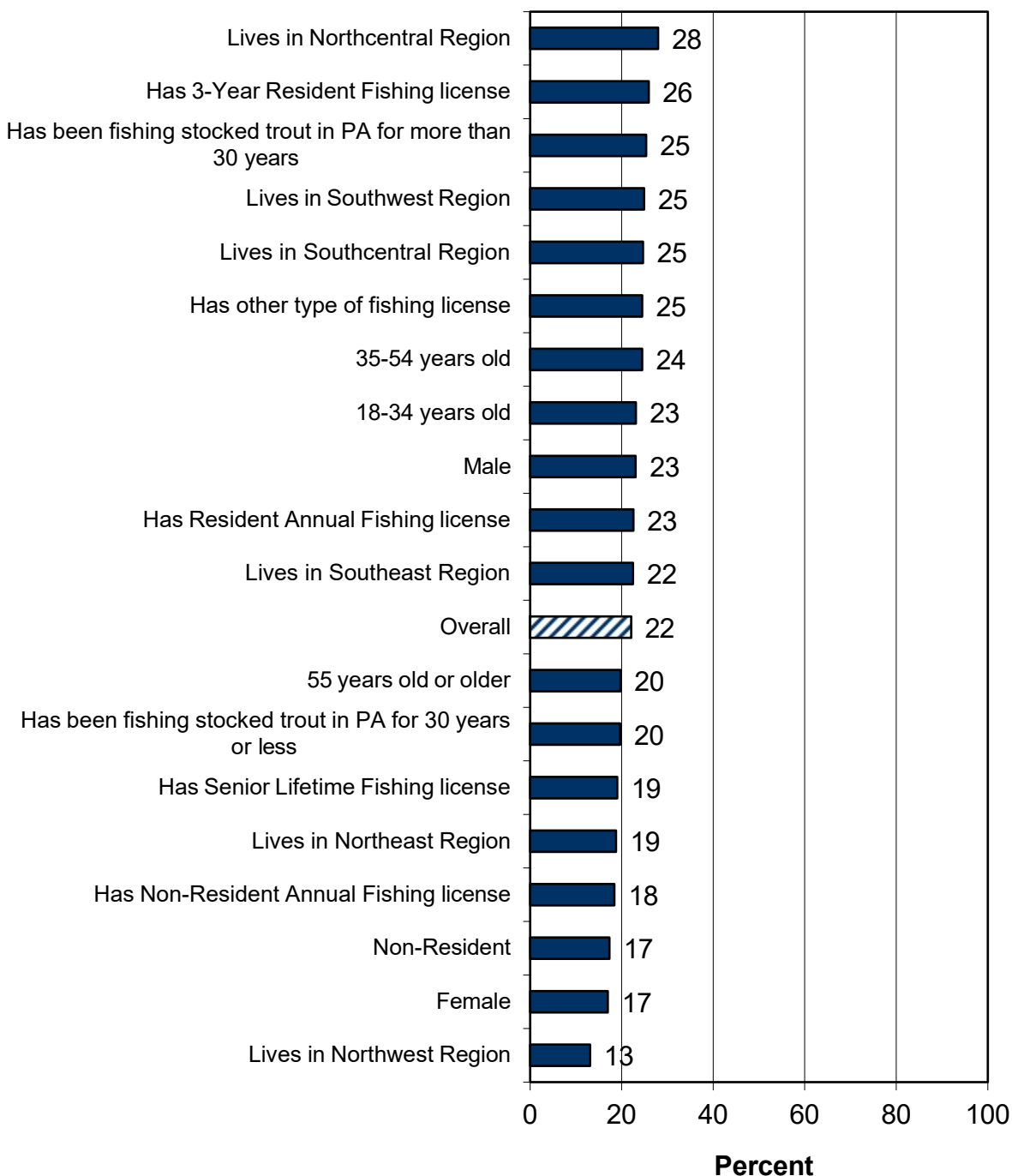


Overall, were you satisfied or dissatisfied with your stocked trout fishing in Pennsylvania during 2022? (Stocked trout anglers)							
	Northwest (n=240)	Northcentral (n=222)	Northeast (n=241)	Southwest (n=533)	Southcentral (n=380)	Southeast (n=596)	Non-Resident (n=252)
Very satisfied	34	23	31	28	30	29	41
Somewhat satisfied	43	38	39	38	38	40	33
Neither	9	10	12	8	7	8	8
Somewhat dissatisfied	10	15	13	17	18	15	10
Very dissatisfied	3	13	6	8	7	8	7
Do not know	0	1	0	1	0	0	1

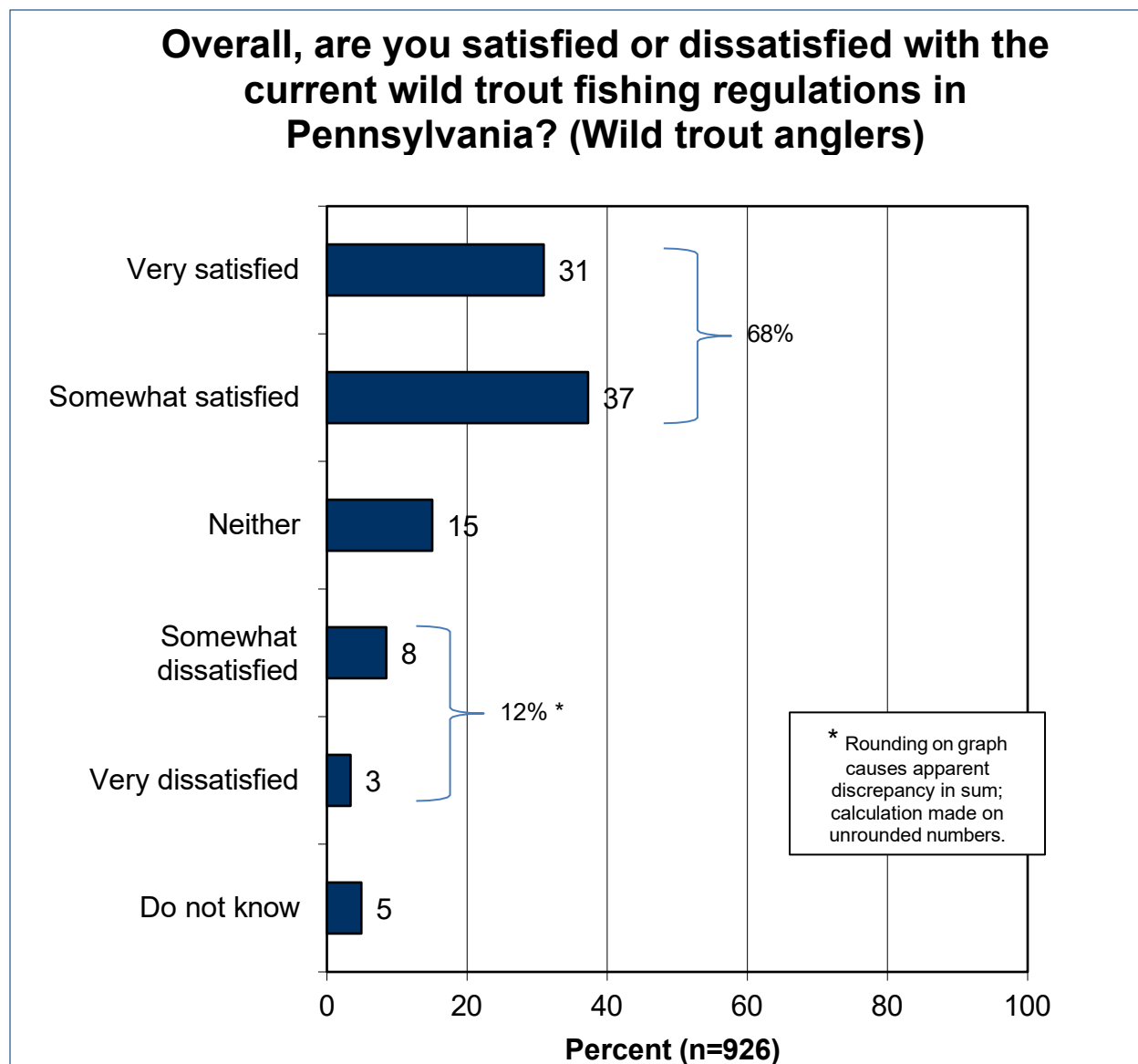
**Percent of each of the following groups who were very or somewhat satisfied with their stocked trout fishing in Pennsylvania during 2022: (Stocked trout anglers)**



**Percent of each of the following groups who were very or somewhat dissatisfied with their stocked trout fishing in Pennsylvania during 2022: (Stocked trout anglers)**



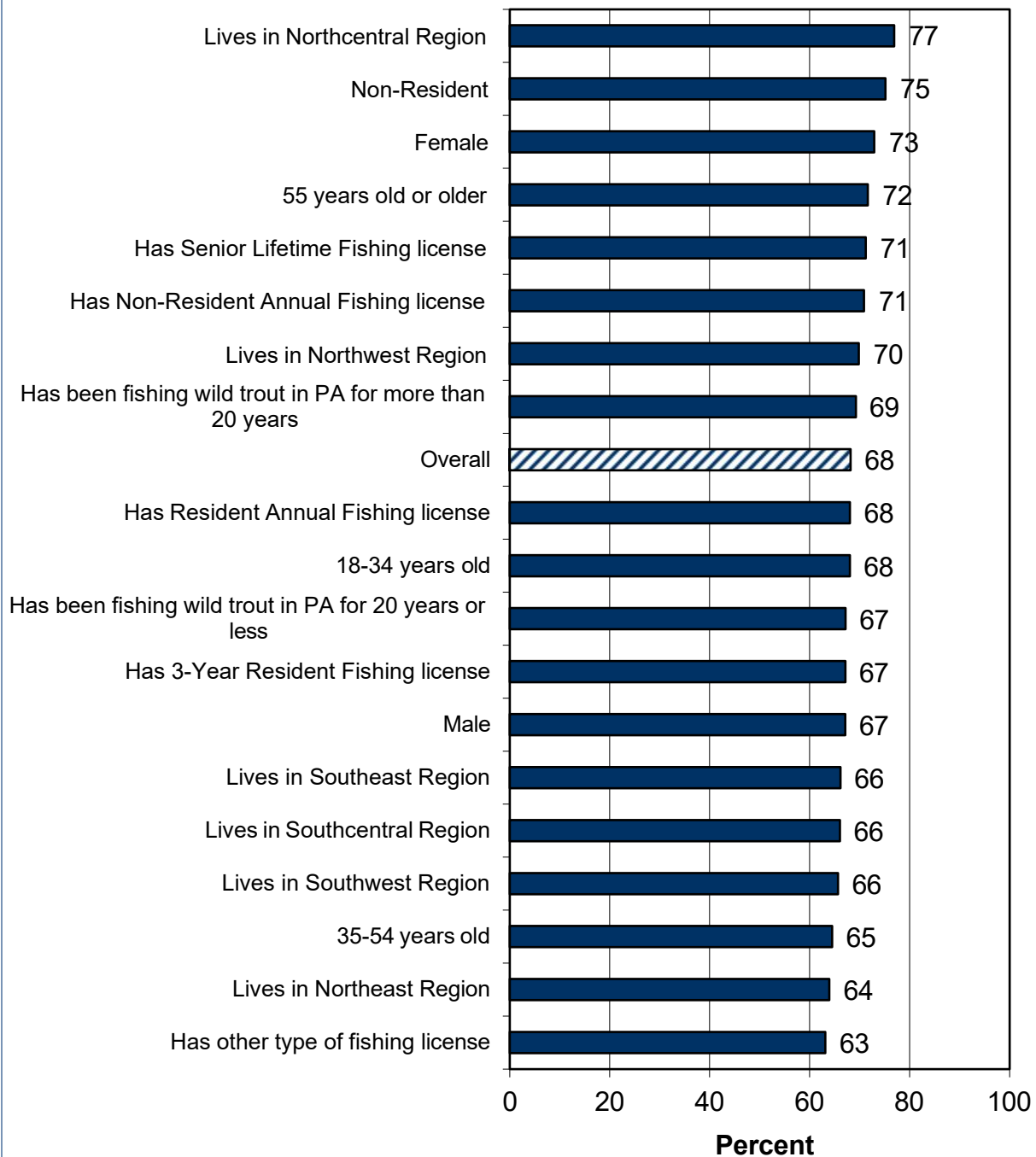
Mirroring the results regarding satisfaction overall, 68% of wild trout anglers are satisfied with the wild trout fishing regulations, while 12% are dissatisfied. Satisfaction is highest among anglers from the Northcentral Region and among non-resident anglers.



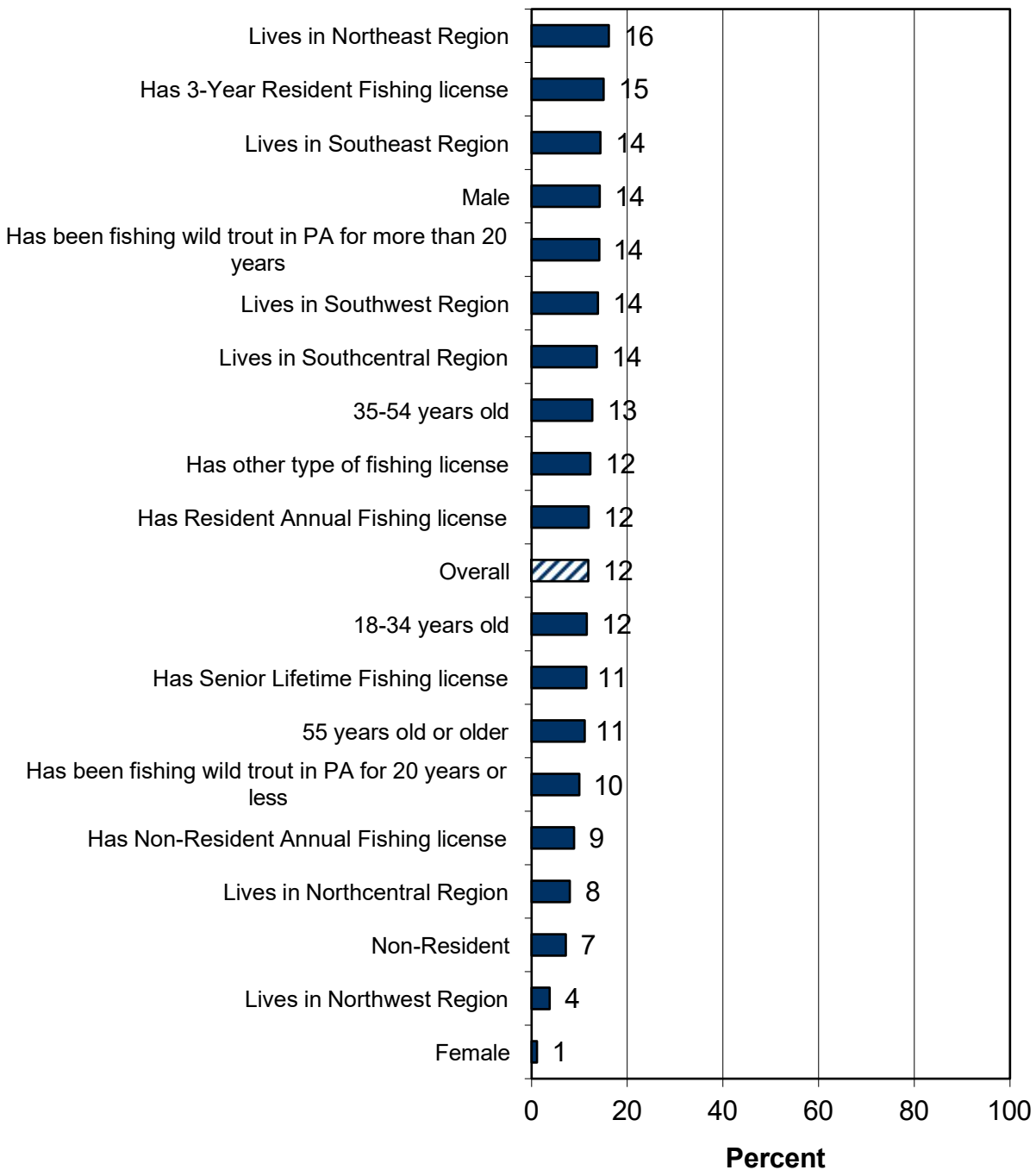
Overall, are you satisfied or dissatisfied with the current wild trout fishing regulations in Pennsylvania? (Wild trout anglers)							
	Northwest (n=76)	Northcentral (n=107)	Northeast (n=106)	Southwest (n=169)	Southcentral (n=140)	Southeast (n=193)	Non-Resident (n=135)
Very satisfied	32	26	32	36	35	23	33
Somewhat satisfied	38	51	32	30	31	43	42
Neither	21	13	18	16	8	16	15
Somewhat dissatisfied	4	6	12	11	11	8	5
Very dissatisfied	0	2	4	3	3	6	2
Do not know	6	2	2	4	12	4	3

The angler groups most satisfied with the wild trout regulations are those living in the Northcentral Region, non-residents, and female anglers. No group is markedly more dissatisfied than any other group, as shown in the demographic analyses graph on the next page.

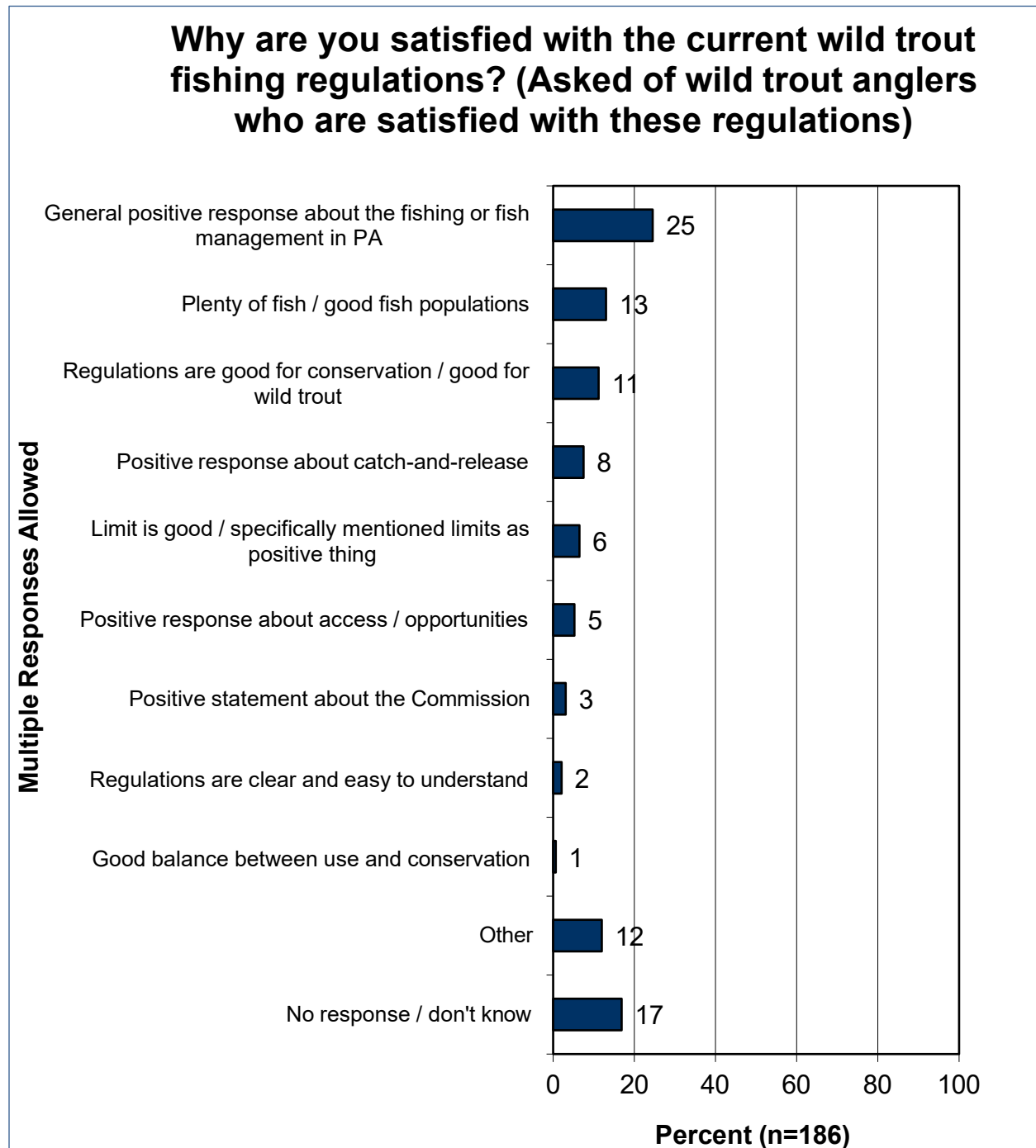
**Percent of each of the following groups who are very or somewhat satisfied with the current wild trout fishing regulations in Pennsylvania:  
(Wild trout anglers)**



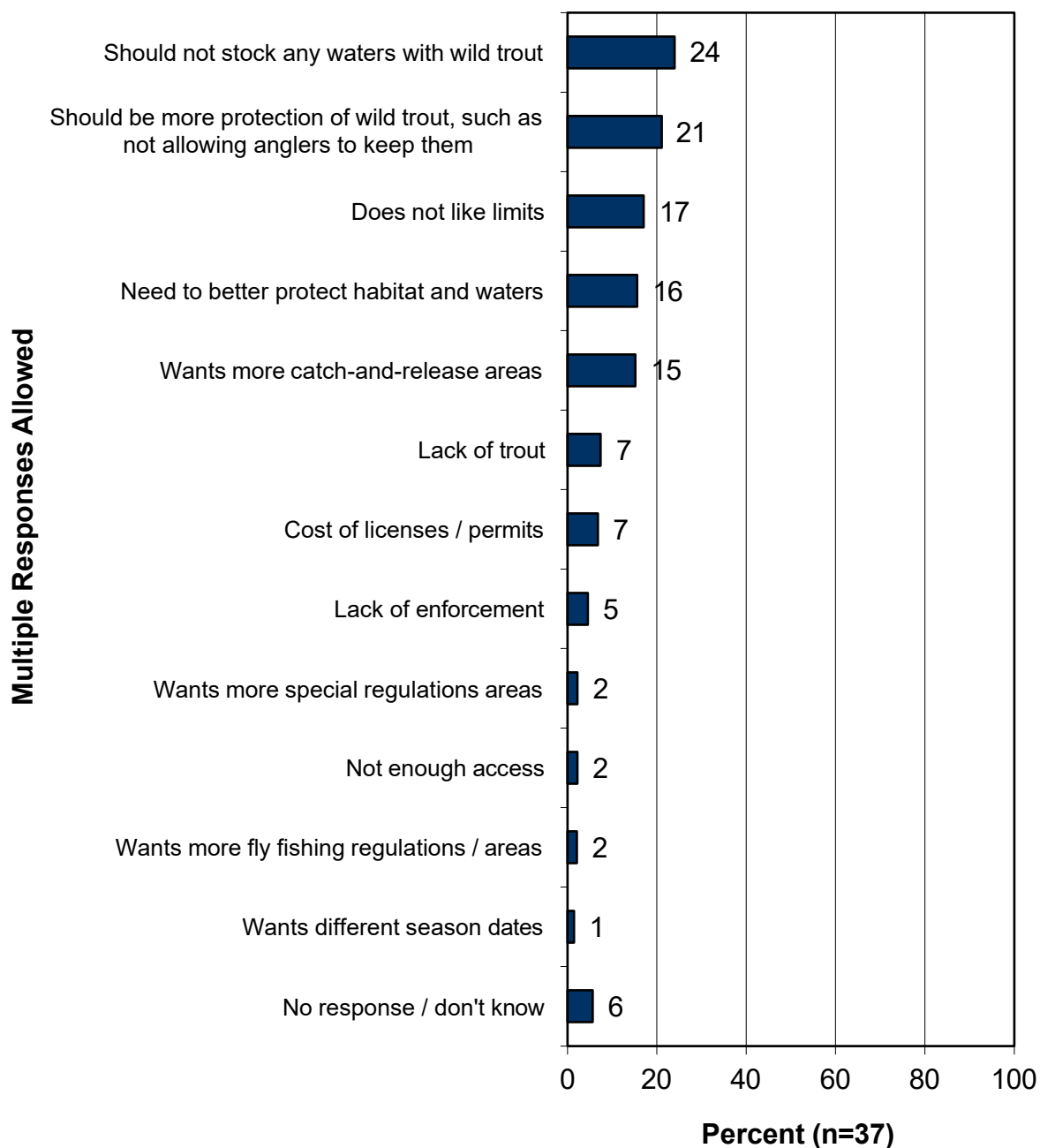
**Percent of each of the following groups who are very or somewhat dissatisfied with the current wild trout fishing regulations in Pennsylvania:  
(Wild trout anglers)**



Reasons for being satisfied (graph below) or dissatisfied (graph on following page) with the wild trout fishing regulations were explored in the survey. Among the top reasons for being satisfied are that there are plenty of fish and that the regulations are good for conservation. The top reasons for being dissatisfied are centered around the conservation of the wild trout: that there should be no stocking in waters that have wild trout, that there should be more protection of wild trout, a dislike of the limits (nearly always that they are too high rather than too low), a need for more protection of the waters, and because there are not enough catch-and-release waters.

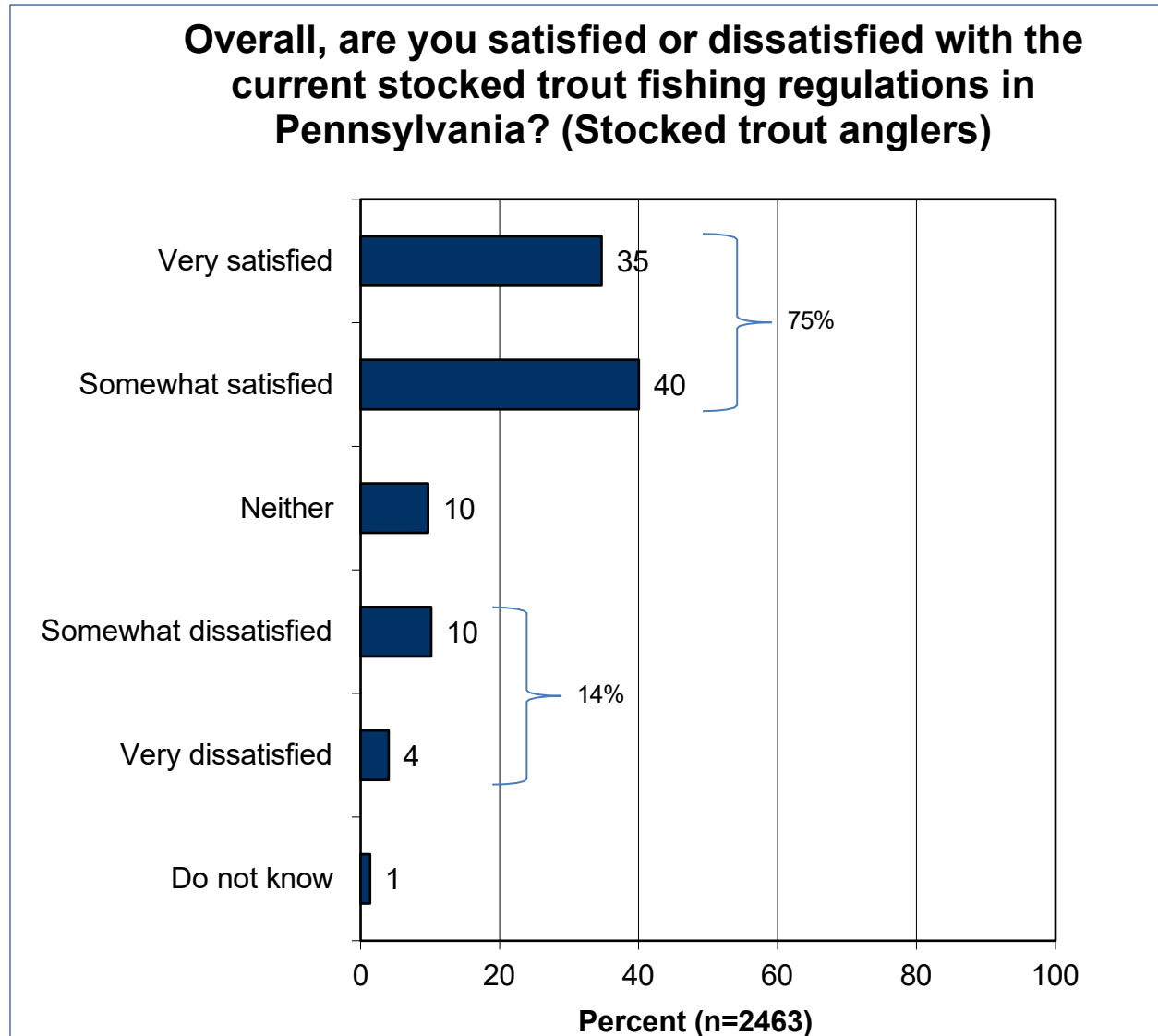


**Why are you dissatisfied with the current wild trout fishing regulations? (Asked of wild trout anglers who are dissatisfied with these regulations)**



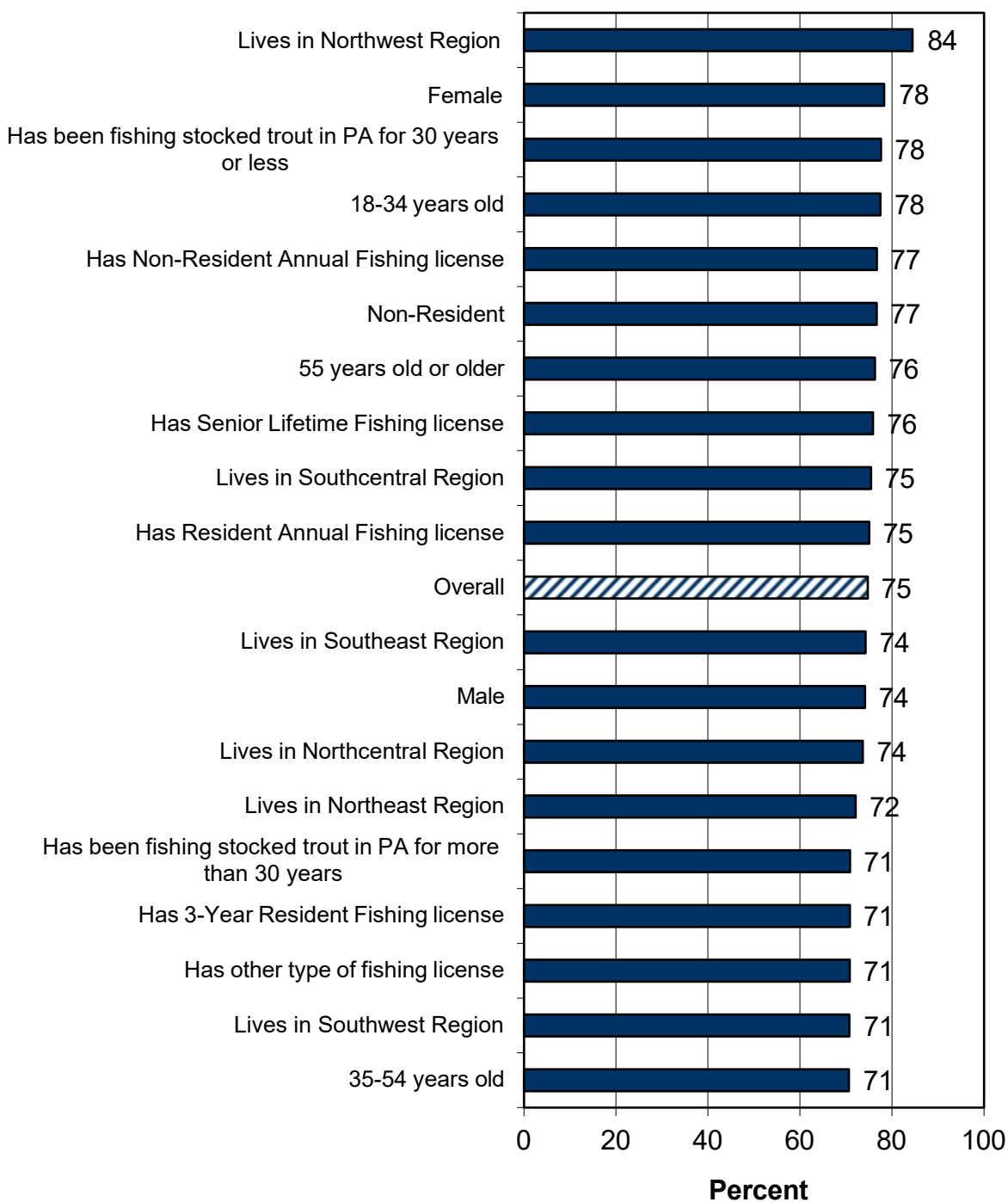


Three quarters of stocked trout anglers (75%) are satisfied with the stocked trout fishing regulations, with 14% being dissatisfied. Satisfaction is highest among anglers from the Northwest Region—this is shown in both the regional table and the first demographic analyses graph. No group is markedly higher in dissatisfaction (second demographic analyses graph).

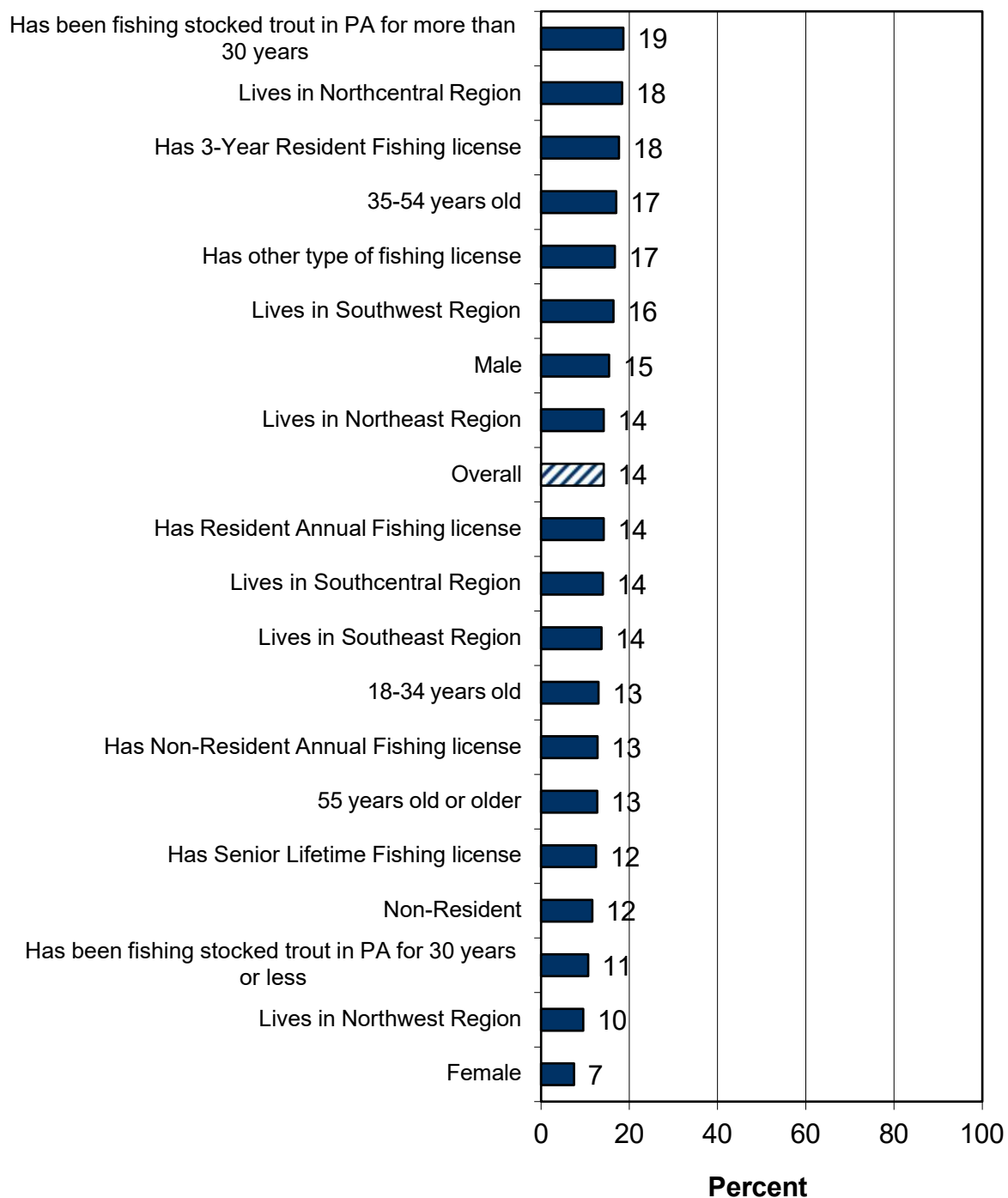


Overall, are you satisfied or dissatisfied with the current stocked trout fishing regulations in Pennsylvania? (Stocked trout anglers)							
	Northwest (n=240)	Northcentral (n=222)	Northeast (n=241)	Southwest (n=533)	Southcentral (n=379)	Southeast (n=596)	Non-Resident (n=252)
Very satisfied	36	28	35	35	31	36	42
Somewhat satisfied	49	46	37	36	44	38	35
Neither	5	7	11	12	9	11	10
Somewhat dissatisfied	8	13	11	12	10	10	7
Very dissatisfied	1	6	3	5	4	4	5
Do not know	1	1	2	1	1	1	2

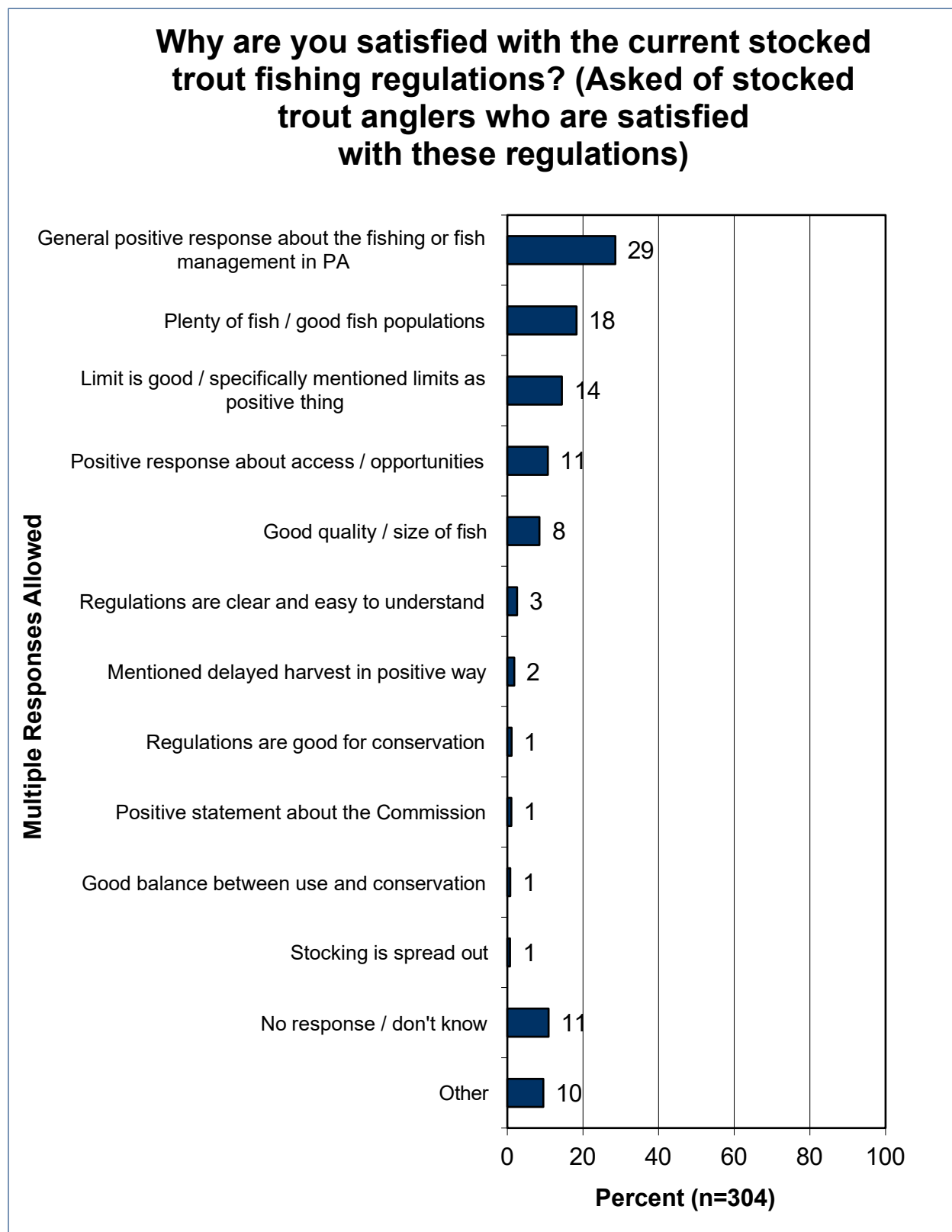
**Percent of each of the following groups who are very or somewhat satisfied with the current stocked trout fishing regulations in Pennsylvania: (Stocked trout anglers)**



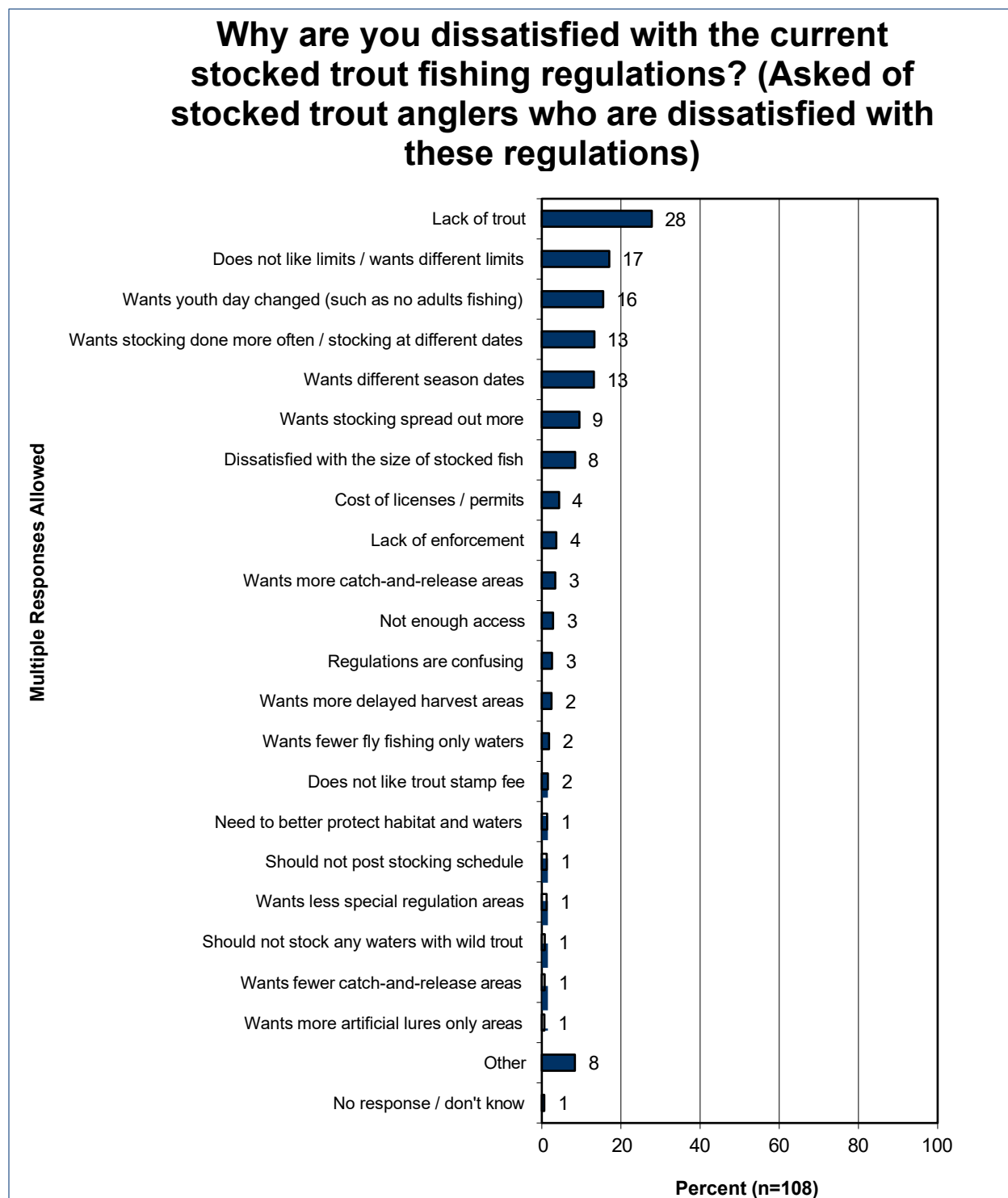
**Percent of each of the following groups who are very or somewhat dissatisfied with the current stocked trout fishing regulations in Pennsylvania: (Stocked trout anglers)**



Top reasons for being satisfied with the current stocked trout fishing regulations include that there are plenty of fish, that the limit is good and is seen as a good thing, and that access and opportunities are good.

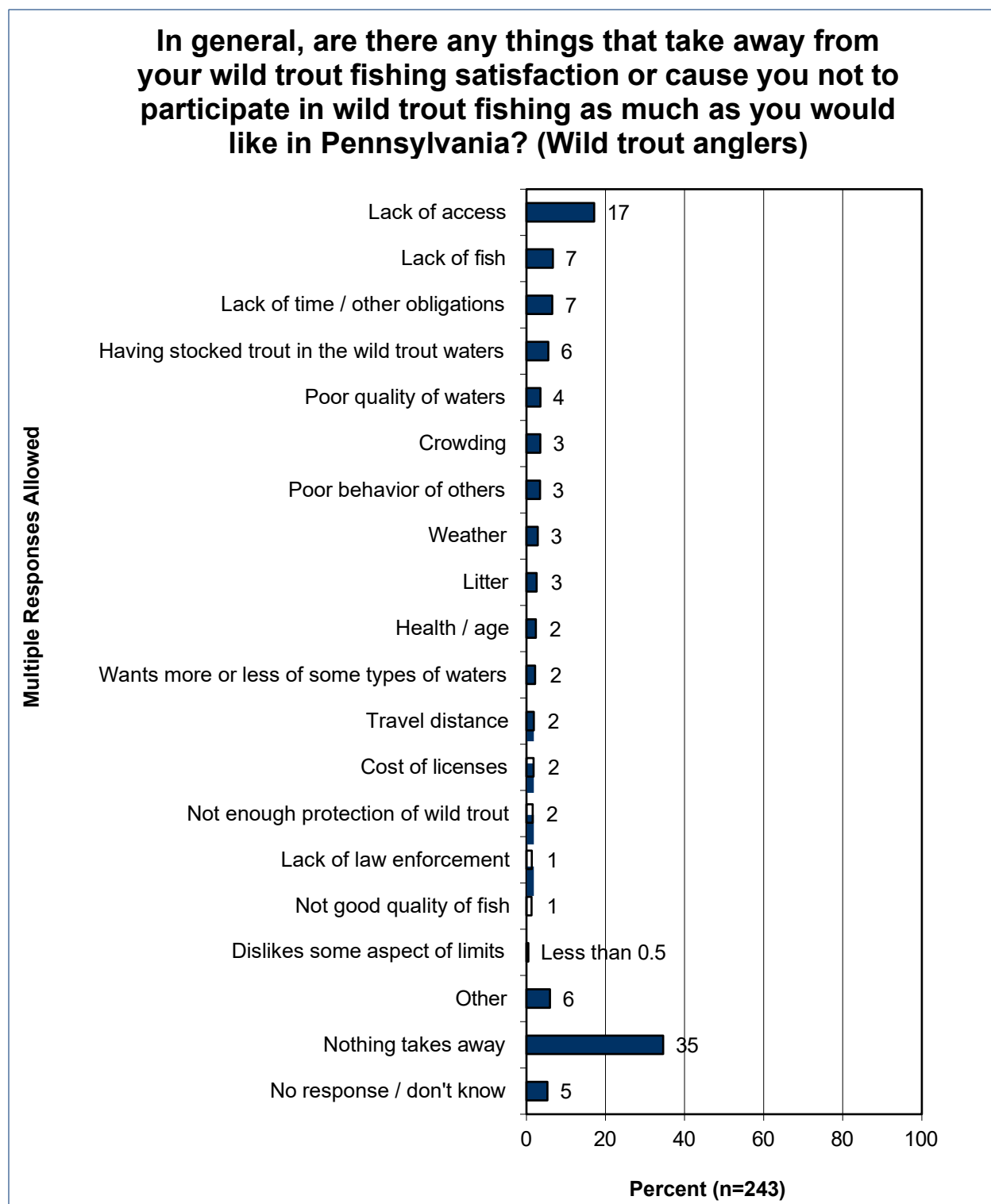


Top reasons for being dissatisfied with the current stocked trout fishing regulations are the lack of fish, a dislike of the limits, problems with the youth fishing days—almost always being that adults are harvesting more fish than the youth, the desire for more stocking being done, a dislike of the current season dates, and the perception that the stocking is not spread out enough.



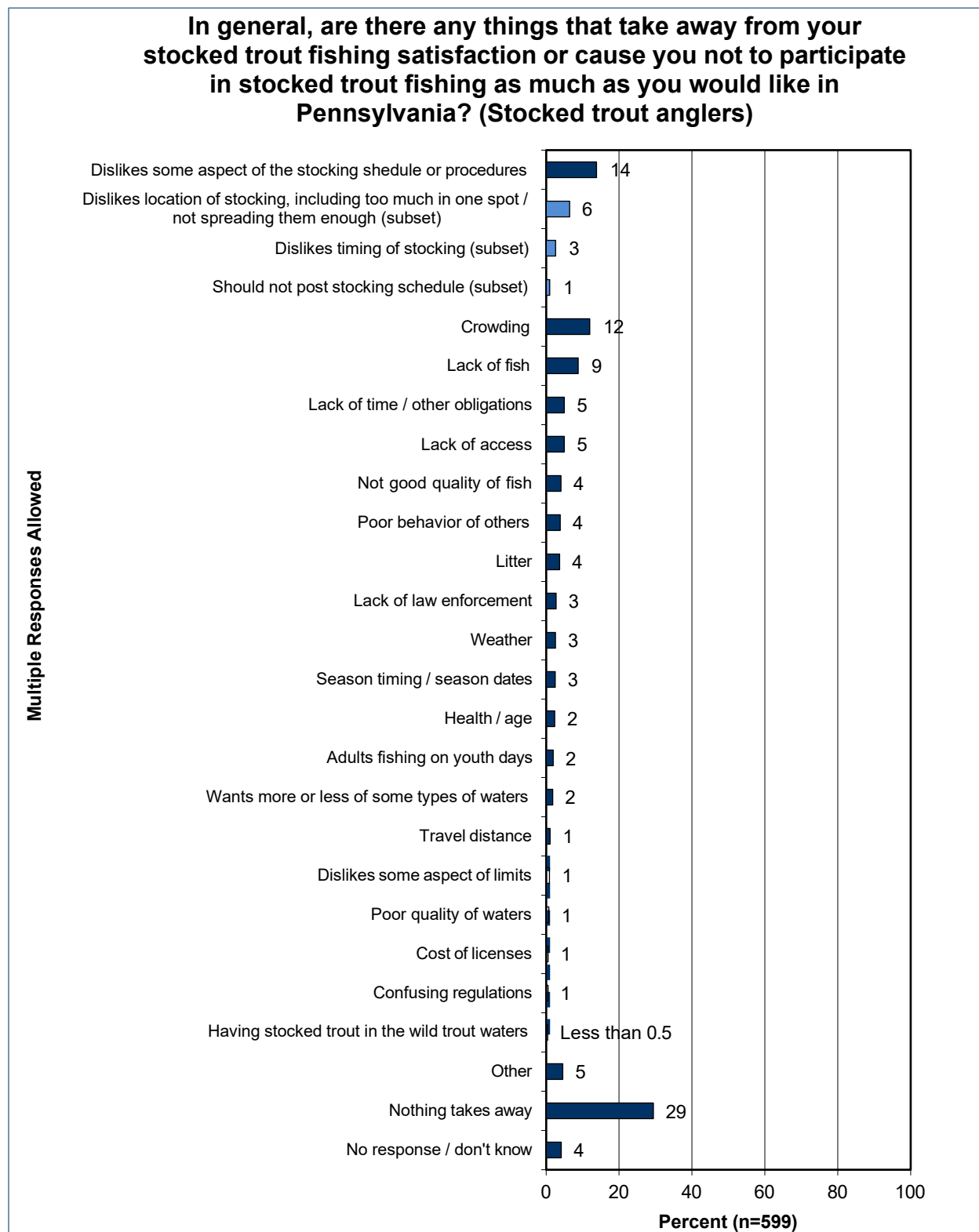
## CONSTRAINTS TO TROUT FISHING PARTICIPATION

Lack of access is the biggest constraint to/dislike of wild trout fishing. Of lesser importance, but still named by more than 5%, are a lack of fish, lack of time to fish, and having stocked trout in wild trout waters. Regional results are shown in the table that follows.



In general, are there any things that take away from your wild trout fishing satisfaction or cause you not to participate in wild trout fishing as much as you would like in Pennsylvania? (Wild trout anglers)							
	Northwest (n=23)	Northcentral (n=34)	Northeast (n=21)	Southwest (n=37)	Southcentral (n=36)	Southeast (n=49)	Non-Resident (n=43)
Lack of access	25	26	24	9	16	16	8
Lack of fish	3	13	5	14	0	6	4
Lack of time / other obligations	12	2	3	10	3	9	4
Having stocked trout in the wild trout waters	9	8	11	0	6	6	2
Poor quality of waters	4	0	4	0	11	1	5
Crowding	3	4	4	0	4	6	4
Poor behavior of others	0	0	8	0	6	6	5
Weather	0	4	4	4	4	0	6
Litter	14	0	5	0	2	0	0
Health / age	0	4	4	2	4	1	2
Wants more or less of some types of waters	5	0	0	1	2	1	7
Travel distance	5	0	0	2	0	3	2
Cost of licenses	0	7	0	0	0	3	2
Not enough protection of wild trout	6	0	0	2	2	1	0
Lack of law enforcement	0	0	0	0	3	2	5
Not good quality of fish	0	2	0	5	0	1	0
Dislikes some aspect of limits	0	2	0	0	0	0	2
Other	3	9	8	2	6	8	6
Nothing takes away	34	23	30	45	33	33	42
No response / don't know	3	2	0	13	4	5	7

Things that constrain participation or are disliked are some aspect of stocking (often that the fish are not spread out enough or are too close to a bridge or easy access to the stocking trucks), crowding, and lack of fish. Note in the analysis that a dislike of some aspect of the stocking was further broken down.

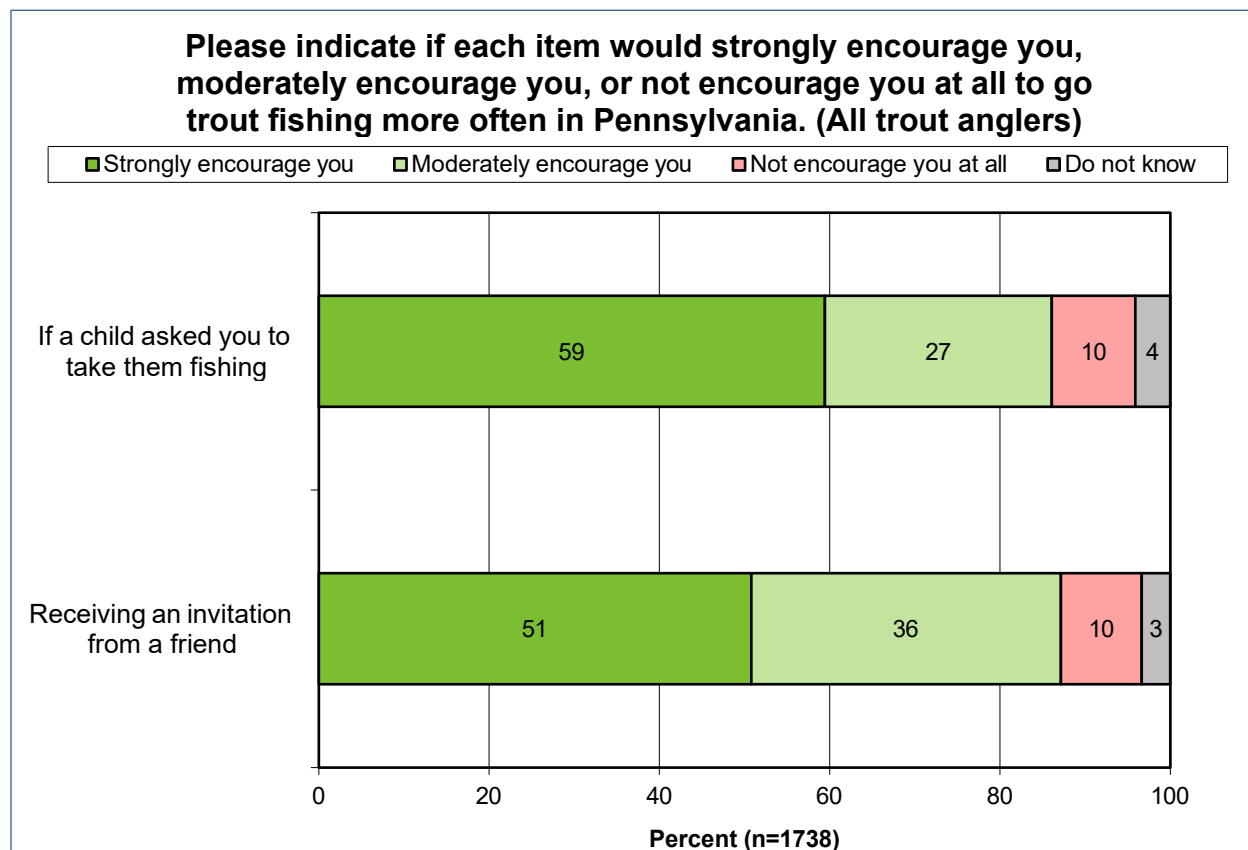




In general, are there any things that take away from your stocked trout fishing satisfaction or cause you not to participate in stocked trout fishing as much as you would like in Pennsylvania? (Stocked trout anglers)							
	Northwest (n=65)	Northcentral (n=60)	Northeast (n=59)	Southwest (n=125)	Southcentral (n=90)	Southeast (n=147)	Non-Resident (n=53)
Dislikes some aspect of the stocking schedule or procedures	15	21	14	12	19	10	8
Dislikes location of stocking, including too much in one spot / not spreading them enough (subset)	7	13	5	6	6	6	3
Dislikes timing of stocking (subset)	5	1	3	4	2	1	5
Should not post stocking schedule (subset)	0	3	1	1	2	0	0
Crowding	12	11	9	12	10	17	4
Lack of fish	14	11	8	10	8	6	7
Lack of time / other obligations	4	5	2	9	4	3	9
Lack of access	8	10	6	4	1	5	1
Not good quality of fish	4	6	6	5	2	3	4
Poor behavior of others	3	4	1	2	9	4	0
Litter	4	1	7	2	1	7	2
Lack of law enforcement	1	1	8	1	3	3	0
Weather	7	0	6	3	1	1	3
Season timing / season dates	3	6	0	4	2	2	2
Health / age	4	6	4	3	1	1	0
Adults fishing on youth days	0	1	7	0	4	1	2
Wants more or less of some types of waters	1	3	1	2	1	2	0
Travel distance	0	0	0	1	0	2	8
Dislikes some aspect of limits	1	0	2	1	2	1	0
Poor quality of waters	1	1	1	0	0	1	0
Cost of licenses	0	0	2	1	0	0	2
Confusing regulations	0	0	0	1	0	1	0
Having stocked trout in the wild trout waters	1	0	0	0	1	0	0
Other	3	1	0	7	4	8	3
Nothing takes away	30	20	30	29	31	27	50
No response / don't know	3	4	4	5	3	5	5

## ENCOURAGEMENTS TO GO FISHING

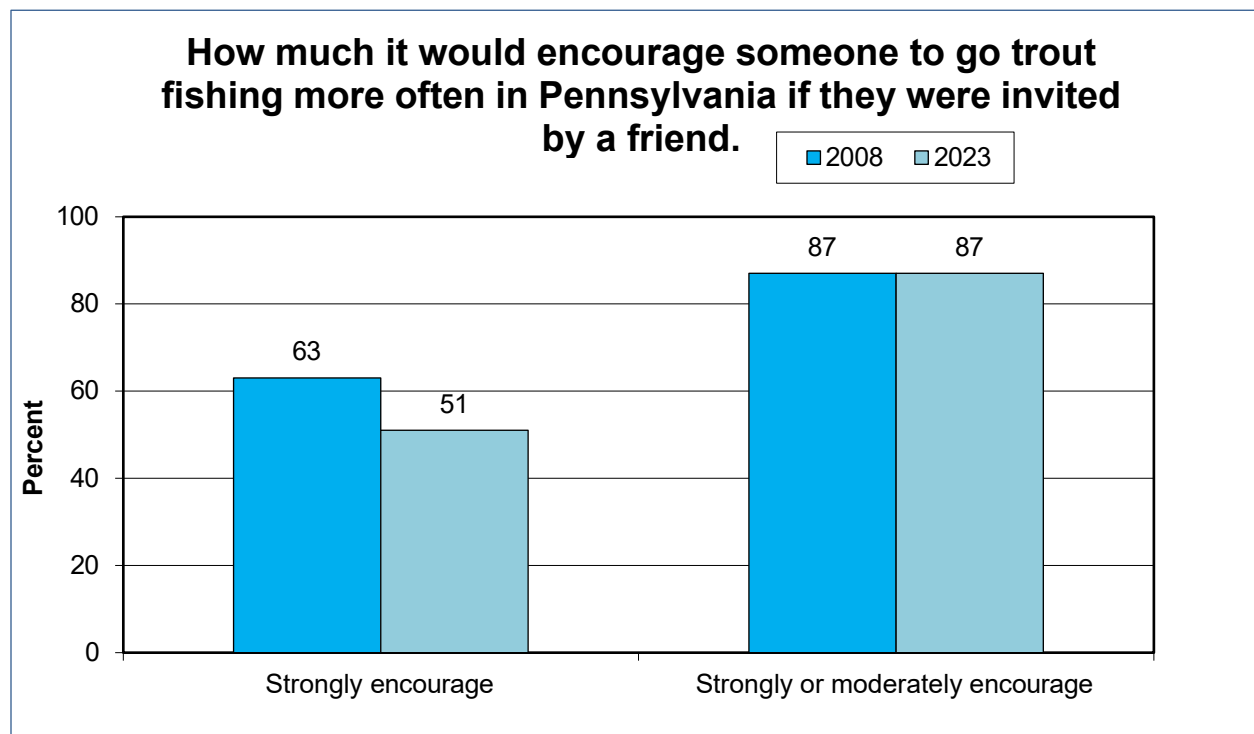
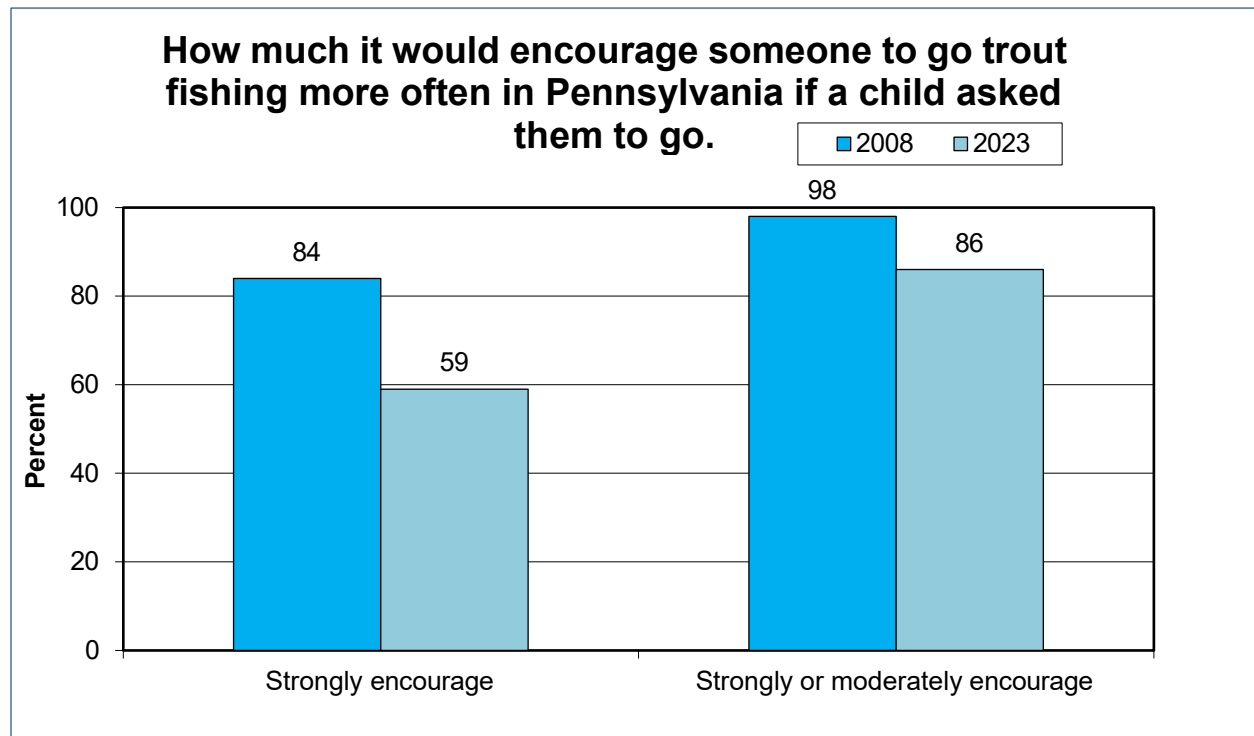
Two potential encouragements were asked about, and both have a majority of anglers who say that they would be strongly encouraged to go trout fishing more often: if a child asked to be taken fishing and receiving an invitation from a friend. Regional results are shown for each potential encouragement. The sums of *strongly* and *moderately* are 86% and 87%, respectively, for the two potential encouragements.



If a child asked you to take them fishing. (All trout anglers)							
	Northwest (n=170)	Northcentral (n=169)	Northeast (n=174)	Southwest (n=364)	Southcentral (n=264)	Southeast (n=397)	Non-Resident (n=200)
Strongly encourage you	61	63	56	58	55	62	63
Moderately encourage you	25	27	29	25	29	26	25
Not encourage you at all	10	8	9	13	10	9	7
Do not know	4	2	6	4	5	3	5

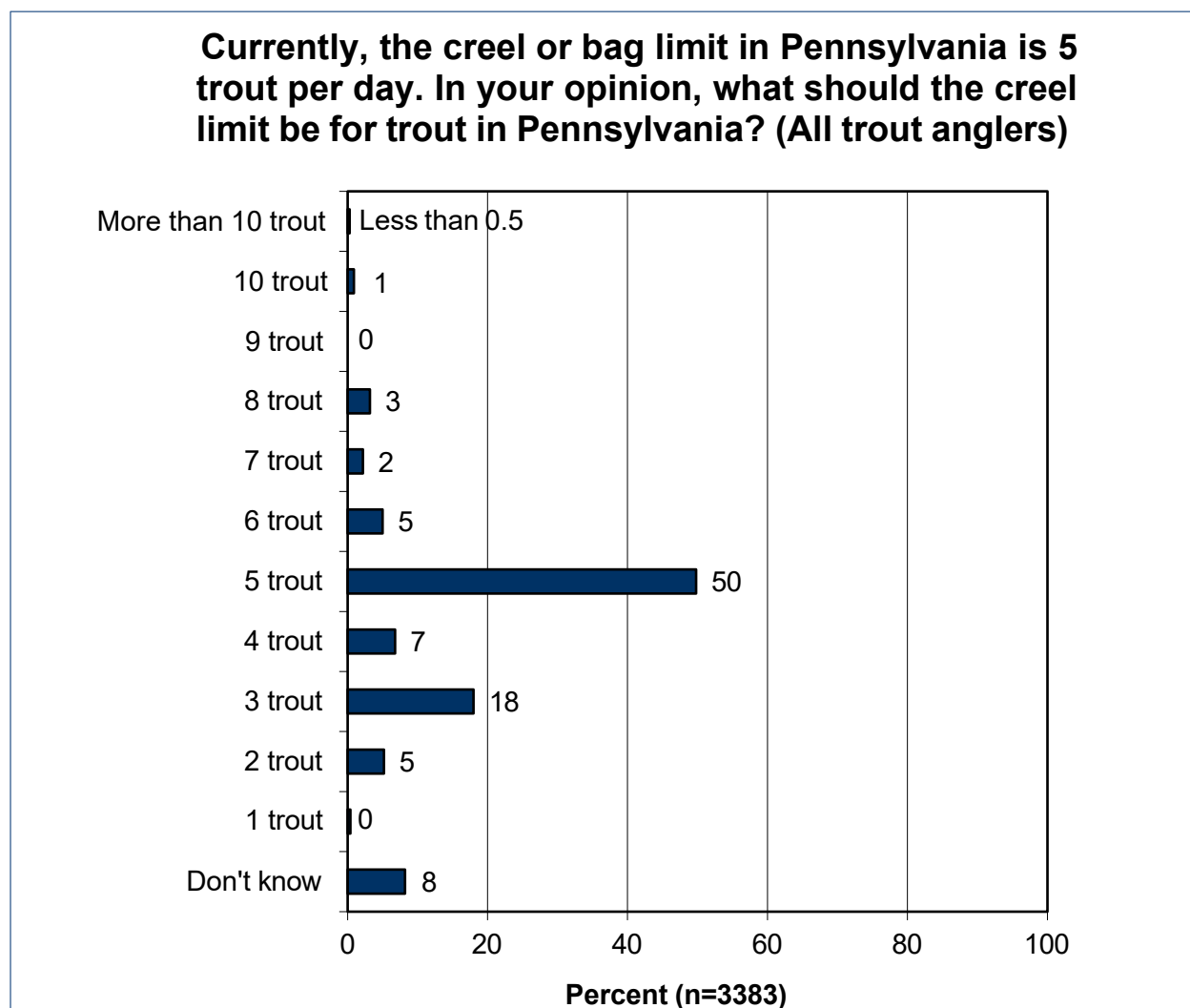
Receiving an invitation from a friend. (All trout anglers)							
	Northwest (n=170)	Northcentral (n=169)	Northeast (n=174)	Southwest (n=364)	Southcentral (n=264)	Southeast (n=397)	Non-Resident (n=200)
Strongly encourage you	49	43	48	52	48	55	54
Moderately encourage you	39	44	36	38	35	34	32
Not encourage you at all	9	11	12	8	12	8	9
Do not know	3	2	4	3	4	3	5

Trends show a drop in responses of *strongly* encourage on both potential encouragements; however, only one of them drops in overall encouragement.



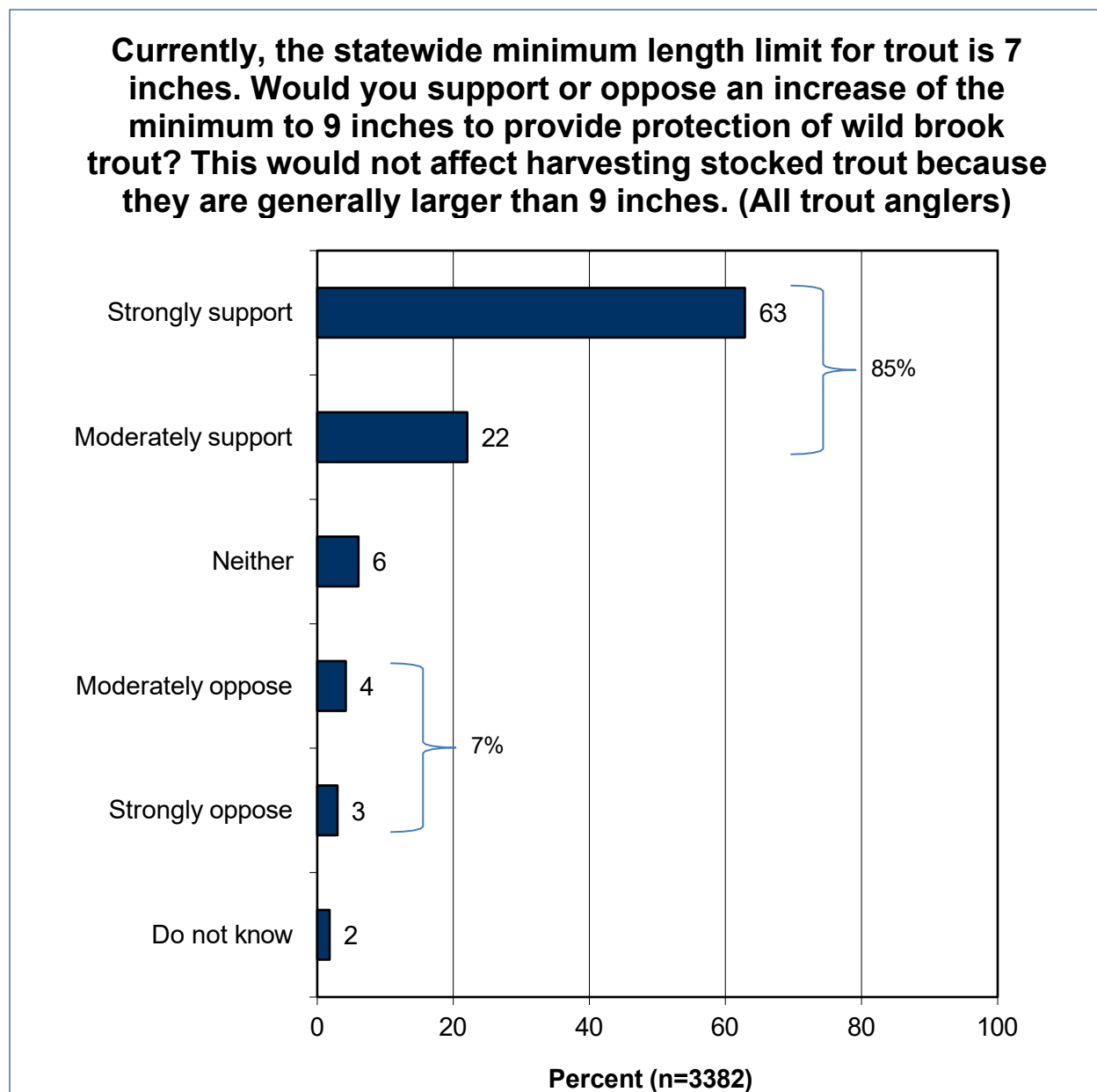
## OPINIONS ON CREEL/BAG AND SIZE LIMITS

All trout anglers were asked about the creel or bag limit in Pennsylvania, which is currently 5 trout per day. Half of them (50%) want the same creel limit of 5 fish per day. Otherwise, a much greater percentage want the limit lowered (30% do) than want it raised (12% do).



Currently, the creel or bag limit in Pennsylvania is 5 trout per day. In your opinion, what should the creel limit be for trout in Pennsylvania? (All trout anglers)							
	Northwest (n=315)	Northcentral (n=327)	Northeast (n=347)	Southwest (n=700)	Southcentral (n=519)	Southeast (n=788)	Non-Resident (n=387)
More than 10 trout	0	0	0	0	0	0	0
10 trout	0	2	1	0	1	1	1
9 trout	0	0	0	0	0	0	0
8 trout	2	7	6	3	2	1	2
7 trout	3	2	3	2	3	2	0
6 trout	8	2	6	7	3	4	6
5 trout	48	53	51	51	55	48	39
4 trout	6	4	5	6	6	10	6
3 trout	19	15	16	19	17	19	21
2 trout	6	5	4	4	5	6	9
1 trout	0	0	1	0	0	0	2
Don't know	7	8	9	7	9	8	14

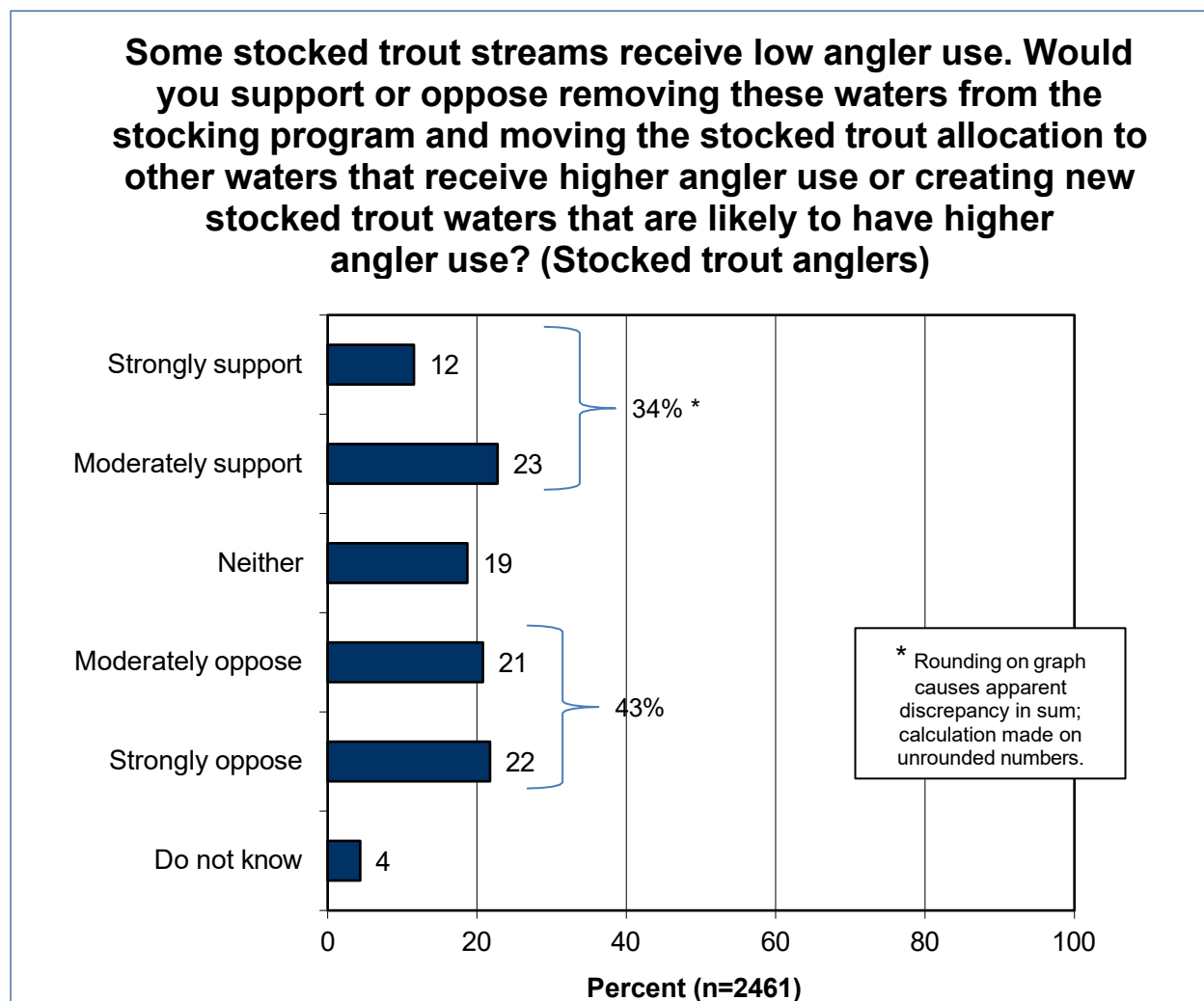
The large majority of trout anglers (85%) would support increasing the minimum size limit to 9 inches to better protect wild brook trout, including 63% who would *strongly* support. Only 7% would oppose.



Currently, the statewide minimum length limit for trout is 7 inches. Would you support or oppose an increase of the minimum to 9 inches to provide protection of wild brook trout? This would not affect harvesting stocked trout because they are generally larger than 9 inches? (All trout anglers)							
	Northwest (n=315)	Northcentral (n=327)	Northeast (n=347)	Southwest (n=700)	Southcentral (n=518)	Southeast (n=788)	Non-Resident (n=387)
Strongly support	59	58	64	63	59	67	66
Moderately support	27	24	19	22	23	21	19
Neither	8	7	6	6	6	5	7
Moderately oppose	2	2	7	4	6	3	5
Strongly oppose	2	7	3	3	3	2	2
Do not know	2	2	1	2	2	2	1

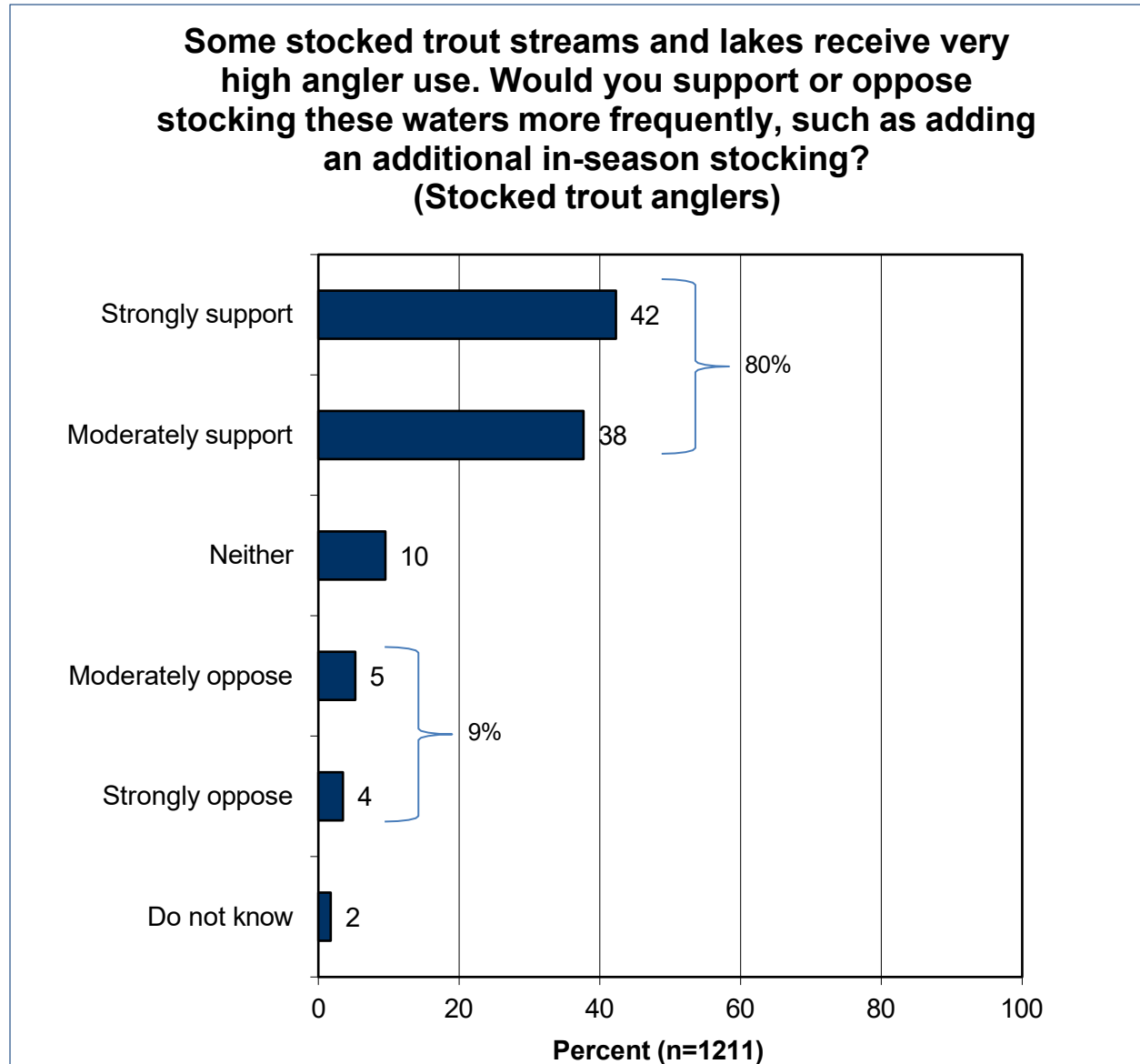
## OPINIONS ON STOCKING REGULATIONS

Among stocked trout anglers, there is more opposition to (43%) than support for (34%) removing some waters from the stocking program that receive low angler use and moving the stocked trout allocation to other waters that receive higher angler use or creating new stocked trout waters that are likely to have higher angler use. Support is markedly lower among anglers from the Northwest Region and among out-of-state anglers. Opposition is not markedly different among the groups, ranging from 41% to 46% across all regions.



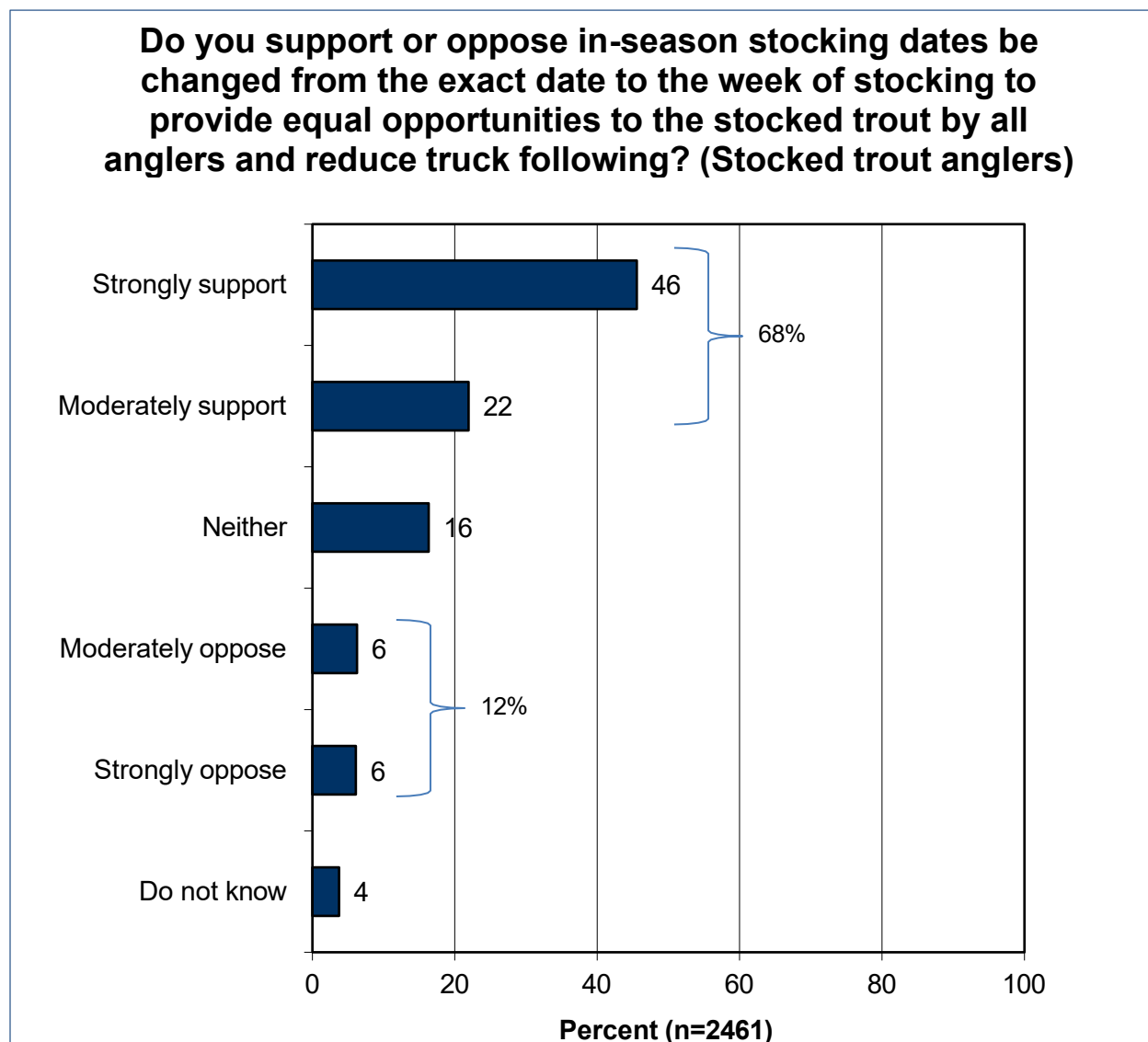
Some stocked trout streams receive low angler use. Would you support or oppose removing these waters from the stocking program and moving the stocked trout allocation to other waters that receive higher angler use or creating new stocked trout waters that are likely to have higher angler use? (Stocked trout anglers)							
	Northwest (n=240)	Northcentral (n=222)	Northeast (n=241)	Southwest (n=531)	Southcentral (n=379)	Southeast (n=596)	Non-Resident (n=252)
Strongly support	7	16	13	10	12	13	9
Moderately support	22	19	26	23	24	23	23
Neither	21	18	16	19	20	18	20
Moderately oppose	28	21	16	21	22	19	22
Strongly oppose	18	21	26	23	20	22	22
Do not know	4	5	4	4	4	5	5

An overwhelming majority of stocked trout anglers (80%) would support more frequent stocking in trout streams and lakes that receive very high angler use, while only 9% would oppose. The highest support is among anglers from the Northcentral and Southcentral Regions, as well as among non-resident anglers.



Some stocked trout streams and lakes receive very high angler use. Would you support or oppose stocking these waters more frequently, such as adding an additional in-season stocking? (Stocked trout anglers)							
	Northwest (n=113)	Northcentral (n=113)	Northeast (n=125)	Southwest (n=259)	Southcentral (n=184)	Southeast (n=304)	Non-Resident (n=113)
Strongly support	36	56	44	40	43	42	35
Moderately support	40	29	33	38	40	39	46
Neither	15	9	10	9	9	9	9
Moderately oppose	6	3	7	6	2	6	5
Strongly oppose	1	3	4	4	6	3	2
Do not know	2	1	2	3	0	2	2

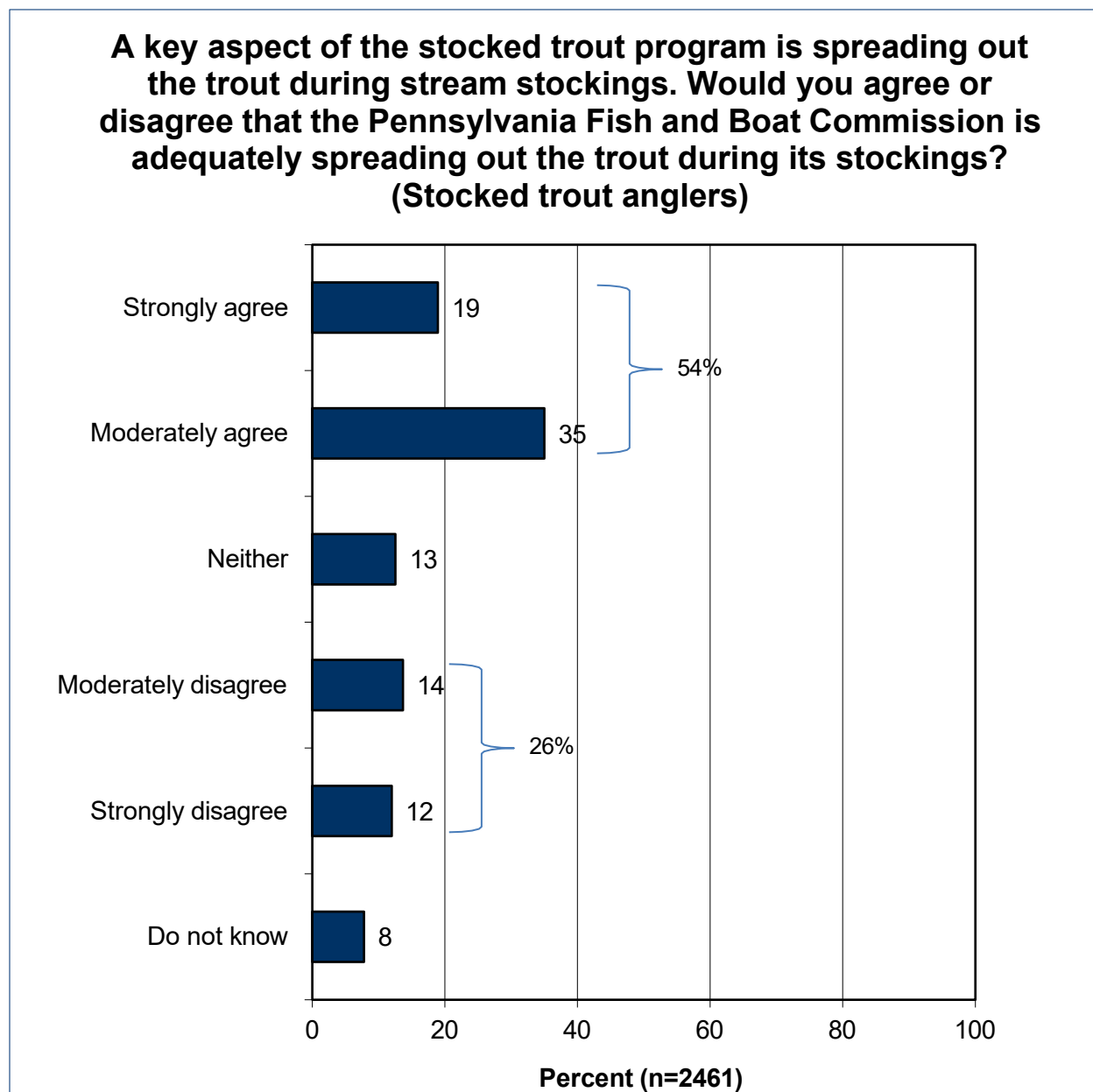
The large majority of stocked trout anglers (68%) want the stocking done without the dates being exactly posted, with the schedule saying only the week of the stocking but not the exact day. On the other hand, 12% would oppose this change. The change would, it is presumed, reduce the following of the stocking trucks and the immediate depletion of the stocked trout by those anglers who follow the truck. Regional results are shown.



Do you support or oppose in-season stocking dates be changed from the exact date to the week of stocking to provide equal opportunities to the stocked trout by all anglers and reduce truck following? (Stocked trout anglers)							
	Northwest (n=240)	Northcentral (n=222)	Northeast (n=241)	Southwest (n=531)	Southcentral (n=379)	Southeast (n=596)	Non-Resident (n=252)
Strongly support	38	49	39	46	48	48	46
Moderately support	25	20	25	20	24	22	18
Neither	19	15	22	17	12	16	16
Moderately oppose	7	6	4	5	8	6	7
Strongly oppose	8	7	6	7	5	4	8
Do not know	2	2	4	4	4	5	5

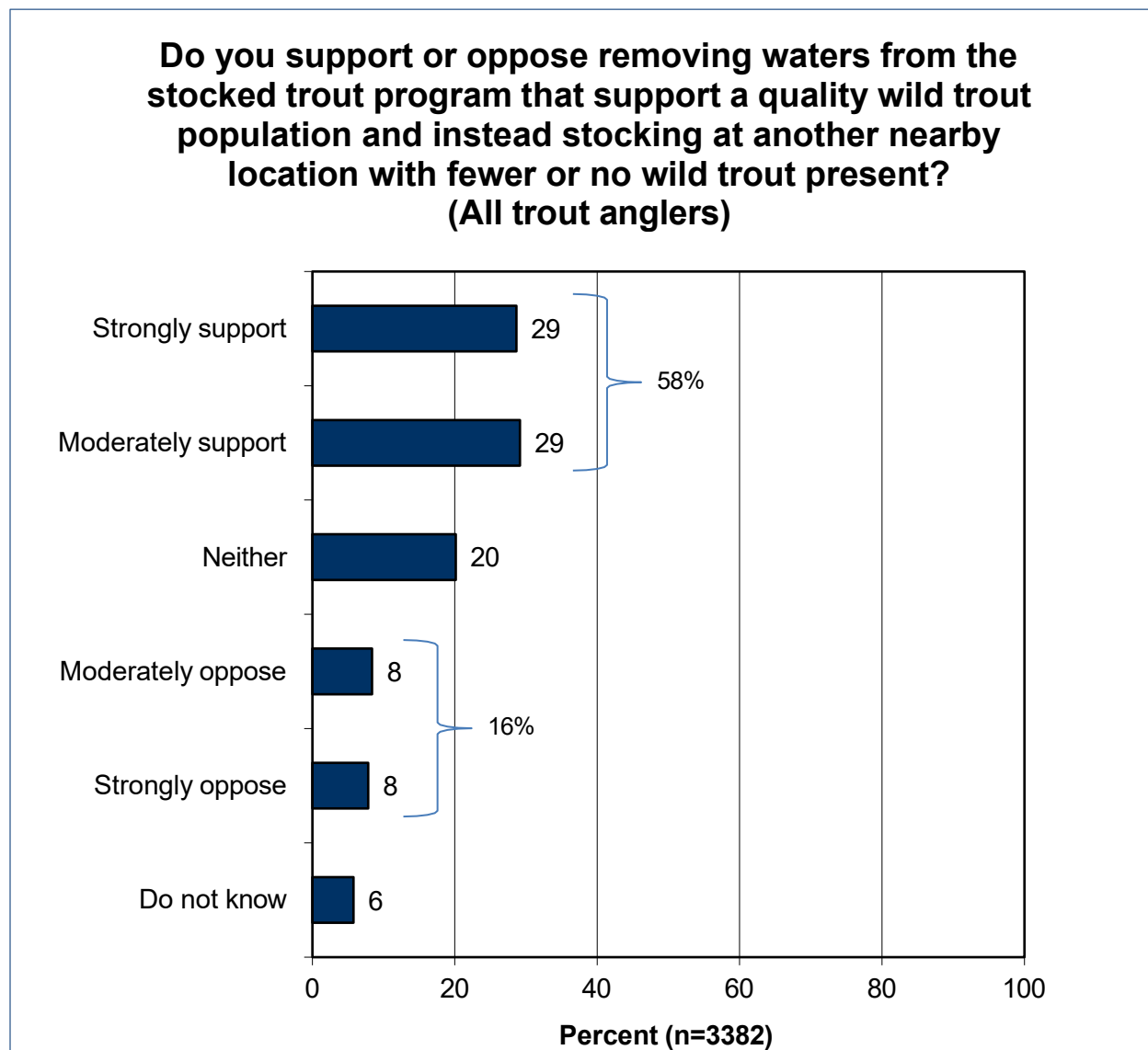


A majority of stocked trout anglers (54%) agree that the PFBC is properly spreading out the trout when doing the stocking. However, about a quarter (26%) disagree. Agreement is highest in the Northeast Region; disagreement is highest in the Northcentral Region.



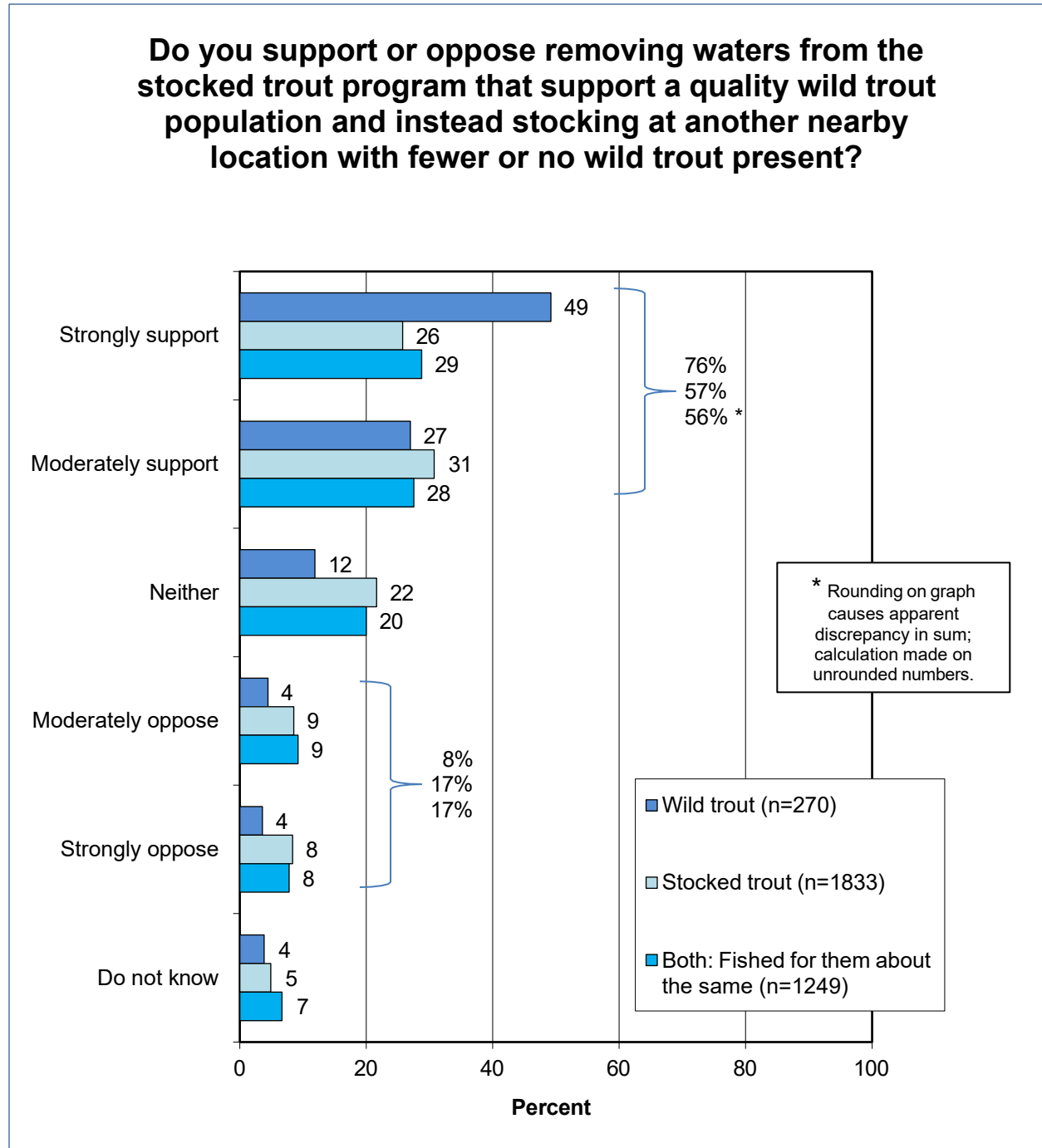
A key aspect of the stocked trout program is spreading out the trout during stream stockings. Would you agree or disagree that the Pennsylvania Fish and Boat Commission is adequately spreading out the trout during its stockings? (Stocked trout anglers)							
	Northwest (n=240)	Northcentral (n=222)	Northeast (n=241)	Southwest (n=531)	Southcentral (n=379)	Southeast (n=596)	Non-Resident (n=252)
Strongly agree	17	19	20	18	22	18	21
Moderately agree	38	28	40	37	34	33	35
Neither	11	13	11	11	13	14	14
Moderately disagree	18	19	12	13	12	13	10
Strongly disagree	10	19	9	12	12	13	8
Do not know	7	2	7	9	7	9	13

Finally in this section is a question that examines the stocking of trout in waters that have a wild trout population. The large majority of all anglers (58%) would support removing stocked waters with wild trout and stocking at a nearby location without wild trout. On the other hand, 16% would oppose. Anglers from the Northwest Region have markedly lower support (but not the highest opposition because of having a high percentage in the neutral response). The most opposition is among anglers from the Northcentral Region.



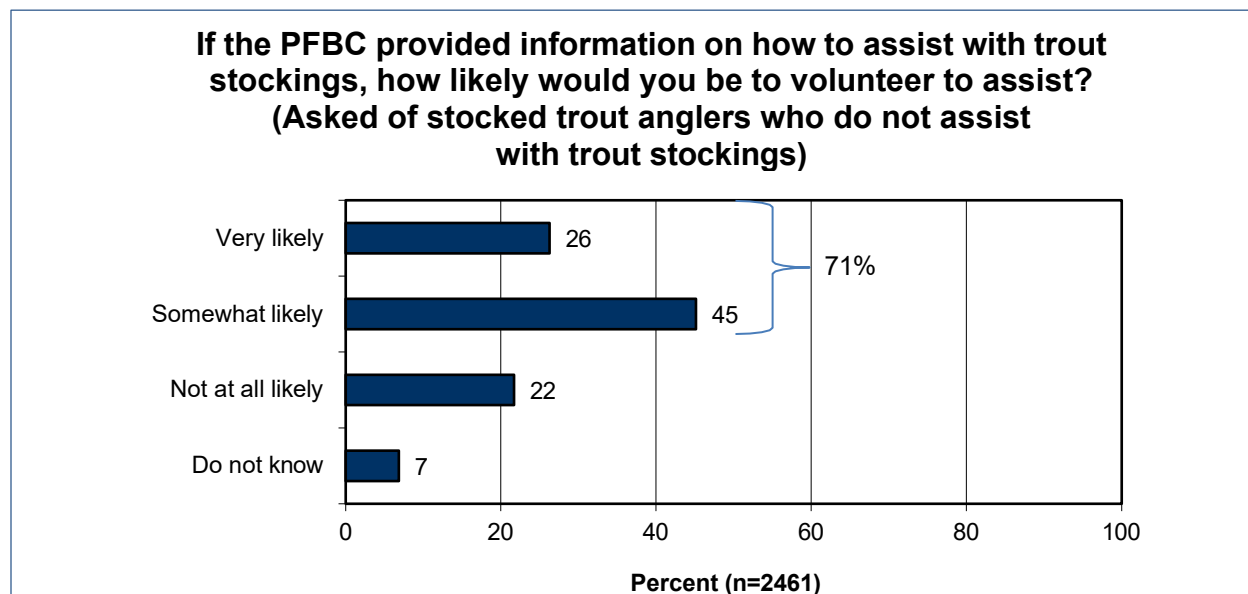
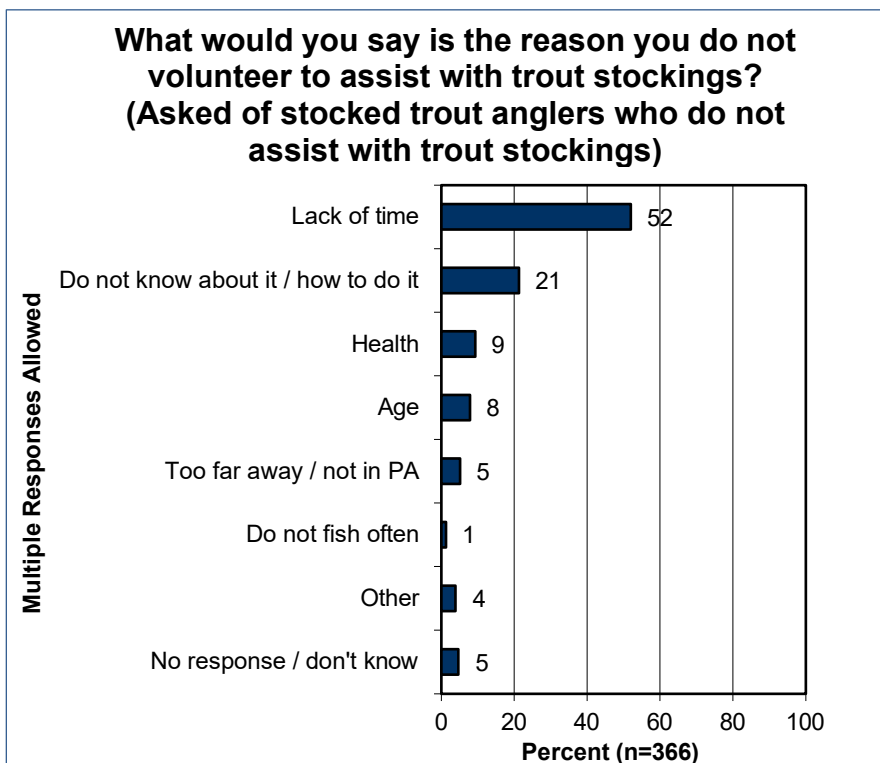
Do you support or oppose removing waters from the stocked trout program that support a quality wild trout population and instead stocking at another nearby location with fewer or no wild trout present? (All trout anglers)							
	Northwest (n=315)	Northcentral (n=327)	Northeast (n=347)	Southwest (n=700)	Southcentral (n=518)	Southeast (n=788)	Non-Resident (n=387)
Strongly support	23	25	32	27	31	31	30
Moderately support	29	30	28	29	30	29	30
Neither	30	17	20	21	16	20	20
Moderately oppose	10	12	8	9	11	5	6
Strongly oppose	5	11	8	9	6	8	9
Do not know	4	5	5	5	7	7	5

There is a preference component to the results: those who fish mostly for wild trout are much more supportive of this (76% support, compared to 57% of mostly stocked trout anglers and 56% of those who fish wild and stocked about equally). Opposition is 8% among the mostly wild anglers, compared to 17% for both the mostly stocked anglers and those doing them equally.



## VOLUNTEERING TO ASSIST STOCKING

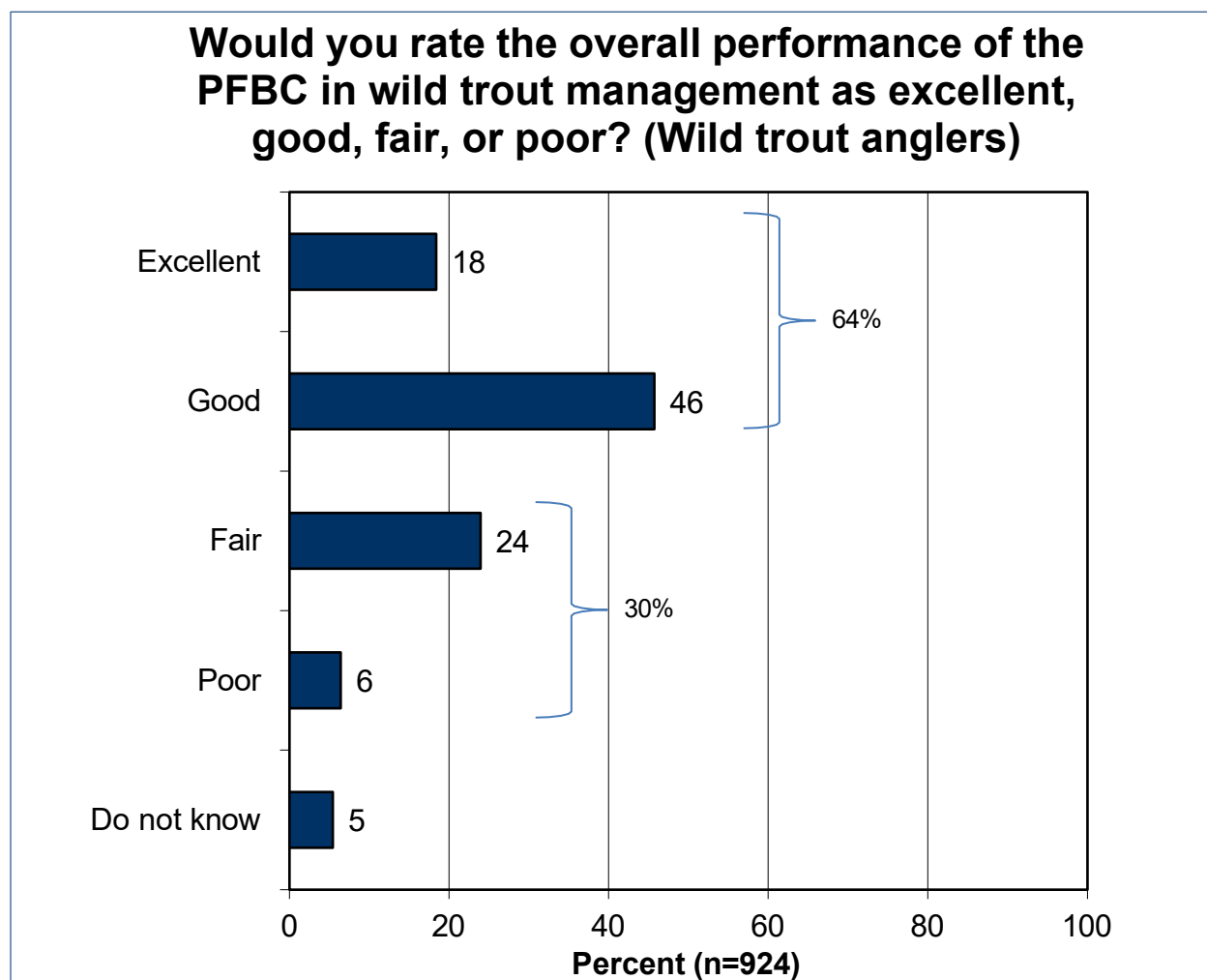
Among those who do not volunteer to assist with stockings, lack of time and lack of knowledge are the reasons most commonly given for *not* assisting with the stocking of trout. However, the majority of stocked trout anglers who do not currently assist with stocking (71% of these anglers) say that they would likely help with stocking if there were more information about it.



If the PFBC provided information on how to assist with trout stockings, how likely would you be to volunteer to assist? (Asked of stocked trout anglers who do not assist with trout stockings)							
	Northwest (n=240)	Northcentral (n=222)	Northeast (n=241)	Southwest (n=531)	Southcentral (n=379)	Southeast (n=596)	Non-Resident (n=252)
Very likely	26	33	30	25	25	25	22
Somewhat likely	50	45	39	42	46	50	39
Not at all likely	20	13	26	24	20	20	31
Do not know	5	8	5	8	8	6	7

## RATINGS OF THE FISH AND BOAT COMMISSION AND THE IMPORTANCE OF COMMISSION PROGRAMS

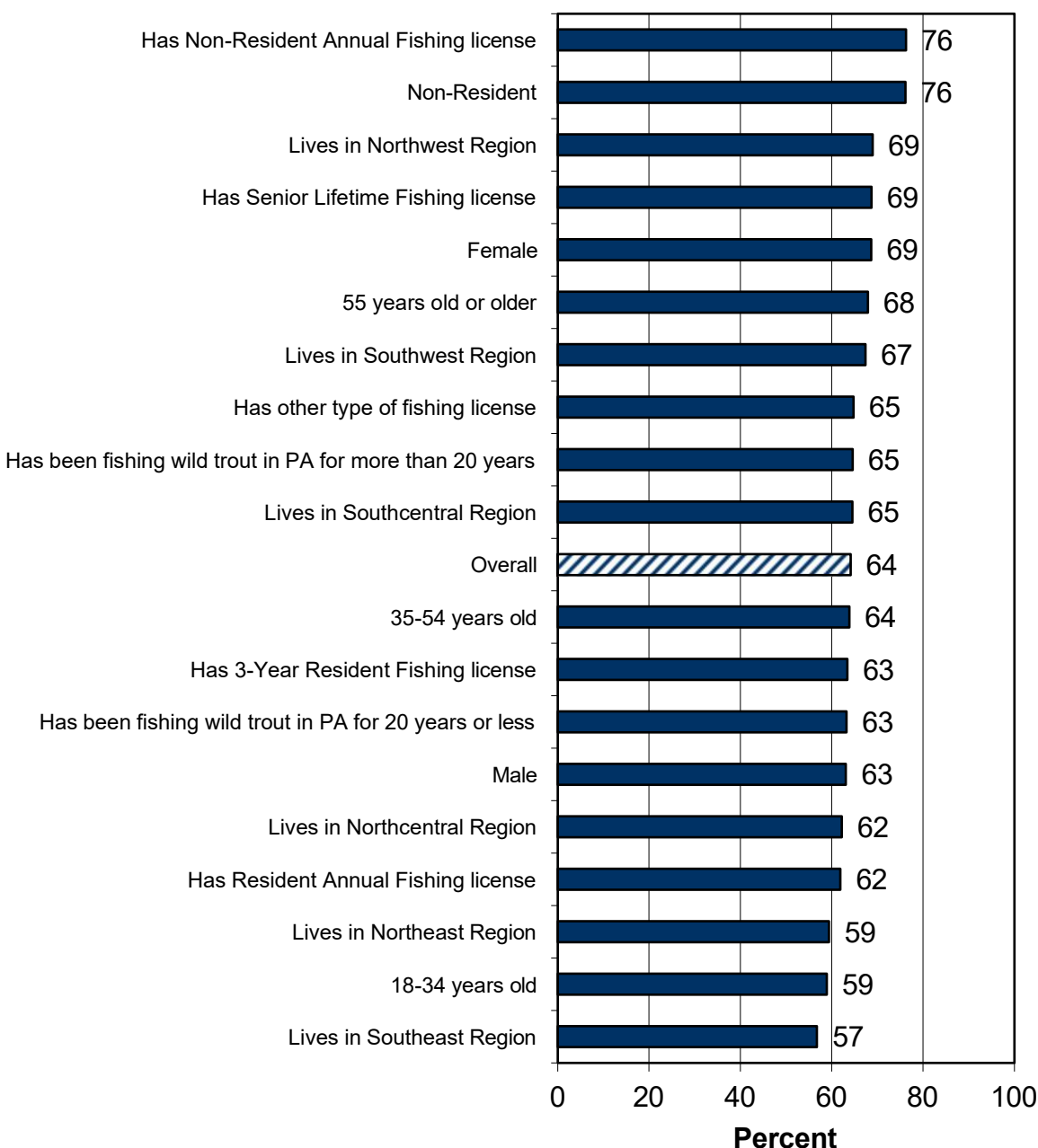
Ratings of the performance of the PFBC in wild trout management are more in the top half of the scale (excellent and good) than in the bottom half (64% to 30%). In particular, ratings of *excellent* are three times as high as ratings of *poor*. The best ratings are among non-resident anglers, followed by anglers from the Northwest Region.



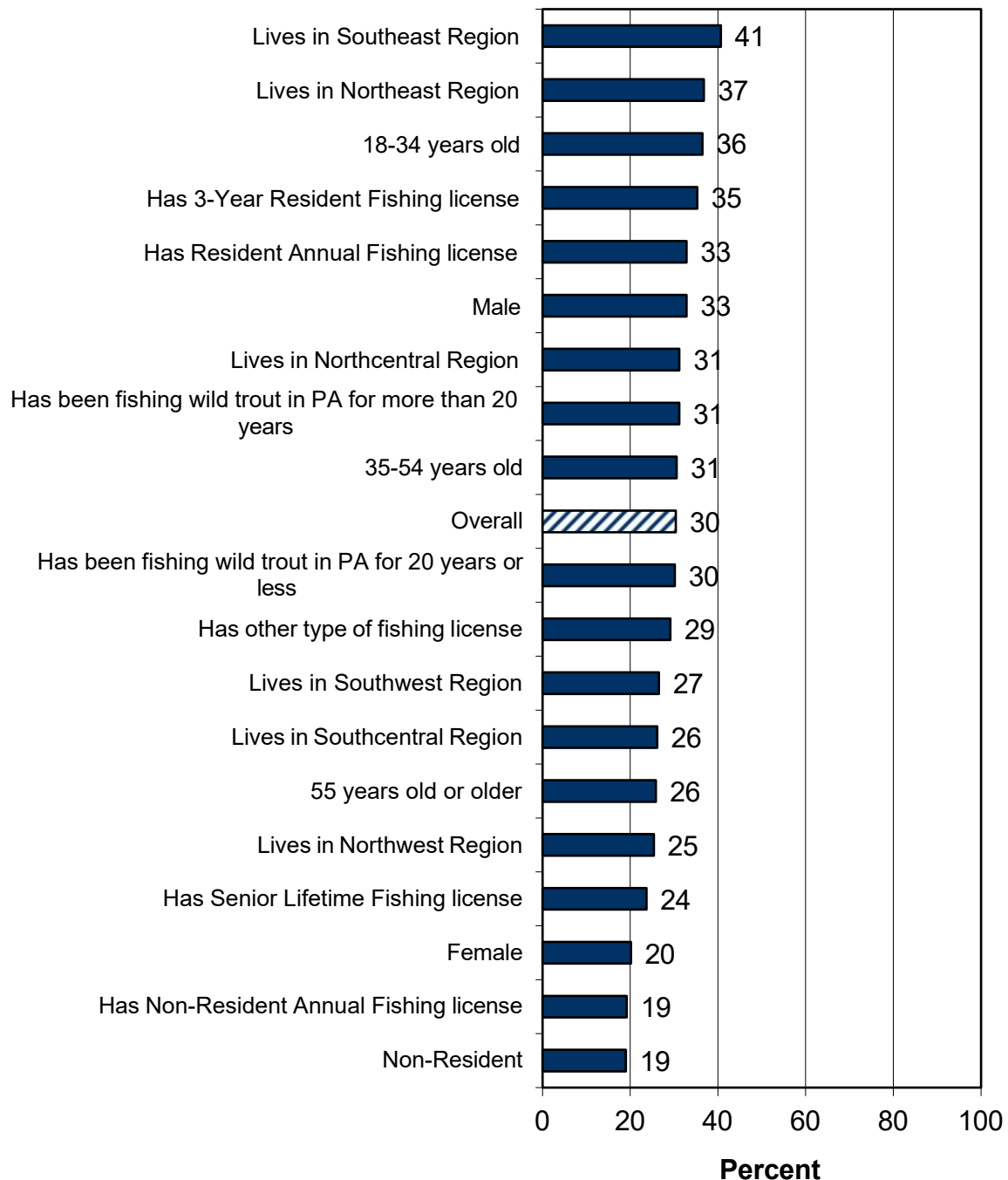
Would you rate the overall performance of the PFBC in wild trout management as excellent, good, fair, or poor? (Wild trout anglers)							
	Northwest (n=76)	Northcentral (n=107)	Northeast (n=106)	Southwest (n=169)	Southcentral (n=139)	Southeast (n=192)	Non-Resident (n=135)
Excellent	22	14	19	19	22	12	26
Good	47	49	41	49	42	45	50
Fair	23	24	27	20	22	32	15
Poor	2	8	10	6	5	9	4
Do not know	6	7	4	6	9	3	5

The demographic analyses found that the highest ratings were given by holders of a Non-Resident Annual Fishing license (and non-residents in general), anglers from the Northwest Region, holders of a Senior Lifetime Fishing license, and female anglers. Meanwhile, the worst ratings (as shown on the next page) are among anglers from the Southeast or Northeast Regions and young anglers.

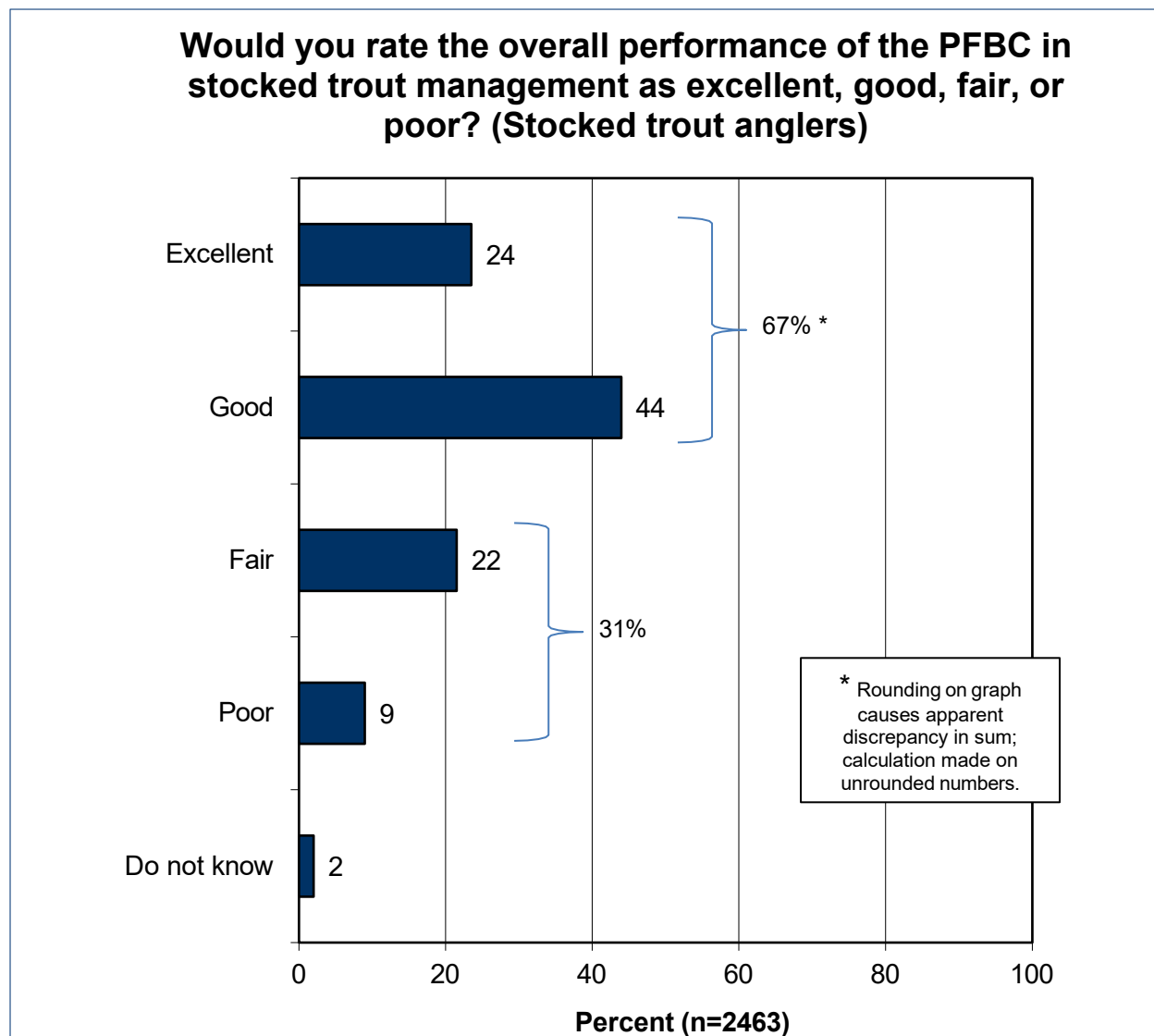
**Percent of each of the following groups who rate the overall performance of the PFBC in wild trout management as excellent or good:  
(Wild trout anglers)**



**Percent of each of the following groups who  
rate the overall performance of the PFBC in wild  
trout management as fair or poor:  
(Wild trout anglers)**



Ratings of stocked trout management are similar to ratings of wild trout management: 67% rate stocked trout management as *excellent* or *good*, while 31% rate it *fair* or *poor*. The highest ratings of stocked trout management are among non-resident anglers and anglers from the Northeast Region.

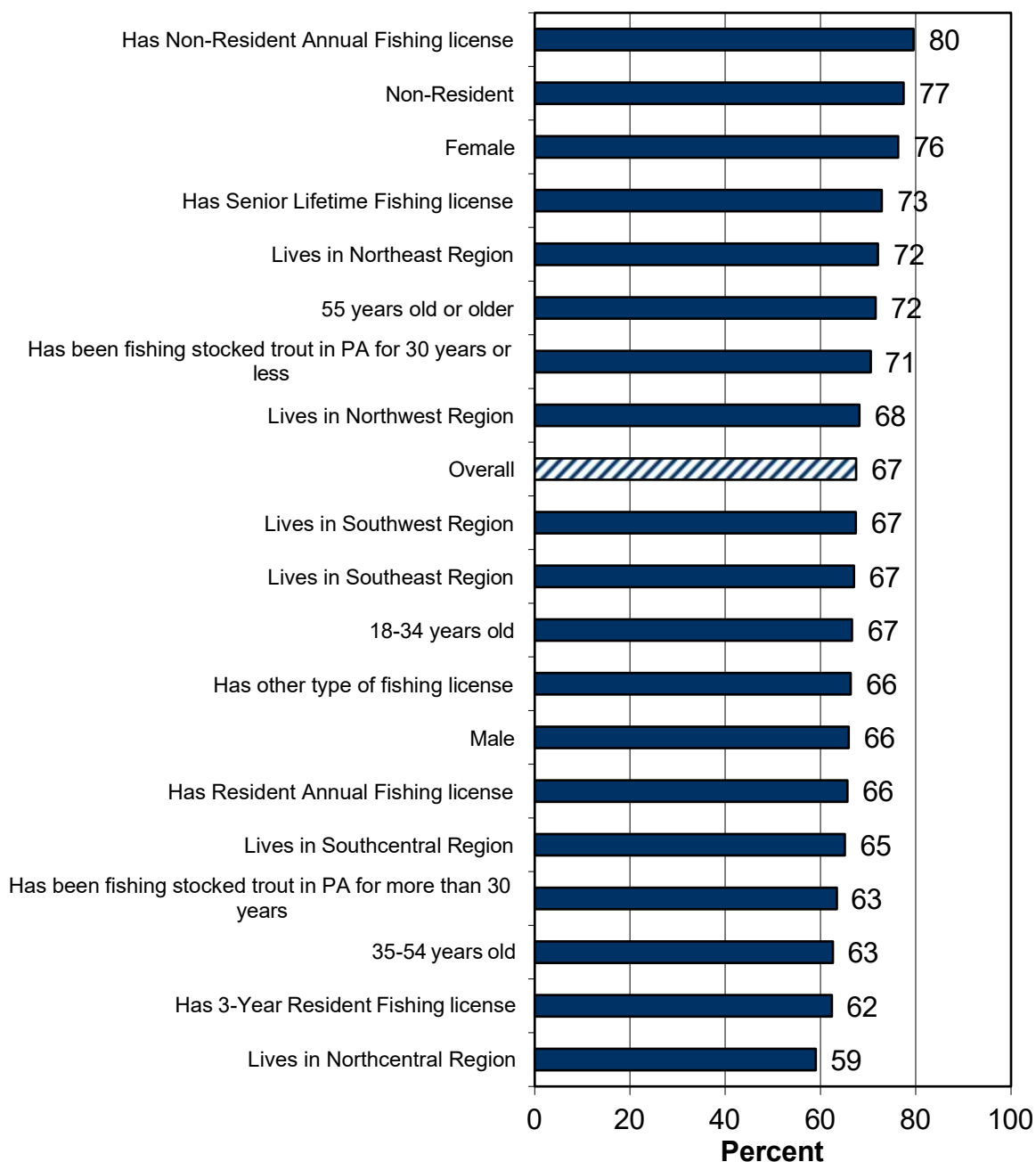


Would you rate the overall performance of the PFBC in stocked trout management as excellent, good, fair, or poor? (Stocked trout anglers)							
	Northwest (n=240)	Northcentral (n=222)	Northeast (n=241)	Southwest (n=533)	Southcentral (n=379)	Southeast (n=596)	Non-Resident (n=252)
Excellent	22	19	33	20	23	21	36
Good	46	40	39	47	42	46	41
Fair	24	27	19	21	22	21	13
Poor	5	14	9	9	11	8	7
Do not know	2	0	0	2	2	4	2

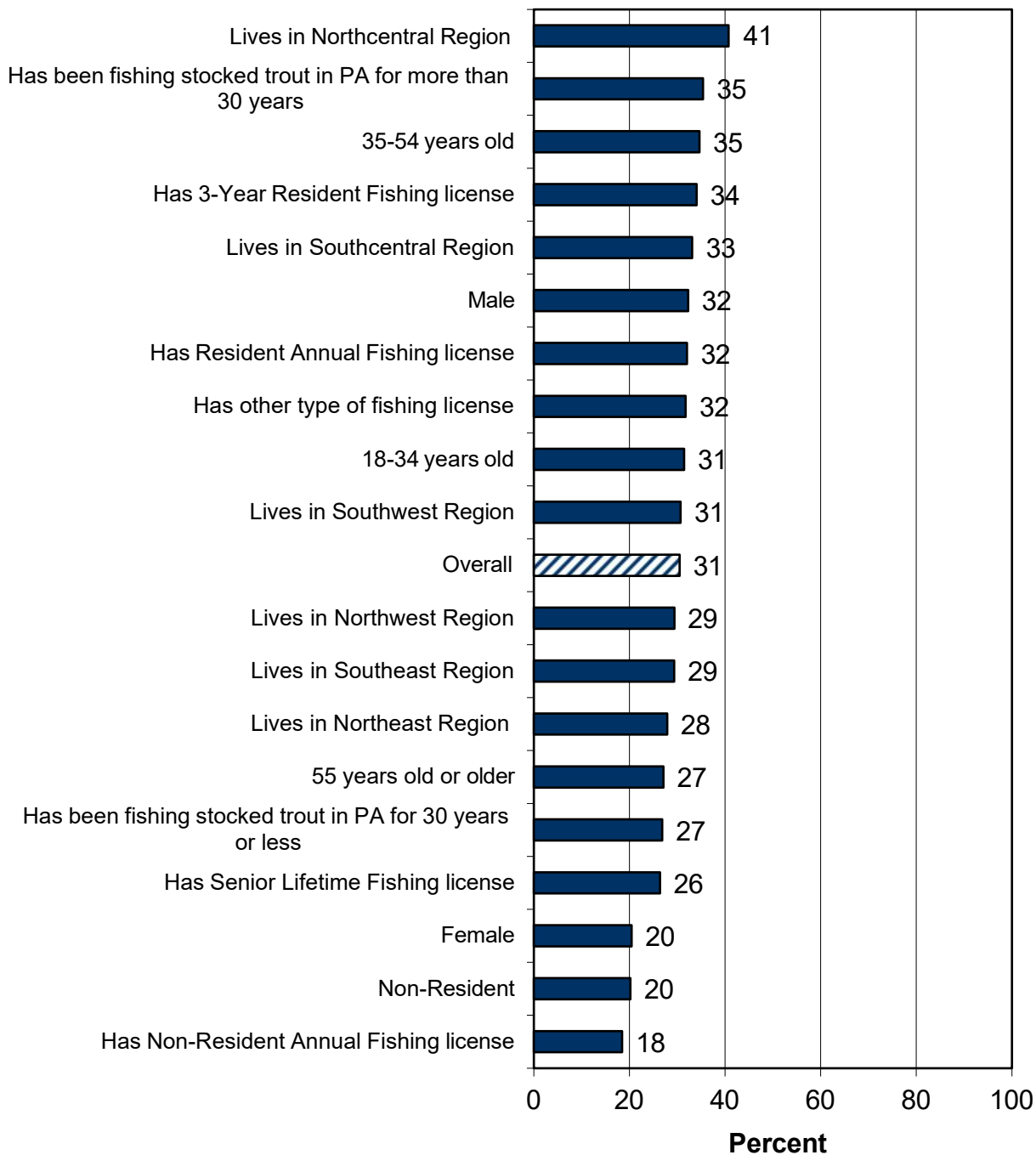


Stocked angler groups most likely to give a positive rating are holders of a Non-Resident Annual Fishing license (and non-residents in general), female anglers, and holders of a Senior Lifetime Fishing license. The worst ratings (as shown on the following page) are given by anglers from the Northcentral Region.

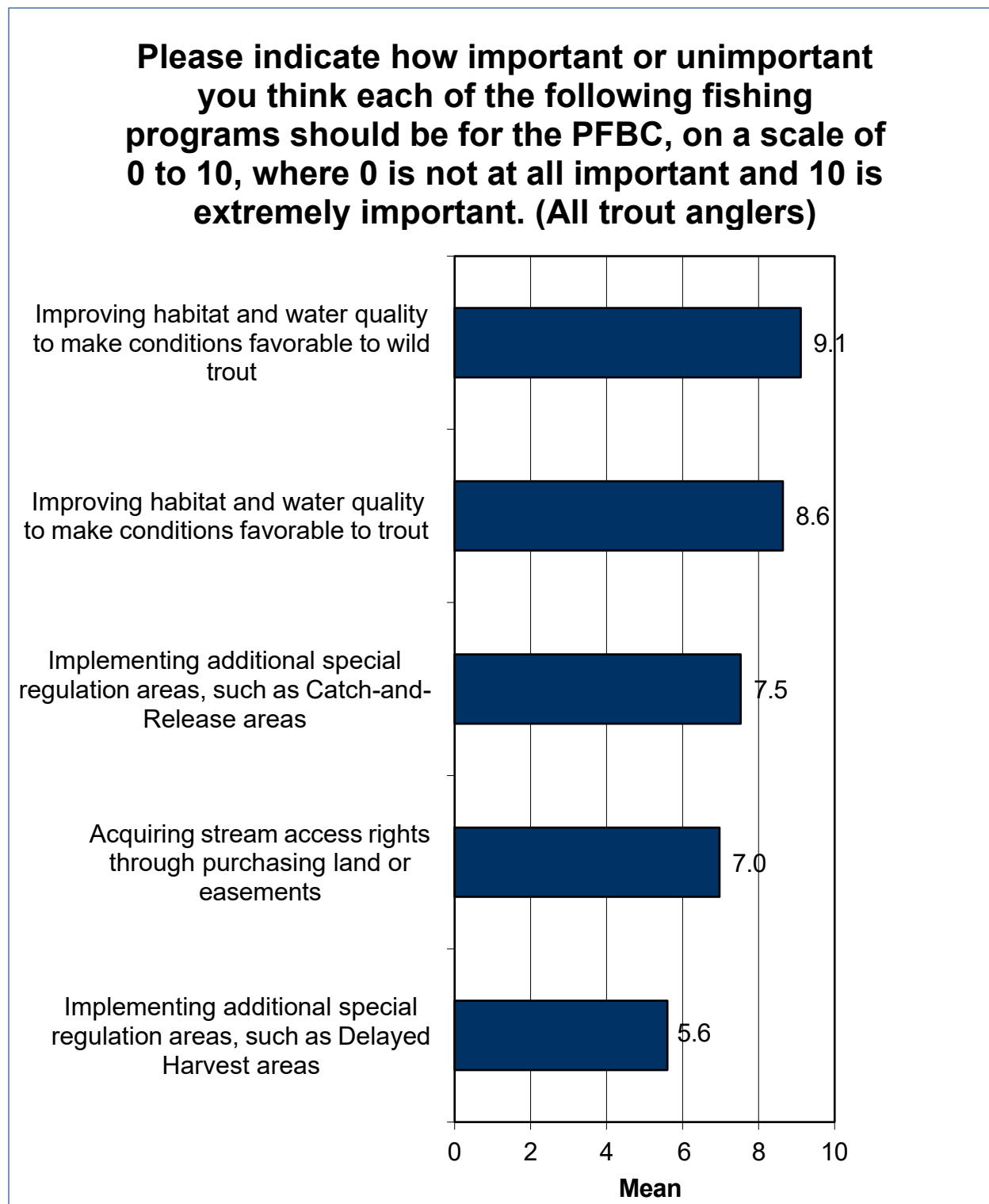
**Percent of each of the following groups who rate the overall performance of the PFBC in stocked trout management as excellent or good: (Stocked trout anglers)**



**Percent of each of the following groups who rate the overall performance of the PFBC in stocked trout management as fair or poor:  
(Stocked trout anglers)**

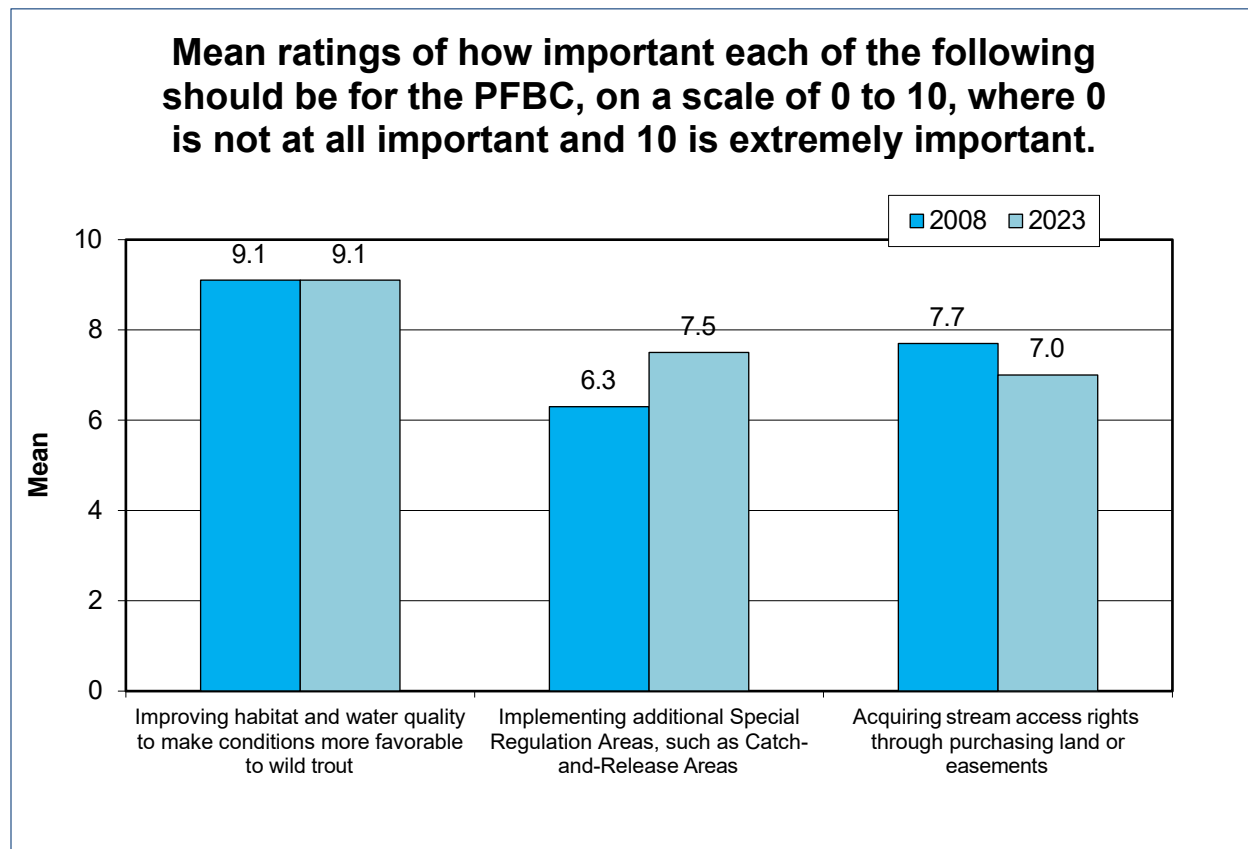


Trout anglers rated the importance of five PFBC efforts, with two emerging as the highest rated: improving habitat and water quality to make conditions favorable to wild trout and improving habitat and water quality to make conditions favorable to trout (this latter referring to trout in general). Regional results are included on the following page.



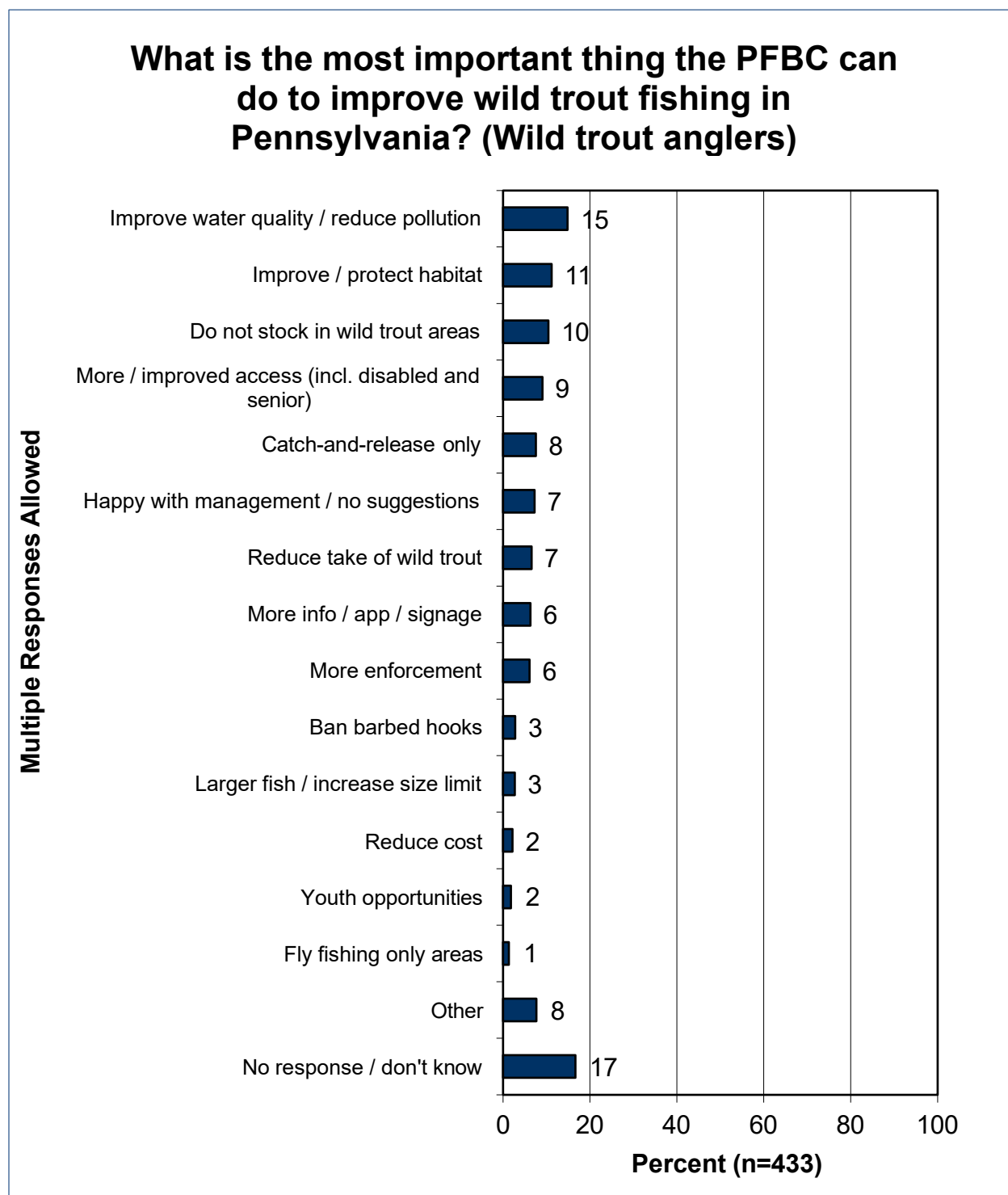
Please indicate how important or unimportant you think each of the following fishing program should be for the PFBC, on a scale of 0 to 10, where 0 is not at all important and 10 is extremely important. (Mean scores) (All trout anglers)							
	Northwest	Northcentral	Northeast	Southwest	Southcentral	Southeast	Non-Resident
Improving habitat and water quality to make conditions favorable to wild trout	8.8	9.3	9.2	9.3	8.9	9.0	9.4
Improving habitat and water quality to make conditions favorable to trout	8.9	8.6	8.6	8.7	8.5	8.7	8.7
Implementing additional special regulation areas, such as Catch-and-Release areas	6.9	7.2	7.5	7.6	7.6	7.7	7.9
Acquiring stream access rights through purchasing land or easements	7.6	7.1	6.9	6.9	6.7	6.8	7.7
Implementing additional special regulation areas, such as Delayed Harvest areas	5.9	4.8	5.4	5.6	5.3	6.0	5.6

Trends could be run on three of the questions. The analysis shows that habitat/water quality was highly rated in 2008 and remains highly rated in the current survey, both at 9.1 on the 0 to 10 scale. Special Regulation Areas increased in importance over the two surveys, while land purchases for access declined in importance.



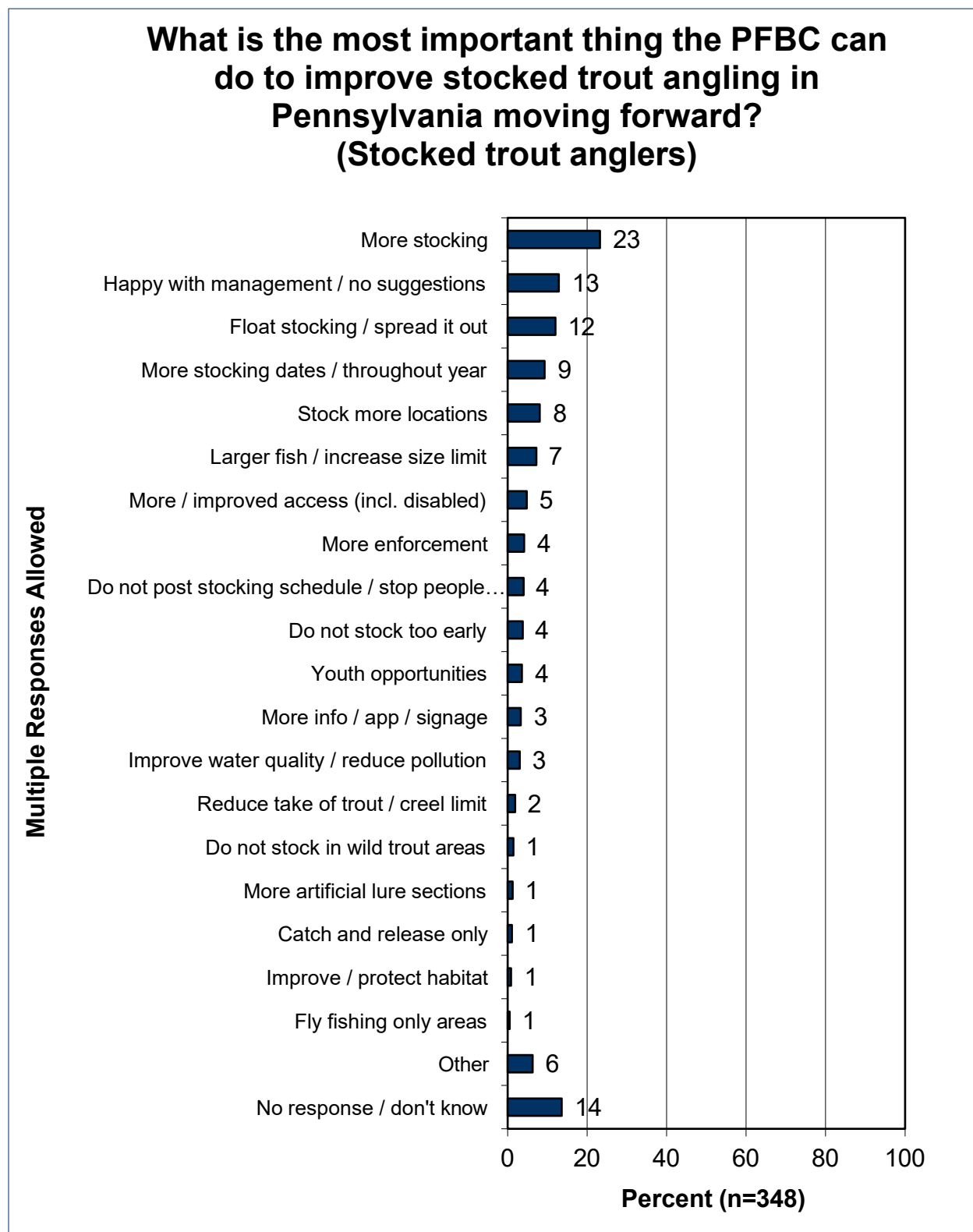
## IMPROVING FISHING IN PENNSYLVANIA

Improving water quality/reducing pollution, improving/protecting habitat, and not stocking trout in wild trout waters are the three most commonly indicated improvements to wild trout fishing that were suggested in this open-ended question. Regional results are included, as well.



What is the most important thing the PFBC can do to improve wild trout fishing in Pennsylvania? (Wild trout anglers)							
	Northwest (n=32)	Northcentral (n=45)	Northeast (n=48)	Southwest (n=77)	Southcentral (n=70)	Southeast (n=87)	Non-Resident (n=74)
Improve water quality / reduce pollution	12	7	18	13	19	19	10
Stock more / stock in wild trout areas	17	3	10	18	14	11	5
Improve / protect habitat	7	14	9	9	15	13	11
Do not stock in wild trout areas	10	18	15	6	6	11	12
More / improved access (incl. handicapped and senior)	6	12	5	11	10	8	10
Catch and release only	2	5	2	5	12	11	13
Reduce take of wild trout	5	7	9	3	7	7	10
More info / app / signage	0	6	9	8	1	12	3
More enforcement	5	2	13	5	2	8	9
Ban barb hooks	0	2	2	4	1	6	4
Larger fish / increase size limit	0	2	0	7	1	2	5
Reduce cost	0	6	2	1	1	4	1
Youth opportunities	6	0	0	0	1	5	0
Fly fishing only areas	0	0	2	0	1	2	5
Other	8	7	3	12	7	9	5
Happy with management / no suggestions	3	6	4	6	14	7	9
No response / don't know	27	21	17	18	15	9	15

The most commonly given things in this open-ended question that could be done to improve stocked trout fishing is to stock more and to spread out the stocking more. Regional results are also included for this question.

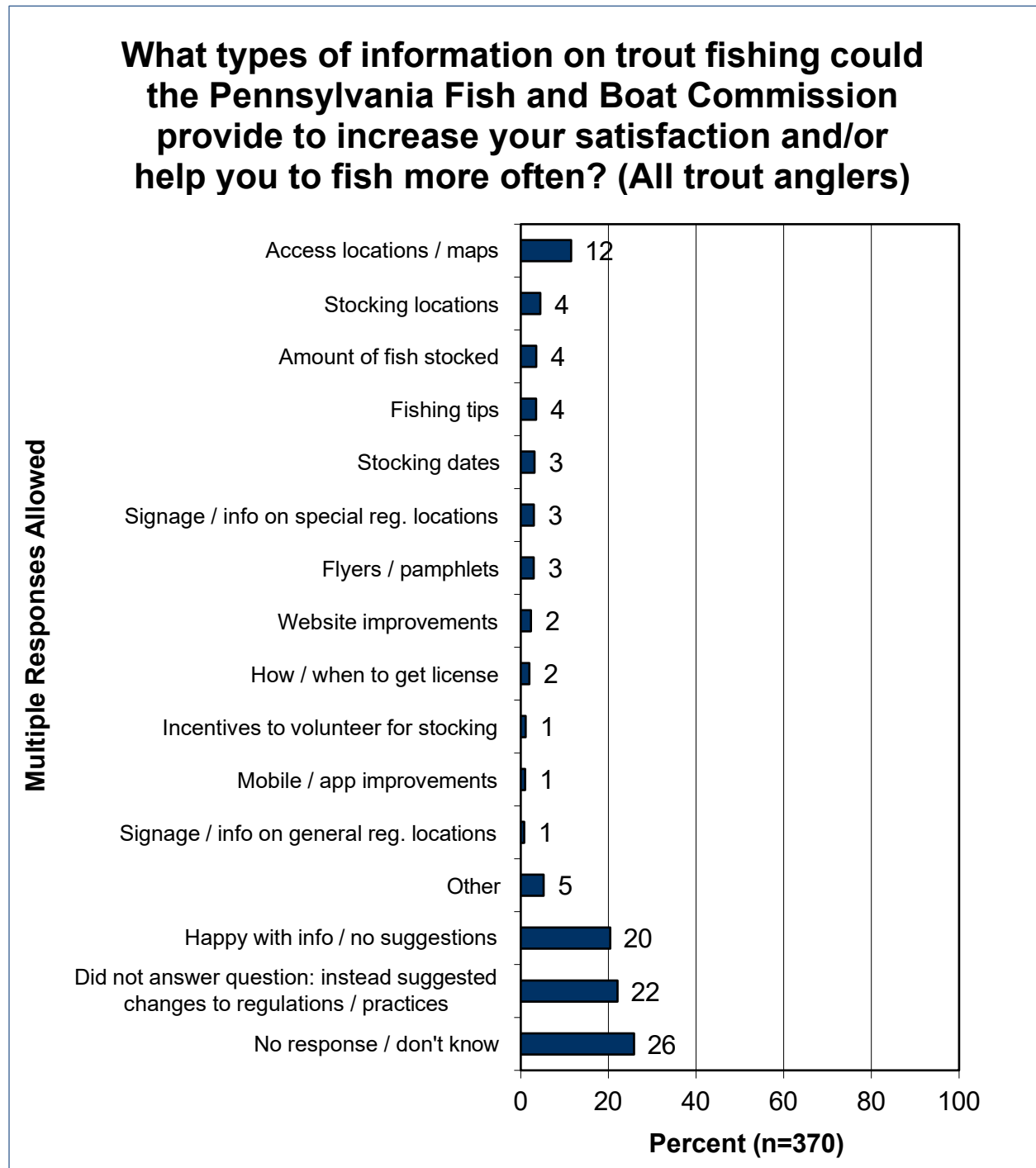


What is the most important thing the PFBC can do to improve stocked trout angling in Pennsylvania moving forward? (Stocked trout anglers)							
	Northwest (n=28)	Northcentral (n=26)	Northeast (n=34)	Southwest (n=73)	Southcentral (n=51)	Southeast (n=100)	Non-Resident (n=36)
More stocking	23	17	25	24	26	23	19
Float stocking / spread it out	22	8	20	11	6	10	16
More stocking dates / throughout year	4	16	8	13	5	11	2
Stock more locations	11	25	21	0	8	4	5
Larger fish / increase size limit	0	3	6	9	8	7	17
More / improved access (incl. handicapped)	6	3	2	1	6	8	4
More enforcement	0	4	0	3	6	7	2
Do not announce stocking / avoid people following trucks	0	5	2	6	1	7	2
Do not stock too early	13	0	6	5	1	2	0
Youth opportunities	0	4	2	7	5	3	2
More info / app / signage	3	6	3	1	5	2	10
Improve water quality / reduce pollution	0	3	2	0	7	5	2
Reduce take of trout / creel limit	3	0	0	0	8	1	0
Do not stock in wild trout areas	3	0	2	2	1	1	0
More artificial lure sections	0	0	5	0	0	3	0
Catch and release only	0	3	2	1	0	2	0
Improve / protect habitat	0	0	0	0	3	1	2
Fly fishing only areas	0	0	3	0	0	0	2
Other	3	6	6	5	9	7	4
Happy with management / no suggestions	8	6	25	13	15	9	18
No response / don't know	16	11	16	22	9	11	7

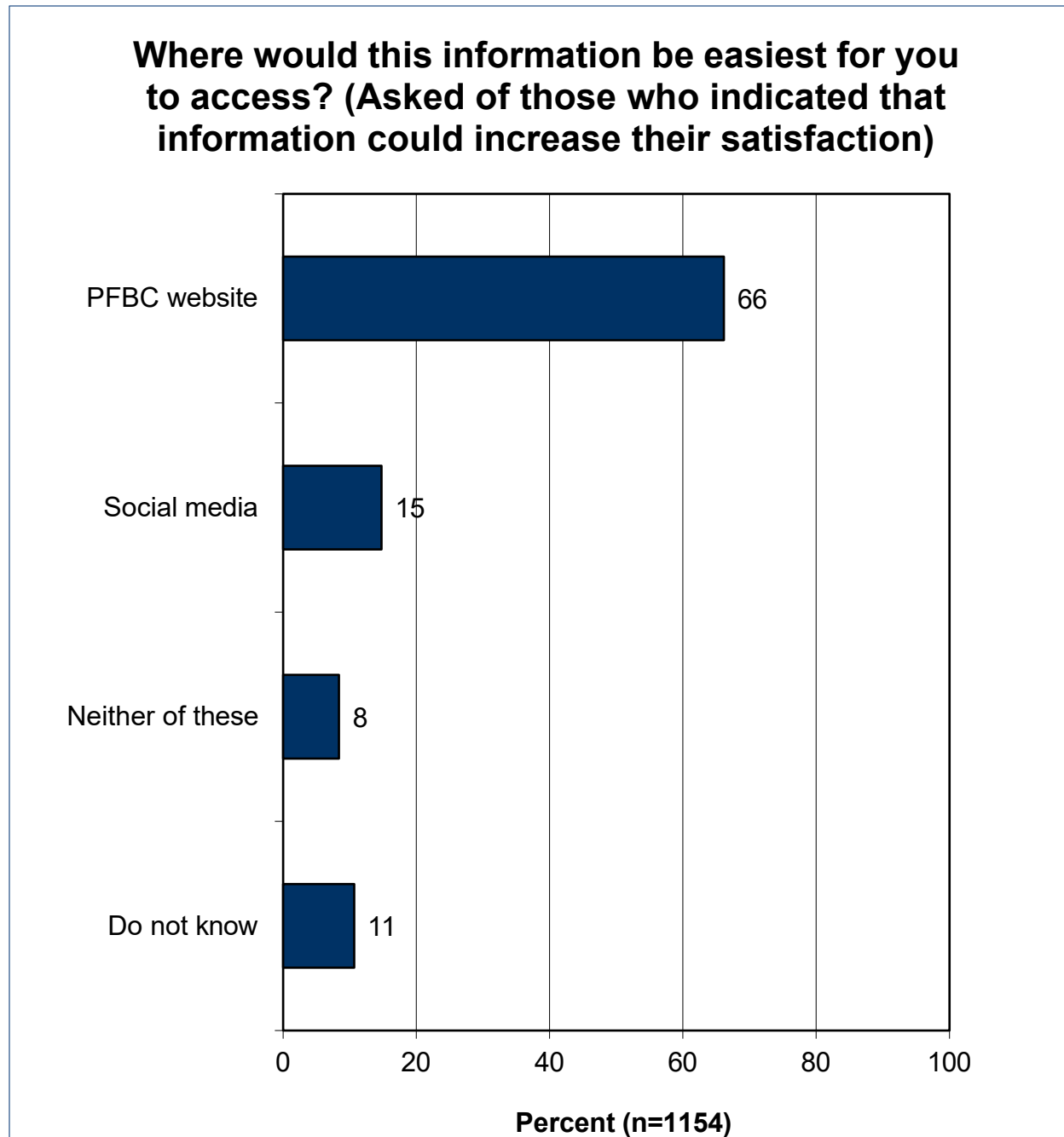


## INFORMATION ABOUT FISHING IN PENNSYLVANIA

When asked what types of information on trout fishing the PFBC could provide to increase satisfaction and/or help encourage more fishing, anglers most commonly said information on access locations/maps. The graph shows the full listing of responses to this open-ended question.

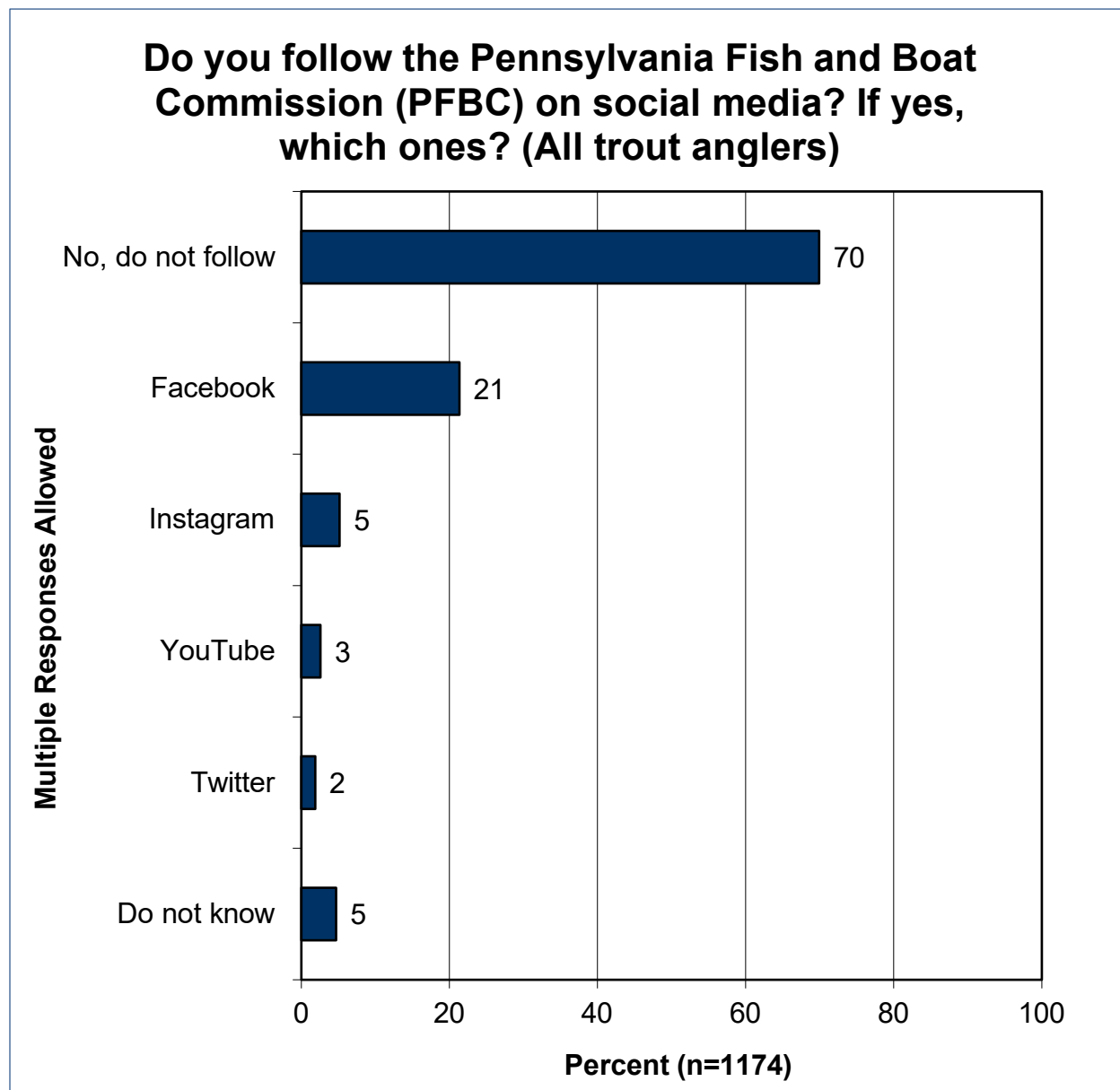


Most of those who wanted information would want it on the PFBC website.



Where would this information be easiest for you to access? (Asked of those who indicated that information could increase their satisfaction)							
	Northwest (n=105)	Northcentral (n=125)	Northeast (n=121)	Southwest (n=212)	Southcentral (n=184)	Southeast (n=259)	Non-Resident (n=148)
PFBC website	64	65	72	66	54	72	71
Social media	15	13	12	15	22	12	13
Neither of these	13	8	5	10	11	6	7
Do not know	8	13	12	8	13	10	10

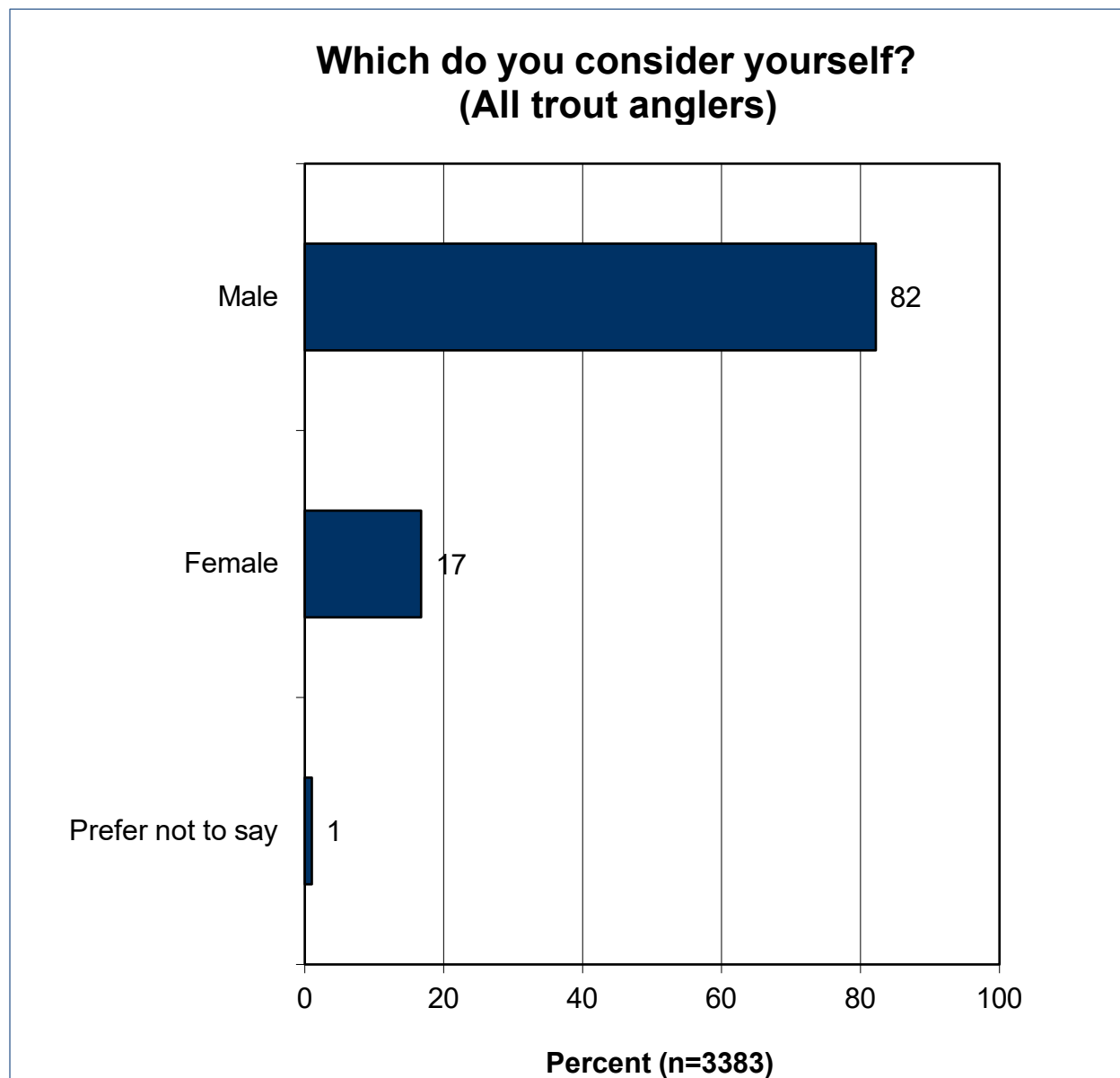
A quarter of trout anglers follow the PFBC on one of its social media platforms, with Facebook being the most common by far.



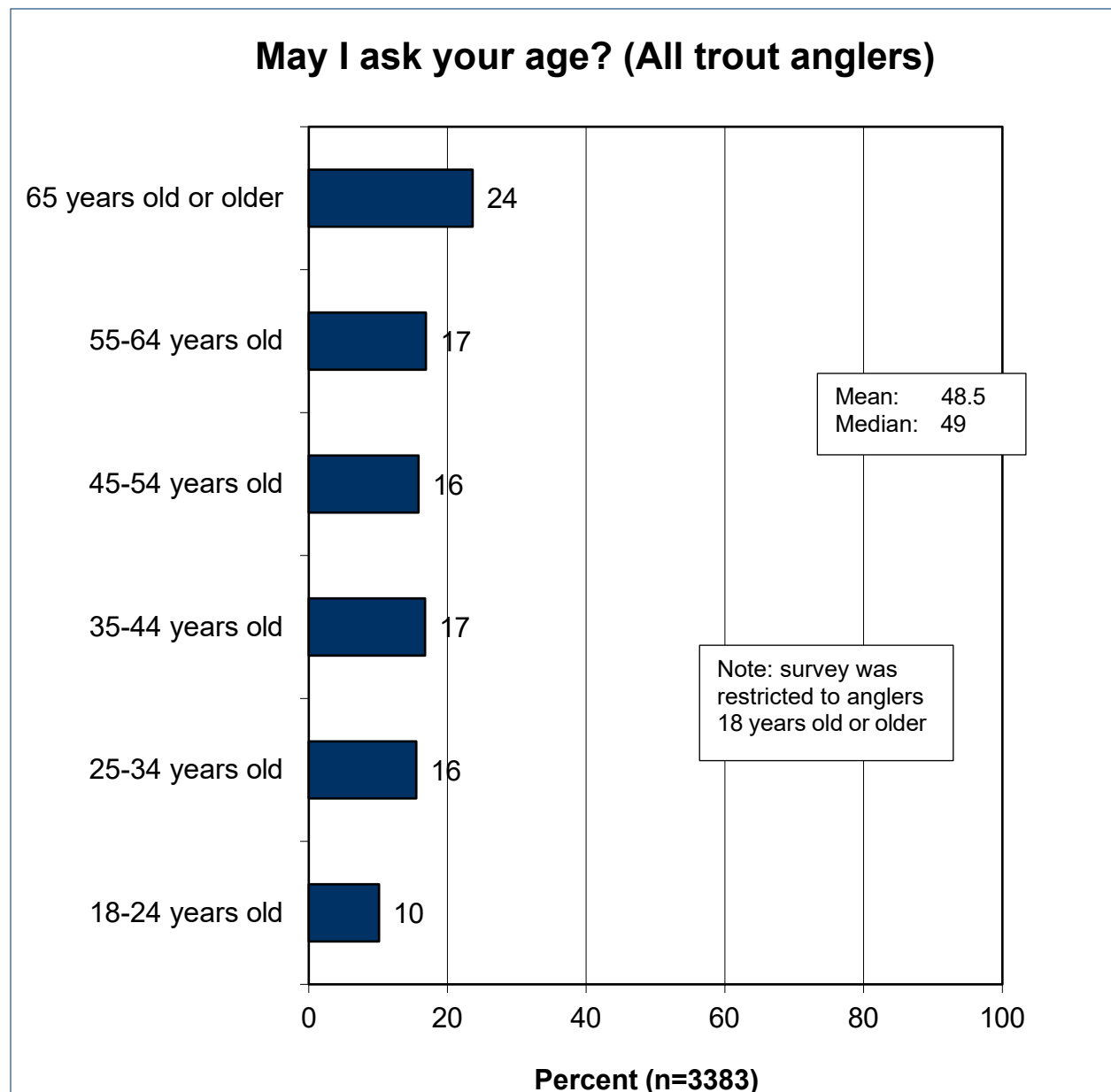
Do you follow the Pennsylvania Fish and Boat Commission (PFBC) on social media? If yes, which ones? (All trout anglers)							
	Northwest (n=114)	Northcentral (n=100)	Northeast (n=116)	Southwest (n=250)	Southcentral (n=170)	Southeast (n=290)	Non-Resident (n=134)
No, do not follow	72	69	71	73	65	68	77
Facebook	21	27	22	17	24	24	13
Instagram	7	5	3	4	6	5	7
YouTube	4	4	1	3	2	3	1
Twitter	0	4	1	2	1	3	2
Do not know	6	3	4	5	7	3	4

## DEMOGRAPHIC CHARACTERISTICS AND MEMBERSHIP IN ORGANIZATIONS

The survey gathered background information primarily for crosstabulations and further analysis. This included gender, age, and membership in organizations, as shown in this section.

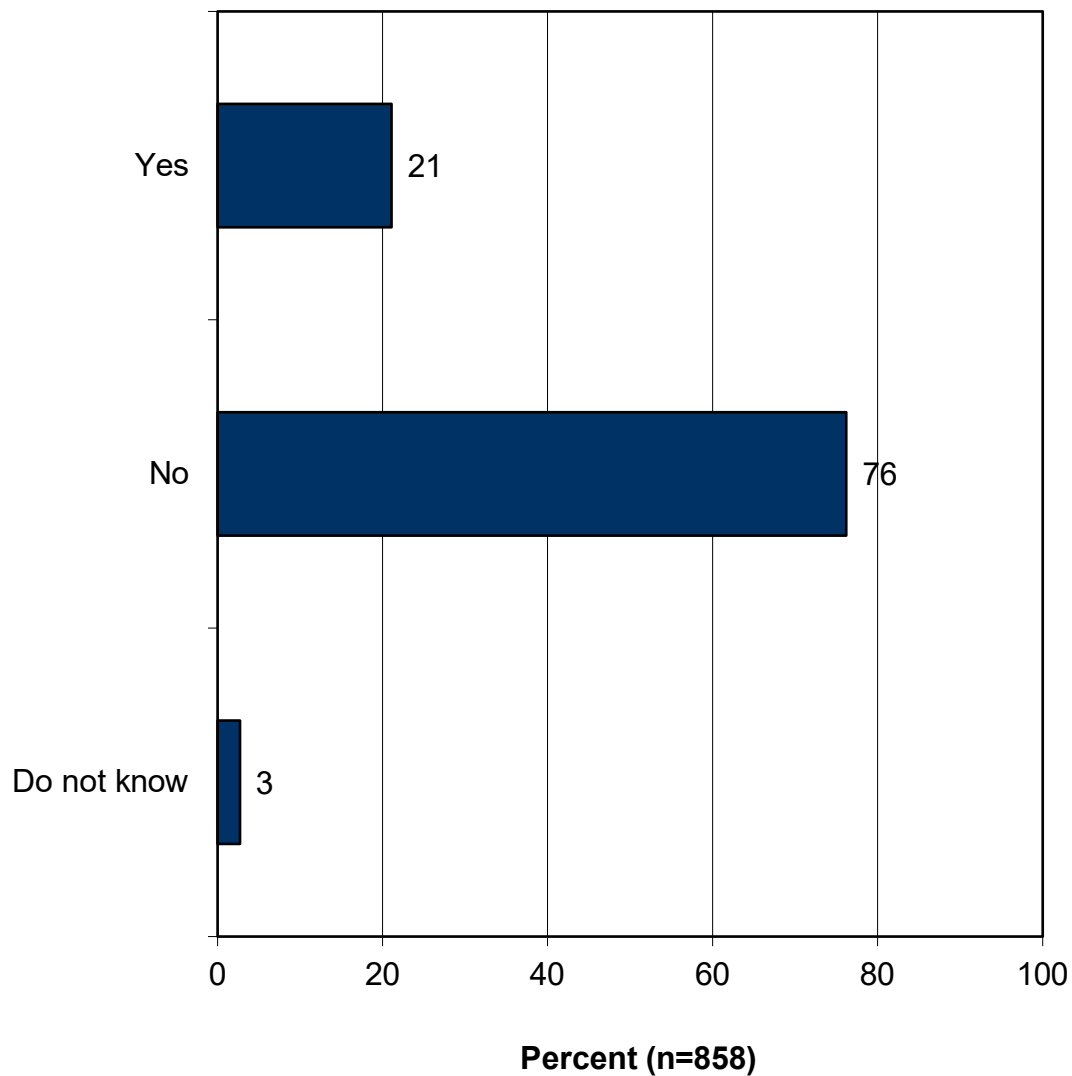


Which do you consider yourself? (All trout anglers)							
	Northwest (n=315)	Northcentral (n=327)	Northeast (n=347)	Southwest (n=700)	Southcentral (n=518)	Southeast (n=788)	Non-Resident (n=387)
Male	89	83	78	81	77	83	89
Female	11	16	20	17	22	16	10
Prefer not to say	1	1	1	2	1	1	0



May I ask your age? (All trout anglers)							
	Northwest (n=315)	Northcentral (n=327)	Northeast (n=347)	Southwest (n=700)	Southcentral (n=519)	Southeast (n=788)	Non-Resident (n=387)
65 years old or older	26	23	27	24	21	21	29
55-64 years old	16	14	17	17	17	17	22
45-54 years old	16	16	15	17	14	15	18
35-44 years old	15	20	17	16	17	17	16
25-34 years old	17	17	14	16	13	18	8
18-24 years old	9	9	8	8	16	11	6
Don't know	1	1	1	1	1	1	1

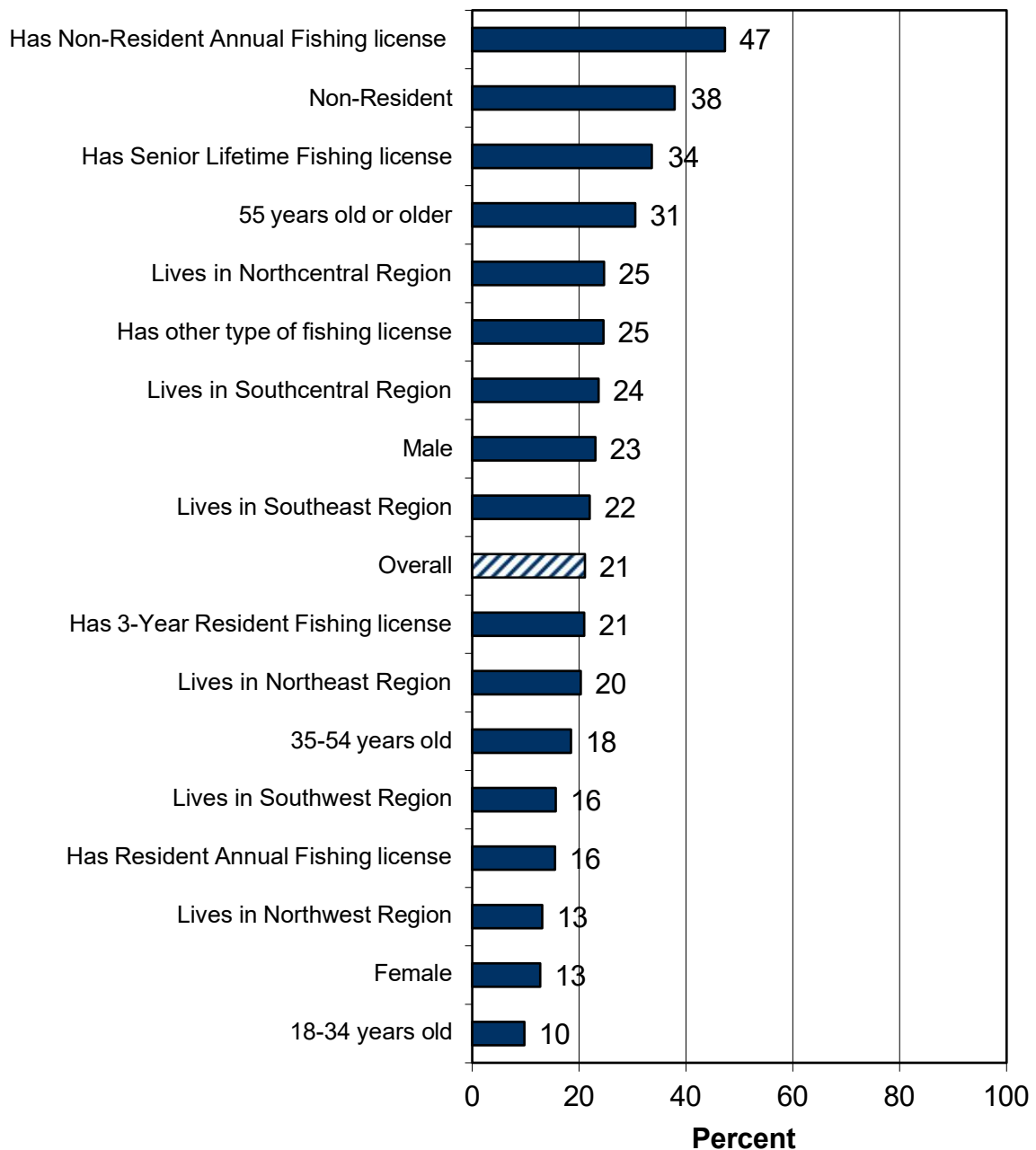
**Are you currently a member of any fishing or conservation groups or organizations?  
(All trout anglers)**



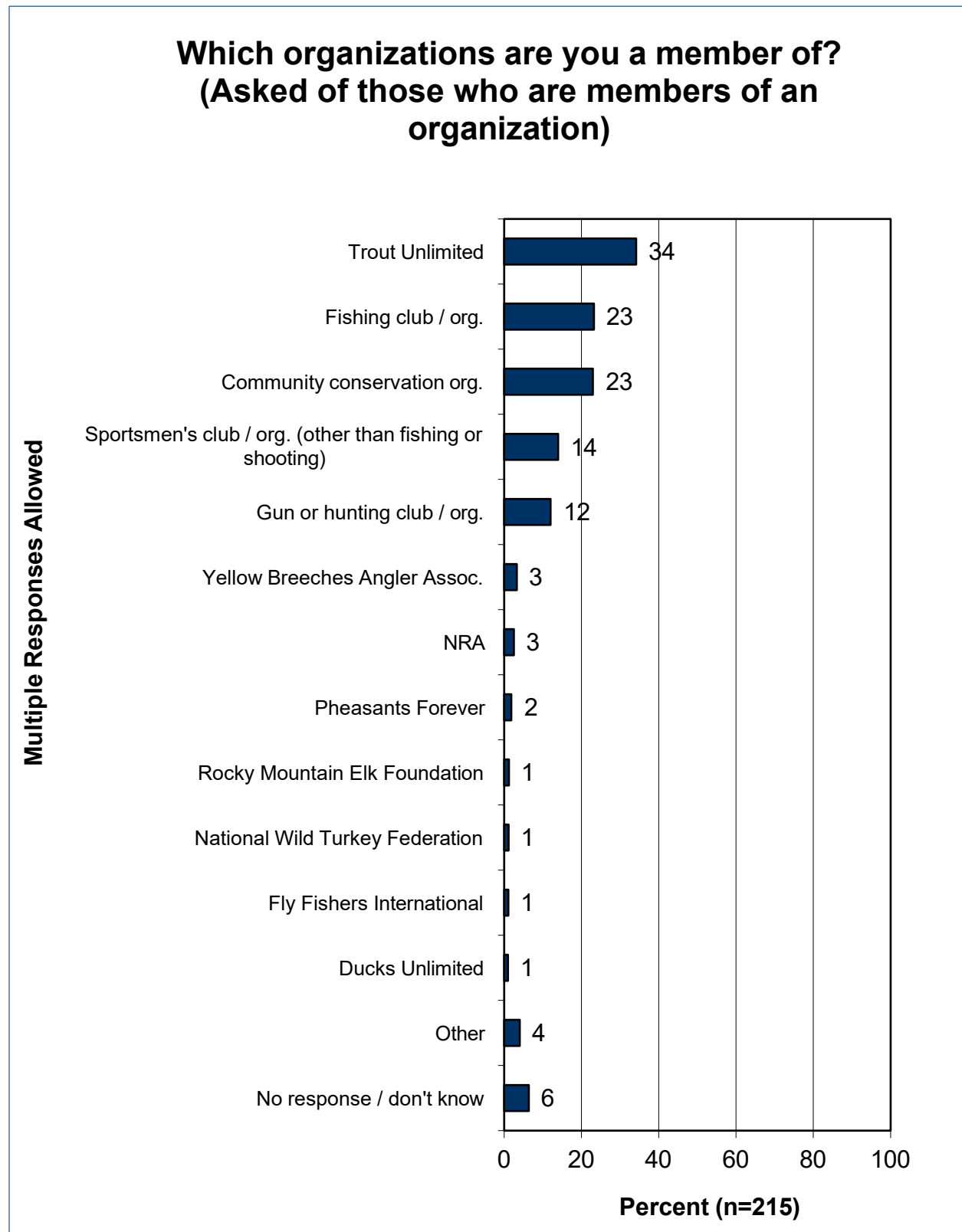
Are you currently a member of any fishing or conservation groups or organizations? (All trout anglers)							
	Northwest (n=83)	Northcentral (n=85)	Northeast (n=91)	Southwest (n=177)	Southcentral (n=140)	Southeast (n=193)	Non-Resident (n=89)
Yes	13	25	20	16	24	22	38
No	84	71	78	83	72	74	62
Do not know	3	4	1	1	4	4	0

The demographic analyses found that the angler groups most likely to be a member of a fishing or conservation organization are holders of a Non-Resident Annual Fishing license (and non-residents in general) and those with a Senior Lifetime Fishing license (and older anglers in general).

**Percent of each of the following groups who are currently a member of a fishing or conservation organization: (All trout anglers)**



The organizations in which anglers are members are shown below. Trout Unlimited leads the list.





## ABOUT RESPONSIVE MANAGEMENT

Responsive Management is an internationally recognized survey research firm specializing in natural resource and outdoor recreation issues. Our mission is to help natural resource and outdoor recreation agencies, businesses, and organizations better understand and work with their constituents, customers, and the public.

Focusing only on natural resource and outdoor recreation issues, Responsive Management has conducted telephone, mail, and online surveys, as well as multi-modal surveys, on-site intercepts, focus groups, public meetings, personal interviews, needs assessments, program evaluations, marketing and communication plans, and other forms of human dimensions research measuring how people relate to the natural world for more than 30 years. Utilizing our in-house, full-service survey facilities with 75 professional interviewers, we have conducted studies in all 50 states and 15 countries worldwide, totaling more than 1,000 human dimensions projects *only* on natural resource and outdoor recreation issues.

Responsive Management has conducted research for every state fish and wildlife agency and every federal natural resource agency, including the U.S. Fish and Wildlife Service, the National Park Service, the U.S. Forest Service, Bureau of Land Management, U.S. Coast Guard, and the National Marine Fisheries Service. Additionally, we have also provided research for all the major conservation NGOs including the Archery Trade Association, the American Sportfishing Association, the Association of Fish and Wildlife Agencies, Dallas Safari Club, Ducks Unlimited, Environmental Defense Fund, the Izaak Walton League of America, the National Rifle Association, the National Shooting Sports Foundation, the National Wildlife Federation, the Recreational Boating and Fishing Foundation, the Rocky Mountain Elk Foundation, Safari Club International, the Sierra Club, Trout Unlimited, and the Wildlife Management Institute.

Other nonprofit and NGO clients include the American Museum of Natural History, the BoatUS Foundation, the National Association of Conservation Law Enforcement Chiefs, the National Association of State Boating Law Administrators, and the Ocean Conservancy. As well, Responsive Management conducts market research and product testing for numerous outdoor recreation manufacturers and industry leaders, such as Winchester Ammunition, Vista Outdoor (whose brands include Federal Premium, CamelBak, Bushnell, Primos, and more), Trijicon, Yamaha, and others.

Responsive Management also provides data collection for the nation's top universities, including Auburn University, Clemson University, Colorado State University, Duke University, George Mason University, Michigan State University, Mississippi State University, North Carolina State University, Oregon State University, Penn State University, Rutgers University, Stanford University, Texas Tech, University of California-Davis, University of Florida, University of Montana, University of New Hampshire, University of Southern California, Virginia Commonwealth University, Virginia Tech, West Virginia University, Yale University, and many more.

Our research has been upheld in U.S. Courts, used in peer-reviewed journals, and presented at major wildlife and natural resource conferences around the world. Responsive Management's research has also been featured in many of the nation's top media, including *Newsweek*, *The Wall Street Journal*, *The New York Times*, CNN, National Public Radio, and on the front pages of *The Washington Post* and *USA Today*.

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