

# **League Of Conservation Voters Education Fund**

Presentation Of Findings From A New York  
Survey Of 500 Likely Voters

The Mellman Group

June 20-24, 2000

# Methodology

- 500 likely general election voters surveyed
- Interviews completed June 20-24, 2000
- Margin of error is +/- 4.4% for whole sample, larger for subgroups

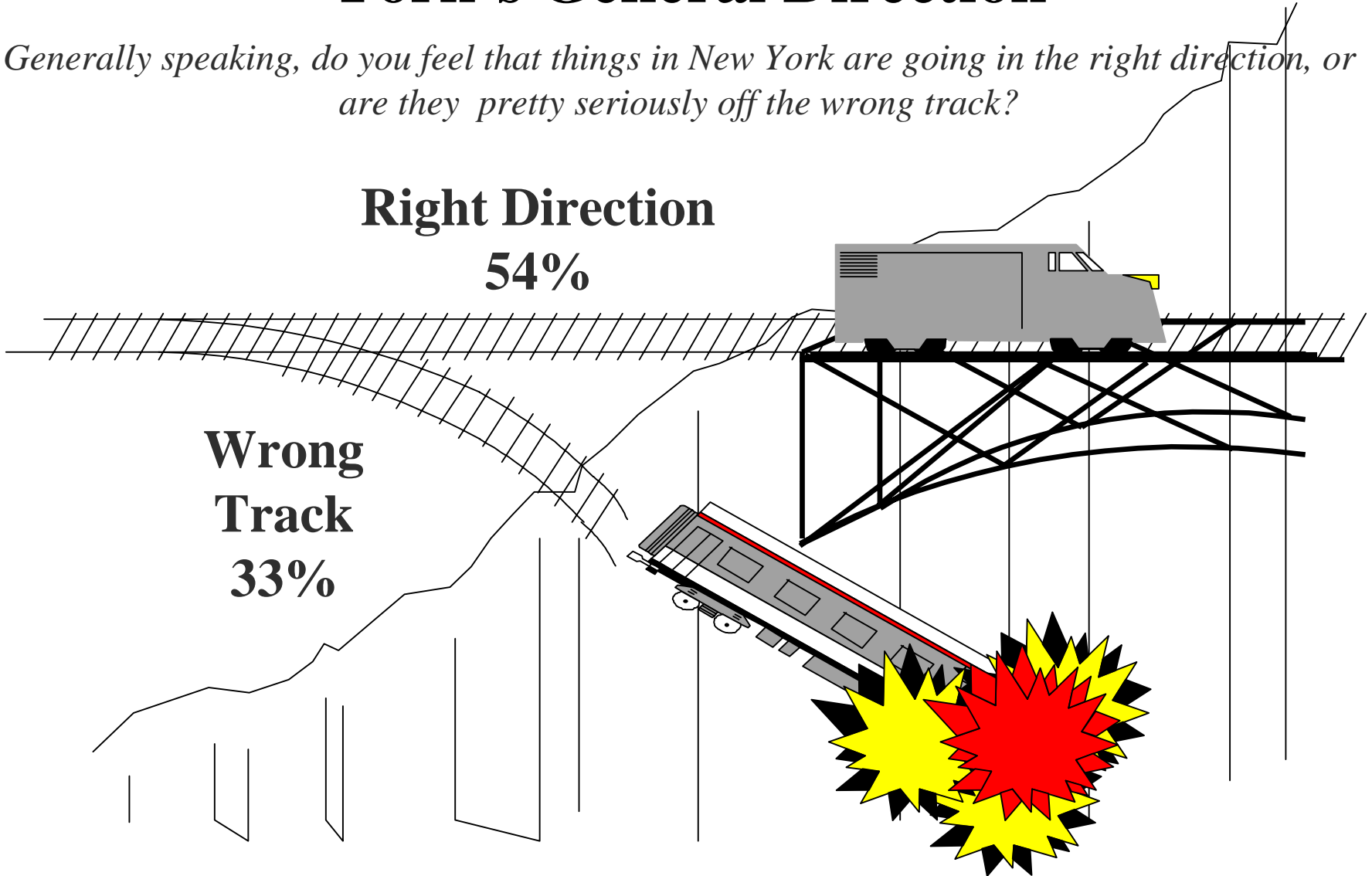
# A Majority Of Citizens Are Positive About New York's General Direction

*Generally speaking, do you feel that things in New York are going in the right direction, or are they pretty seriously off the wrong track?*

**Right Direction**

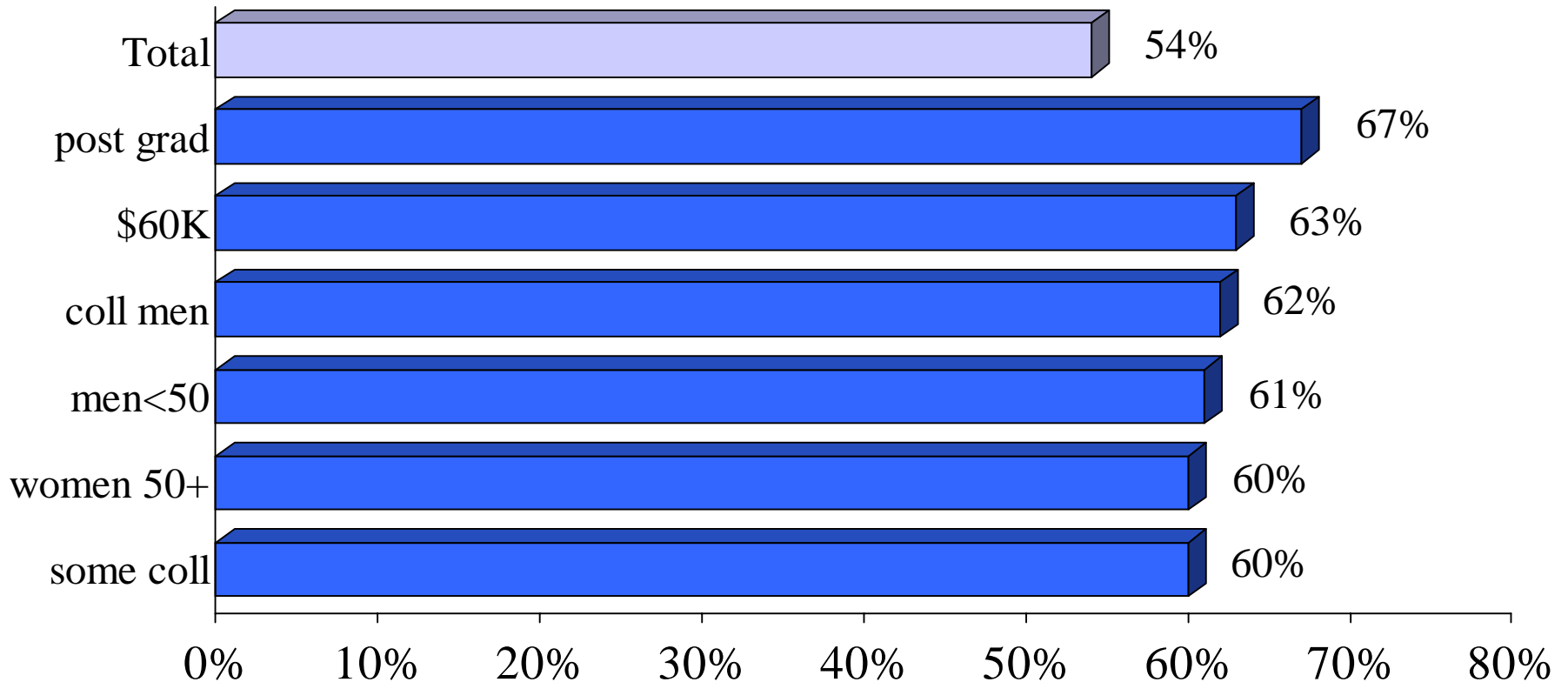
**54%**

**Wrong Track**  
**33%**



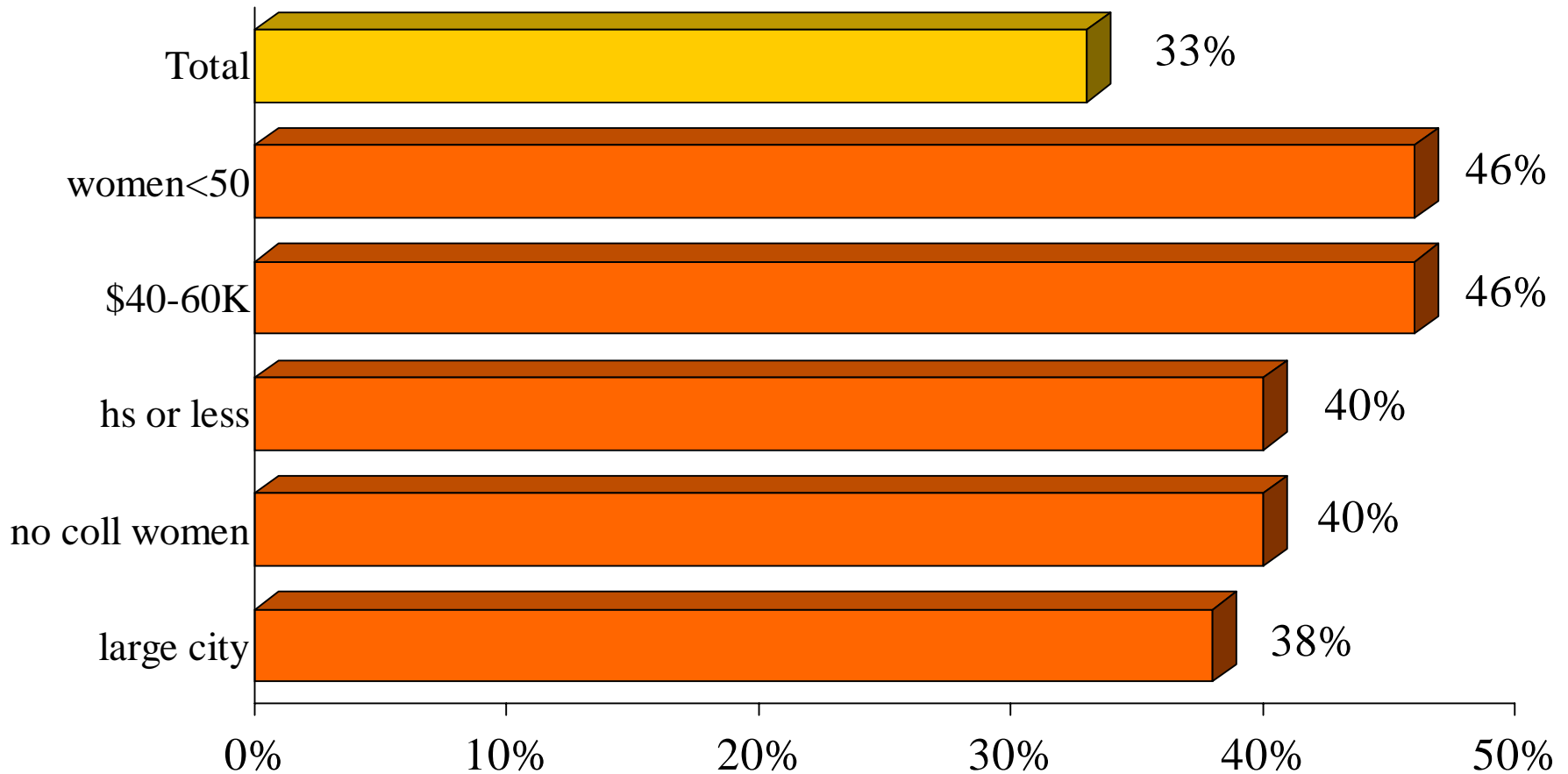
# Better Educated And Higher Income Citizens Are More Positive

*% right direction*



# Younger Women, Middle Income And Less Well Educated Citizens Are Somewhat More Negative

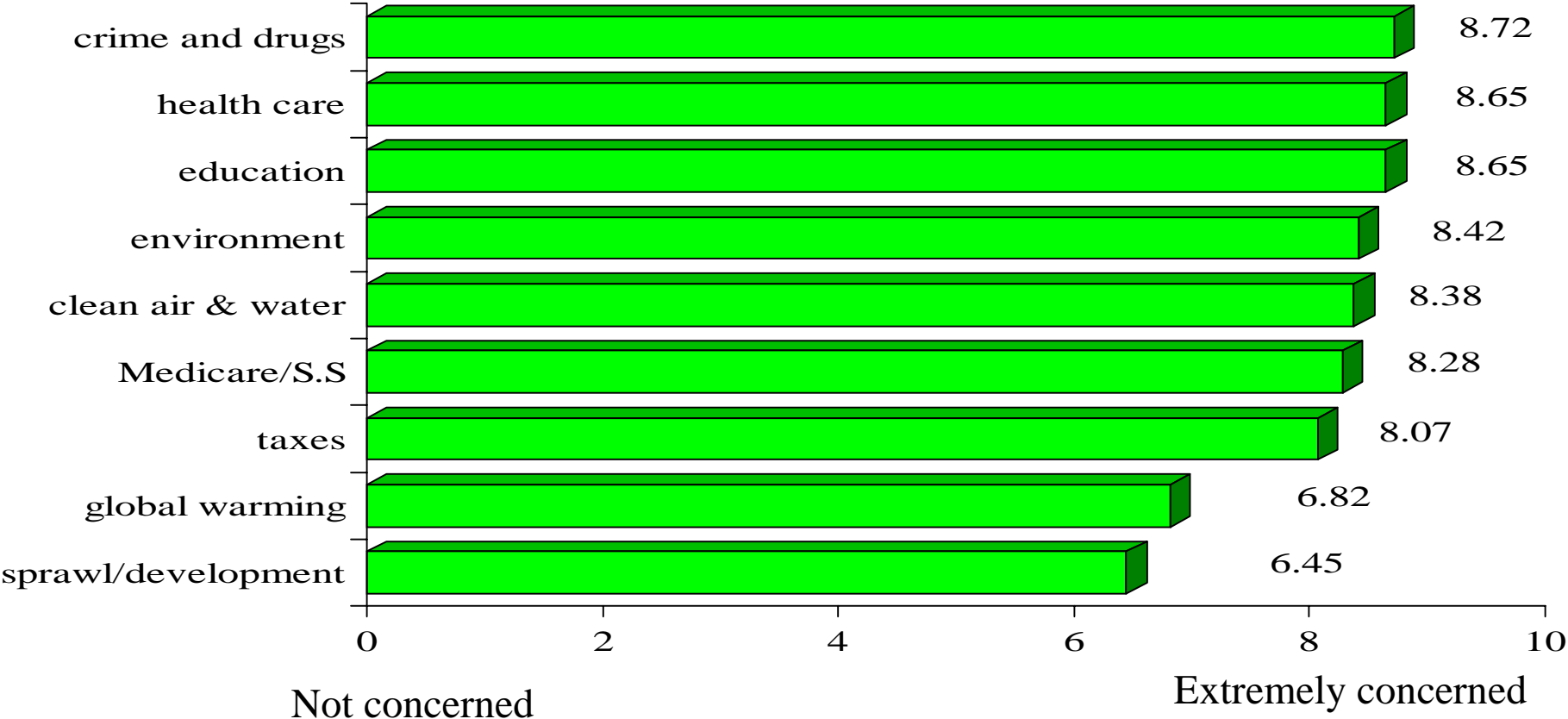
*% wrong track*



# Crime&Drugs, Health Care, Education, And The Environment Are Citizens' Most Salient Concerns

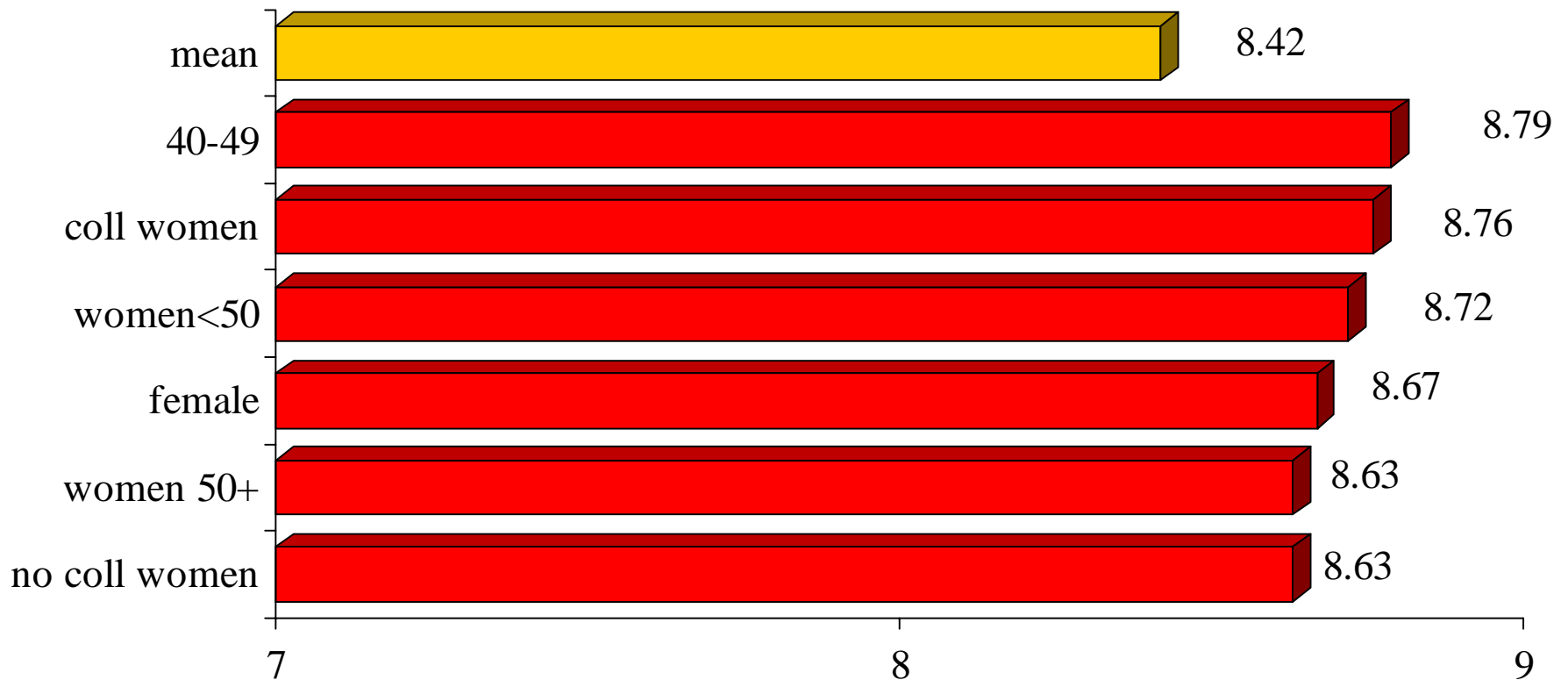
*I'm going to read you a short list of issues. For each one, please tell me how concerned you are about that issue on a scale of 0 to 10, in which 10 means you are extremely concerned about the issue, 5 means you are somewhat concerned, and 0 means you are not concerned at all.*

*ranked by mean*



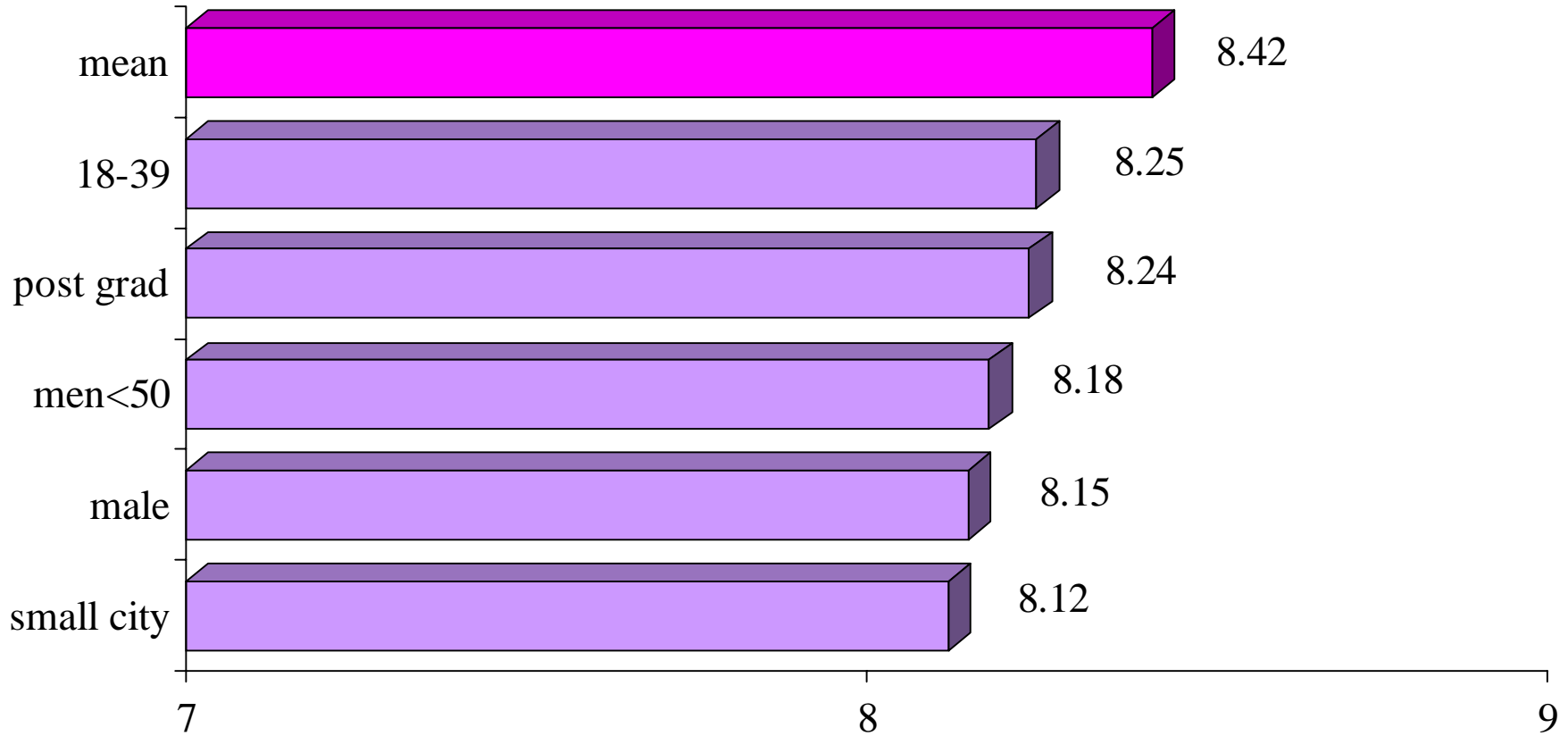
# Citizens In Their Forties And Women Are Most Concerned About The Environment

*mean concern rating*



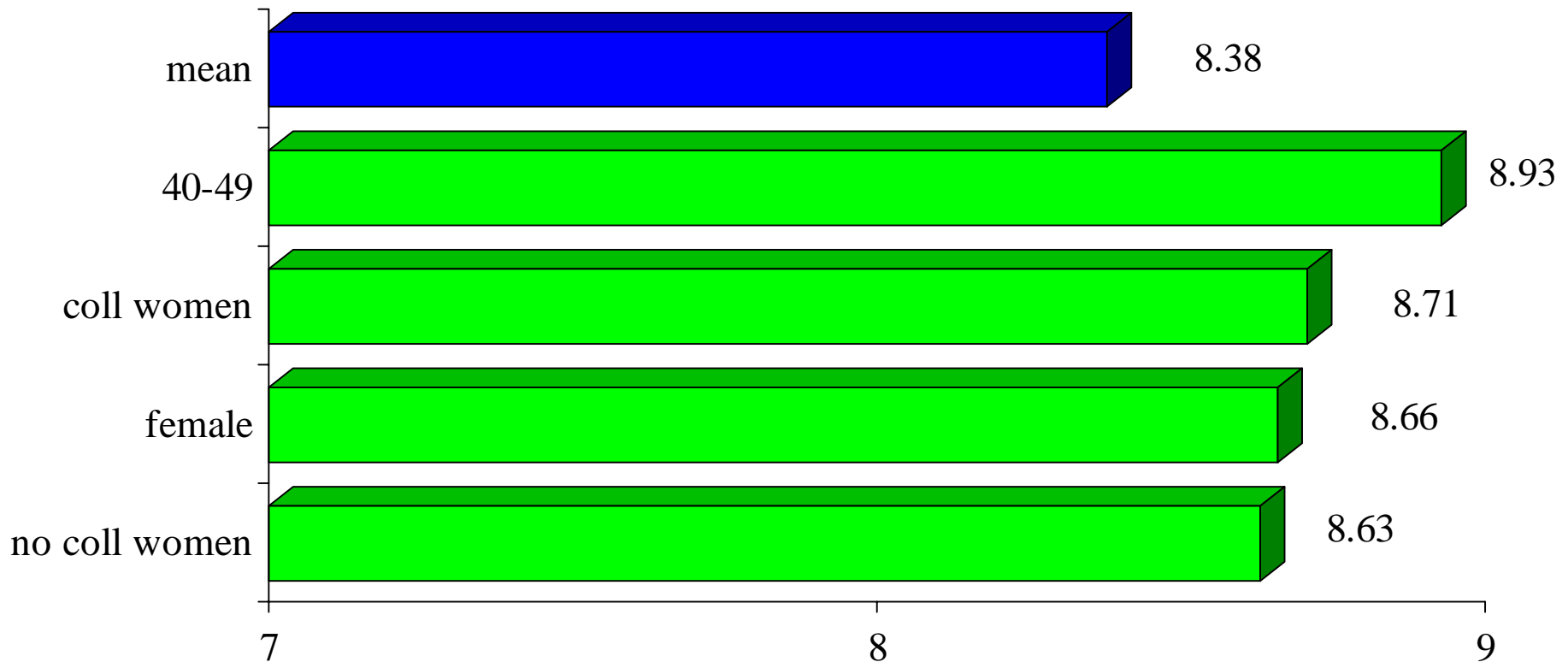
# Small City, Male, Better Educated, And Younger Citizens Are Least Concerned About The Environment

*mean concern rating*



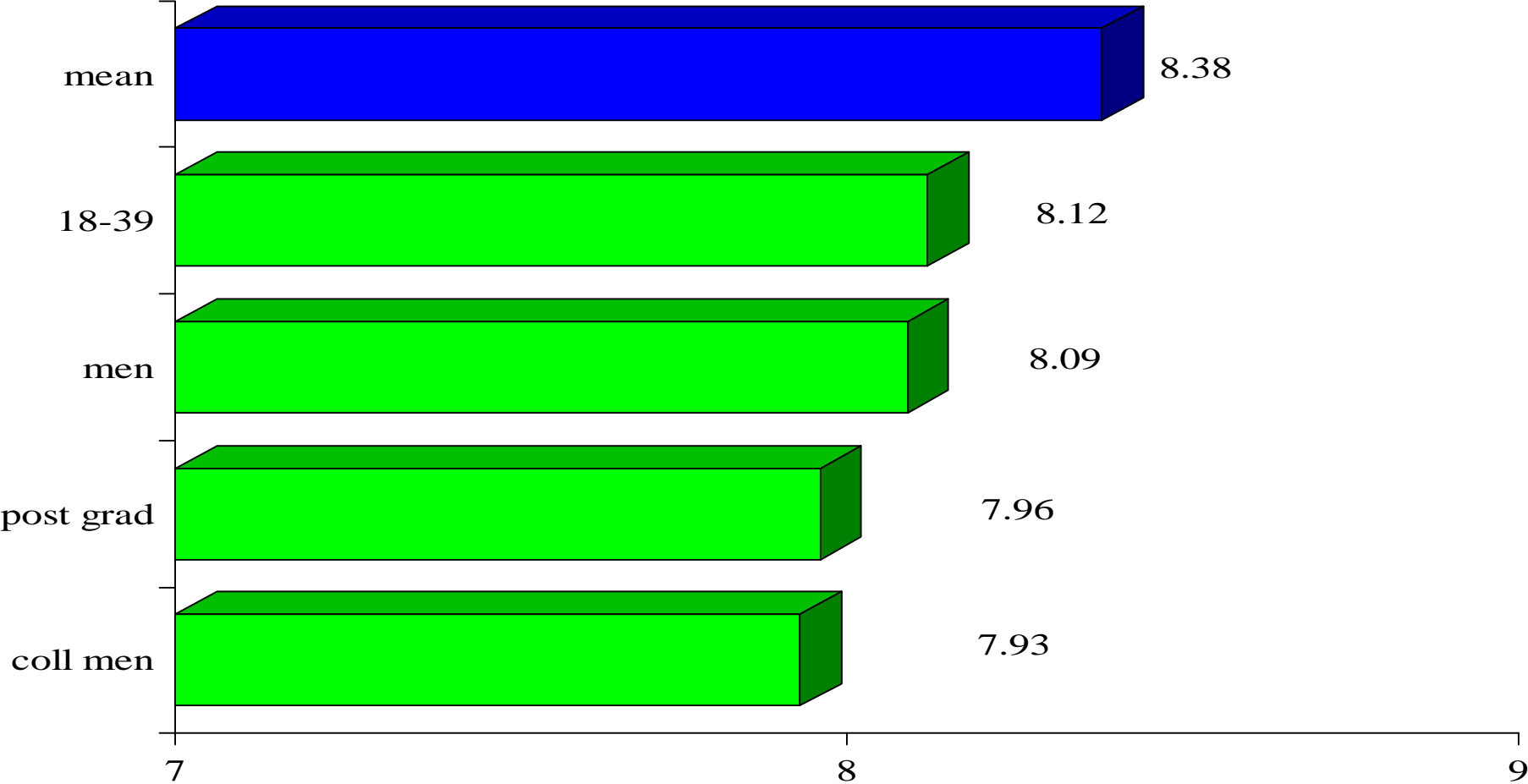
# Citizens In Their Forties And Women Are Most Concerned About Clean Air And Water

*mean concern rating*



# Younger Citizens, Men, And Better Educated Citizens Are Least Concerned About Clean Air And Water

*mean concern rating*

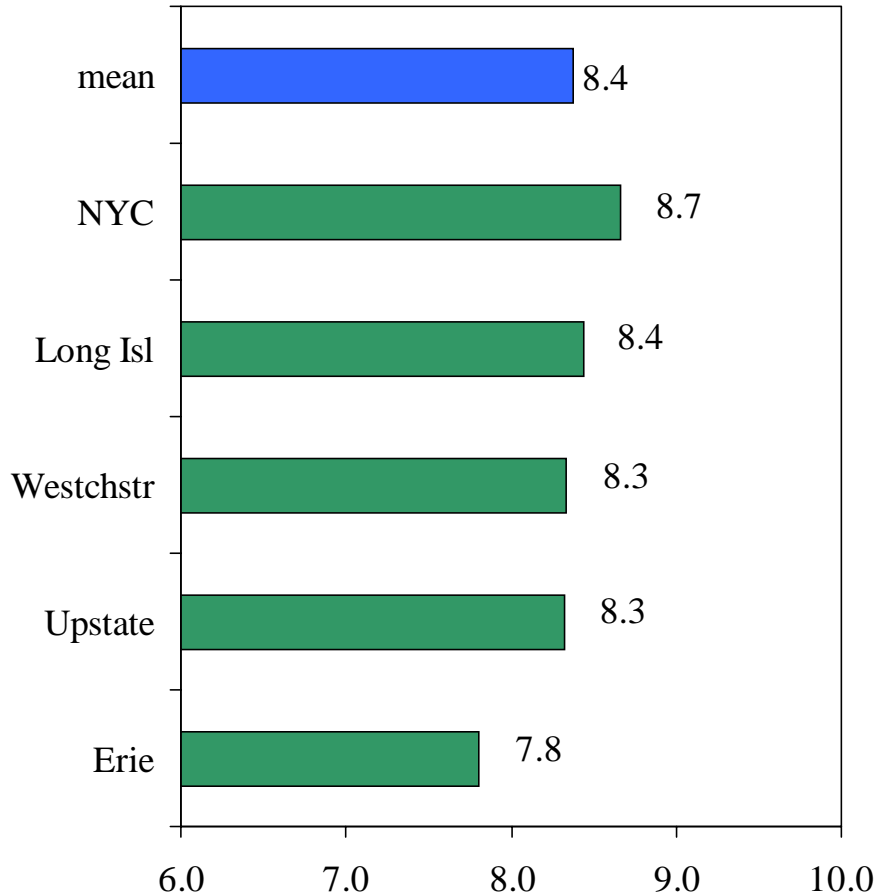


# Concerns About Clean Air And Water Are Central In Every Region And In Cities Of All Sizes

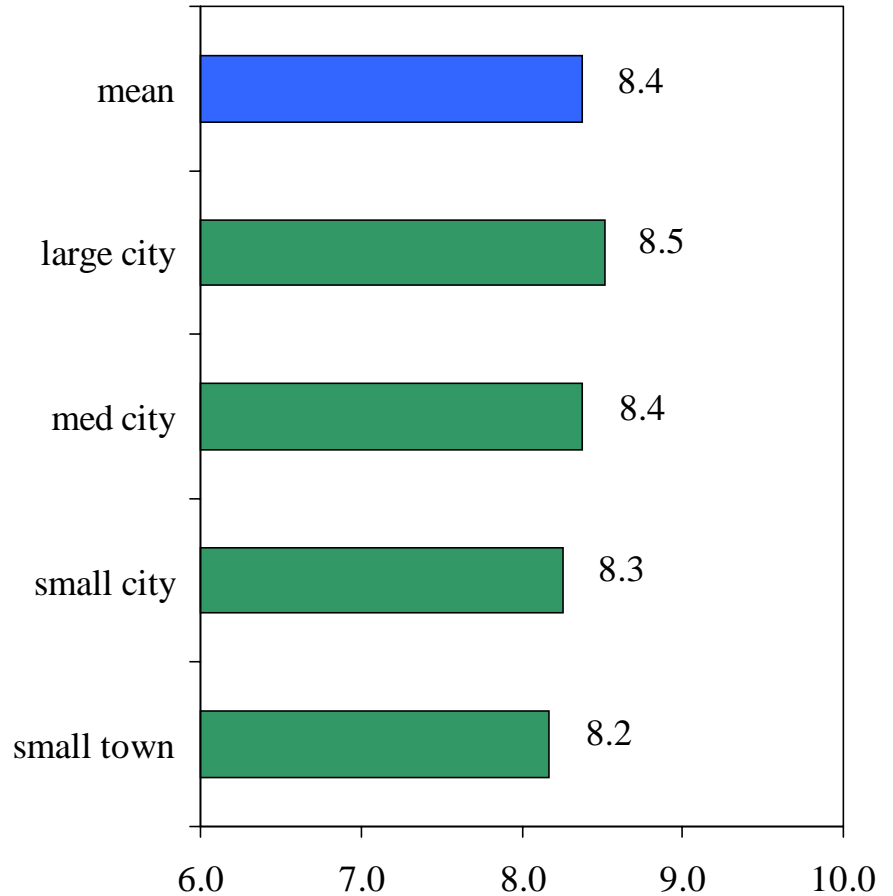
Erie Voters Are Somewhat Less Concerned

## Region

*mean concern rating*

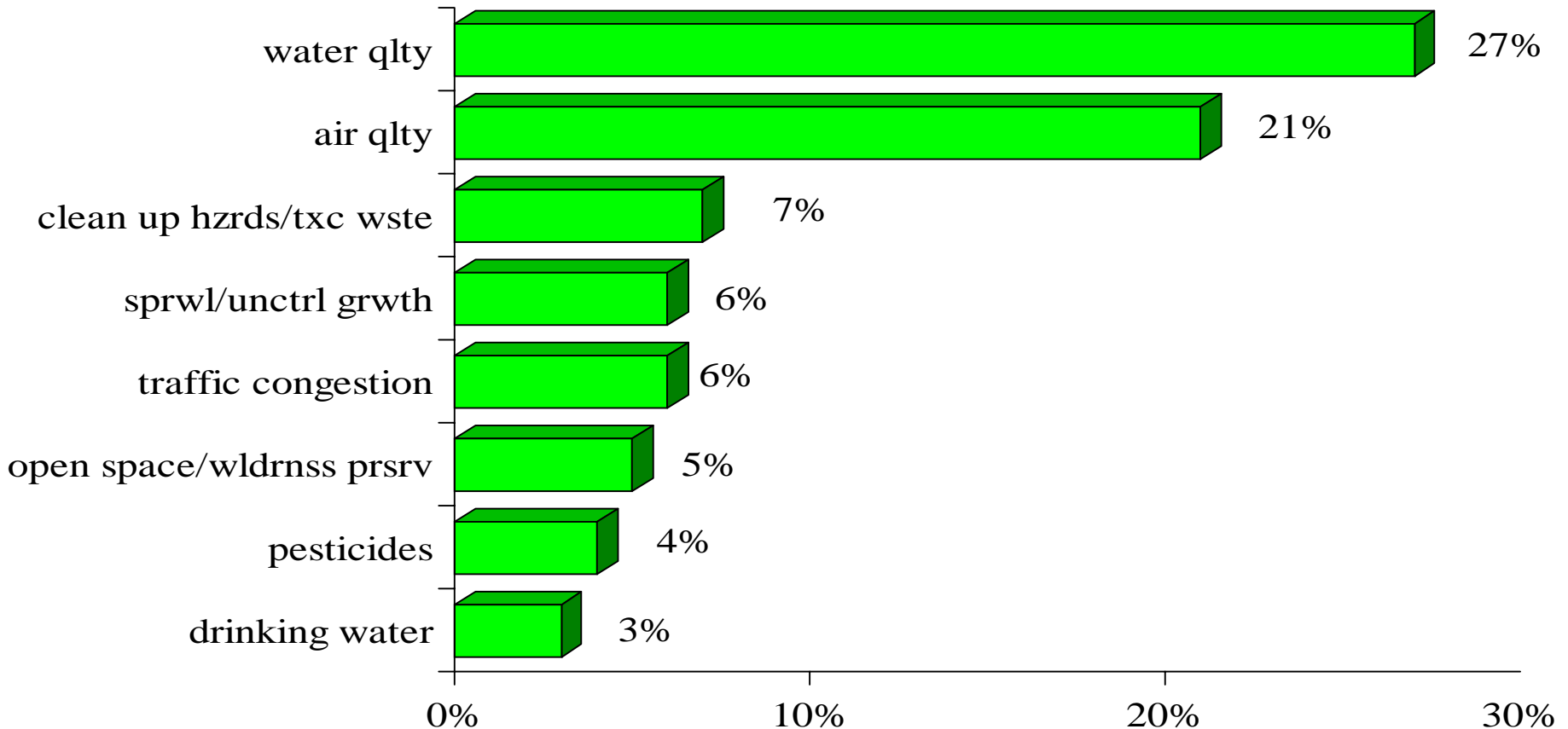


## City Size



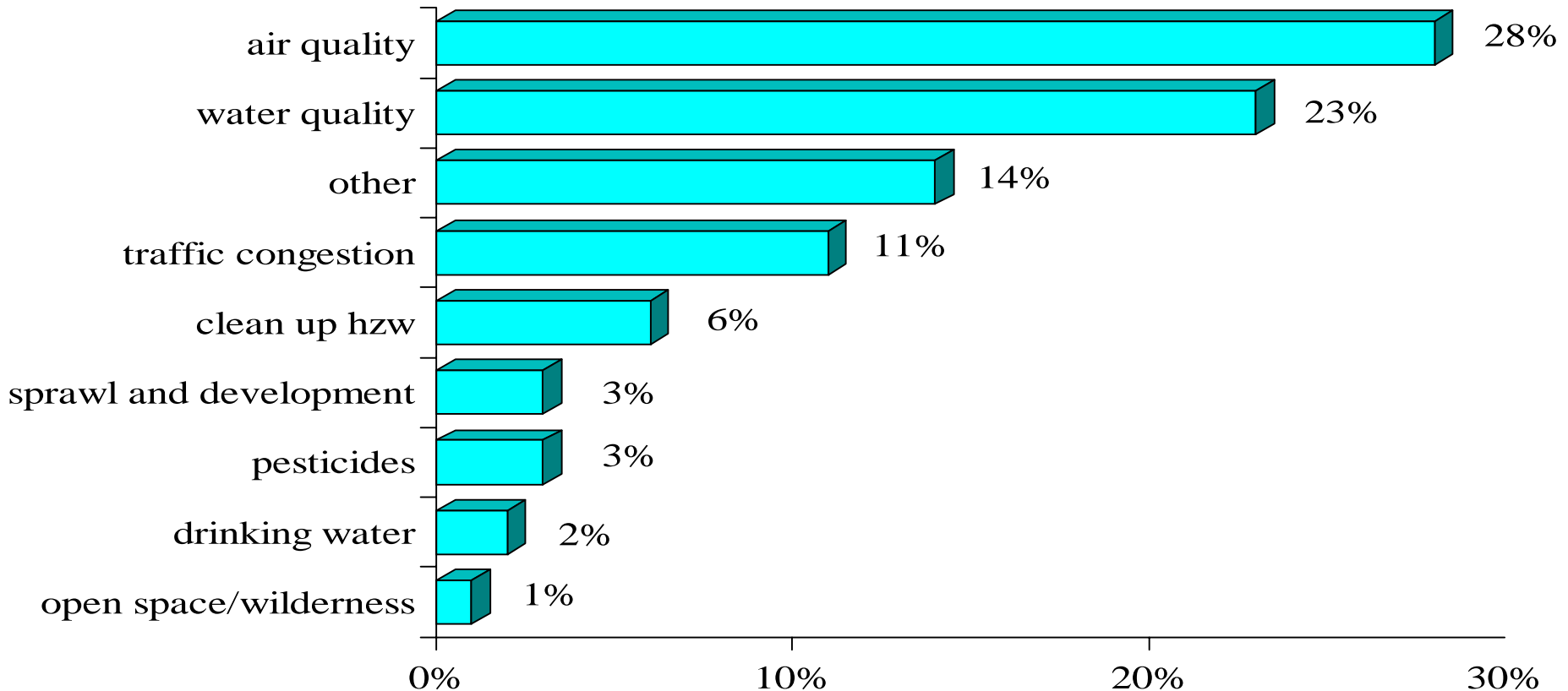
# Water And Air Quality Top The List Of Environmental Concerns In New York

*Thinking specifically about New York, what, if any, conservation or environmental concerns do you worry about the most?*



# Among New York City Citizens, Air Quality Edges Out Water Quality As The Top Environmental Concern

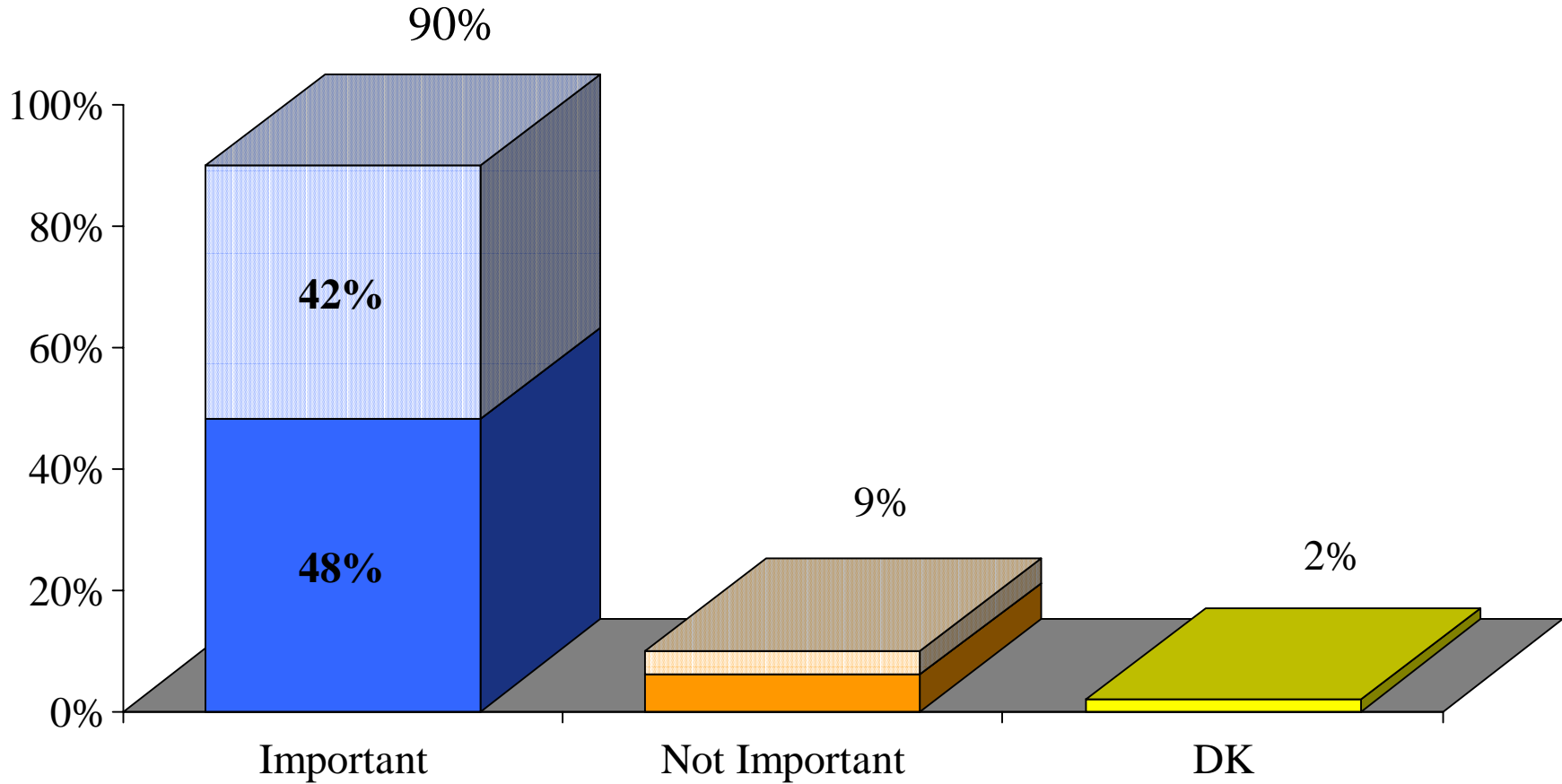
*Thinking specifically about New York, what, if any, conservation or environmental concerns do you worry about the most?*



# Citizens Are Nearly Unanimous In Saying Environmental Issues Are An Important Factor In Their Voting Decisions

Almost Half Say Environmental Issues Are A Very Important Factor Determining Their Vote

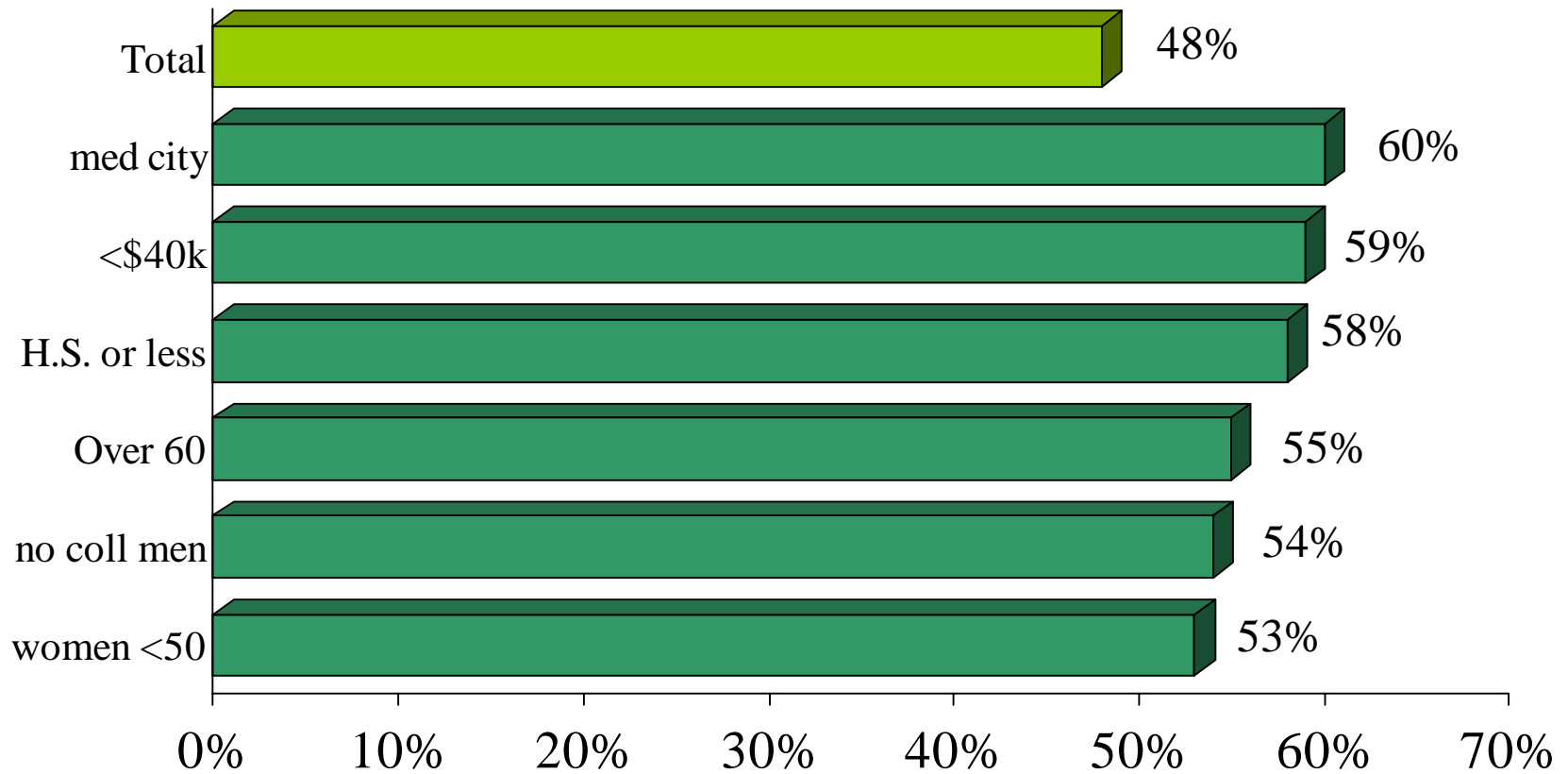
*In making a voting decision, how important are [conservation or environmental issues/issues involving clean water, clean air and open spaces] for you in deciding how to vote?*



*Darker Shading = Stronger Intensity*

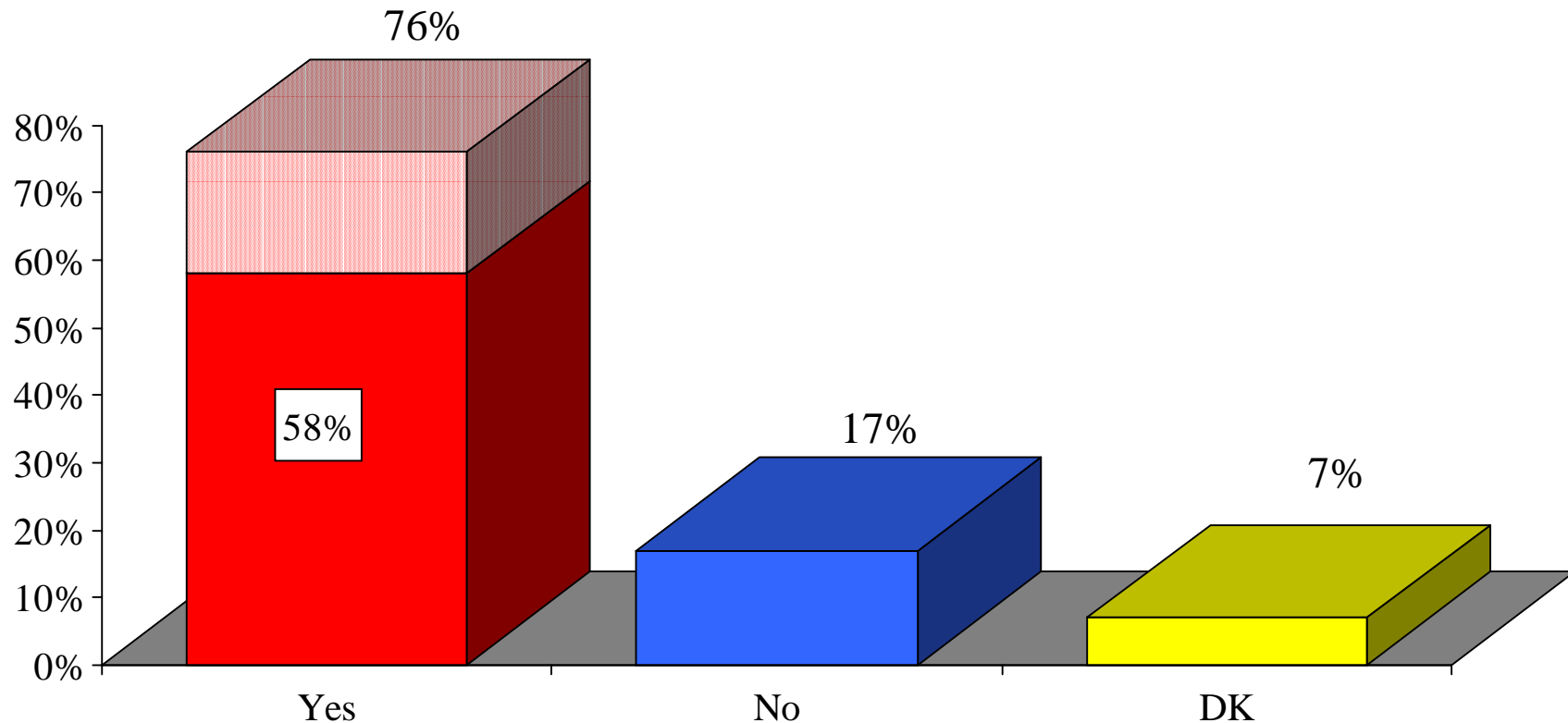
# Those Who Live In Medium-Sized Cities, Are Lower Income, Less Well Educated, Or Seniors Are More Likely To Consider Environmental Issues Very Important Factors In Their Voting Decisions

*% environmental issues very important in deciding vote*



# Most Believe Campaign Contributions Influence Elected Officials On Environmental Issues

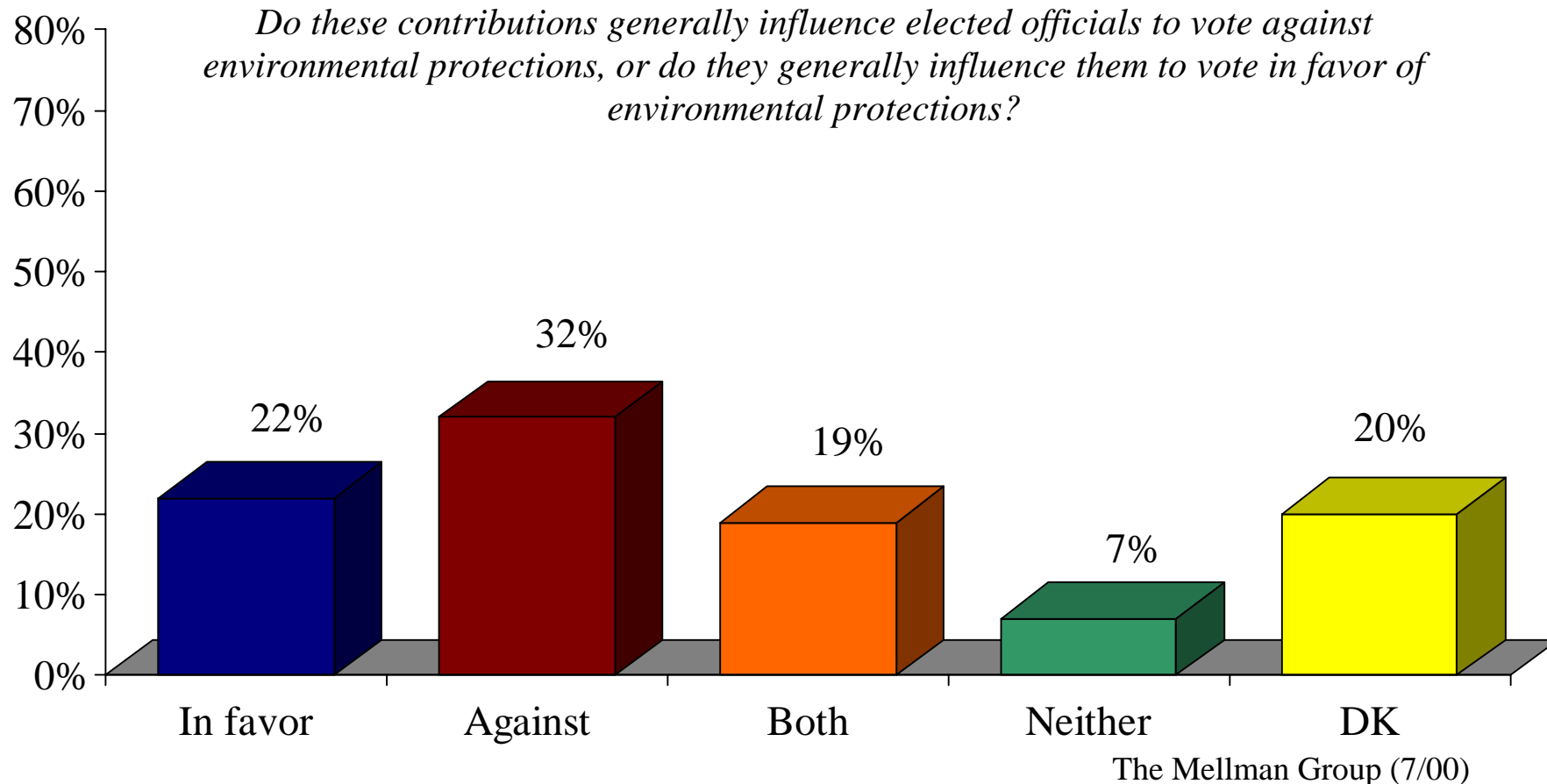
*When you think about campaign contributions to candidates, do you think campaign contributions influence how elected officials vote on environmental issues? [IF YES: Would you say contributions influence how elected officials vote a lot or a little?]*



*Darker Shading = Stronger Intensity*

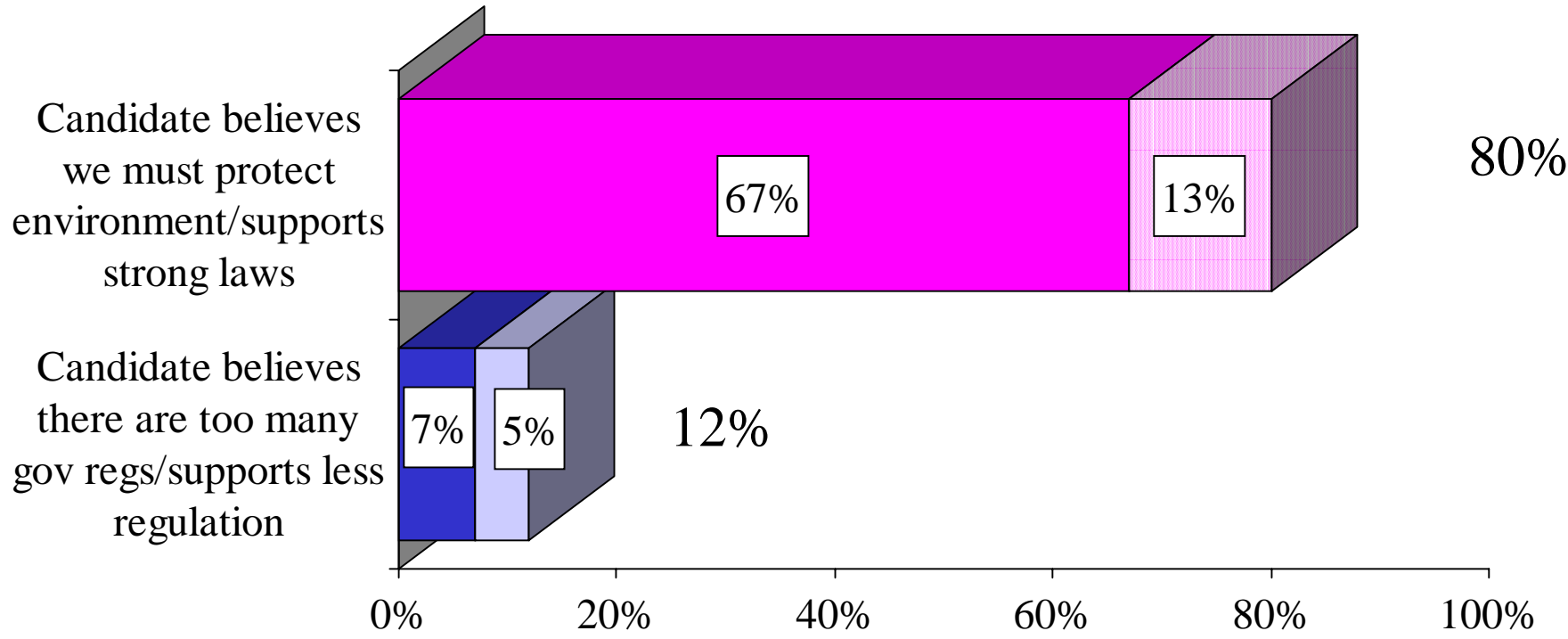
The Mellman Group (7/00)

# New Yorkers Are Somewhat More Likely To Believe Such Contributions Influence Elected Officials To Vote Against Environmental Protections



# By More Than 6 To 1, Citizens Prefer A Candidate Who Favors Strong Environmental Laws Over One Who Wants To Reduce Regulation On Business

*Please tell me which candidate you favor:*



*Darker Shading = Stronger Intensity*

# Almost 6 In 10 Believe Environmental Laws Need To Be More Strictly Enforced

Few Support Either The Status Quo Or Relaxed Standards

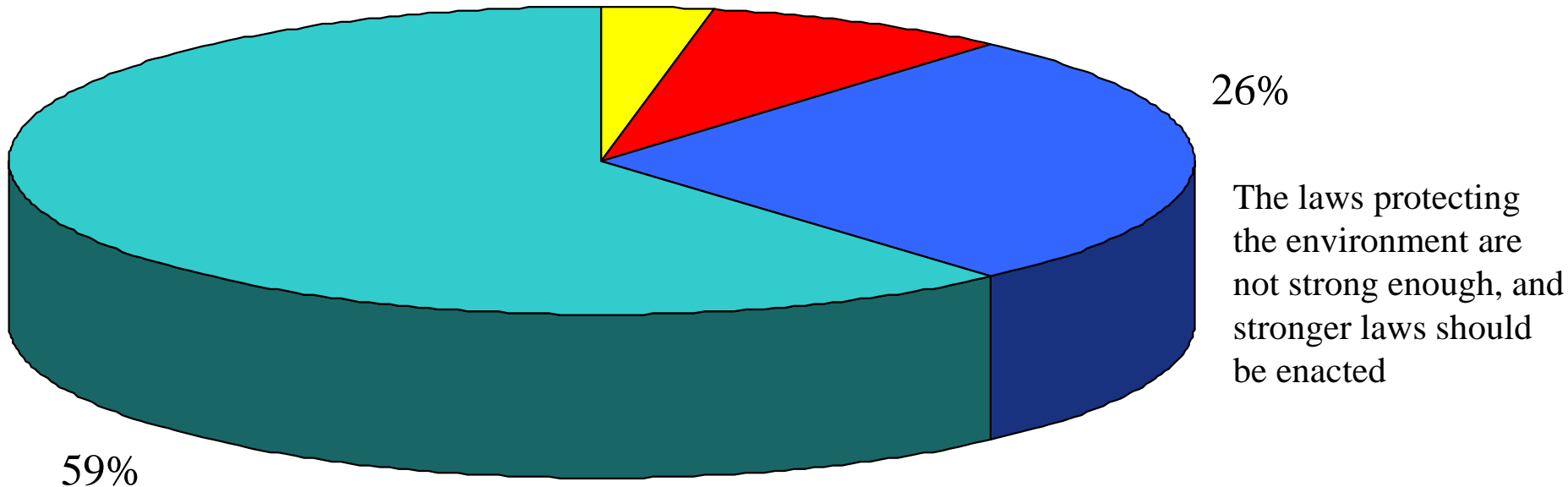
*Which of the following comes closer to your own view?*

Current laws protecting the environment are too strict and should be relaxed

3%

The current laws and enforcement are fine and should be left alone

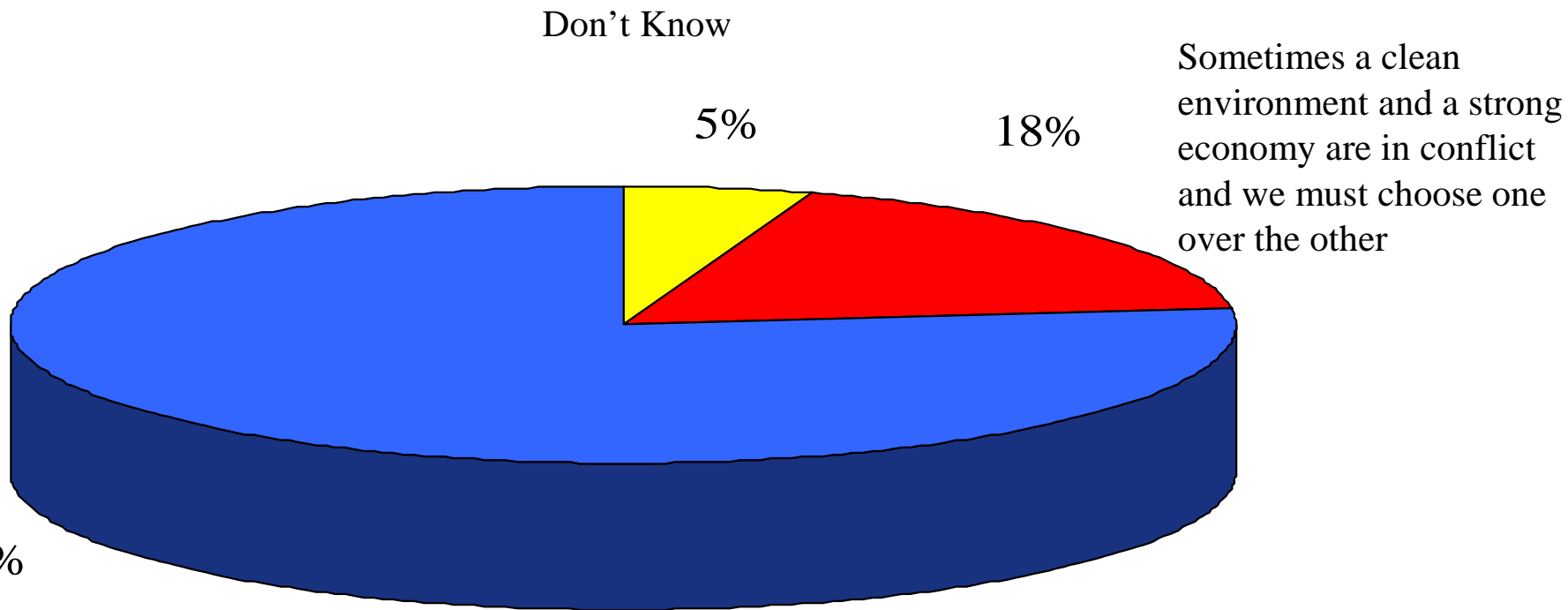
8%



Current laws are tough enough but they are not enforced, existing laws should be strictly enforced

# Three-Quarters Believe There Is No Conflict Between A Strong Economy And A Clean Environment

*Which of the following statements comes closer to your own view?*



We can have a clean environment and a strong economy at the same time without having to choose one over the other

# Those Who Do See A Conflict Are Split Between Choosing A Strong Economy And Clean Environment

*Among those who say there is a conflict: If the choice must be made between a clean environment and a strong economy, which would you choose – the environment or the economy?*

