



NEW ENGLAND ENERGY ALLIANCE 2014 NEW ENGLAND CONSUMER ENERGY SURVEY

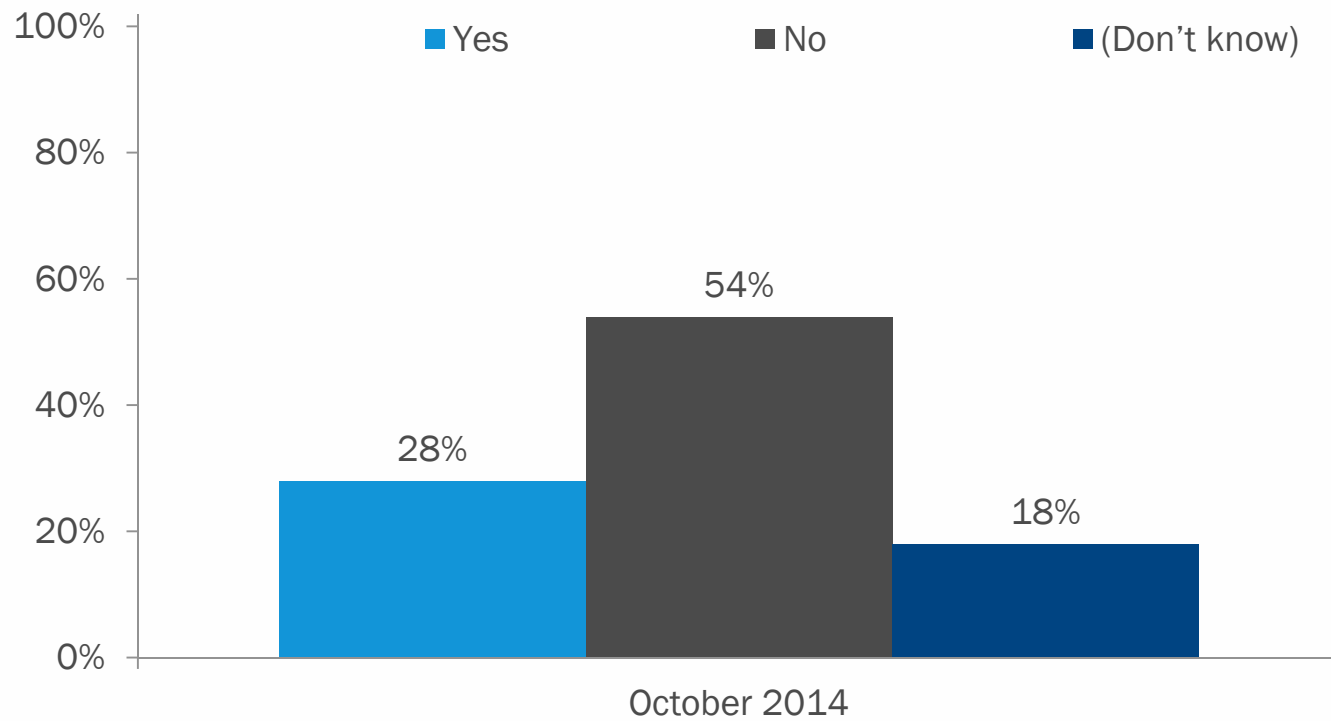
November 2014



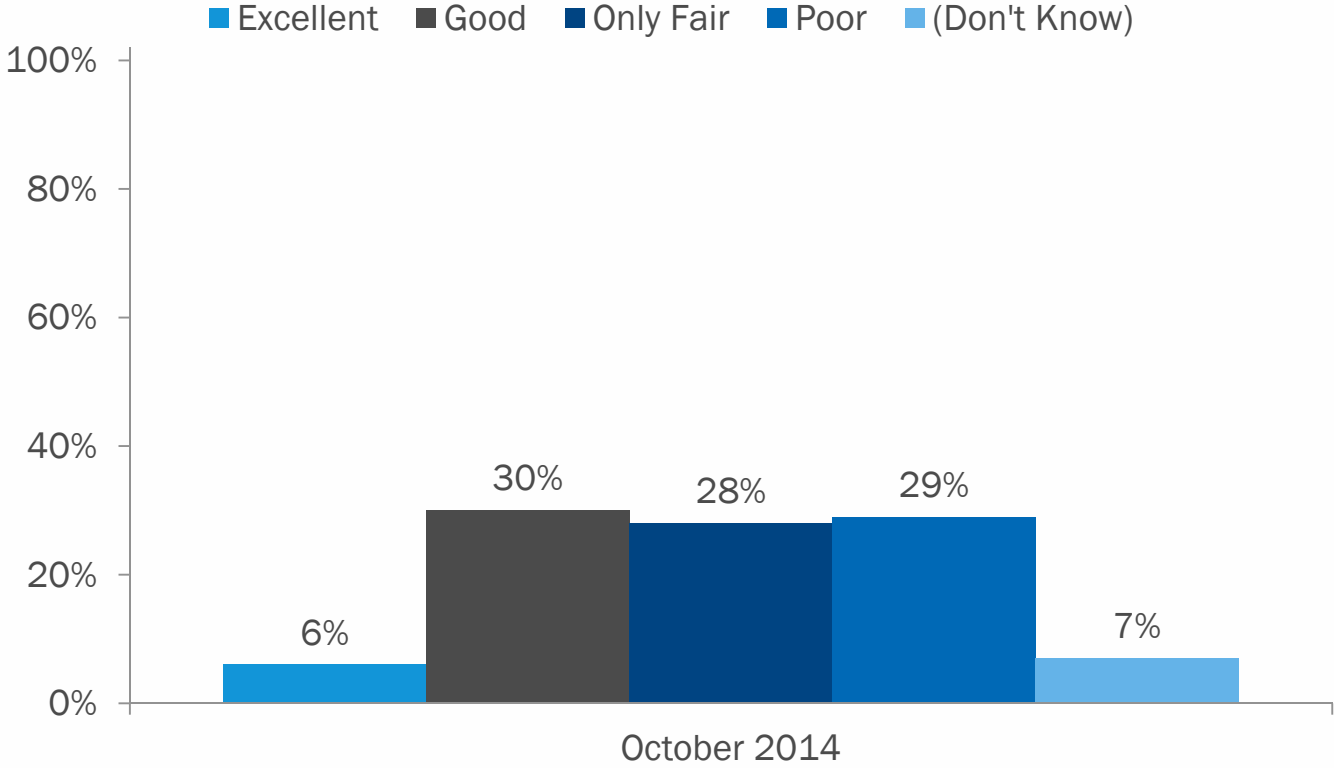
About the Survey

- Telephone Interview Dates: October 21st – November 1st, 2014
 - 500 interviews completed in New England proportionately distributed throughout the region
 - Margin of error is $\pm 4.4\%$
- Tracking data shown for past surveys conducted in New England in April 2013, April, 2012, May 2011, April 2010, January 2009, and April 2008

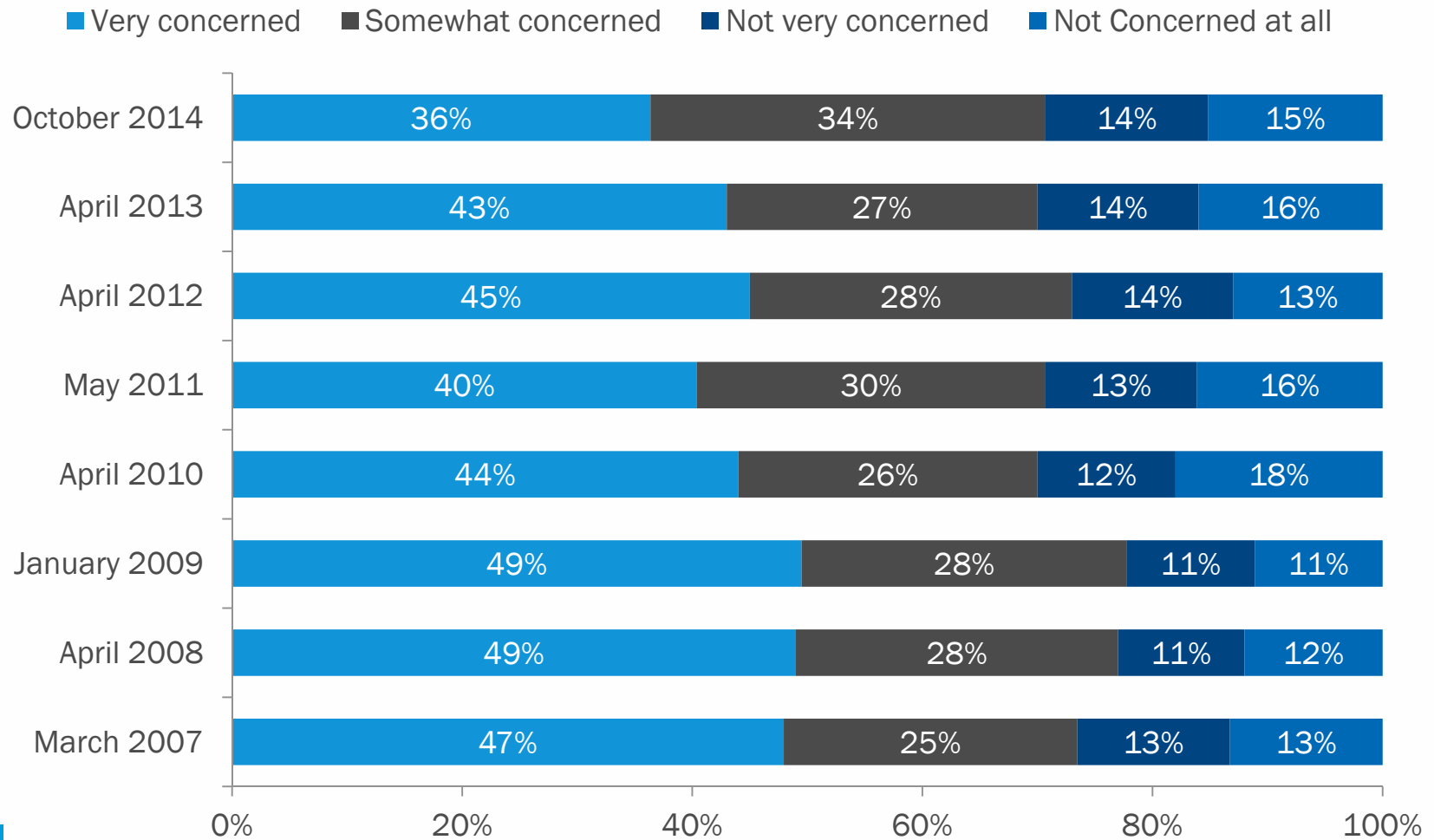
Do you think the candidates for governor in your state are discussing energy-related issues enough in their campaigns?



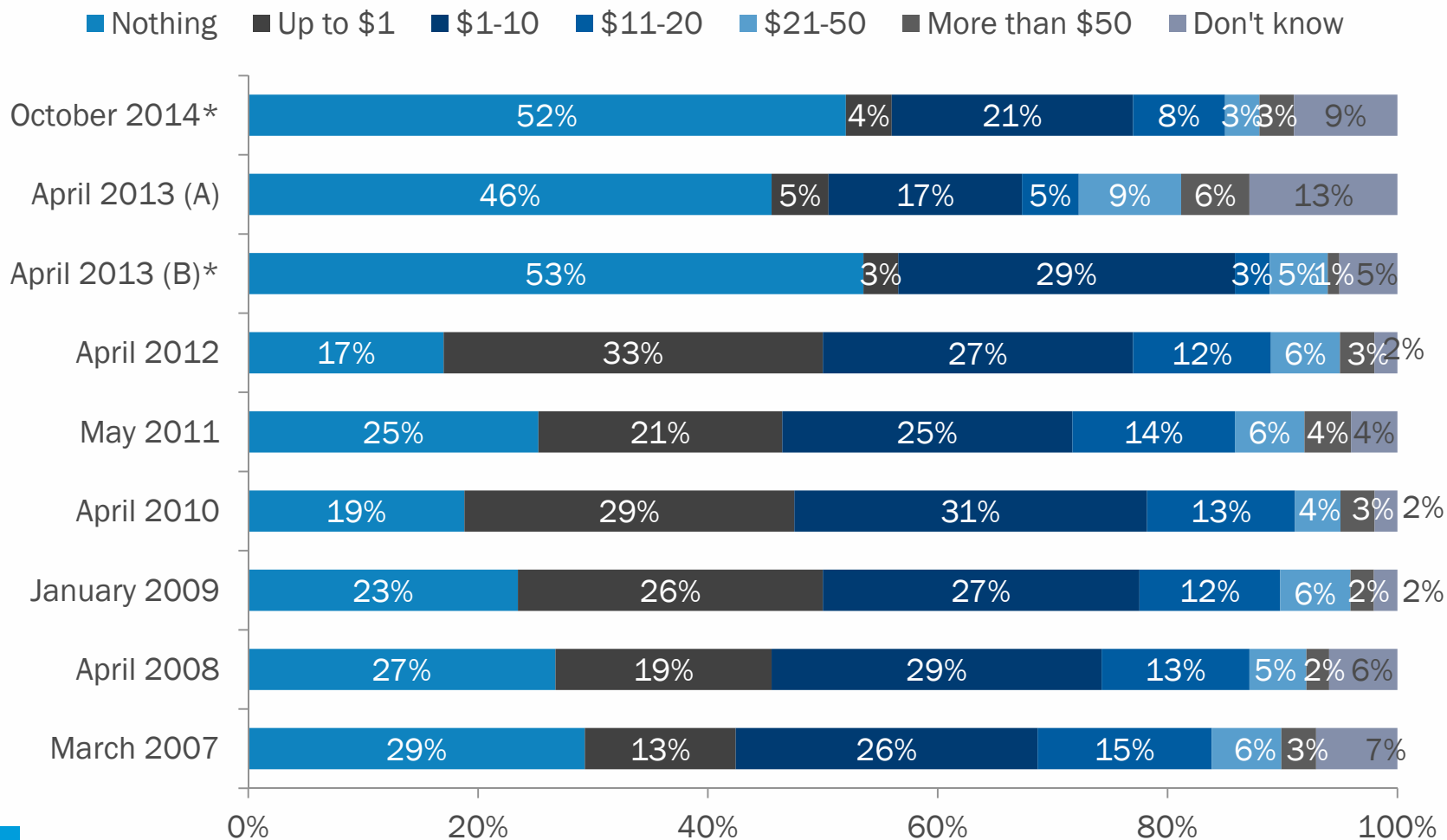
How would you rate the job your current Governor is doing on assuring an adequate supply of affordable energy for your state?



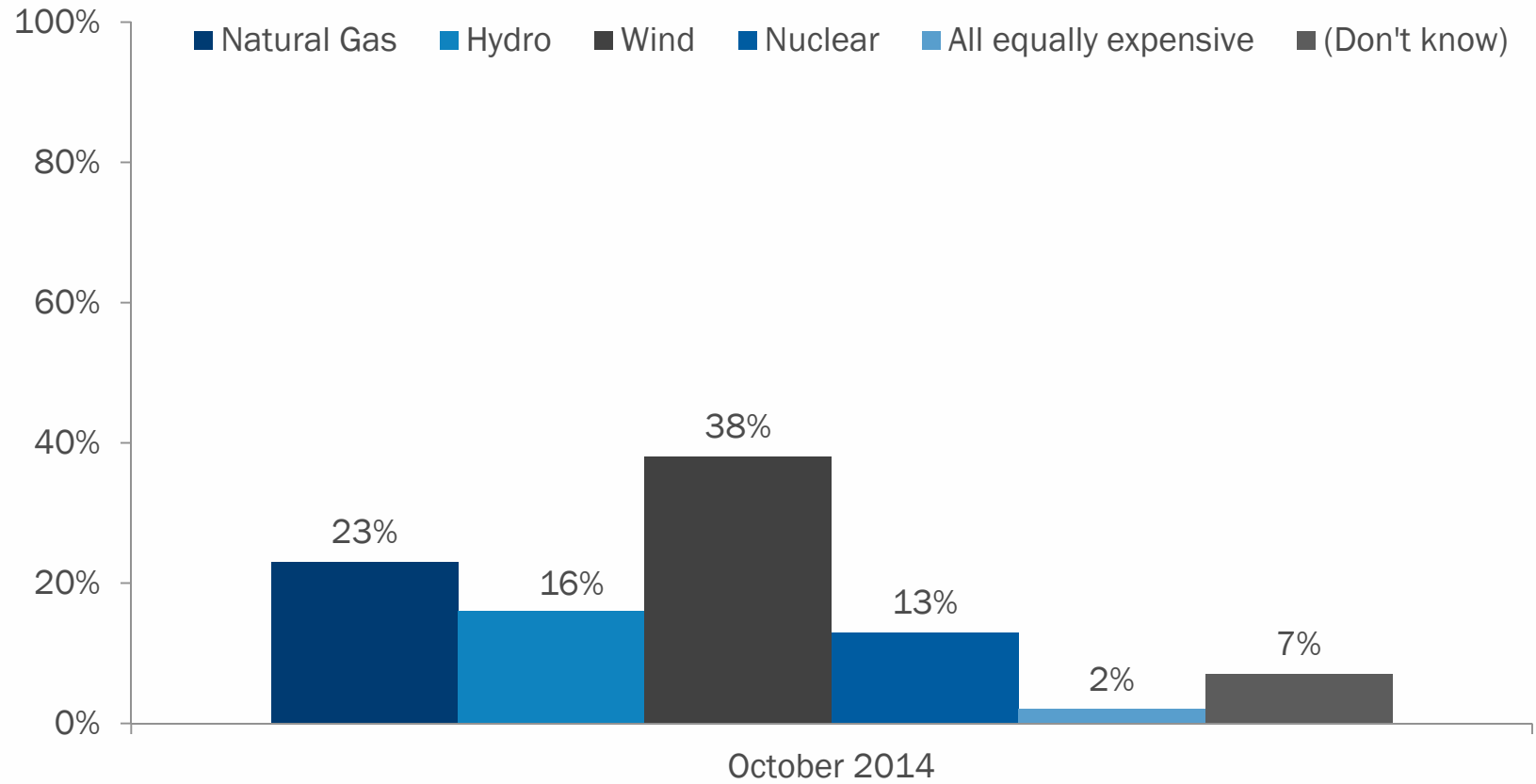
In general, how concerned are you about the effects of climate change?



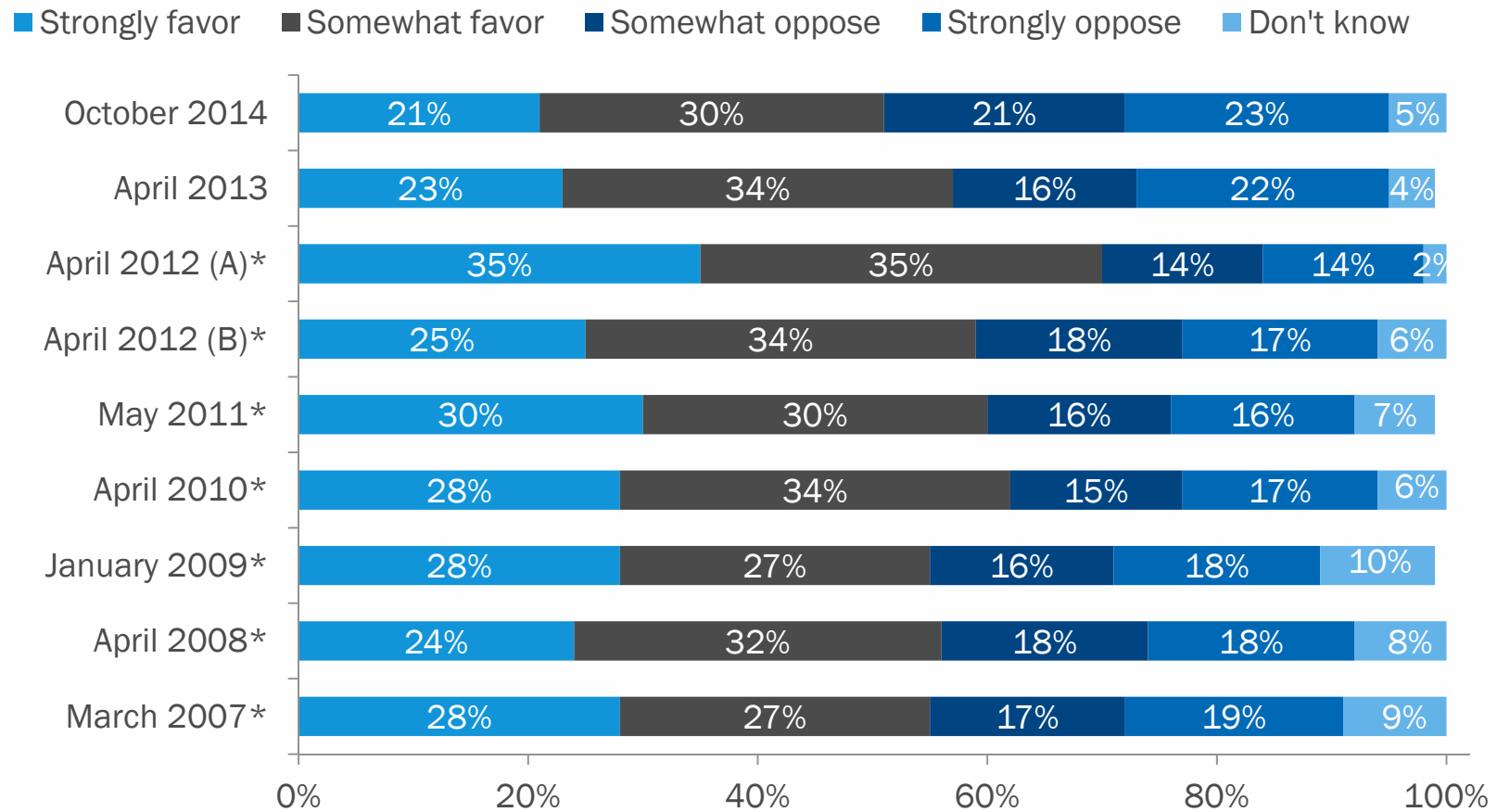
About how much more per month (beyond the five dollars you already pay) would you be willing to pay on your electric bill to fund state government efforts to limit the effects of climate change by reducing carbon dioxide emissions from power plants?



Which one of the following do you think is the least expensive resource for generating electricity

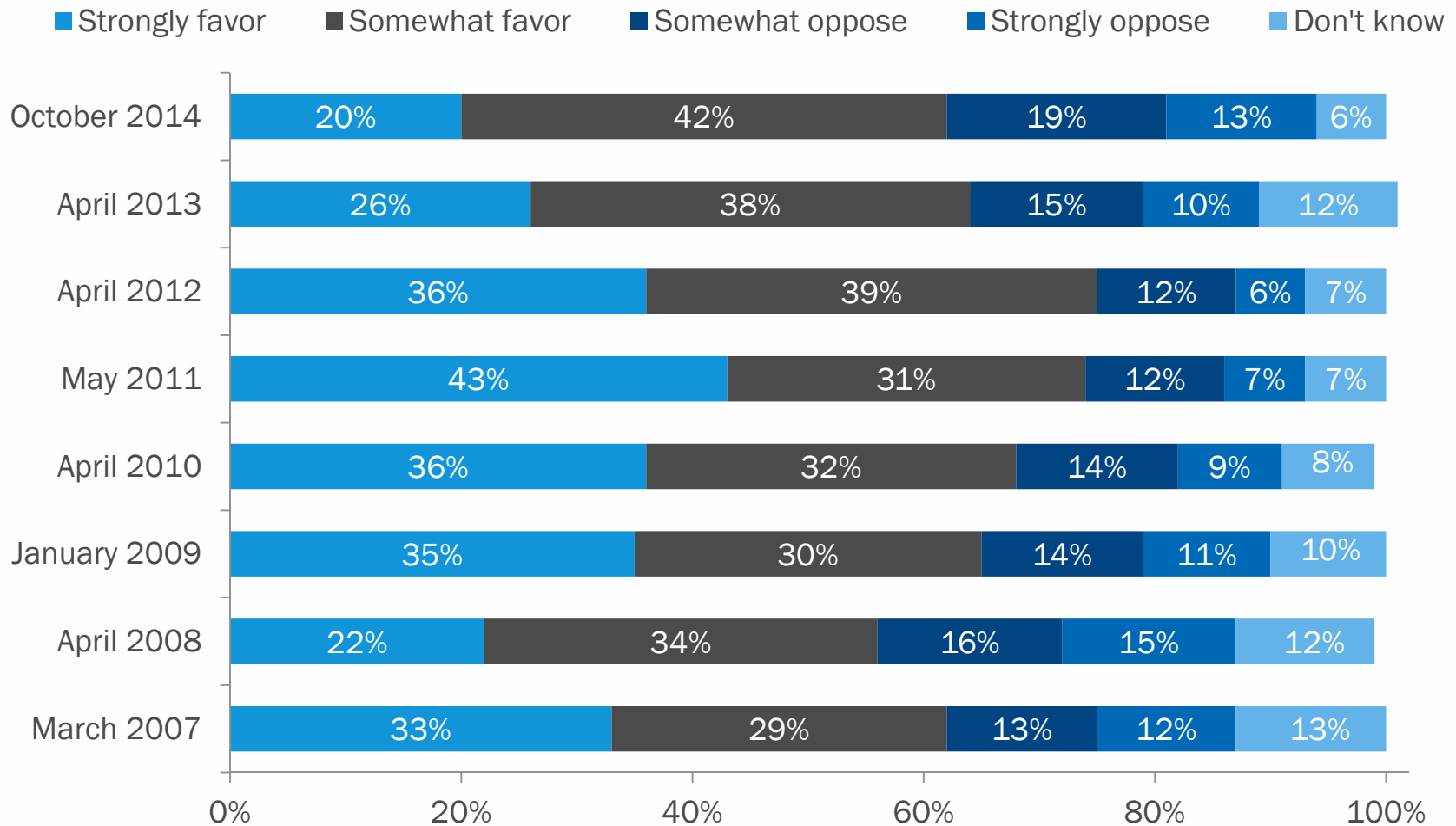


On the issue of renewing the licenses of existing nuclear energy plants, supporters say nuclear plants are safer and operating better than ever. In addition, they are nearly emission-free and don't contribute to climate change. Opponents say the plants are old and are too dangerous.

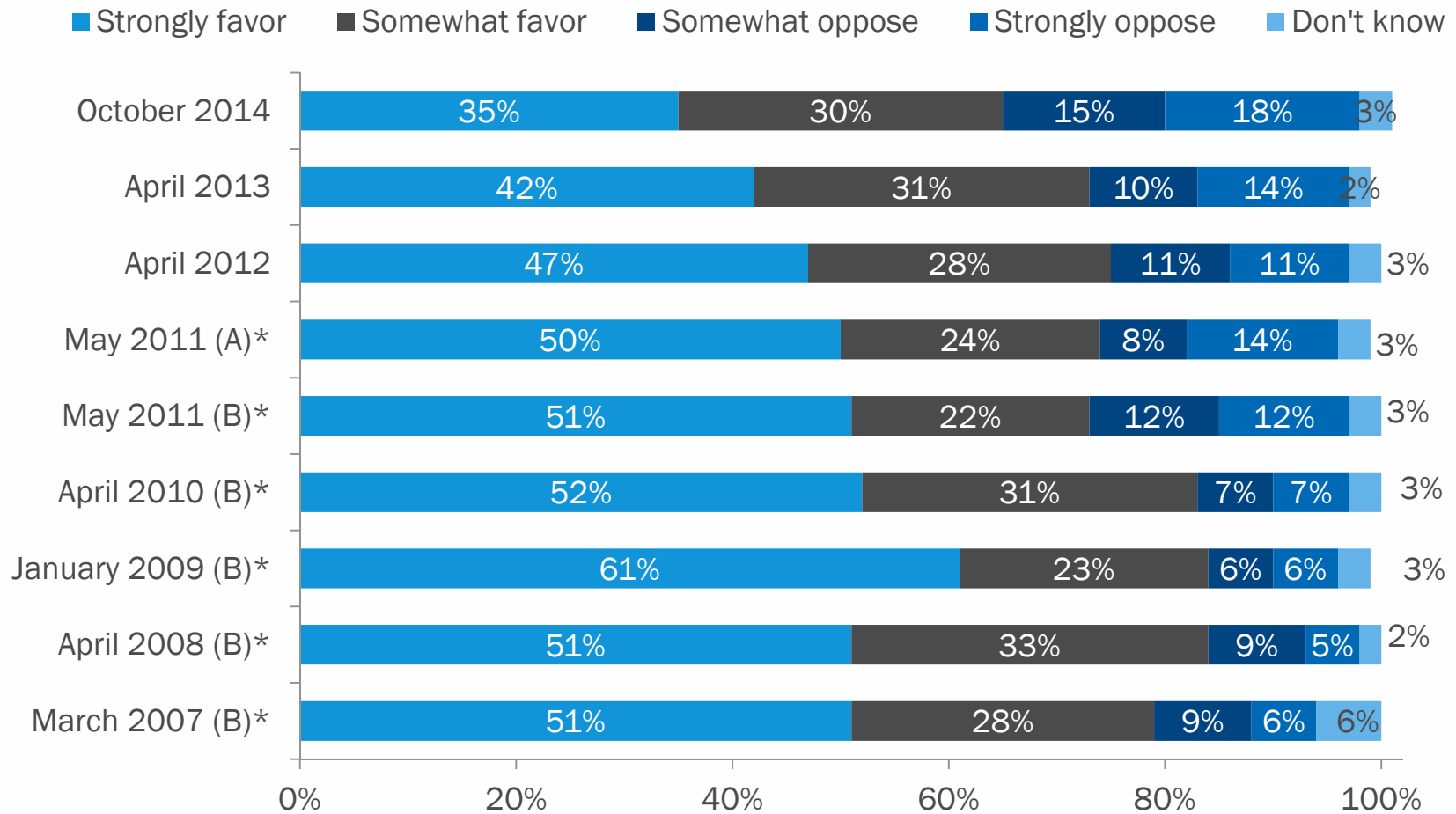


* Minor wording differences

On the issue of liquefied natural gas (LNG) terminals, supporters say LNG currently supplies up to 30% of the region's natural gas on a cold winter day, is needed to supplement pipeline supplies and has a proven track record of safety all over the world. Opponents point to safety concerns like vulnerability to a terrorist threat.

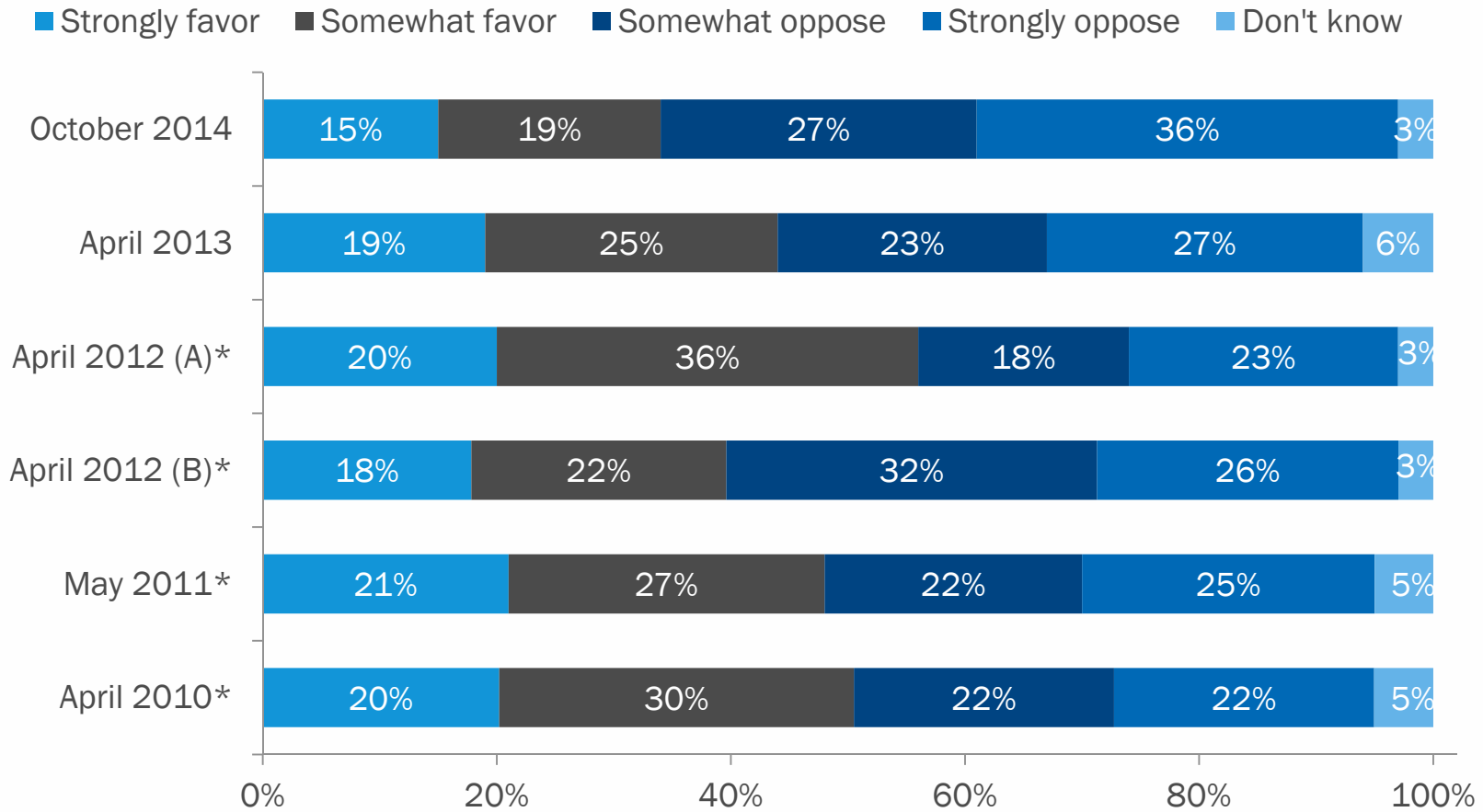


Supporters of wind farms say they don't emit greenhouse gases. Opponents say wind farms are ugly, expensive, and not practical because they only operate about 30% of the time and thus have to be backed up by another fuel source.



*Minor wording differences

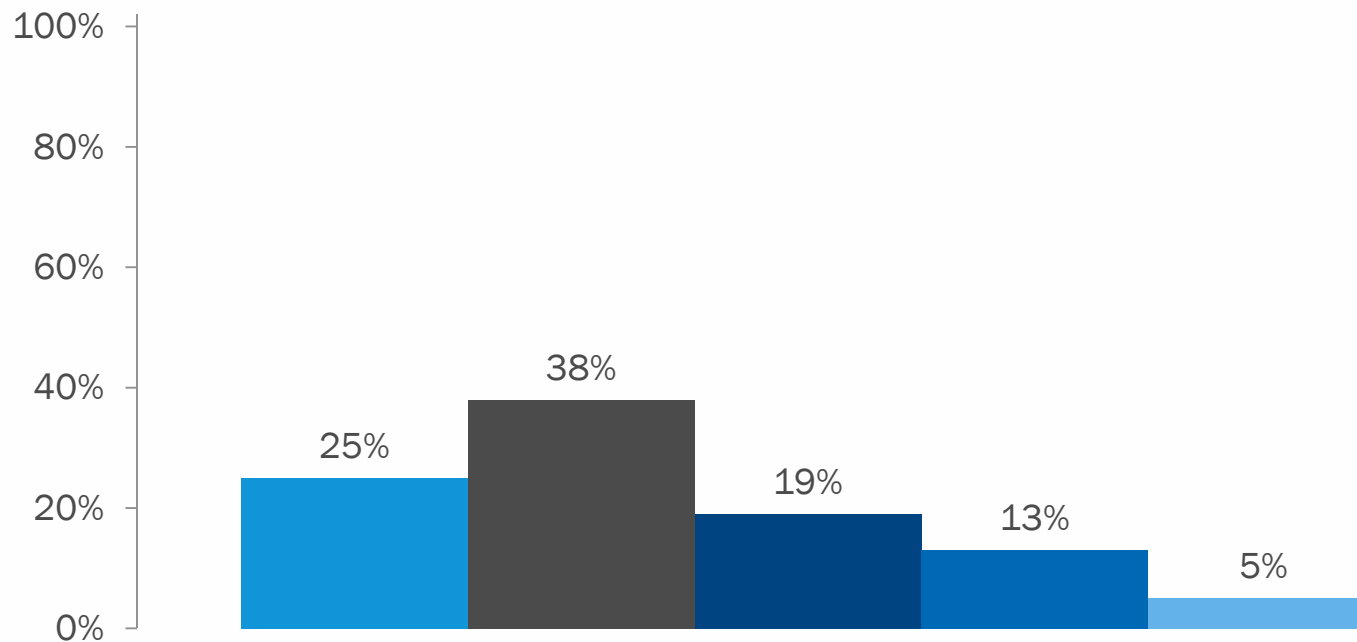
Supporters of new technology coal plants say these plants will emit less pollution and reduce greenhouse gas emissions compared to old coal plants and that coal is a low-cost, domestic source of electric power. Opponents say new technology coal plants still produce a lot of pollution and that coal-mining is harmful to the environment.



*Minor wording differences

Supporters of new natural gas plants state that they are highly efficient and emit substantially fewer carbon emissions than coal and oil-fired plants. Opponents say natural gas in New England is expensive and that we are already too dependent on it as a source of heating and electric power generation.

■ Strongly favor ■ Somewhat favor ■ Somewhat oppose ■ Strongly oppose ■ Don't know



**We asked this question in 2007 and 2008 (Results were about the same)*

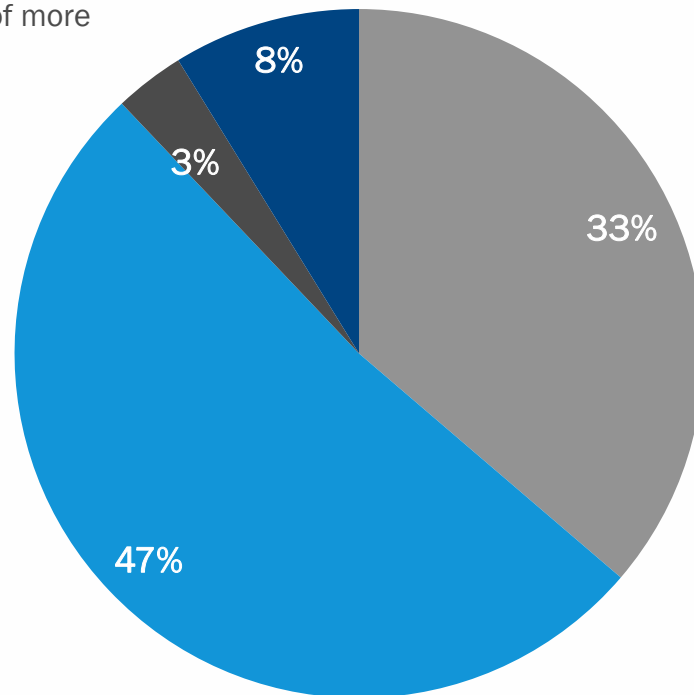


All six New England states have committed to reducing carbon emissions from electricity generating plants. To meet these goals, which one of the following options would you be more in favor of...

- Build a single major transmission line to Canada that would be paid for by a tax on your electric bill and require New England utilities to enter into long-term contracts—lasting up to 15 years—to import renewable Canadian hydropower.
- Develop more renewable resources here in New England even if it means more expensive electricity and the construction of more transmission lines.

■ Combination

■ Neither



When energy infrastructure is built, there is some financial risk involved. Which one of the following statements would you agree with more...

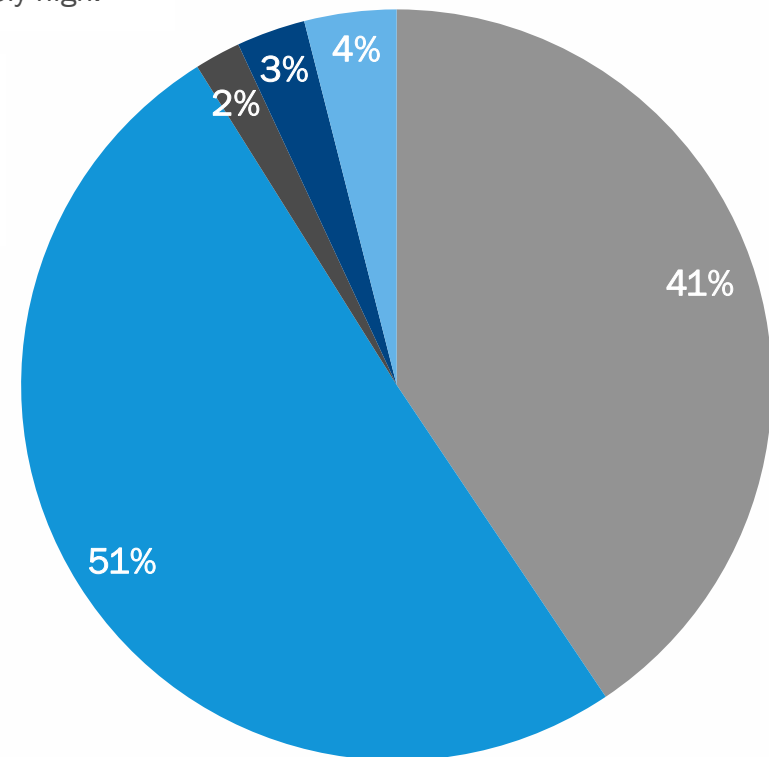
■ I support an electric infrastructure plan that is based on a competitive marketplace with financial risk borne by private investors not consumers – even if this means supplies and costs may fluctuate at times during heat waves or cold spells when demand for energy is extremely high.

■ Ensuring an adequate supply of electric power is too important to be left to the competitive marketplace – it should be the responsibility of state regulatory agencies to ensure we have a reliable supply of energy with the financial risk spread fairly among all consumers.

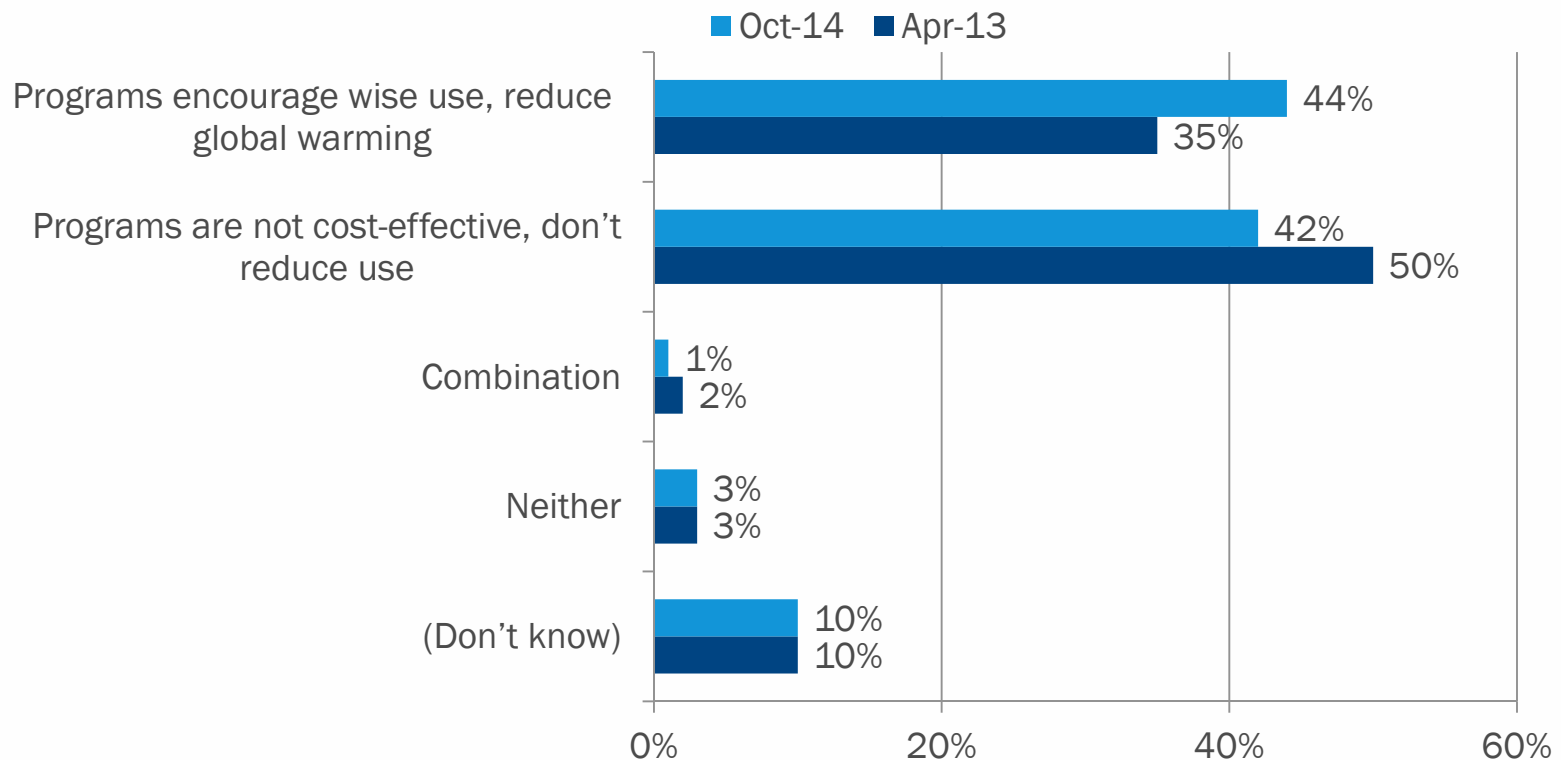
■ Combination

■ Neither

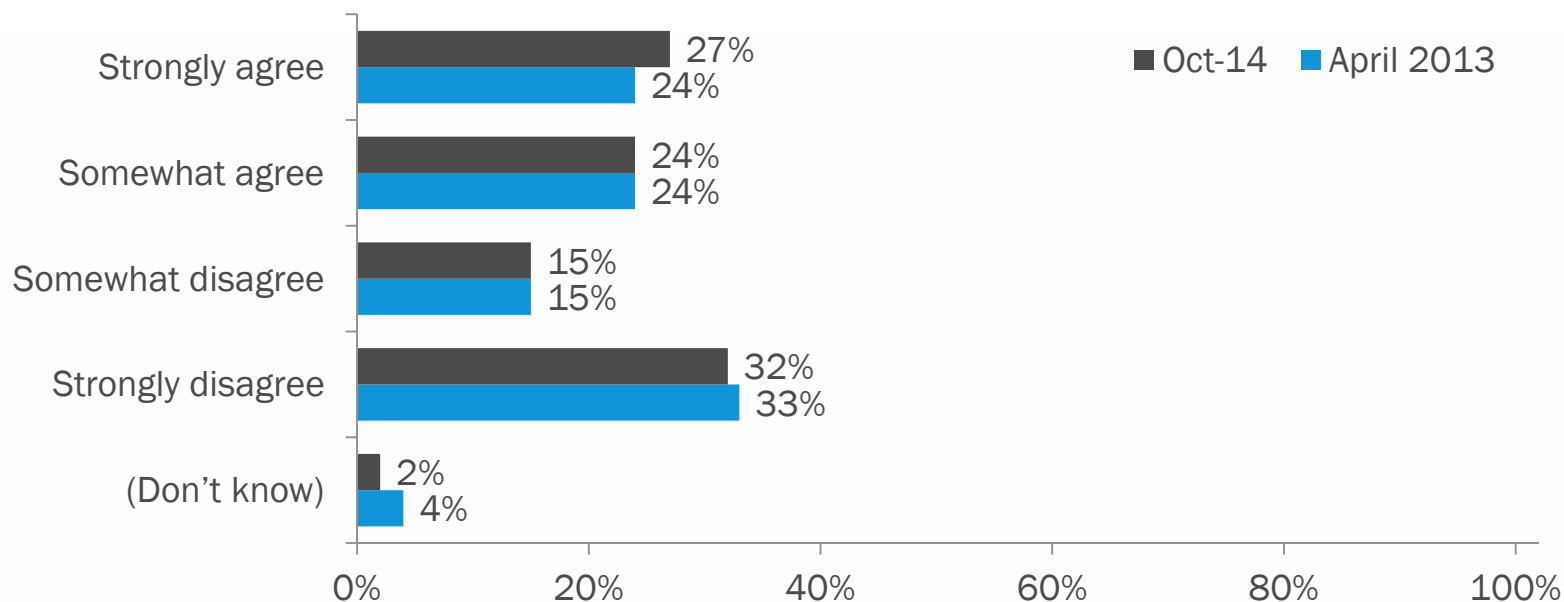
■ (Don't know)



In some states, a surcharge is paid by all electric customers to fund energy efficiency programs that only some customers are in a position to take advantage of. To date, the New England states have spent over a billion dollars on such programs and plan to spend an additional \$5 billion over the next six years. Some people say these programs help encourage the wise use of electricity, reducing electricity growth and the effects of climate change. Others say these programs are not cost-effective, and do little to reduce electricity usage or help climate change. Which of these positions is closer to your own?



Would you strongly agree, somewhat agree, somewhat disagree or strongly disagree with the following statement: *I would make the choice to purchase all of my electricity from renewable resources to protect the environment, even if it means paying \$30 more per month on my electric bill.*



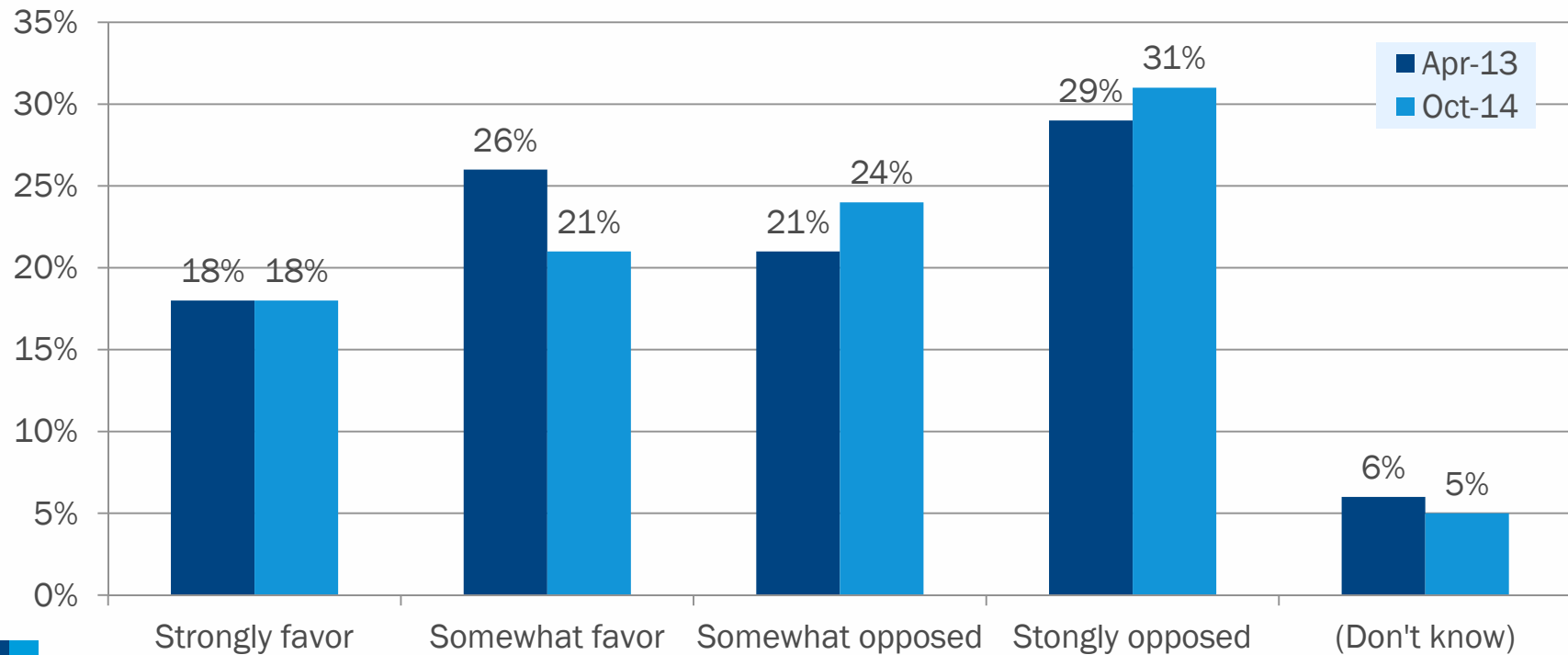
For Reference: I would purchase so called “green electricity” which is produced by renewable sources like wind facilities, solar collectors and bio-mass farms to protect the environment even if it means paying about 25%* more for electricity.

*Added version: I would make the choice to purchase all of my electricity from renewable resources to protect the environment, even if it means paying about [VERSION A: \$30 more per month] [VERSION B: \$360 more per year] for my electricity.

	<u>Mean</u>	<u>1-Strongly disagree</u>	<u>2</u>	<u>3</u>	<u>4</u>	<u>5-Strongly agree</u>	<u>(Don't know)</u>
April 2012 (A)*	3.04	24%	10	26	20	21	-
April 2012 (B)*	2.83	30%	13	22	13	21	1
May 2011	2.86	28%	13	20	17	20	1
April 2010	3.05	26%	9	22	17	25	1



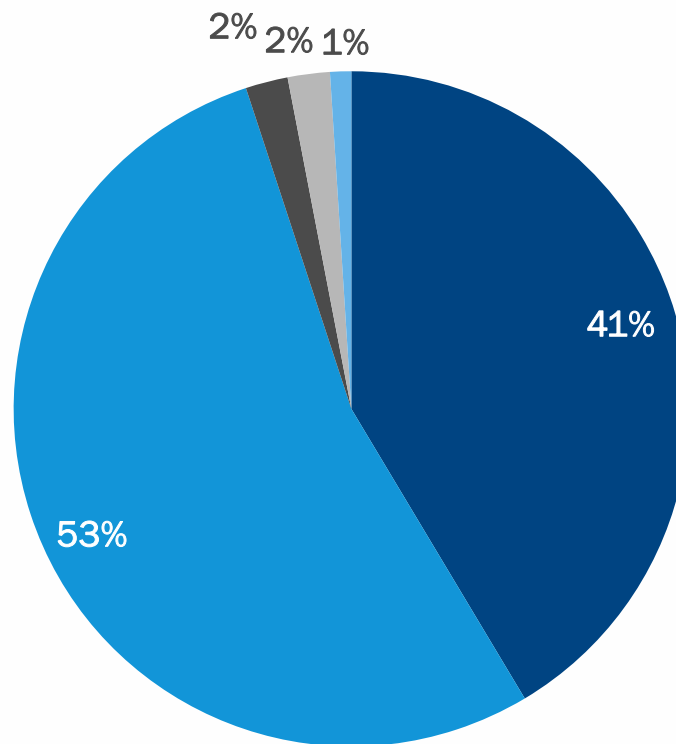
As you may know, a technique known as "fracking" uses pressurized water to extract energy resources from rock formations. In the United States, it has mostly been used to get natural gas from underground shale formations. Some people say that 'fracking' has dramatically increased the supply of natural gas in the United States, lowered energy costs and revitalized the economies of many states by adding hundreds of thousands of new jobs. Others say 'fracking' can potentially lead to groundwater contamination, cause earthquakes and lead to oil spills. Based on this information, would you strongly favor, somewhat favor, somewhat oppose or strongly oppose the use of 'fracking' to produce some or all natural gas or electricity supplied to New England?



Which one of the following statements is closest to your opinion...

October 2014

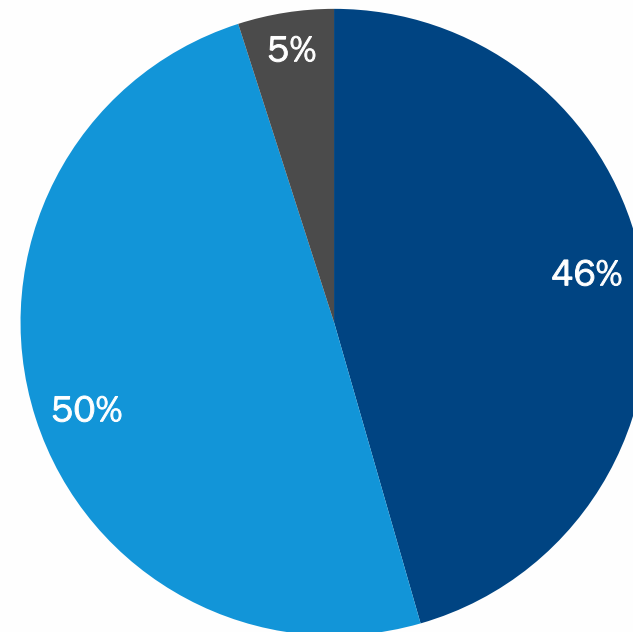
- New England should continue to be a national leader on environmental regulations—even if it means higher energy prices.
- New England should do more to ensure affordable energy and be less concerned about being a national leader in setting environmental standards.
- Combination
- Neither
- (Don't know)



As you may know, renewable energy plants such as wind, solar and hydro do not release any fossil-fuel emissions into the atmosphere and therefore some call them “clean energy” facilities. Nuclear power plants also do not release any fossil-fuel emissions into the atmosphere. Based on this information, do you think nuclear power plants should also be considered as “clean energy” facilities, or not?

October 2014

- Yes, nuclear power plants should be considered “clean energy”
- No, nuclear power plants should not be considered “clean energy”
- Not sure

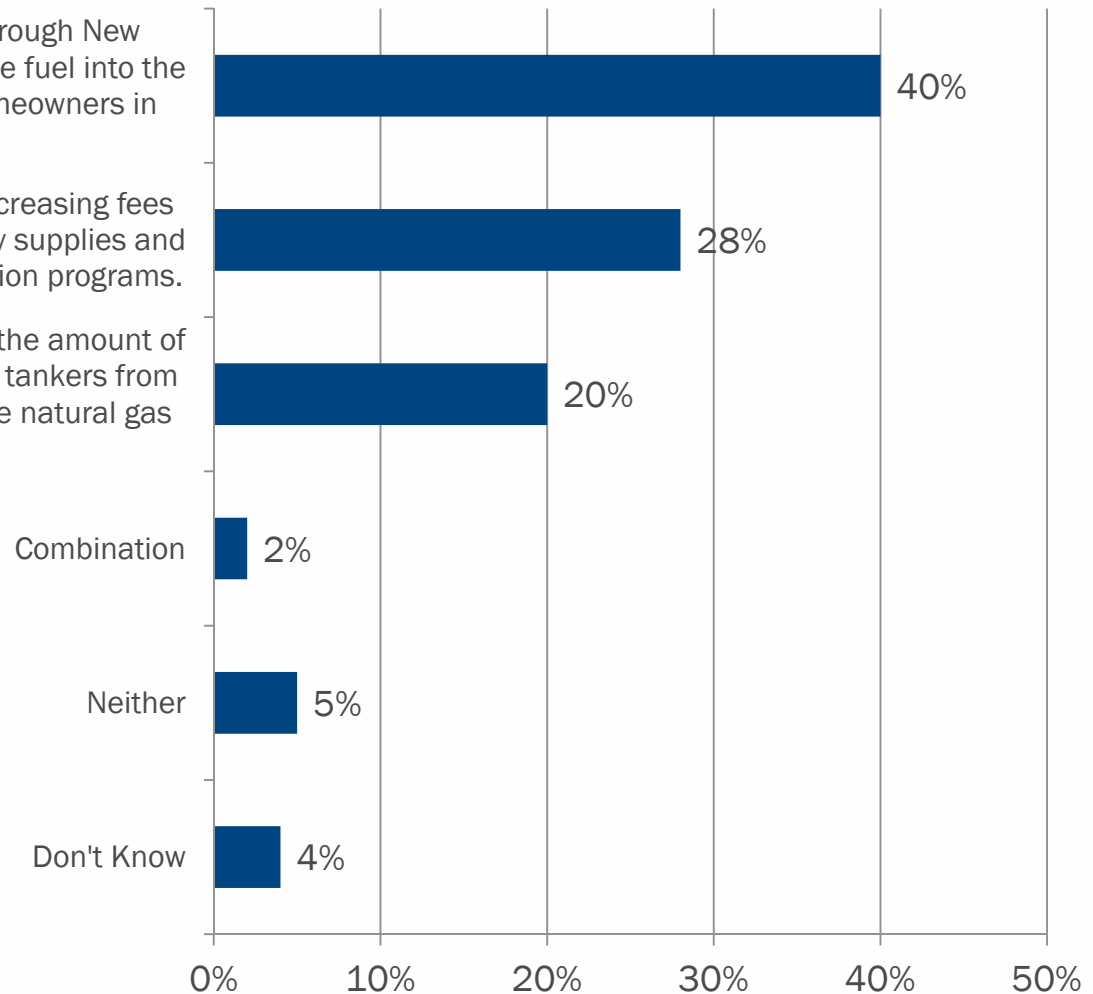


Over half of New England's electricity is generated by natural gas, resulting in some of the highest electricity prices in the country. As a result, New England's Governors are developing strategies to bring more natural gas supplies to the region. Which one of the following three solutions would you be most in favor of:

Build a major new natural gas pipeline through New England that would bring large supplies of the fuel into the region—but that would be disruptive to homeowners in some cities and towns.

Reduce the region's use of natural gas by increasing fees on monthly consumer electric bills to diversify supplies and significantly expand efficiency and conservation programs.

Use existing import facilities to increase the amount of liquefied natural gas that is imported by tankers from foreign countries to supplement pipeline natural gas supplies.



Demographics

Gender:	Female	49%	Less than high school (1-11)	1%
	Male	51	Graduated high school (12)	17
Age:	18-25	7%	Some college/Tech./Voc.	23
	26-35	11	Graduated college	34
	36-45	21	Completed graduate/professional school	25
	46-55	22	(Don't know/Refused)	0
	56-64	16	Democrat	30%
	65+	22	Republican	16
	(Refused)	1	(Independent/Unenrolled)	32
HHI:	\$0-19,999	4%	(Other)	19
	\$20-34,999	7	(Don't know/Refused)	2
	\$35-49,999	11		
	\$50-\$74,999	16		
	\$75-\$99,999	14		
	\$100-\$150,000	16		
	Over \$150,000	18		
(Refused/Don't know)	14			

