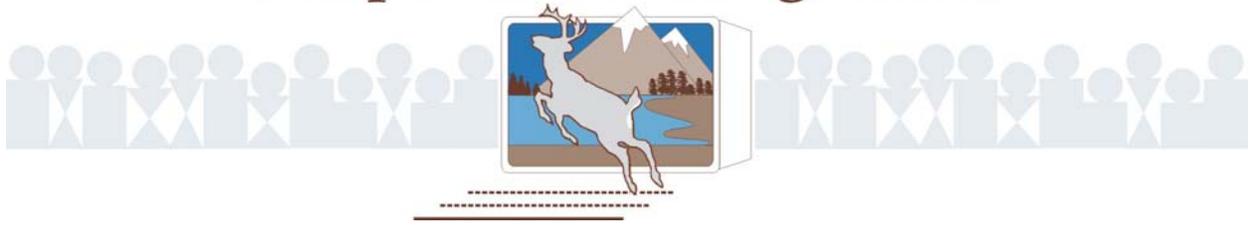


# Responsive Management



## **PENNSYLVANIA TROUT FISHING SURVEY**

**Conducted for the Pennsylvania Fish and Boat Commission**

**by Responsive Management**

**2008**

# **PENNSYLVANIA TROUT FISHING SURVEY**

**2008**

## **Responsive Management National Office**

Mark Damian Duda, Executive Director  
Martin Jones, Senior Research Associate  
Tom Beppler, Research Associate  
Steven J. Bissell, Ph.D., Qualitative Research Associate  
Andrea Criscione, Research Associate  
Brad Hepler, Ph.D., Research Associate  
James B. Herrick, Ph.D., Research Associate  
Amanda Ritchie, Research Associate  
Carol L. Schilli, Research Associate  
Tim Winegord, Survey Center Manager  
Alison Lanier, Business Manager

130 Franklin Street  
Harrisonburg, VA 22801  
Phone: 540/432-1888 Fax: 540/432-1892  
E-mail: [mark@responsivemanagement.com](mailto:mark@responsivemanagement.com)  
[www.responsivemanagement.com](http://www.responsivemanagement.com)

## **Acknowledgements**

Responsive Management would like to thank Leroy M. Young, David A. Miko, and Tom Greene of the Pennsylvania Fish and Boat Commission for their input, support, and guidance on this project.

## EXECUTIVE SUMMARY

### INTRODUCTION AND METHODOLOGY

This study was conducted for the Pennsylvania Fish and Boat Commission (Commission) to determine trout anglers' opinions on trout fishing in Pennsylvania, their opinions on various fishing regulations, and their opinions on the Commission and its programs. The study entailed a telephone survey of licensed Pennsylvania anglers aged 16 years or older who fished for trout in 2007.

The sample, which consisted of anglers who had purchased either a Combination Trout-Salmon/Lake Erie Permit or a Trout-Salmon Stamp, was obtained from three different sources: paper records of license purchases, an electronic file of Internet-based online sales referred to as "The Outdoor Shop," and another electronic file of data from the PayPal system referred to as point-of-sale records. Because the records in the three samples were not proportional to the total sales, the results were weighted to properly proportion the sample. The sample was not made to obtain specific *license* types but was instead dependent only on the purchase of the two *stamps* mentioned above. For instance, Senior Resident Lifetime licensees were not specifically obtained for the sample, the final sample, nonetheless, contained 69 respondents with this license type.

For the survey, telephones were selected as the preferred sampling medium because of the universality of telephone ownership. The telephone survey questionnaire was developed cooperatively by Responsive Management and the Commission (see Appendix A for a list of questions asked). Responsive Management conducted a pre-test of the questionnaire and made any necessary revisions to the questionnaire based on the pre-test. Interviews were conducted Monday through Friday from 9:00 a.m. to 9:00 p.m., Saturday noon to 5:00 p.m., and Sunday from 5:00 p.m. to 9:00 p.m., local time. The survey was conducted in March and April 2008. Responsive Management obtained a total of 1,562 completed interviews. The software used for data collection was Questionnaire Programming Language 4.1.

The analysis of data was performed using Statistical Package for the Social Sciences software as well as proprietary software developed by Responsive Management. Throughout this report,

findings of the telephone survey are reported at a 95% confidence interval. For the entire sample of Pennsylvania trout anglers, the sampling error is at most plus or minus 2.48 percentage points.

## LICENSE TYPES

- The overwhelming majority of licensed anglers (91%) had a Resident fishing license in 2007. Otherwise, 4% had a Non-Resident license, 2% had a Senior Resident license, and 1% had a Lifetime Senior Resident license, with the remaining small percentage having various Tourist licenses or a National Guard & Armed Forces Reserve license.
  - Overall, 94% of licensed trout anglers in 2007 were residents of Pennsylvania, while 6% were out-of-state residents.
  - The majority of licensed trout anglers (83%) bought a Trout-Salmon Stamp, while 16% purchased a Combination Trout-Salmon/Lake Erie Permit. These percentages are based on the survey; a comparison to actual Commission records is provided below.

STAMP TYPE	2007 COMMISSION RECORDS	SURVEY DATA (before weighting)	SURVEY DATA (weighted data)
Trout-Salmon	86.2%	77.5%	82.9%
Combination Trout-Salmon/Lake Erie Permit	13.8%	20.1%	15.6%
Don't know	NA	2.4%	1.5%

- The top counties in which licenses were purchased, based on survey results, are Allegheny (8.6%), Bucks (4.3%), Elk (4.0%), Berks (3.8%), Cumberland (3.7%), Butler (3.5%) and Montgomery (3.0%).

## TROUT FISHING METHODS AND TROUT SPECIES FISHED

- The overwhelming majority of trout anglers use bait at least some of the time when they trout fish in Pennsylvania (82% use bait), while a large majority use artificial lures (59%), and less than a majority (40%) use flies.
- The majority (53%) of Pennsylvania trout anglers *prefer* to use bait. Artificial lures (16%) and flies (15%) are preferred by much lower percentages.

- The majority of Pennsylvania trout anglers (61%) mostly release the trout they catch, which is five times the percentage (12%) who mostly keep the trout they catch. Overall, 88% catch-and-release their trout at least half of the time.
- Most commonly, Pennsylvania trout anglers (34%) indicate that they have no preference regarding the type of trout that they fish for. Otherwise, they are fairly evenly distributed among the types of trout preferred, with rainbow (27%) slightly preferred over brook (20%) and brown (19%) trout.

### **MOTIVATIONS FOR TROUT FISHING IN PENNSYLVANIA**

- Findings of the survey suggest that anglers have multiple motivations, with recreational and social motivations being primary, and utilitarian motivations being secondary, although important nonetheless.
  - The top motivations for trout fishing in Pennsylvania are recreational and social: 38% say their single most important reason for trout fishing is for relaxation, 28% say it is for the sport, 21% say it is to be with family and friends, and 6% say it is to be close to nature. Note that only 3% do so to catch fresh fish to eat, 2% do so to catch a lot of fish, and less than 1% do so to catch large fish.
- The survey asked 13 individual questions about things that might encourage the respondent to go trout fishing more often in Pennsylvania. For each item, the survey asked, “Would this strongly encourage you, moderately encourage you, or not encourage you at all to go trout fishing more often in Pennsylvania?” Then the results of the 13 questions were put onto a single graph, thereby showing the ranking of the items.
  - The top things that would *strongly* encourage the respondent to go trout fishing more often are having a child ask the respondent to take him or her fishing (84% said this would strongly encourage them to go trout fishing more) and receiving an invitation from a friend (63%). Also notably higher than the rest are if more trout were stocked in Pennsylvania waters (57%) and if more opportunities existed to access trout waters from private land (46%).

### **FISHING COMPANIONS**

- The most common fishing companions among Pennsylvania trout anglers are children (37% say that they usually go fishing in Pennsylvania with children), friends (36%), spouses (17%), and other extended family members in general (15%). Meanwhile, 14% say that they usually go alone.
  
- The survey asked directly about the number of children living at home that the angler took fishing in Pennsylvania in 2007. Out of all Pennsylvania trout anglers, 34% took a child (who lived at home) fishing in Pennsylvania in 2007 (57% do not have children living at home).

### **CONSUMPTION OF TROUT**

- The majority of Pennsylvania trout anglers (59%) eat at least some of the trout they catch in Pennsylvania (41% indicate eating no meals per month during trout season). Most typically, they eat only 1 or 2 meals per month of trout during the season.
  
- The large majority of trout anglers (75%) disagree that trout consumption advisories influence their frequency of trout fishing in Pennsylvania; meanwhile, 20% indicate that the consumption advisories influence their frequency of trout fishing.

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

- The overwhelming majority of Pennsylvania trout anglers (84%) were satisfied with their trout fishing in Pennsylvania in 2007, about evenly divided between *very* and *somewhat* satisfied. Only 13% were dissatisfied (most of that being *somewhat* dissatisfied rather than *very* dissatisfied).
  
- When asked in an open-ended question (meaning that no answer set is read to the respondent, who can give any answer that comes to mind) if there are any things that take away from their satisfaction or cause them not to participate as much as they would like, respondents most commonly said that nothing takes away from satisfaction/prevents participation (46%). Otherwise, the most commonly given answer is not enough time (16%), which is largely

outside of the Commission's influence. Next on the list are that fishing areas are too crowded (7%), that there are not enough trout (7%), the costs (6%), poor access (4%), and poor behavior of others (4%)—all items within the sphere of Commission influence.

- Half of Pennsylvania trout anglers (50%) say that the quality of trout fishing in Pennsylvania has remained the same over the past 5 years, the most common answer. Otherwise, they are divided, with 19% saying it has improved, and 25% saying it has declined.

### **FREQUENCY OF TROUT FISHING IN PENNSYLVANIA**

- There is a wide distribution of anglers according to avidity level as measured by days that they fished for trout in Pennsylvania in 2007. While 21% did so for only 1 to 5 days, 20% did so for more than 30 days. The median was 15 days.
- About a third of Pennsylvania trout anglers say that they fish for trout frequently after Memorial Day weekend, and another 38% do so occasionally (a sum of 71% who do so frequently or occasionally). Meanwhile, 23% do so rarely, and only 6% say that they never do.
  - The top reasons for rarely or never fishing for trout in Pennsylvania after Memorial Day weekend are that the angler simply does not have time to do so, that the weather is too hot, that there are not enough trout, and that the angler fishes for other species at that time (including fishing for bass in particular).
- Anglers who fish at least half the time for stocked trout were asked about the number of days they fished for stocked trout in *lakes* in Pennsylvania during the fall 2007: answers are concentrated at the lower numbers of days, with 30% doing so for 10 days or less, while the majority (59%) did not fish for stocked trout on *lakes* in the fall. They were asked the same question about fishing for stocked trout in *streams* in Pennsylvania during the fall 2007. Again, the answers are concentrated at the lower numbers of days: 43% did so for 10 days or less, while 30% did not fish for stocked trout in *streams* in the fall.

- Anglers who took children fishing primarily for stocked trout were asked how many days they had taken children fishing for stocked trout in lakes in Pennsylvania in 2007. The majority of those who took children fishing for stocked trout (54%) did so in lakes for 15 days or less. Meanwhile, 20% did not take a child fishing for stocked trout in lakes. The median number of days was 7 days. These anglers were also asked about the number of days they took children fishing for stocked trout in *streams*. Answers are more concentrated at the lower number of days (compared to fishing in *lakes*): 64% did so in streams for 15 days or less. The median number of days was 5 days. Meanwhile, 12% did not take a child fishing for stocked trout in streams.

#### **YEARS OF TROUT FISHING EXPERIENCE, NUMBER OF YEARS FISHED FOR TROUT IN PAST 5 YEARS, AND TRENDS IN FREQUENCY**

- Avidity among licensed anglers is fairly high, with 69% of them having fished all 5 of the past 5 years, and 75% having fished at least 4 of the past 5 years.
- The sample was fairly well distributed among categories of years fished: while 12% had fished for only 1-5 years, 16% had fished for more than 40 years. All the categories in between had from 7% to 15% in them. The median is 30 years.
- Most commonly, licensed trout anglers say their level of participation in the past 5 years has remained about the same (47%); otherwise, they are about evenly split between those who say their level of participation has increased (24%) and those who say it has decreased (29%).

#### **GENERAL LOCATIONAL DATA REGARDING TROUT FISHING**

- The top preferred bodies of water for trout fishing in Pennsylvania are Yellow Breeches Creek (3.98% of those anglers who stated a preference), the Allegheny River (2.72%), Bobs Creek (2.54%), Little Pine Creek (2.39%), and Kettle Creek (2.23%).

- Public land is, by far, more important than private land for trout fishing. The majority of Pennsylvania trout anglers (64%) fish for trout in Pennsylvania mostly on public land, and another 28% do so about equally on public and private (for a total of 92% who do so on public land at least half the time). Only 7% do so mostly on private land.
- Not surprisingly, the overwhelming majority of Pennsylvania trout anglers fish for trout mostly (if not exclusively) in rural areas (74%); however, about a fourth of trout anglers (26%) fish for trout in more urbanized (small city/town, suburban, or urban) areas.
- The questions regarding preferred fishing locations included the county in which the body of water is located. The counties in which the preferred bodies of water are located is shown, with no county markedly above the others. The top counties are Potter (4.3%), Cumberland (4.0%), Berks (3.8%), Elk (3.8%), Lehigh (3.1%), Dauphin (3.0%), and Allegheny (3.0%).
- About half of Pennsylvania trout anglers (49%) typically travel no more than 15 miles (one way) to trout fish in Pennsylvania; the median distance is 20 miles. The mean is 44.28 miles, which is substantially higher than the median, pulled up by the 21% who typically travel more than 50 miles.
- Stocked trout waters are important: 34% of Pennsylvania trout anglers say that *all* of their trout fishing trips are to stocked trout waters, and the overwhelming majority (93%) go to stocked trout waters at least half the time. Only 1% say that they never go to stocked trout waters.
  - In mentoring situations, stocked waters are extremely important, as a majority of those anglers who take a child (or children) fishing (66%) fish mostly for stocked trout, and nearly all (99%) fish for stocked trout at least half of the time. Only 1% take children fishing mostly for wild trout.

- The survey asked five individual questions about the importance of certain features of trout fishing locations. For each question, the survey asked if it is very important, somewhat important, or not at all important when choosing a fishing location.
  - When choosing a location, the top-ranked consideration is that the location is stocked with trout (50% say it is *very* important), by far more important than the other features. That the location is close to home is second-ranked (27% say this is *very* important). Interestingly, 19% say having a location *not* stocked with trout is *very* important.

### **STOCKED TROUT LOCATIONS**

- Streams are preferred over lakes by about 8 times when anglers fish for stocked trout: 81% of those who fish at least half the time for stocked trout prefer streams when fishing for stocked trout, and only 10% prefer lakes.

### **SPECIAL REGULATION AREAS**

- The large majority of Pennsylvania trout anglers (78%) support Special Regulation Areas, and only 8% oppose them (the remainder giving a neutral answer).
  - Common reasons for supporting Special Regulation Areas are that the areas have better quality fish/the areas preserve species, that the areas are stocked better/there is a better chance of catching fish, that the areas add to advanced fishing opportunities, that the areas are better for fisheries management, and that the respondent likes catch-and-release fishing.
  - Common reasons for opposing Special Regulation Areas are that the areas restrict fishing locations/that it is not right to restrict fishing, that the respondent dislikes additional and more restrictive regulations, that the respondent does not like how the Special Regulation Areas are managed, and that the respondent simply feels that all areas should be open to fishing.
  - There are more Pennsylvania trout anglers who say that the number of Special Regulation Areas adds to their satisfaction than say it takes away from their satisfaction: 49% of them agree that the number of Special Regulation Areas adds to their trout fishing satisfaction (39% disagree), while 11% agree that the number of Special Regulation Areas takes away from their satisfaction (83% disagree).

- Commonly given reasons that the number of Special Regulation Areas adds to trout fishing satisfaction are that the areas are stocked better, that the areas have larger and better quality trout, that the experience is better in those areas, and that the areas are not crowded.
  - Commonly given reasons that the number of Special Regulation Areas takes away from trout fishing satisfaction are that the areas limit access to fishing, that the areas limit the desired types of fishing, that the respondent does not fly fish or do catch-and-release, that the stocking is poor *outside* of Special Regulation Areas (i.e., there is a perception that stocking is concentrated in the Special Regulation Areas), and that the areas are over-regulated.
  - In a related finding, the large majority of Pennsylvania trout anglers (72%) disagree that too many streams in Pennsylvania are managed under special regulations, although 13% agree. Also, half of trout anglers (50%) disagree that there are too *few* streams managed under special regulations; 28% agree. Put together, there are slightly more anglers who think that there are too few streams managed under special regulations than think there are too many such streams.
- The survey asked Pennsylvania trout anglers to name their preferred type of Special Regulation Area. Most commonly, they did not have a preference (41%), perhaps because some of them do not fish Special Regulation Areas. Otherwise, they are fairly well distributed among the various types (no more than 12% preferring any given type).
- The number of Special Regulation Areas is *not* an important constraint to fishing participation, as only 10% agree that the number of such areas prevents them from trout fishing as much as they would like (the overwhelming majority—84%—disagree that the number of those areas constrains their trout fishing participation). In fact, more than a fourth of trout anglers (28%) agree that they participate *more often* than they would if Special Regulation Areas did not exist (62% disagree).
- Commonly given reasons that Special Regulation Areas prevent the respondent from fishing as much as he or she would like (among those who say the areas prevent fishing)

are that the areas limit fishing locations, that the areas are not always open, that the areas limit the types of fishing, and that the areas have too many regulations.

- Commonly given reasons that the respondent trout fishes *more often* because of Special Regulation Areas are that they perceive the fishing to be better in Special Regulation Areas, that those areas are stocked better, and that the areas are not crowded.
- There is a majority of support (60%) for allowing the use of bait in Delayed Harvest Special Regulation Areas (currently, only flies and artificial lures are permitted for use in those waters). However, 31% oppose permitting bait in those waters.

### **STOCKED WATERS**

- Stocking trout is quite important: 88% of all Pennsylvania trout anglers say that in-season trout stockings are important, with most of those saying *very* important.
- Pennsylvania trout anglers are about evenly distributed in their likelihood to continue purchasing a fishing license and trout stamp in Pennsylvania if the Commission were to significantly reduce the amount of trout stocking: 37% would be *very* likely, 29% would be *somewhat* likely, and 34% would be not at all likely.
- Interestingly, although the overwhelming majority of trout anglers think stocking trout is important, they more often think that wild trout should have priority over stocked trout than the other way around: 44% think priority should go to wild trout, while 35% think it should go to stocked trout (18% are neutral).
- When fishing for stocked trout, the overwhelming majority of Pennsylvania trout anglers who fish at least half the time for stocked trout prefer streams (81%) over lakes (10%); meanwhile, 9% have no preference.

- April and May are the top months for fishing for stocked trout in Pennsylvania. In each of those months, an overwhelming majority of trout anglers fish (80% in April, 78% in May). The next highest month is June (44% of anglers fish for stocked trout in that month). November through February is the *least* busy period for fishing for stocked trout.
- The majority of Pennsylvania trout anglers who fish at least half the time for stocked trout (63%) support the current management approach of stocking fewer but larger trout, while 28% oppose.
  - Also, a large majority of *all* trout anglers (70%) support the creation of a limited number of “Premium Stocked Trout Areas” on sections of streams and/or small lakes where an angler could fish a high density of stocked trout that are larger than the current average size of 11 inches; meanwhile, 21% oppose. In a follow-up question, 33% of all trout anglers would be willing to pay (over the cost of their regular license and trout stamp costs) to fish “Premium Stocked Trout Areas” if they were created, but 63% would not be willing to pay (the implication being that some anglers would like “Premium Stocked Trout Areas” but do not wish to pay for them). When those who said that they would be willing to pay were asked how much they would be willing to pay, the large majority of them (60%) gave an answer of no more than \$10.
  - Despite the greater support for stocking larger but fewer trout and for the creation of some “Premium Stocked Trout Areas,” only 9% of Pennsylvania trout anglers who fish at least half the time for stocked trout say that catching *trophy* trout while fishing for stocked trout is *very* important, and another 32% say it is *somewhat* important (a total of 41% saying it is important); the majority (58%) say it is not at all important when fishing for stocked trout.
- Pennsylvania trout anglers are divided between supporting (52%) and opposing (41%) stocking waters that have a high abundance of wild trout, with slightly more in support. Support increases slightly when discussing stocking trout in waters that have a high abundance of wild trout *but which are in areas of the state that have few stocked trout waters*: 57% support, and 33% oppose, stocking waters that have a high abundance of wild trout in areas of the state where there are few stocked waters.

- After being told that stocked trout will move out of some sections of streams prior to the opening day, more trout anglers support (52%) than oppose (36%) in-season stocking only in sections of streams where the previously stocked trout have moved out.
- Pennsylvania trout anglers who fish at least half the time for stocked trout most commonly say that the amount of fall stocking should remain about the same as it currently is (56%). Otherwise, those saying it should increase (38%) far outnumber those saying it should decrease (3%).
- The majority of Pennsylvania trout anglers who fish at least half the time for stocked trout (75%) support the Commission's efforts to raise and stock approximately 9,000 golden rainbow trout each year; only 13% oppose.
- A majority of Pennsylvania trout anglers (66%) agree that trout-stocked lakes with healthy populations of other species of fish should be open to year-round fishing, which is more than double the percentage who disagree (27%).
- In mentoring situations, stocked waters are extremely important, as a majority of those anglers who take a child (or children) fishing (66%) fish mostly for stocked trout, and nearly all (99%) fish with children for stocked trout at least half of the time. Only 1% take children fishing mostly for wild trout.

## **OPENING DAY REGULATIONS**

- Most Pennsylvania trout anglers feel that it is important to have an opening day of trout season (47% say *very* important, and 27% say *somewhat* important, for a total of 74%); 26% say it is not at all important. In a follow-up question, the overwhelming majority of trout anglers would be likely to continue purchasing a fishing license and trout stamp in the absence of an opening day (i.e., if trout fishing were open all year): 77% would be *very* likely, and another 16% would be *somewhat* likely to continue purchasing a license and trout stamp; 5% would be not at all likely.

- After being given an explanation of the two opening days for trout season (an earlier date in 18 counties in the warmer southcentral and southeastern part of the state; a later date in the north and western part of the state), trout anglers were asked if they support or oppose having two separate opening days. The majority of them (65%) support, while 23% oppose.
  - In follow-up, those who support having two opening days were asked if they wanted to expand the 18-county area currently using the earlier opening day, and a majority support doing so (73% of those who support the two opening days).
  - The counties most commonly named for addition to the region that would have an earlier opening day are Bedford, Elk, Potter, Fulton, McKean, Pike, and Bradford.

### **LICENSES AND LICENSE COSTS**

- Resident fishing license holders (who currently pay \$32.40 for their resident fishing license and trout stamp) are about evenly split between thinking the current cost is about the right amount (49%) or thinking it is too high (47%).
- The majority of non-resident fishing license holders (who pay \$62.40 for their non-resident fishing license and trout stamp) think the cost is too high (61%), while only 36% think it is about the right amount.
- The majority of Pennsylvania trout anglers (61%) oppose a \$5 youth fishing license being required for youth aged 12 to 15 years old, while 37% support.

### **OPINIONS ON REGULATIONS**

- Satisfaction with the current trout fishing regulations in Pennsylvania is high: 92% are satisfied, and only 8% are dissatisfied.
  - Common reasons for being dissatisfied are that the current regulations are too strict, that the angler does not like the current creel limits, that the angler does not like the current opening day or season dates, that the licenses and stamps are too expensive, that the Commission is stocking too much, and that the regulations are difficult to understand.

- An overwhelming majority of trout anglers (89%) agree that Pennsylvania's Summary Book of Fishing Laws and Regulations is clear and easy to understand; only 8% disagree.
  - Common reasons for *disagreeing* that the Summary Book of Fishing Laws and Regulations is clear and easy to understand is that the wording is hard to understand/that the book is not well organized, that the respondent has trouble finding information, and that the book is too long.
  
- The large majority of Pennsylvania trout anglers (81%) support the current regulation that permits trout fishing on a no-harvest basis on unstocked streams between Labor Day and the following opening day of trout season; 10% oppose.
  - Common reasons for opposing the regulation is that respondents believe that catch-and-release kills many of the fish and that the respondent wants to harvest fish.
  
- The overwhelming majority of Pennsylvania trout anglers (82%) support the current creel limit of 5 trout per day, and only 16% oppose the current limit. Those who oppose the current creel limit were asked a follow-up question about what they think the creel limit should be. Interestingly, those who oppose the current limit are evenly divided between those wanting a higher limit and those wanting a lower limit (the most commonly chosen limits were 8 trout and 3 trout). In total, 8% of all anglers want a higher creel limit, 82% support the current creel limit, and 8% want a lower creel limit.

#### **RATING OF THE PENNSYLVANIA FISH AND BOAT COMMISSION, AND RATINGS OF IMPORTANCE OF COMMISSION PROGRAMS**

- Ratings of the overall performance of the Pennsylvania Fish and Boat Commission among trout anglers is positive: 74% give a rating of excellent or good, and only 23% give a rating in the lower half of the scale—fair or poor. Note that most ratings are within the moderate answers (good and fair) rather than the extreme answers (excellent or poor). Only 2% give a poor rating.
  - Those who gave a rating in the lower half of the scale (fair or poor) were asked why they gave the fair or poor rating. The most common reasons are that the respondent does not agree with the Commission's approach to stocking, that the Commission has room for

improvement, that the costs of licenses are too high, that there are too many regulations, and that the Commission does not do enough to manage, conserve, and protect trout.

- The survey asked trout anglers to rate the importance of seven program areas of the Commission. While all program areas are rated above the midpoint (on a scale of 0 to 10, where 10 is the highest importance), three program areas stand out with markedly higher means than the rest: improving habitat and water quality to make conditions more favorable for wild trout (mean of 9.07), stocking trout (mean of 8.65), and providing trout fishing opportunities (mean of 8.61). The lowest in importance is providing trophy trout fishing opportunities (mean of 6.23).
- After the “importance” questions above, the survey asked trout anglers to rate the performance of the Commission in the same program areas. The mean rating of performance for each program area is above the midpoint, although for four of them, not much higher than the midpoint (a mean ranging from 6.26 to 6.39). The best ratings of performance are for providing trout fishing opportunities (mean performance rating of 7.80), informing anglers on where to fish for stocked trout (mean of 7.45), and stocking trout (mean of 7.39).
- An analysis that compares mean ratings of importance and performance shows where performance appears to be commensurate with importance and where it does not appear to be commensurate. One item has an importance rating that is much higher than its performance rating: improving habitat and water quality for wild trout (importance mean of 9.07, performance mean of 6.39). Two other areas have importance ratings that are much higher than their performance ratings: acquiring stream access rights for anglers by purchasing land and easements (importance mean of 7.68, performance mean of 6.26) and stocking trout (importance mean of 8.65, performance mean of 7.39).

## **INFORMATION ABOUT FISHING IN PENNSYLVANIA**

- Most Pennsylvania trout anglers (55%) say that they do not typically use the Commission’s website. Meanwhile, 39% typically use it one or two times a month (and a small percentage—6%—use it more often).

- Those who use the website most commonly seek information about stocking, seasons, size and creel limits; the announcements of in-season trout stockings; and maps of trout fishing locations.
  
- When asked what types of information on trout fishing the Commission should provide, respondents most commonly said information on stocking, seasons, size, and creel limits; in-season stocking announcements; maps of trout fishing locations; and information about abundance of trout at various locations.

### **MEMBERSHIP IN ORGANIZATIONS**

- The survey asked three questions about membership in fishing or sportsmen's organizations, including one question specifically about Trout Unlimited. The most commonly named organization was a "local" or "state" club or group (specific name not given) (23%), followed by Trout Unlimited (7%), the North American Fishing Club (3%), the National Rifle Association (3%), Ducks Unlimited (2%), B.A.S.S. (2%), the North American Hunting Club (2%), and the National Wildlife Federation (1%). In total, 35% are a member of any fishing or sportsmen's organization.

## **TABLE OF CONTENTS**

Introduction and Methodology .....	1
License Types .....	5
Trout Fishing Methods and Trout Species Fished .....	12
Motivations for Trout Fishing in Pennsylvania .....	17
Fishing Companions .....	24
Consumption of Trout.....	28
Satisfaction or Dissatisfaction With Trout Fishing in Pennsylvania .....	31
Constraints to Trout Fishing Participation.....	40
Measures of Avidity.....	41
Frequency of Trout Fishing in Pennsylvania.....	41
Years of Trout Fishing Experience, Number of Years Fished for Trout in the Past 5 Years, and Trends in Frequency .....	49
Locations for Trout Fishing and Special Regulation Areas.....	53
General Locational Data.....	53
Stocked Trout Locations.....	75
Special Regulation Areas .....	76
Stocked Waters .....	94
Opening Day Regulations .....	113
Licenses and License Costs .....	120
Opinions on Regulations.....	124
Rating of the Pennsylvania Fish and Boat Commission, and Ratings of Importance of Commission Programs.....	134
Information About Fishing in Pennsylvania.....	144
Demographic Characteristics and Membership in Organizations .....	148
Appendix A: Survey Questions .....	160
About Responsive Management .....	166

## **INTRODUCTION AND METHODOLOGY**

This study was conducted for the Pennsylvania Fish and Boat Commission (Commission) to determine trout anglers' opinions on trout fishing in Pennsylvania, their opinions on various fishing regulations, and their opinions on the Commission and its programs. The study entailed a telephone survey of licensed Pennsylvania anglers aged 16 years or older who fished for trout in 2007. Specific aspects of the research methodology are discussed below.

For the survey, telephones were selected as the preferred sampling medium because of the universality of telephone ownership. In addition, a central polling site at the Responsive Management office allowed for rigorous quality control over the interviews and data collection. Responsive Management maintains its own in-house telephone interviewing facilities. These facilities are staffed by interviewers with experience conducting computer-assisted telephone interviews on the subjects of natural resources and outdoor recreation. The telephone survey questionnaire was developed cooperatively by Responsive Management and the Commission (see Appendix A for a list of questions asked). Responsive Management conducted a pre-test of the questionnaire and made any necessary revisions to the questionnaire based on the pre-test.

To ensure the integrity of the telephone survey data, Responsive Management has interviewers who have been trained according to the standards established by the Council of American Survey Research Organizations. Methods of instruction included lecture and role-playing. The Survey Center Managers and other professional staff conducted project 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 instrument, reading of the survey instrument, skip patterns, and probing and clarifying techniques necessary for specific questions on the survey instrument. The Survey Center Managers and statisticians monitored the data collection, including monitoring of the actual telephone interviews without the interviewers' knowledge, to evaluate the performance of each interviewer and ensure the integrity of the data. After the surveys were obtained by the interviewers, the Survey Center Managers and/or statisticians checked each completed survey to ensure clarity and completeness.

Interviews were conducted Monday through Friday from 9:00 a.m. to 9:00 p.m., Saturday noon to 5:00 p.m., and Sunday from 5:00 p.m. to 9:00 p.m., local time. A five-callback design was used to maintain the representativeness of the sample, 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 in March and April 2008. Responsive Management obtained a total of 1,562 completed interviews.

The software used for data collection was Questionnaire Programming Language 4.1 (QPL). The survey data were entered into the computer as each interview was being conducted, eliminating manual data entry after the completion of the survey and the concomitant data entry errors that may occur with manual data entry. The survey instrument was programmed so that QPL branched, coded, and substituted phrases in the survey based on previous responses to ensure the integrity and consistency of the data collection. The analysis of data was performed using Statistical Package for the Social Sciences software as well as proprietary software developed by Responsive Management.

The sample, which consisted of anglers who had purchased either a Combination Trout-Salmon/Lake Erie Permit or a Trout-Salmon Stamp, was obtained from three different sources: paper records of license purchases, an electronic file of Internet-based online sales referred to as "The Outdoor Shop," and another electronic file of data from the PayPal system referred to as point-of-sale records. For the paper records, Responsive Management sent data entry personnel to the agency. These personnel pulled several records from each county and typed the contact data into a laptop computer to create that sample. For the electronic data from "The Outdoor Shop," records were randomly pulled to make that sample. Finally, for the PayPal data, records were pulled proportional to the sales in the corresponding county to make that sample. Then, all three samples were put together. (Note that for the PayPal data, the proportion was matched to sales in 2005-2006 because 2007 was a transitional year, and the 2007 data would not be in proper proportions.)

Because the records in the three samples were not proportional to the total sales, the results were weighted to properly proportion the sample. In other words, the results were weighted so that 69.96% of the sample was from paper records, which matches the proportion of all license sales done on paper. The tabulation below shows the weighting factors. The sample was not made to obtain specific *license* types but was instead dependent only on the purchase of the two *stamps* mentioned above. For instance, Senior Resident Lifetime licensees were not specifically obtained for the sample, the final sample, nonetheless, contained 69 respondents with this license type.

**Weighting Factors**

<b>Sample</b>	<b>Actual Sample</b>	<b>Proportion of Total Sample</b>	<b>Weighting Factor</b>	<b>Weighted Proportion of Sample</b>
Paper records	96	6.15%	11.382	69.96%
The Outdoor Shop	281	17.99%	0.307	5.52%
Pay-Pal	1,185	75.86%	0.323	24.52%
Total				

Throughout this report, findings of the telephone survey are reported at a 95% confidence interval. For the entire sample of Pennsylvania trout anglers, the sampling error is at most plus or minus 2.48 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 2.48 percentage points of each other. Sampling error was calculated using the formula described below, with a sample size of 1,562 and a population size of 585,080 licensed anglers who fished for trout in Pennsylvania.

### Sampling Error Equation

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

Where: B = maximum sampling error (as decimal)  
 N<sub>p</sub> = population size (i.e., total number who could be surveyed)  
 N<sub>s</sub> = 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).

Note that some results may not sum to exactly 100% because of rounding. Additionally, rounding on the graphs may cause apparent discrepancies of 1 percentage point between the graphs and the reported results of combined responses (e.g., when “strongly support” and “moderately support” are summed to determine the total percentage in support).

A note about the layout of the report: some graphs pertain to more than one section, so these graphs are discussed in more than one section of the report. In these instances when the graph is discussed in more than one section, the graph is only shown in one section with a call-out in the other section indicating where the graph is located.

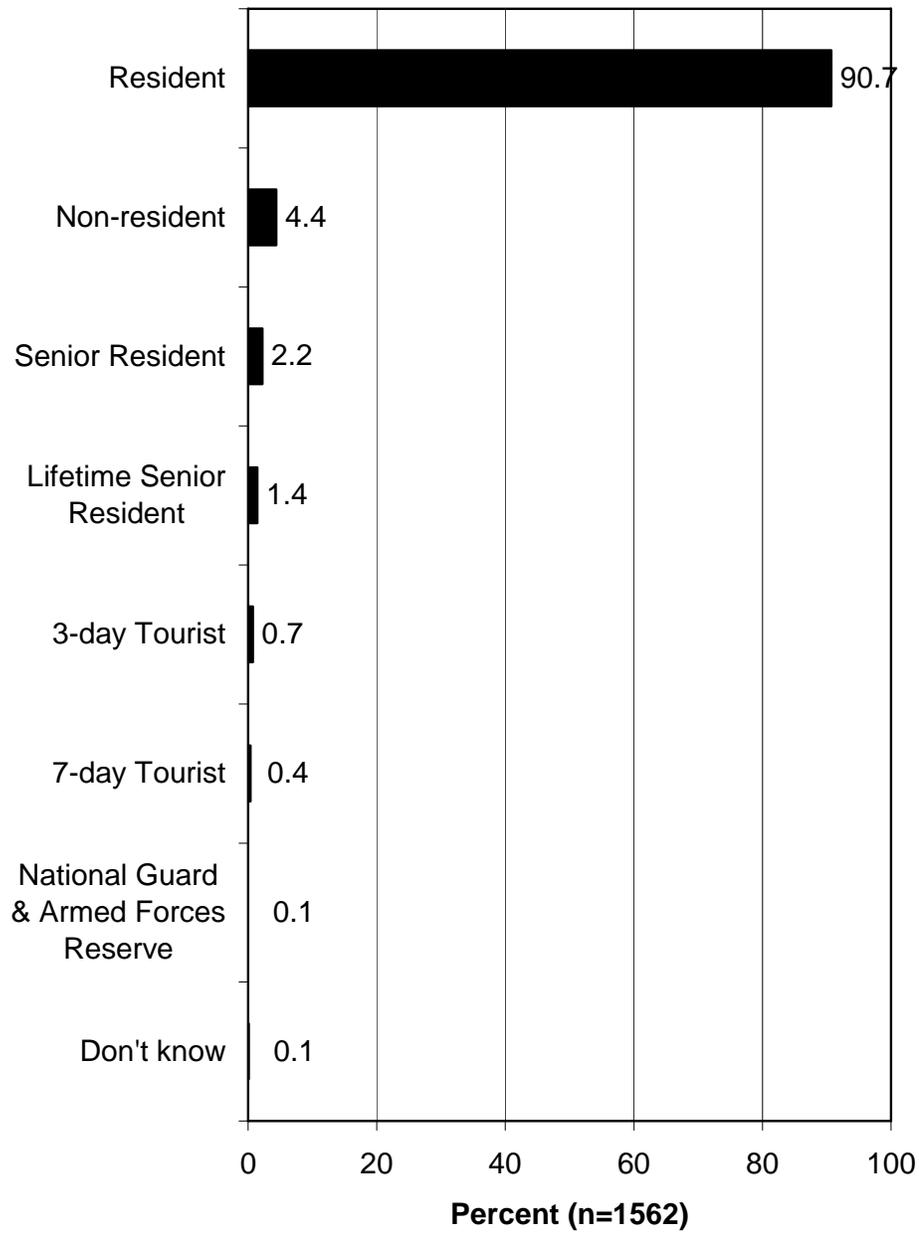
## LICENSE TYPES

- The overwhelming majority of licensed anglers (91%) had a Resident fishing license in 2007. Otherwise, 4% had a Non-Resident license, 2% had a Senior Resident license, and 1% had a Lifetime Senior Resident license, with the remaining small percentage having various Tourist licenses or a National Guard & Armed Forces Reserve license.
  - Overall, 94% of licensed trout anglers in 2007 were residents of Pennsylvania, while 6% were out-of-state residents.
  - The majority of licensed trout anglers (83%) bought a Trout-Salmon Stamp, while 16% purchased a Combination Trout-Salmon/Lake Erie Permit. These percentages are based on the survey; a comparison to actual Commission records is provided below.

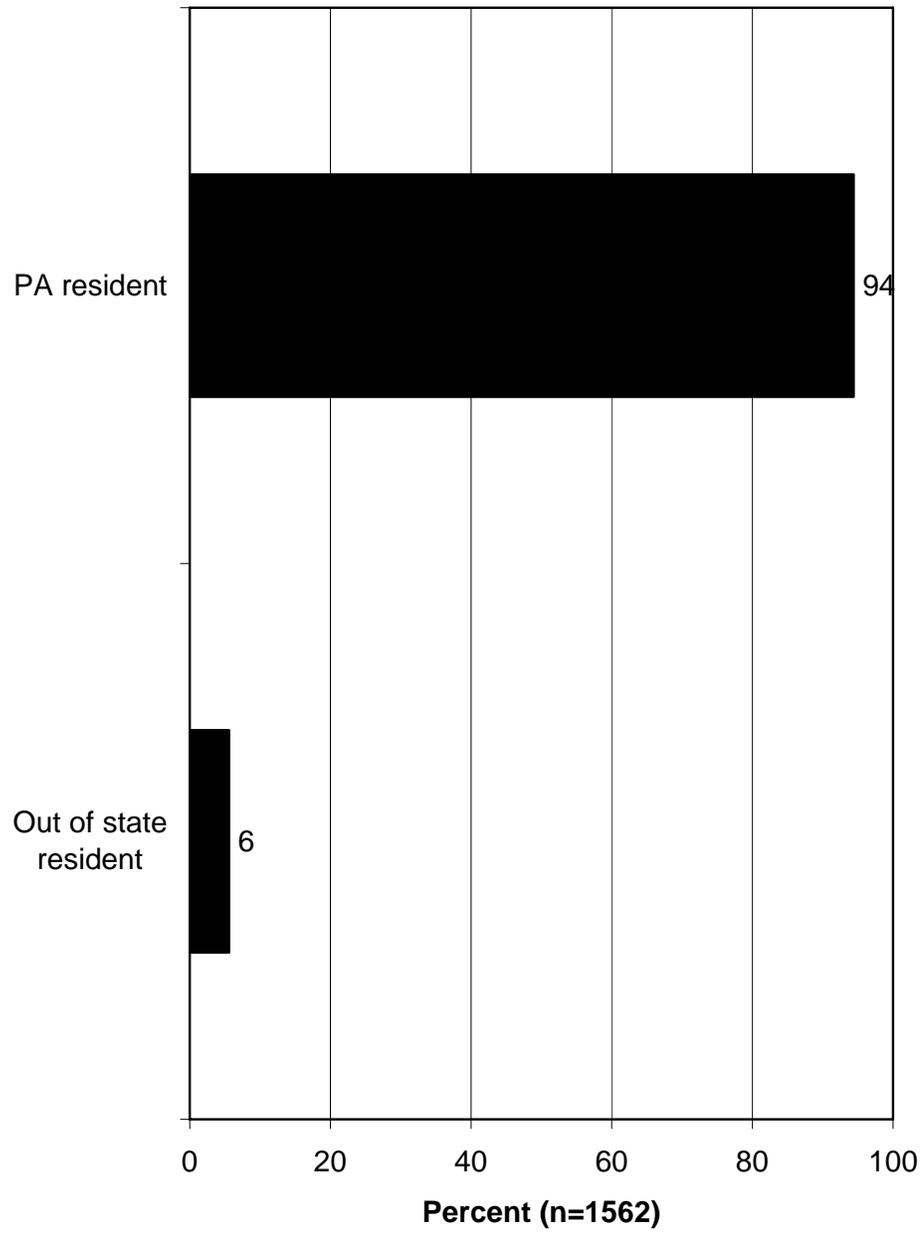
<b>STAMP TYPE</b>	<b>2007 COMMISSION RECORDS</b>	<b>SURVEY DATA (before weighting)</b>	<b>SURVEY DATA (weighted data)</b>
Trout-Salmon	86.2%	77.5%	82.9%
Combination Trout-Salmon/Lake Erie Permit	13.8%	20.1%	15.6%
Don't know	NA	2.4%	1.5%

- The counties in which licenses were purchased is shown, based on survey results, with Allegheny (8.6%), Bucks (4.3%), Elk (4.0%), Berks (3.8%), Cumberland (3.7%), Butler (3.5%) and Montgomery (3.0%) being the leading counties.

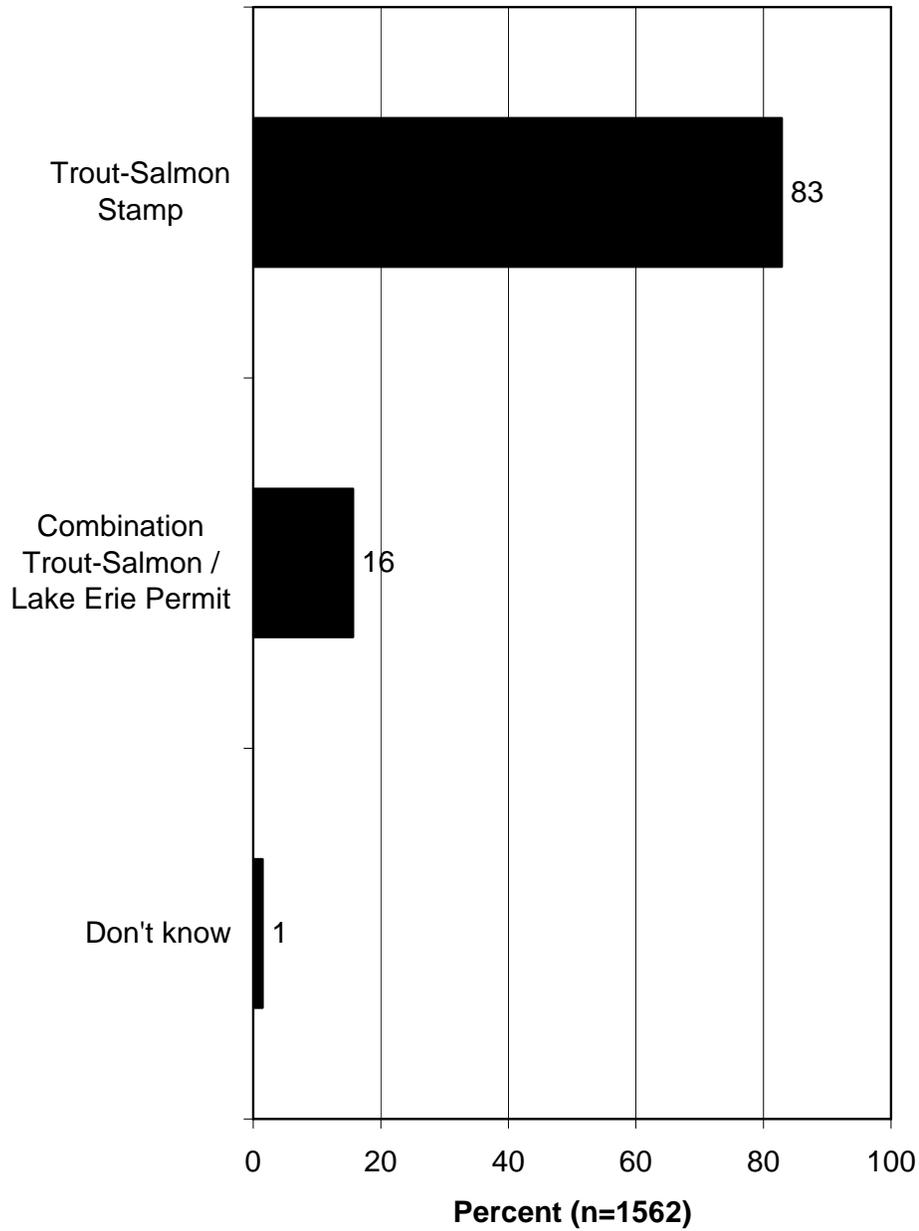
**Q13. What type of fishing license did you have for the 2007 fishing season?**



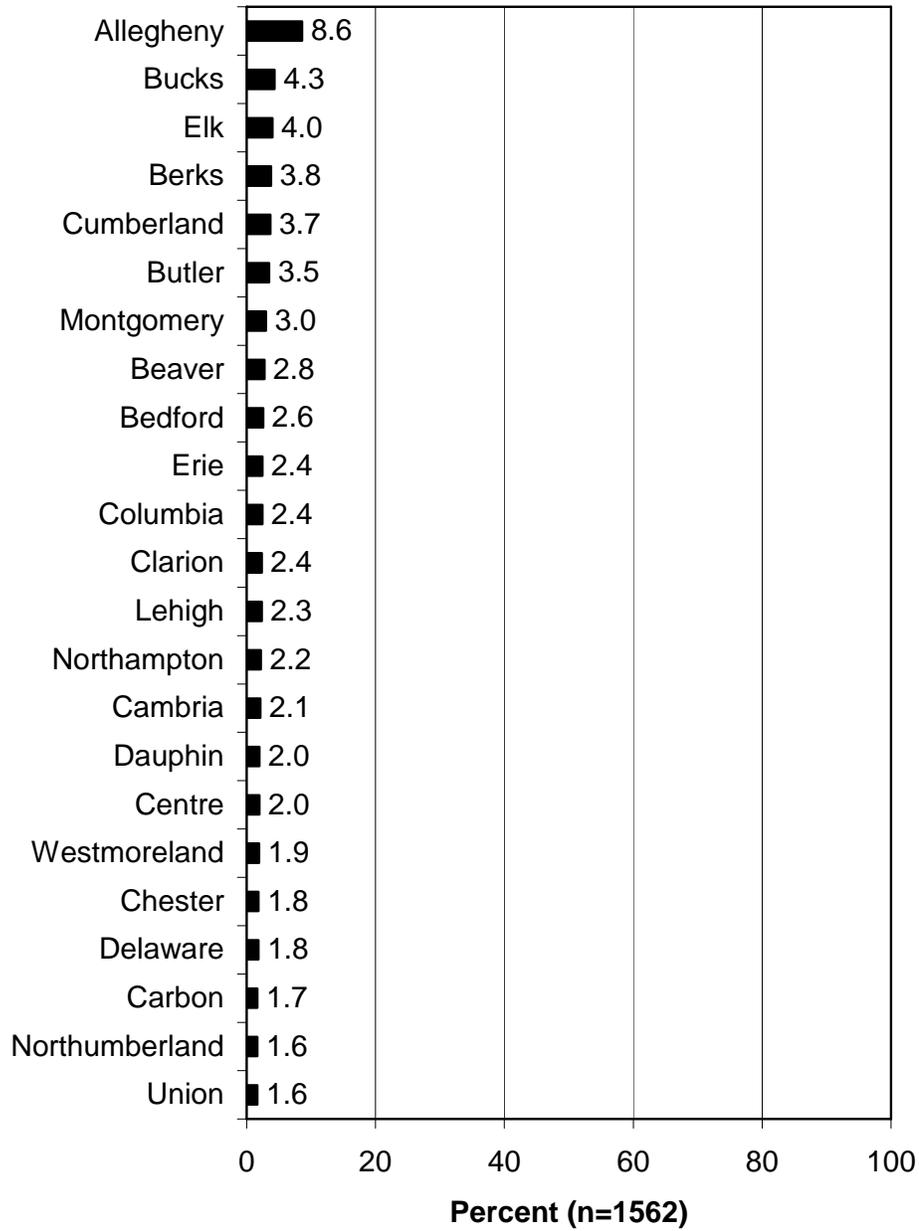
**Q17. Resident / non-resident percentages.**



**Q18. Did you purchase a Trout-Salmon Stamp or a Combination Trout-Salmon/Lake Erie Permit for the 2007 fishing season?**



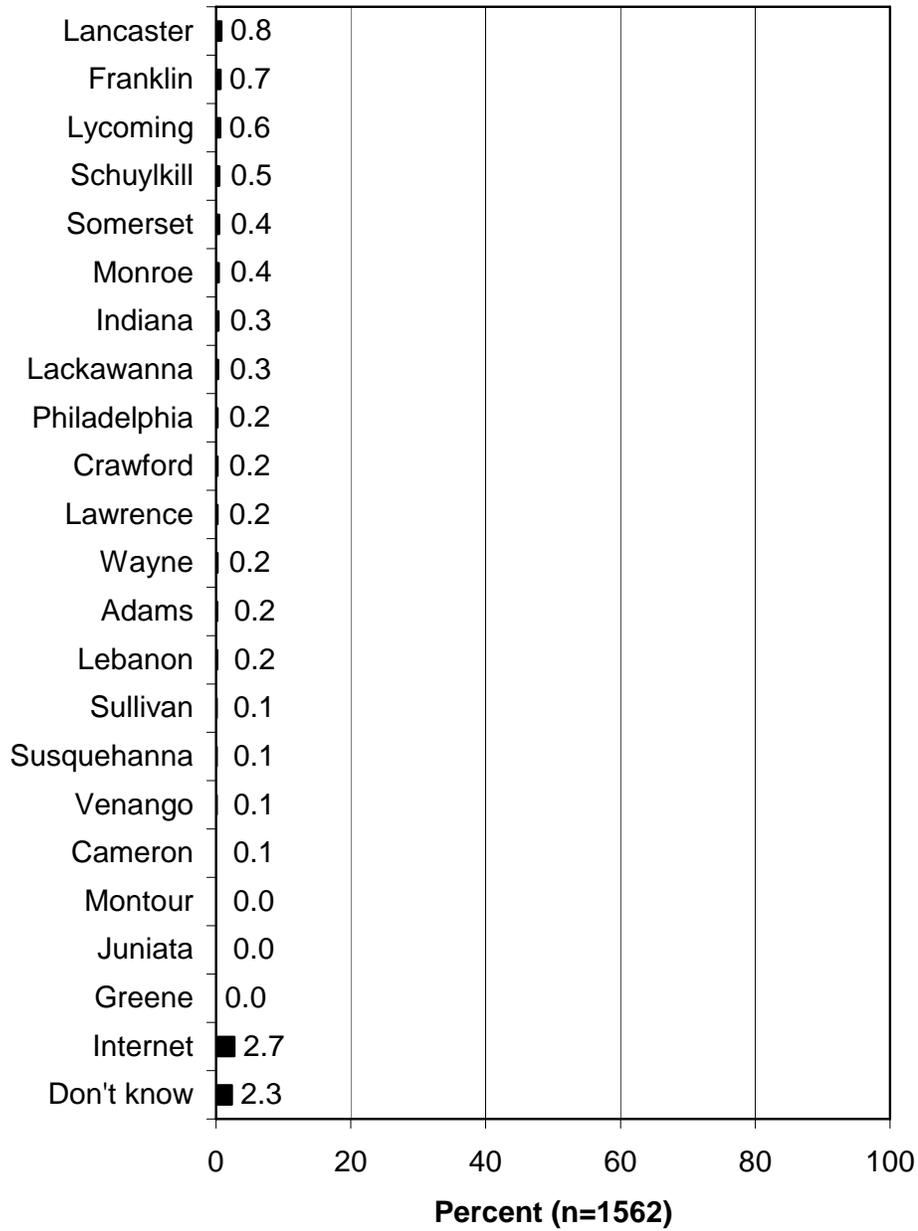
**Q238. In what county in Pennsylvania did you purchase your fishing license? (Part 1.)**



**Q238. In what county in Pennsylvania did you purchase your fishing license? (Part 2.)**



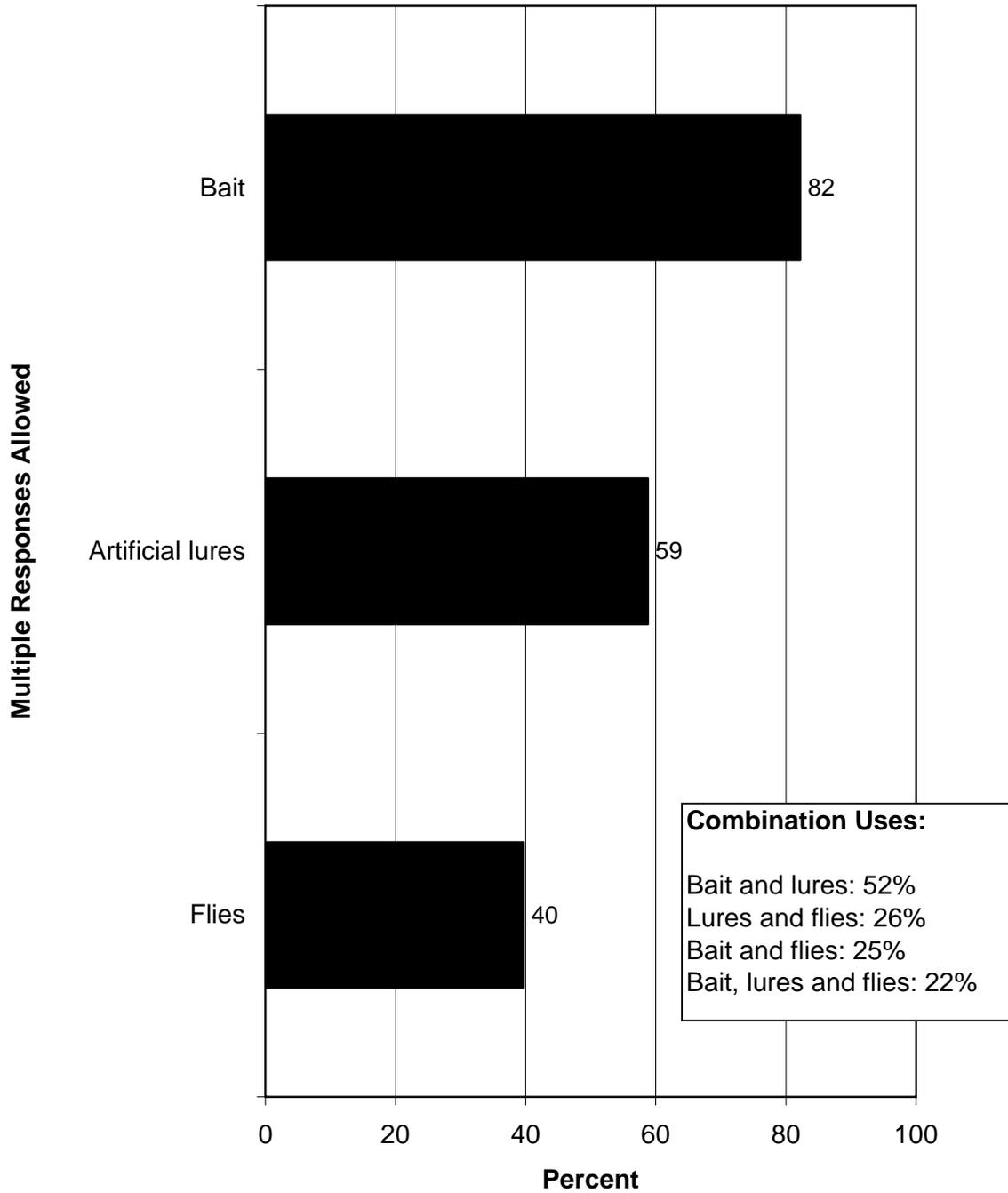
**Q238. In what county in Pennsylvania did you purchase your fishing license? (Part 3.)**



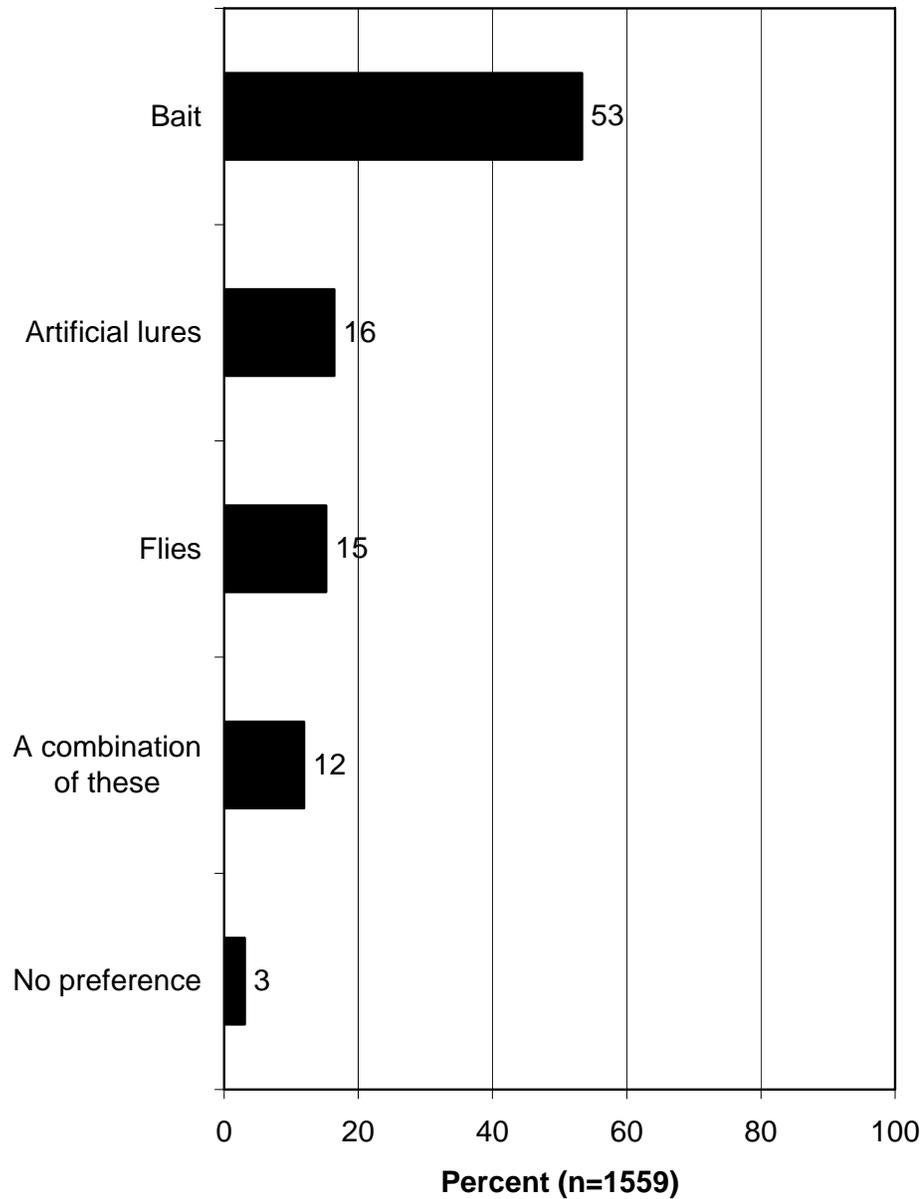
## TROUT FISHING METHODS AND TROUT SPECIES FISHED

- The overwhelming majority of trout anglers use bait at least some of the time when they trout fish in Pennsylvania (82% use bait), while a large majority use artificial lures (59%), and less than a majority (40%) use flies. As multiple answers were allowed, many anglers used combinations of those three types, as follows:
  - 52% used bait and lures.
  - 26% used lures and flies.
  - 25% used bait and flies.
  - 22% used all three.
  
- The majority (53%) of Pennsylvania trout anglers *prefer* to use bait. Artificial lures (16%) and flies (15%) are preferred by much lower percentages.
  
- The majority of Pennsylvania trout anglers (61%) mostly release the trout they catch, which is five times the percentage (12%) who mostly keep the trout they catch. Overall, 88% catch-and-release their trout at least half of the time.
  - A finding that pertains to catch-and-release fishing is that 77% of Pennsylvania trout anglers say that *catching* trout is important to them, but only 44% say that *keeping* fish is important to them (a 33% percentage point difference), the implication being that some trout anglers want to catch trout but not necessarily keep them. Another implication is that some anglers want the *option* to keep the trout, whether or not they actually do so most of the time. (Note that these graphs are shown in the section of this report titled, “Motivations for Trout Fishing in Pennsylvania.”)
  
- Most commonly, Pennsylvania trout anglers (34%) indicate that they have no preference regarding the type of trout that they fish for. Otherwise, they are fairly evenly distributed among the types of trout preferred, with rainbow (27%) slightly preferred over brook (20%) and brown (19%) trout.

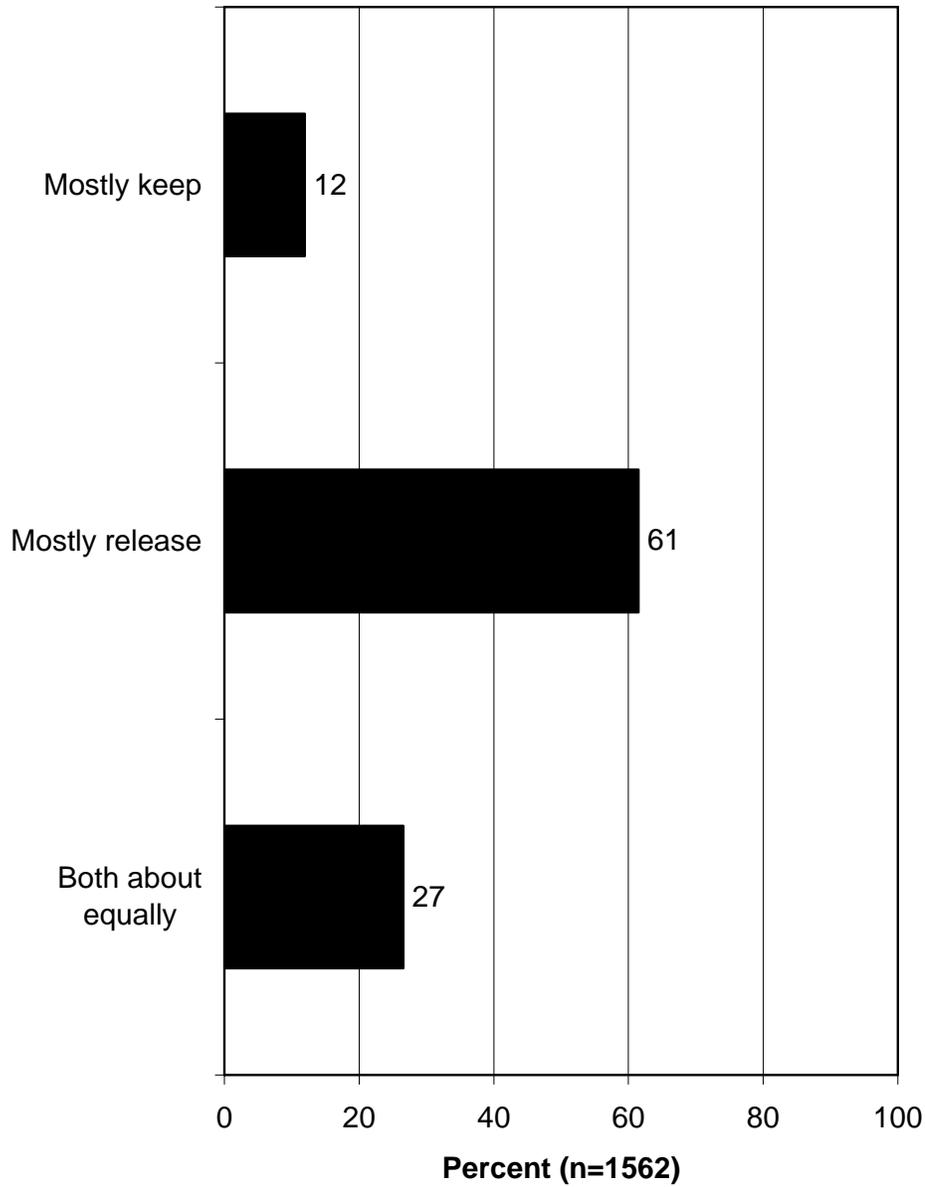
### Q49. When you go trout fishing in Pennsylvania, do you use...?



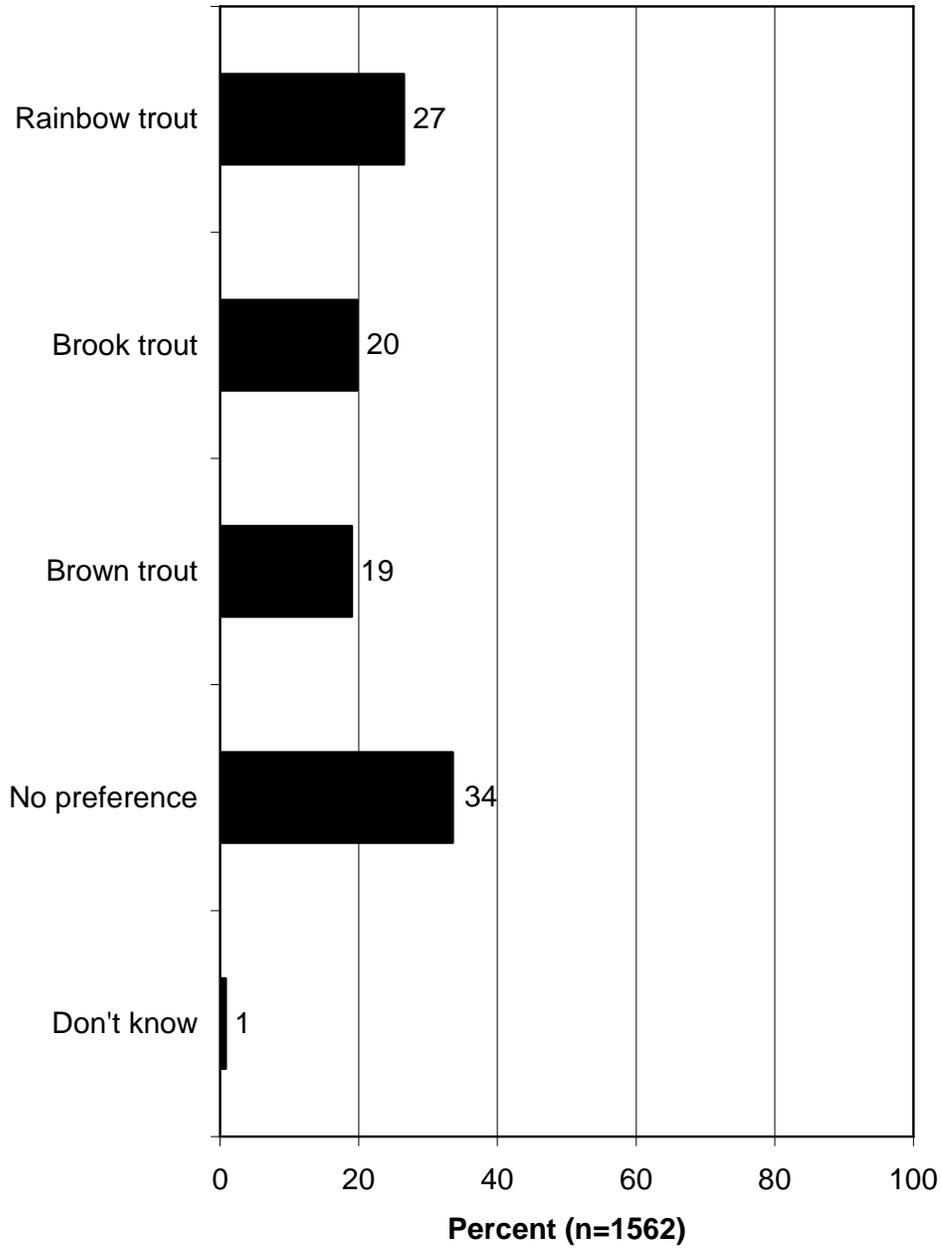
**Q50. Which of these do you prefer to use when you go trout fishing in Pennsylvania? (Asked of those who used flies, artificial lures or bait when trout fishing in Pennsylvania.)**



**Q53. When fishing for trout in Pennsylvania, do you mostly keep the trout you catch, mostly release the trout you catch, or do both about equally?**



**Q54. Which one species of trout do you prefer to fish for in Pennsylvania?**



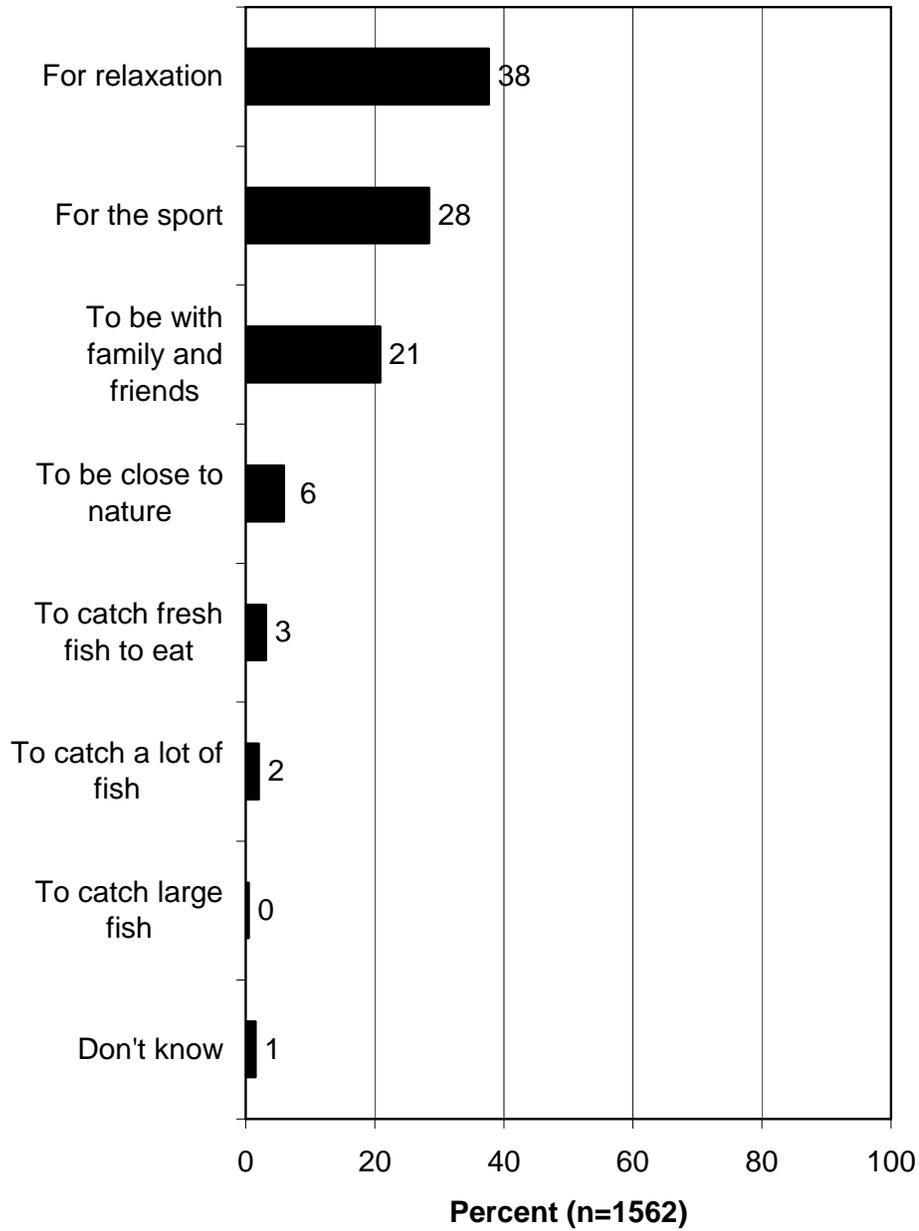
## MOTIVATIONS FOR TROUT FISHING IN PENNSYLVANIA

- Findings of the survey suggest that anglers have multiple motivations, with recreational and social motivations being primary, and utilitarian motivations being secondary, although important nonetheless.
  - The top motivations for trout fishing in Pennsylvania are recreational and social: 38% say their single most important reason for trout fishing is for relaxation, 28% say it is for the sport, 21% say it is to be with family and friends, and 6% say it is to be close to nature. Note that only 3% do so to catch fresh fish to eat, 2% do so to catch a lot of fish, and less than 1% do so to catch large fish.
  - Despite the finding above regarding the low percentage of anglers who trout fish for utilitarian reasons, catching trout is still important. In a direct question about the importance of catching trout, the majority of Pennsylvania trout anglers (54%) say it is somewhat important that they catch trout, and another 23% say it is *very* important (for a total of 77% saying it is important). Only 23% say it is not at all important.
  - Although *catching* trout is important to the large majority of anglers, *keeping* trout is slightly less important. While 44% of Pennsylvania trout anglers say it is important to keep some of the trout (with 12% saying it is *very* important), the majority of them (56%) say it is not at all important. Based on these findings, there are some Pennsylvania trout anglers for whom catching trout is important, but for whom keeping the trout is not important.
  - Consistent with the findings above showing low percentages saying that catching large fish is their prime motivation for trout fishing in Pennsylvania, only 9% of Pennsylvania trout anglers who fish at least half the time for stocked trout say that catching *trophy* trout while fishing for stocked trout is *very* important, with another 32% saying it is *somewhat* important; the majority (58%) say it is not at all important when fishing for stocked trout. (This graph is shown in the section of this report titled, “Stocked Waters.”)
  
- The survey asked 13 individual questions about things that might encourage the respondent to go trout fishing more often in Pennsylvania. For each item, the survey asked, “Would this strongly encourage you, moderately encourage you, or not encourage you at all to go trout

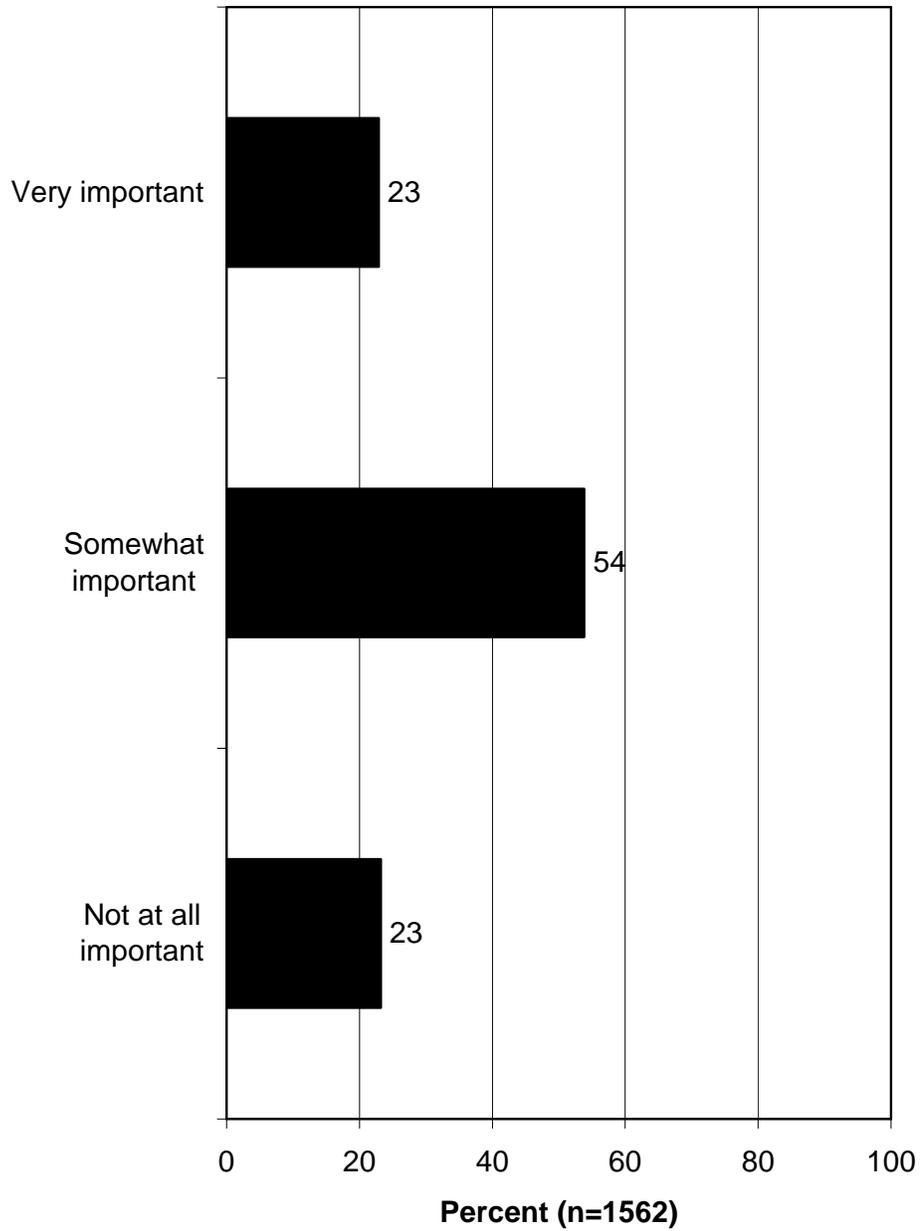
fishing more often in Pennsylvania?” Then the results of the 13 questions were put onto a single graph, thereby showing the ranking of the items.

- The top things that would *strongly* encourage the respondent to go trout fishing more often are having a child ask the respondent to take him or her fishing (84% said this would strongly encourage them to go trout fishing more) and receiving an invitation from a friend (63%). Also notably higher than the rest are if more trout were stocked in Pennsylvania waters (57%) and if more opportunities existed to access trout waters from private land (46%).
- At the bottom of the ranking are having fewer Special Regulation Areas (11%), having more regional opening days (20%), and having more Special Regulation Areas (22%). Also shown is the graph of the sums of percents of those who said the things would *strongly* or *moderately* encourage them to fish more often.
- Also included is the graph showing the percentages who said that each item would strongly or moderately encourage them to go trout fishing more often.

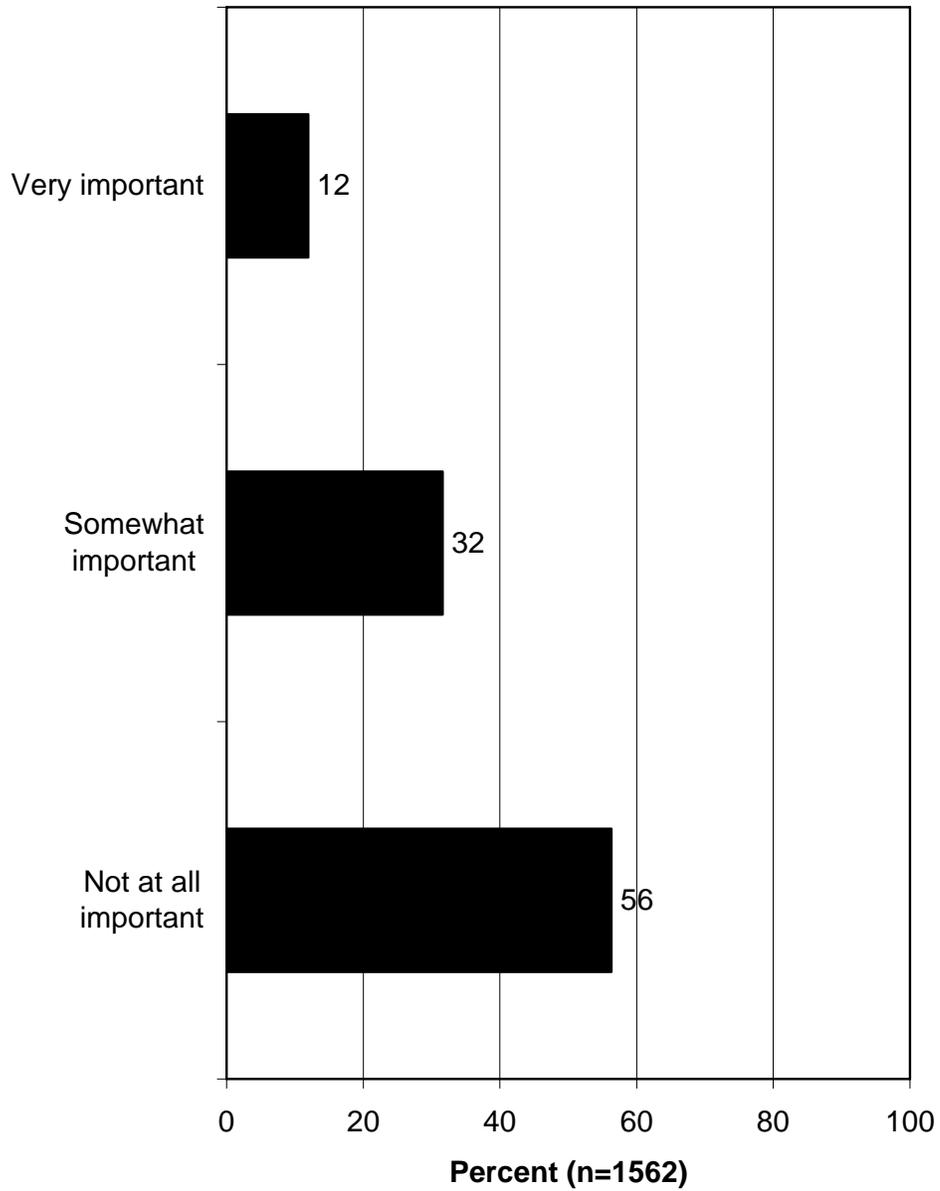
**Q21. What is your single most important reason for trout fishing in Pennsylvania? Would you say it is...**



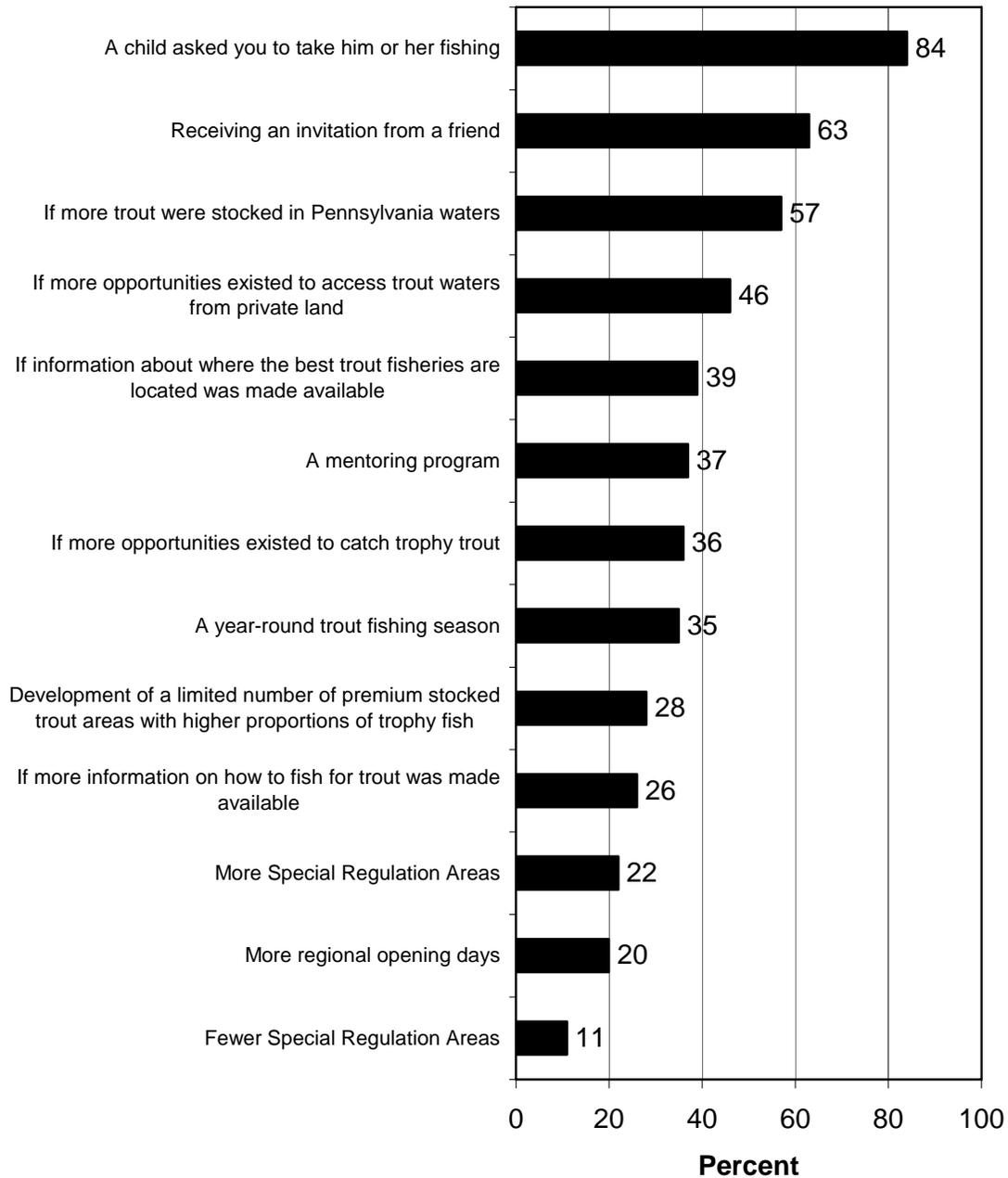
**Q51. How important is it to you to catch trout while fishing? Would you say it is very important, somewhat important, or not at all important?**



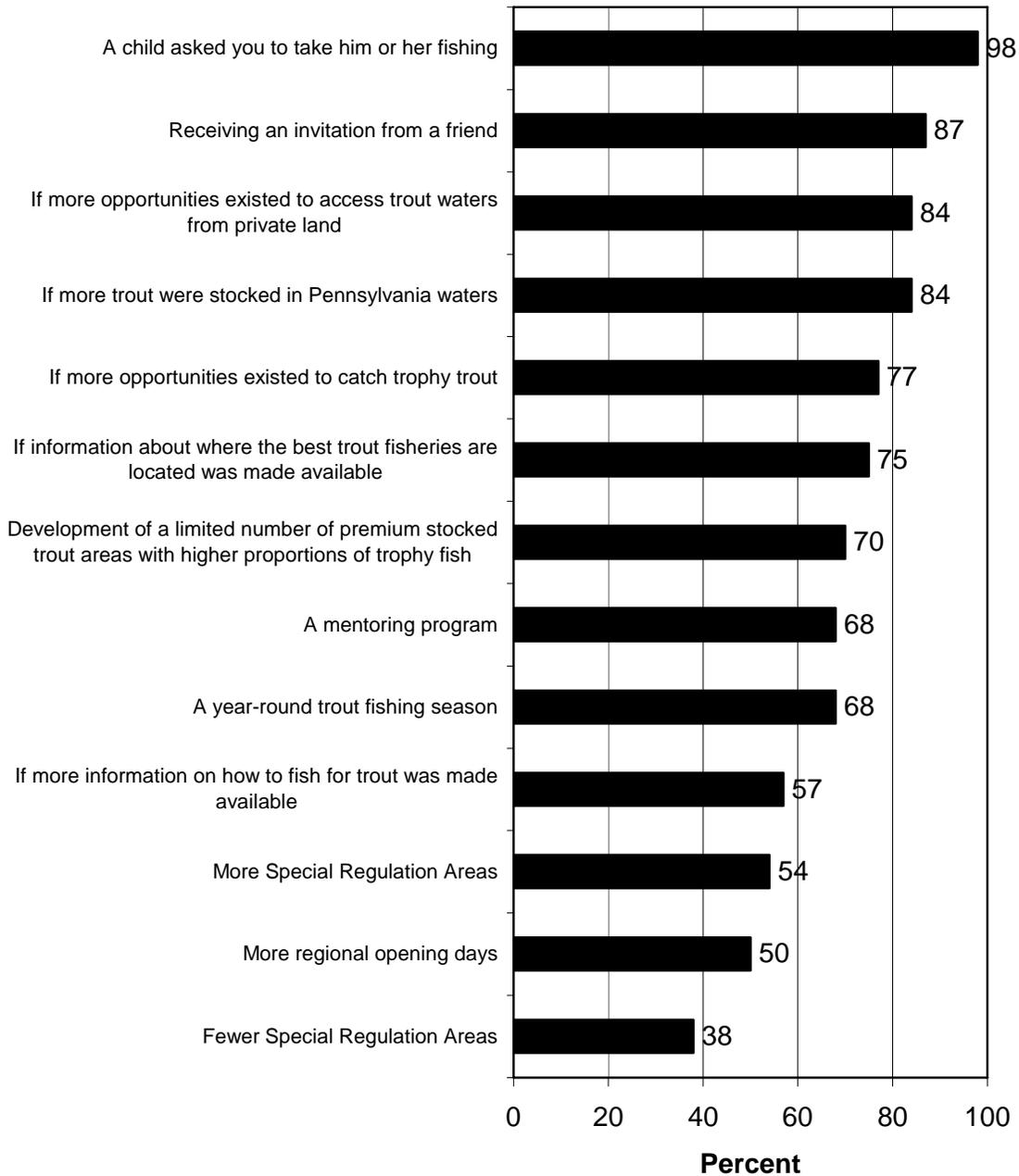
**Q52. How important is it to you to keep some of the trout you catch? Would you say it is very important, somewhat important, or not at all important?**



**Q202-214. Percent who indicated that the following items would strongly encourage him/her to go trout fishing more often in Pennsylvania.**



**Q202-214. Percent who indicated that the following items would encourage him/her to go trout fishing more often in Pennsylvania.**



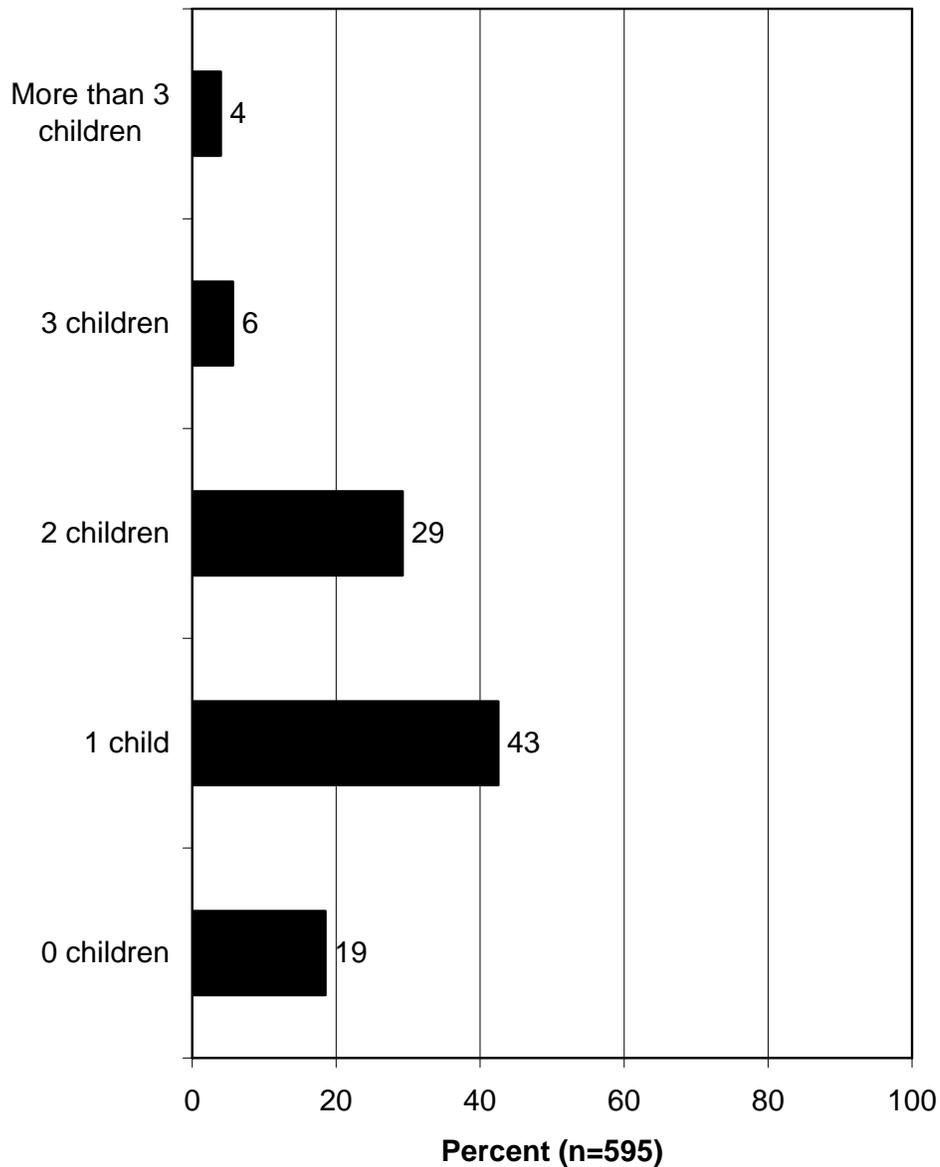
## **FISHING COMPANIONS**

- The most common fishing companions among Pennsylvania trout anglers are children (37% say that they usually go fishing in Pennsylvania with children), friends (36%), spouses (17%), and other extended family members in general (15%). Meanwhile, 14% say that they usually go alone.
  
- The survey asked directly about the number of children living at home that the angler took fishing in Pennsylvania in 2007: of those who have children, 81% took at least one child fishing (39% took more than one child fishing). Out of all Pennsylvania trout anglers, 34% took a child (who lived at home) fishing in Pennsylvania in 2007 (57% do not have children living at home).

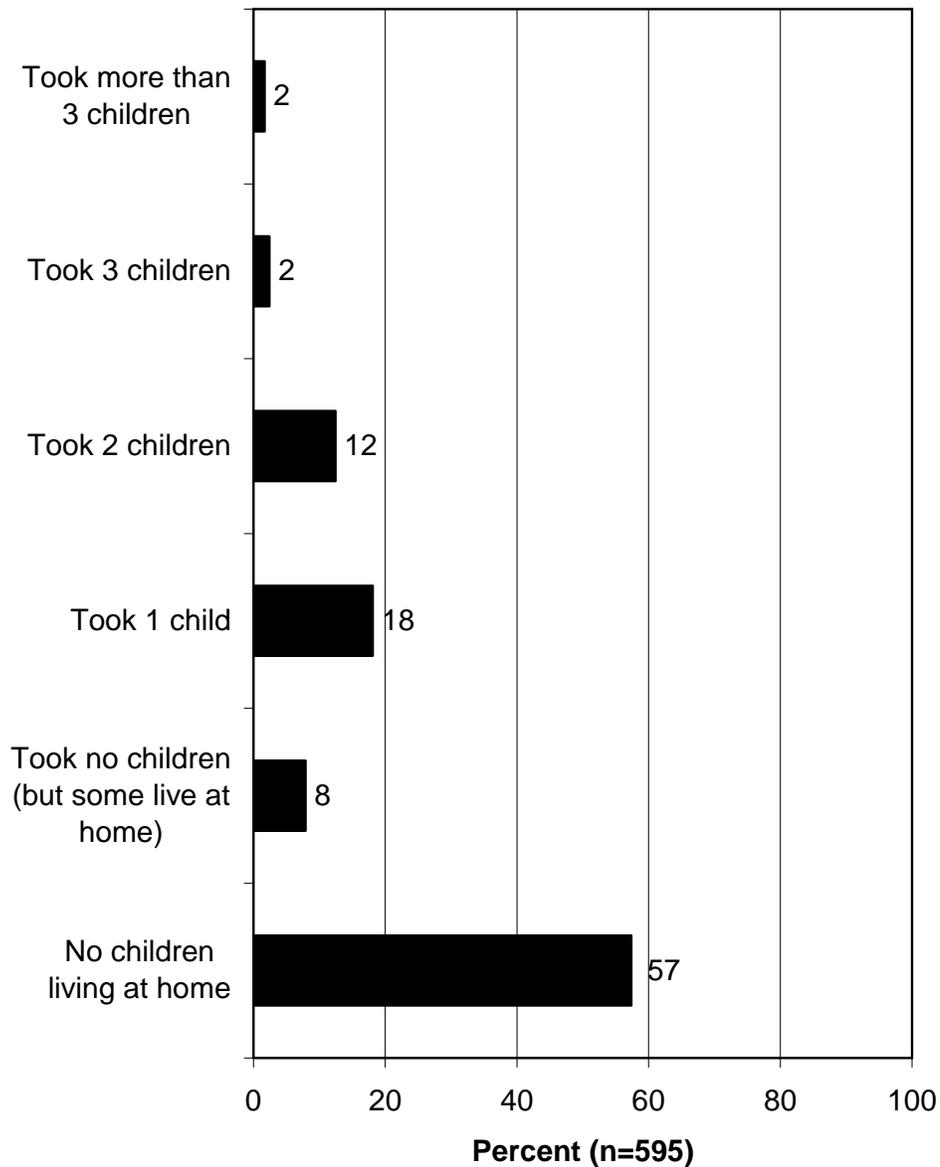
### Q40. With whom do you usually go trout fishing in Pennsylvania?



**Q43. How many children, age 17 or younger living in your household, did you take trout fishing with you in Pennsylvania in 2007? (Asked of those who have children age 17 or younger living in their household.)**



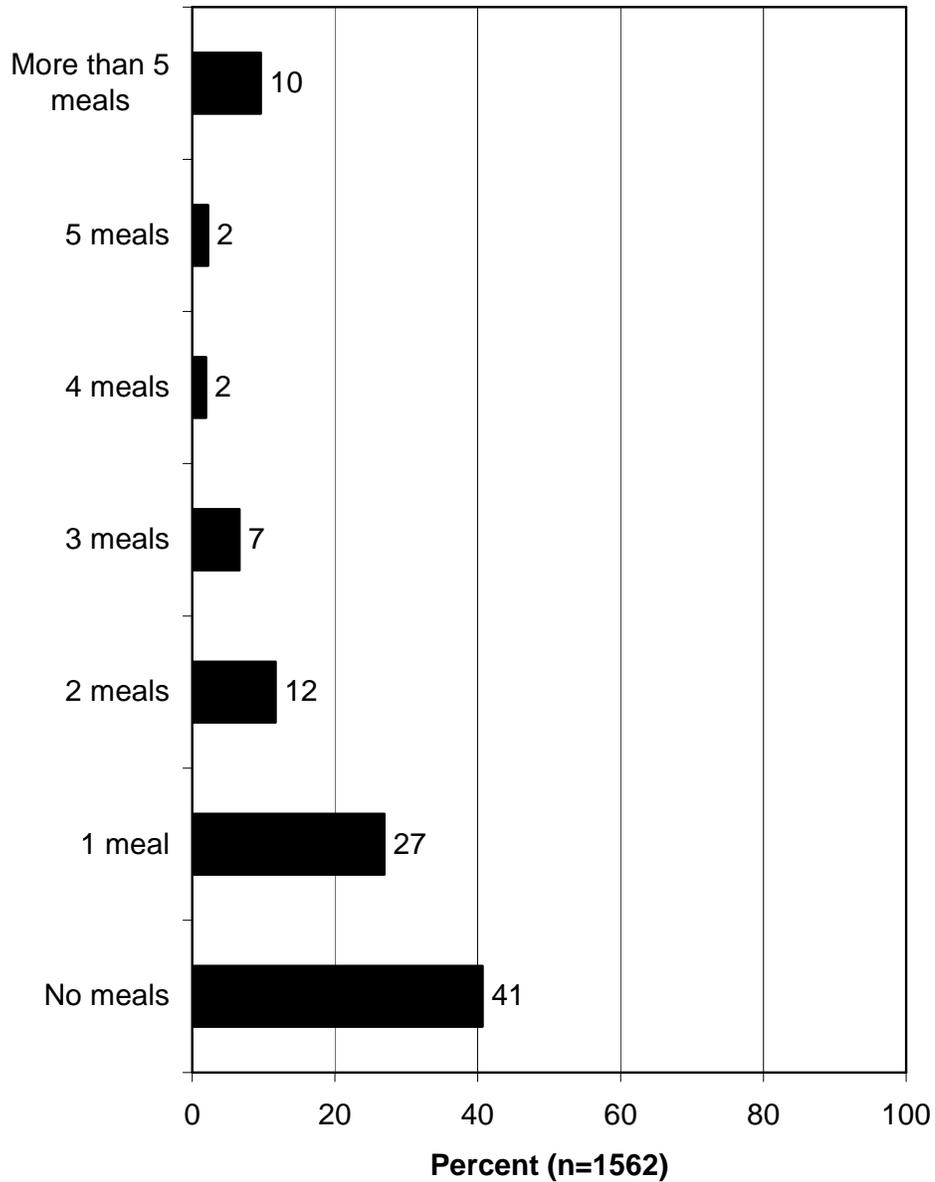
**Q43. How many children, age 17 or younger living in your household, did you take trout fishing with you in Pennsylvania in 2007? (Among all respondents.)**



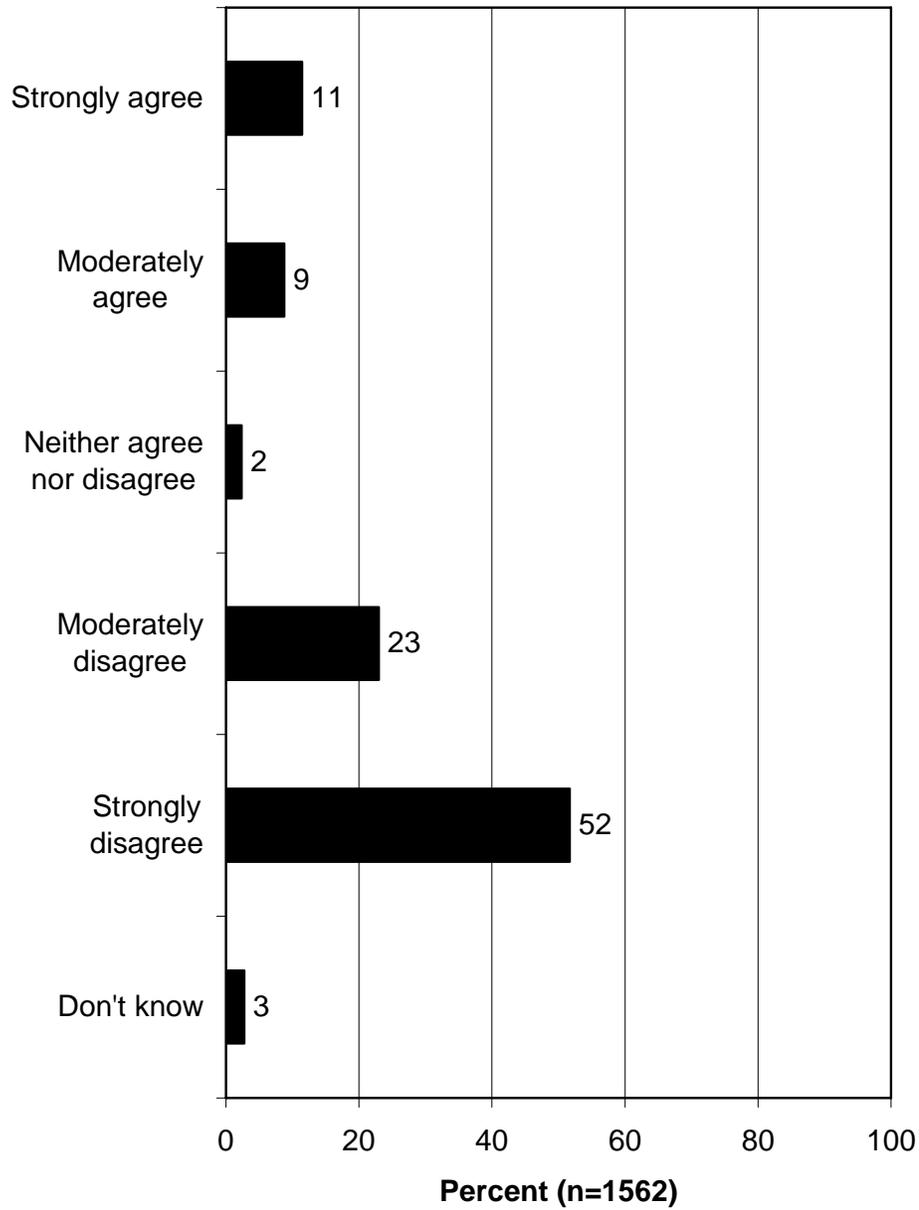
## **CONSUMPTION OF TROUT**

- The majority of Pennsylvania trout anglers (59%) eat at least some of the trout they catch in Pennsylvania (41% indicate eating no meals per month during trout season). Most typically, they eat only 1 or 2 meals per month of trout during the season.
  
- The large majority of trout anglers (75%) disagree that trout consumption advisories influence their frequency of trout fishing in Pennsylvania; meanwhile, 20% indicate that the consumption advisories influence their frequency of trout fishing.

**Q174. On average, how many meals featuring trout you caught in Pennsylvania do you eat per month during the trout fishing season? By meal I mean food eaten at one sitting.**



**Q175. Do you agree or disagree that fish consumption advisories for trout influence how often you fish for trout in Pennsylvania?**



## SATISFACTION OR DISSATISFACTION WITH TROUT FISHING IN PENNSYLVANIA

- The overwhelming majority of Pennsylvania trout anglers (84%) were satisfied with their trout fishing in Pennsylvania in 2007, about evenly divided between *very* and *somewhat* satisfied. Only 13% were dissatisfied (most of that being *somewhat* dissatisfied rather than *very* dissatisfied).
- When asked in an open-ended question (meaning that no answer set is read to the respondent, who can give any answer that comes to mind) if there are any things that take away from their satisfaction or cause them not to participate as much as they would like, respondents most commonly said that nothing takes away from satisfaction/prevents participation (46%). Otherwise, the most commonly given answer is not enough time (16%), which is largely outside of the Commission's influence. Next on the list are that fishing areas are too crowded (7%), that there are not enough trout (7%), the costs (6%), poor access (4%), and poor behavior of others (4%)—all items within the sphere of Commission influence.
- Half of Pennsylvania trout anglers (50%) say that the quality of trout fishing in Pennsylvania has remained the same over the past 5 years, the most common answer. Otherwise, they are divided, with 19% saying it has improved, and 25% saying it has declined.
- In discussing satisfaction with trout fishing, it is important to know that the top motivations for trout fishing in Pennsylvania are recreational and social. As previously shown, 38% do so for relaxation, 28% do so for the sport, 21% do so to be with family and friends, and 6% do so to be close to nature; only 3% do so to catch fresh fish to eat, 2% do so to catch a lot of fish, and less than 1% do so to catch large fish (for a total of 6% doing so primarily to catch fish). However, catching fish still matters in satisfaction, as 77% say catching trout is important (54% saying *somewhat* important, and 23% saying *very* important). It would appear, based on these data, that an occasional trip without catching trout would not negatively affect satisfaction, but frequent trips without catching trout would do so. Finally, *keeping* trout is not as important as *catching* trout: the majority of trout anglers (56%) say that keeping some of the trout is not at all important, and of the 44% who say keeping trout is

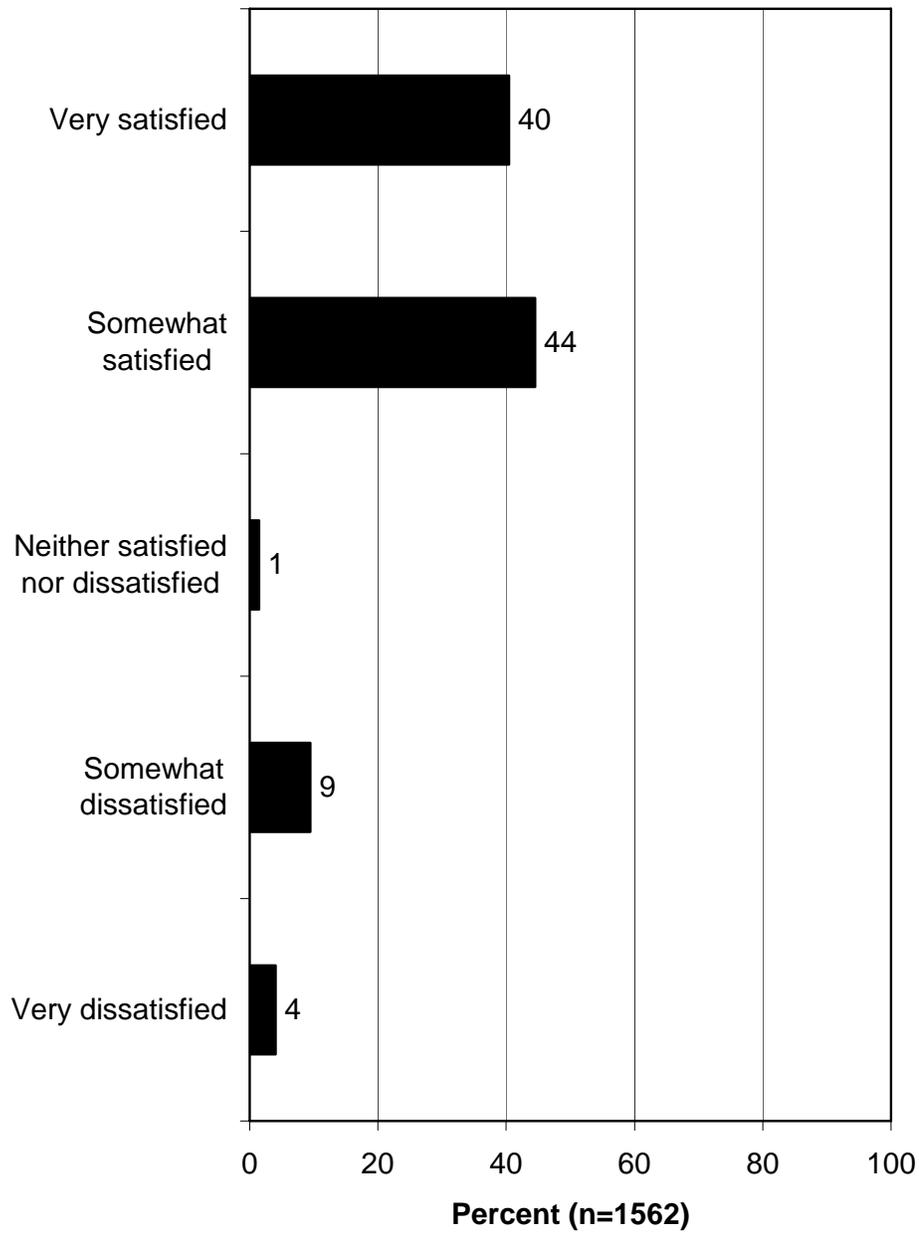
important, most of them say *somewhat* important (32%) rather than *very* important (12%). (Note that these graphs are in the section of this report titled, “Motivations for Trout Fishing in Pennsylvania.”)

- Satisfaction is somewhat dependent upon the regulations. Fortunately, satisfaction with the current trout fishing regulations in Pennsylvania is high: 92% are satisfied, and only 8% are dissatisfied. (This graph is shown in the section of this report titled, “Opinions on Regulations in General.”)
  - Common reasons for being dissatisfied with the trout fishing regulations are that the current regulations are too strict, that the angler does not like the current creel limits, that the angler does not like the current opening day or season dates, that the licenses and stamps are too expensive, that the Commission is stocking too much, and that the regulations are difficult to understand. (This graph is shown in the section of this report titled, “Opinions on Regulations in General.”)
  
- It would appear that some amount of satisfaction is dependent upon having stocked trout available, as 34% of Pennsylvania trout anglers say that they would be not at all likely to continue trout fishing in Pennsylvania if the Commission were to significantly reduce trout stocking. (This graph is shown in the section of this report titled, “Stocked Waters.”)
  
- Access is related to satisfaction, or more accurately, lack of access is related to dissatisfaction. Therefore, the following findings pertaining to access are of note.
  - The majority of Pennsylvania trout anglers (53%) say that *private* land being posted or closed is not a problem to them, although 47% say it is a problem, but mostly a *minor* problem (33%) rather than a *major* problem (14%). Certainly, then, access affects some Pennsylvania trout anglers’ satisfaction and/or may constrain their fishing location choices.
  - A crosstabulation found a correlation between using *public* land and saying that private land posting is a *major* problem, suggesting that some anglers perhaps *would* fish on private land if they could access it. In other words, there may perhaps be a scenario where some anglers could not get access to private land (these anglers would presumably

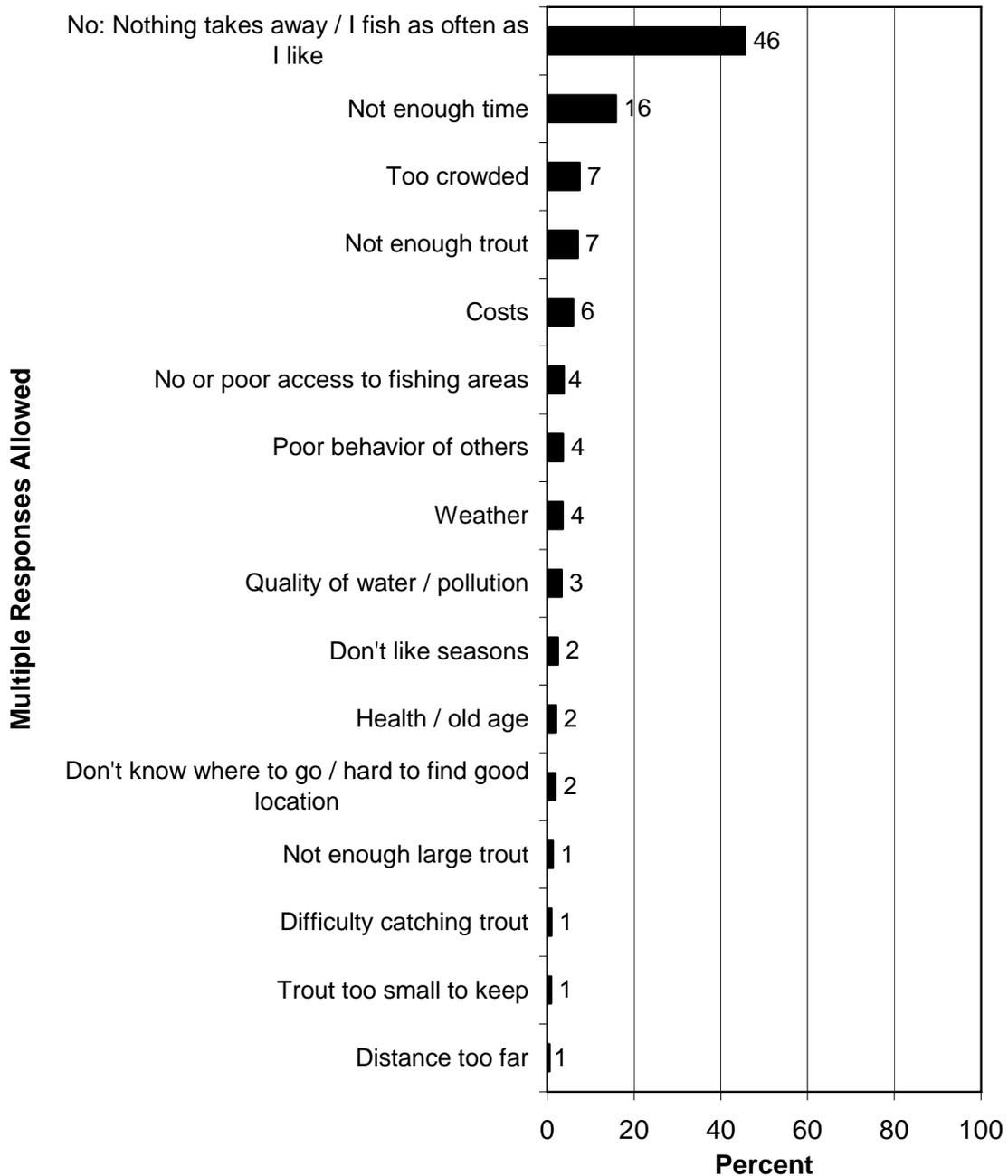
say that private land posting is a major problem) and were, therefore, compelled to fish on public land. Note, however, that this is conjecture based on the correlation found between use of public land and saying that private land posting is a major problem.

- A crosstabulation also explored whether the posting of private land was more of a rural or urban problem. The results show a direct correlation between amount of urbanization and degree of problem: 68% of those who fish mostly in urban areas say the closing of private land is a problem, and the percentages decrease linearly to 45% of those who fish mostly in rural areas. Certainly for these urban anglers, their satisfaction is negatively affected by the closing of private lands.
- Based on the fact that the overwhelming majority of Pennsylvania trout anglers (82%) support the current creel limit of 5 trout per day, and only 16% oppose the current limit, it does not appear that the creel limit is an important dissatisfaction with trout fishing in Pennsylvania. (This graph is shown in the section of this report titled, “Opinions on Regulations.”)
- Finally, regarding satisfaction, there are more Pennsylvania trout anglers who say that the number of Special Regulation Areas adds to their satisfaction than say it takes away from their satisfaction: 49% of them agree that the number of Special Regulation Areas adds to their trout fishing satisfaction (39% disagree), while 11% agree that the number of Special Regulation Areas takes away from their satisfaction (83% disagree). (These graphs are shown in the section of this report titled, “Special Regulation Areas.”)
- Commonly given reasons that the number of Special Regulation Areas adds to trout fishing satisfaction are that the areas are stocked better, that the areas have larger and better quality trout, that the experience is better in those areas, and that the areas are not crowded. (This graph is shown in the section of this report titled, “Special Regulation Areas.”)

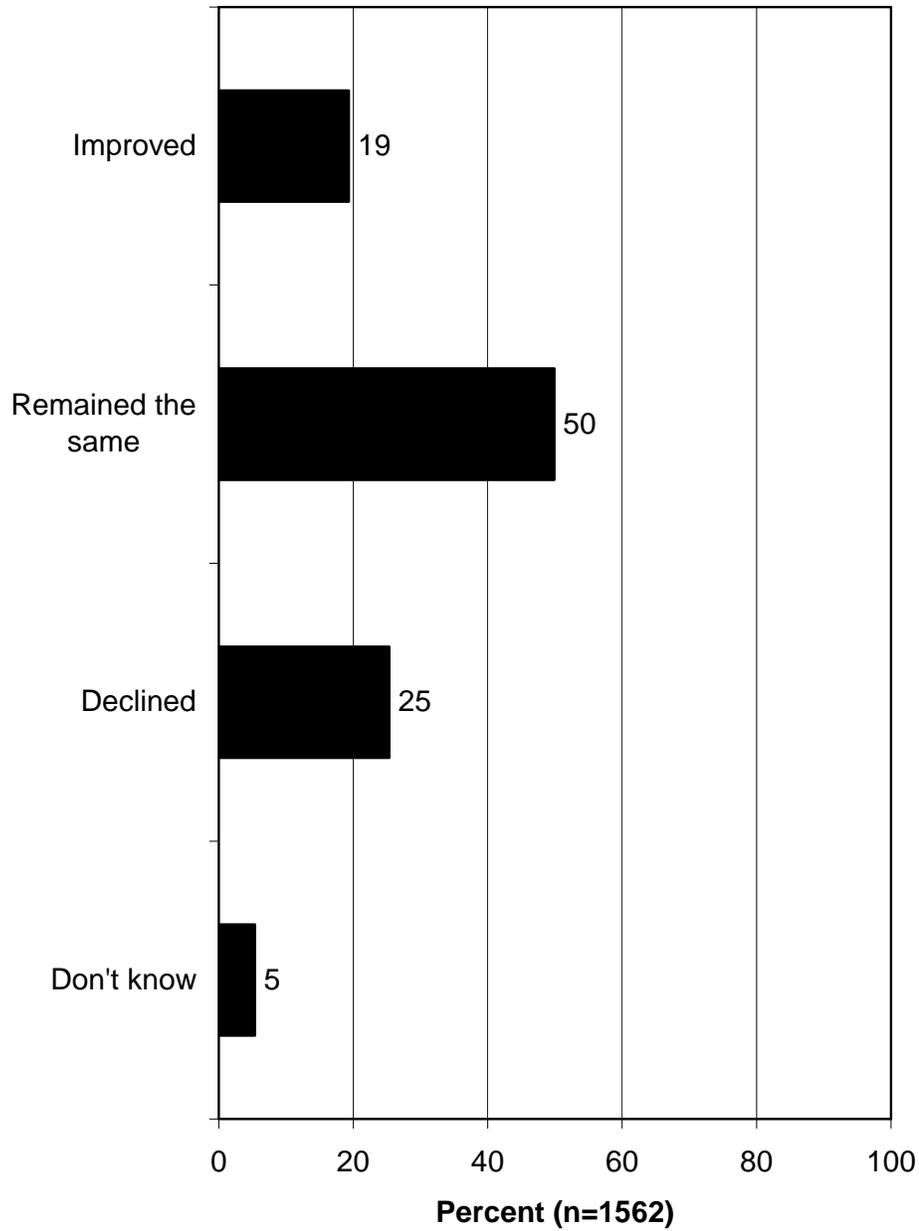
**Q20. Overall, were you satisfied or dissatisfied with your trout fishing in Pennsylvania in 2007?**



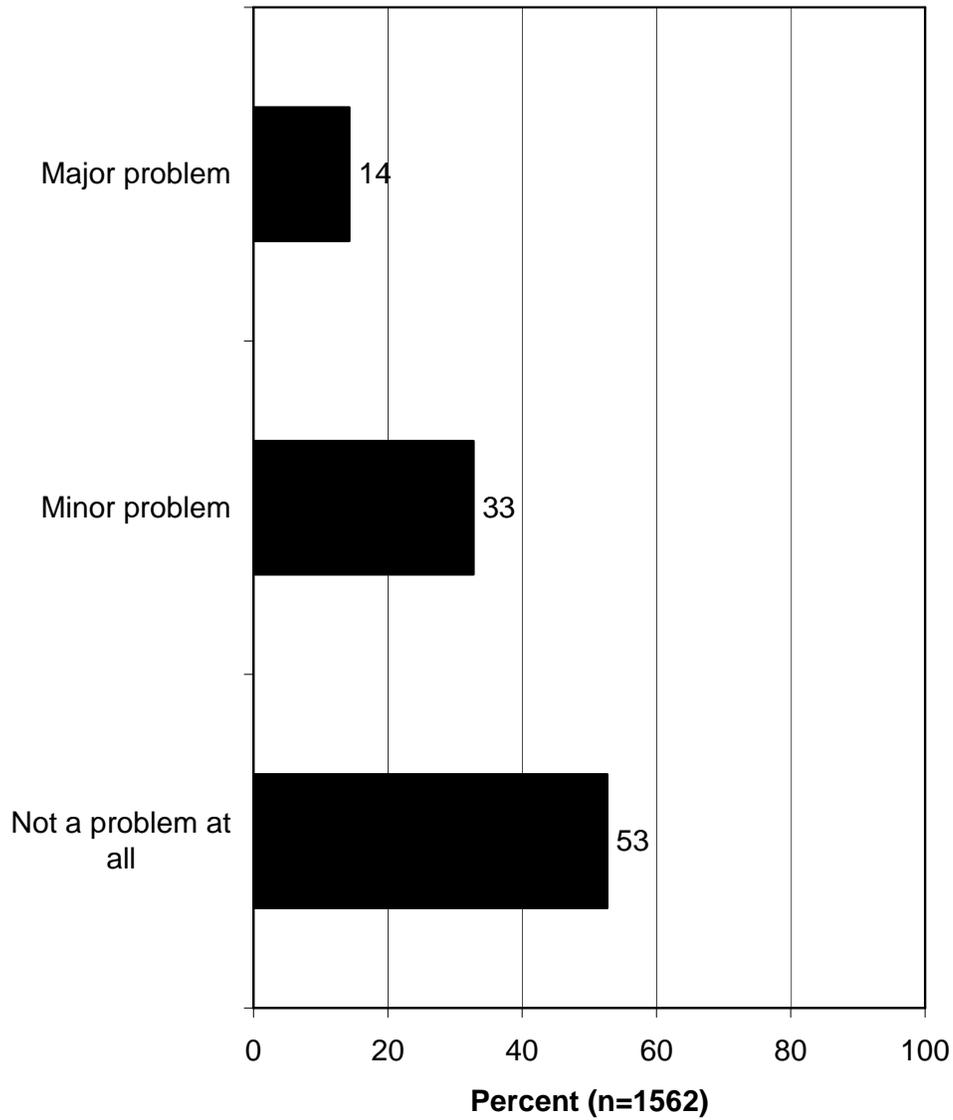
**Q24. In general, are there any things that take away from your trout fishing satisfaction or cause you not to participate in trout fishing as much as you would like in Pennsylvania?**



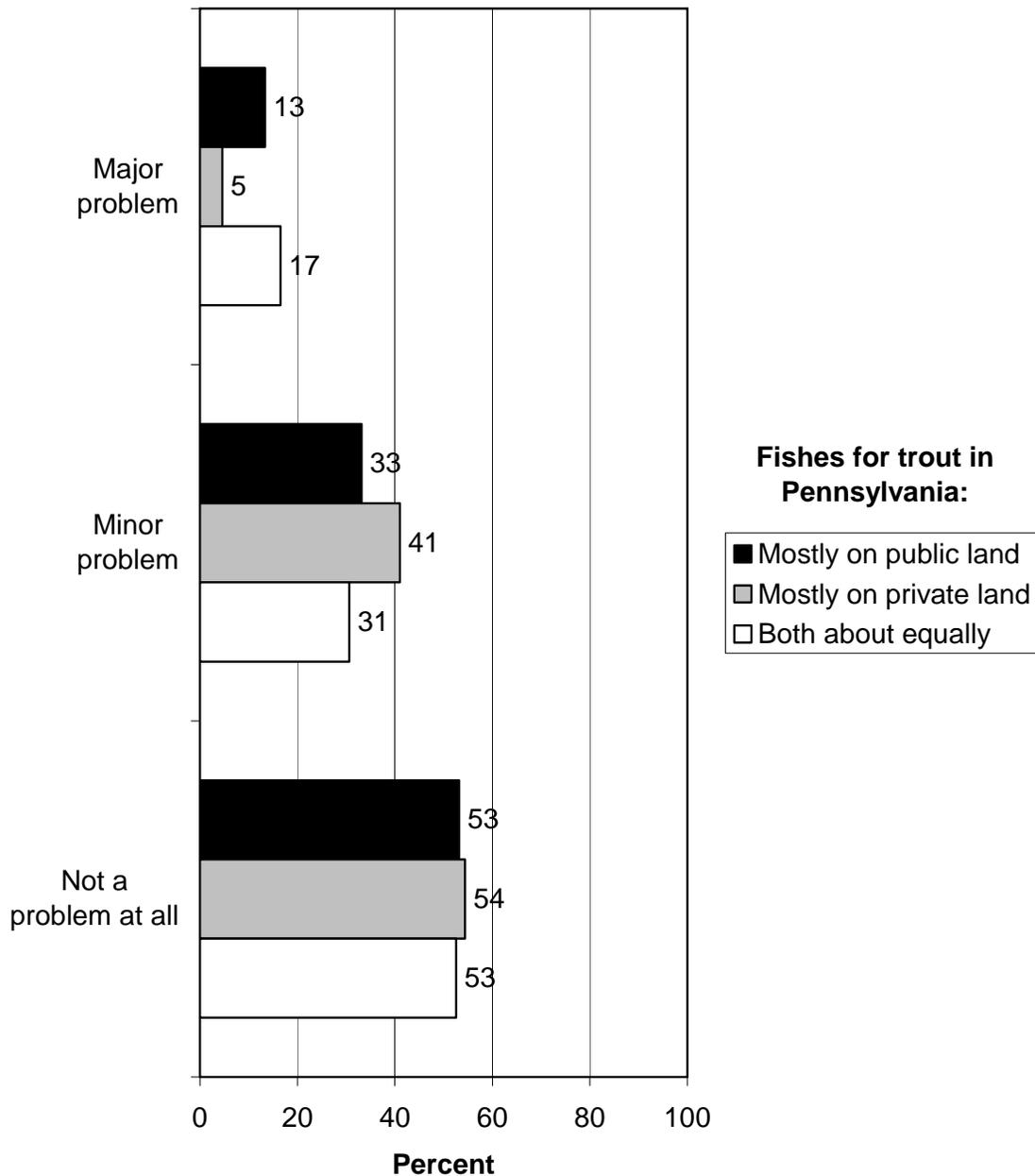
**Q31. In the past 5 years, do you think the quality of trout fishing in Pennsylvania has improved, remained the same, or declined?**



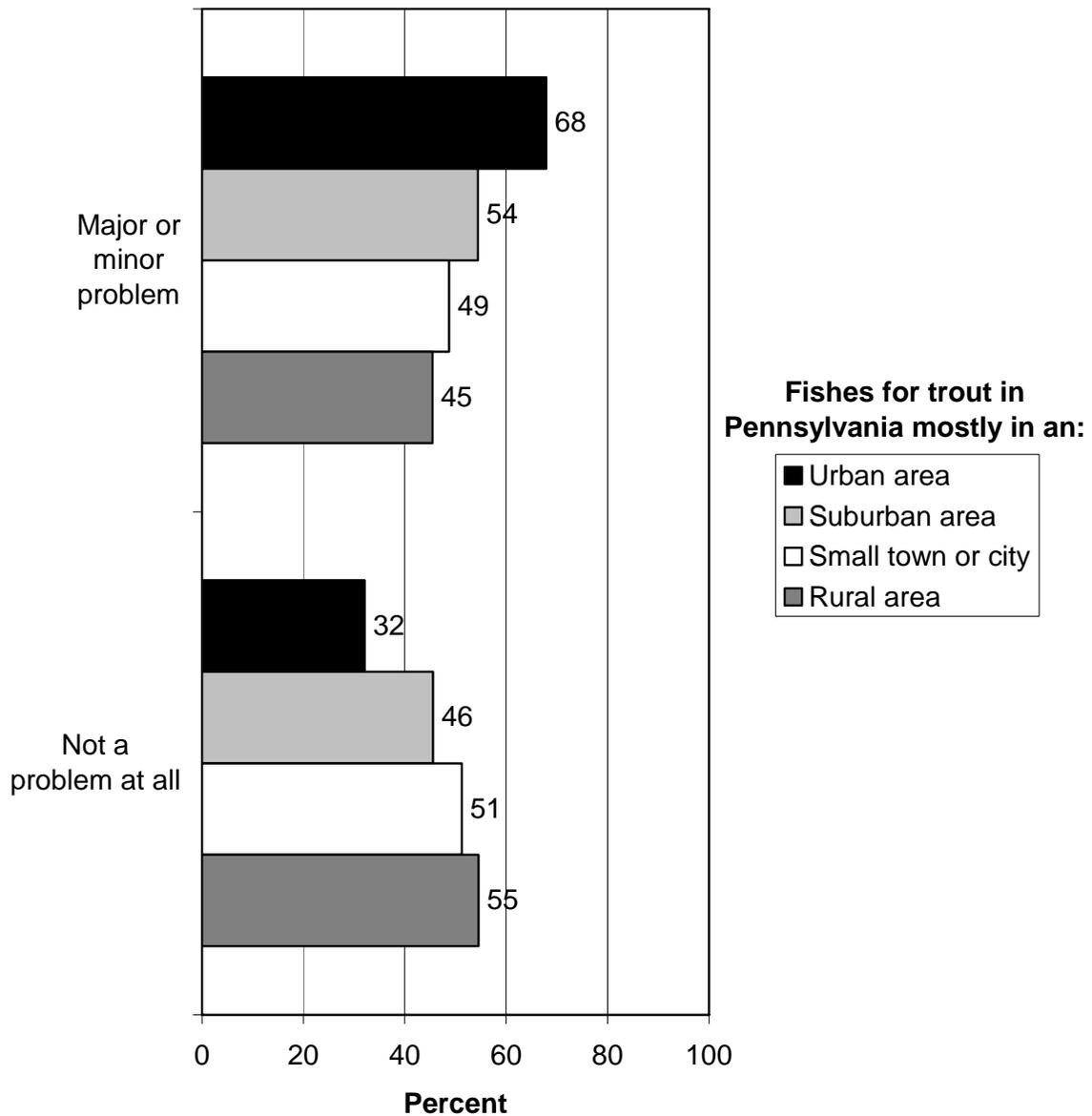
**Q58. How much of a problem is private land that is posted or closed along water you want to fish in? Would you say this is a major problem, a minor problem, or not a problem at all for you when accessing water to fish in Pennsylvania?**



**Q58. How much of a problem is private land that is posted or closed along water you want to fish in? Would you say this is a major problem, a minor problem, or not a problem at all for you when accessing water to fish in Pennsylvania?**



**Q58. How much of a problem is private land that is posted or closed along water you want to fish in? Would you say this is a major problem, a minor problem, or not a problem at all for you when accessing water to fish in Pennsylvania?**



## CONSTRAINTS TO TROUT FISHING PARTICIPATION

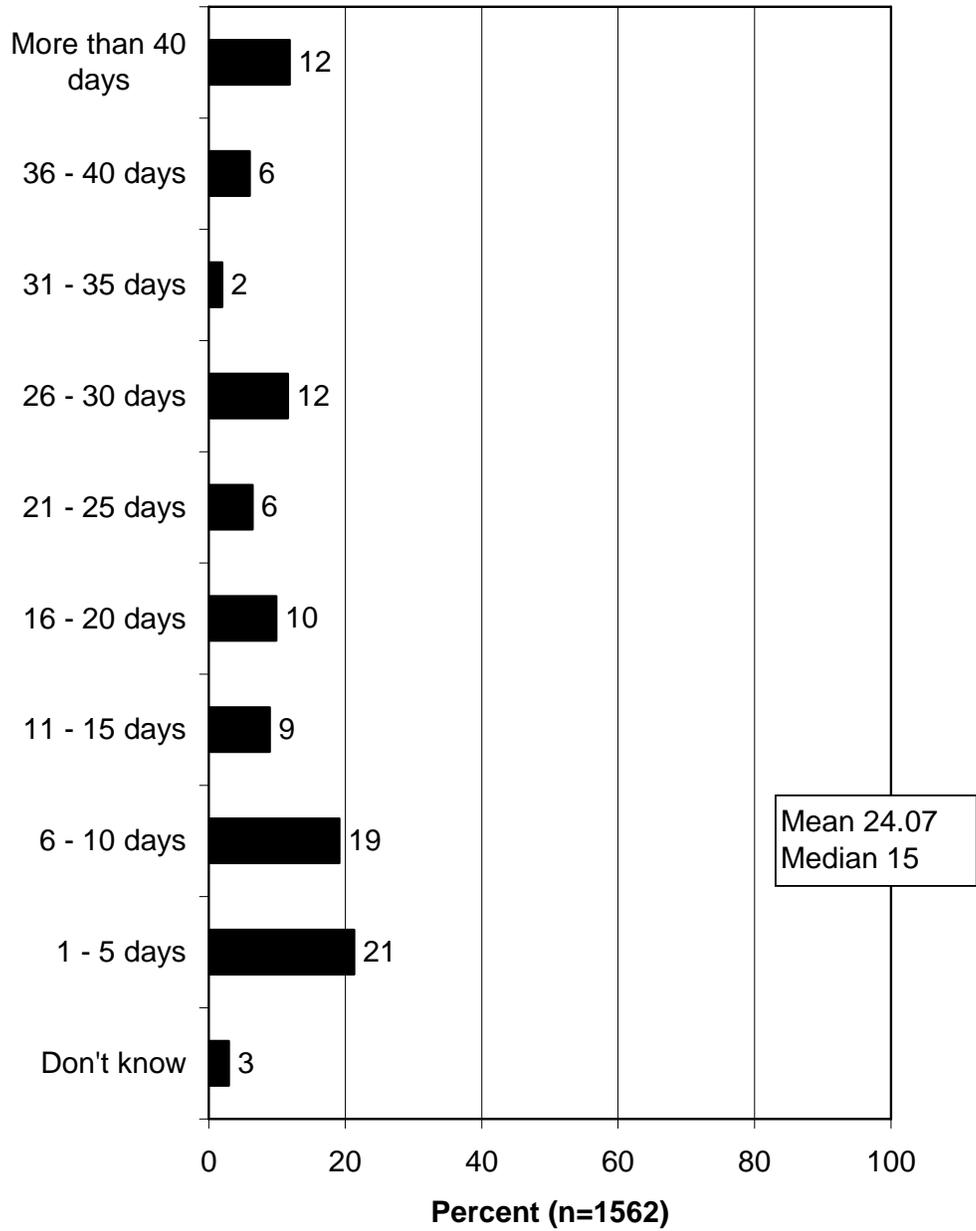
- The number of Special Regulation Areas is *not* an important constraint to fishing participation, as only 10% agree that the number of such areas prevents them from trout fishing as much as they would like (the overwhelming majority—84%—disagree). In fact, more than a fourth of trout anglers (28%) agree that they participate more often than they would if Special Regulation Areas did not exist. (These graphs are shown in the section of this report titled, “Special Regulation Areas.”)
  - Commonly given reasons that Special Regulation Areas prevent the respondent from fishing as much as he or she would like (among those who say the areas prevent fishing) are that the areas limit fishing locations, that the areas are not always open, that the areas limit the types of fishing, and that the areas have too many regulations. (This graph is shown in the section of this report titled, “Special Regulation Areas.”)
- *Not* having stocked trout available would be a constraint to some anglers, as 34% of Pennsylvania trout anglers say that they would be not at all likely to continue trout fishing in Pennsylvania if the Commission were to significantly reduce trout stocking (additionally, 29% would be only *somewhat* likely, the implication being that they would also be somewhat unlikely; lack of stocked trout could be considered a constraint among that 29%, as well). (This graph is shown in the section of this report titled, “Stocked Waters.”)
- Based on the fact that the overwhelming majority of Pennsylvania trout anglers (82%) support the current creel limit of 5 trout per day, and only 16% oppose the current limit, it does not appear that the creel limit is an important constraint to trout fishing participation in Pennsylvania. (This graph is shown in the section of this report titled, “Opinions on Regulations.”)
- The cost of licenses may be a constraint, as 47% of resident license holders and 61% of non-resident license holders think the cost of a Pennsylvania fishing license and trout stamp together are too expensive. (These graphs are shown in the section of this report titled, “Licenses and License Costs.”)

## MEASURES OF AVIDITY

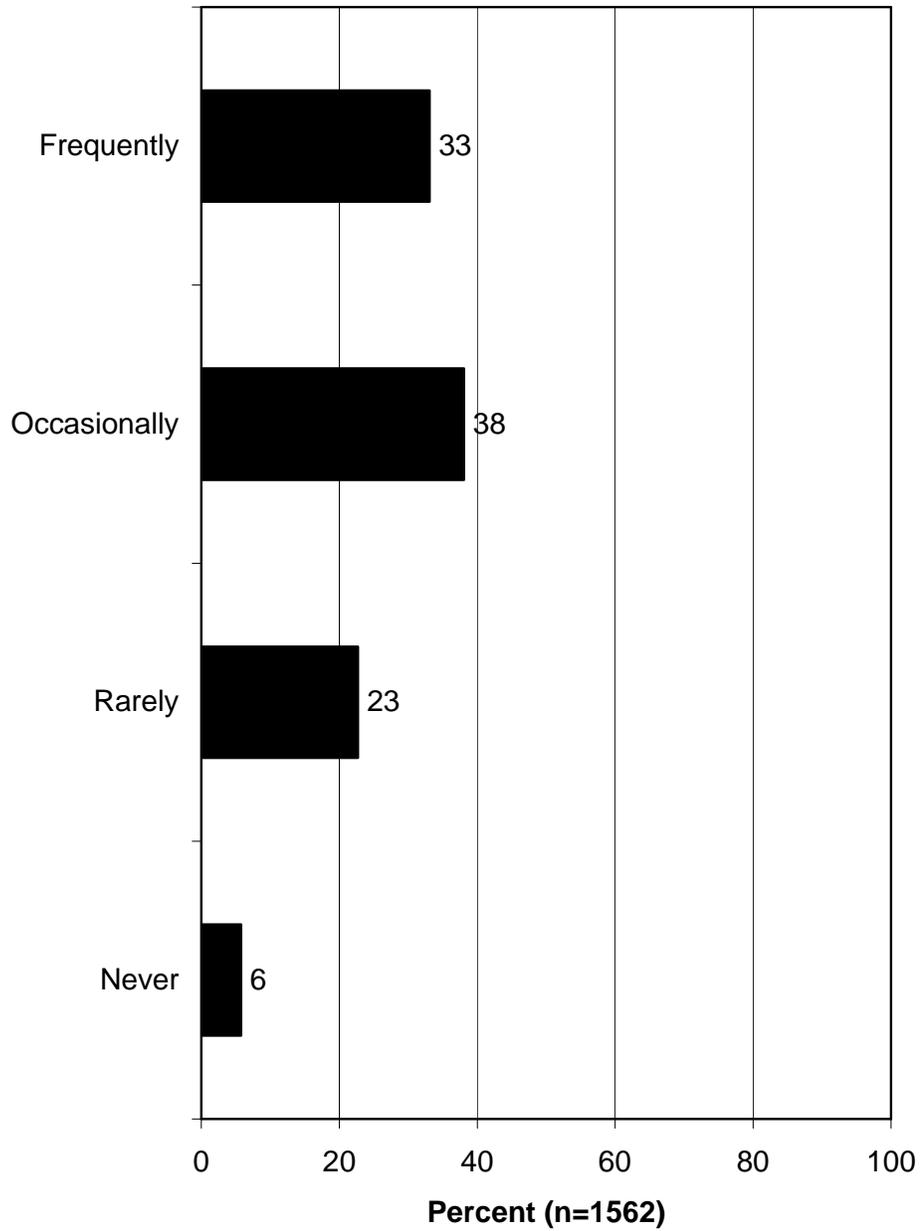
### FREQUENCY OF TROUT FISHING IN PENNSYLVANIA

- There is a wide distribution of anglers according to avidity level as measured by days that they fished for trout in Pennsylvania in 2007. While 21% did so for only 1 to 5 days, 20% did so for more than 30 days. The median was 15 days.
  
- About a third of Pennsylvania trout anglers say that they fish for trout frequently after Memorial Day weekend, and another 38% do so occasionally (a sum of 71% do so frequently or occasionally). Meanwhile, 23% do so rarely, and only 6% say that they never do.
  - The top reasons for rarely or never fishing for trout in Pennsylvania after Memorial Day weekend are that the angler simply does not have time to do so, that the weather is too hot, that there are not enough trout, and that the angler fishes for other species at that time (including fishing for bass in particular).
  
- Anglers who fish at least half the time for stocked trout were asked about the number of days they fished for stocked trout in *lakes* in Pennsylvania during the fall 2007: answers are concentrated at the lower numbers of days, with 30% doing so for 10 days or less, while the majority (59%) did not fish for stocked trout on *lakes* in the fall. They were asked the same question about fishing for stocked trout in *streams* in Pennsylvania during the fall 2007. Again, the answers are concentrated at the lower numbers of days: 43% did so for 10 days or less, while 30% did not fish for stocked trout in *streams* in the fall.
  
- Anglers who took children fishing primarily for stocked trout were asked how many days they had taken children fishing for stocked trout in lakes in Pennsylvania in 2007. The majority of those who took children fishing for stocked trout (54%) did so in lakes for 15 days or less. Meanwhile, 20% did not take a child fishing for stocked trout in lakes. The median number of days was 7 days. These anglers were also asked about the number of days they took children fishing for stocked trout in *streams*. Answers are more concentrated at the lower number of days (compared to fishing in *lakes*): 64% did so in streams for 15 days or less. The median number of days was 5 days. Meanwhile, 12% did not take a child fishing for stocked trout in streams.

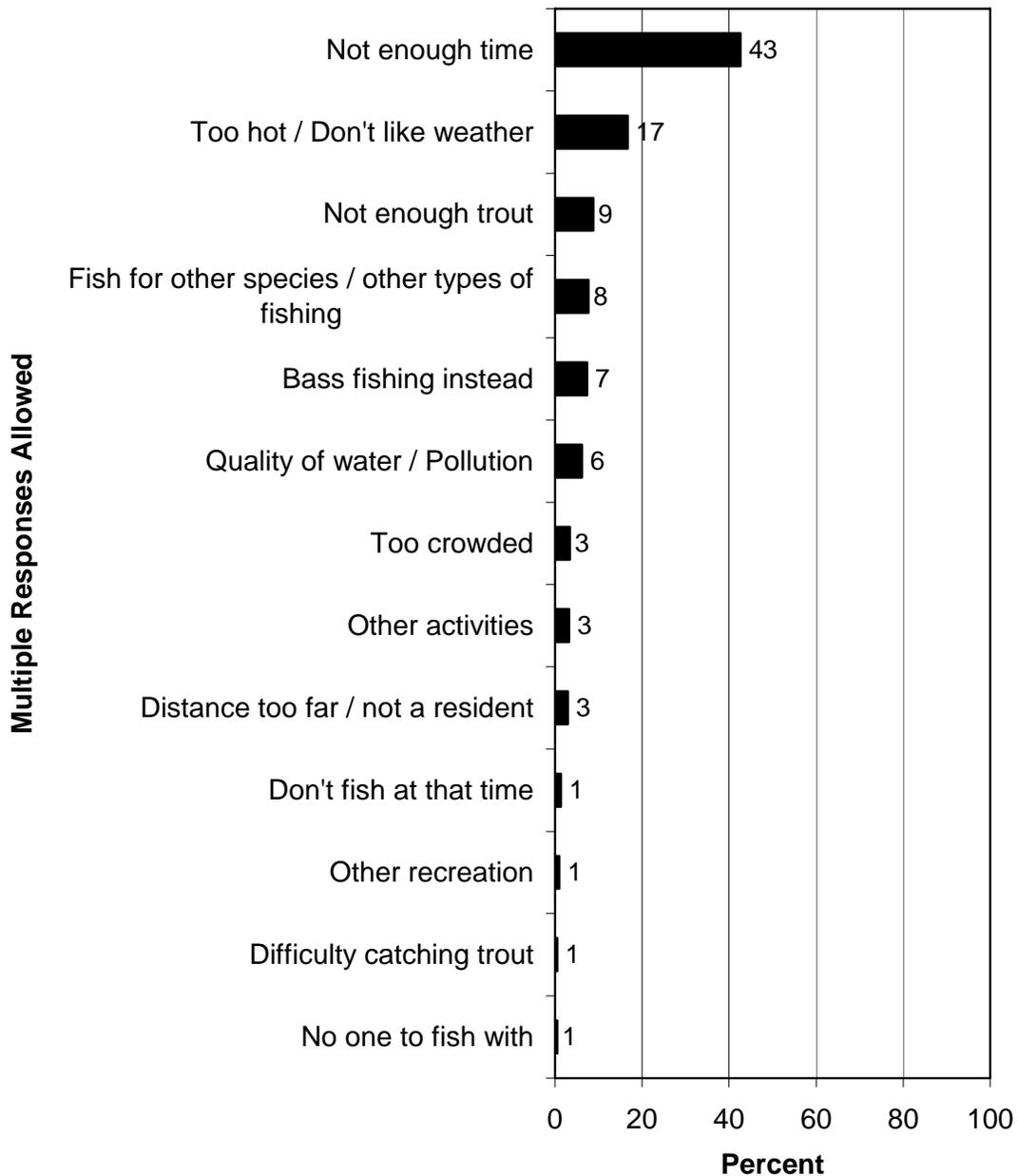
### Q32. How many days did you fish for trout in Pennsylvania in 2007?



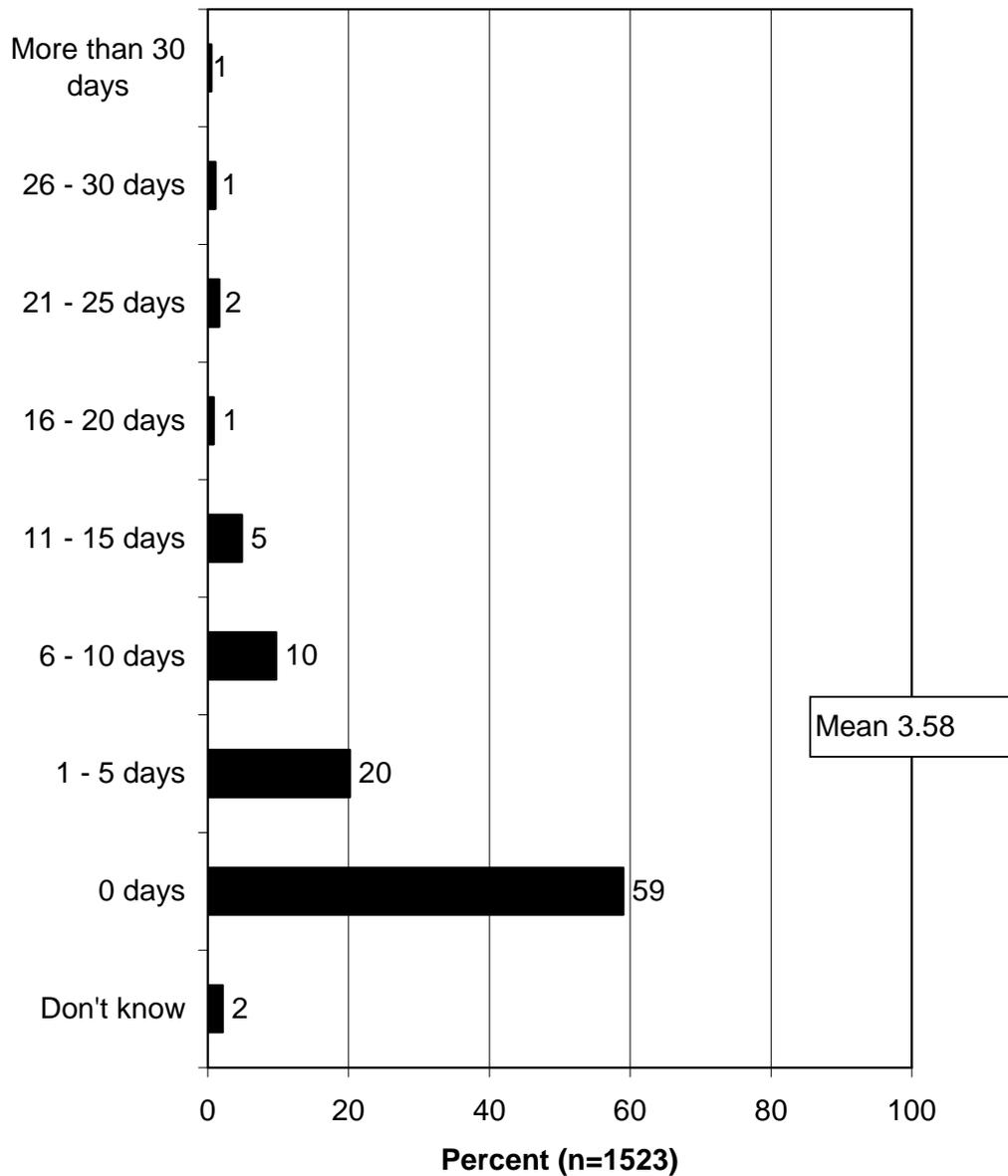
**Q33. How often do you fish for trout in Pennsylvania after Memorial Day weekend? Would you say frequently, occasionally, rarely, or never?**



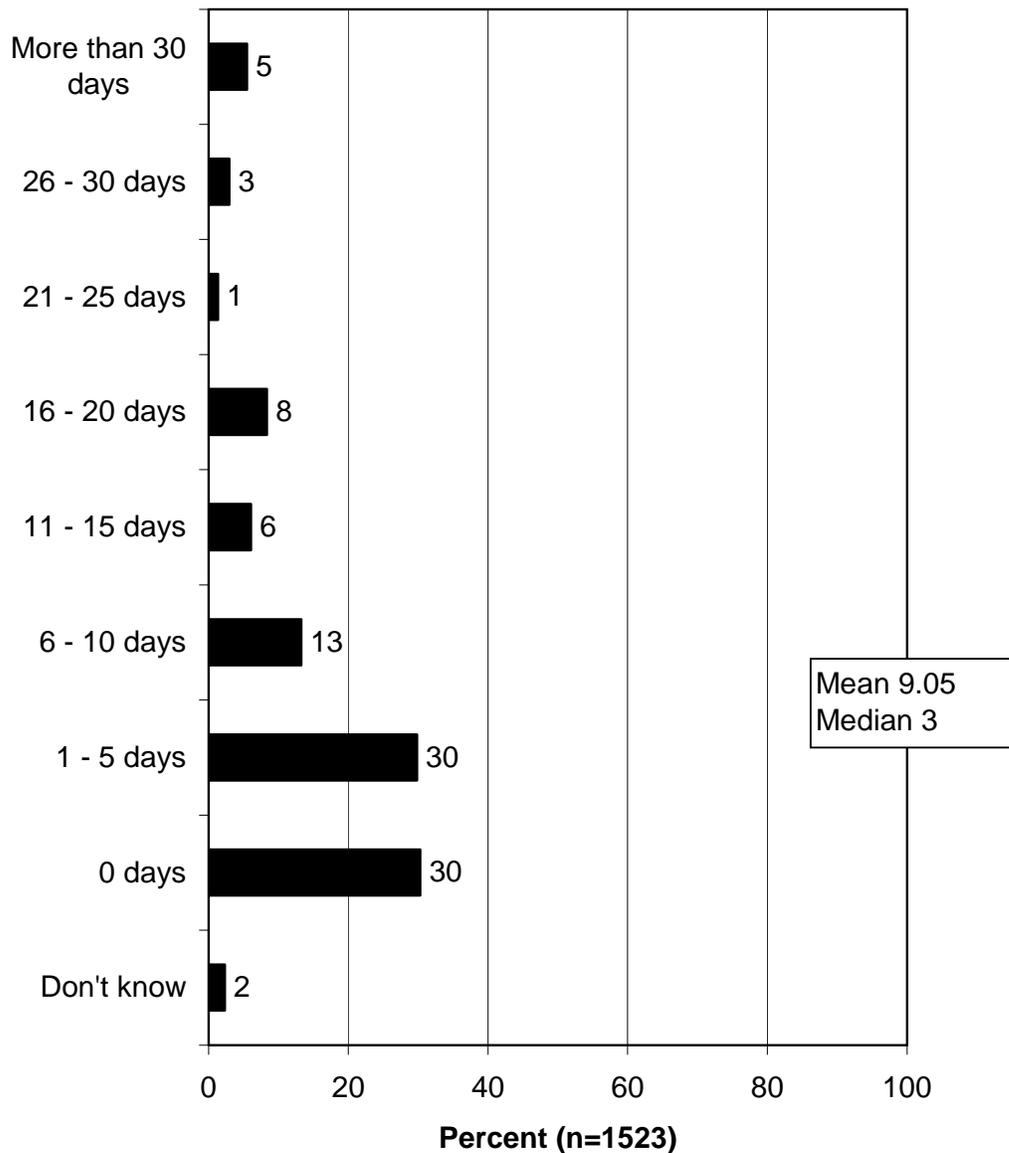
**Q36. Why do you rarely or never fish for trout in Pennsylvania after Memorial Day weekend? (Asked of those who rarely or never fish for trout in Pennsylvania after Memorial Day Weekend.)**



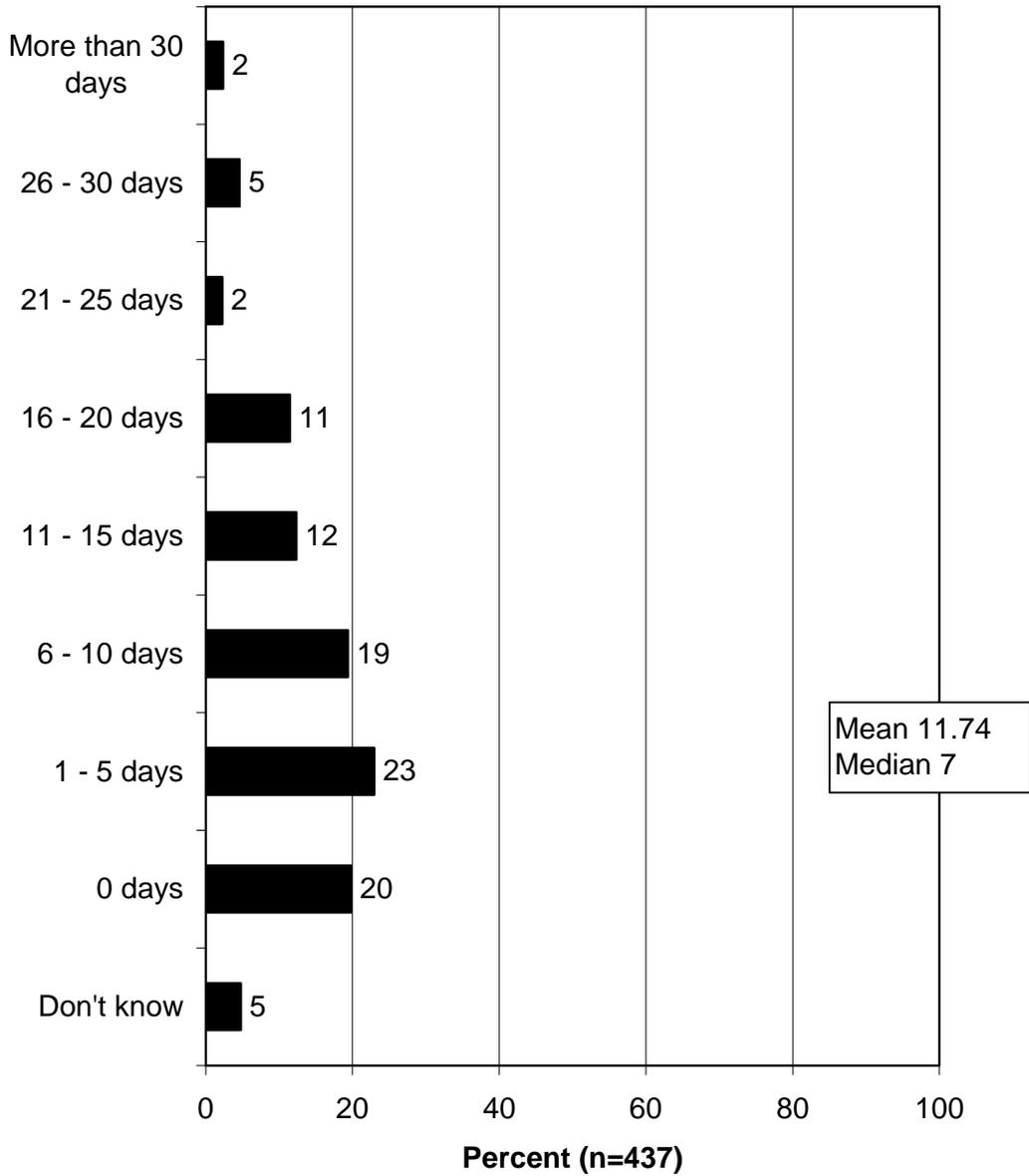
**Q119. How many days did you fish lakes in Pennsylvania that are stocked with trout by the Pennsylvania Fish and Boat Commission during the fall in 2007? (Asked of those who mostly fish for stocked trout or equally fish for both stocked and wild trout.)**



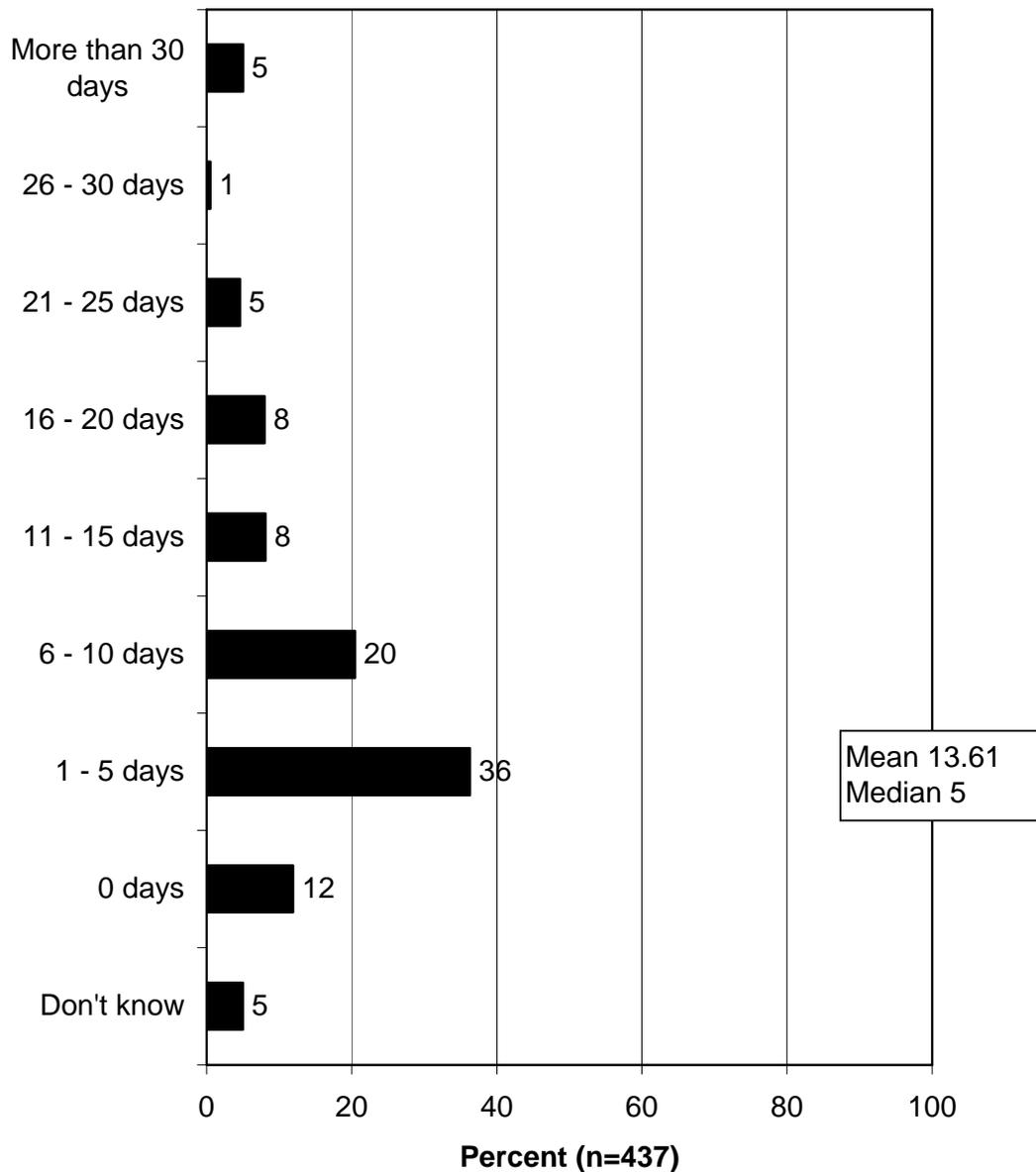
**Q122. How many days did you fish streams that are stocked with trout by the Pennsylvania Fish and Boat Commission during the fall in 2007? (Asked of those who mostly fish for stocked trout or equally fish for both stocked and wild trout.)**



**Q101. How many days did you take your child / children fishing for stocked trout in Pennsylvania lakes in 2007? (Asked of those who have children 17 years old or younger that they have taken trout fishing where they mostly fished for stocked trout or both stocked trout and wild trout equally.)**



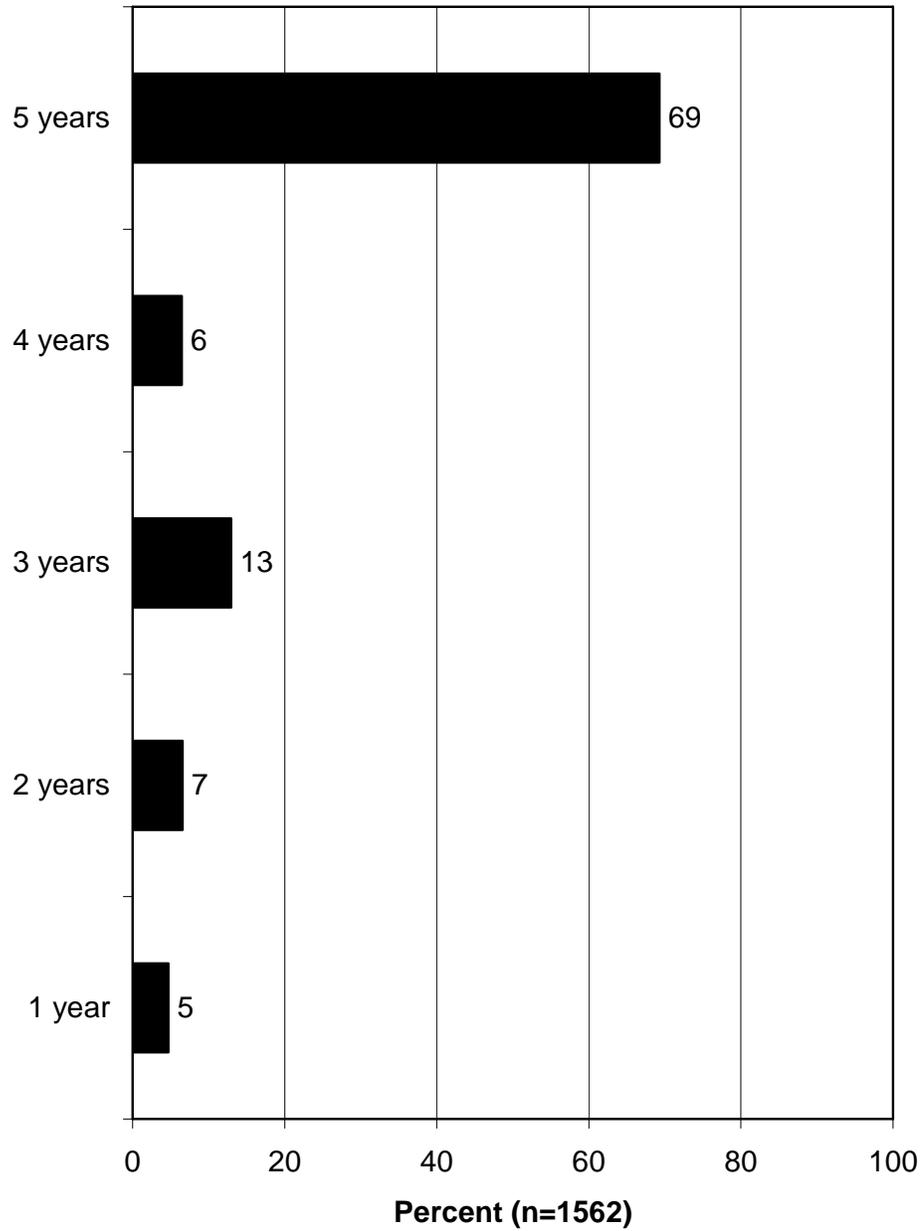
**Q104. How many days did you take your child / children fishing for stocked trout in Pennsylvania streams in 2007? (Asked of those who have children 17 years old or younger that they have taken trout fishing where they mostly fished for stocked trout or both stocked trout and wild trout equally.)**



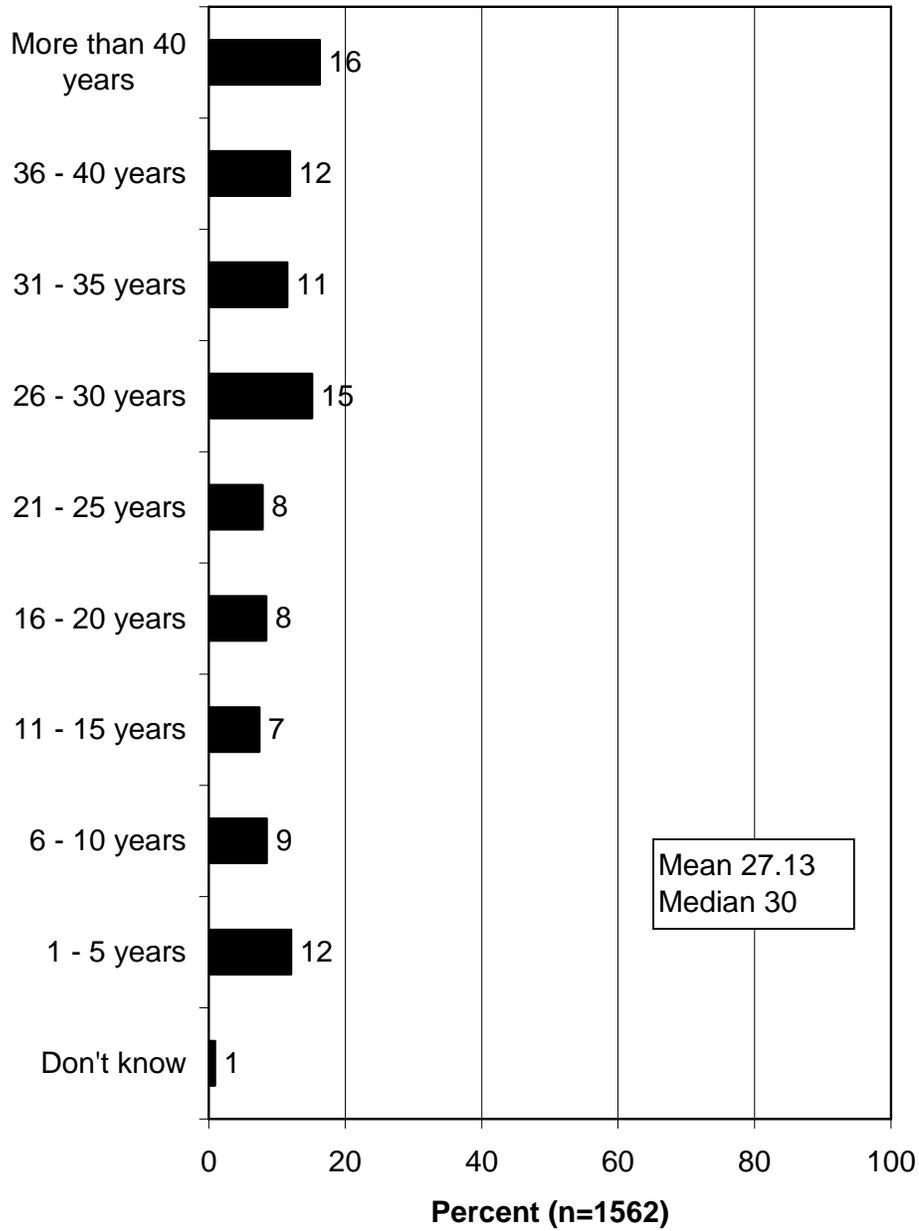
**YEARS OF TROUT FISHING EXPERIENCE, NUMBER OF YEARS FISHED FOR TROUT IN THE PAST 5 YEARS, AND TRENDS IN FREQUENCY**

- Avidity among licensed anglers is fairly high, with 69% of them having fished all 5 of the past 5 years, and 75% having fished at least 4 of the past 5 years.
  
- The sample was fairly well distributed among categories of years fished: while 12% had fished for only 1-5 years, 16% had fished for more than 40 years. All the categories in between had from 7% to 15% in them. The median is 30 years.
  
- Most commonly, licensed trout anglers say their level of participation in the past 5 years has remained about the same (47%); otherwise, they are about evenly split between those who say their level of participation has increased (24%) and those who say it has decreased (29%).

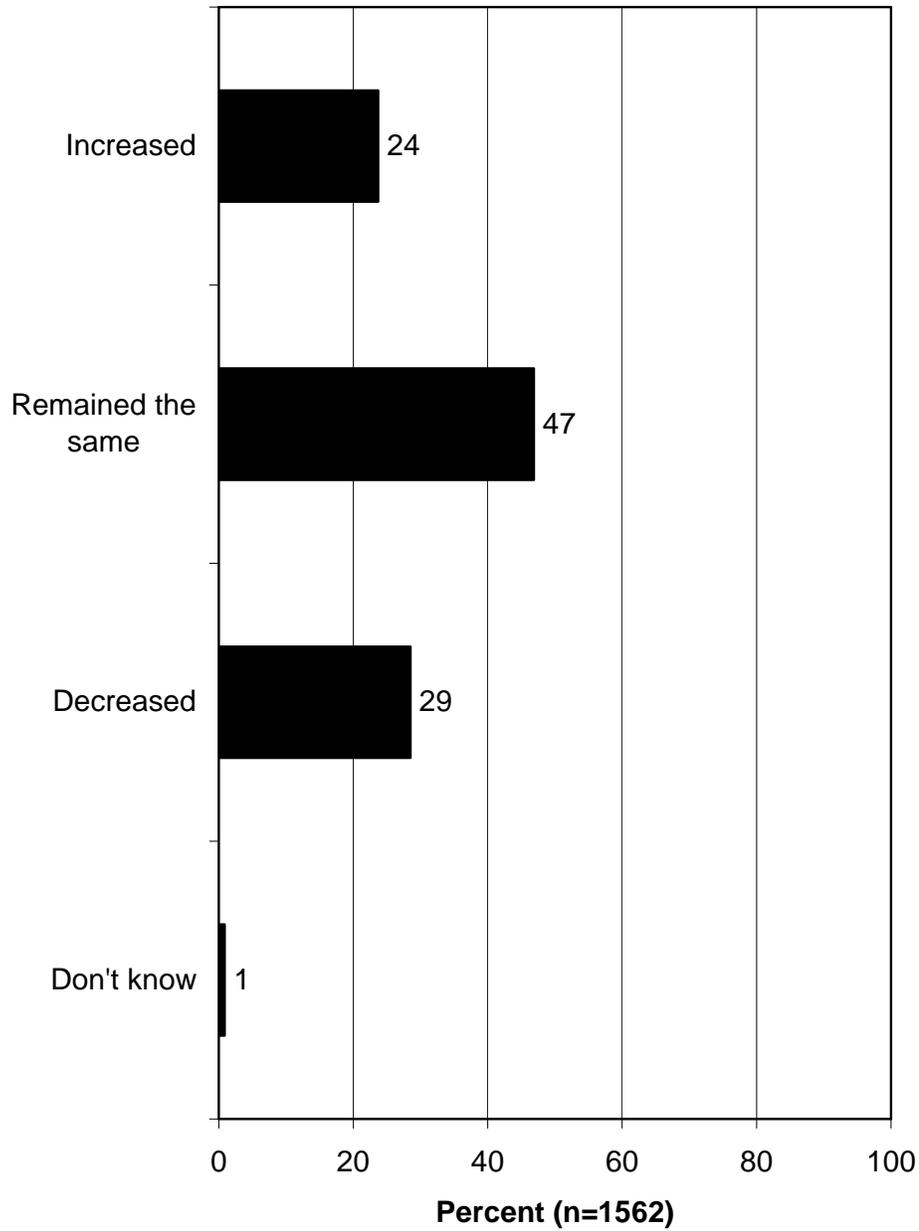
**Q27. How many years, out of the past 5 years, did you go trout fishing in Pennsylvania?**



### Q26. How many years total have you been trout fishing in Pennsylvania?



**Q30. Would you say your level of trout fishing activity in Pennsylvania has increased, remained the same, or decreased over the past 5 years?**



## LOCATIONS FOR TROUT FISHING AND SPECIAL REGULATION AREAS

### GENERAL LOCATIONAL DATA

- The top preferred bodies of water for trout fishing in Pennsylvania are Yellow Breeches Creek (3.98% of those anglers who stated a preference), the Allegheny River (2.72%), Bobs Creek (2.54%), Little Pine Creek (2.39%), and Kettle Creek (2.23%) (a table following the graph shows the full listing). The survey also asked for the second most-preferred body of water as well as the top preferred body of water. Graphs and tables are included that show the bodies of water named by respondents as being the first *or* second most-preferred body of water.
- Public land is, by far, more important than private land for trout fishing. The majority of Pennsylvania trout anglers (64%) fish for trout in Pennsylvania mostly on public land, and another 28% do so about equally on public and private (for a total of 92% who do so on public land at least half the time). Only 7% do so mostly on private land.
- Not surprisingly, the overwhelming majority of Pennsylvania trout anglers fish for trout mostly (if not exclusively) in rural areas (74%); however, about a fourth of trout anglers (26%) fish for trout in more urbanized (small city/town, suburban, or urban) areas.
- The questions regarding preferred fishing locations included the county in which the body of water is located. The counties in which the preferred bodies of water are located is shown, with no county markedly above the others. The top counties are Potter (4.3%), Cumberland (4.0%), Berks (3.8%), Elk (3.8%), Lehigh (3.1%), Dauphin (3.0%), and Allegheny (3.0%).
- About half of Pennsylvania trout anglers (49%) typically travel no more than 15 miles (one way) to trout fish in Pennsylvania; the median distance is 20 miles. The mean is 44.28 miles, which is substantially higher than the median, pulled up by the 21% who typically travel more than 50 miles.
  - In a related question, the survey directly asked trout anglers about the importance of having a fishing location near their home, and they are fairly evenly distributed among answers: 27% say it is *very* important, 34% say *somewhat* important, and 39% say not at all important.

- Stocked trout waters are important: 34% of Pennsylvania trout anglers say that *all* of their trout fishing trips are to stocked trout waters, and the overwhelming majority (93%) go to stocked trout waters at least half the time. Only 1% say that they never go to stocked trout waters. (Answers to the question about the proportion of trips made to unstocked or wild trout waters are consistent with these findings.)
  - In mentoring situations, stocked waters are extremely important, as a majority of those anglers who take a child (or children) fishing (66%) fish mostly for stocked trout, and nearly all (99%) fish for stocked trout at least half of the time. Only 1% take children fishing mostly for wild trout. (This graph is shown in the section of this report titled, “Stocked Waters.”)
  - Anglers who took children fishing primarily for stocked trout were asked how many days they had done so in lakes in Pennsylvania in 2007. The majority of those who took children fishing for stocked trout (54%) did so in lakes for 15 days or less. Meanwhile, 20% did not take a child fishing for stocked trout in lakes. The median number of days was 7 days. These anglers were also asked about the number of days they took children fishing for stocked trout in *streams*. Answers are more concentrated at the lower number of days (compared to fishing in *lakes*): 64% did so in streams for 15 days or less. The median number of days was 5 days. Meanwhile, 12% did not take a child fishing for stocked trout in streams. (These graphs are shown in the section of this report titled, “Frequency of Trout Fishing in Pennsylvania.”)
- The survey asked five individual questions about the importance of certain features of trout fishing locations. For each question, the survey asked if it is very important, somewhat important, or not at all important when choosing a fishing location. The five questions were then ranked on a single graph.
  - When choosing a location, the top-ranked consideration is that the location is stocked with trout (50% say it is *very* important), by far more important than the other features. That the location is close to home is second-ranked (27% say this is *very* important). Interestingly, 19% say having a location *not* stocked with trout is *very* important. The ranking is the same when considering *very* important and *somewhat* important combined.

**Bodies of water most preferred by Pennsylvania trout anglers  
(of those who stated a preference). (Shows only those places  
preferred by 0.80% of respondents.)**



**Preferred Water Bodies for Trout Fishing (Anglers were asked to name their first and second most-preferred bodies of water; this table shows listing of the first places.)**

Body of Water	%	Body of Water	%	Body of Water	%
Yellow Breeches Creek	3.98	Licking Creek	0.80	Valley Creek	0.11
Allegheny River	2.72	Big Cove Creek	0.77	Yellow Creek (Indiana)	0.11
Bobs Creek	2.54	Bushfield Creek	0.77	Brodhead Creek	0.11
Little Pine Creek	2.39	Conemaugh River	0.77	Chapman Run	0.11
Kettle Creek	2.23	Factoryville Creek	0.77	Dyberry Creek	0.11
Lake Erie	2.07	Genesee River	0.77	Medix Run	0.11
Sinnemahoning Creek	1.85	Pithole Creek	0.77	Mountain Creek	0.11
Clarion River	1.83	Spring Creek	0.77	Pine Creek (unknown)	0.11
Oil Creek	1.77	Spring Creek (Forest)	0.77	Twenty Mile Creek	0.11
Tionesta Creek	1.75	Stony Fork Creek	0.77	Buffalo Creek (unknown)	0.09
Tulpehocken Creek	1.70	Two Mile Creek	0.77	Hokendauga Creek	0.09
Middle Creek (Snyder)	1.68	Wheeling Creek	0.77	Levittown Lake	0.09
Slippery Rock Creek	1.68	Wilson's Run	0.77	Brokenstraw Creek	0.09
Bull Creek	1.62	Wysox Creek	0.77	Buffalo Creek (Armstrong)	0.09
Sherman Creek	1.59	Pine Creek (Northcentral PA)*	0.56	Four Mile Run	0.09
Penns Creek	1.42	Lehigh River	0.56	Lake Raystown	0.09
Clark Creek	1.06	Youghiogheny River	0.44	Raystown Branch	0.09
Darby Creek	0.99	Elk Creek (Erie)	0.35	Spring Creek (unknown)	0.09
Delaware River	0.99	Laurel Hill Creek	0.28	Stony Creek (Montgomery)	0.09
Hereford Manor Lake	0.97	Conococheague Creek	0.26	Wallenpaupack Creek	0.09
Little Lehigh Creek	0.95	Kinzua Creek	0.26	Yellow Creek (Bedford)	0.09
Loyalhanna Creek	0.93	Little Juniata River	0.26	Big Sandy Creek	0.09
Wissahickon Creek	0.93	Juniata River	0.22	Buffalo Creek (Butler)	0.09
Bald Eagle Creek	0.88	Muddy Creek (York)	0.22	Lackawaxen River	0.09
Jordan Creek	0.88	Bush Kill	0.22	Young Womans Creek	0.09
Manatawny Creek	0.88	Skipack Creek	0.20	Antietam Creek	0.09
White Clay Creek	0.88	Spring Creek (Centre)	0.19	Freeman Run	0.07
Canonsburg Lake	0.86	Susquehanna River	0.19	Kishacoquillas Creek	0.07
Fishing Creek (Columbia)	0.86	Walnut Creek	0.17	Little Bald Eagle Creek	0.07
Stony Creek (Susquehanna trib.)	0.86	Pine Creek (Allegheny)	0.17	Little Mahoney Creek	0.07
Beaver Creek	0.84	Loyalsock Creek	0.15	Mahantango Creek	0.07
Canoe Creek	0.84	Bowman Creek	0.15	North Fork	0.07
Mahanoy Creek	0.84	Lycoming Creek	0.15	Pine Creek (Armstrong)	0.07
Chester Creek	0.84	French Creek (Schuylkill River)	0.15	Pleasant Stream	0.07
Driftwood Branch	0.84	Ridley Creek	0.13	Upper Woods Pond	0.07
North Park Lake	0.84	Blue Marsh Lake	0.13	Waynesboro Reservoir	0.07
Deer Creek	0.82	Hammer Creek	0.13	Woodcock Creek	0.07
Halfway Lake	0.82	Little Beaver Creek	0.13	Aquashicola Creek	0.06
Hicks Run	0.82	Monocacy Creek	0.13	Black Moshannon Creek	0.06
Lackawanna River	0.82	Tobyhanna Creek	0.13	Brandywine Creek	0.06
White Deer Creek	0.82	Elk Creek (unknown)	0.13	Chest Creek	0.06
Connoquenessing Creek	0.80	Spruce Creek	0.13	Curry Run	0.06
Cove Creek	0.80	Brady's Run Lake	0.13	Fishing Creek (Clinton)	0.06
Fairview Lake	0.80	Dunlap Lake	0.11	Lackawanna Lake	0.06
Lilly Lake	0.80	First Fork	0.11	Lake Erie tributaries	0.06
Redbank Creek	0.80	Harvey's Creek	0.11	Muncy Lake	0.06
Sandy Lick Creek	0.80	Locust Lake	0.11	Pocono Creek	0.06
Towanda Creek	0.80	Neshannock Creek	0.11	Shenango River	0.06
Tuscarora Creek (Juniata)	0.80	Pennypack Creek	0.11	Will's Creek	0.06
Big Spring Creek	0.80	Schuylkill River	0.11	Cowens Gap	0.06

\*There were several streams referred to as "Pine Creek." This refers to the one in Lycoming, Tioga, Potter, and Clinton Counties, including the streams referred to as Big Pine Creek and Pine Creek Gorge.

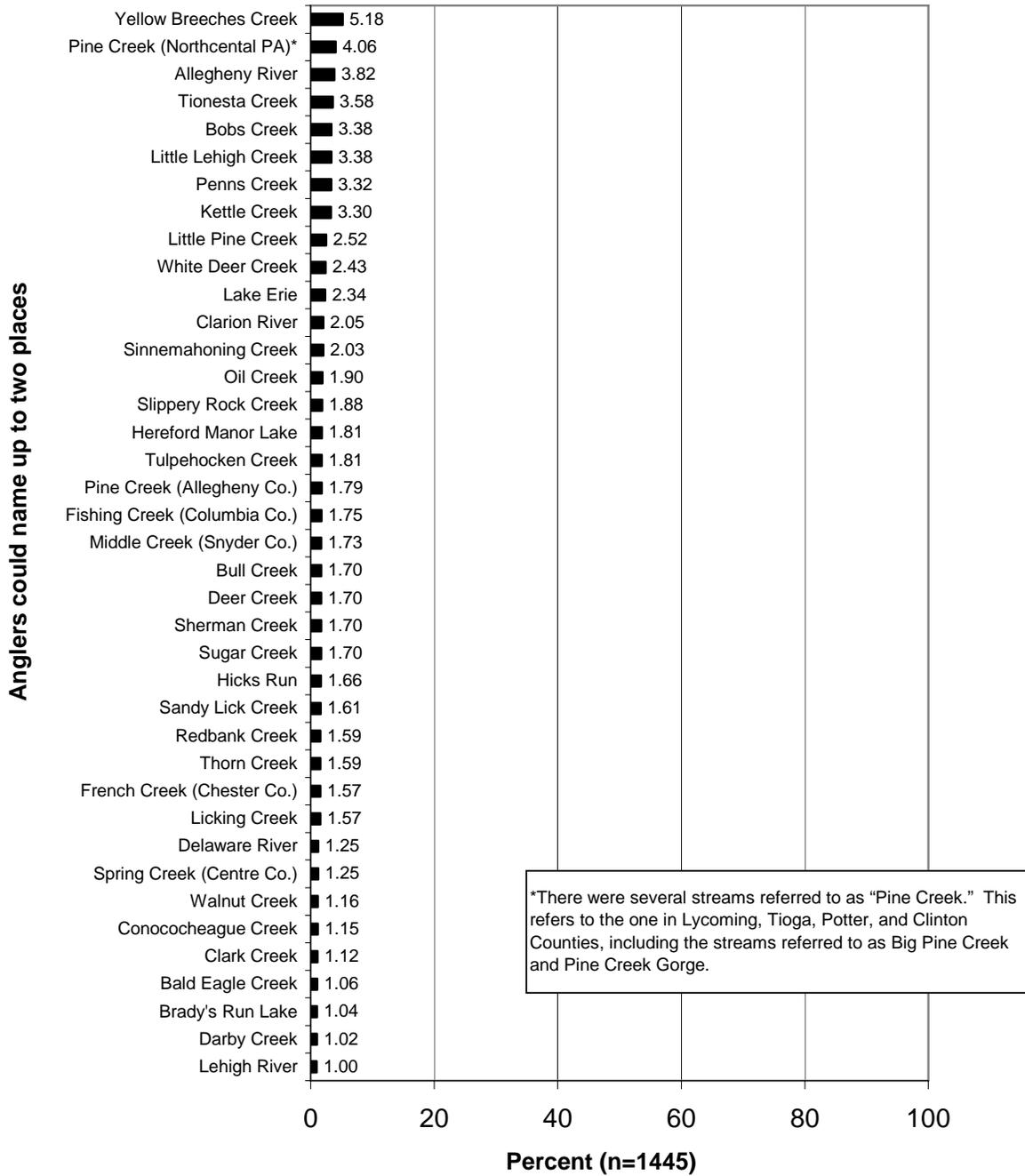
**Preferred Water Bodies for Trout Fishing (continued) (Anglers were asked to name their first and second most-preferred bodies of water; this table shows listing of the first places.)**

<b>Body of Water</b>	<b>%</b>	<b>Body of Water</b>	<b>%</b>	<b>Body of Water</b>	<b>%</b>
Falling Spring	0.06	Neshaminy Creek	0.04	Cross Creek	0.02
George B. Stevenson Reservoir	0.06	Pine Creek (Schuylkill)	0.04	Deer Lakes Park	0.02
Aughwick Creek	0.04	Poe Lake	0.04	Delaware Canal	0.02
Big Swickley Creek	0.04	Quittie Creek	0.04	Dennis Creek	0.02
Blacklog Creek	0.04	Roaring Brook	0.04	Dickies Run	0.02
Clear Shade Creek	0.04	Saucon Creek	0.04	Donegal Spring Creek	0.02
Clover Creek	0.04	Sixteen Mile Creek	0.04	Dunbar Creek	0.02
Evitts Creek	0.04	Spring Creek (Elk)	0.04	Dunkard Fork	0.02
Glade Run	0.04	Stoneycreek River	0.04	Elk Creek (Centre)	0.02
Harvey's Lake	0.04	Tom's Run	0.04	Fall Creek	0.02
Hay Creek	0.04	Unami Creek	0.04	Fishing Creek (Perry)	0.02
Hidden Lake	0.04	Wiconisco Creek	0.04	Fishing Creek (Sullivan)	0.02
Honey Creek	0.04	Wolf Creek	0.04	Flaugherty Creek	0.02
Jacobs Creek	0.04	Yellow Creek (unknown)	0.04	Frankstown Branch	0.02
Keystone Lake	0.04	Bells Gap Run	0.04	French Creek (Allegheny River)	0.02
Leisure Lake	0.04	Conewago Creek	0.04	Fuller Lake	0.02
Little Bear Creek	0.04	Shohola Creek	0.04	Glade Mill Lake	0.02
Little Medix Run	0.04	Bear Creek (Butler)	0.02	Hemlock Creek	0.02
Little Schuylkill River	0.04	Bear Creek (Schuylkill)	0.02	Indian Creek (Fayette)	0.02
Manada Creek	0.04	Beaver Run Creek	0.02	Indian Creek (Northampton)	0.02
Marquette Lake	0.04	Beltzville Lake	0.02	Jim Thorpe	0.02
Marvin Creek	0.04	Black Elk Creek	0.02	Justice Lake	0.02
Mill Creek (Berks)	0.04	Blooming Grove River	0.02	Lake Francis	0.02
Mill Creek (Westmoreland)	0.04	Boyers Pond	0.02	Lake Henry	0.02
Perkiomen Creek	0.04	Brown's Lake	0.02	Lake Irene	0.02
Pohopoco Creek	0.04	Brush Creek (Somerset)	0.02	Lake Luxembourg	0.02
Potato Creek	0.04	Brush Run Creek	0.02	Lake Pleasant	0.02
Promised Land Lake	0.04	Bryer Creek	0.02	Lake Roman Woods	0.02
Raccoon State Park	0.04	Buckwha Creek	0.02	Lake Rowena	0.02
Rock Run	0.04	Buffalo Creek (Allegheny)	0.02	Laurel Run	0.02
Salmon Creek	0.04	Buffalo Creek (Union)	0.02	Leaser Lake	0.02
Saylor's Lake	0.04	Caldwell Creek	0.02	Linden Creek	0.02
Standing Stone Creek	0.04	Cathers Run	0.02	Lingle Creek	0.02
Sugar Creek	0.04	Cedar Run	0.02	Little Brokenstraw Creek	0.02
Sunfish Pond	0.04	Cherry Run	0.02	Little Bush Kill	0.02
Three Springs Creek	0.04	Chiques Creek	0.02	Little Chiques Creek	0.02
Trough Creek	0.04	Chloe Dam	0.02	Little Clearfield Creek	0.02
Twin Lakes	0.04	Clear Creek	0.02	Little Creek	0.02
Walnut Port	0.04	Clearfield Creek	0.02	Little Elk Creek	0.02
Waltz Creek	0.04	Codorus Creek	0.02	Little Killbuck	0.02
Cool Spring Creek	0.04	Cold Run	0.02	Little Neshannock Creek	0.02
Fishing Creek (unknown)	0.04	Cold Stream	0.02	Little Otter Creek	0.02
Frances Slocum Lake	0.04	Conowingo Creek	0.02	Little Sugar Creek	0.02
Hamilton Lake	0.04	Cooks Run	0.02	Little Tonoloway Creek	0.02
Hickory Creek	0.04	Coon Creek	0.02	Little Yellow Creek	0.02
Little Buffalo Creek	0.04	Copley Creek	0.02	London Creek	0.02
Little Fishing Creek	0.04	Country Club Creek	0.02	Lower Woods Pond	0.02
Little Sandy Creek	0.04	Cow Creek	0.02	Lynn Run	0.02
Nescopeck Creek	0.04	Crooked Creek	0.02	Mahoning Creek	0.02

**Preferred Water Bodies for Trout Fishing (continued) (Anglers were asked to name their first and second most-preferred bodies of water; this table shows listing of the first places.)**

<b>Body of Water</b>	<b>%</b>	<b>Body of Water</b>	<b>%</b>	<b>Body of Water</b>	<b>%</b>
Maiden Creek	0.02	South Whitmore Run	0.02	Moshannon Creek	0.02
Maple Creek	0.02	Starrucca Creek	0.02	Ontelaunee Creek	0.02
Marlin Lake	0.02	Stewart Run	0.02	Raccoon Creek (Perry)	0.02
Marsh Creek (Clinton)	0.02	Stony Creek (Dauphin)	0.02	Shade Creek	0.02
Marshall's Creek	0.02	Swatara Creek	0.02	Six Mile Run	0.02
Martin's Creek	0.02	Swift Run	0.02	Spring Creek (Union)	0.02
Meadow Run	0.02	Thorn Creek	0.02	Stony Creek (unknown)	0.02
Mehoopany Creek	0.02	Three Mile Creek	0.02	Teeter's Creek	0.02
Middle Creek (Lebanon)	0.02	Tidioute Creek	0.02	Tub Run	0.02
Middle Fork	0.02	Tohickon Creek	0.02	Tunkhannock Creek (Susquehanna)	0.02
Middle Spring Creek	0.02	Tonoloway Creek	0.02	Could not determine	4.61
Mill Creek (Elk)	0.02	Town Creek (Somerset)	0.02	Unknown	4.29
Mill Creek (Lancaster)	0.02	Treaster Run	0.02		
Mill Stream	0.02	Trout Creek (Lehigh)	0.02		
Miller Creek	0.02	Trout Run	0.02		
Millstone Creek	0.02	Tuscarora Creek (Susquehanna)	0.02		
Mink Pond	0.02	Tuscarora Lake	0.02		
Monongahela River	0.02	Two Mile Lake	0.02		
Mud Run (Carbon)	0.02	Two Mile Run	0.02		
Muddy Run (Lancaster)	0.02	Virgin Run	0.02		
Mullen Run	0.02	Walker Lake	0.02		
Northkill Creek	0.02	Weaver's Run	0.02		
Paradise Creek	0.02	Wells Creek	0.02		
Pike Run	0.02	Whipple's Dam	0.02		
Pine Creek (Centre)	0.02	Whippoorwill Lake	0.02		
Pine Creek (Crawford)	0.02	White's Creek	0.02		
Pine Creek (Dauphin)	0.02	Wolfe Run	0.02		
Piney River	0.02	Wyalusing Creek	0.02		
Plum Creek	0.02	Wycoff Run	0.02		
Possum Creek	0.02	Yellow Creek (Bradford)	0.02		
Powell Creek	0.02	Beaver River	0.02		
Quittapahilla Creek	0.02	Big Run	0.02		
Rainbow Lake	0.02	Chamberlain Lake	0.02		
Repine Run	0.02	Cross Fork	0.02		
Ricketts Glen	0.02	East Hickory Creek	0.02		
Ridgeway Reservoir	0.02	Elk Creek (Elk)	0.02		
Roaring Creek, South Branch	0.02	Farnsworth Creek	0.02		
Rock Creek	0.02	French Creek (unknown)	0.02		
Rock Run Creek	0.02	Harbor Acres Lake	0.02		
Royal Creek	0.02	Howard Dam	0.02		
Ruby Creek	0.02	Kettle Creek Reservoir (Bush Dam)	0.02		
Ryerson Station	0.02	Lake Beechwood	0.02		
Schrader Creek	0.02	Lake Hammond	0.02		
Scott's Run	0.02	Lake Monroe	0.02		
Shawnee Lake	0.02	Lake Nockamixon	0.02		
Slate Run	0.02	Lake Winona	0.02		
Snake Creek	0.02	Latorte Creek	0.02		
Somerset Lake	0.02	Middle Creek (Adams)	0.02		

**Top two bodies of water most preferred by Pennsylvania trout anglers (of those who stated a preference). (Shows only those places preferred by 1.00% of respondents.)**



**Preferred Water Bodies for Trout Fishing (Anglers were asked to name their first and second most-preferred bodies of water; this table shows listing of both places.)**

Body of Water	%	Body of Water	%	Body of Water	%
Yellow Breeches Creek	5.18	Blue Marsh Lake	0.93	Bull Run	0.77
Pine Creek (Northcentral PA)*	4.06	Levittown Lake	0.93	Bushfield Creek	0.77
Allegheny River	3.82	Yellow Creek (Bedford)	0.93	Conemaugh River	0.77
Tionesta Creek	3.58	Spruce Creek	0.93	Factoryville Creek	0.77
Bobs Creek	3.38	White Clay Creek	0.93	Genesee River	0.77
Little Lehigh Creek	3.38	Canonsburg Lake	0.91	Hemlock Run	0.77
Penns Creek	3.32	Chest Creek	0.91	Kahle Lake	0.77
Kettle Creek	3.30	Mahanoy Creek	0.91	Polebridge Run	0.77
Little Pine Creek	2.52	Martin's Creek	0.91	Rapid Run (Union)	0.77
White Deer Creek	2.43	Big Spring Creek	0.90	Spring Creek	0.77
Lake Erie	2.34	Latorte Creek	0.90	Stony Fork Creek	0.77
Clarion River	2.05	Beaver Creek	0.88	Sunfish Pond (Bradford)	0.77
Sinnemahoning Creek	2.03	Chester Creek	0.88	Two Mile Creek	0.77
Oil Creek	1.90	Driftwood Branch	0.88	Wheeling Creek	0.77
Slippery Rock Creek	1.88	Manatawny Creek	0.88	Wilson's Run	0.77
Hereford Manor Lake	1.81	Cove Creek	0.86	Elk Creek (Erie)	0.61
Tulpehocken Creek	1.81	Lackawanna River	0.86	Youghiogheny River	0.59
Pine Creek (Allegheny)	1.79	Lackawanna Lake	0.86	Little Juniata River	0.45
Fishing Creek (Columbia)	1.75	Stony Creek (Susquehanna trib.)	0.86	Bush Kill	0.44
Middle Creek (Snyder)	1.73	Black Moshannon Creek	0.86	Susquehanna River	0.41
Bull Creek	1.70	Fishing Creek (Clinton)	0.86	Kinzua Creek	0.35
Deer Creek	1.70	Blacklog Creek	0.84	Laurel Hill Creek	0.33
Sherman Creek	1.70	Crooked Creek	0.84	Neshannock Creek	0.33
Sugar Creek	1.70	Halfway Lake	0.84	Muddy Creek (York)	0.31
Hicks Run	1.66	Lilly Lake	0.82	Juniata River	0.31
Sandy Lick Creek	1.61	Linden Creek	0.82	Tobyhanna Creek	0.31
Redbank Creek	1.59	Mill Creek (Elk)	0.82	Skippack Creek	0.28
Thorn Creek	1.59	Shenango Lake	0.82	Loyalsock Creek	0.26
French Creek (Chester)	1.57	Little Fishing Creek	0.82	Lycoming Creek	0.26
Licking Creek	1.57	Pickering Creek	0.82	Lake Raystown	0.24
Delaware River	1.25	Connoquenessing Creek	0.80	Ridley Creek	0.24
Spring Creek (Centre)	1.25	Fairview Lake	0.80	First Fork	0.22
Walnut Creek	1.16	Little Tonoloway Creek	0.80	Antietam Creek	0.22
Conococheague Creek	1.15	Maiden Creek	0.80	Twenty Mile Creek	0.22
Clark Creek	1.12	Maple Creek	0.80	Hokendauqua Creek	0.20
Bald Eagle Creek	1.06	Otter Creek	0.80	Stony Creek (Dauphin)	0.20
Brady's Run Lake	1.04	Pithole Creek	0.80	Little Beaver Creek	0.20
Darby Creek	1.02	Raccoon Creek (Beaver)	0.80	Raystown Branch	0.20
Lehigh River	1.00	Toby Creek	0.80	Locust Lake	0.18
Loyalhanna Creek	0.99	Tohickon Creek	0.80	Pennypack Creek	0.18
Bowman Creek	0.99	Towanda Creek	0.80	Schuylkill River	0.18
Jordan Creek	0.99	Tuscarora Creek (Juniata)	0.80	Yellow Creek (Indiana)	0.18
Wissahickon Creek	0.99	Wolfe Run	0.80	Brokenstraw Creek	0.17
Brandywine Creek	0.97	Spring Creek (Forest)	0.80	Hammer Creek	0.17
Buffalo Creek (Armstrong)	0.97	Wysox Creek	0.80	Mountain Creek	0.17
Canoe Creek	0.97	Beaverdale Lake	0.77	Brodhead Creek	0.17
North Park Lake	0.97	Big Cove Creek	0.77	Buffalo Creek (Butler)	0.17
Monocacy Creek	0.95	Briar Creek	0.77	Perkiomen Creek	0.17
Elk Creek (unknown)	0.95	Buffalo Creek (Perry)	0.77	Will's Creek	0.17

\*There were several streams referred to as "Pine Creek." This refers to the one in Lycoming, Tioga, Potter, and Clinton Counties, including the streams referred to as Big Pine Creek and Pine Creek Gorge.

**Preferred Water Bodies for Trout Fishing (continued) (Anglers were asked to name their first and second most-preferred bodies of water; this table shows listing of both places.)**

Body of Water	%	Body of Water	%	Body of Water	%
Lackawaxen River	0.17	Falling Spring	0.09	Six Mile Run	0.06
Young Womans Creek	0.17	Little Buffalo Creek	0.09	Unami Creek	0.06
Rock Run	0.15	Ontelaunee Creek	0.09	Armstrong Creek	0.04
French Creek (Schuylkill River)	0.15	Shade Creek	0.08	Aughwick Creek	0.04
Dunlap Lake	0.13	Big Swickley Creek	0.07	Brisbin Dam	0.04
Harvey's Creek	0.13	Blue Jay Creek	0.07	Brush Creek (Indiana)	0.04
Keystone Lake	0.13	Cedar Run	0.07	Buffalo Creek (Union)	0.04
Chapman Run	0.13	Clover Creek	0.07	Caldwell Creek	0.04
Dyberry Creek	0.13	Deep Creek	0.07	Casselman River	0.04
Salmon Creek	0.13	Delaware Canal	0.07	Cattle Creek	0.04
Sixteen Mile Creek	0.13	Dunbar Creek	0.07	Chartiers Creek	0.04
Wallenpaupack Creek	0.13	Elk Creek (Centre)	0.07	Clear Creek	0.04
Waynesboro Reservoir	0.13	Freeman Run	0.07	Clearfield Creek	0.04
Muncy Lake	0.13	Glade Run	0.07	Codorus Creek	0.04
Pine Creek (unknown)	0.13	Honey Creek	0.07	Cooks Run	0.04
Buffalo Creek (unknown)	0.11	Lake Luxembourg	0.07	Cross Creek	0.04
Kishacoquillas Creek	0.11	Little Bald Eagle Creek	0.07	Dickies Run	0.04
Pine Creek (Armstrong)	0.11	Little Bush Kill	0.07	Evitts Creek	0.04
Valley Creek	0.11	Manada Creek	0.07	Flaugherty Creek	0.04
Ben's Creek	0.11	Marquette Lake	0.07	Glade Mill Lake	0.04
Four Mile Run	0.11	Meadow Run	0.07	Gordon Lake	0.04
Harvey's Lake	0.11	Mehoopany Creek	0.07	Green Lane Reservoir	0.04
Medix Run	0.11	Northkill Creek	0.07	Hall Run	0.04
Millstone Creek	0.11	Pleasant Stream	0.07	Hay Creek	0.04
Slate Run	0.11	Stoney Creek (Montgomery)	0.07	Hidden Lake	0.04
Spring Creek (unknown)	0.11	Trout Creek (Lehigh)	0.07	Howell's Run	0.04
Fishing Creek (unknown)	0.11	Twin Lakes	0.07	Indian Head Lake	0.04
Tom's Run	0.11	Virgin Run	0.07	Ithan Creek	0.04
George B. Stevenson Reservoir	0.11	Walker Lake	0.07	Jacobs Creek	0.04
Saucon Creek	0.11	Woodcock Creek	0.07	Jim Thorpe	0.04
Little Mahoney Creek	0.09	Wycoff Run	0.07	Justice Lake	0.04
Mahantango Creek	0.09	Aquashicola Creek	0.06	Lake Irene	0.04
North Fork	0.09	Beltzville Lake	0.06	Lake Wilhelm	0.04
Potato Creek	0.09	Cherry Run	0.06	Lattimore Creek	0.04
Two Lick Creek	0.09	Curry Run	0.06	Leisure Lake	0.04
Upper Woods Pond	0.09	Ford's Pond	0.06	Lingle Creek	0.04
Clear Shade Creek	0.09	Lake Erie tributaries	0.06	Little Bear Creek	0.04
Hickory Creek	0.09	Lake Pleasant	0.06	Little Conestoga River	0.04
Middle Creek (Lancaster)	0.09	Little Loyalsock Creek	0.06	Little Medix Run	0.04
Moon Lake	0.09	Little Sandy Creek	0.06	Little Schuylkill River	0.04
Nescopeck Creek	0.09	Marvin Creek	0.06	Lynn Run	0.04
Octoraro Creek	0.09	Neshaminy Creek	0.06	Mahoning Creek	0.04
Poe Lake	0.09	Pine Creek (Schuylkill)	0.06	Memorial Lake	0.04
Raccoon State Park	0.09	Pocono Creek	0.06	Mill Creek (Berks)	0.04
Shenango River	0.09	Promised Land Lake	0.06	Mill Creek (Westmoreland)	0.04
Stony Creek (Montgomery)	0.09	Spring Creek (Elk)	0.06	Monongahela River	0.04
Swatara Creek	0.09	Stoneycreek River	0.06	Ohio River	0.04
Wolf Creek	0.09	Bells Gap Run	0.06	Pine Creek (Union)	0.04
Big Sandy Creek	0.09	Cowens Gap	0.06	Pohopoco Creek	0.04
Cool Spring Creek	0.09	Shohola Creek	0.06	Possum Lake	0.04

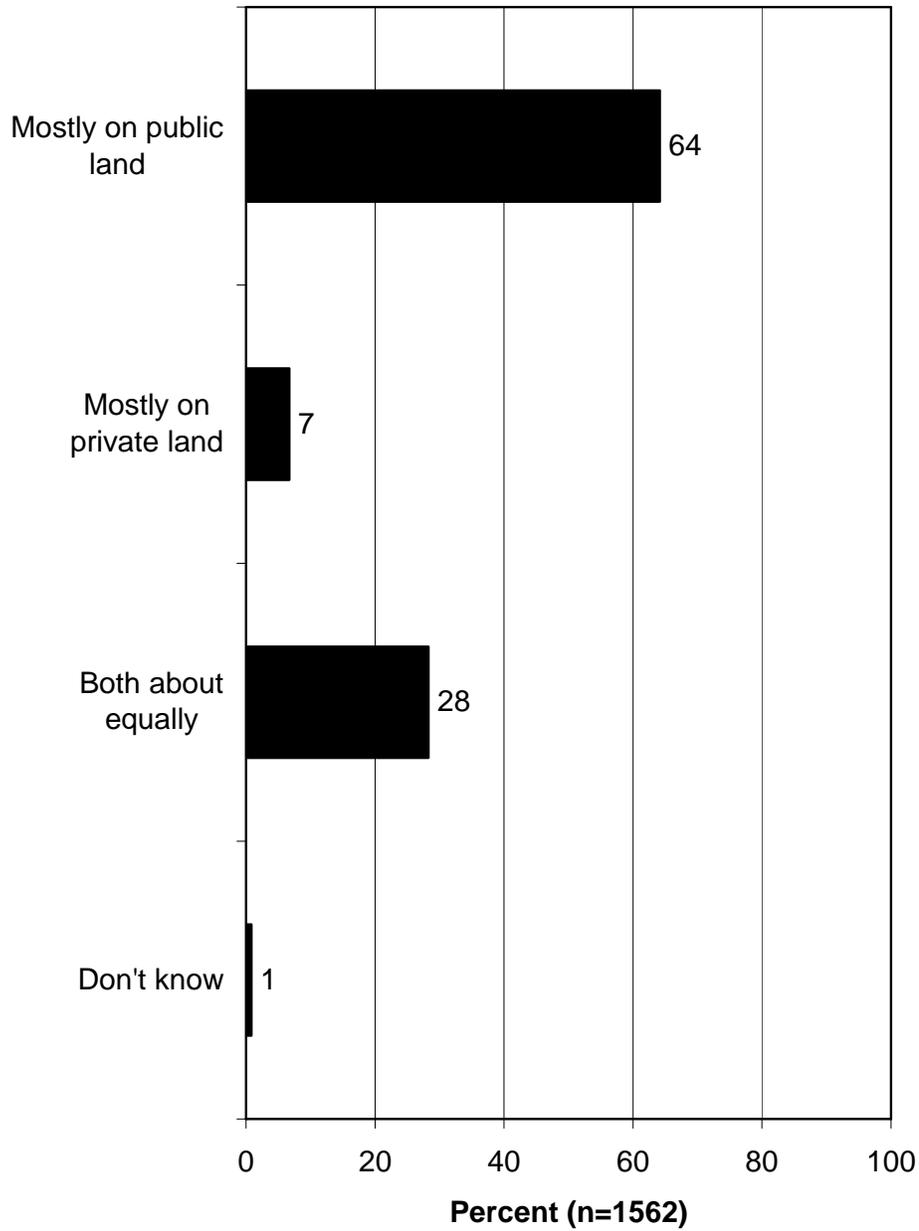
**Preferred Water Bodies for Trout Fishing (continued) (Anglers were asked to name their first and second most-preferred bodies of water; this table shows listing of both places.)**

Body of Water	%	Body of Water	%	Body of Water	%
Ridgeway Reservoir	0.04	Beaver Run Creek	0.02	Hollman Lake	0.02
Saylor's Lake	0.04	Black Elk Creek	0.02	Horse Creek	0.02
Schrader Creek	0.04	Blacklick Creek	0.02	Hunters Lake	0.02
Scott's Run	0.04	Blairs Creek	0.02	Indian Creek (Fayette)	0.02
Somerset Lake	0.04	Blooming Grove River	0.02	Indian Creek (Northampton)	0.02
Standing Stone Creek	0.04	Boyers Pond	0.02	Lake Henry	0.02
Sunfish Pond	0.04	Brady's Run	0.02	Lake Howard	0.02
Three Springs Creek	0.04	Brown's Lake	0.02	Lake Marburg	0.02
Tioga River	0.04	Brown's Run	0.02	Lake Naomi	0.02
Town Creek (Bedford)	0.04	Brush Run Creek	0.02	Lake Roman Woods	0.02
Trough Creek	0.04	Bryer Creek	0.02	Lake Rowena	0.02
Walnut Port	0.04	Buckwha Creek	0.02	Laurel Run	0.02
Waltz Creek	0.04	Buffalo Creek (Allegheny)	0.02	Lazy Acres	0.02
Whipple's Dam	0.04	Cathers Run	0.02	Lehigh Canal	0.02
Bear Creek (Schuylkill)	0.04	Chiques Creek	0.02	Letterkenny Reservoir	0.02
Beechwood Lake	0.04	Chloe Dam	0.02	Little Brokenstraw Creek	0.02
Bessemer Lake	0.04	Cocalico Creek	0.02	Little Chiques Creek	0.02
Big Run	0.04	Cold Run	0.02	Little Clearfield Creek	0.02
Brush Creek (Somerset)	0.04	Cold Spring Creek	0.02	Little Creek	0.02
Chamberlain Lake	0.04	Cold Stream	0.02	Little Elk Creek	0.02
Cocolamus Creek	0.04	Conestoga River	0.02	Little Killbuck	0.02
Donegal Lake	0.04	Conewago Creek (Adams)	0.02	Little Mud Pond (Pike)	0.02
Fishing Creek (Centre)	0.04	Conewago Creek (Butler)	0.02	Little Neshannock Creek	0.02
Fishing Creek (York)	0.04	Conowingo Creek	0.02	Little Otter Creek	0.02
Frances Slocum Lake	0.04	Coon Creek	0.02	Little Roaring Creek	0.02
French Creek (unknown)	0.04	Copley Creek	0.02	Little Schuylkill Creek	0.02
Hamilton Lake	0.04	Country Club Creek	0.02	Little Sugar Creek	0.02
Harbor Acres Lake	0.04	Cow Creek	0.02	Little Swatara Creek	0.02
Lake Francis	0.04	Cowanshannock Creek	0.02	Little Valley Creek	0.02
Leaser Lake	0.04	Crum Creek	0.02	Little Yellow Creek	0.02
Lizard Creek	0.04	Cub Run	0.02	London Creek	0.02
McMichael Creek	0.04	Deer Lakes Park	0.02	Lost Creek	0.02
Middle Spring Creek	0.04	Dennis Creek	0.02	Lower Woods Pond	0.02
Mud Run (Luzerne)	0.04	Donegal Spring Creek	0.02	Mahoning River	0.02
Oswego Creek	0.04	Dunkard Fork	0.02	Marlin Lake	0.02
Quittie Creek	0.04	Dunlap Creek	0.02	Marsh Creek (Clinton)	0.02
Roaring Brook	0.04	Fall Creek	0.02	Marsh Creek (Lebanon)	0.02
Tidioute Creek	0.04	Fishing Creek (Perry)	0.02	Marsh Creek Lake	0.02
Wiconisco Creek	0.04	Fishing Creek (Sullivan)	0.02	Marshall's Creek	0.02
Yellow Creek (unknown)	0.04	Four Mile Creek	0.02	Meade Run	0.02
Conewago Creek	0.04	Frankstown Branch	0.02	Middle Creek (Lebanon)	0.02
Cross Fork	0.04	French Creek (Allegheny River)	0.02	Middle Fork	0.02
Kettle Creek Reservoir (Bush Dam)	0.04	French Creek (Erie)	0.02	Middletown Reservoir	0.02
Raccoon Creek (Perry)	0.04	French Creek (Venango)	0.02	Mill Creek (Lancaster)	0.02
Tub Run	0.04	Fuller Lake	0.02	Mill Creek (Lycoming)	0.02
Anderson Creek	0.02	Glendale Creek	0.02	Mill Stream	0.02
Bartow's Creek	0.02	Greenwood Reservoir	0.02	Miller Creek	0.02
Bear Creek (Butler)	0.02	Hemlock Creek	0.02	Mink Pond	0.02
Bear Creek (Carbon)	0.02	Hoffman Run	0.02	Morgan Run	0.02
Bear Creek Lake	0.02	Hogback Run	0.02	Mud Run (Carbon)	0.02

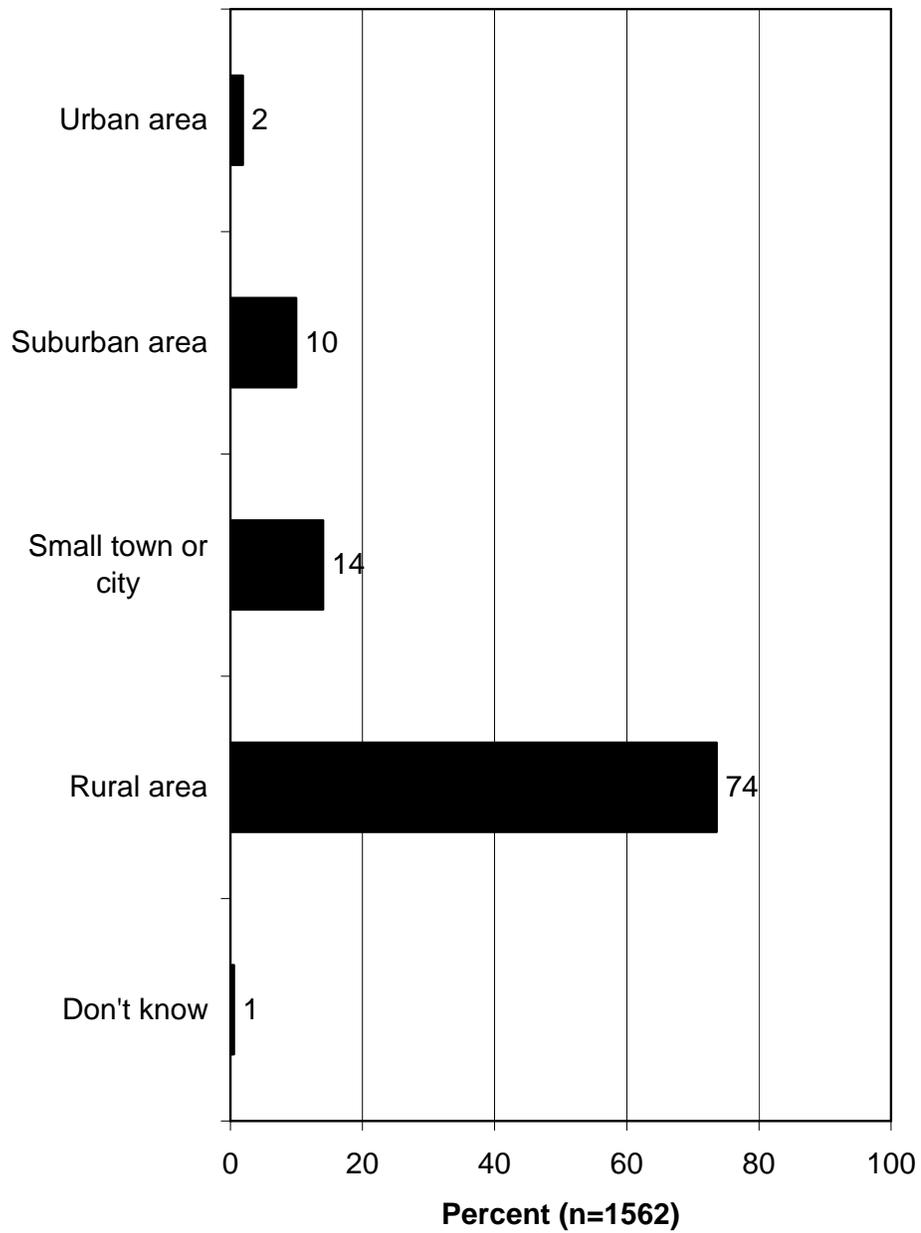
**Preferred Water Bodies for Trout Fishing (continued) (Anglers were asked to name their first and second most-preferred bodies of water; this table shows listing of both places.)**

Body of Water	%	Body of Water	%	Body of Water	%
Muddy Creek (Crawford)	0.02	Stover Dam	0.02	Little Swickley Creek	0.02
Muddy Creek (unknown)	0.02	Sunfish Pond (Lycoming)	0.02	Louisville Creek	0.02
Muddy Run (Lancaster)	0.02	Swift Run	0.02	Middle Creek (Adams)	0.02
Mudlick Creek	0.02	Tea Creek	0.02	Mill Run (Fayette)	0.02
Mullen Run	0.02	Thompson Creek	0.02	Montour Creek	0.02
New Galena Lake	0.02	Three Mile Creek	0.02	Montour Run	0.02
North Whitmore Run	0.02	Tonoloway Creek	0.02	Moshannon Creek	0.02
Paradise Creek	0.02	Town Creek (Somerset)	0.02	Nesquehoning Creek	0.02
Paradise Lake	0.02	Treaster Run	0.02	Palm Creek	0.02
Pike Run	0.02	Trent Creek	0.02	Pine Creek (Lackawanna)	0.02
Pinchot Lake	0.02	Trout Creek (Cambria)	0.02	Piney Run	0.02
Pine Creek (Berks)	0.02	Trout Run	0.02	Rattlesnake Run	0.02
Pine Creek (Centre)	0.02	Tuscarora Creek (Susquehanna)	0.02	Red Run	0.02
Pine Creek (Crawford)	0.02	Tuscarora Lake	0.02	Roaring Creek	0.02
Pine Creek (Dauphin)	0.02	Tuscarora State Park	0.02	Shannon Creek	0.02
Piney River	0.02	Twelve Mile Creek	0.02	Spring Creek (Union)	0.02
Pleasant Creek	0.02	Two Mile Lake	0.02	Stony Creek (unknown)	0.02
Plum Creek	0.02	Two Mile Run	0.02	Struble Lake	0.02
Porter Run	0.02	Weaver's Run	0.02	Swift Water Creek	0.02
Possum Creek	0.02	Wells Creek	0.02	Teeter's Creek	0.02
Powell Creek	0.02	Whippoorwill Lake	0.02	Tipton Run	0.02
Quebec Run	0.02	White's Creek	0.02	Tunkhannock Creek (Susquehanna)	0.02
Quittapahilla Creek	0.02	Willow Creek	0.02	Unknown	10.66
Raccoon Lake	0.02	Wyalusing Creek	0.02	Could not determine	7.04
Rainbow Lake	0.02	Yellow Creek (Bradford)	0.02		
Rattling Run	0.02	Yellow Creek (Mercer)	0.02		
Repine Run	0.02	Yough Creek	0.02		
Ricketts Glen	0.02	Babb Creek	0.02		
Roaring Creek, South Branch	0.02	Bear Creek (Westmoreland)	0.02		
Rock Creek	0.02	Beaver River	0.02		
Rock Run Creek	0.02	Big Mill Creek	0.02		
Royal Creek	0.02	Bucktail Rod and Gun Club pond	0.02		
Ruby Creek	0.02	Buzzard Swamp	0.02		
Ryerson Station	0.02	Conewago Creek (unknown)	0.02		
Salt Lick Creek	0.02	Conneaut Creek	0.02		
Schaefer Spring Creek	0.02	East Hickory Creek	0.02		
Schnitz Creek	0.02	Elk Creek (Elk)	0.02		
Shawnee Lake	0.02	Elk Creek (Tioga)	0.02		
Shiloh Creek	0.02	Farnsworth Creek	0.02		
Skinner Creek	0.02	Glade Run Lake	0.02		
Snake Creek	0.02	Great Swamp	0.02		
South Whitmore Run	0.02	Howard Dam	0.02		
Spring Creek (Berks)	0.02	Lake Beechwood	0.02		
Stairway Lake	0.02	Lake Hammond	0.02		
Starrucca Creek	0.02	Lake Monroe	0.02		
Stewart Run	0.02	Lake Nockamixon	0.02		
Stony Brook Creek	0.02	Lake Perez	0.02		
Stony Creek (Lebanon)	0.02	Lake Winona	0.02		

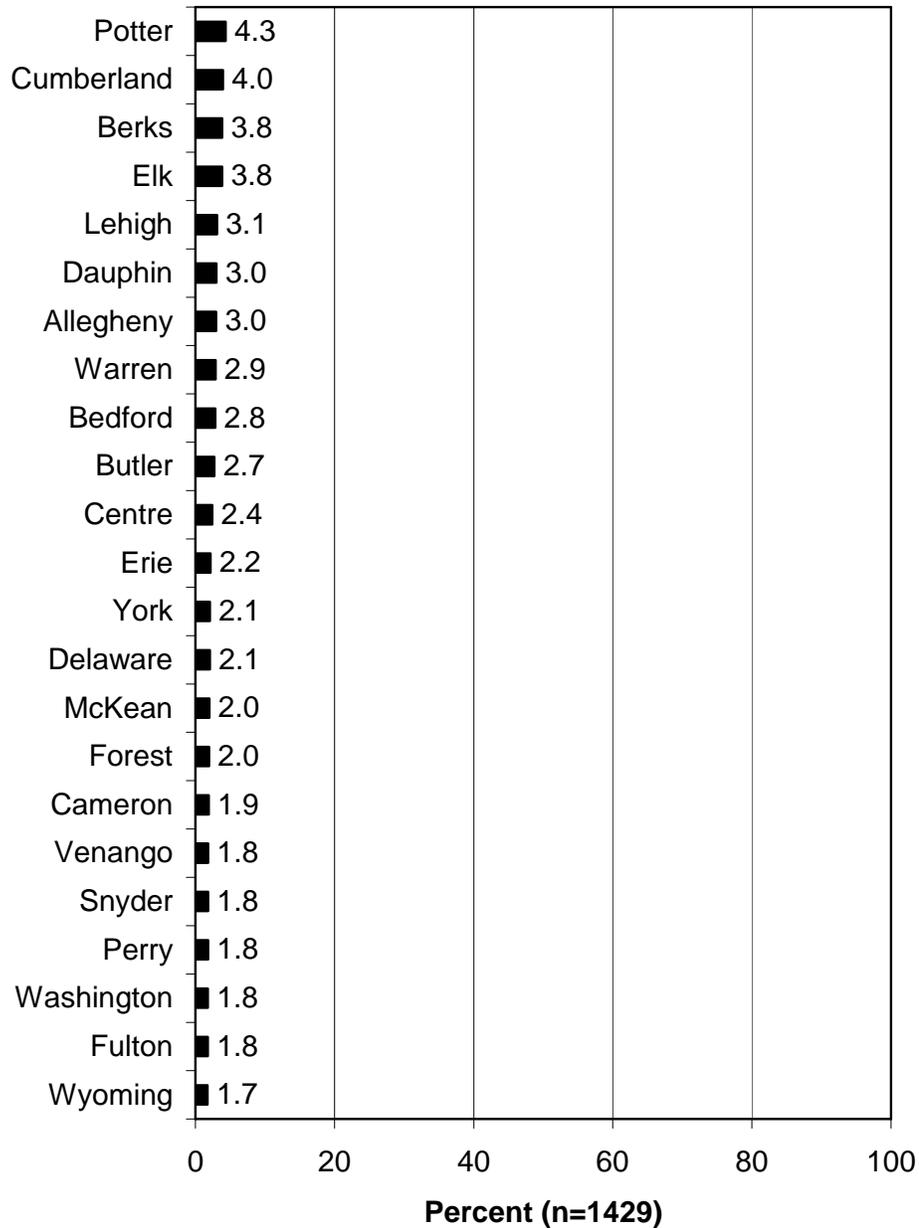
**Q57. Do you fish for trout in Pennsylvania mostly on public land, mostly on private land, or both about equally?**



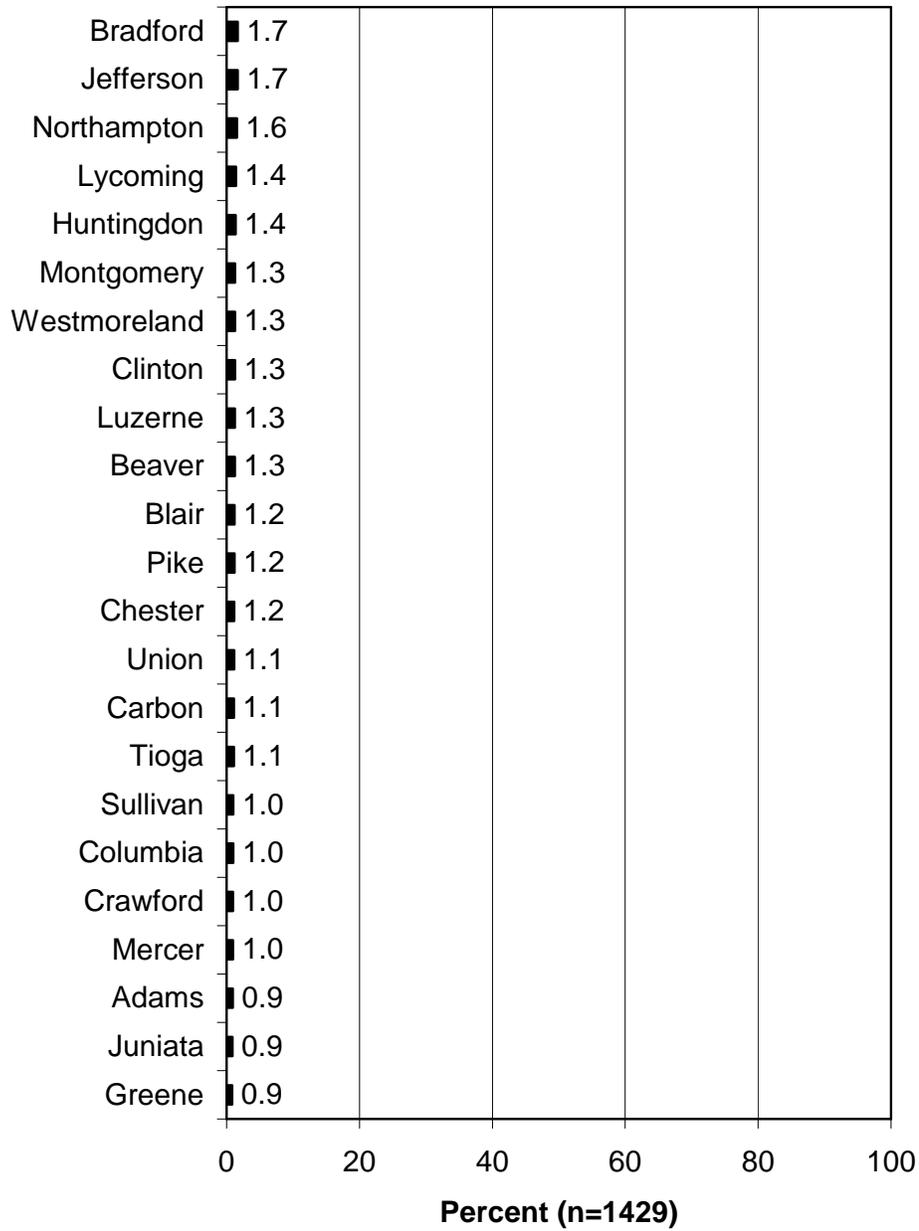
**Q59. Do you fish for trout in Pennsylvania mostly in an urban area, a suburban area, a small town or city, or a rural area?**



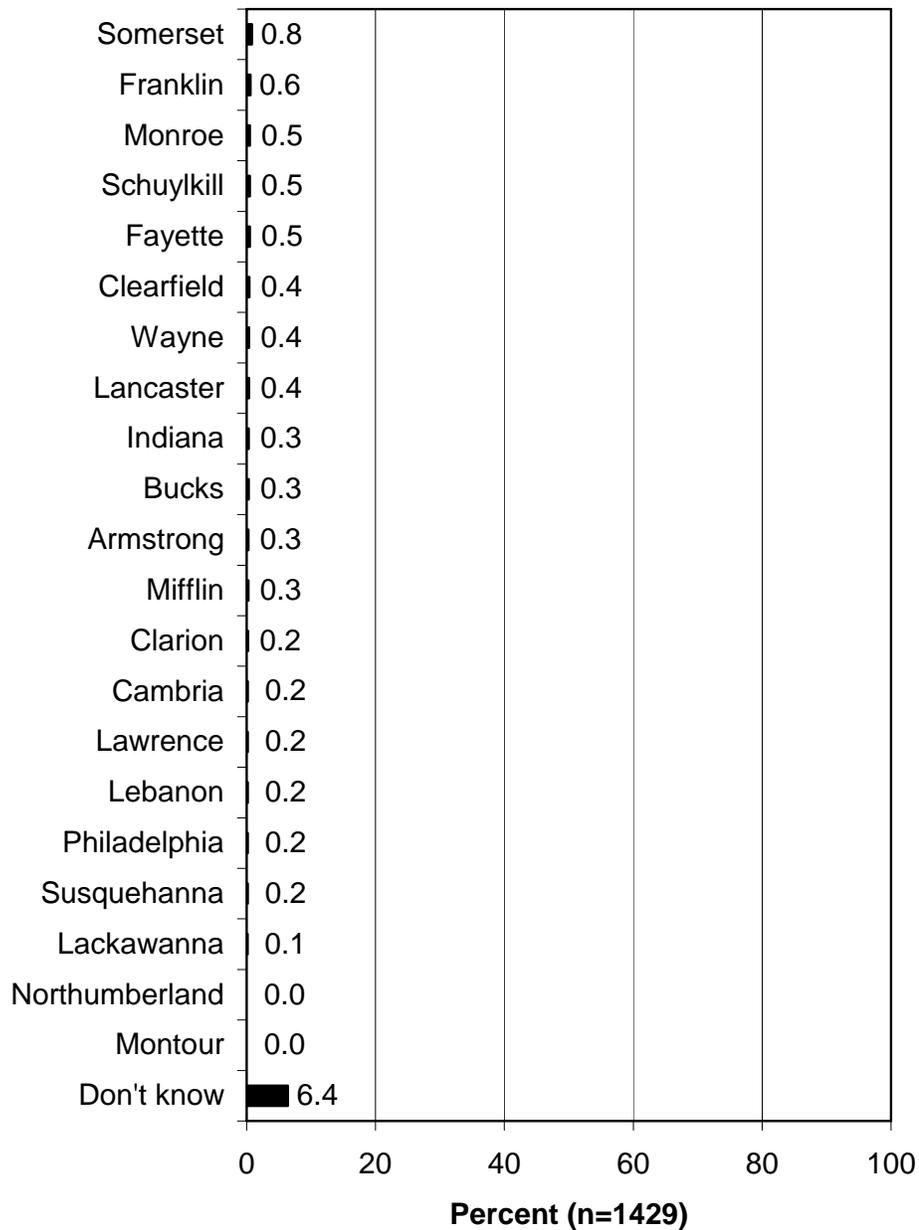
**Q63. In which county is your top preferred body of water located? (Asked of those who named a preferred body of water.) (Part 1.)**



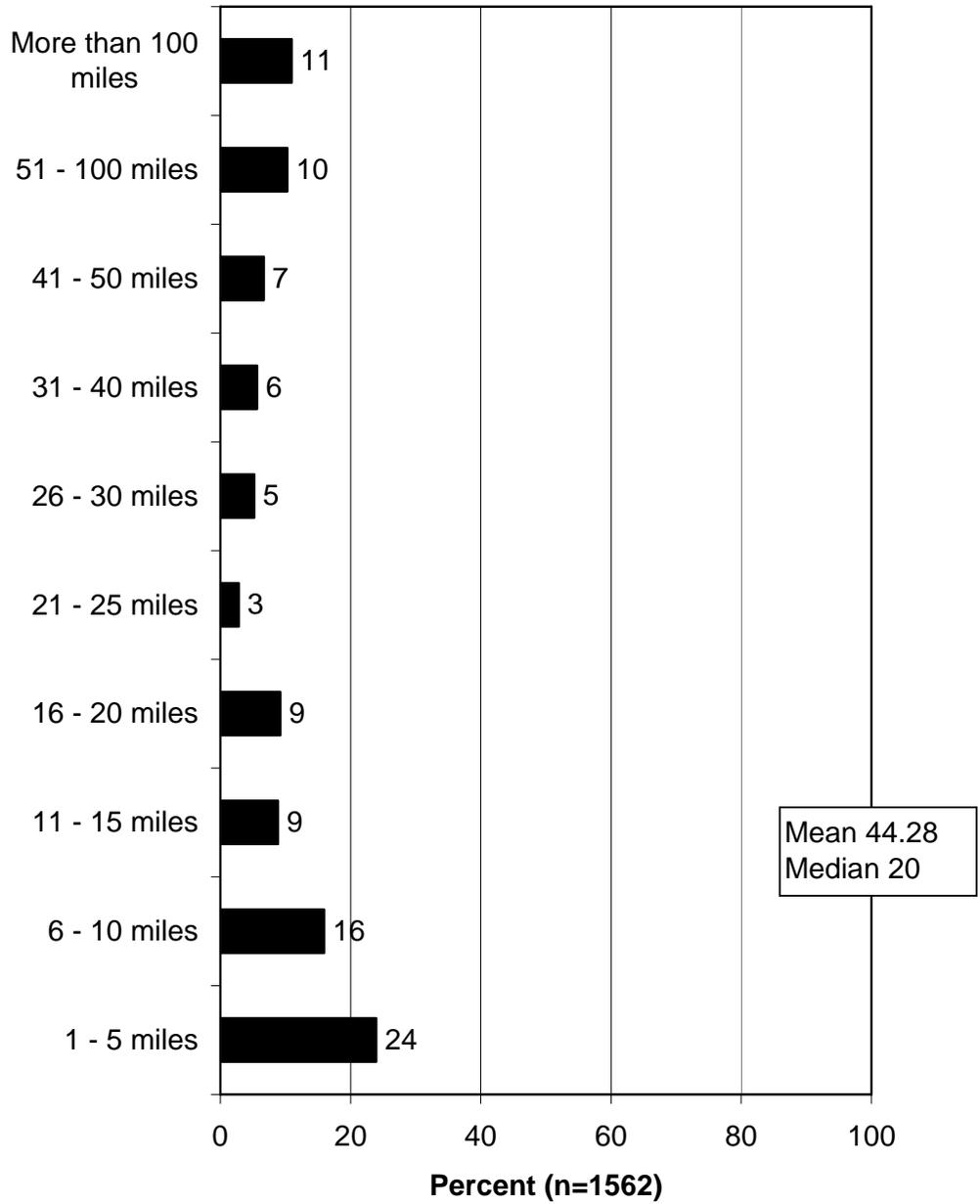
**Q63. In which county is your top preferred body of water located? (Asked of those who named a preferred body of water.) (Part 2.)**



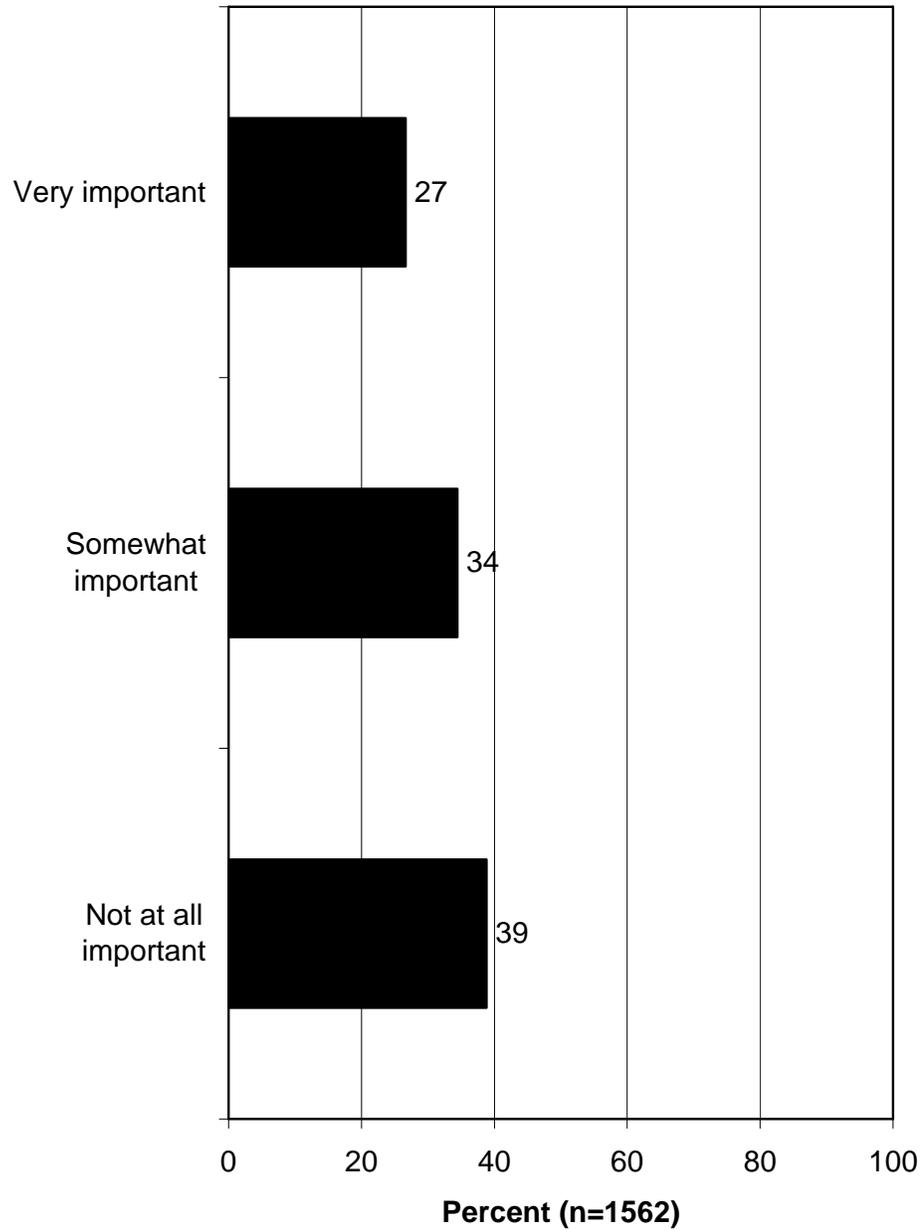
**Q63. In which county is your top preferred body of water located? (Asked of those who named a preferred body of water.) (Part 3.)**



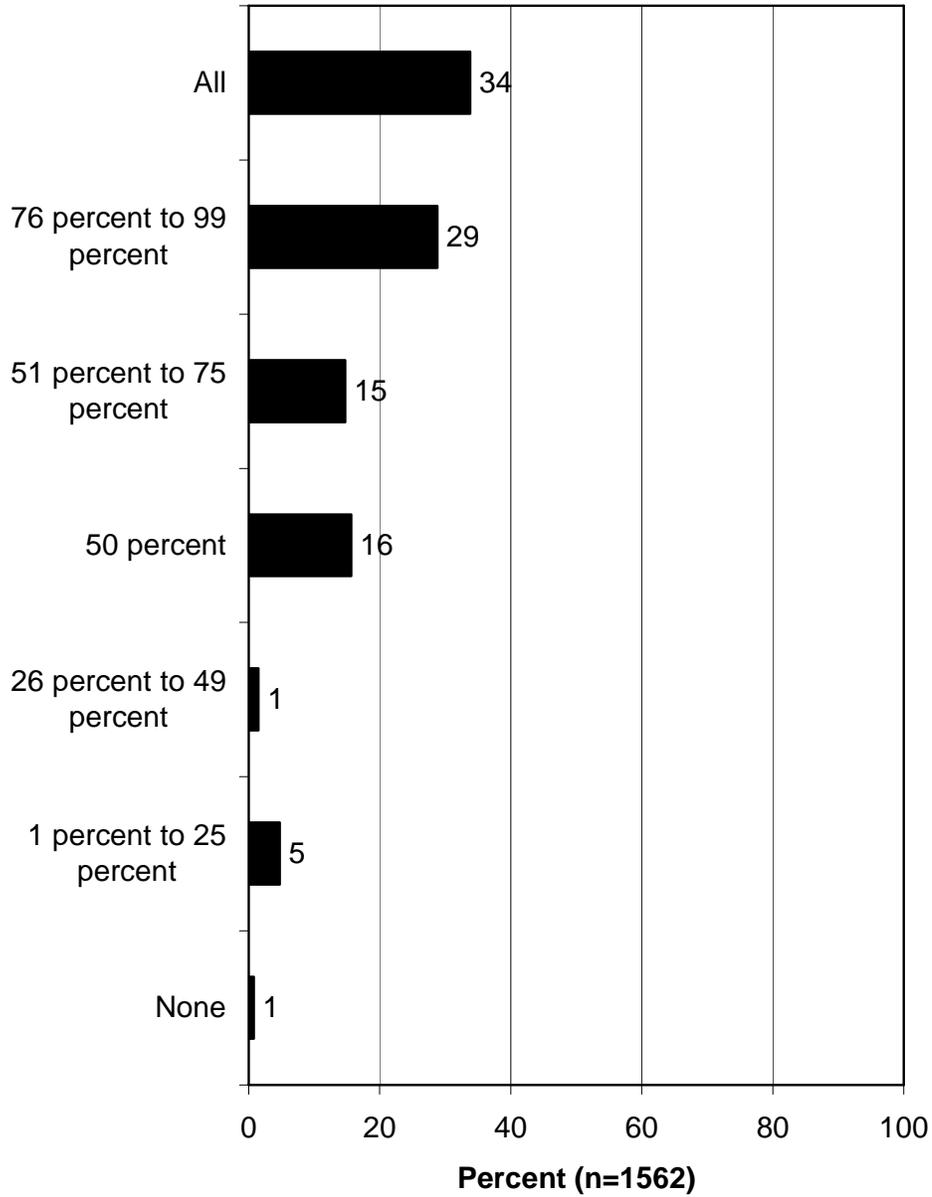
**Q56. How far, in miles, do you travel, one-way, on an average trout fishing trip in Pennsylvania?**



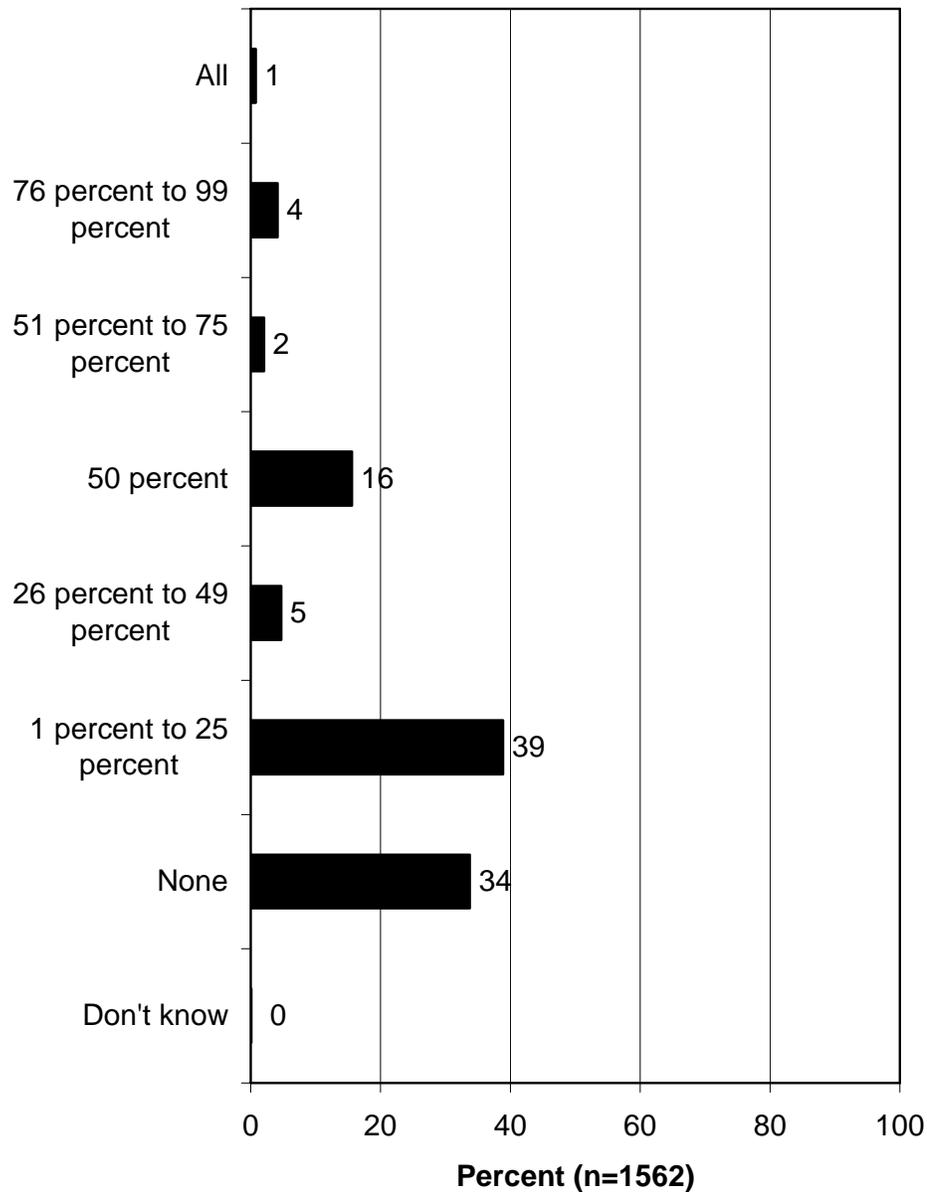
**Q71. How important is it that the location is near your home?**



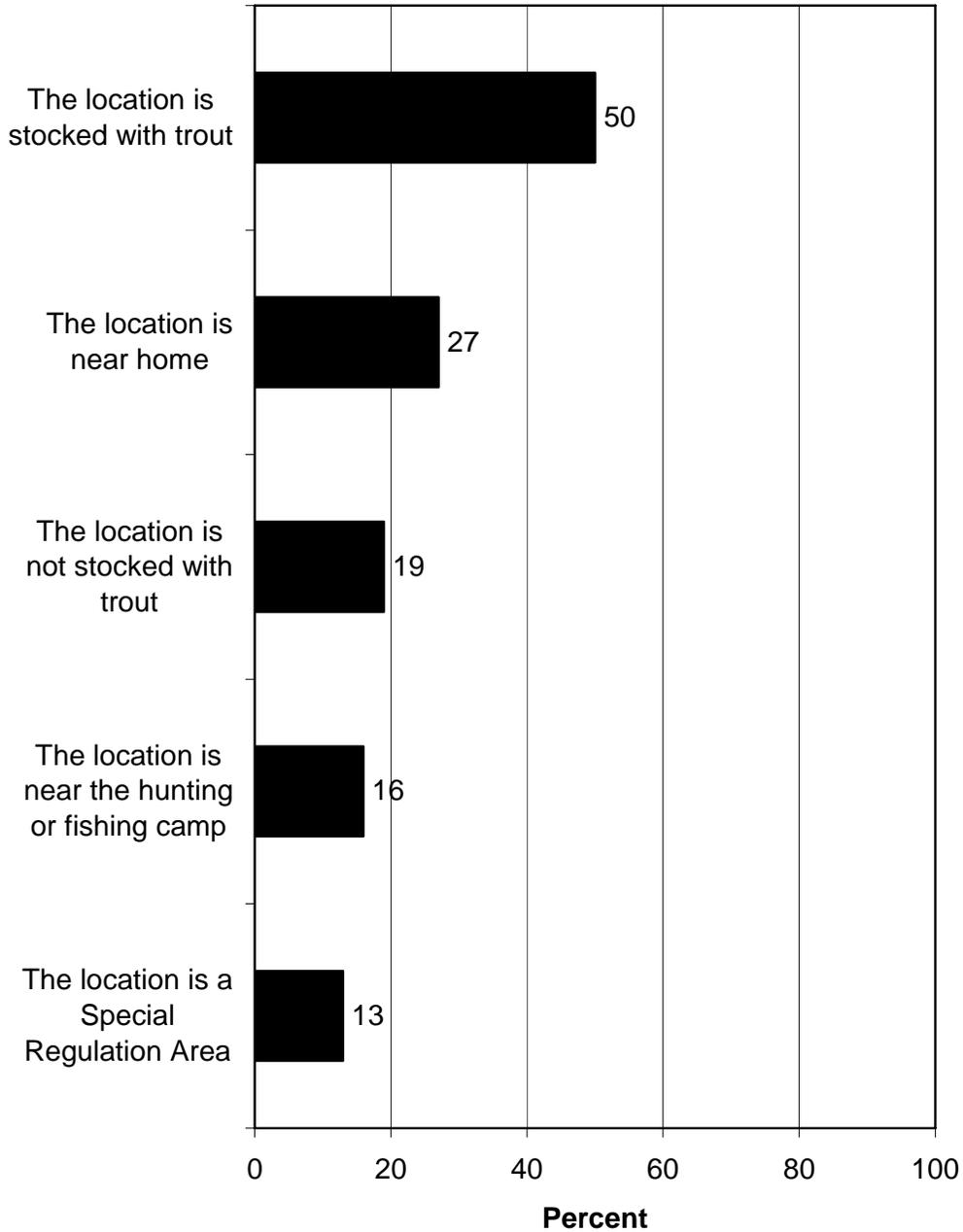
**Q94. What percentage of your trout fishing trips in Pennsylvania would you say is made to stocked trout waters?**



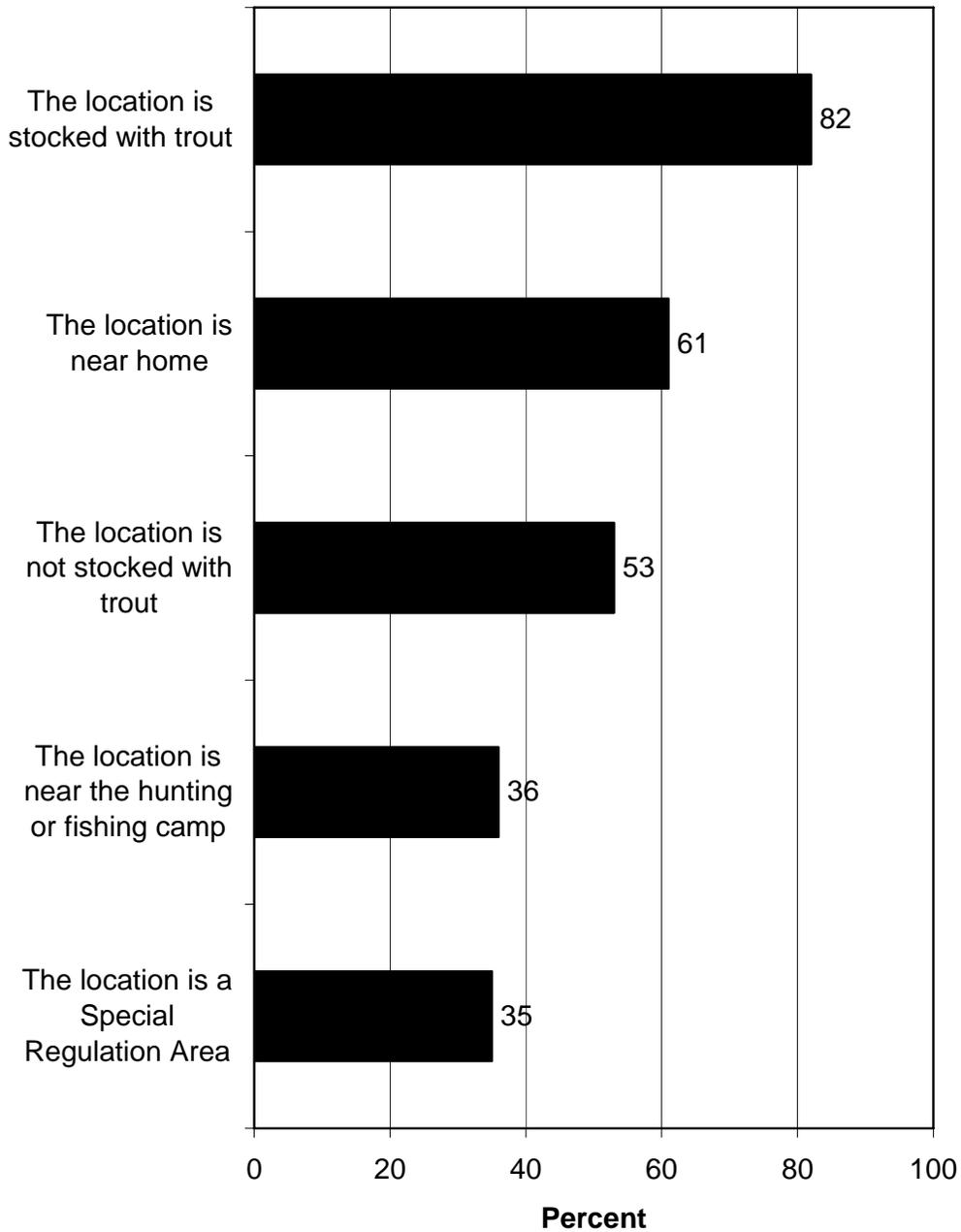
**Q95. What percentage of your trout fishing trips in Pennsylvania would you say is made to unstocked or wild trout waters?**



**Q71-75. Percent who indicated that the following are very important when choosing a fishing location.**



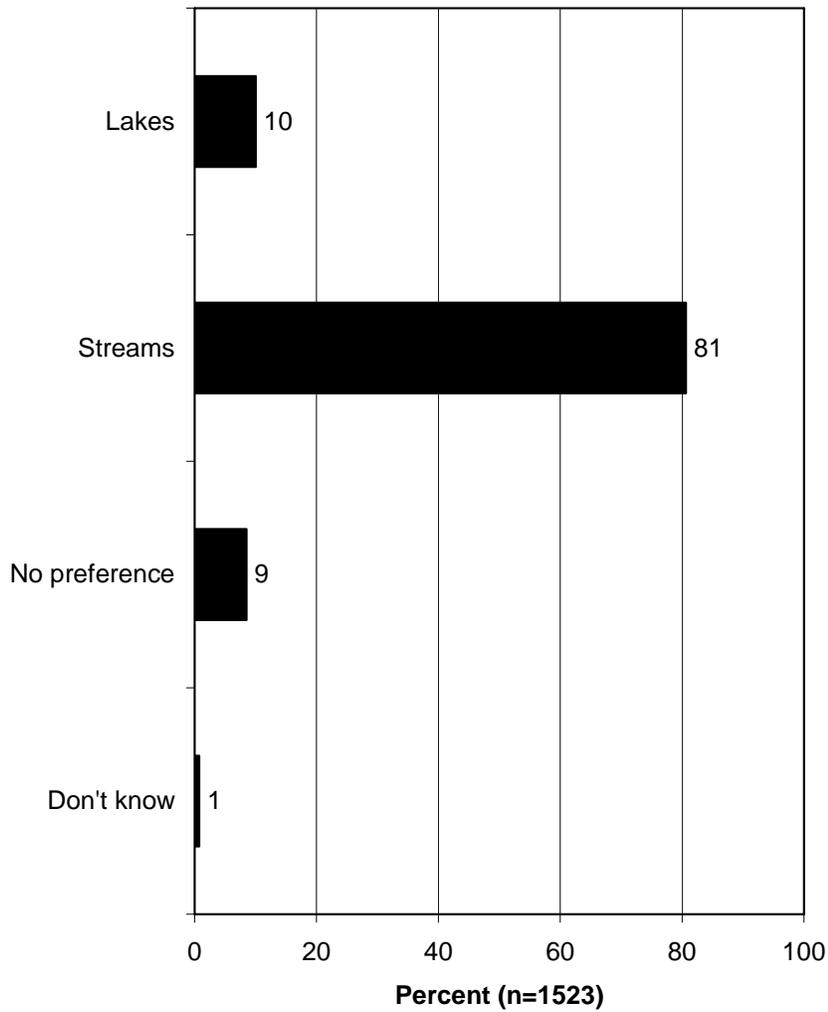
**Q71-75. Percent who indicated that the following are important when choosing a fishing location.**



**STOCKED TROUT LOCATIONS**

- Streams are preferred over lakes by about 8 times when anglers fish for stocked trout: 81% of those who fish at least half the time for stocked trout prefer streams when fishing for stocked trout, and only 10% prefer lakes.

**Q116. When you fish for stocked trout, do you prefer to fish for stocked trout in lakes or streams? (Asked of those who mostly fish for stocked trout or equally fish for both stocked and wild trout.)**



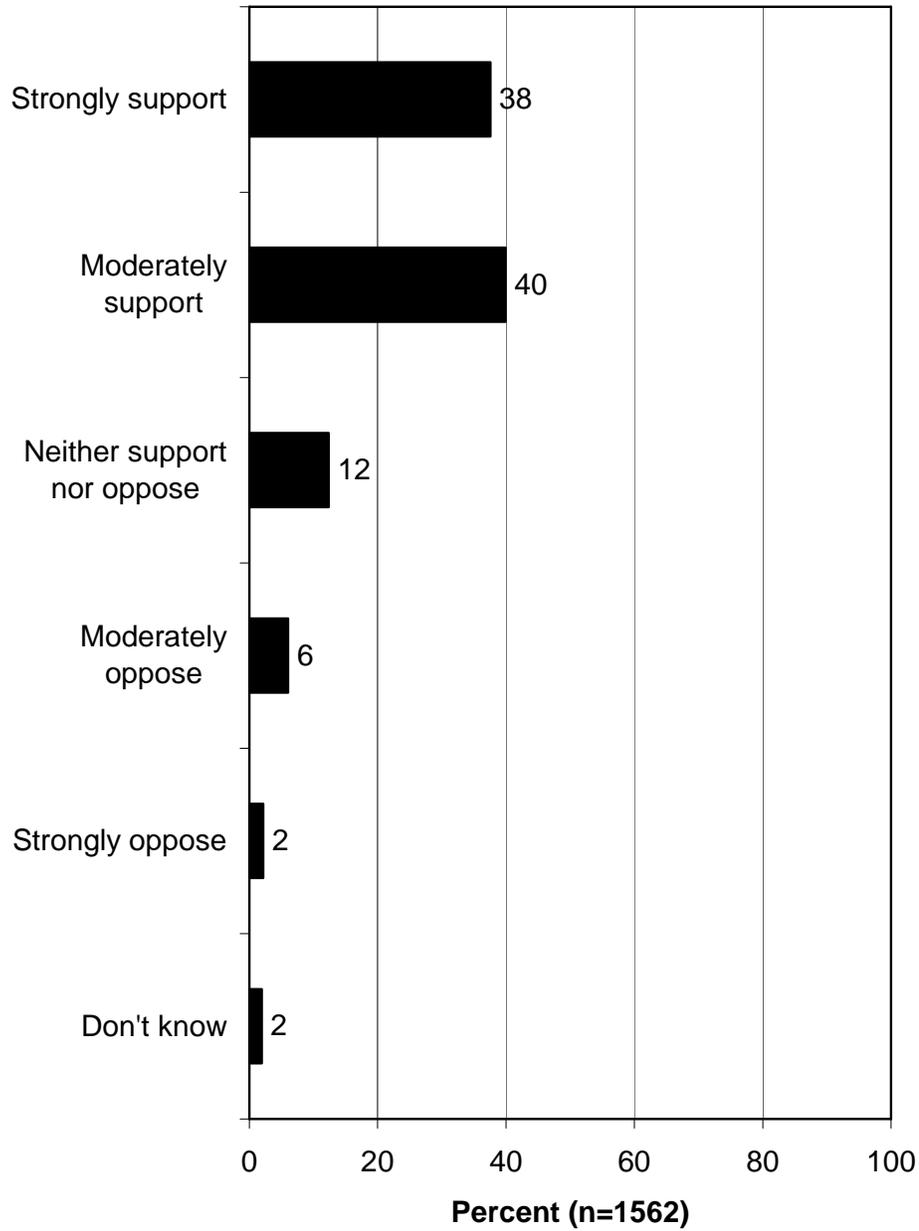
## SPECIAL REGULATION AREAS

- The large majority of Pennsylvania trout anglers (78%) support Special Regulation Areas, and only 8% oppose them (the remainder giving a neutral answer).
- Common reasons for supporting Special Regulation Areas are that the areas have better quality fish/the areas preserve species, that the areas are stocked better/there is a better chance of catching fish, that the areas add to advanced fishing opportunities, that the areas are better for fisheries management, and that the respondent likes catch-and-release fishing.
  - Common reasons for opposing Special Regulation Areas are that the areas restrict fishing locations/that it is not right to restrict fishing, that the respondent dislikes additional and more restrictive regulations, that the respondent does not like how the Special Regulation Areas are managed, and that the respondent simply feels that all areas should be open to fishing.
  - There are more Pennsylvania trout anglers who say that the number of Special Regulation Areas adds to their satisfaction than say it takes away from their satisfaction: 49% of them agree that the number of Special Regulation Areas adds to their trout fishing satisfaction (39% disagree), while 11% agree that the number of Special Regulation Areas takes away from their satisfaction (83% disagree).
  - Commonly given reasons that the number of Special Regulation Areas adds to trout fishing satisfaction are that the areas are stocked better, that the areas have larger and better quality trout, that the experience is better in those areas, and that the areas are not crowded.
  - Commonly given reasons that the number of Special Regulation Areas takes away from trout fishing satisfaction are that the areas limit access to fishing, that the areas limit the desired types of fishing, that the respondent does not fly fish or do catch-and-release, that the stocking is poor *outside* of Special Regulation Areas (i.e., there is a perception that stocking is concentrated in the Special Regulation Areas), and that the areas are over-regulated.
  - Also in a related finding, the large majority of Pennsylvania trout anglers (72%) disagree that too many streams in Pennsylvania are managed under special regulations, although 13% agree. Also, half of trout anglers (50%) disagree that there are too *few* streams

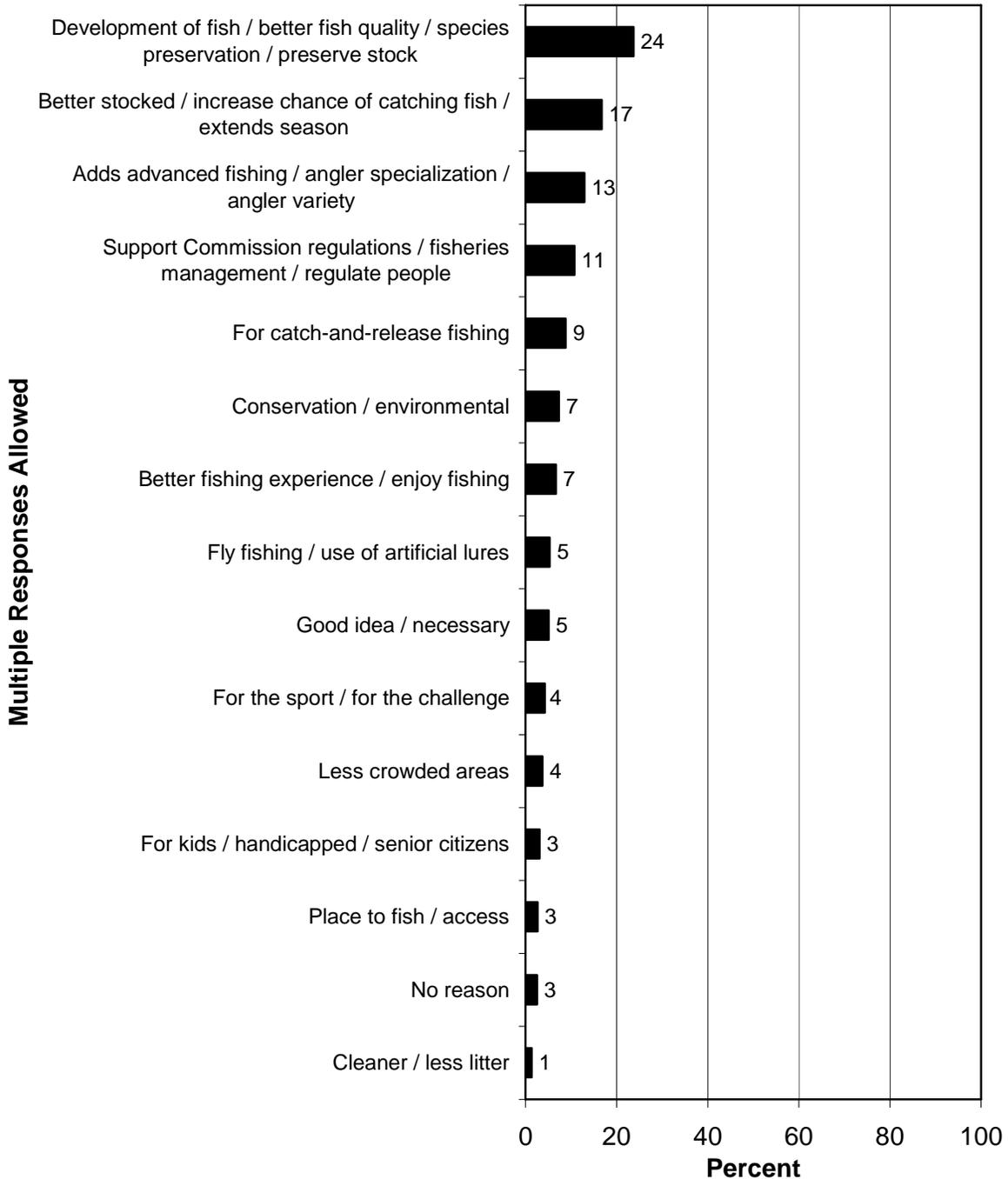
managed under special regulations; 28% agree. Put together, there are slightly more anglers who think that there are too few streams managed under special regulations than think there are too many such streams.

- A crosstabulation found a correlation to not supporting Special Regulation Areas and agreeing that there are too many of them. But of more importance is that at least a few who support the concept of Special Regulation Areas (8% of them) agree that there are too many of them.
- The survey asked Pennsylvania trout anglers to name their preferred type of Special Regulation Area. Most commonly, they did not have a preference (41%), perhaps because some of them do not fish Special Regulation Areas. Otherwise, they are fairly well distributed among the various types (no more than 12% preferring any given type).
- The number of Special Regulation Areas is *not* an important constraint to fishing participation, as only 10% agree that the number of such areas prevents them from trout fishing as much as they would like (the overwhelming majority—84%—disagree that the number of those areas constrains their trout fishing participation). In fact, more than a fourth of trout anglers (28%) agree that they participate *more often* than they would if Special Regulation Areas did not exist (62% disagree).
- Commonly given reasons that Special Regulation Areas prevent the respondent from fishing as much as he or she would like (among those who say the areas prevent fishing) are that the areas limit fishing locations, that the areas are not always open, that the areas limit the types of fishing, and that the areas have too many regulations.
  - Commonly given reasons that the respondent trout fishes *more often* because of Special Regulation Areas are that they perceive the fishing to be better in Special Regulation Areas, that those areas are stocked better, and that the areas are not crowded.
- There is a majority of support (60%) for allowing the use of bait in Delayed Harvest Special Regulation Areas (currently, only flies and artificial lures are permitted for use in those waters). However, 31% oppose permitting bait in those waters.

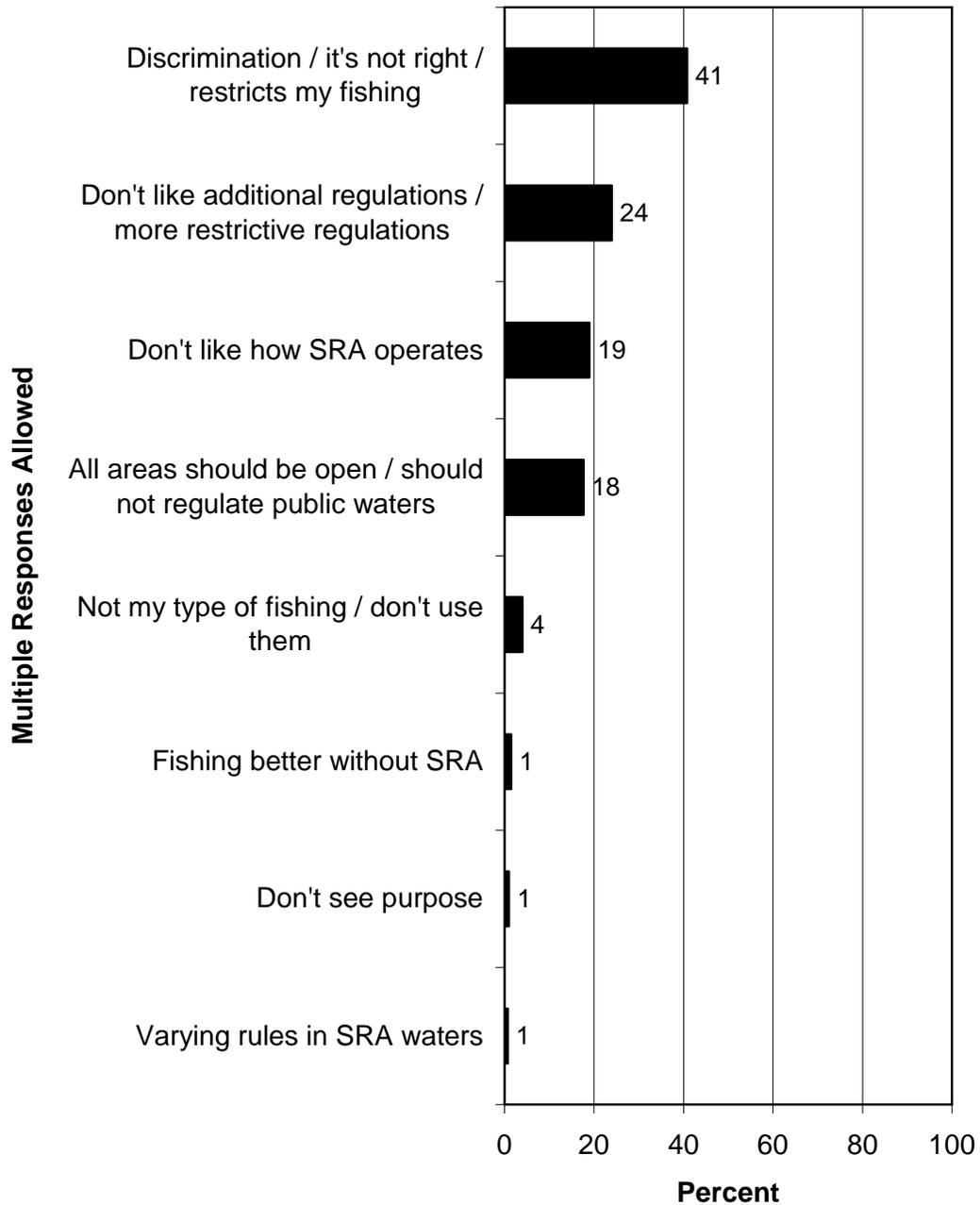
### Q77. Do you support or oppose Special Regulation Areas?



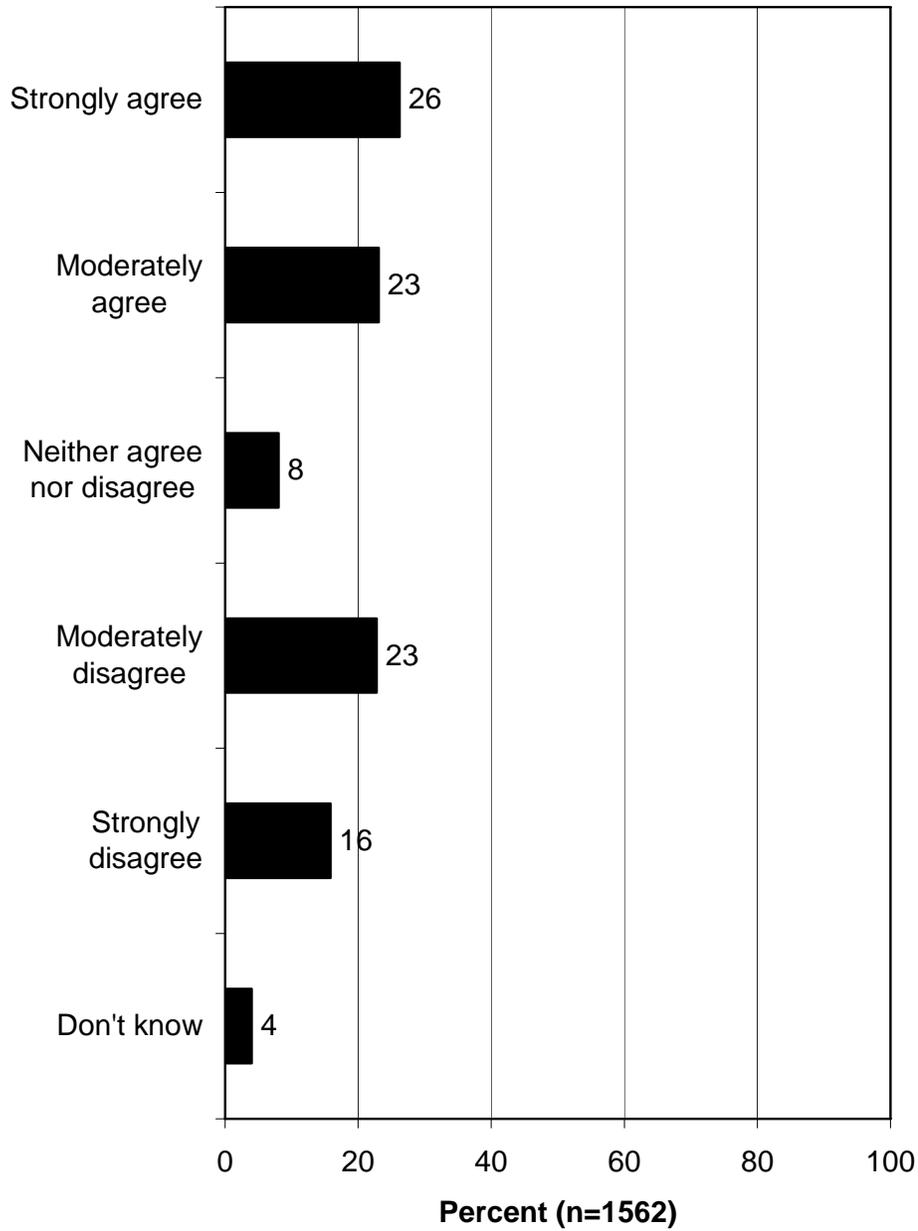
### Q78. Why do you support Special Regulation Areas? (Asked of those who support Special Regulation Areas.)



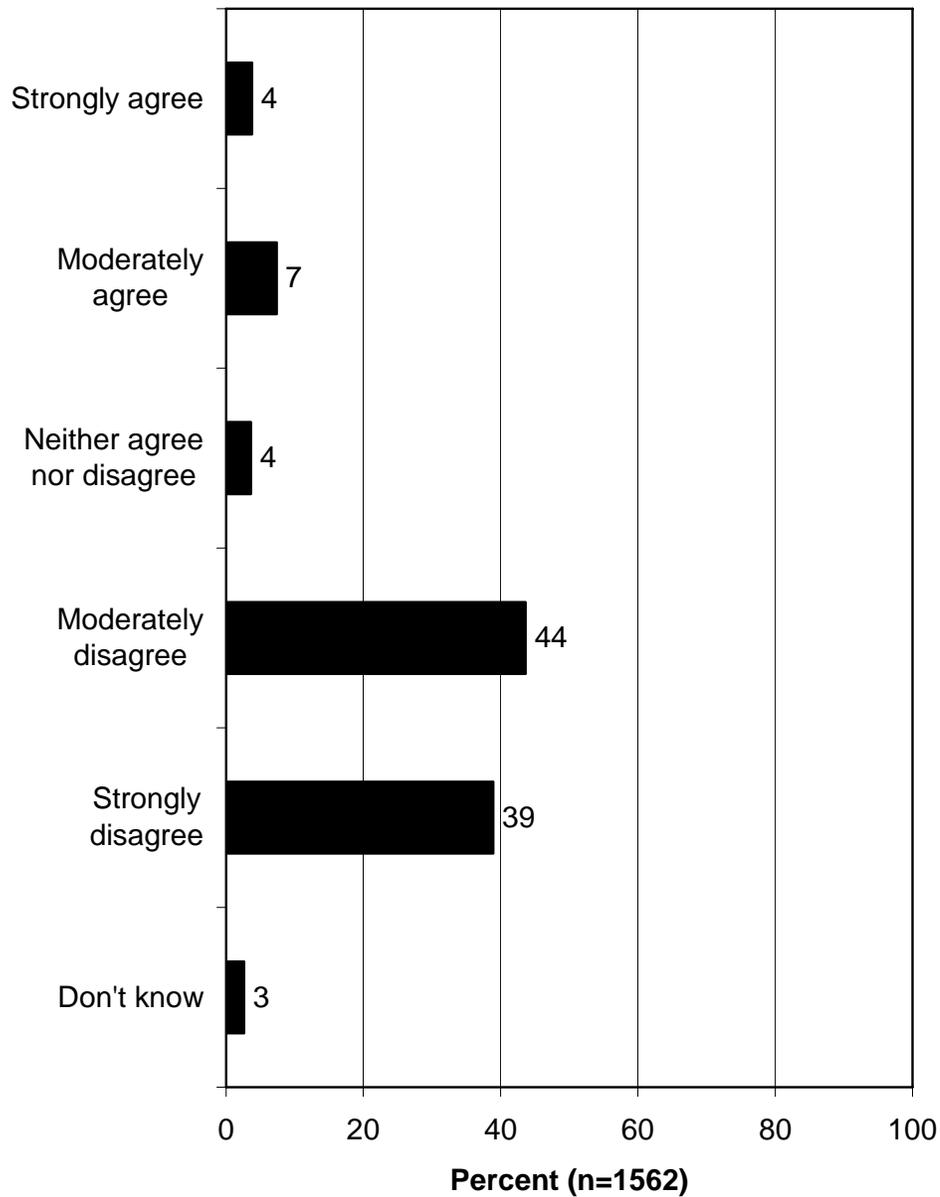
**Q79. Why do you oppose Special Regulation Areas? (Asked of those who oppose Special Regulation Areas.)**



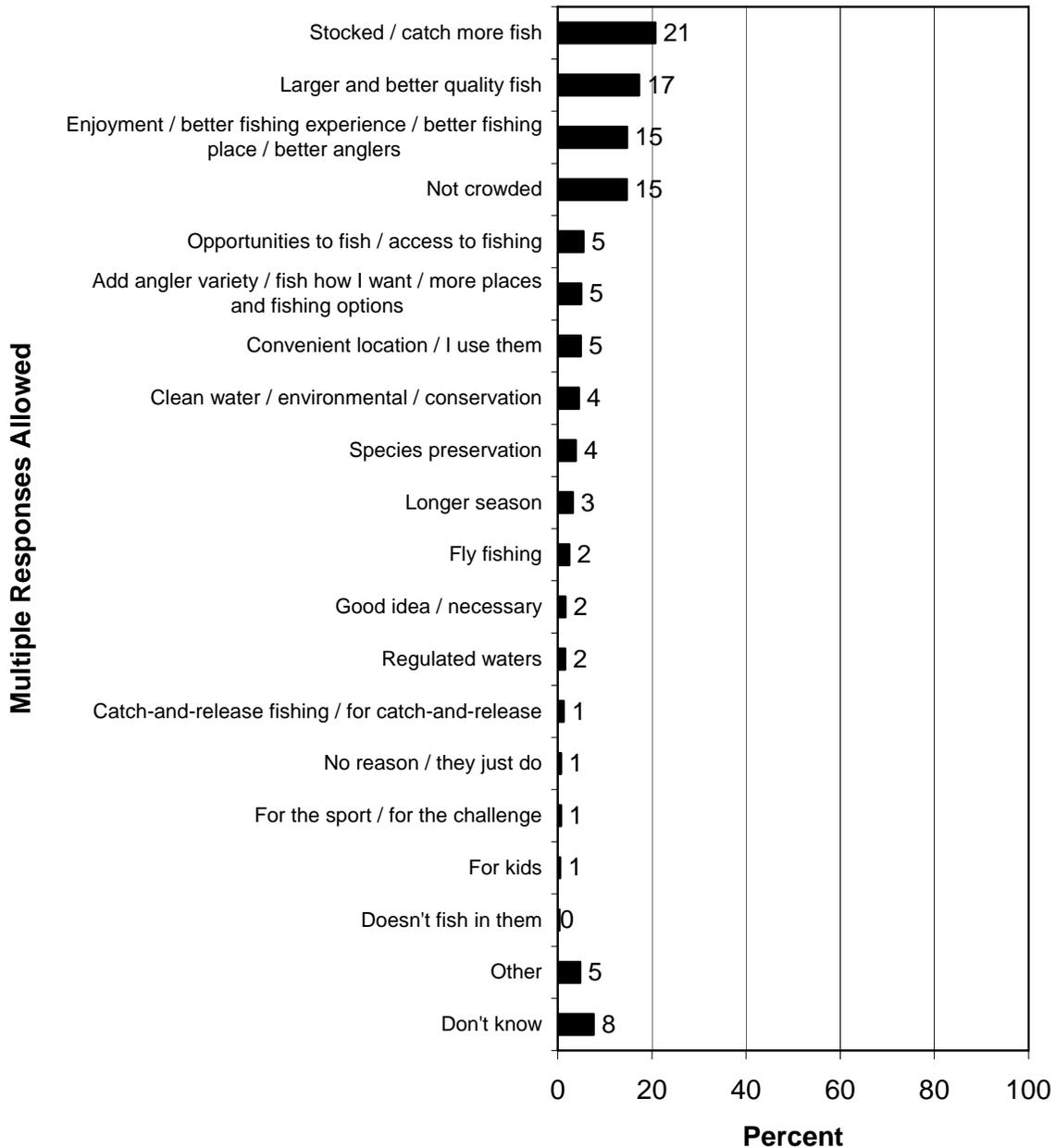
**Q86. Do you agree or disagree that the number of Special Regulation Areas on Pennsylvania trout waters adds to your trout fishing satisfaction?**



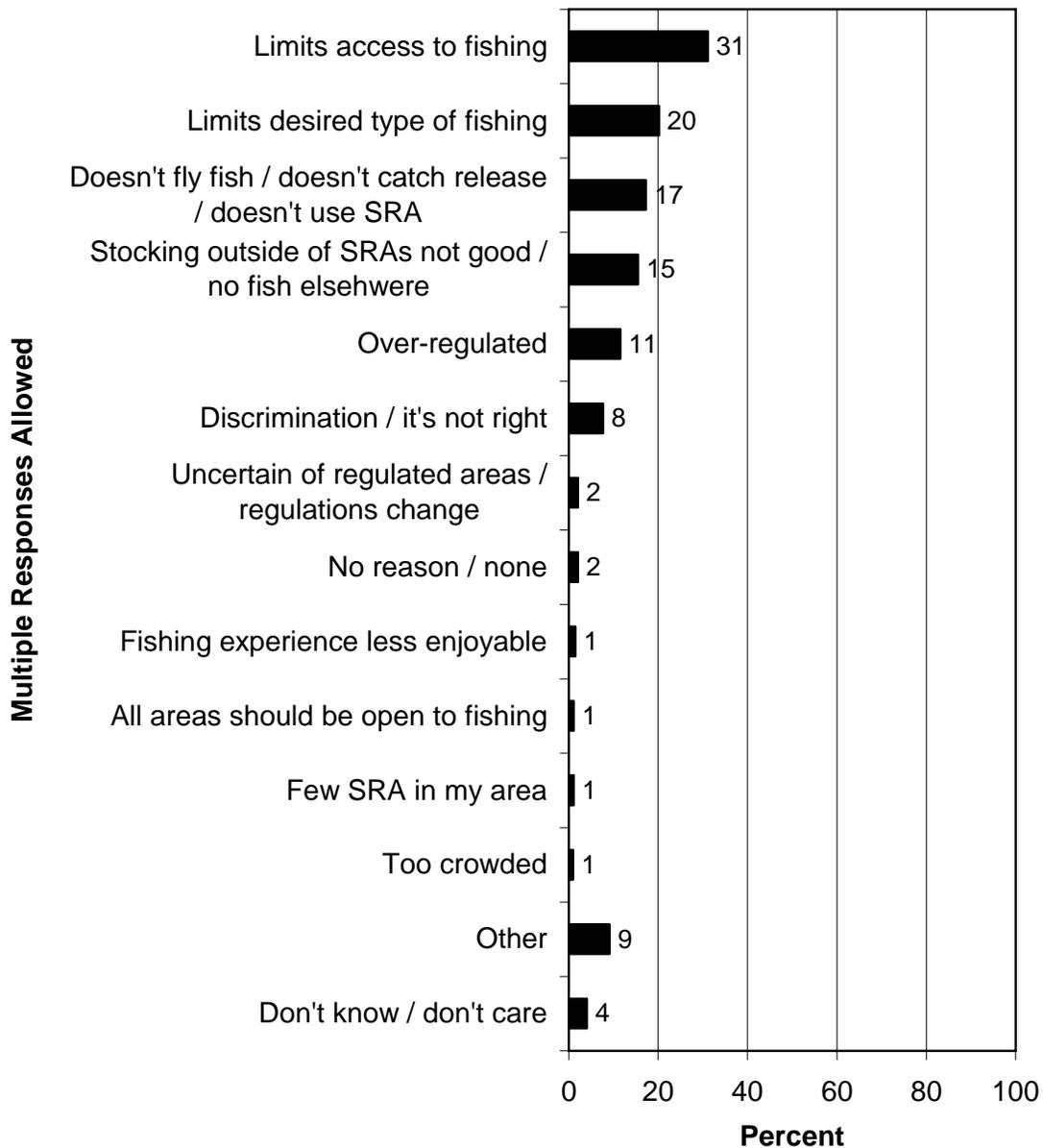
**Q84. Do you agree or disagree that the number of Special Regulation Areas on Pennsylvania trout waters takes away from your trout fishing satisfaction?**



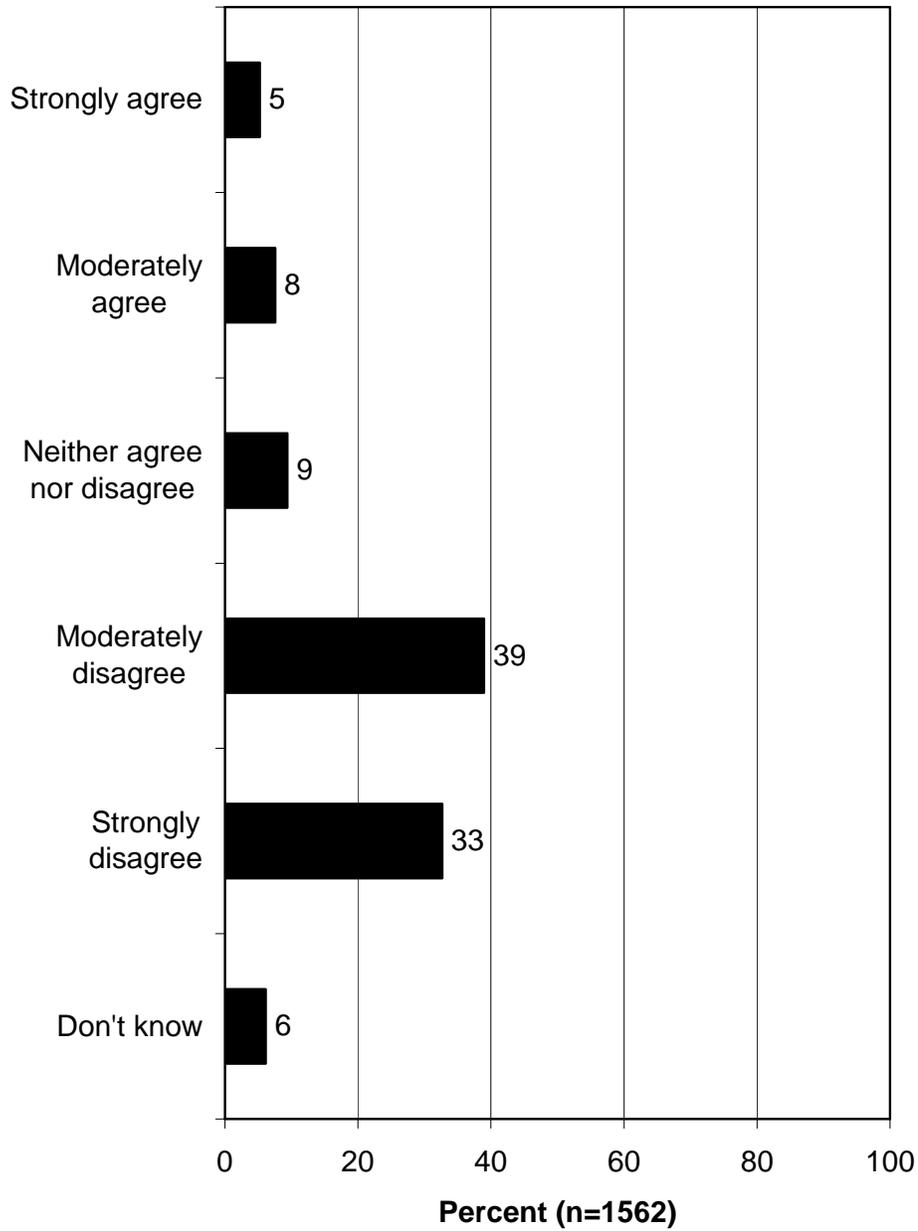
**Q87. How do the number of Special Regulation Areas on Pennsylvania trout waters add to your trout fishing satisfaction? (Asked of those who believe that the number of Special Regulation Areas adds to trout fishing satisfaction.)**



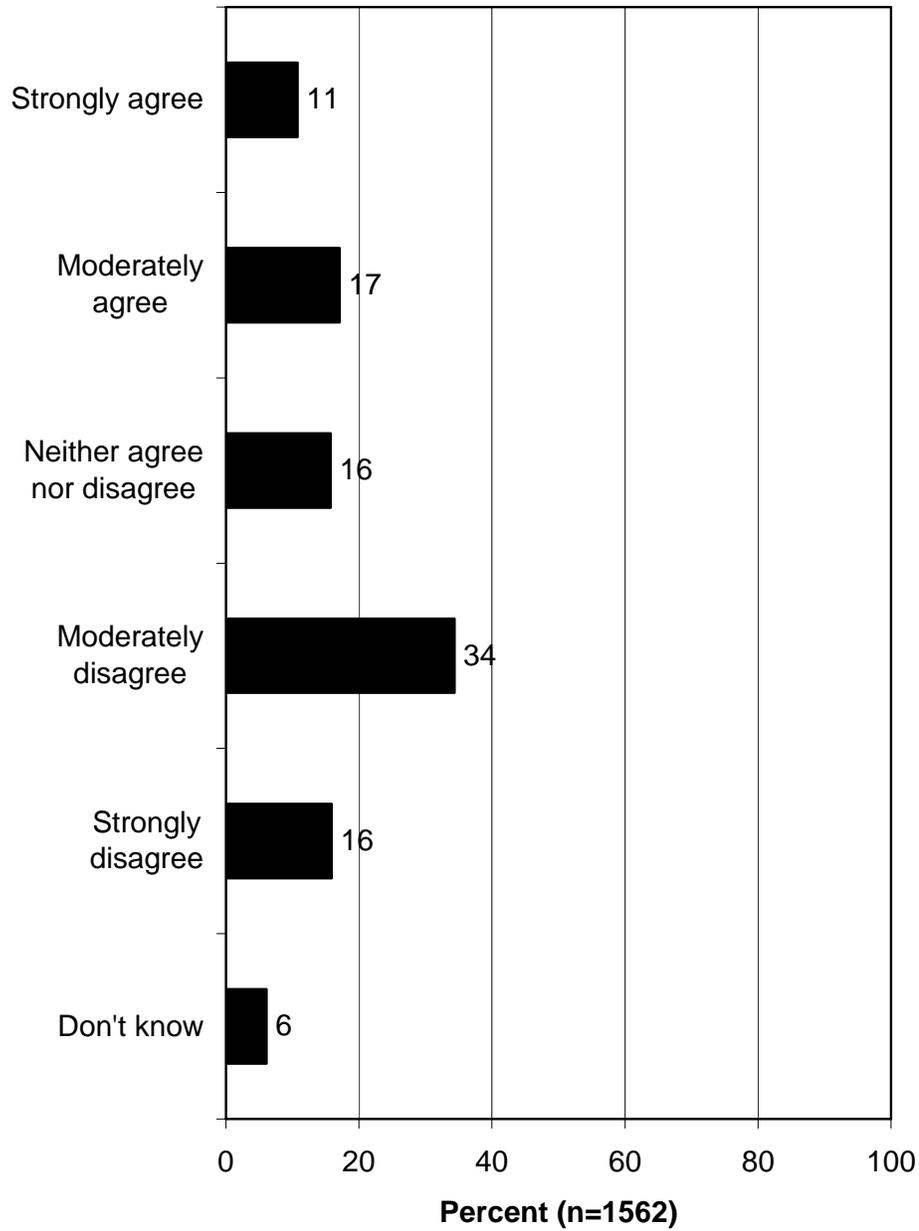
**Q85. How do the number of Special Regulation Areas on Pennsylvania trout waters take away from your trout fishing satisfaction? (Asked of those who believe that the number of Special Regulation Areas takes away from trout fishing satisfaction.)**



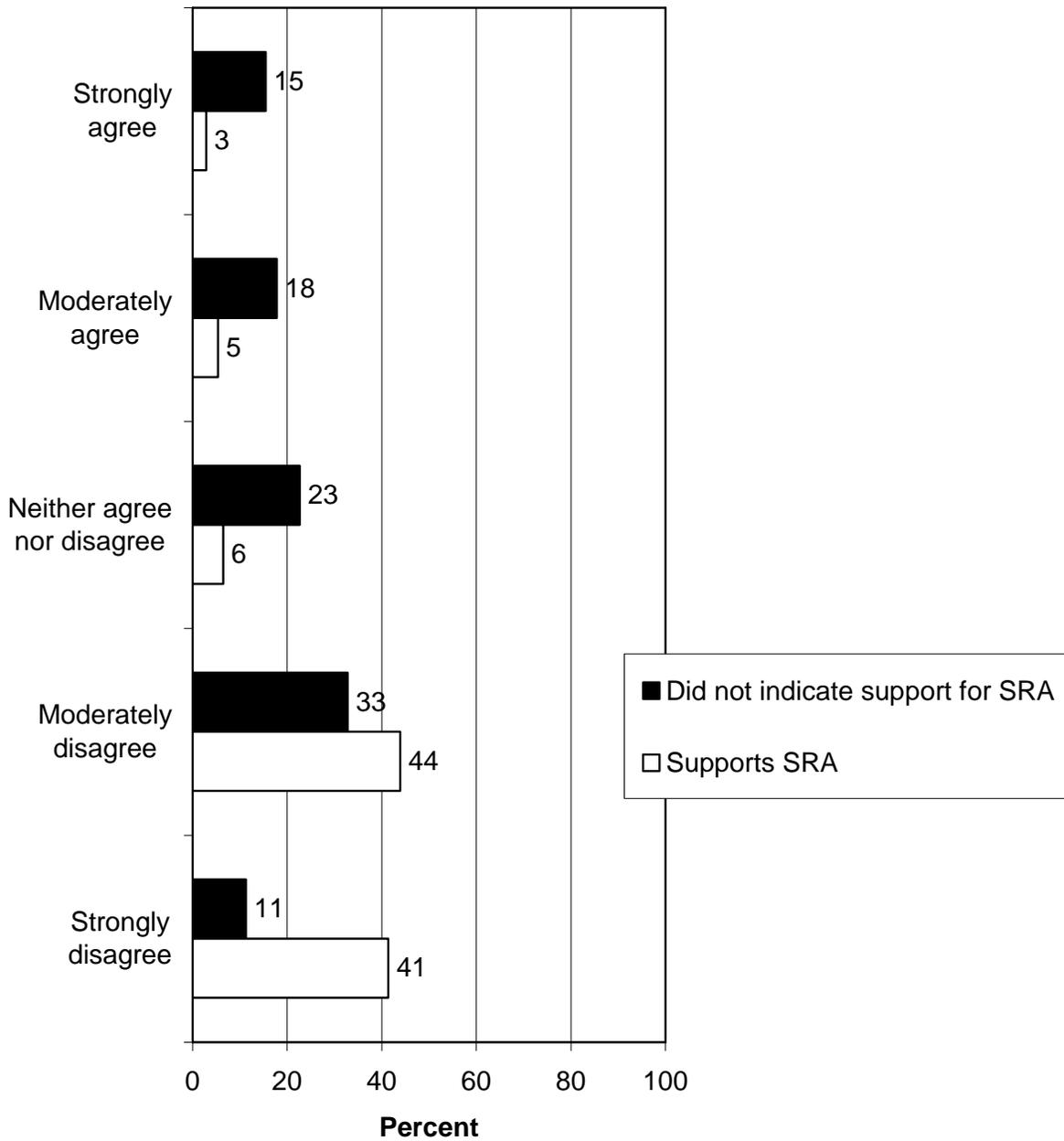
**Q82. Do you agree or disagree that there are too many streams managed under special regulations in Pennsylvania?**



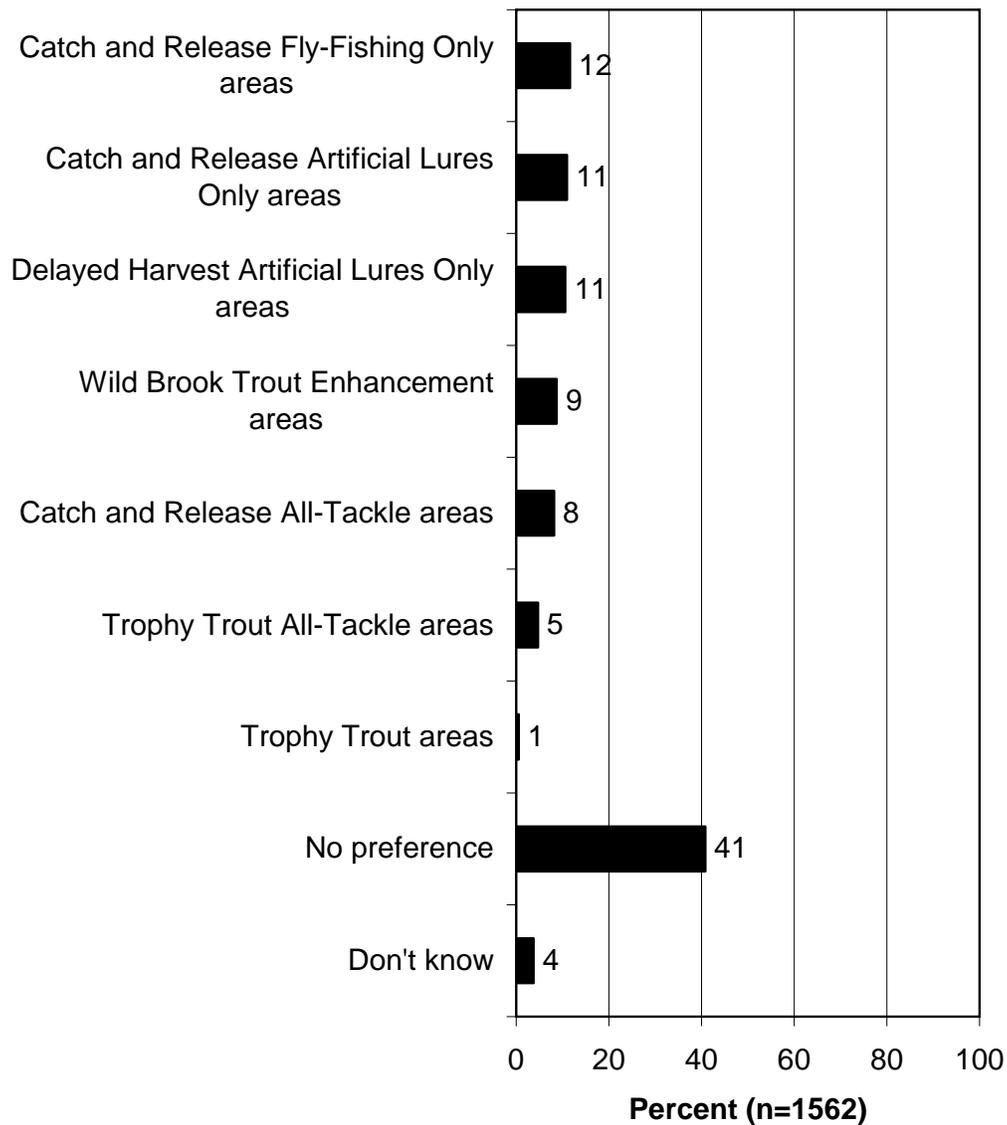
**Q83. Do you agree or disagree that there are too few streams managed under special regulations in Pennsylvania?**



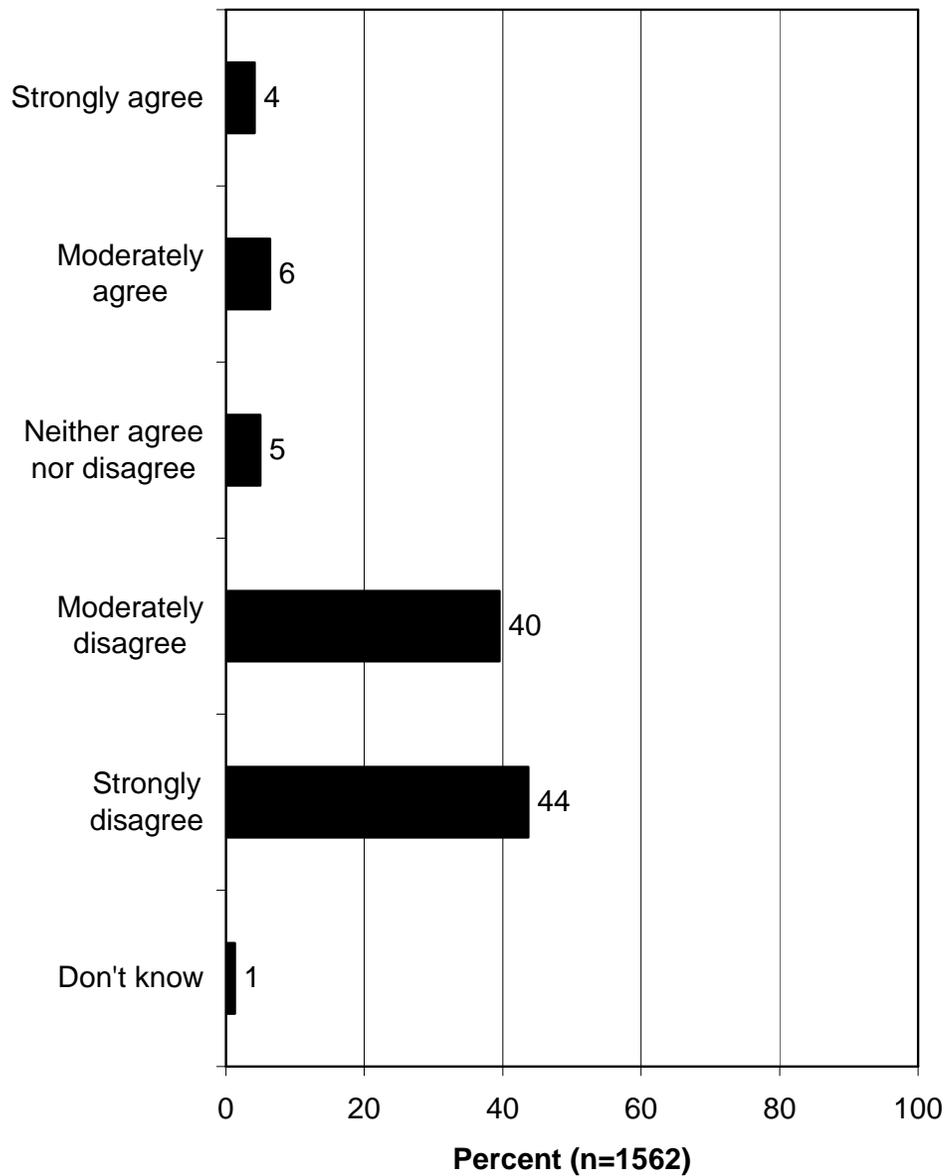
**Q82. Do you agree or disagree that there are too many streams managed under special regulations in Pennsylvania?**



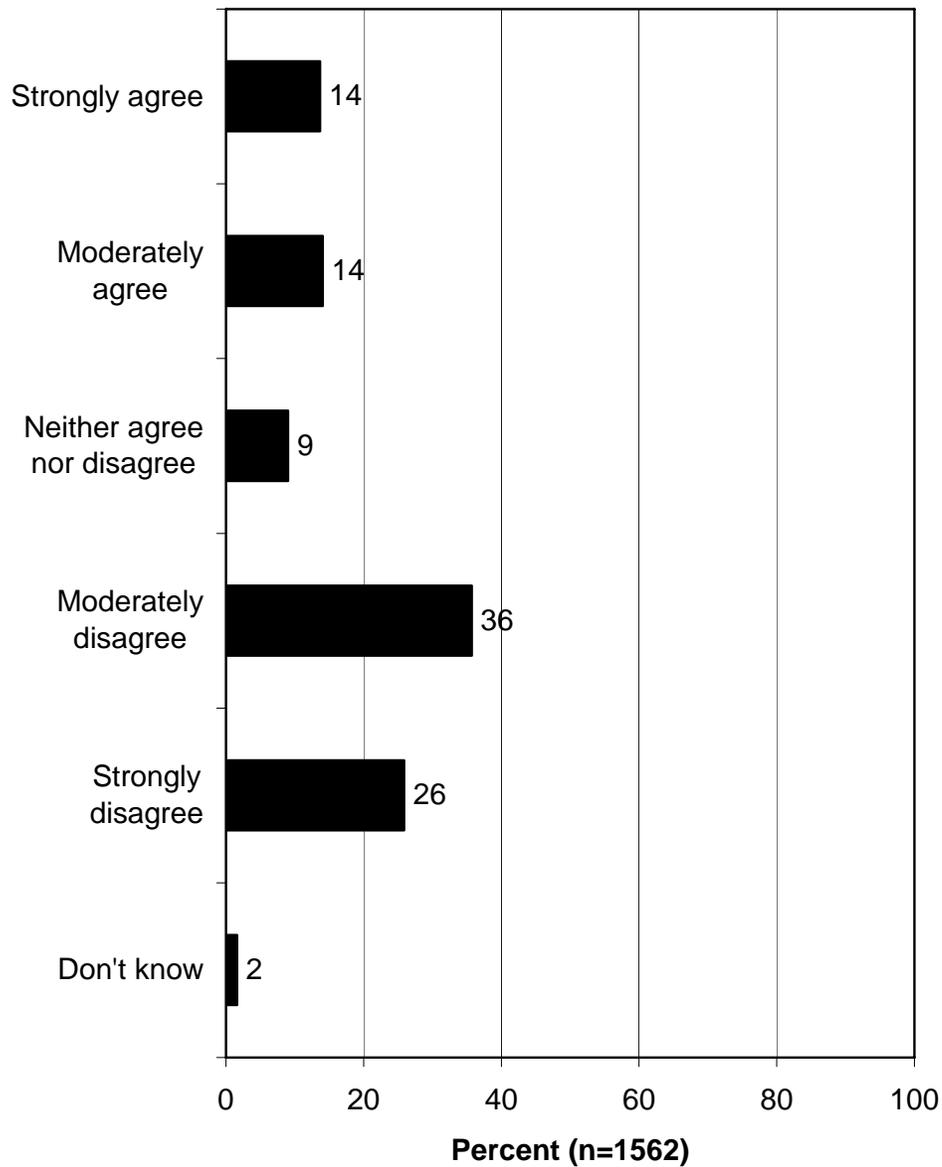
**Q76. Currently, the Pennsylvania Fish and Boat Commission manages some trout waters with special regulations. These waters are classified as Special Regulation Areas. Which one type of Special Regulation Area do you most prefer to fish in Pennsylvania? (Ranked by percentage.)**



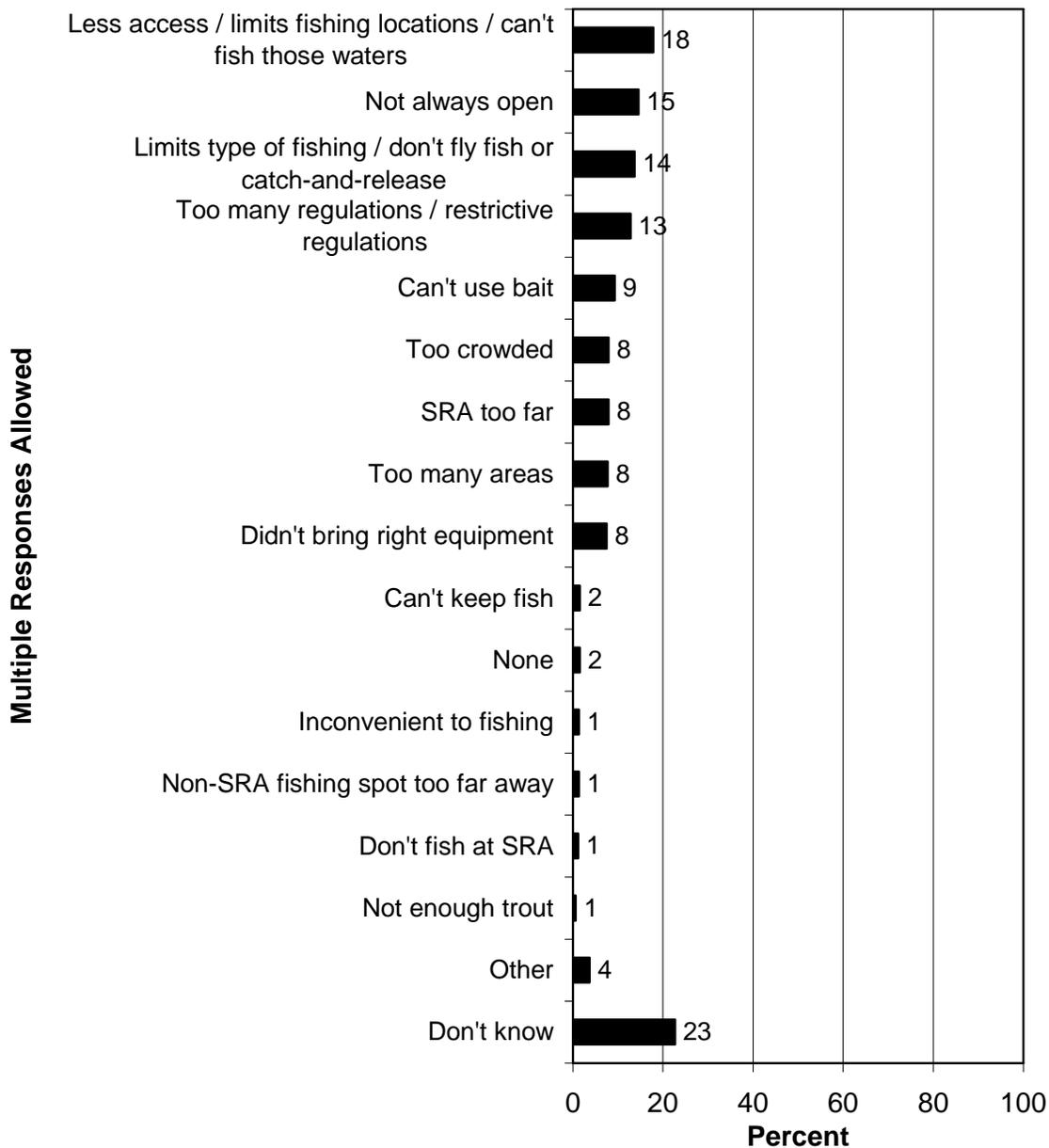
**Q88. Do you agree or disagree that the number of Special Regulation Areas on Pennsylvania trout waters prevents you from participating in trout fishing as much as you would like?**



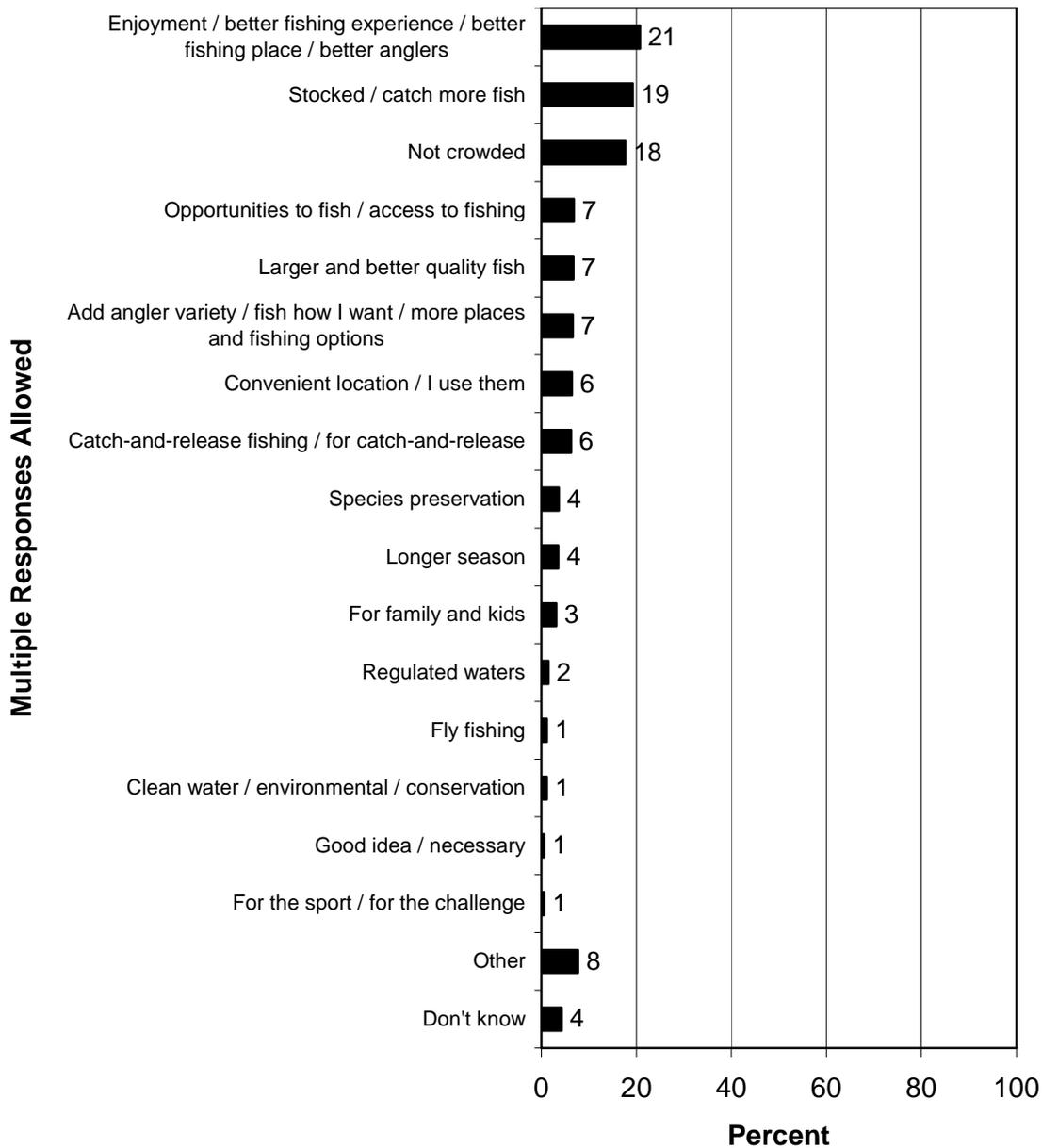
**Q90. Do you agree or disagree that you participate in trout fishing in Pennsylvania more as a result of the number of Special Regulations Areas than you would if the areas did not exist?**



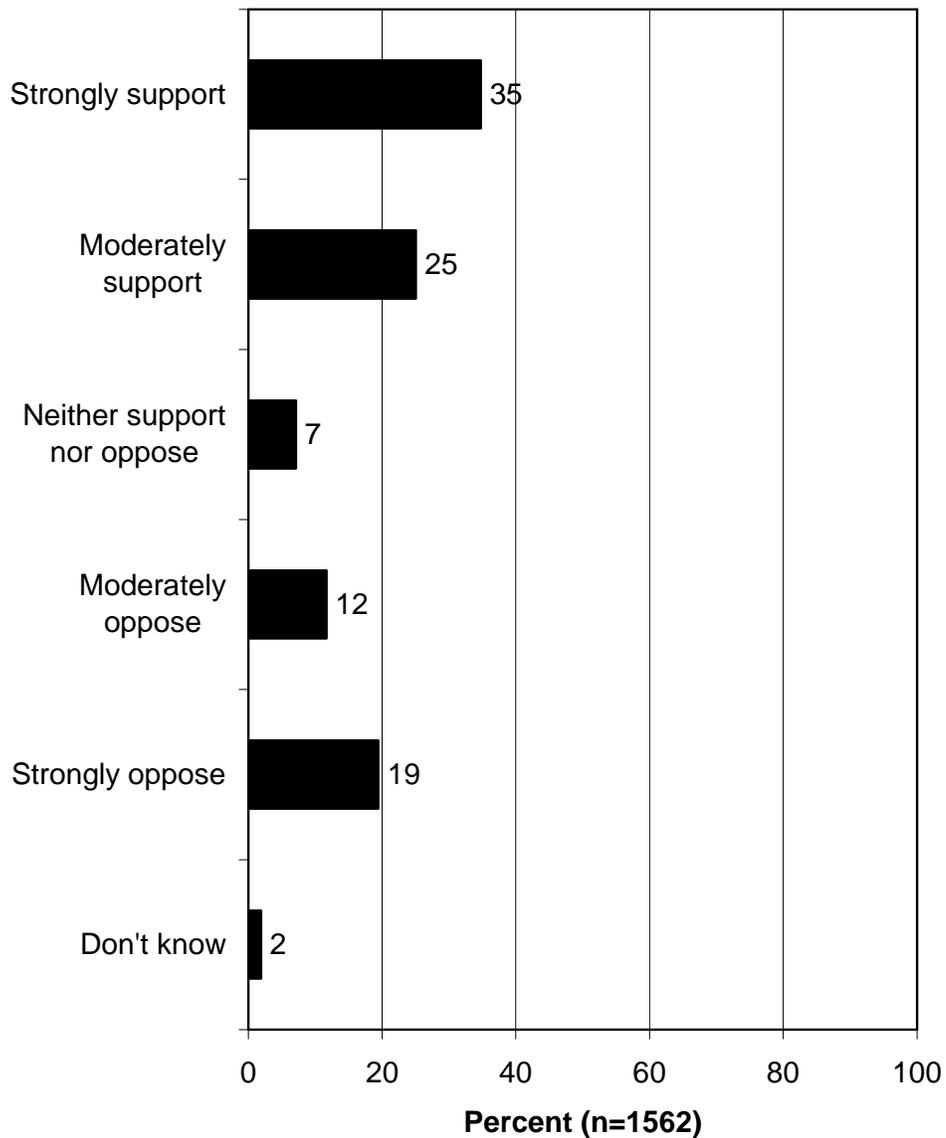
**Q89. How do the number of Special Regulation Areas on Pennsylvania trout waters prevent you from participating in trout fishing as much as you would like? (Asked of those who believe that the number of Special Regulation Areas prevents them from participating in trout fishing.)**



**Q91. Why do you participate in trout fishing in Pennsylvania more as a result of the number of Special Regulation Areas? (Asked of those who believe that they trout fish more often due to the existence of Special Regulation Areas.)**



**Q92. Currently, flies and artificial lures are permitted for use in Delayed Harvest Special Regulation Areas. Would you support or oppose a Delayed Harvest Special Regulations Program that includes the use of bait in addition to flies and artificial lures?**



## STOCKED WATERS

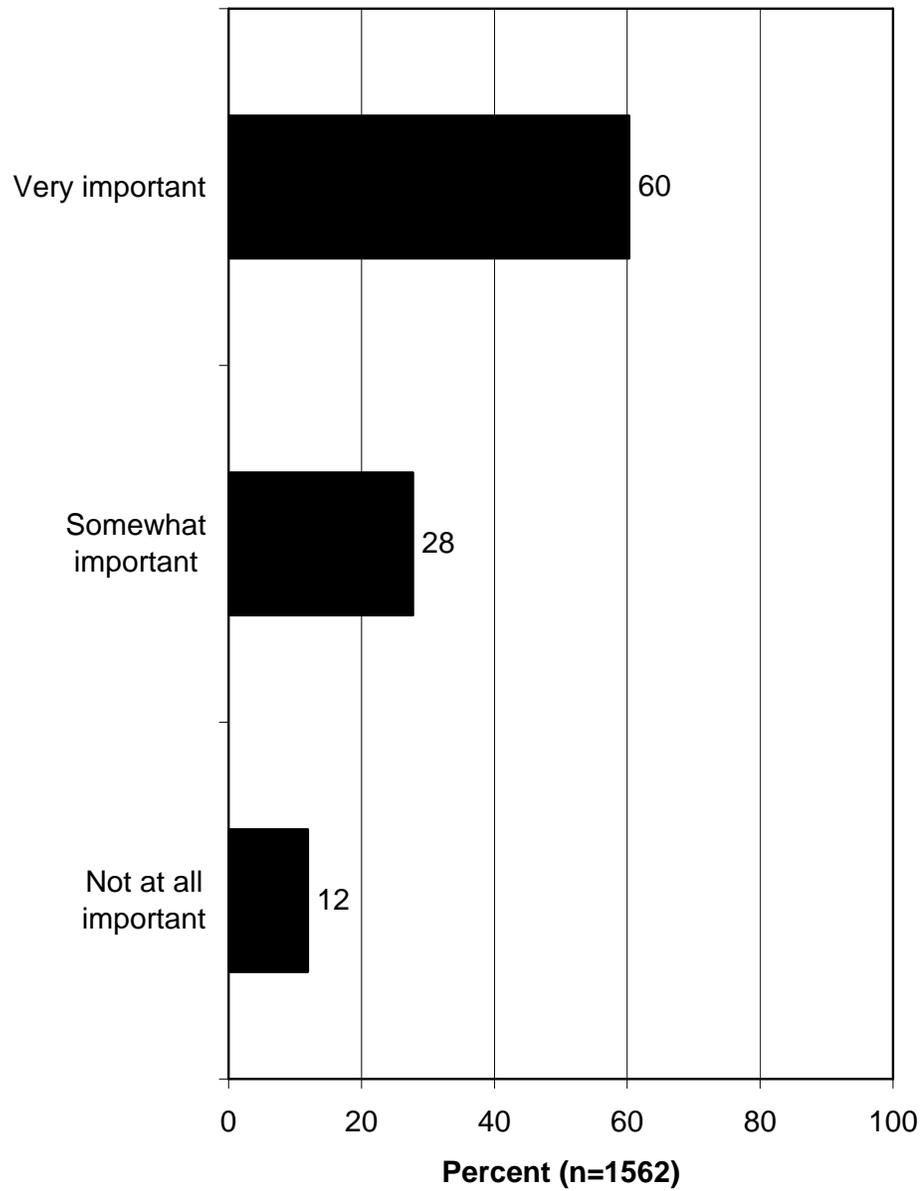
- Stocking trout is quite important: 88% of all Pennsylvania trout anglers say that in-season trout stockings are important, with most of those saying *very* important.
- Pennsylvania trout anglers are about evenly distributed in their likelihood to continue purchasing a fishing license and trout stamp in Pennsylvania if the Commission were to significantly reduce the amount of trout stocking: 37% would be *very* likely, 29% would be *somewhat* likely, and 34% would be not at all likely.
- Interestingly, although the overwhelming majority of trout anglers think stocking trout is important, they more often think that wild trout should have priority over stocked trout than the other way around: 44% think priority should go to wild trout, while 35% think it should go to stocked trout (18% are neutral).
- When fishing for stocked trout, the overwhelming majority of Pennsylvania trout anglers who fish at least half the time for stocked trout prefer streams (81%) over lakes (10%); meanwhile, 9% have no preference. (This graph is shown in the section of this report titled, “Stocked Trout Locations.”)
- April and May are the top months for fishing for stocked trout in Pennsylvania. In each of those months, an overwhelming majority of trout anglers fish (80% in April, 78% in May). The next highest month is June (44% of anglers fish for stocked trout in that month). November through February is the *least* busy period for fishing for stocked trout.
- The majority of Pennsylvania trout anglers who fish at least half the time for stocked trout (63%) support the current management approach of stocking fewer but larger trout, while 28% oppose.
  - Also, a large majority of *all* trout anglers support (70%) the creation of a limited number of “Premium Stocked Trout Areas” on sections of streams and/or small lakes where an angler could fish a high density of stocked trout that are larger than the current average size of 11 inches; meanwhile, 21% oppose. In a follow-up question, 33% of all trout

anglers would be willing to pay (over the cost of their regular license and trout stamp costs) to fish “Premium Stocked Trout Areas” if they were created, but 63% would not be willing to pay (the implication being that some anglers would like “Premium Stocked Trout Areas” but do not wish to pay for them). When those who said that they would be willing to pay were asked how much they would be willing to pay, the large majority of them (60%) gave an answer of no more than \$10.

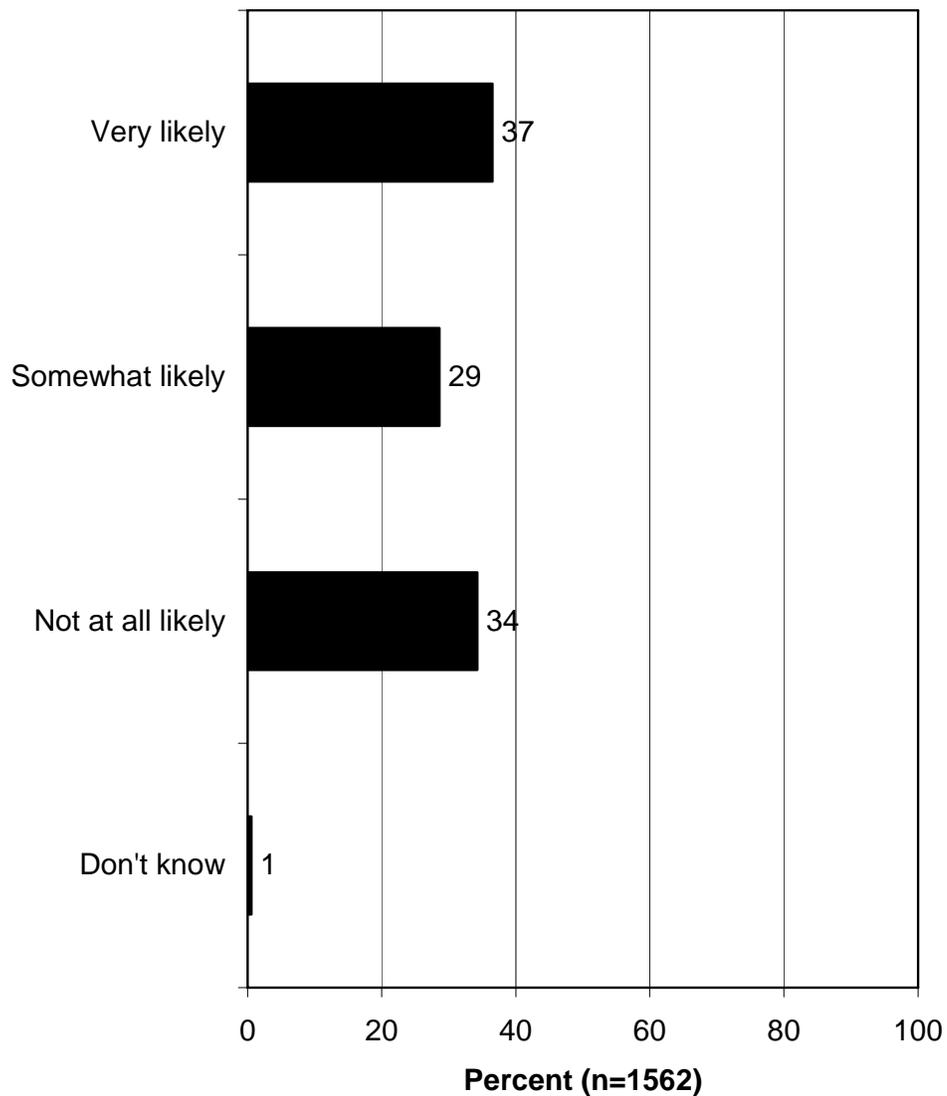
- Despite the greater support for stocking larger but fewer trout and for the creation of some “Premium Stocked Trout Areas,” only 9% of Pennsylvania trout anglers who fish at least half the time for stocked trout say that catching *trophy* trout while fishing for stocked trout is *very* important, and another 32% say it is *somewhat* important (a total of 41% saying it is important); the majority (58%) say it is not at all important when fishing for stocked trout.
  
- Pennsylvania trout anglers are divided between supporting (52%) and opposing (41%) stocking waters that have a high abundance of wild trout, with slightly more in support. Support increases slightly when discussing stocking trout in waters that have a high abundance of wild trout *but which are in areas of the state that have few stocked trout waters*: 57% support, and 33% oppose, stocking waters that have a high abundance of wild trout in areas of the state where there are few stocked waters.
  
- After being told that stocked trout will move out of some sections of streams prior to the opening day, more trout anglers support (52%) than oppose (36%) in-season stocking only in sections of streams where the previously stocked trout have moved out.
  
- Pennsylvania trout anglers who fish at least half the time for stocked trout most commonly say that the amount of fall stocking should remain about the same as it currently is (56%). Otherwise, those saying it should increase (38%) far outnumber those saying it should decrease (3%).

- The majority of Pennsylvania trout anglers who fish at least half the time for stocked trout (75%) support the Commission's efforts to raise and stock approximately 9,000 golden rainbow trout each year; only 13% oppose.
  
- A majority of Pennsylvania trout anglers (66%) agree that trout-stocked lakes with healthy populations of other species of fish should be open to year-round fishing, which is more than double the percentage who disagree (27%).
  
- In mentoring situations, stocked waters are extremely important, as a majority of those anglers who take a child (or children) fishing (66%) fish mostly for stocked trout, and nearly all (99%) fish with children for stocked trout at least half of the time. Only 1% take children fishing mostly for wild trout.

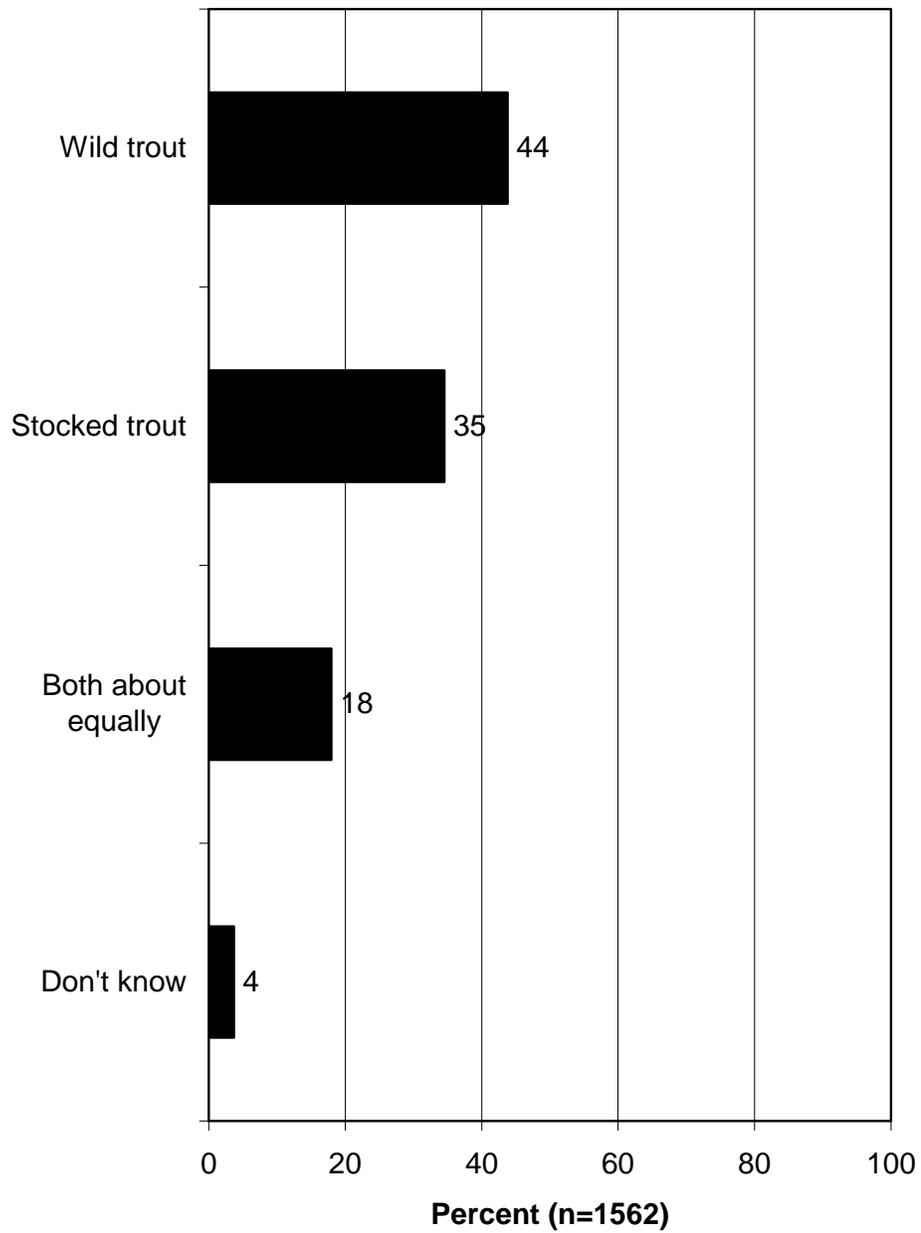
**Q126. In your opinion, how important is it to have in-season trout stockings?**



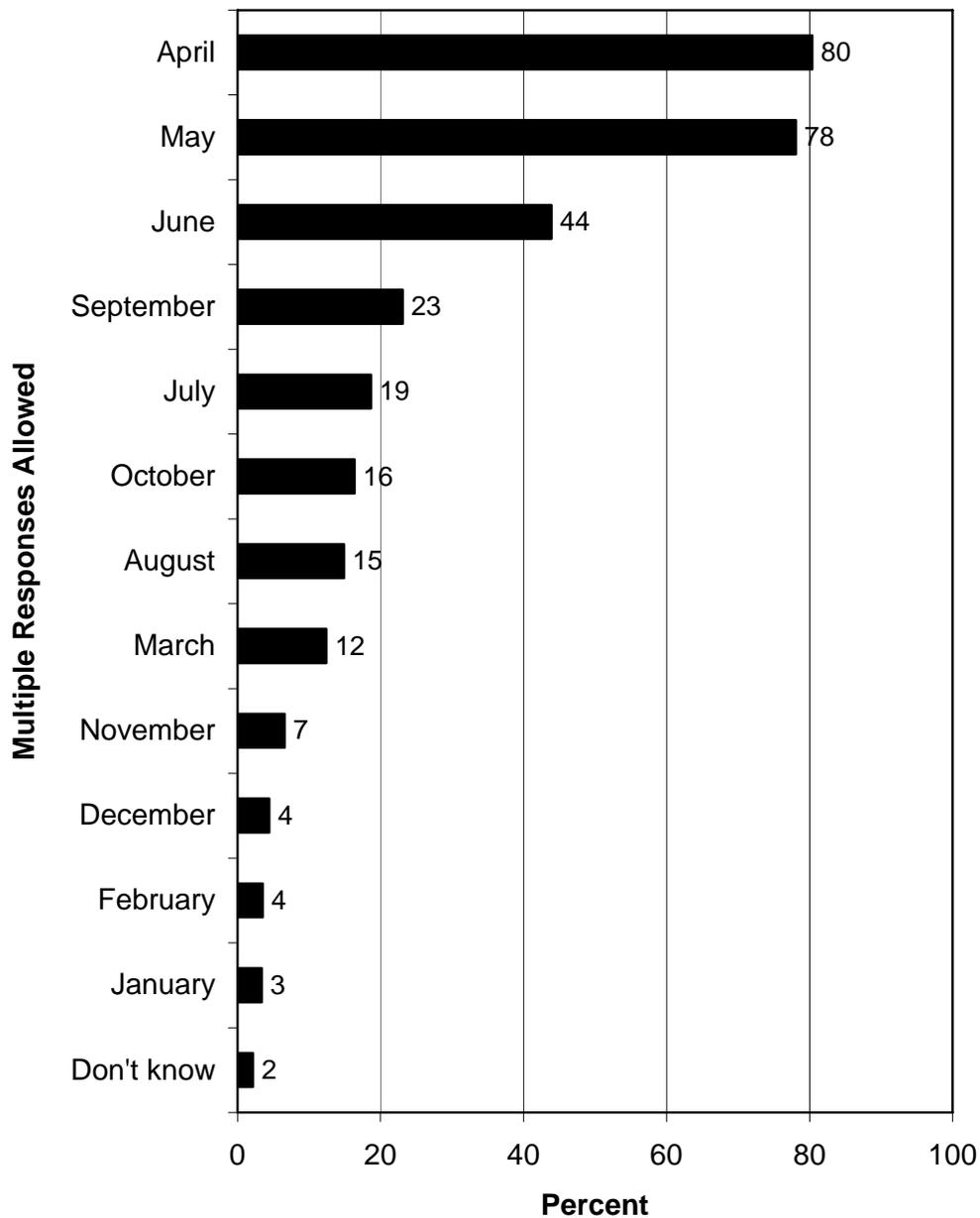
**Q110. If the Pennsylvania Fish and Boat Commission were to significantly reduce the amount of trout stocking, how likely would you be to continue purchasing a fishing license and trout stamp in Pennsylvania? Would you be very likely, somewhat likely, or not at all likely?**



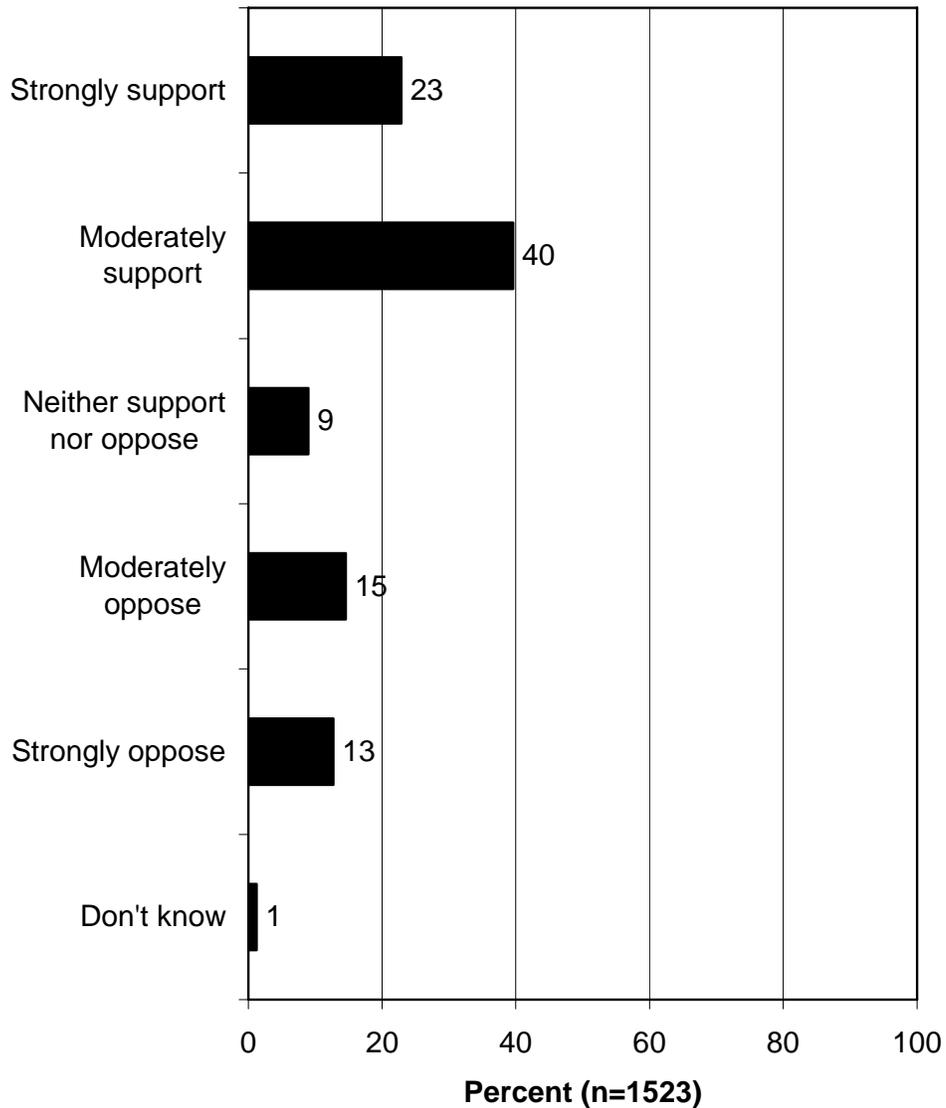
**Q199. In your opinion, should the Pennsylvania Fish and Boat Commission give higher priority to wild trout or stocked trout?**



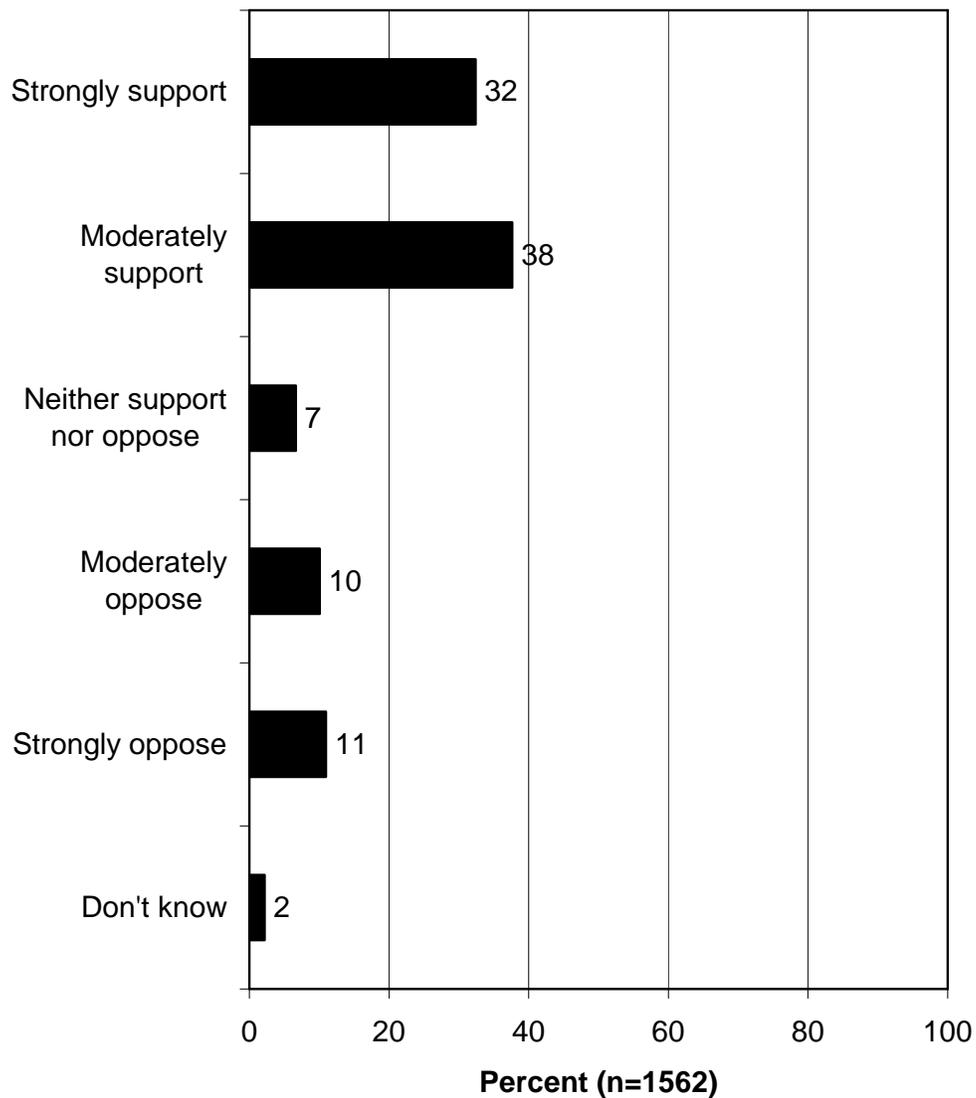
**Q115. During which months do you typically fish for stocked trout in Pennsylvania? (Asked of those who mostly fish for stocked trout or equally fish for both stocked and wild trout.) (Shown by ranking.)**



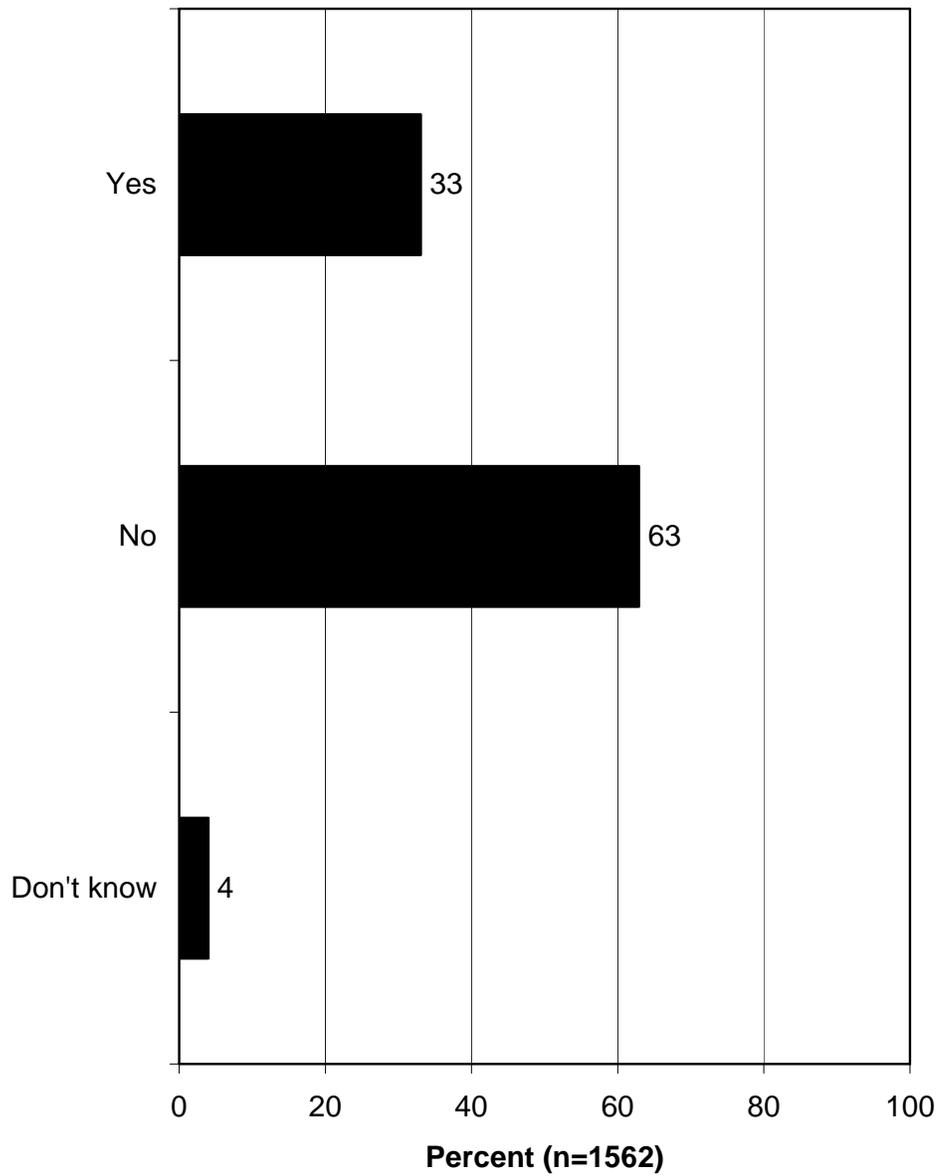
**Q117. Currently, the Pennsylvania Fish and Boat Commission is stocking fewer but larger trout. Do you support or oppose this management approach for the trout stocking program? (Asked of those who mostly fish for stocked trout or equally fish for both stocked and wild trout.)**



**Q129. Would you support or oppose the creation of a limited number of "Premium Stocked Trout Areas" on sections of streams or small lakes where an angler could fish a high density of stocked trout larger than the current 11-inch average trout size?**



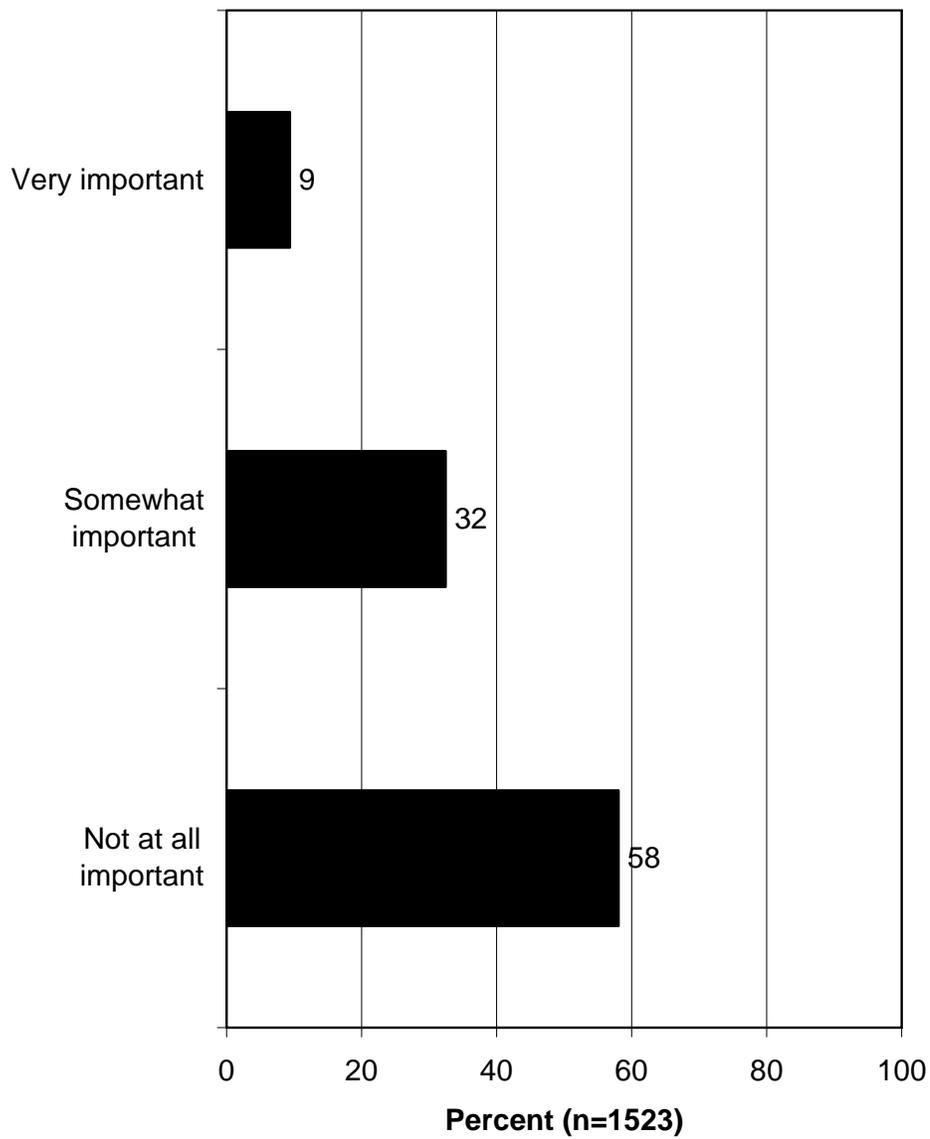
**Q130. If such "Premium Stocked Trout Areas" were created in Pennsylvania, would you be willing to pay to fish the "Premium Stocked Trout Areas"?**



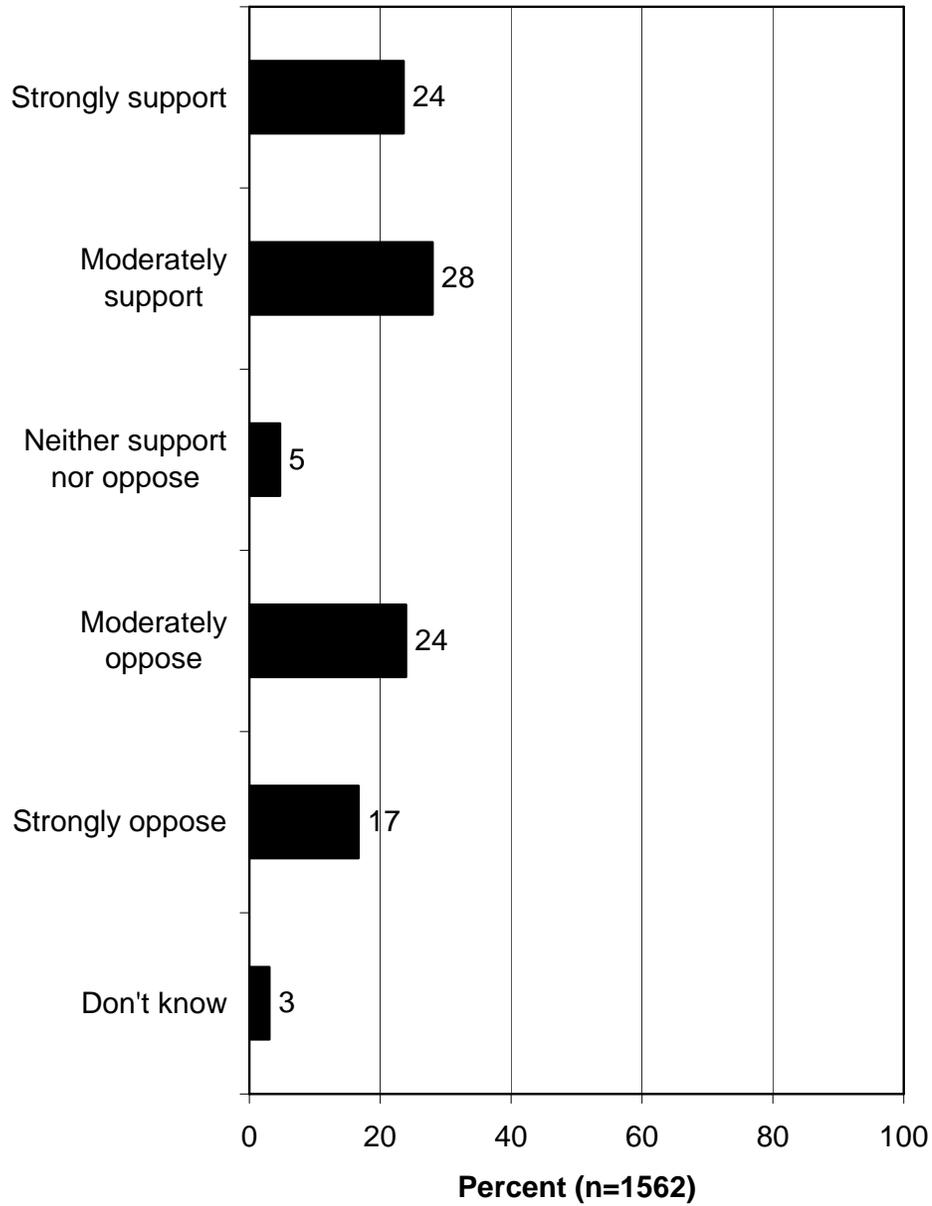
**Q131. How much would you be willing to pay to fish the "Premium Stocked Trout Areas"?**



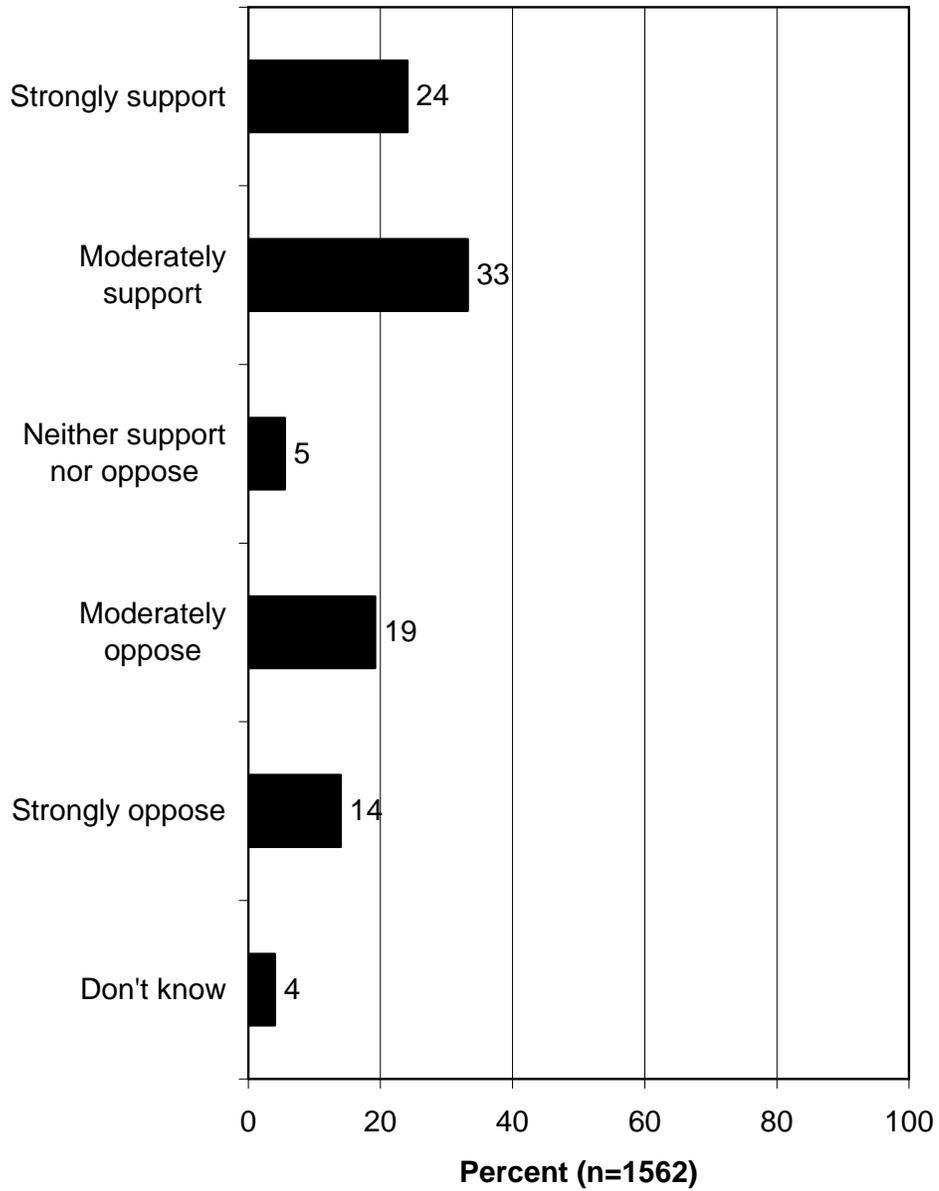
**Q112. How important is it to you to catch trophy trout while fishing for stocked trout? (Asked of those who mostly fish for stocked trout or equally fish for both stocked and wild trout.)**



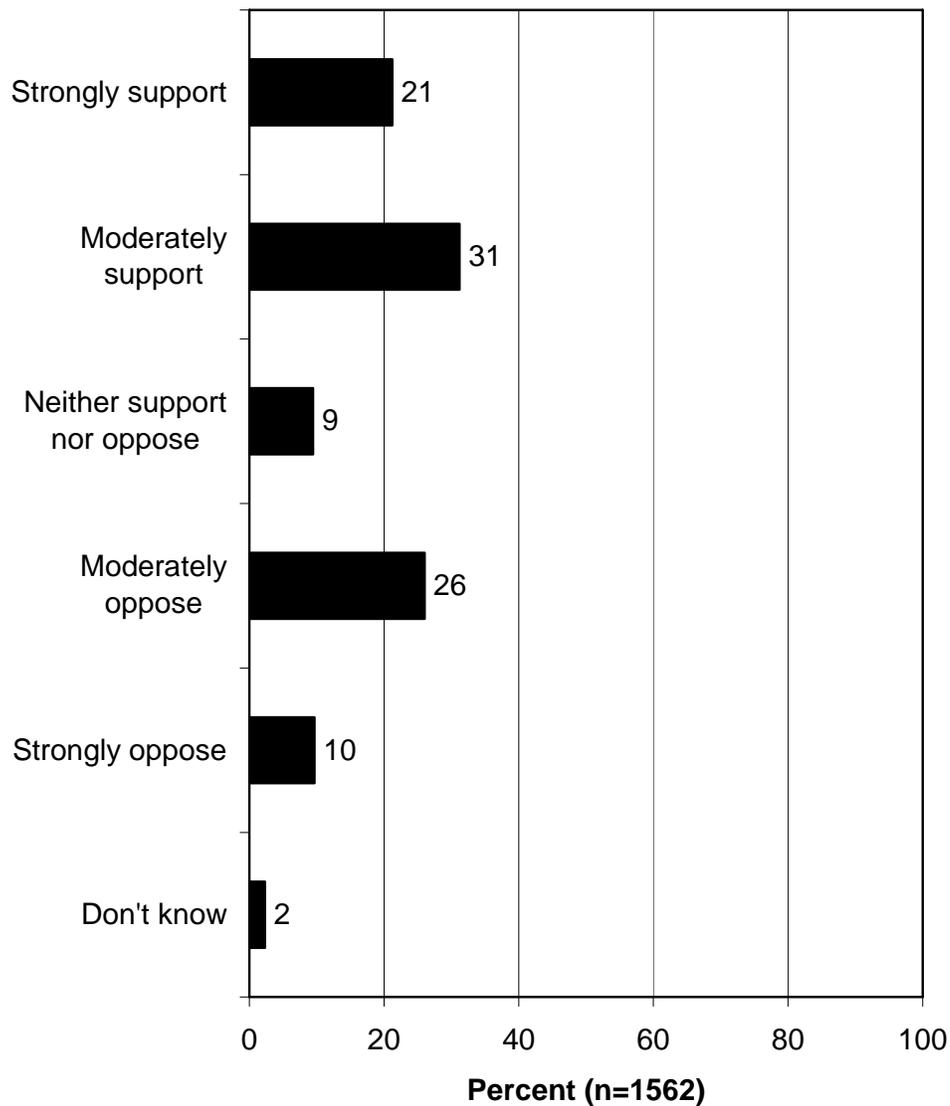
**Q108. Do you support or oppose stocking waters that have a high abundance of wild trout?**



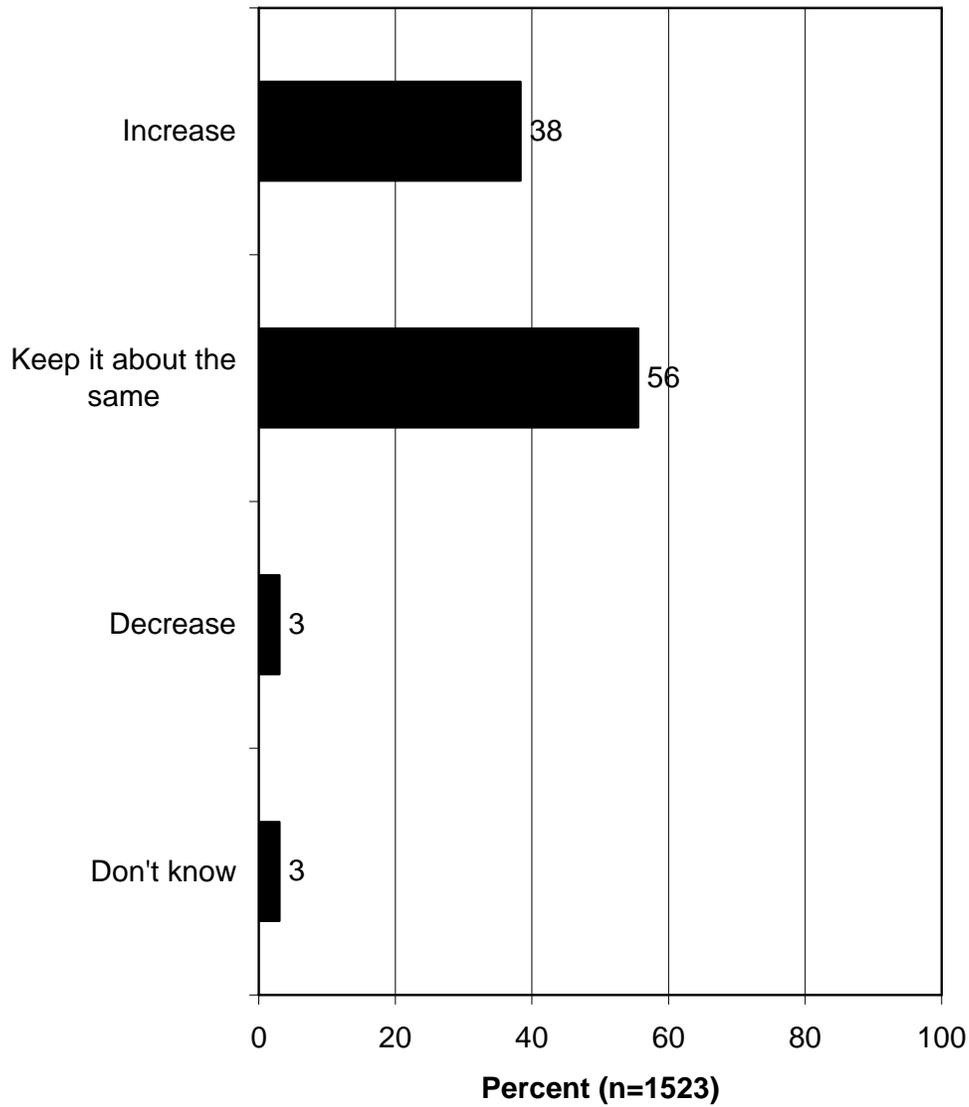
**Q109. Do you support or oppose stocking waters that have a high abundance of wild trout in areas where there are currently few stocked trout waters?**



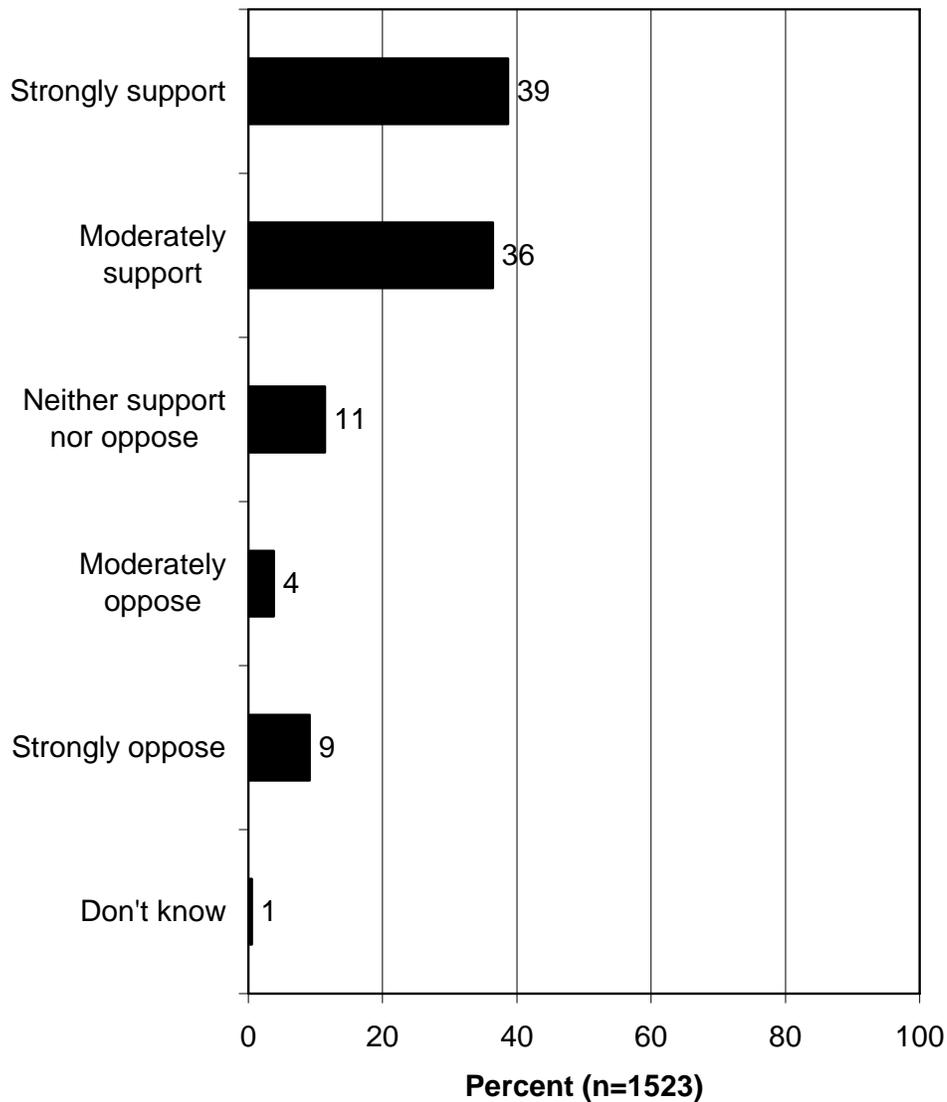
**Q127. In some sections of streams in Pennsylvania, stocked trout will move out of the stocked section prior to the opening day of the season. Do you support or oppose in-season stocking only in the sections of streams where this occurs?**



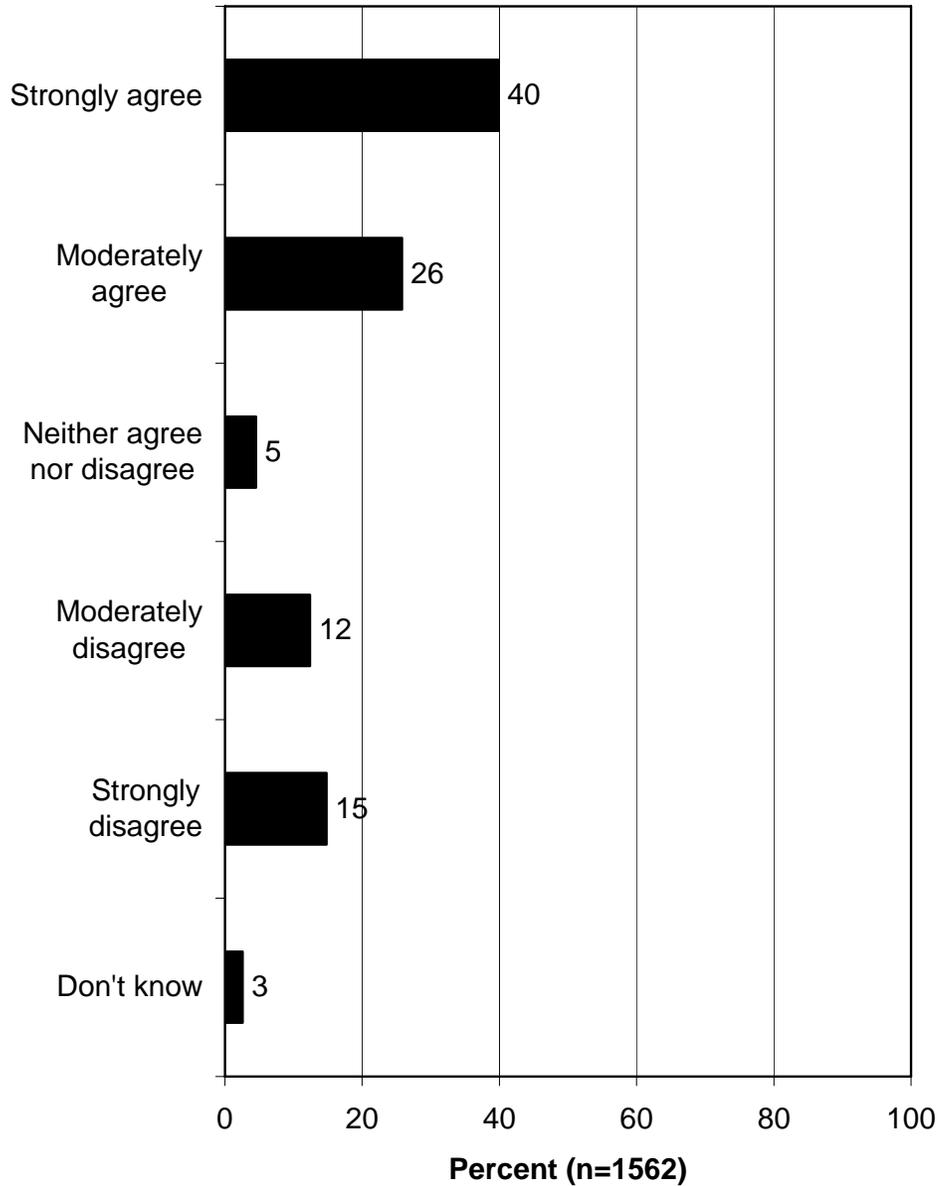
**Q125. Do you think the Pennsylvania Fish and Boat Commission should increase fall trout stocking, decrease fall trout stocking, or keep it about the same? (Asked of those who mostly fish for stocked trout or equally fish for both stocked and wild trout.)**



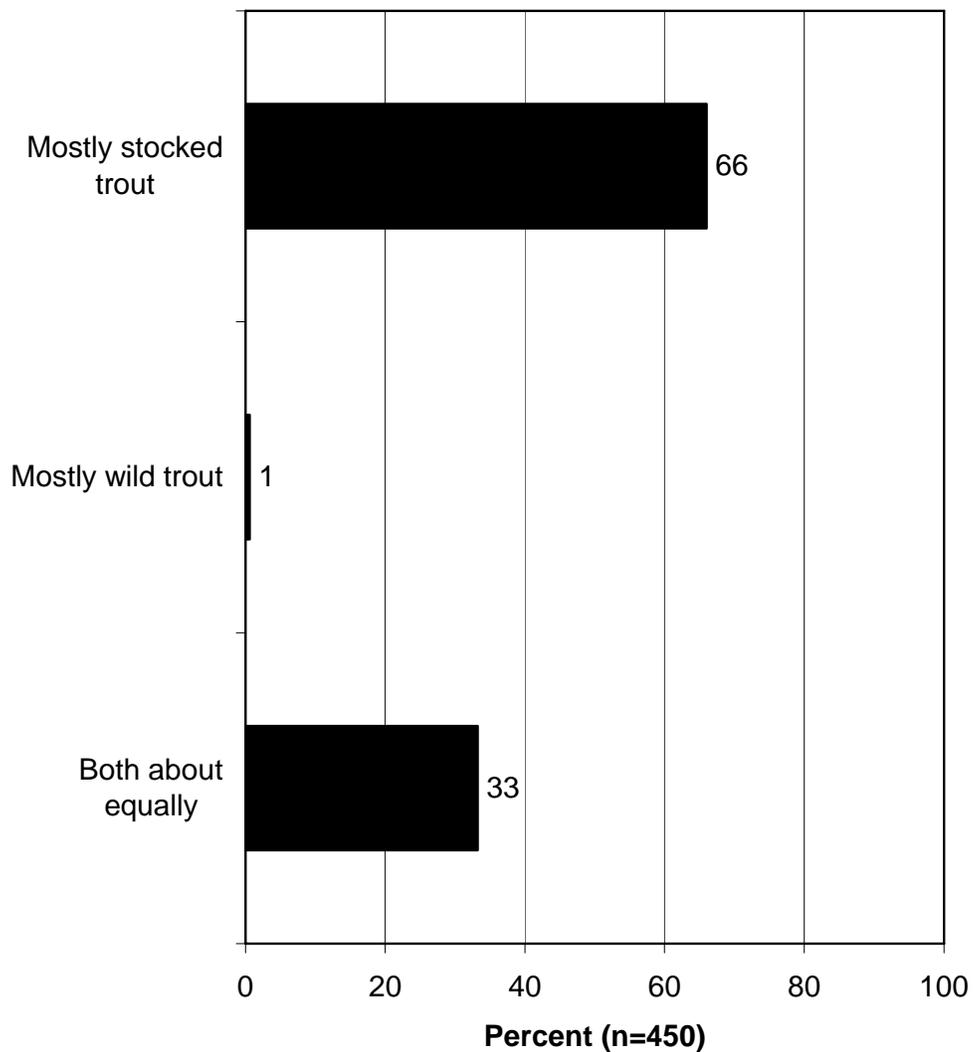
**Q118. Currently, the Pennsylvania Fish and Boat Commission stocks approximately 9,000 golden rainbow trout each year. Do you support or oppose the Commission's efforts to raise and stock golden rainbow trout? (Asked of those who mostly fish for stocked trout or equally fish for both stocked and wild trout.)**



**Q128. Do you agree or disagree that trout-stocked lakes with healthy populations of other species of fish should be open to year-round fishing with no closed season?**



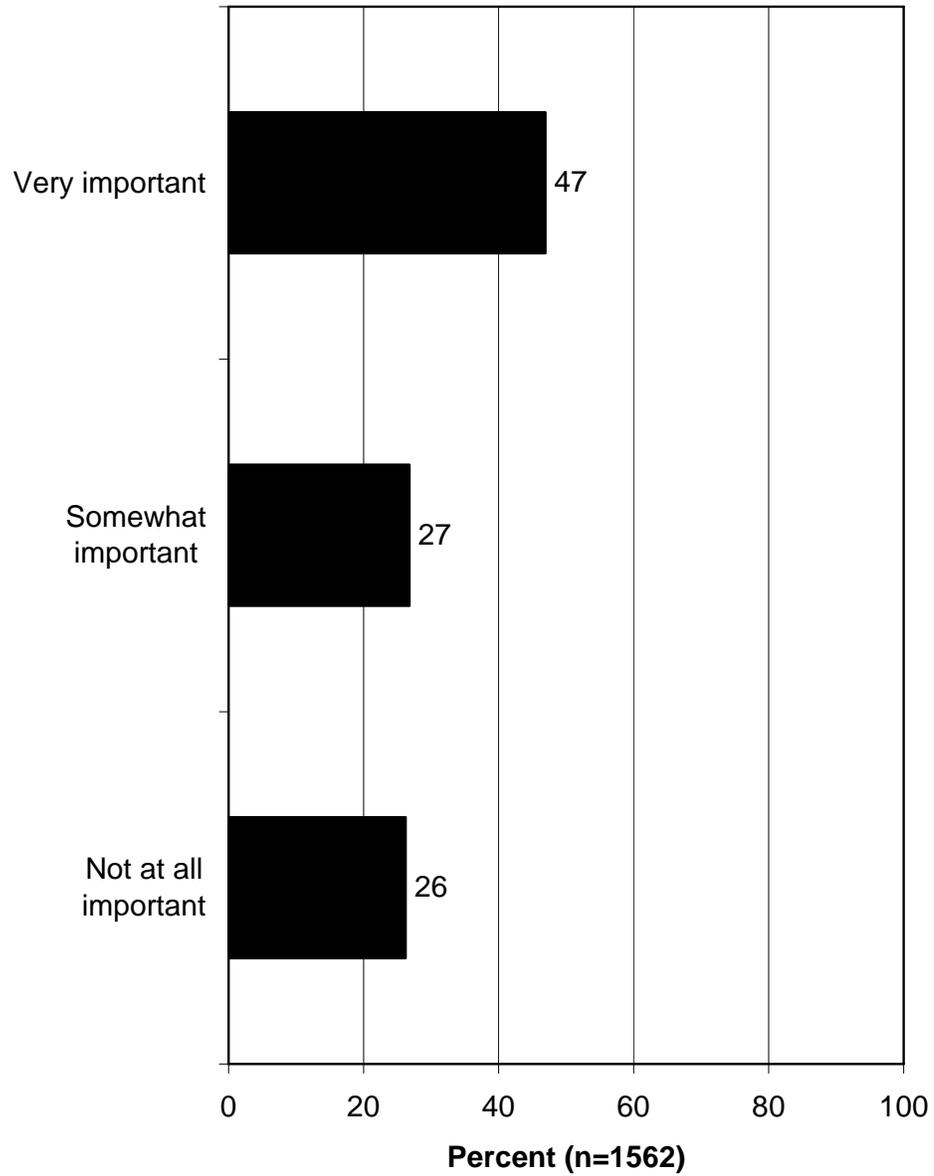
**Q100. You indicated that you took a child / children in your household trout fishing in 2007. When you take your child / children fishing for trout in Pennsylvania, do you fish mostly for stocked trout, mostly for wild trout, or both about equally? (Asked of those who have children 17 years old or younger that they have taken trout fishing.)**



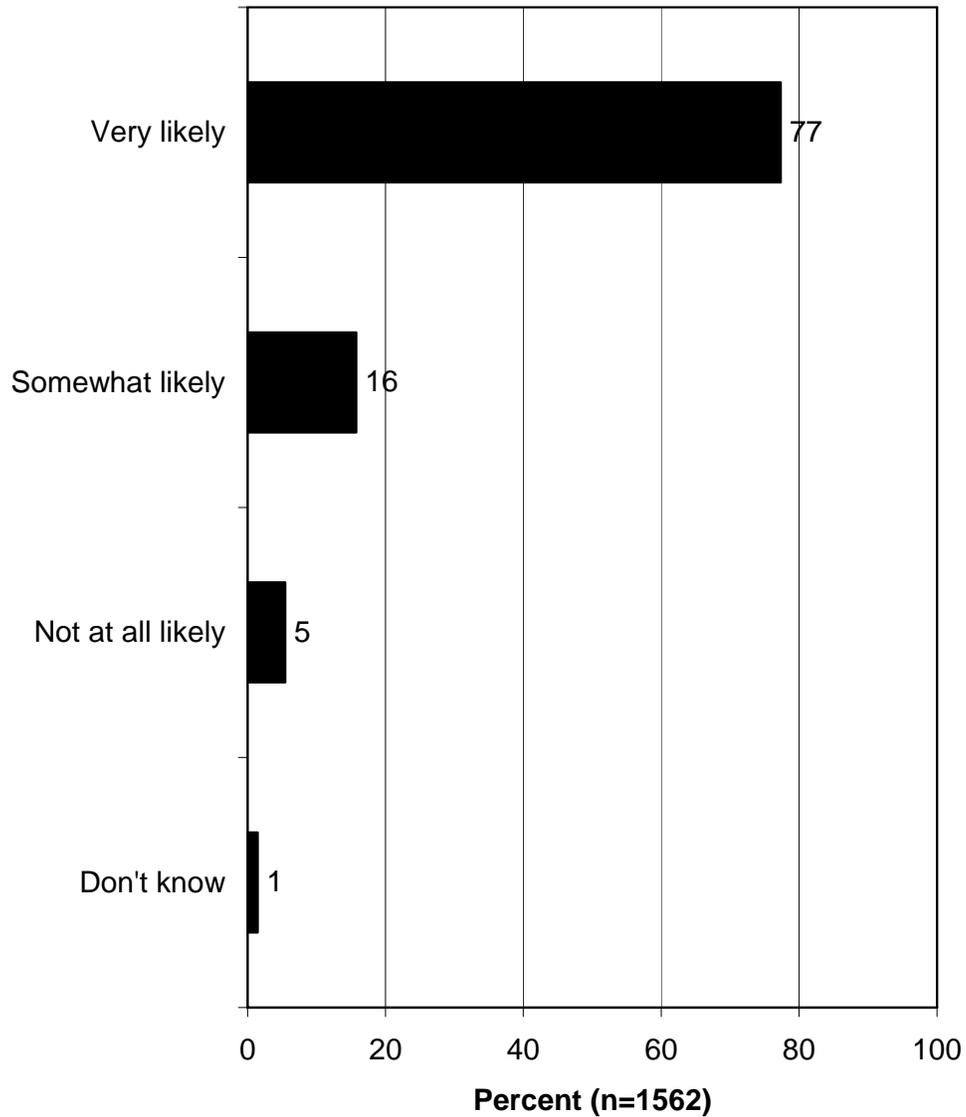
## OPENING DAY REGULATIONS

- Most Pennsylvania trout anglers feel that it is important to have an opening day of trout season (47% say *very* important, and 27% say *somewhat* important, for a total of 74%); 26% say it is not at all important. In a follow-up question, the overwhelming majority of trout anglers would be likely to continue purchasing a fishing license and trout stamp in the absence of an opening day (i.e., if trout fishing were open all year): 77% would be *very* likely, and another 16% would be *somewhat* likely to continue purchasing a license and trout stamp; 5% would be not at all likely.
  
- After being given an explanation of the two opening days for trout season (an earlier date in 18 counties in the warmer southcentral and southeastern part of the state; a later date in the north and western part of the state), trout anglers were asked if they support or oppose having two separate opening days. The majority of them (65%) support, while 23% oppose.
  - In follow-up, those who support having two opening days were asked if they wanted to expand the 18-county area currently using the earlier opening day, and a majority support doing so (73% of those who support the two opening days).
  - Graphs show the counties most commonly named for addition to the region that would have an earlier opening day. The top counties are Bedford, Elk, Potter, Fulton, McKean, Pike, and Bradford.

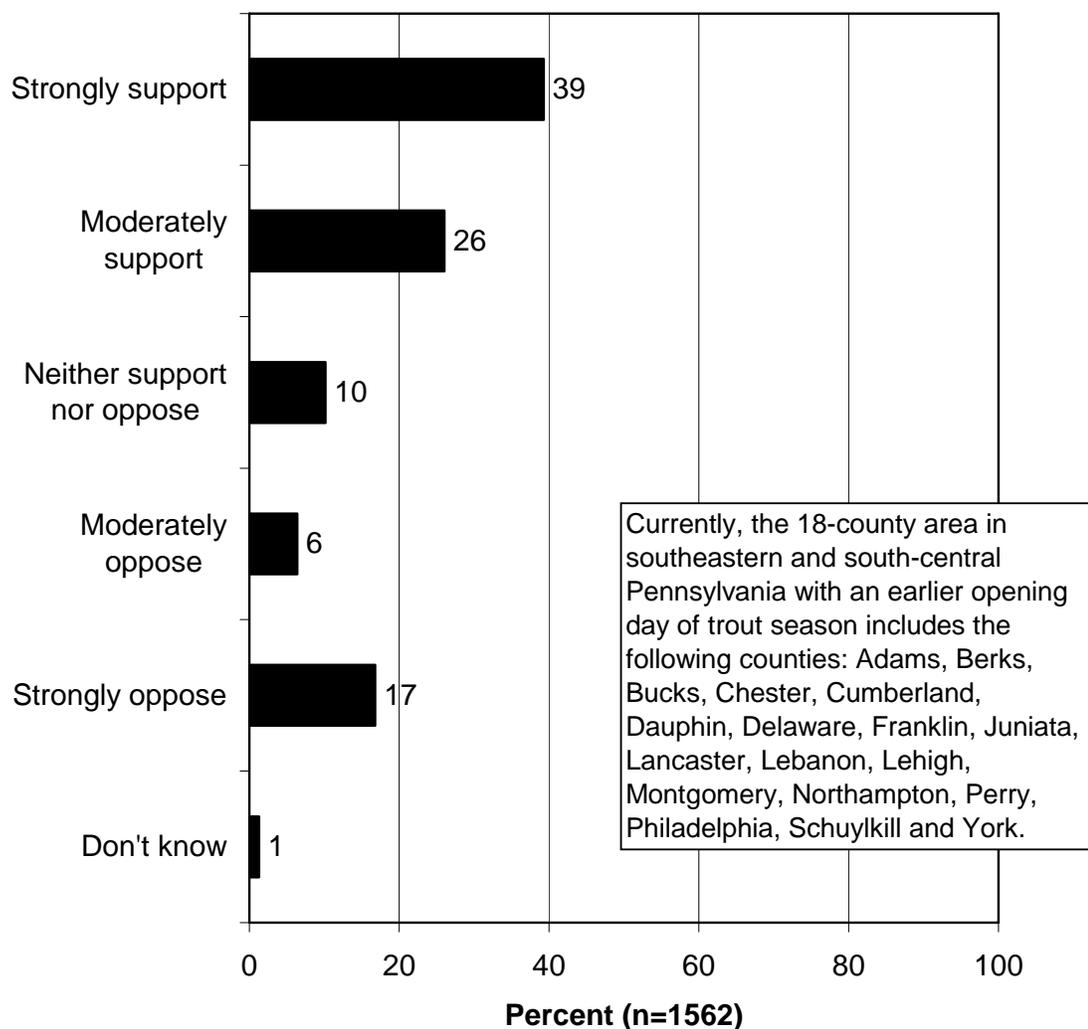
**Q148. How important is it to you to have an opening day of trout season in Pennsylvania?**



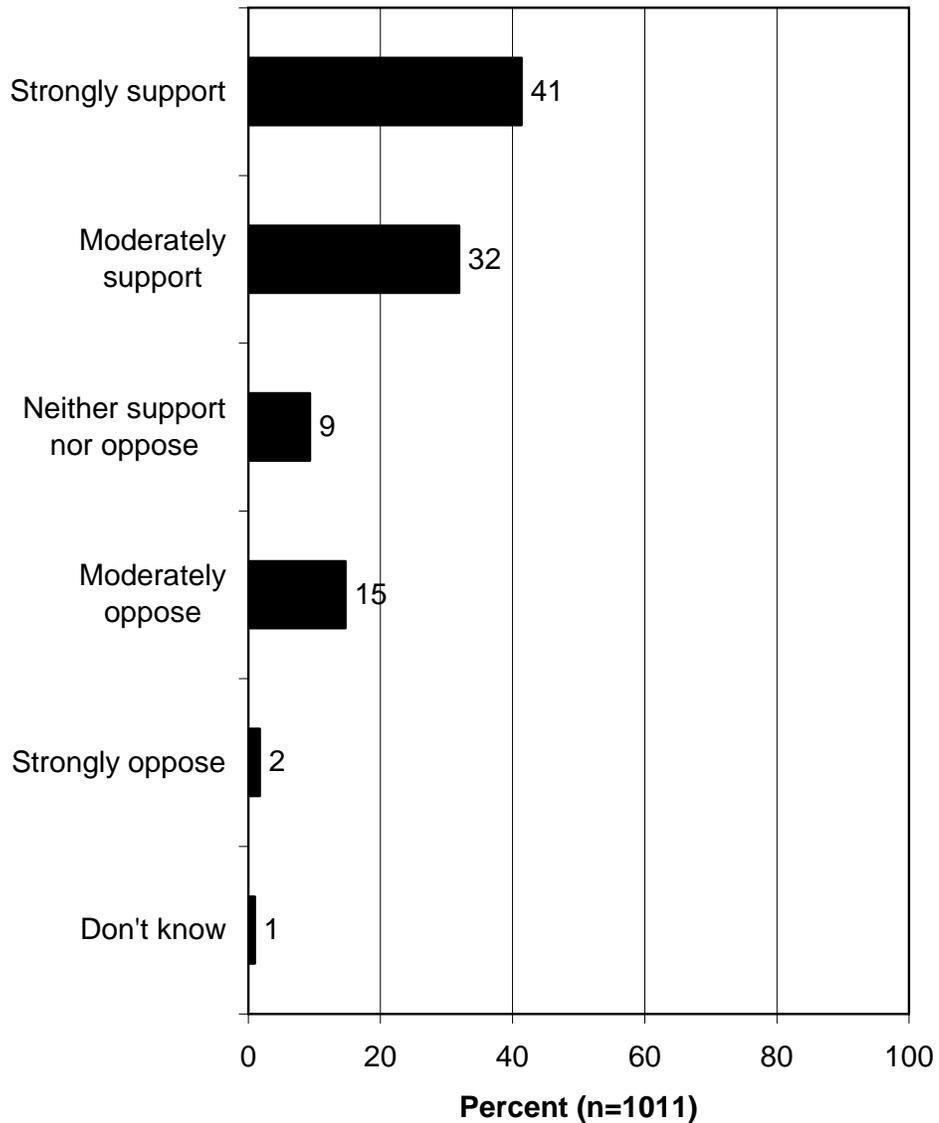
**Q149. How likely would you be to continue purchasing a fishing license and trout stamp in Pennsylvania if trout fishing was open year-round and there was no opening day?**



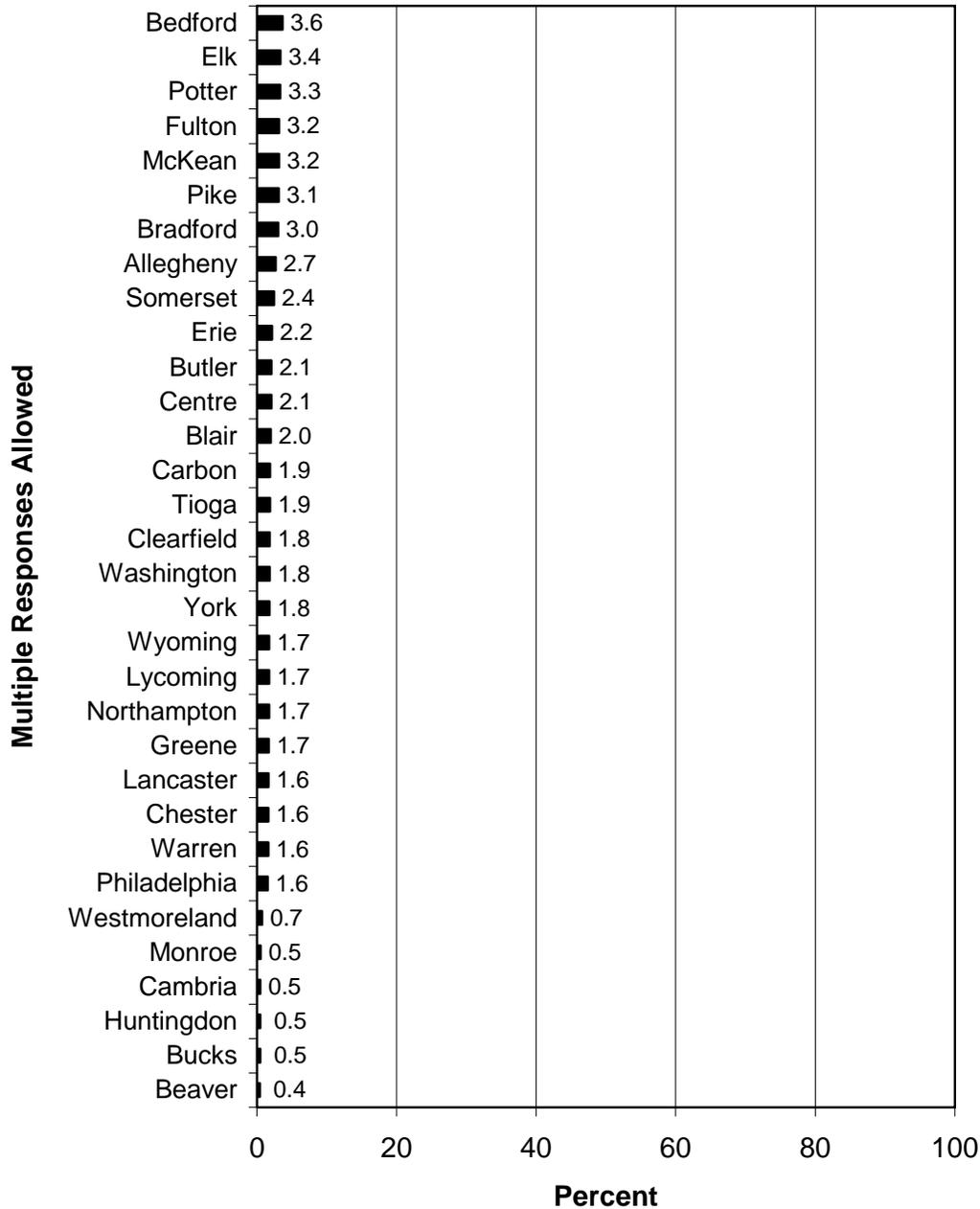
**Q150. In 2007, Pennsylvania had two regional opening days of trout season to accommodate warmer spring temperatures in areas of Pennsylvania. The opening day of trout season occurred two weeks earlier in an 18-county area in southeastern and southcentral Pennsylvania. Do you support or oppose having two different regional opening days of trout season in Pennsylvania?**



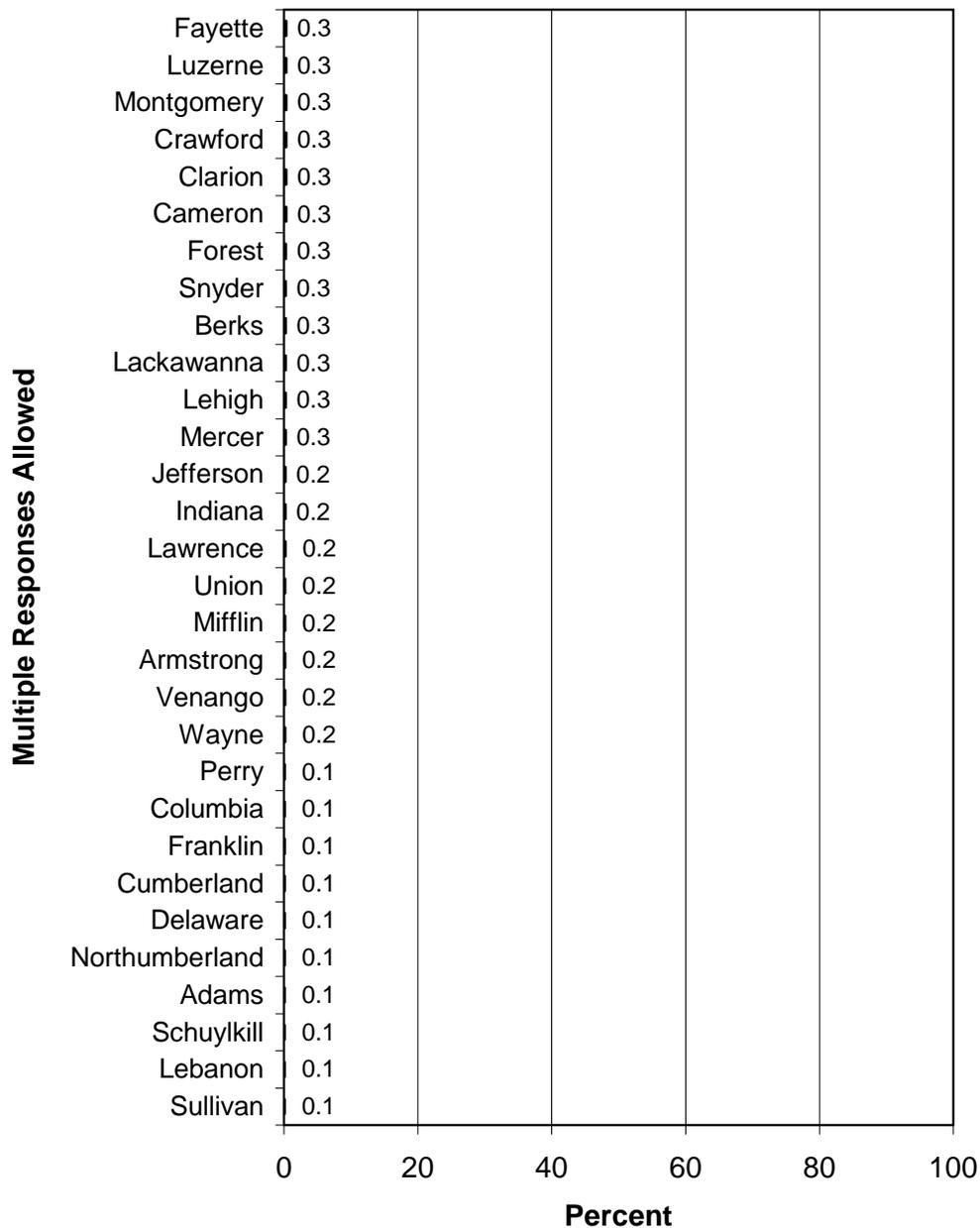
**Q151. Would you support or oppose expanding the earlier regional opening day of trout season to include more counties? (Asked of those who support having two different regional opening days of trout season in Pennsylvania.)**



**Which additional counties do you think the earlier regional opening day of trout season should include? (Asked of those who support expanding the earlier regional opening day of trout season to include more counties.) (Part 1.)**



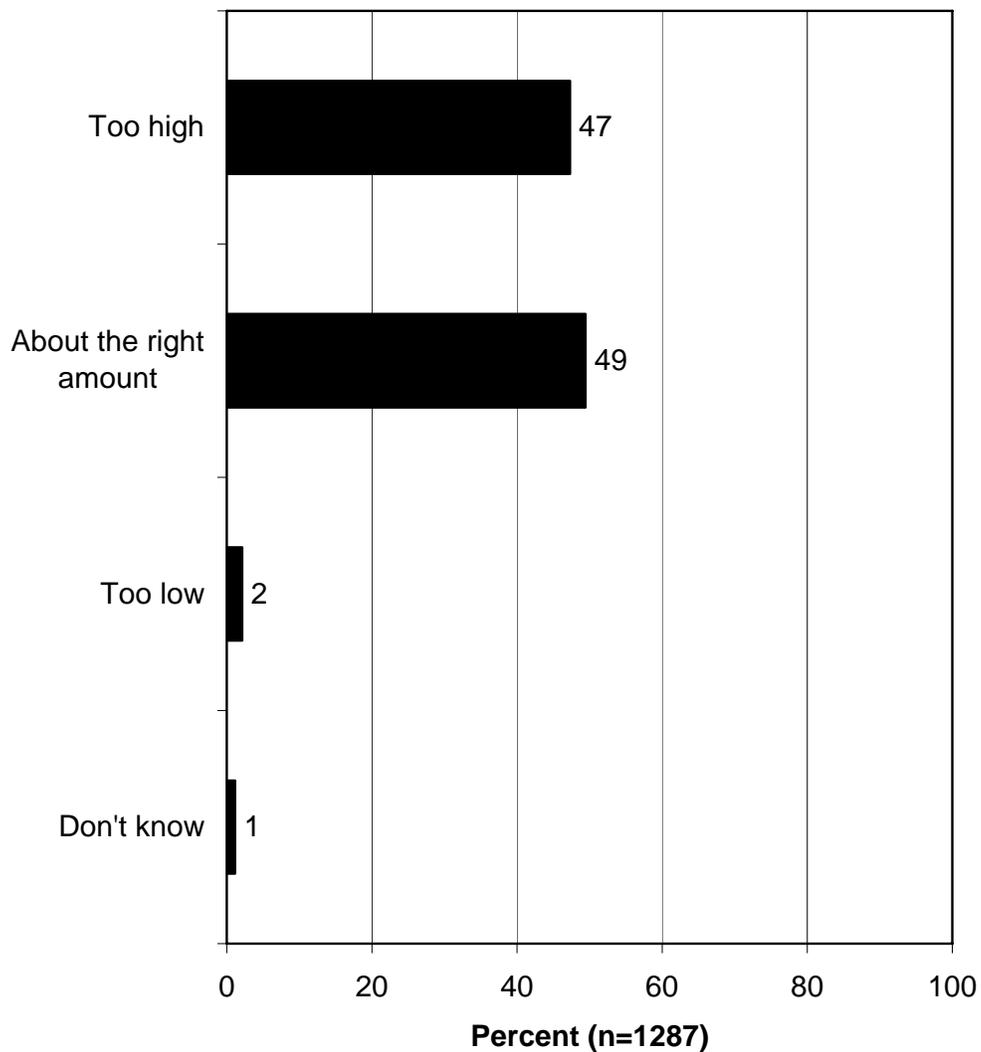
**Which additional counties do you think the earlier regional opening day of trout season should include? (Asked of those who support expanding the earlier regional opening day of trout season to include more counties.) (Part 2.)**



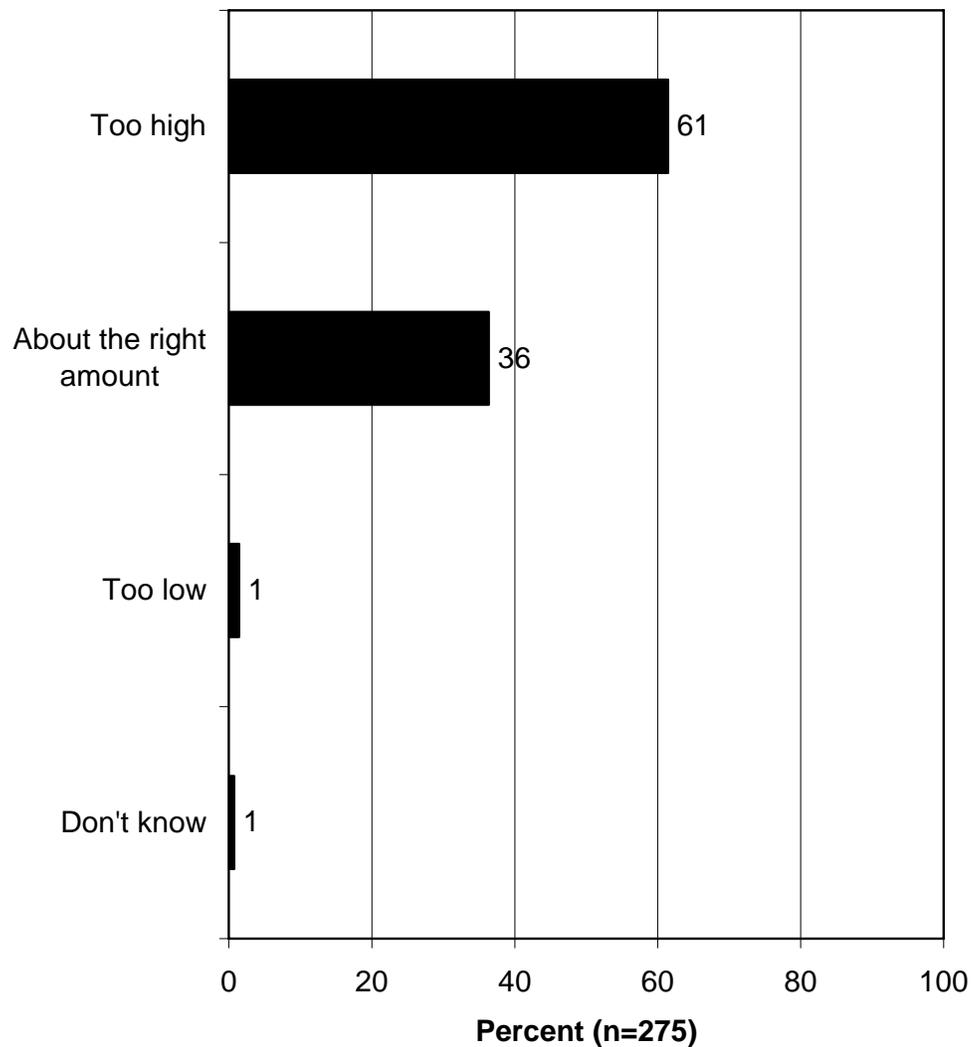
## **LICENSES AND LICENSE COSTS**

- Resident fishing license holders (who currently pay \$32.40 for their resident fishing license and trout stamp) are about evenly split between thinking the current cost is about the right amount (49%) or thinking it is too high (47%).
  
- The majority of non-resident fishing license holders (who pay \$62.40 for their non-resident fishing license and trout stamp) think the cost is too high (61%), while only 36% think it is about the right amount.
  
- The majority of Pennsylvania trout anglers (61%) oppose a \$5 youth fishing license being required for youth aged 12 to 15 years old, while 37% support.

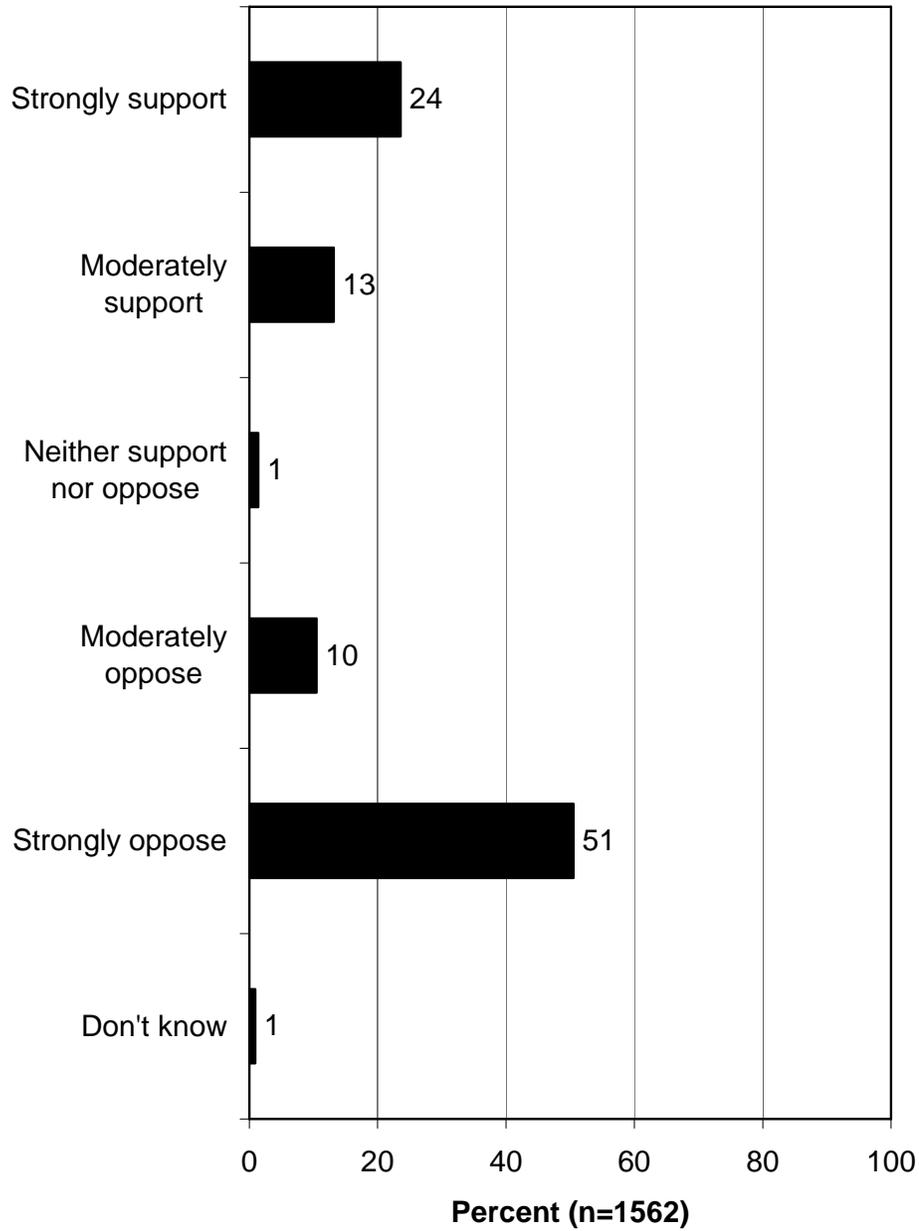
**Q171. Currently, the cost of purchasing a resident fishing license and a trout stamp together in Pennsylvania is \$32.40. In your opinion, do you think the current cost for a resident fishing license with a trout stamp in Pennsylvania is too high, about the right amount, or too low? (Asked of Pennsylvania resident fishing license holders.)**



**Q172. Currently, the cost of purchasing a non-resident fishing license and a trout stamp together in Pennsylvania is \$62.40. In your opinion, do you think the current cost for a non-resident fishing license with a trout stamp in Pennsylvania is too high, about the right amount, or too low? (Asked of Pennsylvania non-resident fishing license holders.)**



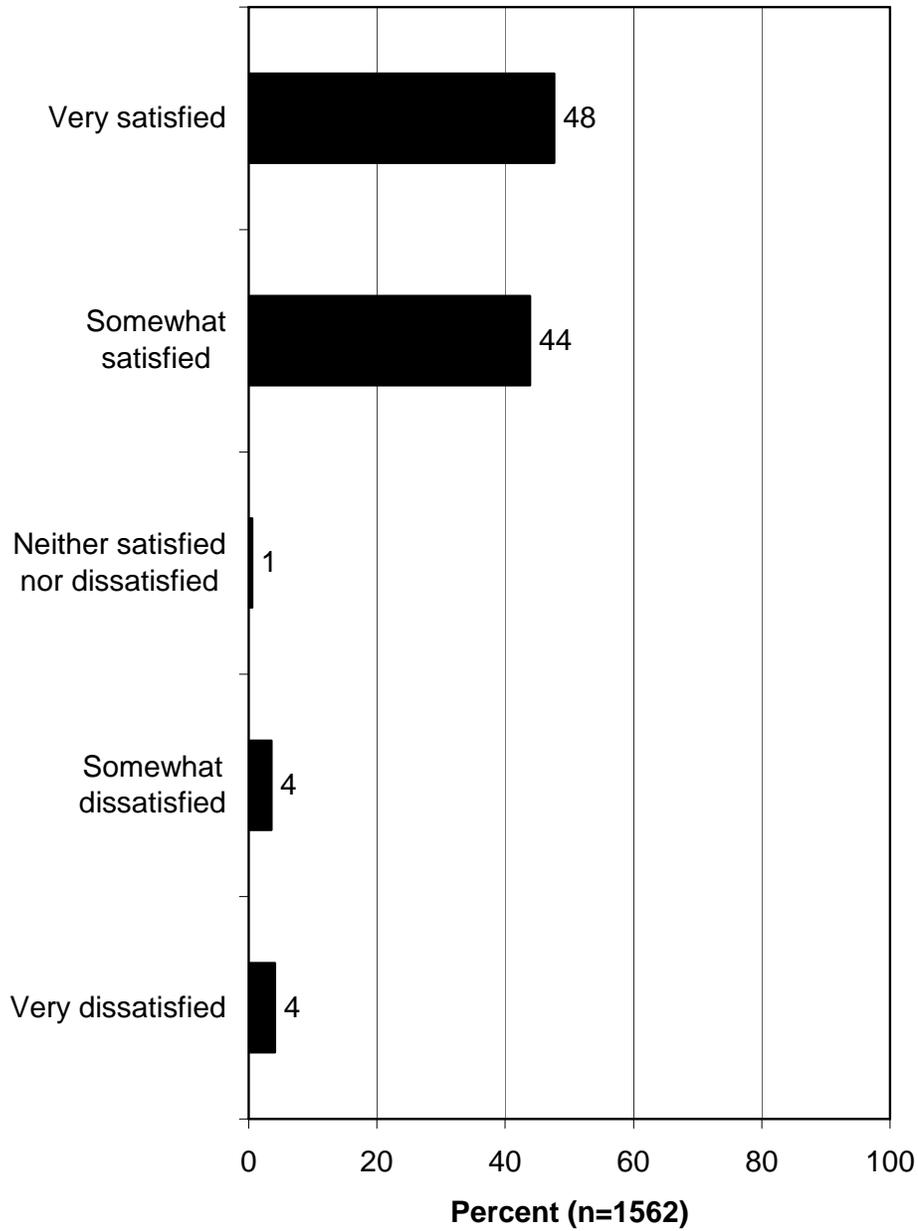
**Q173. Would you support or oppose a \$5 youth fishing license required for youth ages 12 to 15?**



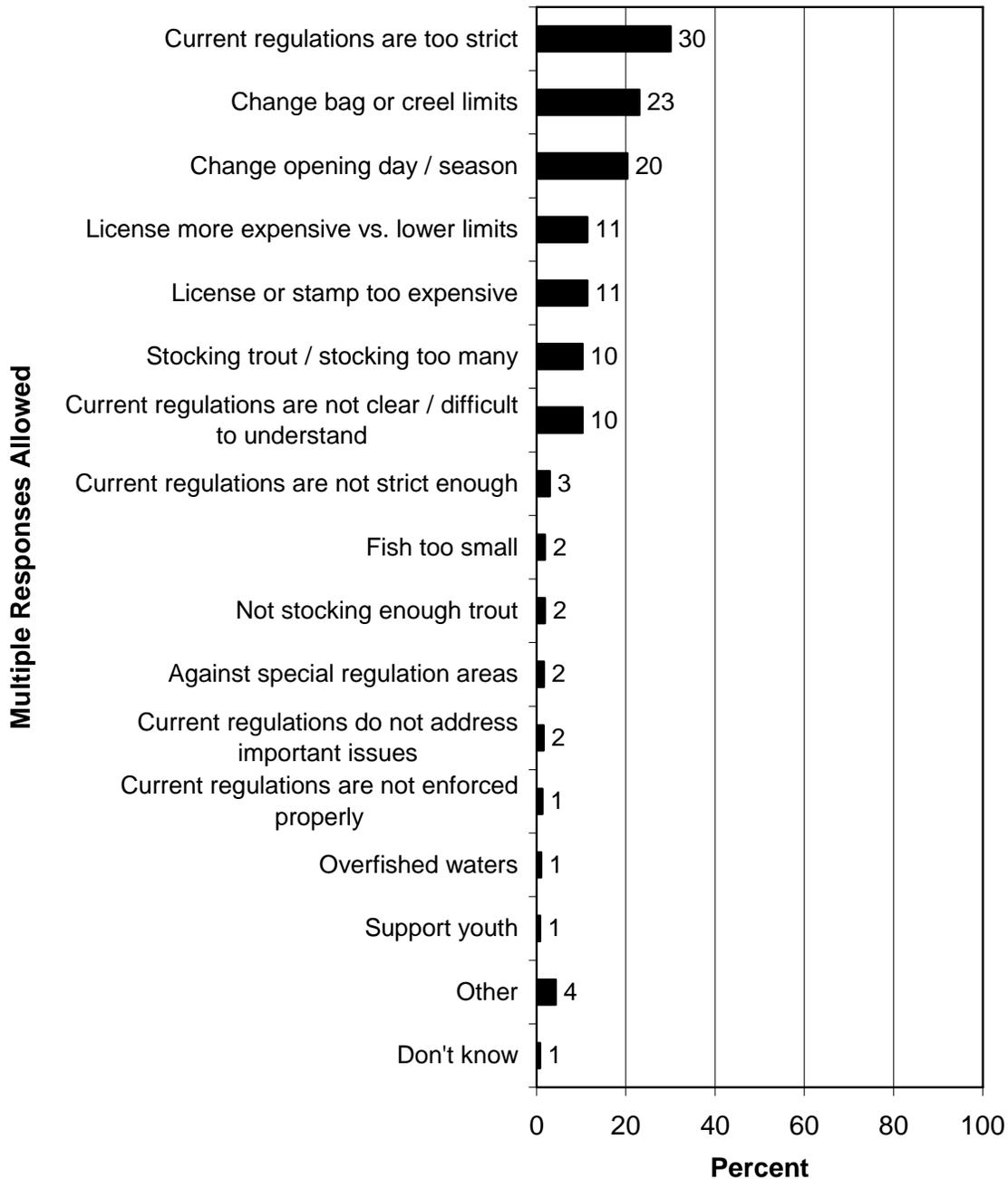
## OPINIONS ON REGULATIONS

- Satisfaction with the current trout fishing regulations in Pennsylvania is high: 92% are satisfied, and only 8% are dissatisfied.
  - Common reasons for being dissatisfied are that the current regulations are too strict, that the angler does not like the current creel limits, that the angler does not like the current opening day or season dates, that the licenses and stamps are too expensive, that the Commission is stocking too much, and that the regulations are difficult to understand.
  
- An overwhelming majority of trout anglers (89%) agree that Pennsylvania's Summary Book of Fishing Laws and Regulations is clear and easy to understand; only 8% disagree.
  - Common reasons for *disagreeing* that the Summary Book of Fishing Laws and Regulations is clear and easy to understand is that the wording is hard to understand/that the book is not well organized, that the respondent has trouble finding information, and that the book is too long.
  
- The large majority of Pennsylvania trout anglers (81%) support the current regulation that permits trout fishing on a no-harvest basis on unstocked streams between Labor Day and the following opening day of trout season; 10% oppose.
  - Common reasons for opposing the regulation is that respondents believe that catch-and-release kills many of the fish and that the respondent wants to harvest fish.
  
- The overwhelming majority of Pennsylvania trout anglers (82%) support the current creel limit of 5 trout per day, and only 16% oppose the current limit. Those who oppose the current creel limit were asked a follow-up question about what they think the creel limit should be. Interestingly, those who oppose the current limit are evenly divided between those wanting a higher limit and those wanting a lower limit (the most commonly chosen limits were 8 trout and 3 trout). In total, 8% of all anglers want a higher creel limit, 82% support the current creel limit, and 8% want a lower creel limit.

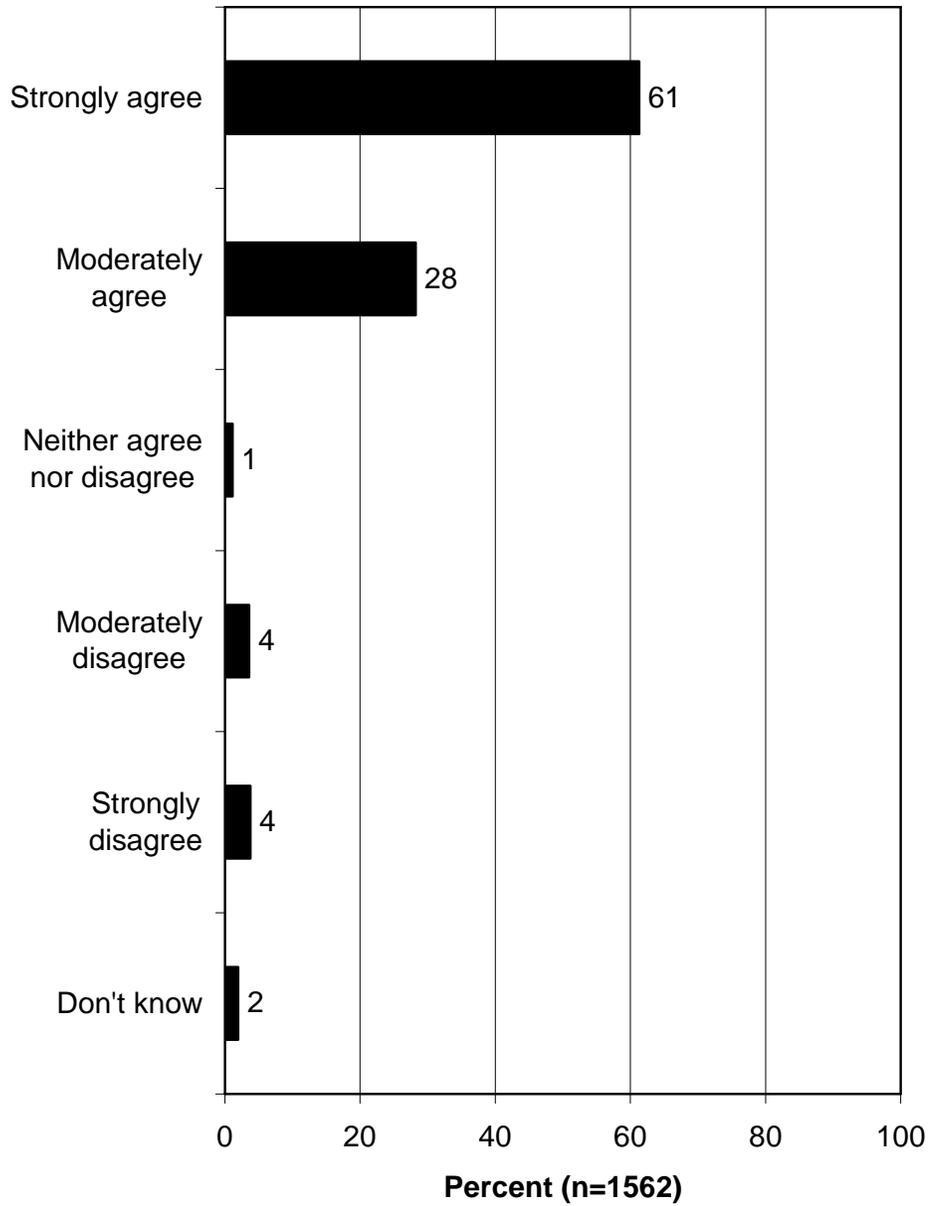
**Q134. Overall, are you satisfied or dissatisfied with the current trout fishing regulations in Pennsylvania?**



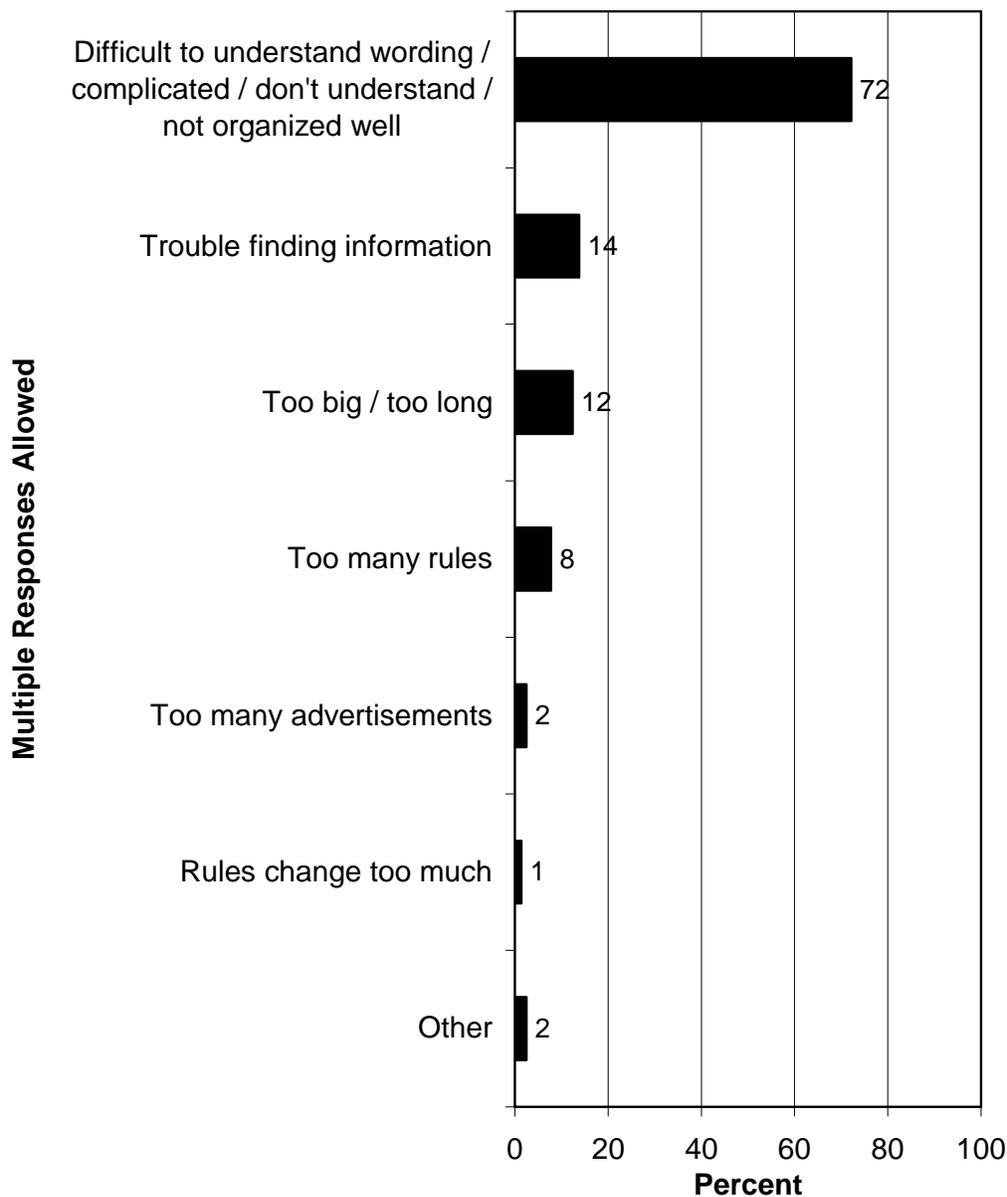
**Q137. Why are you dissatisfied with current trout regulations in Pennsylvania? (Asked of those who are dissatisfied with the current trout fishing regulations in Pennsylvania.)**



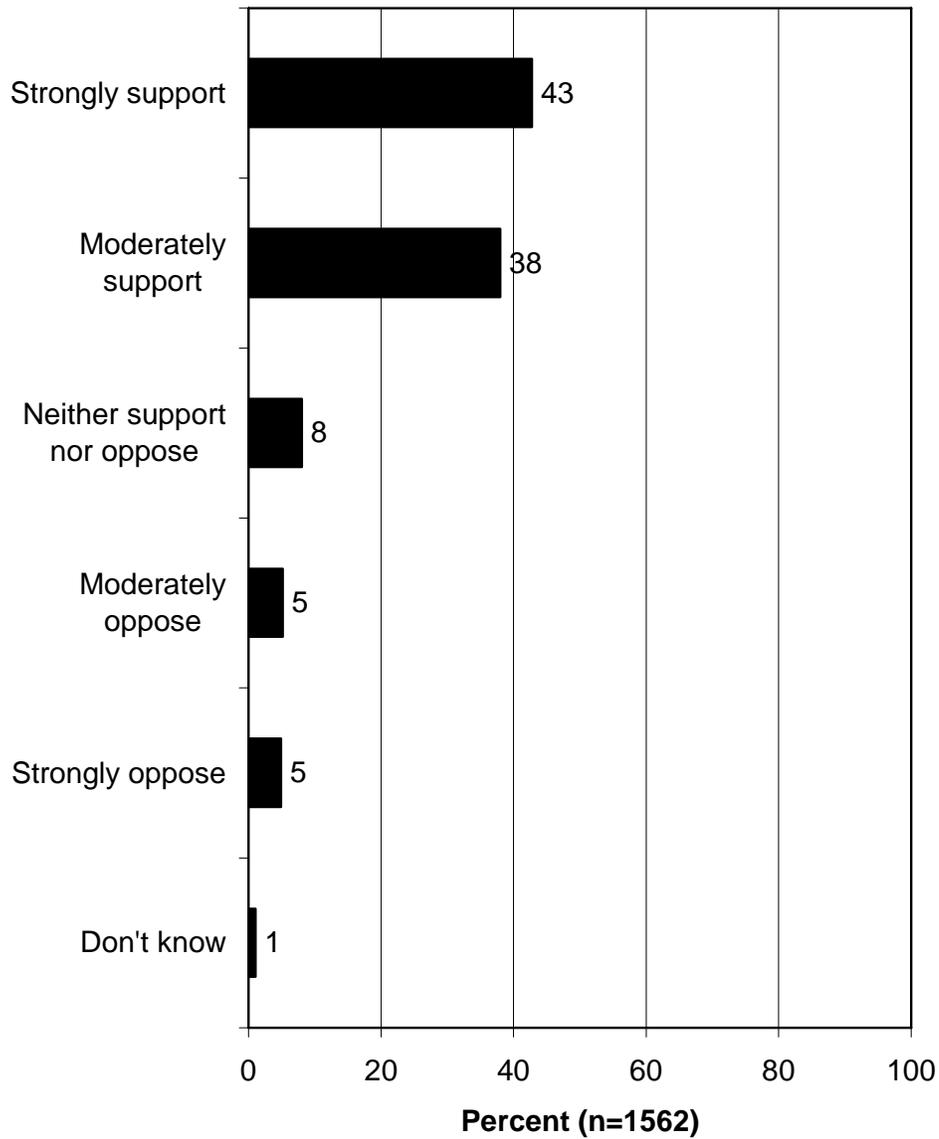
**Q145. Do you agree or disagree that Pennsylvania's Summary Book of Fishing Laws and Regulations is clear and easy to understand?**



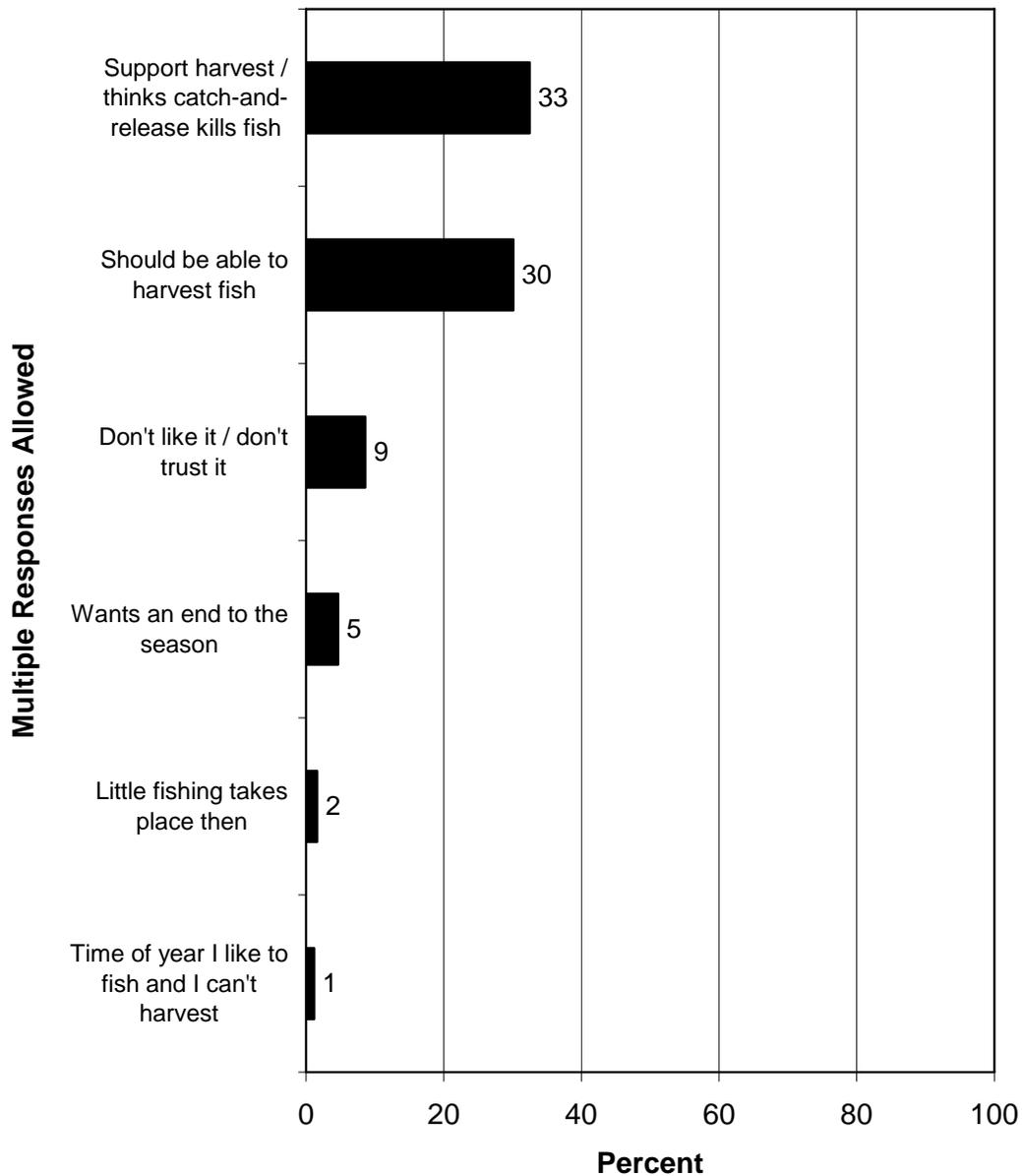
**Q146. Why do you disagree that Pennsylvania's Summary Book of Fishing Laws and Regulations is clear and easy to understand? (Asked of those who disagree that the Pennsylvania Summary Book of Fishing Laws and Regulations is clear and easy to understand.)**



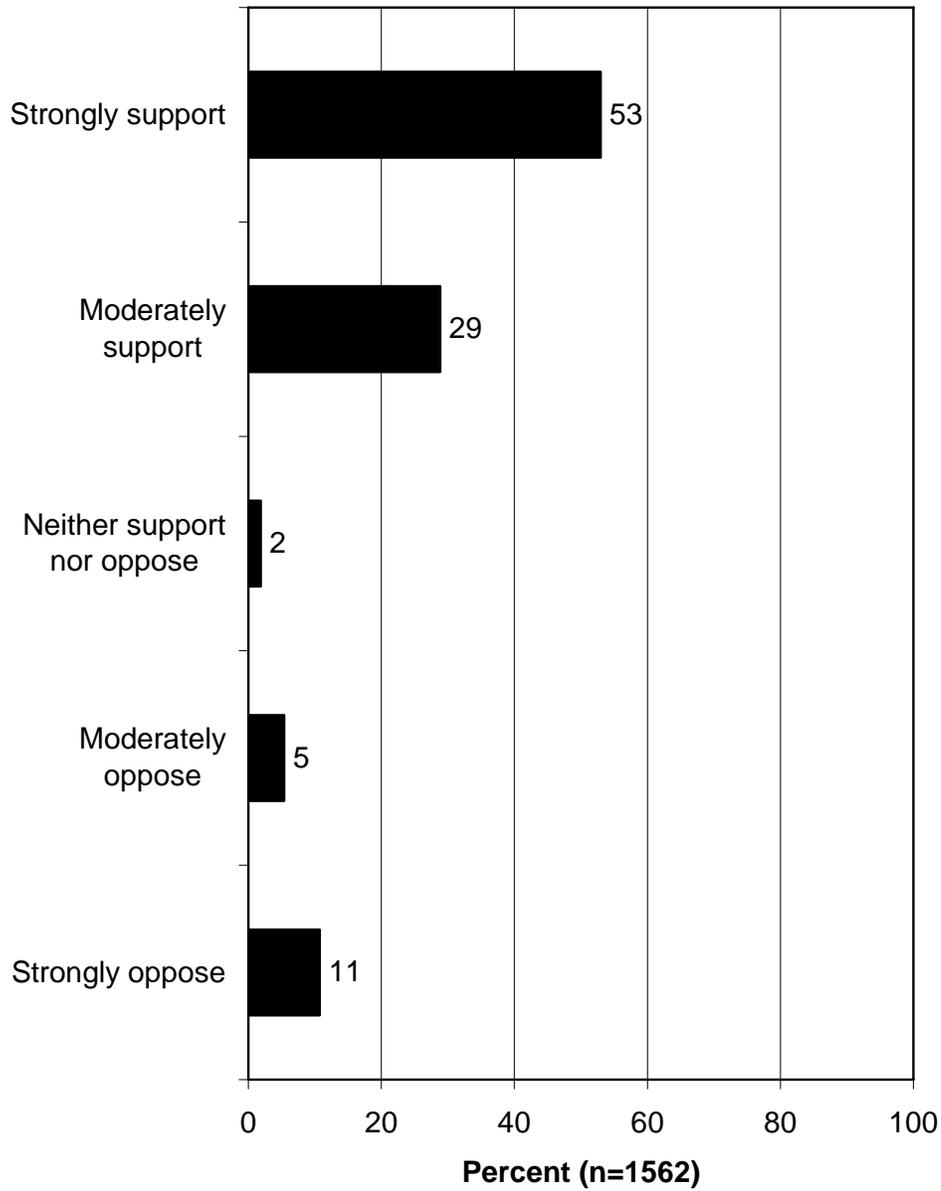
**Q143. Currently, trout fishing is permitted on a no-harvest basis on unstocked streams between Labor Day and the following opening day of trout season. Do you support or oppose this regulation?**



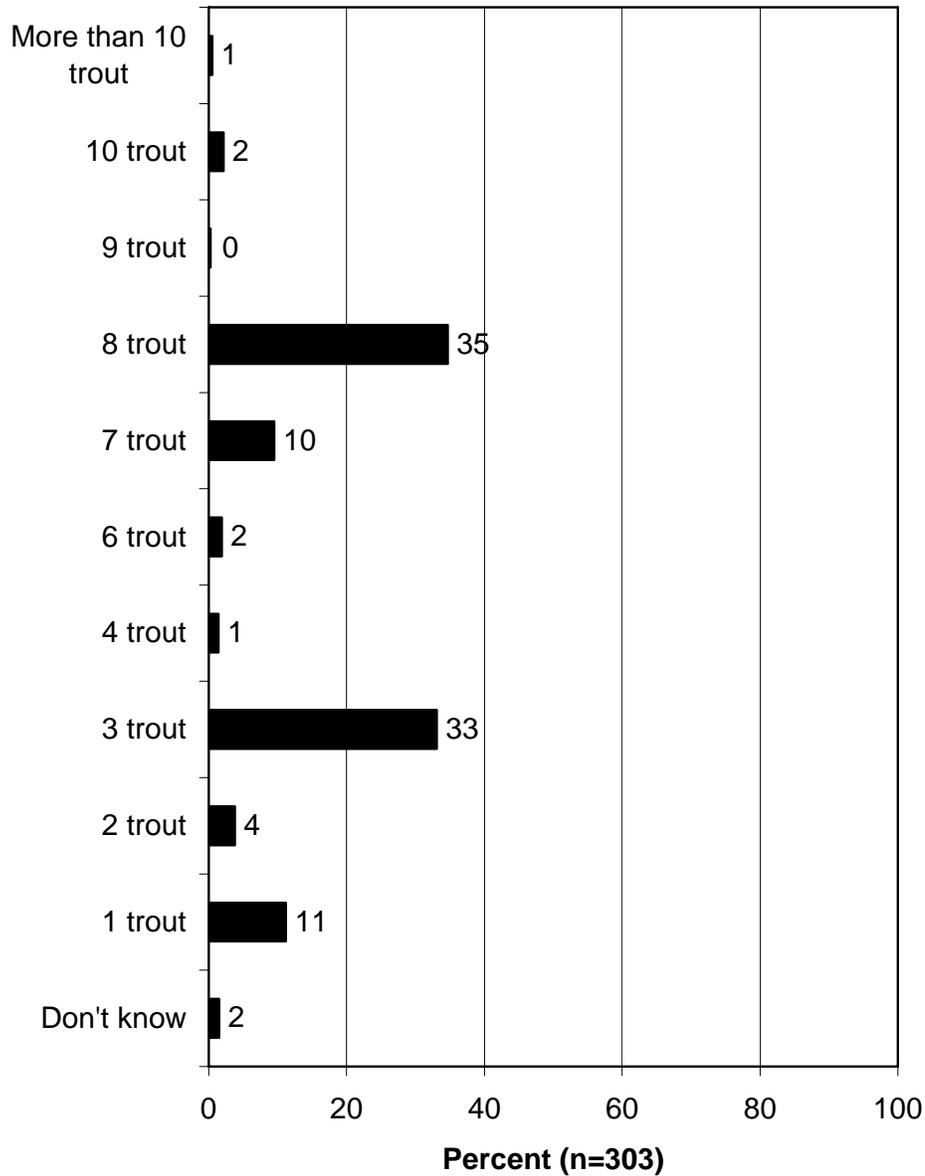
**Q144. Why do you oppose the regulation that trout fishing be permitted on a no-harvest basis on unstocked streams between Labor Day and the following opening day of trout season? (Asked of those who oppose the regulation.)**



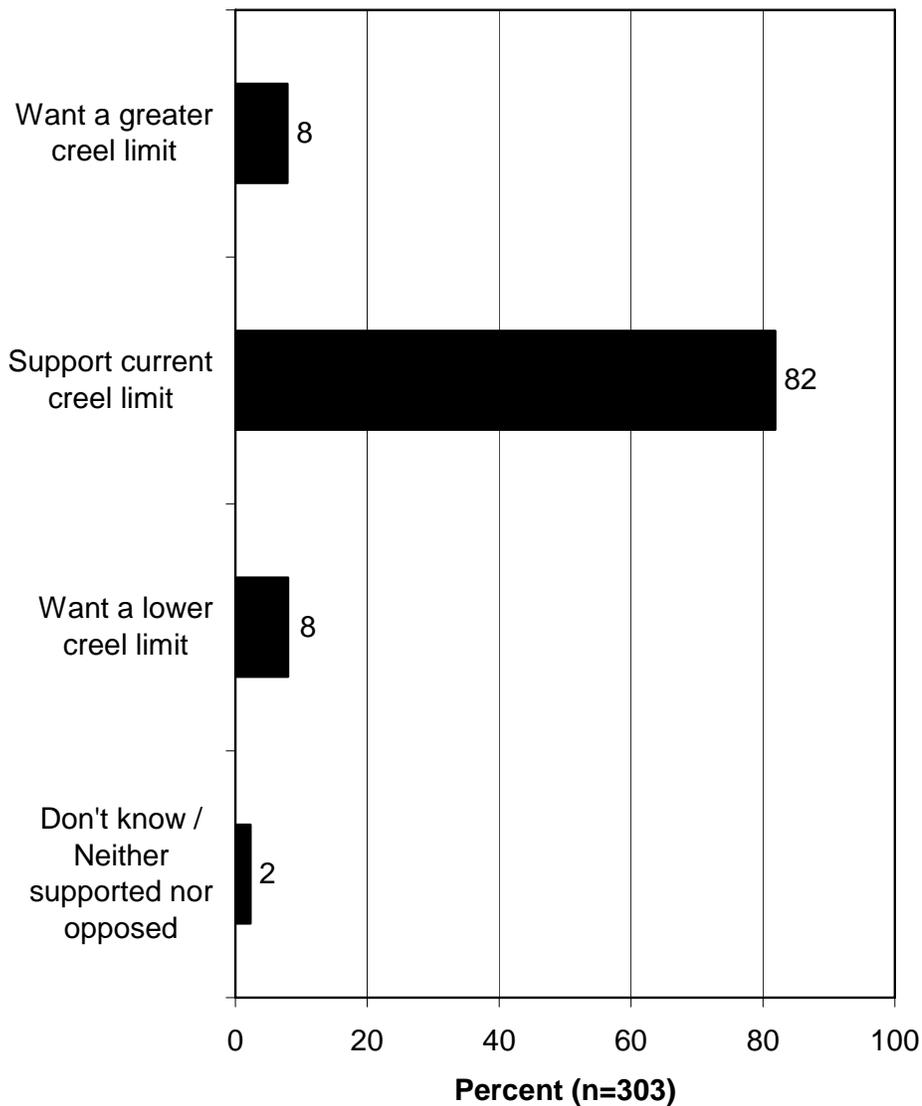
**Q140. Currently, the creel or bag limit in Pennsylvania is 5 trout per day. Do you support or oppose the current creel limit of 5 trout per day?**



**Q141. In your opinion, what should the creel limit for trout in Pennsylvania be? (Asked of those who oppose the current Pennsylvania creel limit of 5 trout per day.)**



**Combination of:**  
**Q140. Currently, the creel or bag limit in Pennsylvania is 5 trout per day. Do you support or oppose the current creel limit of 5 trout per day?**  
**and**  
**Q141. In your opinion, what should the creel limit for trout in Pennsylvania be?**

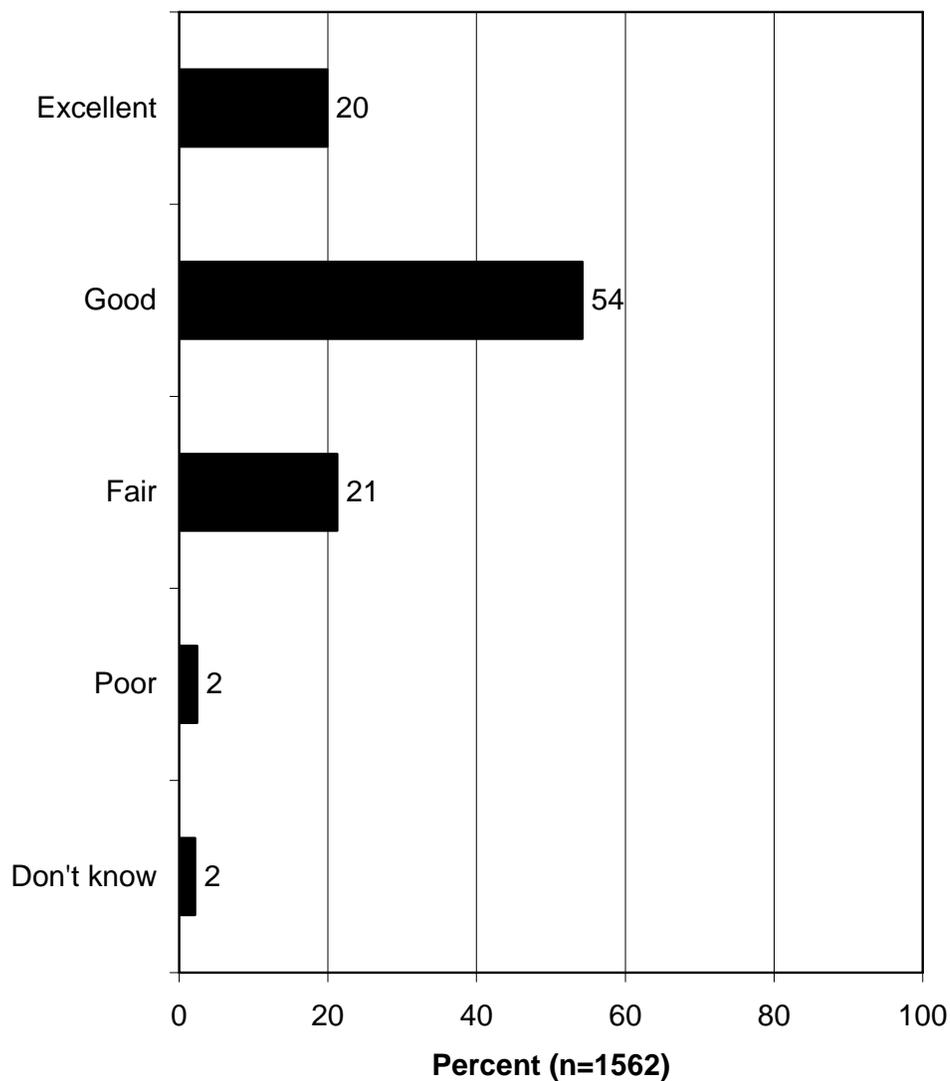


## **RATING OF THE PENNSYLVANIA FISH AND BOAT COMMISSION, AND RATINGS OF IMPORTANCE OF COMMISSION PROGRAMS**

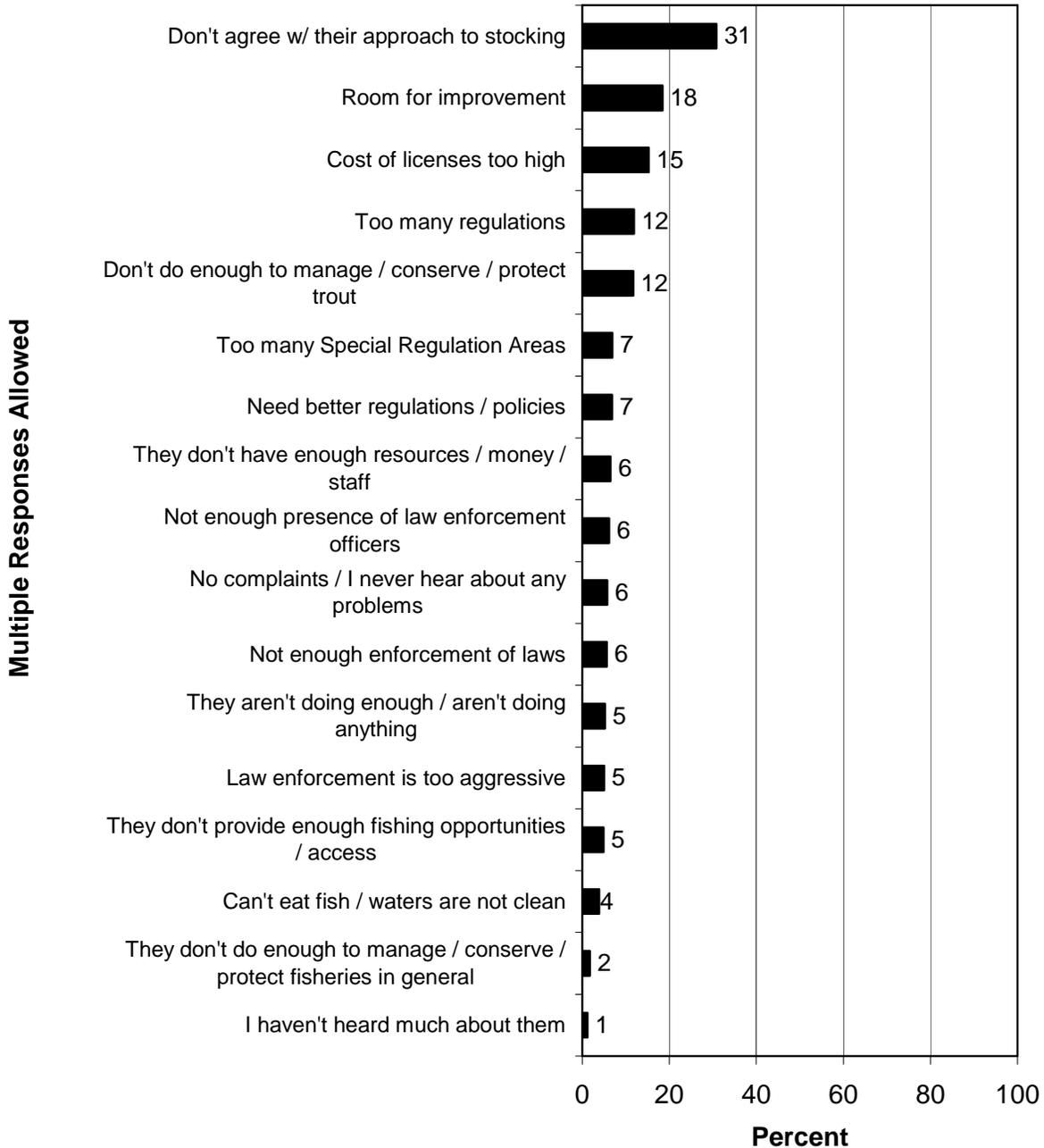
- Ratings of the overall performance of the Pennsylvania Fish and Boat Commission among trout anglers is positive: 74% give a rating of excellent or good, and only 23% give a rating in the lower half of the scale—fair or poor. Note that most ratings are within the moderate answers (good and fair) rather than the extreme answers (excellent or poor). Only 2% give a poor rating.
  - Those who gave a rating in the lower half of the scale (fair or poor) were asked why they gave the fair or poor rating. The most common reasons are that the respondent does not agree with the Commission’s approach to stocking, that the Commission has room for improvement, that the costs of licenses are too high, that there are too many regulations, and that the Commission does not do enough to manage, conserve, and protect trout.
  
- The survey asked trout anglers to rate the importance of seven program areas of the Commission. While all program areas are rated above the midpoint (on a scale of 0 to 10, where 10 is the highest importance), three program areas stand out with markedly higher means than the rest: improving habitat and water quality to make conditions more favorable for wild trout (mean of 9.07), stocking trout (mean of 8.65), and providing trout fishing opportunities (mean of 8.61). The lowest in importance is providing trophy trout fishing opportunities (mean of 6.23).
  - Another way to examine the relative importance of these is to graph the percentage who rated each program area at a “9” or a “10.” This graph is also shown, but its findings are similar to the findings using the means discussed above.
  
- After the “importance” questions above, the survey asked trout anglers to rate the performance of the Commission in the same program areas. The mean rating of performance for each program area is above the midpoint, although for four of them, not much higher than the midpoint (a mean ranging from 6.26 to 6.39). The best ratings of performance are for providing trout fishing opportunities (mean performance rating of 7.80), informing anglers on where to fish for stocked trout (mean of 7.45), and stocking trout (mean of 7.39).

- An analysis that compares mean ratings of importance and performance shows where performance appears to be commensurate with importance and where it does not appear to be commensurate. On the scatterplot, a diagonal line shows where performance and importance are equal. Items above/to the left of the line show where ratings of importance are exceeding ratings of performance. One item has an importance rating that is much higher than its performance rating: improving habitat and water quality for wild trout (importance mean of 9.07, performance mean of 6.39). Two other areas have importance ratings that are much higher than their performance ratings: acquiring stream access rights for anglers by purchasing land and easements (importance mean of 7.68, performance mean of 6.26) and stocking trout (importance mean of 8.65, performance mean of 7.39).

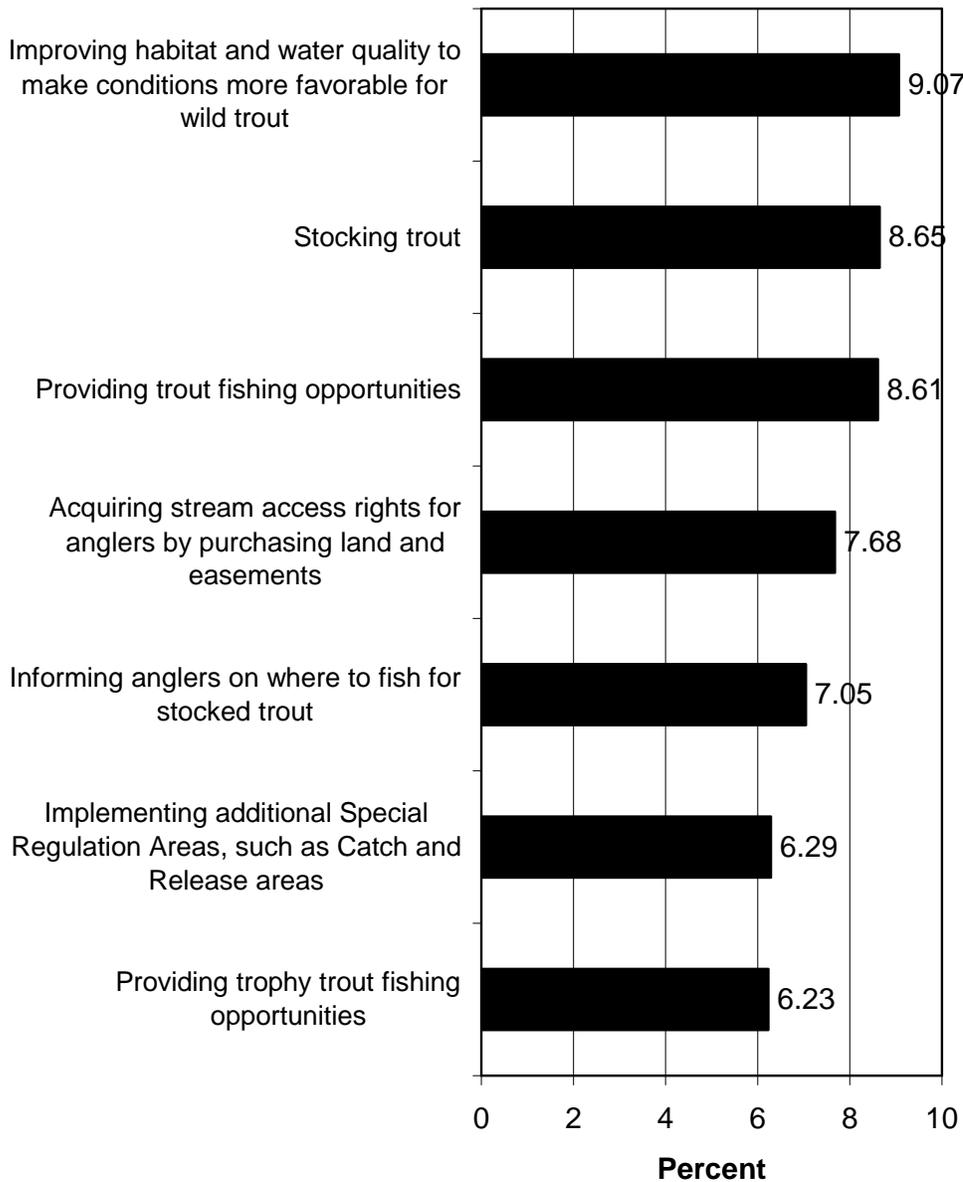
**Q176. The Pennsylvania Fish and Boat Commission is the agency responsible for managing fisheries and fishing in Pennsylvania, including trout fisheries, trout fishing opportunities, and trout fishing regulations. Would you rate the overall performance of the Commission as excellent, good, fair, or poor?**



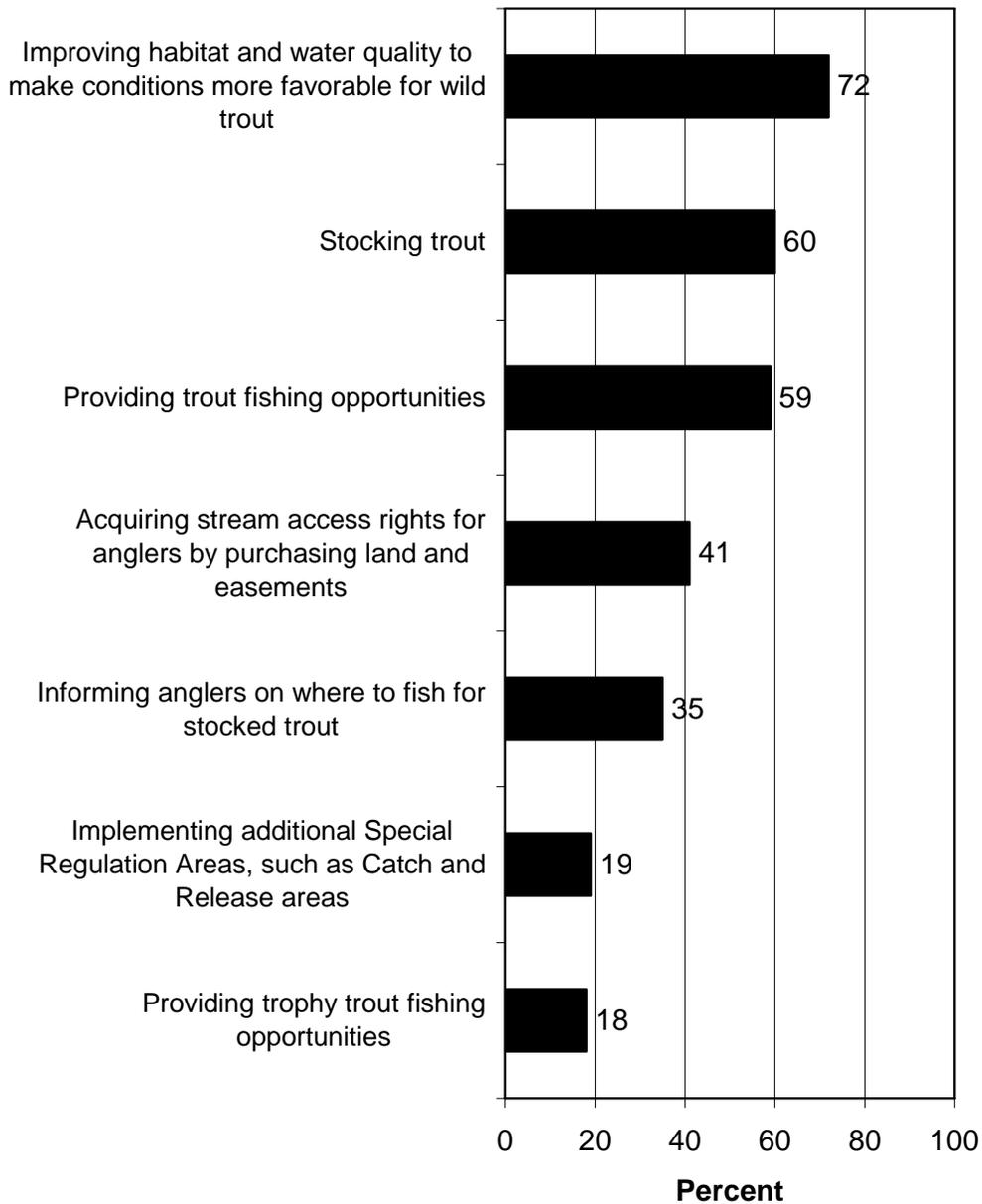
**Q179. Why would you rate the overall performance of the Commission as fair or poor? (Asked of those who rated the performance of the Pennsylvania Fish and Boat Commission as fair or poor.)**



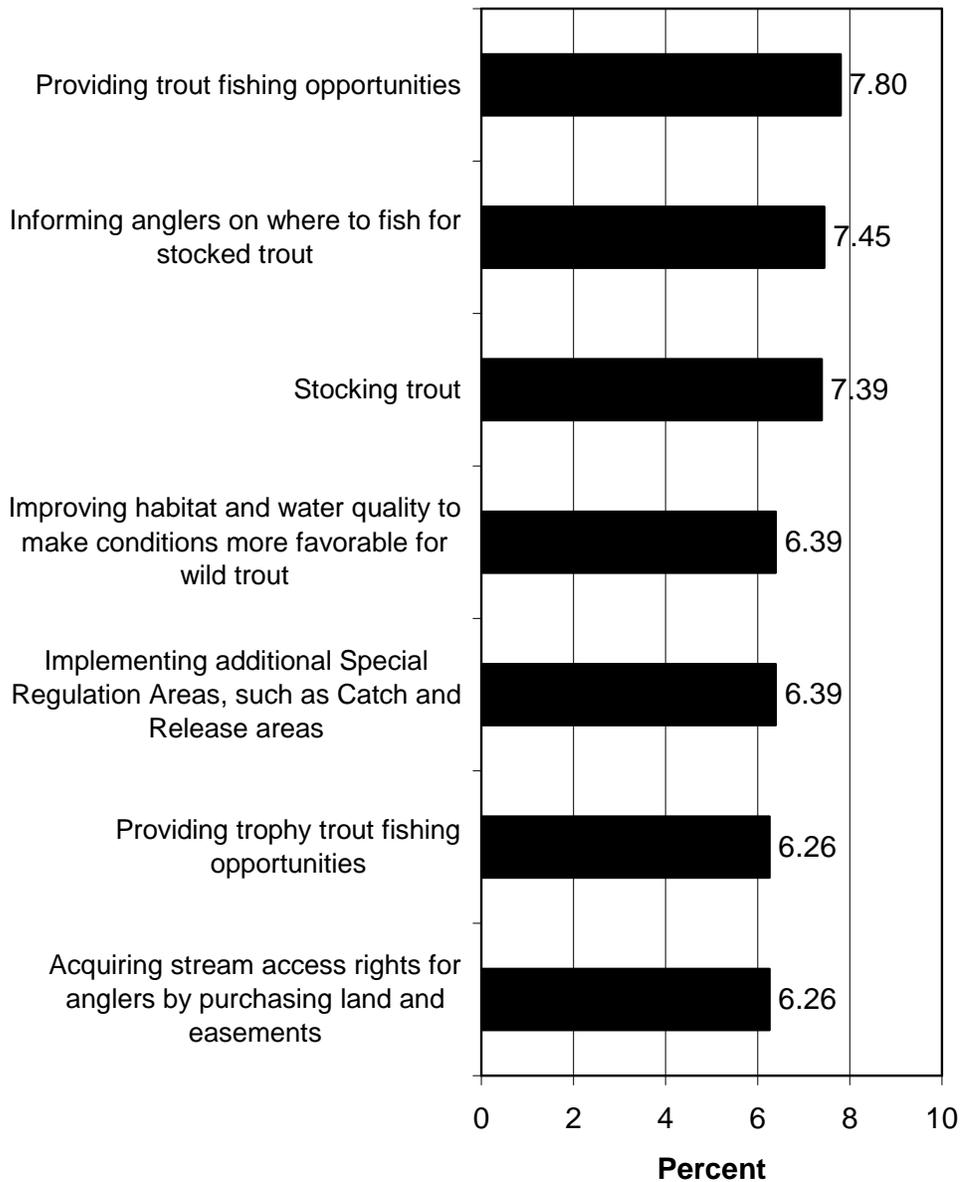
**Q183-189. On a scale of 0 - 10 where 0 is "not at all important" and 10 is "extremely important," the mean rating of importance of the following fishing program areas of the Pennsylvania Fish and Boat Commission.**



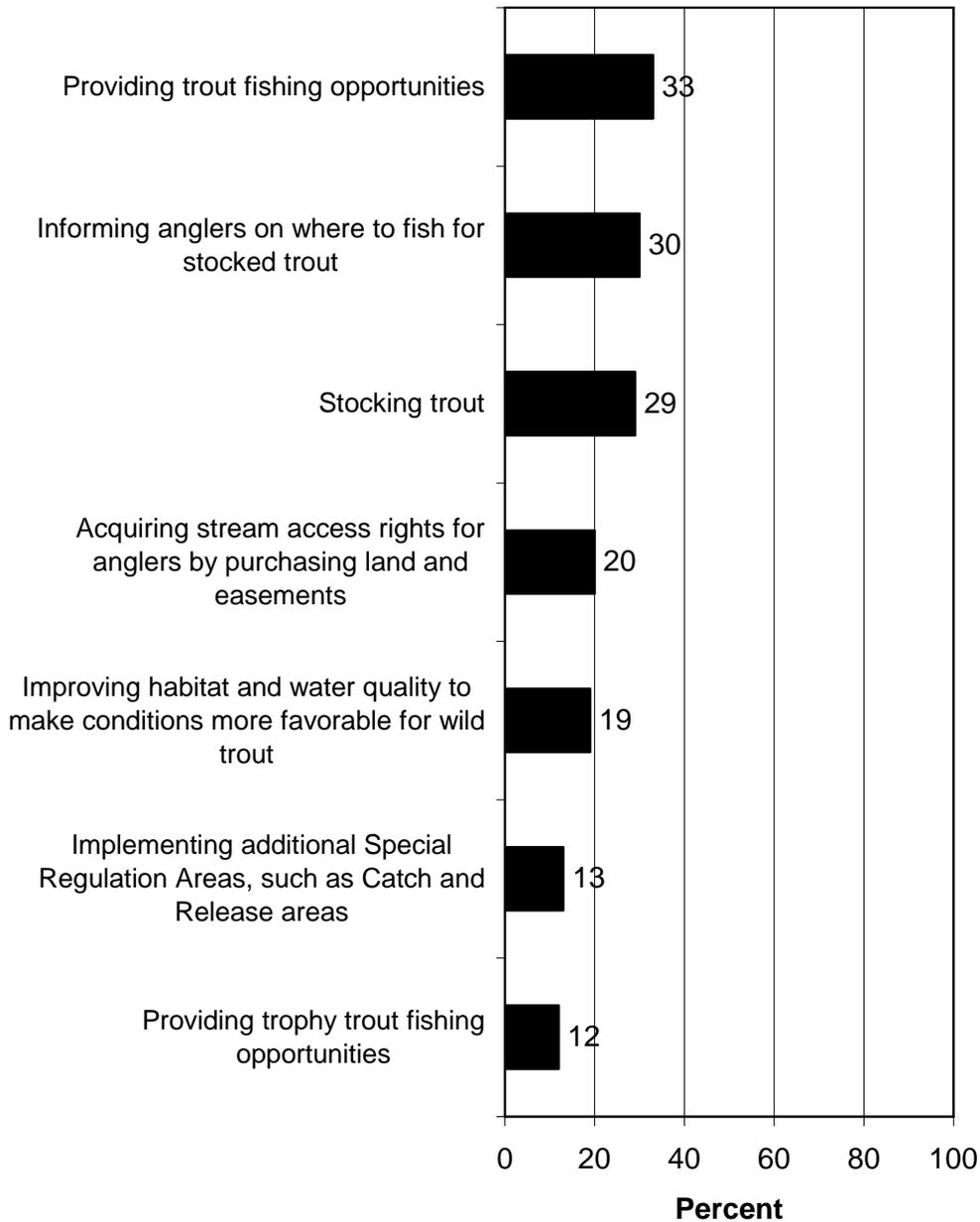
**Q183-189. On a scale of 0 - 10 where 0 is "not at all important" and 10 is "extremely important," the percent who rated the importance of the following fishing program areas of the Pennsylvania Fish and Boat Commission as a 9 or 10.**



**Q192-198. On a scale of 0 - 10 where 0 is "poor" and 10 is "excellent," the mean rating of performance of the Pennsylvania Fish and Boat Commission in the following fishing program areas.**

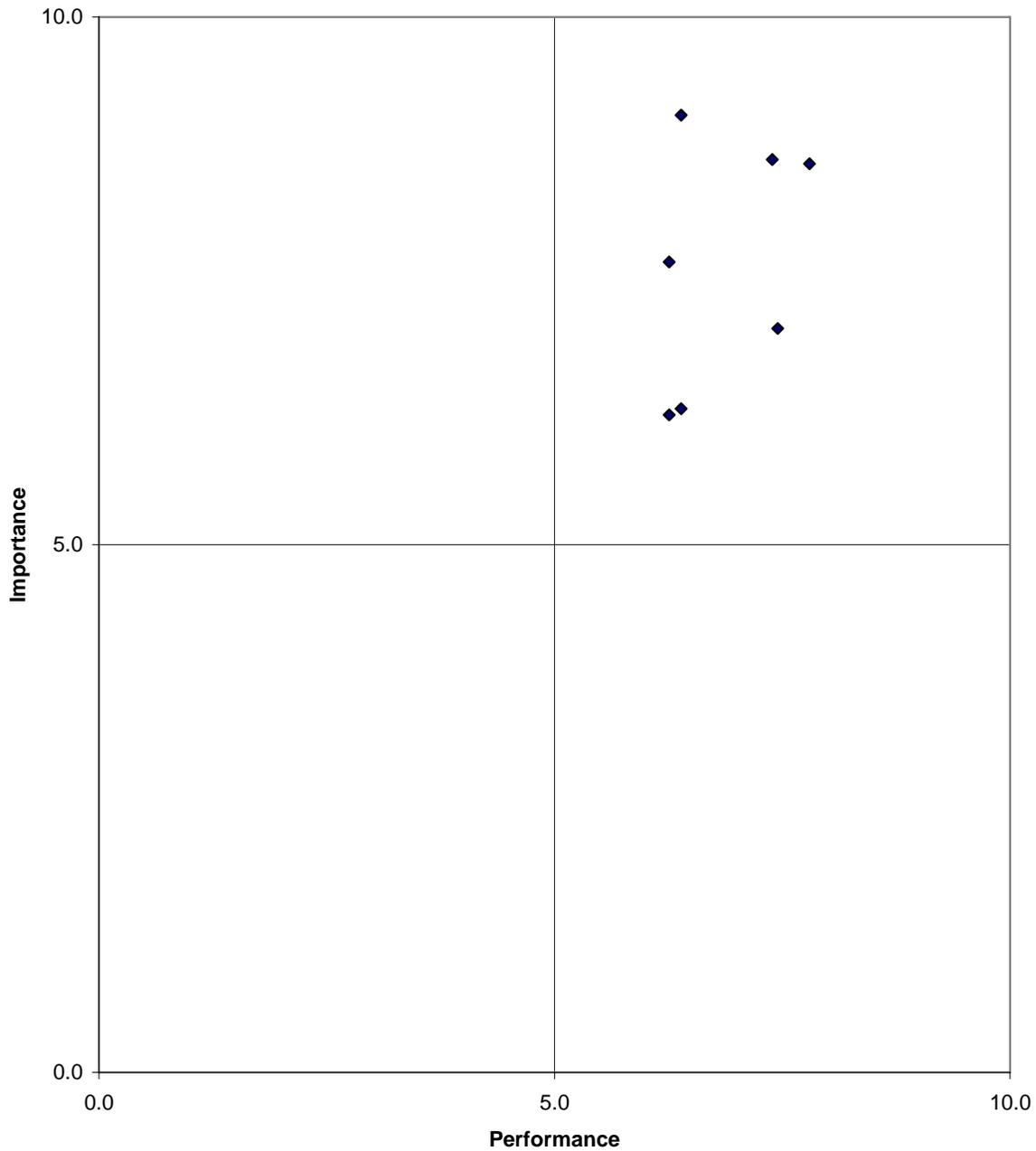


**Q192-198. On a scale of 0 - 10 where 0 is "poor" and 10 is "excellent," the percent who rated the performance of the Pennsylvania Fish and Boat Commission in the following fishing program areas as a 9 or 10.**



### Comparison of ratings of importance and performance of programs/efforts.

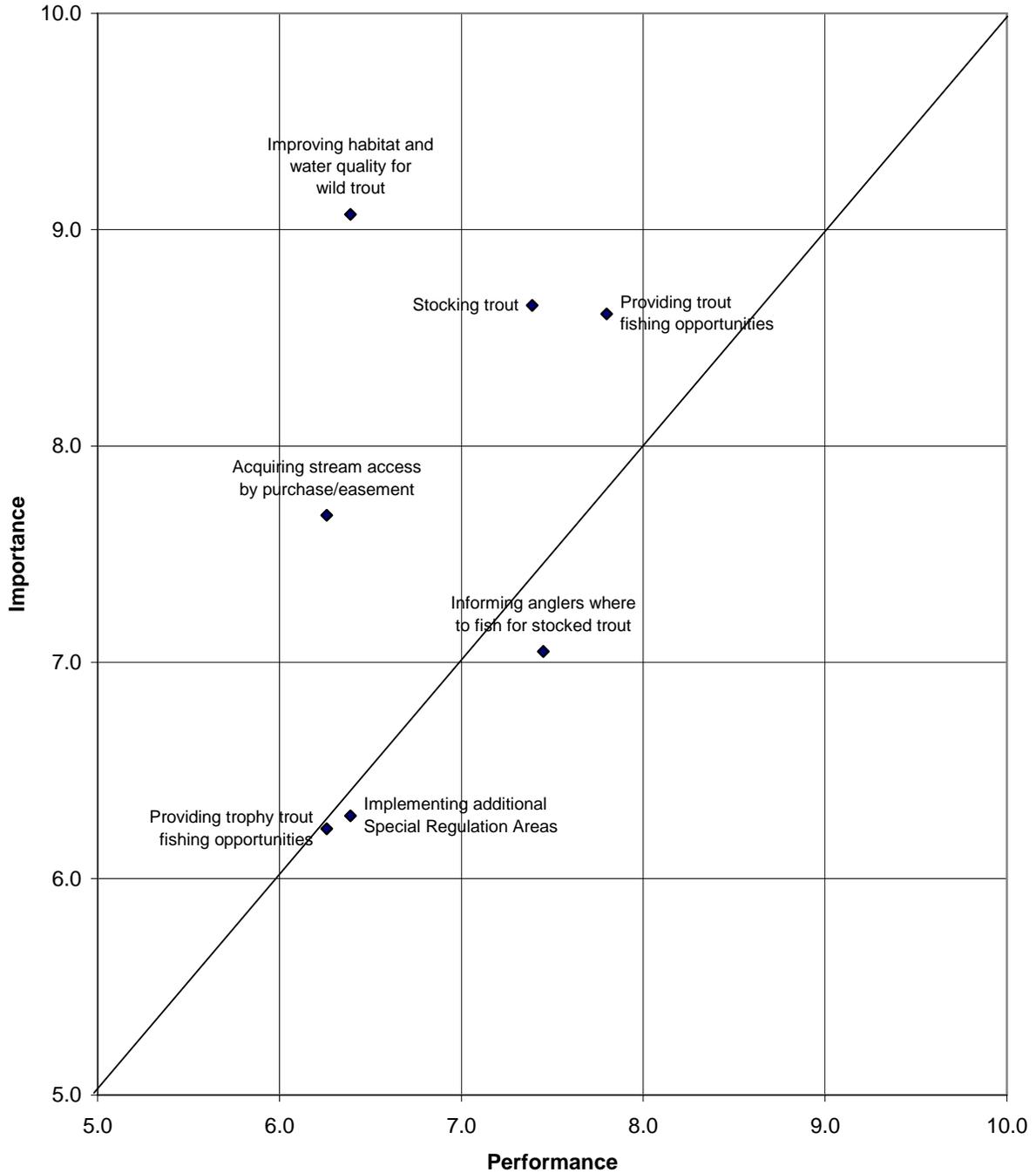
(Graph is correctly scaled.)



Note that the points on this graph are not labeled because of space considerations; this graph is only meant to provide an overall impression of where the points (that are labeled on the graph on the following page) fall on the entire scale. The graph that follows shows just the upper right quadrant of the entire scale.

### Comparison of ratings of importance and performance of programs/efforts.

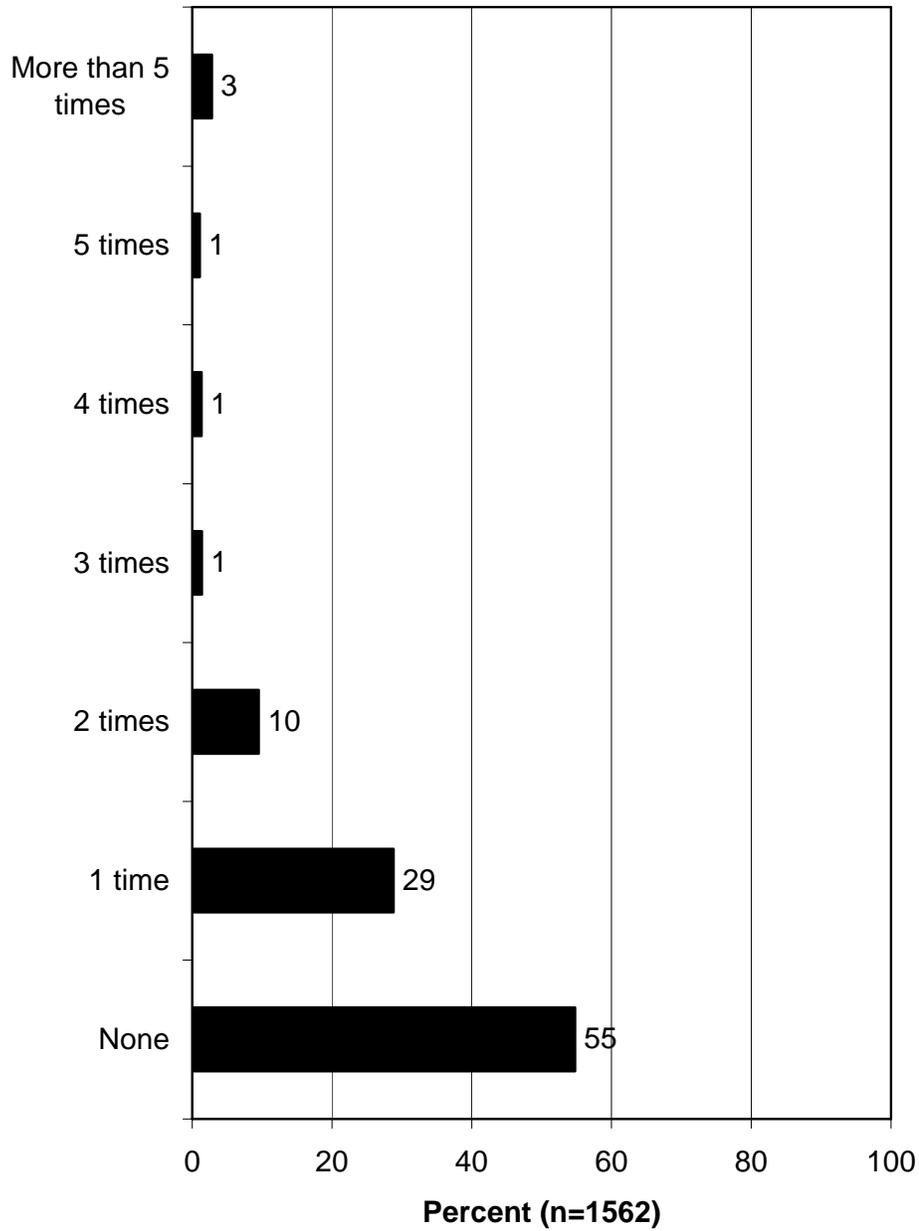
(Not graphed to scale for display purposes; shows only the upper right quadrant.)



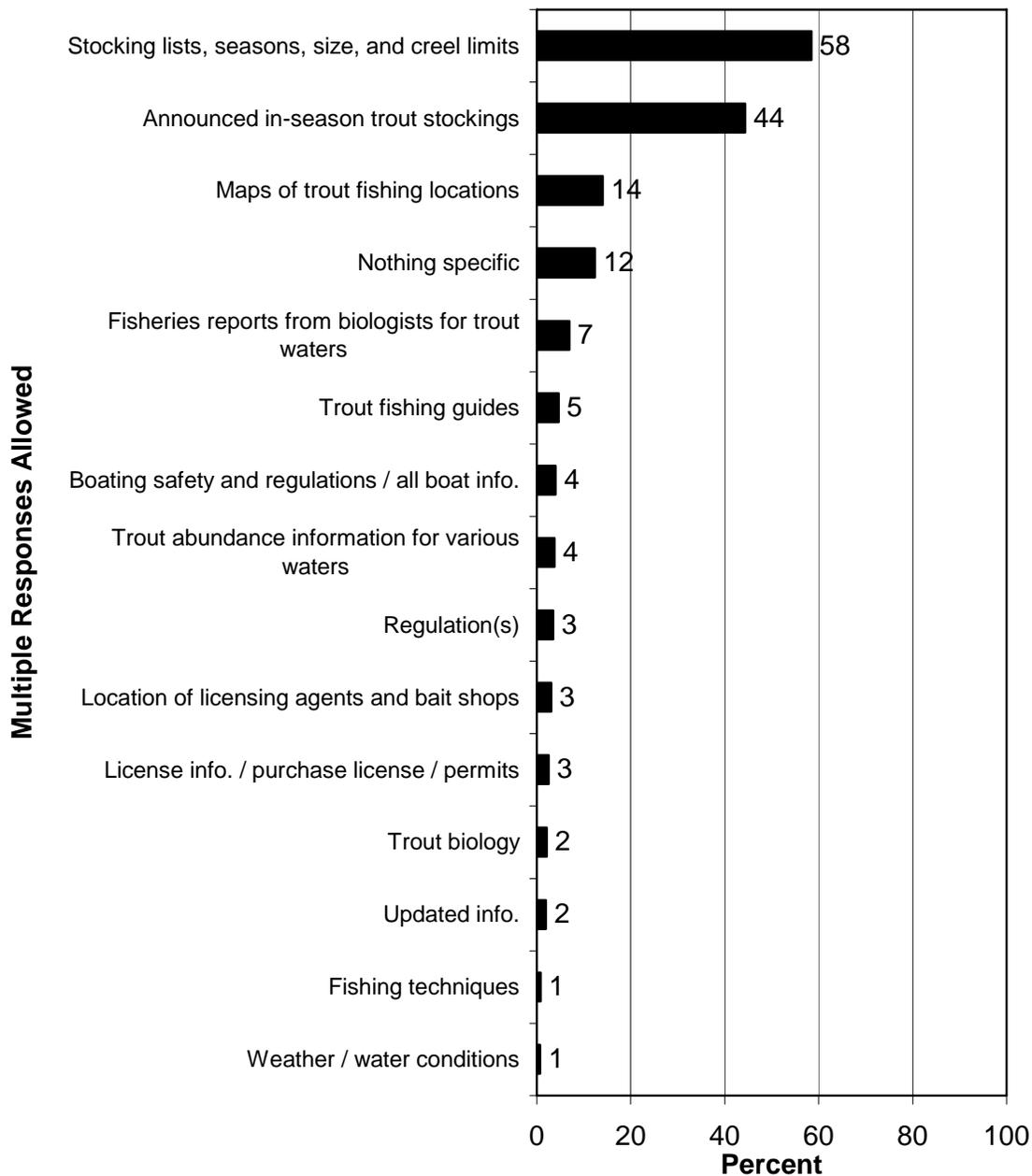
## **INFORMATION ABOUT FISHING IN PENNSYLVANIA**

- Most Pennsylvania trout anglers (55%) say that they do not typically use the Commission's website. Meanwhile, 39% typically use it one or two times a month (and a small percentage—6%—use it more often).
  
- Those who use the website most commonly seek information about stocking, seasons, size and creel limits; the announcements of in-season trout stockings; and maps of trout fishing locations.
  
- When asked what types of information on trout fishing the Commission should provide, respondents most commonly said information on stocking, seasons, size, and creel limits; in-season stocking announcements; maps of trout fishing locations; and information about abundance of trout at various locations.

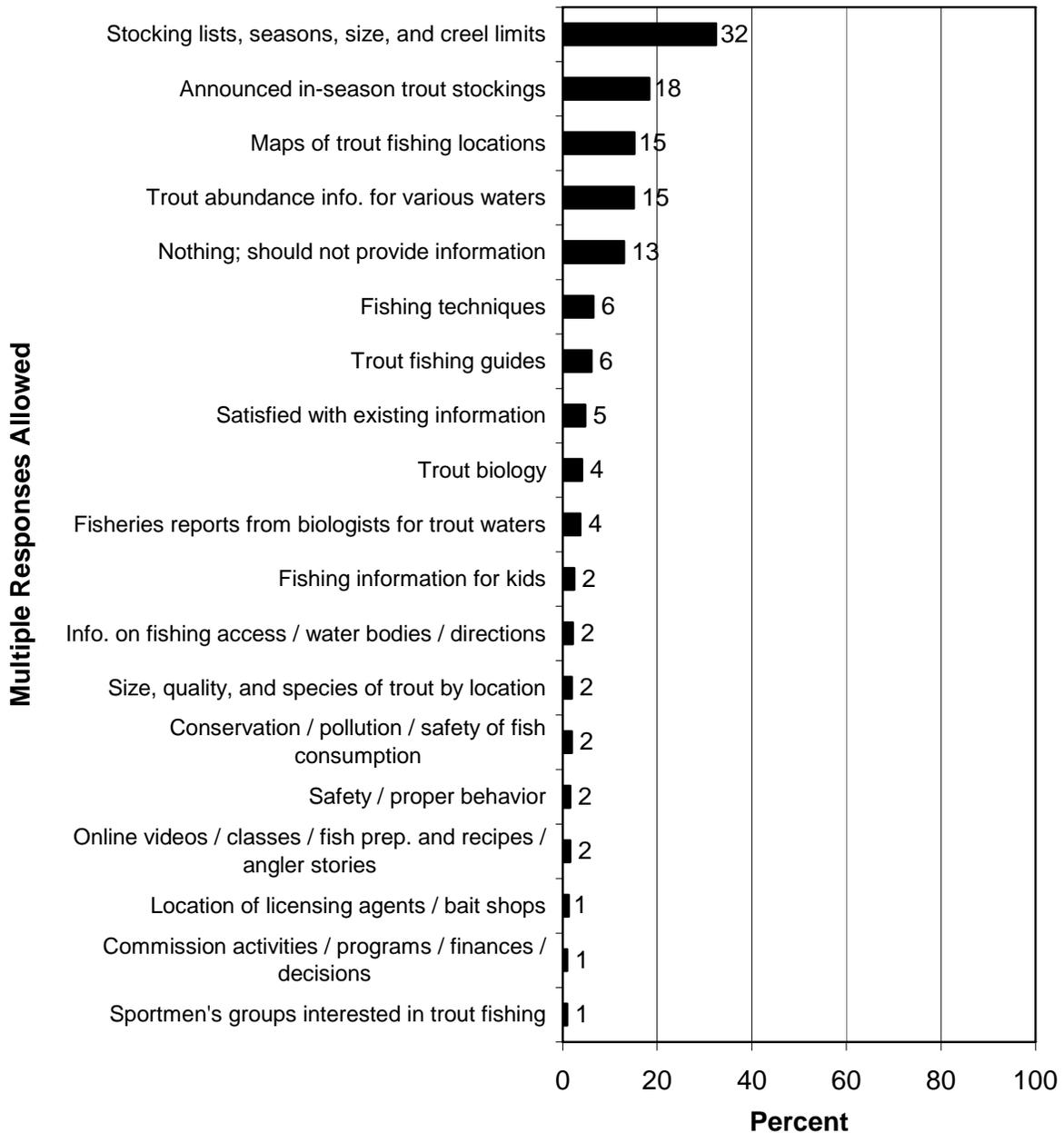
**Q219. Approximately how many times per month do you use the Pennsylvania Fish and Boat Commission's website?**



**Q223. What types of information or service have you looked for on the Pennsylvania Fish and Boat Commission's website? (Asked of those who use the Pennsylvania Fish and Boat Commission's website monthly.)**



**Q217. What types of information on trout fishing do you think the Pennsylvania Fish and Boat Commission should provide to trout anglers? We are not sending out information at this time; we are simply measuring interest.**



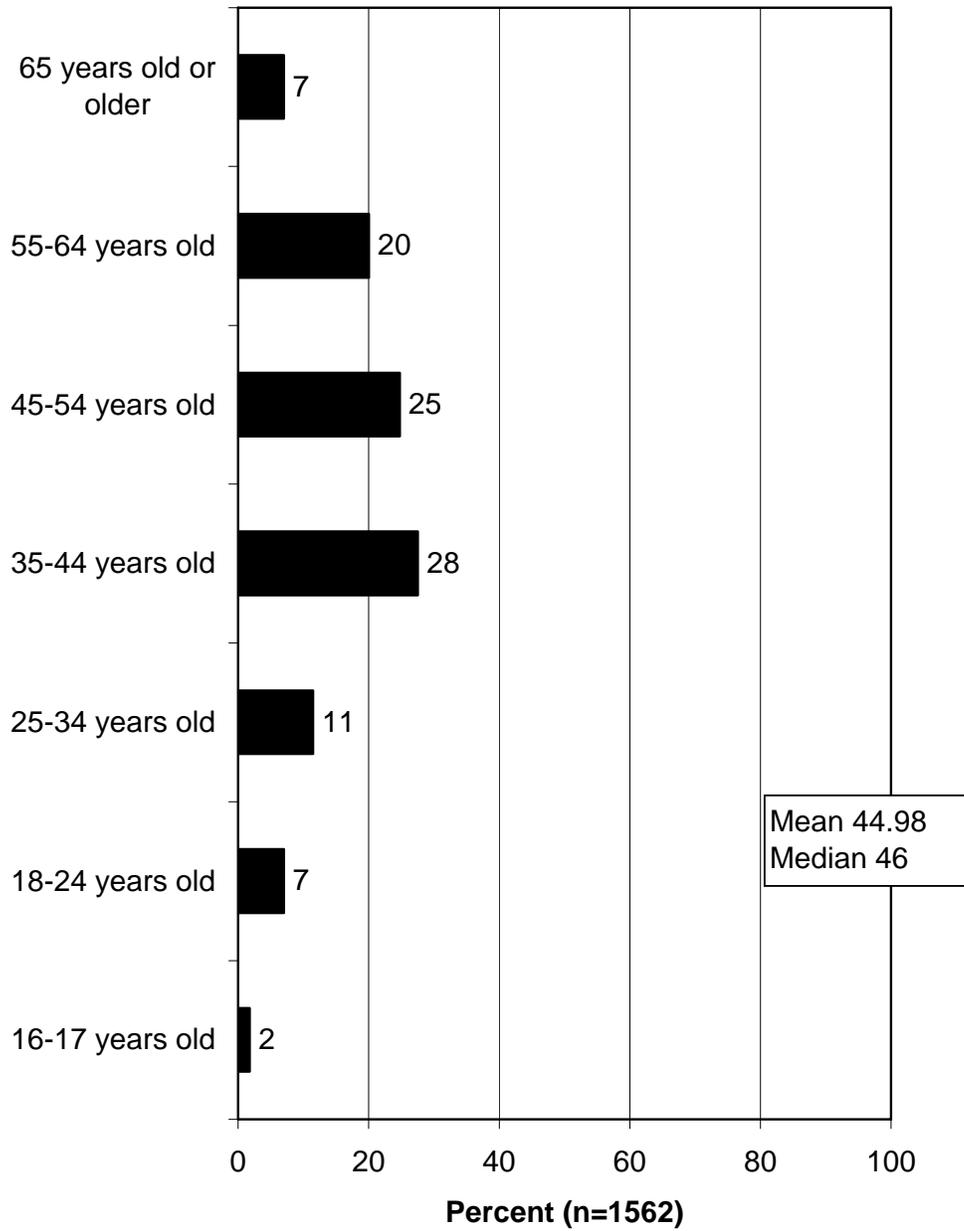
## DEMOGRAPHIC CHARACTERISTICS AND MEMBERSHIP IN ORGANIZATIONS

- The overwhelming majority of Pennsylvania trout anglers are male (91%); only 9% are female.
- Respondents ages are shown. The graph follows a bell curve with the peak in the 35 to 44 years old category. The mean is 44.98 years old; the median is 46 years old.
- A graph of the years that resident trout anglers have lived in Pennsylvania is shown, which follows a bell curve with the peak in the 31 to 40 years category.
- Among trout anglers, small cities/towns and rural areas predominate as the type of area in which they live (34% reside in a small city/town, and 34% reside in a rural area). Meanwhile, 31% live in a suburban or large city/urban area.
- Counties of residence are shown. The counties with the highest percentages of resident trout anglers are Allegheny (7.7%), Cumberland (4.5%), Butler (4.5%), Bucks (3.9%), Beaver (3.7%), Bedford (3.4%), Berks (3.2%), and Montgomery (3.2%).
- Among non-resident trout anglers, the most common states of residence are adjacent to Pennsylvania: Ohio (25%), New York (15%), New Jersey (13%), and Maryland (9%).
- The majority of Pennsylvania trout anglers (57%) have no children (17 years old or younger) living in their household; 43% have children living at home. Of those with children living at home, most have no more than two children.
- The survey asked three questions about membership in fishing or sportsmen's organizations, including one question specifically about Trout Unlimited. The most commonly named organization was a "local" or "state" club or group (specific name not given) (23%), followed by Trout Unlimited (7%), the North American Fishing Club (3%), the National Rifle Association (3%), Ducks Unlimited (2%), B.A.S.S. (2%), the North American Hunting Club (2%), and the National Wildlife Federation (1%). In total, 35% are a member of any fishing or sportsmen's organization.

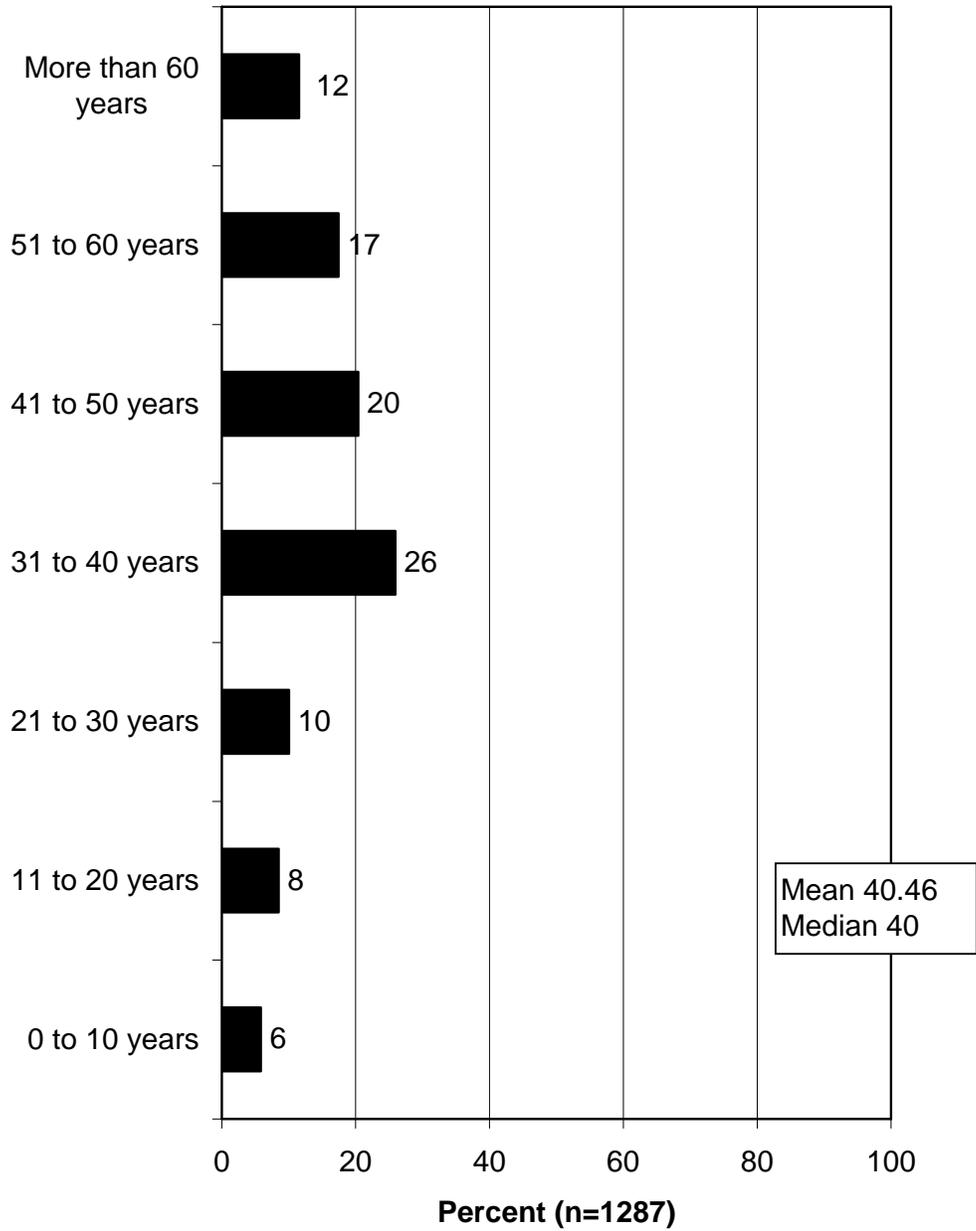
**Q246. Respondent's gender (not asked, but observed by interviewer).**



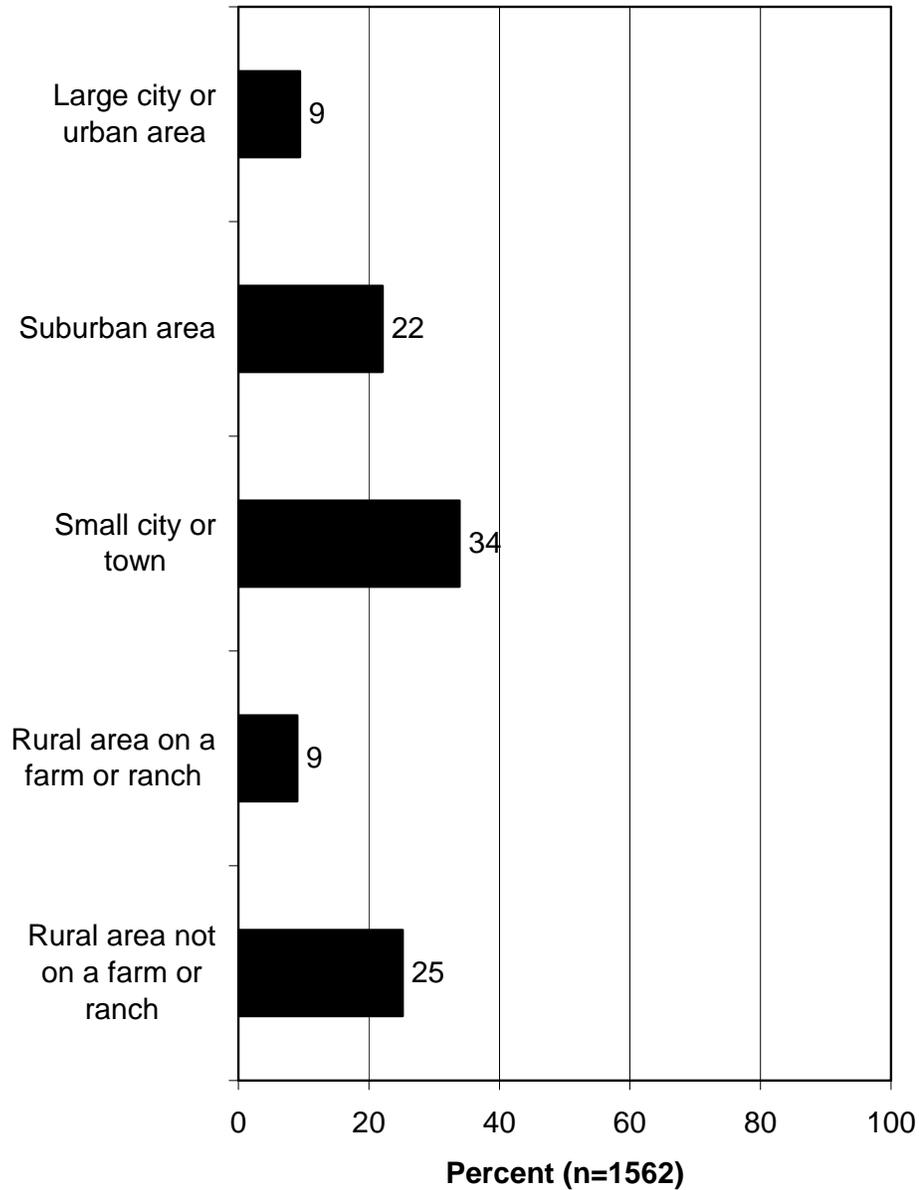
### Q240. Respondent's age.



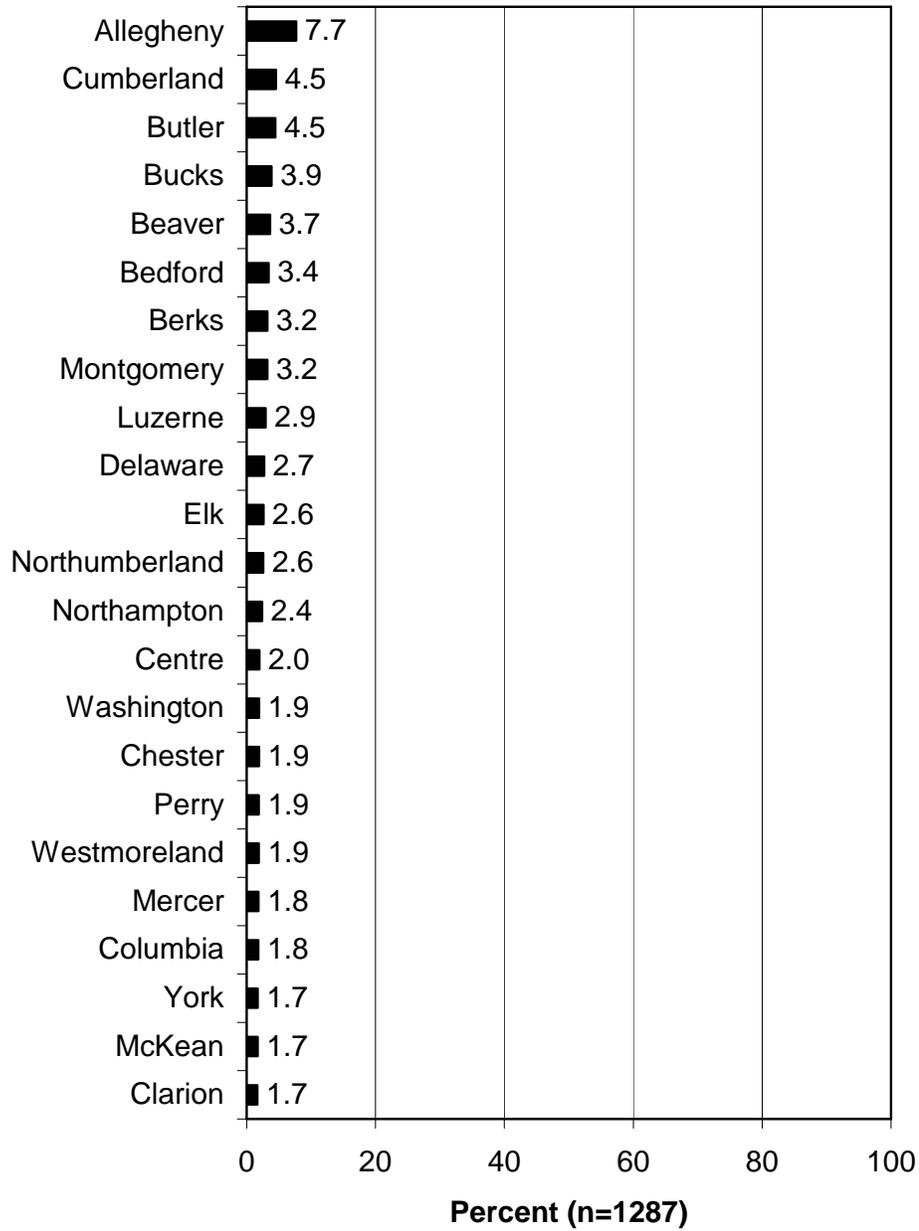
**Q232. How many years have you lived in Pennsylvania? (Asked of Pennsylvania residents.)**



**Q239. Do you consider your place of residence to be a large city or urban area, a suburban area, a small city or town, a rural area on a farm or ranch, or a rural area not on a farm or ranch?**



**Q234. In what county do you live? (Asked of Pennsylvania residents.) (Part 1.)**



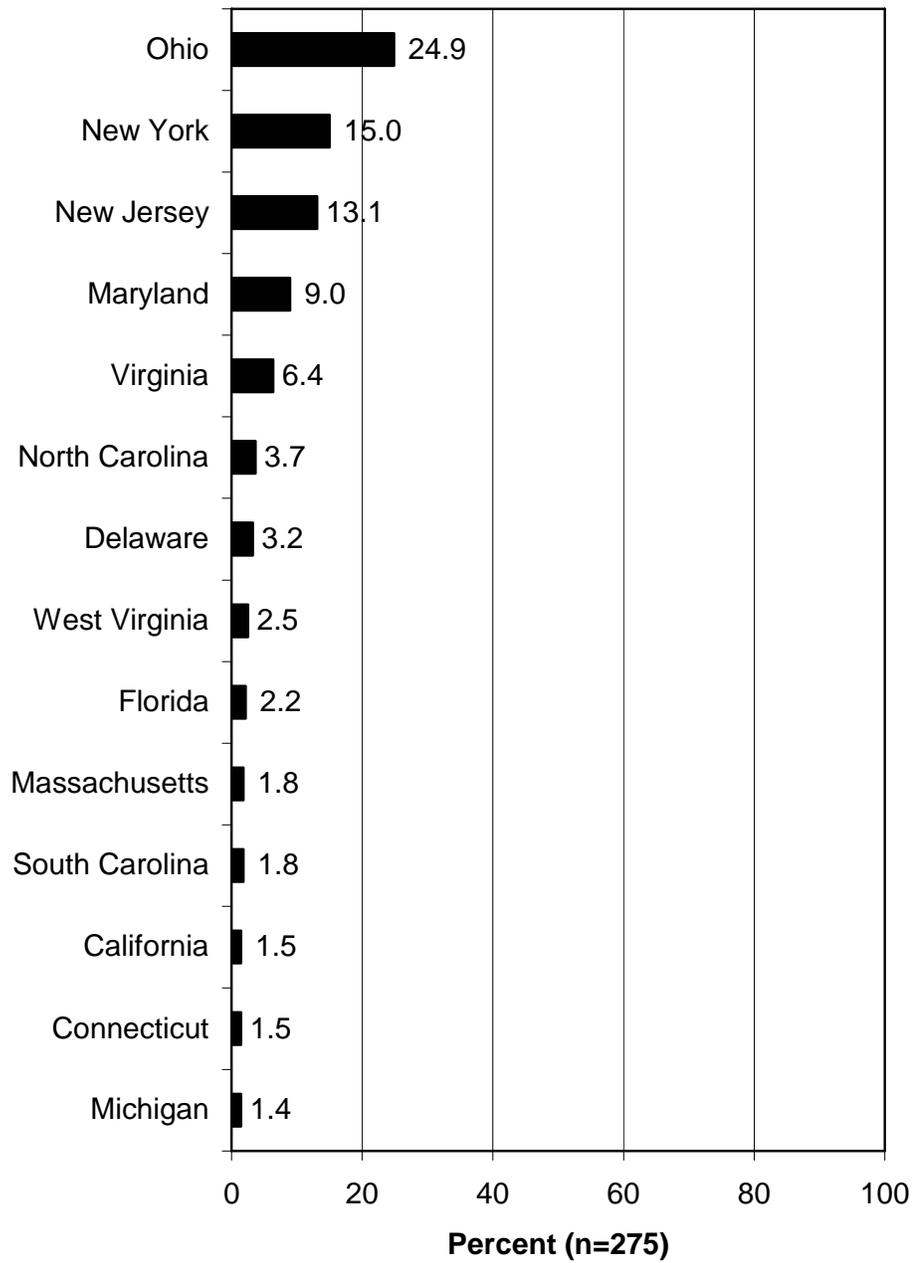
**Q234. In what county do you live? (Asked of Pennsylvania residents.) (Part 2.)**



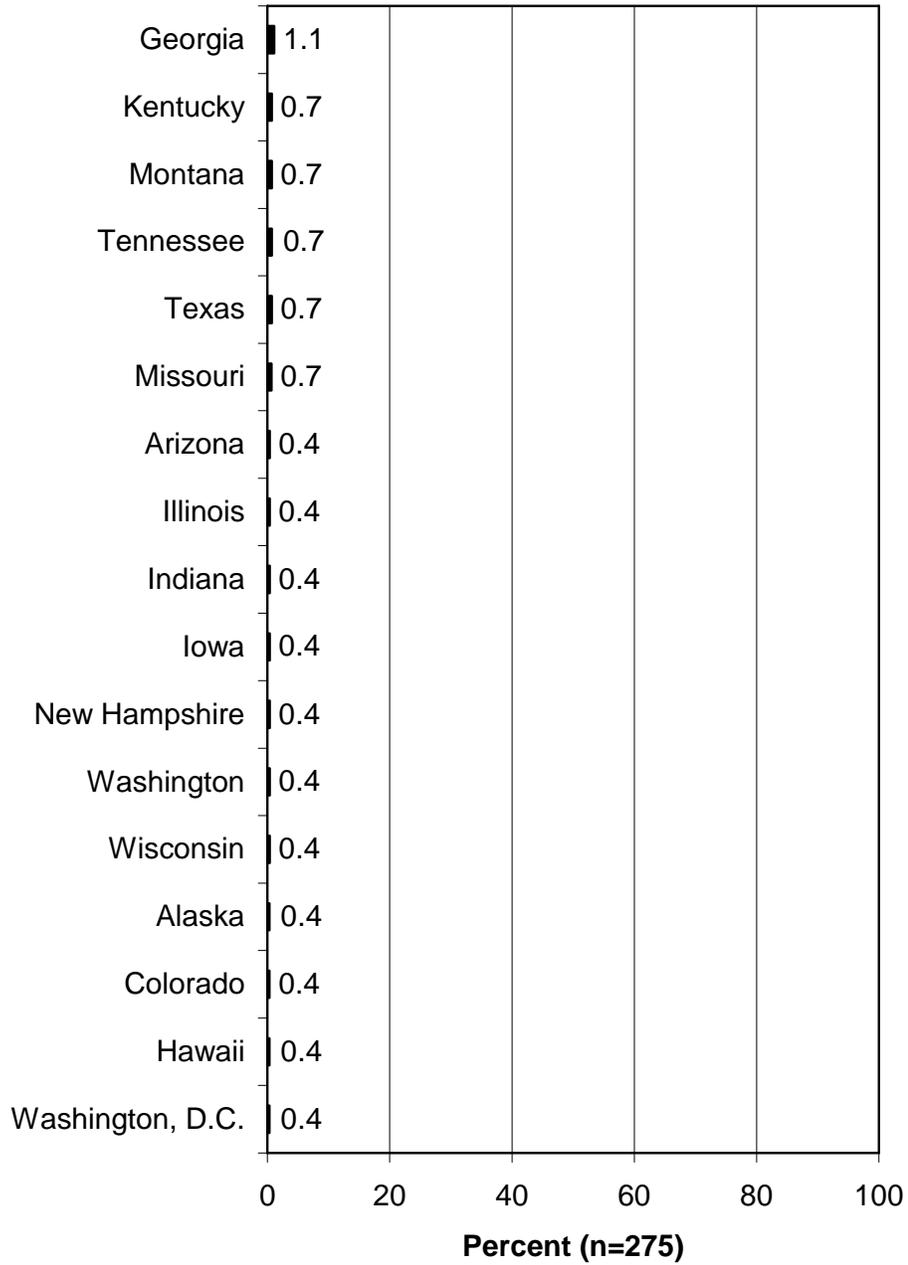
**Q234. In what county do you live? (Asked of Pennsylvania residents.) (Part 3.)**



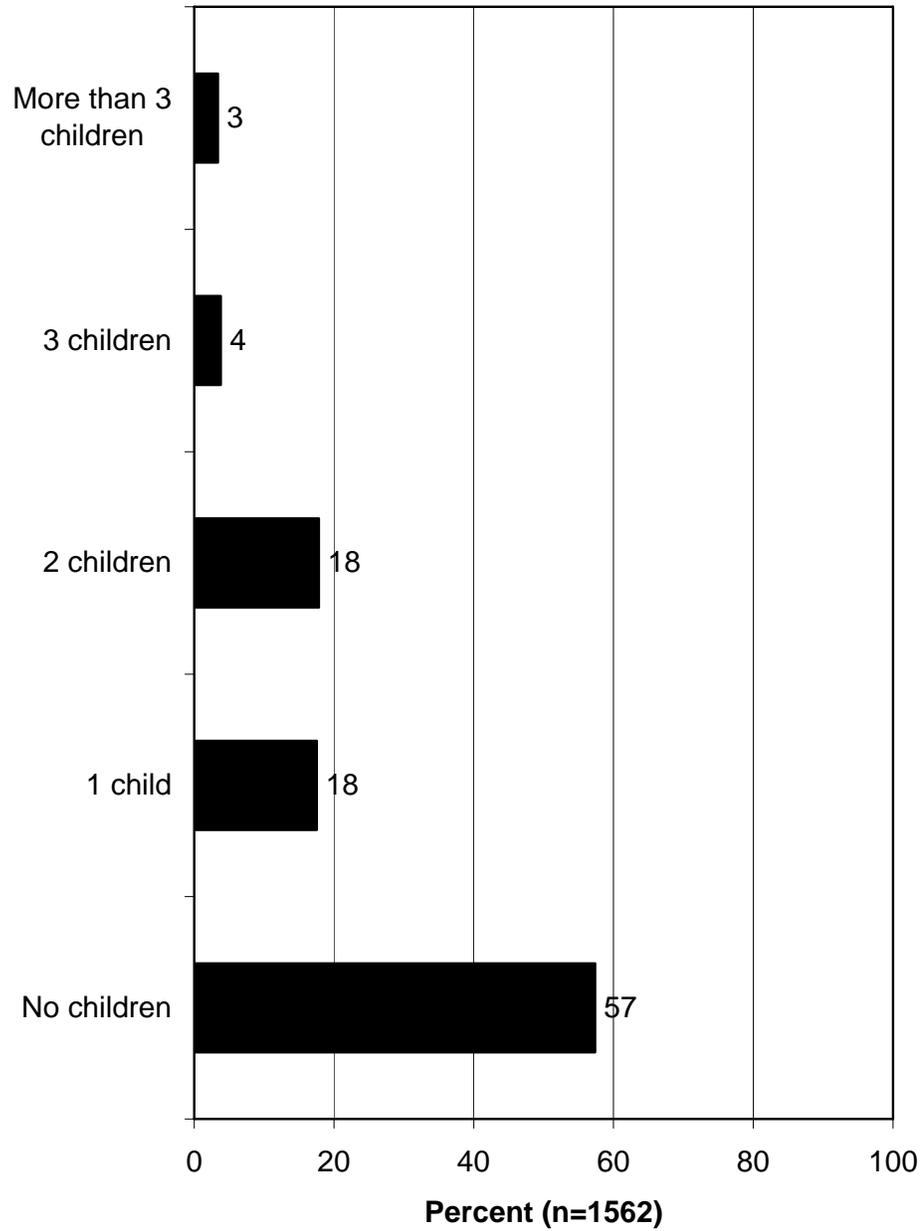
**Q236. In what state do you live? (Asked of non-Pennsylvania residents.) (Part 1.)**



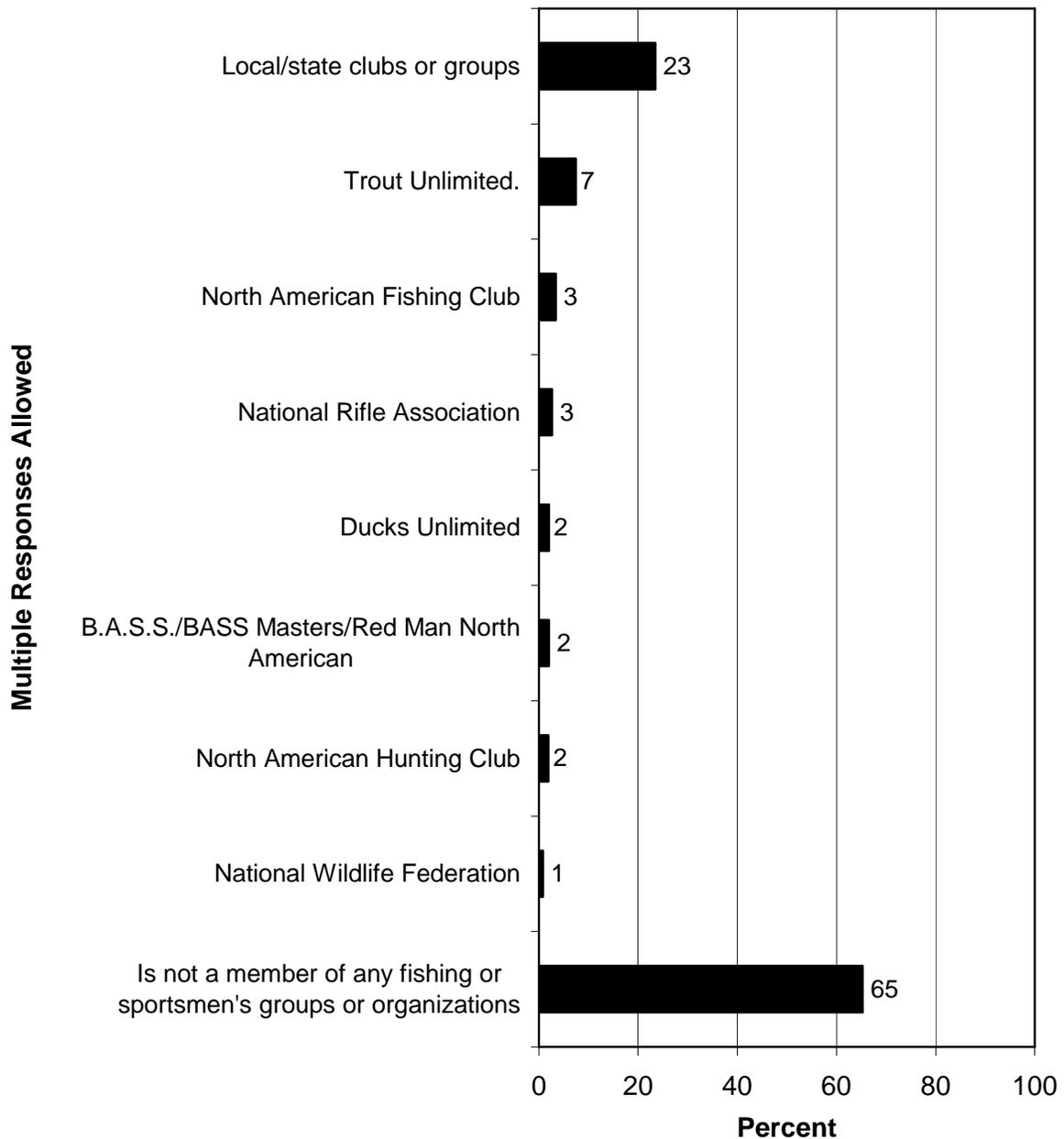
**Q236. In what state do you live? (Asked of non-Pennsylvania residents.) (Part 2.)**



**Q42. How many children, age 17 or younger, do you have living in your household?**



**Q225, Q226, and Q229. What other fishing or sportsmen's groups or organizations are you a member of? (Asked of those who are currently a member of another fishing or sportsmen's group or organization.)**



## APPENDIX A: SURVEY QUESTIONS

The following questions were asked in this survey. Note that the QPL code has been removed to improve readability. Some question numbers are skipped (for instance, questions 1 through 6) because they contain only QPL code or statements and do not include any actual questions asked of respondents. Also note that some respondents skipped over some portions of the survey if the questions did not pertain to them; these skip-outs are automatically performed in the QPL code.

### Pennsylvania Trout Angler Survey

7. Are you at least 16 years old?
9. Our records indicate that you had a Pennsylvania fishing license and a trout / salmon stamp or combination trout-salmon / Lake Erie permit for the 2007 fishing season. Is this correct?
11. Did you fish for trout in Pennsylvania in 2007?
13. What type of fishing license did you have for the 2007 fishing season?
15. Are you a Pennsylvania resident?
18. Did you purchase a trout / salmon stamp or a combination trout salmon / Lake Erie permit for the 2007 fishing season?
20. Overall, were you satisfied or dissatisfied with your trout fishing in Pennsylvania in 2007?
21. What is your single most important reason for trout fishing in Pennsylvania? Would you say it is to catch fresh fish to eat, to be with family and friends, for the sport, to catch large fish, to catch a lot of fish, to be close to nature, or for relaxation?
24. In general, are there any things that take away from your trout fishing satisfaction or cause you not to participate in trout fishing as much as you would like in Pennsylvania?
26. How many years total have you been trout fishing in Pennsylvania?
27. How many years, out of the past 5 years, did you go trout fishing in Pennsylvania?
30. Would you say your level of trout fishing activity in Pennsylvania has increased, remained the same, or decreased over the past 5 years?
31. In the past 5 years, do you think the quality of trout fishing in Pennsylvania has improved, remained the same, or declined?
32. How many days did you fish for trout in Pennsylvania in 2007?
33. How often do you fish for trout in Pennsylvania after Memorial Day weekend? Would you say frequently, occasionally, rarely, or never?
36. Why do you rarely or never fish for trout in Pennsylvania after Memorial Day weekend?
40. With whom do you usually go trout fishing in Pennsylvania?
42. How many children, age 17 or younger, do you have living in your household?
49. When you go trout fishing in Pennsylvania, do you use flies, artificial lures, or bait?
50. Which of these do you prefer to use when you go trout fishing in Pennsylvania?
51. How important is it to you to catch trout while fishing?
52. How important is it to you to keep some of the trout you catch?
53. When fishing for trout in Pennsylvania, do you mostly keep the trout you catch, mostly release the trout you catch, or do both about equally?

54. Which one species of trout do you prefer to fish for in Pennsylvania?
56. How far, in miles, do you travel, one way, on an average trout fishing trip in Pennsylvania?
57. Do you fish for trout in Pennsylvania mostly on public land, mostly on private land, or both about equally?
58. How much of a problem is private land that is posted or closed along water you want to fish in? Would you say this is a major problem, a minor problem, or not a problem at all for you when accessing water to fish in Pennsylvania?
59. Do you fish for trout in Pennsylvania mostly in an urban area, a suburban area, a small town or city, or a rural area?
60. Next, I would like to know which two bodies of water in Pennsylvania you most prefer to fish for trout, and I would like for you to rank them in order of preference.
  61. What is your top preferred body of water?
  63. In which county is this body of water located?
  65. What is your second most preferred body of water?
  67. In which county is this body of water located?
69. Please tell me how important each of the following are to you when choosing a fishing location.
  71. How important is it that the location is near your home?
  72. How important is it that the location is near your hunting or fishing camp?
  73. How important is it that the location is stocked with trout?
  74. How important is it that the location is not stocked with trout?
  75. How important is it that the location is a Special Regulation Area?
76. Currently, the Pennsylvania Fish and Boat Commission manages some trout waters with special regulations. These waters are classified as Special Regulation Areas. Which one type of Special Regulation Area do you most prefer to fish in Pennsylvania?
77. Do you support or oppose Special Regulation Areas?
78. Why do you support Special Regulation Areas?
79. Why do you oppose Special Regulation Areas?
80. Next, I am going to read some statements about Special Regulation Areas. I would like for you to tell me if you agree or disagree with each one.
82. Do you agree or disagree that there are too many streams managed under special regulations in Pennsylvania?
83. Do you agree or disagree that there are too few streams managed under special regulations in Pennsylvania?
84. Do you agree or disagree that the number of Special Regulation Areas on Pennsylvania trout waters takes away from your trout fishing satisfaction?
85. How do the number of Special Regulation Areas on Pennsylvania trout waters take away from your trout fishing satisfaction?
86. Do you agree or disagree that the number of Special Regulation Areas on Pennsylvania trout waters ADDS to your trout fishing satisfaction?
87. How do the number of Special Regulation Areas on Pennsylvania trout waters ADD to your trout fishing satisfaction?
88. Do you agree or disagree that the number of Special Regulation Areas on Pennsylvania trout waters prevents you from participating in trout fishing as much as you would like?
89. How do the number of Special Regulation Areas on Pennsylvania trout waters prevent you from participating in trout fishing as much as you would like?

90. Do you agree or disagree that you participate in trout fishing in Pennsylvania more as a result of the number of Special Regulations Areas than you would if the areas did not exist?
91. Why do you participate in trout fishing in Pennsylvania more as a result of the number of Special Regulation Areas?
92. Currently, flies and artificial lures are permitted for use in Delayed Harvest Special Regulation Areas. Would you support or oppose a Delayed Harvest Special Regulations Program that includes the use of bait in addition to flies and artificial lures?
94. What percentage of your trout fishing trips in Pennsylvania would you say is made to stocked trout waters?
95. What percentage of your trout fishing trips in Pennsylvania would you say is made to unstocked or wild trout waters?
100. You indicated that you took [a child/children] in your household trout fishing in 2007. When you take your [child/children] fishing for trout in Pennsylvania, do you fish mostly for stocked trout, mostly for wild trout, or both about equally?
101. How many days did you take your [child/children] fishing for stocked trout in Pennsylvania lakes in 2007?
104. How many days did you take your [child/children] fishing for stocked trout in Pennsylvania streams in 2007?
108. Do you support or oppose stocking waters that have a high abundance of wild trout?
109. Do you support or oppose stocking waters that have a high abundance of wild trout in areas where there are currently few stocked trout waters?
110. If the Pennsylvania Fish and Boat Commission were to significantly reduce the amount of trout stocking, how likely would you be to continue purchasing a fishing license and trout stamp in Pennsylvania?
112. How important is it to you to catch trophy trout while fishing for stocked trout?
115. During which months do you typically fish for stocked trout in Pennsylvania?
116. When you fish for stocked trout, do you prefer to fish for stocked trout in lakes or streams?
117. Currently, the Pennsylvania Fish and Boat Commission is stocking fewer but larger trout. Do you support or oppose this management approach for the trout stocking program?
118. Currently, the Pennsylvania Fish and Boat Commission stocks approximately 9,000 golden rainbow trout each year. Do you support or oppose the Commission's efforts to raise and stock golden rainbow trout?
119. How many days did you fish lakes in Pennsylvania that are stocked with trout by the Pennsylvania Fish and Boat Commission during the fall in 2007?
122. How many days did you fish streams that are stocked with trout by the Pennsylvania Fish and Boat Commission during the fall in 2007?
125. Do you think the Pennsylvania Fish and Boat Commission should increase fall trout stocking, decrease fall trout stocking, or keep it about the same?
126. In your opinion, how important is it to have in-season trout stockings?
127. In some sections of streams in Pennsylvania, stocked trout will move out of the stocked section prior to the opening day of the season. Do you support or oppose in-season stocking only in the sections of streams where this occurs?
128. Do you agree or disagree that trout-stocked lakes with healthy populations of other species of fish should be open to year-round fishing with no closed season?

129. Would you support or oppose the creation of a limited number of “premium stocked trout areas” on sections of streams or small lakes where an angler could fish a high density of stocked trout larger than the current 11-inch average trout size?
130. If such “premium stocked trout areas” were created in Pennsylvania, would you be willing to pay to fish the “premium stocked trout areas”?
131. How much would you be willing to pay to fish the “premium stocked trout areas”?
133. Next, I have some questions about trout regulations and creel limits.
134. Overall, are you satisfied or dissatisfied with the current trout fishing regulations in Pennsylvania?
137. Why are you dissatisfied with current trout regulations in Pennsylvania?
139. You said current regulations don’t address important issues. What are these issues?
140. Currently, the creel or bag limit in Pennsylvania is five trout per day. Do you support or oppose the current creel limit of 5 trout per day?
141. In your opinion, what should the creel limit for trout in Pennsylvania be?
143. Currently, trout fishing is permitted on a no-harvest basis on unstocked streams between Labor Day and the following opening day of trout season. Do you support or oppose this regulation?
144. Why do you oppose this regulation? (Trout fishing is permitted on a no-harvest basis on unstocked streams between Labor Day and the following opening day of trout season.)
145. Do you agree or disagree that Pennsylvania’s Summary Book of Fishing Laws and Regulations is clear and easy to understand?
146. Why do you disagree that Pennsylvania’s Summary Book of Fishing Laws and Regulations is clear and easy to understand?
147. Now I have some questions about opening day of trout season.
148. How important is it to you to have an opening day of trout season in Pennsylvania?
149. How likely would you be to continue purchasing a fishing license and trout stamp in Pennsylvania if trout fishing was open year-round and there was no opening day?
150. In 2007, Pennsylvania had two regional opening days of trout season to accommodate warmer spring temperatures in areas of Pennsylvania. The opening day of trout season occurred two weeks earlier in an 18-county area in southeastern and southcentral Pennsylvania. Do you support or oppose having two different regional opening days of trout season in Pennsylvania?
151. Would you support or oppose expanding the earlier regional opening day of trout season to include more counties?
  152. Which additional counties do you think the earlier regional opening day of trout season should include?
  156. Which additional counties do you think the earlier regional opening day of trout season should include?
  160. Which additional counties do you think the earlier regional opening day of trout season should include?
  164. Which additional counties do you think the earlier regional opening day of trout season should include?
  168. Which additional counties do you think the earlier regional opening day of trout season should include?

171. Currently, the cost of purchasing a resident fishing license and a trout stamp together in Pennsylvania is \$32.40. In your opinion, do you think the current cost for a resident fishing license with a trout stamp in Pennsylvania is too high, about the right amount, or too low?
172. Currently, the cost of purchasing a non-resident fishing license and a trout stamp together in Pennsylvania is \$62.40. In your opinion, do you think the current cost for a non-resident fishing license with a trout stamp in Pennsylvania is too high, about the right amount, or too low?
173. Would you support or oppose a \$5 youth fishing license required for youth ages 12 to 15?
174. On average, how many meals featuring trout you caught in Pennsylvania do you eat per month during the trout fishing season? By meal I mean food eaten at one sitting.
175. Do you agree or disagree that fish consumption advisories for trout influence how often you fish for trout in Pennsylvania?
176. The Pennsylvania Fish and Boat Commission is the agency responsible for managing fisheries and fishing in Pennsylvania, including trout fisheries, trout fishing opportunities, and trout fishing regulations. Would you rate the overall performance of the Commission as excellent, good, fair, or poor?
179. Why would you rate the overall performance of the Commission as [fair/poor]?
181. The Pennsylvania Fish and Boat Commission spends its time and money on different fishing programs and program areas. Please tell me how important you think each of the following fishing program areas should be for the Commission on a scale of 0 to 10, where 0 is not at all important and 10 is extremely important.
183. How important or unimportant do you think providing trout fishing opportunities should be for the Commission?
184. How important or unimportant do you think providing trophy trout fishing opportunities should be for the Commission?
185. How important or unimportant do you think stocking trout should be for the Commission?
186. How important or unimportant do you think informing anglers on where to fish for stocked trout should be for the Commission?
187. How important or unimportant do you think acquiring stream access rights for anglers by purchasing land and easements should be for the Commission?
188. How important or unimportant do you think improving habitat and water quality to make conditions more favorable for wild trout should be for the Commission?
189. How important or unimportant do you think implementing additional Special Regulation Areas, such as Catch and Release areas should be for the Commission?
190. Now I would like to know how you rate the performance of the Pennsylvania Fish and Boat Commission for each of those same program areas. Please tell me how you rate the performance of the Commission in each area on a scale of 0 to 10, where 0 is poor and 10 is excellent.
192. How would you rate the performance of the Commission in providing trout fishing opportunities?
193. How would you rate the performance of the Commission in providing trophy trout fishing opportunities?
194. How would you rate the performance of the Commission in stocking trout?
195. How would you rate the performance of the Commission in informing anglers on where to fish for stocked trout?

196. How would you rate the performance of the Commission in acquiring stream access rights for anglers by purchasing land and easements?
197. How would you rate the performance of the Commission in improving habitat and water quality to make conditions more favorable for wild trout?
198. How would you rate the performance of the Commission in implementing additional Special Regulation Areas, such as Catch and Release areas?
199. In your opinion, should the Pennsylvania Fish and Boat Commission give higher priority to wild trout or stocked trout?
200. Now I'm going to read a list of items that might make you want to go trout fishing more often in Pennsylvania. Please tell me if each item would strongly encourage you, moderately encourage you, or not encourage you at all to go trout fishing more often in Pennsylvania?
  202. How about receiving an invitation from a friend?
  203. How about if a child asked you to take him or her fishing?
  204. How about if more opportunities existed to catch trophy trout?
  205. How about if more opportunities existed to access trout waters from private land?
  206. How about a mentoring program?
  207. How about development of a limited number of premium stocked trout areas with higher proportions of trophy fish?
  208. How about more regional opening days?
  209. How about a year-round trout fishing season (with no opening day)?
  210. How about more Special Regulation Areas?
  211. How about fewer Special Regulation Areas?
  212. How about if more trout were stocked in Pennsylvania waters?
  213. How about if information about where the best trout fisheries are located was made available?
  214. How about if more information on how to fish for trout was made available?
217. What types of information on trout fishing do you think the Pennsylvania Fish and Boat Commission should provide to trout anglers? We are not sending out information at this time; we are simply measuring interest.
219. Approximately how many times per month do you use the Pennsylvania Fish and Boat Commission's website?
223. What types of information or service have you looked for on the Pennsylvania Fish and Boat Commission's website?
225. Are you currently a member of Trout Unlimited?
226. Are you currently a member of any other fishing or sportsmen's groups or organizations?
229. What other fishing or sportsmen's groups or organizations are you a member of?
232. How many years have you lived in Pennsylvania?
234. In what county do you live?
236. In what state do you live?
238. In what county in Pennsylvania did you purchase your fishing license?
239. Do you consider your place of residence to be a large city or urban area, a suburban area, a small city or town, a rural area on a farm or ranch, or a rural area not on a farm or ranch?
240. May I ask your age?
246. Observe and record respondent's gender.

## **ABOUT RESPONSIVE MANAGEMENT**

Responsive Management is a nationally recognized public opinion and attitude survey research firm specializing in natural resource and outdoor recreation issues. Its mission is to help natural resource and outdoor recreation agencies and organizations better understand and work with their constituents, customers, and the public.

Utilizing its in-house, full-service, computer-assisted telephone and mail survey center with 45 professional interviewers, Responsive Management has conducted more than 1,000 telephone surveys, mail surveys, personal interviews, and focus groups, as well as numerous marketing and communications plans, need assessments, and program evaluations on natural resource and outdoor recreation issues.

Clients include most of the federal and state natural resource, outdoor recreation, and environmental agencies, and most of the top conservation organizations. Responsive Management also collects attitude and opinion data for many of the nation's top universities, including the University of Southern California, Virginia Tech, Colorado State University, Auburn, Texas Tech, the University of California-Davis, Michigan State University, the University of Florida, North Carolina State University, Penn State, West Virginia University, and others.

Among the wide range of work Responsive Management has completed during the past 20 years are studies on how the general population values natural resources and outdoor recreation, and their opinions on and attitudes toward an array of natural resource-related issues. Responsive Management has conducted dozens of studies of selected groups of outdoor recreationists, including anglers, boaters, hunters, wildlife watchers, birdwatchers, park visitors, historic site visitors, hikers, and campers, as well as selected groups within the general population, such as landowners, farmers, urban and rural residents, women, senior citizens, children, Hispanics, Asians, and African-Americans. Responsive Management has conducted studies on environmental education, endangered species, waterfowl, wetlands, water quality, and the reintroduction of numerous species such as wolves, grizzly bears, the California condor, and the Florida panther.

Responsive Management has conducted research on numerous natural resource ballot initiatives and referenda and helped agencies and organizations find alternative funding and increase their memberships and donations. Responsive Management has conducted major agency and organizational program needs assessments and helped develop more effective programs based upon a solid foundation of fact. Responsive Management has developed websites for natural resource organizations, conducted training workshops on the human dimensions of natural resources, and presented numerous studies each year in presentations and as keynote speakers at major natural resource, outdoor recreation, conservation, and environmental conferences and meetings.

Responsive Management has conducted research on public attitudes toward natural resources and outdoor recreation in almost every state in the United States, as well as in Canada, Australia, the United Kingdom, France, Germany, and Japan. Responsive Management routinely conducts surveys in Spanish and has also conducted surveys and focus groups in Chinese, Korean, Japanese, and Vietnamese.

Responsive Management's research has been featured in most of the nation's major media, including CNN, ESPN, *The Washington Times*, *The New York Times*, *Newsweek*, *The Wall Street Journal*, and on the front pages of *The Washington Post* and *USA Today*.

Visit the Responsive Management website at:

**[www.responsivemanagement.com](http://www.responsivemanagement.com)**