



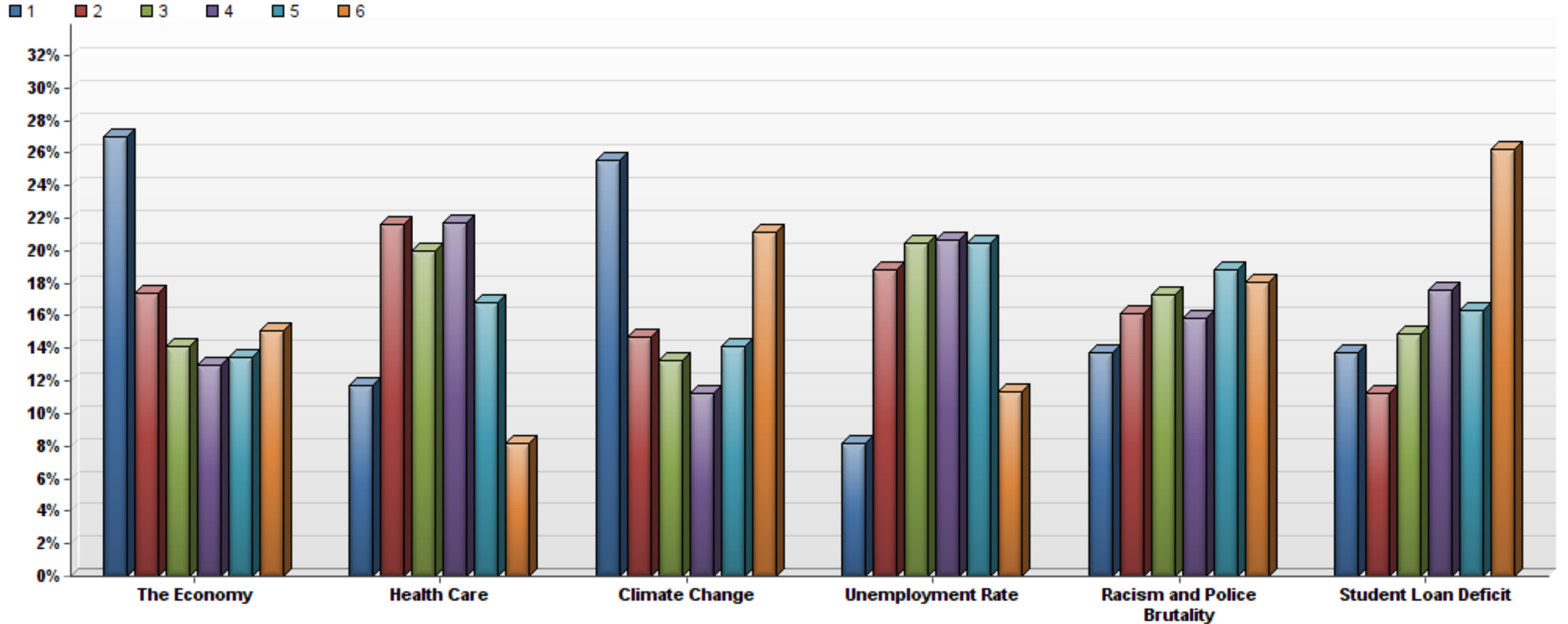
2015 Sustainability Literacy Survey Results

Executive Summary

- **Methodology/Response Rate:**
 - The survey was administered in September 2015, yielding 650 usable responses
 - The survey was sent through Qualtrics and responses were anonymous – though participants did provide residential community demographics
- **Results:**
 - Respondents view student loan deficit as a very important issue facing the country and food security as the highest priority environmental issue.
 - Respondents feel strongly that human activity plays a strong role on the climate and our natural environment, and that **Cornell has a responsibility to lower its environmental footprint.**
 - 100% of respondents understand:
 - How to lower their energy consumption on campus
 - How to be more sustainable in Cornell's Dining Halls
 - What items are recyclable on campus
 - An **increase in sustainability – related experiential learning opportunities** and an **university-wide composting program** are Cornell's biggest areas of opportunity
 - 82% of respondents **understand the concept of sustainability and the triple bottom line**

Please rank how important to you are each of the following issues facing the country today.

6 – Highest Importance
1 – Lowest Importance

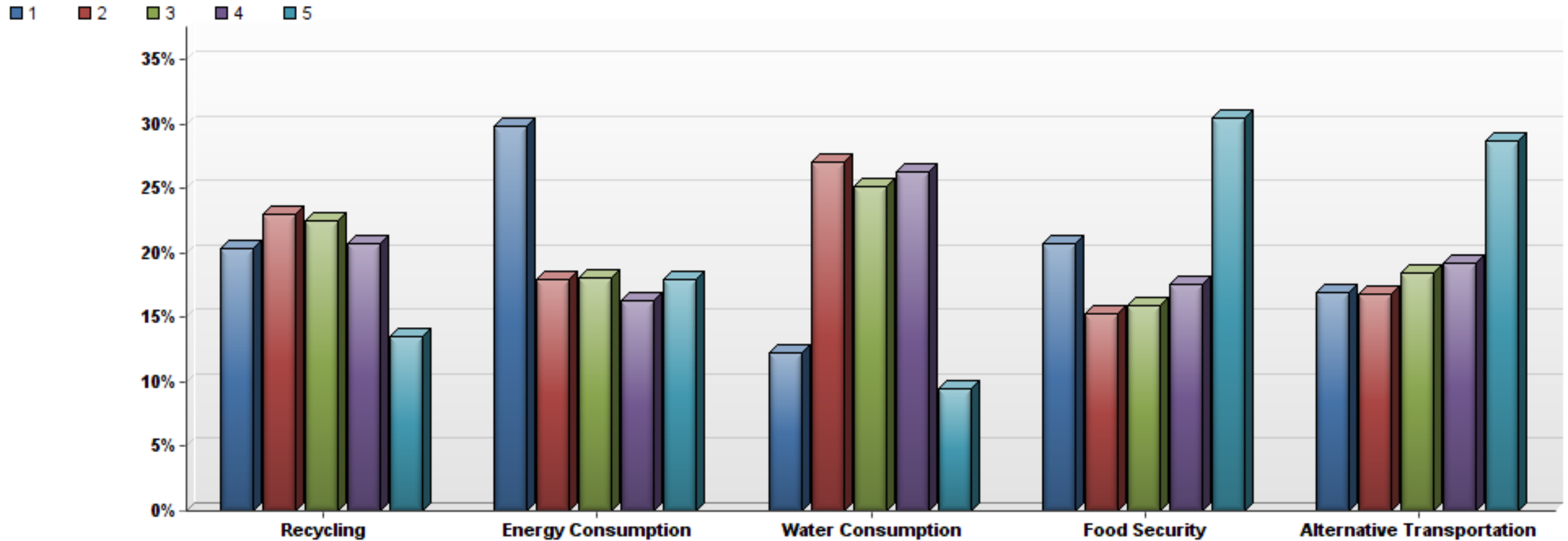


Highest Importance: **Student Loan Deficit**

Lowest Importance: **The Economy**

Please rank in order of importance to you the following environmental-related issues.

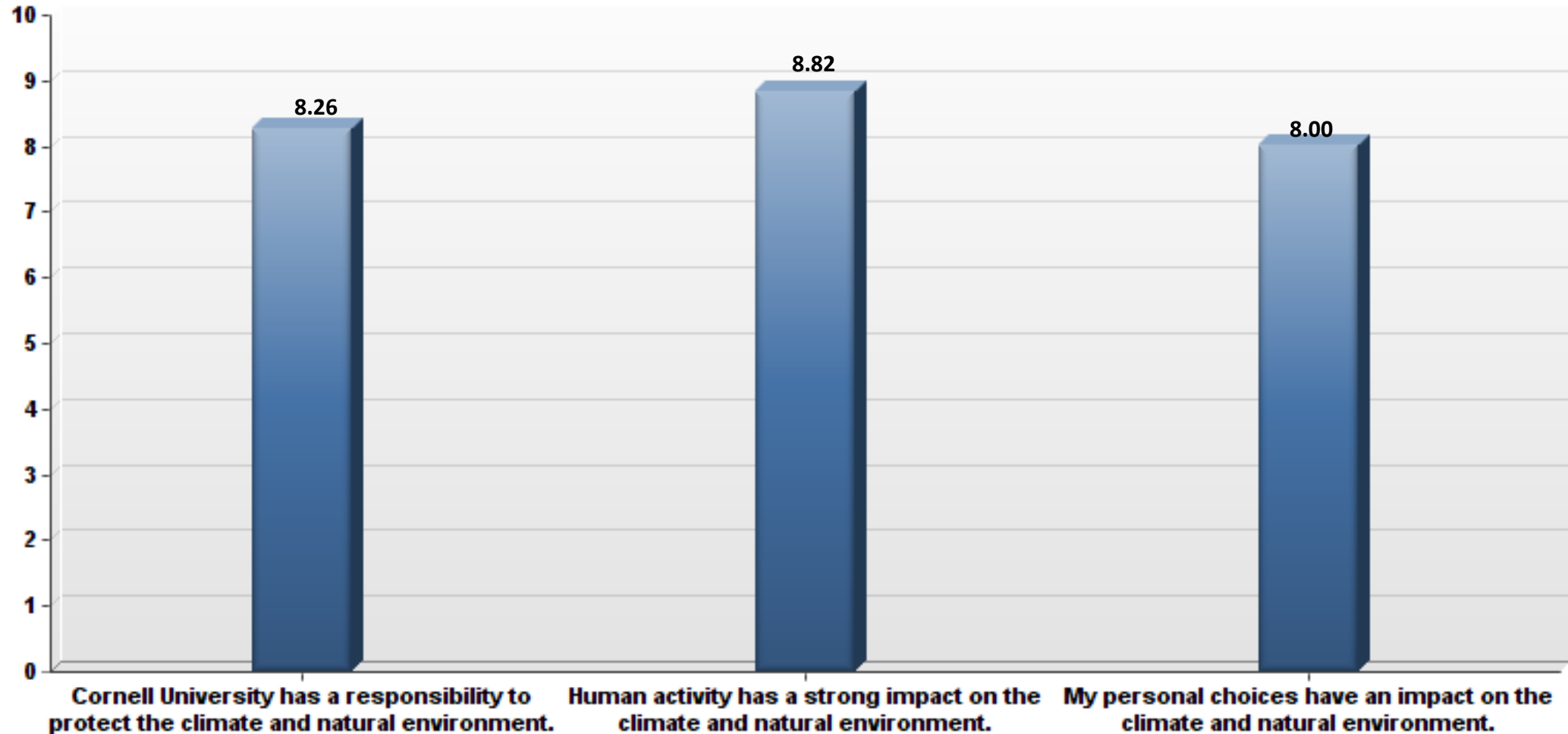
5 – Highest Importance
1 – Lowest Importance



Highest Importance: **Food Security**

Lowest Importance: **Energy Consumption**

On a scale of 0-10, how much did you agree or disagree with the following statements prior to attending Cornell?

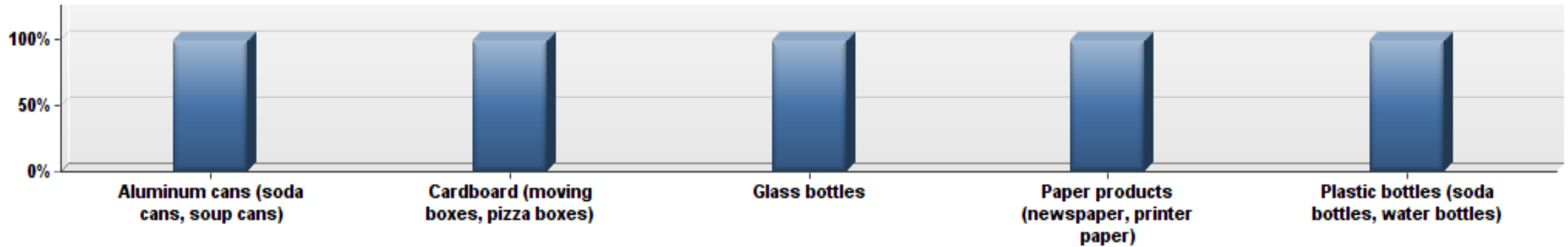


What can you do to be more sustainable in Cornell's dining halls?

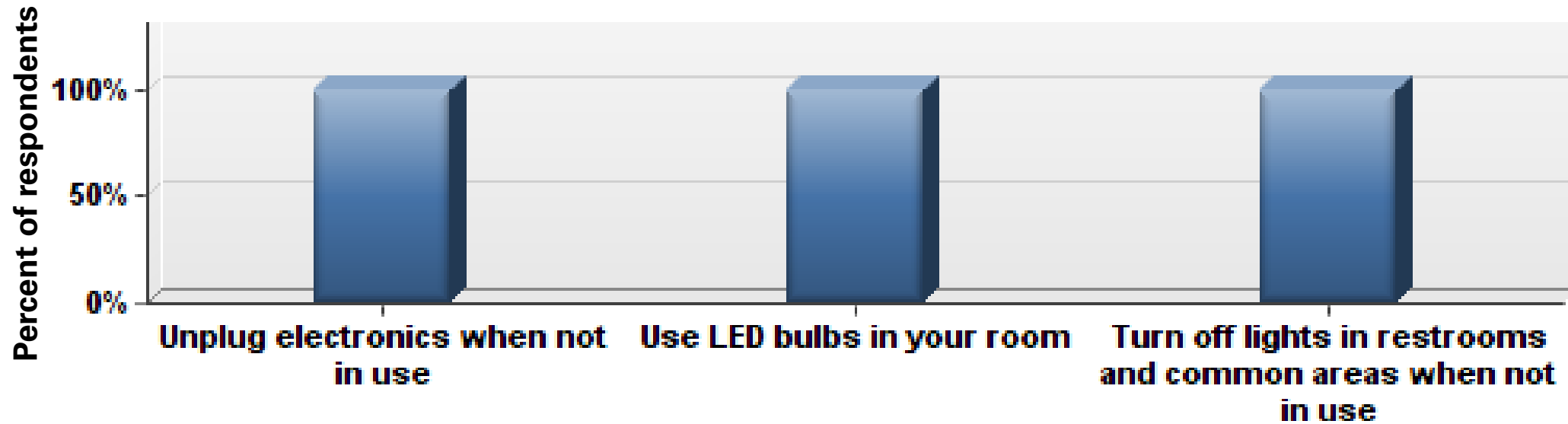


Which of the following you are able to recycle at Cornell? (check all that apply)

Percent of respondents



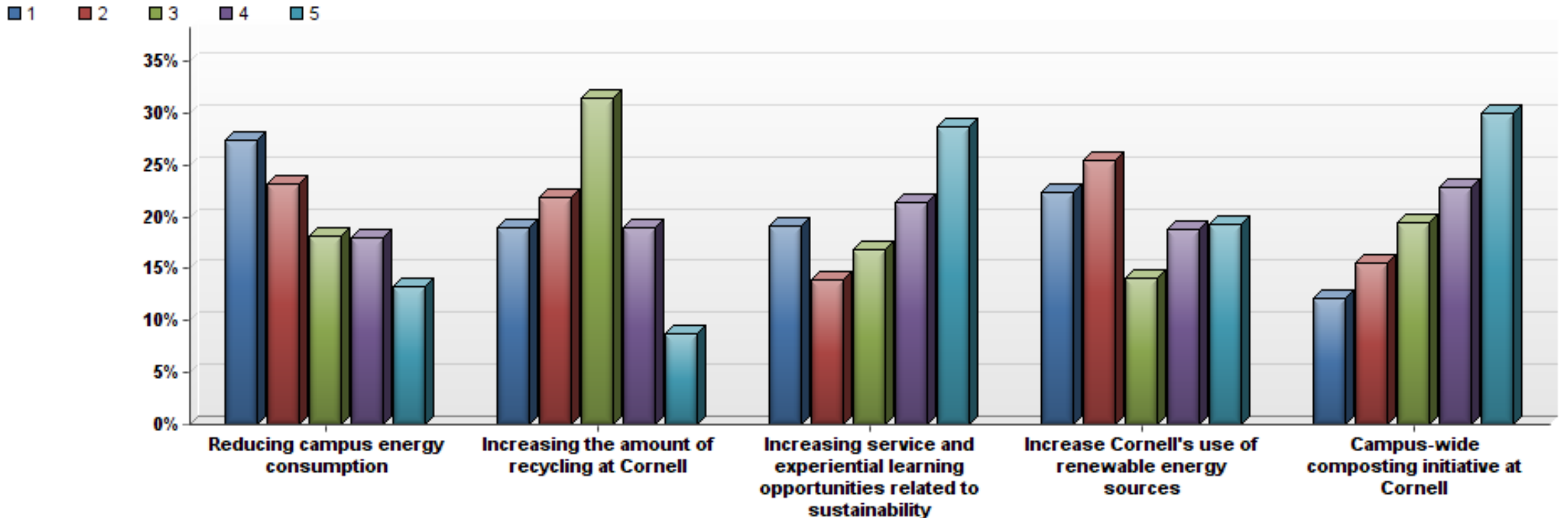
What can you do to conserve energy on campus? (check all that apply)



Please rank in order of importance to you the following environmental-related opportunities now as a Cornell student.

5 – Highest Importance

1 – Lowest Importance



Highest Importance: **Campus-wide composting initiative and sustainability experiential learning opportunities**

Lowest Importance: **Reducing energy consumption**

7. Let us know your questions about sustainability at Cornell:

Text Response
Are there any new initiatives that Cornell is participating in to help promote sustainability?
Are the research opportunities for engineers who want to make technology (engines, turbines, solar panels) more efficient?
asdf
Good
How can I live a more sustainable lifestyles?
What are some easy switches that I can make in my everyday life to be more sustainable?
how can we use the gorges to produce more electricity?
How close is Cornell to being fully sustainable if at all
How do I distinguish composts me from landfill?
How do we compare to other universities in terms of sustainability?
How is Cornell able to make notebooks out of compost at the Cornellstore?
How much of the food from the dining halls is actually composted
I have no questions about sustainability because I don't care about sustainability. Frankly, I'm offended that you suggested I should cut down on my meat consumption. Please and no thank you! I eat what I want!
See previous question. I combined this question with the last question.
Seriously, what's up with trillium? One day you can compost plastic, one day you can't, sometimes you have to

Raise awareness to limit shower time and use preferably cooler water

more recycling/compost bins on campus

eco-friendly toilets

Buses that use renewable energy (eBuses) and increasing time between class blocks to encourage walking/biking between classes

Motion sensor lights in all rooms

Gives students 5 cents back for every plastic bottle they recycle

Reduce the plate sizes in the dining halls! Especially at Appel, students load up 2 or 3 of the oval shaped plates and end up throwing half their food away untasted. I take the small round plates, and I have no trouble with my eyes "getting bigger than my stomach"

Perhaps we could have a required event or show like Tapestry or Speak About It dedicated to sustainability during orientation.

I would like to see more places on campus (central campus in particular) that are left in their natural state, or are at least fitted with native plants/grasses/trees, rather than boring green lawns that don't foster ecological biodiversity. These natural places are also pretty to look at and would remind students of their proximity to the natural environment.

recycling chutes (next to trash chutes)

STOP WRAPPING BAKERY THINGS LIKE MUFFINS, COOKIES, AND BAGELS IN PLASTIC. Seriously, I know you can (Goldies has it figured out) so the rest of campus needs to step it up. It's a really easy fix to just not use plastic.

Maybe a day where Cornellians pick up litter together as a group? I've noticed many instances of litter on the ground when walking to classes, and me picking up a piece of trash isn't gonna fix the problem.

Installation of plumbing that would reduce water consumption by using less water to flush fluids than to flush solid waste.

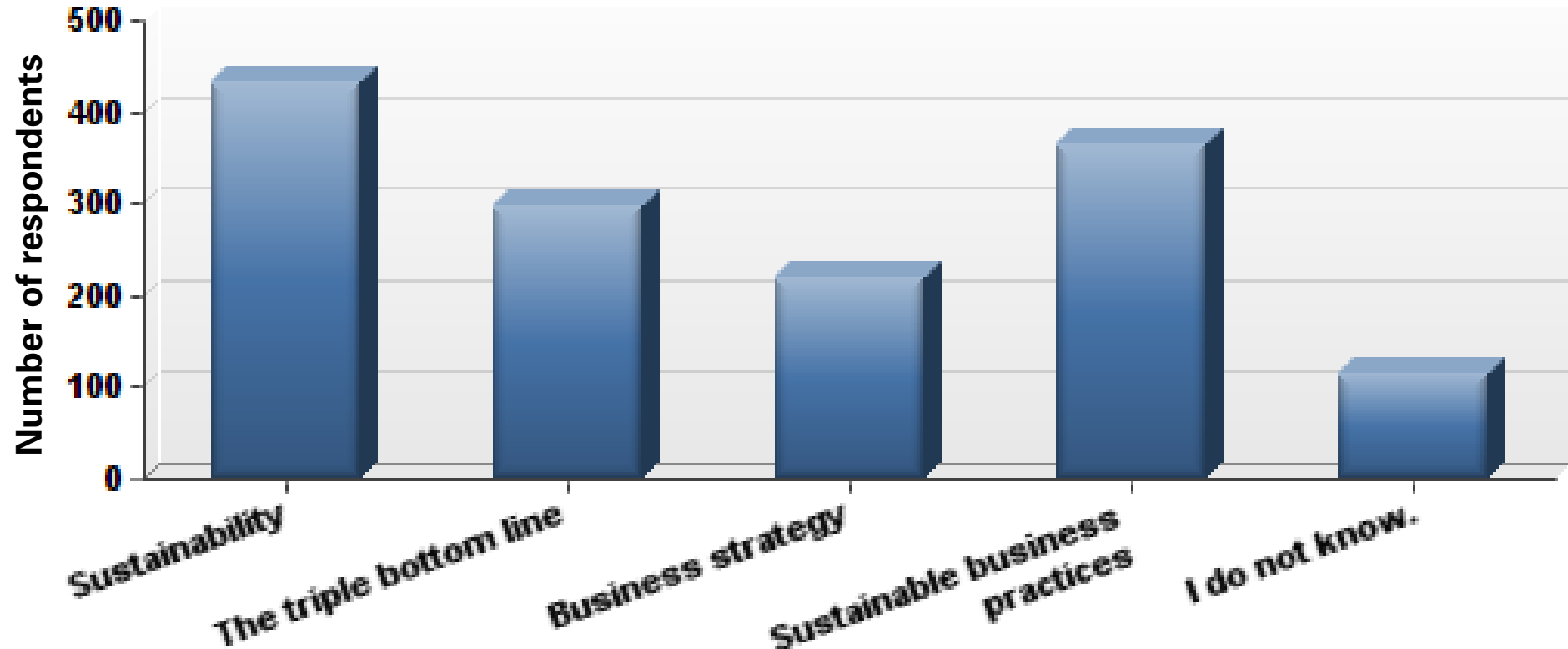
Recycling plastic bags university wide

Reduce or eliminate quarter carding.

Make it easier and more obvious about which products from the eateries are recyclable, compostable, or meant for landfill waste. Plan in class presentations that educate students about the food system, and where their food comes from. Expose them to the realities of food waste, and food insecurity. Educate them as to why we should compost, why we should recycle, why we should reduce our amount of landfill waste, and why we should be concerned about sustainable practices on campus.

A fund that supports student projects to make Cornell more sustainable.

The idea being that environmental quality and social equity are as important as economic stability and growth is:



What Residence Hall do you currently live in?

