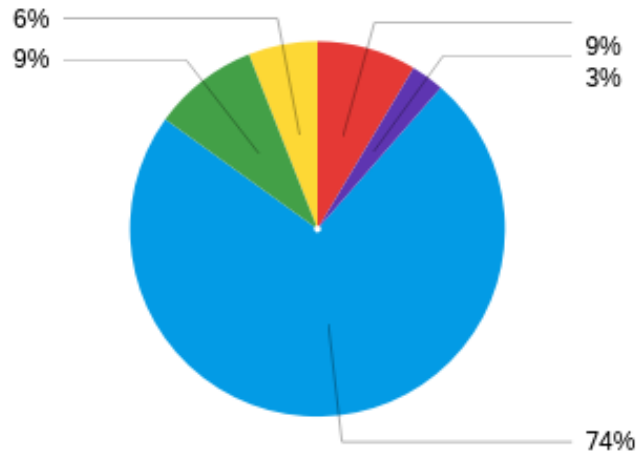


# Fall 2020

## KEENE STATE COLLEGE SUSTAINABILITY LITERACY ASSESSMENT

Report generated January 11th 2021

### Q3 - Which of the following is a key concept of sustainability?



Ensuring that people continue to buy more goods and use more resources, indefinitely

Setting aside resources for preservation, never to be used

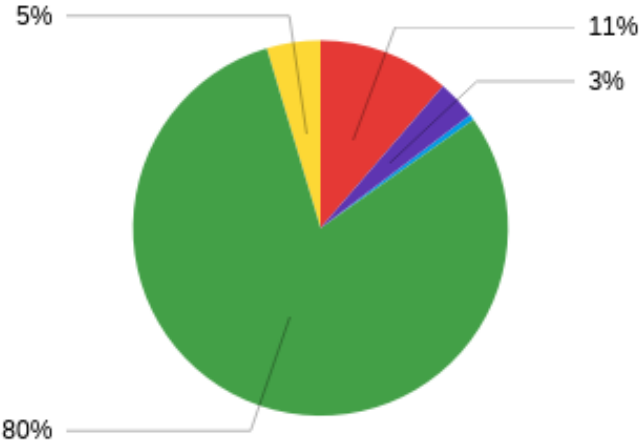
Meeting the needs of the present without compromising the ability of future generations to meet their own needs

Only using recycled materials for production      Don't know

#	Which of the following is a key concept of sustainability?	Percentage
1	Ensuring that people continue to buy more goods and use more resources, indefinitely	9%
2	Setting aside resources for preservation, never to be used	3%
3	Meeting the needs of the present without compromising the ability of future generations to meet their own needs	74%
4	Only using recycled materials for production	9%
5	Don't know	6%



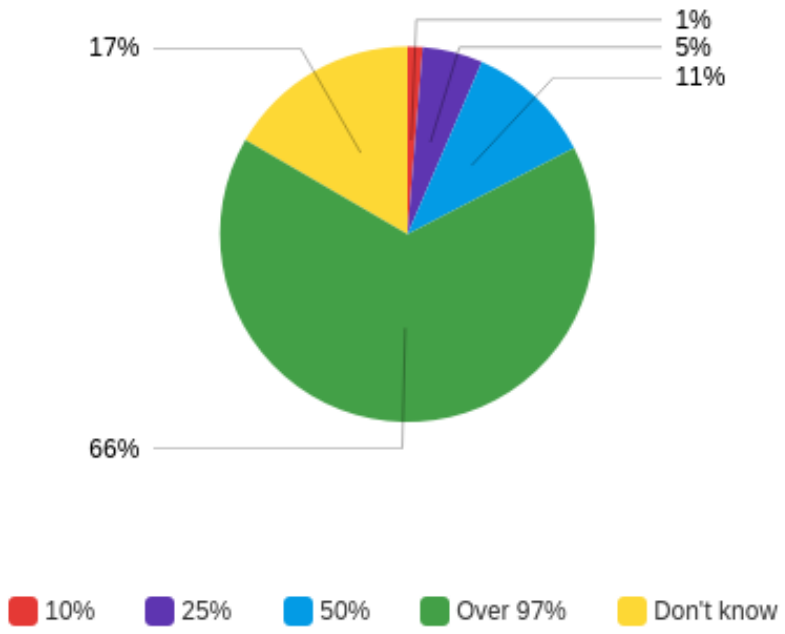
**Q4 - Which of the following is the most urgent sustainability issue facing the world today?**



- Hazardous waste landfills
- Overfishing the world's oceans
- Building shopping malls
- Global climate change
- Don't know

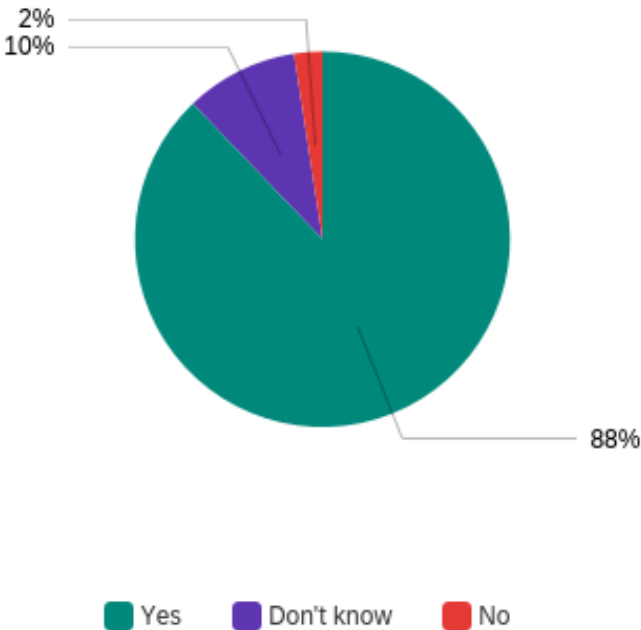
#	Which of the following is the most urgent sustainability issue facing the world today?	Percentage
1	Hazardous waste landfills	11%
2	Overfishing the world's oceans	3%
3	Building shopping malls	1%
4	Global climate change	80%
5	Don't know	5%
	Total	388

**Q6 - What percentage of the world's reputable scientists agree that the Earth's climate is warming?**



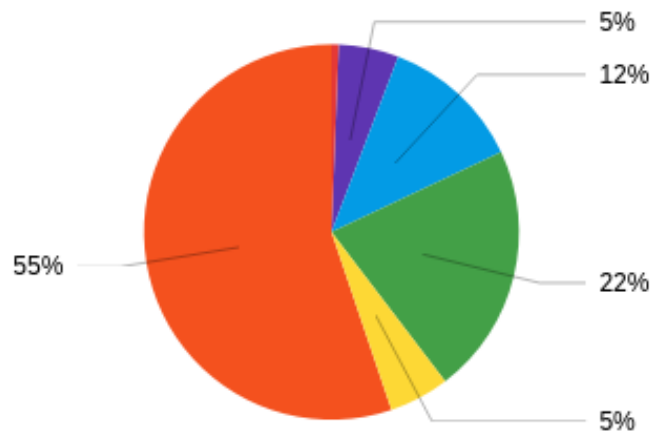
#	What percentage of the world's reputable scientists agree that the Earth's climate is warming?	Percentage
1	10%	1%
2	25%	5%
3	50%	11%
4	Over 97%	66%
5	Don't know	17%
	Total	385

**Q7 - Is there a relationship between the earth’s average temperature and the amount of greenhouse gases, especially carbon dioxide, in the atmosphere?**



#	Is there a relationship between the earth’s average temperature and the amount of greenhouse gases, especially carbon dioxide, in the atmosphere?	Percentage
3	Yes	88%
4	Don't know	10%
5	No	2%
	Total	329

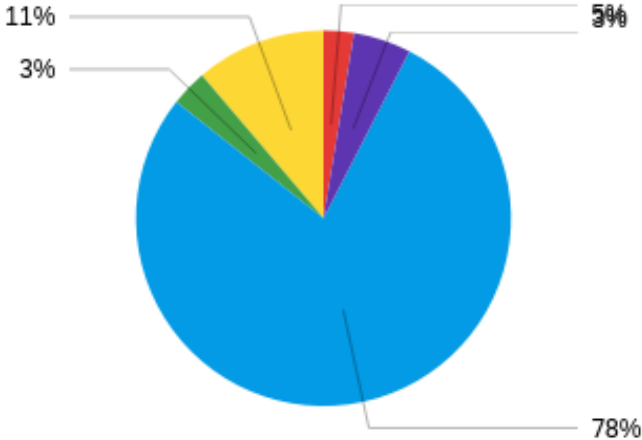
**Q8 - In which of these ranges is the current level of carbon dioxide in the atmosphere?**



■ Click to write Choice 10 to 100 parts per million (ppm)  
 ■ 150 to 250 ppm  
 ■ 300 to 350 ppm  
■ 400 to 500  
 ■ More than 500 ppm  
 ■ Don't know

#	In which of these ranges is the current level of carbon dioxide in the atmosphere?	Percentage
7	Click to write Choice 10 to 100 parts per million (ppm)	1%
13	150 to 250 ppm	5%
14	300 to 350 ppm	12%
15	400 to 500	22%
16	More than 500 ppm	5%
17	Don't know	55%
	Total	328

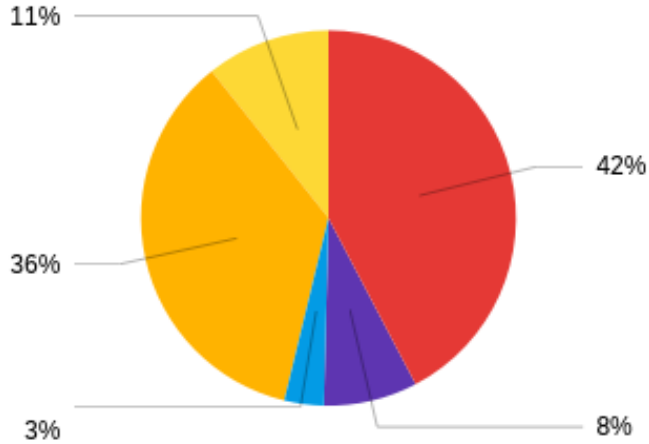
**Q10 - What is the primary reason for increased levels of carbon dioxide in the atmosphere?**



- Evapotranspiration of plants
- Natural climate cycles moving at the same rate as they always have been
- Human activities that involve the burning of fossil fuels
- Gasses emitted by the world's oceans
- Don't know

#	What is the primary reason for increased levels of carbon dioxide in the atmosphere?	Percentage
1	Evapotranspiration of plants	3%
2	Natural climate cycles moving at the same rate as they always have been	5%
3	Human activities that involve the burning of fossil fuels	78%
4	Gasses emitted by the world's oceans	3%
5	Don't know	11%
	Total	383

**Q11 - What are the two biggest contributors of carbon dioxide (CO2) in the United States?**

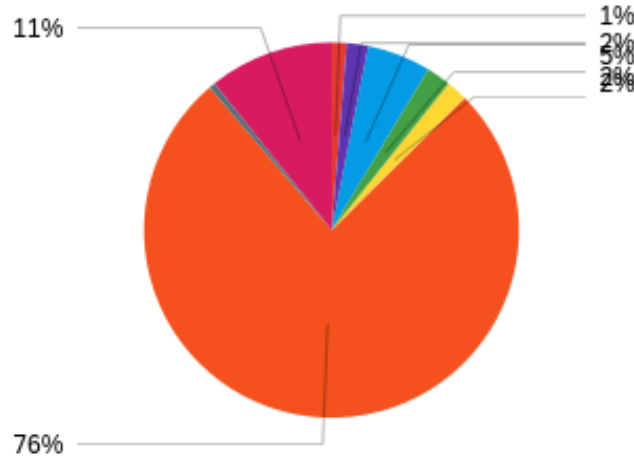


- Energy and transportation
- Agriculture and food waste
- Recycling and trash collection
- Factory emissions and materials use
- Don't know

#	What are the two biggest contributors of carbon dioxide (CO2) in the United States?	Percentage
1	Energy and transportation	42%
2	Agriculture and food waste	8%
3	Recycling and trash collection	3%
4	Factory emissions and materials use	36%
5	Don't know	11%
	Total	383



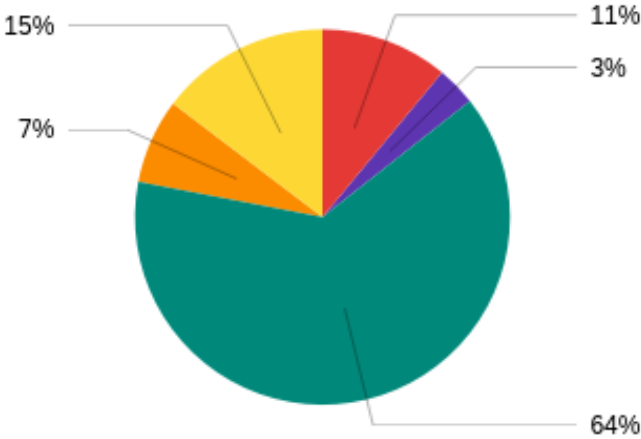
**Q12 - Which of the following impacts can be expected if the planet continues to warm to 1.5-degrees Celsius or greater during this century?**



- Increased land and water temperatures
- More high intensity storms with heavy precipitation and flooding
- Droughts and wildfires
- Sea level rise
- Impacts to human health, livelihoods, food security, and economic well-being
- All of the above
- None of the above
- Don't know

#	Which of the following impacts can be expected if the planet continues to warm to 1.5-degrees Celsius or greater during this century?	Percentage
1	Increased land and water temperatures	1%
2	More high intensity storms with heavy precipitation and flooding	2%
3	Droughts and wildfires	5%
4	Sea level rise	2%
5	Impacts to human health, livelihoods, food security, and economic well-being	2%
6	All of the above	76%
7	None of the above	1%
8	Don't know	11%
	Total	382

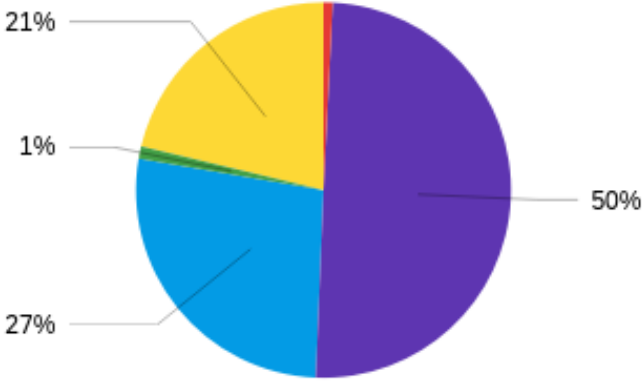
**Q13 - Who is most likely to feel the impacts of climate change?**



■ United States   
 ■ Europe   
 ■ Small island nations and least developed countries   
 ■ China  
■ Don't know

#	Who is most likely to feel the impacts of climate change?	Percentage
1	United States	11%
2	Europe	3%
3	Small island nations and least developed countries	64%
4	China	7%
5	Don't know	15%
	Total	382

**Q14 - What has to happen for world-wide for average global temperatures to stabilize at 1.5-degrees Celsius or less?**



■ The amount of forested land needs to decrease substantially.

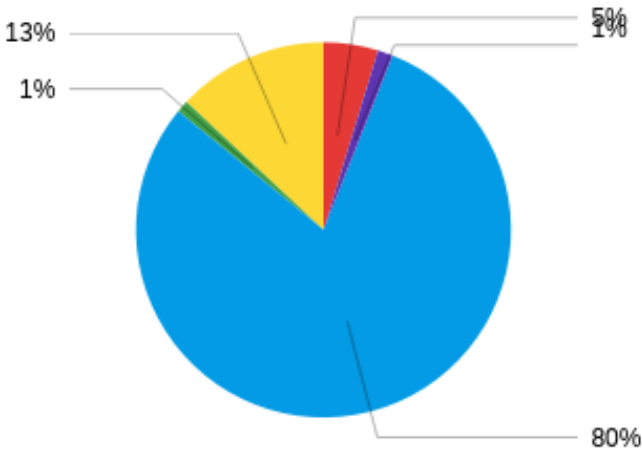
■ Carbon dioxide emissions world-wide must decrease rapidly and reach net-zero by 2050

■ All countries must commit to reducing emissions the same amount ■ Nothing needs to happen

■ Don't know

#	What has to happen for world-wide for average global temperatures to stabilize at 1.5-degrees Celsius or less?	Percentage
1	The amount of forested land needs to decrease substantially.	1%
2	Carbon dioxide emissions world-wide must decrease rapidly and reach net-zero by 2050	50%
3	All countries must commit to reducing emissions the same amount	27%
4	Nothing needs to happen	1%
5	Don't know	21%
	Total	381

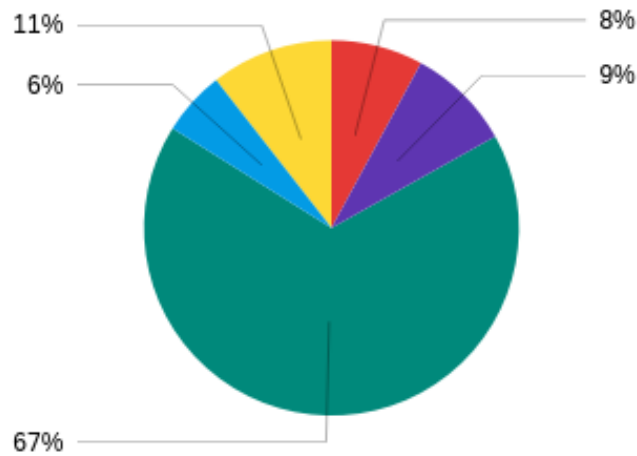
**Q15 - What does a carbon footprint tell you?**



- The amount of carbon emitted from coal mining
- There is no such thing as a carbon footprint
- The amount of greenhouse gases, especially carbon, that are produced by your lifestyle choices
- How much water you use when you wash your clothes
- Don't know

#	What does a carbon footprint tell you?	Percentage
1	The amount of carbon emitted from coal mining	5%
2	There is no such thing as a carbon footprint	1%
3	The amount of greenhouse gases, especially carbon, that are produced by your lifestyle choices	80%
4	How much water you use when you wash your clothes	1%
5	Don't know	13%
	Total	383

### Q37 - What do we mean by the life cycle of a product?



■ Knowing how long the product should last and whether it has a lifetime warranty

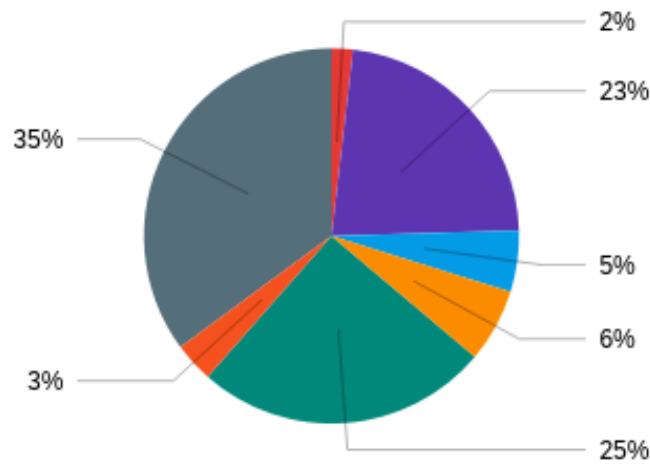
■ Taking into account how you dispose of the product at the end of its life

■ Considering all of the steps involved in creating a product you buy: raw material extraction, material processing and shipping, manufacturing, packaging, product shipping, product use, and disposal/recycling

■ Evaluating how often and how many people can use it before it breaks      ■ Don't know

#	What do we mean by the life cycle of a product?	Percentage
1	Knowing how long the product should last and whether it has a lifetime warranty	8%
4	Taking into account how you dispose of the product at the end of its life	9%
5	Considering all of the steps involved in creating a product you buy: raw material extraction, material processing and shipping, manufacturing, packaging, product shipping, product use, and disposal/recycling	67%
6	Evaluating how often and how many people can use it before it breaks	6%
7	Don't know	11%
	Total	379

## Q40 - What does it mean to live in a watershed?



■ (A) It means understanding that your impacts affect people downstream

■ (B) It means that what you do on the land (e.g., changing your oil, littering, fertilizing your lawn) has the potential to affect nearby streams and rivers

■ (C) It means that you live in a hard-paved area where the water from rain can penetrate the soil

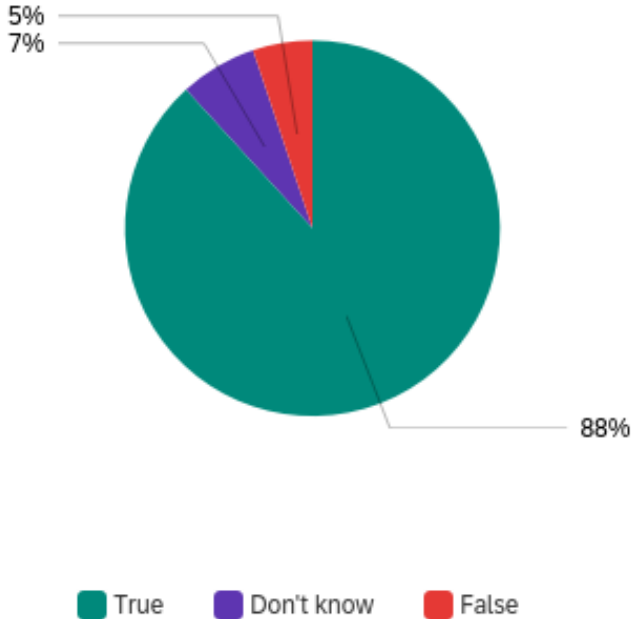
■ It means a and c    ■ It means a and b    ■ None of the above    ■ Don't know

#	What does it mean to live in a watershed?	Percentage
1	(A) It means understanding that your impacts affect people downstream	2%
4	(B) It means that what you do on the land (e.g., changing your oil, littering, fertilizing your lawn) has the potential to affect nearby streams and rivers	23%
5	(C) It means that you live in a hard-paved area where the water from rain can penetrate the soil	5%
6	It means a and c	6%
7	It means a and b	25%
8	None of the above	3%
9	Don't know	35%
	Total	379

**Q21 - Keene State College has a goal of being powered 100% by renewable sources by 2030. Please indicate which of the following are renewable energy resources:**

#	Question	Is Renewable	Is not Renewable	Don't Know	Total
1	Oil	10%	75%	15%	374
2	Geothermal	47%	20%	33%	376
3	Wood	42%	47%	11%	375
4	Coal	12%	76%	13%	374
5	Wind	87%	6%	7%	377
6	Solar	89%	3%	8%	379
7	Nuclear	27%	51%	22%	375
8	Hydroelectric	74%	7%	19%	380

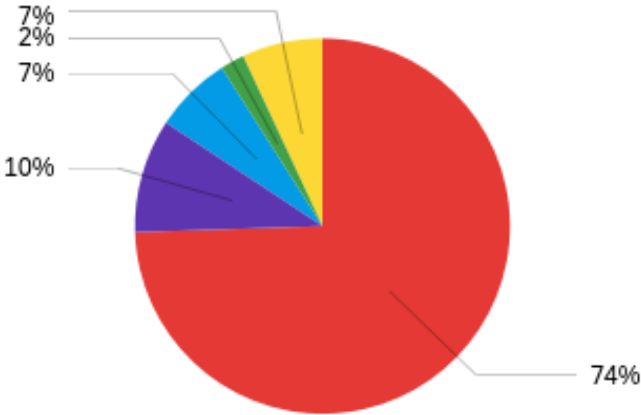
**Q22 - When we think of environmental sustainability we also have to consider how the impacts of saving the planet affect people. True or false?**



#	When we think of environmental sustainability we also have to consider how the impacts of saving the planet affect people. True or false?	Percentage
3	True	88%
4	Don't know	7%
5	False	5%
	Total	331



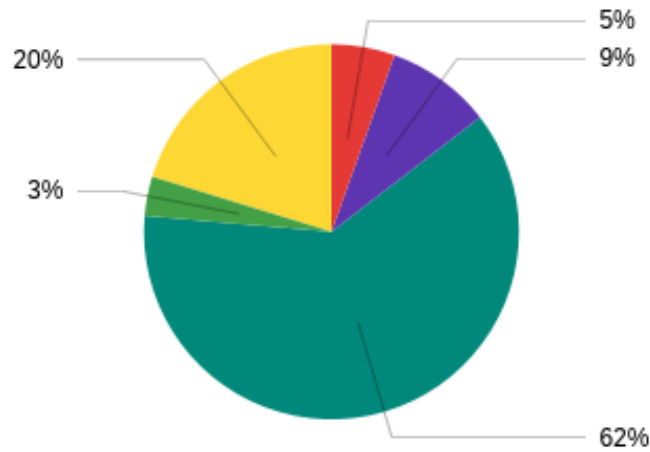
**Q23 - Which of the following is a choice that balance the wellbeing of people and the environment?**



- Drinking water and other beverages (like coffee) from a reusable containers
- Using single-use, throw away, plastic bottles and bags
- Keeping GDP as a means for tracking the success of an economy
- Outsourcing work to countries that have less strict regulations
- Don't know

#	Which of the following is a choice that balance the wellbeing of people and the environment?	Percentage
1	Drinking water and other beverages (like coffee) from a reusable containers	74%
2	Using single-use, throw away, plastic bottles and bags	10%
3	Keeping GDP as a means for tracking the success of an economy	7%
4	Outsourcing work to countries that have less strict regulations	2%
5	Don't know	7%
	Total	388

**Q24 - Which of the following is the best example of environmental justice?**



■ Urban citizens win a bill to have toxic wastes taken to rural communities.

■ The US government dams a river, flooding Native American tribal lands to create hydropower for large cities.

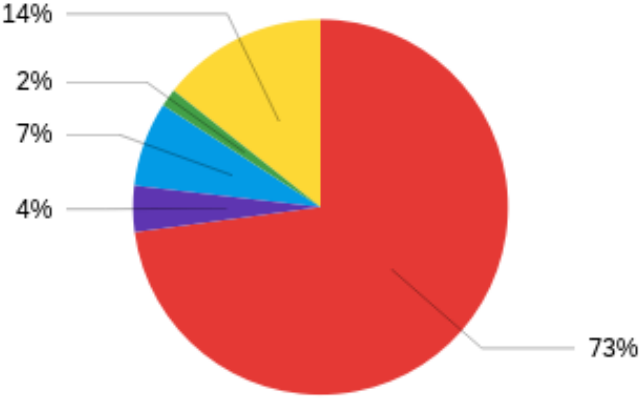
■ Community members should be involved in making decisions about how resources, like wood, can be used from a protected forest next to their village.

■ Multinational corporations build factories in developing countries where environmental laws are less strict.

■ Don't know

#	Which of the following is the best example of environmental justice?	Percentage
1	Urban citizens win a bill to have toxic wastes taken to rural communities.	5%
2	The US government dams a river, flooding Native American tribal lands to create hydropower for large cities.	9%
3	Community members should be involved in making decisions about how resources, like wood, can be used from a protected forest next to their village.	62%
4	Multinational corporations build factories in developing countries where environmental laws are less strict.	3%
5	Don't know	20%
	Total	385

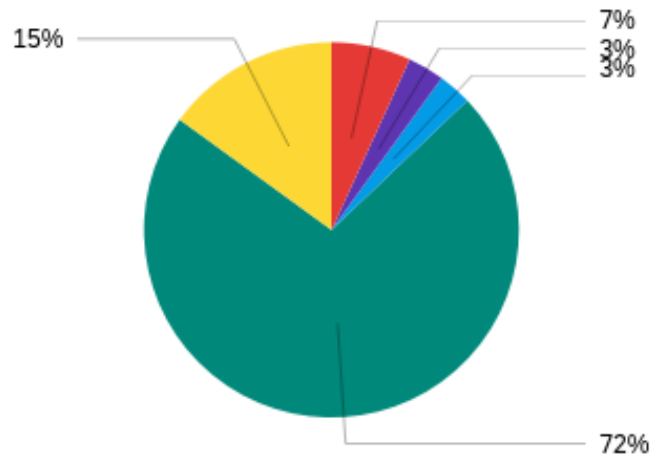
**Q41 - An important way to live a more sustainable lifestyle is to be a conscious, or ethical, consumer. What does this mean?**



- Doing research to figure out the hidden impacts of the products I purchase, like considering the life cycle costs
- Thinking about how much money I am saving on a product
- Reviewing consumer guides and other ratings to see how much people like the product
- Trying to keep up with the latest trends
- Don't know

#	An important way to live a more sustainable lifestyle is to be a conscious, or ethical, consumer. What does this mean?	Percentage
8	Doing research to figure out the hidden impacts of the products I purchase, like considering the life cycle costs	73%
12	Thinking about how much money I am saving on a product	4%
13	Reviewing consumer guides and other ratings to see how much people like the product	7%
14	Trying to keep up with the latest trends	2%
15	Don't know	14%
	Total	328

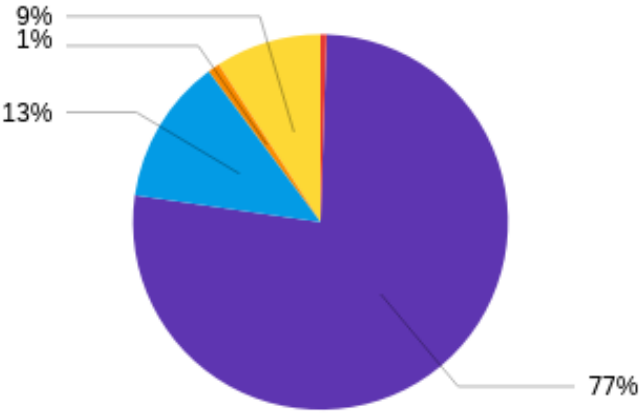
**Q42 - How can consumers lower their carbon footprint over the life cycle of a product?**



- Use products for a short period of time, then dispose of them.
- Shop for things online and get them delivered.     ■ Look for the cheapest product.
- Buy products made locally and shop second hand.     ■ Don't know

#	How can consumers lower their carbon footprint over the life cycle of a product?	Percentage
1	Use products for a short period of time, then dispose of them.	7%
4	Shop for things online and get them delivered.	3%
5	Look for the cheapest product.	3%
6	Buy products made locally and shop second hand.	72%
7	Don't know	15%
	Total	380

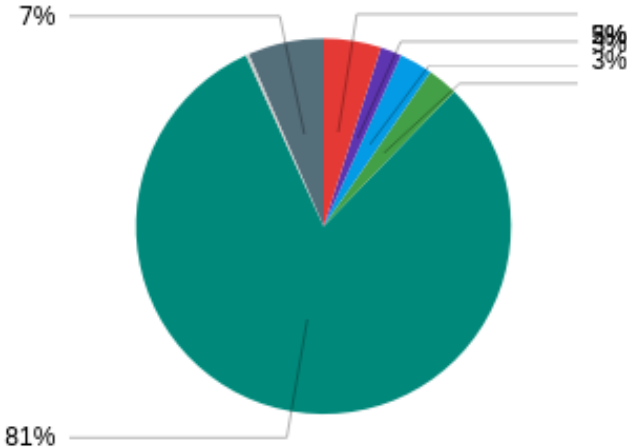
**Q27 - One of Keene State’s sustainability goals is to reduce water usage per capita by 20%. As a student living on campus, how can you help reach that goal?**



- Drink less water
- Cut three minutes off your shower
- Shut off the lights when you leave the room
- Drink only from plastic bottles
- Don't know

#	One of Keene State’s sustainability goals is to reduce water usage per capita by 20%. As a student living on campus, how can you help reach that goal?	Percentage
1	Drink less water	1%
2	Cut three minutes off your shower	77%
3	Shut off the lights when you leave the room	13%
4	Drink only from plastic bottles	1%
5	Don't know	9%
	Total	383

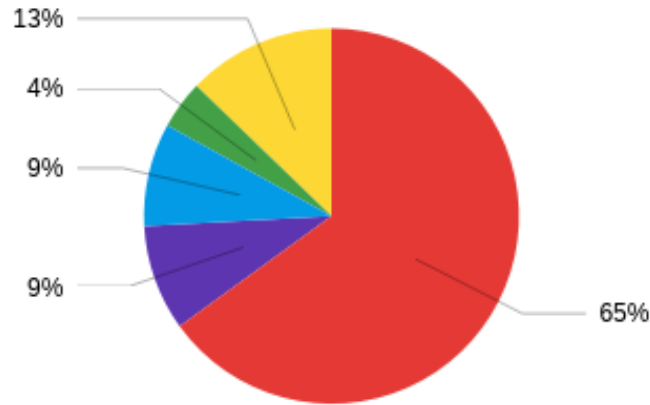
**Q43 - What are steps you can take to help KSC meet its goal of being a zero-waste certified campus by 2030?**



- Recycle paper, plastics, and cans and bottles
- Minimize packaging
- Don't waste your food and compost the food waste you have
- Buy reusable items
- All the above
- None of the above
- Don't know

#	What are steps you can take to help KSC meet its goal of being a zero-waste certified campus by 2030?	Percentage
1	Recycle paper, plastics, and cans and bottles	5%
4	Minimize packaging	2%
5	Don't waste your food and compost the food waste you have	3%
6	Buy reusable items	3%
7	All the above	81%
8	None of the above	0%
9	Don't know	7%
	Total	383

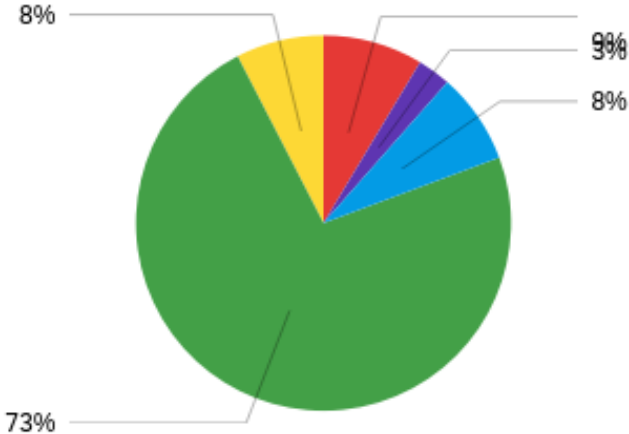
**Q28 - In many cities and towns, and certainly Keene, what areas are in most danger of pollution?**



- Streams, rivers, and lakes (known as surface waters) because of runoff from the parking lots, streets, and over-fertilized lawns
- Drinking water supplies
- The trees and forest because of deforestation.
- None of the above
- Don't know

#	In many cities and towns, and certainly Keene, what areas are in most danger of pollution?	Percentage
1	Streams, rivers, and lakes (known as surface waters) because of runoff from the parking lots, streets, and over-fertilized lawns	65%
2	Drinking water supplies	9%
3	The trees and forest because of deforestation.	9%
4	None of the above	4%
5	Don't know	13%
	Total	383

Q29 - Where does most of the world's drinking water come from?

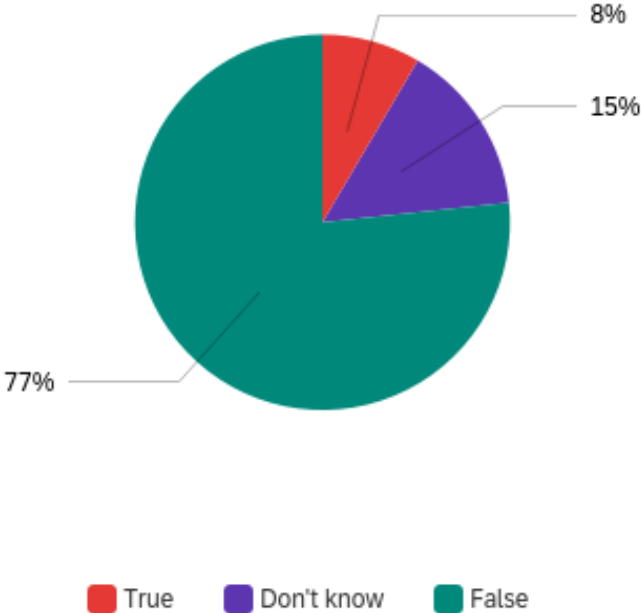


- Single use plastic water bottles
- The oceans
- Wells
- Streams, rivers, and reservoirs
- Don't know

#	Where does most of the world's drinking water come from?	Percentage
1	Single use plastic water bottles	9%
2	The oceans	3%
3	Wells	8%
4	Streams, rivers, and reservoirs	73%
5	Don't know	8%
	Total	383

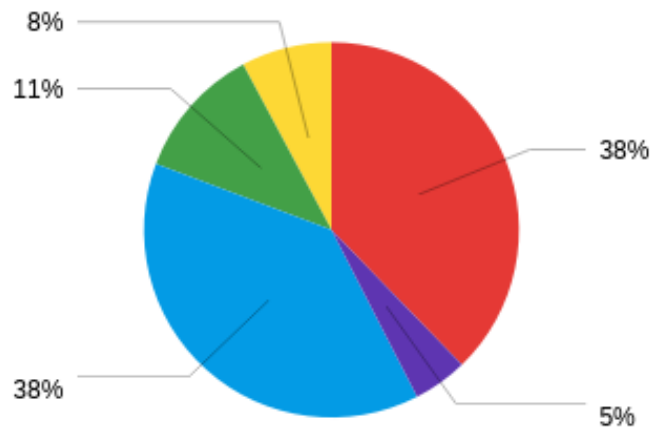


**Q30 - True or False: The new sustainability goals of Keene State only involve actions taken by the college, and not the student body.**



#	True or False: The new sustainability goals of Keene State only involve actions taken by the college, and not the student body.	Percentage
3	True	8%
4	Don't know	15%
5	False	77%
	Total	330

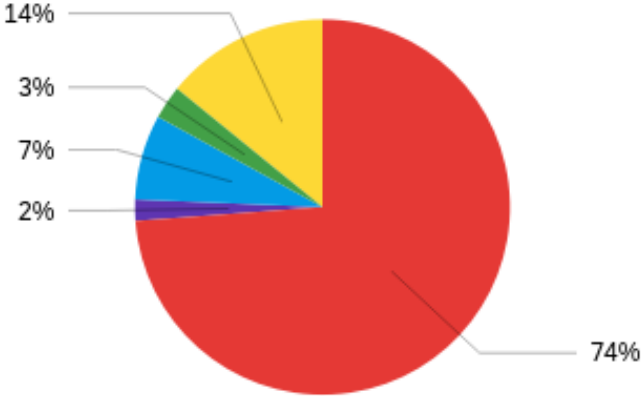
**Q31 - Of the following, which mode of transportation is the least sustainable?**



- Driving my personal car alone for an hour
- Travelling on a public bus that is filled with people for an hour
- Taking a one-hour jet plane trip
- Riding a bike borrowed from KSC's Green Bikes program for one hour
- Don't know

#	Of the following, which mode of transportation is the least sustainable?	Percentage
1	Driving my personal car alone for an hour	38%
2	Travelling on a public bus that is filled with people for an hour	5%
3	Taking a one-hour jet plane trip	38%
4	Riding a bike borrowed from KSC's Green Bikes program for one hour	11%
5	Don't know	8%
	Total	384

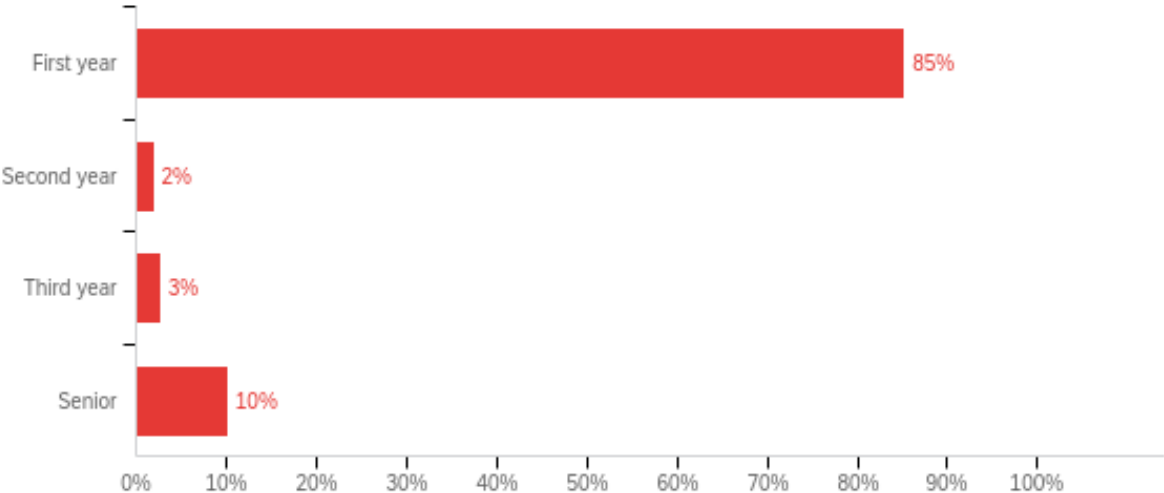
**Q34 - What is the most important food choice I can make to help reduce greenhouse gas emissions?**



- Eat a plant-based diet (e.g., vegan, vegetarian)
- Choose fast food options when possible
- Choose foods that are grown or made far away, instead of local
- Eat more meat
- Don't know

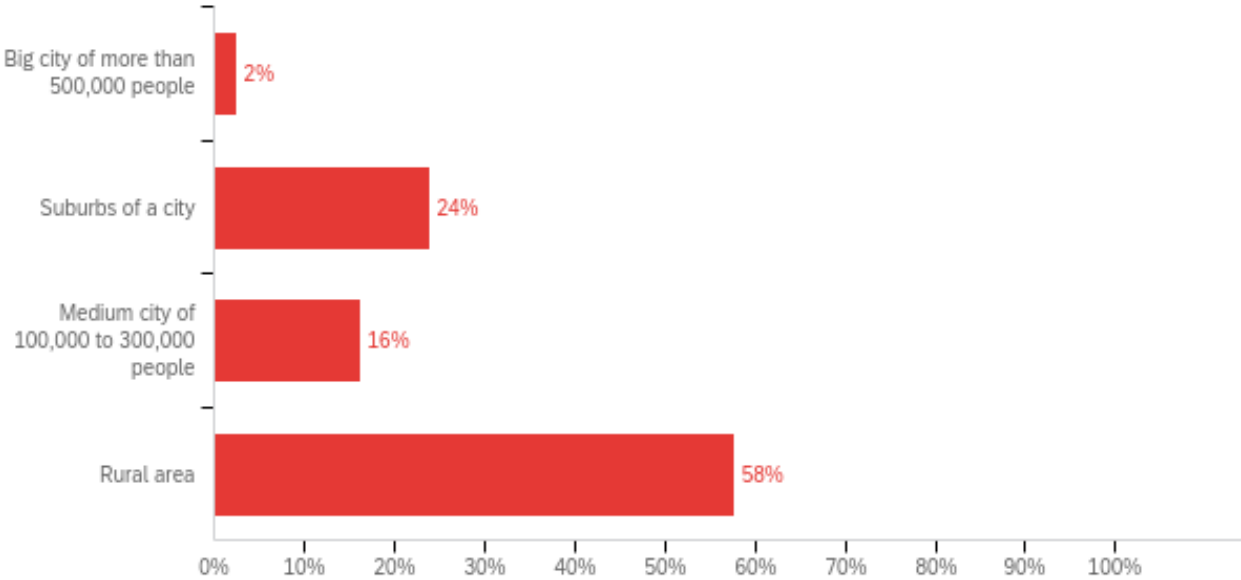
#	What is the most important food choice I can make to help reduce greenhouse gas emissions?	Percentage
1	Eat a plant-based diet (e.g., vegan, vegetarian)	74%
2	Choose fast food options when possible	2%
3	Choose foods that are grown or made far away, instead of local	7%
4	Eat more meat	3%
5	Don't know	14%
	Total	382

**Q47 - What year are you?**



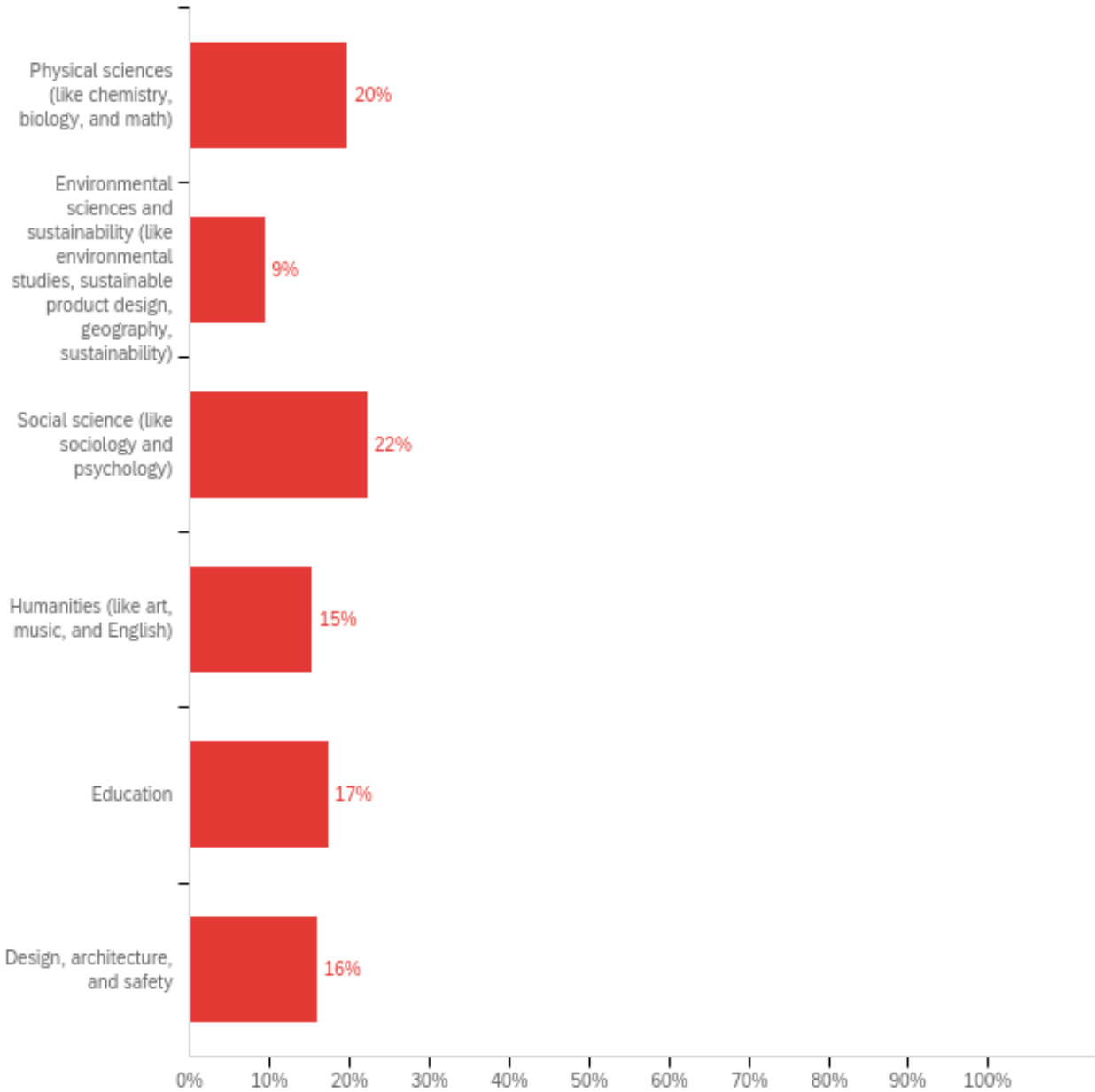
#	What year are you?	Percentage
1	First year	85%
4	Second year	2%
5	Third year	3%
6	Senior	10%
	Total	375

**Q48 - Where do you live when not at Keene State?**



#	Where do you live when not at Keene State?	Percentage
1	Big city of more than 500,000 people	2%
4	Suburbs of a city	24%
5	Medium city of 100,000 to 300,000 people	16%
6	Rural area	58%
	Total	378

## Q49 - What are you studying, or planning to study?



#	What are you studying, or planning to study?	Percentage
1	Physical sciences (like chemistry, biology, and math)	20%
4	Environmental sciences and sustainability (like environmental studies, sustainable product design, geography, sustainability)	9%
5	Social science (like sociology and psychology)	22%
6	Humanities (like art, music, and English)	15%
7	Education	17%

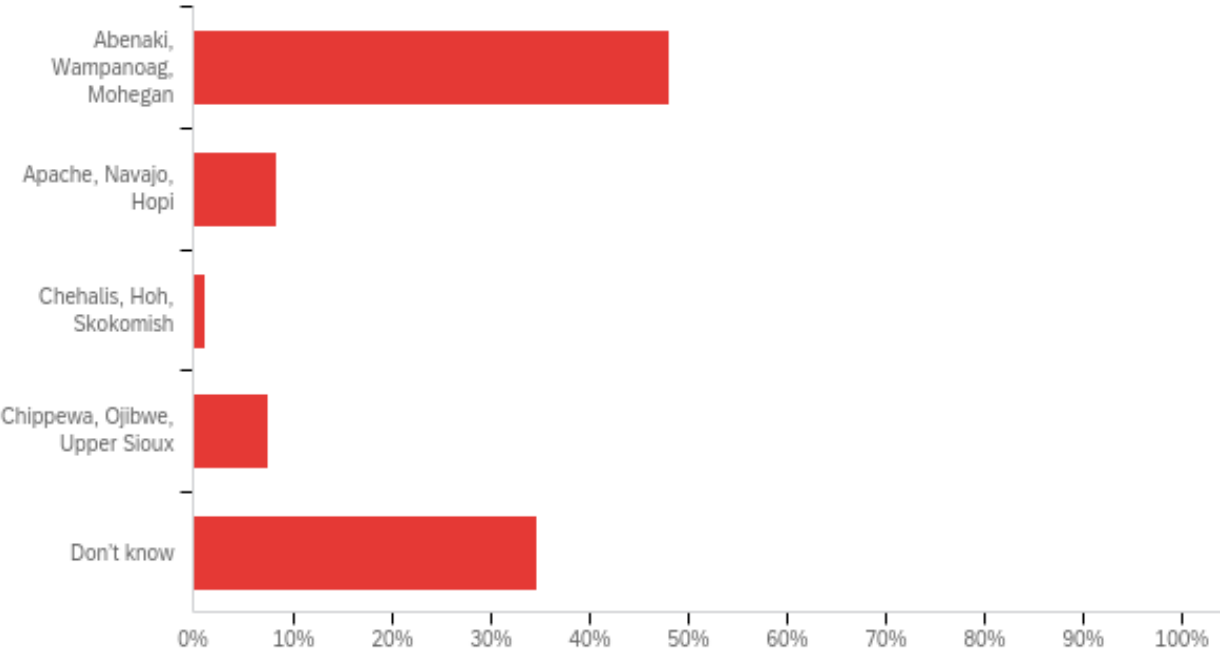


## SC0 - Score

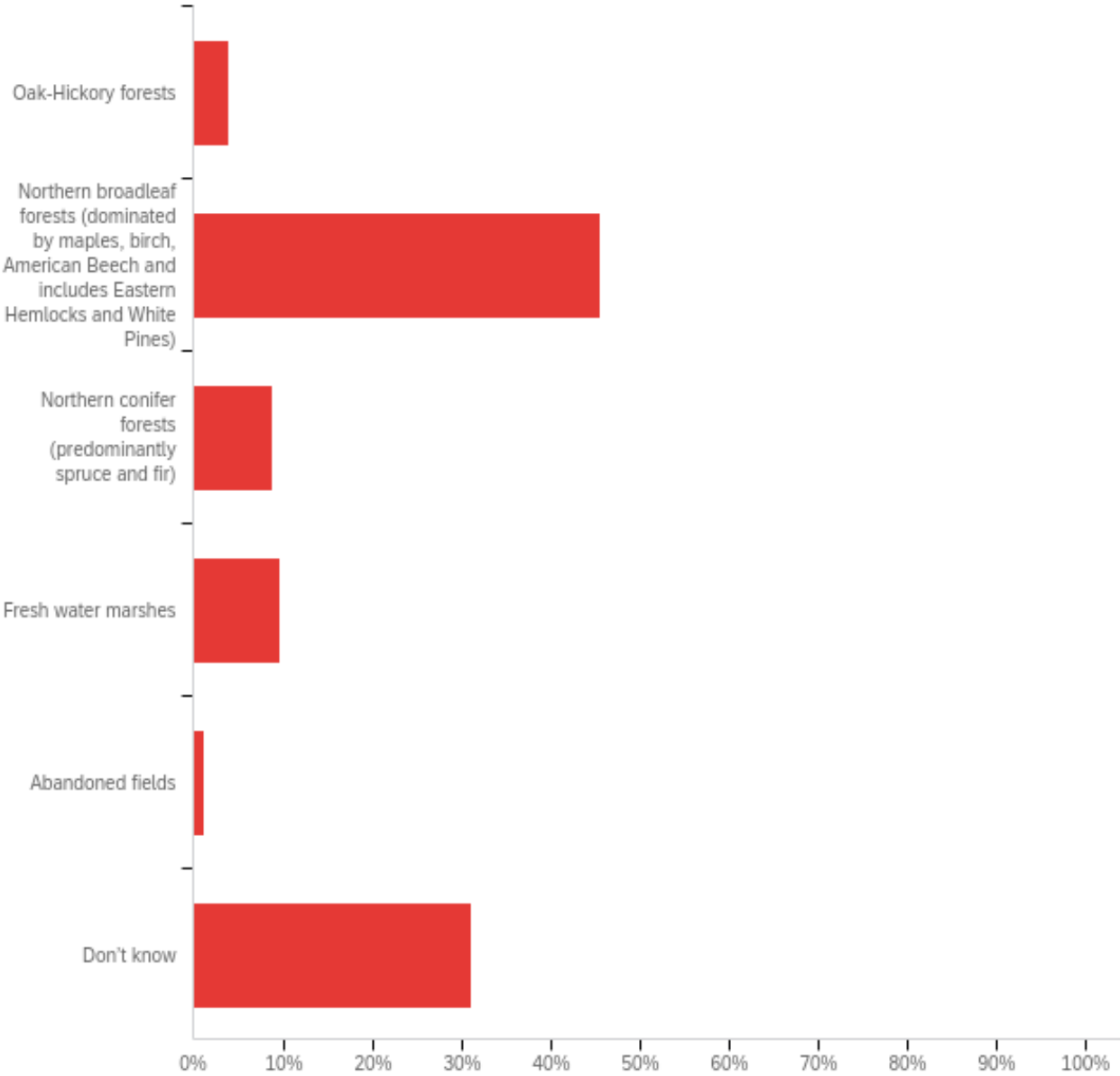
#	Field	Minimum	Maximum	Mean	Std Deviation	Variance	Count
1	Score	0	43	26	9	90	397



**Q63 - What are some of the Indigenous peoples in the New England States?**



Q64 - What is the most predominant ecological habitat in New England?



**Q62 - Please use the scale below to rate how often you acted in each of the following ways.**

#	Question	Never	Sometimes	Often	Always	Total
1	Save energy (e.g., turn off the lights when leaving a room, turning off my electronics when not in use, use the dryer only for full loads)	2%	23%	43%	32%	325
2	Conserve water (e.g., take shorter showers, turn off water when I brush my teeth)	3%	41%	33%	23%	325
3	Reduce waste (e.g., take only what I can eat at meals so I do not throw leftovers away, think before I buy, carry my own shopping bag, buy in bulk to avoid packaging, limit how much I print things and only do it double-sided)	2%	38%	40%	19%	325
4	Recycle what I can (e.g., bottles, cans, plastics numbered #1 and #2, paper)	4%	22%	36%	38%	325
5	Choose low-impact transportation (e.g., carpool, mass transit, bicycle, walk)	13%	49%	27%	12%	324
6	Make diet choices that support the planet's sustainability (e.g., mostly plants, locally grown foods, smaller portions, Fair Trade products)	18%	50%	20%	12%	324
7	Compost food scraps and other compostable materials (e.g., paper towels, paper napkins, pizza boxes)	25%	34%	27%	14%	324
8	Print double-sided whenever I can	10%	27%	30%	34%	325
9	Get out in nature to appreciate the beautiful earth (e.g., hiking, gardening)	2%	20%	40%	39%	324
10	Get involved in making political choices for the earth and human health (e.g., vote)	10%	29%	31%	30%	326