

SPOKANE RIVER WATER QUALITY SURVEY



May 2015

Spokane, Lincoln, & Stevens Counties

Robinson Research was commissioned by The Spokane River Forum to conduct a telephone survey with households in Lincoln, Stevens, and Spokane Counties. This product was funded through a grant from Washington State Department of Ecology. While these materials were reviewed for grant consistency, this does not necessarily constitute endorsement by the Department.

Spokane River Water Quality Survey

Contents

METHODOLOGY	2
EXECUTIVE SUMMARY	3
DETAILED OBSERVATIONS	6
Q.1 Have you seen, read, or heard anything about the Spokane River?	6
Q.2 What were the major subjects you recall?	7
Q.3 Was the information about a specific area (reach) of the river?	8
Q.4 What were the sources of your information?	9
Q.5 In a typical year, how many times do you visit the Spokane River?	10
Q.6 What activities best describe how you interact with the Spokane River?	11
Q.7 In which of the following areas do you most often interact with the river?	12
Q.8 How would you describe the water quality in the Spokane River?	13
Q.9 What, if any, concerns do you have regarding the Spokane River?	14
Q.10 Is the river safe to swim in?	15
Q.11 Are the fish safe to eat?	16
Q.12 Are the beaches safe to use?	17
Q.13 What are the major sources of pollution in the Spokane River, if any?	18
Q. 14 How important is it to you that the river be protected and/or cleaned up?	19
Q. 15 What water quality cleanup efforts are being conducted on the river?	20
Possible Contaminant and Pollution Sources	23
Q.31 Should the motivation for individuals/businesses to help protect be...?	25
Q.32 Are there any health advisories about eating fish from the river, or not?	26
Q.33 Does anyone in your home catch fish from the river?	26
Q. 34 How many fish from the river do the members of your household eat?	27
Q.35 Where do you generally catch fish?	28
Q.36 Do you take any precautions in how fish caught from the Spokane River?	29
The Spokane/Rathdrum Prairie Aquifer Statements	29
Q.42 How interested are you in learning more about the challenges?	32
Q.43 When communicating water quality messages, which of the following?	32
Agree/Disagree Statements	32
Organization Ratings	36
DEMOGRAPHICS	39

METHODOLOGY

Robinson Research was commissioned by The Spokane River Forum to conduct a telephone survey with adults living in portions of Spokane, Lincoln, and Stevens Counties. The zip codes surveyed were all adjacent to the Spokane River. The overall purpose of this study was to evaluate public attitudes and perceptions regarding pollution in the Spokane River.

For this wave, the telephone interviews in Spokane, Lincoln, and Stevens Counties were conducted at our facility from May 9, 2015 to June 1, 2015. Previous waves were conducted in 2009 and 2005.

No fewer than fifteen percent (15%) of the interviews were monitored in their entirety, and an additional ten percent (10%) were called back by a supervisor for verification of key points of the data. Interim trial runs of the data were cross-tabulated by interviewer as a quality assurance procedure.

A total of 800 telephone interviews were completed. Fifty percent (400) were conducted in Spokane County, thirteen percent (100) in Lincoln County, thirteen percent (100) in Stevens County, and twenty-five percent (200) in Kootenai County.

To allow for tracking Robinson Research has produced two reports for this project. This report is based on interviews conducted in Spokane, Lincoln, and Stevens Counties and excludes all responses from Kootenai County. The Kootenai County results are presented under separate cover.

Respondents who reported working for a market research or advertising agency were excluded from this survey.

A 600-sample survey has a margin of error of +/- 3.98% percent. In theory, survey results have a ninety-five percent (95%) chance of coming within +/- 3.98 percentage points of results that would have been obtained if all households in Spokane, Lincoln, and Stevens Counties in zip codes adjacent to the Spokane River had been interviewed.

In total 12,457 attempted calls were required to obtain the quota of 600 completed interviews.

Questions regarding this study may be directed to:

William D. Robinson
President
Robinson Research
1206 N. Lincoln St, Suite 200
Spokane, Washington 99201-2559
(509) 489-4361
E-mail: billr@robinson-research.com

EXECUTIVE SUMMARY

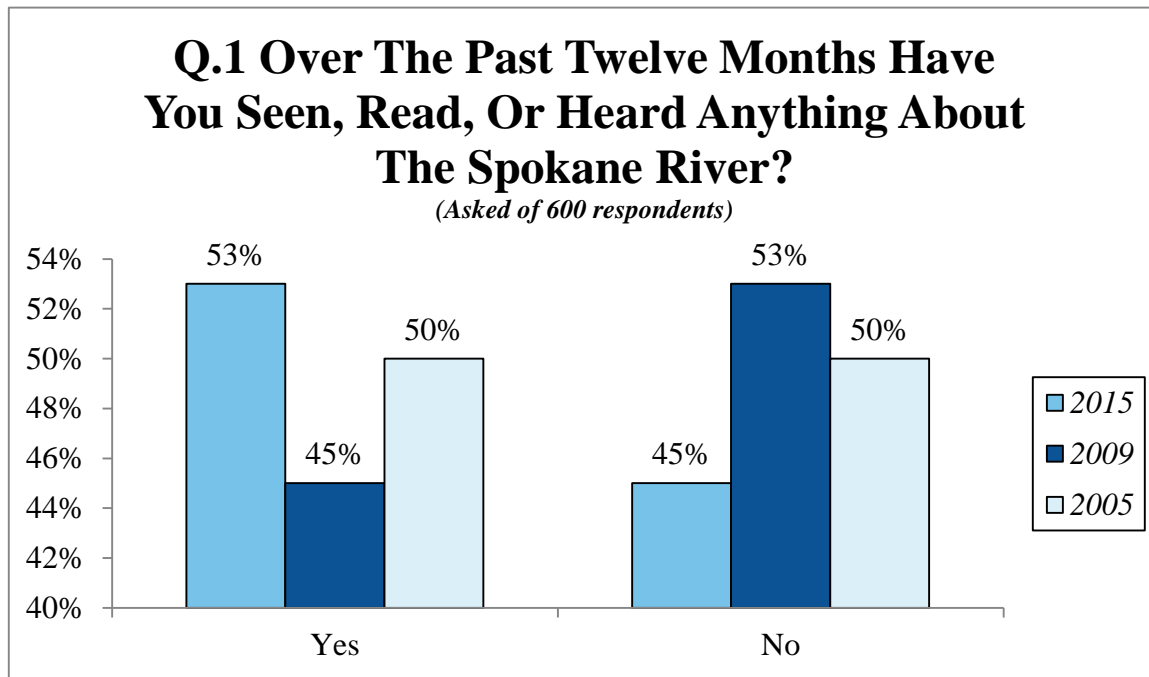
- Half of respondents reported seeing, reading, or hearing something about the river during the previous twelve months. This is fairly consistent with previous surveys.
- One in six respondents who had seen, read, or heard something about the river reported the major subject was about non-specific pollution and nearly one in six mentioned experiencing information about recreation.
- Two in five respondents who had seen, read, or heard something about the river reported that it was specific to the reach between Upriver Dam and Spokane Falls.
- Half of respondents who had seen, read, or heard something about the river cited *The Spokesman-Review* as a source of their information. TV news was also a predominant source.
- The average respondent reported visiting the river 33.43 times in a typical year, a sixteen percent increase from 2009. Which is consistent with the community becoming increasingly aware of the Spokane River as a recreational location for trail and water activities.
- Three in five respondents who interacted with the river at least once in a typical year mentioned walking, running, and/or biking along the river as an activity in which they participated.
- One in three respondents who interacted with the river at least once in a typical year reported doing so most often between Long Lake Dam and Lake Roosevelt.
- Two in five respondents rated the river water quality as excellent or pretty good. One in four respondents gave a similar rating in 2009.
- Three in ten respondents reported having no concerns regarding the river, far lower than in previous iterations of this study. There was a significant decrease in the percentage of respondents who cited pollution from industry as a concern.
- Seven in ten respondents perceived that it was safe to swim in the river, consistent with previous waves.
- Two in five respondents perceived the fish caught from the river as safe to eat, similar to previous iterations of the study.
- Nine in ten respondents perceived the beaches along the river as safe to use, similar to 2009 and 2005.
- One in three respondents cited pollution from industry as a major source of pollution in the river. A similar proportion cited sewages spills/releases/CSO.
- Three in four respondents reported that it was very important that the river be protected and/or cleaned up. Nine in ten reported that it was very or somewhat important. This was consistent with previous waves.

- Four in five respondents reported that there were no cleanup efforts being conducted along the river or were unable to cite any.
- Respondents were asked to rate how contaminated the Spokane River was with a number of contaminants/pollutants. Stormwater, heavy metals, and phosphorus were ranked the highest.
- Respondents were asked to rate various possible sources of pollution. Stormwater, industrial discharge, mining companies, and wastewater treatment plants were ranked the highest.
- A clear majority of respondents reported that the motivation for individuals or businesses to help protect water quality should be mandatory.
- Two in five respondents reported awareness of health advisories about eating fish caught from the river, consistent with previous iterations of this survey.
- One in four respondents reported that someone in their household caught fish from the river, consistent with results from prior years.
- The average respondent in a household where someone caught fish reported eating 1.67 fish in a typical month, a decline of about 3.3 from 2009. The number of fish being eaten has remained unchanged, likely indicating more catch and release activity.
- Seven in ten respondents in a household where someone ate at least one fish caught from the river in a typical month reported catching the fish from Long Lake Dam to Lake Roosevelt or in Lake Spokane.
- One in four of the respondents who lived in a household where someone ate at least one fish in a typical month, caught from the river, reported taking precautions in how fish caught from the river were prepared. In 2009, it was two in five.
- Statements about perceptions of the Spokane/Rathdrum Prairie Aquifer reflected the following:
 - Confidence in the water quality from the aquifer was high and consistent with previous waves.
 - There was some increase in concern that the aquifer is well protected from pollution.
 - In 2009, there was some confidence that sufficient water resources would be available to meet future needs. In 2015, the confidence declined.
 - A majority of respondents understood the aquifer and river interchange with each other and that withdrawals from the aquifer can affect river flows.
- Four in five respondents reported being somewhat or very interested in learning more about the challenges facing the Spokane River, similar to previous waves.
- A majority of respondents reported that a message about how big the problem is, was the most likely to inspire change. Two in five preferred a message about progress being made or being a green citizen.

- Statements to measure strengths of opinions regarding river issues showed:
 - Strong support, as in previous waves, to protect the river for future generations.
 - A strong belief that the river is important to the regional economy and it will cost more if action is deferred.
 - Belief there are things households can do to both conserve water and reduce contaminants/pollutants into the river.
 - Support, but less strongly, for banning products that pollute the river and agencies restricting action to protect water quality. This provides a sideboard perspective to 56% of respondents expecting that the motivation for individuals or businesses to help protect water quality should be mandatory.
 - There was increased, but average belief that water quality had significantly improved since 2000 or “in your lifetime.” There was mild agreement with the statement that water quality would be significantly improved by 2025.
 - There was fairly strong disagreement with the statement “The Spokane River is fine just the way it is.”
- Respondents had the most confidence in conservation districts managing restoration or clean-up efforts in the Spokane River. Respondents reported very little confidence in industry filling this role. Non-profit environmental groups, WA Department of Ecology, university professors/scientists, and Indian Tribes had similar levels of positive confidence. Cities, counties, and the EPA were clustered at lower positive confidence levels.

DETAILED OBSERVATIONS

Q.1 Over the past twelve months have you seen, read, or heard anything about the Spokane River?¹

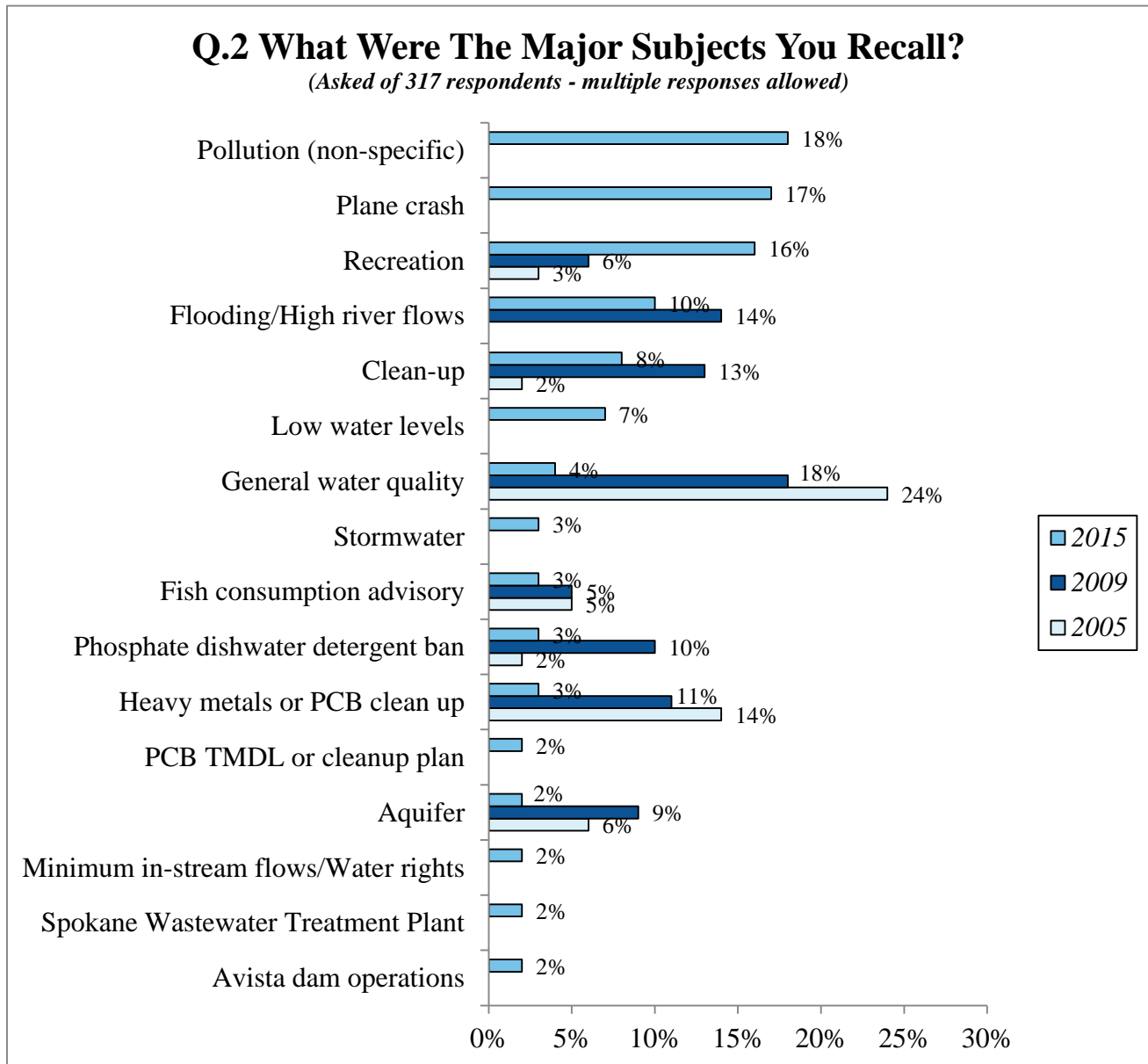


Half (53%) of respondents reported seeing, reading, or hearing something about the Spokane River during the previous twelve months.

Responses spanned the tested subsets quite evenly.

¹ This question was asked of all respondents (n=600).

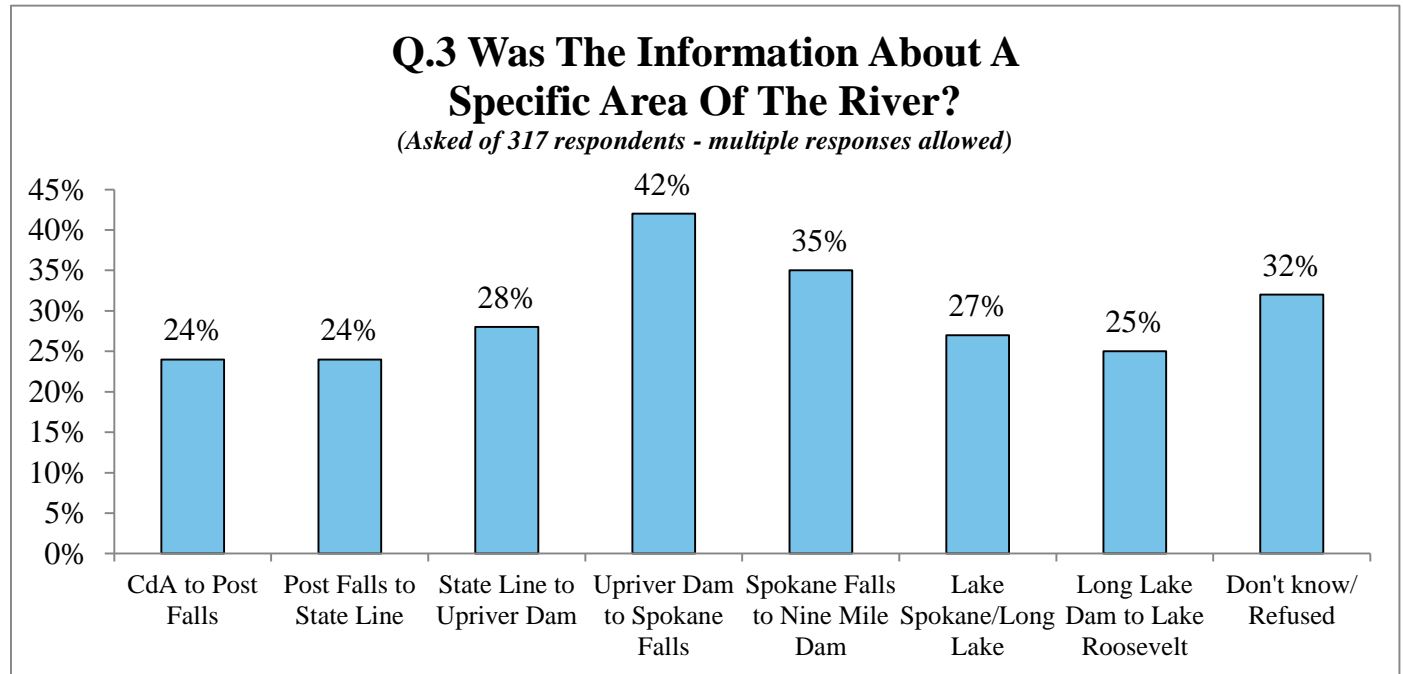
Q.2 What were the major subjects you recall?²



“Pollution (non-specific)” was added this year as a possible coded response. Combining this with “general water quality” results in fairly consistent results between each wave.

² This question was asked of respondents who reported seeing, reading, or hearing something about the Spokane River (n=317). Respondents were not read a list of possible responses from which to choose. Multiple responses were allowed.

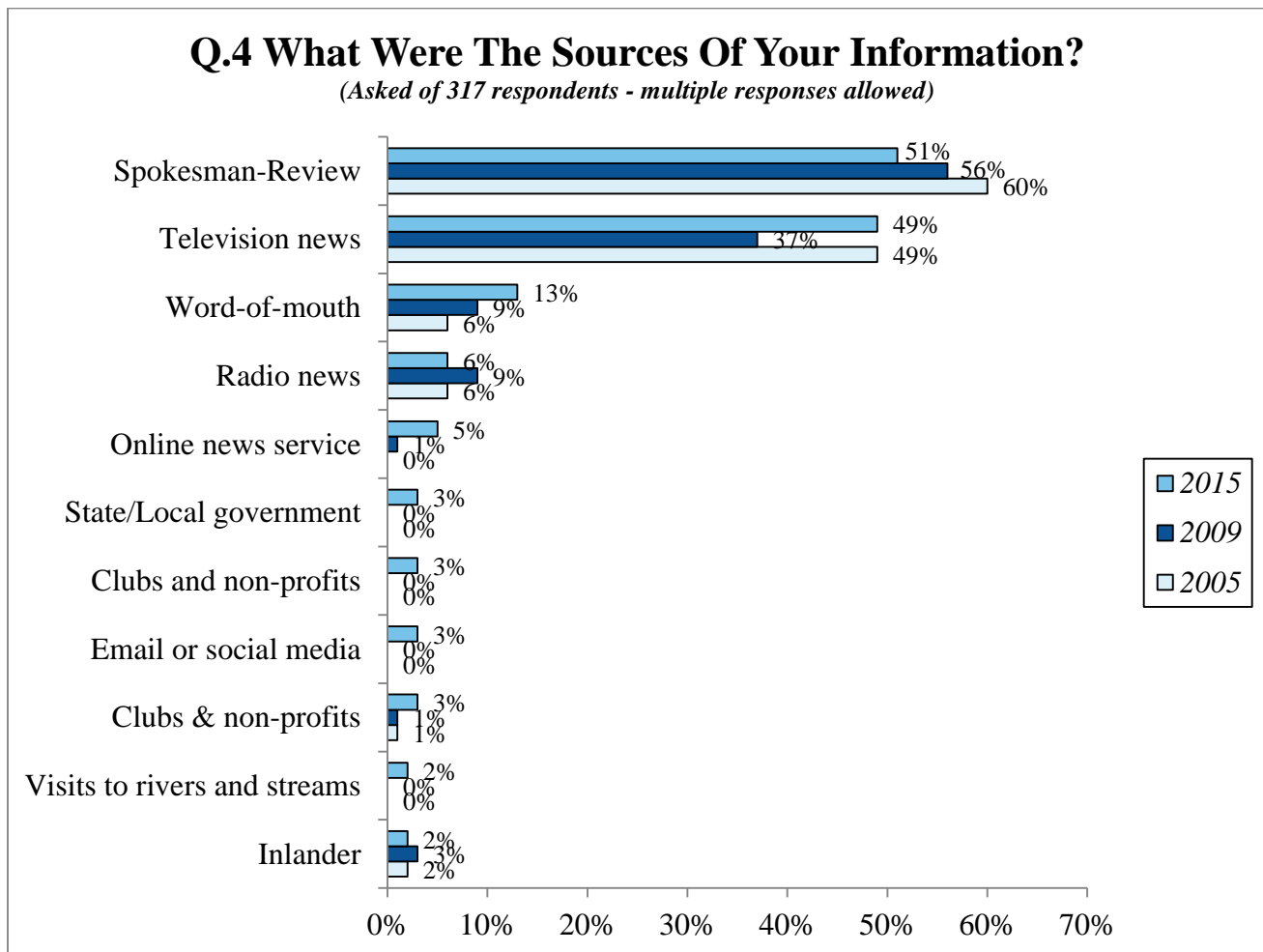
Q.3 Was the information about a specific area (reach) of the river?³



One in four (24%) respondents stated that the information was about the whole river.

³ This question was asked of respondents who reported seeing, reading, or hearing something about the Spokane River (n=317). Multiple responses were allowed. This question was not asked in 2009.

Q.4 What were the sources of your information?⁴



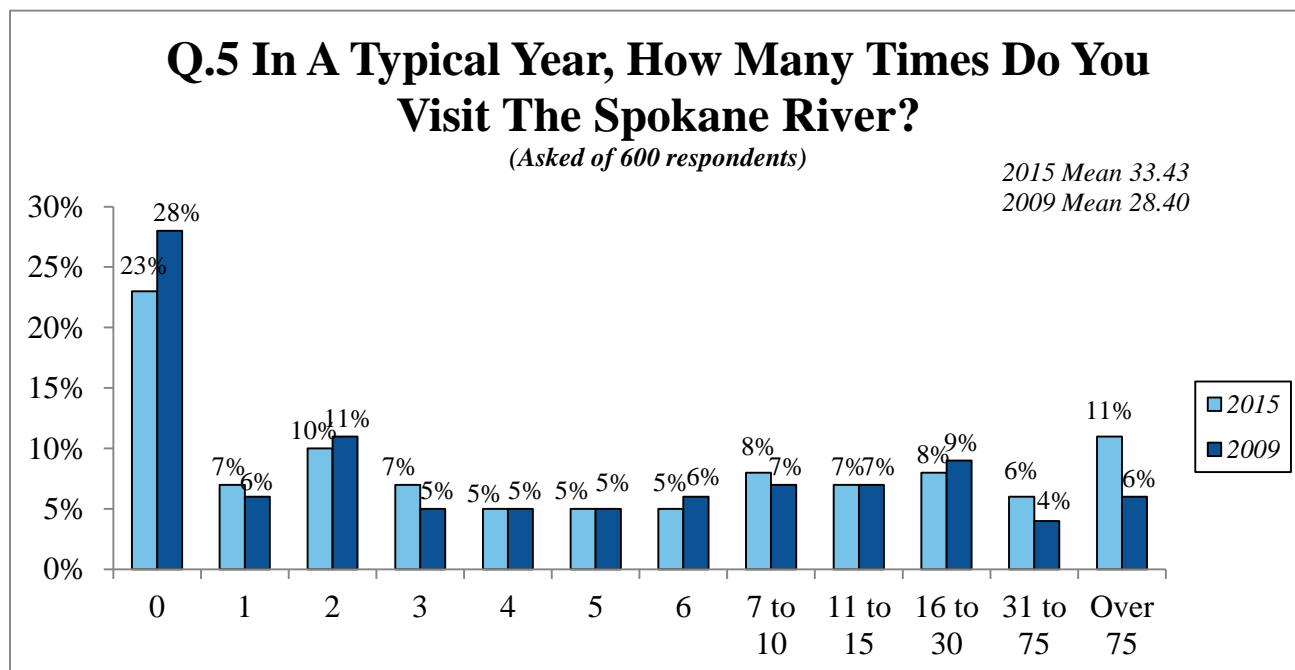
Half of respondents (51%) reported that *The Spokesman-Review* was the source of their information.

Participants who reported that someone in their household caught fish from the river were more likely than average to report hearing the information via word-of-mouth.

Respondents in the 18 to 34 age group were less likely than average to report television news as a source.

⁴ This question was asked of respondents who reported seeing, reading, or hearing something about the Spokane River (n=317). Respondents were not read a list of possible responses from which to read. Multiple responses were allowed.

Q.5 In a typical year, how many times do you visit the Spokane River?⁵

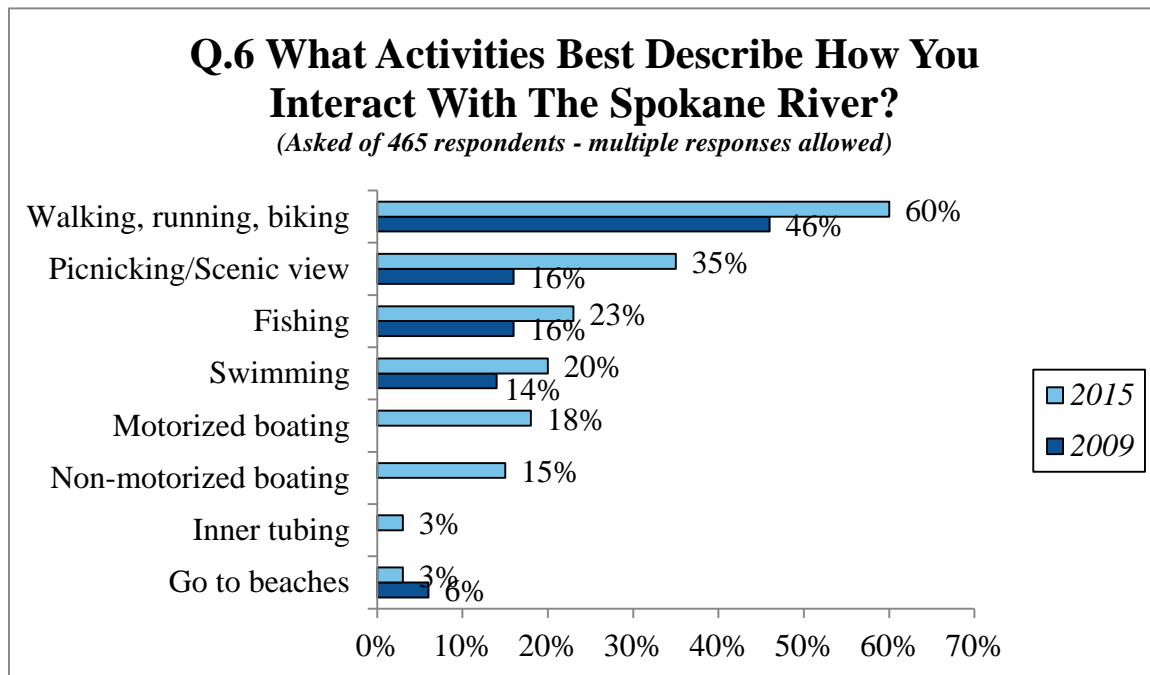


The average respondent reported visiting the river 33.43 times in a typical year.

Respondents in Stevens County were significantly more likely than average to report visiting the river more often.

Lincoln County residents were more likely than average to report visiting the river fewer times.

⁵ This question was asked of all respondents (n=600). This question was not asked of all respondents in 2009.

Q.6 What activities best describe how you interact with the Spokane River?⁶

Please note that in 2009 boating was not split between motorized and non-motorized.

Three in five (60%) respondents reported walking, running, or biking along the river.

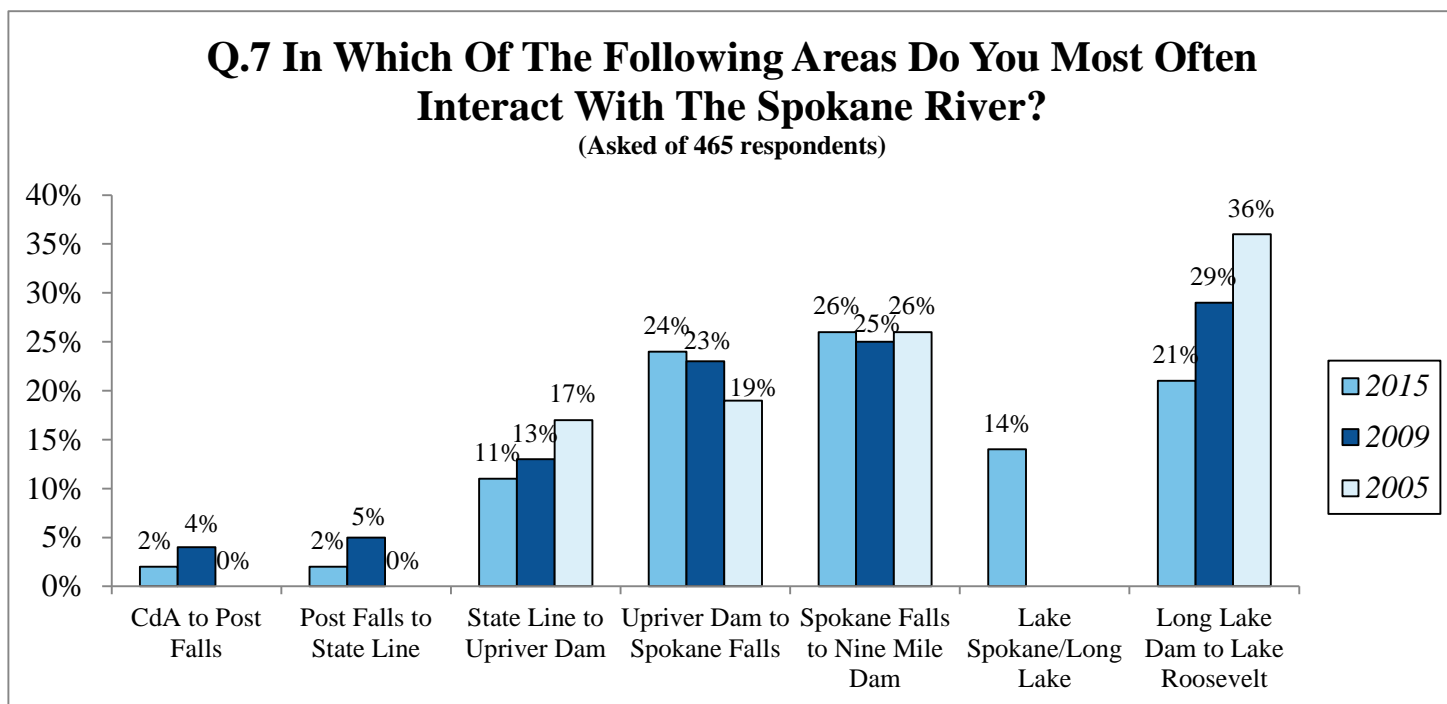
Spokane residents were significantly more likely than their Lincoln and Stevens counterparts to report walking, running, or biking along the river.

Lincoln and Stevens respondents were significantly more likely than their Spokane counterparts to report visiting the river to fish.

In addition to the above, Stevens County residents were more likely than average to report visiting the river for swimming, motorized boating, non-motorized boating, and going to beaches.

⁶ This question was asked of respondents who reported visiting the river at least once in a typical year (n=465). Respondents were not read a list of possible responses from which to choose. Multiple responses were allowed. This question was asked of all respondents in 2009 and new response categories were added this year.

Q.7 In which of the following areas do you most often interact with the Spokane River?⁷



Please note that Lake Spokane/Long Lake was added as an option this year.

Respondents who reported that someone in their household caught fish from the river were more likely than average to report most often interacting with the river from Long Lake Dam to Lake Roosevelt and Lake Spokane.

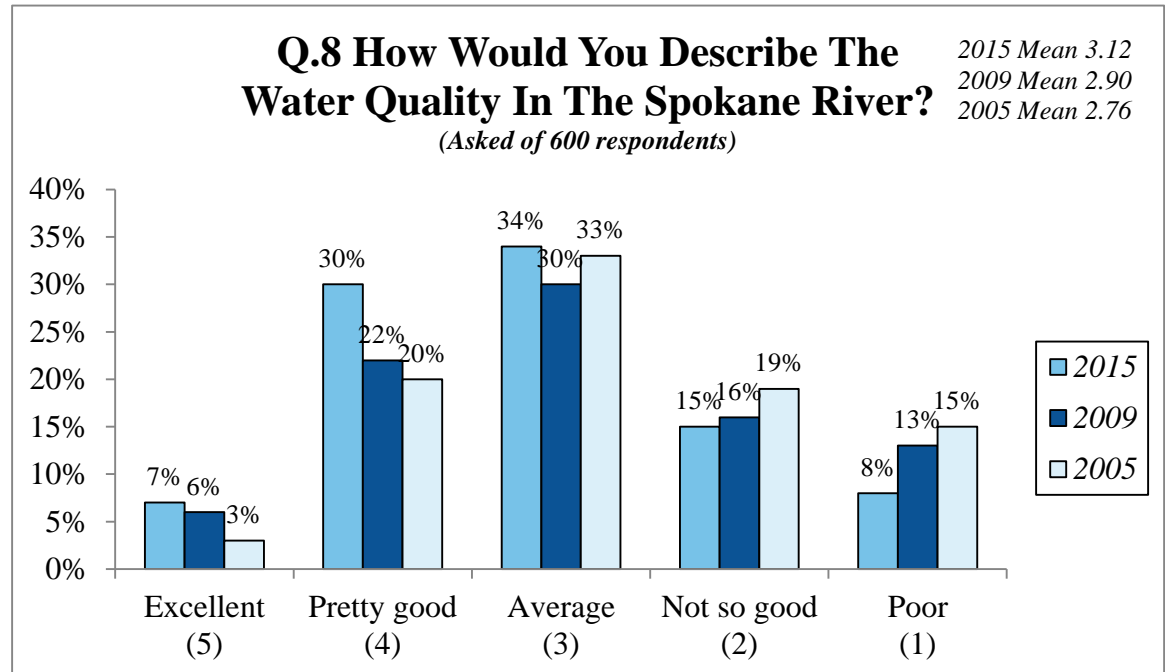
⁷ This question was asked of respondents who reported visiting the river at least once in a typical year (n=465).

Q.8 How would you describe the water quality in the Spokane River?⁸

Two in five (37%) respondents rated the water quality above the midpoint of the scale.

Lincoln County residents were more likely than average to give a higher rating.

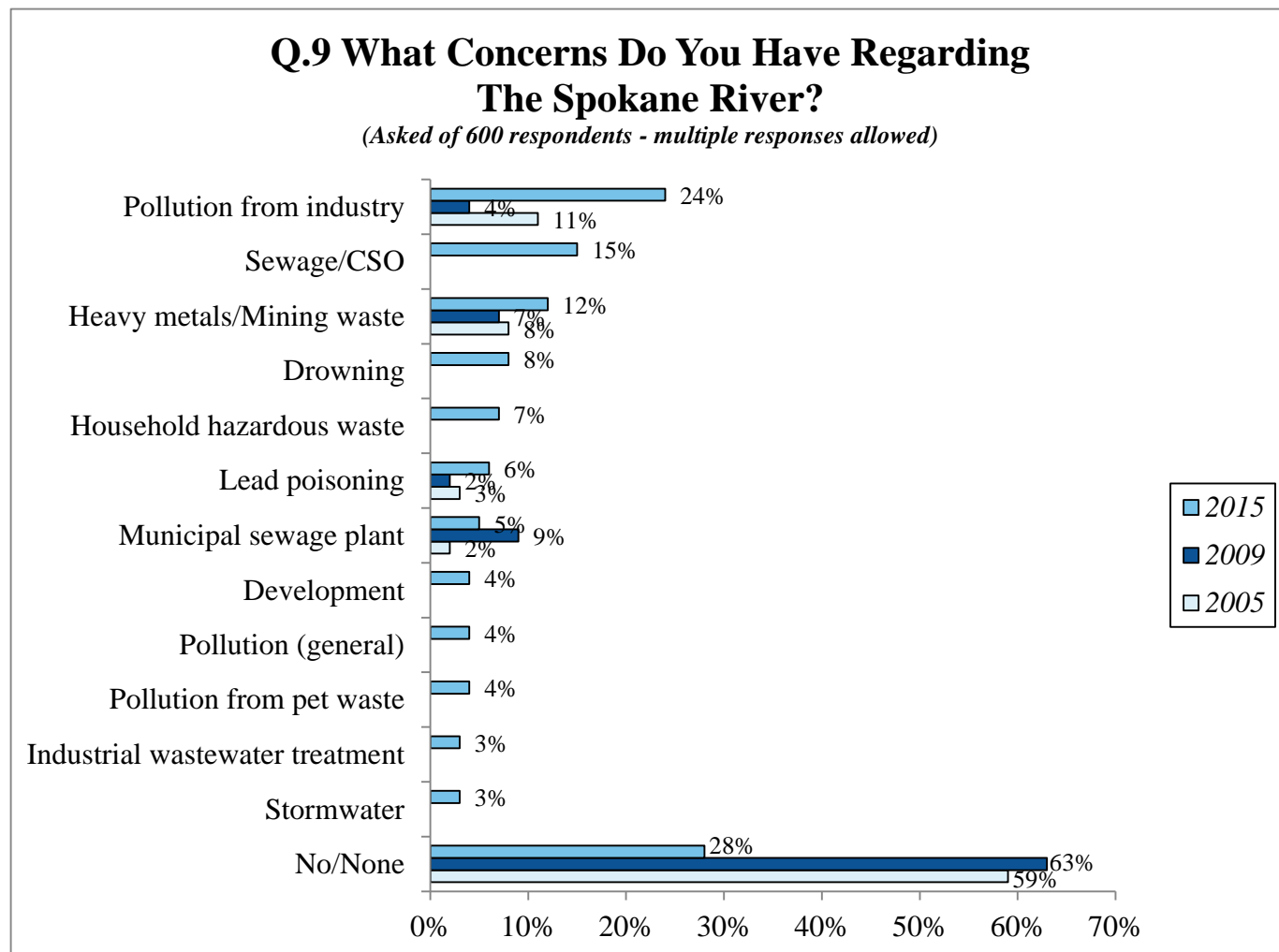
Stevens County residents were more likely than average to give a lower rating.



Participants over the age of 65 were more likely than average to give a higher rating.

⁸ This question was asked of all respondents (n=600).

Q.9 Thinking specifically of human health concerns, what, if any, concerns do you have regarding the Spokane River?⁹

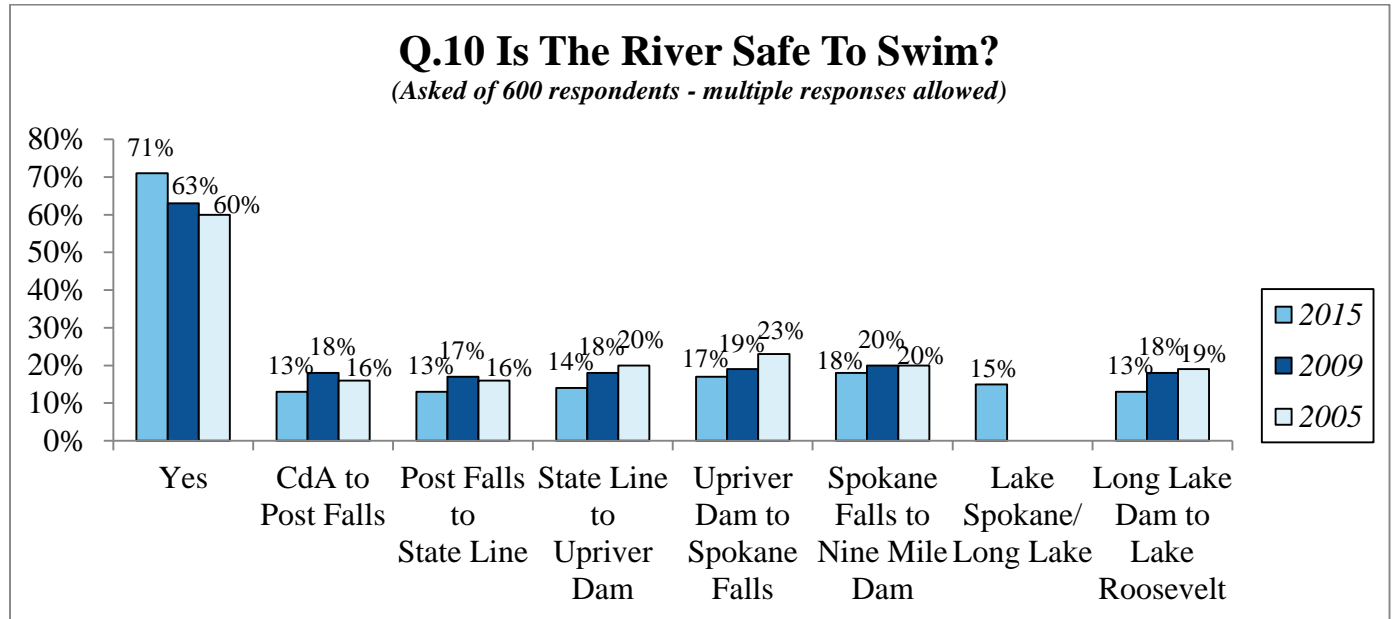


One in four (24%) respondents mentioned pollution from industry as a human health concern.

Please note that the question is worded differently than in previous iterations.

Respondents in Stevens County were more likely than average to mention sewage/CSO.

⁹ This question was asked of all respondents (n=600). Respondents were not read a list of possible responses from which to choose. Multiple responses were allowed. This question and the response options were changed slightly from 2009.

Q.10 Is the river safe to swim in?¹⁰

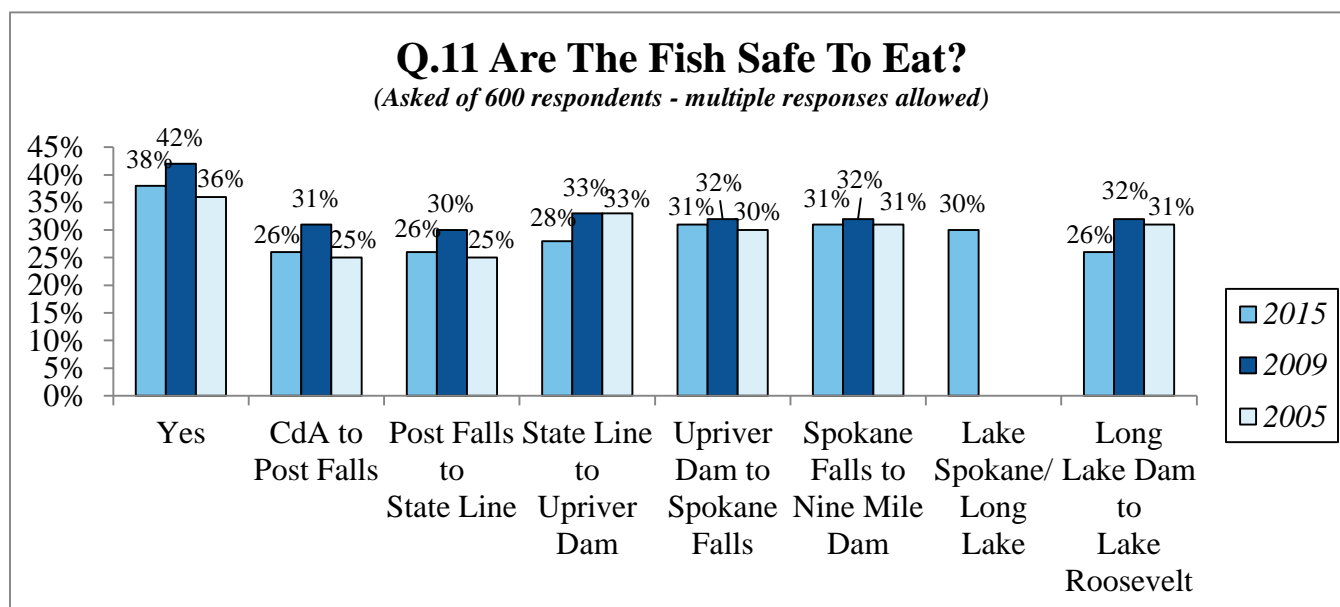
Please note that Lake Spokane/Long Lake was added as an option this year.

Residents of Lincoln County were significantly more likely than average to respond in the affirmative.

Male respondents were more likely than average to respond in the affirmative than were their female counterparts.

¹⁰ This question was asked of all respondents (n=600).

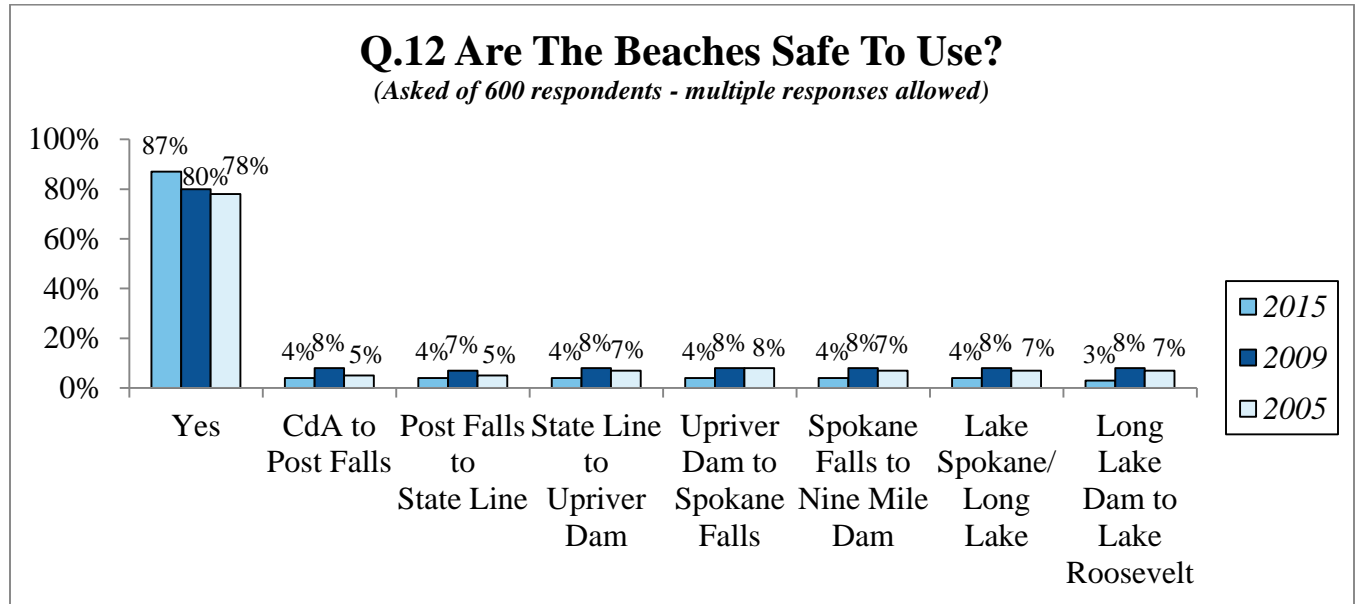
Q.11 Are the fish safe to eat?¹¹



Please note that Lake Spokane/Long Lake was added as an option this year.

Respondents in Lincoln County were significantly more likely than average to respond in the affirmative.

¹¹ This question was asked of all respondents (n=600).

Q.12 Are the beaches safe to use?¹²

Nearly nine in ten (87%) respondents reported that the beaches along the river were safe to use.

Male respondents were more likely than average to perceive the beaches as safe to use.

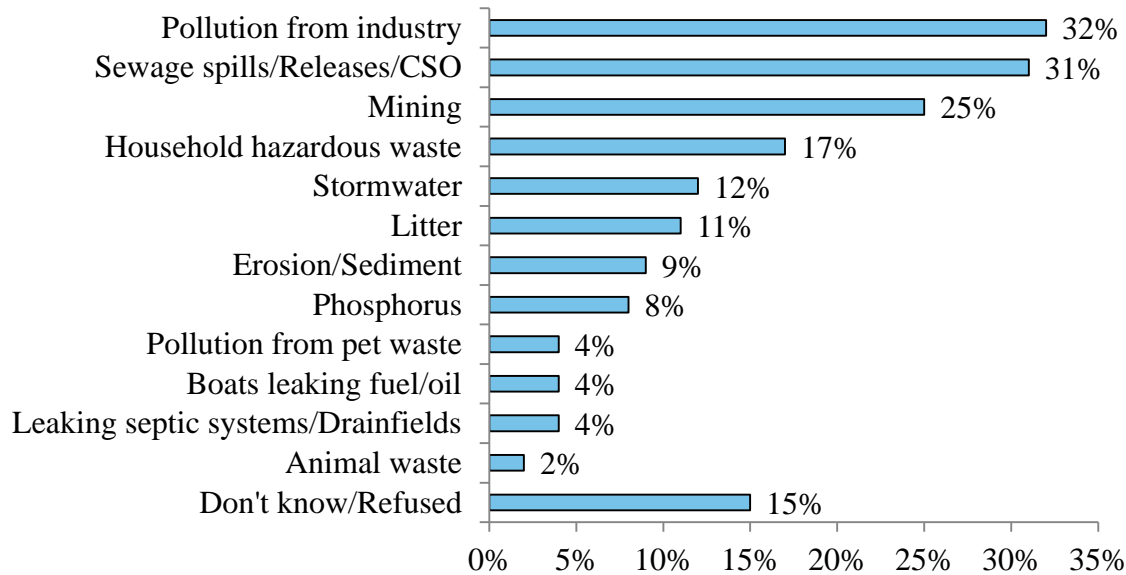
Respondents in the 18 to 34 age group were more likely than average to respond in the affirmative.

¹² This question was asked of all respondents (n=600).

Q.13 To the best of your knowledge, what are the major sources of pollution in the Spokane River, if any?¹³

**Q.13 What Are The Major Sources Of Pollution
In The Spokane River?**

(Asked of 600 respondents - multiple responses allowed)

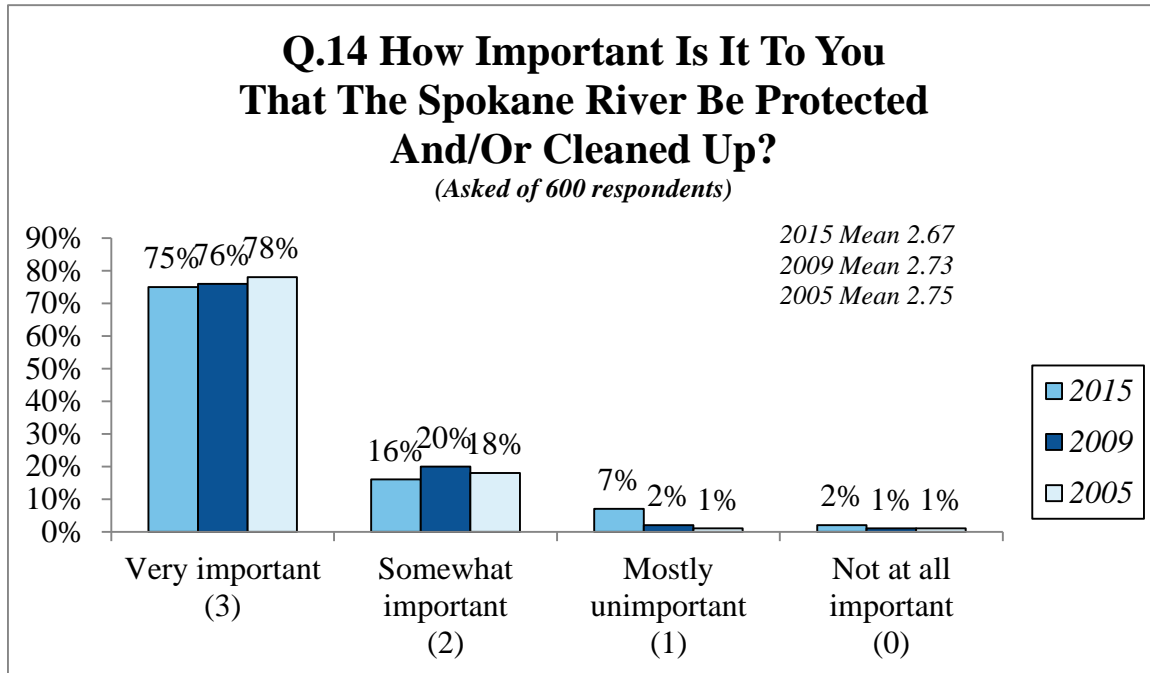


One in three (32%) respondents cited pollution from industry as a major source of pollution in the river.

Lincoln County residents were less likely than average to mention pollution from industry.

¹³ This question was asked of all respondents (n=600). Respondents were not read a list of possible responses from which to choose. Multiple responses were allowed.

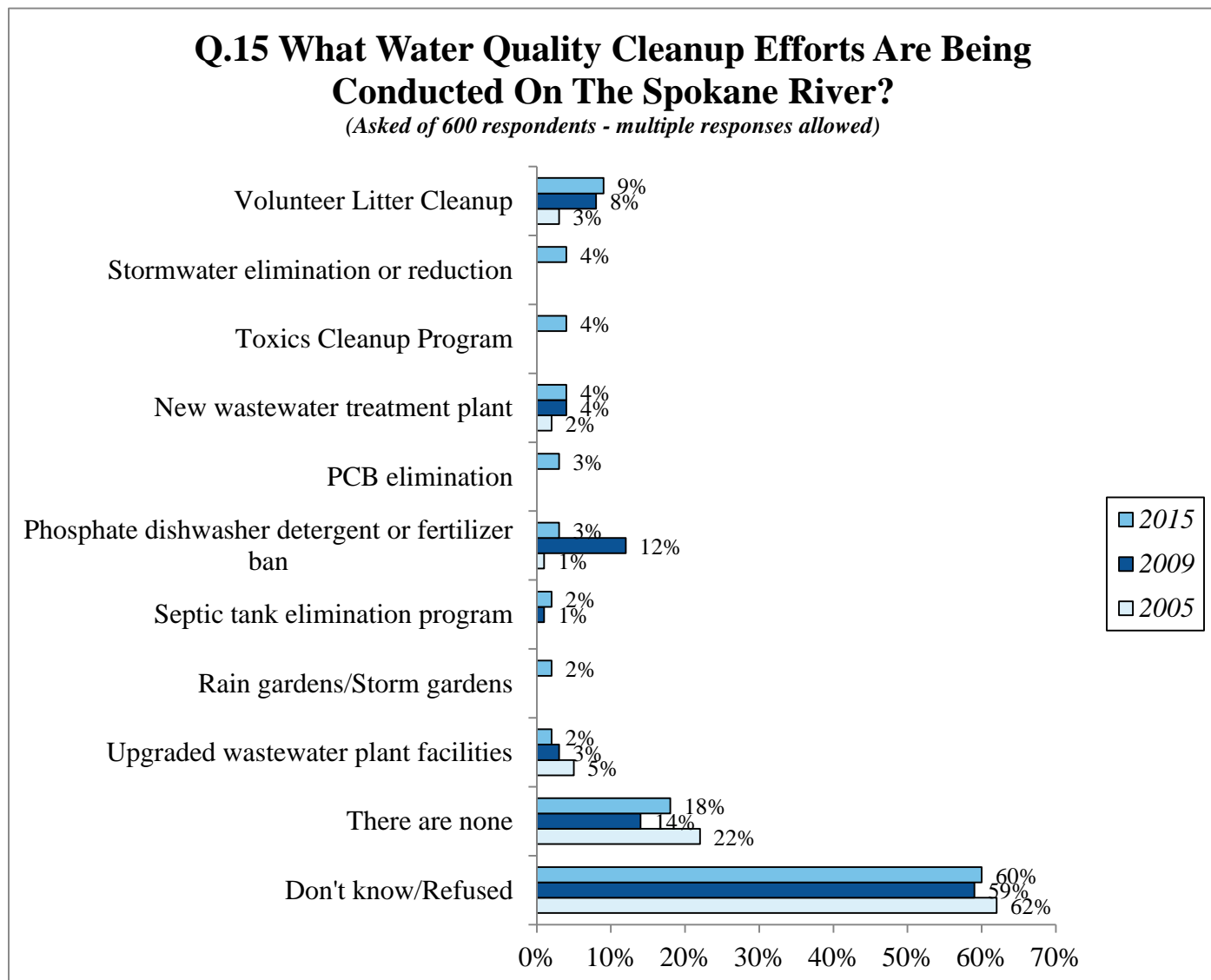
Q. 14 How important is it to you that the Spokane River be protected and/or cleaned up?¹⁴



One in three (75%) respondents reported that it was very important that the river be protected and/or cleaned up.

¹⁴ This question was asked of all respondents (n=600).

Q. 15 To the best of your knowledge, what water quality cleanup efforts are being conducted on the Spokane River, if any?¹⁵

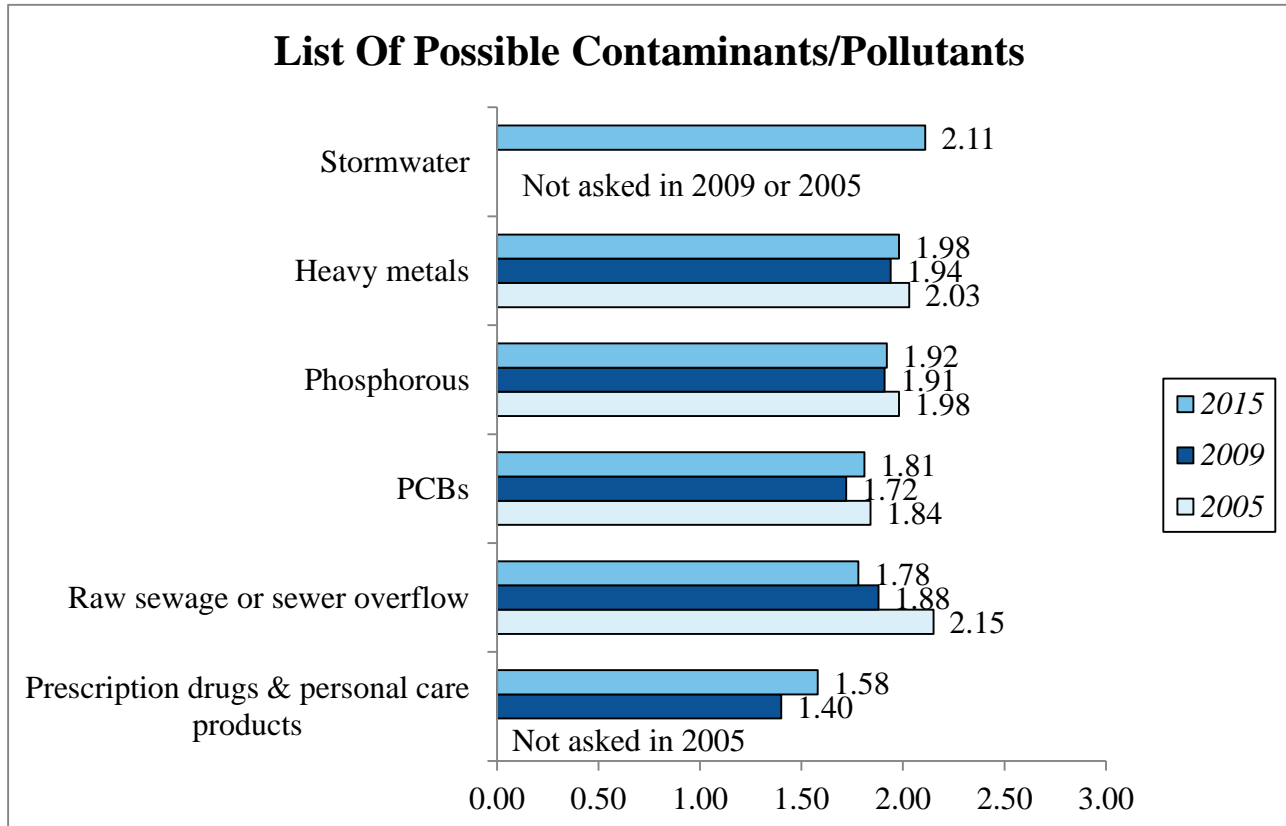


Four in five (78%) respondents reported that there were no cleanup efforts or were unaware of any.

Residents of Lincoln County were more likely than average to report being unaware of any cleanup efforts.

¹⁵ This question was asked of all respondents (n=600). Respondents were not read a list of possible responses from which to choose. Multiple responses were allowed.

I'm going to read a list of possible contaminants/pollutants to rivers and lakes in our area. For each one, would you say the Spokane River is: Very contaminated, Somewhat contaminated, Not very contaminated, or Not at all contaminated? If there are any that you are unfamiliar with, just let me know.¹⁶



Q.16 Heavy metals (e.g.—arsenic, lead, zinc, cadmium, etc.)

This contaminant was ranked second among the six tested (1.98).

Respondents in Lincoln County were more likely than average to give a lower rating.

Q.17 PCBs (Polychlorinated Biphenyls)

This contaminant was ranked fourth of the six tested (1.81).

Nearly half (46%) of respondents were unable to rate PCBs.

Respondents in Lincoln County were more likely than average to give a lower rating.

¹⁶ This series of questions was asked of all respondents (n=600). They were asked in a randomized order.

Q.18 Prescription drugs and personal care products

This contaminant was ranked last among the six tested (1.58).

Respondents who reported that someone in their household caught fish from the river were more likely than average to give a lower rating.

Respondents in Lincoln County were more likely than average to give a lower rating.

Q.19 Raw sewage or sewer overflow

This contaminant was ranked second to last of the six tested (1.78).

Respondents in Stevens County were more likely than average to give a higher rating.

Participants in the 18 to 34 age range were more likely than average to give a lower rating.

Q.20 Phosphorous (which comes from fertilizer, dish soap, and treatment plants and natural sediments)

This contaminant was ranked third among the six tested (1.92).

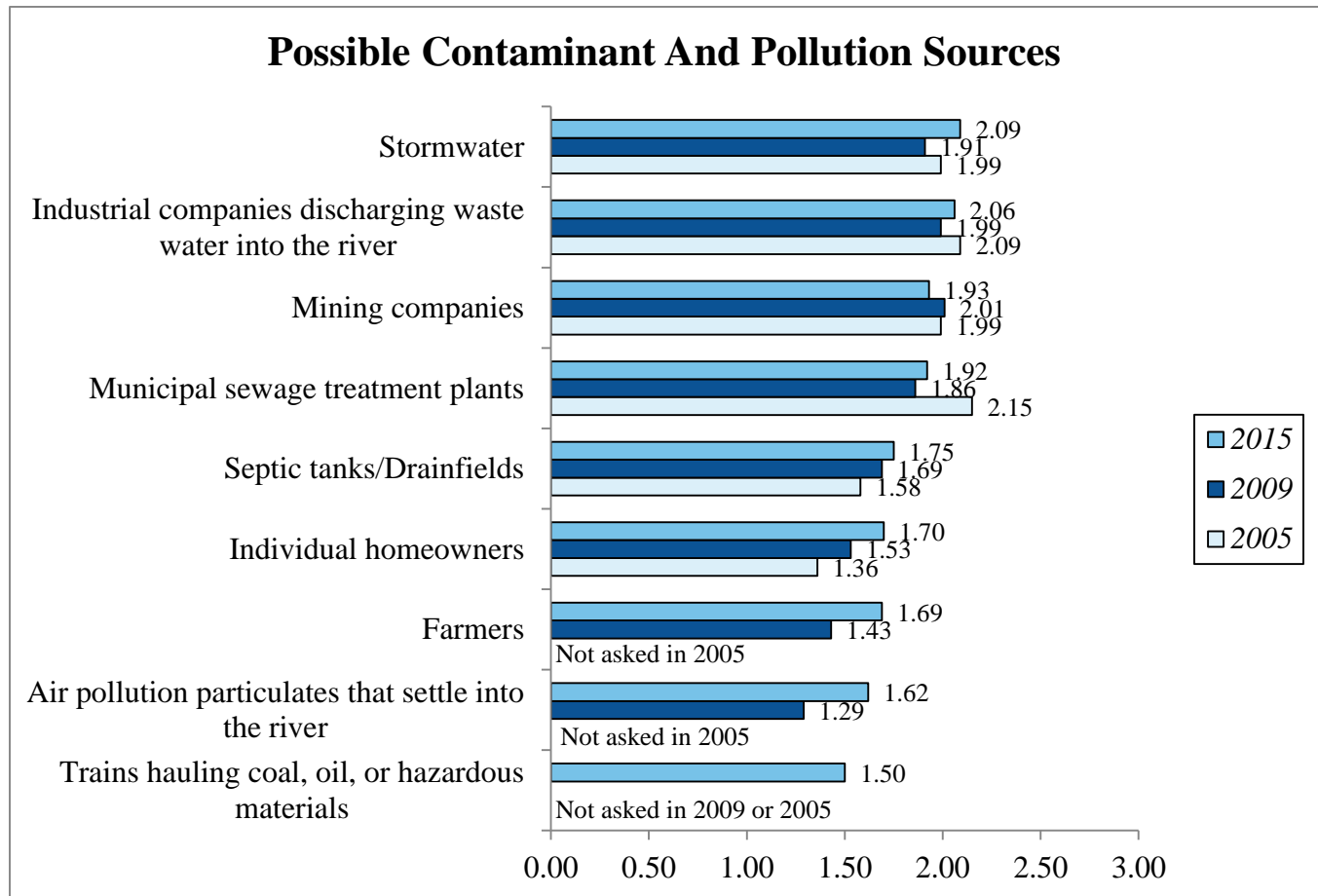
Respondents in Lincoln County were more likely than average to give a lower rating.

Q.21 Storm water

This contaminant was ranked first of the six tested (2.11).

Respondents in Lincoln County were more likely than average to give a lower rating.

I'm going to read a list of possible contaminant and pollution sources to area rivers and lakes. For each one, would you say this source of contamination/pollution for the Spokane River is: Very significant, Somewhat significant, Not very significant, or Not at all significant?¹⁷



Q.22 Mining companies

This possible source was ranked third among the nine tested (1.93).

Respondents in Lincoln County were more likely than average to give a lower rating.

Participants in the 51 to 65 age group were more likely than average to give a higher rating.

Q.23 Industrial companies discharging waste water into the river

This possible source was ranked second of the nine tested (2.06).

Females were more likely than males to give this a higher rating.

Residents of Stevens County were more likely than average to give a higher rating.

¹⁷ This series of questions was asked of all respondents (n=600). The questions were asked in a randomized order. Trains hauling coal, oil, or hazardous materials was first asked this year.

Q.24 Municipal Sewage treatment plants

This possible source was ranked fourth among the nine tested (1.92).

Residents of Stevens County were more likely than average to give a higher rating.

Q.25 Septic tanks/Drainfields

This possible source was ranked fifth of the nine tested (1.75).

Residents of Lincoln County were more likely than average to give a lower rating.

Q.26 Farmers

This possible source was ranked seventh among the nine tested (1.69).

Residents of Stevens County were more likely than average to give a lower rating.

Respondents who reported that someone in their household caught fish were more likely than average to give a lower rating.

Q.27 Individual homeowners

This possible source was ranked sixth of the nine tested (1.70).

Residents of Lincoln County were more likely than average to give a lower rating.

Male respondents were more likely than females to give a lower rating.

Q.28 Stormwater

This possible source was ranked first among the nine tested (2.09).

Responses spanned the tested subsets quite evenly.

Q.29 Air pollution particulates that settle into the river

This possible source was ranked second to last of the nine tested (1.62).

Residents of Spokane County were more likely than average to give a higher rating.

Respondents in Lincoln County were more likely than average to give a lower rating.

Ratings decreased as the age of the respondent increased.

Male respondents were significantly more likely than average to give a lower rating.

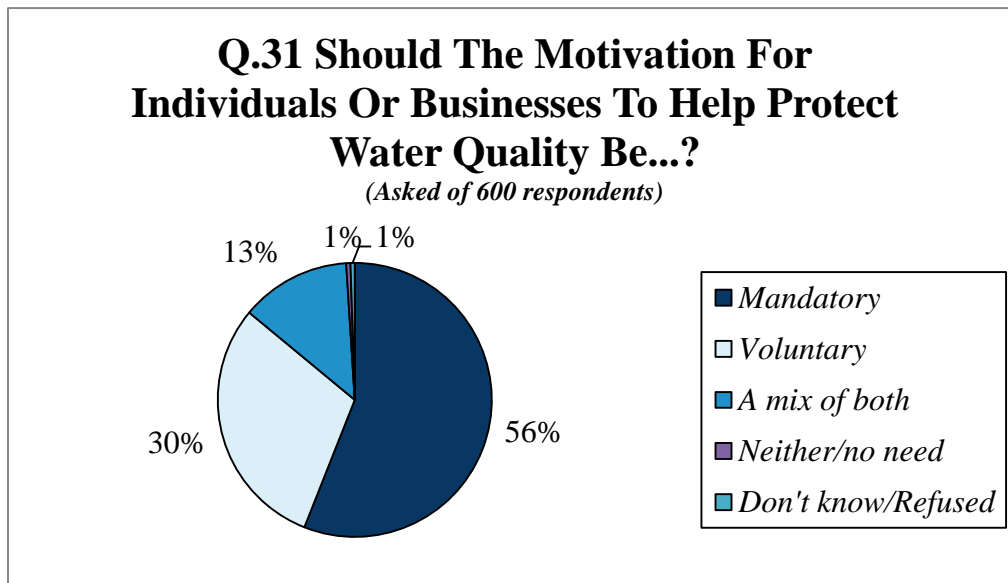
Q.30 Trains hauling coal, oil, or hazardous materials

This possible source was ranked last among the nine tested (1.50).

Residents of Lincoln and Steven Counties were more likely than average to give a lower rating.

Spokane County respondents were more likely than average to give a higher rating.

Females were significantly more likely than males to give a higher rating.

Q.31 In your opinion, should the motivation for individuals or businesses to help protect water quality be...?¹⁸

A majority (56%) of respondents reported that the motivation for individuals or businesses to help protect water quality should be mandatory.

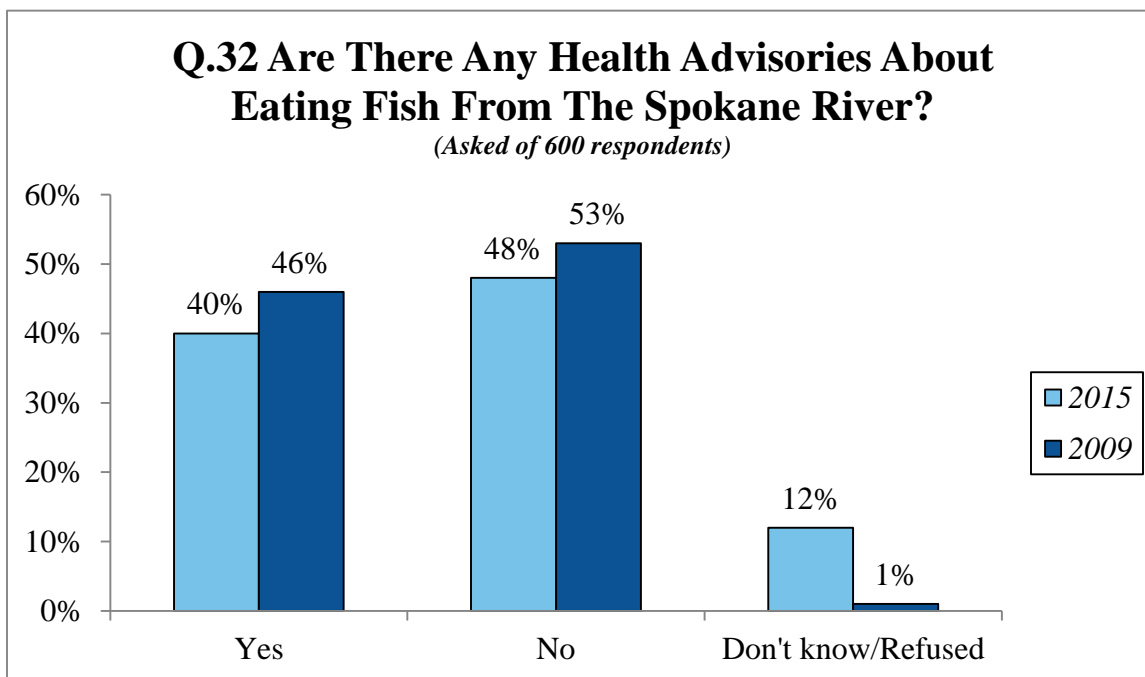
Lincoln County residents were more likely than average to report that it should be voluntary.

¹⁸ This question was asked of all respondents (n=600).

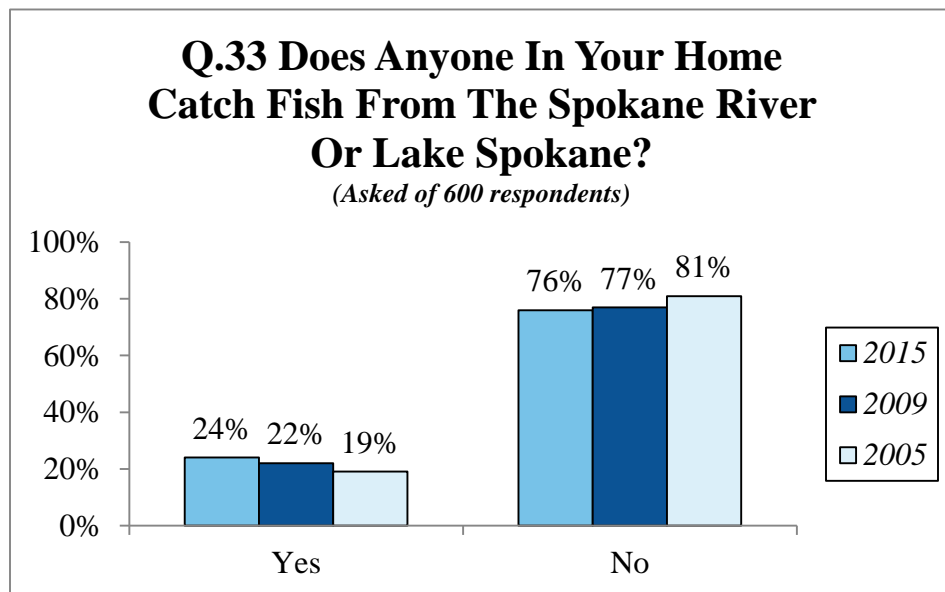
Q.32 To the best of your knowledge, are there any health advisories about eating fish from the Spokane River, or not?¹⁹

Two in five (40%) respondents reported that there were health advisories about eating fish from the river.

Males were more likely than average to respond in the affirmative.



Q.33 In a typical year, does anyone in your home catch fish from the Spokane River or Lake Spokane, also known as Long Lake?²⁰



One in four (24%) respondents reported that someone in their household caught fish from the river in a typical year.

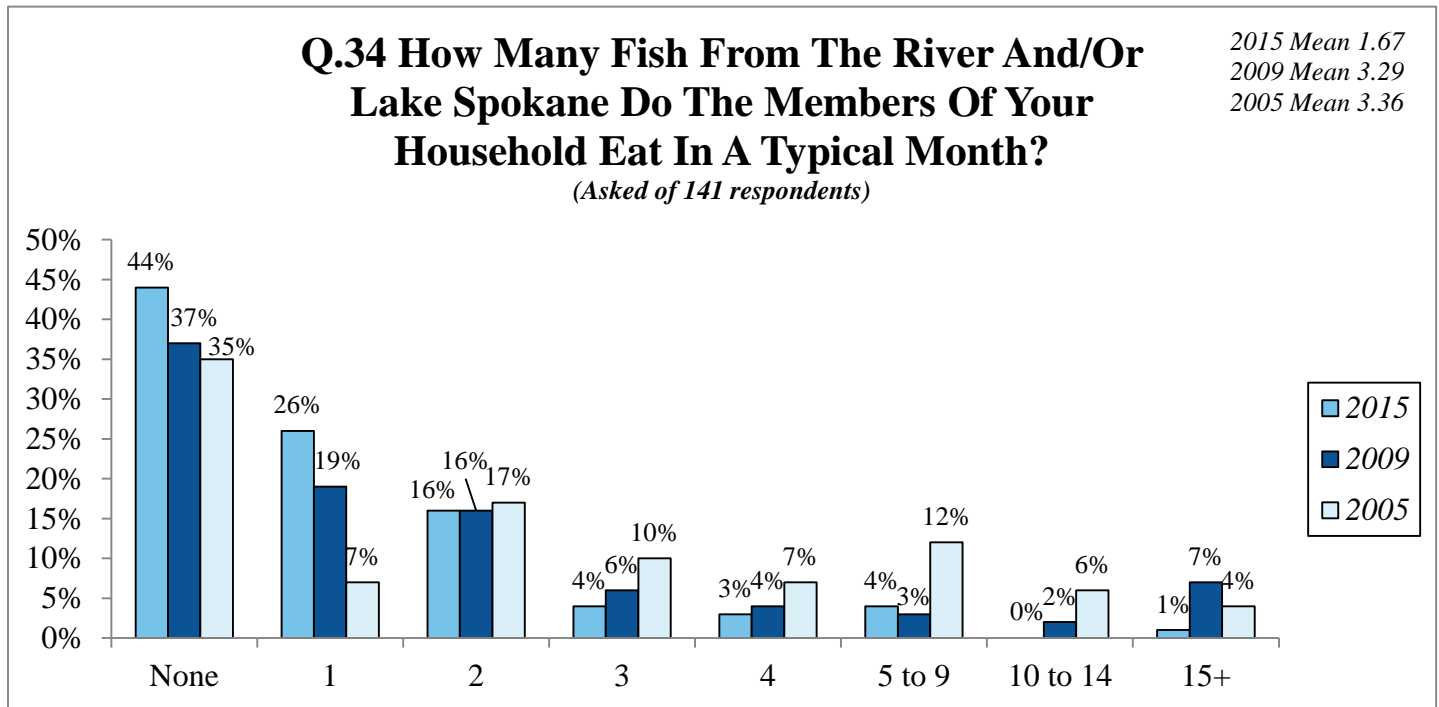
Lincoln and Stevens Counties residents were more likely than average to respond in the affirmative.

Male respondents were more likely than females to respond in the affirmative.

¹⁹ This question was asked of all respondents (n=600).

²⁰ This question was asked of all respondents (n=600).

Q. 34 How many fish from the Spokane River and/or Lake Spokane, also known as Long Lake, do the members of your household eat in a typical month?²¹

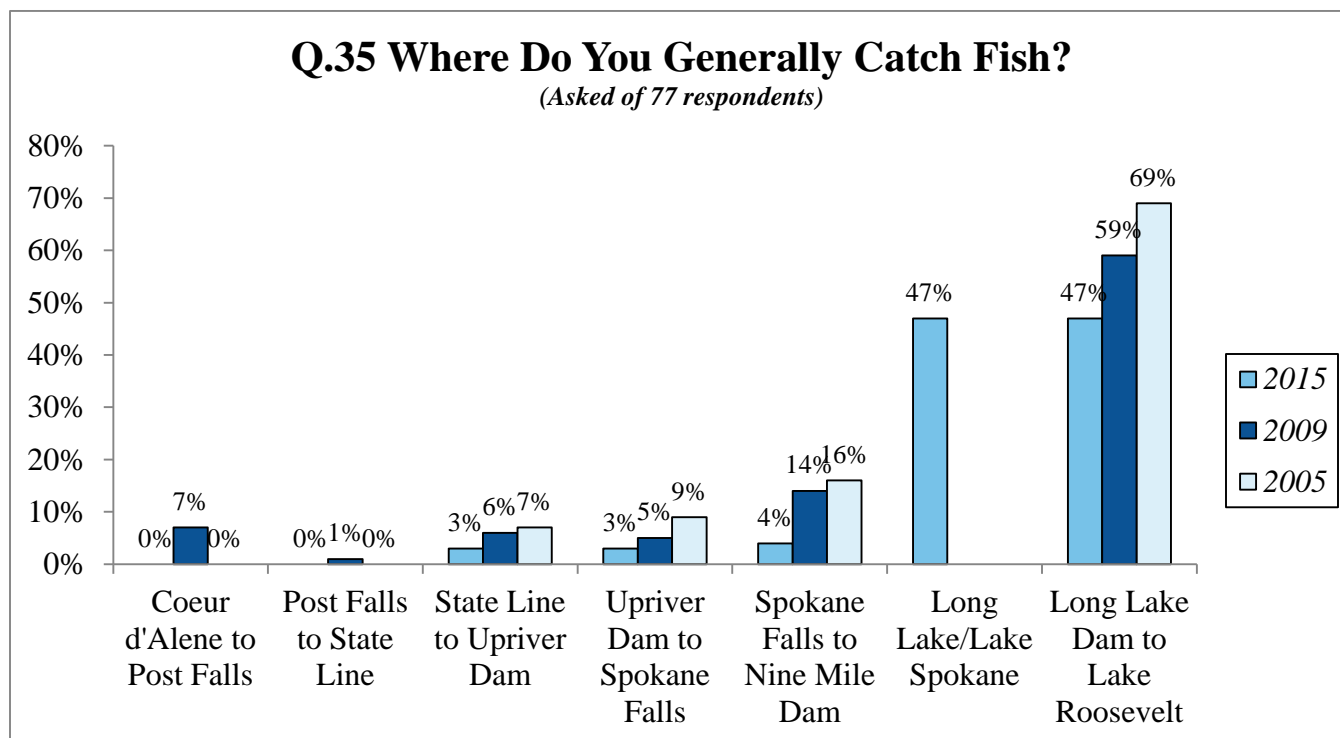


The average respondent from a household that caught fish from the river reported eating 1.67 in a typical month.

Respondents who perceived the water quality as being poor were more likely than average to report eating fewer fish.

²¹ This question was asked of respondents who reported catching fish from the river (n=141).

Q.35 Where do you generally catch fish?²²



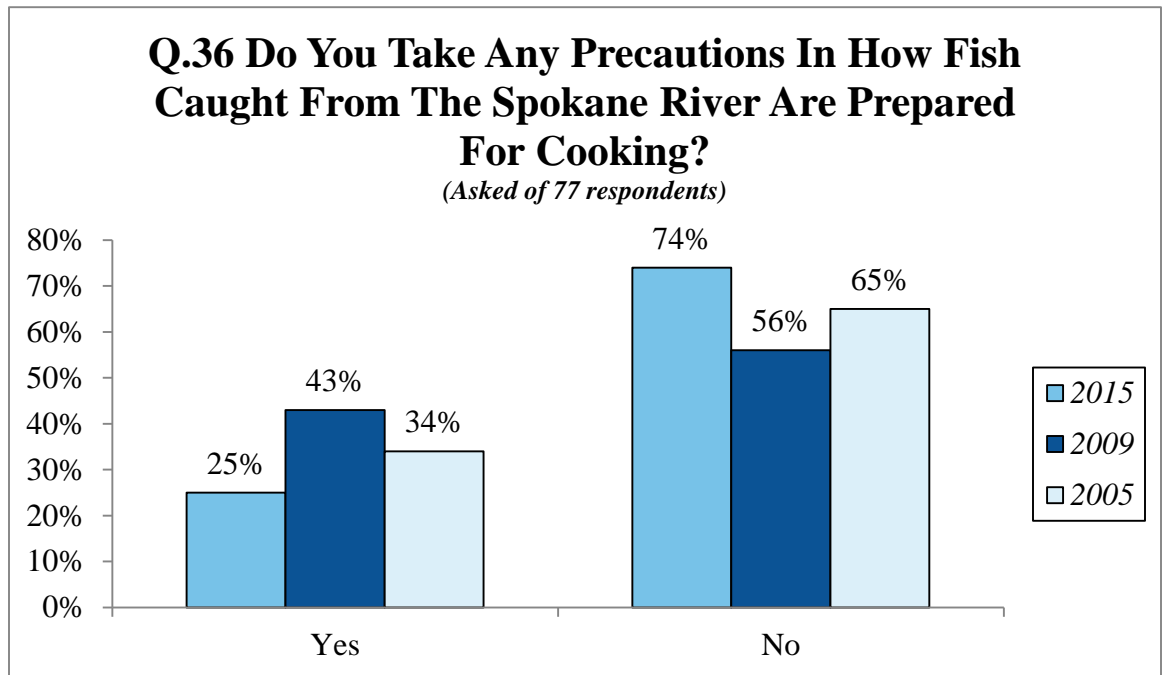
Please note that Long Lake/Lake Spokane was not an option in 2009 and 2005.

Respondents in the 35 to 50 age group were more likely than average to report that people in their household caught fish at Long Lake/Lake Spokane.

²² This question was asked of respondents who reported eating at least one fish caught from the river during a typical month (n=77).

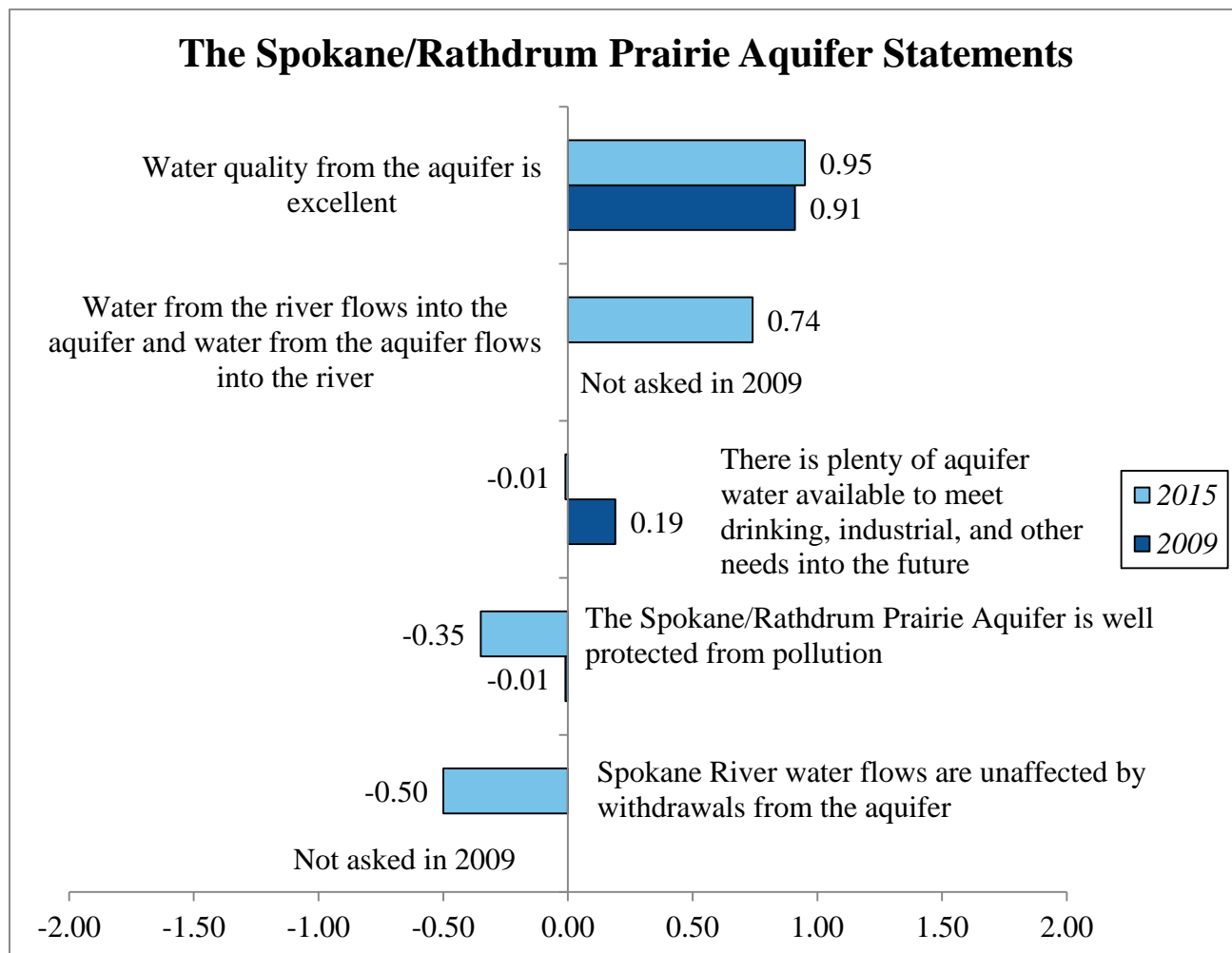
Q.36 Do you take any precautions in how fish caught from the Spokane River are prepared for cooking, or not?²³

One in four (25%) respondents who had household members who ate fish caught from the river reported taking precautions in how the fish were prepared for cooking.



²³ This question was asked of respondents who reported eating at least one fish caught from the river during a typical month (n=77).

The Spokane/Rathdrum Prairie Aquifer is our sole source of drinking water. After I read each statement, please indicate the degree to which you agree or disagree with it. Would you say: Strongly agree, Somewhat agree, Somewhat disagree, or Strongly disagree?²⁴



Q.37 The Spokane/Rathdrum Prairie Aquifer is well protected from pollution

This statement was ranked fourth of the five tested (-0.35).

Respondents who reported visiting the river more than twenty times in a typical year were more likely than average to give a lower rating.

Lincoln County residents were more likely than average to give a higher rating.

²⁴ This series of questions was asked of all respondents (n=600). The questions were asked in a randomized order.

Q.38 There is plenty of aquifer water available to meet drinking, industrial, and other needs into the future

This statement was ranked third among the five tested (-0.01).

Males were significantly more likely than females to give a higher rating.

Q.39 The Spokane River water flows are unaffected by withdrawals from the aquifer

This statement was ranked last of the five tested (-0.50).

Lincoln County residents were more likely than average to give a higher rating.

Q.40 Water quality from the aquifer is excellent

This statement was ranked first among the five tested (0.95).

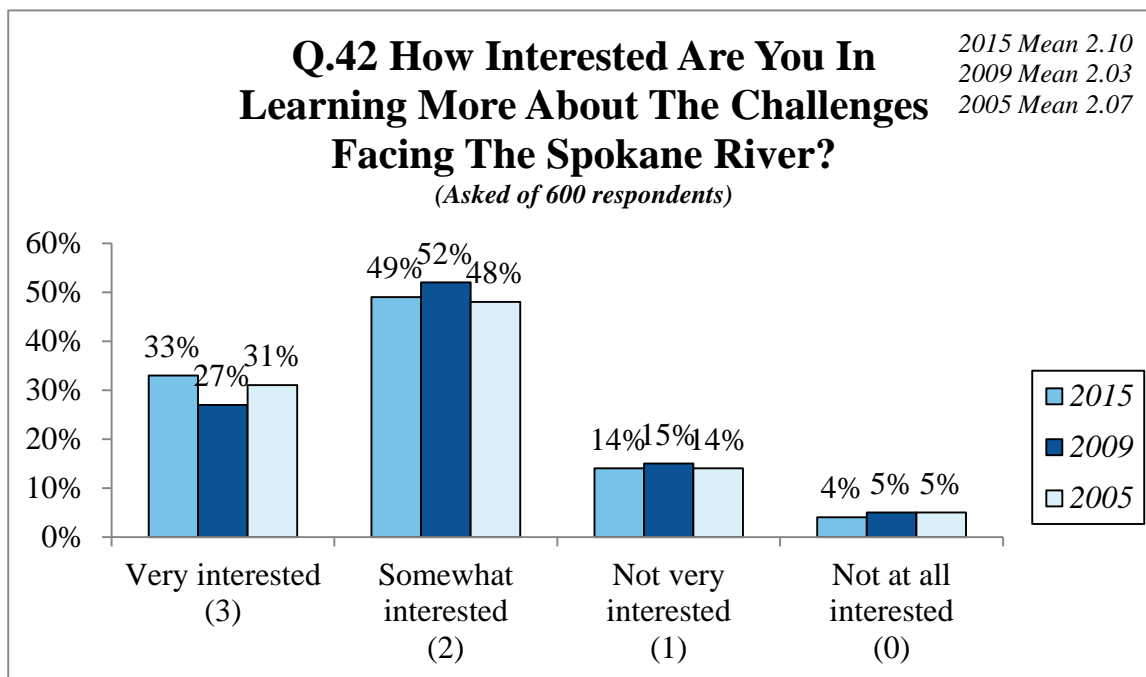
Participants who reported visiting the river between ten and twenty times a year were more likely than average to give a higher rating.

Q.41 Water from the river flows into the aquifer and water from the aquifer flows into the river

This statement was ranked second of the five tested (0.74).

Participants who reported visiting the river between ten and twenty times a year were more likely than average to give a higher rating.

Q.42 How interested are you in learning more about the challenges facing the Spokane River and the opportunities for protection and cleanup?²⁵



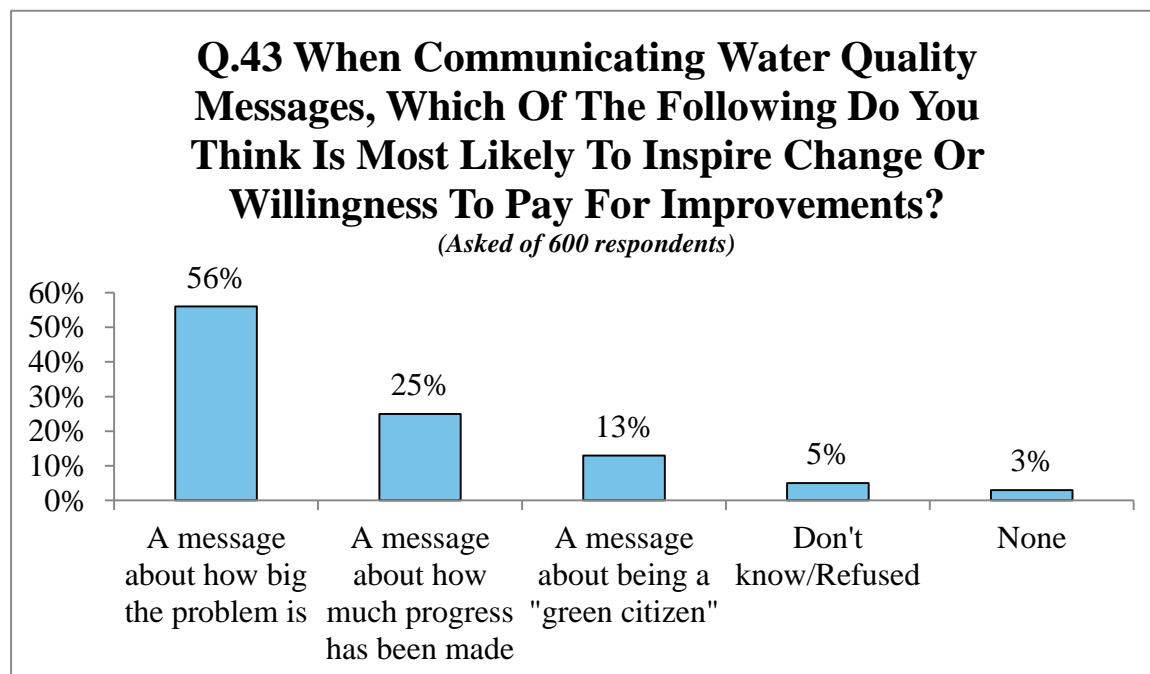
Four in five (82%) respondents reported being somewhat or very interested.

Lincoln County residents were more likely than average to give a lower rating.

Q.43 When communicating water quality messages, which of the following do you think is most likely to inspire change or willingness to pay for improvements?²⁶

A majority (56%) of respondents reported that a message about how big the problem is was the most likely to inspire change.

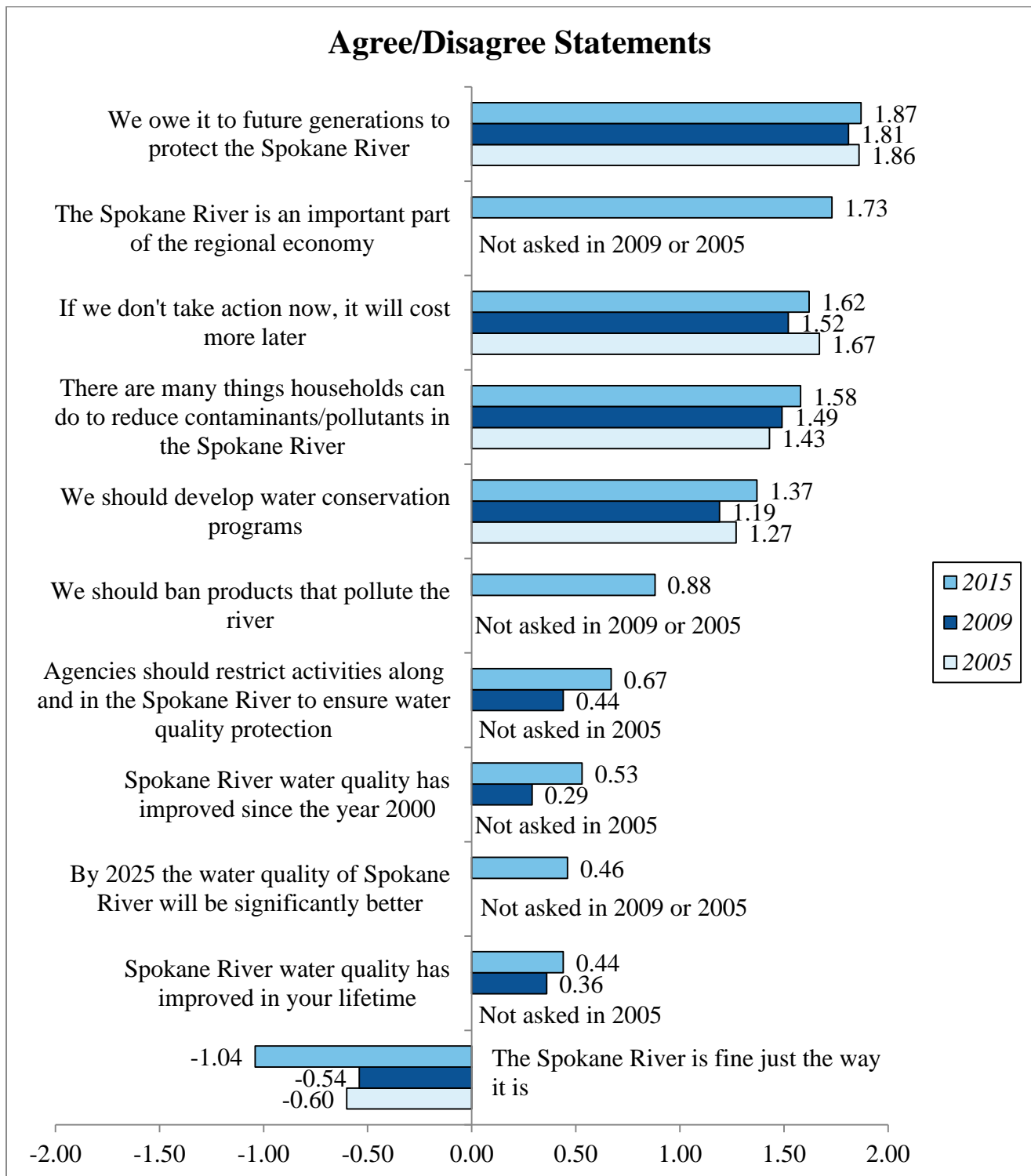
Stevens County residents were less likely than average to select a message about "green citizen."



²⁵ This question was asked of all respondents (n=600).

²⁶ This question was asked of all respondents (n=600).

After I read each of the following statements, please indicate the degree to which you agree or disagree with each.²⁷



²⁷ This series of questions was asked of all respondents (n=600). The questions were asked in a randomized order.

Q.44 We owe it to future generations to protect the Spokane River

This statement was ranked first among the eleven tested (1.87).

Responses spanned the tested subsets quite evenly.

Q.45 There are many things households can do to reduce contaminants/pollutants in the Spokane River

This statement was ranked fourth of the eleven tested (1.58).

Males were more likely than females to give a lower rating.

Q.46 The Spokane River is fine just the way it is

This statement was ranked last among the eleven tested (-1.04).

Respondents in Lincoln County were significantly more likely than average to give a higher rating.

Q.47 If we don't take action now, it will cost more later

This statement was ranked third of the eleven tested (1.62).

Respondents who reported that someone in their household caught fish from the river were more likely than average to give a lower rating.

Males were more likely than females to give a lower rating.

Q.48 We should develop water conservation programs

This statement was ranked fifth among the eleven tested (1.37).

Respondents in Stevens County were more likely than average to give a lower rating.

Respondents who reported that someone in their household caught fish from the river were more likely than average to give a lower rating.

Q.49 We should ban products that pollute the river

This statement was ranked sixth of the eleven tested (0.88).

Lincoln County residents were more likely than average to give a lower rating.

Respondents over the age of 65 were more likely than average to give a higher rating.

Q.50 Spokane River water quality has improved since the year 2000

This statement was ranked eighth among the eleven tested (0.53).

Responses spanned the tested subsets fairly evenly.

Q.51 Spokane River water quality has improved in your lifetime

This statement was ranked second to last of the eleven tested (0.44).

Responses spanned the tested subsets fairly evenly.

Q.52 Agencies should restrict activities along and in the Spokane River to ensure water quality protection

This statement was ranked seventh among the eleven tested (0.67).

Respondents who reported that someone in their household caught fish from the river were more likely than average to give a lower rating.

Spokane County residents were significantly more likely than their counterparts in Stevens or Lincoln Counties to give a higher rating.

Male respondents were more likely than average to give a lower rating.

Q.53 By 2025 the water quality of the Spokane River will be significantly better

This statement was ranked ninth of the eleven tested (0.46).

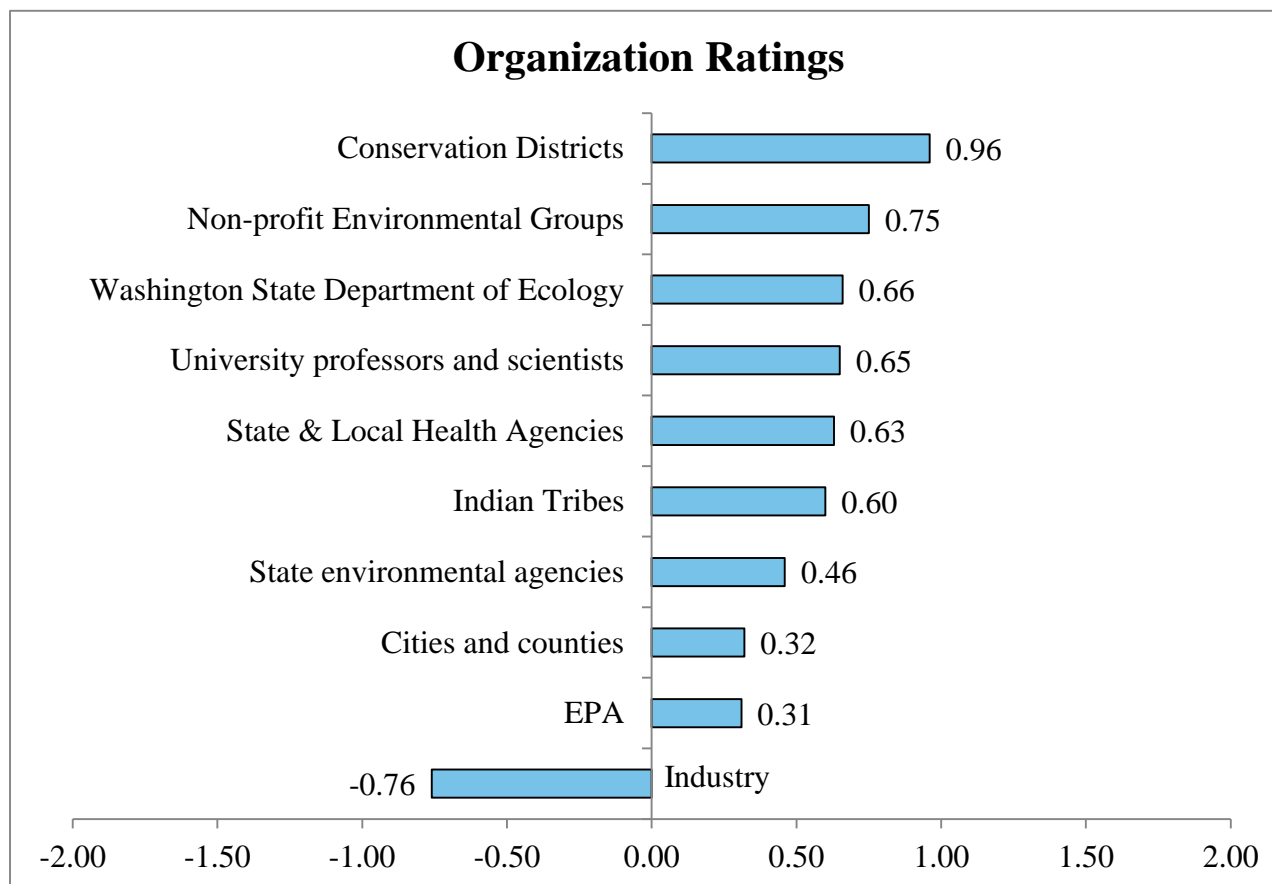
Responses spanned the tested subsets fairly evenly.

Q.54 The Spokane River is an important part of the regional economy

This statement was ranked second among the eleven tested (1.73).

Female respondents were more likely than average to give a higher rating.

After I read each organization or group, would you say your trust and confidence in them managing restoration or clean-up efforts in the Spokane River is: Very confident, Somewhat confident, Not very confident, or Not at all confident? If you are not familiar with that organization or group, just let me know.²⁸



Q.55 EPA (U.S. Environmental Protection Agency)

This entity was ranked second to last among the ten tested (0.31).

Spokane County residents were more likely than their counterparts in Lincoln or Stevens Counties to give a higher rating.

Q.56 State & Local Health Agencies

This entity was ranked fifth of the ten tested (0.63).

Responses spanned the tested subsets fairly evenly.

²⁸ This series of questions was asked of all respondents (n=600). The questions were asked in a randomized order.

Q.57 Conservation Districts

This entity was ranked first among the ten tested (0.96).

Responses spanned the tested subsets fairly evenly.

Q.58 Cities and counties

This entity was ranked eighth of the ten tested (0.32).

Respondents in the 51 to 65 age group were more likely than average to give a lower rating.

Q.59 Indian Tribes

This entity was ranked sixth among the ten tested (0.60).

Lincoln County residents were more likely than average to give a lower rating.

Respondents in the 18 to 34 age group were more likely than average to give a higher rating.

Q.60 Industry

This entity was ranked last of the ten tested (-0.76).

Responses spanned the tested subsets fairly evenly.

Q.61 Non-profit Environmental Groups

This entity was ranked second among the ten tested (0.75).

Spokane County respondents were more likely than their Lincoln County counterparts to give a higher rating.

Respondents who reported that someone in their household caught fish from the river were more likely than average to give a lower rating.

Ratings decreased as respondent ages increased.

Females were significantly more likely than average to give a higher rating.

Q.62 University professors and scientists

This entity was ranked fourth of the ten tested (0.65).

Respondents in the 35 to 50 age group were more likely than average to give a higher rating.

Q.63 State environmental agencies

This entity was ranked seventh among the ten tested (0.46).

Lincoln County respondents were more likely than average to give a lower rating.

Q.64 Washington State Department of Ecology

This entity was ranked third of the ten tested (0.66).

Lincoln County respondents were more likely than average to give a lower rating.

DEMOGRAPHICS

- The average respondent was 58.96 years old
- Eighty-five percent of respondents reported owning their home
- The mean years lived in the area was 33.45
- Half of respondents were male (quotas in place)