

Public Opinions about In-Situ Recovery of Uranium



Wyoming residents' level of knowledge, support, and perceived risks of uranium extraction

Presenting selected results of WYSAC Technical Report No. SRC-1004
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Under contract to the School of Energy Resources, University of Wyoming

About the Survey



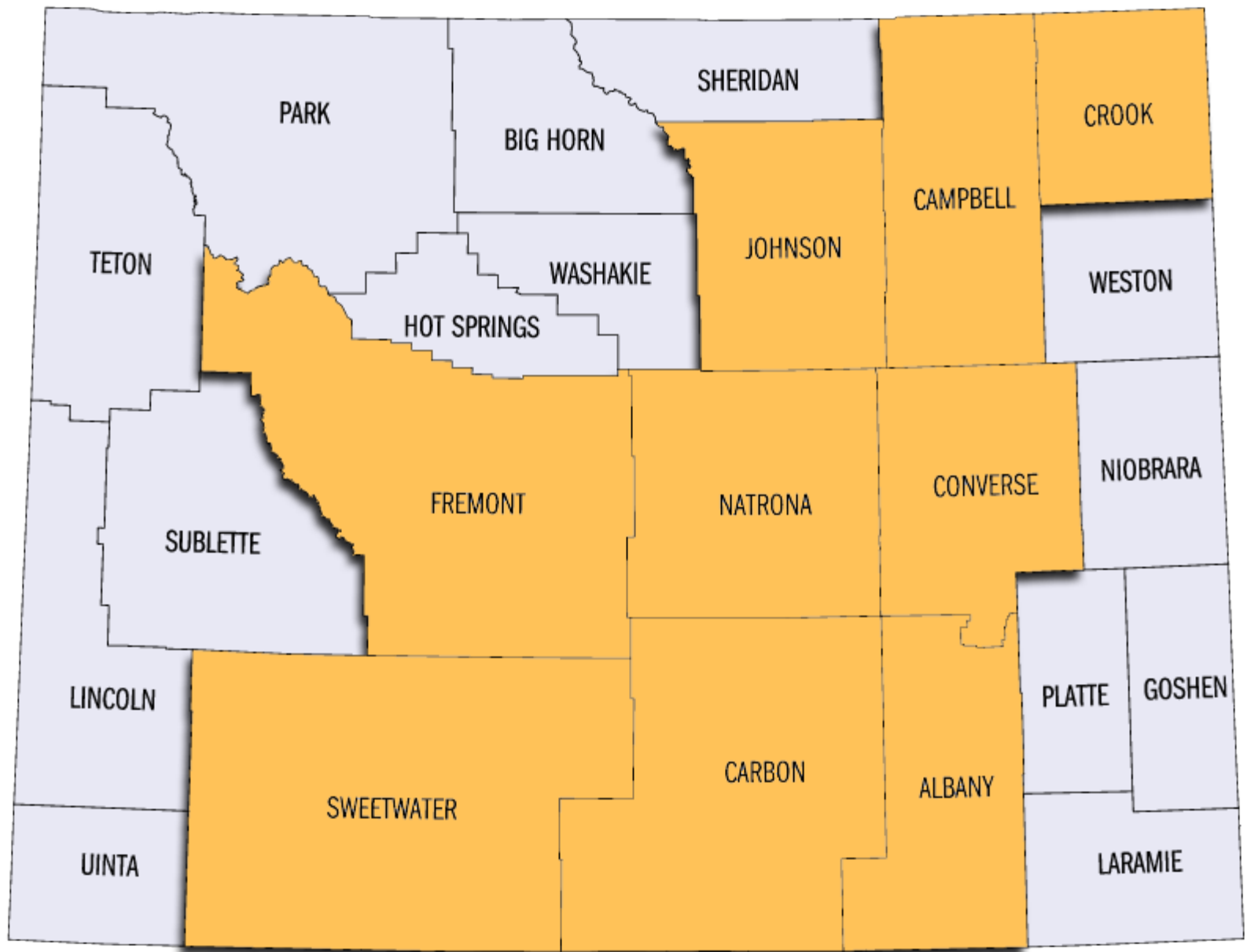
Lookout Lake, Snowy Range

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About the Survey



- **Phone questionnaire developed by WYSAC and SER**
 - Designed to collect information about the public’s knowledge and concerns about in-situ recovery of uranium
- **Random sample of Wyoming households**
 - Administered Feb. 15th-24th, 2010
- **935 completed telephone surveys (31% response rate)**
 - Margin of error is ± 3.3 percentage points, with 95% confidence
- **Defined by 2 regions: ISR and non-ISR**
 - ISR – 9 counties that have or may eventually have ISR
 - Non-ISR – all other counties



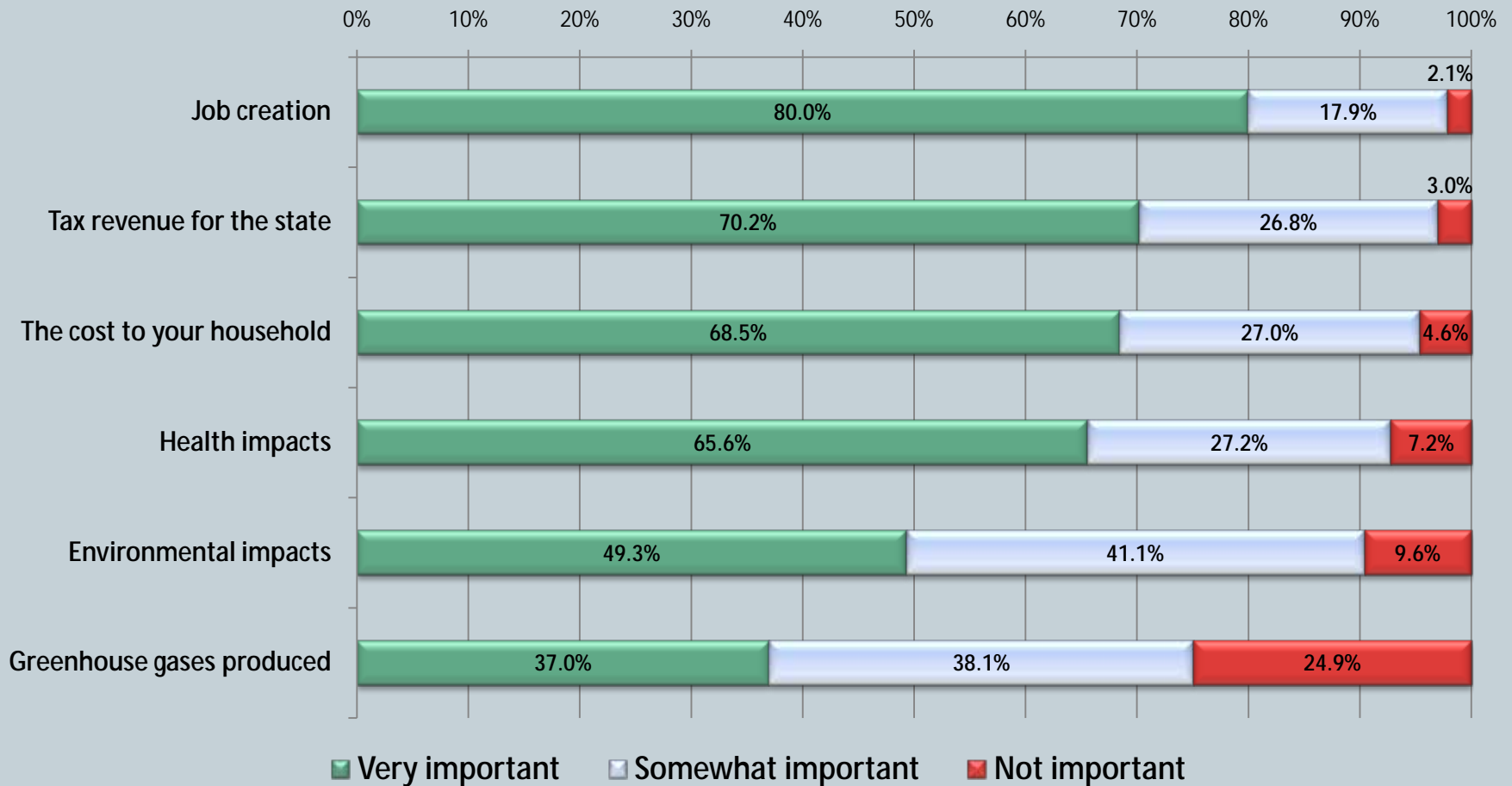
Key Findings



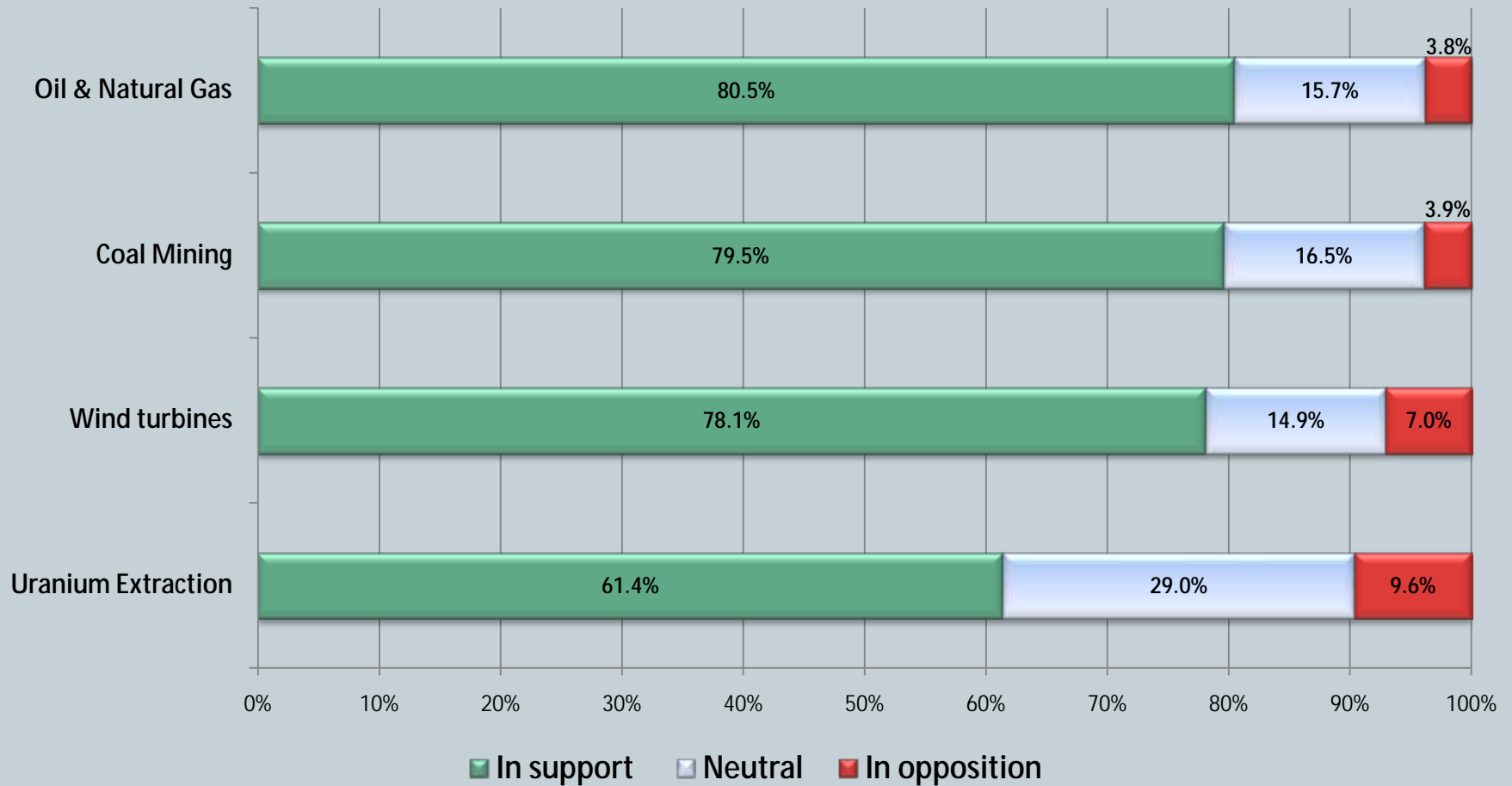
Soda Butte Creek, Yellowstone National Park

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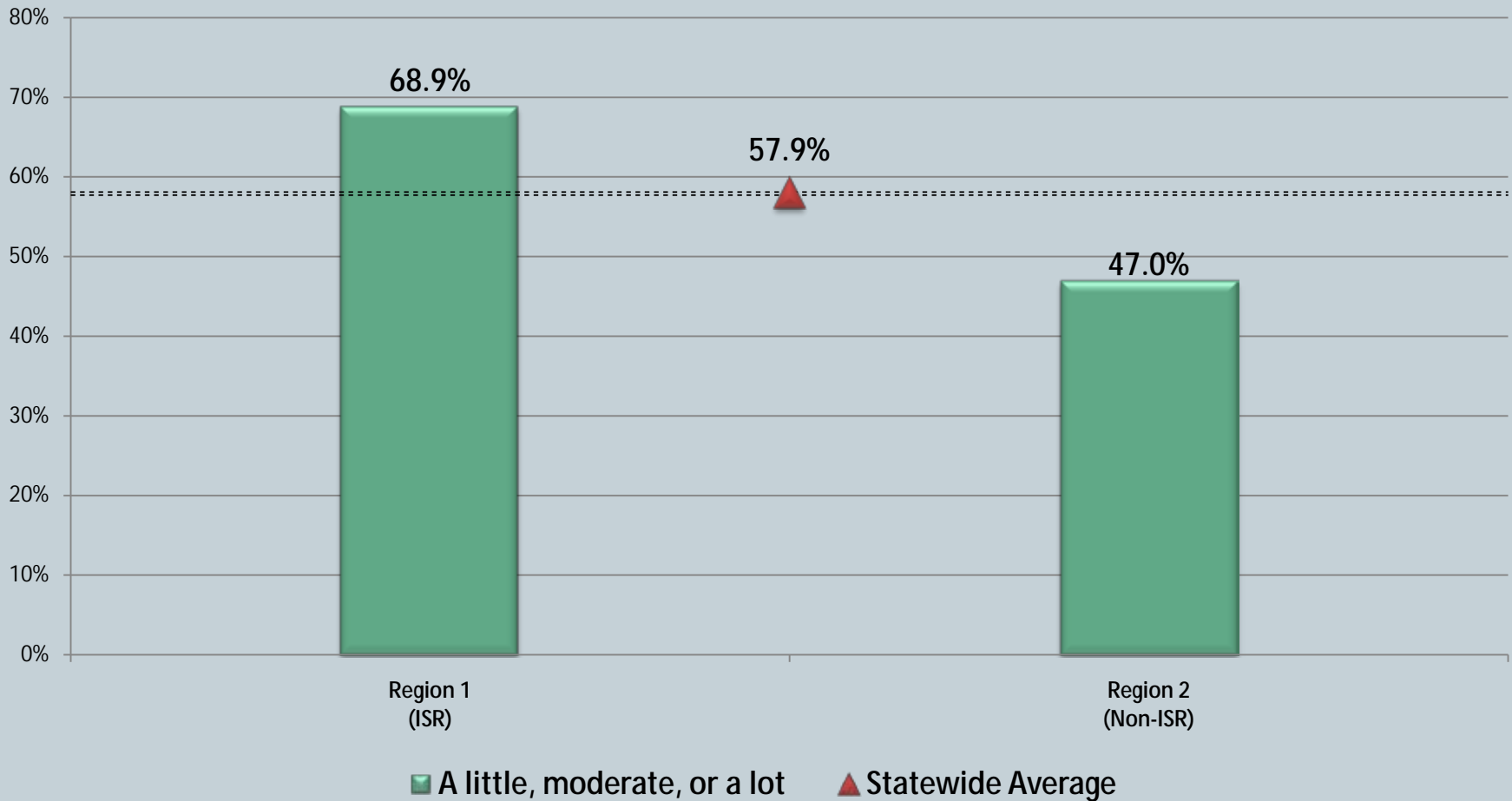
Considerations in energy development



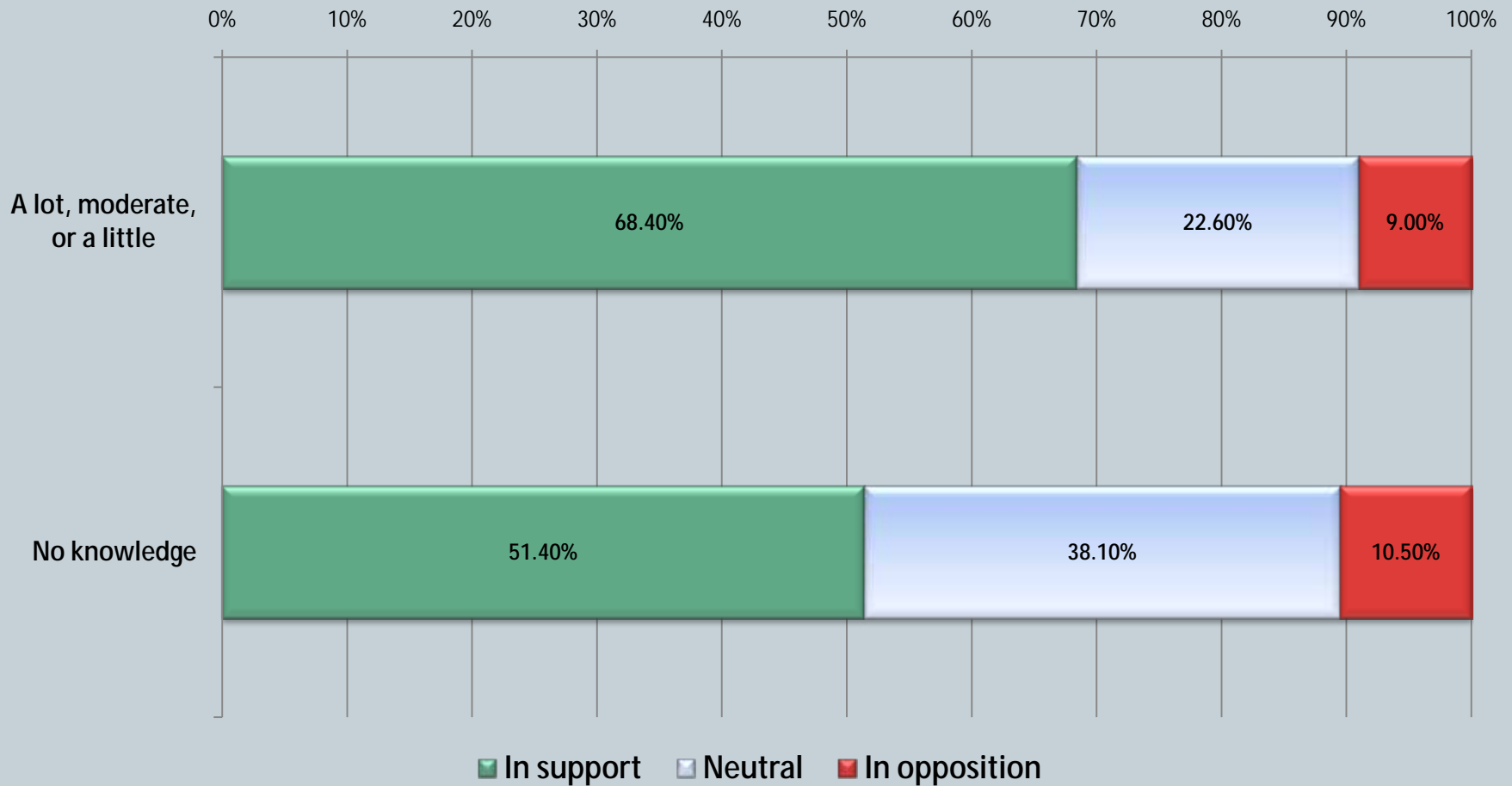
Support for continued energy development



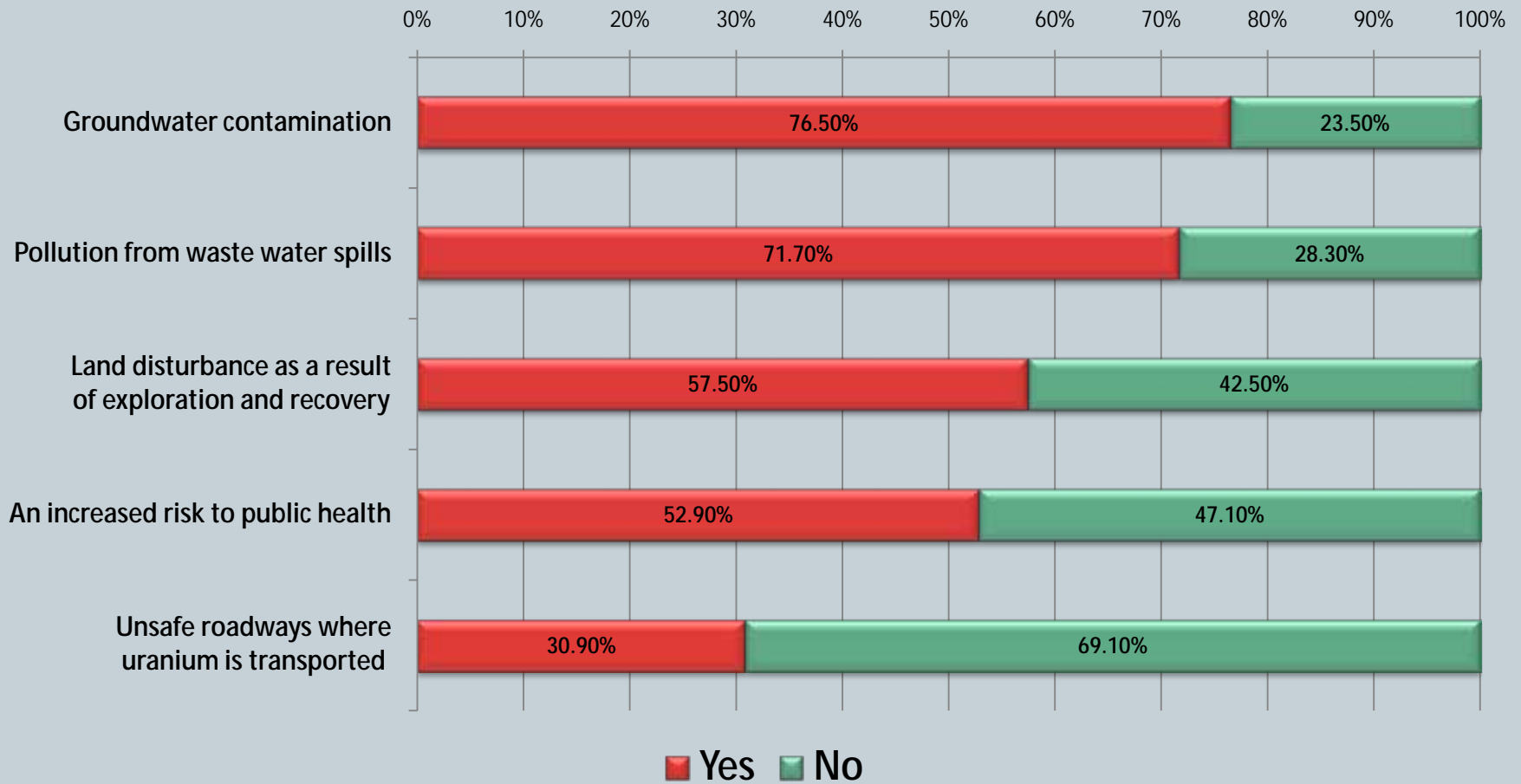
Prior level of knowledge of in-situ recovery of uranium



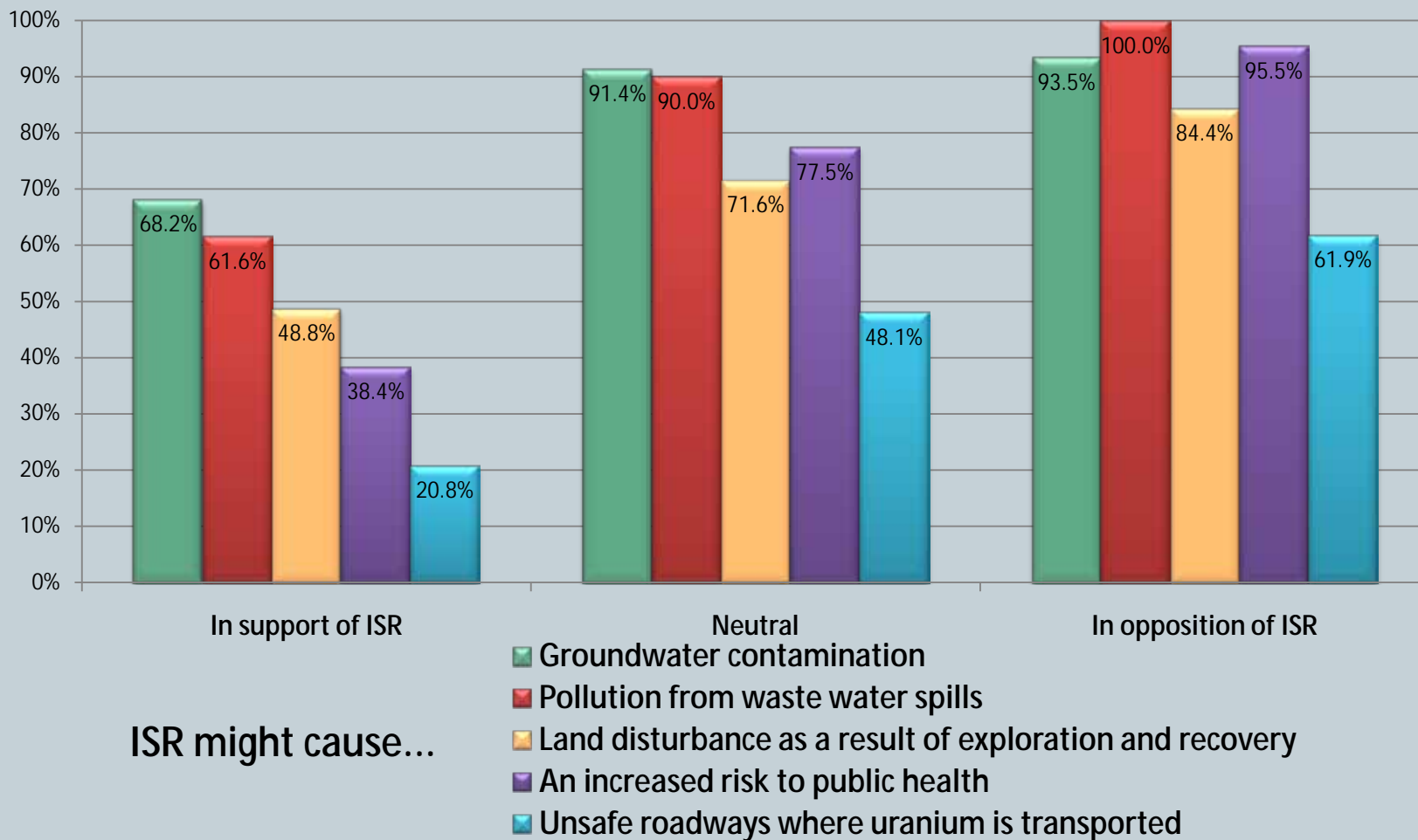
Support for continued uranium development, by level of previous knowledge



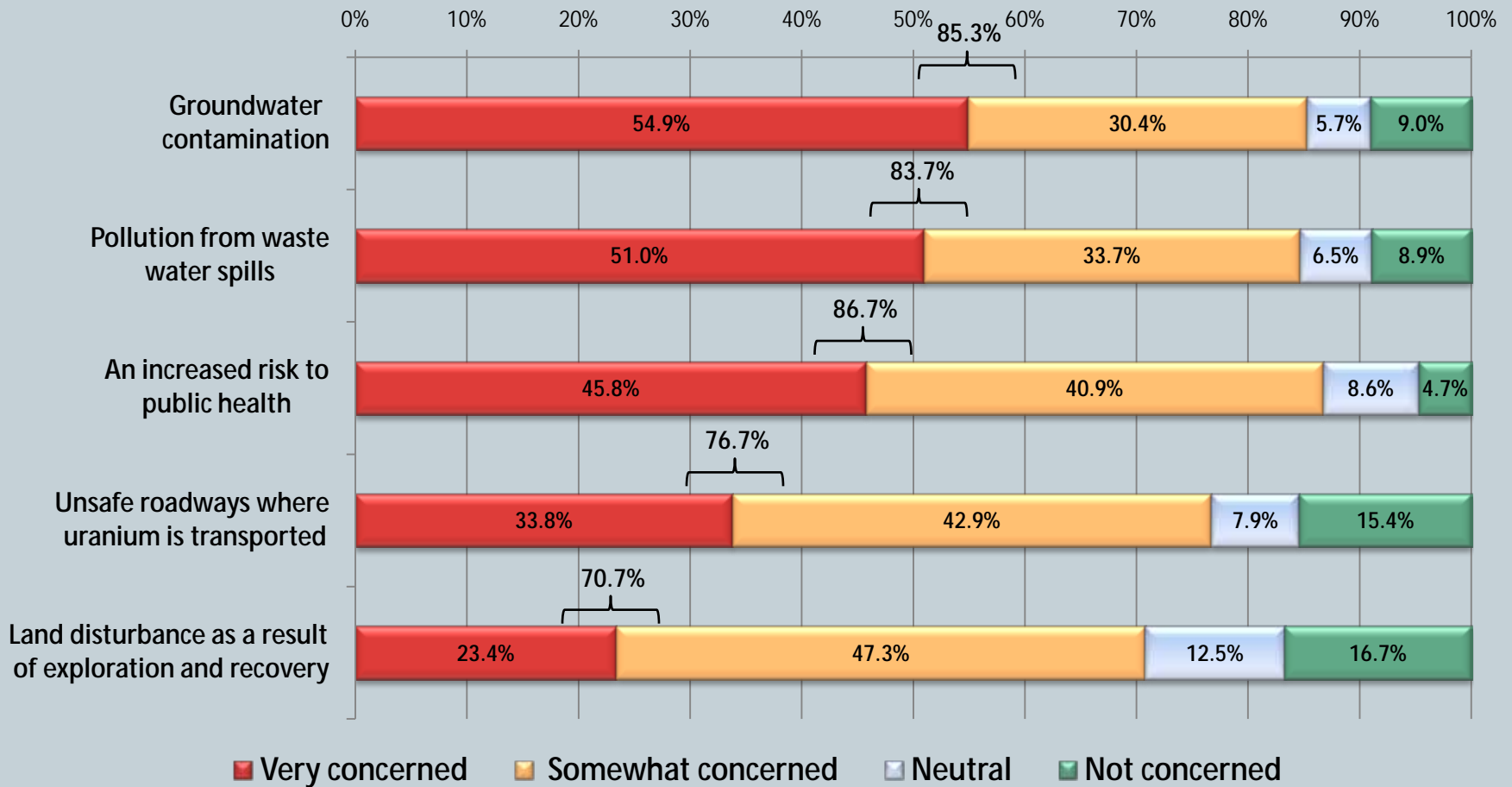
Belief that uranium extraction MIGHT cause potential problems



Risks of uranium extraction, by degree of support



Level of concern of those who think ISR might cause the problem



Conclusions



Wind River Area

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Conclusions



- *Job creation* and *tax revenue* are the top considerations of Wyomingites when thinking about continued energy development of all types in Wyoming.
- Wyoming residents with any prior knowledge of in-situ recovery of uranium are more likely to support its continued development.
- 29% of respondents are *neutral* on continued uranium development, nearly twice as many as for any other type of energy development.
- Potential groundwater contamination and pollution from waste water spills are of great concern to Wyoming residents.
 - ┆ Over 70% of Wyomingites think ISR might cause these two problems.
 - ┆ Of those, over 80% are *Very* or *Somewhat Concerned*.



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Full technical report available at:

- <http://wysac.uwyo.edu/>
- <http://www.uwyo.edu/ser/uraniumforum>

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