

Survey Research on the Great Lakes

Sarah Mills, PhD

May 22, 2015

Presentation Outline

- Background on CLOSUP
- Elite and public opinion on the Great Lakes
- Support for increasing cost of water
- Collaborating with CLOSUP

Center for Local, State, and Urban Policy (CLOSUP)

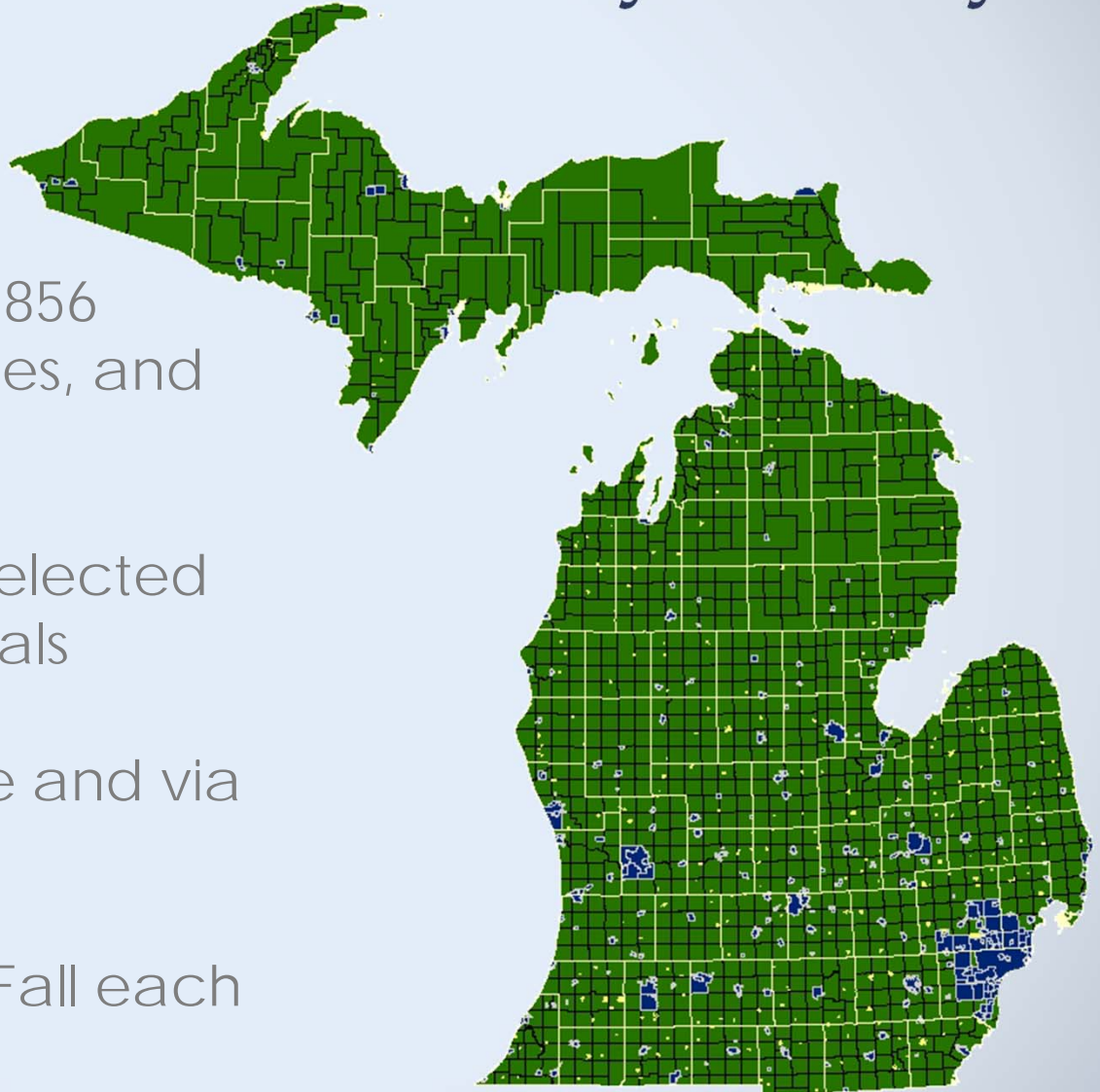
- Mission:
 - conduct, support, and foster applied academic research that informs local, state, and urban policy issues
 - facilitate student learning and engagement with today's critical local, state, and urban policy issues
- Funding through U-M general funds
 - But definitely open to grants!
- Director: Barry Rabe

Research

- Michigan Public Policy Survey (MPPS)
- The Energy & Environmental Policy Initiative (EEPI)
 - The National Surveys on Energy & Environment (NSEE)
 - Fracking Project

The Michigan Public Policy Survey

- **Census survey** – all 1,856 counties, cities, villages, and townships
- **Respondents** – chief elected and appointed officials
- **Administered** – online and via hardcopy
- **Timing** – Spring and Fall each year



MPPS is not a typical opinion poll

- **Topics** – wide range, such as fiscal health, budget priorities, economic development, intergovernmental cooperation, privatization, employee policies, labor unions, state relations, energy, environmental sustainability, **Great Lakes**, citizen engagement, bankruptcy, much more.
- **70+% response rates**
- **Transparency**
 - Questionnaires online
 - Pre-run data tables online
 - Sharing of (anonymized) datasets with other researchers

Center for Local, State, and Urban Policy

M | Ford School



SEARCH:

- People
- Events
- Michigan Public Policy Survey
- Energy & Environmental Policy Initiative
- National Surveys on Energy & Environment
- CLOSUP in the Classroom
- Research
- Publications
- Resources
- Join Mailing List

CLOSUP > Michigan Public Policy Survey > Michigan Public Policy Survey > Question Database

Michigan Public Policy Survey Question Database

The Michigan Public Policy Survey (MPPS), a program of biannual state-wide surveys of local government leaders in Michigan, was launched by the Center for Local, State, and Urban Policy (CLOSUP) in 2009. The surveys cover a wide range of issues important to local and state governance, such as fiscal, budgetary and operational policy, fiscal health, public sector compensation, workforce development, local-state governmental relations, intergovernmental collaboration, privatization, economic development strategies and initiatives such as placemaking and economic gardening, the role of local government in environmental sustainability, energy topics such as hydraulic fracturing ("fracking") and wind power, trust in government, views on state policymaker performance, and much more.

All MPPS questionnaires are available on this MPPS website, and pre-run data tables displaying results are available for almost all questions. Users can browse [questionnaires](#) or the [pre-run data tables](#) to find questions of interest. In addition, the search engine below allows users to search the question text across all waves of the MPPS. Results of the keyword search provide direct links to the pre-run data tables for each question.

Keyword:

Limit search results to: 2009 2010 2011 2012 2013 2014

MPPS Home

- See the MPPS home page

MPPS Resources

Question Database

- Search survey questions: Get links to data tables

Data Tables

- "Core" Fiscal Tracking Items
- Fall 2014 MPPS Data
- Spring 2014 MPPS Data

[More data](#) +

Reports

- Michigan local leaders see need for state and local ethics reform (March 2015)
- Local leaders say Michigan road funding needs major increase, but lack consensus on options that would raise the most revenue (Feb. 2015)
- Michigan local government leaders' views on employee pay and benefits (Jan. 2015)



[More reports](#) +

Questionnaires

- Fall 2014 MPPS questionnaire
- Spring 2014 MPPS Questionnaire

[More questionnaires](#) +

Individual Study Pages

- Fall 2014

Energy & Environmental Policy Initiative

Primary components:

- The National Surveys on Energy & Environment (NSEE)
- Issues in Energy and Environmental Policy (IEEP)

National Surveys on Energy & Environment

- Conducted in partnership with Muhlenberg College's Institute of Public Opinion
- Respondents – general public
- Administered – via telephone
- Timing – twice per year
- Topics – Climate change, hydraulic fracturing, shale gas exploration, carbon taxation



Other EEPI Initiatives

- The Fracking Project
 - Case studies
 - Comparative public opinion

- GLPRN
 - SSHRC Partnership Development Grant
 - Carolyn Johns (Ryerson), Gail Krantzberg (McMaster), Kate Friedman (SUNY-Buffalo)
 - Case studies, policy models, **opinion poll**



Water-related Data

...

Elite & Public Opinion

Elite Opinion:
Michigan local gov't

- MPPS survey
- 1,353 jurisdictions
 - 73% response rate
 - 1.4% margin of error

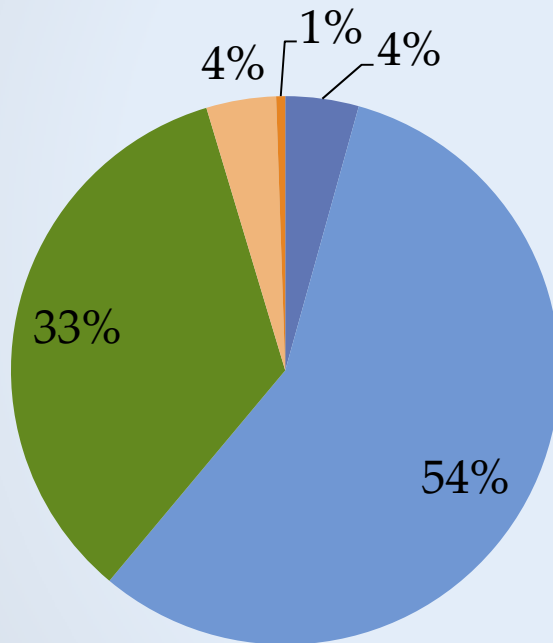
Public Opinion:
Residents in GL Basin

- Telephone survey
- 1,247 residents
 - 3% margin of error (overall)
 - 267 respondents from Michigan

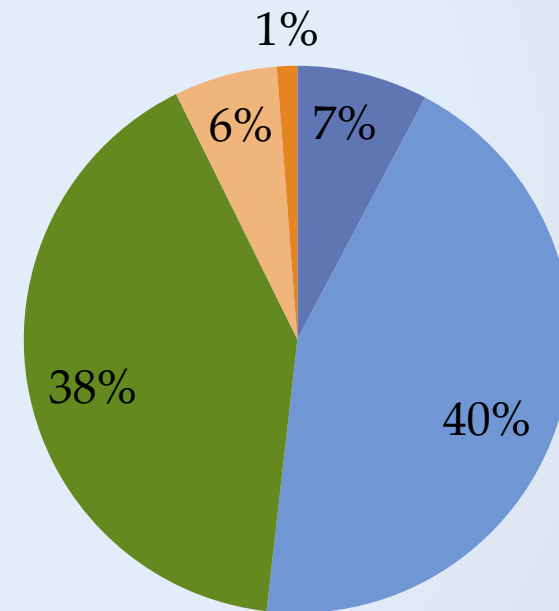
Reports on each of these datasets
available on closup.umich.edu

Current condition of the Great Lakes

MI Elite



MI Public



■ Excellent ■ Good ■ Fair ■ Poor ■ Very Poor

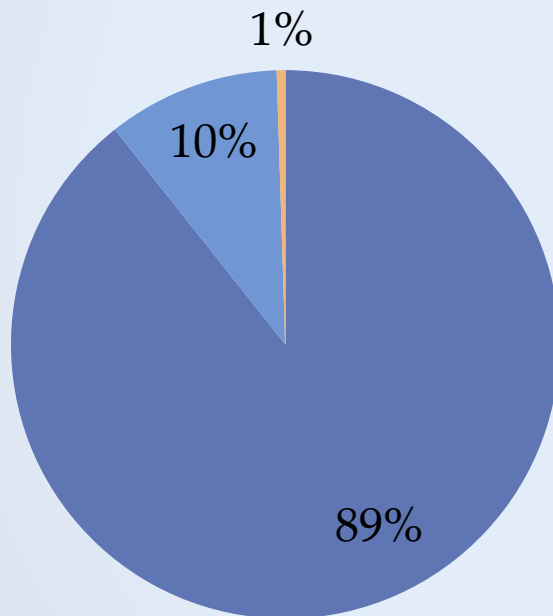
Most important concerns?

Issue(Grouped by category)	Rank 1	Any mention
Pollution/Contamination	55%	73%
Asian Carp	8%	21%
Water Levels	5%	16%
Invasive Species	4%	11%
Sewage/Waste	3%	7%
Water Quality/Maintaining Quality	3%	6%
Industrial/Business Waste	2%	6%
Garbage Dumping	2%	6%
Zebra Mussels	2%	5%
...		
Global warming	0.5%	2%

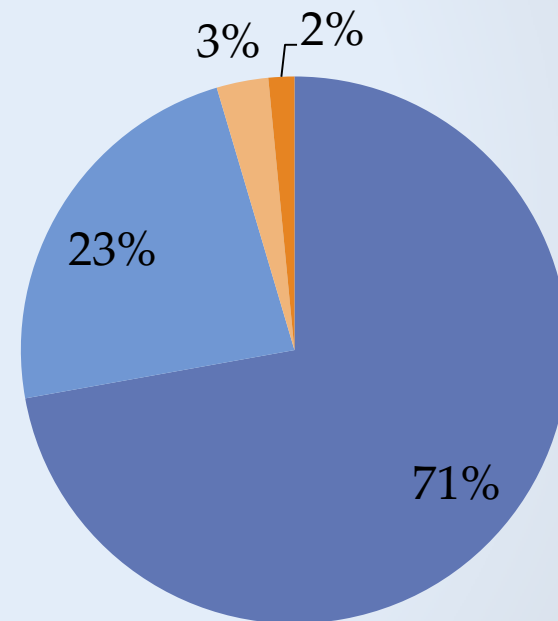
Public opinion only

GL economic resource for Michigan

MI Elite



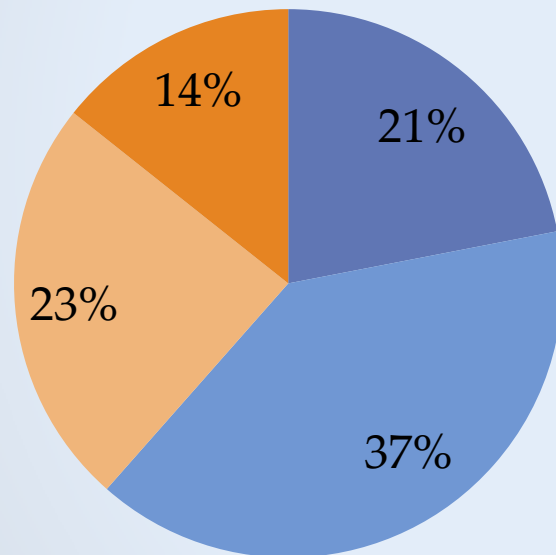
MI Public



■ Strongly agree ■ Somewhat agree ■ Somewhat disagree ■ Strongly disagree

GL economic resource for *your jurisdiction*

Overall



■ Strongly disagree ■ Somewhat disagree ■ Somewhat agree ■ Strongly agree

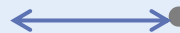
Support for GL policies

MI Elite

- Limit water diversion (85%)
- Prevent sewer overflow (75%)
- Prevent agri. runoff (72%)

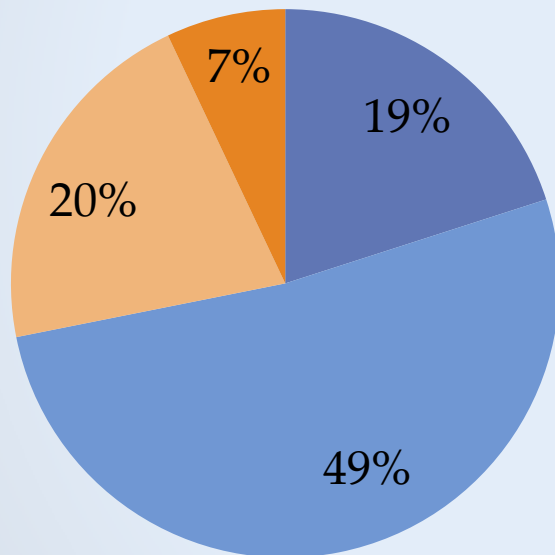
MI Public

- Prevent sewer overflow (82%)
- Reduce pharmaceutical release (81%)
- Prevent agri. runoff (77%)

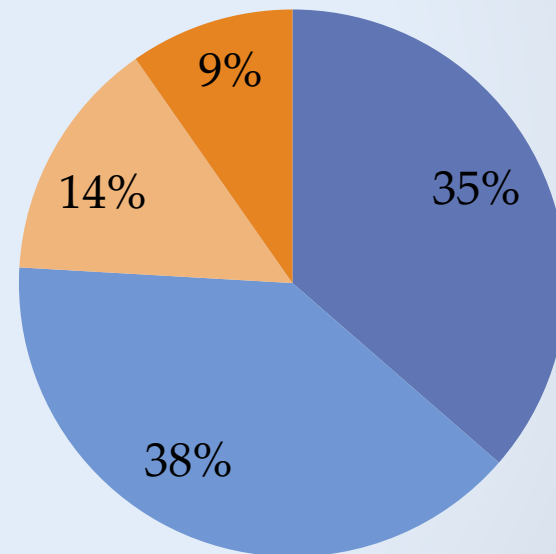


Improve water quality, increase taxes

MI Elite



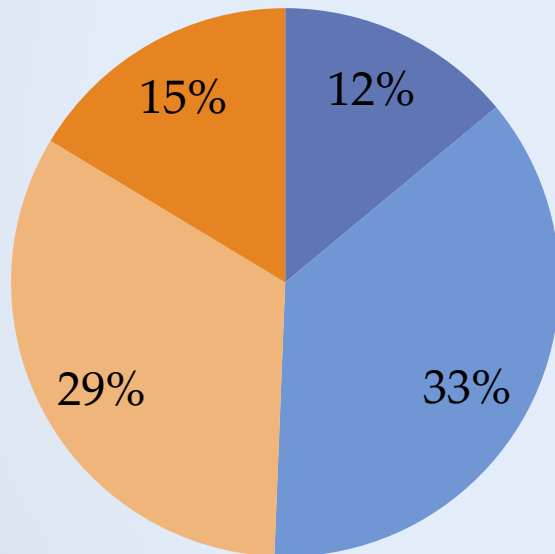
MI Public



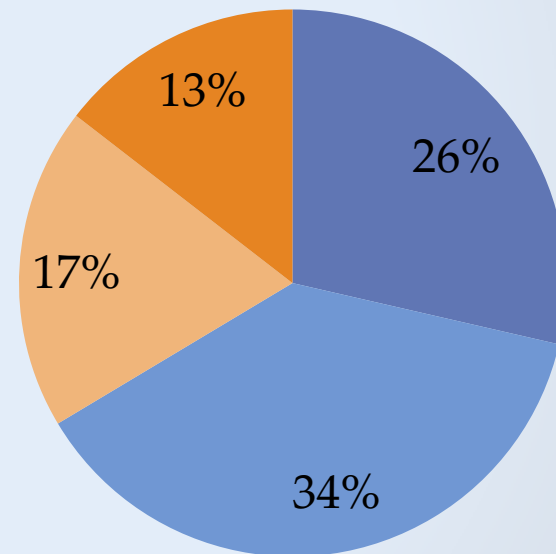
■ Strongly support ■ Somewhat support ■ Somewhat oppose ■ Strongly oppose

Phase out coal-fired power plants

MI Elite



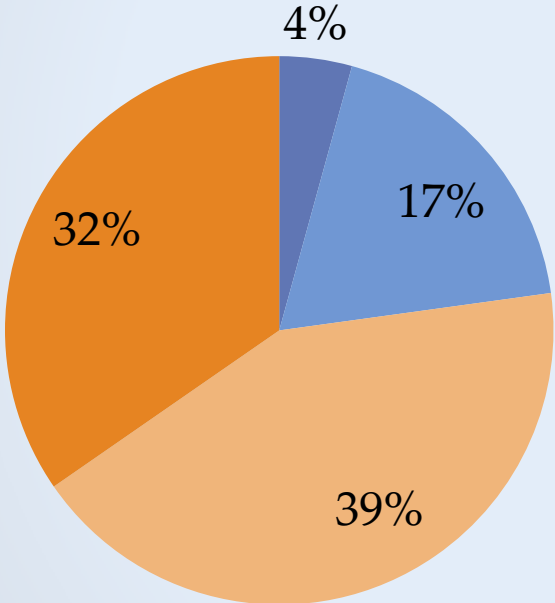
MI Public



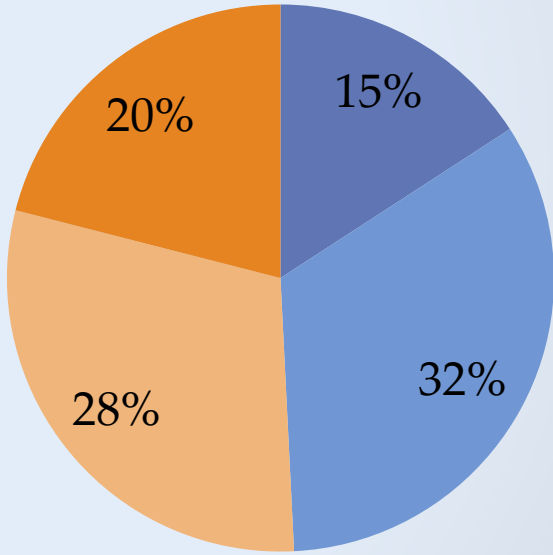
■ Strongly support ■ Somewhat support ■ Somewhat oppose ■ Strongly oppose

Increase cost of water

MI Elite



MI Public

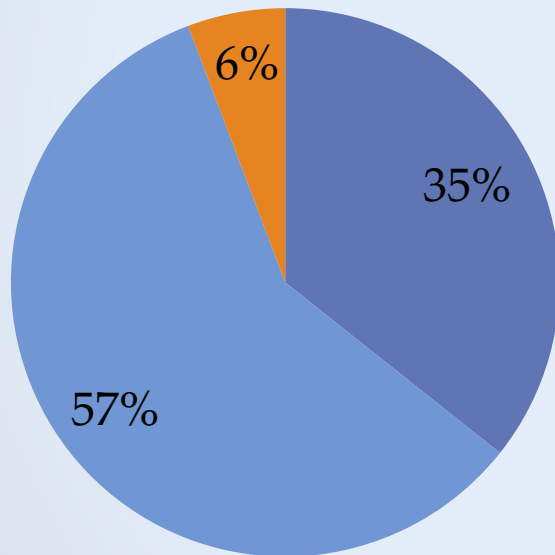


■ Strongly support ■ Somewhat support ■ Somewhat oppose ■ Strongly oppose

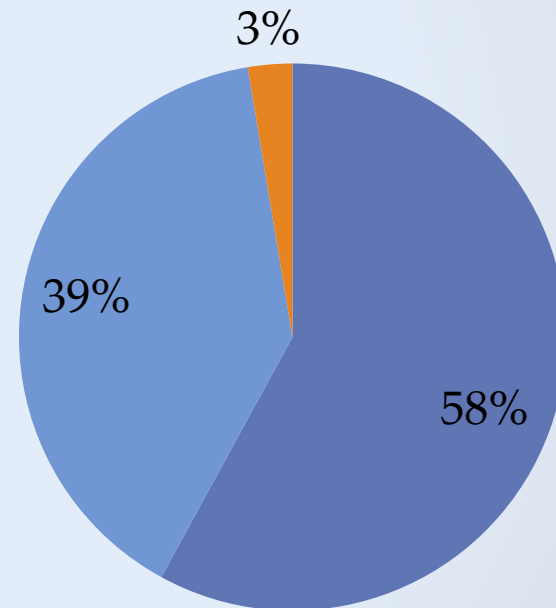
Shared responsibility for protecting Lakes ...

Individual citizens

MI Elite



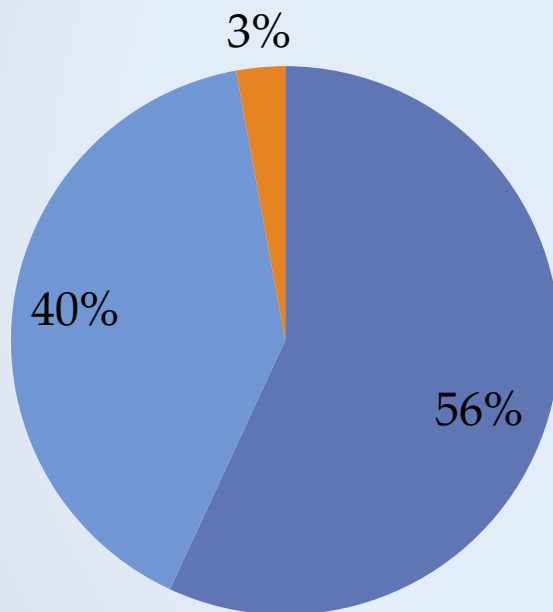
MI Public



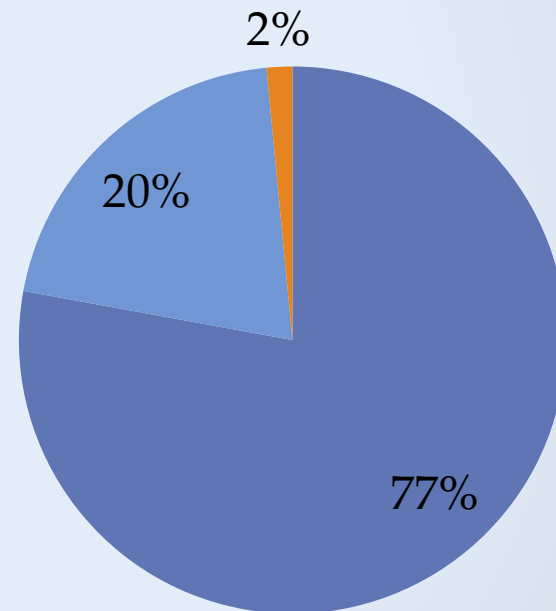
■ Great deal of responsibility ■ Some responsibility ■ No responsibility

Business/industry

MI Elite



MI Public



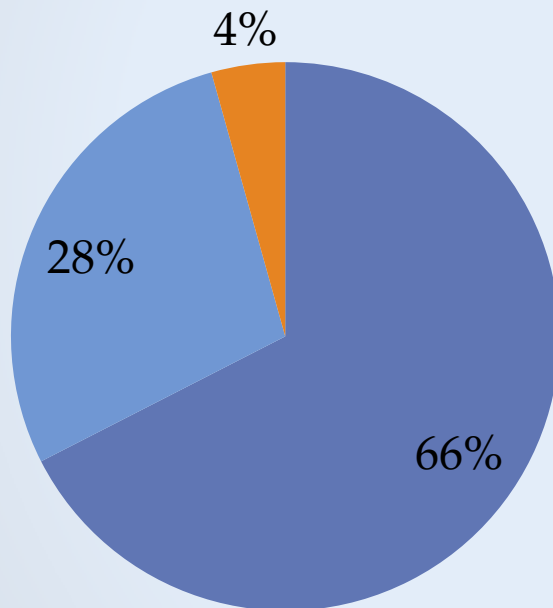
■ Great deal of responsibility

■ Some responsibility

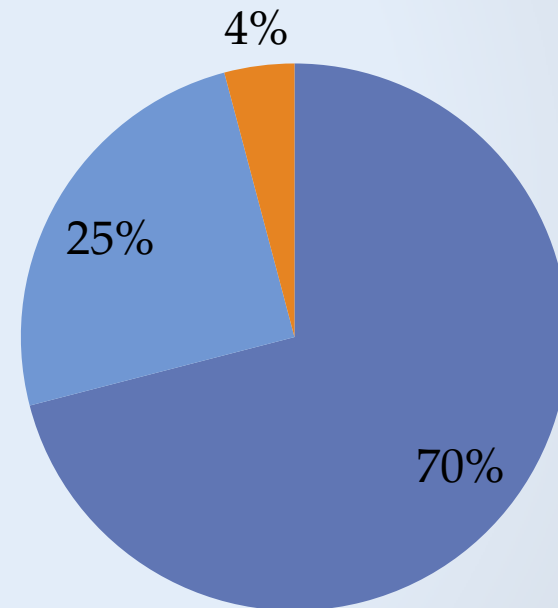
■ No responsibility

Federal government

MI Elite



MI Public



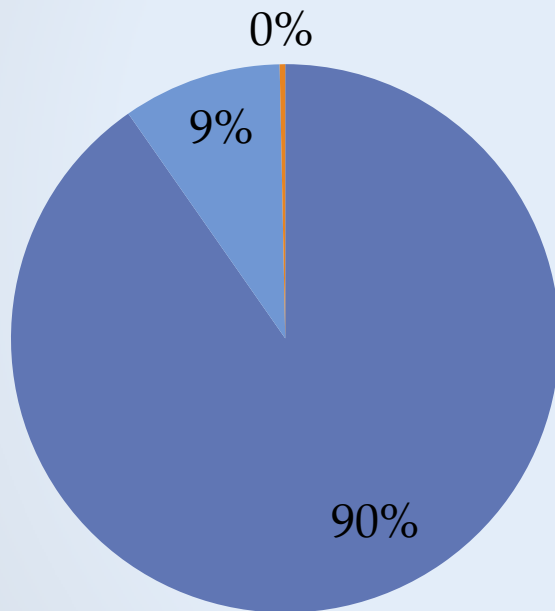
■ Great deal of responsibility

■ Some responsibility

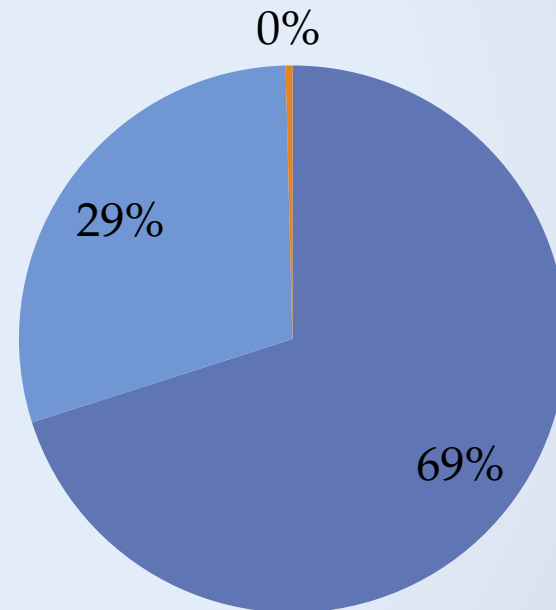
■ No responsibility

State government

MI Elite



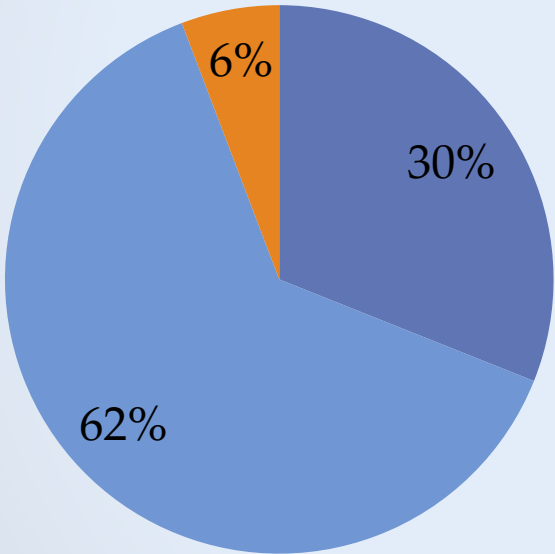
MI Public



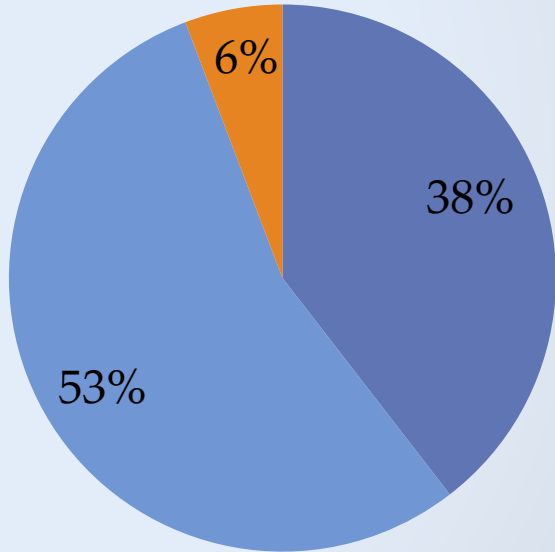
■ Great deal of responsibility ■ Some responsibility ■ No responsibility

Local government

MI Elite



MI Public



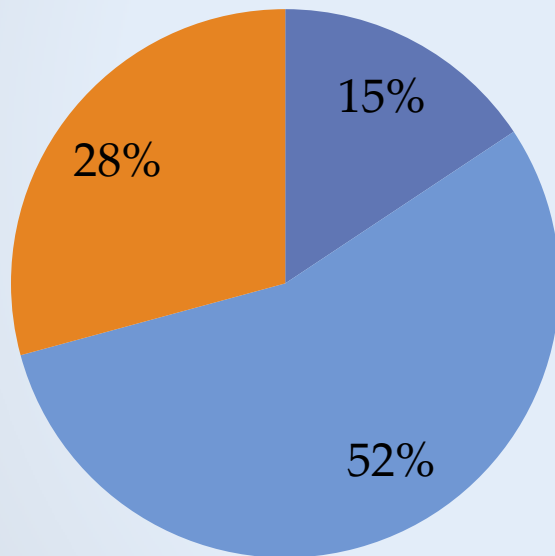
■ Great deal of responsibility

■ Some responsibility

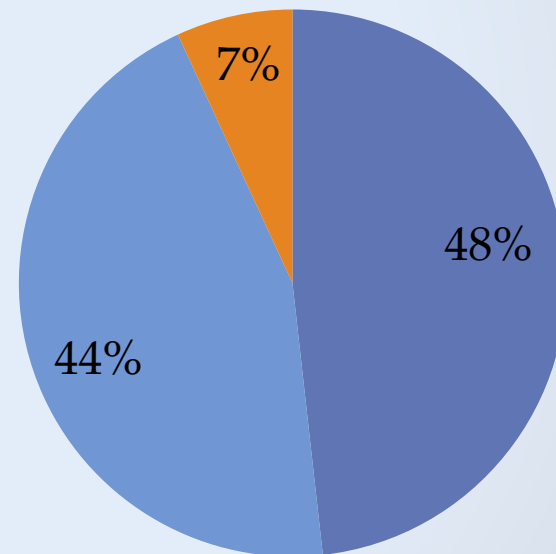
■ No responsibility

Your local government

MI Elite

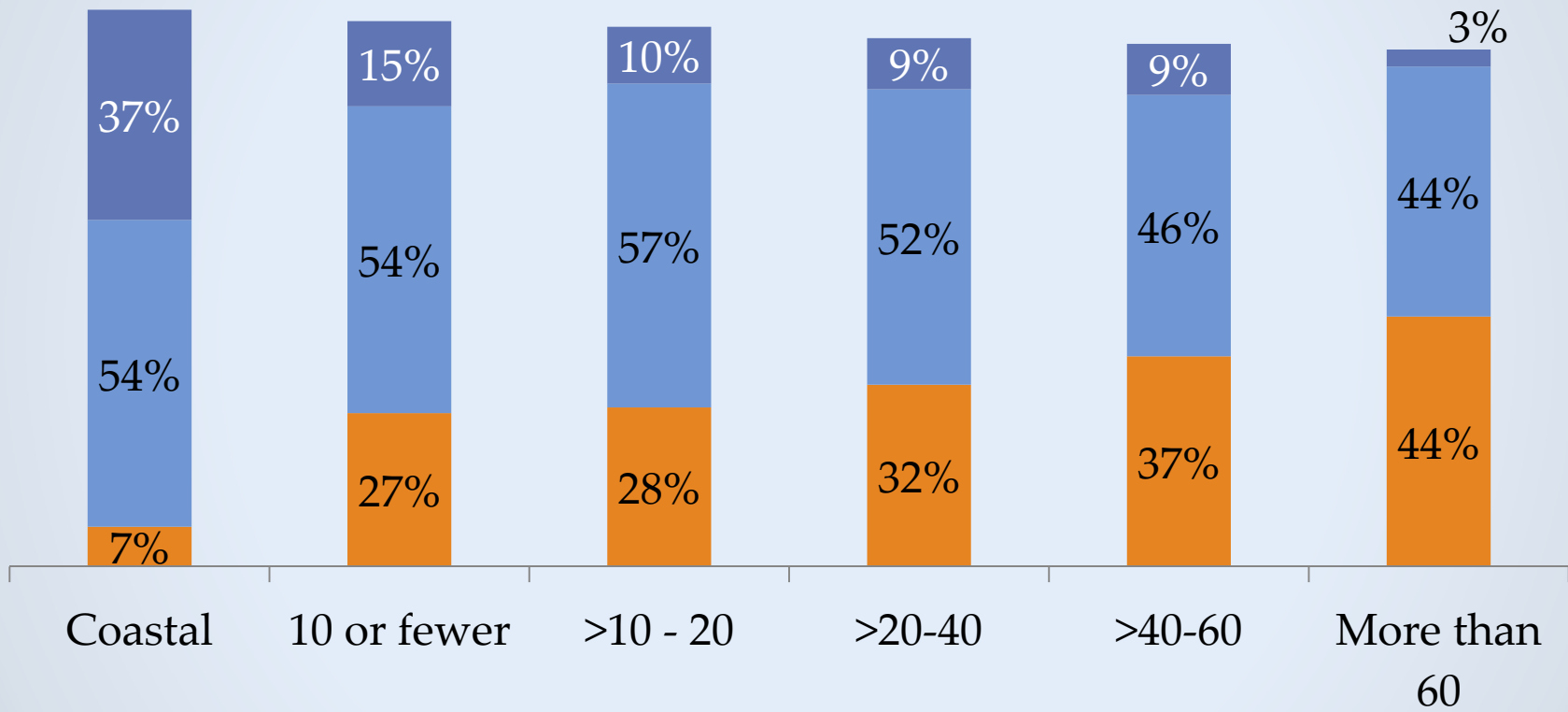


MI Public



■ Great deal of responsibility ■ Some responsibility ■ No responsibility

Your local government



Distance to nearest Great Lake, in miles

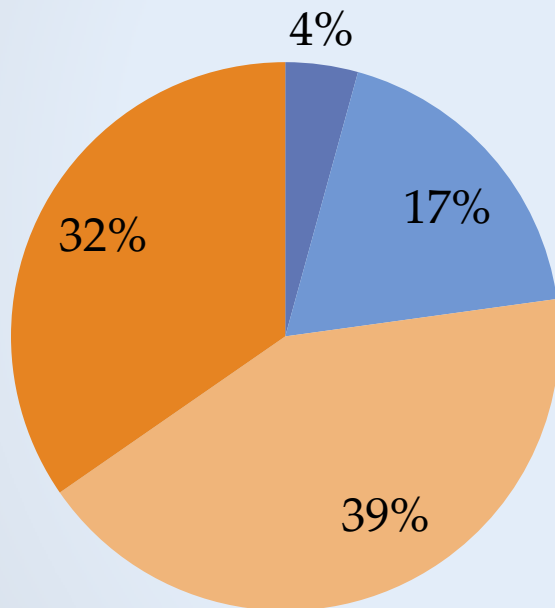
Elite opinion only

■ None
 ■ Some
 ■ A Great Deal

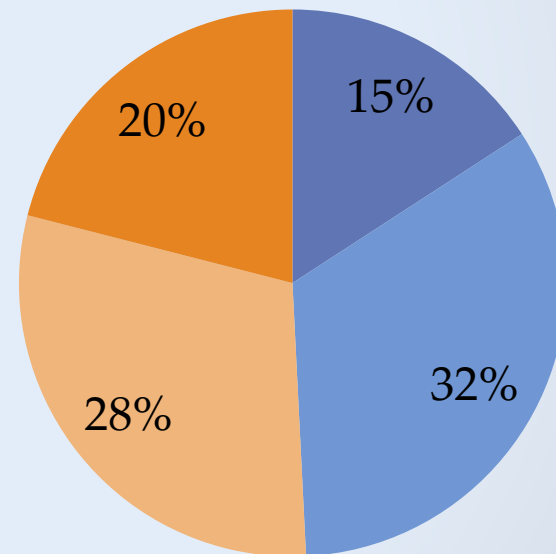
Water Pricing for Conservation ...

“Increase the cost of water for households and businesses to encourage consumers to use less water.”

MI Elite



MI Public



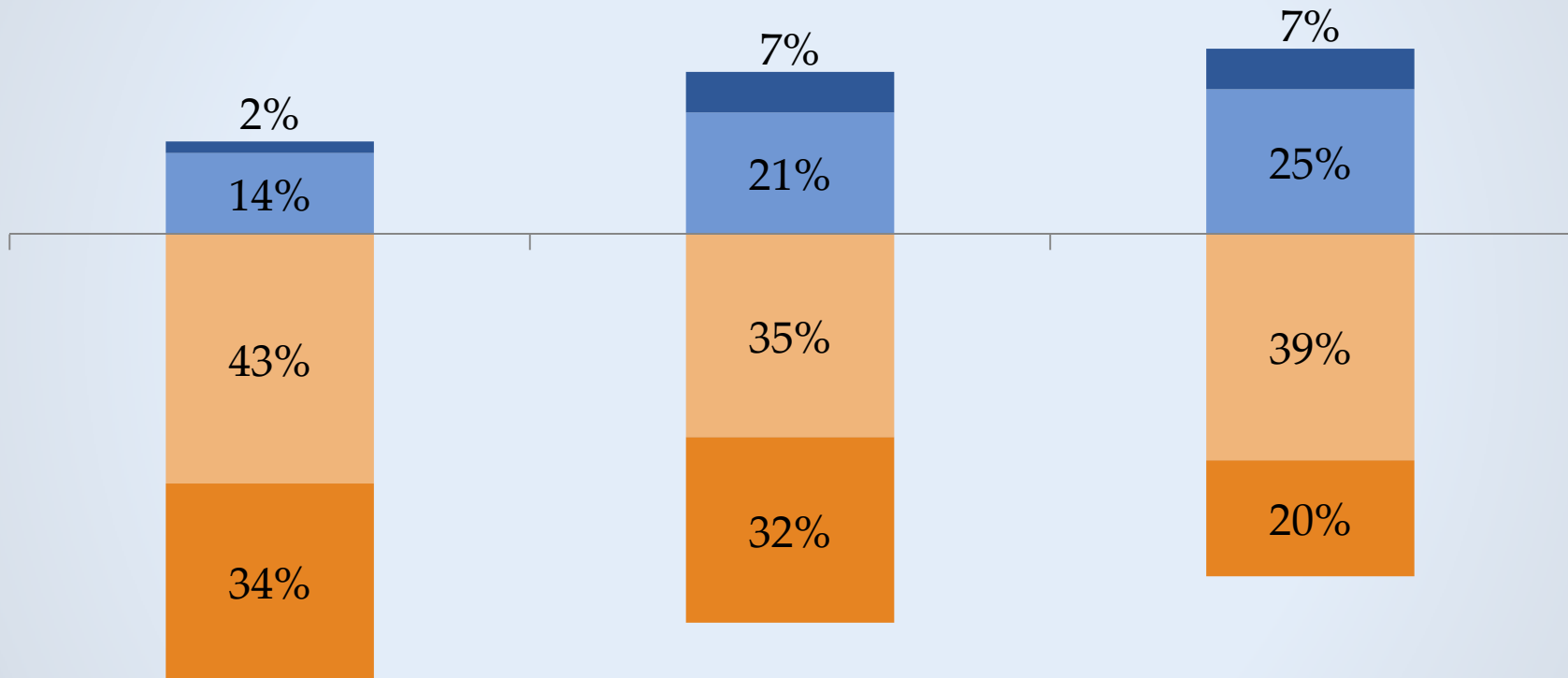
■ Strongly support ■ Somewhat support ■ Somewhat oppose ■ Strongly oppose

MI Local Leaders (Elites)

Republican

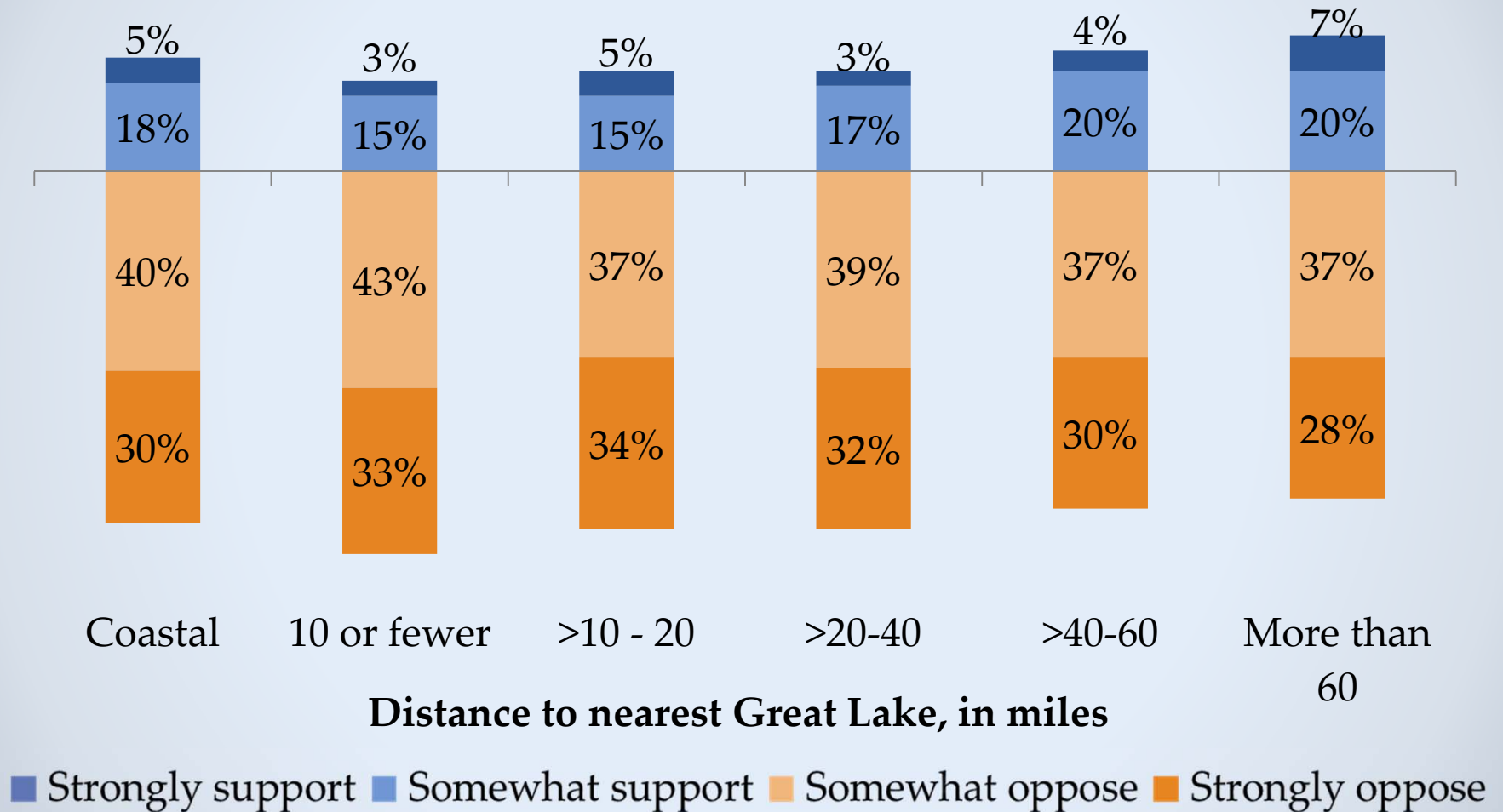
Independent

Democrat



■ Strongly support ■ Somewhat support ■ Somewhat oppose ■ Strongly oppose

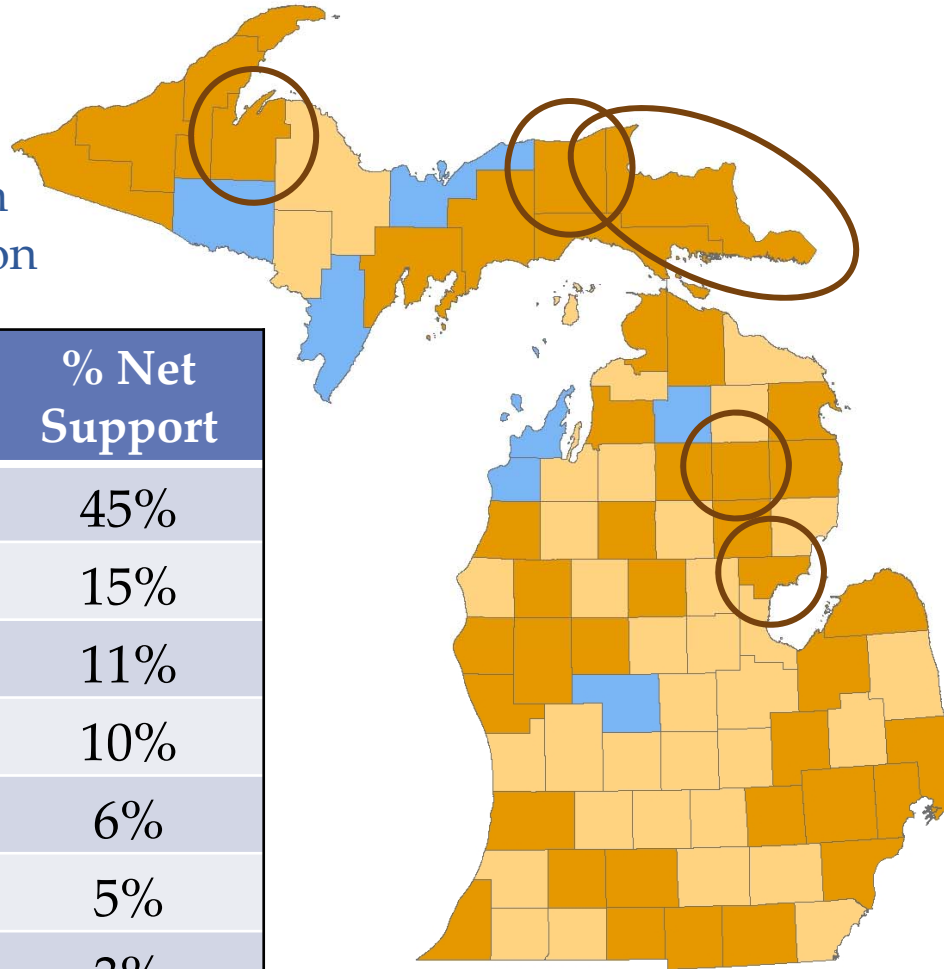
MI Local Leaders (Elites)



MI Local Leaders (Elites)

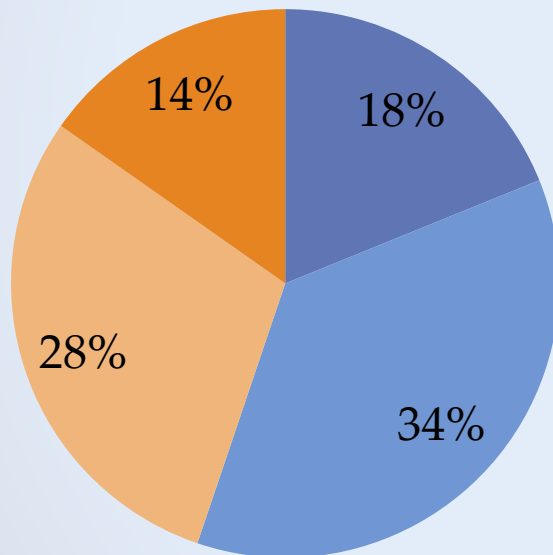
5 counties with
100% opposition

County	% Net Support
Ostego	45%
Leelanau	15%
Menominee	11%
Benzie	10%
Alger	6%
Iron	5%
Montcalm	3%

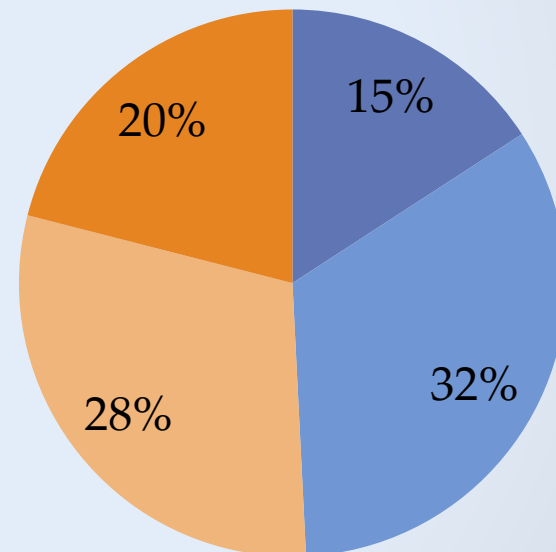


Public Opinion

GL Basin-wide

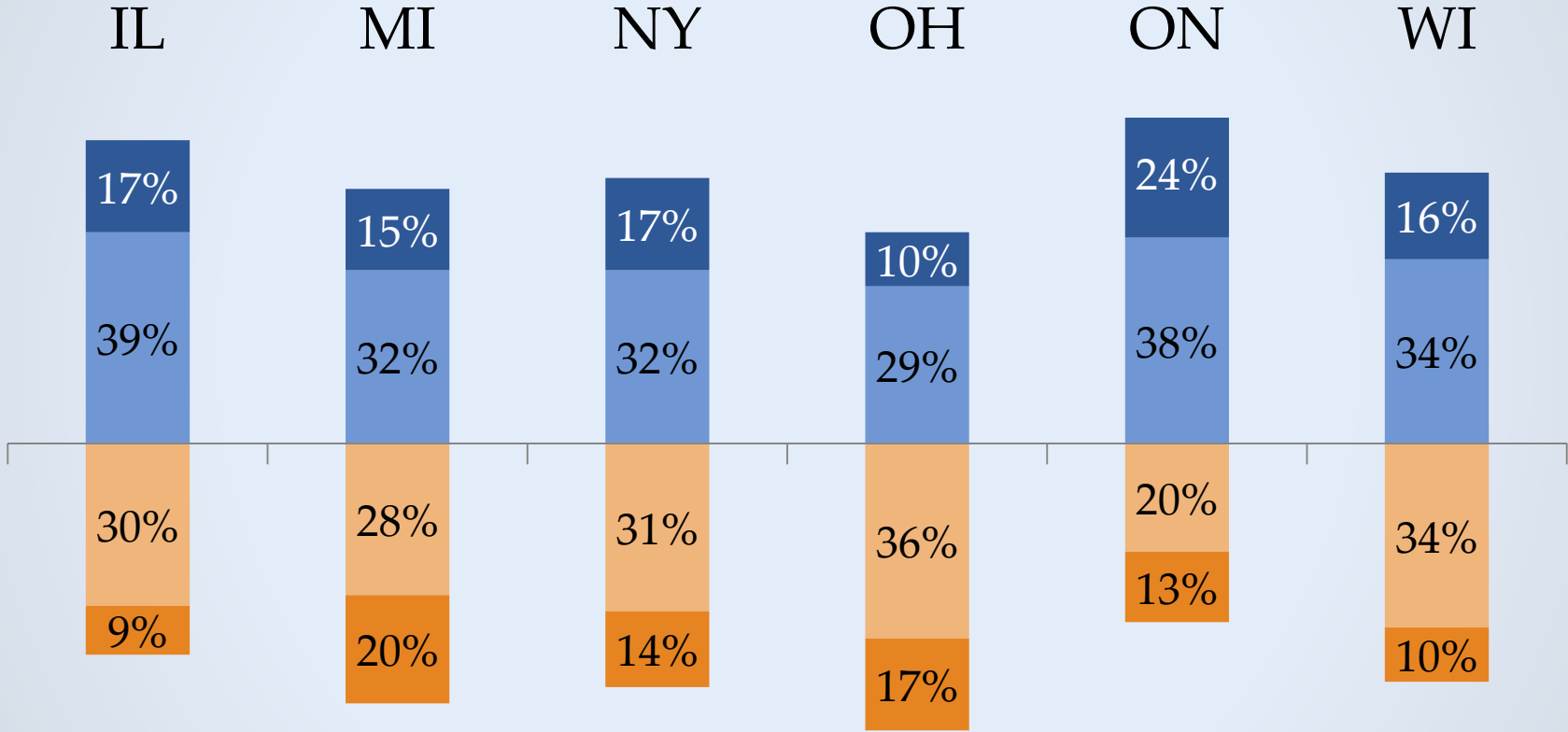


MI Public



■ Strongly support ■ Somewhat support ■ Somewhat oppose ■ Strongly oppose

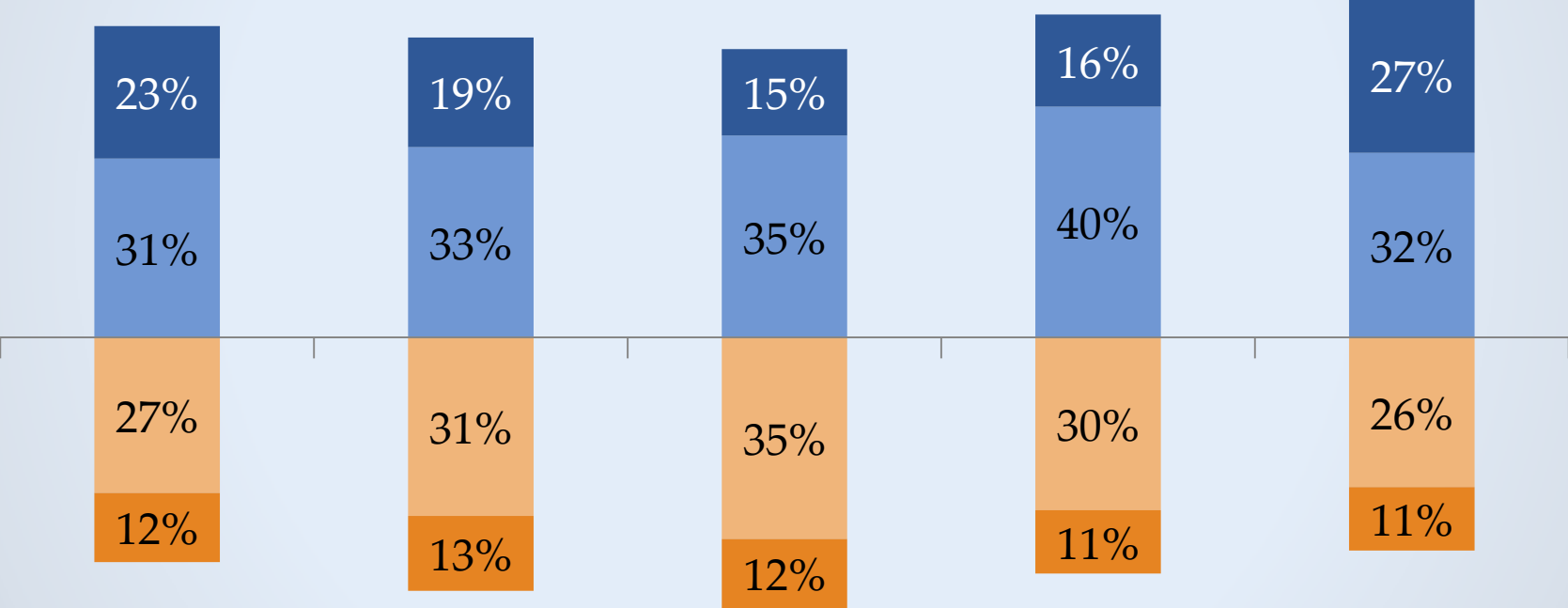
Public Opinion – by state



■ Strongly support
 ■ Somewhat support
 ■ Somewhat oppose
 ■ Strongly oppose

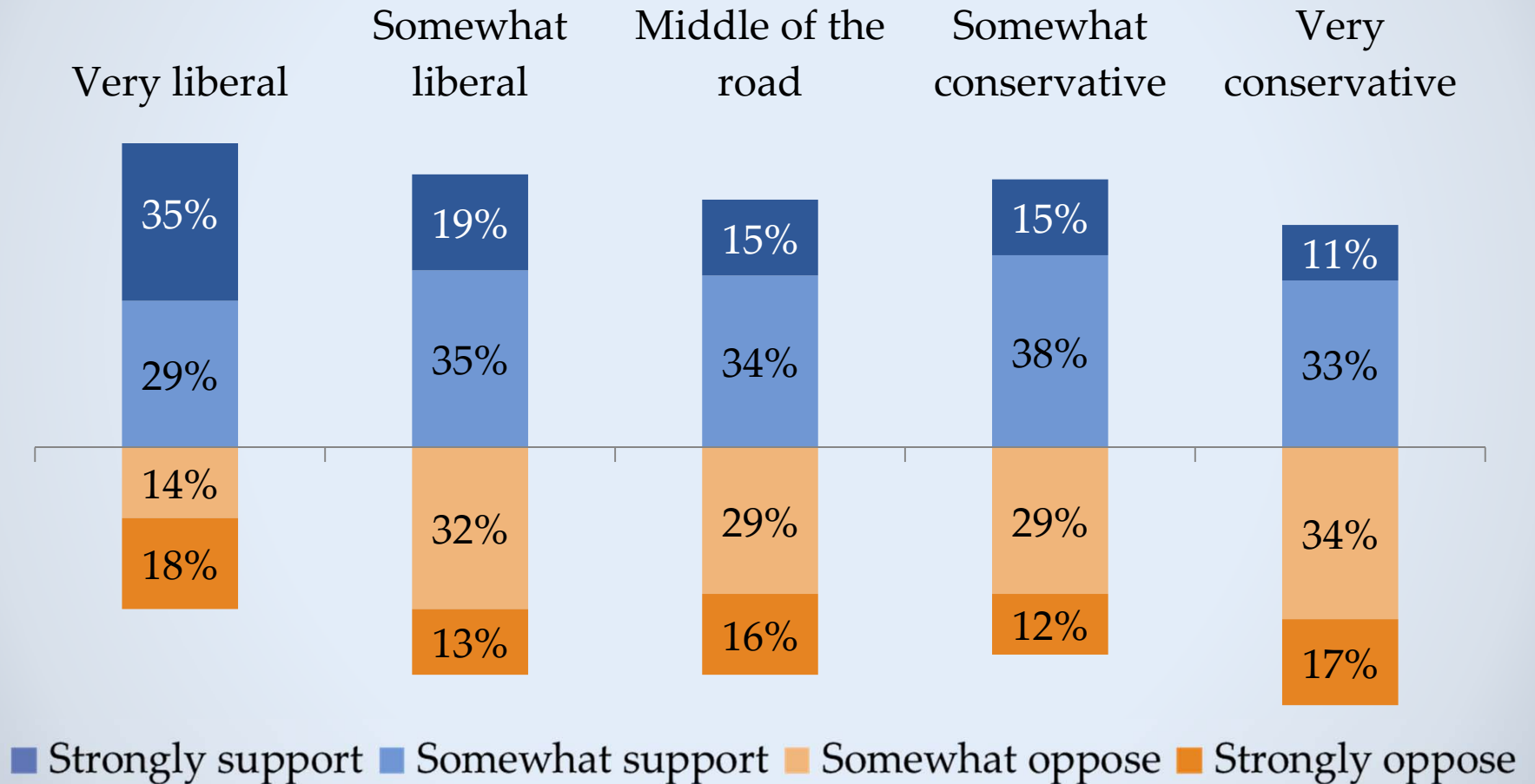
Public Opinion – by income

<\$25k \$25-49k \$50-74k \$75-99k \$100k+



■ Strongly support ■ Somewhat support ■ Somewhat oppose ■ Strongly oppose

Public Opinion – by partisanship



Collaborating with CLOSUP ...

Collaboration

- More on clean energy / climate
- Request (de-identified) dataset
- Partner on future surveys



Center for Local, State, and Urban Policy (CLOSUP)

Web: www.closup.umich.edu

Email: closup@umich.edu

Twitter: [@closup](https://twitter.com/closup)