

Responsive Management



ARIZONA AND NEW MEXICO RESIDENTS' AWARENESS OF AND OPINIONS ON THE MEXICAN WOLF RECOVERY PROJECT

**Conducted for the Arizona Game and Fish Department
by Responsive Management**

2005

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EXECUTIVE SUMMARY

This study was conducted for the Arizona Game and Fish Department to determine public awareness of Mexican wolf reintroduction and opinions on various aspects of the Mexican Wolf Recovery Project. The study entailed a telephone survey of Arizona and New Mexico residents. Responsive Management obtained a total of 1,514 completed interviews, which included 754 Arizona residents and 760 New Mexico residents.

For the survey, telephones were selected as the preferred sampling medium because of the universality of telephone ownership. In addition, a central polling site at the Responsive Management office allowed for rigorous quality control over the interviews and data collection. Responsive Management maintains its own in-house telephone interviewing facilities. These facilities are staffed by interviewers with experience conducting computer-assisted telephone interviews on the subjects of natural resources. The telephone survey questionnaire was developed cooperatively by Responsive Management and the Arizona Game and Fish Department. Responsive Management conducted a pre-test of the questionnaire, and revisions were made to the questionnaire based on the pre-test.

The software used for data collection was Questionnaire Programming Language 4.1 (QPL). The analysis of data was performed using Statistical Package for the Social Sciences software as well as proprietary software developed by Responsive Management.

The results were weighted so that the proportions of the sample from the two states matched the actual proportions of the populations of the two states. Throughout this report, findings of the telephone survey are reported at a 95% confidence interval. For the entire sample of 1,514, the sampling error is at most plus or minus 2.52 percentage points.

AWARENESS OF MEXICAN WOLF REINTRODUCTION

- A majority of respondents (67%) had heard about Mexican wolf reintroduction in Arizona and New Mexico prior to the survey.

- Residents of New Mexico were more likely to have heard about Mexican wolf reintroduction than were residents of Arizona (74% of New Mexico residents compared to 64% of Arizona residents).
- Of those respondents who had heard about Mexican wolf reintroduction, a majority said they are somewhat familiar with reintroduction efforts: 73% of Arizona residents, 71% of New Mexico residents, and 73% of respondents overall are somewhat familiar with reintroduction efforts.

SUPPORT FOR OR OPPOSITION TO MEXICAN WOLF REINTRODUCTION

- A majority of respondents support the reintroduction of Mexican wolves in general (62%) and into the Apache National Forest in Arizona (60%) and the Gila National Forest in New Mexico (60%), with nearly half of those indicating that they *strongly* support reintroduction efforts.
- Opposition to Mexican wolf reintroduction efforts in general and into the Apache and Gila National Forests was low (13% for each).

OPINIONS ON THE EFFECTIVENESS OF VARIOUS ASPECTS OF THE MEXICAN WOLF RECOVERY PROJECT

- The majority of respondents said they do not know how effective or ineffective are each of the following five aspects of the Mexican Wolf Recovery Project: the handling of administrative issues among cooperating agencies and groups for the Mexican Wolf Recovery Project (85%), cooperation among the six agencies to implement Mexican wolf reintroductions (83%), communication processes among cooperating agencies and groups for the Mexican Wolf Recovery Project (79%), the U.S. Fish and Wildlife Service's provision of adequate information to the cooperating agencies about activities and events related to the Mexican Wolf Recovery Project (68%), and cooperation with the public for the Mexican Wolf Recovery Project (59%).

- Although the majority of respondents do not know how effective or ineffective are the five aspects of the Mexican Wolf Recovery Project, respondents were more likely to respond that the aspects are effective than that they are ineffective for four of the five aspects of the Mexican Wolf Recovery Project. The only aspect respondents were just as likely to say is ineffective as effective is cooperation with the public for the Mexican Wolf Recovery Project (19% said very or somewhat ineffective, and 20% said very or somewhat effective).

- The U.S. Fish and Wildlife Service's provision of adequate information to the cooperating agencies about activities and events related to the Mexican Wolf Recovery Project had the highest percentage of respondents who said they think it is very or somewhat effective (21%), followed closely by cooperation with the public for the Mexican Wolf Recovery Project (20%).
 - 13% of respondents think cooperation among the six agencies to implement Mexican wolf reintroductions is effective.
 - 13% of respondents think communication processes among cooperating agencies and groups for the Mexican Wolf Recovery Project are effective.
 - 9% of respondents think administrative issues among cooperating agencies and groups for the Mexican Wolf Recovery Project are handled effectively.

- One-fourth of respondents (25%) said the responsibilities of the cooperating agencies, programs, and counties for the Mexican Wolf Recovery Project are at least adequately defined.

- Of those who said the responsibilities of the cooperating agencies, programs, and counties for the Mexican Wolf Recovery Project are well or adequately defined, a majority (68%) feel that those responsibilities are serving the needs of the Mexican Wolf Recovery Project.

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INTRODUCTION AND METHODOLOGY

This study was conducted for the Arizona Game and Fish Department to determine public awareness of Mexican wolf reintroduction and opinions on various aspects of the Mexican Wolf Recovery Project. The study entailed a telephone survey of Arizona and New Mexico residents. Specific aspects of the research methodology are discussed below.

For the survey, telephones were selected as the preferred sampling medium because of the universality of telephone ownership. In addition, a central polling site at the Responsive Management office allowed for rigorous quality control over the interviews and data collection. Responsive Management maintains its own in-house telephone interviewing facilities. These facilities are staffed by interviewers with experience conducting computer-assisted telephone interviews on the subjects of natural resources and outdoor recreation. The telephone survey questionnaire was developed cooperatively by Responsive Management and the Arizona Game and Fish Department. Responsive Management conducted a pre-test of the questionnaire, and revisions were made to the questionnaire based on the pre-test.

To ensure that the telephone survey data collected were of the highest quality, Responsive Management has interviewers who have been trained according to the standards established by the Council of American Survey Research Organizations. Methods of instruction included lecture and role-playing. The Survey Center Managers conducted project briefings with the interviewers prior to the administration of the survey. Interviewers were instructed on type of study, study goals and objectives, handling of survey questions, interview length, termination points and qualifiers for participation, interviewer instructions within the survey instrument, reading of the survey instrument, skip patterns, and probing and clarifying techniques necessary for specific questions on the survey instrument. The Survey Center Managers randomly monitored telephone workstations without the interviewers' knowledge to evaluate the performance of each interviewer. After the surveys were obtained by the interviewers, the Survey Center Managers and/or statisticians edited each completed survey to ensure clarity and completeness.

Interviews were conducted Monday through Friday from 9:00 a.m. to 9:00 p.m., Saturday noon to 6:00 p.m., and Sunday from 3:00 p.m. to 7:00 p.m., all local time. A five-callback design was used to maintain the representativeness of the sample, to avoid bias toward people easy to reach by telephone, and to provide an equal opportunity for all to participate. When a respondent could not be reached on the first call, subsequent calls were placed on different days of the week and at different times of the day. The survey was conducted in March 2005. Responsive Management obtained a total of 1,514 completed interviews, which included 754 Arizona residents and 760 New Mexico residents.

The software used for data collection was Questionnaire Programming Language 4.1 (QPL). The survey data were entered into the computer as each interview was being conducted, eliminating manual data entry after the completion of the survey and the concomitant data entry errors that may occur with manual data entry. The survey instrument was programmed so that QPL branched, coded, and substituted phrases in the survey based on previous responses to ensure the integrity and consistency of the data collection. The analysis of data was performed using Statistical Package for the Social Sciences software as well as proprietary software developed by Responsive Management.

The results were weighted so that the proportions of the sample from the two states matched the actual proportions of the populations of the two states. In other words, the results were weighted so that 74% of the sample was from Arizona, which matches the total population of the two states, 74% of which reside in Arizona. The tabulation below shows the weighting factors.

Weighting Factors

State	Actual Sample	Proportion of Total Sample	Weighting Factor	Weighted Proportion of Sample	Actual Population (U.S. Census, 2000; 18 years old and older)
Arizona	754	49.80%	1.49	74.17%	74.17%
New Mexico	760	50.20%	0.51	25.82%	25.82%
Total	1,514				

Note that n-values may sometimes appear to have discrepancies (i.e., although a total of 1,514 completed interviews were obtained, some graphs have an n-value of 1,513). This is caused by the weighting, which in some cases led to fractional values or “partial people.” Small differences in the fractional values for those “partial people” often lead to different rounded “whole people” values when reporting n-values in graphs. On other graphs, the n-value is lower than 1,514 or 1,513 because some questions were not asked of all respondents.

Throughout this report, findings of the telephone survey are reported at a 95% confidence interval. For the entire sample of 1,514, the sampling error is at most plus or minus 2.52 percentage points. This means that if the survey were conducted 100 times on different samples that were selected in the same way, the findings of 95 out of the 100 surveys would fall within plus or minus 2.52 percentage points of each other. For the sample of 754 Arizona residents, the sampling error is at most plus or minus 3.57 percentage points. For the sample of 760 New Mexico residents, the sampling error is at most plus or minus 3.55 percentage points. Sampling errors were calculated using the formula described on the following page.

Sampling error equation:

$$B = \left(\sqrt{\frac{\frac{N_p(.25)}{N_s} - .25}{N_p - 1}} \right) (1.96)$$

Where: B = maximum sampling error (as decimal)

N_p = population size (e.g., total number of residents, total number of license holders)

N_s = sample size

Derived from formula: p. 206 in Dillman, D. A. 2000. *Mail and Internet Surveys*. John Wiley & Sons, NY.

Note: This is a simplified version of the formula that calculates the maximum sampling error using a 50:50 split (the most conservative calculation because a 50:50 split would give maximum variation).

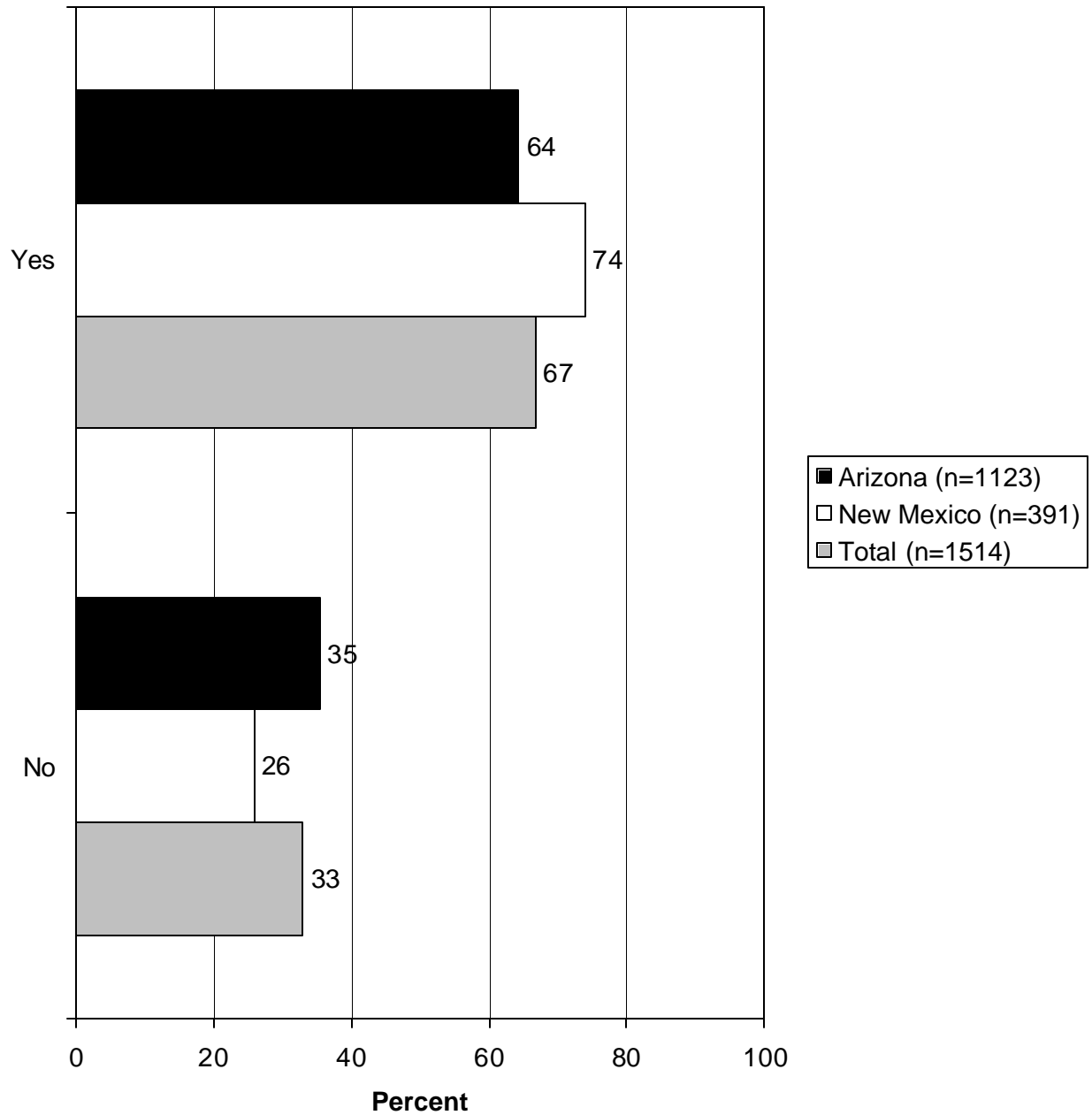
Note that some results may not sum to exactly 100% because of rounding. Additionally, rounding on the graphs may cause apparent discrepancies of 1 percentage point between the graphs and the reported results of combined responses (e.g., when “strongly support” and “moderately support” are summed to determine the total percentage who support an action).

AWARENESS OF MEXICAN WOLF REINTRODUCTION

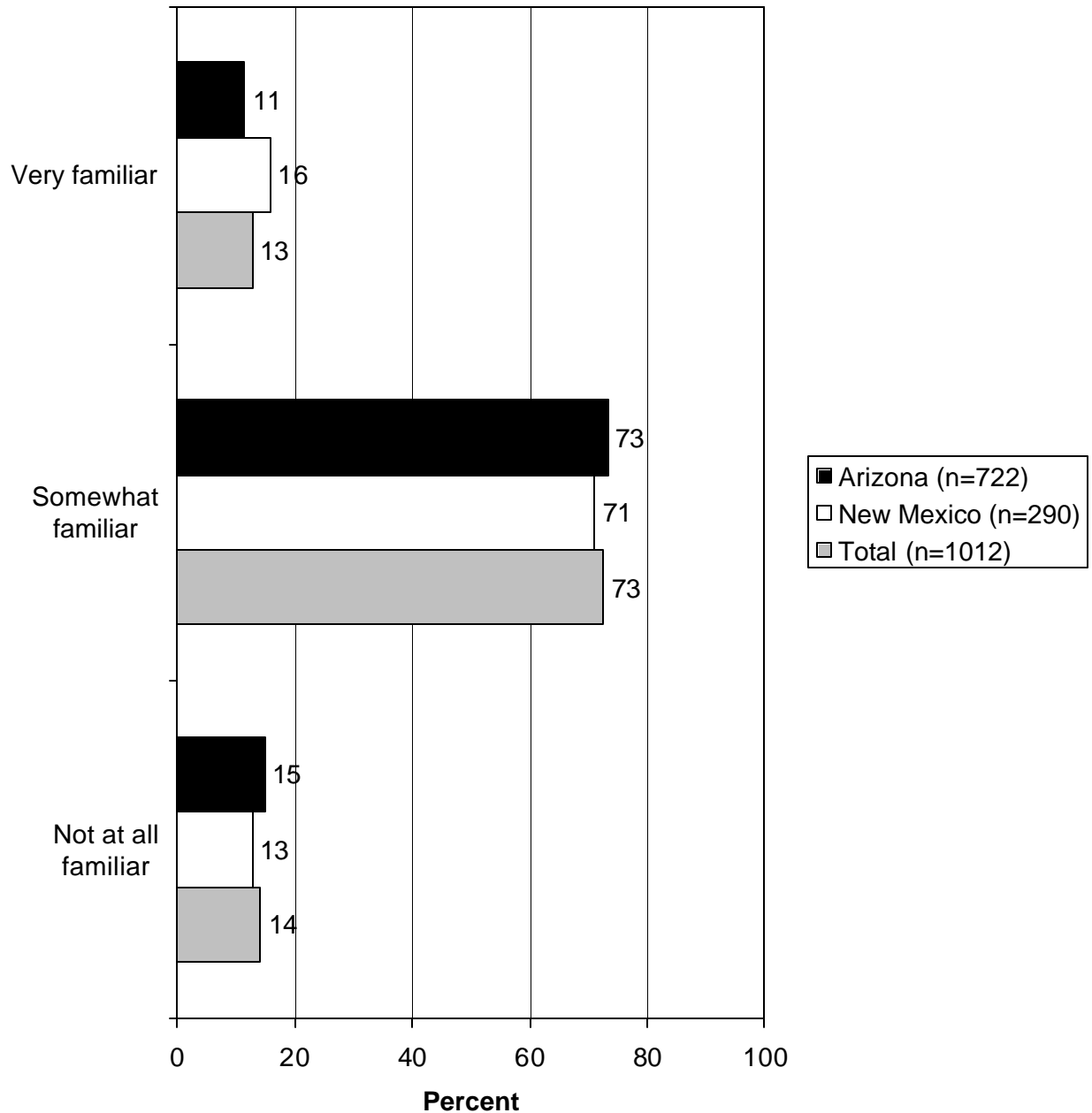
- A majority of respondents (67%) had heard about Mexican wolf reintroduction in Arizona and New Mexico prior to the survey.
 - Residents of New Mexico were more likely to have heard about Mexican wolf reintroduction than were residents of Arizona (74% of New Mexico residents compared to 64% of Arizona residents).

- Of those respondents who had heard about Mexican wolf reintroduction, a majority said they are somewhat familiar with reintroduction efforts: 73% of Arizona residents, 71% of New Mexico residents, and 73% of respondents overall are somewhat familiar with reintroduction efforts.
 - 13% of all respondents (11% of Arizona residents, and 16% of New Mexico residents) are very familiar with reintroduction efforts.
 - 14% of all respondents (15% of Arizona residents, and 13% of New Mexico residents) are not at all familiar with reintroduction efforts.

Q10. Had you heard about Mexican wolf reintroduction in Arizona and New Mexico prior to this survey?



Q11. How familiar were you with reintroduction efforts (prior to the survey)? (Asked of those who said they had heard about Mexican wolf reintroduction.)

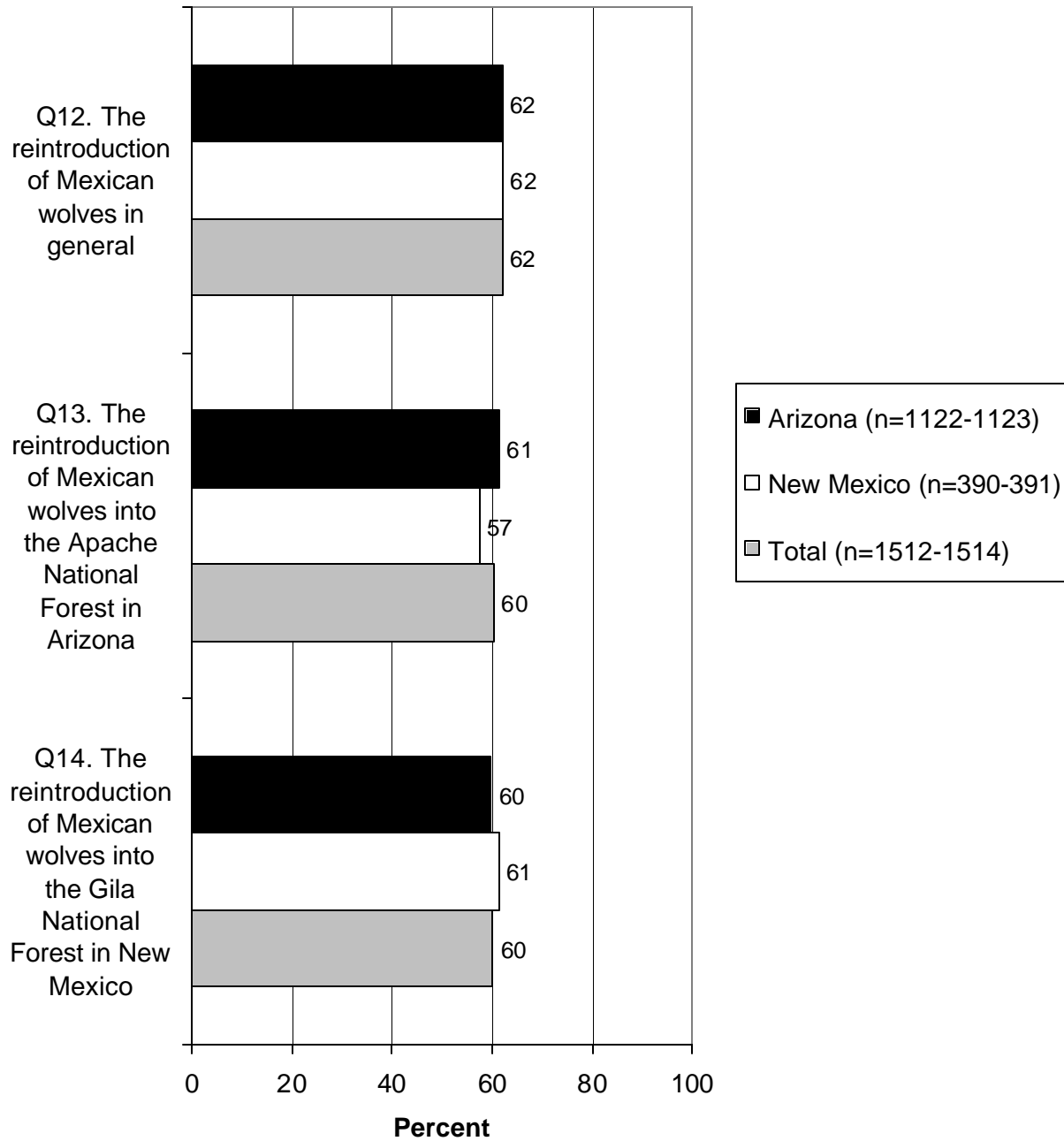


SUPPORT FOR OR OPPOSITION TO MEXICAN WOLF REINTRODUCTION

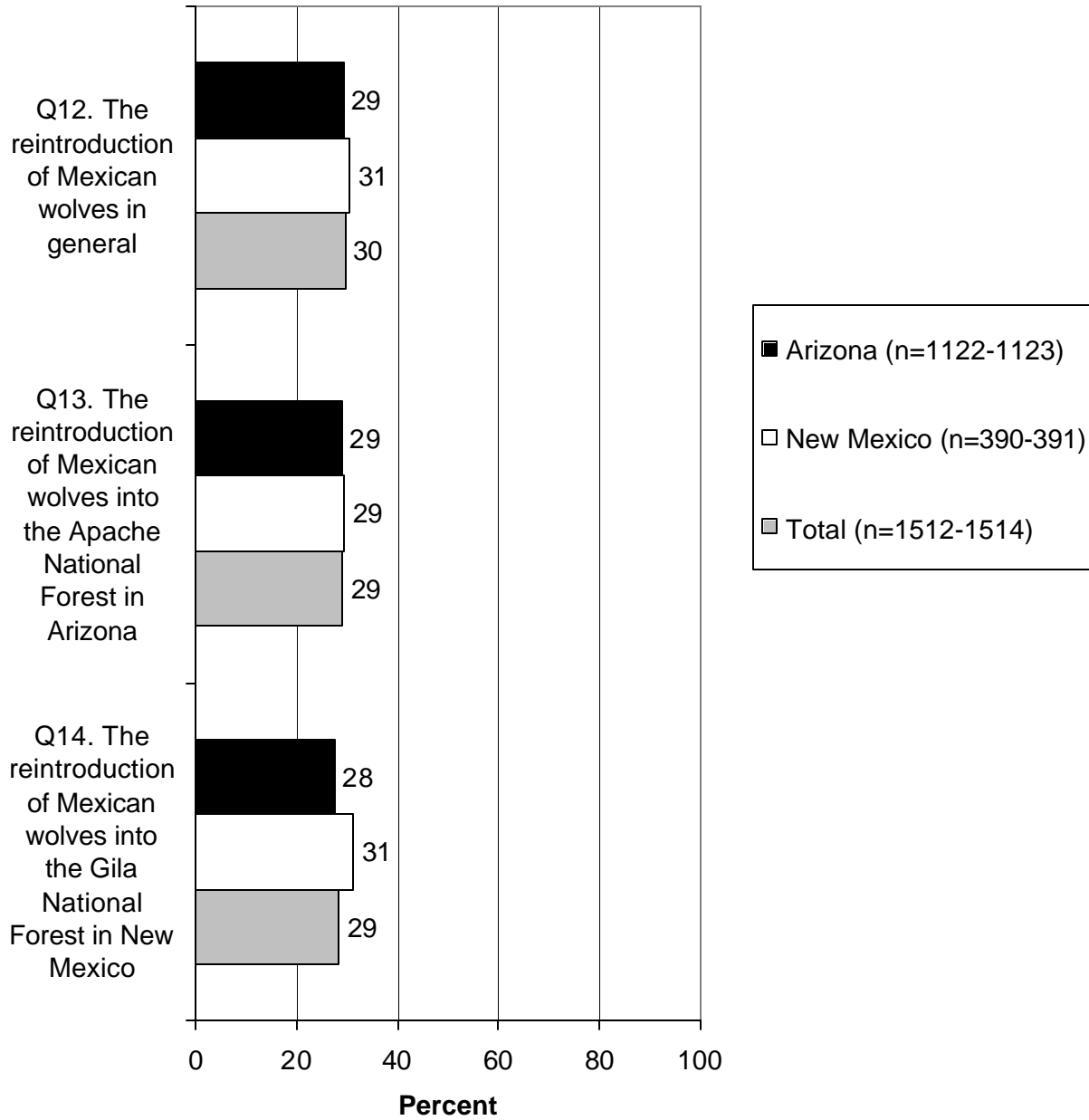
- Respondents were asked if they support or oppose the reintroduction of Mexican wolves in general, the reintroduction of Mexican wolves into the Apache National Forest in Arizona, and the reintroduction of Mexican wolves into the Gila National Forest in New Mexico. A majority of respondents support the reintroduction of Mexican wolves in general and into the national forests, with nearly half of those indicating that they *strongly* support reintroduction efforts.
 - 62% of respondents support (30% strongly support, and 32% moderately support) the reintroduction of Mexican wolves in general.
 - 60% of respondents support (29% strongly support, and 31% moderately support) the reintroduction of Mexican wolves into the Apache National Forest in Arizona.
 - 60% of respondents support (slightly less than 29% strongly support, and slightly less than 32% moderately support) the reintroduction of Mexican wolves into the Gila National Forest in New Mexico.
 - Overall, there was little variation between Arizona and New Mexico residents' support for Mexican wolf reintroduction in general and into the national forests.

- Opposition to Mexican wolf reintroduction efforts was low.
 - 13% of respondents oppose (7% strongly oppose, and 6% moderately oppose) the reintroduction of Mexican wolves in general.
 - 13% of respondents oppose (slightly less than 7% strongly oppose, and slightly less than 7% moderately oppose) the reintroduction of Mexican wolves into the Apache National Forest in Arizona.
 - 13% of respondents oppose (7% strongly oppose, and 6% moderately oppose) the reintroduction of Mexican wolves into the Gila National Forest in New Mexico.

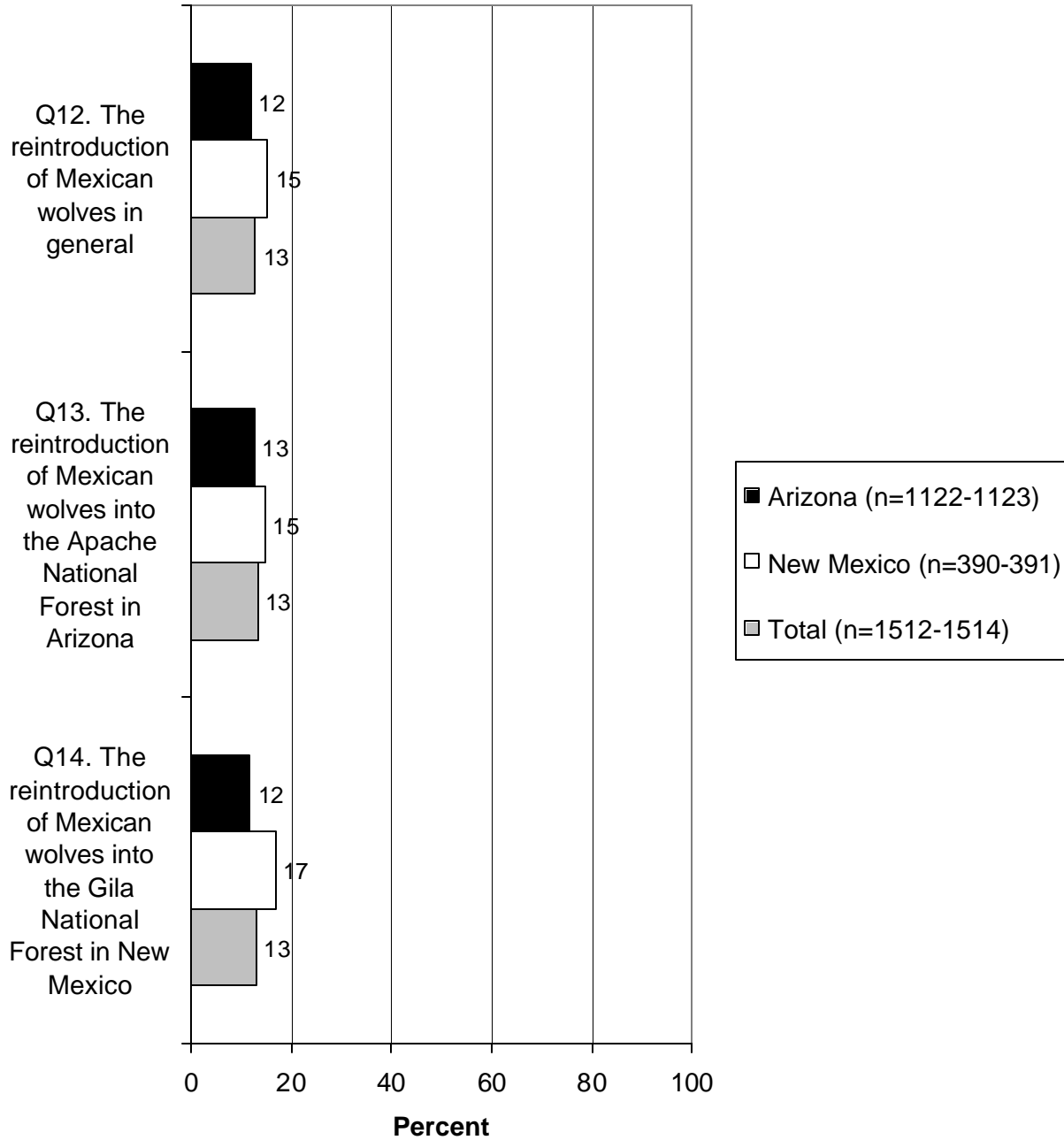
Q12-14. Percent who strongly or moderately support the following:



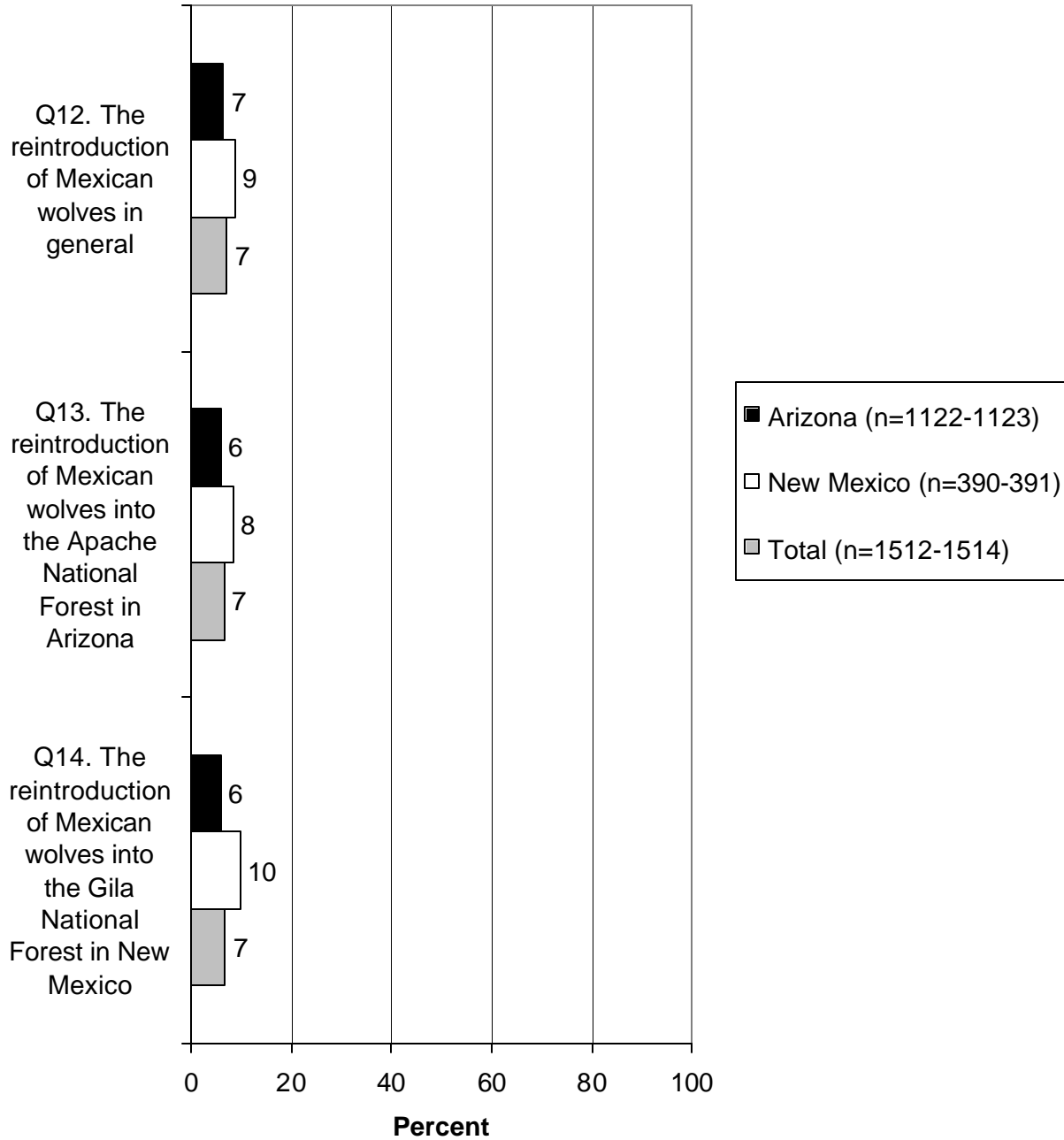
Q12-14. Percent who strongly support the following:



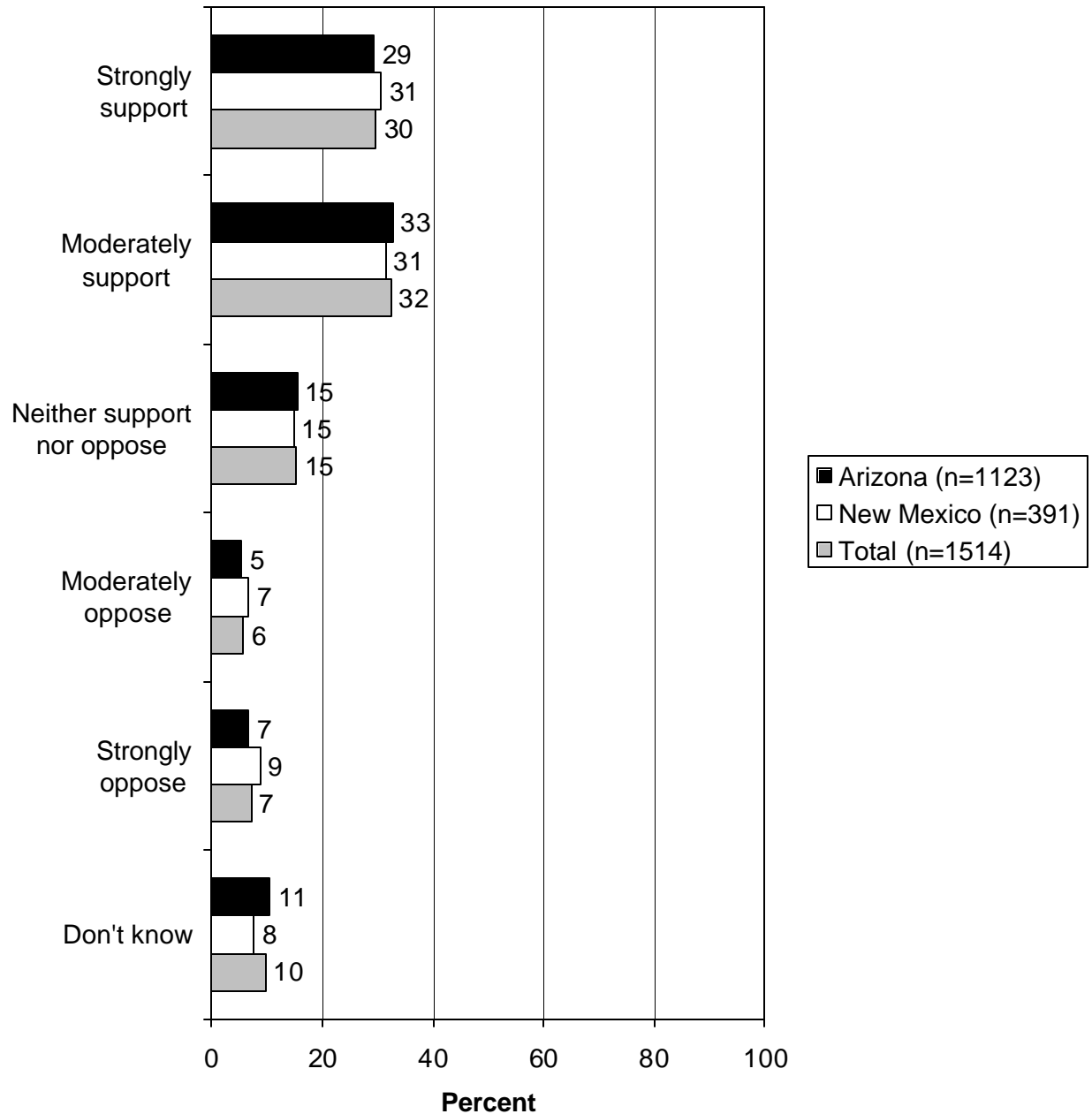
Q12-14. Percent who moderately or strongly oppose the following:



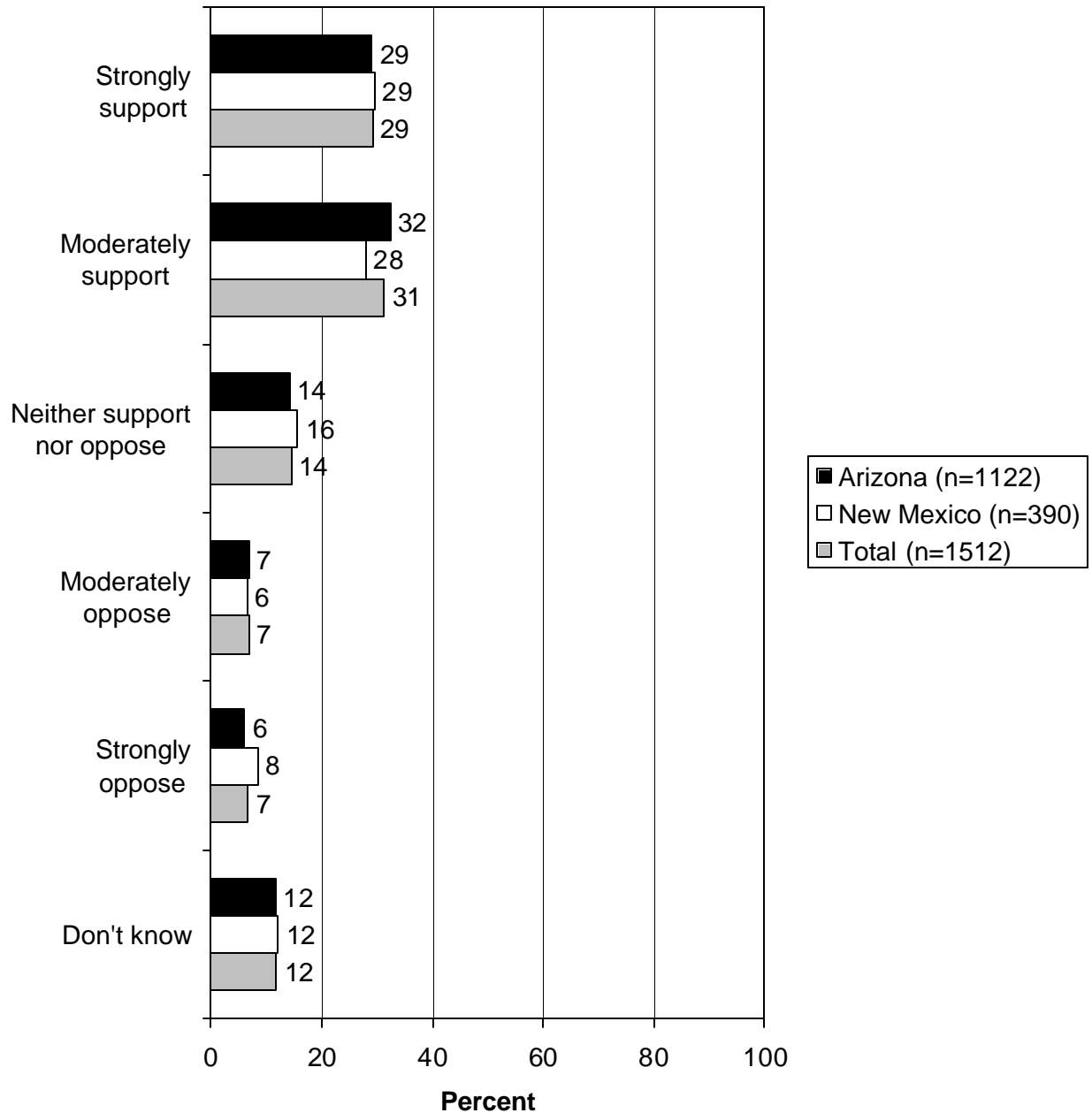
Q12-14. Percent who strongly oppose the following:



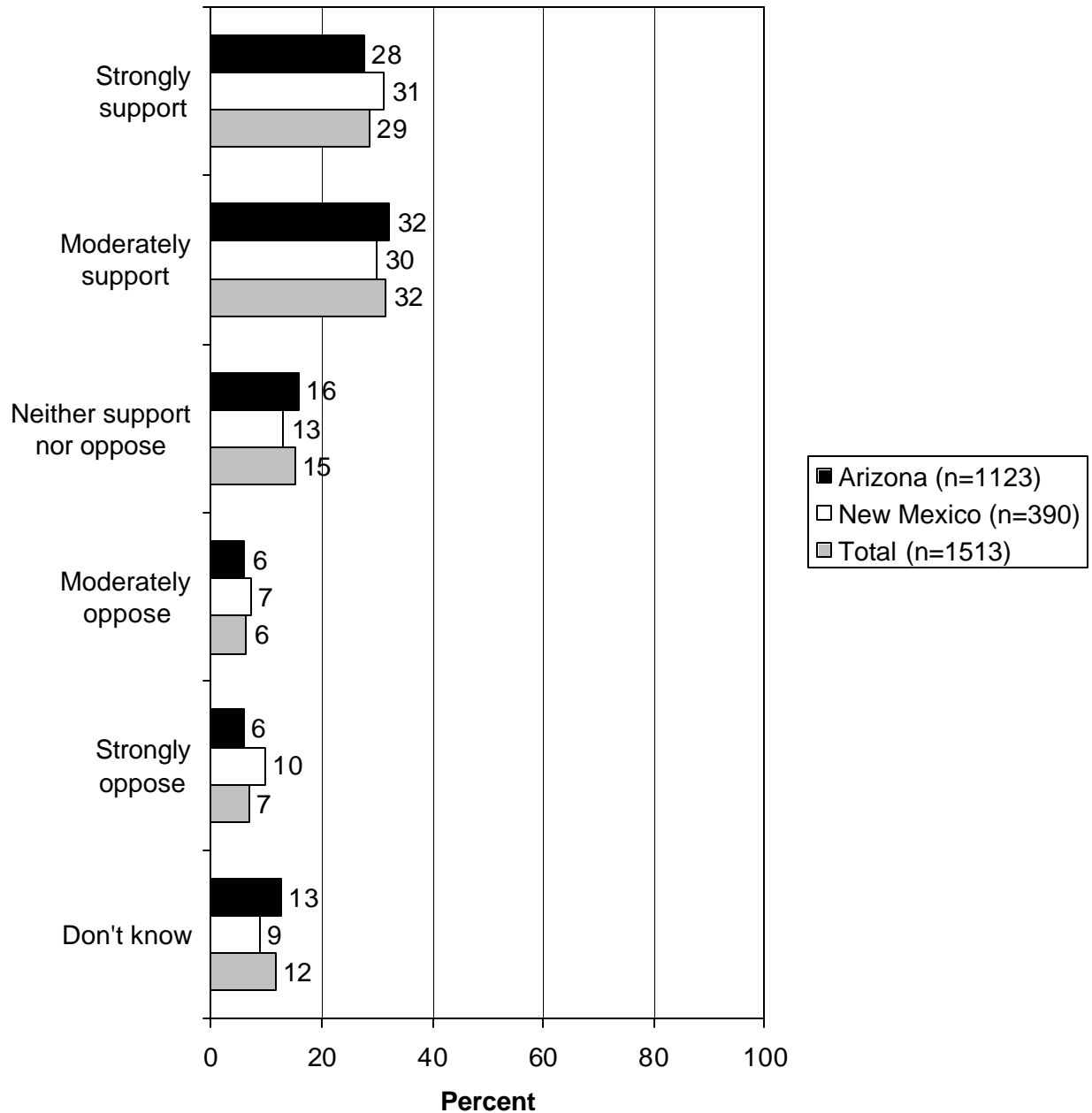
Q12. In general, do you support or oppose the reintroduction of Mexican wolves?



Q13. Do you support or oppose the reintroduction of Mexican wolves into the Apache National Forest in Arizona?



Q14. Do you support or oppose reintroducing Mexican wolves into the Gila National Forest in New Mexico?



OPINIONS ON THE EFFECTIVENESS OF VARIOUS ASPECTS OF THE MEXICAN WOLF RECOVERY PROJECT

- The majority of respondents said they do not know how effective or ineffective are each of the following five aspects of the Mexican Wolf Recovery Project: the handling of administrative issues among cooperating agencies and groups for the Mexican Wolf Recovery Project (85%), cooperation among the six agencies to implement Mexican wolf reintroductions (83%), communication processes among cooperating agencies and groups for the Mexican Wolf Recovery Project (79%), the U.S. Fish and Wildlife Service's provision of adequate information to the cooperating agencies about activities and events related to the Mexican Wolf Recovery Project (68%), and cooperation with the public for the Mexican Wolf Recovery Project (59%).

- Although the majority of respondents do not know how effective or ineffective are the five aspects of the Mexican Wolf Recovery Project, respondents were more likely to respond that the aspects are effective than that they are ineffective for four of the five aspects of the Mexican Wolf Recovery Project. The only aspect respondents were just as likely to say is ineffective as effective is cooperation with the public for the Mexican Wolf Recovery Project (19% said very or somewhat ineffective, and 20% said very or somewhat effective).

- The U.S. Fish and Wildlife Service's provision of adequate information to the cooperating agencies about activities and events related to the Mexican Wolf Recovery Project had the highest percentage of respondents who said they think it is very or somewhat effective (21%), followed closely by cooperation with the public for the Mexican Wolf Recovery Project (20%).
 - Cooperation with the public for the Mexican Wolf Recovery Project had the highest percentage (19%) who thought it was ineffective.

- While 83% of respondents answered “Don’t know,” 13% of respondents think cooperation among the six agencies to implement Mexican wolf reintroductions is effective (6% said very effective, and 7% said somewhat effective).
 - 4% of respondents think cooperation among the six agencies is ineffective (slightly more than 1% said very ineffective, and slightly more than 2% said somewhat ineffective).
 - Respondents who said cooperation among the six agencies to implement Mexican wolf reintroductions is ineffective were asked why they feel the cooperation is ineffective. Most commonly, respondents feel that disorganization (32%) and politics (30%) are the reasons cooperation among the agencies is ineffective.
 - 21% gave other reasons why they feel the cooperation is ineffective. A table of these other reasons is displayed in this section.

- One-fifth of respondents (20%) think cooperation with the public for the Mexican Wolf Recovery Project is effective (5% said very effective, and 15% said somewhat effective).
 - New Mexico residents were slightly more likely than were Arizona residents to think cooperation with the public for the Mexican Wolf Recovery project is very or somewhat effective (24% of New Mexico residents compared to 18% of Arizona residents).
 - About one-fifth of respondents (19%) think cooperation with the public is ineffective (7% said very ineffective, and 12% said somewhat ineffective).
 - 59% of respondents do not know if cooperation with the public for the Mexican Wolf Recovery Project is effective or ineffective.

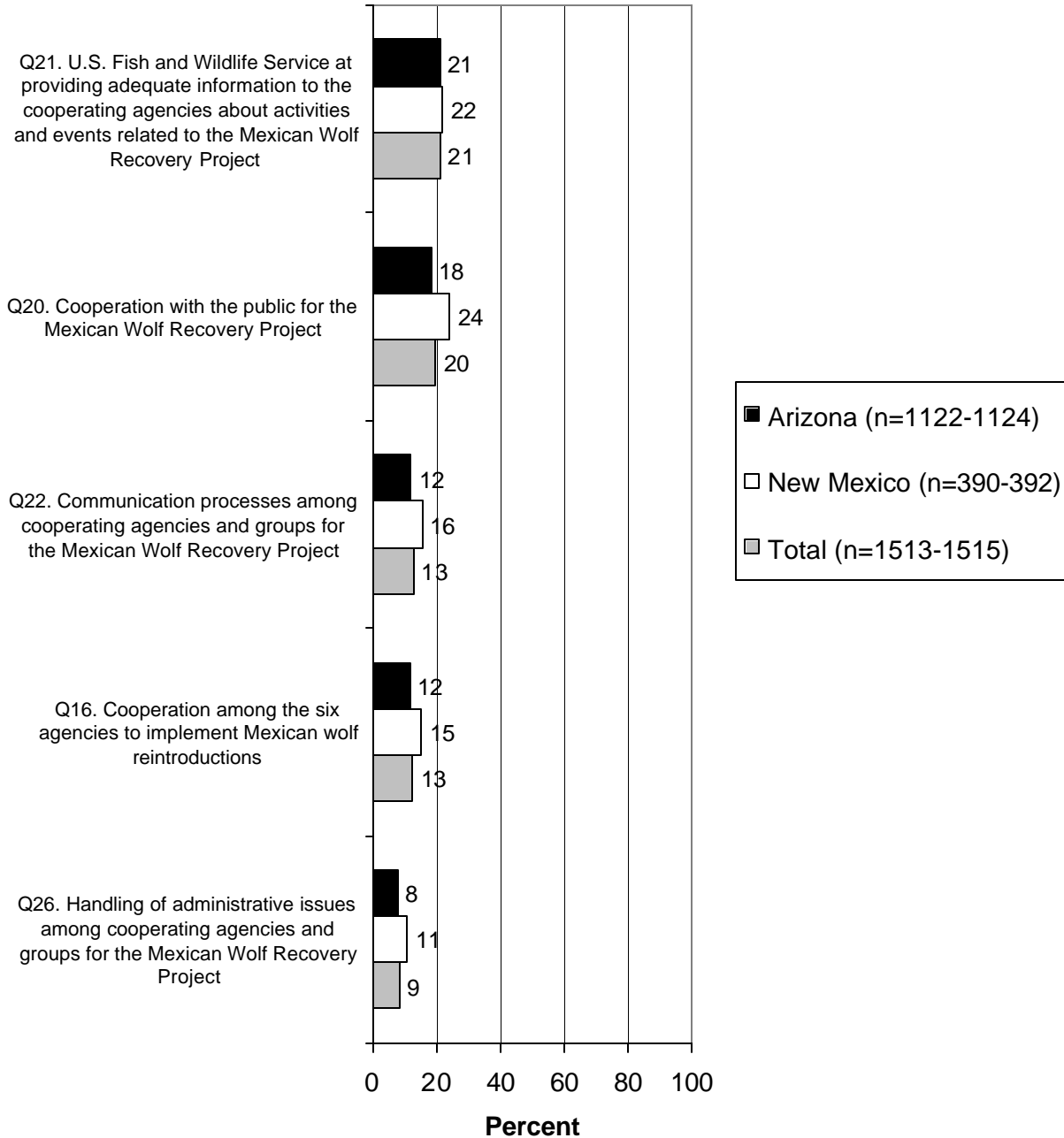
- About one-fifth of respondents (21%) think the U.S. Fish and Wildlife Service is effective (8% said very effective, and 13% said somewhat effective) at providing adequate information to the cooperating agencies about activities and events related to the Mexican Wolf Recovery Project.
 - 9% said the U.S. Fish and Wildlife Service is ineffective (slightly less than 5% said very ineffective, and slightly less than 5% said somewhat ineffective) at providing adequate information to cooperating agencies.

- 68% of respondents do not know if the U.S. Fish and Wildlife Service is effective or ineffective at providing adequate information to the cooperating agencies about activities and events related to the Mexican Wolf Recovery Project.
 - There was little variation of responses between Arizona and New Mexico residents.
- Again, while the majority of respondents (79%) answered, “Don’t know,” 13% of respondents think communication processes among cooperating agencies and groups for the Mexican Wolf Recovery Project are effective (4% said very effective, and 9% said somewhat effective).
- 8% of respondents think communication processes among cooperating agencies and groups for the Mexican Wolf Recovery Project are ineffective (4% said very ineffective, and 4% said somewhat ineffective).
 - Respondents who said communication processes among cooperating agencies and groups for the Mexican Wolf Recovery Project are ineffective were asked why they feel the communication processes are ineffective. Most commonly, respondents feel that intentional lack of communication (22%), politics (15%), and disorganized processes (13%) are the reasons the communication processes are ineffective.
 - 9% gave other reasons why they feel the communication processes are ineffective. A table of these other reasons is displayed in this section.
- Respondents overwhelmingly (85%) answered, “Don’t know,” regarding the handling of administrative issues; nonetheless, 9% of respondents think administrative issues among cooperating agencies and groups for the Mexican Wolf Recovery Project are handled effectively (slightly more than 2% said very effectively, and slightly more than 6% said somewhat effectively).
- 6% of respondents think administrative issues among cooperating agencies and groups for the Mexican Wolf Recovery Project are handled ineffectively (2% said very ineffectively, and 4% said somewhat ineffectively).

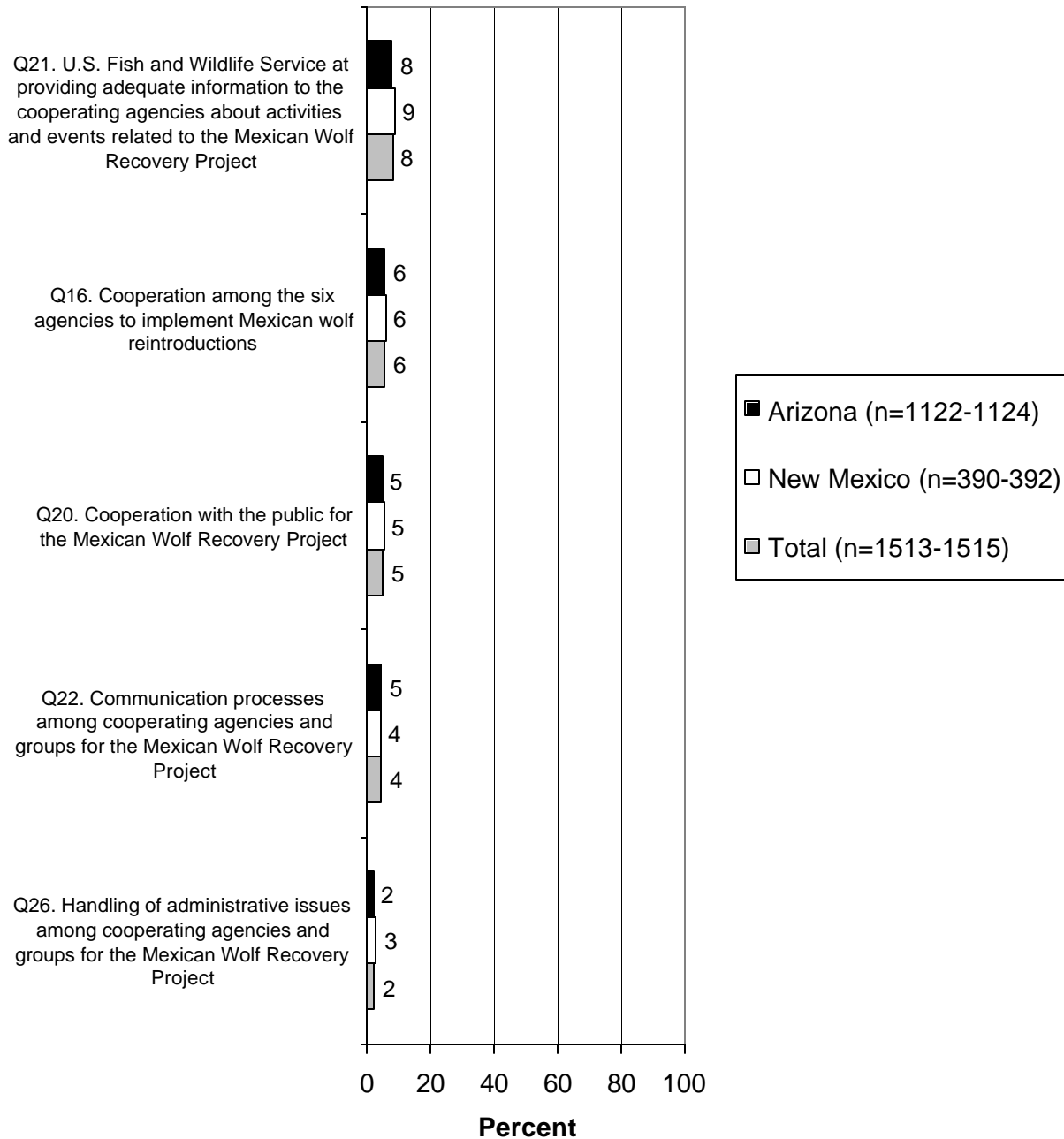
- One-fourth of respondents (25%) said the responsibilities of the cooperating agencies, programs, and counties for the Mexican Wolf Recovery Project are at least adequately defined.
 - 5% of respondents said the responsibilities of the cooperating agencies, programs, and counties for the Mexican Wolf Recovery Project are well defined.
 - 12% of respondents said the responsibilities of the cooperating agencies, programs, and counties for the Mexican Wolf Recovery Project are poorly defined.
 - 63% of respondents do not know how well defined are the responsibilities of the cooperating agencies, programs, and counties for the Mexican Wolf Recovery Project.

- Of those who said the responsibilities of the cooperating agencies, programs, and counties for the Mexican Wolf Recovery Project are well or adequately defined, a majority (68%) feel that those responsibilities are serving the needs of the Mexican Wolf Recovery Project.
 - A substantial percentage (16%) feel that the responsibilities are somewhat serving the needs of the Mexican Wolf Recovery Project.
 - Few respondents who said the responsibilities are well or adequately defined (7%) feel that the responsibilities do not serve the needs of the Mexican Wolf Recovery Project.
 - There was little variation of responses between Arizona and New Mexico residents.

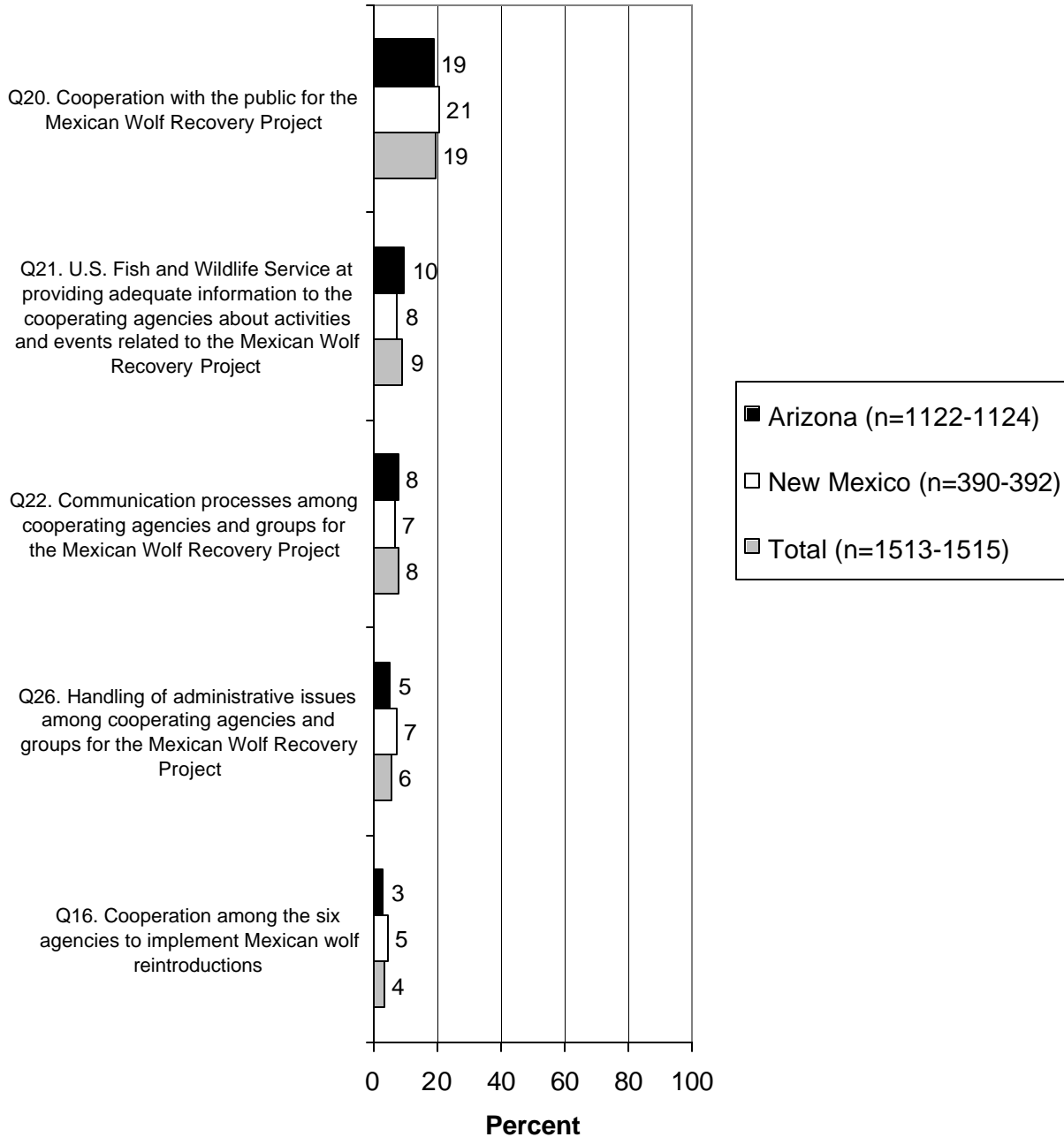
Q16, 20, 21, 22, 26. Percent who think the following are very or somewhat effective.



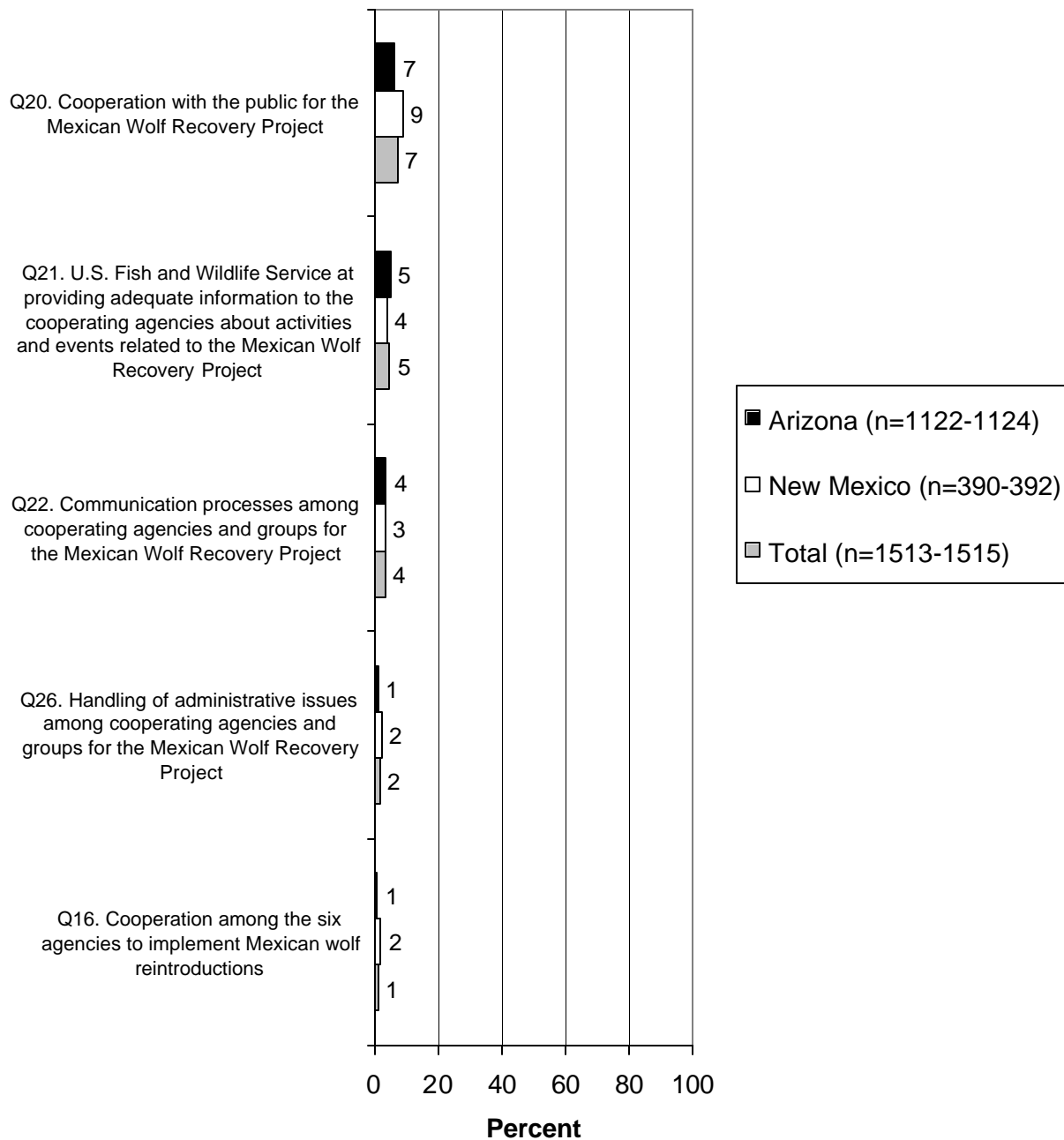
Q16, 20, 21, 22, 26. Percent who think the following are very effective.



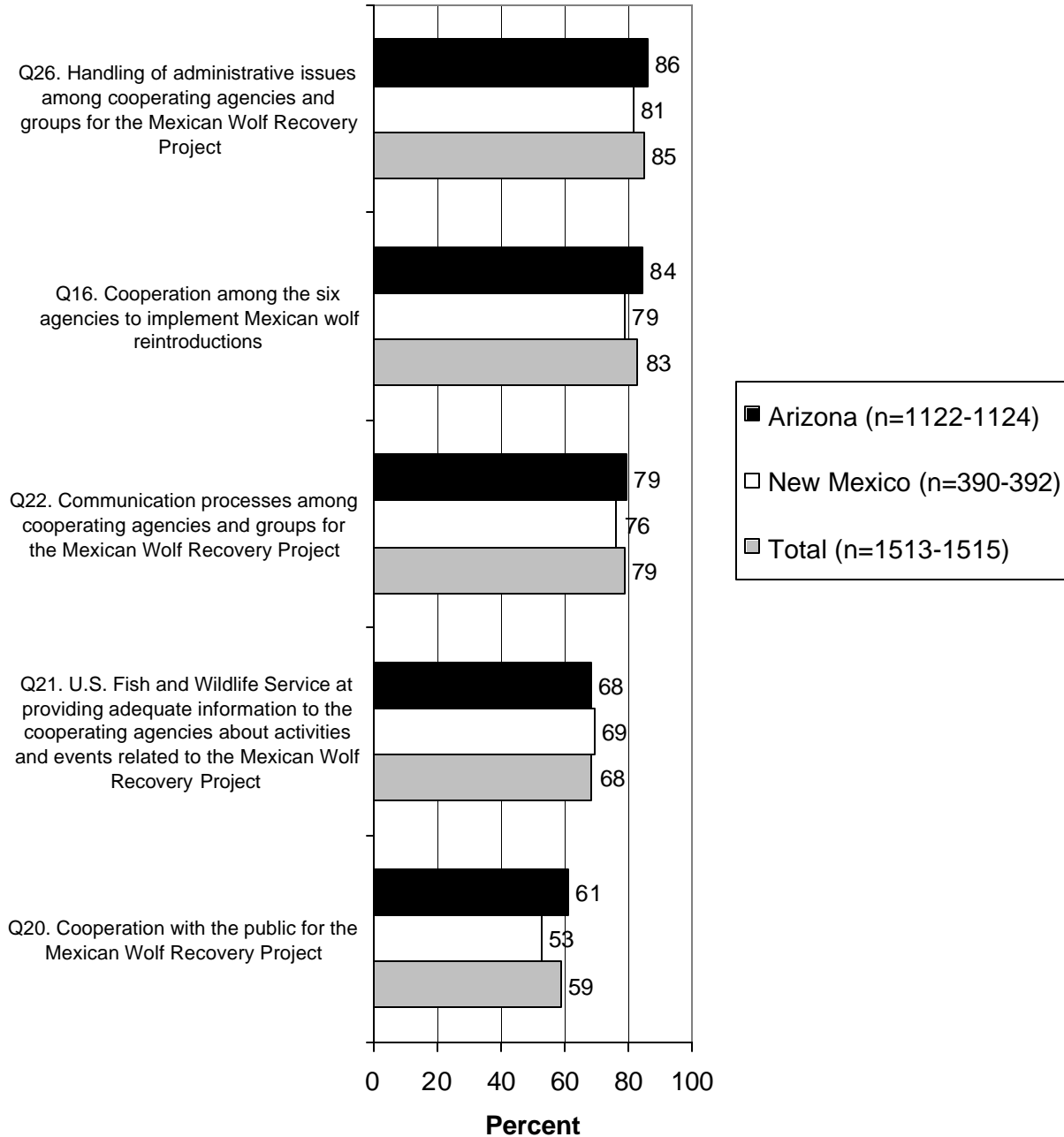
Q16, 20, 21, 22, 26. Percent who think the following are somewhat or very ineffective.



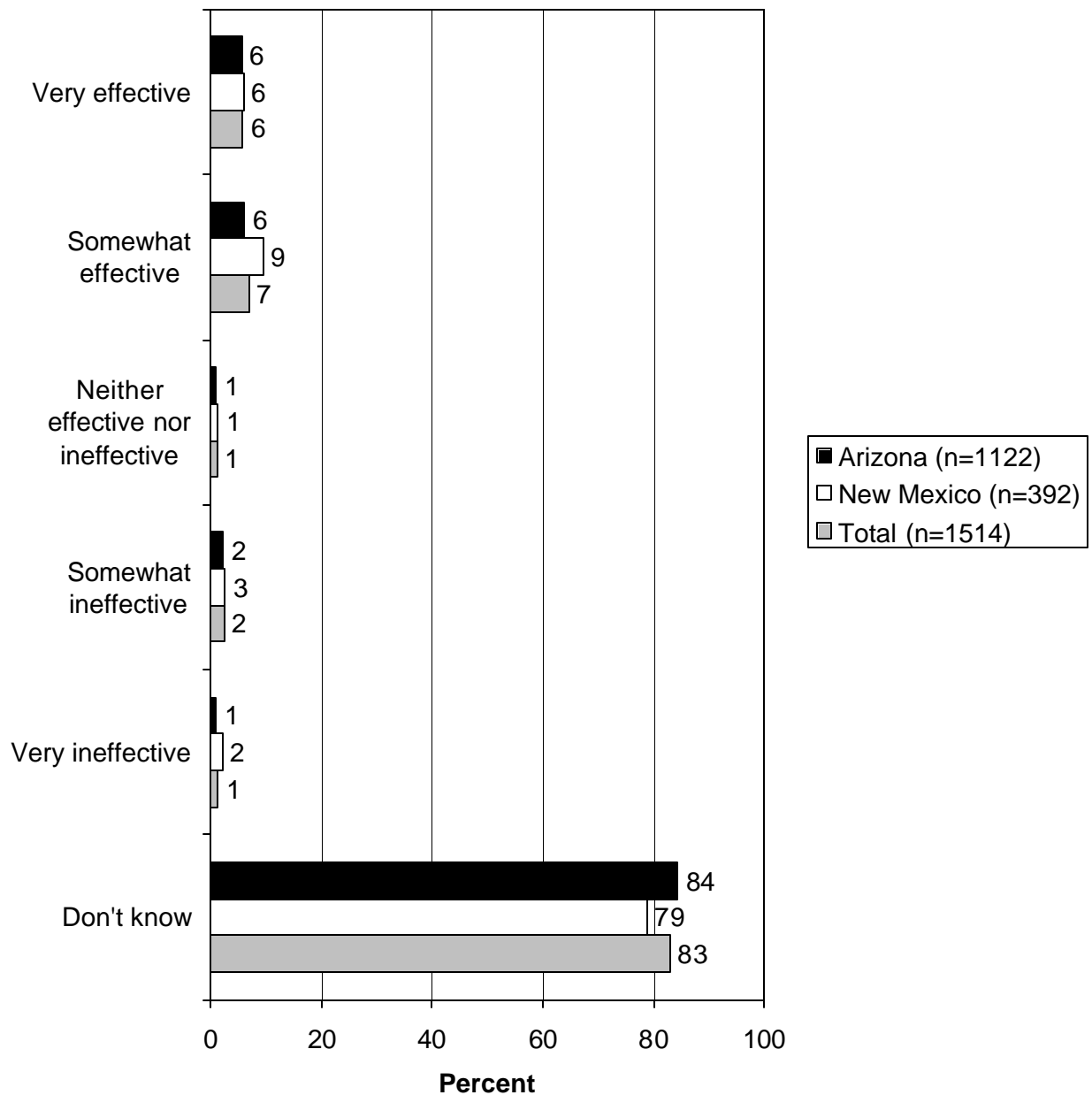
Q16, 20, 21, 22, 26. Percent who think the following are very ineffective.



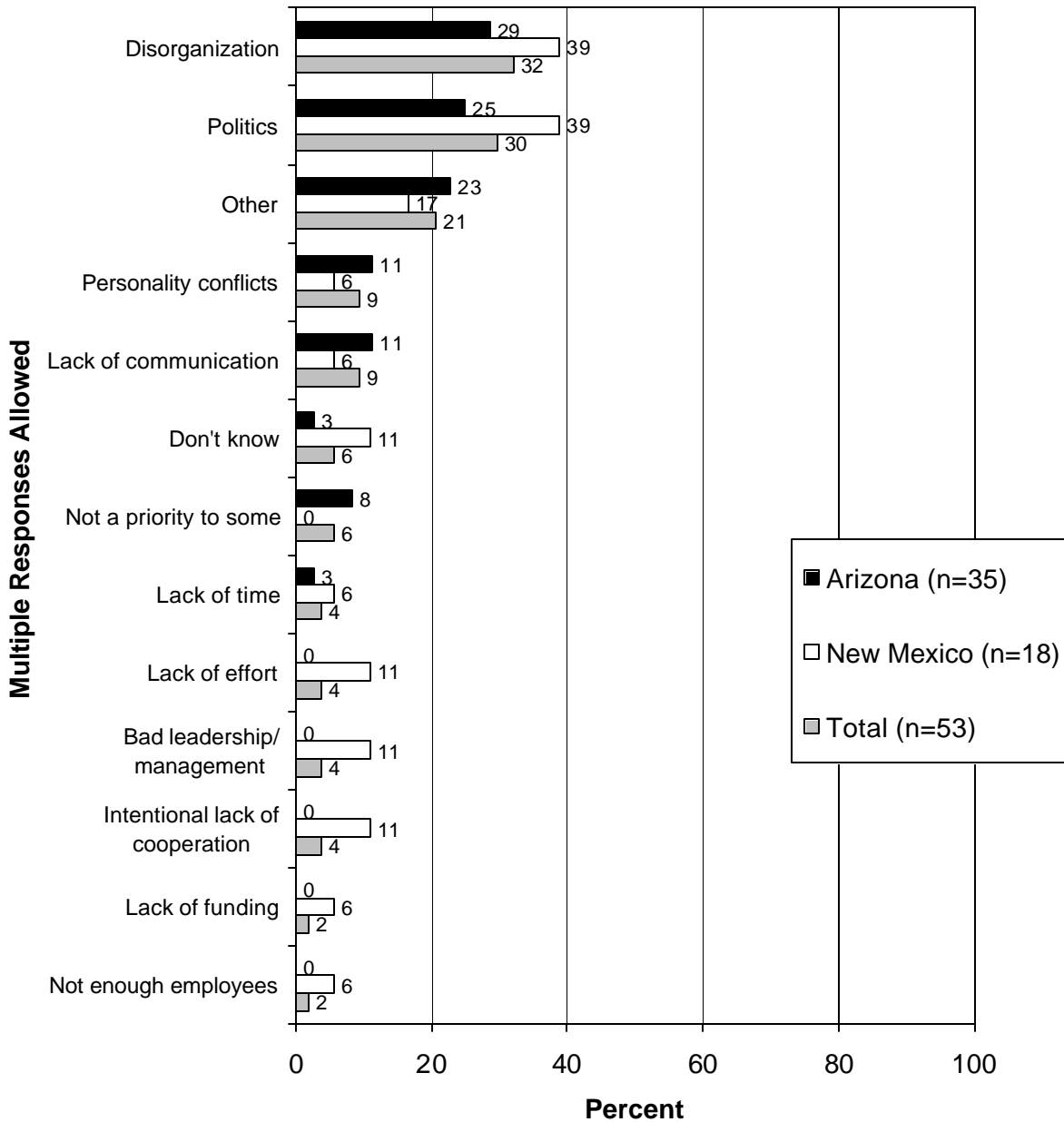
Q16, 20, 21, 22, 26. Percent who answered, "Don't know," regarding the effectiveness of the following:



Q16. How effective or ineffective would you say the cooperation among the six agencies to implement Mexican wolf reintroductions is, or do you not know?



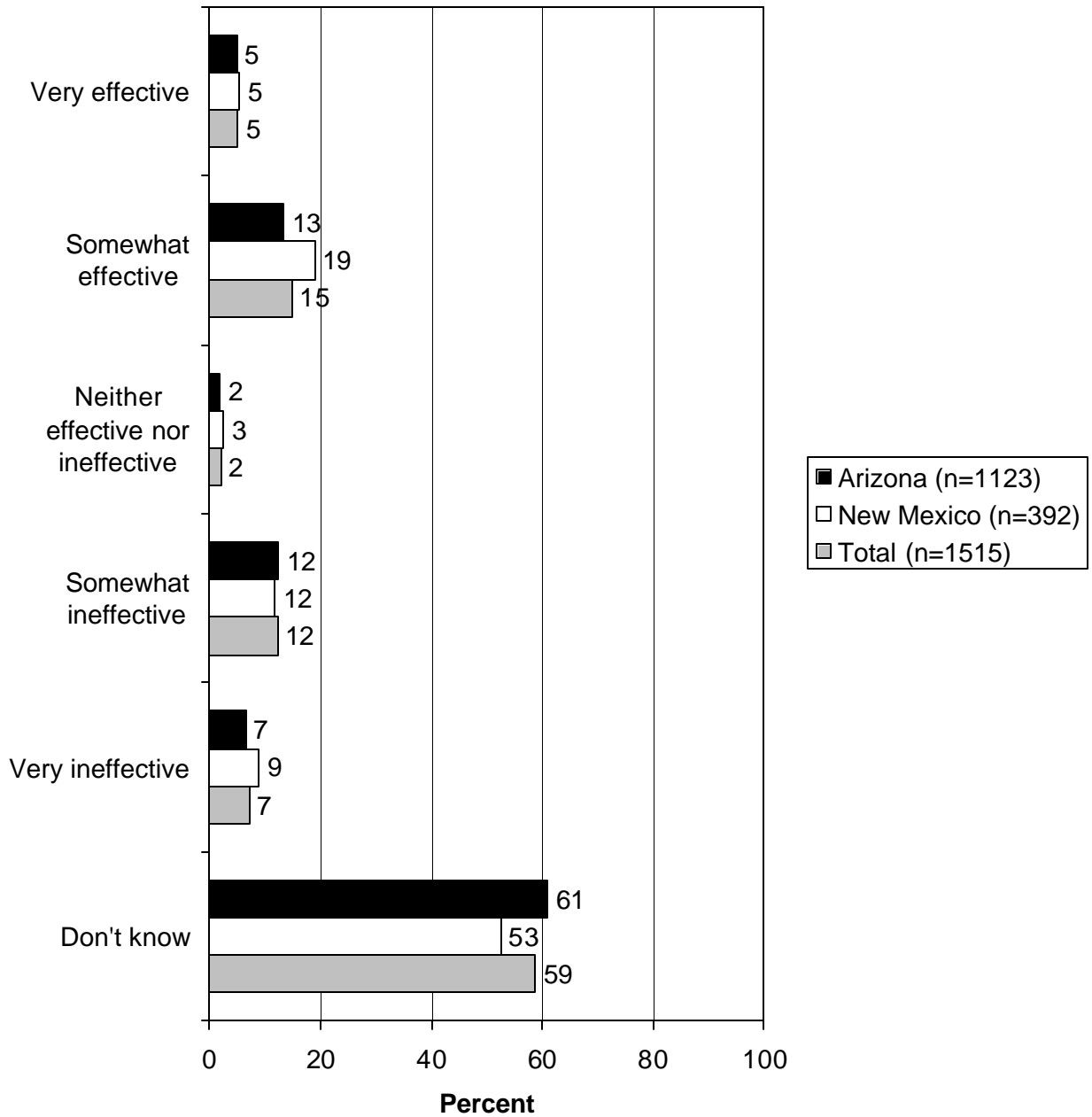
Q18. Why do you feel the cooperation among the six agencies is ineffective? (Asked of those who said cooperation among the six agencies is somewhat or very ineffective.)



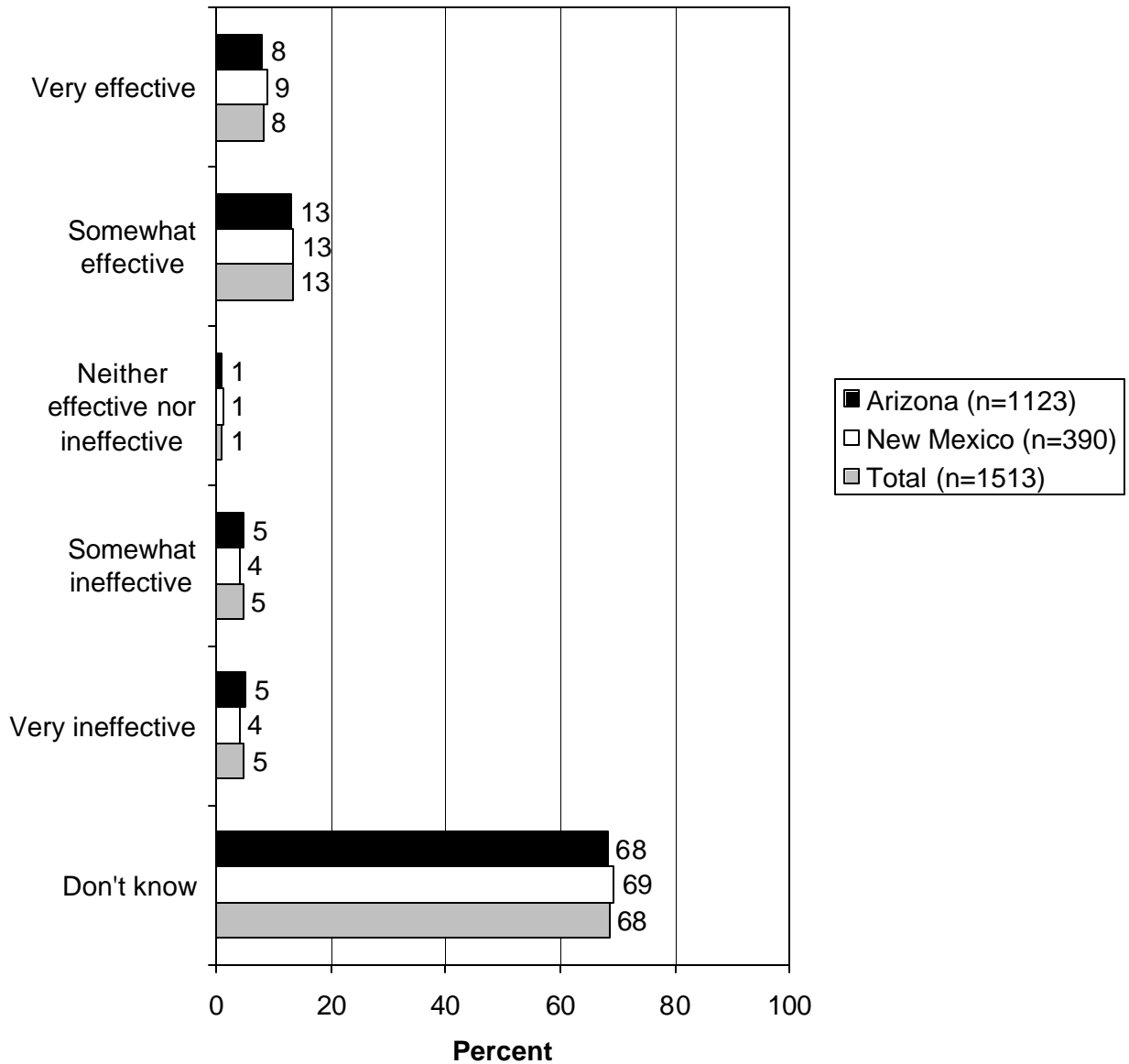
Q19. Other reasons why respondents said the cooperation among agencies is somewhat or very ineffective.

All agencies have different agendas.
There are conflicts and competition among the agencies.
I haven't heard about it.
The agencies do not consider the concerns of ranchers, the impact on those who make a living off of the land, or the impact on those who use the land for hunting and recreation. There was a reason those wolves were eradicated in the first place. They are a problem.
I do not like to see the animals moved. They should just be left alone.
There are too many agencies.
I'm a hunter, and I think wildlife is hurting big time right now.
There is a lack of communication.
Large bureaucracies by definition will not share their turf.
There is no communication with the Arizona office.
There is poor communication, like the incident in Tuscon with bobcats.
We have no deer, and they are adding a predator.
There are too many agencies.
Ranchers sell land to developers when they go out of business, and there is no place for wolves.
There is no public awareness.

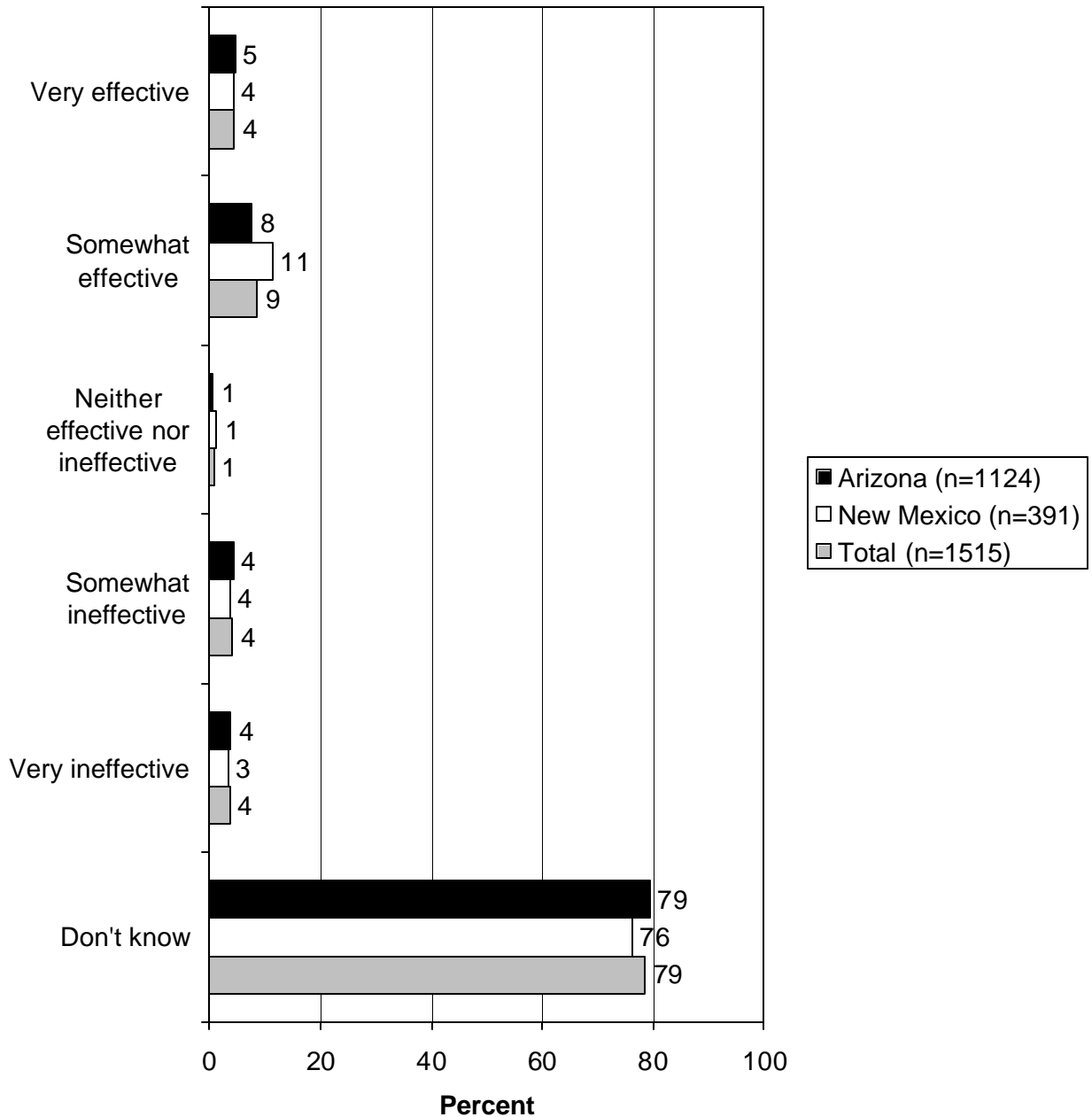
Q20. How effective or ineffective would you say cooperation with the public for the Mexican Wolf Recovery Project is, or do you not know?



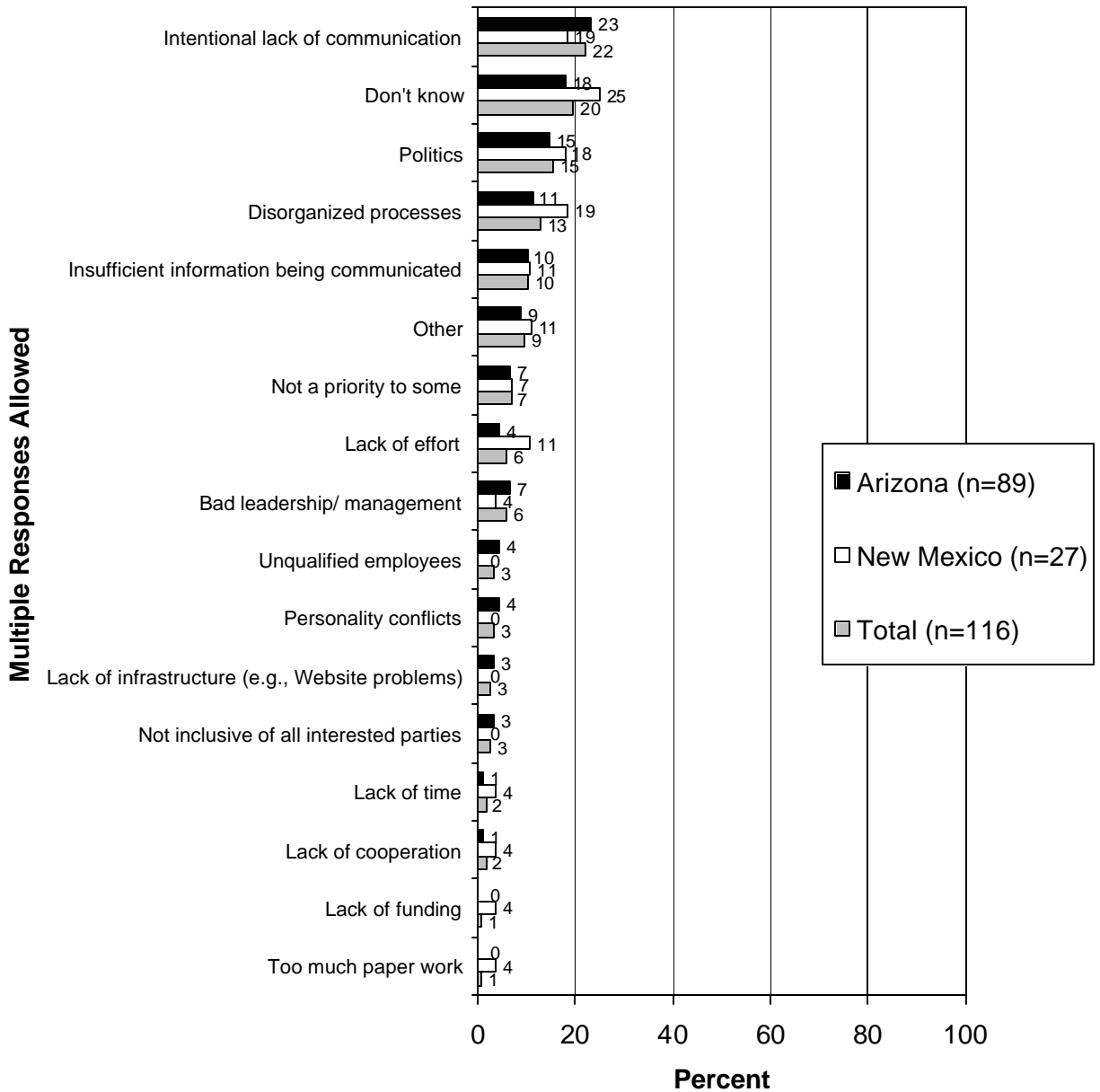
Q21. How effective or ineffective would you say the U.S. Fish and Wildlife Service is at providing adequate information to the cooperating agencies about activities and events related to the Mexican Wolf Recovery Project, or do you not know?



Q22. How effective or ineffective would you say communication processes among cooperating agencies and groups for the Mexican Wolf Recovery Project are, or do you not know?



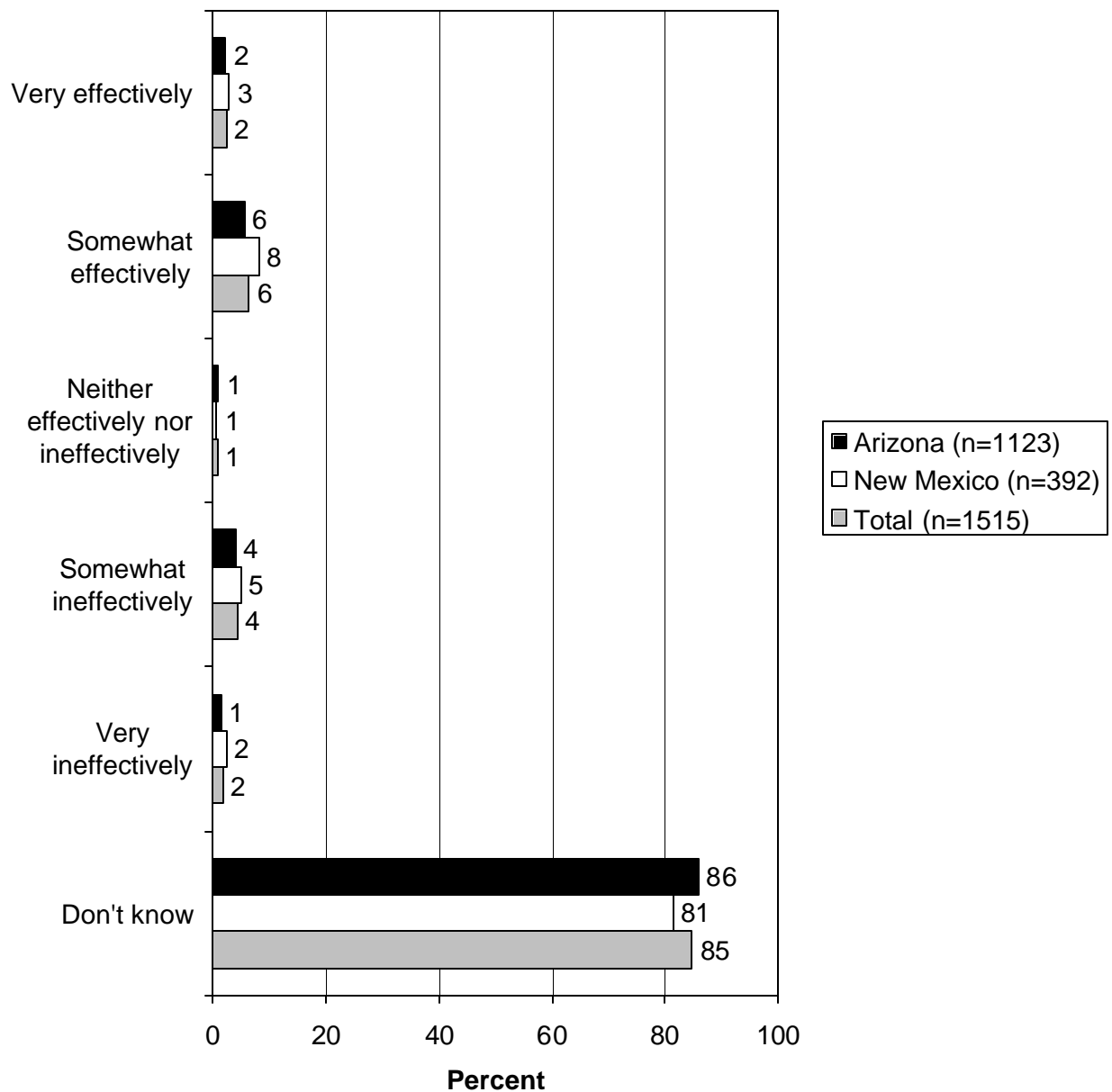
Q24. Why do you feel the communication processes among cooperating agencies and groups for the Mexican Wolf Recovery Project are ineffective? (Asked of those who said communication processes are somewhat or very ineffective.)



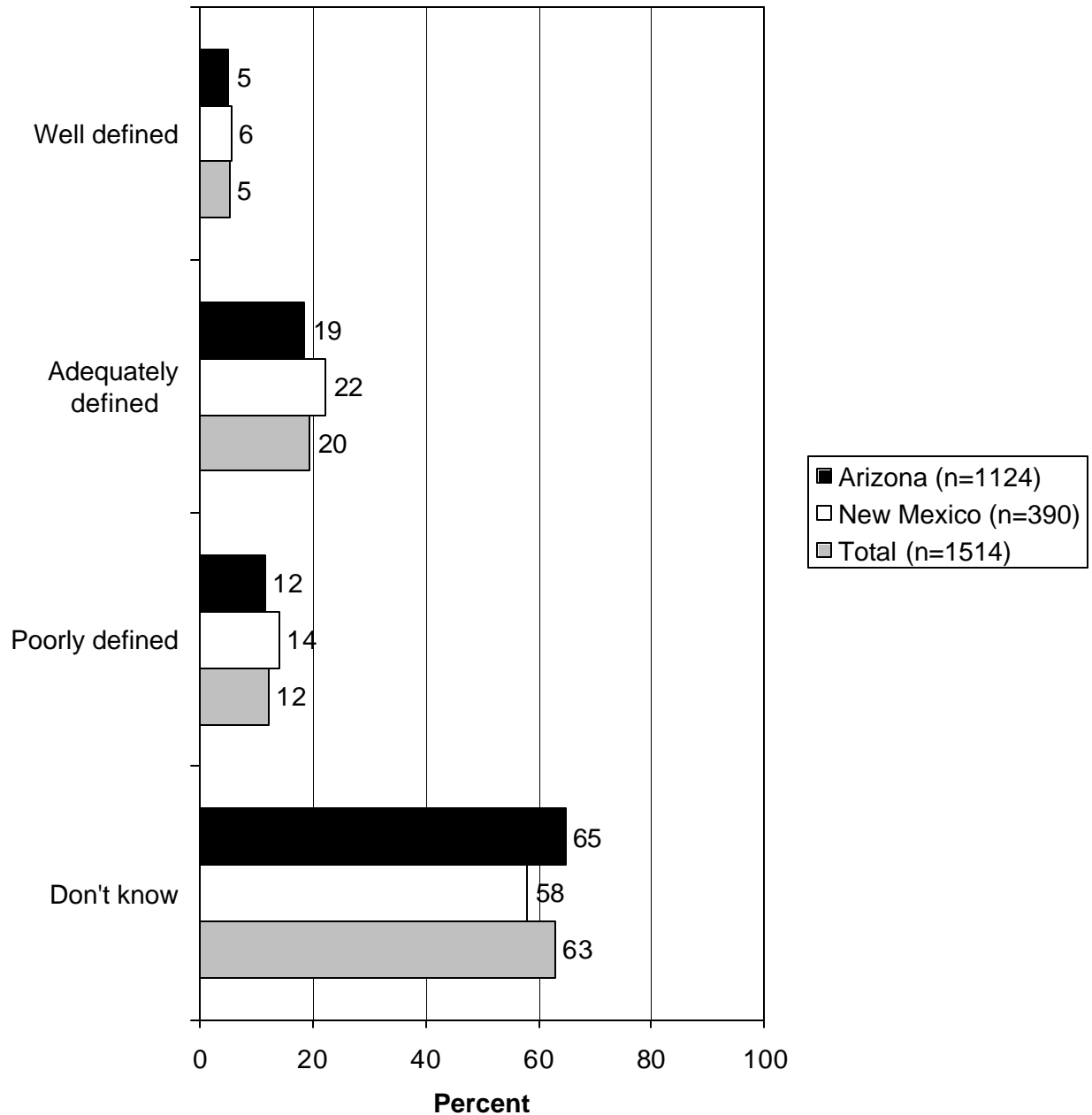
Q25 Other reasons why respondents said communication processes among cooperating agencies and groups are somewhat or very ineffective.

I hadn't heard of wolf reintroduction.
Half the public agrees with wolf reintroduction; half the public doesn't understand wolf reintroduction.
I have not seen, read, or heard anything about wolf reintroduction.
The agencies are not keeping the public informed.
I haven't heard anything about wolf reintroduction.
I haven't heard much about wolf reintroduction.
I don't feel that they provide good information.
There is a lack of education and media coverage.
There is a lack of information provided to the public.
It is not people's personal interest to help wolves. People are interested in keeping jobs and getting funding.
The agencies are effective with propaganda, but the information is not objective.
There is not any information available to the public.
I just don't think they are communicating well with each other or with the public.
There is not enough information.
They're fighting with each other.
There is a lack of information given.
There is not a lot of awareness about it, so there must not be a lot of communication.
The agencies are not communicating with the public enough.
There is not enough done to inform the public.
The agencies are not listening to the general public.
The commission is opposed because they are made up primarily of ranchers, and they are opposed to wolves.
There is a lack of information.
The agencies involved are looking after themselves and not working together.
Competition.
There is a lack of information to public and outside parties.
It is not a high priority among the media to get the information out.
The agencies should involve ranchers more.
The government doesn't understand the wants and needs of the people.
There is a lack of information given to the public.
There is too much paper work.

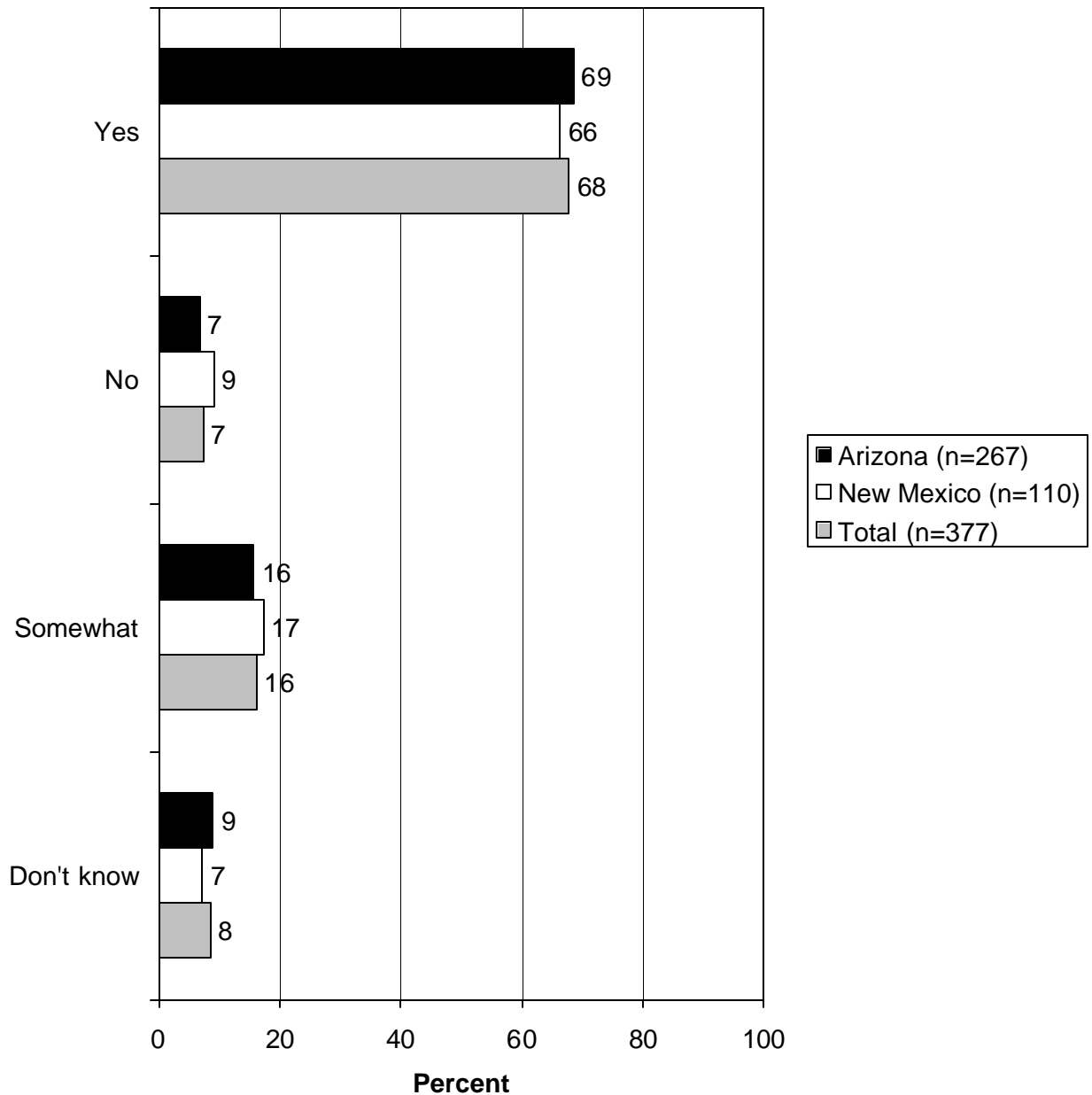
Q26. How effectively or ineffectively would you say administrative issues are handled among cooperating agencies and groups for the Mexican Wolf Recovery Project, or do you not know?



Q27. How well defined would you say the responsibilities of the cooperating agencies, programs, and counties are for the Mexican Wolf Recovery Project?



Q28. Do you feel that those responsibilities are serving the needs of the Mexican Wolf Recovery Project? (Asked of those who said they feel that the responsibilities are well or adequately defined.)



DEMOGRAPHIC DATA

- Most commonly, Arizona residents (37%) and New Mexico residents (48%) had lived at least 25 years consecutively in their current state of residence. Substantial percentages had lived in their current state of residence for 5 years or less (17% of Arizona residents and 14% of New Mexico residents).

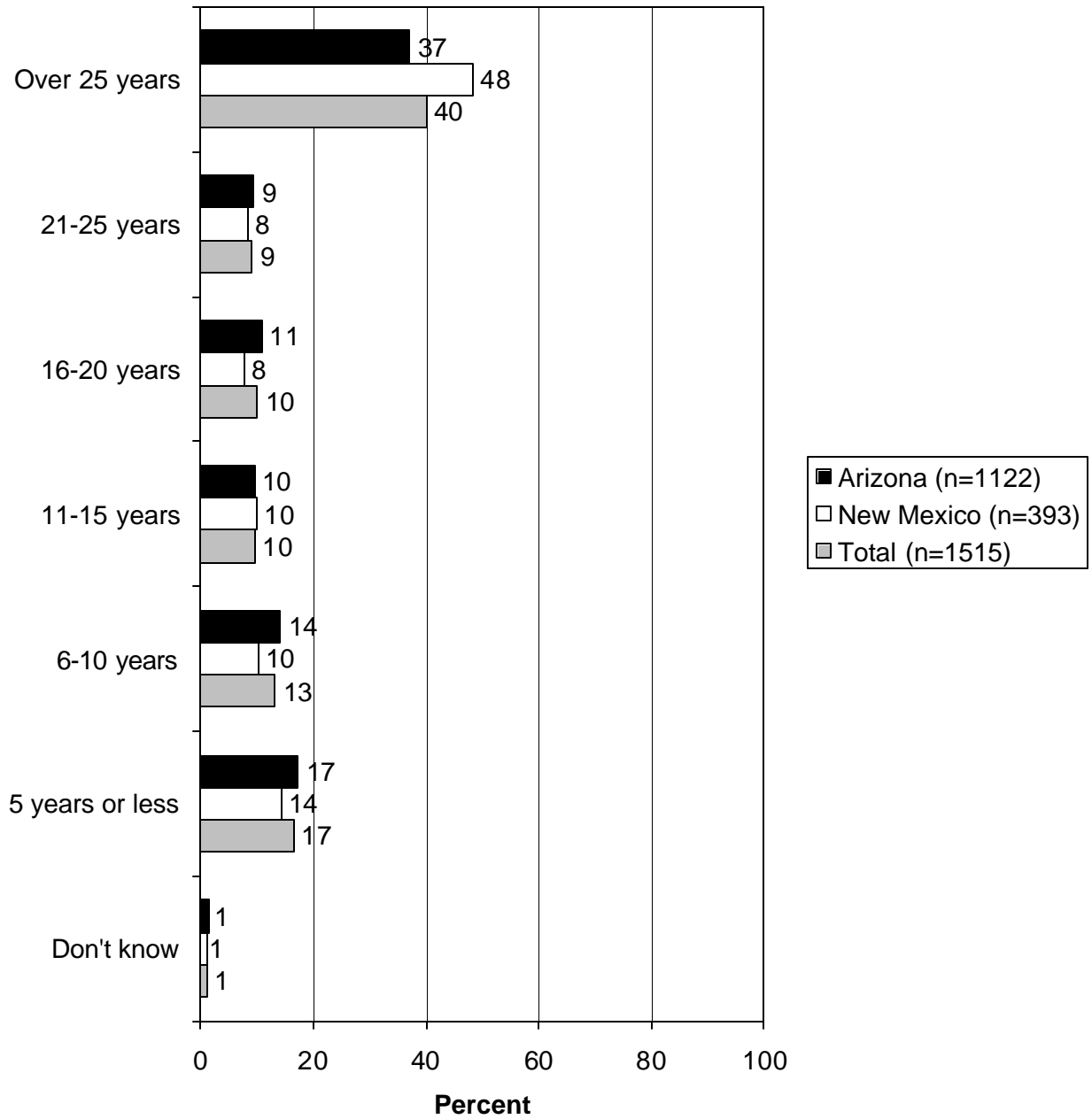
- Arizona residents most commonly consider their place of residence to be a large city (43%) or a small city (21%). New Mexico residents most commonly consider their place of residence to be a small city (34%), a large city (28%), or a rural area not on a farm or ranch (21%).

- The majority of respondents (85%) had not hunted in Arizona or New Mexico in the past 2 years.

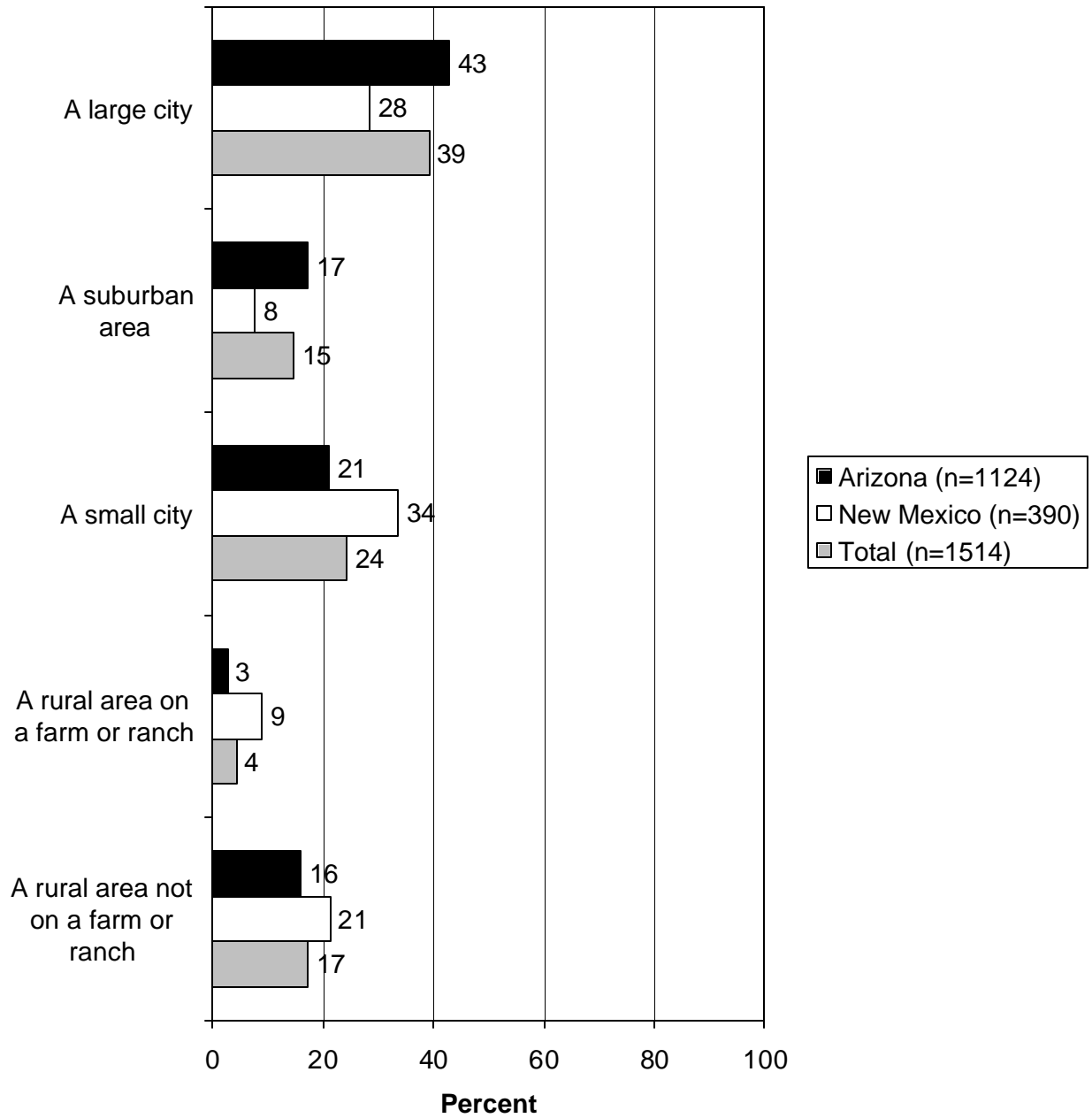
- The majority of respondents (65%) were 45 years old or older. A quarter of all respondents (25%) were 65 years old or older.

- The sample had slightly more females than males.

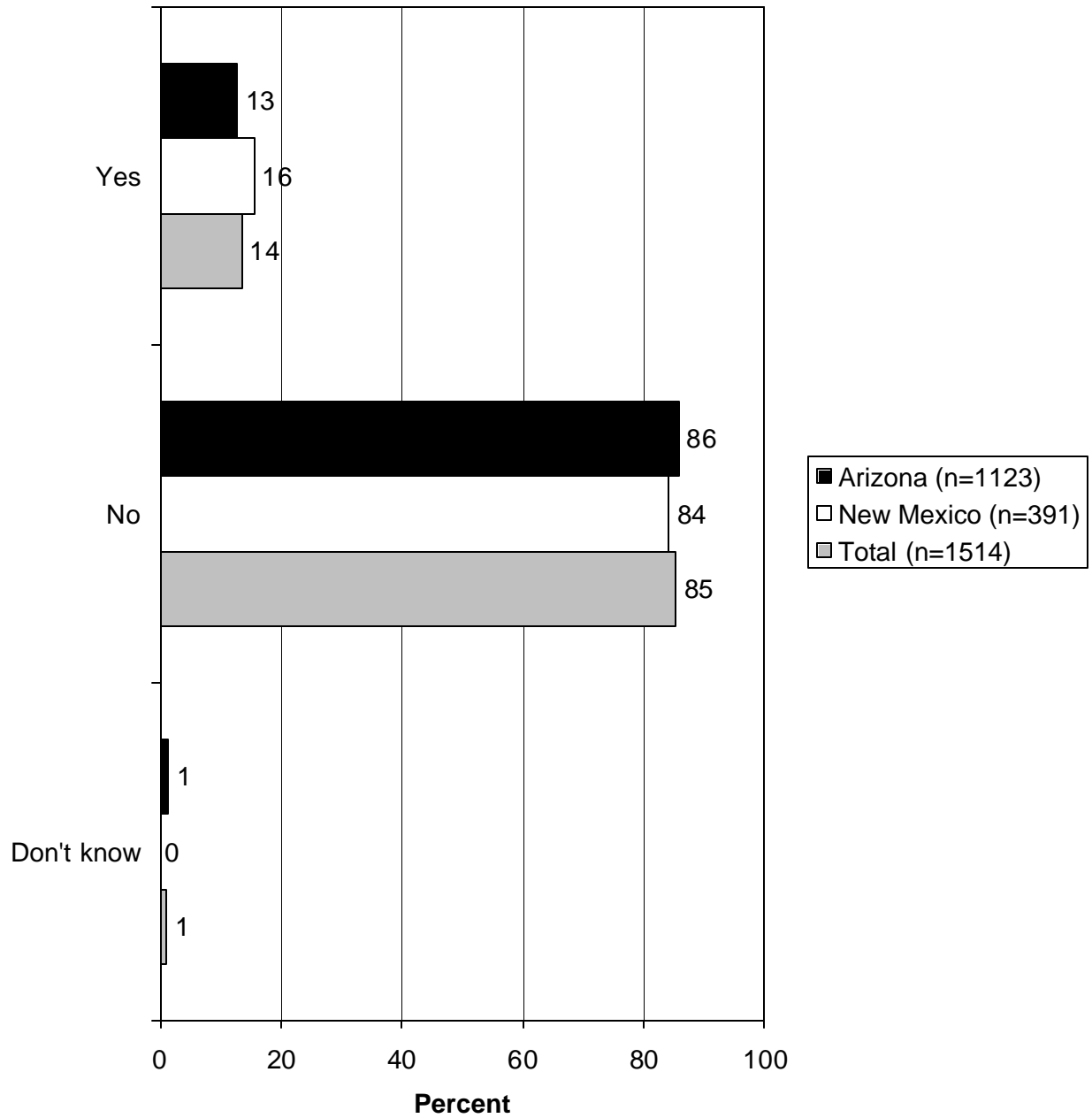
Q29. How many consecutive years have you lived in your state?

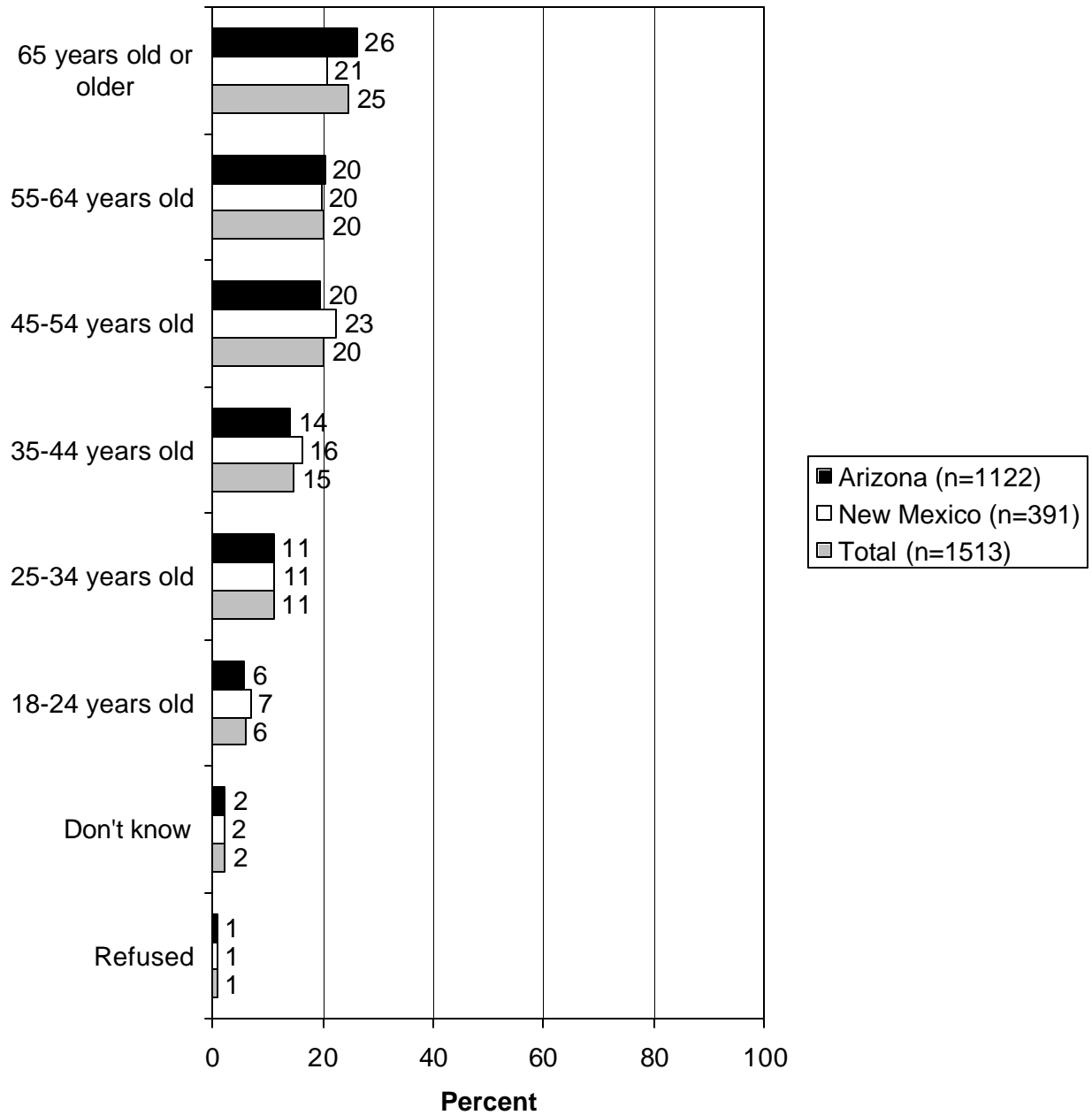


Q31. Do you consider your place of residence to be in a large city, a suburban area, a small city, a rural area on a farm or ranch, or a rural area not on a farm or ranch?

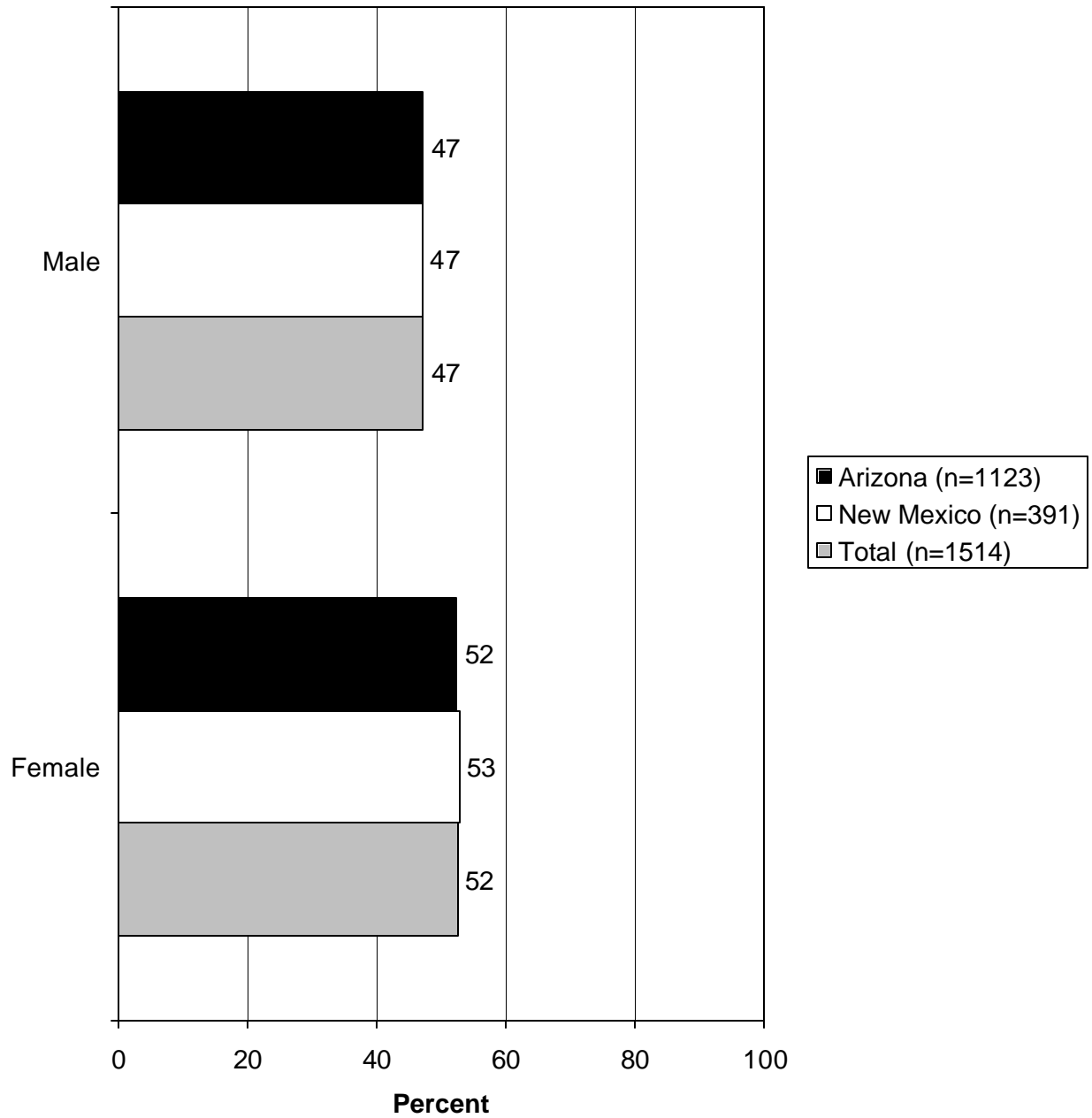


Q32. Have you hunted in Arizona or New Mexico in the past 2 years?



Q33. Age of respondent.

Q35. Respondent's gender (not asked, but observed by interviewer).



ADDITIONAL COMMENTS

That's the end of the survey. Thanks for your time and cooperation. If you have any additional comments, I can record them here.

The U.S. should be spending taxpayers' money on something else instead of spending it on reintroducing the Mexican wolves.
I think protecting wildlife is important, but I've heard many ranchers are unhappy. I know that a lot of times that the ranchers feel like they have to bear the cost of conservation efforts.
I am worried about the livestock in the area. I don't think the public wants the reintroduction.
I'd like to see more information on wolf reintroduction.
Find a way to reintroduce the wolves without them being killed by humans.
They shouldn't kill the wolves because it was their land before it was ours.
I am for the reintroduction of any species so that our planet will be balanced. It is not natural for us to be without any species.
Communicate better.
I think there should be more education for the sportsmen and the outdoor users. Only the ranchers' views are shown.
The recent attack in Phoenix on a handler by two gray wolves should not be looked at as anything other than an aberrance and should not affect the opinions about the reintroductions.
There needs to be more information available to the public about the reintroduction of the wolves.
There needs to be more education to the public about this subject.
We need more education on the wolves. Most people know absolutely nothing about the wolves or the project.
Any effort to get the area back to how it used to be is well deserved of praise.
Ranchers don't want to see a wolf around cattle.
I think that they have to deal with the ranchers so that they understand there is no threat to their cattle, etc. Those people need to be contacted, not people like me who support the program already.
The Department should do more on TV so the public knows what's going on and what we can do about wildlife becoming extinct, like this wolf and the hawk.
Around here there seems to be only two extreme views on this topic on opposite ends, and nothing in the middle, so it's really hard to decide one way or the other or work anything out.
Keep up the good work. Every time I've called, Santa Fe has been cooperative, and Las Cruz has helpful, polite game wardens.
I am very critical of reintroduction because the wolves are just going to get shot and never be able to thrive.
They should let the animals live. I would like to see more wolves.
I would only oppose the reintroduction if the purpose was to hunt them.
The mountain lion also needs to be managed – there are no deer to speak of in the Gila wilderness. The wolves kill everything. The government does not care about the public. This ruins the deer hunting in these areas.
The public should have been more involved before reintroducing the wolves.
Leave the wolves alone because they are problematic and take away from people's lands.
I hope you guys keep up the good work.
I would like to see more wolves in the wild again.

The wolves eat ranchers' animals.
There needs to be more communication with the ranchers and farmers in the areas where the wolves are being released.
The general problem that I see with wildlife is that on one hand you've got the extreme environmentalists and the extreme conservatives on the other, and the public usually only hears one or the other, instead of from someone in the middle.
I hope that the right thing is being done ecologically. The environment has changed so much it may be hard to introduce them.
I am strongly in favor of fishing and hunting and the reintroduction of wolves, as long as it doesn't take away public land.
We as human beings need to wake up and work together. We shouldn't disrupt the cycle because everything is part of the system.
Efforts should be put toward something else.
I just don't think it's the right thing to do. There's not enough safety, and only a minority agrees with the project.
I hate to see the livestock industry ruined because of wolves.
We have had too many people that don't appreciate wildlife.
If you want to serve the public, you can't have wolves running around killing wildlife.
There is a whole family of coyotes in my backyard every morning, so I don't think wolves would be much different. I think it's a good idea you called.
It would be productive if those cooperating agencies included all the tribes in New Mexico and Arizona instead of the Apache.
They should have left the wolves alone, and it was not the right thing to do to reintroduce them. It caused problems for ranchers in the White Mountains, and people are just killing them, which is a waste of money. Also, the antelope population decreased.
I think there needs to be more programs for volunteer work.
I think the reintroduction of wolves is a bad idea.
Ranchers shoot the gray wolf.
I don't think we need wolves or Grizzly bears brought into areas anywhere near the public because it's dangerous, which was proven by the recent attack on the wolf handler.
We need more places for older and/or handicapped people to go fishing.
Make sure you control populations when they flourish so that ranchers won't start shooting and taking matters into their own hands, whether it means relocating populations or something else.
I think that they should better educate the people, and they should not allow people to shoot the wolves because of cattle. Wolves need to be around, and people need to be educated.
Wolves should not be hand-raised and then set loose because they do not have their basic survival instincts.
Wolves are a predator with no natural enemies. They are a nuisance that will become killers.
There is not enough information given to the public about the project.
They need to have better communication with the ranchers.
Wolves are very dangerous. I don't want them around.
I appreciate them doing all they can from going extinct.
This issue has ended up being divided between environmentalists and ranchers. The real hope lies with these groups working together.
Inform the public more about this issue.

They need to look into the farmer and cattle owners and let them know that the wolves are an endangered species.
Any time an issue of this type is being considered, I think it's very important to have a lot of communication with the public about it, and I haven't seen much at all.
They need to feed the wolves before setting them free, like maybe teaching them to survive or feeding road kill so that they learn survival instead of feeding on cows because they don't know any better.
I'd have a wolf in my backyard if I could. Wolves eat cats too, which I like.
As a sheep rancher and cattle raiser, we have been fighting to get rid of a nuisance. I don't feel the ecosystem is hurt with the wolves gone.
It would be nice if there was more information out for the public about this and for everything the Department is doing, since right now it's hard to find and not many people are very aware.
Definitely keep it up, and I would even say they need to expand the area for the wolves.
We've been complaining that we don't know what is going on with the project, but they have turned a deaf ear to us. I'd also like to hunt here if they could give us some decent land.
The general population is pro-wolf conservation. Don't ask just hunters, poll everyone.
It is a waste of the taxpayers' money to reintroduce wolves.
They need to get more programs for mountain lions and other animals. There are not enough programs to protect animals. There is too much development destroying things that Arizona can't bring back. I wish they'd involve and update the public more.
They should feed the wolves deer instead of beef.
I feel that the wolves should migrate on their own.
Reintroduction and attempts to get them to multiply is going to bring more problems down the line.
I've noticed good things in general going on, and I'm just very impressed with what the Department and Forest Service have been doing lately, in general.
I am a cattle rancher myself, and I think this whole thing is a very bad idea. I think our forefathers had it right when they got rid of them in the first place.
I would like to see more public knowledge and awareness. This will increase the benefits. The general public is not aware of the reasons to reintroduce species.
I raised the wolves myself in the 1970s at the start of the program.
Reintroduce wolves into northern Arizona to control coyotes.