

Responsive Management



NEW HAMPSHIRE LAPSED HUNTER SURVEY

**Conducted for the New Hampshire Fish and Game Department
by Responsive Management**

2004

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Responsive Management National Office

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EXECUTIVE SUMMARY

INTRODUCTION AND METHODOLOGY

This study was conducted for the New Hampshire Fish and Game Department (the Department) to determine the attitudes and motivations of lapsed hunters, including their satisfactions and dissatisfactions with hunting, their constraints and barriers to continued and increased hunting participation, and message themes and programs that will move lapsed hunters to resume hunting in New Hampshire. The study entailed a telephone survey of resident and non-resident lapsed hunters—those who had purchased a New Hampshire hunting license in the past 5 years but who did not actively hunt in New Hampshire in the 2002-2003 or 2003-2004 seasons.

For the survey, telephones were selected as the preferred sampling medium because of the universality of telephone ownership. The telephone survey questionnaire was developed cooperatively by Responsive Management and the Department. 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. Responsive Management obtained a total of 261 completed interviews among resident lapsed hunters and 282 completed interviews among non-resident lapsed hunters. The software used for data collection was Questionnaire Programming Language 4.1.

The analysis of data was performed using Statistical Package for the Social Sciences software as well as proprietary software developed by Responsive Management. Throughout this report, findings of the telephone survey are reported at a 95% confidence interval. For the entire sample of resident lapsed hunters, the sampling error is at most plus or minus 6.01 percentage points; for the entire sample of non-resident lapsed hunters, the sampling error is at most plus or minus 5.72 percentage points.

LAPSED NEW HAMPSHIRE HUNTERS' HUNTING PARTICIPATION OUTSIDE OF NEW HAMPSHIRE

- Large majorities of non-resident lapsed hunters had hunted outside of New Hampshire in one of these seasons: 2002-2003, 2003-2004, or 2004-2005. The percentage of resident lapsed hunters who had done so ranged from 7% to 13% in any given season. Conversely, 86% of resident lapsed hunters had not hunted outside of New Hampshire during those seasons. Vermont, Massachusetts, Pennsylvania, and Maine were the most common other states in which respondents had hunted.

LAPSED NEW HAMPSHIRE HUNTERS' TRENDS IN HUNTING PARTICIPATION

- About three-fourths (74%) of resident lapsed hunters said their hunting participation has decreased or stopped completely over the past 5 years; very few said their participation has increased (5%). Among non-resident lapsed hunters, hunting participation is slightly more stable: 41% of non-resident lapsed hunters said their hunting participation has remained about the same over the past 5 years. Nonetheless, among non-resident lapsed hunters, “decreasing participation/stopped completely” responses exceeded “increasing participation” responses.

PLANS TO HUNT

- Roughly two-thirds of lapsed hunters, both resident and non-resident, indicated that they plan to hunt in New Hampshire in the future. An overwhelming majority of non-resident lapsed hunters (88%) indicated that they plan to hunt outside of New Hampshire in the future; 23% of resident lapsed hunters indicated that they plan to hunt outside of New Hampshire in the future.

REASONS FOR NOT HUNTING IN NEW HAMPSHIRE

- Time obligations—both from work and family—were the most important factors in decisions not to hunt in New Hampshire in the past 5 years. Personal health and less time available were also important factors. Among non-resident lapsed hunters, cost of licenses was an important factor.

- Respondents were asked about 31 factors that could have influenced their decision not to hunt in New Hampshire. In addition to the factors listed above, lack of access and lack of places to hunt were important factors, as was personal health. Finally, other people violating game laws and poor behavior of other hunters were ranked next as factors that influenced respondents not to hunt.
 - The least important factors were finding a place to buy a license, harassment by anti-hunters, too strict game law enforcement efforts, the feeling of causing pain to animals, and concern over endangering animal populations.

ATTITUDES TOWARD HUNTING

- Non-resident lapsed hunters rated the importance of hunting to themselves (8.6 mean) higher than did resident lapsed hunters (6.3 mean).
- Resident lapsed hunters were fairly evenly split between rating themselves as intermediate (41%) and rating themselves as advanced (47%) hunters. Non-resident lapsed hunters were more likely than were resident lapsed hunters to rate themselves as advanced hunters (66%). Very few rated themselves as a beginner.

HUNTING COMPANIONS

- The top usual hunting companions for resident and non-resident lapsed hunters were friends, closely followed by immediate family. About a fifth (21% of resident and 17% of non-resident lapsed hunters) usually hunted alone.

EQUIPMENT

- Rifles and shotguns were the most typical sporting devices used in hunting in New Hampshire. Among resident lapsed hunters, 20% used bow and arrows, and 14% used a muzzleloader. Non-resident lapsed hunters used bow and arrows at the same rate (20%), but they were much more likely to have used a muzzleloader (32%) than were resident lapsed hunters.

HUNTING LOCATIONS

- Public land and private land together play an important role in New Hampshire hunting, with private land being just slightly more important. Most commonly, respondents said they hunted on each type of land about equally.

- Private lands owned by paper and/or timber companies are quite important in New Hampshire: 29% of resident lapsed hunters and 41% of non-resident lapsed hunters had hunted on those lands in the past 5 years. “Other private lands” were also important. Among public lands, State Forests were important.

- A substantial percentage of hunting trips in New Hampshire that lapsed hunters had taken in the past involved off-highway driving in a car/truck/SUV/motorcycle (not an ATV): 39% of resident and 58% of non-resident lapsed hunters. A majority of lapsed hunters indicated that they typically had walked or hiked on a trail to get to a place to hunt in New Hampshire (note that this may be in addition to other modes of transportation).

- A large majority of non-resident lapsed hunters (72%) and a substantial percentage of resident lapsed hunters (30%) said that their typical hunting trip in New Hampshire involved an overnight stay.

- A majority of resident lapsed hunters indicated that the place they usually hunt in New Hampshire is less than 30 miles from home. However, non-resident lapsed hunters indicated that the place they usually hunt in New Hampshire is a bit farther from home: half said that the place is 100 miles or more from home. The means are 39 miles from home for resident lapsed hunters and 169 miles from home for non-resident lapsed hunters.

- Characteristics of the area were a greater motivation than was the convenience of getting to the area in the choice of a hunting location. Nonetheless, substantial percentages said that both about equally play a role in their choice of a place to hunt in New Hampshire.

- Finally, in a list of factors that hunters consider in deciding on a place to hunt, the highest ranked factors were the amount and types of game believed to be in the area and the ease of access and familiarity with the lands. For resident lapsed hunters, this list of top factors also included the closeness to home; among non-resident lapsed hunters, this was not as important in favor of the aesthetic qualities of the area.

SPECIES HUNTED

- White-tailed deer were the species of choice for overwhelming majorities of resident and non-resident lapsed hunters when they had hunted in New Hampshire. Among resident lapsed hunters, other important species included ruffed grouse, ring-necked pheasant, and cottontail rabbit. Among non-resident lapsed hunters, other important species included ruffed grouse and black bear.
 - Note that non-resident lapsed hunters were more likely than were resident lapsed hunters to have hunted black bear or moose.
- When asked directly whether they had hunted small game in New Hampshire within the past 5 years, 42% of resident and 25% of non-resident lapsed hunters indicated that they had.

HUNTER EDUCATION

- Large majorities of resident and non-resident lapsed hunters had taken a hunter education course. Of those who had taken a course, 75% among resident lapsed hunters had taken a course in New Hampshire, and 13% among non-resident lapsed hunters had taken a course in New Hampshire.

SATISFACTION WITH HUNTING OVERALL AND WITH HUNTING FOR VARIOUS SPECIES

- Overall, satisfaction with hunting in New Hampshire in the past 5 years was high: 86% of resident lapsed hunters and 94% of non-resident lapsed hunters were very or somewhat satisfied with their hunting experiences in New Hampshire over the past 5 years.
 - 10% of resident and 4% of non-resident lapsed hunters were dissatisfied.

- Although the number of participants was somewhat low (10 resident and 23 non-resident lapsed hunters), moose hunting was one of the most satisfying species to hunt in New Hampshire—it was the top answer among resident lapsed hunters and the second answer among non-resident lapsed hunters for percent very satisfied. For resident lapsed hunters, raccoon hunting was the second-ranked species that was very satisfying to hunt, although the number of participants was low. Also high in the percent being very satisfied among resident lapsed hunters were gray squirrel, black bear, wild turkey, and white-tailed deer. Among non-resident lapsed hunters, wild turkey hunting had the highest percentage being very satisfied, just above moose hunting. Other species that had high percentages of non-resident lapsed hunters saying that they were very satisfied were ring-necked pheasant, snowshoe hare, white-tailed deer, ruffed grouse, and cottontail rabbit.
- The highest percentages saying they were very dissatisfied were for snowshoe hare hunting (22% of resident and 8% of non-resident lapsed hunters were very dissatisfied), cottontail rabbit hunting (18% of resident and 6% of non-resident lapsed hunters), woodcock hunting (14% of resident and 4% of non-resident lapsed hunters), and moose hunting (10% of resident lapsed hunters).

GAME LAW VIOLATIONS

- Overwhelming majorities of resident and non-resident lapsed hunters had not witnessed any game law violations in the past 5 years. Of those who had seen one, roughly half reported the violation. Typical reasons for not reporting a violation included not being able to prove it/not being able to identify culprit and the belief that the violation was minor.

RATING AT PROVIDING HUNTING OPPORTUNITIES

- Ratings of the Department's efforts to provide hunting opportunities in New Hampshire were fairly positive: large majorities of resident and non-resident lapsed hunters gave an excellent or good rating. Very low percentages gave a poor rating.

RATING AT MANAGING/CONSERVING WILDLIFE

- Ratings of the Department's efforts to manage and conserve the state's wildlife are also fairly positive: large majorities of resident and non-resident lapsed hunters gave an excellent or good rating to this effort. Very low percentages gave a poor rating.

RATING AT PROVIDING HUNTER EDUCATION

- The overall rating of the Department at providing hunter education was positive: for both resident and non-resident lapsed hunters, "excellent" and "good" responses far exceeded "fair" and "poor" responses.
- Majorities of resident lapsed hunters rated the Department as excellent or good at providing convenient dates and times to take hunter education, as well as in providing hunter education courses they want and desire. Only publicizing hunter education opportunities had a notable percentage who rated the Department as poor in that effort.
- Those who had taken a hunter education course in New Hampshire were asked to rate that course: majorities gave an excellent rating (54% of resident and 65% of non-resident lapsed hunters), and nearly all remaining gave a good rating. In fact, only 1% of resident and 0% of non-resident lapsed hunters gave a fair or poor rating.

MOTIVATIONS TO HUNT AND FACTORS THAT WOULD ENCOURAGE HUNTING

- For resident lapsed hunters, thinking about their hunting in New Hampshire, the top reasons they went hunting were to be close to nature (just over 24%), for the meat (just under 24%), and for the sport (19%). For non-resident lapsed hunters, thinking about their hunting in New Hampshire, the top reasons they went hunting were for the sport (27%), to be with family and/or friends (26%), and for the meat (15%). Getting a trophy was the lowest ranked reason for both resident and non-resident lapsed hunters.
- In an open-ended question (i.e., no answer set was read), having more time was the top answer of factors that would get the respondent to hunt more or hunt again in New

Hampshire. Also important among non-resident lapsed hunters was cheaper licenses.

Answers related to more game of any type were low down on the list.

- The survey asked individual questions about 25 possible motivations to encourage more hunting in New Hampshire. The top answers among resident lapsed hunters that would strongly encourage them to hunt more or hunt again were having a child ask to be taken hunting, more opportunities to hunt big game, and more opportunities to hunt on private lands and to hunt on state-owned lands. These were similar to the top answers among non-resident lapsed hunters: more opportunities to hunt big game, having a child ask to be taken hunting, more opportunities to hunt on private lands, receiving an invitation from a friend, hunting being offered as part of his/her next vacation, and more opportunities to hunt on state-owned lands and on Wildlife Management Areas. Another important answer among non-resident lapsed hunters was more opportunities to hunt with a muzzleloader (note that non-resident lapsed hunters were more likely than were resident lapsed hunters to have hunted in New Hampshire with a muzzleloader).
 - The motivations with the highest percentages saying they would not encourage more hunting involved crossbow hunting (more opportunities for crossbow hunting and hunter education about crossbows) or waterfowl (more opportunities to hunt ducks and geese and hunting education for waterfowl hunting).
- Those who said that more opportunities for small game hunting would encourage them to hunt more or hunt again most commonly named ruffed grouse and cottontail rabbit as the species for which they want more hunting opportunities.
- Those who said that more opportunities for big game hunting would encourage them to hunt more or hunt again most commonly named white-tailed deer and moose as the species for which they want more hunting opportunities.

SOURCES OF INFORMATION ABOUT HUNTING

- Word-of-mouth was the top-named source of information about hunting in New Hampshire when respondents had hunted there in the past. This answer was distantly followed by license agent/sporting goods store and Department offices.

- A slight majority of resident lapsed hunters and a higher percentage of non-resident lapsed hunters indicated that they would be interested in more information about hunting in New Hampshire. Direct mail and the Internet were the favored ways to be provided with information (note that 83% of resident lapsed hunters and 67% of non-resident lapsed hunters have Internet access in their homes, and about a third of both groups have visited the Department's Website).
 - Resident lapsed hunters were most interested in information about places to hunt and about hunting regulations, and non-resident lapsed hunters were most interested in information about places to hunt and information about game wildlife in the state.

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INTRODUCTION AND METHODOLOGY

This study was conducted for the New Hampshire Fish and Game Department (the Department) to determine the attitudes and motivations of lapsed hunters, including their satisfactions and dissatisfactions with hunting, their constraints and barriers to continued and increased hunting participation, and messages and programs that will move lapsed hunters to resume hunting in New Hampshire. The study entailed a telephone survey of non-resident and resident lapsed hunters—those who had purchased a New Hampshire hunting license in the past 5 years but who did not actively hunt in New Hampshire in the 2002-2003 or 2003-2004 seasons. 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 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. Responsive Management obtained a total of 261 completed interviews among resident lapsed hunters and 282 completed interviews among non-resident lapsed hunters.

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.

Throughout this report, findings of the telephone survey are reported at a 95% confidence interval. For the entire sample of resident lapsed hunters, the sampling error is at most plus or minus 6.01 percentage points; for the entire sample of non-resident lapsed hunters, the sampling error is at most plus or minus 5.72 percentage points. Sampling error was calculated using the formula described below, with a sample size of 261 and a population size of 15,074 for resident lapsed hunters, and a sample size of 282 and a population size of 7,440 for non-resident lapsed hunters.

Sampling error equation:

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

Where: B = maximum sampling error (as decimal)

N_p = population size (i.e., 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.

HUNTING PARTICIPATION

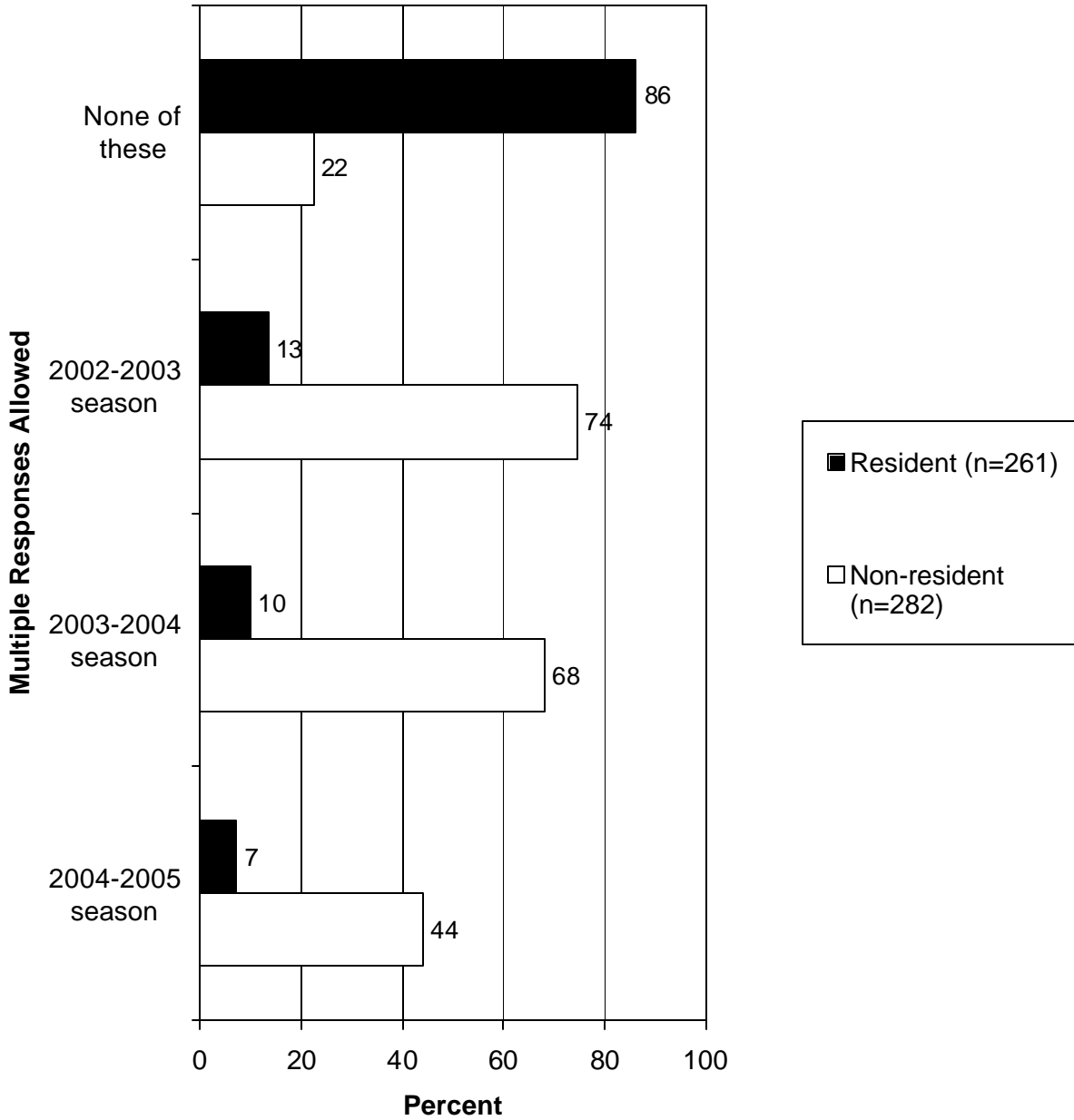
LAPSED NEW HAMPSHIRE HUNTERS' HUNTING PARTICIPATION OUTSIDE OF NEW HAMPSHIRE

- Large majorities of non-resident lapsed hunters had hunted outside of New Hampshire in 2002-2003, 2003-2004, and 2004-2005; meanwhile, the percentage of resident lapsed hunters who had done so ranged from 7% to 13% in any given season. Conversely, 86% of resident lapsed hunters had not hunted outside of New Hampshire during those seasons.

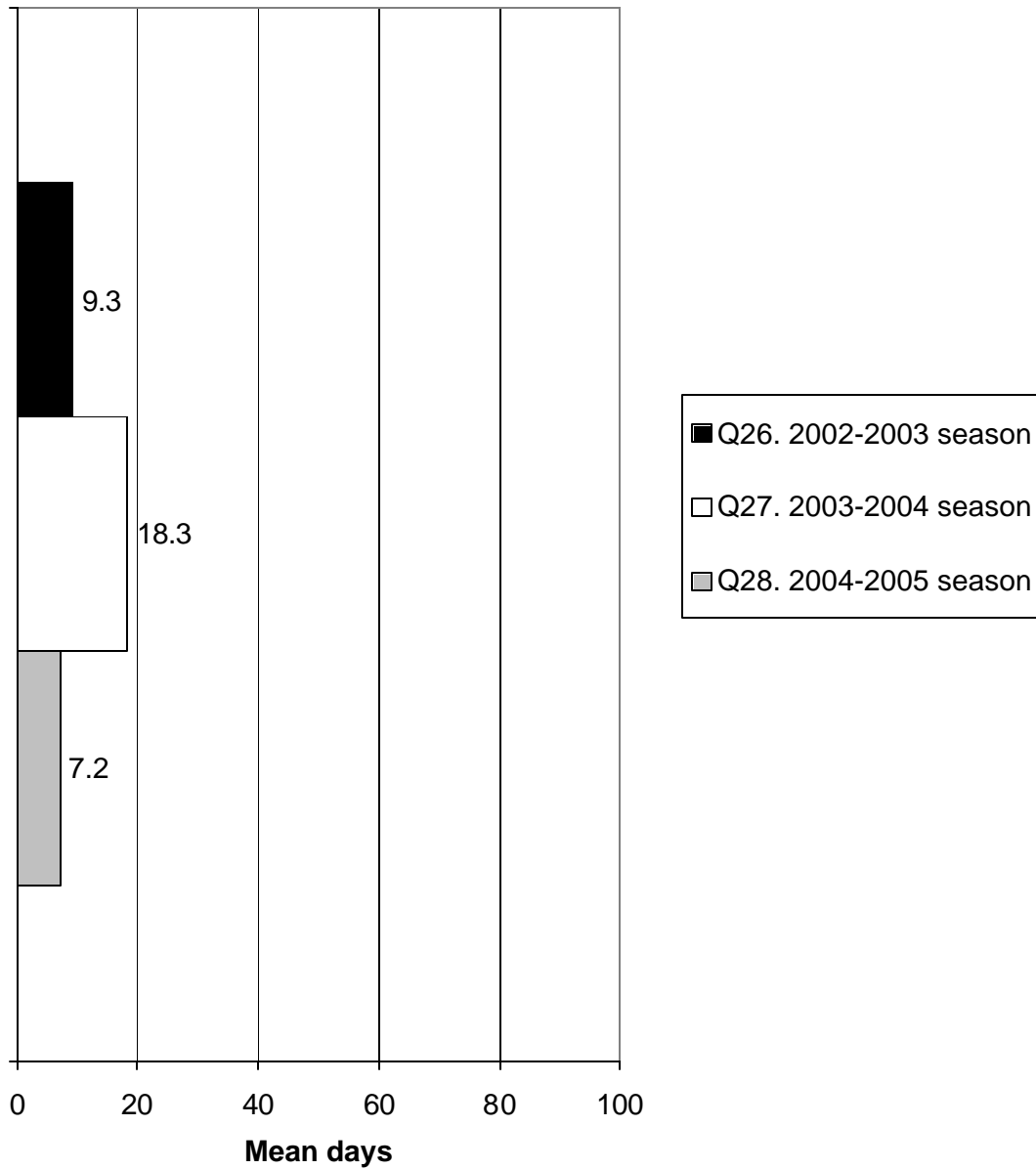
- Non-resident lapsed hunters had hunted more days, on average, outside of New Hampshire than had resident lapsed hunters.

- The states in which lapsed hunters had hunted outside of New Hampshire are shown. Vermont, Massachusetts, Pennsylvania, and Maine lead the list.

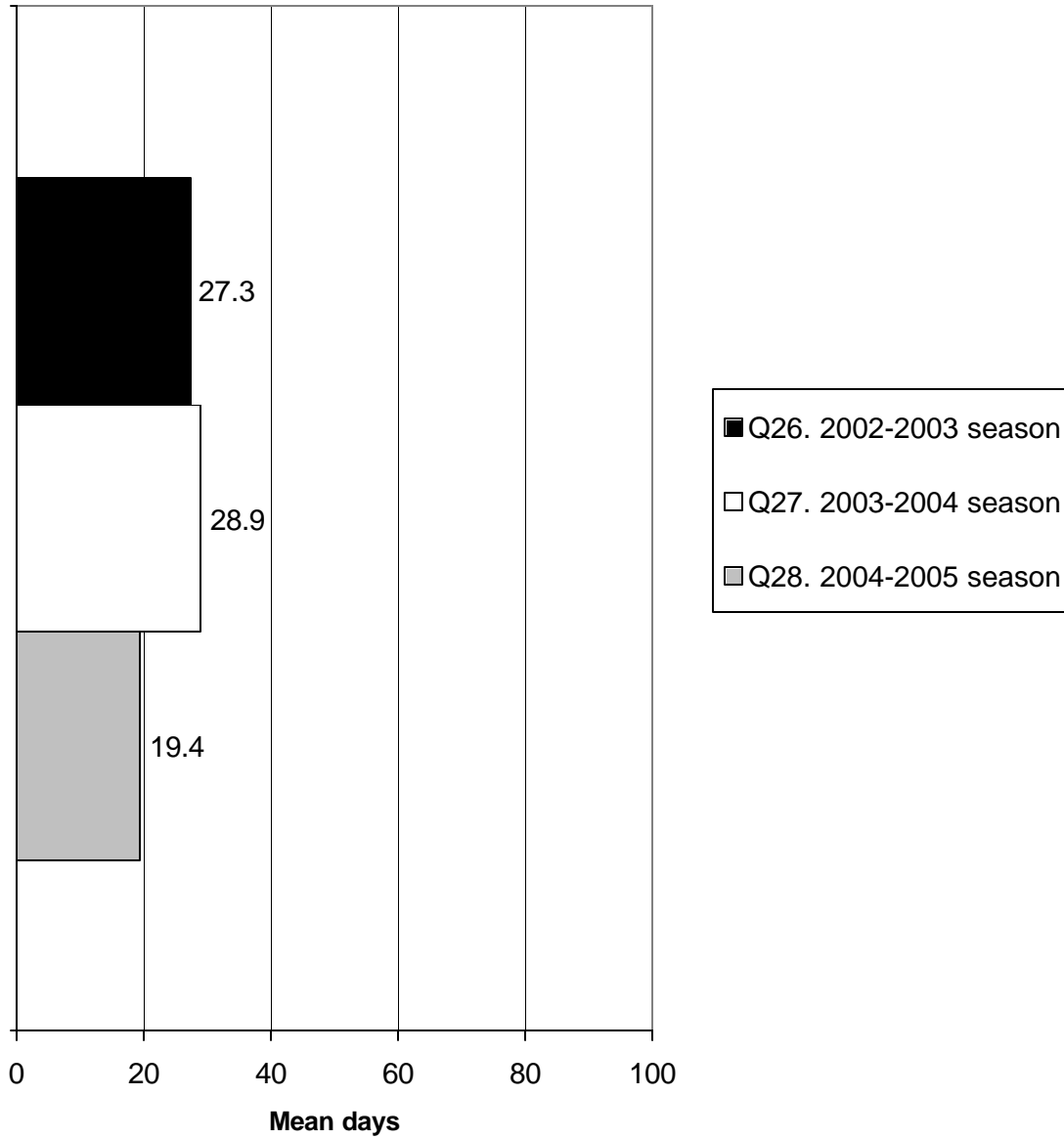
Q21. During which hunting seasons have you hunted outside of New Hampshire?



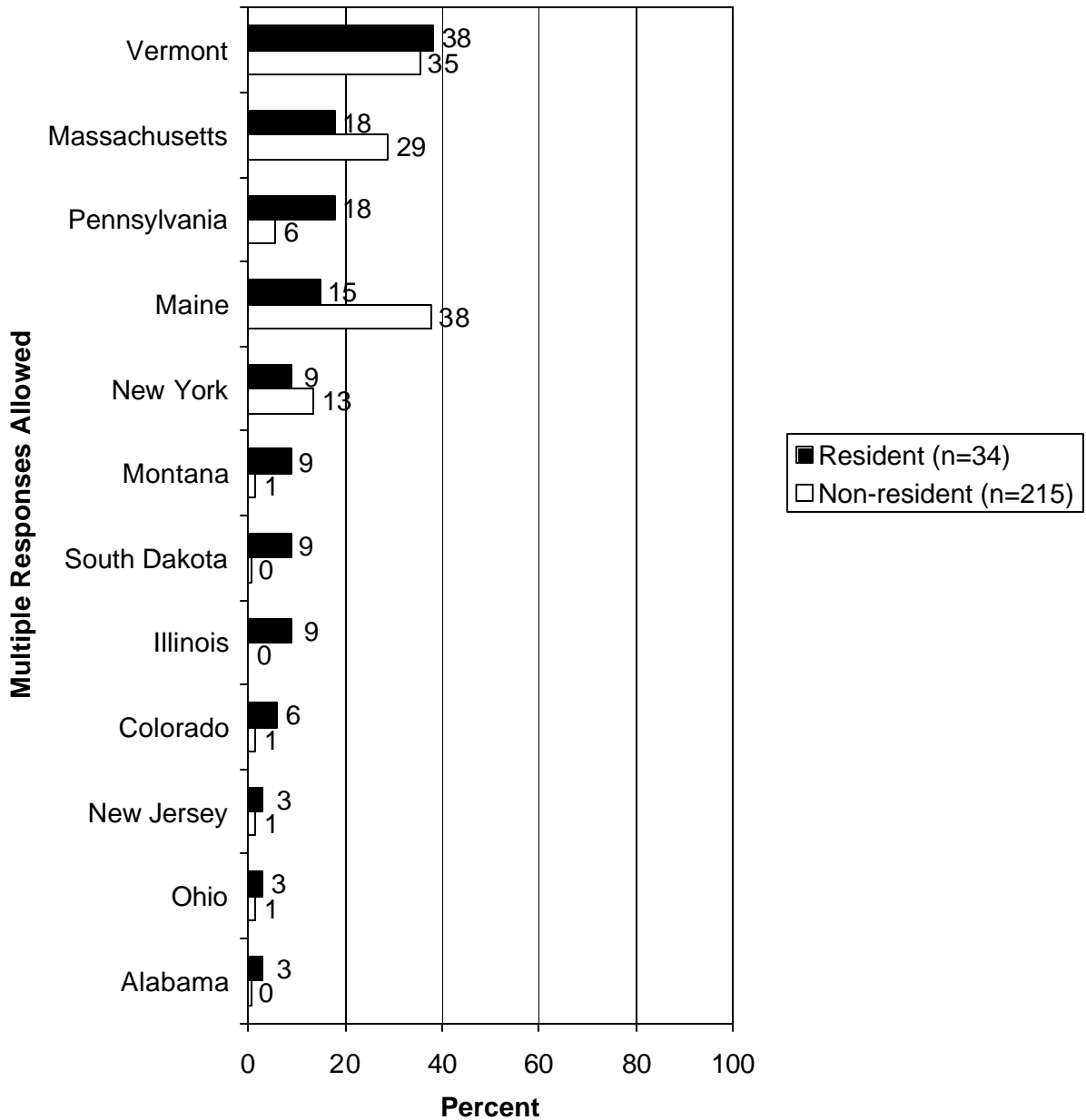
**Q26-28. Mean number of days that respondents had hunted outside of New Hampshire in the following seasons.
(Resident)**



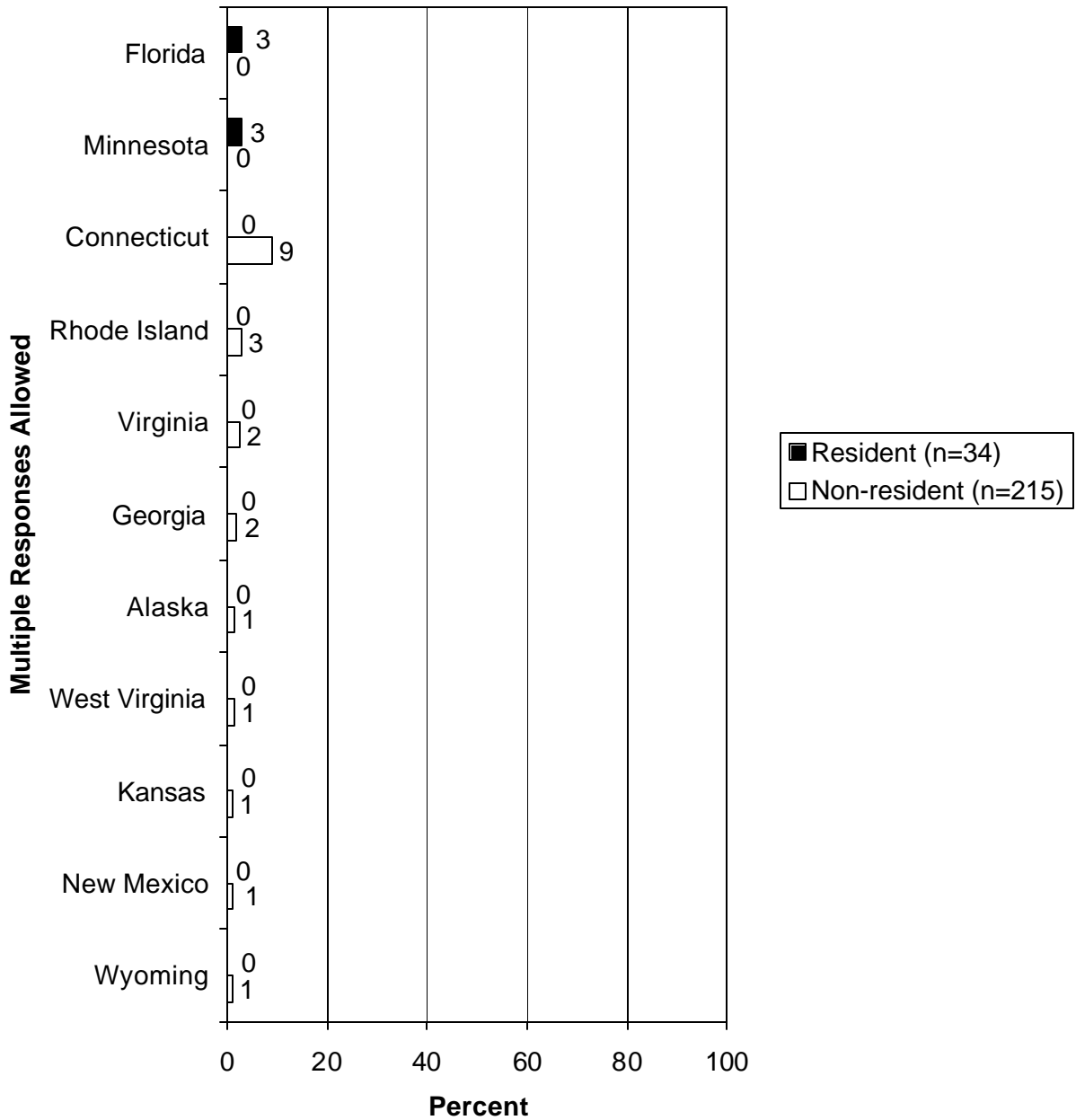
Q26-28. Mean number of days that respondents had hunted outside of New Hampshire in the following seasons. (Nonresident)



Q22 and Q24. Where have you hunted other than New Hampshire? (Asked of those who hunted outside of New Hampshire at any time from 2002 to 2005.)
Part 1



**Q22 and Q24. Where have you hunted other than New Hampshire? (Asked of those who hunted outside of New Hampshire at any time from 2002 to 2005.)
Part 2**

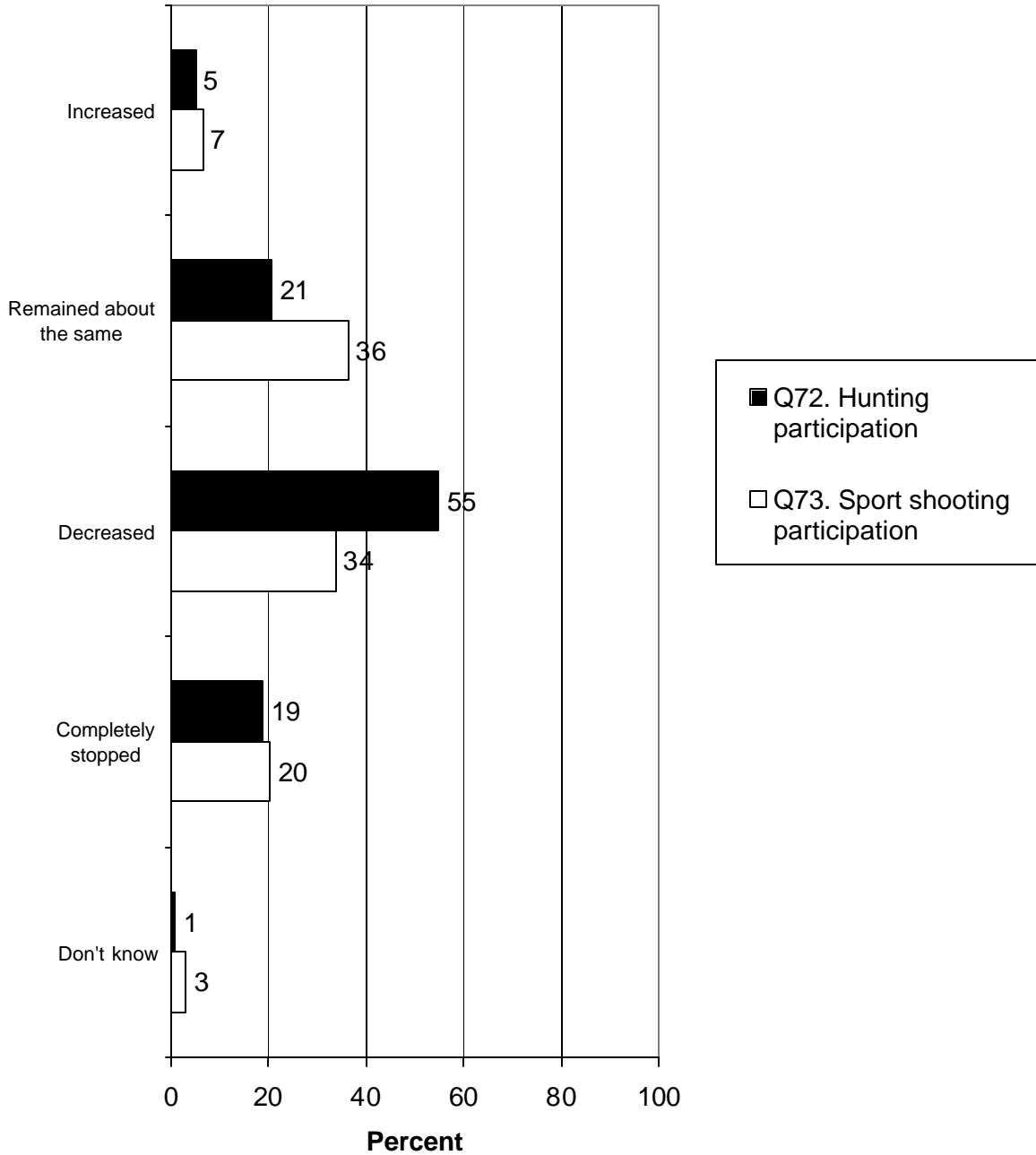


LAPSED NEW HAMPSHIRE HUNTERS' TRENDS IN HUNTING PARTICIPATION

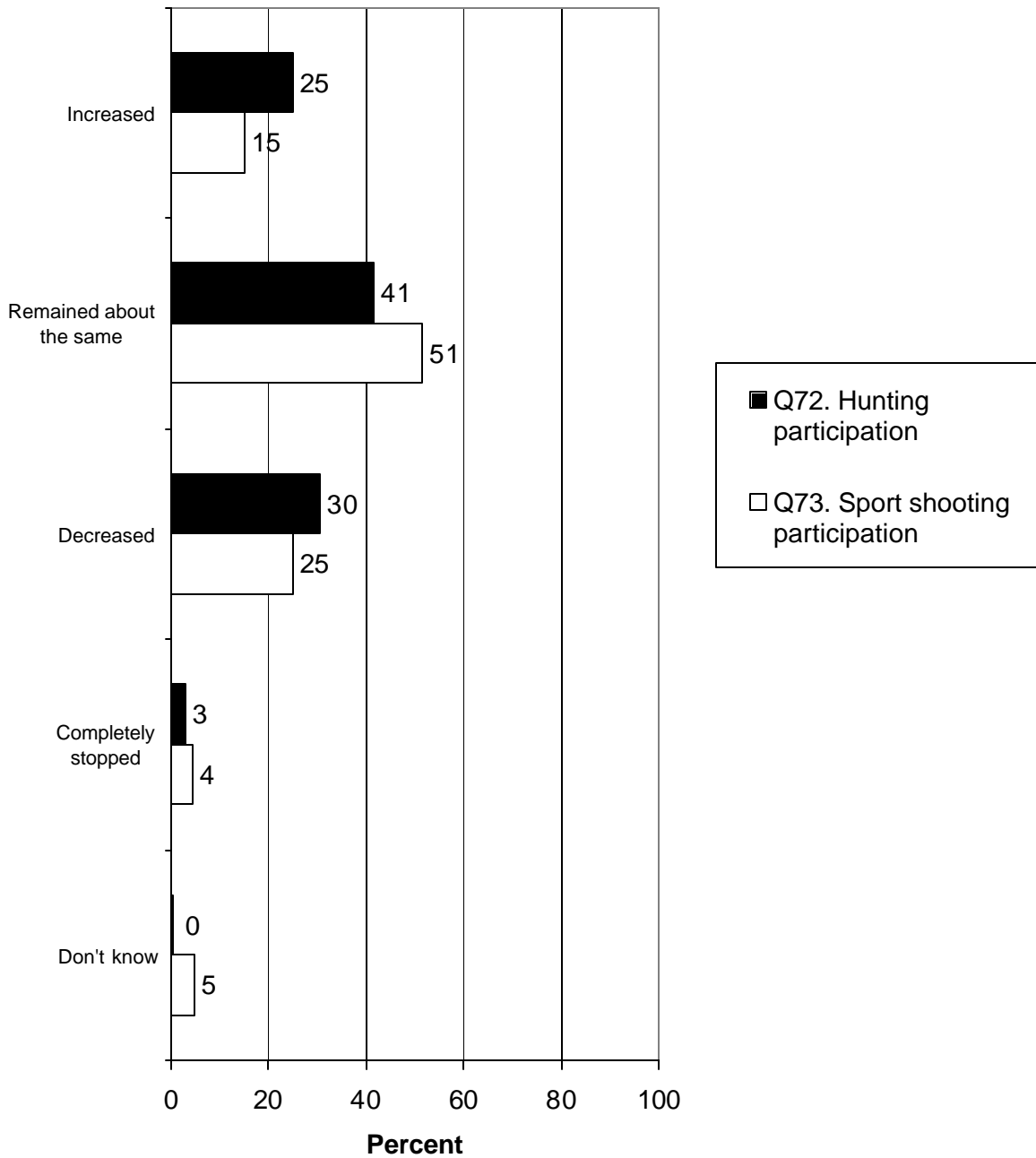
- About three-fourths (74%) of resident lapsed hunters said their hunting participation has decreased or stopped completely, and more than half of resident lapsed hunters (54%) said their sport shooting participation has decreased or completely stopped over the past 5 years; very few said their participation in these activities has increased (5% for hunting; 7% for sport shooting).

- Among non-resident lapsed hunters, both hunting participation and sport shooting participation is slightly more stable than among resident lapsed hunters: 41% of non-resident lapsed hunters said their hunting participation has remained about the same over the past 5 years, and 51% of non-resident lapsed hunters said the same about their sport shooting participation. Nonetheless, among non-resident lapsed hunters, “decreasing participation/stopped completely” responses exceeded “increasing participation” responses.

**Q72-73. Trend in participation in the following over the past 5 years.
(Resident)**



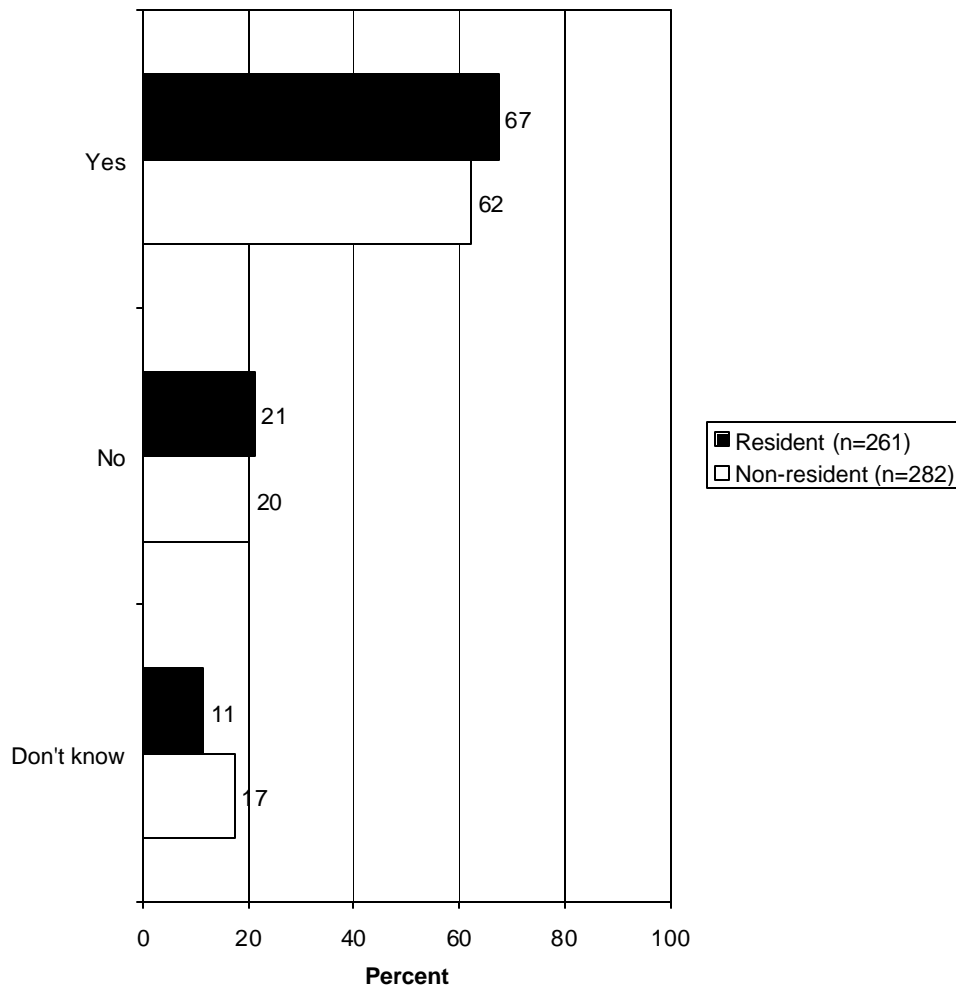
**Q72-73. Trend in participation in the following over the past 5 years.
(Nonresident)**



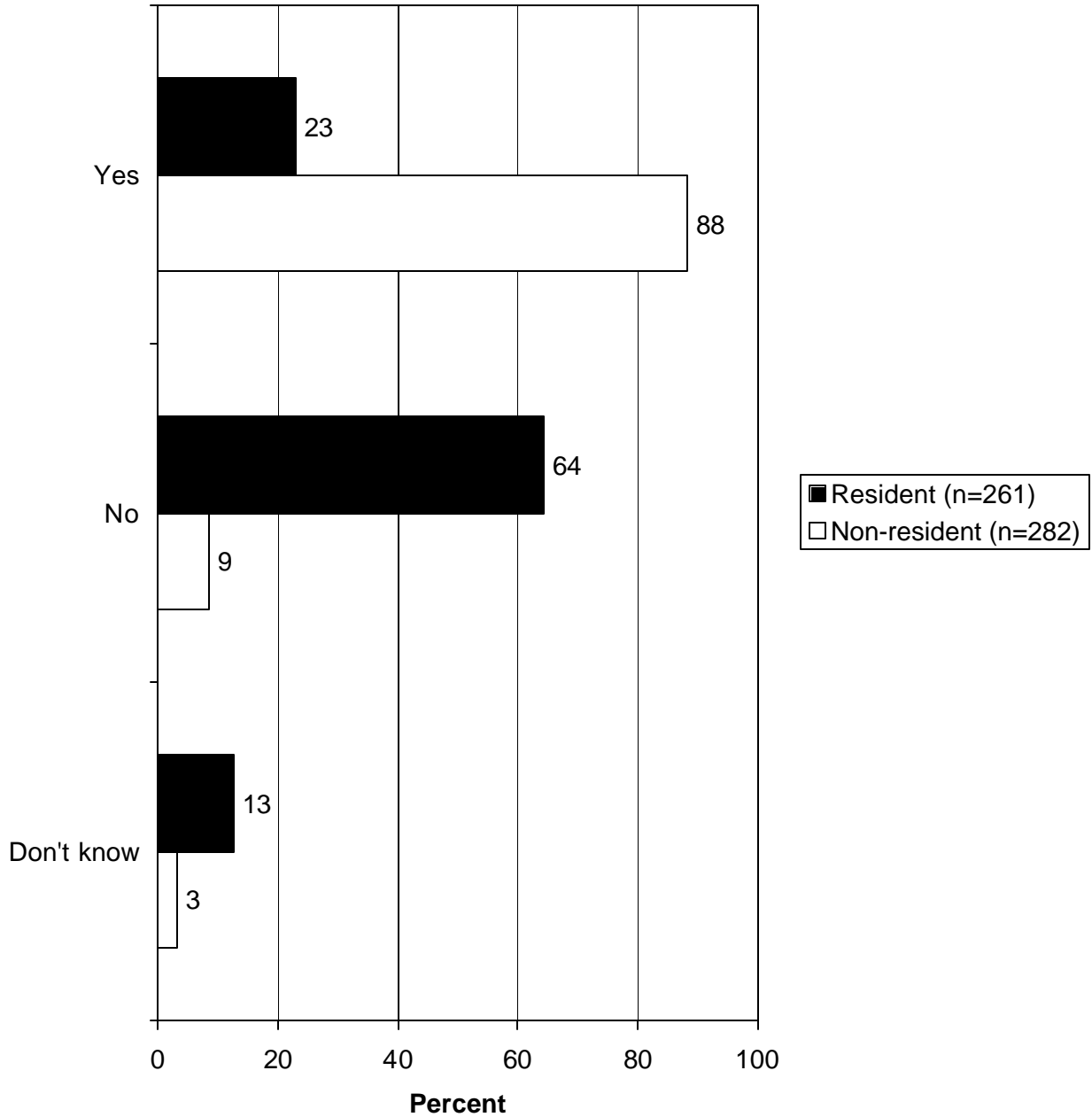
PLANS TO HUNT

- Roughly two-thirds of lapsed hunters, both resident and non-resident, indicated that they plan to hunt in New Hampshire in the future.
- An overwhelming majority of non-resident lapsed hunters (88%) indicated that they plan to hunt outside of New Hampshire in the future; 23% of resident lapsed hunters indicated that they plan to hunt outside of New Hampshire in the future.

Q19. Do you plan to hunt in New Hampshire in the future?



Q29. Do you plan to hunt outside of New Hampshire in the future?

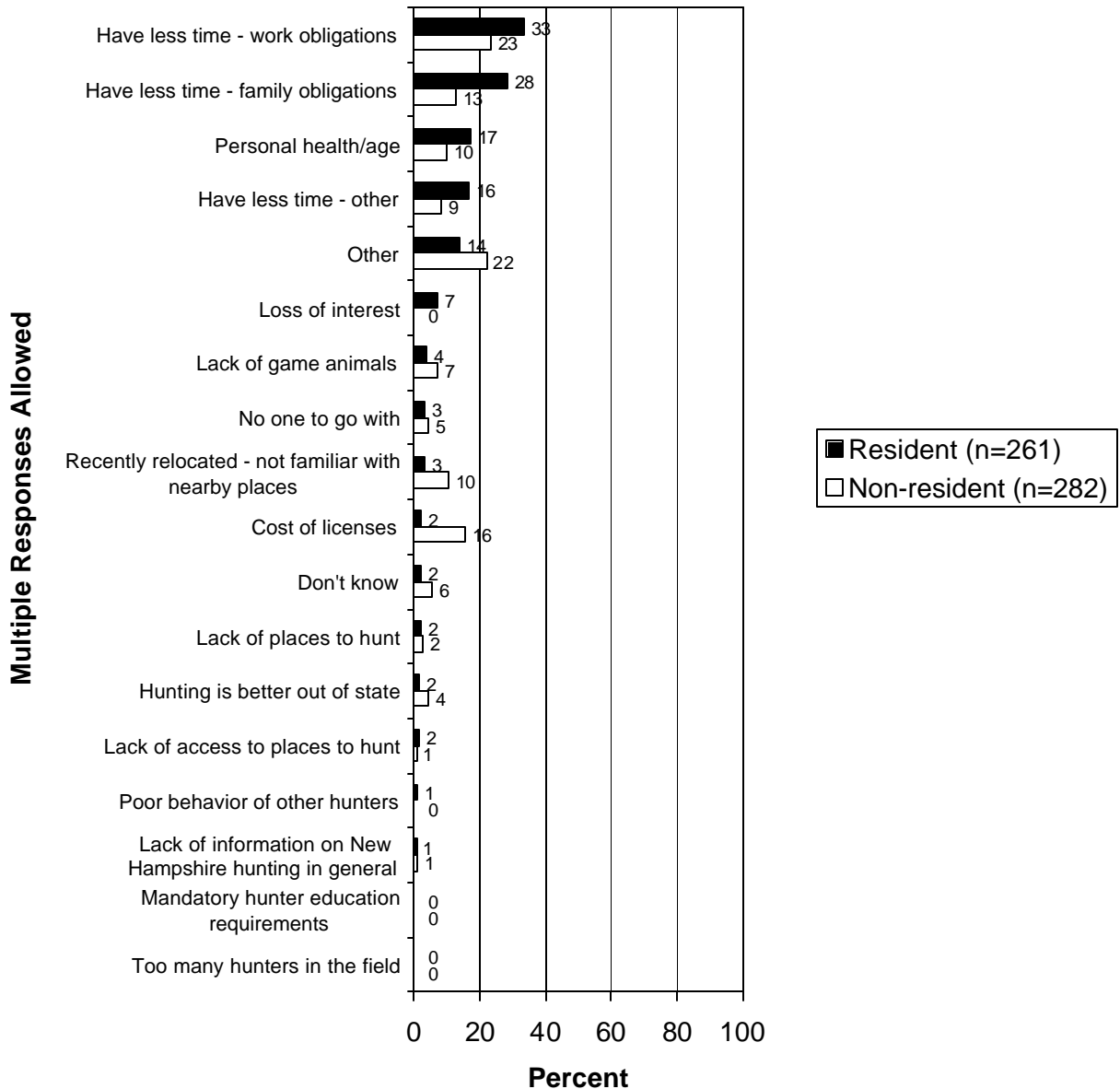


REASONS FOR NOT HUNTING IN NEW HAMPSHIRE

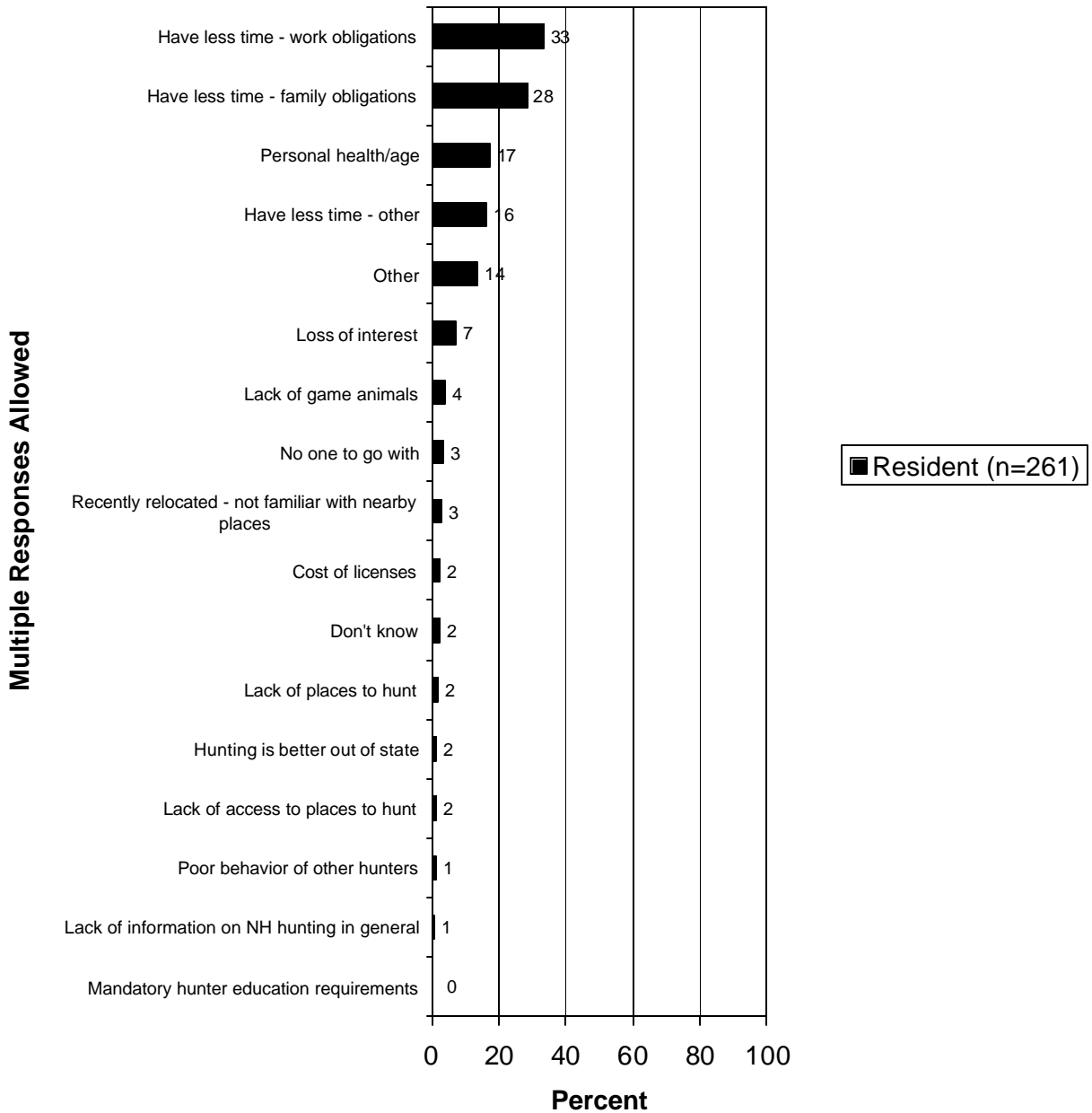
- Time obligations—both from work and family—were the most important factors in decisions not to hunt in New Hampshire in the past 5 years. Personal health and less time available were also important factors. Among non-resident lapsed hunters, cost of licenses was an important factor.

- Respondents were asked about 31 factors that could have influenced their decision not to hunt in New Hampshire. The factors with the highest percentage saying it strongly influenced their decision not to hunt in New Hampshire are work obligations and family obligations, as well as cost of licenses for non-resident lapsed hunters. Lack of access and lack of places to hunt were important factors. Personal health was important, as well. Finally, other people violating game laws and poor behavior of other hunters were ranked right behind personal health (however, the reason, “not enough game law enforcement efforts,” was next-to-last in the ranking of factors that strongly influenced their decision not to hunt).
 - The least important factors were finding a place to buy a license, harassment by anti-hunters, too strict game law enforcement efforts, the feeling of causing pain to animals, and concern over endangering animal populations.

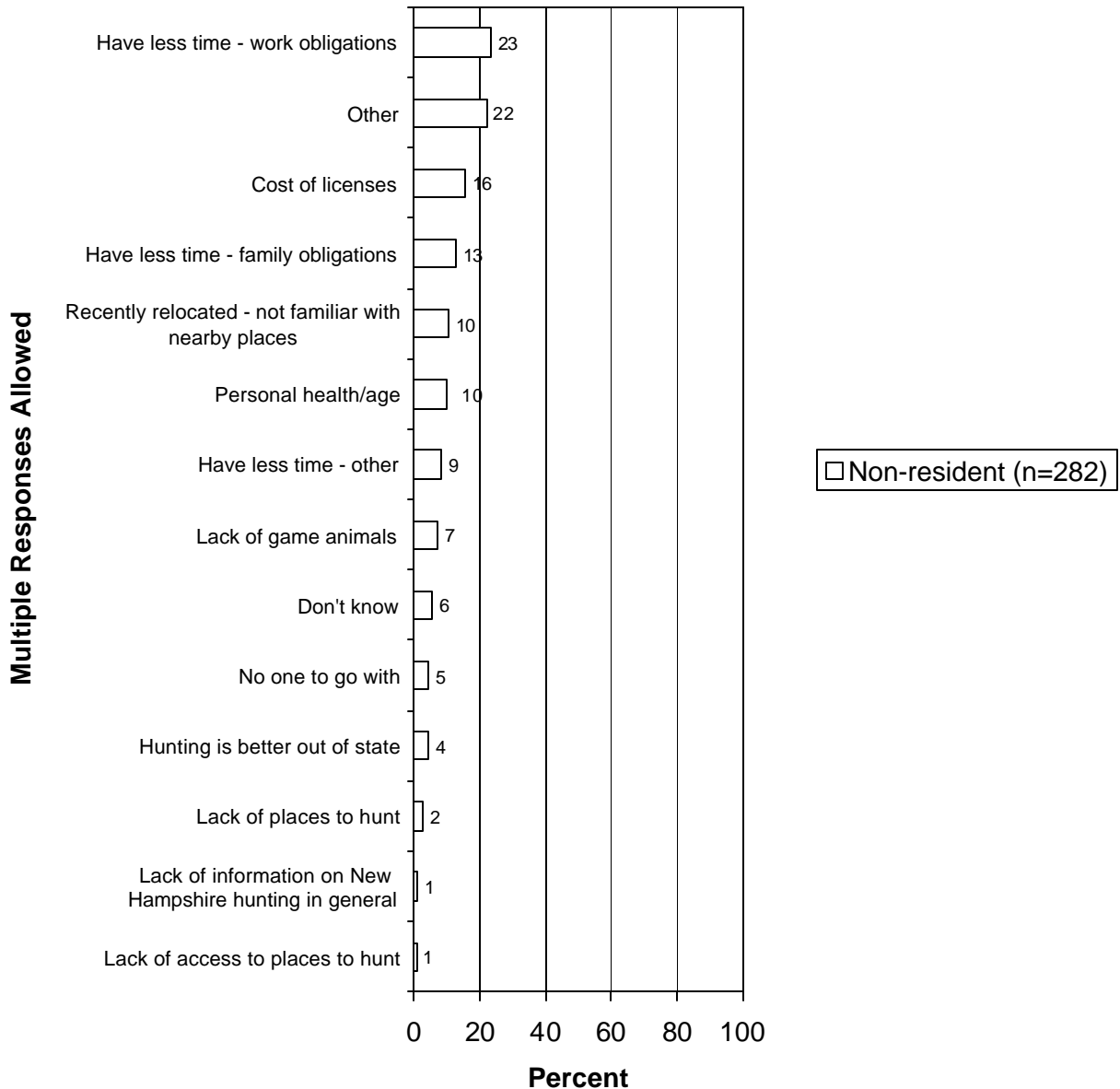
Q34. What are the main reasons you [chose not to hunt/have chosen not to hunt] in New Hampshire [in the years you did not hunt in New Hampshire within the past 5 years/since the last time you hunted in New Hampshire]?



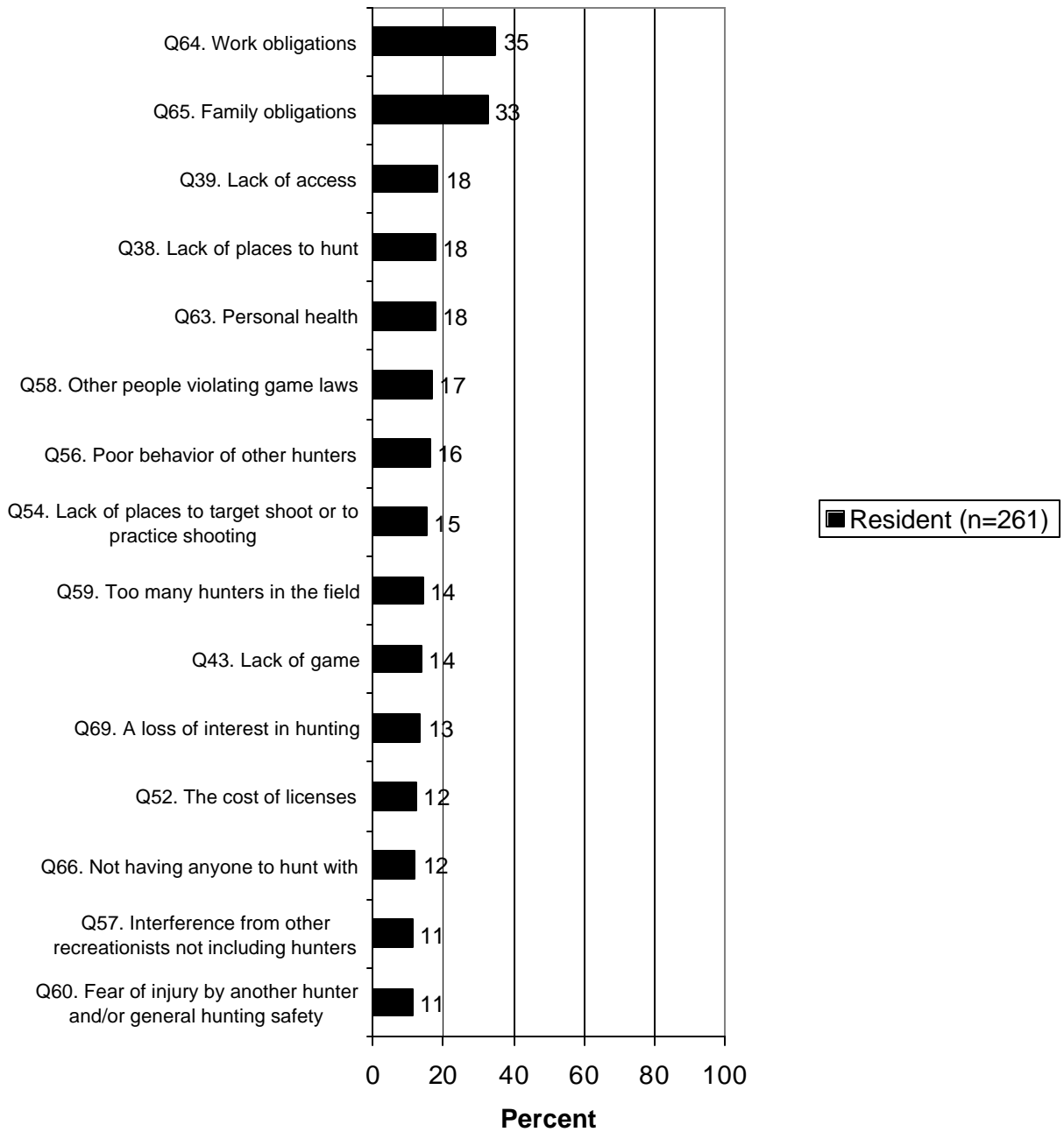
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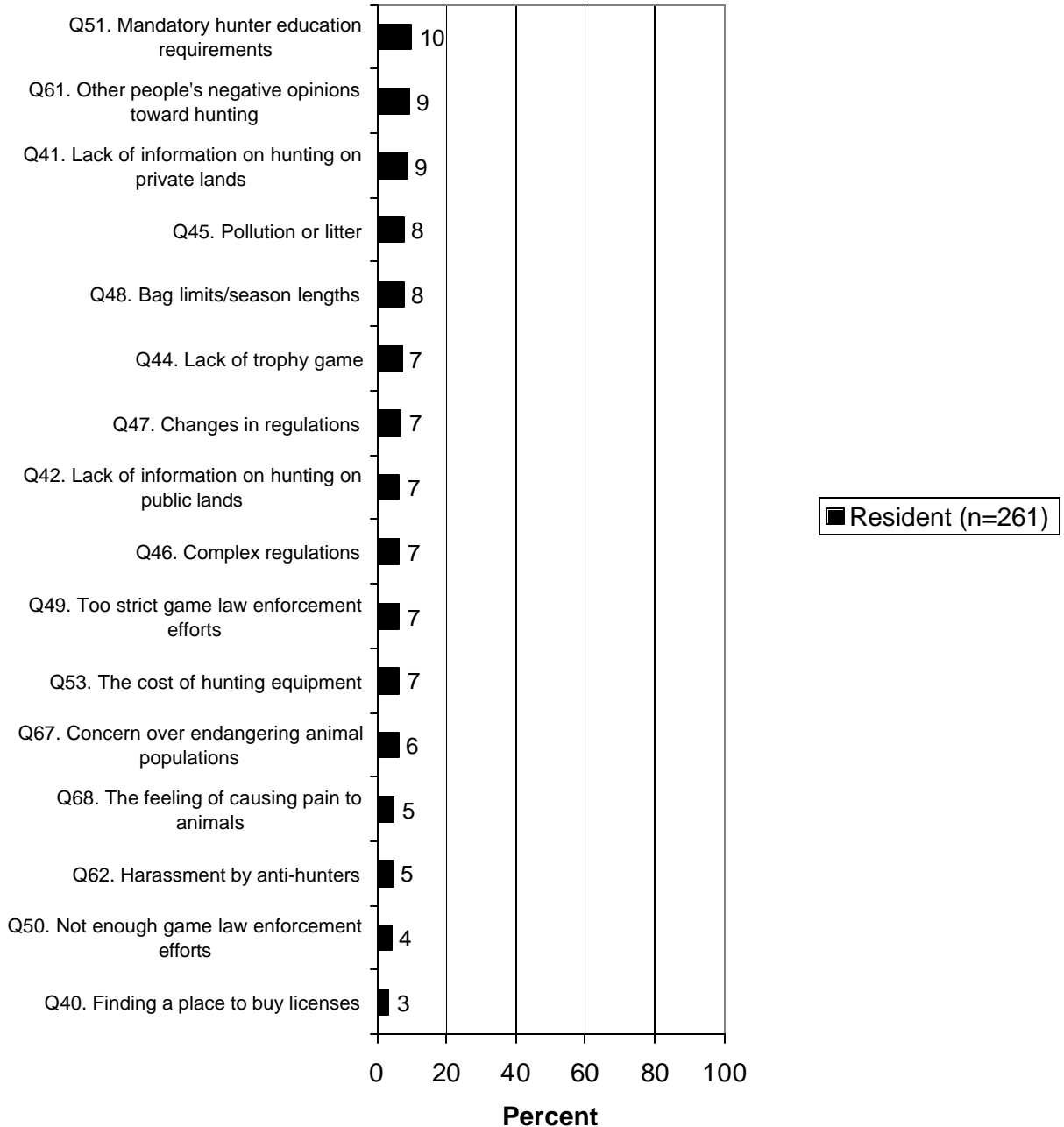
Q34. What are the main reasons you [chose not to hunt/have chosen not to hunt] in New Hampshire [in the years you did not hunt in New Hampshire within the past 5 years/since the last time you hunted in New Hampshire]?



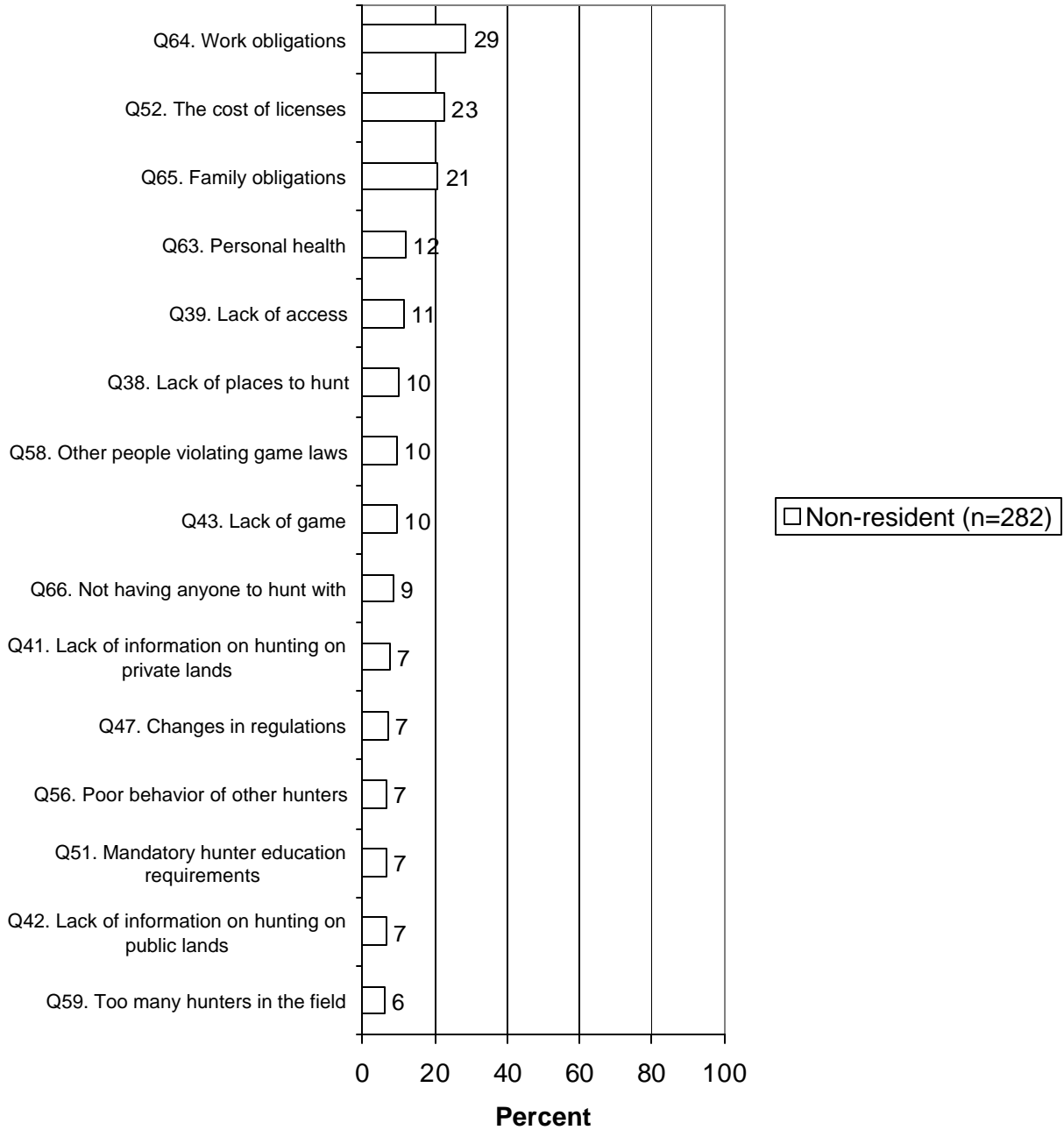
**Q38-69. Percent who said the following strongly influenced their decision to not hunt in NH.
Part 1.**



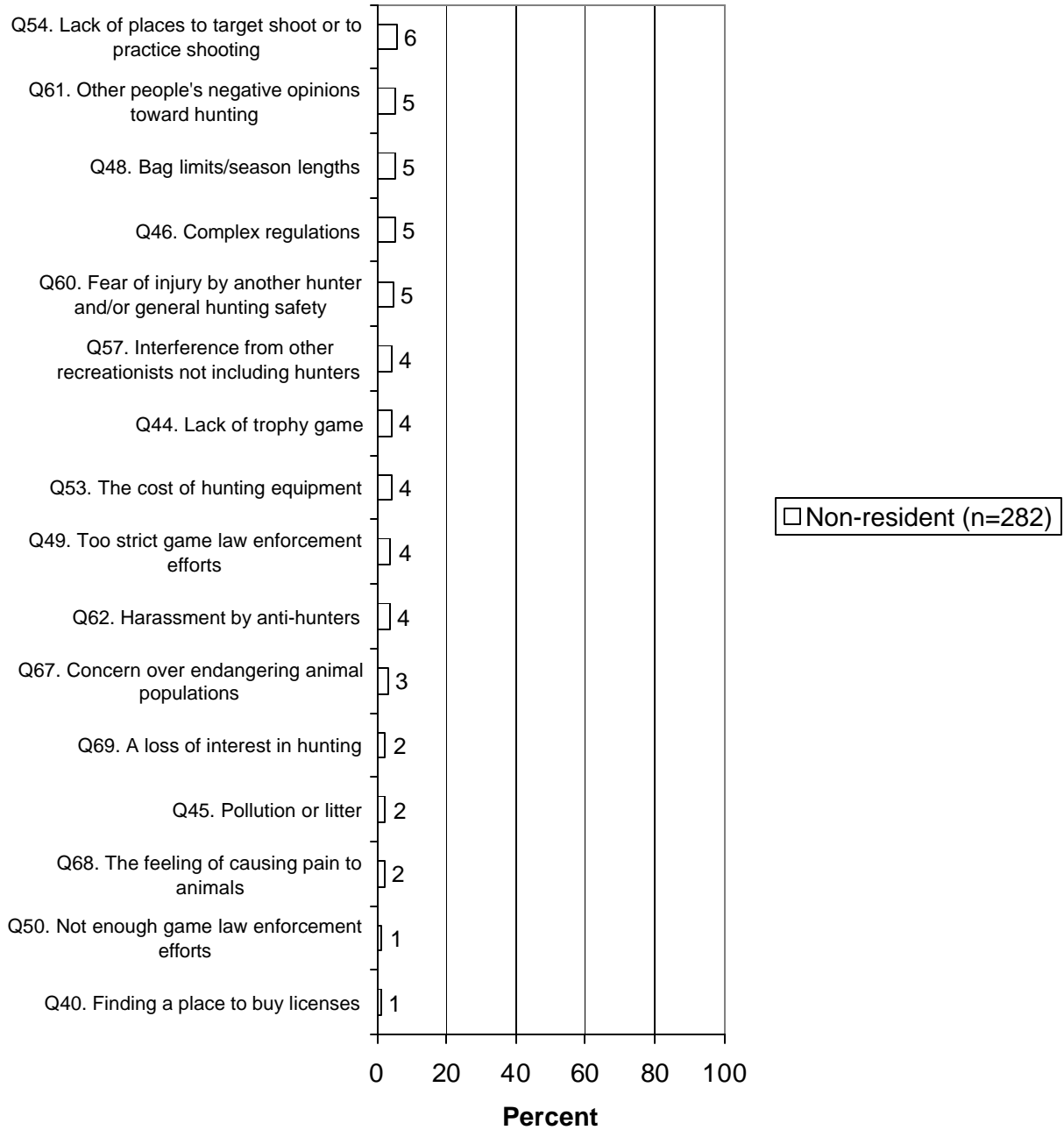
Q38-69. Percent who said the following strongly influenced their decision to not hunt in NH. Part 2.



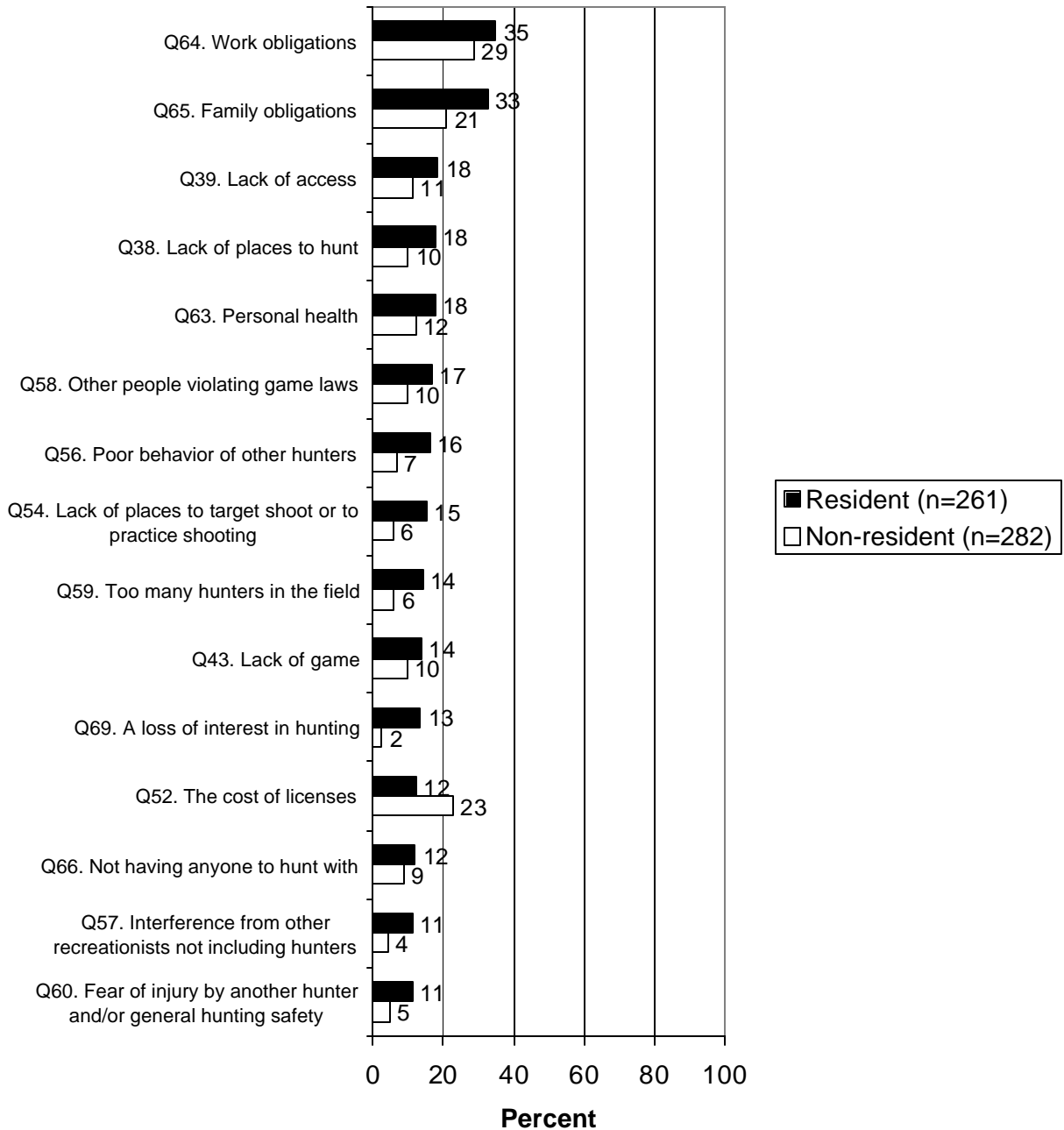
**Q38-69. Percent who said the following strongly influenced their decision to not hunt in NH.
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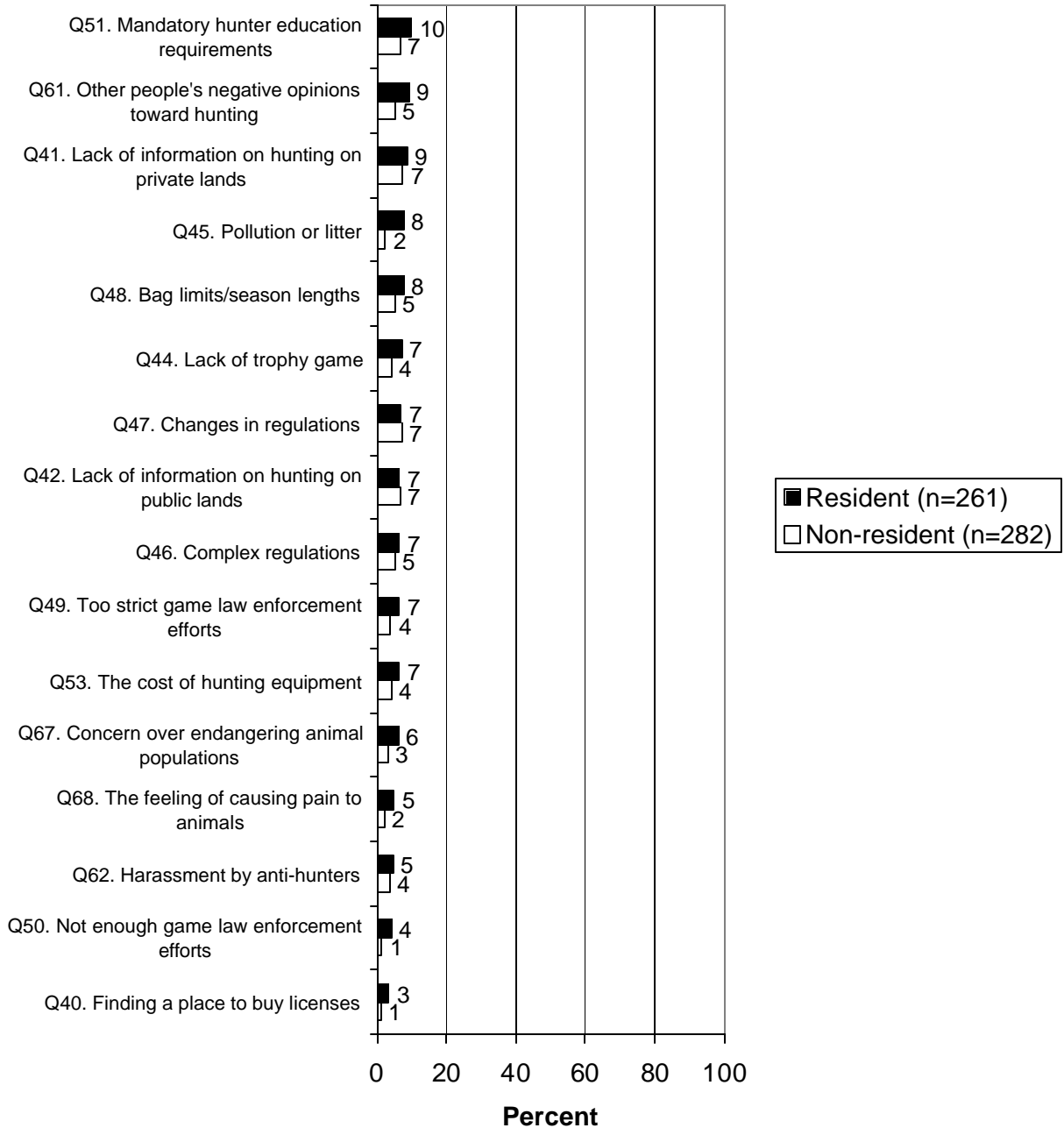
Q38-69. Percent who said the following strongly influenced their decision to not hunt in NH. Part 2.



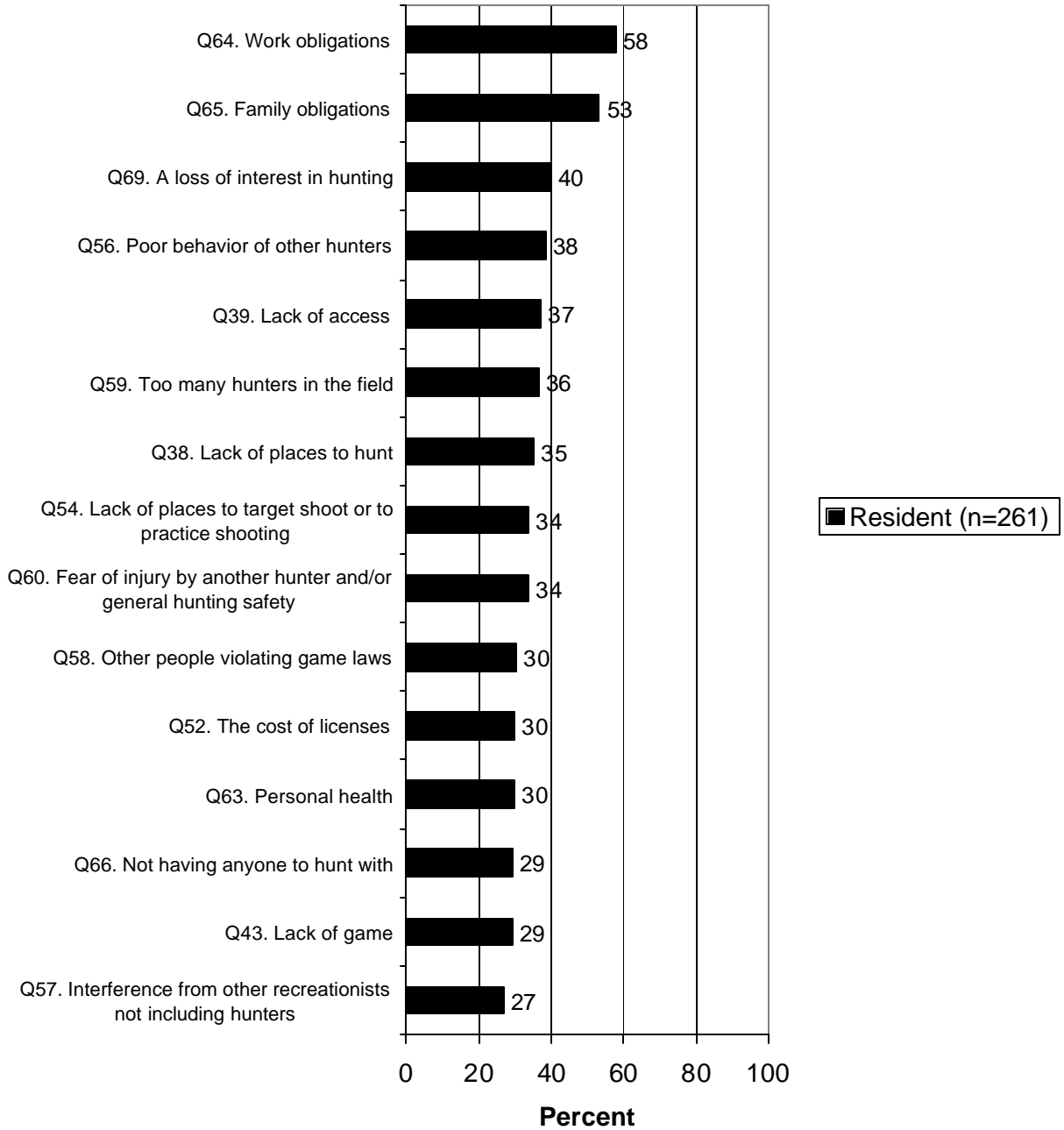
**Q38-69. Percent who said the following strongly influenced their decision to not hunt in NH.
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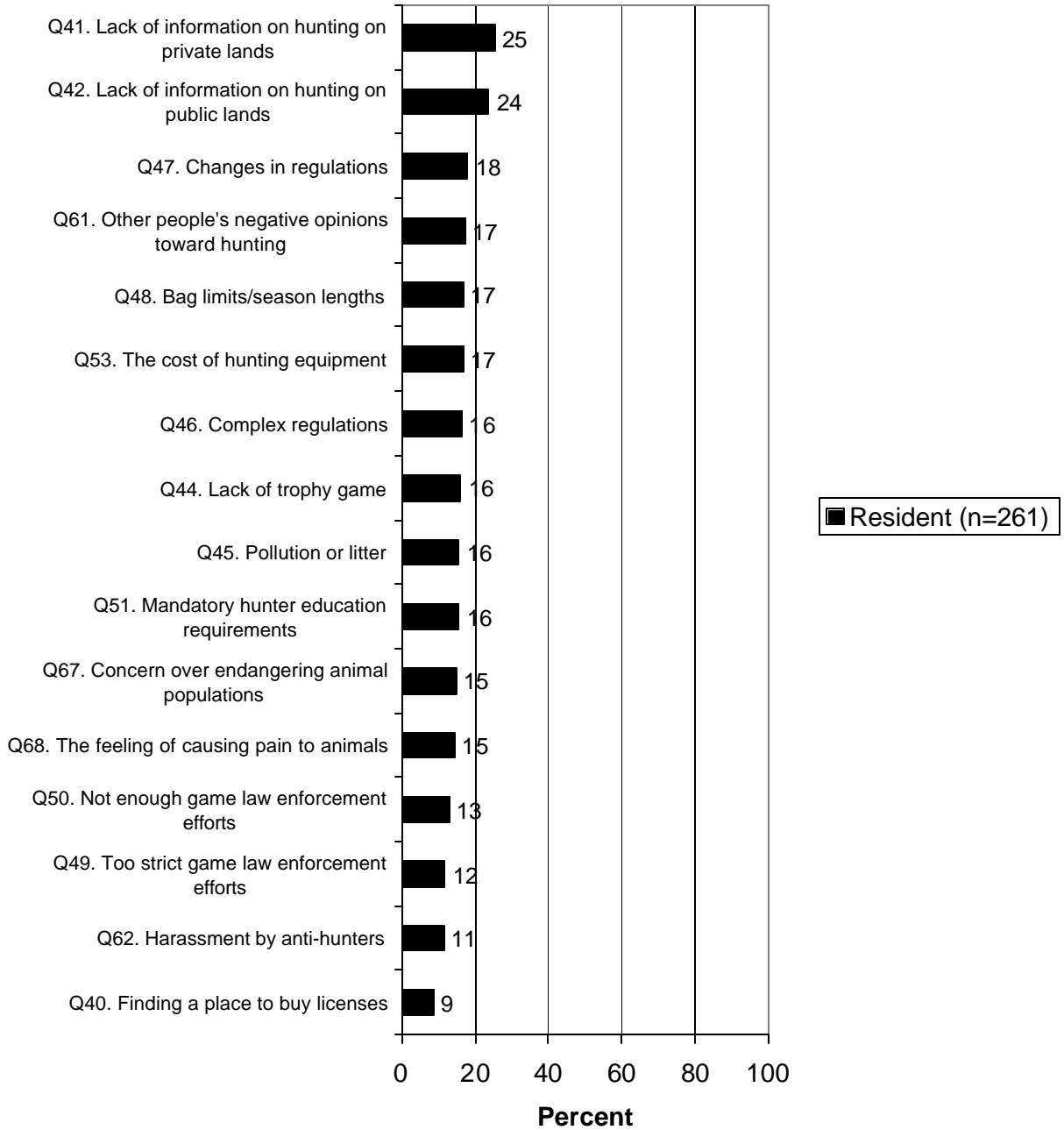
**Q38-69. Percent who said the following strongly influenced their decision to not hunt in NH.
Part 2.**



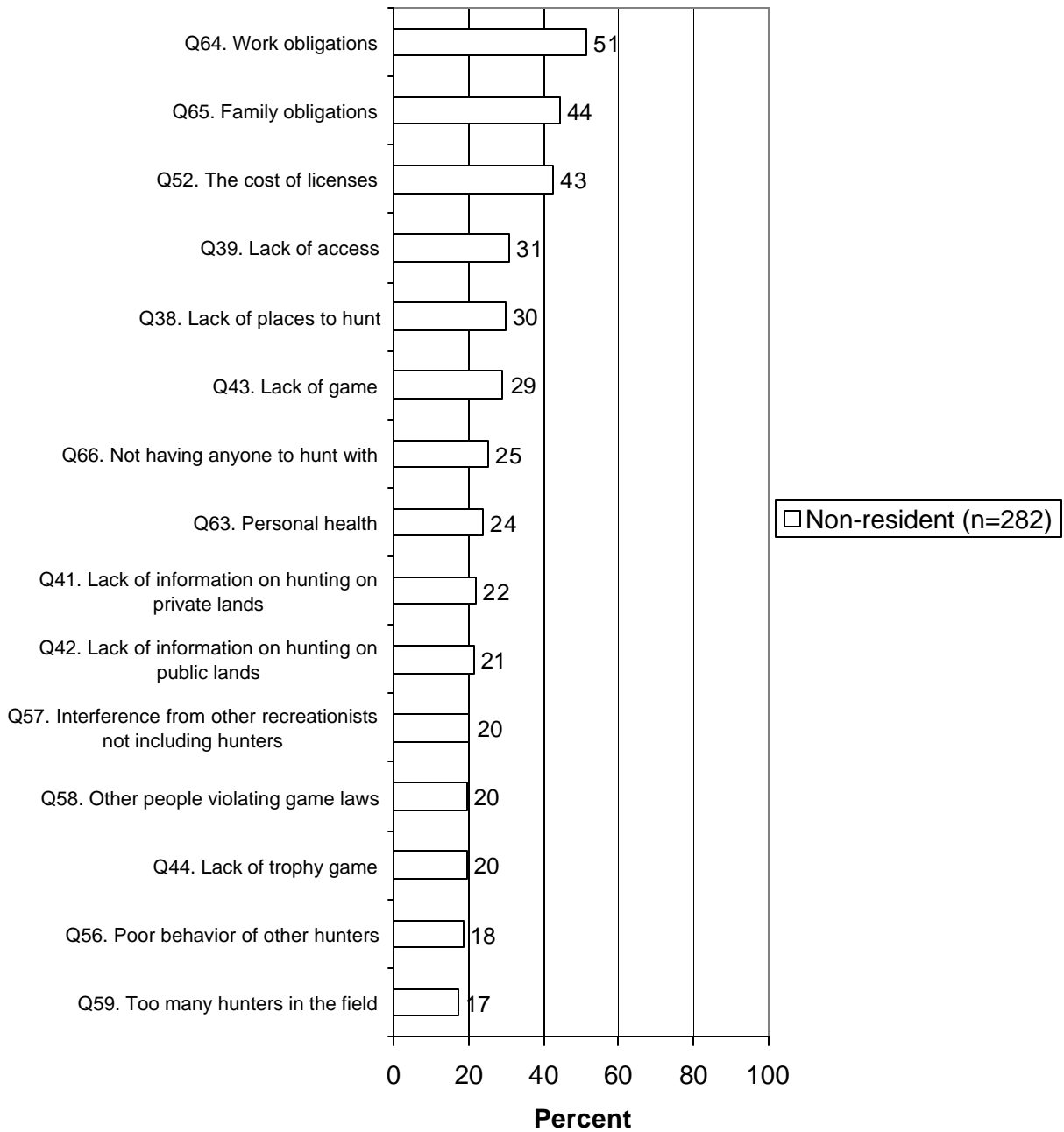
**Q38-69. Percent who said the following strongly or moderately influenced their decision to not hunt in NH.
Part 1.**



Q38-69. Percent who said the following strongly or moderately influenced their decision to not hunt in NH.
Part 2.

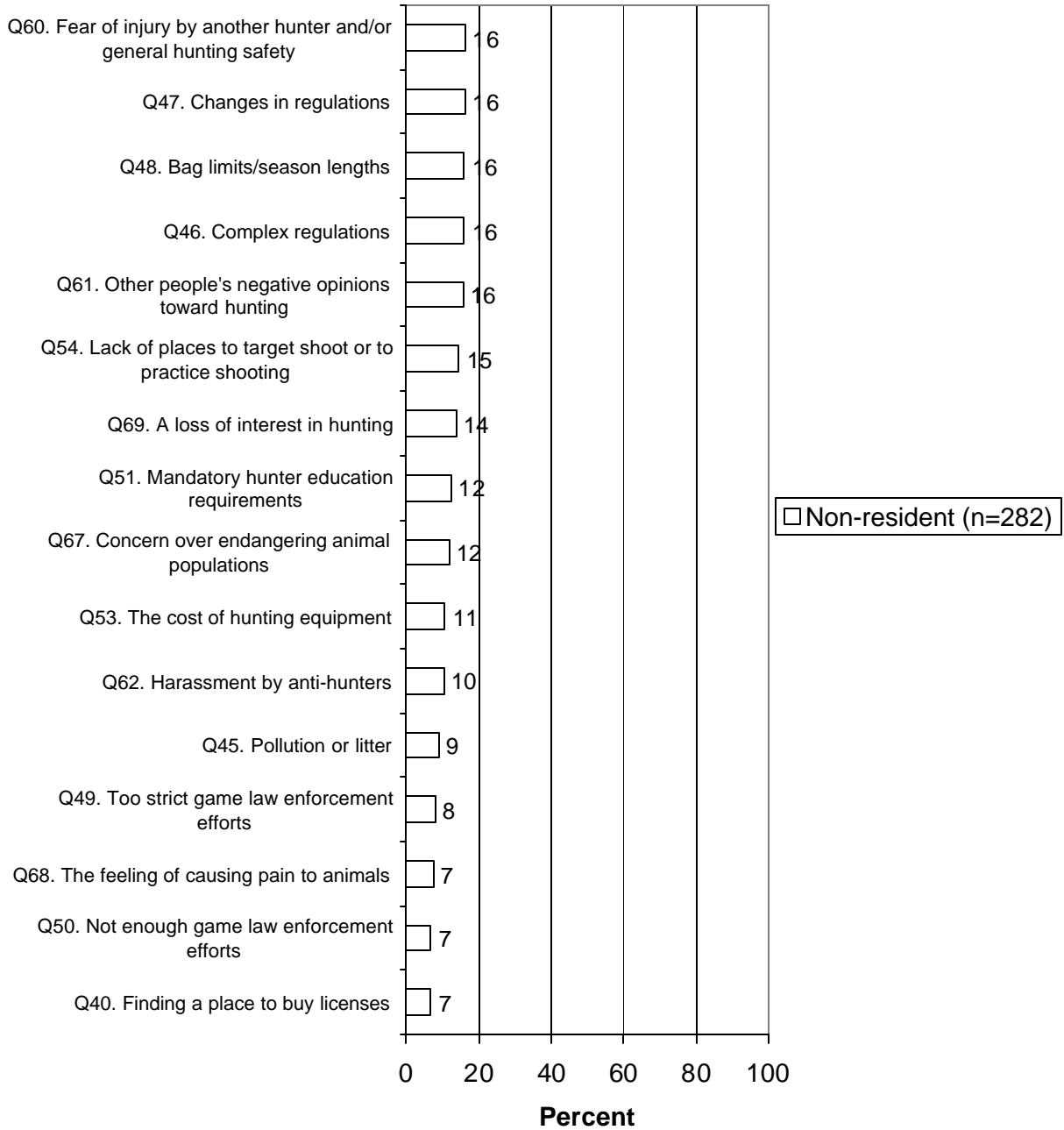


**Q38-69. Percent who said the following strongly or moderately influenced their decision to not hunt in NH.
Part 1.**

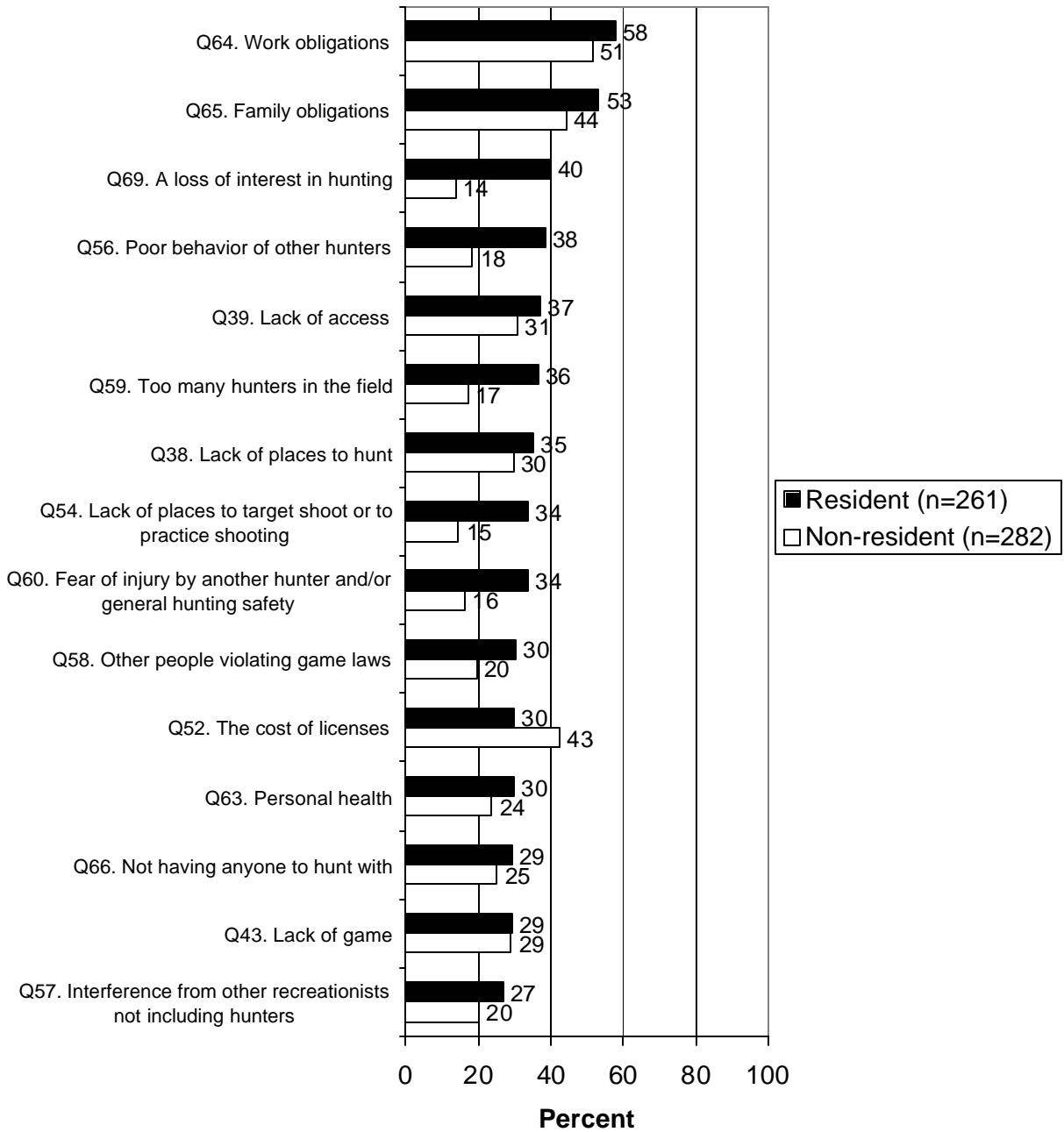


Q38-69. Percent who said the following strongly or moderately influenced their decision to not hunt in NH.

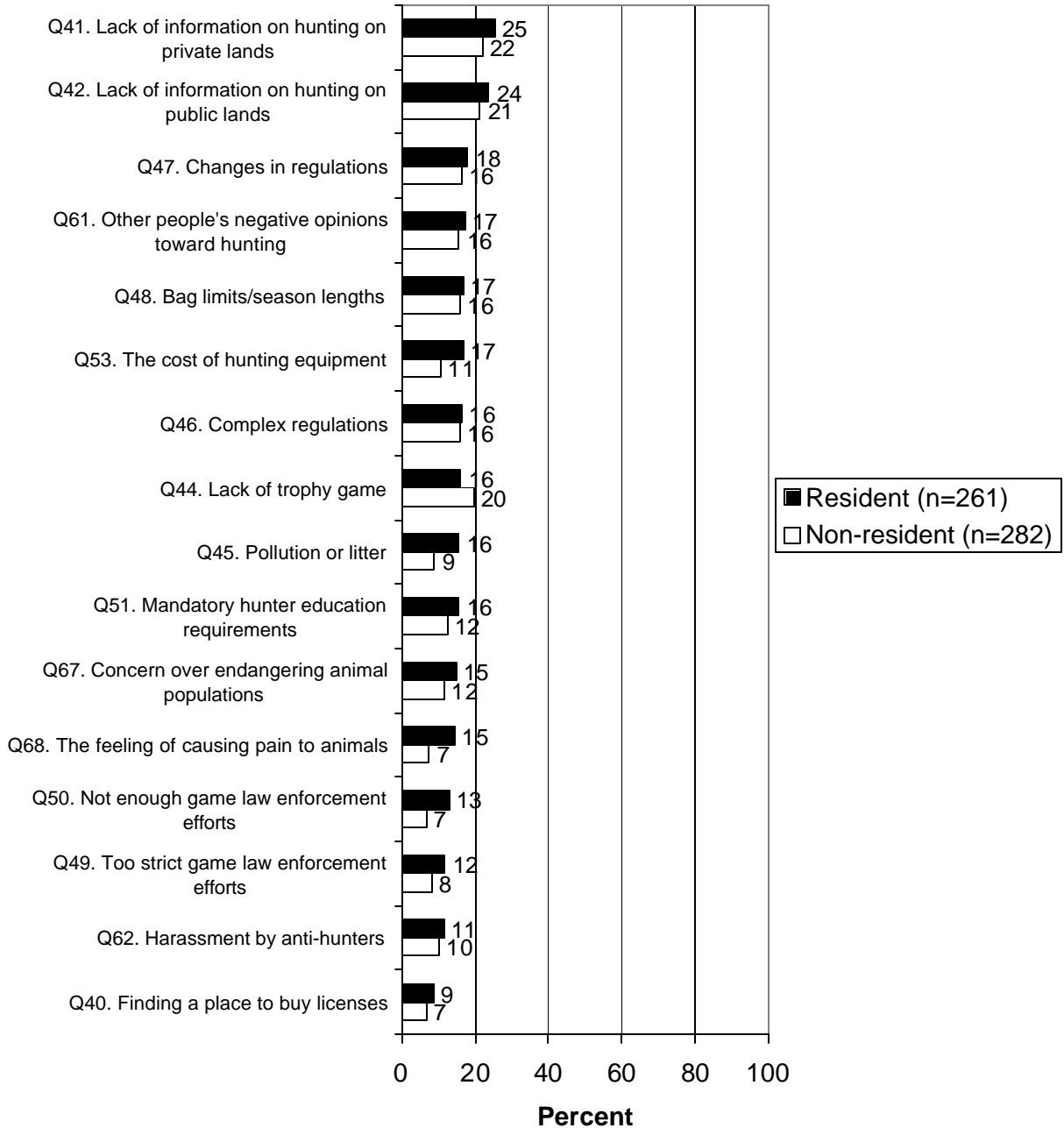
Part 2.



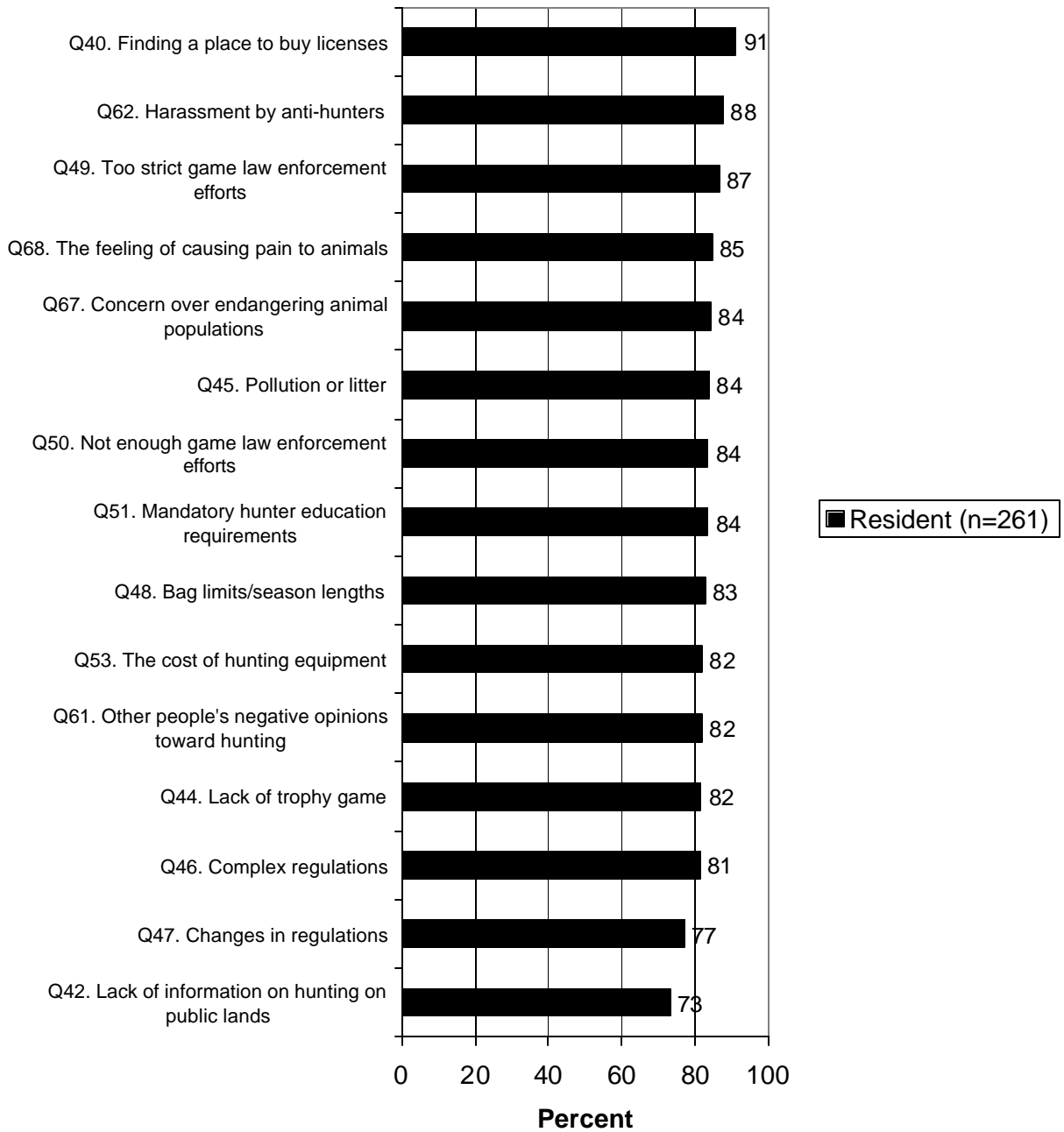
Q38-69. Percent who said the following strongly or moderately influenced their decision to not hunt in NH.
Part 1.



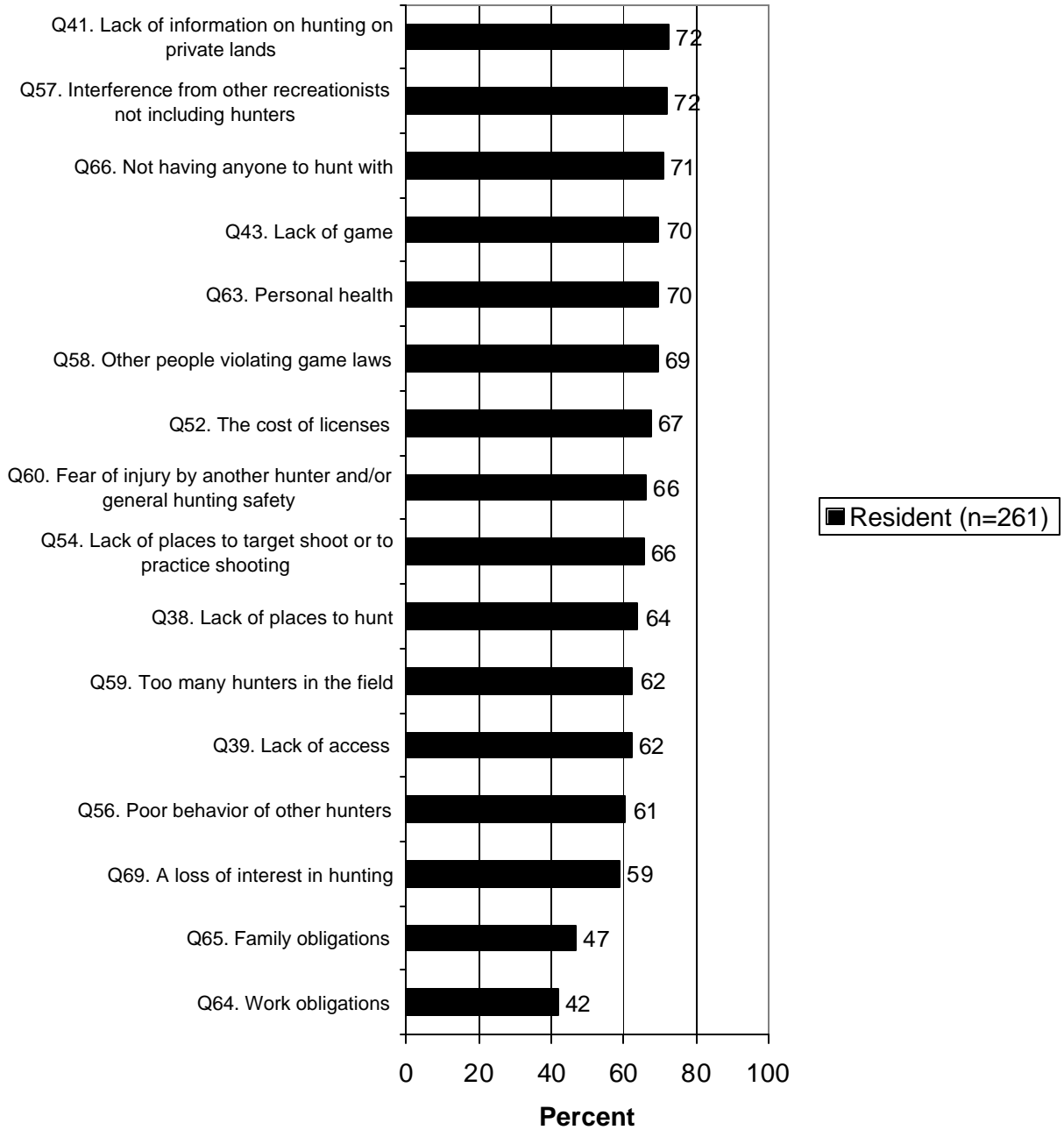
Q38-69. Percent who said the following strongly or moderately influenced their decision to not hunt in NH.
Part 2.



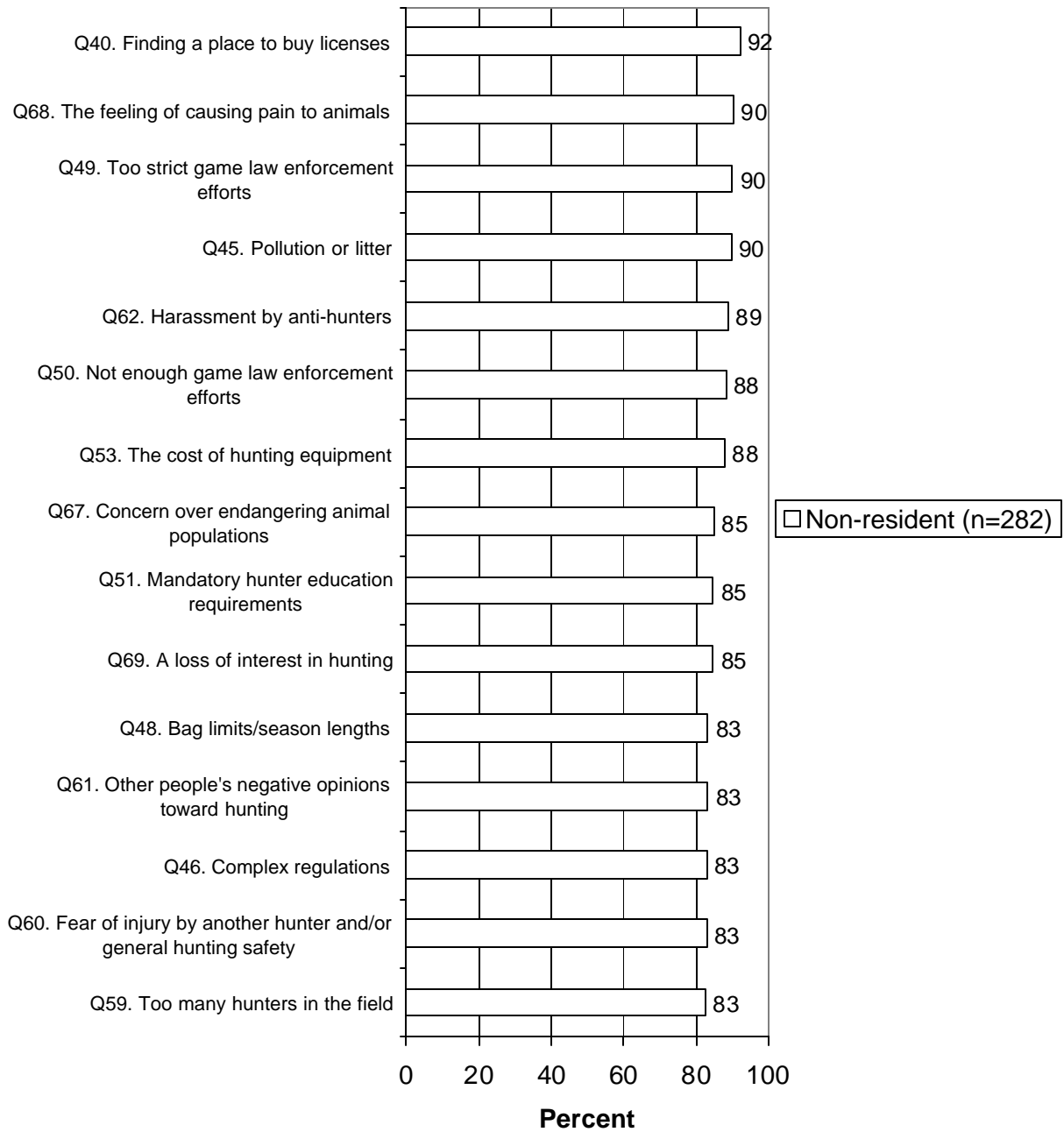
**Q38-69. Percent who said the following did not influence their decision to not hunt in NH.
Part 1.**



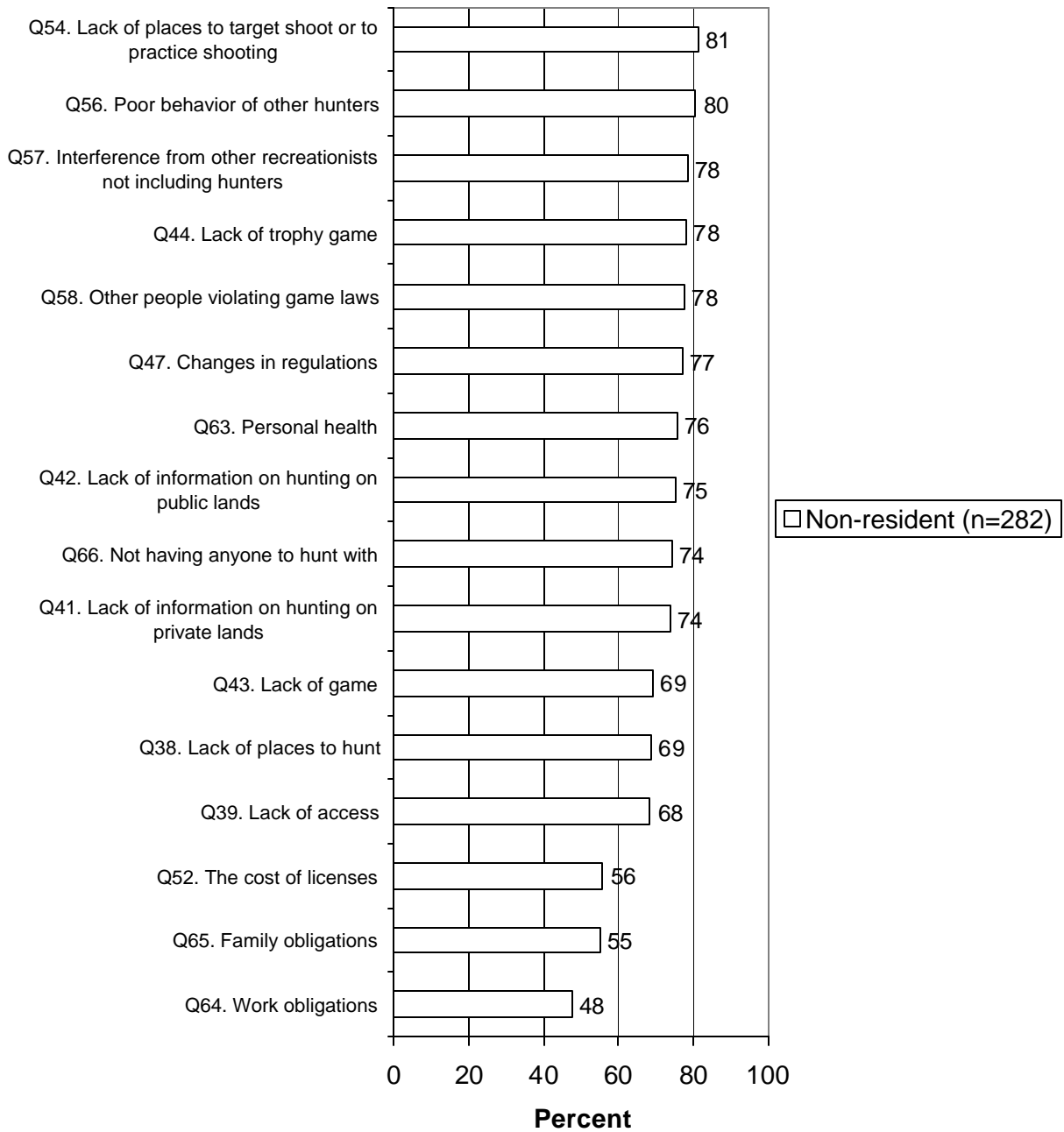
Q38-69. Percent who said the following did not influence their decision to not hunt in NH. Part 2.



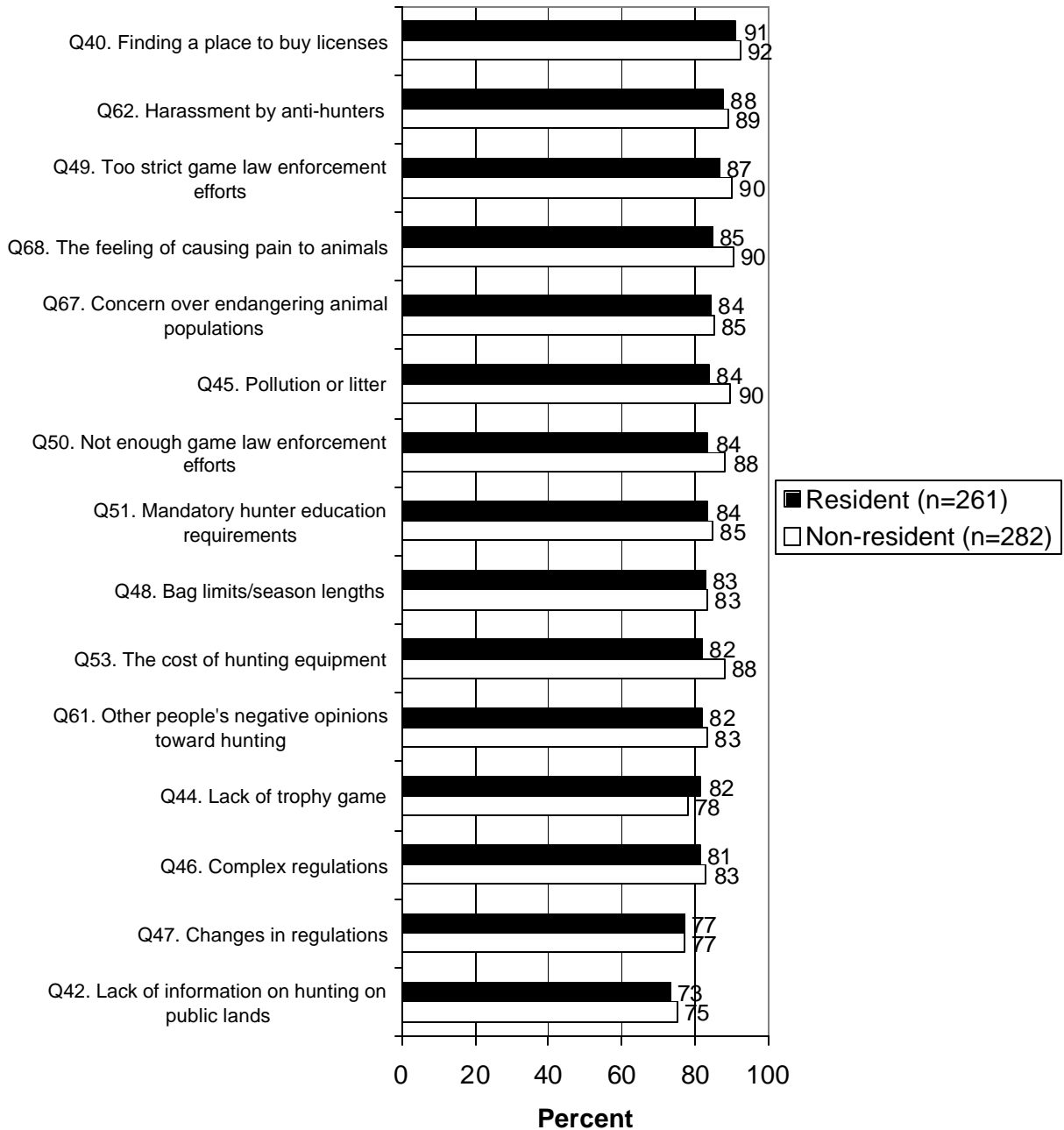
**Q38-69. Percent who said the following did not influence their decision to not hunt in NH.
Part 1.**



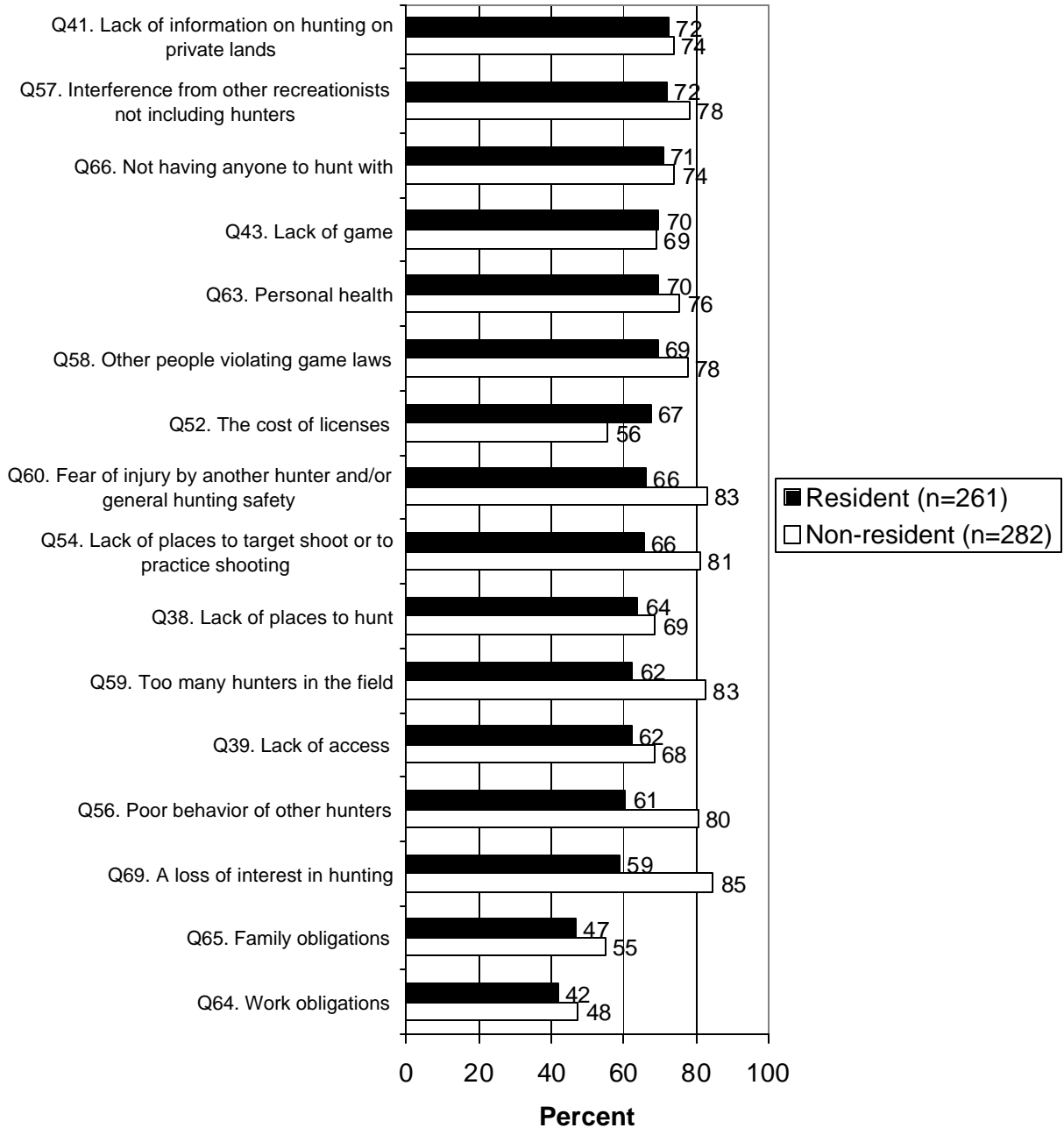
Q38-69. Percent who said the following did not influence their decision to not hunt in NH. Part 2.



**Q38-69. Percent who said the following did not influence their decision to not hunt in NH.
Part 1.**



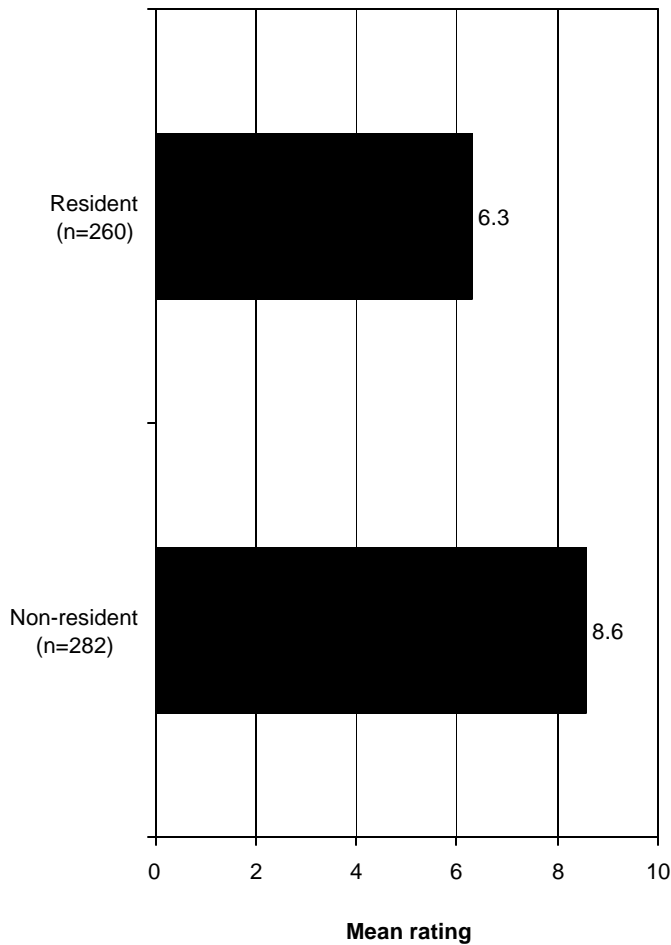
**Q38-69. Percent who said the following did not influence their decision to not hunt in NH.
Part 2.**



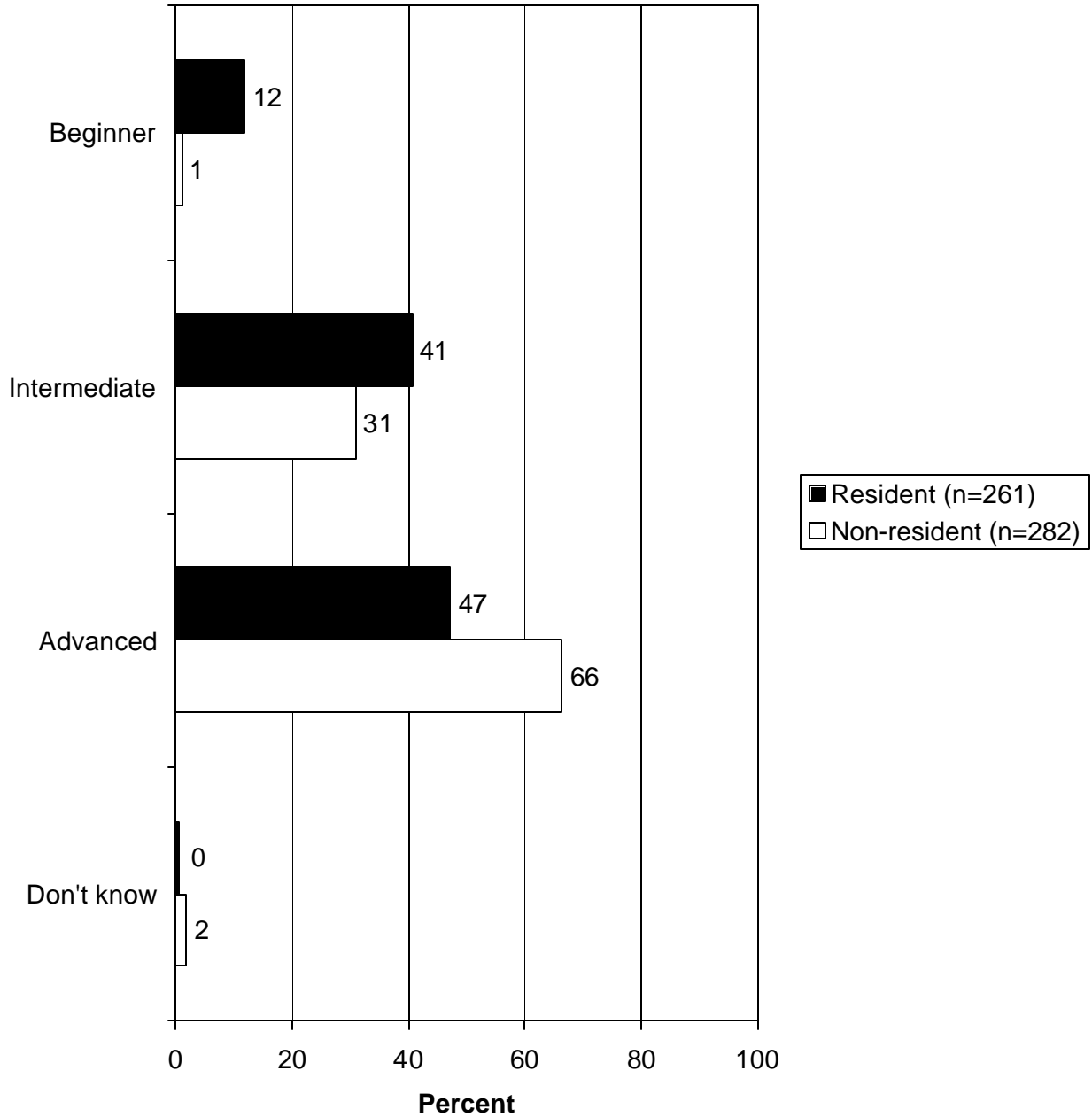
ATTITUDES TOWARD HUNTING

- Non-resident lapsed hunters rated the importance of hunting to themselves (8.6 mean) higher than did resident lapsed hunters (6.3 mean).
- Resident lapsed hunters are fairly evenly split between rating themselves as intermediate (41%) and rating themselves as advanced (47%) hunters. Non-resident lapsed hunters were more likely than were resident lapsed hunters to rate themselves as advanced (66%) hunters. Very few rated themselves as a beginner.

Q70. Overall, how would you rate the importance of hunting to you personally, on a scale of 1 to 10, where 1 is not at all important and 10 is very important?



Q71. How would you rate your expertise as a hunter?

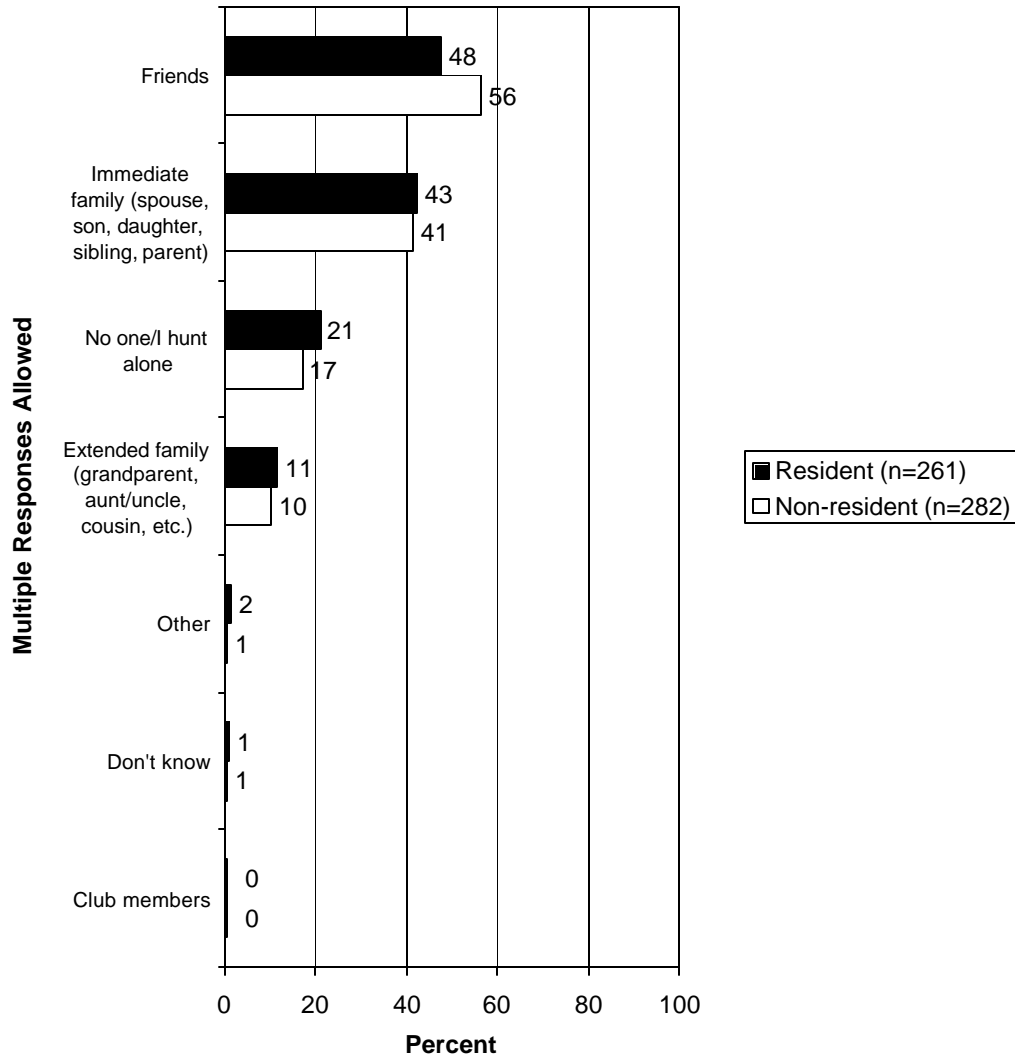


HUNTING CHARACTERISTICS

HUNTING COMPANIONS

- The top usual hunting companions for resident and non-resident lapsed hunters were friends, closely followed by immediate family. About a fifth (21% of resident and 17% of non-resident lapsed hunters) usually hunted alone.

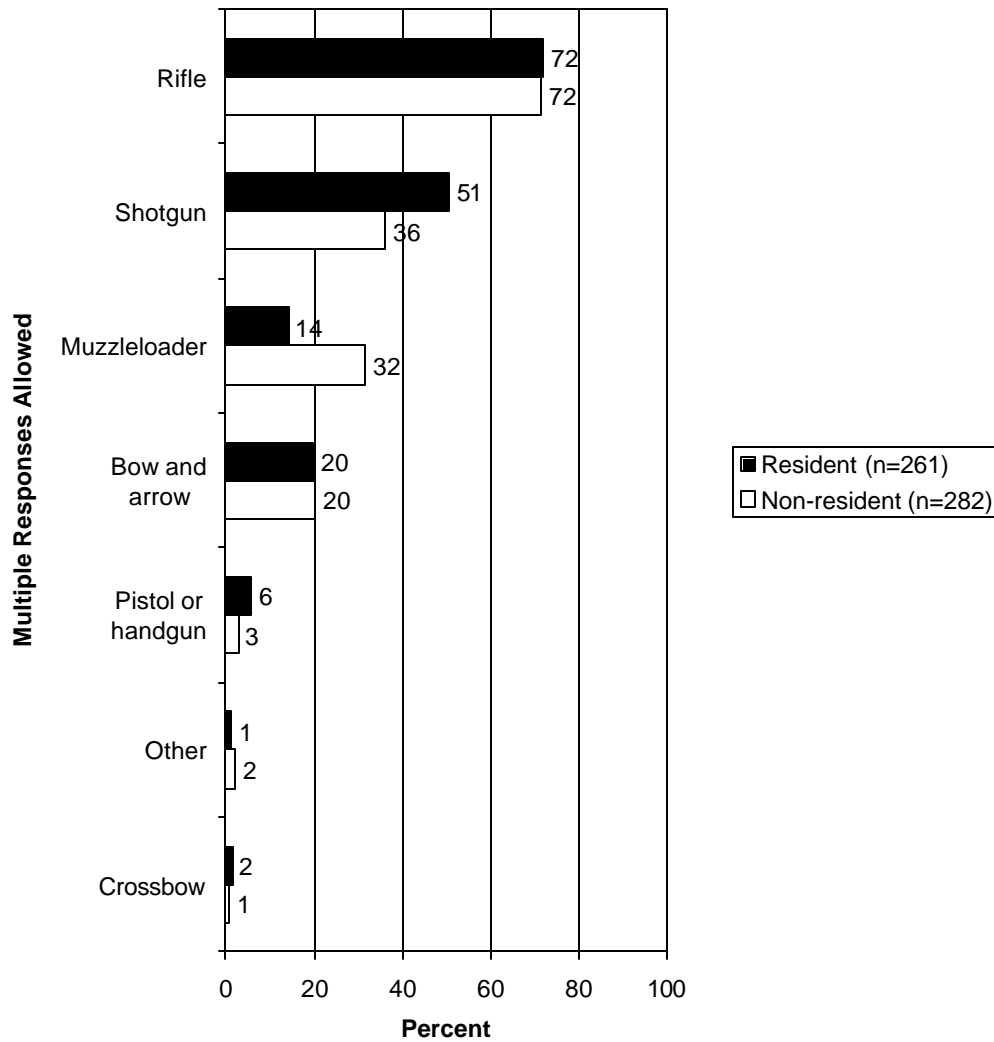
Q76. With whom did you usually hunt in New Hampshire?



EQUIPMENT

➤ Rifles and shotguns were the most typical sporting devices used in hunting in New Hampshire. Among resident lapsed hunters, 20% used bow and arrows, and 14% used a muzzleloader. Non-resident lapsed hunters used bow and arrows at the same rate (20%), but they were much more likely to have used a muzzleloader (32%) than were resident lapsed hunters.

Q79. What types of sporting devices did you usually use when you were hunting in New Hampshire within the past 5 years?

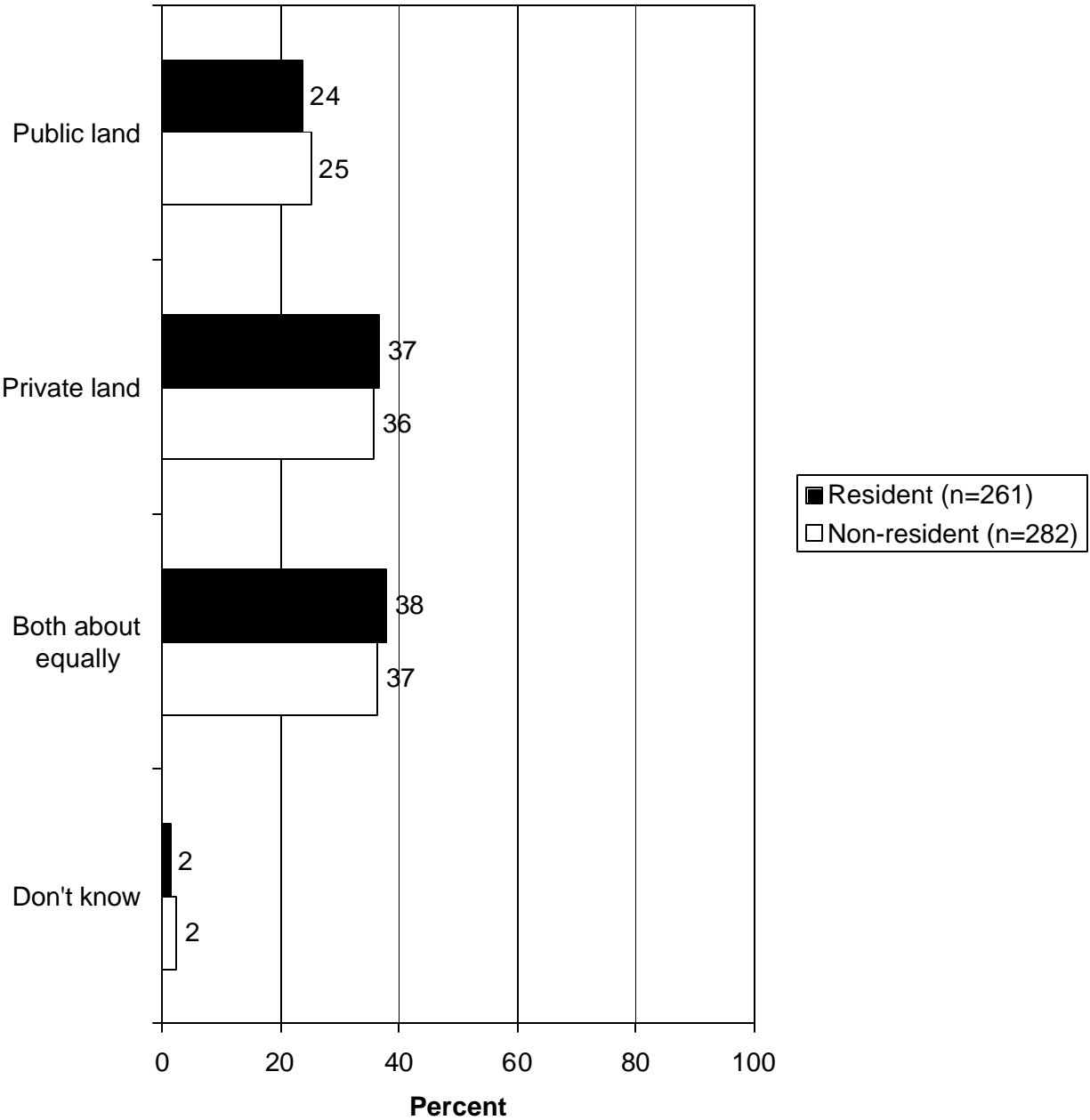


HUNTING LOCATIONS

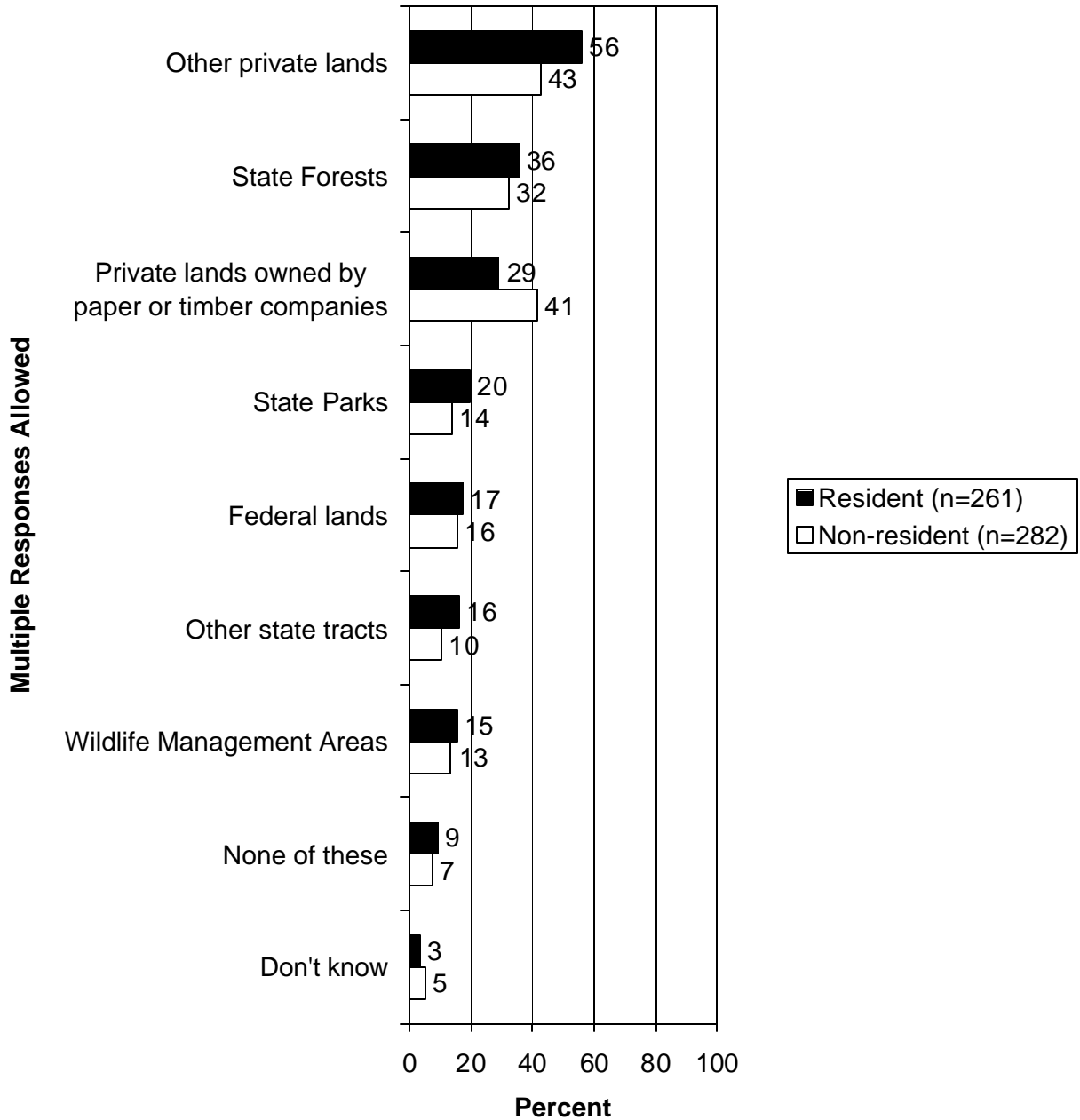
- Public land and private land together play an important role in New Hampshire hunting, with private land being just slightly more important. Most commonly, respondents said they hunted on each type of land about equally.
- Private lands owned by paper and/or timber companies are quite important in New Hampshire: 29% of resident lapsed hunters and 41% of non-resident lapsed hunters had hunted on those lands in the past 5 years. “Other private lands” were also important. Among public lands, State Forests were important.
- A majority of lapsed hunters indicated that they typically had walked or hiked on a trail to get to a place to hunt in New Hampshire; very few had used an ATV. A scattered few had used a boat or had ridden a horse.
- A substantial percentage of hunting trips in New Hampshire that lapsed hunters had taken involved off-highway driving: 39% of resident and 58% of non-resident lapsed hunters.
- A large majority of non-resident lapsed hunters (72%) and a substantial percentage of resident lapsed hunters (30%) said that their typical hunting trip in New Hampshire involved an overnight stay.
- A majority of resident lapsed hunters indicated that the place they usually hunt in New Hampshire is less than 30 miles from home. However, non-resident lapsed hunters indicated that the place they usually hunt in New Hampshire is farther from home: half said that the place is 100 miles or more from home. The means are 39 miles from home for resident lapsed hunters and 169 miles from home for non-resident lapsed hunters. The graph for the *last* place hunted is also shown in addition to the graph of the *typical* place hunted.
- Characteristics of the area are a greater motivation than is the convenience of getting to the area in the choice of a hunting location. Nonetheless, substantial percentages said that both about equally play a role in their choice of a place to hunt in New Hampshire.

- Finally, in a list of factors that hunters consider in deciding on a place to hunt, the highest ranked factors were the amount and types of game believed to be in the area and the ease of access and familiarity with the lands. For resident lapsed hunters, this list of top factors also included the closeness to home; among non-resident lapsed hunters, this was not as important in favor of the aesthetic qualities of the area.

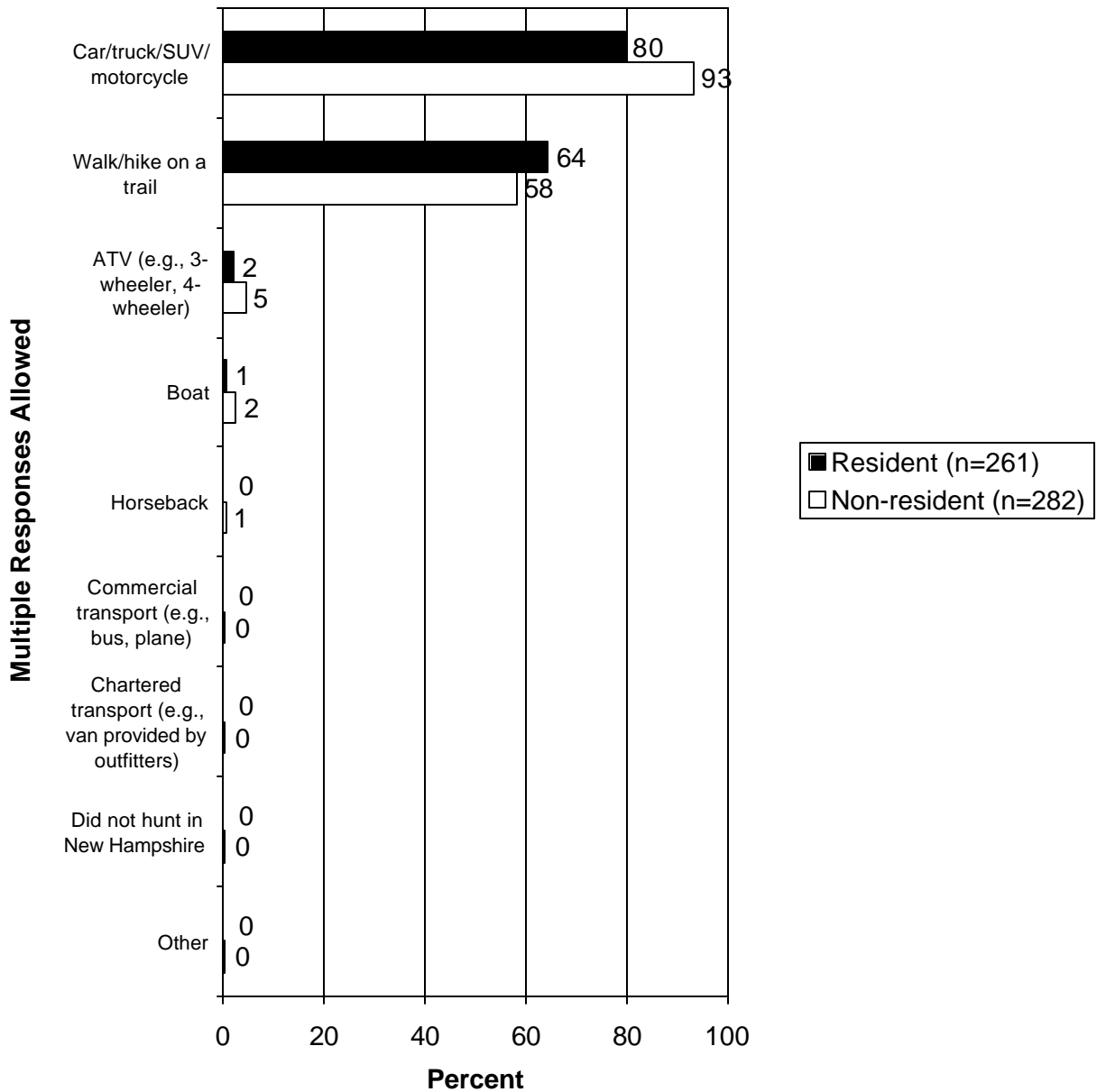
Q81. When you were hunting in New Hampshire within the past 5 years, did you hunt primarily on public land, private land, or both about equally?



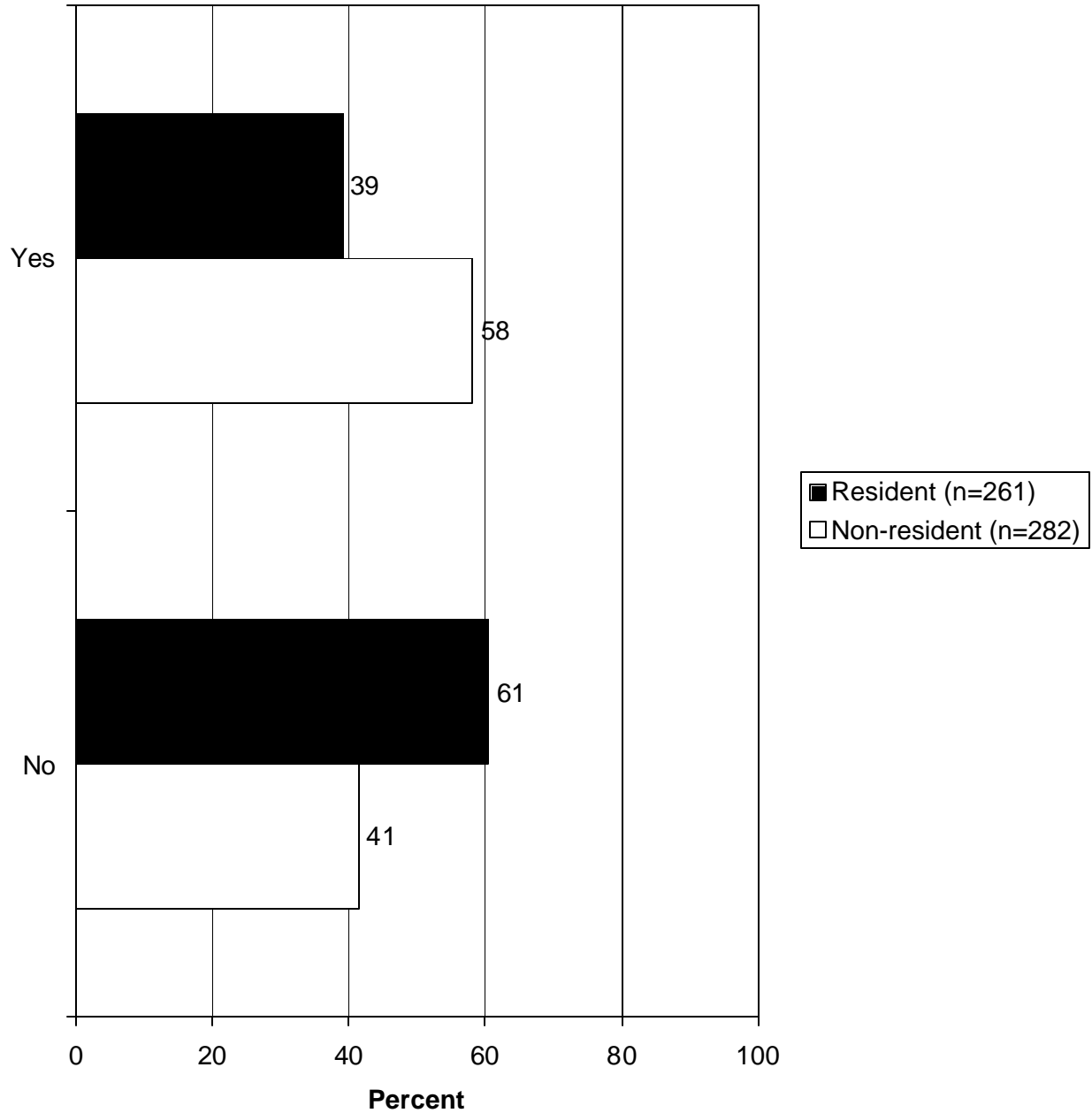
Q83. When you were hunting in New Hampshire within the past 5 years, did you hunt on any of the following types of land?



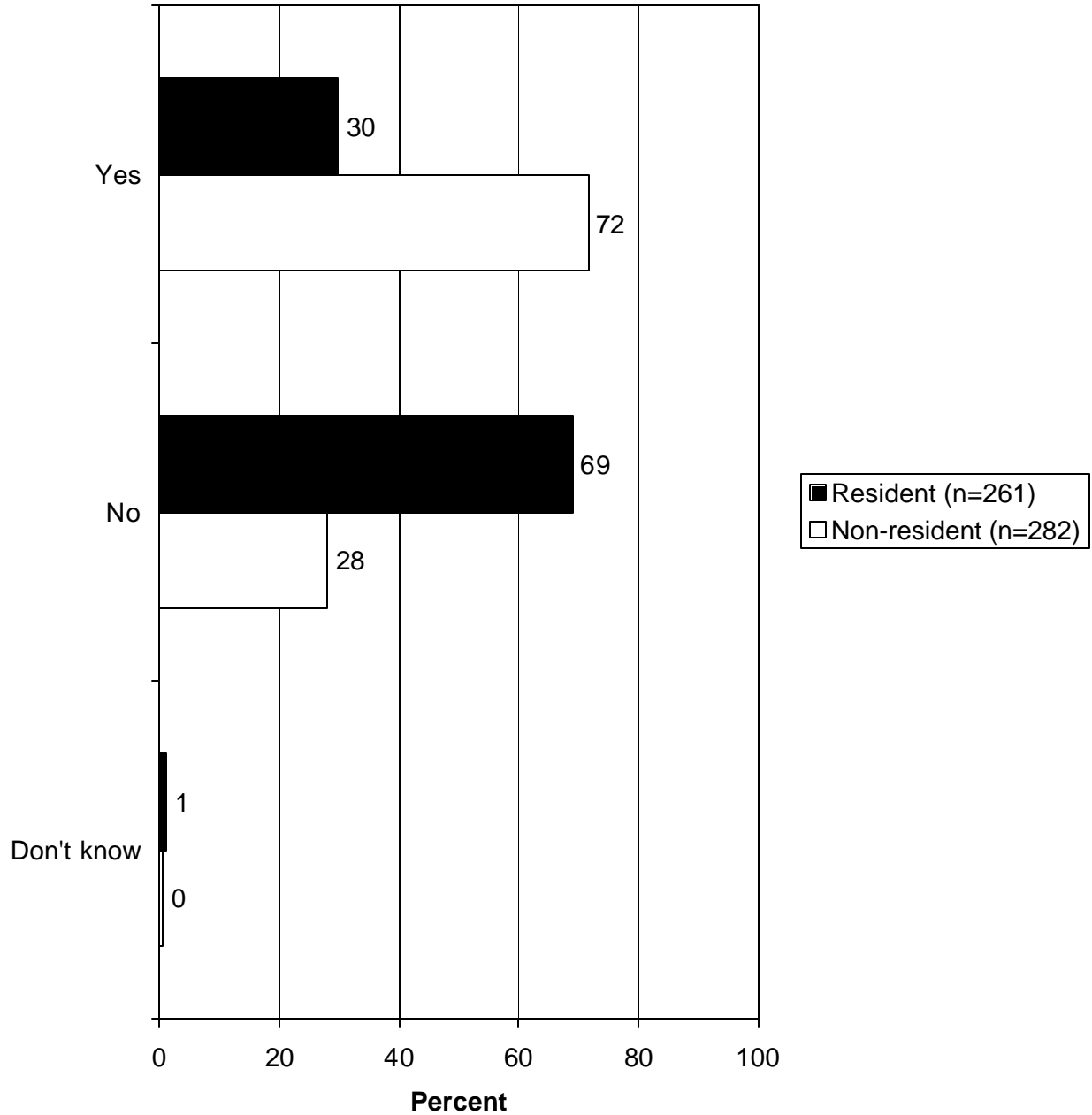
Q85. Thinking of when you did hunt in New Hampshire, please indicate all of the modes of transportation you typically used to get to a place to hunt in New Hampshire.



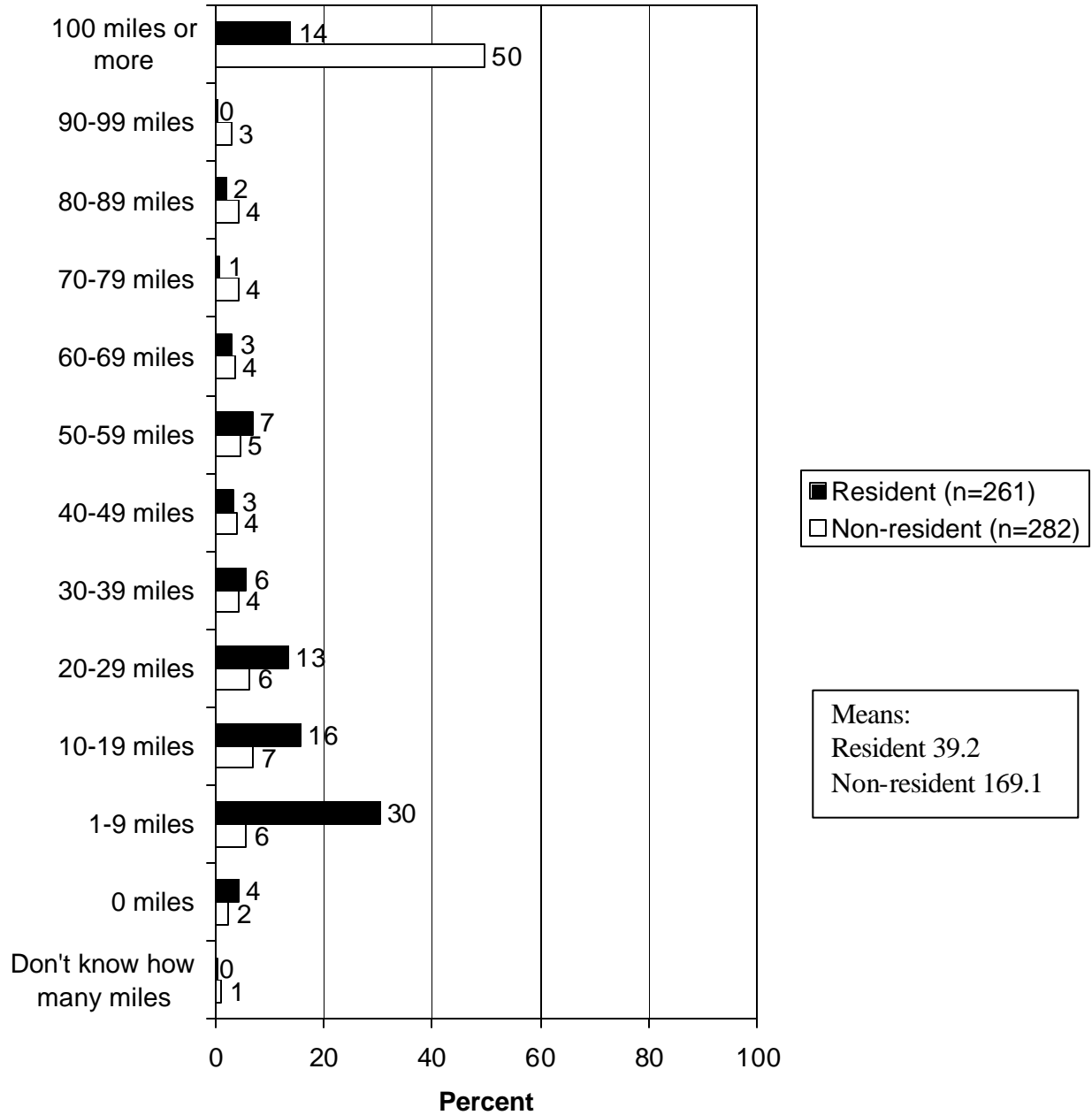
Q87. Did your typical hunting trip in New Hampshire include off-highway driving in a truck/SUV, not including an ATV?



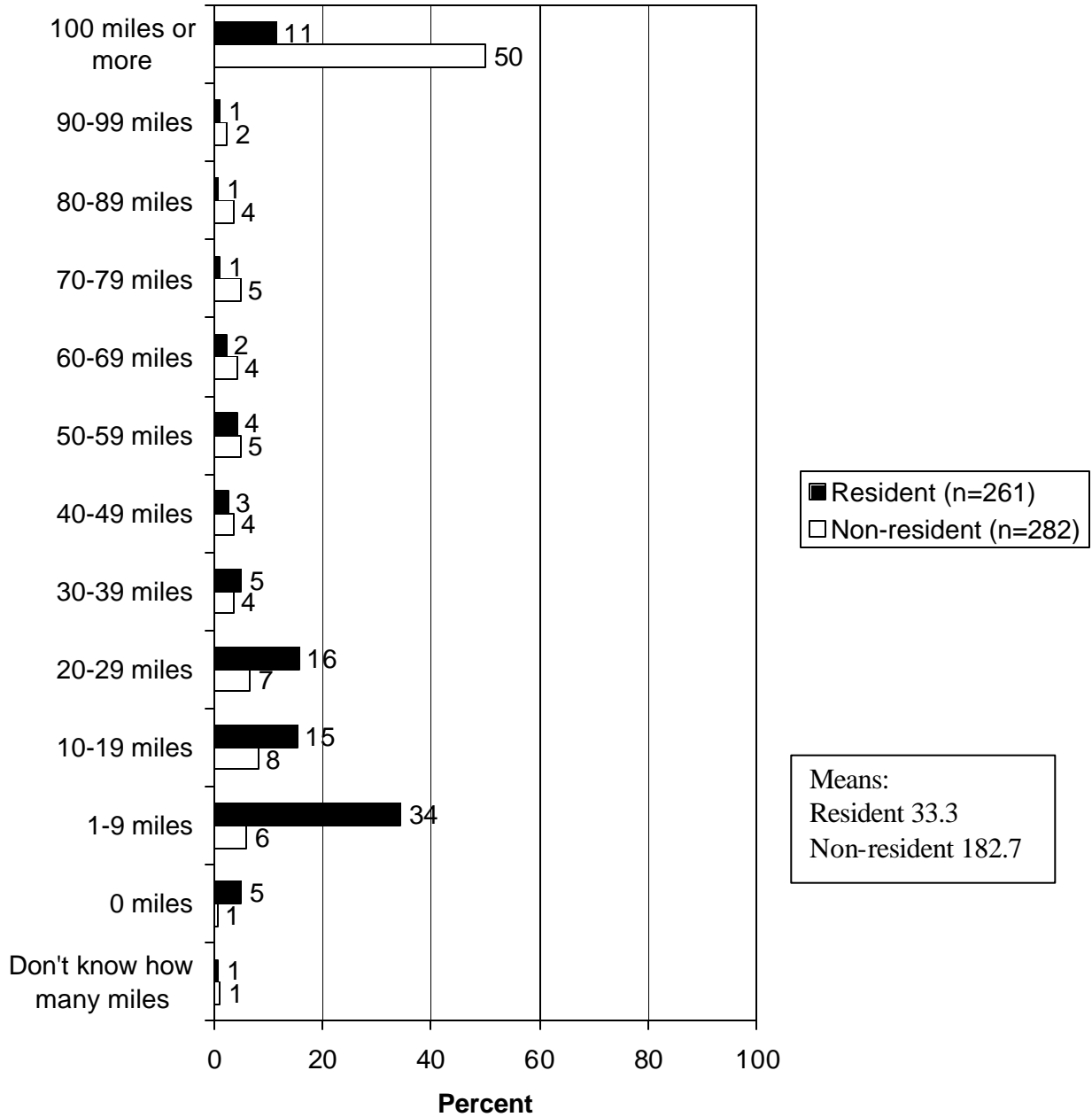
Q88. Did your typical hunting trip in New Hampshire involve an overnight stay?



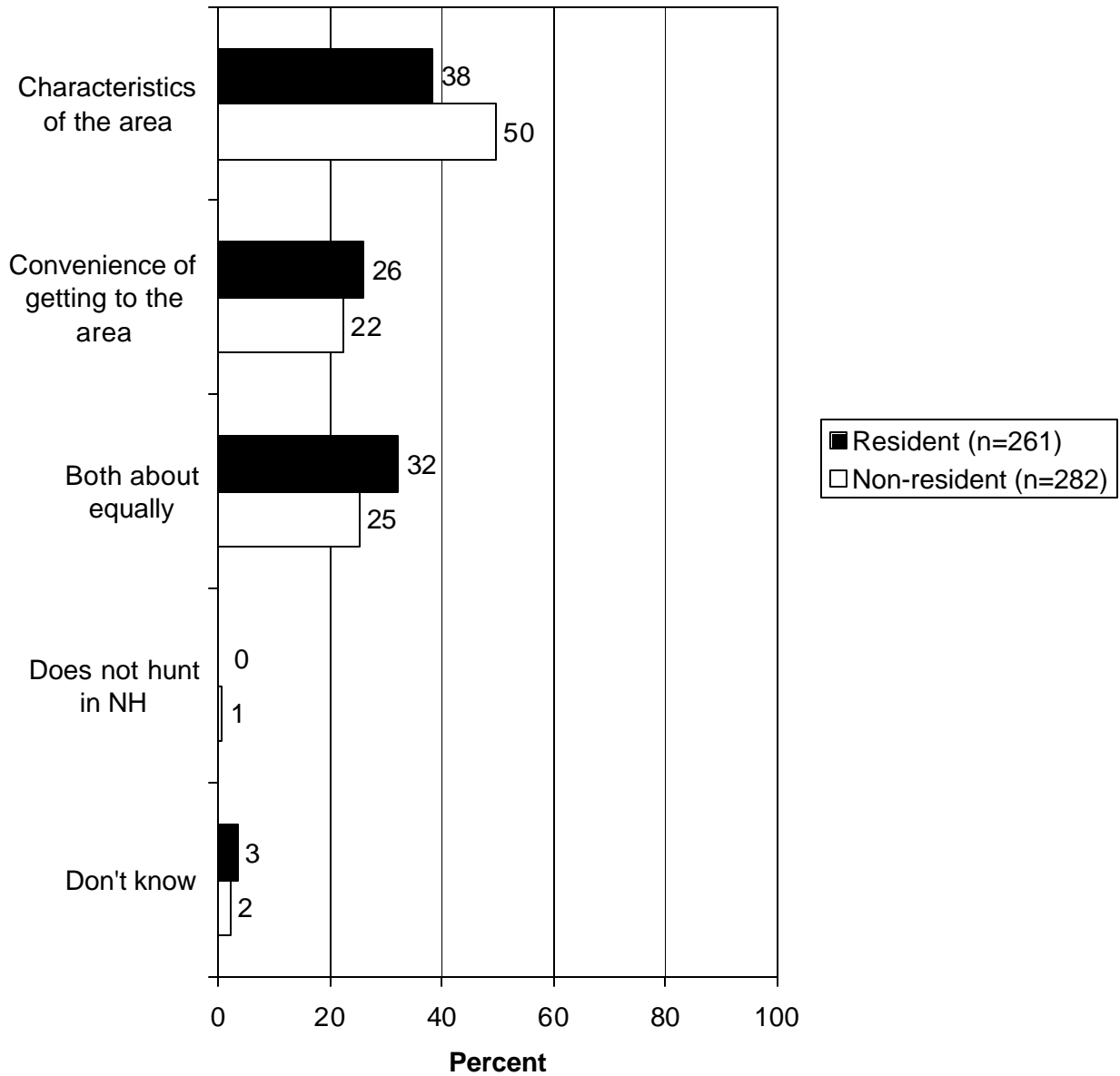
Q89. About how far away from your home, in miles, is the place you typically hunt in New Hampshire?



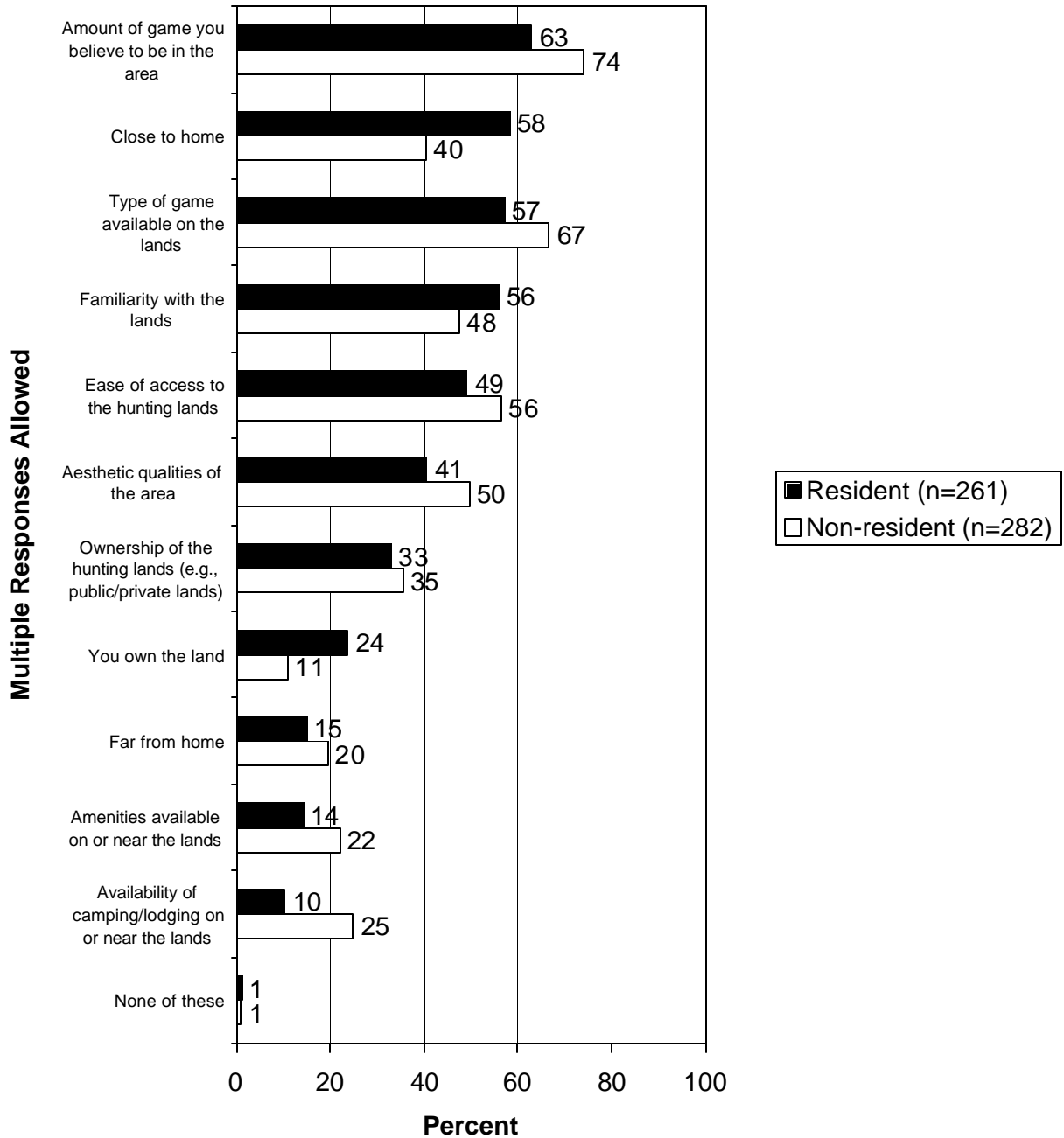
Q90. About how far away from your home, in miles, is the place you last hunted in New Hampshire?



Q91. In deciding on a hunting location in New Hampshire, are you more motivated by the characteristics of the area (e.g., plentiful game, aesthetic considerations) or by the convenience of getting to the hunting area?



Q93. In deciding on a location to hunt, please indicate which of the following are important considerations.

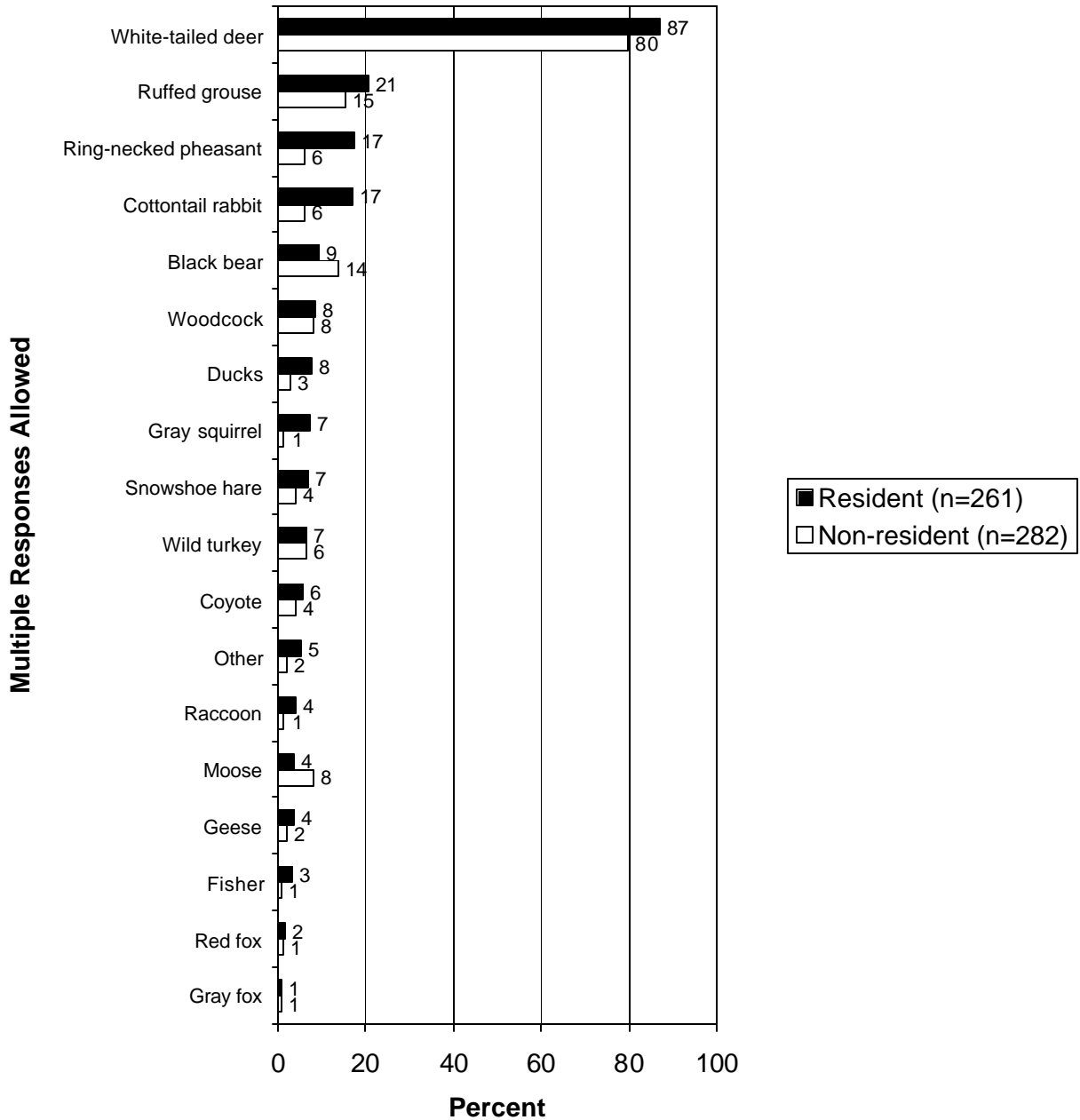


SPECIES HUNTED

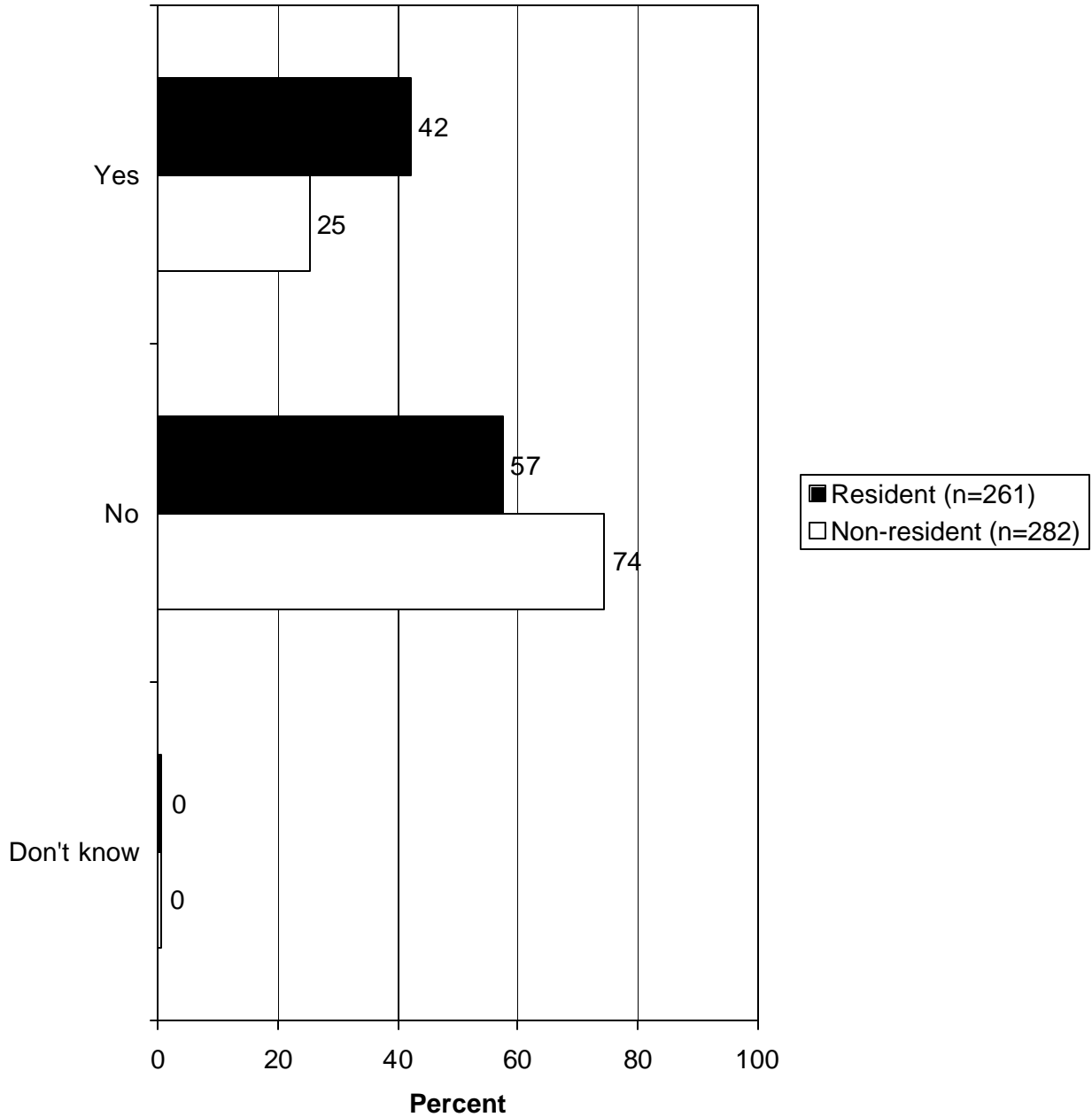
- White-tailed deer were the species of choice for overwhelming majorities of resident and non-resident lapsed hunters when they had hunted in New Hampshire. Among resident lapsed hunters, other important species included ruffed grouse, ring-necked pheasant, and cottontail rabbit. Among non-resident lapsed hunters, other important species included ruffed grouse and black bear.
 - Note that non-resident lapsed hunters were more likely than were resident lapsed hunters to have hunted black bear or moose.

- When asked directly whether they had hunted small game in New Hampshire within the past 5 years, 42% of resident and 25% of non-resident lapsed hunters indicated that they had.

Q99. Of all species, including both big and small game, which species did you hunt in New Hampshire in the past 5 years?



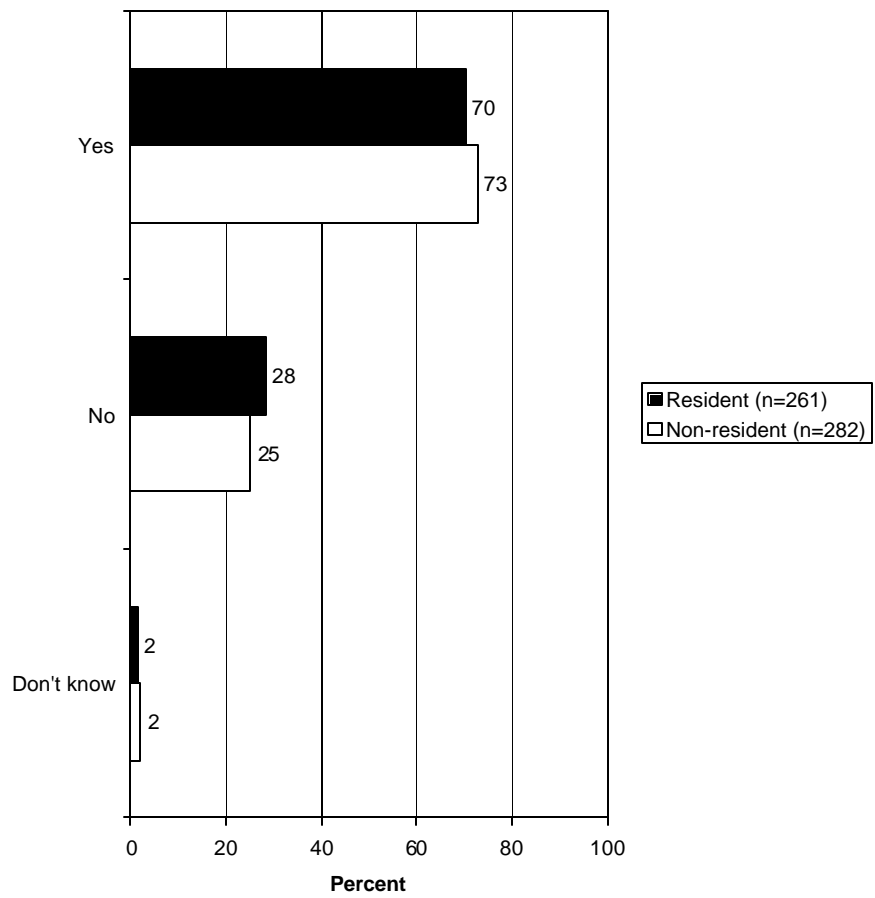
Q97. When you were hunting in New Hampshire within the past 5 years, did you hunt small game?



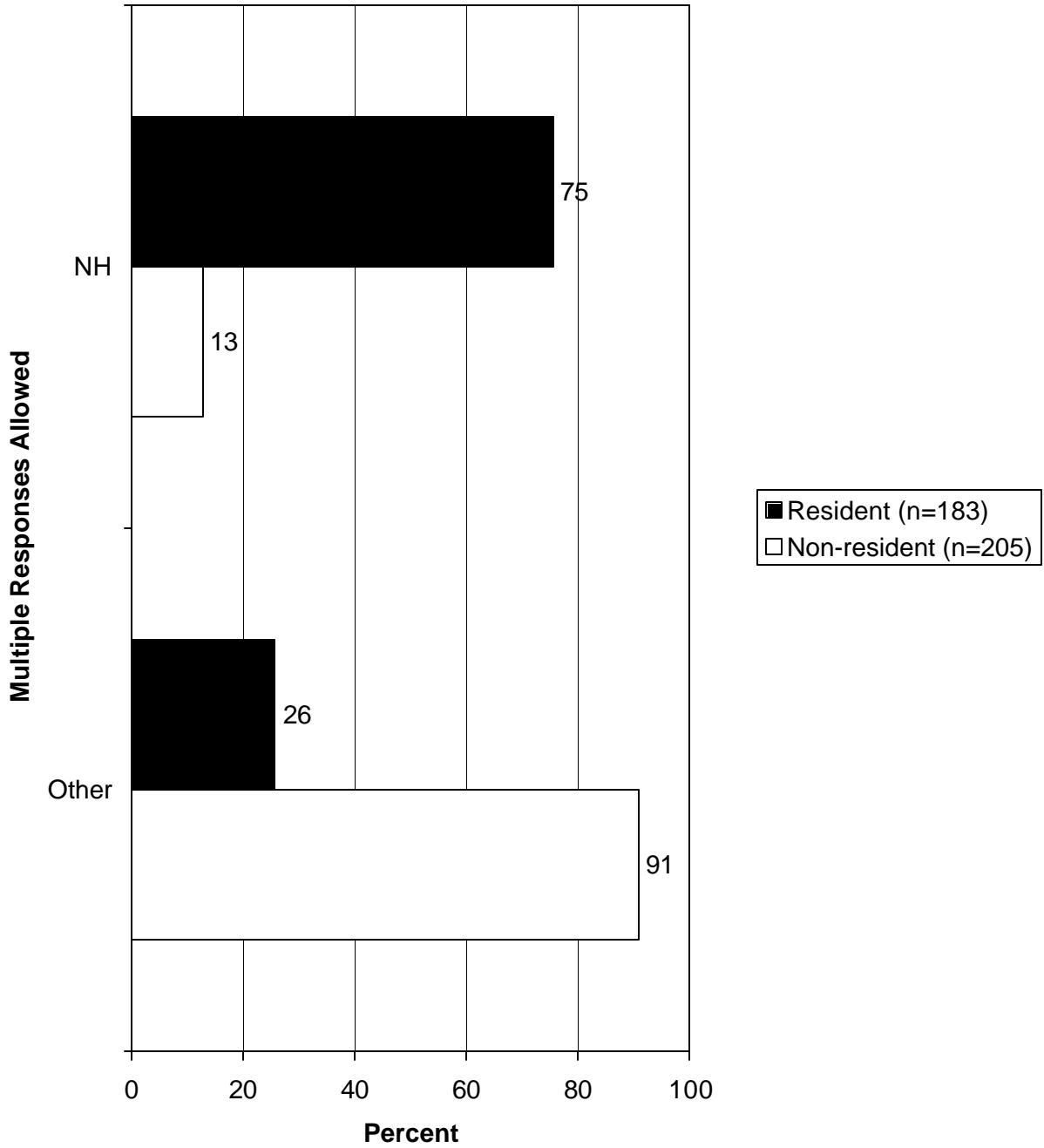
HUNTER EDUCATION

➤ Large majorities of resident and non-resident lapsed hunters had taken a hunter education course. Of those who had taken a course, 75% among resident lapsed hunters had taken a course in New Hampshire, and 13% among non-resident lapsed hunters had taken a course in New Hampshire. The other states in which respondents had taken hunter education courses are shown; other New England states are prominent on the list, along with New York. (Those who took a course in New Hampshire were asked a series of questions about that course; those results are discussed in the section of the report, “Rating of the New Hampshire Fish and Game Department.”)

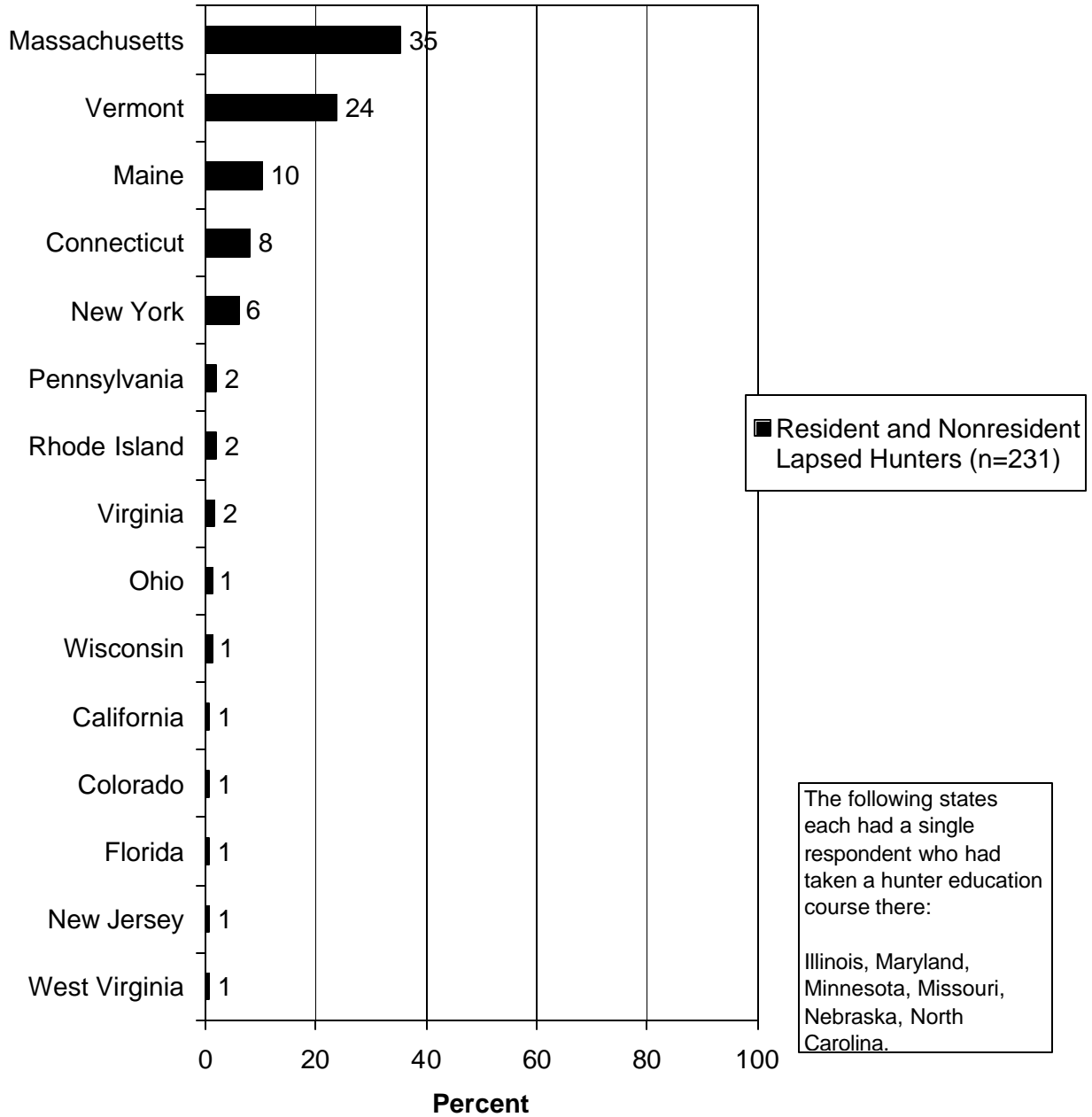
Q167. Have you ever taken a hunter education course?



Q169. In which state(s) did you take a hunter education course? (Asked of those who have taken a hunter education course.)



**Q170. Other states in which respondents had taken
hunter education courses.
(Both resident and nonresident lapsed hunters
combined.)**

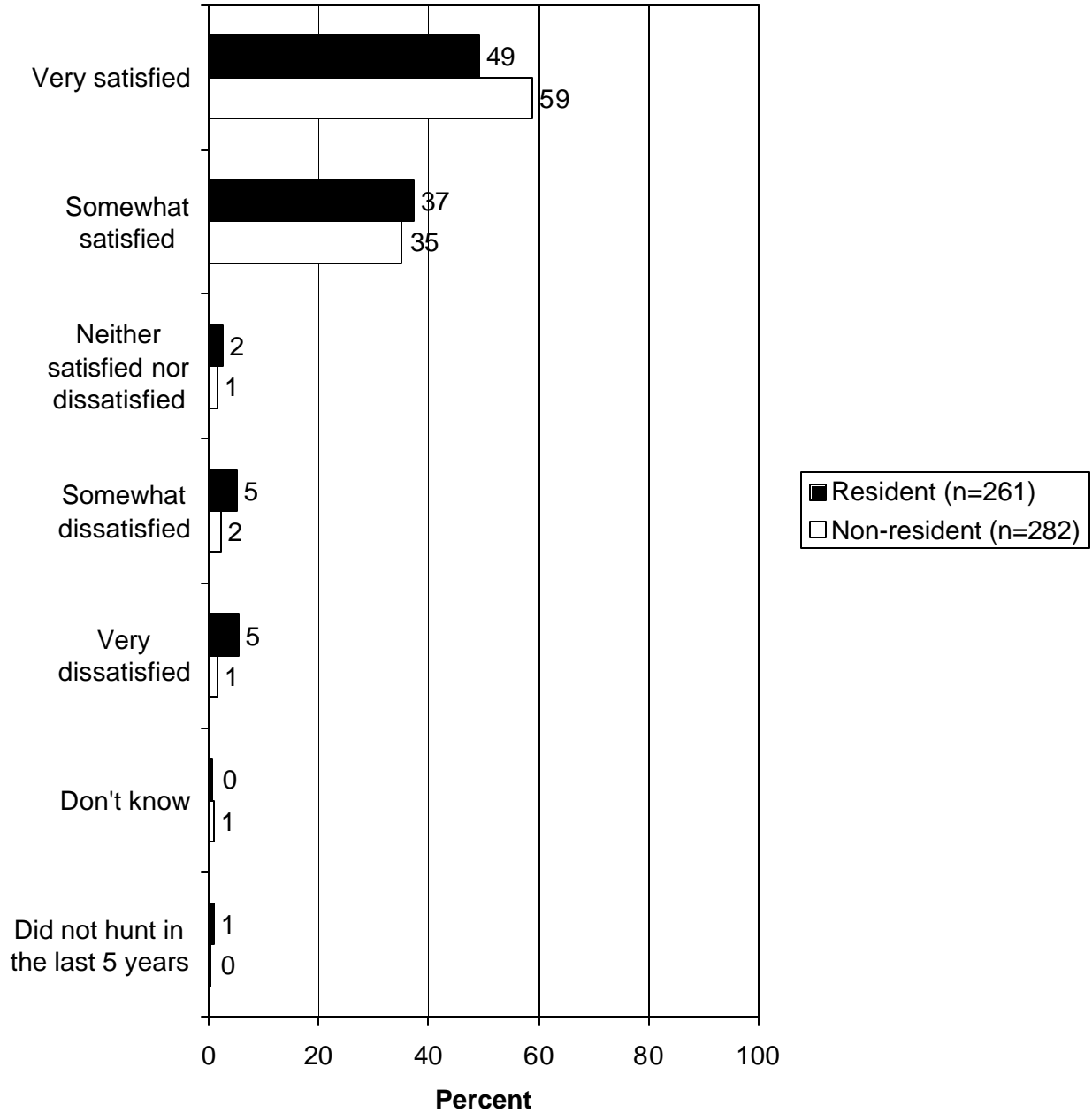


SATISFACTION WITH HUNTING OVERALL AND WITH HUNTING FOR VARIOUS SPECIES

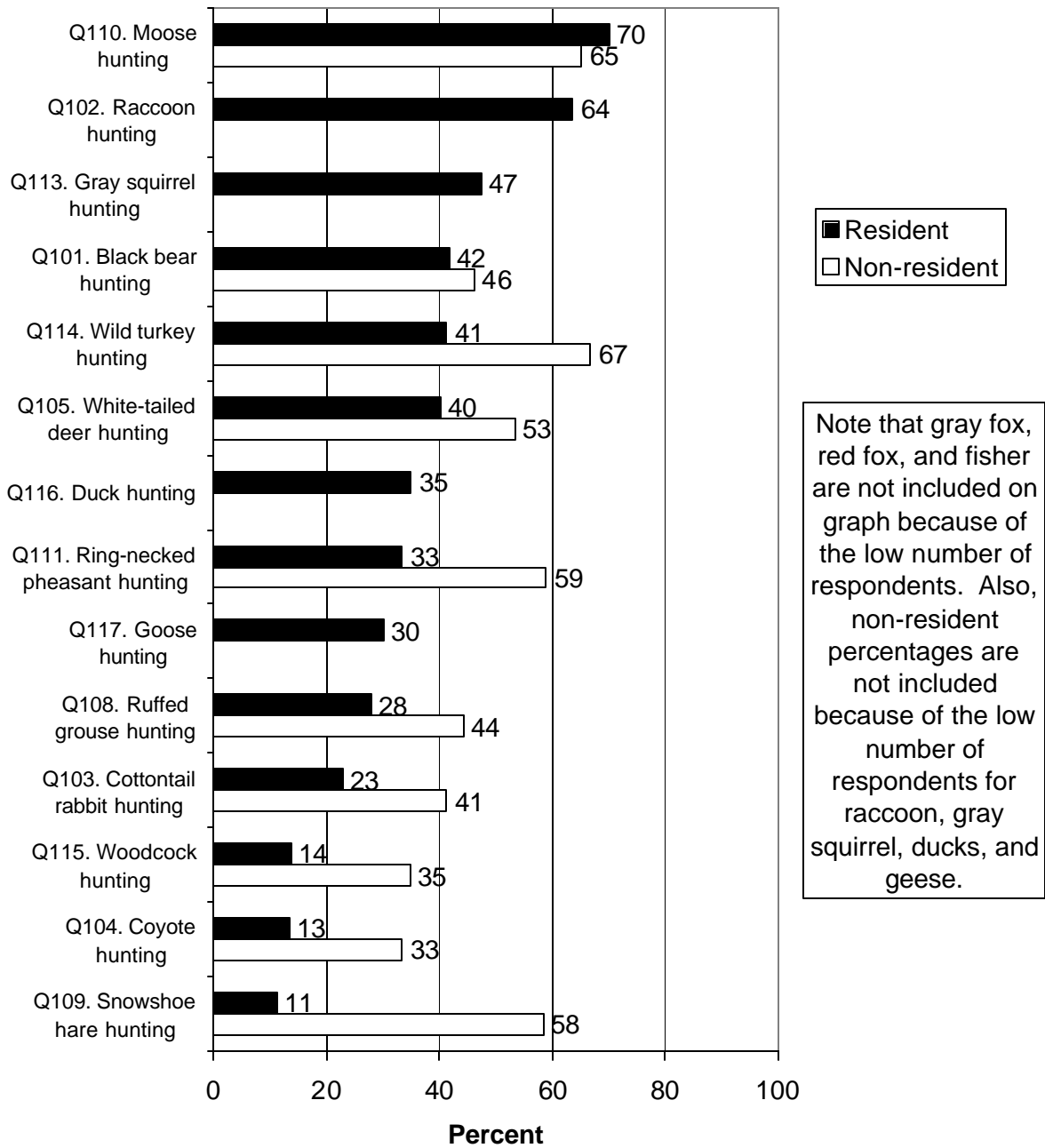
- Overall, satisfaction with hunting in New Hampshire in the past 5 years was high: 86% of resident lapsed hunters and 94% of non-resident lapsed hunters were very or somewhat satisfied with their hunting experiences in New Hampshire over the past 5 years.
 - 10% of resident and 4% of non-resident lapsed hunters were dissatisfied (for non-resident lapsed hunters, rounding causes the graphs to appear to sum to 3%).

- Although the number of participants was somewhat low (10 resident and 23 non-resident lapsed hunters), moose hunting was one of the most satisfying species to hunt in New Hampshire—it was the top answer among resident lapsed hunters and the second answer among non-resident lapsed hunters for percent very satisfied. For resident lapsed hunters, raccoon hunting was the second-ranked species that was very satisfying to hunt, although the number of participants was low. Also high in the percent being very satisfied among resident lapsed hunters were gray squirrel, black bear, wild turkey, and white-tailed deer. Among non-resident lapsed hunters, wild turkey hunting had the highest percentage being very satisfied, just above moose hunting. Other species that had high percentages of non-resident lapsed hunters saying that they were very satisfied were ring-necked pheasant, snowshoe hare, white-tailed deer, ruffed grouse, and cottontail rabbit.
 - The highest percentages saying they were very dissatisfied were for snowshoe hare hunting (22% of resident and 8% of non-resident lapsed hunters were very dissatisfied), cottontail rabbit hunting (18% of resident and 6% of non-resident lapsed hunters), woodcock hunting (14% of resident and 4% of non-resident lapsed hunters), and moose hunting (10% of resident lapsed hunters).

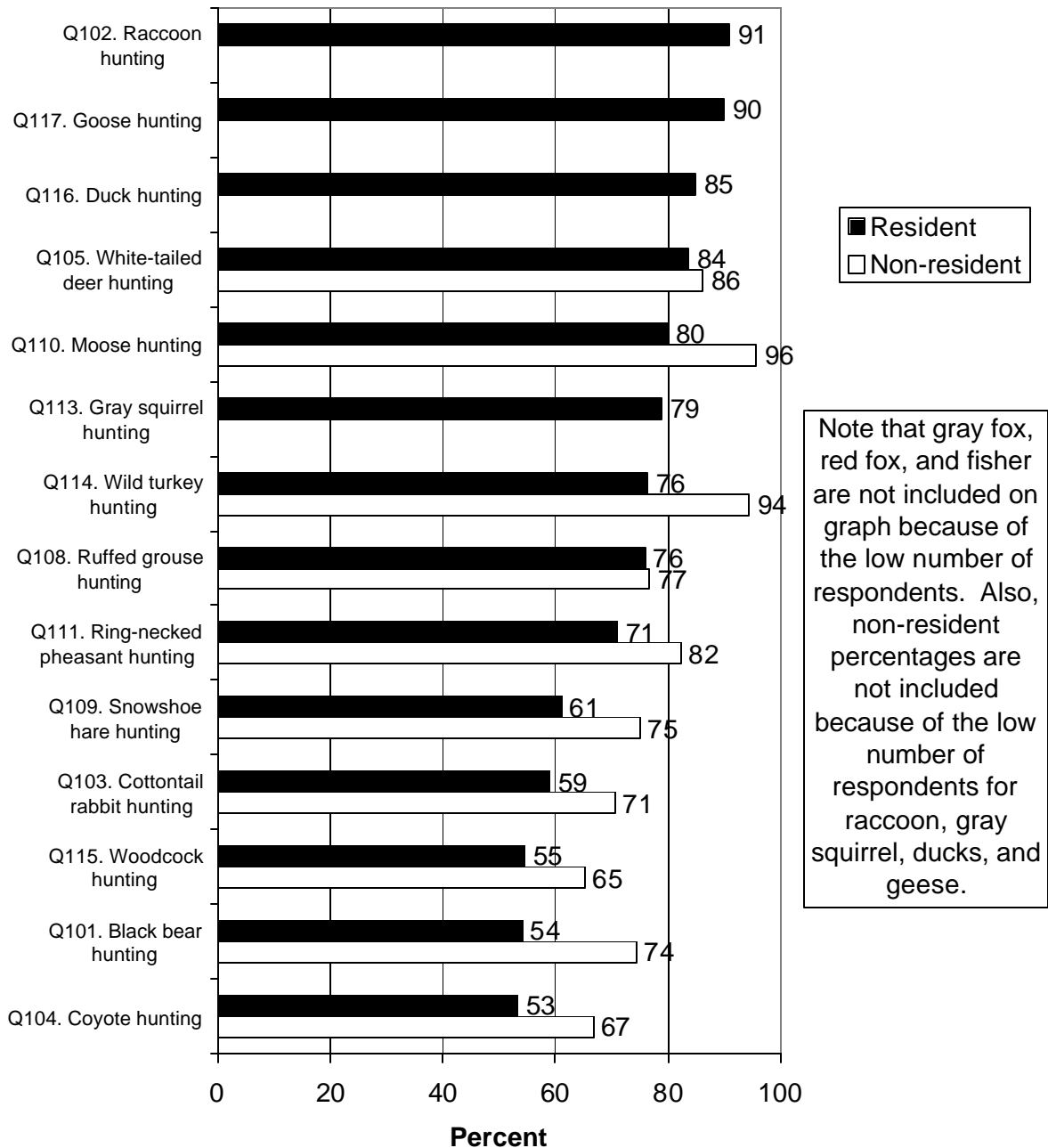
Q120. Overall, were you satisfied or dissatisfied with your hunting experiences in New Hampshire over the past 5 years?



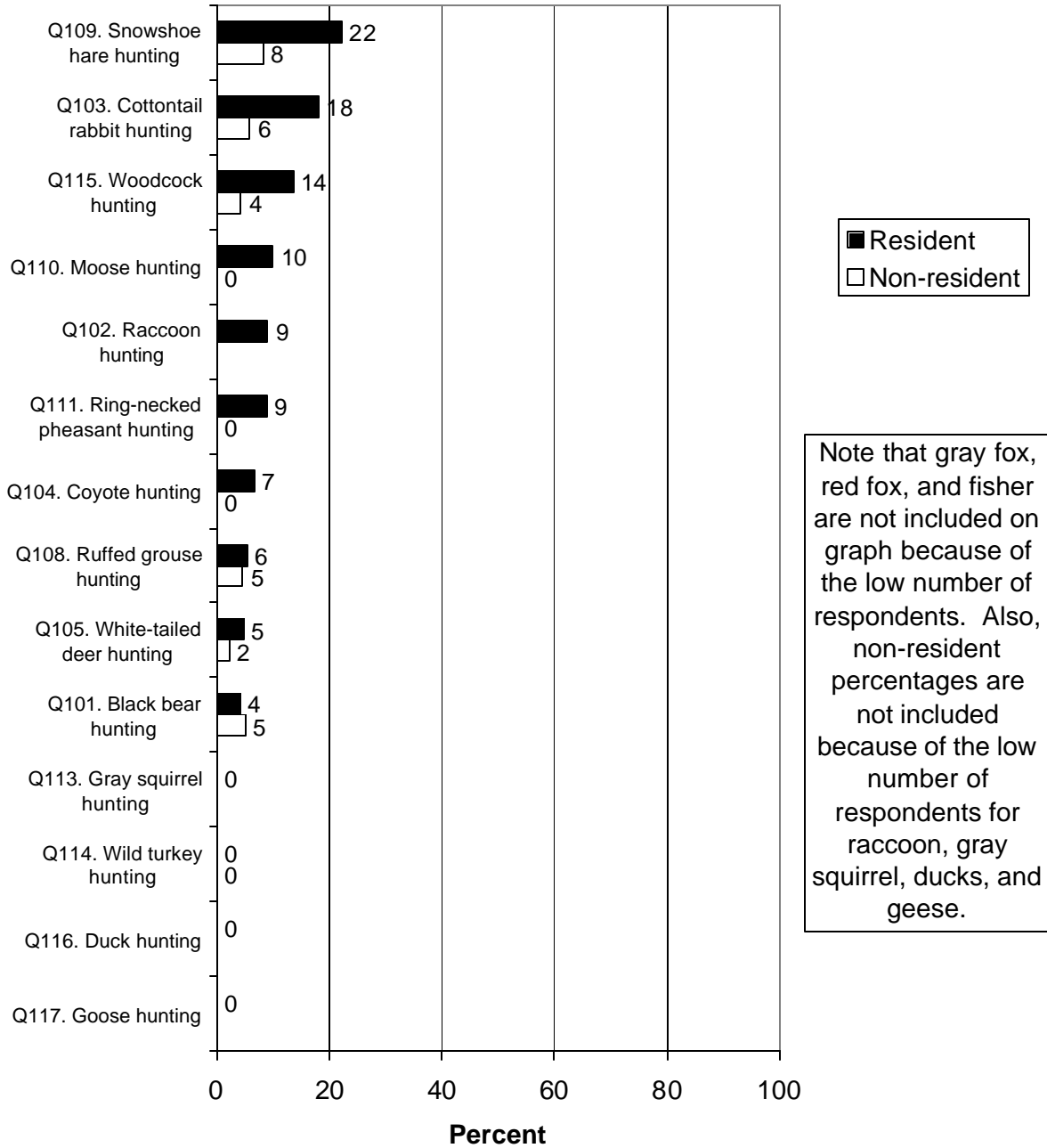
Q101-117. Percent who were very satisfied with their hunting in NH for the following:



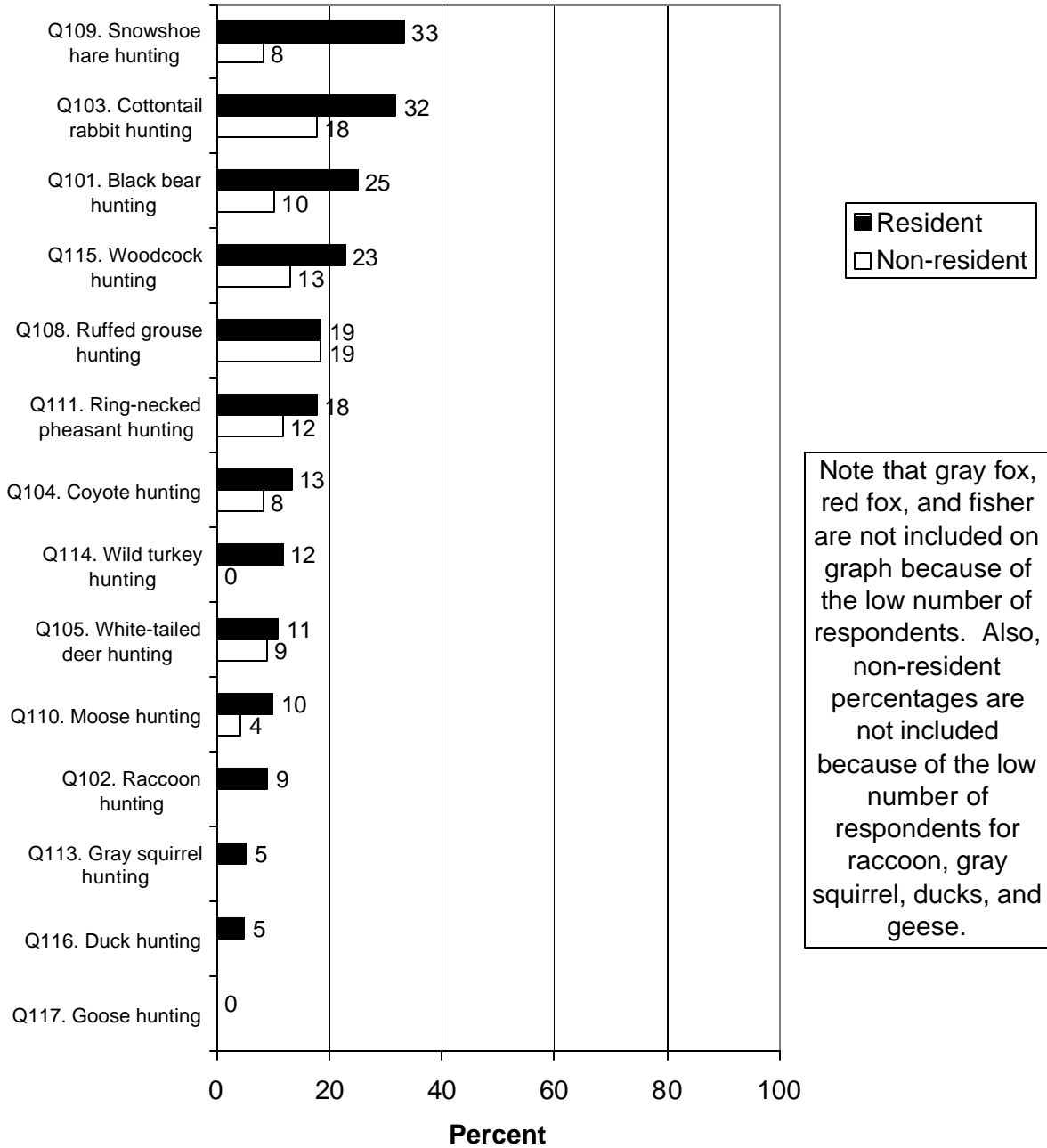
Q101-117. Percent who were very or somewhat satisfied with their hunting in NH for the following:



Q101-117. Percent who were very dissatisfied with their hunting in NH for the following:



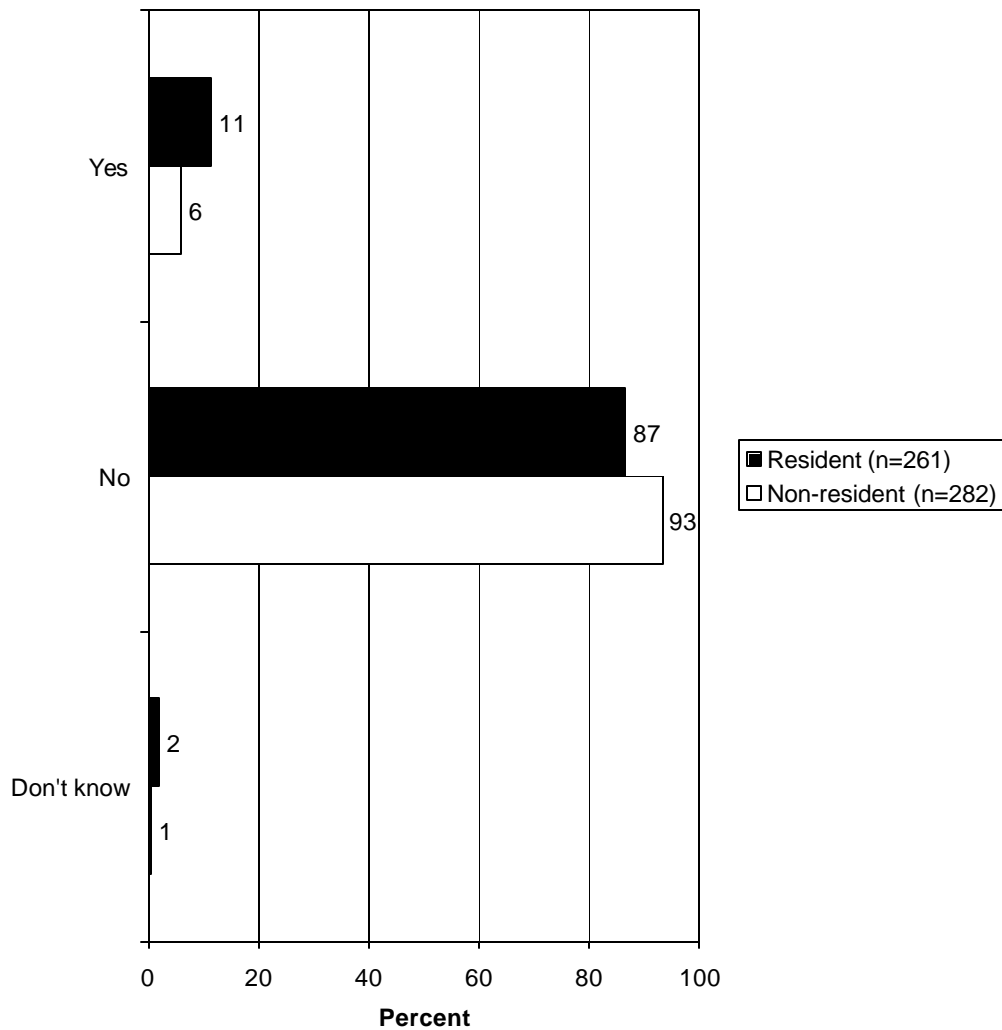
Q101-117. Percent who were somewhat or very dissatisfied with their hunting in NH for the following:



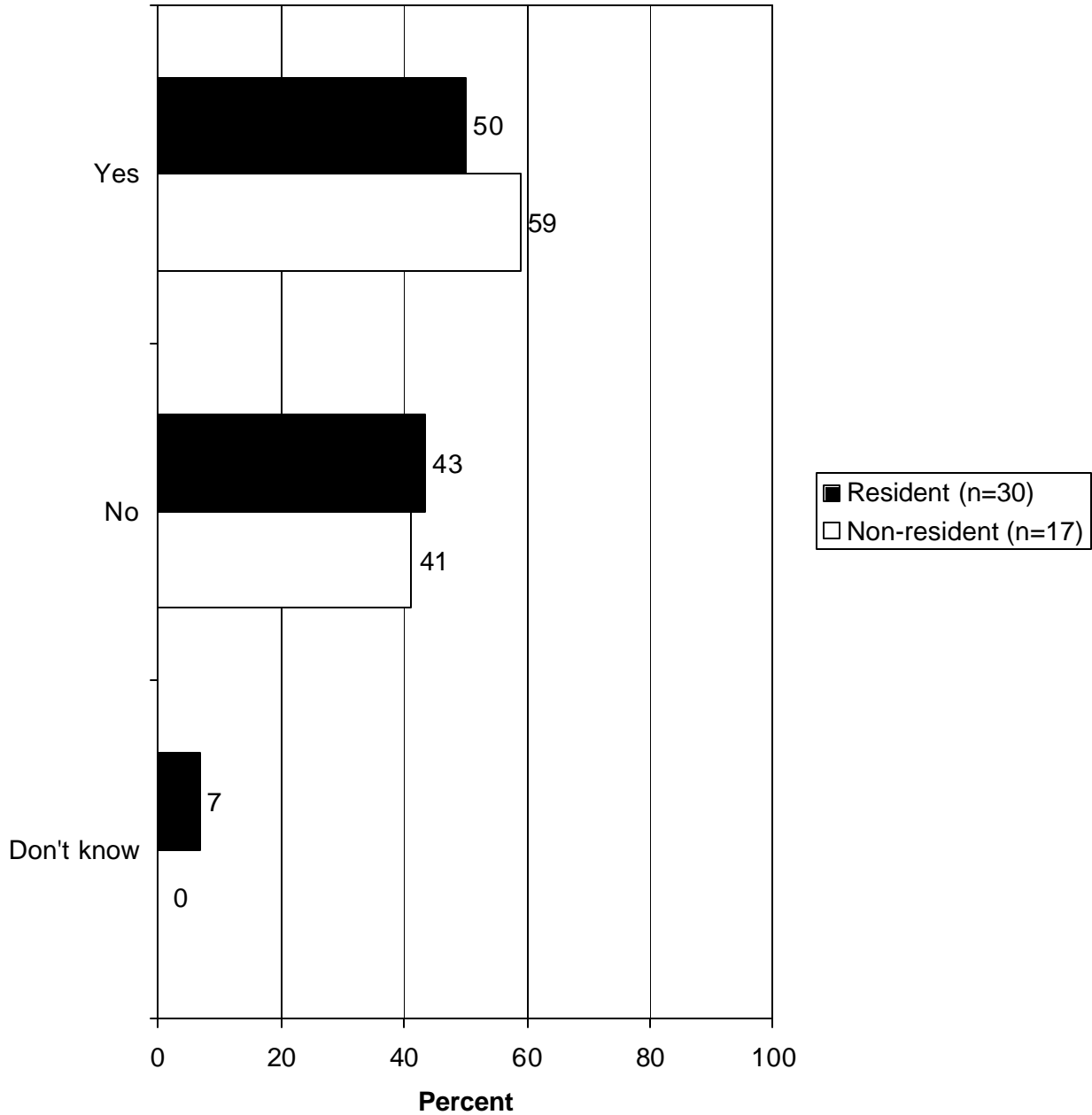
GAME LAW VIOLATIONS

- Overwhelming majorities of resident and non-resident lapsed hunters had not witnessed any game law violations in the past 5 years. Of those who had seen one, roughly half reported the violation. Typical reasons for not reporting a violation included not being able to prove it/not being able to identify culprit and the belief that the violation was minor. Only two respondents cited trouble contacting a warden.

Q94. When you were hunting in New Hampshire within the past 5 years, did you witness any game law violations?



Q95. Did you report the game law violations that you saw? (Asked of those who witnessed a game law violation within the past 5 years while hunting in New Hampshire.)

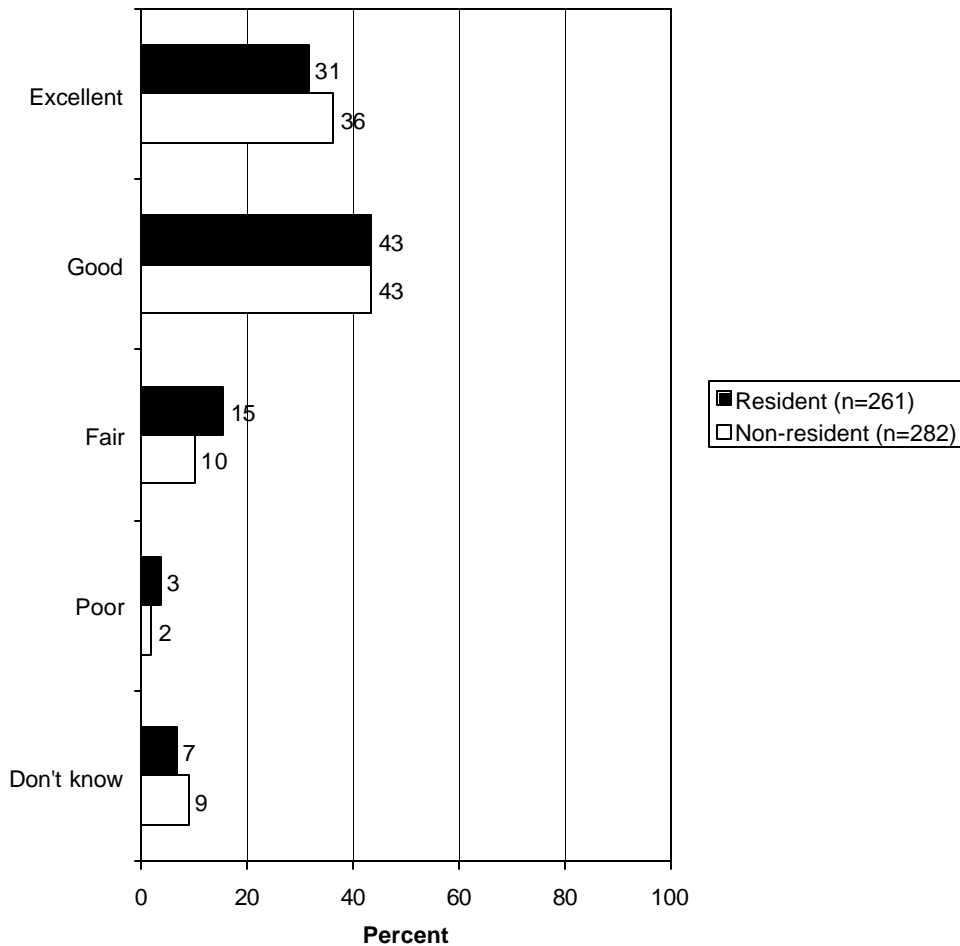


RATING OF THE NEW HAMPSHIRE FISH AND GAME DEPARTMENT

RATING AT PROVIDING HUNTING OPPORTUNITIES

- Ratings of the Department’s efforts to provide hunting opportunities in New Hampshire were fairly positive: large majorities of resident and non-resident lapsed hunters gave an excellent or good rating. There was little variation between resident and non-resident lapsed hunters.
 - Very low percentages gave a poor rating.

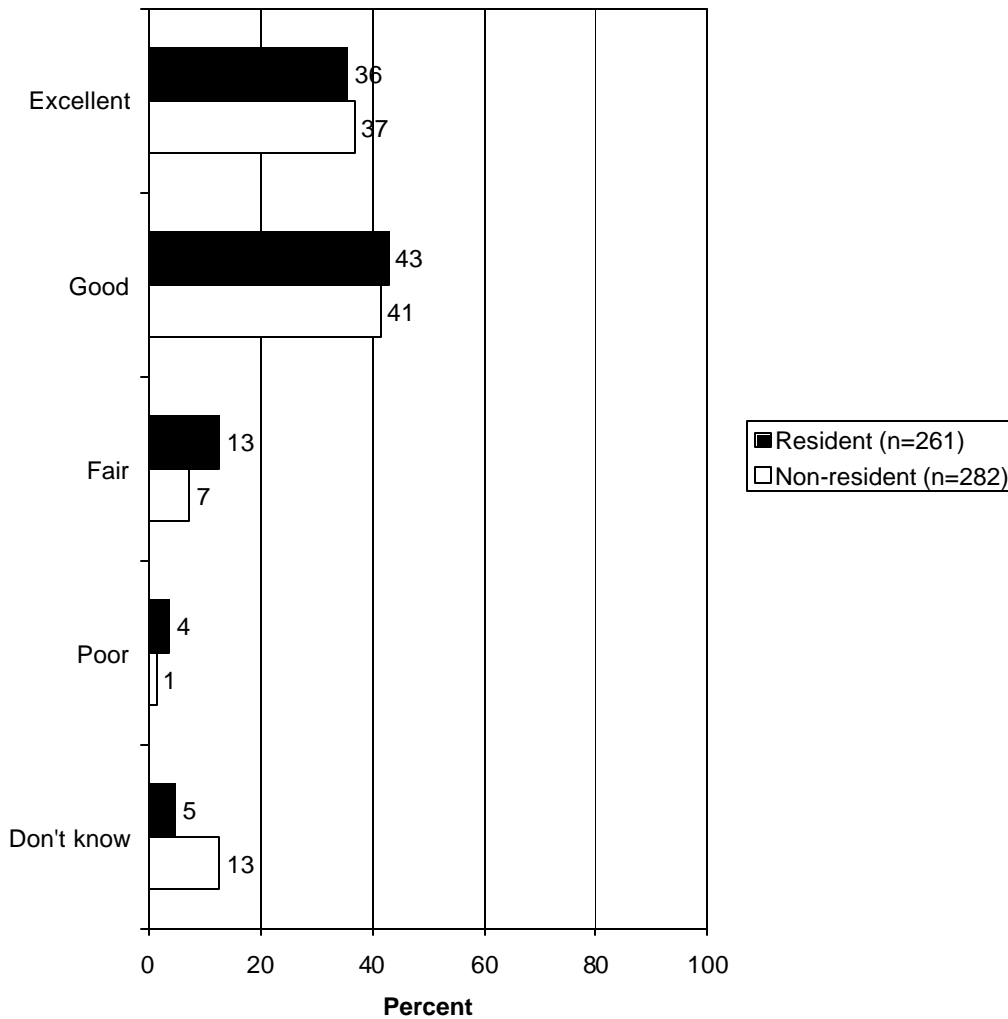
Q118. Overall, how would you rate the New Hampshire Fish and Game Department's efforts to provide hunting opportunities in New Hampshire? Would you say they do an excellent, good, fair, or poor job?



RATING AT MANAGING/CONSERVING WILDLIFE

- Ratings of the Department’s efforts to manage and conserve the state’s wildlife were also fairly positive: large majorities of resident and non-resident lapsed hunters gave an excellent or good rating to this effort. There was little variation between resident and non-resident lapsed hunters.
 - Very low percentages gave a poor rating.

Q119. Overall, would you say the New Hampshire Fish and Game Department does an excellent, good, fair, or poor job in managing and conserving the state's wildlife?



RATING AT PROVIDING HUNTER EDUCATION

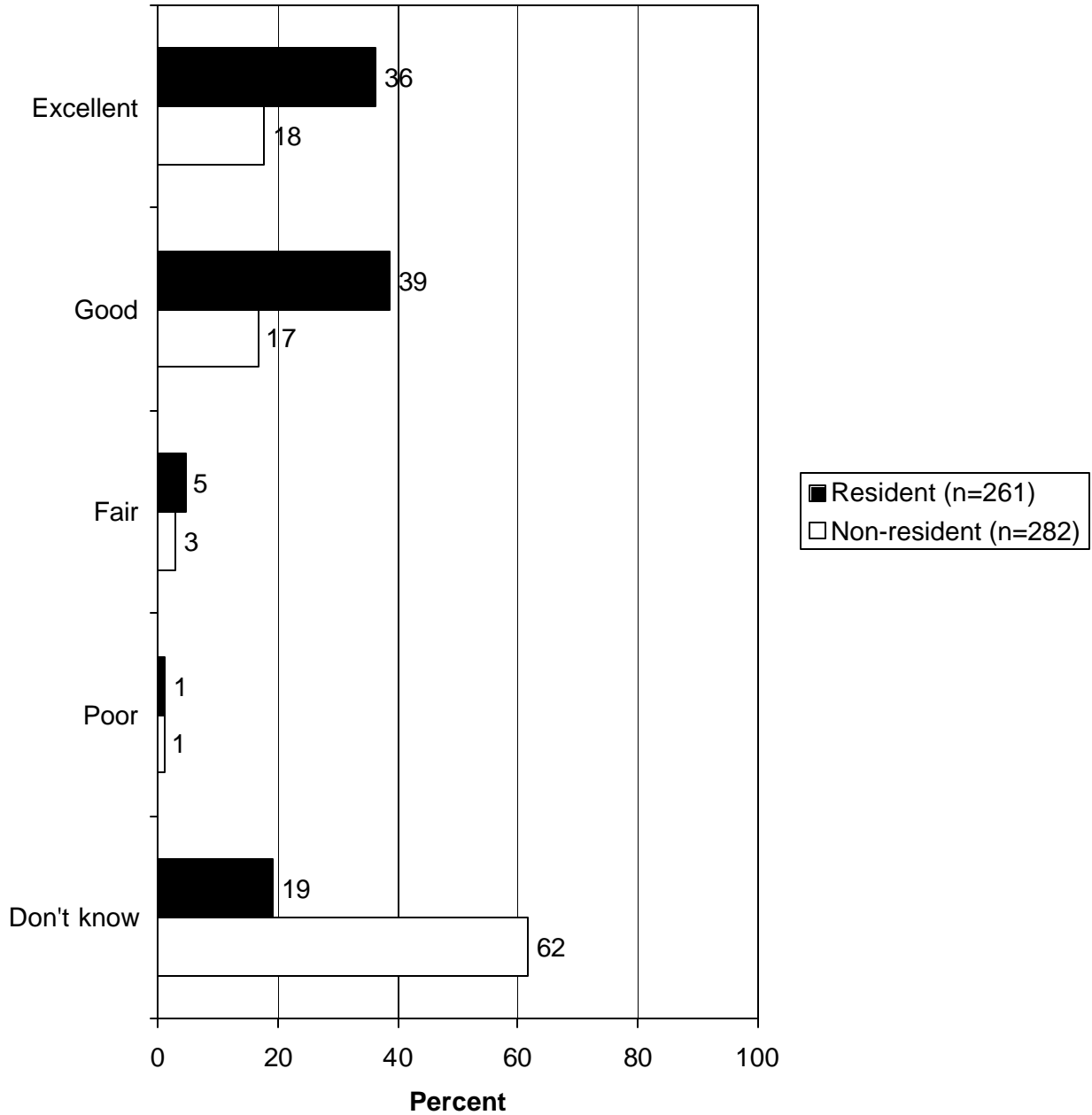
- The overall rating of the Department at providing hunter education was positive: of those who gave a rating (i.e., they did not answer, “Don’t know”), excellent and good were by far the top answers. Almost nobody gave a rating of poor. Non-resident lapsed hunters were more likely than were resident lapsed hunters to say, “Don’t know.” For both groups of hunters, “excellent” and “good” responses far exceeded “fair” and “poor” responses.

- All six questions regarding the ratings of the Department at various hunter education-related efforts were graphed together. In all cases, a higher percentage of resident lapsed hunters than non-resident lapsed hunters rated the efforts as excellent or good, mainly because non-resident lapsed hunters had such high percentages answering, “Don’t know.” Majorities of resident lapsed hunters rated the Department as excellent or good at providing convenient dates and times to take hunter education, as well as in providing hunter education courses the respondents want or desire. Only publicizing hunter education opportunities had a notable percentage who rated the Department as poor in that effort.

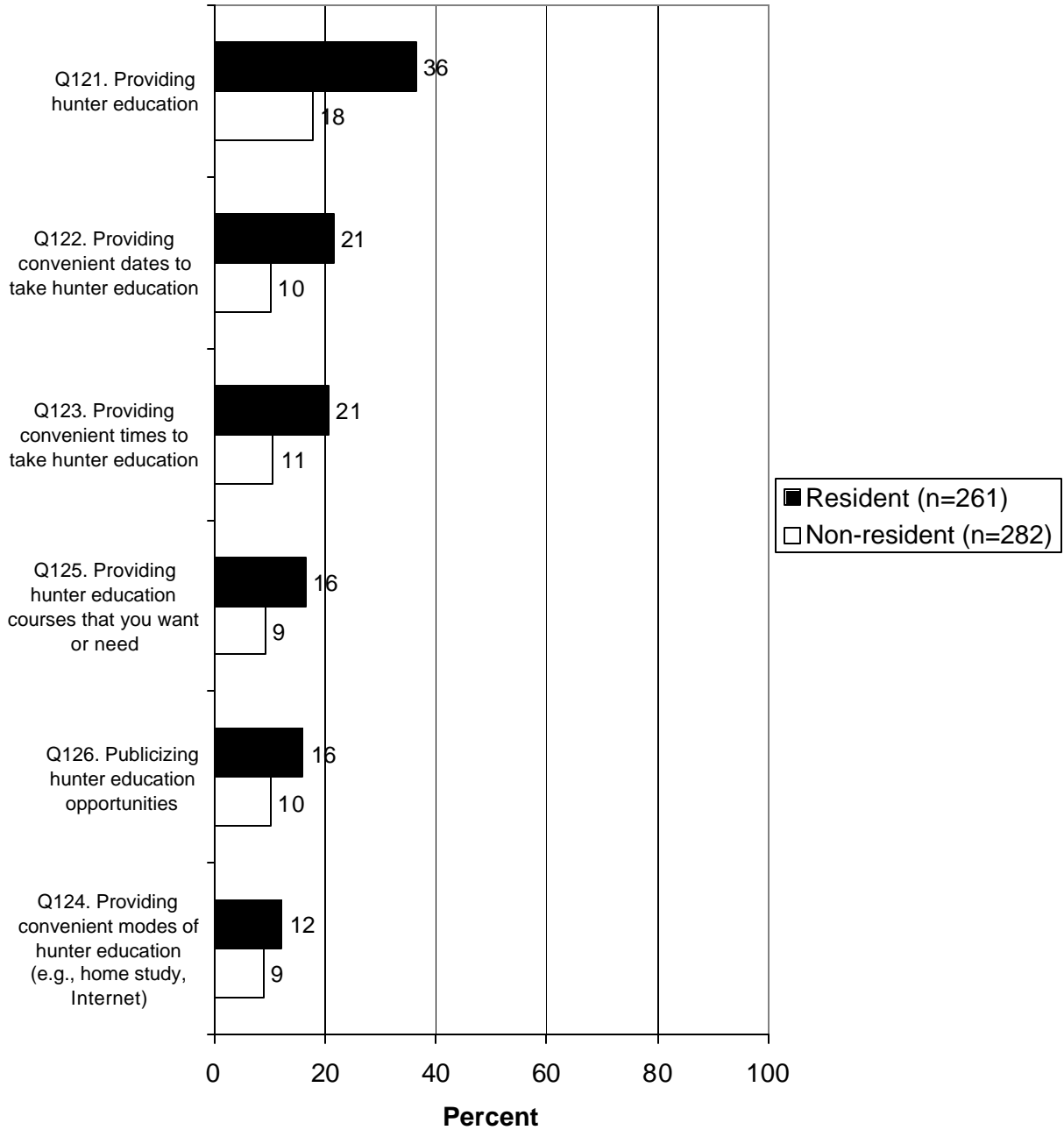
- Those who had taken a hunter education course in New Hampshire were asked to rate that course: majorities gave an excellent rating (54% of resident and 65% of non-resident lapsed hunters), and nearly all remaining gave a good rating. In fact, only 1% of resident and 0% of non-resident lapsed hunters gave a fair or poor rating.

- Resident lapsed hunters most commonly answered, “Don’t know,” regarding the ease or difficulty of finding a place or time to take hunter education. Otherwise, the most common answer was that it was neither easy nor difficult. Those saying “difficult” slightly outnumbered those saying “easy.” The graph for non-resident lapsed hunters is also shown, although only 26 non-resident lapsed hunters had taken a hunter education course in New Hampshire.

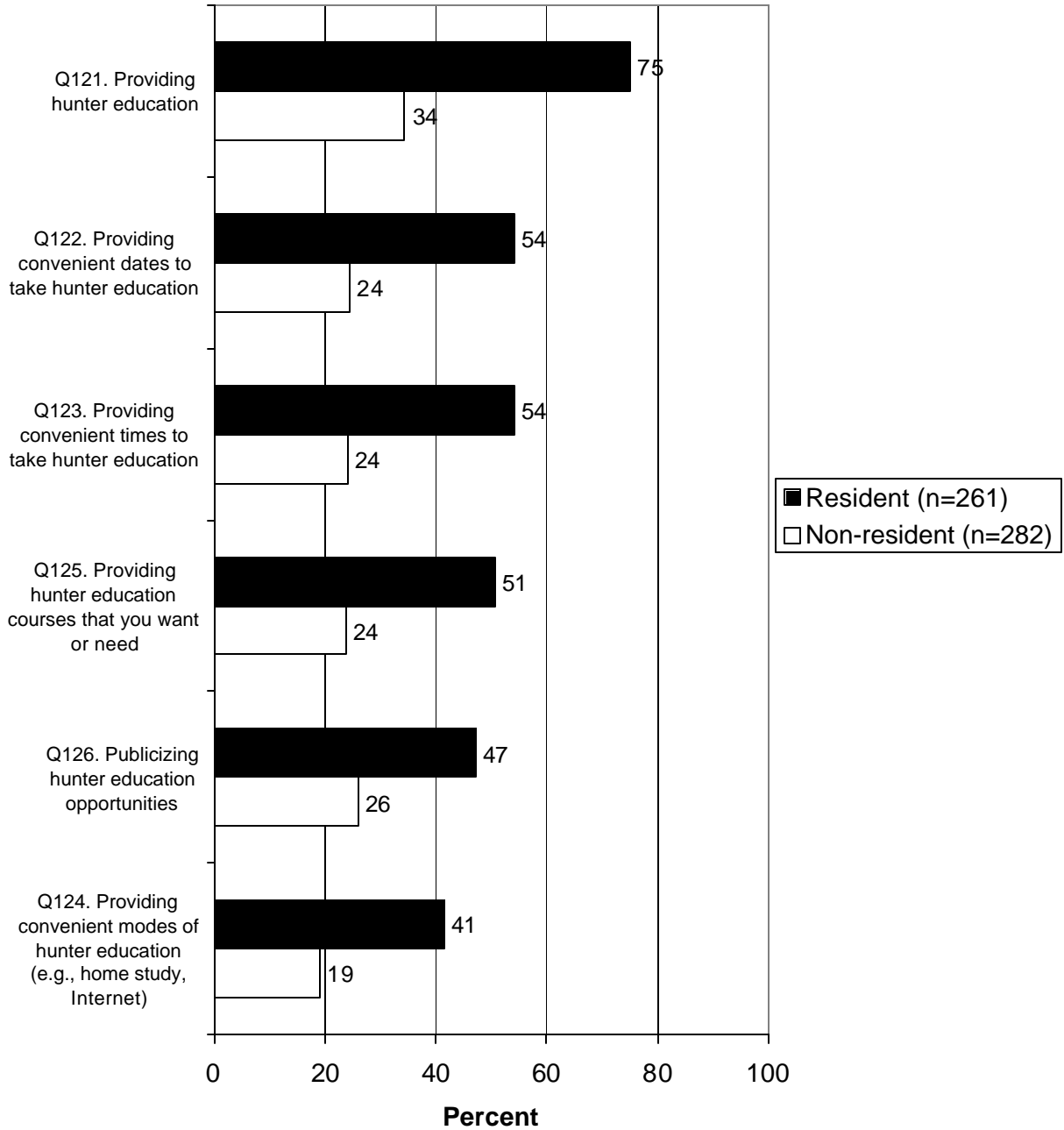
Q121. How would you rate the New Hampshire Fish and Game Department at providing hunter education?



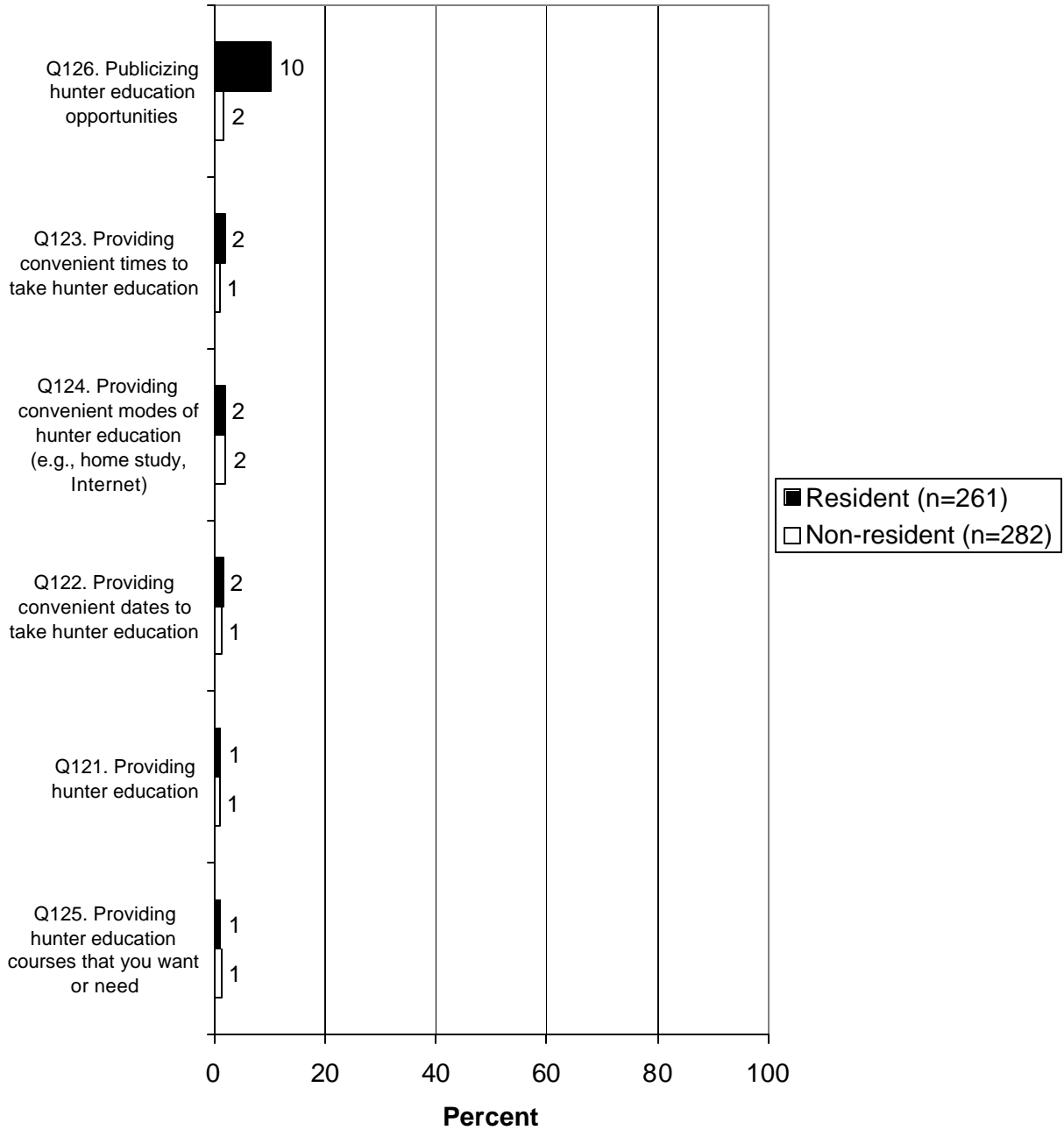
Q121-126. Percent who rated the Department as excellent in the following:



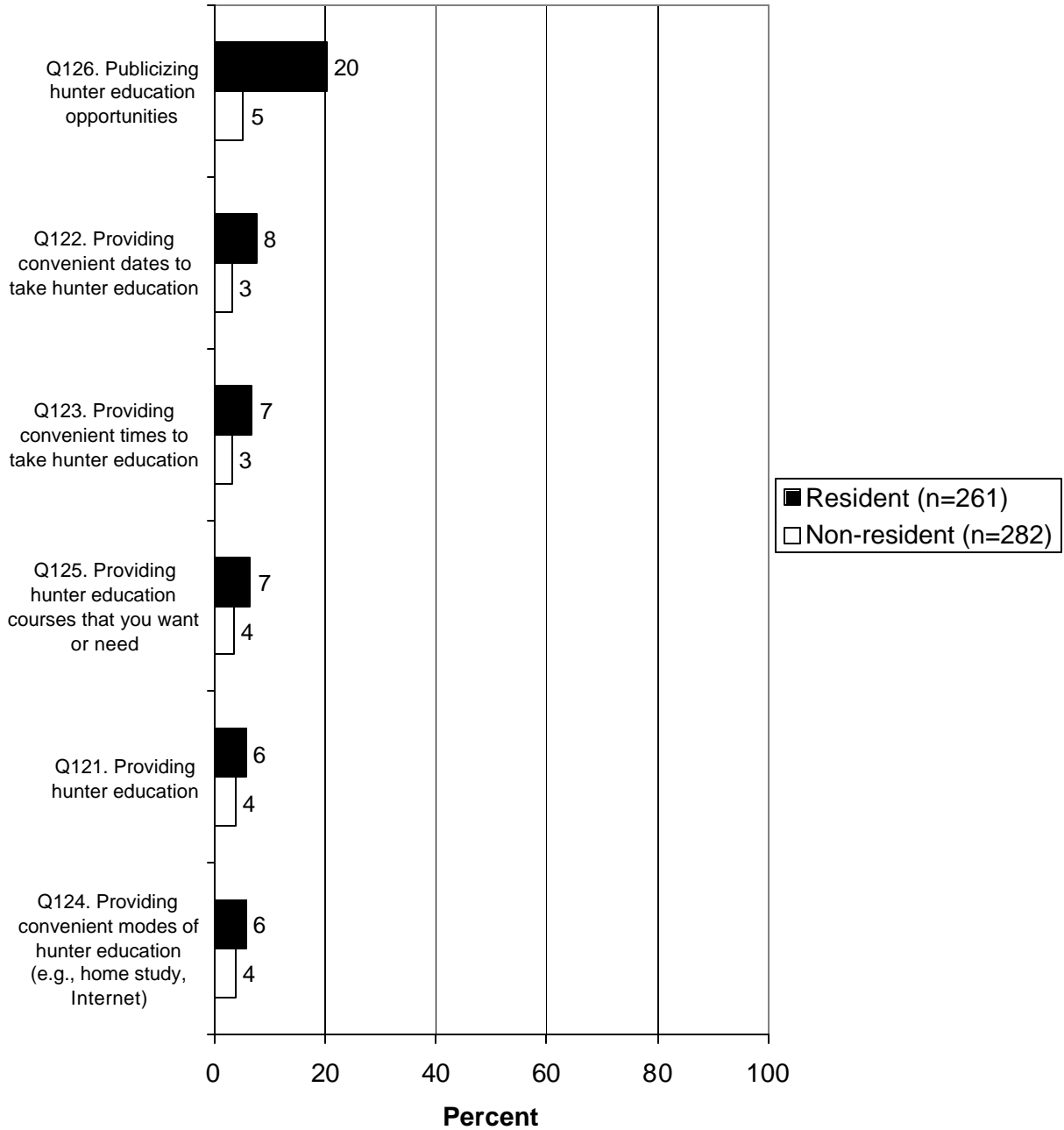
Q121-126. Percent who rated the Department as excellent or good in the following:



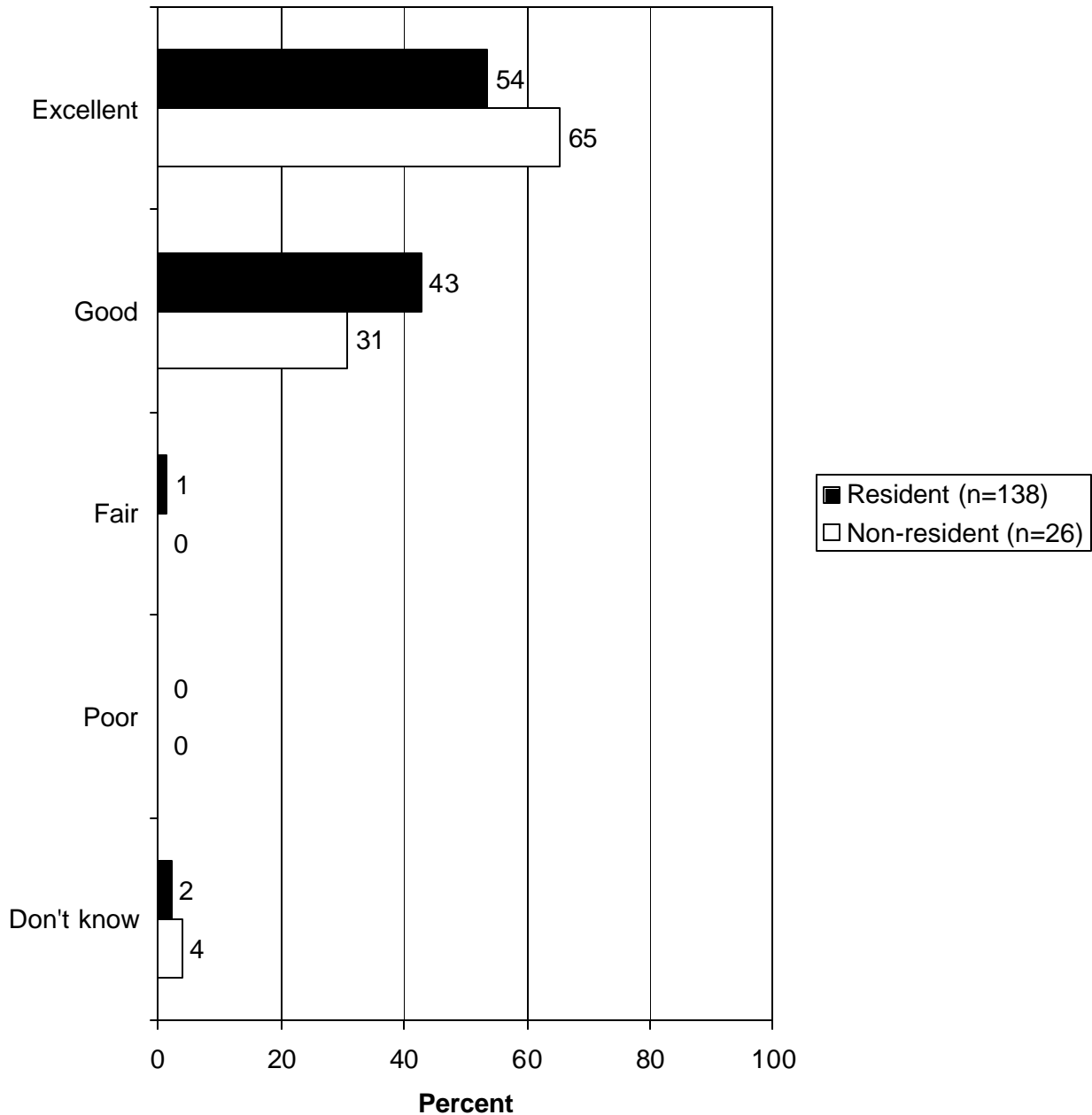
Q121-126. Percent who rated the Department as poor in the following:



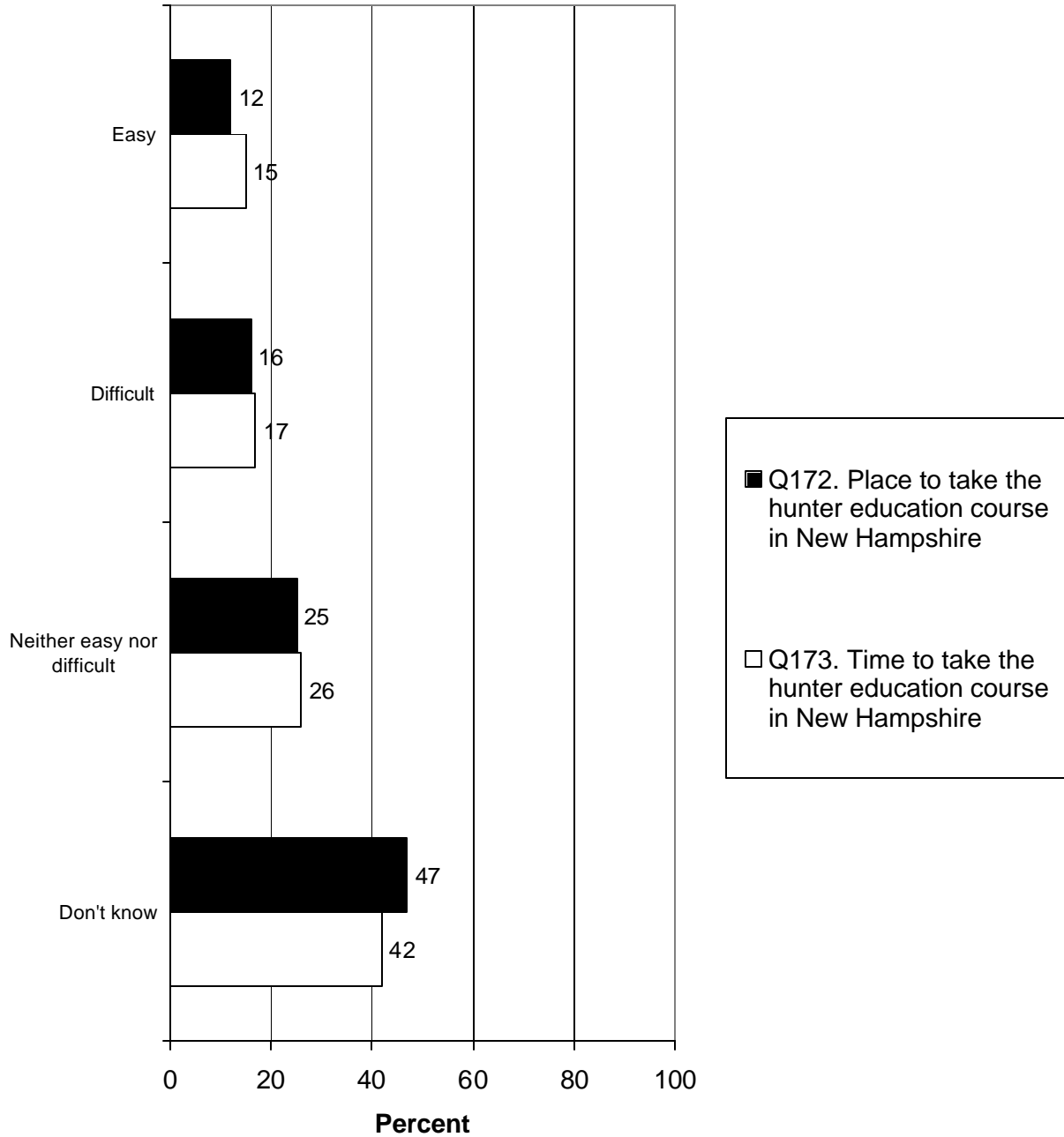
Q121-126. Percent who rated the Department as fair or poor in the following:



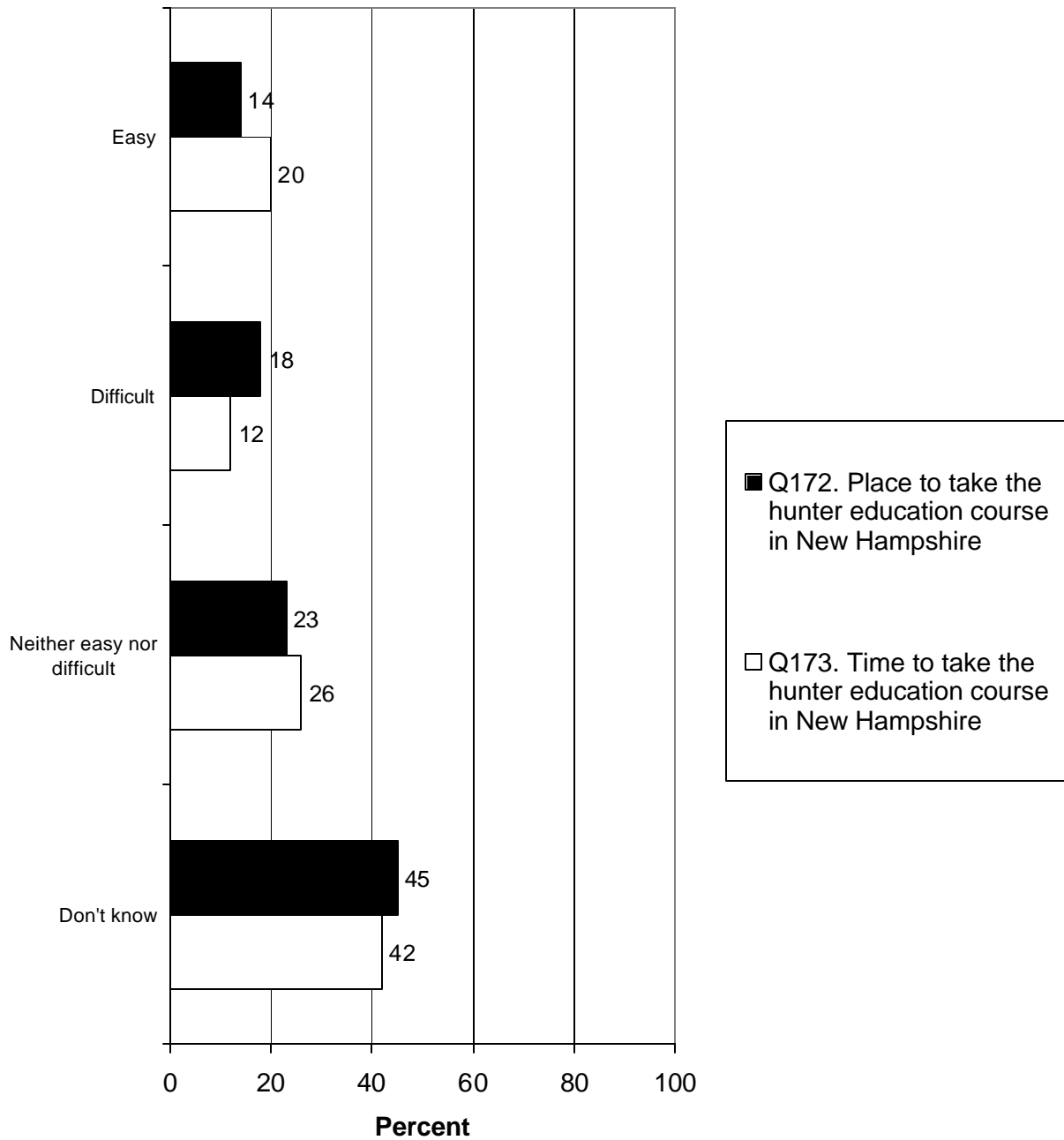
Q171. How would you rate the course you took in New Hampshire? (Asked of those who have taken a hunter education course in New Hampshire.)



**Q172-173. Percent rating the ease or difficulty of finding a:
(Resident)**



**Q172-173. Percent rating the ease or difficulty of finding a:
(Nonresident)**



MOTIVATIONS TO HUNT AND FACTORS THAT WOULD ENCOURAGE HUNTING

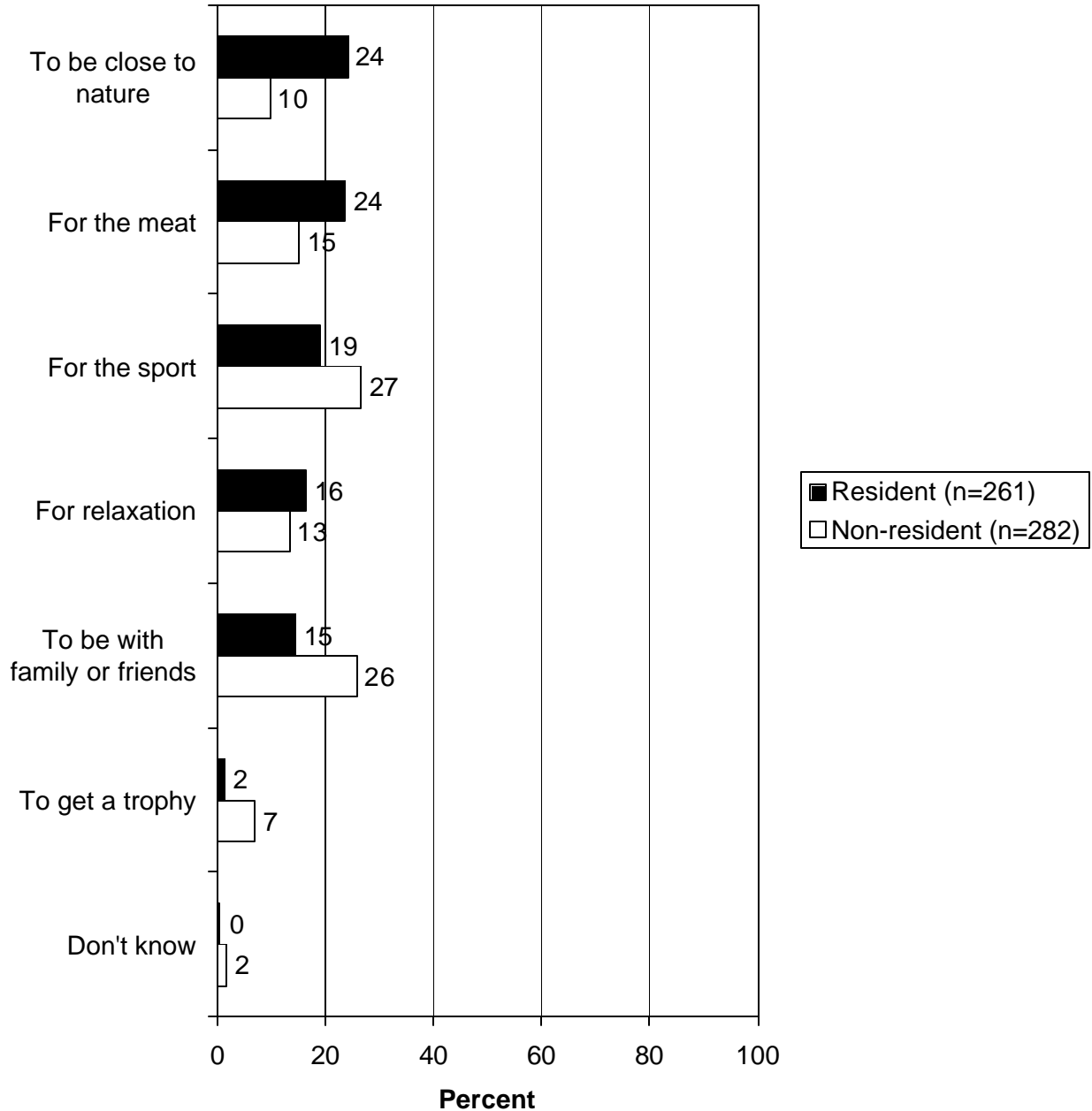
- For resident lapsed hunters, thinking about their hunting in New Hampshire, the top reasons they went hunting were to be close to nature (just over 24%), for the meat (just under 24%), and for the sport (19%). For non-resident lapsed hunters, thinking about their hunting in New Hampshire, the top reasons they went hunting were for the sport (27%), to be with family and/or friends (26%), and for the meat (15%). Getting a trophy was the lowest ranked reason for both resident and non-resident lapsed hunters.

- In an open-ended question (i.e., no answer set was read), having more time was the top answer of factors that would get the respondent to hunt more or hunt again in New Hampshire. Also important among non-resident lapsed hunters was cheaper licenses. Answers related to more game of any type were low down on the list.

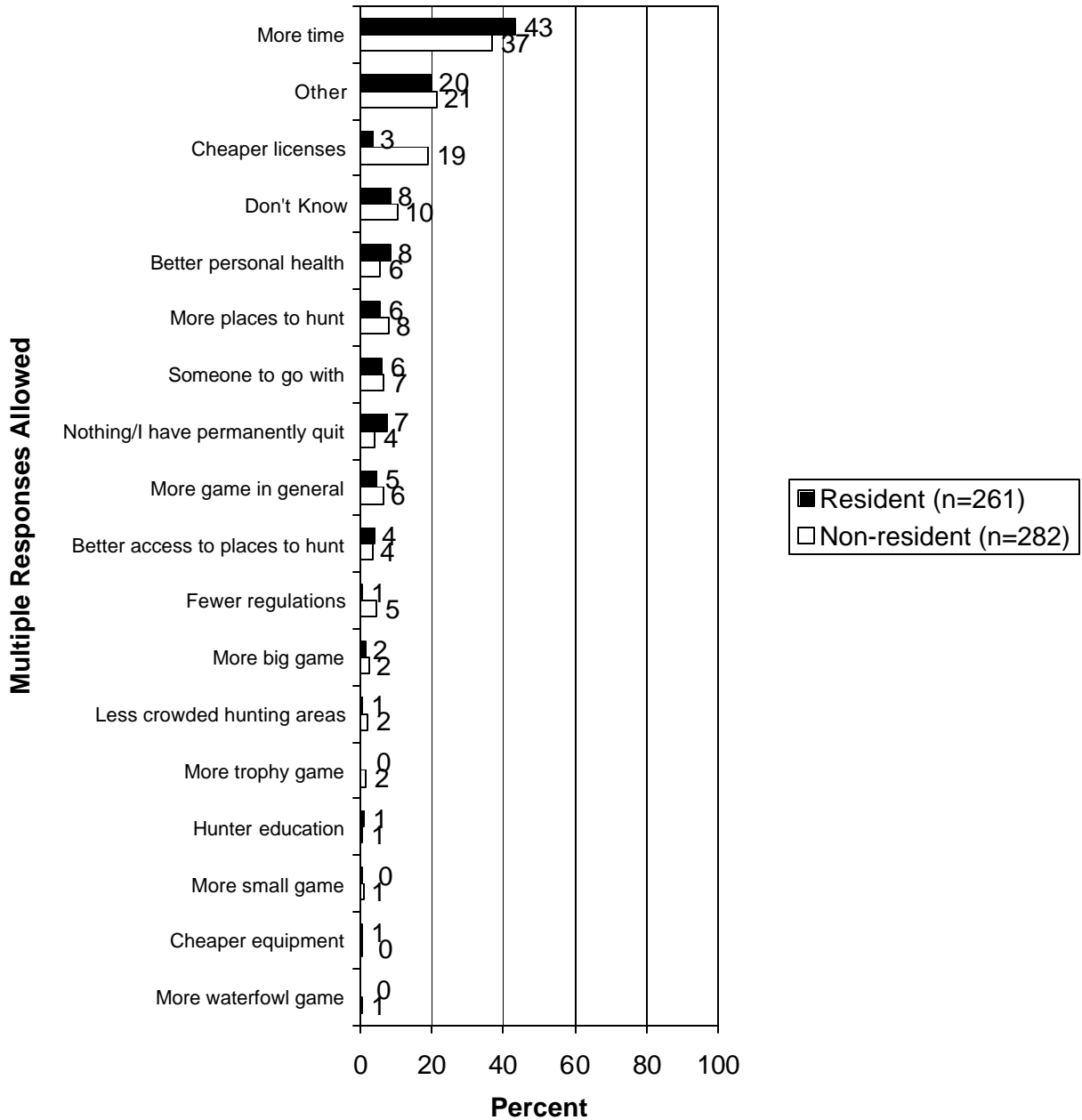
- The survey asked individual questions about 25 possible motivations to encourage more hunting in New Hampshire. The top answers among resident lapsed hunters that would strongly encourage them to hunt more/hunt again were having a child ask to be taken hunting, more opportunities to hunt big game, and more opportunities to hunt on private lands and to hunt on state-owned lands. These were similar to the top answers among non-resident lapsed hunters: more opportunities to hunt big game, having a child ask to be taken hunting, more opportunities to hunt on private lands, receiving an invitation from a friend, hunting being offered as part of his/her next vacation, and more opportunities to hunt on state-owned lands and on Wildlife Management Areas. Another important answer among non-resident lapsed hunters was more opportunities to hunt with a muzzleloader (note that non-resident lapsed hunters were more likely than were resident lapsed hunters to have hunted in New Hampshire with a muzzleloader).
 - The motivations with the highest percentages saying they would not encourage more hunting involved crossbow hunting (more opportunities for crossbow hunting and hunter education about crossbows) or waterfowl (more opportunities to hunt ducks and geese and hunting education for waterfowl hunting).

- Those who said that more opportunities for small game hunting would encourage them to hunt more or hunt again most commonly named ruffed grouse and cottontail rabbit as the species for which they want more hunting opportunities.
- Those who said that more opportunities for big game hunting would encourage them to hunt more or hunt again most commonly named white-tailed deer and moose as the species for which they want more hunting opportunities.
- Those who said that more opportunities for hunting ducks and/or geese would encourage them to hunt more or hunt again were fairly even in wanting more opportunities for ducks and for geese.
- Those who said that more opportunities for hunting other game would encourage them to hunt more or hunt again most commonly named coyote, partridge, bobcat, and ring-necked pheasant as the species for which they want more hunting opportunities.

Q74. Thinking about hunting in New Hampshire, which of the following would you say is the main reason you went hunting?

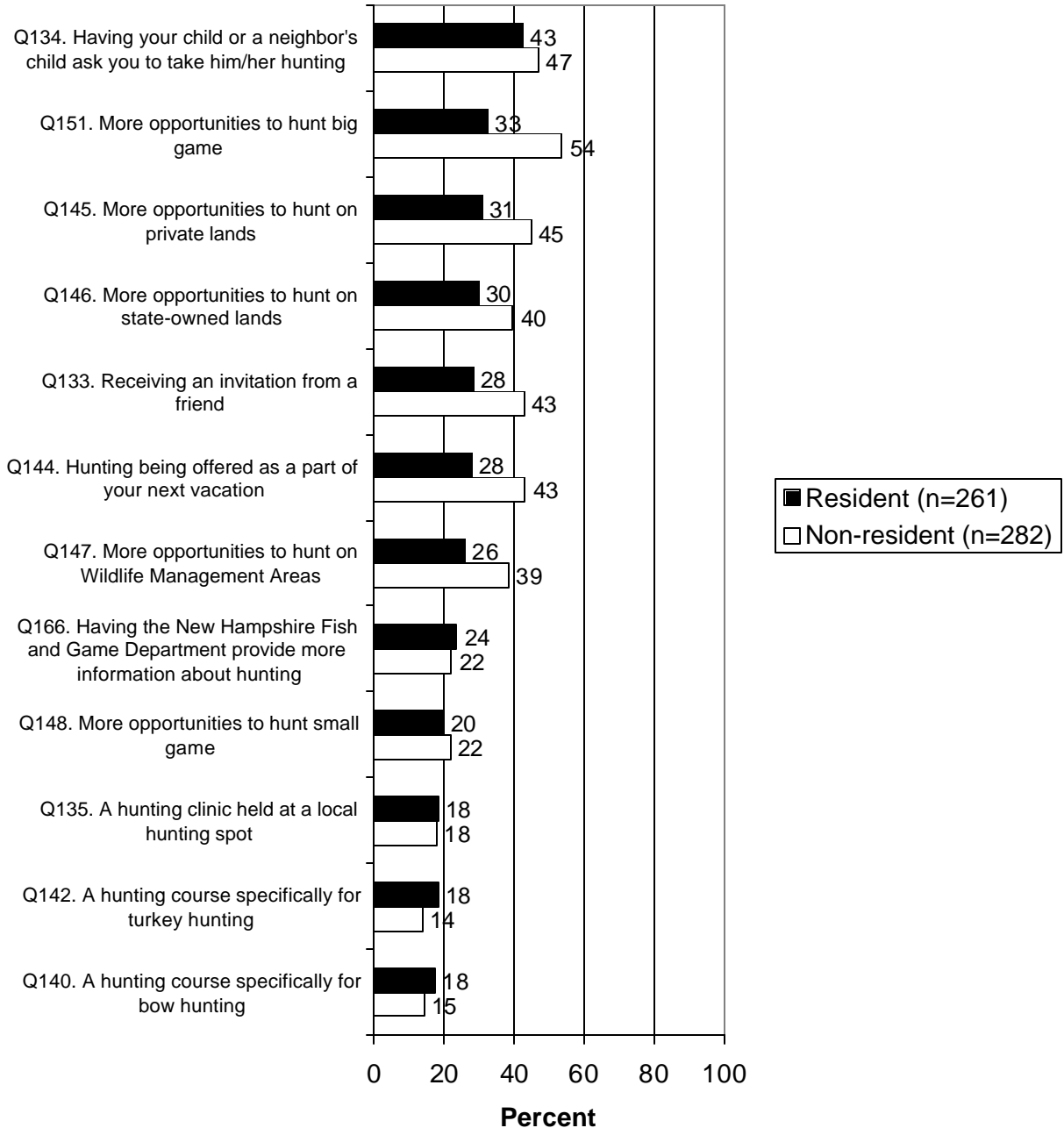


Q130. What would it take to get you to [hunt more in New Hampshire/hunt again in New Hampshire]?



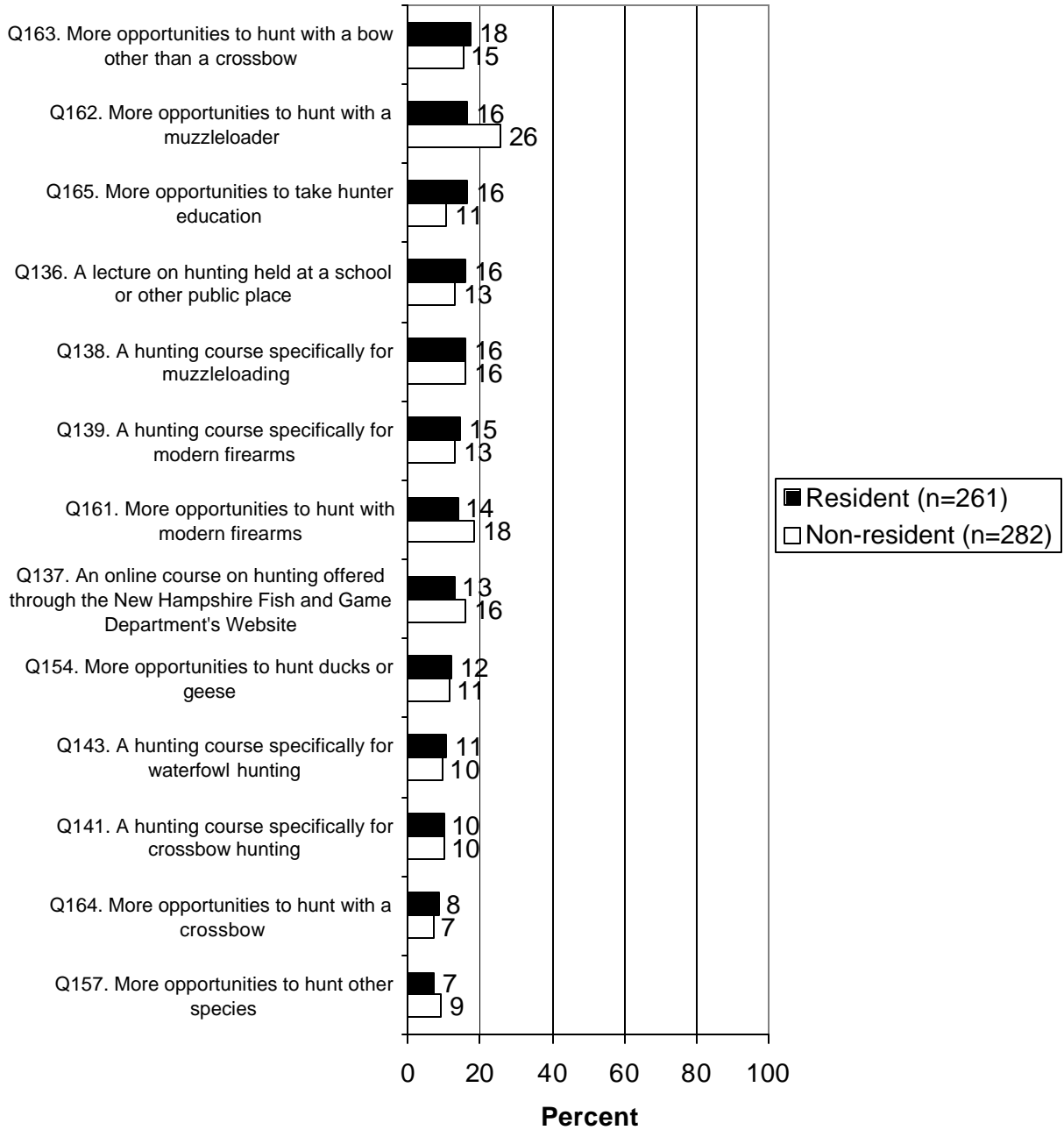
Q133-166. Percent who think the following would strongly encourage him/her to hunt more/hunt again in New Hampshire.

Part 1.



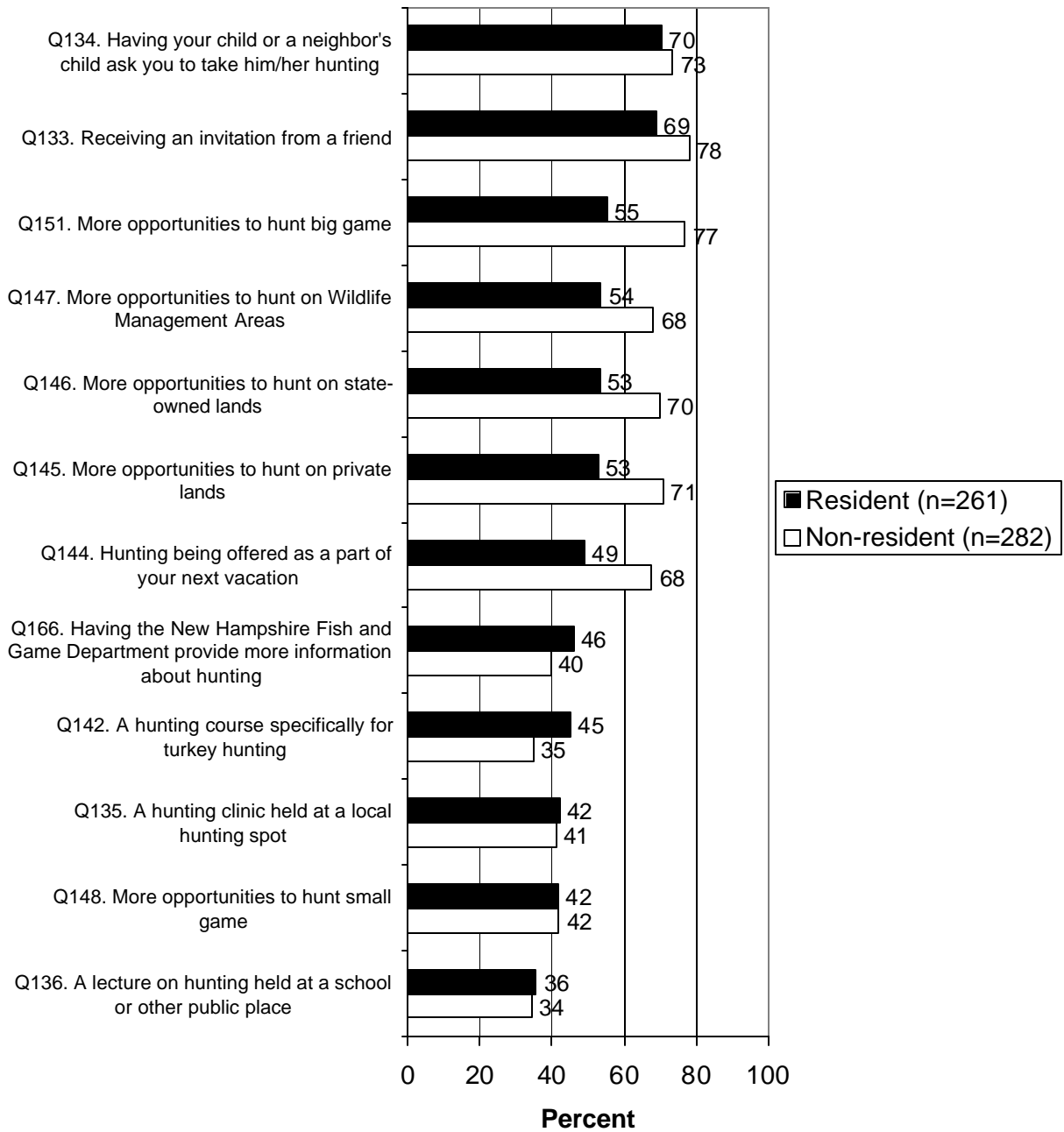
Q133-166. Percent who think the following would strongly encourage him/her to hunt more/hunt again in New Hampshire.

Part 2.



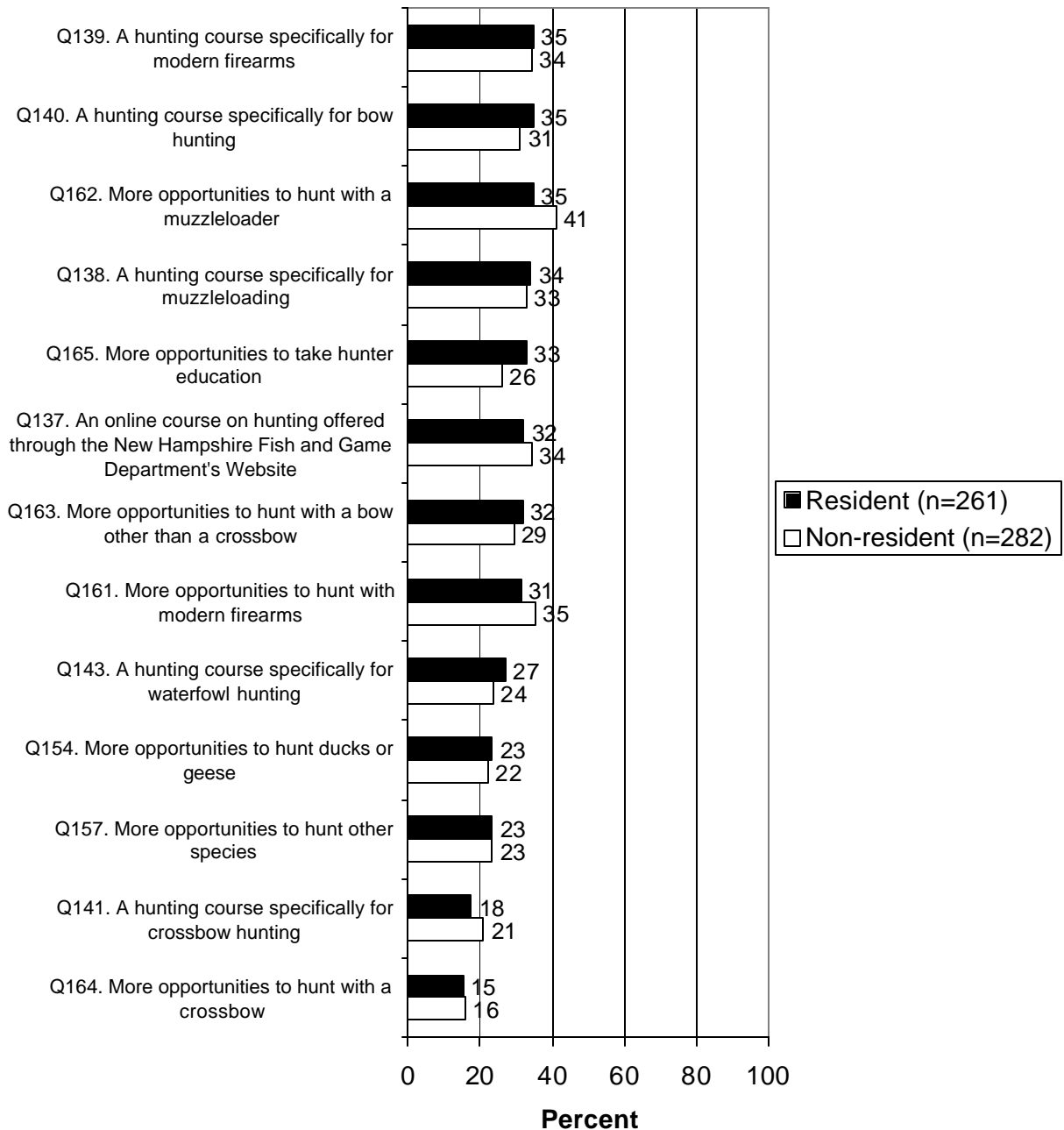
Q133-166. Percent who think the following would strongly or moderately encourage him/her to hunt more/hunt again in New Hampshire.

Part 1.

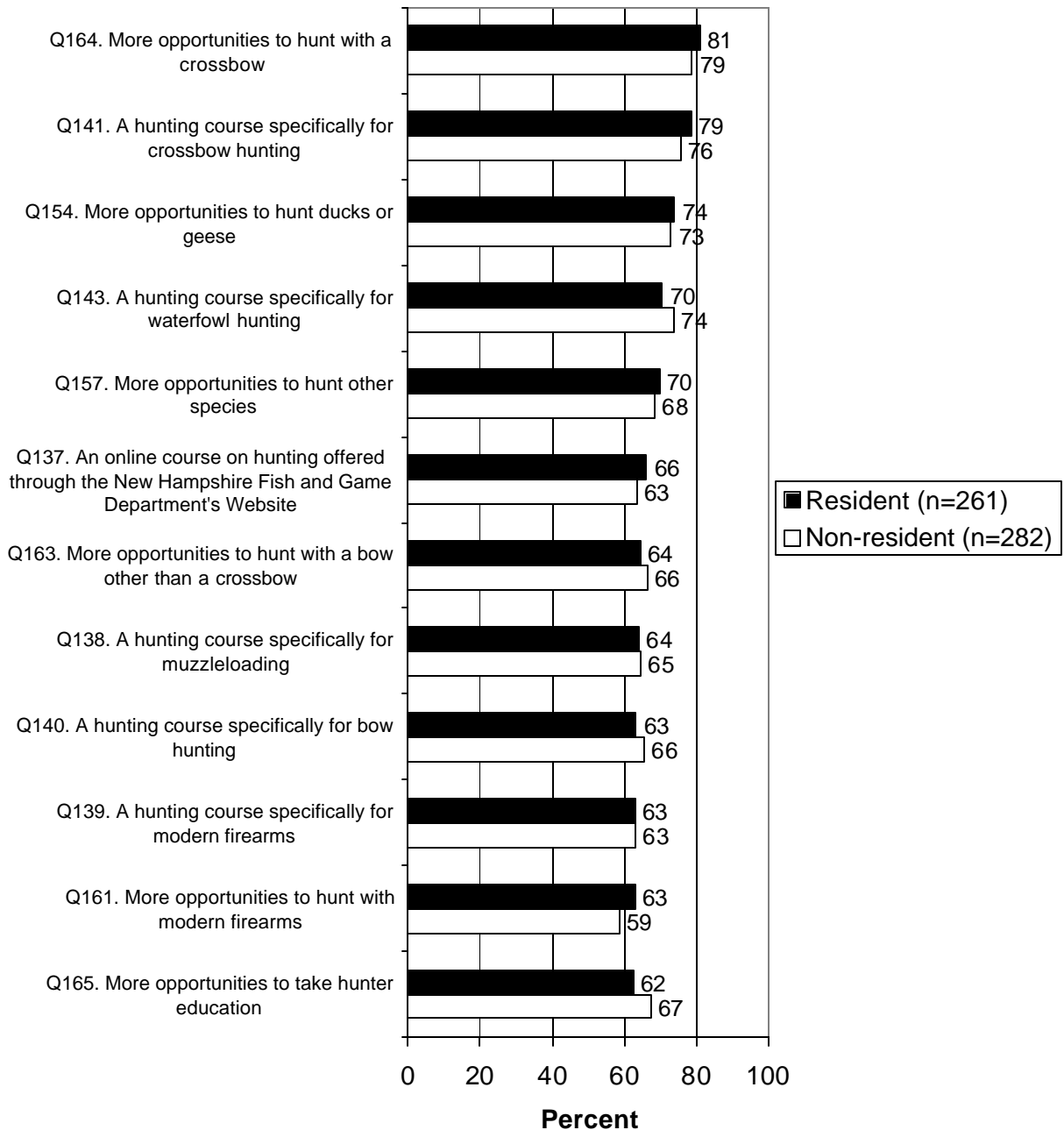


Q133-166. Percent who think the following would strongly or moderately encourage him/her to hunt more/hunt again in New Hampshire.

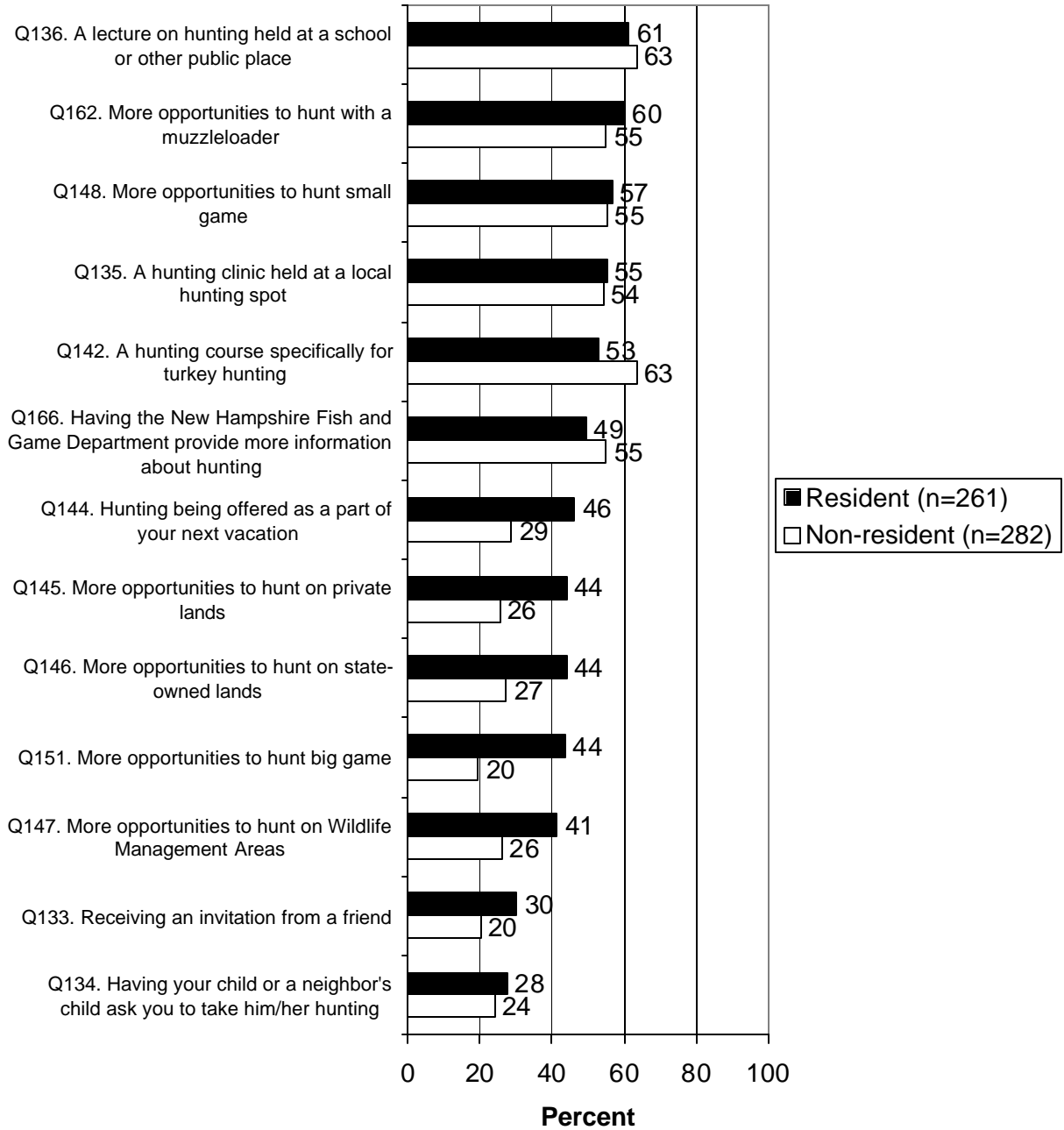
Part 2.



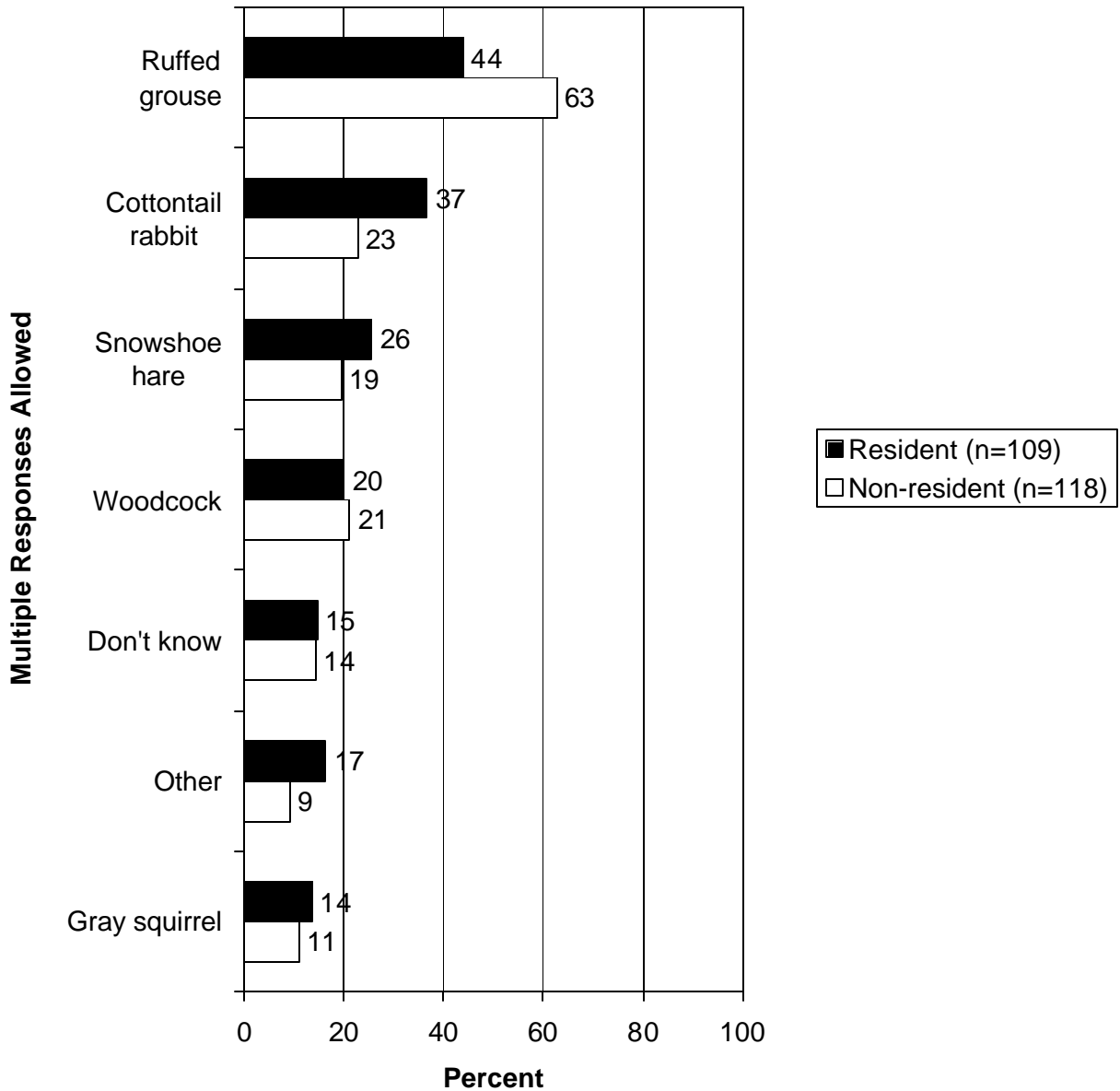
**Q133-166. Percent who think the following would not encourage him/her to hunt more/hunt again in New Hampshire.
Part 1.**



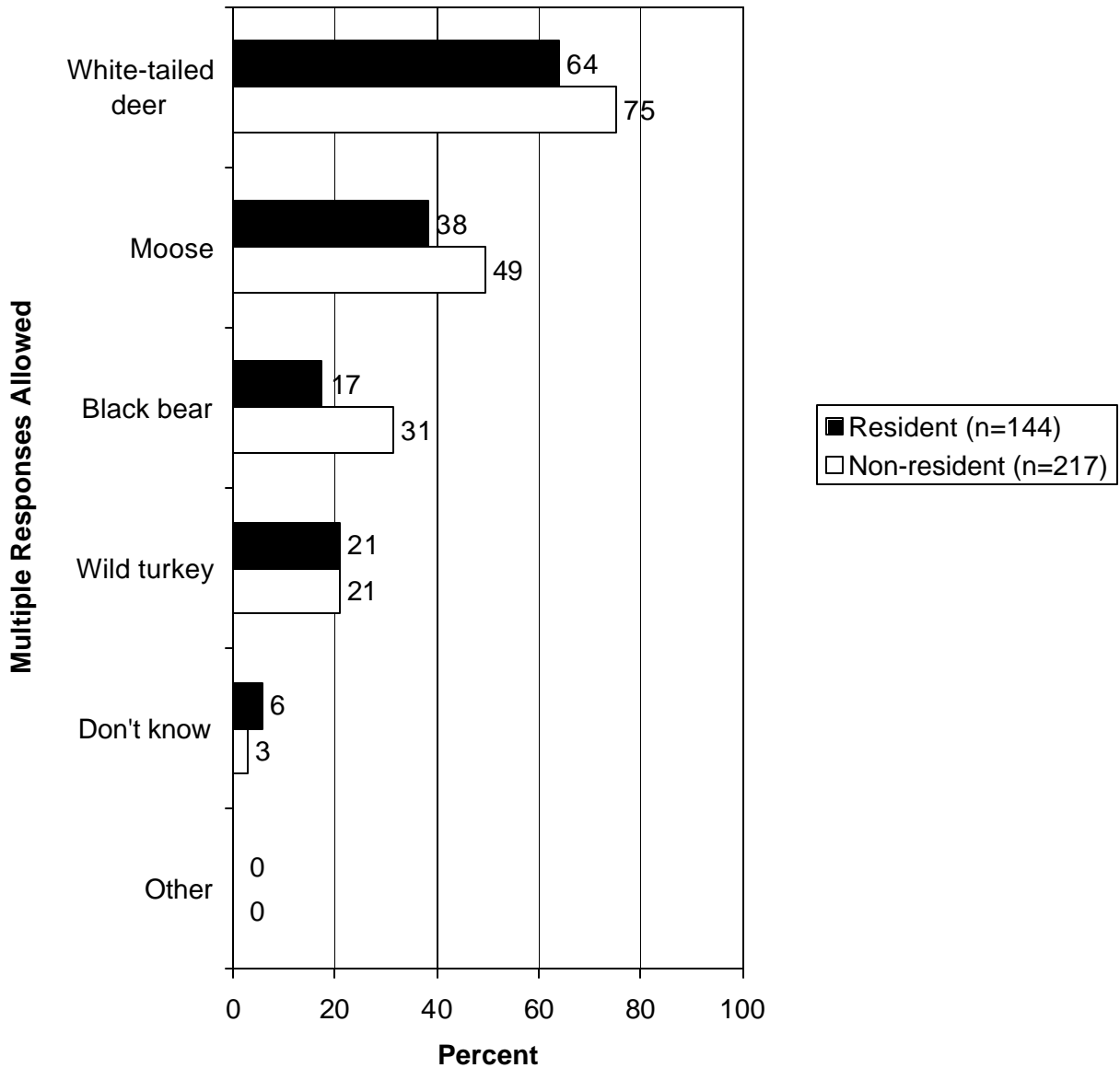
**Q133-166. Percent who think the following would not encourage him/her to hunt more/hunt again in New Hampshire.
Part 2.**



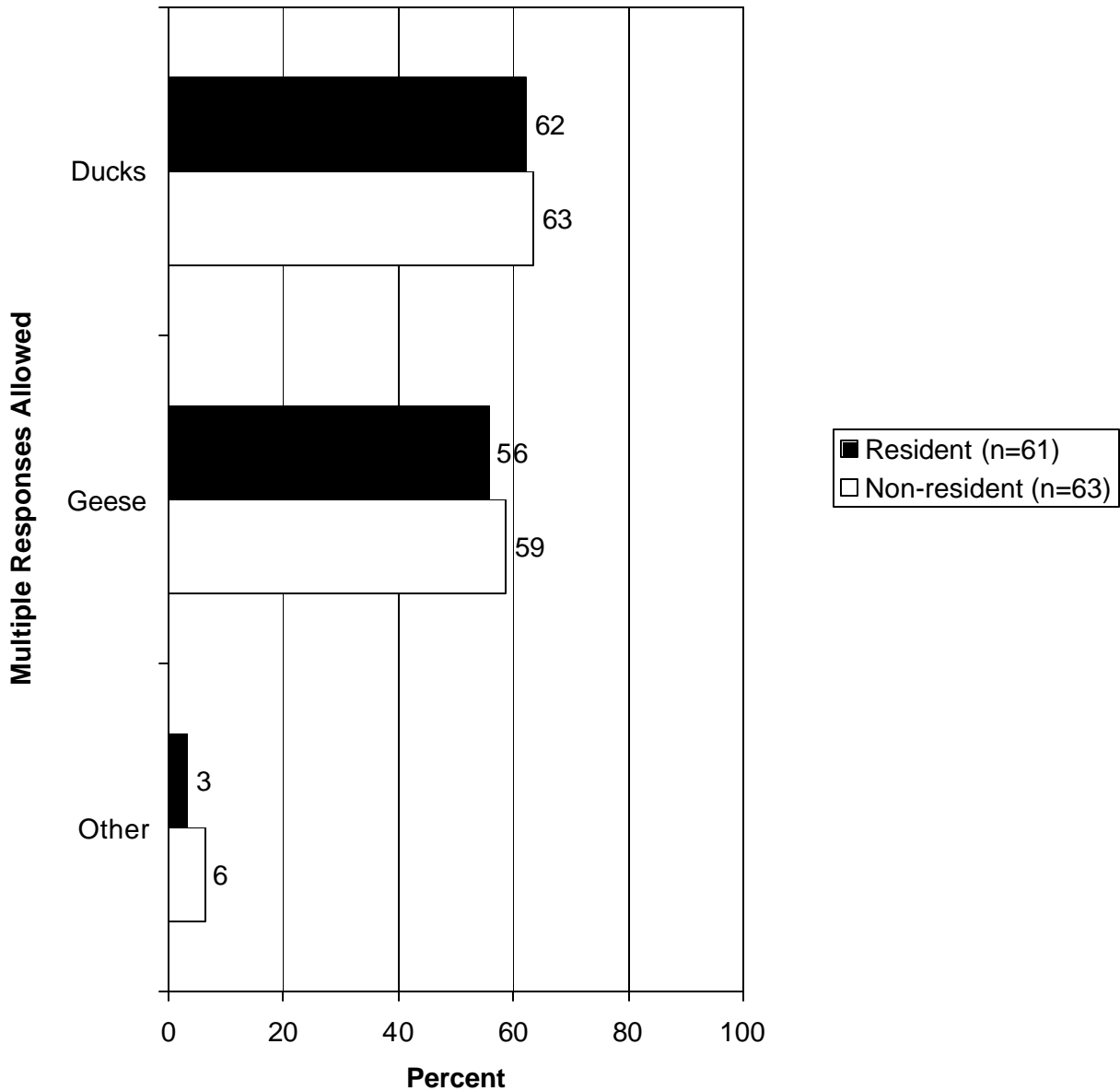
Q150. For which of these small game species would you like to see more hunting opportunities in New Hampshire? (Asked of those who indicated that more opportunities to hunt small game would encourage them to hunt more or hunt again.)



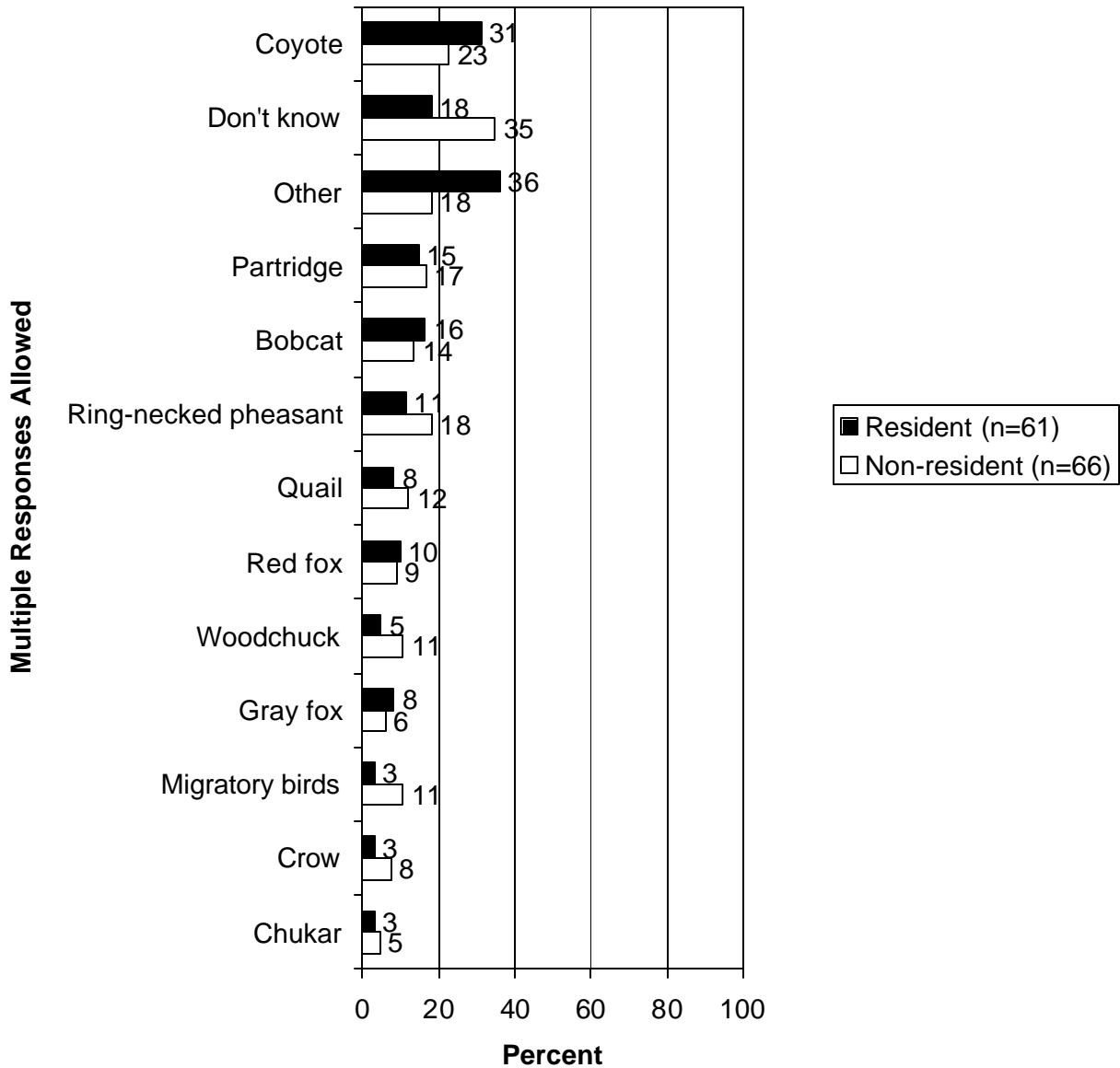
Q153. For which of these big game species would you like to see more hunting opportunities in New Hampshire? (Asked of those who indicated that more opportunities to hunt big game would encourage them to hunt more or hunt again.)



Q156. Of these waterfowl, for which would you like to see more hunting opportunities in New Hampshire? (Asked of those who indicated that more opportunities to hunt ducks or geese would encourage them to hunt more or hunt again.)



Q159. For which other species would you like to see more hunting opportunities in New Hampshire? (Asked of those who indicated that more opportunities to hunt other species would encourage them to hunt more or hunt again.)

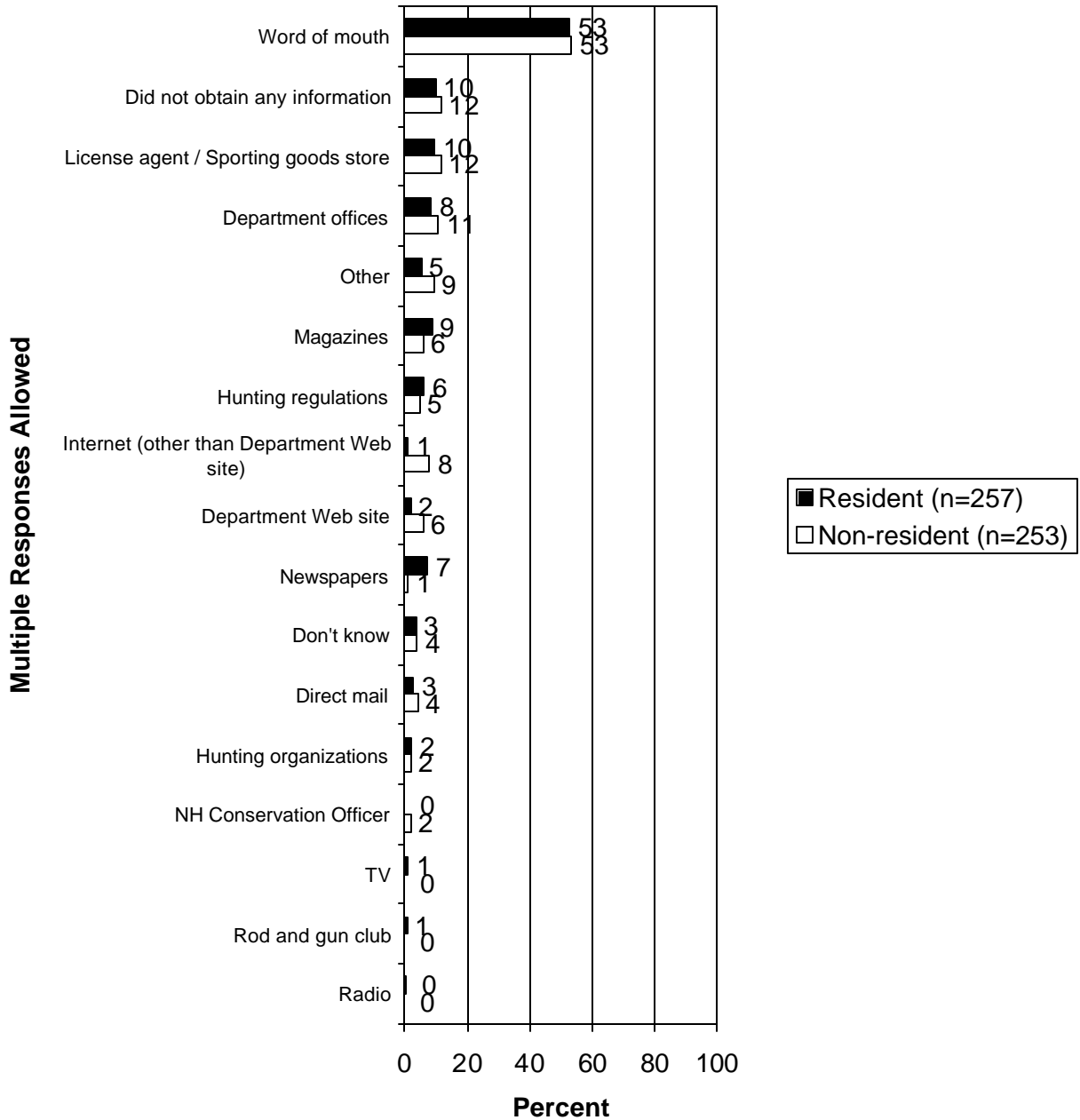


SOURCES OF INFORMATION ABOUT HUNTING

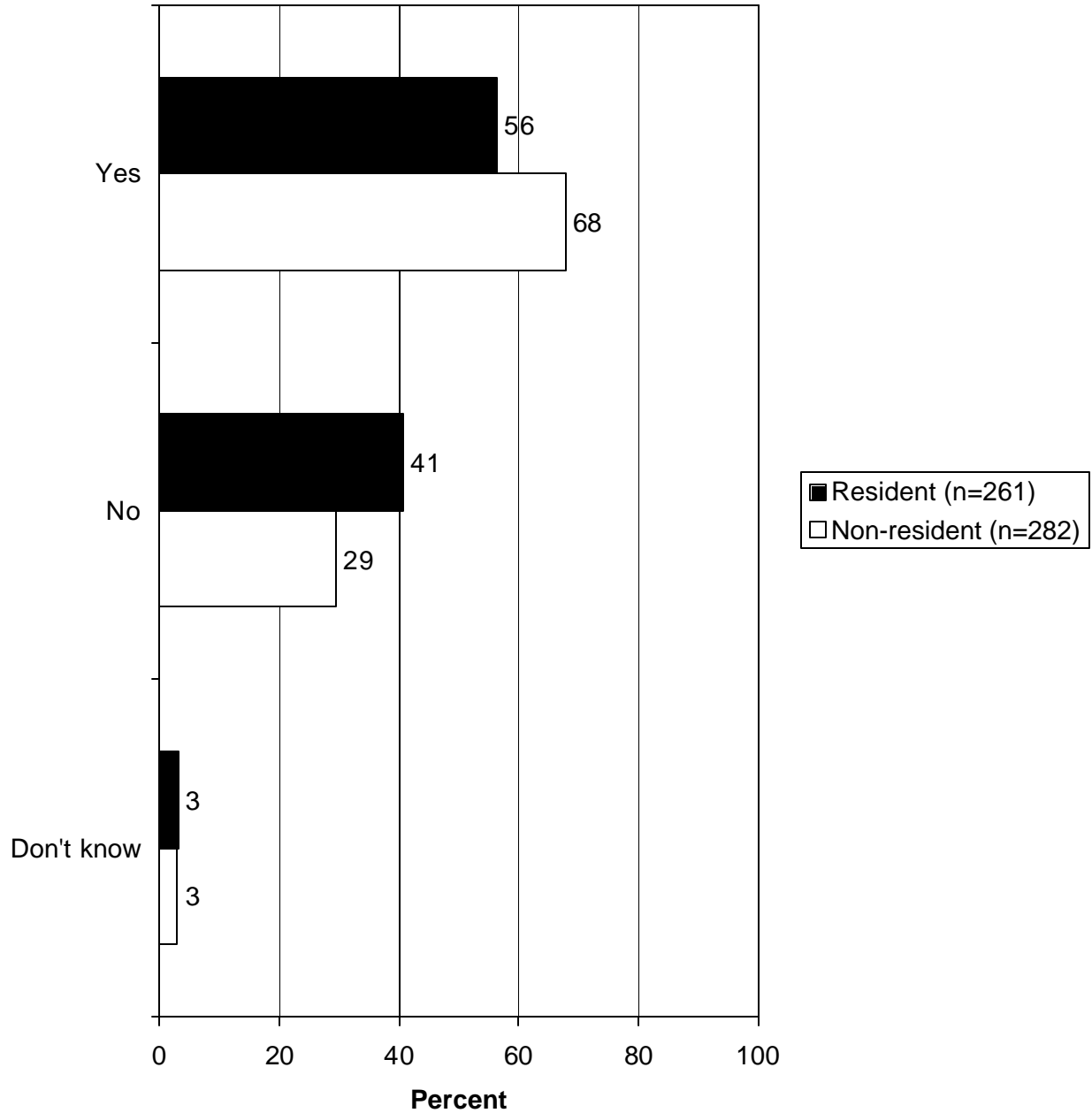
- Word-of-mouth was the top-named source of information about hunting in New Hampshire, when respondents had hunted there in the past. This answer was distantly followed by license agent/sporting goods store and Department offices.

- A slight majority of resident lapsed hunters and a higher percentage of non-resident lapsed hunters indicated that they would be interested in more information about hunting in New Hampshire. Direct mail and the Internet were the favored ways to be provided with information (note that 83% of resident lapsed hunters and 67% of non-resident lapsed hunters have Internet access in their homes, and about a third of both groups have visited the Department's Website).
 - Resident lapsed hunters were most interested in information about places to hunt and about hunting regulations.
 - Non-resident lapsed hunters were most interested in information about places to hunt and information about game wildlife in the state.

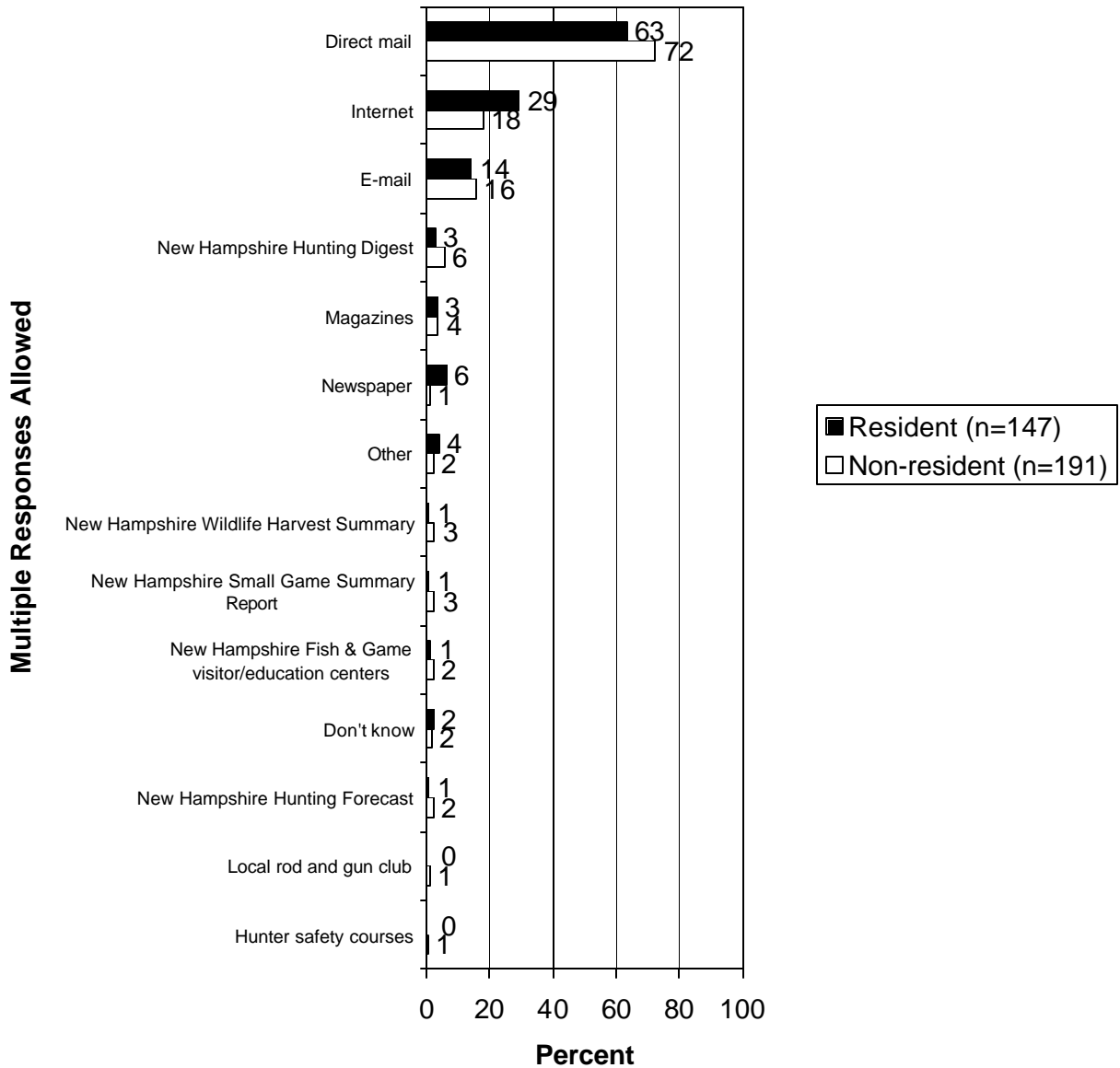
Q175. When you hunted in New Hampshire in the past, from what sources did you obtain information about hunting in New Hampshire?



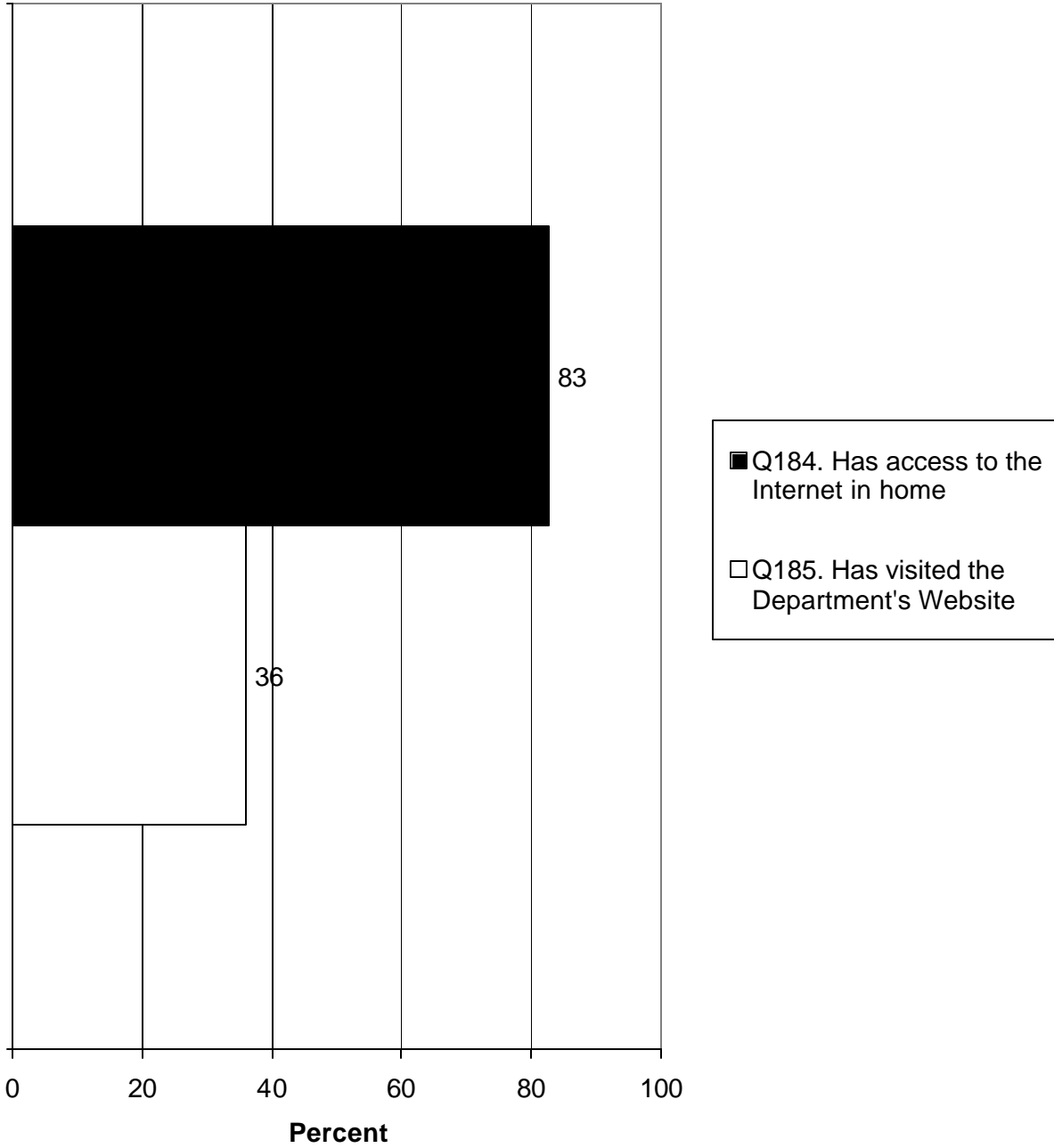
Q177. Would you be interested in more information about hunting in New Hampshire? (The respondent was told that no information would be sent and that the question only gauged interest.)



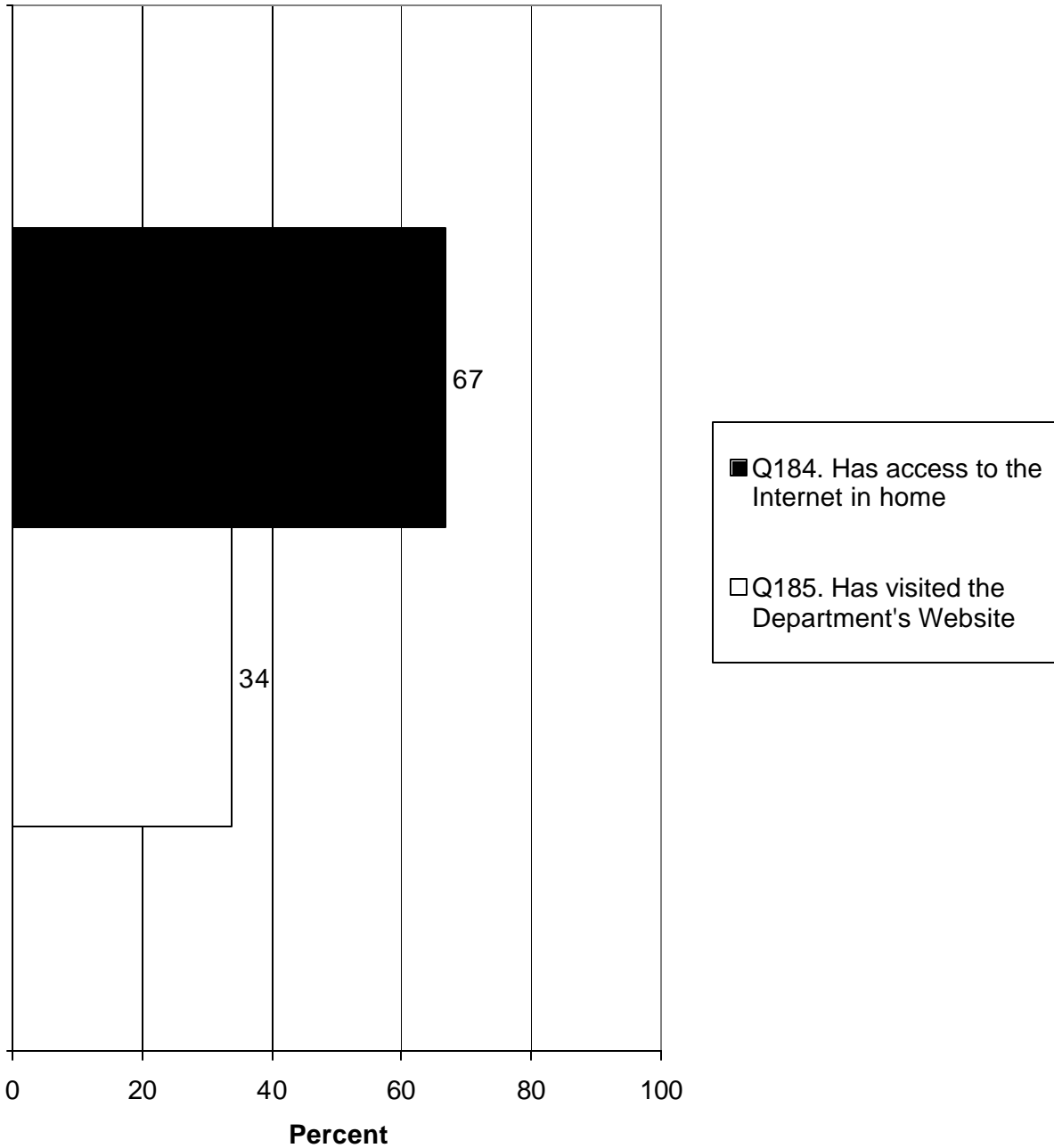
Q182. What is the best way to provide you with information on hunting in New Hampshire? (Asked of those who indicated that they would be interested in more information about hunting in New Hampshire.)



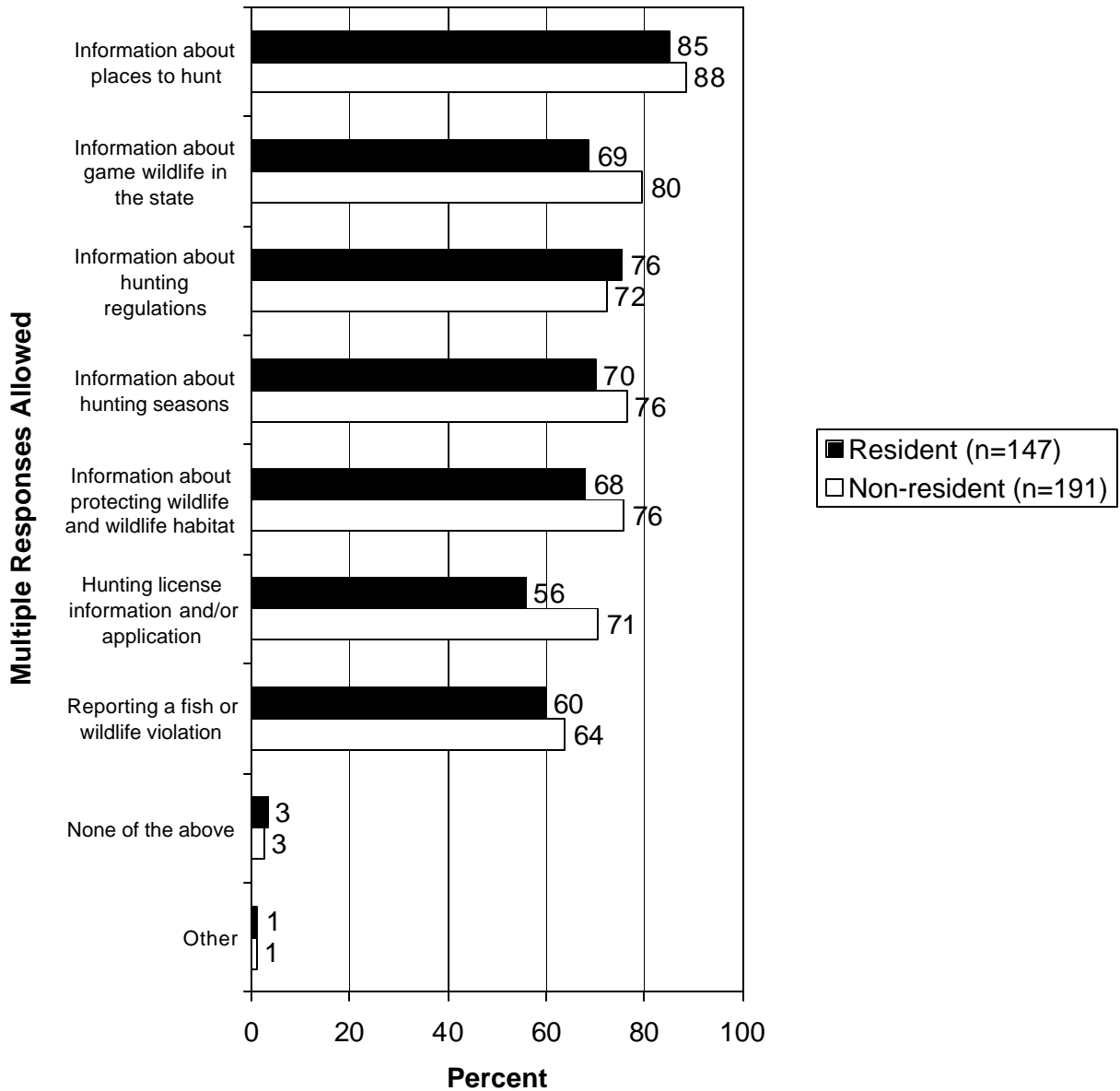
**Q184-185. Percent who have Internet access in home and percent who visited Department Website.
(Resident)**



**Q184-185. Percent who have Internet access in home and percent who visited Department Website.
(Nonresident)**



Q179. I am going to read a few topics and would like to know for which you would like more information. (Asked of those who indicated that they would be interested in more information about hunting in New Hampshire.)



DEMOGRAPHIC DATA

- Respondents were overwhelmingly rural or from a small city or town.

- Counties of residence (New Hampshire residents) are shown. The highest percentage of lapsed hunters in the survey resided in Hillsborough, Rockingham, and Merrimack Counties.

- Respondents were overwhelmingly white and not of Hispanic or Latino ethnicity.

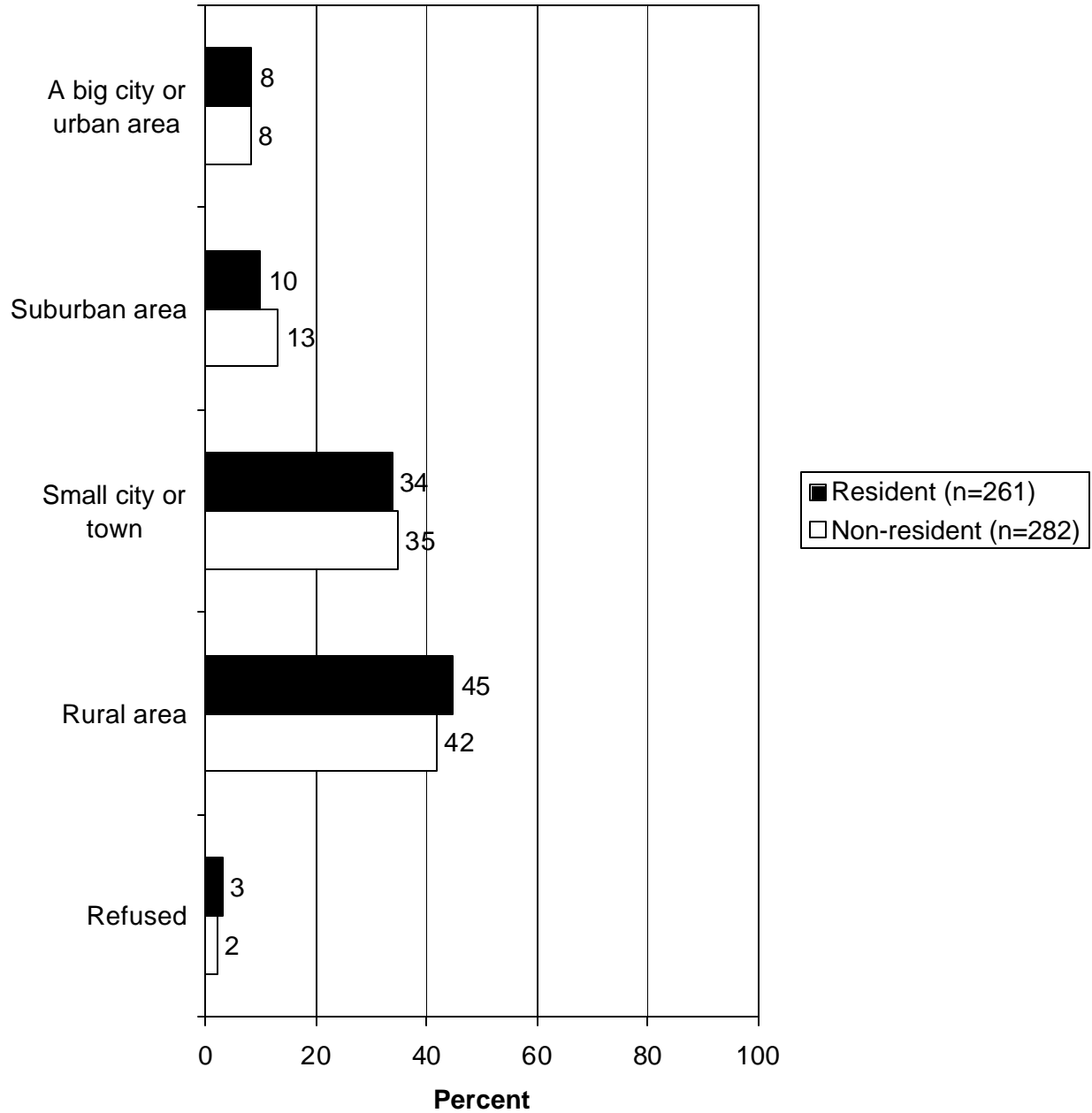
- Respondents were fairly evenly divided between those who had gone no further than high school, with or without obtaining a diploma, and those who had some college, with or without obtaining a degree: among resident lapsed hunters, 47% had gone no further than high school, and 49% (rounding causes the graphs to appear to sum to 48%) had some college; among non-resident lapsed hunters, 46% (rounding causes the graphs to appear to sum to 45%) had gone no further than high school, and 51% had some college.

- Pre-tax household incomes of respondents followed a bell curve, in general, with the peak in the \$40,000 to \$59,999 category.

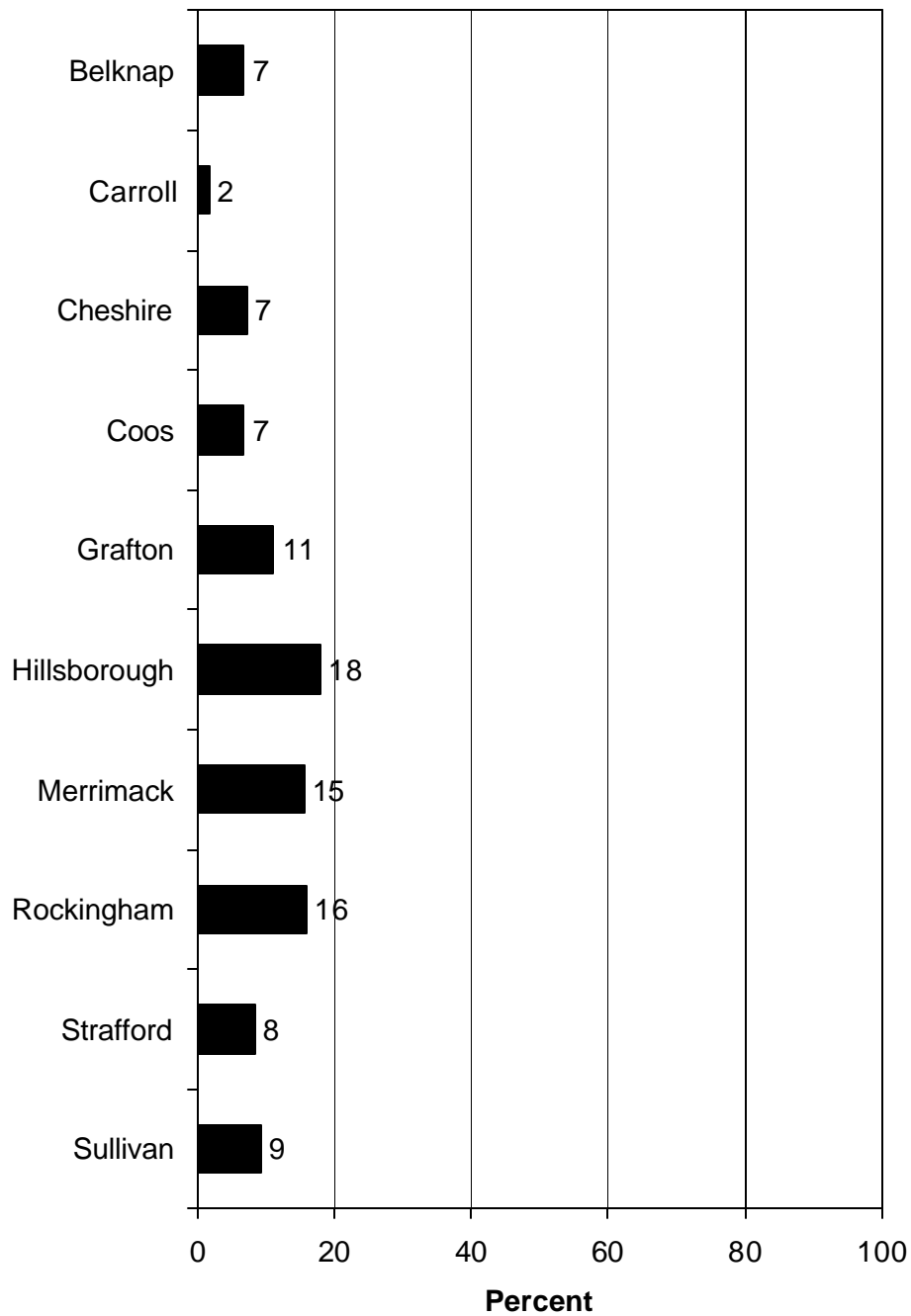
- Ages of respondents followed a bell curve, with the peak in the 45-54 years old category.

- Respondents were overwhelmingly male.

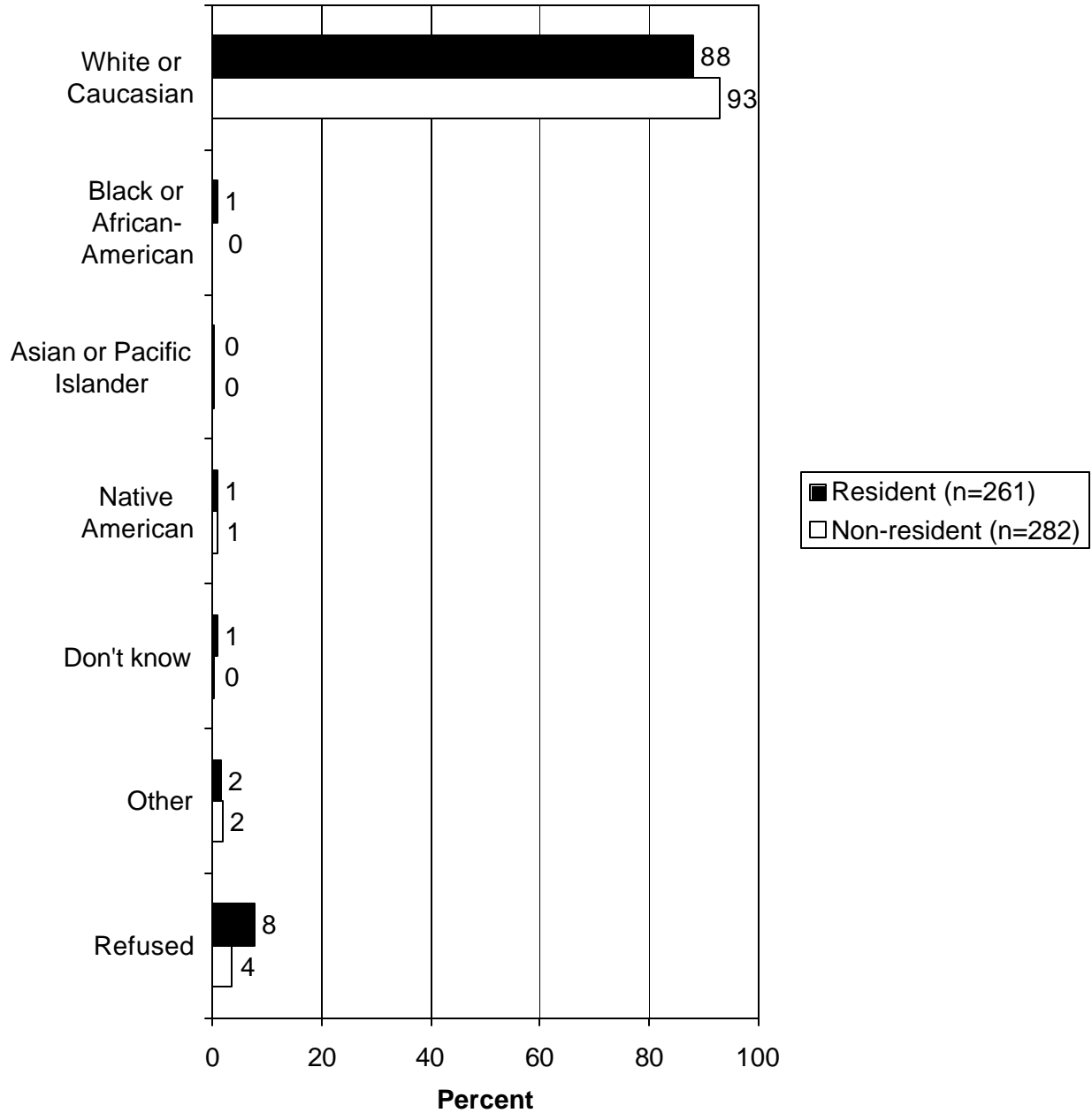
Q187. Do you consider your place of residence to be in a big city or urban area, a suburban area, a small city or town, or a rural area?



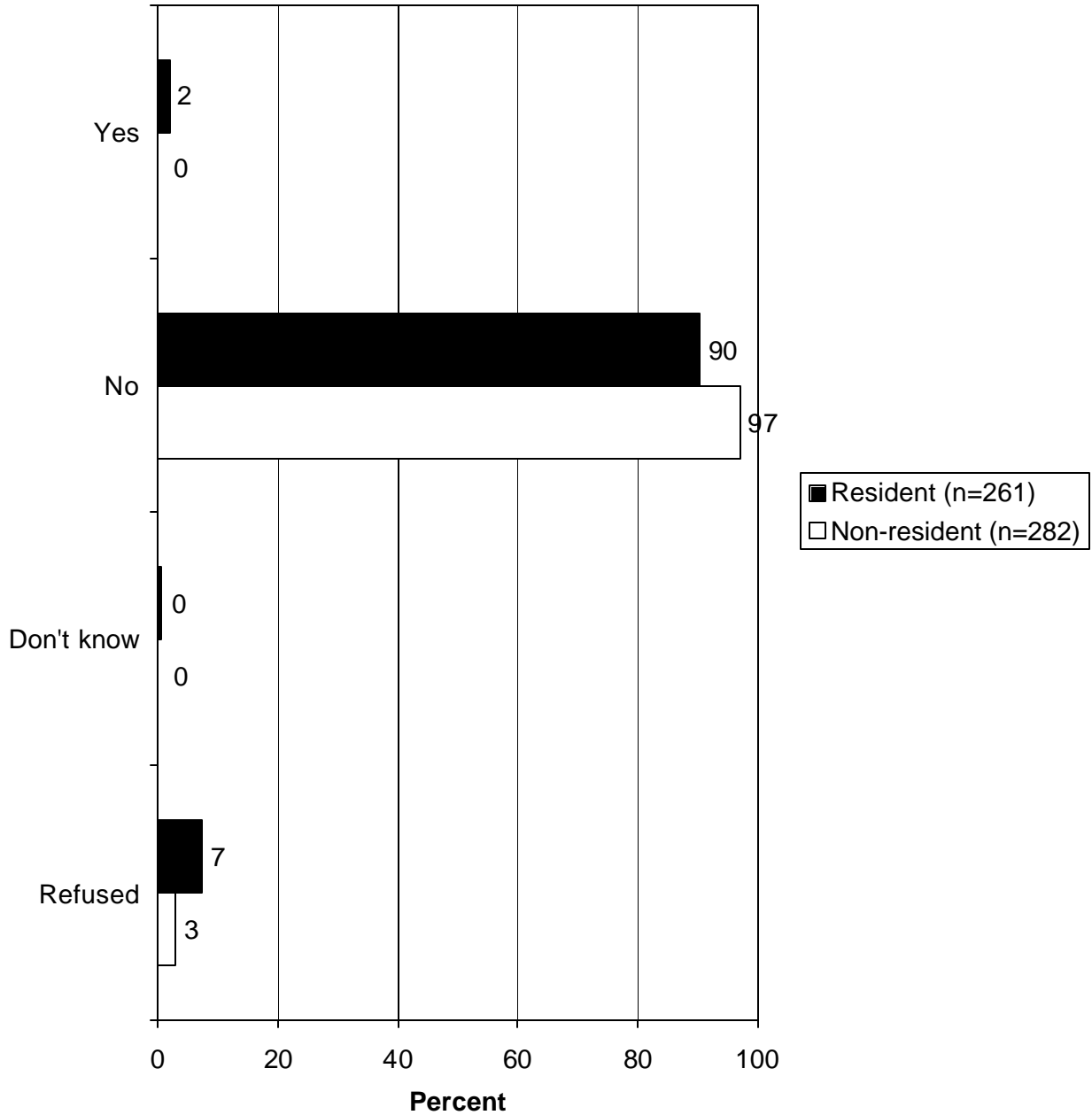
Q188. What is your county of residence? (Asked of New Hampshire residents.)



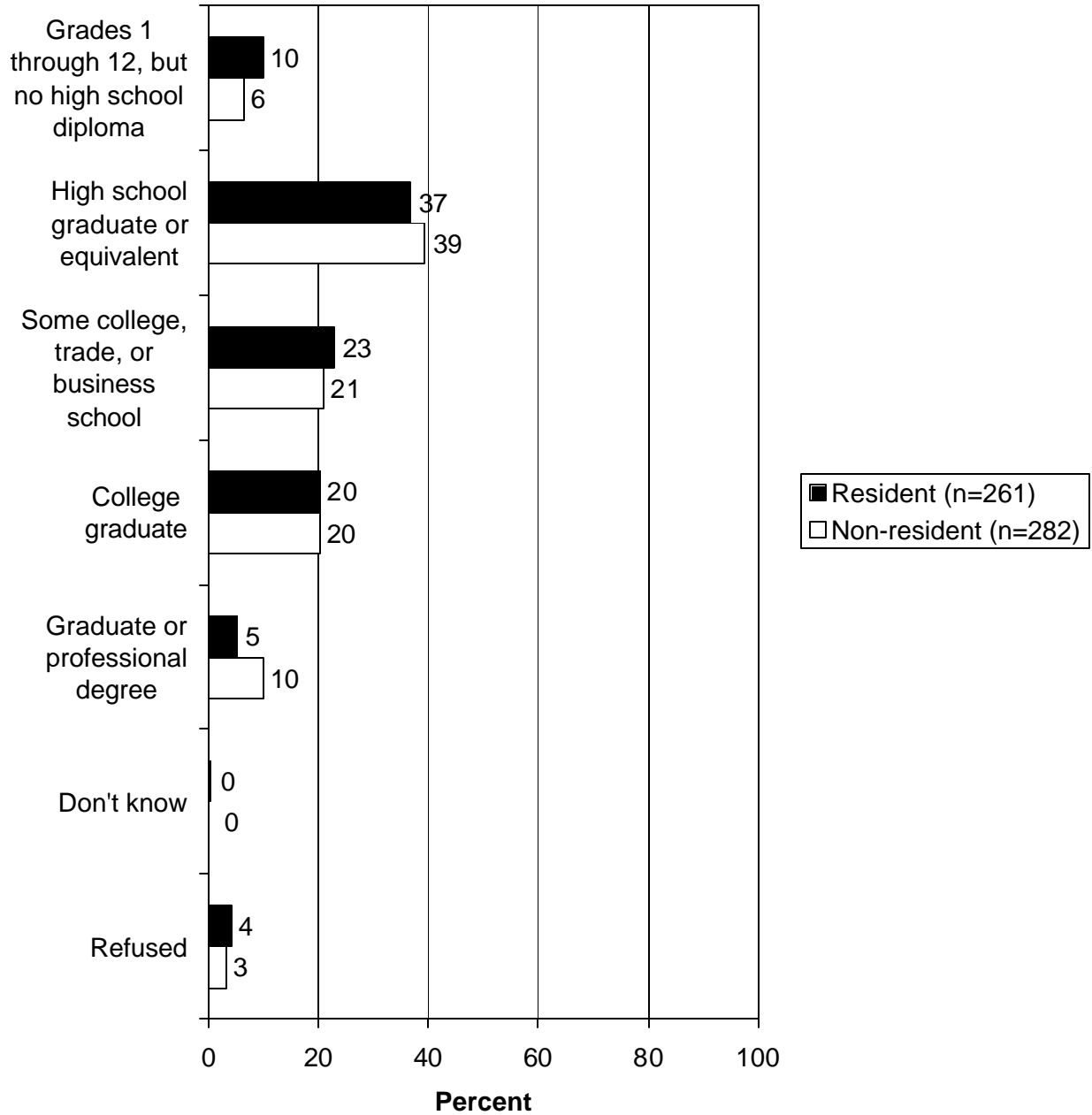
Q190. What is your race or ethnic background?



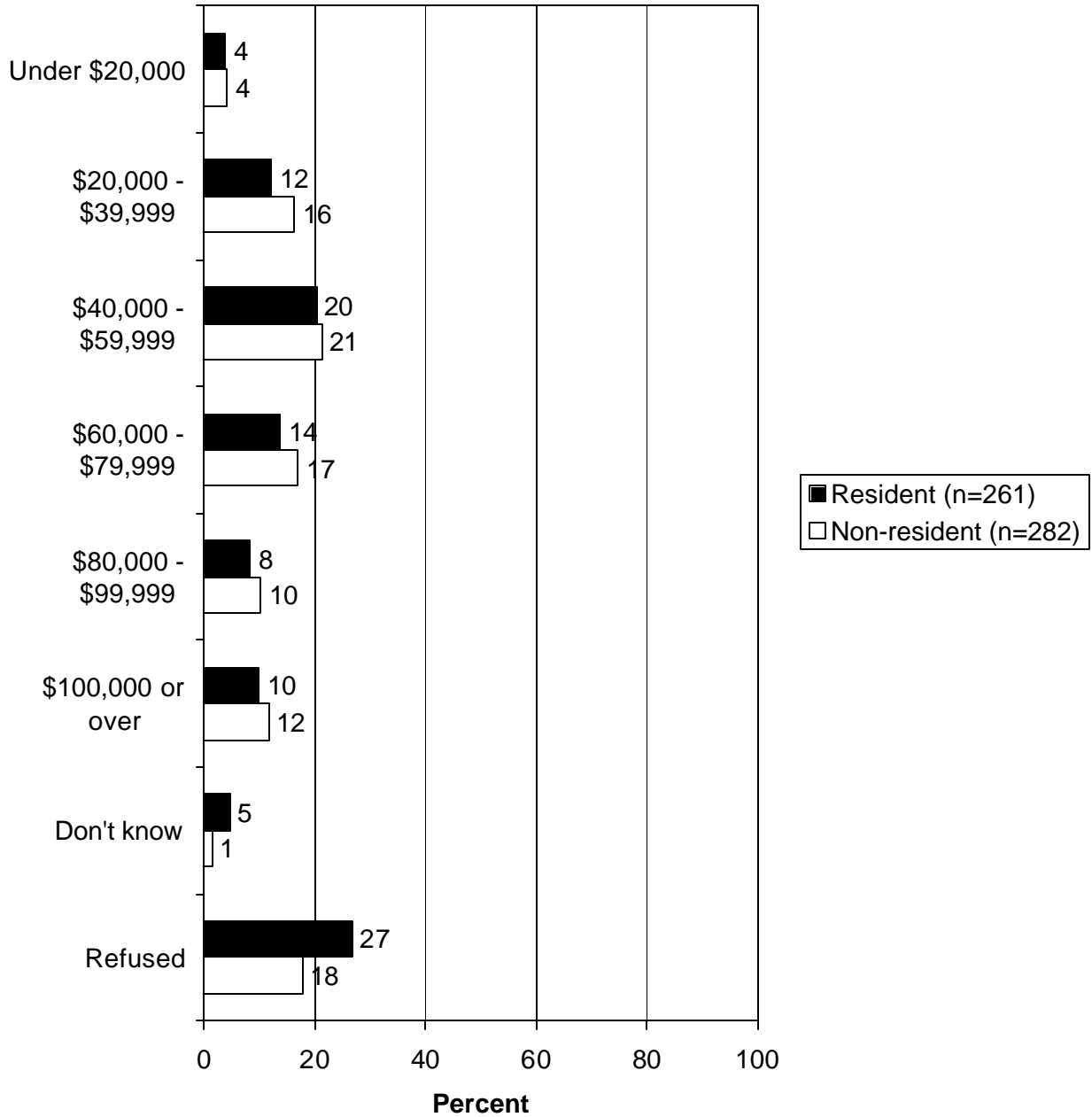
Q189. Are you of Hispanic or Latino ethnicity?



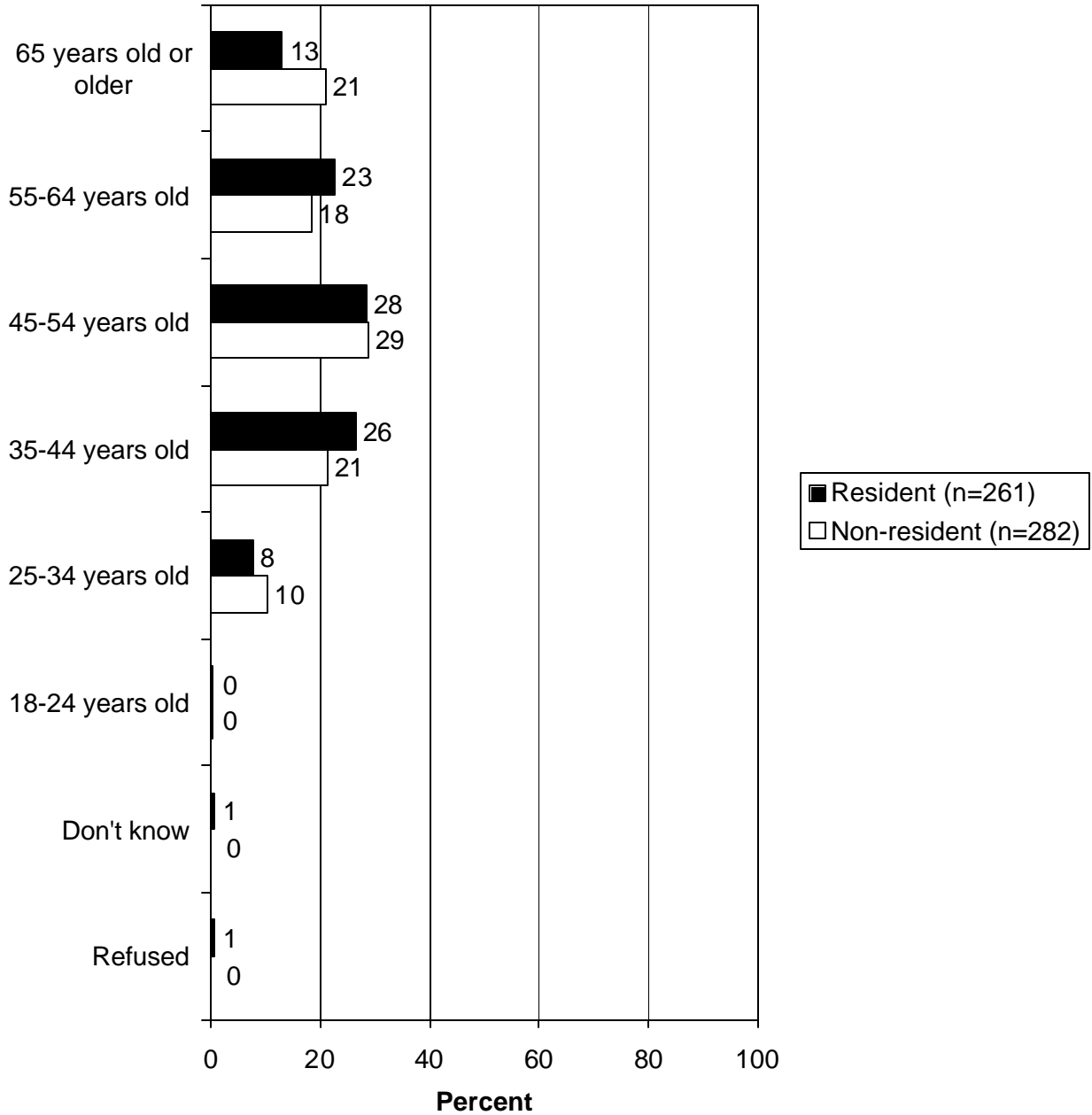
Q192. What is the highest grade level you have completed?



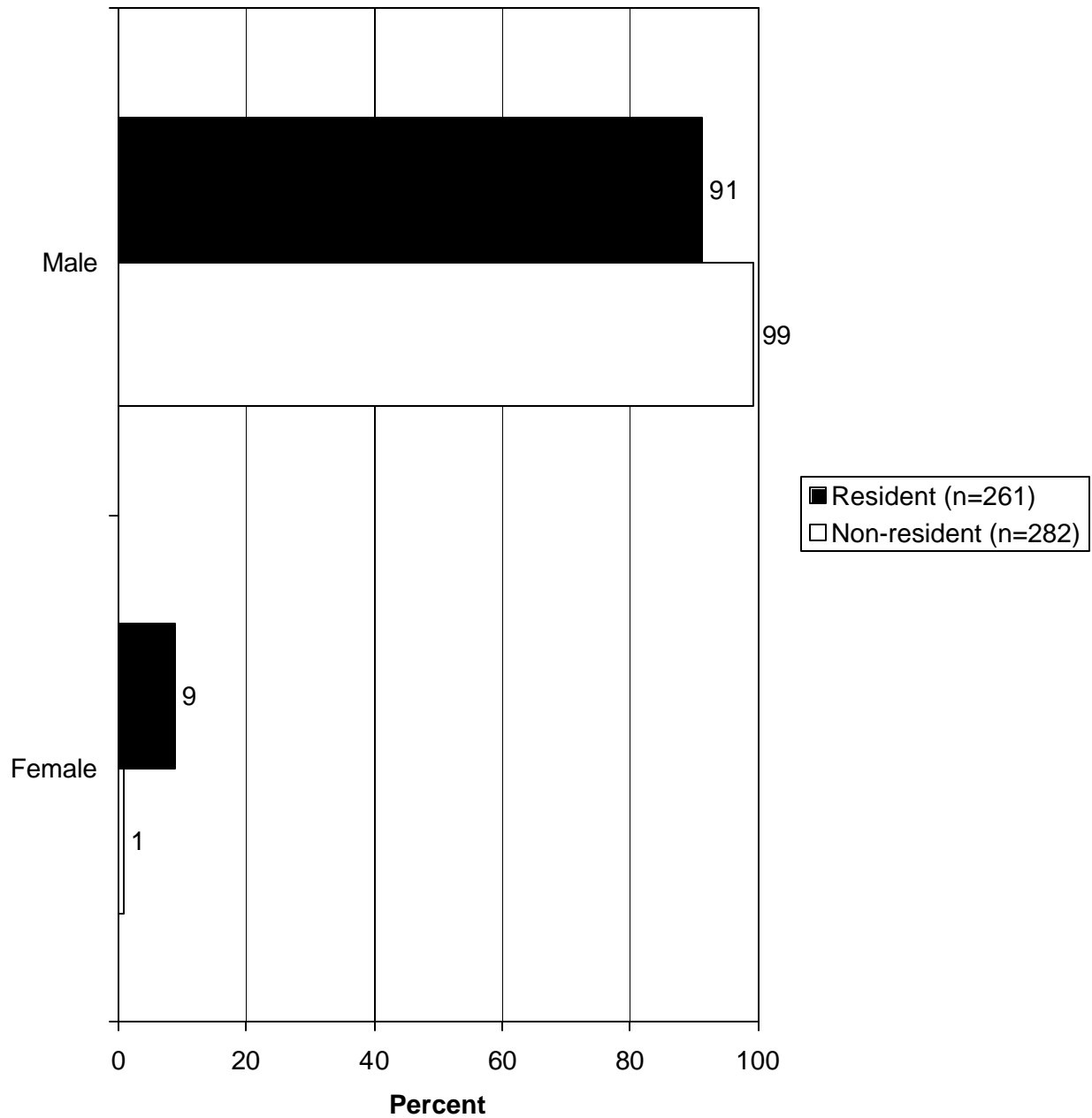
Q193. Which of these categories best describes your total household income before taxes last year?



Q194. May I ask your age?



Q197. Respondent's gender (not asked, but observed by interviewer).



ADDITIONAL COMMENTS

Q195. That's the end of the questionnaire, thank you very much for your time and cooperation! (Additional comments.)

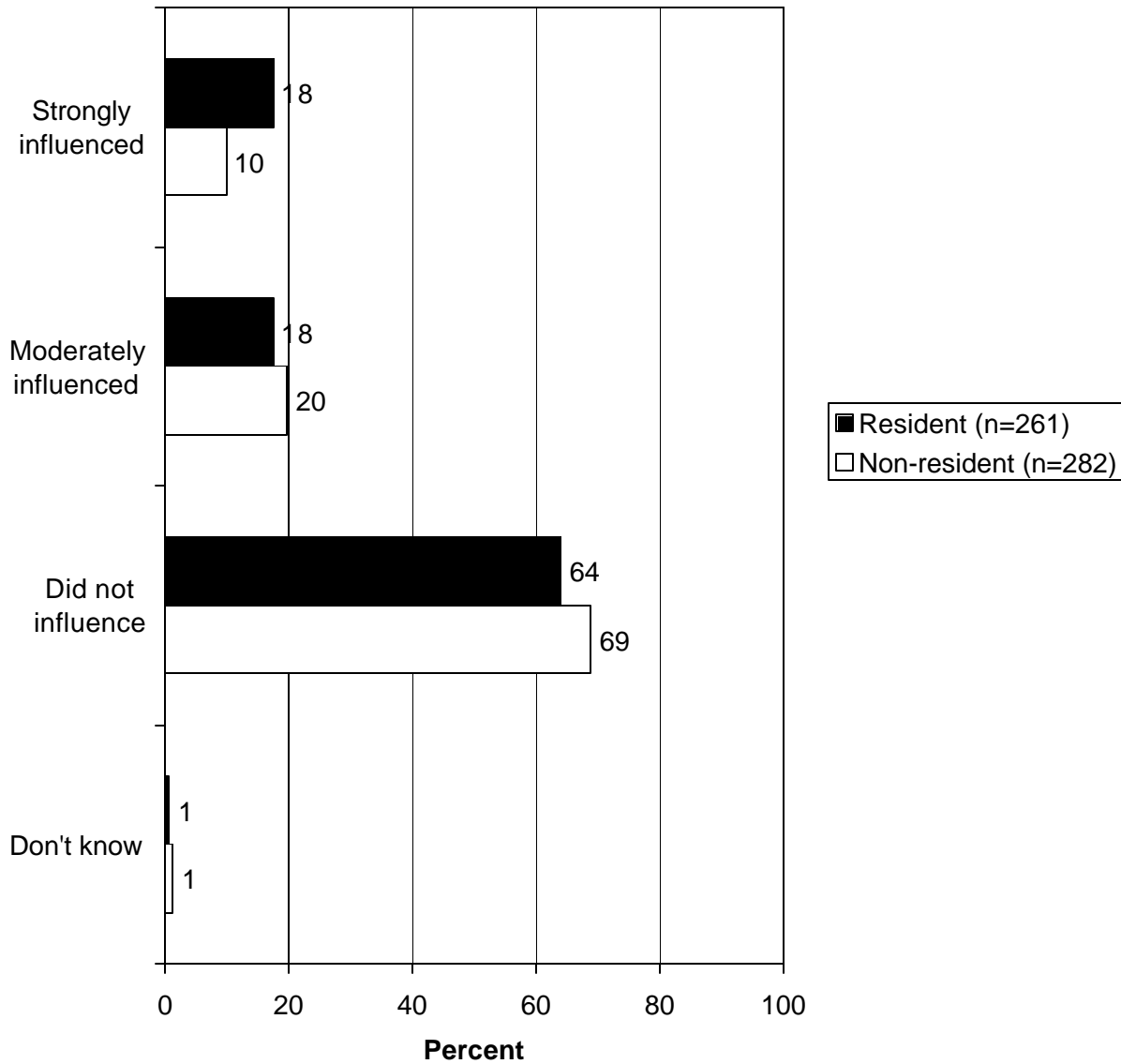
There ought to be more emphasis on the management of game rather than policing game laws and policing efforts.
Increase population of rabbit and coon.
I will probably hunt in NH when the opportunity is available to me again.
A time constraint on my part, a lack of knowing where to hunt, what the access is, and what game are available are the main reasons I haven't hunted here in the past few years.
I would like to have more opportunities to hunt both doe & buck, and also more time allowed for resident only hunting.
Will not hunt again in NH due to lack of game.
What ideas do I have to get people back? What would entice me to return? For me: special one-time reduction in price for returning to NH to hunt (same price as in-state) or have NH hunters ask him back.
Longer season lengths. Town hunting for overpopulated areas. Winnepesaukee Lake has over population problems.
Lower the license fees and I'll buy one.
Be more specific about private current land use; close deer season in Belknap to build population; way too strict—try to assist rather than punish.
We moved and my daughter is in college. Plus we have a mortgage. I love NH; I just don't have the time or money.
Fishing mercury levels are too strict.
It's not safe for hunting; things are crazy out there.
I want more attention toward brook fishing activities.
More hound hunting.
New Hampshire Fish and Game officers are very helpful and knowledgeable.
Places to buy licenses are not a problem, but to check an animal is a big problem. They need more reporting stations.
I want more opportunities for muzzleloading education and waterfowl classes.
Tell them to lower out-of-state license prices and I'll come back.
Great hunting, but I have time constraints.
More liberal limits on doe hunting in the United States.
Fish and Game officers are key in the public eye, and how they portray themselves is important. They should improve this!
This survey is a wonderful idea. Provide more information on the Websites. Keep the tradition of hunting alive.
I think they're doing a good job; not hunting is just a matter of time constraints and distance for me.
Why is muzzleloading season after modern?
Spotting after 9/1 is ridiculous. Should be an opportunity to purchase 1-2 day passes. This would help people who don't have time to hunt all season.

Make more moose permits available to non-residents; I understand why they're restricted, but I've been applying for ten years and have never gotten it. They are fair, but I want to hunt moose in NH.
No complaints on hunting in New Hampshire.
Don't let the muzzleloader season go before the rifle and shotgun season. If you switched, there might be more deer and, therefore, more hunters.
The communist party in MA has taken away my right to bear arms without paying \$100 and being mug shot and fingerprinted like a criminal, which I am not. I am a Vietnam veteran.
My health is very bad; that is why no more hunting.
Must lower license fees to regain clientele.
I think they're doing a great job bringing the game back; I saw a bull moose twice today.
Whenever I buy a NH license, they never have the regulations book available; it's never available until after the season starts.
People get current use discounts and get a break on taxes, but they are supposed to leave land open (I thought). If they post land, they shouldn't be getting a tax break. Better management of large game and archery season for moose is needed.
I love hunting very much.
I appreciate Sunday hunting.
Teach out-of-state hunters to hunt better.
I would like a lot more fishing.
I have little ones and am not able to hunt, but I do fish.
If seasons were longer to give out-of-state residents more time to hunt in NH, I would be strongly encouraged to hunt more in NH.
Staff of Department does a great job; I would like to see more of the fees that are collected going to game management instead of the bureaucrats deciding where it goes.
I would like to see more elk and different hunting techniques.
My job takes all my time, and I have no extra time for personal hobbies.
Provide more hunter education for kids under the age of 14.
Need to mark hunting areas more clearly. The herd is down; there are no big deer.
I felt harassed and stalked by wardens. I was searched on paper-company land for no reason. They refused to assist us with where does were found since we were from out of town. They stalked us every day even through we were on private land. I am very angry.
More opportunities to hunt big game would encourage me to hunt in NH again.
NHF&G is doing an excellent job.
I do not like policy about taking guns due to right-of-way policy.
The Game Department is doing an excellent job.
I don't care for entrapment where decoys are set up so people will shoot from the road; I think it encourages people to start shooting from the road.
Make longer seasons and increased bag limits; provide more information in general.
I was told that if you apply for a moose permit, you are given points, and once you get over a certain amount of points, you get a moose permit automatically.
They do a great job; I look forward to hunting more after my illness.
Mail information directly so I can be informed.
Put a bounty on coyotes.

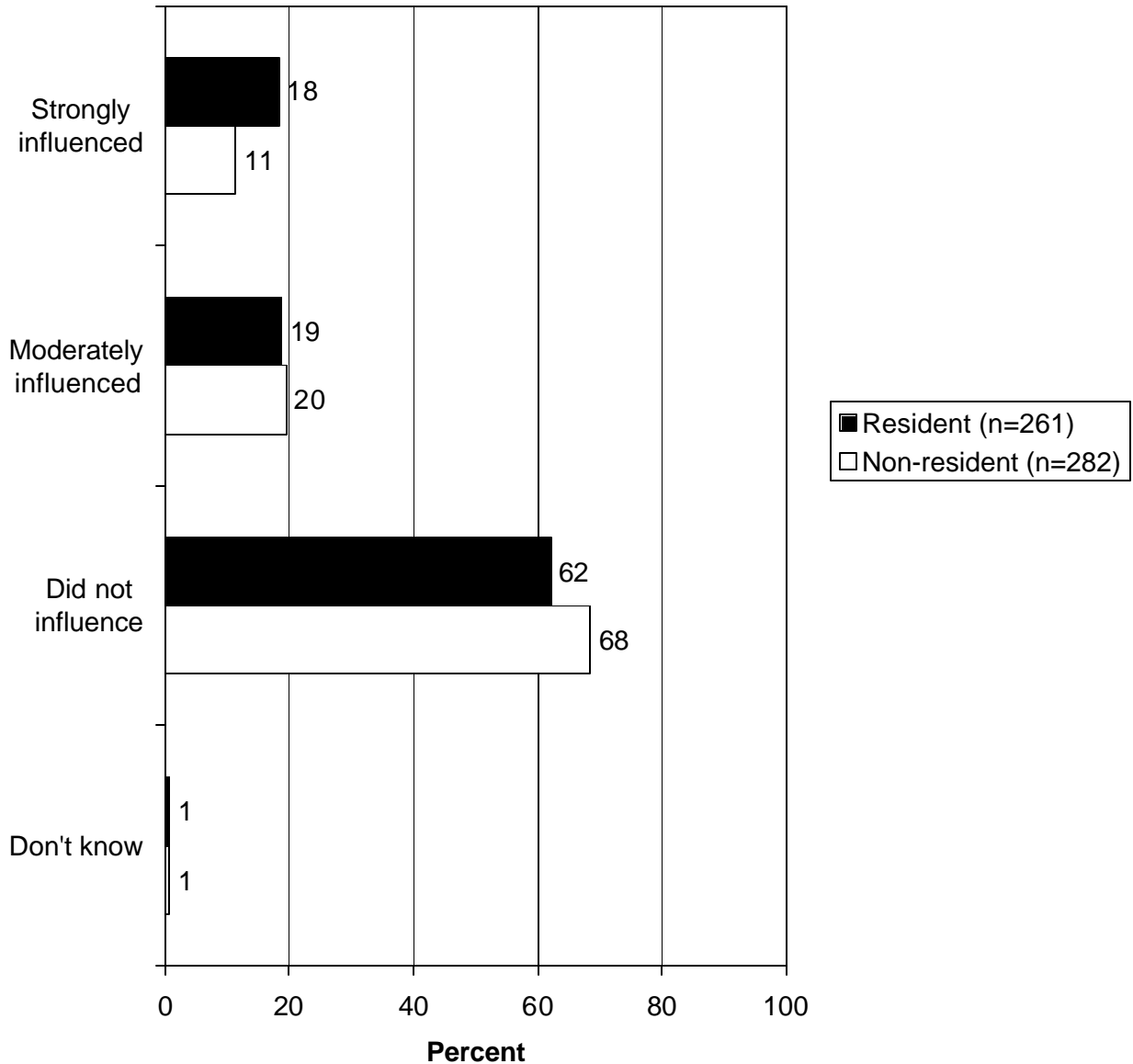
I would like to see more ruffed grouse; if the state would stock up on them and then make it open season. Also, I would like more pheasants and crow, more birds, and a lot more big game to hunt.
New Hampshire needs lots of improvement in the price of the license. Roads are closed. Herd is down. Season was starting midweek.
I love to hunt in New Hampshire.
This is the best survey I've had the pleasure of taking dealing with hunting. More information on ruffed grouse needs to be publicized, as well as about pheasants.
Retired people on fixed incomes have trouble affording the cost of the license.
Cost of licenses are not economical for sporadic hunters and fishermen.
Handicapped access to lands for people who have to use 3- and 4-wheelers to be able to hunt is needed.
More hunting land is needed; there is too much growth.
More information on ruffed grouse would be appreciated.
Time for doe season is very short, and I would like more time for it—that's why I have slowed down in hunting.
Do not increase license fee every year.
Longer doe season.
Hunter education course should be offered in high schools.
Moose tag lottery is too strict.
I enjoy hunting in NH, but my friend sold his land. I might go again if I can hunt on another friend's land.
More opportunities for out-of-staters to get permits (moose and such).
I think they took time away from us in hunting, shortened time span, and increased prices so we all go elsewhere.
I no longer live in New Hampshire, but I will hunt in future.
More of the federal land should be opened for travel for moose hunting; people who show evidence of big game hunting from other states should not have to take a NH course; conservation agents and biologists were friendly and helpful.
I hunt other states due to bag limits and the cost. If I have money, I would rather spend where I can get more than one deer.
Health is only reason for not hunting.

ADDITIONAL GRAPHS

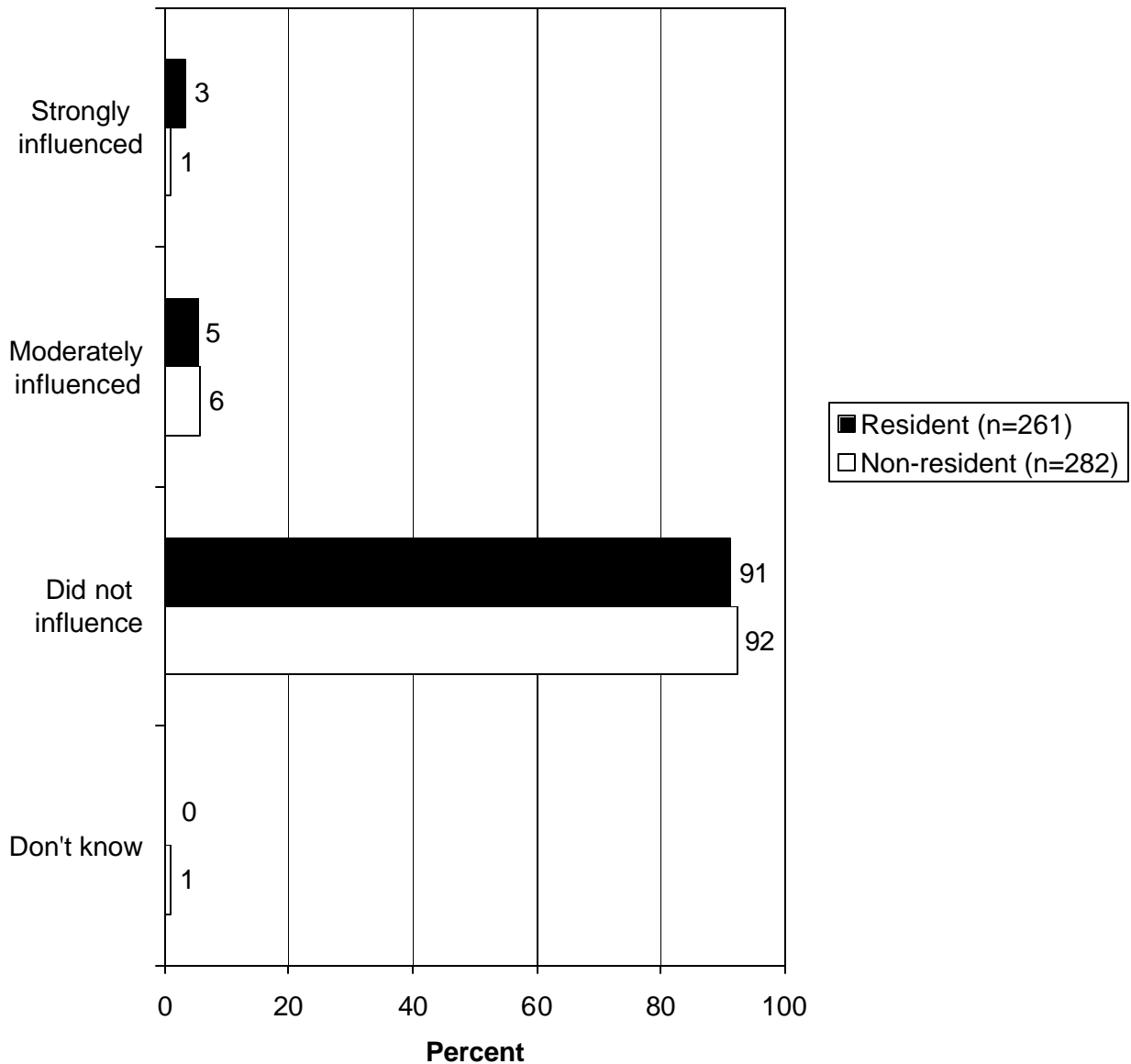
Q38. Did lack of places to hunt strongly influence, moderately influence, or not influence your decision to not hunt in New Hampshire [in the years you did not hunt in New Hampshire within the past 5 years/since the last time you hunted in New Hampshire]?



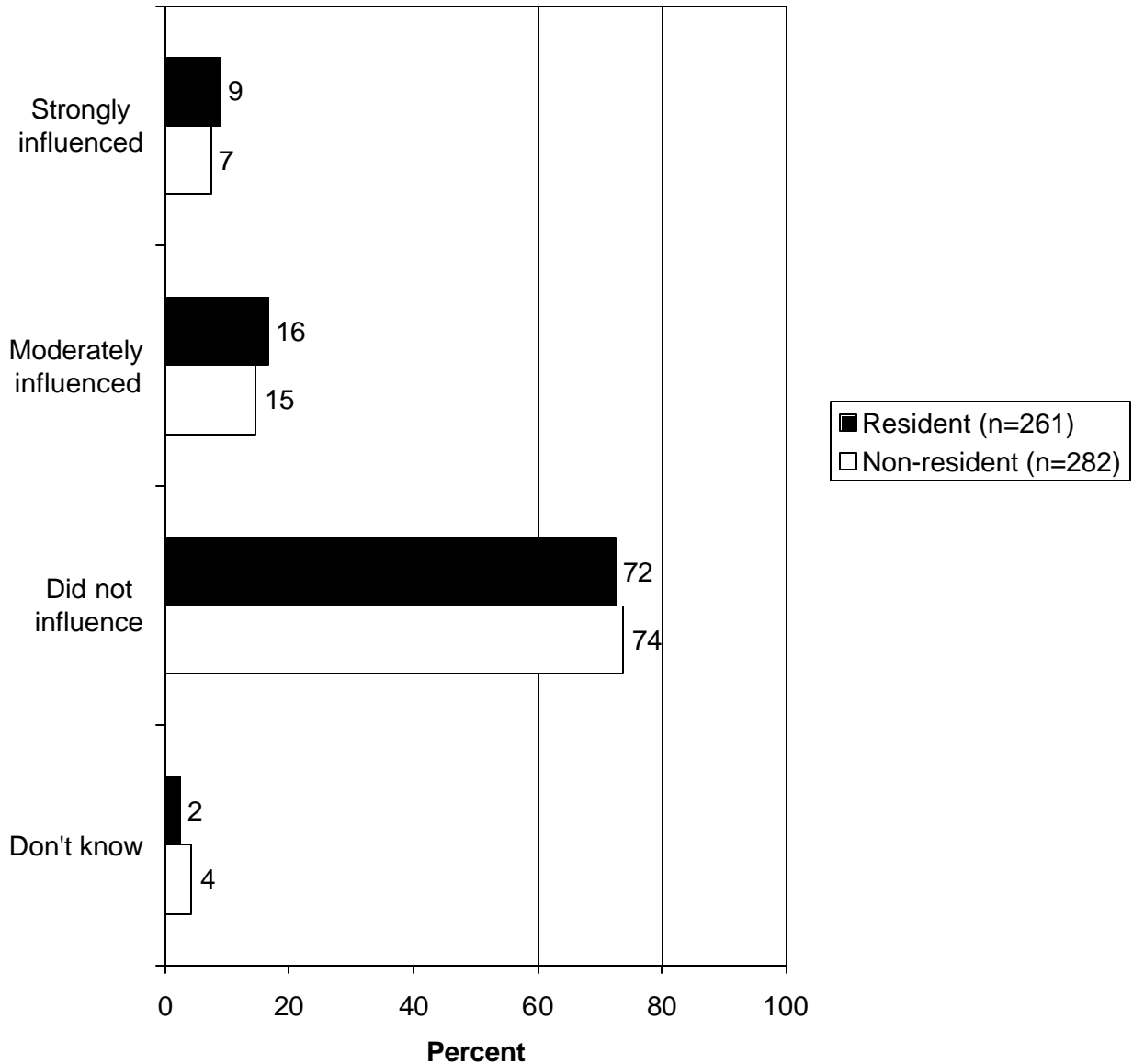
Q39. Did lack of access strongly influence, moderately influence, or not influence your decision to not hunt in New Hampshire [in the years you did not hunt in New Hampshire within the past 5 years/since the last time you hunted in New Hampshire]?



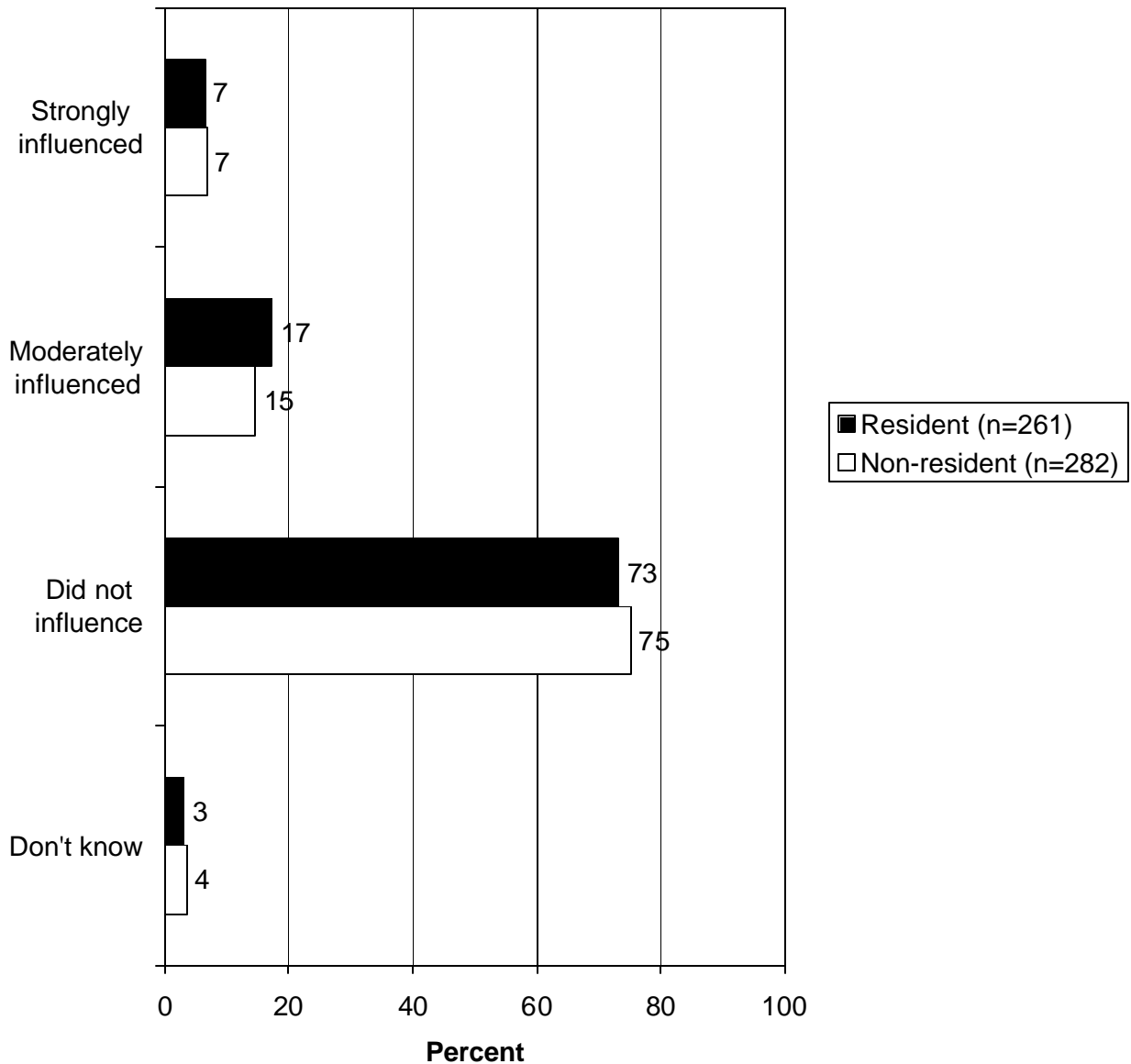
Q40. Did finding a place to buy licenses strongly influence, moderately influence, or not influence your decision to not hunt in New Hampshire [in the years you did not hunt in New Hampshire within the past 5 years/since the last time you hunted in New Hampshire]?



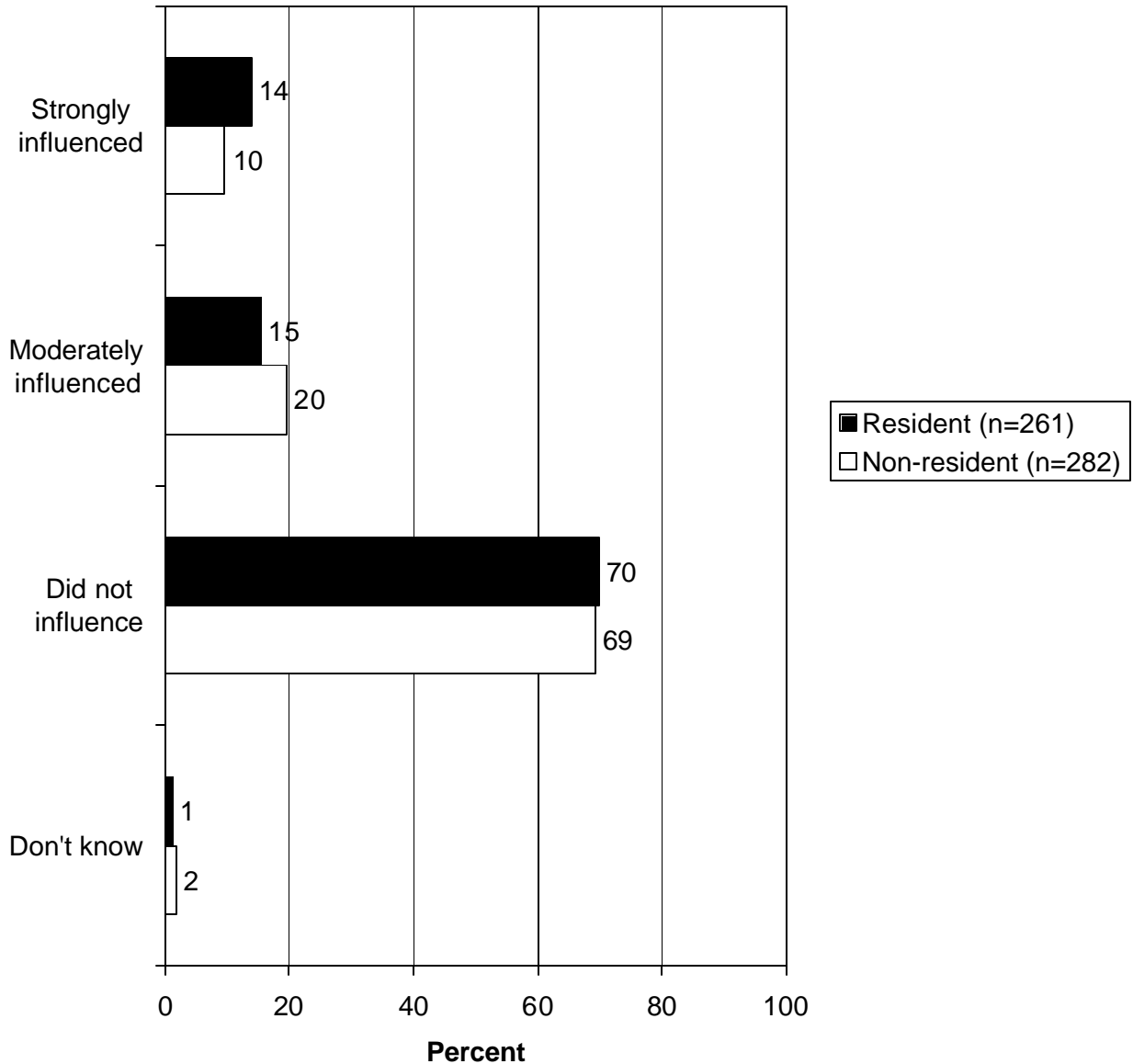
Q41. Did lack of information on hunting on private lands strongly influence, moderately influence, or not influence your decision to not hunt in New Hampshire [in the years you did not hunt in New Hampshire within the past 5 years/since the last time you hunted in New Hampshire]?



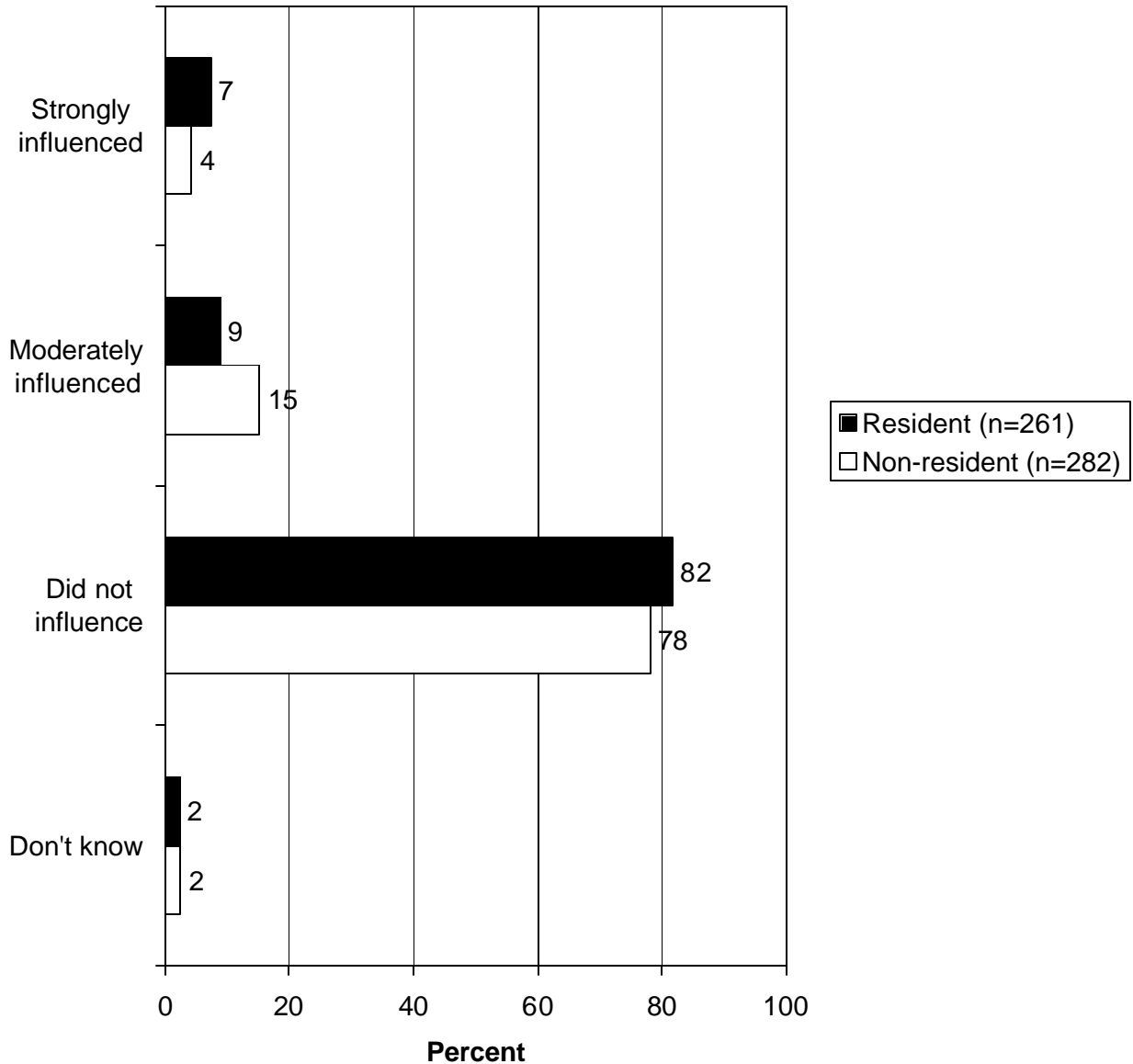
Q42. Did lack of information on hunting on public lands strongly influence, moderately influence, or not influence your decision to not hunt in New Hampshire [in the years you did not hunt in New Hampshire within the past 5 years/since the last time you hunted in New Hampshire]?



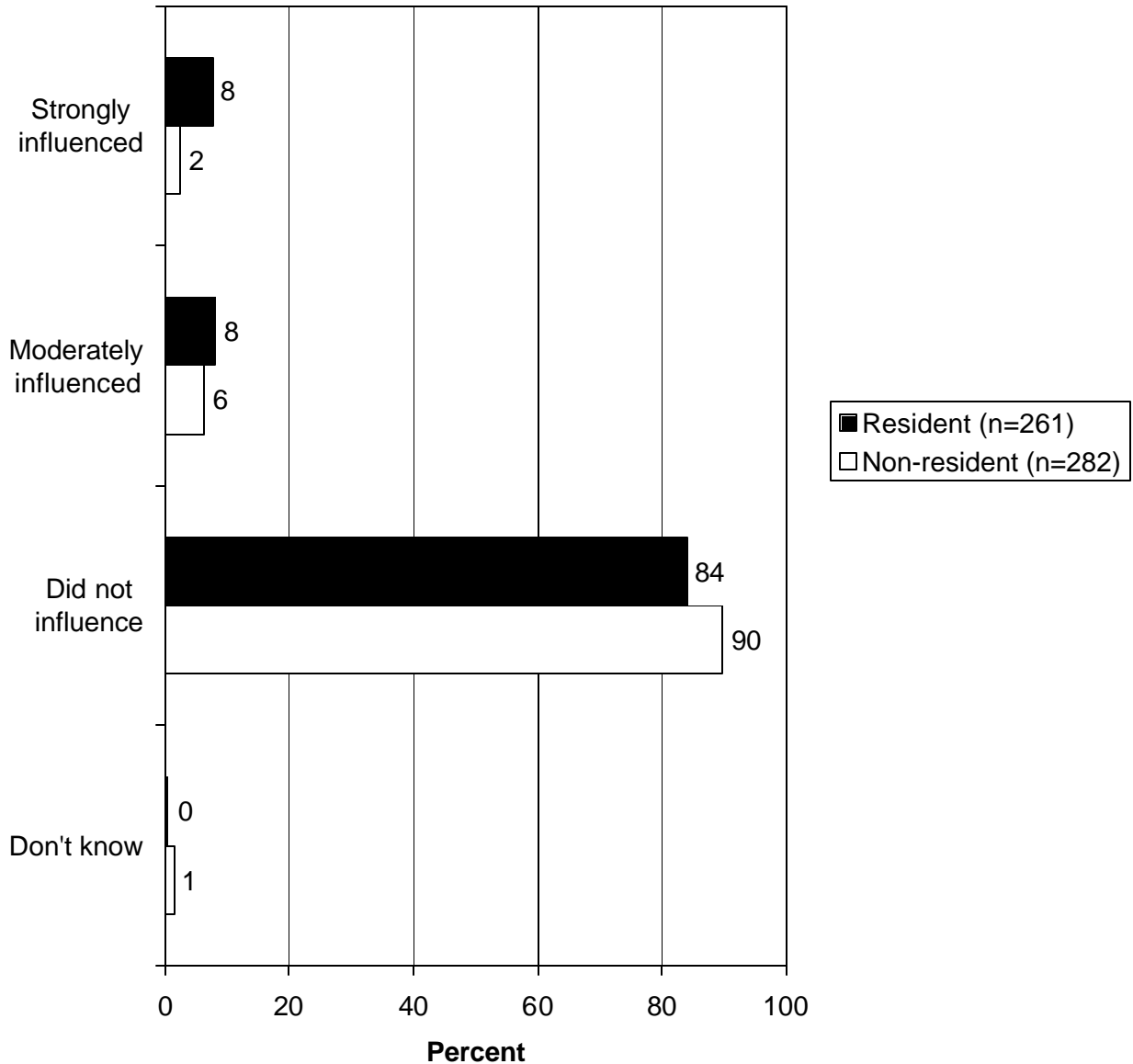
Q43. Did lack of game strongly influence, moderately influence, or not influence your decision to not hunt in New Hampshire [in the years you did not hunt in New Hampshire within the past 5 years/since the last time you hunted in New Hampshire]?



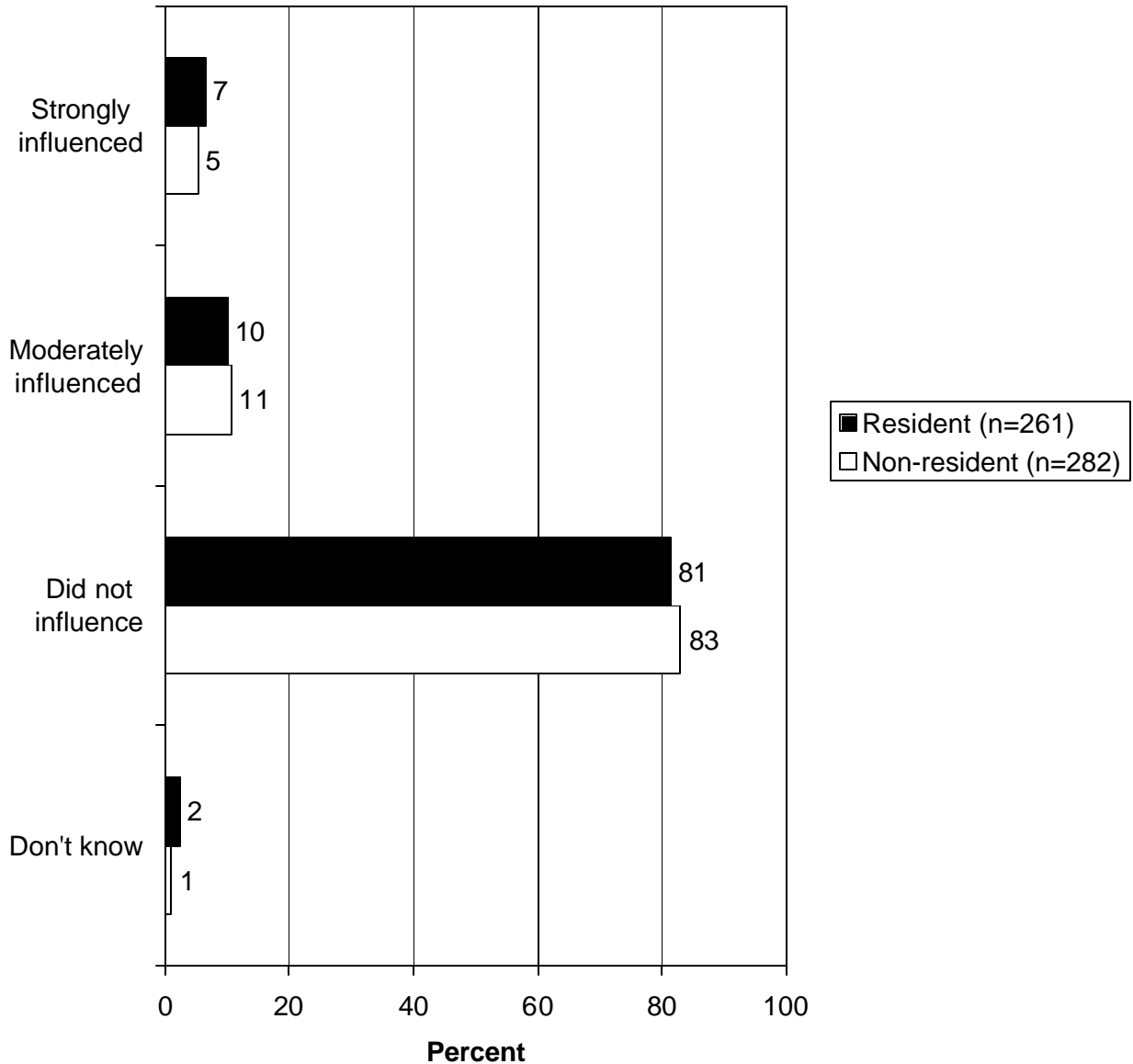
Q44. Did lack of trophy game strongly influence, moderately influence, or not influence your decision to not hunt in New Hampshire [in the years you did not hunt in New Hampshire within the past 5 years/since the last time you hunted in New Hampshire]?



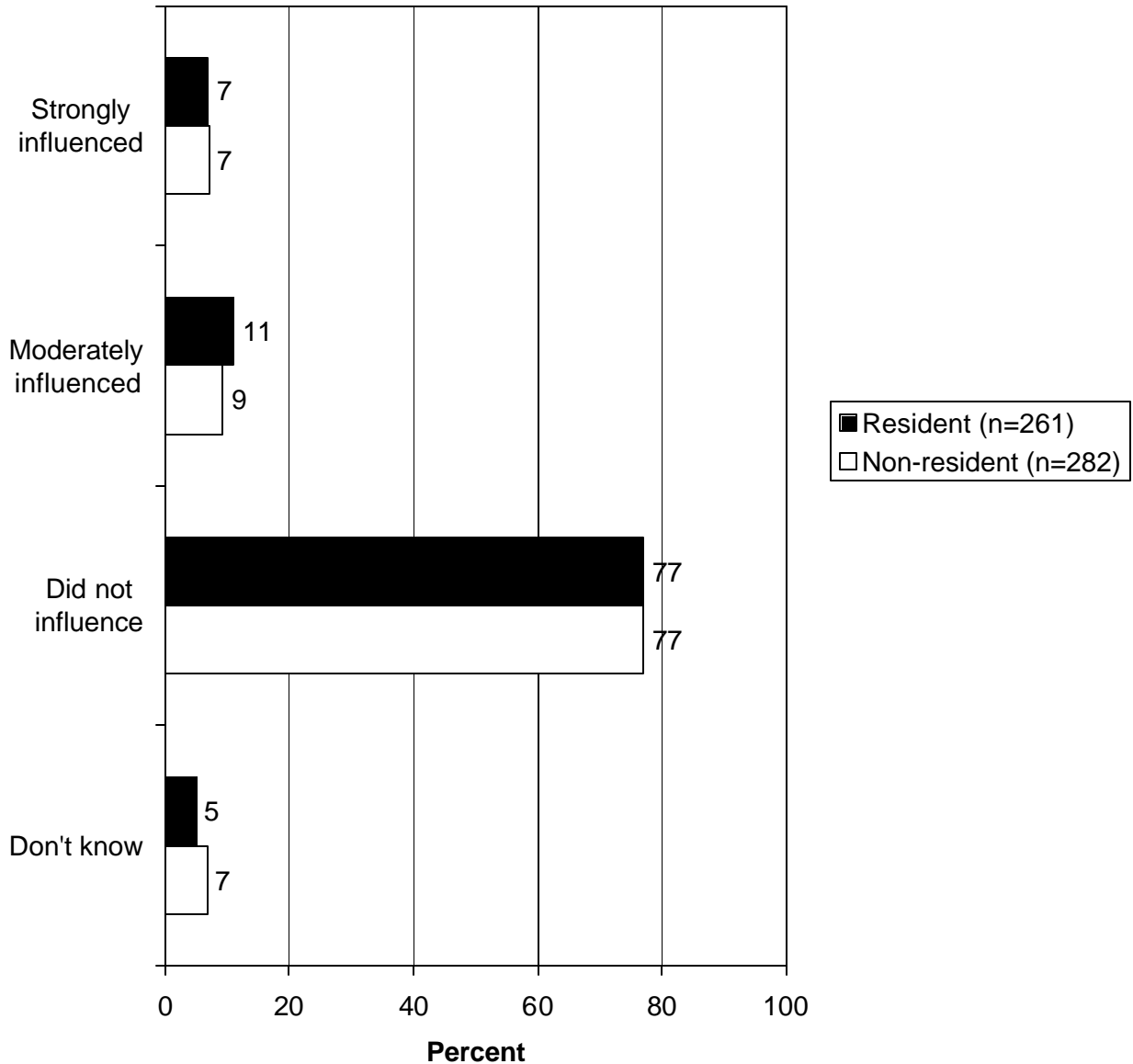
Q45. Did pollution or litter strongly influence, moderately influence, or not influence your decision to not hunt in New Hampshire [in the years you did not hunt in New Hampshire within the past 5 years/since the last time you hunted in New Hampshire]?



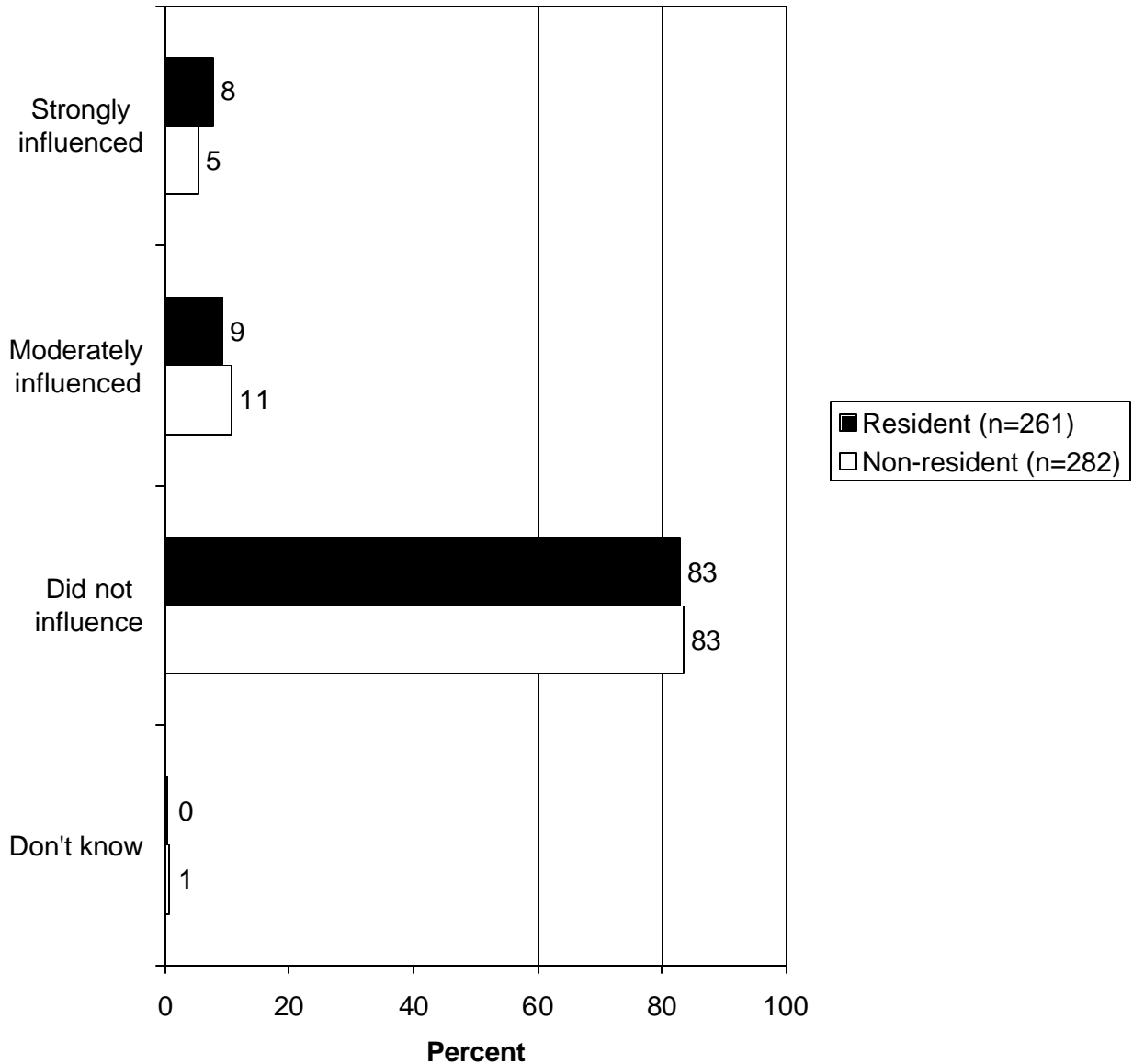
Q46. Did complex regulations strongly influence, moderately influence, or not influence your decision to not hunt in New Hampshire [in the years you did not hunt in New Hampshire within the past 5 years/since the last time you hunted in New Hampshire]?



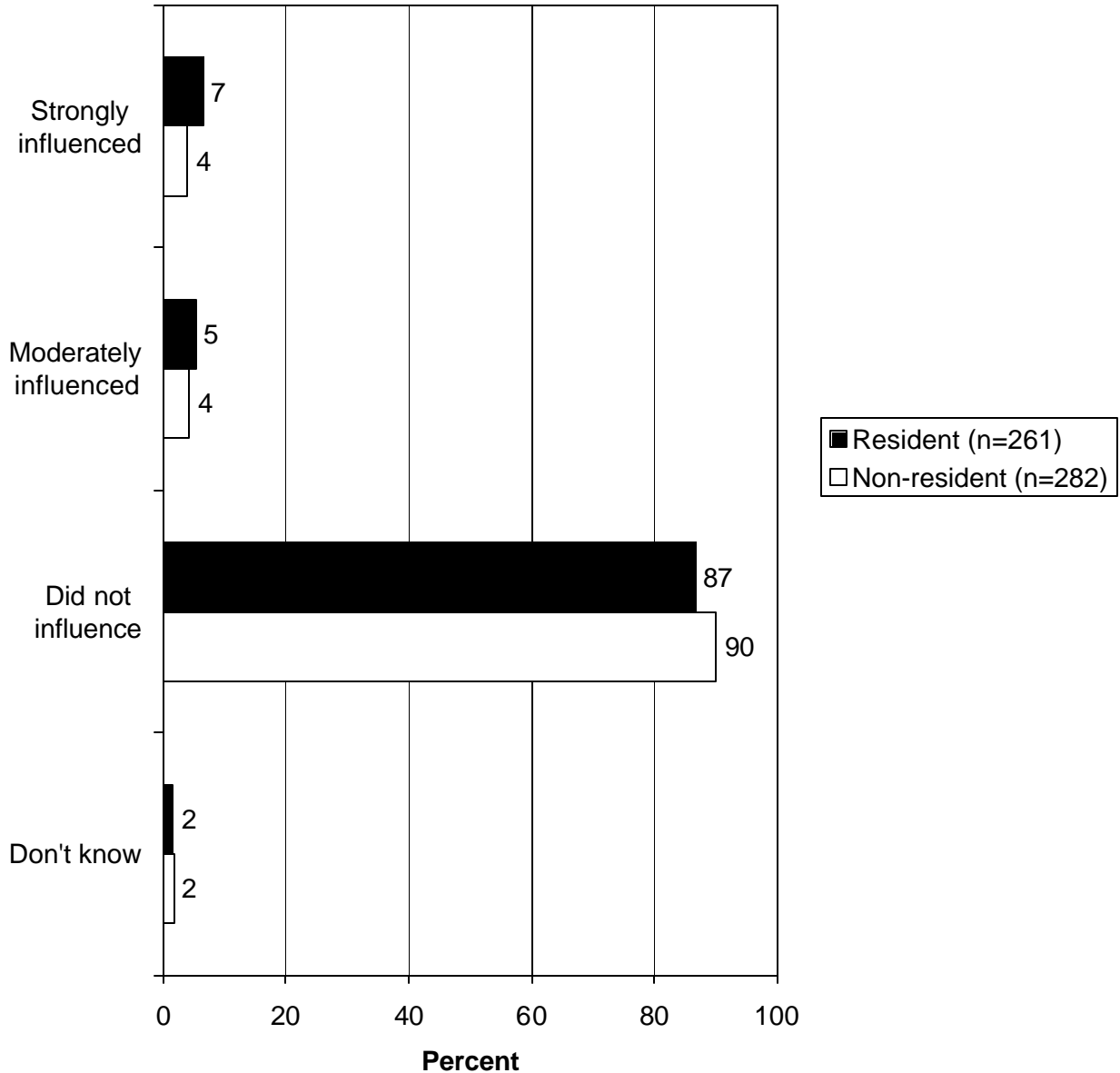
Q47. Did changes in regulations strongly influence, moderately influence, or not influence your decision to not hunt in New Hampshire [in the years you did not hunt in New Hampshire within the past 5 years/since the last time you hunted in New Hampshire]?



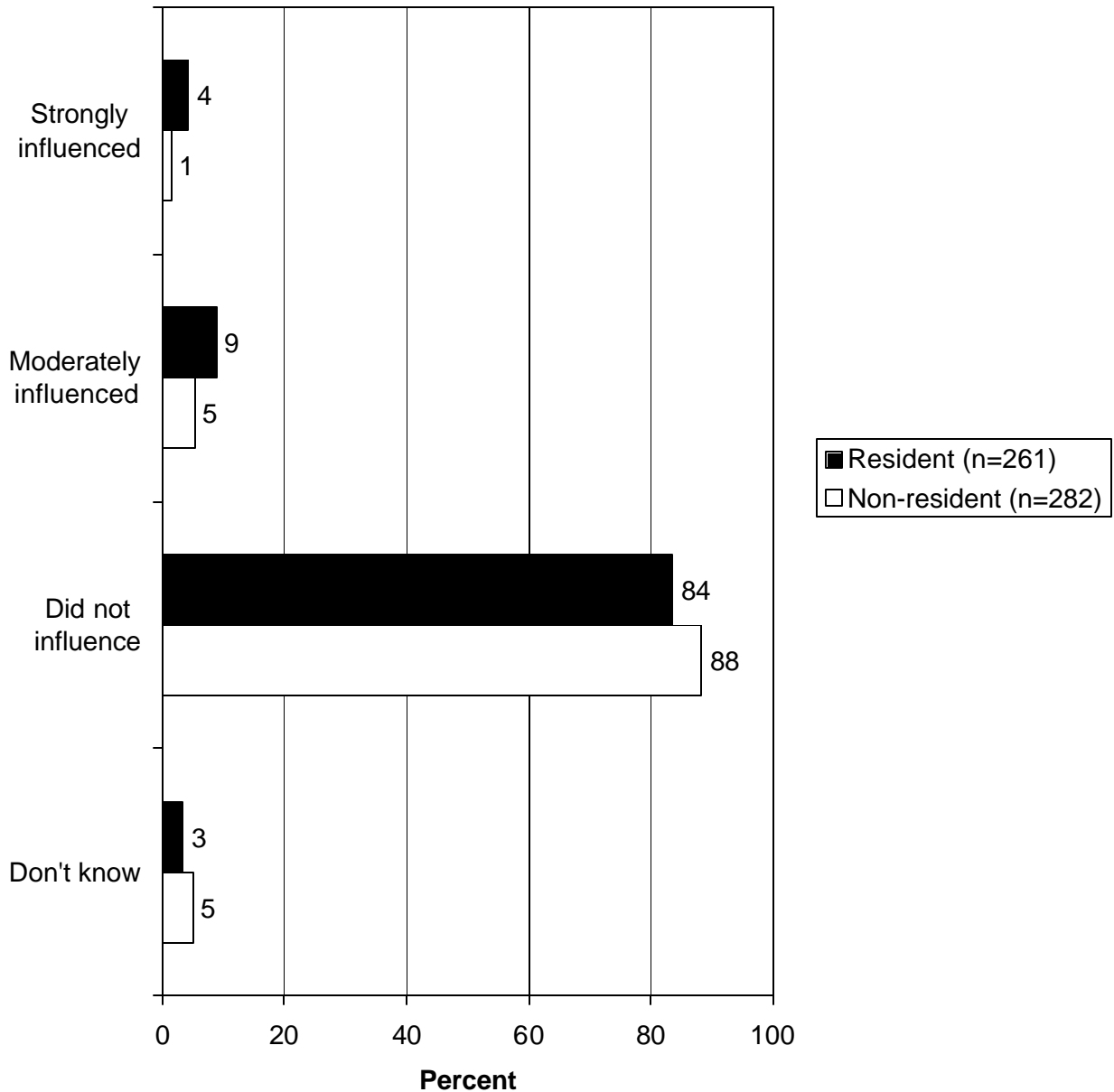
Q48. Did bag limits/season lengths strongly influence, moderately influence, or not influence your decision to not hunt in New Hampshire [in the years you did not hunt in New Hampshire within the past 5 years/since the last time you hunted in New Hampshire]?



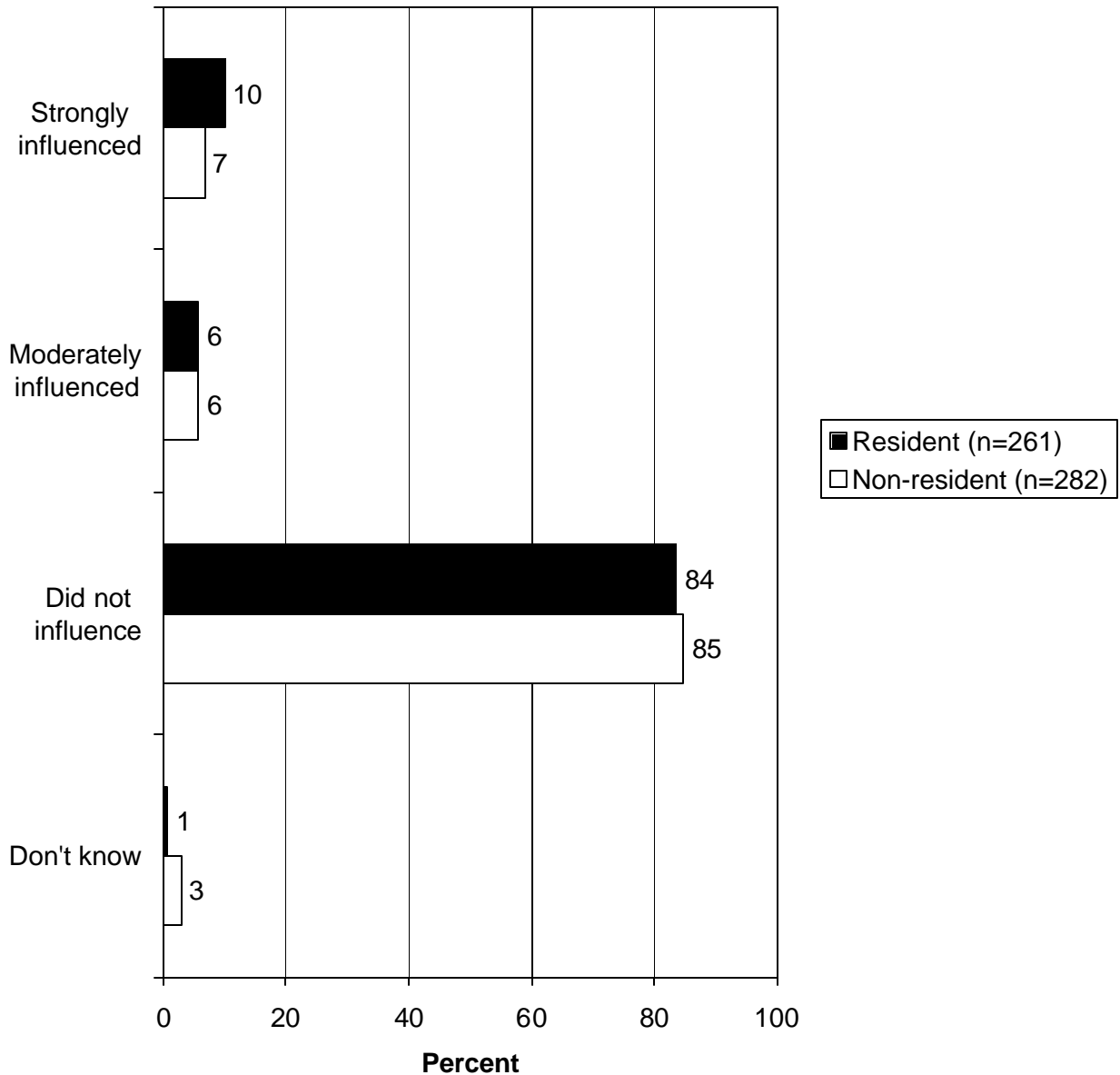
Q49. Did too strict game law enforcement efforts strongly influence, moderately influence, or not influence your decision to not hunt in New Hampshire [in the years you did not hunt in New Hampshire within the past 5 years/since the last time you hunted in New Hampshire]?



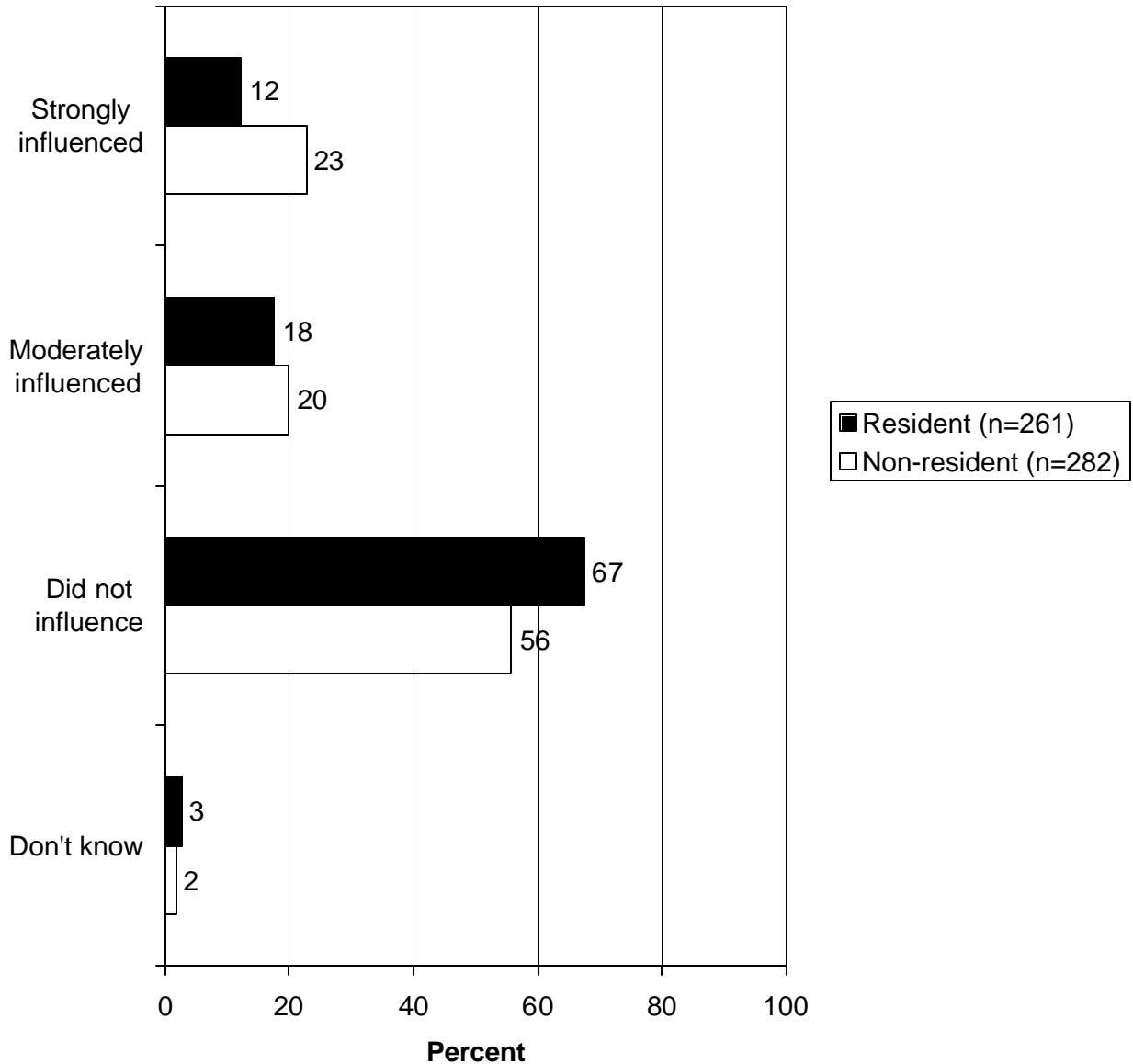
Q50. Did not enough game law enforcement efforts strongly influence, moderately influence, or not influence your decision to not hunt in New Hampshire [in the years you did not hunt in New Hampshire within the past 5 years/since the last time you hunted in New Hampshire]?



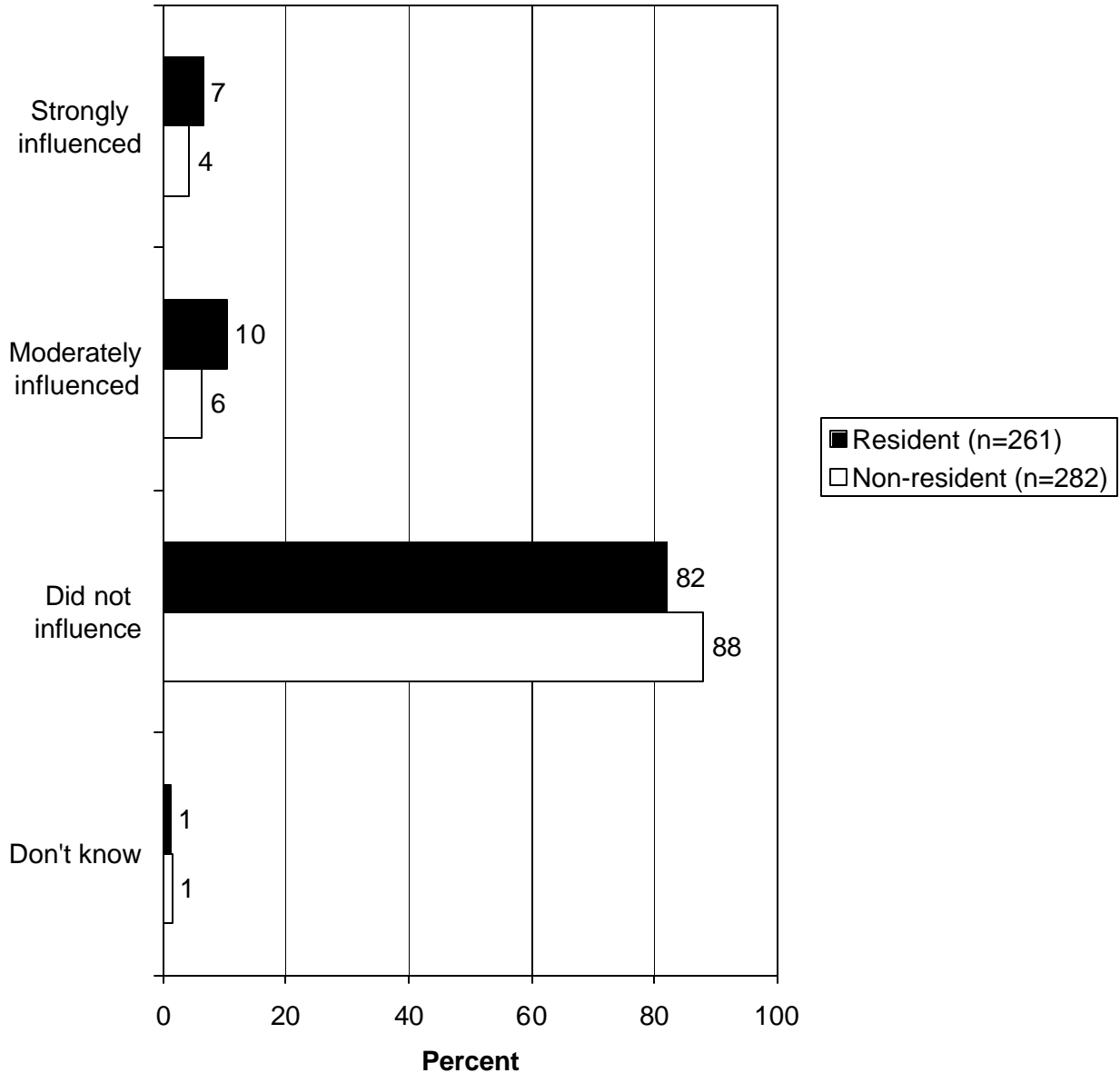
Q51. Did mandatory hunter education requirements strongly influence, moderately influence, or not influence your decision to not hunt in New Hampshire [in the years you did not hunt in New Hampshire within the past 5 years/since the last time you hunted in New Hampshire]?



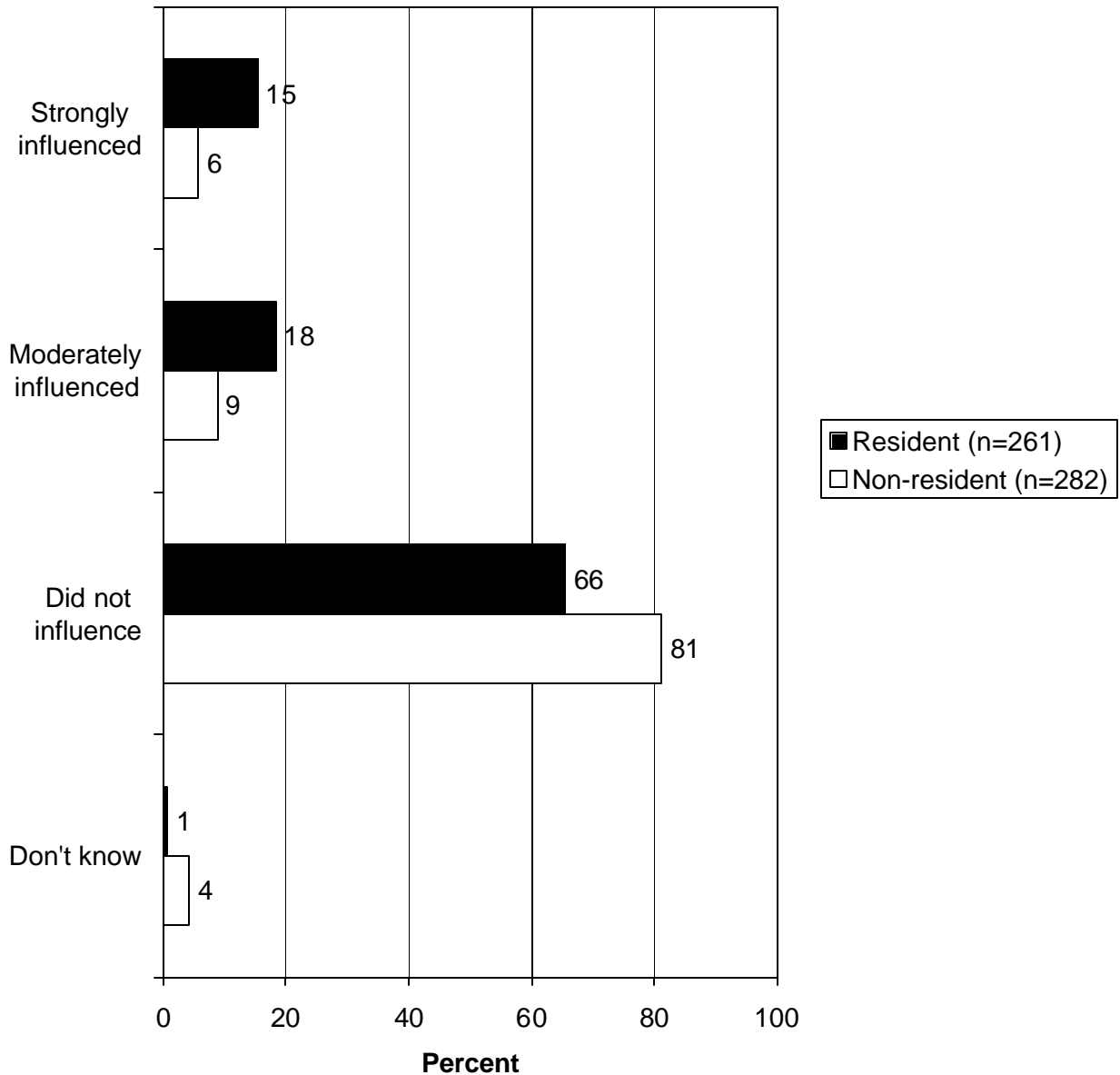
Q52. Did the cost of licenses strongly influence, moderately influence, or not influence your decision to not hunt in New Hampshire [in the years you did not hunt in New Hampshire within the past 5 years/since the last time you hunted in New Hampshire]?



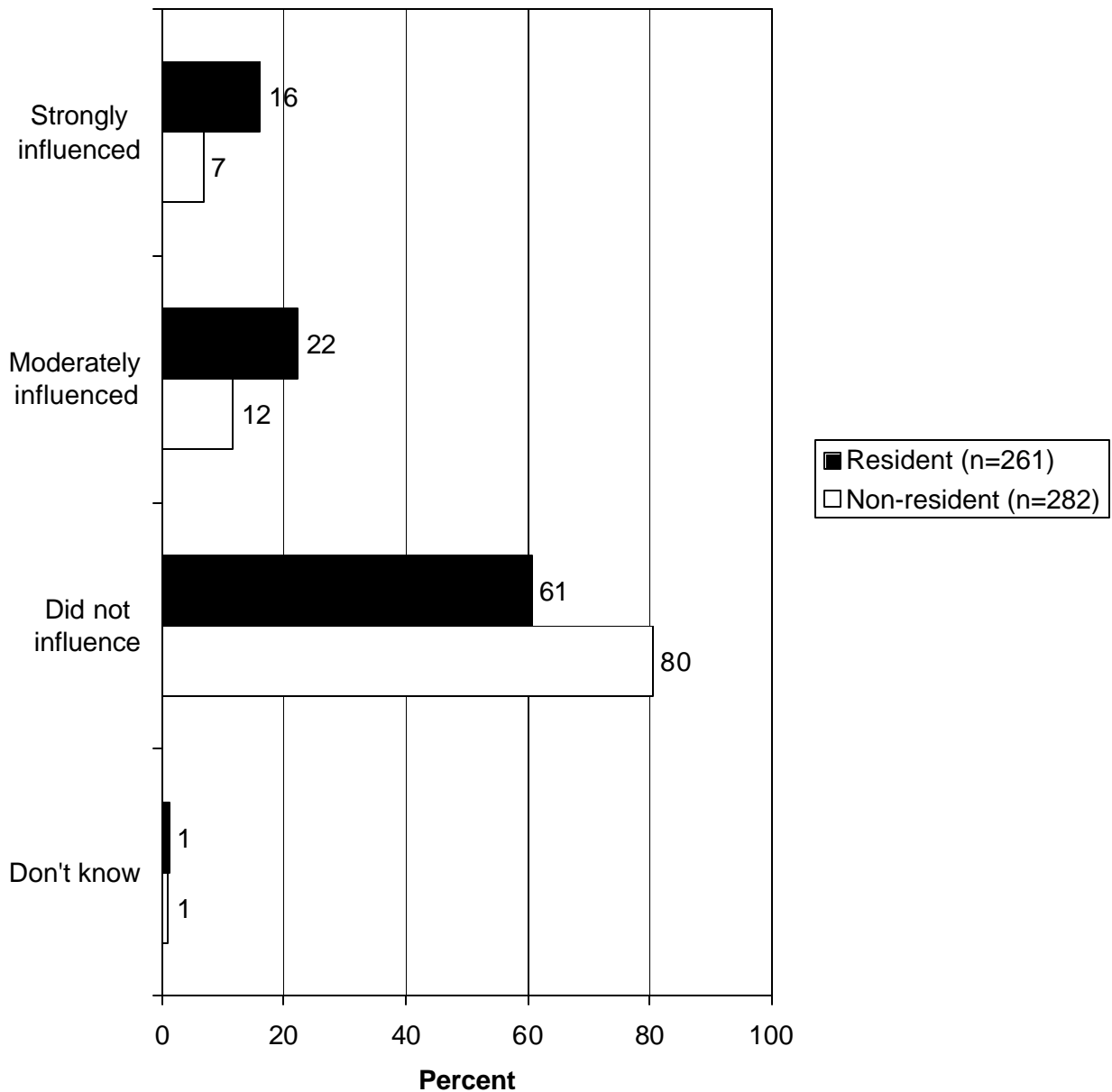
Q53. Did the cost of hunting equipment strongly influence, moderately influence, or not influence your decision to not hunt in New Hampshire [in the years you did not hunt in New Hampshire within the past 5 years/since the last time you hunted in New Hampshire]?



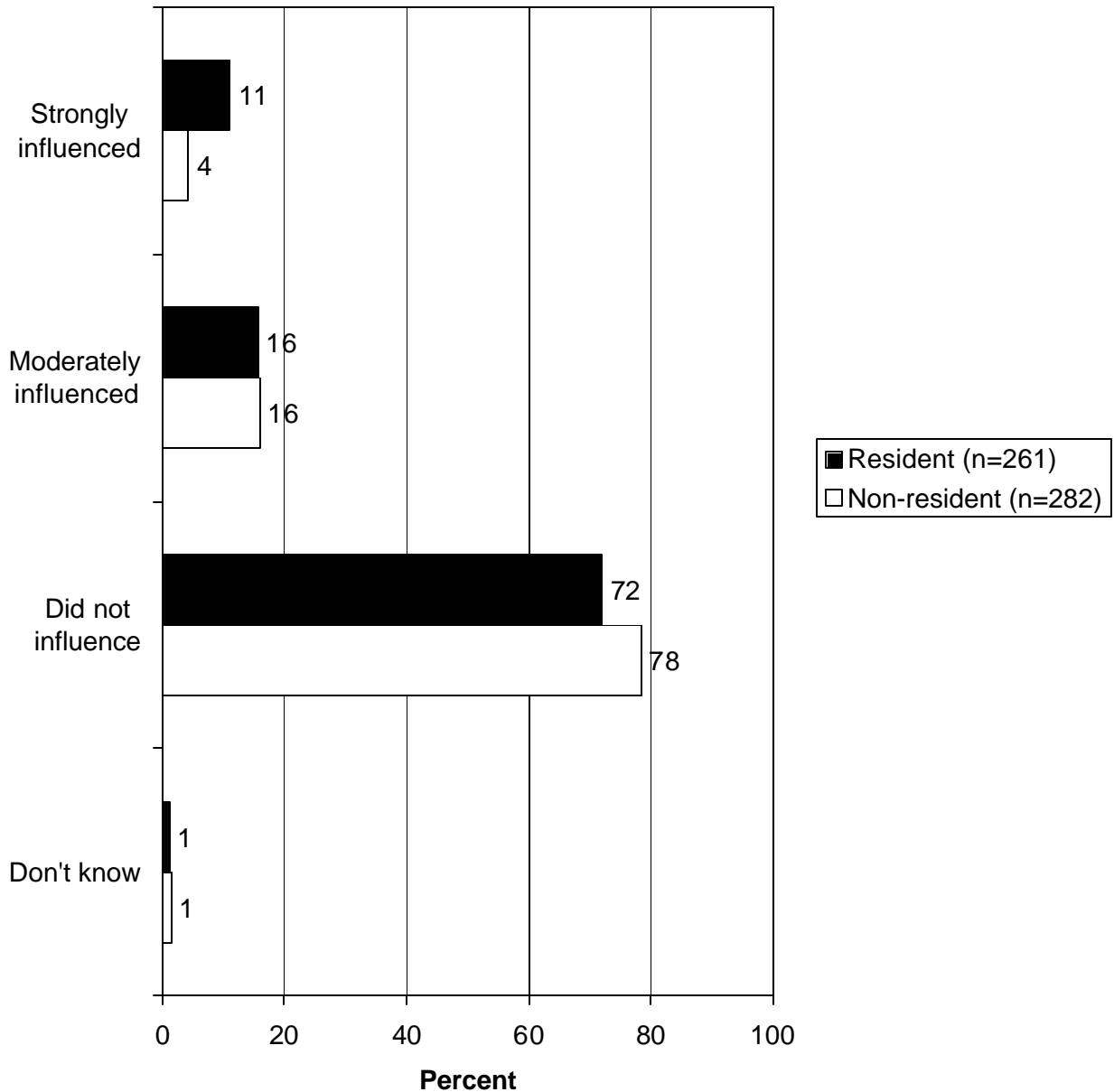
Q54. Did a lack of places to target shoot or to practice shooting strongly influence, moderately influence, or not influence your decision to not hunt in New Hampshire [in the years you did not hunt in New Hampshire within the past 5 years/since the last time you hunted in New Hampshire]?



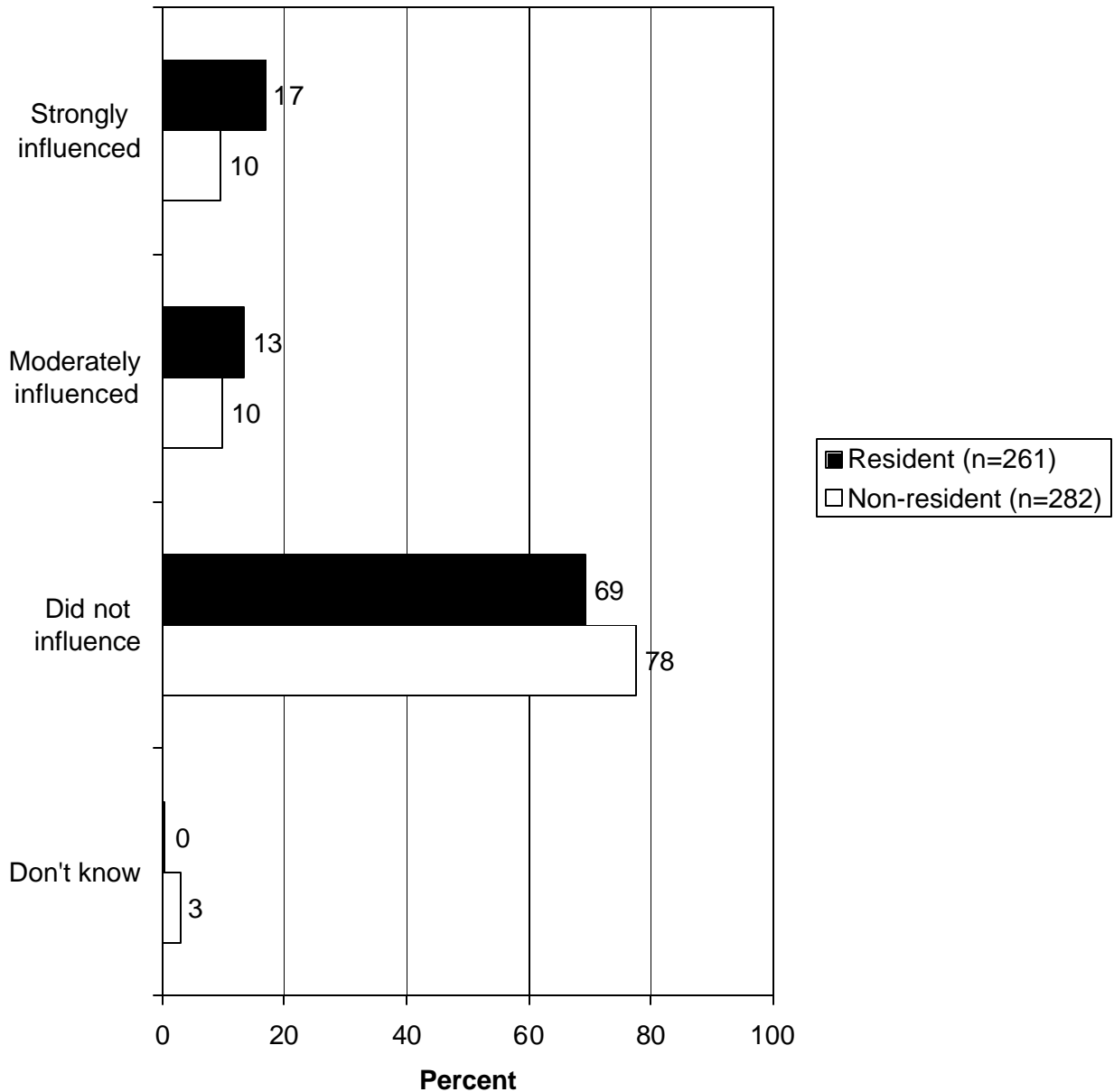
Q56. Did poor behavior of other hunters strongly influence, moderately influence, or not influence your decision to not hunt in New Hampshire [in the years you did not hunt in New Hampshire within the past 5 years/since the last time you hunted in New Hampshire]?



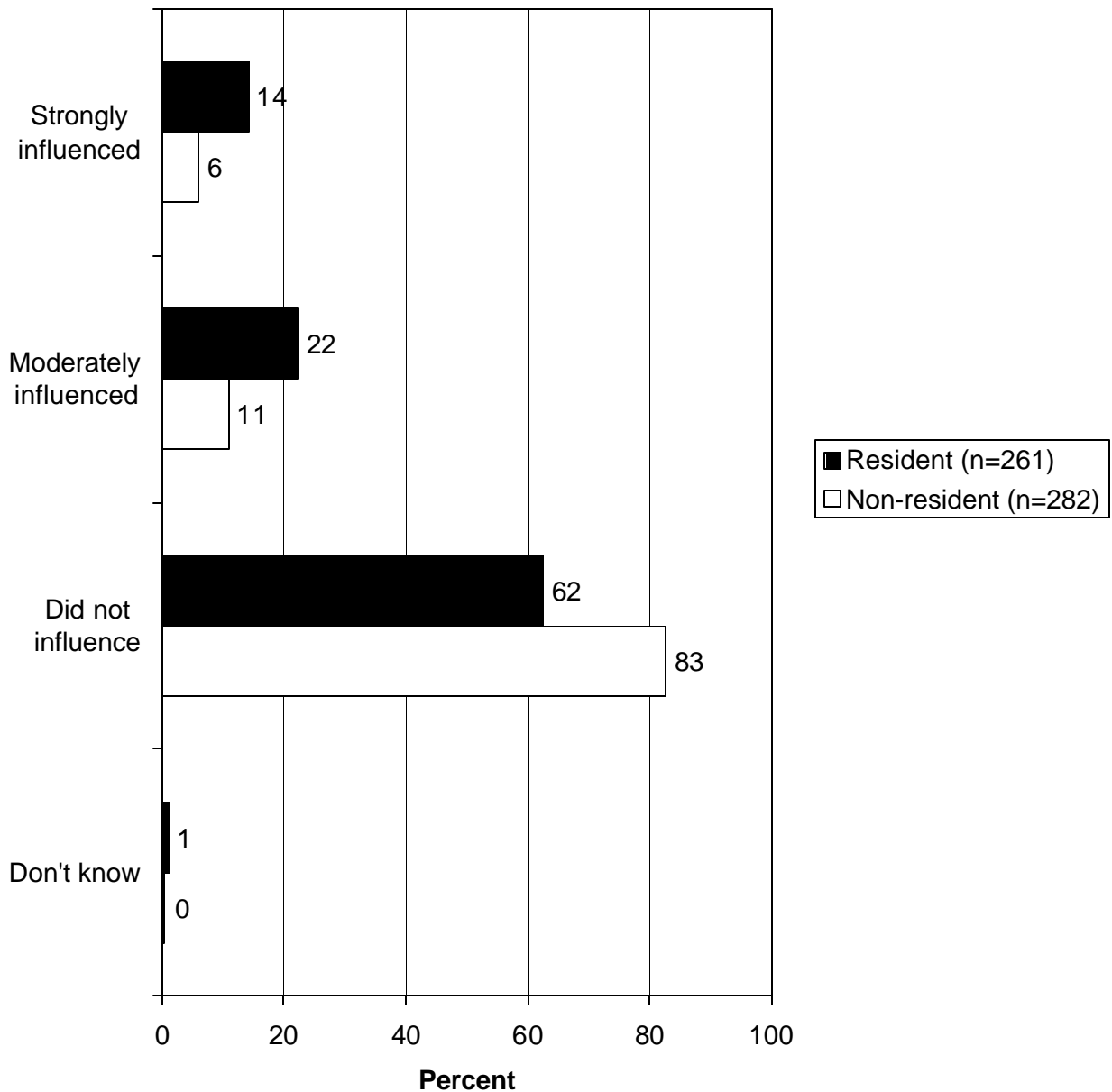
Q57. Did interference from other recreationists not including hunters strongly influence, moderately influence, or not influence your decision to not hunt in New Hampshire [in the years you did not hunt in New Hampshire within the past 5 years/since the last time you hunted in New Hampshire]?



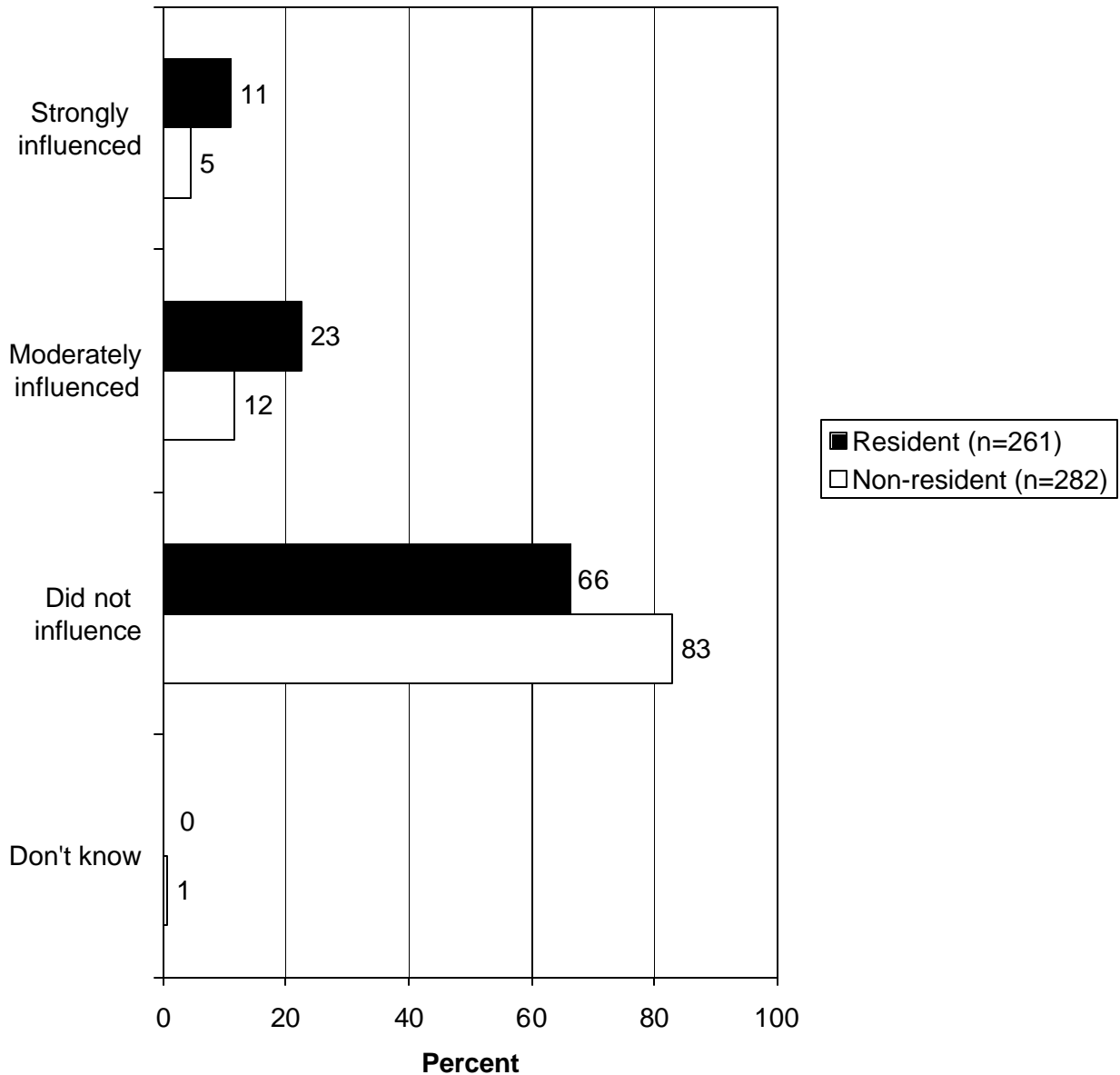
Q58. Did other people violating game laws strongly influence, moderately influence, or not influence your decision to not hunt in New Hampshire [in the years you did not hunt in New Hampshire within the past 5 years/since the last time you hunted in New Hampshire]?



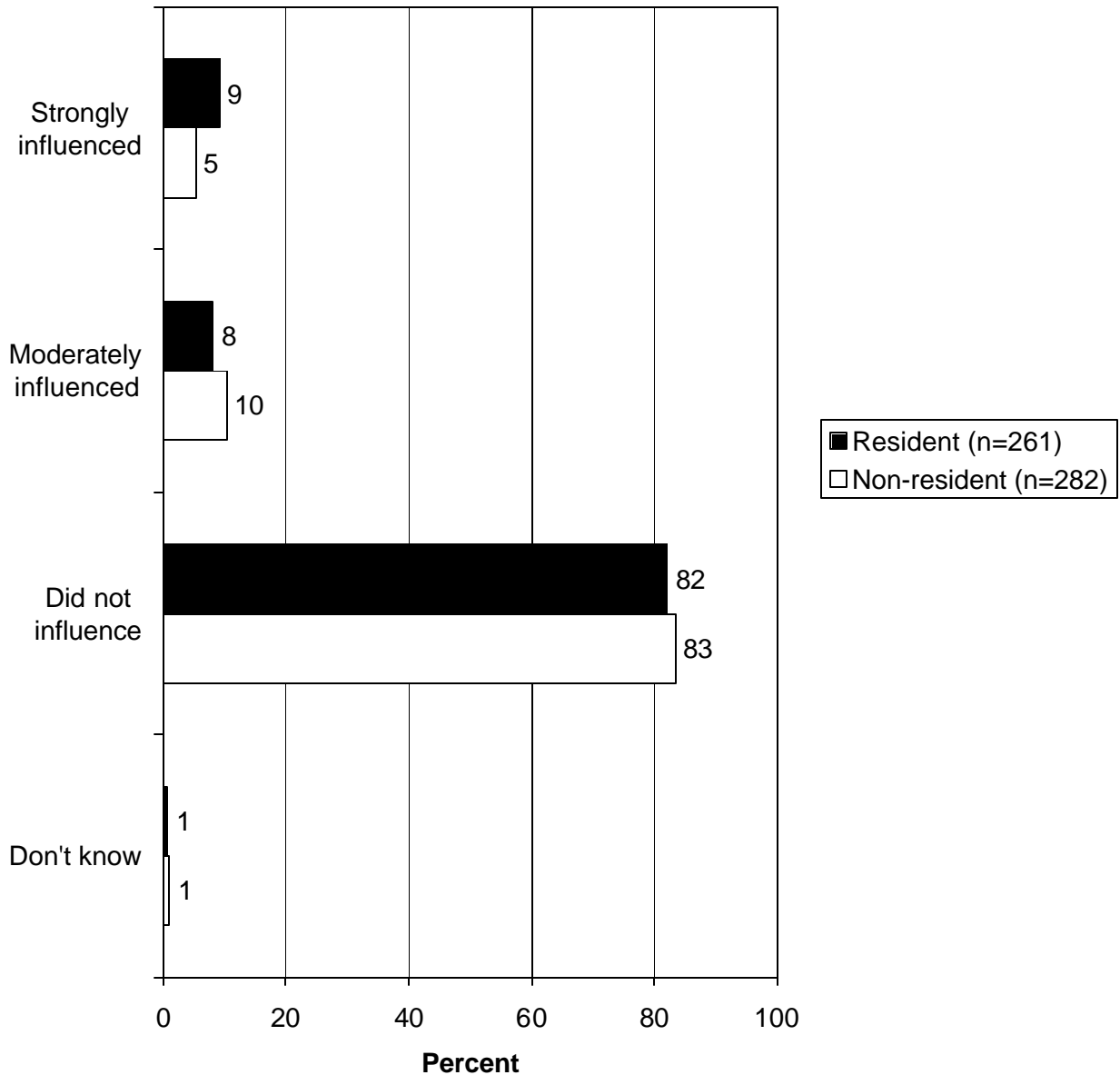
Q59. Did too many hunters in the field strongly influence, moderately influence, or not influence your decision to not hunt in New Hampshire [in the years you did not hunt in New Hampshire within the past 5 years/since the last time you hunted in New Hampshire]?



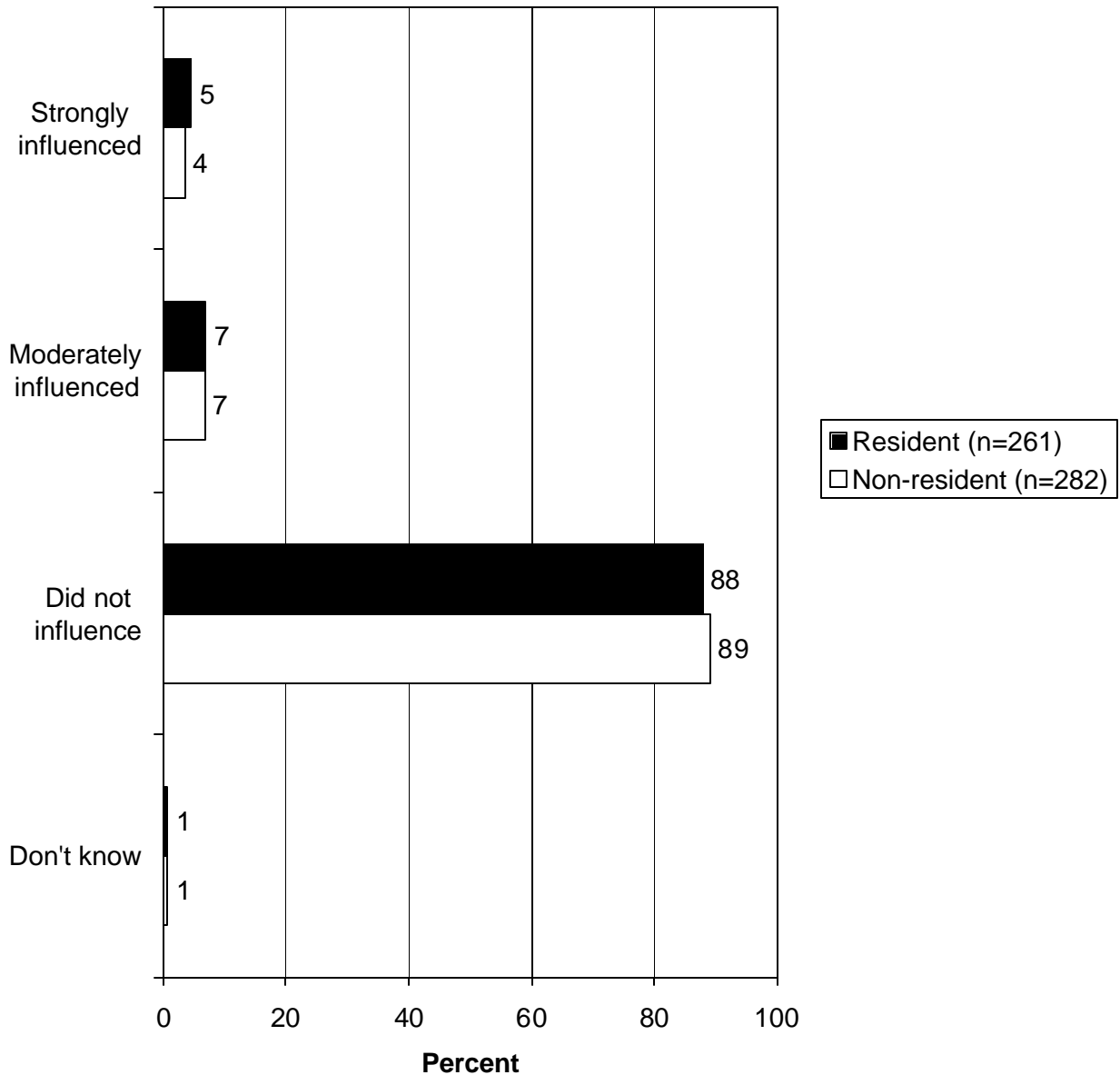
Q60. Did fear of injury by another hunter and/or general hunting safety strongly influence, moderately influence, or not influence your decision to not hunt in New Hampshire [in the years you did not hunt in New Hampshire within the past 5 years/since the last time you hunted in New Hampshire]?



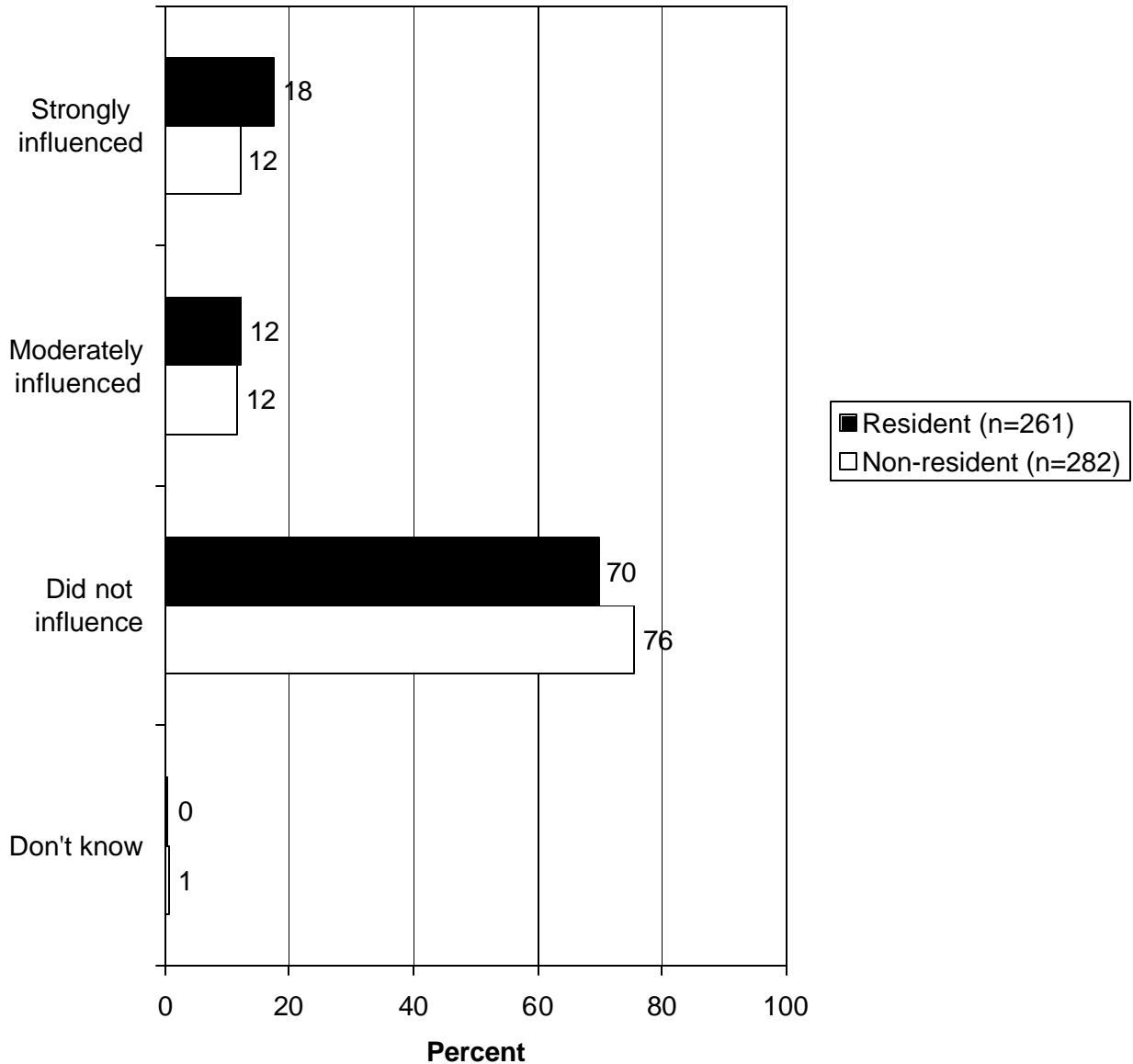
Q61. Did other people's negative opinions toward hunting strongly influence, moderately influence, or not influence your decision to not hunt in New Hampshire [in the years you did not hunt in New Hampshire within the past 5 years/since the last time you hunted in New Hampshire]?



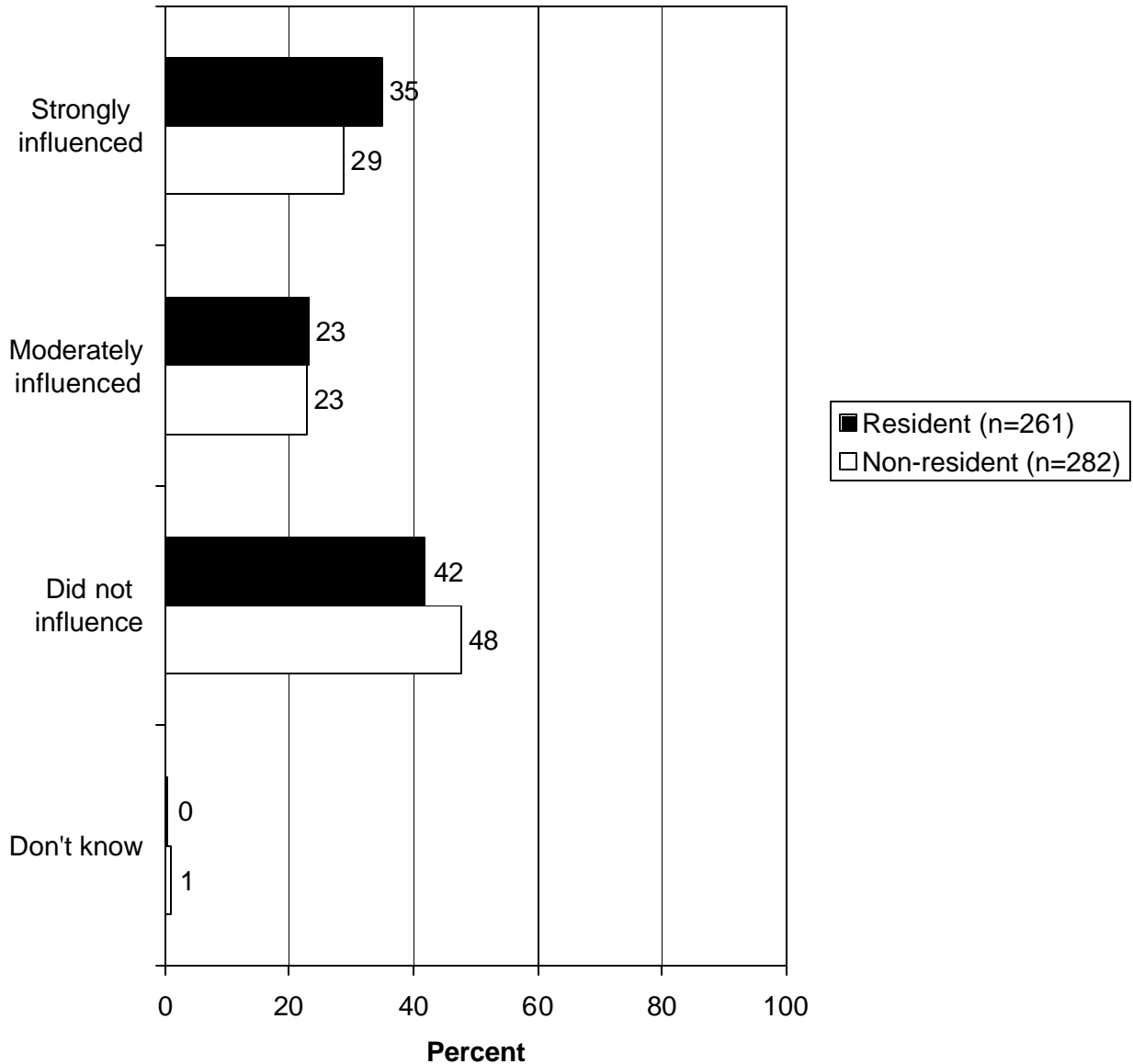
Q62. Did harassment by anti-hunters strongly influence, moderately influence, or not influence your decision to not hunt in New Hampshire [in the years you did not hunt in New Hampshire within the past 5 years/since the last time you hunted in New Hampshire]?



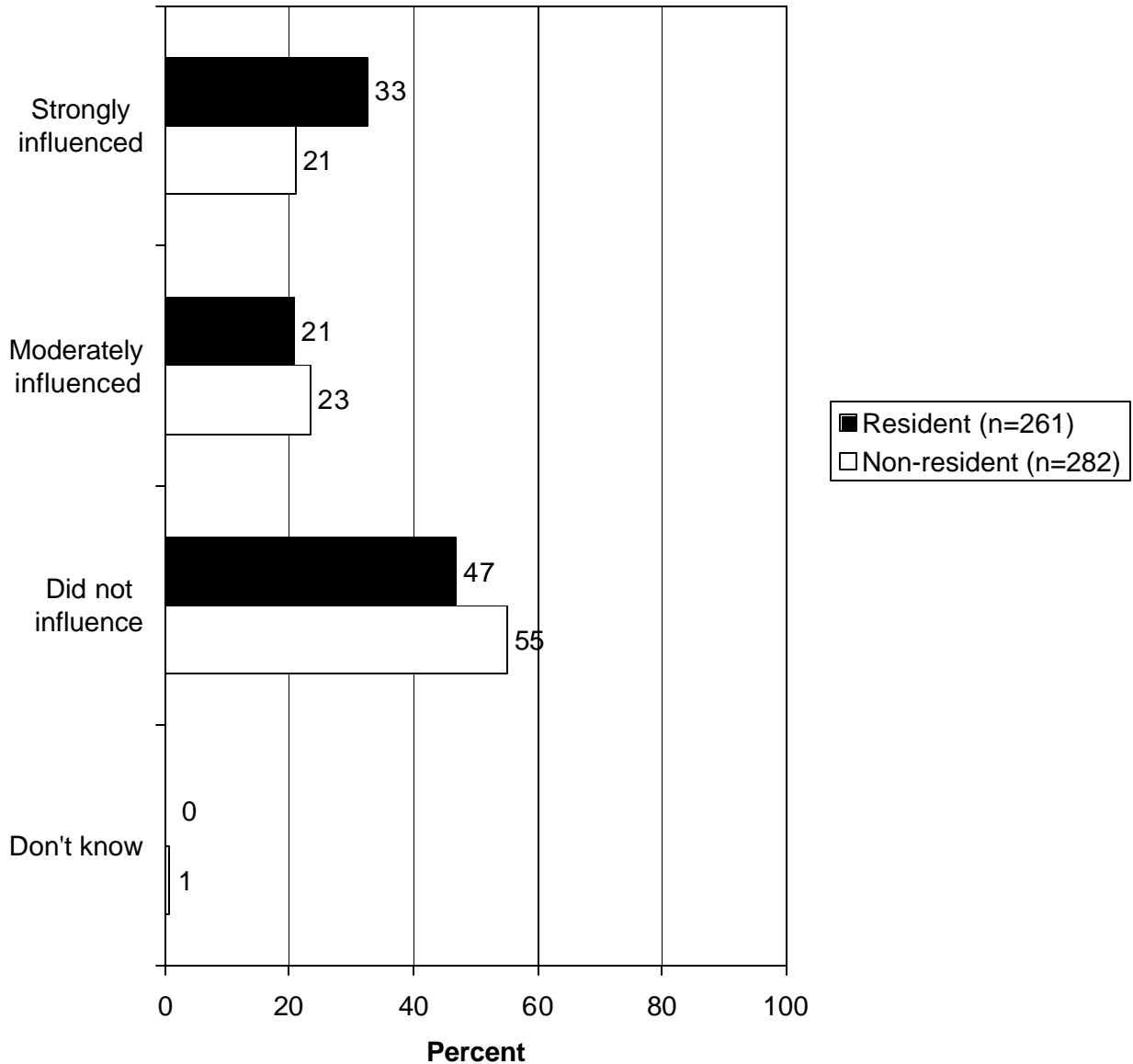
Q63. Did personal health strongly influence, moderately influence, or not influence your decision to not hunt in New Hampshire [in the years you did not hunt in New Hampshire within the past 5 years/since the last time you hunted in New Hampshire]?



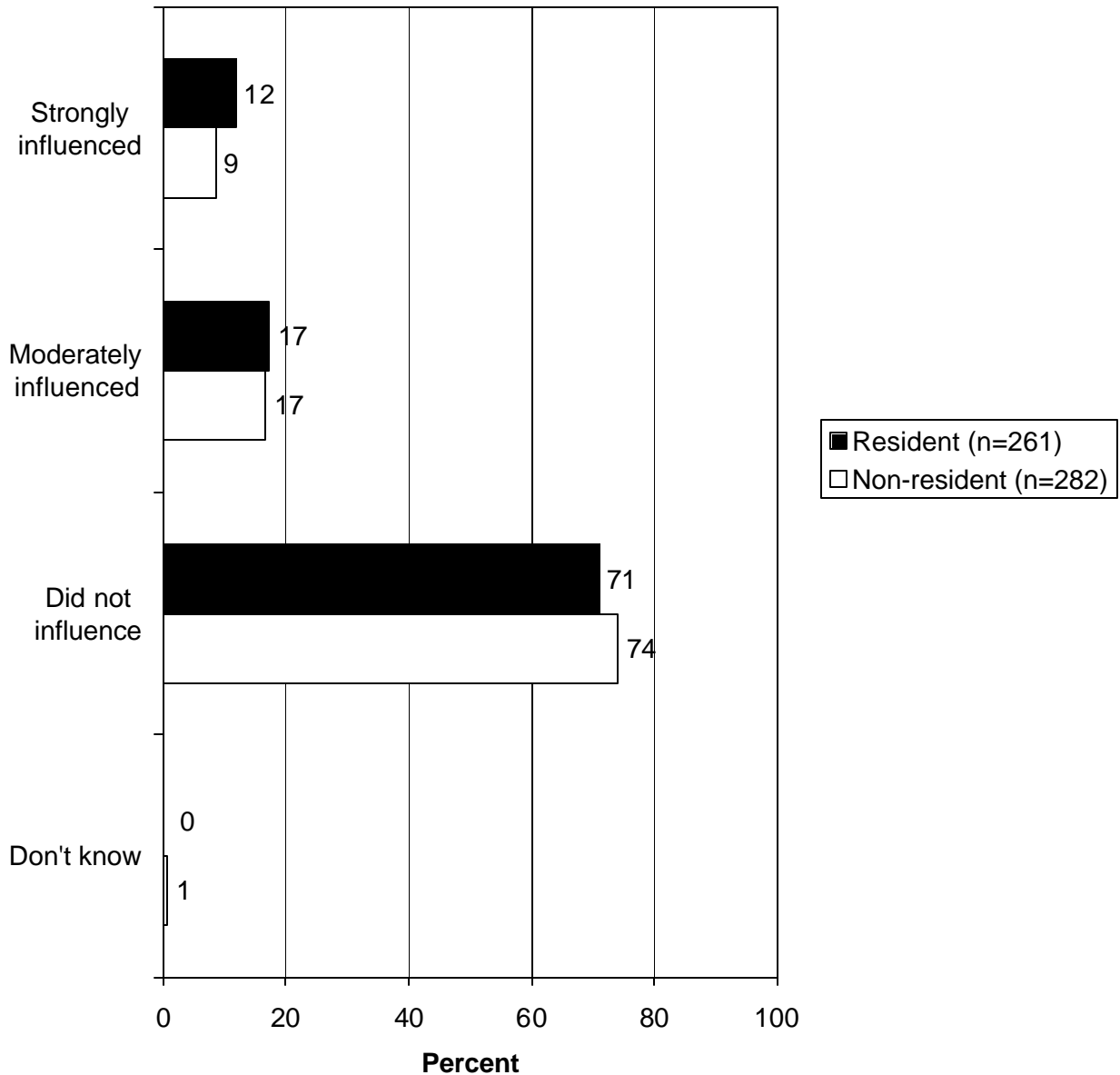
Q64. Did work obligations strongly influence, moderately influence, or not influence your decision to not hunt in New Hampshire [in the years you did not hunt in New Hampshire within the past 5 years/since the last time you hunted in New Hampshire]?



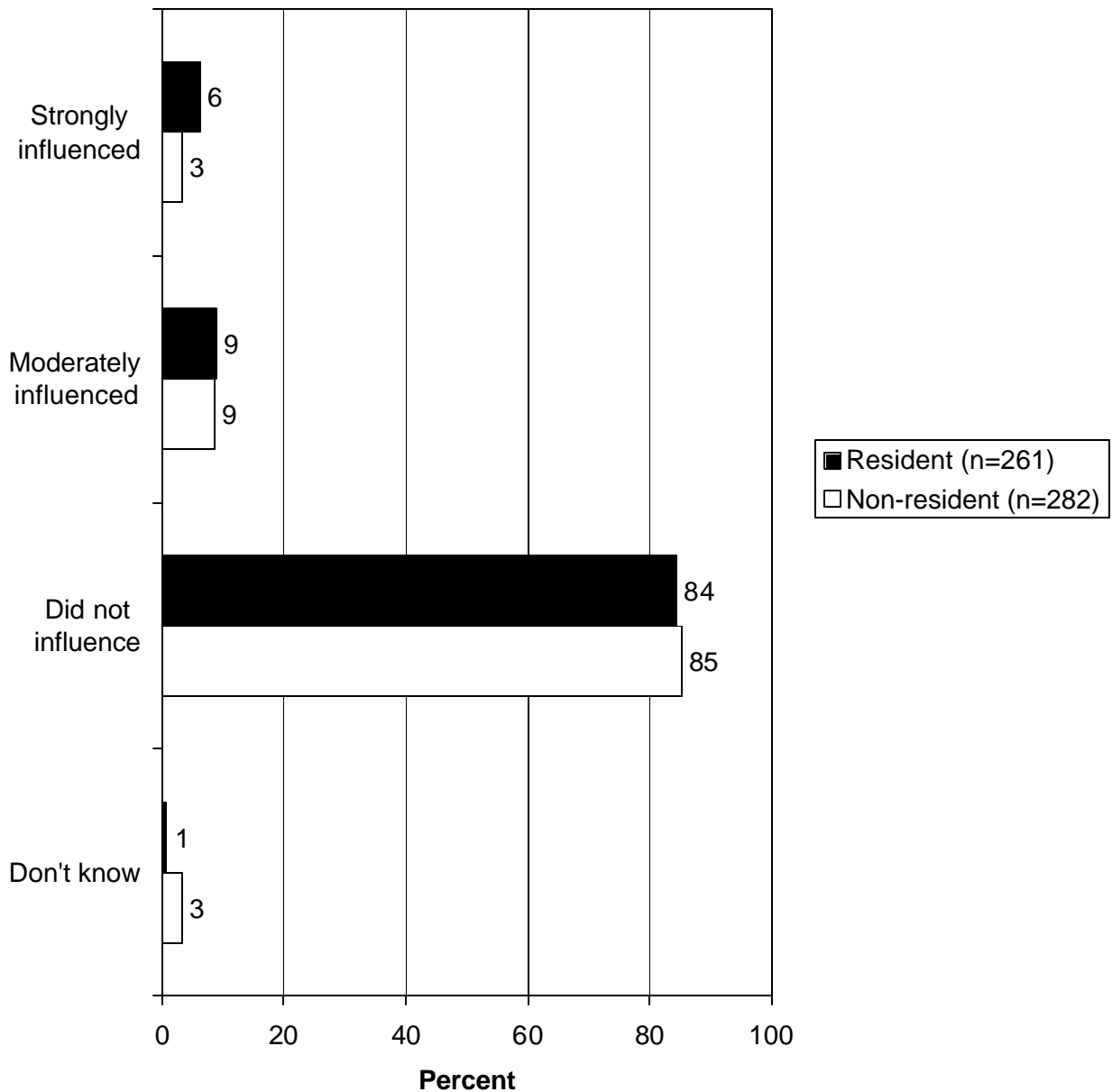
Q65. Did family obligations strongly influence, moderately influence, or not influence your decision to not hunt in New Hampshire [in the years you did not hunt in New Hampshire within the past 5 years/since the last time you hunted in New Hampshire]?



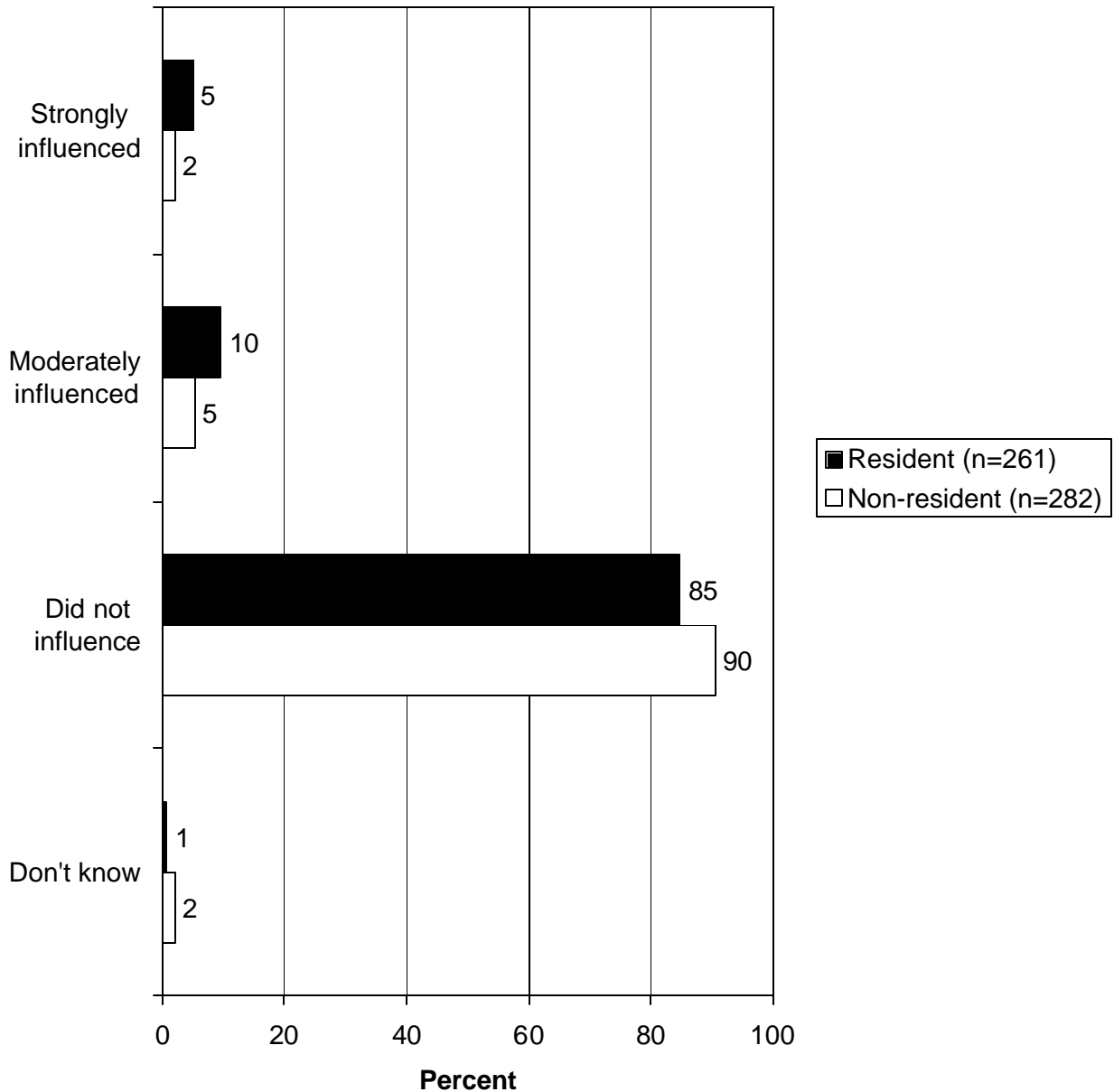
Q66. Did not having anyone to hunt with strongly influence, moderately influence, or not influence your decision to not hunt in New Hampshire [in the years you did not hunt in New Hampshire within the past 5 years/since the last time you hunted in New Hampshire]?



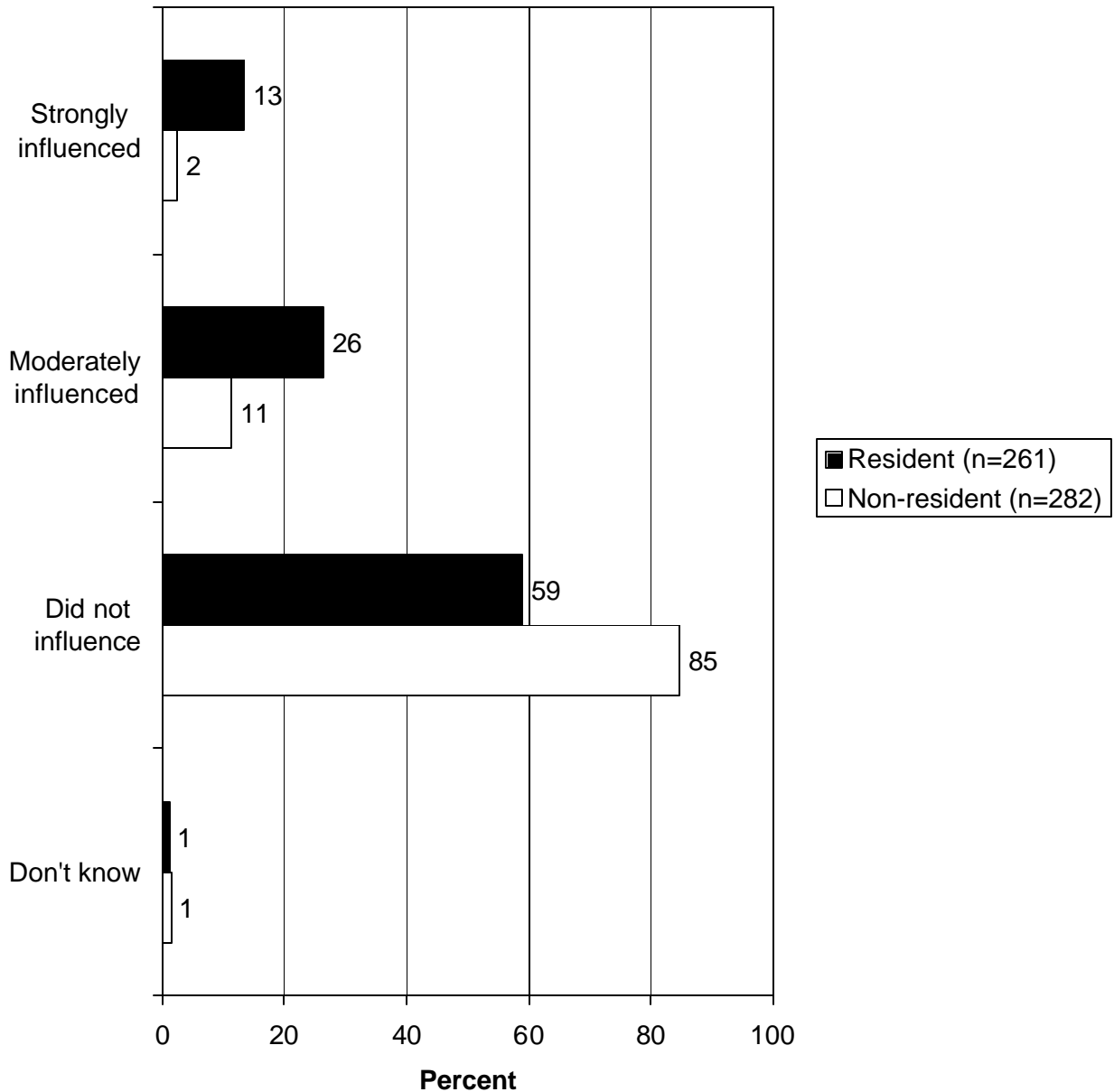
Q67. Did concern over endangering animal populations strongly influence, moderately influence, or not influence your decision to not hunt in New Hampshire [in the years you did not hunt in New Hampshire within the past 5 years/since the last time you hunted in New Hampshire]?



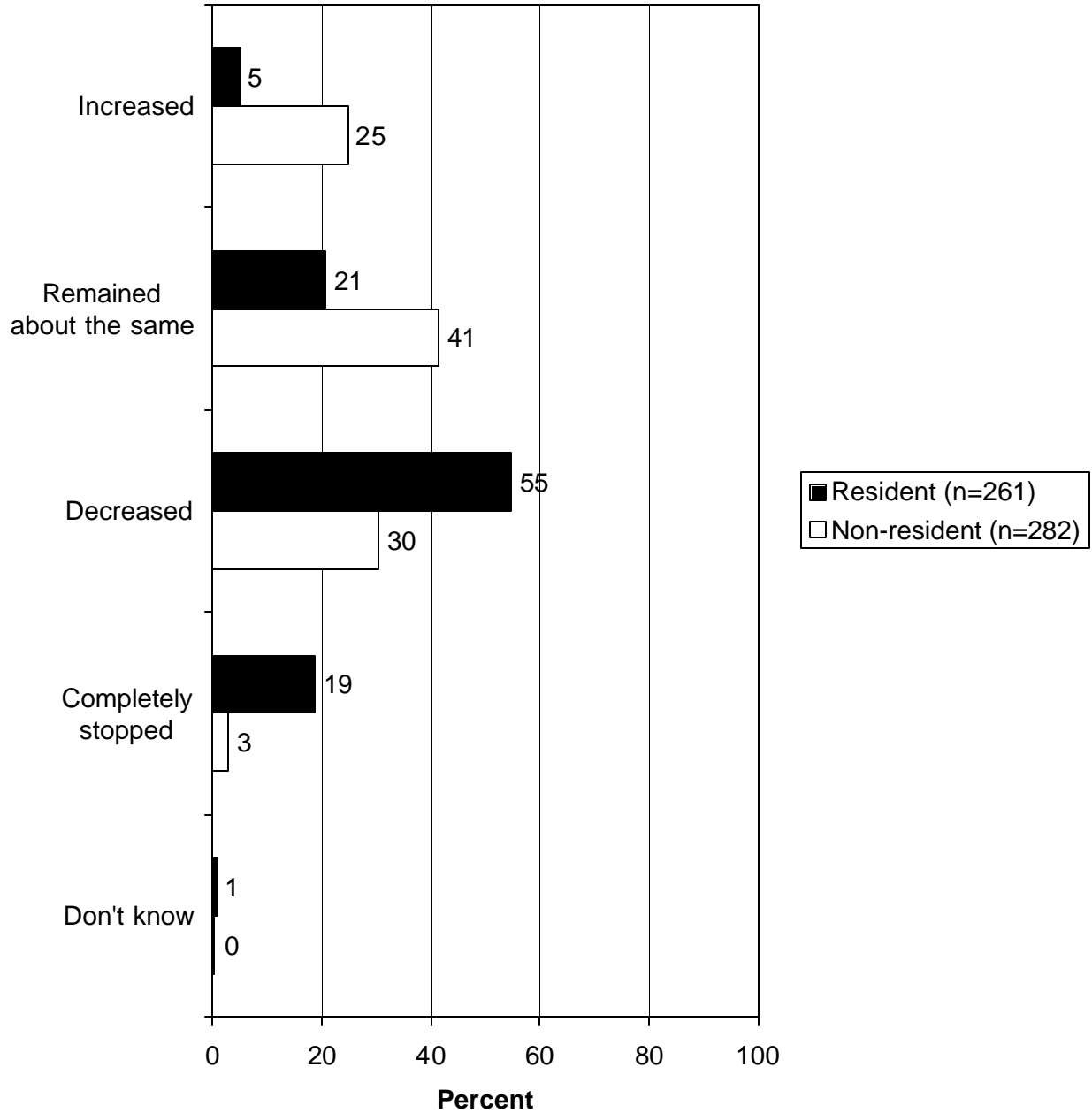
Q68. Did the feeling of causing pain to animals strongly influence, moderately influence, or not influence your decision to not hunt in New Hampshire [in the years you did not hunt in New Hampshire within the past 5 years/since the last time you hunted in New Hampshire]?



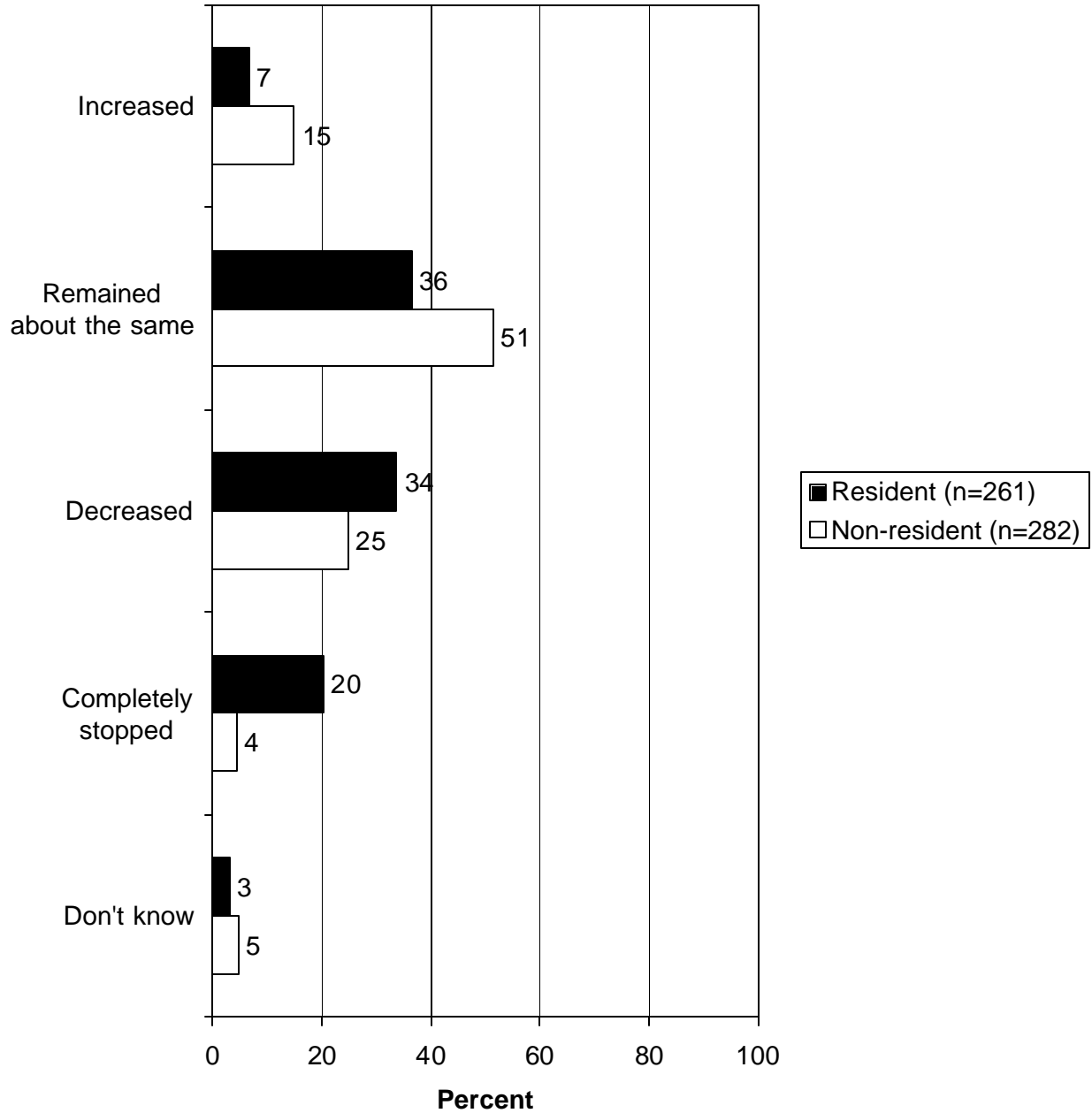
Q69. Did a loss of interest in hunting strongly influence, moderately influence, or not influence your decision to not hunt in New Hampshire [in the years you did not hunt in New Hampshire within the past 5 years/since the last time you hunted in New Hampshire]?



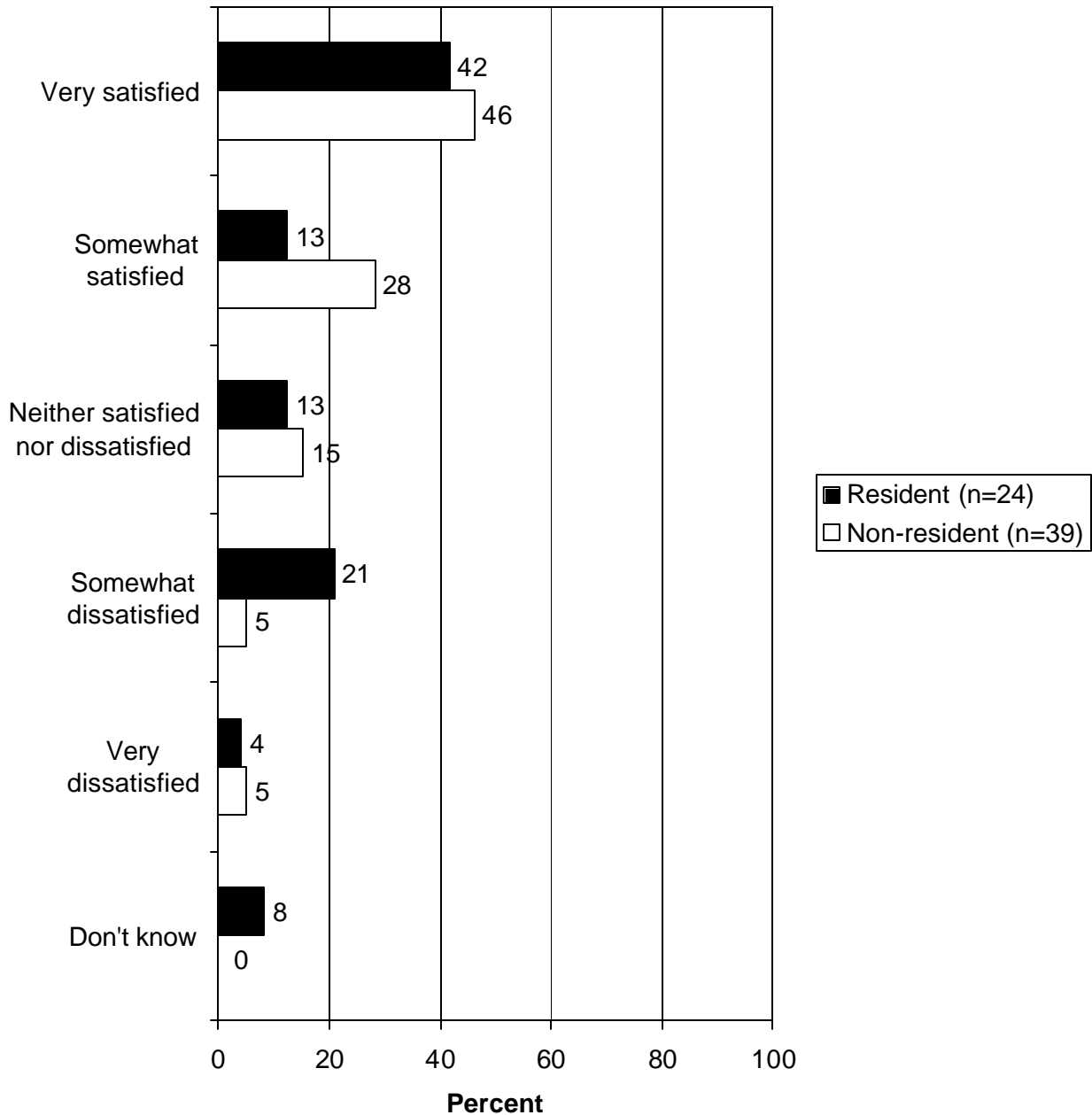
Q72. Over the past 5 years, would you say your overall hunting participation has increased, decreased, remained about the same, or completely stopped?



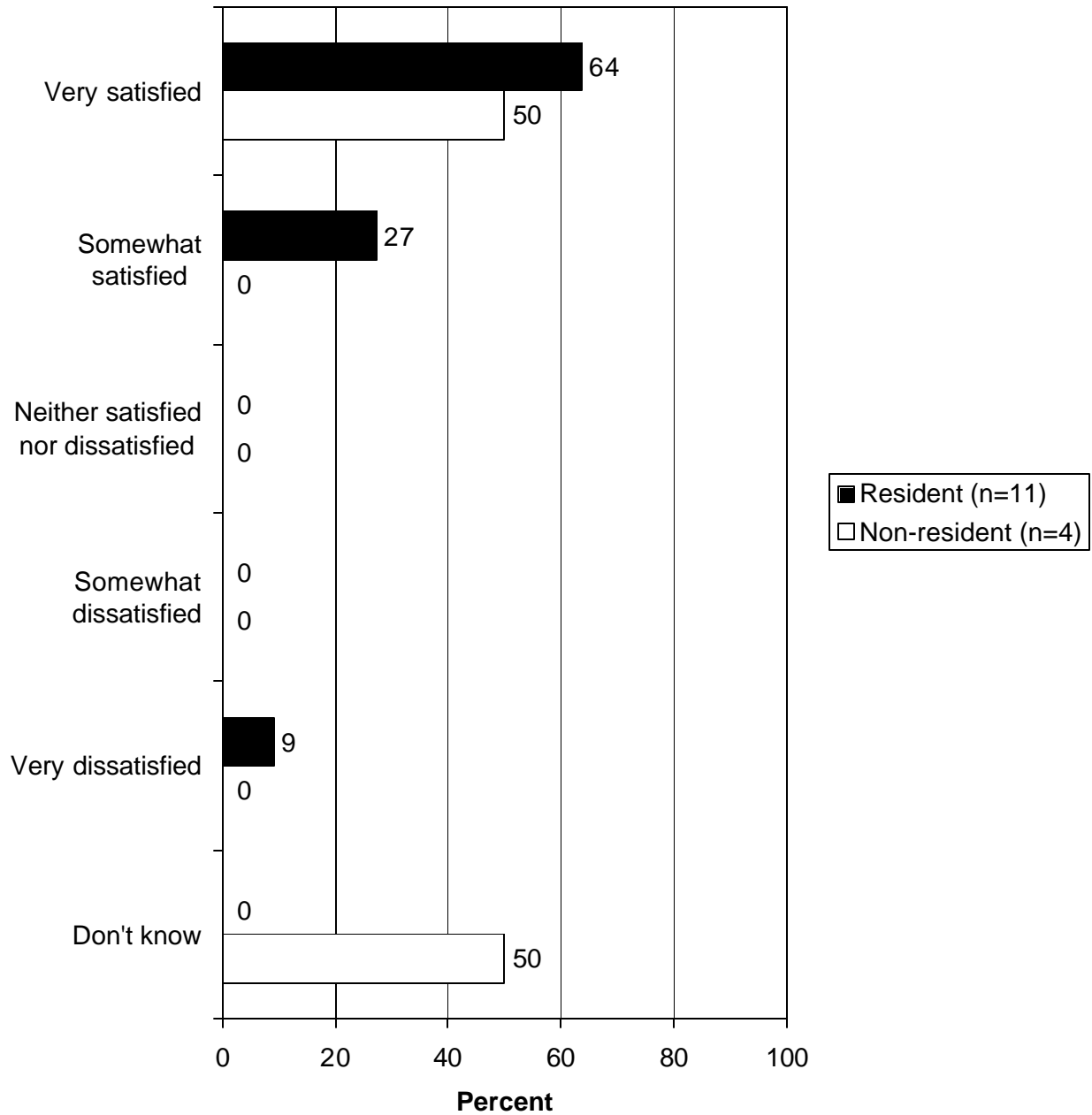
Q73. Over the past 5 years, would you say your sport shooting participation has increased, decreased, remained about the same, or completely stopped?



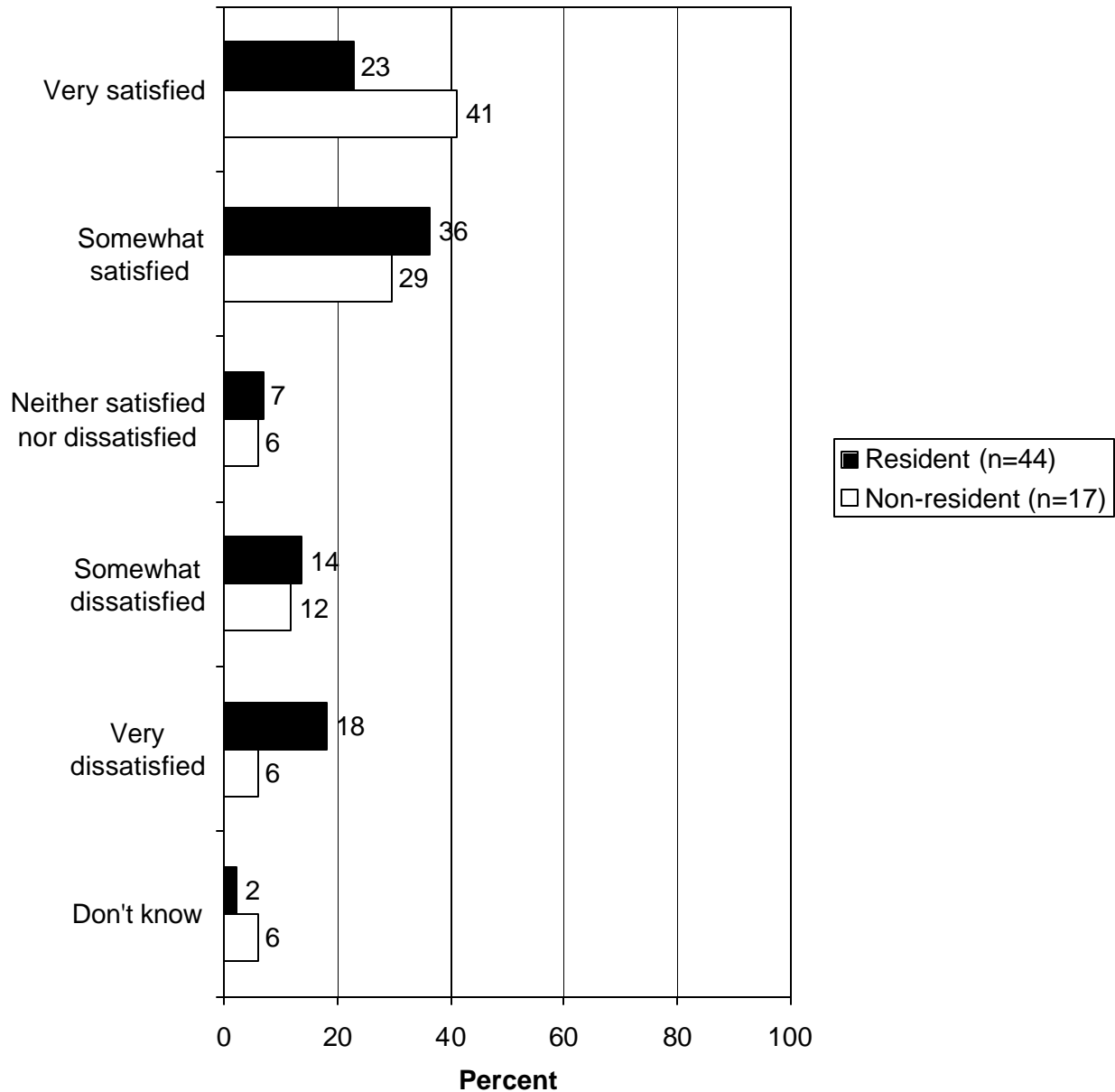
Q101. Overall, were you satisfied or dissatisfied with your black bear hunting in New Hampshire in the past 5 years? (Asked of those who hunted black bear in New Hampshire in the past 5 years.)



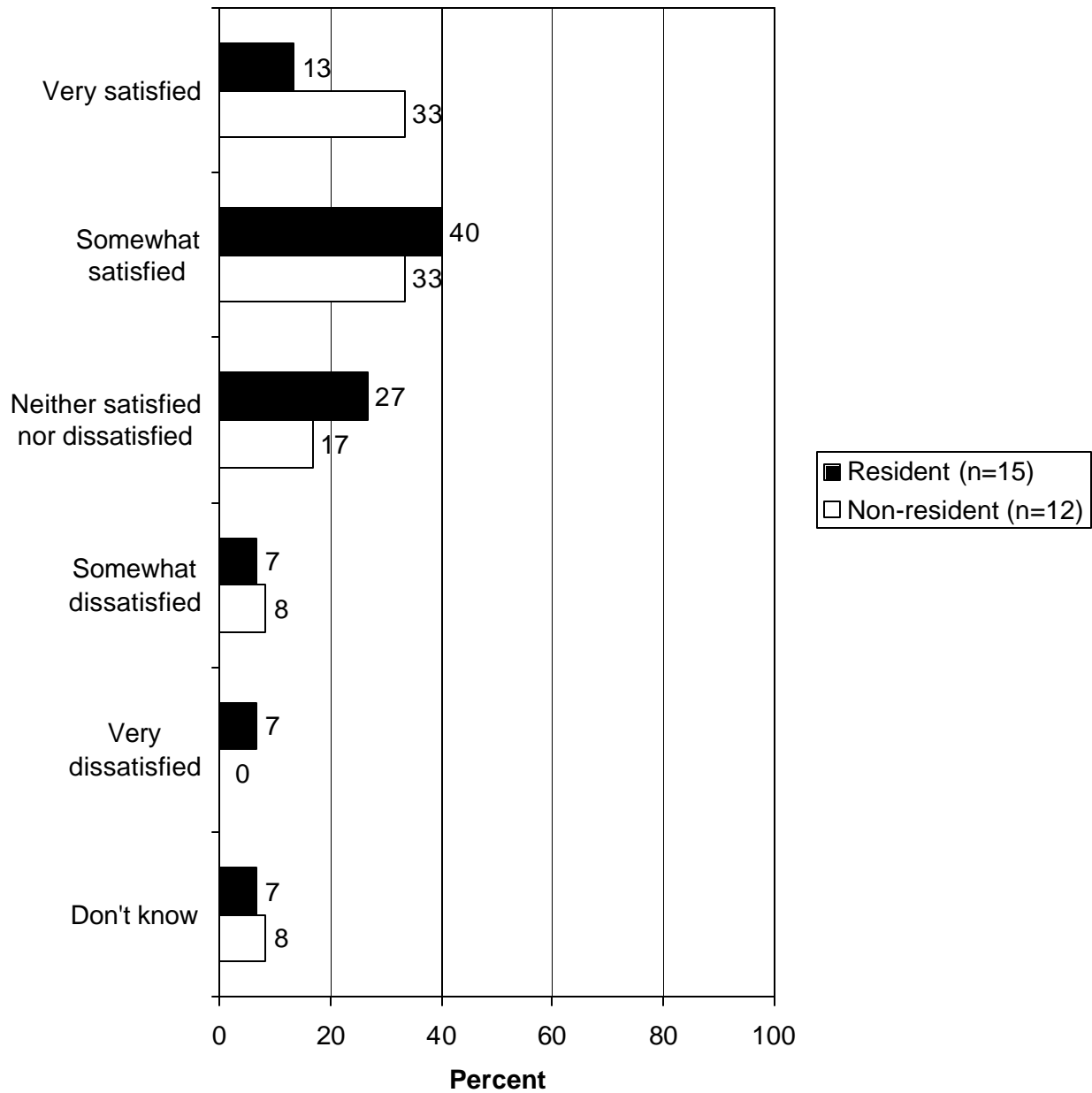
Q102. Overall, were you satisfied or dissatisfied with your raccoon hunting in New Hampshire in the past 5 years? (Asked of those who hunted raccoon in New Hampshire in the past 5 years.)



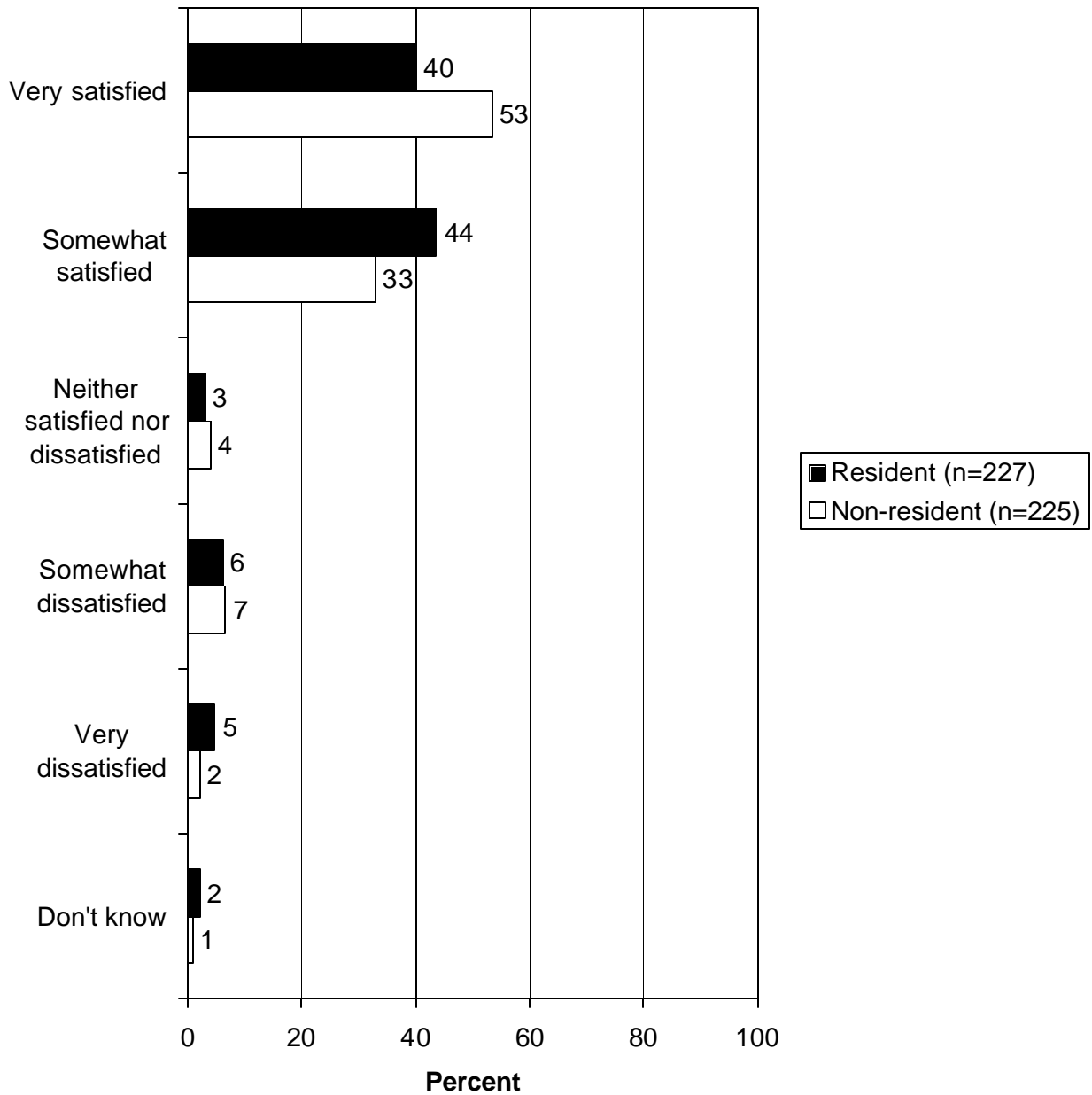
Q103. Overall, were you satisfied or dissatisfied with your cottontail rabbit hunting in New Hampshire in the past 5 years? (Asked of those who hunted cottontail rabbit in New Hampshire in the past 5 years.)



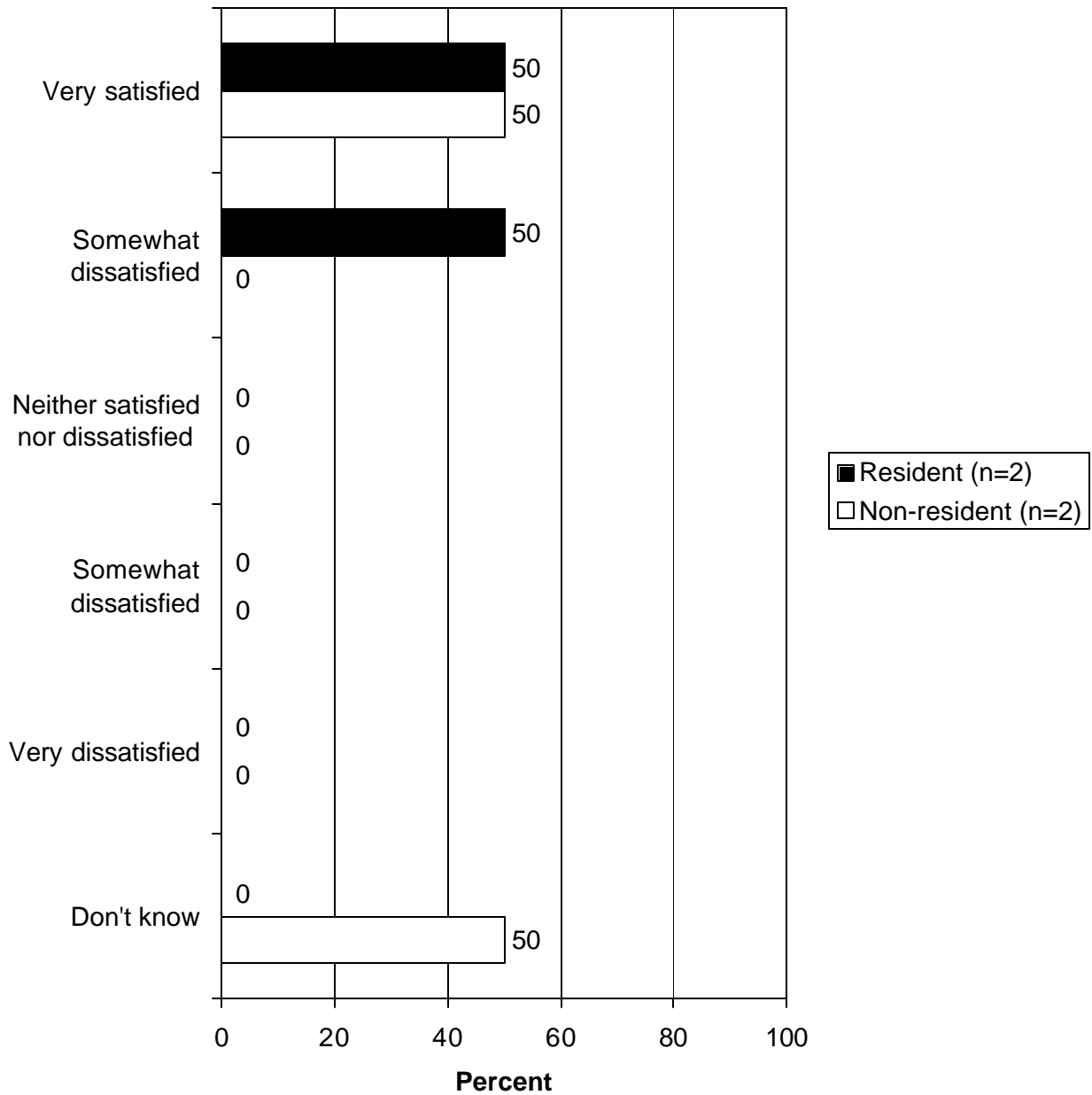
Q104. Overall, were you satisfied or dissatisfied with your coyote hunting in New Hampshire in the past 5 years? (Asked of those who hunted coyote in New Hampshire in the past 5 years.)



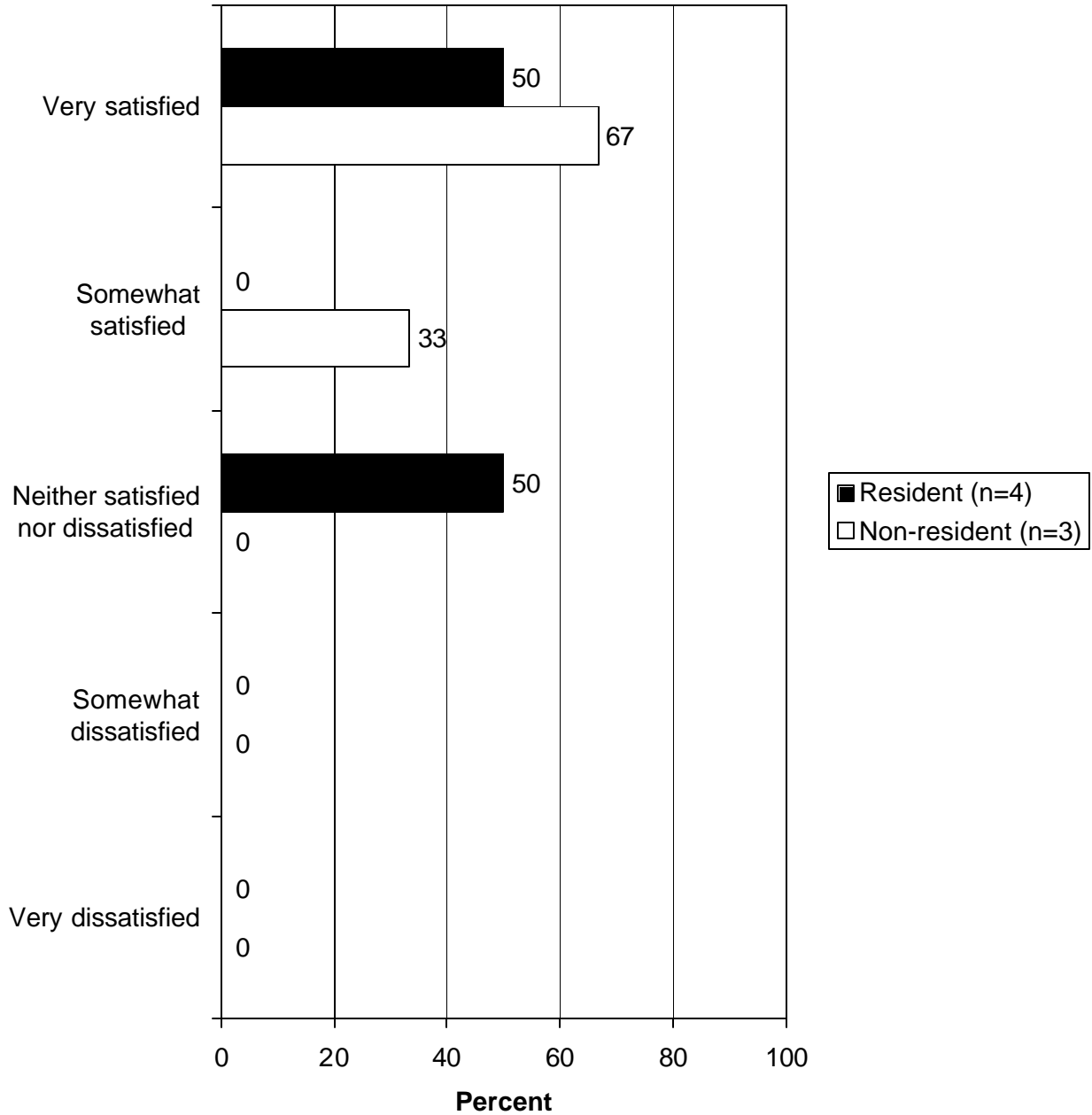
Q105. Overall, were you satisfied or dissatisfied with your white-tailed deer hunting in New Hampshire in the past 5 years? (Asked of those who hunted white-tailed deer in New Hampshire in the past 5 years.)



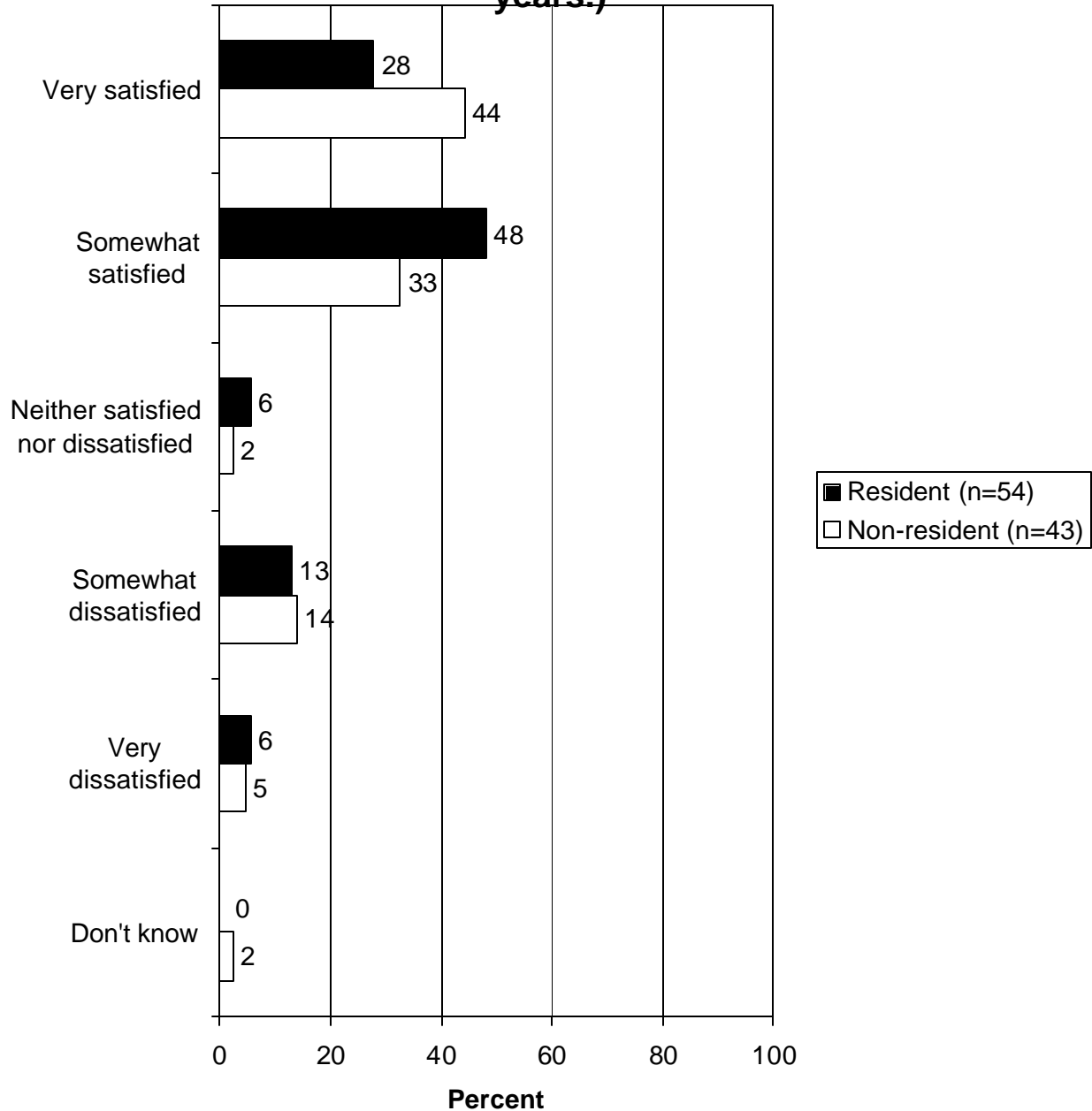
Q106. Overall, were you satisfied or dissatisfied with your gray fox hunting in New Hampshire in the past 5 years? (Asked of those who hunted gray fox in New Hampshire in the past 5 years.)



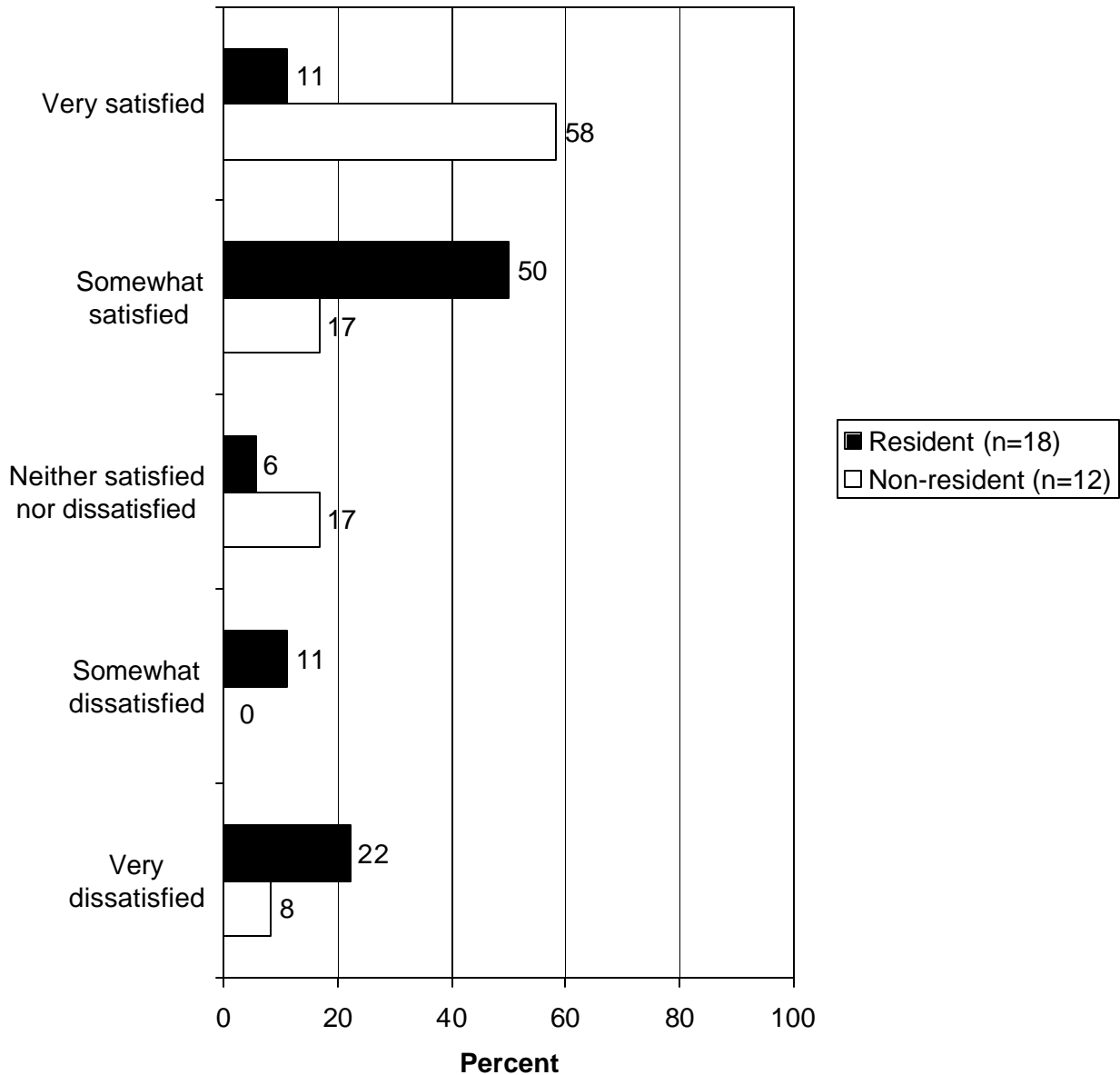
Q107. Overall, were you satisfied or dissatisfied with your red fox hunting in New Hampshire in the past 5 years? (Asked of those who hunted red fox in New Hampshire in the past 5 years.)



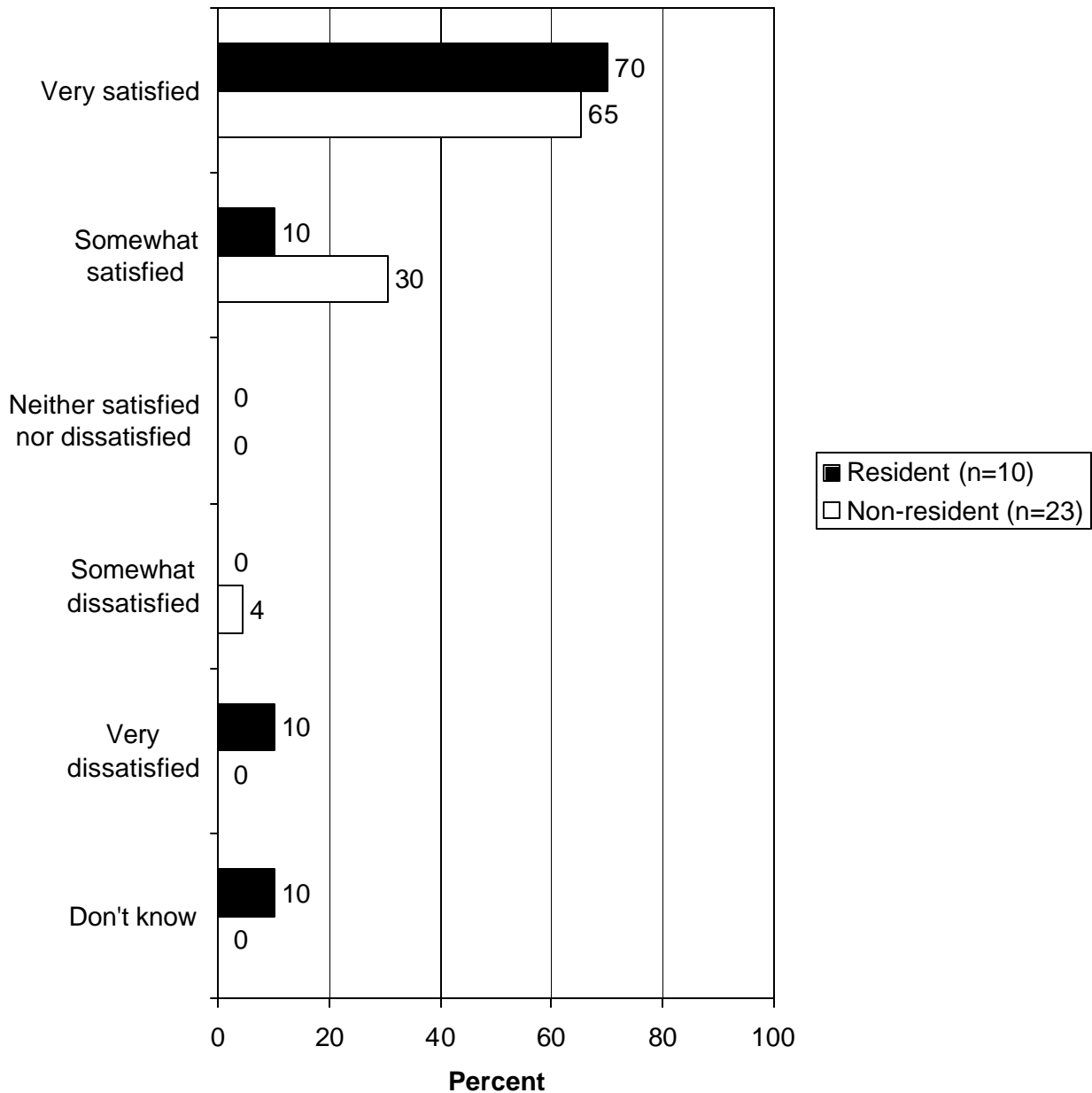
Q108. Overall, were you satisfied or dissatisfied with your ruffed grouse hunting in New Hampshire in the past 5 years? (Asked of those who hunted ruffed grouse in New Hampshire in the past 5 years.)



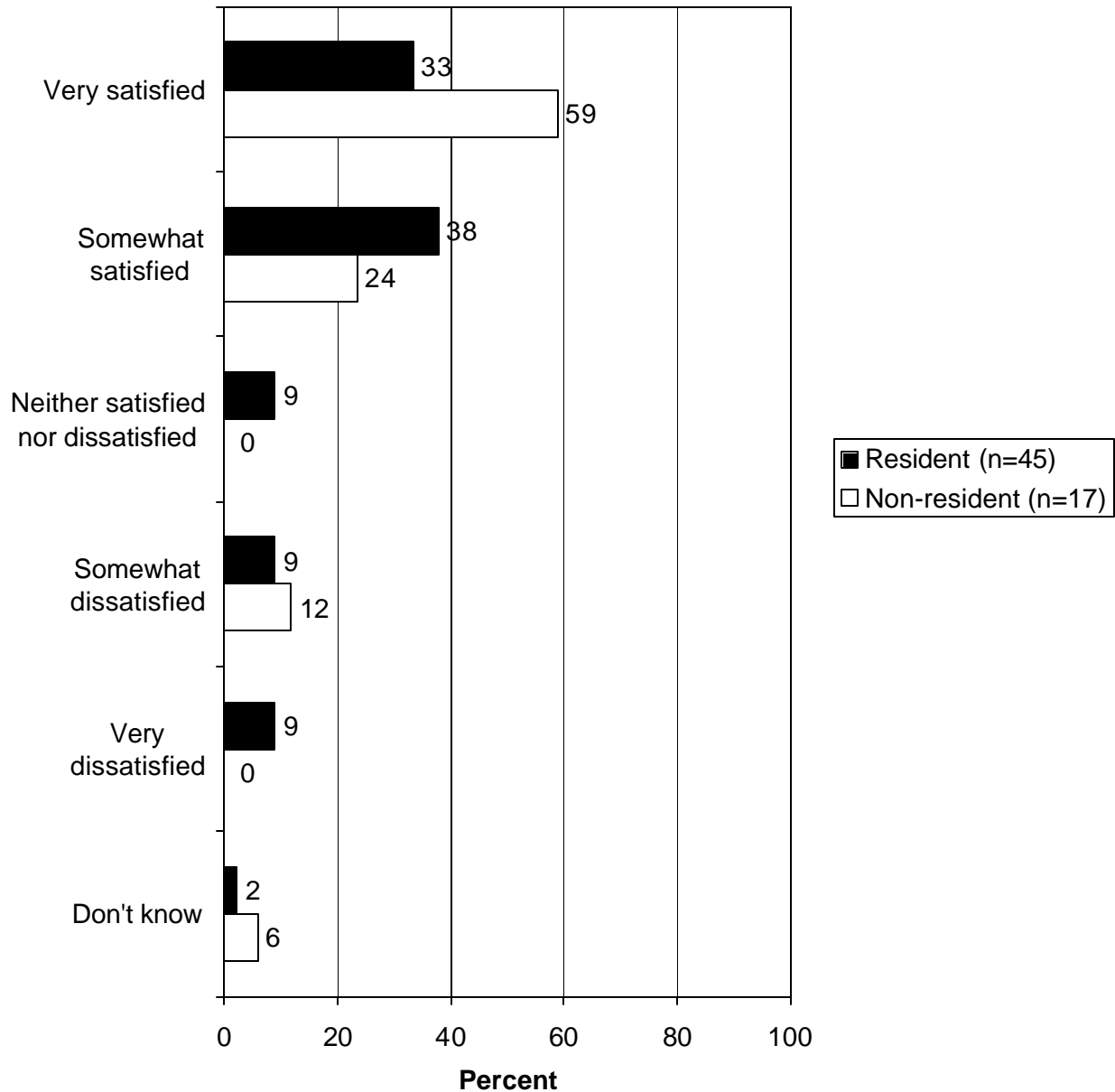
Q109. Overall, were you satisfied or dissatisfied with your snowshoe hare hunting In New Hampshire in the past 5 years? (Asked of those who hunted snowshoe hare in New Hampshire in the past 5 years.)



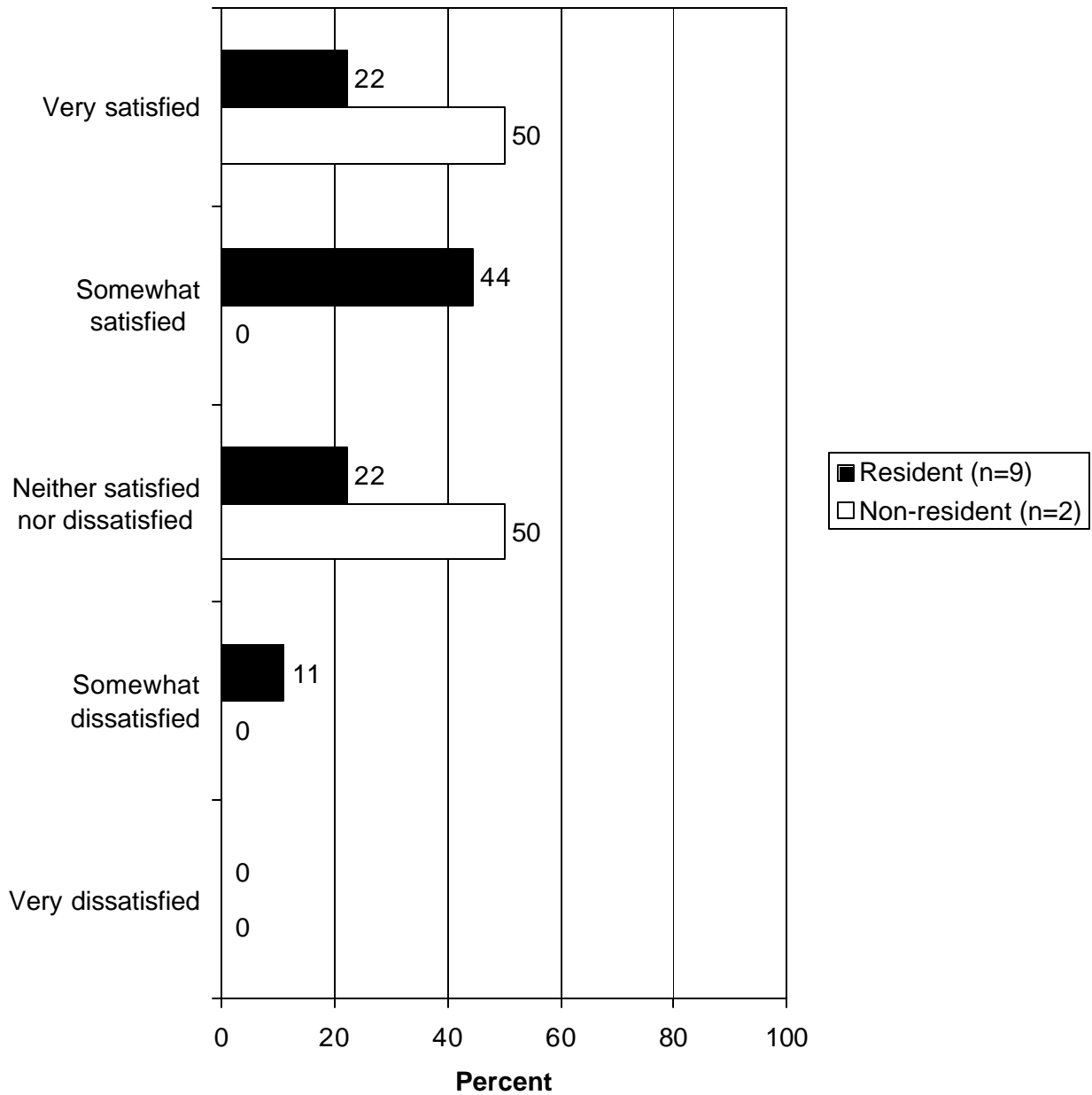
Q110. Overall, were you satisfied or dissatisfied with your moose hunting in New Hampshire in the past 5 years? (Asked of those who hunted moose in New Hampshire in the past 5 years.)



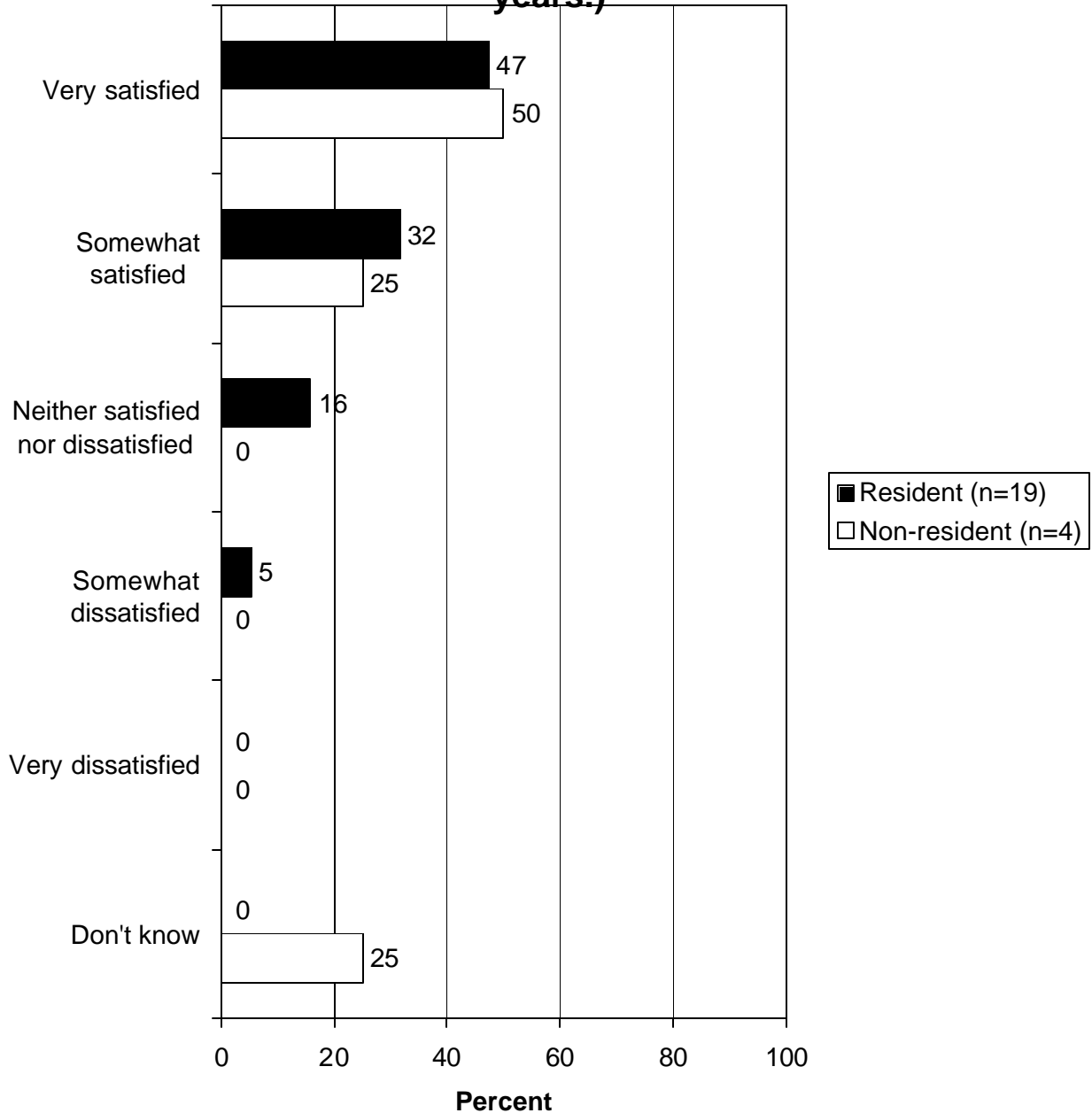
Q111. Overall, were you satisfied or dissatisfied with your ring-necked pheasant hunting in New Hampshire in the past 5 years? (Asked of those who hunted ring-necked pheasant in New Hampshire in the past 5 years.)



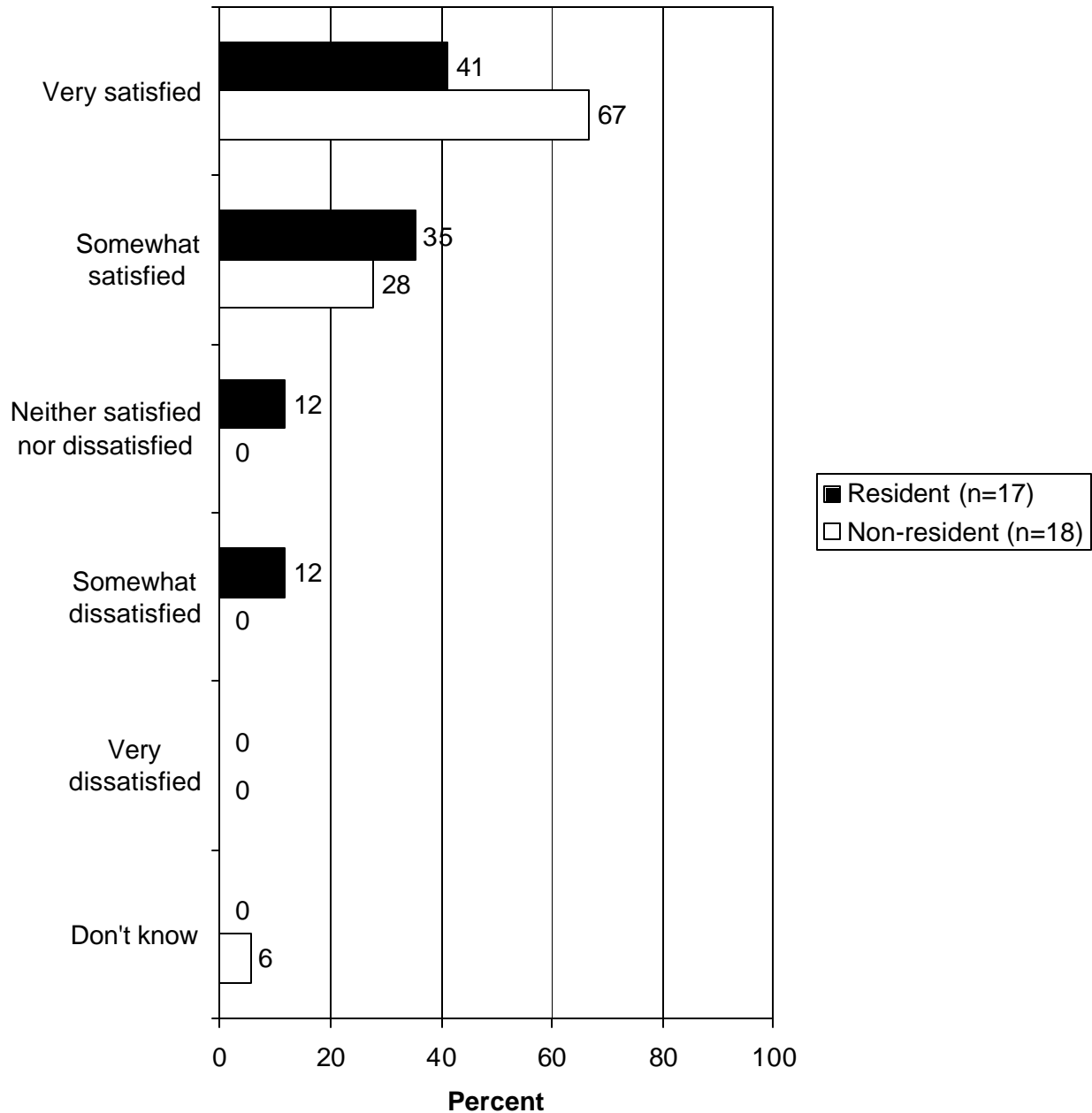
Q112. Overall, were you satisfied or dissatisfied with your fisher hunting in New Hampshire in the past 5 years? (Asked of those who hunted fisher in New Hampshire in the past 5 years.)



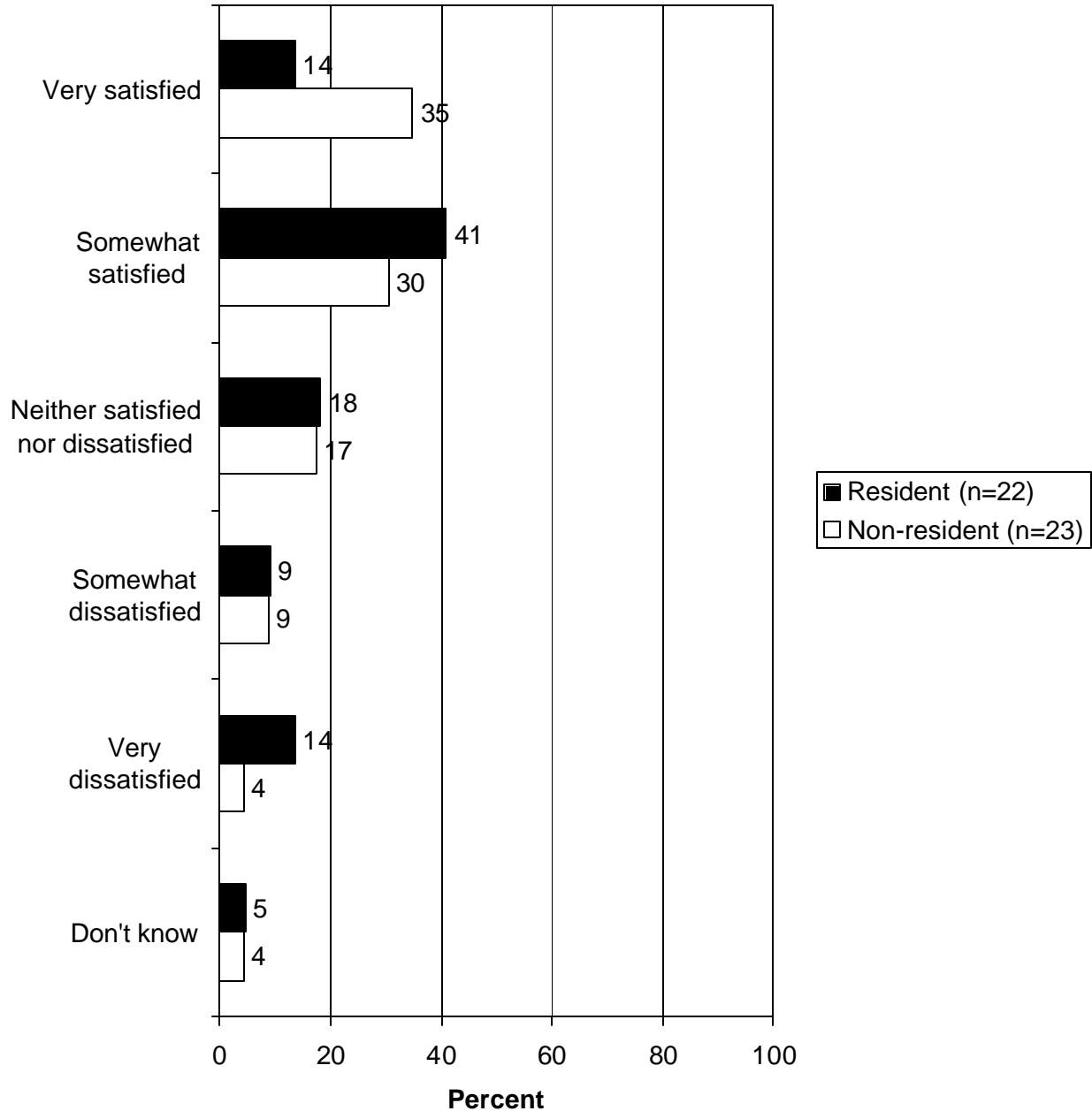
Q113. Overall, were you satisfied or dissatisfied with your gray squirrel hunting in New Hampshire in the past 5 years? (Asked of those who hunted gray squirrel in New Hampshire in the past 5 years.)



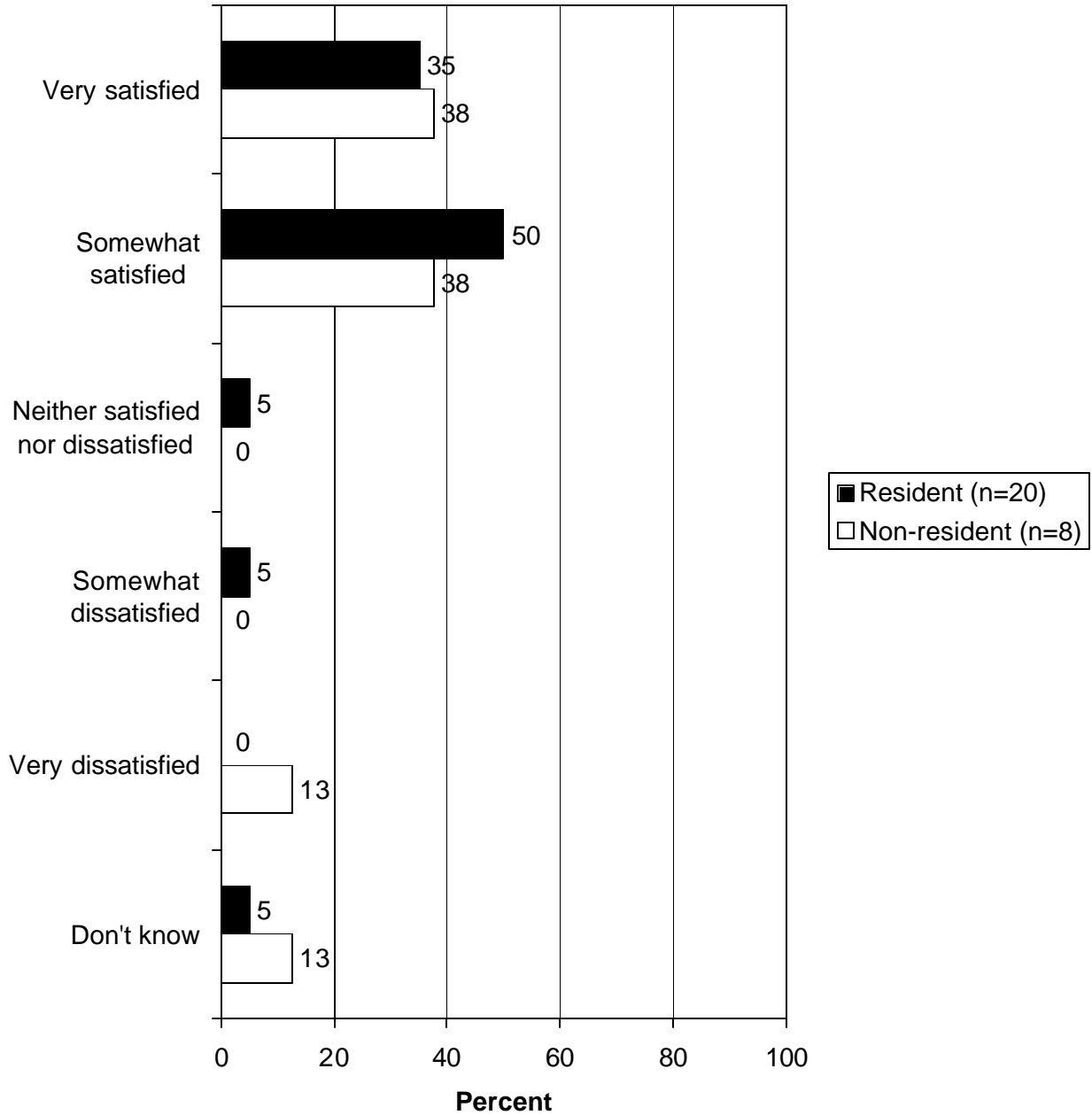
Q114. Overall, were you satisfied or dissatisfied with your wild turkey hunting in New Hampshire in the past 5 years? (Asked of those who hunted wild turkey in New Hampshire in the past 5 years.)



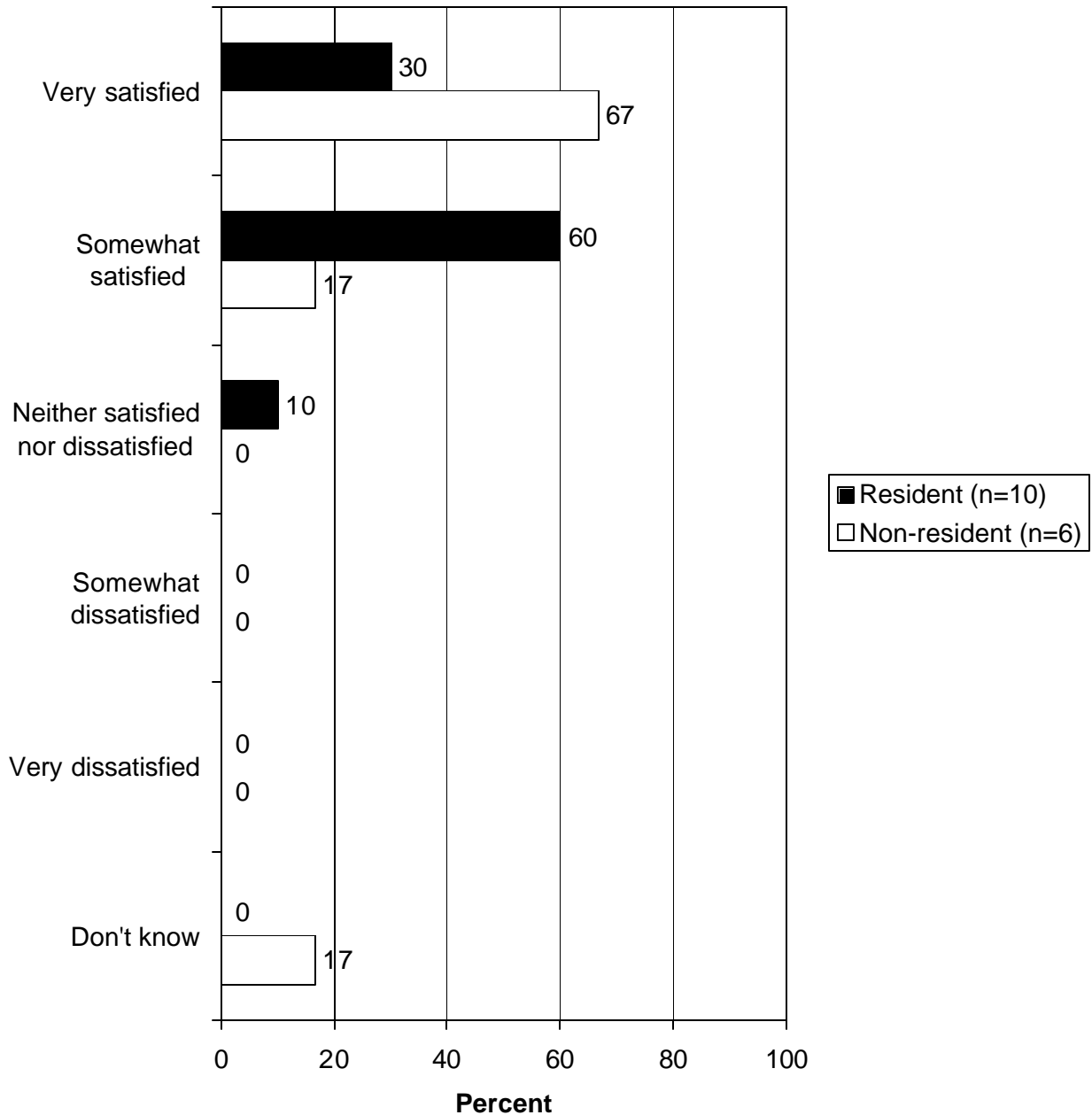
Q115. Overall, were you satisfied or dissatisfied with your woodcock hunting in New Hampshire in the past 5 years? (Asked of those who hunted woodcock in New Hampshire in the past 5 years.)



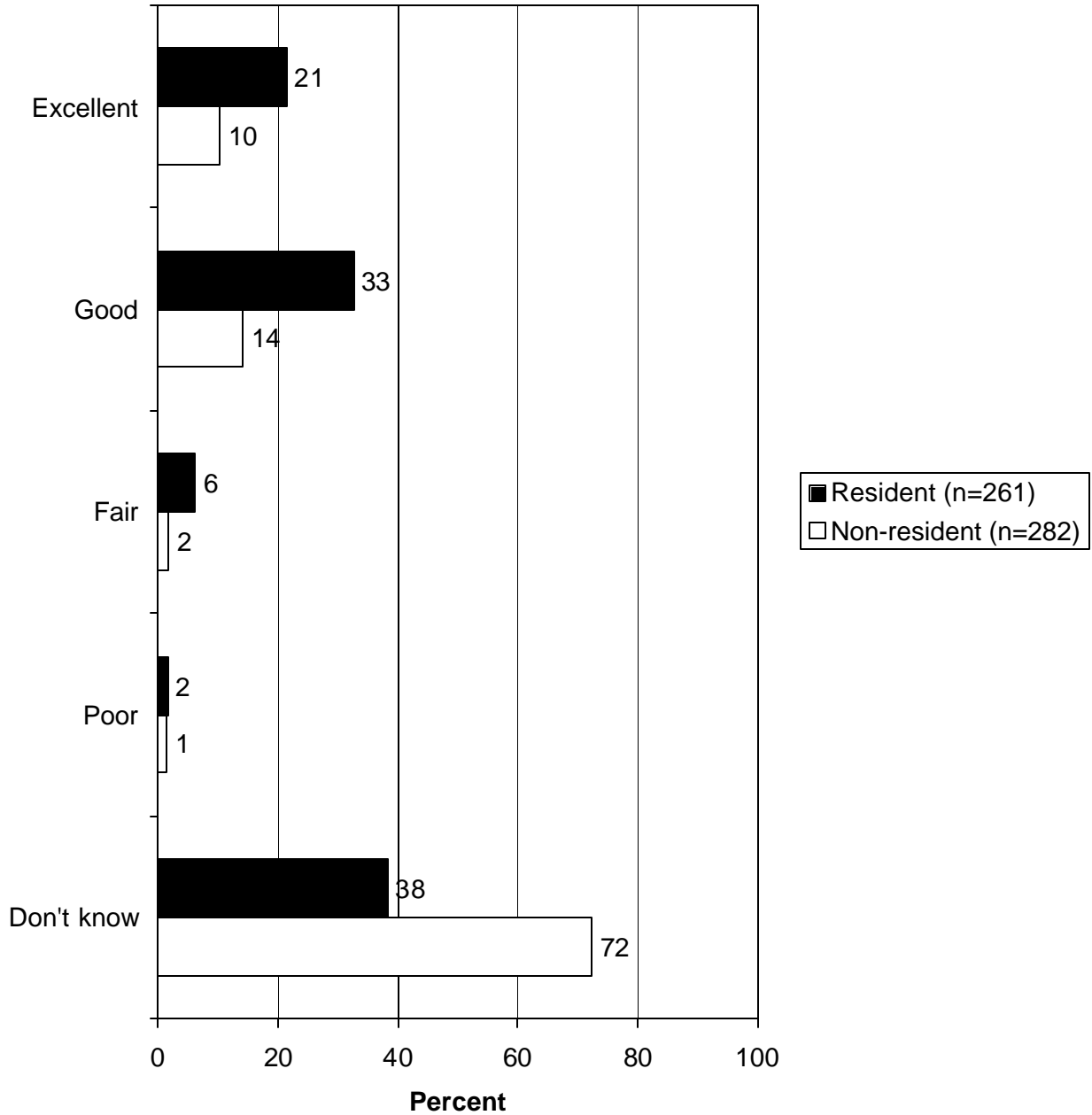
Q116. Overall, were you satisfied or dissatisfied with your duck hunting in New Hampshire in the past 5 years? (Asked of those who hunted duck hunting in New Hampshire in the past 5 years.)



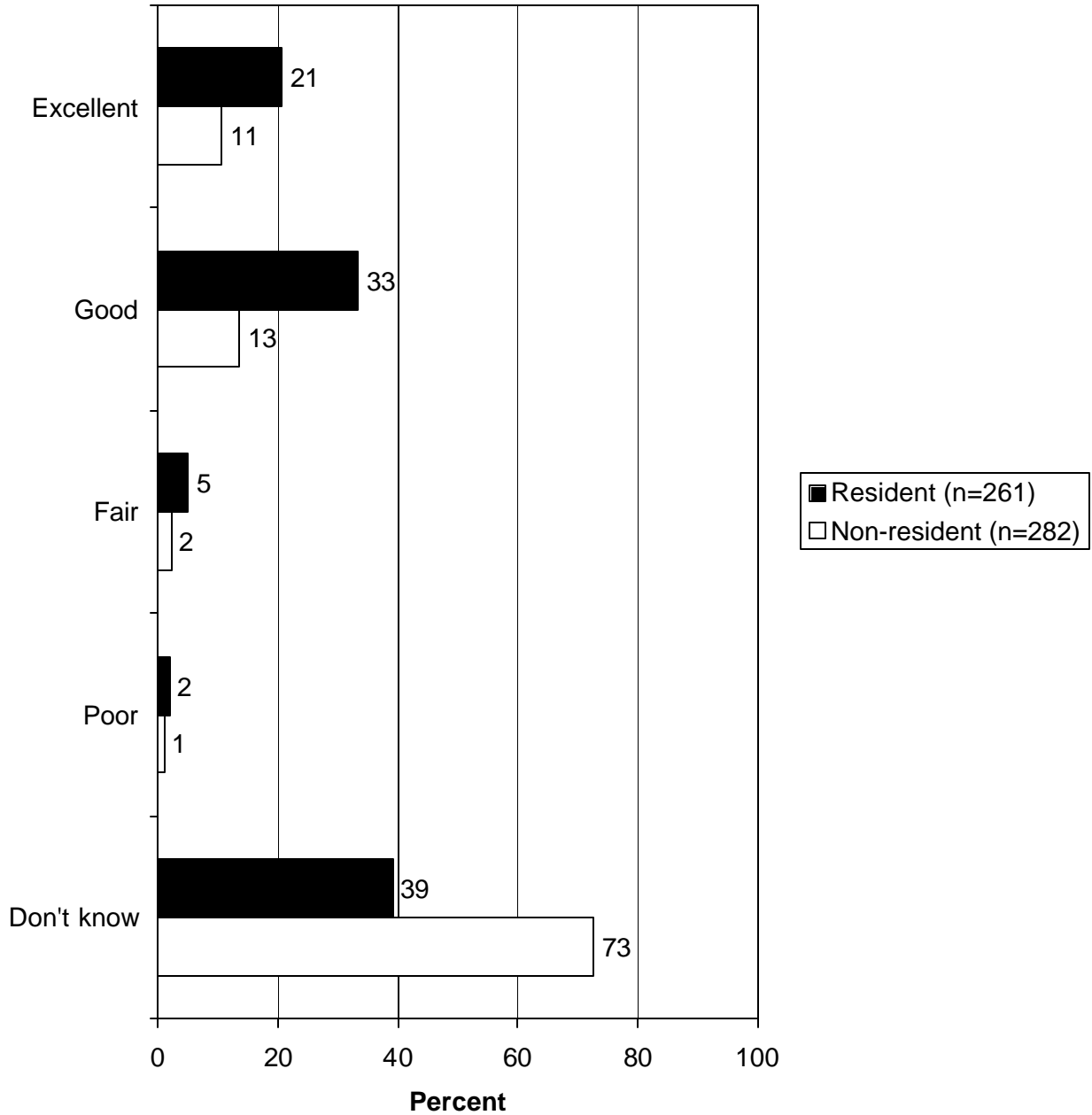
Q117. Overall, were you satisfied or dissatisfied with your goose hunting in New Hampshire in the past 5 years? (Asked of those who hunted goose in New Hampshire in the past 5 years.)



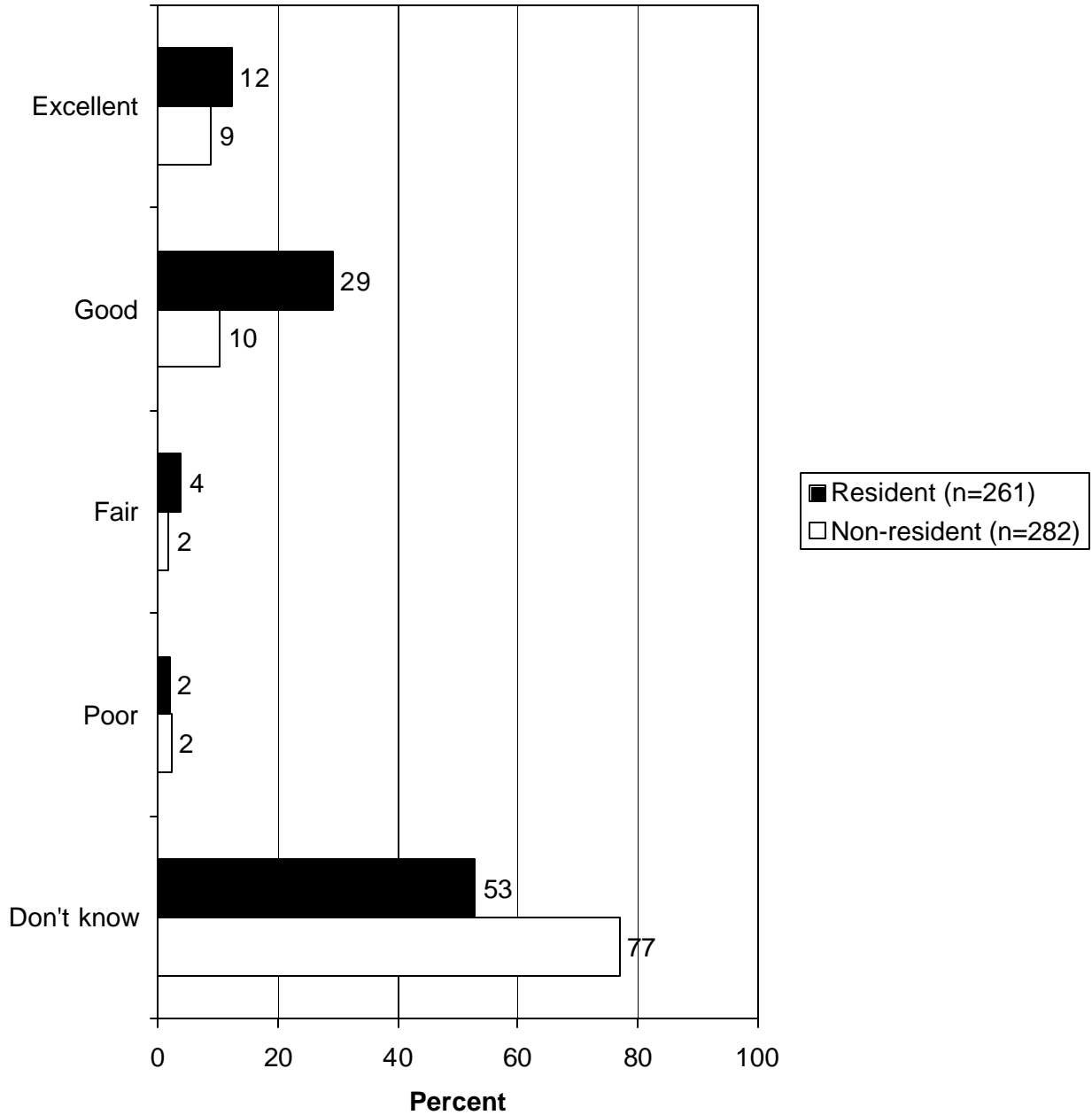
Q122. How would you rate the New Hampshire Fish and Game Department at providing convenient dates to take hunter education?



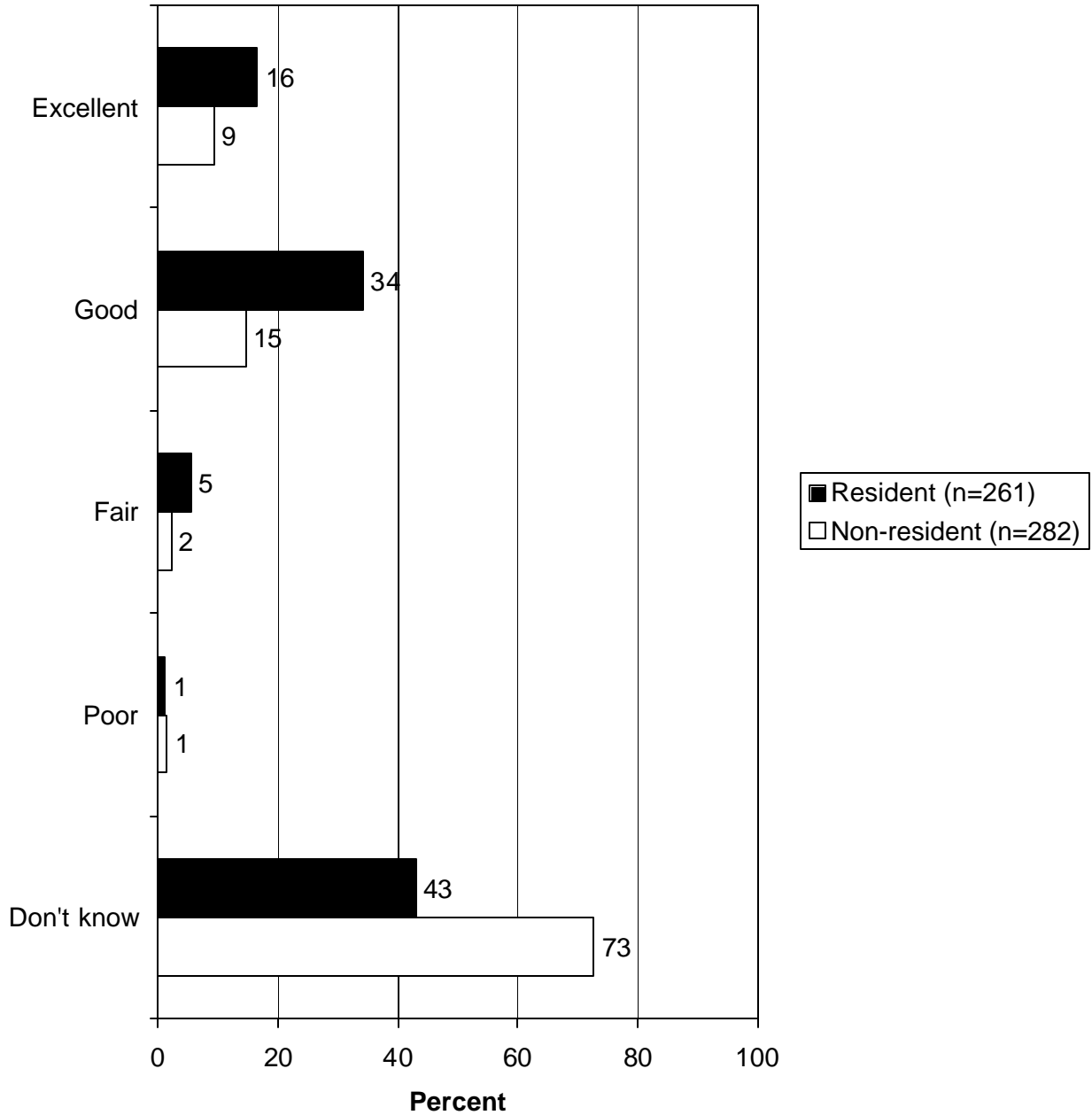
Q123. How would you rate the New Hampshire Fish and Game Department at providing convenient times to take hunter education?



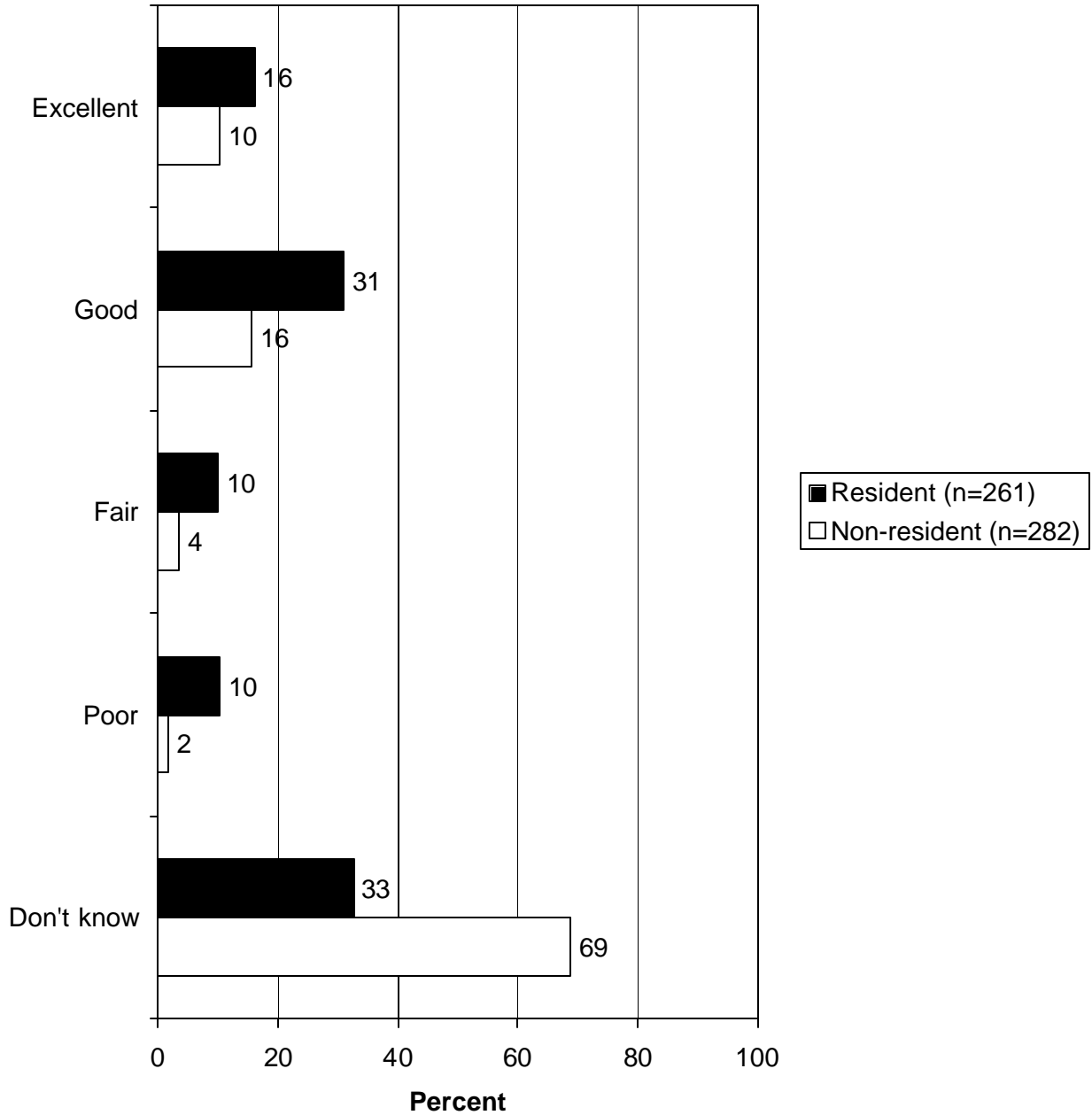
Q124. How would you rate the New Hampshire Fish and Game Department at providing convenient modes of hunter education (e.g., home study, Internet)?



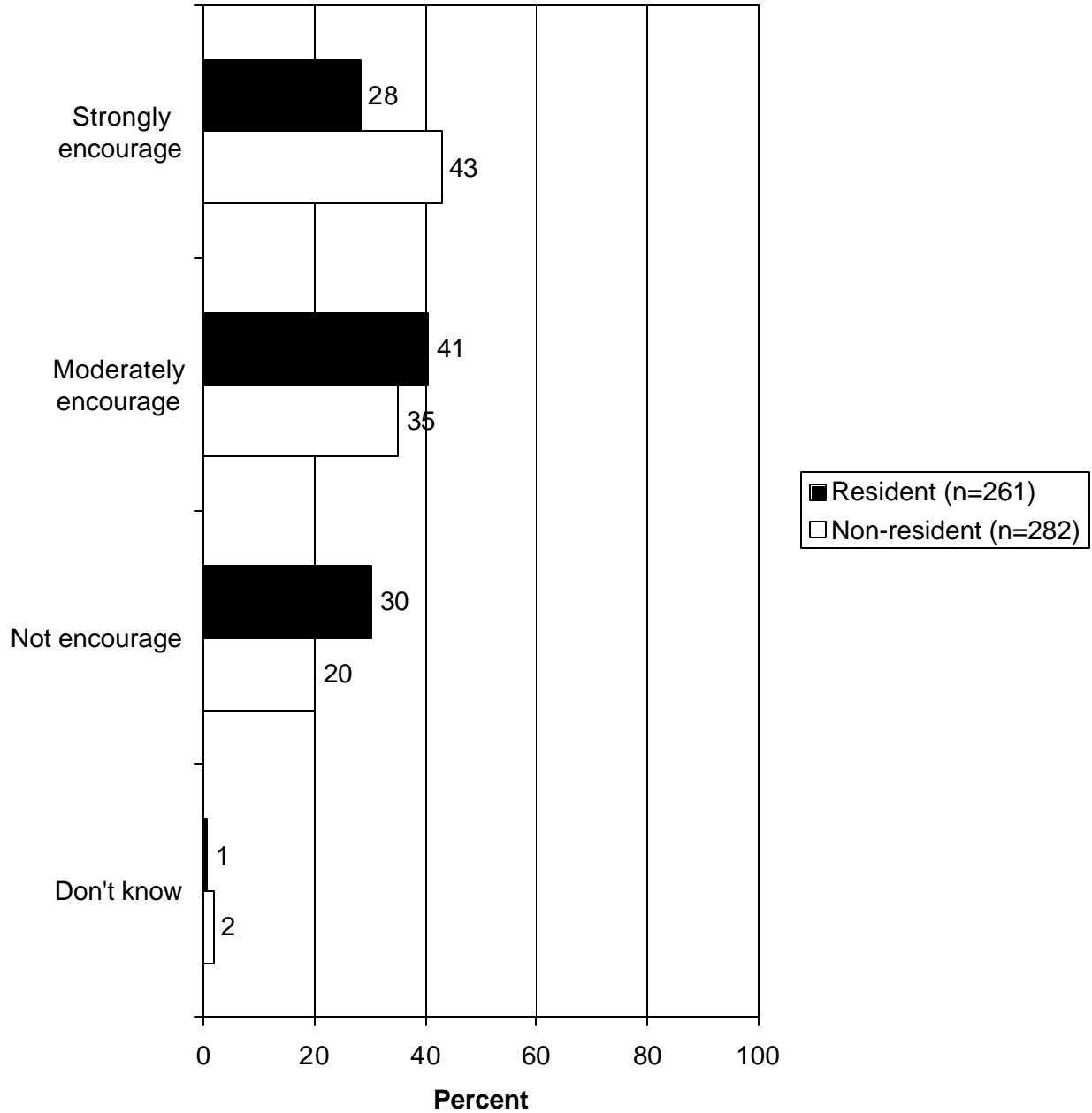
Q125. How would you rate the New Hampshire Fish and Game Department at providing hunter education courses that you want or need?



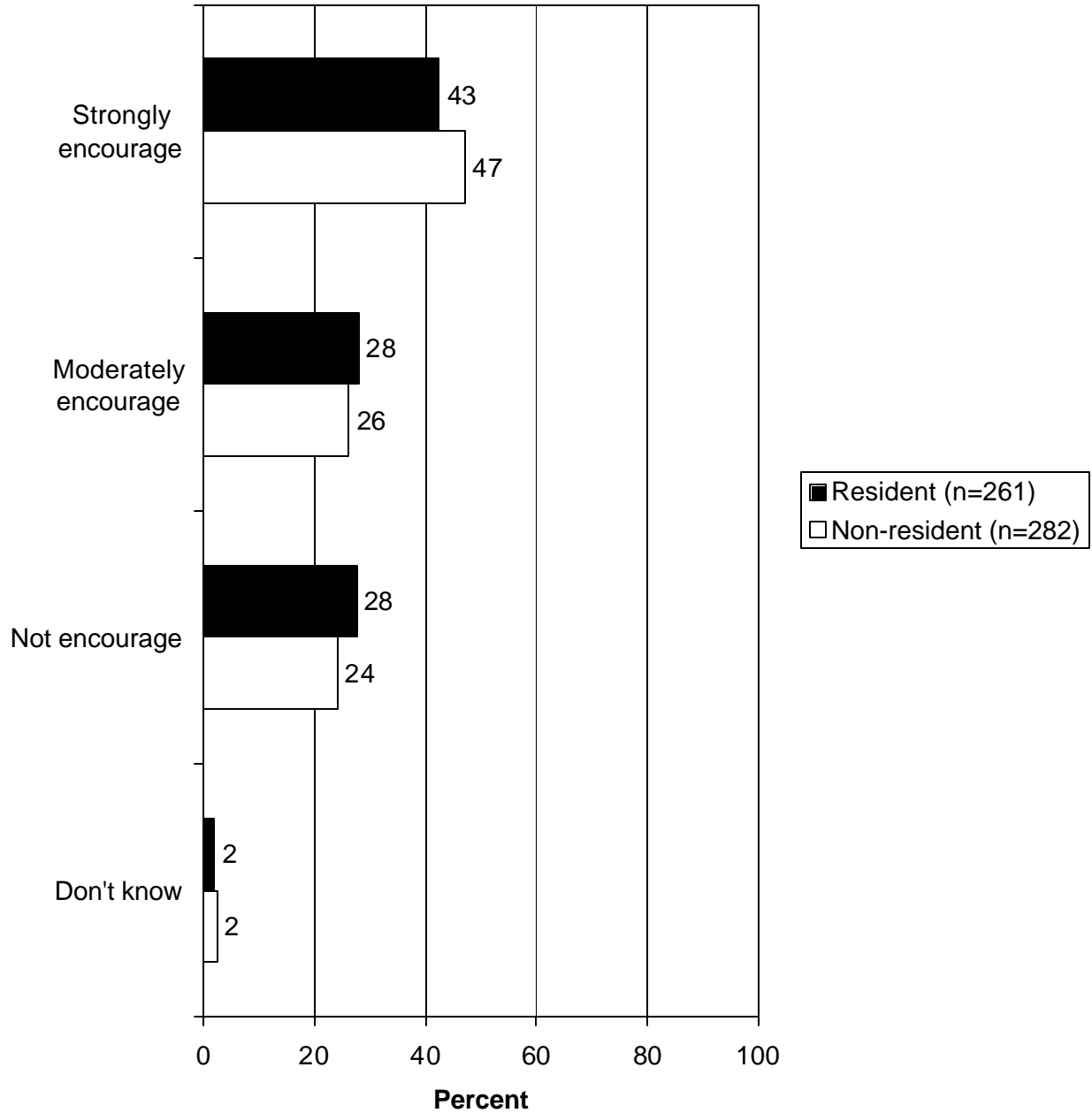
Q126. How would you rate the New Hampshire Fish and Game Department at publicizing hunter education opportunities?



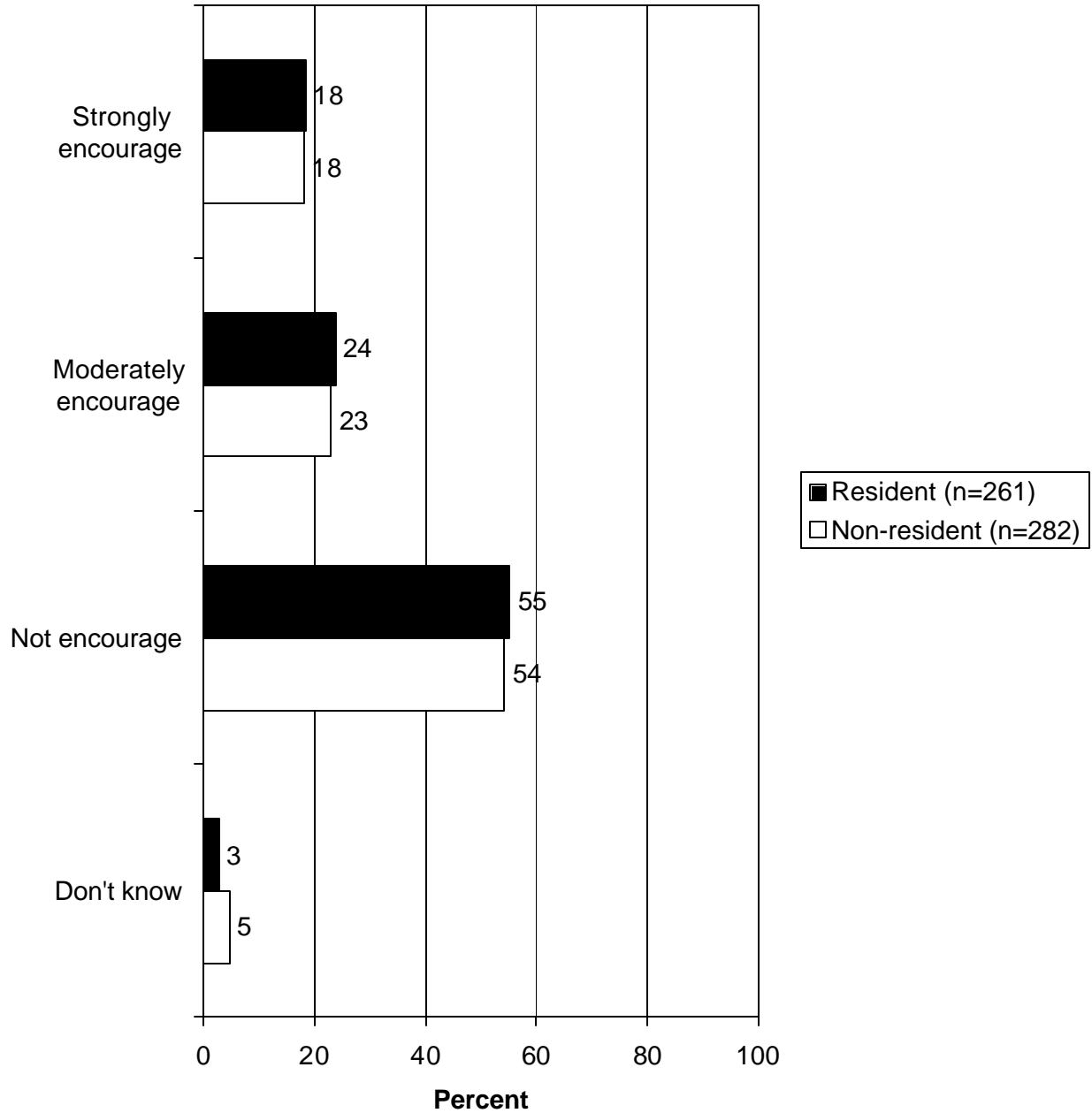
Q133. Would receiving an invitation from a friend encourage you to [hunt more in New Hampshire/hunt again in New Hampshire]?



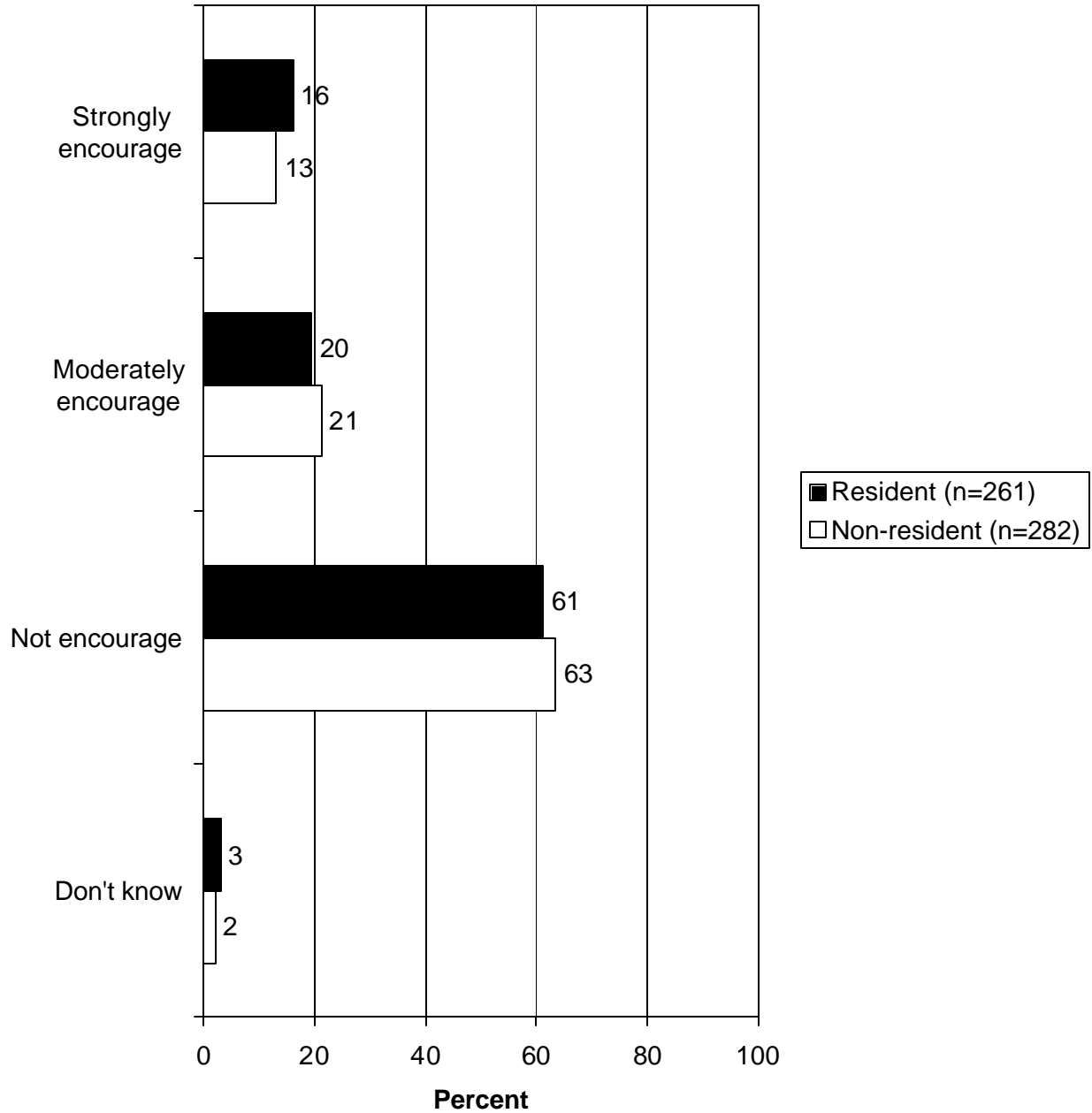
Q134. Would having your child or a neighbor's child ask you to take him/her hunting encourage you to [hunt more in New Hampshire/hunt again in New Hampshire]?



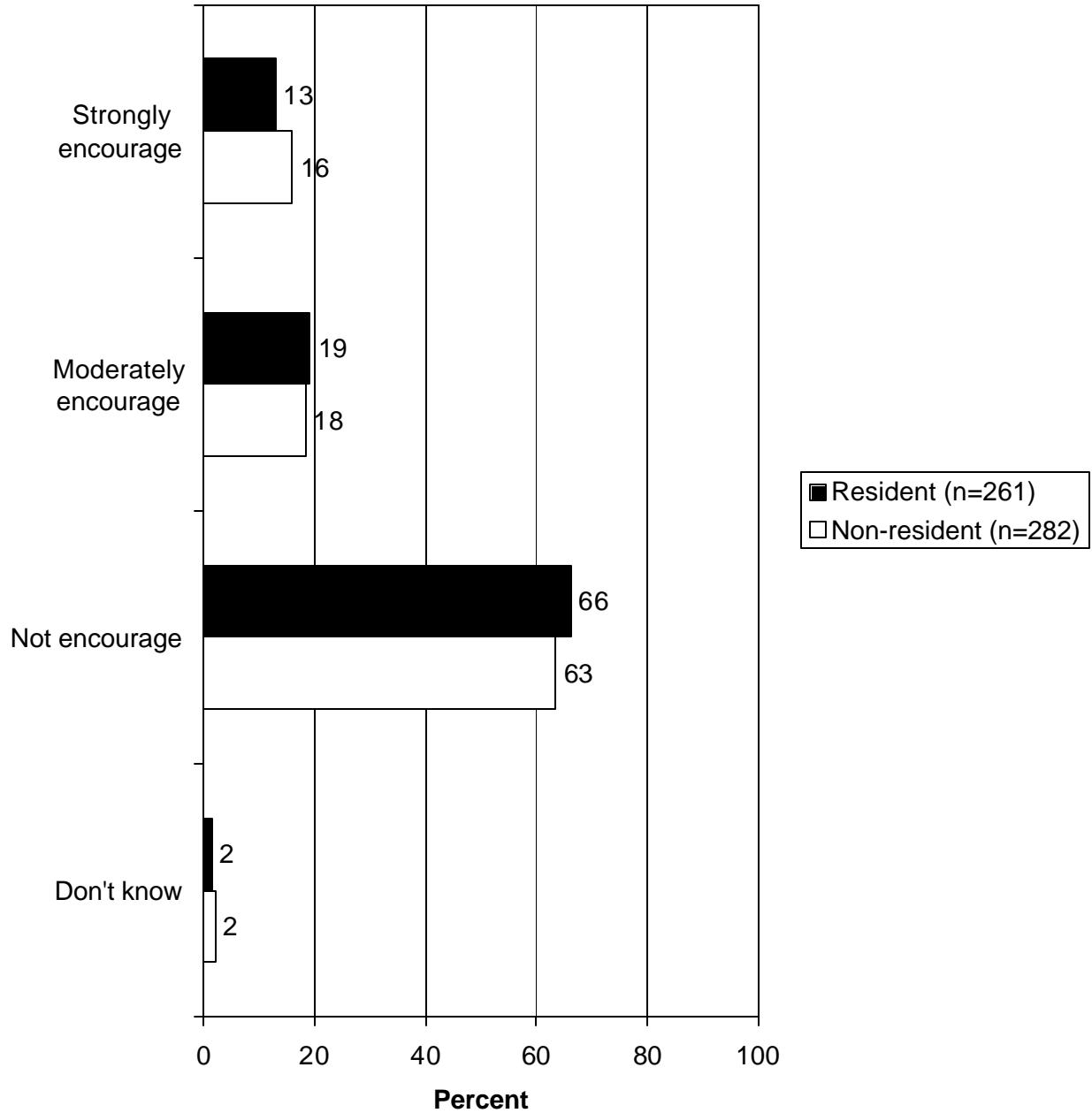
Q135. Would a hunting clinic held at a local hunting spot encourage you to [hunt more in New Hampshire/hunt again in New Hampshire]?



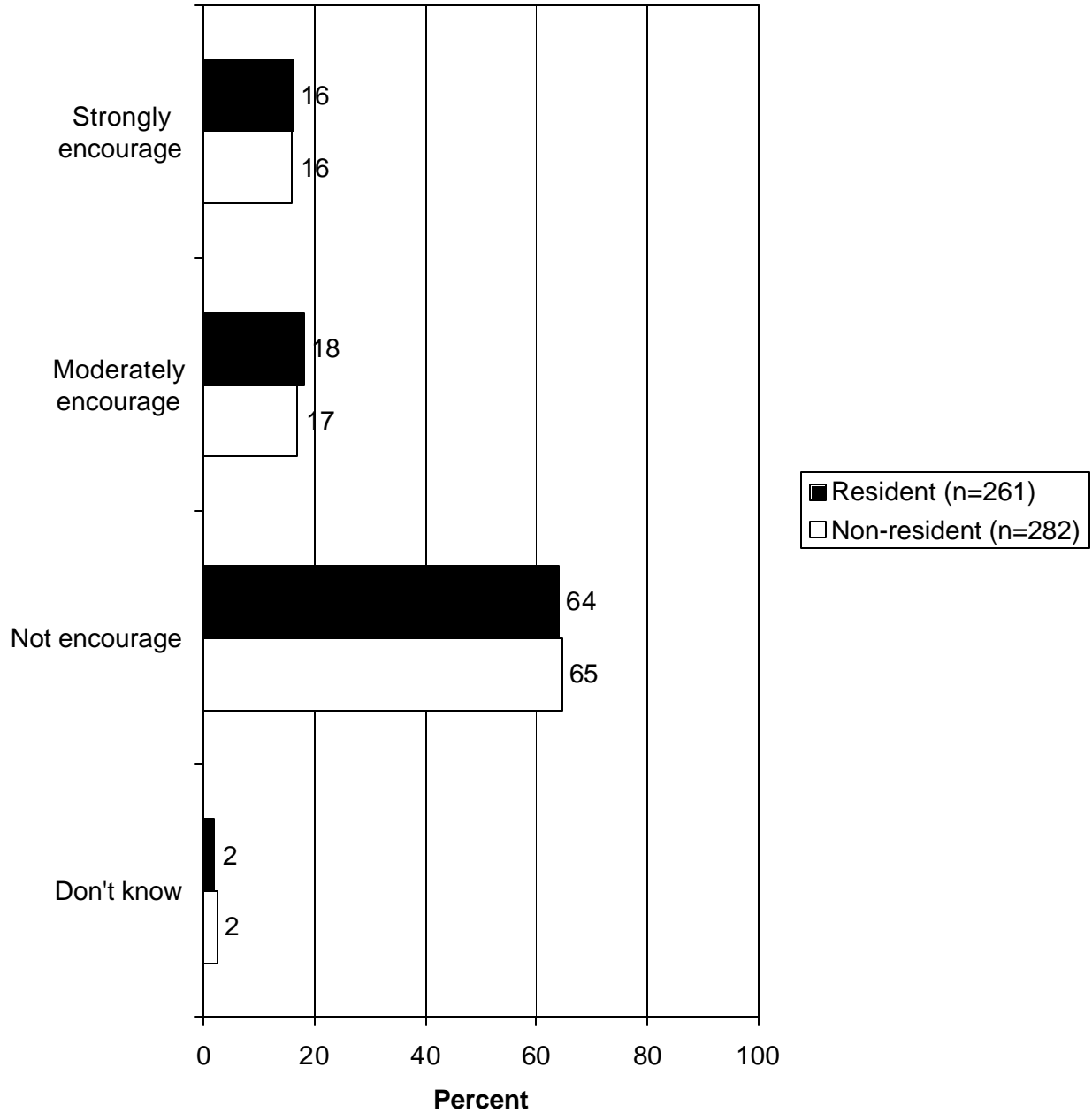
Q136. Would a lecture on hunting held at a school or other public place encourage you to [hunt more in New Hampshire/hunt again in New Hampshire]?



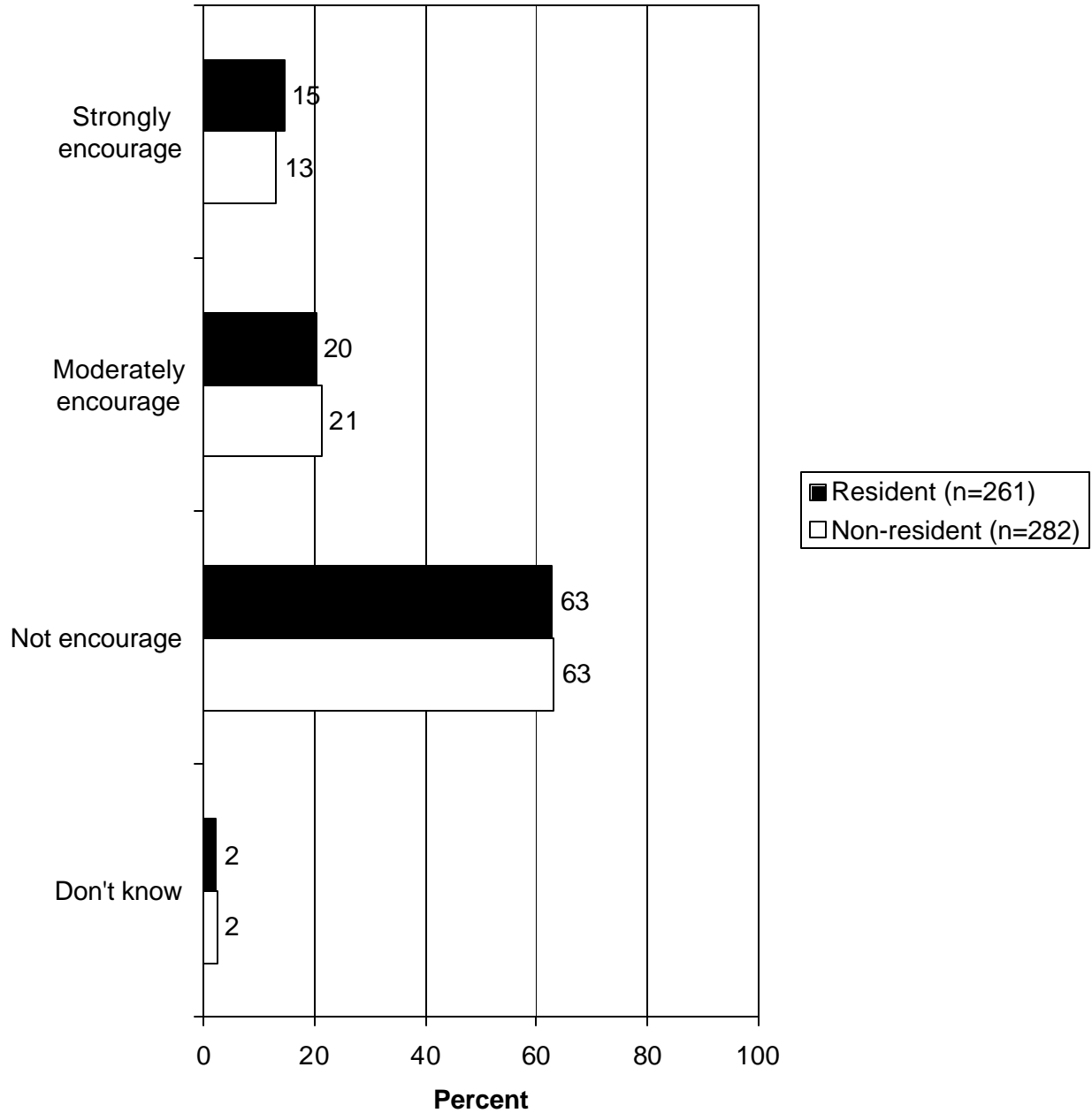
Q137. Would an online course on hunting offered through the New Hampshire Fish and Game Department's Website encourage you to [hunt more in New Hampshire/hunt again in New Hampshire]?



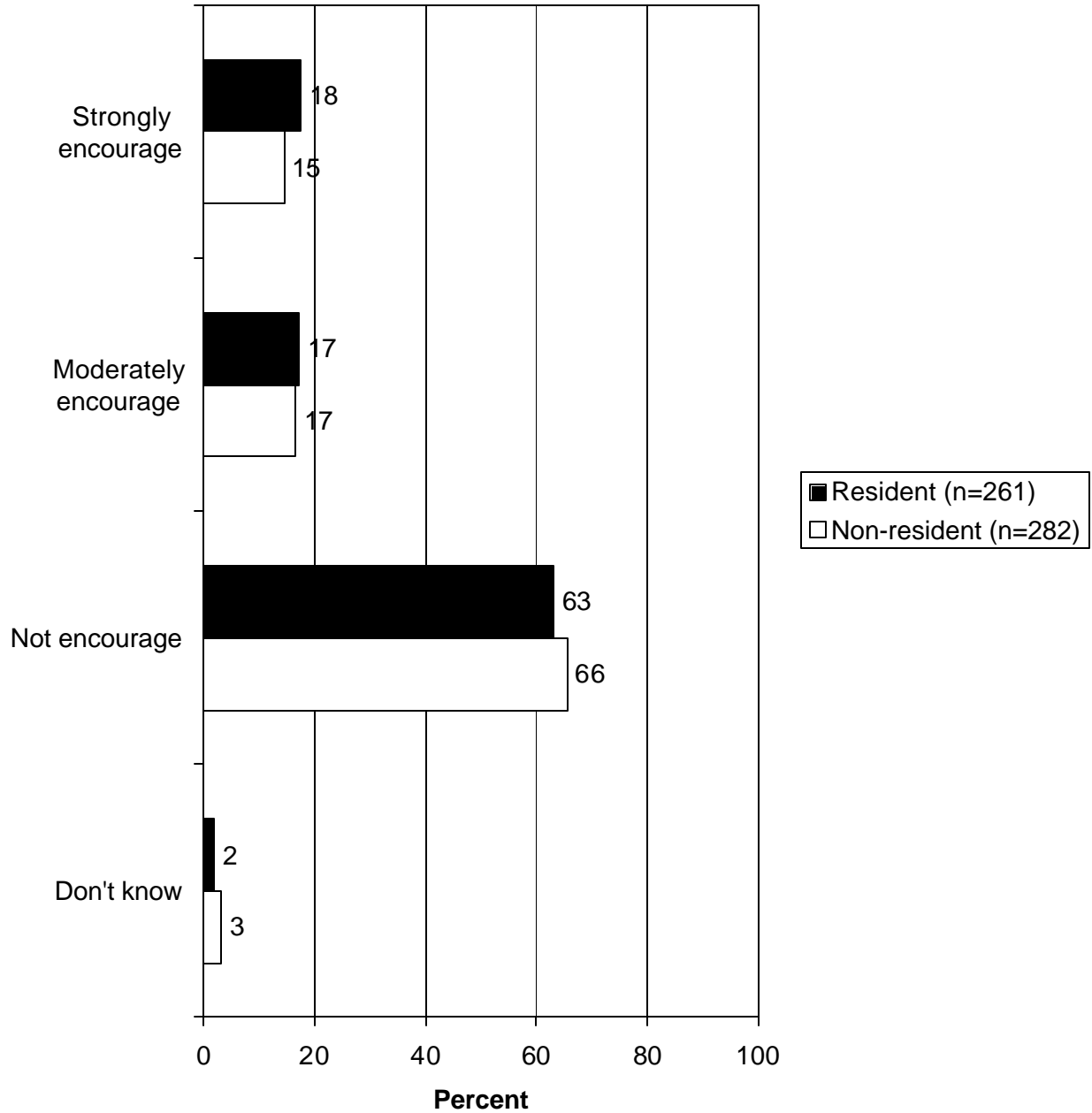
Q138. Would a hunting course specifically for muzzleloading encourage you to [hunt more in New Hampshire/hunt again in New Hampshire]?



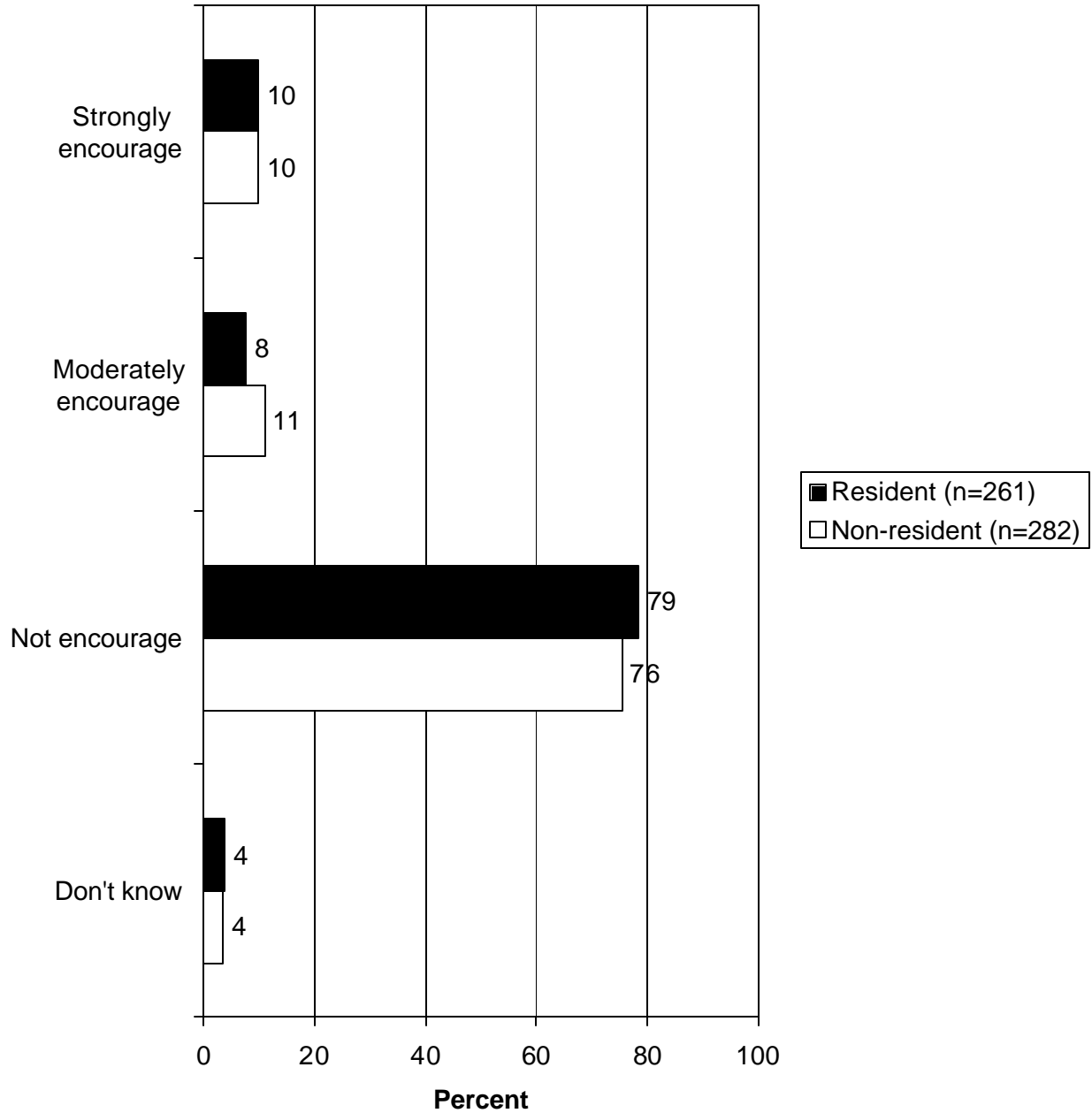
Q139. Would a hunting course specifically for modern firearms encourage you to [hunt more in New Hampshire/hunt again in New Hampshire]?



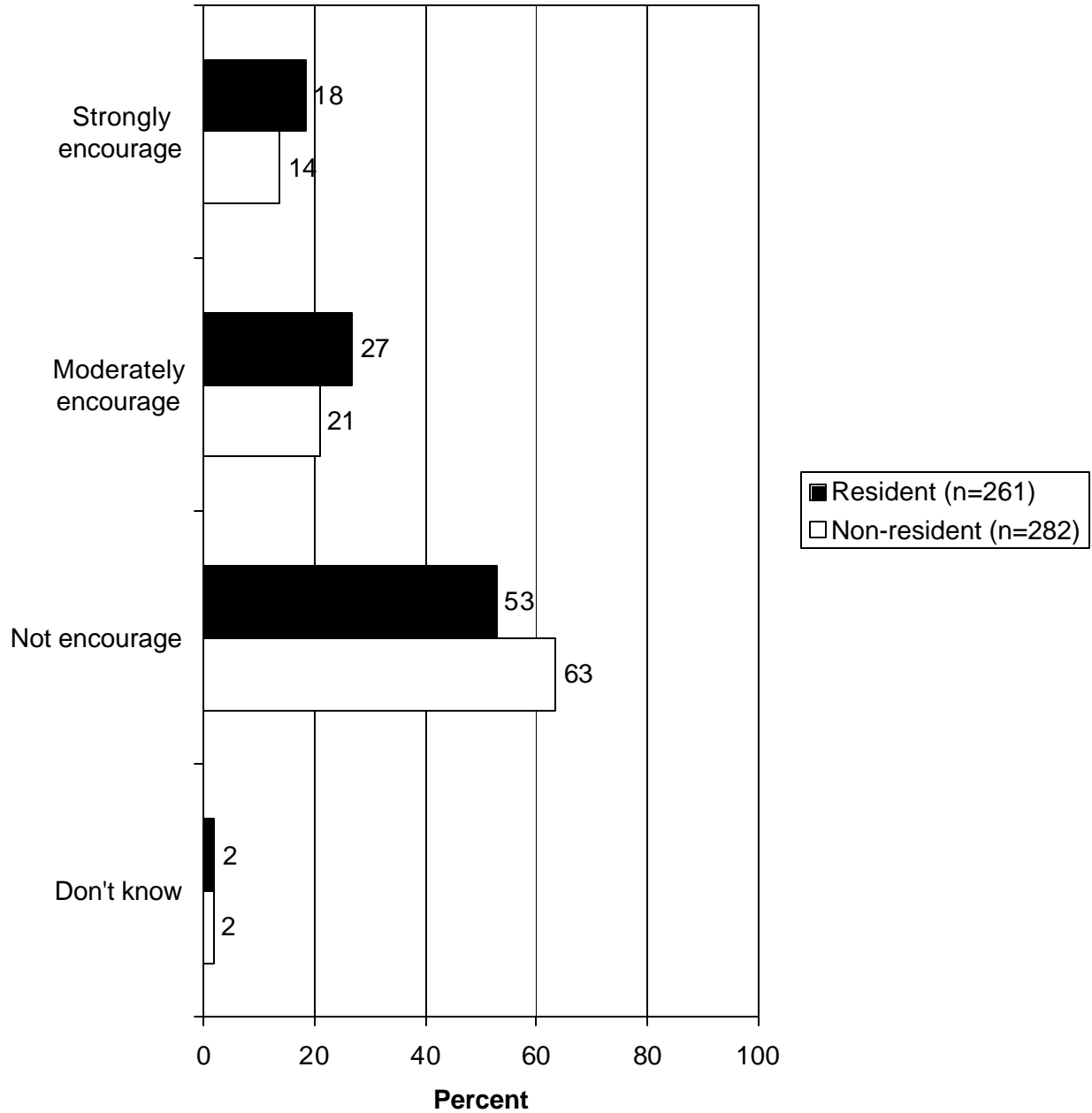
Q140. Would a hunting course specifically for bow hunting encourage you to [hunt more in New Hampshire/hunt again in New Hampshire]?



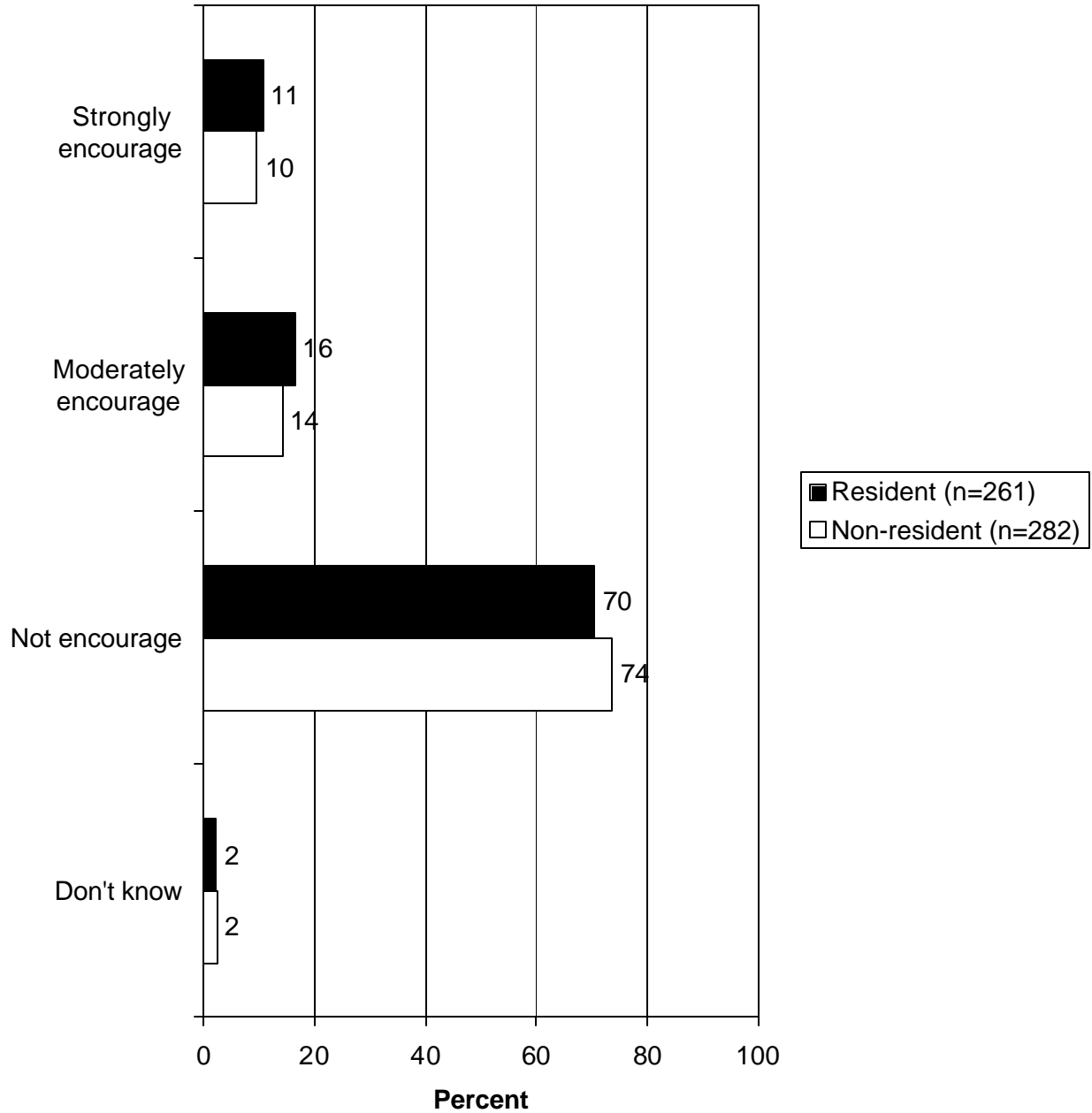
Q141. Would a hunting course specifically for crossbow hunting encourage you to [hunt more in New Hampshire/hunt again in New Hampshire]?



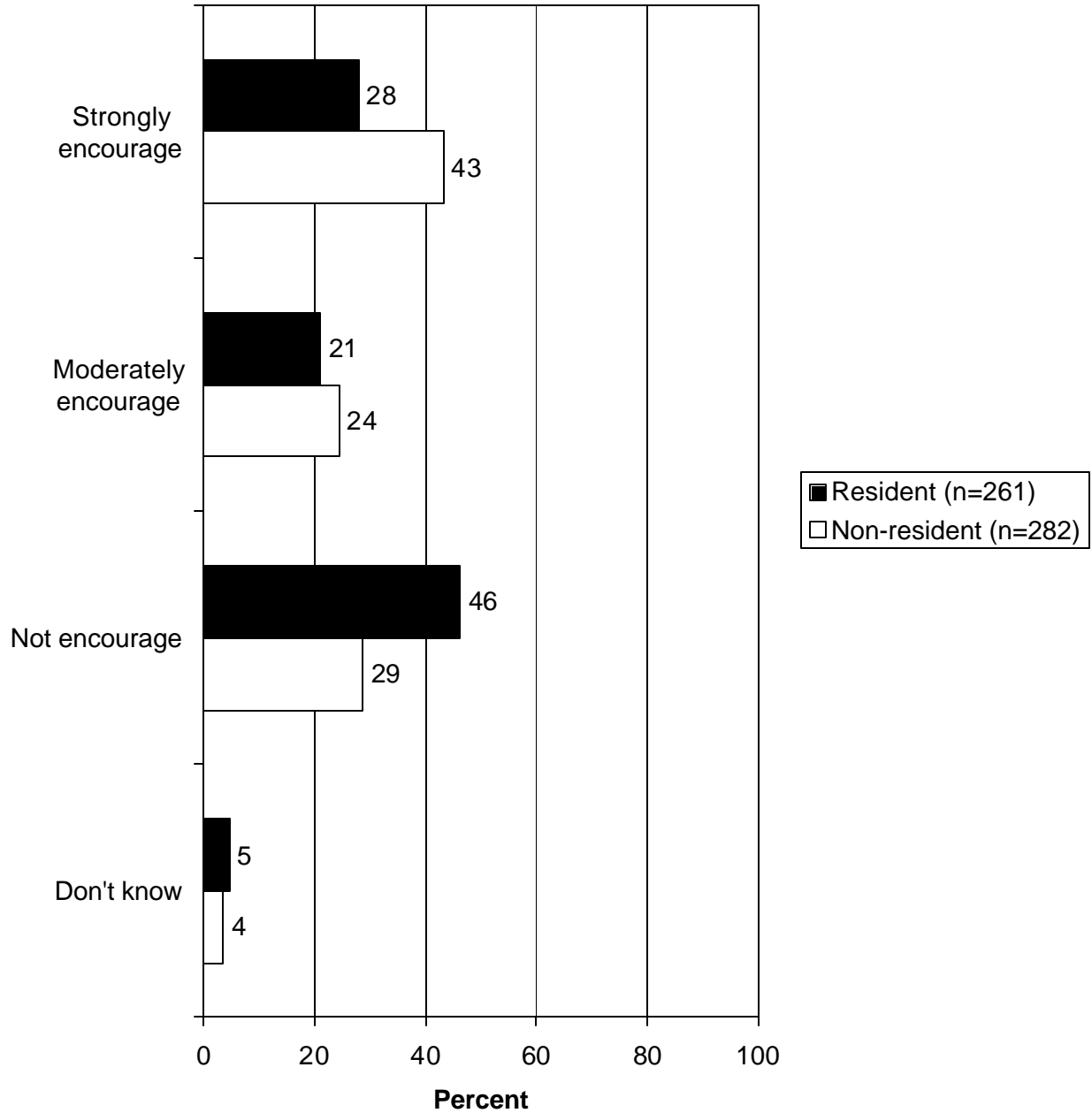
Q142. Would a hunting course specifically for turkey hunting encourage you to [hunt more in New Hampshire/hunt again in New Hampshire]?



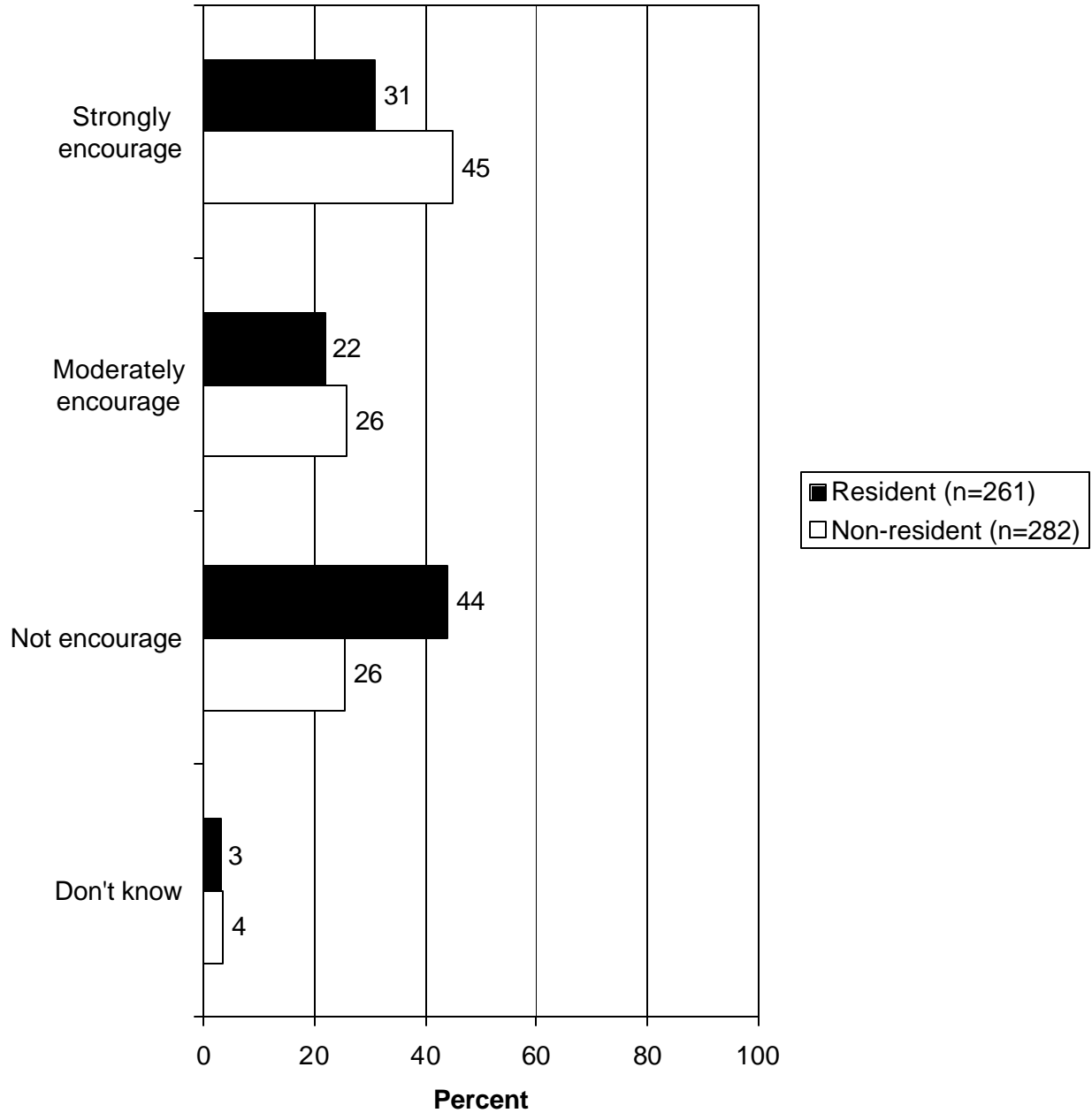
Q143. Would a hunting course specifically for waterfowl hunting encourage you to [hunt more in New Hampshire/hunt again in New Hampshire]?



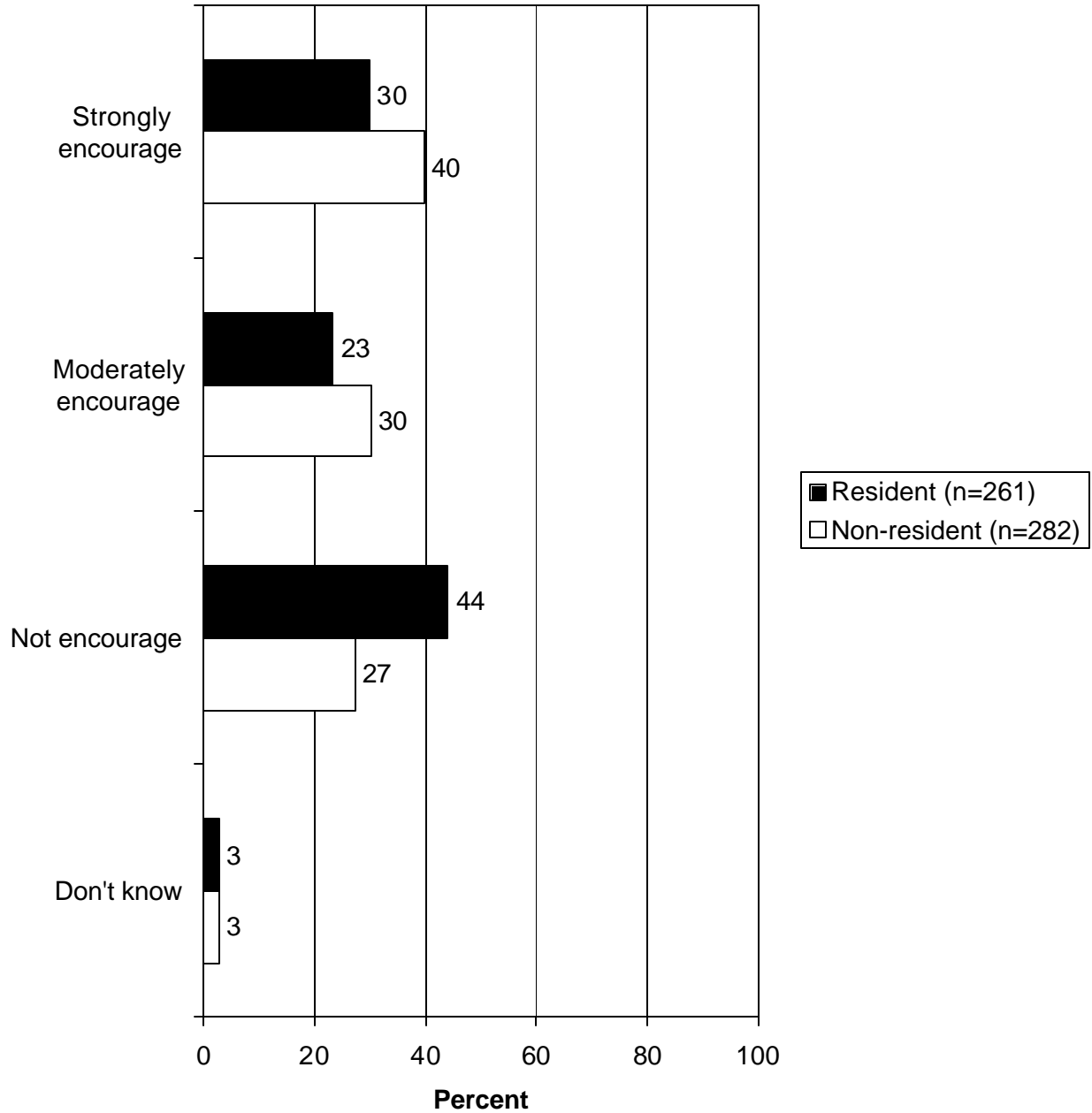
Q144. Would hunting being offered as a part of your next vacation encourage you to [hunt more in New Hampshire/hunt again in New Hampshire]?



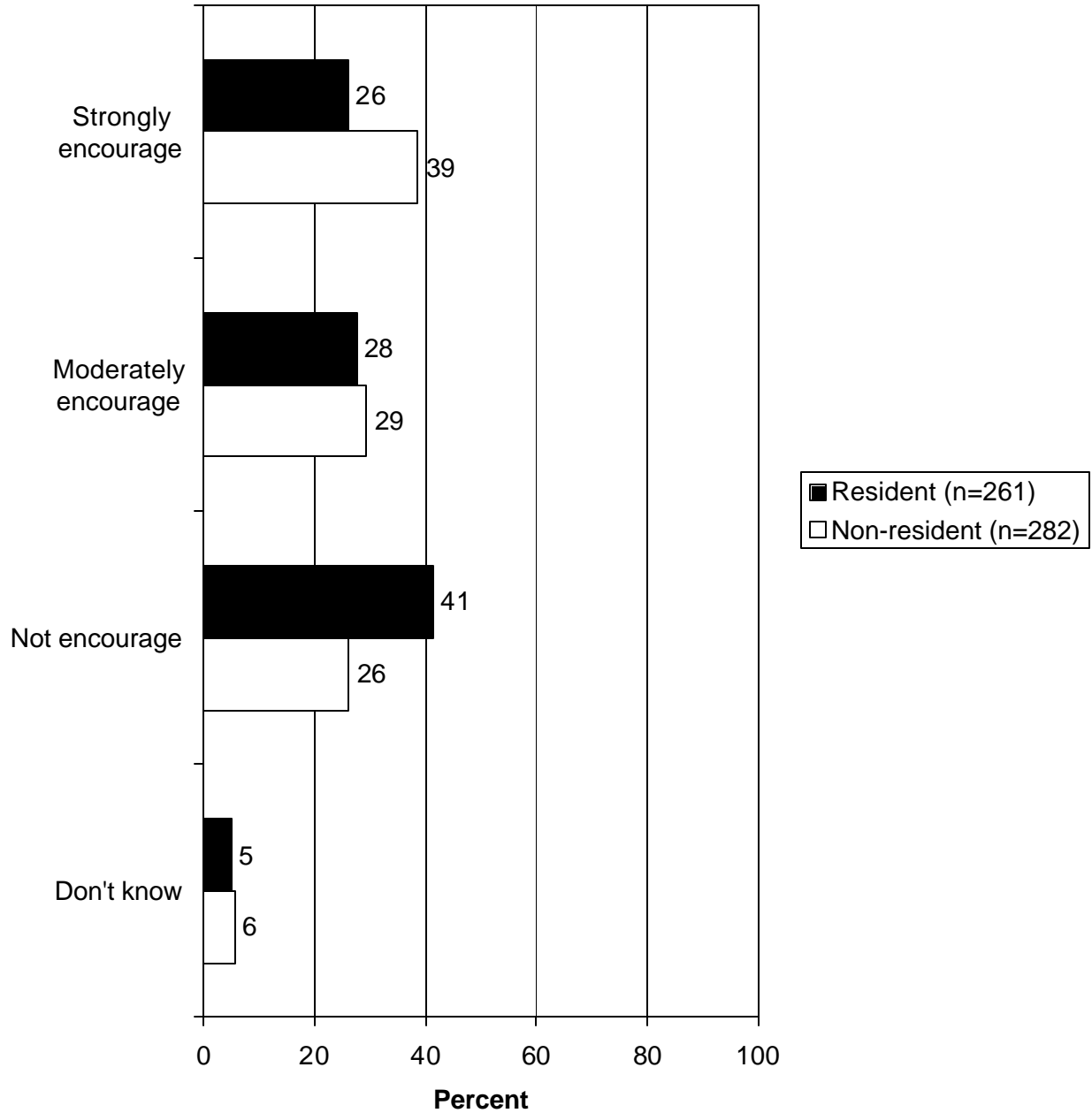
Q145. Would more opportunities to hunt on private lands encourage you to [hunt more in New Hampshire/hunt again in New Hampshire]?



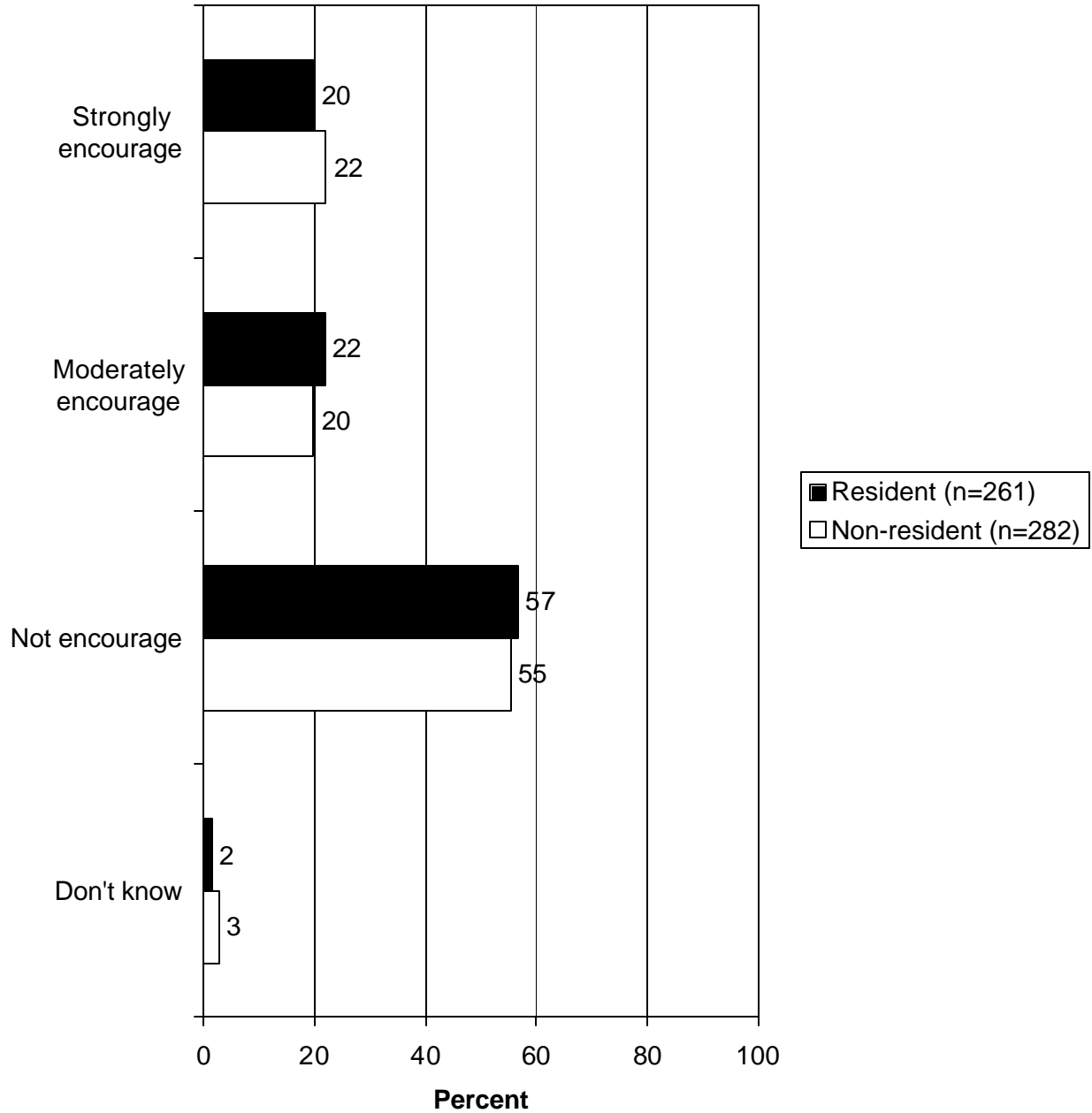
Q146. Would more opportunities to hunt on state-owned lands encourage you to [hunt more in New Hampshire/hunt again in New Hampshire]?



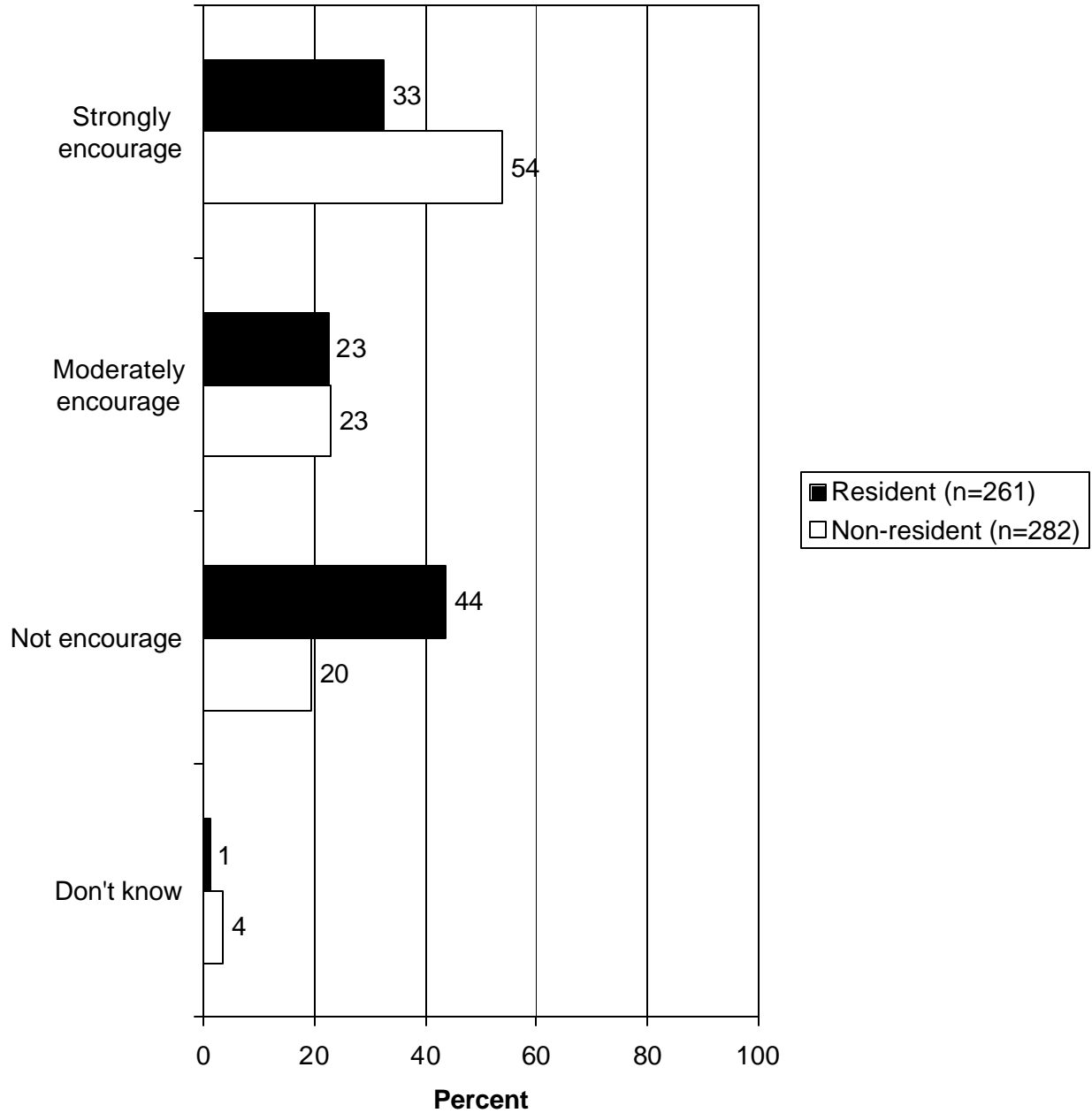
Q147. Would more opportunities to hunt on Wildlife Management Areas encourage you to [hunt more in New Hampshire/hunt again in New Hampshire]?



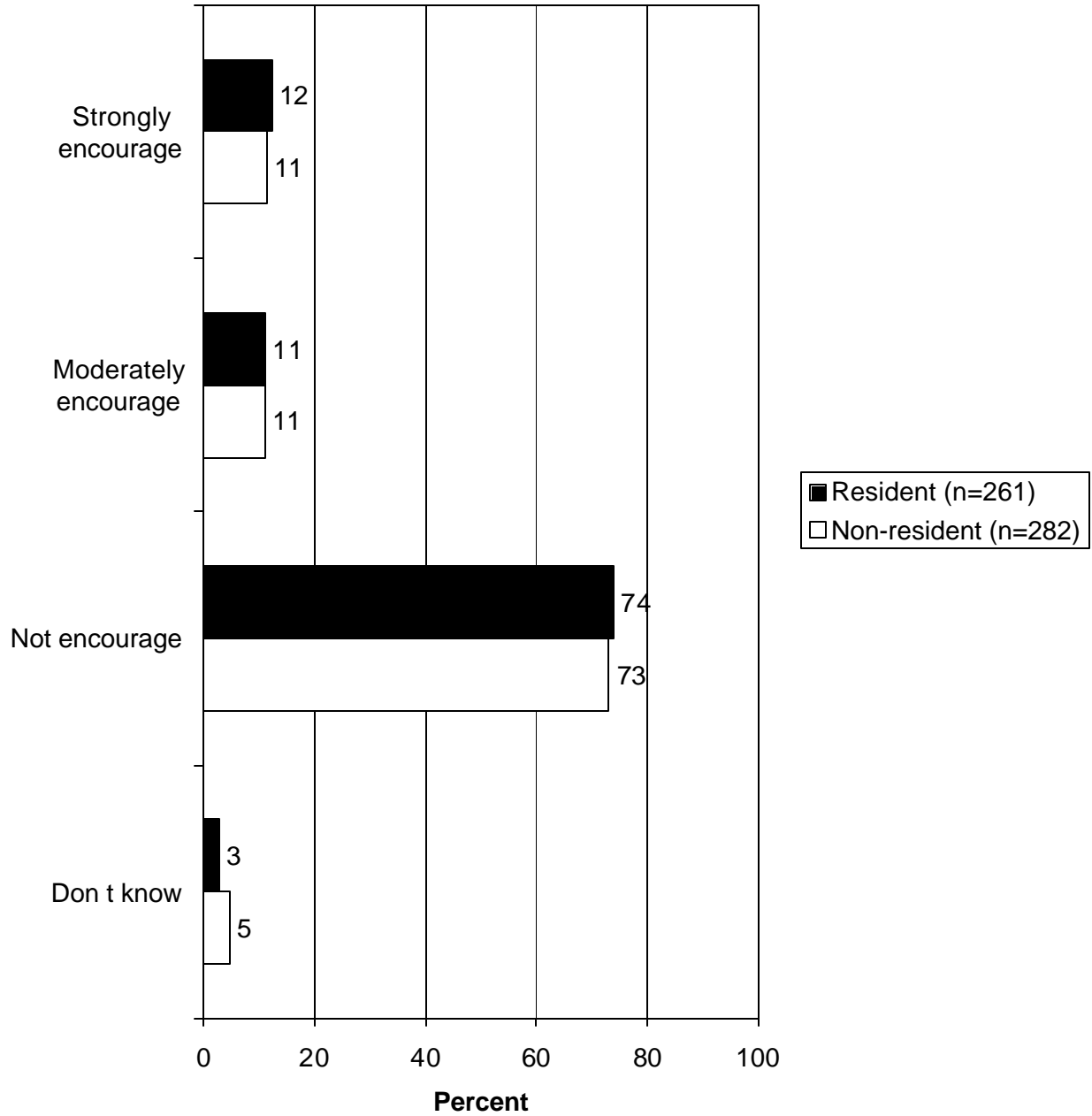
Q148. Would more opportunities to hunt small game encourage you to [hunt more in New Hampshire/hunt again in New Hampshire]?



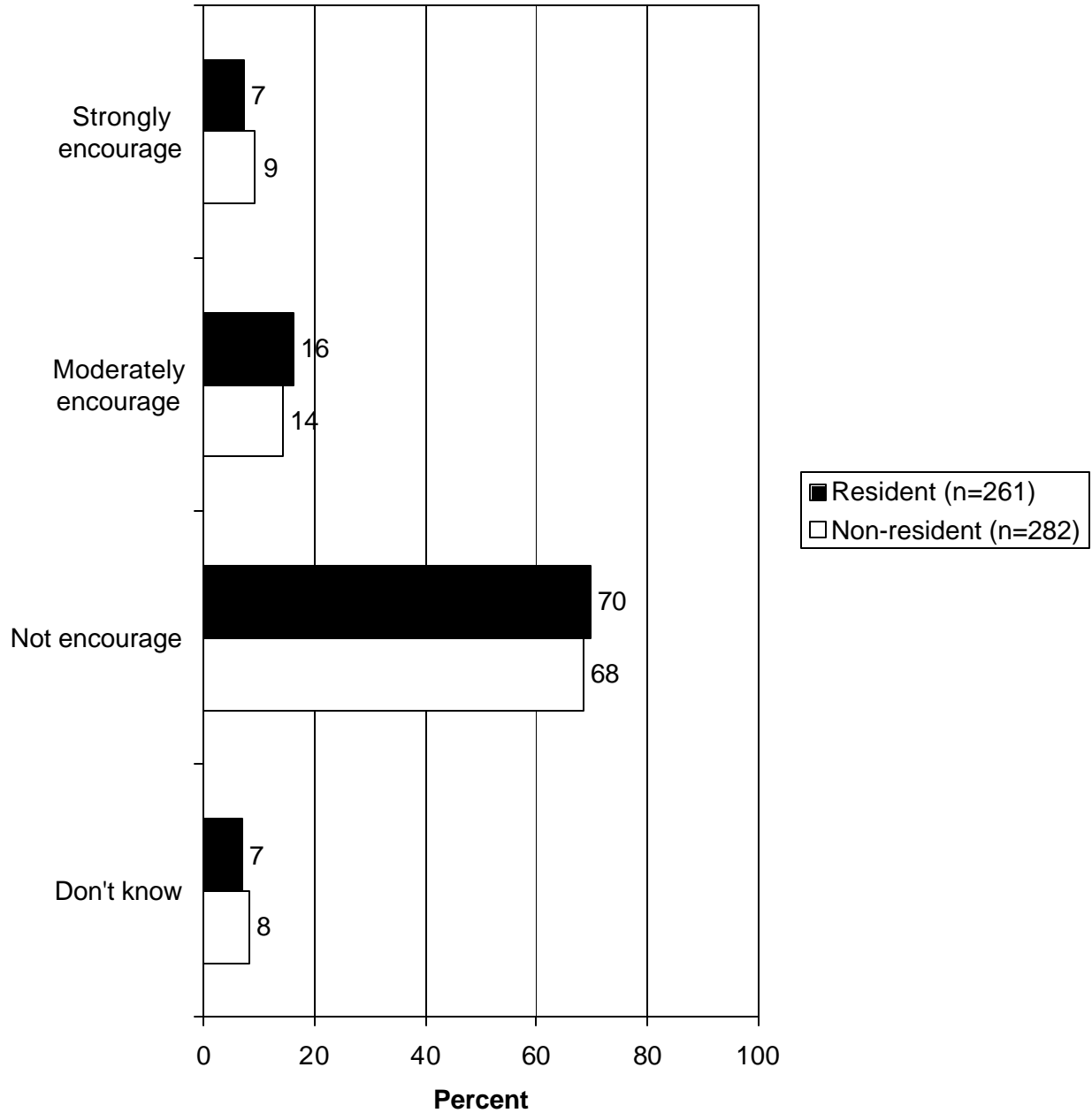
Q151. Would more opportunities to hunt big game encourage you to [hunt more in New Hampshire/hunt again in New Hampshire]?



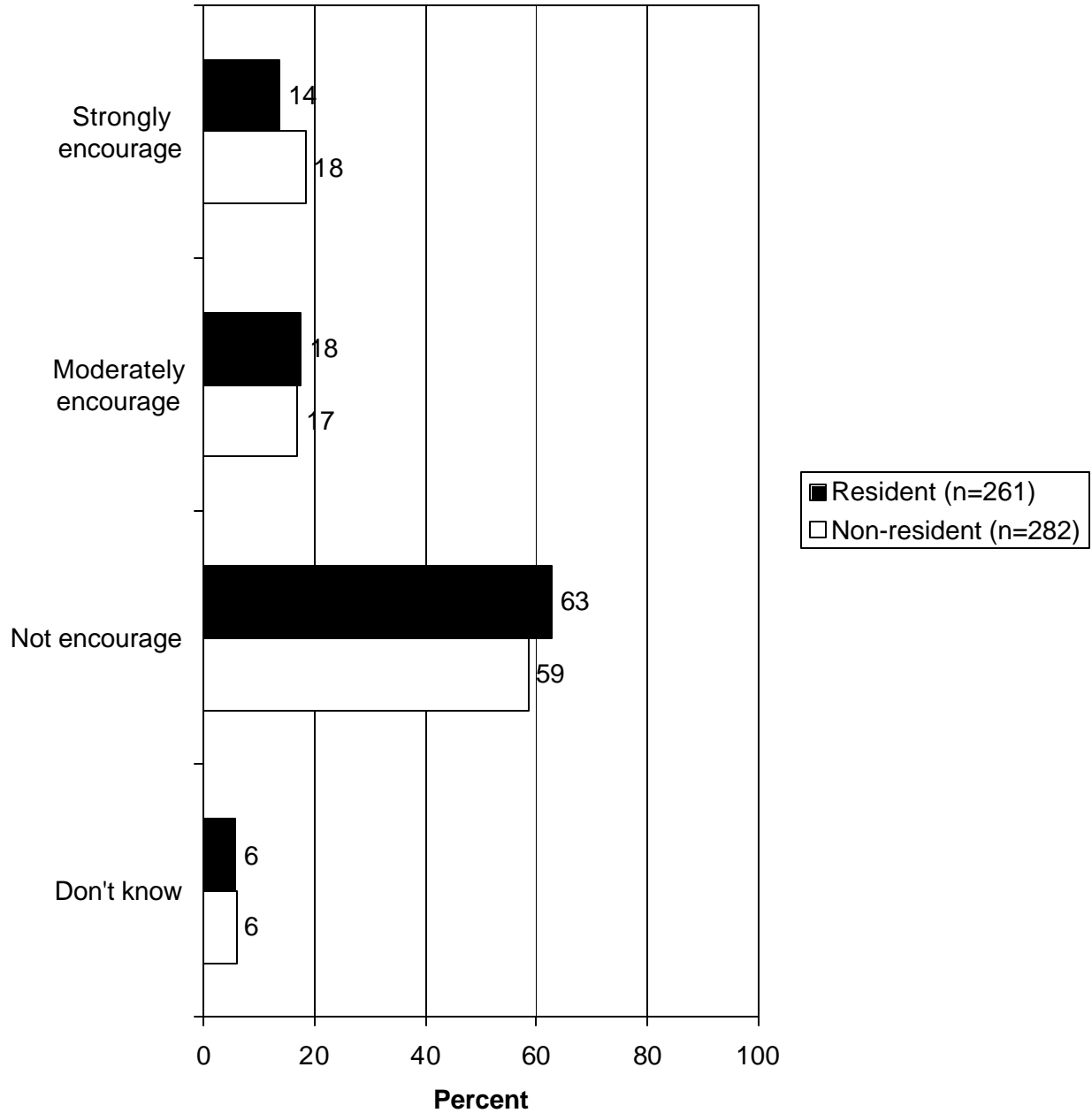
Q154. Would more opportunities to hunt ducks or geese encourage you to [hunt more in New Hampshire/hunt again in New Hampshire]?



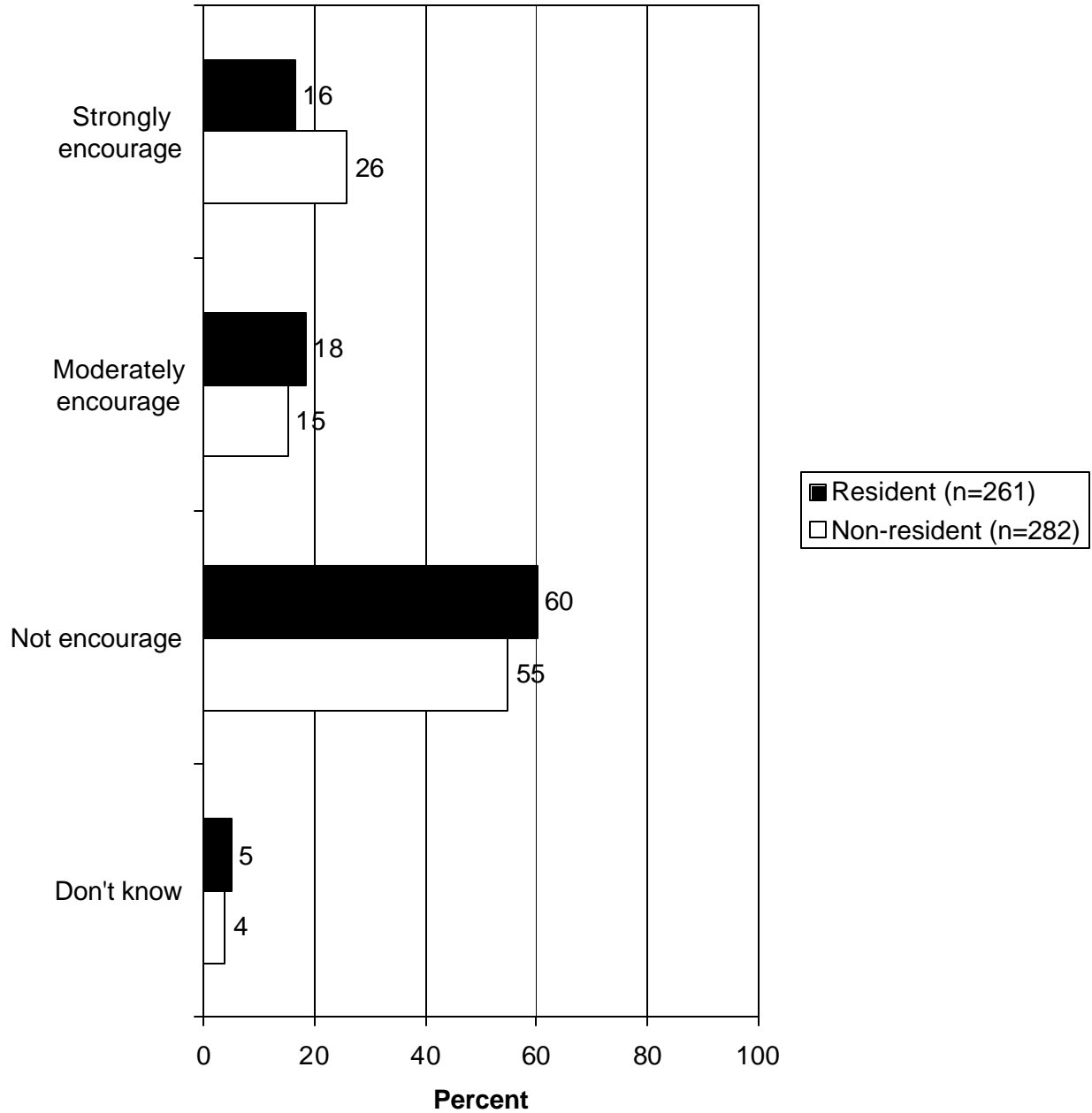
Q157. Would more opportunities to hunt other species encourage you to [hunt more in New Hampshire/hunt again in New Hampshire]?



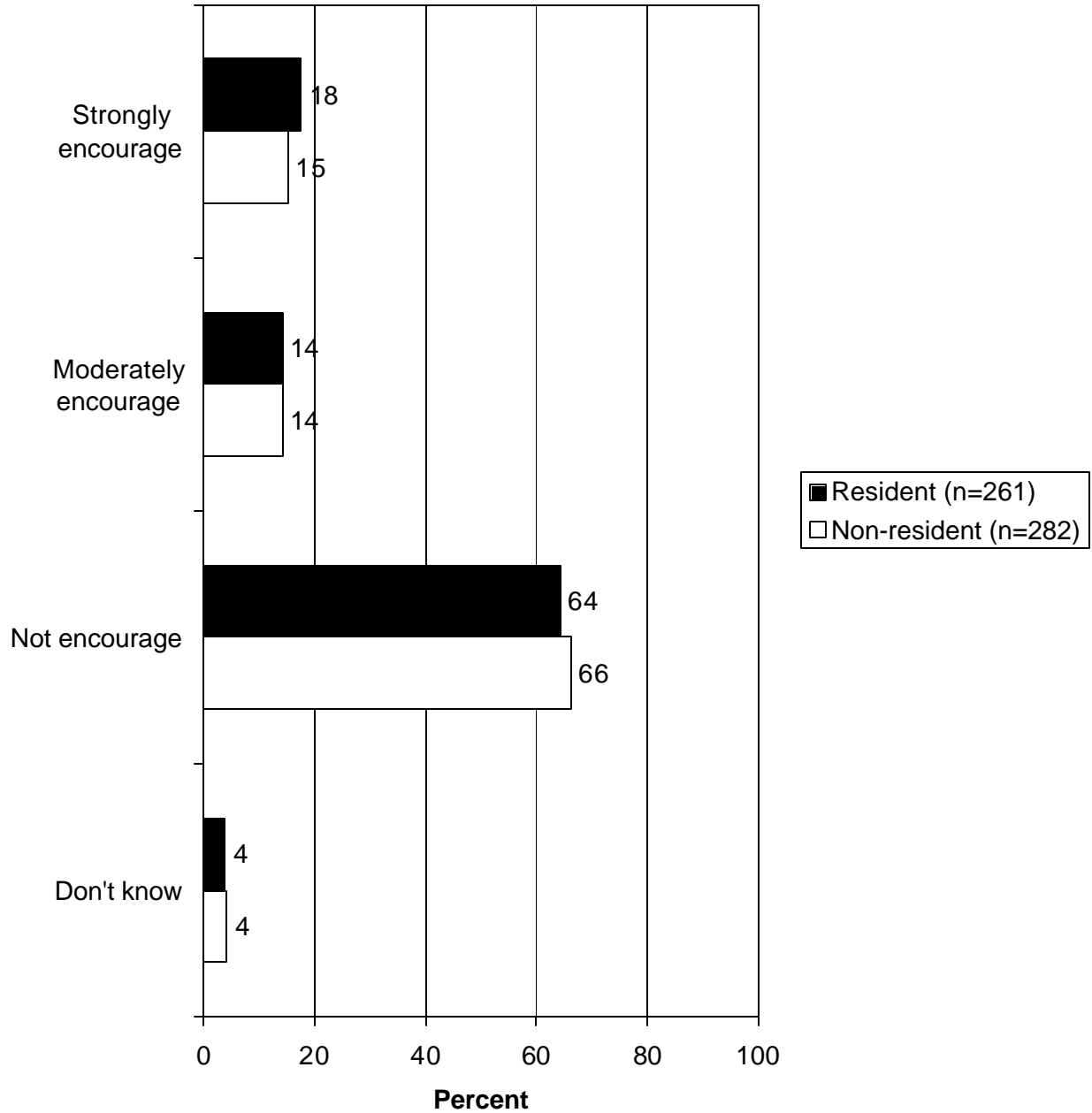
Q161. Would more opportunities to hunt with modern firearms encourage you to [hunt more in New Hampshire/hunt again in New Hampshire]?



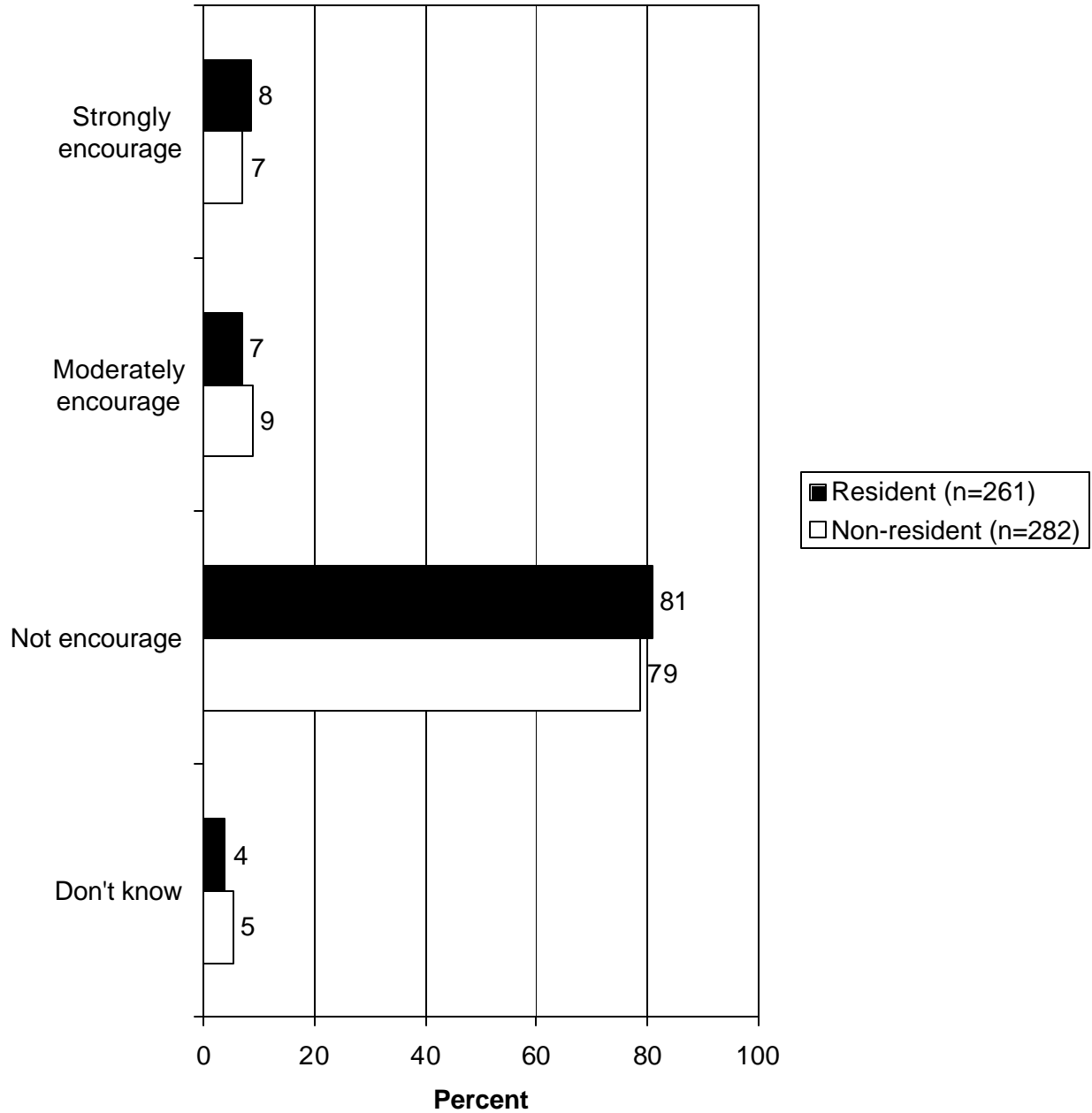
Q162. Would more opportunities to hunt with a muzzleloader encourage you to [hunt more in New Hampshire/hunt again in New Hampshire]?



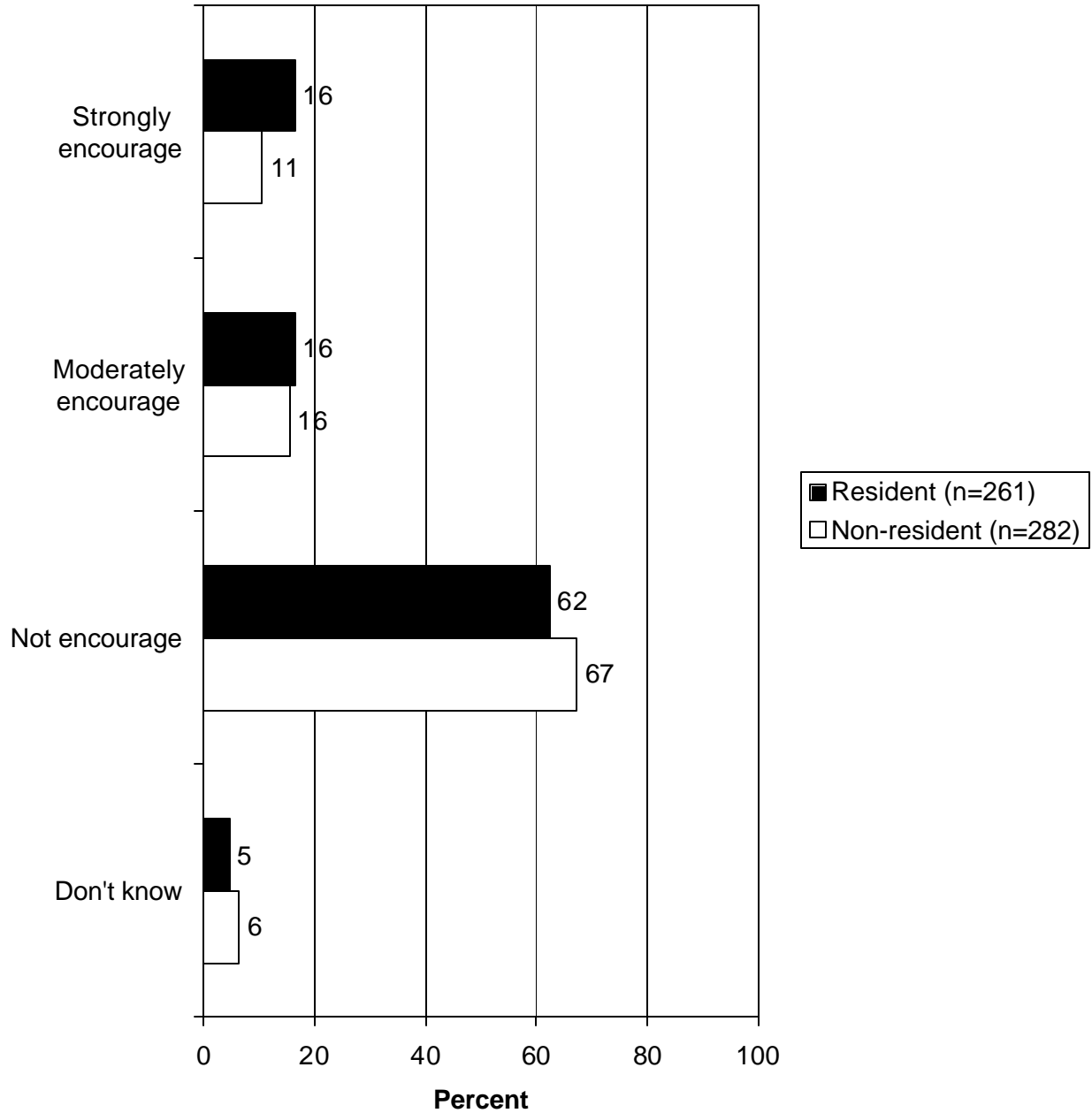
Q163. Would more opportunities to hunt with a bow other than a crossbow encourage you to [hunt more in New Hampshire/hunt again in New Hampshire]?



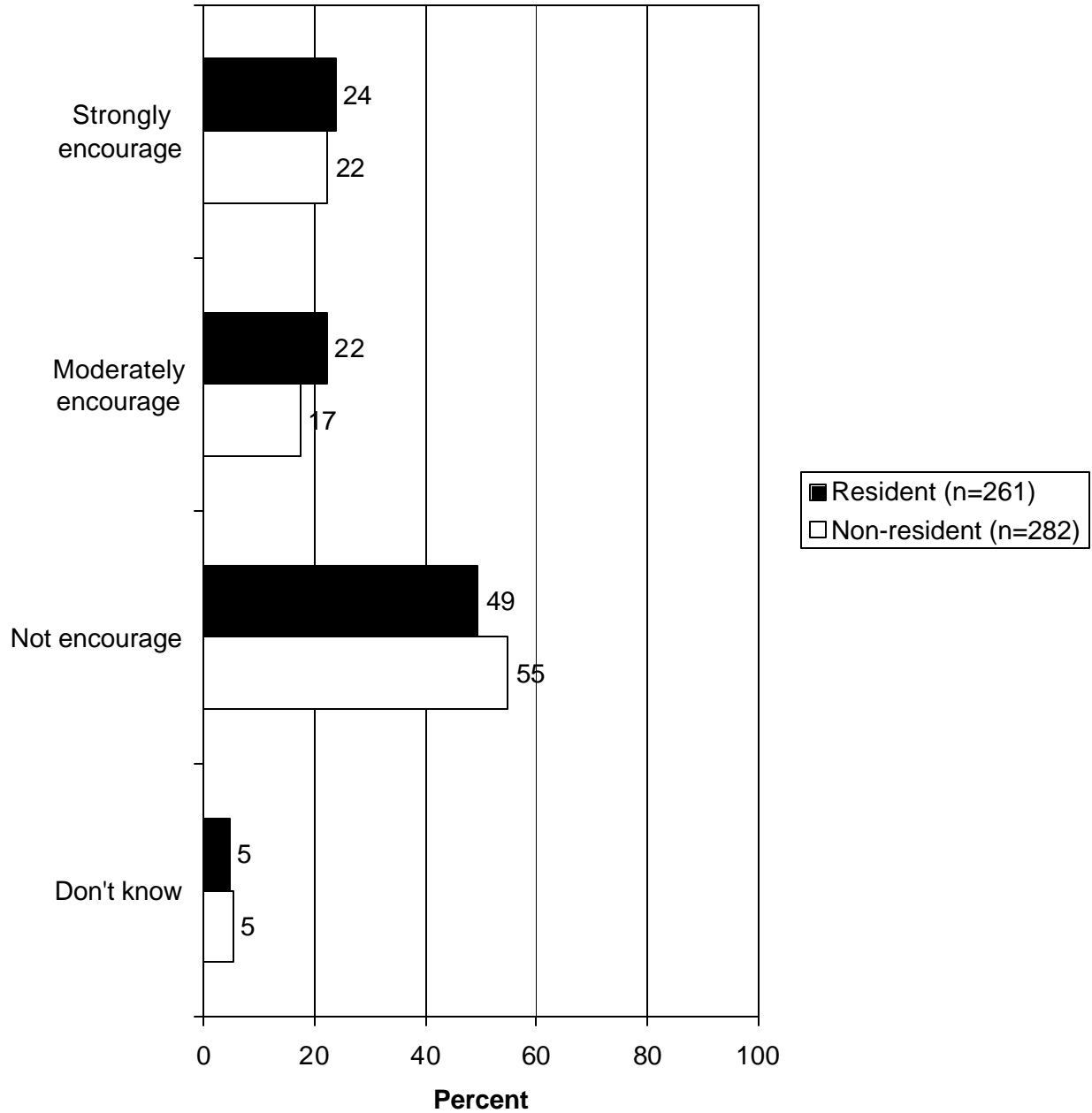
Q164. Would more opportunities to hunt with a crossbow encourage you to [hunt more in New Hampshire/hunt again in New Hampshire]?



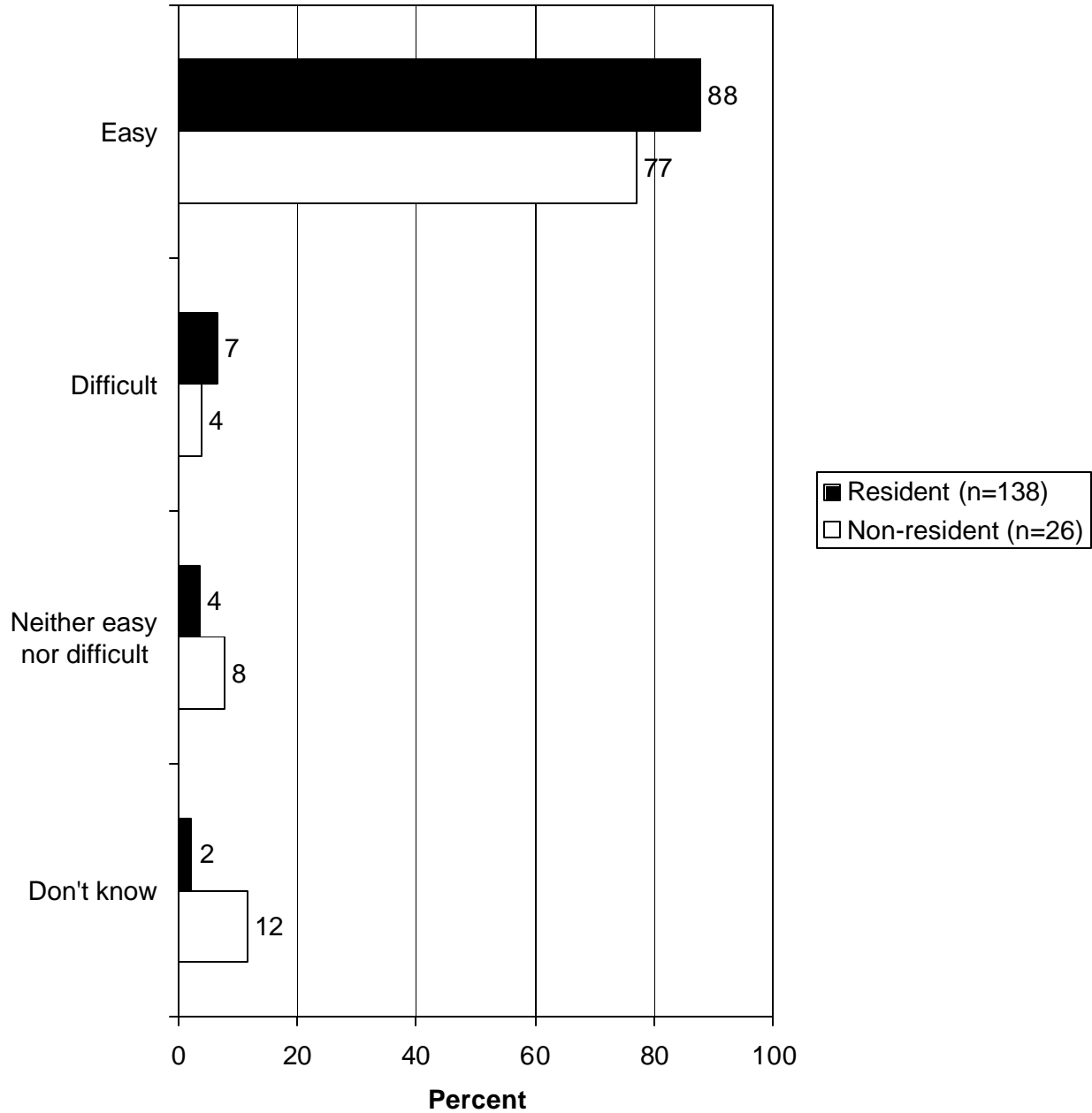
Q165. Would more opportunities to take hunter education encourage you to [hunt more in New Hampshire/hunt again in New Hampshire]?



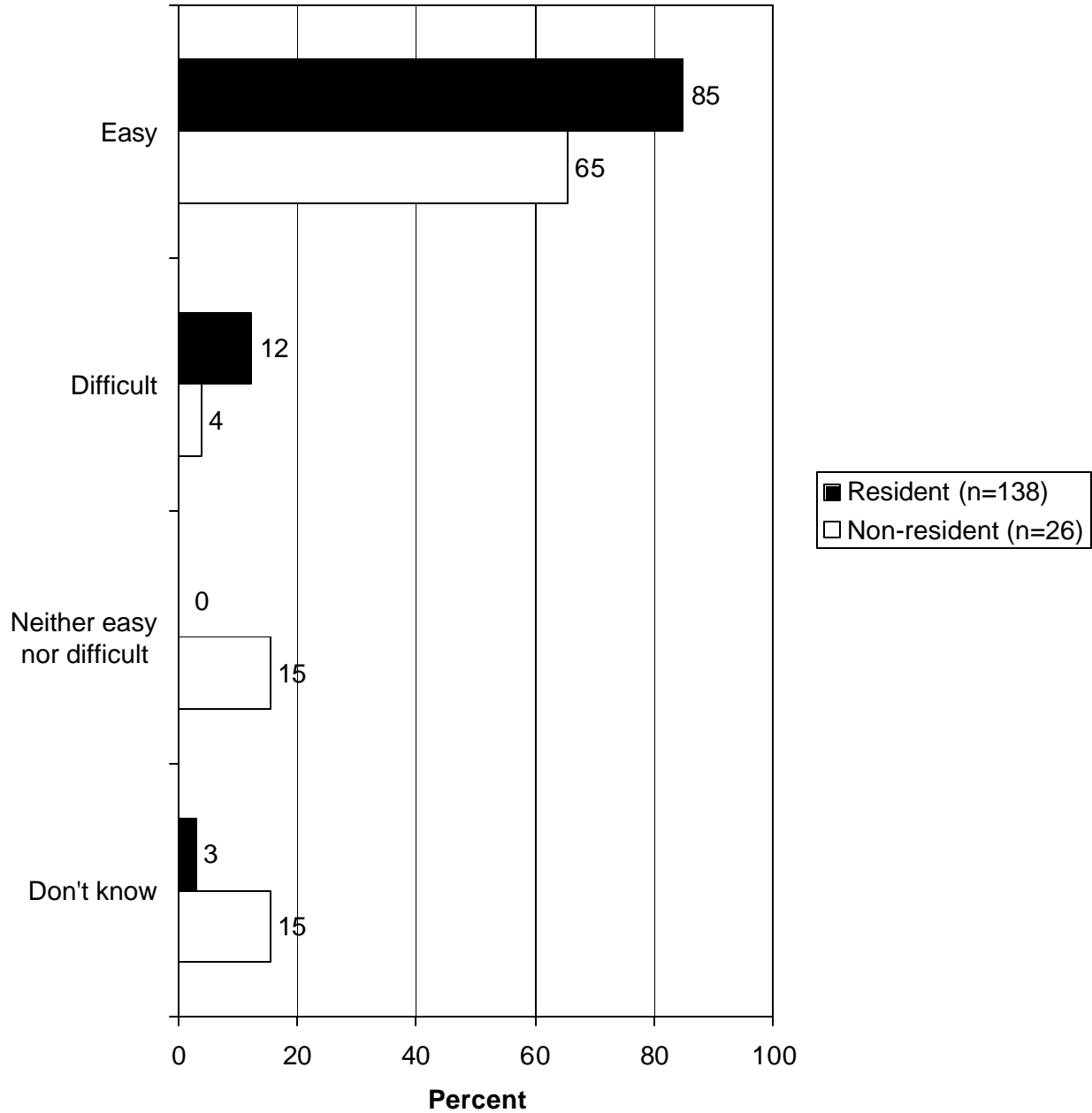
Q166. Would having the New Hampshire Fish and Game Department provide more information about hunting encourage you to [hunt more in New Hampshire/hunt again in New Hampshire]?



Q172. Did you find it easy or difficult to find a place to take the hunter education course in New Hampshire? (Asked of those who have taken a hunter education course in New Hampshire.)



Q173. Did you find it easy or difficult to find a time that you could take the hunter education course in New Hampshire? (Asked of those who have taken a hunter education course in New Hampshire.)



ABOUT RESPONSIVE MANAGEMENT

Responsive Management is a nationally recognized public opinion and attitude survey research firm specializing in natural resource and outdoor recreation issues. Its mission is to help natural resource and outdoor recreation agencies and organizations better understand and work with their constituents, customers, and the public.

Utilizing its in-house, full-service, computer-assisted telephone and mail survey center with 65 professional interviewers, Responsive Management has conducted more than 1,000 telephone surveys, mail surveys, personal interviews, and focus groups, as well as numerous marketing and communications plans, need assessments, and program evaluations on natural resource and outdoor recreation issues.

Clients include most of the federal and state natural resource, outdoor recreation, and environmental agencies, and most of the top conservation organizations. Responsive Management also collects attitude and opinion data for many of the nation's top universities, including the University of Southern California, Virginia Tech, Colorado State University, Auburn, Texas Tech, the University of California—Davis, Michigan State University, the University of Florida, North Carolina State University, Penn State, West Virginia University, and others.

Among the wide range of work Responsive Management has completed during the past 15 years are studies on how the general population values natural resources and outdoor recreation, and their opinions on and attitudes toward an array of natural resource-related issues. Responsive Management has conducted dozens of studies of selected groups of outdoor recreationists, including anglers, boaters, hunters, wildlife watchers, birdwatchers, park visitors, historic site visitors, hikers, and campers, as well as selected groups within the general population, such as landowners, farmers, urban and rural residents, women, senior citizens, children, Hispanics, Asians, and African-Americans. Responsive Management has conducted studies on environmental education, endangered species, waterfowl, wetlands, water quality, and the reintroduction of numerous species such as wolves, grizzly bears, the California condor, and the Florida panther.

Responsive Management has conducted research on numerous natural resource ballot initiatives and referenda and helped agencies and organizations find alternative funding and increase their memberships and donations. Responsive Management has conducted major agency and organizational program needs assessments and helped develop more effective programs based upon a solid foundation of fact. Responsive Management has developed Web sites for natural resource organizations, conducted training workshops on the human dimensions of natural resources, and presented numerous studies each year in presentations and as keynote speakers at major natural resource, outdoor recreation, conservation, and environmental conferences and meetings.

Responsive Management has conducted research on public attitudes toward natural resources and outdoor recreation in almost every state in the United States, as well as in Canada, Australia, the United Kingdom, France, Germany, and Japan. Responsive Management routinely conducts surveys in Spanish and has also conducted surveys and focus groups in Chinese, Korean, Japanese, and Vietnamese.

Responsive Management's research has been featured in most of the nation's major media, including CNN's *Crossfire*, ESPN, *The Washington Post*, *The Washington Times*, *The New York Times*, *Newsweek*, *The Wall Street Journal*, and on the front page of *USA Today*.