



Executive Summary

Utahns want the state to be resilient to potential disasters so that we minimize casualties and damage and we recover quickly.

- **Current circumstances:**

- The chance of a large earthquake in the Wasatch Front region during the next 50 years is about 1 in 4.
 - Utah has 165,000 unreinforced brick buildings, which cause 55% of deaths in an earthquake.
 - If building codes do not change, many buildings will be uninhabitable following an earthquake.
- Flooding and wildfire risk is increasing.

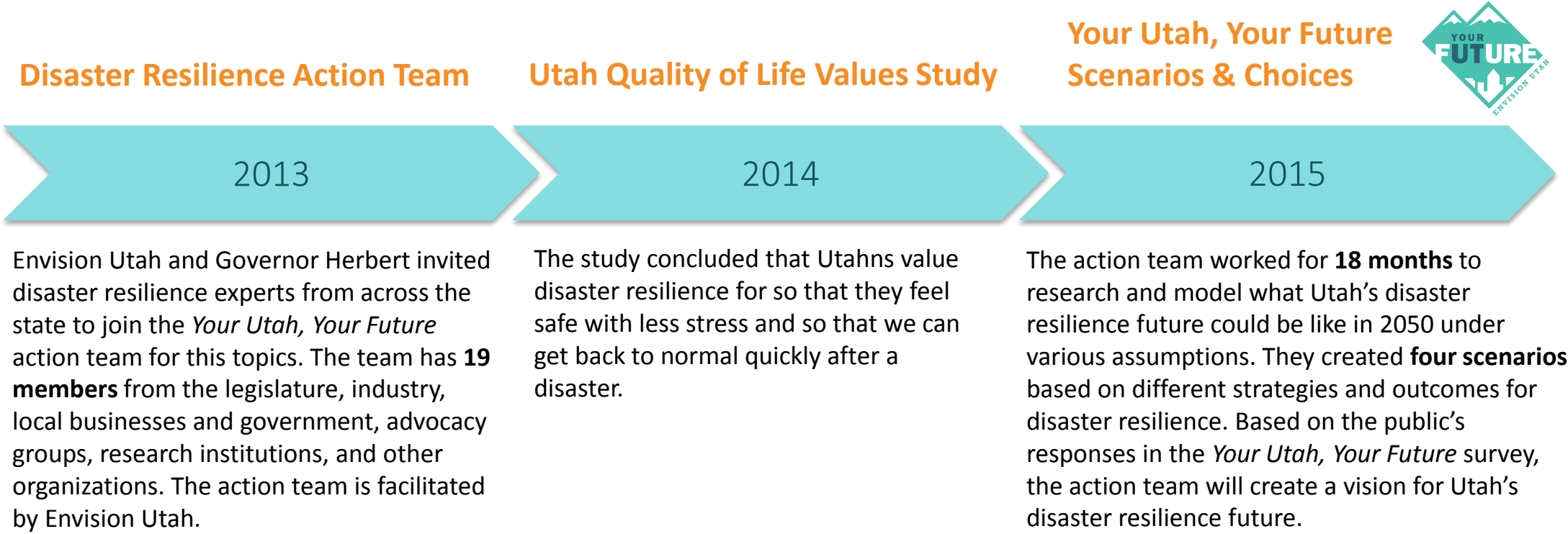
- **Survey findings:**

- Almost all Utahns want at least some greater resilience to disasters. Over half want much greater disaster resilience.
- Utahns are willing to take steps to improve resilience to earthquakes, wildfires, and flooding, even if they have to pay a little more for homes or utilities.

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The disaster resilience action team worked for 18 months to create scenarios for the future of disaster resilience in Utah.



Disaster Resilience Action Team Members

Action team members were selected by Governor Gary Herbert and Envision Utah to represent a spectrum of experience and political persuasions. All action team members were invited to participate by Governor Herbert.

- ***Lisa Sun, Brigham Young University Law School** Environmental Health & Safety
- ***Kris Hamlet, Utah Division of Emergency Management**
 - Colonel Keith Squires, Utah Division of Emergency Management
 - Richard Walje, Rocky Mountain Power
 - Judy Watanabe, Utah Division of Emergency Management
- Ann Allen, Intermountain Healthcare
- Brad Bartholomew, Utah Division of Emergency Management
- Greg Bell, Utah Hospital Association
- Scott Brown, Questar Gas
- Lonnie Bullard, Jacobsen Construction
- Jason Davis, Utah Department of Transportation
- Bob Grow, Ogden Regional Medical Center
- Jeff King, Jordan Valley Water Conservancy District
- Debbie Kim, Intermountain Center for Disaster Preparedness
- Robert McIntyre, Walgreens District Manager
- Joaquin Mixco, Utah Department of Transportation - Emergency Management
- Chris Parker, Utah Division of Public Utilities
- Amy Shingleton, Rocky Mountain Power
- Marty Shaub, University of Utah - Emergency Management & *Action Team Co-Chair

Your Utah, Your Future Background

In Need of a Solution

Projections show that Utah's population will nearly double by the year 2050. The *Your Utah, Your Future* survey was designed for Utahns to create a vision for the State of Utah for the next 35 years.

Identifying the Issues

Envision Utah performed a values study to understand **what** Utahns care about regarding the future and **why** those issues are personally important to them. The study identified eleven key issues: agriculture, air quality, recreation, disaster resilience, public lands, transportation and communities, housing and cost of living, education, energy, jobs and economy, and water.

Identifying Choices and Trade-offs

Four-hundred Utah experts worked in eight task forces to identify Utah's choices for each of the 11 topics. **The information and options in the survey were the direct findings of these taskforces.**

Choosing a Future

The *Your Utah, Your Future* survey was designed to prioritize issues and their associated outcomes in order to make strategic decisions for Utah's future. Nearly 53,000 people weighed in on the future that they want to create in 2050.

The Challenge:
By 2050, Utah's population will nearly double in size. Utah will not.



TODAY THERE ARE

2,900,000

PEOPLE IN UTAH

BY 2050 THERE WILL BE

5,400,000

PEOPLE IN UTAH



The *Your Utah, Your Future* survey asked Utahns to indicate their choices for Utah's Future on 11 specific issues.



Housing & Cost of Living



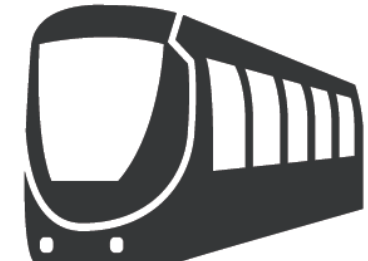
Education



Agriculture



Air Quality



Transportation & Communities



Economic Development



Disaster Resilience



Recreation



Water



Public Lands



Energy

Your Utah, Your Future Background

Survey participants then chose between five overall scenarios for Utah's future, with each overall scenario proposing a set of choices for the 11 specific issues.

VOTE



SEAGULL
SCENARIO

VOTE



BONNEVILLE TROUT
SCENARIO

VOTE



QUAKING ASPEN
SCENARIO

VOTE



SEGO LILY
SCENARIO

VOTE



ALLOSAURUS
SCENARIO

Our goal was for 50,000 Utahns to take the *Your Utah, Your Future* survey about their desires for the future for Utah.



Goal

50,000
Respondents



Actual

52,845
Respondents

Your Utah, Your Future Background

The *Your Utah, Your Future* survey garnered more public participation than any such project ever has.



Envision Utah Quality Growth Strategy
(Wasatch Front and Back—1998)



Show Your Love, San Diego



Heartland 2050
(Omaha, NE)



PLANITULSA
(Tulsa, OK)



(Atlanta, GA)



Louisiana Speaks
(Southern Louisiana after Katrina)

The original *Envision Utah* 1999 survey held the record with 17,500 public response for many years.



Survey Structure—Part One

Utahns were invited to participate in two parts of the survey.
In the first part:

Survey participants chose among five overall scenarios for Utah’s future.



Each overall scenario was made up of a set a choices on 11 different topics.



Housing & Cost of Living



Education



Agriculture



Air Quality



Transportation & Communities



Economic Development



Disaster Resilience



Recreation



Water



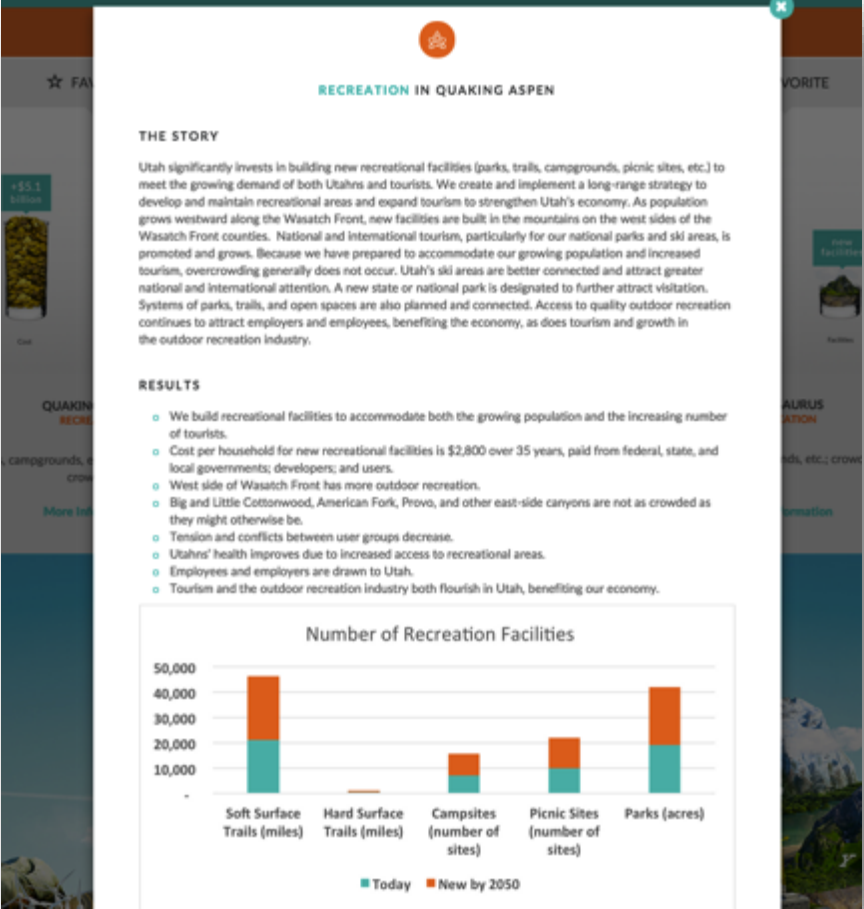
Public Lands



Energy

Survey Structure—Part One (Cont'd)

Participants compared the different options within each topic and selected their preferred scenarios for that specific topic.



They were provided with in-depth information and background data for each of the topics and choices.








Survey Structure—Part One (Cont'd)

After making selections for each of the 11 topics, participants could study a summary comparison chart and vote on their preferred overall scenario.

EDUCATION				
Moderate investment increase; no consistent strategy; little performance improvement	Significant, strategic investment increase; Utah in top 10 states	Moderate, strategic investment increase; moderate performance improvement	Significant, strategic investment increase; Utah in top 10 states	Investment does not keep up with growth; no strategy; performance declines
ENERGY				
Natural gas, some renewables; 3% cost increase	Renewables, natural gas, energy storage; 58% cost increase	Natural gas & renewables; 3% cost increase	Natural gas, renewables, & nuclear; 12% cost increase	Natural gas, some renewables; 3% cost increase
HOUSING & COST OF LIVING				
High housing and transportation costs	Reasonable housing and transportation costs	Reasonable housing costs; average transportation costs	Reasonable housing and transportation costs	High housing costs; high transportation costs in suburbs; low in downtown
JOBS & ECONOMY				
Average economy	Strong economy	Strong economy	Very strong economy	Struggling economy

Most Favored

VOTE	VOTE	VOTE	VOTE	VOTE
				
3 ★	8 ★	6 ★	1 ★	1 ★
SEAGULL SCENARIO	QUAKING ASPEN SCENARIO	SEGO LILY SCENARIO	ALLOSAURUS SCENARIO	BONNEVILLE TROUT SCENARIO
Utah makes targeted individual and collective efforts to keep the economy and quality of life strong, without making significant changes or large investments.	Utah becomes more economically resilient through economic diversification, connections to economies around the country and world, improved resilience to natural disasters, and increased ability to rely on local energy and food.	Utahns minimize their impact on the environment, conserve resources, and focus on improving both environmental and community health.	We do not implement strategies to achieve a vision of the future. Individuals, businesses, cities, counties, and other groups work separately to further their own interests.	Utahns continue doing what we're doing now. Our actions are the same as those in recent years. However, the outcomes of our future choices may not be the same as today because of growth and changing circumstances.
More Information	More Information	More Information	More Information	More Information

Survey Structure—Part Two

In the second part of the survey, Utahns participated in more traditional survey exercises.

Prioritizing Issues

	Most Important	Least Important
⚡ What sources of energy we use in Utah (e.g., do we use more natural gas, solar, wind, or nuclear energy) and how much we use	<input type="radio"/>	<input type="radio"/>
💰 How high taxes are in Utah	<input type="radio"/>	<input type="radio"/>
☁️ Air quality in the State of Utah	<input type="radio"/>	<input type="radio"/>
🏠 How resilient Utah is to a natural disaster (how many people would be killed/injured, how much damage would occur, and how quickly our economy and way of life would bounce back)	<input type="radio"/>	<input type="radio"/>

Weighting Outcome Preference

JOBS AND ECONOMY

When thinking about jobs and the economy, there are many things to consider regarding Utah's future. Below are some potential outcomes to contemplate.

Please indicate each outcome's relative importance by allocating 100 points across all outcomes. The more points you allocate to a given outcome, the more important it is to you to achieve that outcome.

Some areas may be left blank, but the sum must total to 100.

- Ensuring Utah's economy is strong so that it provides a lot of tax revenue to spend on our needs
- Ensuring Utah's economy is strong so that we have plentiful, good jobs and high wages
- Limiting how much we spend in taxes and other resources
- Ensuring that a strong economy doesn't attract additional population growth

Total

Indicating Tradeoff Willingness

ENERGY

If Utah were to focus on using natural gas to produce our electricity as we move into the future, costs for electricity would stay as low as possible.

In order to get this outcome, some combination of the following trade-offs would have to take place.

Please indicate your willingness to make each trade-off in order to focus on natural gas as the primary energy source in Utah.

	Not At All Willing to Make This Trade-off 1	2	Somewhat Willing to Make This Trade-off 3	4	Very Willing to Make This Trade-off 5
We will be vulnerable to supply shocks/price spikes because of reliance on a single energy source that is shipped throughout the country	<input type="radio"/>	<input type="radio"/>	<input type="radio"/>	<input type="radio"/>	<input type="radio"/>
There will be more air pollution emissions in rural Utah (where the energy is produced) than if we used other energy sources, but fewer than today, because today we are primarily using coal for our electricity	<input type="radio"/>	<input type="radio"/>	<input type="radio"/>	<input type="radio"/>	<input type="radio"/>
More land will need to be used for natural gas wells, which have environmental impacts	<input type="radio"/>	<input type="radio"/>	<input type="radio"/>	<input type="radio"/>	<input type="radio"/>

Together, the results of parts one and two of the survey allow a sophisticated analysis of what Utahns want, why they want it, and what they're willing to do to achieve their goals.

Each part of the survey had different goals and provided important information.

Process

1

SCENARIO SELECTIONS

Issue
"Favoriting"

Scenario
Vote

Goals

1. Educate Utahns on the key issues facing the state
2. Quantify preferences for issue-specific outcomes
3. Identify areas of consensus and disagreement across issues
4. Quantify preferences for defined scenarios



2

TRADE-OFF SURVEY

Issue Prioritization

Importance of
Outcomes

Trade-off Willingness

1. Force Utahns to prioritize importance / level of concern for all issues
2. Quantify importance of outcomes related to specific issues
3. Assess willingness to make trade-offs in order to reach desired outcomes



A random sample survey of Utahns was used to cross-check outreach results

OUTREACH SAMPLE

Utahns that heard about the survey through Envision Utah's outreach efforts and went to the website to vote

- School outreach
- Digital media
- Partner organization emails and posts
- Radio advertisements
- News coverage

Total participants: 52,845

RANDOM SAMPLE

A statistically representative sample of Utahns randomly sampled to participate in the survey

- Direct email
- Physical mail (postcard invitations)
- Phone recruiting

Total participants: 1,264

All Participants participated in Part One



OUTREACH

n=52,845

RANDOM SAMPLE

n=1,264

Outreach Participants had the option to participate in Part Two



OUTREACH

n=13,459

All Random Sample Participants participated in Part Two



RANDOM SAMPLE

n=1,264

Outreach and Random Sample participant responses were very much aligned across issues and preferences.

	Variance Across Most Responses
Issue "Favoriting"	+/- 3%
Scenario Vote	+/- 4%
Issue Prioritization	+/- 1.2%
Importance of Outcomes	+/- 2%
Trade-off Willingness	+/- 7%

“We can conclude that the results represent the desires and opinions of Utahns.”

“Results were obtained via the largest public outreach effort in the history of Utah, resulting in public input from more than 50,000 people; an effort that was cross-checked with a random sample of 1,264 Utahns, and overseen by Dan Jones & Associates.”

—Cicero; Dan Jones & Associates

Envision Utah performed a values study in 2014 to understand what Utahns care most about regarding the future.



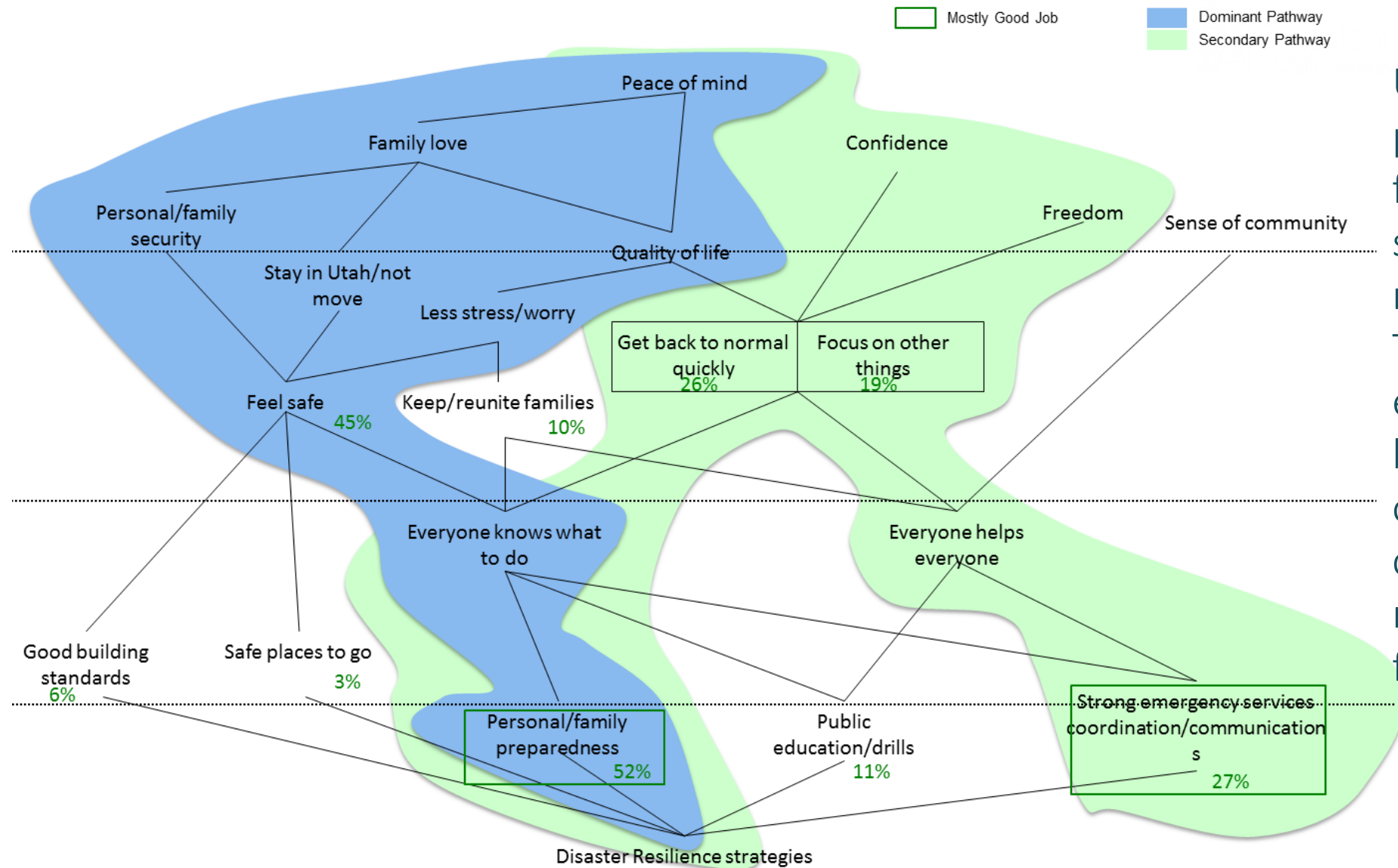
Disaster Resilience Value Pathways

Personal Values

Psychosocial Consequences

Functional Consequences

Attributes



Utahns want to be prepared so they will feel safe, have less stress, and not have to move out of Utah. They also want the entire community to be prepared and help one another so we can get back to normal quickly and focus on other things.

In the *Your Utah, Your Future* survey, Utahns were given information about Utah's disaster resilience today and four different scenarios for what our disaster resilience could be like in 2050 depending on the choices we make.



What is Disaster Resilience?

- Disaster resilience is the ability to survive, adapt, and thrive no matter what kinds of stresses and shocks are experienced, so that we can withstand and quickly recover from catastrophic events without long-term disruption to our economy and way of life.

Utah's Disaster Resilience Today: Earthquakes



Unreinforced masonry building after Wells, NV earthquake

- The chance of a large earthquake in the Wasatch Front region during the next 50 years is about 1 in 4.*
- Utah has 165,000 unreinforced brick buildings, which will cause 55% of deaths in an earthquake.
- By 2050, the number of buildings (homes and businesses) in Utah will double; if new buildings are built to the current code, many of them will be uninhabitable after an earthquake.

Utah's Disaster Resilience Today: Floods and Fires



Flooding in Washington County

- The West is experiencing larger storms than ever before (e.g., Phoenix and Denver have seen significant flooding), and those storms are predicted to grow even larger.
- Wildfires are becoming an increasingly greater issue throughout the West.
- After a wildfire, flooding risk increases because of lack of vegetation.

Questions Concerning the Future of Disaster Resilience

- How much damage will we experience in a disaster, and how quickly will we recover?
- Will existing unreinforced masonry/brick buildings be retrofitted to withstand earthquakes?
- Will we upgrade building codes to have more resilient buildings so more residents will be able to move back into their homes following an earthquake?
- How will we prevent flooding damage?
- How will we prevent wildfire damage?

Earthquakes

Problem

Utah has 165,000 unreinforced brick buildings, which cause 55% of deaths.

Solution

Retrofit structurally weak buildings.

Results

- Cost of retrofitting is \$5,000–\$10,000 per home.
- Deaths and life-threatening injuries caused by weak buildings are reduced by 70%.
- Even after retrofitting, these buildings would be severely damaged and uninhabitable.

Earthquakes

Problem

By 2050, the number of buildings in Utah will double; if new buildings are built to the current code, many of them will be uninhabitable after an earthquake.

Solution

Strengthen building codes.

Results

- Cost of new buildings increases by approximately 1.5%.
- Risk of a new home being uninhabitable decreases by half.
- Deaths and life-threatening injuries from new buildings are reduced by 65%.

Allosaurus & Bonneville Trout Scenarios

- We are not more resilient to earthquakes because:
 - Weak buildings with unreinforced brick are not reinforced.
 - Building codes are not strengthened to make new buildings more likely to be habitable.
 - Schools, hospitals, and nursing homes are retrofitted very slowly.
 - We continue to build in earthquake hazard areas.
 - Roads, water, sewer, power, and gas lines are upgraded only when replaced.
- We are also not more resilient to flooding or wildfire because:
 - Storm water systems are not upgraded to accommodate larger storms.
 - A large amount of scattered growth occurs on the fringe of urban areas, where homes are more vulnerable to wildfire.
 - Homes on the urban fringe are not designed to be fire-resistant.

Seagull Scenario

- We are somewhat more resilient to earthquakes because:
 - 1/3 of weak buildings with unreinforced brick are reinforced.
 - Building codes are strengthened to make new buildings more likely to be habitable.
 - Only 1/3 of new buildings meet these new codes, which are not implemented until 2038.
 - Schools, hospitals, and nursing homes are retrofitted slowly.
 - Communities continue to grow in earthquake hazard areas, though some disaster-prone areas are avoided.
 - Roads, water, sewer, power, and gas lines are upgraded to be somewhat more resilient.
- We are also somewhat more resilient to flooding and wildfire because:
 - Storm water systems are somewhat improved to accommodate larger storms.
 - A large amount of scattered growth occurs on the fringe of urban areas, where homes are more vulnerable to wildfire.
 - Only some homes on the urban fringe are designed to be fire-resistant.

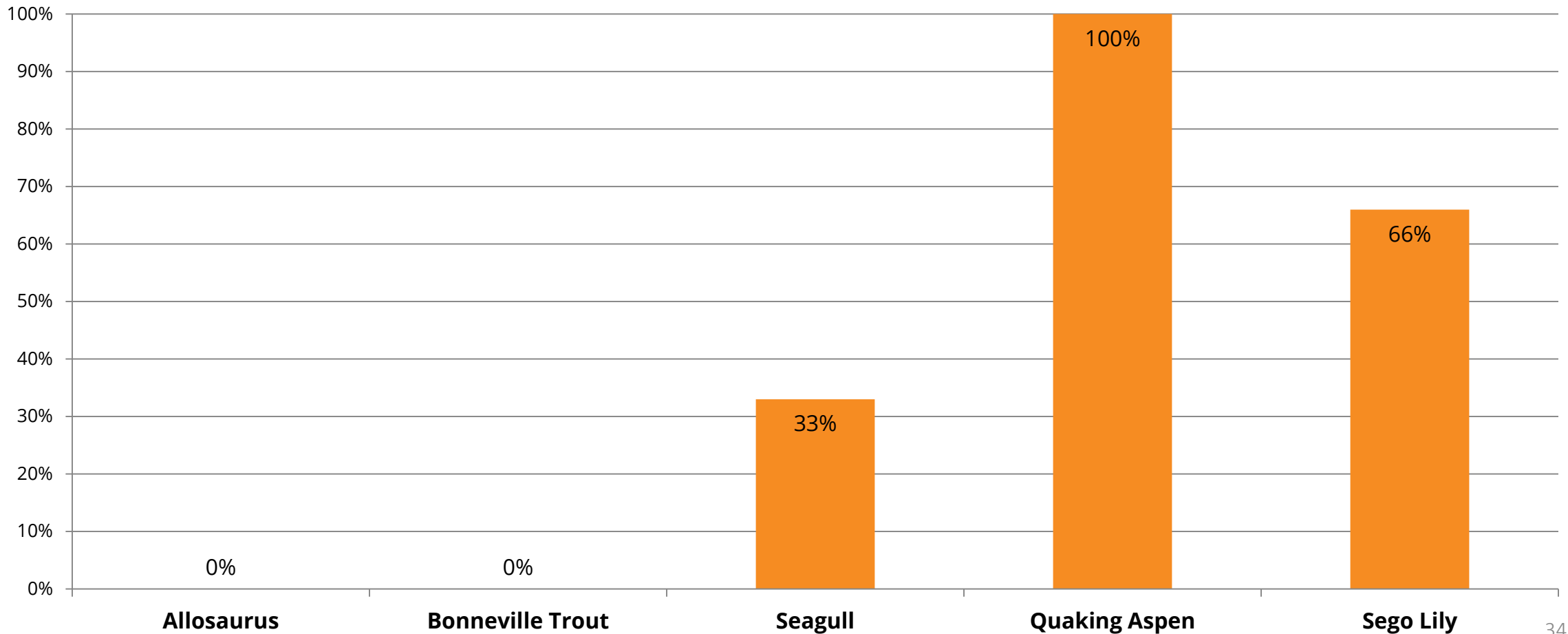
Sego Lily Scenario

- We are moderately more resilient to earthquakes because:
 - 2/3 of weak buildings with unreinforced brick are reinforced.
 - Building codes are strengthened to make new buildings more likely to be habitable.
 - 2/3 of new buildings meet these new codes, which are implemented in 2024.
 - Schools, hospitals, and nursing homes are retrofitted faster.
 - Some communities continue to grow in earthquake hazard areas, but some disaster-prone areas are avoided.
 - Roads, water, sewer, power, and gas lines are upgraded to be moderately more resilient.
- We are also moderately more resilient to flooding and wildfire because:
 - Storm water systems are improved to accommodate larger storms.
 - Only some scattered growth occurs on the fringe of urban areas, where homes are more vulnerable to wildfire.
 - A moderate number of homes on the urban fringe are designed to be fire-resistant.

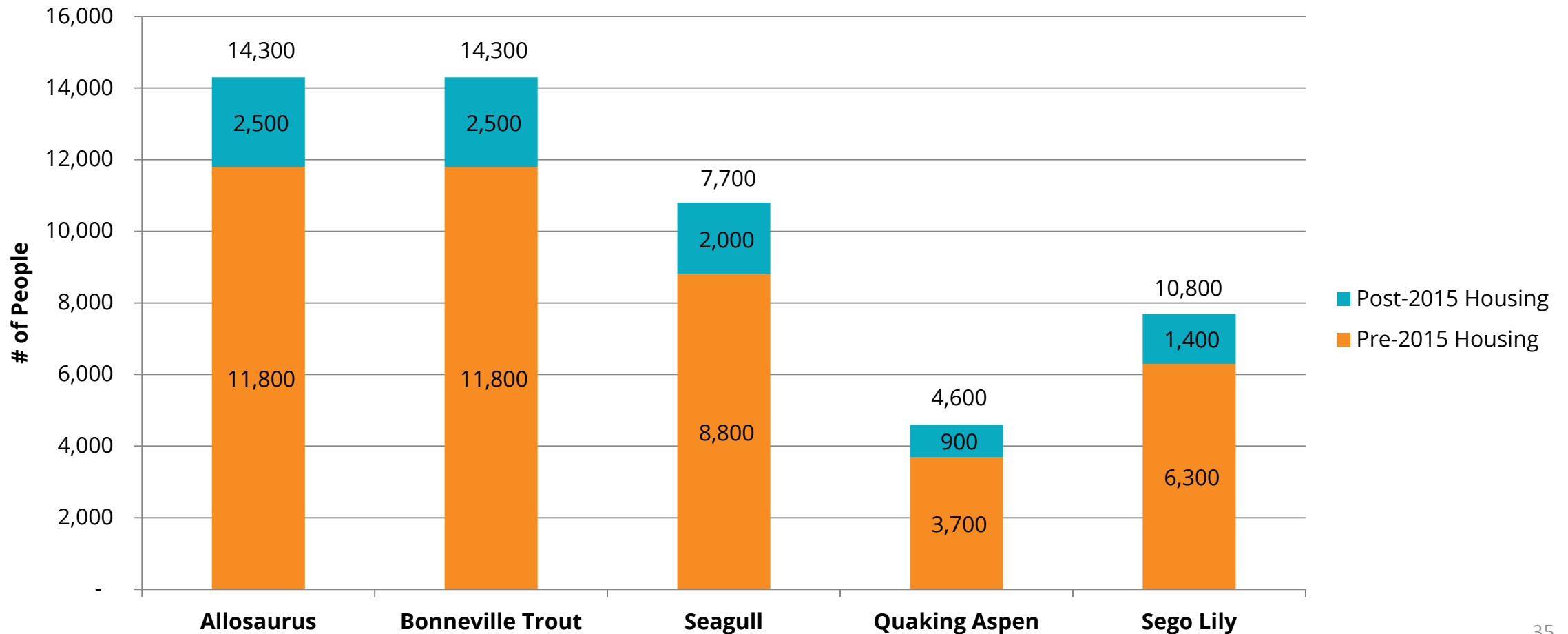
Quaking Aspen Scenario

- We are significantly more resilient to earthquakes because:
 - Almost all weak buildings with unreinforced brick are reinforced.
 - Building codes are strengthened to make new buildings more likely to be habitable.
 - Almost all new buildings meet these new codes, which are implemented as soon as possible.
 - Schools, hospitals, and nursing homes are retrofitted quickly.
 - Some communities continue to grow in earthquake hazard areas, but a serious effort is made to avoid disaster-prone areas.
 - Roads, water, sewer, power, and gas lines are upgraded to be much more resilient.
- We are also significantly more resilient to flooding and wildfire because:
 - Storm water systems are substantially improved to accommodate larger storms.
 - Only a small amount of scattered growth occurs on the fringe of urban areas, where homes are more vulnerable to wildfire.
 - Most homes on the urban fringe are designed to be fire-resistant.

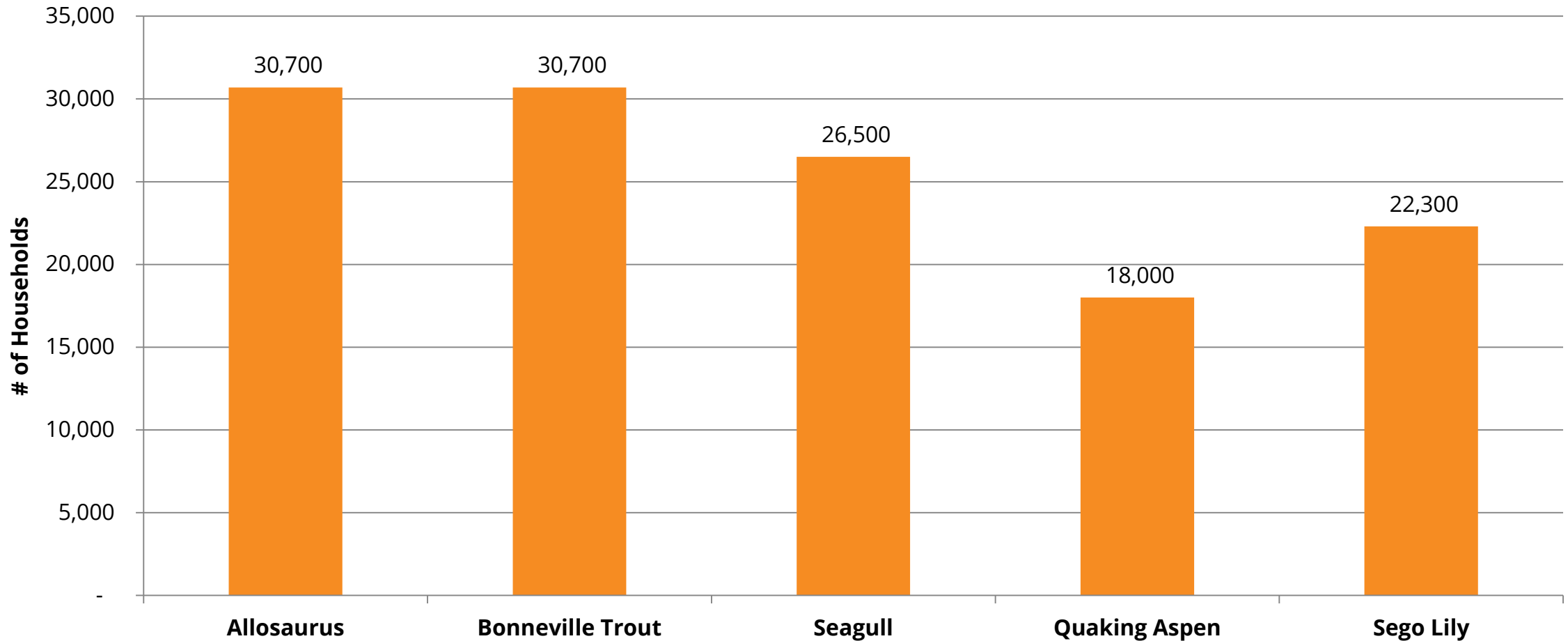
Percent of Weak Buildings Retrofitted and Percent of New Buildings Built to a Stronger Building Code



Deaths and Life Threatening Injuries (7.0 Quake)



Displaced Households from New Homes* (7.0 Quake)

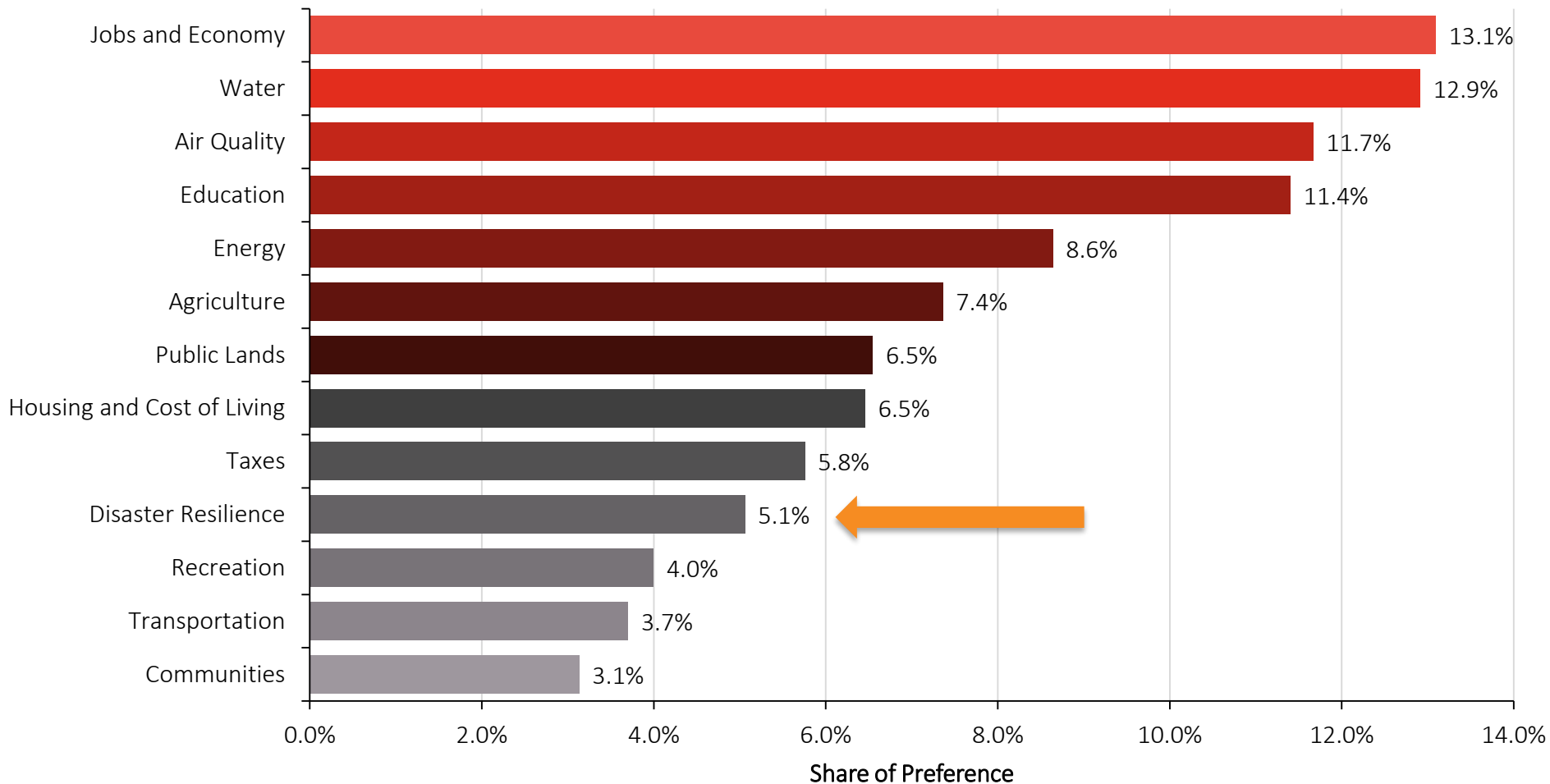


*From homes built after 2015



Level of Concern for the Future—Outreach Sample Results

Share of Preference, n=13,459

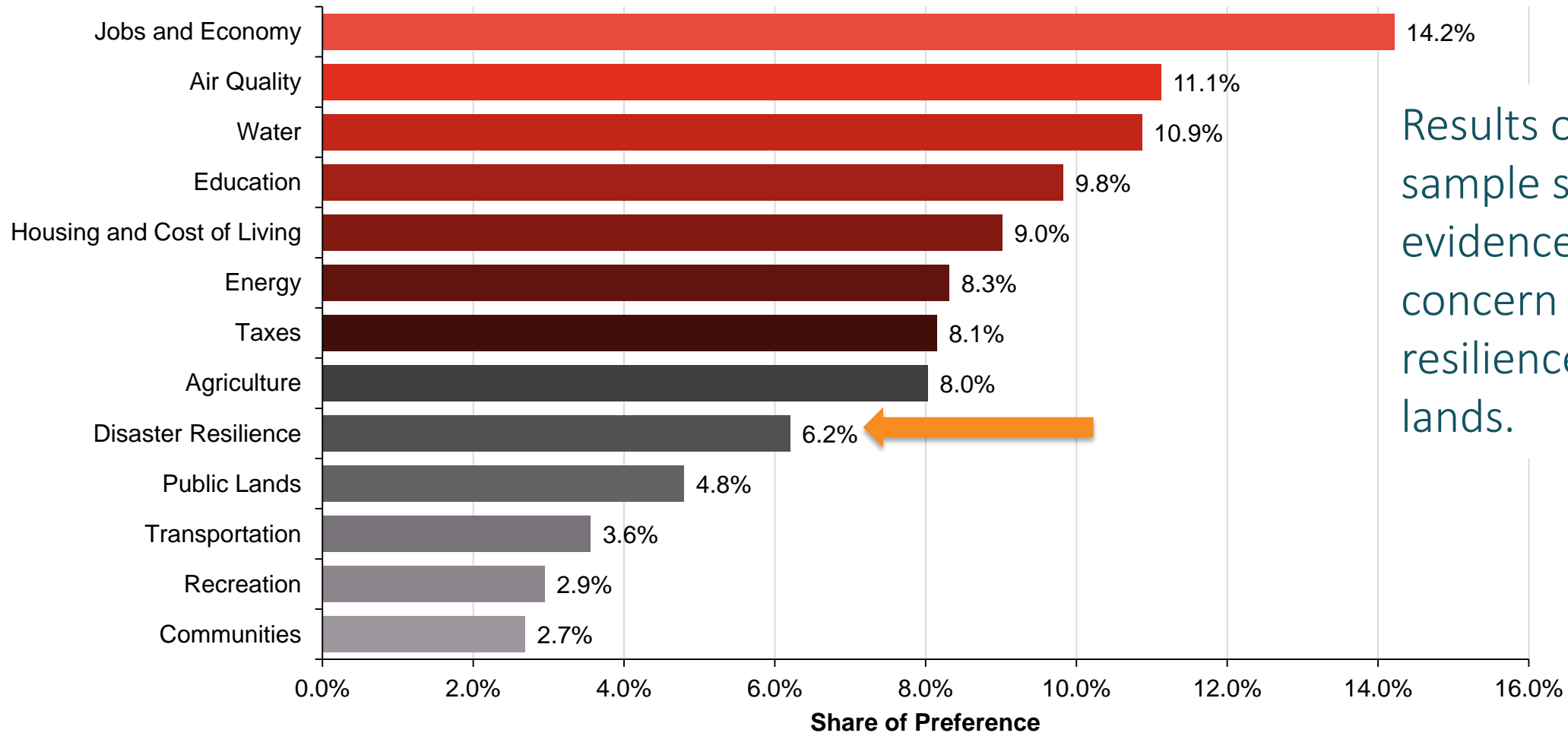


In the 2014 values study, Utahns ranked all 11 issues as being important to Utah’s future. The 2015 survey used a sophisticated technique to force a “weighting” of the issues, providing a wider gradation of concern.

Level of Concern for the Future—Random Sample Results

Share of Preference, n=1,264

RANDOM
SAMPLE
n = 1,264

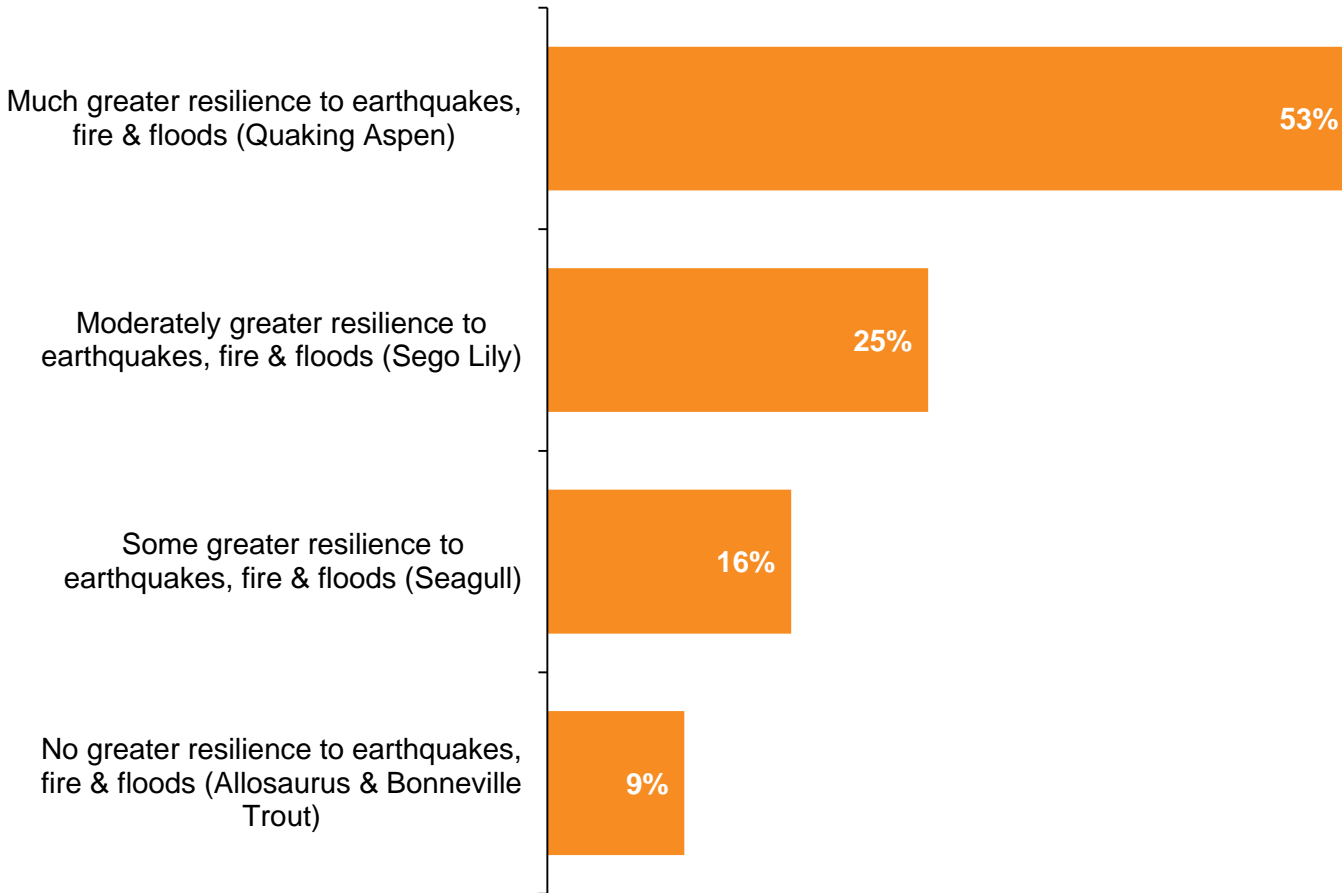


Results of the random sample survey evidenced greater concern for disaster resilience than public lands.

Source: Survey – Keeping in mind that between now and the year 2050, Utah will almost double in population, please consider how important each of the following issues is to you. Considering only these four issues, which is the Most Important and which is the Least Important as you think about Utah’s future?

Issue-specific Scenarios

% "Favorite" Selections, n=18,945



What Utahns Want:

91% of Utahns chose a disaster resilience scenario with at least some greater resilience to disasters.

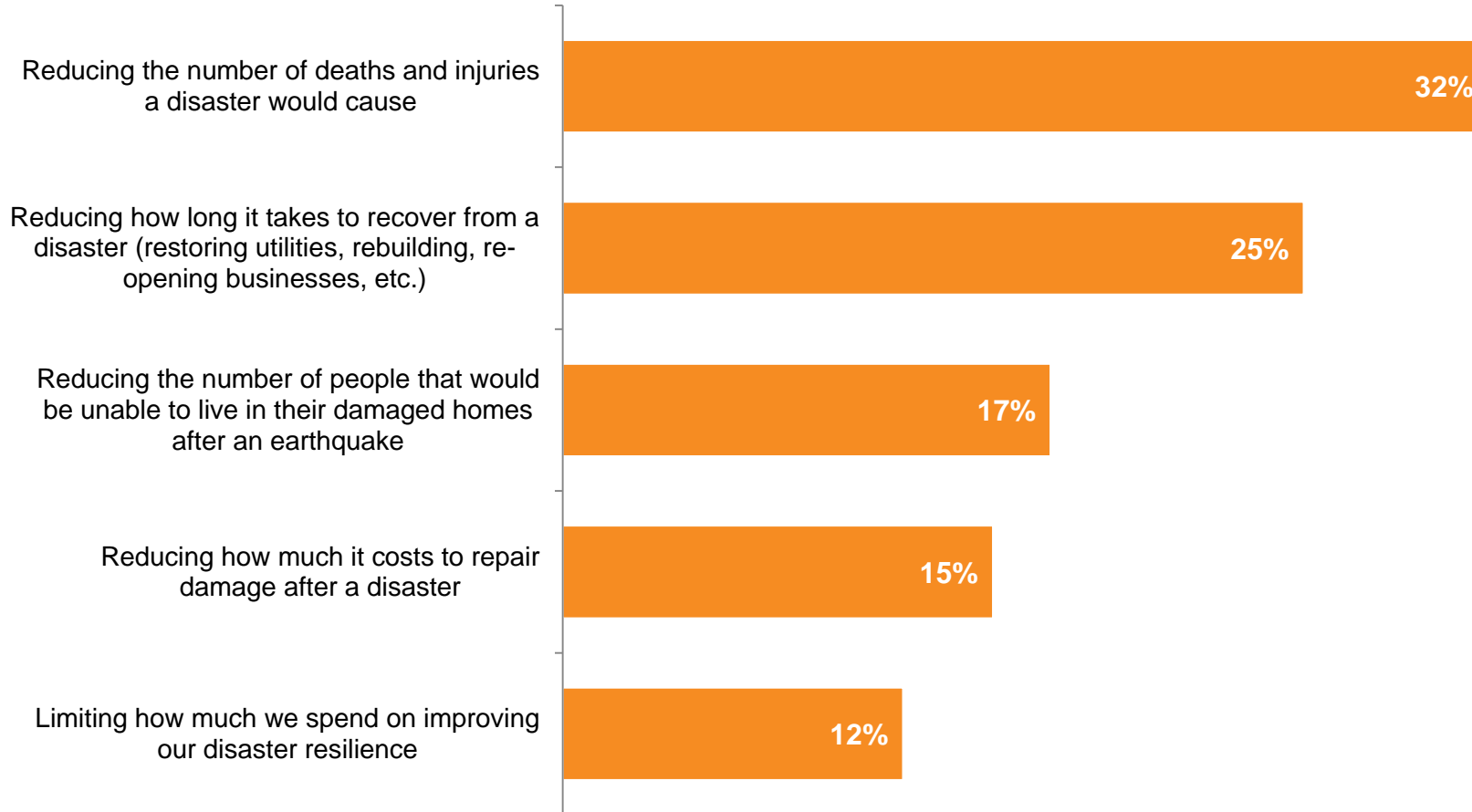
78% selected a scenario with at least moderately greater resilience to disasters.

53% chose a scenario with much greater resilience to disasters.

Source: Website – Select your favorite disaster resilience outcome(s) from the 4 presented below for Utah in 2050. Consider the effect of a 7.0 earthquake on lives and household displacement.

Importance of Outcomes

Average % Allocated, n=4,931



Why Utahns Want Greater Disaster Resilience:

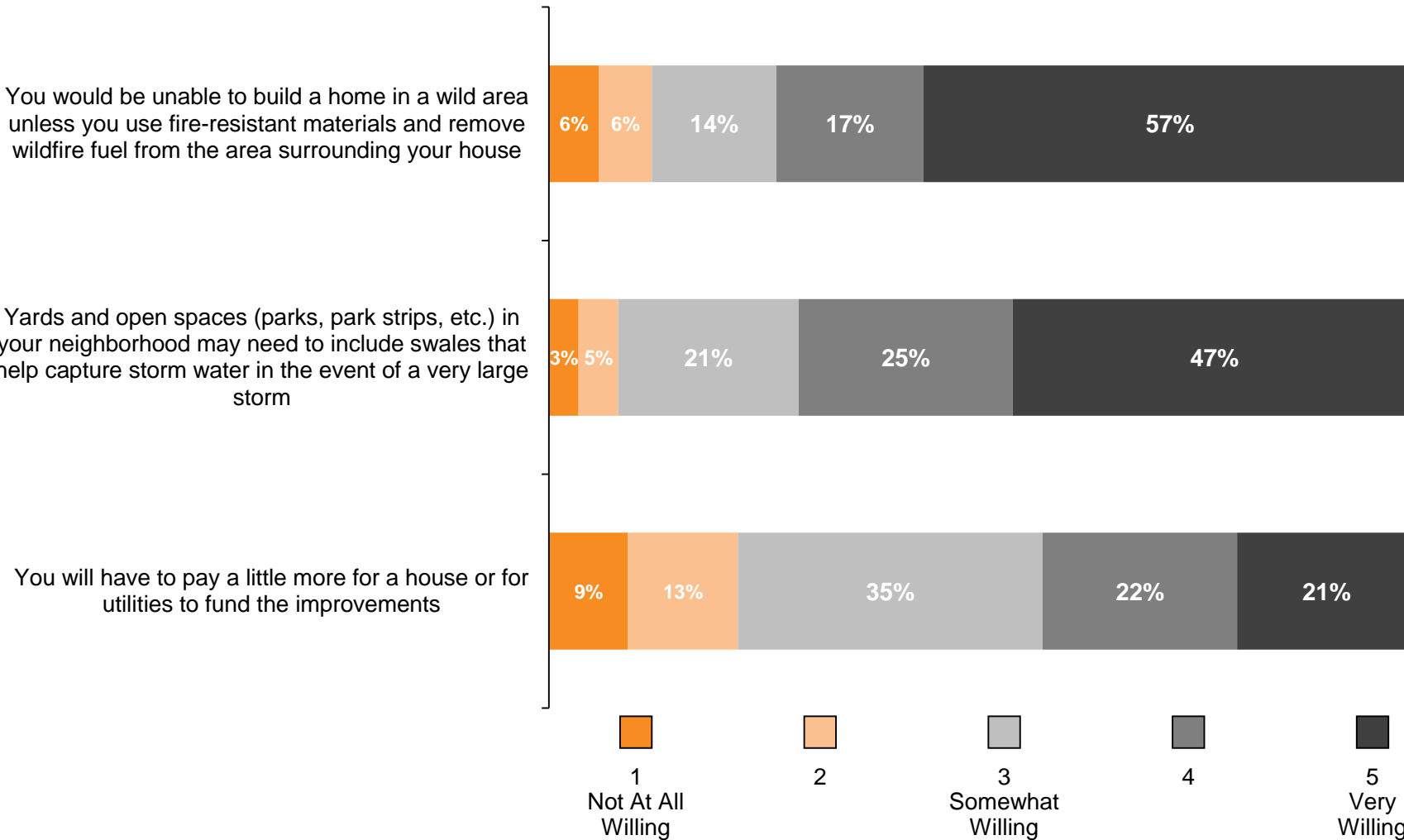
Utahns want to reduce the total number of deaths and injuries resulting from a disaster. Utahns also want to be able to recover more quickly and not have to leave their homes.

maintain ecosystem health as well as ensure we have enough land for energy production, recreation, economic development, and grazing/agriculture.

OUTREACH
n = 52,845

Willingness to Make Tradeoffs

% Level of Willingness, n=4,931



What Utahns are willing to do to have greater disaster resilience:

Utahns are very willing to build carefully in wild areas and use techniques like swales to capture water. Utahns are also willing to pay more for housing and utilities to fund disaster resilience improvements.

Source: Survey – Please indicate your willingness to make each trade-off in order to focus on disaster resilience in Utah. Outcomes:

- Earthquake safety improvements made to existing structures
- Updated building codes for future structures
- Improved stormwater systems to prevent flooding
- Better wildfire resistance along the urban fringe

OUTREACH
n = 52,845

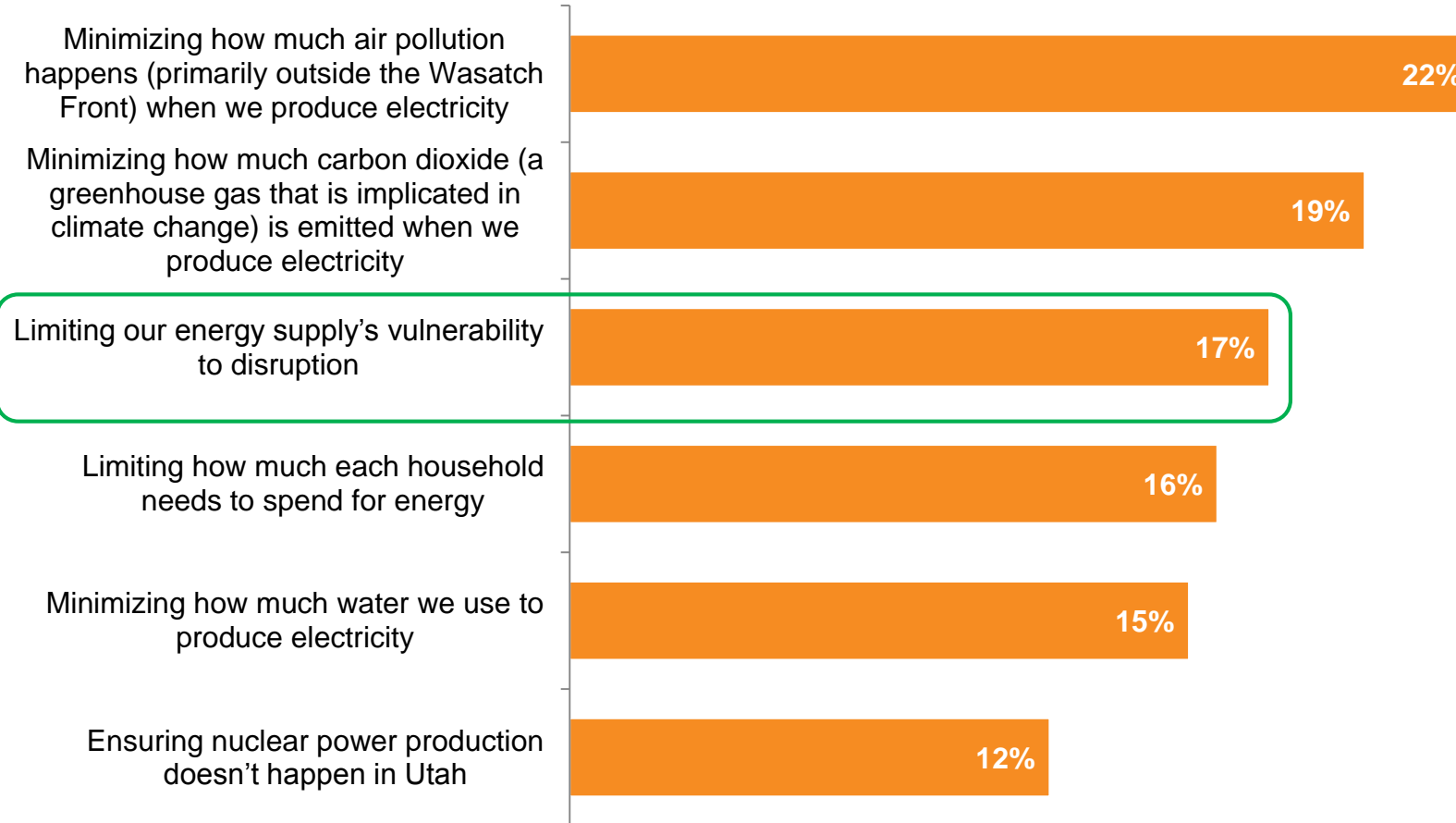
In addition to the specific results from disaster resilience questions, a number of results from other topics show support for disaster resilience.



Importance of Outcomes—Energy

Average % Allocated, n=4,924

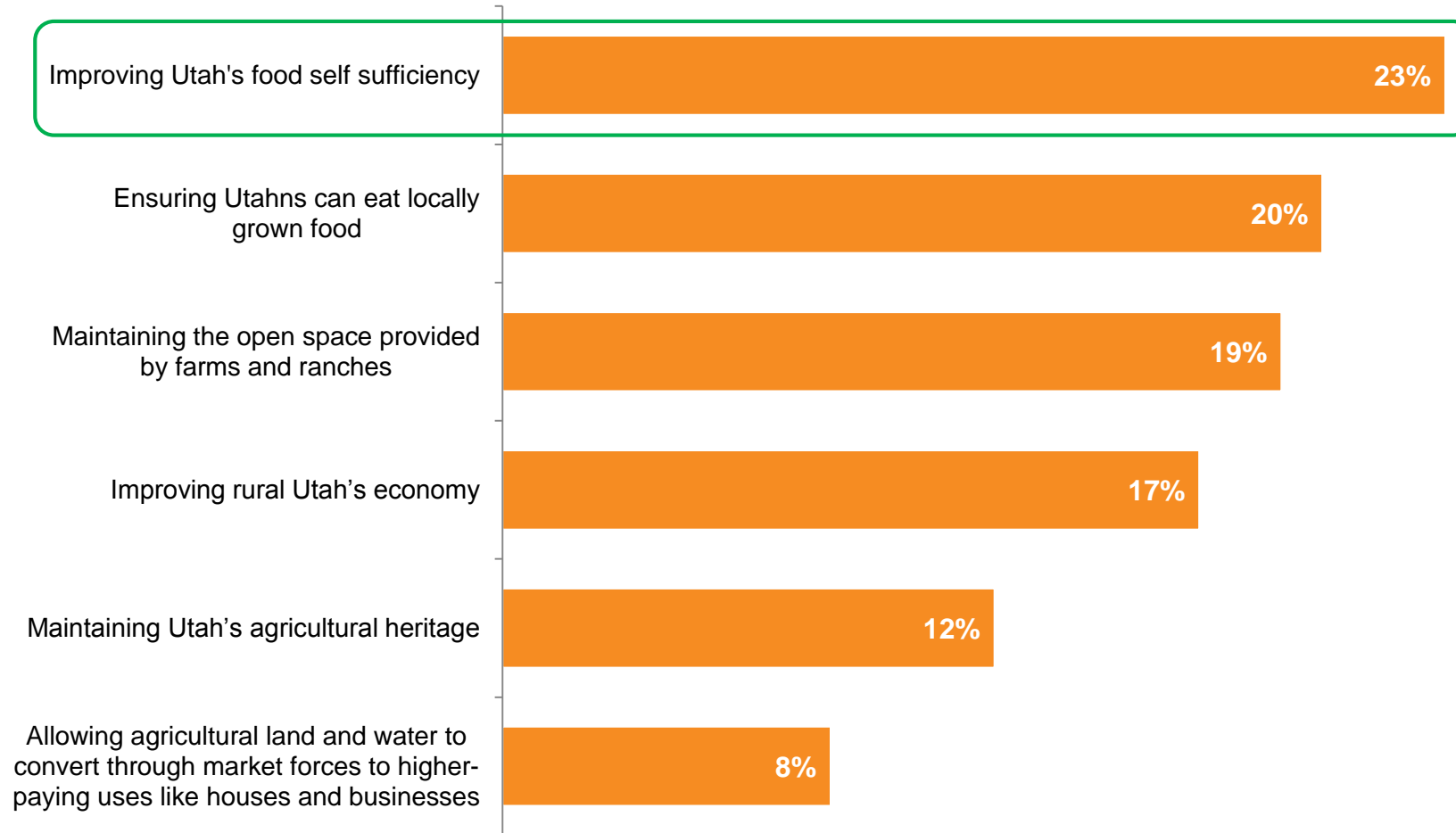
OUTREACH
n = 52,845



Utahns want to ensure that our energy supply is not vulnerable to disruption. Disruption risk can be reduced through more resilient infrastructure and other means.

Importance of Outcomes—Agriculture

Average % Allocated, n=4,875



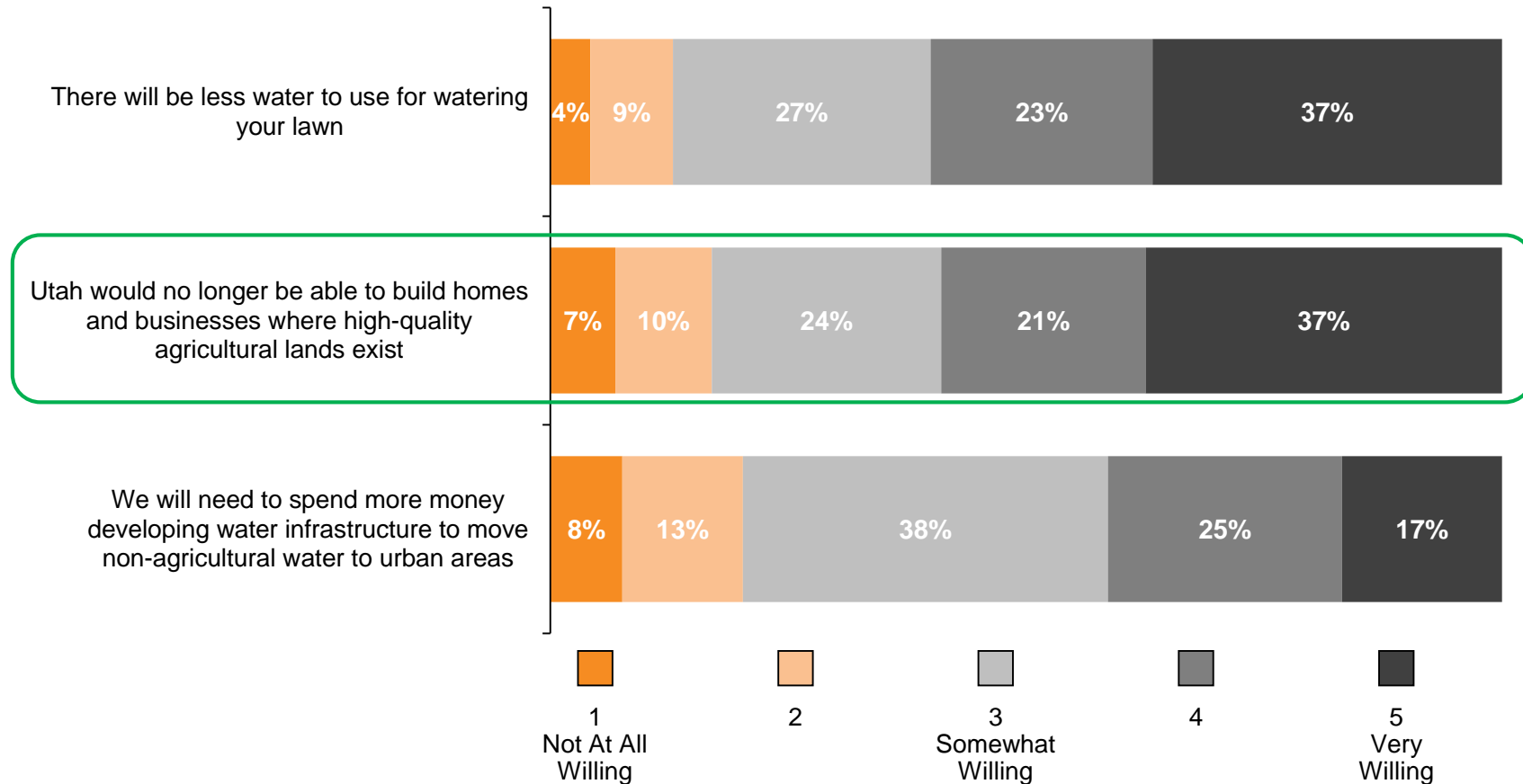
Utahns want the state be more self-sufficient in supplying its own food.

Source: Website – Please indicate each outcome's relative importance by allocating 100 points across all outcomes. The more points you allocate to a given outcome, the more important it is to you to achieve that outcome.

OUTREACH
n = 52,845

Willingness to Make Tradeoffs—Agriculture

% Level of Willingness, n=4,875



Utahns are willing to avoid building on high-quality agricultural lands, which often have high risk for liquefaction in an earthquake.

Source: Survey – Please indicate your willingness to make each trade-off in order to secure and expand agriculture in Utah. Outcomes:

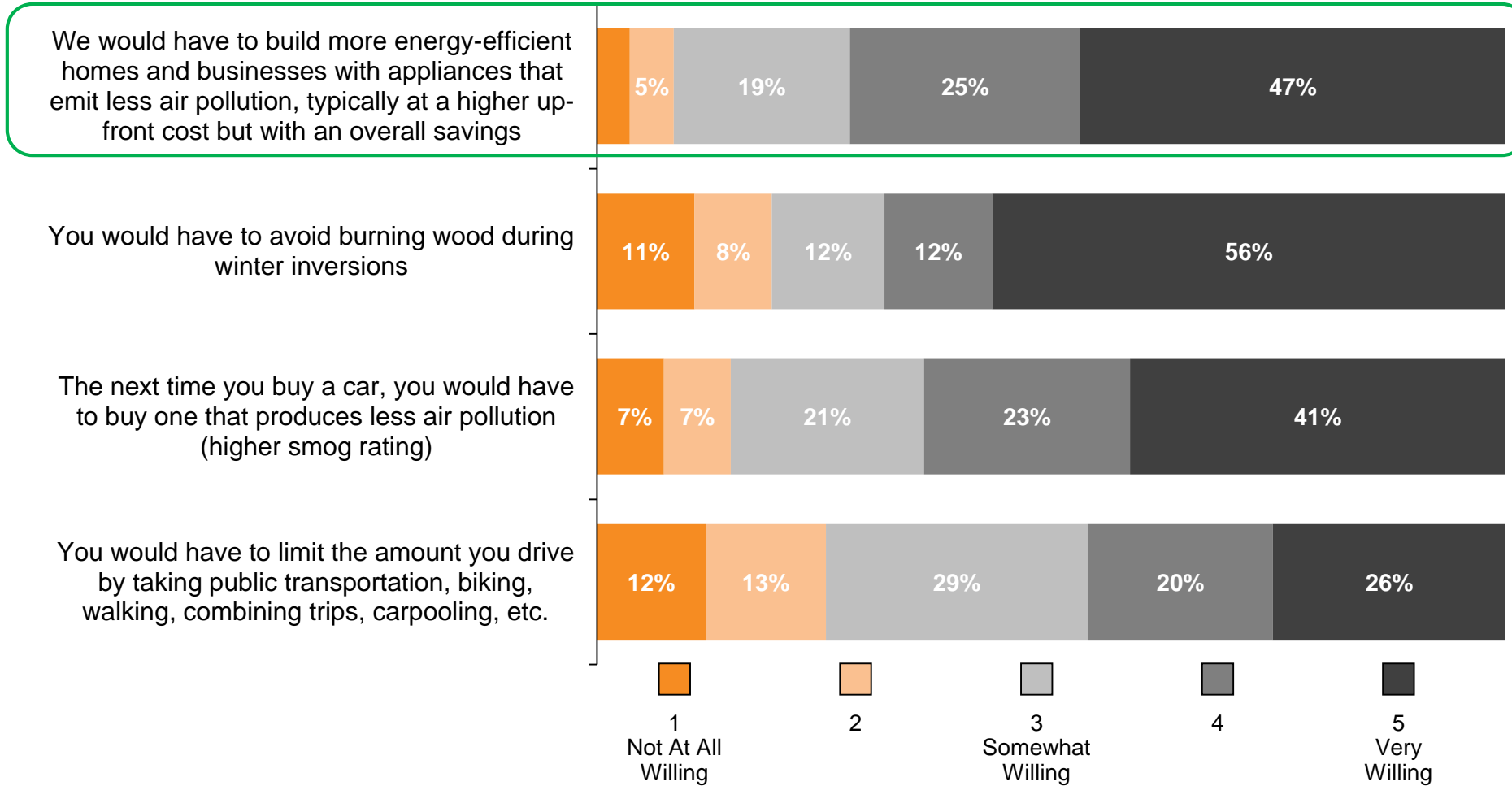
- Increased locally grown food
- Less need to import food
- Increase agriculture exports

OUTREACH
n = 52,845

Willingness to Make Tradeoffs—Air Quality

% Level of Willingness, n=4,885

OUTREACH
n = 52,845



Utahns are very willing to build more energy-efficient homes and businesses to improve air quality. The same improvements that make unreinforced brick buildings more earthquake resilient may also improve energy efficiency.

The Survey is still available!

Visit **envisionutah.net** to view the choices for disaster resilience and each of the 11 topics in the *Your Utah, Your Future* survey.

