

# AMERICAN VIEWPOINT

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*New Hampshire and South Carolina  
Republican Primary Voter Survey*

*July 21-26, 2015*

*N=400 Likely GOP Primary Voters per state*

*David Kanevsky, Vice President*

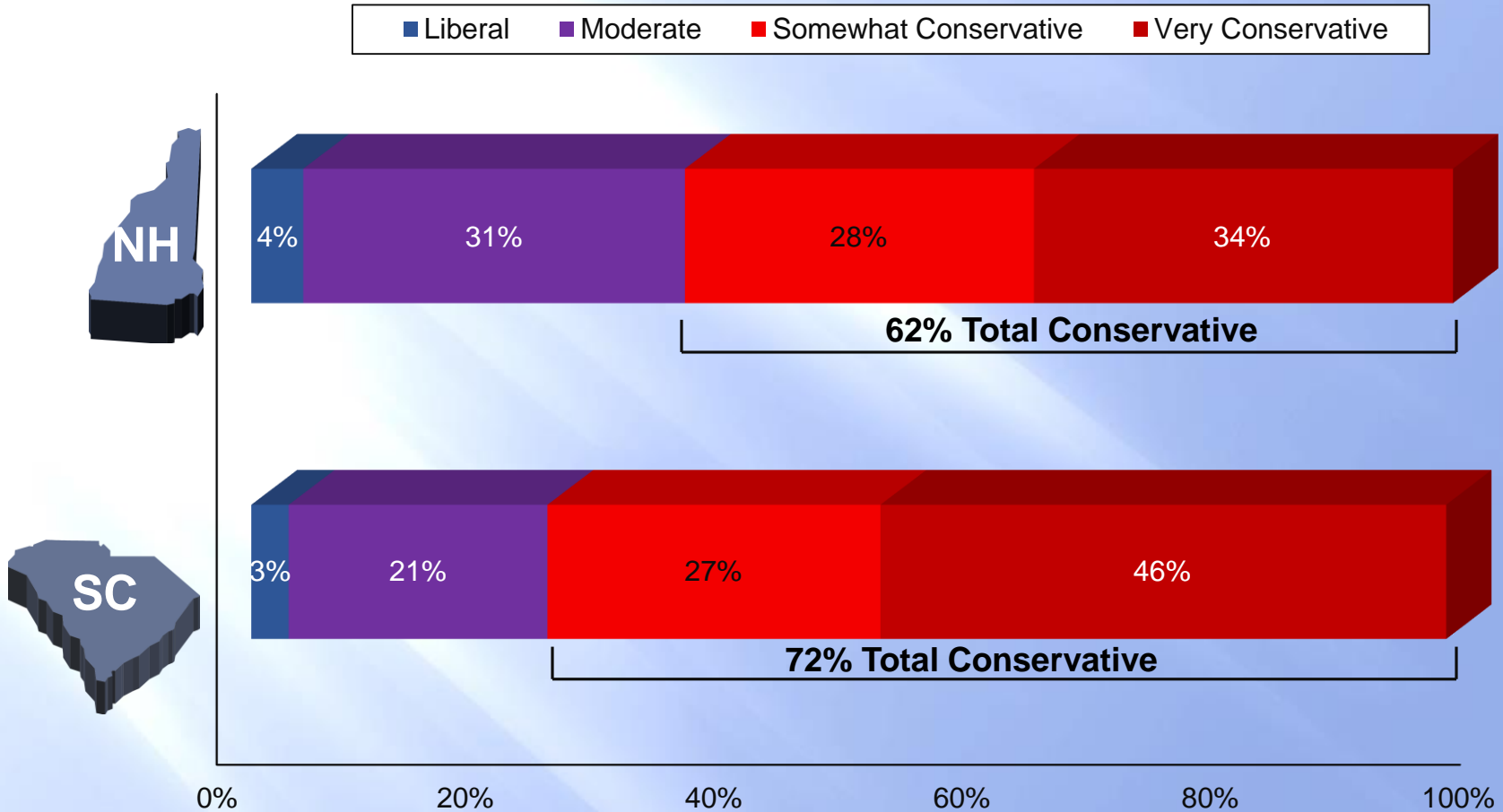
# Methodology

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- The NRDC Action Fund and the League of Conservation Voters commissioned American Viewpoint to conduct a survey of likely Republican primary voters in New Hampshire and South Carolina.
- Interviews were conducted July 21-26, 2015 with N=400 likely Republican primary voters in each state.
- The margin of error for n=400, is +/- 4.9% at the 95% confidence level. The margin of error among sub-groups is greater.
- The sample was drawn from a voter list of those who had voted in at least one of three Republican primaries: the 2008 Republican Presidential primary, the 2012 Republican Presidential primary or the 2014 Republican primary.
- Approximately 30% of interviews were conducted with a cell phone sample of those who couldn't be reached on a landline.

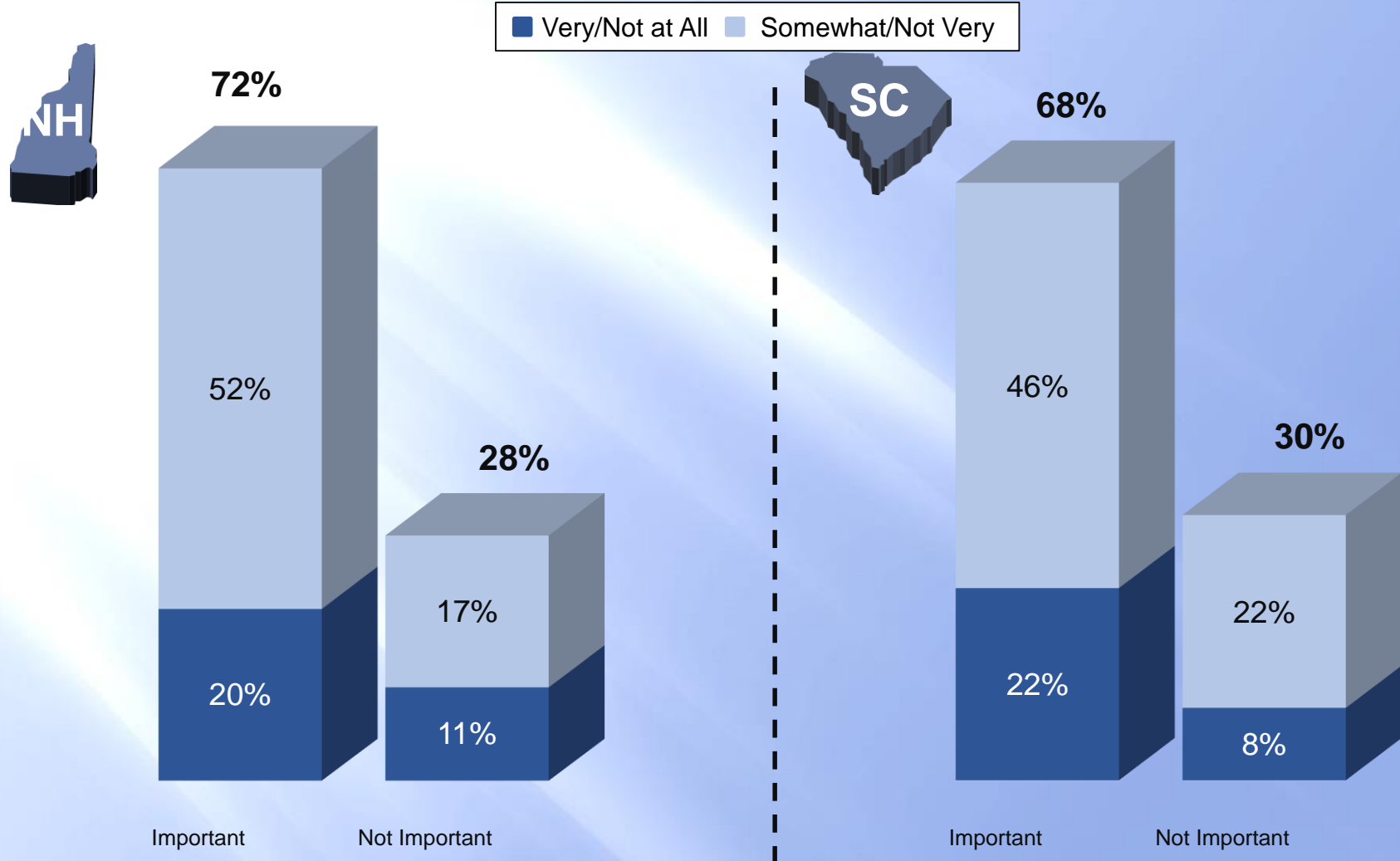
# The Republican primary electorate in both states is fairly conservative, yet they still show support for pro-environment policies.

On political issues, do you consider yourself to be Conservative, Moderate, or Liberal?



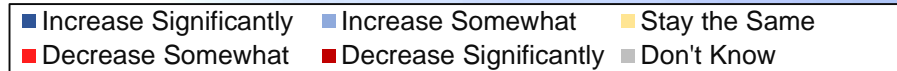
# Large majorities of Republican primary voters want Republican presidential candidates to have a clean energy plan.

How important is it in deciding who to vote for in the Republican Presidential primary that a candidate have a clean energy plan? Is it very important, somewhat important, not very important or not all important?

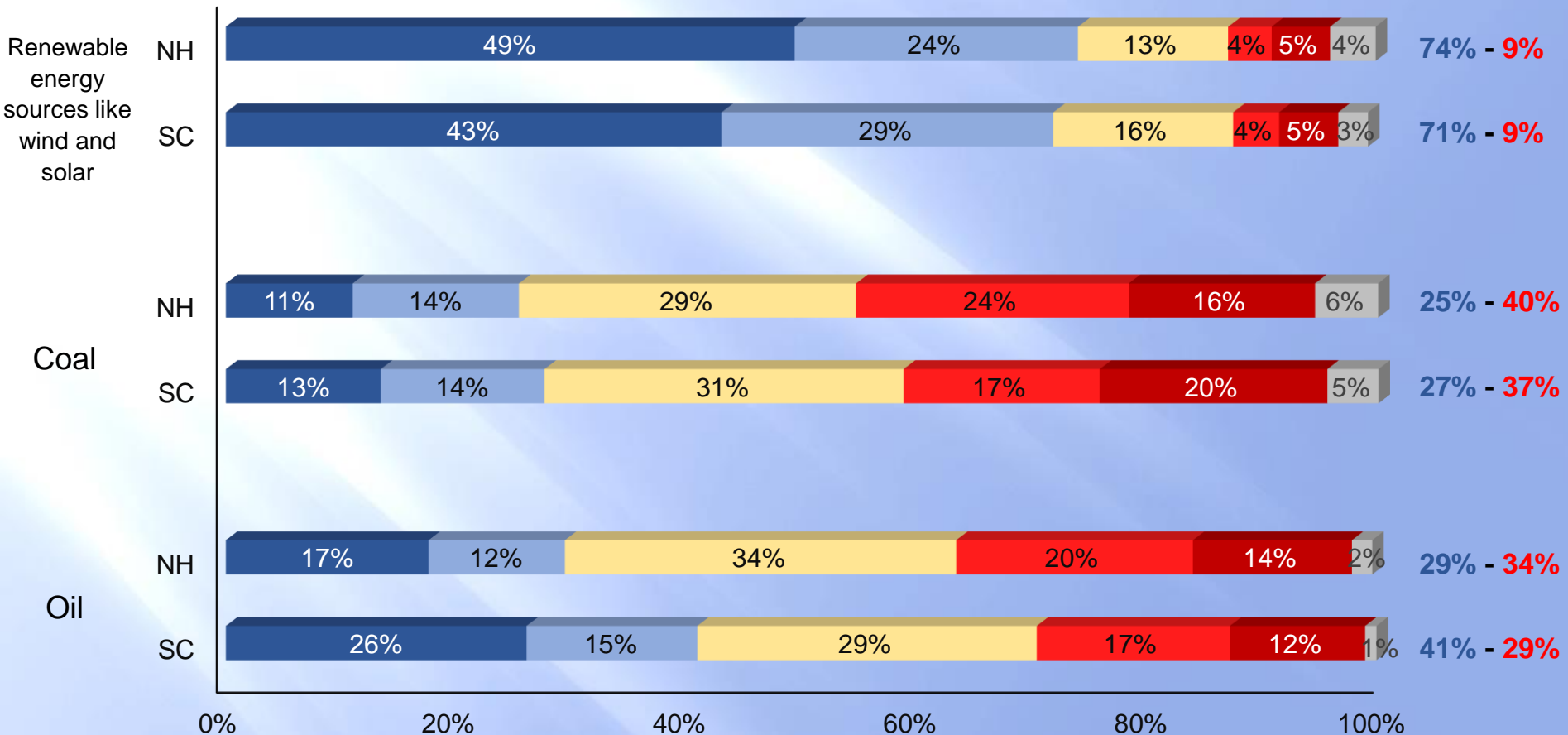


# Republican primary voters in these states want significant increase in renewable energy, more so than traditional energy sources. In both states, primary voters want less reliance on coal.

Now I am going to read you a list of different forms of energy we use here in the United States, and I'd like you to tell me whether, generally speaking, you think the U.S. should increase its use of this type of energy, decrease it, or use the same amount of energy as we currently produce.

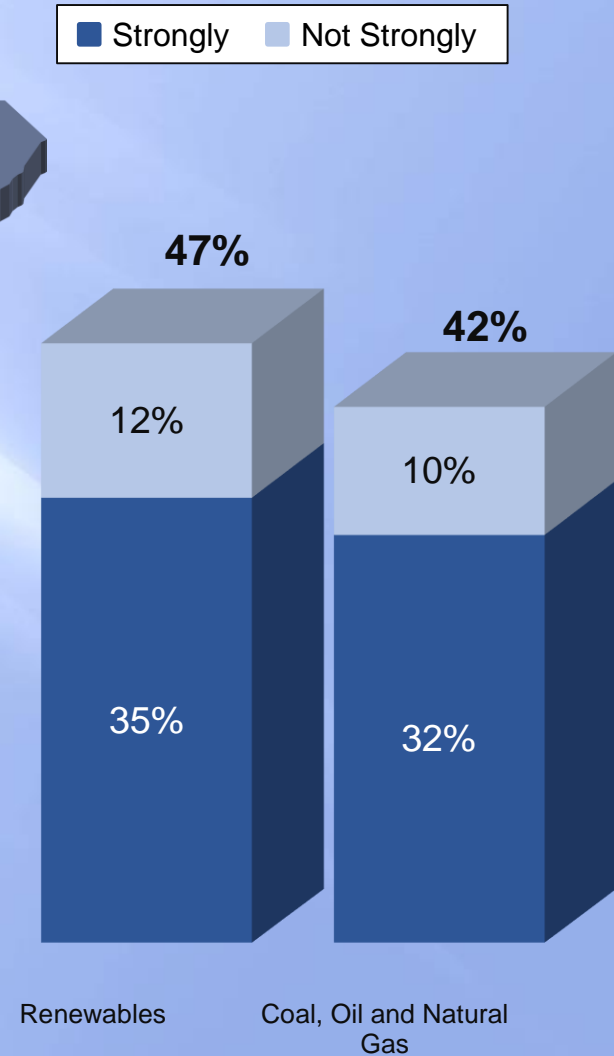
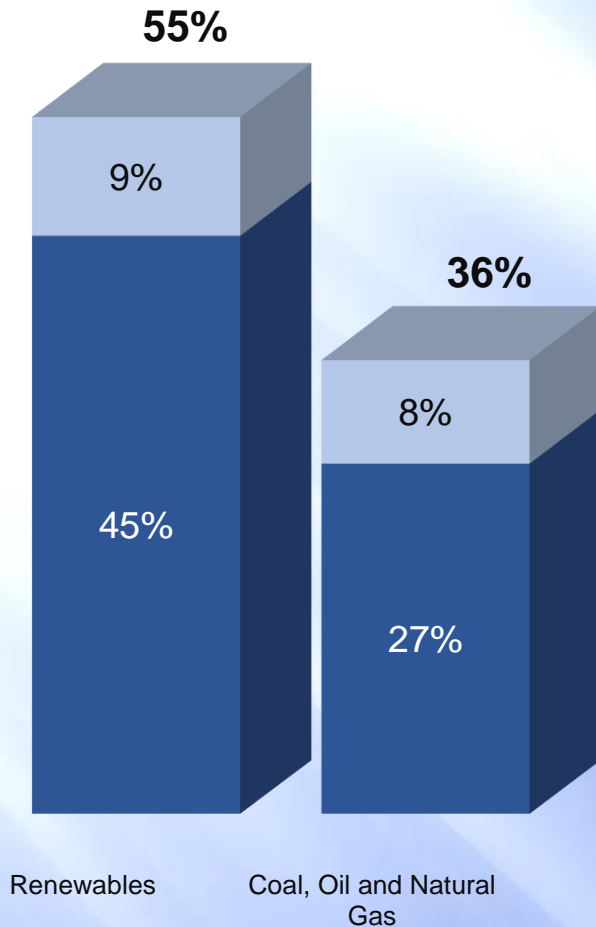


**Increase -  
Decrease**



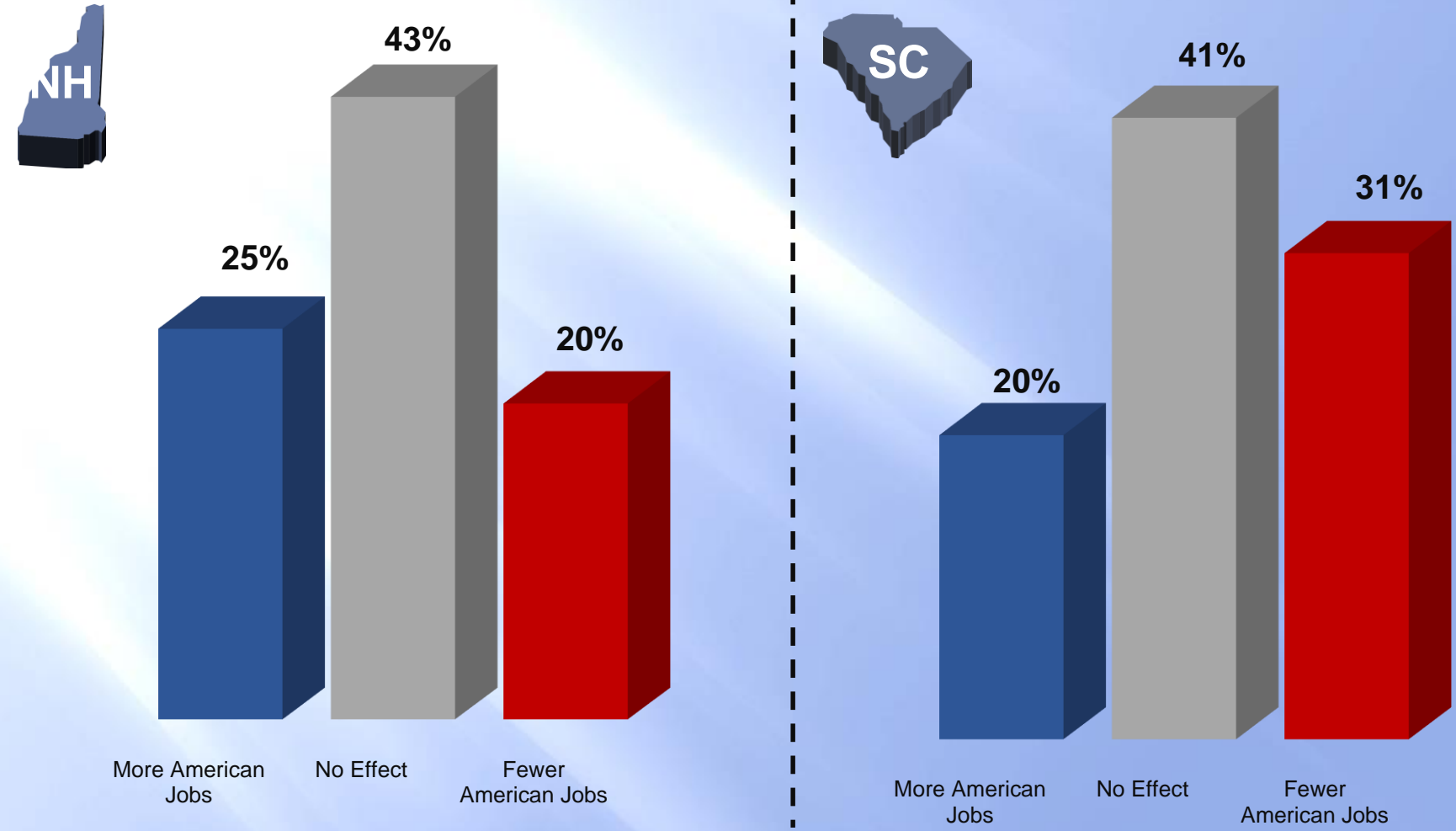
# When forced to choose between renewables or traditional energy, Republican primary voters in both states fall on the side of renewables.

Which would you like to see here in [STATE]: *more investment in renewable energy like wind and solar* OR *more investment in energy like coal, oil and natural gas?*



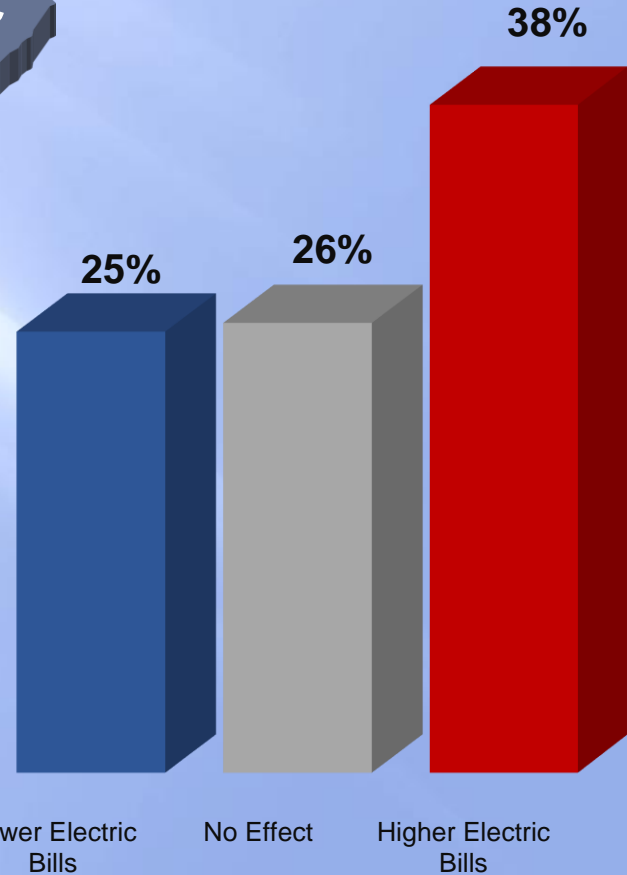
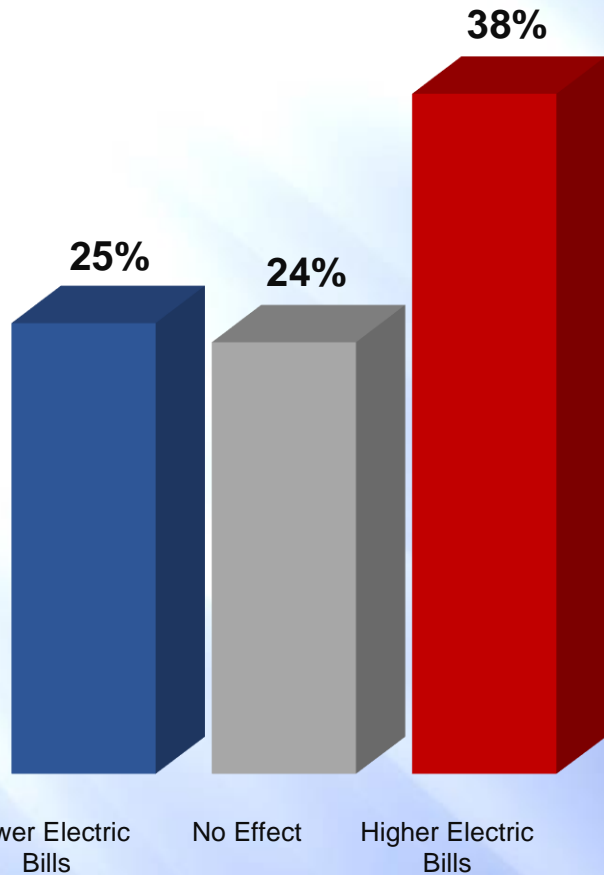
# The majority of Republican primary voters in both states think more renewables will NOT result in fewer jobs.

Do you think increasing the use of renewable energy sources like solar and wind and reducing the use of coal to generate electricity would result in *more American jobs*, *fewer American jobs*, or would not affect the number of American jobs much either way?



# While there are concerns about more renewables increasing electric costs, roughly half of GOP primary voters say it will lower or have no effect on electric bills.

Do you think increasing the use of renewable energy sources like solar and wind and reducing the use of coal to generate electricity would result in lower electric bills, higher electric bills, or would not affect the size of electric bills much either way?

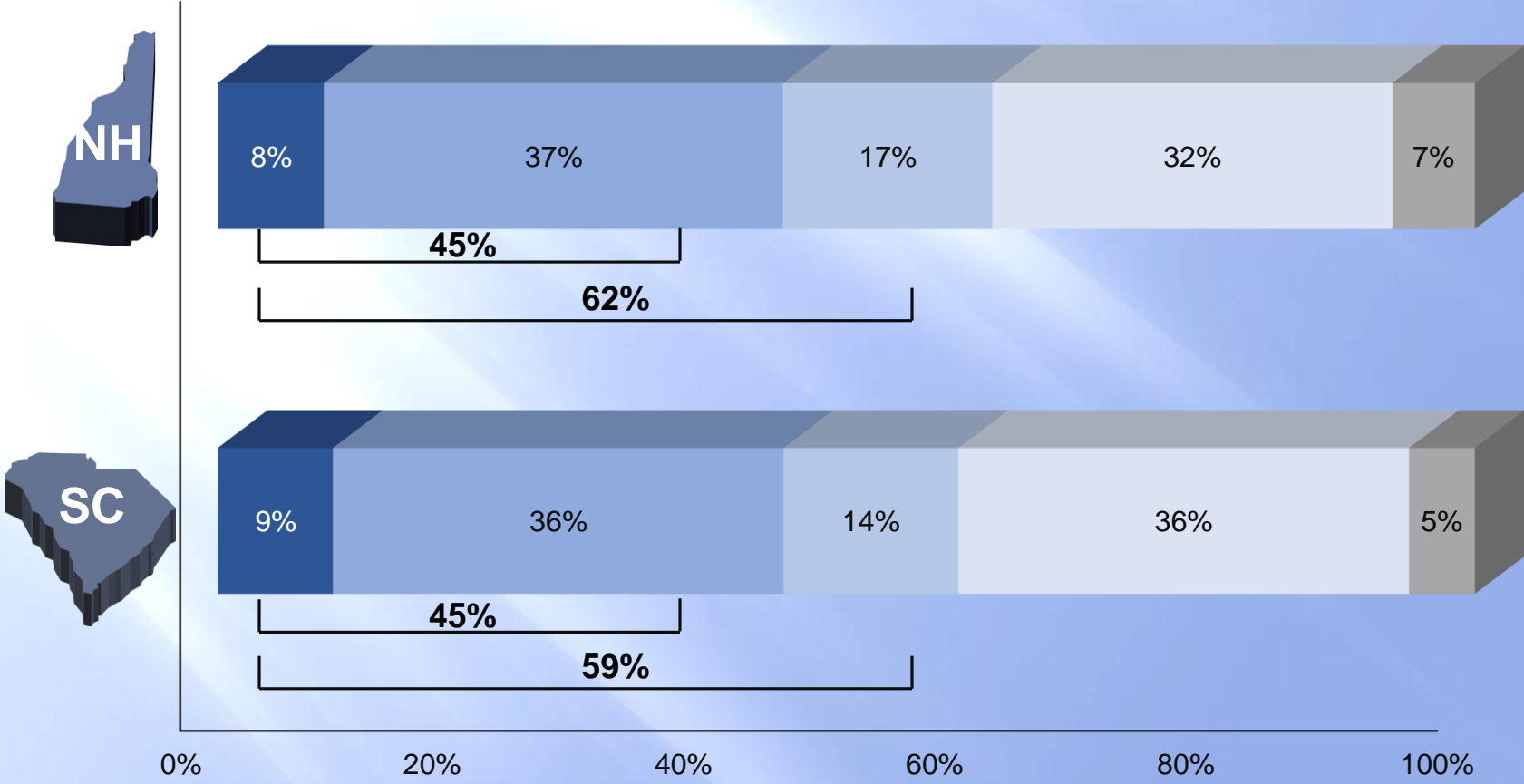




# Most Republican primary voters are not looking to weaken environmental laws. Majorities want to either have tougher laws/enforcement, or keep them as is.

Which of the following statements comes closest to your view of government regulations of the environment?

- Environmental laws need to be made tougher
- Environmental laws are tough enough but need better enforcement
- Both environmental laws and enforcement are at the right levels
- Environmental laws are too tough and should be loosened up
- DK/Ref.



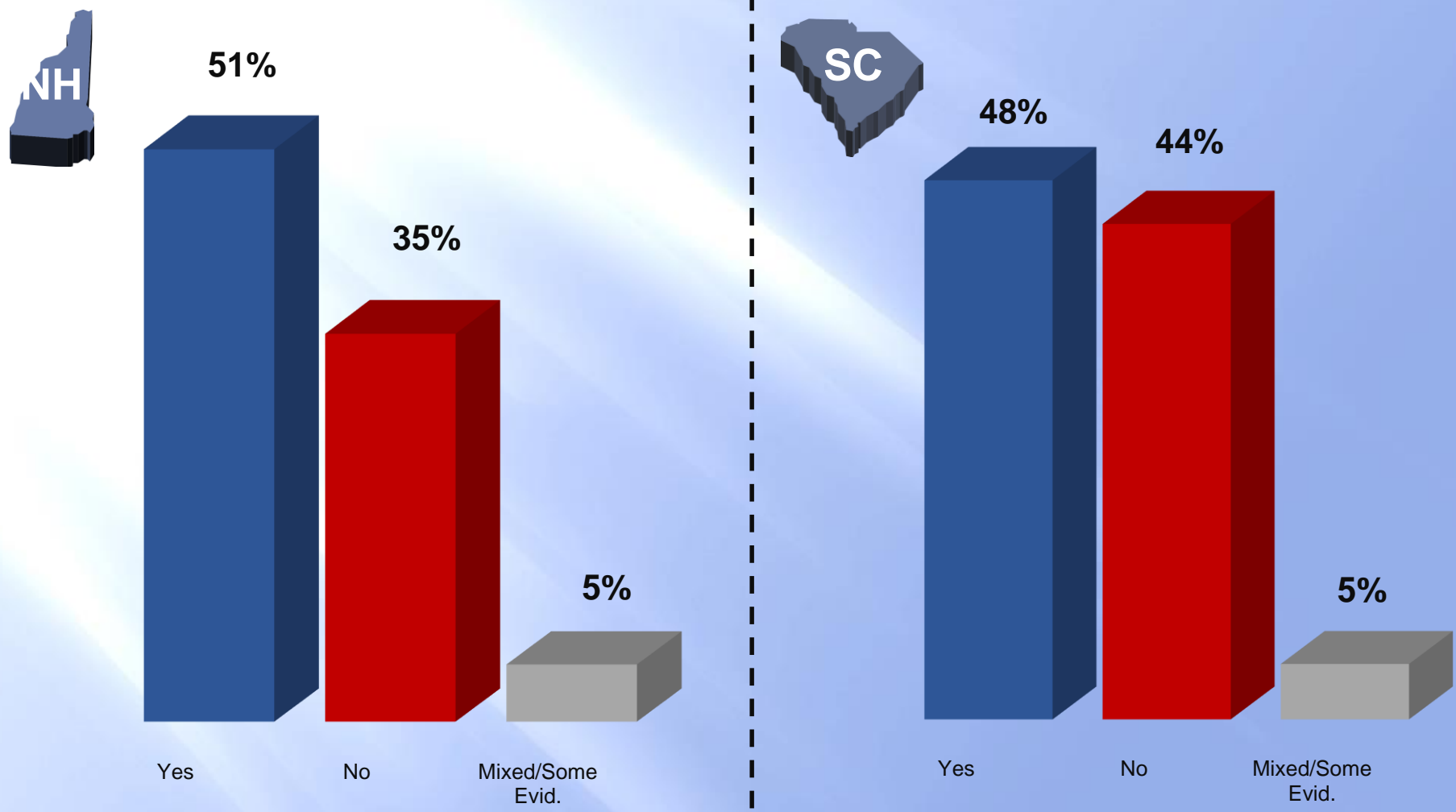
# There are several pro-environment and clean energy policies that have broad appeal to GOP primary voters like simplifying the tax code by ending oil company tax breaks, modernizing electric power lines and improving energy efficiency.

Now let me describe to you some specific policies that a presidential candidate might support. Please tell me if this policy proposal makes you MORE or LESS likely to vote for a candidate for President in the Republican primary, or if it would not make a difference.

	New Hampshire				South Carolina			
	More Likely	Less Likely	No Difference	Net More Likely	More Likely	Less Likely	No Difference	Net More Likely
Reducing taxes for all Americans and simplifying the tax code by getting rid of special interest tax loopholes like tax breaks for oil companies.	77%	7%	11%	70%	72%	9%	13%	63%
Modernizing and upgrading electric power lines with new technologies so power is not wasted during transmission.	67%	6%	22%	61%	71%	6%	18%	65%
Improving the energy efficiency of buildings like schools, homes and offices.	60%	11%	24%	49%	64%	10%	23%	54%
Expanding access to job training programs for clean energy jobs.	54%	18%	26%	36%	52%	20%	25%	32%
<b>[HALF SAMPLE]</b> Powering America with at least one-third renewable energy like wind and solar by the year 2030.	54%	20%	22%	33%	43%	26%	29%	16%
Providing tax incentives for investments in new energy technologies like solar panels and electric or hybrid cars	53%	21%	24%	32%	46%	28%	24%	17%
<b>[HALF SAMPLE]</b> Powering America with at least fifty percent clean energy like wind and solar by the year 2030.	48%	28%	21%	20%	44%	29%	22%	14%
Requiring a certain amount of vehicle fuel produced each year to come from ethanol, and other renewable sources that aren't fossil fuels.	34%	33%	27%	0%	24%	42%	28%	-18%

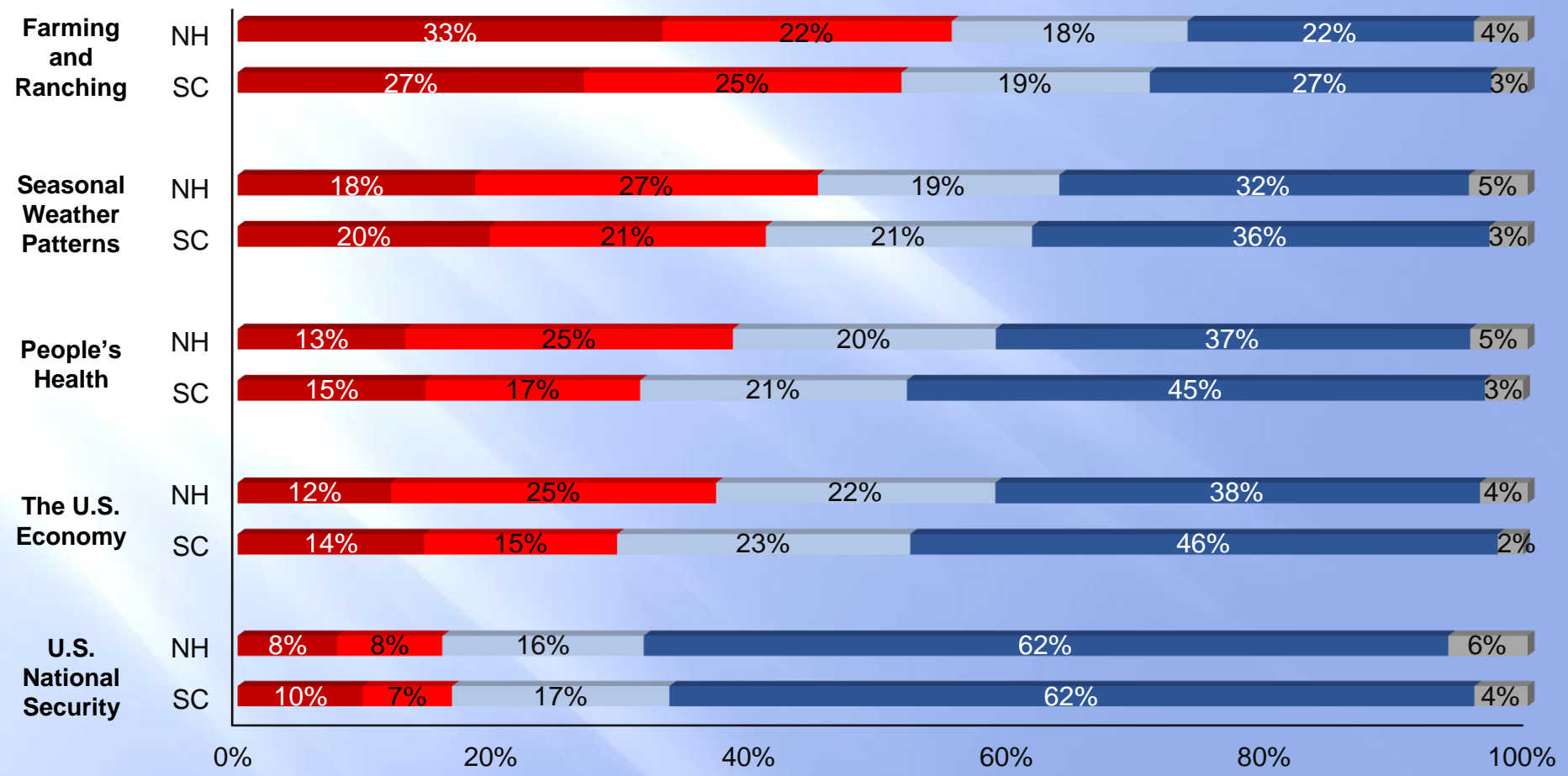
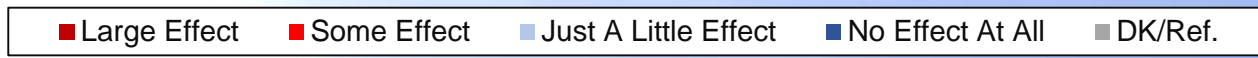
# Majorities of Republican primary voters believe there is evidence that climate change is happening.

From what you've read or heard, is there solid evidence that the earth's climate has been changing over the past few decades, or not?



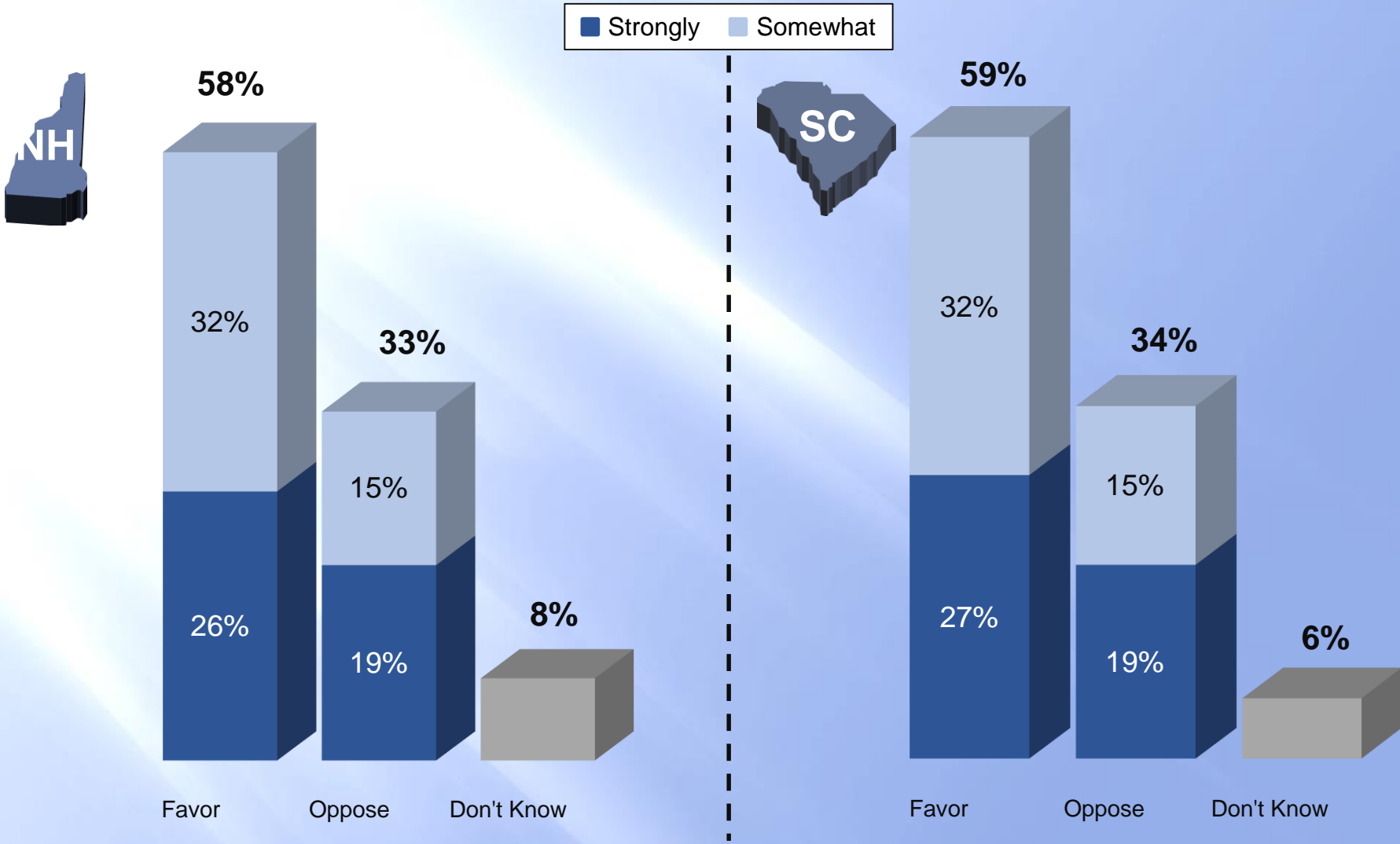
# Republican primary voters understand the impact of climate change on farming, weather patterns and people's health.

Do you think that climate change is having a large effect, some effect, just a little effect or no effect on each of the following areas?



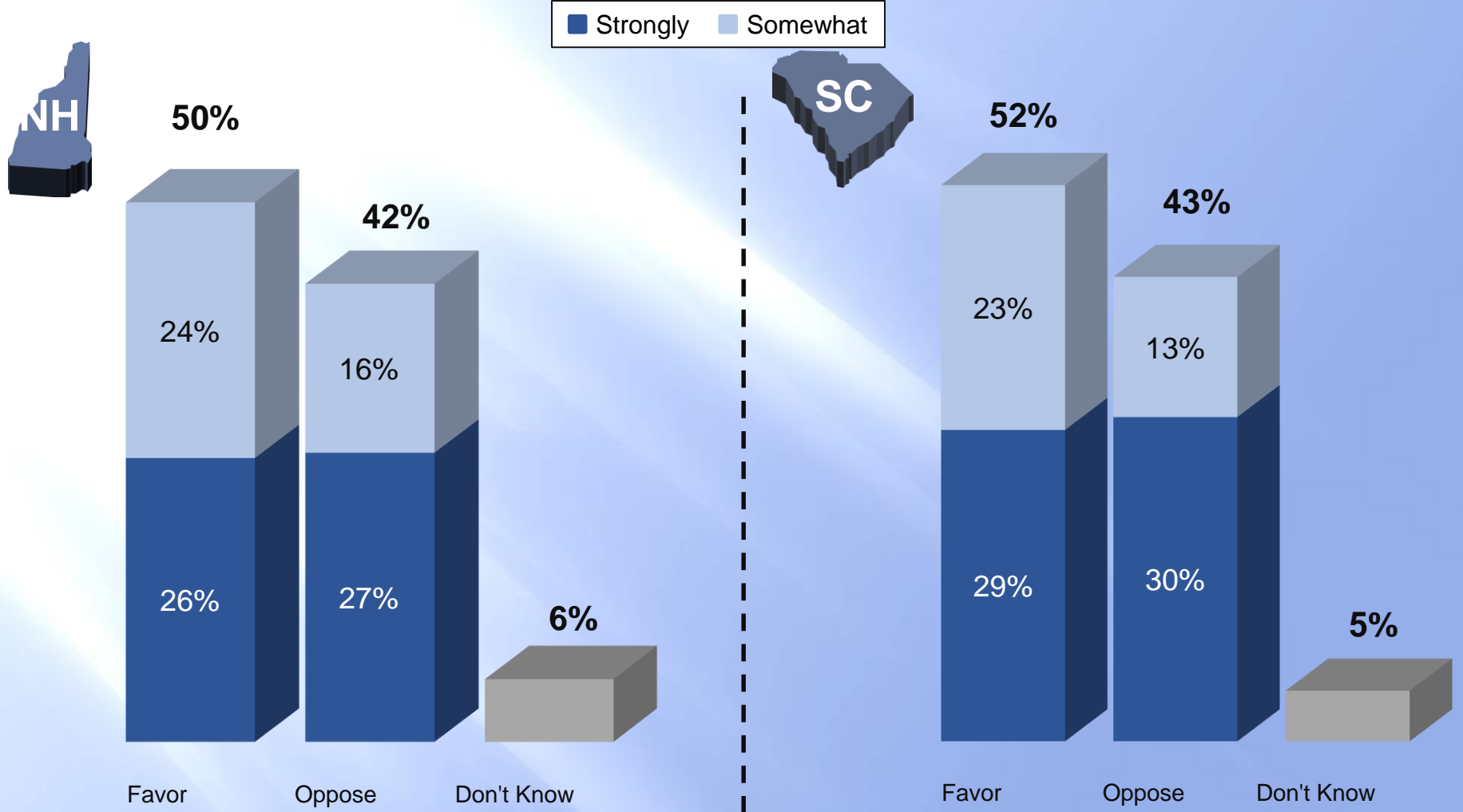
# Solid majorities of Republican primary voters support limits on carbon pollution.

Do you favor or oppose placing limits on the amount of carbon pollution released into our air?



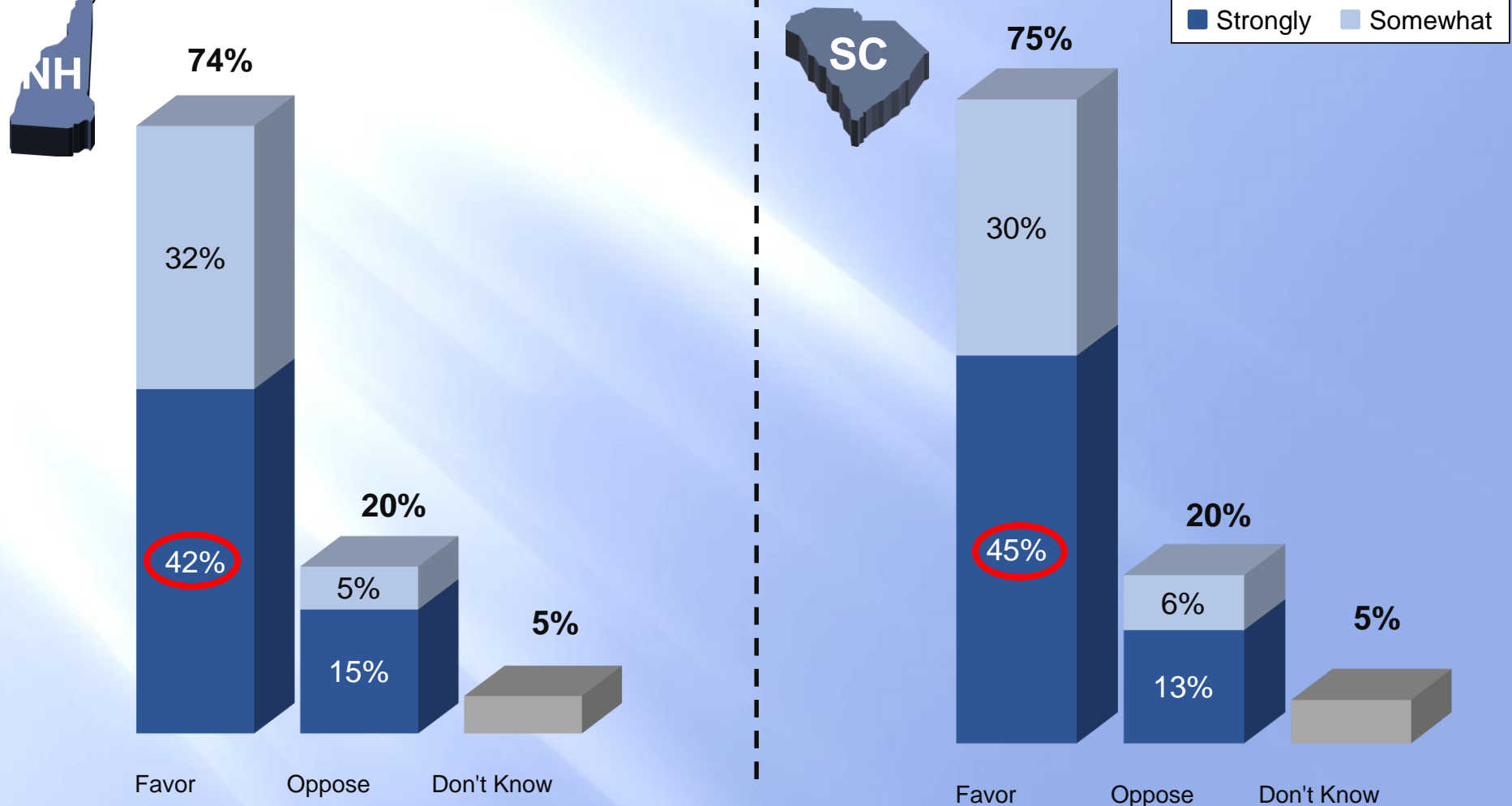
# Support for the EPA Clean Power Plan is a little softer, but a majority of Republican primary voters still back the proposal.

Do you favor or oppose a proposal by the Environmental Protection Agency, or E-P-A, to set strict carbon dioxide limits on existing coal-fired power plants with a goal of reducing emissions significantly by the year 2030?



# While Republicans may be concerned about the role of the federal government, there is strong support for state efforts at reducing carbon pollution, with very strong intensity.

These new rules by the federal government will require states to reduce carbon emissions by 2030. In order to meet these requirements and promote the use of clean energy and energy efficiency, many states are developing their own plans. Would you favor or oppose [STATE] developing its own state plan to reduce carbon pollution and increase the use of clean energy and energy efficiency?



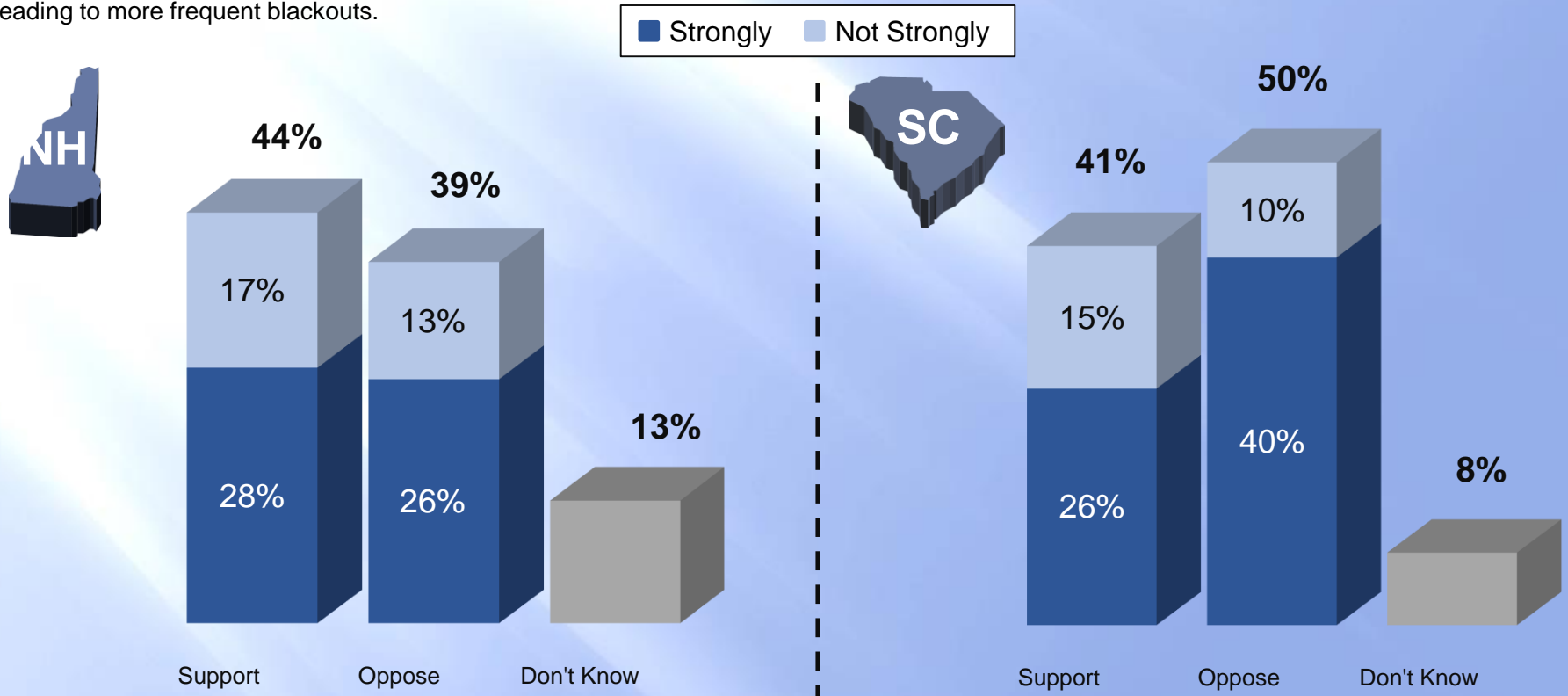
Support for the Clean Power Plan dips after hearing arguments from both sides. However 40%+ of GOP primary voters still support this proposal, showing the plan has some bipartisan appeal. A significant portion of Republican primary voters continue to back the measure, even after hearing the arguments against it.

Now let me read you what supporters and opponents say about the E-P-A regulations to limit carbon pollution from power plants, and please tell me which statement comes closest to your own opinion

Supporters like doctors and scientists say these new limits on carbon pollution from power plants are necessary to avoid an increase in asthma attacks and extreme weather events. Power companies would meet these pollution limits by relying more on efficiency and wind and solar power, which will create jobs.

WHILE

Opponents say that Obama's, Democrats' and environmental extremists' big government EPA regulations will drive up the cost of electricity by hundreds of dollars each year. Higher energy prices will hurt businesses and kill jobs. And these regulations will make our power grid less reliable, leading to more frequent blackouts.





# AMERICAN VIEWPOINT

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