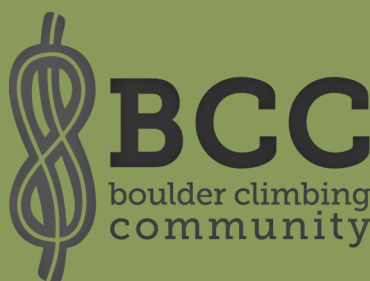


2019

# FRONT RANGE CLIMBER SURVEY

SUMMARY REPORT



CLIMBERS TAKING THE LEAD ON STEWARDSHIP  
LEARN | SUPPORT | VOLUNTEER

## **SUGGESTED CITATION**

Carter, David P. 2019. "2019 Front Range climber survey: Summary report." Boulder Climbing Community: Boulder, CO.

## **ACKNOWLEDGEMENTS**

This project would not have been possible without the contributions of BCC Executive Director Kate Beezley, with support from the BCC Board of Directors and staff.

## **RESEARCH CONTACT**

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Cover photo by Chris Weidner



## BACKGROUND

The BCC conducted this survey to better understand the Front Range climbing community and climbers' perspectives on how the BCC fulfills its mission. The survey was conducted in collaboration with David Carter, from the University of Utah.

## THE BOULDER CLIMBING COMMUNITY

The BCC's mission is to mobilize the local community and partners to care for the environments we impact as climbers, and enrich the outdoor experience for all.

### CORE VALUES

*Stewardship* is our primary focus. We believe that, as climbers, we must take full responsibility for minimizing our own impacts on climbing areas.

We have and we promote a deep *respect for the natural world* including the plants and animals we share our climbing areas with. The sharing and protection of habitats is at the heart of stewardship.

*Relationships* are the fabric of the BCC. We seek positive, win-win partnerships in everything we do and strive to make the BCC a welcoming and inclusive organization. Our network of relationships includes land managers, businesses, individuals in our community, and other organizations.

*Land managers* are our most important partners. We recognize that their primary mission is also stewardship, and that access and effective stewardship require excellent working relationships with land managers. We never make demands of land managers or try to pressure them. Instead we ask, how can we help YOU?

Through outreach, education, and events we seek to activate a *community* of climbers who live by these core values.

## SURVEY METHODS

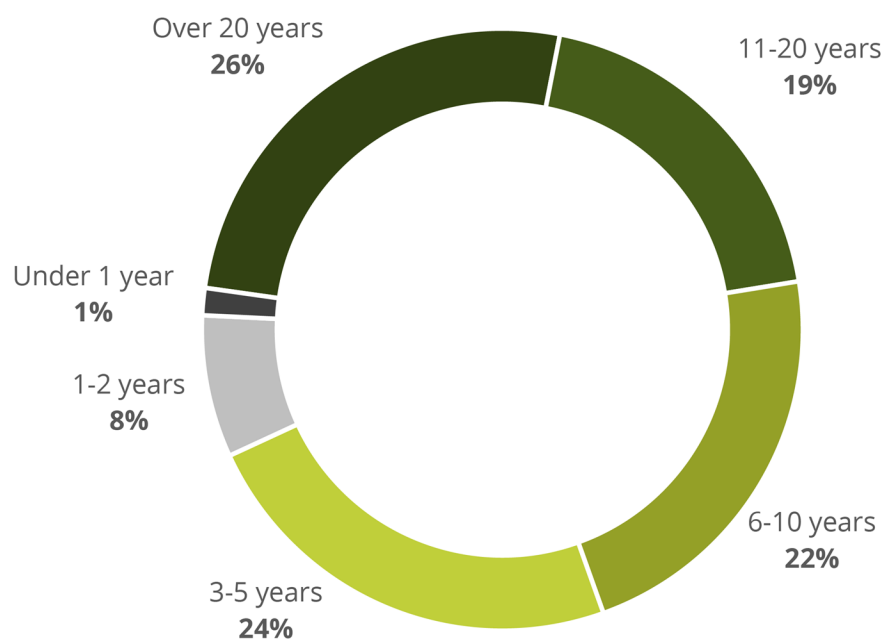
The survey was conducted online from March 26 to April 19, 2019. To reach the greatest possible number of Front Range climbers, requests for participation were sent via email to past and present BCC members, the survey URL was published on the BCC website and social media accounts (e.g. Facebook), and survey advertisements were shared with industry and nonprofit partners. In total, 486 completed surveys were collected, alongside data from another 144 partially-completed surveys.

# SECTION 1.

## CLIMBING BACKGROUNDS

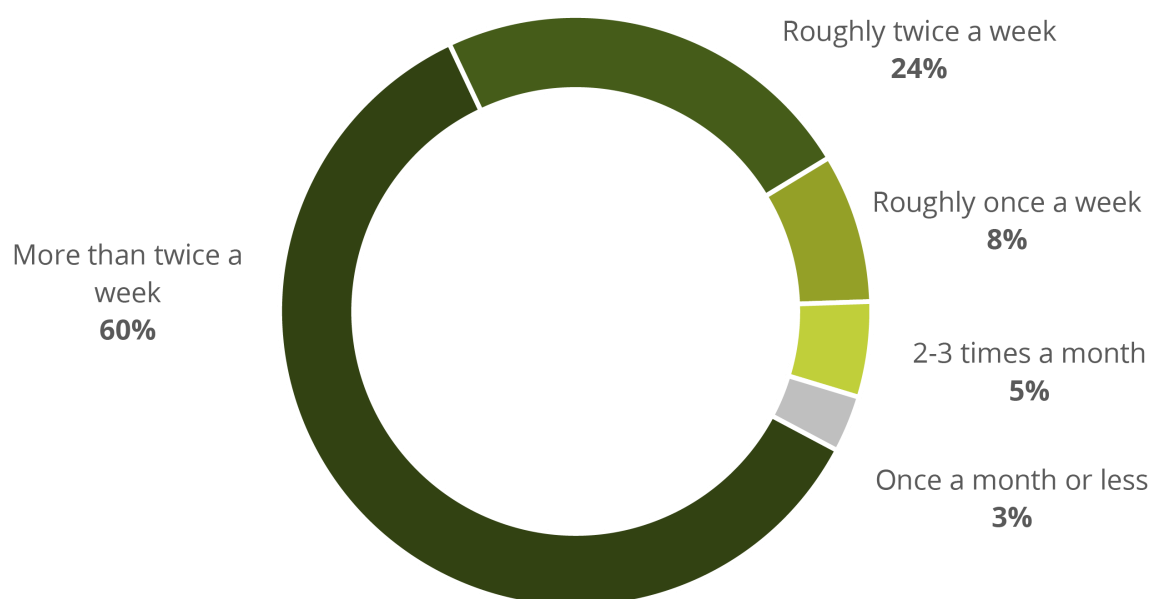
### QUESTION 1.

How long have you been climbing?



### QUESTION 2.

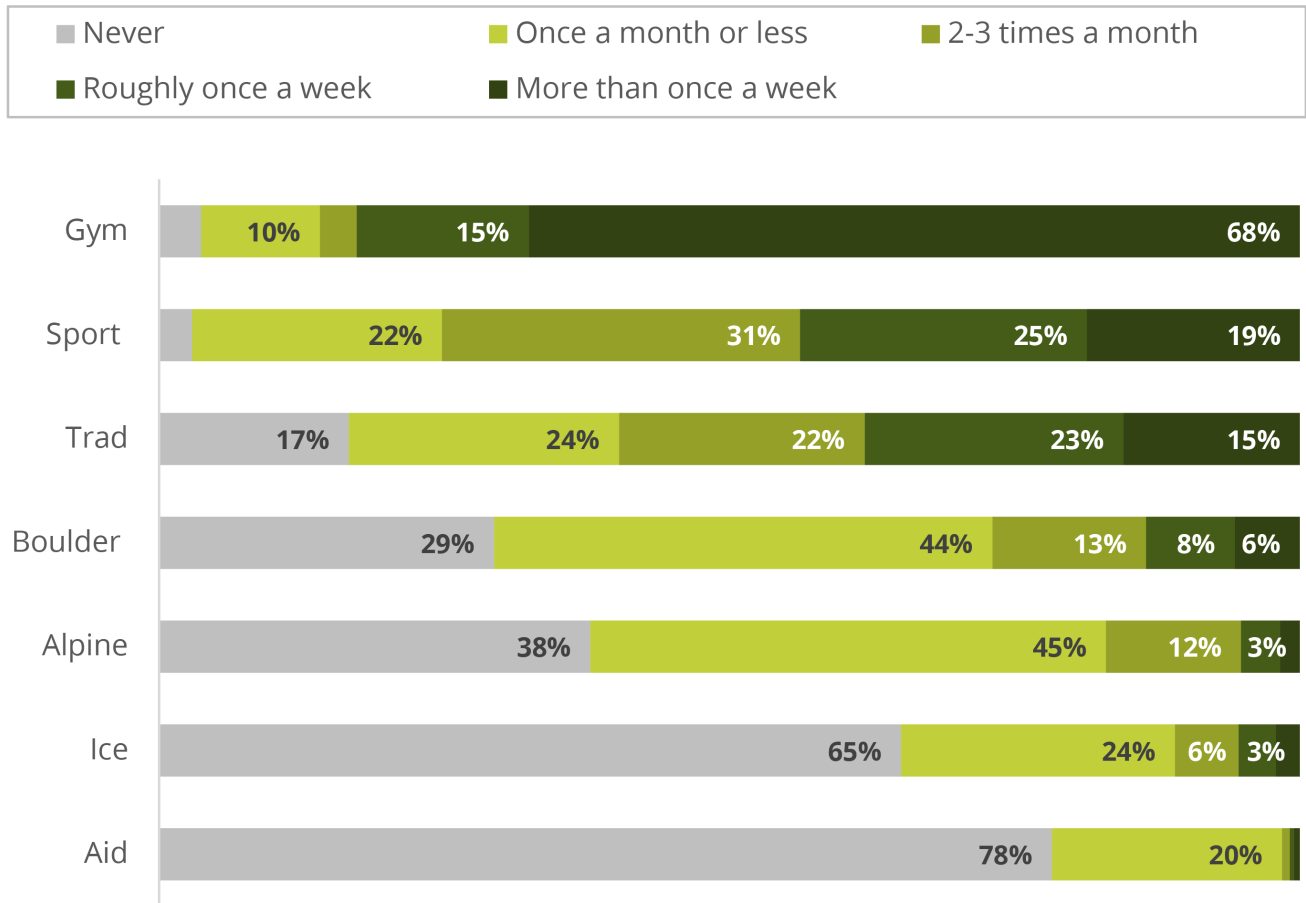
How often do you climb (both indoors and outdoors)?





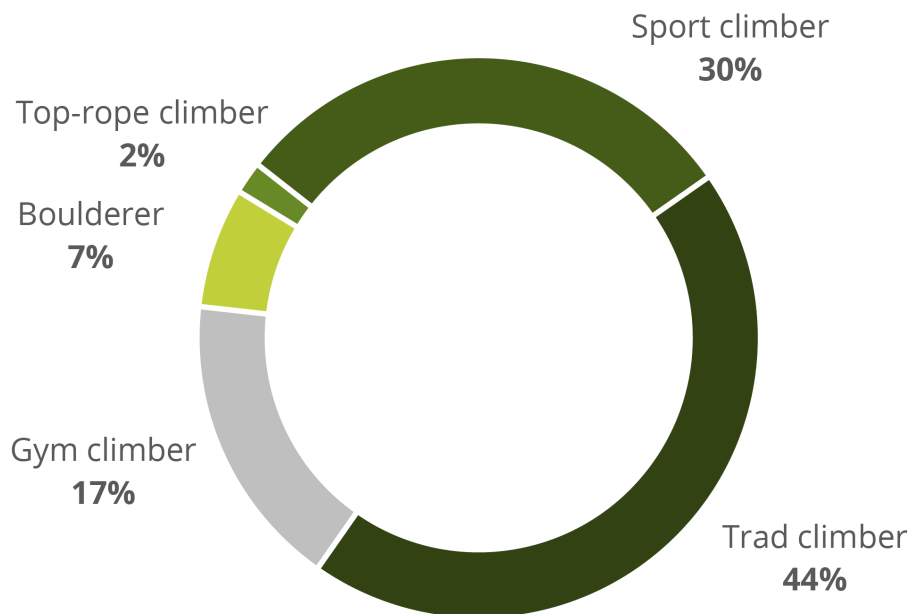
### QUESTION 3.

How frequently do you engage in the following types of climbing? For outdoor climbing, respond with frequency during your preferred climbing season.



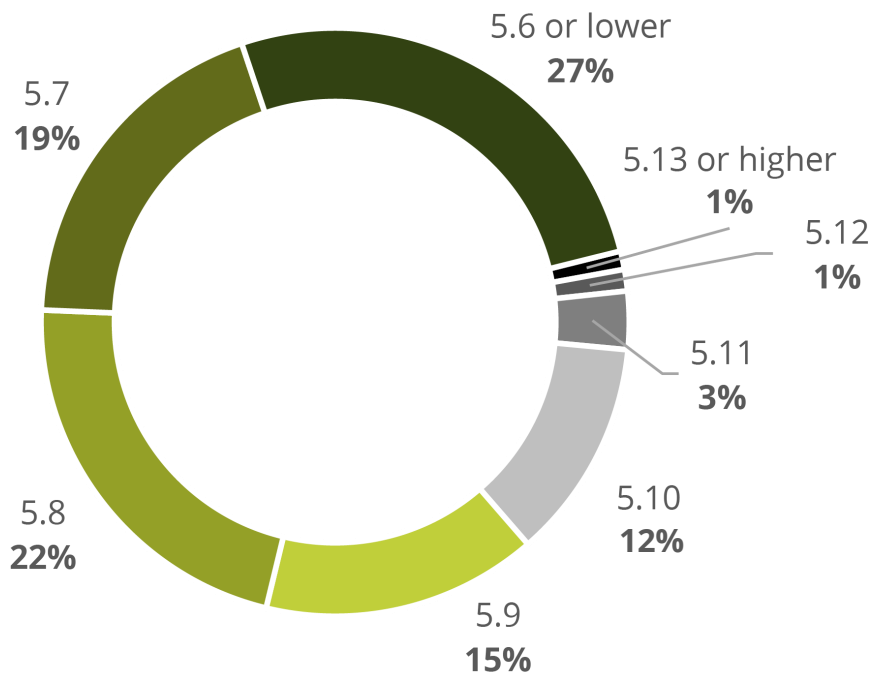
### QUESTION 4.

What type of climber do you *think of yourself as*?



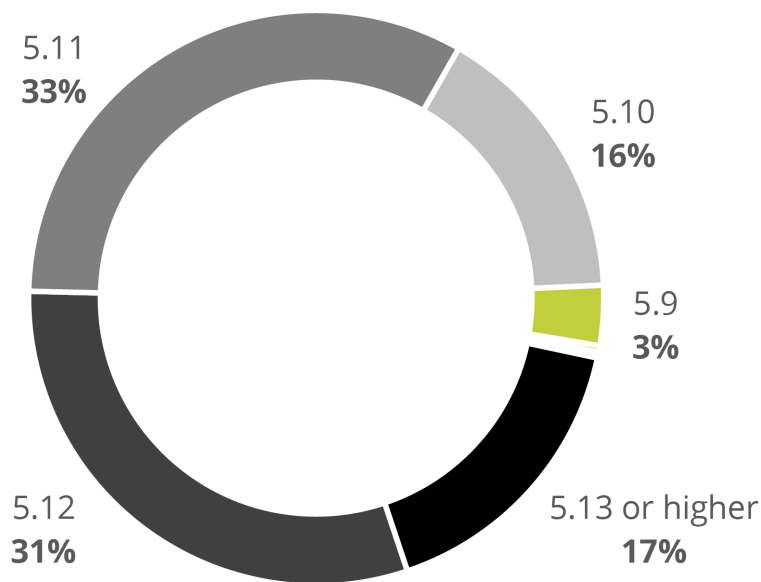
**QUESTION 5.**

What is the *lower* end of your preferred range of climbing route grades?



**QUESTION 6.**

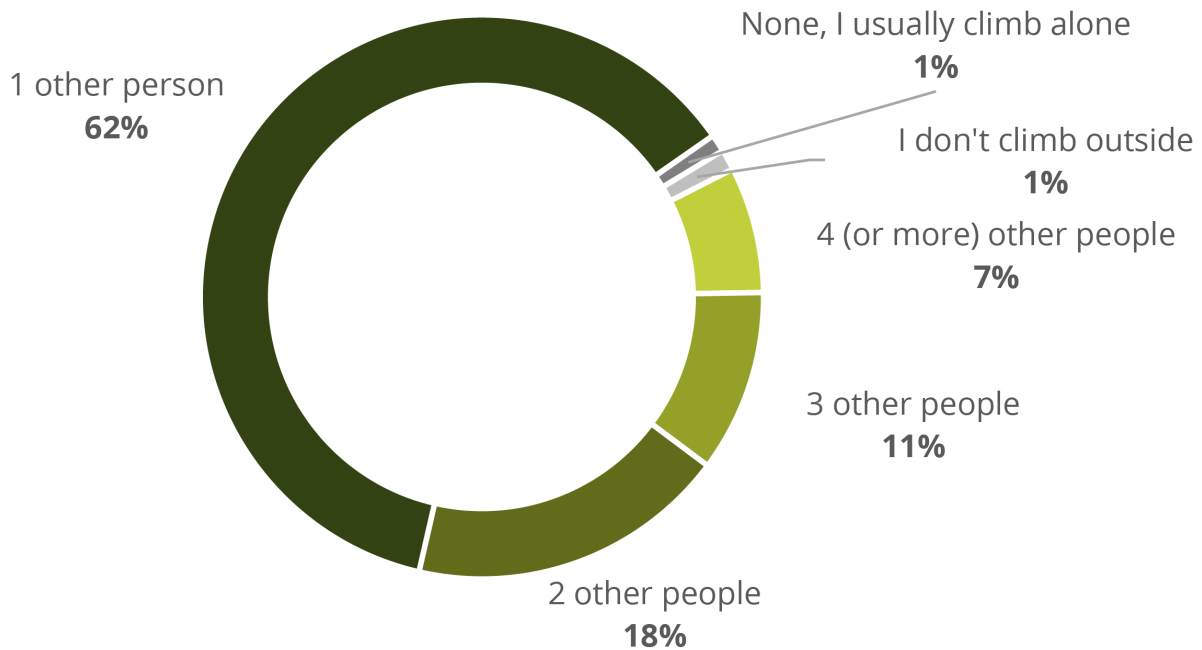
What is the *upper* end of your preferred range of climbing route grades?





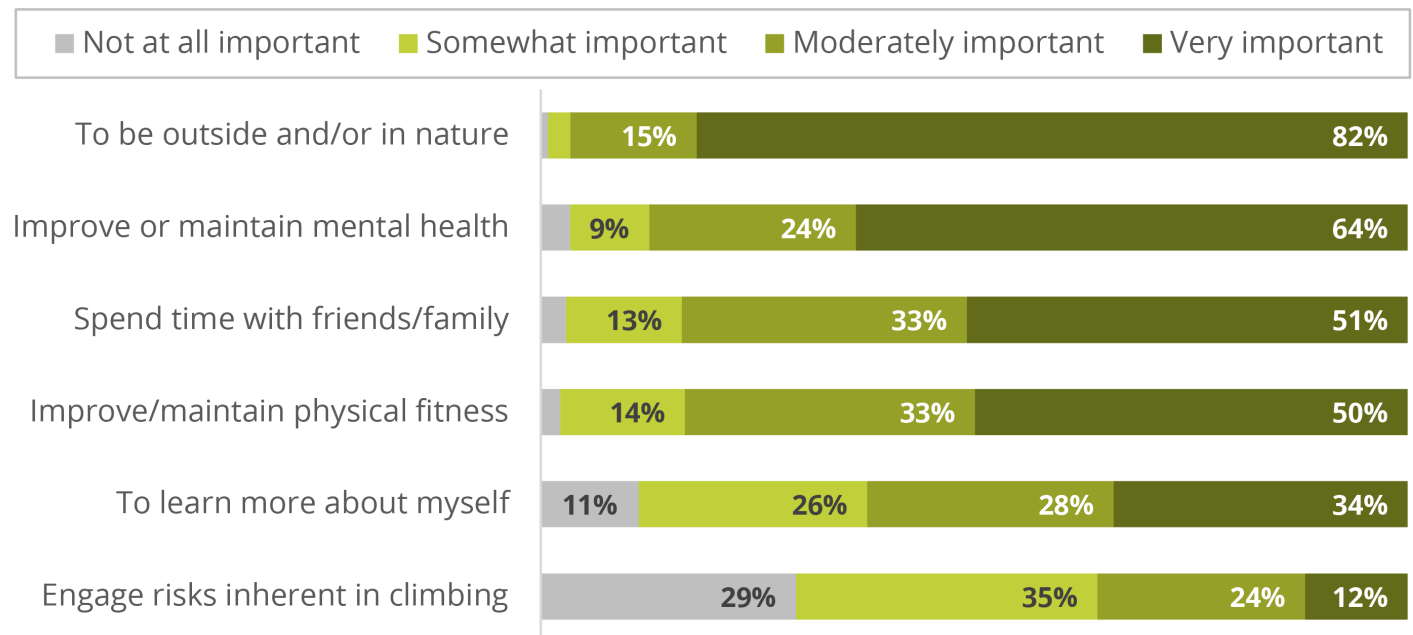
### QUESTION 7.

When you climb outdoors, how many other people do you typically go with?



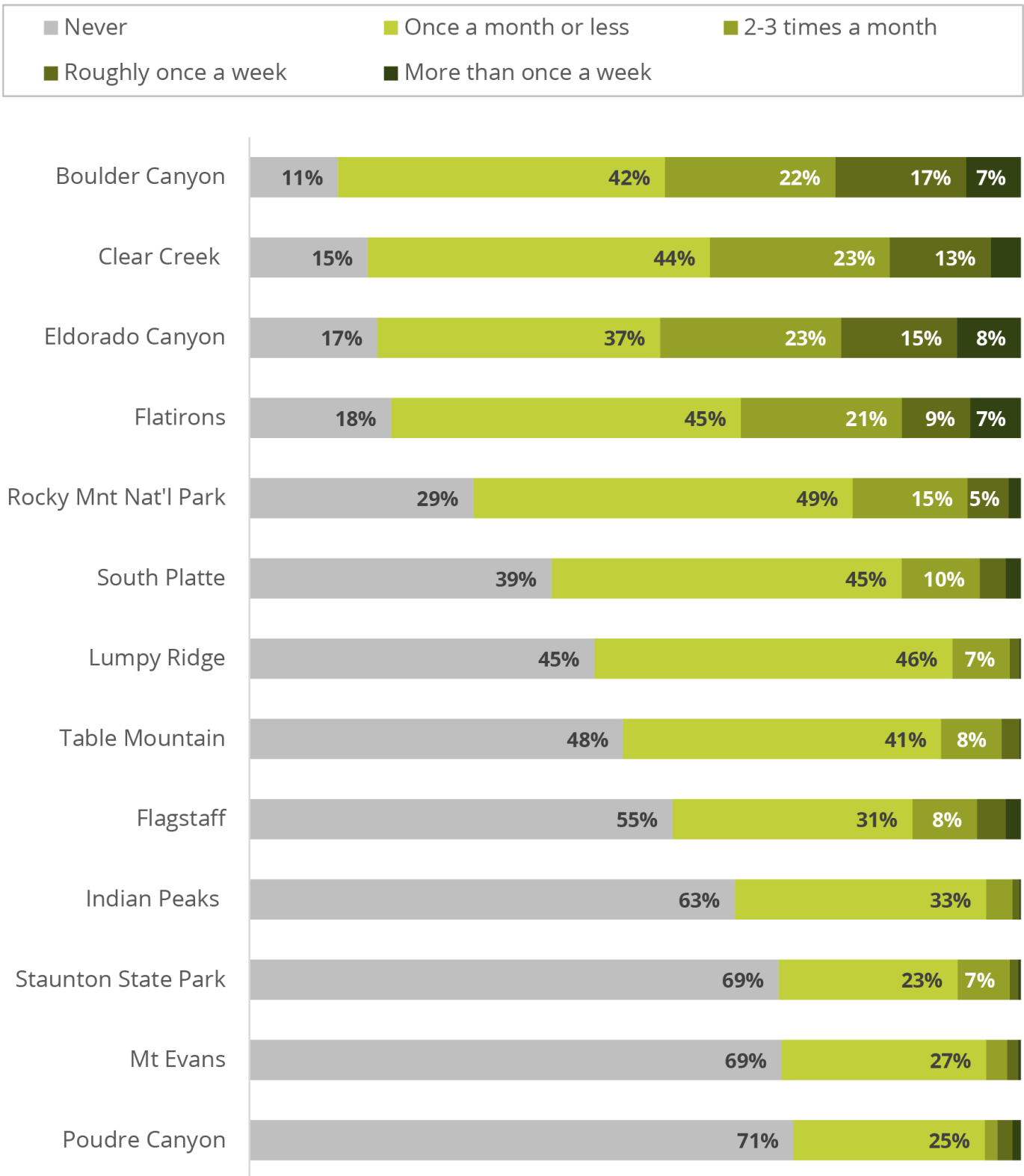
### QUESTION 8.

How important are the following motivations in your decision to climb?



## QUESTION 9.

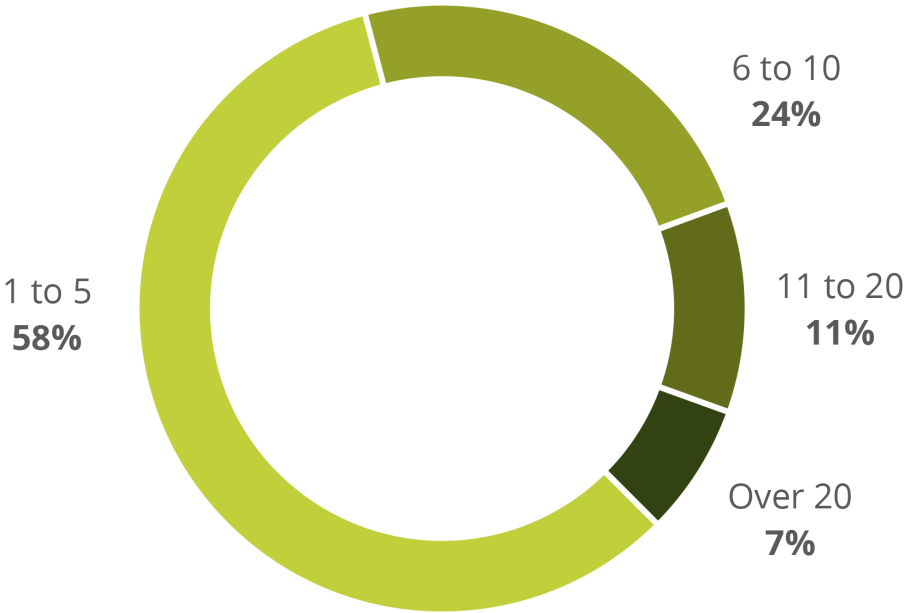
How frequently do you climb at the following areas during your preferred climbing season?





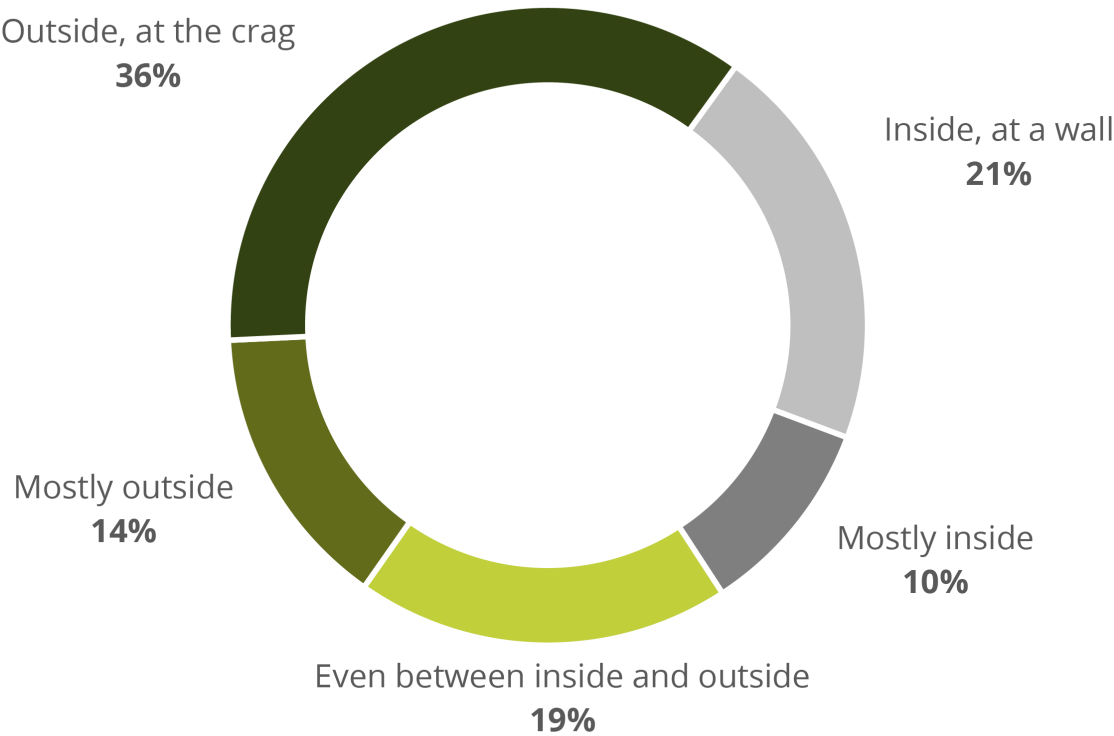
**QUESTION 10.**

How many climbing trips outside of the Front Range do you generally make in a year?



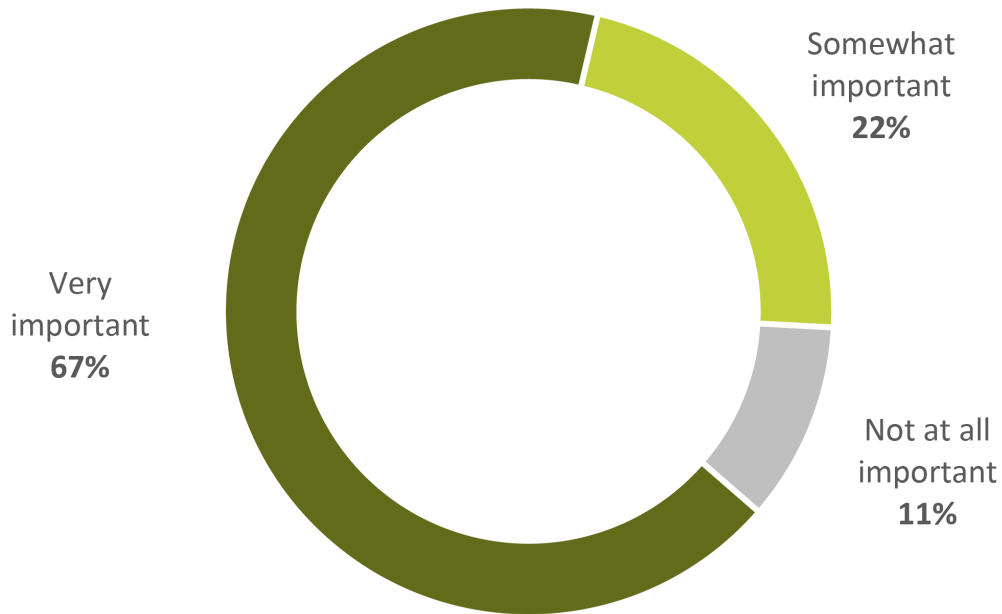
**QUESTION 11.**

Which of the following best describes where you first learned to climb?



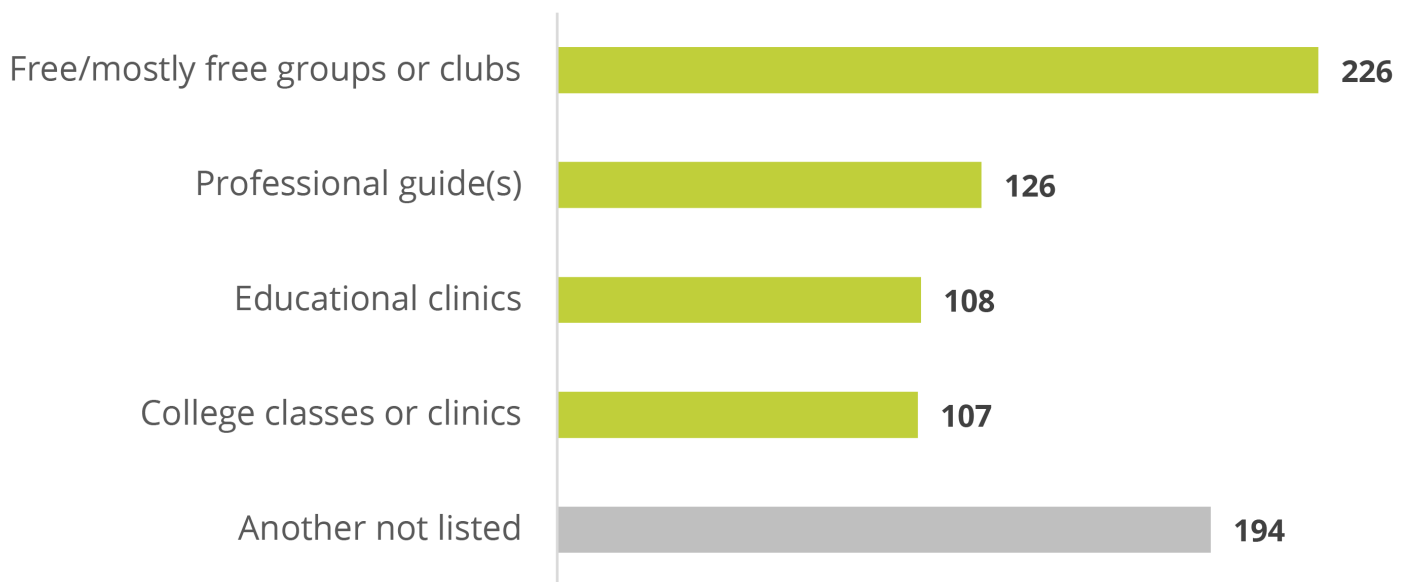
### QUESTION 12.

How important was mentorship from one or more mentors when you were learning to climb? For this question, a “mentor” is a climbing partner with more climbing experience who gave you one-on-one climbing education and/or experience.



### QUESTION 13.

What other education and/or mentorship sources helped you learn to learn to climb? Check all that apply.





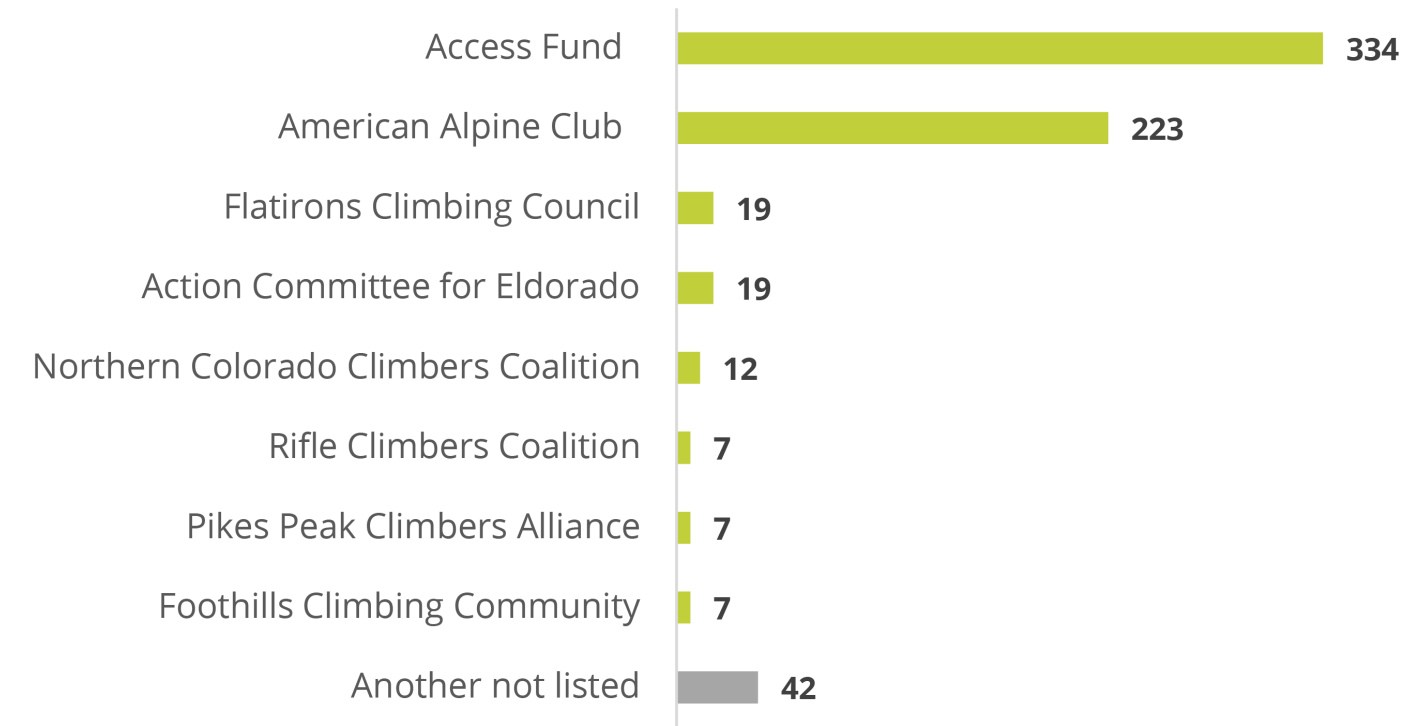
**QUESTION 14.**

To the best of your memory, have you held BCC membership at some point in the last few years (including current membership)?



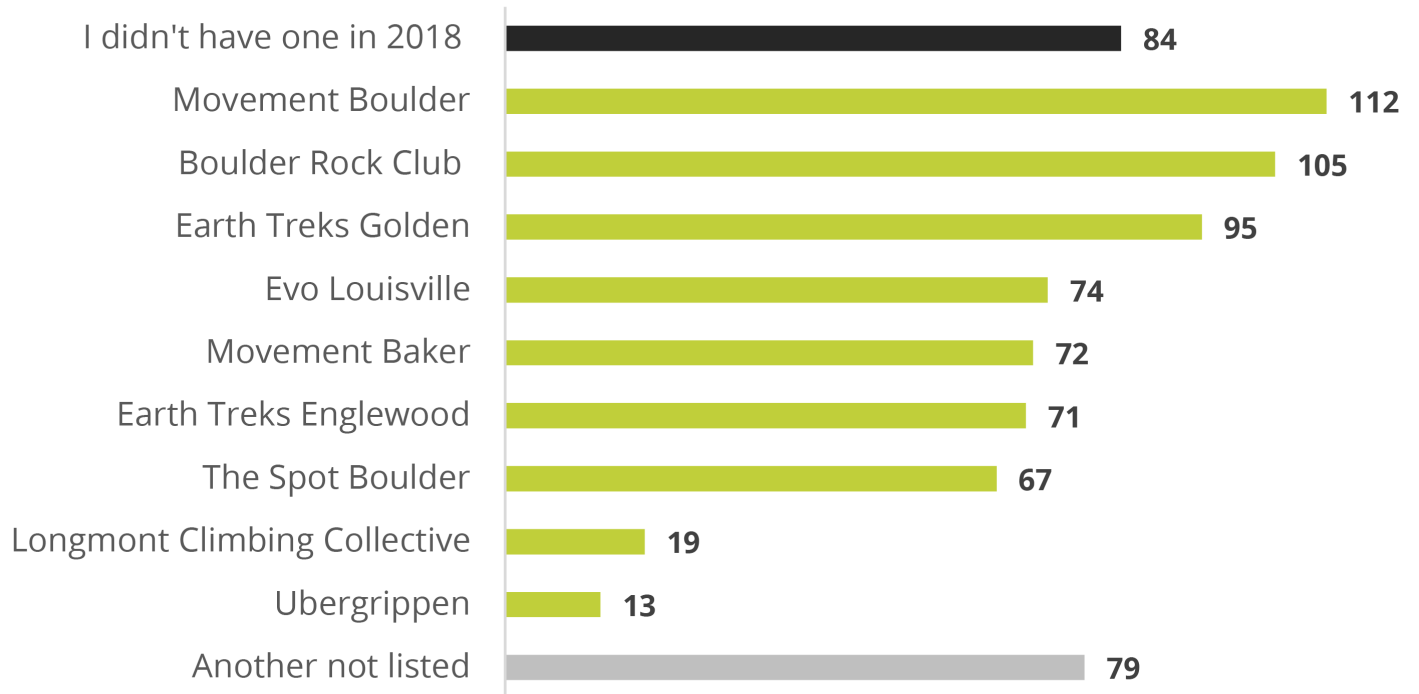
**QUESTION 15.**

What other climbing organizations are you a member of? Select all that apply:



### QUESTION 16.

Did you have a climbing gym membership at some point in 2018? If so, to which gym(s)?





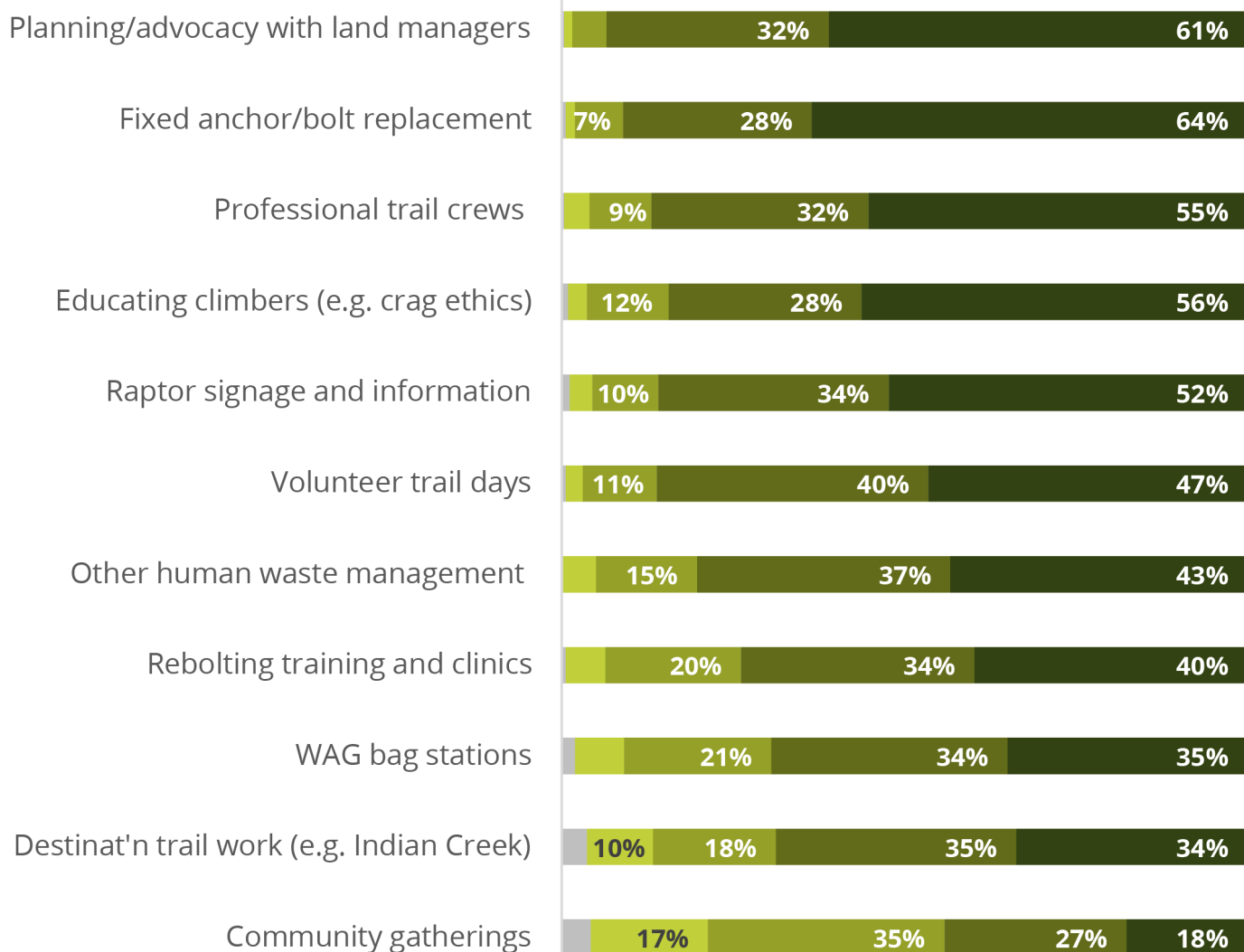
## SECTION 2.

### BCC INITIATIVES & EVENTS

#### QUESTION 17.

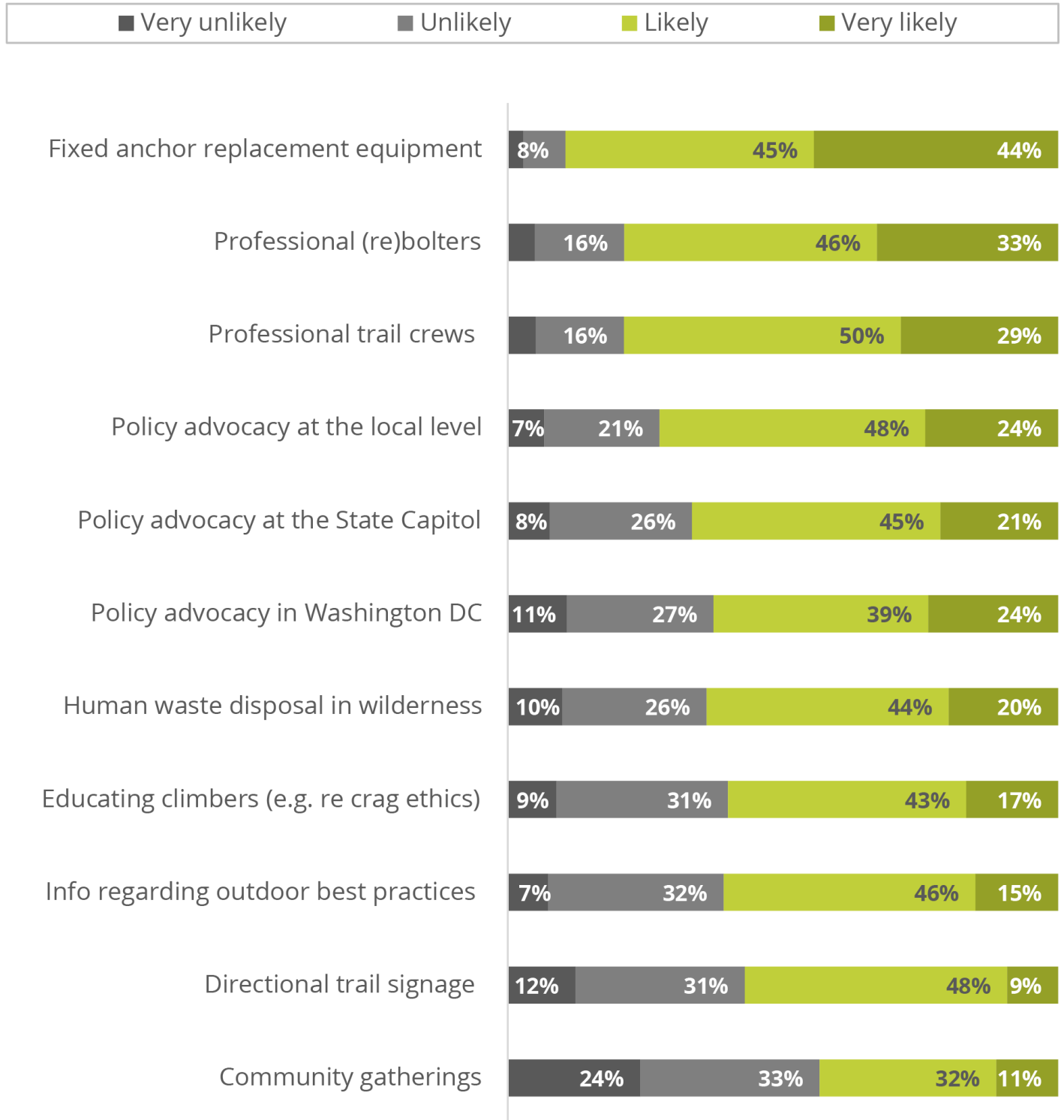
In your opinion, how valuable are the following BCC initiatives for protecting access to Front Range climbing?

■ Not at all valuable      ■ Somewhat valuable      ■ Moderately valuable  
 ■ Very valuable      ■ Extremely valuable



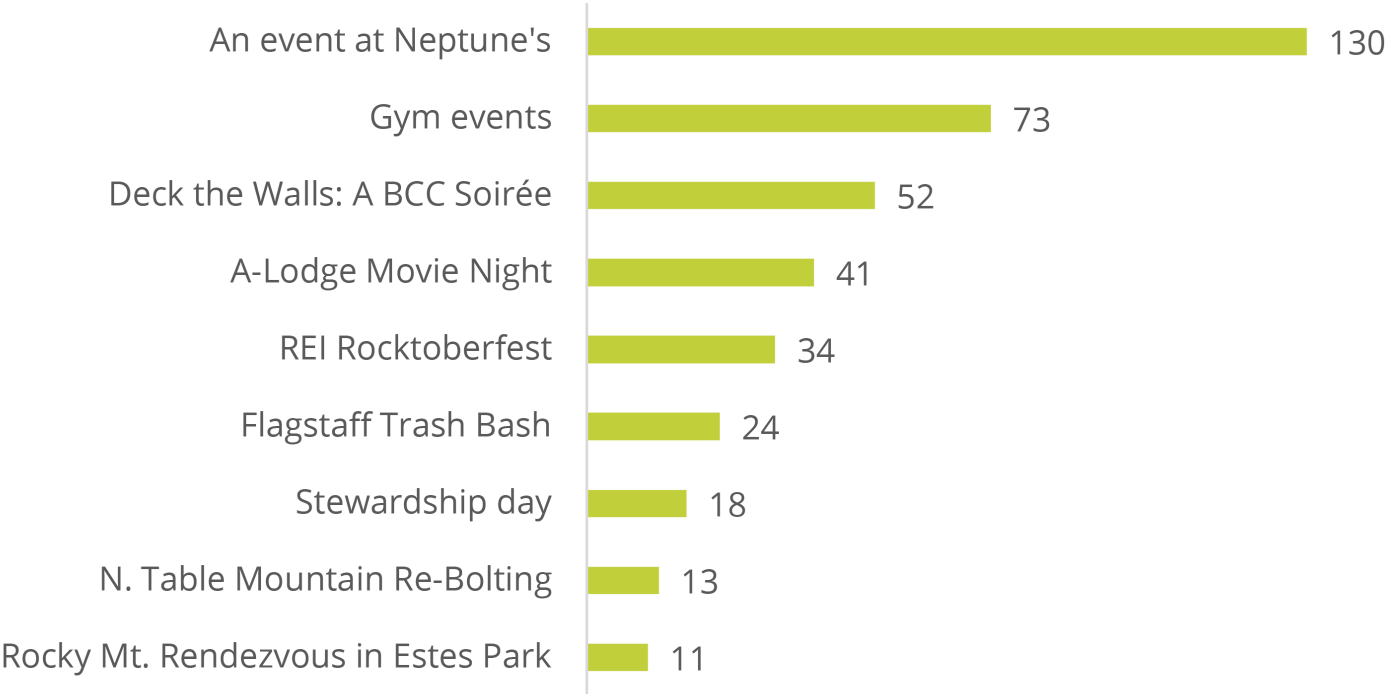
### QUESTION 18.

How likely are you are to pay for or donate money to the following climbing stewardship and access initiatives?



**QUESTION 19.**

Which BCC events did you attend in the last year? Select all that apply:



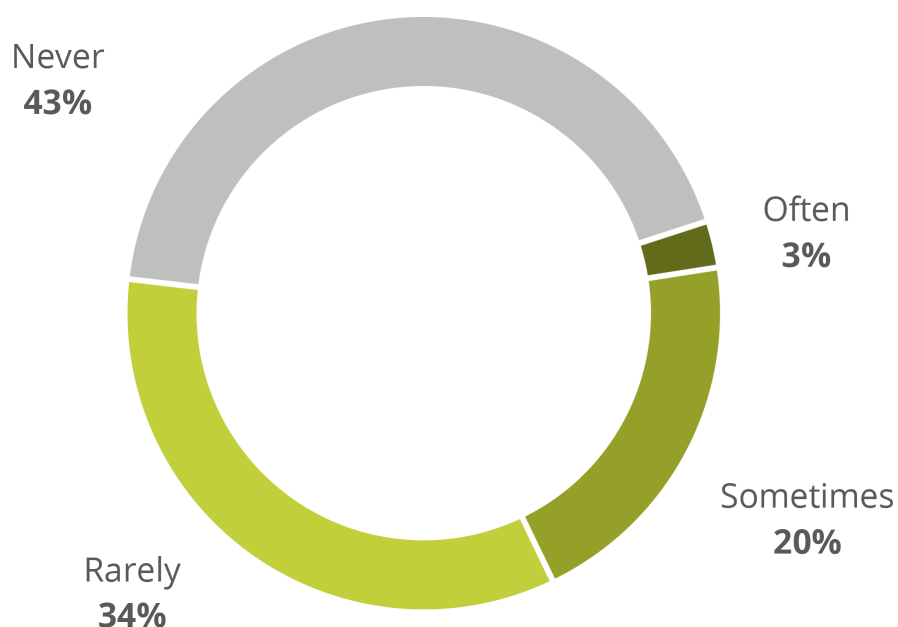


## SECTION 3.

### BCC COMMUNICATIONS

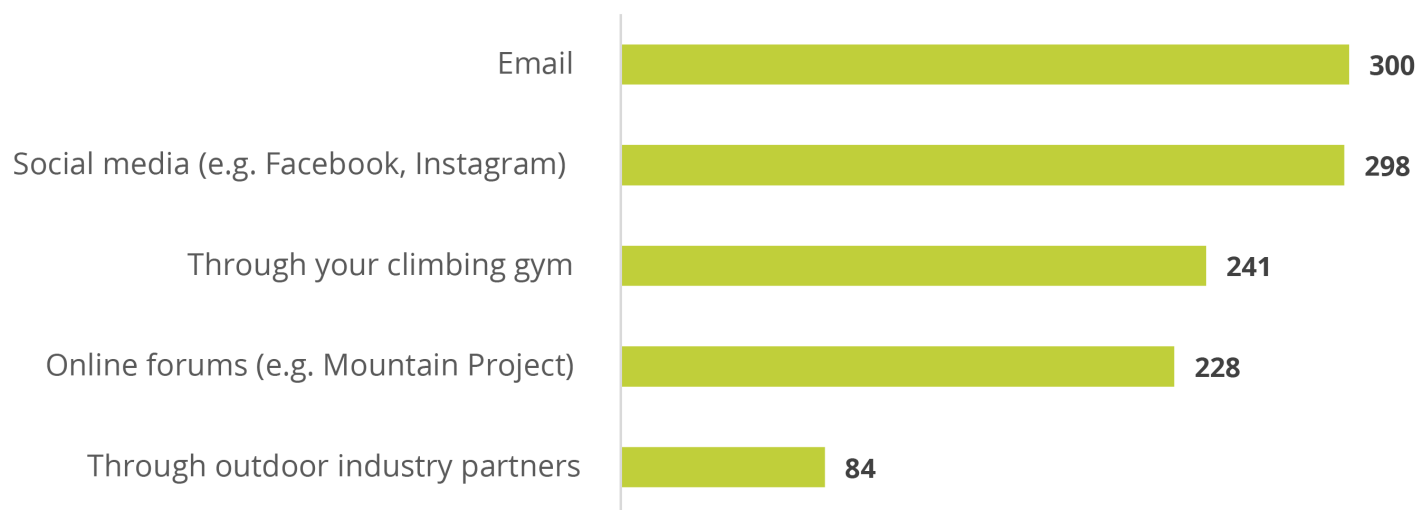
#### QUESTION 20.

How often do you use the BCC website to find out about local climbing access issues?



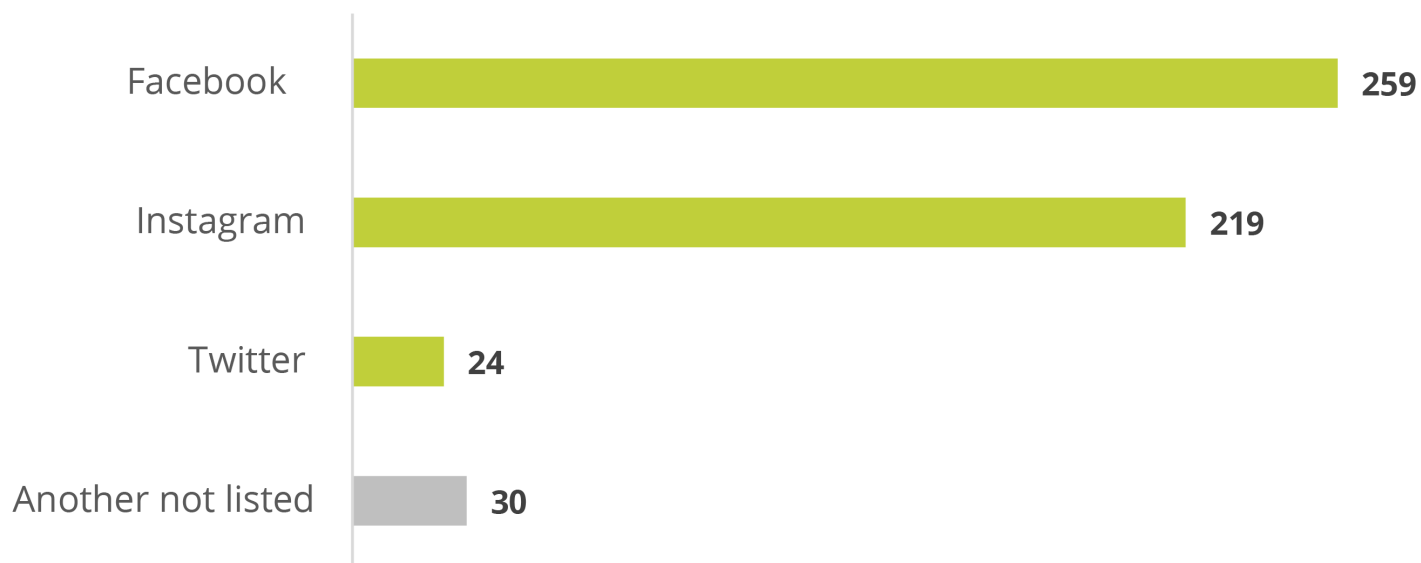
#### QUESTION 21.

How can the BCC best keep you in the loop regarding local climbing access issues? Select all that apply:



## QUESTION 22.

Through which social media sites would you prefer to receive BCC notices and information?  
Select all that apply:

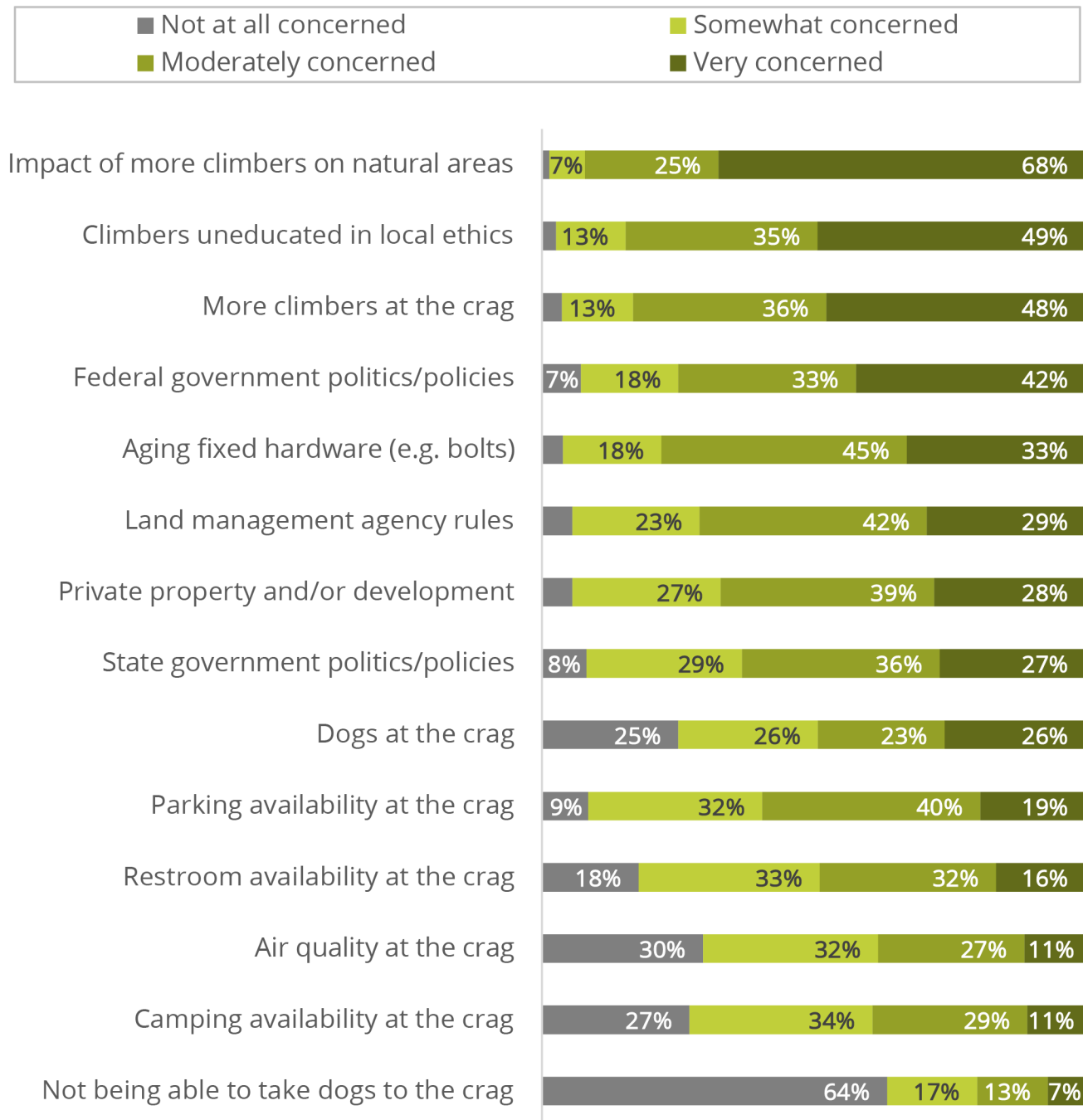


## SECTION 4.

### ISSUES FACING CLIMBERS

#### QUESTION 23.

Indicate how concerned you are regarding the impact of the following factors on your future climbing experiences and/or climbing access on the Front Range.

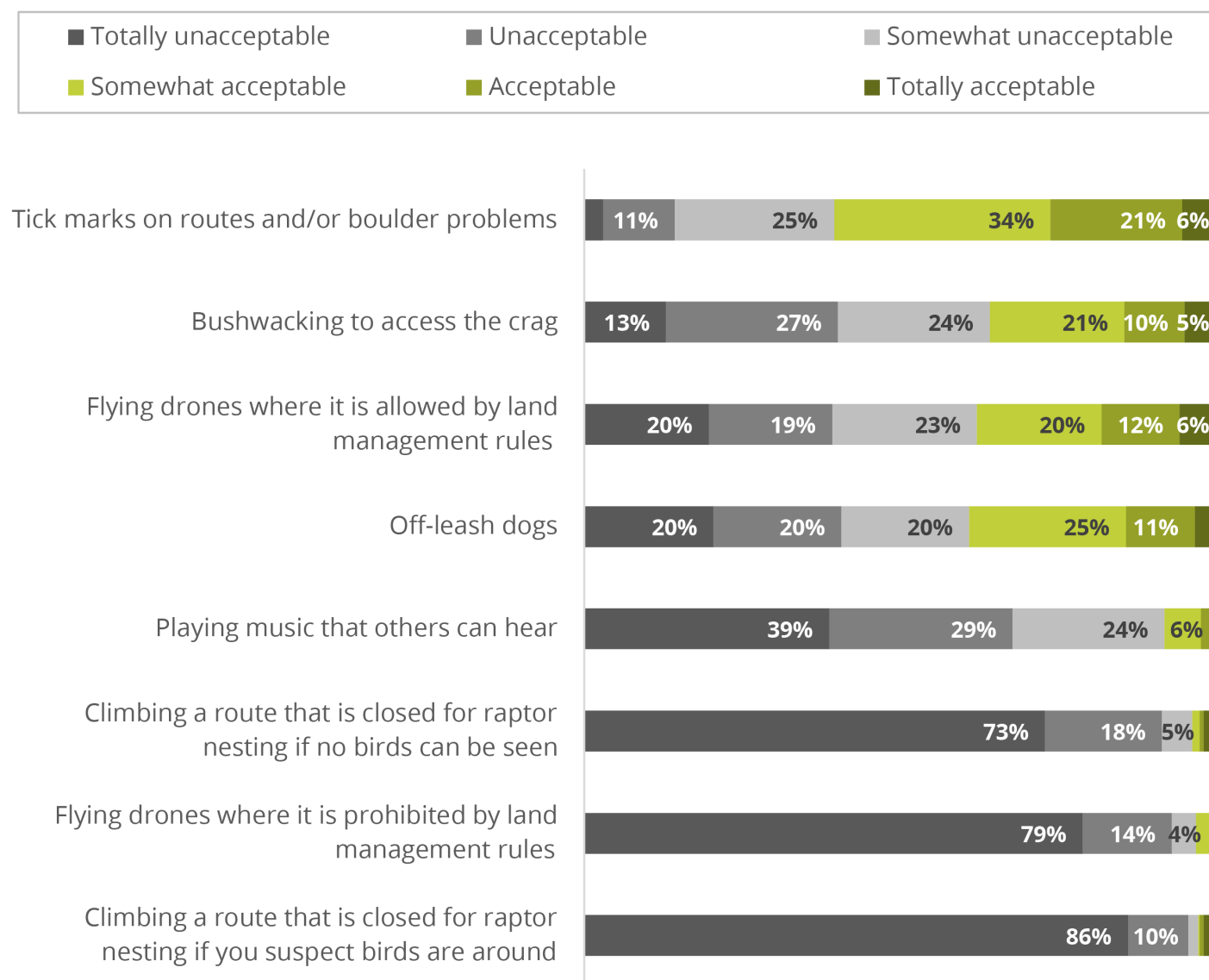


## SECTION 5.

### (UN)ACCEPTABLE BEHAVIORS AT THE CRAG

#### QUESTION 24.

In your opinion, how acceptable are the following behaviors at the crag?





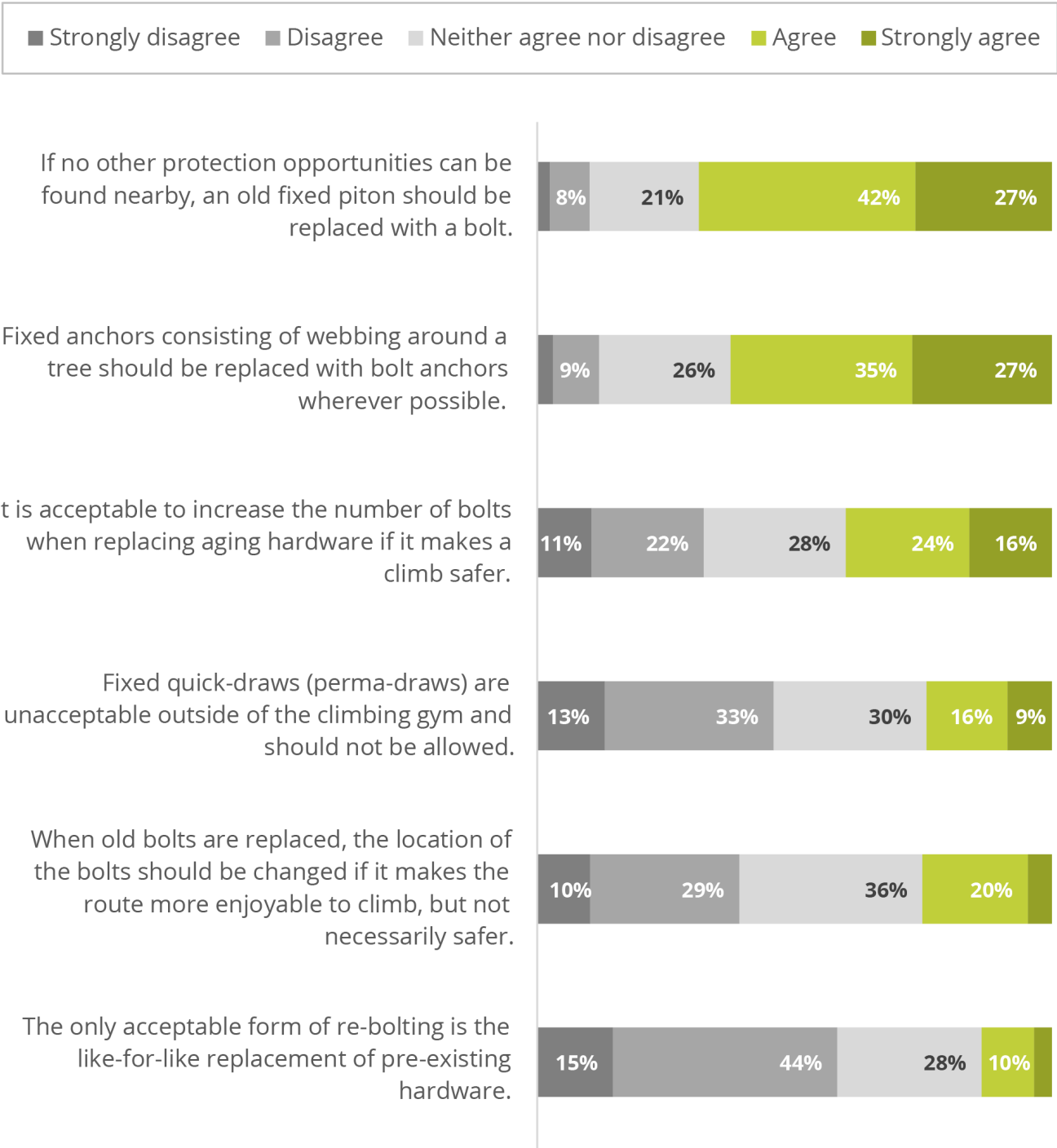


# SECTION 6.

## FIXED HARDWARE

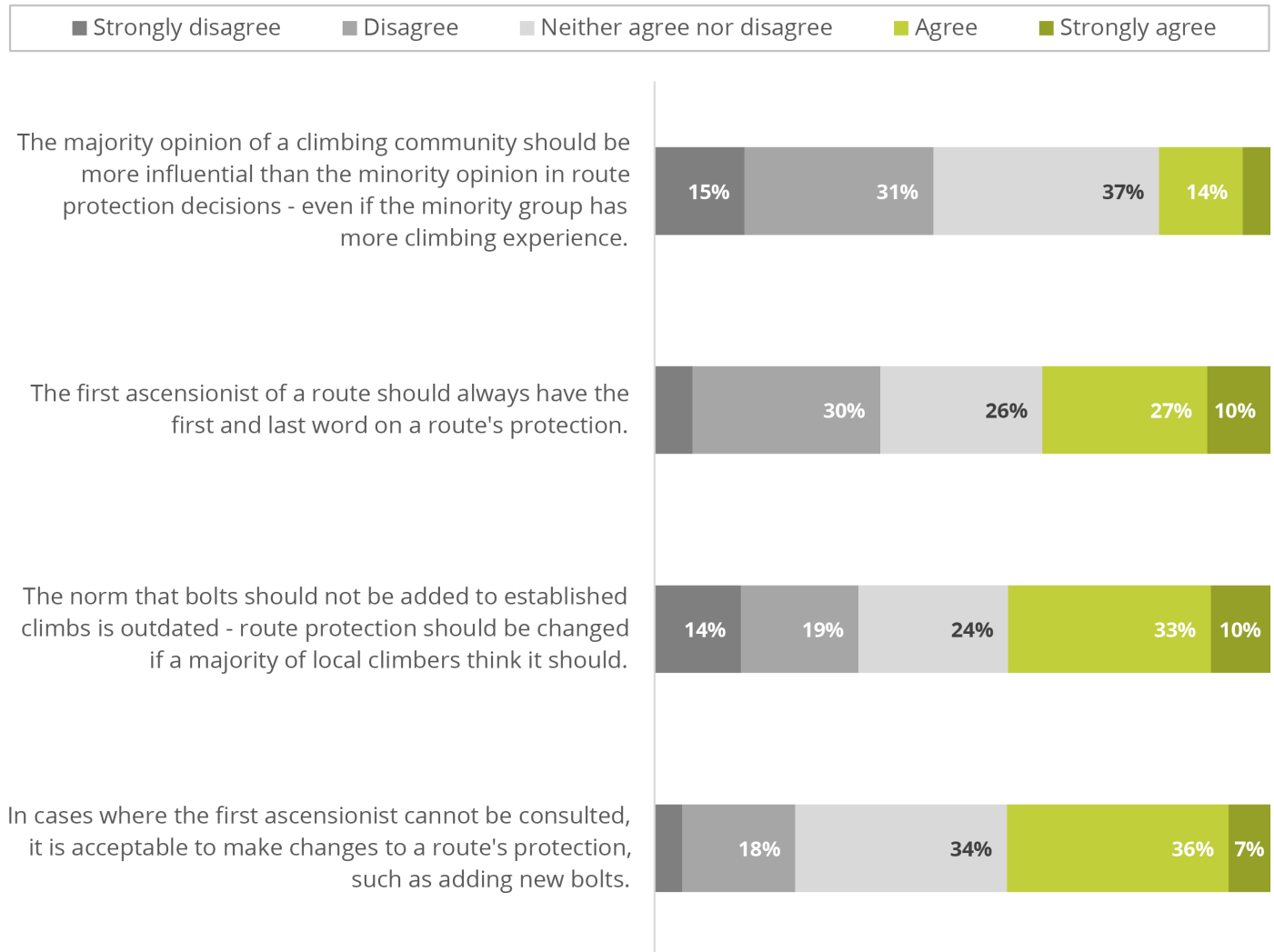
### QUESTION 25.

Indicate your level of agreement with the following statements regarding the replacement of fixed hardware (e.g. bolts, pitons, webbing):



## QUESTION 26.

Indicate your level of agreement with the following statements regarding how bolt replacement decisions should be made:

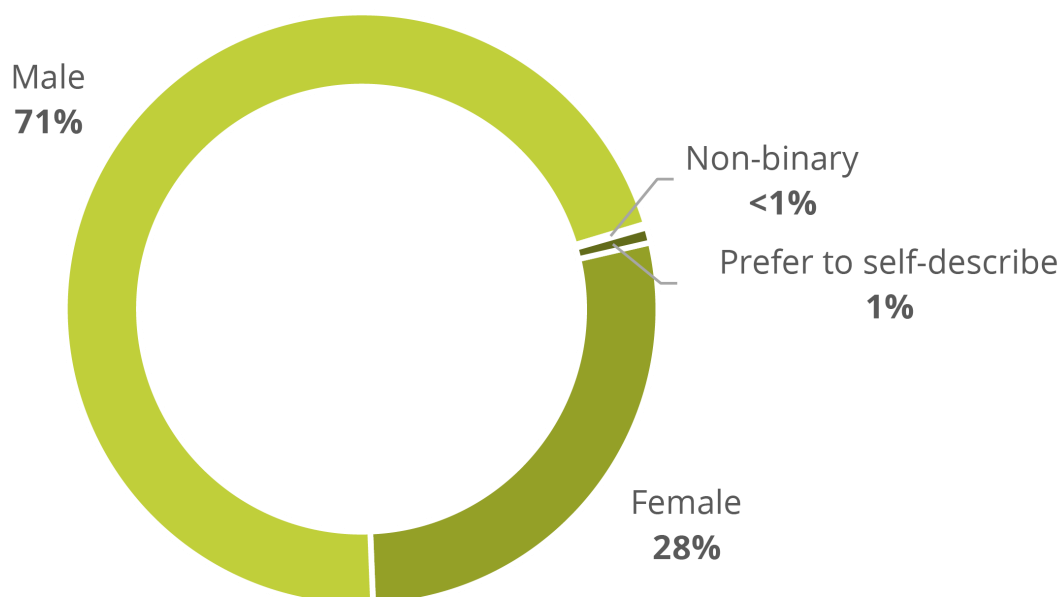


## SECTION 7.

### RESPONDENT DEMOGRAPHICS

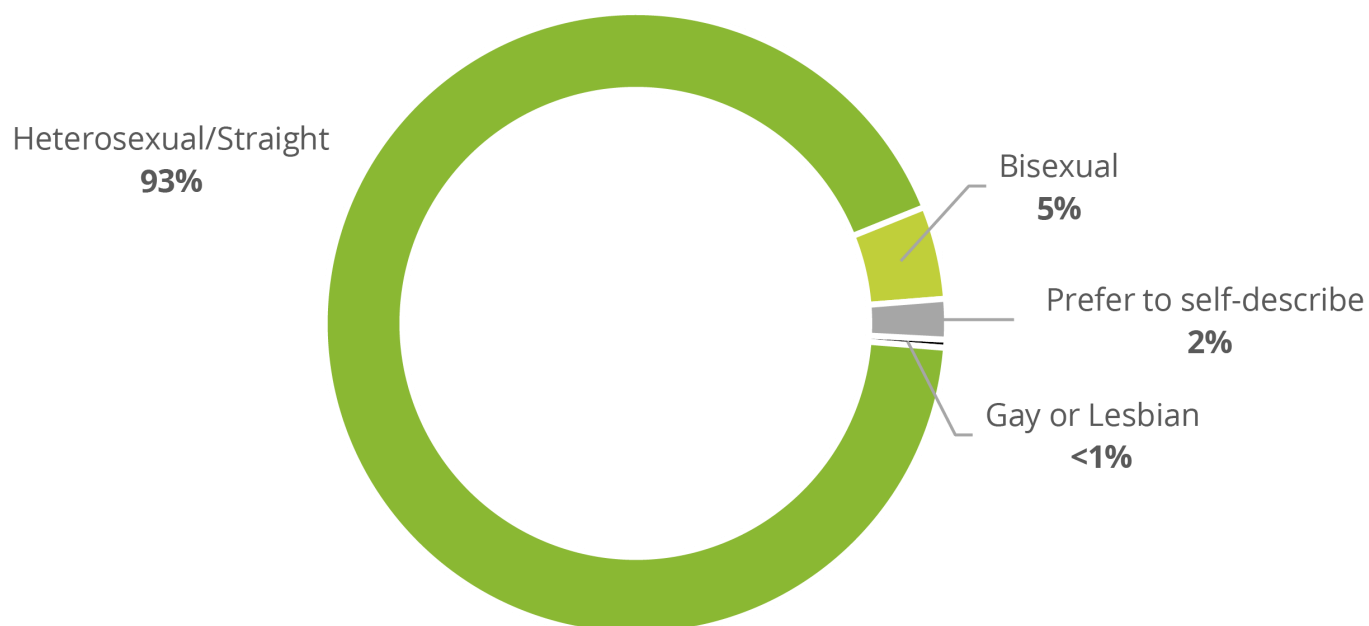
#### QUESTION 27.

With which gender do you most identify?



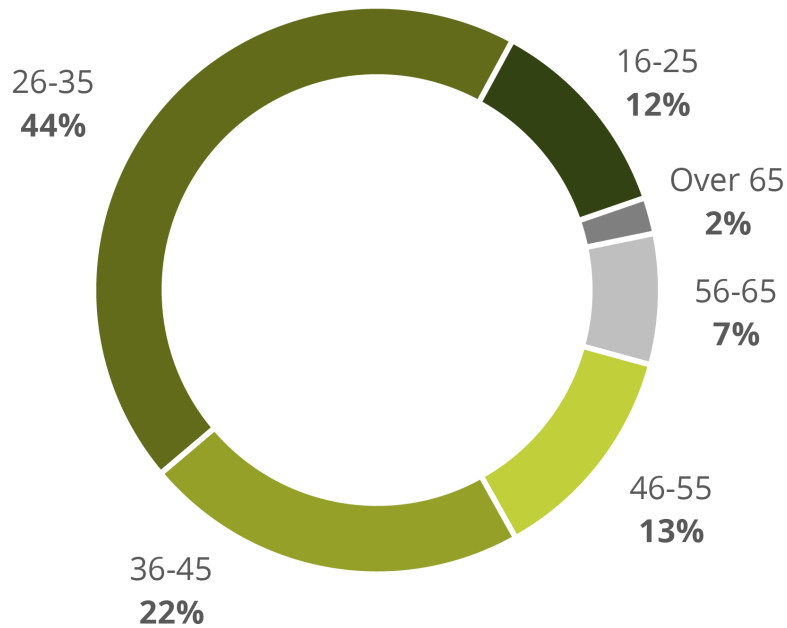
#### QUESTION 28.

What is your sexual orientation?



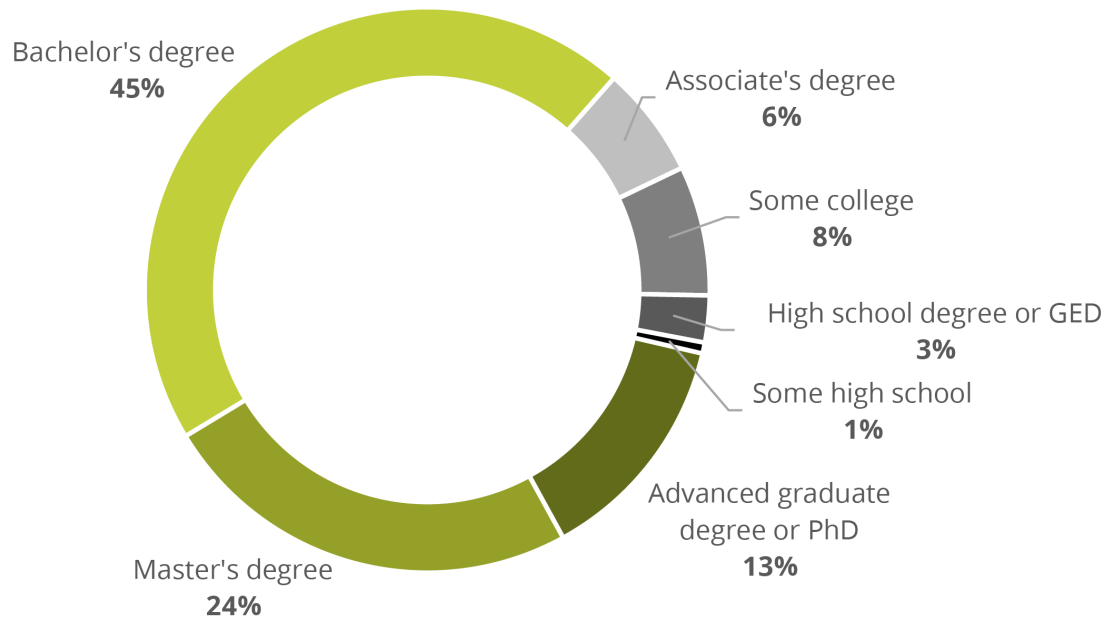
### QUESTION 29.

What is your age?



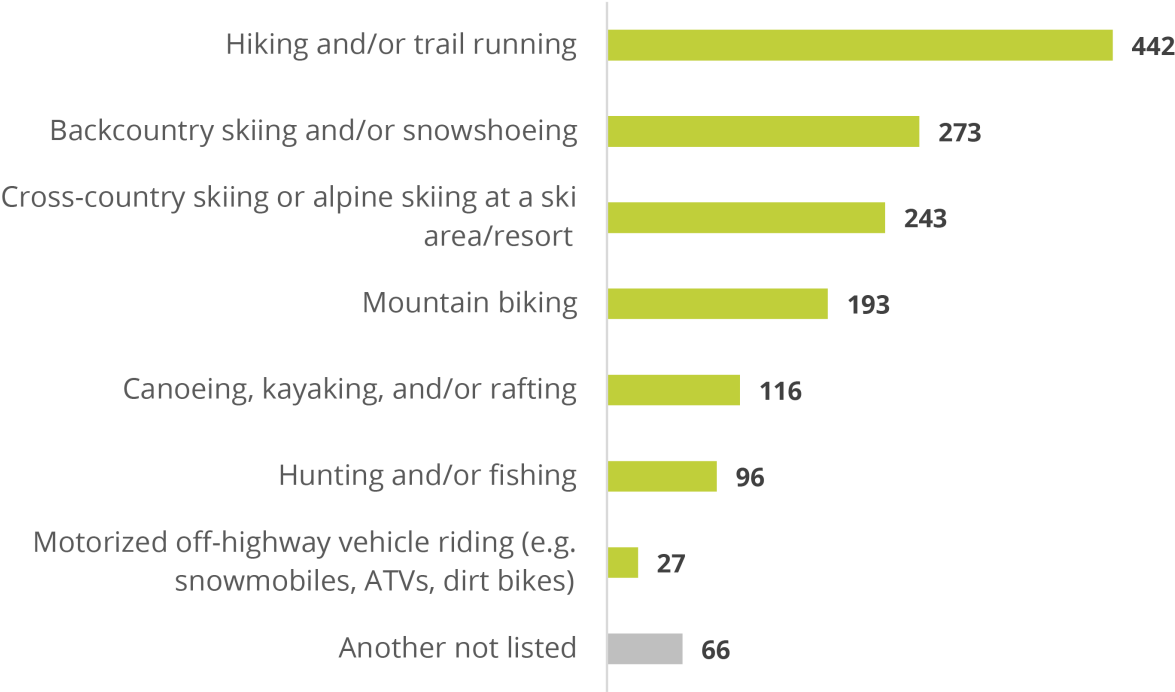
### QUESTION 30.

What is the highest level of education you've completed?



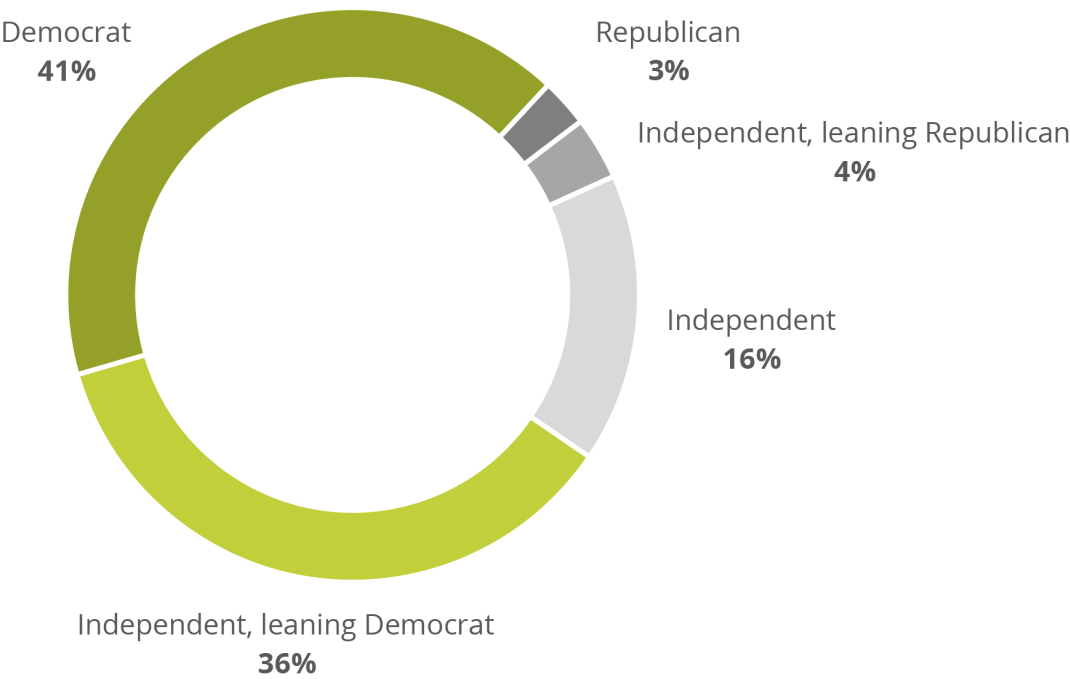
**QUESTION 31.**

What other outdoor recreation activities do you regularly engage in? Select all that apply:



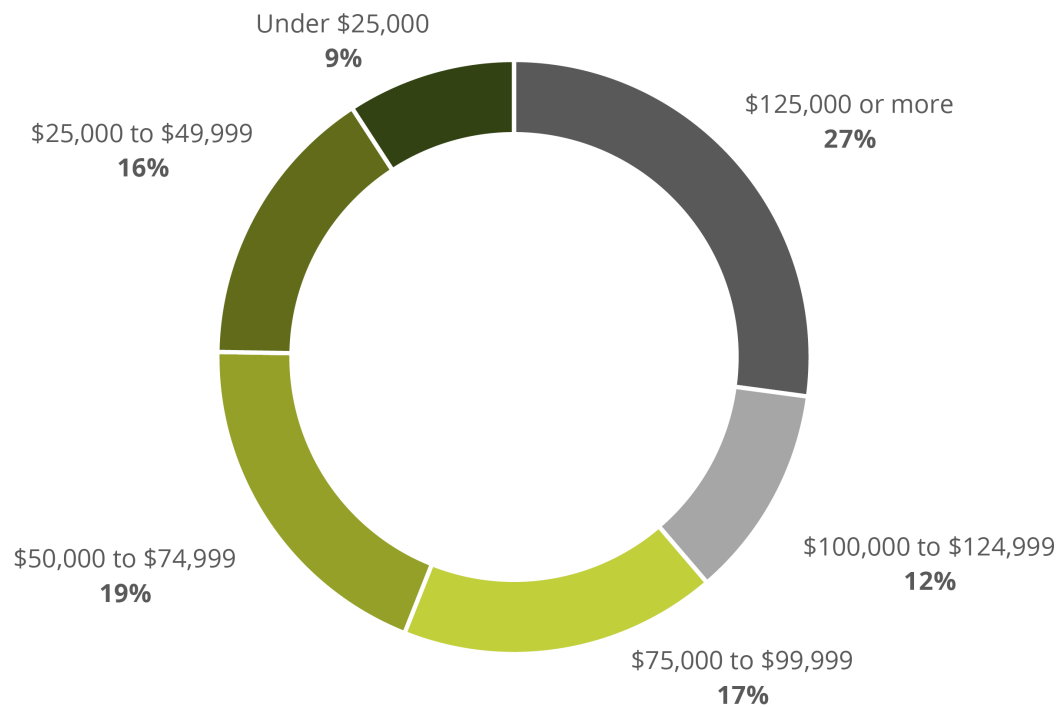
**QUESTION 32.**

How would you characterize your political affiliation?



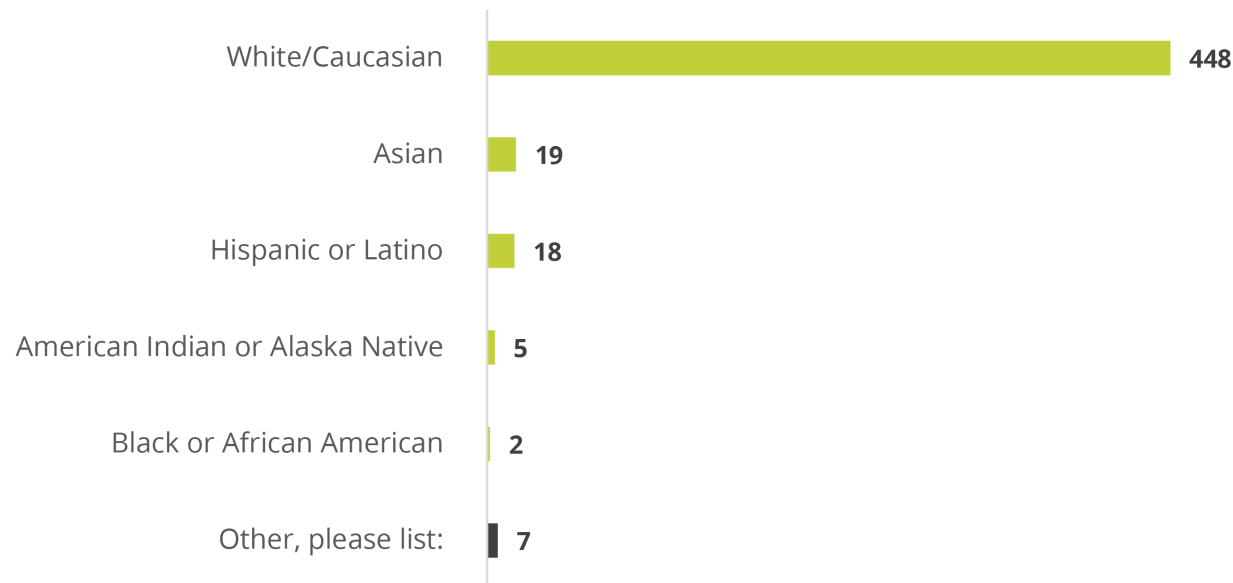
**QUESTION 33.**

What is your yearly household income?



**QUESTION 34.**

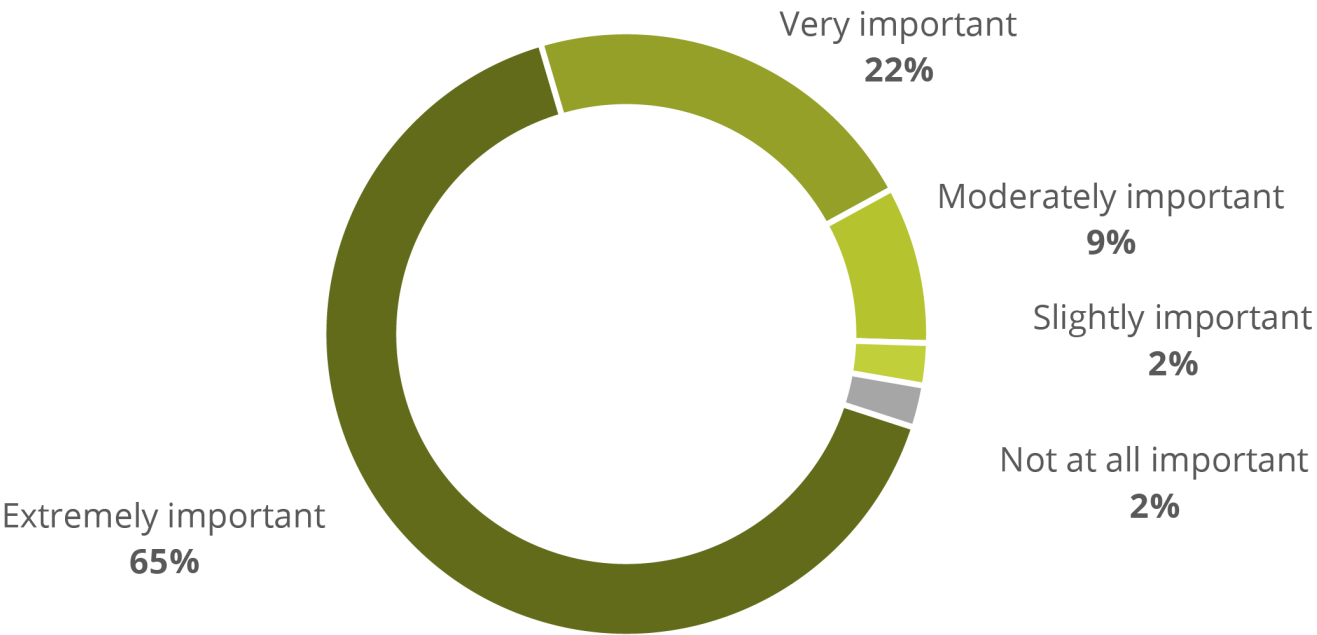
What is your race/ethnicity? Select all that apply:





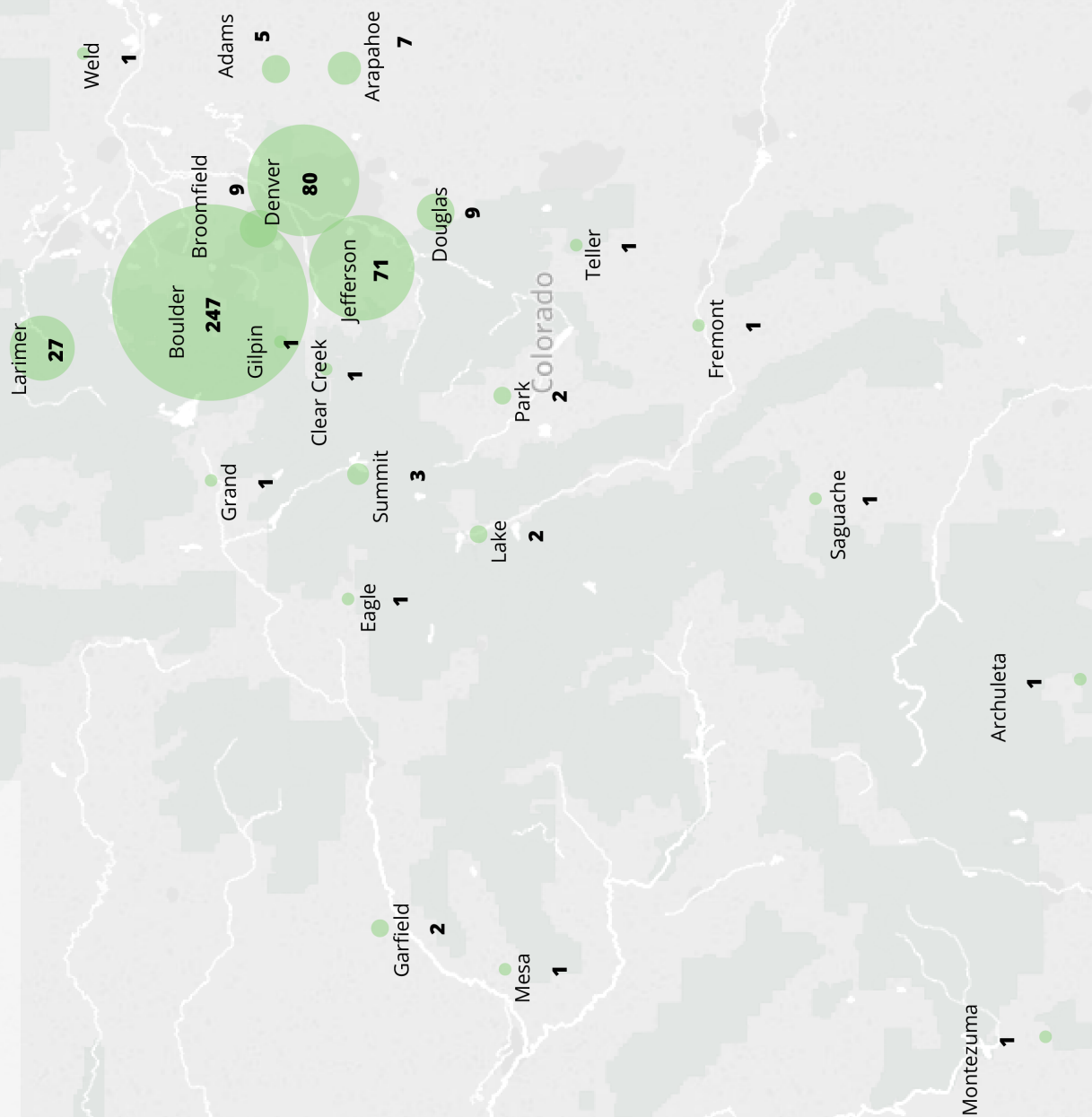
**QUESTION 35.**

How important is access to climbing in your decision to live in Colorado?



**QUESTION 36.**

What county do you live in?

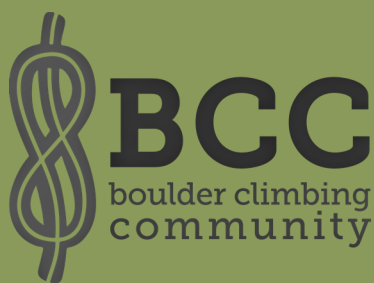


A huge  
**THANK YOU**

to all of the climbers who took the time to complete this survey.

For more information on how you can support the BCC and get involved:

[www.boulderclimbers.org](http://www.boulderclimbers.org)



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