

2018

MEMBER SURVEY

CLIMBERS' PERSPECTIVES ON STEWARDSHIP, RESOURCE MANAGEMENT,
AND THE SLCA'S ROLE IN THE WASATCH CLIMBING COMMUNITY



THE UNIFIED VOICE FOR CLIMBERS IN THE WASATCH
ADVOCACY | STEWARDSHIP | COMMUNITY | EDUCATION

Suggested Citation

Carter, David P. 2018. SLCA 2018 member survey: Climbers' perspectives on stewardship, resource management, and the SLCA's role in the Wasatch climbing community. Salt Lake Climbers Alliance: Salt Lake City, Utah.

Acknowledgements

A number of people contributed to the development and execution of this survey. SLCA Executive Director Julia Geisler helped develop and launch the survey, and made the project possible. Valuable input was provided by the SLCA Board of Directors and members of the Communications Committee, Policy and Conservation Committee, and Wasatch Anchor Replacement Initiative.

Research Contact

For comments or questions regarding this research:

David P. Carter, Assistant Professor
Department of Political Science
University of Utah
332 South 1400 East, RM 223
Salt Lake City, UT 84112

www.policyandadmin.org
david.carter@mpa.utah.edu



Cover photo by Nathan Smith

BACKGROUND

The SLCA conducted this survey to better understand Wasatch climbers' perspectives on topics such as issues facing the climbing community, climbing area stewardship and management, and how the SLCA can best serve the needs of the Wasatch climbing community. The survey was conducted in collaboration with David Carter, from the University of Utah's Department of Political Science, and the survey data will be applied by researchers to study what shapes climbers' perspectives regarding stewardship and resource management. Survey findings are presented in this summary report in seven sections:

- Respondent Climbing Backgrounds
- SLCA Initiatives
- SLCA Communications
- Issues Facing Climbers
- Ethics & Acceptable Behavior
- Fixed Hardware & Bolt Replacement
- Respondent Demographics

ABOUT THE SALT LAKE CLIMBERS ALLIANCE

VISION

The SLCA is Utah's leading voice for climbing access and stewardship: uniting, educating, and inspiring climbers of all disciplines to serve their local climbing community since 2002.

MISSION

The SLCA exists to provide a unified voice for climbers in the Wasatch and surrounding regions through advocacy, stewardship, community, and education.

WHAT WE DO

The SLCA is a volunteer organization. There is no "they" when it comes to caring for Wasatch climbing areas. YOU are the "they". No one is going to come along and replace a bolt or fix an approach trail for you. It takes active stewardship from each of us to ensure that we can all continue to go climbing. When we organize and join together, our voice is stronger to protect Wasatch climbing. Join today and consider volunteering for one of our upcoming Adopt a Crags or attend an upcoming event to support.

The SLCA is comprised of Members, an Executive Director, a Board of Directors, and Committee Members who are supported by our sponsors, partners, and individual donors. Visit our website to see what we are working on and how to engage.

www.saltlakeclimbers.org

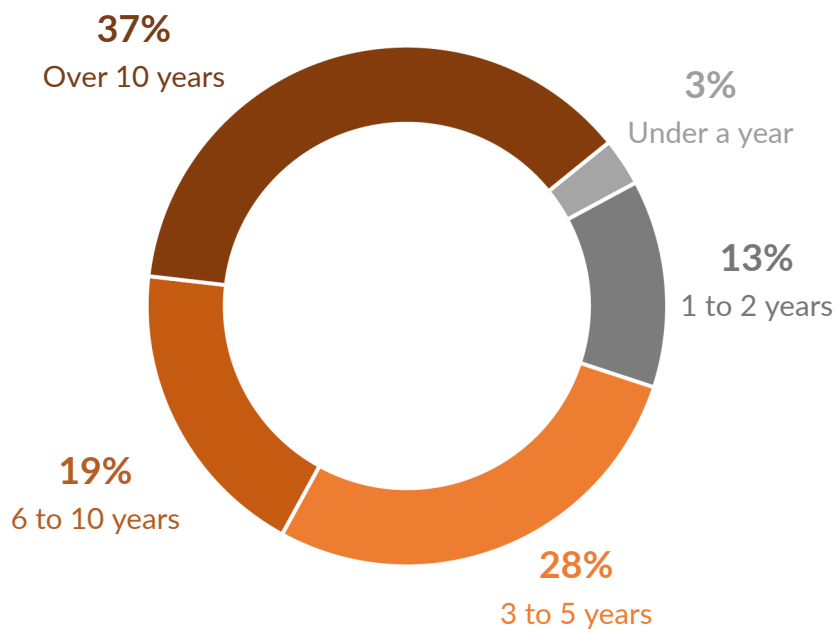
SURVEY METHODS

The survey was conducted online from March 6 to April 6, 2018. To reach the greatest possible number of Wasatch climbers, requests for participation were sent via email to past and present SLCA members, the survey URL was published on the SLCA website and social media accounts (e.g. Facebook, Twitter), and survey advertisements were shared with industry and nonprofit partners. In total, 703 completed surveys were collected, alongside data from another 96 partially-completed surveys.

SECTION 1. RESPONDENTS' CLIMBING BACKGROUNDS

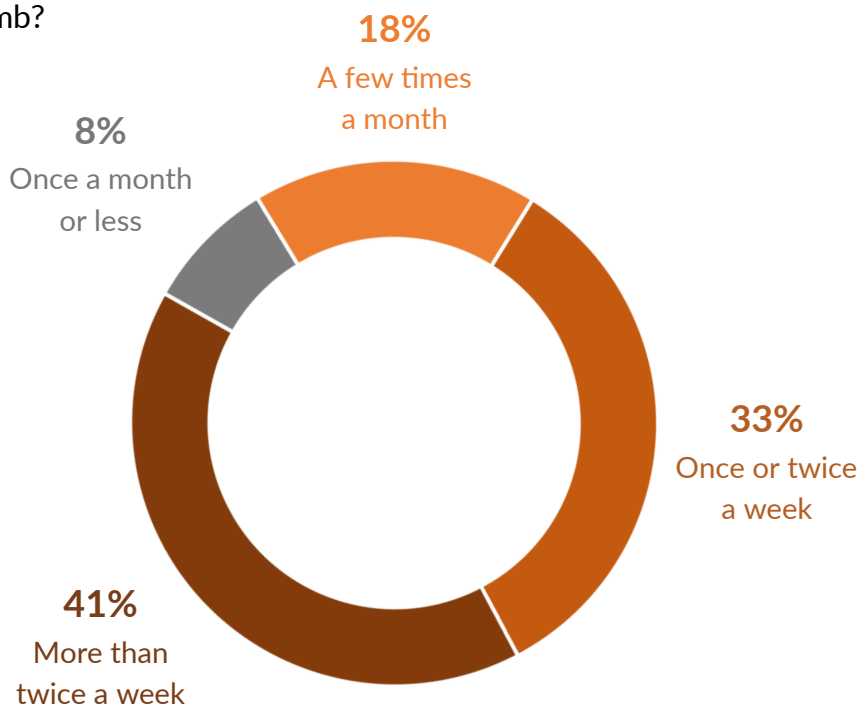
QUESTION 1.

How long have you been climbing?



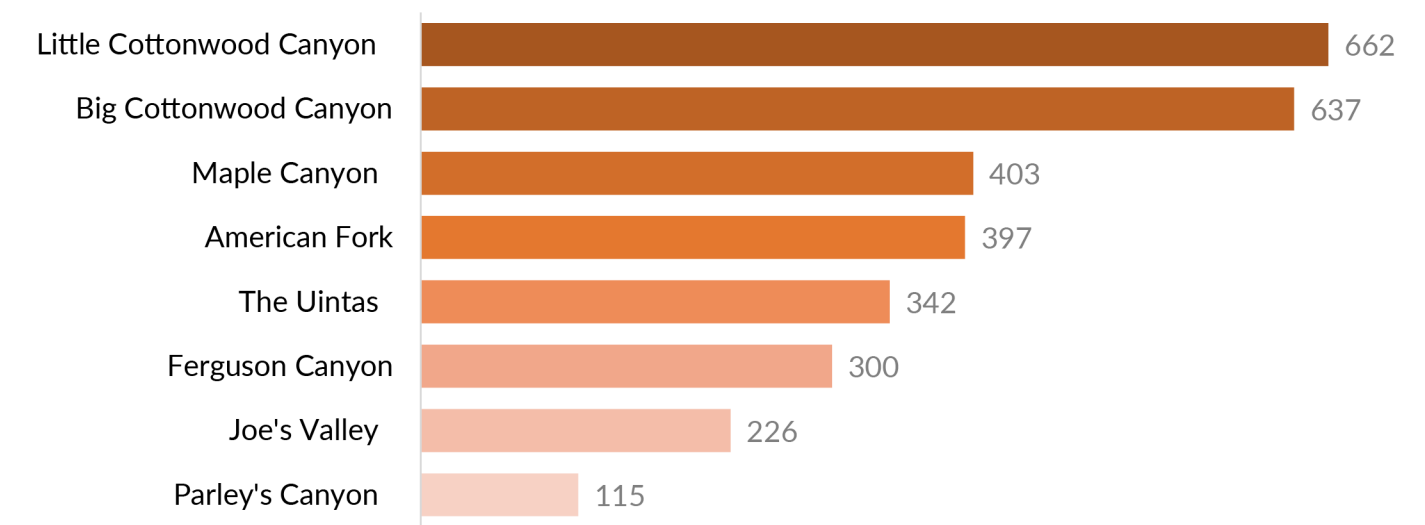
QUESTION 2.

How often do you climb?



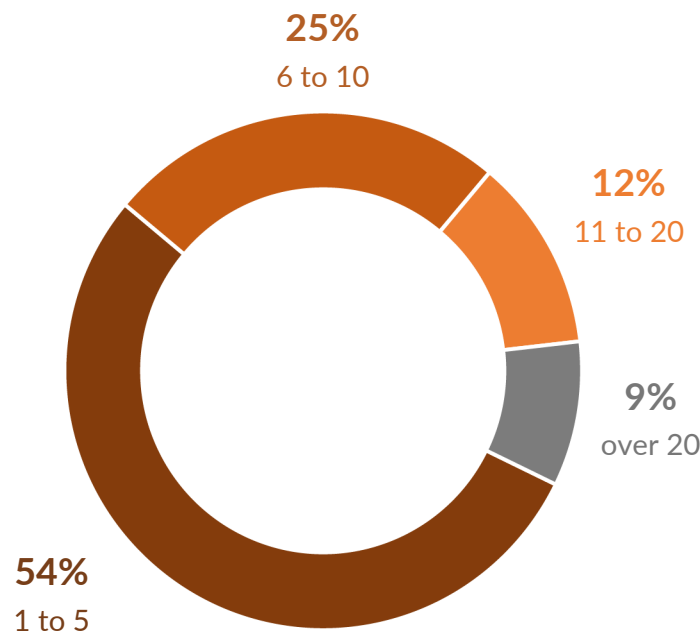
QUESTION 3.

Where around the Wasatch do you like to climb?



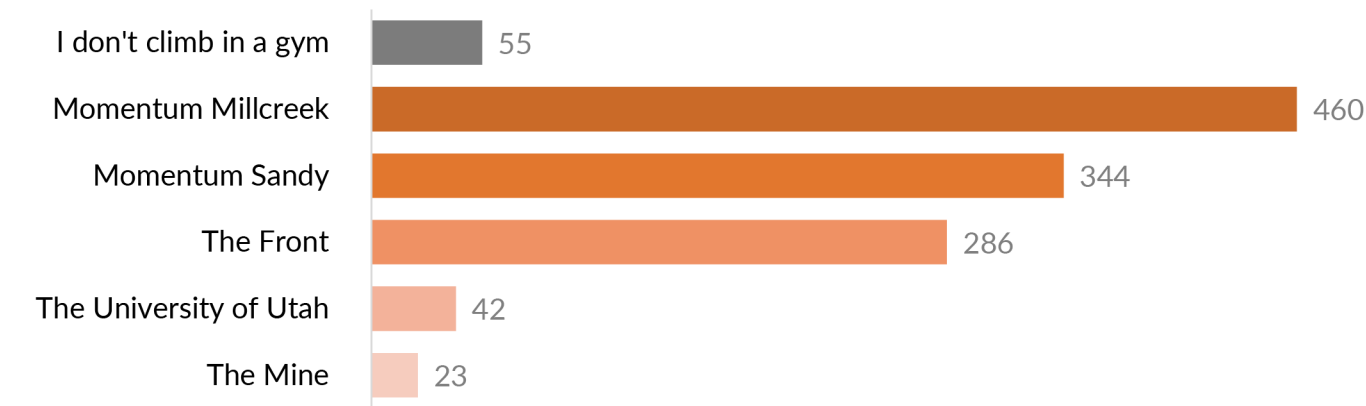
QUESTION 4.

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



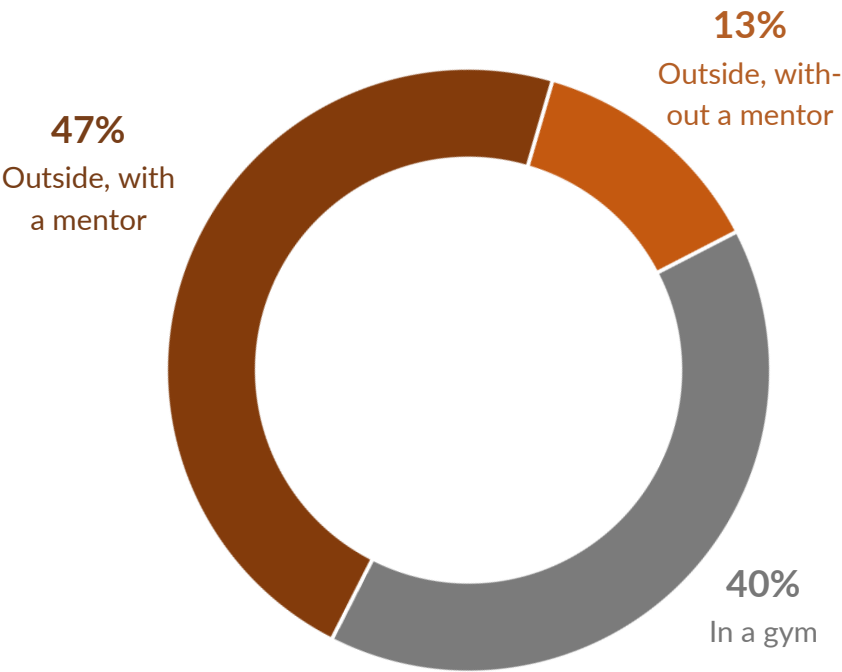
QUESTION 5.

Which climbing gym(s) do you use?



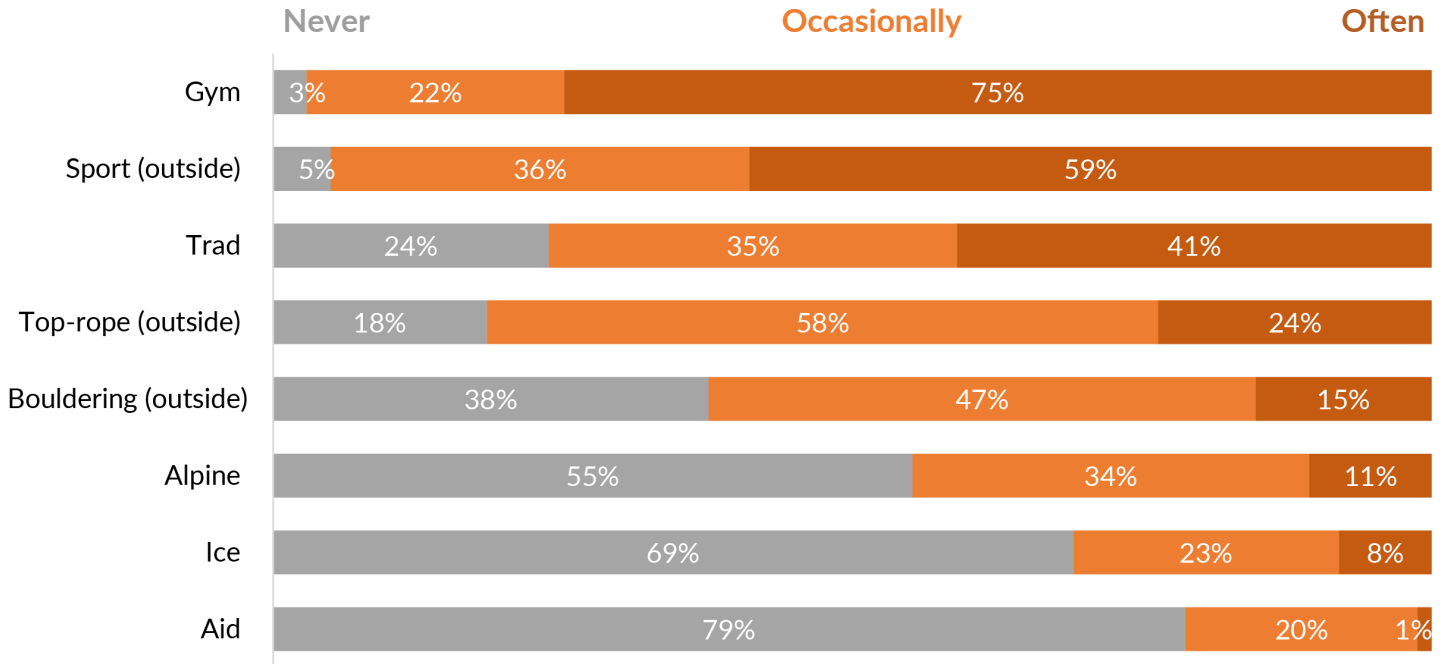
QUESTION 6.

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



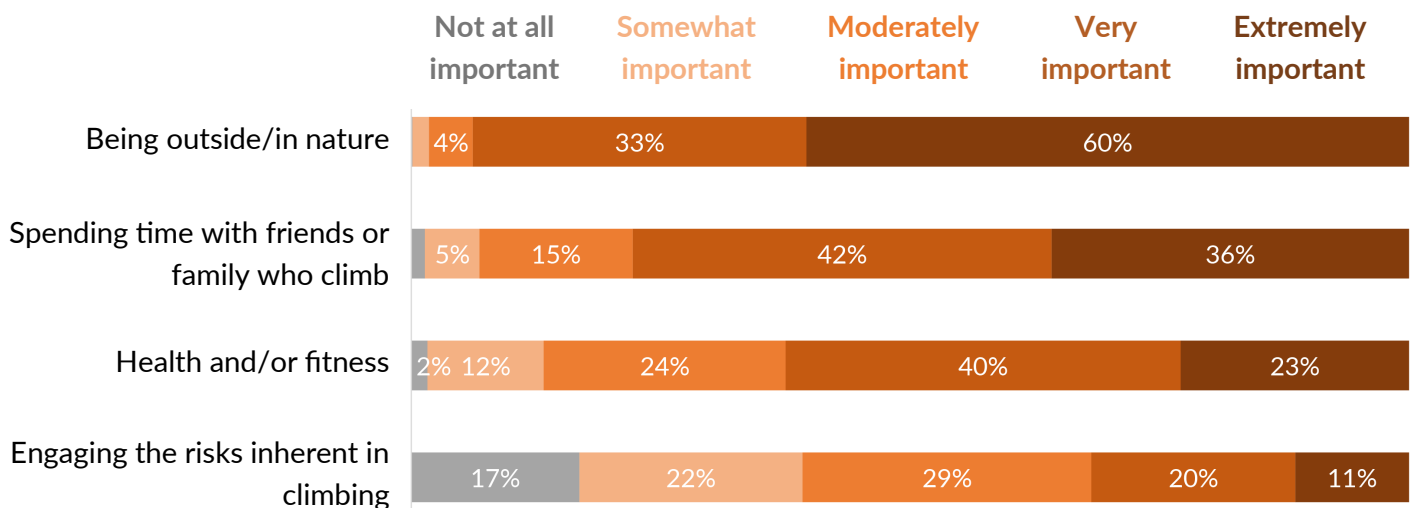
QUESTION 7.

How frequently do you engage in the following types of climbing?



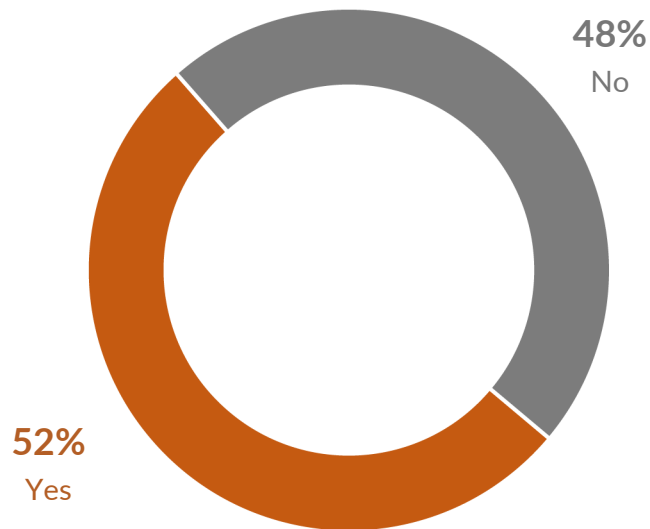
QUESTION 8.

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



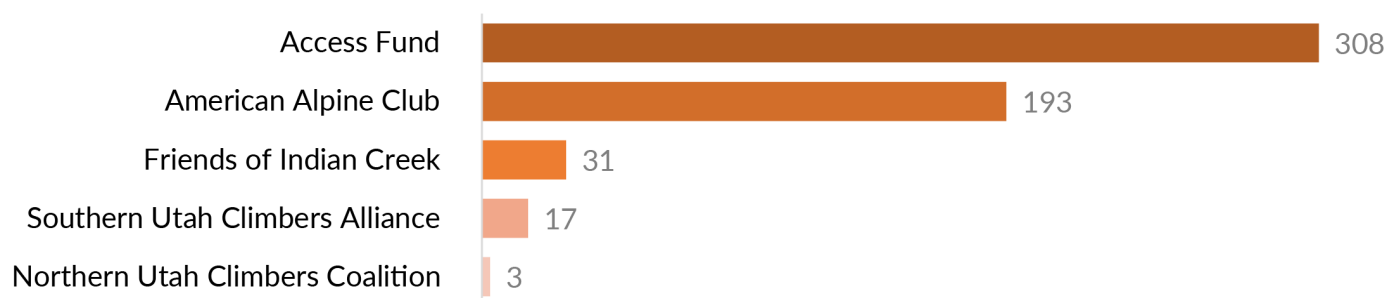
QUESTION 9.

To the best of your memory, have you held SLCA membership at some point since 2015 (including current membership)?



QUESTION 10.

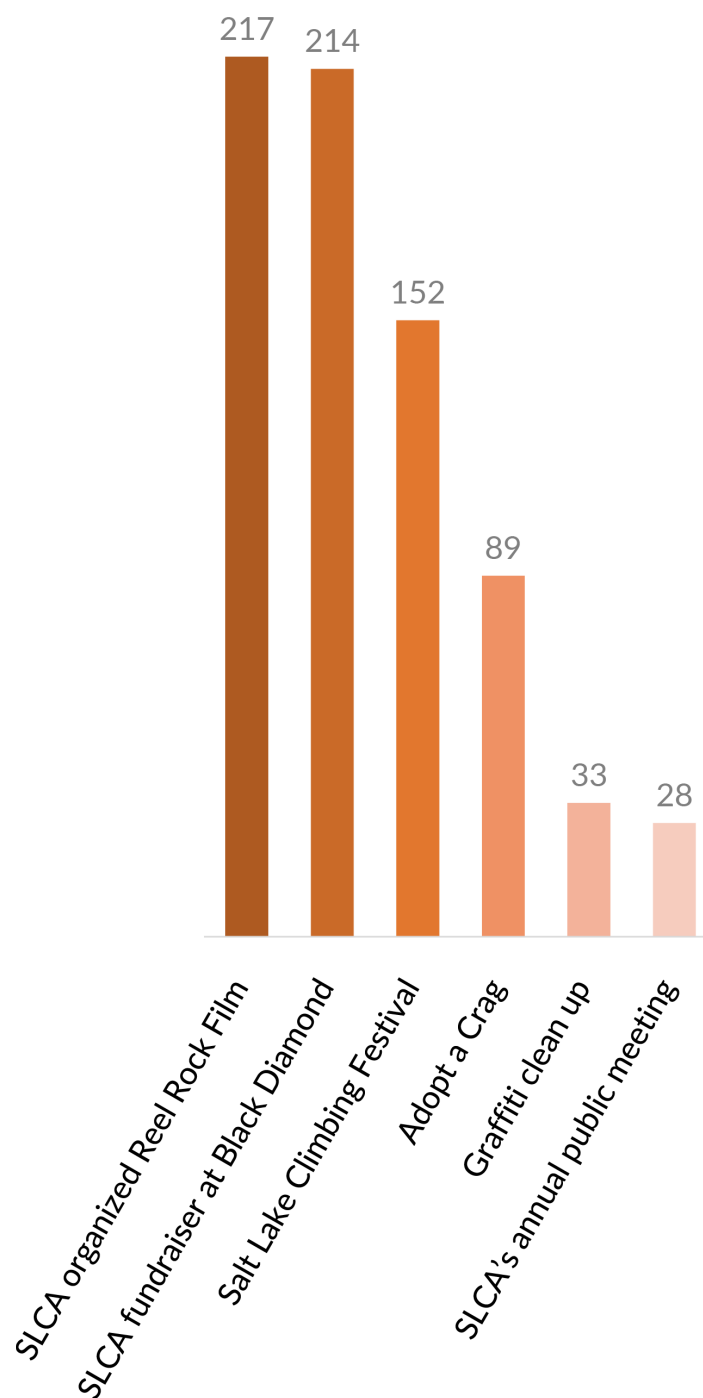
What other climbing organizations are you a member of?



SECTION 2. SLCA INITIATIVES

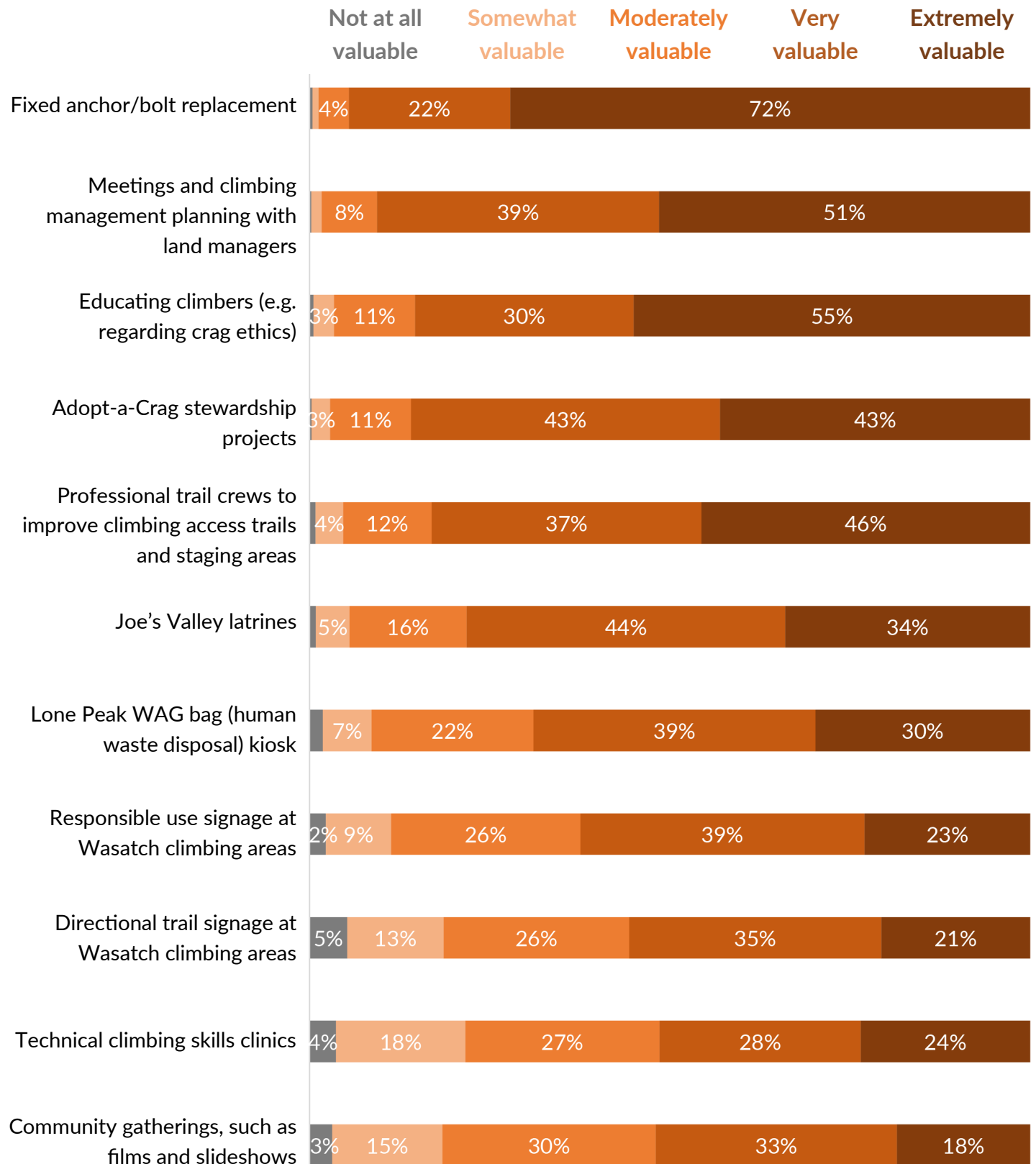
QUESTION 11.

Which SLCA events did you attend in the last year?



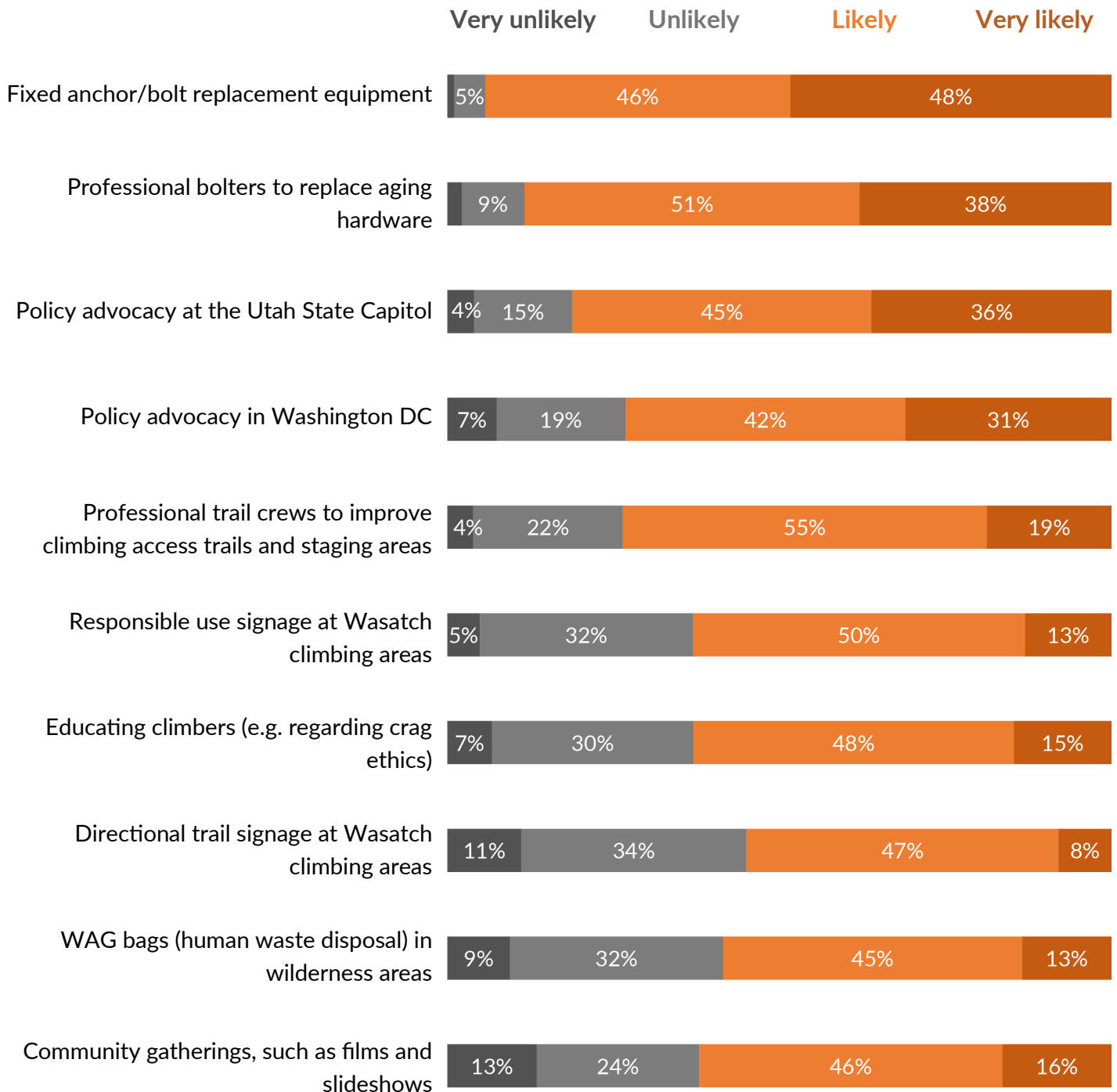
QUESTION 12.

In your opinion, how valuable are the following SLCA initiatives for protecting access to Wasatch climbing?



QUESTION 13.

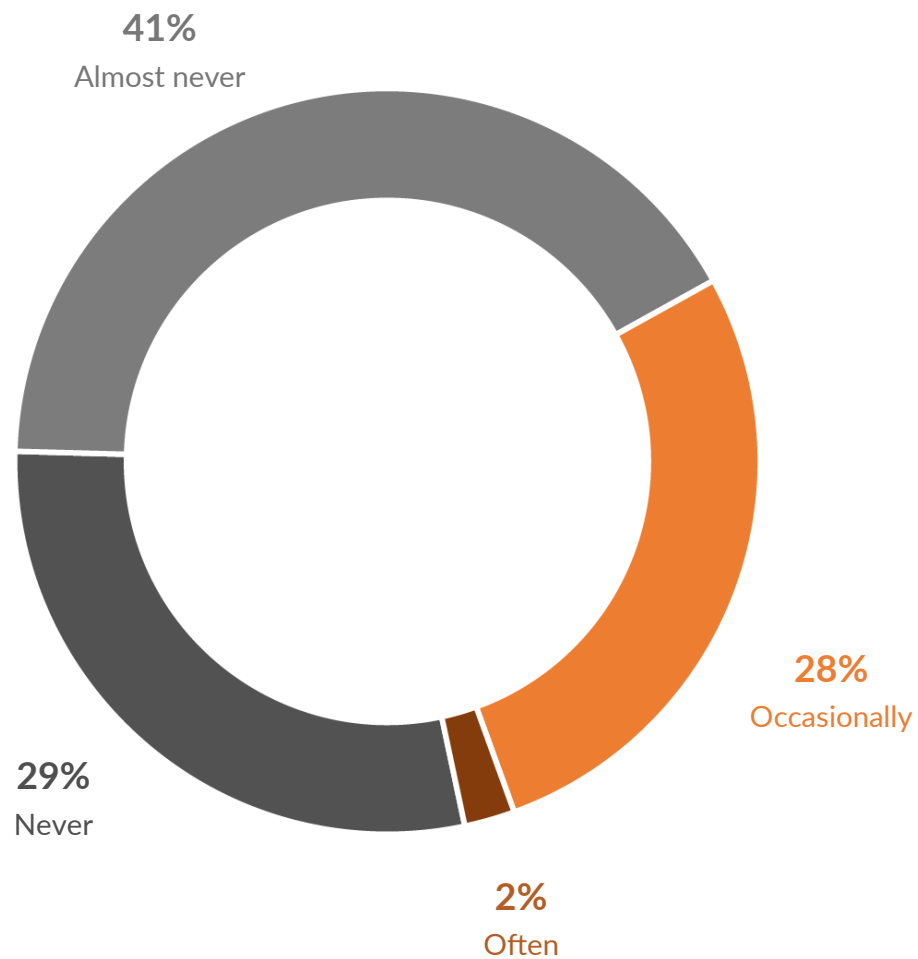
How likely are you are to pay for or donate money to the following climbing stewardship and access initiatives?



SECTION 3. SLCA COMMUNICATIONS

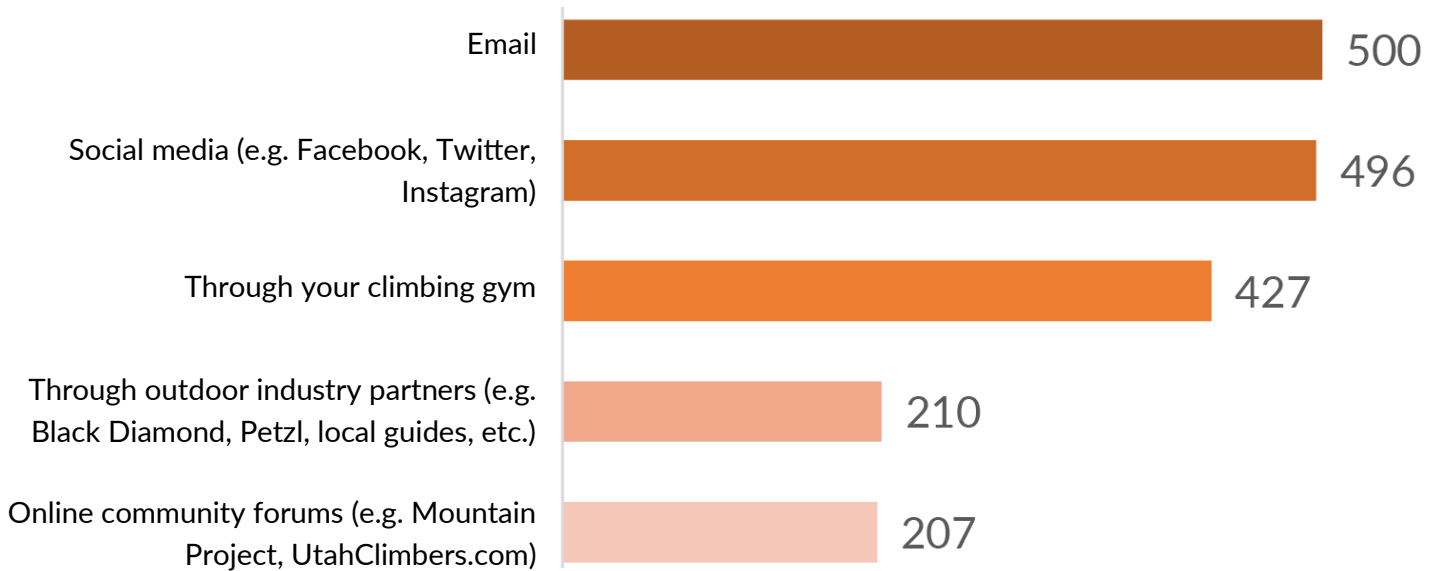
QUESTION 14.

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



QUESTION 15.

How can the SLCA best keep you in the loop regarding local climbing access issues?



QUESTION 16.

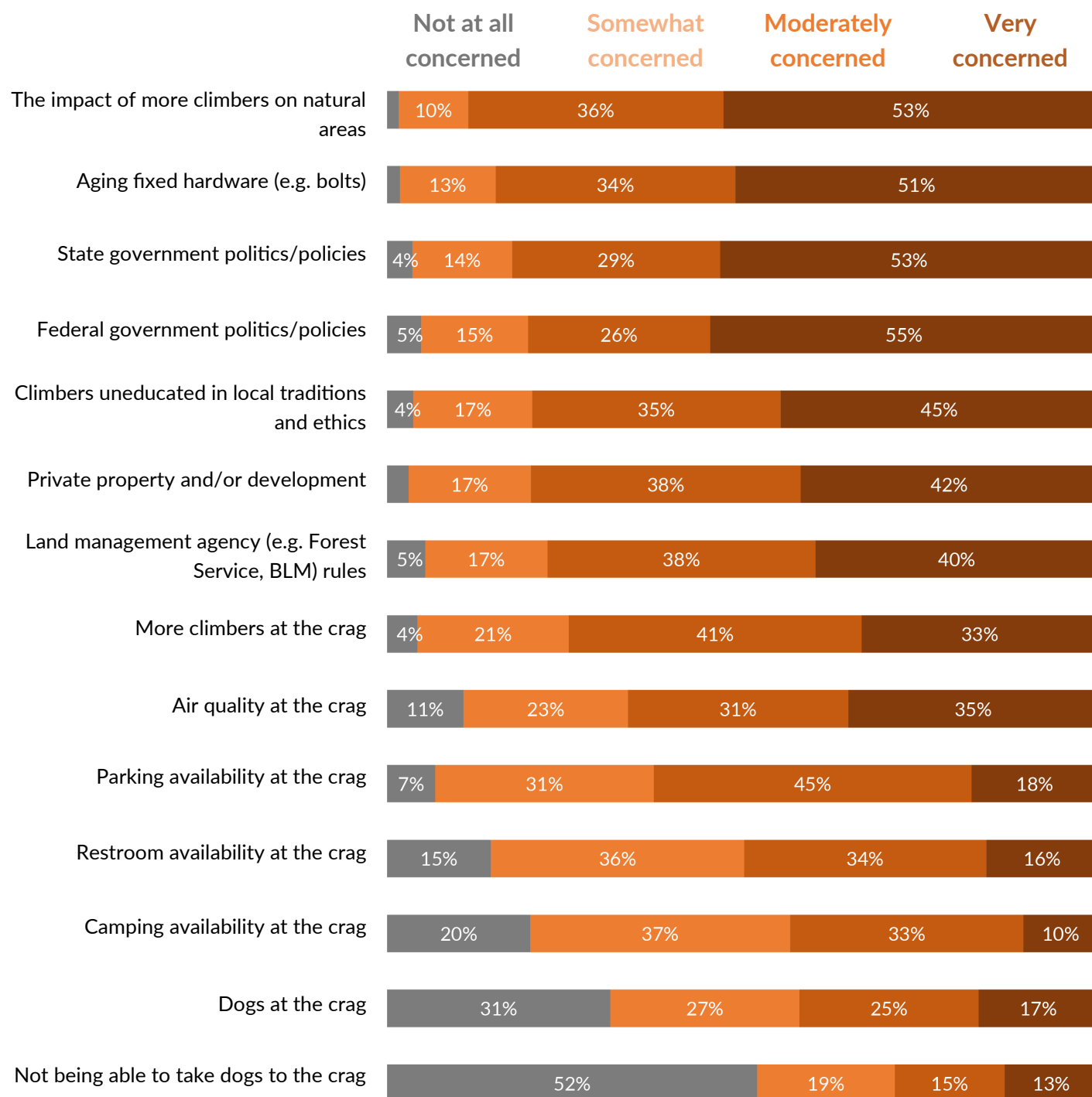
Through which social media sites would you prefer to receive SLCA notices and information?



SECTION 4. ISSUES FACING CLIMBERS

QUESTION 17.

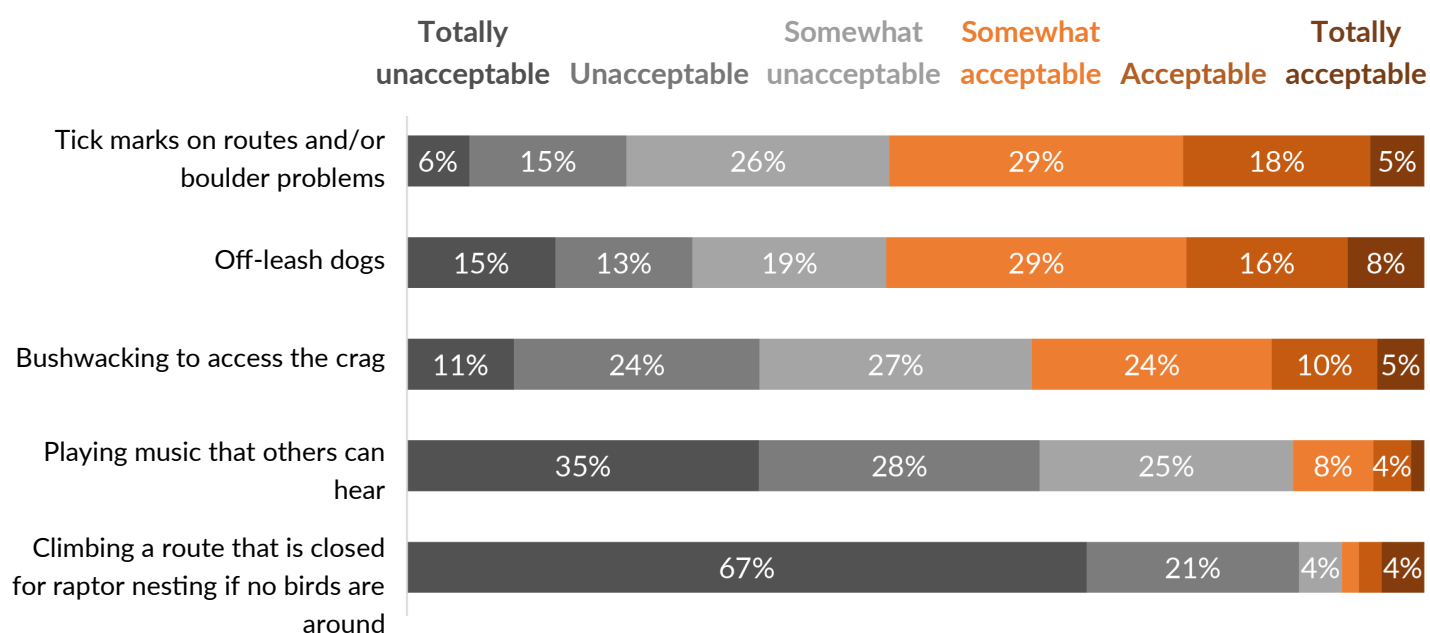
Indicate how concerned you are regarding the impact of the following factors on your future climbing experiences and/or climbing access in the Wasatch.



SECTION 5. ETHICS & ACCEPTABLE BEHAVIOR

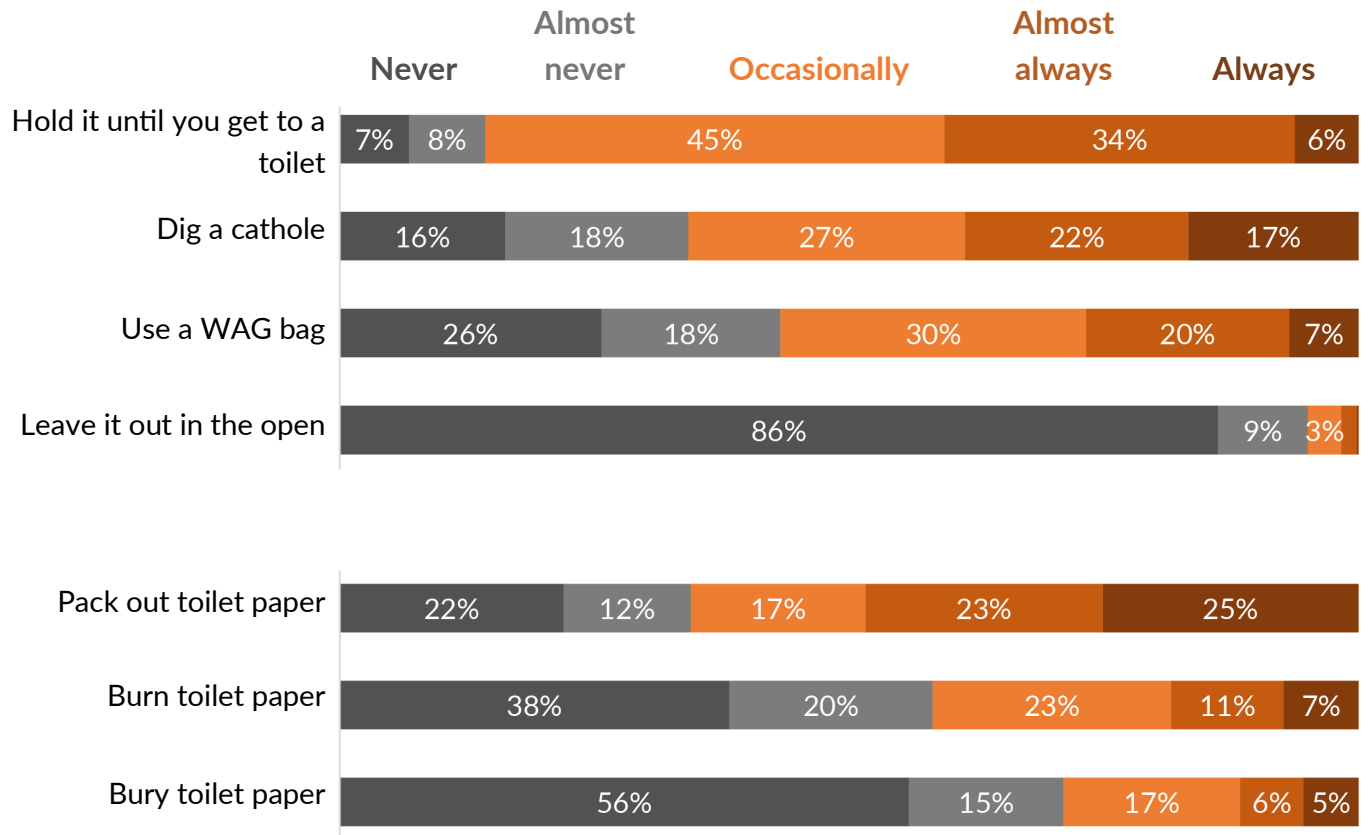
QUESTION 18.

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



QUESTION 19.

How do you dispose of human waste and toilet paper in the desert? Indicate how often you...

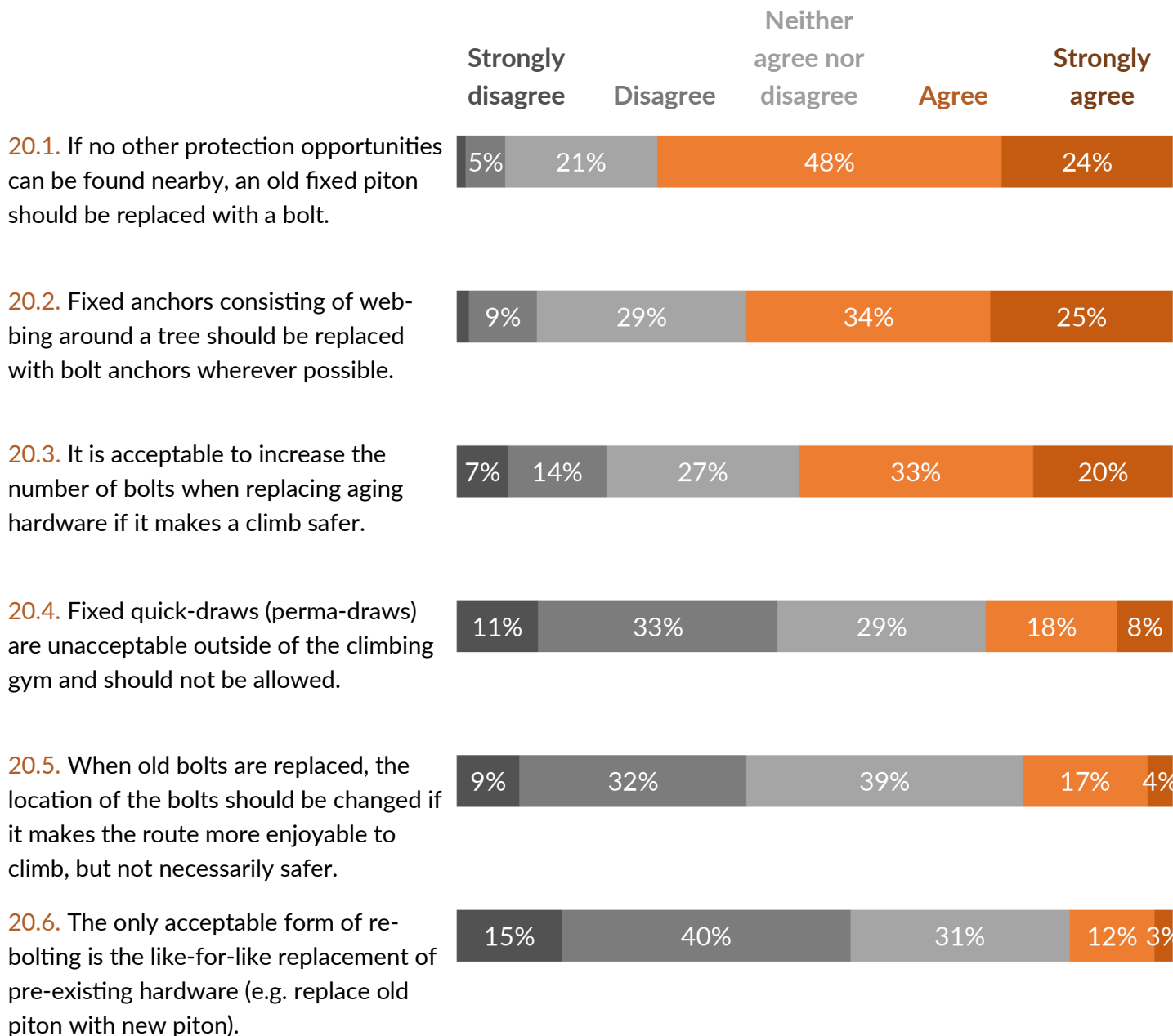


SECTION 6.

FIXED HARDWARE & BOLT REPLACEMENT

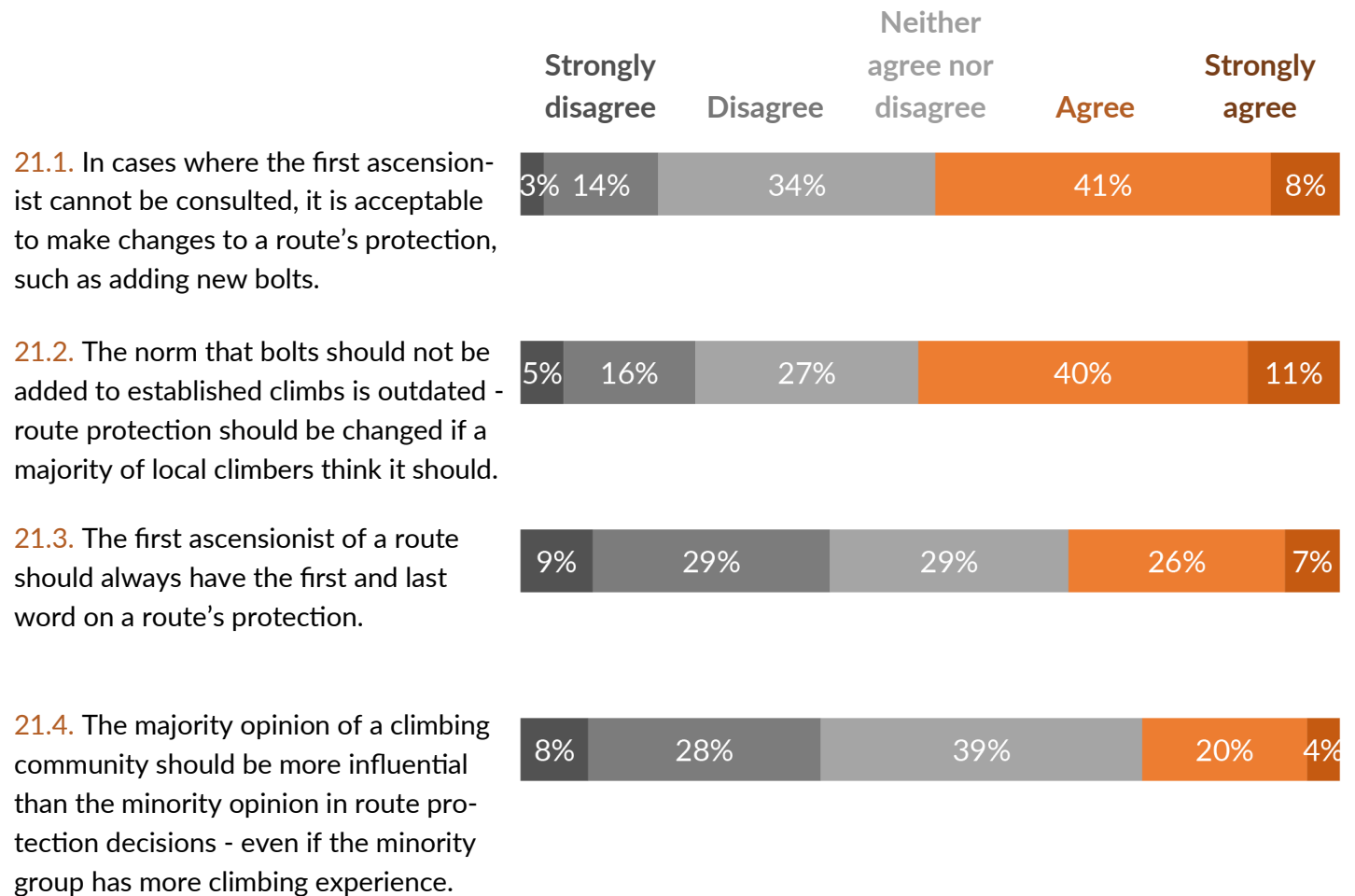
QUESTION 20.

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



QUESTION 21.

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



SECTION 7. RESPONDENTS' DEMOGRAPHICS

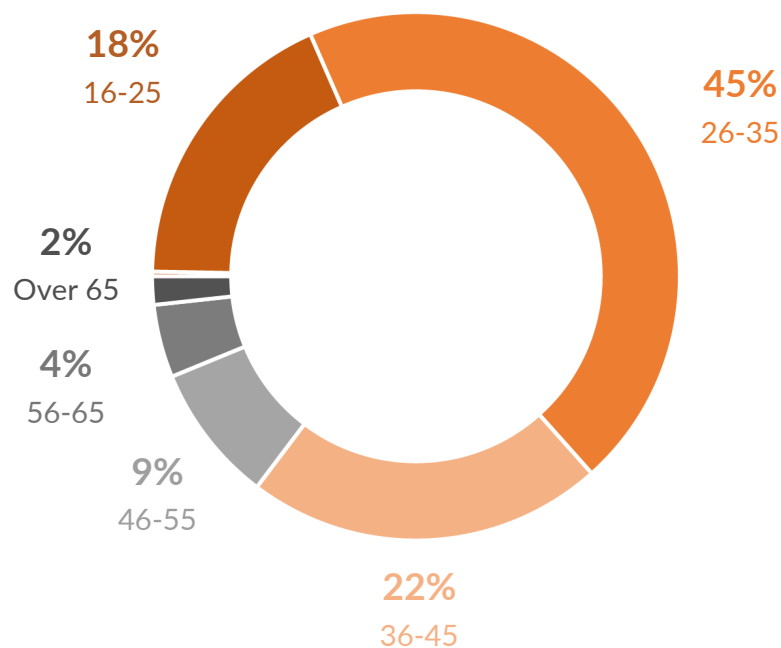
QUESTION 22.

With which gender do you most identify?



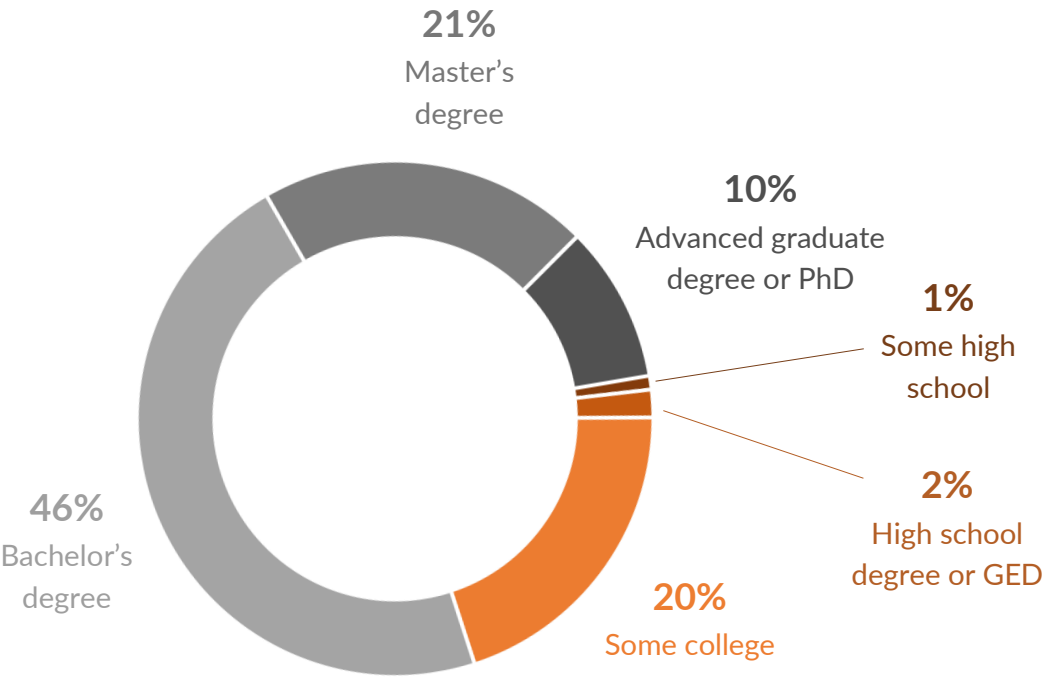
QUESTION 23.

What is your age?



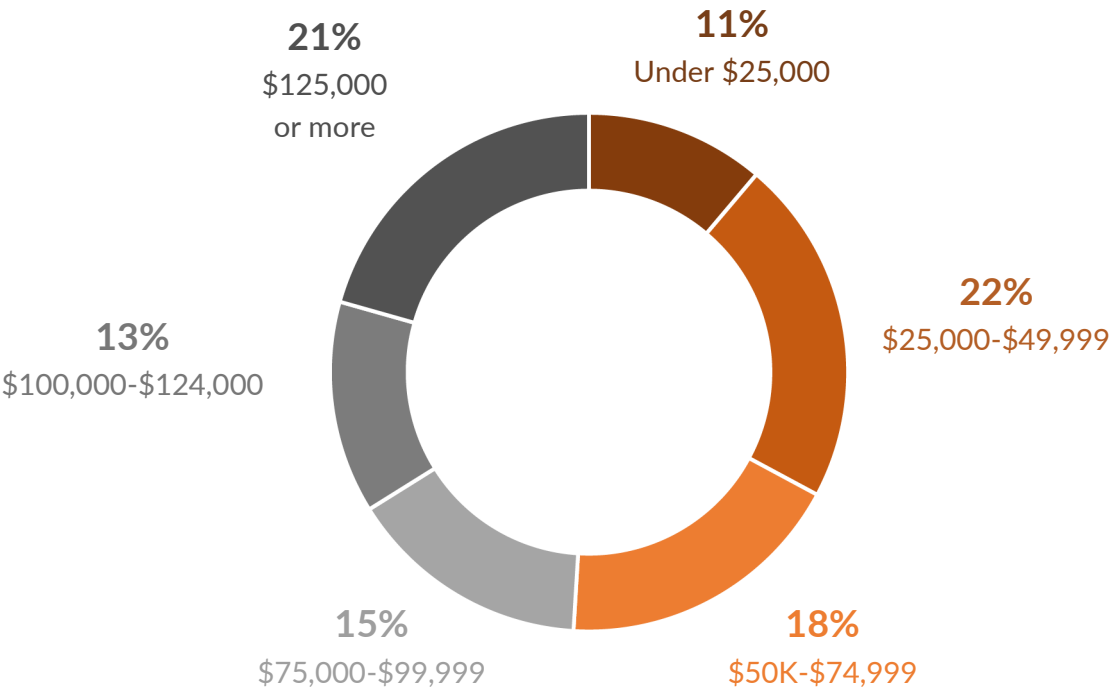
QUESTION 24.

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



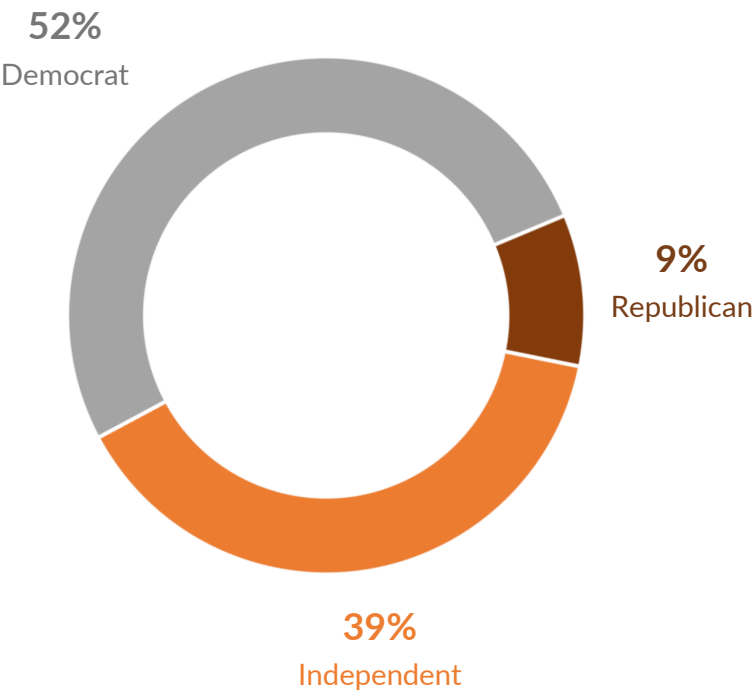
QUESTION 25.

What is your total yearly household income?



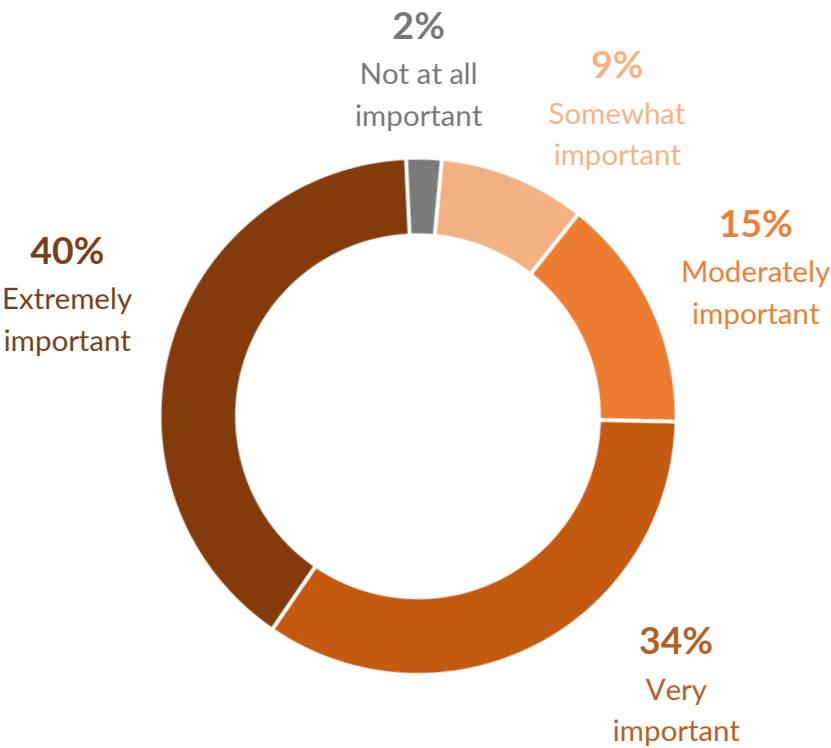
QUESTION 26.

Generally speaking, do you consider yourself a Republican, Democrat, or independent?



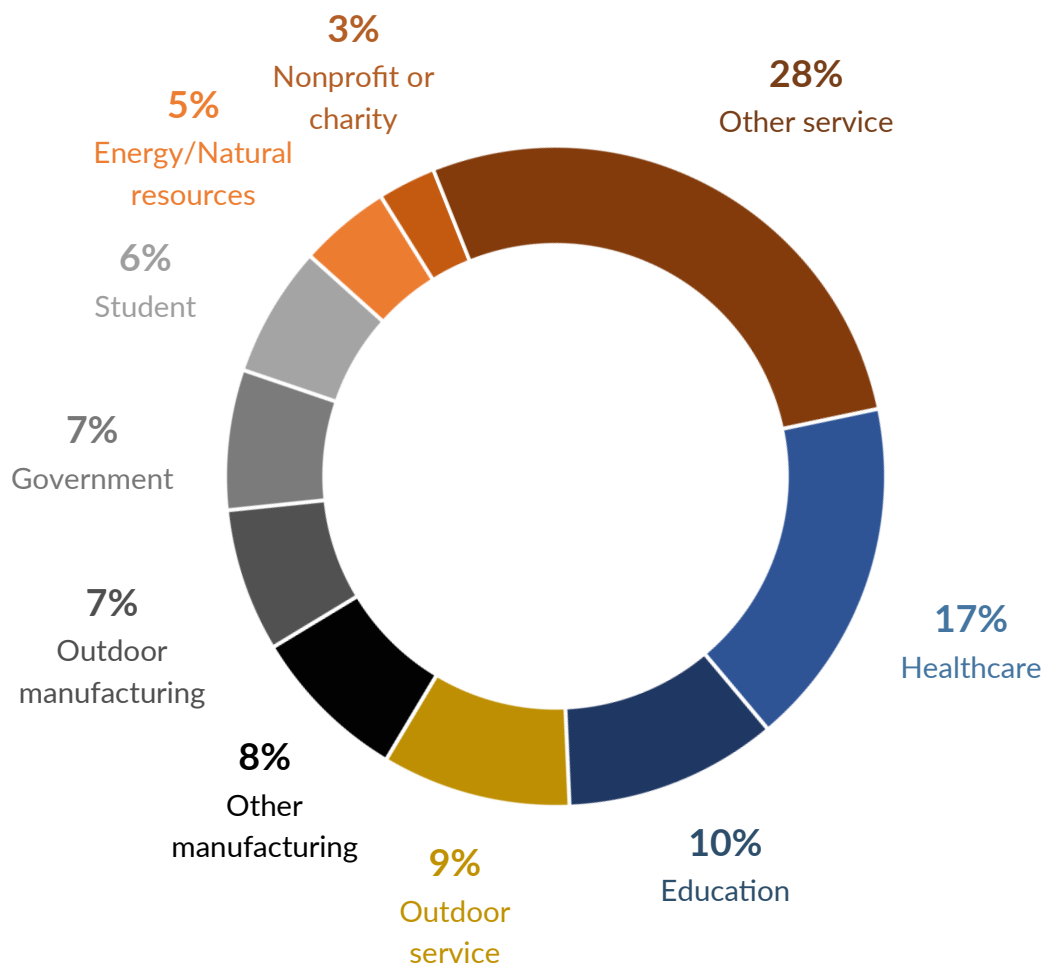
QUESTION 27.

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



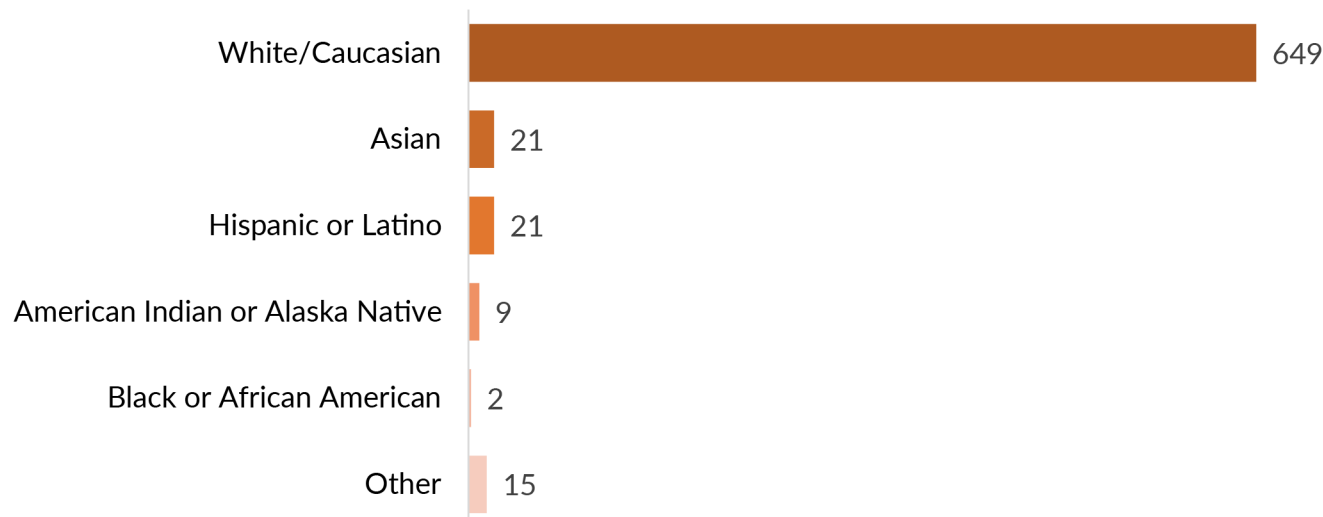
QUESTION 28.

How would you characterize your work/employment industry?



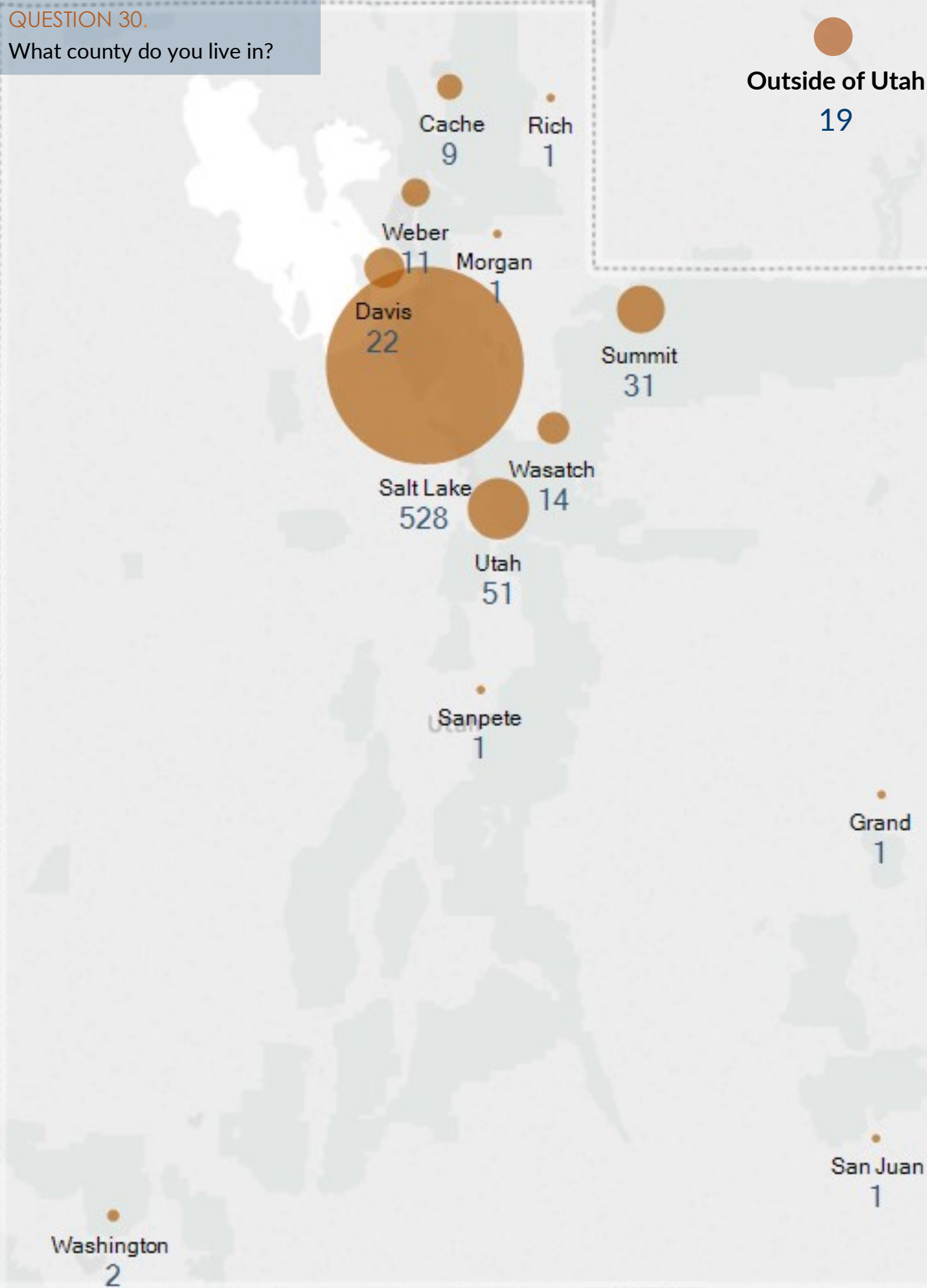
QUESTION 29.

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



QUESTION 30.

What county do you live in?



A huge

THANK YOU

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

Support the Salt Lake Climbers Alliance

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

www.saltlakeclimbers.org



THE UNIFIED VOICE FOR CLIMBERS IN THE WASATCH
ADVOCACY | STEWARDSHIP | COMMUNITY | EDUCATION