

2008 Institute for Emerging Issues Forum

North Carolina's Energy Futures: Realizing a State of Opportunity

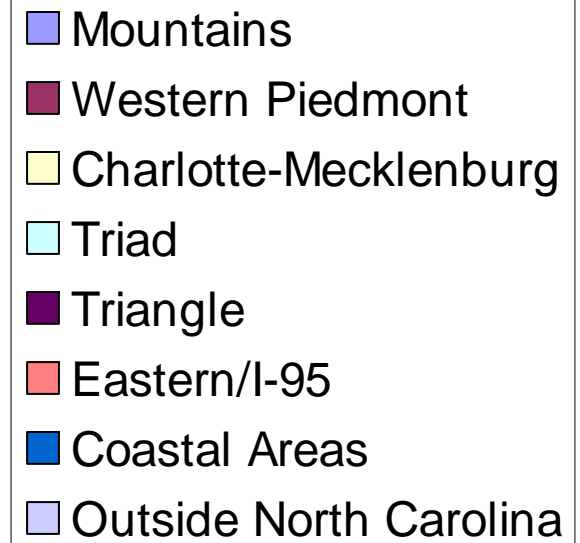
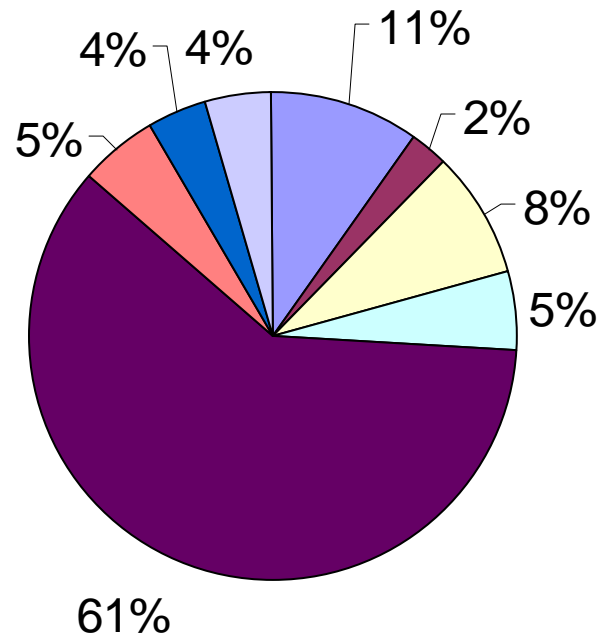
Forum Polling Results

February 11-12, 2008
McKimmon Center
North Carolina State University

For the first time at an Emerging Issues Forum, audience members were given survey response units to give them the opportunity to engage in public opinion polls in real time.

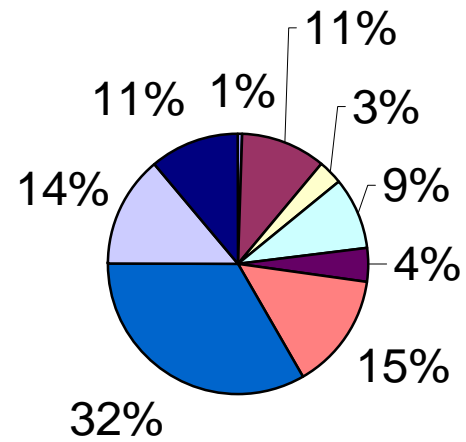
Drawn from the ranks of business, government, education, and the nonprofit community, attendees offered their views on crucial questions facing the state's energy and environmental futures.

1.) Where do you live?



N=581

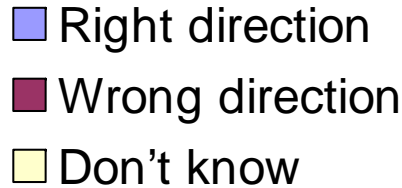
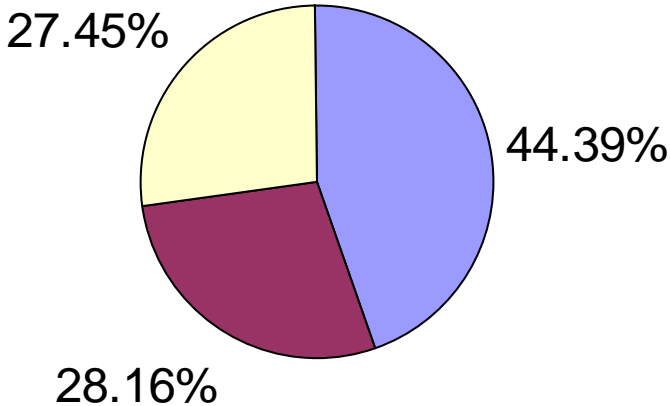
2.) Which occupational category do you fall into?



- Government - Federal
- Government - State
- Government - Local
- Business (less than 100 employees)
- Business (more than 100 and less than 500 employees)
- Business (more than 500 employees)

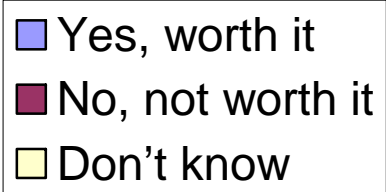
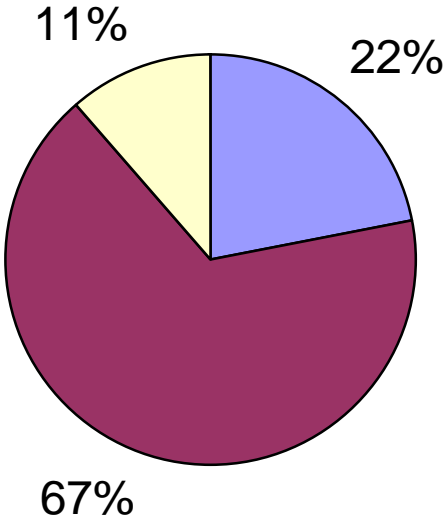
N=577

3.) When you reflect on all of the challenges that we face in the future, do you think that North Carolina is heading in the right direction, or do you think it is heading in the wrong direction?



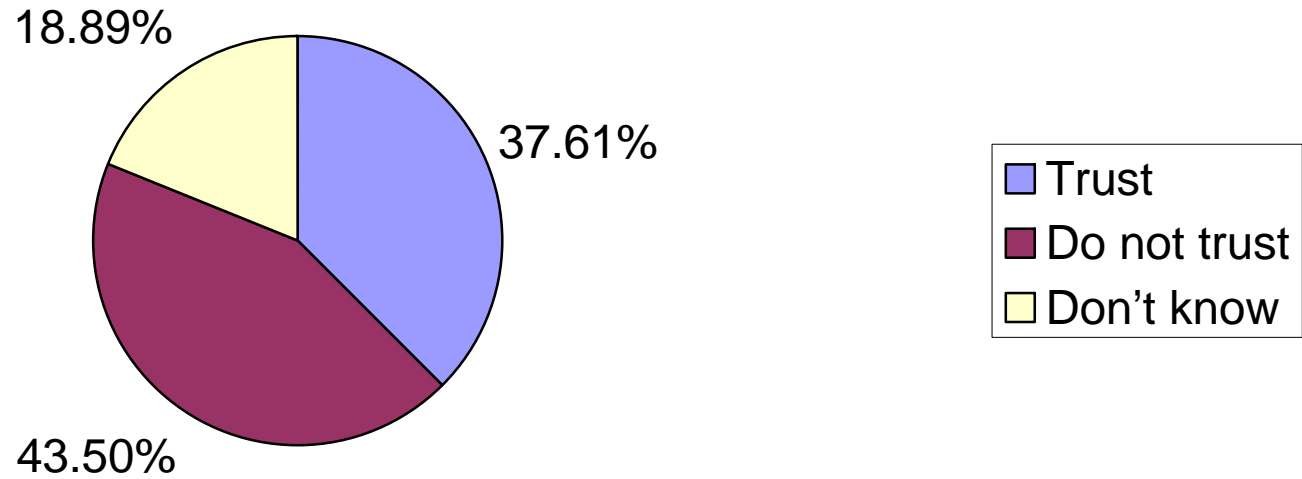
N=561

4.) Is the pursuit of prosperity through an economic development strategy based on low-cost fossil fuels worth the associated environmental impact?



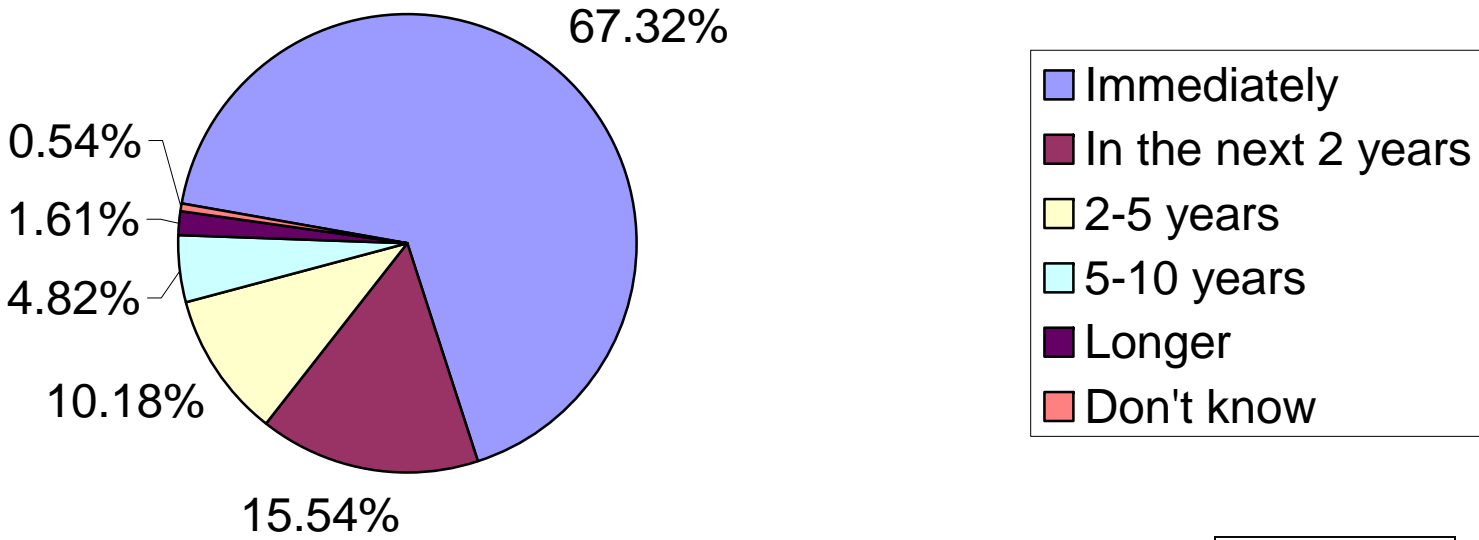
N=558

5.) Do you trust our leaders in business and government to solve the most important issues facing our state, or do you not trust them to solve these problems?



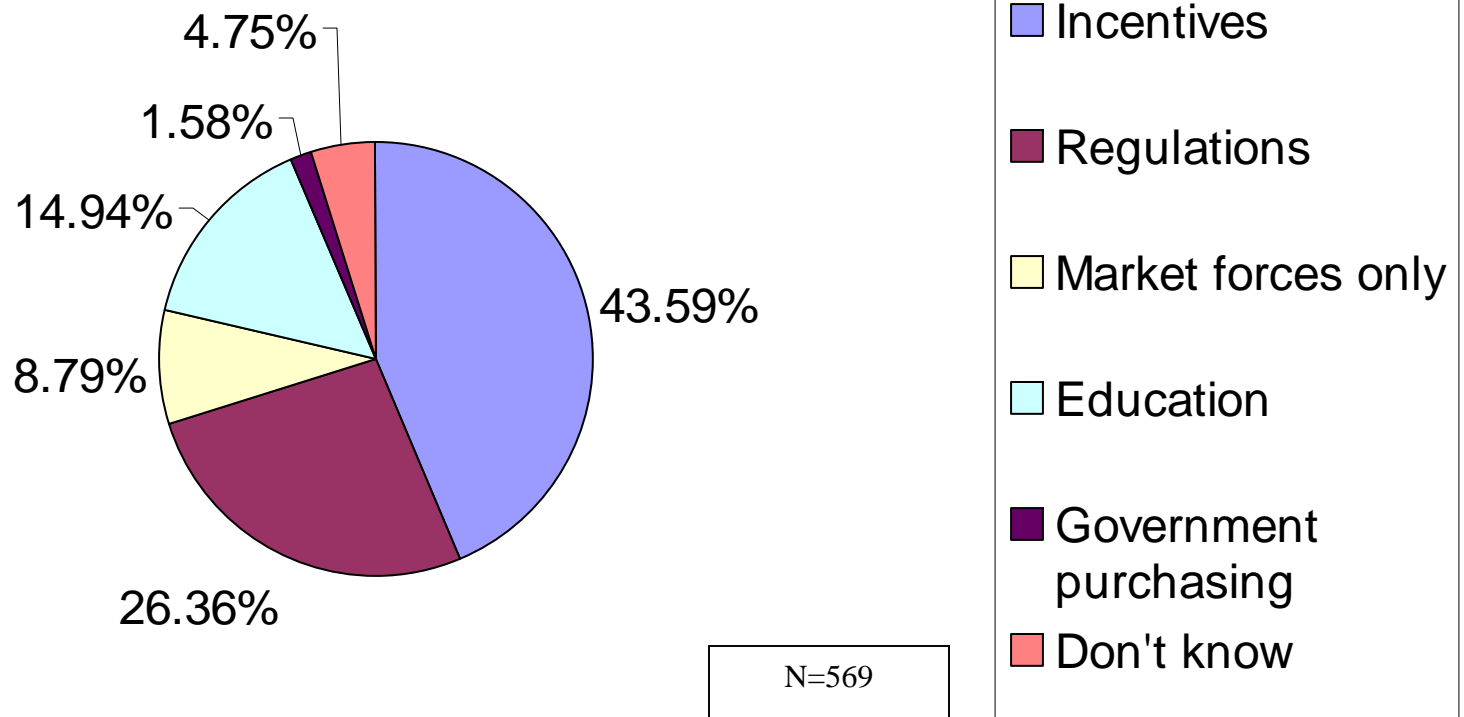
N=577

6.) How quickly does the state need to act to address our energy and climate change challenges?



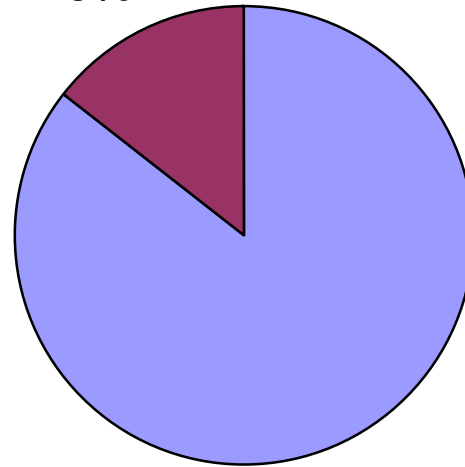
N=560

7.) What do you think is the best way for government to address our energy and climate problems?



8.) I have replaced at least one of the incandescent light bulbs in my house with more efficient fluorescent bulbs.

14.45%

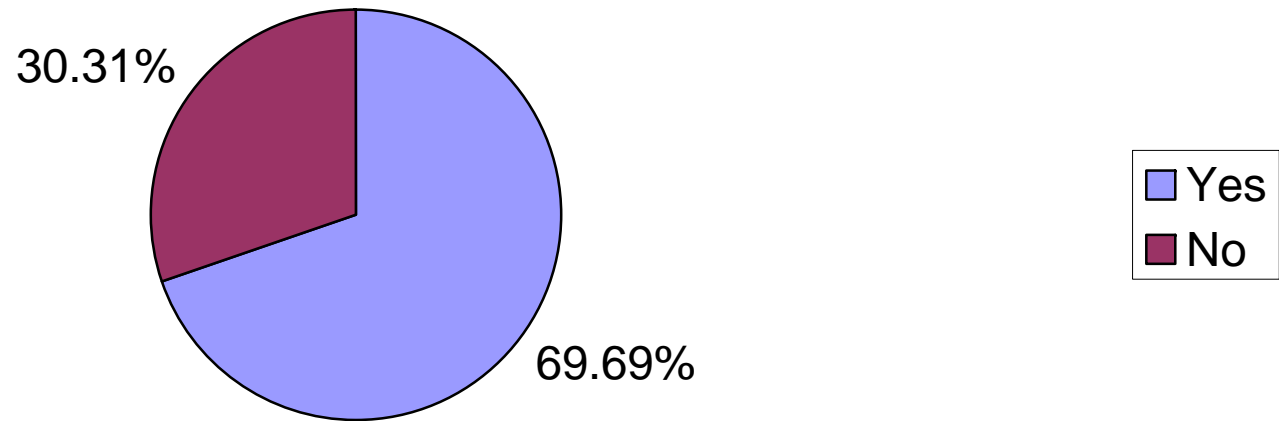


85.55%

Yes
No

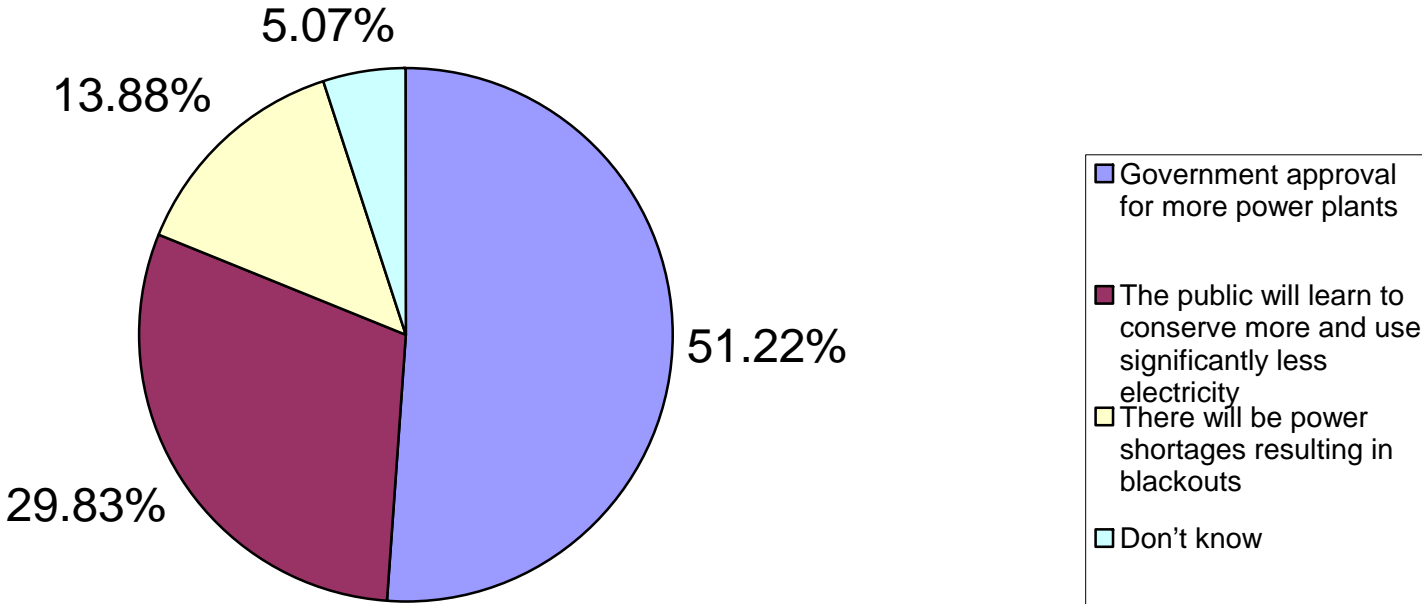
N=602

9.) Do wind turbines provide a large enough energy benefit to outweigh the impact on the scenic beauty of the mountains and the coast?



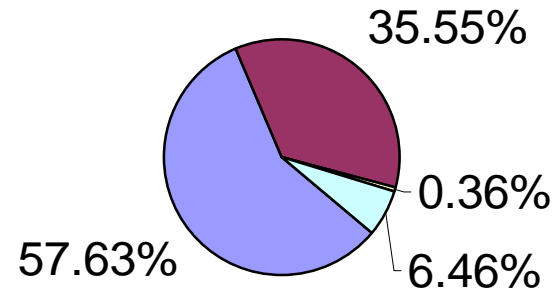
N=584

10.) Which of the following do you think is most likely to happen to meet growing demand for power in the Carolinas?



N=533

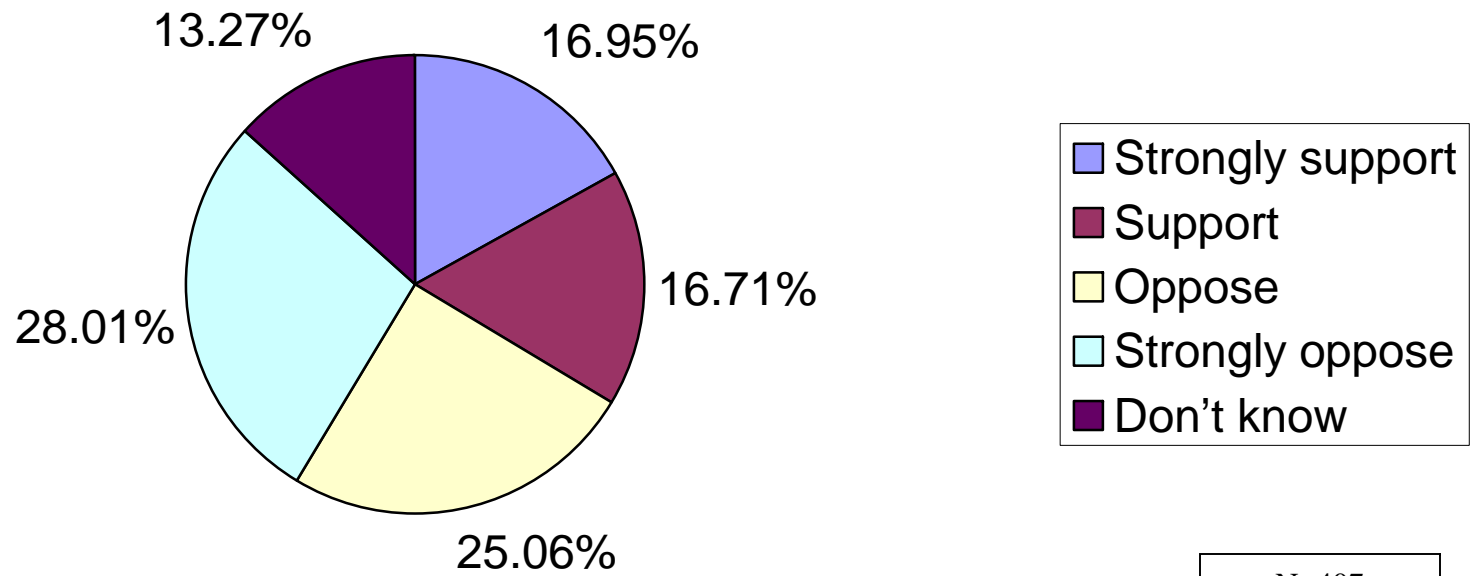
11.) Which of the following policy options should the state emphasize to meet our growing demand for electricity?



N=557

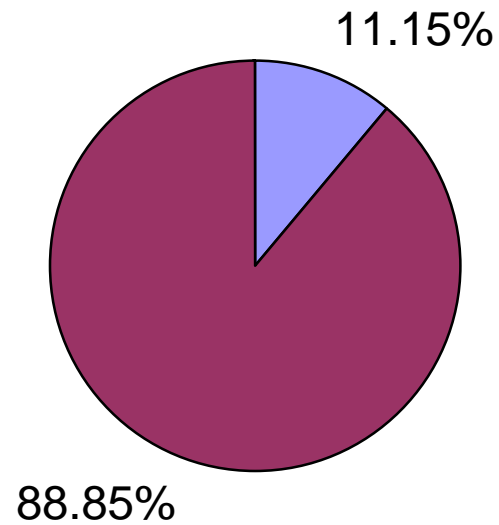
- Greater efficiency and reliance on renewable sources of energy
- Diversify fuel sources, including coal, renewables and nuclear energy, provided that older coal plants are closed
- Reliance on the lowest cost fuel, which is likely to be coal in the short run
- None of the above, we need to significantly reduce demand

12.) Do you support or are you opposed to a tax on vehicle miles traveled instead of the current state tax on gasoline?



N=407

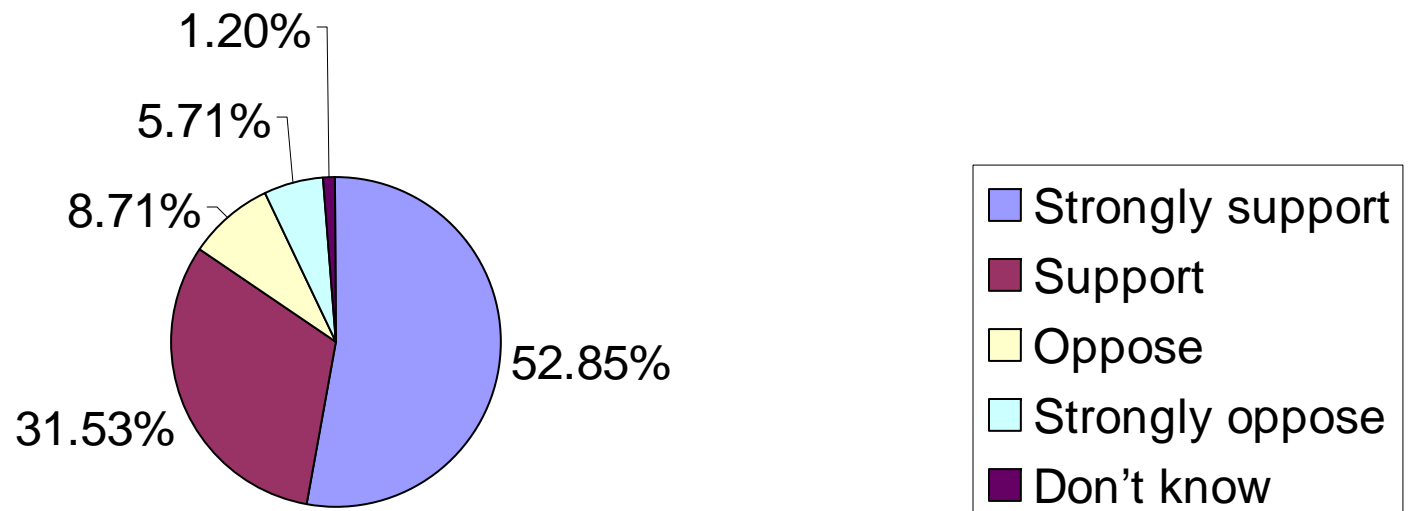
13.) As a general principle, should utility companies be compensated only for selling energy to meet demand, or compensated additionally for encouraging energy efficiency?



- Compensate them for energy sales only
- Compensate them in addition for encouraging efficiency

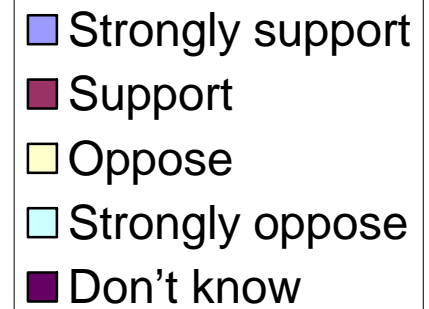
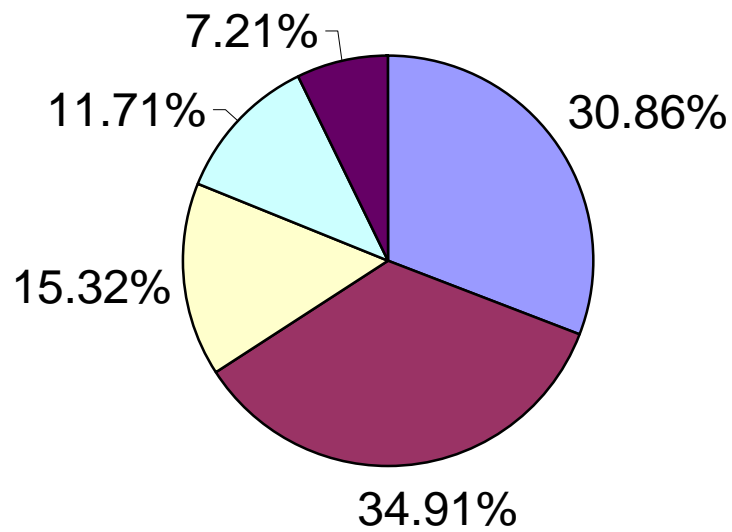
N=314

14.) Would you support or oppose a public fund for renewable energy research and consumer education on energy efficiency if it added a \$1.50 to the average monthly residential electric bill?



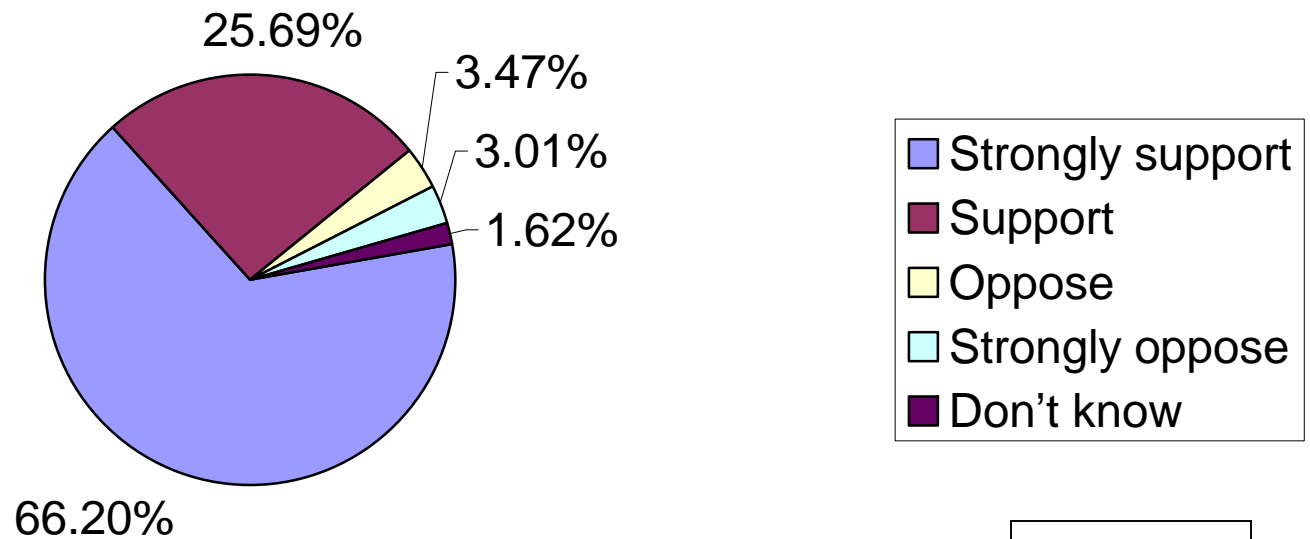
N=333

15.) Do you support or are you opposed to mandated statewide rules on land use planning to reduce the amount of miles driven in North Carolina?



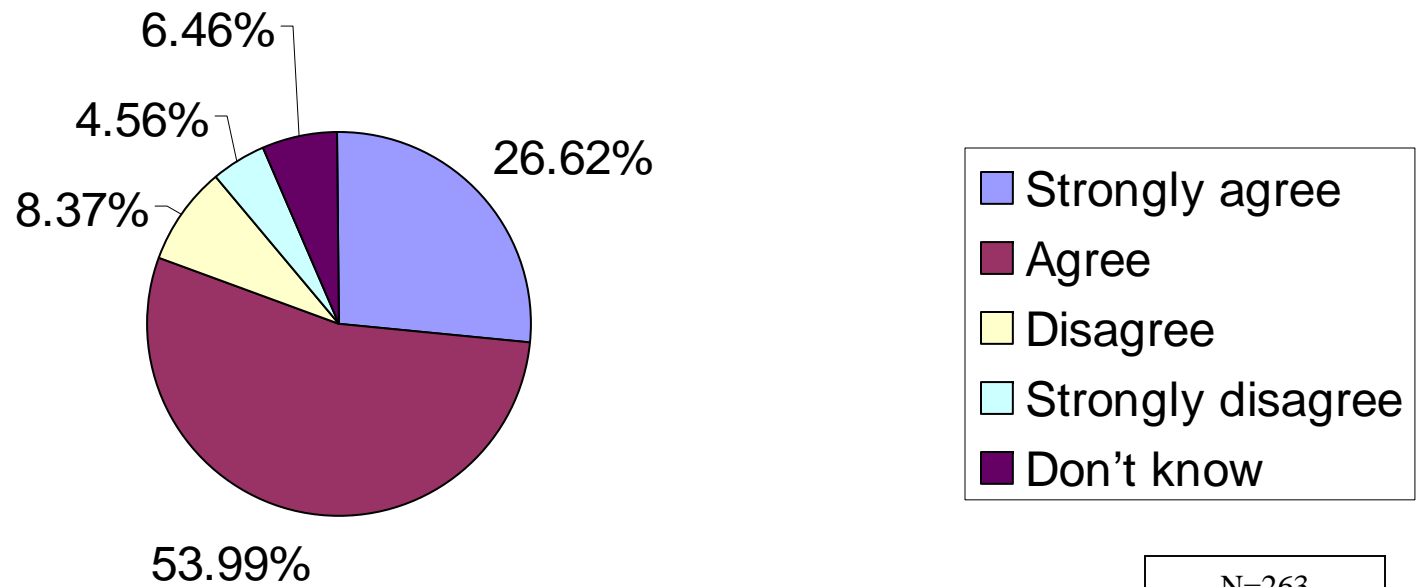
N=444

16.) Do you support or are you opposed to the government charging a fee on the purchase of high emission vehicles, and offering a rebate on the purchase of low emission vehicles?



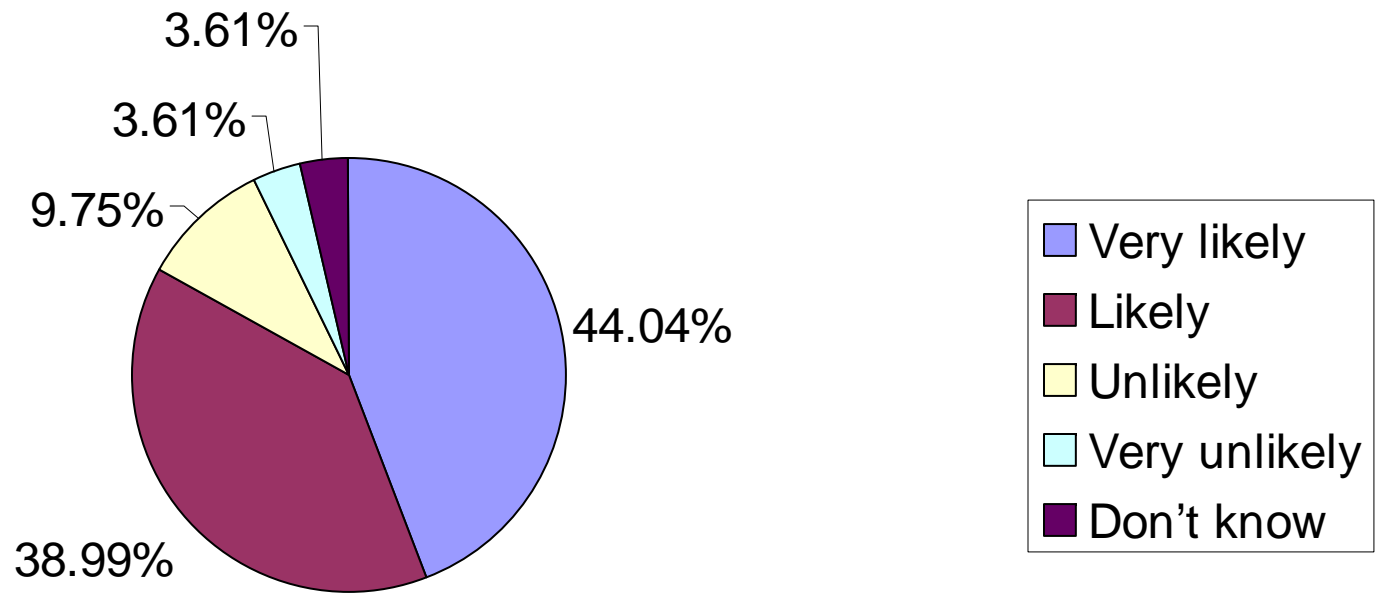
N=432

17.) The Forum will promote new thinking in NC about economic development opportunities in the new energy economy.



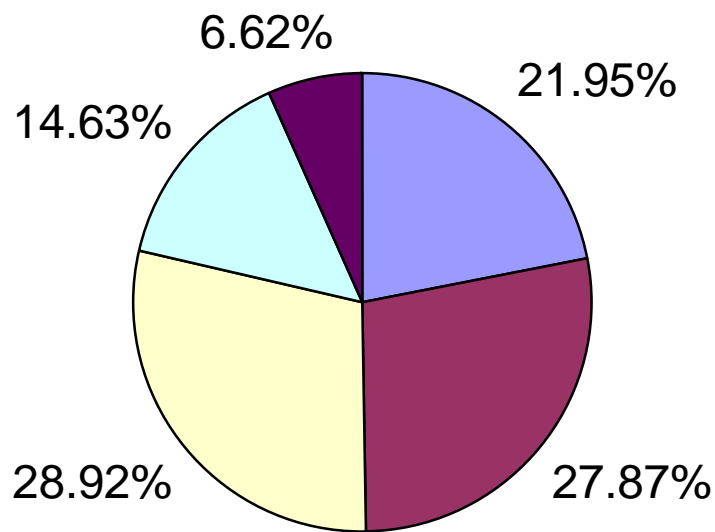
N=263

18.) How likely is it that you will take what you have learned at the Forum and apply it to your work?



N=277

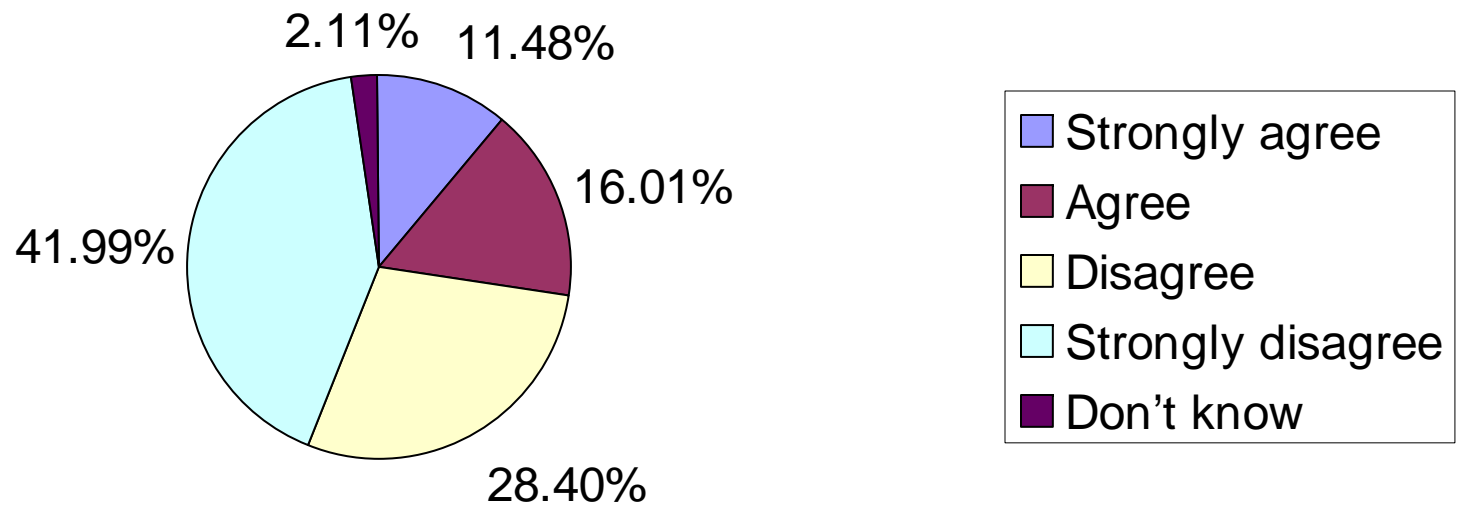
19.) When do you think global oil production will start to decline permanently?



- It's already happened but we do not know it
- In the next 10 years
- In the next 10-20 years
- Not for the foreseeable future
- Don't know

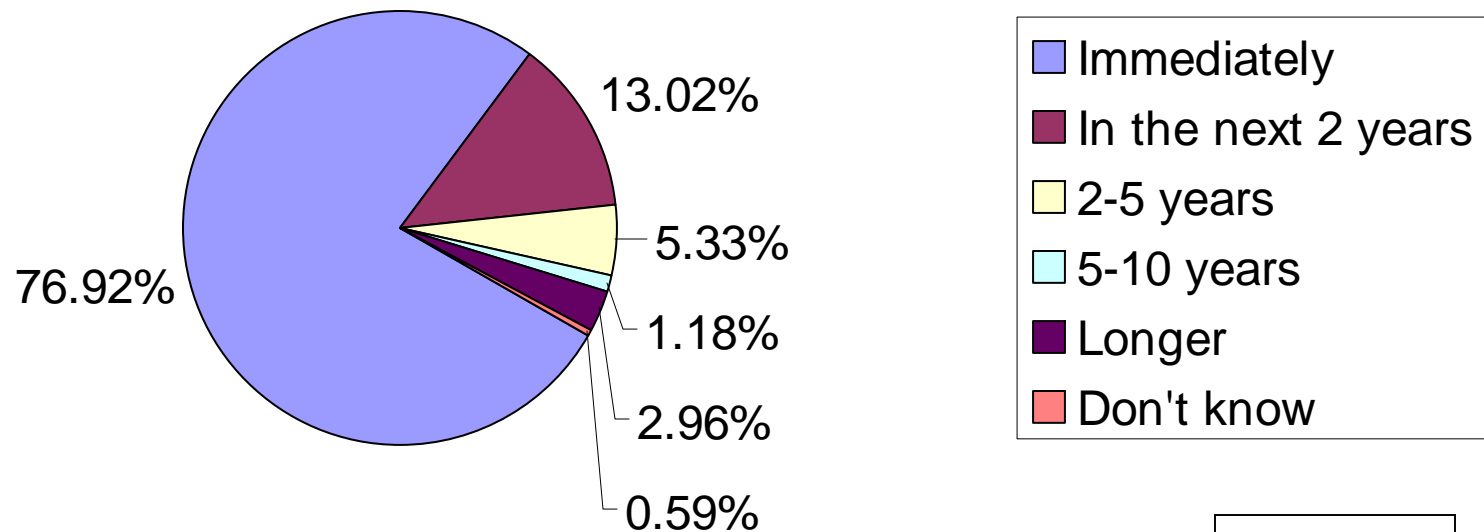
N=287

20.) Do you agree or disagree that we should open up as much land as possible to explore for additional oil and gas in the United States, including offshore?



N=331

21.) How quickly does the state need to act to address our energy and climate change challenges?



N=338