

About Northwest RiverPartners

Northwest RiverPartners is a member-driven organization founded in 2005 that proudly represents nonprofits, community-owned electric utilities and other partners who support clean energy, low carbon transportation and agricultural jobs.

Research Purpose

Northwest RiverPartners conducts research to understand how people in the Pacific Northwest view hydropower. The results continue to show strong support for hydropower as clean, affordable energy that helps protect the environment and is a key part of our energy future.

Methodology

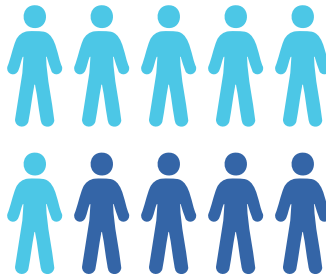
More than 1,600 residents from Oregon, Washington, Idaho and Montana completed a short hybrid (online and text-to-online) survey in October 2024.

Key Findings



3 in 4

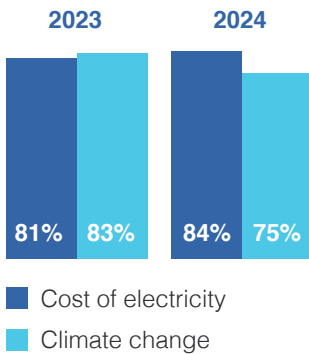
Pacific Northwest residents support hydropower produced by dams.



6 in 10

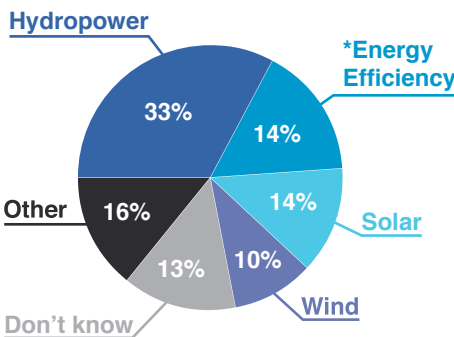
residents consider hydropower a renewable energy source.

Percent of residents concerned about electricity costs and climate change



Affordability overtook climate change as the most serious issue in 2024.

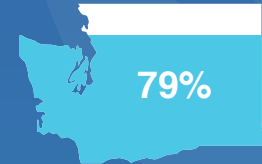
Most important energy source for the Pacific Northwest



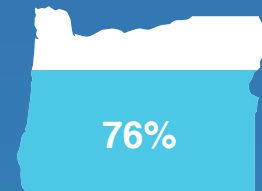
Residents consider hydropower the most important source of electrical energy.

*Technically energy efficiency is not a source of energy generation, but it does reduce demand and represents a way to meet electricity needs.

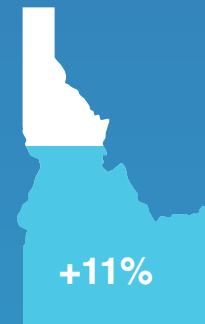
State-specific Findings



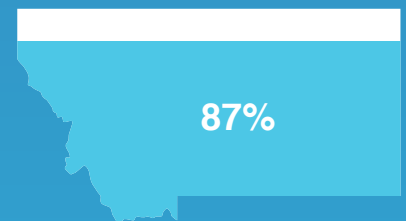
79% of Washington residents polled support the use of dams to produce electricity.



76% of Oregonians are more likely to support dams knowing that recent research shows salmon populations have more than doubled since dams were constructed.



The number of Idaho residents who view hydropower as both renewable and carbon-free increased by 11% from 64% to 75% since 2023.



87% of Montana residents surveyed said cost of electricity is a serious problem.

Learn more about how hydropower supports our future at nwriverspartners.org