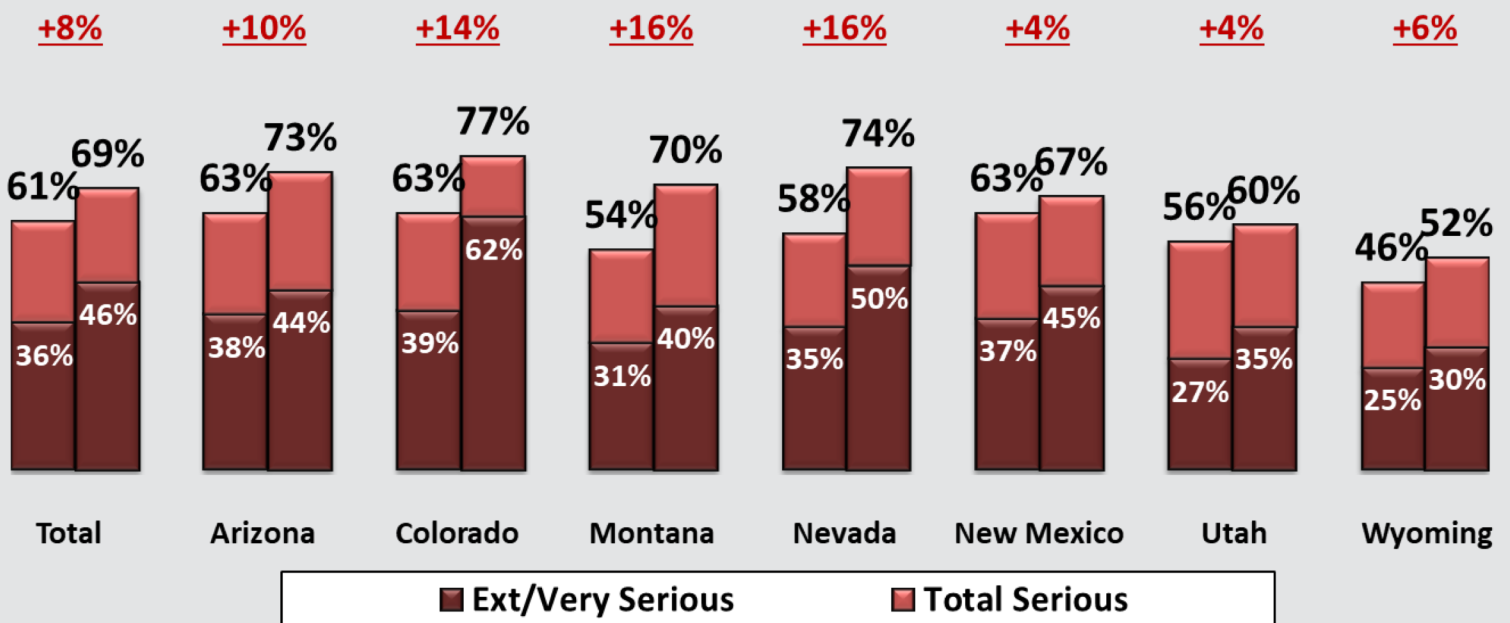


# Climate Change in the West

*A majority of Western voters say that climate change is a serious problem today, up significantly in just the last few years.*

The perception that climate change is a serious problem has increased in every state from 2016 when we last asked, so that a majority in each state now view it as a serious problem. Coloradans are slightly more apt to say that climate change is a serious problem, and by far the most intense in this view with 62% now saying it is an extremely or very serious problem, up 23 points in just the last few years.

Climate Change – By State Since 2016



The perception that climate change is a serious problem has also increased across party lines throughout the West, although a divide persists. Today virtually all Democrats say it is a serious problem (93%, up 12 points since 2016), while three-quarters of independents say the same (76%, up eight points). A near majority of 45% of GOP voters in the West say climate change is a serious problem, up eight points in the last few years.

*Two-thirds of Western voters say that water supplies in the West are becoming more unpredictable.*

Water supplies in the West are becoming more unpredictable every year.

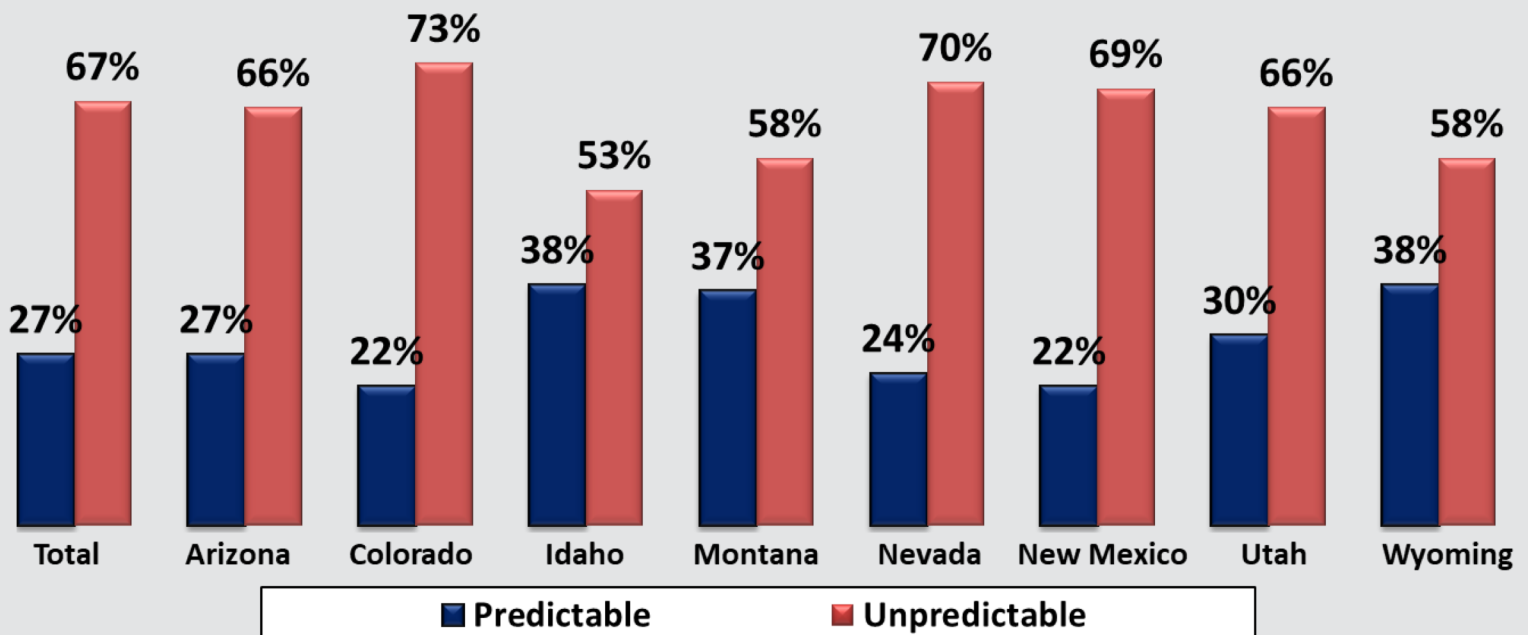
67%

The amount of rain and snow in the West is pretty predictable over time.

27%

A majority in each state say that water is becoming more unpredictable, as the next graph depicts.

Water Supply Predictability – By State



*Two-thirds of Western voters also say that wild fires in the West are more of a problem than ten years ago.*

Do you think wildfires in the West are - more of a problem than ten years ago, less of a problem than ten years ago -- or about the same?

More of a problem than ten years ago

67%

Less of a problem than ten years ago

3%

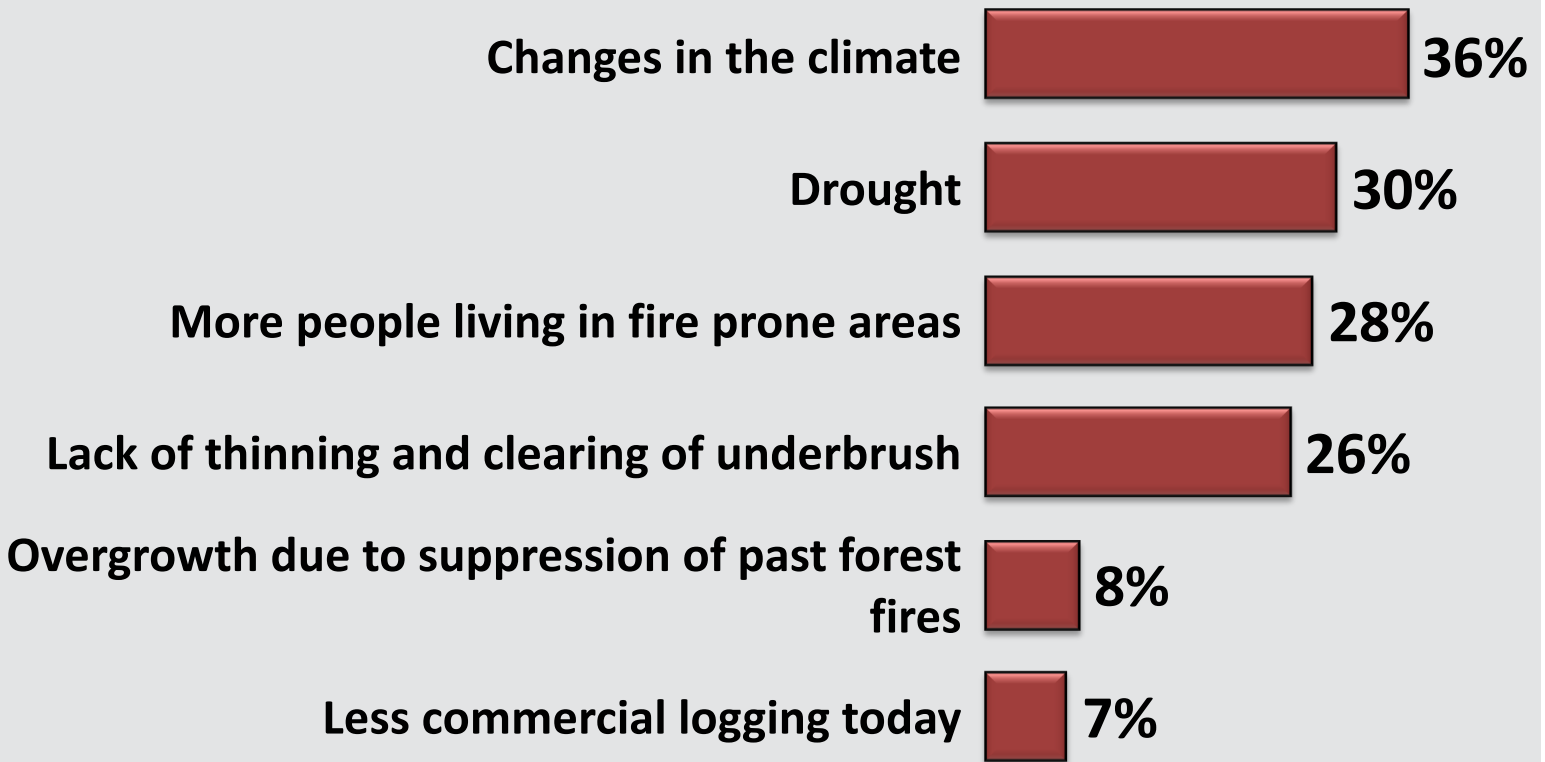
About the same

27%

Women across the political spectrum are more likely to view wildfires as a problem, with Democrat women being the most concerned (78% more of a problem than 10 years ago) and Independent and Republican women at the same level of concern (68% more of a problem than 10 years ago).



Western voters point to changes in the climate and drought as the main reasons for more wildfires.



*\*Only asked among those who say fires are more of a problem.*

There are modest partisan distinctions in what is perceived to be the main cause of more wildfires in the West. Democrats cite changes in the climate as the main reason they believe wildfires are more of a problem now than ten years ago (52%). Independents are more split with 39% saying changes in the climate is the main reason and 31% saying drought. Republicans are more likely to point to the lack of thinning of underbrush as the main reason for more wildfires (41%).

