



# Survey of Opinions of Alabama Citizens Related to Alabama Water Policy, 2013

Alabama Department of Environmental Management (ADEM)

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# EXECUTIVE SUMMARY

The Alabama Department of Environmental Management (ADEM) commissioned a public opinion survey from the Center for Governmental Services at Auburn University, in November, 2013. The study assesses Alabamians' perceptions and attitudes about water resources and obtains public opinions about policy issues related to the management, conservation and enhancement of these resources. A random sample of Alabama residents was contacted by phone to participate in the survey; 600 residents completed the questionnaire. Below is a summary of the key findings.

Overall, Alabamians share the opinion that Alabama's environment is in good shape. A large majority of survey respondents (89%) rated the general quality of the environment as "very good" or "fairly good."

Survey respondents are split, about evenly, between how they see changes to water and air quality over the past thirty years. About one-third rated air and water quality as "cleaner," another third rated them as the "same," and the remaining third rated them as "dirtier."

Survey respondents are most concerned about "water pollution" and "illegal dumps or garbage or solid waste" above any other environmental problems facing Alabama today (both 23% respectively). They recognize the single biggest source of air pollution as being "car, trucks and other vehicles" (38%) and the single biggest source of water pollution as being "illegal dumping of litter or wastes by individuals" (30%).

Government oversight is a key mechanism for helping to safeguard the environment. A majority of survey respondents agree that environmental

standards protect public health (76%) and the environment, and that Alabama's environmental laws are sufficient (56%). However, opinions are split about whether environmental laws are adequately enforced, and respondents mostly agree that local zoning laws are needed to address environmental impacts of development not regulated by the state (68%).

How to address the environmental violations is an important issue. Only 9% of respondents believe the penalty amount for violations of environmental regulations is "too high." Twenty-six percent think the penalty is "the correct amount," but the largest number (41%) see it as "too low." The majority (62%) of respondents indicate that the major objective of a violation finding should be that the violation is "quickly corrected" rather than the industry or business be fined.

To keep protecting the environment, Alabama has dedicated funding to critical environmental programs throughout the state. Alabamians largely (54%) believe environment programs in Alabama are "under-funded;" 20% said the programs are "adequately funded," and only 5% feel they are "over-funded."

The information gathered by this study examines citizens' current knowledge, thoughts, perceptions, and concerns as it relates to Alabama's natural resources. Citizens play a vital role in the protection of natural resources, the development of environmental policies, and the funding mechanisms that support environmental protection. The information contained in this study is one of many tools that can be utilized to focus resources, both financial and technical, to enhance the protection of Alabama's air, land, and water resources.

# METHODS

The Alabama Department of Environmental Management contracted with the Center for Governmental Services' (CGS) Survey Research Lab (SRL) at Auburn University, to conduct this study of public opinion and awareness of state water resource policies. The questionnaire for this study was based on a previous survey conducted in 2008 and consists of 14 questions that took respondents about seven minutes to complete.

The SRL's Computer Assisted Telephone Interviewing (CATI) software was used to implement the survey. The CATI software allows interviewers to read survey questions from the computer screen, and to record responses and call dispositions directly into the computer as the survey is being conducted. Before commencing with calls, the SRL trained interviewers on proper interviewing and data collection techniques. Throughout the study, the SRL's professional staff monitored, supervised, and evaluated interviewers in order to maintain survey quality.

A random contact list of 7,000 Alabama resident phone numbers, and an automated computer system was used to randomly dial the sample. Multiple callbacks were made to reach respondents. Telephone interviews were conducted primarily during weekday evening hours and weekend daytime hours.

The response rate for the study was calculated by dividing the number of completes by the total number of individuals contacted out of all contact numbers attempted. A total of 15,699 calls and callbacks were made, and 1,325 adult individuals age 19 or older were contacted. Of the individuals who were contacted, 725 declined to participate or did not finish the survey, and 600 completed the survey. Shown in the table below is how the response rate is calculated.

The sample was chosen so as to ensure that each region of the state was represented in proportion to its population. The sample's geographic, gender, race, and age distributions were weighted to be proportionate to the United States Census Bureau's data for Alabama's adult (18+ years of age) householders.

SPSS (Statistical Package for Social Science) was used to analyze and test the data. A profile of the respondents was prepared using descriptive analysis. For this report, the results were clustered into the five subject categories: 1) Overall Environmental Quality, 2) Water Quality, 3) Air Quality, 4) Laws and Regulations, 5) Violations and Penalties, and 6) Funding. Due to rounding, some charts reporting mean scores may not sum to one-hundred percent.

### Survey Response Rate

	Calls Made	Attempted	Refusals	Completes	Response Rate (%)
Alabama Residents	15,699	6,479	725	600	45%

# RESULTS

## Population Characteristics

### Gender

Gender	Number	Percent
Female	297	49%
Male	265	44%
No Answer	38	6%

### Age

Age	Number	Percent
18-24	59	10%
25-34	97	16%
35-54	218	36%
55+	204	34%
No Answer	22	4%

### Ethnicity / Race

Ethnicity / Race	Number	Percent
White	360	60%
African American	180	30%
Hispanic	11	2%
Asian	1	0%
Indian (American) or Alaska Native	8	1%
Multiracial	16	3%
Other	3	1%
No Answer	21	4%

## Education

Education	Number	Percent
Some Grade School	11	2%
Some High School	63	10%
Graduated High School	118	20%
Career/Technical School	25	4%
Some College	156	26%
Graduated College	133	22%
Graduate/Professional School	76	13%
No Answer	19	3%

## Income

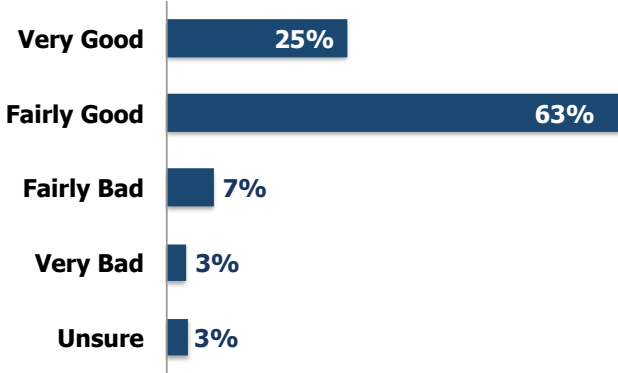
Income	Number	Percent
\$20,000 or Less	80	13%
\$20,001 - \$30,000	66	11%
\$30,001 - 50,000	105	17%
\$50,001 - \$70,000	74	12%
\$70,001 - \$100,000	58	10%
\$100,001 - \$150,000	32	5%
More than \$150,000	23	4%
No Answer	162	27%

## Location

Place	Number	Percent
Urban	99	16%
Suburban	104	17%
Medium Size City	175	29%
Small Town	129	21%
Rural	5	1%
No Answer	13	2%

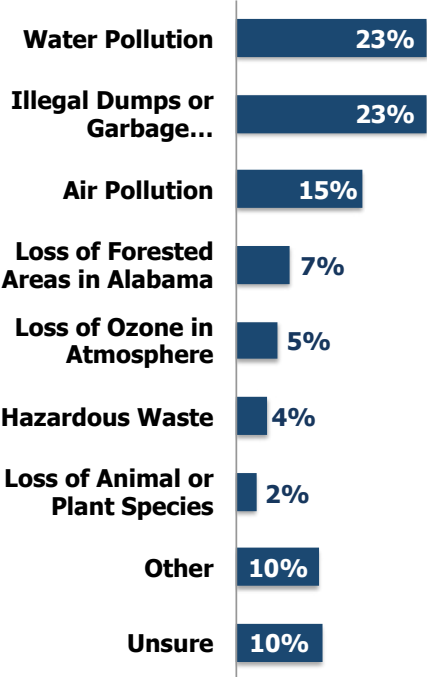
# Overall Environmental Quality

## Quality of Environment in Alabama



Rating	Number	Percent
Very Good	150	25%
Fairly Good	377	63%
Fairly Bad	39	7%
Very Bad	16	3%
Unsure	18	3%

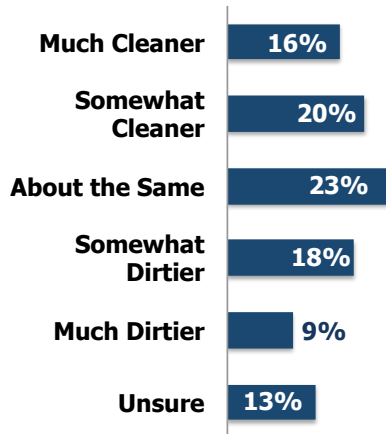
## Most Important Environmental Problem Facing Alabama Today



Problem	Number	Percent
Water Pollution	140	23%
Illegal Dumps or Garbage or Solid Waste	139	23%
Air Pollution	92	15%
Loss of Forested Areas in Alabama	39	7%
Loss of Ozone in Atmosphere	31	5%
Hazardous Waste	23	4%
Loss of Animal or Plant Species	14	2%
Other	60	10%
Unsure	63	10%

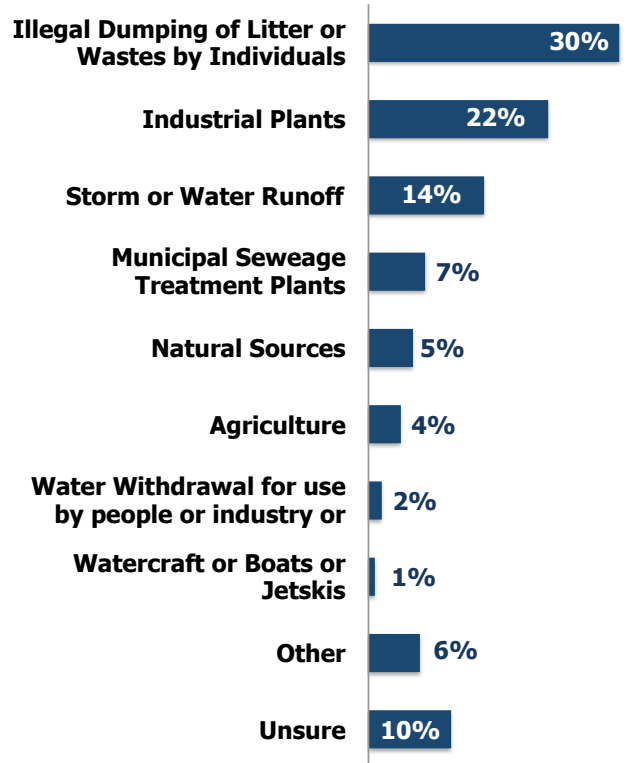
## Water Quality

**Water Quality in Alabama Compared with 30 Years Ago**



Rating	Number	Percent
Much Cleaner	97	16%
Somewhat Cleaner	119	20%
About the Same	140	23%
Somewhat Dirtier	110	18%
Much Dirtier	57	9%
Unsure	77	13%

**Single Biggest Source of Water Pollution**

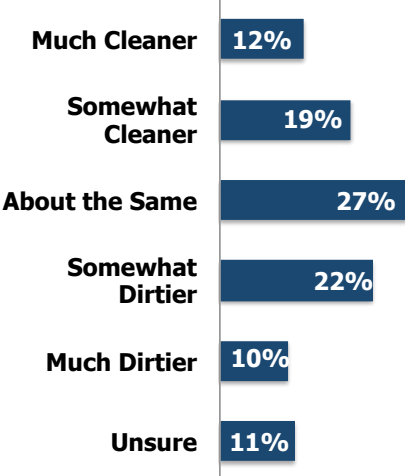


Source	Number	Percent
Illegal Dumping of Litter or Wastes by Individuals	181	30%
Industrial Plants	129	22%
Storm or Water Runoff	83	14%
Municipal Sewage Treatment Plants	41	7%
Natural Sources	32	5%
Agriculture	23	4%
Water Withdrawal for Use by People or Industry or Government	10	2%
Watercraft or Boats or Jetskis	5	1%
Other	37	6%
Unsure	59	10%



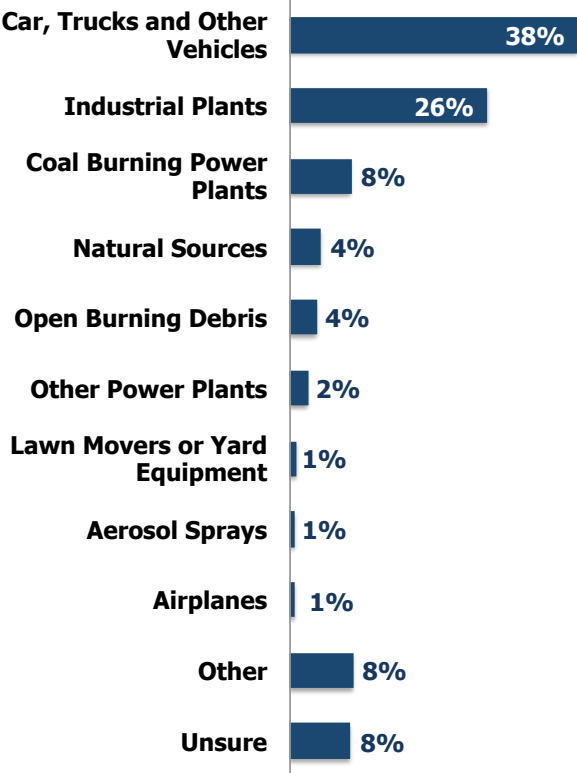
# Air Quality

## Air Quality Compared to 30 Years Ago



Rating	Number	Percent
Much Cleaner	72	12%
Somewhat Cleaner	113	19%
About the Same	161	27%
Somewhat Dirtier	131	22%
Much Dirtier	59	10%
Unsure	65	11%

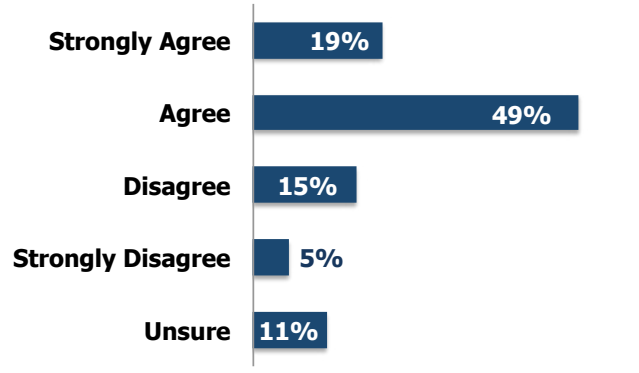
## Single Biggest Source of Air Pollution



Source	Number	Percent
Car, Trucks and Other Vehicles	226	38%
Industrial Plants	155	26%
Coal Burning Power Plants	48	8%
Natural Sources	25	4%
Open Burning Debris	21	4%
Other Power Plants	14	2%
Lawn Movers or Yard Equipment	6	1%
Aerosol Sprays	4	1%
Airplanes	4	1%
Other	50	8%
Unsure	47	8%

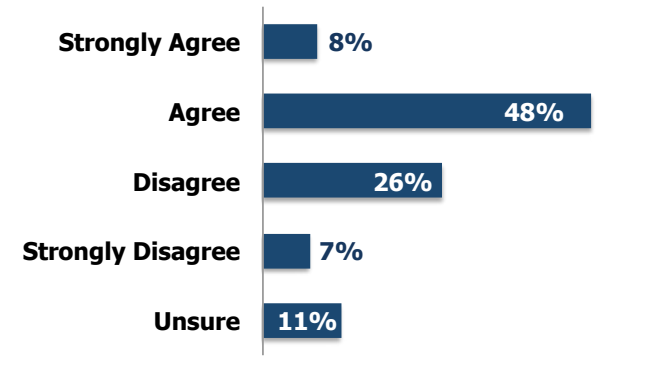
## Laws and Regulations

### Local Zoning Laws Are Needed to Address Environmental Impacts of Development Not Regulated by the State



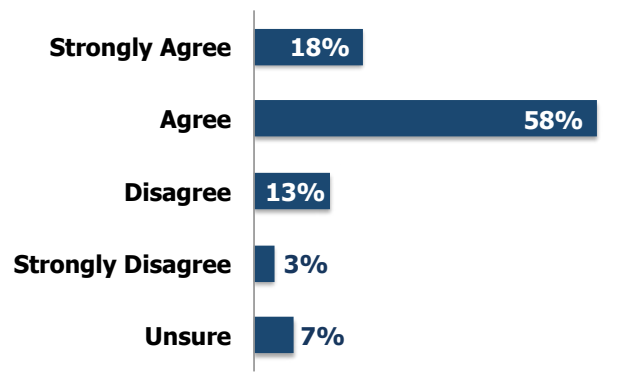
Level of Agreement	Number	Percent
Strongly Agree	116	19%
Agree	293	49%
Disagree	93	15%
Strongly Disagree	33	5%
Unsure	66	11%

### Environmental Laws in Effect in Alabama Are Sufficient to Protect Public Health and the Environment



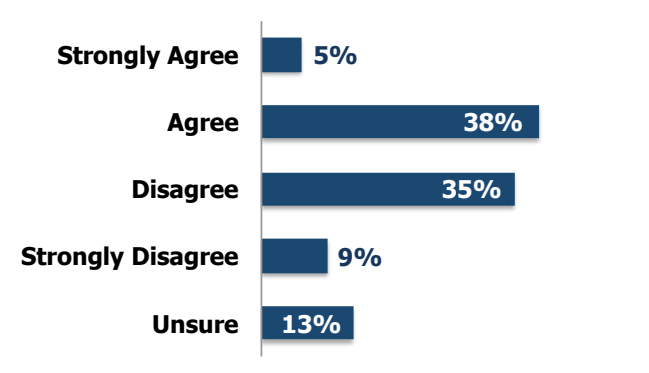
Level of Agreement	Number	Percent
Strongly Agree	48	8%
Agree	287	48%
Disagree	157	26%
Strongly Disagree	41	7%
Unsure	68	11%

### Environmental Standards Protect Your Health and The Environment



Level of Agreement	Number	Percent
Strongly Agree	111	18%
Agree	350	58%
Disagree	78	13%
Strongly Disagree	21	3%
Unsure	41	7%

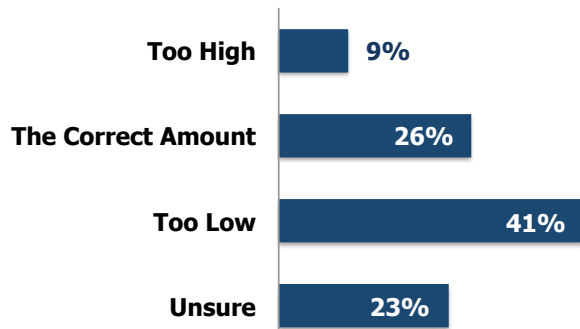
### Environmental Laws Are Being Enforced in Alabama



Level of Agreement	Number	Percent
Strongly Agree	33	5%
Agree	229	38%
Disagree	209	35%
Strongly Disagree	55	9%
Unsure	75	13%

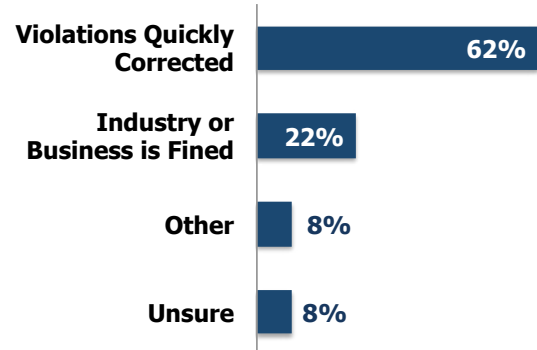
## Violations and Penalties

When an industry or business is fined for violations of environmental regulations, do you feel the penalty amount is...



Penalty is...	Number	Percent
Too High	57	9%
The Correct Amount	156	26%
Too Low	249	41%
Unsure	138	23%

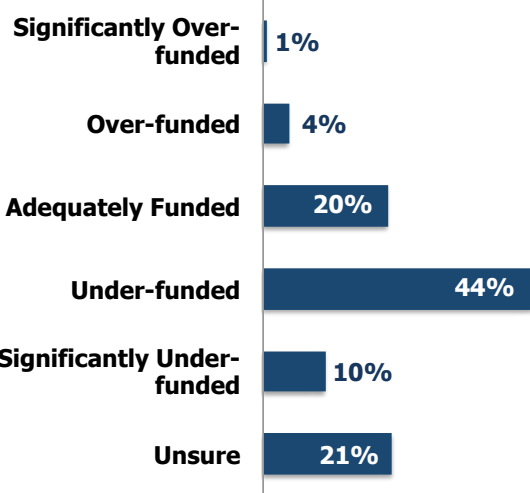
What should be the major objective when a violation of environmental regulations is discovered at an industry or business...



Objective	Number	Percent
Violations Quickly Corrected	371	62%
Industry or Business is Fined	131	22%
Other	86	8%
Unsure	48	8%

## Funding

Overall, how would you rate the funding of state environmental programs in Alabama?



Programs are...	Number	Percent
Significantly Over-funded	4	1%
Over-funded	25	4%
Adequately Funded	122	20%
Under-funded	263	44%
Significantly Under-funded	61	10%
Unsure	126	21%

## Appendix A: Cross Tabulations

Question	Age						Race / Ethnicity				Income						Gender					
	18-34		35-54		55+		White		African American & Other		Up to \$30,000		\$30,001 - 50,000		\$50,001 - \$70,000		More than \$70,000		Female		Male	
	#	%	#	%	#	%	#	%	#	%	#	%	#	%	#	%	#	%	#	%	#	%
<b>Quality of Environment in Alabama</b>																						
Very Good	35	22%	61	28%	47	23%	102	28%	44	20%	35	24%	26	25%	12	16%	31	27%	62	21%	77	29%
Fairly Good	99	63%	137	63%	128	62%	215	60%	146	66%	94	64%	67	64%	47	64%	72	63%	189	63%	167	63%
Fairly Bad	11	7%	9	4%	18	9%	26	7%	14	6%	11	7%	6	6%	4	5%	11	10%	26	9%	12	5%
Very Bad	5	3%	6	3%	5	2%	5	1%	10	5%	4	3%	0	0%	6	8%	1	1%	10	3%	5	2%
Unsure	6	4%	6	3%	7	3%	12	3%	6	3%	3	2%	6	6%	4	5%	0	0%	11	4%	5	2%
<b>Most Important Environmental Problem Facing Alabama Today</b>																						
Water Pollution	30	19%	51	23%	55	27%	109	30%	26	12%	25	17%	20	19%	22	30%	37	33%	62	21%	70	26%
Air Pollution	31	20%	37	17%	21	10%	46	13%	43	19%	25	17%	18	17%	6	8%	14	13%	57	19%	32	12%
Illegal Dumps or Garbage or Solid Waste	38	25%	62	28%	34	17%	77	22%	59	27%	35	24%	32	31%	16	22%	31	28%	66	22%	65	24%
Hazardous Waste	4	3%	8	4%	9	4%	11	3%	10	5%	5	3%	4	4%	4	5%	5	4%	12	4%	10	4%
Loss of Animal or Plant Species	6	4%	1	0%	8	4%	4	1%	10	5%	5	3%	1	1%	0	0%	3	3%	8	3%	5	2%
Loss of Forested Areas in Alabama	11	7%	17	8%	11	5%	31	9%	7	3%	7	5%	10	10%	6	8%	6	5%	19	6%	16	6%
Loss of Ozone in Atmosphere	13	8%	7	3%	10	5%	10	3%	21	10%	13	9%	6	6%	2	3%	2	2%	17	6%	14	5%
Other	10	6%	21	10%	25	12%	36	10%	22	10%	15	10%	7	7%	6	8%	10	9%	28	9%	26	10%
Unsure	12	8%	15	7%	31	15%	34	9%	23	10%	18	12%	6	6%	11	15%	4	4%	27	9%	28	11%

Question	Age						Race / Ethnicity				Income						Gender							
	18-34		35-54		55+		White		African American & Other		Up to \$30,000		\$30,001 - 50,000		\$50,001 - \$70,000		More than \$70,000		Female		Male			
	#	%	#	%	#	%	#	%	#	%	#	%	#	%	#	%	#	%	#	%	#	%	#	%
<b>Water Quality in Alabama Compared with 30 Years Ago</b>																								
Much Cleaner	23	15%	34	16%	36	18%	49	14%	48	22%	24	16%	16	15%	16	22%	16	14%	46	15%	43	16%		
Somewhat Cleaner	21	14%	40	18%	55	27%	71	20%	44	20%	27	18%	21	20%	10	14%	22	19%	57	19%	52	20%		
About the Same	39	25%	49	23%	47	23%	84	23%	54	24%	33	22%	36	34%	9	12%	22	19%	71	24%	63	24%		
Somewhat Dirtier	25	16%	44	20%	37	18%	75	21%	32	14%	24	16%	15	14%	17	23%	31	27%	55	19%	48	18%		
Much Dirtier	13	8%	26	12%	16	8%	39	11%	17	8%	16	11%	10	10%	8	11%	13	11%	32	11%	22	8%		
Unsure	32	21%	24	11%	13	6%	42	12%	26	12%	23	16%	7	7%	14	19%	10	9%	36	12%	37	14%		
<b>Single Biggest Source of Water Pollution</b>																								
Municipal Sewage Treatment Plants	9	6%	14	6%	18	9%	22	6%	20	9%	8	5%	4	4%	5	7%	7	6%	23	8%	16	6%		
Industrial Plants	23	15%	57	26%	44	21%	89	25%	36	16%	28	19%	22	21%	20	27%	29	26%	63	21%	60	23%		
Storm or Water Runoff	22	14%	32	15%	29	14%	58	16%	24	11%	18	12%	16	15%	13	18%	19	17%	25	8%	50	19%		
Agriculture	5	3%	9	4%	10	5%	17	5%	6	3%	3	2%	4	4%	1	1%	13	12%	8	3%	15	6%		
Water Withdrawal...	5	3%	1	0%	4	2%	7	2%	2	1%	1	1%	3	3%	2	3%	1	1%	4	1%	5	2%		
Illegal Dumping of Litter or Waste...	65	42%	58	27%	51	25%	99	28%	75	34%	55	37%	39	37%	16	22%	24	21%	101	34%	68	26%		
Watercraft or Boats or Jetskis	1	1%	1	0%	2	1%	3	1%	2	1%	2	1%	0	0%	0	0%	2	2%	2	1%	2	1%		
Natural Sources	8	5%	14	6%	9	4%	12	3%	19	9%	9	6%	5	5%	4	5%	3	3%	17	6%	14	5%		
Other	4	3%	16	7%	15	7%	25	7%	13	6%	5	3%	6	6%	5	7%	11	10%	16	5%	17	6%		
Unsure	14	9%	16	7%	23	11%	28	8%	24	11%	18	12%	6	6%	7	10%	4	4%	38	13%	16	6%		

Question	Age						Race / Ethnicity						Income						Gender						
	18-34		35-54		55+		White			African American & Other			Up to \$30,000		\$30,001 - 50,000		\$50,001 - \$70,000		More than \$70,000		Female		Male		
	#	%	#	%	#	%	#	%	#	%	#	%	#	%	#	%	#	%	#	%	#	%	#	%	
<b>Air Quality Compared to 30 Years Ago</b>																									
Much Cleaner	9	6%	19	9%	43	21%	44	12%	29	13%	23	16%	6	6%	8	11%	21	19%	32	11%	36	14%			
Somewhat Cleaner	22	14%	47	22%	39	19%	67	19%	42	19%	26	18%	22	21%	12	16%	22	19%	53	18%	52	20%			
About the Same	44	28%	58	27%	55	27%	102	28%	56	25%	36	25%	31	30%	19	26%	31	27%	76	26%	74	28%			
Somewhat Dirtier	39	25%	47	22%	41	20%	78	22%	52	24%	29	20%	28	27%	20	27%	23	20%	67	22%	53	20%			
Much Dirtier	12	8%	33	15%	13	6%	38	11%	18	8%	12	8%	11	11%	9	12%	9	8%	36	12%	22	8%			
Unsure	30	19%	13	6%	14	7%	31	9%	24	11%	20	14%	6	6%	6	8%	7	6%	34	11%	29	11%			
<b>Single Biggest Source of Air Pollution</b>																									
Industrial Plants	40	25%	70	32%	43	21%	102	28%	52	24%	31	21%	30	29%	21	28%	34	30%	79	27%	71	27%			
Coal Burning Power Plants	10	6%	18	8%	20	10%	26	7%	19	9%	10	7%	5	5%	8	11%	11	10%	23	8%	23	9%			
Other Power Plants	7	4%	3	1%	5	2%	9	3%	5	2%	3	2%	6	6%	0	0%	5	4%	7	2%	7	3%			
Car, Trucks and Other Vehicles	62	39%	81	37%	75	37%	148	41%	72	33%	55	38%	42	40%	33	45%	38	33%	104	35%	106	40%			
Lawn Movers or Yard Equipment	2	1%	2	1%	2	1%	4	1%	1	0%	0	0%	1	1%	0	0%	1	1%	2	1%	4	2%			
Open Burning Debris	9	6%	6	3%	6	3%	10	3%	11	5%	8	5%	5	5%	2	3%	4	4%	12	4%	8	3%			
Aerosol Sprays	2	1%	0	0%	3	1%	1	0%	3	1%	2	1%	0	0%	1	1%	1	1%	2	1%	1	0%			
Airplanes	1	1%	2	1%	1	0%	0	0%	4	2%	0	0%	2	2%	0	0%	0	0%	3	1%	1	0%			
Natural Sources	6	4%	5	2%	11	5%	9	3%	15	7%	4	3%	5	5%	3	4%	3	3%	13	4%	9	3%			
Other	9	6%	18	8%	20	10%	27	8%	22	10%	12	8%	7	7%	4	5%	14	12%	23	8%	20	8%			
Unsure	9	6%	14	6%	19	9%	24	7%	17	8%	21	14%	1	1%	2	3%	3	3%	29	10%	15	6%			

Question	Age				Race / Ethnicity				Income						Gender								
	18-34		35-54		55+		White		African American & Other		Up to \$30,000		\$30,001 - 50,000		\$50,001 - \$70,000		More than \$70,000		Female		Male		
	#	%	#	%	#	%	#	%	#	%	#	%	#	%	#	%	#	%	#	%	#	%	
<b>Local Zoning Laws Are Needed to Address Environmental Impacts of Development Not Regulated by the State</b>																							
Strongly Agree	28	18%	42	19%	42	21%	70	19%	45	20%	30	21%	20	19%	16	22%	26	23%	52	18%	56	21%	
Agree	88	56%	110	50%	86	42%	179	50%	108	49%	73	50%	63	61%	41	56%	54	48%	162	55%	113	42%	
Disagree	27	17%	29	13%	34	17%	63	18%	27	12%	12	8%	13	13%	11	15%	20	18%	36	12%	53	20%	
Strongly Disagree	5	3%	18	8%	8	4%	17	5%	13	6%	6	4%	2	2%	3	4%	7	6%	12	4%	18	7%	
Unsure	9	6%	19	9%	34	17%	30	8%	28	13%	24	17%	6	6%	2	3%	6	5%	35	12%	26	10%	
<b>Environmental Standards Protect Your Health and the Environment</b>																							
Strongly Agree	32	21%	40	18%	37	18%	67	19%	41	19%	22	15%	22	21%	16	22%	27	24%	64	22%	37	14%	
Agree	98	63%	133	61%	113	55%	223	62%	123	56%	88	60%	57	55%	48	65%	67	60%	164	55%	161	61%	
Disagree	14	9%	29	13%	31	15%	40	11%	35	16%	22	15%	18	17%	6	8%	11	10%	31	10%	46	17%	
Strongly Disagree	3	2%	6	3%	8	4%	12	3%	7	3%	2	1%	1	1%	4	5%	5	4%	9	3%	10	4%	
Unsure	8	5%	9	4%	16	8%	18	5%	14	6%	12	8%	6	6%	0	0%	2	2%	29	10%	11	4%	
<b>Environmental Laws in Effect in Alabama are Sufficient to Protect Public Health and the Environment</b>																							
Strongly Agree	10	6%	22	10%	15	7%	33	9%	15	7%	14	10%	9	9%	3	4%	9	8%	23	8%	20	8%	
Agree	86	55%	109	50%	88	43%	169	47%	111	51%	76	52%	52	50%	32	43%	54	47%	130	44%	140	53%	
Disagree	37	24%	56	26%	59	29%	99	27%	57	26%	36	24%	29	28%	28	38%	34	30%	78	26%	71	27%	
Strongly Disagree	8	5%	11	5%	18	9%	21	6%	18	8%	8	5%	1	1%	6	8%	10	9%	26	9%	10	4%	
Unsure	15	10%	19	9%	24	12%	39	11%	18	8%	13	9%	14	13%	5	7%	7	6%	40	13%	25	9%	
<b>Environmental Laws are Being Enforced in Alabama</b>																							
Strongly Agree	7	5%	16	7%	9	4%	20	6%	11	5%	10	7%	3	3%	0	0%	7	6%	14	5%	16	6%	
Agree	63	41%	90	41%	73	36%	139	39%	85	38%	60	41%	46	44%	22	30%	44	38%	100	34%	113	42%	
Disagree	61	39%	72	33%	68	33%	121	34%	87	39%	49	33%	38	37%	33	45%	40	35%	108	36%	90	34%	
Strongly Disagree	11	7%	18	8%	22	11%	33	9%	21	10%	8	5%	5	5%	12	16%	17	15%	27	9%	21	8%	
Unsure	13	8%	21	10%	32	16%	47	13%	17	8%	21	14%	12	12%	7	9%	7	6%	48	16%	26	10%	



Question	Age				Race / Ethnicity				Income						Gender								
	18-34		35-54		55+		White		African American & Other		Up to \$30,000		\$30,001 - 50,000		\$50,001 - \$70,000		More than \$70,000		Female		Male		
	#	%	#	%	#	%	#	%	#	%	#	%	#	%	#	%	#	%	#	%	#	%	
<b>Overall, How Would You Rate the Funding of State Environmental Programs in Alabama?</b>																							
Significantly Over-funded	2	1%	1	0%	1	0%	3	1%	1	0%	0	0%	0	0%	0	0%	0	0%	1	0%	3	1%	
Over-funded	6	4%	14	6%	5	2%	13	4%	11	5%	6	4%	5	5%	4	5%	3	3%	12	4%	11	4%	
Adequately funded	32	21%	39	18%	47	23%	86	24%	34	15%	23	16%	24	23%	15	20%	31	27%	45	15%	70	26%	
Under-funded	71	46%	101	47%	85	41%	150	42%	110	50%	76	51%	52	50%	30	41%	49	43%	136	46%	107	40%	
Significantly under-funded	15	10%	19	9%	26	13%	30	8%	29	13%	15	10%	9	9%	11	15%	14	12%	32	11%	27	10%	
Unsure	30	19%	43	20%	42	20%	77	21%	36	16%	28	19%	15	14%	14	19%	16	14%	71	24%	47	18%	
<b>When an Industry or Business is Fined for Violations of Environmental Regulations, do You Feel the Penalty Amount is Generally Too High, the Correct Amount, or Too Low?</b>																							
Too High	17	11%	18	8%	19	9%	24	7%	30	14%	18	12%	14	13%	4	5%	8	7%	28	9%	26	10%	
The Correct Amount	58	38%	49	22%	48	24%	107	30%	48	22%	35	24%	29	28%	19	26%	36	32%	74	25%	72	27%	
Too Low	51	33%	96	44%	94	46%	145	40%	100	45%	61	41%	49	47%	32	44%	50	44%	116	39%	118	45%	
Unsure	28	18%	55	25%	43	21%	84	23%	42	19%	33	22%	12	12%	18	25%	19	17%	79	27%	49	18%	
<b>What Should Be the Major Objective When a Violation of Environmental Regulations is Discovered at an Industry or Business</b>																							
Violations Quickly Corrected	104	67%	134	61%	127	62%	230	64%	138	62%	89	61%	65	62%	53	72%	81	71%	184	62%	164	62%	
Industry or Business is Fined	31	20%	40	18%	54	26%	76	21%	50	23%	33	23%	23	22%	9	12%	20	18%	60	20%	60	23%	
Other	13	8%	30	14%	7	3%	35	10%	16	7%	11	8%	12	11%	11	15%	10	9%	22	7%	25	9%	
Unsure	8	5%	15	7%	16	8%	19	5%	17	8%	13	9%	5	5%	1	1%	3	3%	31	10%	15	6%	

## Appendix B: Survey Questions

1. Overall, how would you rate the quality of the environment in Alabama? Would you say very good, fairly good, fairly bad, or very bad?
  - 1) Very Good
  - 2) Fairly Good
  - 3) Fairly Bad
  - 4) Very Bad
  - 5) Don't Know
  - 6) No Answer
  
2. What is the most important environmental problem facing Alabama today?
  - 1) Water Pollution
  - 2) Air Pollution
  - 3) Illegal Dumps/ Garbage/ Solid Waste
  - 4) Hazardous Waste
  - 5) Loss of Animal/ Plant Species
  - 6) Loss of Forested Areas in Alabama
  - 7) Loss of O-Zone in the Atmosphere
  - 8) Other [Specify]
  - 9) Don't Know
  - 10) No Answer
  
3. Thinking specifically about water quality in Alabama, how do you think it compares with 30 years ago; is it...
  - 1) Much cleaner
  - 2) Somewhat cleaner
  - 3) About the same
  - 4) Somewhat dirtier
  - 5) Much dirtier
  - 6) Don't Know
  - 7) No Answer
  
4. What would you say is the single biggest source of water pollution?
  - 1) Municipal Sewage Treatment Plants
  - 2) Industrial Plants
  - 3) Storm Water Runoff
  - 4) Agriculture
  - 5) Water Withdrawl For Use By People/ Industry/ Government
  - 6) Illegal Dumping of Litter/ Wastes By Individuals
  - 7) Watercraft/ Boats/ Jetskis
  - 8) Natural Sources
  - 9) Other [Specify]
  - 10) Don't Know
  - 11) No Answer
  
5. Now thinking about the air quality in Alabama, how do you think it compares with 30 years ago; is it...
  - 1) Much cleaner
  - 2) Somewhat cleaner
  - 3) About the same
  - 4) Somewhat dirtier
  - 5) Much dirtier
  - 6) Don't Know
  - 7) No Answer

6. What would you say is the single biggest source of air pollution?
- 1) Industrial Plants
  - 2) Coal Burning Power Plants
  - 3) Other Power Plants
  - 4) Cars, Trucks, and other Vehicles
  - 5) Lawn Mowers/ Yard Equipment
  - 6) Open Burning of Debris
  - 7) Aerosol Sprays
  - 8) Airplanes
  - 9) Natural Sources
  - 10) Other (specify)
  - 11) Don't Know
  - 12) No Answer
7. Please tell me whether you strongly agree, agree, disagree, or strongly disagree with the following statements. Local zoning laws are needed to address environmental impacts of development not regulated by the state.
- 1) Strongly Agree
  - 2) Agree
  - 3) Disagree
  - 4) Strongly Disagree
  - 5) Don't Know
  - 6) No Answer
8. Environmental standards protect your health and the environment. Would you say you strongly agree, agree, disagree, or strongly disagree?
- 1) Strongly Agree
  - 2) Agree
  - 3) Disagree
  - 4) Strongly Disagree
  - 5) Don't Know
  - 6) No Answer
9. Environmental laws in effect in Alabama are sufficient to protect public health and the environment. Would you say you strongly agree, agree, disagree, or strongly disagree?
- 1) Strongly Agree
  - 2) Agree
  - 3) Disagree
  - 4) Strongly Disagree
  - 5) Don't Know
  - 6) No Answer
10. Environmental laws are being enforced in Alabama. Would you say you strongly agree, agree, disagree, or strongly disagree.
- 1) Strongly Agree
  - 2) Agree
  - 3) Disagree
  - 4) Strongly Disagree
  - 5) Don't Know
  - 6) No Answer
11. Overall, how would you rate the funding of state environmental programs in Alabama? Would you say they are...
- 1) Significantly over funded
  - 2) Over-funded
  - 3) Adequately funded
  - 4) Under-funded
  - 5) Significantly under funded
  - 6) Don't Know
  - 7) No Answer

12. When an industry or business is fined for violations of environmental regulations, do you feel the penalty amount is generally too high, the correct amount, or too low?
- 1) Too High
  - 2) The Correct Amount
  - 3) Too Low
  - 4) Don't Know
  - 5) No Answer
13. What should be the major objective when a violation of environmental regulations is discovered at an industry or business: ensuring the violation is quickly corrected or ensuring the industry or business is fined?
- 1) Violations quickly corrected
  - 2) Industry or business is fined
  - 3) Other (specify)
  - 4) Don't Know
  - 5) No Answer
14. Is the place where you live best described as urban, suburban, medium size city, small town, or rural?
- 1) Urban
  - 2) Suburban
  - 3) Medium Size City
  - 4) Small Town
  - 5) Rural
  - 6) Don't Know
  - 7) No Answer
15. What is your zip code or town name?
- 1) (specify)
  - 2) No Answer
16. What is your age?
- 3) (specify)
  - 4) No Answer
17. Do you consider yourself of Hispanic origin such as Mexican, Puerto Rican, Cuban or some other Spanish or Latino background?
- 1) Yes (skip to Q19)
  - 2) No
  - 3) Don't Know
  - 4) No Answer
18. Which category best describes your race?
- 1) White
  - 2) Black or African American
  - 3) Asian
  - 4) Indian (American) / Alaska Native
  - 5) Multiracial
  - 6) Other
  - 7) Don't Know
  - 8) No Answer
19. Sex of respondent...
- 1) Female
  - 2) Male
  - 3) No Answer