

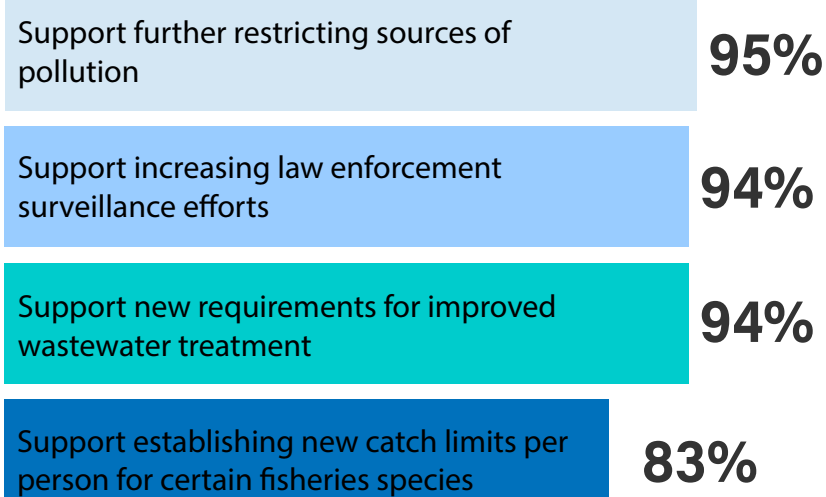
# CONNECTIONS BETWEEN CORAL REEFS & COASTAL COMMUNITIES

NOAA's Coral Reef Conservation Program monitors the biological, socioeconomic, and climate conditions of US coral reefs and communities through the National Coral Reef Monitoring Program (NCRMP). The Socioeconomic Component of the NCRMP collects and monitors human use of coral reef resources, knowledge, attitudes, and perceptions of coral reefs and coral reef management, and demographics of the populations living in coral reef areas. The takeaways below are based on resident survey results from Puerto Rico's second monitoring cycle.

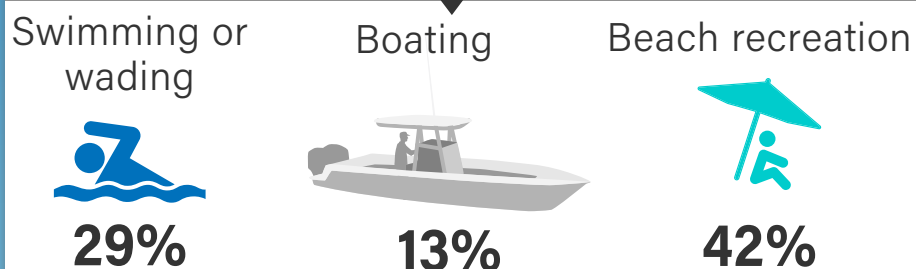
## TAKEAWAYS FROM PUERTO RICO 2022

### MANAGEMENT SUPPORT

Most residents support management strategies to protect coral reefs



### ACTIVITY PARTICIPATION

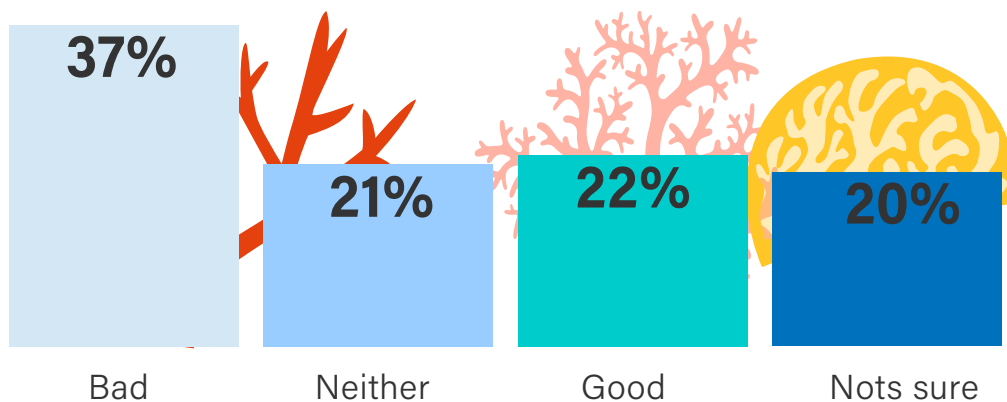


### CORAL REEF IMPORTANCE

Most residents (89%) agree that coral reefs are important for protecting Puerto Rico from natural disasters

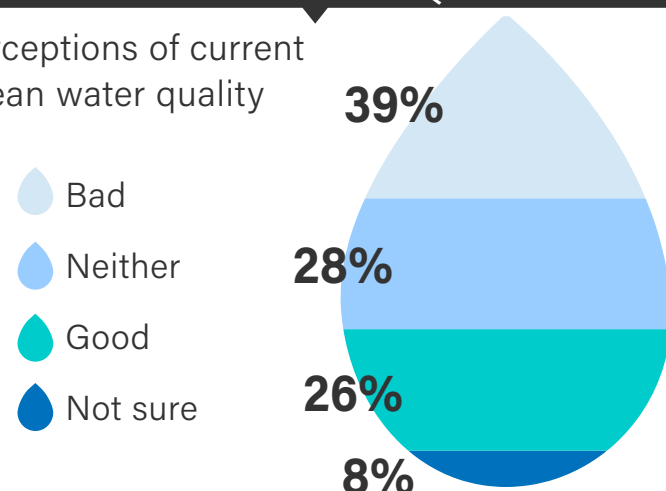
### AMOUNT OF CORAL

Perceptions of current amount of live coral



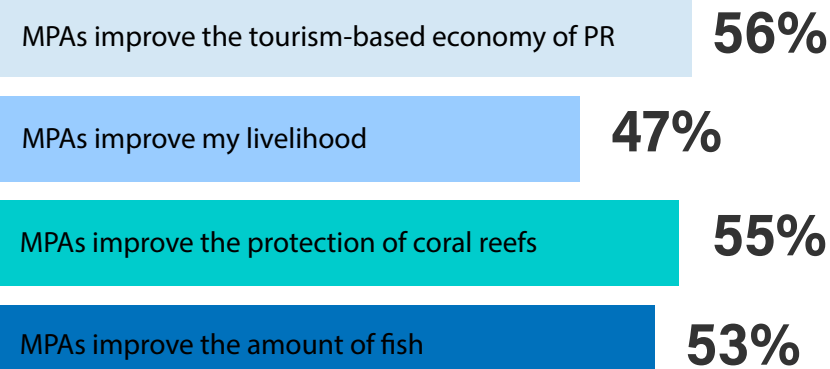
### OCEAN WATER QUALITY

Perceptions of current ocean water quality



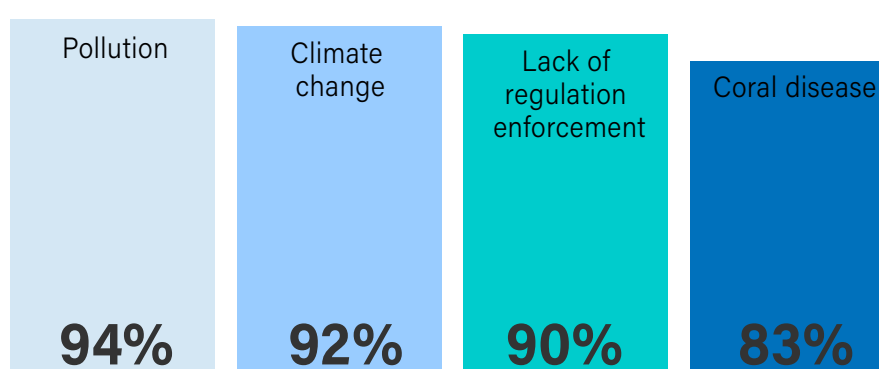
### BENEFITS OF MPAs

Many residents had positive perceptions about the benefits of Marine Protected Areas (MPAs)



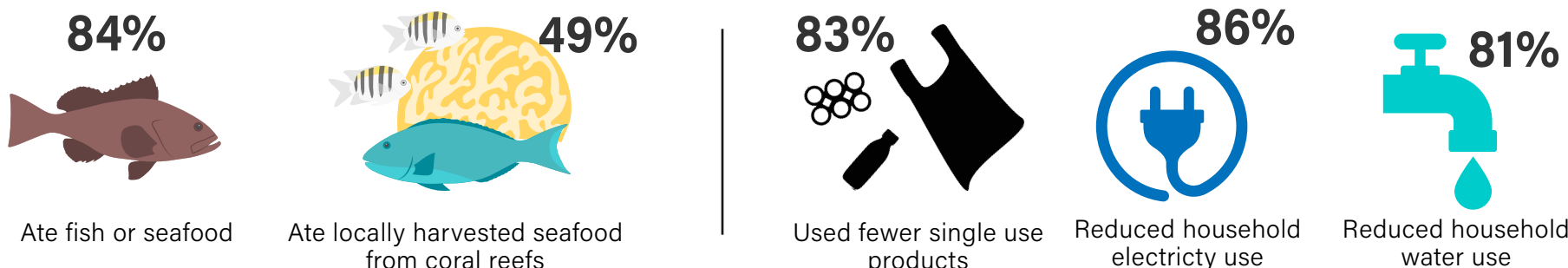
### THREAT FAMILIARITY

There are high degrees of familiarity with some threats to coral reefs



### SEAFOOD CONSUMPTION AND ENVIRONMENTAL BEHAVIORS

Residents engaged in the following activities at different frequencies



All percentages have been rounded to the nearest whole number. An in-person survey was conducted within a random sample of residents aged eighteen and older across Puerto Rico, Vieques, and Culebra between January and November 2022 (surveying was paused on September 18 with the landfall of Hurricane Fiona and resumed only on Vieques and Culebra in late October). Surveys were offered in Spanish and English. A total of 980 surveys were completed with a response rate of 22%. This survey was conducted for Puerto Rico's second socioeconomic NCRMP monitoring cycle, and is used in conjunction with the collection of existing secondary data to monitor the socioeconomic conditions of U.S. coral jurisdictions over time.

To download the data for these surveys, visit: <https://www.ncei.noaa.gov/archive/accession/download/282980>

For more information, please see the NCRMP Socioeconomic Component project page at <http://www.coris.noaa.gov/monitoring/socioeconomic.html>

