



Manaaki Whenua
Landcare Research

New Zealand **Environmental Perceptions Survey** 2022

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Survey enumeration

- March-April 2022
- Sample size = 2098
- Nationally representative by age, gender, ethnicity, and region
- Survey weights for earlier waves of the survey (2010-2019)



PRESSURE

STATE

RESPONSE



PRESSURE

STATE

RESPONSE

Perceived pressures

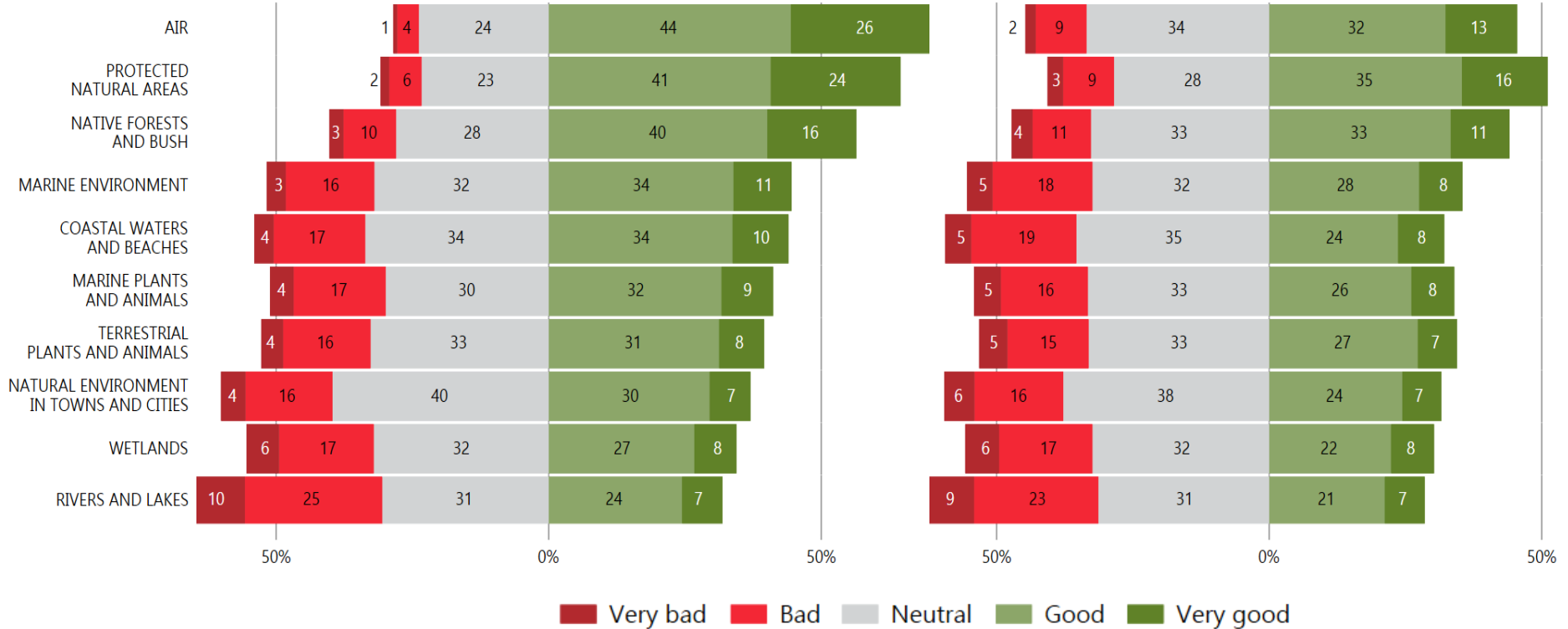


	Air quality	Protected natural areas	Native bush & forests	Marine environment	Coastal waters & beaches	Marine plants & animals	Terrestrial plants & animals	Wetlands	Natural environment in towns	Rivers & lakes
Sewage and stormwater	13%	13%	6%	55%	60%	48%	30%	29%	28%	44%
Pests and weeds	8%	45%	48%	11%	10%	21%	39%	35%	13%	27%
Motor vehicles & transport	57%	8%	5%	4%	4%	3%	6%	5%	36%	3%
Urban development	24%	26%	36%	10%	19%	10%	24%	30%	51%	17%
Farming	16%	14%	19%	12%	12%	9%	25%	31%	4%	40%
Industrial activities	50%	18%	17%	24%	21%	19%	23%	20%	31%	26%
Hazardous chemicals	28%	15%	13%	31%	24%	28%	24%	20%	16%	28%
Dumping of solid waste	16%	17%	12%	29%	33%	22%	22%	26%	21%	27%
Household waste & emissions	24%	10%	8%	17%	25%	15%	16%	11%	41%	18%
Commercial fishing	6%	5%	3%	48%	20%	47%	7%	3%	2%	4%
Forestry	6%	18%	47%	5%	6%	6%	15%	12%	3%	10%
Tourism	5%	27%	17%	4%	10%	7%	7%	5%	8%	8%
Mining	6%	11%	14%	5%	4%	4%	8%	5%	3%	5%
Recreational fishing	2%	3%	2%	10%	8%	14%	5%	4%	2%	5%
Other	2%	3%	2%	2%	3%	2%	2%	3%	3%	2%



Perceived state of the environment

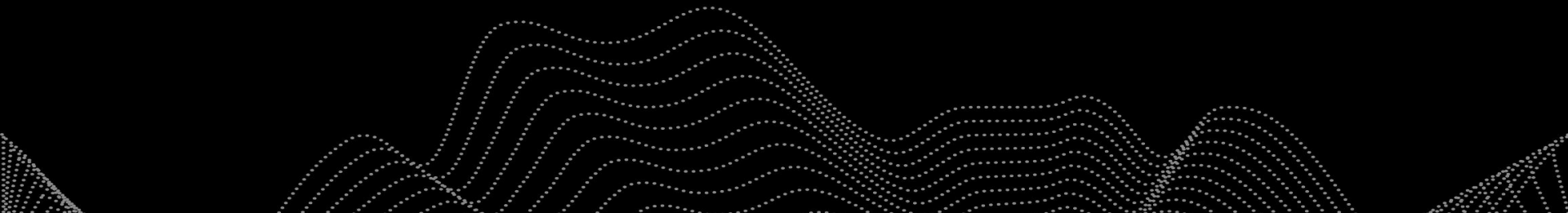
Perceived response (quality of management)



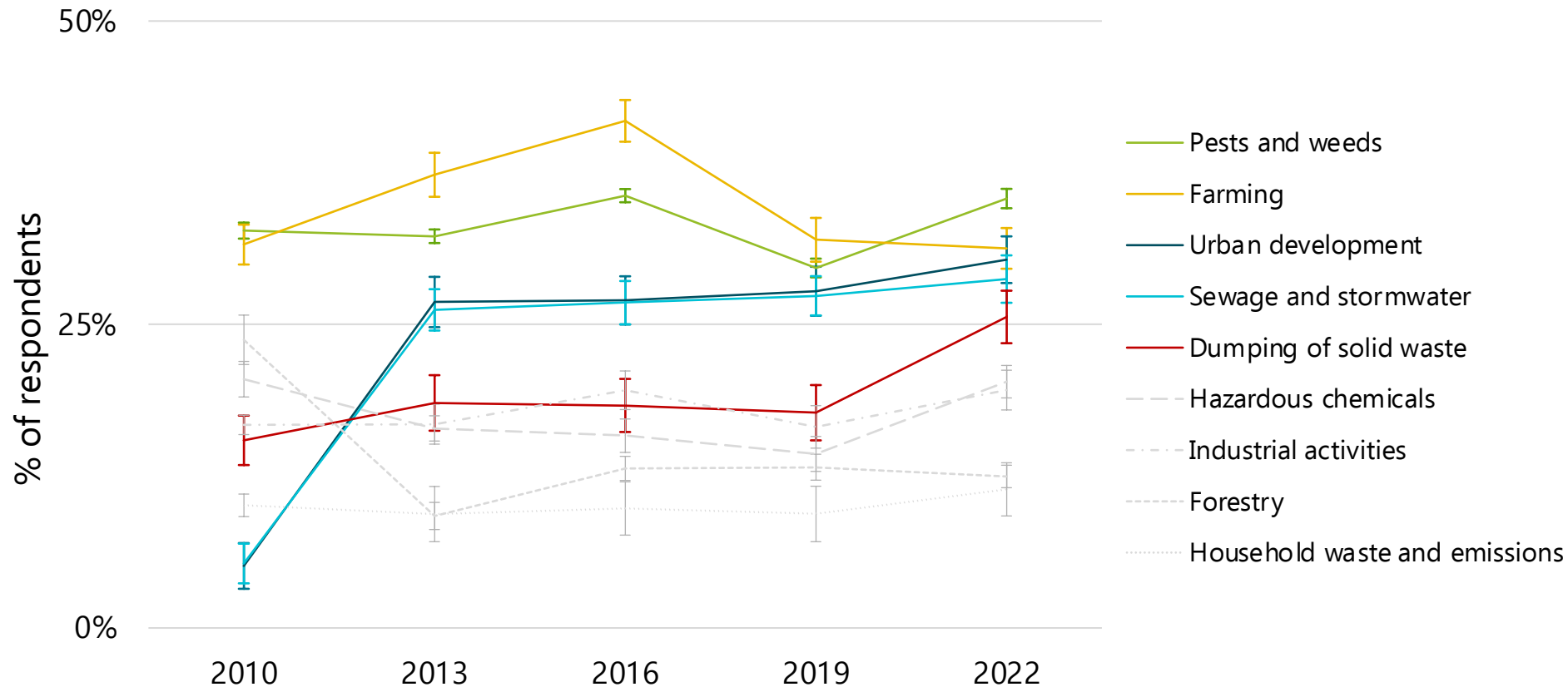


2010 TO 2022 PRESSURE-STATE-RESPONSE TRENDS

Wetland, Rivers & Lakes, Coastal Waters & Beaches

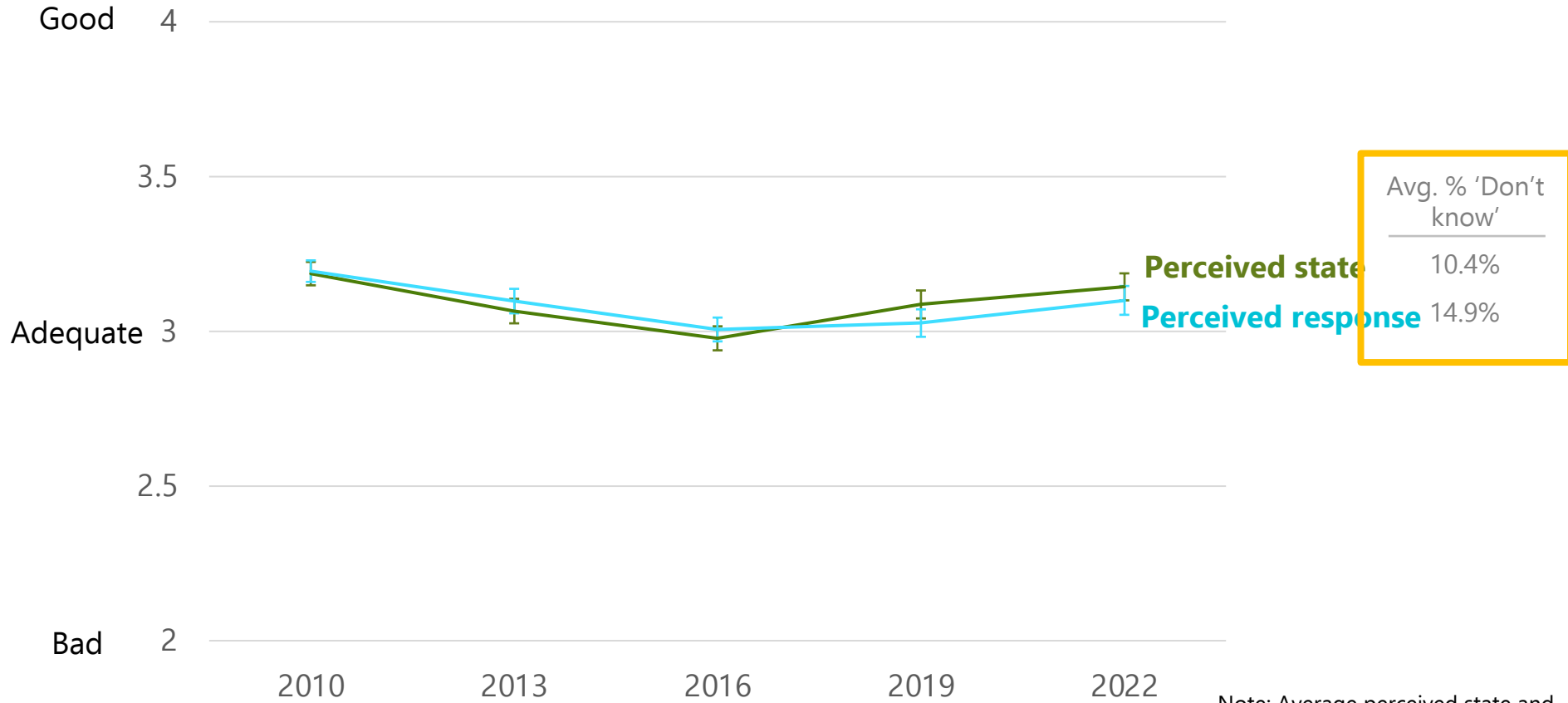


Wetlands: Perceived pressure(s)



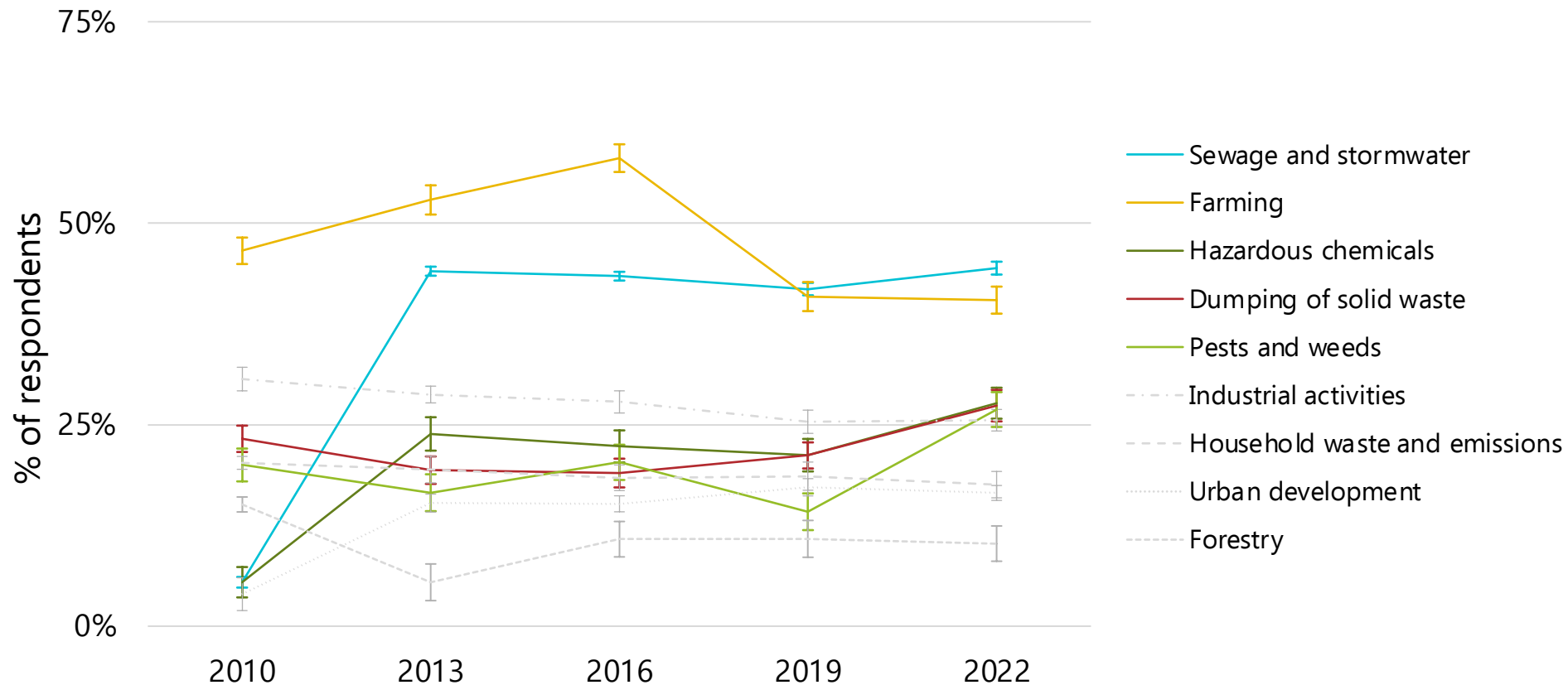
Note: Respondents could choose up to three pressures.

Wetlands: Average perceived state and response



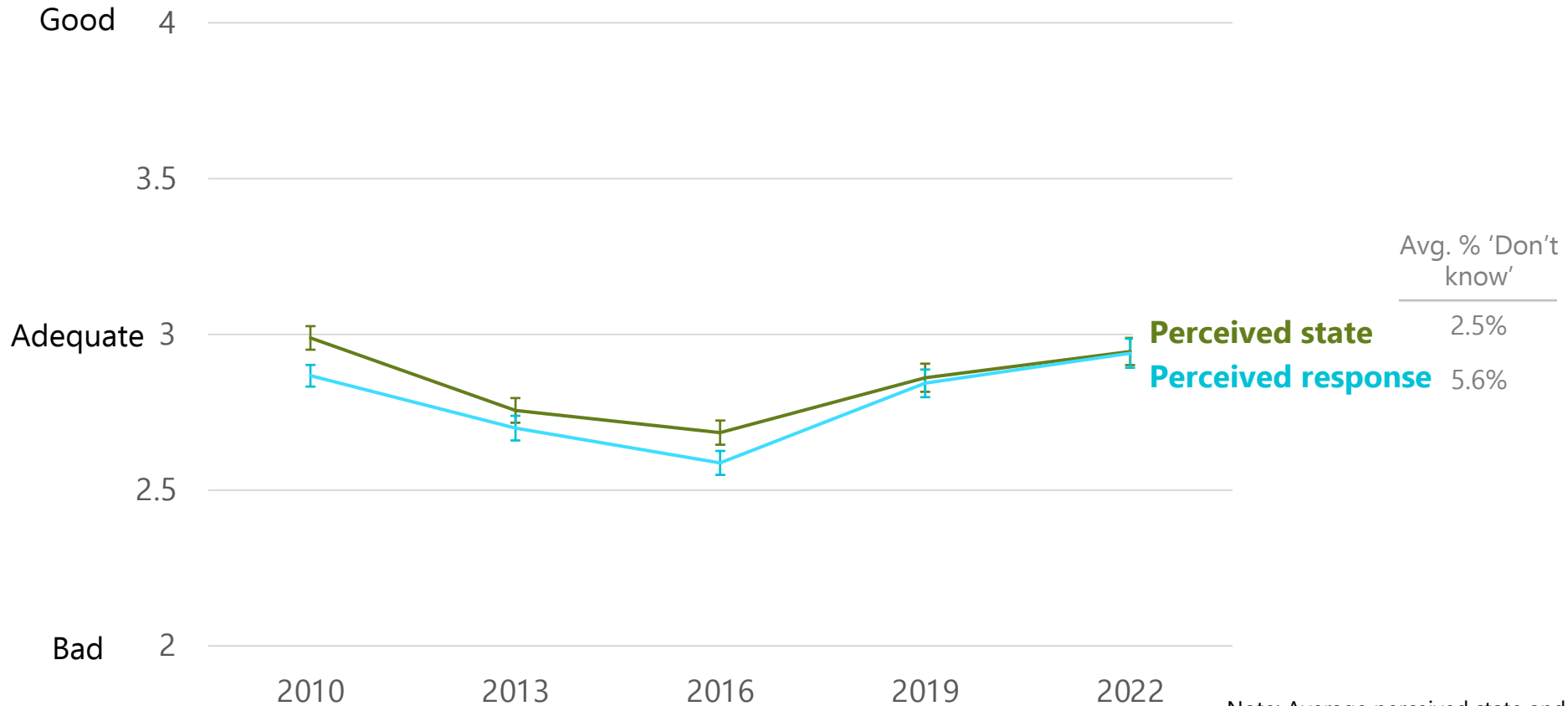
Note: Average perceived state and perceived response.

Rivers and lakes: Perceived pressure(s)



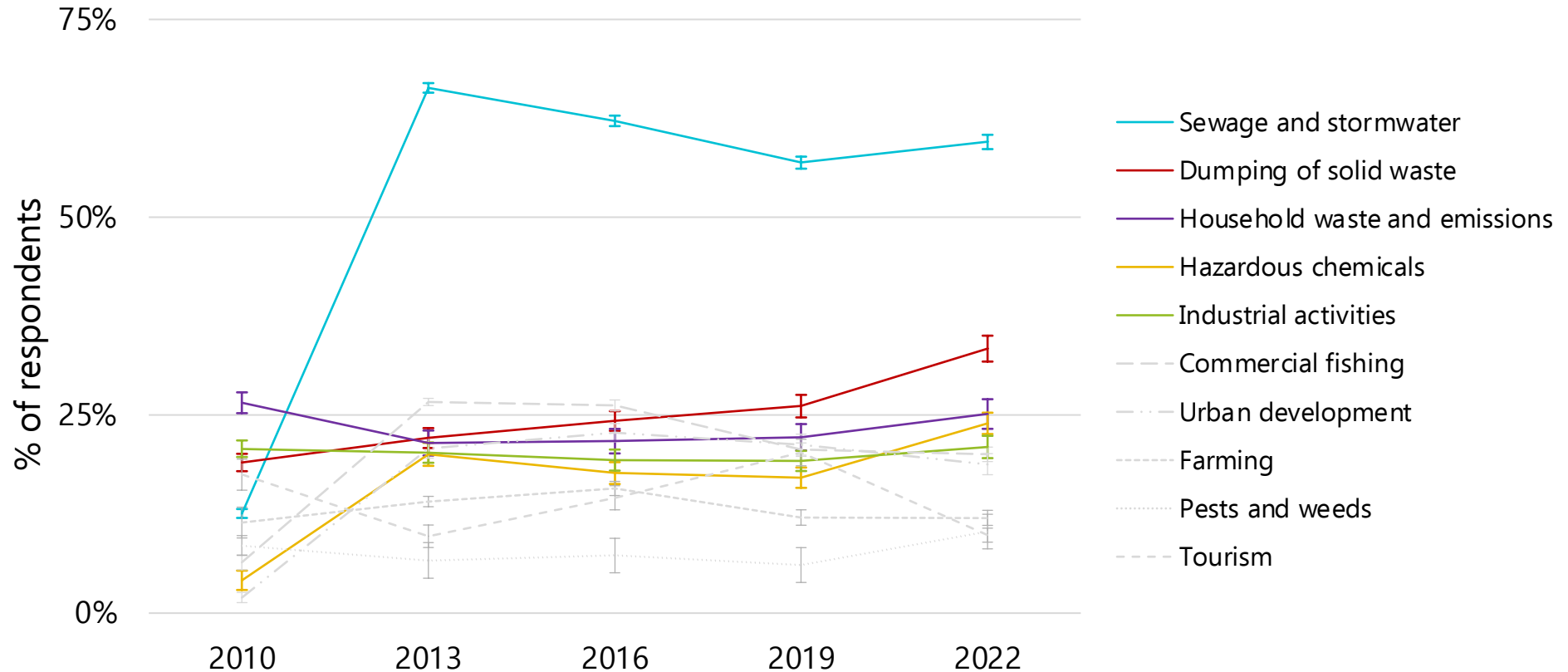
Note: Respondents could choose up to three pressures.

Rivers and lakes: Average perceived state and response



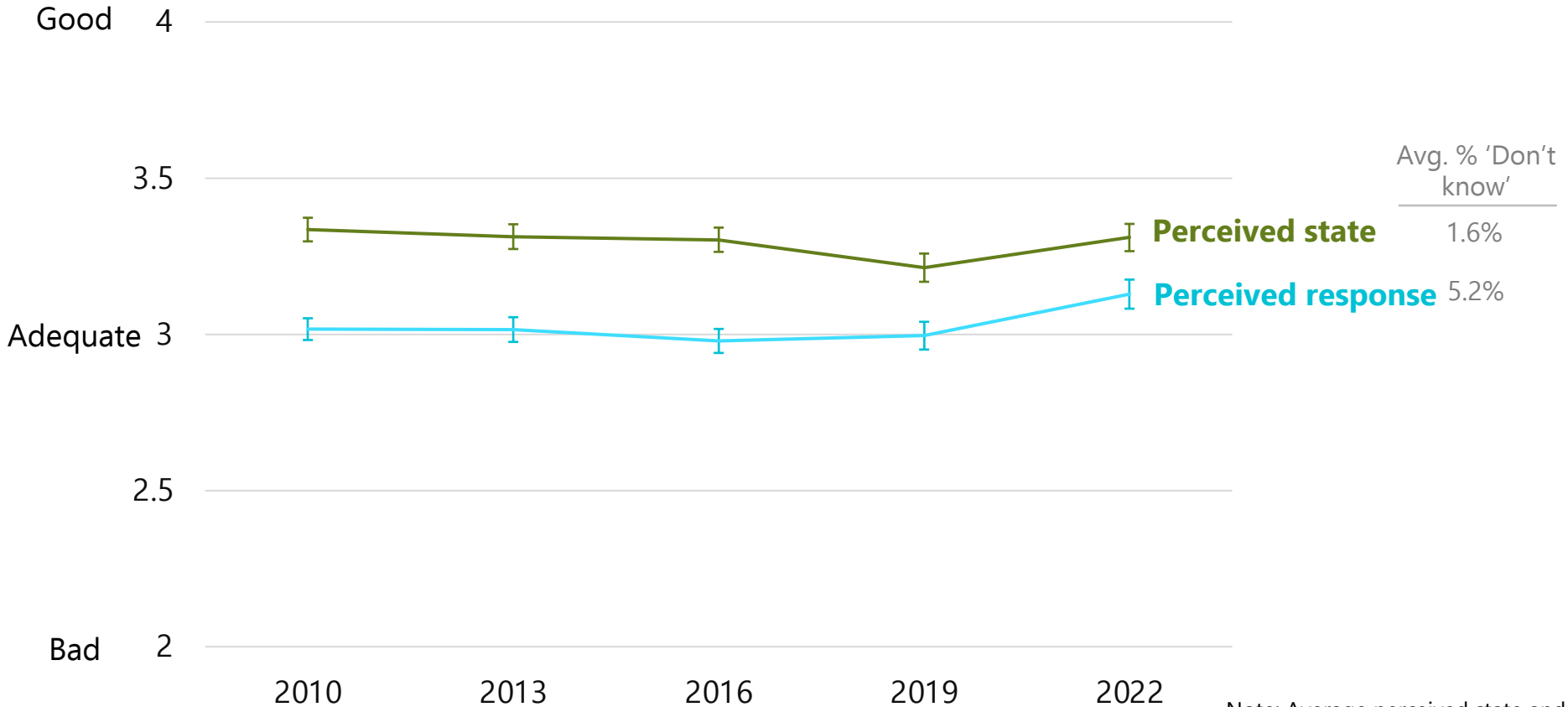
Note: Average perceived state and perceived response.

Coastal waters and beaches: Perceived pressure(s)



Note: Respondents could choose up to three pressures.

Coastal waters and beaches: Average perceived state and response

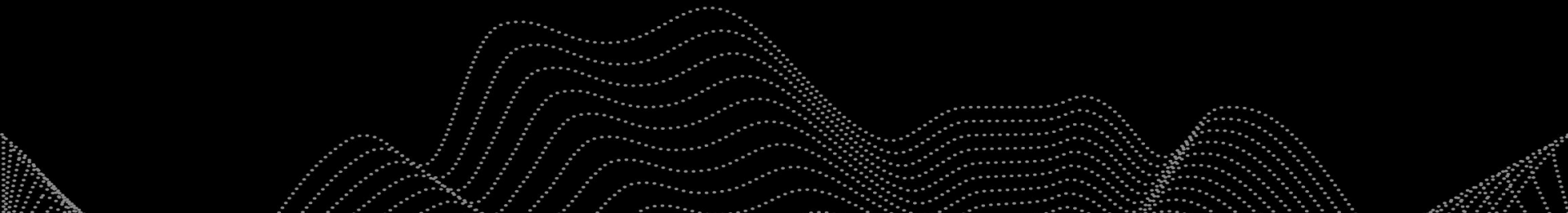


Note: Average perceived state and perceived response.



PERCEPTIONS VERSUS BIOPHYSICAL TRENDS

Coastal waters and beaches



What do we know about coastal waters and beaches?



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- Coastal development
- Inland land use
- Sewage & stormwater

Dredging
Port activity
Recreation
Driving / transport
Fishing

- Acidification
- Sea level rise
- Extreme waves
- Water temperatures

- Heavy metal concentrations are below expected levels
- ~40% of monitored estuaries showed worsening nutrient trends
- Microplastics found on beaches since 1972
- Declining toheroa despite conservation efforts
- +7.1% in ocean acidity since 2000
- Increasing occurrence of extreme wave events

Do perceptions of pressures, state and response align with reality?



Coastal waters and beaches, for example:

Respondents are aware of some of the pressures from land...

~60% of respondents since 2013 think sewage and stormwater are damaging the coasts

but show a disconnect from the state and management response.

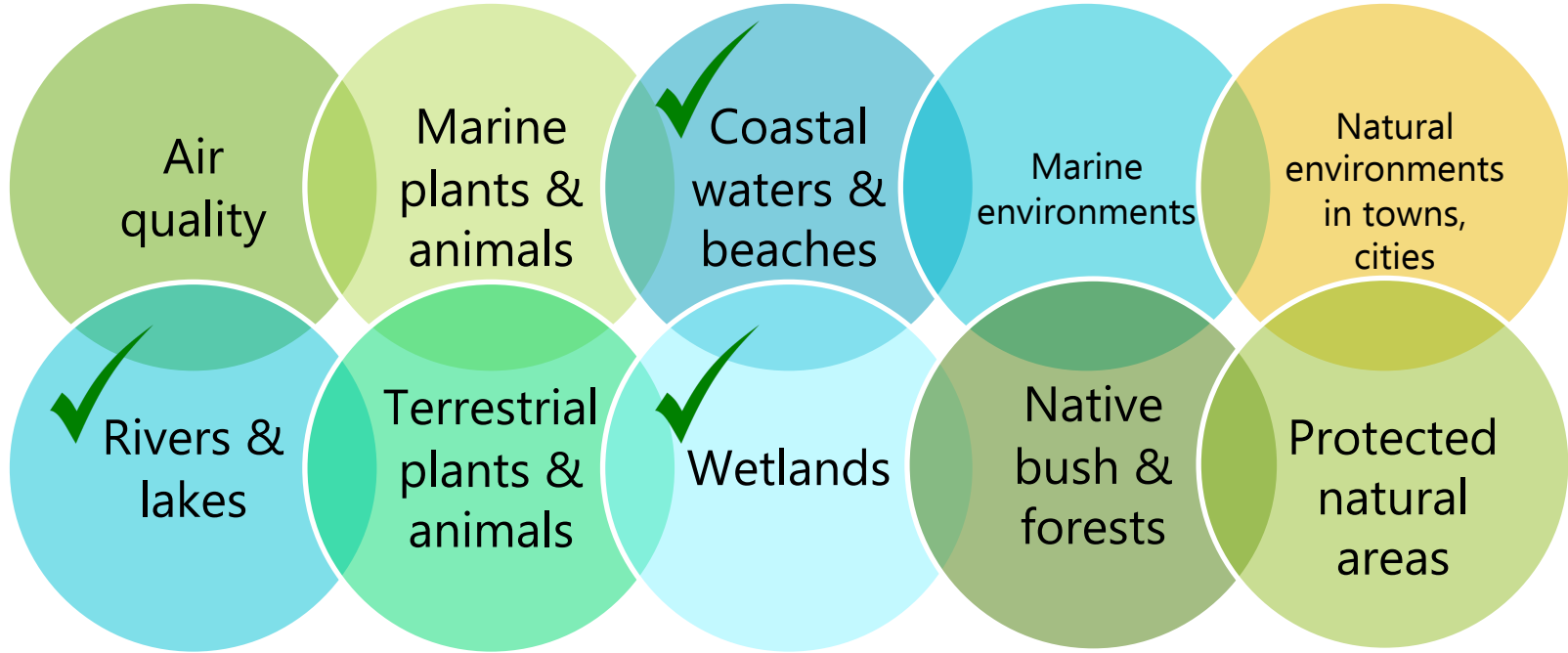
Adequate to good condition, on average
Adequate response to pressure, on average

Coastal estuaries tend to be in worse condition than open ocean due to pressures from land and the ocean

PRESSURE

STATE

RESPONSE



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2010-2022



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