

The Impact of Farm Ties on Concern About Climate Change



Farm Tie
Source: <http://www.zaztle.co.nz/dairy+farm+ties>

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Climate Change

- Human impact on the earth's climate has been widely accepted by most scientists.
- The past three decades have been successively hotter than any recorded since 1850 and will continue to rise in the future.
- Agriculture is one of the most vulnerable sectors in the American economy in regards to the adverse effects of climate change
- Research has shown that farmers have less concern about climate change
- Although many studies measure farmers' perspectives on climate change, little to none has been done on farm ties.

Research Question

My research question is: **Do people with farm ties have less concern for climate change?**

- I hypothesize that social and cultural connections to farmers lead urban respondents to share similar climate change views as the agricultural community.

Research Methods

- Data was gathered via a public intercept survey in front of 16 grocery stores that holds about 4,400 responses from the Salt Lake, Cache valleys.
- The overall response rate is 44%, and is representative of both genders
- Specific questions ask about concern for various topics, focus was aimed at concern for climate change and whether or not the participant has a relative or is a current farmer.

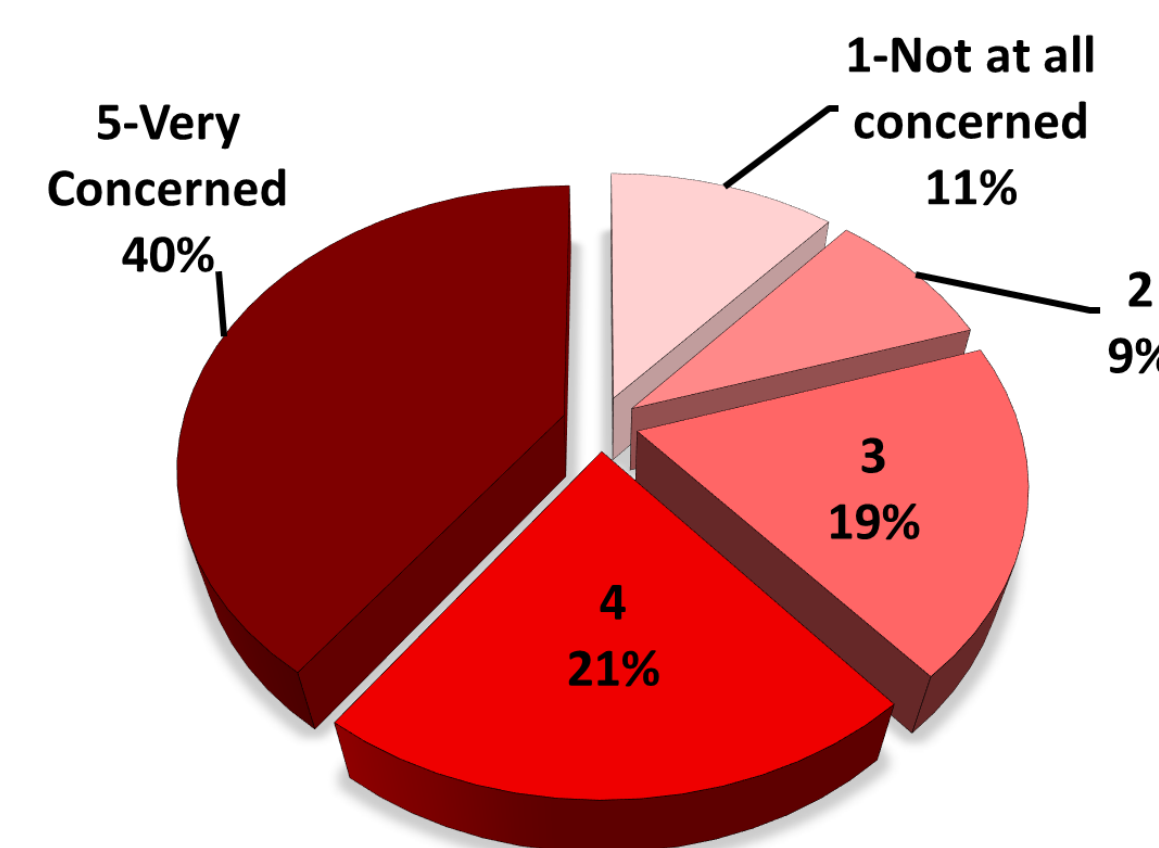


Respondent Profile

- 28% of all respondents currently farm or have relatives that farm
- 40% of respondents are very concerned about climate change

Concern About Climate Change

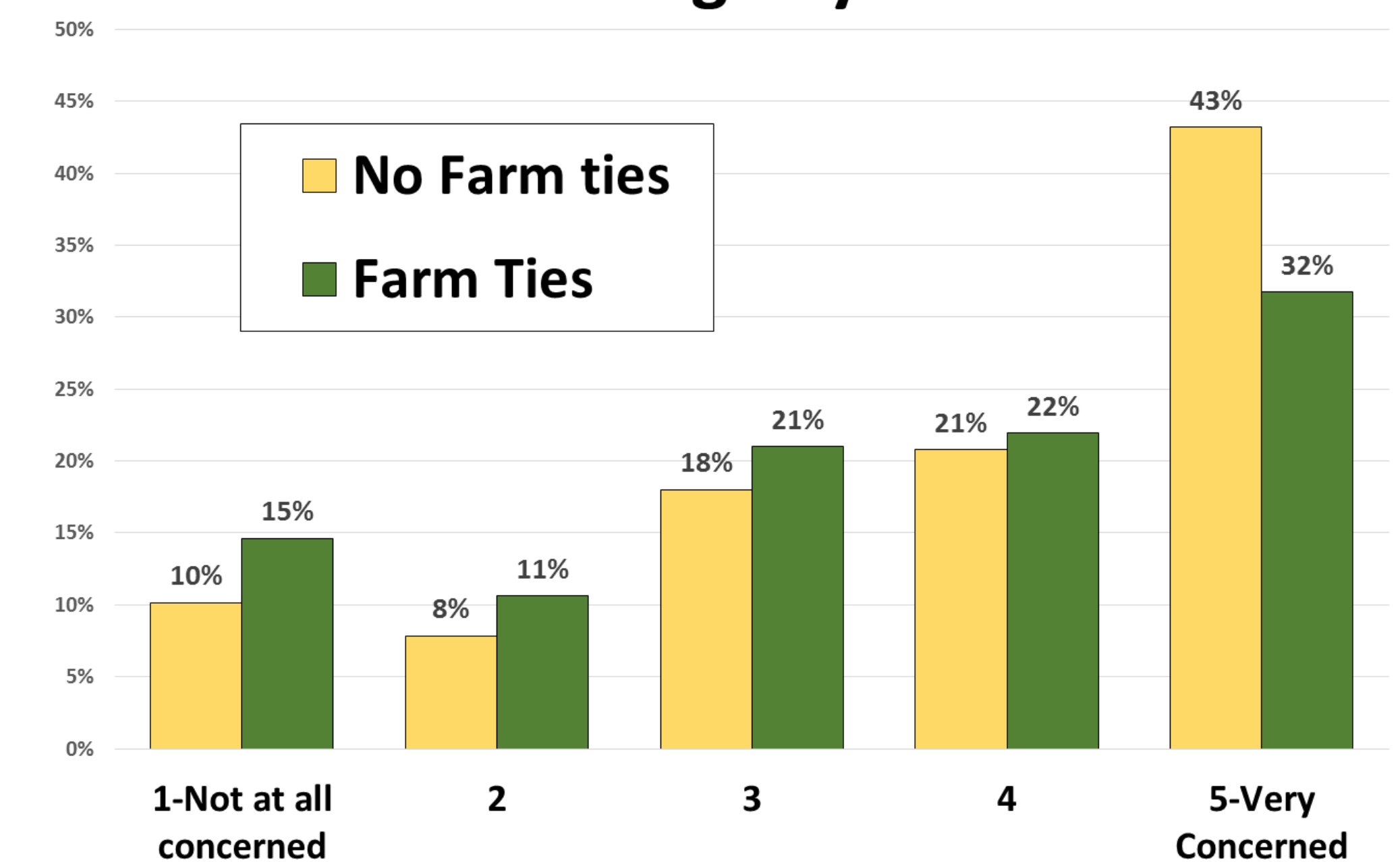
Thinking about the next ten years in your community how concerned are you with climate change?



Findings

- Farm ties have a significant relationship to concern about climate change
- People with farm ties are less likely to be concerned.

Percent Concerned about Climate Change by Farm Ties



Chi-Square = 55.518 df = 4 $p < .000$; Somers'd = -.141 $p < .000$

Implication

- Farmers' perspectives transcend across social boundaries and effect a large group of the urban population