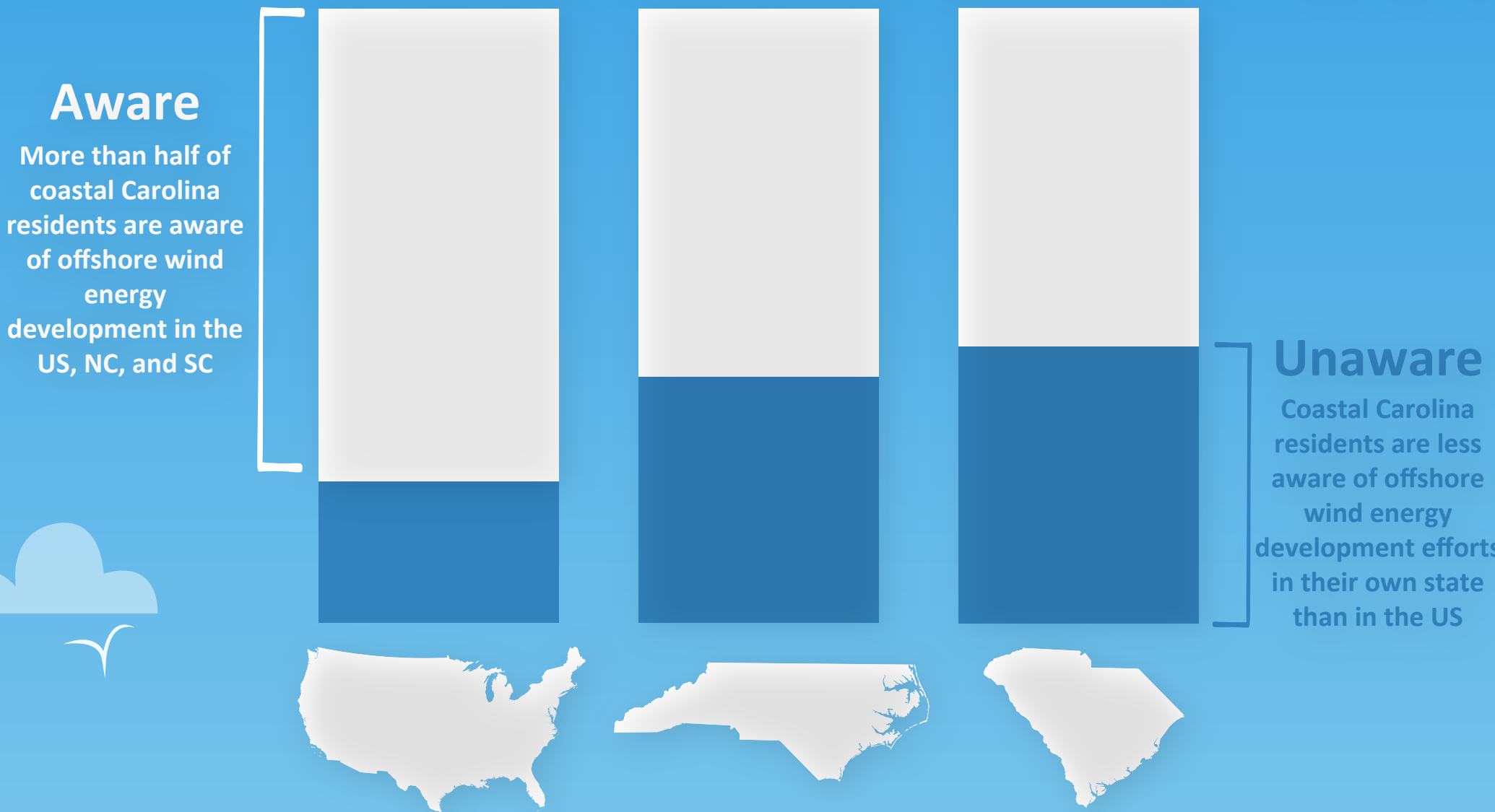# Perceptions of Offshore Wind Energy Development in the Carolinas

Coastal Carolina residents were surveyed in 2018 to gauge their support level and understand perceptions about offshore wind energy development in the United States, North Carolina, and South Carolina.

Who we surveyed

NC

SC

Study Area

A random sample of households within twenty miles of the shoreline in four counties in NC (Brunswick, Columbus, New Hanover, and Pender) and one county in SC (Horry) was surveyed

Awareness of Offshore Wind Development by Geography

Aware

More than half of coastal Carolina residents are aware of offshore wind energy development in the US, NC, and SC

Unaware

Coastal Carolina residents are less aware of offshore wind energy development efforts in their own state than in the US

Perceived Impacts from Local Offshore Wind

Positive Impacts

local property values

electricity affordability

community image

Almost a quarter of coastal Carolina residents are unsure of potential impacts

marine mammal/ sea turtle habitat

fish habitat

daytime ocean views

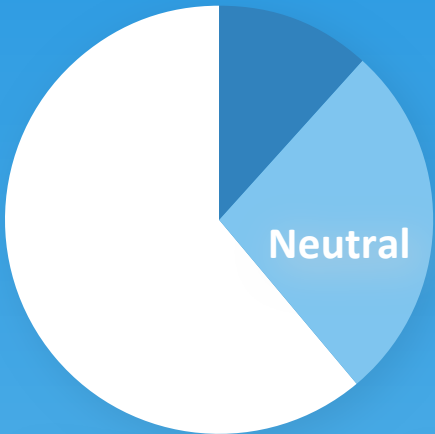### Negative Impacts

BOEM
BUREAU OF OCEAN ENERGY MANAGEMENT

NOAA

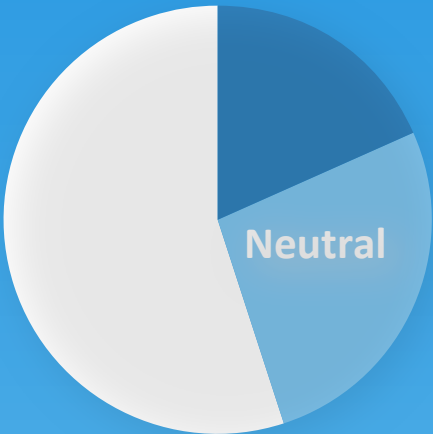# Support Level for Development by Geography

60%
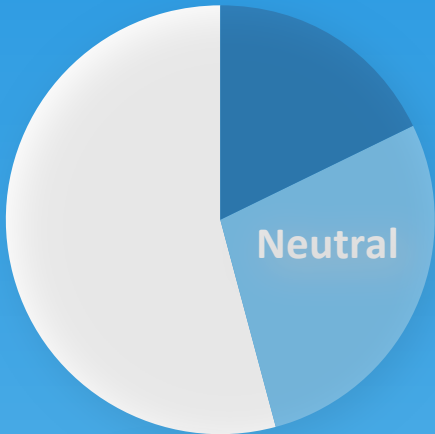of coastal Carolina residents support offshore wind energy development in the US

55%
of coastal Carolina residents support offshore wind energy development in NC

53%
of coastal Carolina residents support offshore wind energy development in SC

Neutral

Neutral

Neutral

12%
of coastal Carolina residents oppose offshore wind energy development in the US

18%
of coastal Carolina residents oppose offshore wind energy development in NC

17%
of coastal Carolina residents oppose offshore wind energy development in SC

Expressions of Opposition or Support

15%
of coastal Carolina residents have taken actions for or against offshore wind energy

Opponents are more likely to have taken past action

30%
of coastal Carolina residents intend to take future offshore wind action

Those who engaged in past wind action are more likely to intend to take future action

BOEM
Bureau of Ocean Energy Management

NOAA