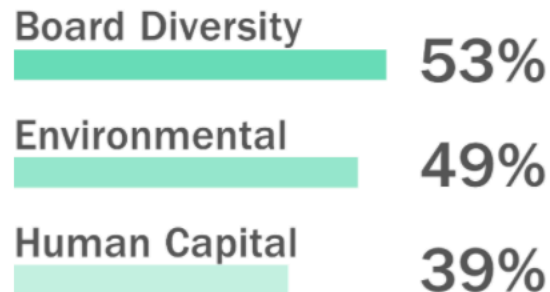


## Here's What Investors Want From Boards This Year



The EY Center for Board Matters has released [its 2019 Proxy Season Preview](#). Polling 60 institutional investors, with combined assets of \$32 trillion, here are the top three areas EY found investors are most focused on right now:

- **53%** of investors polled say they believe board diversity—including race and gender—is important to improving boards and company returns. That's up from one-third three years ago.
- **49%** say they want boards to focus on environmental and social factors, such as water management and plastic pollution or accessible and affordable options for health care companies. **38%** are specifically focused on how companies are responding to global warming, like greenhouse gas reduction plans, up from **15%** three years ago.
- **39%** of investors say human capital management and corporate culture should be a board's priority, including issues like pay equity and diversity. It's up from just 6% three years ago.

### Takeaway:

These numbers match a changing corporate tide—perhaps felt no more than in BlackRock CEO [Larry Fink's 2019 letter to CEOs](#)—that a company's long-term health is dependent on responding to social and environmental change.

**Do you agree with institutional investors? You can submit proposals for any company on any topic, including these, using Say.**

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