

POS



Audubon

GREAT LAKES

Indiana Statewide

**600 Registered Voters
December 16-20, 2021**

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#210376

TURNING QUESTIONS INTO ANSWERS



Methodology



Public Opinion Strategies recently completed a survey of 600 voters in Indiana on behalf of the National Audubon Society. The survey was completed December 16-20, 2021 via landline (40%) and text to web (60%) and has a margin of error of +/- 4% in 95 out of 100 cases.



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Key Findings



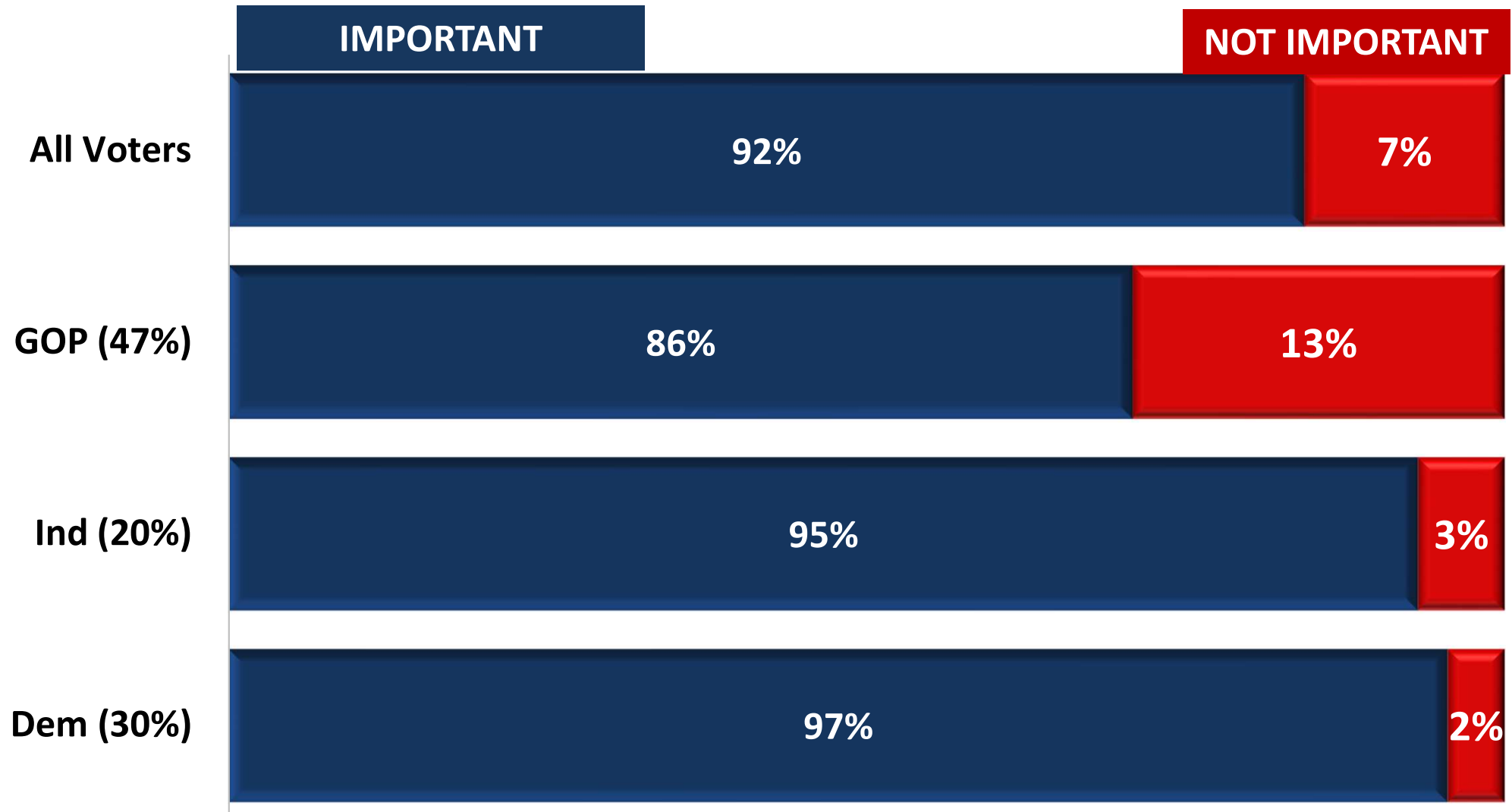
Key Findings



- 1. *Protecting fish and wildlife habitat is important to nearly every Hoosier.*** Ninety-two percent (92%) of Hoosiers say “*issues involving protecting fish and wildlife habitat, lakes, rivers, streams and wetlands*” are an important priority to them personally.
- 2. *Hoosiers overwhelmingly do not want wetland protections weakened.*** Fully, 94% of Hoosiers believe state leaders should either “strengthen” (49%) or “maintain” (45%) Indiana’s current wetland protections.
- 3. *Hoosiers believe protecting water habitats is more important than landowner and developer rights.*** By a near 4:1 margin, Hoosiers prioritize protecting water sources and habitats (52%) over protecting landowner and developer rights (14%).
- 4. *Weakening clean water protections is unpopular across party lines.*** Nearly three-quarters (72%) of Hoosiers would have a “less favorable” impression of a state legislator who voted to relax wetland protections – including strong majorities of Republicans (64%), Independents (63%) and Democrats (86%).

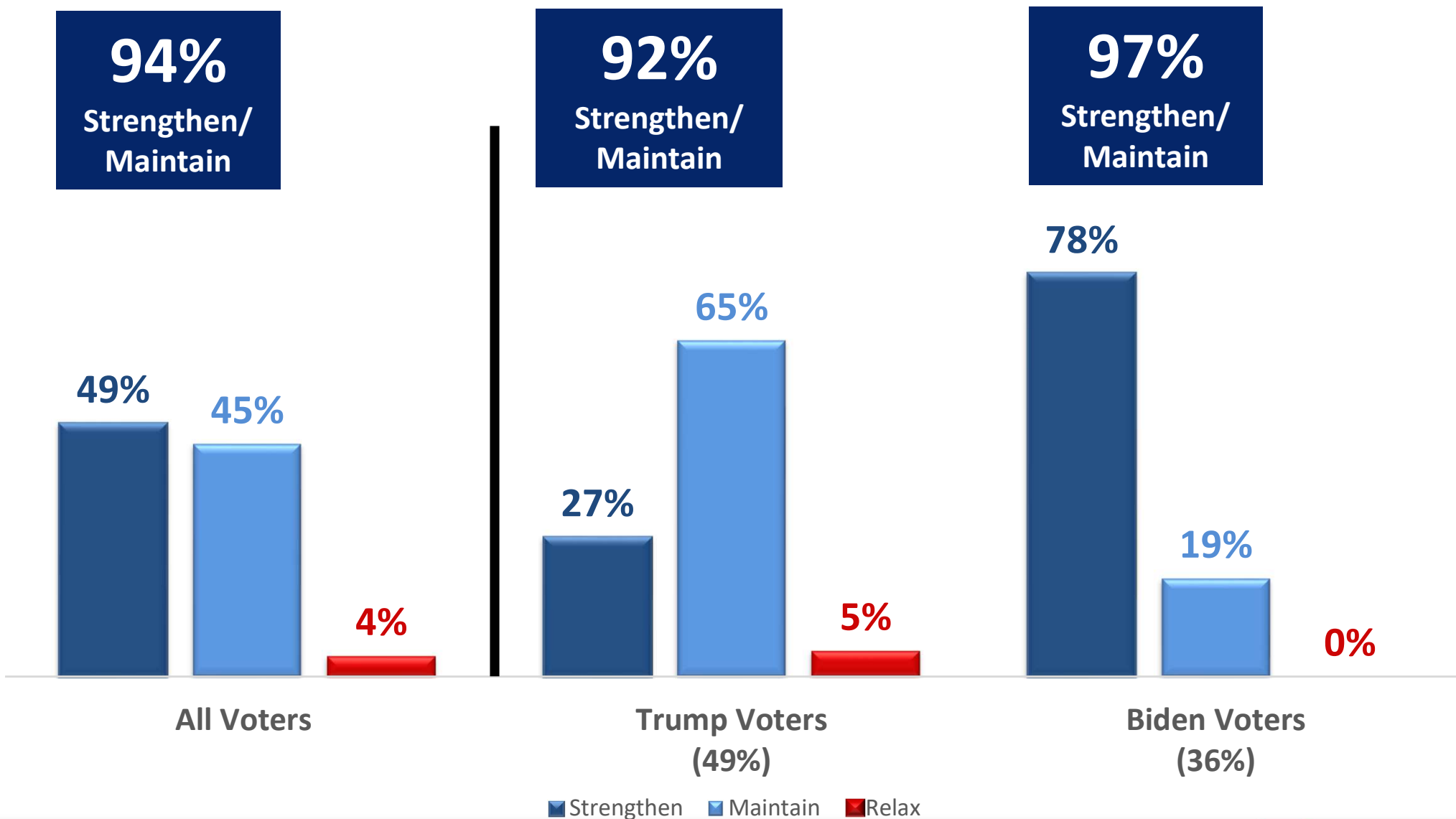
Wetland protection is important to Hoosiers.

How important of a priority are issues involving protecting fish and wildlife habitat, lakes, rivers, streams and wetlands to you? Is it...One of the most important priorities, a very important priority, a fairly important priority, or Not an important high priority?



Hoosiers do not want wetland protections weakened.

When you think about the laws and standards currently in place that are intended to protect lakes, rivers, streams and wetlands, would you prefer Indiana's state leaders: *Strengthen those standards*, *Maintain those standards*, or *Relax those standards*?



Protecting water habitats is more important than landowner and developer rights.

When you think about Indiana's laws and standards that are intended to protect lakes, rivers, streams and wetlands, please indicate which one of the following you think is more important:

52%

To protect our access to clean drinking water sources and protect fish and wildlife habitats

14%

To protect the rights of landowners and developers to use their land as they see fit

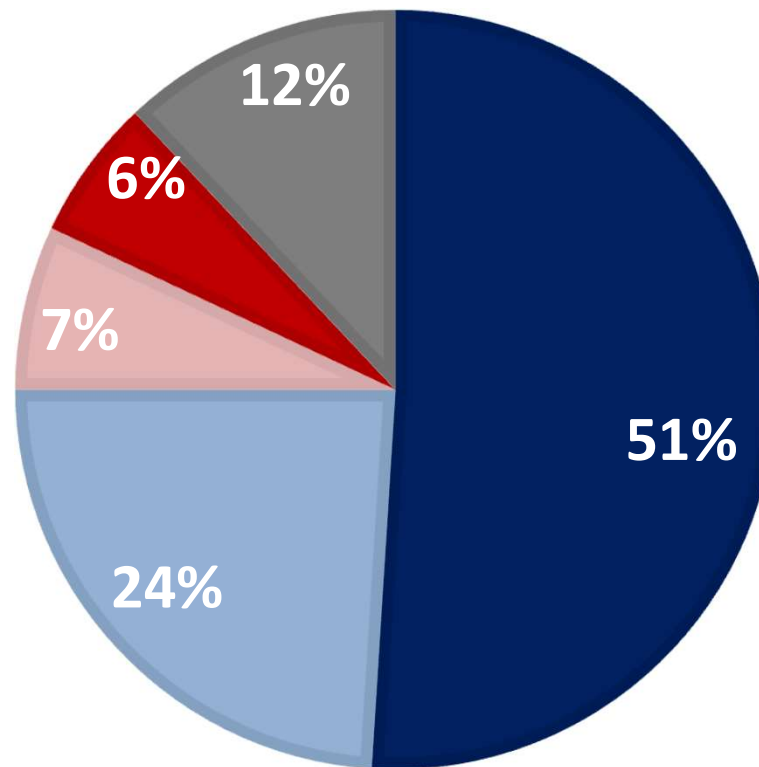
32%

Both are equally important

Voters want science-based rules and standards to protect Indiana's wetlands.

A task force consisting of conservation groups, landowners, scientists, developers and other stakeholders will be meeting soon to review Indiana's wetland standards and make science-based recommendations for new rules and standards. Do you support or oppose adopting science-based rules and standards for protecting Indiana's remaining wetlands?

75% TOTAL FAVOR
13% TOTAL OPPOSE

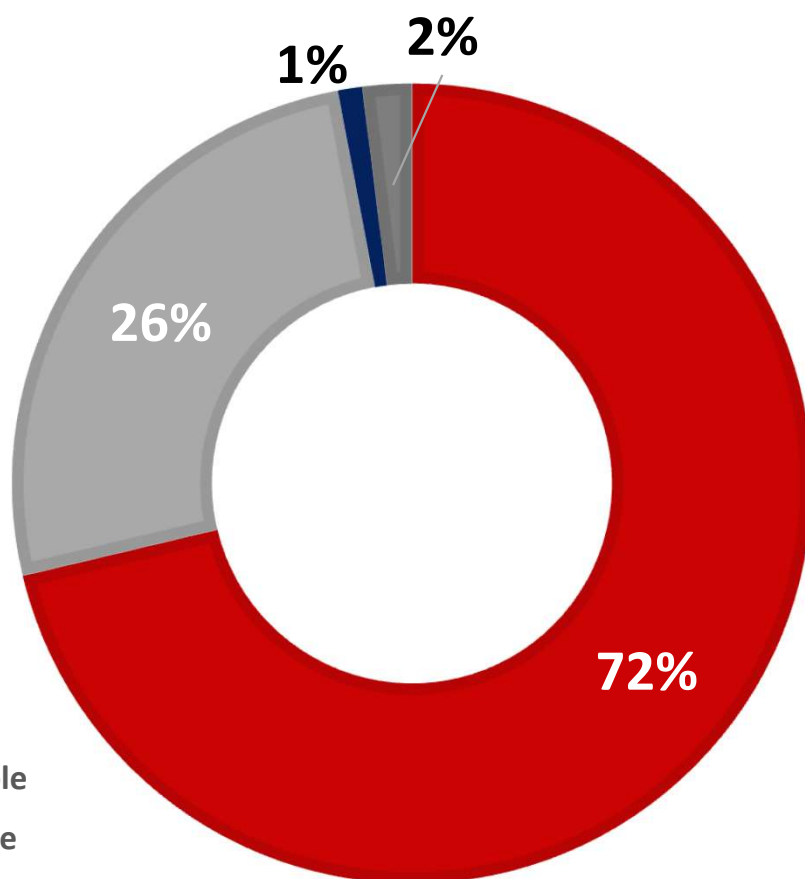


■ Strongly Favor ■ Somewhat Favor ■ Somewhat Oppose ■ Strongly Oppose ■ Don't Know/Not Sure

Weakening protections is politically unpopular.

If your state legislator voted to weaken clean water protections for many smaller creeks, streams, and wetlands, would that give you a less favorable of your state legislator or would it make no difference to you?

AMONG ALL HOOSIERS



- Less Favorable
- No Difference
- More Favorable
- Don't Know/Refused

**** Numbers exceed 100% due to rounding**

Less Favorable% By Party	Weakened Protections (Less Fav%)
GOP (47%)	64%
Ind (20%)	63%
Dem (30%)	86%



PUBLIC OPINION
STRATEGIES

turning questions into answers

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