



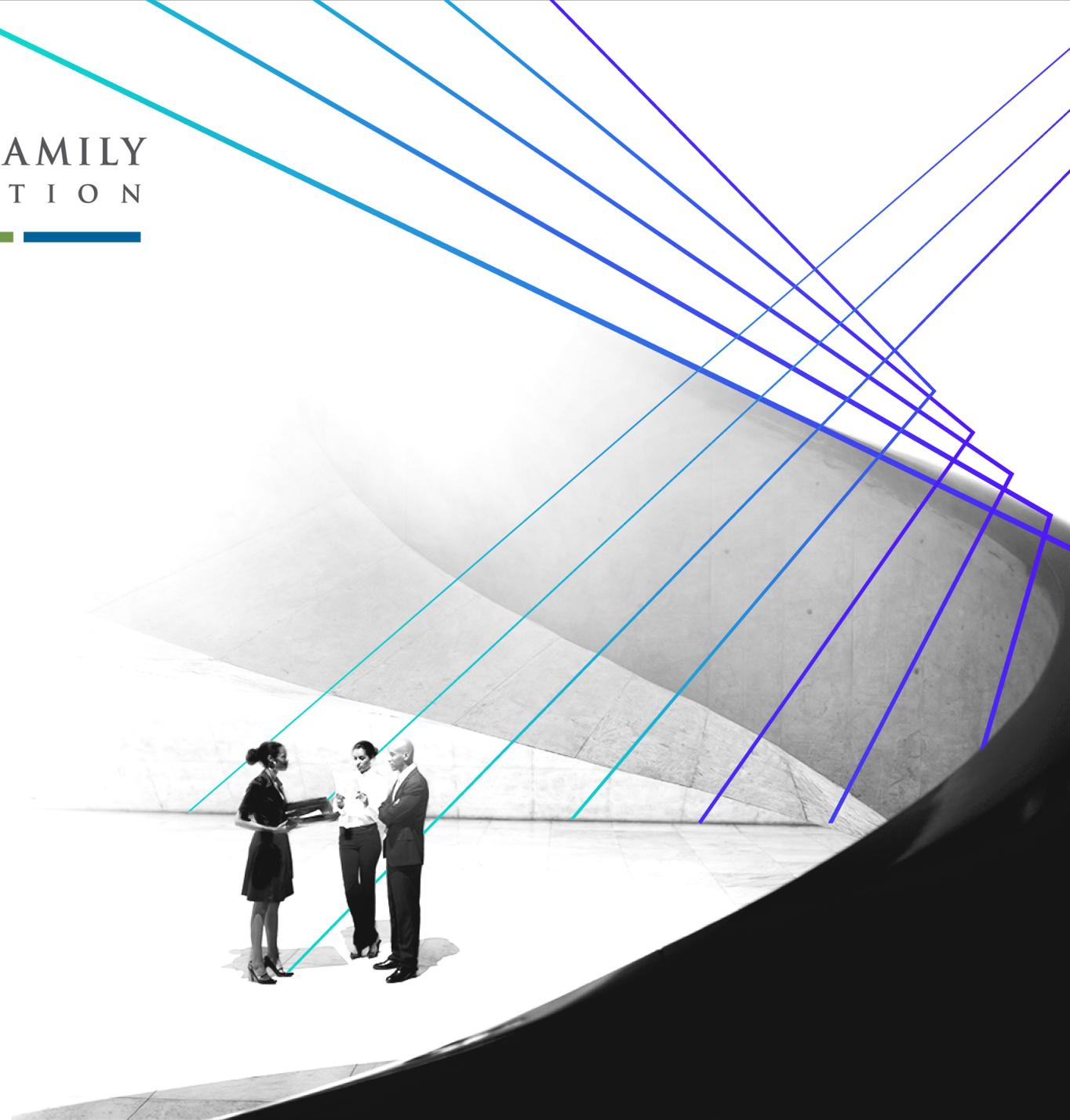
WALTON FAMILY
FOUNDATION



Clean Water Act

Walton Family Foundation

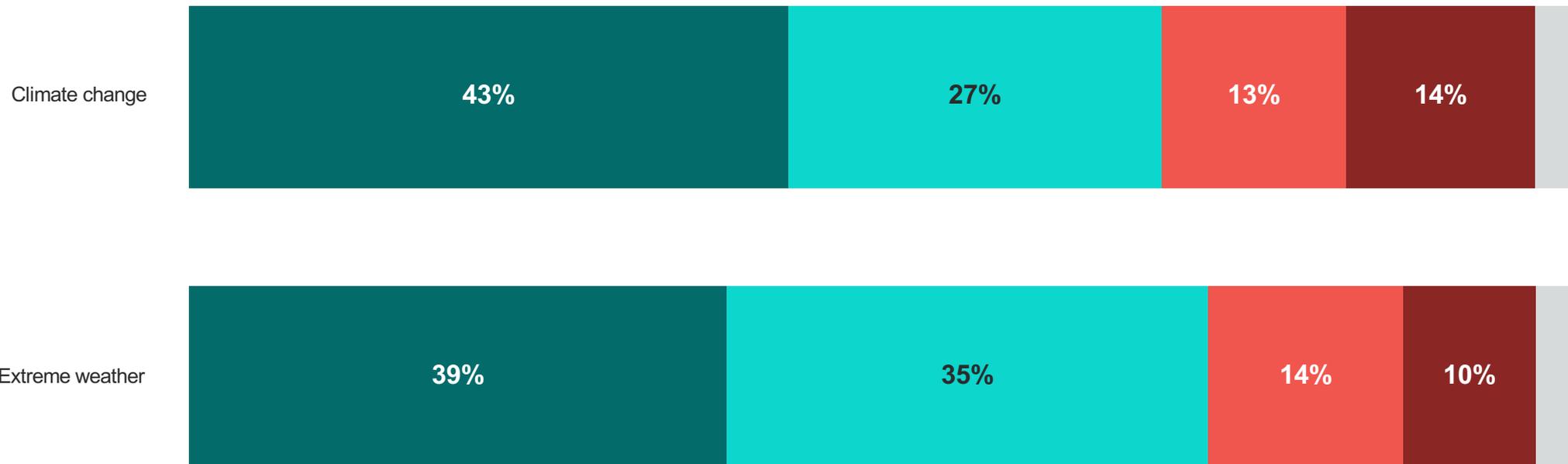
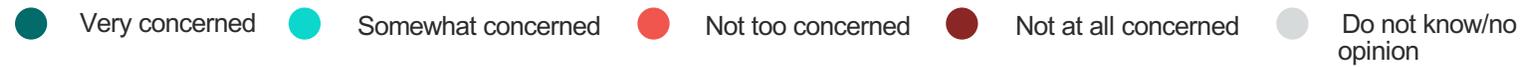
— NOVEMBER 2023



CLEAN WATER ACT

A majority of voters are concerned about climate change (70%) and extreme weather (74%).

Overall, how concerned are you about each of the following?



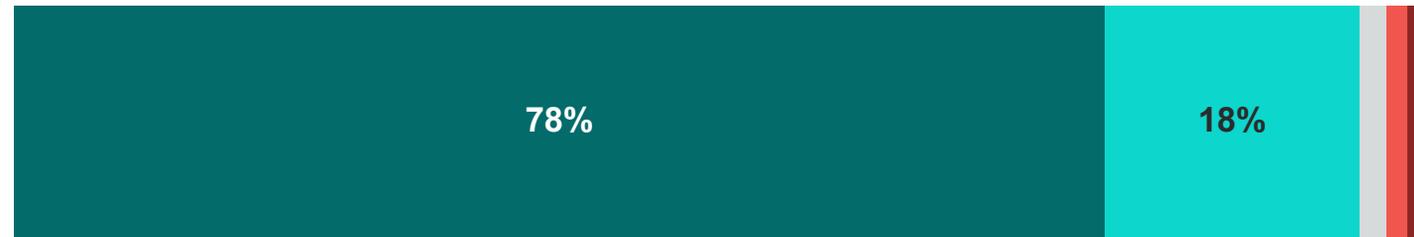
CLEAN WATER ACT

Nearly all voters say protecting the health and safety of drinking water (96%) and protecting the water in our nation's lakes, streams, and rivers (94%) is important.

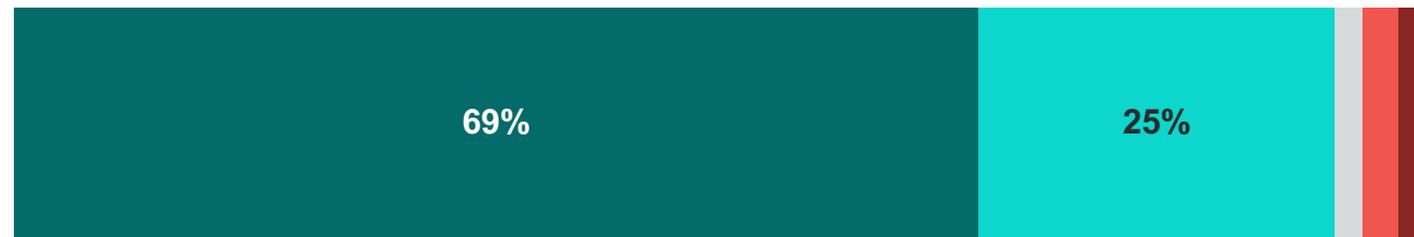
How important is each of the following?

● Very important ● Somewhat important ● Don't know/no opinion ● Not too important ● Not at all important

Protecting the health and safety of drinking water



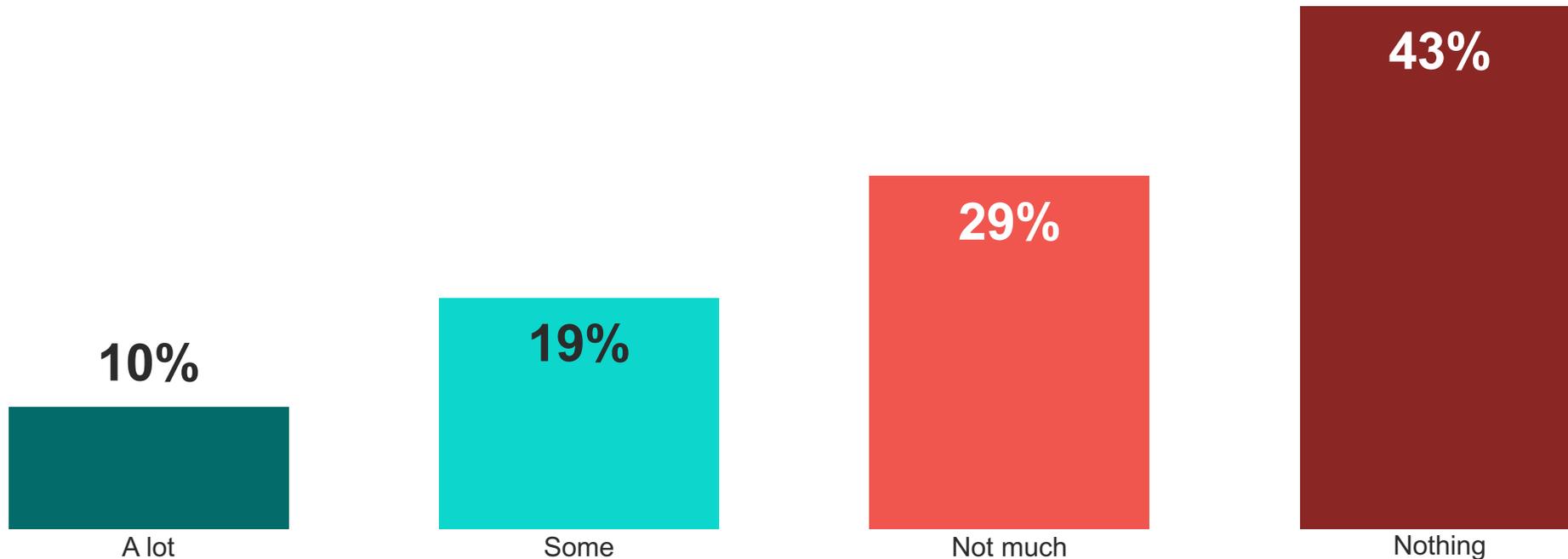
Protecting the water in our nation's lakes,
streams, and rivers



CLEAN WATER ACT

A majority of voters are unfamiliar with the recent Supreme Court decision that significantly weakened the 1972 Clean Water Act. Democrats (38%) are more likely than independents (23%) or Republicans (22%) to have seen, read, or heard about the Supreme Court decision.

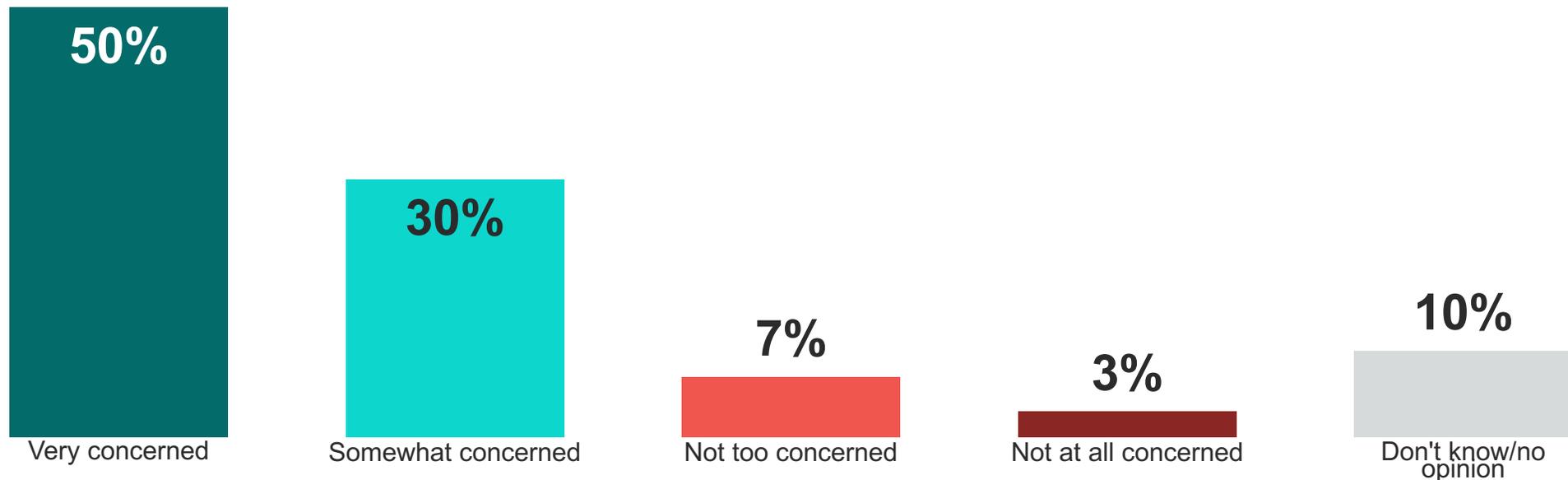
How much have you seen, read, or heard about the recent Supreme Court decision that significantly weakened the 1972 Clean Water Act?



CLEAN WATER ACT

Four-in-five voters (80%) are concerned about the change of the Clean Water Act after learning that the narrowed scope means polluters might not need to meet water quality requirements. A bipartisan majority of voters are concerned about this change as well (Democrats 90%, independents 78%, Republicans 70%).

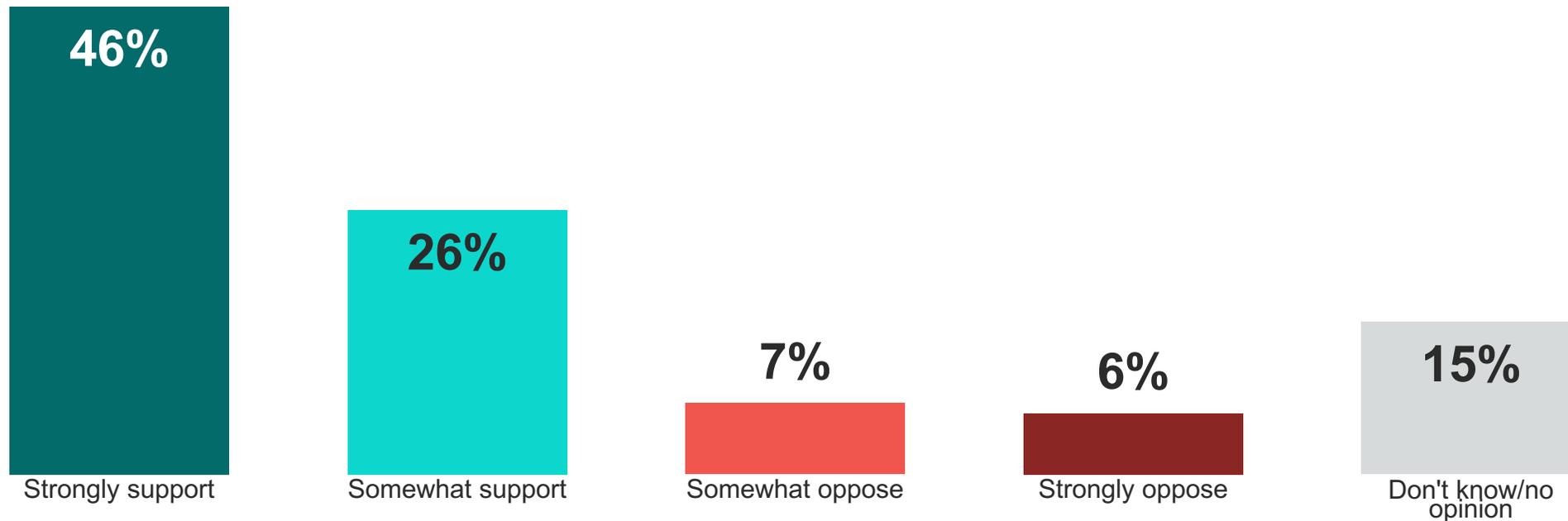
The Clean Water Act, which was passed 51 years ago, created federal water quality standards for operations like factories and sewage treatment plants that release pollution to protect clean water. Now that the Supreme Court has narrowed the scope of the Clean Water Act, polluters might not need to meet these water quality requirements before adding waste into many streams or wetlands. After learning more, how concerned are you about this change?



CLEAN WATER ACT

A majority of voters (72%) support a law to reverse the Supreme Court's decision and fully restore the previous level of protection of the nation's wetlands and waterways. A bipartisan majority of voters would support this law as well (Democrats 79%, independents 71%, Republicans 63%).

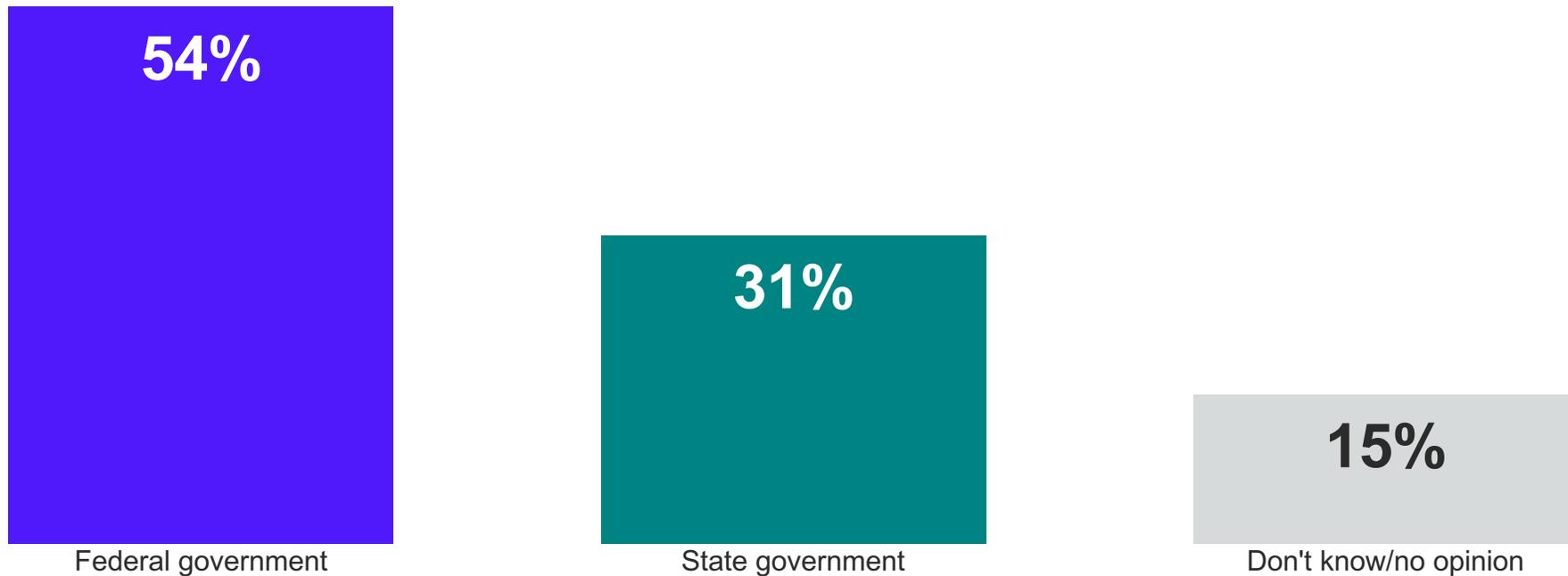
Based on what you know, would you support or oppose a law to reverse the Supreme Court's decision and fully restore the previous level of protection of the nation's wetlands and waterways?



CLEAN WATER ACT

A majority of voters think the federal government, rather than the state government should establish standards to protect certain waters and wetlands from pollution and development.

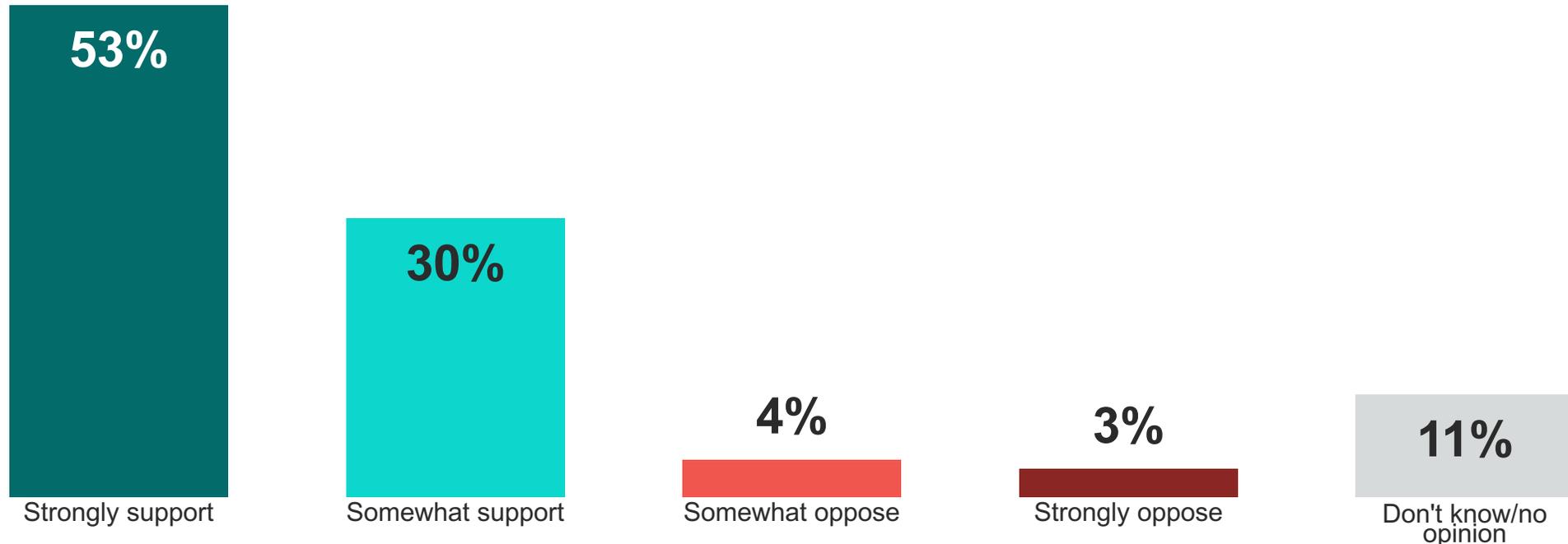
Moving forward, who should establish standards to protect certain waters and wetlands from pollution and development?



CLEAN WATER ACT

A majority of voters (83%) would want their state legislature to support a law to restore protections to their state's wetlands and waterways. A bipartisan majority of voters would support this law as well (Democrats 87%, independents 81%, Republicans 77%).

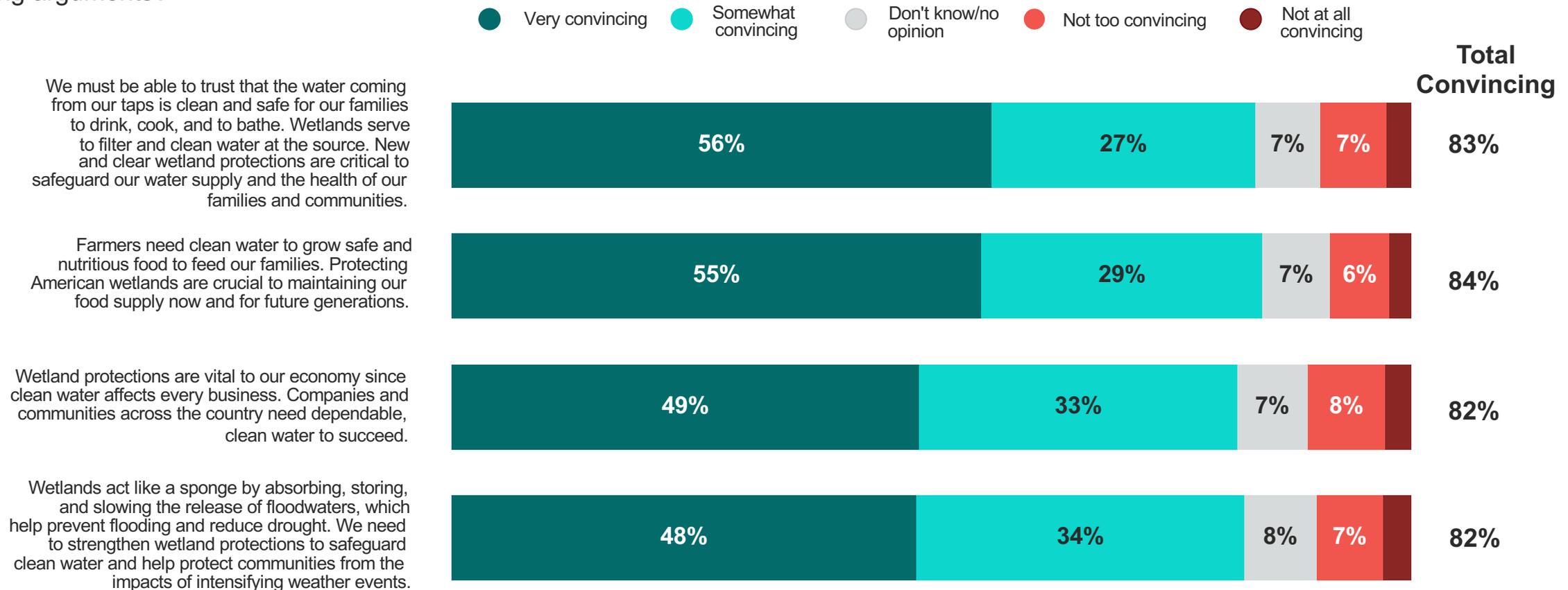
If this issue was raised in your state legislature, would you support or oppose a law to restore protections to your state's wetlands and waterways?



CLEAN WATER ACT

Voters find the messaging focused on farmers needing clean water to grow food (84% - 55% *very convincing*) and needing to trust the water we drink (83% - 56% *very convincing*) most convincing of the tested messages about protecting American wetlands.

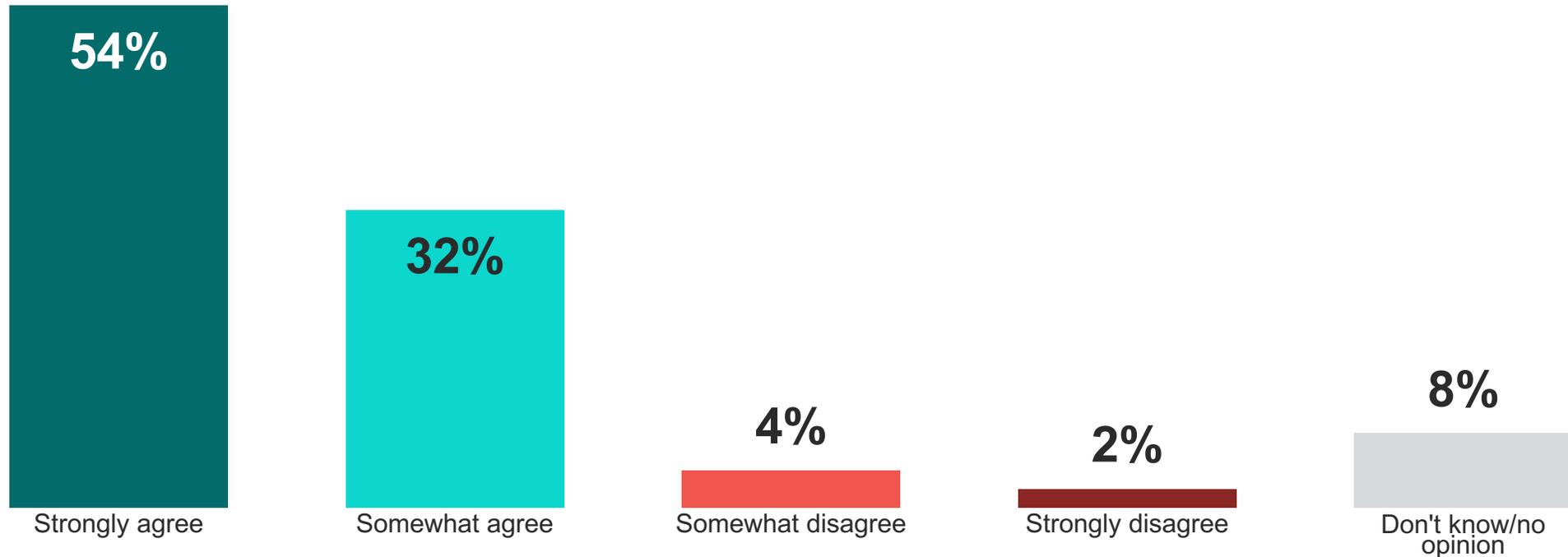
Next, you will read arguments that are in support of new actions to protect American wetlands. How convincing, if at all, are each of the following arguments?



CLEAN WATER ACT

A majority of voters agree (86%) that farmers should be subject to clean water requirements to help protect downstream water quality for drinking and recreation.

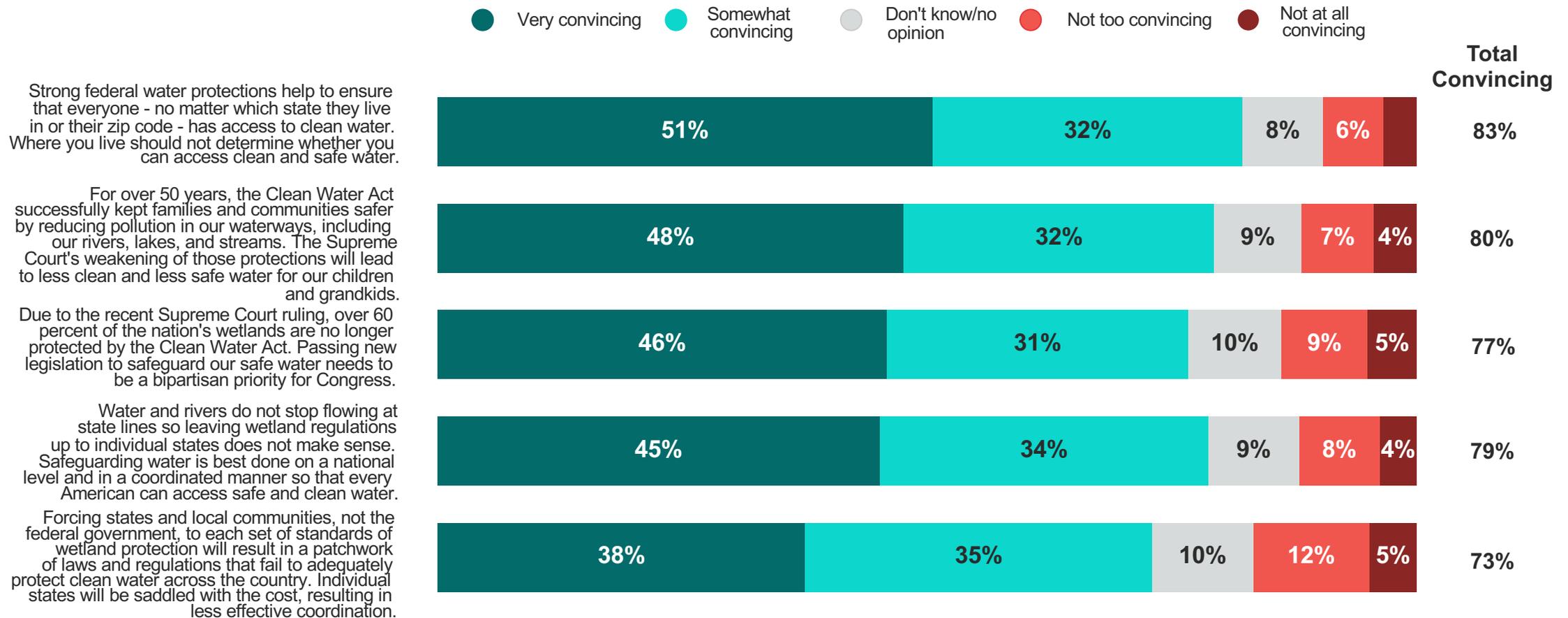
Do you agree or disagree that farmers should be subject to clean water requirements to help protect downstream water quality for drinking and recreation?



CLEAN WATER ACT

When it comes to messaging about federal legislation to protect American wetlands, voters find the statements about how the legislation ensures that everyone has access to clean water (83%) and keeping families and communities safe (80%) most convincing.

Next you will read arguments that are in support of federal legislation to protect American wetlands. How convincing, if at all, are each of the following arguments?



CLEAN WATER ACT

After reading the tested messages, support for a law to reverse the Supreme Court's decision and fully restore federal protection of the nation's wetlands and waterways increased 8 points. Support for a law that reverses the Supreme Court decision also increased among Democrats (+9), independents (+5), and Republicans (+9).

Now that you have learned more, would you support or oppose a law to reverse the Supreme Court's decision and fully restore federal protection of the nation's wetlands and waterways?

