



**BALL STATE  
UNIVERSITY**

Bowen Center for  
Public Affairs

# INDIANA PUBLIC BROADCASTING/BALL STATE UNIVERSITY 2022 HOOSIER SURVEY

Summary Findings



**INDIANA  
PUBLIC  
BROADCASTING  
STATIONS**



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# Overview

- Interviews conducted by Ironwood Insights Group, Inc.
- N=600 Indiana adults, age 18 or older
- Interviews were done by telephone (299), both by landline (42) and cell phone (257), and online (301)
- Interviews were conducted between October 21 and November 8, 2022.
- The margin of sampling error for the complete set of data is  $\pm 4.0$  percentage points.

# Overview

- Topics
  - Demographics
  - Approval
  - Abortion
  - Wages/Income
  - Public Health
  - Environment
  - Polarization
  - Civic Engagement



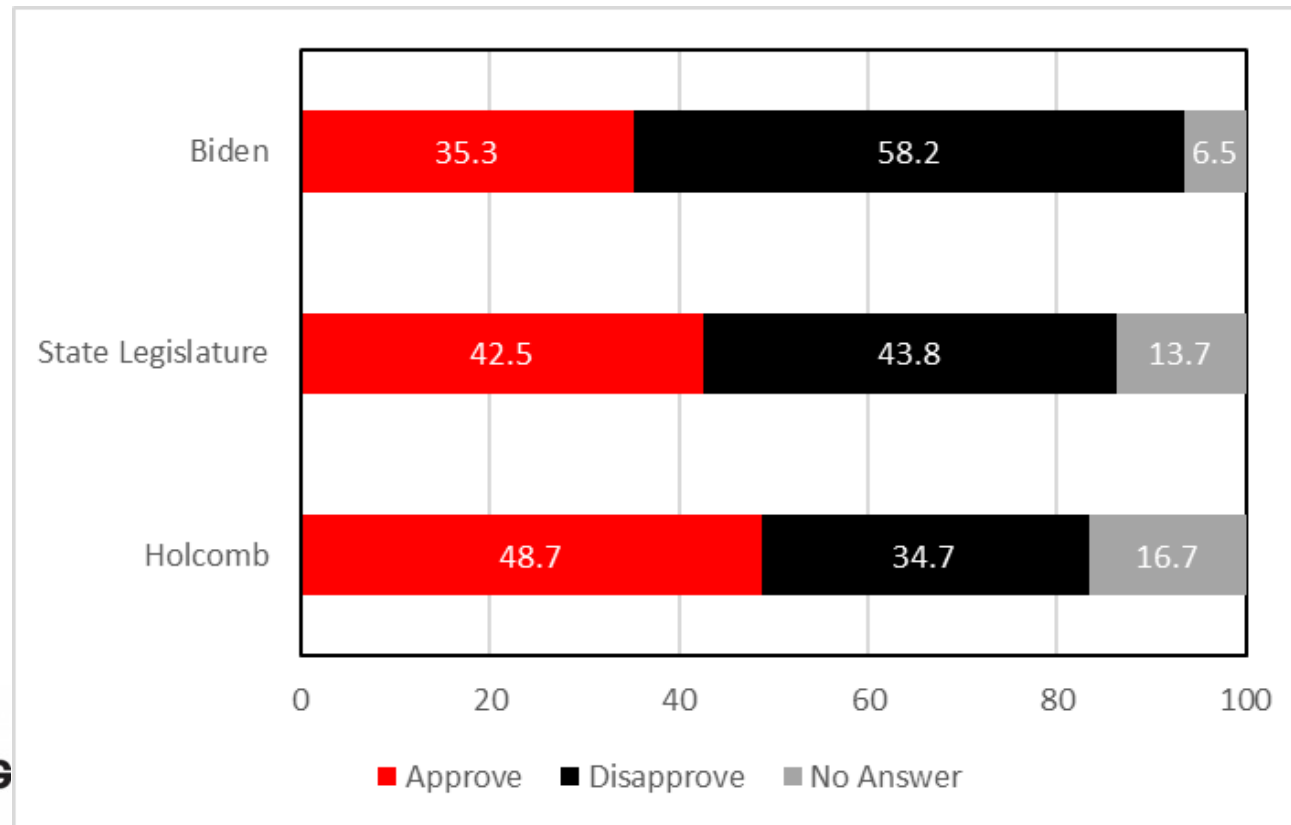
# Demographics

- Demographics Collected
  - Gender
  - Party
  - Ideology
  - Age
  - Education
  - Race
  - Income
  - Religious Service Attendance



# Approval

- Overall, do you approve or disapprove of job of...

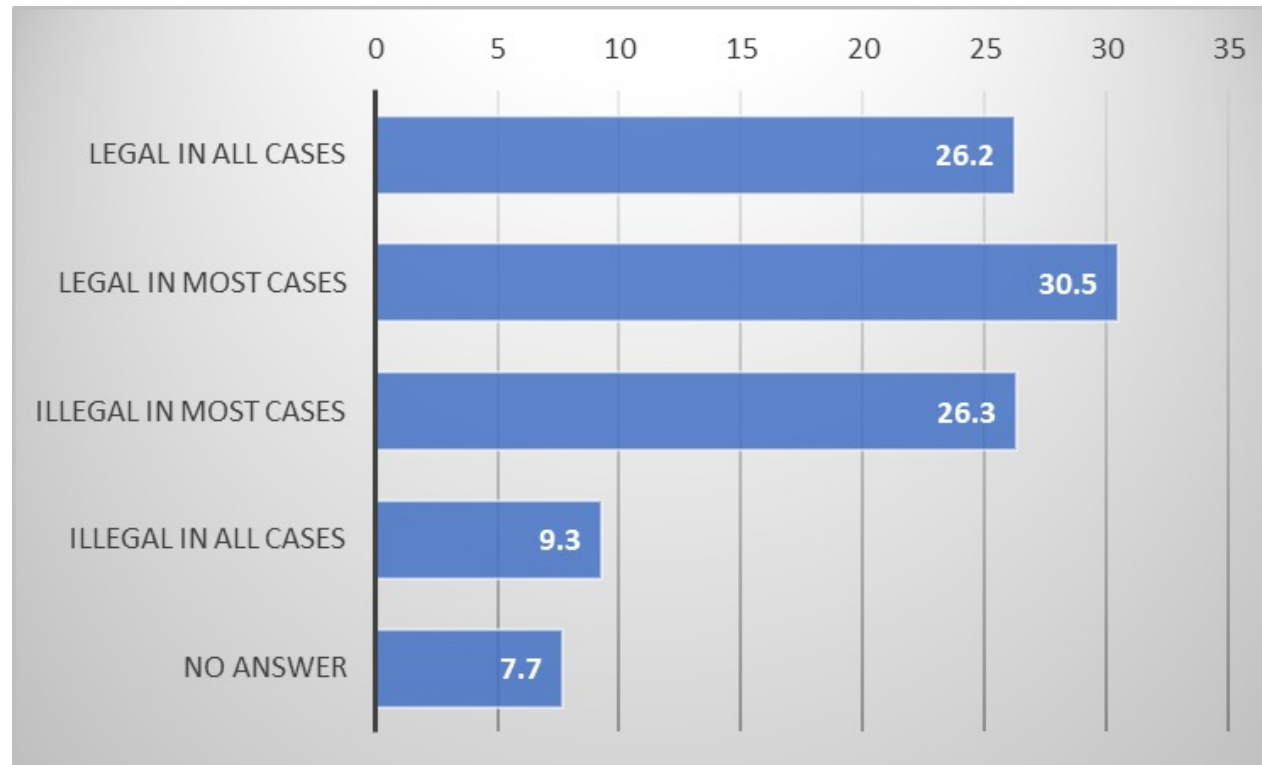


# Approval: Key Takeaways

- President Biden, who lost to former President Trump in Indiana in 2020 by a wide margin, is still deeply unpopular in the state.
- Overall, Governor Holcomb is still popular among many Hoosiers.
- The popularity of the state legislature is almost evenly split among Hoosiers which, overall, is a generally positive development given how unpopular legislative bodies generally are, especially Congress.
- Hoosiers, like most Americans, are less familiar with state government given the large number of “no answers” received.

# Abortion

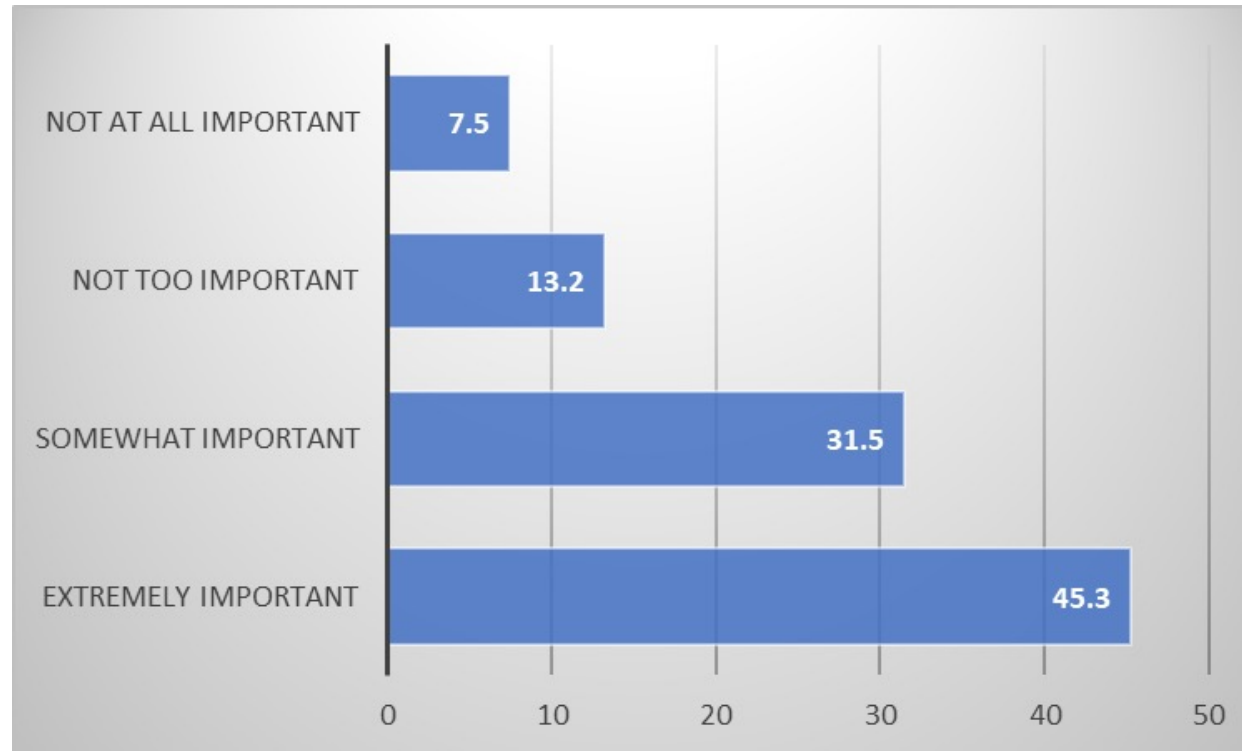
- Do you think abortion should be...





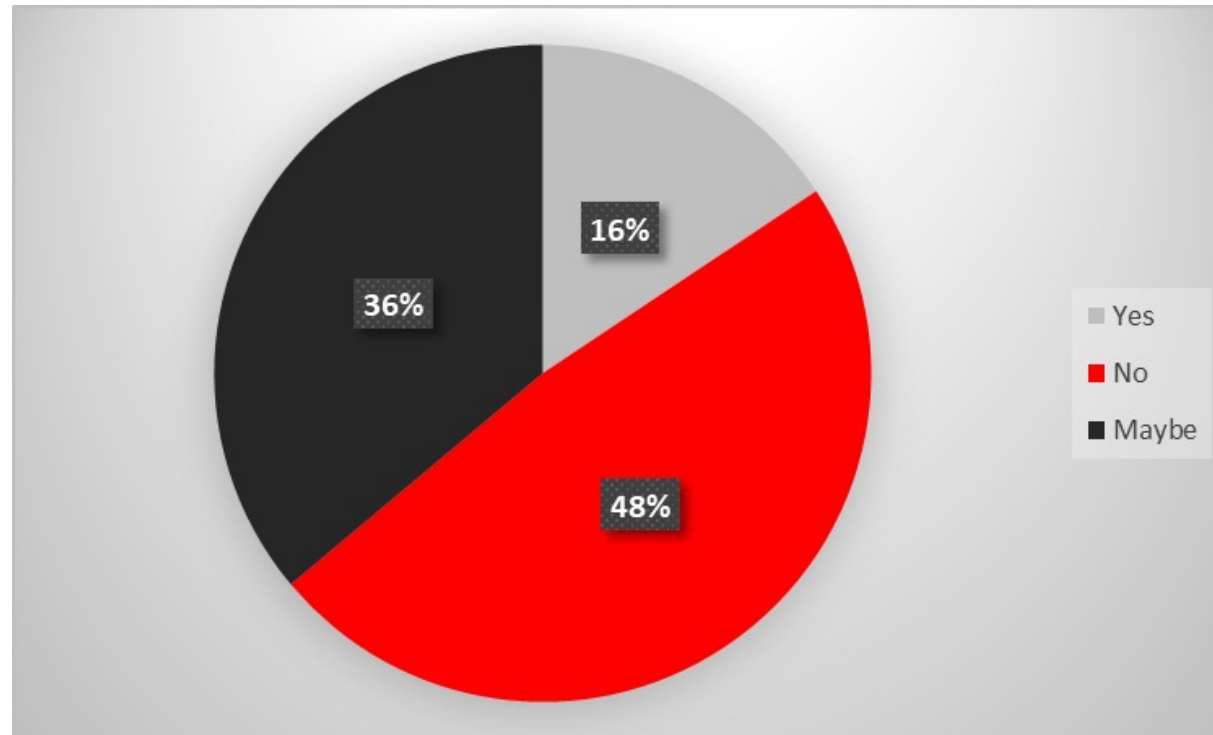
# Abortion

- How important to you is the issue of abortion?



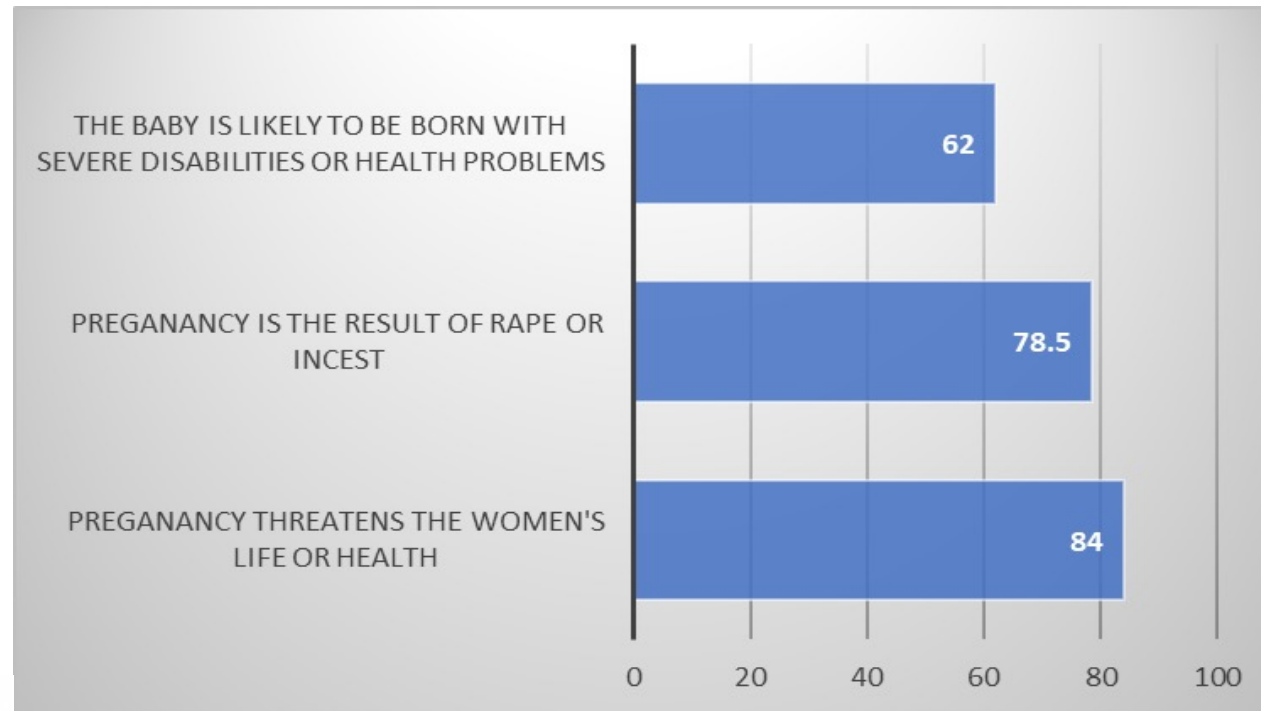
# Abortion

- If a political candidate had a different view of abortion than yourself, would you still vote for that candidate?



# Abortion

- Should abortion be legal or illegal in the following situation...

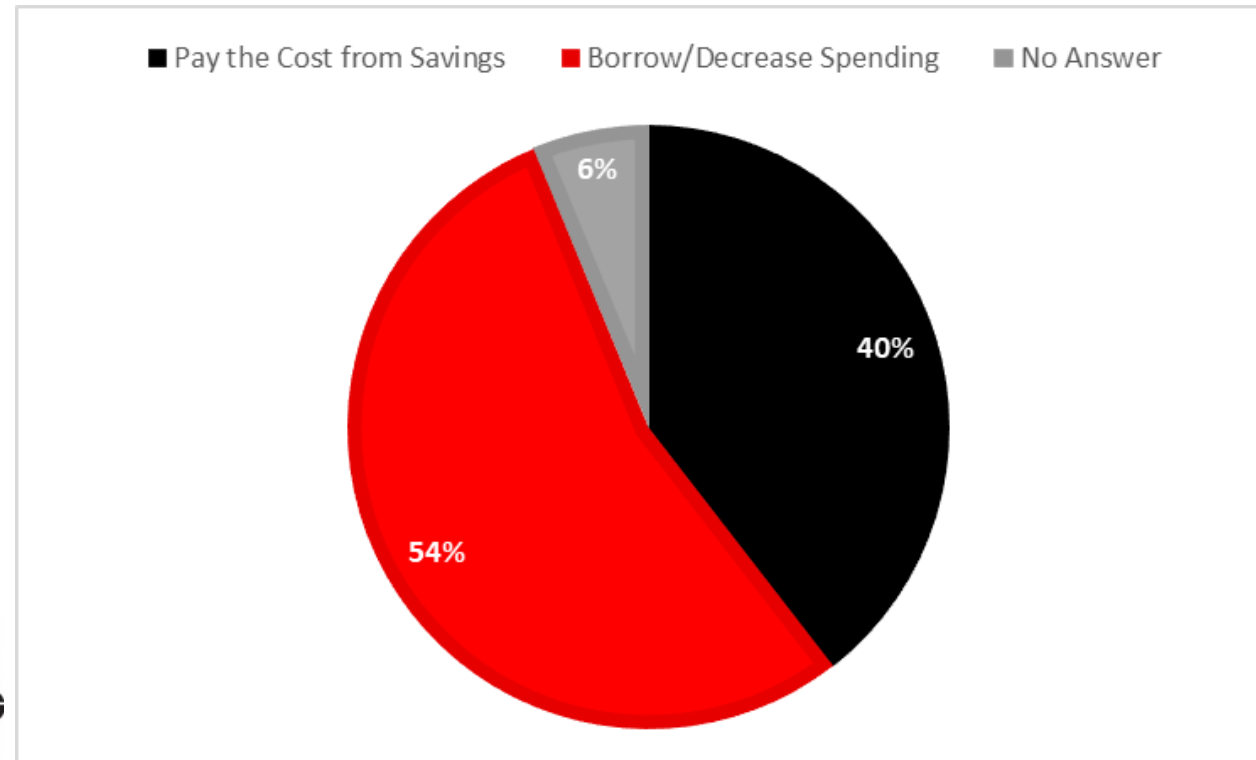


# Abortion: Key Takeaways

- Most Hoosiers, over 76 percent, find abortion to be an important or at least somewhat important issue. Given this, Hoosier voters were almost even split on whether they would vote for a candidate that has a different stance on this issue with 48 percent saying they would not and 52 percent saying they would or might still vote for such a candidate.
- A majority of Hoosiers (56.7 percent) believe abortion should be legal in all or most cases.
- Hoosiers overwhelmingly agree with exceptions for abortion when the women's life is at risk or the pregnancy is the result of rape or incest. Even in the case where a child could be born with defects or health problems, 62 percent of Hoosiers still believe an abortion should be legal.

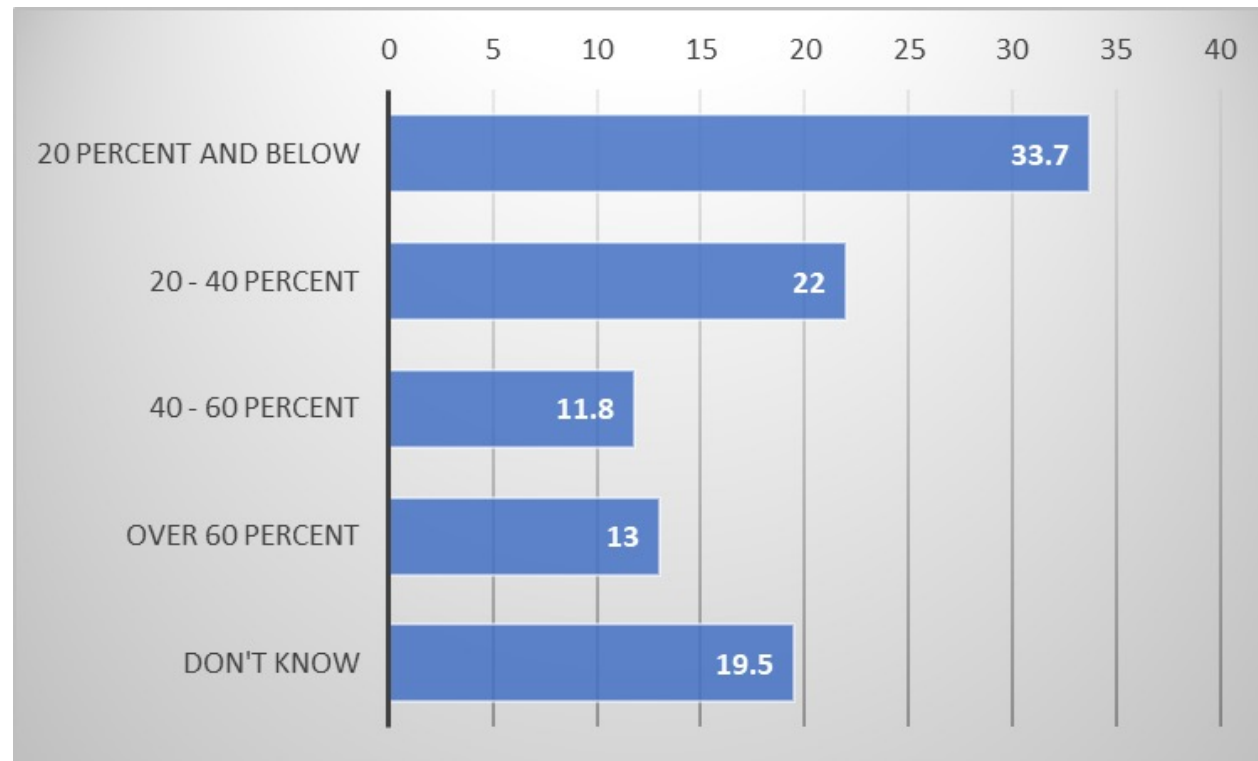
# Wages/Income

- If your family were hit with a \$1,000 out of pocket expense, what would you do?



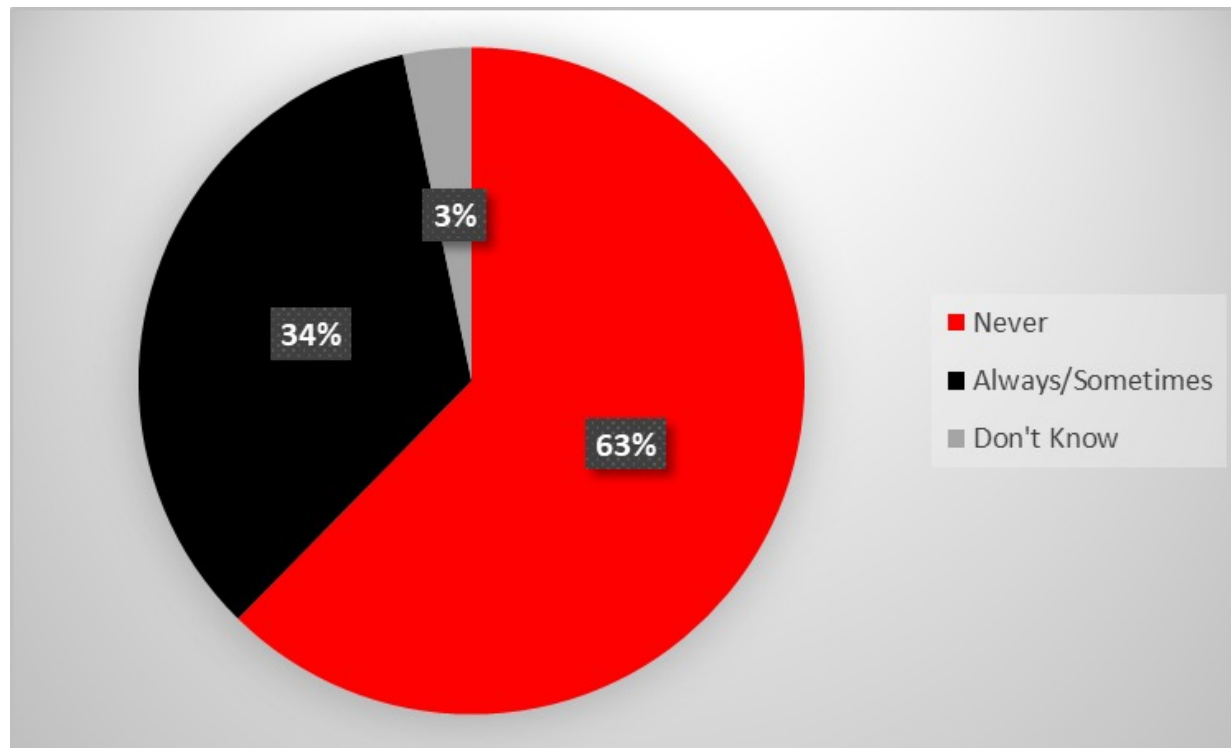
# Wages/Income

- Approximately what percentage of your household income, after taxes, do you pay for rent/mortgage?



# Wages/Income

- In the past year have you had difficulty paying your rent/mortgage?



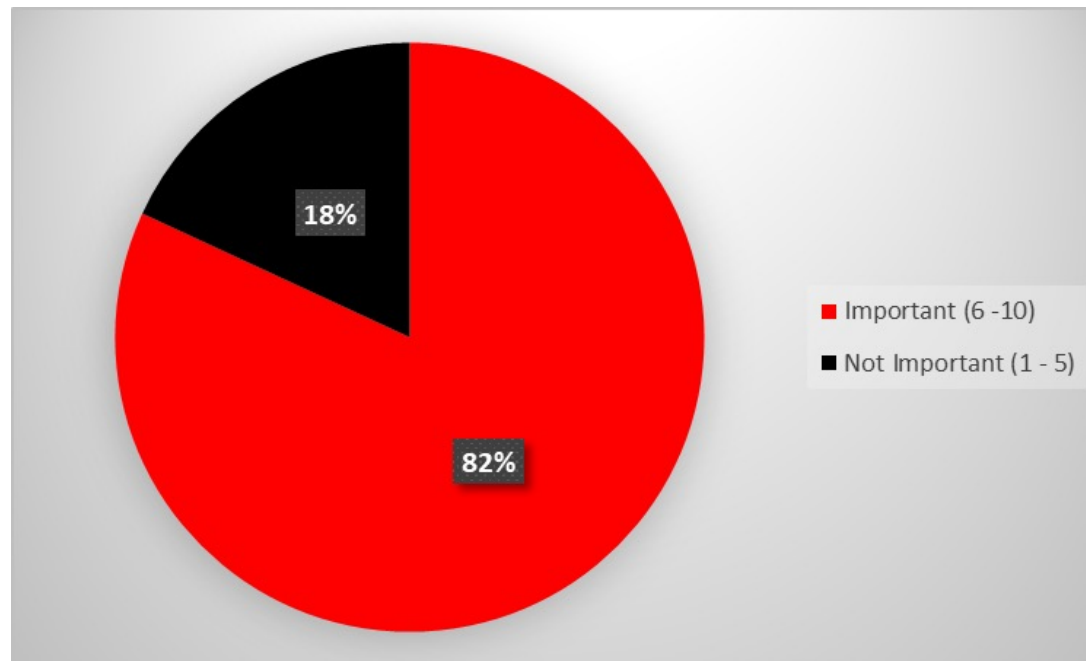
# Wages/Income Key Takeaways

- Overall, Hoosiers responded that their wages and income seem to be doing well.
- Almost 40 percent of Hoosiers would be able to pay for a \$1,000 unexpected expense from savings while almost 54 percent would have to cut costs or take some form of loan.
- As a percentage of their income, 55.7 percent of Hoosiers pay 40 percent or less of their income toward their mortgage or rent and 63 percent of Hoosier reported never being late on a rent or mortgage payment.



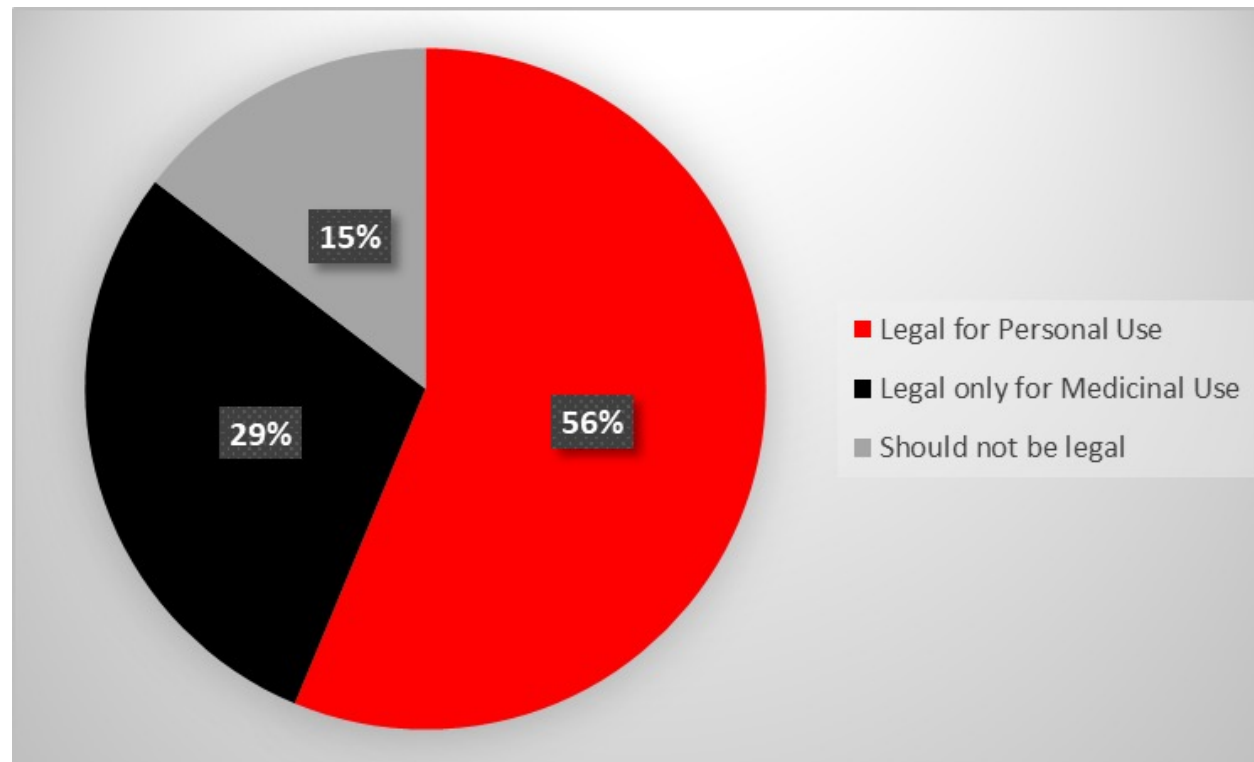
# Public Health

- On a scale of 1 to 10 with 1 being not important and 10 being extremely important, how important are local public health departments in creating a healthy community?



# Public Health

- Which comes closer to your view about the use of marijuana by adults?



# Public Health Key Takeaways

- Hoosiers overall support their public health departments with over 80 percent rating them in the 6-10 range on a ten points scale with 10 being extremely important.
- Mirroring public opinion across several states and the nation, Hoosier views on marijuana are favorable with over 85 percent of respondents saying that marijuana should be legal in some form and only 15 percent of respondents saying it should be illegal. This comes at a time when legalization of cannabis is rapidly occurring around the state, especially in neighboring Illinois, Michigan, and Ohio.

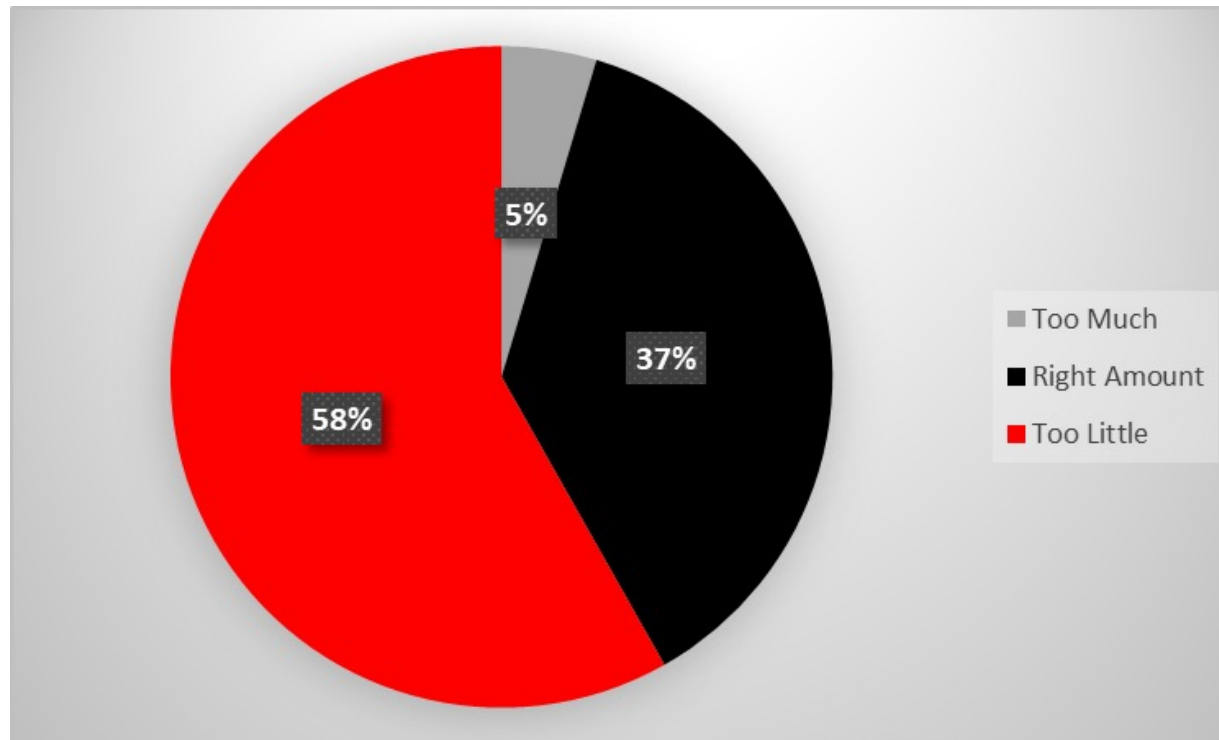
# Environment

- Which one of the following statements about the environment and the economy do you agree with most?

Protection of the environment should be given priority, even at the risk of curbing economic growth	51.2
Economic growth should be given priority, even if the environment suffers to some extent	38.3
No Answer	10.5

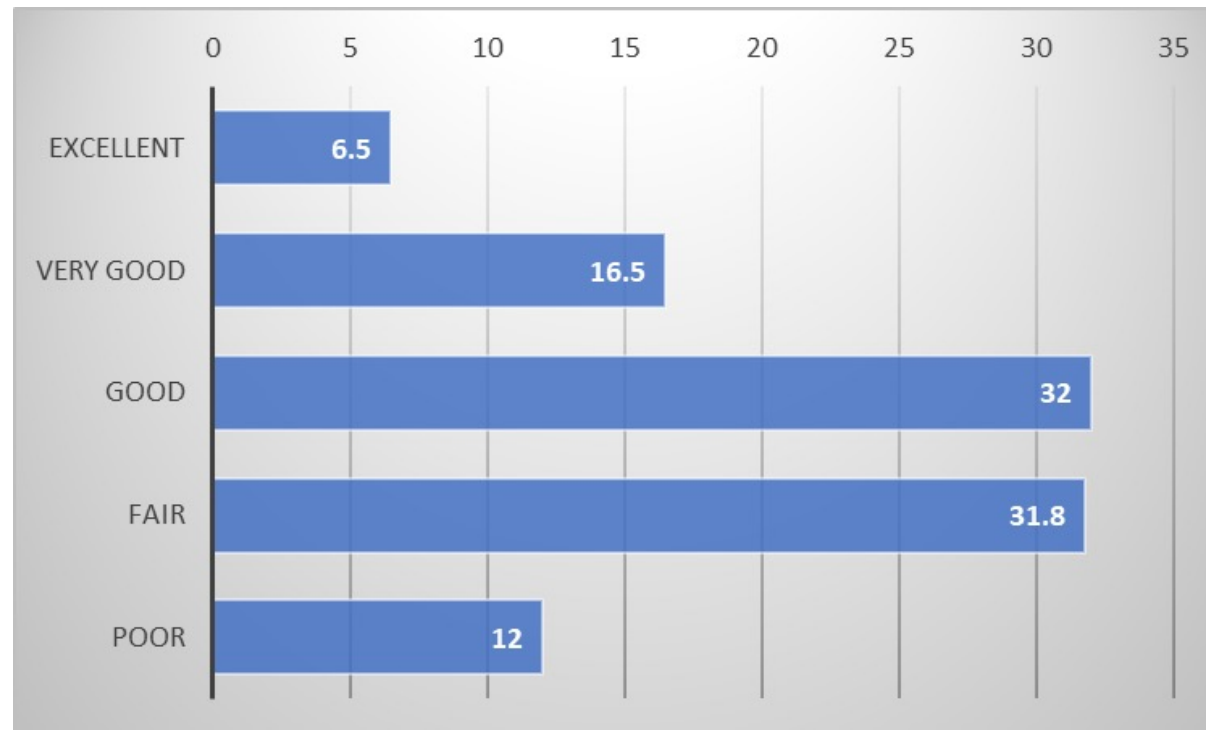
# Environment

- Do you think Indiana state government is doing too much, too little or about the right amount in terms of protecting the environment?



# Environment

- How would you rate the overall quality of the environment in Indiana today? Would you say it was...

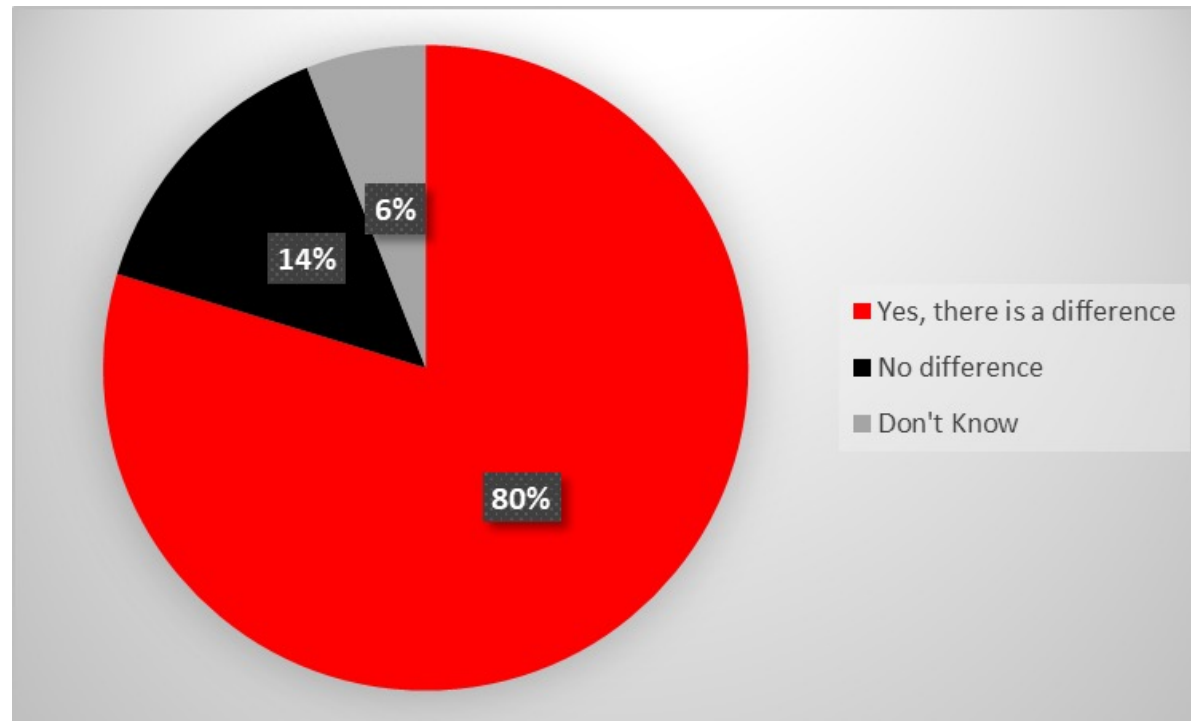


# Environment Key Takeaways

- Perhaps as a result of the good financial position of Hoosiers, concern for the environment seems to be high, to the point where 51.2 percent of Hoosiers believe protecting the environment should take precedence over economic growth.
- Almost 60 percent of respondents to the Hoosier Survey said that too little is currently being done to protect the environment and only 5 percent too much is being done.
- Most Hoosiers took a middle ground with rating the environment, rating it is only good or fair.

# Polarization

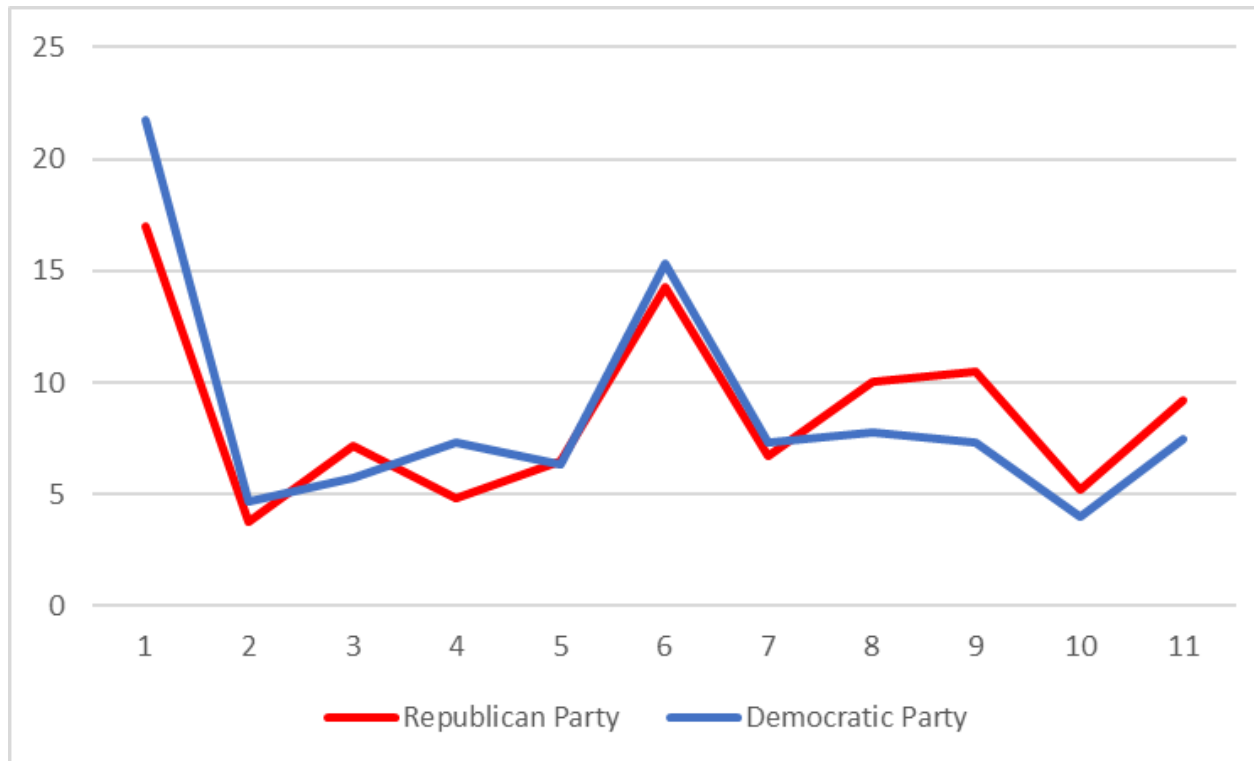
- Do you think there are any important differences in what the Republicans and Democrats stand for, or not?





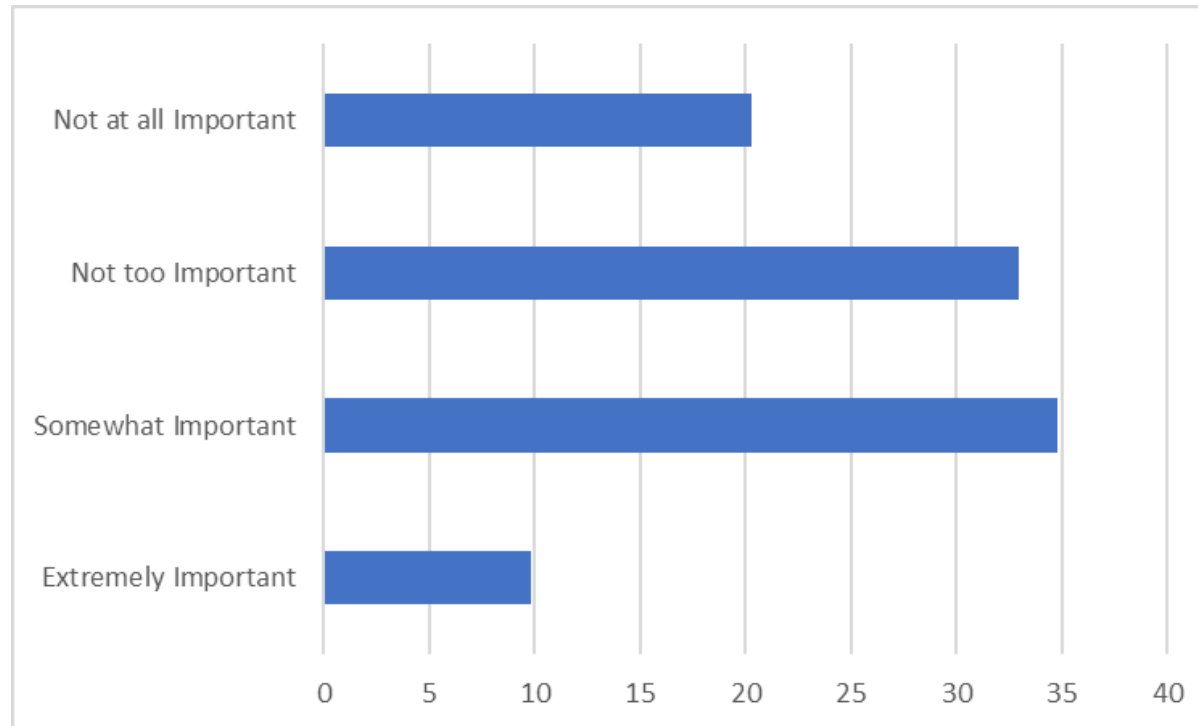
# Polarization

- How would you rate the Democratic/Republican Party?



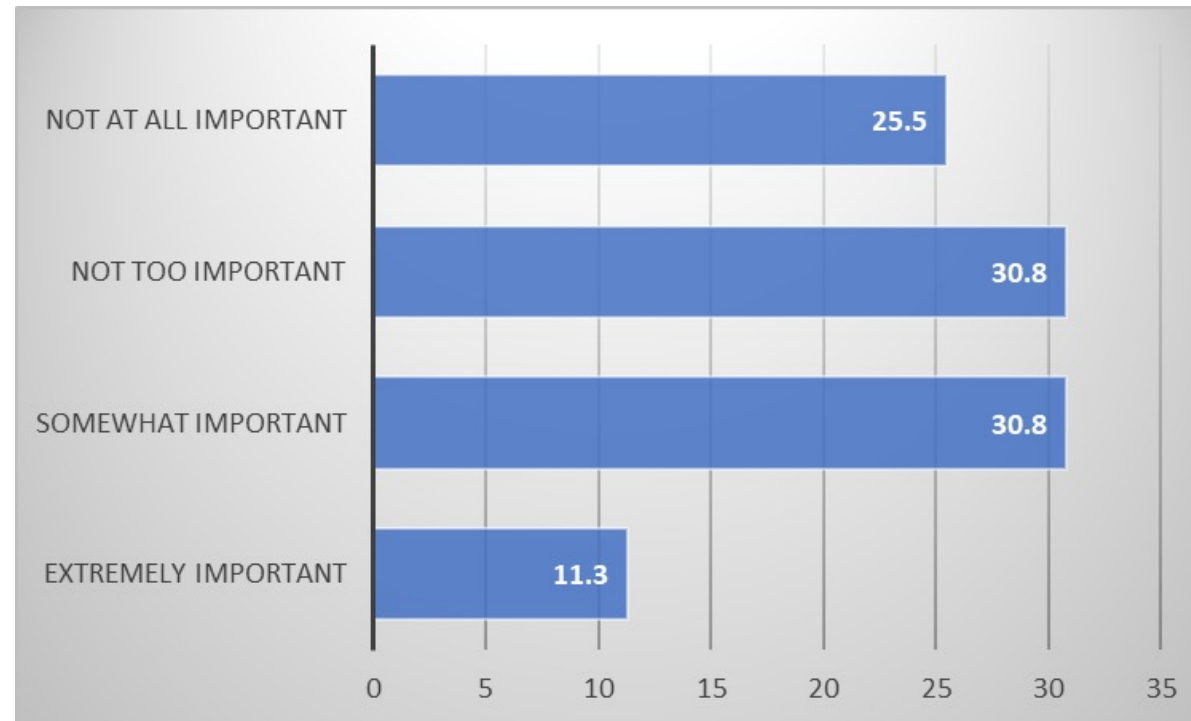
# Polarization

- How important is it to you to live in a place where most people share your political views?



# Polarization

- How important is it to you that most of your close friends share your political views?

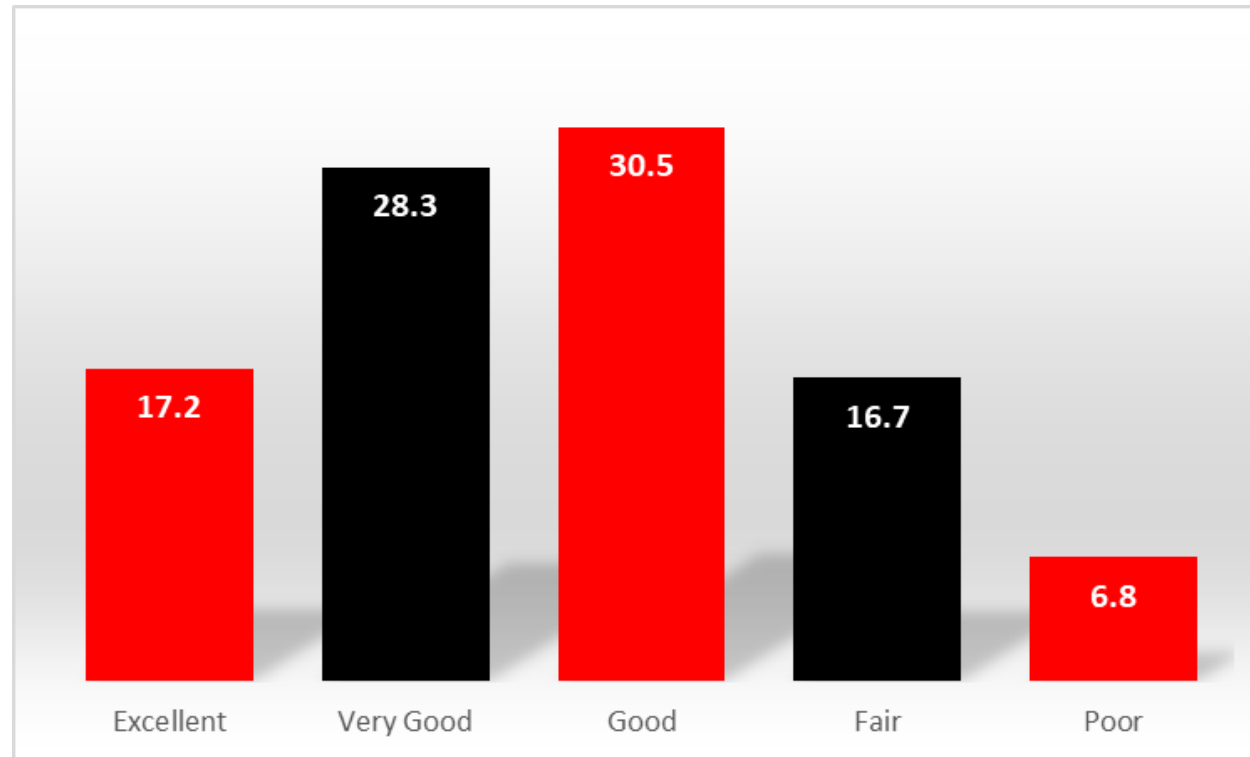


# Polarization Key Takeaways

- The vast majority of Hoosiers say there is a difference between the two parties
- Both parties received similar ratings, although Republicans received a somewhat better ranking, overall. Large numbers of people both do not like either party with spikes in the middle ground and for those who like each party.
- In terms of wanting their friends and people where they live to have similar political views, most Hoosiers took a middle ground, saying it was either not too important or only somewhat important. In both questions, more Hoosiers said it was not important as opposed to the more polarizing extremely important position.

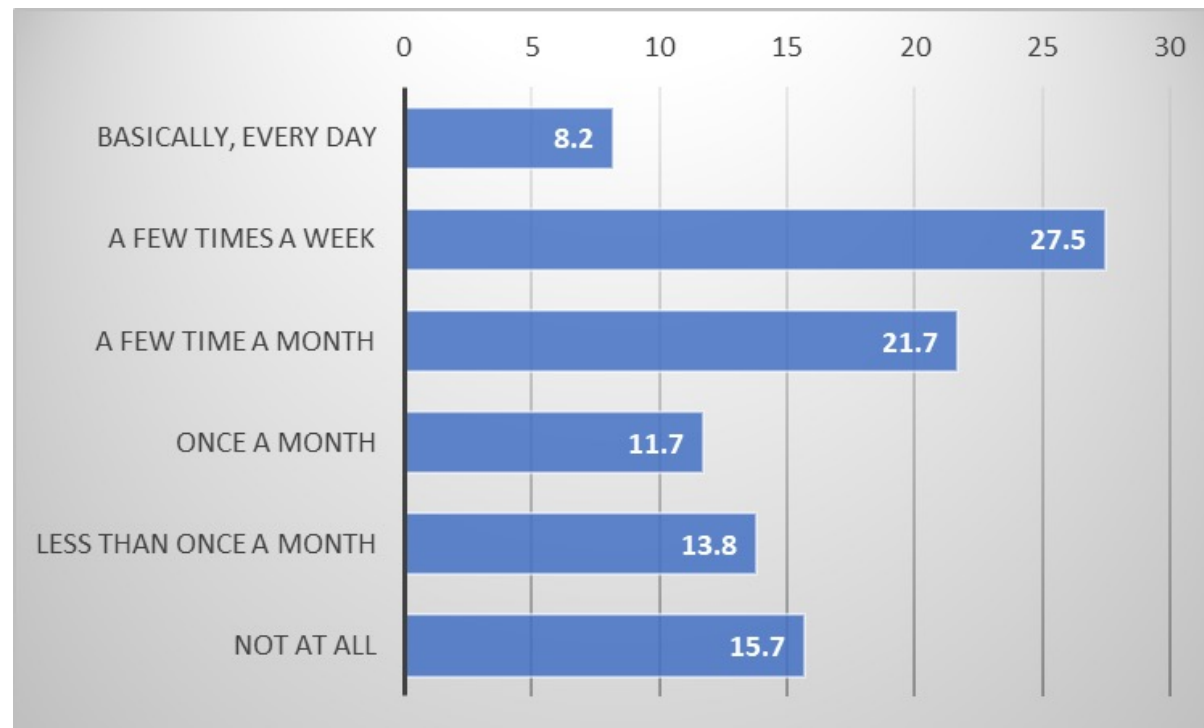
# Civic Engagement

- Overall, how would you rate your community as a place to live?



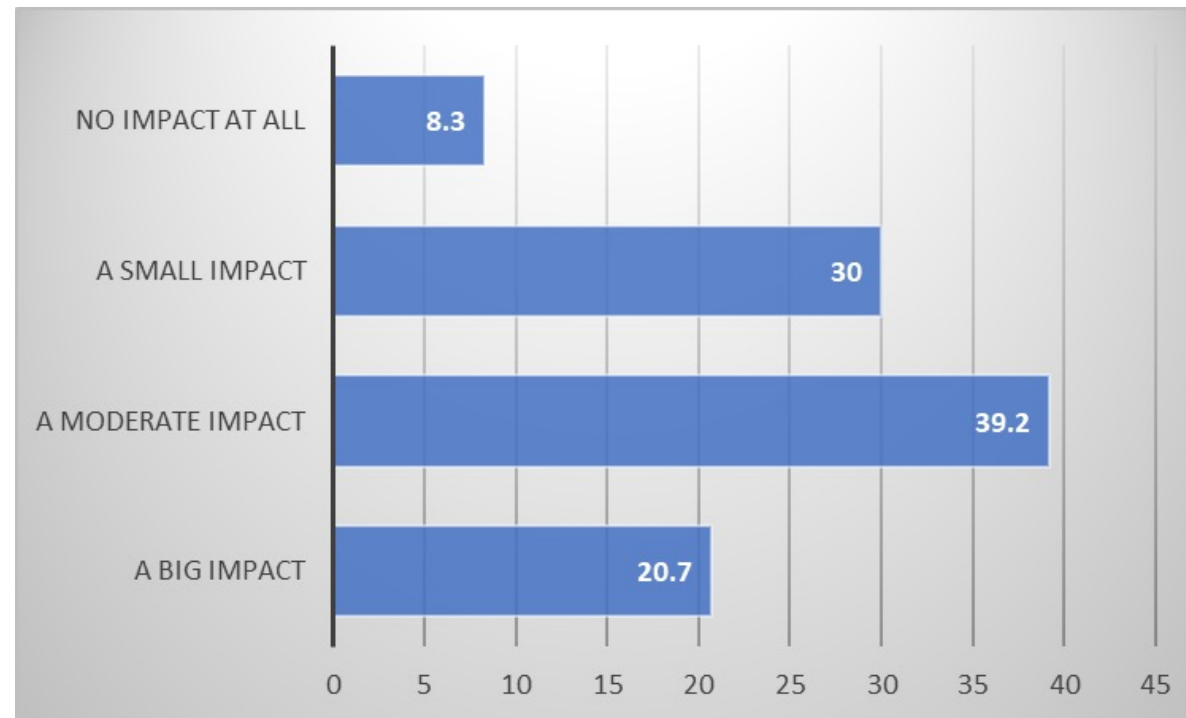
# Civic Engagement

- In the past 12 months, how often did you have a conversation with or spend time with your neighbors?



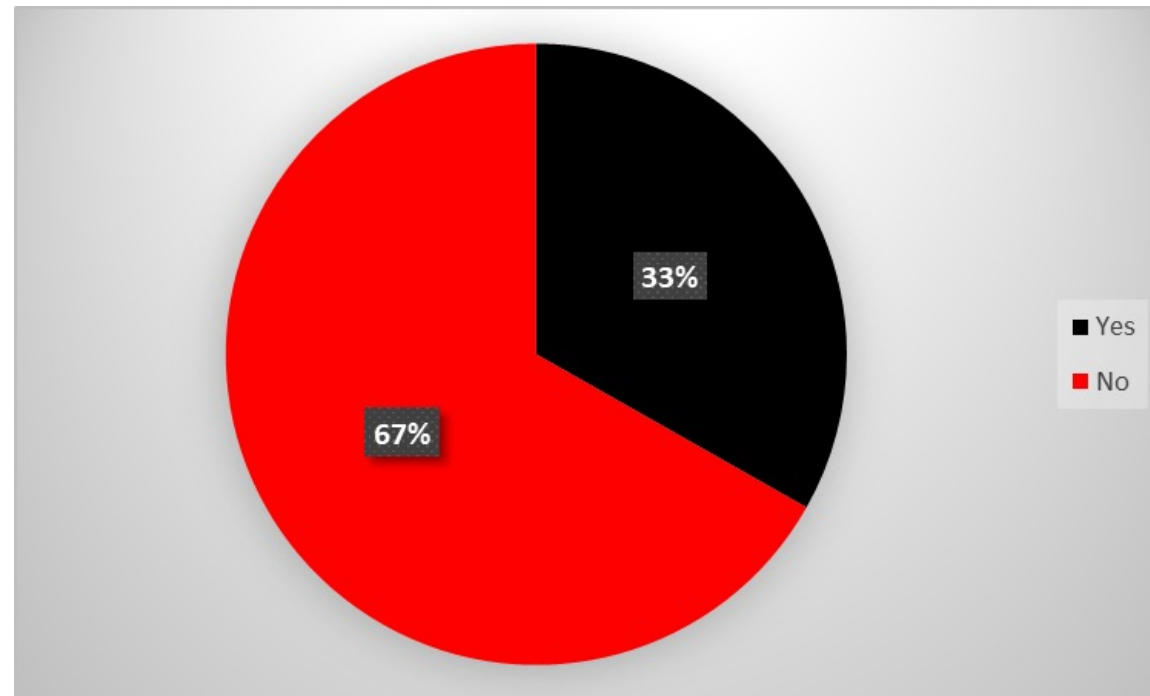
# Civic Engagement

- How much impact do you think people like you can have in making your community a better place to live?



# Civic Engagement

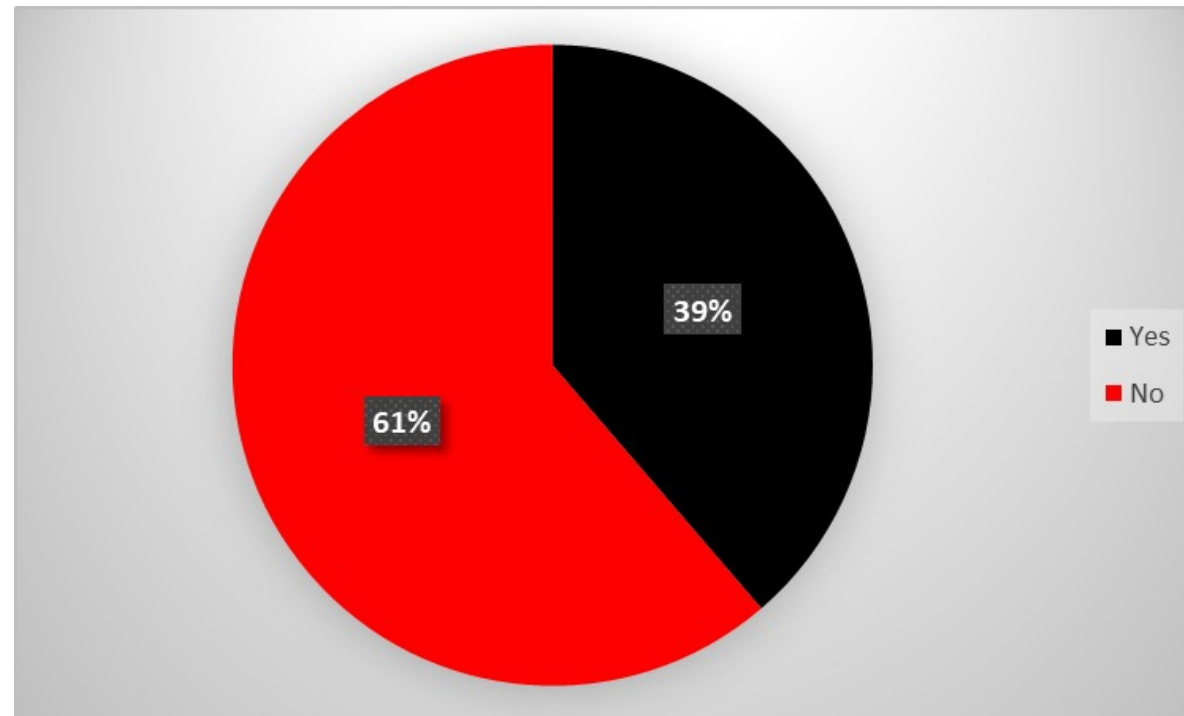
- In the past 12 months, did you belong to any groups, organizations, or associations?





# Civic Engagement

- In the past 12 months, did you spend any time volunteering for any organization or association?



# Civic Engagement Key Takeaways

- Overall, Hoosiers like the communities where they live with almost 80 percent rating their local community as a good place to live.
- Most Hoosiers talk to their neighbor at least a few times a month. However it is interesting that almost 16 percent of Hoosiers never talk to their neighbor.
- Majorities of Hoosiers do not seem engaged in their community with over 60 percent reporting not belonging to any group or organization or volunteering.

# For More Information...

- For a breakdown of any question by demographics or more information please feel free to contact Chad Kinsella, Managing Director of the Bowen Center at: [cjkinsella@bsu.edu](mailto:cjkinsella@bsu.edu)





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