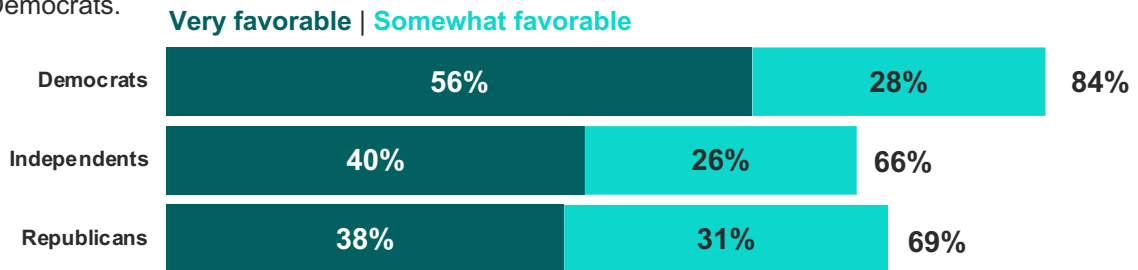


TO: Walton Family Foundation
FR: Morning Consult
DT: September 2022
RE: Results for 2022 Clean Water Act Research

Morning Consult ran a survey, on behalf of the Walton Family Foundation, focusing on favorability and support for the protections in the Clean Water Act, as well as general views of water issues and who should set standards for water quality in the United States. The survey was conducted from August 26th – 30th among a sample of 2,210 adults nationally and oversamples in Arizona, Colorado, Pennsylvania, Louisiana, and Wisconsin. The interviews were conducted online. The survey finds that the Clean Water Act is popular among adults, and they support protecting more waters and wetlands under the Clean Water act considering an upcoming Supreme Court case in which the Clean Water Act is a focus.

THE CLEAN WATER ACT IS POPULAR AND REMOVING ITS PROTECTIONS ARE CONCERNING FOR ADULTS NATIONWIDE

- Three-in-four (73% favorable) adults nationally, and in the oversampled states, have a *favorable* opinion of the Clean Water Act: Arizona (73%), Colorado (74%), Pennsylvania (76%), Louisiana (76%), Wisconsin. (79%). Among national adults, the Clean Water Act is also viewed favorably among Republicans, Independents, and Democrats.



- After learning that the Clean Water Act created federal water quality standards that polluters must meet, nine-in-ten (89% concerned) adults nationally, and in the oversampled states, are *concerned* if polluters no longer had to meet water quality requirements before adding waste into streams or wetlands: Arizona (93%), Colorado (92%), Pennsylvania (89%), Louisiana (89%), Wisconsin. (95%).
- After learning that the Clean Water Act requires permits before making a permanent physical change to a water body, such as damming a river, changing the banks of a stream, or filling a wetland, nine-in-ten (88% concerned) adults nationally, and in the states oversampled, are concerned that if this requirement was removed in some cases that it would make it easier to physically harm or pave over streams and wetlands: Arizona (84%), Colorado (86%), Pennsylvania (88%), Louisiana (83%), Wisconsin. (92%).
- After learning the facts of the the upcoming Supreme Court case, Sackett v. the Environmental Protection Agency, three-in-four (75%) adults nationally are supportive of protecting more waters and wetlands under the Clean Water Act, while 13% support removing protections for certain waters and wetlands under the Clean Water Act. This support is consistent across the key states tested as well: Arizona (74%), Colorado (78%), Pennsylvania (81%), Louisiana (65%), Wisconsin (81%).
- When presented with the authority within the Clean Water Act, such as the authority to restrict pollution entering our waters and limiting the destruction and physical damage to lakes, rivers, wetlands, streams, and other waterways, nearly nine-in-ten (88%) adults say it is important that the Environmental Protection Agency have the authority presented in the Clean Water Act: Arizona (83%), Colorado (88%), Pennsylvania (91%), Louisiana (86%), Wisconsin (94%).

THE ENVIRONMENTAL PROTECTION AGENCY (EPA) SHOULD TAKE THE LEAD ON SETTING WATER STANDARDS

- When presented with different organizations and levels of government, three-in-five (61%) adults nationally, and in the oversampled states, say that the EPA should set standards to protect rivers, lakes, and streams that provide drinking water from pollution: Arizona (63%), Colorado (61%), Pennsylvania (65%), Louisiana (61%), Wisconsin (67%).
- Not only do adults want the EPA to protect bodies of water that provide drinking water from pollution, but they also make it clear that they *trust* them to do so more so than other organizations and different levels of government tested.

Trust to Protect Clean Water			
	Total Trust	Total Not Trust	Net Trust
EPA	71%	20%	+51
U.S. Congress	40%	51%	-11
Your state government	60%	32%	+28
Your local government	62%	30%	+32
Drinking water utilities	68%	24%	+44

ACCESS AND AVAILABILITY TO CLEAN WATER IS A CONCERN NATIONWIDE

- Three-in-four (76%) adults nationwide, and in the oversampled states, are *concerned* about having access to safe drinking water over the next ten years: Arizona (83%), Colorado (76%), Pennsylvania (76%), Louisiana (75%), Wisconsin (70%).
- Four-in-ten (79%) adults nationwide, and in the oversampled states, are *concerned* about having enough water in streams, lakes, and rivers over the next ten years: Arizona (90%), Colorado (86%), Pennsylvania (79%), Louisiana (74%), Wisconsin (72%).

National Methodology: This poll was conducted between August 26th – 27th, 2022 among a sample of 2,210 Adults. The interviews were conducted online and the data were weighted to approximate a target sample of adults based on gender, age, race, educational attainment, and region. Results from the full survey have a margin of error of plus or minus 2 percentage points.

State Methodology: The state level polls were conducted between August 26th – 30th, 2022, among a sample of 303 adults in Arizona, 303 adults in Colorado, 304 adults in Pennsylvania, 254 adults in Louisiana, and 304 adults in Wisconsin. The interviews were conducted online, and the data was weighted to approximate a target sample of adults based on gender by age, educational attainment, race, marital status, population density, home ownership, and race by education attainment. Results from the full surveys have a margin of error of plus or minus 6 percentage points in each state.