



Utah Statewide Survey Key Findings

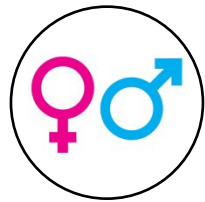
Methodology

New Bridge Strategy conducted a survey among N=500 registered voters across Utah from December 12-18, 2024.

Interviews were conducted via live telephone interviews (both cell phones and landlines) and online. Quotas were set for key demographic sub-groups, such as gender and age.

The margin of error is $\pm 4.38\%$ for the overall sample. The margin of error will vary for sub-groups.

Key Demographics



Gender

<i>Male</i>	48%
<i>Female</i>	52%



Age

<i>18-34</i>	26%
<i>35-44</i>	19%
<i>45-54</i>	17%
<i>55-64</i>	16%
<i>65+</i>	22%



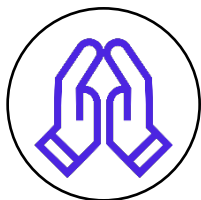
Region

<i>Salt Lake</i>	35%
<i>Other Wasatch Front</i>	20%
<i>Utah County</i>	20%
<i>Balance</i>	25%



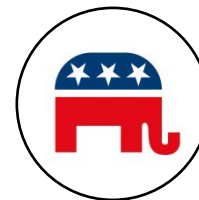
Education

<i>High School or Less</i>	16%
<i>Some college</i>	40%
<i>College grad</i>	30%
<i>Post grad</i>	14%



Religion

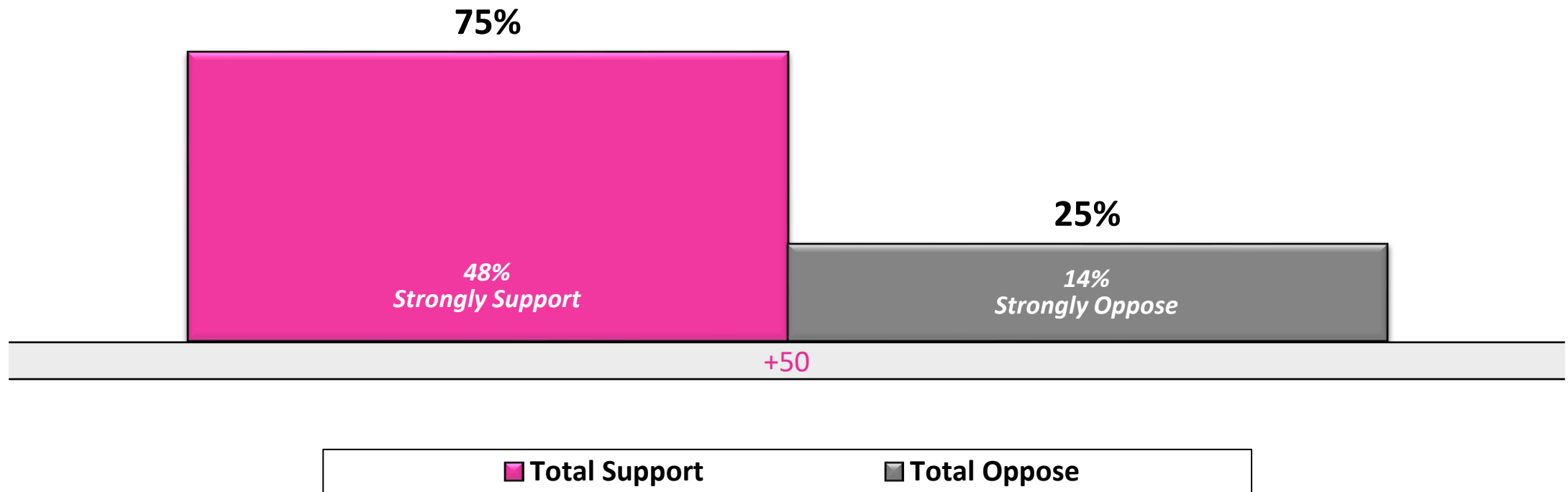
<i>LDS</i>	62%
<i>Other religion</i>	17%
<i>Agnostic/atheist/none</i>	20%



Party

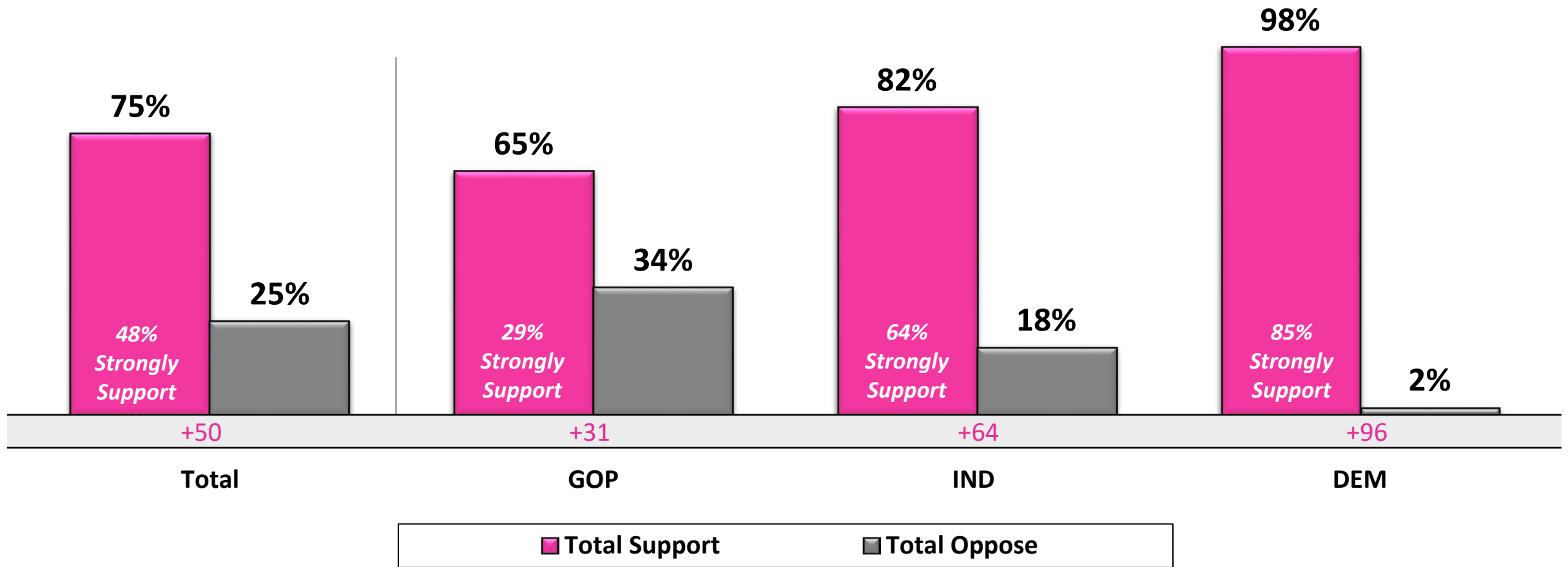
<i>Republican</i>	55%
<i>Independent</i>	30%
<i>Democrat</i>	15%

Three-in-four voters say they support presidents' ability to protect public lands as national monuments.



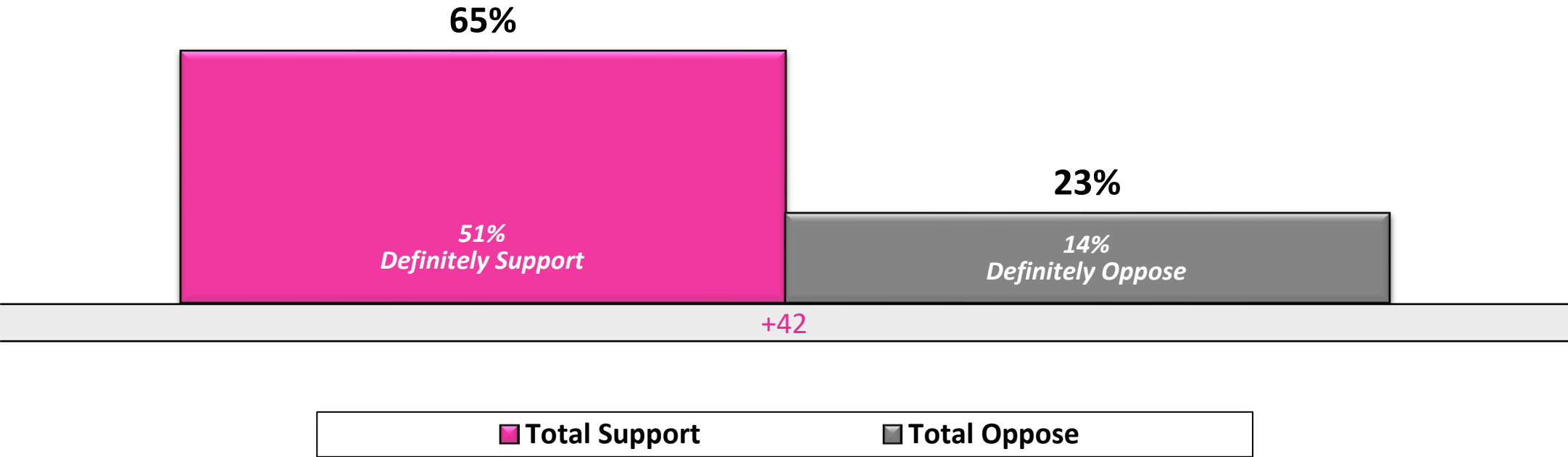
Presidents of both parties have used the ability to protect existing public lands as national monuments in order to maintain public access and protect the land and wildlife for future generations. Knowing that...Do you support or oppose presidents continuing to use their ability to protect existing public lands as national monuments?

Support is evident across party lines.



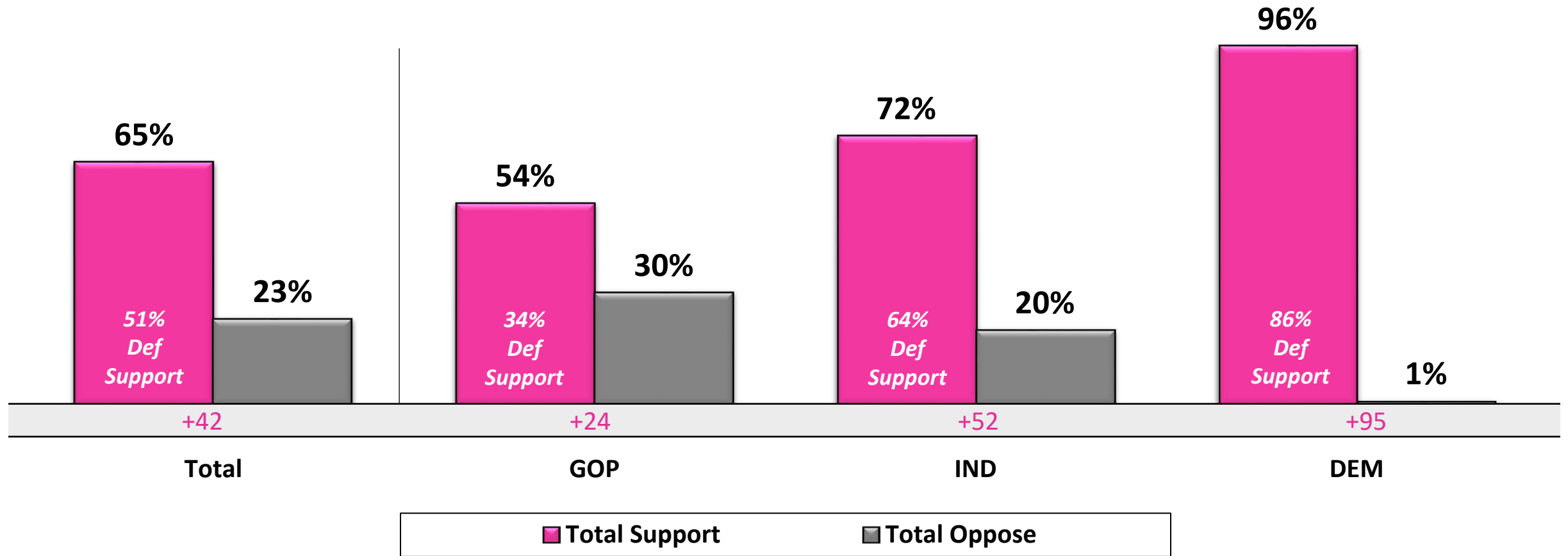
Do you support or oppose presidents continuing to use their ability to protect existing public lands as national monuments?

Nearly two-thirds of voters support keeping the number and current size of existing national monuments.



Do you support or oppose keeping the number and current size of national monuments created by presidents over the past thirty years that ensure stronger protections for these existing public lands?

Majorities of all parties support keeping the number and size of national monuments.

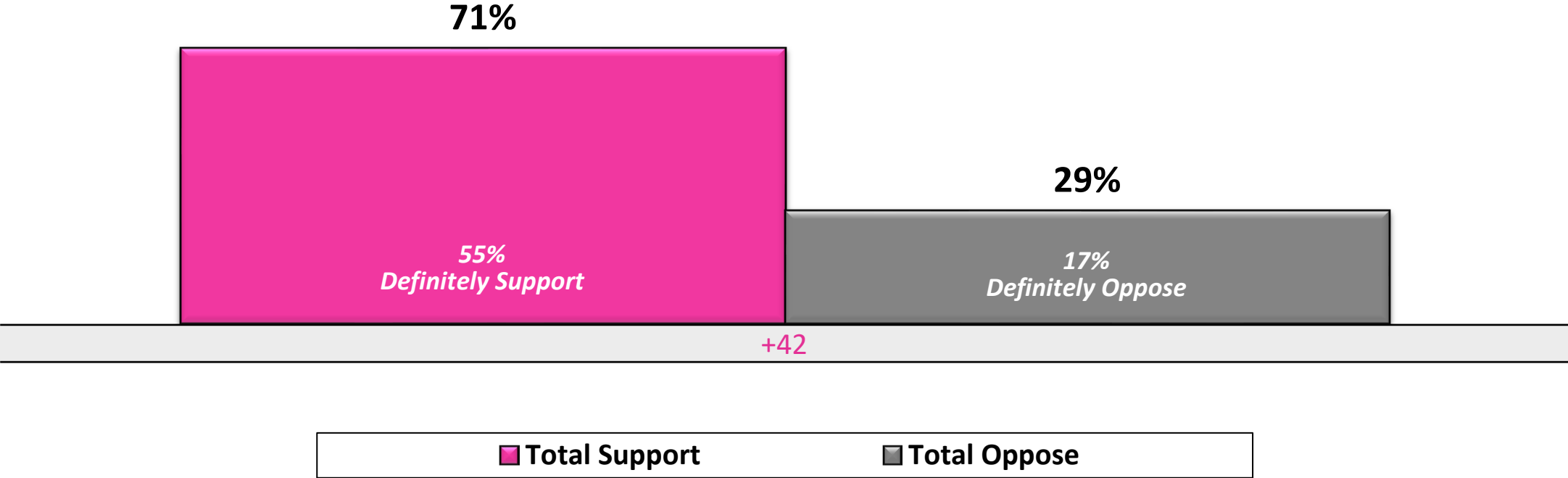


Do you support or oppose keeping the number and current size of national monuments created by presidents over the past thirty years that ensure stronger protections for these existing public lands?

We provided the following information to respondents:

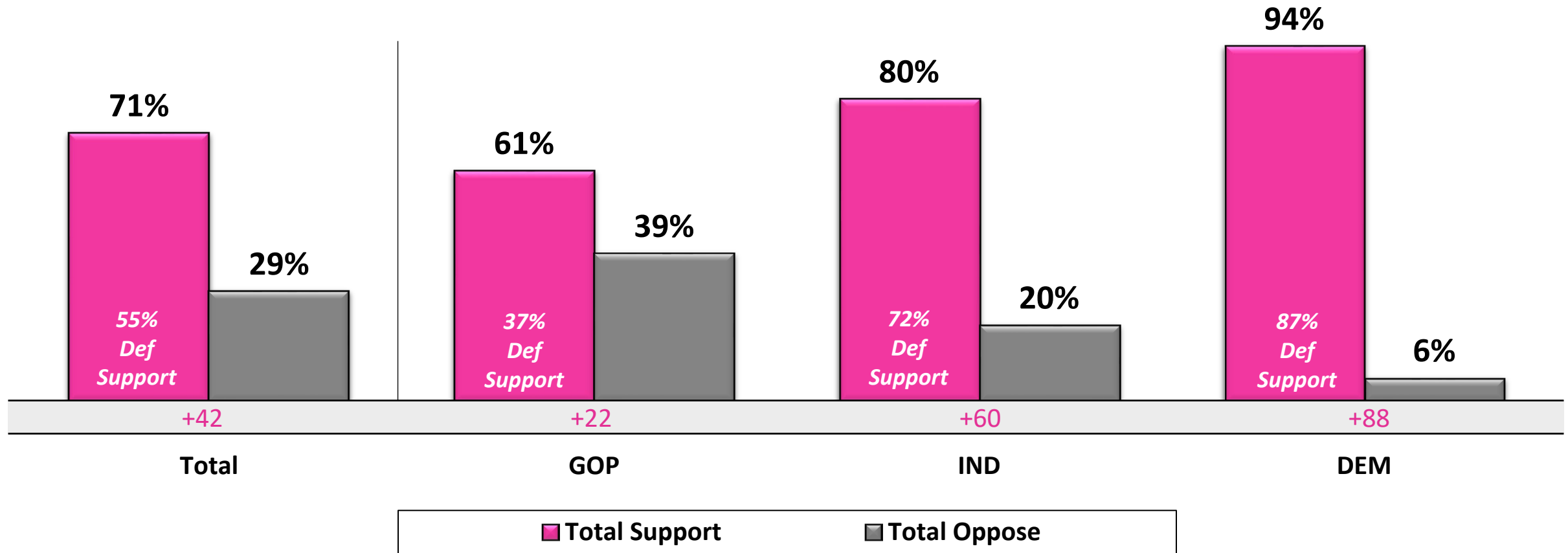
Thinking about Bears Ears specifically – As you may know, five Native American tribes united around a proposal that resulted in the federal government increasing protections for 1.36 million acres of existing public lands in southeastern Utah, which contain ancient petroglyphs and places sacred to these tribes in what is known as the Bears Ears area. This resulted in a national monument in Utah with protections for natural areas and water like those in national parks but with fewer restrictions. Again, the public can go there to camp, fish, hike, hunt, view wildlife, or ride ATVs. New mining or oil and gas development is not allowed on these public lands, but claims and leases held before the designation were not affected.

Nearly three-quarters say they support keeping Bears Ears as a national monument, and a majority strongly support it.



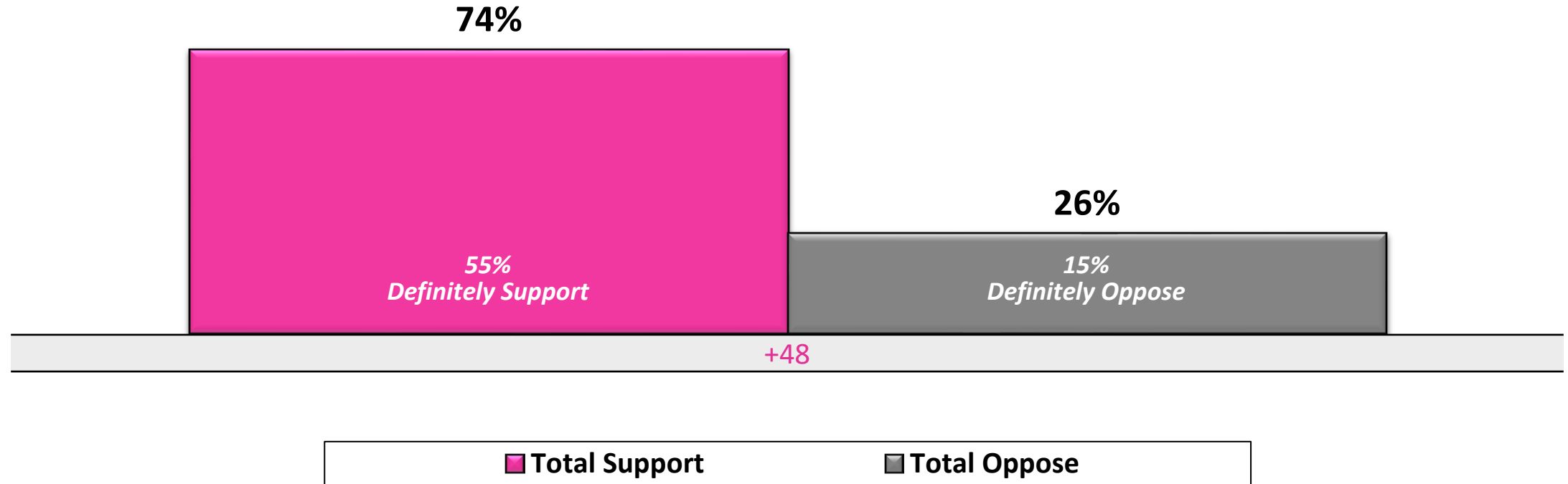
Specifically, for Bears Ears, do you support or oppose continuing to keep it as a national monument to ensure stronger protections for these existing national public lands?

Support for keeping Bears Ears as a national monument extends across party lines.



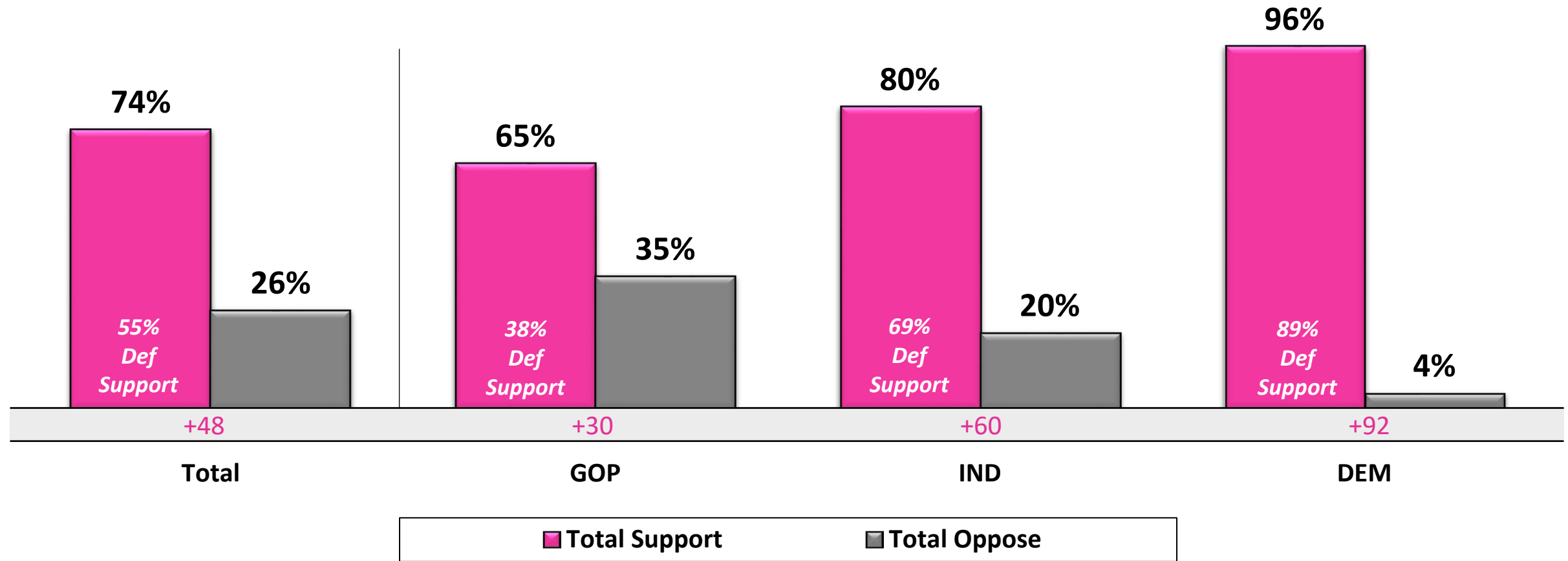
Specifically, for Bears Ears, do you support or oppose continuing to keep it as a national monument to ensure stronger protections for these existing national public lands?

Voters are similarly supportive of keeping Grand Staircase as a national monument.



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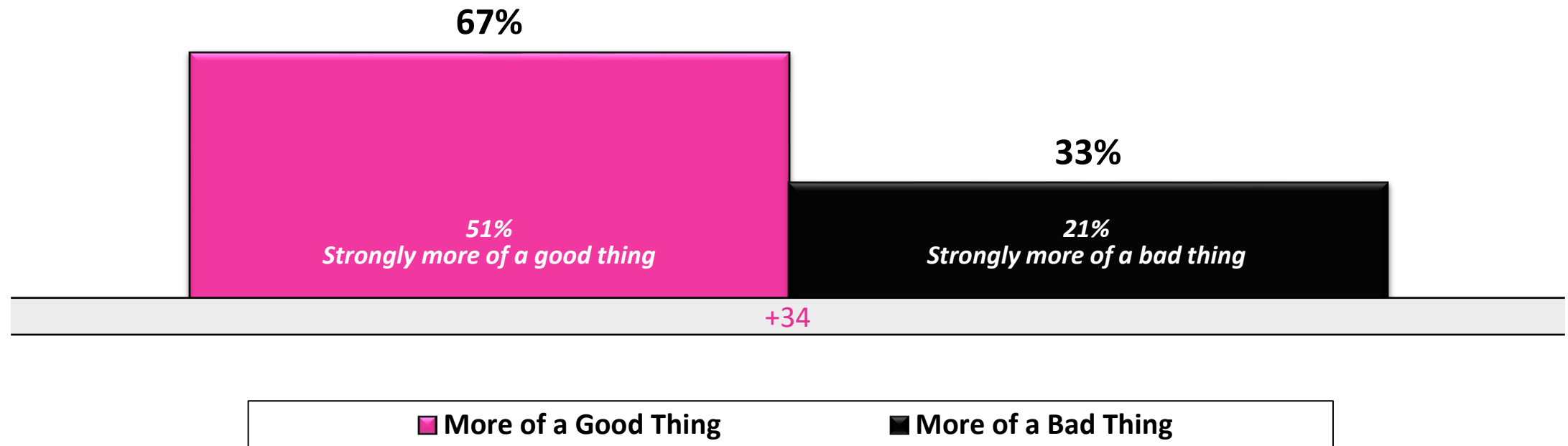
And majorities of all parties are supportive as well, with nearly two-thirds of Republicans saying they are supportive.



Specifically, for Grand Staircase, do you support or oppose continuing to keep it as a national monument to ensure stronger protections for these existing national public lands?

Two-thirds of voters say restoring national monument protections for these national monuments was more of a good thing.

As you may know, in 2017 Grand Staircase-Escalante National Monument was shrunk by 47 percent and Bears Ears National Monument by 85 percent. In 2021, protections were restored for both national monuments. Do you think the decision in 2021 to restore national monument protections for those existing public lands has been more of a good thing or more of a bad thing?



This support may be due to the fact that Utah voters place history preservation, conservation and recreation well above resource extraction as priorities for national public lands.

	Very Important	Total Important
Protecting historic sites such as Native American petroglyphs, cliff dwelling, or pioneer artifacts	81%	97%
Conserving the land as wildlife habitat and natural areas for future generations	73%	96%
Ensuring access for recreational activities such as hiking, biking, hunting and fishing	70%	97%
Making sure resources such as oil and gas or minerals are accessed for drilling or mining	37%	63%

Thinking some more about national public lands – the following are a few priorities that some people have for these national public lands. Please indicate how important each one is to you personally. Is it very important, somewhat important, not very important or not at all important as a priority for national public lands?

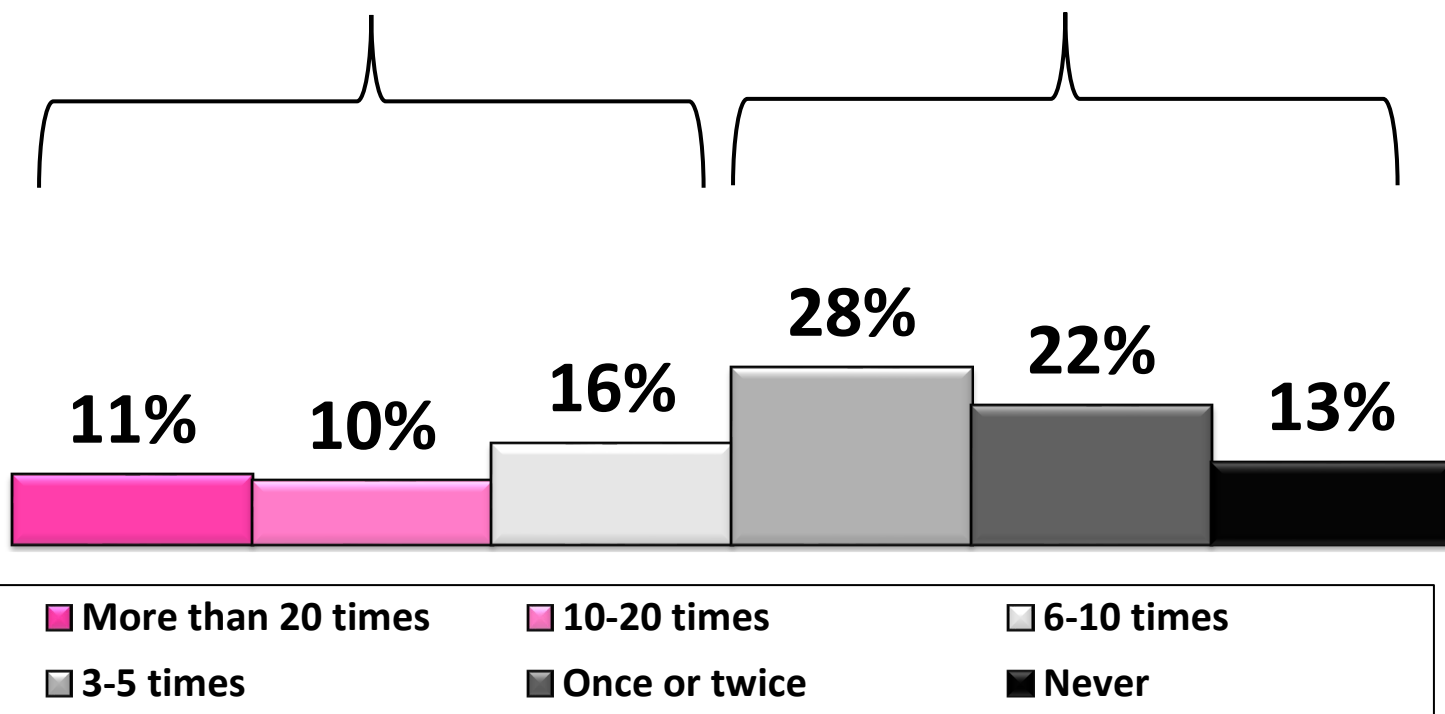
87% of Utah voters have visited national public lands in the past year; more than one-third say they have visited five or more times.

37%

Visited public lands 5+ times

63%

Visited public lands ≤5 times



Top Groups who visited 20+ times

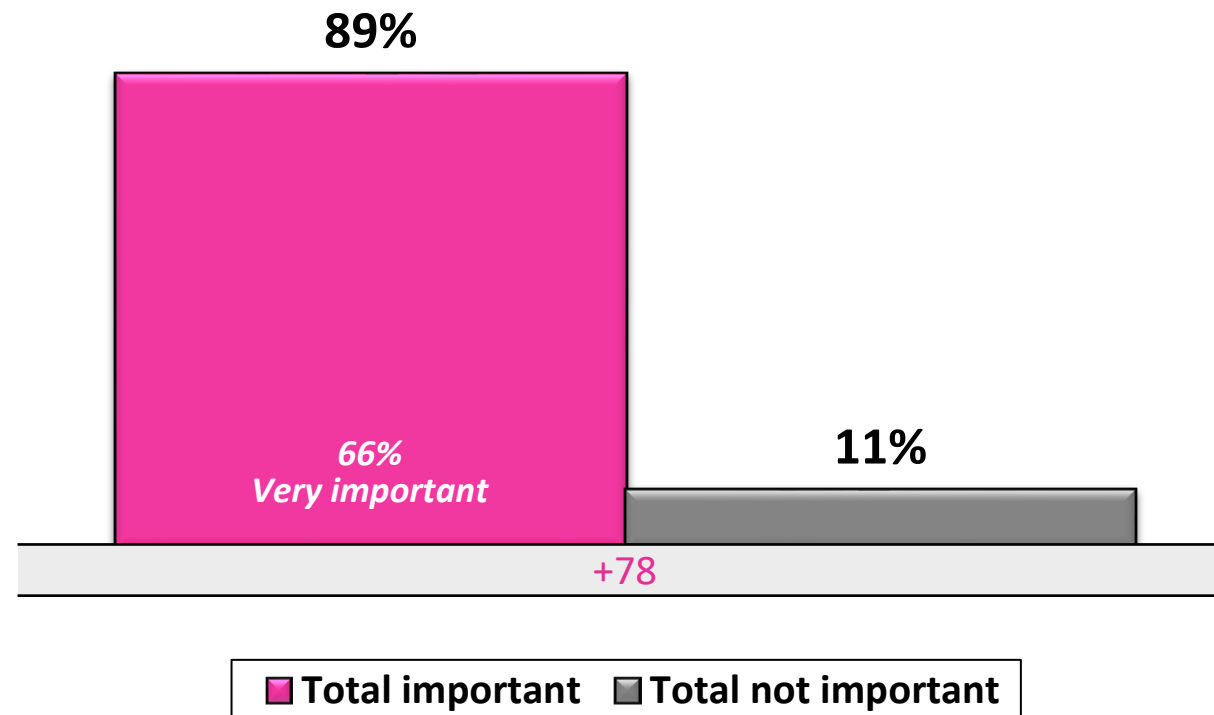
ORV riders	25%
Skiing/snow sports	23%
Hunters and anglers	18%
Hikers	17%
Men 18-44	17%
Independent men	17%

Thinking some more about you – Over the past year, how many times do you think you have visited national public lands such as national parks, national forests, national monuments, national wildlife refuges, or other national public lands?



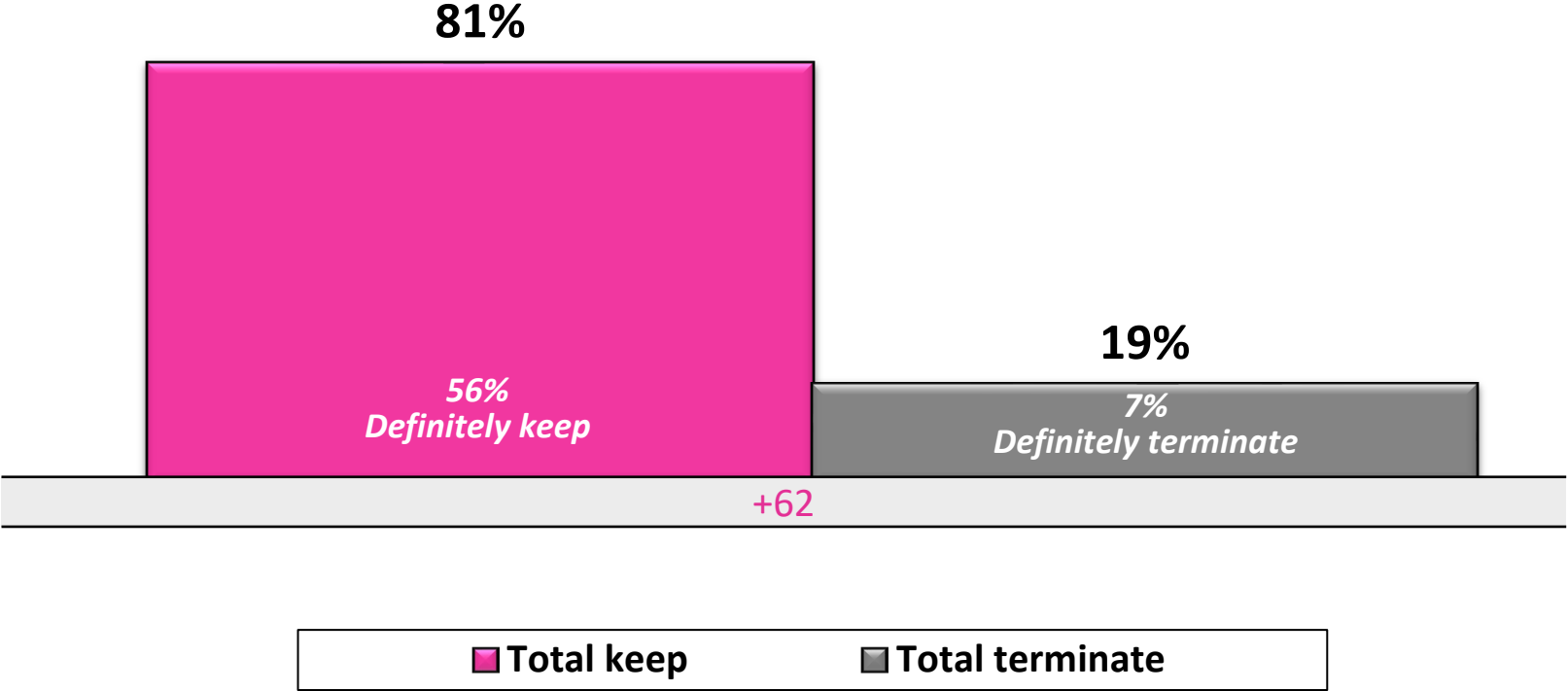
Tribal Role in Bears Ears Management

In addition, nearly nine-in-ten voters say it is very important for tribes to have a strong role in helping manage their ancestral lands.



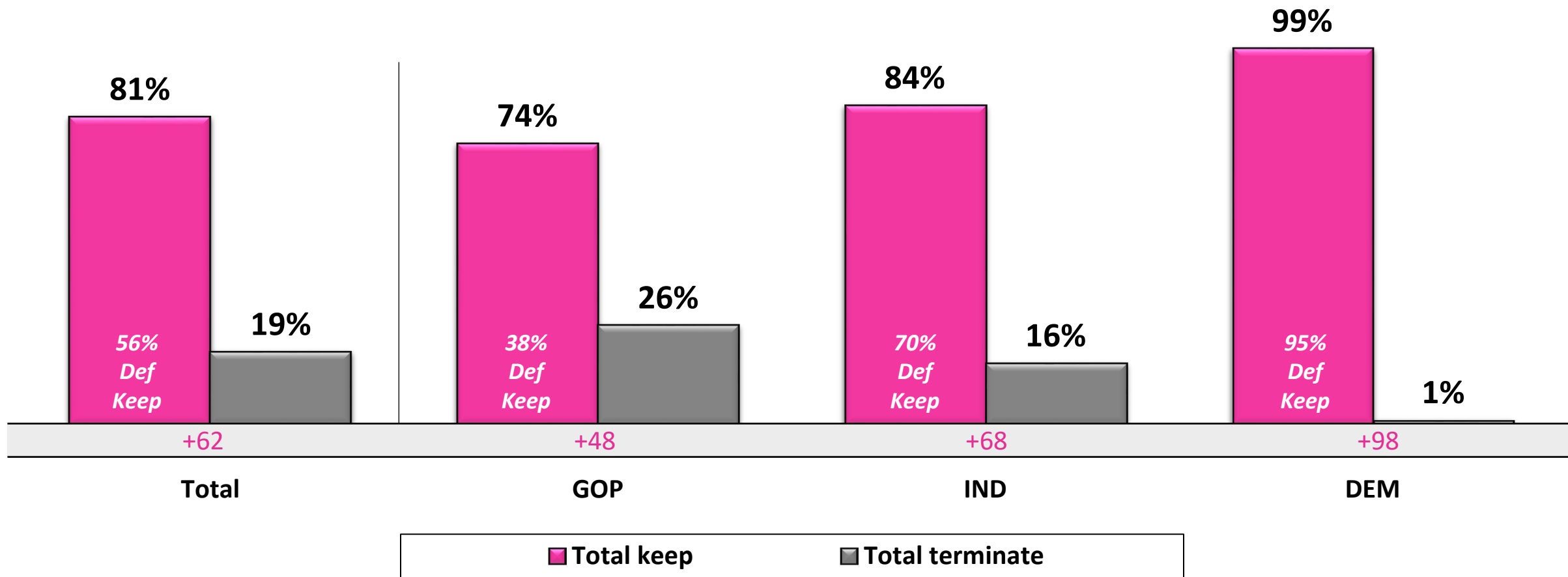
In Utah, Native American tribes have entered into a cooperative agreement with the U.S. Forest Service and Bureau of Land Management to collaboratively manage Bears Ears National Monument. How important would you say it is for tribes to have a strong role in helping to manage their ancestral public lands that they consider to be sacred or culturally important to them? Is it...

Four-in-five voters say the next Administration should keep the agreement with tribes regarding how Bears Ears is managed in place.



The next Administration could terminate the tribal cooperative agreement that allows the Native American tribes to have a strong role in collaborative managing Bears Ears. Do you think the next Administration should keep this agreement with tribes in place or terminate this agreement?

This sentiment is consistent across parties as well.



The next Administration could terminate the tribal cooperative agreement that allows the Native American tribes to have a strong role in collaboratively managing Bears Ears. Do you think the next Administration should keep this agreement with tribes in place or terminate this agreement?



Questions



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