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Tuesday, June 22nd

Democracy Reform: A Guide for Advocates



Key Takeaways:

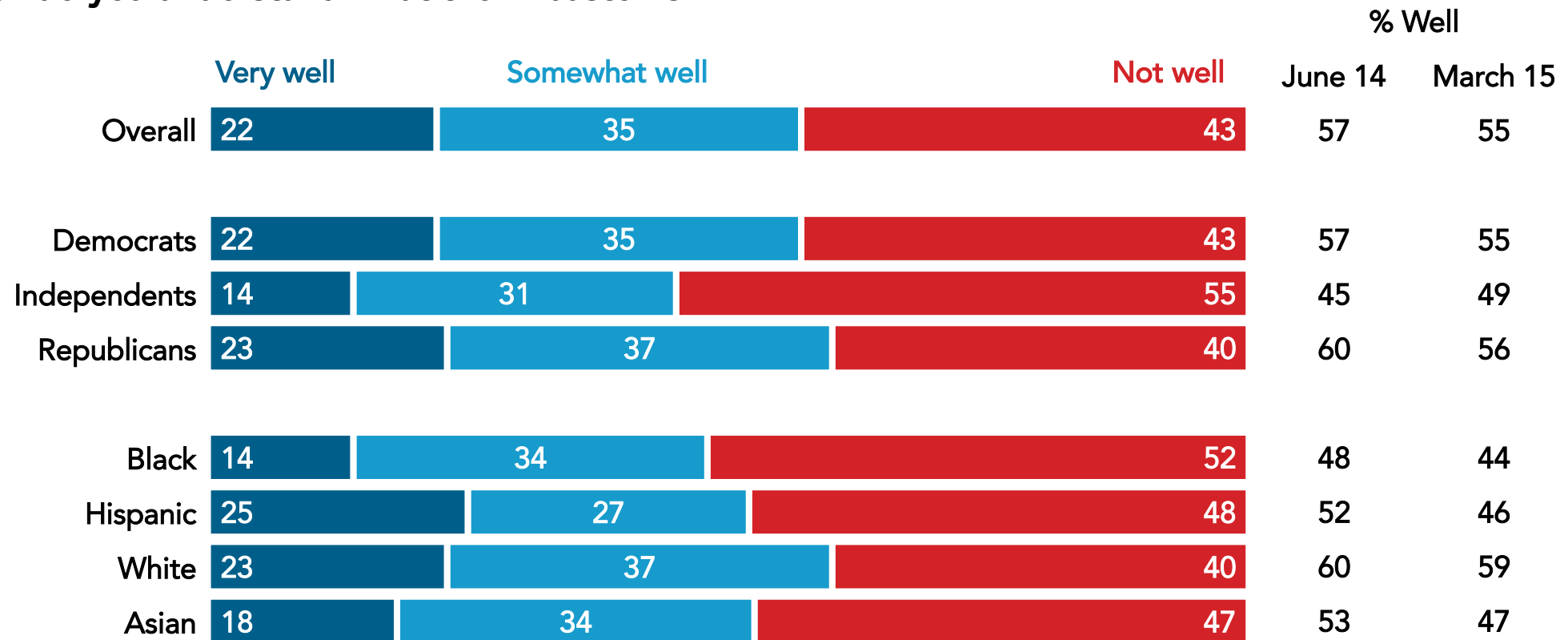
- Many Americans are still unfamiliar with the filibuster, but when described, a majority say it creates gridlock, not compromise.
- Three in five Americans believe eliminating the filibuster would have a positive impact in making our government work better.
- Proposals to replace or reform the filibuster, including eliminating it for certain legislation or bringing back a “talking filibuster,” earn majority support while eliciting little opposition.

Many Americans Still Do Not Understand the Filibuster Well

Still only one in five (22%) understand what the filibuster is “very well” compared to 20% who said the same in March.

- Among independents, 55% say they do not understand well what the filibuster is, with just 14% who say they understand it “very well.”

How well do you understand what the filibuster is?

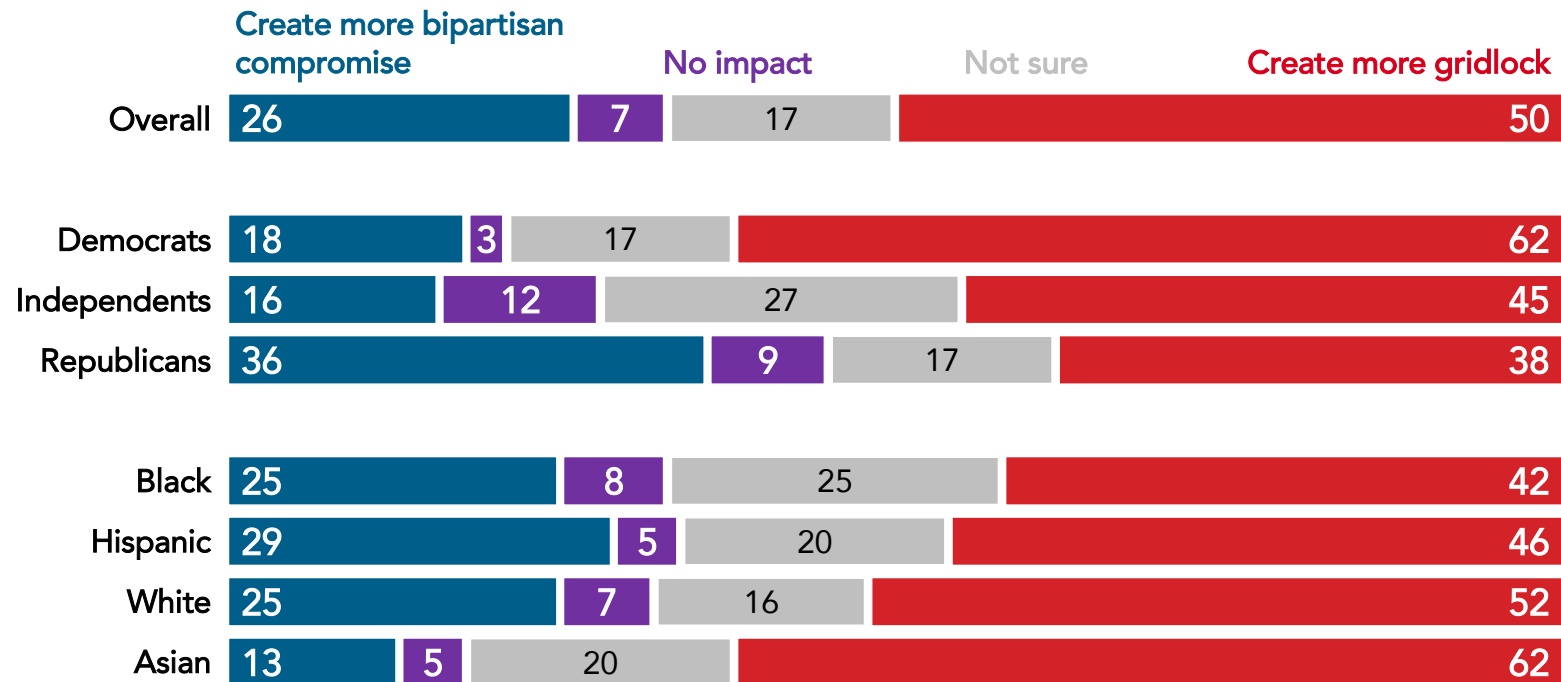


Nationwide surveys of registered voters; Each wave represents approximately 1,000 interviews taken over the prior three-five days. Latest wave conducted June 10-June 14, 2021. For more info, visit navigatorresearch.org

Despite Limited Awareness of the Filibuster, a Majority Believe It Creates More Gridlock Than Compromise

Nearly two in three Democrats (62%) and 45% of independents say it “creates more gridlock.”

As you may know, the filibuster allows senators to prevent the U.S. Senate from voting on proposed legislation. It takes 60 of the Senate's 100 senators to end a filibuster, which means bills can be blocked even if a majority of senators support voting on them. Do you think the filibuster does more to create gridlock in Washington, D.C. or more to create bipartisan compromise in Washington, D.C.?

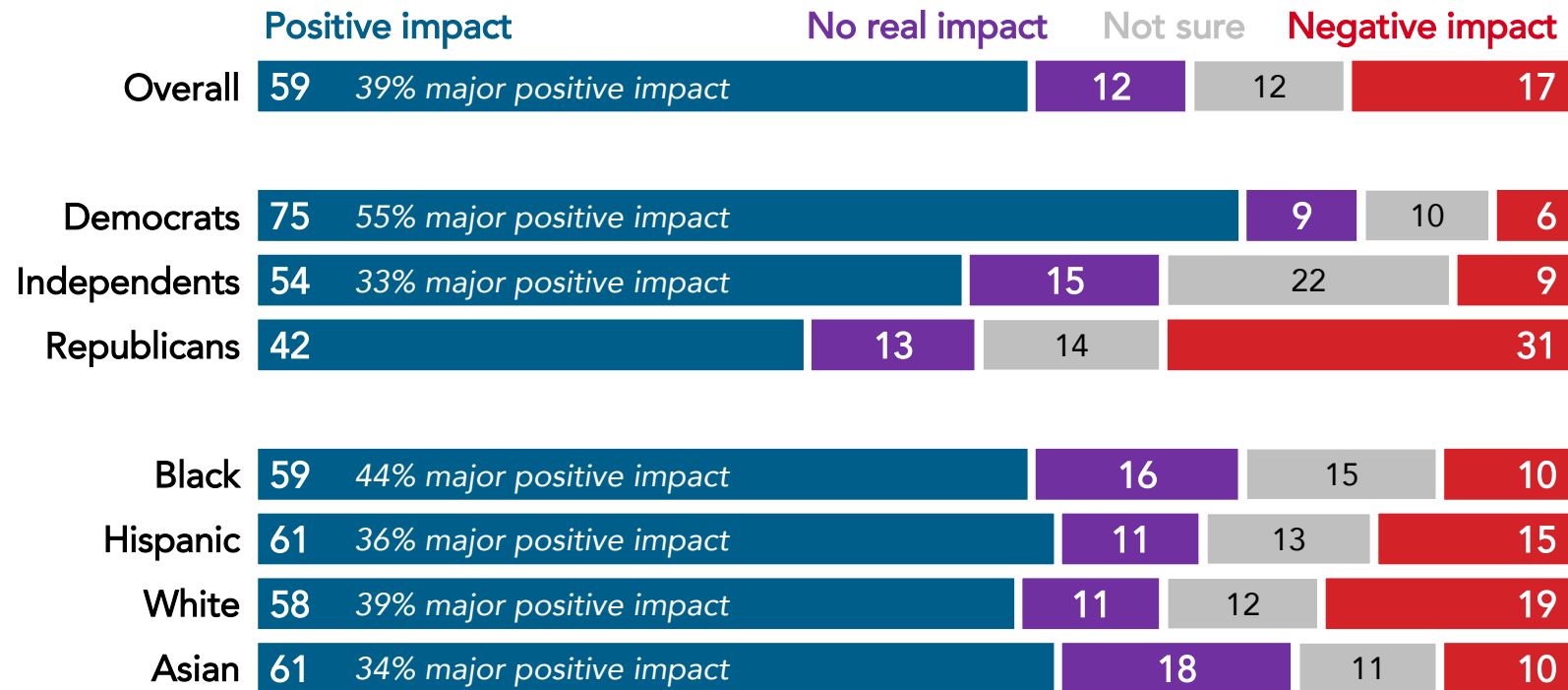


Nationwide survey of 1,001 registered voters conducted June 10-June 14, 2021.
For more info, visit navigatorresearch.org.

Majority Say Eliminating Filibuster Will Have a Positive Impact on Making Government Work Better for the People

More than half of independents (54%) and two in five Republicans (42%) say it would have a positive impact.

Please indicate what kind of impact you think this change would have in making our government work better for the people it represents: Getting rid of the loophole that allows a small minority of U.S. senators to block legislation that a majority of senators support.



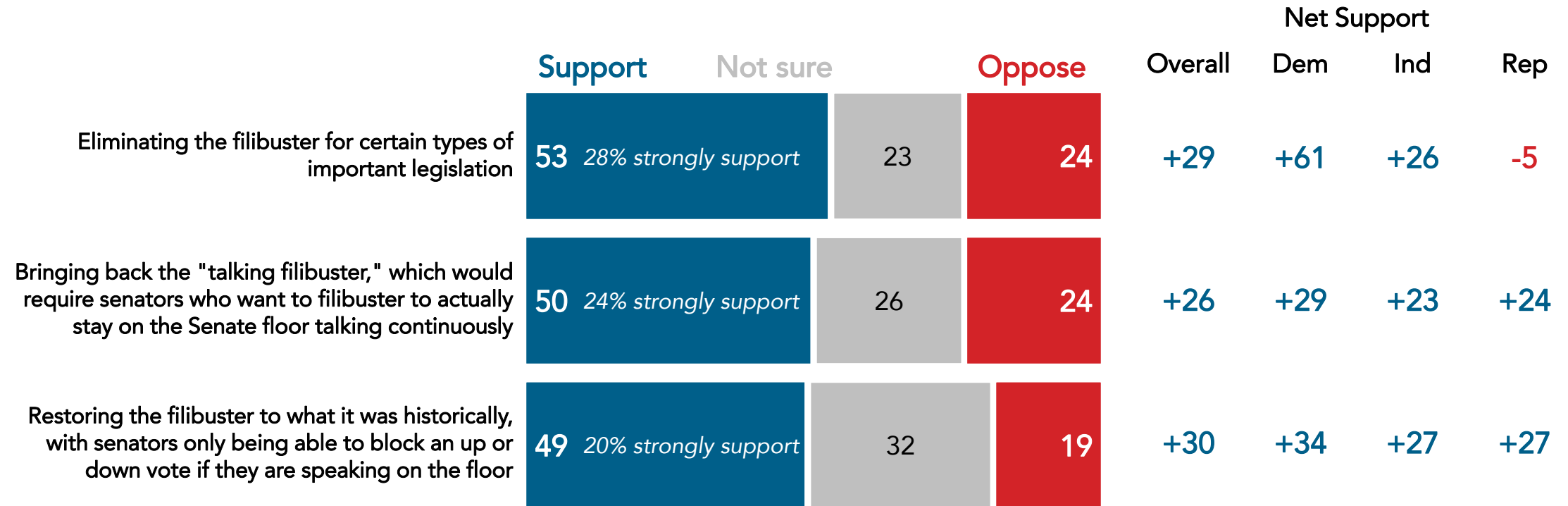
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Roughly Half Support a Range of Filibuster Reforms

Among independents, each proposal (including eliminating the filibuster for certain legislation and bringing back the “talking filibuster”) enjoys at least net +23 support.

- The “talking filibuster” enjoys net +24 support among Republicans as well.

Below is a list of a few different proposals that are being considered regarding the Senate filibuster: please indicate whether you support or oppose each one.



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About Navigator

In a world where the news cycle is the length of a tweet, our leaders often lack the real-time public-sentiment analysis to shape the best approaches to talking about the issues that matter the most. Navigator is designed to act as a consistent, flexible, responsive tool to inform policy debates by conducting research and reliable guidance to inform allies, elected leaders, and the press. Navigator is a project led by pollsters from Global Strategy Group and GBAO along with an advisory committee, including: Andrea Purse, progressive strategist; Arkadi Gerney, The Hub Project; Joel Payne, The Hub Project; Christina Reynolds, EMILY's List; Delvone Michael, Working Families; Felicia Wong, Roosevelt Institute; Mike Podhorzer, AFL-CIO; Jesse Ferguson, progressive strategist; Navin Nayak, Center for American Progress Action Fund; Stephanie Valencia, EquisLabs; and Melanie Newman, Planned Parenthood Action Fund.

About the Study

Global Strategy Group conducted public opinion surveys among a sample of 1,001 registered voters from June 10-June 14, 2021. 99 additional interviews were conducted among Hispanic voters. 71 additional interviews were conducted among Asian American and Pacific Islander voters. 102 additional interviews were conducted among African American voters. 101 additional interviews were conducted among independent voters. The survey was conducted online, recruiting respondents from an opt-in online panel vendor. Respondents were verified against a voter file and special care was taken to ensure the demographic composition of our sample matched that of the national registered voter population across a variety of demographic variables.

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To learn more about Navigator:

<http://navigatorresearch.org>

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