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Wednesday, September 8 ${ }^{\text {th }}$

Communicating on the Build Back Better Budget: A Guide for Advocates

## Key Takeaways:

- Support for Biden and Democrats' new economic plan is vast, with seven in ten Americans in support of it.
- Lowering prescription drug prices and expanding Medicare to include vision, dental, and hearing coverage are the most broadly supported proposals for new economic legislation.
- Nearly three in four say it is urgent that the House and Senate pass this legislation.


## Seven in Ten Support Biden and Democrats' New Economic Legislation

A majority of independents (63\%) and a plurality of Republicans (47\%) support the legislation.
As you may know, President Biden and Democrats have proposed new legislation to provide paid family and medical leave, establish a universal Pre-K program, expand Medicare coverage for seniors to include dental, vision, and hearing coverage, lower health care costs by allowing Medicare to negotiate lower drug prices, provide tax breaks for clean energy, and expand the Child Tax Credit for most families with children. Do you support or oppose this legislation?


## Those Who Disapprove of Biden's Economic Handling But Support New BBB Plan Are Moderate, Lower Income, Younger

Groups that are most likely to disapprove of Biden's handling of the economy but support Biden and Democrats' new economic plan are less conservative Republicans, lower-earning Republicans, independents, younger Americans, those most recently employed in blue collar work, and those who live in rural parts of the United States.
Economically Persuadable Americans:
Do you approve or disapprove of the way Joe Biden is handling the economy? Disapprove, \&
As you may know, President Biden and Democrats have proposed new legislation...Do you support or oppose this legislation? Support
Overall 23\%

## Not very conservative Republicans

Republicans earning < $\$ 50 \mathrm{~K}$
Independents
18-34 year-olds
Those most recently employed in blue collar labor
Rural Americans
$\square$

30 30

28
28
40
33

0

## All Parts of the Plan Are Popular, Especially Medicare Negotiation and Expanding Medicare

Among persuadable Americans* who support new economic legislation but disapprove of Biden's handling of the economy, reducing prescription drug costs and expanding Medicare coverage are the most popular proposals.
For each policy proposal, please indicate whether you support or oppose it being included in new legislation.
\% Strongly support

*"Economically persuadable Americans" are those who disapprove of Biden's handling of the economy, but support new economic legislation on separate questions. Nationwide survey of 1,002 registered voters conducted August 26-August 30, 2021 For more info, visit navigatorresarch.org

## Nearly Three in Four Say Passing This Economic Legislation Is Urgent

Among those persuadable Americans* who support new economic legislation but disapprove of Biden's handling of the economy, nearly four in five (78\%) say passing this legislation is urgent.
Thinking about the proposal to provide paid family and medical leave, establish a universal Pre-K program, expand Medicare coverage for seniors to include dental, vision, and hearing coverage, lower health care costs by allowing Medicare to negotiate lower drug prices, provide tax breaks for clean energy, and expand the Child Tax Credit for most families with children...How urgent do you think it is that the House and Senate pass this legislation?


## More Than Three in Five Continue to Support This Legislation If Funded By Taxing Wealthy and Corporations

A majority of independents support this plan after hearing the cost and how it's paid for (56\%).
Thinking more about this proposed legislation, it would cost $\$ 3.5$ trillion and be paid for by increasing taxes on the top $\mathbf{2 \%}$ of income earners, raising taxes on those earning over $\$ 1$ million a year from selling stocks and bonds, known as capital gains, raising the corporate tax rate from $\mathbf{2 1 \%}$ to $\mathbf{2 8 \%}$, and cracking down on tax evasion. Knowing this, do you support or oppose this legislation?


## Focusing on Taxing Rich \& Corporations and Lowering Costs Both Effective Rebuttals to Criticism

Messaging that focuses on Democrats funding the plan by raising taxes on corporations and the rich is more compelling than lowering costs among independents and economically persuadable Americans*.

Which do you find more convincing?


## Highlighting the Impact of the Pandemic, the Wealth Gap, and Rising Costs Are Most Convincing Reasons to Support Plan

## Among persuadable Americans* who support new economic legislation but disapprove of Biden's handling of the economy, messaging on lowering costs is most effective.

Below is a list of statements from supporters of President Biden and Democrats' $\$ 3.5$ trillion economic plan. Please indicate how convincing you find
each one as a reason to support this economic plan.

This ongoing pandemic has cost us hundreds of thousands of lives, and millions of people lost their livelihoods. This is a once-in-a-generation pandemic and will take a major economic plan to rebuild an economy that provides tax relief to the middle class, helps get people back to work, and makes America more competitive in the global economy.

From investing in education to investing in clean energy technology, this plan will invest in the economy and create millions of stable, good-paying jobs for people who work for a living. Passing this economic plan is necessary to create millions of good-paying jobs.

This economic plan meets the moment by making historic and transformative investments including guaranteeing affordable health care and lowering prescription drug costs, expanding the Child Tax Credit for most families with children, and tackling the climate crisis, all while cutting taxes for middle and working class families.
From investing in education to providing tax cuts to families, this economic plan will invest in the economy so we have a strong and growing economy to compete globally and continue to be an economic superpower in the next generation. Passing this economic plan is necessary to strengthen our economy.

Very convincing Somewhat convincing Not convincing

| Very convincing | Somewhat convincing | Not convincing |
| :--- | :---: | ---: |
| 35 | 37 | 28 |
| 34 | 34 | 32 |
| 33 | 37 | 30 |
| 31 | 35 | 34 |
| 30 | 36 | 34 |
| 26 | 39 | 35 |

Total
\% Very convincing

| 72 | 53 | 23 | 17 | 24 |
| :---: | :---: | :---: | :---: | :---: |
| 68 | 55 | 26 | 13 | 25 |
| 70 | 50 | 23 | 17 | 28 |
| 66 | 48 | 23 | 13 | 23 |
| 66 | 47 | 18 | 14 | 20 |
| 65 | 44 | 11 | 10 | 14 |

*"Economically persuadable Americans" are those who disapprove of Biden's handling of the economy, but support new economic legislation on separate questions. Nationwide survey of 1,002 registered voters conducted August 26-August 30, 2021
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## Americans Are More Pessimistic About the National Economy and Their Personal Financial Situations Than a Month Ago

There has been a 4-point increase in the share who say the national economy is "not so good" or "poor" (from 66\% to $70 \%$ ) and a 6 -point increase in the share who are "uneasy" about their personal finances (from $50 \%$ to $56 \%$ ). How would you rate the state of the U.S. economy today?

Thinking about your personal financial situation over the next few months, do you feel confident or uneasy?

|  | August 2 ${ }^{\text {nd }}$ |  |  |  |  |  |  |  | $\text { August } 2^{\text {nd }}$ |  |
| :---: | :---: | :---: | :---: | :---: | :---: | :---: | :---: | :---: | :---: | :---: |
|  | Excellent/Good | Not sure | Not so good/Poor | Pos. | Neg. | Confident | Not sure | Uneasy | Conf. | Uneasy |
| Overall | 28 |  | 70 | 32 | 66 | 42 |  | 56 | 48 | 50 |
| Democrats | 42 | 3 | 55 | 46 | 51 | 50 |  | 49 | 54 | 43 |
| Independents | 21 |  | 77 | 25 | 73 | 34 |  | 64 | 40 | 55 |
| Republicans | 14 |  | 83 | 19 | 80 | 35 |  | 61 | 42 | 56 |
| Black | 39 | 4 | 57 | 43 | 51 | 53 |  | 45 | 51 | 43 |
| Hispanic | $27-4$ |  | 69 | 35 | 62 | 44 |  | 53 | 52 | 46 |
| White | 25 |  | 73 | 29 | 70 | 39 |  | 59 | 46 | 52 |
| AAPI | 42 | 3 | 55 | 47 | 52 | 55 |  | 45 | 63 | 37 |
| Nationwide surveys Latest wave conduc | s of registered voters; cted August 26-Augus | ch wave repre <br> 0, 2021. For | ents approximately 1,000 ore info, visit navigatorres | $\begin{aligned} & \text { erviews } \\ & \text { ch.org } \end{aligned}$ | en over | r three-five day | navigator * |  |  |  |

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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 1,002 registered voters from August 26-August 30, 2021. 105 additional interviews were conducted among Hispanic voters. 77 additional interviews were conducted among Asian American and Pacific Islander voters. 104 additional interviews were conducted among African American voters. 100 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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