

navigator*

Wednesday, January 12th

Economy Latest: A Guide for Advocates



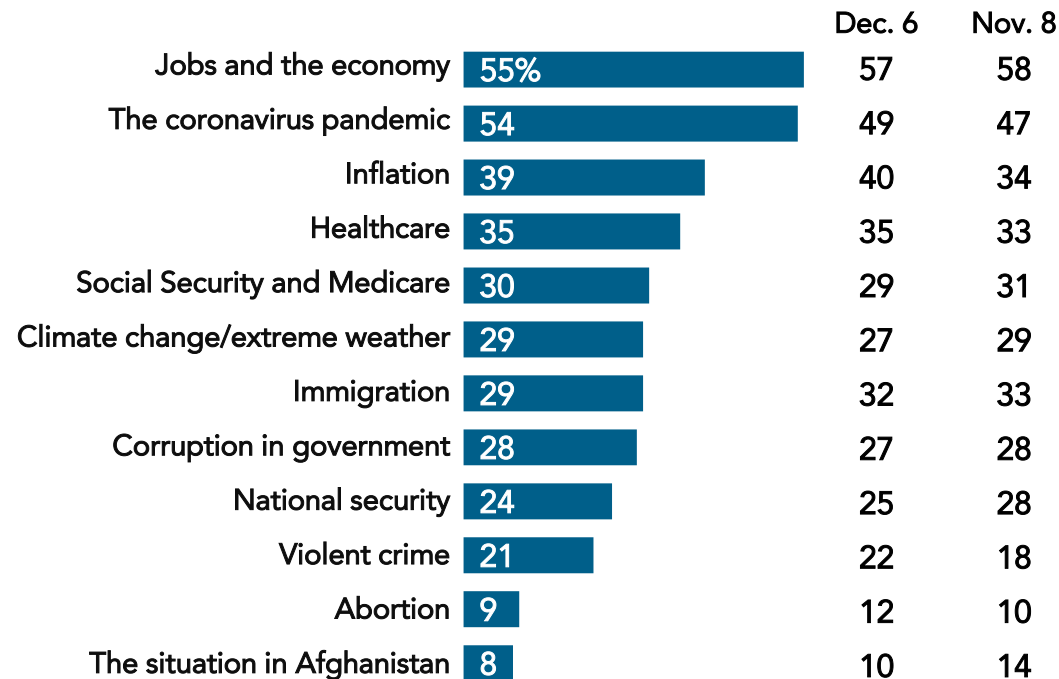
Key Takeaways:

- Majorities are hearing about Build Back better and continue to support it, even when including tax proposals.
- While inflation remains a top concern, intensity of concern about gas prices and the cost of groceries is declining.
- Democratic policies to combat inflation – especially on healthcare costs – are seen as “very effective.”

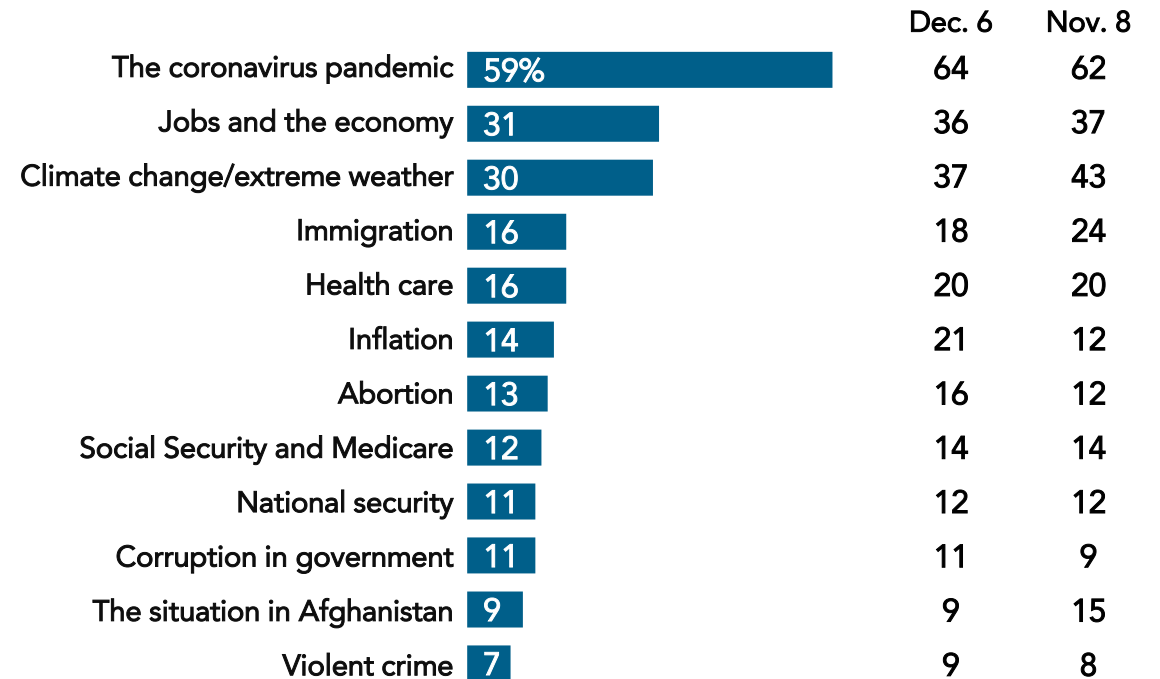
Jobs & the Economy and the Pandemic Remain Top Priorities for Americans, But They Want a Focus on the Economy

Majorities say “jobs and the economy” (55%) and the pandemic (54%) are top priorities for Biden and Congress; 59% say they see Biden and Congress focusing on the pandemic, though just 31% say the same of the economy.

Select the top four issues that you feel are most important for President Joe Biden and Congress to focus on.



Which of these issues do you feel President Joe Biden and Congress are actually most focused on?

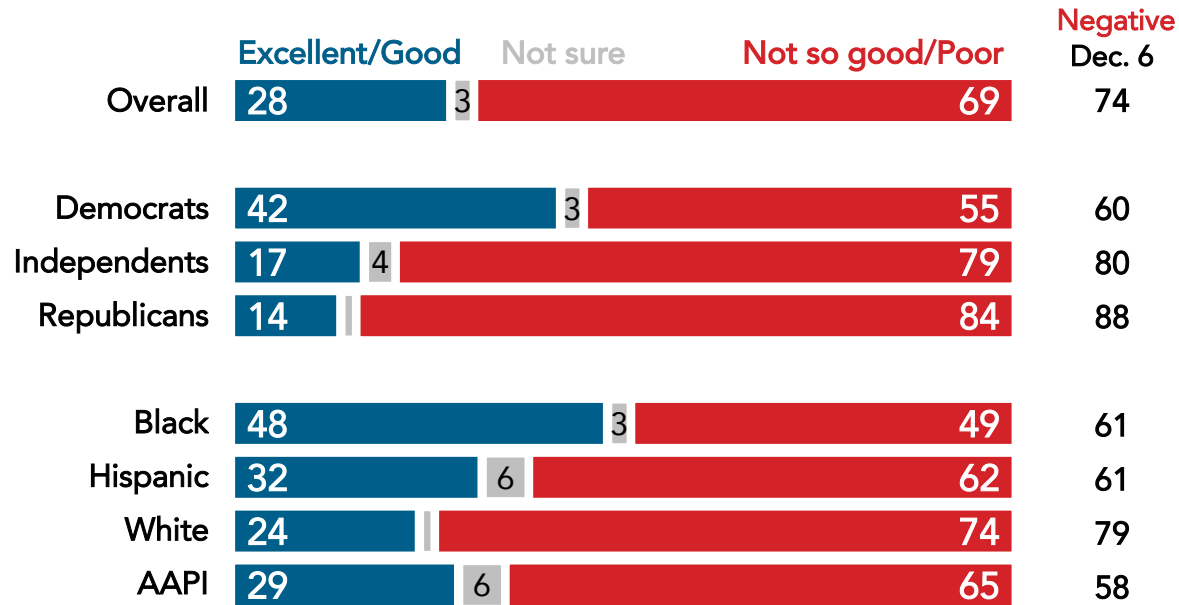


Nationwide surveys of registered voters; Each wave represents approximately 1,000 interviews taken over the prior three-five days. Latest wave conducted January 6-January 10, 2022. For more info, visit navigatorresearch.org

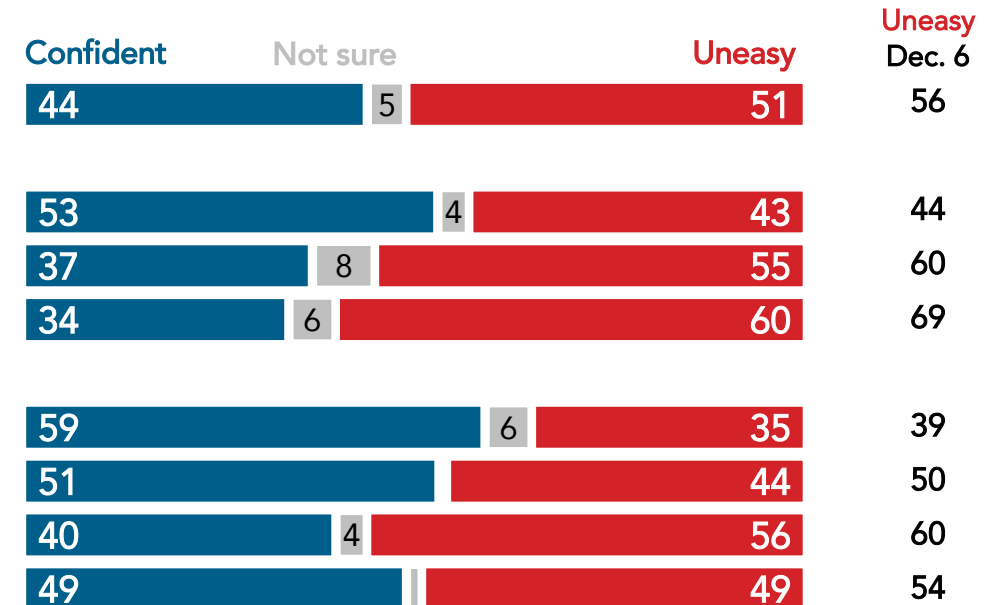
Since December, There Has Been a Slight Uptick in Economic Optimism at National and Personal Levels

On personal finances, there has been a 5-point decline in the share of independents who are “uneasy” (from 60% to 55%) and a 9-point drop in unease among Republicans (from 69% to 60%).

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?

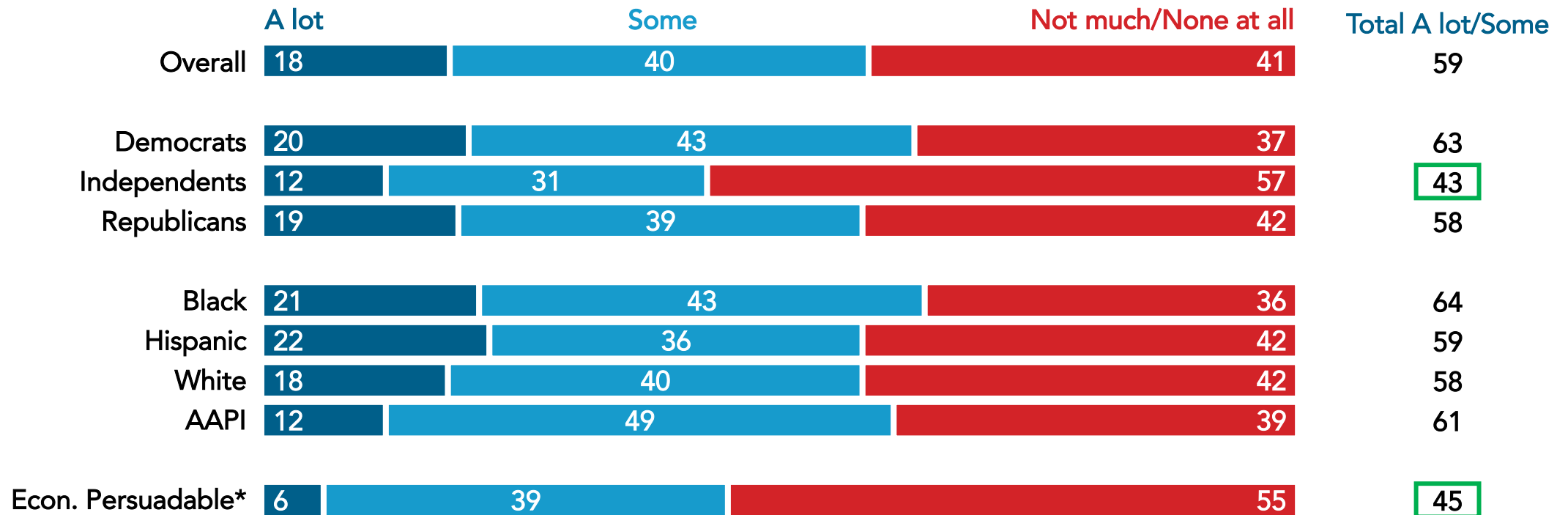


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Nearly Three in Five Are Hearing About Biden and Democrats' New Economic Legislation

However, majorities of both economically persuadable Americans* (55%) and independents (57%) report hearing not much or nothing at all about the new economic legislation.

How much have you seen, read, or heard about new economic legislation proposed by President Biden and being negotiated by Democrats in Congress?

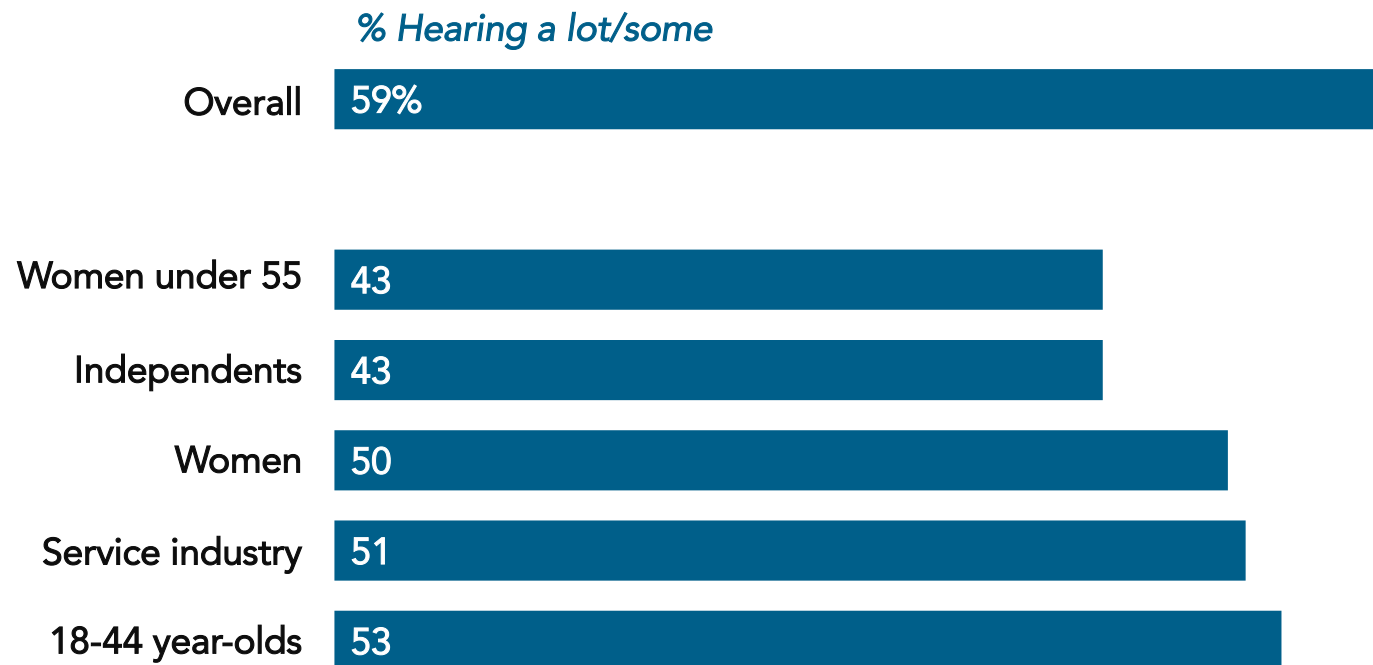


*"Economically persuadable Americans" are those who disapprove of Biden's handling of the economy, but support new economic legislation on separate questions. Nationwide survey of 1,000 registered voters conducted January 6-January 10, 2022. For more info, visit navigatorresearch.org.

Groups Less Familiar With Biden and Democrats' Economic Plan Are Women, Younger, Independents

Women under 55 and independents are less likely to have heard about the new economic legislation (43% each).

How much have you seen, read, or heard about new economic legislation proposed by President Biden and being negotiated by Democrats in Congress?

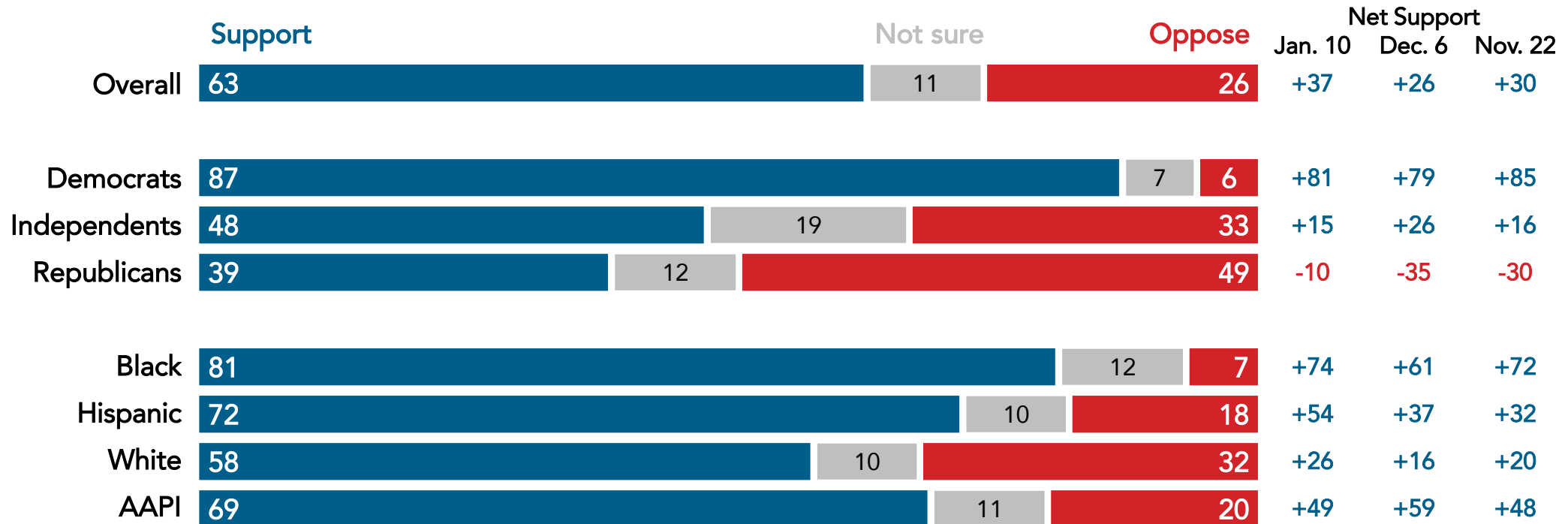


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Support Remains High for Build Back Better Plan

Nearly half of independents (48%) and 39% of Republicans support the plan.

As you may know, Biden and Democrats' new economic plan is expected to cost \$1.75 trillion and will establish a universal pre-K program, expand Medicare for seniors to include hearing coverage, and lower health care costs by allowing Medicare to negotiate lower drug prices. Knowing this, do you support or oppose this new economic plan?

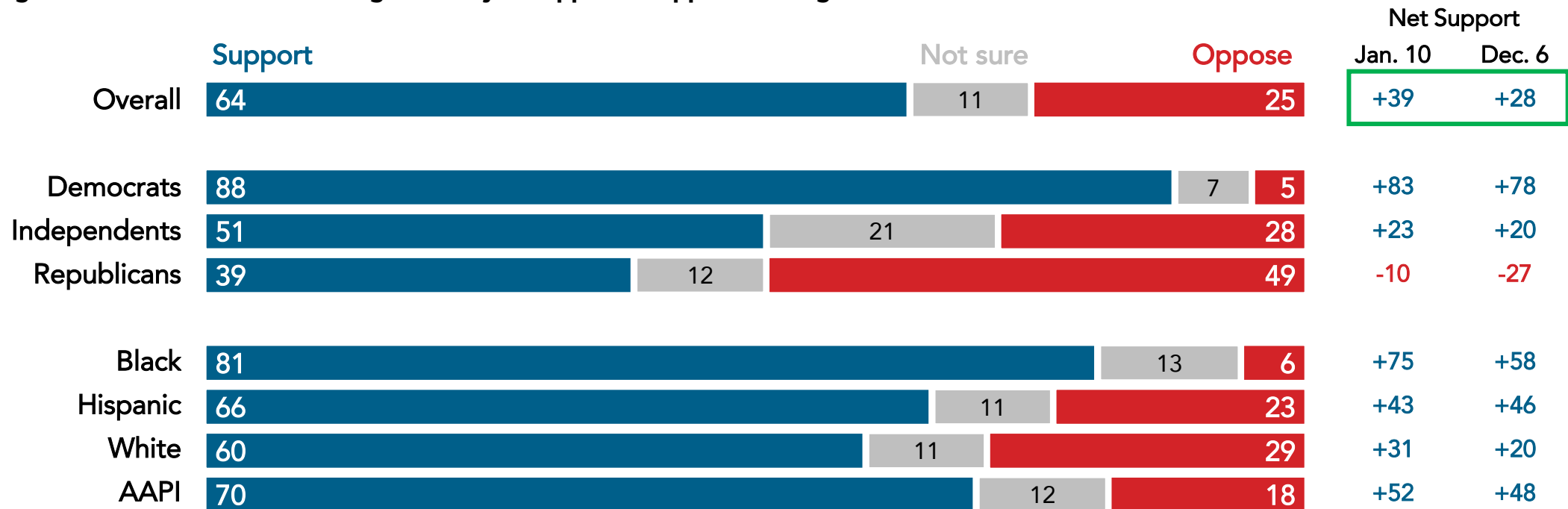


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Plans to Pay for Build Back Better – Including Taxing the Rich and Corporations – Maintains Majority Support of the Plan

Since December, there has been an 11-point net increase in support for Build Back Better when pay-fors are included, with a majority of independents (51%) supporting the plan when framed by these proposals.

Biden and Democrats' new economic plan would be paid for by increasing taxes on billionaires and multi-millionaires with income over \$10 million, creating a minimum 15% tax on corporate profits, adding an additional 1% tax on corporations that use profits to buy back their own stock, and cracking down on tax evasion. Knowing this, do you support or oppose this legislation?

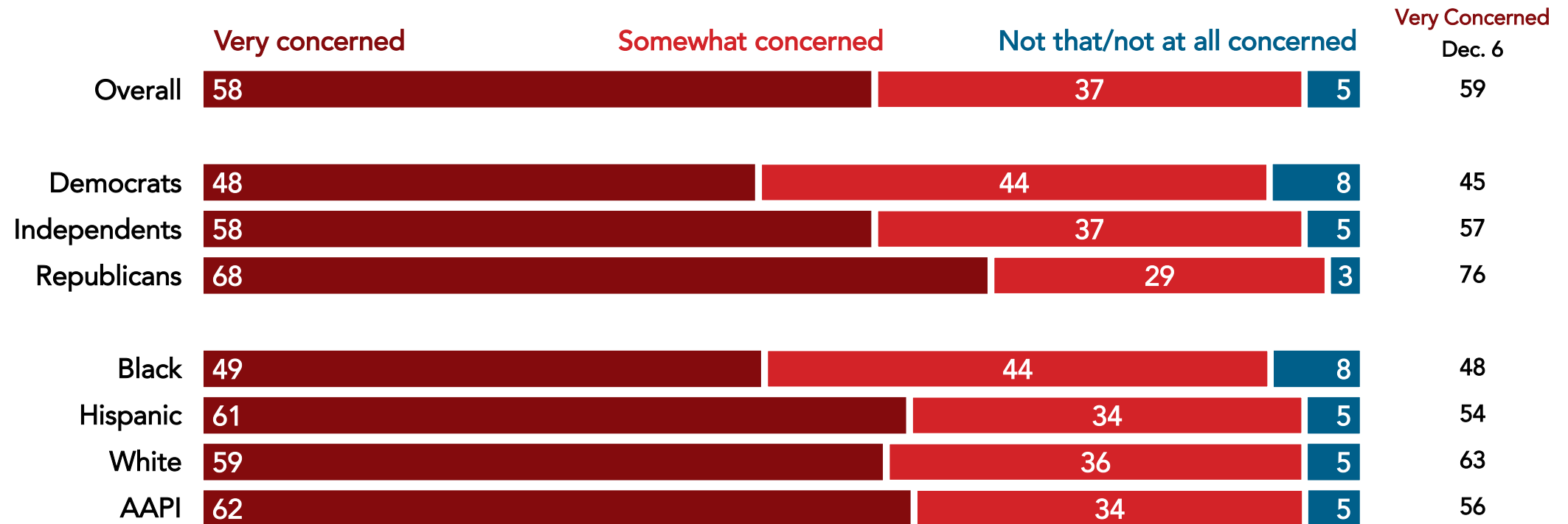


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Three in Five Remain “Very Concerned” About Inflation

Concerns remain bipartisan: 48% of Democrats, 58% of independents, and 68% of Republicans all remain “very concerned” about the rate of inflation over the coming months.

How concerned are you that the rate of inflation will climb in the coming months?

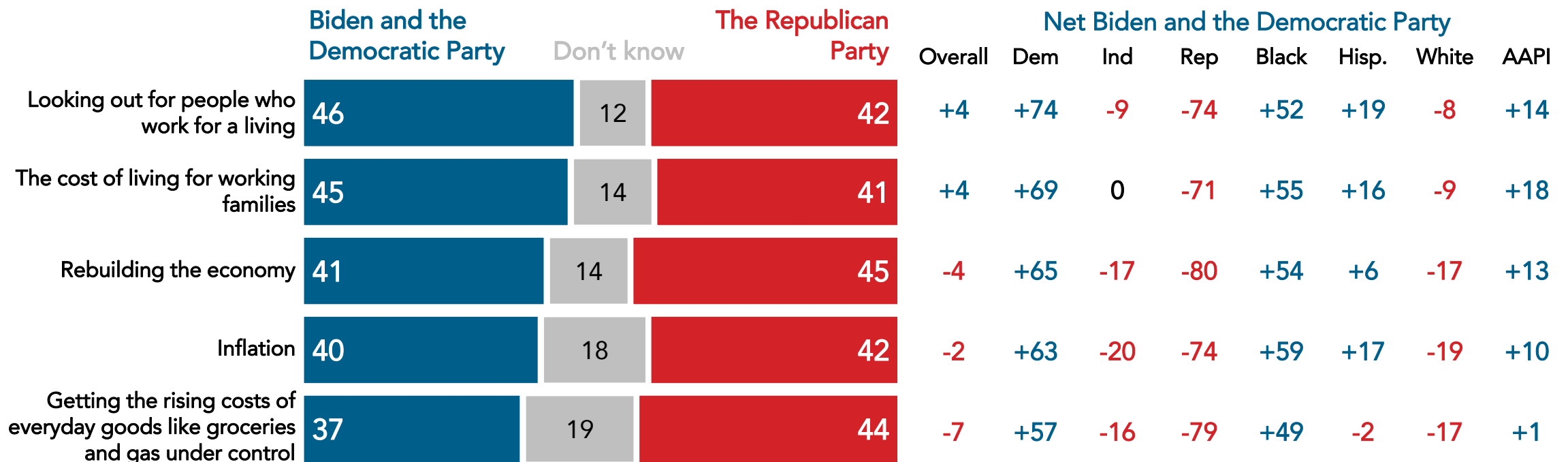


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Democrats Retain Economic Strengths on Looking Out for Working People, Less So on Inflation

Biden and the Democratic Party have 4-point trust advantages on “looking out for people who work for a living” and “the cost of living for working families,” though Republicans hold leads on “rebuilding the economy,” “inflation,” and “getting the rising costs of everyday goods” under control.

Below is a list of issues. Please indicate who you trust more to handle each one.



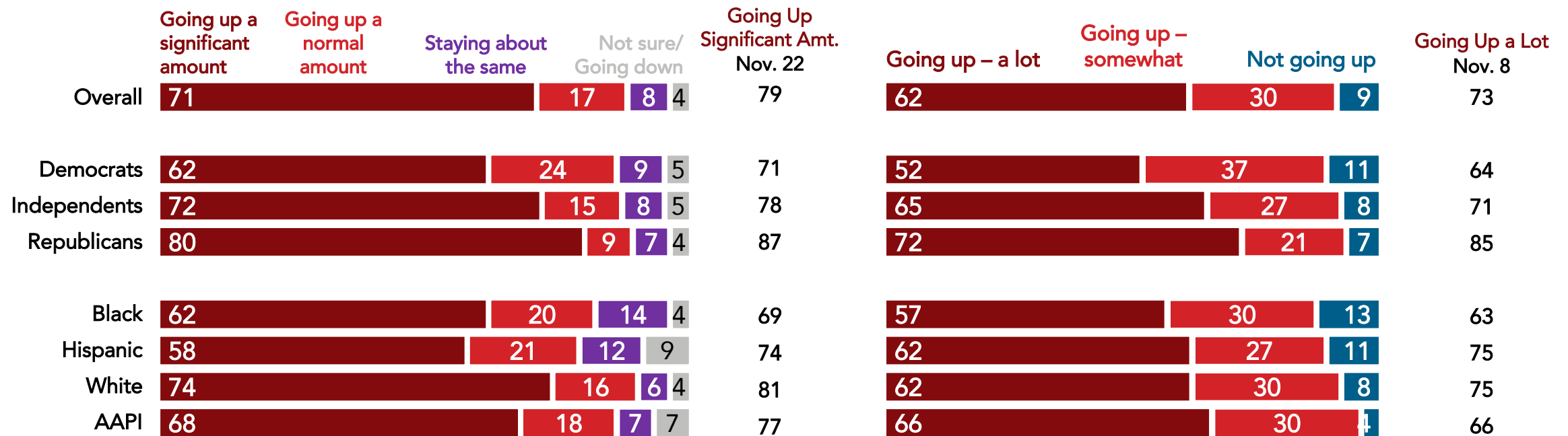
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While Everyday Costs and Gas Prices Are Pain Points, Views on Them Have Improved Since November

There has been an 8-point decline in the share who say the cost of groceries is going up “a significant amount” since November; on gas prices, there has been an 11-point decline in the share saying prices are going up “a lot.”

When it comes to the costs of everyday goods like groceries, do you think costs are going up, going down, or staying about the same?

Does it seem like gas prices are:



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Of a Range of Policies, Banning Surprise Bills and Allowing Medicare To Negotiate Drug Prices Are Rated “Very Effective”

Among persuadables*, banning surprise medical bills and lowering prescription drug costs are seen as most effective.

Please indicate how effective you think each Democratic policy aimed at helping bring down the costs facing American families will be.

| | Very effective | Somewhat effective | Not that/ at all effective | Total | Total Effective | | | Econ. Pers* |
|---|----------------|--------------------|-------------------------------|-------|-----------------|-----|-----|-------------|
| | | | | | Dem | Ind | Rep | |
| Starting at the beginning of this year, federal law now bans insurance companies from issuing higher-priced, surprise medical bills following emergency medical care | 34 | 39 | 27 | 73 | 90 | 67 | 54 | 84 |
| Democrats are working to pass a new plan that will level the playing field for working families by letting Medicare negotiate lower prescription drug prices and bringing down the costs of child care and of utility bills | 31 | 39 | 30 | 70 | 91 | 62 | 48 | 83 |
| Under Democrats' leadership, seniors are going to see nearly a 6% increase in their monthly Social Security payments starting this month, boosting the average retirement check by nearly \$100 a month, which will be the biggest yearly increase in nearly half a century | 29 | 37 | 33 | 67 | 85 | 56 | 48 | 74 |
| Biden issued an executive order lowering food prices for items like meat for consumers, increasing earnings for farmers, and lowering the costs of hearing aids, among other things | 28 | 37 | 35 | 65 | 85 | 58 | 43 | 72 |
| Democrats passed new health care reforms that lowered the price of health insurance for millions of middle-class Americans and working families who buy their own insurance | 27 | 42 | 31 | 69 | 90 | 60 | 47 | 80 |
| Democrats have eased up bottlenecks at America's ports to move goods from ship to shelf faster, easing supply constraints and helping to bring down inflation caused by supply shortages | 25 | 40 | 35 | 65 | 84 | 61 | 45 | 70 |
| Because of Democrats' economic policies, nine in ten American families with children saw monthly tax cuts throughout 2021 and will get additional tax cuts when they file their taxes this year | 25 | 41 | 34 | 66 | 86 | 61 | 43 | 71 |
| Tens of millions of American workers without children will get increased tax cuts from Democrats' Earned Income Tax Credit when they file their taxes this year | 25 | 39 | 36 | 64 | 84 | 55 | 43 | 65 |
| Democrats are cracking down on illegal price fixing and speculation by gas companies and announced the largest release of gas in American history from the U.S. Strategic Petroleum Reserve to get gas prices under control | 24 | 42 | 34 | 66 | 87 | 60 | 43 | 74 |

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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: Arkadi Gerney, The Hub Project; Joel Payne, The Hub Project; Christina Reynolds, EMILY's List; 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 1,000 registered voters from January 6-January 10, 2021. 101 additional interviews were conducted among Hispanic voters. 79 additional interviews were conducted among Asian American and Pacific Islander voters. 100 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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