

navigator*

Friday, May 6th

Economy: A Guide for Advocates



Key Takeaways:

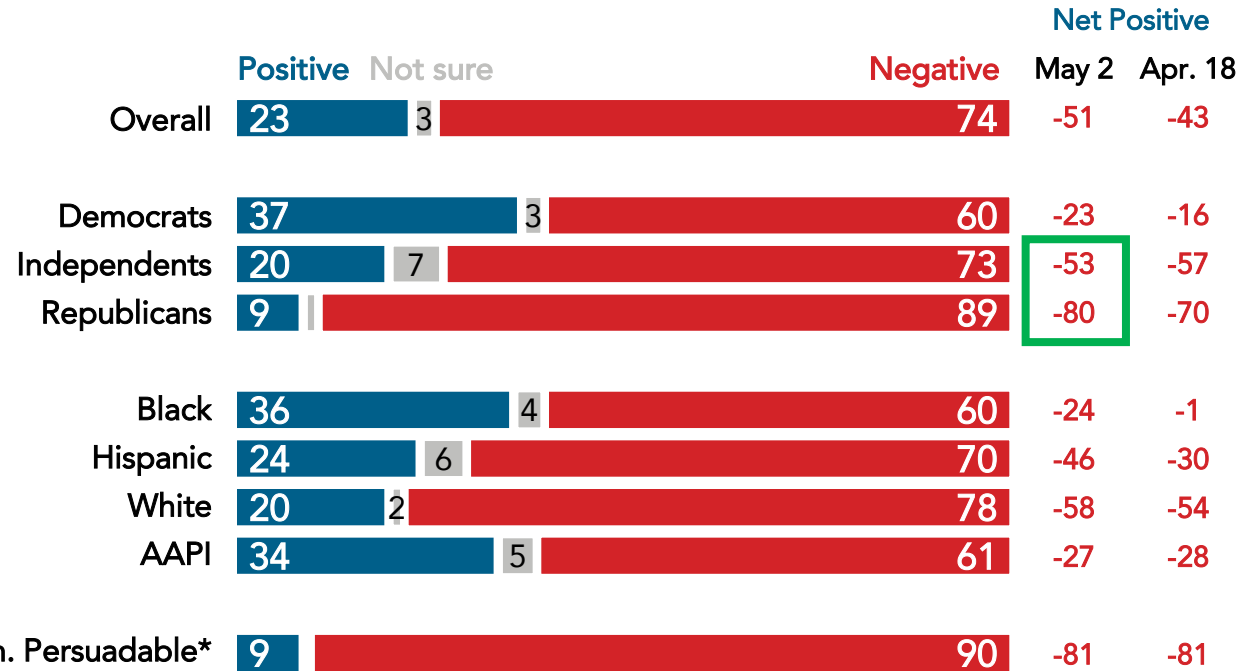
- Americans say a strong job market and low unemployment numbers are the most convincing indicators the economy is improving.
- Biden and Democrats' new economic plan remains popular, with top policies including Medicare covering hearing aids, capping the cost of insulin, and allowing Medicare to negotiate lower drug prices.
- The strongest messaging against Republicans on the economy goes after them for protecting the rich and corporations over working- and middle-class Americans.
- Every policy tested from Republican Rick Scott's "Rescue America" Plan is unpopular with a majority of Americans.

Views of National and Personal Economies Remain Negative

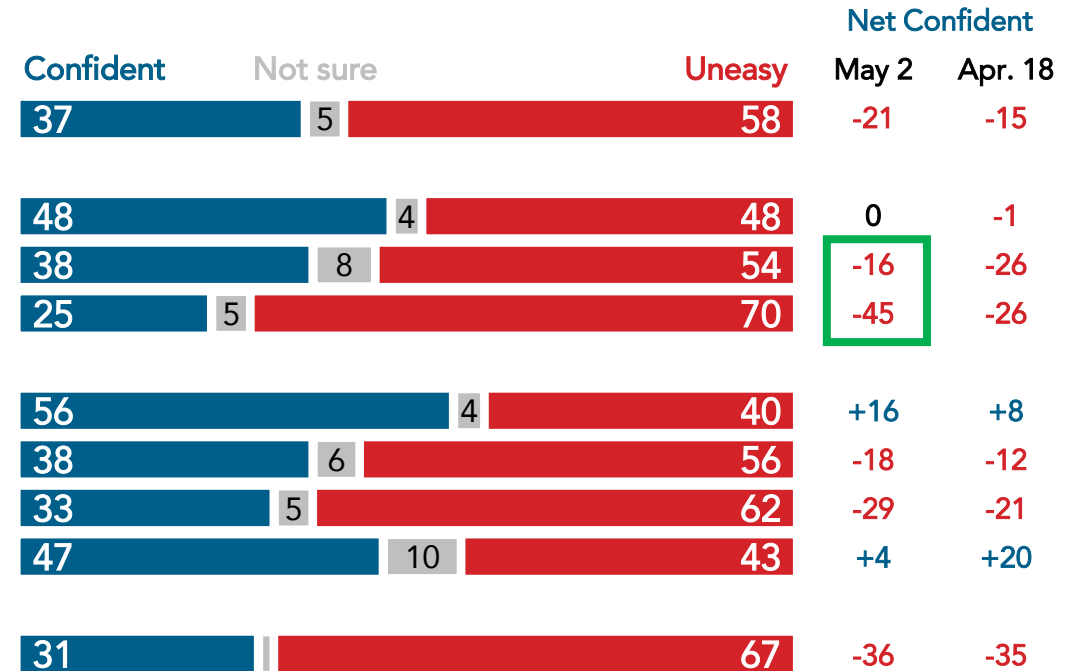
Independents have grown slightly more confident in their personal financial situation, though a majority (54%) are still uneasy; Republicans express deeply pessimistic views on the issue (70% uneasy).

- Nine in ten economically persuadable Americans* rate the national economy negatively (90%) while 67% say they are personally financially uneasy.

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?



*"Economically persuadable Americans" are those who disapprove of Biden's handling of the economy, but support new economic legislation on separate questions. Nationwide surveys of registered voters; Each wave represents approximately 1,000 interviews taken over the prior three-five days. Latest wave conducted April 28-May 2, 2022. For more info, visit navigatorresearch.org

A Strong Job Market and Low Unemployment Rate Are Best Reasons to Believe the Economy Is Improving

Among economically persuadable Americans*, the low unemployment rate and recent unionization efforts are the most convincing reasons to believe the economy is improving.

For each statement, please indicate how convincing you find each one as a reason to believe that the economy is improving.

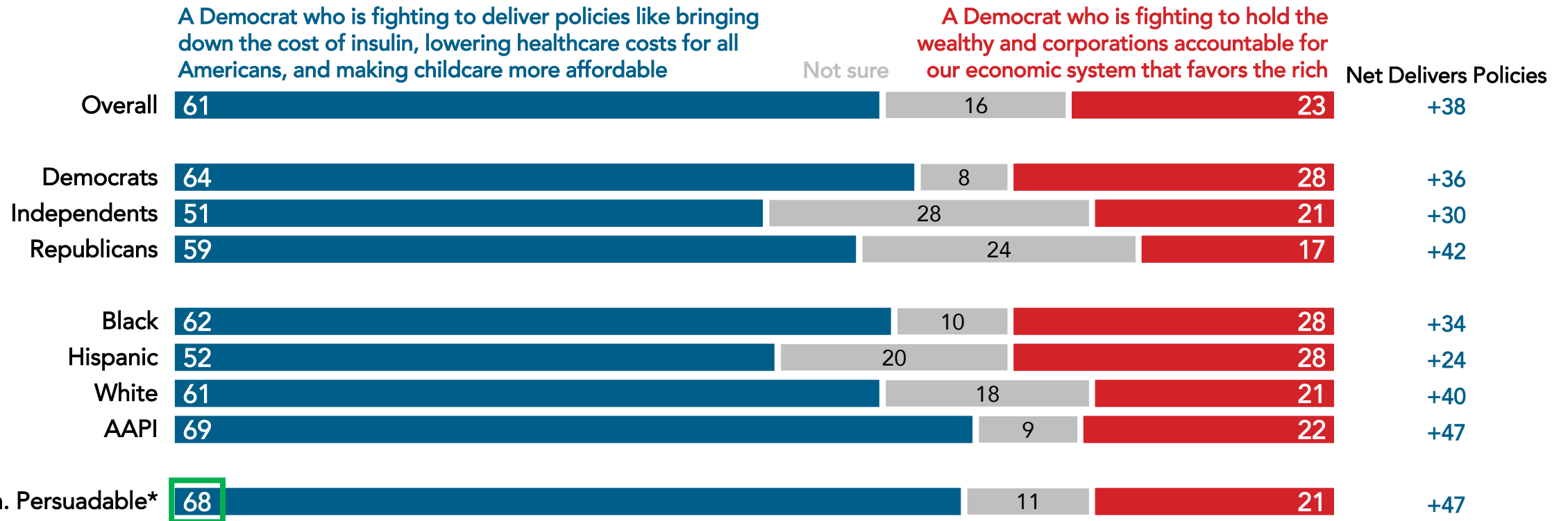
	Convincing	Don't believe	Not convincing	Dem	Total Convincing			Econ. Pers*
					Ind	Rep		
The job market is now better than it was before the pandemic, with 7 million new jobs created last year, more than any other time in American history	51	14	35	72	47	28	43	
The unemployment rate in the United States is down to 3.9% as the economy recovers from the pandemic	50	13	37	68	39	33	49	
The unemployment rate in the United States is down to 3.9%, the lowest since March 2020, as the economy recovers from the pandemic	49	10	41	69	47	27	44	
More and more Americans working for corporations like Starbucks are unionizing	48	12	40	64	34	34	47	
The number of Americans filing for unemployment is the lowest number in the last 52 years	45	16	39	63	36	26	39	
The U.S. economy grew more in GDP last year than it has in the last 40 years and more than China's economy grew for the first time in two decades	45	18	38	59	40	29	36	
The job market is now better than it was before the pandemic, with 7 million new jobs created last year	44	15	41	63	33	26	35	
The U.S. economy grew more in GDP last year than it has in the last 40 years	42	18	40	64	32	21	33	

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A Democrat Delivering on Economic Policies Is More Appealing Than One Fighting to Hold the Rich Accountable

More than two in three economic persuadables* (68%) prefer a Democrat who is delivering on economic policies.

Which profile do you find more appealing?



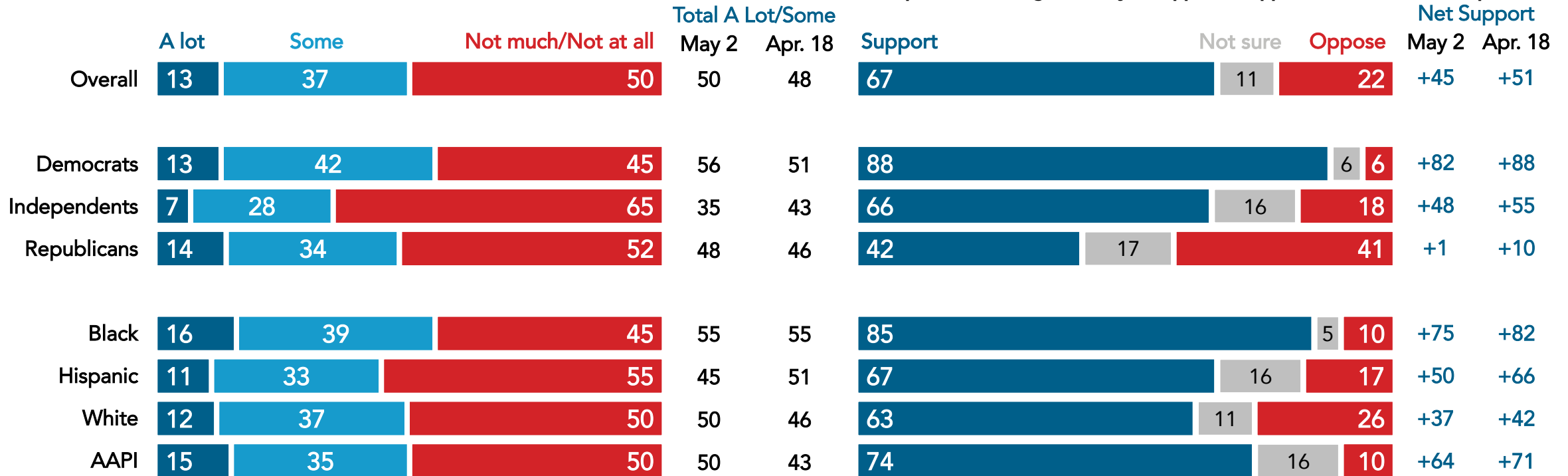
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While Just Half of Americans Are Hearing About Biden and Democrats' New Economic Plan, Two in Three Support It

Just a third of independents (35%) and less than half of Republicans (48%) and Hispanic voters (45%) report hearing "a lot" or "some" about Biden and Democrats' economic plan, but pluralities across race and party (including 42% of Republicans) support it.

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

As you may know, Biden and Democrats' new economic plan will expand Medicare for seniors to include hearing coverage, lower health care costs by allowing Medicare to negotiate lower drug prices, and invest in clean energy like wind and solar power. Knowing this, do you support or oppose this new economic plan?



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Top Policies in Biden and Democrats' New Economic Plan Are Hearing Aid Coverage, Insulin Costs, and Lower Drug Costs

Among economically persuadable Americans*, more than nine in ten support Medicare coverage for hearing aids (94%) and enabling Medicare to negotiate prescription drug prices (91%).

Below is a list of policies that are a part of Biden and Democrats' new economic plan. Please indicate whether you support or oppose the government taking action on each one.

	Strongly support	Somewhat support	Not sure	Oppose	Overall	Total Support			Econ. Pers*
						Dem	Ind	Rep	
Allowing seniors to get hearing aids covered by Medicare	60	25	6	9	86	93	84	78	94
Capping the costs of insulin at \$35 a month for those suffering from diabetes	56	25	8	11	80	88	81	72	87
Giving Medicare the power to negotiate for lower prescription drug costs	52	30	7	11	82	90	81	73	91
Creating millions of good, high-paying jobs in clean energy like solar and wind	46	26	10	18	72	87	66	56	78
Lowering health insurance premiums by up to \$2,400 a year for families who buy health care on their own	45	30	12	13	75	87	72	63	86
Lowering energy bills by \$500 a year or more by ramping up the use of clean energy like wind and solar power	44	25	10	21	69	90	73	44	79
Creating a minimum income tax rate of 20% for households with a net worth of more than \$100 million	41	27	13	19	68	85	64	50	76
Canceling a portion of federal student loan borrowers' debt	37	21	9	33	59	79	58	36	58
Raising the minimum corporate tax rate from 21% to 28%	37	23	12	28	60	81	63	35	64

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When Attacking Republicans on the Economy, Hits About Protecting the Rich and Corporations Are Most Effective

Economically persuadable Americans* are most concerned Republicans allow corporations to raise prices while not paying their fair share of taxes (62% concerning) and that they oppose cutting prescription drug prices and lowering health insurance premiums (58%).

Below are some statements from critics of Republicans' approach to the economy. Please indicate how concerning you find each statement.

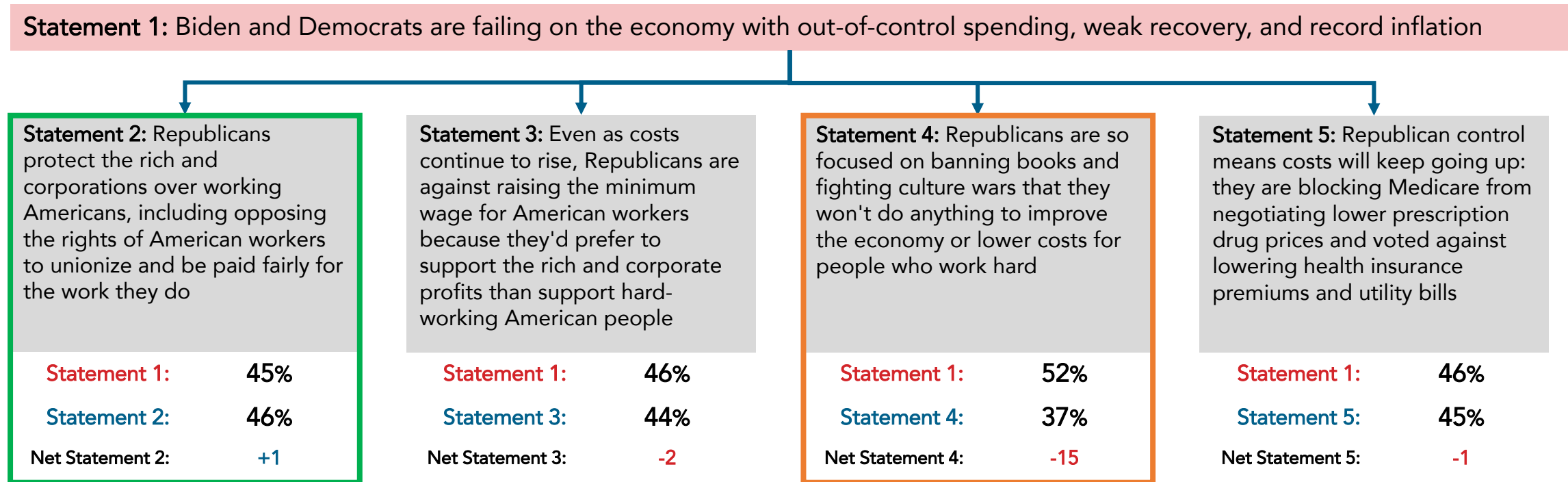
	Concerning	Don't believe	Not concerning	Dem	Total Concerning		
					Ind	Rep	Econ. Pers*
Republicans let big corporations raise prices on everyday goods like groceries while not paying their fair share of taxes	60	26	14	87	60	30	62
Republican control means costs will keep going up: they are blocking Medicare from negotiating lower prescription drug prices and voted against lowering health insurance premiums and utility bills	59	26	15	83	59	31	58
Even as costs continue to rise, Republicans are against raising the minimum wage for American workers because they'd prefer to support the rich and corporate profits than support hard-working American people	58	26	16	86	63	26	56
Republicans are more focused on giving tax breaks to the rich and corporations than on finding ways to bring down costs for working-and middle-class Americans	57	26	17	82	64	27	55
Republicans protect the rich and corporations over working Americans, including opposing the rights of American workers to unionize and be paid fairly for the work they do	57	26	17	85	66	24	56
Republicans don't care about or support America's families: they forced the expanded child tax credit to expire, raising taxes on millions of American families during the pandemic	56	28	16	82	54	27	53
Republicans are so focused on banning books and fighting culture wars that they won't do anything to improve the economy or lower costs for people who work hard	56	29	16	81	56	28	52

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Effective Messaging Against Republicans' Economic Handling Centers Their Protecting the Rich and Corporations

When testing a range of arguments against a Republican hit on Biden and Democrats for the economy that includes spending, recovery, and inflation, the best response calls out Republicans for protecting the rich and corporations over working people with mention of their opposition to union efforts. Weaker arguments pivot to book banning and culture wars.

Which do you find more concerning?

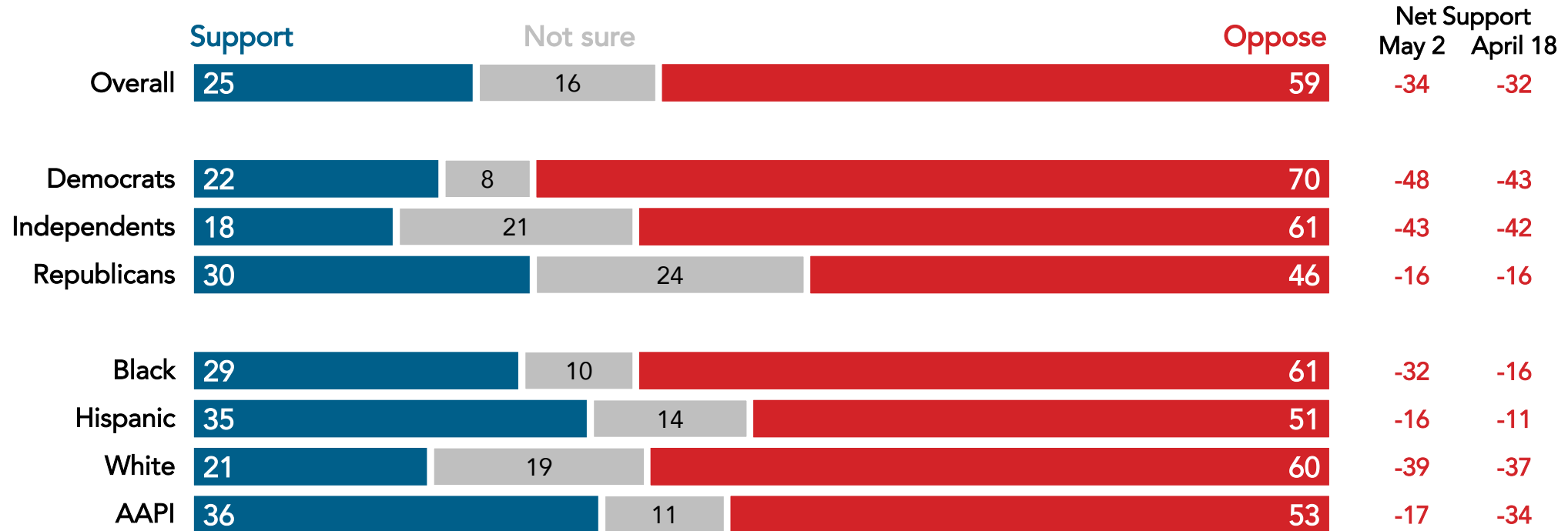


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Republican Senator Rick Scott's Economic Plan Remains Deeply Unpopular, Even Among Republicans

Scott's plan is deeply in the negative with Democrats (-48 net support), independents (-43), and Republicans (-16).

As you may know, Republicans released a campaign plan called the "Rescue America" plan that would raise taxes on about 100 million working class Americans and require Congress to re-authorize all laws every five years, which means programs like Social Security and Medicare could be eliminated if there is gridlock in Congress. Knowing this, do you support or oppose this plan?

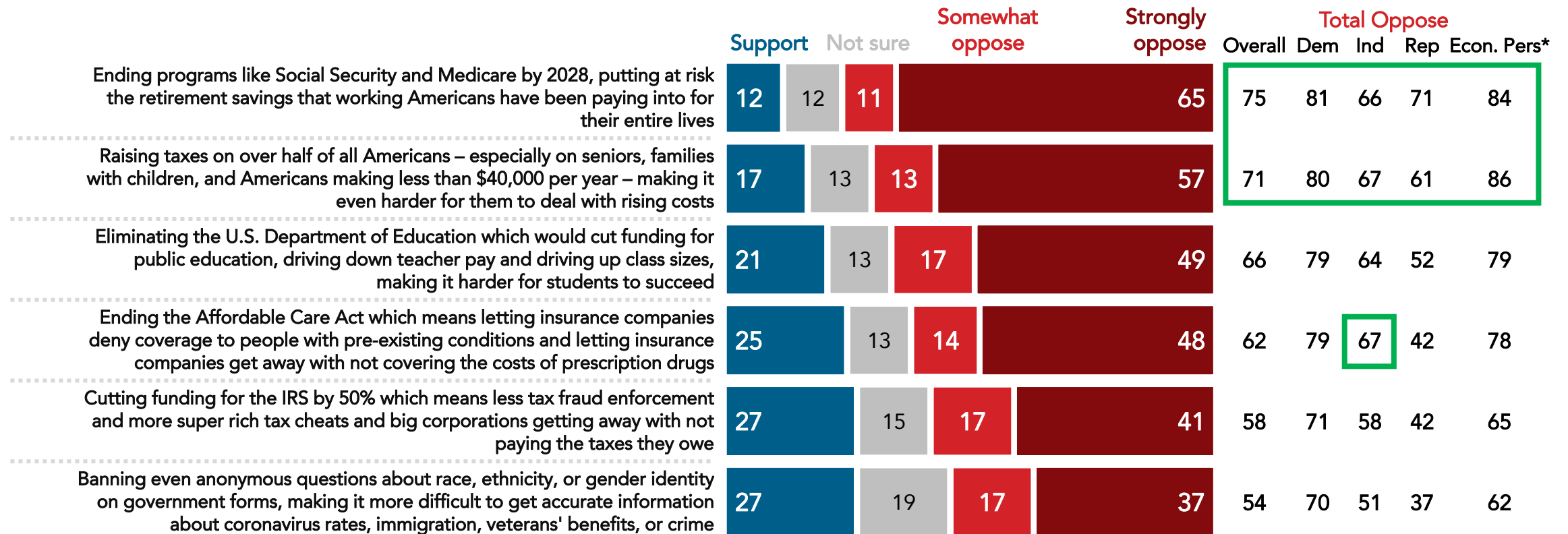


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Majorities Oppose Every Policy Tested from Republican Rick Scott's "Rescue America" Plan

Overall and among economically persuadable Americans*, the worst-testing policies are ending programs like Social Security and Medicare by 2028 (84% oppose among economically persuadable) and raising taxes on half of all Americans (86%).

Below are some policies that would be included in the "Rescue America" plan. Please indicate whether you support or oppose each one.

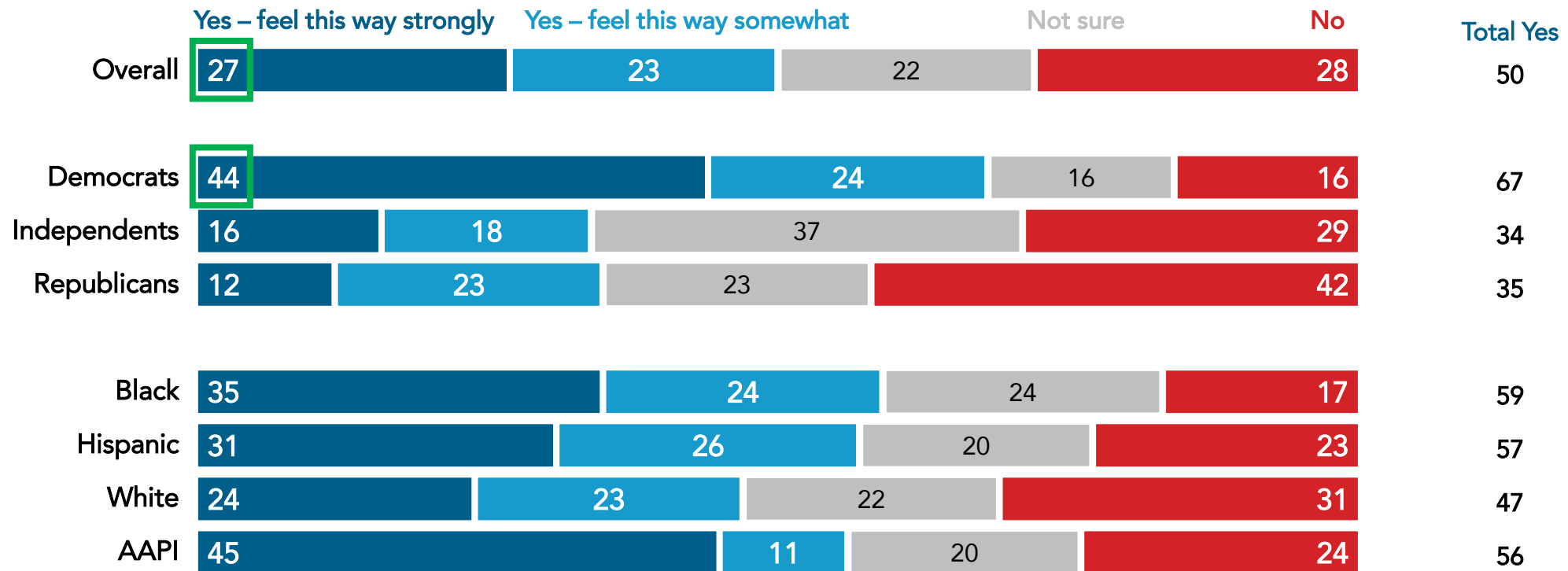


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After Reading About Republican Rick Scott's "Rescue America" Plan, Americans Feel It Captures the Republican Party

Majorities of Democrats (67%) believe this plan captures the Republican Party, as do 34% of independents (37% are not sure).

After reading about the "Rescue America" plan...do you think this plan captures what the Republican party stands for?

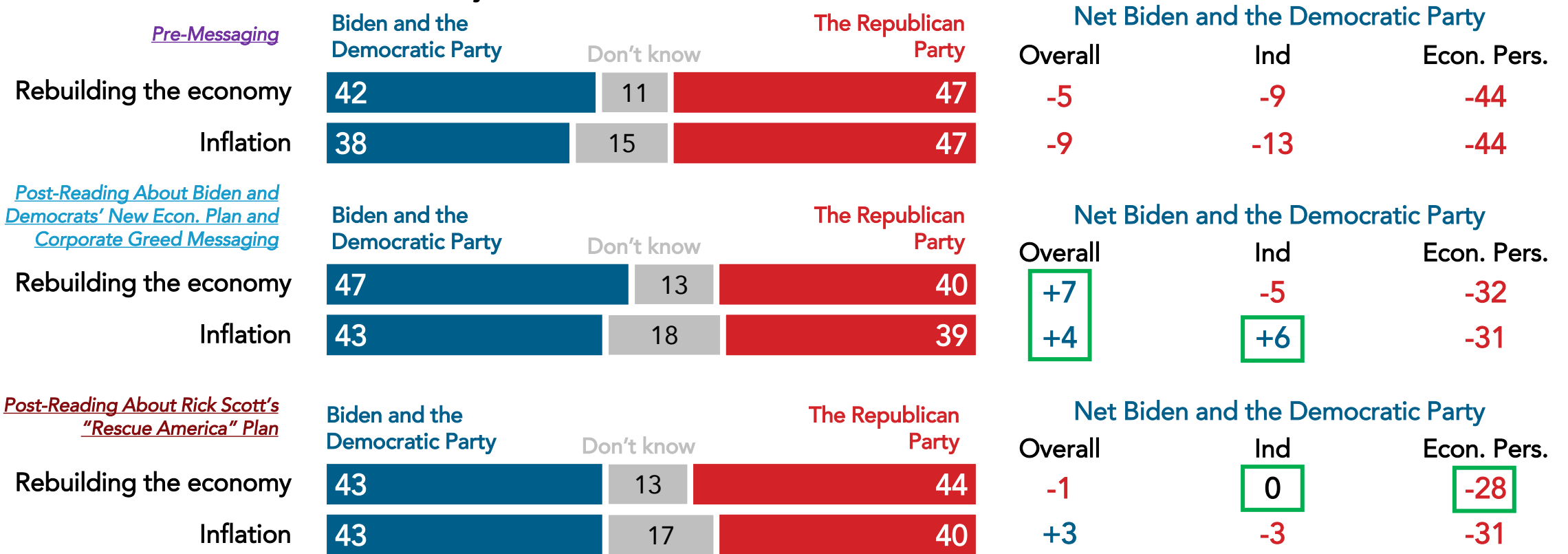


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Reading About Biden and Democrats' Plan and Republican Rick Scott's Plan Improves Views of Democrats on Economy

While Biden and Democrats start at a trust deficit on rebuilding the economy and inflation, messaging on Biden and Democrats' new economic plan *and* about Republican Senator Rick Scott's "Rescue America" plan help to improve views for Biden and Democrats.

Below is a list of issues. Please indicate who you trust more to handle 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: 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 999 registered voters from April 28-May 2, 2022. 103 additional interviews were conducted among Hispanic voters. 59 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.

For Press inquiries contact:

press@navigatorresearch.org

To learn more about Navigator:

<http://navigatorresearch.org>

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