

# navigator\*

Wednesday, August 24<sup>th</sup>

The Economy and  
Inflation: A Guide for  
Advocates



## Key Takeaways:

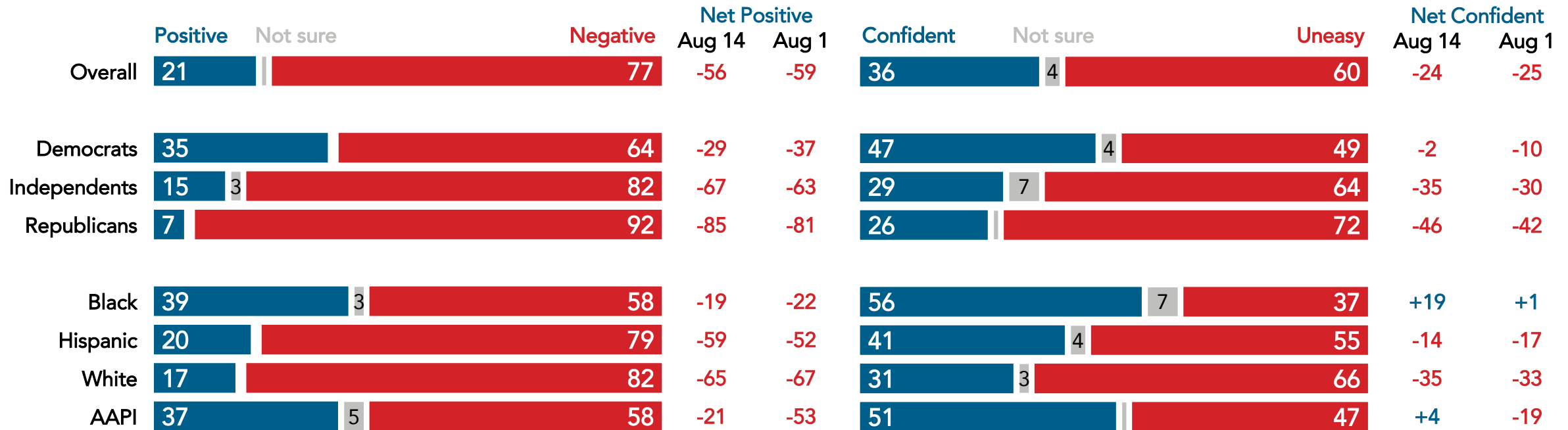
- Americans remain broadly negative about the economy and uneasy about their personal financial situations.
- A narrow plurality continue to say the U.S. is experiencing more job losses than gains.
- There has been a double-digit increase since July in the share saying they are paying less for gas now than they were a few weeks ago, citing Biden, oil and gas companies, and supply and demand as most responsible.

# Four in Five View Economy Negatively as Majorities Remain Financially Uneasy

Bipartisan majorities rate the economy negatively and pluralities say they are uneasy about their personal financial situation – only Black and Asian Americans say they are more confident (56% and 51%, respectively) than uneasy (37% and 47%).

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?



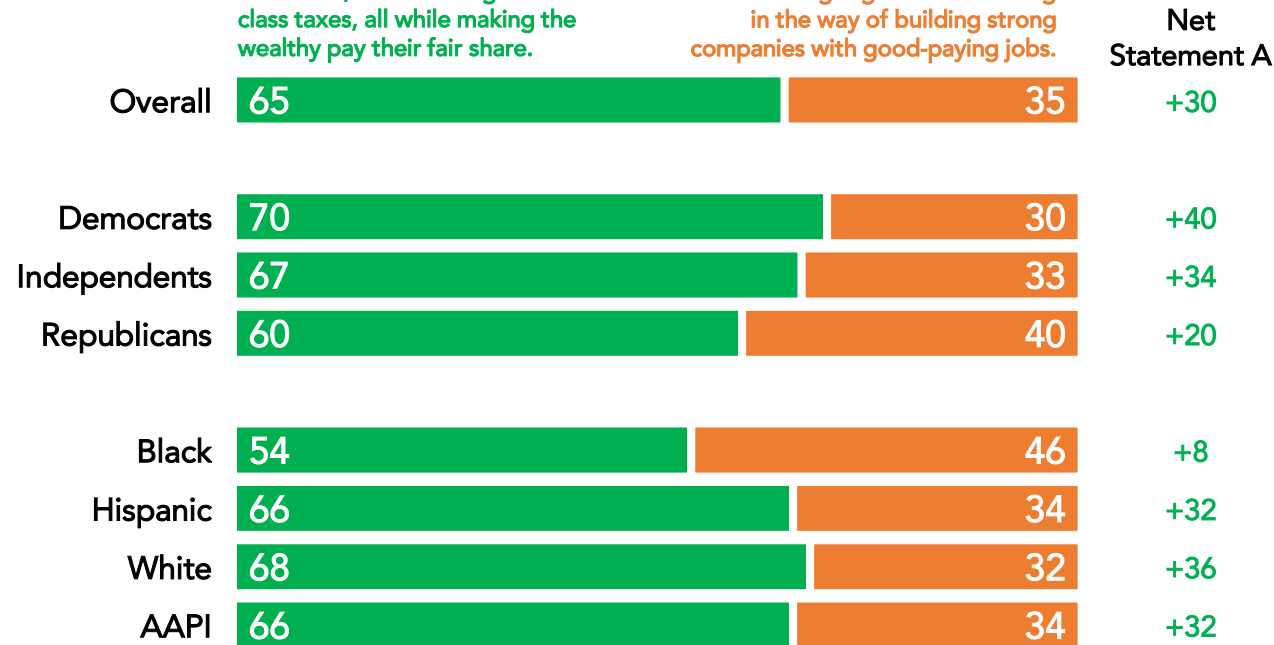
Nationwide surveys of registered voters; Each wave represents approximately 1,000 interviews taken over the prior three-five days. Latest wave conducted August 11-August 14, 2022. For more info, visit [navigatorresearch.org](http://navigatorresearch.org)

# Americans See Middle Class Growth Over Jobs-First Growth for the Economy; Prefer "Growing the Pie" to "Slicing It"

(Split sample) Who do you agree with more?

**[MIDDLE-CLASS]** A strong middle class drives American economic growth. We need to focus our economic policies on making sure the middle class succeeds, which means improving incomes, ensuring access to affordable education, and reducing middle class taxes, all while making the wealthy pay their fair share.

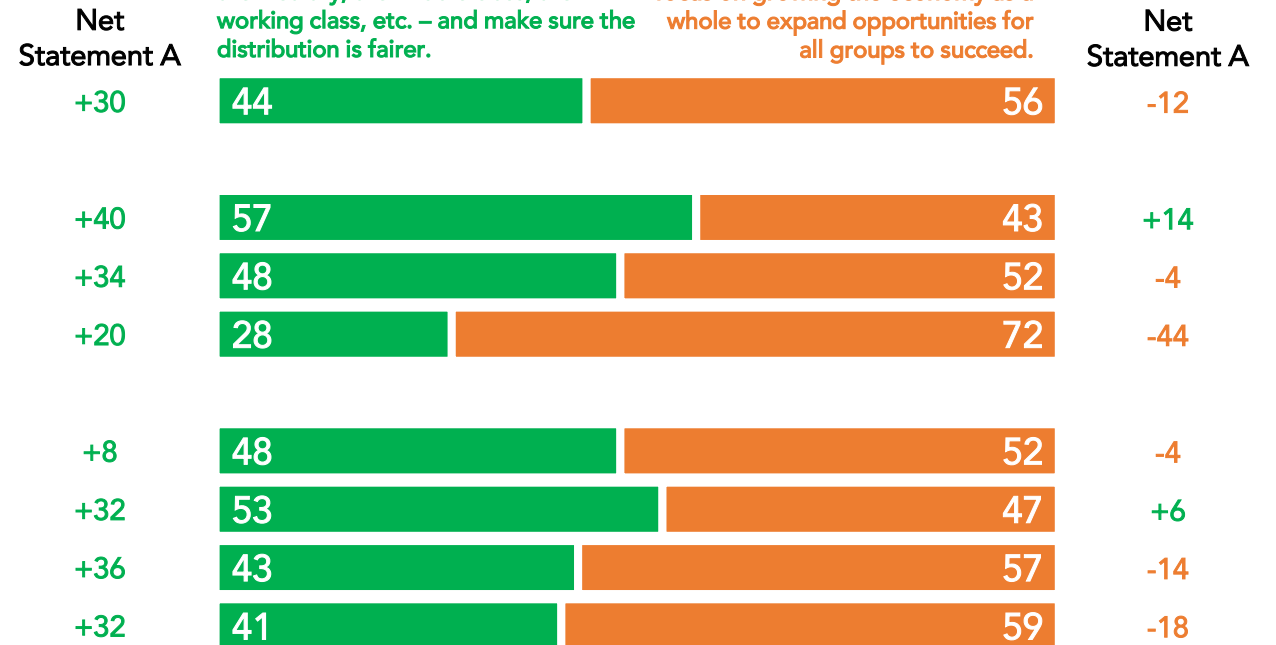
**[JOBS FIRST]** Job creation drives economic growth. We need to focus our economic policies on making sure the people who create jobs can succeed, which means cutting taxes on businesses and entrepreneurs while reducing regulations standing in the way of building strong companies with good-paying jobs.



(Split sample) Who do you agree with more?

**[SLICING THE PIE]** We need to focus on how the benefits of the economy are distributed between different groups – the wealthy, the middle class, the working class, etc. – and make sure the distribution is fairer.

**[GROWING THE PIE]** We need to focus on growing the economy as a whole to expand opportunities for all groups to succeed.

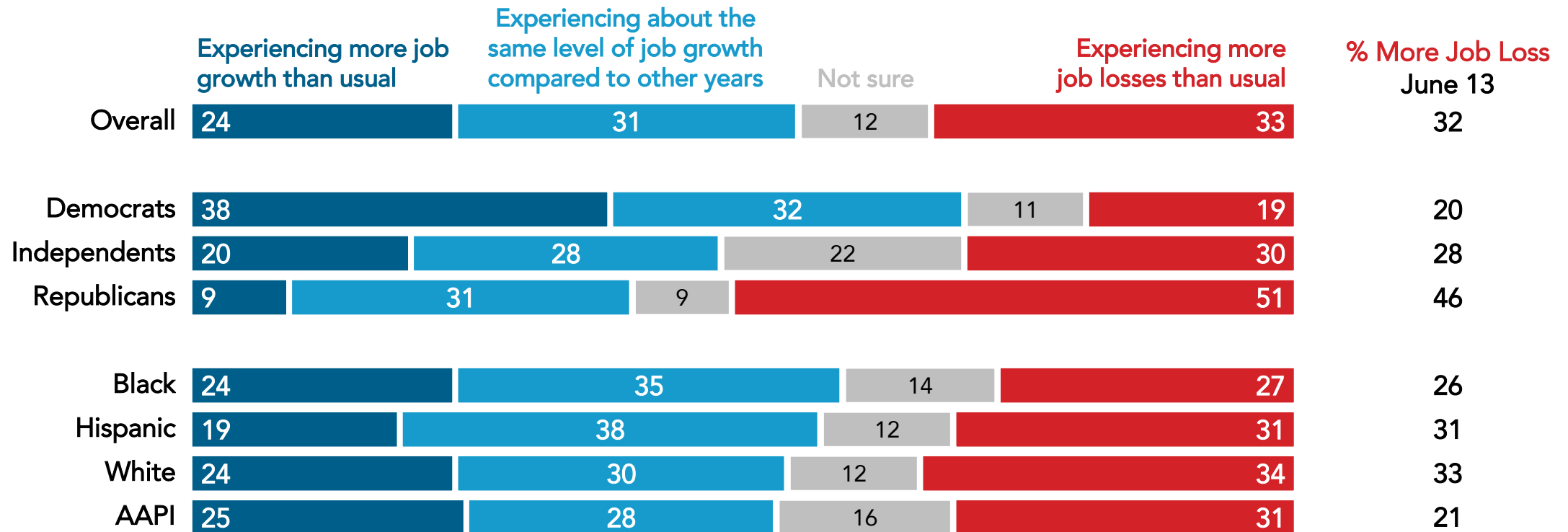


Nationwide survey of 1,000 registered voters conducted August 11-14, 2022. For more info, visit [navigatorresearch.org](http://navigatorresearch.org).

# Despite Improving Jobs Reports, a Narrow Plurality of Voters Say the U.S. Is Experiencing More Job Loss than Usual

Still three in ten independents (30%) say the U.S. is experiencing more job losses than usual, as do a majority of Republicans (51%).

When it comes to the U.S. economy over the last 12 months, do you think that the country is...?



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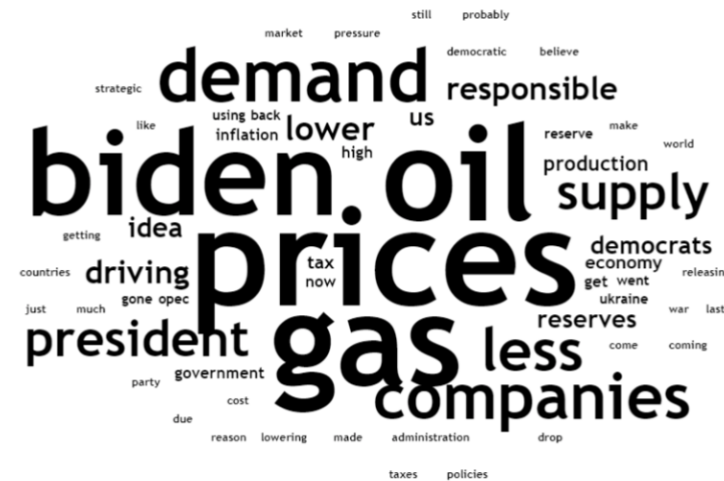
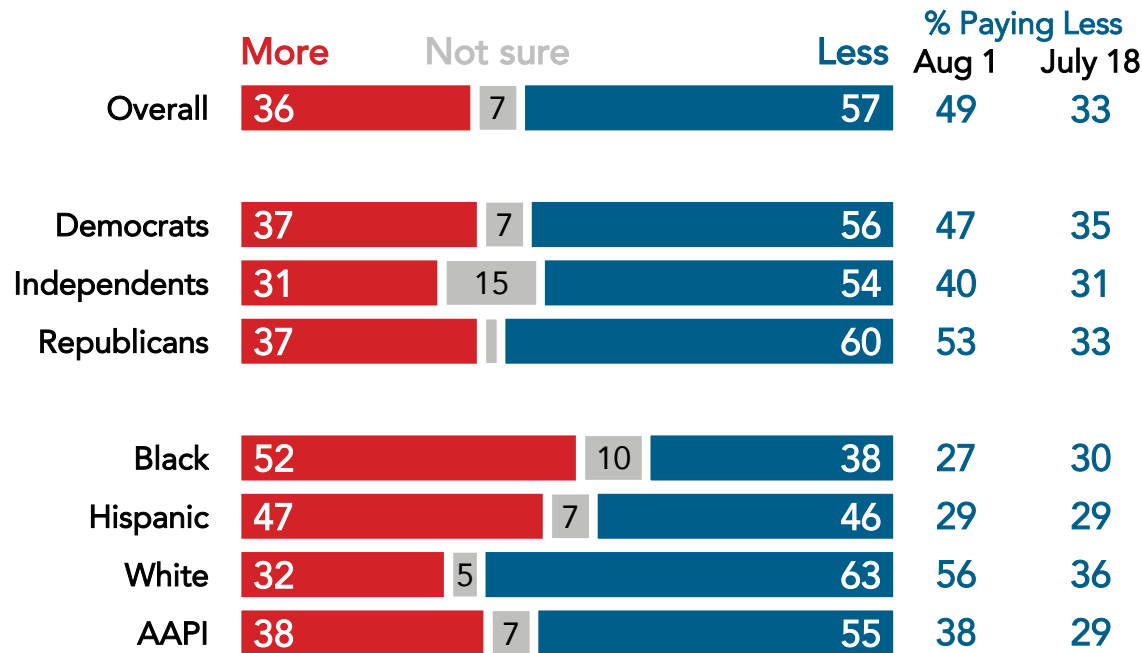
# Now, a Majority Say Gas Prices in Their Community Are Lower Than They Were a Few Weeks Ago

There has been a 24-point increase in the share who say they're paying less for gas than they were a few weeks ago (33% in July to 57%).

- Those who say they are paying less focus on Biden, oil and gas companies, and changes in supply and demand.

Thinking more about gas prices in your community...compared to a few weeks ago, would you say you're [paying]...

[IF PAYING LESS FOR GAS] Who or what do you think is responsible for you paying less for gas in the last few weeks?



"Joe Biden is responsible for low gas prices."

"The oil and gas companies starting to drill again."

"A combination of less demand and more supply."

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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 August 11-August 14, 2022. 106 additional interviews were conducted among Hispanic voters. 78 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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