

navigator*

Tuesday, September 6th

The Democratic Agenda:
A Guide for Advocates



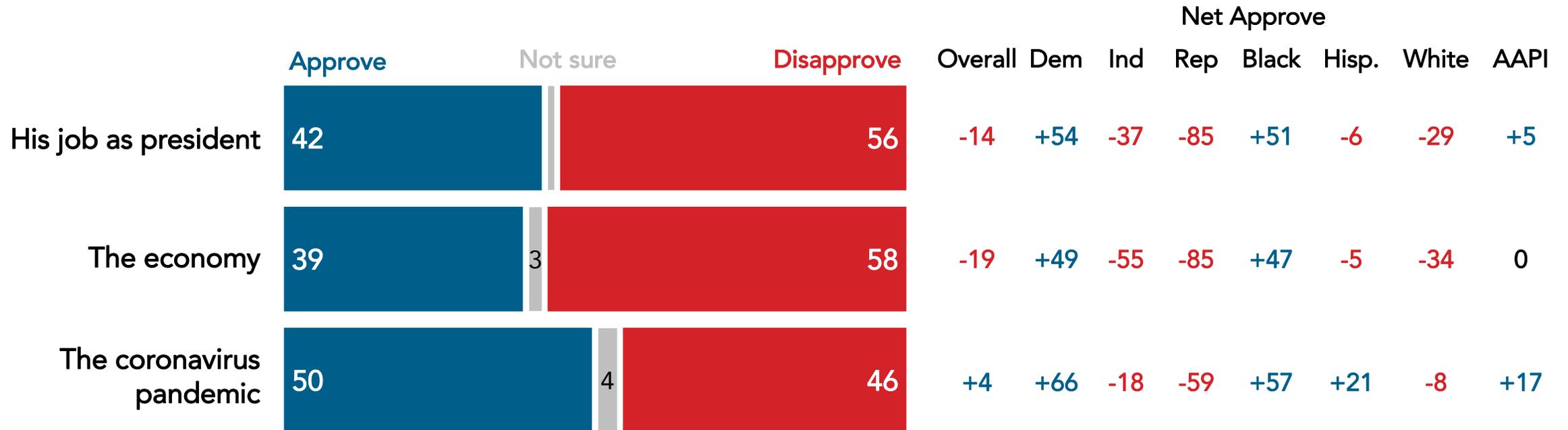
Key Takeaways:

- Majorities find a wide range of Biden's accomplishments to result in positive outcomes for the country such as the PACT Act, recent job growth, the infrastructure law, declines in gas prices, and gun legislation.
- Majorities continue to support the Inflation Reduction act and see a range of headlines about the law as believable and as having a positive impact on their community.
- Biden's plan to cancel some federal student loans earns support from three in five Americans, including majorities of those who have paid off their student loans or who have never had student loan debt.

Biden's Approval Ratings Remain Consistent

Ratings for President Biden have been consistent over the last month, now at net -14 overall, net -19 on handling the economy, and remaining net positive on handling the pandemic (net +4).

Do you approve or disapprove of the way Joe Biden is handling:



Nationwide survey of 1,000 registered voters conducted August 26-31, 2022. For more info, visit navigatorresearch.org.

Majorities View a Variety of Biden's Accomplishments as Positive Outcomes for the Country

When the "Safer America Plan" is described as historic, the perception that it is a positive outcome for the country increases among Democrats, and decreases among independents (53% positive without referring to the legislation as historic, 37% positive including).

Below are some actions taken by President Biden and Democrats since Biden took office in January 2021. Please indicate, on a scale of 0-10, where 0 is an extremely negative outcome for the country and 10 is an extremely positive outcome for the country, where you think each action falls.

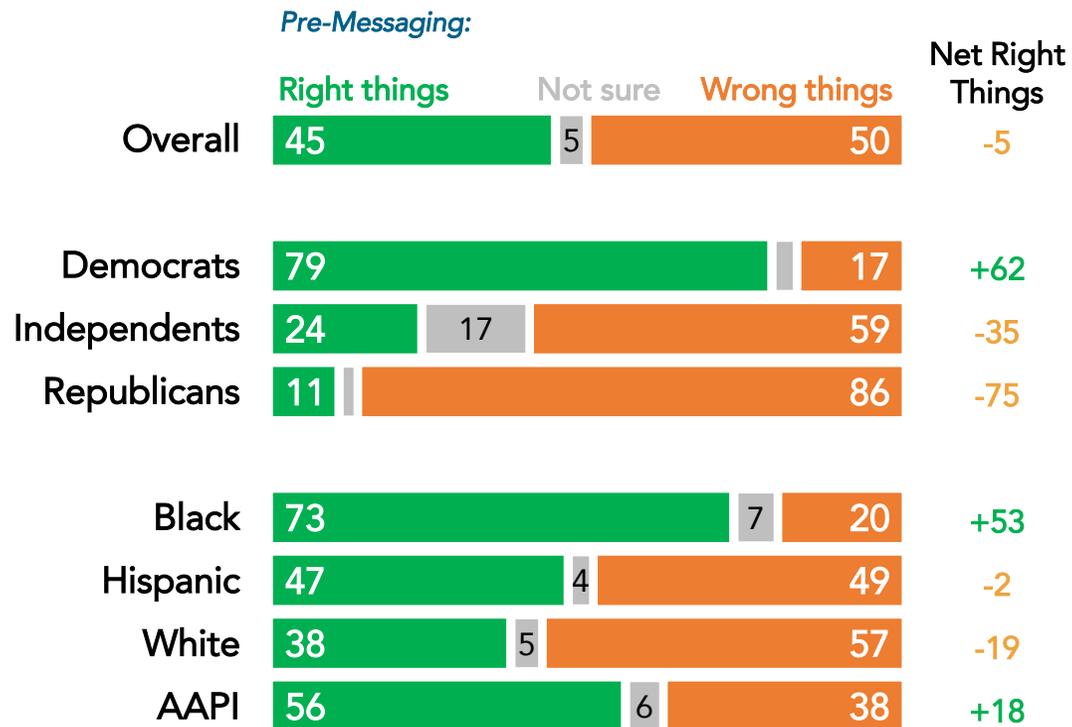
		Positive (7-10)	Neutral (4-6)	Negative (0-3)/Not Sure	% Positive (7-10)		
	*/** = split sample				Dem	Ind	Rep
The PACT Act was signed into law by President Biden which will strengthen healthcare and benefits for America's toxic exposed veterans and their survivors		61	24	15	81	57	40
The United States has recorded job growth every month since President Biden took office, including creating 9.5 million jobs and restoring all of the jobs lost since the beginning of the coronavirus pandemic		53	30	17	81	50	22
The Bipartisan Infrastructure Law was passed and signed into law by President Biden which will improve roads and bridges, expand power infrastructure, increase passenger and rail access, expand broadband access and improve water infrastructure		54	29	17	79	49	26
Gas prices have dropped by over a dollar a gallon in the last 10 weeks		53	30	17	77	50	26
*The "Safer America Plan" has been signed into law which will reduce gun violence by expanding background checks for purchasers under 21 and establishing a national "red flag" law which would allow family and law enforcement to remove guns from someone acting violent or unstable		54	25	21	75	53	30
The bipartisan CHIPS bill was signed into law by President Biden, which will invest in domestic semiconductor manufacturing, scientific research, and boosting competition with China		50	29	21	69	44	30
The Senate confirmed Supreme Court Justice Ketanji Brown Jackson, the first African American woman ever to serve on the Supreme Court		51	28	21	78	43	22
The new economic plan, the Inflation Reduction Act, has been signed into law by President Biden, which will give Medicare the power to negotiate lower drug prices, bring down health insurance premiums, and invest in clean energy like wind and solar power		52	23	24	82	46	20
The American Rescue plan was passed and signed into law by President Biden which provided economic stimulus in the form of \$1,400 checks, vaccine funding, and other pandemic-related responses		52	25	23	80	40	23
**The "Safer America Plan" has been signed into law which is the first national gun law passed in decades and will reduce gun violence by expanding background checks for purchasers under 21 and establishing a national "red flag" law which would allow family and law enforcement to remove guns from someone acting violent or unstable		50	26	24	79	37	21

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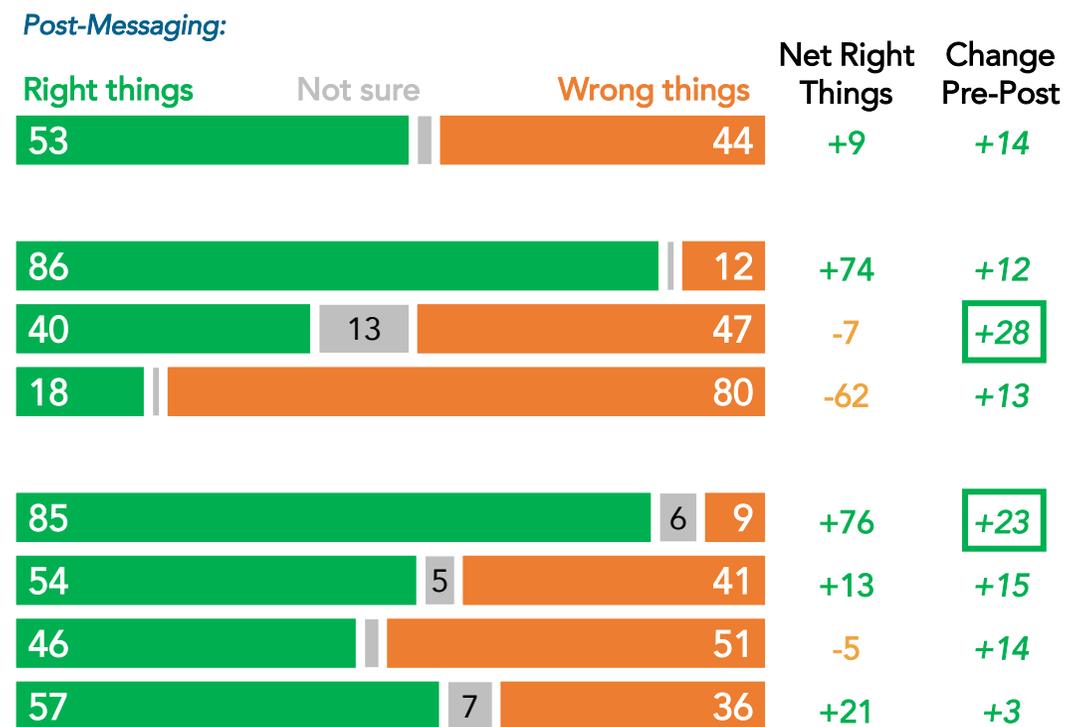
Reminding Americans of Accomplishment Increases Belief That Democrats Are Focused on Right Things

After messaging about Biden and Democrats' accomplishments, the share of independents who say the Democratic Party is focused on the right things increases by net 28 points (from -35 to -7) and the share of Black Americans increases by net 23 points (from +53 to +76).

Do you think the Democratic Party is focused on the right things?



Again... Do you think the Democratic Party is focused on the right things?



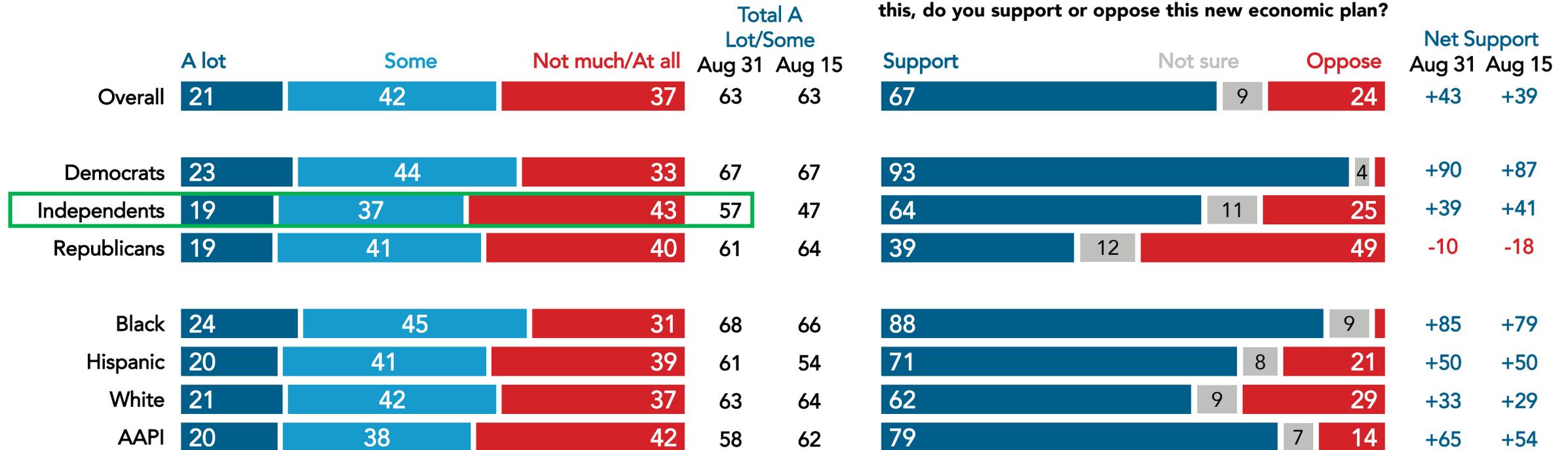
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About Two in Three Americans are Both Hearing About and Support the Inflation Reduction Act

The share of independents who report hearing “a lot” or “some” about the Inflation Reduction Act has increased by 10 points from mid-August (from 47% to 57%), while 67% of Americans support the plan.

How much have you seen, read, or heard about the new legislation called the Inflation Reduction Act passed by Democrats in Congress and being signed by President Biden?

As you may know, Biden and Democrats’ new legislation that has been passed by Congress is called the Inflation Reduction Act, which will give Medicare the power to negotiate drug prices, bring down health insurance premiums, and invest in clean energy like wind and solar power. Knowing this, do you support or oppose this new economic plan?



Nationwide surveys of registered voters; Each wave represents approximately 1,000 interviews taken over the prior three-five days. Latest wave conducted August 26-August 31, 2022. For more info, visit navigatorresearch.org

Most Positive Headlines About Inflation Reduction Act Mention Medicare Negotiation and Easing Health Care Costs

Among independents, headlines detailing drug costs capped at \$2,000 a year and leading to \$1,800 in savings are also seen as most positive impacts of the Inflation Reduction Act.

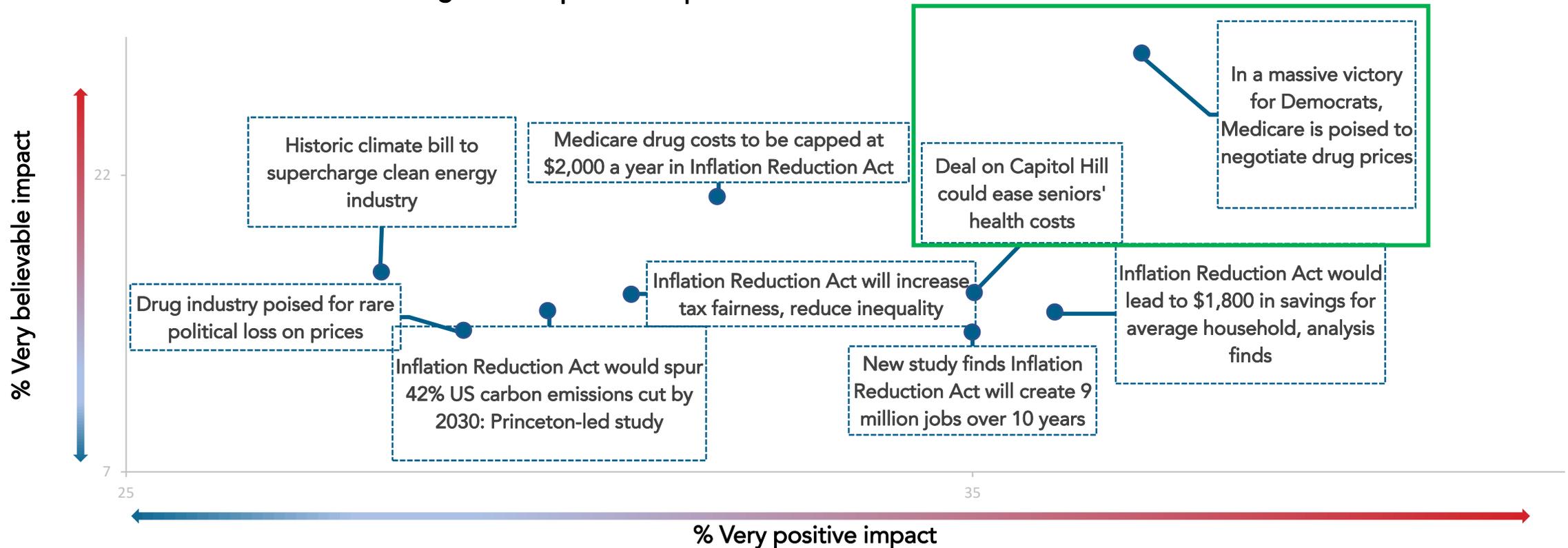
Below are some recent headlines from coverage of the Inflation Reduction Act. Please indicate how much of a positive impact you think the outcomes of each headline will have on you and your community.

	Very positive	Somewhat positive	DK	Not that/very positive	Total Positive			
					Overall	Dem	Ind	Rep
<i>In a massive victory for Democrats, Medicare is poised to negotiate drug prices</i> - Stat News, 8/7/2022	37	29	10	24	66	86	71	42
<i>Deal on Capitol Hill could ease seniors' health costs</i> - AP News, 7/28/2022	35	31	11	24	66	84	58	47
<i>Medicare drug costs to be capped at \$2,000 a year in Inflation Reduction Act</i> - Barrons, 8/12/2022	32	32	13	23	64	84	65	41
<i>Inflation Reduction Act would lead to \$1,800 in savings for average household, analysis finds</i> - Yahoo News, 8/2/2022	36	27	11	25	63	85	63	39
<i>New Study finds Inflation Reduction Act will create 9 million jobs over 10 years</i> - Globe News Wire, 8/5/2022	35	26	11	28	61	82	57	36
<i>Inflation Reduction Act will increase tax fairness, reduce inequality</i> - Institute on Taxation and Economic Policy, 8/7/2022	31	24	13	32	55	81	51	26
<i>Drug industry poised for rare political loss on prices</i> - The Washington Post, 7/28/2022	29	25	20	27	54	72	53	33
<i>Inflation Reduction Act would spur 42% US carbon emissions cut by 2030: Princeton led study</i> - Utility Dive, 8/4/2022	30	22	14	35	52	80	50	20
<i>Historic climate bill to supercharge clean energy industry</i> - Politico, 8/7/2022	28	23	14	36	51	78	51	19

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Reducing Health Care Costs Seen as Both Most Believable and Having the Most Positive Impact from Inflation Reduction Act

On a list of recent headlines about the Inflation Reduction Act, headlines about reducing healthcare costs are seen as more believable and having the most positive impact on communities, while headlines about climate policies and the drug industry's rare political loss are seen as less believable and having less of a positive impact.

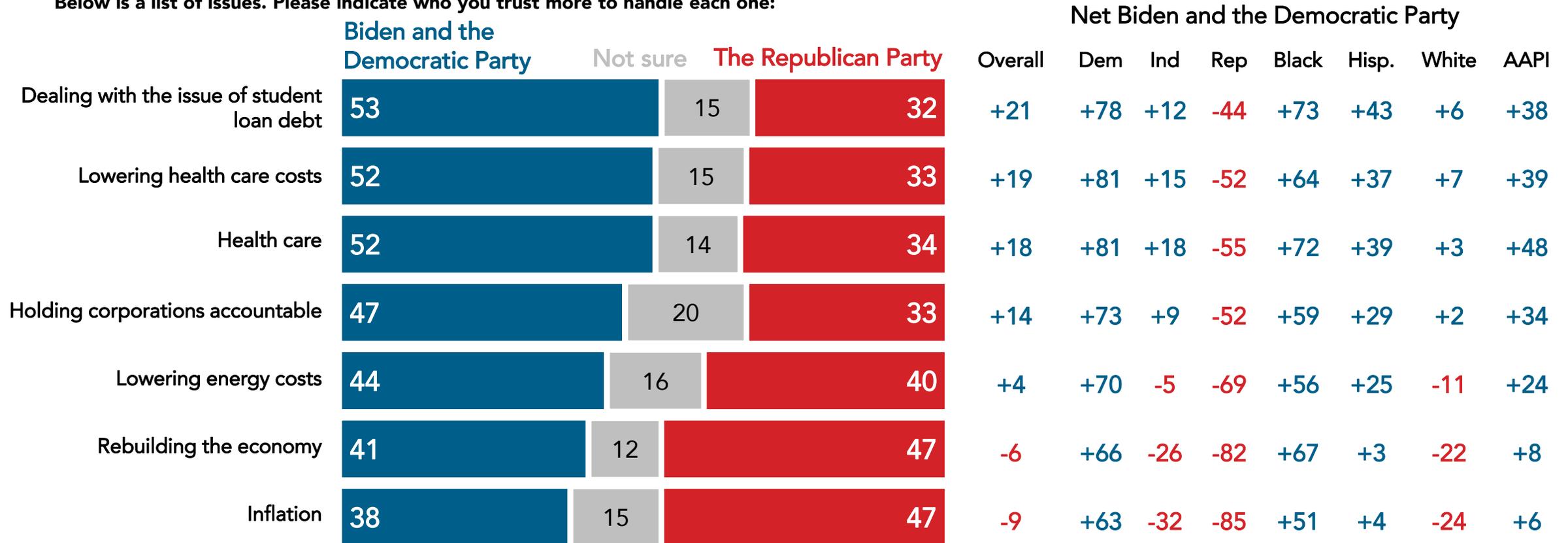


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Biden and Democrats More Trusted on Student Loans and Health Care; Republicans Have Edge on Economy and Inflation

Biden and Democrats are more trusted on student loan debt (net +21 Democrats), lowering health care costs (+19), and holding corporations accountable (+14); Republicans are most trusted on inflation (net +9 Republicans).

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

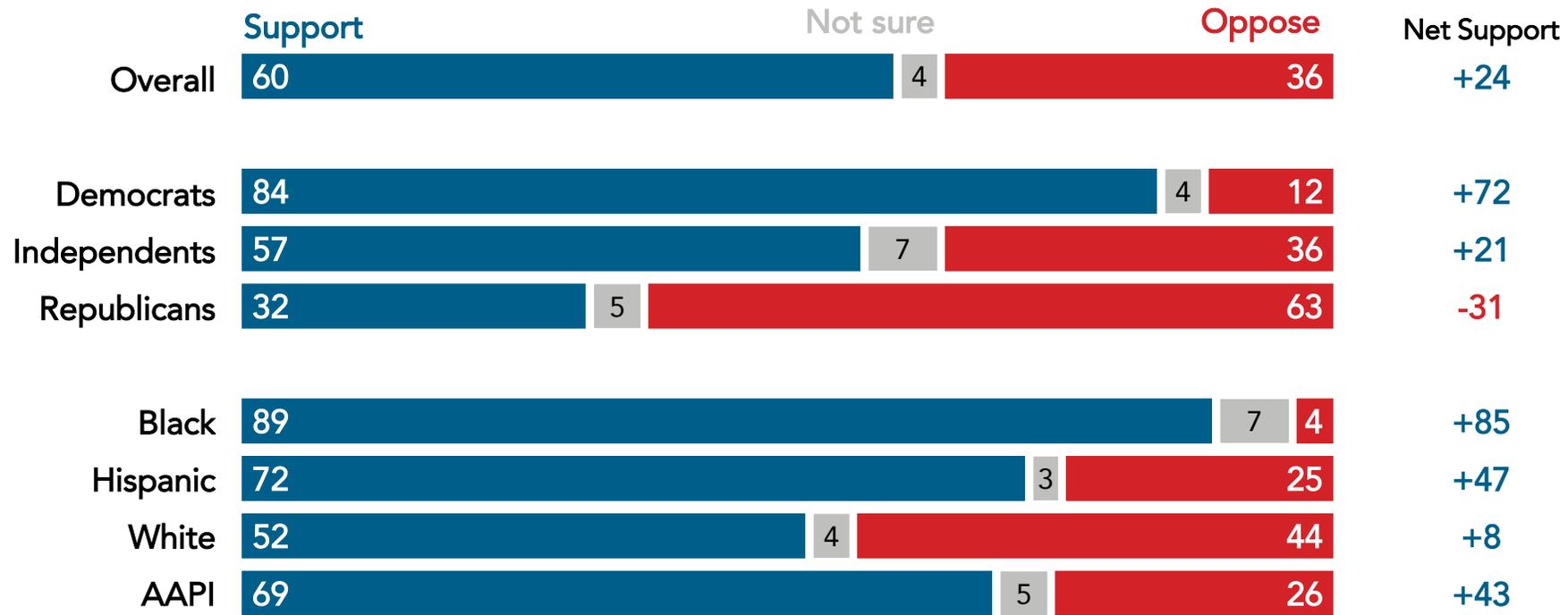


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Three in Five Americans Support Biden's Student Loan Forgiveness Plan

Biden's student loan announcement earns support from nearly three in five independents (57%), nearly nine in ten Black Americans (89%) and about seven in ten each of Hispanic Americans (72%) and Asian Americans and Pacific Islanders (69%)

As you may know, the Biden administration announced it will be canceling up to \$10,000 in federal student loan debt for borrowers who make less than \$125,000 a year. Do you support or oppose this proposal?

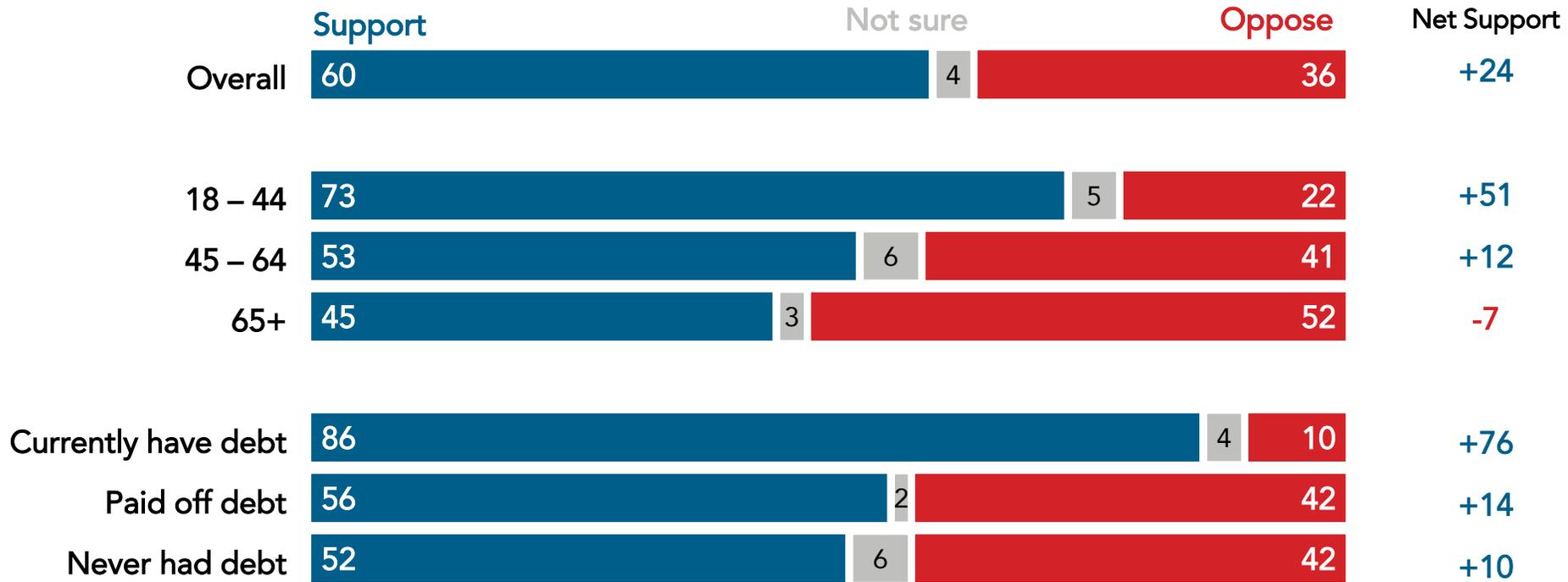


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Biden's Student Loan Plan Earns Majority Support From Those Without Debt or Who Have Already Paid their Debt Off

While support for Biden's plan is nearly universal among those currently with student loan debt (86% support/10% oppose), it also earns majority support from 56% of those who have already paid off their student loan debt and 52% who have never had student loan debt.

As you may know, the Biden administration announced it will be canceling up to \$10,000 in federal student loan debt for borrowers who make less than \$125,000 a year. Do you support or oppose this proposal?



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A Range of Arguments in Favor of Student Loan Debt Forgiveness are Convincing

Arguments focused on additional forgiveness for Pell Grant recipients (+30 net convincing) is the strongest message overall and among both Black Americans and white Americans respectively.

Below are some reasons some supporters have given for Biden to cancel student loan debt. For each, please indicate whether you find it convincing, or not.

	Convincing	Not Convincing	Net Convincing
Pell Grants are usually loans given to families making less than \$60,000 a year to send their children to college. Providing additional student loan forgiveness for Pell Grant recipients is reducing the financial burden the most for working and middle class families	65	35	+30
In order to jump start the economy, Biden and Democrats are working to lower costs across the board for a variety of different people, including providing student loan debt relief, bringing down prescription drug costs, and lowering insurance premiums for people who pay for their own insurance to lower cost burdens across the board.	63	37	+26
Getting a college education in America has become incredibly expensive, with costs rising faster than incomes. By canceling student debt, Biden will be helping millions of Americans trying to get ahead.	62	38	+24
Given current levels of inflation, repaying loans is now even tougher for those with student loan debt. By canceling student loan debt, Biden will help millions of people better handle rising costs.	62	38	+24
Student loan debt cancellation increases wealth. Many Americans with student loan debt are paying their loans and other bills instead of saving. By eliminating student loan debt payments, people can focus on saving more for the future.	60	40	+20
Having significant amounts of debt prevents Americans from making the best decisions around where to live and where to work. Biden canceling student loans would allow millions to make these decisions for what makes the most sense for them now, instead of planning around years of debt	57	43	+14
The student debt burden falls most heavily on Americans who are low-income, Black, or Hispanic. By canceling student loan debt, Biden would help many avoid default while reducing the racial wealth gap.	57	43	+14

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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 26-August 31, 2022. 104 additional interviews were conducted among Hispanic voters. 77 additional interviews were conducted among Asian American and Pacific Islander voters. 103 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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To learn more about Navigator:

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