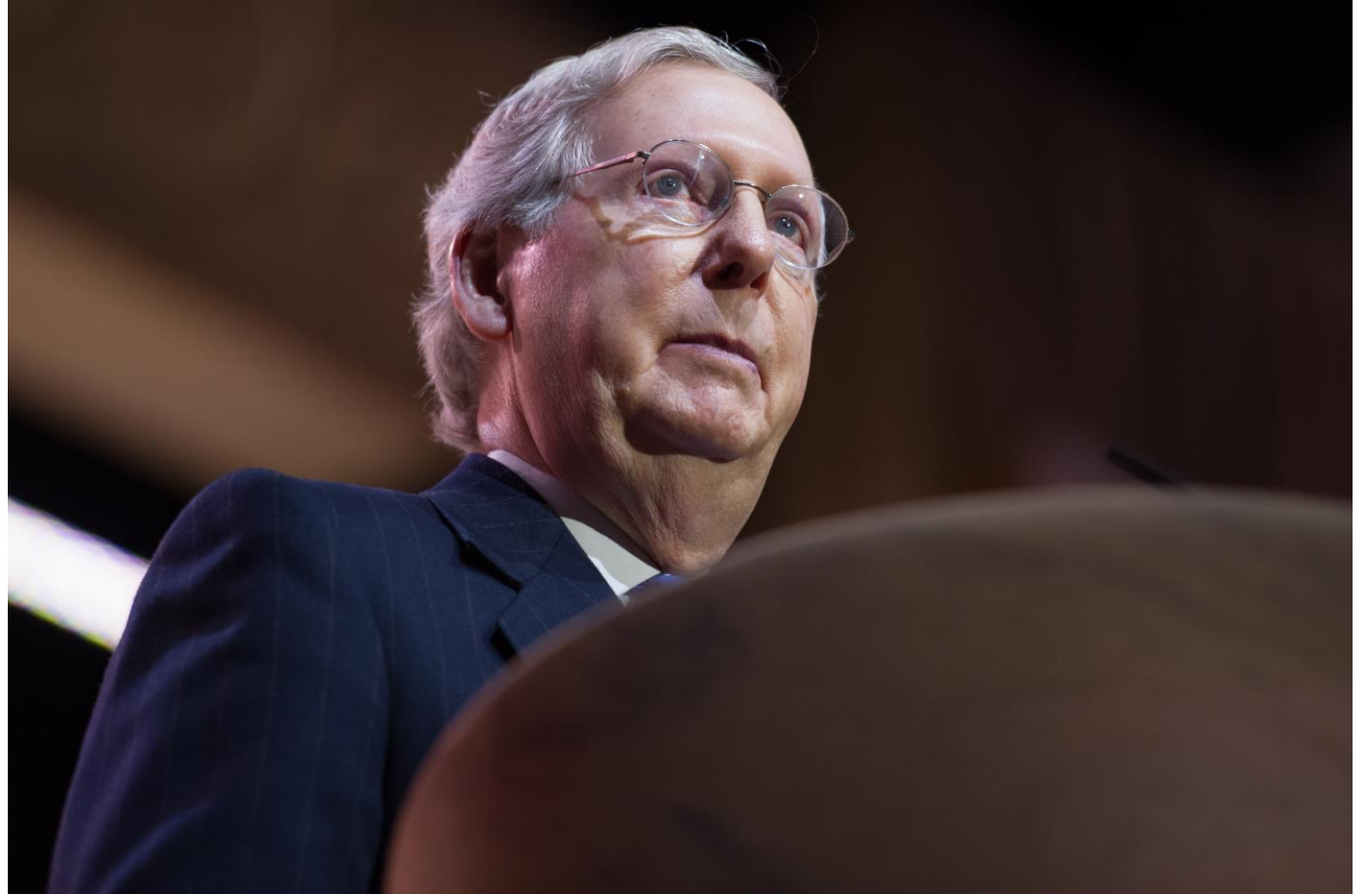


# navigator\*

Thursday, September 8<sup>th</sup>

Republican  
Vulnerabilities: A Guide  
for Advocates



## Key Takeaways:

- Majorities are concerned by a range of possibilities if Republicans win a majority in Congress, with ending guaranteed Social Security and Medicare, book bans, tax cuts for the rich, and abortion bans at the top; however, there are signs many feel these actions would be unlikely to happen.
- The most concerning frames about Republican elected officials focus on their desire to cut education, Medicare, and Social Security; their desire to ban abortions without exceptions; and their failure to look out for people who work for a living, all of which are seen as some of the truest of the frames tested.
- Majorities are concerned about the way Republicans in Congress are handling their jobs and see them as "for the wealthy," "corrupt," and "dishonest."

# More Americans Are Hearing Positive News About Biden than Republicans in Congress

Positive recall about the President focuses on his recent decision to forgive federal student loan debt, while positive recall on Republicans in Congress centers around the economy, inflation, and voting against recent bills in Congress.

In a few words, what positive things have you seen, read, or heard recently about Joe Biden?

Hearing Positives on Biden: 55%



"His approval rate has gone up and will keep going up. **Gas prices have come down, student loan forgiveness and inflation prices are coming down.**"

"Joe Biden has pushed for and **gotten college loans forgiven up to \$10,000. Joe is also fighting for women's rights.**"

Nationwide survey of 1,000 registered voters conducted August 26-31, 2022. For more info, visit [navigatorresearch.org](http://navigatorresearch.org).

In a few words, what positive things have you seen, read, or heard recently about Republicans in Congress?

Hearing Positives on Republicans in Congress: 41%



"Plans for after mid-term elections in November 2022 **to strengthen the economy and to vote down some of Biden's unlawful executive orders.**"

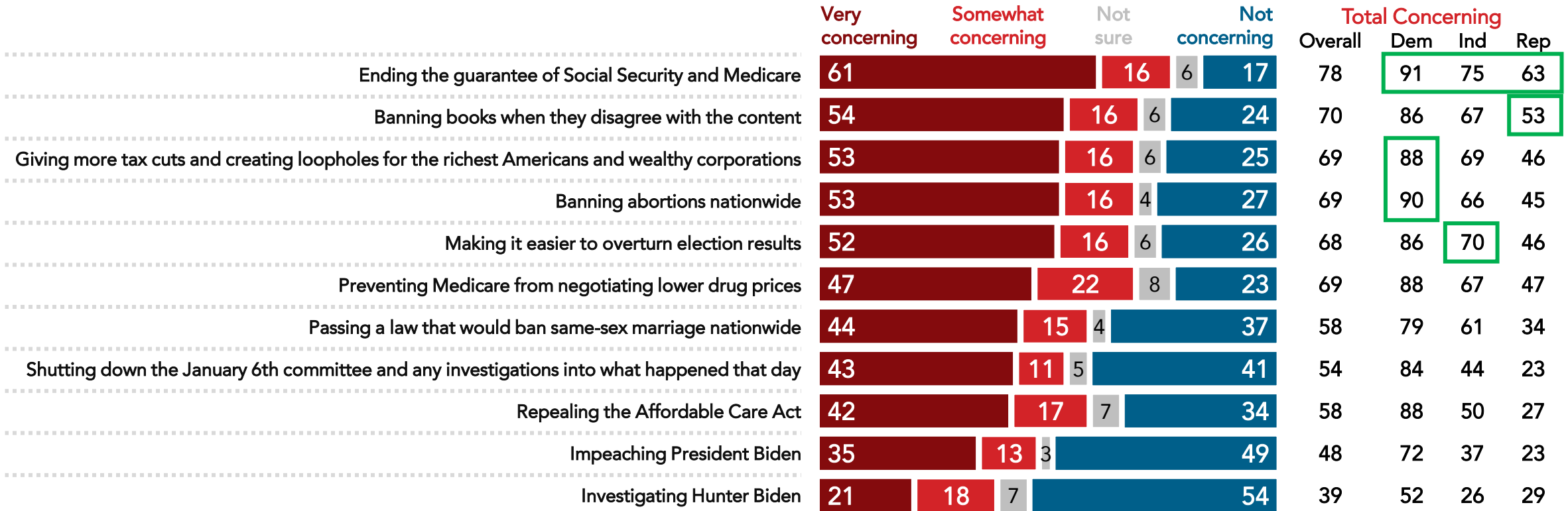
"They are trying to help the **border crisis**, they want **more oil for the USA**, they are trying to help with **inflation and gas prices.**"

**navigator\***

# Top Concerns About a Republican Congress: Fate of Social Security/Medicare, Abortion & Book Bans, Overturned Elections

Independents are most concerned about the fate of Social Security and Medicare (75% concerning) and throwing out election results (70%), while Democrats are most concerned about Social Security and Medicare (91%), tax cuts for the rich (88%), and abortion bans (90%).

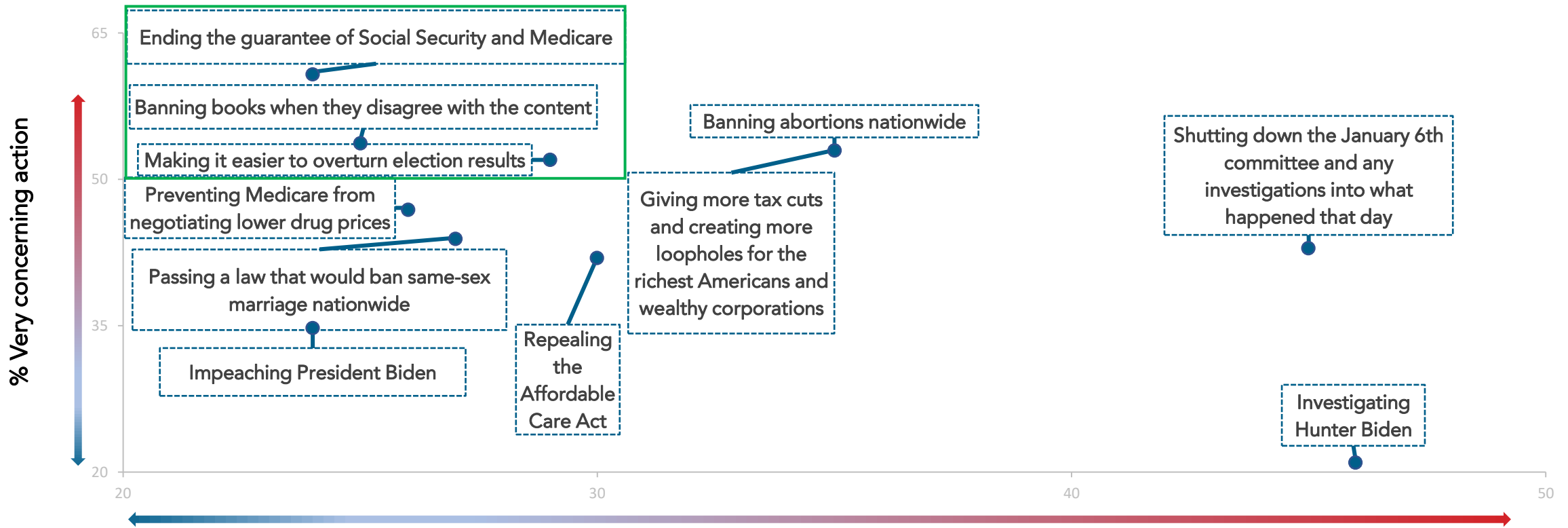
Below are some actions that could happen if Republicans take control of Congress in the upcoming midterm elections. For each, please indicate how concerning it is.



Nationwide survey of 1,000 registered voters conducted August 26-31, 2022.  
For more info, visit [navigatorresearch.org](https://navigatorresearch.org).

# Abortion Bans Are Among Most Likely & Concerning GOP Acts; Ending SS/Medicare and Book Bans Concerning, But Less Likely

Half of respondents were asked how likely each potential outcome of a Republican Congress is while half were asked how concerning each is. The elimination of the January 6th committee and an investigation of Hunter Biden are seen as most likely, though not the most concerning. Abortion bans and tax cuts for the rich are seen as likely and deeply concerning, while ending Social Security and Medicare, banning books, and throwing out election results are among the most concerning, but viewed as among the least likely to happen.



Nationwide survey of 1,000 registered voters conducted August 26-31, 2022. For more info, visit [navigatorresearch.org](http://navigatorresearch.org).

% Very likely action

# Three in Five Find a Range of Frames About Republicans Concerning, Particularly Medicare/SS Threats & Abortion Bans

Independents are most concerned about Republican elected officials wanting to make “massive cuts to public education, Medicare, and Social Security” (60% concerning) and wanting to ban abortion with no exceptions (59%).

Below are some things that Democrats have said about Republican elected officials. For each, please indicate how concerning you find each statement.

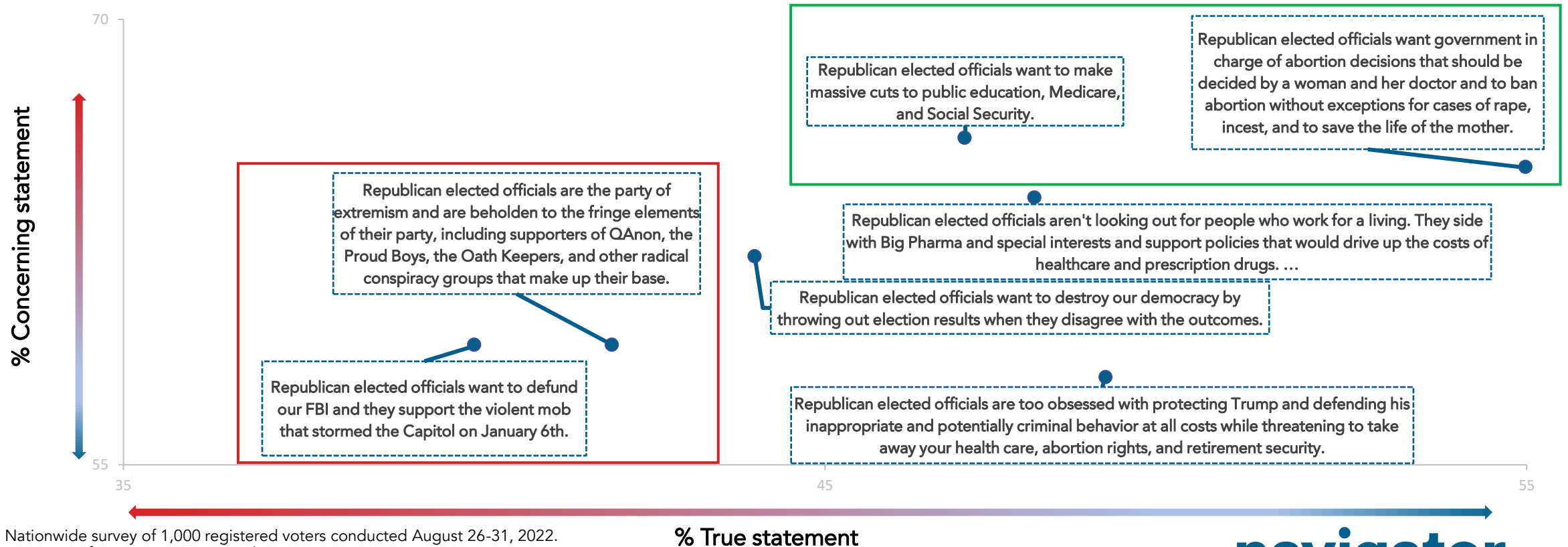
	Very concerning	Somewhat concerning	Not sure	Not concerning	Total Concerning			
					Overall	Dem	Ind	Rep
Republican elected officials want to make massive cuts to public education, Medicare, and Social Security.	48	18	5	29	66	91	60	40
Republican elected officials want government in charge of abortion decisions that should be decided by a woman and her doctor and to ban abortion without exceptions for cases of rape, incest, and to save the life of the mother.	47	18	5	30	65	90	59	38
Republican elected officials aren't looking out for people who work for a living. They side with Big Pharma and special interests and support policies that would drive up the costs of healthcare and prescription drugs. They also want to end the guarantee of Medicare and Social Security when we retire.	46	18	5	31	64	91	55	35
Republican elected officials want to destroy our democracy by throwing out election results when they disagree with the outcomes.	46	16	4	34	62	91	50	32
Republican elected officials want to defund our FBI and they support the violent mob that stormed the Capitol on January 6th.	44	15	6	35	59	88	44	30
Republican elected officials are the party of extremism and are beholden to the fringe elements of their party, including supporters of QAnon, the Proud Boys, the Oath Keepers, and other radical conspiracy groups that make up their base.	43	15	8	34	59	89	51	27
Republican elected officials are too obsessed with protecting Trump and defending his inappropriate and potentially criminal behavior at all costs while threatening to take away your health care, abortion rights, and retirement security.	45	13	7	35	58	87	53	27

Nationwide survey of 1,000 registered voters conducted August 26-31, 2022.  
For more info, visit [navigatorresearch.org](http://navigatorresearch.org).



# Americans Find Narratives About Republican Abortion Bans & Programs Cuts Most Credible and Most Concerning

Half of respondents were asked how true they felt each statement was while the other half was asked how concerning each statement was. The statements that were most concerning and perceived as most true were hits about Republican officials wanting to ban abortion and make cuts to education, Medicare, and Social Security. Those perceived as less true and less concerning focus on Republican extremism including QAnon and the Proud Boys and Republican elected officials wanting to defund the FBI and supporting the mob on January 6th.



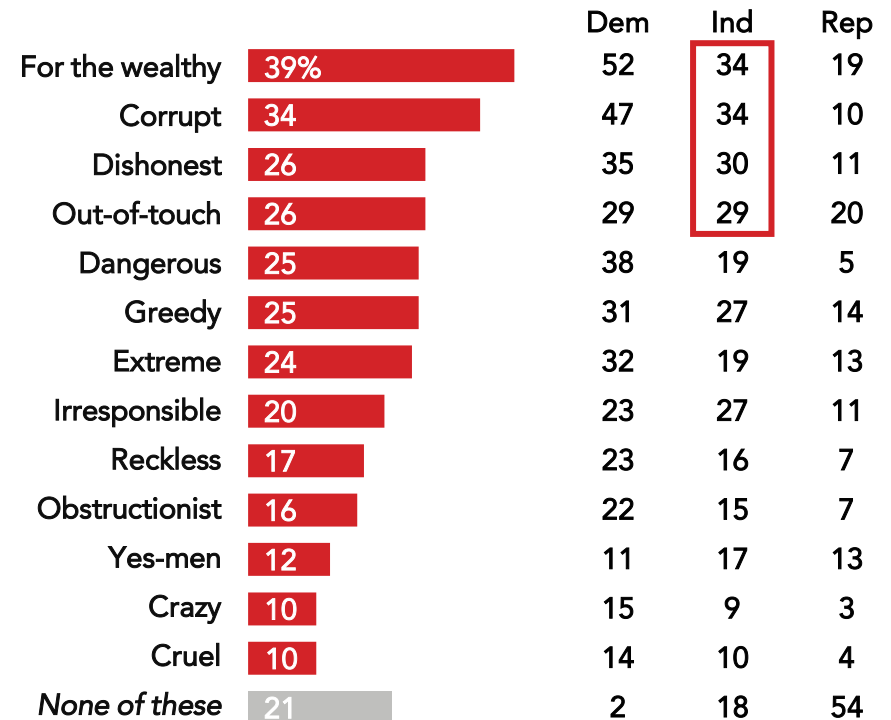
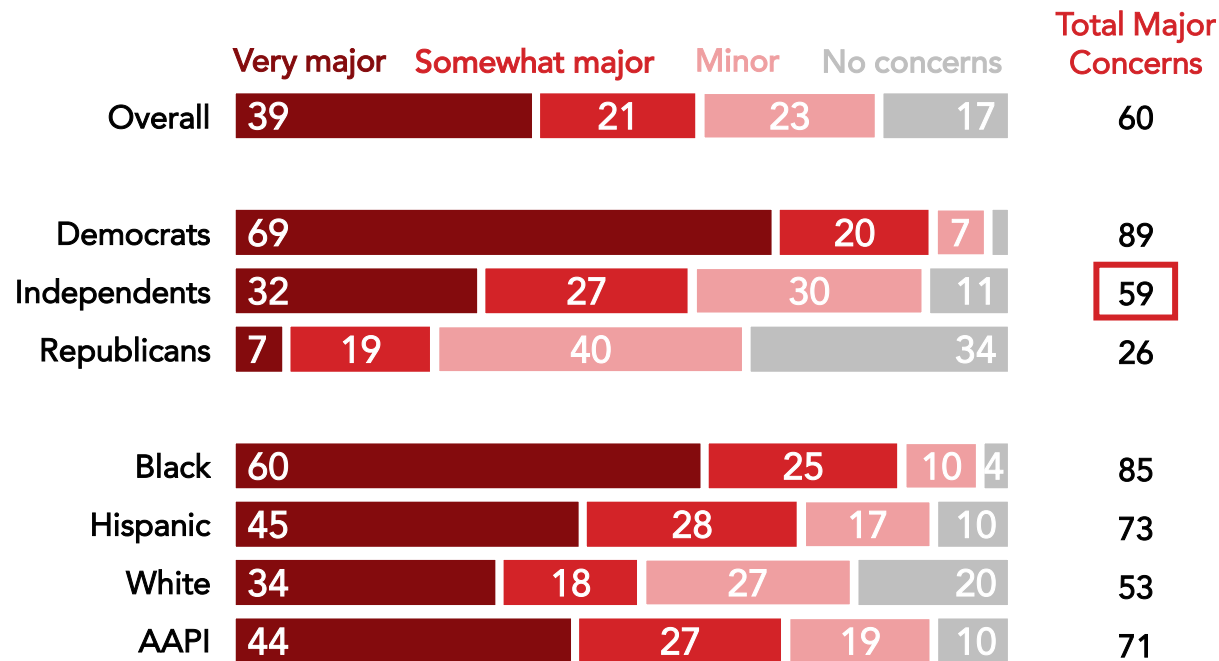
Nationwide survey of 1,000 registered voters conducted August 26-31, 2022.  
For more info, visit [navigatorresearch.org](http://navigatorresearch.org).

# Three in Five Are Concerned by Republicans and Say They Are "for the Wealthy," "Corrupt," "Dishonest," "Out of Touch"

A majority of independents (59%) have major concerns about how Republicans in Congress are handling their jobs and are most likely to describe them as "for the wealthy" (34%), "corrupt" (34%), "dishonest" (30%), and "out-of-touch" (29%).

Do you have any concerns about the way Republicans in Congress are currently handling their jobs or do you have no concerns about that?

Below is a list of words some have used to describe Republicans in Congress. Please select the four that you think best describe them.



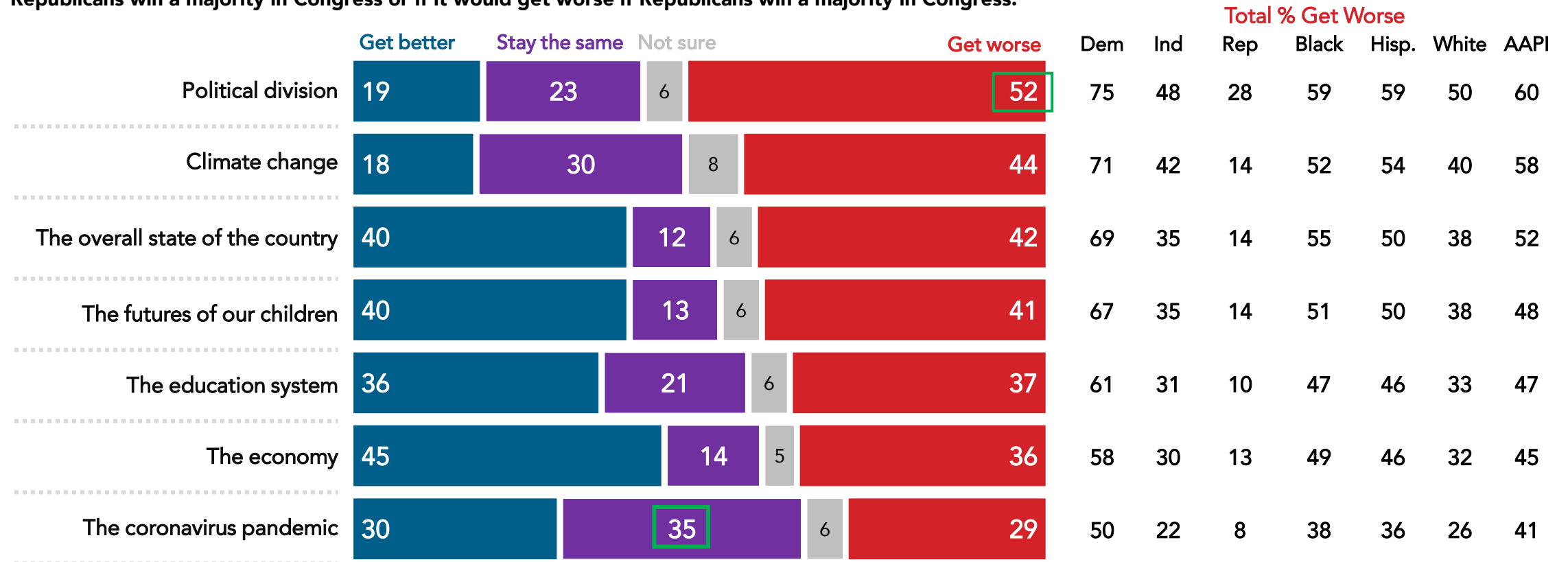
Nationwide survey of 1,000 registered voters conducted August 26-31, 2022. For more info, visit [navigatorresearch.org](https://navigatorresearch.org).



# Majority of Americans Believe Political Division Will Worsen if Republicans Win Control of Congress

Half of Black (55%), Hispanic (50%), and AAPI Americans (52%) believe the overall state of the country will get worse if Republicans win.

Below are some of the issues many voters are focused on in this midterm election. For each, please indicate whether you think each one would get better if Republicans win a majority in Congress or if it would get worse if Republicans win a majority in Congress.



Nationwide survey of 1,000 registered voters conducted August 26-31, 2022. For more info, visit [navigatorresearch.org](https://navigatorresearch.org).

# navigator\*

## 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.

For Press inquiries contact:

[press@navigatorresearch.org](mailto:press@navigatorresearch.org)

To learn more about Navigator:

<http://navigatorresearch.org>

@NavigatorSurvey on Twitter