

navigator*

Friday, September 16th

The Economy: A Guide
for Advocates



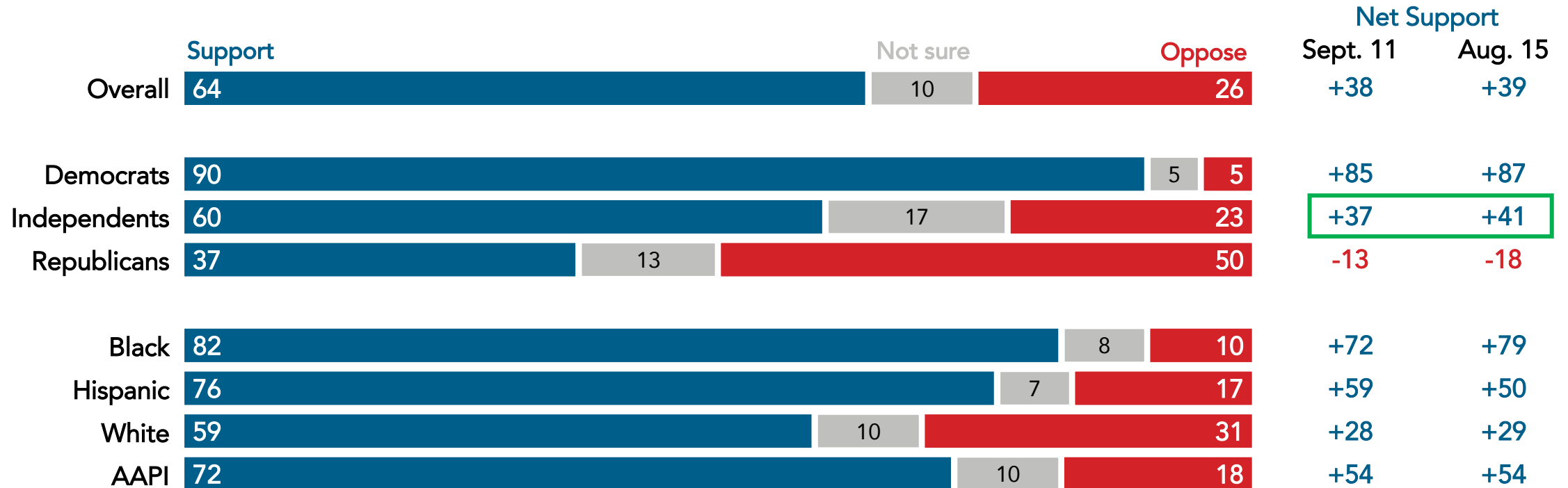
Key Takeaways:

- Majorities continue to support the Inflation Reduction Act, including three in five independents.
- Cancelling \$10,000 in student loan debt for borrowers earning less than \$125,000 a year remains popular among three in five, including most who have never had student loan debt and who have paid theirs off.
- As views of gas prices in the United States have improved over the last six weeks, views of the economy broadly and of Biden's handling of it have improved.

Nearly Two in Three Americans Continue to Support the Inflation Reduction Act

Three in five independents (60%) and majorities across race and ethnicity continue to support the Inflation Reduction Act.

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?

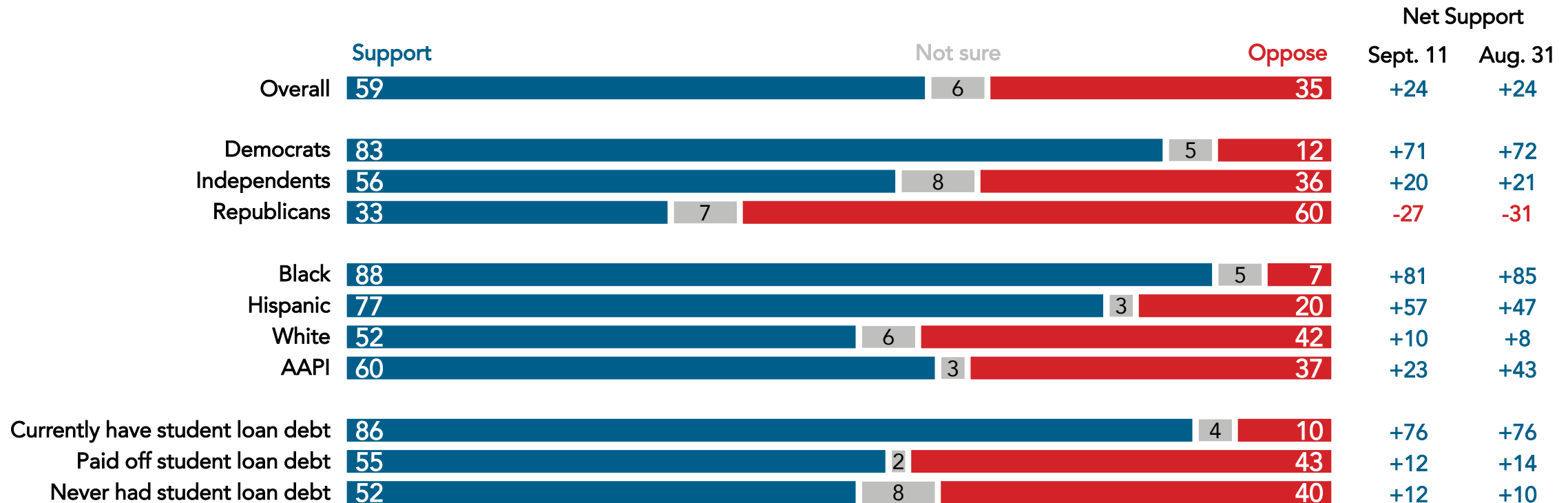


Nationwide surveys of registered voters; Each wave represents approximately 1,000 interviews taken over the prior three-five days. Latest wave conducted September 8-September 11, 2022. For more info, visit navigatorresearch.org

Majorities Continue to Support Biden Cancelling \$10K in Student Loan Debt, Including Those Who Paid Theirs Off

Black Americans (88%), those who currently have debt (86%), Democrats (83%), and Hispanic Americans (77%) are most likely to support the policy.

As you may know, the Biden administration announced it will be cancelling 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?



Nationwide surveys of registered voters; Each wave represents approximately 1,000 interviews taken over the prior three-five days. Latest wave conducted September 8-September 11, 2022. For more info, visit navigatorresearch.org

A Pell Grant-Focused Message for Student Loan Forgiveness Supporters Is Most Effective Against Conservative Criticism

Among Black Americans, the Pell Grant message is particularly salient: 80% agree with a supporters' Pell Grant message over a conservative rebuttal (12%), which is greater than their agreement with a broader pandemic/inflation rebuttal (69% to 21%). Meanwhile, independents show the opposite trend – 52% agree with a pandemic/inflation message when contrasted with a conservative rebuttal (30%), yet a Pell Grant-focused message is even at best with an opponents' statement (35% to 38%).

Which side do you agree with more?

Statement 1: Opponents of student loan forgiveness who say it is just another government handout and massive spending package that will make all taxpayers pay the bill for those who were financially irresponsible while sending the costs of everyday goods through the roof.

Statement 2: Supporters of cancelling some student debt who say 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.

Statement 3: Supporters of cancelling some student debt who say that between the pandemic and inflation, repaying loans is now even tougher for those with student loan debt. By cancelling student loan debt, tens of millions of Americans will be better able to handle rising costs.

Statement 1:	35%
Statement 2:	52%
Net Statement 2:	+17

Statement 1:	39%
Statement 3:	50%
Net Statement 3:	+11

Nationwide survey of 1,001 registered voters conducted September 8-September 11, 2022.
For more info, visit navigatorresearch.org.

navigator*

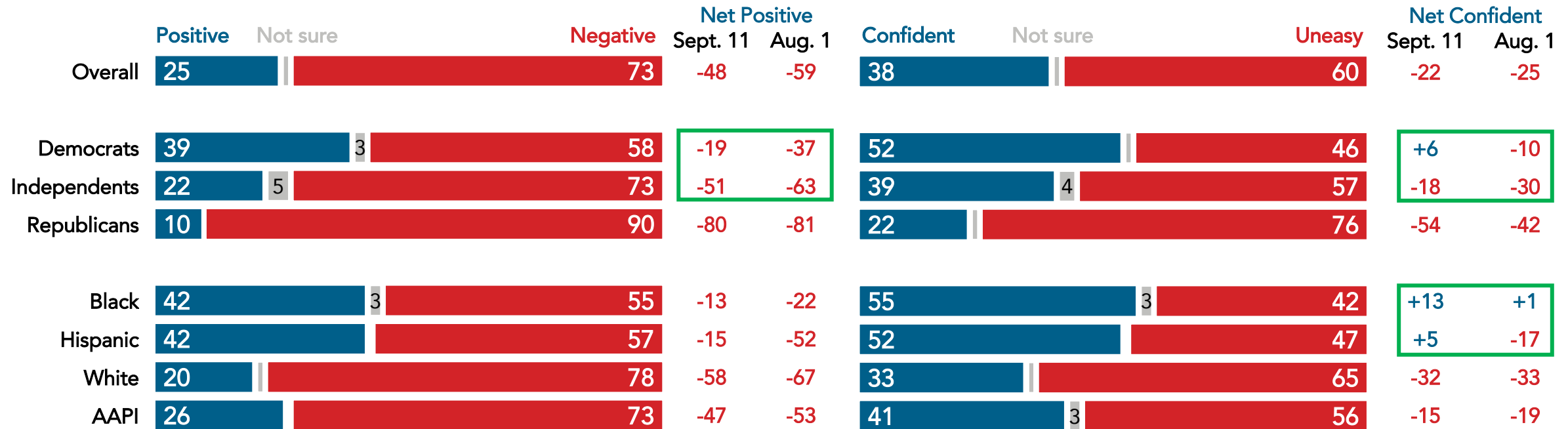
While Americans Remain Negative on the Economy, There Are Signs of Easing Anxiety

Since early August, Black Americans (net +13 confident, up from +1) and Hispanic Americans (net +5, up from -17) have grown more confident in their personal financial situations.

- There has also been an 11-point net decline in the share who rate the U.S. economy negatively, with greatest declines coming from Democrats (from net -37 to net -19) and independents (from net -63 to net -51).

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?



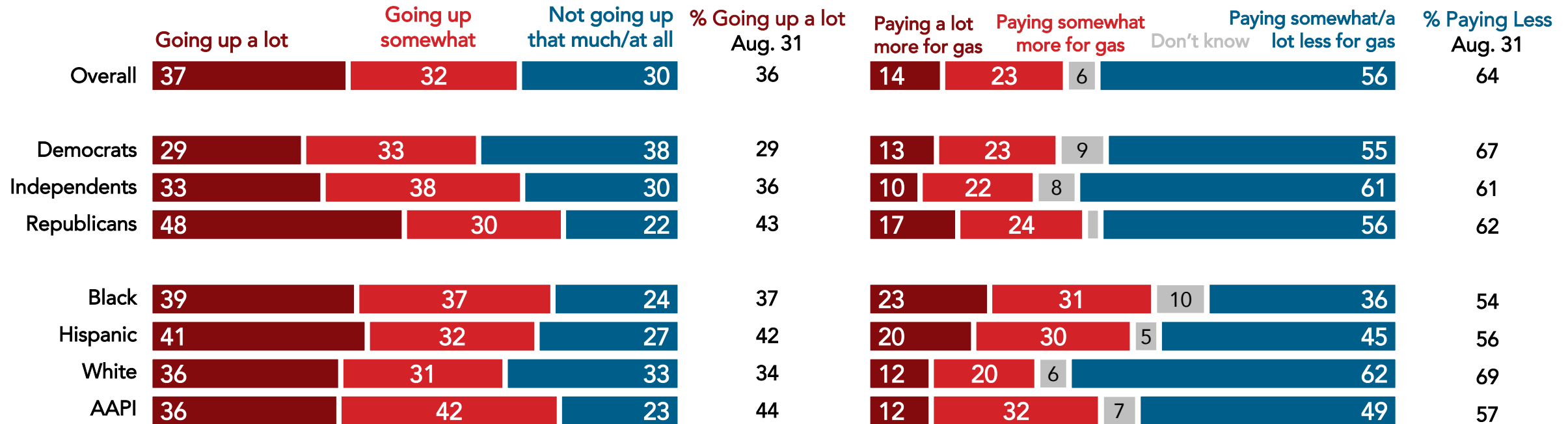
Nationwide surveys of registered voters; Each wave represents approximately 1,000 interviews taken over the prior three-five days. Latest wave conducted September 8-September 11, 2022. For more info, visit navigatorresearch.org

The Share Who Say the Price of Gas Is Going Up Has Plateaued, But Fewer Say They're Paying Less Now Than Few Weeks Ago

Almost two in five (37%) continue to say the price of gas is going up a lot (driven by 48% of Republicans). At the same time, nearly three in five (56%) say they are paying less for gas than they were a few weeks earlier, though this is down from 64% in late August.

Do you feel the price of gas is going up?

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



Nationwide surveys of registered voters; Each wave represents approximately 1,000 interviews taken over the prior three-five days. Latest wave conducted September 8-September 11, 2022. For more info, visit navigatorresearch.org

As Views of Gas Prices Have Improved Since Early August, Views of the Economy Slowly But Surely Have Followed Suit

Since early August, the share of Americans who say gas prices are going up “a lot” has dropped by 21 points (37% now, down from 58%): in the same window of time, Americans have gotten more optimistic about the trajectory of the economy, the costs of groceries, and Biden’s overall handling of the economy.

Do you feel the price of gas is going up?



Which of the following best describes the current state of the U.S. economy:



When it comes to the costs of everyday goods like groceries, do you think costs are:



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



Nationwide surveys of registered voters; Each wave represents approximately 1,000 interviews taken over the prior three-five days. Latest wave conducted September 8-September 11, 2022. For more info, visit 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 1,001 registered voters from September 8-September 11, 2022. 96 additional interviews were conducted among Hispanic voters. 76 additional interviews were conducted among Asian American and Pacific Islander voters. 100 additional interviews were conducted among African American voters. 99 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>

@NavigatorSurvey on Twitter