

navigator*

Friday, September 30th

Immigration: A Guide for
Advocates

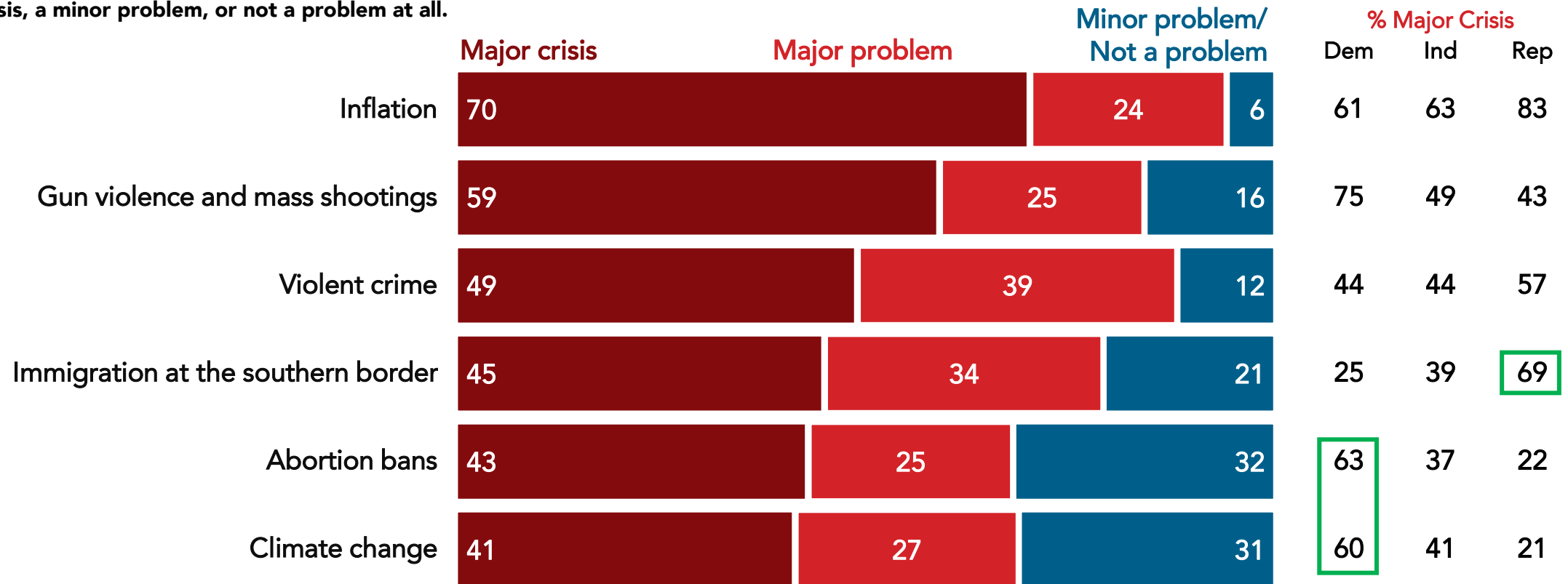


Key Takeaways:

- Though Republicans are more trusted on immigration, Democrats have a narrower disadvantage when it comes to “asylum seekers” over “migrants.”
- A narrow plurality of Americans say Governors Ron DeSantis and Greg Abbott were wrong to send asylum seekers who entered the U.S. through the southern border to northern states.
- The best descriptor of this action is a “political stunt”; the best messaging calls the action “illegal human trafficking” as well as an example of Republican Governors manufacturing a crisis for other states to deal with while opposing meaningful immigration reform.

Americans Most Likely to Call Inflation and Gun Violence a "Major Crisis"; Republicans Driving Concerns on Immigration

Republicans are much more likely to consider "immigration at the southern border" a major crisis (69%) compared to Democrats (25%) and independents (39%). Majorities of Democrats also describe "abortion bans" (63%) and "climate change" (60%) as major crises. Below is a list of issues facing the country today. For each, please indicate whether you believe each is best described as a major crisis, a major problem but not a crisis, a minor problem, or not a problem at all.



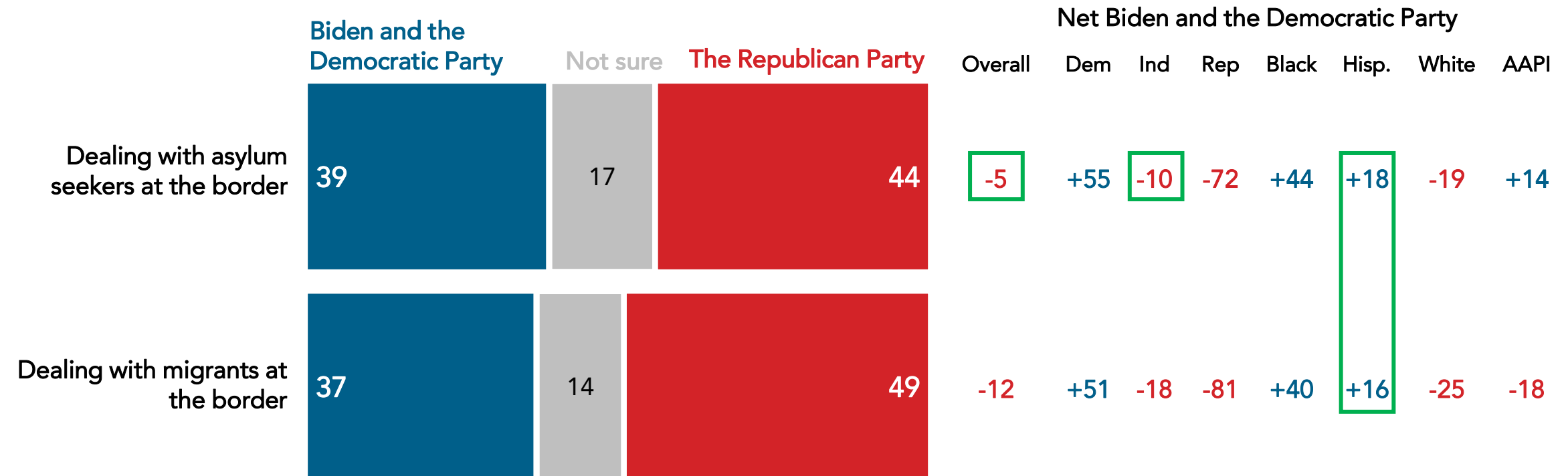
Nationwide survey of 997 registered voters conducted September 22-September 26, 2022. For more info, visit navigatorresearch.org.

Democrats Narrow The Gap on the Border When It's Framed Around "Asylum Seekers"

Among independents, Biden and Democrats are at an 18-point trust disadvantage on "dealing with migrants at the border," but at just a 10-point disadvantage on "dealing with asylum seekers at the border."

- Biden and Democrats are more trusted than the Republican Party on either frame by Hispanic Americans.

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

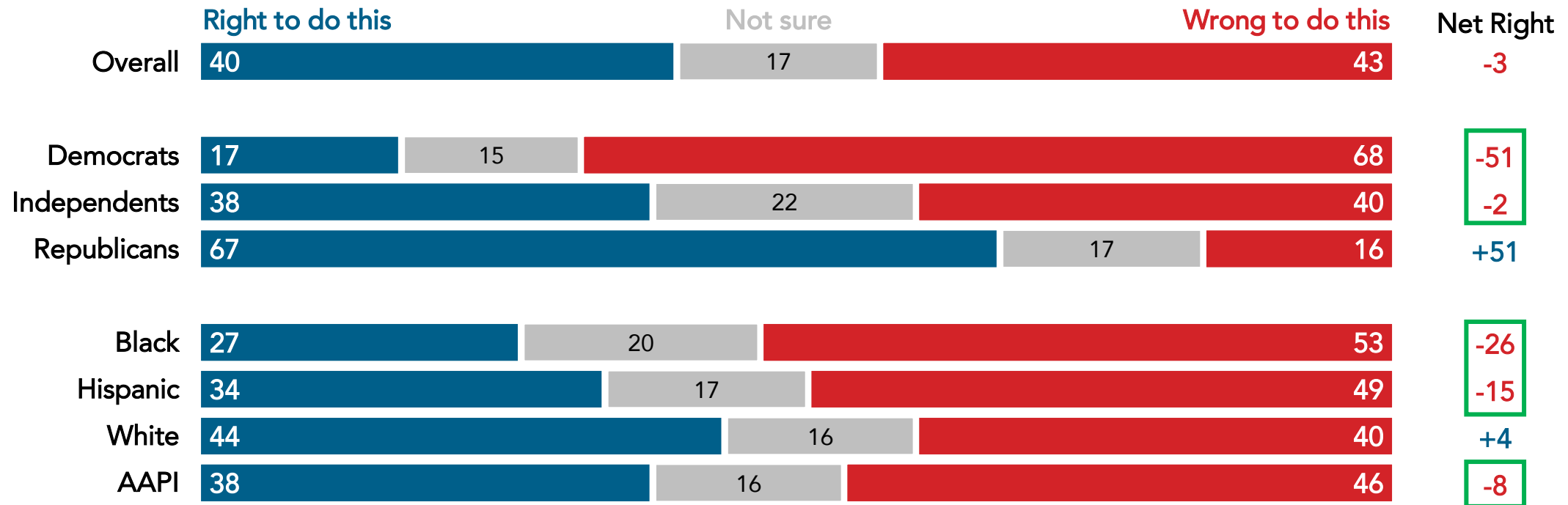


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GOP Governors' Sending of Asylum Seekers North Divides Americans on an Issue Where the GOP Typically Has an Edge

Only pluralities of white Americans (44%) and Republicans (67%) support the actions of Republican Governors sending asylum seekers who have entered the U.S. through the southern border to northern states.

As you may know, Florida Governor Ron DeSantis and Texas Governor Greg Abbott have both sent asylum seekers who entered the U.S. through the southern border to northern states including New York and Massachusetts. Do you think these Governors were right to do this or wrong to do this?

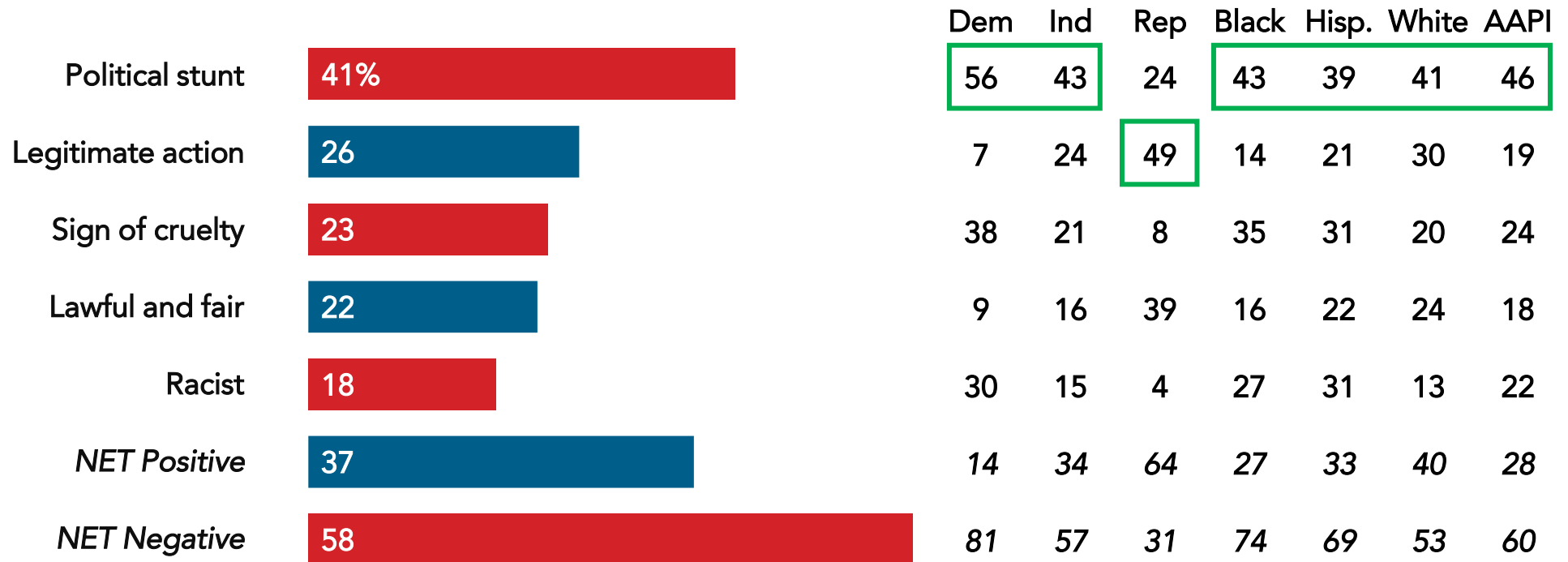


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Americans Call the Actions of Republican Governors Sending Migrants Seeking Asylum North a “Political Stunt”

More than half of Americans (58%) choose at least one negative phrase (“political stunt,” “sign of cruelty,” “racist”) to describe the actions of these Republican Governors while just 37% use a positive phrase – driven most of all by the 64% of Republicans who choose one.

Thinking more about these actions by these Republican Governors to send migrants seeking asylum to other states... what do you think best describes these actions?



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Describing Sending Migrants North as Criminal & Manufactured Crisis Is Most Effective

Calling sending migrants to northern states “criminally fraudulent” and an example of illegal human trafficking, as well as saying Republican Governors are using migrants to manufacture a crisis while continuing to oppose actual immigration reform, is most effective overall.

Which statement concerns you more?

Statement 1: The federal government refuses to do anything to solve the problem at the border and the influx of migrants. Governors of southern states have no choice but to send migrants elsewhere to lessen the burden on their states.

Statement 2: Sending migrants to northern states is just a political stunt, with Republican Governors trying to get headlines by playing politics with people's lives and separating migrants who are seeking asylum from harm far away from their families.

Statement 1: 44%
 Statement 2: 42%
 Net Statement 2: -2
 Net 2 Independent: +2

Statement 3: Sending migrants to northern states is cruel and inhumane. These Republican Governors are sending families at the border to far off places, and in many instances lying to them, tricking them, and deceiving them to try to score political points.

Statement 1: 46%
 Statement 3: 43%
 Net Statement 3: -3
 Net 3 Independent: -14

Statement 4: Sending migrants to northern states is criminally fraudulent and an example of illegal human trafficking by the Republican Governors who are doing it. Investigations are underway into the false information provided by these Republican Governors to lure migrants onto planes and buses.

Statement 1: 42%
 Statement 4: 46%
 Net Statement 4: +4
 Net 4 Independent: -7

Statement 5: Sending migrants to northern states is just using migrants seeking asylum from governments that may harm or persecute them to manufacture a crisis for other states to deal with, while continuing to oppose real immigration reform that would fix a system that is clearly broken.

Statement 1: 41%
 Statement 5: 45%
 Net Statement 5: +4
 Net 5 Independent: 0

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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 997 registered voters from September 22-September 26, 2022. 100 additional interviews were conducted among Hispanic voters. 87 additional interviews were conducted among Asian American and Pacific Islander voters. 100 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:

<http://navigatorresearch.org>

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