

# navigator\*

Friday, March 31<sup>st</sup>

Trump Indictment: A  
Guide for Advocates



## Key Takeaways:

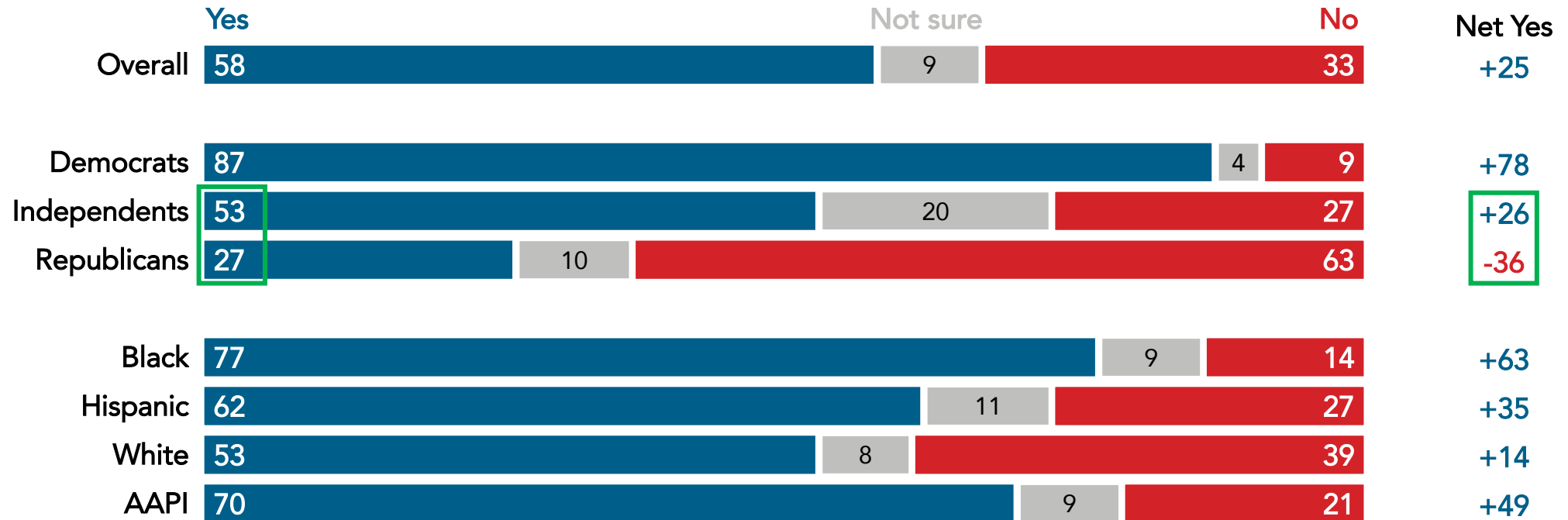
- Two in three are hearing about a potential indictment of Donald Trump as nearly three in five think he has committed a crime.
- Out of a range of actions for which Trump is being investigated or has been investigated, at least half call each a crime, and a majority support an indictment over the alleged hush money payments to Stormy Daniels.
- The most effective messaging about a potential indictment emphasizes that no one should be above the law and that if prosecutors have evidence Trump has committed a crime, they should follow the facts.

# Three in Five Say Trump Has Committed a Crime

Majorities of Democrats (87% yes) and independents (53%), along with majorities of every racial group including white Americans (53%), say Trump has committed a crime.

- More than six in ten Republicans (63%) disagree, though about one in four (27%) say he has committed a crime.

Do you think Donald Trump has committed a crime?



Nationwide survey of 1,000 registered voters conducted March 23-March 27, 2023.  
For more info, visit [navigatorresearch.org](https://navigatorresearch.org).

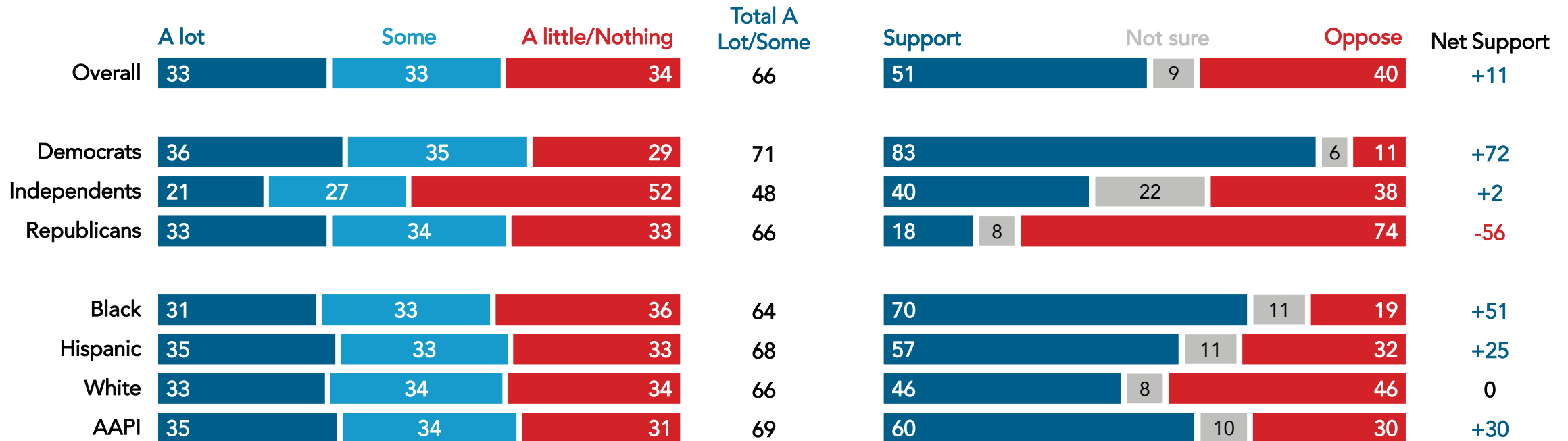
# Two in Three Report Hearing About the Potential Criminal Indictment of Trump, and Half Broadly Support It

Democrats (71% "a lot"/"some") and Republicans (66%) are hearing more about the potential criminal indictment than independents (48%).

- A majority of Democrats (83%) and a plurality of independents (40%) support an indictment, along with one in five Republicans (18%).

Over the past few days, how much have you seen, read, or heard about a potential criminal indictment of former President Donald Trump?

Do you support or oppose Donald Trump being criminally indicted?



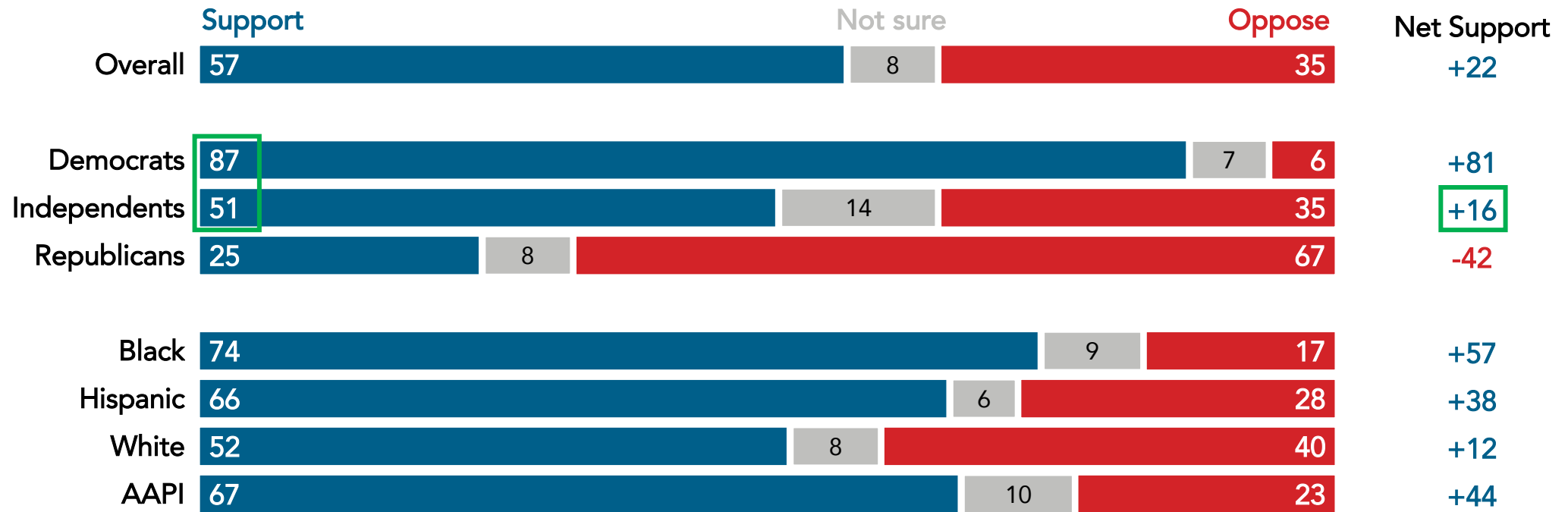
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# Support For a Trump Indictment Grows to Three in Five On Grounds of Illegally Using Campaign Funds

A majority of Democrats (87% support) and just over half of independents (51%) support a criminal indictment of Trump for allegedly paying hush money to Stormy Daniels and then lying about it.

- One in four Republicans (25%) also support indicting the former president.

As you may or may not know, Donald Trump is expected to be criminally indicted for illegally using campaign funds for personal expenses – a hush money payment to adult film actress Stormy Daniels – and then lying about it. Knowing this, would you support or oppose Donald Trump being criminally indicted?



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# Seven in Ten Americans Describe a Range of Trump's Alleged Actions as Criminal or Wrong

Roughly four in five Democrats and half of independents say each action was a crime.

- Independents are most likely to say Trump using campaign funds for personal expenses (52%) and obstructing the counting of electoral votes, defrauding the United States, and conspiring to make false statements (52%) are crimes.

For each of the following, please indicate whether you think Donald Trump committed a crime, committed wrongdoing but not a crime, or did not do anything wrong.

Donald Trump allegedly...	Crime	Wrongdoing, no crime	Nothing wrong	Total Crime		
				Dem	Ind	Rep
...illegally used campaign funds for personal expenses and then lied about it	53	20	26	84	52	20
...used campaign funds for personal expenses – a hush money payment to adult film actress Stormy Daniels – and then lied about it	53	23	24	83	50	21
...obstructed the January 6 <sup>th</sup> , 2021 counting of electoral votes by Congress, defrauded the United States, and conspired to make false statements	53	17	30	85	52	17
...pressured Georgia election officials to illegally throw out enough ballots cast for Biden to erase Biden's victory in the state in 2020	52	21	27	82	48	19
...assisted and aided in the insurrection at the Capitol on January 6 <sup>th</sup> , 2021	50	20	30	82	46	16
...took classified documents, including several containing sensitive information related to nuclear weapons, from the White House to his home at Mar-a-Lago	50	26	25	79	49	17

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# Strongest Messaging on the Indictment Emphasizes That Trump Is Not Above the Law

A message that “no one is above the law, not even a former President” is effective against a message that “this potential indictment of Trump is just another politically motivated witch hunt” (net +22 more convincing); a message that “if prosecutors have evidence Trump has committed a crime, they should follow the facts to get to the truth” and he “should face a jury of his peers just like anyone else would” is also compelling (net +16 convincing).

Even if you don't agree with either side completely, who do you find more convincing:

**Statement 1:** Those who say this potential indictment of Trump is just another politically motivated witch hunt: this case has been ongoing for years and Democrats just can't let it go.

**Statement 2:** Those who say no one is above the law, not even a former President. When someone breaks the law, they should face repercussions. There shouldn't be one justice system for everyday Americans and another for the rich and powerful where they pay no consequences for their crimes.

**Statement 1:** 39%  
**Statement 2:** 61%  
**Net Statement 2:** +22

**Statement 3:** Those who say if prosecutors have evidence Trump has committed a crime, they should follow the facts to get to the truth, and Trump should face a jury of his peers just like anyone else would.

**Statement 1:** 42%  
**Statement 3:** 58%  
**Net Statement 3:** +16

**Statement 4:** Those who say it is important that former President Trump is held accountable for any crimes he has committed: he has spent his entire life in shady business deals and this crime is really just the tip of the iceberg.

**Statement 1:** 43%  
**Statement 4:** 57%  
**Net Statement 4:** +14

**Statement 5:** Those who say Republicans are covering up for President Trump: they only care about protecting the leader of their party, like they always have. They're putting their party ahead of the country.

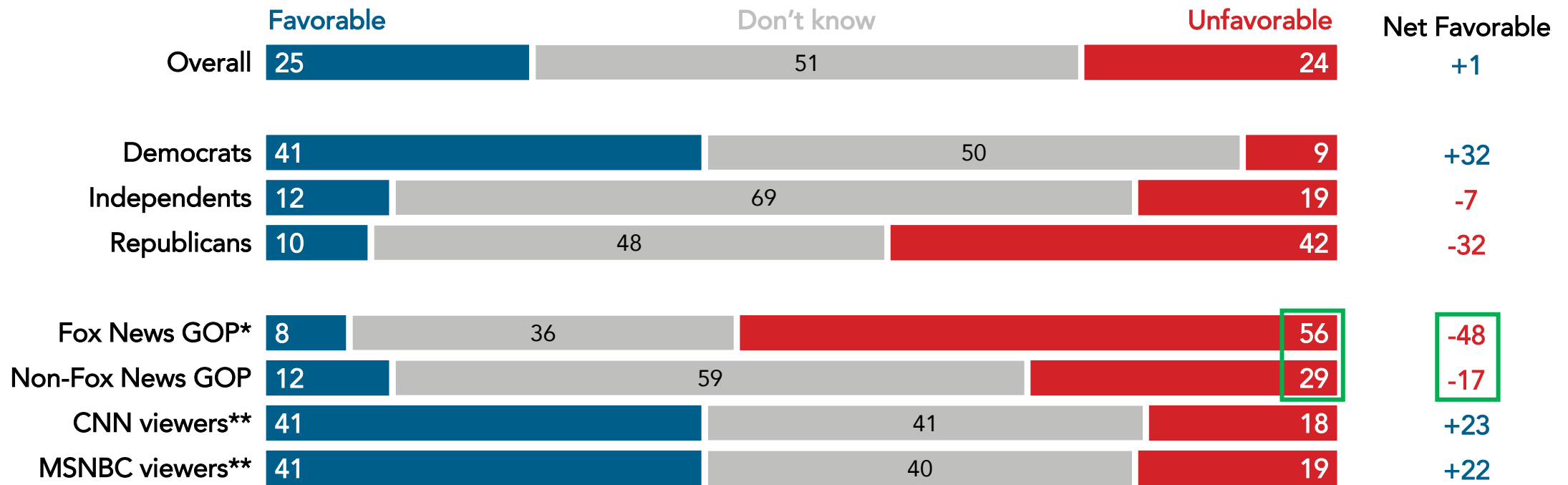
**Statement 1:** 46%  
**Statement 5:** 54%  
**Net Statement 5:** +8

# Half of Americans Have Heard of Manhattan DA Alvin Bragg: Views Are Split by Party and Media Consumption

A plurality of Democrats (41%) hold favorable views of Bragg, while a plurality of Republicans (42%) view him unfavorably.

- Media consumption among Republicans drives negative views: a majority of Fox News-watching Republicans (56%) view Bragg unfavorably, compared to just three in ten (29%) non-Fox Republicans.

Please indicate how favorable or unfavorable you are to: Manhattan District Attorney Alvin Bragg.



\*"Fox News GOP" are those who identify as Republicans and say Fox News is one of their "main sources of news about politics and current events in the U.S." on a separate question. \*\*"CNN viewers" and "MSNBC viewers" are those who report that they watch CNN and MSNBC a few times a month or more on a separate question. Nationwide survey of 1,000 registered voters conducted March 23-March 27, 2023. For more info, visit [navigatorresearch.org](http://navigatorresearch.org).

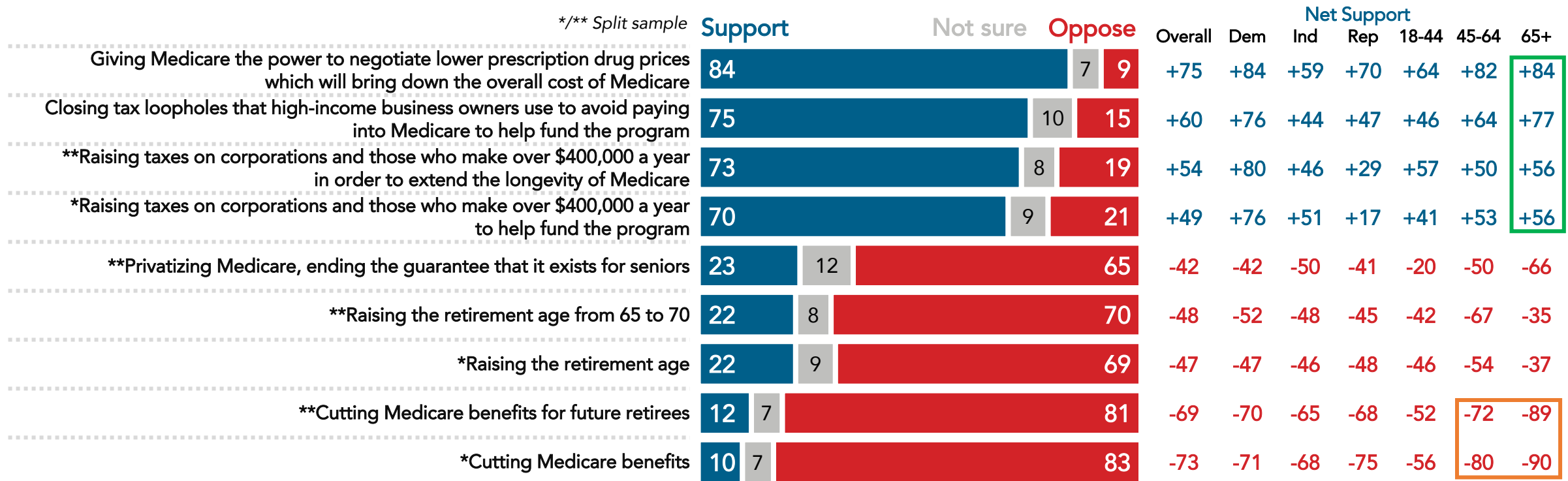


# Bringing Down Prescription Costs, Closing Tax Loopholes, Taxing the Rich Most Popular Medicare Solvency Solutions

Allowing Medicare to negotiate lower prescription drug prices (net +75 support), closing tax loopholes (net +60), and raising taxes on corporations and those who make over \$400,000 a year to extend the longevity of Medicare (net +54) are the most popular reforms tested.

- Seniors are even more supportive of these potential reforms, while more than nine in ten oppose cuts to Medicare benefits.

Below is a list of potential reforms to Medicare. Please indicate whether you support or oppose each one.



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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: Jessica Floyd, 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 March 23-March 27, 2023. 100 additional interviews were conducted among Hispanic voters. 80 additional interviews were conducted among Asian American and Pacific Islander voters. 100 additional interviews were conducted among African American voters. 102 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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