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Thursday, April $20^{\text {th }}$

The Economy and Debt Default: A Guide for Advocates

GSG

## Key Takeaways:

- Two in three say that defaulting on the national debt would be worse than raising the debt limit.
- As half continue to hear about it, a majority support the Inflation Reduction Act.
- About one in four rate the economy negatively but believe the U.S. is not in a recession at all or believe it is coming out of one. This group reports paying more for gas and groceries in recent weeks, but overwhelmingly supports the Inflation Reduction Act.


## Nearly Two in Three Say Defaulting on the Debt Is Worse Than Raising the Debt Ceiling, With and Without Explanation

Explaining that a default "would have catastrophic impacts on families, veterans, seniors, and the economy as a whole" boosts the share of Republicans who say a default would be worse (net +14 , compared to net +0 with no explanation).
(Split sample) Which would be worse for the country?


Nationwide survey of 1,003 registered voters conducted April 6-April 10, 2023. For more info, visit navigatorresearch.org.
(Split sample) Which would be worse for the country?
Defaulting on the national debt


| 61 | 39 |
| :--- | :--- |
| 62 | 38 |
| 64 | 36 |
| 73 |  |$+22$

$$
+24
$$

$$
+28
$$

$$
+46
$$

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## Half of Americans Support Raising the Debt Ceiling

A majority of Democrats ( $67 \%$ support) and two in five independents ( $41 \%$ ), along with majorities or pluralities of every racial group, support raising the debt ceiling. Only Republicans oppose raising the debt ceiling (net -30 support).

As you may know, the debt ceiling is a limit to the amount of money the U.S. government can borrow to pay its bills. The government has already reached the limit, which means the debt ceiling needs to be raised in order to avoid defaulting on the government's bills. Knowing this, do you support or oppose raising the debt ceiling?


## Three in Four Americans Rate the Economy Negatively, While Nearly Two in Three Say the U.S. Is in a Recession

Majorities of independents (58\%), Republicans (67\%), and white Americans (57\%) say the economy is currently in a recession and headed deeper into one, while a plurality of Democrats (45\%) disagree the economy is in a recession.

How would you rate the state of the U.S. economy today?
As best you are aware, do you think the U.S. economy is in a recession or not?


## The Inflation Reduction Act Continues to Be Supported By Two in Three Americans, As Half Report Hearing About lt

The Inflation Reduction Act remains supported by an overwhelming majority of Democrats ( $89 \%$ support), a majority of independents ( $62 \%$ ), and more than two in five Republicans (44\%).

How much have you seen, read, or heard about the new legislation called the Inflation Reduction Act passed by Democrats in Congress and 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 lower 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?
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Nationwide surveys of registered voters; Each wave represents approximately 1,000 interviews taken over the prior three-five days Latest wave conducted April 6-April 10, 2023. For more info, visit navigatorresearch.org

## Recession Skeptics Who Rate the Economy Negatively Report Paying More, But Support the Inflation Reduction Act

The $26 \%$ of Americans who hold negative views of the economy but say the U.S. "is not in a recession" or "is coming out of a recession" resemble the general public on party identification and ideology; they are slightly more likely to have voted for Biden (net +8 Biden) and to support the Inflation Reduction Act (net +49 support), but report "paying more" for gas (net +43 ) and groceries (net +73 ) in recent weeks.
Recession Skeptics: those who rate the state of the U.S. economy as "not so good" or "poor," but indicate the economy "is not in a recession" or "is coming out of a recession."


Rec. Skeptics Overall
Net Democrat
$+5$
Net Liberal
0
Net Biden
+8
$+4$
Net Support
$+49$
$+43$
Net Paying More $+43$
$+55$
Net Paying More $+73$
$+75$

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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.

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## About the Study <br> Global Strategy Group conducted public opinion surveys among a sample of 1,003 registered voters from April 6-April 10, 2023. 100 additional interviews were conducted among Hispanic voters. 75 additional interviews were conducted among Asian American and Pacific Islander voters. 100 additional interviews were conducted among African American voters. 101 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.

