

# navigator\*

Friday, June 16<sup>th</sup>

Transgender Rights: A  
Guide for Advocates



Credit: Ink Drop/Shutterstock

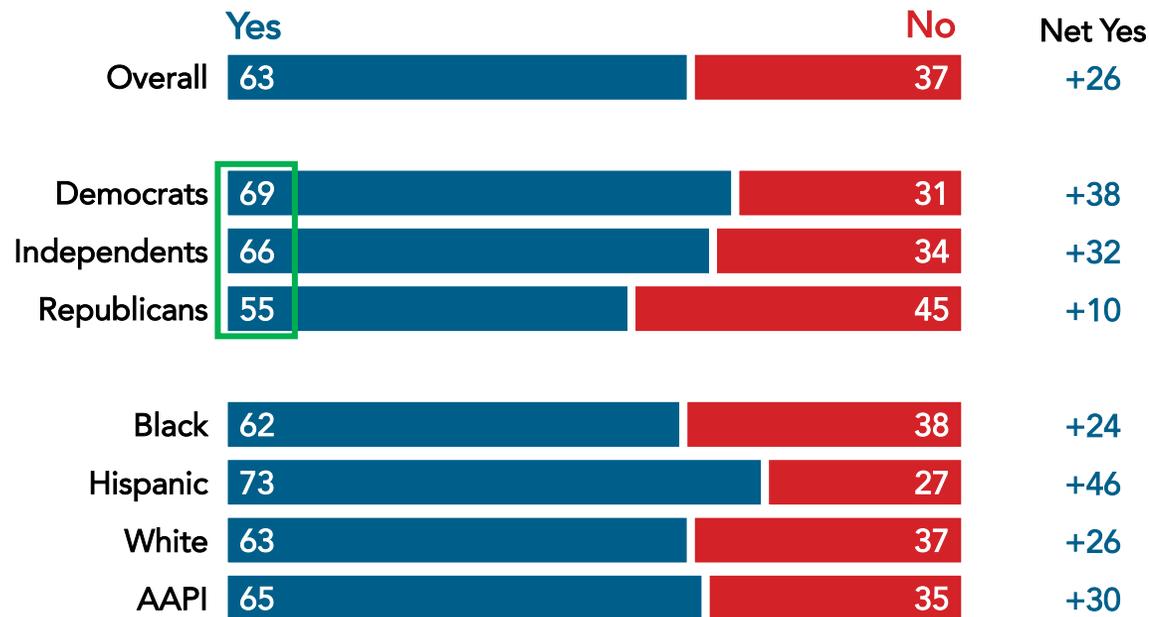
## Key Takeaways:

- Most Americans know someone who is gay, lesbian, or bisexual, while only one in four know someone who is transgender; those who know a transgender person are most likely to report hearing about states passing or debating laws relating to transgender people.
- Americans trust Biden and the Democratic Party more than Republicans on gay and transgender issues – especially protecting the gay and transgender community and their rights and freedoms – as well as on looking out for children and caring for their well-being.
- The most effective response to attacks on the transgender community focuses on letting parents and doctors – rather than politicians and the government – make health care decisions for their children.

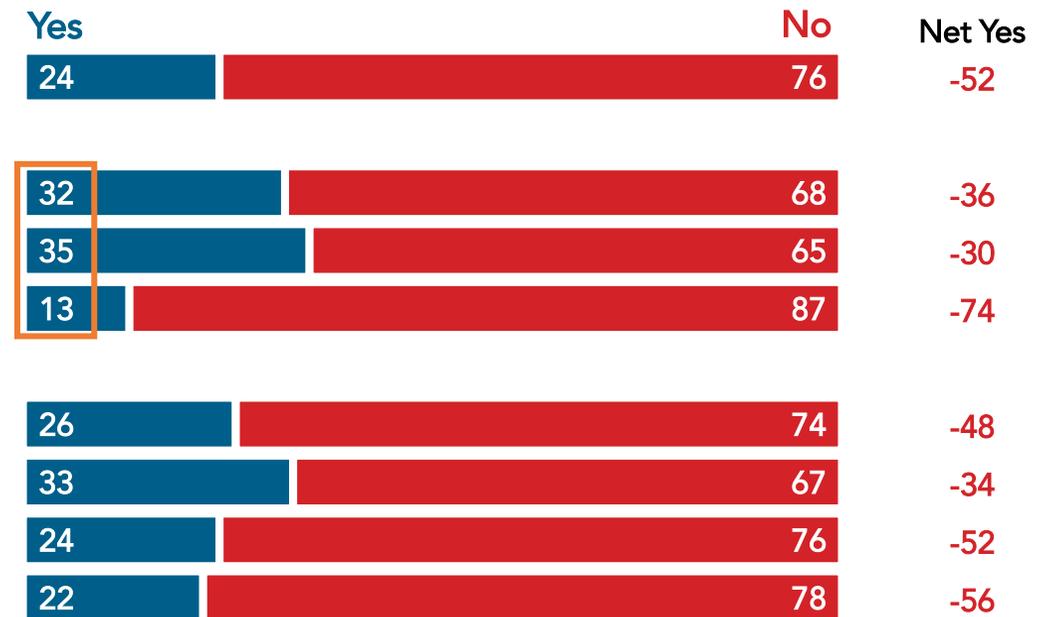
# Majorities Know Someone Who Is Gay, Lesbian, or Bisexual, But Just a Quarter Know Someone Who Identifies As Transgender

Majorities across party lines know a friend, family member, or co-worker who is gay, lesbian, or bisexual. While about one in three Democrats (32%) and independents (35%) report knowing a friend, family member, or co-worker who is transgender, only 13% of Republicans say they know someone who is.

As far as you know, do any of your friends, family, or co-workers consider themselves gay, lesbian, or bisexual?



As far as you know, do any of your friends, family, or co-workers consider themselves transgender?

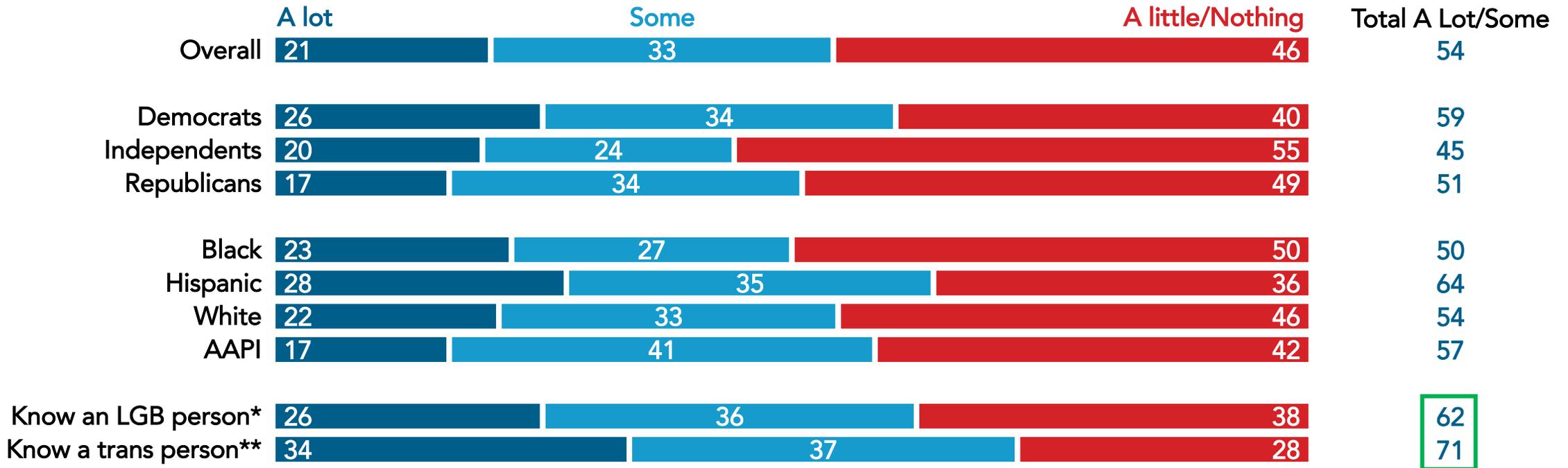


Nationwide survey of 1,001 registered voters conducted June 2-June 5, 2023. For more info, visit [navigatorresearch.org](https://navigatorresearch.org).

# Majorities Have Heard About Recent Laws Regarding Transgender People

Americans who have a friend, family member, or co-worker who identifies as transgender are most likely to report having heard “a lot” or “some” (71%) about states passing or debating laws regarding transgender people.

**How much have you seen, read, or heard about some states in the U.S. passing or debating laws regarding transgender people?**



\*“Know an LGB person” includes respondents who say they have friends, family, or co-workers who are gay, lesbian, or bisexual.

\*\*“Know a trans person” includes respondents who say they have friends, family, or co-workers who are transgender.

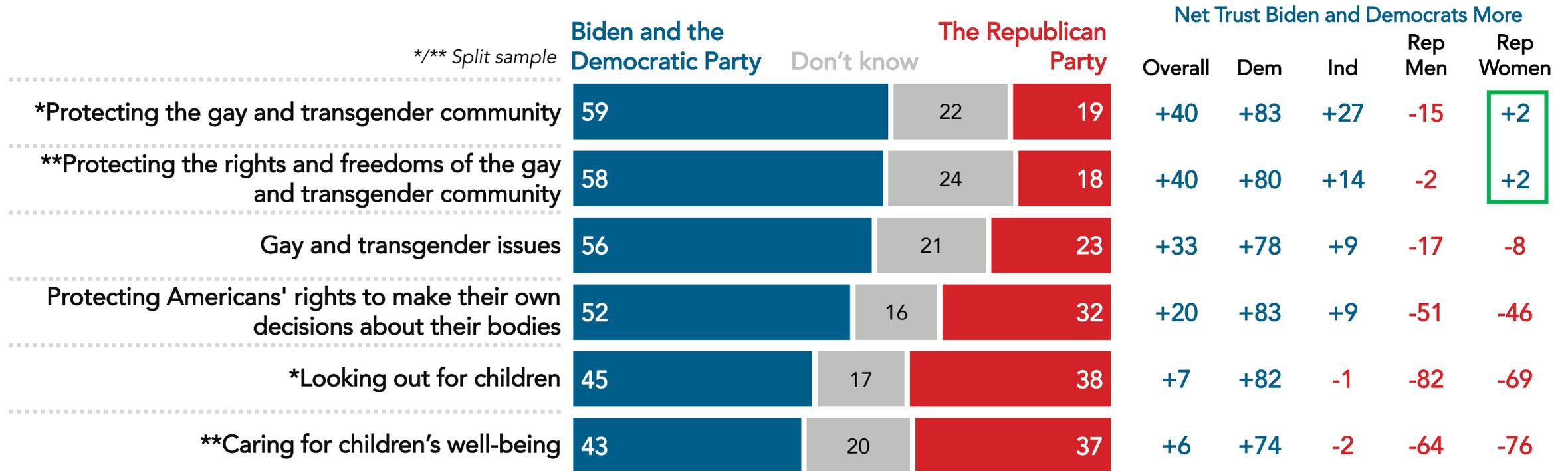
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# Biden and Democrats More Trusted on Protecting the Gay and Transgender Community, Looking Out for Children

Americans trust Biden and the Democratic Party much more than the Republican Party on “protecting the gay and transgender community” (net +40 Biden and Democrats overall) and “protecting the rights and freedoms of the gay and transgender community” (net +40), as Republican women trust Biden and Democrats more than their own party on both (net +2 for both).

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



Nationwide survey of 1,000 registered voters conducted May 4-May 8, 2023. For more info, visit [navigatorresearch.org](https://navigatorresearch.org).

# Strongest Rebuttal to Anti-Transgender Messaging Focuses on Letting Parents/Doctors Make Decisions, Not Government

A message that “we should trust families and their doctors to make health care decisions for themselves and their children, and not allow politicians and the government to insert themselves into those decisions” is most effective against a message that “we need to protect kids from woke ideology and ban sex change hormones and gender reassignment surgery for kids” (net +12 agree).

Which side do you agree with more?

**Statement 1:** Those who say we need to protect kids from woke ideology and ban sex change hormones and gender reassignment surgery for kids.

**Statement 2:** Those who say we should trust families and their doctors to make health care decisions for themselves and their children, and not allow politicians and the government to insert themselves into those decisions.

Statement 1:	44%
Statement 2:	56%
Net Statement 2:	+12

**Statement 3:** Those who say we need to protect the rights and freedoms of transgender youth, their families, and their doctors to seek and provide medically necessary care and to live free from discrimination.

Statement 1:	51%
Statement 3:	49%
Net Statement 3:	-2

**Statement 4:** Those, like the American Medical Association, who say gender-affirming care for transgender youth is medically necessary, evidence-based, and improves the physical and mental health of transgender youth.

Statement 1:	51%
Statement 4:	49%
Net Statement 4:	-2

**Statement 5:** Those who say opponents of transgender youth are stirring up panic in order to divide us, score political points, and maintain their power, rather than solving problems that actually impact our lives.

Statement 1:	51%
Statement 5:	49%
Net Statement 5:	-2

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# Framing GOP Attacks On Transgender Americans Around Protecting Rights and Kids' Well-Being Is Most Persuasive

Messaging that ties GOP attacks on transgender Americans to other unpopular positions such as “banning the right to abortion, limiting access to birth control” and “blocking common sense gun violence prevention reforms” is most concerning (47% very concerning).

Below is a list of statements some have made about how Republicans have handled issues relating to the transgender community. Please indicate how concerning you find each statement.

\*/\*\* Split sample

	Very concerning	Somewhat concerning	Don't believe	Not concerning	Overall	Total Concerning		
						Dem	Ind	Rep
*Republicans want to control Americans and take away their bodily freedoms, including banning the right to abortion, limiting access to birth control, and banning medically necessary care for transgender Americans	47	14	27	11	61	93	56	27
*Republicans say they want to protect children, but in reality they support policies that put kids in danger, including blocking medically necessary health care for transgender kids and blocking common sense gun violence prevention reforms that could keep our children safe in the classroom	47	15	28	10	62	93	54	27
Republicans are too extreme: they are censoring the teaching of accurate history, banning books including on topics like MLK and Anne Frank, and punishing companies when they disagree with their views. Their attack on transgender people is just another example of their extreme approach	44	16	30	10	60	90	63	25
*Republicans are focused on attacking a small group in the transgender community, including transgender kids, rather than focusing on getting things done for Americans on the economy, including addressing inflation and the rising cost of living	44	15	29	12	59	92	56	21
**Republicans are focused on taking away parents' rights to make decisions about medically necessary care for their own children, inserting government into a decision that should ultimately be left up to parents and doctors	41	16	28	15	57	85	63	23
**Republicans are focused on attacking the transgender community, including transgender kids, which makes up less than 1% of the American population, rather than focusing on getting things done for Americans on the economy, including addressing inflation and the rising cost of living	38	16	29	16	55	86	51	20
**Republicans are bullying transgender kids. Kids have a hard enough time figuring out who they are, but GOP politicians want to target these kids and make it harder for them to be themselves	37	15	29	19	52	82	46	19

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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 May 4-May 8, 2023 and 1,001 registered voters from June 2-5, 2023. Each survey had approximately 100 additional interviews conducted among Hispanic voters, 75 additional interviews conducted among Asian American and Pacific Islander voters, 100 additional interviews conducted among African American voters, and 100 additional interviews 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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