

navigator*

Thursday, July 27th

Climate Change: A
Guide for Advocates



Key Takeaways:

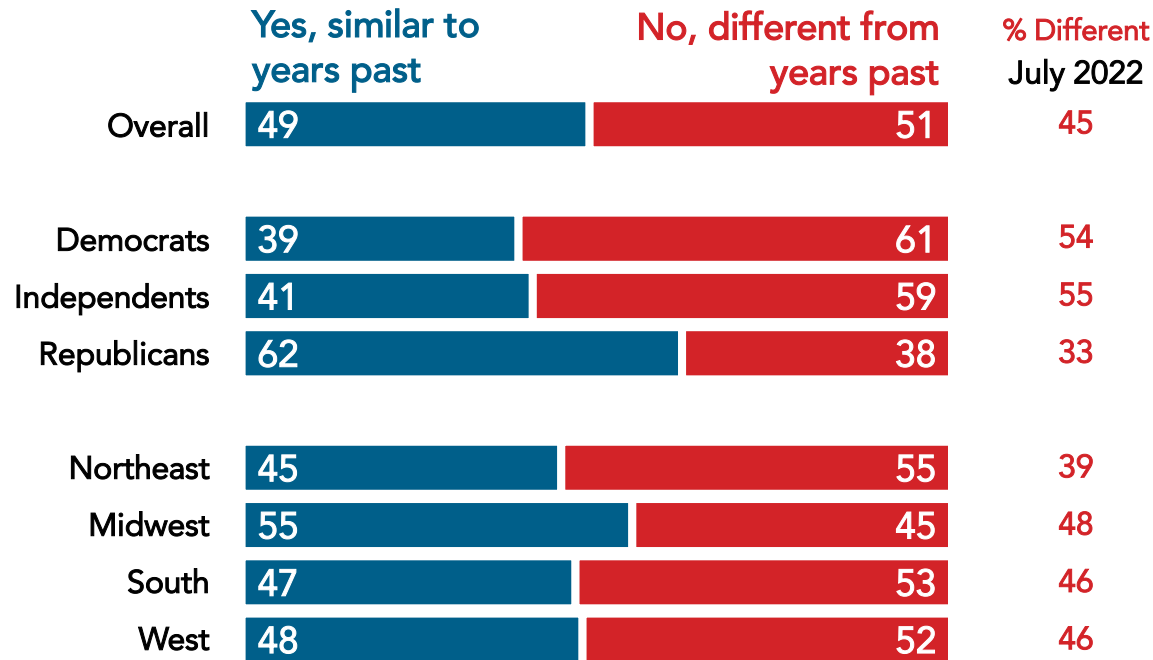
- Growing shares of Americans say both global and local weather are different from previous years, with most citing hotter weather.
- Roughly seven in ten say climate change is a serious problem for Americans today and for their children and future generations.
- Clean energy companies are viewed favorably across party lines while oil and gas companies are underwater; shifts toward using more clean energy are more popular than shifts away from using oil and gas.
- Biden and Democrats are more trusted on clean energy and addressing climate change, while Republicans' plans to cut investments in clean energy are deeply concerning – particularly when partnered with tax breaks for big oil.

Growing Shares Say Local and Global Weather Is Changing

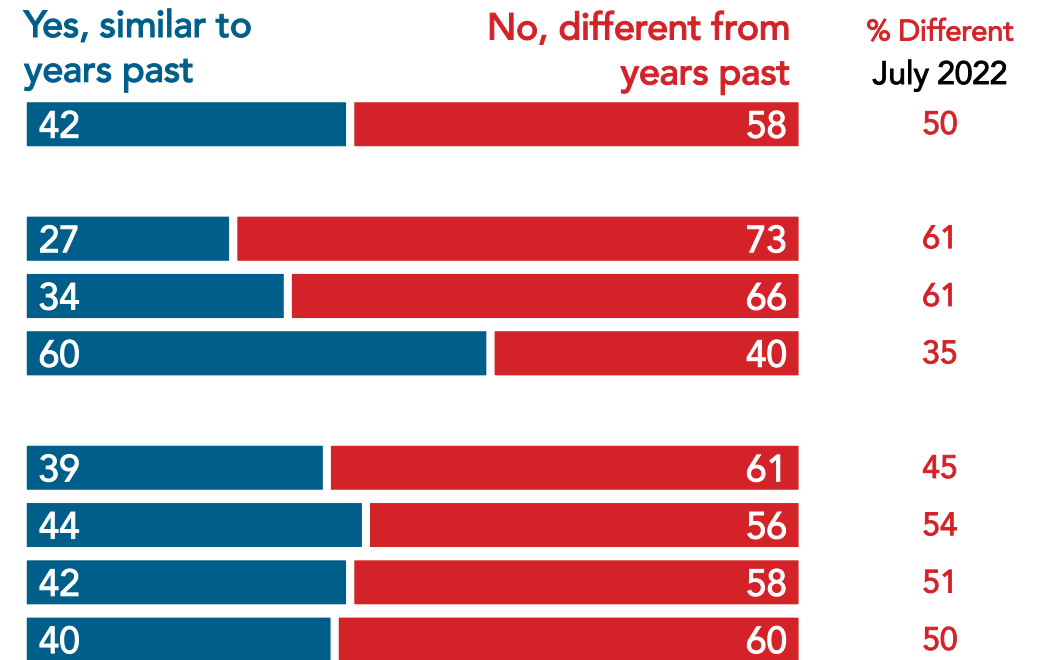
Compared to July of last year, there has been a 6-point increase in the share who report their community's weather is different from years past (from 45% to 51%) and an 8-point increase in the share who say global weather is different from years past (50% to 58%).

- Majorities of independents also say their community's weather (59%) and global weather (66%) are different from summers of years past.

Has this summer's weather in your community been similar to what you remember in the summers of years past?



Has this summer's weather globally been similar to what you remember in the summers of years past?



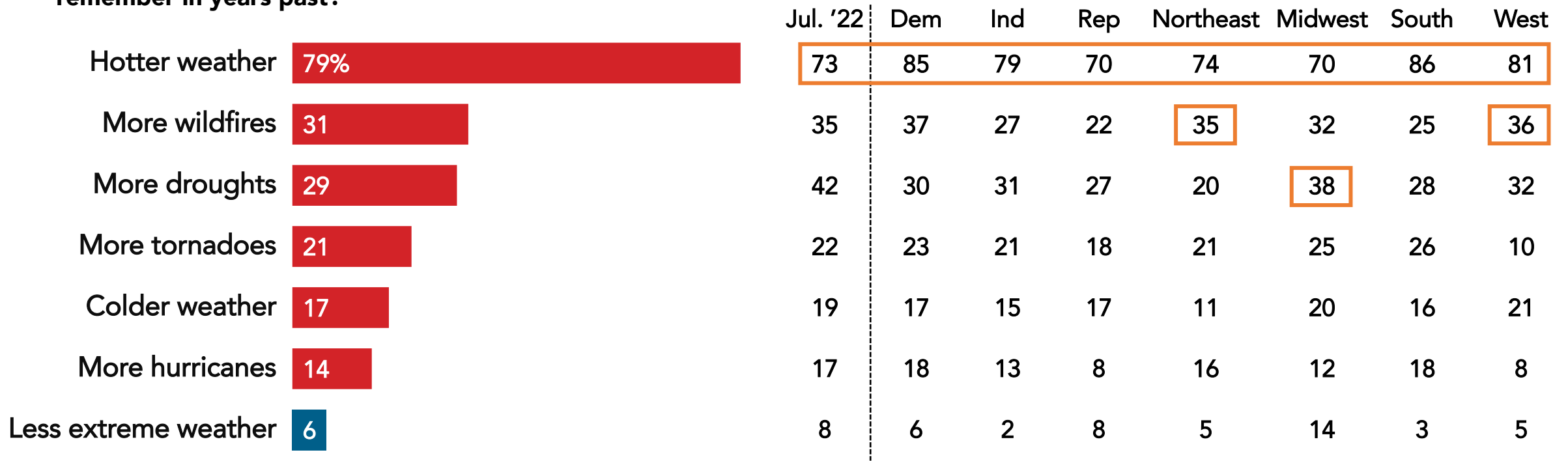
Nationwide surveys of registered voters; Each wave represents approximately 1,000 interviews taken over the prior three-five days. Latest wave conducted July 20-July 24, 2023. For more info, visit navigatorresearch.org.

Americans Identify Hotter Weather As the Main Change in Their Community

Americans are far more likely to cite “hotter weather” (79%) than any other change, followed by more wildfires (31%) and droughts (29%).

- Americans in the South (86%, up 8 points from last summer) and West (81%) are most likely to mention hotter weather. Those in the West (36%) and Northeast (35%) also cite increased wildfires, while those in the Midwest mention more droughts (38%).

[If different from years past in your community] How has the weather in your community changed recently from what you remember in years past?



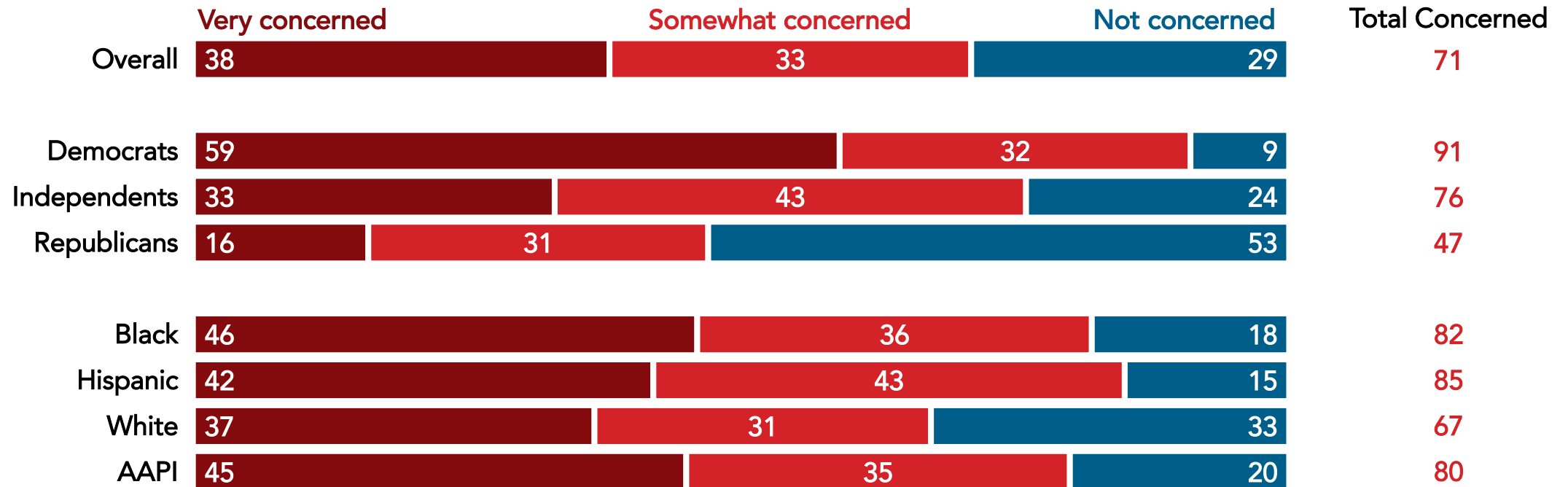
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Majorities Are Concerned About “Extreme” Weather

Nearly three in four Americans are concerned about “extreme” weather (71%), driven by more than nine in ten Democrats (91% concerned) and roughly three in four independents (76%), though nearly half of Republicans also say they are concerned (47%).

- At least four in five Black Americans (82%), Hispanic Americans (85%), and AAPI Americans (80%) say they are concerned, while 67% of white Americans say the same.

How concerned are you about extreme weather?



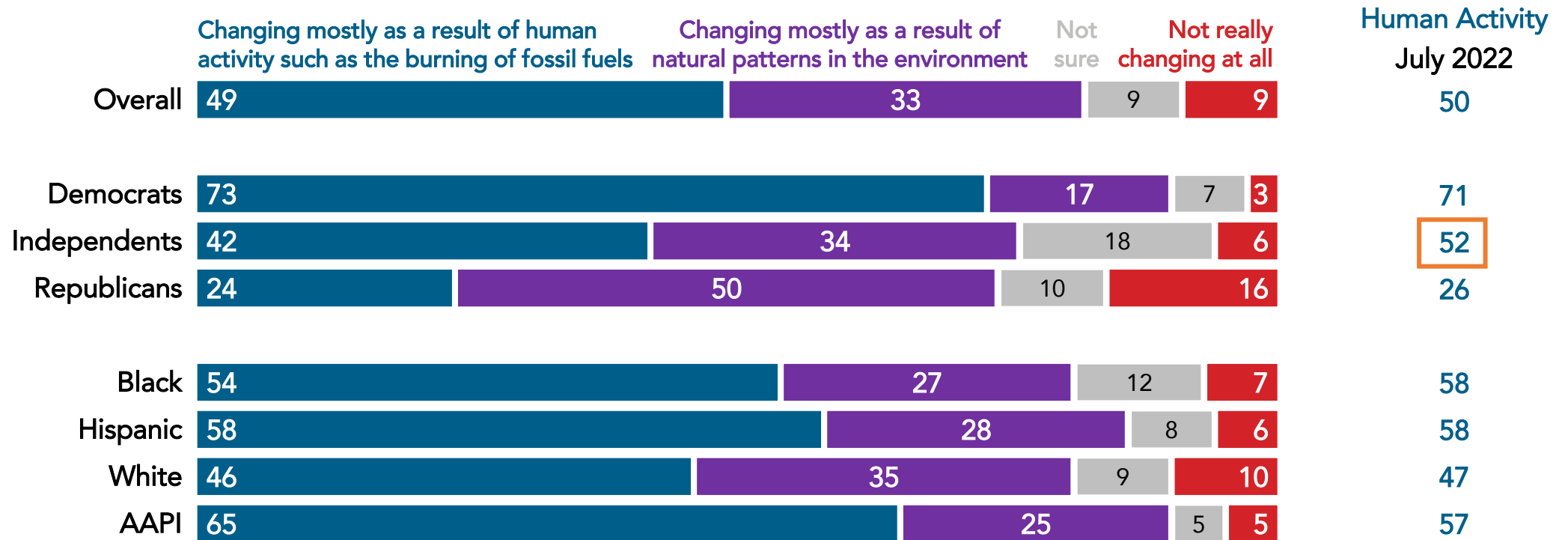
Nationwide survey of 1,000 registered voters conducted July 20-July 24, 2023.
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Nearly Half of Americans Say Climate Is Changing Mostly As a Result of Human Activity

The share who say the climate is changing “mostly as a result of human activity” has remained stable since last summer (49% now, compared to 50% in July 2022) – still, more than two in five blame natural patterns (33%) or say the climate is not changing (9%).

- There has also been a 10-point decline among independents over the last year (42% blame human activity now, down from 52%).

On the subject of climate, do you think the world's climate is...

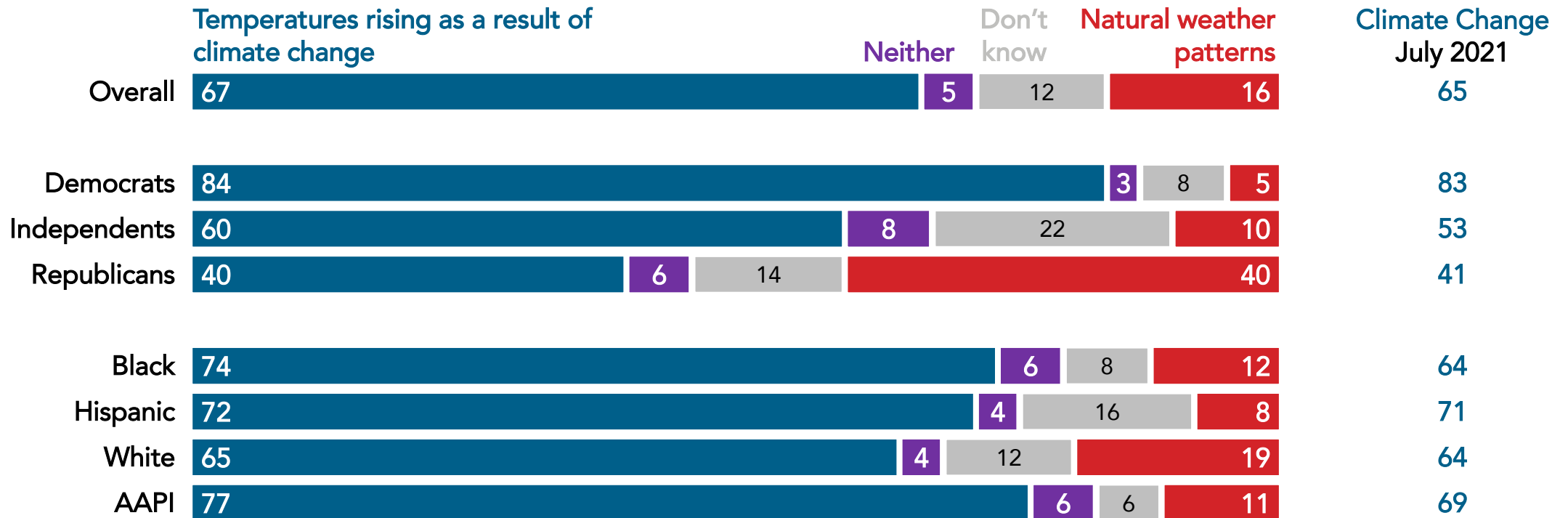


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Among Those Noticing Changes in Community Weather, Two in Three Blame Climate Change

Among those who say this year's weather in their community is different from years past, two in three blame "temperatures rising as a result of climate change" (67%), including 60% of independents.

[If different from years past in your community] What do you blame more for these types of changes in weather?



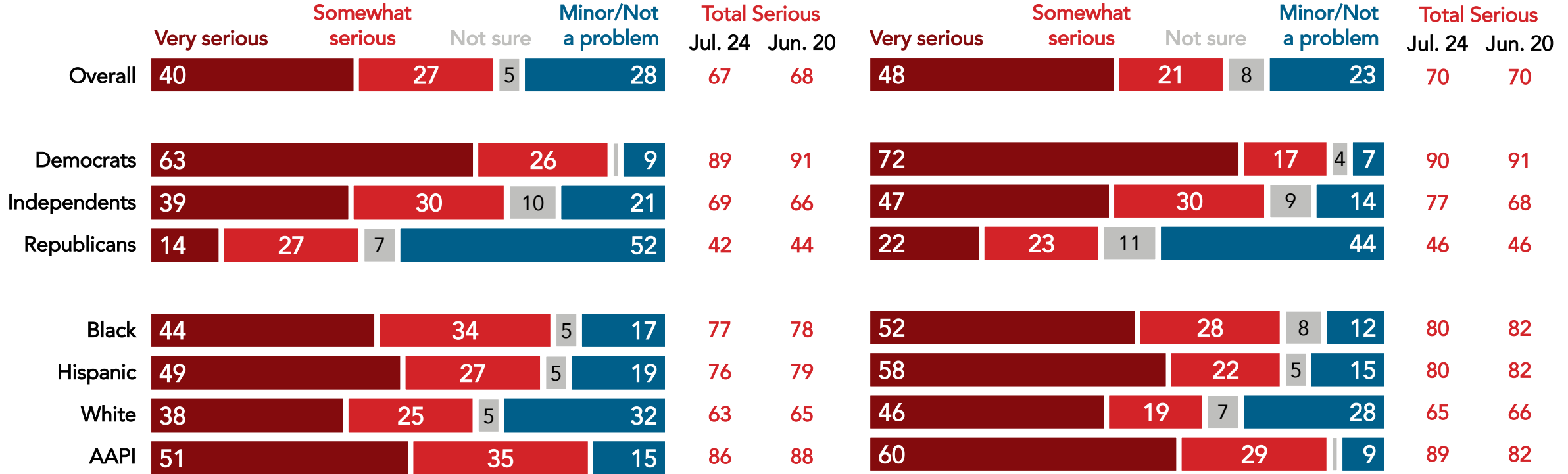
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Americans View Climate Change As Both a Serious Present and Future Problem

At least two in three Americans say that climate change is a serious problem for Americans today (67%) and will be a serious problem for their children or future generations of their family (70%).

How serious a problem is climate change for Americans today?

And how serious a problem do you think climate change will become for your children or future generations of your family?



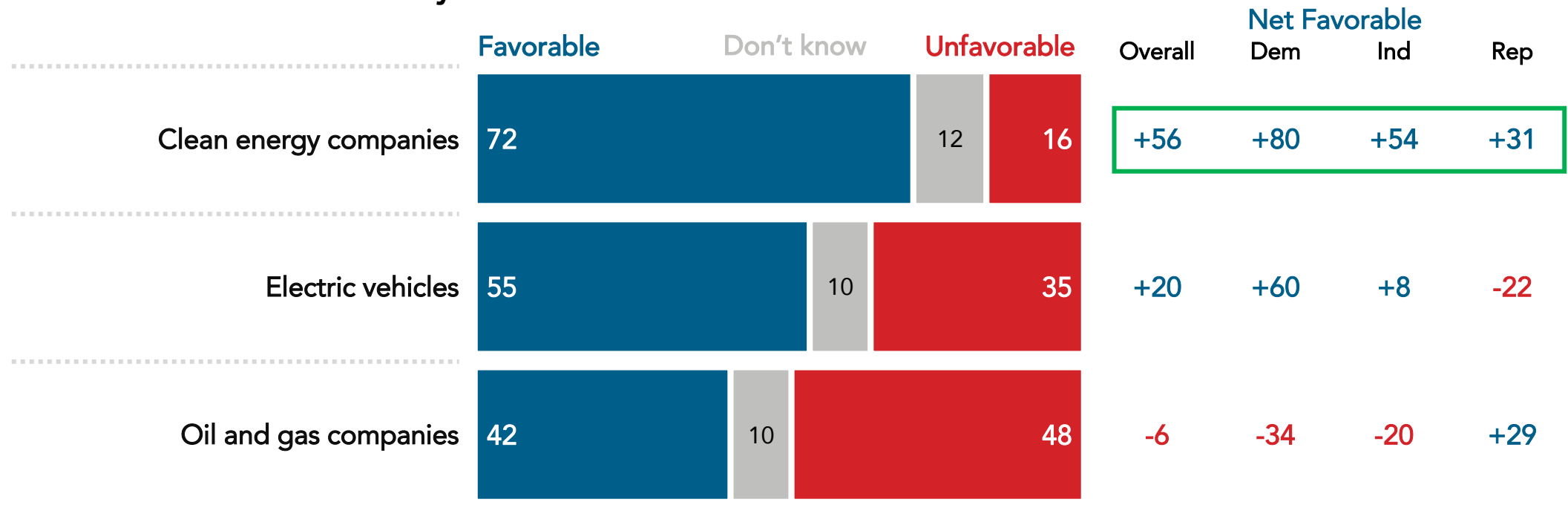
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Most View Clean Energy Companies and Electric Vehicles Favorably; Oil and Gas Companies Are Underwater

Clean energy companies are viewed favorably across party lines; while Democrats and independents rate electric vehicles favorably (net +60 and net +8 favorable, respectively), Republicans rate them negatively by a net 22 points.

- Since March 2022, views of oil and gas companies have improved (net -6 favorable now, up from net -29 then), largely driven by an improvement among Republicans (net +29 favorable now, up from net -3).

Please indicate how favorable or unfavorable you are to each one.



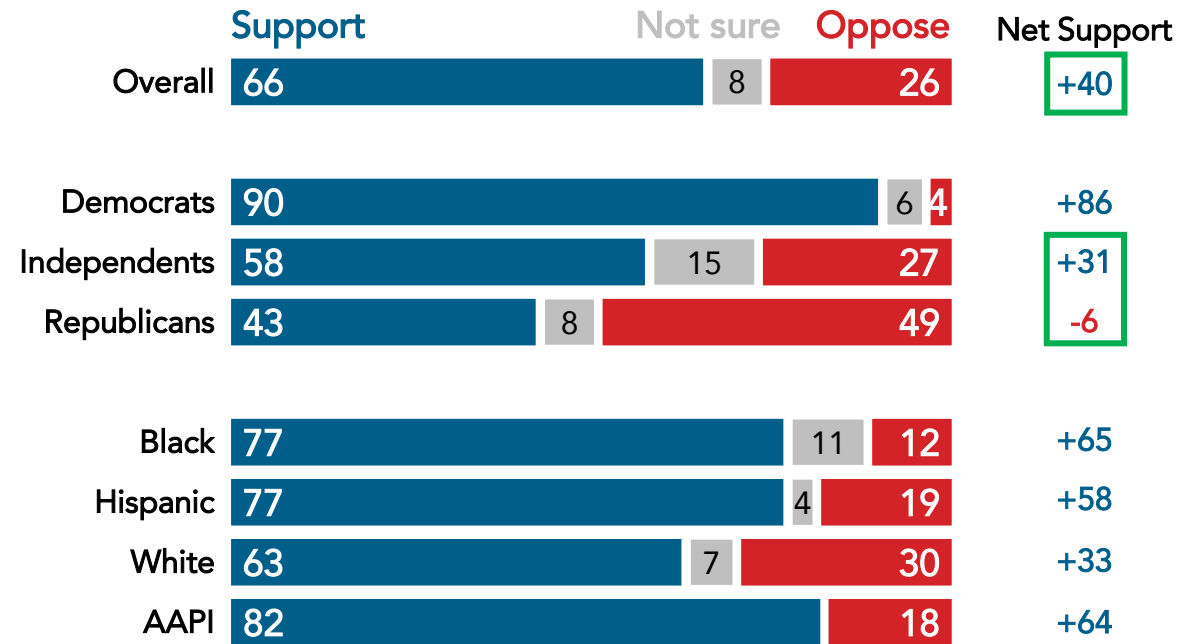
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More Support Framing of "Using More Clean Energy" to Reduce Pollution Than "Using Less Fossil Fuels"

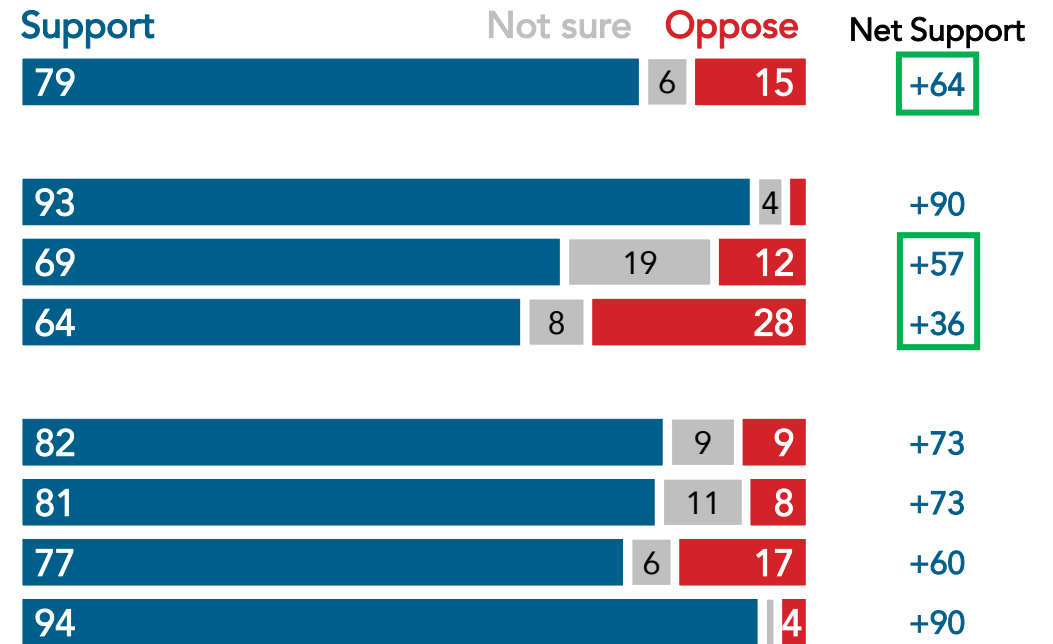
While large majorities of Americans support both "using less fossil fuels" and "using more clean energy," the clean energy framing outperforms the fossil fuel framing by net 24 points overall (net +64 support compared to net +40).

- Independents prefer the clean energy framing by 26 points (net +57 vs. +31), and Republicans prefer it by 42 points (+36 vs. -6)

(Split sample) Do you support or oppose the United States using less fossil fuels like oil and gas so we can reduce the pollution that causes climate change?



(Split sample) Do you support or oppose the United States using more clean energy like wind and solar power so we can reduce the pollution that causes climate change?

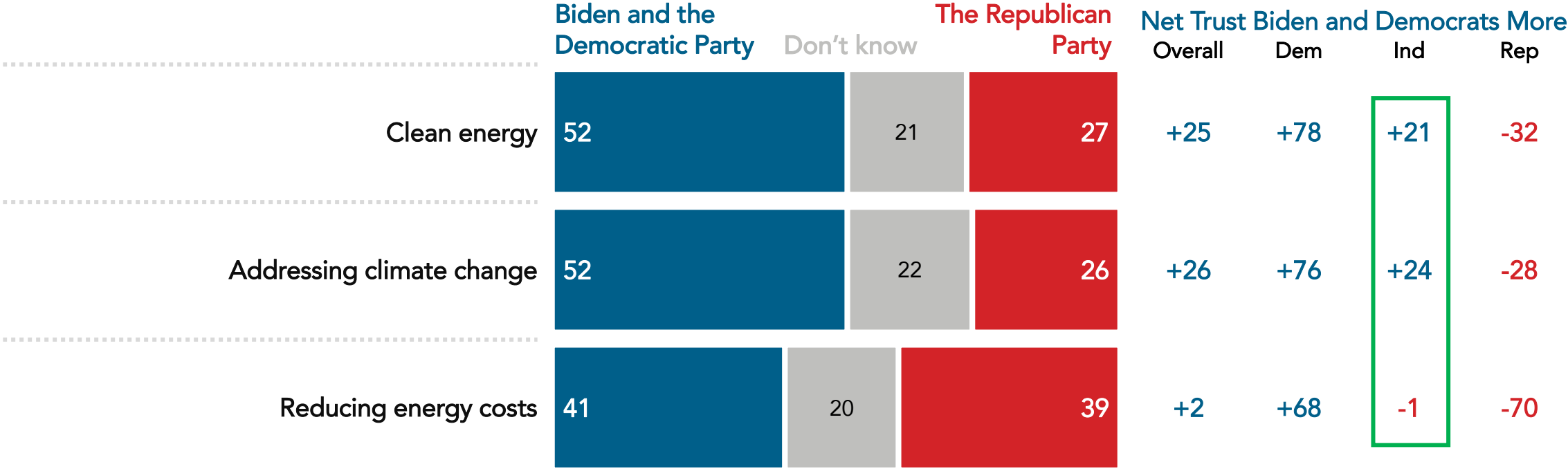


Nationwide survey of 1,000 registered voters conducted June 14-June 20, 2023. For more info, visit navigatorresearch.org.

Biden and Democrats Are More Trusted on Climate and Clean Energy, Parity With Republicans on "Reducing Energy Costs"

Americans trust Biden and the Democratic Party more than the Republican Party on "clean energy" (net +25 Biden and Democrats overall) and "addressing climate change" (net +26) but are more divided on "reducing energy costs" (net +2 Biden and Democrats).

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



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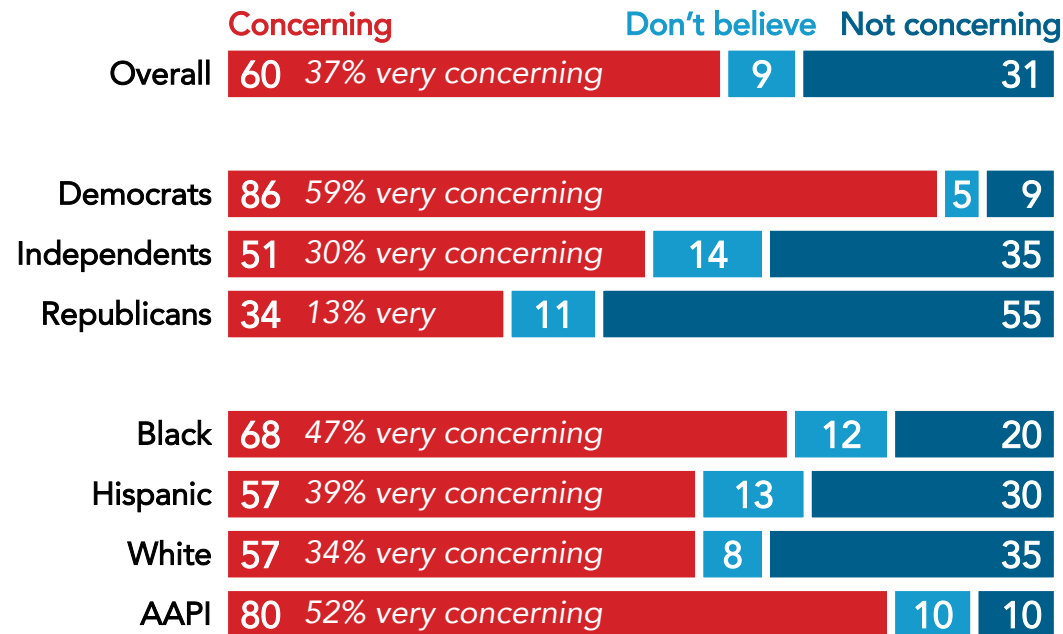
The GOP's Proposed Cuts to Investments in Clean Energy Are Concerning, and Tax Breaks for Big Oil Drives Up Concerns

Three in five (60%) find Republicans' proposed cuts to clean energy investments "concerning"; highlighting that the plan would give tax breaks to big oil companies increases concerns (to 64% total concerning, and from 37% "very concerning" to 45%).

- Adding tax breaks for big oil increases the share of independents who find the statement concerning by 14 points (from 51% to 65%).

As you may know, some Republicans in Congress recently proposed a new budget and tax plan...Please indicate how concerning you find each statement.

(Split sample) Republicans in Congress' plan would cut investments in clean energy like solar and wind power.



(Split sample) Republicans in Congress' plan would cut investments in clean energy like solar and wind power **but give more tax breaks to the big oil companies that are already making record profits.**



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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 July 20-July 24, 2023 and 1,000 registered voters from June 14-June 20, 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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<http://navigatorresearch.org>

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