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Thursday, November 30th

Views of Government Funding: A Guide for Advocates



Credit: Shutterstock/Cast of Thousands





Key Takeaways:

- Large majorities support increasing, not cutting, programs like Social Security and Medicare, Medicaid and the ACA, nutrition and housing assistance, K-12 public schools, and child care.
- Majorities agree with Democratic arguments over Republican arguments on inflation and government spending, including that we should actually be increasing – not decreasing – public investments, and reforming laws to lower costs.



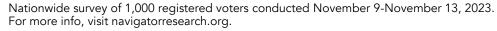
Majorities Oppose Cuts to All Programs Tested and Support Increasing Funding Instead

While 51% of Americans oppose cutting funding for the IRS to go after wealthy tax cheats, 70% support increasing funding.

Below is a list of items. Please indicate, when you think about how much money the U.S. government spends on the following things, if you support or oppose cutting funding from each one. Below is a list of items. Please indicate, when you think about how much money the U.S. government spends on the following things, if you support or oppose increasing funding for each one.

Cutting funding for	Support	Not sure	Oppose	Net Support
retirement programs, like Social Security and Medicare	13 6		81	-68
health care, including Medicaid and the Affordable Care Act	20 6		74	-54
nutrition assistance for children and vulnerable families	15 7		78	-63
K-12 public schools	16 7		77	-61
housing assistance programs for low- income families	21 7		72	-51
child care programs	19 8		73	-54
the IRS to crack down on wealthy tax cheats and big corporations	40	9	51	-11

Increasing funding for	Support	Not sure	Oppose	Net Support
retirement programs, like Social Security and Medicare	82		7 11	+71
nutrition assistance for children and vulnerable families	76		8 16	+60
health care, including Medicaid and the Affordable Care Act	76		7 17	+59
the IRS to crack down on wealthy tax cheats and big corporations	70		9 21	+49
K-12 public schools	73		8 19	+54
housing assistance programs for low-income families	72		7 21	+51
child care programs	72		8 20	+52





Americans Side With Democrats Narrowly on a Range of Inflation Statements

A range of progressive rebuttals are effective against a conservative statement that we need to stop "wasteful government spending and handouts," including focusing on increasing – not decreasing – public investment and passing legislation to reduce prescription drug costs, health care premiums, and energy costs.

Which statement do you agree with more?

Statement 1: Republicans who say that in order to fight inflation, the number one focus should be on stopping wasteful government spending and handouts.

Statement 2: Democrats who say that we should actually be increasing, not decreasing, public investment in veterans' benefits, healthcare, child care, and education.

Statement 2:

Net Statement 2:

Statement 3: Democrats who say that we should actually be increasing, not decreasing, public investment in veterans' benefits, healthcare, child care, and education and pay for it by raising taxes on the wealthy and big corporations.

Statement 4: Democrats who say that they are focused on lowering inflation by passing legislation to reduce prescription drug costs, health care premiums, and energy costs.

46%

54%

+8

Statement 1: 47%

Statement 3: 53%

Statement 4:
Net Statement 4:

Statement 1:

Statement 1: 46% Statement 1: 4

+8 Net Statement 3: +6

that they are focused on lowering inflation by passing legislation to reduce prescription drug costs, health care premiums, and energy costs while also cracking down on corporate profiteering.

Statement 5: Democrats who say

Statement 1: 47%

Statement 5: 53%

Net Statement 5: +6



54%

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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.

For Press inquiries contact:

press@navigatorresearch.org

To learn more about Navigator:

http://navigatorresearch.org

@NavigatorSurvey on Twitter

About the Study

Global Strategy Group conducted public opinion surveys among a sample of 1,000 registered voters from November 9-November 13, 2023. 105 additional interviews were conducted among Hispanic voters. 72 additional interviews were conducted among Asian American and Pacific Islander voters. 100 additional interviews were conducted among African American voters. 103 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.