

navigator*

Tuesday, January 23rd

Impeachment Inquiry and
Government Shutdown:
A Guide for Advocates



Credit: Lucky Photographer/Shutterstock

Key Takeaways:

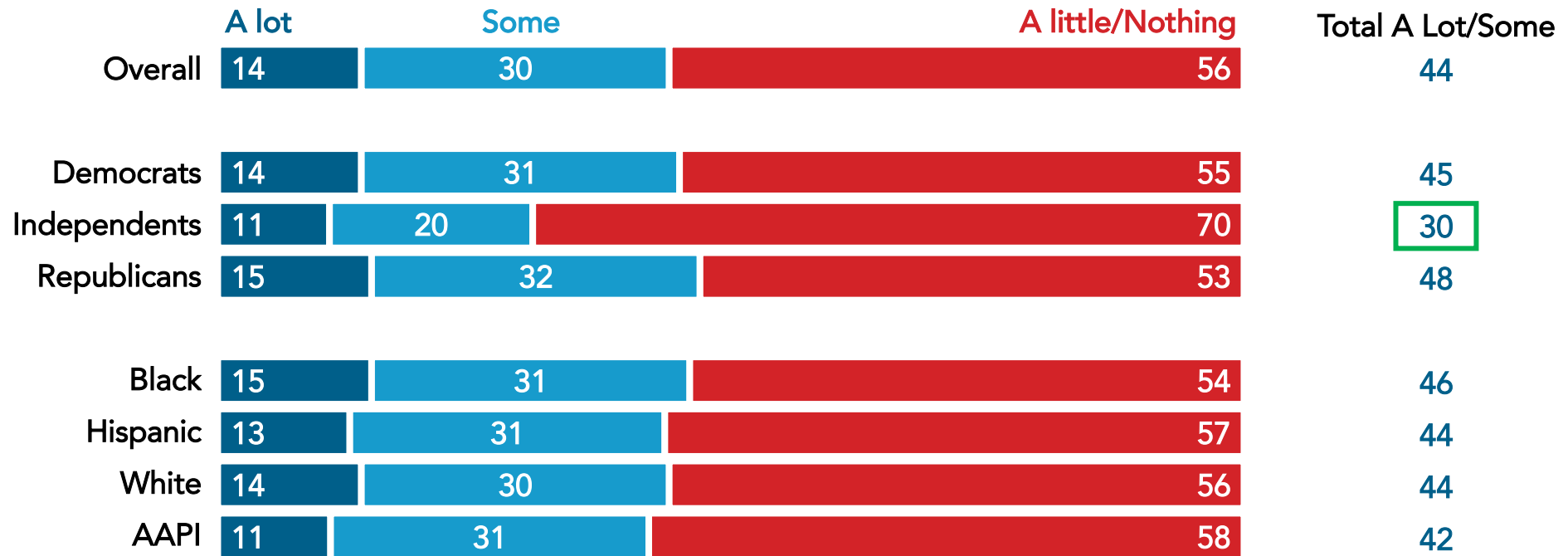
- A plurality oppose an impeachment inquiry into Biden and even more oppose a full impeachment; the strongest messaging against the inquiry emphasizes how Republicans are distracting from real issues and causing more chaos.
- While few Americans prioritize investigations of Biden, they see Republicans and Trump both as focused on this issue.
- The most concerning statements about Republican lawmakers as it relates to potential shutdowns include their trying to score political points and cutting programs.

Less Than Half Have Heard "A Lot" or "Some" About the GOP Impeachment Inquiry into Biden

Compared to awareness around other events in Navigator tracking, the impeachment inquiry comes in on the lower end: 78% of Americans had heard "a lot" or "some" about the Chinese surveillance balloon being shot down last year and another 59% had heard about the collapse of Silicon Valley Bank in March of last year, compared to 44% on the impeachment inquiry now.

- Just three in ten independents (30%) report hearing "a lot" or "some" about Republicans' impeachment inquiry into Biden.

How much have you seen, read, or heard about Republicans in Congress' impeachment inquiry into President Biden?

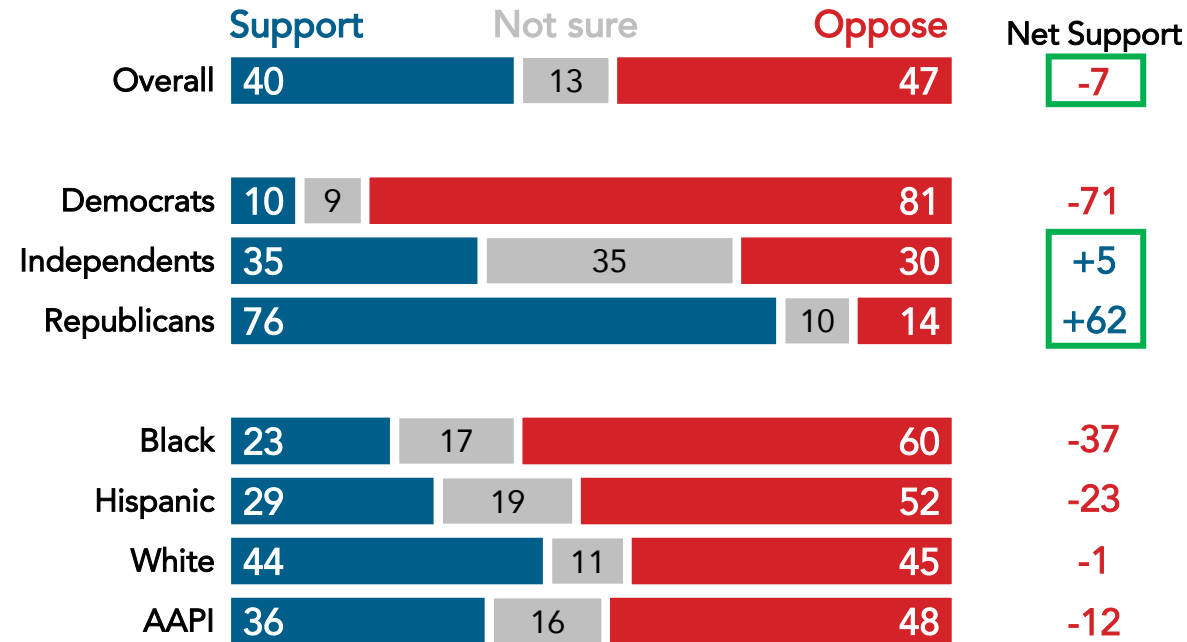


Nationwide survey of 1,000 registered voters conducted January 4-January 8, 2024. For more info, visit navigatorresearch.org.

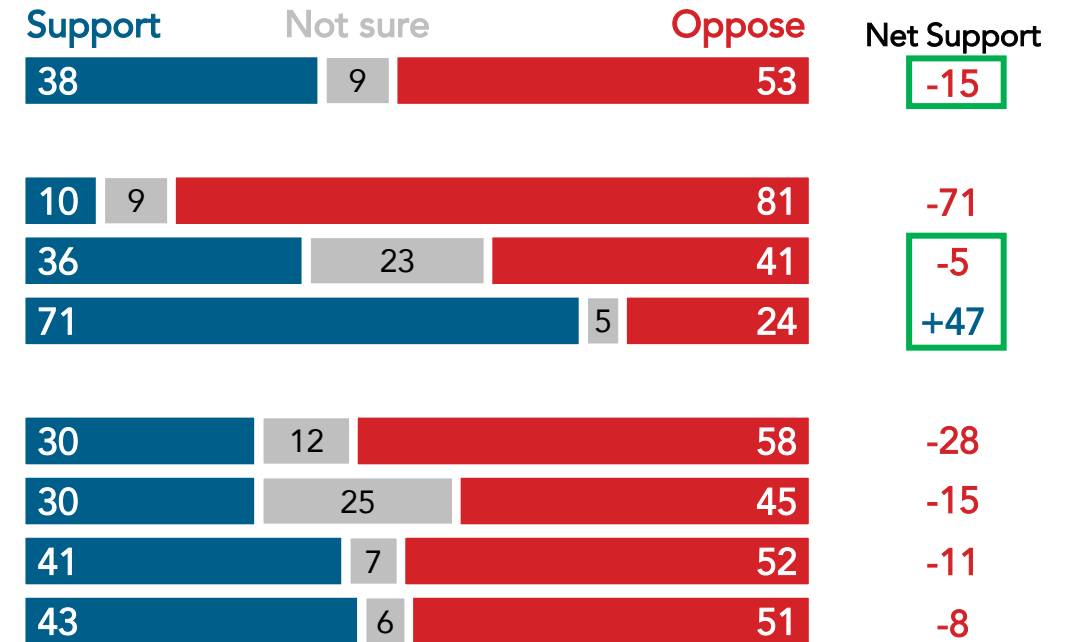
Pluralities Oppose the GOP Impeachment Inquiry, and an Even Greater Share Oppose the Impeachment of Biden

Americans oppose an impeachment inquiry into Biden by 7 points, while an even greater share oppose a full impeachment (net -15 support). The gap is driven by independents (net +5 support an inquiry, net -5 support impeachment) and Republicans (net +62 vs. net +47).

(Split sample) Regardless of how closely you are following the situation, do you support or oppose **Republicans in Congress' impeachment inquiry into President Biden?**



(Split sample) Regardless of how closely you are following the situation, do you support or oppose **Republicans in Congress impeaching President Biden?**

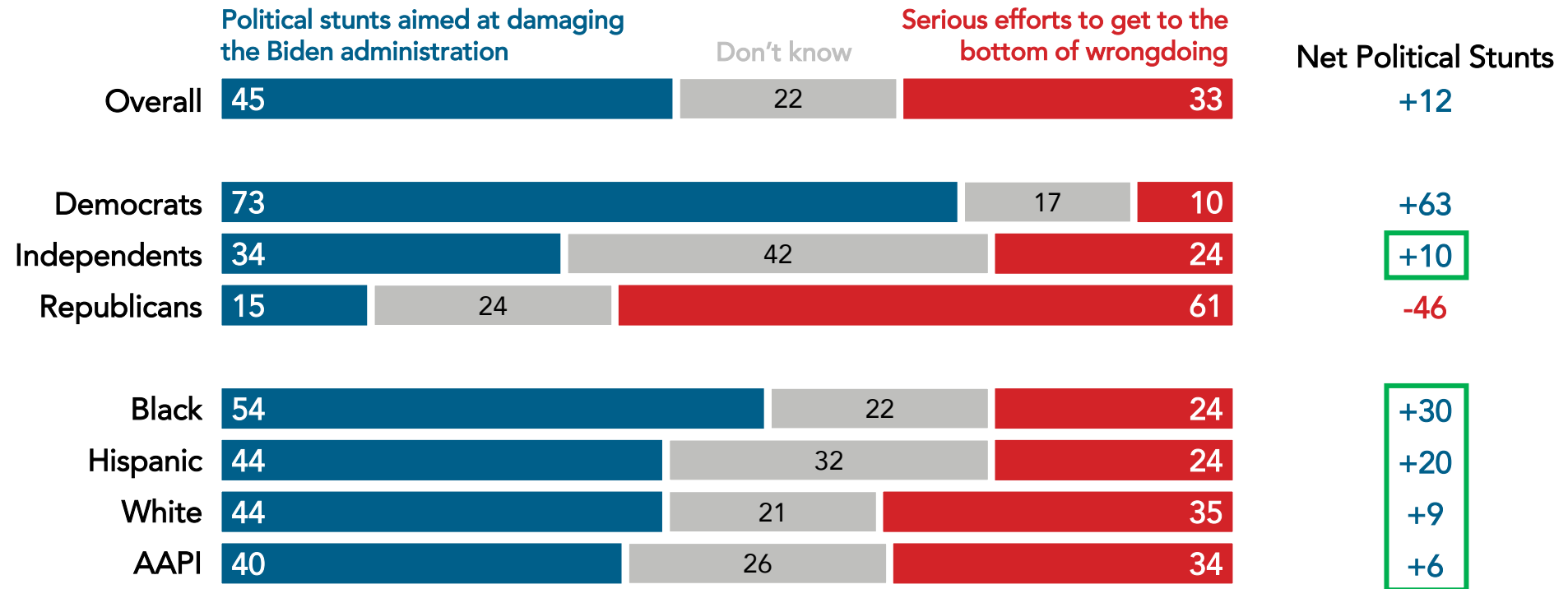


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A Plurality Call These Investigations By Republicans in Congress into Biden "Political Stunts"

Majorities of every racial group, along with one in three independents (34%), say the investigations are "political stunts aimed at damaging the Biden administration" rather than "serious efforts to get to the bottom of wrongdoing."

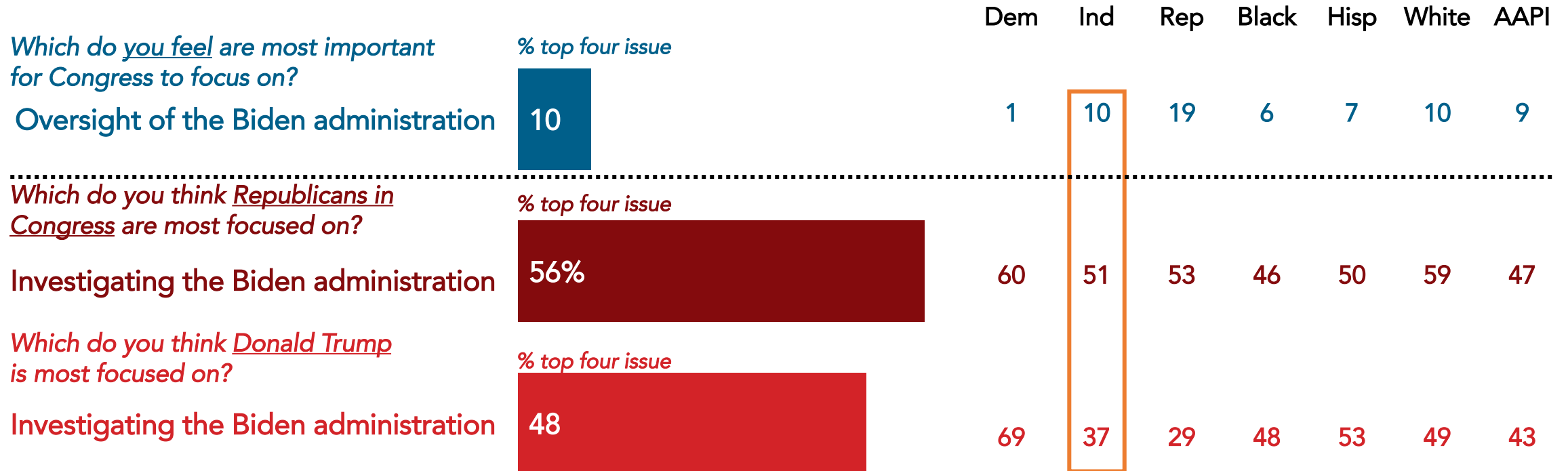
And based on what you've seen or heard so far, which of the following better describes the investigations Republicans in Congress are pursuing?



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Congressional Republicans & Trump Are Seen as Putting Investigating Biden as a Priority; Americans Do Not Prioritize It

Only one in ten independents (10%) say “oversight of the Biden administration” is personally a top four issue priority, while a majority say it is a top four issue Republicans in Congress are focused on (51%) and nearly two in five say the same of Trump (37%). Even among Republicans, only 19% rate it as a top four issue personally, while 53% say Republicans in Congress and 29% say Trump prioritizes it.



Nationwide survey of 1,000 registered voters conducted January 4-January 8, 2024. For more info, visit navigatorresearch.org.

Wrong Priorities, Chaos Most Concerning on Impeachment Inquiry

Below is a list of statements about Republicans in Congress' impeachment inquiry into President Biden. Please indicate how concerning you find each statement.

Republicans in Congress...

*/** Split sample
Top 9 of 12 items shown

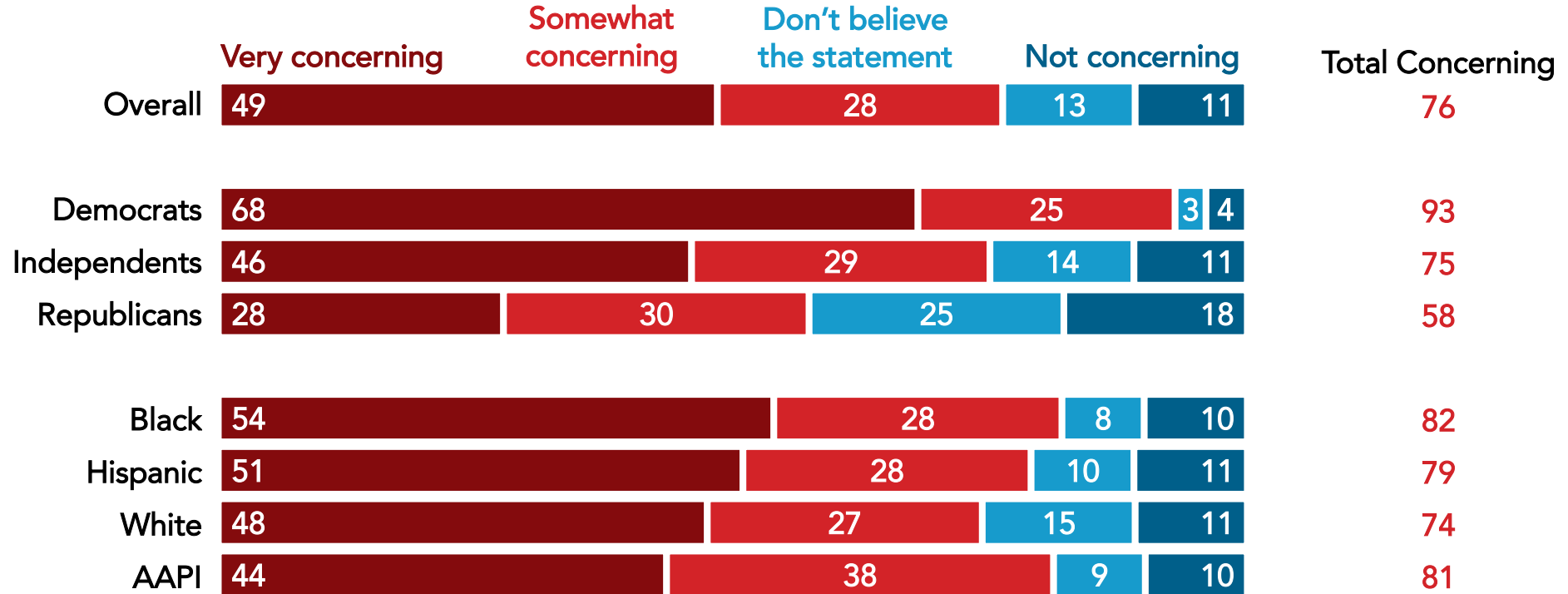
	Very concerning	Somewhat concerning	Don't believe	Not concerning	Total Concerning			
					Overall	Dem	Ind	Rep
**...are failing to get anything done and <u>distracting</u> from the issues that actually matter, like inflation, by pursuing a baseless impeachment inquiry against Biden	45	18	24	13	63	88	64	34
*...are failing to get anything done and <u>distracting</u> from the issues that actually matter, like inflation, by pursuing an illegitimate impeachment inquiry against Biden	42	20	23	15	62	88	54	34
*...are bringing chaos and instability to our government: kicking out their Speaker of the House, failing to find a new one for three weeks, and now this impeachment inquiry are all wasting time and taxpayer money	42	23	21	14	65	90	53	40
...are controlled by their far-right wing, including MAGA Republicans like MTG*, who would rather waste time on a baseless impeachment inquiry than work on behalf of the voters they represent	42	17	27	14	59	87	55	28
*This impeachment inquiry is just another example of MAGA Republican extremism: their party no longer represents the beliefs and goals of most of its voters, and the far-right wing of their party controls everything they do	41	20	25	14	61	90	54	29
**...are just using the impeachment inquiry to get revenge against Democrats for impeaching Donald Trump, even though they have no evidence of wrongdoing by President Biden and there was ample evidence of wrongdoing by President Trump	39	19	28	15	57	84	55	28
**...are just using the impeachment inquiry to score political points against Biden to weaken his campaign for President, so that Donald Trump can win the 2024 election	38	19	27	15	58	88	50	26
*...are just using the impeachment inquiry to get revenge against Democrats for impeaching Donald Trump, even though they have no evidence of wrongdoing by President Biden	38	20	28	14	58	86	54	27
*...are just using the impeachment inquiry to score political points against Biden to weaken his campaign for President	37	17	24	23	53	83	43	23

***Text is abbreviated on the slide; full question text read "Marjorie Taylor Greene."
Nationwide survey of 1,000 registered voters conducted January 4-January 8, 2024.
For more info, visit navigatorresearch.org.

Americans Find GOP Inability to Pass “Spending Bills” or “Budgets” Deeply Concerning

Three in four independents (75% concerning), and more than seven in ten Americans across racial groups, say it is “concerning” that the Republican-controlled Congress is unable to “fund the federal government because its members are too chaotic.”

How concerning do you find the following statement: **The current Republican-controlled Congress is unable to pass [Split Sample] spending bills/[Split Sample] budgets* to fund the federal government because its members are too chaotic.**



*Results of the split sample experiment were combined due to lack of differentiation. Those combined results are shown on this slide. Nationwide survey of 1,000 registered voters conducted January 4-January 8, 2024. For more info, visit navigatorresearch.org.

Top Shutdown Concerns: GOP Scoring Political Points Over Working on Real Issues; Cutting Programs Instead of Taxing Rich

Independents are most concerned that Republicans “want to make cuts to important programs that Americans rely on” (69% concerning).

As you may know, the government is facing another potential shutdown in late January if Congress cannot pass its spending bills. Below are some statements about how Republicans in Congress have been handling this. Please indicate how concerning you find each one.

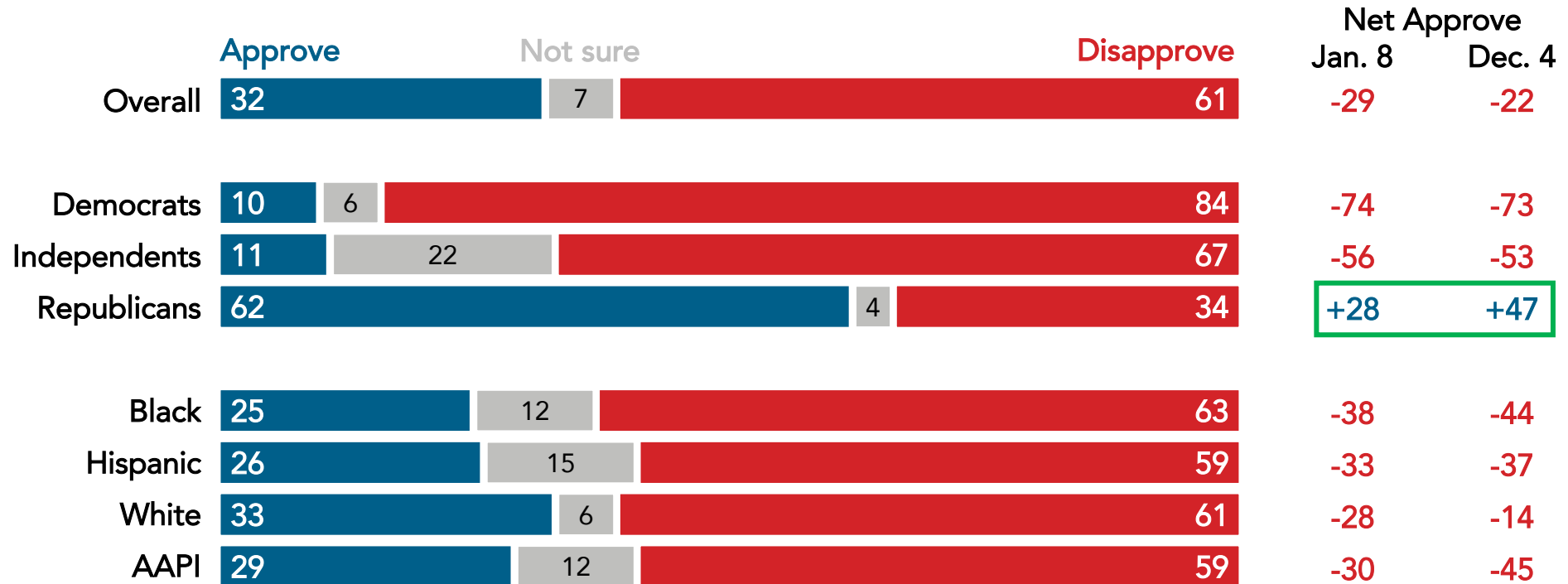
Republicans in Congress...	*/** Split sample				Total Concerning			
	Very concerning	Somewhat concerning	Don't believe	Not concerning	Overall	Dem	Ind	Rep
**...won't work together to pass budgets and keep the government open, and are too interested in scoring political points instead of focusing on the real issues Americans are facing, like rising costs	50	20	18	12	70	94	67	44
**...won't agree to spending bills that raise taxes on the wealthy and instead want to make cuts to important programs that Americans rely on	48	20	16	16	68	91	69	41
*...won't agree to spending bills unless they make cuts to important programs that Americans rely upon, including Social Security and Medicare	47	23	15	15	70	94	65	45
...are beholden to the extreme MAGA wing of their party, including people like Marjorie Taylor Greene, who continue to prevent Congress from working together to get things done and keep our government running	44	22	20	14	67	90	62	41
*...want to defund support for Ukraine and are willing to hold the government hostage, and even force a shutdown, to make that happen	36	26	11	27	63	86	57	38

Nationwide survey of 1,000 registered voters conducted January 4-January 8, 2024. For more info, visit navigatorresearch.org.

Republicans in Congress Are Deeply Underwater on Approval

Since early December, approval of Republicans in Congress has declined by net-7 points (net -29 approve now, down from net -22 in December), driven by erosion among Republicans (net +28 now, down from net +47).

Do you approve or disapprove of the way Republicans in Congress are handling their jobs?



Nationwide surveys of registered voters; Each wave represents approximately 1,000 interviews taken over the prior three-five days. Latest wave conducted January 4-January 8, 2024. For more info, visit navigatorresearch.org.

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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 January 4-January 8, 2024. 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. 100 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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