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Tuesday, February 6th

Government Perceptions & the Child Tax Credit: A Guide for Advocates



Credit: Lucky-photographer/Shutterstock

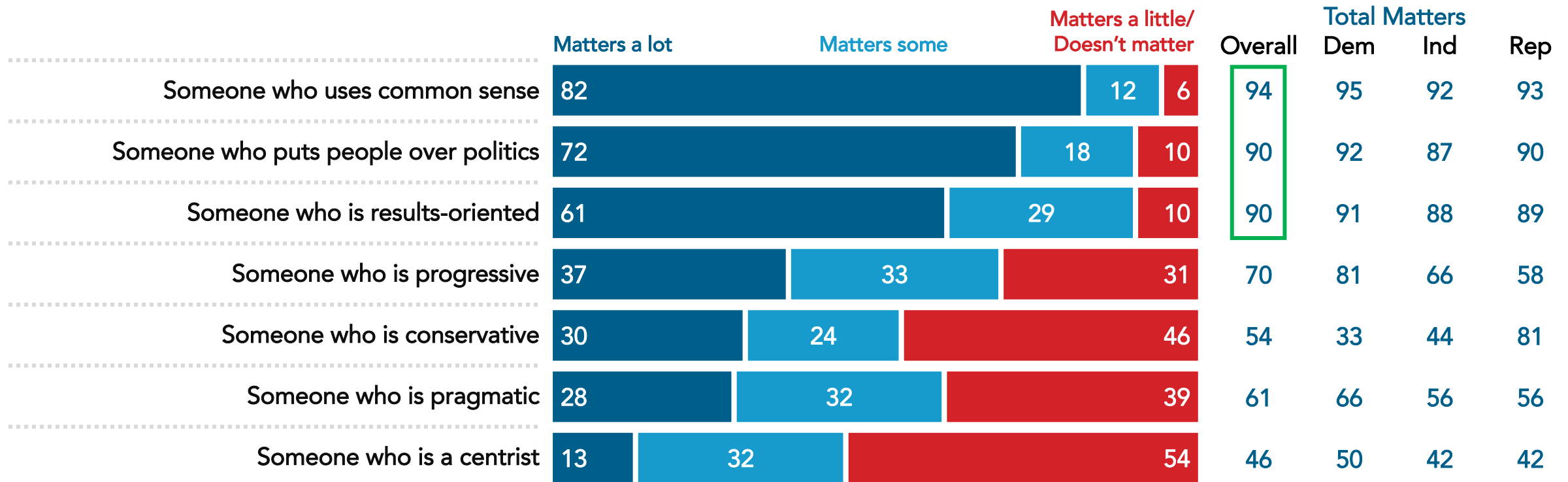
Key Takeaways:

- The strongest descriptors an elected official can use are ones that drive home “common sense” and “people over politics,” instead of the typical ideologically-based frames.
- Majorities continue to say the American political system is dysfunctional, but a majority say it is dysfunctional *but* fixable.
- More than two in three Americans support expanding and improving the Child Tax Credit, with a majority saying its passage should be a high priority for Congress.

Elected Officials Branding Themselves With Less Overtly Ideological Language Works Best

Americans say someone who “uses common sense” (94% total matters), “puts people over politics” (90%), and “is results-oriented” (90%) is more important than someone who is “progressive” (70%), “conservative” (54%), or “centrist” (46%).

Below is a list of some things people sometimes say they want from their elected officials. Please indicate how much each one matters to you in your elected officials.



Nationwide survey of 1,000 registered voters conducted January 25-January 29, 2024. For more info, visit navigatorresearch.org.

Americans Prefer a Progressive Policy Agenda Over a Conservative One

Describing a progressive policy agenda with language that includes “putting people over politics” is slightly more persuasive when compared to a conservative agenda (net +14 more convincing) than if the statement does not include the “people over politics” language (net +10 more convincing).

Which do you find more convincing?

Statement 1: Republicans who say that we need to focus on reining in out-of-control government spending and reducing our national debt, cracking down on the crisis at our southern border, and lowering taxes across the board for all Americans.

Statement 2: Democrats who say they’re putting people over politics by voting for legislation cutting health insurance premiums for millions of Americans, allowing Medicare to negotiate lower drug prices, protecting abortion rights, and making the wealthy pay their fair share in taxes.

Statement 3: Democrats who voted for legislation cutting health insurance premiums for millions of Americans, allowing Medicare to negotiate lower drug prices, protecting abortion rights, and making the wealthy pay their fair share in taxes.

| | |
|-------------------------|------------|
| Statement 1: | 43% |
| Statement 2: | 57% |
| Net Statement 2: | +14 |

| | |
|-------------------------|------------|
| Statement 1: | 45% |
| Statement 3: | 55% |
| Net Statement 3: | +10 |

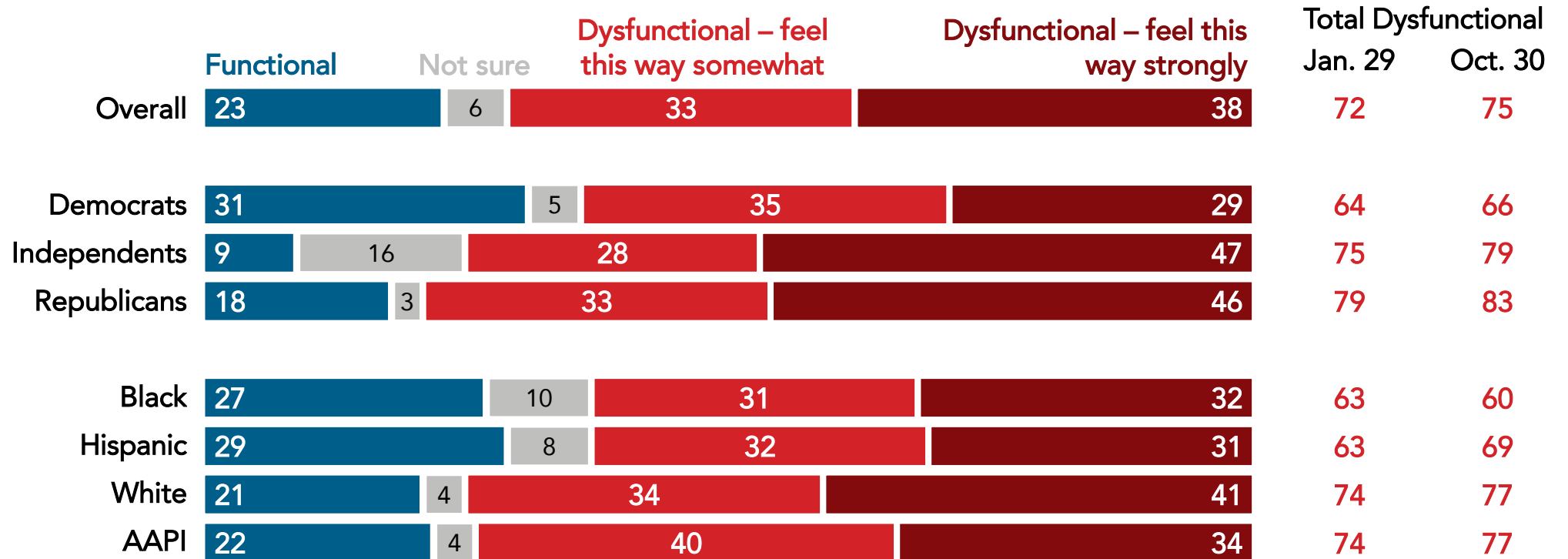
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Three in Four Continue to Say American Politics Are Dysfunctional

Roughly two in three Democrats (64%), along with three in four independents (75%) and nearly four in five Republicans (79%), say the current political system in the U.S. is generally dysfunctional.

Do you think the current political system in the United States is generally functional or generally dysfunctional?

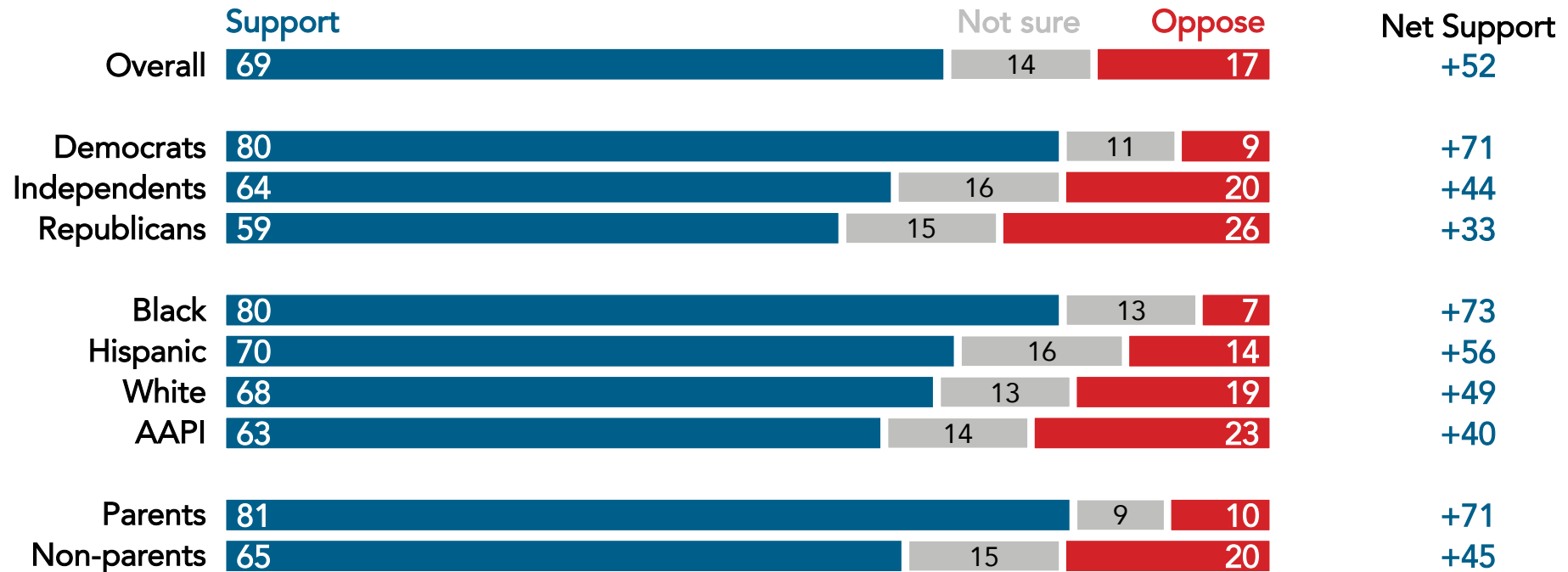


Nationwide surveys of registered voters; Each wave represents approximately 1,000 interviews taken over the prior three-five days. Latest wave conducted January 25-January 29, 2024. For more info, visit navigatorresearch.org.

Two in Three Americans Support Expanding and Improving the Child Tax Credit, Including Parents and Non-Parents Alike

Majorities across party lines and racial groups support the move, ranging from 59% of Republicans (net +33 support) to 80% of Democrats (net +71). Large majorities of both parents (net +71) and non-parents (net +45) also support it.

As you may know, there is a bipartisan proposal in Congress to temporarily expand and improve the Child Tax Credit to refund poor, working, and middle-class families more money for each child under age 17. It is paid for by ending some COVID-era relief programs for businesses. Would you support or oppose this agreement?

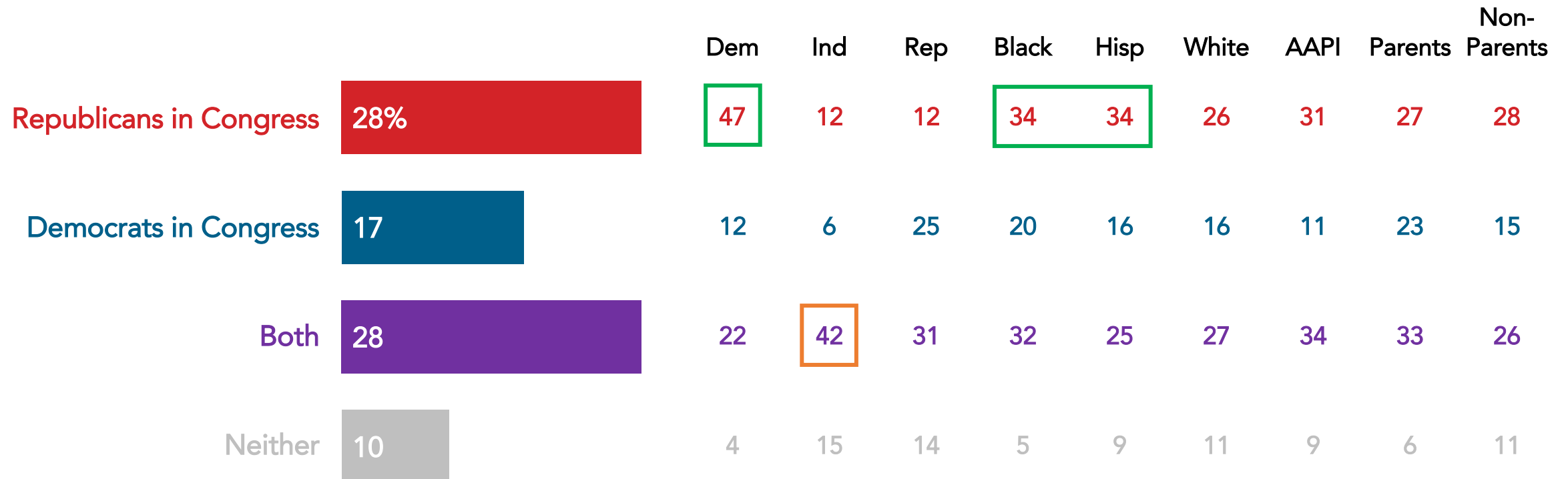


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Americans Would Blame Republicans in Congress More Than Democrats If the Child Tax Credit Proposal Is Not Passed

Independents are most likely to blame both parties equally if the Child Tax Credit proposal fails to pass (42%), while pluralities of Democrats (47%), Black Americans (34%), and Hispanic Americans (34%) would blame the Republican Party the most.

If Congress fails to pass this bipartisan proposal to expand and improve the Child Tax Credit, who would you blame most?

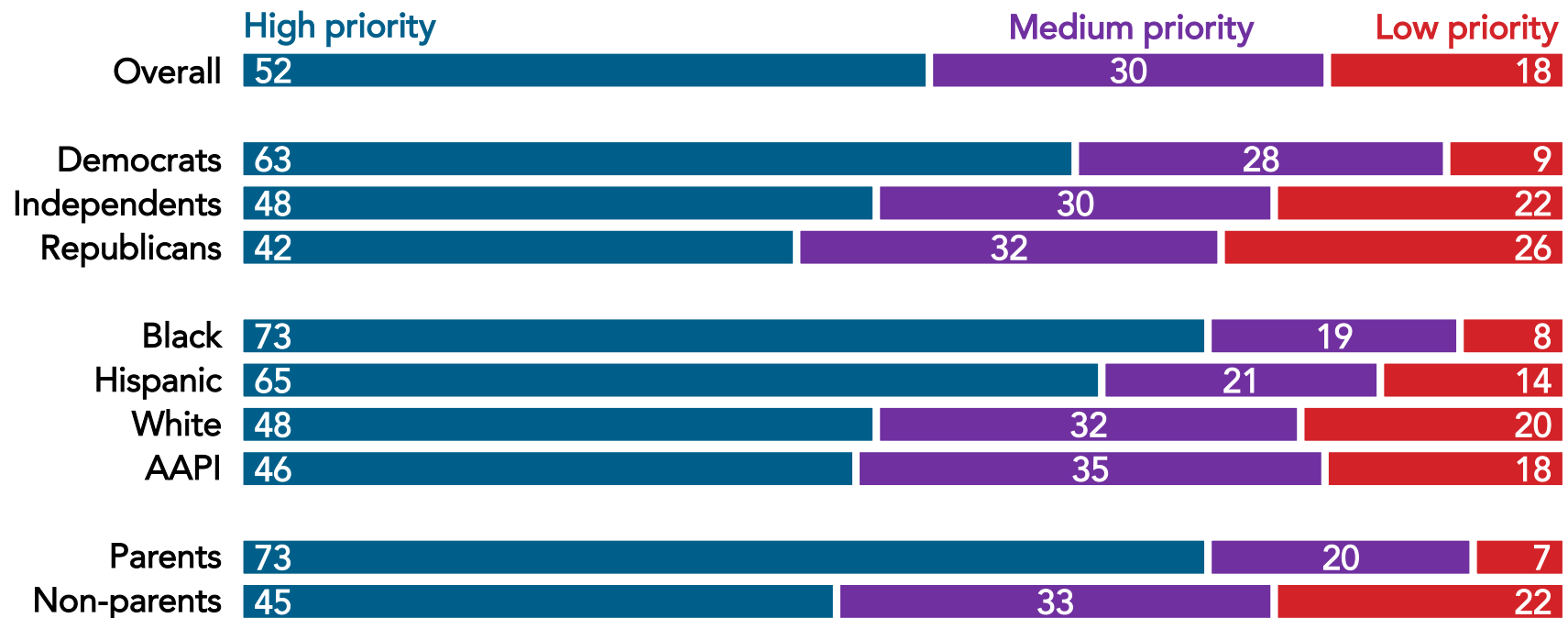


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Majorities Say That Passing the Expanded Child Tax Credit Proposal Should Be a High Priority for Congress

A majority of Americans say that this should be a high priority for Congress (52%), including pluralities of independents (48%) and Republicans (42%).

How much of a priority should it be for Congress to pass this proposal to expand and improve the Child Tax Credit in time for families to receive a larger tax refund this year?



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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 25-January 29, 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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To learn more about Navigator:

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