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Tuesday, May 21st

Inflation and the Economy:
A Guide for Advocates







Key Takeaways:

- Americans' top priorities for the government to deal with inflation are cracking down on price-gouging corporations and reining in health care costs.
- President Biden and Democrats hold large party trust advantages on lower-tier priorities to deal with inflation, and narrower advantages on the top priorities of addressing corporate greed and reducing health care costs.
- Recently proposed worker and consumer protections that are most popular include expanding overtime protections, reducing credit card late fees, and requiring airlines to issue prompt cash refunds.

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Cracking Down on Corporations, Bringing Down Health Care Costs Are the Best Ways to Address Inflation

Nearly three in four economically persuadable Americans* say cracking down on corporate price gouging is a top priority (73%).

Below is a list of potential policies to deal with the issue of inflation. For each, please indicate on a scale of 0 to 10 how much you think it should be a priority for the government, where 0 means it should not be a priority at all and 10 means it should be a top priority.

Top Priority

Top priority Priority

Middle

Not a

	(9-10)	(7-8)	range (4-6)	priority (0-3)	Dem	Ind	Rep	Econ. Pers.*
Cracking down on corporations that are price gouging, on things like food and gas	58	(7 0)	2!		65	53	53	73
Reining in the high cost of health care and prescription drugs	53		28	17	61	49	45	64
Cutting government spending and debt	46		27	22 5	34	42	60	50
Making it easier to buy or rent a home	45		31	20 4	49	45	40	69
Bringing down energy bills by switching to lower cost, clean energy	36		29	24 11	47	36	25	45
Cutting taxes for families with young children	35		28	28 9	37	30	34	50
Lowering interest rates on credit cards and loans			29	27 9	36	34	34	48
Eliminating hidden or unexpected fees, such as checking account overdraft fees or credit card late payment fees	31	2	28	29 11	34	36	27	41
Preventing corporate mergers and monopolies that reduce consumer choices	28	32	2	30 11	32	31	22	37
Canceling or reducing student loan debt	23	21	24	32	31	21	15	37

^{*&}quot;Economically persuadable" disapprove of Biden's handling of the economy or are not sure but support a range of progressive economic policies on separate questions. Nationwide survey of 1,000 registered voters conducted May 9-May 12, 2024. For more info, visit navigatorresearch.org.



On a Range of Issues Related to Costs and Inflation, President Biden and Democrats Are More Trusted Than Republicans

While President Biden and Democrats hold trust advantages on the top priorities of reining in health care costs (+11) and cracking down on price gouging by corporations (+6), independents are closely divided on which party they trust more on each one.

Below is that same list of issues. Please indicate who you trust more to handle each one.					Ne					
	Biden and the Democratic Party	DK	The Repu	olican Party	Overall	Dem	Ind	Rep	Econ. Pers.*	% top priority
Canceling or reducing student loan debt	57		15	28	+29	+82	+20	-26	+18	23
Bringing down energy bills by switching to lower cost, clean energy	48		18	34	+14	+77	+5	-50	-16	36
Reining in the high cost of health care and prescription drugs	48	•	15	37	+11	+81	+4	-60	-4	53
Cutting taxes for families with young children	45	10	5	39	+6	+77	+4	-66	-8	35
Cracking down on corporations that are price gouging, on things like food and gas	45	10	5	39	+6	+75	-2	-62	-21	58
Eliminating hidden or unexpected fees, such as checking account overdraft fees or credit card late payment fees	45	2	20	35	+10	+74	0	-56	-15	31
reventing corporate mergers and monopolies that reduce consumer choices	44	2	<u>!</u> 1	35	+9	+72	-4	-55	-15	28
Making it easier to buy or rent a home	43	18	3	39	+4	+73	-5	-67	-24	45
Lowering interest rates on credit cards and loans	43	18	3	39	+4	+70	+1	-66	-14	<i>3</i> 5
Cutting government spending and debt	35	17		48	-13	+54	-23	-82	-44	46
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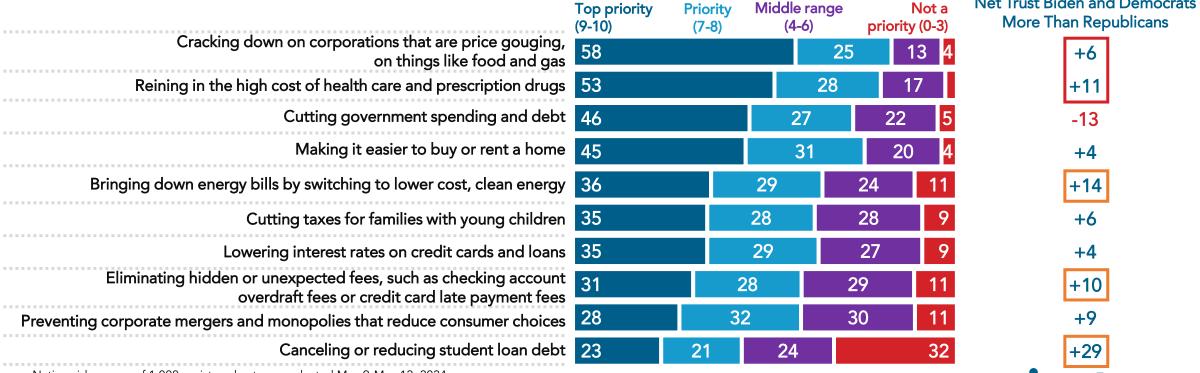


President Biden and Democrats Hold Larger Trust Advantages on Lower-Tier Priorities to Address Inflation

While President Biden and Democrats are more trusted than Republicans on a range of issues related to costs and inflation, on higher priorities for Americans like health care costs (net +11 trust Biden and Democrats more, 53% top priority) and cracking down on corporations (net +6, 58%), their trust advantage is narrower.

Below is a list of potential policies to deal with the issue of inflation. For each, please indicate on a scale of 0 to 10 how much you think it should be a priority for the government, where 0 means it should not be a priority at all and 10 means it should be a top priority.

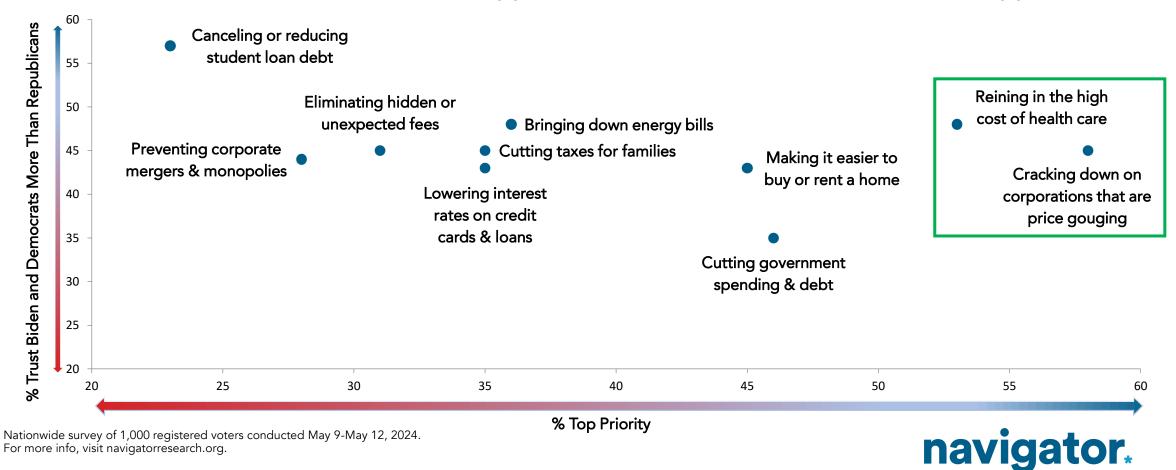
Top priority. Priority. Middle range. Not a Net Trust Biden and Democrats





Top Inflation Priorities: Cracking Down on Corporate Price Gouging and Reining in Health Care Costs

President Biden and Democrats are most trusted on student loan debt – though it is a low priority (57% trust, 23% top priority) – followed by reining in health care costs (48% trust, 53% top priority) and bringing down energy bills (48% trust, 36% top priority).



Popular Worker/Consumer Protections: Overtime Protections, Credit Card Late Fees, and Airline Refunds

Strongly

Majorities across party lines support a range of protections for workers and consumers, including "strengthening the legal right of workers to join a union" (57% of Republicans and 59% of independents support).

Somewhat

Below is a list of policies that have been implemented or proposed recently. Please indicate whether you support or oppose each one.

	Strongly	Somewnat				Total Support			
	support	support	Not sure	Oppose	Overall	Dem	Ind	Rep	
Expanding overtime protections for millions of workers so more workers can get the overtime pay they deserve			29	6 6	87	92	73	86	
Reducing credit card late fees from \$32 to \$8 by closing a loophole used by large credit card companies			26	6 9	84	90	74	82	
Requiring airlines to automatically issue prompt cash refunds if a flight is canceled or significantly changed	56		29	8 7	85	90	73	83	
Designating certain "forever chemicals" – that do not break down for thousands of years and are cancer-causing – as hazardous substances, so those responsible for contaminating our water supply would have to pay to clean them up	55		24	10 11	79	83	68	77	
Banning most non-compete agreements (which prevent people from working for "competing" companies after leaving a job), so workers can move more easily to a company offering better pay or benefits	40		34	14 12	75	81	65	71	
Strengthening the legal right of workers to join a union and preventing employers from breaking up union organizing	37	3	2 1	4 17	69	84	59	57	



Total Support



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 a public opinion survey among a sample of 1,000 registered voters from May 9-May 12, 2024. 100 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 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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