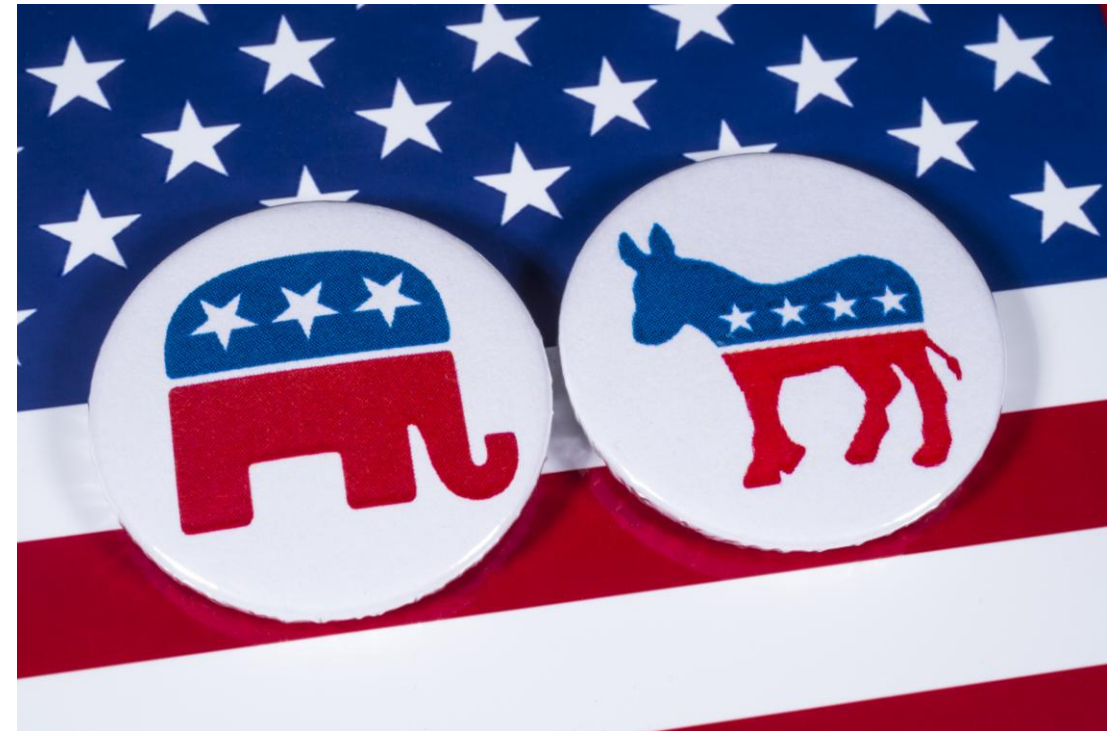


# navigator\*

Friday, May 22<sup>nd</sup>

Broken Systems



Credit: Chris Dorney/Shutterstock

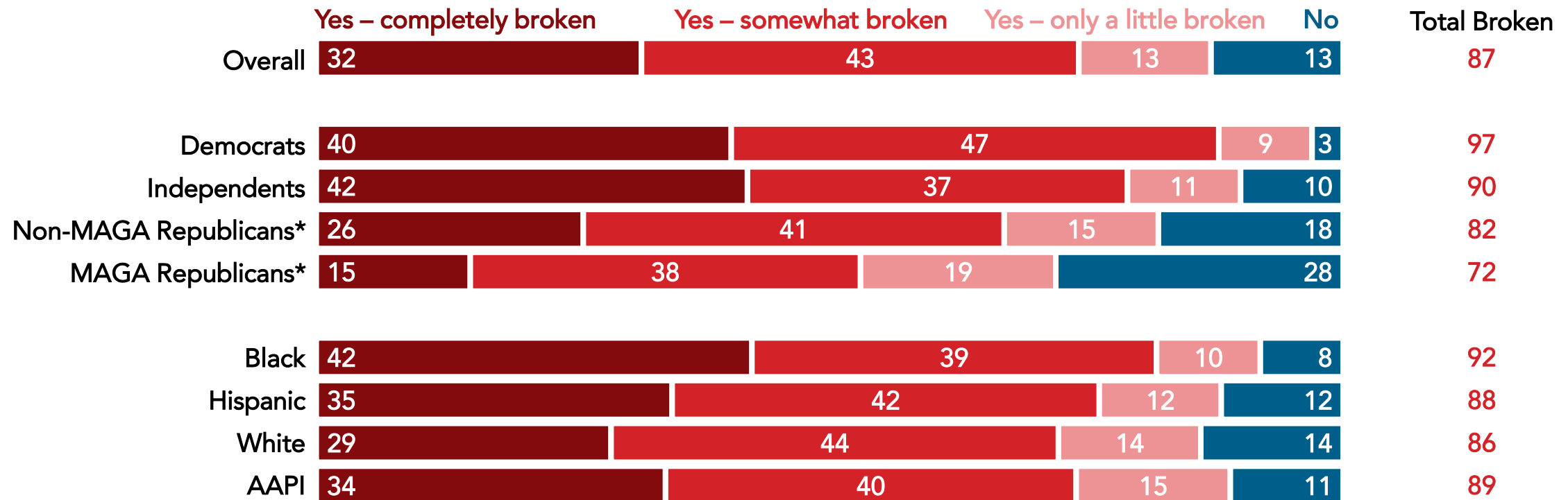
## Key Takeaways:

- A majority of Americans want to see “major” changes to the political and economic systems, though few want to see the systems totally overhauled or get only minor changes.
- Many Americans do not trust either party when it comes to fixing the broken political system, including rooting out corruption and standing up to corporate interests.
- Both Democrats and Republicans are seen as being more focused on changing government than preserving it, though more Americans see Republicans changing the system for the worse than say the same of Democrats.
- Americans see the political system, the immigration system, the presidency, Congress, and the economy as the most broken. Local and state systems are seen as less broken than federal ones.

# A Third Say American Democracy Is Completely Broken

Majorities across partisan and racial/ethnic lines say American democracy is “completely broken” or “somewhat broken”; more than one in four MAGA Republicans\* (28%) say American democracy is not broken.

## Do you think American democracy is broken?



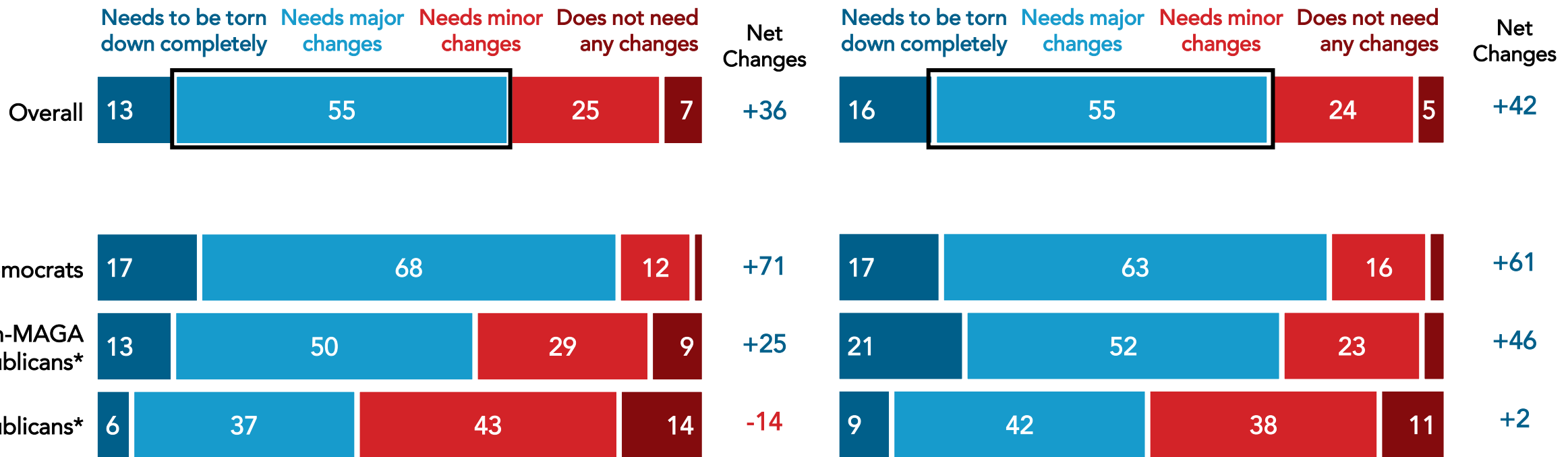
\*“MAGA Republicans” are Republicans who identify as “a supporter of the MAGA movement” on a separate question, while “non-MAGA Republicans” are Republicans who do not consider themselves supporters of the MAGA movement or are not sure.  
 Nationwide survey of 1,000 registered voters conducted May 13-May 18, 2026. For more info, visit [navigatorresearch.org](https://navigatorresearch.org).

# Most Americans Want Major Changes to the U.S. Political/Economic System, Not Total Overhauls Nor Minor Changes

At least half of independents and non-MAGA Republicans\* want to see major changes to the American economic system (50%) and political system (52%).

**(Split Sample)** Which comes closest to your view of the American **economic** system? The system...

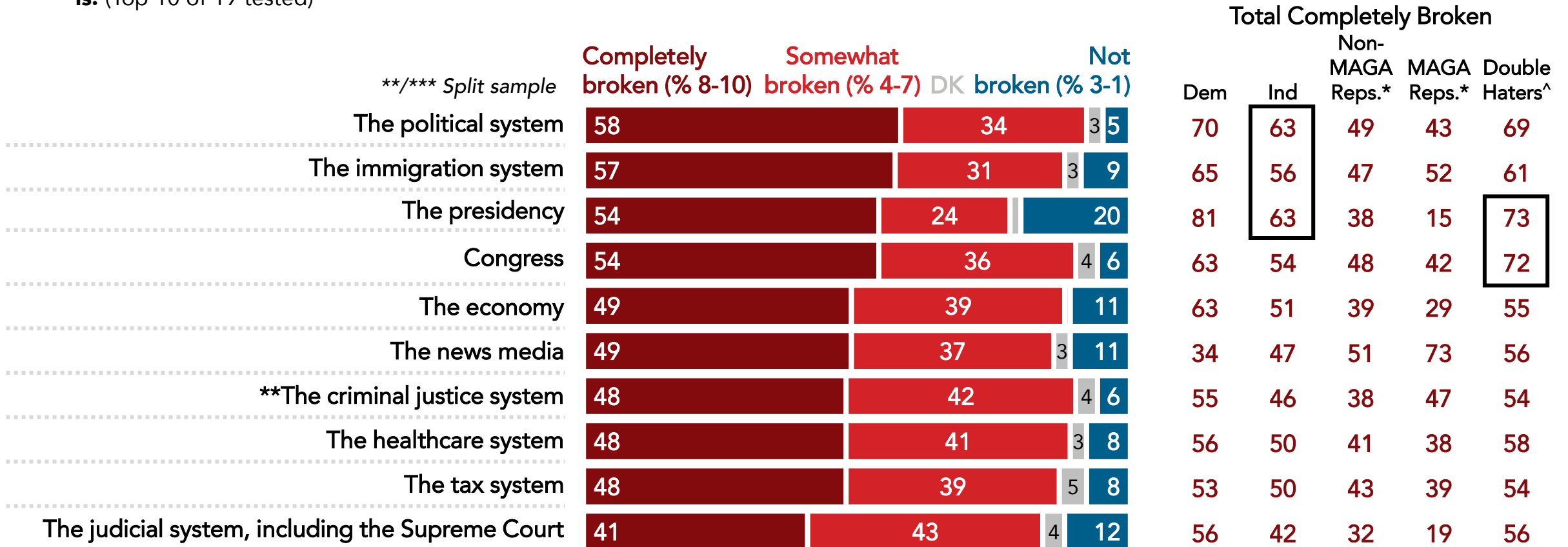
**(Split Sample)** Which comes closest to your view of the American **political** system? The system...



\*"MAGA Republicans" are Republicans who identify as "a supporter of the MAGA movement" on a separate question, while "non-MAGA Republicans" are Republicans who do not consider themselves supporters of the MAGA movement or are not sure. Nationwide survey of 1,000 registered voters conducted May 13-May 18, 2026. For more info, visit [navigatorresearch.org](http://navigatorresearch.org).

# Majorities See the Political System, Immigration, the Presidency, and Congress as Completely Broken

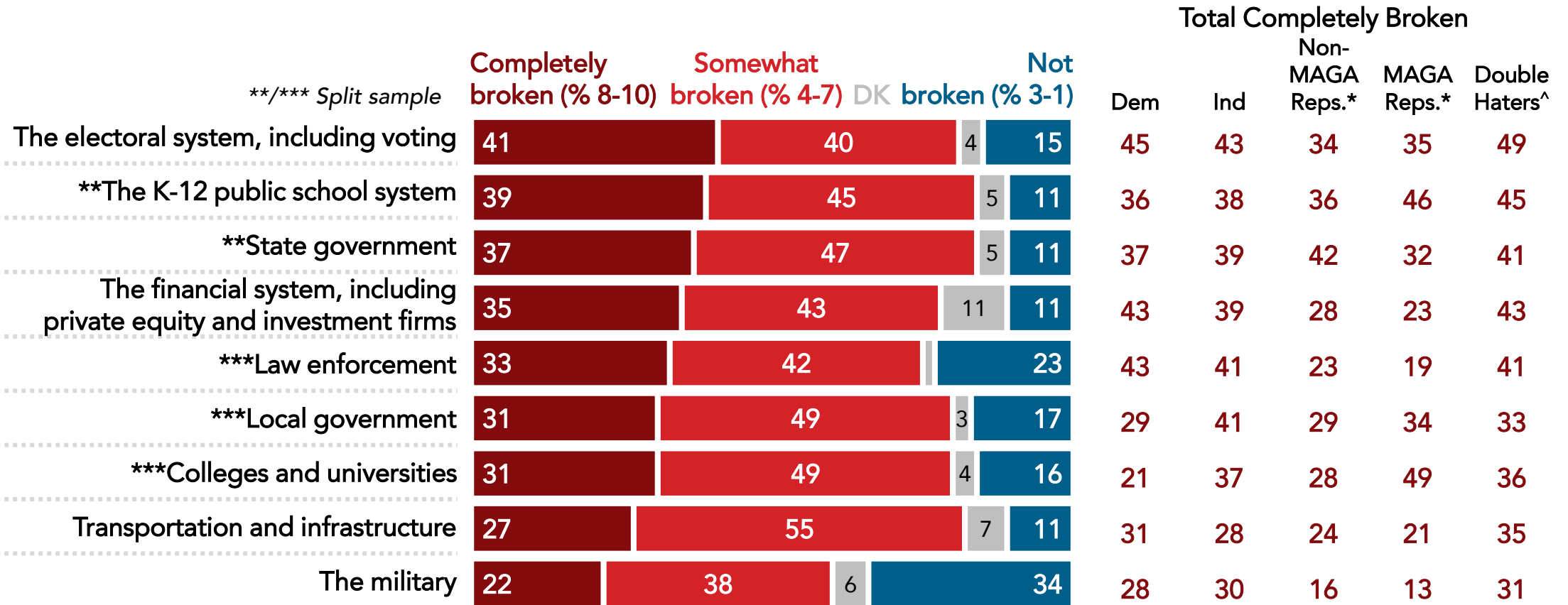
On a scale of 1 to 10, where 10 means “completely broken” and 1 means “not broken at all,” please indicate how broken you think each one is. (Top 10 of 19 tested)



\*“MAGA Republicans” are Republicans who identify as “a supporter of the MAGA movement” on a separate question, while “non-MAGA Republicans” are Republicans who do not consider themselves supporters of the MAGA movement or are not sure. ^Double haters are unfavorable to the Democratic Party and unfavorable to the Republican Party. Nationwide survey of 1,000 registered voters conducted May 13-May 18, 2026. For more info, visit [navigatorresearch.org](https://navigatorresearch.org).

# Americans See More Local Institutions, Like Local Government, Law Enforcement, and State Government, as Less Broken

On a scale of 1 to 10, where 10 means “completely broken” and 1 means “not broken at all,” please indicate how broken you think each one is. (Lower 9 of 19 tested)

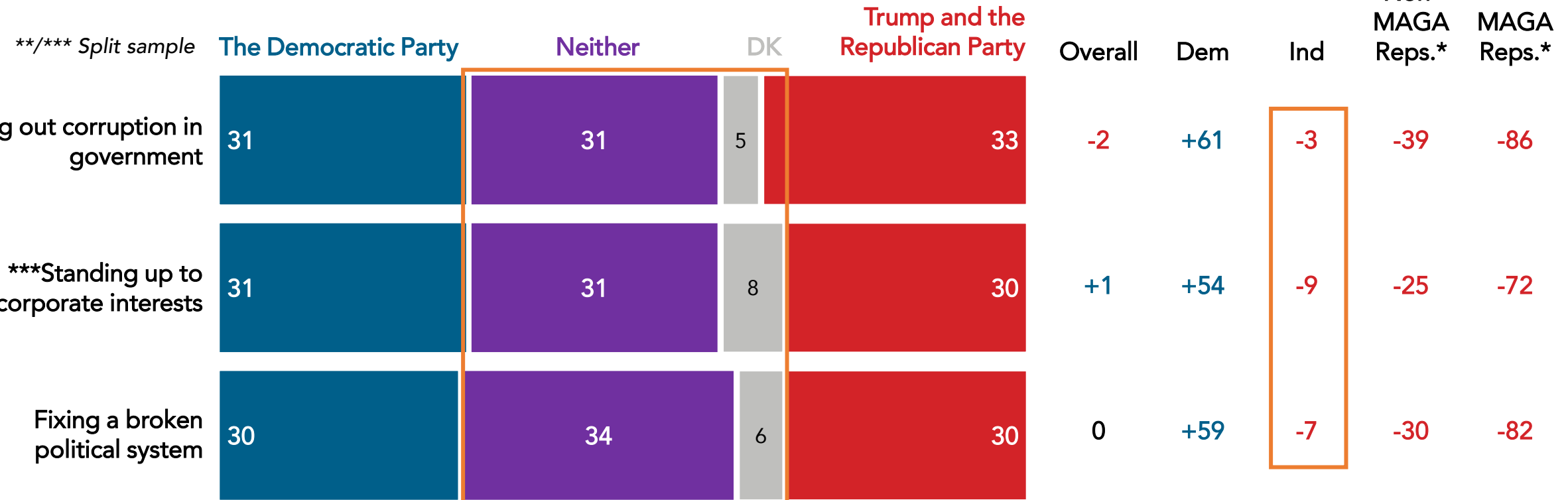


\*“MAGA Republicans” are Republicans who identify as “a supporter of the MAGA movement” on a separate question, while “non-MAGA Republicans” are Republicans who do not consider themselves supporters of the MAGA movement or are not sure. ^Double haters are unfavorable to the Democratic Party and unfavorable to the Republican Party. Nationwide survey of 1,000 registered voters conducted May 13-May 18, 2026. For more info, visit [navigatorresearch.org](https://navigatorresearch.org).

# A Plurality of Americans Don't Trust Either Party on Corruption, Standing Up to Corporations, or Fixing the Political System

Independents trust Republicans more on rooting out corruption in government (net -3 trust Dems), standing up to corporate interests (net -9), and fixing a broken political system (net -7).

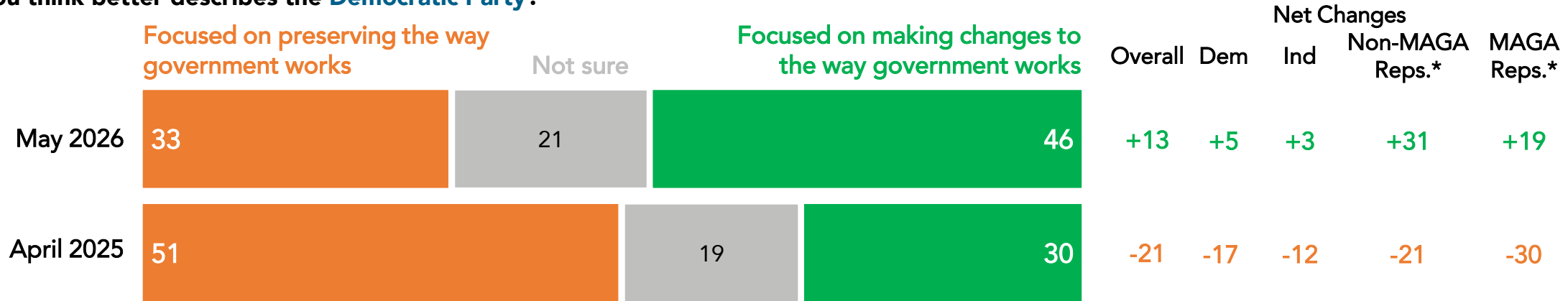
Below is a list of issues. Please indicate who you personally trust more to handle each one.



\*"MAGA Republicans" are Republicans who identify as "a supporter of the MAGA movement" on a separate question, while "non-MAGA Republicans" are Republicans who do not consider themselves supporters of the MAGA movement or are not sure. Nationwide survey of 1,000 registered voters conducted May 13-May 18, 2026. For more info, visit [navigatorresearch.org](https://navigatorresearch.org).

# Both Parties Seen as More Focused on Changing Gov't; Dems Viewed as Significantly Less Preservationist Than Previously

Which do you think better describes the **Democratic Party**?



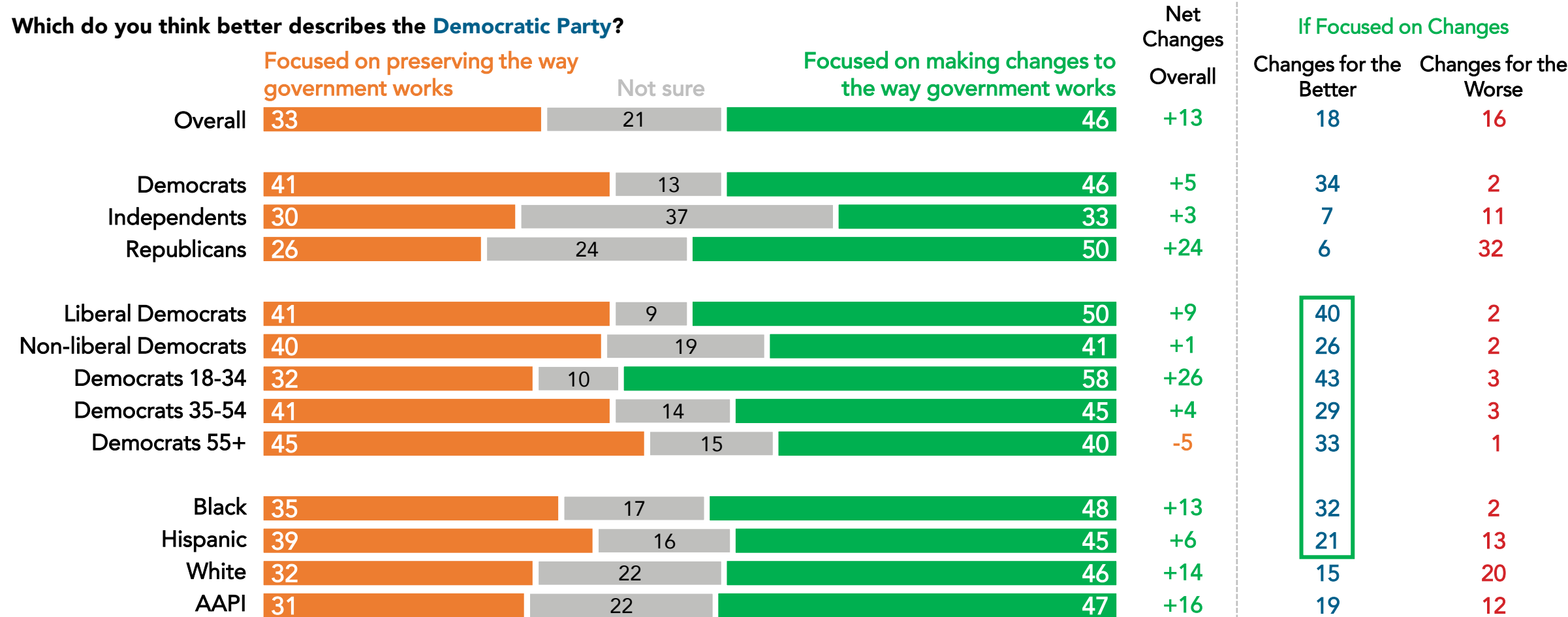
Which do you think better describes the **Republican Party**?



\*"MAGA Republicans" are Republicans who identify as "a supporter of the MAGA movement" on a separate question, while "non-MAGA Republicans" are Republicans who do not consider themselves supporters of the MAGA movement or are not sure. Nationwide surveys of registered voters; Each wave represents approximately 1,000 interviews taken over the prior three-five days. Latest wave conducted May 13-May 18, 2026. For more info, visit [navigatorresearch.org](https://navigatorresearch.org).

# Americans of Both Parties See Democrats Now Focused More on Change, Including Younger and More Liberal Democrats

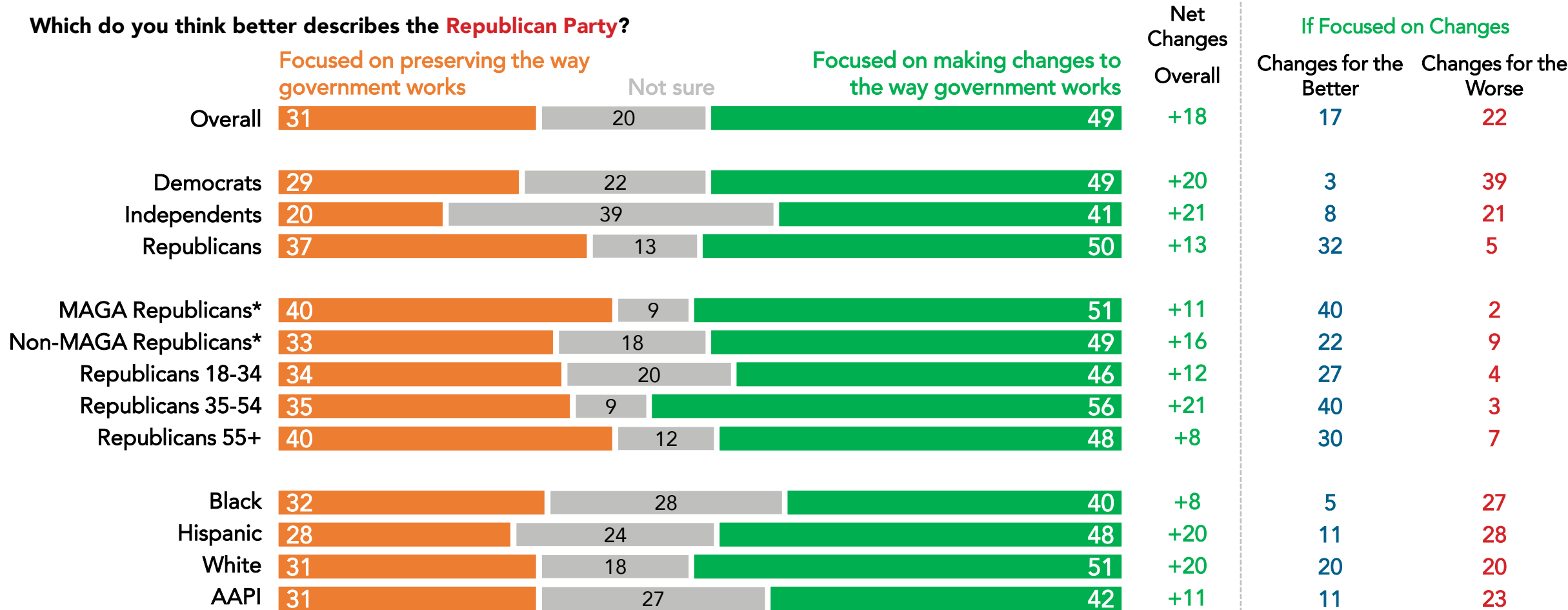
Which do you think better describes the Democratic Party?



Nationwide survey of 1,000 registered voters conducted May 13-May 18, 2026. For more info, visit [navigatorresearch.org](https://navigatorresearch.org).

# Middle-Aged and Non-MAGA Republicans Most See GOP as Focused on Change; Non-MAGA See Mix of Positive and Negative

Which do you think better describes the **Republican Party**?



Nationwide survey of 1,000 registered voters conducted May 13-May 18, 2026. For more info, visit [navigatorresearch.org](https://navigatorresearch.org).

# On Immigration, Progressives Improve Their Standing By Distancing Themselves from a Broken Status Quo

Which side do you agree with more?

**STATUS QUO:** Those who say we must secure the border, but also provide a pathway to citizenship for immigrants who have been here for many years and pass a background check.

Those who say illegal immigration has been too high for too long and so we must secure our country by significantly increasing border security and deporting violent criminals who do not belong here.

Net Agree With Progressive



**PIVOT:** Those who say our immigration system has been broken for far too long. We must fix it by both securing the border and providing a pathway to citizenship for immigrants who have been here for many years and pass a background check.

Nationwide survey of 1,000 registered voters conducted April 3-April 7, 2025. For more info, visit [navigatorresearch.org](http://navigatorresearch.org).

# On Taxes, Pivoting from a Rigged System Makes the Progressive Argument More Compelling Across Party Lines

Which side do you agree with more?

**STATUS QUO:** Those who say we need to make sure the rich and big corporations pay their fair share in taxes, so that we can invest in the middle class and working families who are struggling to get by.

Those who say we need fewer regulations and lower taxes, so that businesses can continue to invest and create jobs, and so that American families can more easily afford to get by.

Net Agree With Progressive



**PIVOT:** Those who say for far too long, our tax system has been rigged in favor of the rich while hurting the middle class. We need to rewrite that system to make sure the rich and big corporations pay their fair share in taxes, so that we can invest in the middle class and working families who are struggling to get by.

Nationwide survey of 1,000 registered voters conducted April 3-April 7, 2025. For more info, visit [navigatorresearch.org](https://navigatorresearch.org).

# Calling Out a Broken Healthcare System Drives Majorities to Agree More With a Progressive View

Which side do you agree with more?

**STATUS QUO:** Those who say to lower health care costs, the government should be more involved in providing health care and do more to take on drug and insurance companies that raise prices to pad their profits.

Those who say to lower health care costs, the government should be less involved and get out of the way of private companies that will be better at innovating and avoiding wasteful spending.



**PIVOT:** Those who say our health care system is broken, with 20 million Americans in medical debt. We need to do more to make health care affordable: the government should be more involved in providing health care and do more to take on drug and insurance companies that raise prices to pad their profits.

Net Agree With Progressive

	Overall	Dem	Ind	Rep	Non-MAGA Rep	MAGA Rep
	+36	+68	+18	+8	+24	-2
	+54	+76	+56	+30	+42	+24

Nationwide survey of 1,000 registered voters conducted April 3-April 7, 2025. For more info, visit [navigatorresearch.org](https://navigatorresearch.org).

# navigator\*

## 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.

## About the Study

Global Strategy Group conducted a public opinion survey among a sample of 1,000 registered voters from May 13-May 18, 2026. 102 additional interviews were conducted among Hispanic voters. 101 additional interviews were conducted among African American voters. 75 additional interviews were conducted among Asian American and Pacific Islander voters. 101 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. The margin of error for the full sample at the 95 percent level of confidence is +/- 3.1 percentage points. The margin of error for subgroups varies and is higher.

For Press inquiries contact:

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To learn more about Navigator:

<http://navigatorresearch.org>

@NavigatorSurvey on Twitter