

Election Night Survey

November 9, 2022

PREPARED BY:

Public Opinion Strategies



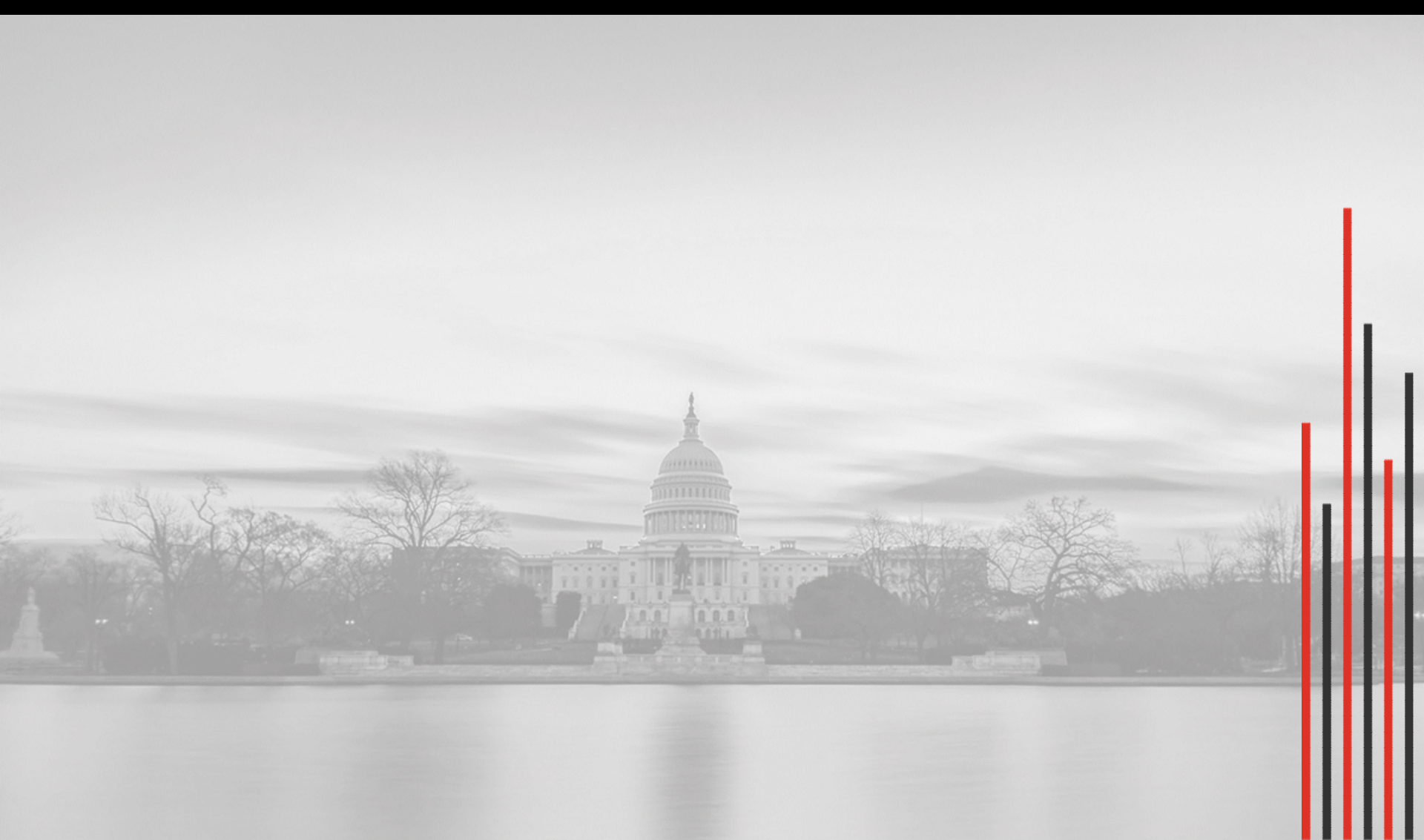
METHODOLOGY



Public Opinion Strategies completed a survey of N=1600 actual voters nationwide.

Four hundred thirty-six respondents were contacted via landline and 1164 via cell phone.

The survey was conducted November 8, 2022 and has a margin of error of $\pm 2.45\%$.



Take-Away Points

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- 1.** Despite the record-breaking negative mood of the country, and lackluster Biden approval scores, the GOP's narrow margin on the generic ballot translated into a smaller advantage than anticipated in the US House.
- 2.** Voters' top issues were "rising prices and inflation" and "abortion," followed by "the economy and jobs" and "protecting democracy." Inflation/economic issues were cited by 58% of voters while abortion and protecting democracy were cited by 56%, providing the GOP with only a modest advantage.
- 3.** One key to the better-than-expected Democrat performance in the election is the threat that Democrats believed GOP candidates posed for the country. Fully 81% of Democratic voters agree that "Republicans represent a threat to democracy that will destroy America as we know it." By way of comparison, just 69% of Republicans feel the same way about Democrats.

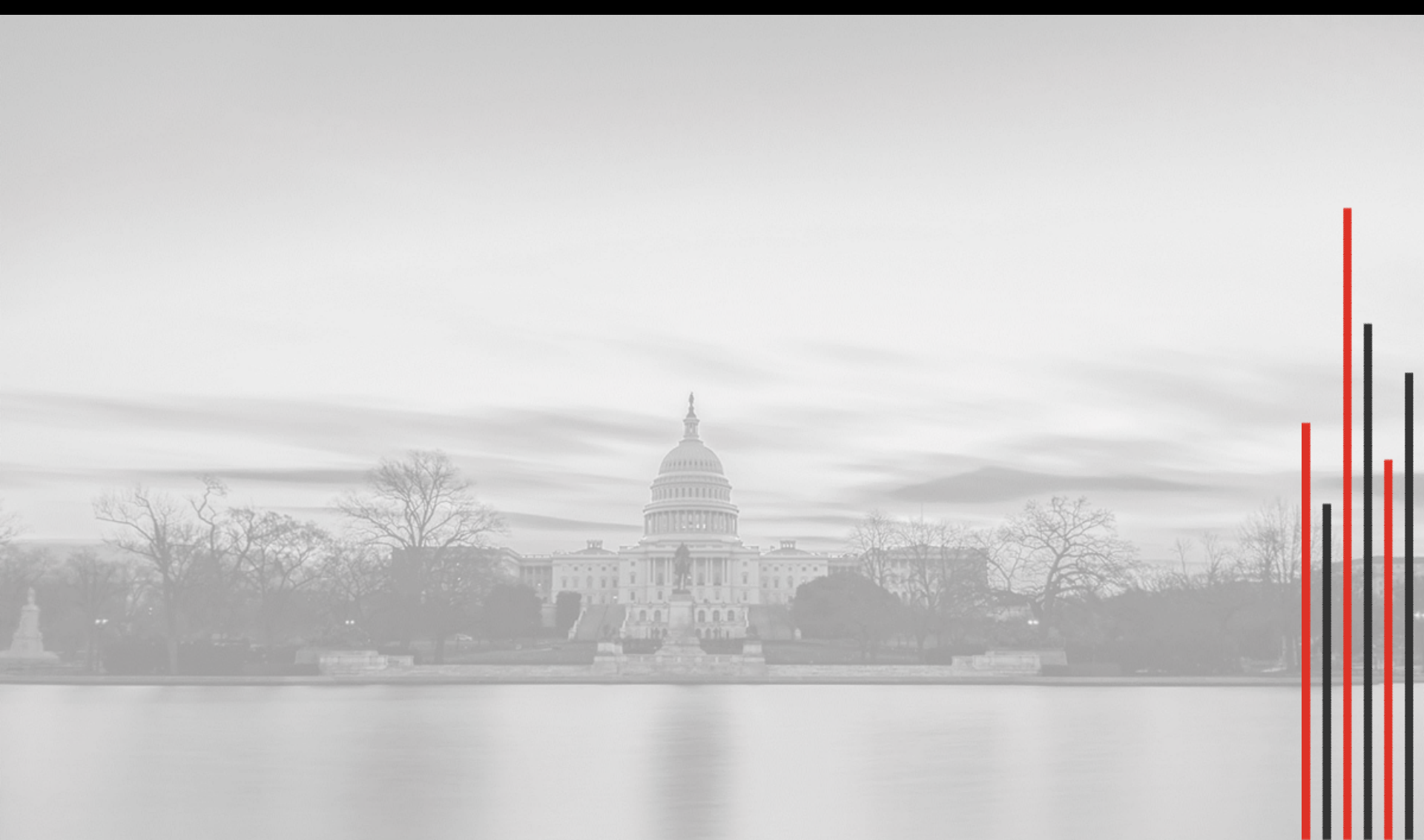
Take-Away Points

- 4.** Our polling indicates Democrats had the late momentum, as late deciders (24% of the electorate) broke 51%-47% in their favor.
- 5.** Both Republicans and Democrats want their parties to work across the aisle to pass bipartisan legislation, rather than push through the policies that the respective parties ran on.
- 6.** This data seems to point to the sentiment that while voters were ready and willing to make a change, they didn't fully trust the GOP to be that change.

BOTTOM LINE

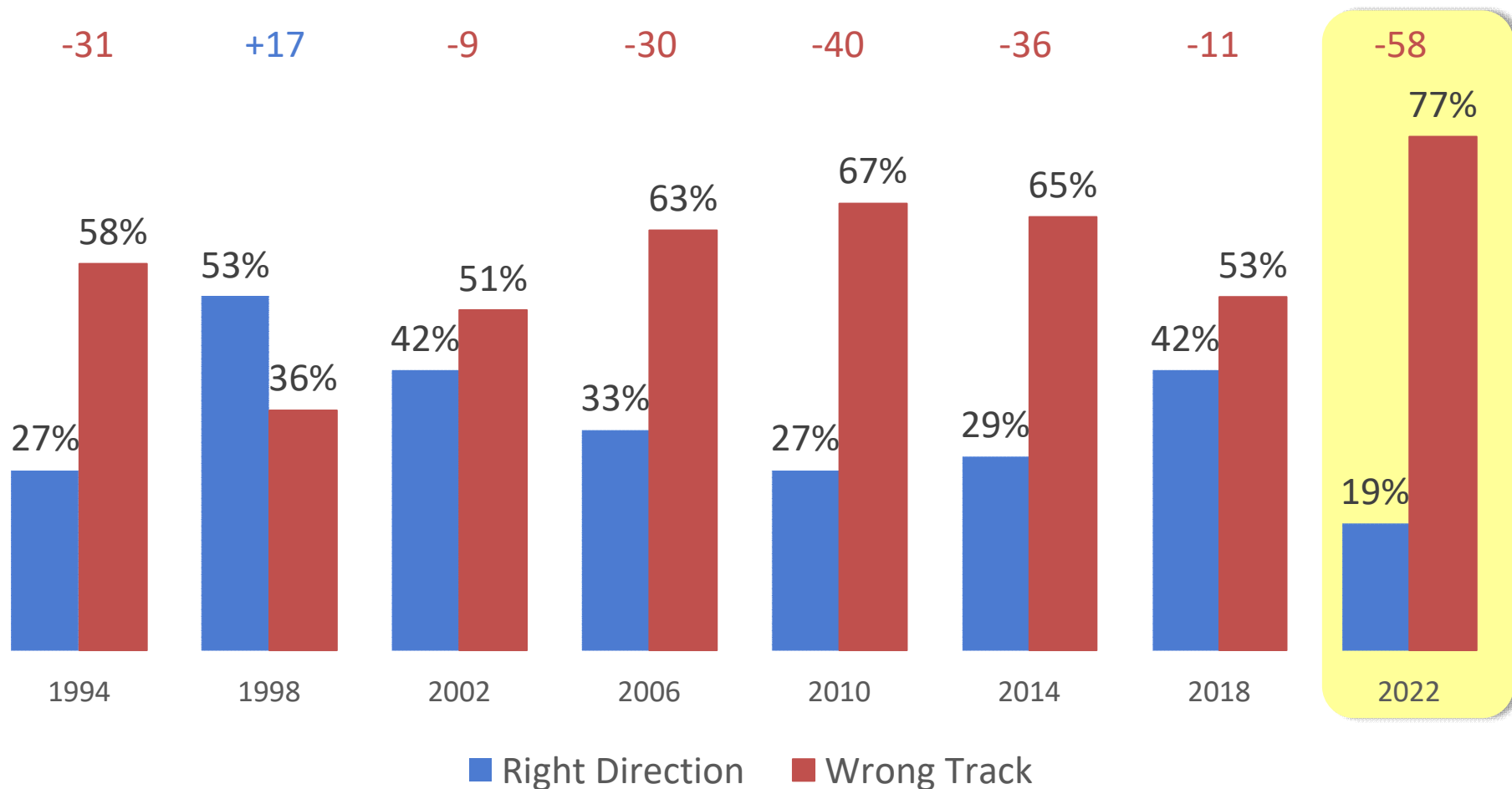


Regardless of the final numbers and the outcome of the House and Senate races where votes are still being counted, Democrats out-performed expectations and Americans once again reinforced the extreme partisan divide in the country.

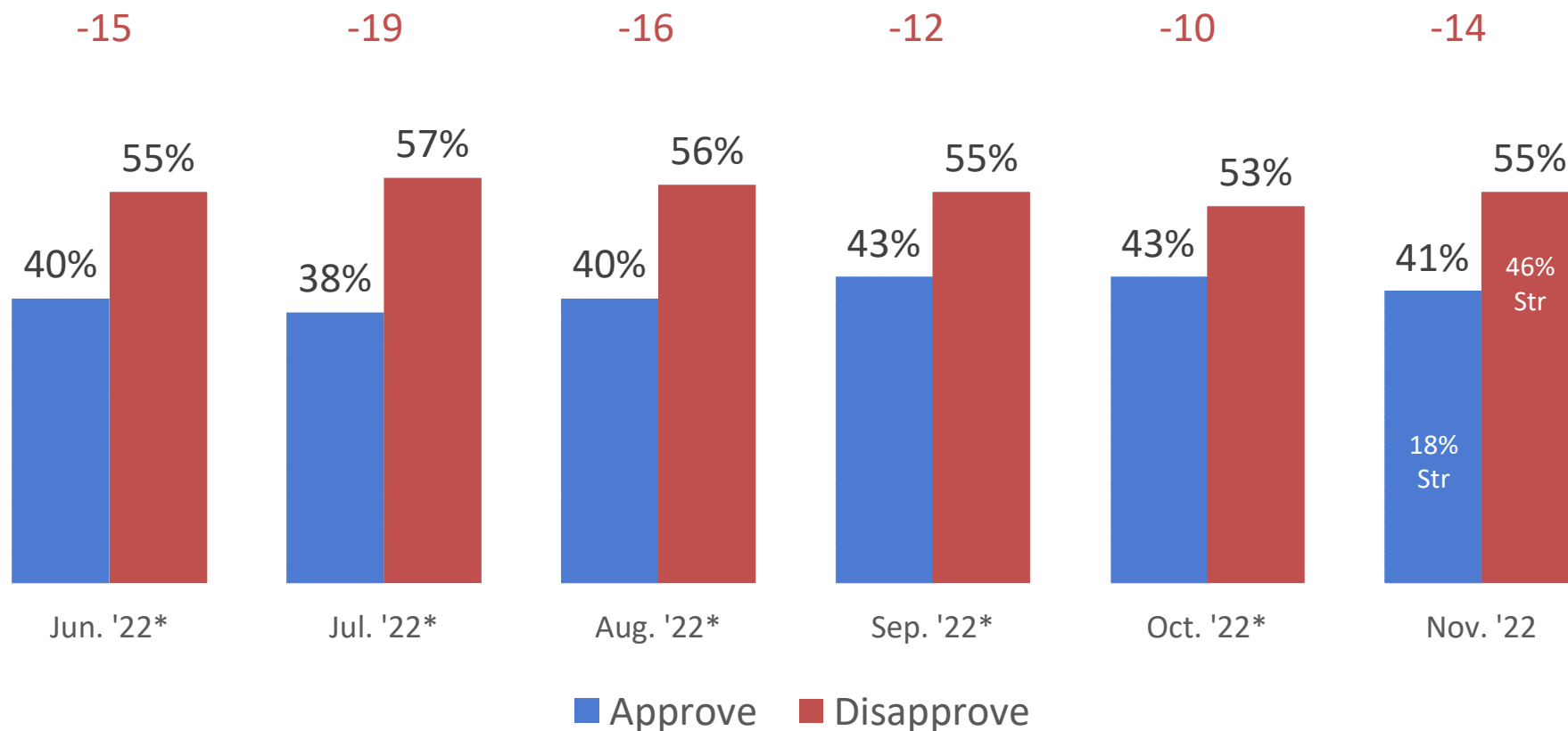


Understanding the 2022 Mid-Term Election

The mood of the country was the most negative we've ever tested for a mid-term election.

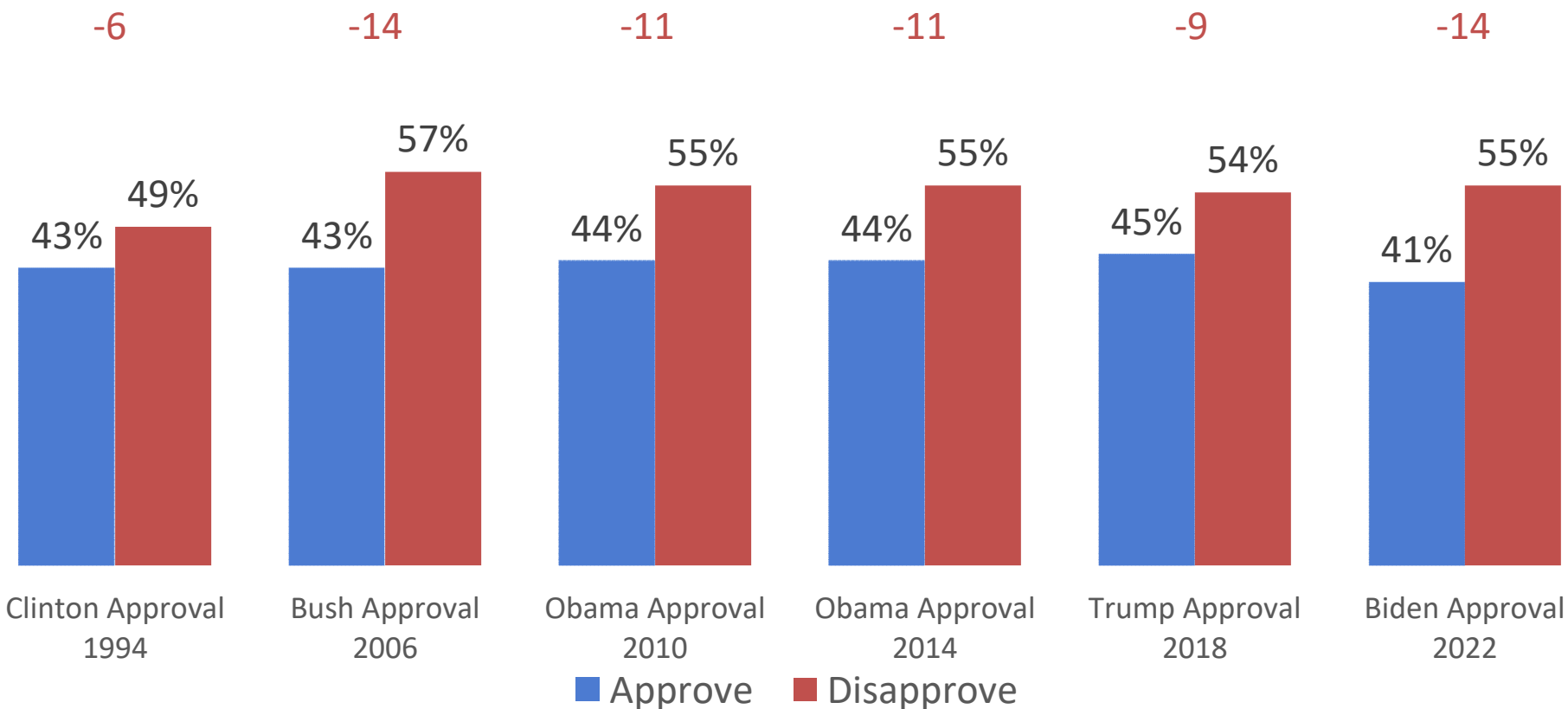


President Biden's job approval rating failed to break 45%.

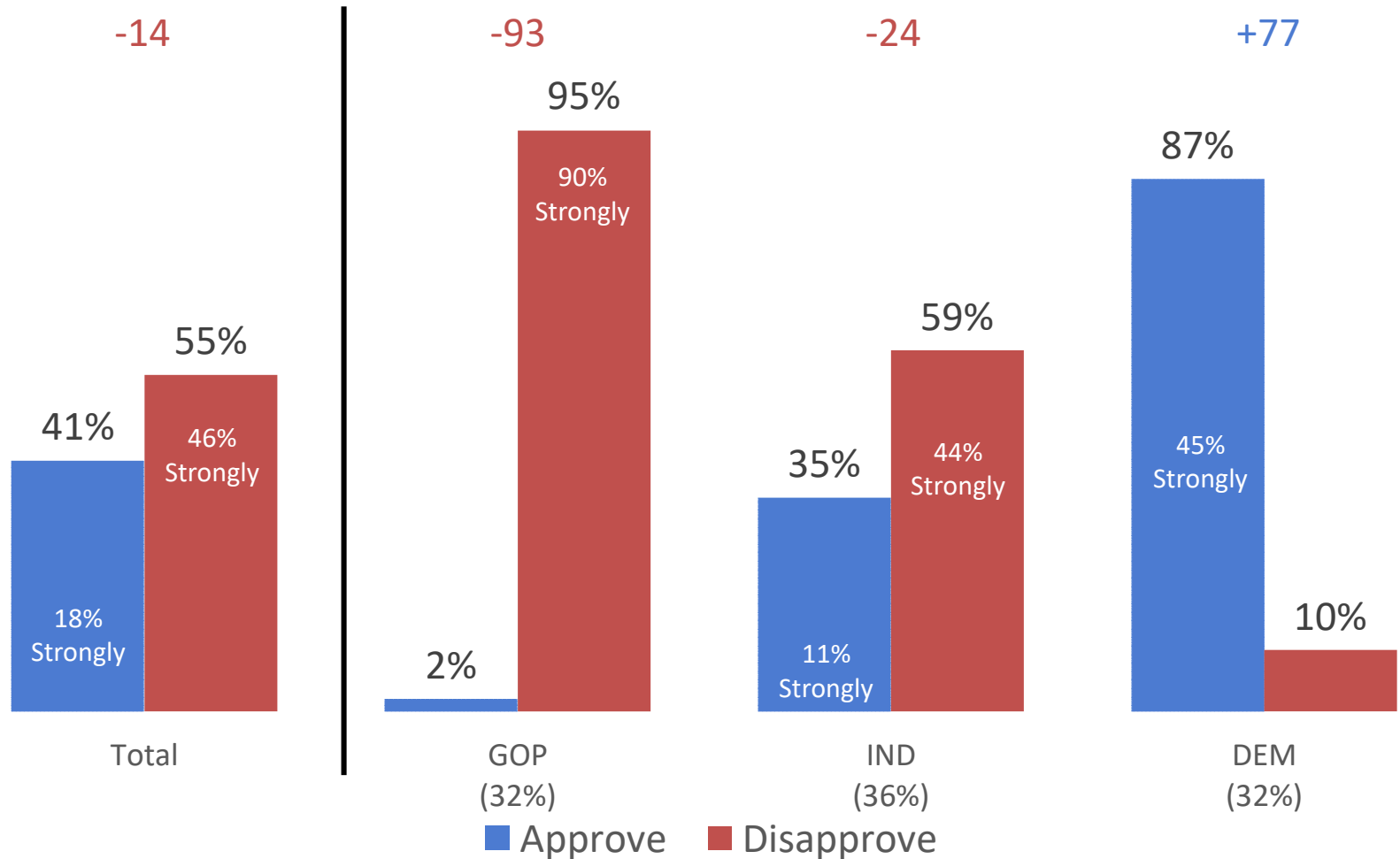


*Monthly RCP Averages

In fact, Biden's job approval was consistent with other Presidents who lost seats in a midterm.

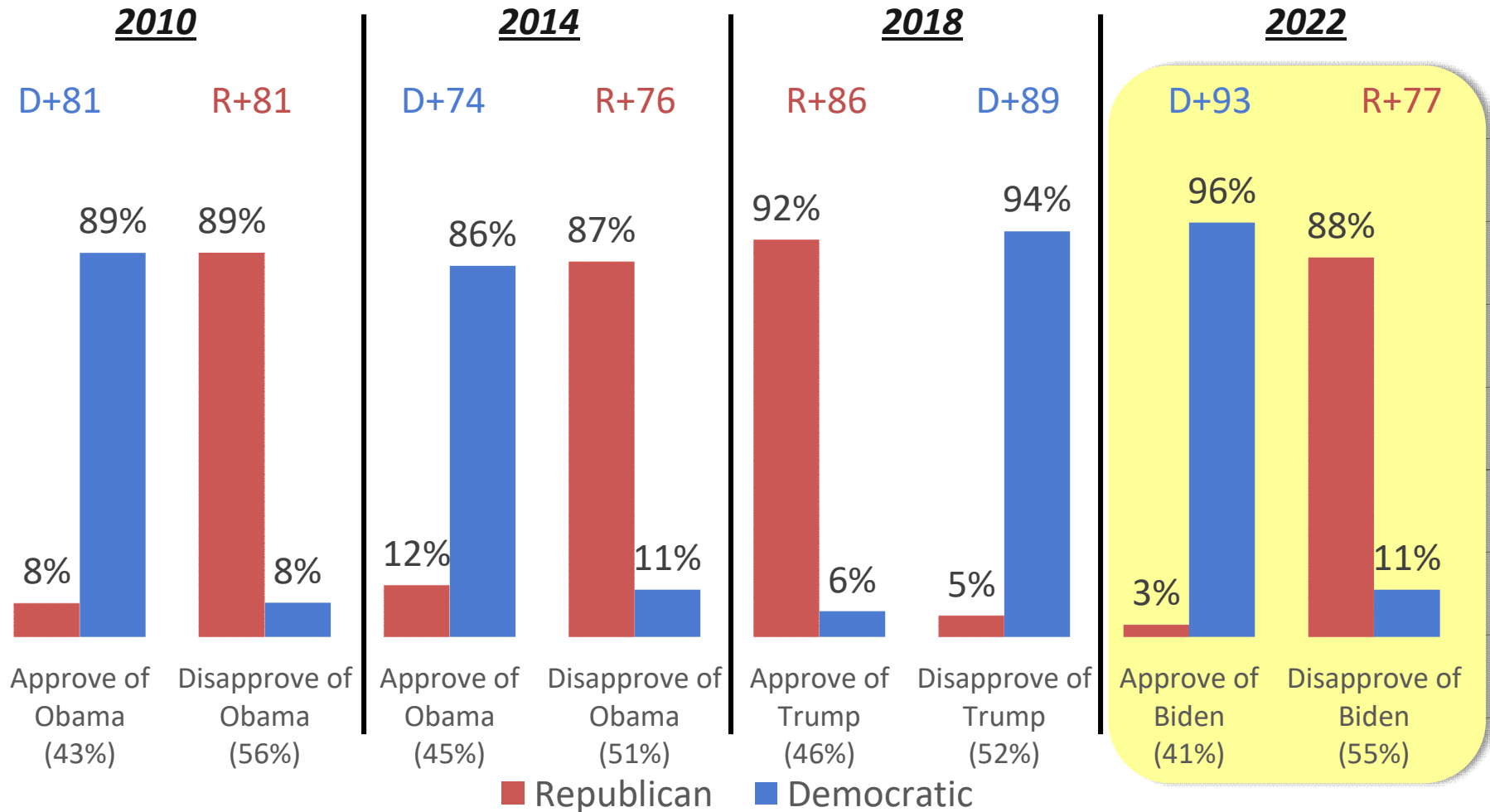


Biden's job approval among Independents helped swing the election to the GOP.



*Sample N=800 Actual Voters

One reason Democrats overperformed the fundamentals of wrong track/disapprove is that there was a wider than normal ballot gap between approvers and disapprovers.



*Among N=776 Actual Voters

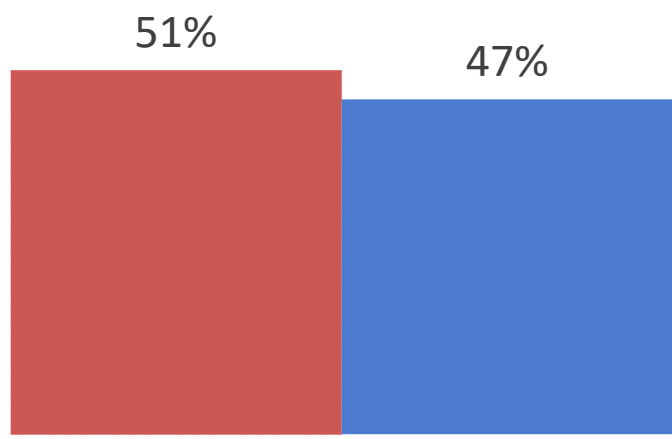
Voters favored the GOP candidate for Governor in their home states but were split on U.S. Senate candidates.



For whom did you vote in the election for Governor in your state...

The Republican candidate
...or...
The Democratic candidate?

+4

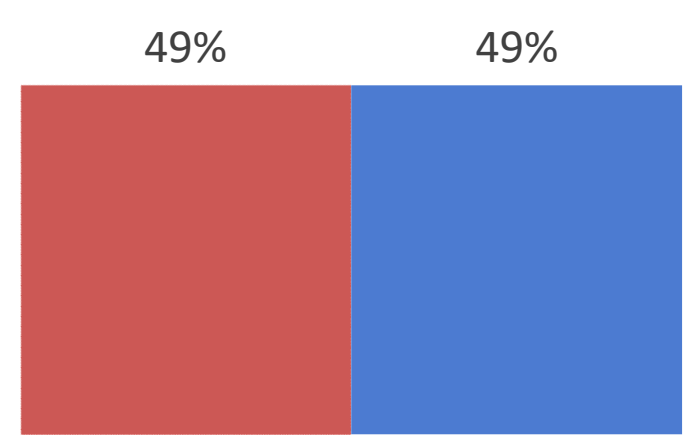


Total

For whom did you vote in the election for U.S. Senate in your state...

The Republican candidate
...or...
The Democratic candidate?

-0-

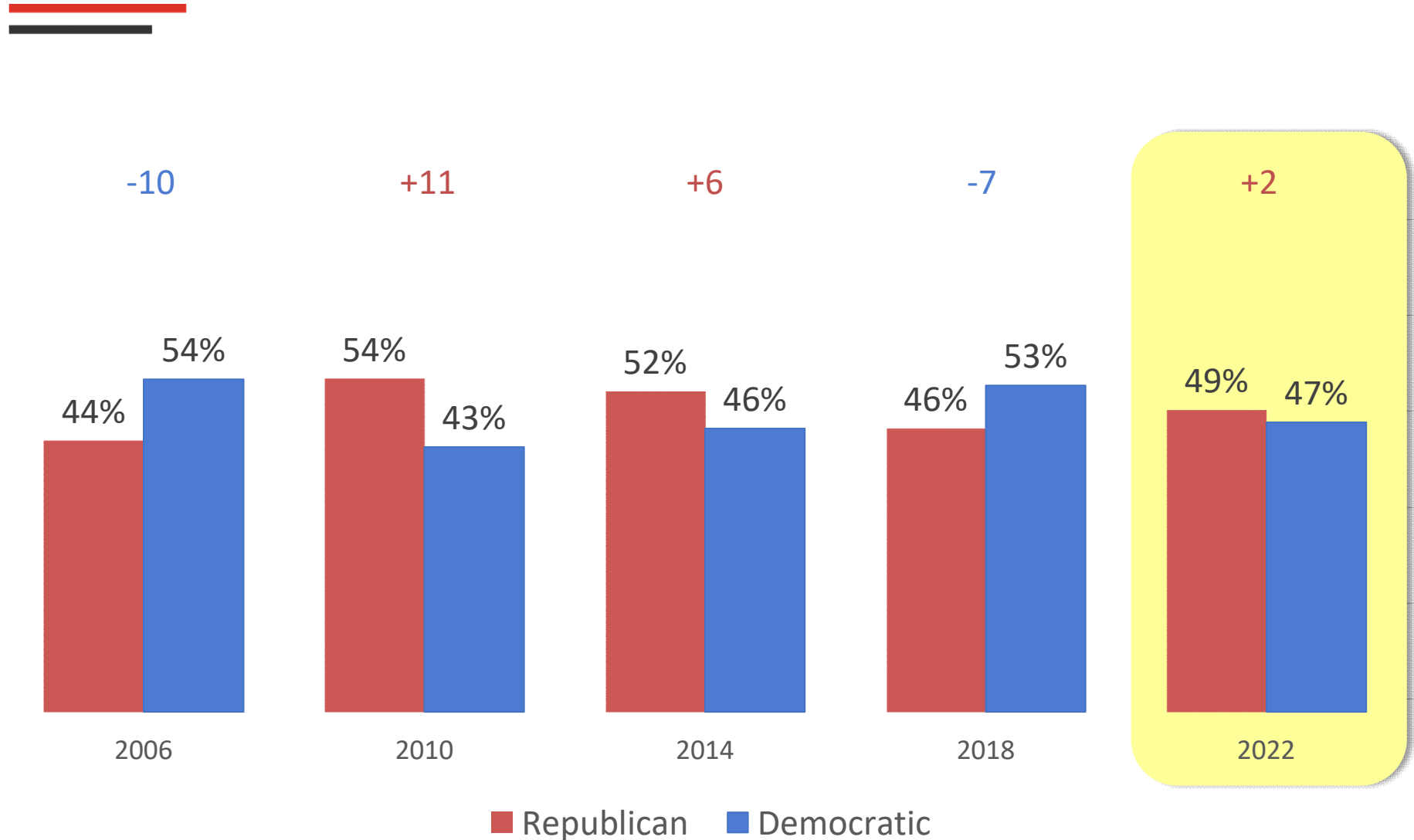


Total

*Among N=624 Actual Voters

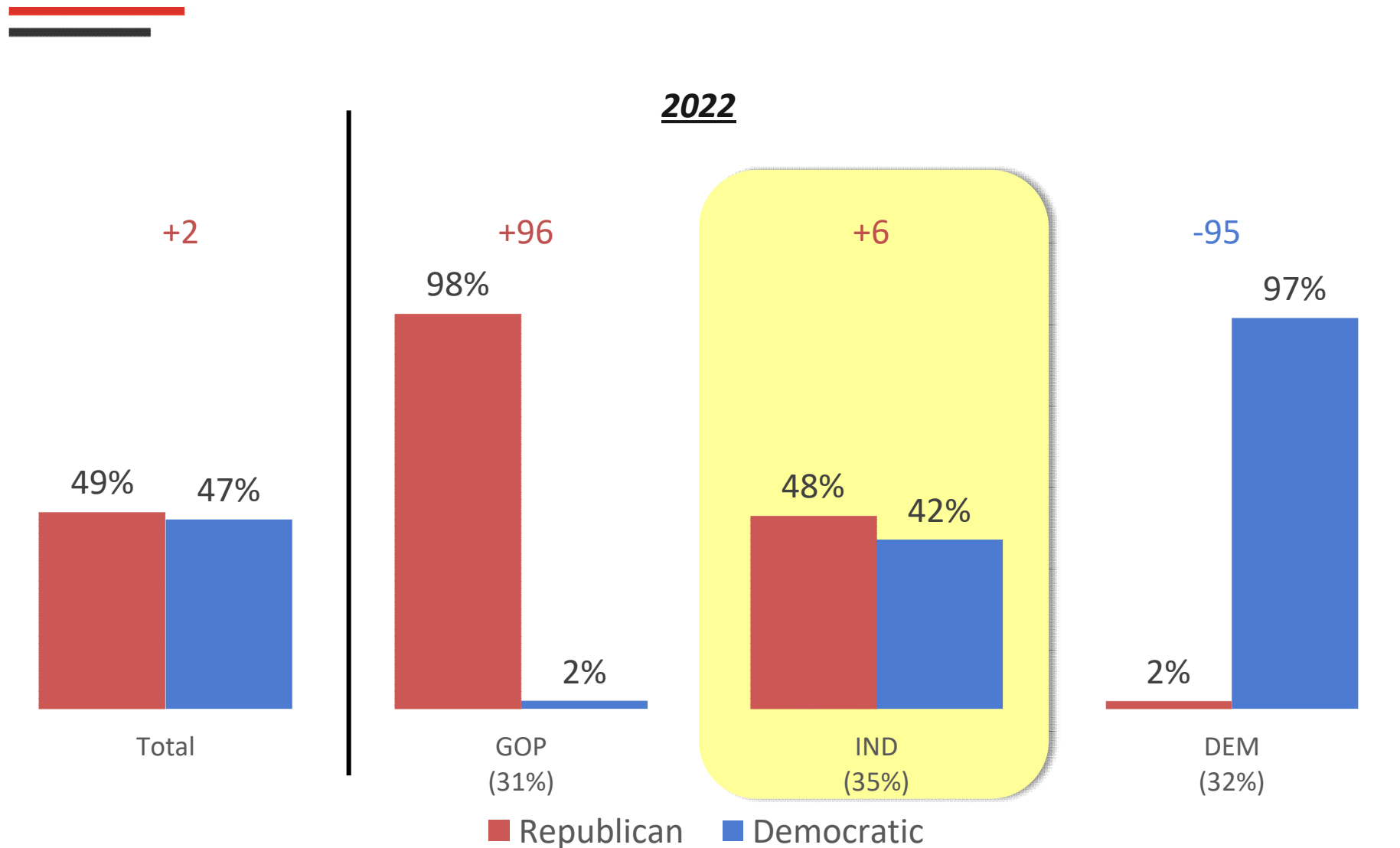
*Among N=569 Actual Voters

GOP candidates also won the race for Congress by a narrow margin.



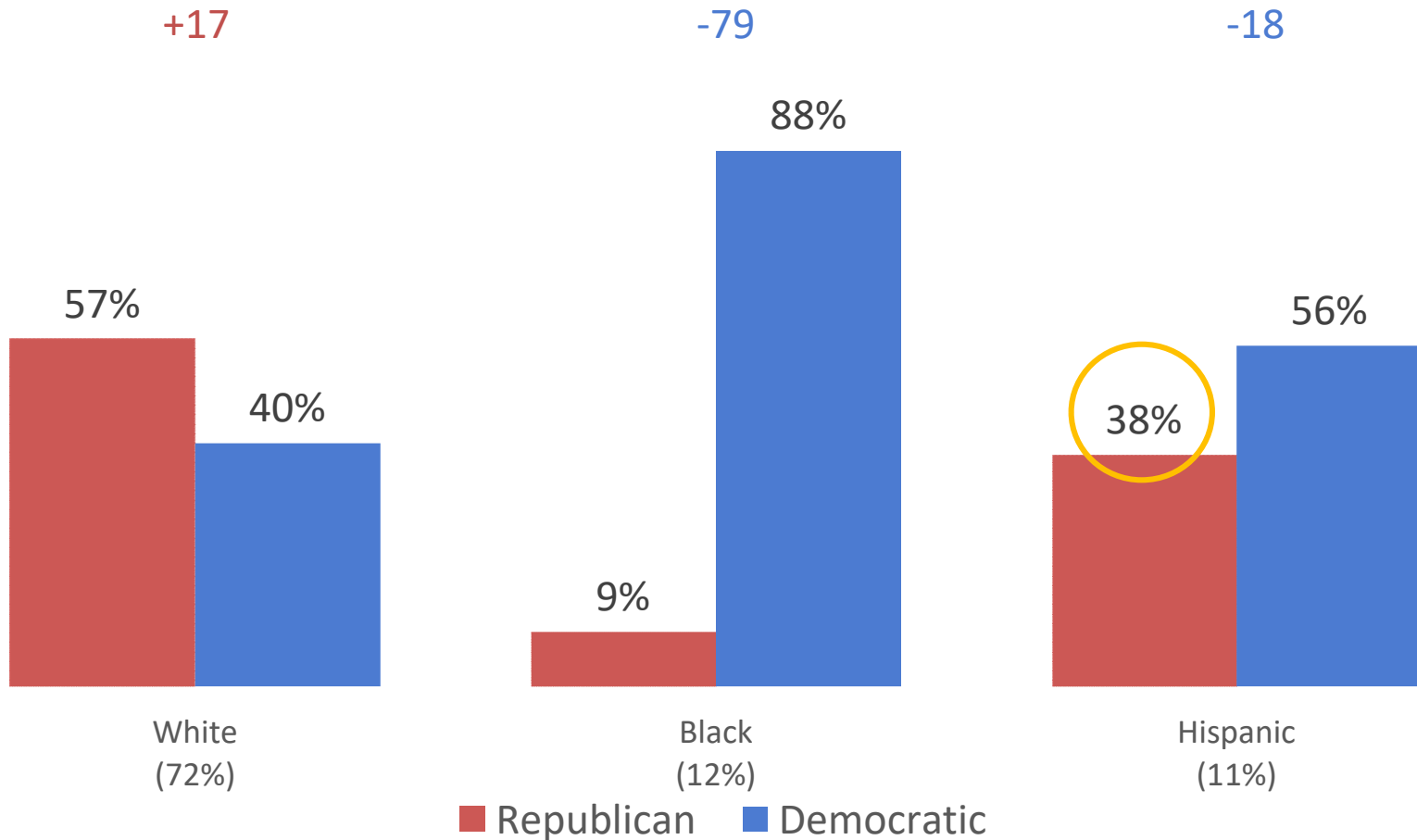
*Total Sample N=1600

And, had a modest 6 point lead among Independents.



*Total Sample N=1600

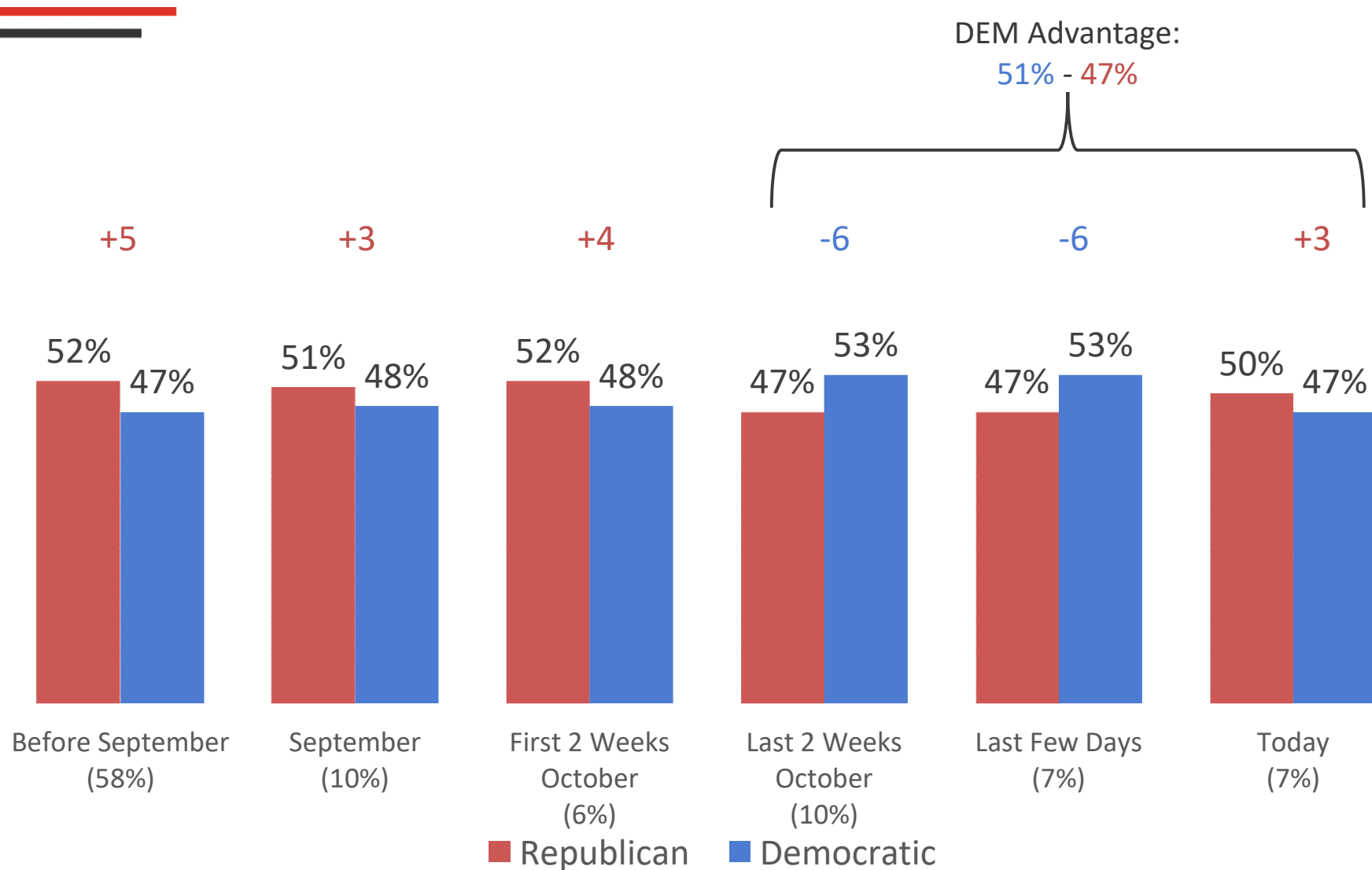
GOP candidates also won fully 38% of Hispanic voters.



As we've seen in previous years, most voters decided their Congressional vote prior to October.

Presidential Time of Vote Decision-Making	2002	2006	2010	2014	2018	2022
Today/The last few days before the election	26%	15%	14%	15%	13%	12%
October	27%	22%	23%	24%	22%	17%
September or Before	45%	62%	57%	60%	64%	68%

GOP candidates won among early deciders, while DEMs had an edge among late deciders.



*Among N=1550 Actual Voters

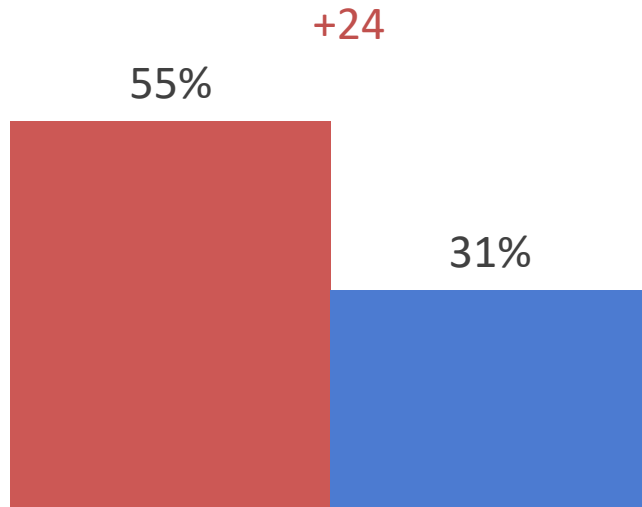
Both GOP and DEM voters cast their ballot FOR their candidates rather than against their opponents.

And, was your vote for the Republican candidate for Congress more because...

You like the Republican candidate and support their policies and issue positions

...or...

You dislike the Democratic candidate and oppose their policies and issue positions?



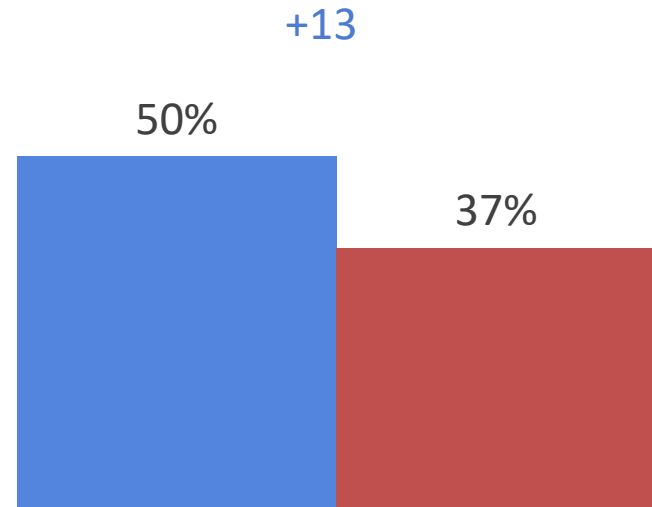
Among Republican Voters
(N=392)

And, was your vote for the Democratic candidate for Congress more because...

You like the Democratic candidate and support their policies and issue positions

...or...

You dislike the Republican candidate and oppose their policies and issue positions?



Among Democratic Voters
(N=376)

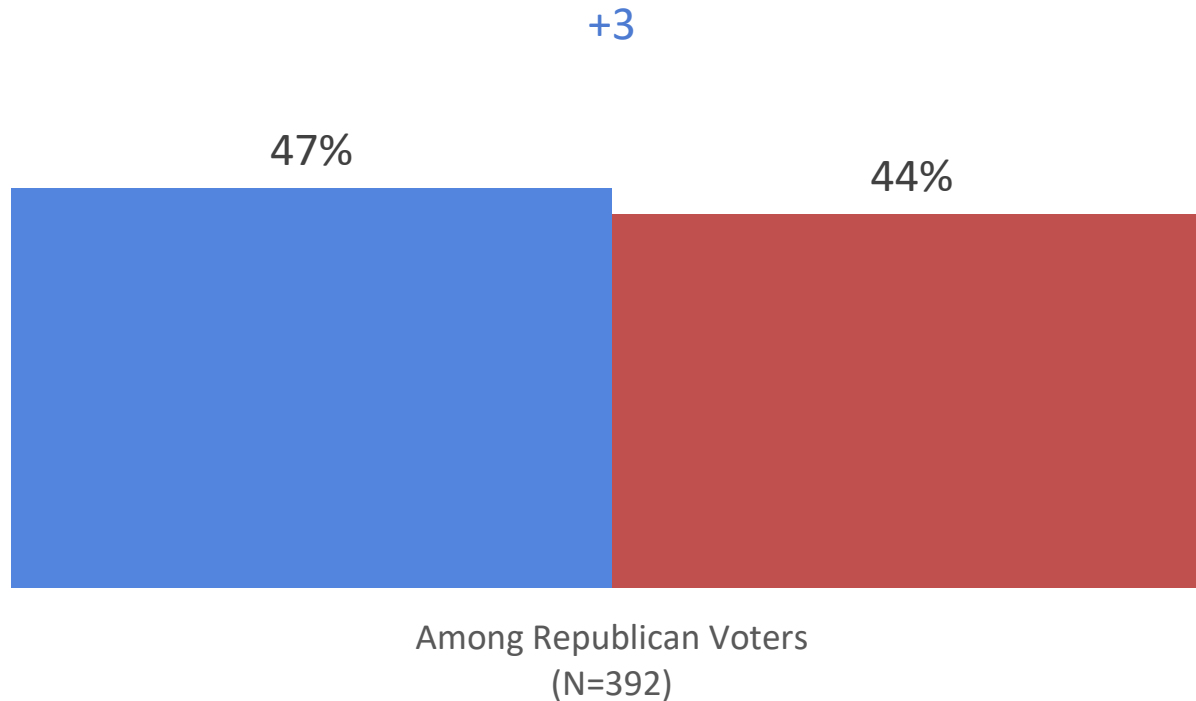
**Sample N=800 Actual Voters*

Should Republicans gain control of the House and Senate, GOP voters are open to bi-partisanship.

And, assuming for a moment that Republicans gain control of the U.S. House and Senate, do you believe Republicans should
Work with Democrats to pass bipartisan legislation

...or...

Should they push through the Republican policies they ran on?

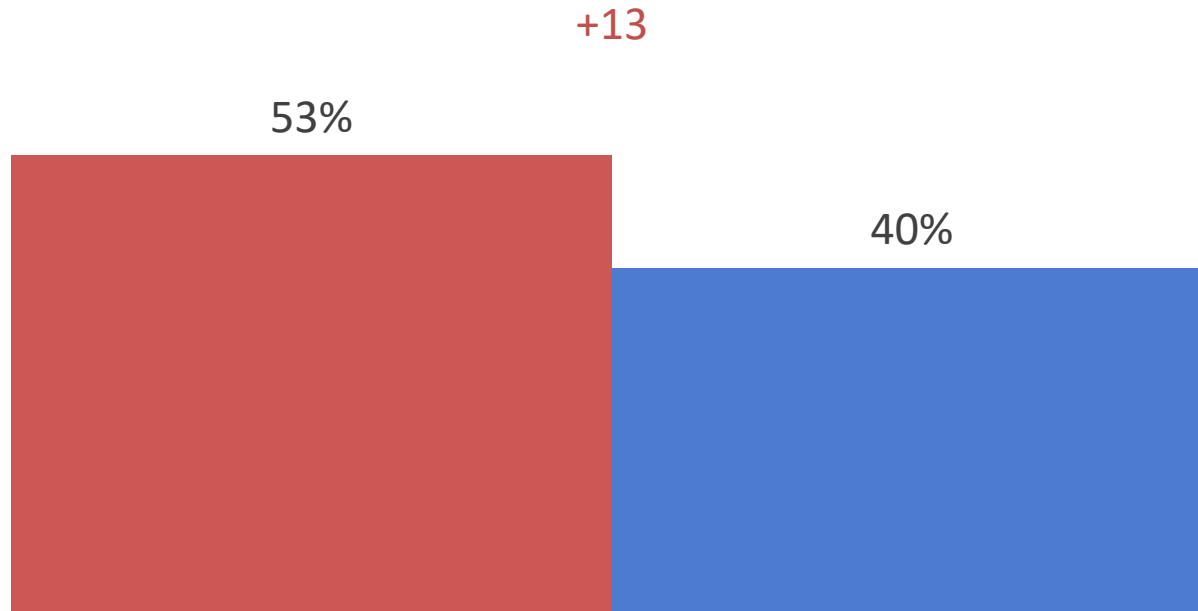


And, Democrats feel the same way if their party retains control.

And, assuming for a moment that Democrats retain control of the U.S.
House and Senate, do you believe Democrats should
Work with Republicans to pass bipartisan legislation

...or...

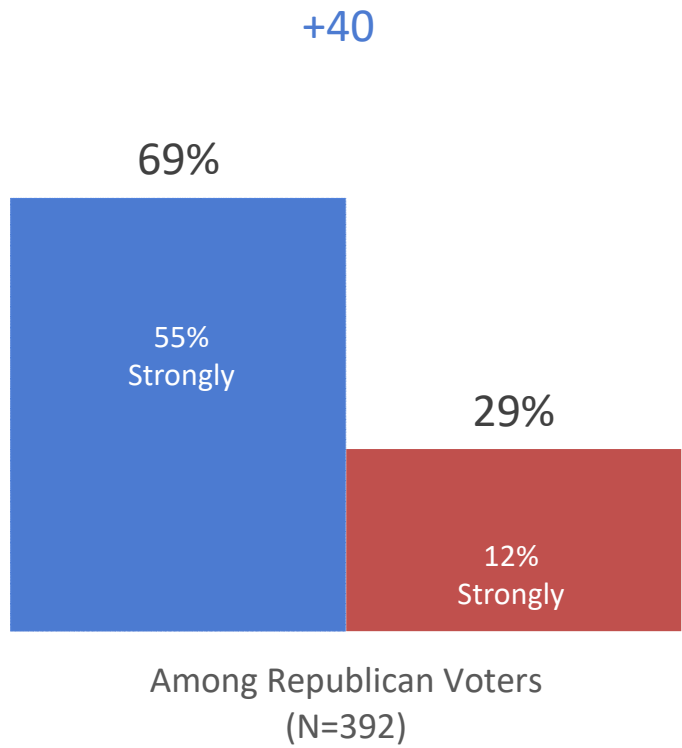
Should they push through the Democratic policies they ran on?



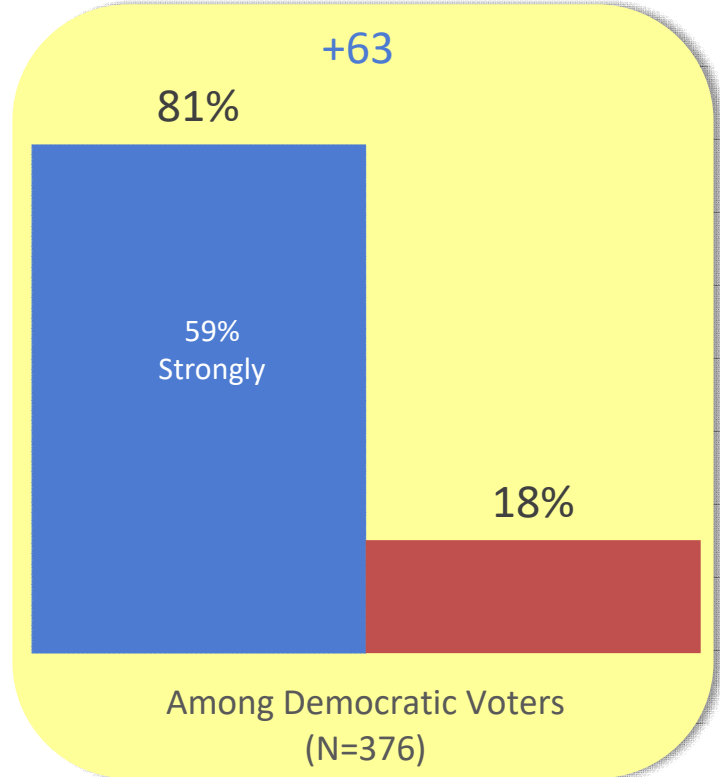
Among Democratic Voters
(N=376)

Yet, Democrats are more likely to believe that “Republicans represent a threat to democracy that, if not stopped, will destroy America as we know it.”

And, do you agree or disagree with the following statement?
Democrats represent a threat to democracy that, if not stopped, will destroy America as we know it.

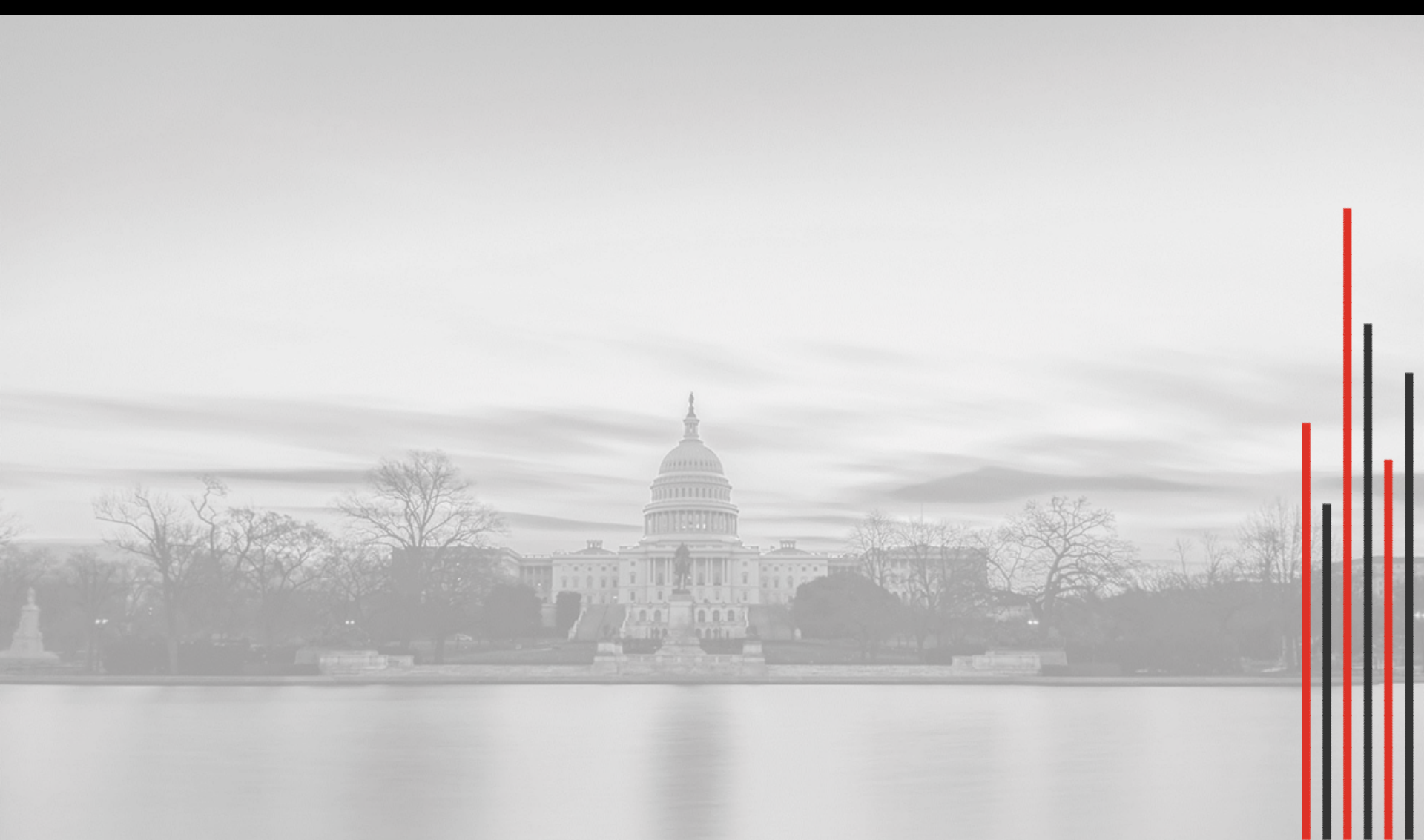


And, do you agree or disagree with the following statement?
Republicans represent a threat to democracy that, if not stopped, will destroy America as we know it.



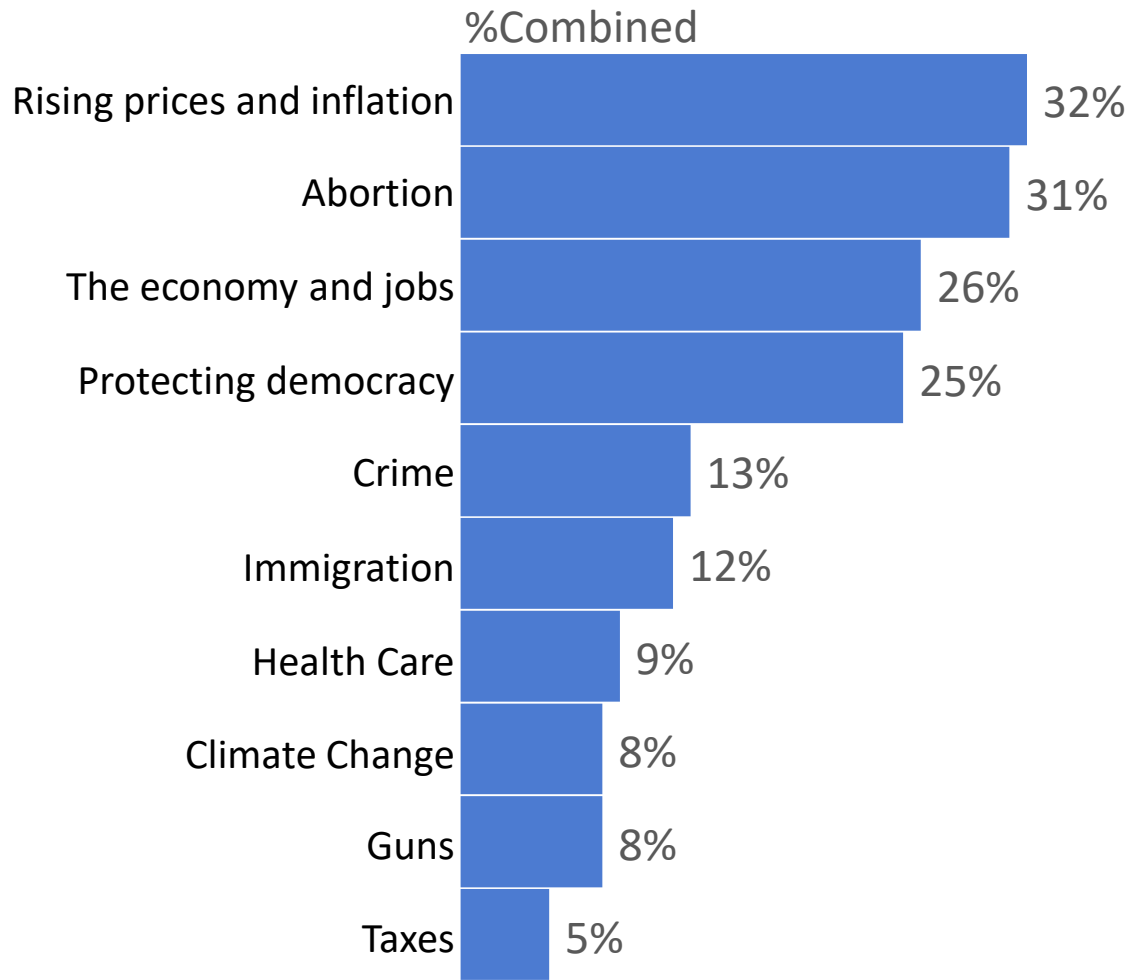
■ Agree ■ Disagree

*Sample N=800 Actual Voters



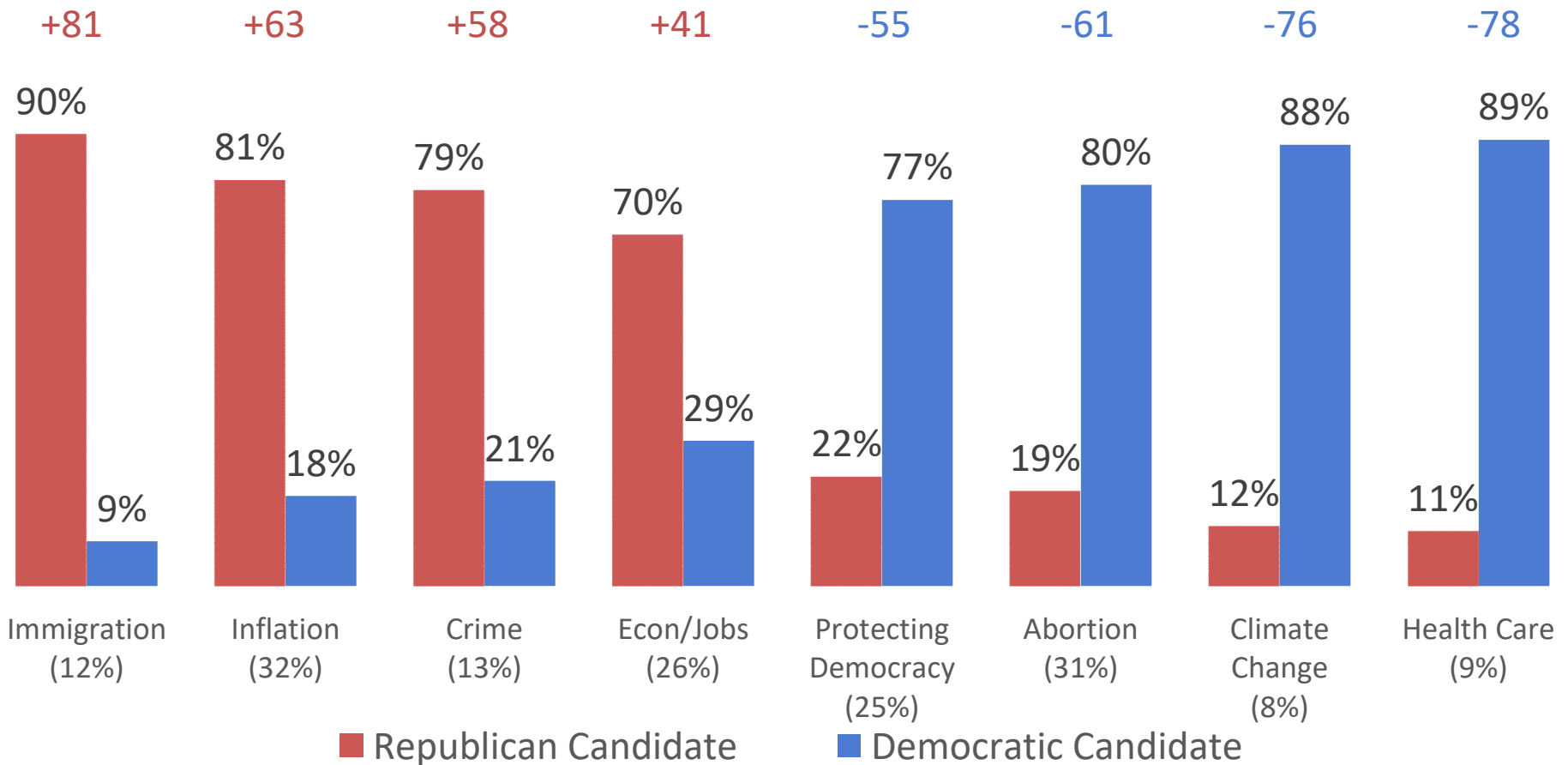
The Issue Agenda

The top voting issue—inflation, followed by abortion, the economy and “protecting democracy.”

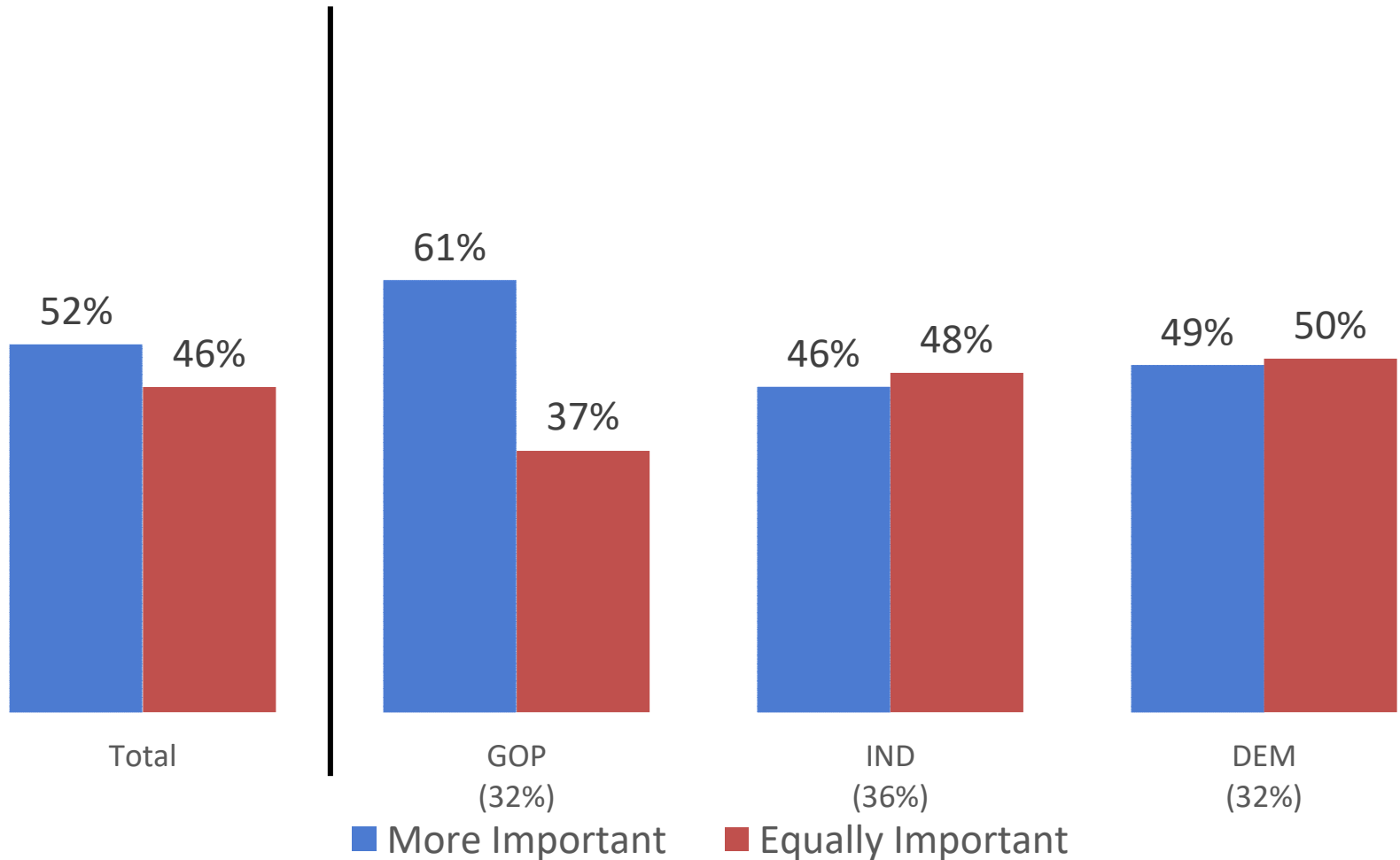


*Total Sample N=1600 Actual Voters

GOP candidates won handily among those concerned about economic issues, immigration and crime, while Democrats fared better on democracy, abortion, climate and health care.



A majority of voters said this election was more important to them than past Congressional elections.



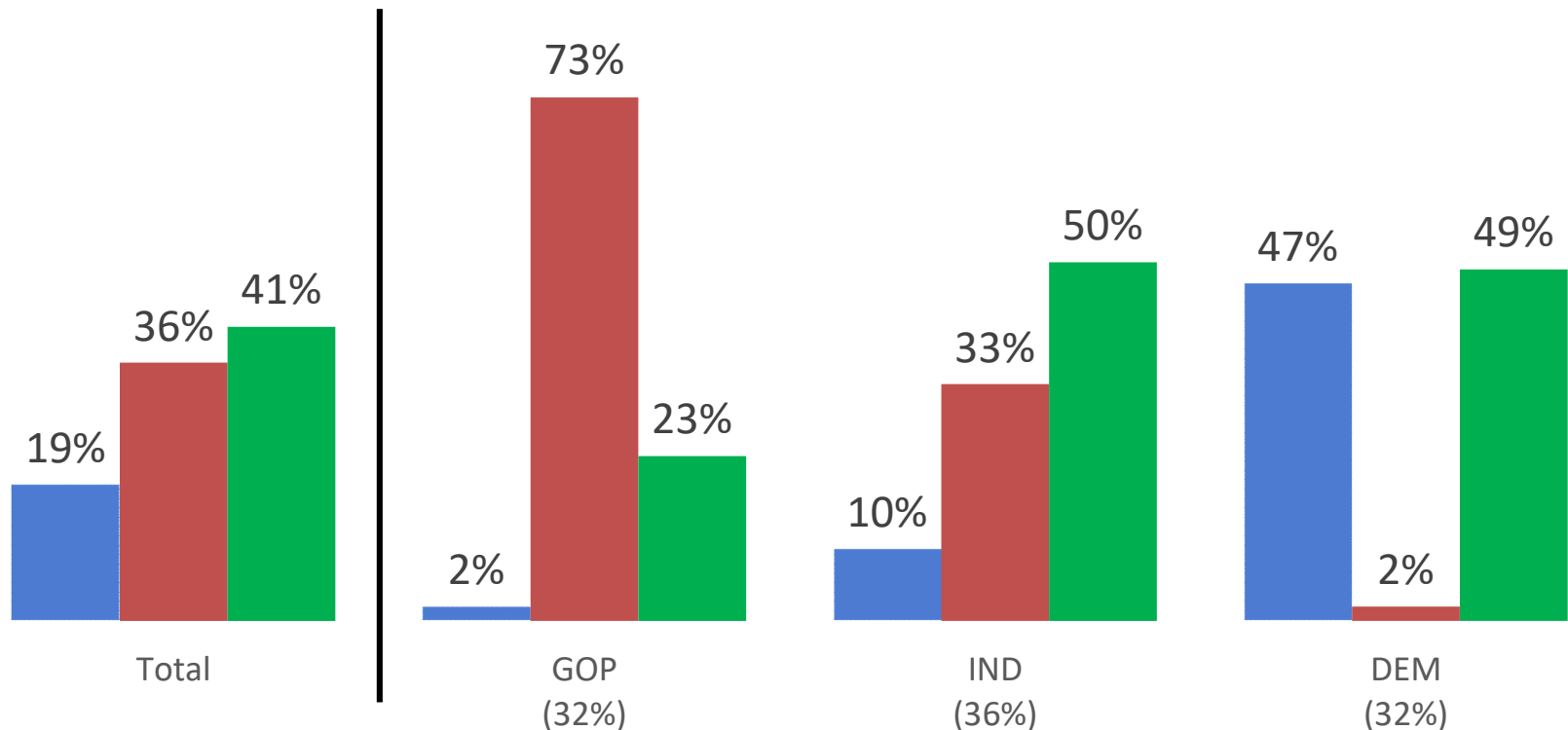
**Sample N=800 Actual Voters*

A plurality of voters say their vote was not a message about President Biden.

A message SUPPORTING President Biden and his policies and programs

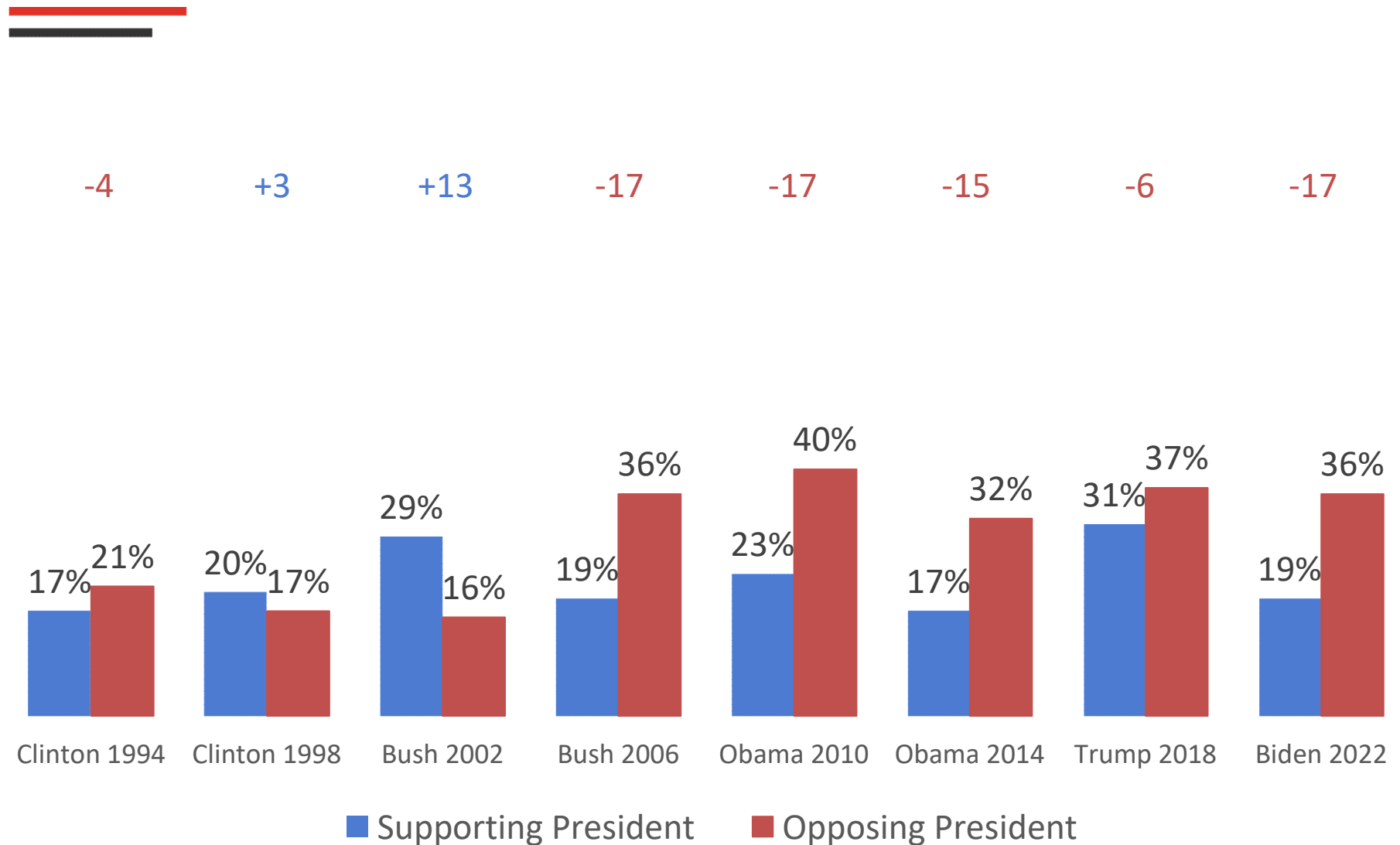
A message OPPOSING President Biden and his policies and programs

Not a message either way about President Biden or his policies and programs?



**Sample N=800 Actual Voters*

Voters sending a message to oppose Biden is in line with the last few mid-terms.



*Sample N=800 Actual Voters



PUBLIC OPINION STRATEGIES

turning questions into answers

