



Eye on the Economy

VOTER PERCEPTIONS ABOUT TODAY'S ECONOMY

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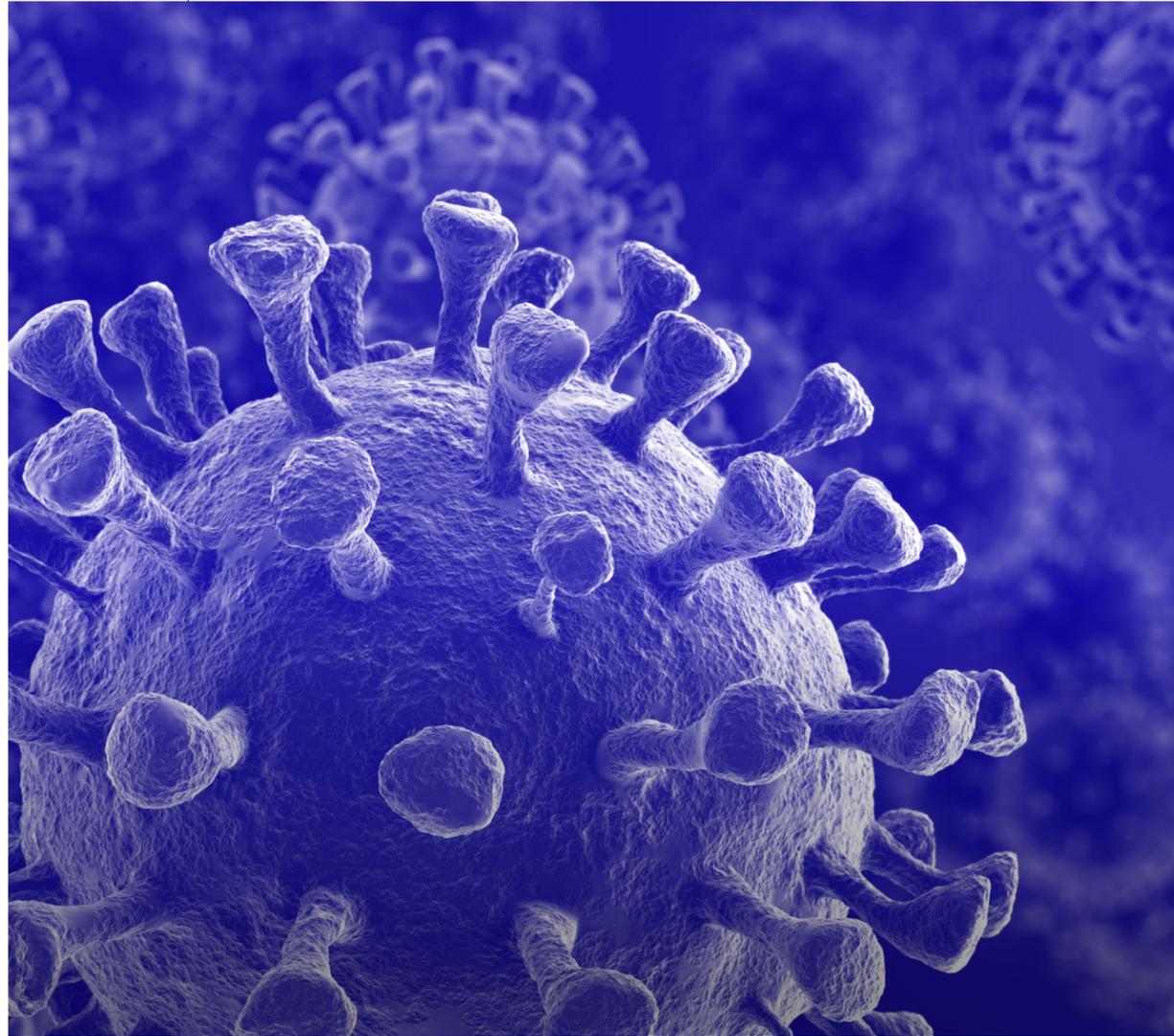
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The Pandemic Big Picture

Voters say the economy is worse today than it was before the pandemic and are divided on whether the economy continues to recover despite the surge in cases. While the Delta variant and low vaccination rates are driving negativity towards the economy generally, few voters believe the economy or their personal financial situation will be worse a year from now.

A STRUGGLING ECONOMY



MOST AMERICANS THINK THE ECONOMY IS WORSE POST-COVID, AND ARE DIVIDED ON ITS RECOVERY.

■ Total ■ Democrat ■ Independent ■ Republican

Most Americans think the economy is worse post-COVID.

Do you think the U.S. economy today is better or worse than it was before the coronavirus pandemic started?

% worse

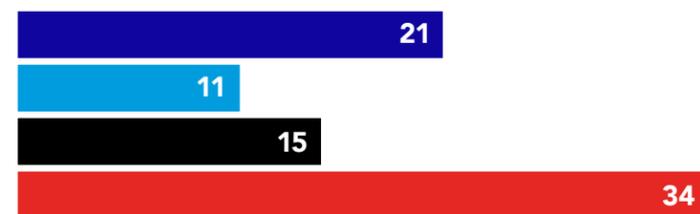


But only 34% of voters overall think it's going to get worse than it is right now.

And only 21% of voters think their personal financial situation will be worse.

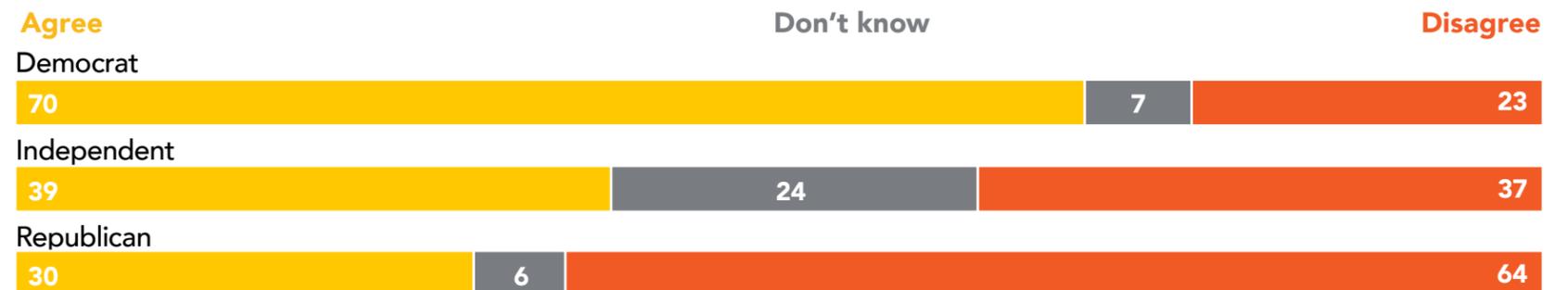
Thinking ahead a year from now, do you think your personal financial situation will be worse off than it is right now?

% worse



Overall, Americans are divided on whether the economy is recovering.

Indicate if you agree or disagree: our economy continues to recover despite the pandemic.

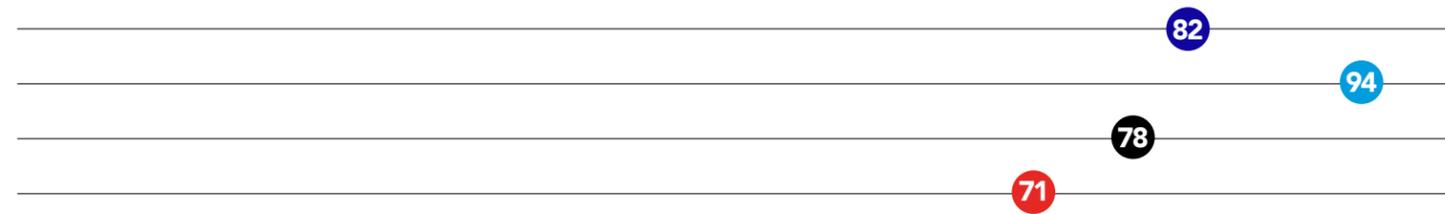


SHORT-TERM CONCERNS

■ Total ■ Democrat ■ Independent ■ Republican

% big/some impact

How much of an impact do you think the COVID Delta variant is making on our economic recovery?



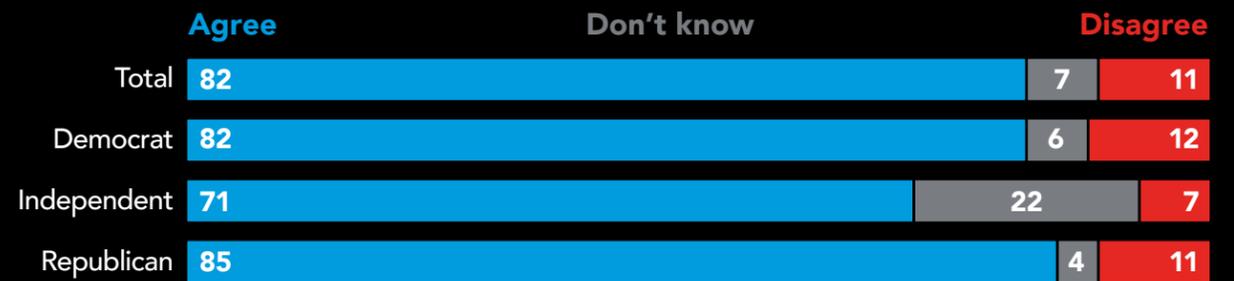
How much of an impact do you think low vaccination rates are making on our economic recovery?



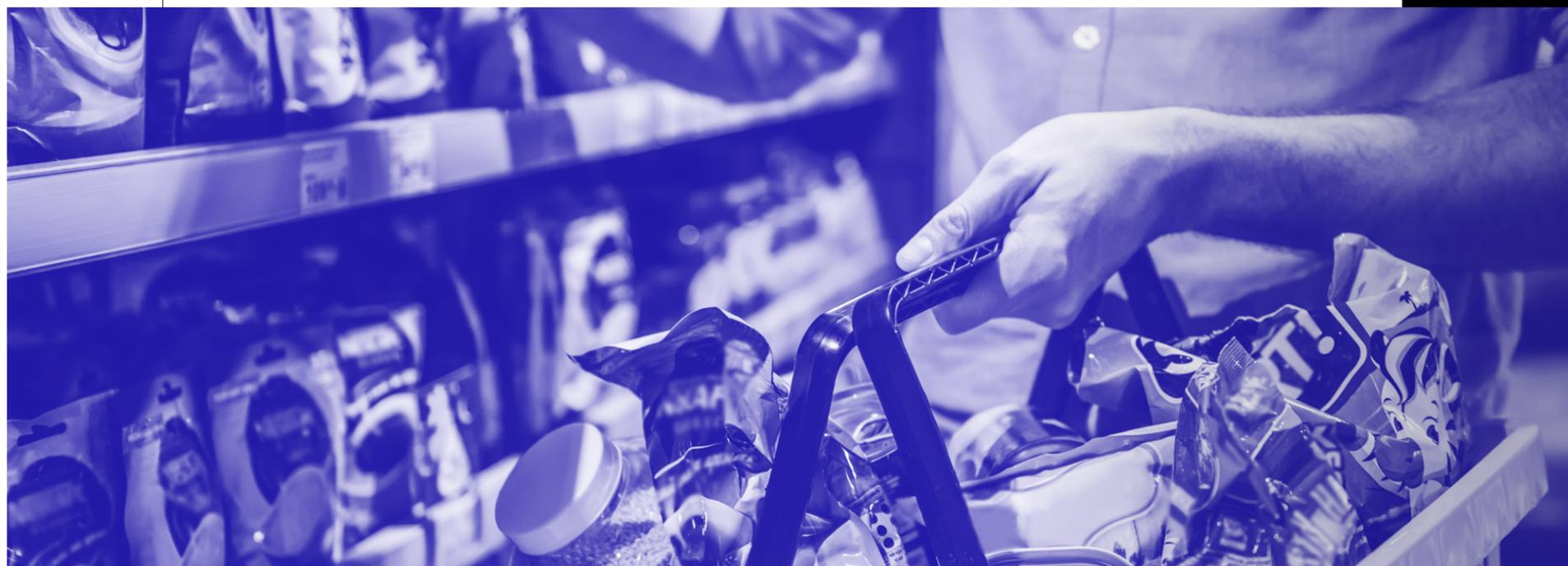
INFLATION IS A MAJOR CONCERN

Please indicate if you agree or disagree

Inflation is causing the price of gas and groceries to rise.



When it comes to the economy, which of the following concerns you more?



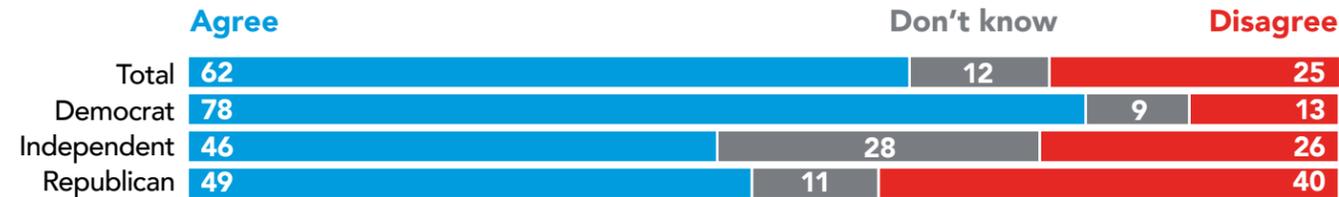


What's Working

Despite concerns about COVID and inflation, voters credit pandemic relief programs with preventing an even worse economic fallout.

FEELING RELIEF

Despite hardships caused by the pandemic, things like poverty, homelessness, and food insecurity could have been worse had the government not expanded relief as they did.



Government rescue plans finally provided relief for small businesses and working families, instead of just benefitting big corporations and the wealthy as has happened in the past

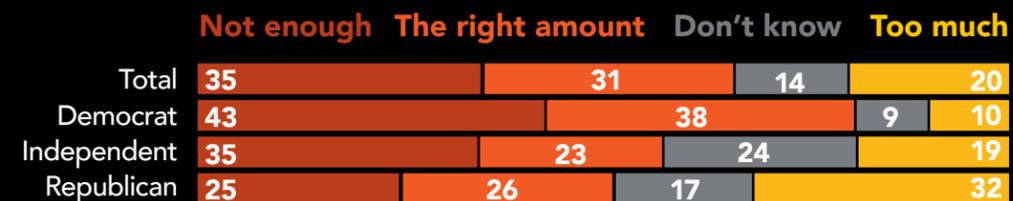


Please indicate whether you think these statements are true, false, or whether you're not sure. Government programs prevented millions of people from losing their health insurance.



NOT THE TIME TO LET UP

Do you think COVID relief programs are doing too much, not enough, or the right amount to help families get through tough times?



WHAT WORKED?

Income shapes perceptions on government support.

Please indicate whether each is having a positive impact, negative impact, or no impact on the U.S. economy.

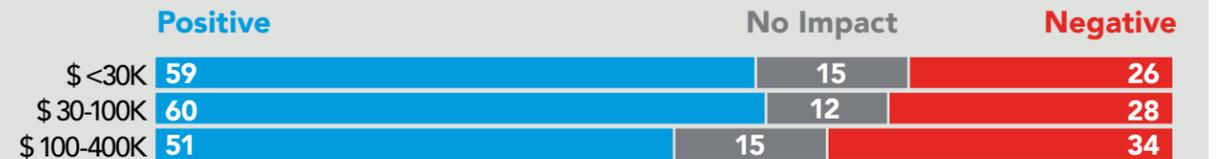
Stimulus checks



The expanded Child Tax Credit



The expanded Earned Income Tax Credit



Expanded unemployment



Vaccines



PERSONAL ECONOMIC EXPERIENCES DRIVE PERCEPTIONS ON THE ECONOMY OVERALL

Voters are evenly divided between those who are confident about their personal financial outlook (48%) and those who are concerned (52%). Voters generally believe that the economic policies put in place by Congress and the White House have improved the U.S. economy. Low and middle-income voters are more likely to view these actions favorably, while higher income voters say that vaccines have had a positive impact on the economy.

CONFIDENT

Confident voters are more likely to be **Democrats** (57% Democrat/31% Republican) and **Biden voters** (65% Biden/ 32% Trump). They are also more **positive about the economy generally**, with 60% rating the U.S. economy as either "good" or "somewhat good". They're also more **optimistic about the future**, with 40% answering that the economy will be better off a year from now (33% say the same and 19% worse off). This group of voters are more likely to **live in high-income households** (26% live in households with incomes over \$100,000) and are more likely to be **employed full-time** (47%). 52% are men, 39% are college-educated/61% are non-college educated, and they are slightly **less likely to be white** (68% white, 16% Black, 11% Latino, 4% Asian American).

For people like you, do you think the economic policies of President Biden and Democrats in Congress are...

■ Good ■ No difference ■ Bad



For people like you, do you think the economic policies of Republicans in Congress are...

■ Good ■ No difference ■ Bad



CONCERNED

Those who are concerned about their personal economic outlook are more likely to be **Republican** (51% Republican/ 37% Democrat) and **Trump voters** (61% Trump/ 36% Biden). They are also more **negative towards the country's economic outlook** –80% consider the state of the economy to be poor and almost half (48%) think the economy will be worse off than it is a year from now. This group is **less likely to be employed full-time** (29%) and are **more likely to live in lower-income households** (39% live in households with incomes under \$30,000). 56% are women, 26% are college educated/74% are non-college educated, and they are slightly **more likely to be white** (74% white, 10% Black, 10% Latino, 3% Asian American).

For people like you, do you think the economic policies of President Biden and Democrats in Congress are...

■ Good ■ No difference ■ Bad



For people like you, do you think the economic policies of Republicans in Congress are...

■ Good ■ No difference ■ Bad



POSITIVE PERCEPTIONS

"More and more people are getting back to work."

"Lots of places are offering higher wages."

"The job market is steadily improving."

"Vaccines are being administered."

"The vaccines seem to be working."

MIXED PERCEPTIONS

"Job creation seems to be getting better but prices are rising more than the wages."

"It's going to take a while to turn it around"

"Jobs are slowly getting better but it's still a work on progress."

"I hope for better days in the future."

NEGATIVE PERCEPTIONS

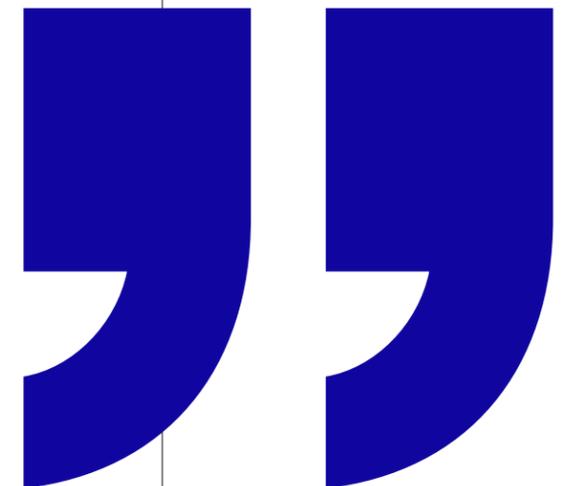
"Very few people I know can afford to get the basics needed to survive."

"Inflation is hitting our country big time."

"Prices of goods and services are too high. People can't afford health care or food."

"Prices are going up on everything."

"Things are so expensive."





Reason for Hope

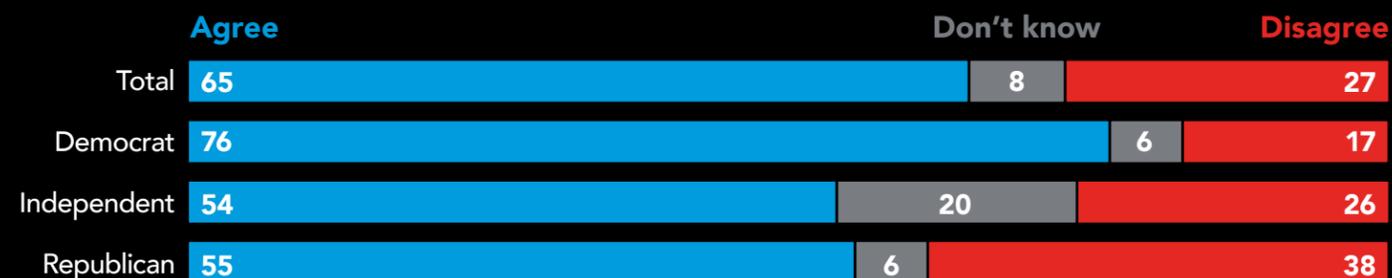
Voters are seeing evidence of an improving labor market, rising wages, and businesses reopening.

MORNING AGAIN IN AMERICA?



Please indicate if you agree or disagree.

Businesses once closed due to the pandemic are now opening back up again.



Please indicate whether you think these statements are true, false, or whether you're not sure.

Wages have increased on average since before the pandemic



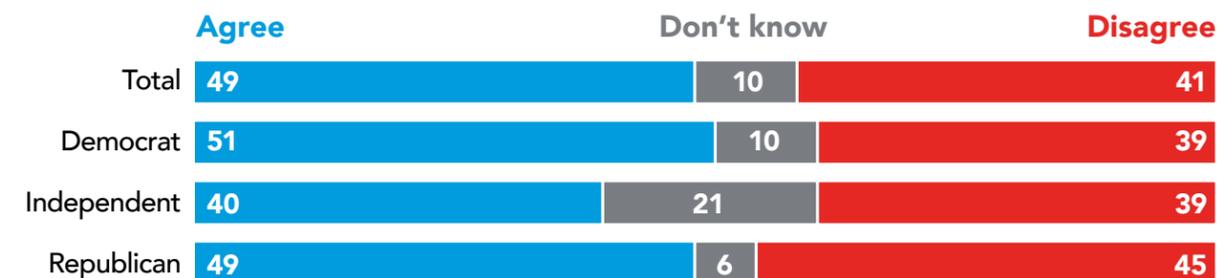
Please indicate if you agree or disagree

Employers are offering higher wages that before the pandemic to attract workers.



Please indicate if you agree or disagree

It is easier for workers to find better-paying jobs.





Party Politics and the Economy

While neither party holds a clear advantage, voters of color are more inclined to see Democratic policies as benefitting them, and white voters are more inclined to see Republican policies as beneficial.

VOTERS ARE DIVIDED ABOUT WHICH PARTY SHOULD STEER THE ECONOMY

Biden voters who don't think Democratic policies are good for people like them make up 9% of the electorate. They are more likely to be female (59%), more likely not to have graduated from college (68%), and more likely to be voters of color (52%).



Do you think the economic policies of President Biden and Democrats in Congress are...

■ Good for people like you ■ Don't have much of an effect either way ■ Bad for people like you

White college



White non-college



Black



Hispanic



AAPI



Do you think the economic policies of Republicans in Congress are...

■ Good for people like you ■ Don't have much of an effect either way ■ Bad for people like you

White college



White non-college



Black



Hispanic



AAPI



About the Study

Global Strategy Group's Eye on the Economy series takes an unbiased look at conflicting perceptions among voters of today's economy, core issues contributing to positive and negative views, and the government's impact on the economy in the eyes of voters.

GSG conducted a public opinion survey among 1,000 registered voters nationwide between September 27 –30, 2021 and has a confidence interval of +/-3.1%. The survey was conducted online, recruiting respondents from a leading opt-in panel vendor. This study may be downloaded at globalstrategygroup.com.

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About GSG

Global Strategy Group is the go-to public affairs, communications, and research partner for companies, causes, and campaigns. We work with our clients to build their reputations, tackle big challenges, and win.

Specifically, we:



Understand & Reach
audiences



Advance
legislative, regulatory,
and political goals



Change minds
and influence public opinion



Build & Protect
reputations



Champion
issues and leaders

What sets us apart?

We are data-driven. We have decades of experience deriving insights from research, and interpreting that data to make its implications clear to our clients. We leverage this expertise into innovations across the data, analytics, and digital spaces, always finding better ways to measure, target and persuade diverse audiences.

We are politically-attuned. We operate at the intersection of business and politics. Being in both of these increasingly connected worlds gives us an edge.

We are results-oriented. Going for the win is in our DNA. Driven by our experience on political campaigns and crisis assignments, we measure our success through our outcomes.