

HARVARD  
HARRIS  
POLL

# INAUGURAL HARVARD-HARRIS POLL

FEB 17, 2017

harris  
INSIGHTS & ANALYTICS  
A STAGWELL COMPANY



**FIELD DATE:** FEBRUARY 11-13, 2017

## SURVEY METHOD

This survey was conducted online within the United States between **February 11-13, 2017** among **2,148 registered voters** by **The Harris Poll**.

Results were weighted for age within gender, region, race/ethnicity, marital status, household size, income, employment, and education where necessary to align them with their actual proportions in the population. Propensity score weighting was also used to adjust for respondents' propensity to be online.

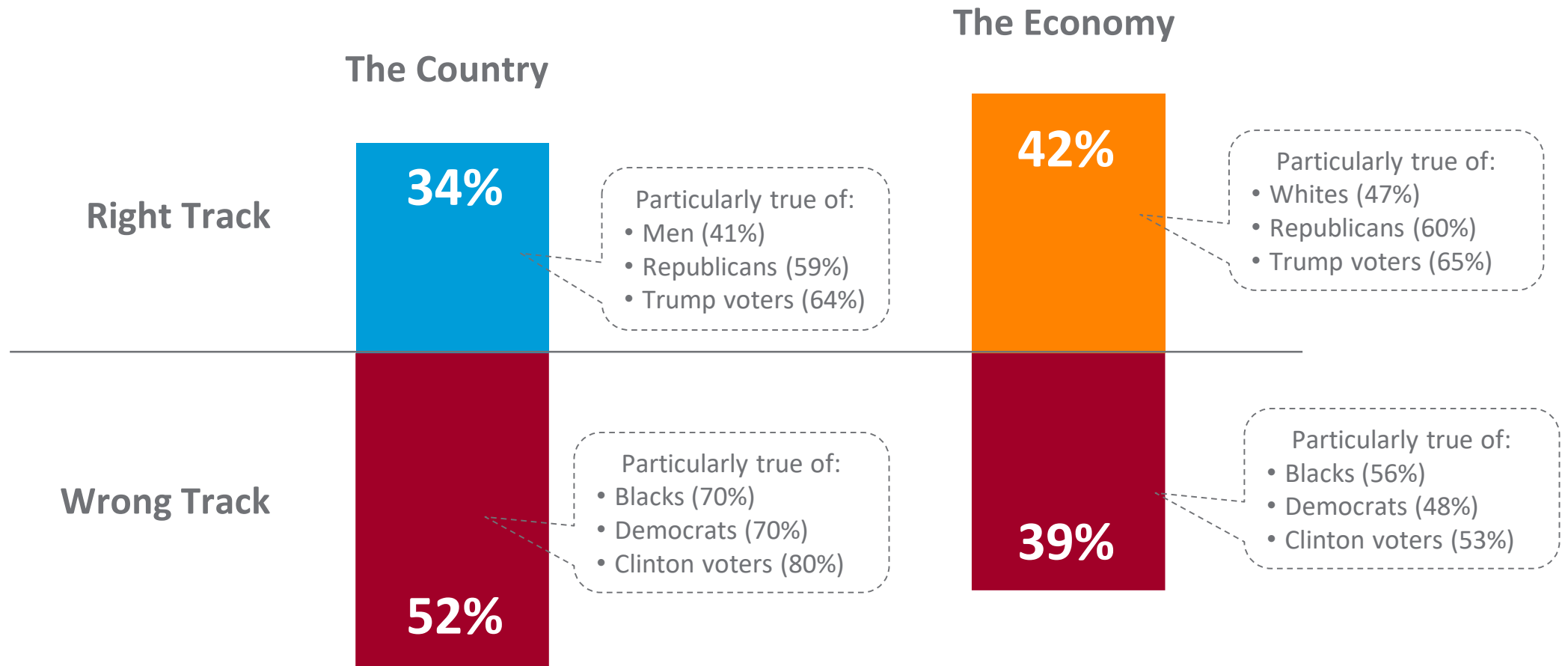
*Pollsters Mark Penn and Professor Stephen Ansolabehere supervised the poll.*



## THE COUNTRY AND ECONOMY

# VOTERS FEEL ECONOMY IS ON THE RIGHT TRACK MORE SO THAN THE COUNTRY

Just one third of voters feel the country is on the right track compared to 4 in 10 who say the same for the economy



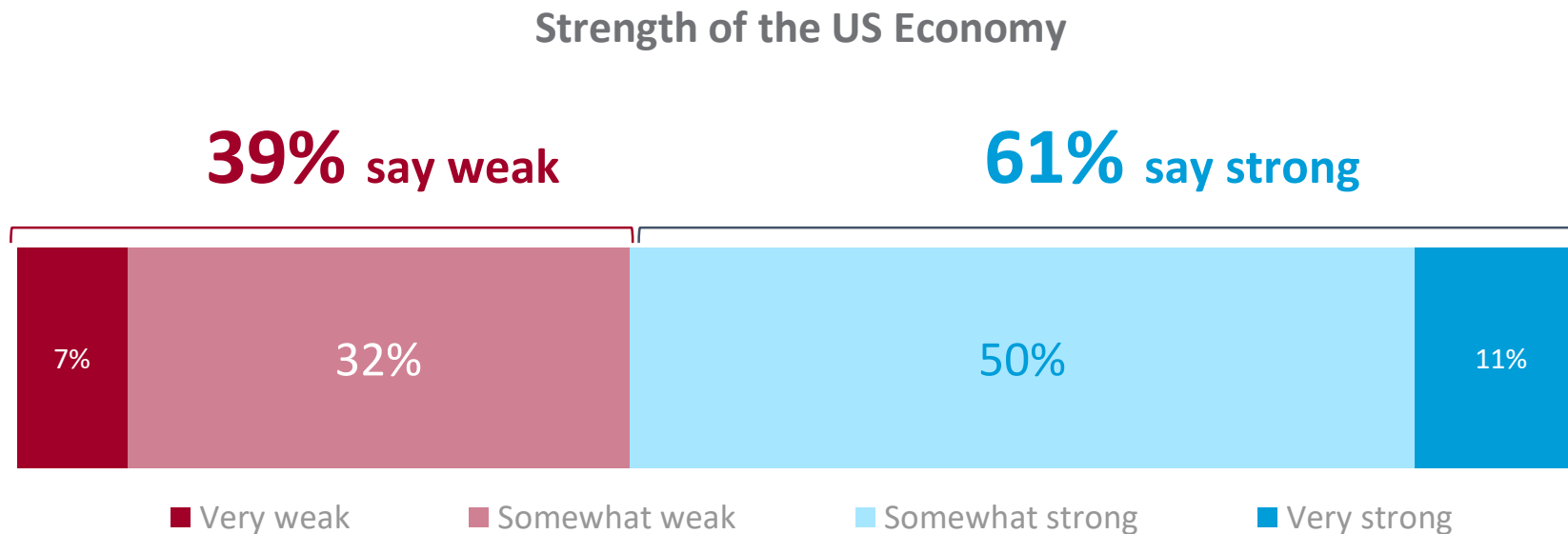
BASE: Registered Voters (n=2148)

M1. In general, do you think the country is on the right track or is it off on the wrong track?

M2. In general, do you think the American economy is on right track or is it off on the wrong track?

# 6 IN 10 VOTERS SAY THE US ECONOMY IS STRONG

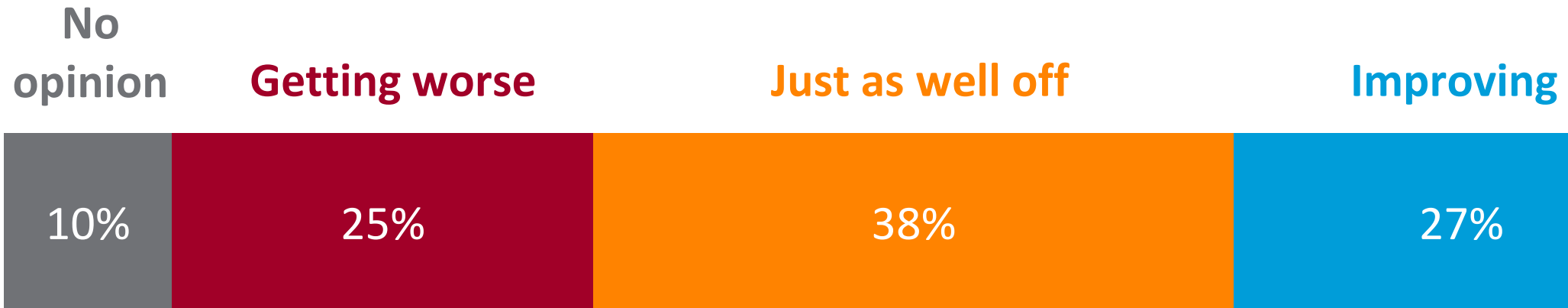
Just 1 in 10 categorize the economy as very strong while half say somewhat strong



# ONLY ONE QUARTER TODAY BELIEVE THEIR FINANCIAL SITUATION IS GETTING WORSE

A plurality say their financial situation is not changing

Voters say their Personal Financial Situation is...



BASE: Registered Voters (n=2148)

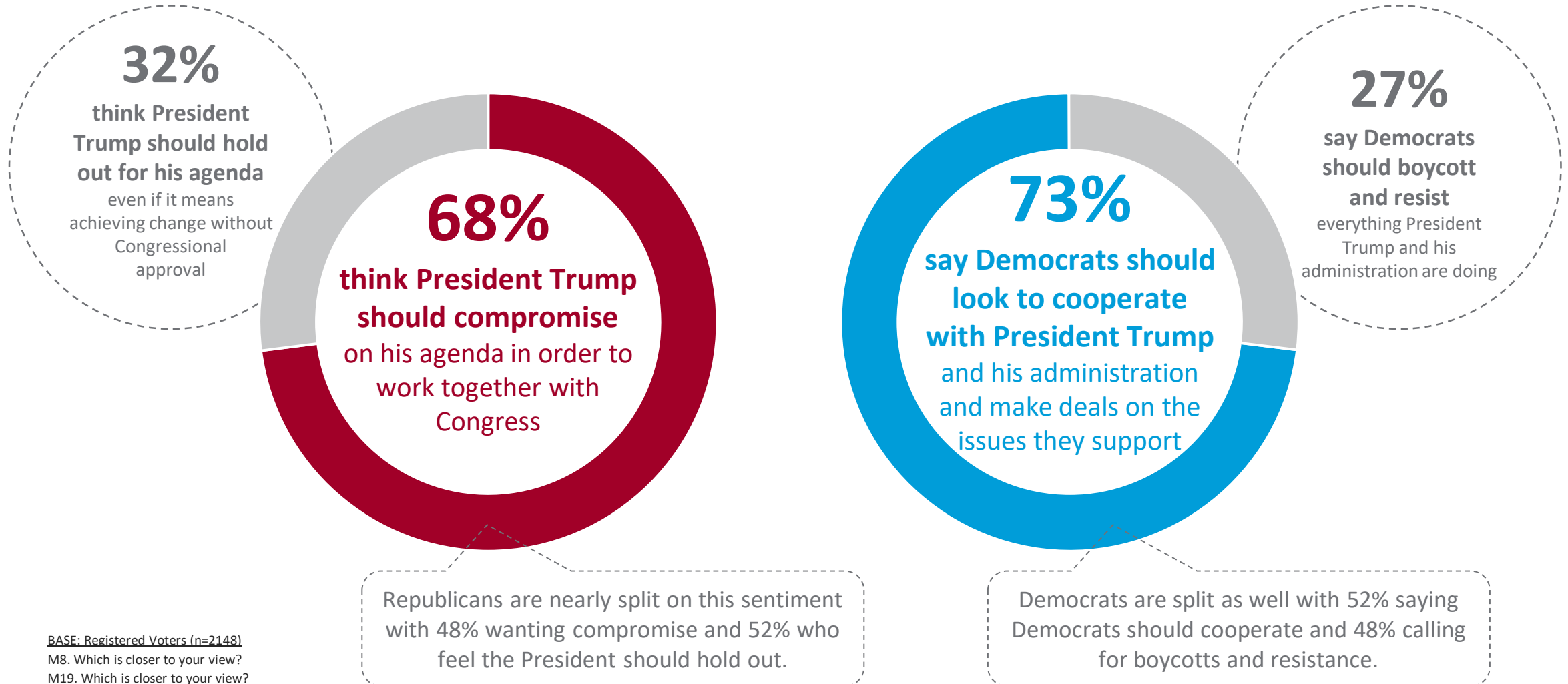
I4. Would you say that your personal financial situation is improving or getting worse?



## POLITICAL CLIMATE

# PRESIDENT TRUMP VS. THE DEMOCRATS: MAJORITY OF VOTERS WANT COMPROMISE AND COOPERATION

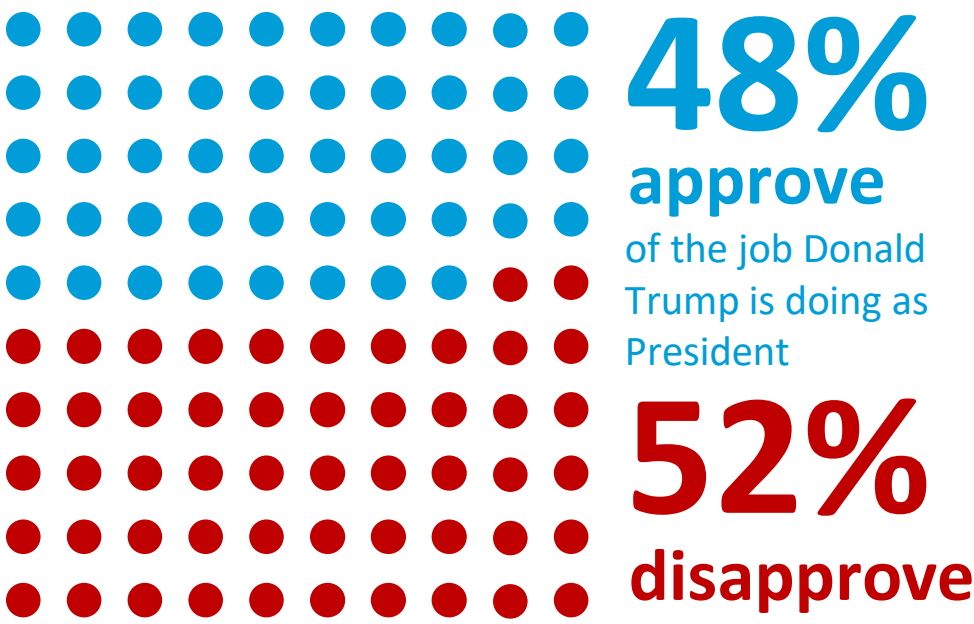
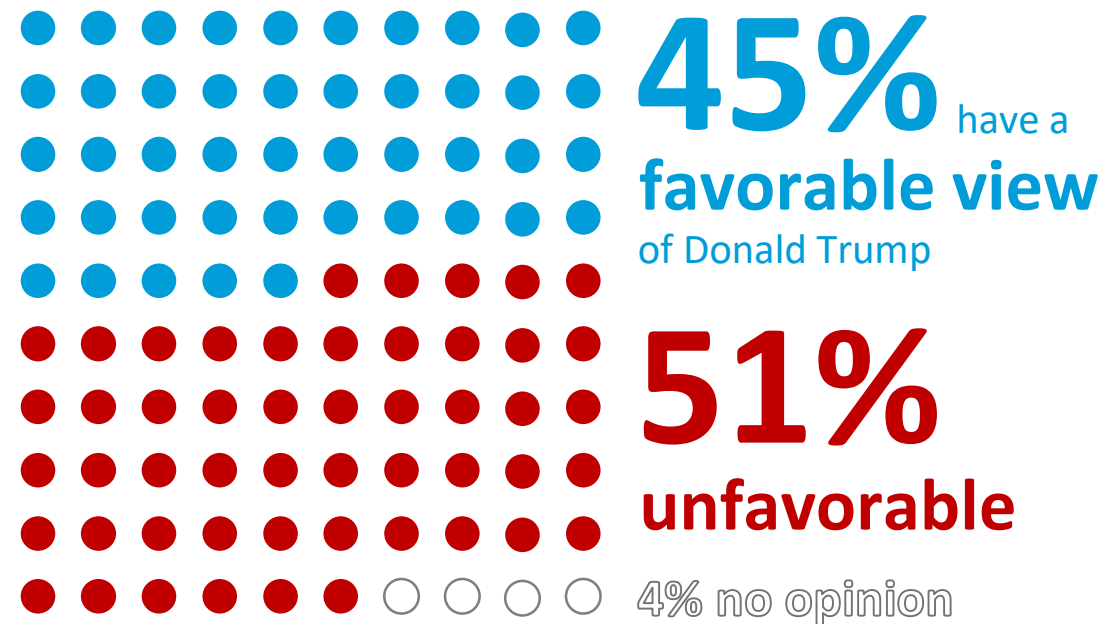
Republicans are split on whether President Trump should compromise while Democrats are split on whether they should cooperate





# FAVORABILITY AND APPROVAL OF PRESIDENT TRUMP ARE DIVIDED

Under half of registered voters each say they have a favorable view of the President and almost half approve of the job he is doing



Those approving of President Trump are most often Whites (57%), Republicans (88%), and Trump voters (96%), while those most commonly disapproving are Blacks (87%), Hispanics (61%), Democrats (79%), and Clinton voters (91%).

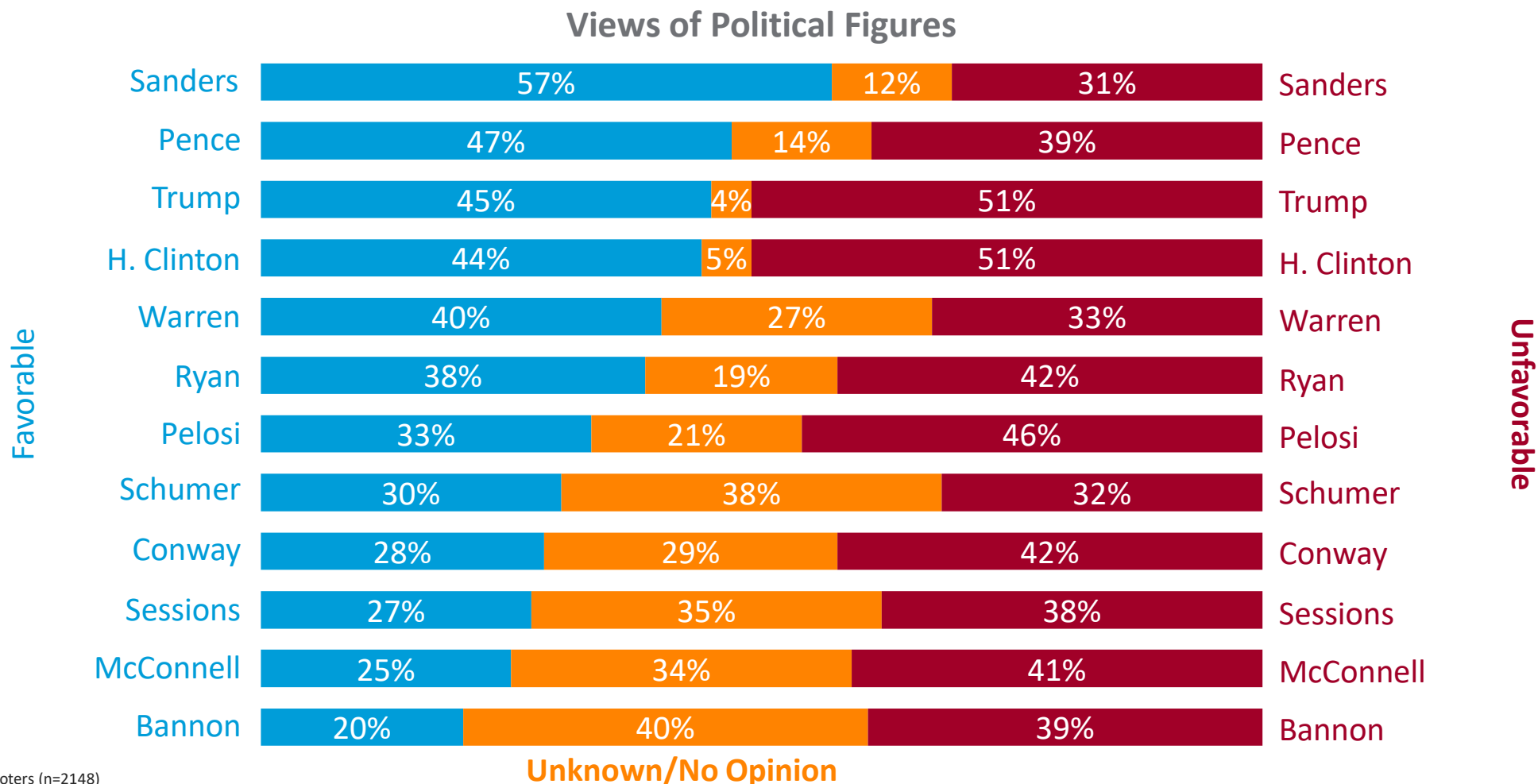
BASE: Registered Voters (n=2148)

M3. Do you approve or disapprove of the job Donald Trump is doing as President of the United States?

F1. Now we will show you some names. Please indicate if you have a favorable or unfavorable view of that person - or if you've never heard of them.

# PRESIDENT TRUMP AND HILLARY CLINTON ARE VIEWED EQUALLY FAVORABLY BY REGISTERED VOTERS

Of those presented, Trump and Clinton are the most well-known; Sanders, Pence and Warren hold the distinction of having more favorable than unfavorable votes



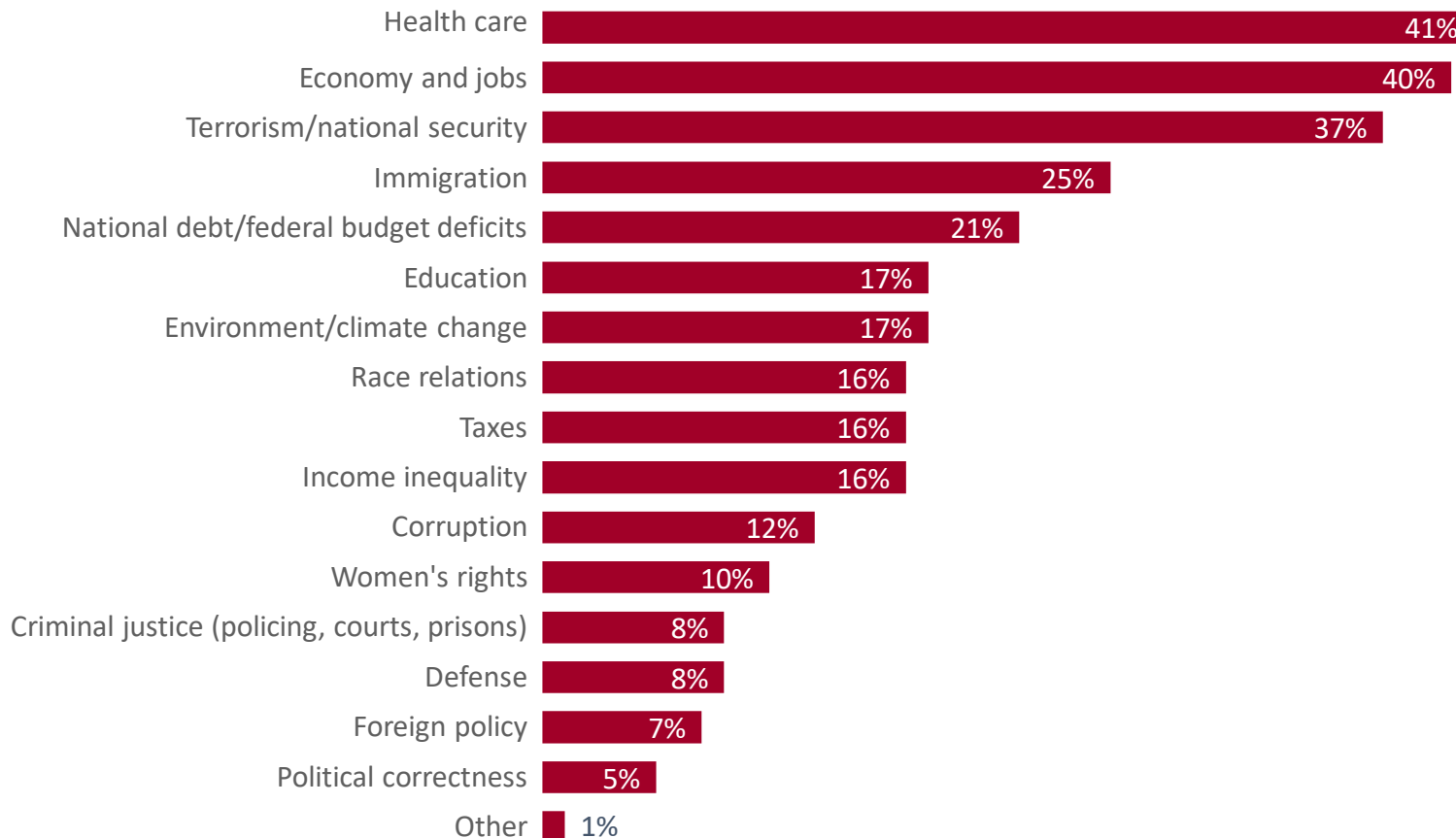
BASE: Registered Voters (n=2148)

F1. Now we will show you some names. Please indicate if you have a favorable or unfavorable view of that person - or if you've never heard of them.

# HEALTH CARE, ECONOMY AND JOBS, AND TERRORISM ARE MOST IMPORTANT ISSUES

Other top priorities are immigration and national debt

## Most Important Issues Facing the Country Today



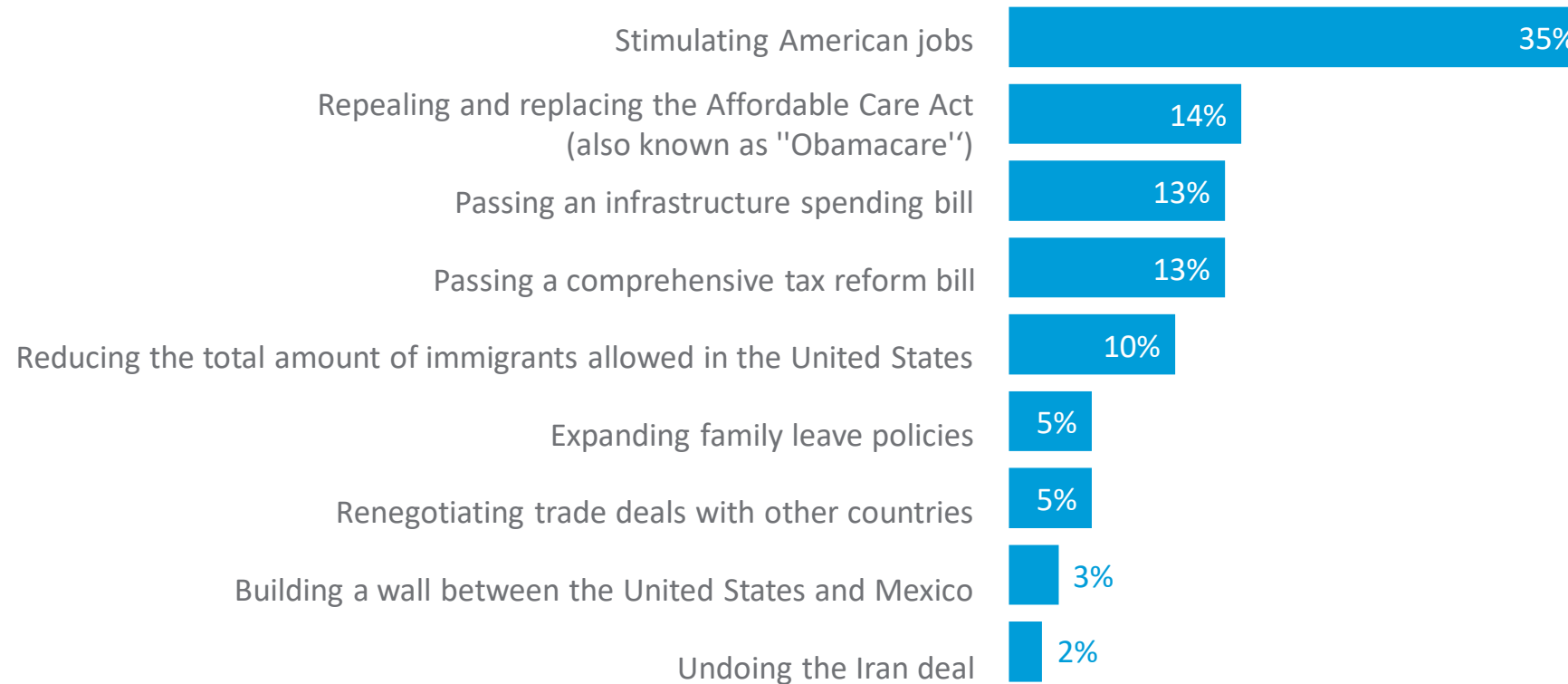
BASE: Registered Voters (n=2148)

I1 What would you say are the most important issues facing the country today? Please select three.

# VOTERS ACROSS GENERATION, GENDER, RACE, AND POLITICAL PARTIES AGREE THAT JOB CREATION SHOULD BE TOP PRIORITY

Over one third of voters cite stimulating jobs as the top priority for the current administration, more than twice that of any other priority presented

## Top Priority for President Trump and Republicans in Congress

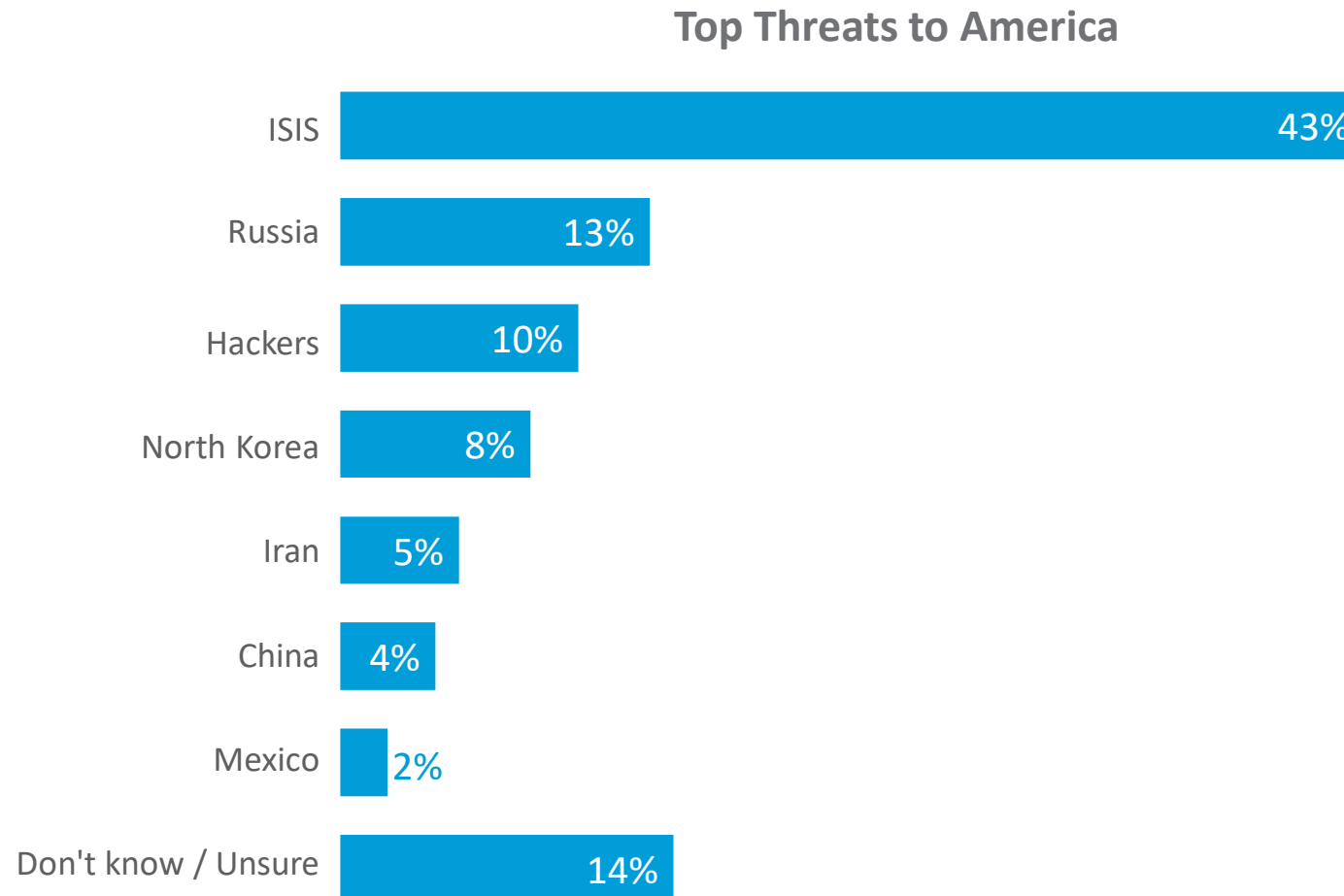


BASE: Registered Voters (n=2148)

M9 Which of the following should be the top priority for President Trump and Republicans in Congress?

# VOTERS PERCEIVE ISIS AS THE TOP THREAT TO AMERICA BY FAR

Russia, hackers, and North Korea are far less likely to be perceived as a top threat



BASE: Registered Voters (n=2148)

134 Which of the following do you think is the top threat to America?

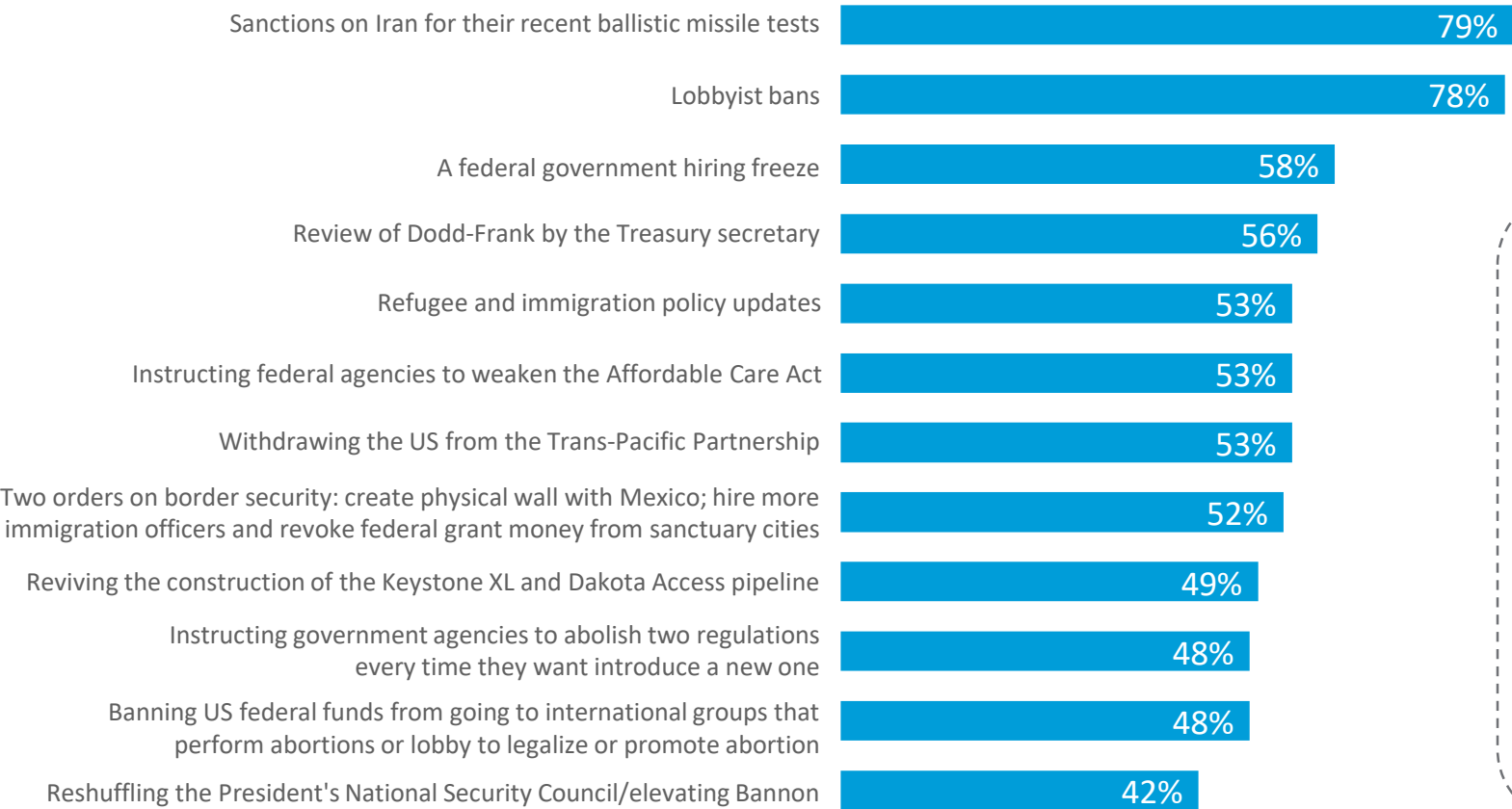
# FULL DESCRIPTIONS OF EXECUTIVE ORDERS

Slide Text	Full Survey Description
Sanctions on Iran for their recent ballistic missile tests	An order that puts sanctions on Iran for their recent ballistic missile tests.
Lobbyist bans	An order extending the ban on officials becoming lobbyists after they leave government from 3 years to 5 years, and introducing a lifetime ban on White House officials lobbying on behalf of a foreign government.
A federal government hiring freeze	An order imposing a hiring freeze on federal government workers (but not the military) as a way to shrink the size of government.
Review of Dodd-Frank by the Treasury secretary	An order directing the Treasury secretary to review the 2010 Dodd-Frank financial regulatory law, which was introduced by Congress to create regulations for banks and protect customers after the 2007-2008 financial crisis.
Refugee and immigration policy updates	An order that suspends the US refugee program for 120-days, caps the total number of foreign refugees, bans refugees from Syria indefinitely, and imposes a 90-day travel and immigration ban to the US from citizens of seven predominantly-Muslim, conflict and terror prone, countries in order to increase government vetting procedures for entry into the United States.
Instructing federal agencies to weaken the Affordable Care Act	An order instructing federal agencies to weaken the Affordable Care Act (so-called "Obamacare") by waiving, deferring, granting exemptions from, or delaying any portions of the Act that creates a financial burden on states, individuals, or healthcare providers.
Withdrawing the US from the Trans-Pacific Partnership	An order withdrawing the United States from the Trans-Pacific Partnership, a trade agreement with Asian countries negotiated by the Obama Administration.
Two orders on border security: create physical wall with Mexico; hire more immigration officers and revoke federal grant money from sanctuary cities	Two orders on border security - one declaring that the US will create "a contiguous, physical wall or other similarly secure, contiguous, and impassable physical barrier" with Mexico; the second pledging to hire 10,000 more immigration officers and to revoke federal grant money from so-called "sanctuary cities" which refuse to deport undocumented immigrants.
Reviving the construction of the Keystone XL and Dakota Access pipeline	Two related orders reviving the construction of the Keystone XL pipeline and Dakota Access pipeline projects.
Instructing government agencies to abolish two regulations every time they want introduce a new one	An order targeting regulations that instructs government agencies going forward to abolish two regulations every time they want introduce a new one.
Banning US federal funds from going to international groups that perform abortions or lobby to legalize or promote abortion	An order banning US federal funds from going to international groups that perform abortions or lobby to legalize or promote abortion.
Reshuffling the President's National Security Council/elevating Bannon	An order reshuffling the President's National Security Council, the main forum for deciding on key national security issues, that elevates one of the President's closest political advisers, Stephen Bannon, by giving him a permanent seat in all meetings and limits the participation of two senior government officials - the Director of National Intelligence (the nation's intelligence head) and the Joint Chief of Staff (the nation's highest military officer) - allowing them to attend on a case by case basis when requested by the President.

# MOST OF TRUMP'S EXECUTIVE ORDERS RECEIVE SUPPORT; RESHUFFLING THE NSC IS THE LEAST POPULAR ACTION

Many voters are unaware of a few of the executive orders that President Trump has signed

## Approval of Executive Orders (% approve)



About 2 in 5 registered voters have never heard of the ban on lobbyists (39%), the National Security Council reshuffling (41%), or the order to review the regulations on banks (41%). Even more have not heard of the order to abolish two regulations every time an agency wants to introduce a new one (49%).

BASE: Select Registered Voters (n=bases vary; each respondent six random selected executive orders)

15. One of the first ways the President is able to exercise power is through executive orders to the federal government. Have you heard anything about the following executive order?

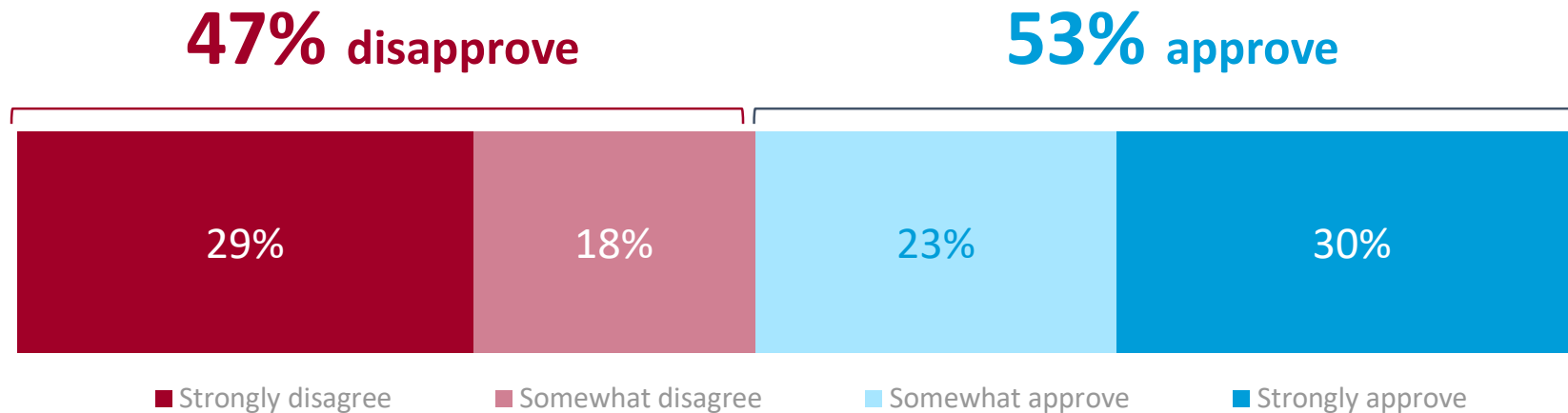
16. To what extent do you approve or disapprove of this executive order?

Full descriptions of the executive orders presented to respondents can be found at the end of this deck.

# SLIGHT MAJORITY OF VOTERS APPROVE OF EXECUTIVE ORDER ON IMMIGRATION

Over one in ten voters have never heard of the executive order on immigration

## Approval of Executive Orders on Immigration



12% of voters have never heard of the executive order on immigration

BASE: Select Registered Voters (n=1099)

15. One of the first ways the President is able to exercise power is through executive orders to the federal government. Have you heard anything about the following executive order?

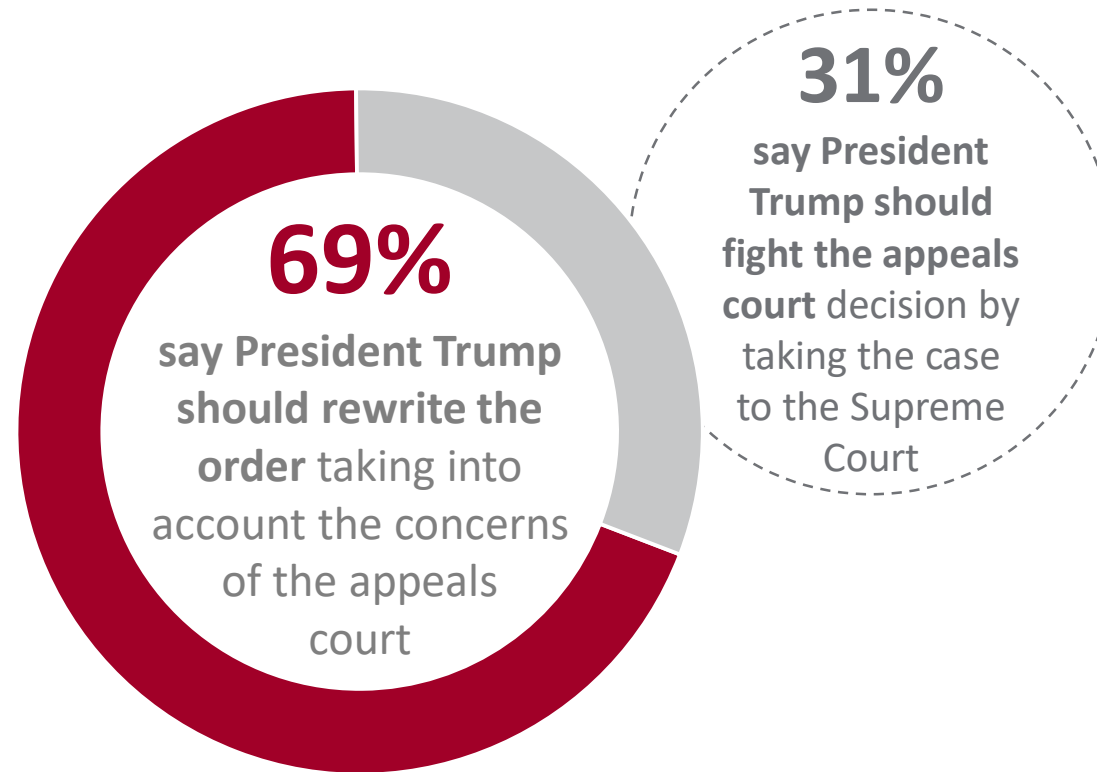
16. To what extent do you approve or disapprove of this executive order?



# MOST VOTERS WANT TRUMP TO DO A NEW EXECUTIVE ORDER INSTEAD OF GO TO SUPREME COURT NOW

Nearly 7 in 10 voters feel President Trump should instead rewrite the executive order on immigration and refugees

## Feelings on Suspended Immigration Order



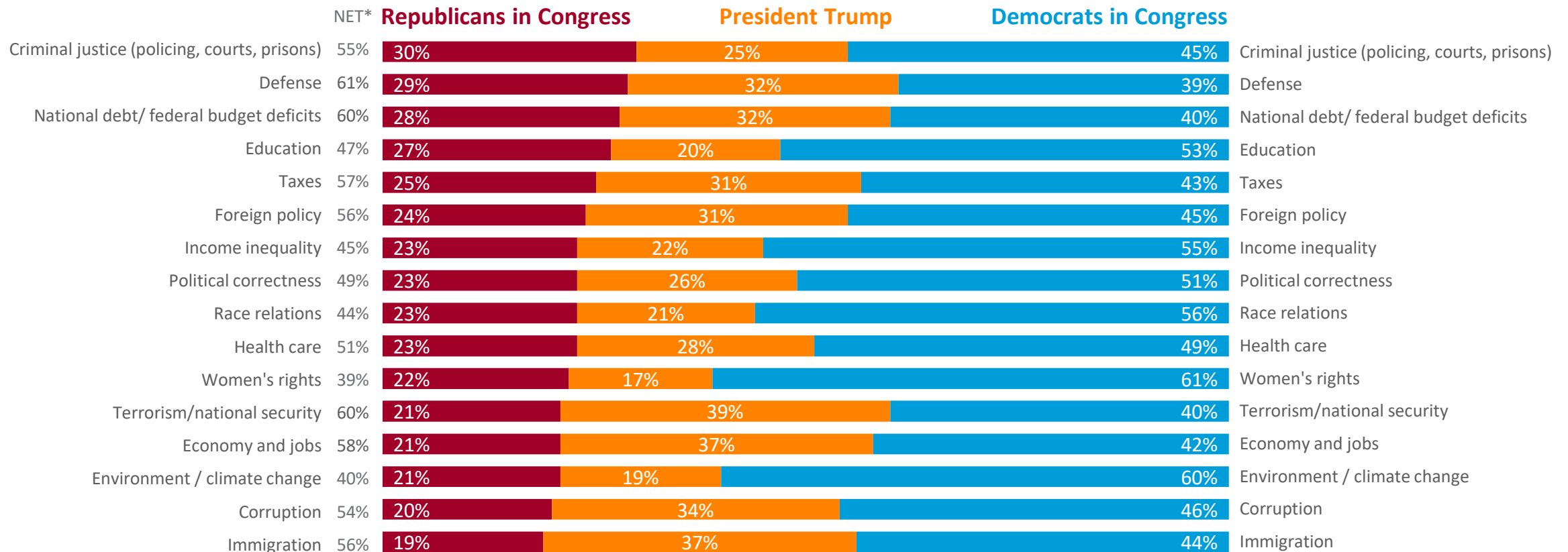
BASE: Registered Voters (n=2148)

175 A federal appeals court upheld the decision of the judge to temporarily suspend President Trump's travel and immigration ban based on a number of concerns. Should President Trump fight the appeals court decision by taking the case to the Supreme Court or rewrite the order taking into account the concerns of the appeals court?

# TRUMP AND REPUBLICANS TOGETHER ARE SUPPORTED ON MOST ISSUES OVER DEMOCRATS

6 in 10 trust Republicans in Congress and President Trump together to handle defense, national debt, and terrorism, while a majority trust Democrats on environment, women's rights, education and income inequality

## Party Trusted to Handle Issues



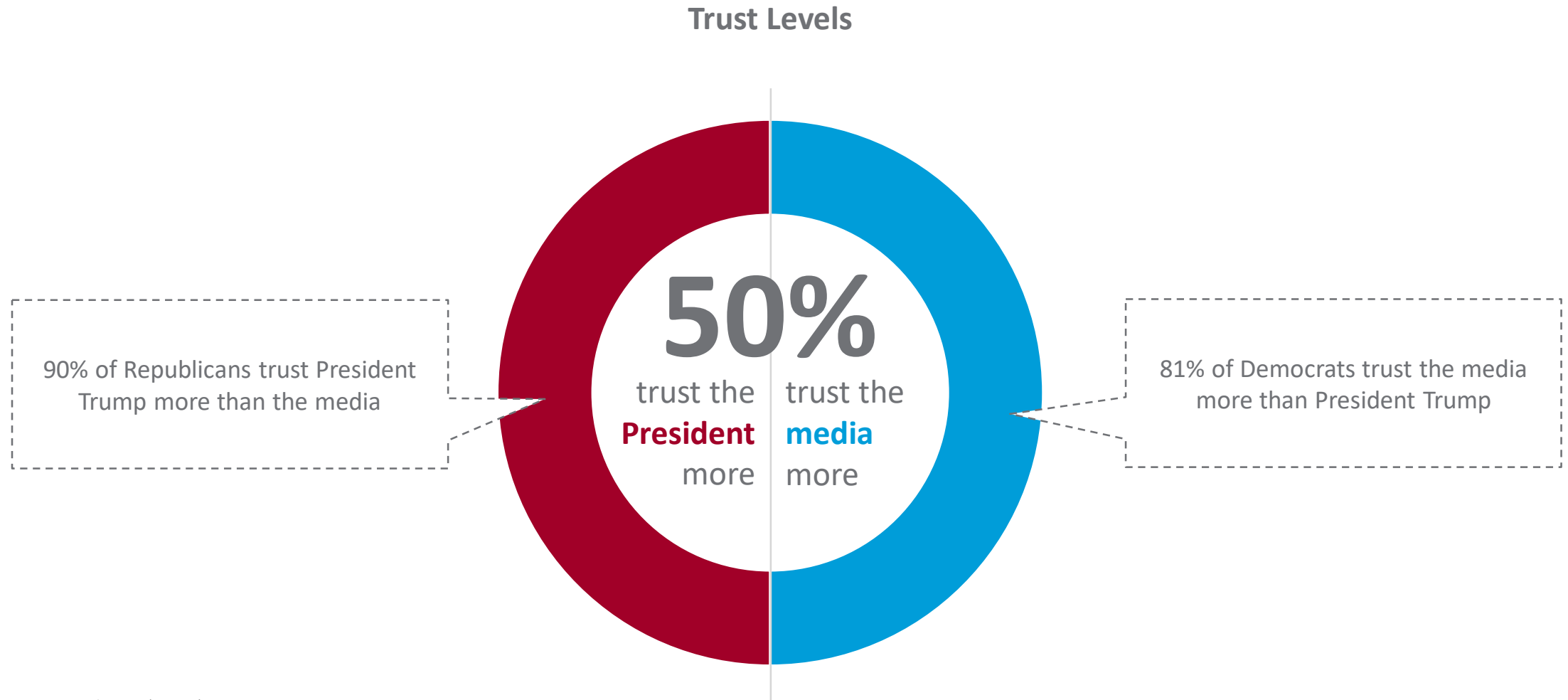
BASE: Registered Voters (n=2148)

12 Of the following, who do you trust most to handle each of the following issues?

\*Combined NET of trust in Republicans in Congress + trust in President Trump

# VOTERS EVENLY SPLIT ON WHO TO TRUST MORE – PRESIDENT TRUMP OR THE MEDIA

Not surprisingly, the overwhelming majority of Republicans trust President Trump more than the media



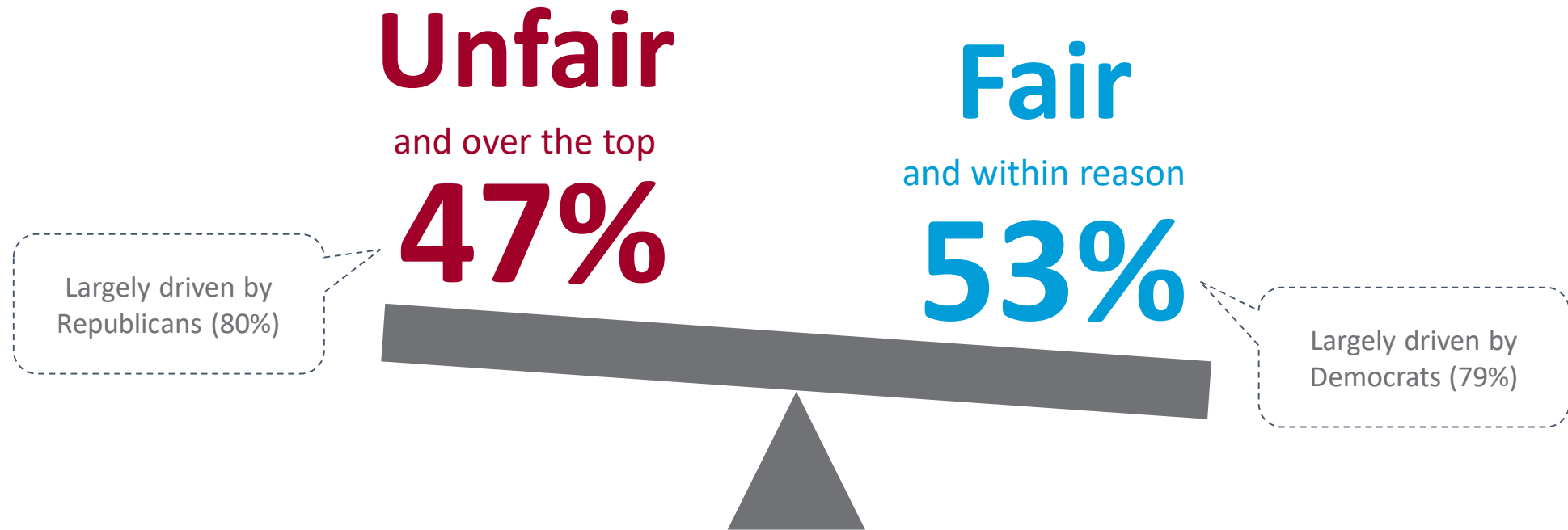
BASE: Registered Voters (n=2148)

I11 Who do you trust more, President Trump or the media?

# VOTERS ARE SPLIT ON WHETHER DEMOCRATS' CRITICISM OF TRUMP IS FAIR OR NOT

Unsurprisingly, a vast majority of Republicans say the criticism is over the top, while Democrats say the opposite

## Democrat criticism of President Trump is...



BASE: Registered Voters (n=2148)

M20. Do you think criticisms by the Democrats of President Trump and his administration are generally fair and within reason or are they often unfair and over the top?

# A MAJORITY OF VOTERS THINK PRESIDENT TRUMP SHOULD STOP TWEETING, INCLUDING OVER HALF OF REPUBLICAN VOTERS

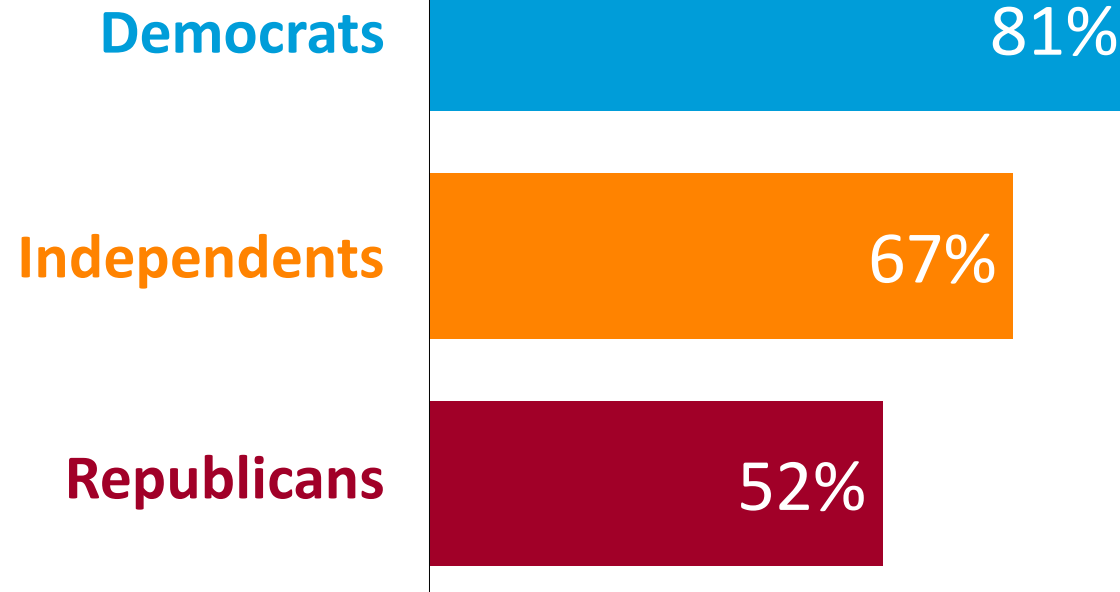
A majority of registered voters agree President Trump should stop tweeting

**68%**

of voters feel

**President Trump  
should stop  
tweeting**

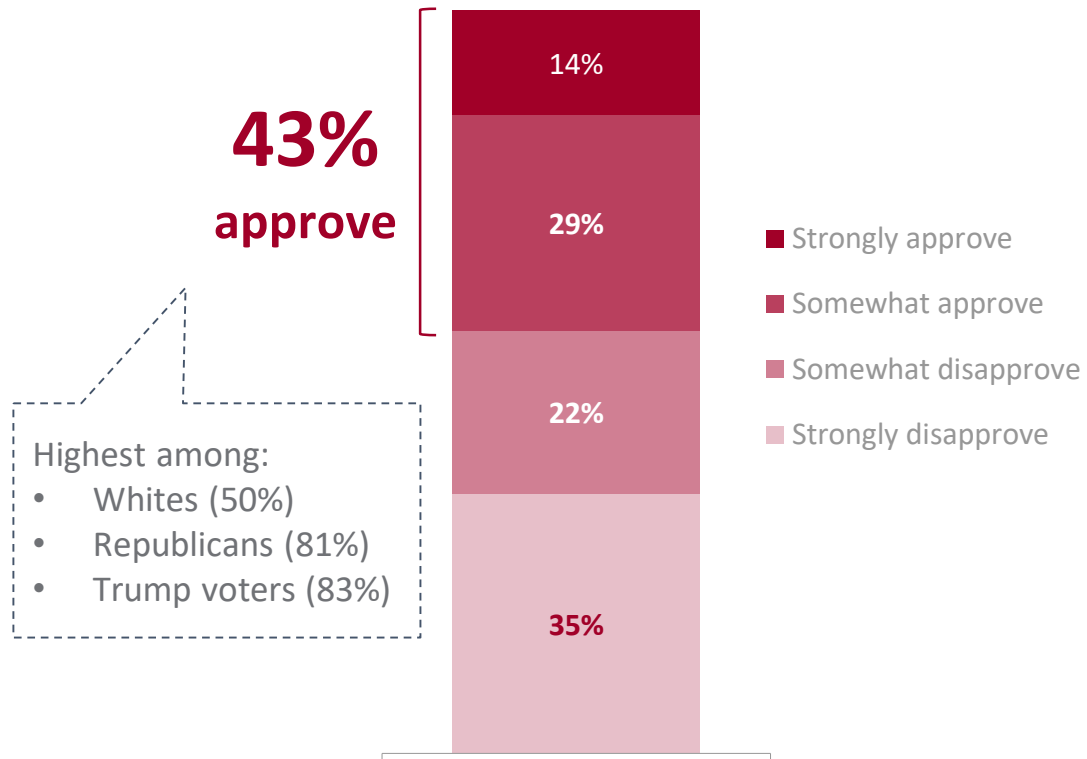
% Saying “Stop Tweeting” by Political Party



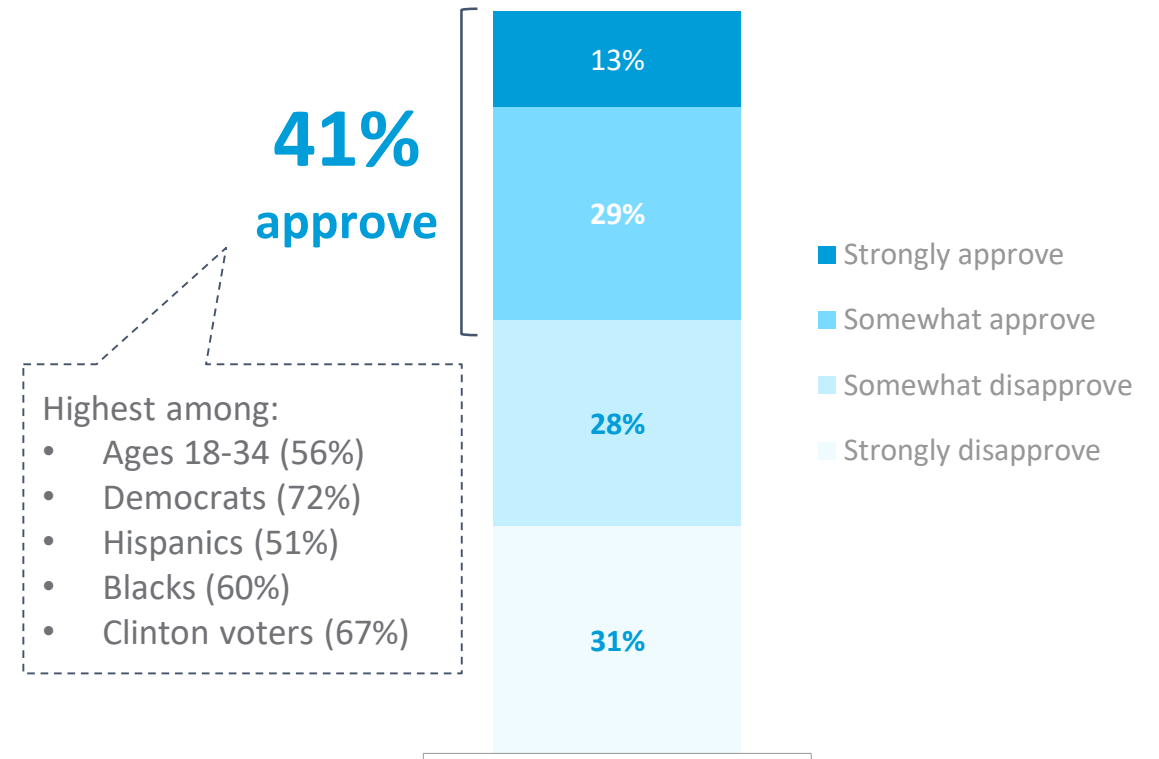
# NEAR EQUAL PERCENTAGE OF VOTERS APPROVE OF THE WAY REPUBLICAN AND DEMOCRATIC PARTIES ARE DOING THEIR JOBS

Unsurprisingly, approval ratings for the Republican Party are very high among Republicans, while the Democratic Party approval is high among Democrats

## Republican Party Job Approval Ratings



## Democratic Party Job Approval Ratings



BASE: Registered Voters (n=2148)

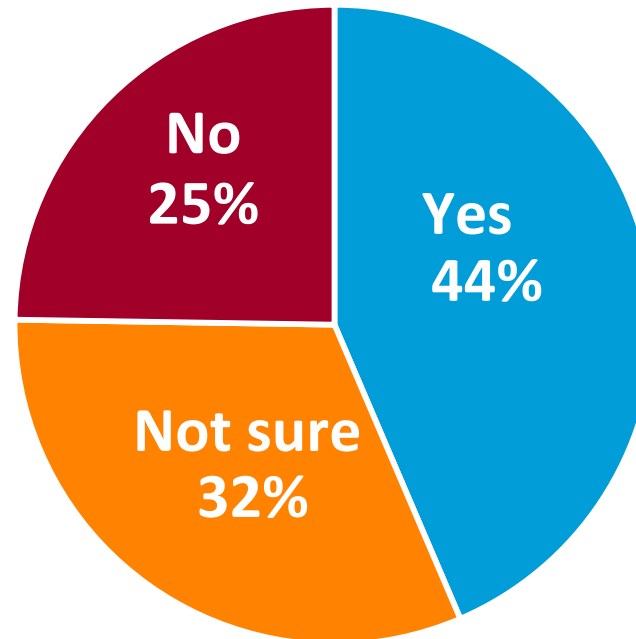
M4. Do you approve or disapprove of the way the Republican Party is handling its job?

M5. Do you approve or disapprove of the way the Democratic Party is handling its job?

# PLURALITY OF VOTERS APPROVE NEIL GORSUCH FOR THE SUPREME COURT

One quarter are decidedly against it, while over 4 in 10 are rooting for approval with many waiting for hearings

Should Senate Approve Neil Gorsuch for Supreme Court?





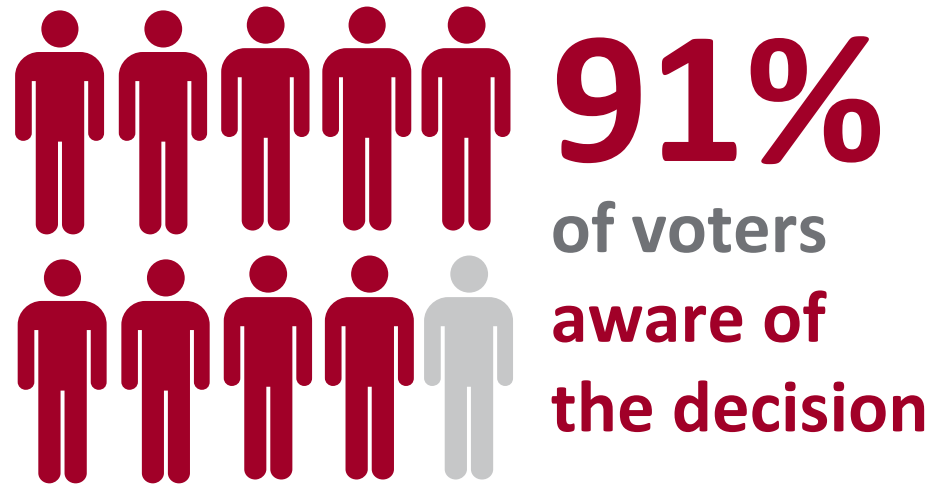
IMMIGRATION



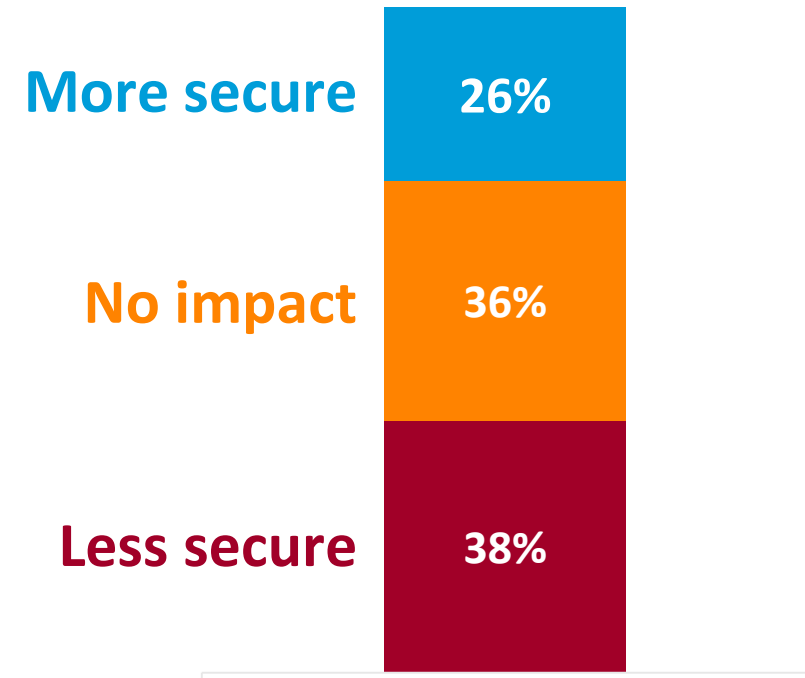
# VOTERS SPLIT ON HOW TEMPORARY SUSPENSION OF TRAVEL / IMMIGRATION BAN MAKES THEM FEEL

Vast majority of voters are aware of the decision made by a federal judge

A federal judge has temporarily suspended President Trump's order for a travel and immigration ban.



The decision makes voters feel...



BASE: Registered Voters (n=2148)

17. A federal judge has temporarily suspended President Donald Trump's order for a travel and immigration ban from a number of countries after some states challenged the legality of the order in court. Are you aware of this decision?

18. Does this decision make you feel more secure, less secure, or it doesn't have an impact?

# OVERALL VOTERS ARE DIVIDED ON WHO THEY SIDE WITH REGARDING THE IMMIGRATION/TRAVEL BAN SUSPENSION

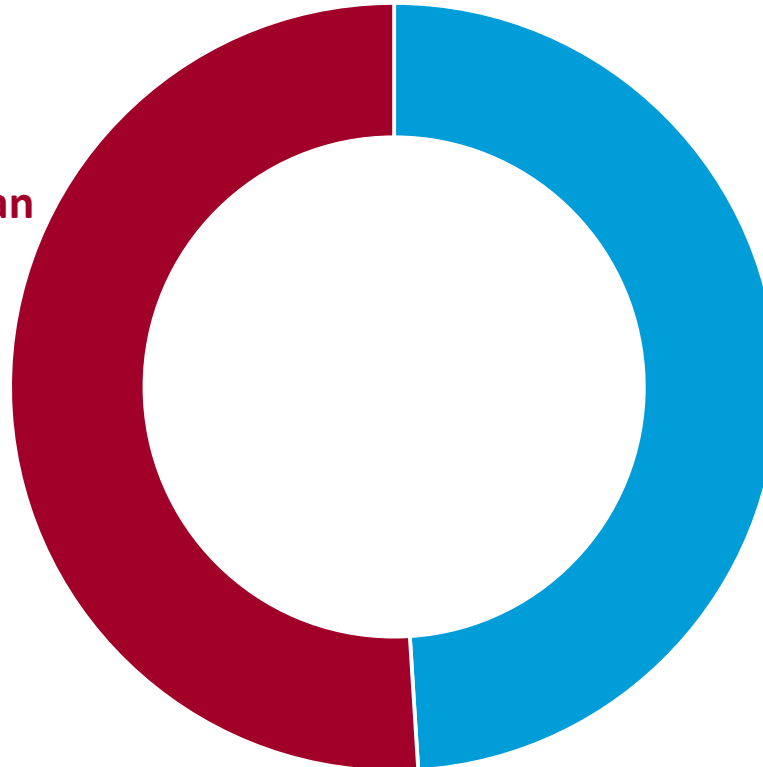
However, there is less division within each party as most Republicans side with the federal government (79%), while most Democrats side with the states challenging the ban (74%)

On the suspension of the immigration/travel ban, voters side with...

**51%**

**the states challenging the ban**

...which argue that there is no evidence that suggests impending harm from the citizens of the seven predominately-Muslim countries targeted by the ban, that the ban violates legal protections and due legal process, that it has actively and unjustly harmed these state's people and economies, and that the ban is designed to discriminate on the basis of religion.



**49%**

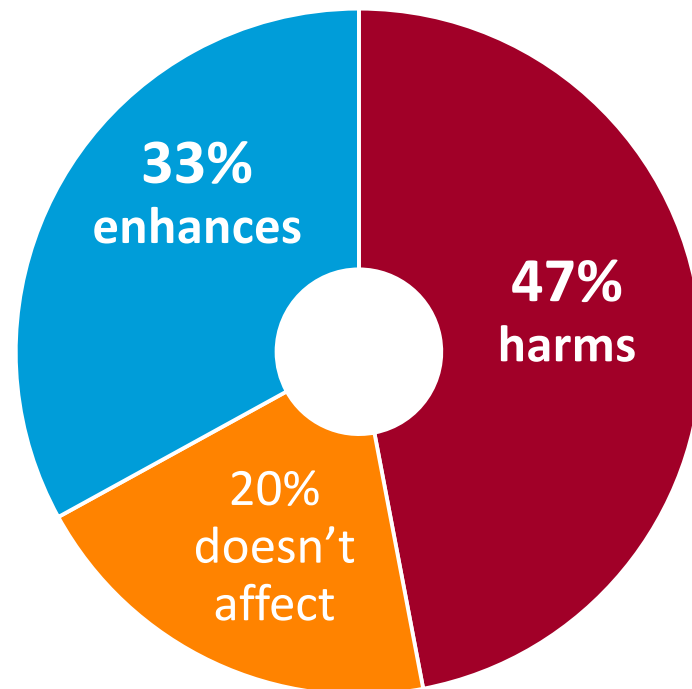
**the federal government**

....which argues that suspending the ban is causing harm to the nation by exposing citizens to the risk of terrorism from terror prone regions, that the President is responsible for ensuring and protecting national security, giving him broad authority on immigration issues, and that the executive order is not discriminatory on religious grounds, affecting only a small proportion of Muslims.

# MOST VOTERS BELIEVE ALLOWING REFUGEES HARMS THE US AND THAT THE US SHOULD ACCEPT FEWER SYRIAN REFUGEES

On the other hand, one third say refugees enhance the US and 15% feel we should accept more refugees from Syria

How Allowing in Refugees Affects the US



Opinion on How to Alter the Number of Refugees Accepted from Syria



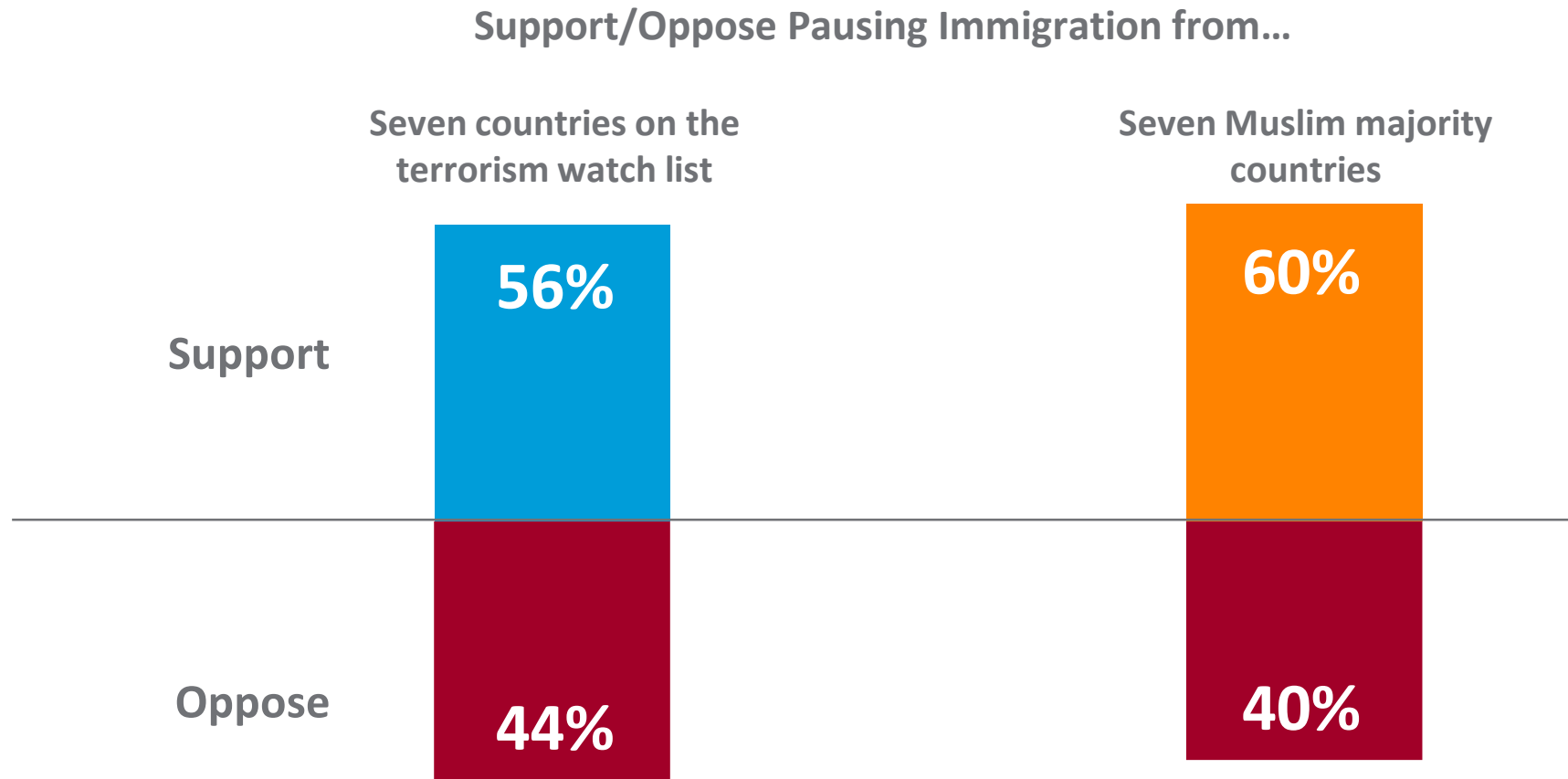
BASE: Registered Voters (n=2148)

I37. Do you think allowing in refugees enhances the country, harms the country, or does not affect the country?

I76. Currently the US is slated to accept 110,000 refugees from war-torn Syria in 2017. Should that number be higher, lower or the same in your opinion?

# MAJORITY OF VOTERS SUPPORT A PAUSE IN IMMIGRATION

Regardless of whether respondents were presented with “countries on the terrorism watch list” or “Muslim majority countries,” the majority agree that immigration from the seven identified countries should be paused until a new vetting system is in place



BASE: Registered Voters who saw the question (split sample: n=1101)

I80. Do you support or oppose a pause in immigration from seven countries on the terrorism watch list - Iraq, Iran, Libya, Syria, Sudan, Somalia and Yemen - until a new vetting system is in place?

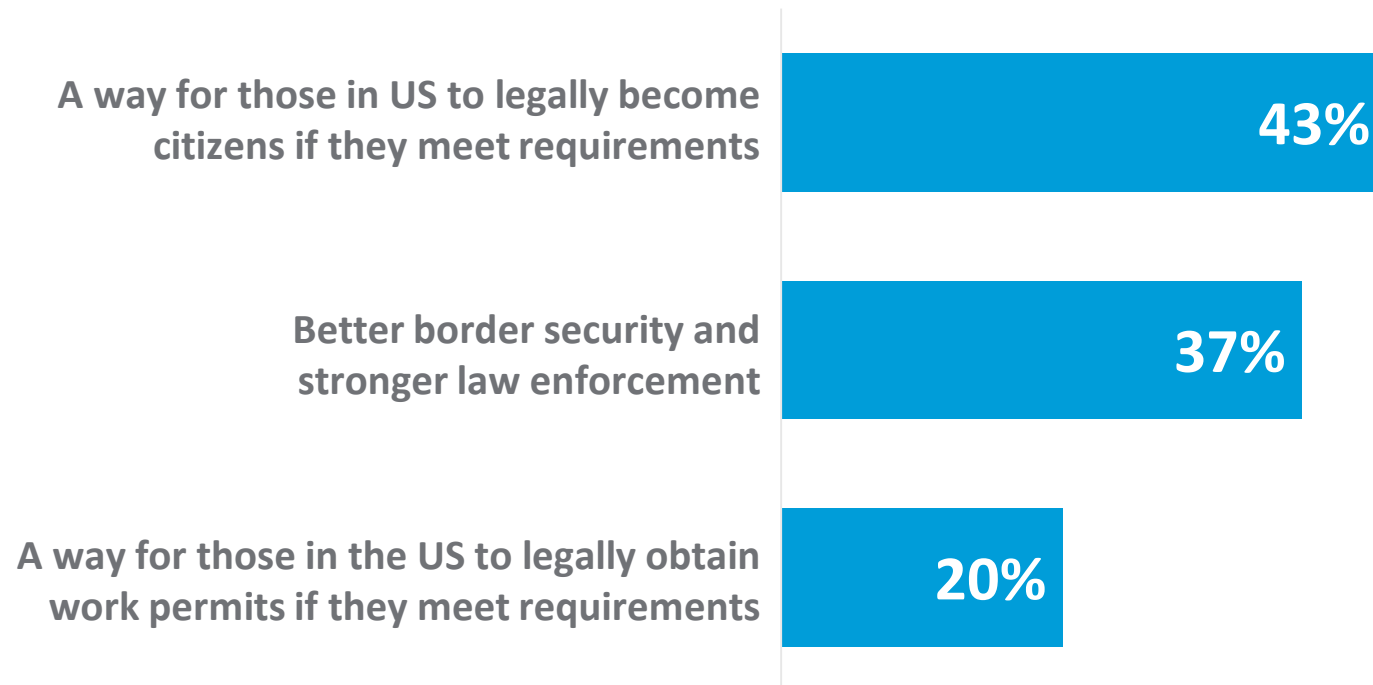
BASE: Registered Voters who saw the question (split sample: n=1047)

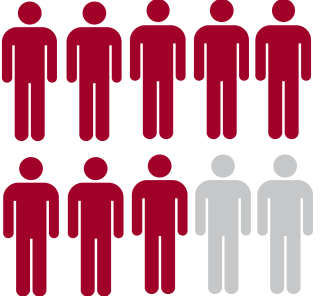
I81. Do you support or oppose a pause in immigration from seven Muslim majority countries including - Iraq, Iran, Libya, Syria, Sudan, Somalia and Yemen - until a new vetting system is in place?

# VOTERS SEE PATH TO CITIZENSHIP AS A PRIORITY BUT OPPOSE SANCTUARY CITIES

Yet, few have tolerance for illegal immigrants who commit crimes as 4 out of 5 state that cities that arrest illegal immigrants for crimes should be required to turn them over to the authorities

## Priority for Dealing with Illegal Immigration



**80%**   
of voters  
**say cities that arrest  
illegal immigrants for  
crimes should be  
required to turn them  
over to immigration  
authorities**

BASE: Registered Voters (n=2148)

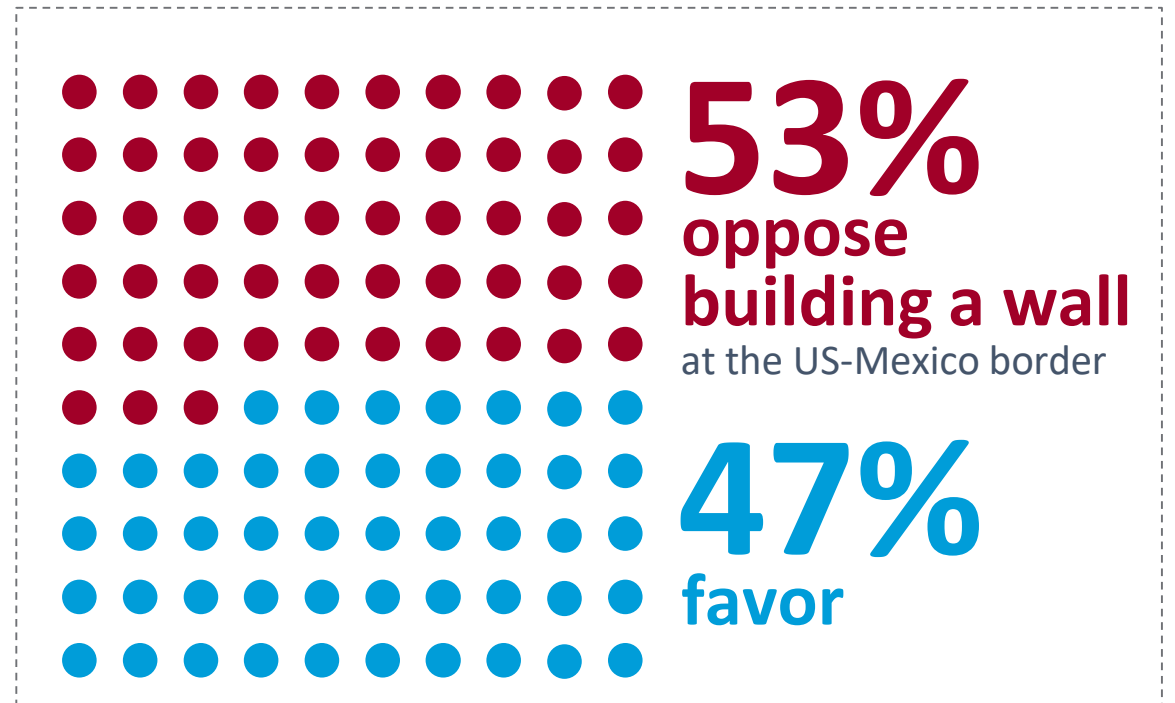
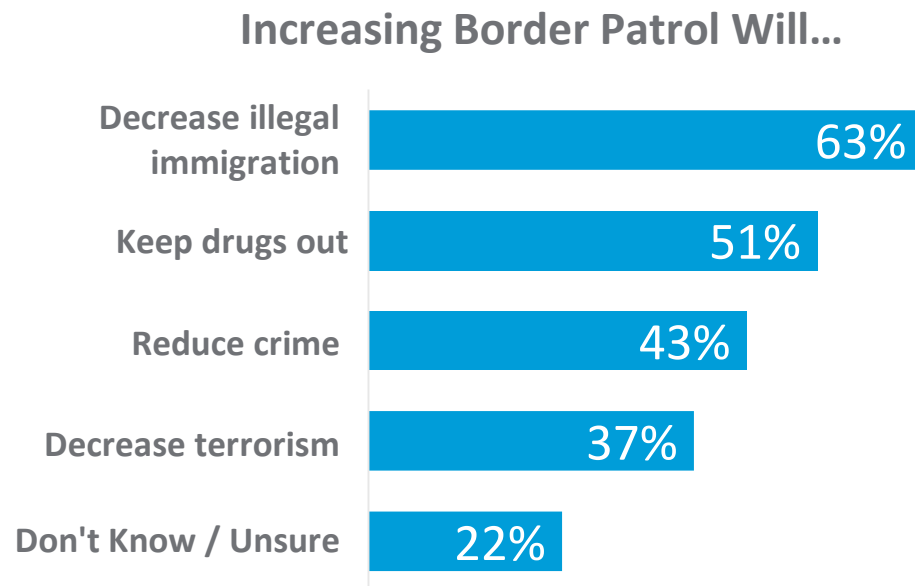
I22. If you had to choose one priority for dealing with illegal immigration, which one would you choose?

I26. Should cities that arrest illegal immigrants for crimes be required to turn them over to immigration authorities?

# WHILE 3 OUT OF 4 VOTERS FEEL THE US SHOULD INCREASE BORDER PATROL, LESS THAN HALF ARE IN FAVOR OF BUILDING A WALL

A majority feel increased border patrol will decrease illegal immigration

**75%** of voters feel US should increase border patrol



BASE: Registered Voters (n=2148)

I23. Do you think we should increase border patrol?

I24. Do you think increasing border patrol would do any of the following? Please select all that apply.

I25. Do you favor or oppose building a wall along the US-Mexico border to try to stop illegal immigration?

# MAJORITY OF VOTERS SUPPORT COMPREHENSIVE IMMIGRATION REFORM

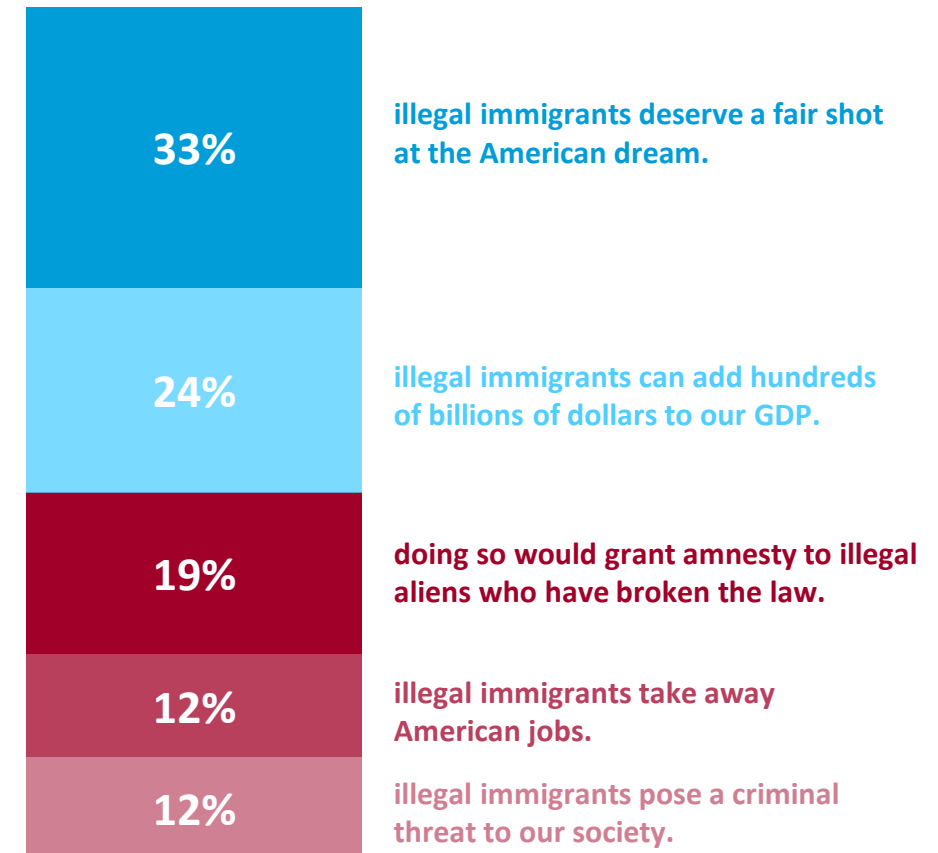
However, 4 in 10 have concerns, including granting amnesty to law breakers, taking away American jobs, and a potential criminal threat.

## Positions on Comprehensive Immigration Reform

**77%**  
of voters **support**  
**comprehensive**  
**immigration**  
**reform**

**57%**  
say congress  
should pass  
immigration  
reform  
because...

**43%**  
say congress  
should not pass  
immigration  
reform  
because...



BASE: Registered Voters (n=2148)

I27. Do you support comprehensive immigration reform?

I28. Which of the following statements best explains your position on immigration reform?



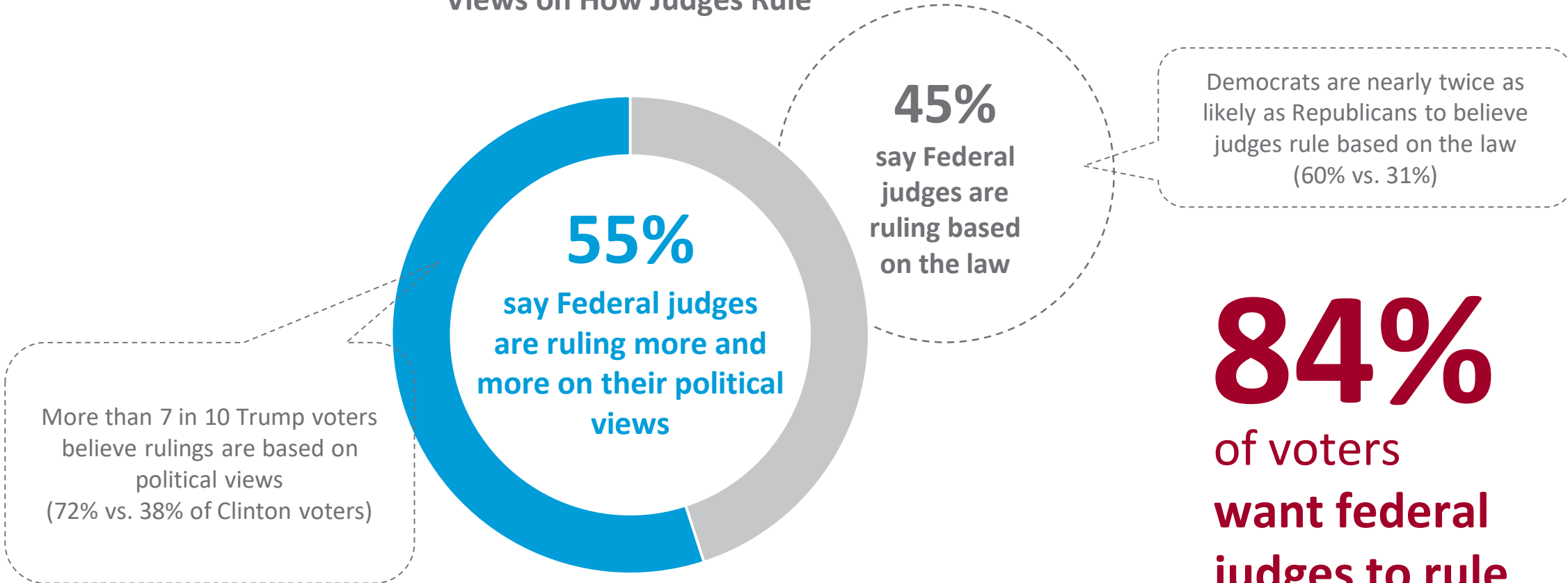
# JUDGE RULING & FREEDOM OF EXPRESSION



# A VAST MAJORITY OF VOTERS WANT JUDGES RULING JUST ON THE LAW, BUT MOST DON'T FEEL JUDGES ARE DOING THIS TODAY

Over half feel federal judges are ruling more and more on their political views

## Views on How Judges Rule



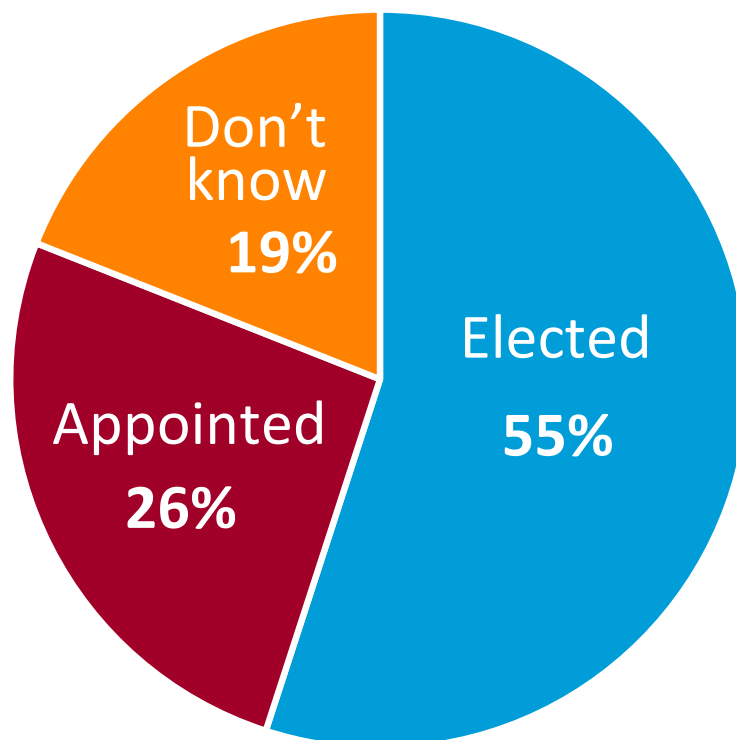
**84%**  
of voters  
want federal  
judges to rule  
just on the law

BASE: Registered Voters (n=2148)  
I90 Do you think federal judges today are ruling just upon the law or are they ruling more and more on their political views?  
I91 Do you want federal judges to rule just on the law or more on their views on politics and policy?

# DESPITE A STRONG DESIRE FOR JUDGES TO RULE JUST ON THE LAW, OVER HALF OF VOTERS FEEL JUDICIARY MEMBERS SHOULD BE ELECTED

While a quarter side with appointing judiciary members, nearly 1 in 5 just don't know

Members of the judiciary should be...



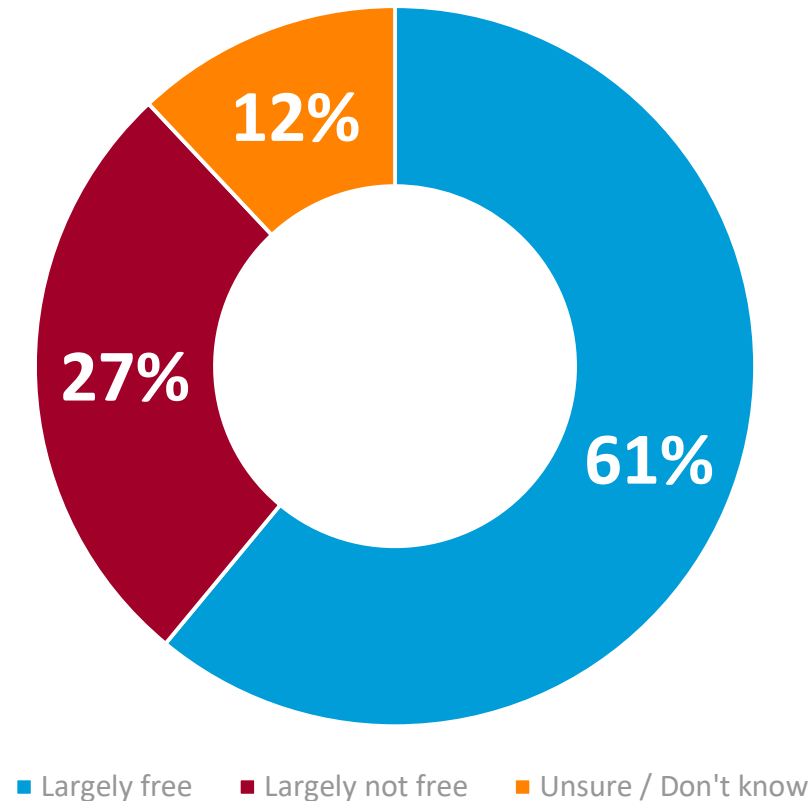
BASE: Registered Voters (n=2148)

ER5 Should members of the judiciary be elected or appointed?

# 6 IN 10 VOTERS FEEL LARGELY FREE TO EXPRESS THEIR VIEWS AMONG FRIENDS, EVEN WHEN IT MAY BE UNPOPULAR

However, a significant minority don't feel they can do so

Freedom of Expression of Unpopular Ideas Among Friends



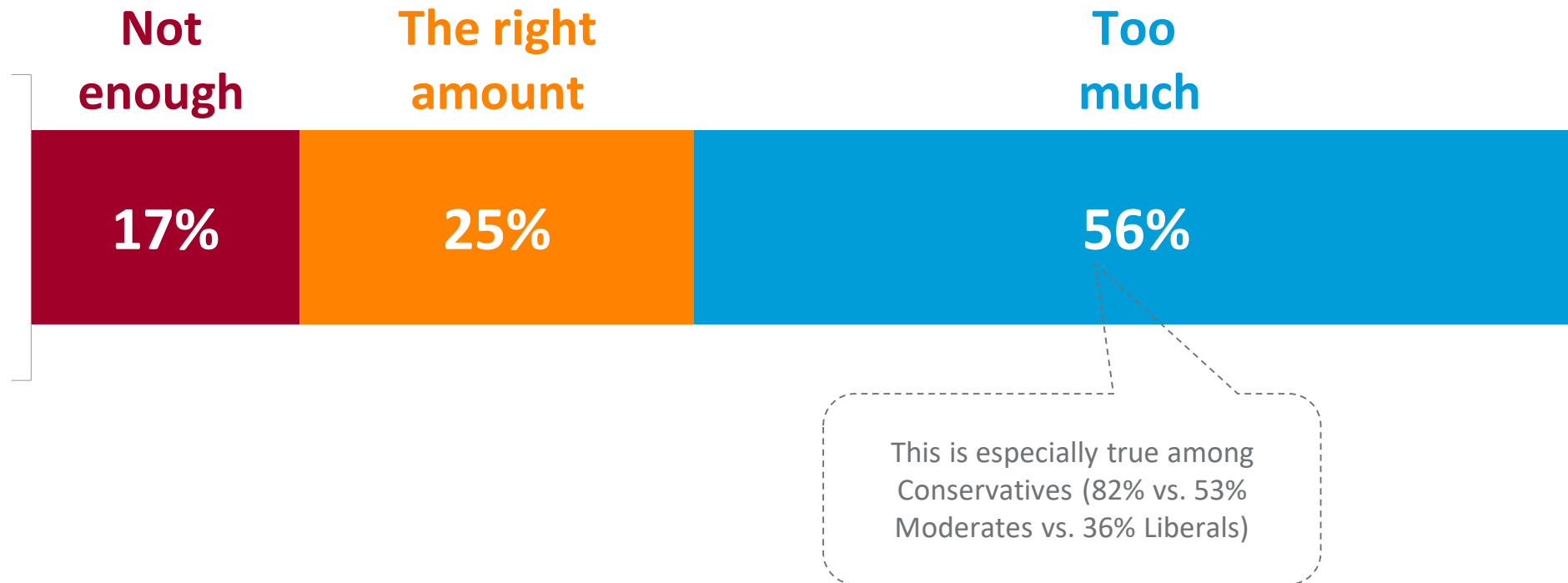
BASE: Registered Voters (n=2148)

I58 Do you feel you are largely free or not free to express your views and opinions, even when they are unpopular among your friends and in your community?

# MOST VOTERS ARE NOT LOOKING FOR MORE POLITICAL CORRECTNESS

In fact, more than half believe there is too much political correctness in the US today

The amount of political correctness today is...



BASE: Registered Voters (n=2148)

I57 Do you think there is too much political correctness in the United States today, not enough, or just the right amount?