

navigator*

Wednesday, July 23rd

Trump and Republicans' Budget Bill: A Guide for Advocates



Credit: Shutterstock/Lucky Photographer

Key Takeaways:

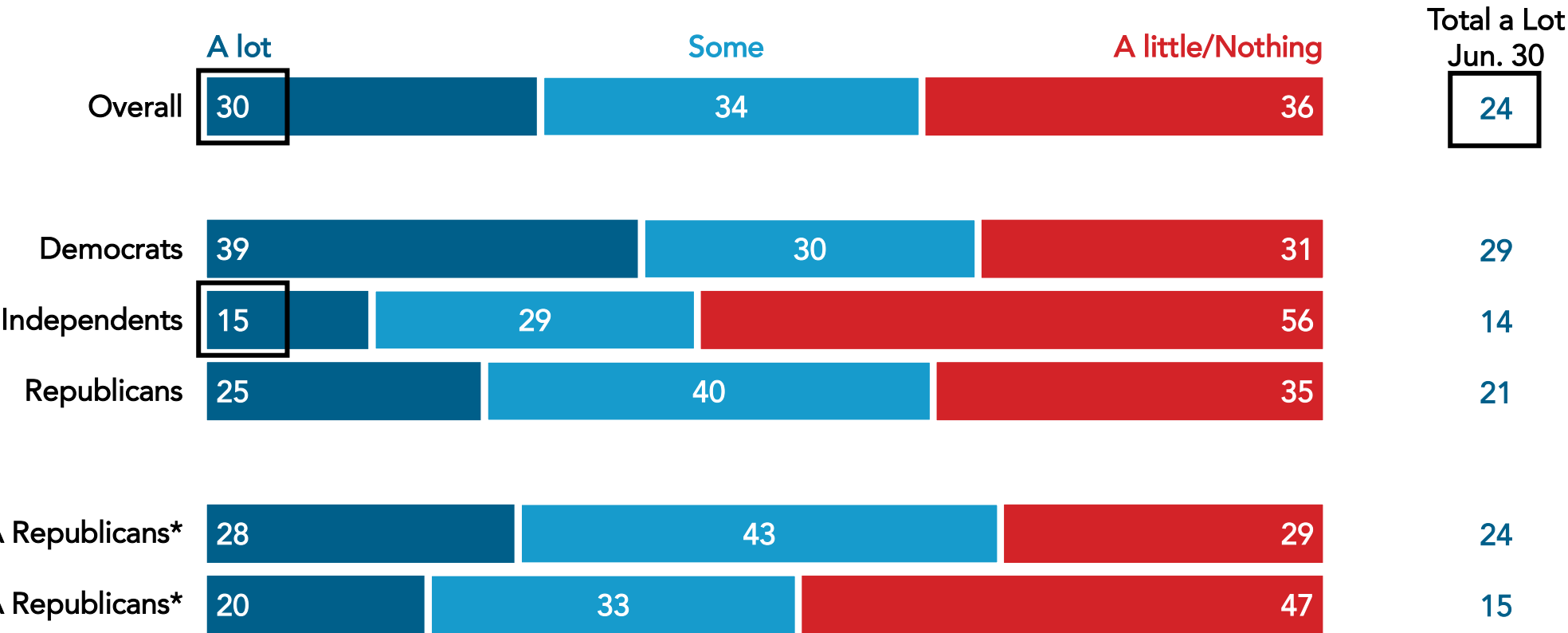
- A majority of Americans view the recently passed Republican budget bill unfavorably, and half oppose it – despite less than a third hearing “a lot” about it. Those who are hearing about it cite cuts to Medicaid and taxes.
- Americans say the rich will benefit more than everyday Americans from the budget bill and its tax cuts.
- The most personally and broadly harmful policies from the budget bill include adding to the national debt, cutting Medicaid and food assistance, and adding new tax breaks and loopholes for the rich. The impacts that are most concerning include loss of food assistance and health coverage, as well as higher health care costs – though some Americans see those outcomes as less likely than others.
- Learning about what is in the Republican bill consolidates views against it, including among non-MAGA Republicans. Americans are most concerned it means Republicans in Congress only care about the rich, are taking away health care, and are hurting working people.

Fewer Than a Third Are Hearing “a Lot” About the GOP Budget

More Americans are hearing “a lot” about the budget plan now than had heard about the proposed budget in late June (from 24% “a lot” in June to 30% now). Democrats are driving that movement the most (from 29% hearing “a lot” in June to 39% now).

- Few independents are hearing “a lot” about the Republican budget plan (15%).

How much have you seen, read, or heard about the budget plan that was recently passed by Trump and Republicans in Congress?*



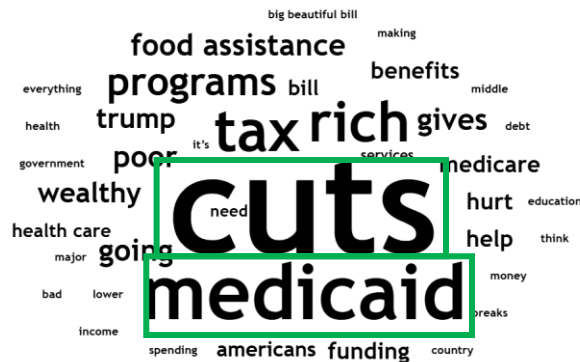
*“MAGA Republicans” are Republicans who identify as “a supporter of the MAGA movement” on a separate question, while “non-MAGA Republicans” are Republicans who do not consider themselves supporters of the MAGA movement or are not sure. **Previous question text read “How much have you seen, read, or heard about Republicans in Congress’ proposed budget plan?” Nationwide surveys of registered voters; Each wave represents approximately 1,000 interviews taken over the prior three-five days. Latest wave conducted July 16-July 21, 2025. For more info, visit navigatorresearch.org.

On the GOP Budget, Americans Are Hearing About Cuts (Particularly to Medicaid) and Tax Cuts For the Rich

Republicans are hearing more about taxes in the budget plan than Democrats and independents.

[If seen/read/heard at least a little about the budget plan] Regardless of how much you know about it... In a few words, what have you seen, read, or heard about the budget plan that was recently passed by Trump and Republicans in Congress?

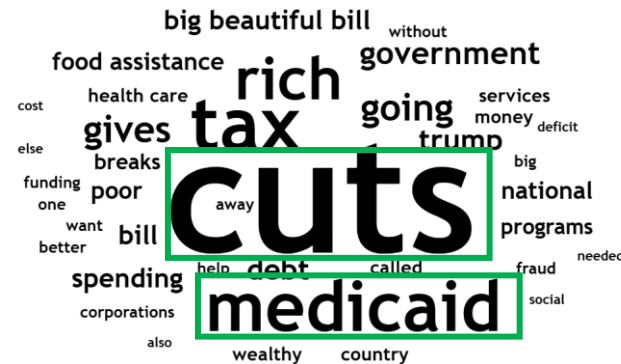
Democrats



"The budget plan benefits [the] rich more than the average Americans."

"I feel that the cuts made to Medicaid and other programs will hurt new families and the poor."

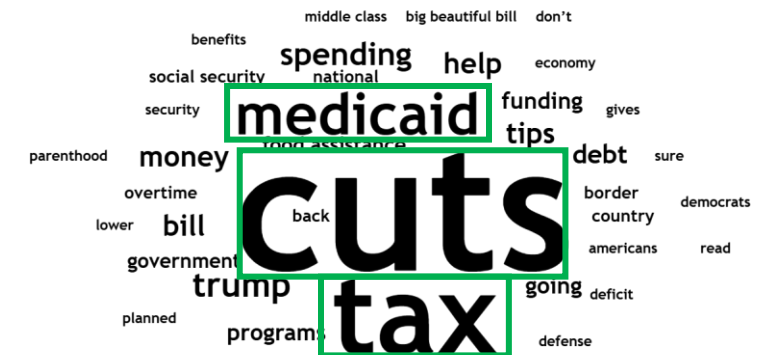
Independents



"The budget plan mainly supports giving tax breaks to the rich."

"It provides tax cuts for the rich, cuts services for the rest of us, adds trillions to the national debt, and cuts Medicaid severely."

Republicans

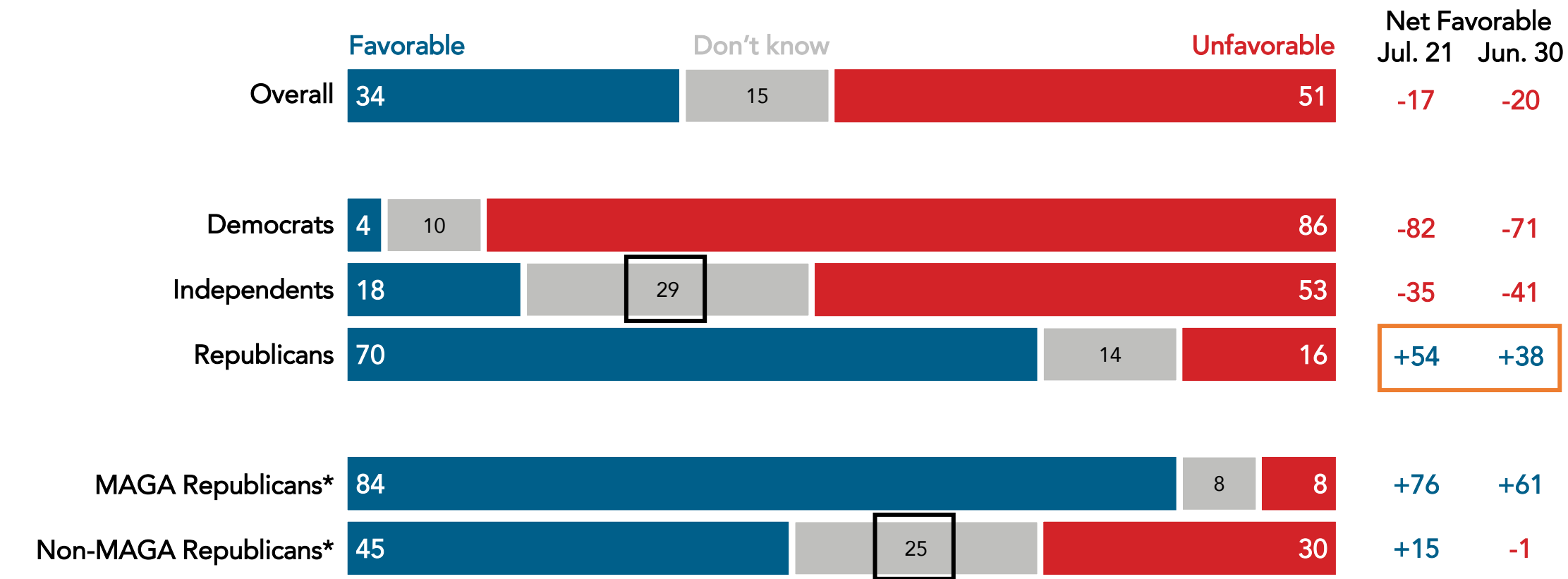


"Strong cuts to waste and fraud."

"I see cuts to areas that have seen major overspending."

Majorities View the Republican Budget Bill (Also Known as the “One Big Beautiful Bill Act”) Unfavorably

Please indicate how favorable or unfavorable you are to: The Republican budget bill, also known as the One Big Beautiful Bill Act.

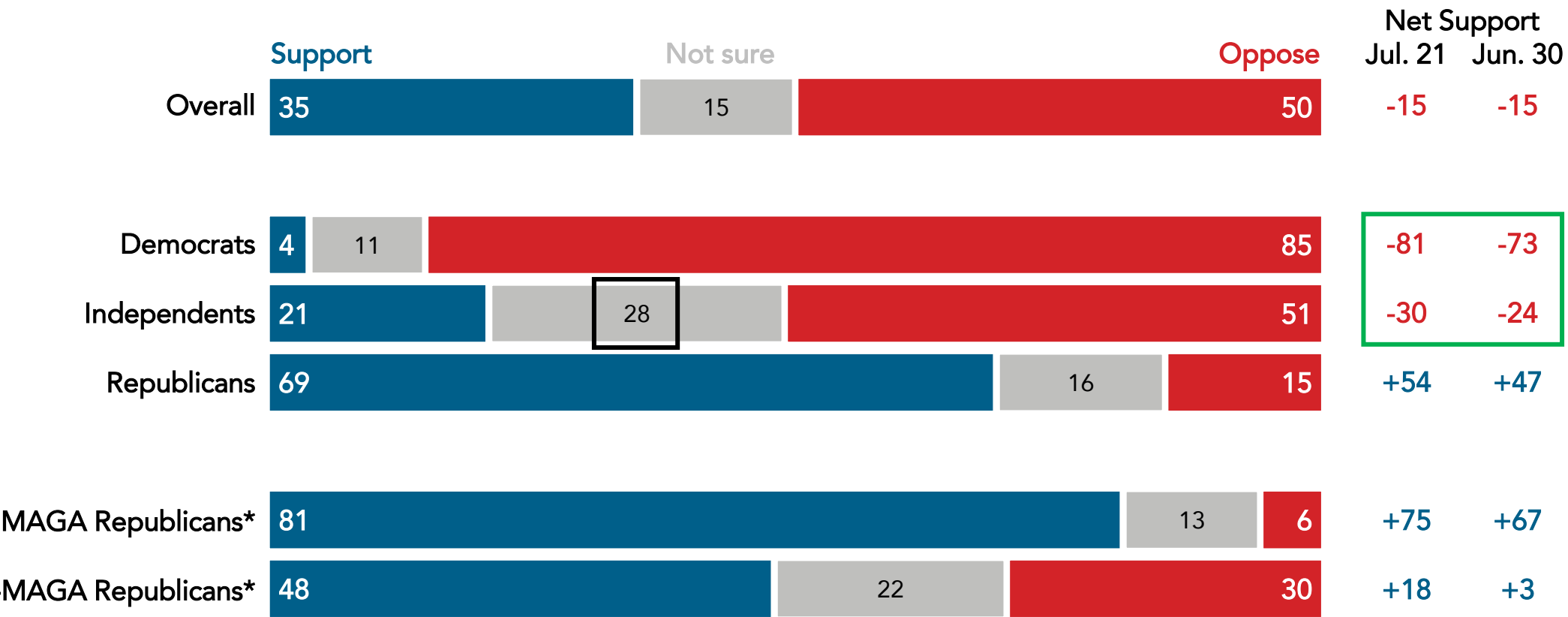


*"MAGA Republicans" are Republicans who identify as "a supporter of the MAGA movement" on a separate question, while "non-MAGA Republicans" are Republicans who do not consider themselves supporters of the MAGA movement or are not sure. Nationwide surveys of registered voters; Each wave represents approximately 1,000 interviews taken over the prior three-five days. Latest wave conducted July 16-July 21, 2025. For more info, visit navigatorresearch.org.

Half of Americans Oppose Trump and Republicans' Budget Bill

A majority of independents (51%) oppose the budget plan recently passed by Trump and Republicans, and opposition among independents has increased since late June (from net -24 support then to net -30 now).

Do you support or oppose the budget plan that was recently passed by Trump and Republicans in Congress?*

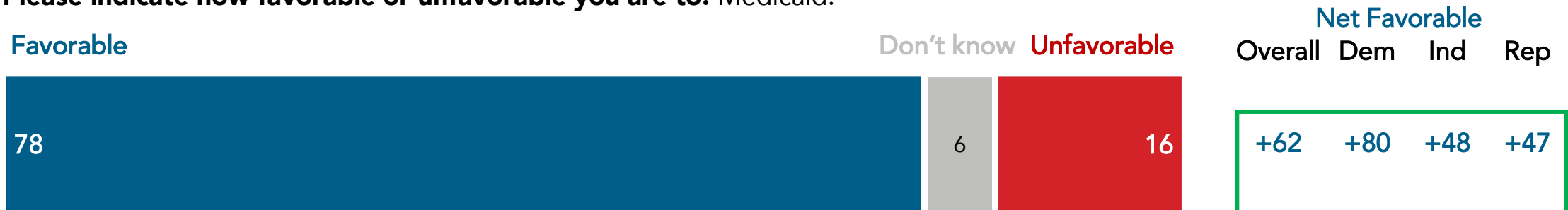


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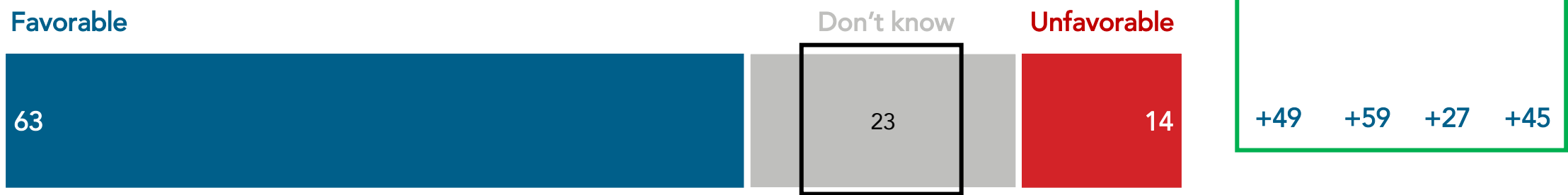
Medicaid Is Better Known Than Respondents' State-Specific Medicaid Programs, But Both Are Popular Across Party Lines

Roughly one in four Americans don't know enough to rate their specific state's Medicaid program (23%), though those who can rate theirs are overwhelmingly positive toward it (net +49 favorable).

Please indicate how favorable or unfavorable you are to: Medicaid.



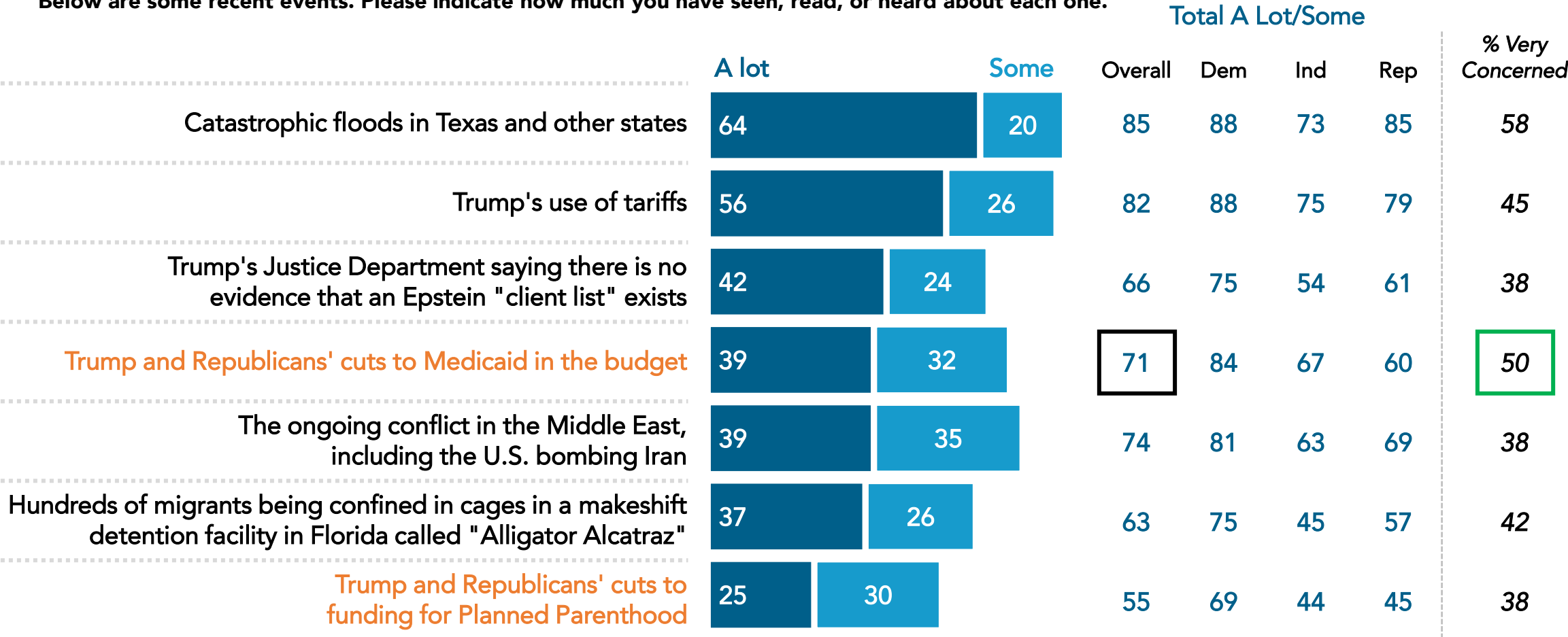
Please indicate how favorable or unfavorable you are to: [Named state Medicaid program].*



*Respondents were asked to rate their state's specific Medicaid program (i.e. MaineCare for respondents in Maine or HuskyHealth for respondents in Connecticut). Nationwide survey of 1,000 registered voters conducted July 16-July 21, 2025. For more info, visit navigatorresearch.org.

While Medicaid Cuts Are One of the Most Concerning News Stories, Fewer Are Hearing “a Lot” About Them Than Others

Below are some recent events. Please indicate how much you have seen, read, or heard about each one.

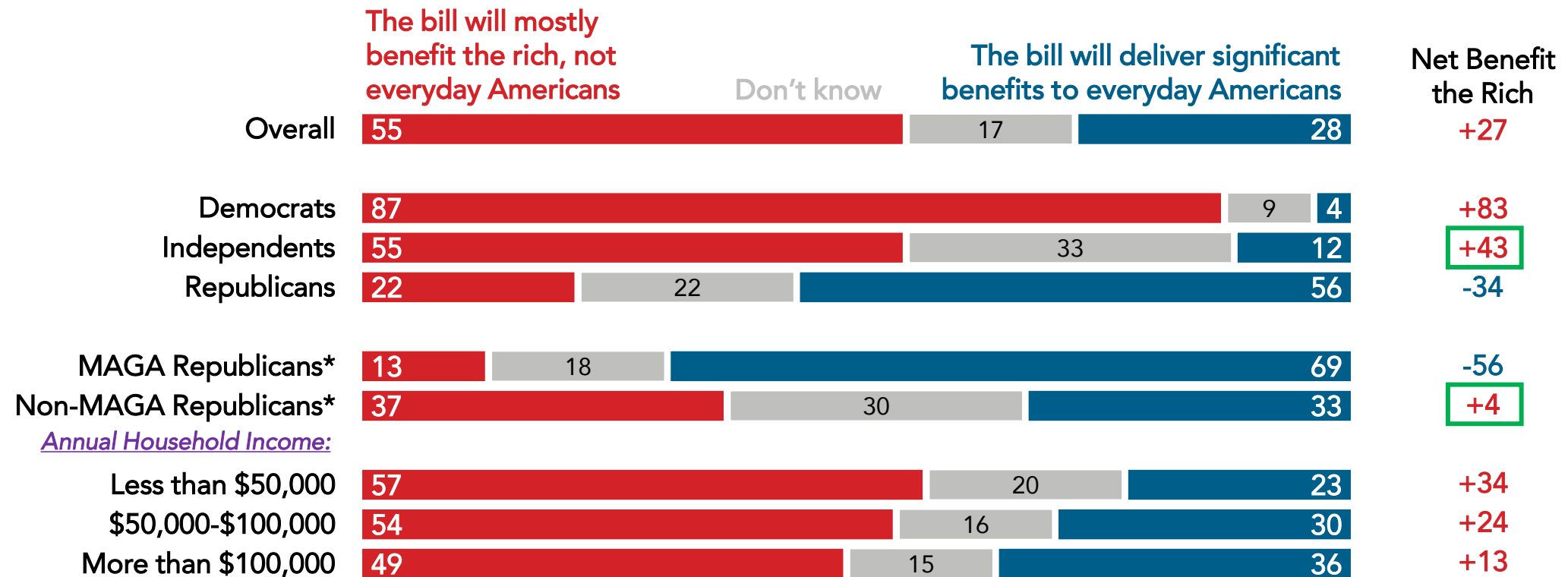


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Majorities Say the Rich Will Benefit From This Budget Overall, While Everyday Americans Will Not

A majority of independents (55%) and a plurality of non-MAGA Republicans* (37%) say the rich will benefit, not everyday Americans.

Who do you think will benefit more from the Republican budget bill that was just passed?



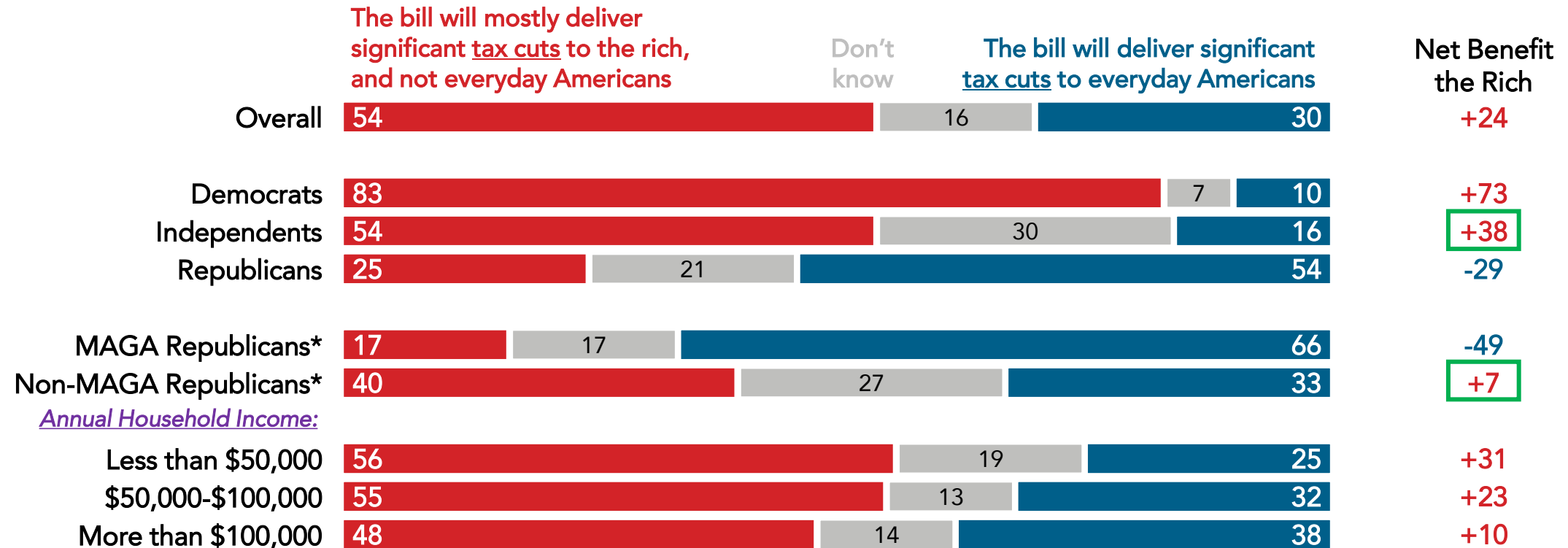
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Americans Say the Tax Cuts in the Republican Budget Will Benefit the Rich and Not Everyday Americans

Two in five non-MAGA Republicans* (40%) and a majority of independents (54%) say the tax cuts in the Republican budget bill will benefit the rich, not everyday Americans.

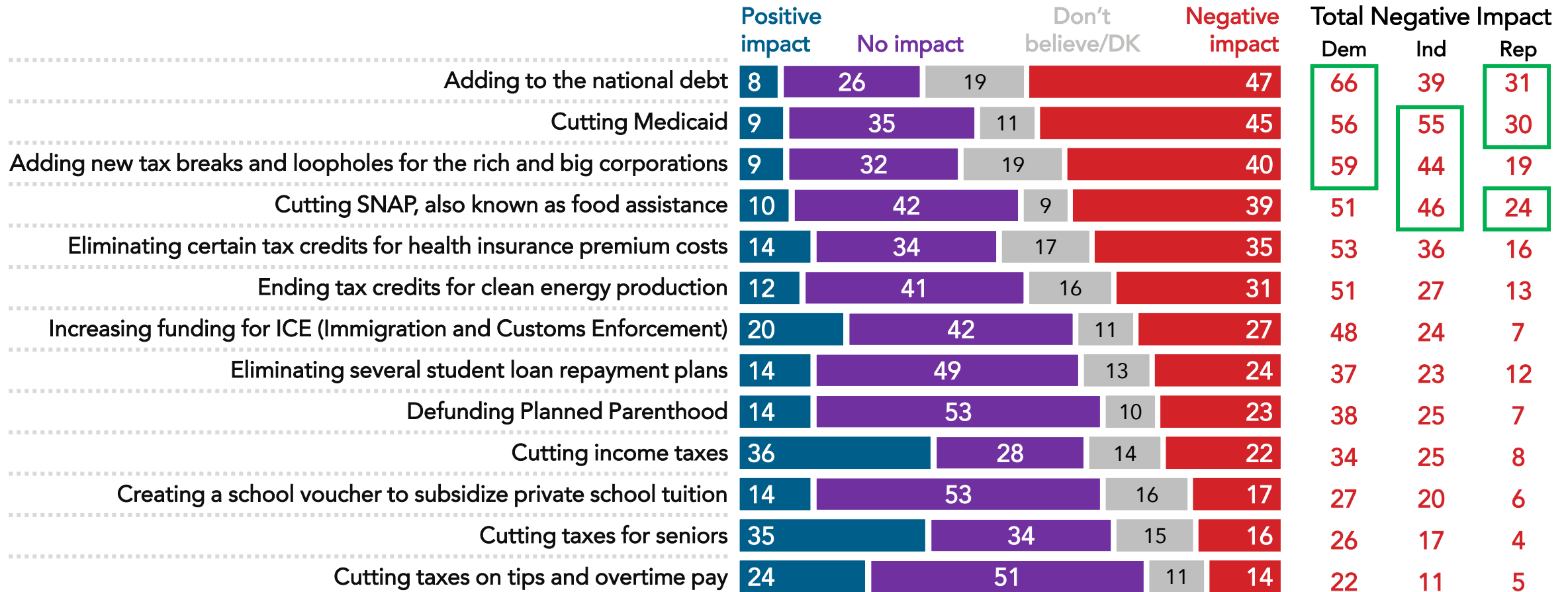
Who do you think will get more from the **tax cuts** in the Republican budget bill that was just passed?



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Americans See Adding to the National Debt, Medicaid/SNAP Cuts, Tax Breaks for the Rich As Most Personally Harmful

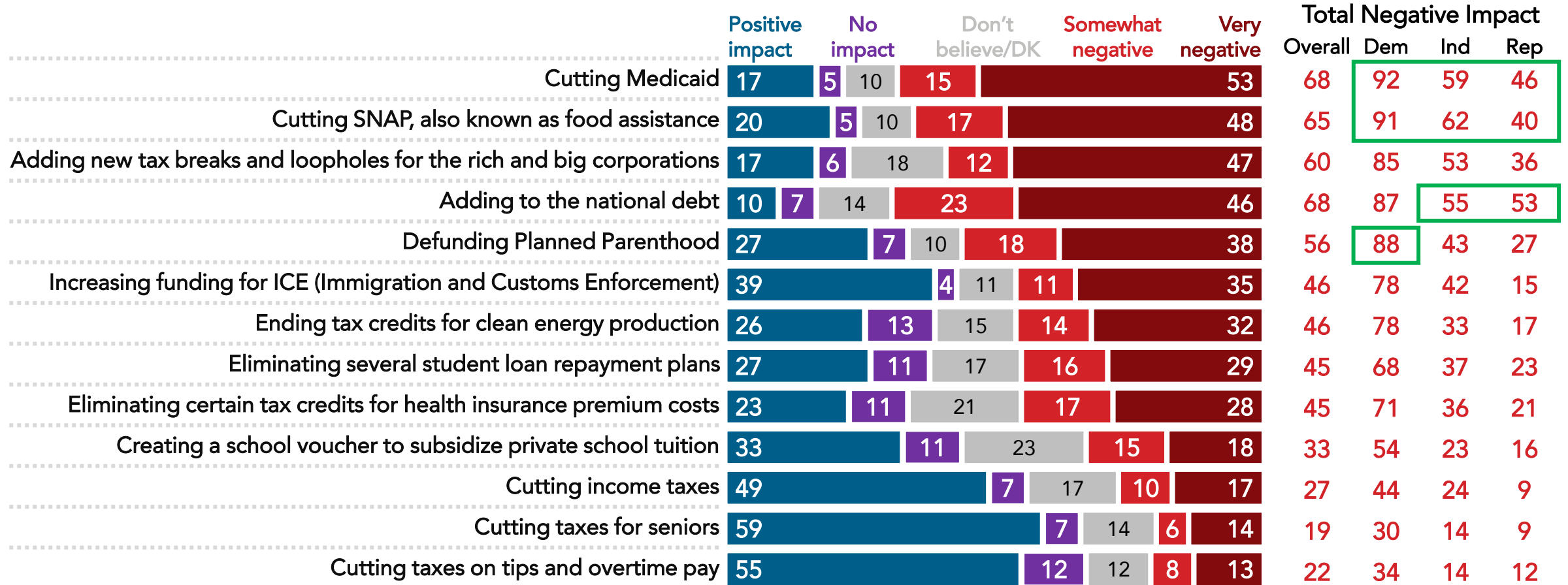
Please indicate whether you think each one will have a positive impact on you personally, a negative impact on you personally, or no impact on you personally.



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Greatest National Harms Seen in Cutting Medicaid and SNAP, New Tax Breaks for the Rich, Adding to National Debt

Please indicate whether you think each one will have a positive impact on the country, a negative impact on the country, or no impact on the country.



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Most Concerning From Budget: Loss of Food Assistance and Health Care, Hospital/Nursing Home Closures

Below is a list of potential impacts from the budget plan that was recently passed by Trump and Republicans in Congress. Please indicate how concerning you find each one on a scale of 1 to 5. [Top 10 items]

	Extremely concerning (5)	Somewhat concerning (4)	Total Concerning Overall	Dem	Ind	Rep
As many as 18 million children could lose school meals	59	10	69	90	70	47
As many as 17 million Americans could lose their health care coverage	57	11	68	89	71	47
Health insurance premiums could rise by as much as 75%	57	12	69	90	66	49
Up to 22 million American families could lose some or all of their food assistance	56	11	67	91	62	45
Up to 700 rural hospitals – or roughly 1 in 3 rural hospitals nationwide – could close due to Medicaid cuts	53	14	67	87	69	46
Up to 1 in 4 nursing homes in the U.S. say they could shut down due to Medicaid cuts	52	14	66	89	63	43
The national debt will increase by more than \$3 trillion	51	14	65	88	63	43
The majority of the tax cuts will go to the wealthiest Americans and big corporations	50	13	63	88	65	38
Electricity prices could increase by an average of \$280 a year per household because there will be less solar and wind energy on the grid, creating a shortage	49	14	64	86	64	41
Pollution in our air and water could get worse	49	13	62	87	64	37

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Other Concerning Parts of Budget: Threats to American Jobs, Lack of Benefits for Working Families

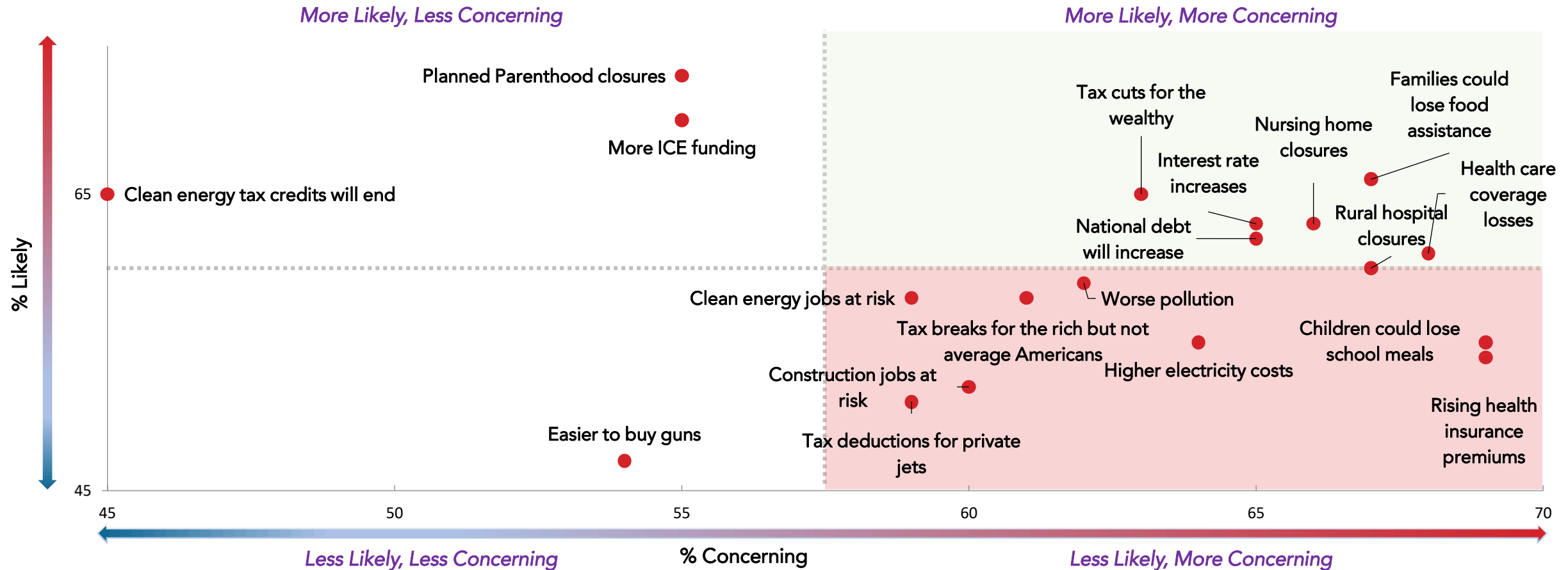
Below is a list of potential impacts from the budget plan that was recently passed by Trump and Republicans in Congress. Please indicate how concerning you find each one on a scale of 1 to 5. [Lower 9 items]

	Extremely concerning (5)	Somewhat concerning (4)	Total Concerning			
			Overall	Dem	Ind	Rep
Interest rates may increase again as a result of adding trillions to the national debt	48	18	65	85	60	47
Big corporations and rich individuals will get a tax deduction for purchasing private jets	47	12	59	78	60	40
The average American family will see almost no change in their taxes, while those earning more than \$1 million a year will get over \$100,000 in tax breaks	45	16	61	85	60	38
ICE will get more money to disappear immigrants off the street, separate them from their families without notice, and deport them	45	10	55	85	49	26
Nearly 2 million construction jobs are now at risk	43	17	60	80	61	40
As many as 330,000 clean energy jobs are now at risk	43	16	59	84	56	35
Our communities will be endangered by it being easier to buy dangerous firearms and silencers	41	12	54	79	44	31
As many as 200 Planned Parenthood health centers in 24 states across the country could shut down	41	14	55	82	49	30
Tax credits for new solar and wind projects and electric vehicle purchases will end	31	14	45	72	37	21

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Americans Are Less Certain of the Concerning Cuts to School Meals, Higher Health Care/Utility Costs, Worse Pollution



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On Climate-Related Outcomes From the GOP Budget, Utilities Going Up and Pollution Getting Worse Are Most Concerning

Below is a list of potential impacts from the budget plan that was recently passed by Trump and Republicans in Congress. Please indicate how concerning you find each one on a scale of 1 to 5.

	Extremely concerning (5)	Somewhat concerning (4)	Total Concerning				% Likely
			Overall	Dem	Ind	Rep	
Electricity prices could increase by an average of \$280 a year per household because there will be less solar and wind energy on the grid, creating a shortage	49	14	64	86	64	41	55
Pollution in our air and water could get worse	49	13	62	87	64	37	59
As many as 330,000 clean energy jobs are now at risk	43	16	59	84	56	35	58
Tax credits for new solar and wind projects and electric vehicle purchases will end	31	14	45	72	37	21	65

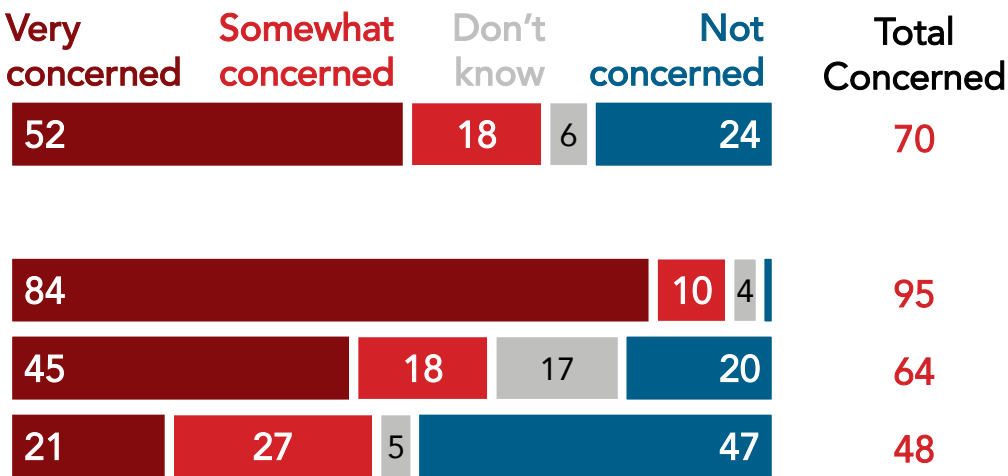
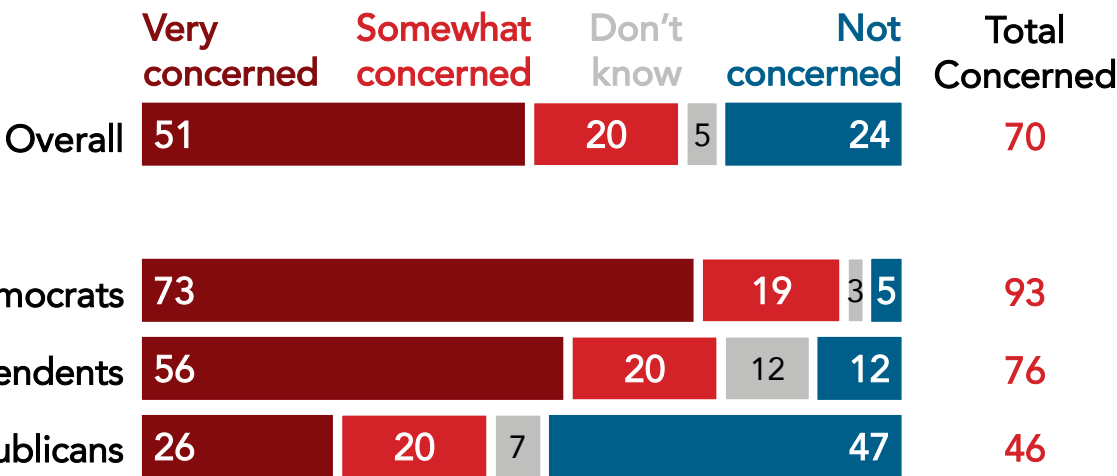
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Regardless of Time Horizon, Seven in Ten Say Republicans' Medicaid Cuts Are Troubling

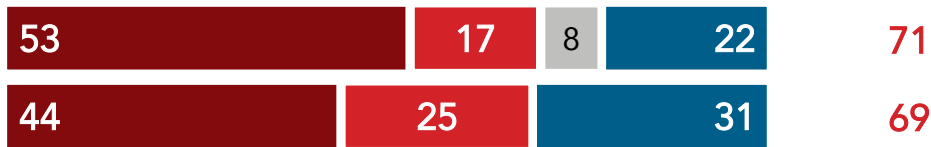
Majorities are “very concerned” about cuts to Medicaid both generally (51%) and when contextualized with a date of 2028 (52%). A majority of independents are concerned about each, though slightly more so without the time horizon (76% without, 64% with).

[Split Sample] How concerned are you that Republicans are cutting Medicaid?

[Split Sample] How concerned are you that Republicans are cutting Medicaid, with cuts going into effect in 2028?



Annual Household Income:

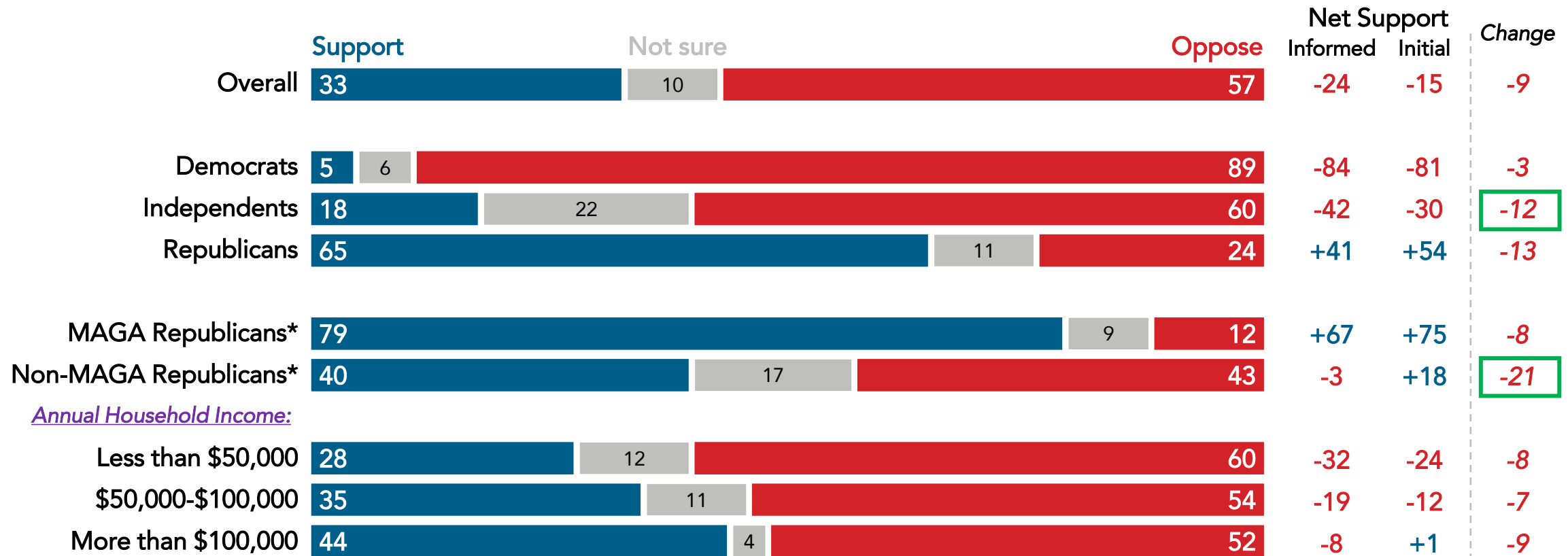


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Americans Consolidate Against the Republican Budget Bill When They Learn More

After learning about what the Republican budget bill contains, independents move against the bill by a net 12 points (from net -30 support to net -42) and non-MAGA Republicans* move against it by a net 21 points (from net +18 to net -3).

[Informed Ask] Once again... Do you support or oppose the budget plan that was recently passed by Trump and Republicans in Congress?



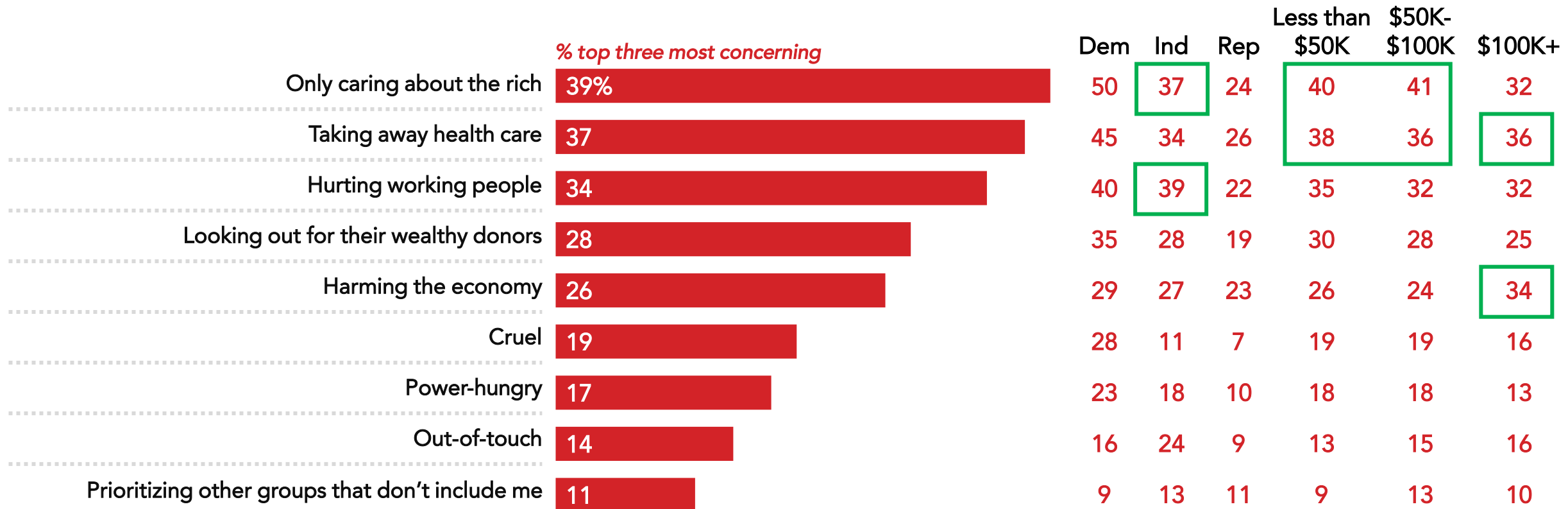
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Americans Are Most Concerned GOP Only Caring About the Rich, Taking Away Health Care, Hurting Working People

Independents are most concerned about Republicans hurting working people (39%) and only caring about the rich (37%), and Americans earning less than \$100,000 a year are most concerned they are only caring about the rich and taking away health care.

[If don't strongly support budget plan] Which of the following best describes your concerns about the Republicans who voted to pass the budget bill?



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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; Mike Podhorzer; Jesse Ferguson, progressive strategist; Navin Nayak; 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 July 16-July 21, 2025. 100 additional interviews were conducted among Hispanic voters. 100 additional interviews were conducted among African American voters. 100 additional interviews were conducted among younger voters between ages 18 and 27. 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. 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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