

To: Progressive Policy Institute
Fr: Pete Brodnitz
Re: August 2021 Battleground Polling – How Voters View the Biden Plan
Date: September 8, 2021

PPI recently commissioned a national public opinion survey¹ in battleground House and Senate districts to examine how voters view the Biden administration's landmark infrastructure and social investment proposals, which party they trust most on economic, tax and fiscal issues, and their attitudes towards business, with a special focus on competition with China as well as major bills under consideration in Congress to break up or heavily regulate America's leading technology companies.

This is one of several reports on those findings among House and Senate battleground voters. The poll concentrates on voters in 44 Congressional swing districts and 9 states thought to have competitive Senate races in next year's midterm elections. These are the races which will determine whether Democrats can consolidate their narrow House and Senate majorities or cede legislative control to the Republicans. Here are some key findings:

- Battleground voters overwhelmingly support President Biden's bipartisan infrastructure bill (73%-27%). Even more approve of his determination to work with Republicans to get it done (83%-17%) and believe this "major investment" is important to strengthening our economy (85% say it is important).
- They also support, though by a much narrower margin of 54%-46%, the President's proposed \$3 trillion "human infrastructure" package of social investments.
- In general, these voters are more responsive to efforts to focus economic policy on creating jobs and economic opportunity and rewarding work than to an economic policy that puts the focus on reducing economic inequality. This poses a challenge to progressives who urge Democrats to put concerns over economic equity at the center of their message.
- For example, increasing the number of good jobs (28%), spurring innovation and growth (24%) and rewarding work (20%) are more important than reducing inequality (16%), promoting fairness (10%) or increasing unionized jobs (2%).
- A variety of Democratic arguments that offer an activist economic alternative are more appealing to these voters than the traditional Republican mantra of cutting taxes and regulation. For example, battleground voters consistently favor Democratic calls for investment in science, infrastructure and people over Republican calls to cut taxes and regulation. There is potential for Democrats to demonstrate that they offer an economic agenda that represents strong action in the face of today's economic challenges, including those posed by Covid and China, and to contrast this with GOP unwillingness to act.
- Fairness is a potent theme for Democrats when it comes to tax policy (as opposed to overall economic policy). In fact, our findings suggest that GOP supply side nostrums may be losing their potency. These voters strongly support tax fairness as well as President Biden's proposals to ensure that corporations and the wealthy pay their fair share.

¹ Expedition Strategies conducted 1,000 interviews in 44 battleground House Districts, 800 interviews in Senate battleground states (AZ, GA, PA, WI, NH, NV, NC, FL, and OH), with 100 oversample of Hispanic voters and 100 oversample of African American voters across those states. The interviews were conducted August 2-8, 2021. The margin of error for overall results is $\pm 2.19\%$ and higher among subgroups.

- A 41% plurality say the top goal for *tax policy* should be to make sure the wealthy and corporations pay more in taxes. Just under one-third (29%) say the focus should be on stimulating economic investment and job growth, followed by lowering payroll taxes on working people (22%) and raising revenue to pay for public investments in infrastructure and people (9%). To the extent the debate over how to finance the reconciliation bill takes center stage in coming weeks, eclipsing arguments over tax fairness, those pushing for major tax hikes may encounter stiffening voter resistance.
- Strong voter support for tax fairness, however, should not be mistaken for anti-business sentiment. In fact, these voters want government to help U.S. companies compete by stopping China from stealing American technologies and trade secrets. Also popular is the administration's call for strengthening domestic supply chains by offering tax incentives to U.S. companies that manufacture "key goods such as the chips needed to run modern electronics products or medical supplies."

Financing the Biden Build Back Better Plan

- Battleground voters favor paying for these initiatives with a mix of tax hikes and public borrowing rather than just adding them to the deficit.
- By a solid 57-43 margin, these voters favor increasing taxes on the wealthy and corporations to pay for new public investments. Two-thirds of voters believe inherited income should be taxed at the same or higher rate than earned income.
- The same number (57%) back the Democrats' call for more IRS funding "so it can crack down on tax evasion and collect an additional \$70 billion in revenue a year," while 43% side with the GOP in opposing more money for the IRS "to harass U.S. taxpayers and corporations."
- Battleground district and state voters rank deficits and debt as their second highest economic concern. By 88-12, they say the national debt is a "serious problem."
- Democrats should be wary of claims that these voters will reward "bold" action on spending. When asked if the federal government should make investments but be careful about how much spending and the national debt increases or make bold and significant new investments and address the impact on the debt later, 63% say to be careful while just 20% say be bold and worry about the debt later.
- In a warning to Democrats, three-in-four (73%) voters say they are concerned that "Democrats in Congress want to spend too much money without paying for it." In addition, 74% said they are worried that these bills may lead to inflation.
- Democrats also are seen as "too anti-business" among these voters, who give Republicans the edge on the economy, innovation and helping entrepreneurs and small businesses.

Overall, our findings suggest that President Biden and the Democrats need to focus public attention on the broad economic benefits of the reconciliation package when it comes to dealing with economic challenges, including those posed by Covid-19 and China rather than on redistribution and equity as the chief goal of economic policy. Given public worries about public debt and inflation, they should also be flexible about its ultimate size and costs.

Deeper Dive into Voters' Attitudes

What follows is a deeper dive into voters' attitudes towards infrastructure and President Biden's economic plans.

First, a bit of context for this focus on economics. It is useful to know where voters want to see improvements made.

While these voters are not complacent about the state of the economy, most describe their current economic situation as "doing fine" (69%), while just 21% say they are struggling (and 10% say their situation is improving). African American voters and those making under \$60k are most likely to report that they are struggling. While many are clearly struggling, battleground voters don't see an economy in crisis, but one in need of steady improvement.

Current Economic Situation

Which best describes your current economic situation?																
Q8; Ranked by All	All	Region				Race			White Edu		Income		Ideology			Suburban
		NE	MW	S	W	Wh	Hisp	Af-Am	<Coll	Coll+	<\$60k	\$60k+	Lib	Mod	Cons	
Doing fine	69	78	67	67	71	72	62	56	66	75	56	78	65	69	73	71
Struggling	21	18	21	23	18	19	25	31	25	15	34	12	26	21	17	19
Improving	10	4	12	10	12	9	14	13	8	10	9	10	10	10	10	10

When asked if voters think President Biden has an economic strategy or not, fewer than half (48%) say they think he does. There is a large gap among White voters – a plurality (45%) of White voters without a college degree say Biden does not have an economic strategy, while nearly half (49%) of White voters with a college degree or higher say he does. This suggests that continuing the effort to convey this strategy remains essential work for Democrats.

Biden Economic Strategy Awareness

As far as you know, does President Biden have an economic strategy for the country?																
Q13	All	Region				Race			White Edu		Income		Ideology			Sub
		NE	MW	S	W	Wh	Hisp	Af-Am	<Coll	Coll+	<\$60k	\$60k+	Lib	Mod	Cons	
Difference	+12	+8	+10	+18	+1	+3	+28	+63	-9	+11	+9	+16	+77	+26	-54	+15
Yes	48	47	47	51	43	44	54	71	36	49	44	52	83	53	16	50
No	36	39	37	33	42	41	26	8	45	38	35	36	6	27	70	35
Don't know	16	14	16	16	15	15	20	21	19	12	21	12	11	20	14	15

And when asked what they believe is the most important goal when it comes to improving the economy, almost a third (28%) cite the need to increase the number of good jobs, while 24% cite a (similar) need to spur innovation and growth, and 20% say the focus should be rewarding work. Spurring innovation and growth is narrowly the top response among suburban voters (26%). Reducing inequality has relatively low priority (16%) among moderates but gets higher marks among Hispanics (23%), African Americans (28%), and liberals (33%). Promoting fairness is ranked as a much lower priority among both Black and Hispanic voters, and among both of those groups increasing the number of good jobs is the top priority.

Most Important Economic Goal

Which of the following would you say is the most important goal when it comes to improving the economy?																
Q9; Ranked by All	All	Region				Race			White Edu		Income		Ideology			Sub
		NE	MW	S	W	Wh	Hisp	Af-Am	<Coll	Coll+	<\$60k	\$60k+	Lib	Mod	Cons	
Increase the number of good jobs	28	25	26	30	26	26	31	37	32	23	32	25	28	29	25	25
Spur innovation and growth	24	24	25	22	28	27	16	8	25	28	20	27	11	25	32	26
Reward work	20	23	24	19	16	22	15	10	20	24	18	22	11	18	31	21
Reduce inequality	16	15	14	18	18	14	23	28	12	16	17	16	33	16	4	17
Promote fairness	10	11	10	9	8	9	12	13	10	8	11	8	12	10	6	10
Increase the availability of union jobs	2	2	2	2	3	2	3	5	2	1	3	2	4	1	2	2

We asked voters which economic approach they prefer – one that focuses on infrastructure investments, or one that focuses on cutting taxes and regulations. By a 58% to 42% margin, voters in the battleground districts prefer the investment approach.

Investments vs. Cutting Taxes

Which is closer to your view:																
Q23	All	Region				Race			White Edu		Income		Ideology			Sub
		NE	MW	S	W	Wh	Hisp	Af-Am	<Coll	Coll+	<\$60k	\$60k+	Lib	Mod	Cons	
Difference	+16	+14	+16	+20	+8	+14	+16	+46	0	+20	+16	+18	+62	+32	-40	+18
Public investments in infrastructure, science and technology, education and health are essential to making our economy work for everyone.	58	57	58	60	54	57	58	73	50	60	58	59	81	66	30	59
Cutting taxes and government regulation is the best way to strengthen our economy.	42	43	42	40	46	43	42	27	50	40	42	41	19	34	70	41

This rises to three in four (73%) who say they support President Biden's proposed bipartisan agreement to pass a trillion-dollar investment in roads, bridges, rural broadband and water systems. Moderates support the plan 83% to 17%.

Infrastructure Bill Support

The Biden Administration has proposed and appears to have bipartisan agreement to pass an investment of about one trillion dollars in roads, bridges and water systems. Do you support or oppose this proposal?

Q37	All	Region				Race			White Edu		Income		Ideology			Sub
		NE	MW	S	W	Wh	Hisp	Af-Am	<Coll	Coll+	<\$60k	\$60k+	Lib	Mod	Cons	
Difference	+46	+58	+42	+46	+44	+40	+56	+86	+40	+42	+56	+42	+92	+66	-14	+50
Total Support	73	79	71	73	72	70	78	93	70	71	78	71	96	83	43	75
Strongly support	37	36	31	40	39	34	37	54	28	38	39	36	62	42	10	41
Somewhat support	37	43	40	34	33	36	41	39	41	32	39	35	33	41	32	34
Total Oppose	27	21	29	27	28	30	22	7	30	29	22	29	4	17	57	25
Somewhat oppose	14	7	18	14	13	15	10	5	13	16	11	14	4	11	24	13
Strongly oppose	13	14	12	13	15	15	12	1	17	14	10	14	0	6	33	12

85% say they believe modernizing America's infrastructure is integral to strengthening our economy, with 46% who say they believe it is very important. Even three-fourths of conservatives (72%) say these investments are important.

Infrastructure Importance

In your view, how important to strengthening our economy is making a major investment in physical infrastructure such as roads, bridges and water systems?

Q38	All	Region				Race			White Edu		Income		Ideology			Sub
		NE	MW	S	W	Wh	Hisp	Af-Am	<Coll	Coll+	<\$60k	\$60k+	Lib	Mod	Cons	
Difference	+70	+72	+66	+70	+68	+70	+62	+82	+64	+72	+74	+66	+84	+80	+44	+74
Total Important	85	86	83	85	84	85	81	91	82	86	87	83	92	90	72	87
Very important	46	50	40	48	45	46	38	54	45	46	50	46	64	50	27	47
Somewhat important	39	36	43	37	38	39	43	37	38	39	37	37	28	39	45	40
Total Not Important	15	14	17	15	16	15	19	9	18	14	13	17	8	10	28	13
Not very important	12	12	13	11	11	11	13	9	13	10	10	13	8	9	18	11
Not at all important	4	2	3	4	5	4	6	0	5	4	2	4	0	1	10	2

Similarly, 83% say they support the President's decision to work with Republicans to pass the bill with bipartisan support. 86% of suburban voters support the bipartisan effort.

Working With Republicans Support

Do you support or oppose the decision that President Biden made to try and work with Republicans to get a bipartisan infrastructure bill rather than pass it with just Democratic votes?

Q39	All	Region				Race			White Edu		Income		Ideology			Sub
		NE	MW	S	W	Wh	Hisp	Af-Am	<Coll	Coll+	<\$60k	\$60k+	Lib	Mod	Cons	
Difference	+66	+80	+66	+62	+60	+66	+54	+84	+58	+70	+68	+64	+74	+80	+38	+72
Total Support	83	90	83	81	80	83	77	92	79	85	84	82	87	90	69	86
Strongly support	42	40	38	45	43	42	39	48	35	46	38	45	46	48	31	46
Somewhat support	41	49	45	36	37	41	38	44	44	39	46	37	41	42	38	40
Total Oppose	17	10	17	19	20	17	23	8	21	15	16	18	13	10	31	14
Somewhat oppose	11	8	11	10	12	11	13	7	11	10	9	12	10	8	16	10
Strongly oppose	6	2	5	8	8	7	9	1	10	5	7	6	3	2	15	4

When asked if they support another proposed big spending bill that would include funding for affordable childcare, family leave, Medicare expansion and job training, support levels drop to 54%, with 46% who are opposed. Support is especially low among White voters (slightly more so among those with a college degree) and voters in the West.

Human Infrastructure Bill Support

The Biden Administration and Democrats also are working to pass another big spending bill that would include funding for affordable childcare, family leave, Medicare expansion, job training and two years of free community college. This so-called "human infrastructure" bill is estimated to cost over \$3 trillion dollars and doesn't seem to have much or any Republican support in Congress.

Q41	All	Region				Race			White Edu		Income		Ideology			Sub
		NE	MW	S	W	Wh	Hisp	Af-Am	<Coll	Coll+	<\$60k	\$60k+	Lib	Mod	Cons	
Difference	+8	+10	+2	+16	-12	-2	+18	+70	0	-2	+22	0	+78	+20	-62	+12
Total Support	54	55	51	58	44	49	59	85	50	49	61	50	89	60	19	56
Strongly support	25	27	18	30	17	21	30	50	18	22	29	22	54	24	5	25
Somewhat support	29	29	33	28	28	29	29	35	32	27	32	28	36	36	14	32
Total Oppose	46	45	49	42	56	51	41	15	50	51	39	50	11	40	81	44
Somewhat oppose	17	15	23	13	21	17	15	11	16	18	15	18	8	20	17	16
Strongly oppose	29	29	27	29	35	33	26	4	34	33	24	32	3	19	64	28

After testing attitudes on the bipartisan infrastructure plan and the Democrats' "human infrastructure" bill, we asked voters how the bills should be financed. In both cases, the financing option that has the most support is a mix of taxes and borrowing – 48% say the initial bill should be financed this way and 33% say the second bill should be financed this way. While only 24% of these voters oppose any approach to

passing the infrastructure bill no matter how it is financed, 43% are opposed to the social investment bill regardless of how it's paid-for.

Funding View Comparison

Which would be better for the economy?		
	Physical Infrastructure (Q40)	Human Infrastructure (Q42)
Sorted by Physical Infrastructure		
Congress should pass this infrastructure bill and finance it with a mix of taxes and borrowing.	48	33
Congress should not pass this infrastructure bill.	24	43
Congress should pass this infrastructure bill and finance it entirely by government borrowing.	15	12
Congress should pass this infrastructure bill and finance it entirely by raising taxes.	13	12

Some background for this question about financing infrastructure: most (88%) say they view the fact that the national debt is \$22 trillion as a serious economic problem – and 52% say it is a “very serious problem.” Concern about the debt is lowest among African Americans and highest among conservatives. Concern among Hispanics and moderates is at comparable levels.

Debt Seriousness

The national debt is more than 22 trillion dollars. How serious of an economic problem do you think our growing national debt is?

Q46	All	Region				Race			White Edu		Income		Ideology			Sub
		NE	MW	S	W	Wh	Hisp	Af-Am	<Coll	Coll+	<\$60k	\$60k+	Lib	Mod	Cons	
Difference	+76	+76	+76	+78	+76	+80	+76	+56	+78	+80	+78	+76	+54	+78	+92	+74
Total Serious	88	88	88	89	88	90	88	78	89	90	89	88	77	89	96	87
Very serious	52	52	53	51	58	55	48	33	57	54	51	53	28	48	76	53
Somewhat serious	36	37	35	38	31	34	40	45	32	36	39	35	49	41	20	34
Total Not Serious	12	12	12	11	12	10	12	22	11	10	11	12	23	11	4	13
Not very serious	9	9	9	10	9	9	9	17	10	8	9	10	21	8	2	10
Not at all serious	2	3	3	1	3	2	3	5	2	2	2	2	2	3	2	3

In addition, 80% say they are worried that the debt will put a heavy economic burden on young workers and families (37% say they are “very worried” about this). Again, Hispanics and moderates express comparable, and high, levels of concern.

Debt Burden Worry

How worried are you that the national debt will put heavy economic burdens on young workers and families?

Q49	All	Region				Race			White Edu		Income		Ideology			Sub
		NE	MW	S	W	Wh	Hisp	Af-Am	<Coll	Coll+	<\$60k	\$60k+	Lib	Mod	Cons	
Difference	+60	+60	+64	+58	+66	+62	+60	+42	+66	+62	+60	+62	+26	+64	+82	+60
Total Worried	80	80	82	79	83	81	80	71	83	81	80	81	63	82	91	80
Very worried	37	36	35	37	44	38	32	30	38	38	35	39	22	34	53	37
Somewhat worried	43	44	47	42	39	43	48	41	45	42	45	42	42	48	37	43
Total Not Worried	20	20	18	21	17	19	20	29	17	19	20	19	37	18	9	20
Not very worried	15	16	11	18	14	14	15	22	12	15	16	16	30	13	6	15
Not at all worried	5	4	7	4	4	4	5	7	5	4	5	4	7	5	3	5

Voters are slightly more prone to hold Democrats responsible for running up the debt, and to trust Republicans more to get the debt under control. The same is true of suburban voters by slightly higher margins. However, a plurality of swing district voters finds the parties about equally to blame.

Debt Responsibility

Which party do you think is most responsible for running up the national debt?					
Q47	All	House BG	Sen BG	Party ID Ind	Sub
Difference	-7	-3	-7	-4	-10
The Republicans	26	27	26	19	24
The Democrats	33	30	33	23	34
Both equally	42	43	41	58	42

Debt Control Trust

Which party do you trust most to get the debt under control?					
Q48	All	House BG	Sen BG	Party ID Ind	Sub
Difference	+4	+4	+3	+9	+6
The Republicans	32	31	33	22	32
The Democrats	28	27	30	13	26
Neither	40	41	38	64	42

Notably as the recovery picks up steam, 74% of voters are worried that spending on pandemic relief and infrastructure may overheat the economy. Nearly half of liberal voters are worried about rising inflation. Few (5%) say they are not at all worried about this.

Inflation Worry

How worried are you that government spending on pandemic relief and physical and human infrastructure will overheat the economy and cause inflation to rise?																
Q50	All	Region				Race			White Edu		Income		Ideology			Sub
		NE	MW	S	W	Wh	Hisp	Af-Am	<Coll	Coll+	<\$60k	\$60k+	Lib	Mod	Cons	
Difference	+48	+52	+48	+46	+56	+52	+38	+26	+58	+48	+54	+44	-2	+48	+88	+48
Total Worried	74	76	74	73	78	76	69	63	79	74	77	72	49	74	94	74
Very worried	37	37	36	36	44	39	35	26	38	40	39	36	18	29	63	35
Somewhat worried	37	39	37	37	34	37	34	38	41	34	38	36	31	45	30	39
Total Not Worried	26	24	26	27	22	24	31	37	21	26	23	28	51	26	6	26
Not very worried	21	20	21	22	17	19	26	31	17	20	18	22	41	22	4	21
Not at all worried	5	4	6	6	5	5	5	6	4	6	4	6	10	5	2	5

When asked what the goal of changing the tax code should be, a plurality (41%) say it should be making sure the wealthy and companies pay more in taxes followed by stimulating economic investment and job growth (29%), lowering payroll taxes on working people (22%) and raising revenue to pay for public investments in infrastructure and people (9%).

Tax Change Goal

Which is closer to your view:																
Q53; Ranked by All	All	Region				Race			White Edu		Income		Ideology			Sub
		NE	MW	S	W	Wh	Hisp	Af-Am	<Coll	Coll+	<\$60k	\$60k+	Lib	Mod	Cons	
Making sure the wealthy and companies pay more in taxes.	41	37	40	42	39	39	40	54	39	39	43	39	68	42	19	41
Stimulating economic investment and job growth.	29	26	28	29	31	30	31	20	31	29	27	30	14	28	40	28
Lowering payroll taxes on working people.	22	29	24	19	23	23	21	15	25	22	21	23	10	19	36	22
Raising revenue to pay for public investments in infrastructure and people.	9	8	8	10	7	8	9	11	5	10	9	8	8	11	5	10

But when we ask if the tax code should put more emphasis on promoting tax fairness and reducing income inequality or promoting enterprise and rewarding hard work, voters are split down the middle, indicating that while there is appetite for changes to the tax code, there is equal concern about rewarding hard work by Americans.

Tax Code Emphasis

In general, should the U.S. tax code put more emphasis on:																
Q54	All	Region				Race			White Edu		Income		Ideology			Sub
		NE	MW	S	W	Wh	Hisp	Af-Am	<Coll	Coll+	<\$60k	\$60k+	Lib	Mod	Cons	
Difference	0	+4	-10	+6	-12	-8	+14	+38	-6	-8	+8	-6	+60	+4	-50	0
Promoting tax fairness and reducing income inequality.	50	52	45	53	44	46	57	69	47	46	54	47	80	52	25	50
Promoting enterprise and rewarding hard work by Americans.	50	48	55	47	56	54	43	31	53	54	46	53	20	48	75	50

When asked about specific ways to improve the economy, 57% say they agree more with Democrats who say we should raise taxes on the wealthy and big corporations to make new investments in social priorities, while 43% say they agree more with Republicans who say raising taxes to spend on new programs will hurt the economy. By the exact same margin (57% to 43%) voters say they agree more with Democrats who want to give more funding to the IRS to crack down on tax evaders than those who say they agree more with Republicans who oppose giving the IRS any more money to harass U.S. taxpayers and corporations.

Increase Taxes On Wealthy Vs. Hurt The Economy

Which position is closer to your own view about the best way to improve the economy? Is it that of:																
Q32	All	Region				Race			White Edu		Income		Ideology			Sub
		NE	MW	S	W	Wh	Hisp	Af-Am	<Coll	Coll+	<\$60k	\$60k+	Lib	Mod	Cons	
Difference	+14	+8	+10	+22	+4	+4	+26	+78	0	+6	+22	+12	+90	+30	-64	+18
Democrats , who say we should increase taxes on the wealthy and big corporations to pay for new investments in quality childcare, home and elder care and family medical leave.	57	54	55	61	52	52	63	89	50	53	61	56	95	65	18	59
Republicans , who say raising taxes to spend money on major new programs will hurt the economy.	43	46	45	39	48	48	37	11	50	47	39	44	5	35	82	41

IRS Funding To Raise Revenue vs. IRS Harassment

Which position is closer to your own view? Is it that of:																
Q33	All	Region				Race			White Edu		Income		Ideology			Sub
		NE	MW	S	W	Wh	Hisp	Af-Am	<Coll	Coll+	<\$60k	\$60k+	Lib	Mod	Cons	
Difference	+14	+12	+10	+20	+2	+4	+30	+62	-8	+14	+14	+14	+78	+32	-60	+18
Democrats in Congress , who want to give the IRS more funding so it can crack down on tax evasion and collect an additional \$70 billion in revenue a year.	57	56	55	60	51	52	65	81	46	57	57	57	89	66	20	59
Republicans in Congress , who oppose giving the IRS any more money to harass U.S. taxpayers and corporations.	43	44	45	40	49	48	35	19	54	43	43	43	11	34	80	41

However, 73% are concerned (47% very concerned) that Democrats in Congress want to spend too much without paying for it. Although few liberals express concern about Democratic spending (only 10% are very concerned), these findings suggest that Democrats would be wise to proceed cautiously on the size and scope of the next big spending package they intend to pass – particularly if it passes on a partisan basis. Both Hispanic and moderate voters are almost as concerned that Democrats spend too much as they are that the Republicans are too close to wealthy and corporate special interests, and suburban voters are more concerned about Democrats spending too much.

Party Concerns – Very Concerned

Please tell me how concerned you are about each of the following.																	
Q20_1-4; Ranked by Very Concerned	All		% Very Concerned														Sub
	Very Conc	Conc/ Not Conc	Region				Race			White Edu		Income		Ideology			
			NE	MW	S	W	Wh	Hisp	Af-Am	<Coll	Coll+	<\$60k	\$60k+	Lib	Mod	Cons	
The Democrats in Congress want to spend too much money without paying for it.	47	73/27	48	49	43	59	52	38	20	52	52	41	51	10	43	80	47
The Republicans in Congress are too close to the wealthy and corporate special interests.	44	68/32	40	40	50	40	40	45	71	37	42	46	43	78	47	16	45
The Democrats in Congress do not do enough to help create jobs and are too anti-business .	35	67/33	40	33	36	34	37	30	28	42	34	37	33	13	27	63	30
The Republicans in Congress are blocking efforts to provide job training and community college.	32	57/43	32	32	33	29	28	31	63	28	28	37	30	69	31	6	31

Additionally, even though most support the President's infrastructure plan, Democrats should be wary of leaning too much into the language of "bold" investments and paying for them later. When given a choice between bold investments now and tackling the debt later, or being careful now about spending and debt, voters choose "careful" over "bold" by 63% to 20%. Just 17% oppose any big investments now, which helps to explain why GOP Senators found a way to support President Biden on infrastructure.

Federal Economic Policy View

Which is closer to your view of what the Federal government should do now when it comes to economic policy:																
Q22; Ranked by All	All	Region				Race			White Edu		Income		Ideology			Sub
		NE	MW	S	W	Wh	Hisp	Af-Am	<Coll	Coll+	<\$60k	\$60k+	Lib	Mod	Cons	
Make investments but be careful about how much spending and debt increases.	63	62	70	61	60	65	54	53	63	66	60	65	45	68	69	64
Make bold and significant new investments now and address the impact they have on the national debt later.	20	21	16	22	21	18	26	32	16	20	21	21	45	19	4	20
Do not make big investments in the economy now.	17	17	14	17	20	17	20	15	21	14	20	14	10	13	26	16

We asked voters about policy ideas Congress or the President could consider. The top policy idea overall is about increasing federal efforts to stop China from stealing U.S. technologies and trade secrets (54% of voters strongly support this proposal and 90% support). This is another data point suggesting voters want government policy to help American corporations succeed.

Policy Proposals – Strongly Support

Here are some policy ideas that Congress or the President could consider. Please tell us if you support or oppose each of these proposals.

Q34_1-12; Ranked by Strongly Support	All		% Strongly Support														Sub
	Str Supt	Supt/ Opp	Region				Race			White Edu		Income		Ideology			
			NE	MW	S	W	W	Hisp	Af-Am	<Coll	Coll+	<\$60k	\$60k+	Lib	Mod	Cons	
Stop China Stealing	54	90/10	53	49	54	63	56	36	56	58	55	51	56	45	53	62	53
All Companies Pay Taxes	49	85/15	51	43	51	50	49	41	56	50	48	50	50	69	53	29	49
Manufacturing Incentives	43	86/14	45	38	43	50	43	41	46	42	44	41	44	42	47	38	43
Raise Taxes on Wealthy	42	73/27	41	42	45	35	41	56	51	40	42	46	41	75	39	22	41
Manufacturing Investments	41	87/13	41	36	42	45	42	32	45	47	39	40	41	49	41	34	43
Expand Training and Community College	40	82/18	39	36	45	36	38	46	56	39	38	44	38	72	38	20	38
Tariffs	39	85/15	33	37	40	43	39	38	37	41	38	39	39	28	33	54	34
Training and Apprenticeships	34	77/23	39	25	38	33	32	35	49	31	33	30	37	50	34	24	37
Raise Corporate Tax	33	68/32	29	30	37	27	30	41	51	29	31	37	31	71	27	13	30
Overtake Chinese EV Production	26	70/30	32	20	27	28	26	28	30	26	25	25	28	37	26	19	27
Push Back on European Regulators	25	80/20	20	22	27	30	25	29	19	22	27	23	26	21	17	38	22
End Deductions for Investments	20	52/48	22	21	19	18	20	24	20	20	20	20	21	39	17	11	20

Text of Policy Proposals – Ranked by Strongly Support

Stop China Stealing

Increasing Federal efforts to stop China from stealing U.S. technologies and trade secrets.

All Companies Pay Taxes

Changing the tax code to ensure that all profitable companies pay Federal income tax.

Manufacturing Incentives

Giving U.S. companies financial incentives to manufacture strategically important goods such as medical supplies or the chips needed to make high-tech products.

Raise Taxes on Wealthy

Raising tax rates on people who earn more than \$400,000 a year.

Manufacturing Investments

Making major Federal investments designed to increase U.S. manufacturing of key goods such as the chips needed to run modern electronic products or medical supplies.

Expand Job Training and Community College

Significantly expanding access to job training and community college so if people want to upgrade their skills or prepare for a new job, they can afford to do so.

Tariffs

Using tariffs to protect U.S. companies from China's unfair trade practices.

Training and Apprenticeships

Investing as much in making work-based learning and apprenticeships widely available as we invest in Federal aid to college students.

Raise Corporate Taxes

Raising corporate tax rates.

Overtake Chinese EV Production

Helping America overtake China on electric car production by investing in creating and expanding electric car charging station networks.

Push Back on European Regulators

Pushing back against European regulators who single out U.S. companies for digital taxes and regulation.

End Deductions for Investments

Ending tax deductions that allow companies to partially deduct from their taxes investments they make to build factories, warehouses or other infrastructure in the United States.