

THREATS TO AMERICAN DEMOCRACY AHEAD OF AN UNPRECEDENTED PRESIDENTIAL ELECTION

Findings from the 2023 American Values Survey



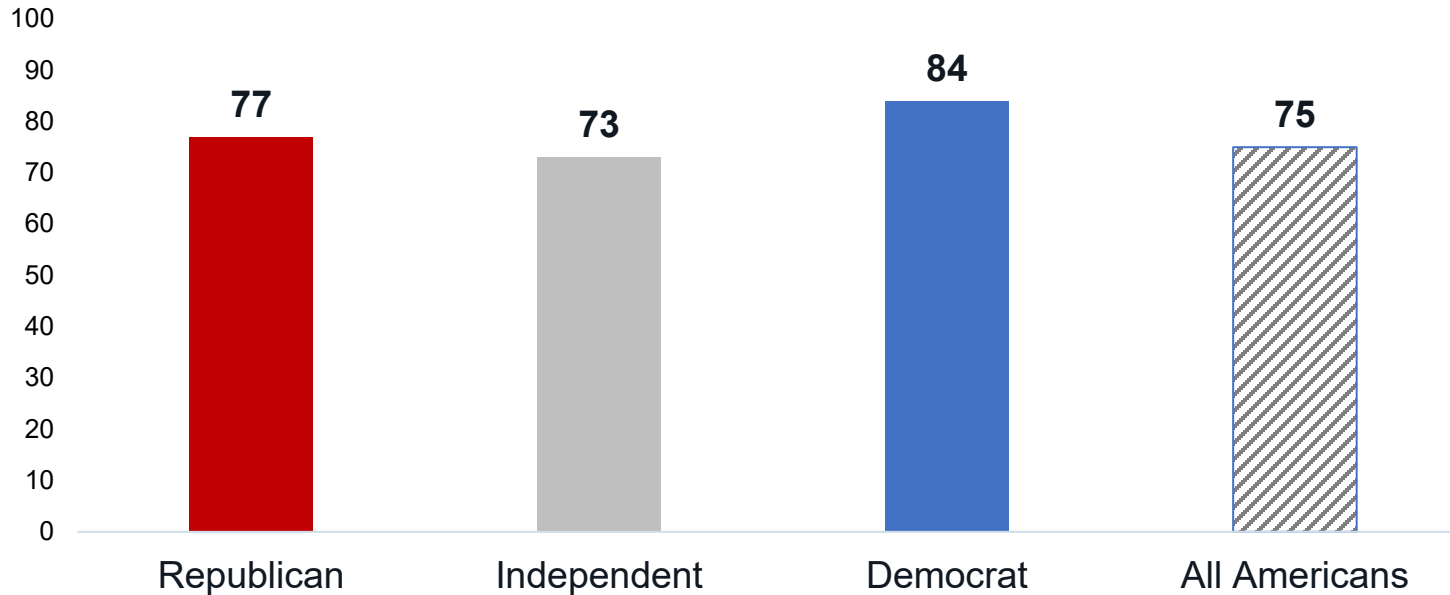
Survey Methodology

- Conducted August 25-30, 2023, among a representative sample of 2,525 adults who are part of the Ipsos Knowledge Panel.
- The margin of error for the full sample is +/- 2.19 percentage points.
- Designed in partnership with the Brookings Institution.
- Supported by the Carnegie Corporation of New York, with additional support from the Ford Foundation, the Open Society Foundations, and the Unitarian Universalist Veatch Program at Shelter Rock.

STATE OF THE COUNTRY: PESSIMISM, POLITICAL VIOLENCE, AND PARANOIA

The Future of Democracy and the 2024 Election, by Party Affiliation

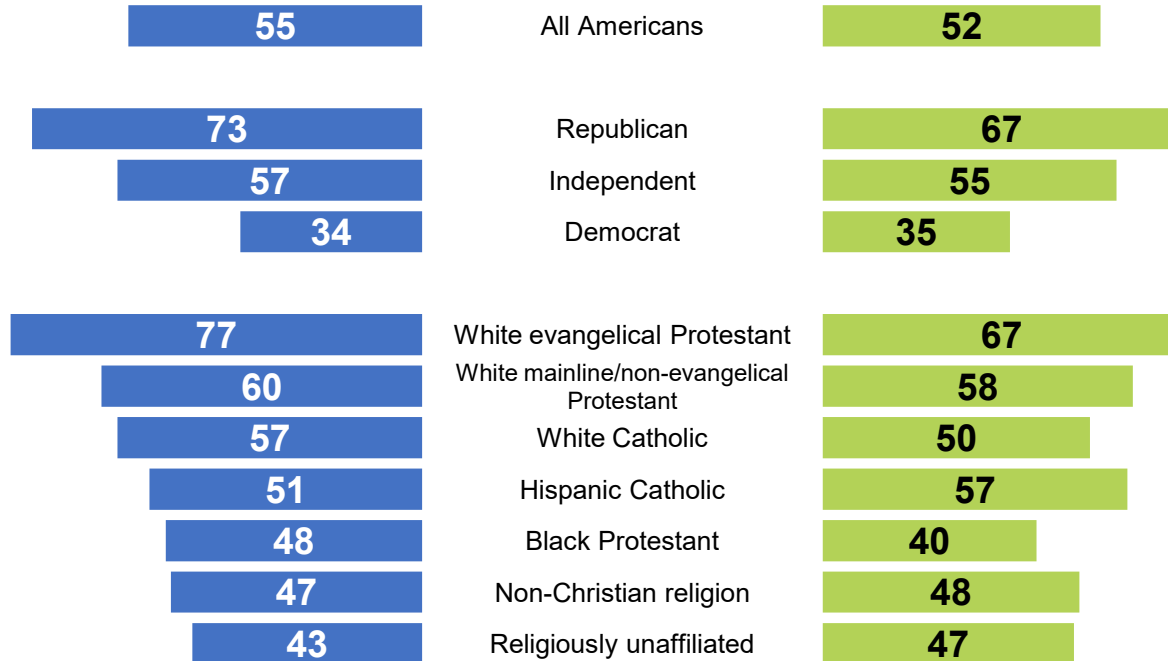
The future of American democracy is at stake in the 2024 presidential election



Source: PRRI, American Values Survey, 2023.

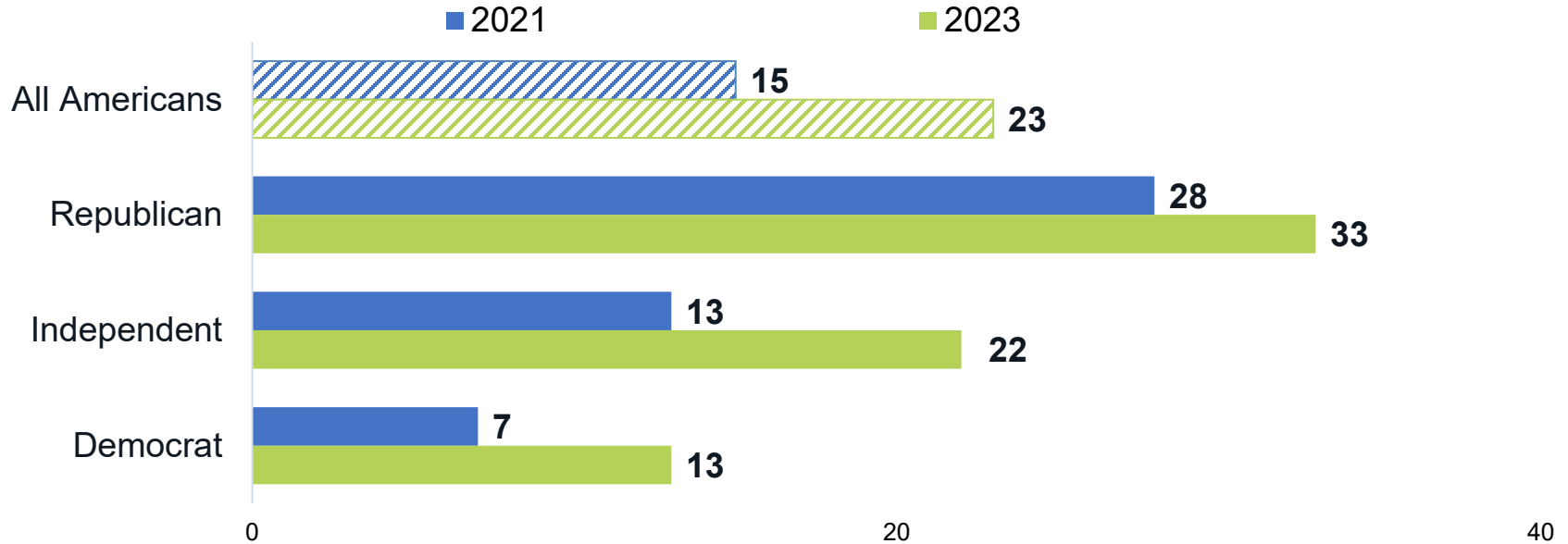
Pessimism About the State of the Country, by Party and Religious Affiliation

- Since the 1950s, American culture and way of life has mostly changed for the worse
- America's best days are now behind us



Political Violence Might be Necessary, by Party Affiliation

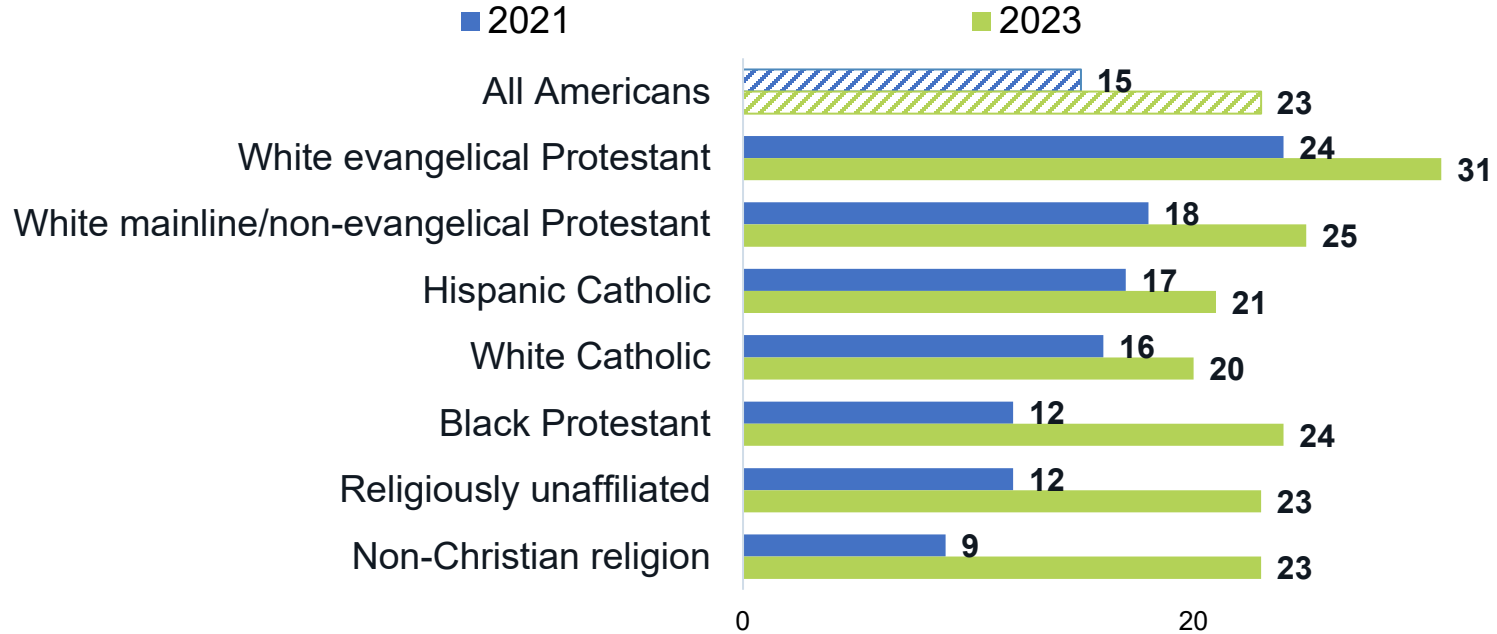
Because things have gotten so far off track, true American patriots may have to resort to violence in order to save our country



Source: PRRI Surveys 2021-2023.

Political Violence Might be Necessary, by Religious Tradition

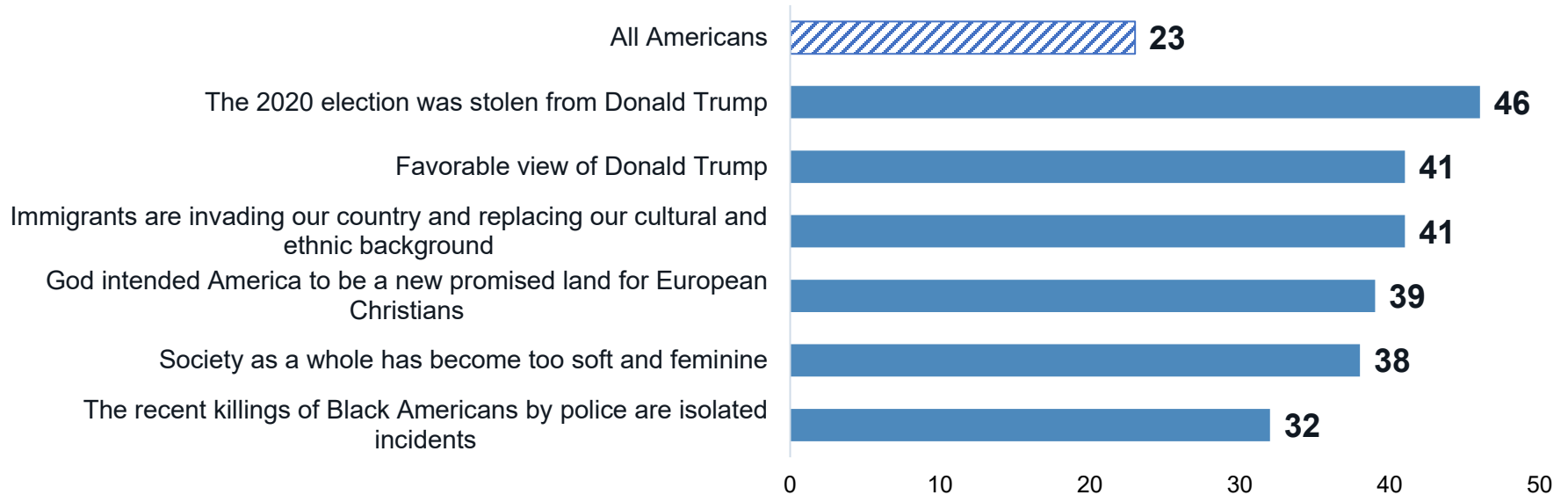
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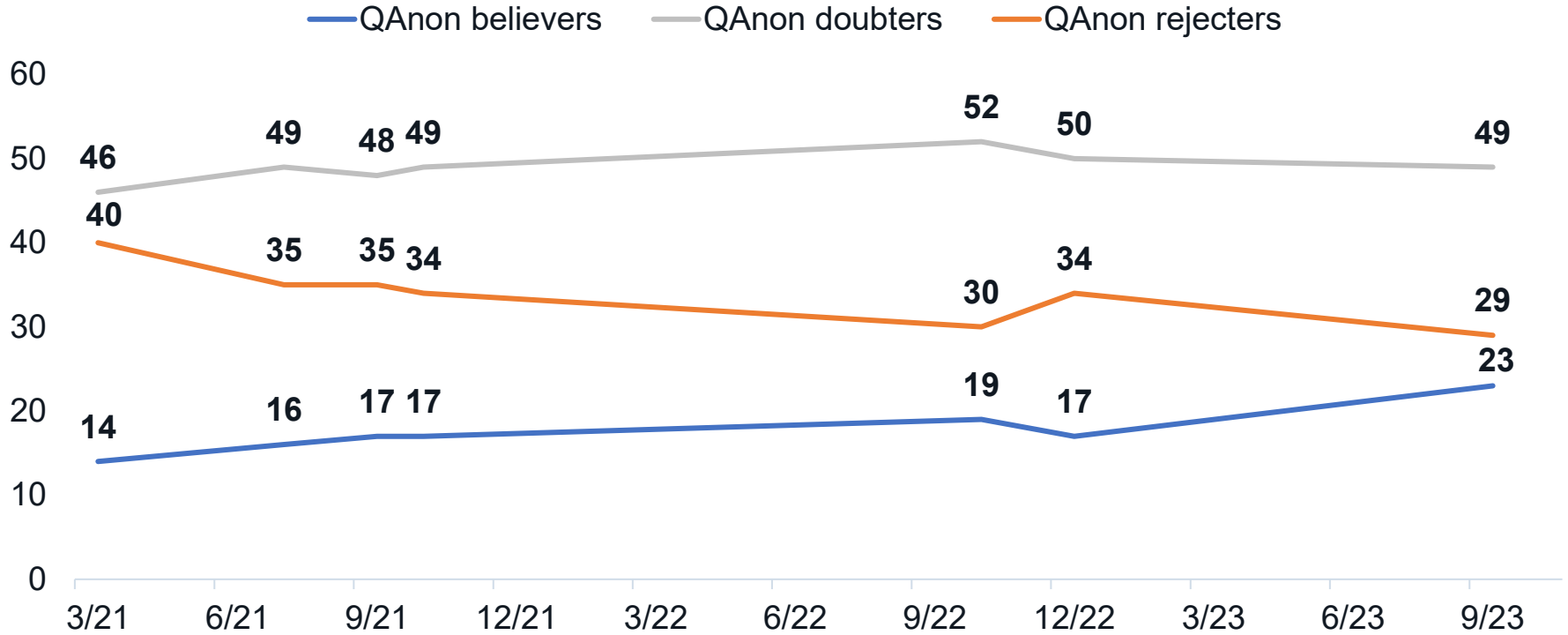
Attitudes Correlated with Support for Political Violence

Because things have gotten so far off track, true American patriots may have to resort to violence in order to save our country



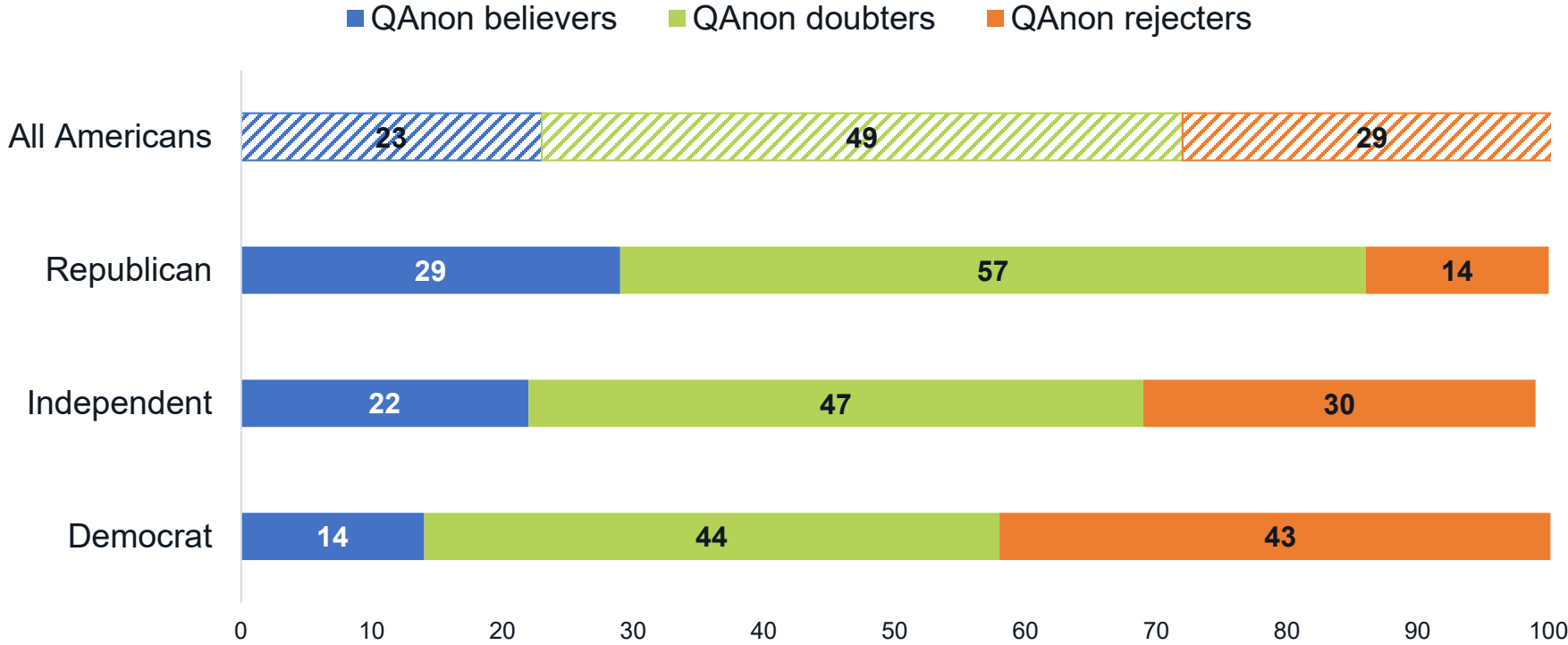
Source: PRRI, American Values Survey, 2023.

Rise in QAnon Believers, 2021-2023



Source: PRRI Surveys 2021-2023.

QAnon Believers, by Party Affiliation

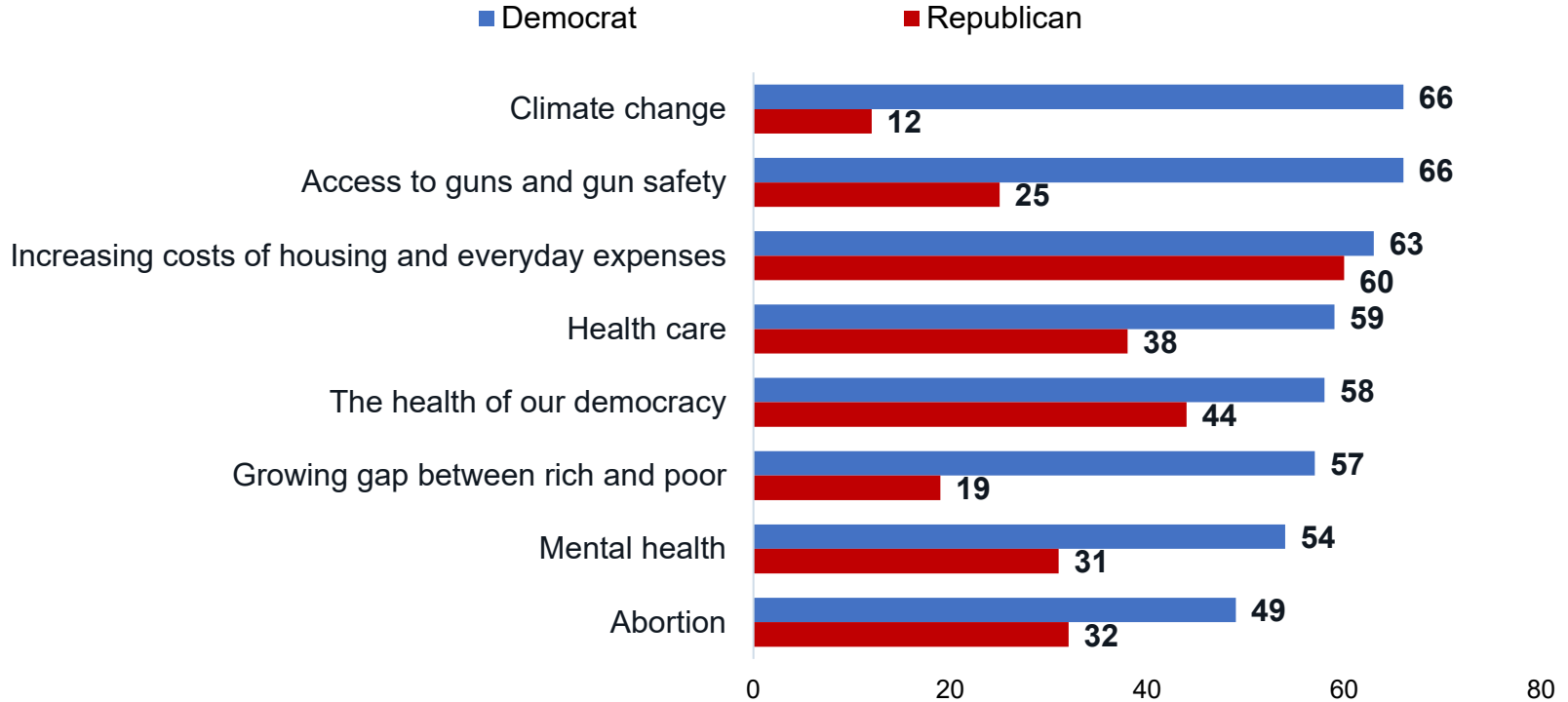


Source: PRRI, American Values Survey, 2023.

CRITICAL AND LITMUS TEST ISSUES

Top Critical Issues for Democrats

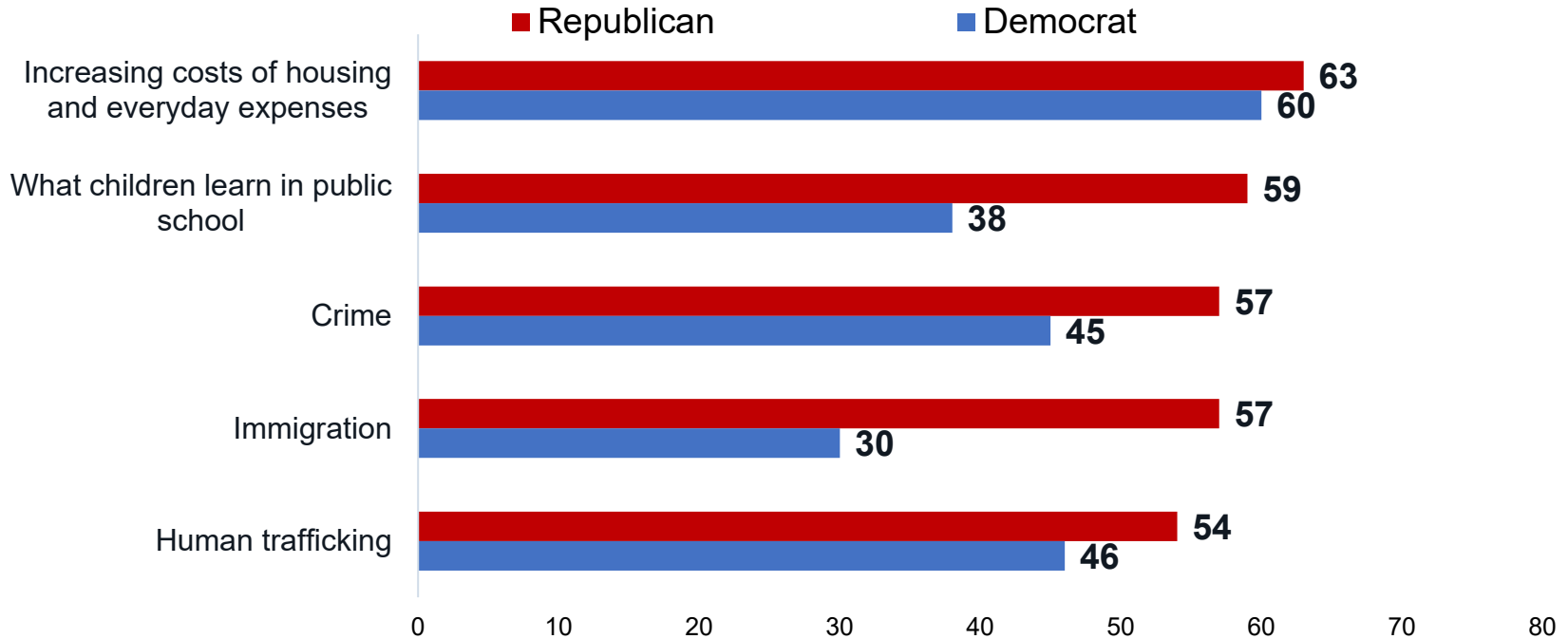
Percent who say the following are critical issues:



Source: PRRI, American Values Survey, 2023.

Top Critical Issues for Republicans

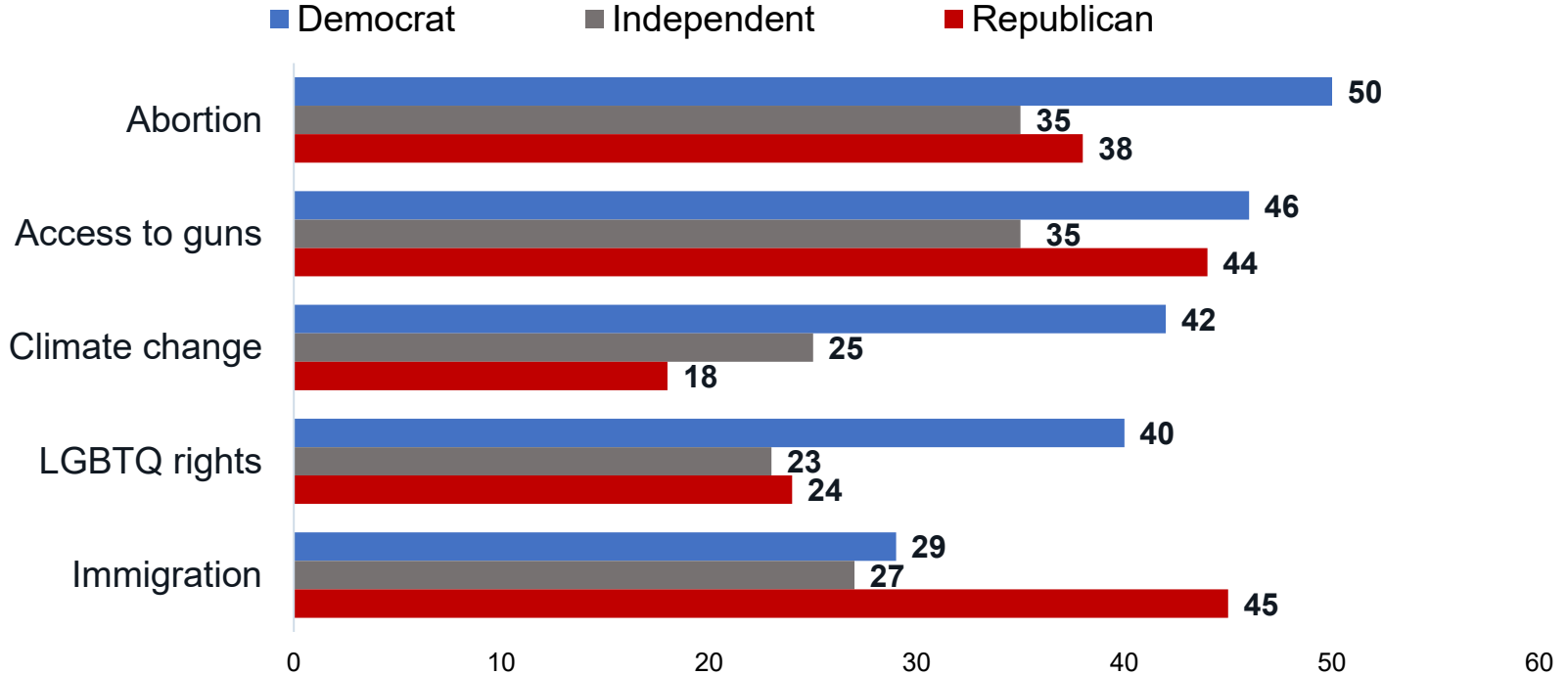
Percent who say the following are critical issues:



Source: PRRI, American Values Survey, 2023.

Litmus Test Issues for Candidates, by Party Affiliation

Percent who say they would *ONLY* vote for a candidate who shares their views on:



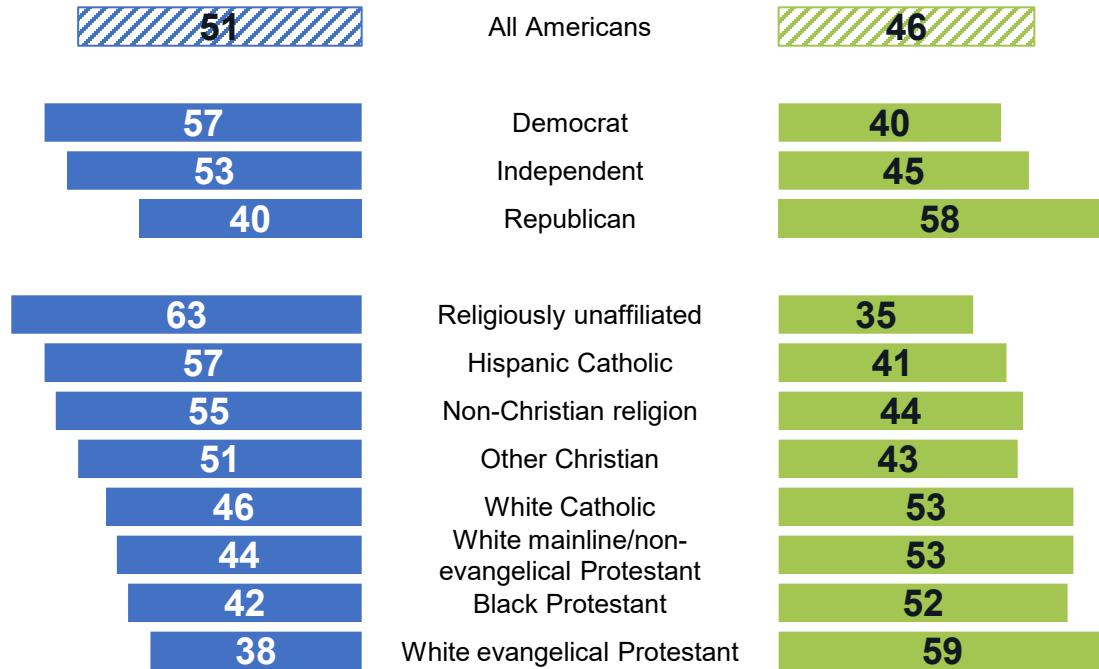
Source: PRRI, American Values Survey, 2023.

ASSESSMENTS OF 2024 PRESIDENTIAL CANDIDATES

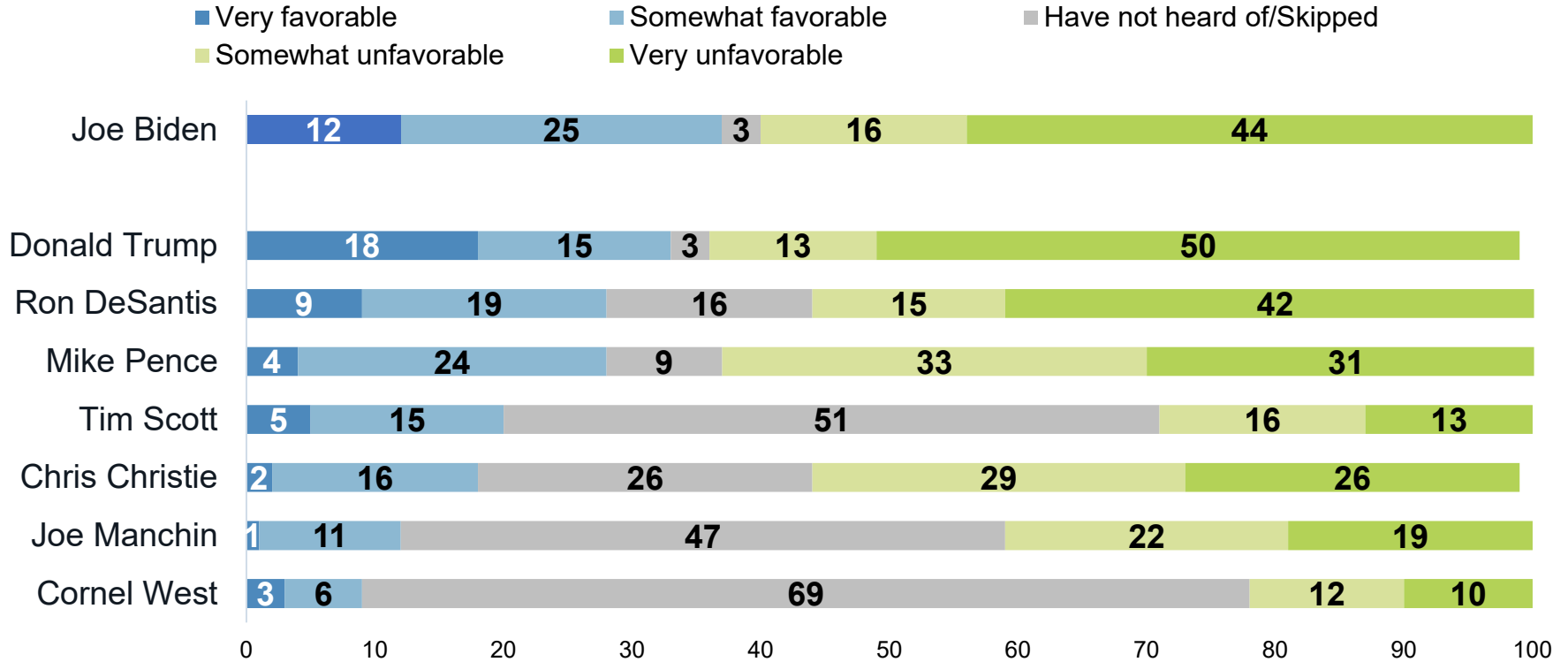
Preferences for Presidential Candidate Priorities, by Party Affiliation and Religious Tradition

Percent who prefer a presidential candidate who can best:

■ Manage the economy ■ Protect and preserve American culture and the American way of life



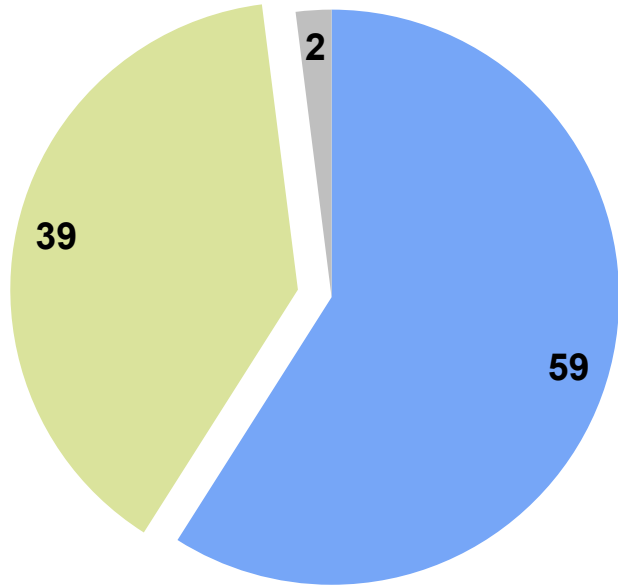
Favorability of 2024 Presidential Candidates



Firmness of Support for Biden vs. Trump

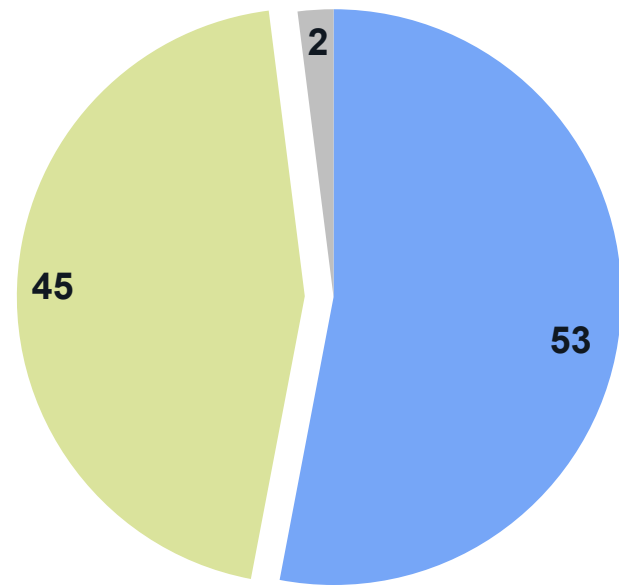
Among Biden Supporters

- Joe Biden could do something to lose my support
- There's almost nothing Joe Biden could do to lose my support



Among Trump Supporters

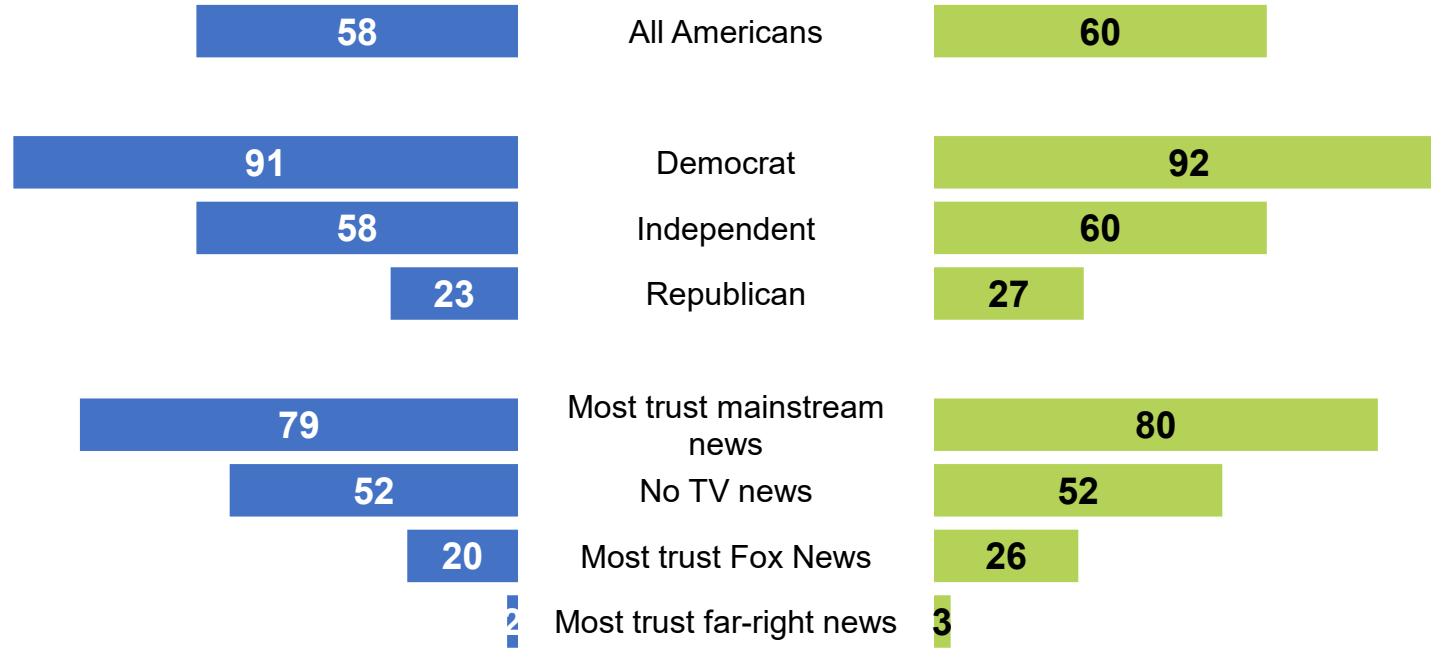
- Donald Trump could do something to lose my support
- There's almost nothing Donald Trump could do to lose my support



Source: PRRI, American Values Survey, 2023.

Perceptions of Trump's Alleged Criminal Conduct, by Party Affiliation and Media Trust

- There is credible evidence that Donald Trump committed serious federal crimes.
- It is likely that former president Donald Trump broke the law to try to stay in power after losing the 2020 election.

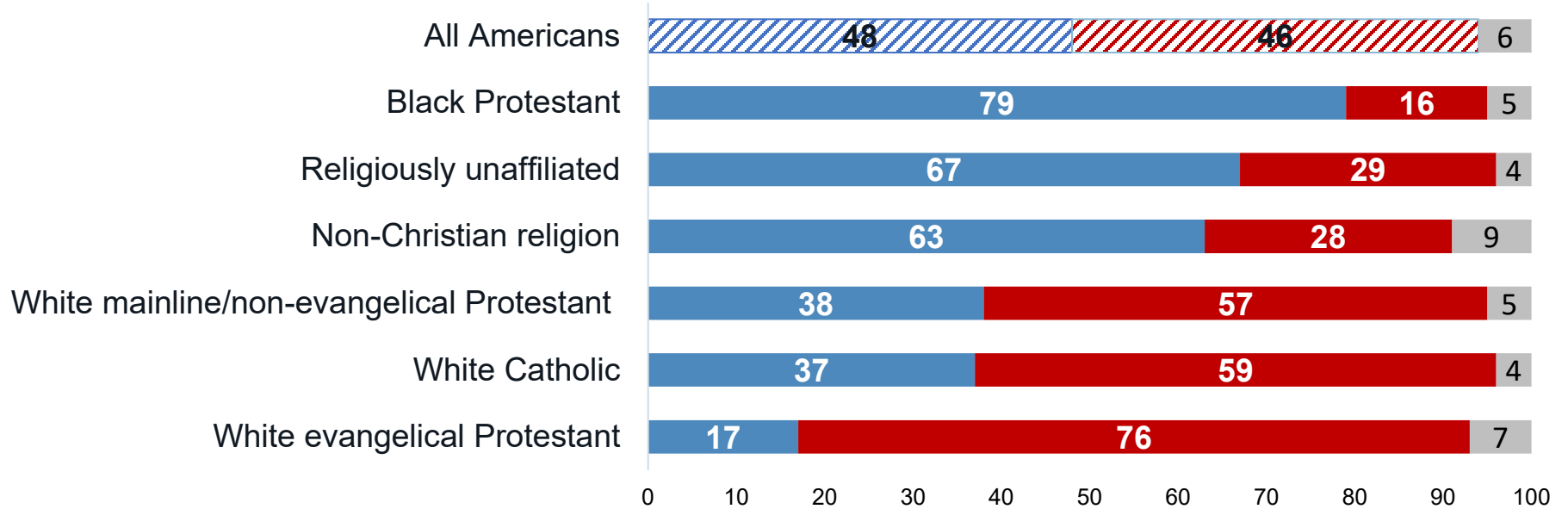


Source: PRRI 2023 American Values Survey.

Presidential Vote Preferences in Two-Way Election, by Religious Tradition

Percent who would vote for ____ if the November 2024 general election were held today among registered voters

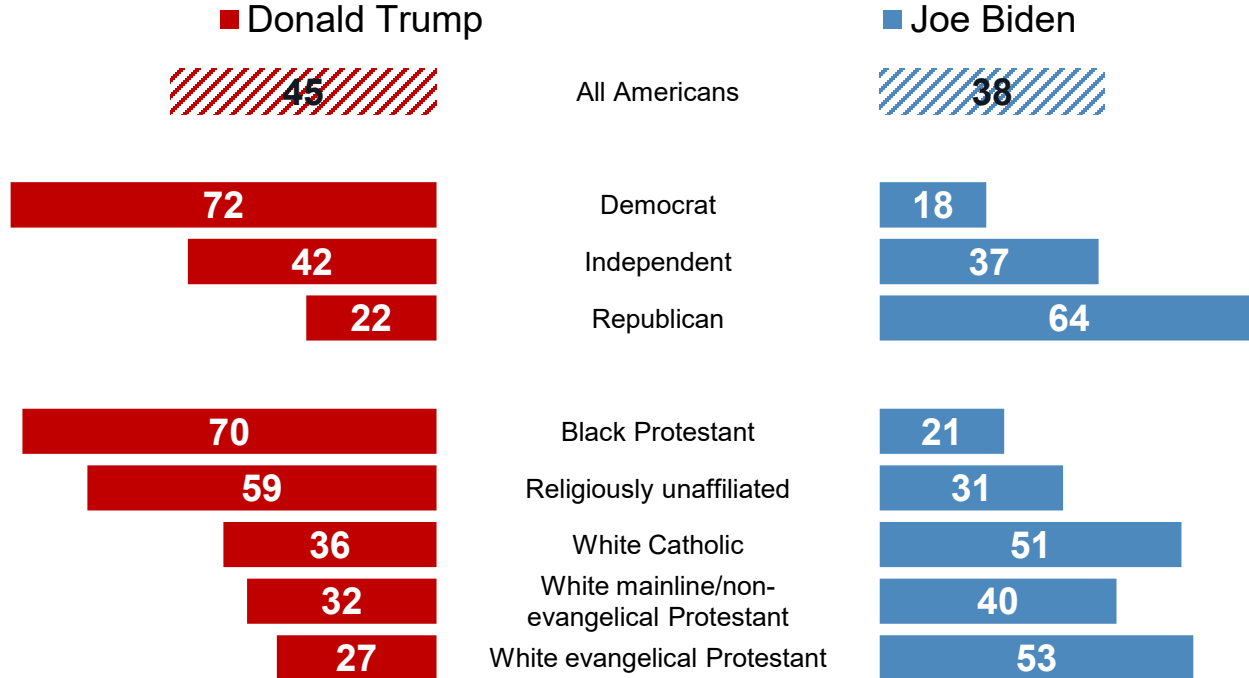
■ Joe Biden ■ Donald Trump ■ DK/Skipped



Source: PRRI, American Values Survey, 2023.

Re-Election of Trump/Biden Means Democracy is Broken, by Party Affiliation and Religious Tradition

If _____ wins the 2024 election, democracy is broken and we may need a new form of government



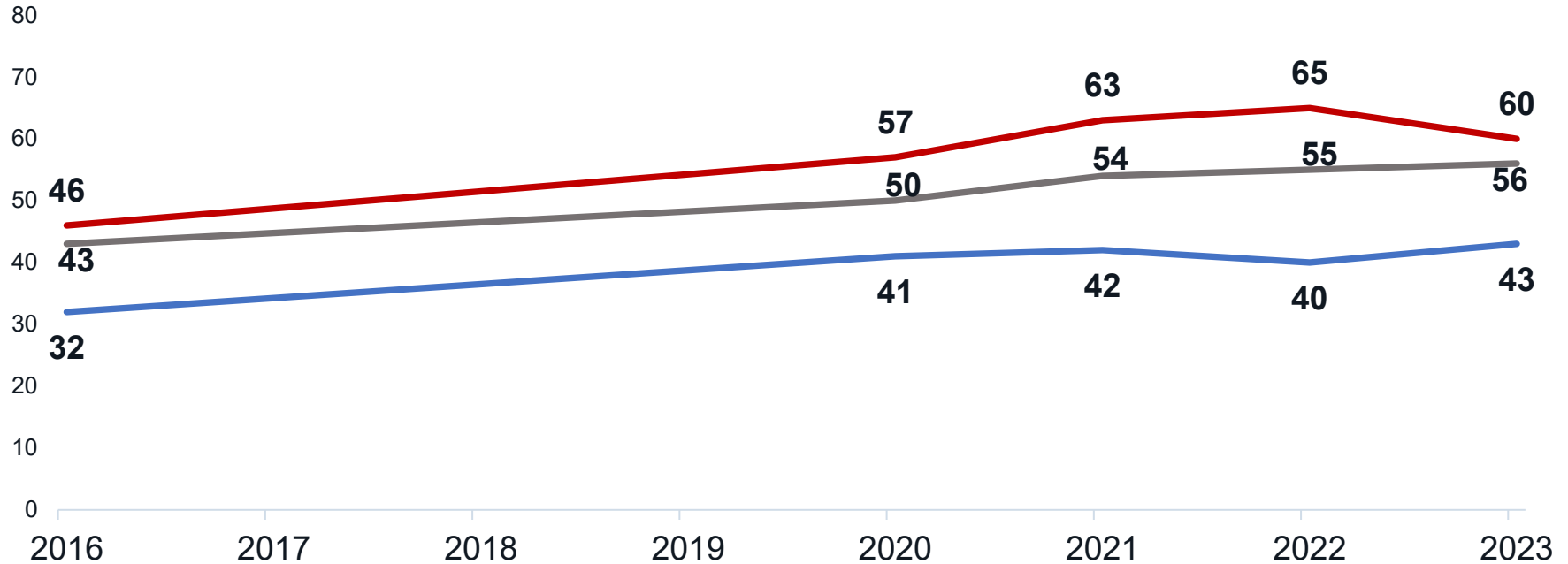
Source: PRRI, American Values Survey, 2023.

AMONG THE OTHER FINDINGS

Pessimism about the Value of a College Education, 2016-2023, by Party Affiliation

A college education is more of a gamble that may not pay off in the end

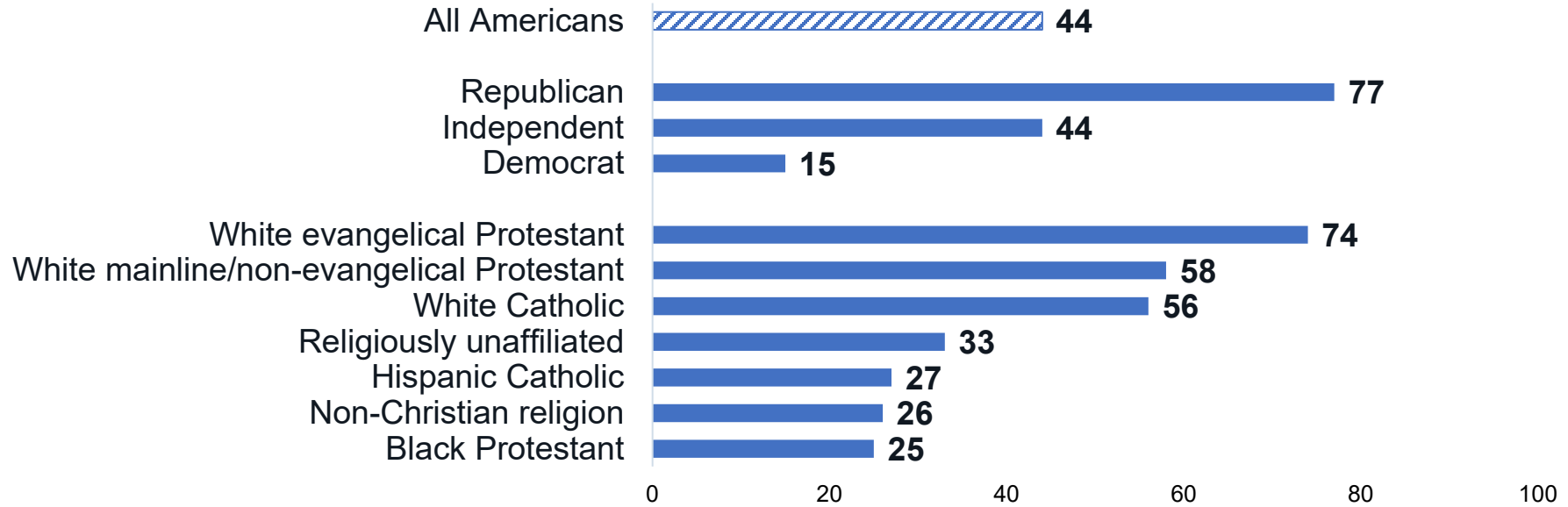
— All Americans — Republican — Democrat



Sources: PRRI 2016-2023 Surveys.

Support for Installing Dangerous Physical Deterrents at Border, by Party Affiliation and Religious Tradition

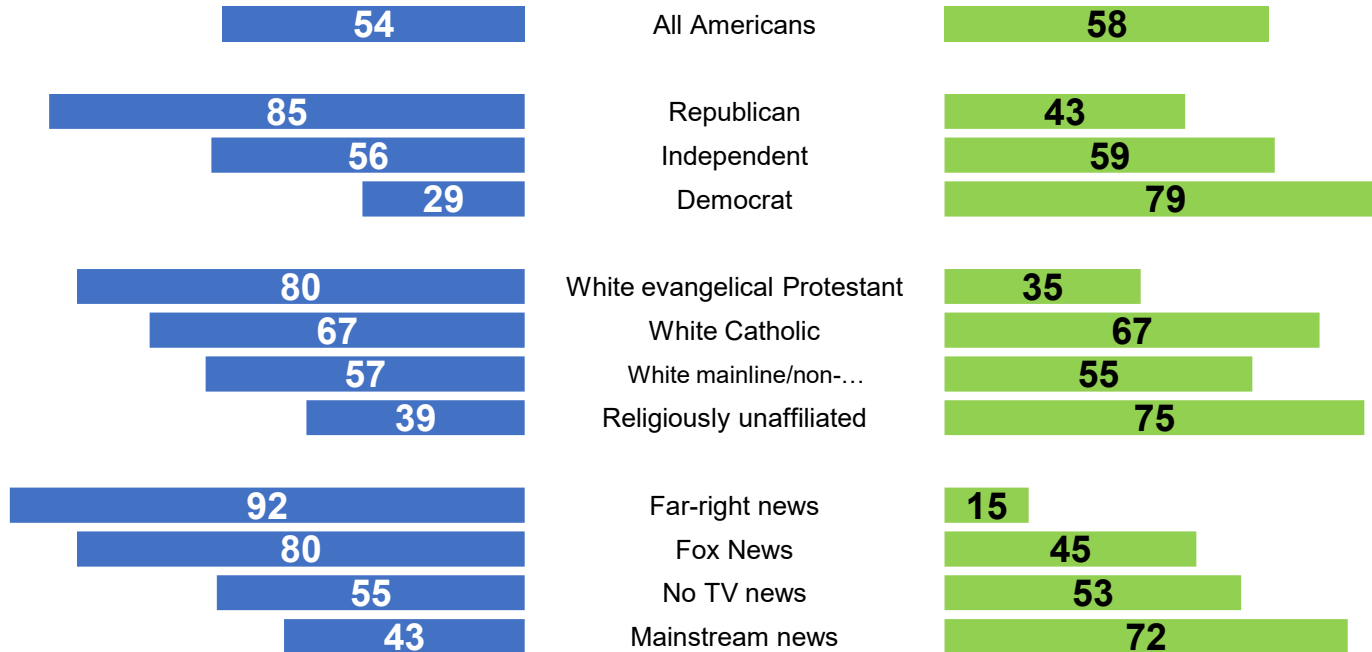
Installing deterrents such as walls, floating barriers in rivers, and razor wire to prevent immigrants from entering the country illegally, even if they endanger or kill some people



Source: PRRI, American Values Survey, 2023.

Perceptions of Transgender Advocacy, by Party Affiliation, Religious Tradition, and Media Trust

- People advocating for the rights of transgender people have gone too far in recent years
- Restricting the rights of transgender people is just another form of discrimination

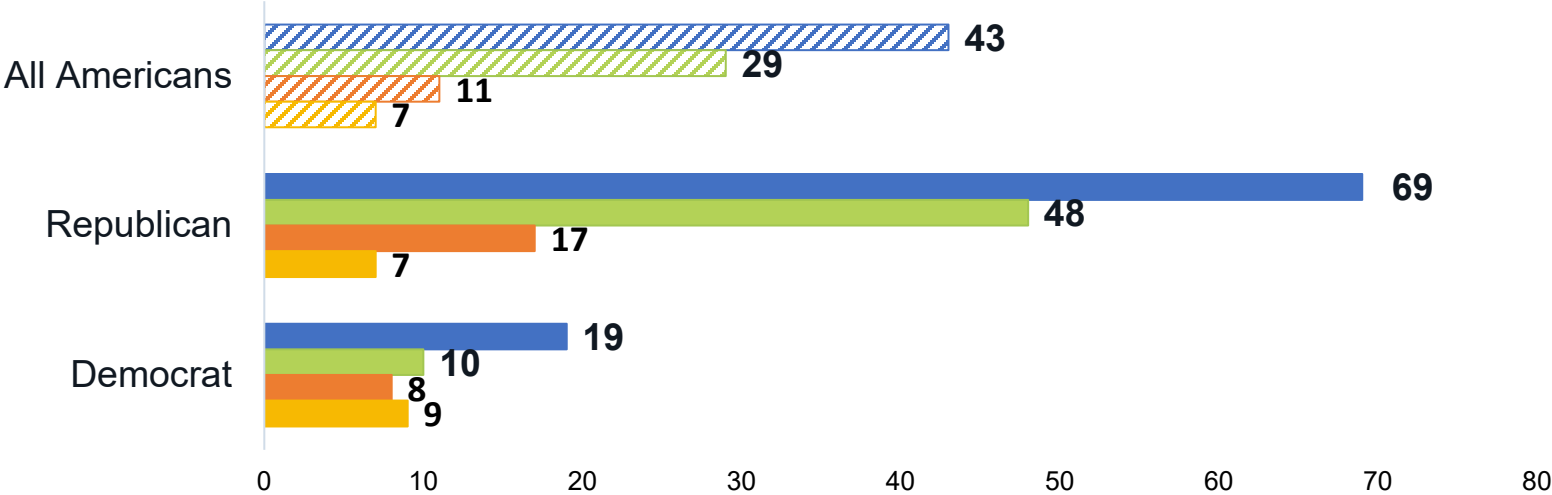


Source: PRRI, American Values Survey, 2023.

Support for Bans in Public Schools, by Party Affiliation

Percent who favor banning _____ in public schools:

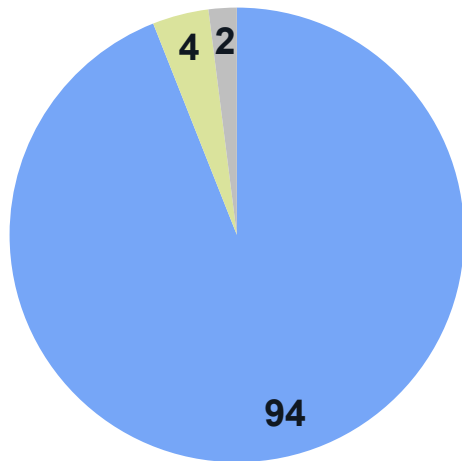
- The discussion of sexual orientation and/or gender identity
- Social and emotional learning programs
- High school courses like AP African American History
- Books depicting slavery



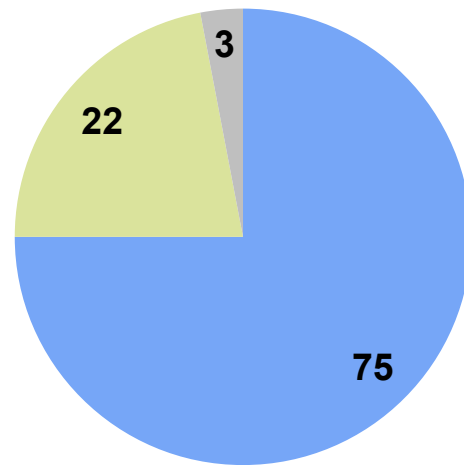
Source: PRRI, American Values Survey, 2023.

Teaching American History in Public Schools

- We should teach our children both the good and bad aspects of our history so that they can learn from the past
- We should not teach children history that could make them feel uncomfortable or guilty about what their ancestors did in the past



- Public school teachers and librarians are professionals whom we should trust to provide our kids with appropriate curriculum and books that teach the good and bad of American history
- Public school teachers and librarians should not be allowed to develop curriculum and teach books that wrongly portray America as a racist country



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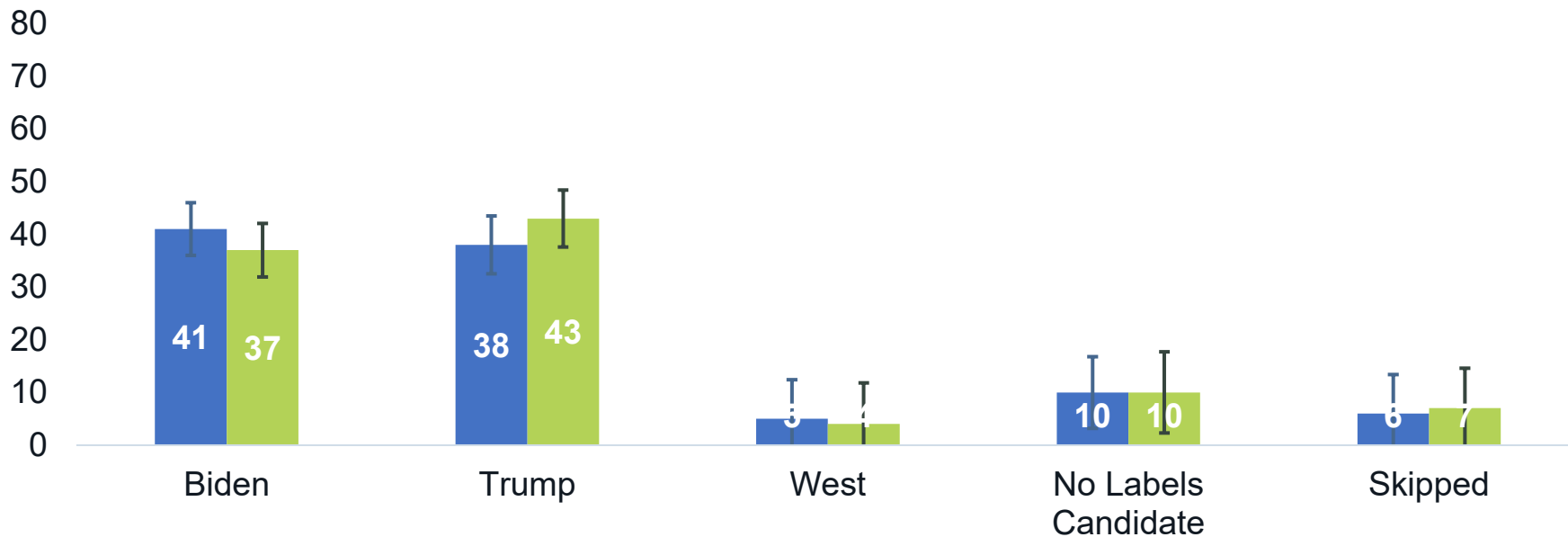


EXTRA SLIDES BELOW HERE – NOT FOR
PRESENTATION

Presidential Vote Preferences in Four-Way Election

Among Registered Voters

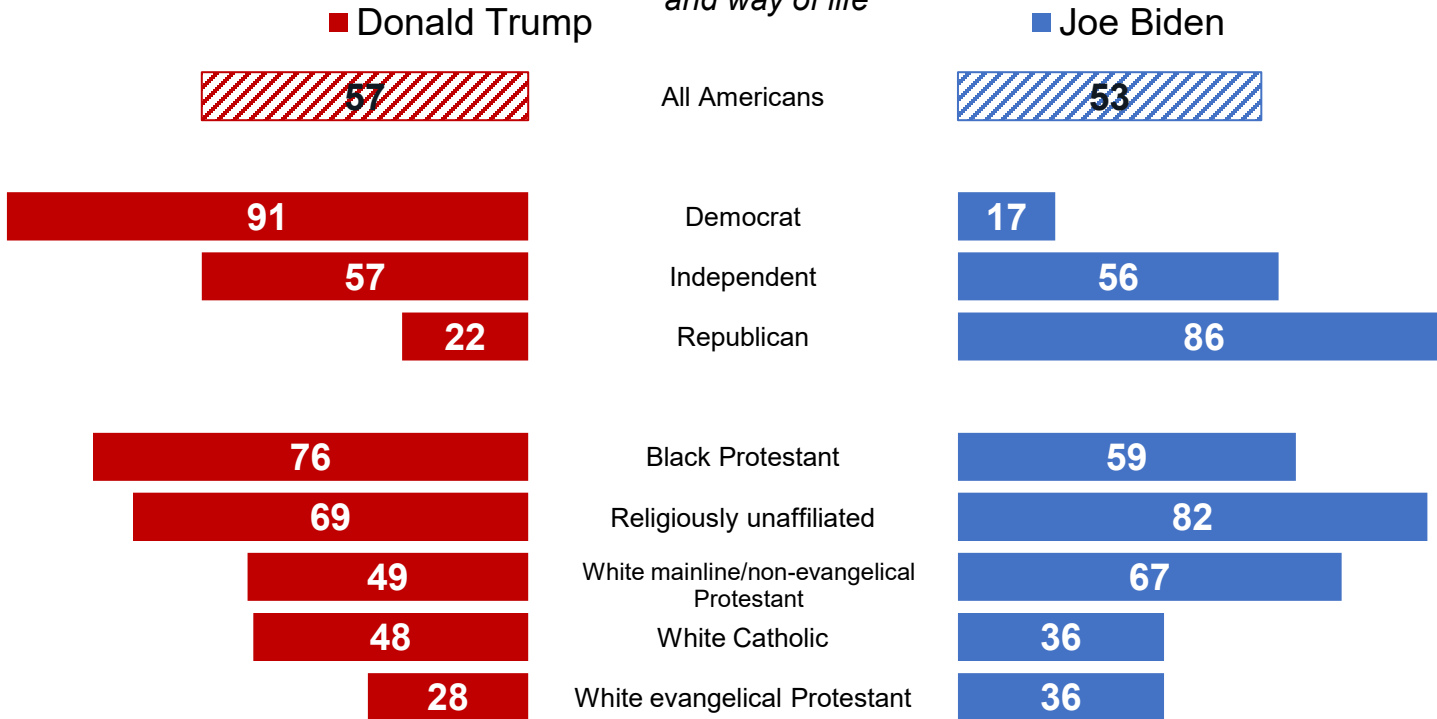
■ Scenario 1: No Labels (Manchin) ■ Scenario 2: No Labels (Hogan)



Source: PRRI, American Values Survey, 2023.

Re-Election of Trump/Biden Poses a Threat to Democracy, by Party Affiliation and Religious Tradition

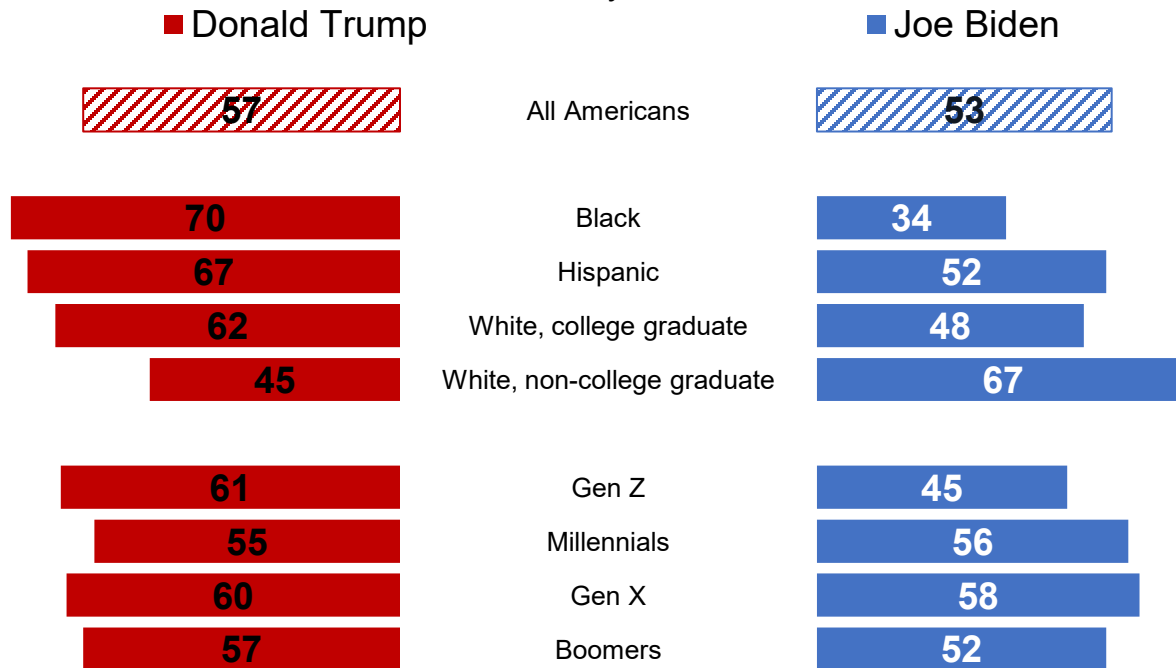
Percent who agree the re-election of ___ to the White House poses a threat to American democracy and way of life



Source: PRRI, American Values Survey, 2023.

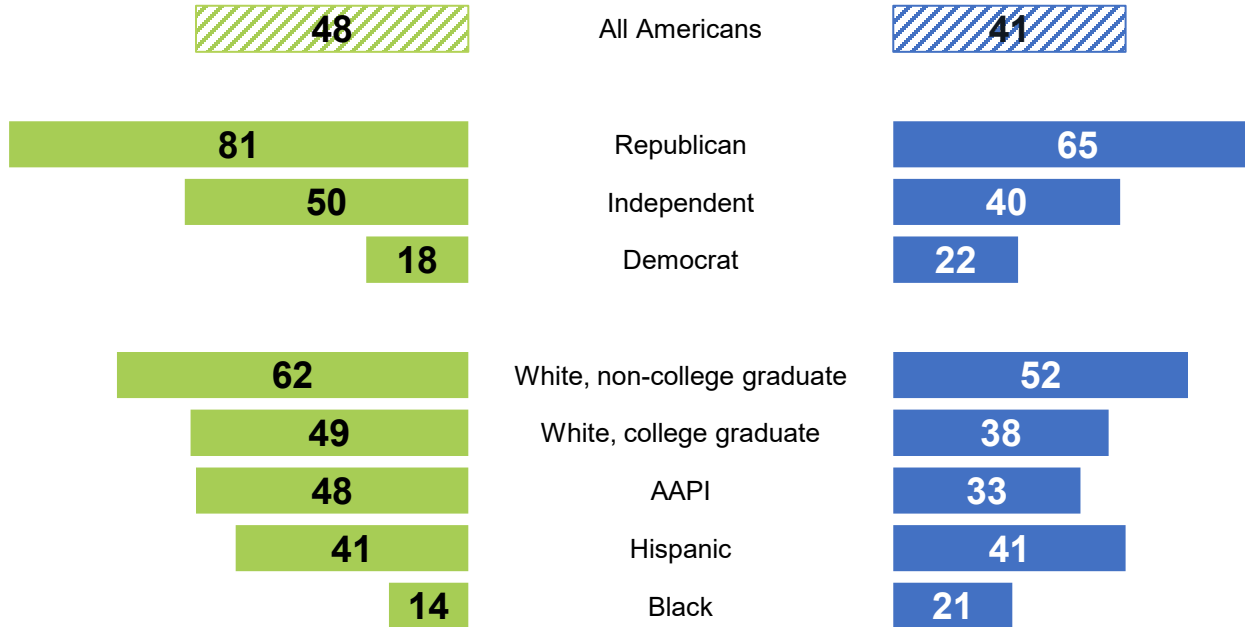
Re-Election of Trump/Biden Poses a Threat to Democracy, by Race and Generation

Percent who agree the re-election of ___ to the White House poses a threat to American democracy and way of life



Denial of Systematic Racism, by Party Affiliation and Race

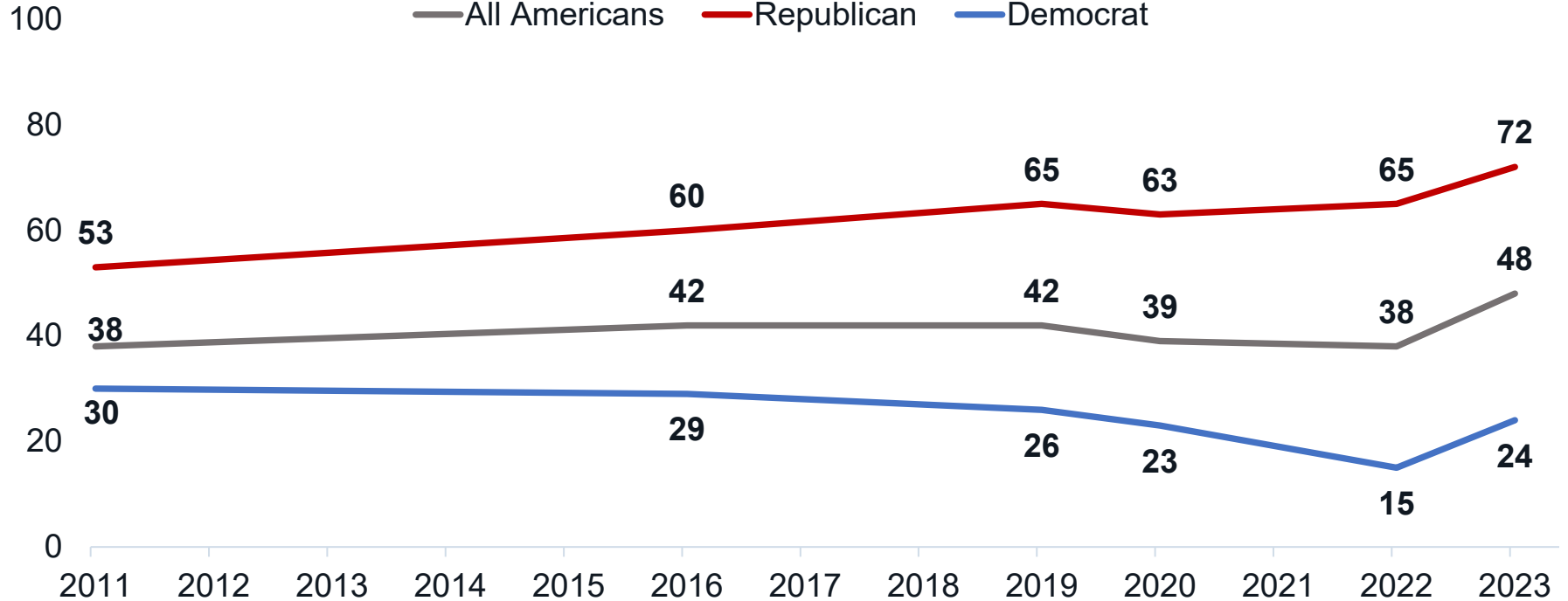
- Agree: The recent killings of Black Americans by police are isolated incidents
- Disagree: Generations of slavery and discrimination against minorities have given white people unfair economic advantages



Source: PRRI, American Values Survey, 2023.

Society Has Become Too Soft and Feminine, 2011-2023, by Party Affiliation

Society as a whole has become too soft and feminine:



Sources: PRRI 2016-2023 Surveys.