



Survey Memorandum

To: Interested Parties
From: Centerline
Date: June 23, 2023
Topic: Key National Survey Findings

Centerline commissioned a national survey among N=1,000 registered voters with an oversample of N=500 Republican voters. The research gauged voters' attitudes on clean energy manufacturing and infrastructure, election modernization, access to contraceptive care, and LGBT freedom.

Interviews were conducted online May 24–27, 2023. Quotas and weighting were set to ensure the sample was demographically representative by gender, age, region, race/ethnicity, and educational attainment. Research was conducted by New Bridge Strategy and TargetPoint Consulting.

Clean Energy Manufacturing and Infrastructure

1. Most voters say they are familiar with recent laws Congress has passed that have sought to improve America's energy future. After hearing a brief description, 56% of voters tell us they are very familiar (10%) with these measures or somewhat familiar (46%). The remaining 44% say they are either not too familiar or not familiar at all. Men (64%)—especially those with a college degree (70%)—Black voters (66%), and union households (63%) are more likely to say they are familiar with these laws.

2. Two out of three voters nationally believe Congress should continue to fund these recent laws to improve America's energy future. Support for continued funding is highest among Democrats (86%), but a solid majority of Independents (56%) and a plurality of Republicans (46%) also believe Congress should continue to fund these laws. Among Republicans, support is notably high among Republican women (48%) and younger Republicans (61%). Within the general electorate, there is broad support for continued funding among White voters (62%), Black voters (71%), and Hispanic voters (74%). Three-fourths of union households (74%) also want the funding to continue. Only a quarter of voters (24%) say Congress should stop funding them, while 11% are not sure.

3. Majorities of voters think these laws will have a positive impact on our country and on their state. About two-thirds of voters (65%) say these laws will have a positive impact on our country, while only 21% say they will have a negative impact and 13% say they won't have a real impact one way or the other. Voters also predict a positive impact closer to home, as 61% say these laws will have a positive impact on their state, 22% say they will have a negative impact, and 17% predict no real impact one way or the other.

While Democrats are unsurprisingly more optimistic about the impact these laws will have on the country (88% positive impact) and their state (78%), a majority of Independents (55% positive impact on country, 58% positive impact on state) and plurality of Republicans (47% positive impact on country, 43% positive impact on state) agree. Six-in-ten Republican women (62%) and younger Republicans (59%) say this will have a positive impact on the country.

4. The survey also finds that modernizing the electric grid and creating manufacturing jobs in America are two key reasons for voters across the political spectrum to keep these laws in place.

“Upgrading and modernizing our electric grid and energy systems will make them more efficient, more able to handle extreme weather like droughts, fires, and severe storms, and more secure from hackers and foreign interference.”

- Over 8-in-10 voters agree that upgrading and modernizing the grid is a convincing reason to keep these laws in place. More than four-in-ten (42%) say it is *very* convincing. This is the most successful reason we tested across gender, age, and party. Among Republicans, 79% say it is convincing and one-third (34%) say it is very convincing.

“Investing in a clean energy economy must result in more manufacturing jobs in America and not China. As demand for electric vehicles, batteries, and clean energy increases, businesses and governments should ensure that needed materials and parts are built here in America by American workers.”

- Creating more manufacturing jobs in America is a convincing reason to keep these laws in place to three-fourths of voters (76%) and *very* convincing to 38%. This message does noticeably well with younger men, women without a college degree, and union households. Two-thirds of Republicans (67%) find this message convincing, with 31% saying it is very convincing.

5. The existence of climate change is widely accepted: 79% of voters overall and a large majority of Republicans (61%) say they think climate change is happening. Younger Republicans (74%), Republican women (66%), and college-educated Republicans (64%) are more likely to say it is happening. In fact, majorities of all major Republican subgroups say climate change is happening, including 51% of Base Republicans and 54% of self-described Trump Republicans. And, two-thirds of Republicans (68%) say climate change is caused at least in part by human activities.

Among Republicans	Yes, Happening
Base Republicans	51%
Soft/Lean Republicans	73%
Trump Republicans	54%
Traditional Republicans	70%
Men 18–54	63%
Men 55+	50%
Women 18–54	68%
Women 55+	64%
Non-College Men	54%
College-Educated Men	60%
Non-College Women	66%
College-Educated Women	67%

6. Voters overall, including a majority of Republicans, want government action. Fully 80% of registered voters say they support the United States government taking action to reduce the carbon pollution that contributes to climate change, while only 20% oppose it. Among Republicans, 60% support government action while just 40% oppose. Support is notably high with key electoral subgroups, including Hispanics (81%), Independents (82%), parents (83%), suburban voters (78%), Republican women (63%), and younger Republicans (82%).

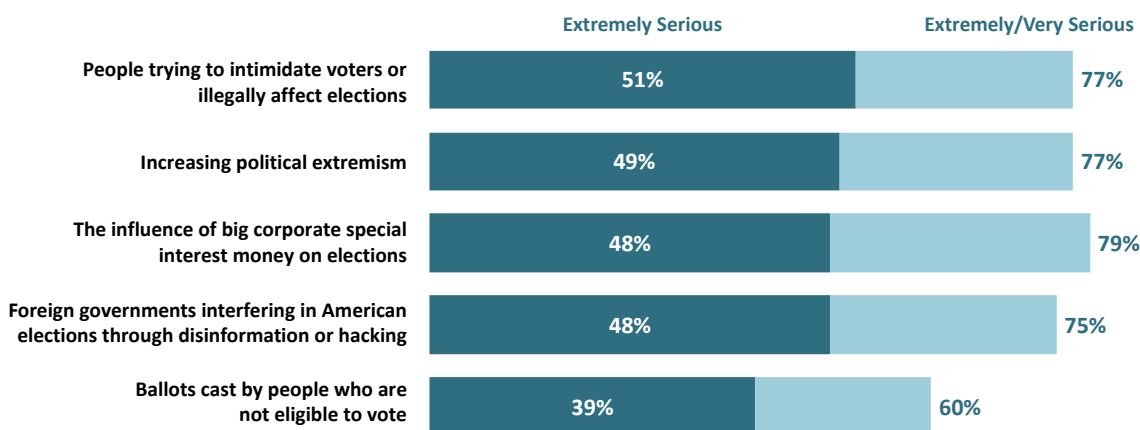
7. Supporting government action on climate change will benefit candidates among the electorate and will not hurt among Republicans. Nearly two-thirds of voters (64%) say they would feel more favorable toward their U.S. Senator if he or she supported the government taking action to reduce carbon pollution. Among Republicans, 41% would be more favorable, while just a third (32%) would be less favorable (28% say no difference). The data is similar for governors taking action at the state level: 55% would feel more favorable toward their governor, 18% would feel less favorable, and 27% would feel no different. Here too, just a third of Republicans (33%) would be less favorable (35% more favorable, 32% no difference).

Election Modernization

8. Overall, voters are largely satisfied with the system of elections and the process of voting in their state. About three-quarters of voters (73%) say they are either very or somewhat satisfied. Two-thirds of Republicans (67%), 61% of Independents, and 83% of Democrats agree. Despite persistent accusations of voting irregularities in the 2020 election, 60% of self-described Trump Republicans are satisfied with the system of elections and the process of voting in their state, as are 59% of Republicans who say they plan to vote for Trump in the 2024 primary.

9. However, voters do perceive some serious election-related problems. Roughly half of voters say they consider four different issues to be *extremely* serious: People trying to intimidate voters or illegally affect elections (51% extremely serious), increasing political extremism (49%), the influence of big corporate special interest money on elections (48%), and foreign governments interfering in American elections through disinformation or hacking (48%). Between three-quarters and four-fifths of voters say they consider all these issues to be either extremely or very serious. There is widespread agreement across party that these problems are serious, though Democrats and Independents express slightly more concern than Republicans.

“The following is a list of issues that some people believe are problems related to politics and elections. Please tell me whether you consider each one to be an extremely serious problem, a very serious problem, a somewhat serious problem, or not too serious a problem.”

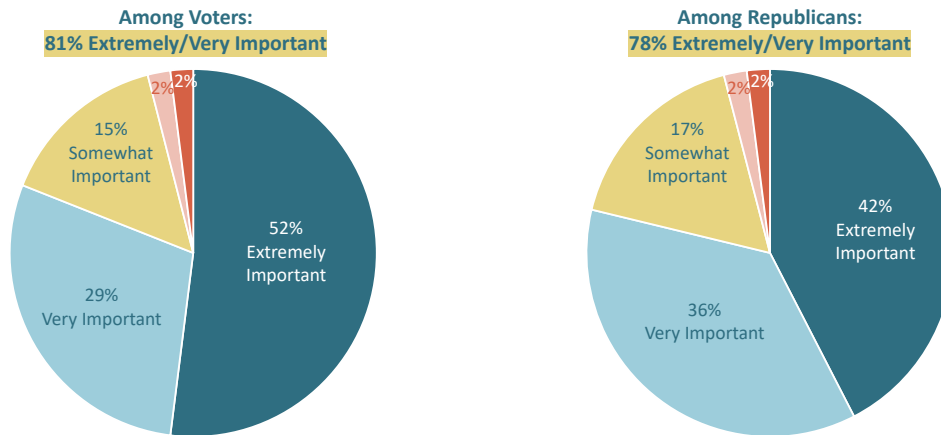


One issue is a much larger concern to Republicans than Democrats, however: Ballots cast by people who are not eligible to vote. This is an extremely serious problem to 58% of Republicans, but only to 20% of Democrats (and 36% of Independents).

10. There is wide support for dedicating \$2 billion in federal funding to help state and local election officials improve their systems in order to protect against foreign interference. About three-quarters of voters (73%) and two-thirds of Republicans (65%) would support this funding. It is supported by majorities of every demographic and attitudinal subgroup. It is notably popular among important swing voter groups, including 65% of Independents, 71% of white college-educated men, and 73% of suburban voters. There is also widespread support among key Republican primary voter groups: 67% of base Republicans, 67% of self-described Trump Republicans, 66% of Republicans ages 65+, and 69% of Evangelical Republicans.

11. Voters almost unanimously say it is important to them personally that public leaders respond to those who encourage violence related to elections and disrupt vote counting. A majority of voters (52%) say this is extremely important to them, while eight-in-ten (81%) say it is either extremely or very important. A further 15% say it is somewhat important, while only 2% each say it is not very important and not at all important. The data is much the same with Republicans, as 78% say it is extremely or very important, 17% say it is somewhat important, and just 2% each say it is not very and not at all important.

“How important is it to you personally that public leaders respond to those who encourage violence related to elections and disrupt vote counting?”



12. State and local elected officials are the most trusted sources of information about elections and voting. We asked respondents to choose who they trust most from a list of people and organizations that may take a position on issues related to elections and voting. Governors top the list, followed by election judges and Secretaries of State. These officials would be more trusted than county clerks, election volunteers, and county sheriffs and other law enforcement leaders. Republican and Democratic Party officials are most trusted by 39% and 41% of their own partisans respectively, but very few people outside their own parties see them as trustworthy. Faith leaders garner the least amount of trust overall on this issue.

Contraception Access

13. Increasing access to contraception is an issue where there is near-total, bipartisan agreement among registered voters nationwide. Fully 85% of voters say they favor increasing access to contraception in their state, while just 15% oppose doing so. Among Republicans, 79% favor increasing access to contraception while 21% oppose. Democrats say they favor increasing access by a margin of 90% to 10%. In order to ensure clarity of the question, survey respondents were told that “the term contraception, also known as birth control, is used to define various methods of preventing pregnancy.”

14. Increasing access to contraception is overwhelmingly popular across even the most socially conservative corners of the Republican Party. At least 70% of every Republican voter group, without exception, favor increasing access to contraception. In short, this is an issue with virtually no opposition.

Favor Increasing Access to Contraception	
Base Republicans	74%
Soft Republicans	85%
Trump Republicans	79%
Traditional Republicans	79%
Republican Men	75%
Republican Women	84%
Very Conservative on Social Issues	70%
Somewhat Conservative on Social Issues	82%
Moderate/Liberal on Social Issues	88%
2024 Trump Primary Voters	78%
2024 DeSantis Primary Voters	81%

15. Republican voters are three times as likely to say that they would be more likely to vote for a candidate who supported increased access to contraception as would be less likely; among all voters the ratio is more than five-to-one positive impact. Nearly half (47%) of Republican voters say that a candidate’s support for increased access to contraception has a positive impact on their vote, while a mere 15% are less inclined to support such a candidate (38% say it would make no difference). The positive impact exceeds concern among every single subgroup of Republican voters, including those who say they are “very conservative” on social issues and among Evangelical Republicans.

Among all voters nationally, this issue only generates positive regard for a candidate. Fully 63% say they would be more likely to vote for a candidate taking this position and just 12% are less so, with 25% saying it makes no difference to their vote. A candidate taking this position benefits from every subgroup of voters.

16. Nine-in-ten voters (90%) and 85% of Republicans agree contraception should be accessible and affordable to all people in the United States. Respondents were asked whether they agree or disagree with the following statement:

“All people in the United States should be able to both afford and have access to contraception, and they should be able to obtain information on what method of contraception would be best for them.”

Agreement is nearly unanimous. Fully 90% of voters and 85% of Republican voters agree with this statement. In fact, two-thirds of voters (66%) and half of Republicans (49%) *strongly* agree. Agreement for this statement is at least three times higher than disagreement with every Republican subgroup.

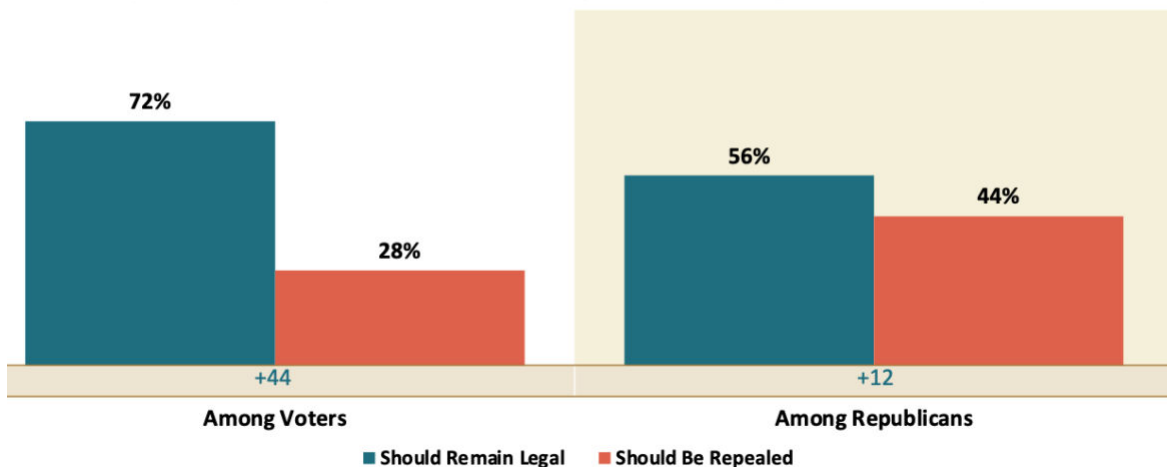
17. Voters overwhelmingly agree that increasing access to contraception is a “freedom issue.” Among voters, 87% agree with the statement “Increasing access to contraception is a freedom issue. It is about giving people the freedom to make decisions for themselves and their families.” Just 13% disagree. Among Republicans, 79% agree and 21% disagree, and support levels reach at least 70% with every demographic and attitudinal subgroup.

LGBT Issues

18. Nearly three-fourths (72%) of registered voters agree that same-sex marriage should remain legal, with over a majority (56%) of Republicans saying the same. Majorities of most Republican subgroups agree same-sex marriage should remain legal, including 55% of self-described Trump Republicans and 57% of self-described Traditional Republicans, 54% of Republican men and 58% of Republican women, and majorities across gender and education levels (including college-educated GOP men, 53% remain legal), income groups, 2024 Trump primary voters, DeSantis primary voters, and undecided primary voters.

Key swing voter sub-groups are overwhelmingly in support of marriage remaining legal for same-sex couples. More than three-quarters (76%) of independents say it should stay legal, along with the vast majority of self-described moderates (81%), suburbanites (72%) and small town voters (74%), blue collar workers (77%), non-college voters (71%), Hispanics (77%), and parents of children under the age of 18 (76%).

“As you may know, same-sex marriage has been legal throughout the United States for seven years. Regardless of how you initially felt, do you think same-sex marriage should remain legal, or should it be repealed?”



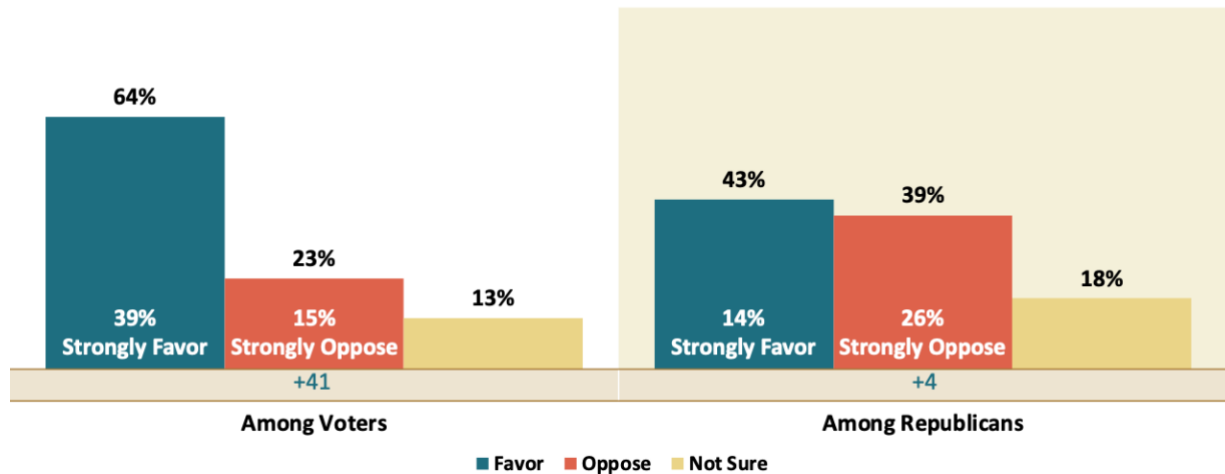
19. American voters are apt to say that the government should be doing more or is doing the right amount “to combat discrimination against gay and transgender Americans.” Fewer than one-quarter of voters (22%) want the government to be doing less, while two-thirds (66%) either say the government should be doing more or is currently doing the right amount. Key swing voter subgroups are even more apt to say the government should be doing more or is doing the right amount, including moderates (71% doing more or about the same amount), Hispanic voters (73%), voters under age 35 (74%), parents (72%), and those who somewhat disapprove of Biden’s performance as President (74%).

This desire to see government maintain or bolster anti-discrimination efforts is not confined to the political left: Fewer than half of Republicans (40%) want the government to do less to combat discrimination against gay and transgender Americans with 30% saying the government is doing the right amount and 15% saying the government should be doing more.

20. Voters overall—and a plurality of Republicans—say they would favor a law that protects gay and transgender people from discrimination in housing, public accommodations, credit, and education. Nearly two-thirds of voters (64%) favor this anti-discrimination legislation. It is supported by majorities across all gender and age groups (including men 65+), race and ethnicity, and education levels. Importantly, Independent voters overwhelmingly support this legislation, with 68% in favor and just 19% opposed.

More Republicans express support than opposition for such an anti-discrimination law (43% favor – 39% oppose), as do nearly half of white Evangelical voters (47% favor – 36% oppose). Notably, younger GOP voters ages 18–34 are slightly more likely than any other age demographic of Republicans to be supportive, with 49% in favor of this type of law and 32% in opposition. In addition, important segments of the GOP electorate also express more support than opposition, including Republican women (49% favor – 29% oppose), GOP moms (50% favor – 29% oppose), and Republicans who live in the suburbs (45% favor – 38% oppose).

“Would you favor or oppose a law that protects gay and transgender people from discrimination in housing, public accommodations, credit, and education?”



21. Supporting this law is a net positive among voters, and with Republican voters it does not hurt candidates who might support it. About half of voters (47%) say they would be more likely to vote for a candidate who voted in favor of legislation to protect gay and transgender people from discrimination, while only a quarter (25%) say they would be less likely. Just over four-in-ten Republicans say they would be less likely to vote for such a candidate, while the majority (59%) say they would either be more likely (21%) or that it does not make a difference (38%). While Republicans are more split than voters overall, fewer than half of most Republican subgroups say they would be less likely to support a candidate who takes this position. Even Evangelical Republicans are split close to evenly on the issue, as 52% say it would make them less likely and 48% say it would make them more likely or make no difference to their vote.

22. As state legislatures across the country consider legislation focusing on transgender-related health care, sports teams, and bathroom use, there are two messages that garnered significant support among voters and among Republicans.

“Healthcare decisions are better left to parents and medical professionals. Government shouldn’t get involved in making important medically necessary decisions about any child, including transgender children.”

- Over eight-in-ten voters (83%) and more than three-quarters of Republicans (78%) say that a message centered on the government staying out of medical decisions is a convincing reason to oppose these bills. A majority of voters (54%) and nearly half of Republicans (47%) say this message is *very* convincing.

“The best way to ensure our kids grow up in safe and supportive communities is if we follow the Golden Rule and treat others as we would like to be treated.”

- This messaging incorporating the Golden Rule is convincing to 81% of voters and 78% of Republicans, with half of voters (50%) and 44% of Republicans finding it *very* convincing.