

CENTERLINE →

National Survey

- N = 400 Registered Voters
- Conducted Online
- July 6-8, 2026
- moe = +/- 4.9%

KEY RESEARCH FINDINGS

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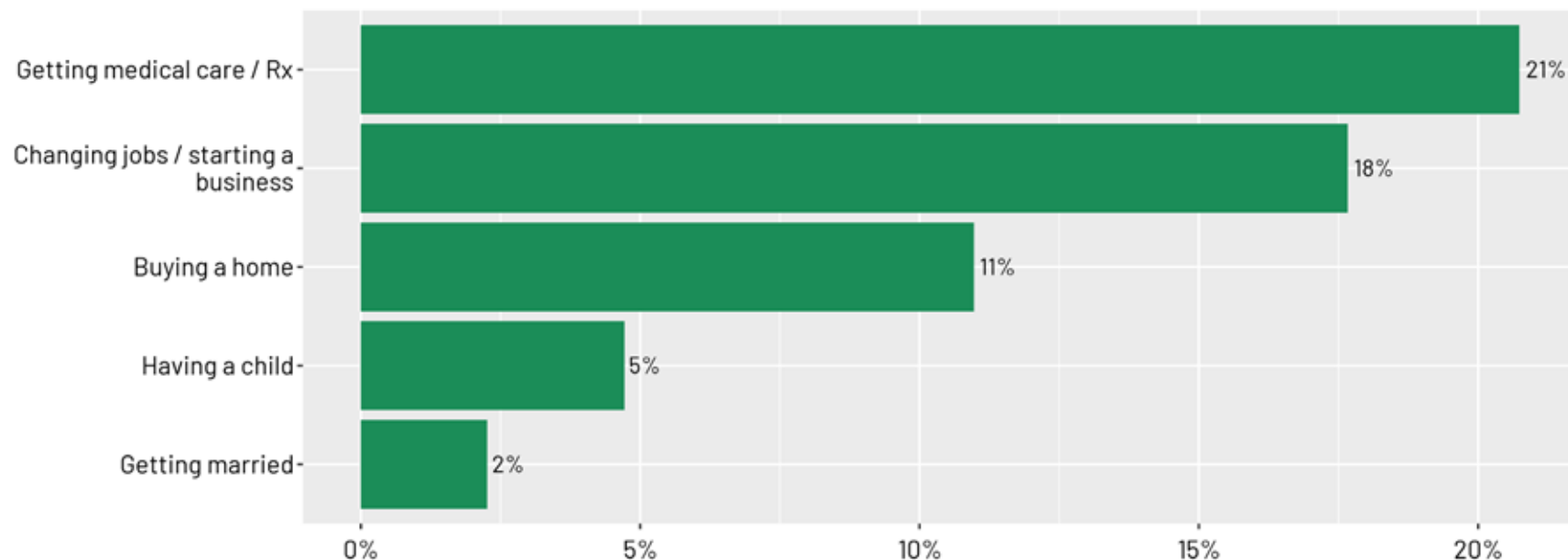
- **Artificial Intelligence**
Voters Embrace AI but Demand Guardrails and Distrust Its Judgment
- **Economic Hardship**
Financial Strain Forces a Third to Delay Life's Milestones
- **Mental Health**
A Quiet Epidemic: Loneliness Grips Younger Americans
- **Political Division**
Burned Out, Voters Retreat From News and Each Other
- **Online Betting**
One in Three Voters Placed a Sports Bet Last Month

Headlines

ECONOMIC HARDSHIP

From Prescriptions to Down Payments: Where Money Worries Bite

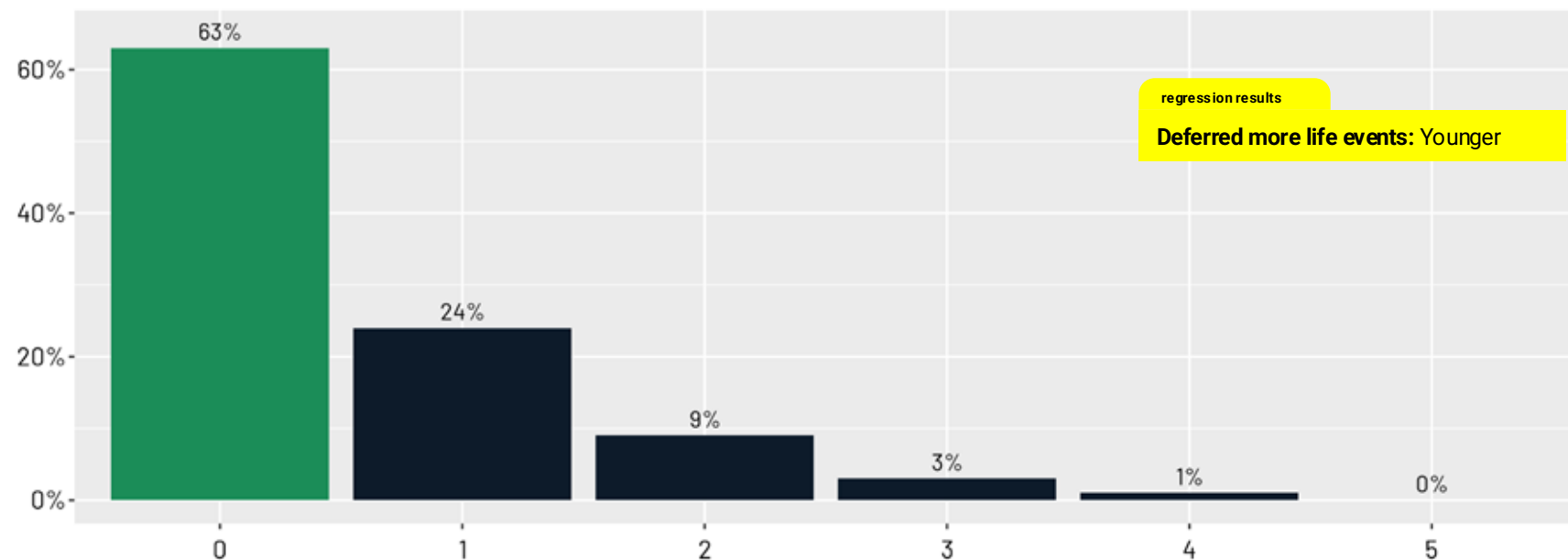
% who delayed or went without, due to finances



In the past year, have you or anyone in your household delayed, postponed, or gone without any of the following because of financial concerns?

37% Went Without Something This Year for Financial Reasons

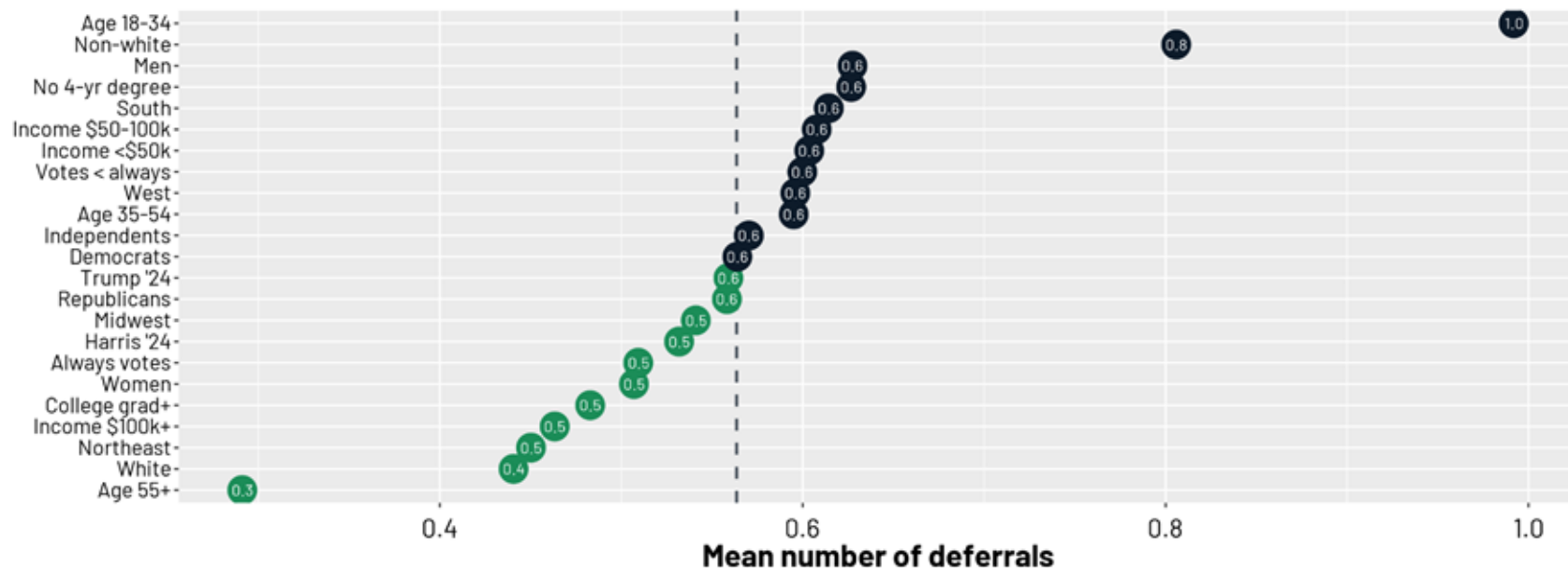
Count of life events delayed for financial reasons (0-5)



Based on QDEFER select-all items.

Who Delays Life's Milestones? The Young and Communities of Color

Mean number of life events deferred (0-5) | dashed line = all voters (0.6)

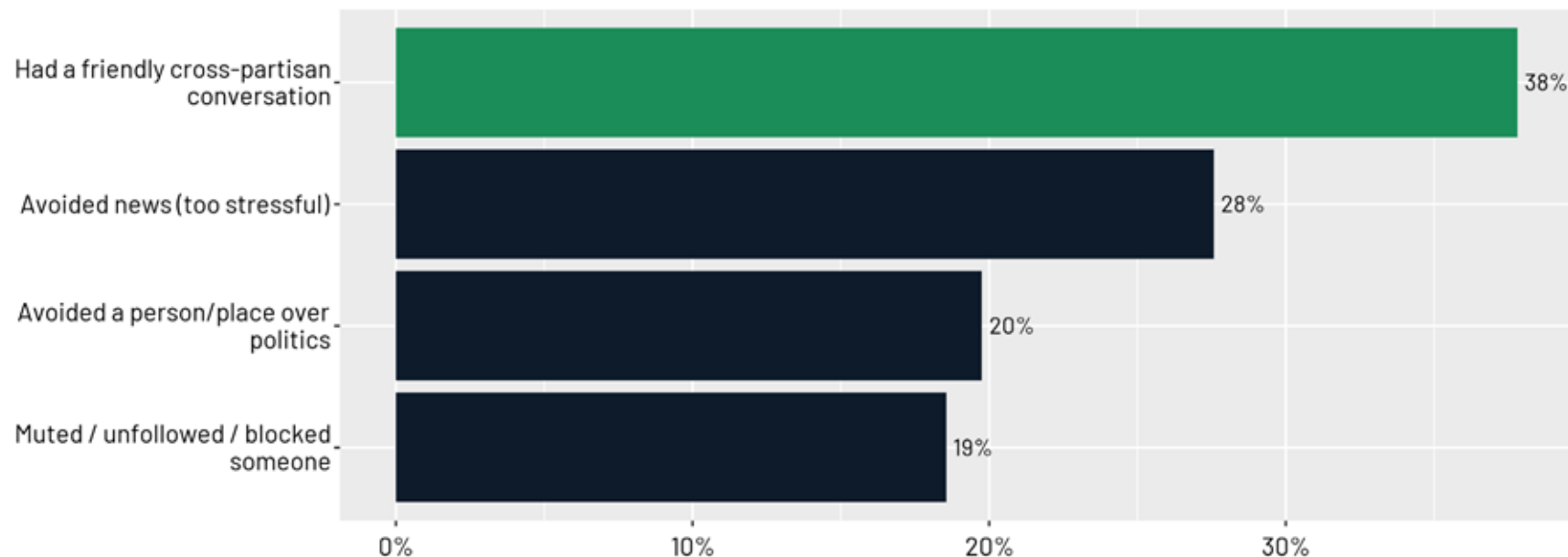


Based on QDEFER select-all items.

POLITICAL DIVISION

The Retreat Reflex: 1 in 4 Tuned Out the News, 1 in 5 Dodged Politics

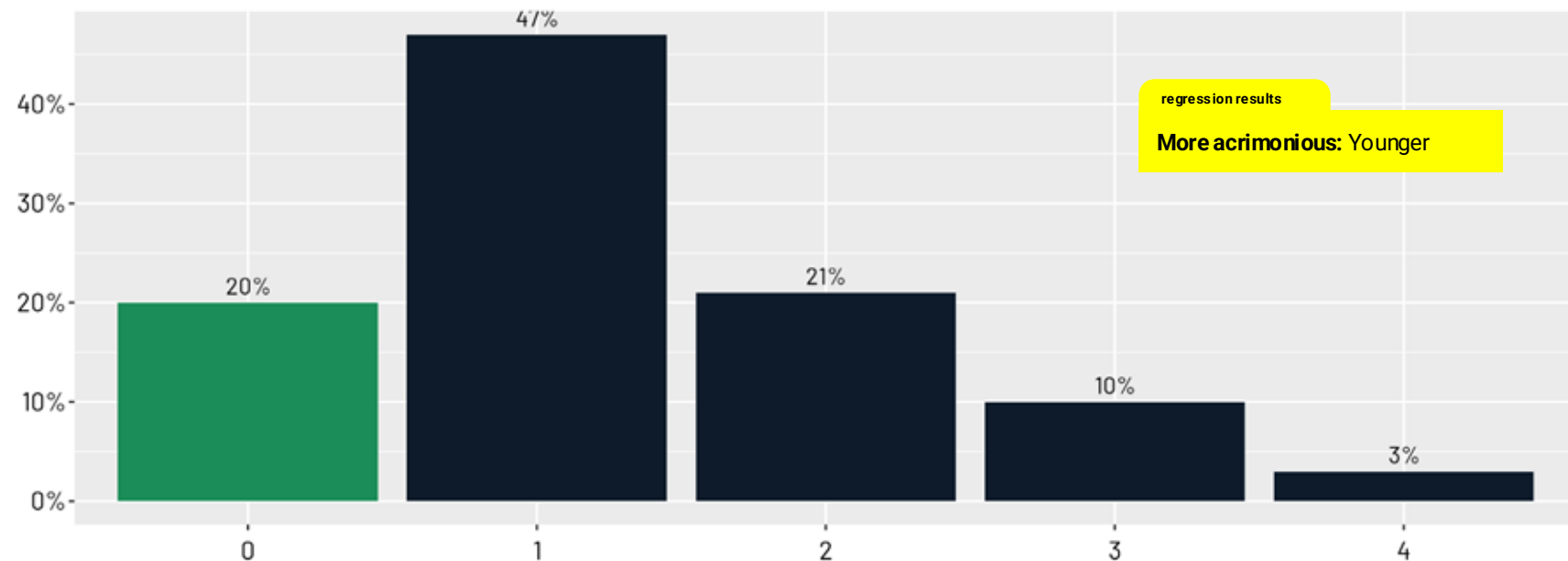
% who did each in the past week



In the past week, did you do any of the following?

Few Escape the Friction – Only 20% Show No Acrimony at All

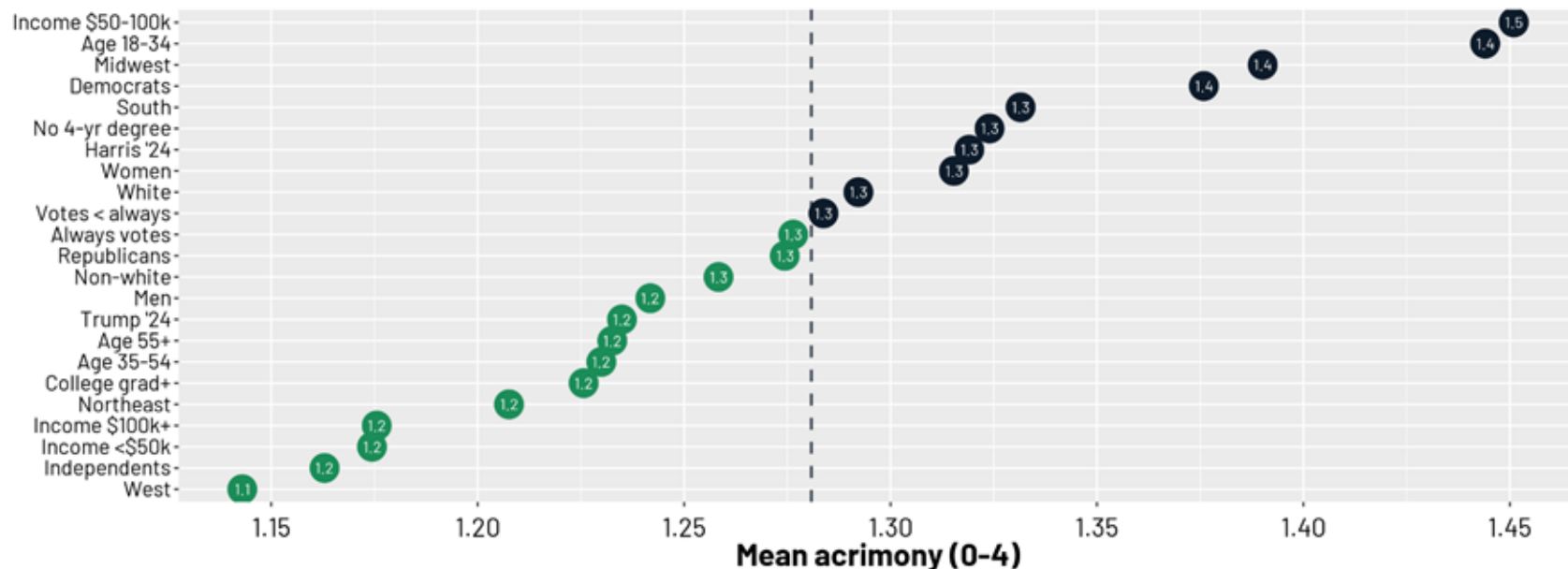
Partisan acrimony index (0-4): withdrawal behaviors + no civil conversation



Built from QWEEK: avoided news, avoided a person/place, or muted/blocked someone – plus NOT having a friendly cross-partisan conversation.

Partisan Acrimony Is Remarkably Even Across Demographics

Mean acrimony index (0-4) | dashed line = all voters (1.3)

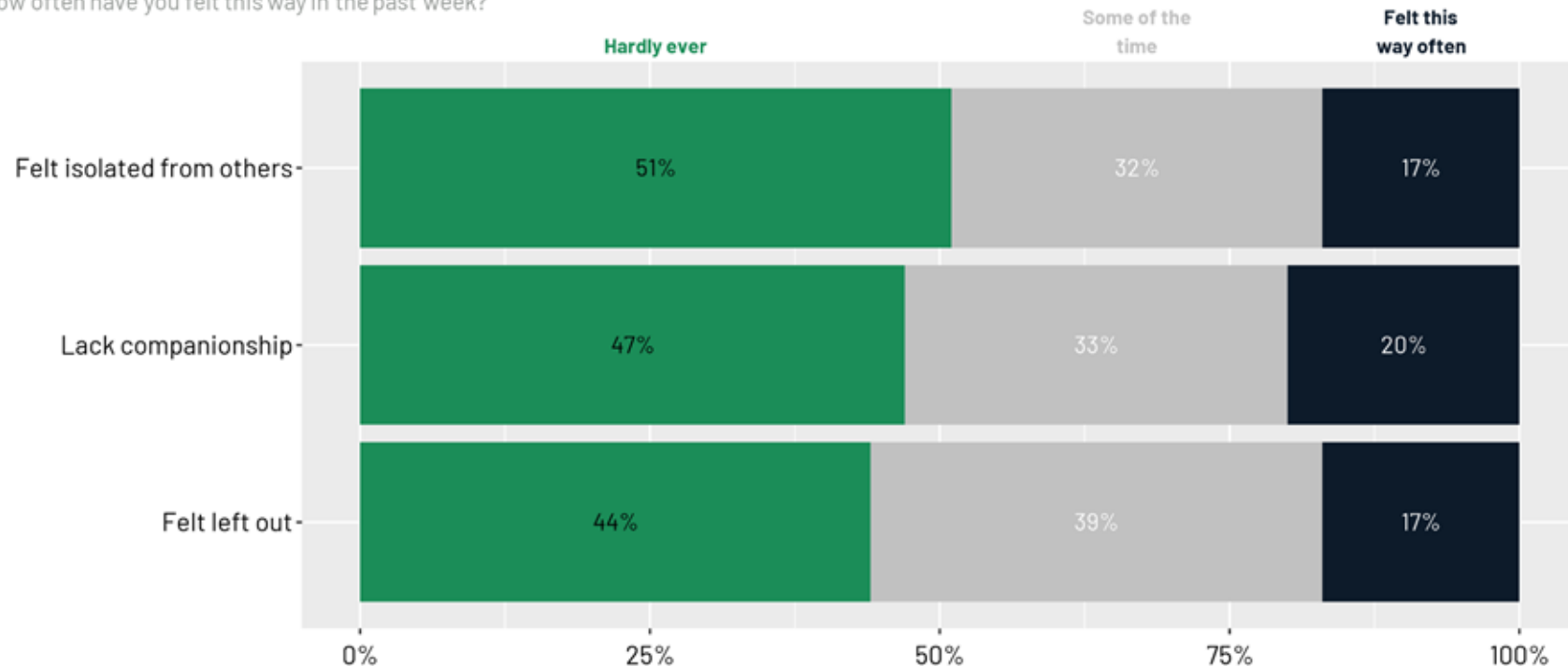


QWEEK-based acrimony index.

MENTAL HEALTH

A Quiet Strain: 20% Often Lack Companionship

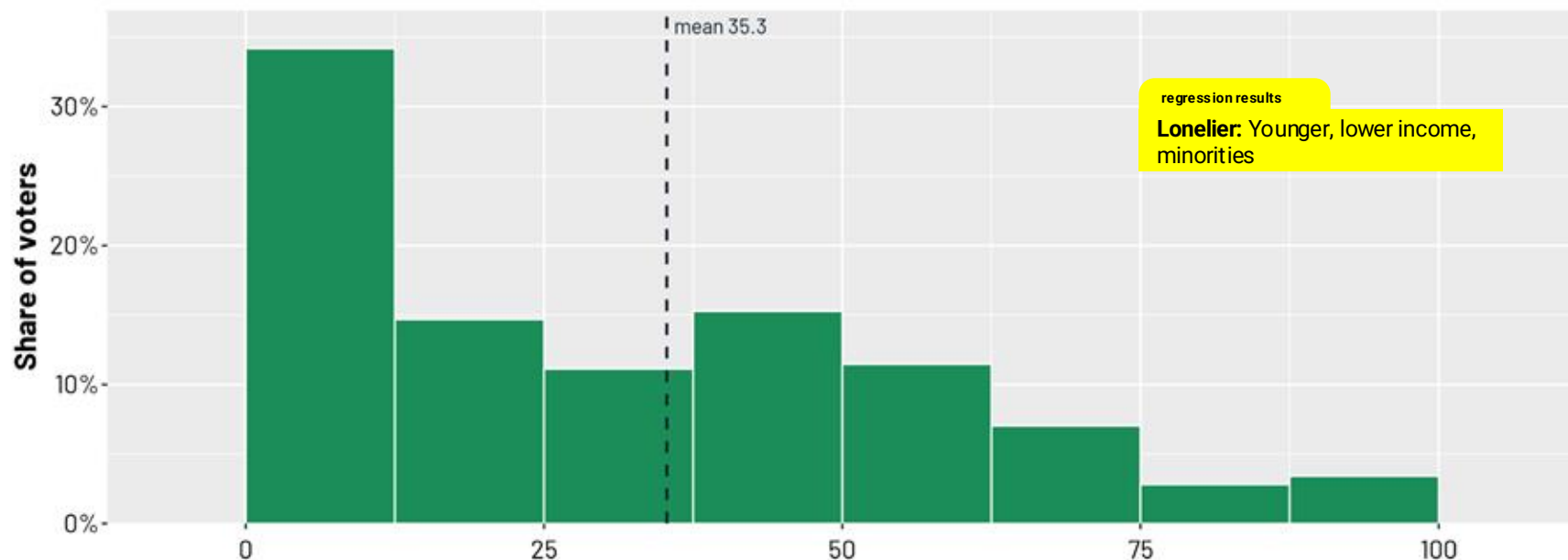
How often have you felt this way in the past week?



QCONNECT items (UCLA 3-item loneliness scale).

Loneliness Is Widespread but Moderate; Mean Score 35 of 100

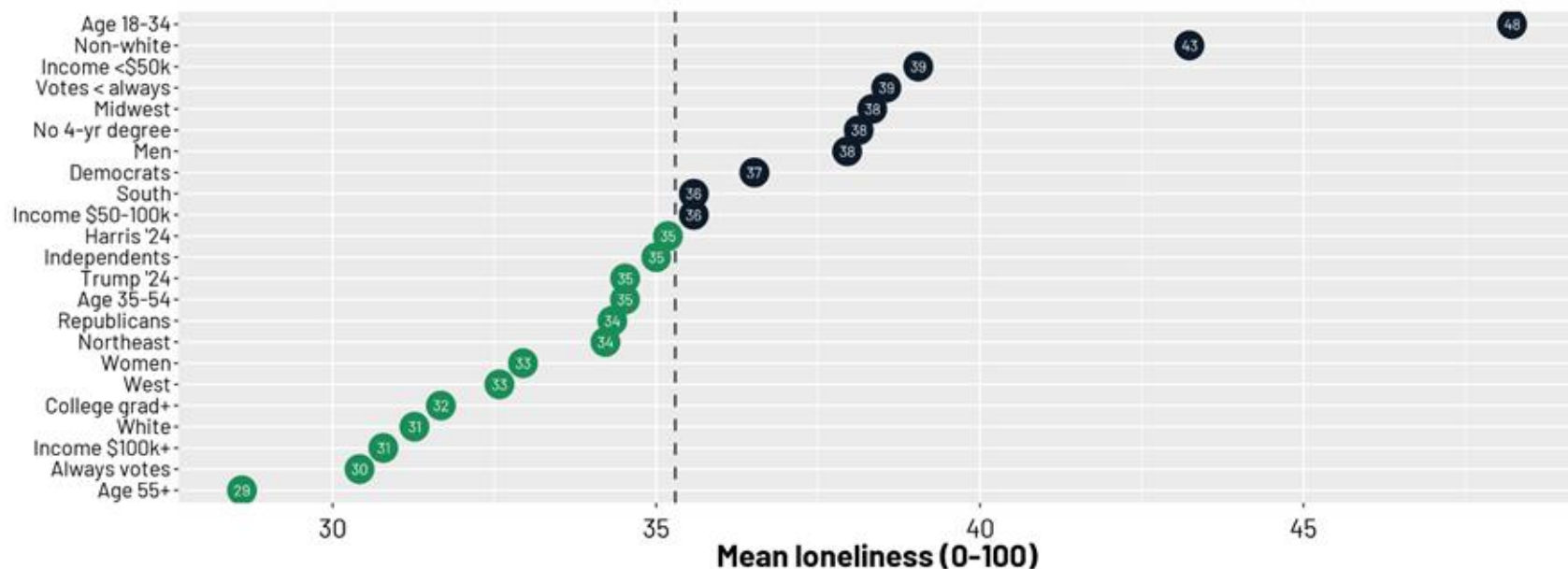
0 = never lonely, 100 = consistently lonely



Mean of the four QCONNECT items (higher = lonelier).

Youth and Marginalization Drive Loneliness; Age and Affluence Buffer It

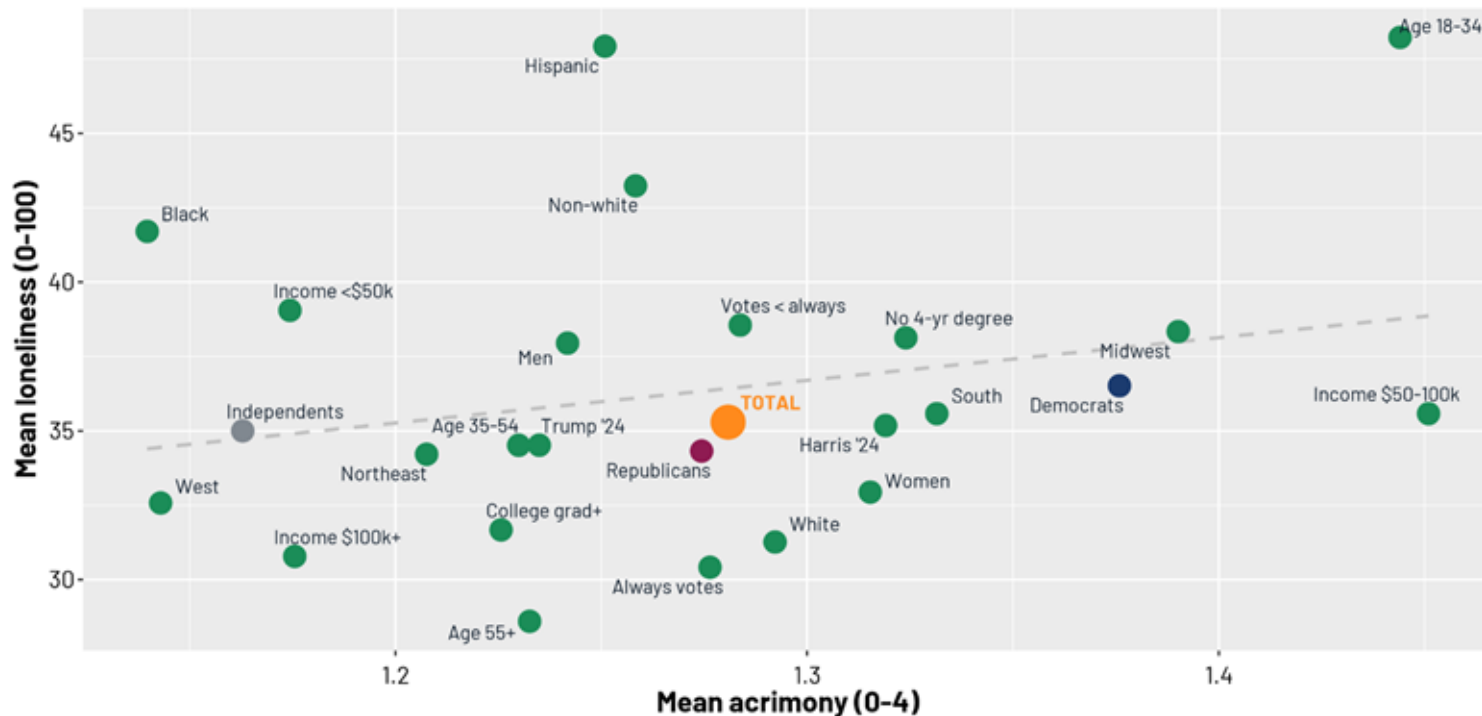
Mean loneliness index (0-100) | dashed line = all voters (35)



QCONNECT loneliness index.

Acrimony and Loneliness Move Together – but Only Loosely

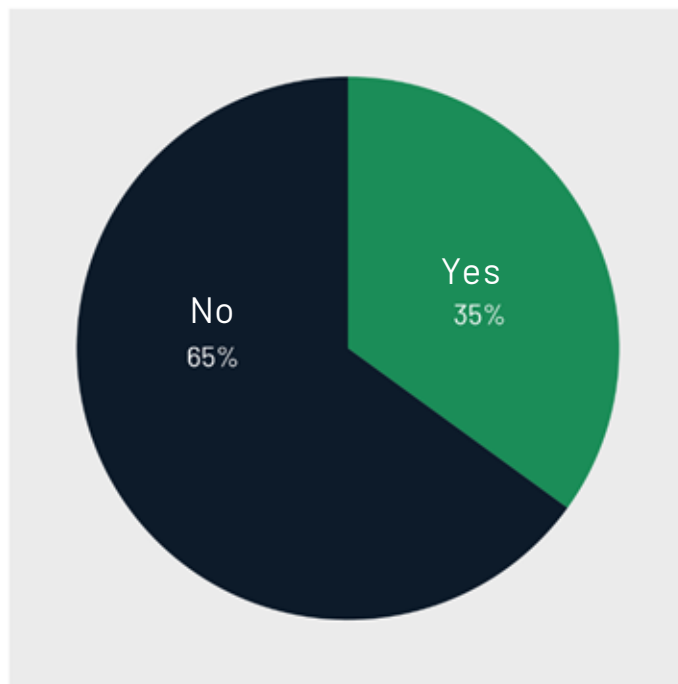
Each point = one demographic group ($r = 0.25$)



ONLINE BETTING

35% Used a Betting App – a Sizable Slice of the Electorate

Online sportsbook use



regression results

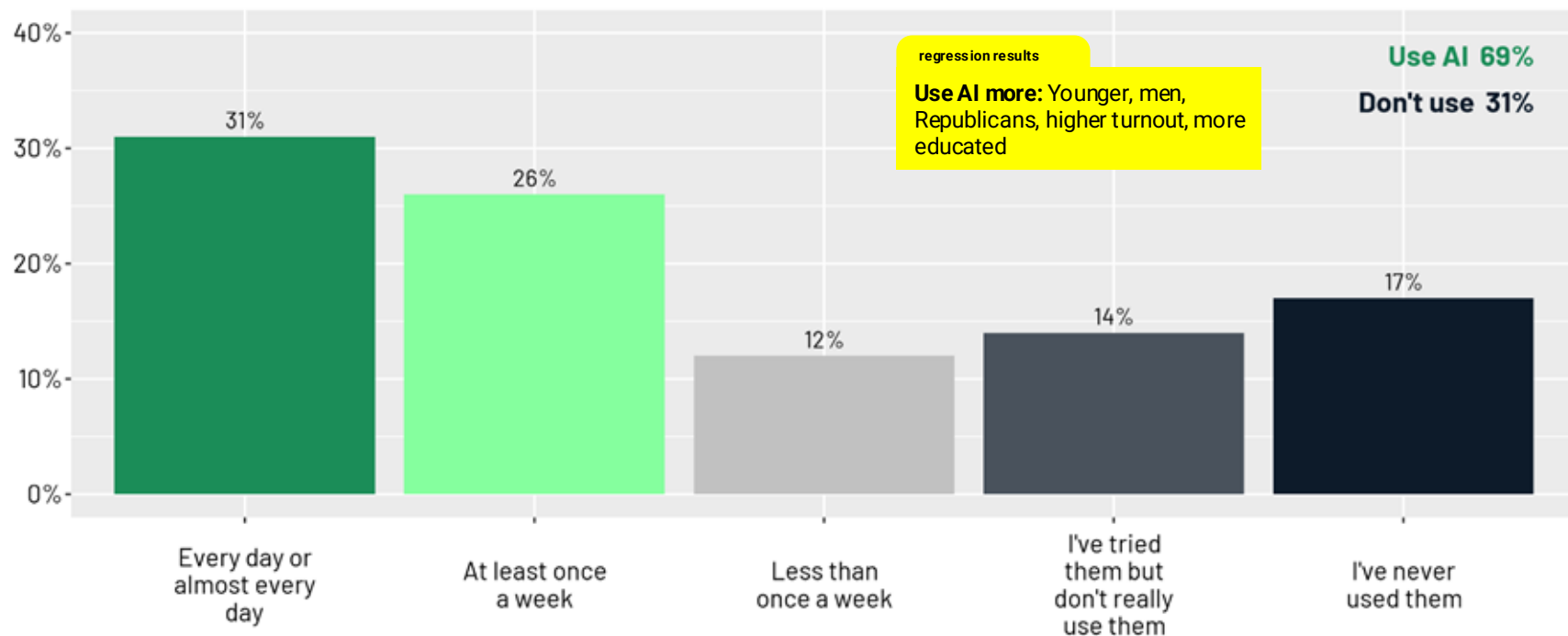
Bet: Younger, men, Trump voters, minorities, least common in the West

QSIG1. In the past month have you used a betting app or online sportsbook (such as DraftKings, FanDuel, or BetMGM) to bet money on a sporting event – such as the FIFA World Cup, the NBA Finals, or the NHL's Stanley Cup?

ARTIFICIAL INTELLIGENCE

AI Goes Mainstream: 57% Now Use It Weekly

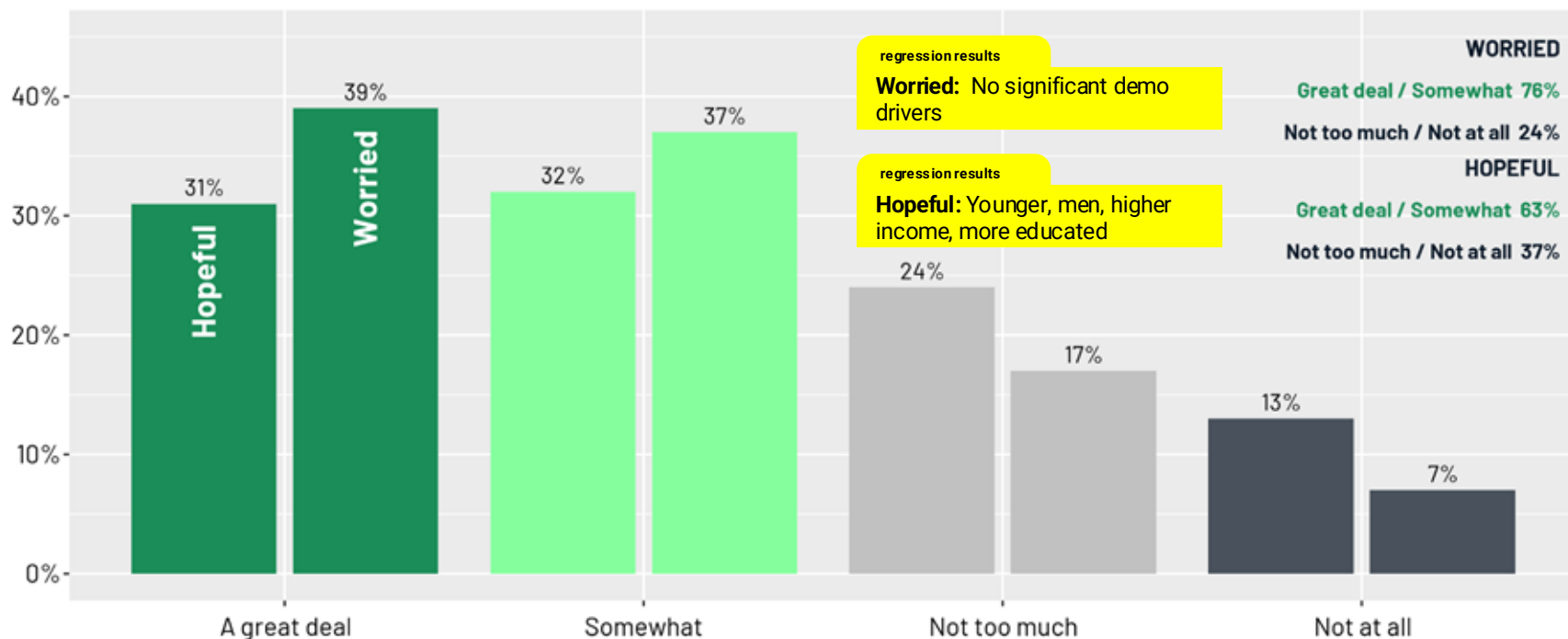
How often do you use AI tools or chatbots?



QAIUSE. How often, if at all, do you use AI tools or chatbots such as ChatGPT, Claude, Grok or Gemini?

Worry Beats Hope on AI – 76% Worried vs. 63% Hopeful

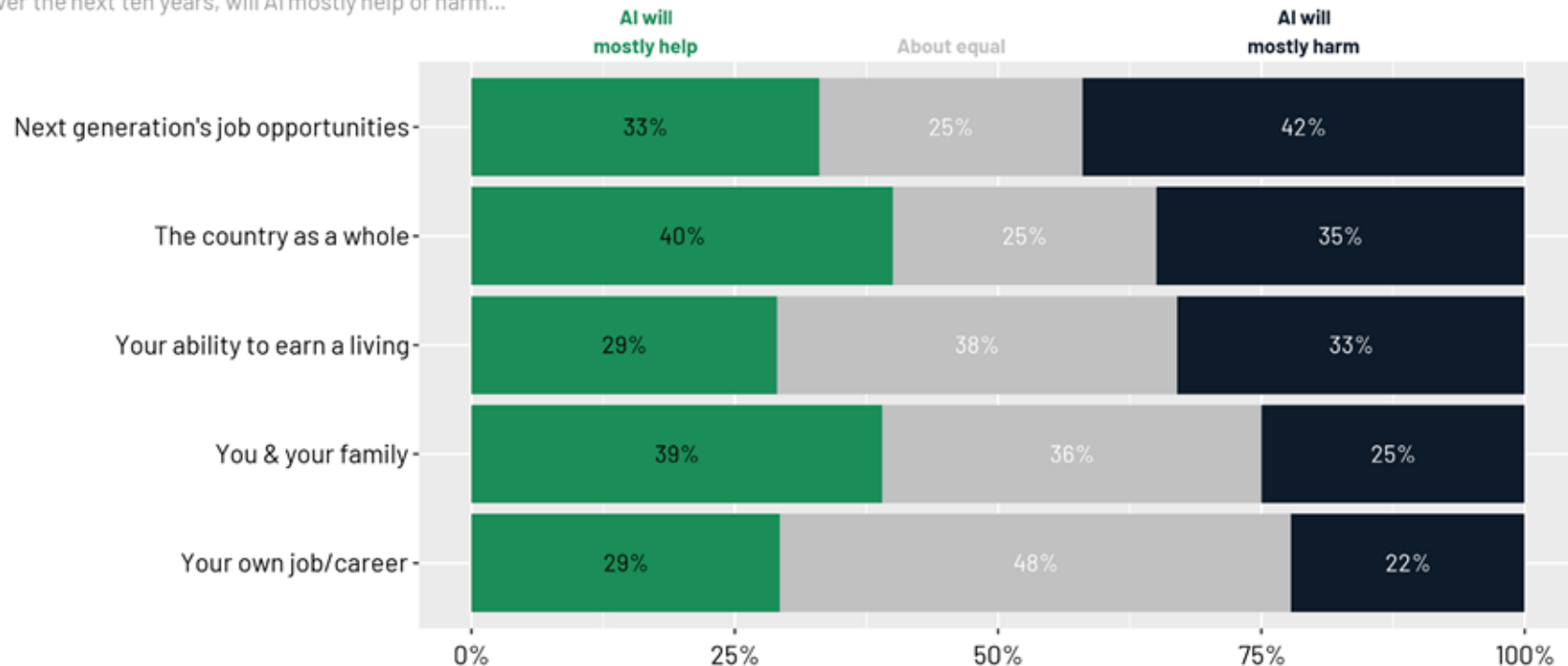
HOPEFUL: AI could improve your own daily life · WORRIED: AI could be misused or cause harm



Thinking about the increased use of AI in daily life, how does this describe how you feel?

Optimism Close to Home, Dread for the Next Generation

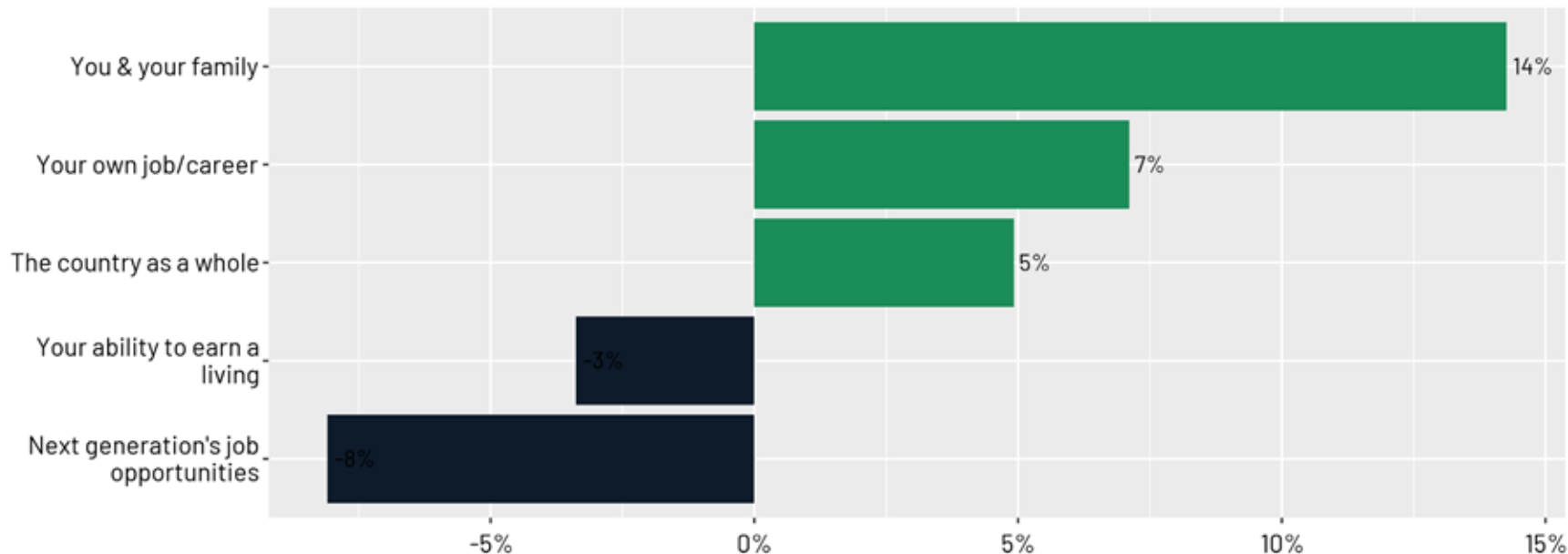
Over the next ten years, will AI mostly help or harm...



Each respondent rated a random 3 of 5 items; bases vary by item.

The Generational Gap: Confidence for Self, Anxiety for Kids

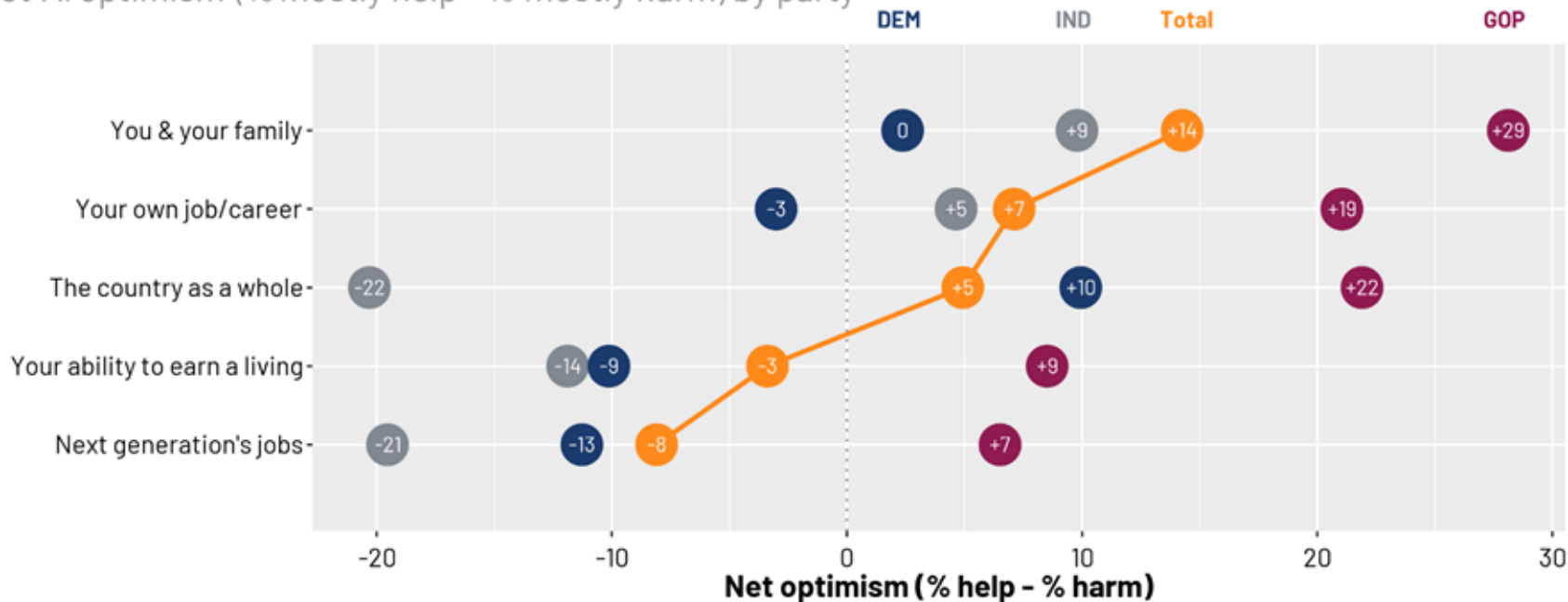
% mostly HELP minus % mostly HARM (higher = more optimistic)



Derived from QAI_IMP items.

A Wide Partisan Gap: Only Republicans Are Net-Positive Across the Board

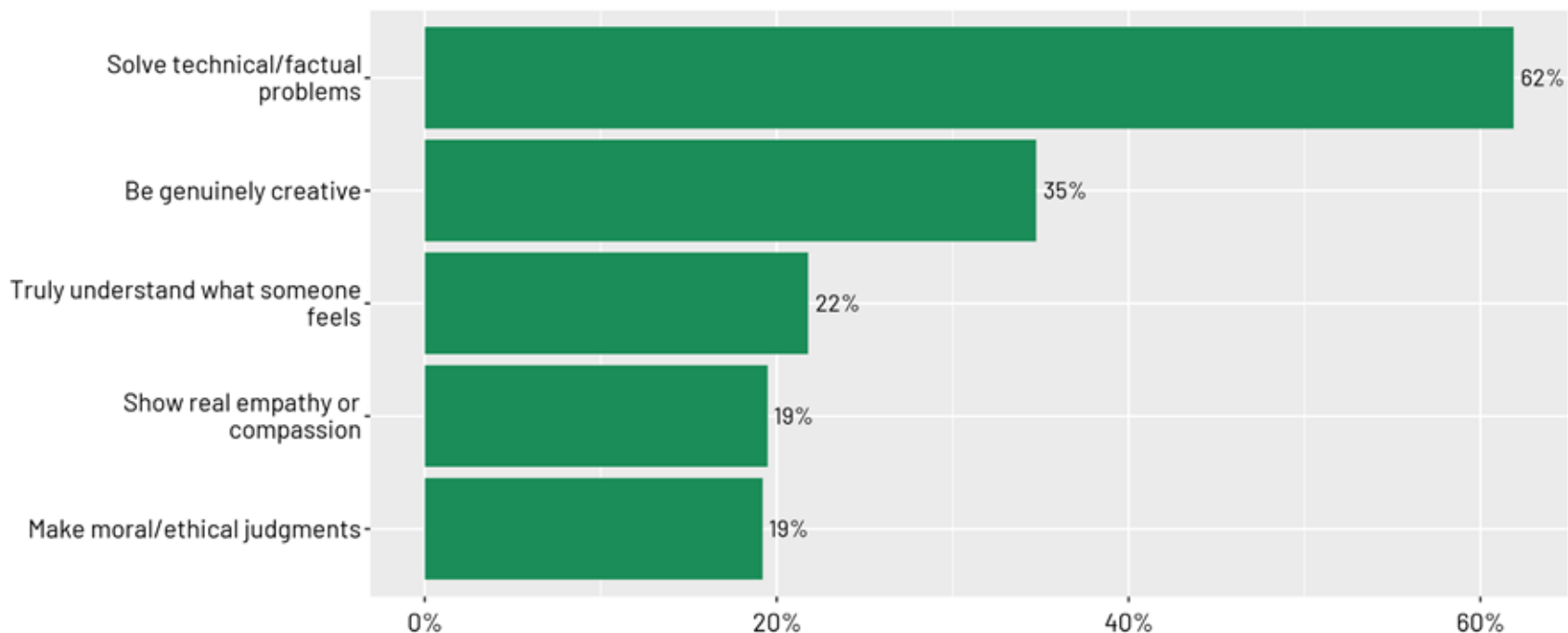
Net AI optimism (% mostly help - % mostly harm) by party



QAI_IMP; each respondent saw a random 3 of 5 items. Party = QPARTYID self-ID (leaners kept Independent, IND n=118); impact items saw a random 3 of 5.

The Competence-Compassion Divide in How Voters See AI

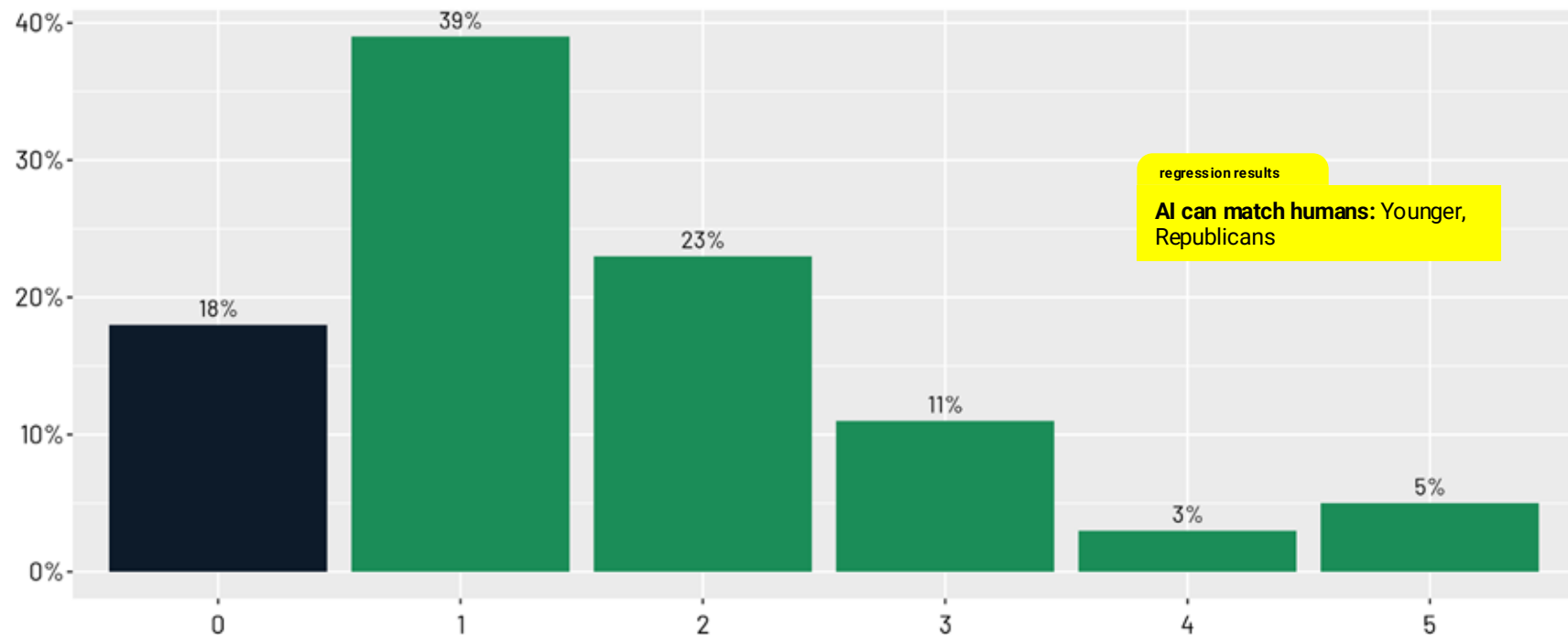
% who say AI will eventually match a person



Which of the following do you think AI will eventually be able to do as well as a person?

Few See a Fully Human-Capable AI on the Horizon

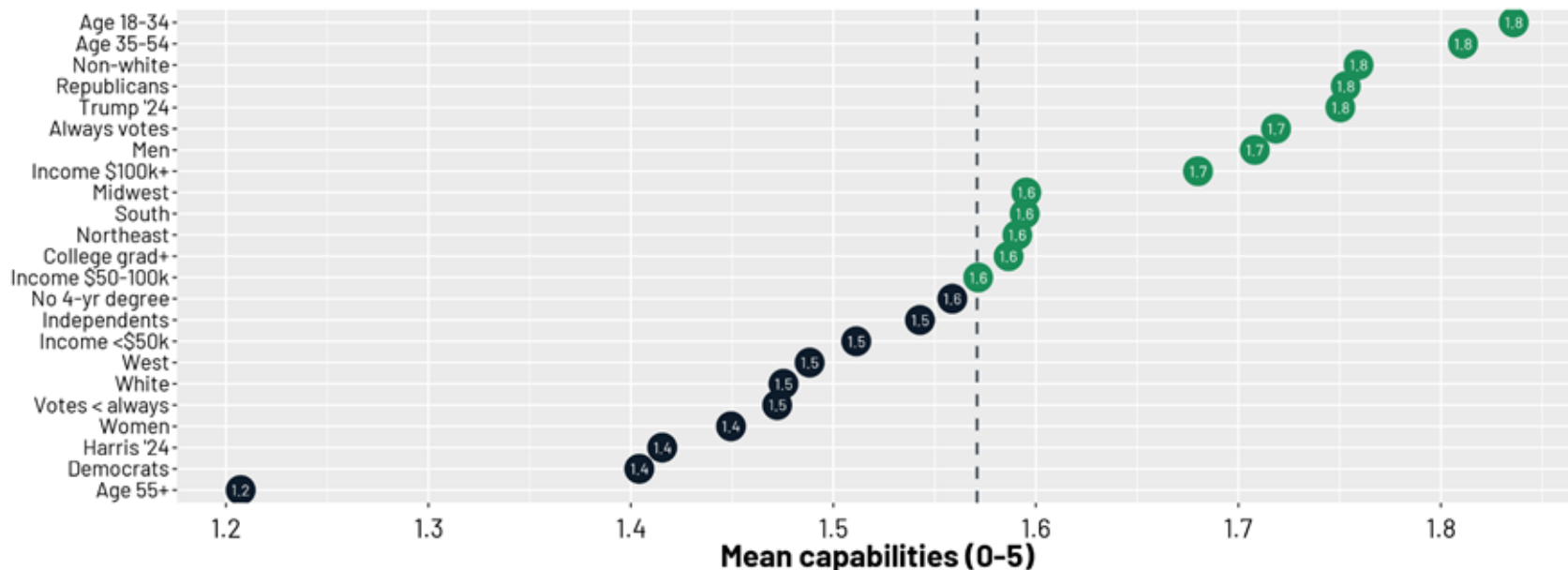
Count of capabilities voters say AI will match (0-5)



Based on QHUMAN select-all items.

Seniors and Democrats Are the Biggest AI-Capability Skeptics

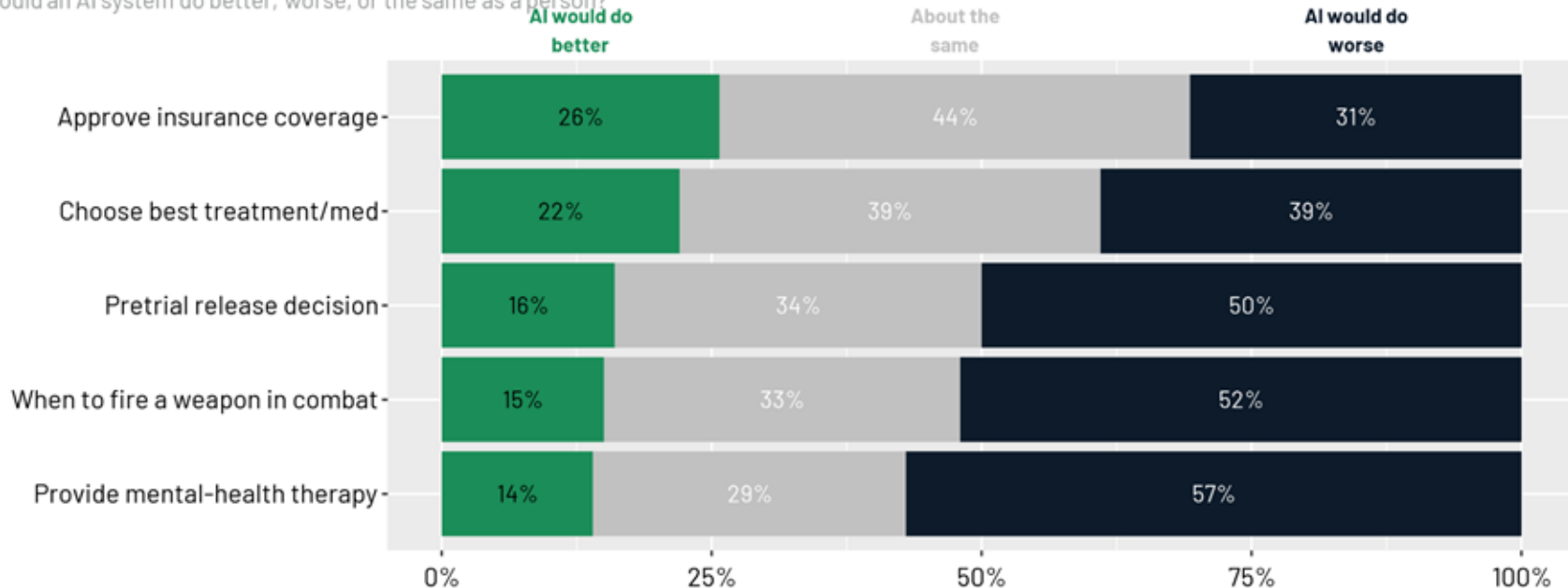
Mean number of capabilities AI can match (0-5) | dashed line = all voters (1.6)



Based on QHUMAN select-all items.

From the Clinic to the Courtroom, 'A Person Would Do Better'

Would an AI system do better, worse, or the same as a person?



QDELEG battery.

Bipartisan Resistance to AI Judgment, Led by Democrats

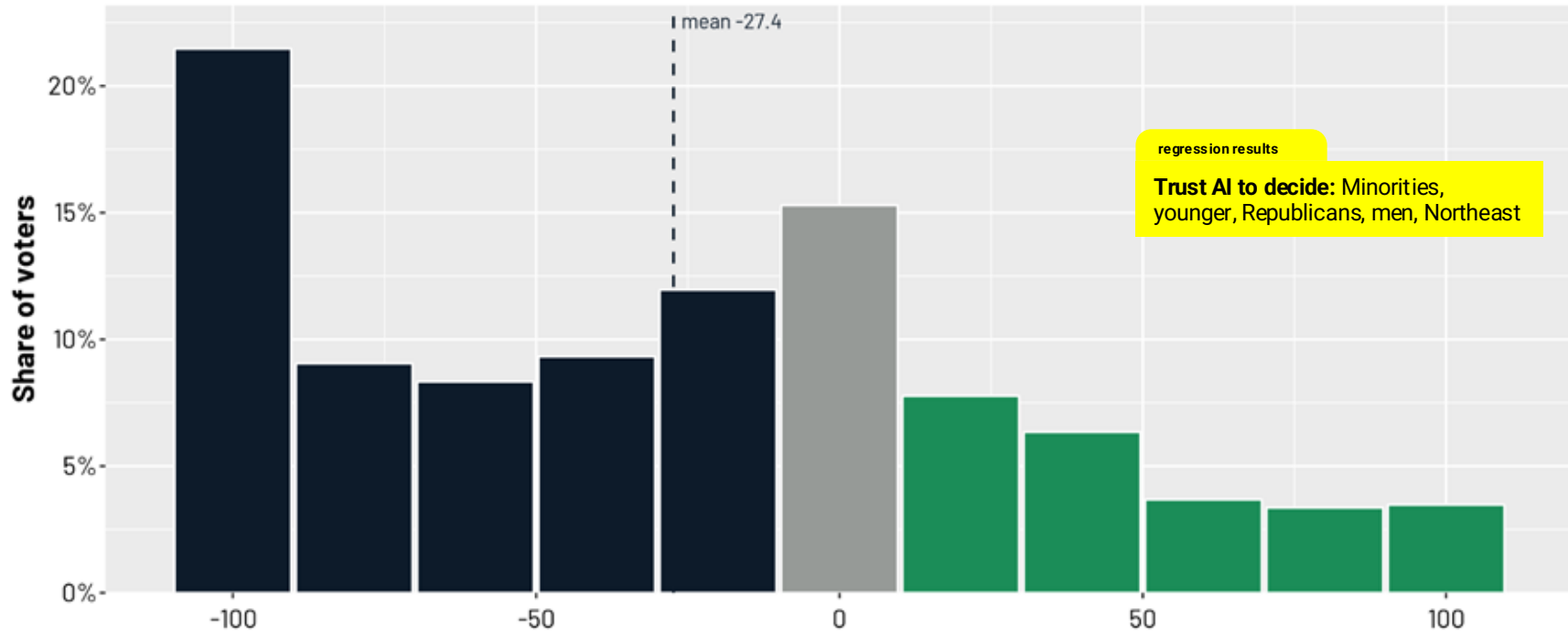
Net 'AI would do better' (% better - % worse) by party



QDELEG battery. Party = QPARTYID self-ID (leaners kept Independent, IND n=118).

Skepticism Is the Default: 60% Lean Against AI Judgment

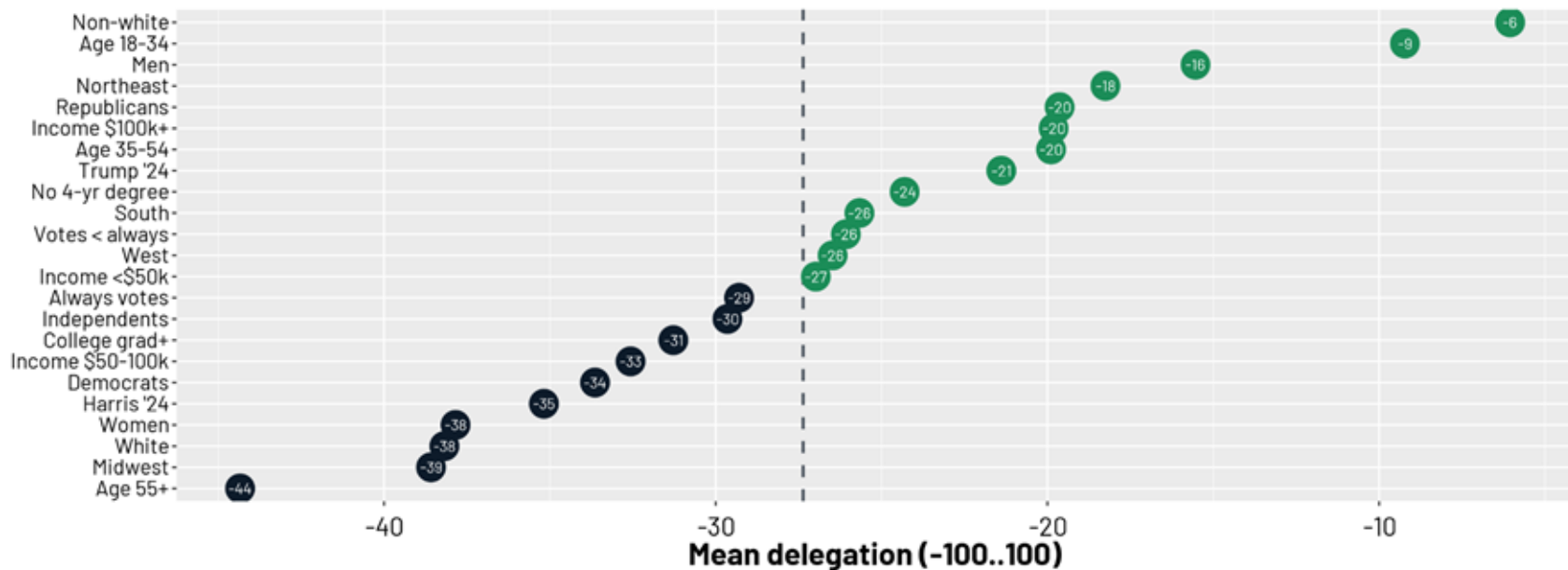
-100 = AI always worse than a person, +100 = AI always better



Mean of the five QDELEG items.

Openness to AI Decisions Tracks Youth and Race; Seniors Slam the Door

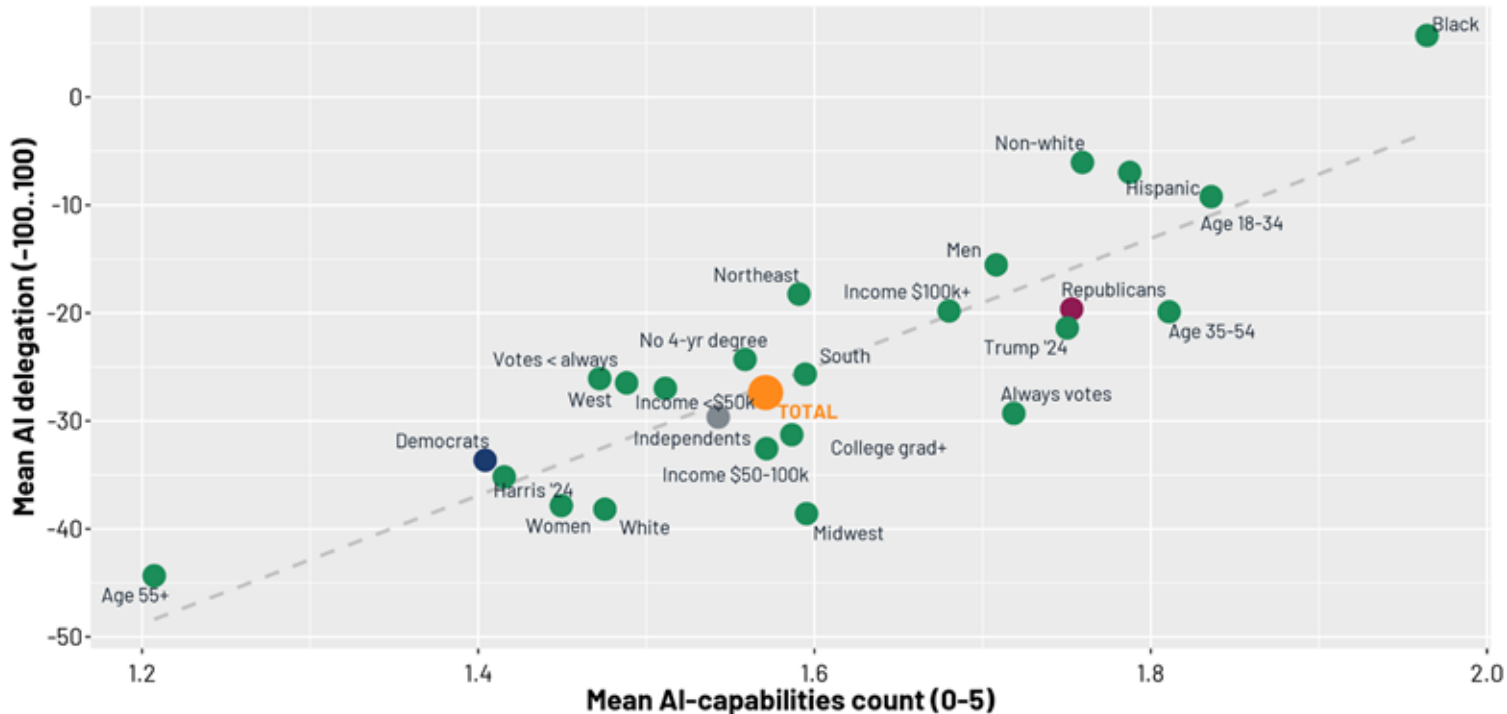
Mean delegation index (-100 person better .. +100 AI better) | dashed line = all voters (-27)



QDELEG index.

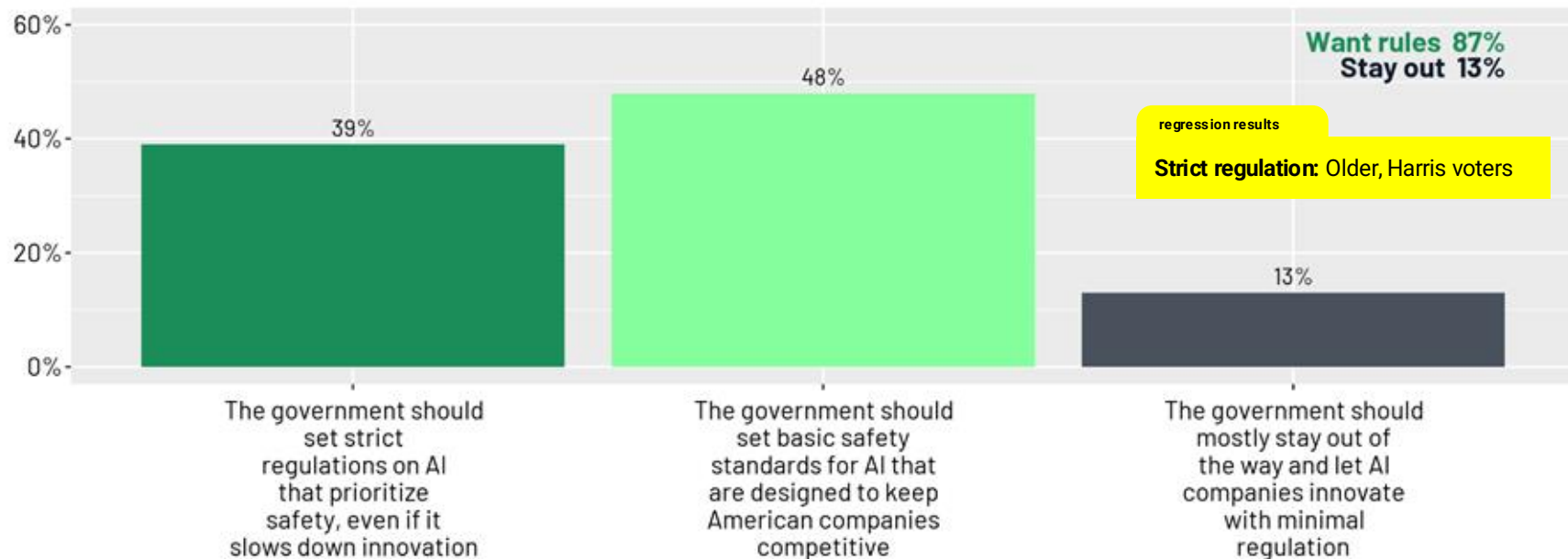
The More Human Voters Think AI Is, the More They'd Hand It the Keys

Each point = one demographic group ($r = 0.85$)



Safety First: Voters Split Strict vs. Basic, but Reject Laissez-Faire

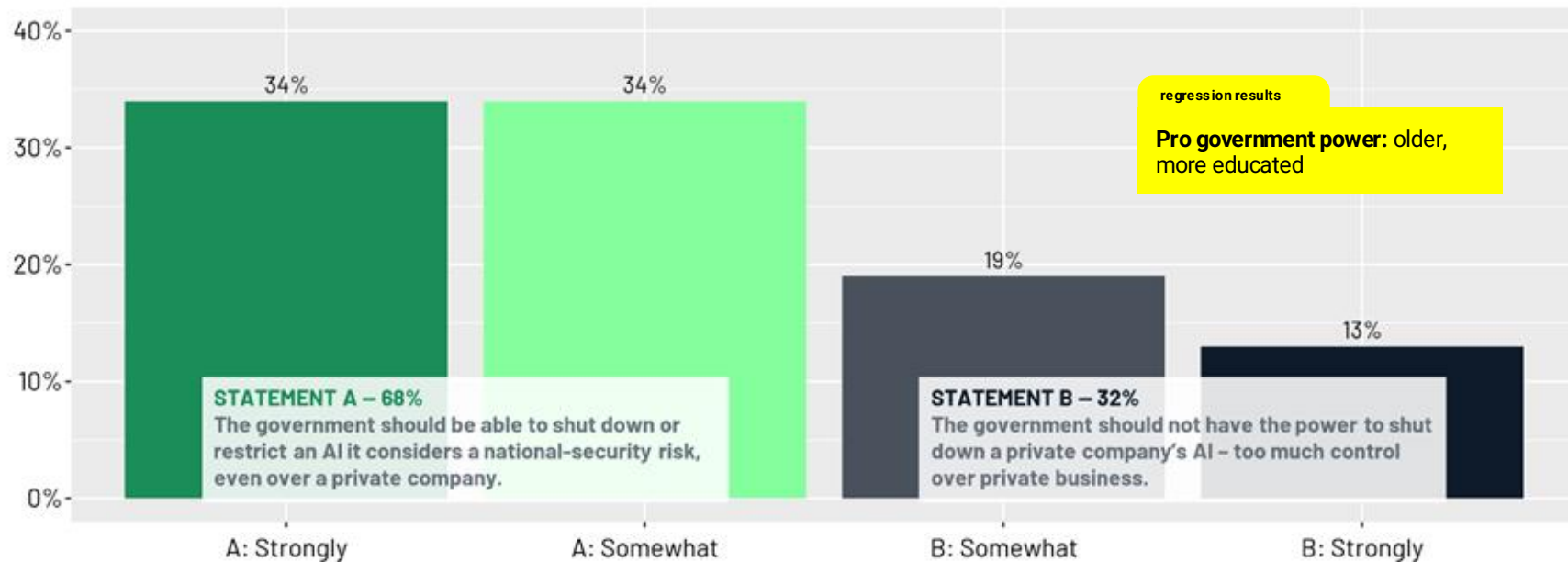
Preferred regulatory approach



QAIREG1. Which of the following comes closest to your view on how the government should regulate artificial intelligence?

Security Trumps Company Autonomy When AI Poses a Threat

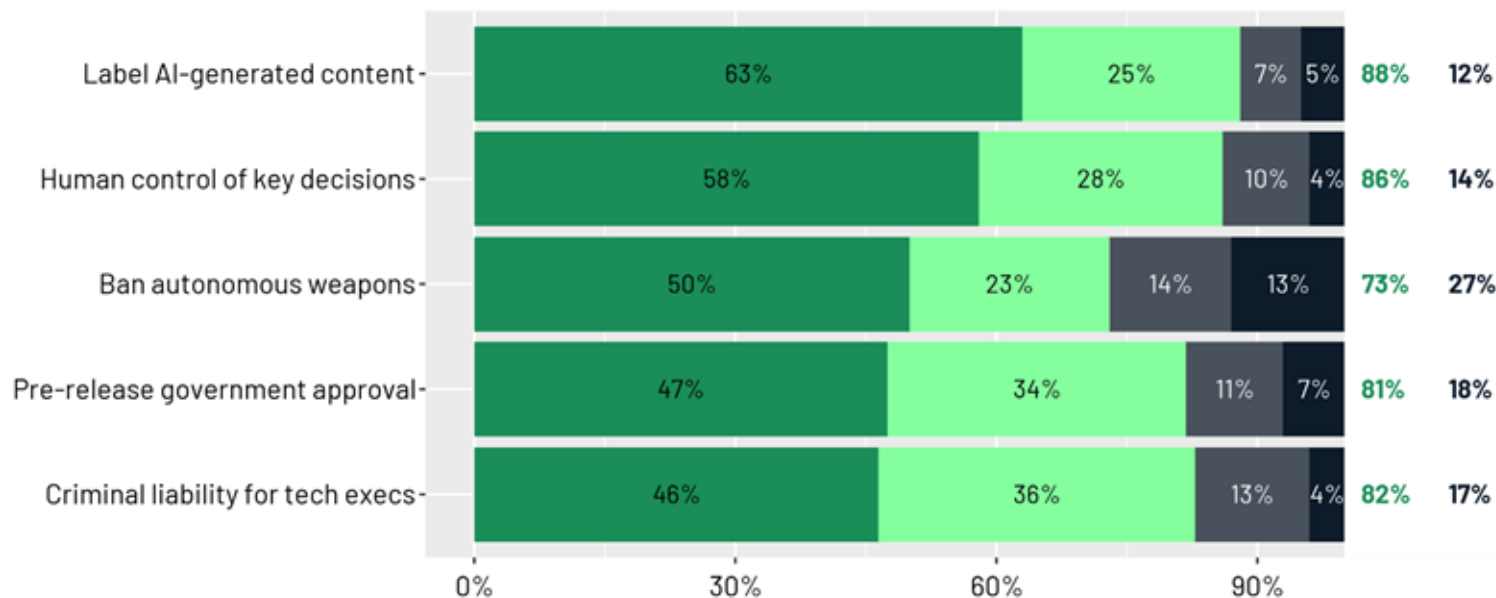
Which comes closer to your view, even if neither is exactly right?



QAIREG2 – A/B tradeoff on government power over risky AI.

Every AI Guardrail Tested Wins Landslide Support

Support or oppose each proposal

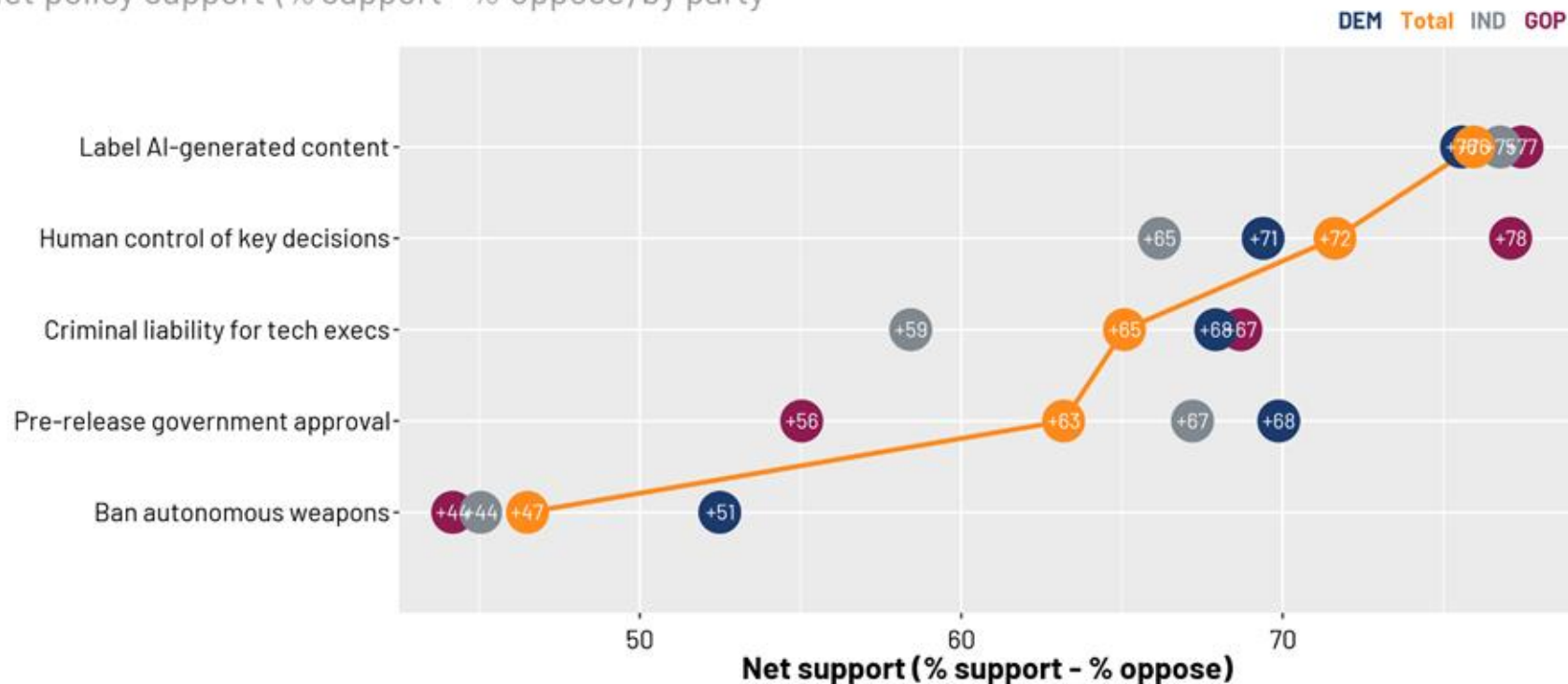


Strongly oppose **Somewhat oppose** **Somewhat support** **Strongly support**

Would you support or oppose each of the following proposals for AI?

AI Regulation Unites the Parties – All Net +42 or Higher

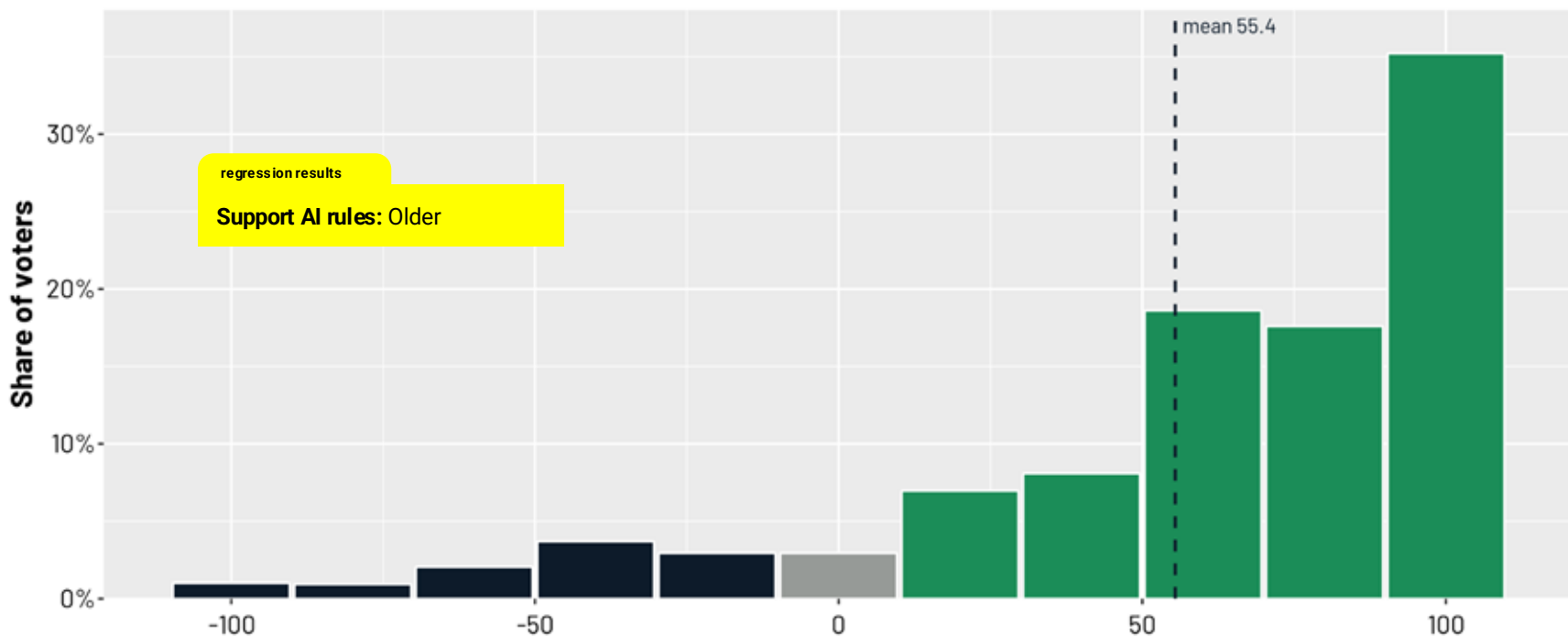
Net policy support (% support - % oppose) by party



QPOLICY battery. Party = QPARTYID self-ID (leaners kept Independent, IND n=118).

Support for AI Rules Is Both Broad and Deep

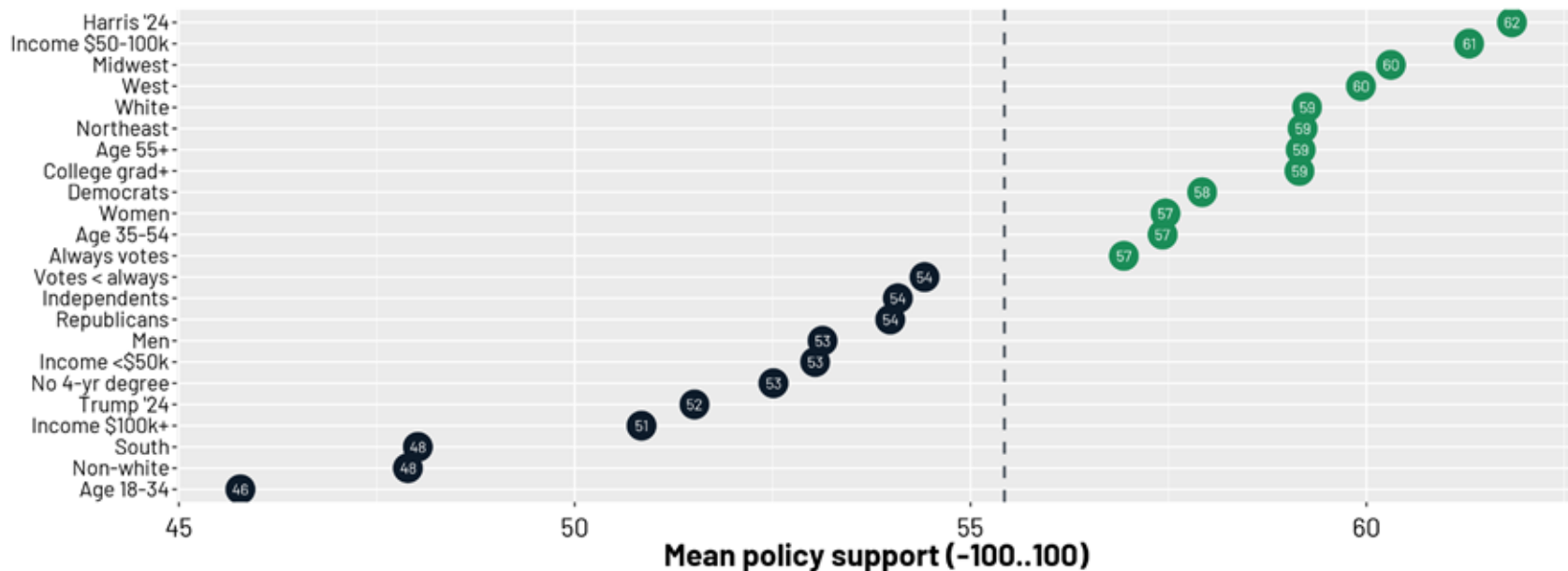
-100 = oppose all five proposals, +100 = strongly support all five



Mean of the five QPOLICY items.

AI's Believers Want the Fewest Rules: Support Lowest Among Young & Non-White

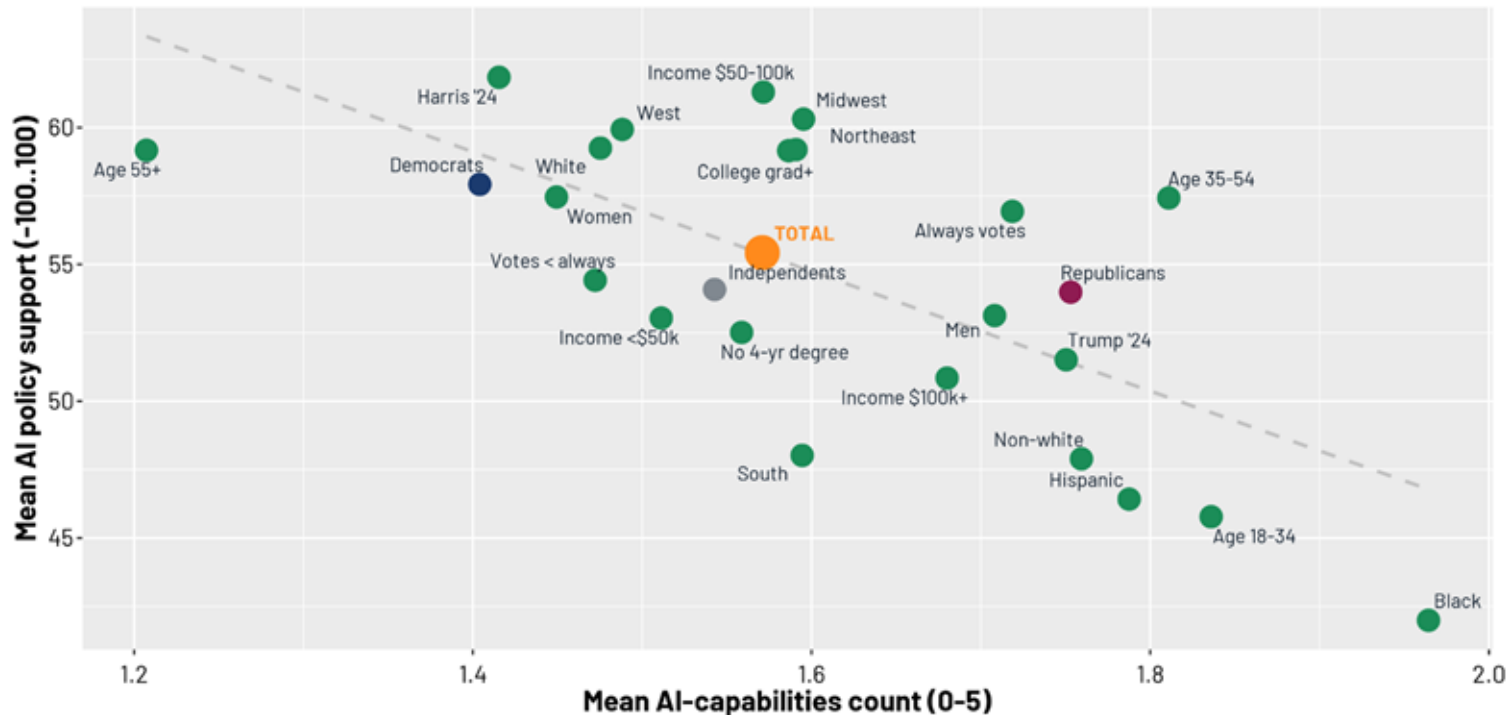
Mean policy support index (-100..100) | dashed line = all voters (55)



QPOLICY index.

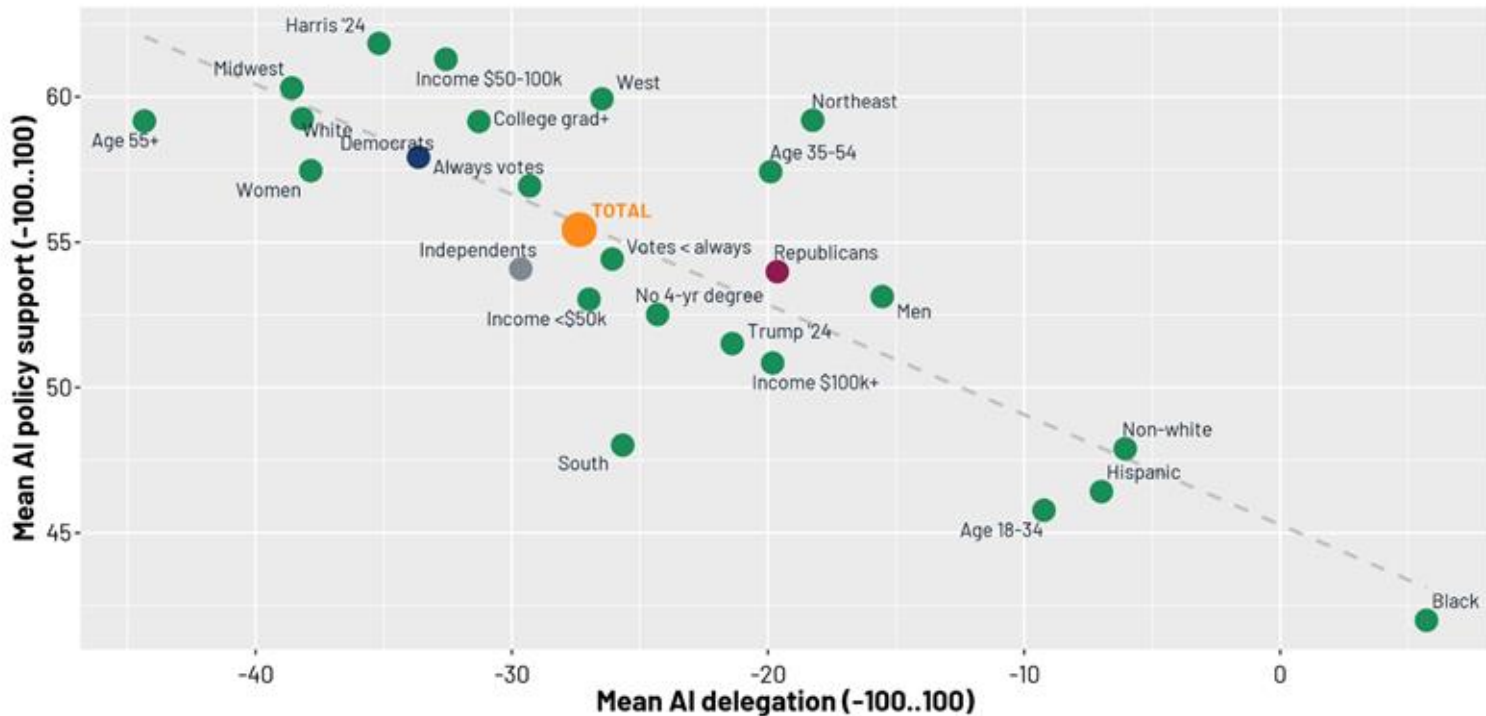
The More Capable Voters Think AI Is, the Less They Want to Regulate It

Each point = one demographic group ($r = -0.68$)



Groups Willing to Hand AI Decisions Want the Fewest Rules on It

Each point = one demographic group ($r = -0.82$)





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