

December 2023

LCV Youth Climate Poll

Findings and Recommendations from
Nationwide Polling

IMPACT
RESEARCH

Methodology



Impact Research conducted a text-to-web and online survey.



The survey consisted of N=1000 18-34-year-olds.



Interviews were conducted October 26 - November 1, 2023.



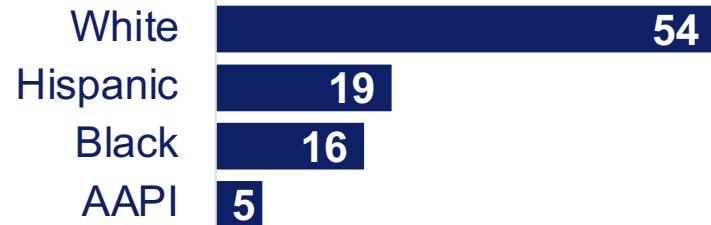
The 95% confidence interval for the total sample is ± 3.1 percentage points. The 95% confidence interval for subgroups varies and is higher.

Demographics

GENDER



RACE



AGE



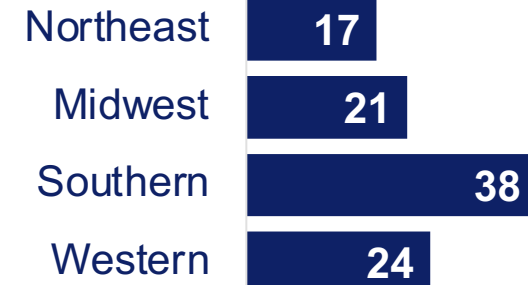
EDUCATION



PARTISANSHIP



REGION

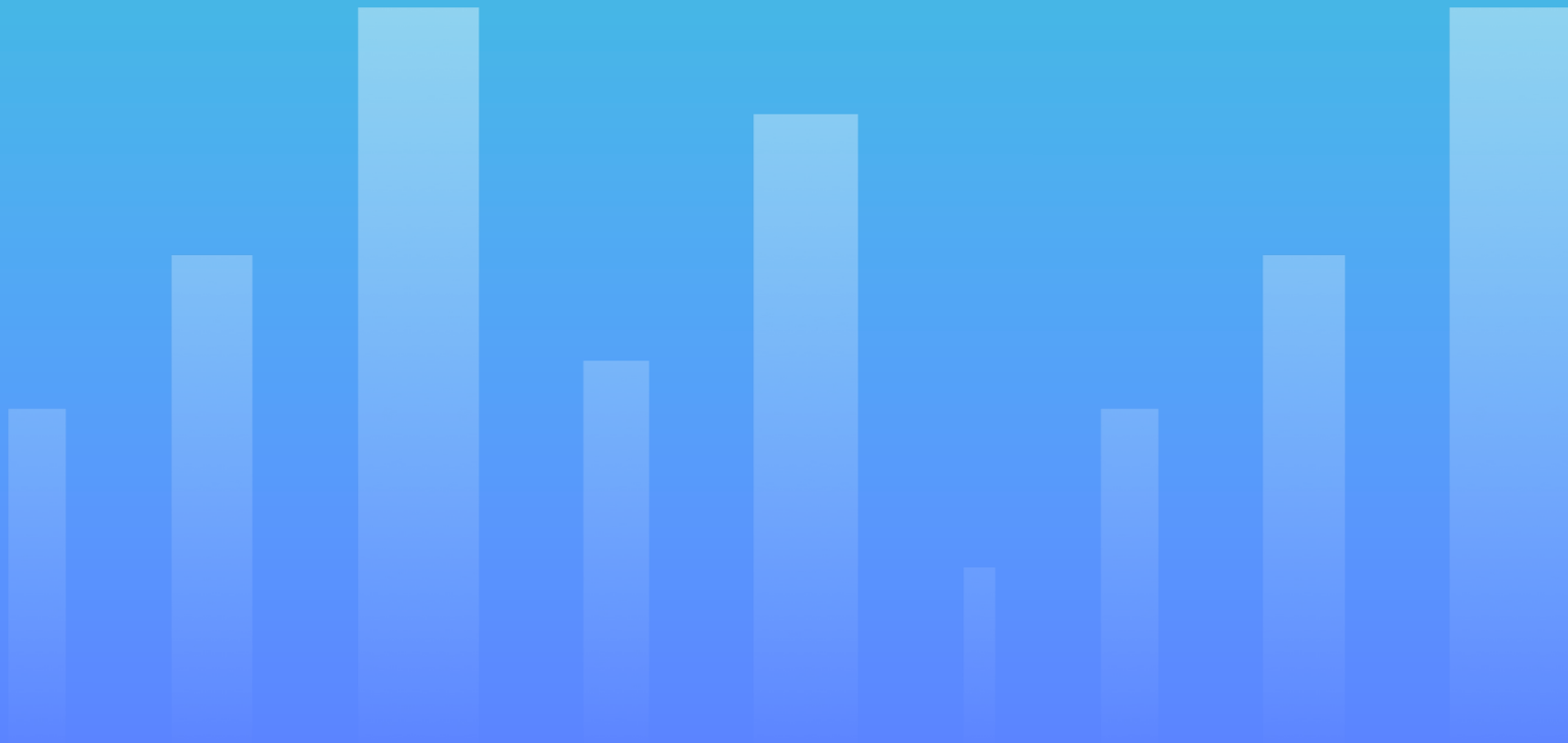


Key Findings

- **Young people have critical views of the political system and the direction of the country.** They have net-negative views of Biden, Trump, and both parties and say the country is going in the wrong direction.
- **Young people don't think the Biden Administration has done enough to address climate change or hold oil and gas companies accountable, and they want to see more action.** Going forward, they want to see his administration close outdated oil and gas pipelines, prevent drilling on federal lands and waters, and halt the expansion of methane gas exports.
- **Biden's job rating improves after they learn more about his climate record.** More than two-thirds say that his work on orphaned wells, 30x30, renewables, and rebates for climate-friendly home improvements make them feel more favorable toward Biden.



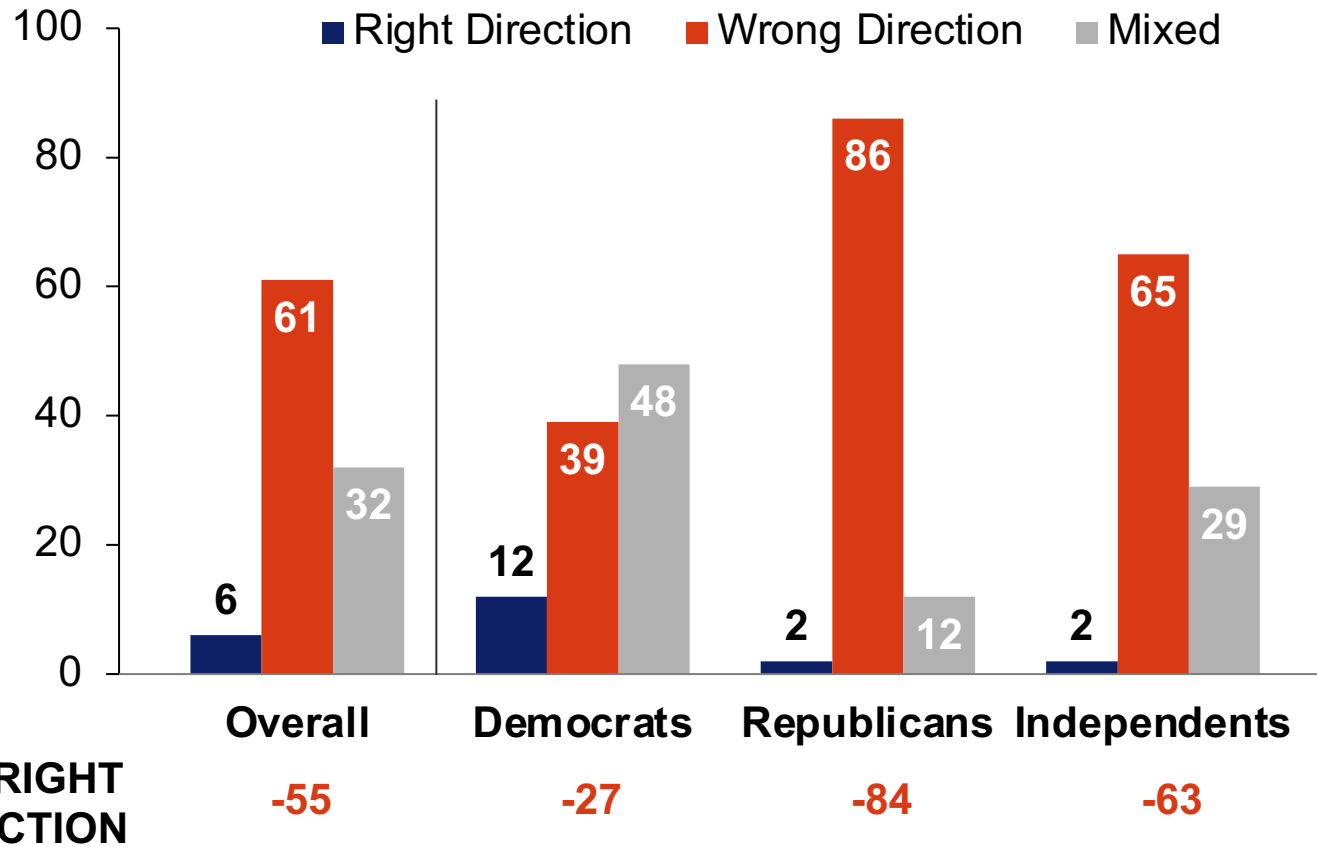
Political Environment



Young people are pessimistic about the direction of the country.

Both Democrats and Republicans think things are going in the wrong direction, though Democrats are somewhat more divided.

Would you say that things in the country are going in the right direction or in the wrong direction?



HIGHEST NET RIGHT DIRECTION

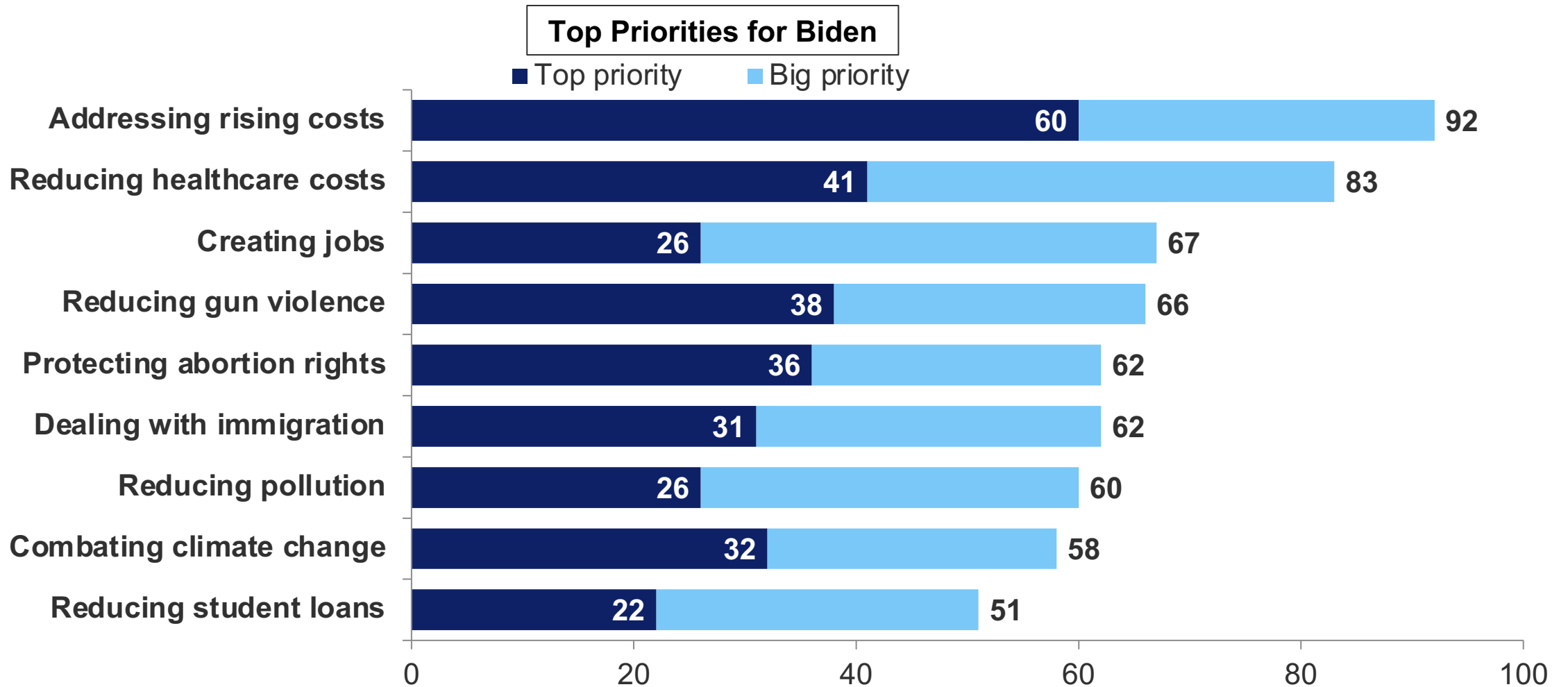
Democratic Men	-18
White Democrats	-22
Black Democrats	-26

HIGHEST NET WRONG DIRECTION

Conservative Republicans	+88
Non-College Republicans	+87
White Republicans	+85

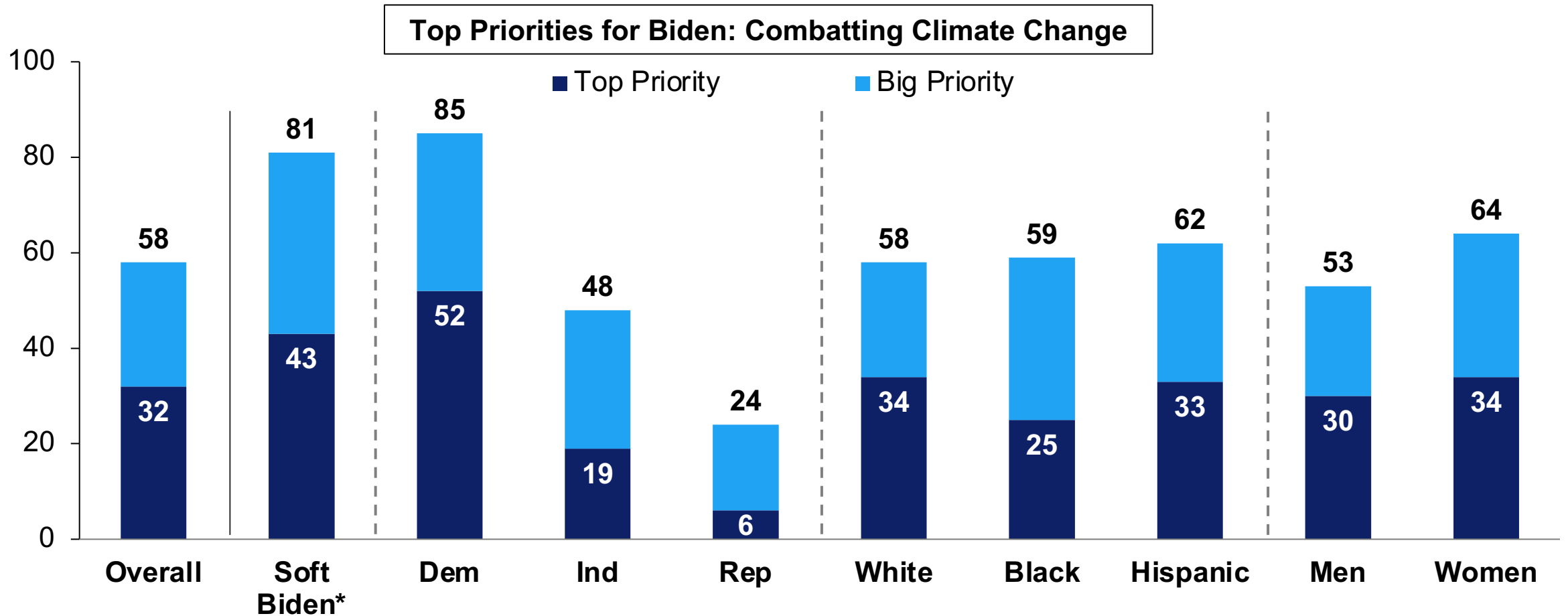
Economic issues dominate young peoples' priority lists.

Majorities say that reducing pollution and combating climate change should be big priorities.

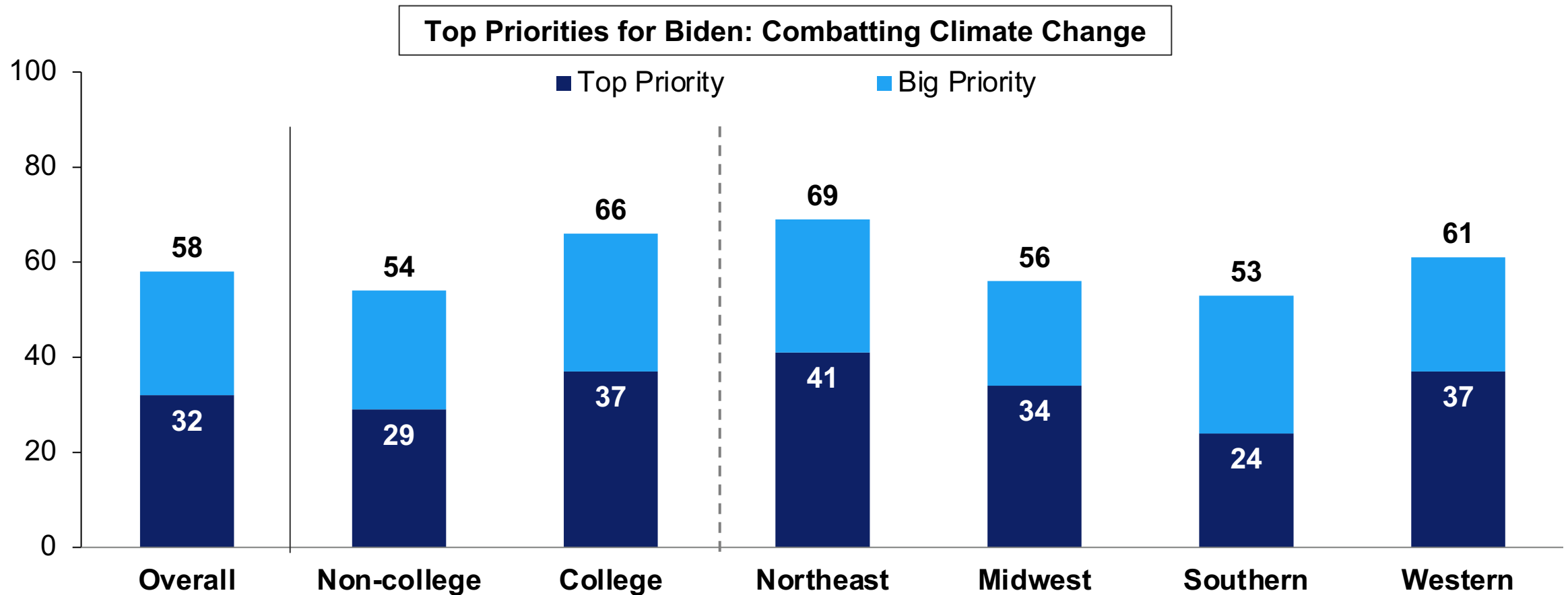


8-in-10 young people who have soft views on Biden say that combatting climate change should be a top priority.

Climate change is also a priority for young Democrats and young women in particular.



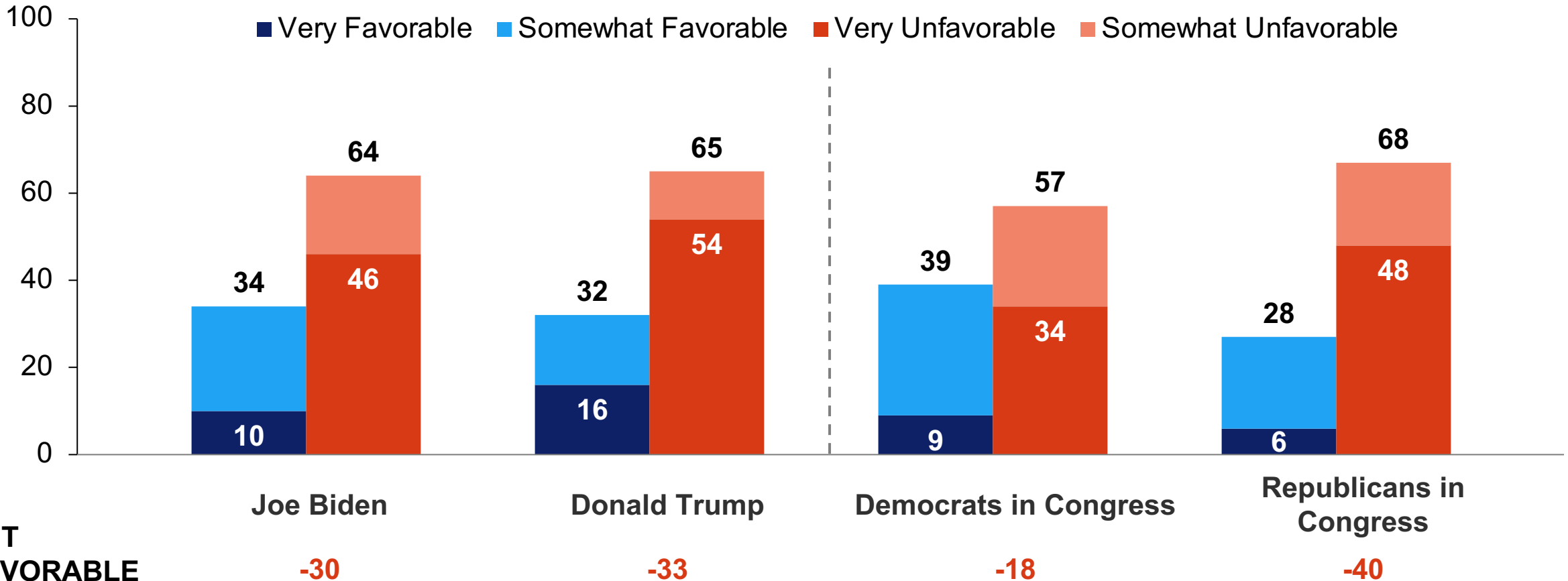
Majorities across education status and region say combatting climate change should be a big or top priority.



Biden, Trump, and both parties are underwater by double digits.

While Biden and Trump have similar overall ratings, Trump is more polarizing: 27% have somewhat favorable or somewhat unfavorable views, while 42% have soft views on Biden.

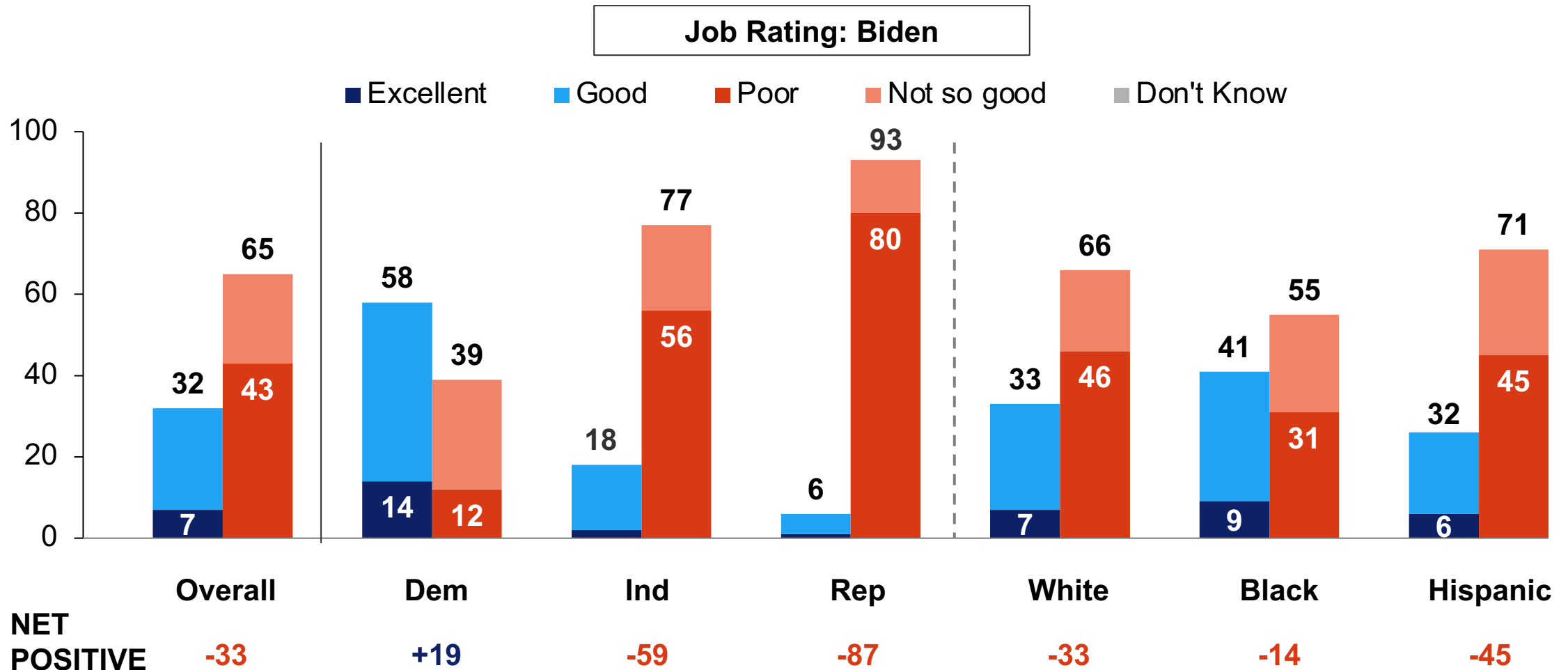
Popularity of Politicians and Parties



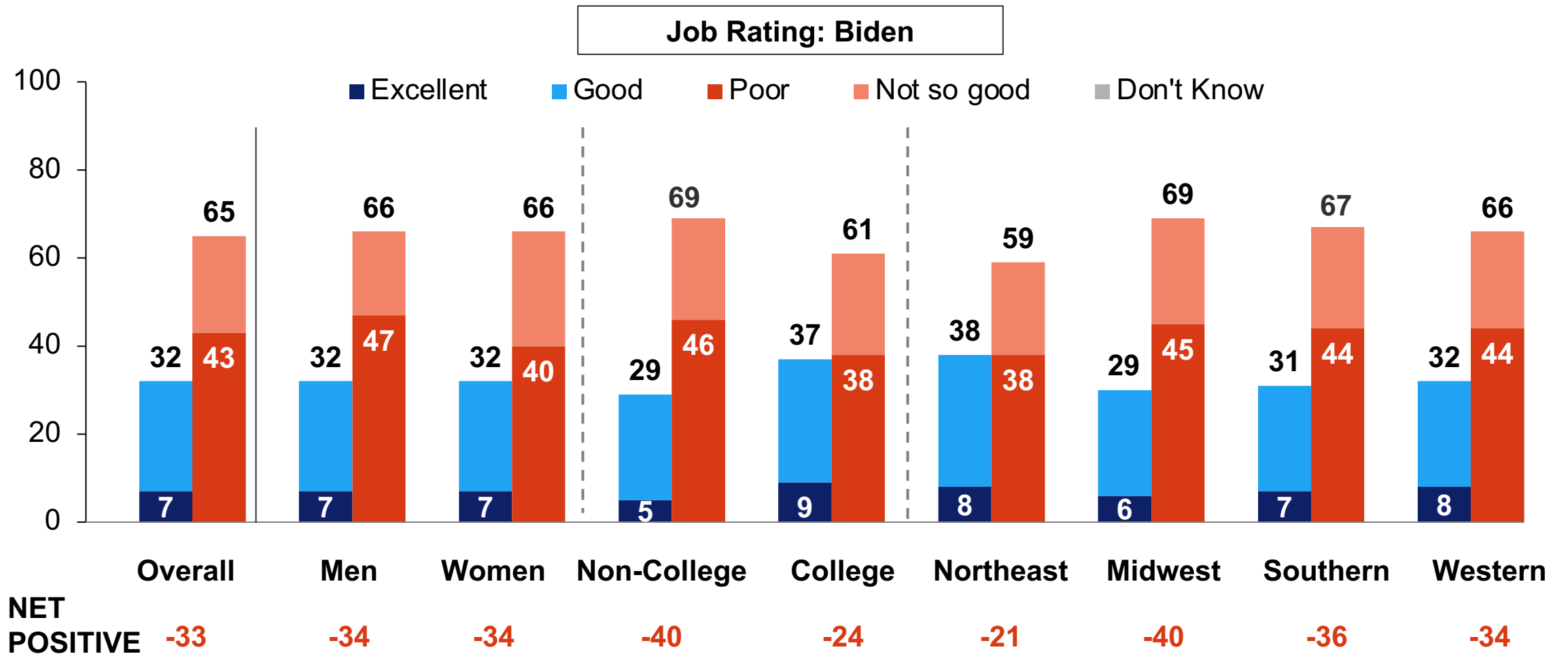
NET FAVORABLE

Biden's job rating is the same as his favorability rating.

Democrats give Biden a net-positive job rating while Republicans and Independents give very negative ratings.



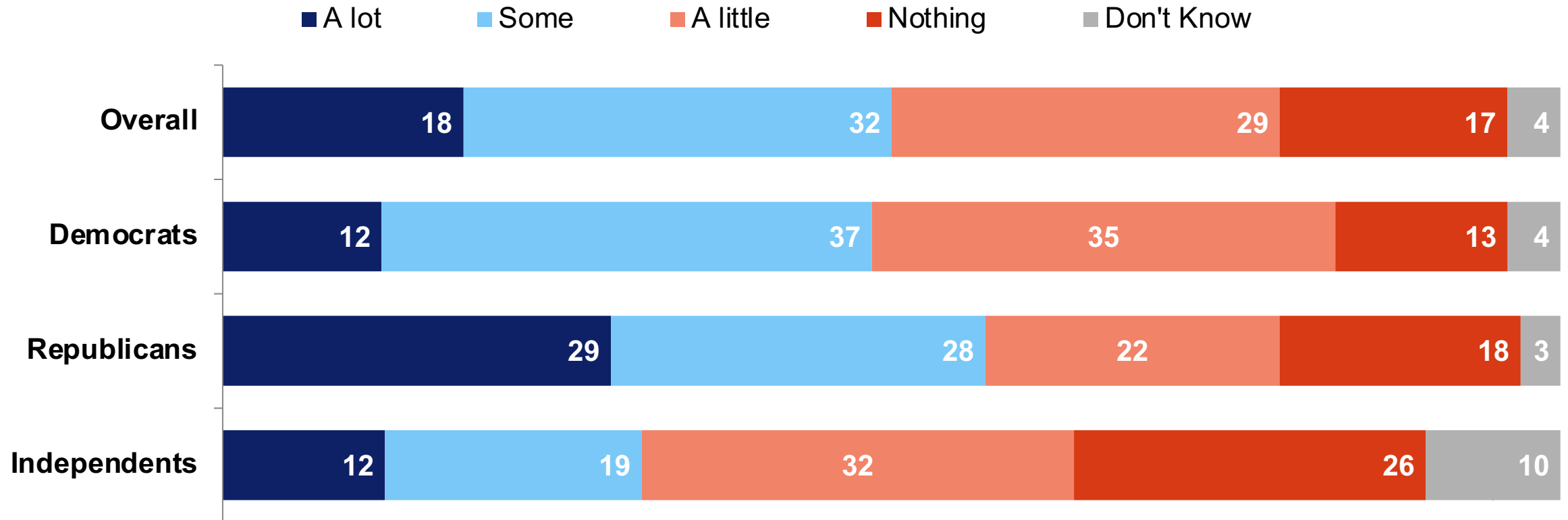
Biden receives a negative job rating across demographic groups.



Half say they have heard a lot or some about the Biden Administration's efforts to address climate change.

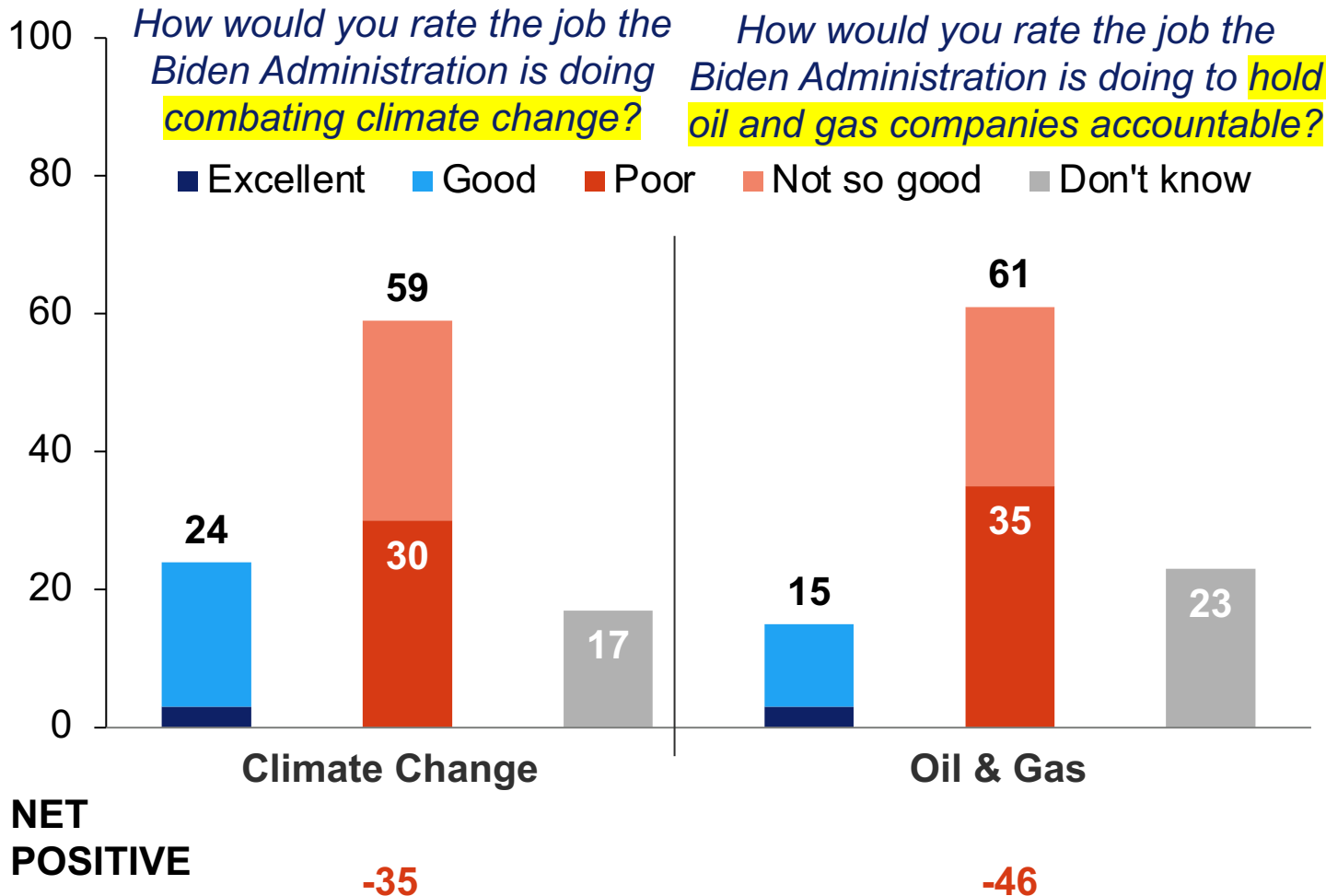
57% of Republicans say they have heard some or a lot compared with 49% of Democrats.

How much have you heard about the Biden Administration's efforts to address climate change?



Biden has net-negative job ratings on combatting climate change and holding oil and gas accountable.

Biden's rating on climate issues is slightly more positive, likely due to familiarity.



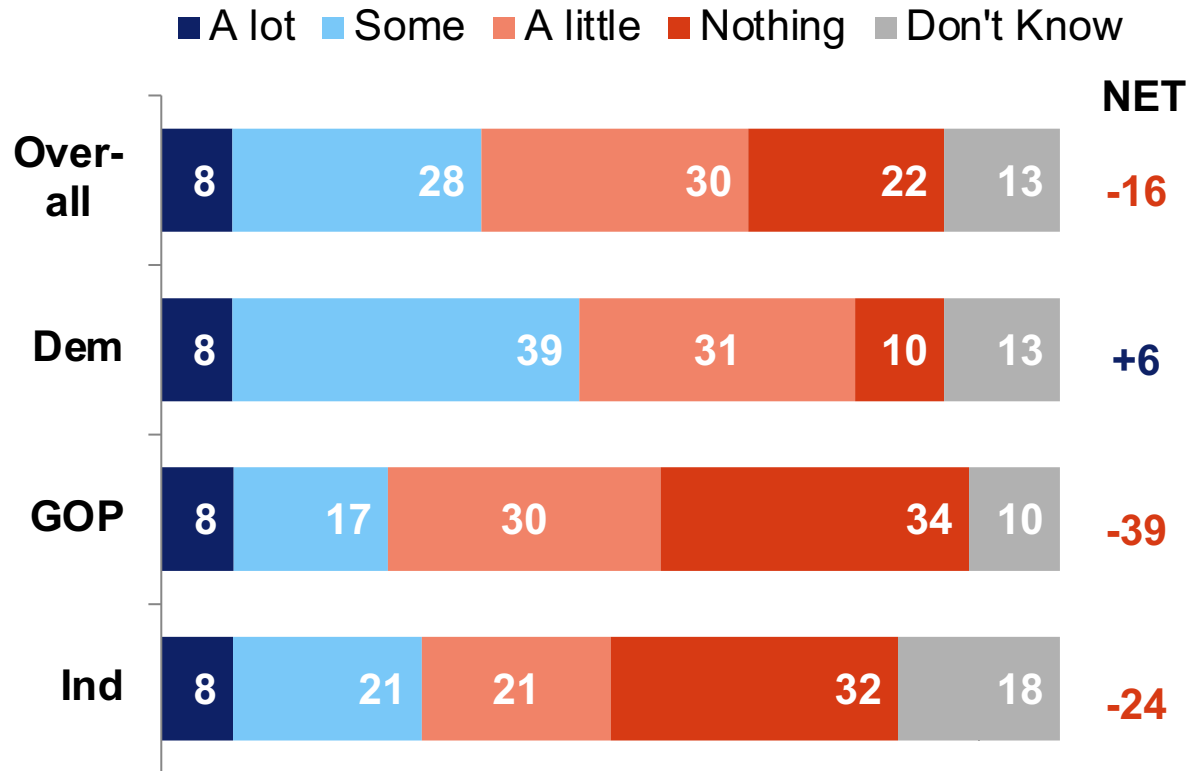
HIGHEST NET POSITIVE CLIMATE	
Democratic men	+14
Moderate/Conservative Dems	+5
Democrats 25-34	+3

HIGHEST NET POSITIVE OIL & GAS	
Black Democrats	0
Moderate/conservative Dems	-10
Democrats 25-34	-30

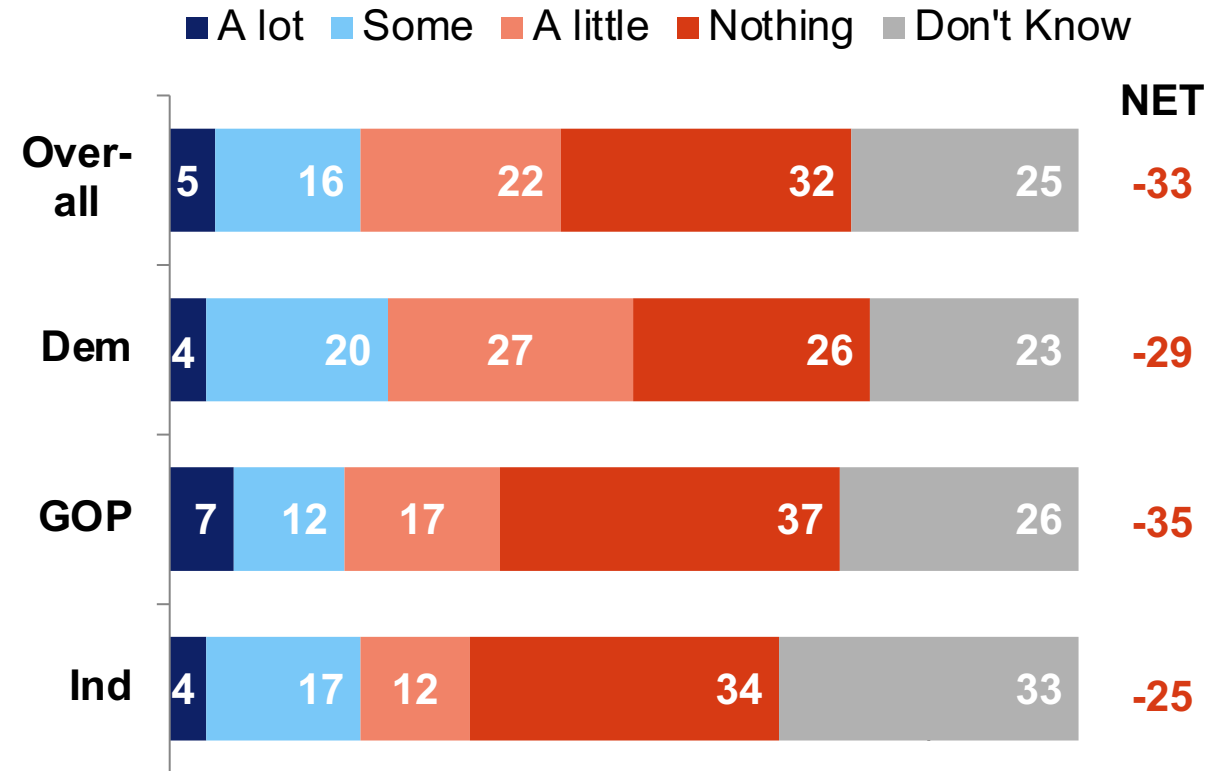
Majorities say Biden has done nothing or only a little to address climate change and hold oil and gas accountable.

Young people are more likely to say Biden has taken action on climate than on oil and gas.

From what you know, how much has the Biden Administration done to **address climate change**?

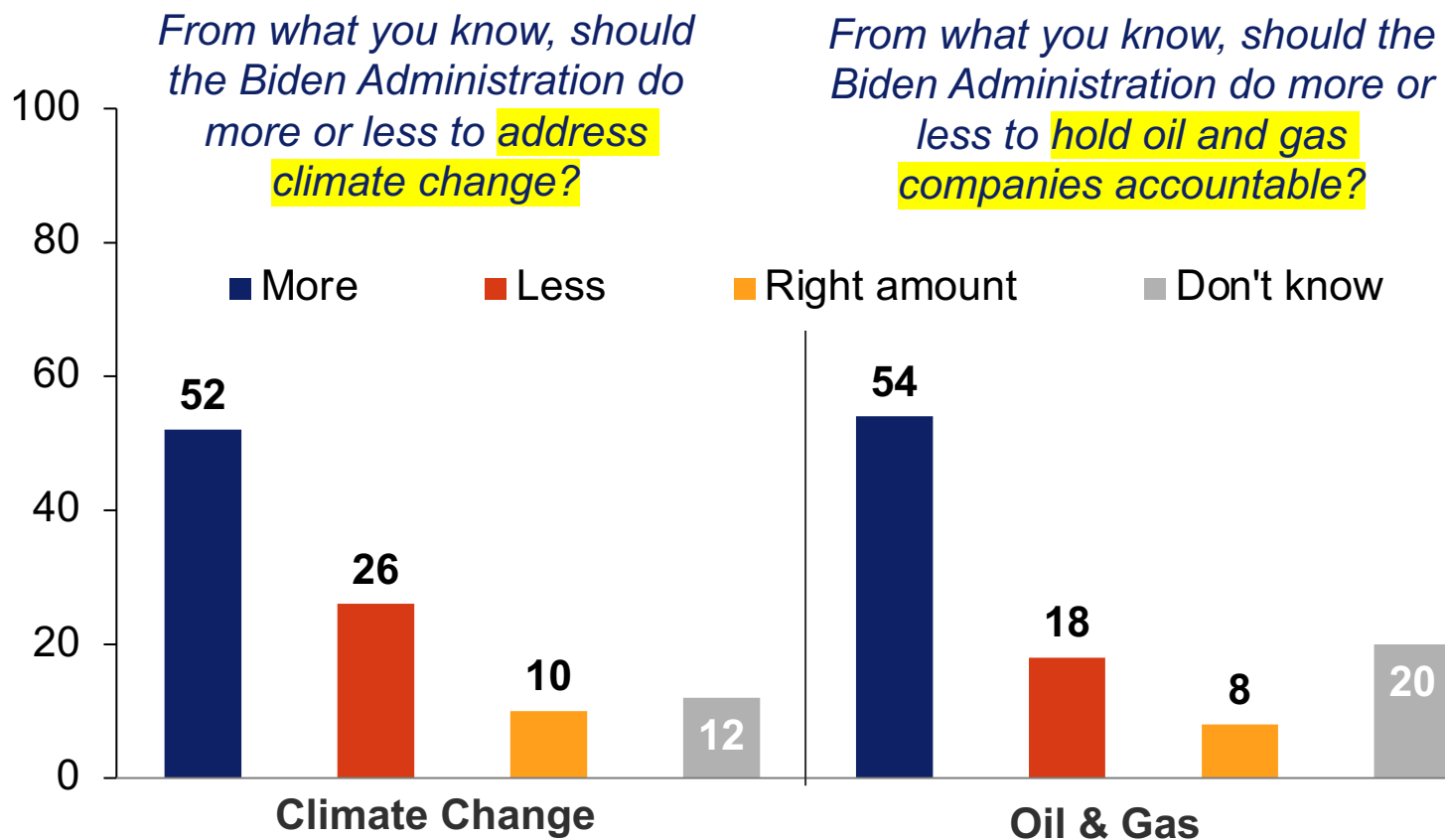


From what you know, how much has the Biden Administration done to **hold oil and gas companies accountable**?



Majorities want the Biden Administration to do more to address climate change and hold oil and gas companies accountable.

Around three-quarters of Democrats want to see Biden do more on climate and oil and gas.



NET MORE +26

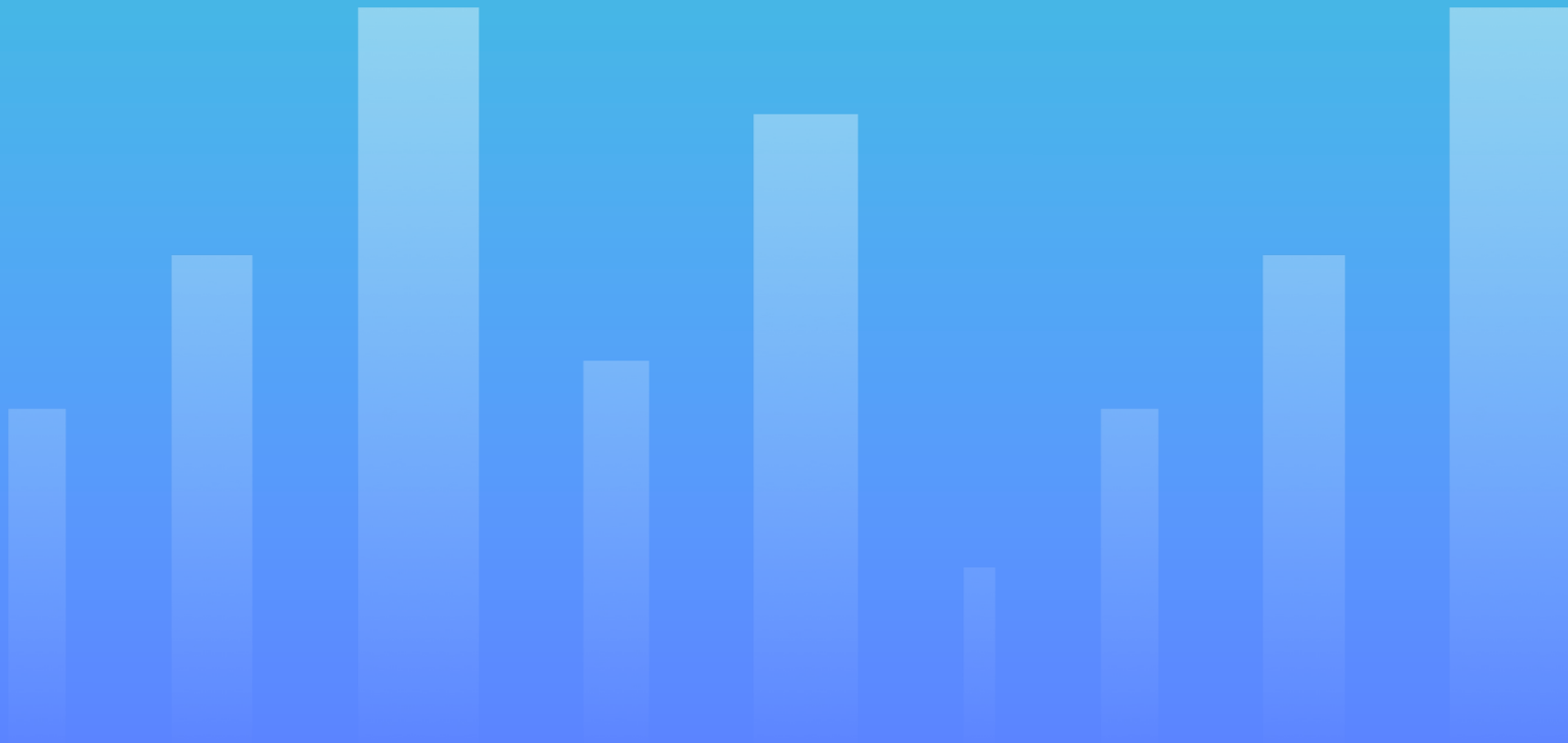
+36

HIGHEST NET MORE CLIMATE	
Very liberal	+87
White Democrats	+84
Black Democrats	+68
Hispanic Democrats	+65

HIGHEST NET MORE OIL & GAS	
White Democrats	+76
Very liberal	+74
Hispanic Democrats	+65
AAPI	+49
Black Democrats	+48



Views on the Biden Administration's Climate Accomplishments



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Accomplishments around orphaned wells, 30x30, clean energy investments, and tax rebates are very popular overall.

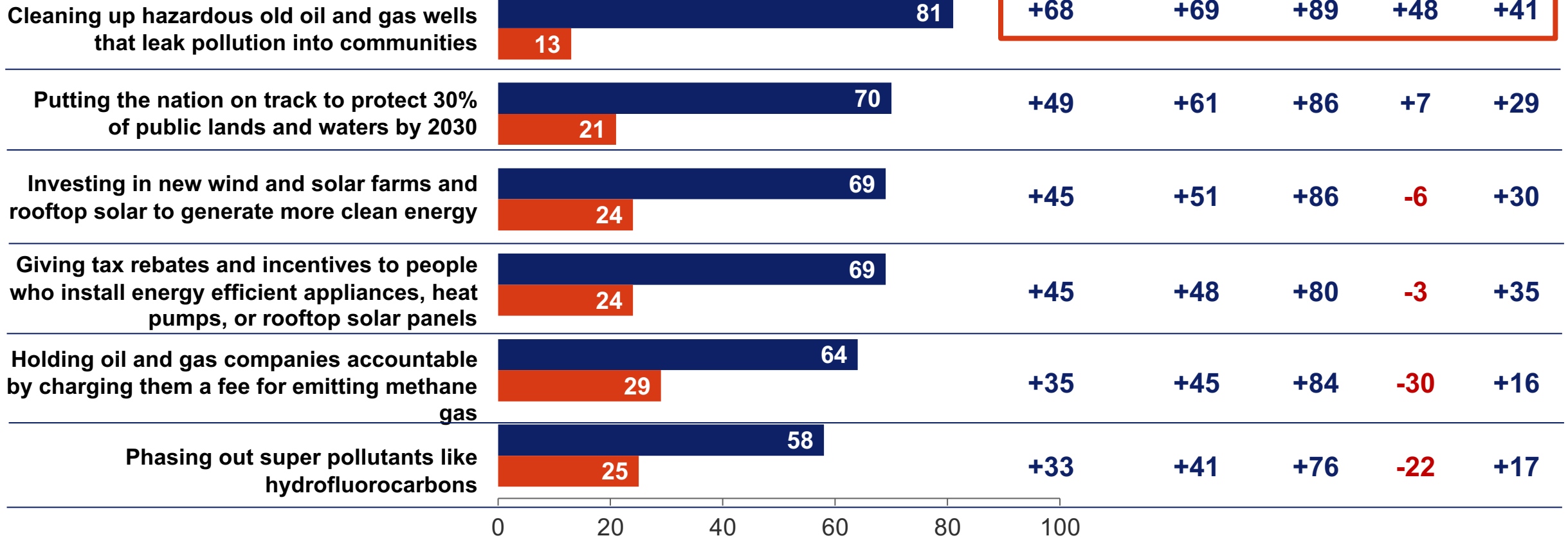
Well cleanups and 30x30 are popular across parties.

Top-Tier Biden Climate Accomplishments

■ Total more favorable ■ Total less favorable

NET MORE FAVORABLE				
OVERALL	BIDEN GAINERS	DEM	GOP	IND

+68	+69	+89	+48	+41
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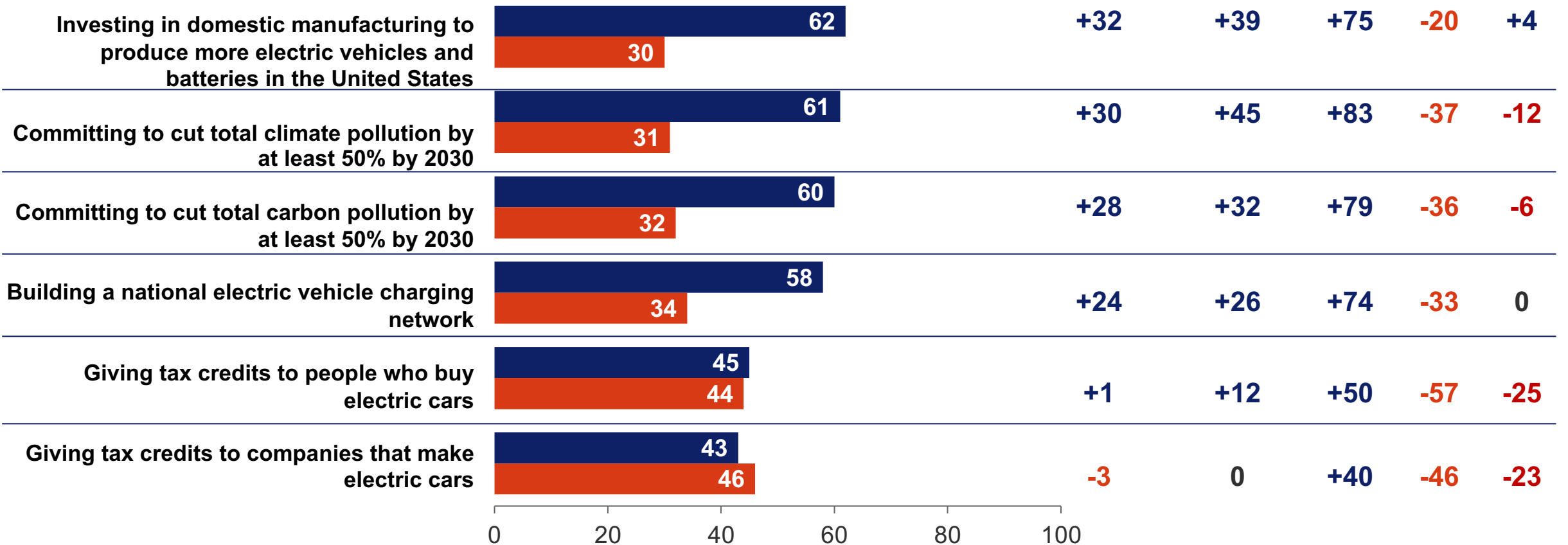


On EVs, battery manufacturing and charging networks are more persuasive than tax credits for buyers and companies.

Second-Tier Biden Climate Accomplishments

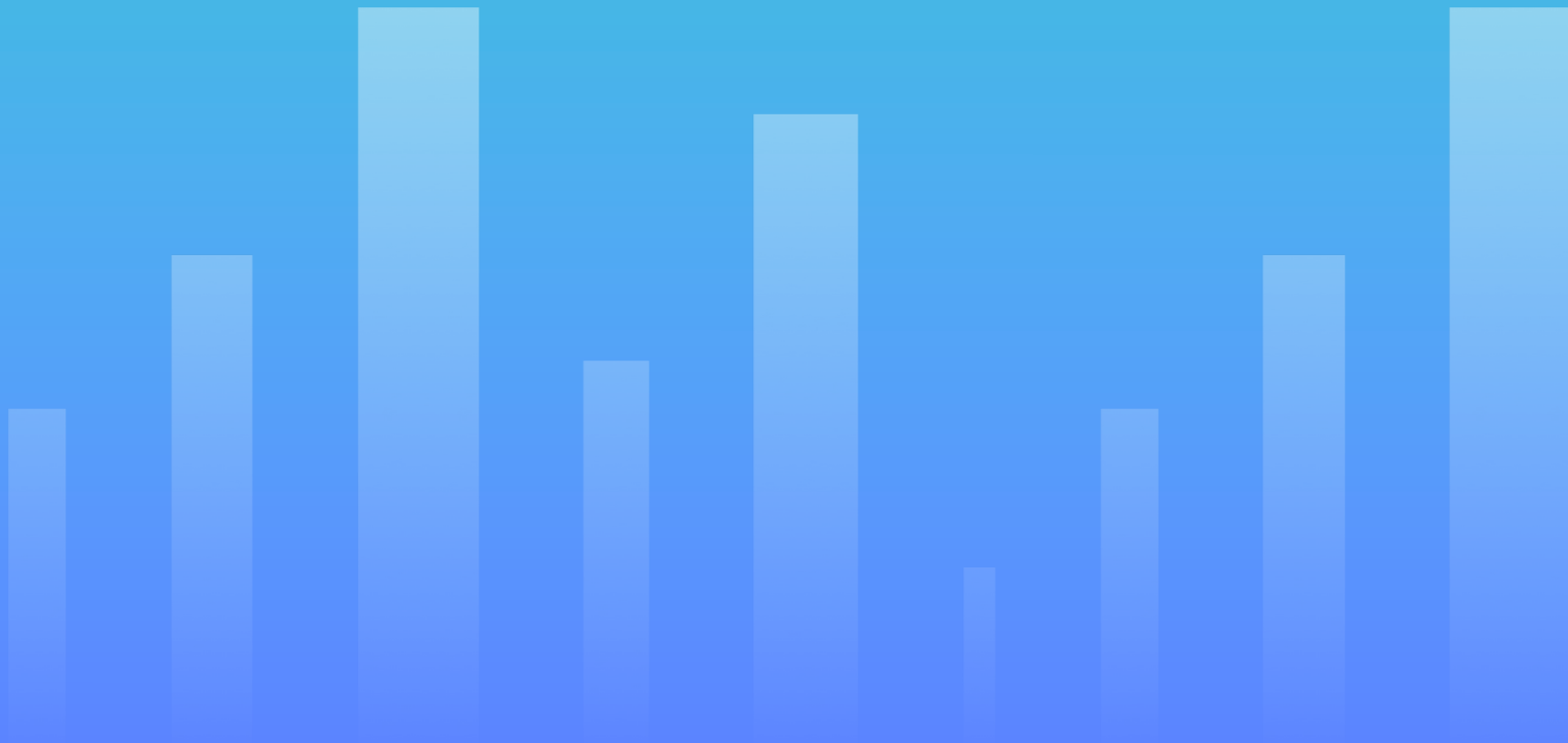
■ Total more favorable ■ Total less favorable

NET MORE FAVORABLE				
OVERALL	BIDEN GAINERS	DEM	GOP	IND





Priorities for Future Climate Action



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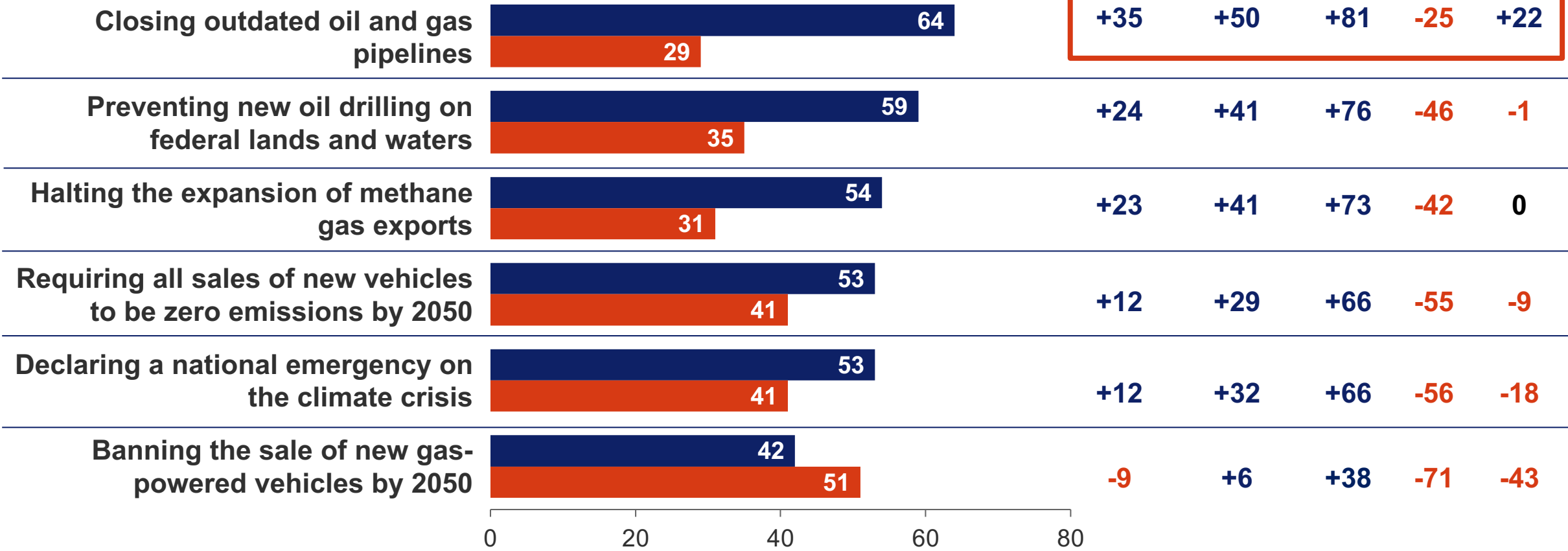
Nearly two-thirds would support closing outdated oil and gas pipelines.

A majority support requiring new car purchases be EVs by 2050.

Potential Biden Climate Actions

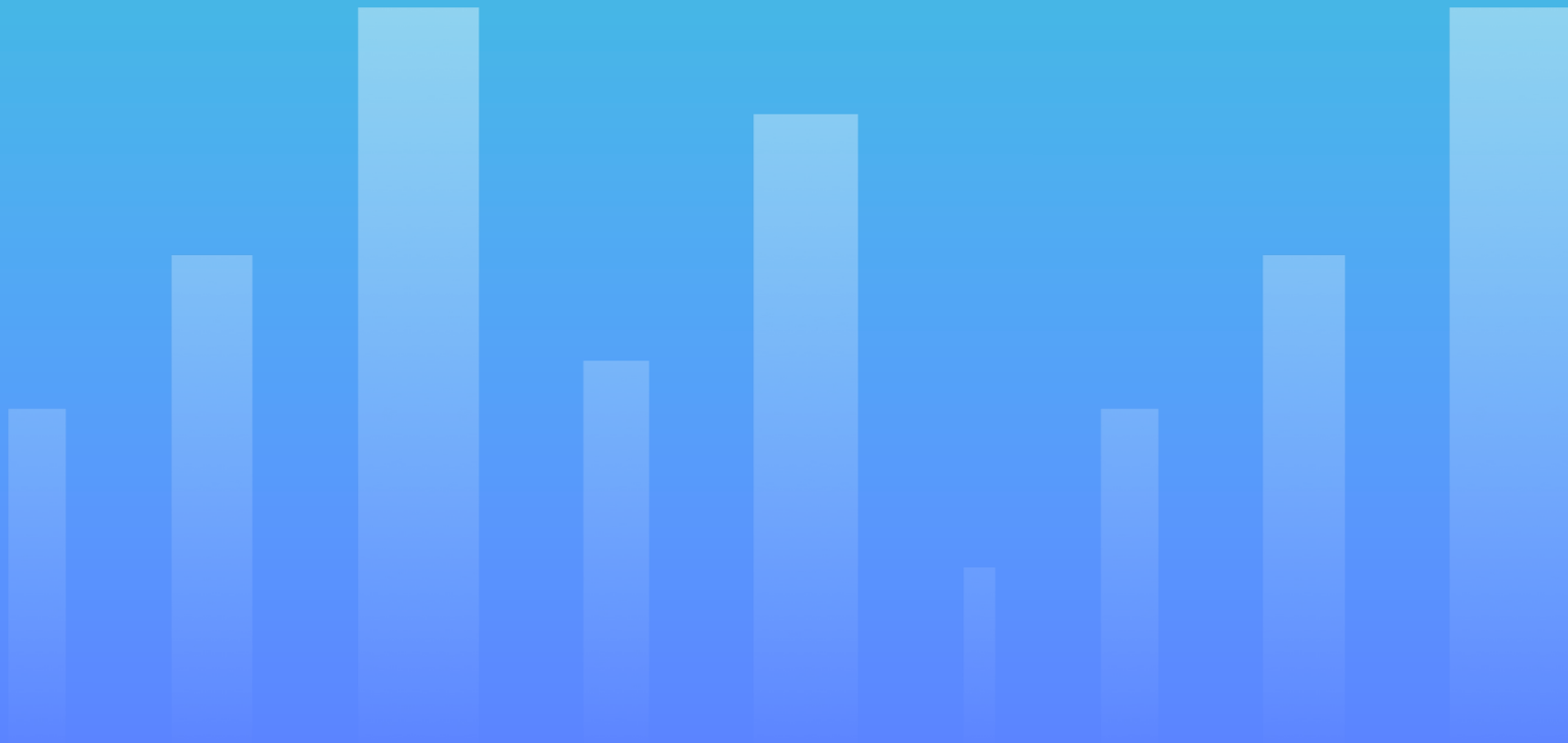
■ Total support ■ Total oppose

NET SUPPORT				
OVER-ALL	BIDEN GAINERS	DEM	GOP	IND
+35	+50	+81	-25	+22





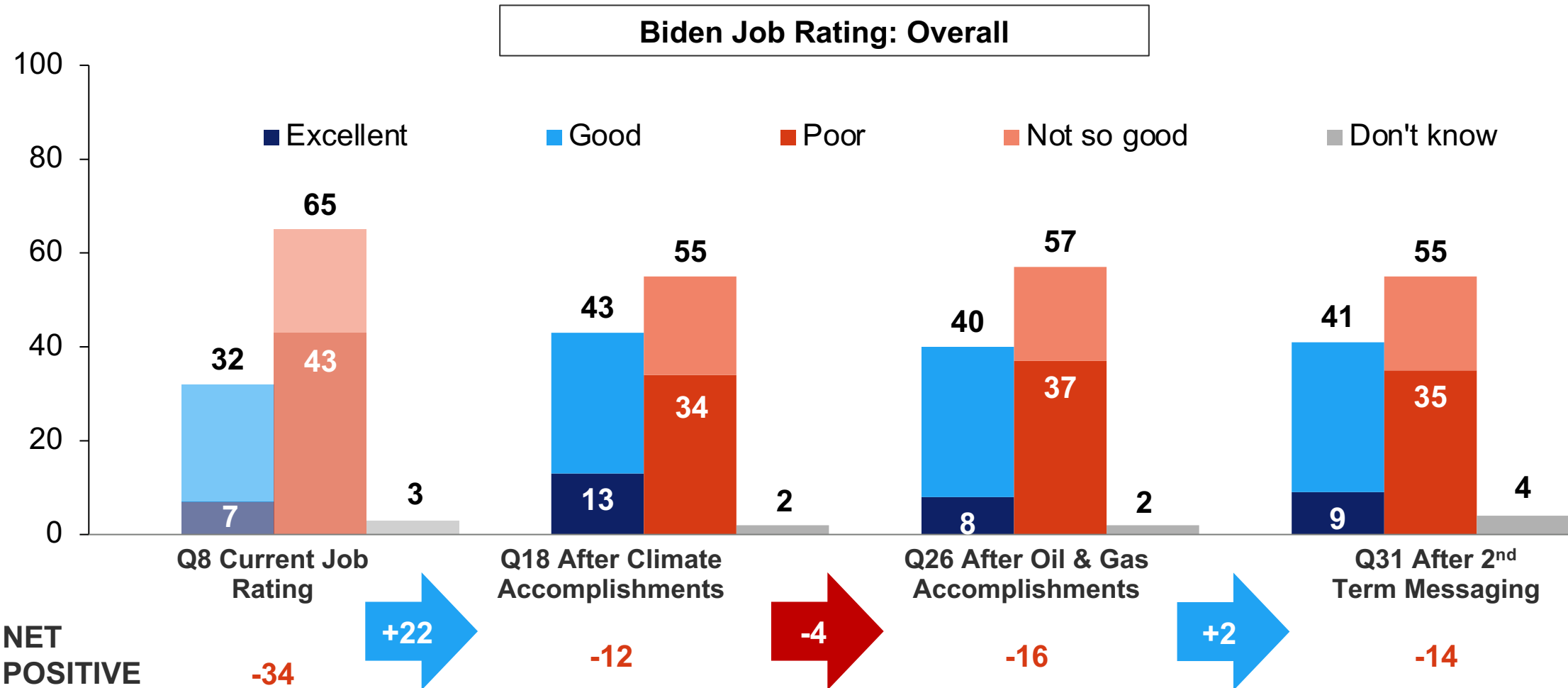
Movement



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Biden's job rating improves by 22 points after more information about his climate record but still doesn't reach net-positive.

Question order likely plays a role in movement here.



While Biden's job rating improves across political parties, biggest growth opportunities are with more progressive demographics.

Democrats, women, people of color, and 18-25-year-olds move the most.

Biden Job Rating: Overall

	Current Net Job Rating	Final Net Job Rating	Net Change
Overall	-34	-14	+20
Dem	+19	+45	+26
GOP	-88	-76	+12
Ind	-59	-41	+18

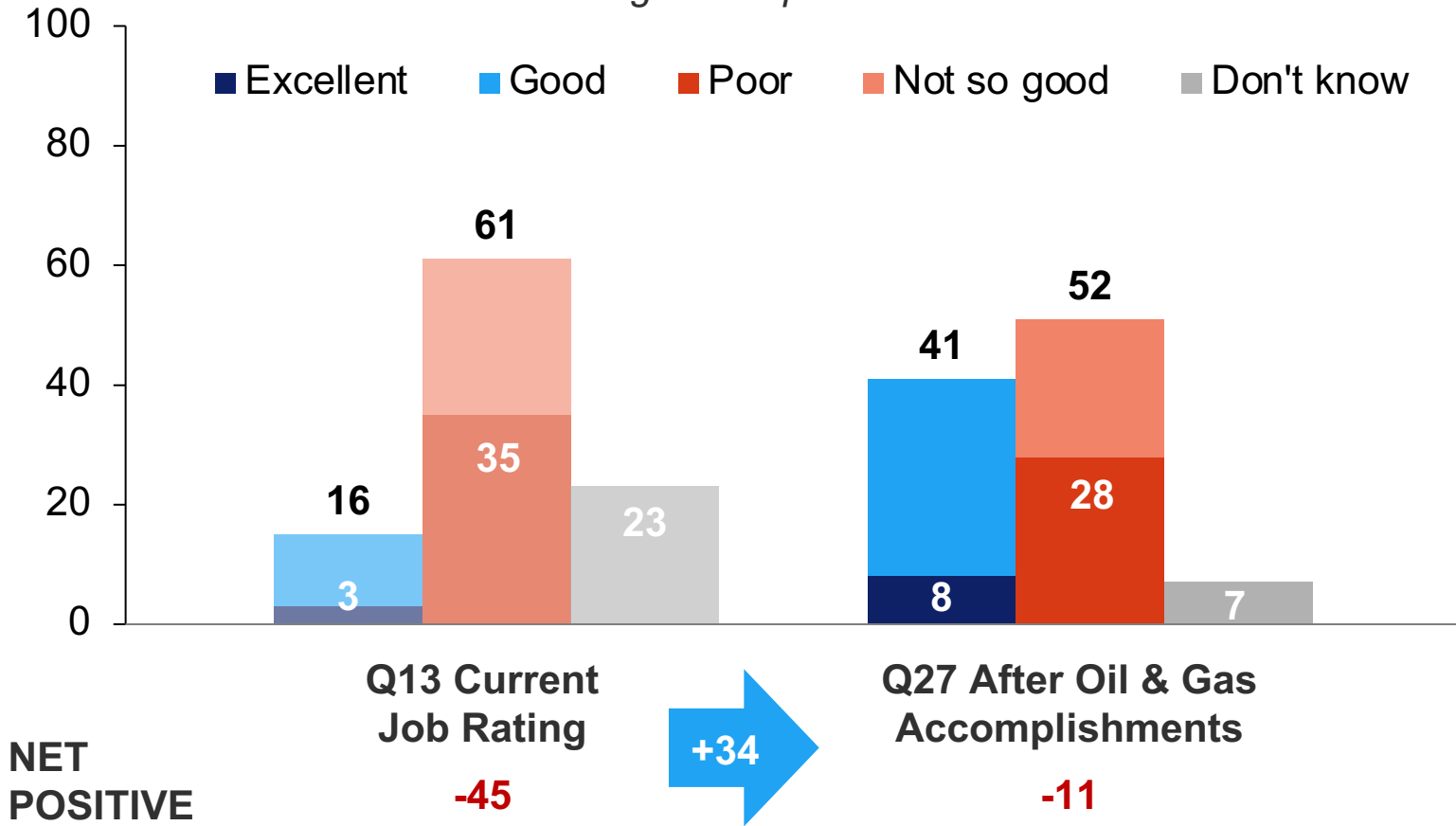
Gainers

Overall	+20
Democratic women	+38
Black 18-25	+37
Hispanic 18-25	+36
Democrats 18-25	+36
AAPI	+35
Women 18-25	+33

Biden's oil and gas accomplishments improve his rating by a net 36 points.

Democrats, Hispanics, and liberals showed the most improvement.

How would you rate the job the Biden Administration is doing to hold oil and gas companies accountable?

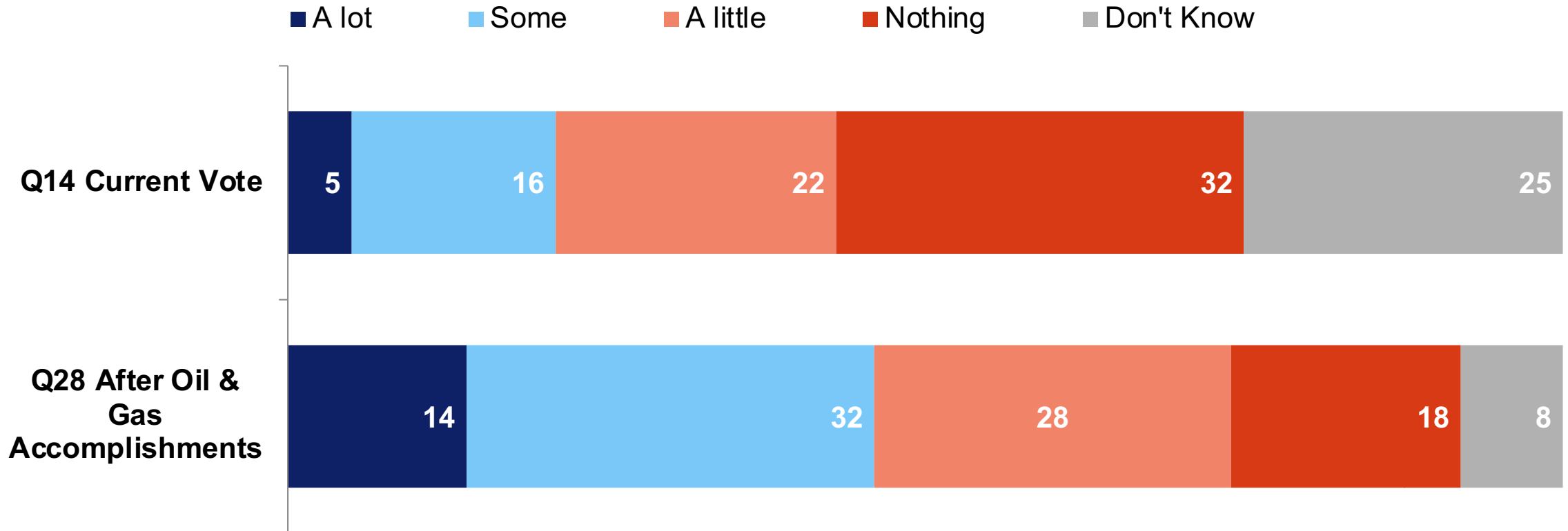


Gainers	
Overall	+34
White Democrats	+52
Hispanic Democrats	+46
Liberals	+45
Hispanic women	+42
Black Democrats	+42
White women	+39

After learning more, nearly half say Biden has done some or a lot to hold oil and gas accountable (46%).

Movement was fairly even across subgroups, with slightly larger gains among Democrats.

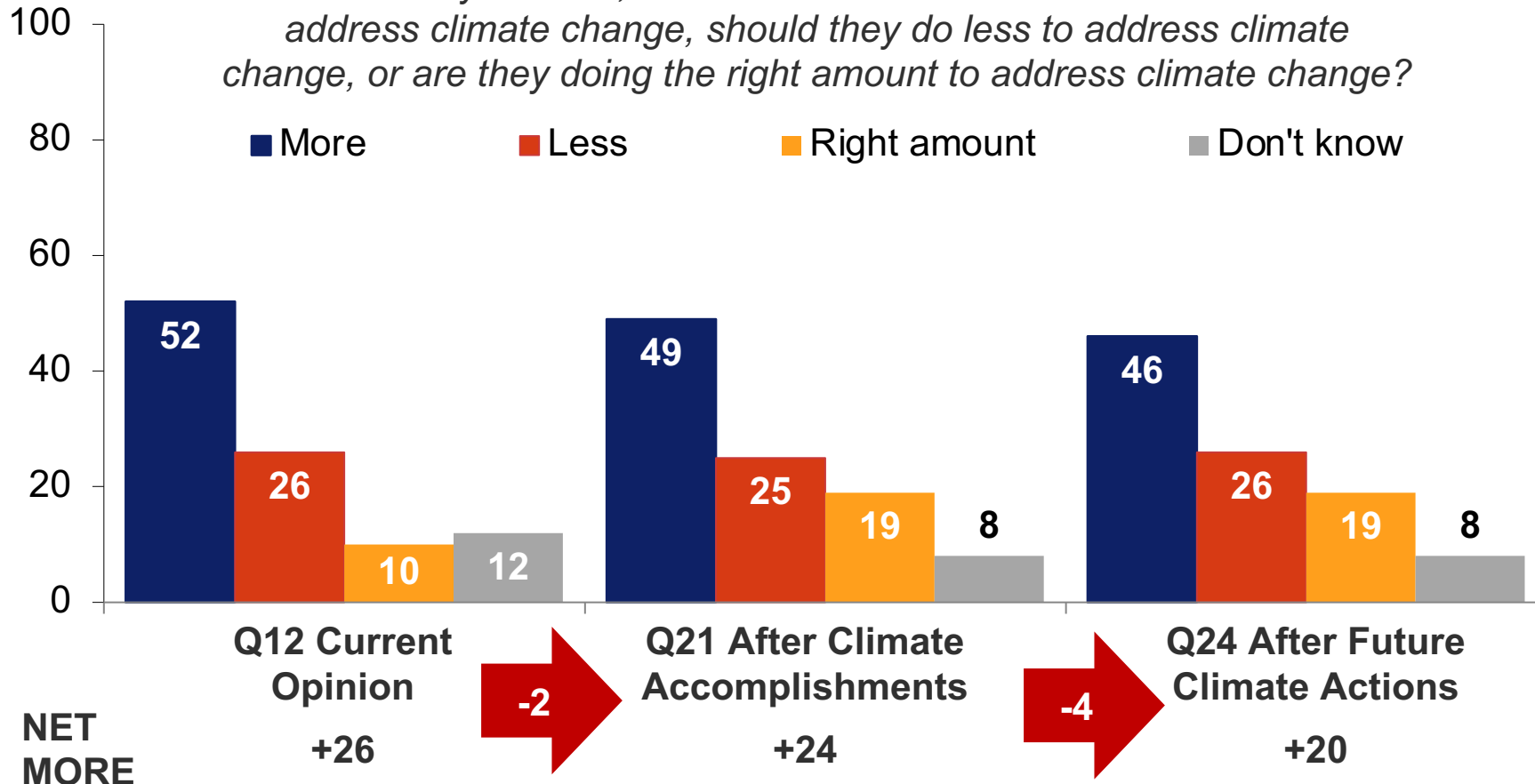
From what you know, how much has the Biden Administration done to hold oil and gas companies accountable?



Even after hearing about Biden's climate accomplishments, young people want to see more action on climate.

Black people were slightly less likely to say Biden should do more after hearing his record and future actions.

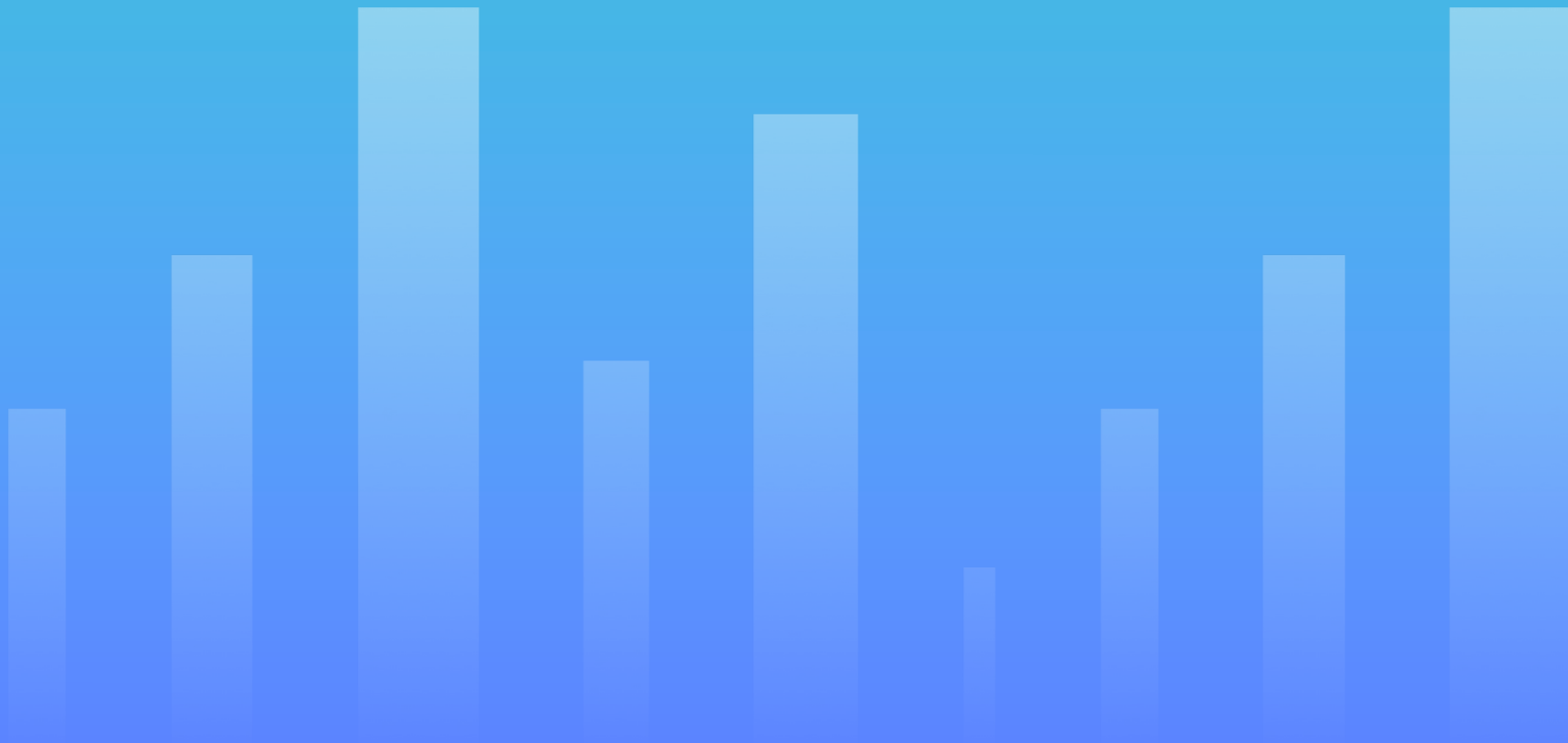
From what you know, should the Biden Administration do more to address climate change, should they do less to address climate change, or are they doing the right amount to address climate change?



NET MORE After Future Action	
Overall	+20
AAPI	+30
Hispanic	+28
Under 25	+23
White	+19
Ages 25-34	+18
Black	+17



Recommendations



Recommendations

- **Make sure the public learns about Biden's robust climate record, including his work to hold oil and gas companies accountable.** Many people -- especially young people -- have a void of information about what Biden has accomplished on climate. Thankfully, they respond very well to learning about Biden's robust climate record, including his work to hold oil and gas companies accountable, advance clean energy, and conservation. His efforts to clean up hazardous old oil and gas wells that leak pollution into communities was the most persuasive across political parties, with majorities of Republicans and Independents saying it gave them a more favorable view.
- **When communicating with policymakers about next steps on climate, encourage leaders to close outdated oil and gas pipelines.** This feels like a natural complement to a communications campaign around closing orphaned wells and is the most popular of the potential future climate actions we tested, both overall and among Independents. The fact that these wells and pipelines are outdated is critical—this is about getting rid of what's no longer needed to modernize infrastructure in addition to preventing pollution.
- **Given that people respond best to Biden's accomplishments, the administration should continue to build his climate record.** Given that his current record is still net negative on actions to hold oil and gas companies accountable, he should take additional actions in this area, with closing outdated infrastructure (cleaning up hazardous old oil and gas wells and pipelines), preventing new drilling, and halting expansion of methane gas exports being the most popular.