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— NETWORK —

Voters Support the THRIVE Act

A person with white hair, wearing a dark jacket and a dark cap, is seen from behind, holding a large white sign with black handwritten text that reads "EVERY DAY IS FUTURE". The person is standing in a crowd of other people at what appears to be a protest or demonstration. In the background, there are buildings and other people, some holding flags. The entire image has a teal overlay.

EVERY DAY
IS
FUTURE

Danielle Deiseroth *Senior Climate Data Analyst at Data for Progress*
Morgan Sperry *Analyst at Data for Progress*

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Key Findings

- ▶ Over three-quarters of likely voters are concerned about the impacts of air and water pollution and unemployment on their communities, while over two-thirds are concerned about climate change, racism, and injustice
- ▶ Voters want to see more than just physical infrastructure investments in an economic recovery package — they also want to see investments in America’s farmers, public institutions, and caregiving infrastructure
- ▶ Nearly two-thirds of voters support the THRIVE Act, regardless of whether the framing of the bill centers on labor, climate, or justice
- ▶ Voters overwhelmingly back all of the THRIVE Act’s main policy objectives, with nearly all of the objectives earning broad bipartisan support
- ▶ A majority of voters (63 percent) support the THRIVE Act’s standard to direct 50% of investments to communities that are most impacted by climate change, pollution, and the clean energy transition

Introduction

This spring, lawmakers introduced the [THRIVE Act](#), an economic recovery bill to create 15 million new good-paying jobs while advancing gender, environmental, Indigenous, economic, and racial justice. From combating the climate crisis to uplifting workers and frontline communities, the THRIVE Act lays out a blueprint for an economic recovery that centers on jobs, climate, and justice.

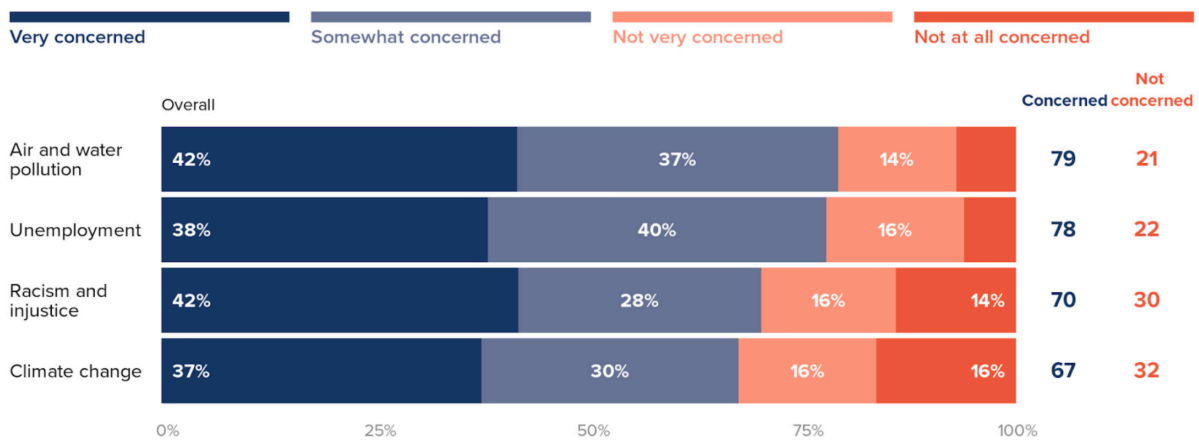
In a May 2021 national survey, Data for Progress and the Green New Deal Network assessed the attitudes of likely voters towards the THRIVE Act and the bill’s main policy objectives. We also asked voters about what concerns they have around the environmental, social, and economic crises impacting their communities, as well as the top proposals they would like to see included in an economic recovery package.

Voters Are Concerned About the Impacts of Environmental, Social, and Economic Crises on Their Community

First, we asked likely voters how concerned or not concerned they are about a series of environmental, economic, and social issues facing their communities. Nearly eight-in-ten voters are concerned about the impacts of air and water pollution and unemployment on their communities, while over two-thirds of voters are concerned about the impacts of racism, injustice, and climate change on their communities. The coronavirus pandemic has exposed America's economic and racial inequities, and 2020 saw historic climate disasters wreak havoc across the country — these environmental, economic, and social crises are clearly weighing heavily on voters' minds.

Voters Are Overwhelmingly Concerned About the Environmental, Social, and Economic Crises Impacting Their Communities

How concerned, if at all, are you about the impact of each of the following on your community?



May 7–11, 2021 survey of 1,204 likely voters

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Voters Want Investments to Create Jobs Upgrading and Expanding Both Physical and Care Infrastructure

Next, we presented voters with a list of job-creating proposals that could be included in an upcoming economic recovery package and asked voters to choose the proposals they would most like to see included in the legislation. Among the top proposals that voters put on their “wish list” for an economic recovery bill are upgrading our water, transportation, and power sector infrastructure, supporting farmers to adopt sustainable farming practices, improving and expanding care for children, the elderly, and people with disabilities, and supporting and expanding public institutions. While Republicans in Congress are pushing to invest only in physical infrastructures, voters support broader investments to improve and expand our care infrastructure.

Top Job-Creation Proposals that Voters Want to See in an Economic Recovery Bill:

1. Upgrading our infrastructure to ensure all Americans have access to clean drinking water, affordable public transit, and a reliable electric grid
2. Supporting farmers to adopt sustainable land-use and farming practices
3. Improving and expanding the availability of care for children, the elderly, and people with disabilities
4. Supporting and expanding institutions like public health care systems, public education, and other state and local services

A Majority of Voters Support the THRIVE Act, Regardless of How It is Framed

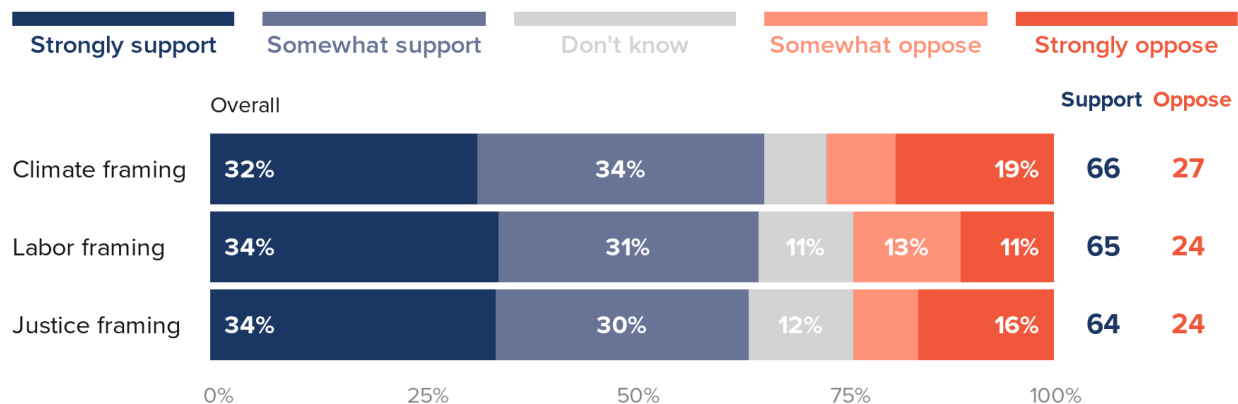
We then asked voters about the THRIVE Act, describing the legislation using three unique framings: labor, justice, and climate. Each voter was randomly shown one of these three descriptions of the THRIVE Act and then asked whether they support or oppose the bill. We find that regardless of framing, the THRIVE Act enjoys support from nearly two-thirds of voters. All three framings enjoy near equivalent levels of support, with 39-point, 41-point, and 40-point margins of support for the climate, labor, and justice framings, respectively.

Voters Support the THRIVE Act, Regardless of Framing

We asked likely voters whether they support or oppose the THRIVE Act using three unique frames: jobs, climate, and environmental justice. Each voter was randomly shown one of the three framings:

Lawmakers have recently introduced the THRIVE Act, a proposal to invest \$1 trillion each year for the next 10 years to create over 15 million new good-paying jobs rebuilding and strengthening America's economy. The jobs, which range in industry from clean energy to child and elder care to manufacturing, would:

- **Labor framing** : Provide workers across the nation with family-sustaining wages, the ability to join labor unions, and fair labor standards like access to affordable healthcare.
- **Justice framing** : Advance gender, environmental, Indigenous, economic, and racial justice, especially for communities that are disproportionately impacted by climate change and pollution.
- **Climate framing** Cut climate pollution in half by 2030, transform our infrastructure and energy grid, and improve public health by reducing hazardous pollution.



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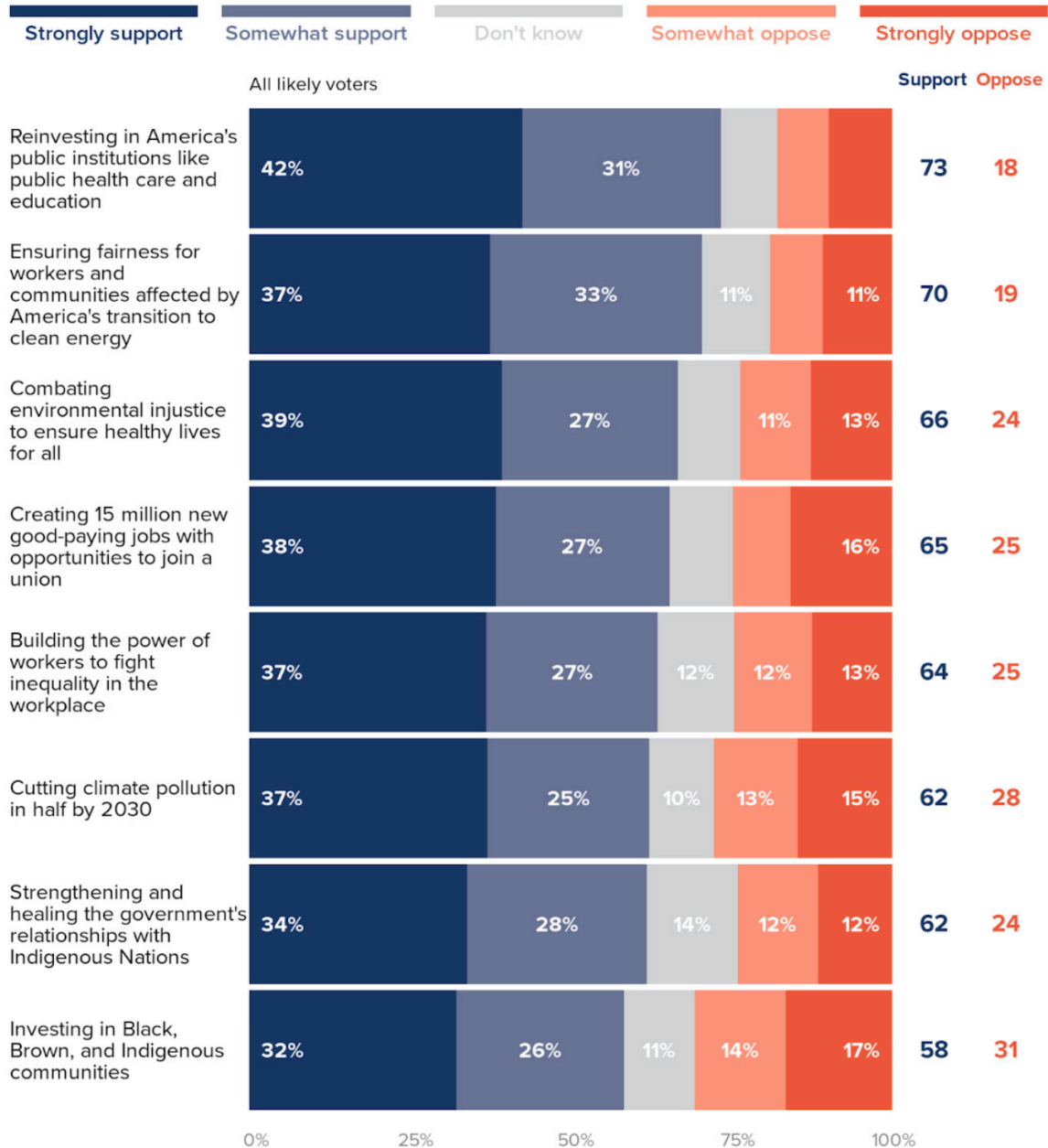
A Majority of Voters Support The THRIVE Act's Main Policy Objectives

Broad majorities of voters support each of the individual policy objectives included in the THRIVE Act — and most enjoy net support among Democrats, Independents, and Republicans. Among all voters, the most popular policy objectives in the THRIVE Act are reinvesting in America's public institutions like public health care and education (73 percent support), ensuring fairness for workers and communities impacted by the clean energy transition (70 percent support), combating environmental injustice to ensure healthy lives for all (66 percent support). Nearly two-thirds of voters support creating 15 million new good-paying jobs with opportunities to join a union (65 percent support) and building the power of workers to fight inequality in the workplace (64 percent support). Additionally, a majority of voters support the bill's key environmental justice policy objectives, including strengthening and healing the federal government's relationships with Indigenous Nations (62 percent support) and investing in Black, Brown, and Indigenous communities (58 percent support).

While Democrats are the most supportive of the THRIVE Act's key policy objectives, the proposals also enjoy support from Independents and Republicans. Nearly all Democrats back all of the THRIVE Act's policy objectives and are most supportive of reinvesting in public institutions (89 percent support), creating 15 million new good-paying jobs with opportunities to join a union (88 percent support), ensuring fairness for workers and communities impacted by the clean energy transition (88 percent support), and combating environmental injustice to ensure healthy lives for all (87 percent support). A majority of Independents support nearly all of the THRIVE Act's policy objectives and are most supportive of reinvesting in public institutions (69 percent support), ensuring fairness for workers and communities impacted by the clean energy transition (66 percent support), and combating environmental injustice to ensure healthy lives for all (58 percent support).

Voters Overwhelmingly Support the Key Objectives of the THRIVE Act

The THRIVE Act includes the following objectives. For each, please indicate whether you support or oppose it:



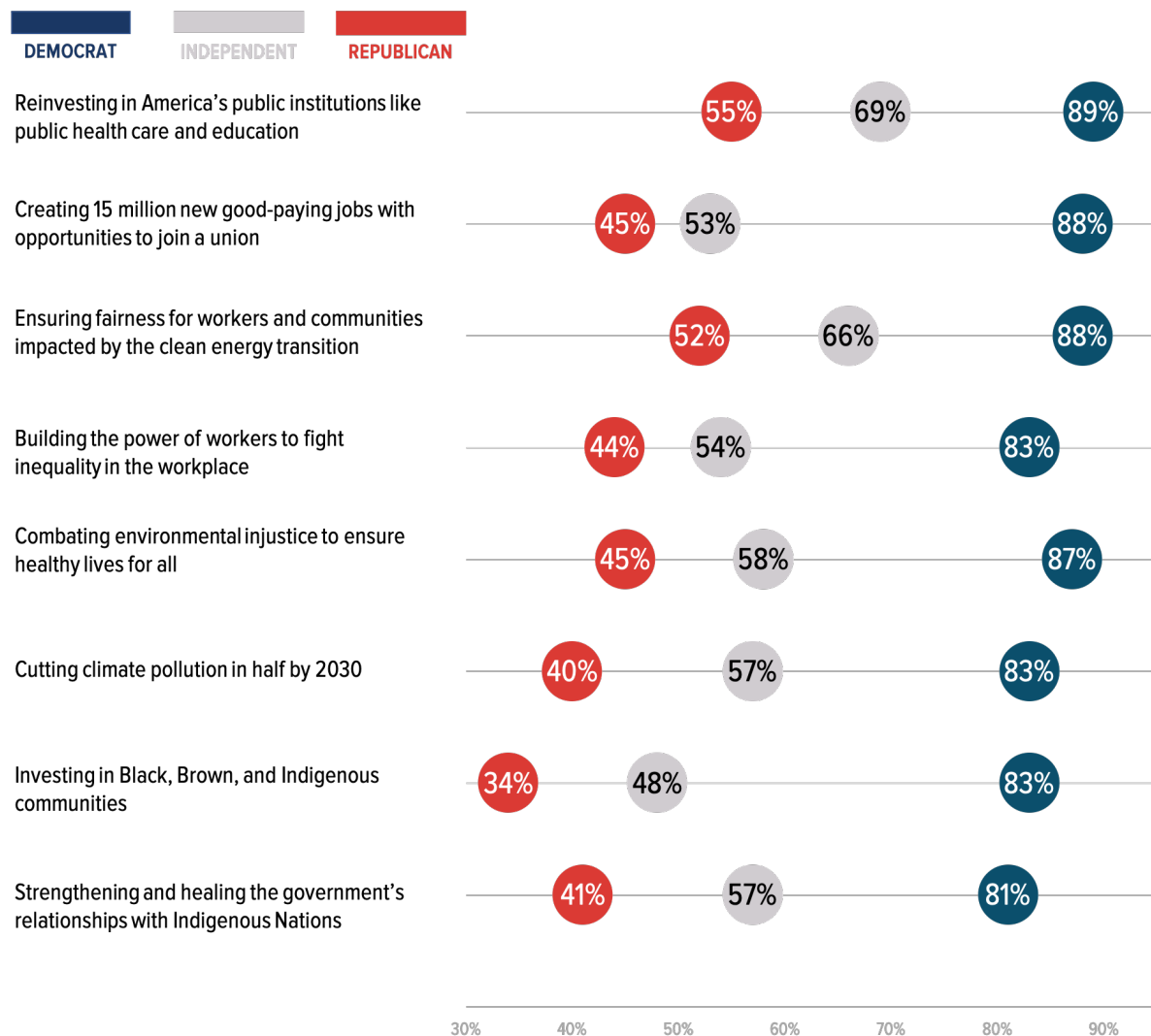
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While Republican lawmakers put forward an infrastructure proposal that focuses primarily on physical infrastructure, Republican voters strongly back many of the THRIVE Act's job-creation and environmental justice measures. Republicans are most supportive of the THRIVE Act's objectives to reinvest in public institutions (55 percent support), ensure fairness for workers and communities impacted by the clean energy transition (52 percent support), create 15 million new jobs with opportunities to join a union (45 percent support), and combat environmental injustice to ensure healthy lives for all (45 percent support).

Voters Across Party Lines Support the Key Objectives of the THRIVE Act



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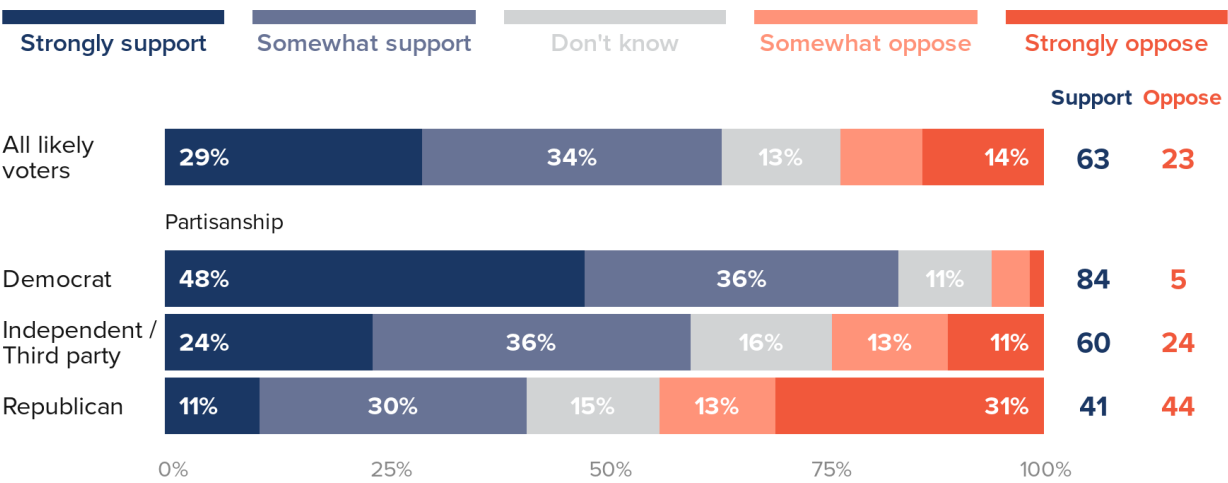
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Voters Support Directing Half of the THRIVE Act’s Investments to Frontline Communities

Finally, we asked voters if they support or oppose the THRIVE Act’s provision to direct 50% of investments to communities that are most impacted by climate change, pollution, and the clean energy transition. By a 40-point margin, nearly two-thirds of voters support this investment standard (63 percent support, 23 percent oppose). Nearly all Democrats (80 percent), a majority of Independents (60 percent), and 41 percent of Republicans support this standard to ensure that frontline communities benefit from the THRIVE Act’s investments.

A Majority of Voters Support Directing Half of the THRIVE Act's Investments to Frontline Communities

The THRIVE Act requires that at least 50% of investments go to communities that are impacted by the clean energy transition, including those that have lost manufacturing jobs, low-income communities, communities of color, communities facing environmental harm, and communities that depend on fossil fuel jobs. Would you support or oppose at least 50% of the THRIVE Act's investments going to these communities?



Conclusion

Given the environmental, economic, and social upheaval over the past year, voters are concerned about the crises that are impacting their communities and want to see lawmakers pass an economic recovery package that includes broad job-creating investments that go beyond just physical infrastructure. Moreover, regardless of how the bill is framed, voters consistently support the THRIVE Act and the bill's key pillars of empowering labor, climate action, and justice. Voters across party lines — including Independents and Republicans — back a majority of the THRIVE Act's main policy objectives, especially those that center on job creation, labor rights, and environmental justice. As lawmakers debate legislation in Congress, they can advocate for the ambitious investments proposed by the THRIVE Agenda with confidence knowing that voters back an economic recovery package that meets the moment.

SURVEY METHODOLOGY

From May 7 to 11, 2021, Data for Progress conducted a survey of 1,204 likely voters nationally using web panel respondents. The sample was weighted to be representative of likely voters by age, gender, education, race, and voting history. The survey was conducted in English. The margin of error is ± 3 percentage points.