DATA FOR *PROGRESS*

VOTERS SUPPORT THE THRIVE AGENDA

Danielle Deiseroth
Marcela Mulholland
Julian Brave NoiseCat

September 2020

EXECUTIVE SUMMARY

▶ A majority of voters in the swing states of Ohio, Texas, Georgia, Wisconsin, Pennsylvania, Florida, North Carolina, Arizona, Colorado, Michigan, and Minnesota support each of the THRIVE Agenda's pillars.

▶ A majority of voters in forty House battleground districts across the country support each of the THRIVE Agenda's pillars.

▶ A majority of Democrats and independents in these battleground districts support the THRIVE Agenda's pillars.

Momentum is building for an economic recovery plan that creates good jobs, counteracts racial injustice, supports public health, and tackles the climate crisis. In July, former Vice President Joe Biden released a "Build Back Better" agenda to meet these goals via detailed plans for infrastructure, manufacturing, clean energy, the care economy, and racial equity, which included strong input from the Unity Task Force convened with surrogates and supporters of Bernie Sanders presidential campaign. Data for Progress also provided research to inform the campaign and task force's work. Just last week, Massachusetts Senator Ed Markey, co-author of the Green New Deal resolution, whose goals align with those in the THRIVE Agenda, claimed a decisive victory against his primary challenger, Representative Joe Kennedy (MA-04).

Our latest polling builds on this momentum by showing strong support for the THRIVE Agenda, a new congressional resolution with eight pillars for economic renewal backed by leading members of Congress and union, racial justice, environmental,

and other grassroots groups. This polling shows that economic recovery plans that center racial, economic, and climate justice are popular with broad swaths of the electorate, including in battleground states and districts. While there is a pervasive assumption among Democratic Party elites that climate change is a coastal Blue states issue and that racial and economic justice are only concerns of urban voters, this polling adds to a growing body of research from Data for Progress and others showing that a progressive and intersectional stimulus agenda that focuses on jobs, climate, and justice is a popular and winning issue across the country.

As part of an August survey, we assessed support for the THRIVE resolution by asking likely voters in eleven key swing states and forty battleground House districts if they support or oppose key elements of each of the resolution's eight major pillars:

▶ Federal investments to create millions of family-sustaining jobs upgrading our nation's water, energy, and transportation infrastructure, retrofitting buildings to cut costs and pollution, supporting child and elderly care, restoring wetlands and forests, investing in family farms, and manufacturing clean energy technologies

▶ Giving all workers access to unions and penalizing employers that try to stop union organizing

▶ Federal investments in communities of color and low-income communities that have been disproportionately affected by unfair policies

▶ The United States fully recognizing the sovereignty and right to self-governance of Native American Nations and making policy changes to honor environmental and social responsibilities to them

- Federal investments to replace lead pipes, limit air and water pollution, ensure equal access to public health resources, and address the health and environmental impacts of toxic pollution, particularly in low-income communities

- Federal investments to address climate change by eliminating carbon pollution from our electricity grid by 2035

- Federal investments to guarantee stable wages and benefits and support high-quality job creation for workers and communities in industries and regions impacted by
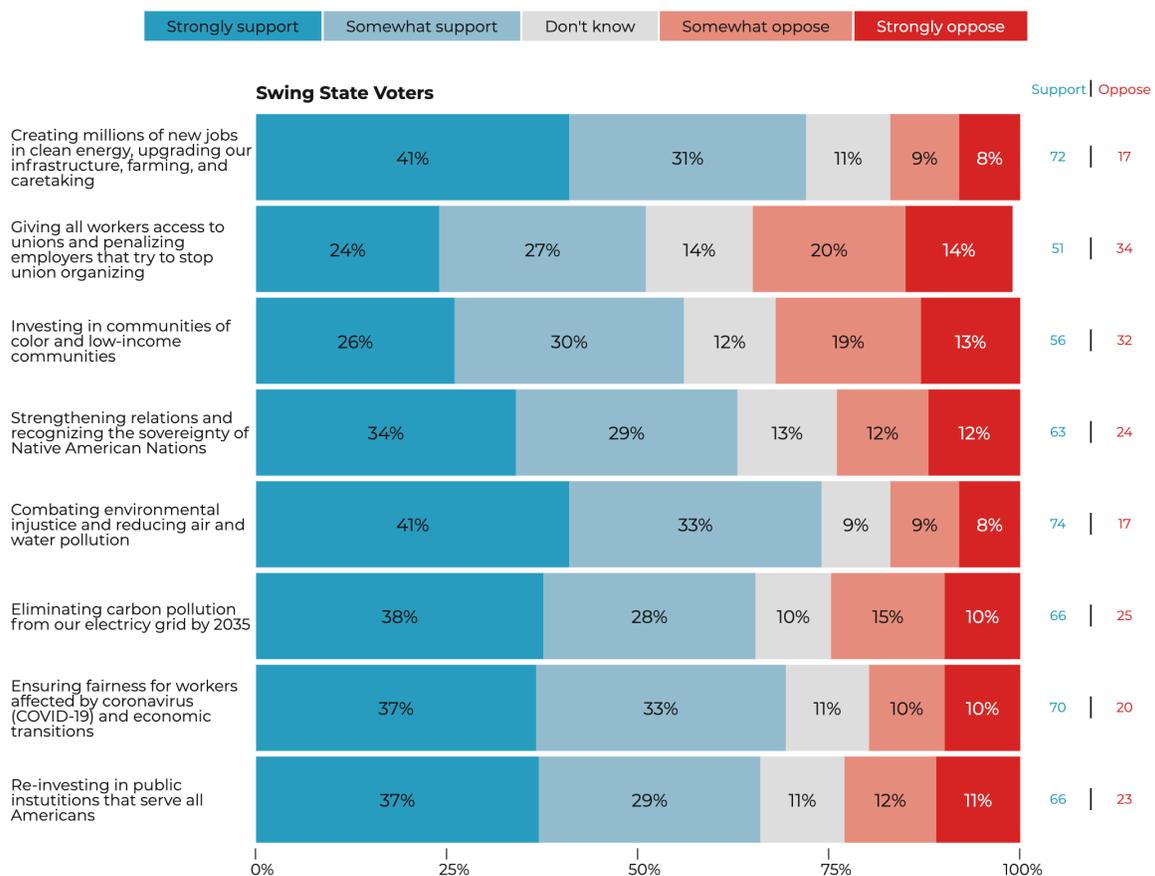
coronavirus (COVID-19), climate change, or other economic shocks

- Re-investing in our public institutions that serve all Americans, like the U.S. Postal Service, and creating new public institutions that will mobilize investments to tackle problems such as unemployment, racial injustice, public health, and climate change

The THRIVE resolution enjoys high levels of support among voters in the swing states of Ohio, Texas, Georgia, Wisconsin, Pennsylvania, Florida, North Carolina, Arizona, Colorado, Michigan, and Minnesota. A majority of voters in these

A Majority of Swing State Voters Support the THRIVE Resolution

Would you support or oppose:

| Strongly support | Somewhat support | Don't know | Somewhat oppose | Strongly oppose |

Swing State Voters

Support | Oppose

	Strongly support	Somewhat support	Don't know	Somewhat oppose	Strongly oppose	Support	Oppose
Creating millions of new jobs in clean energy, upgrading our infrastructure, farming, and caretaking	41%	31%	11%	9%	8%	72	17
Giving all workers access to unions and penalizing employers that try to stop union organizing	24%	27%	14%	20%	14%	51	34
Investing in communities of color and low-income communities	26%	30%	12%	19%	13%	56	32
Strengthening relations and recognizing the sovereignty of Native American Nations	34%	29%	13%	12%	12%	63	24
Combating environmental injustice and reducing air and water pollution	41%	33%	9%	9%	8%	74	17
Eliminating carbon pollution from our electricy grid by 2035	38%	28%	10%	15%	10%	66	25
Ensuring fairness for workers affected by coronavirus (COVID-19) and economic transitions	37%	33%	11%	10%	10%	70	20
Re-investing in public institutions that serve all Americans	37%	29%	11%	12%	11%	66	23

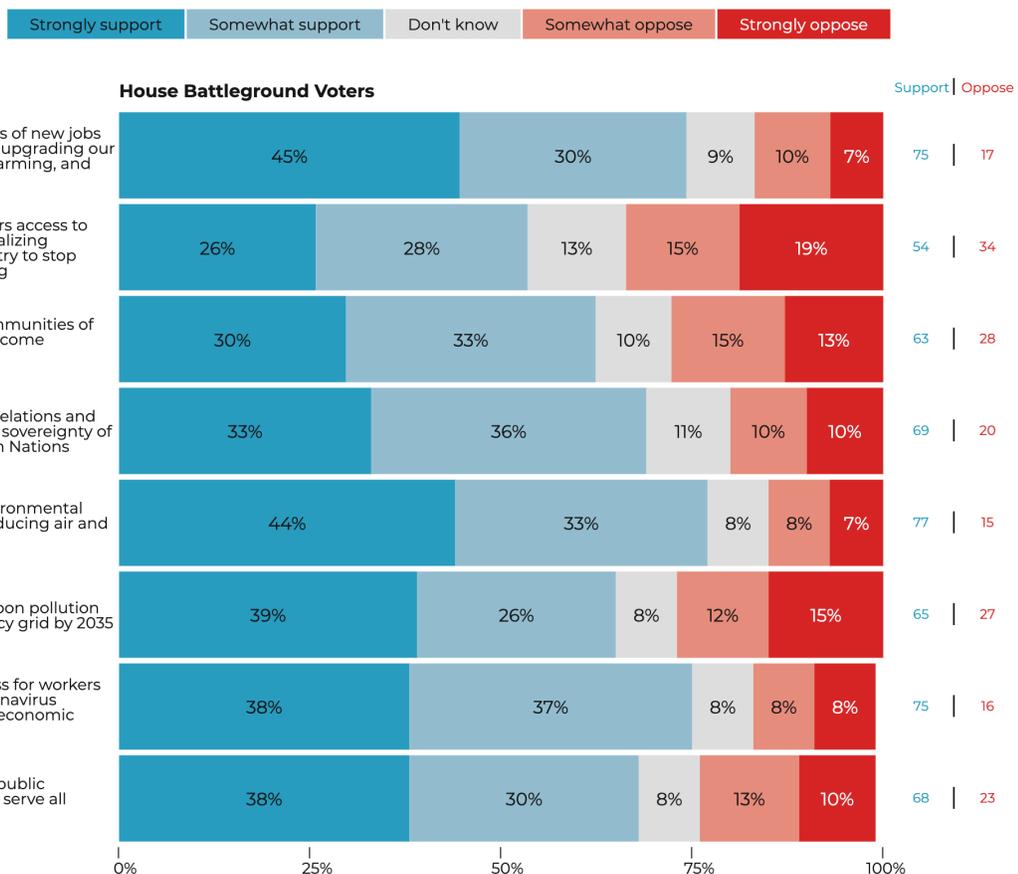0%   25%   50%   75%   100%

Data for Progress

DATA FOR **PROGRESS**

states support each of the pillars, and express particularly high support for federal investments to replace lead pipes, limit air and water pollution, and address the impacts of toxic pollution in low-income communities (74 percent support, 17 percent oppose); create millions of family-sustaining jobs in infrastructure, clean energy, caretaking, and family farms (72 percent support, 17 percent oppose); and guarantee stable wages and benefits and support high-quality job creation for workers and communities in industries and regions impacted by coronavirus (COVID-19), economic shocks, and climate change (70 percent support, 20 percent oppose).

We also assessed support for the THRIVE resolution among voters in forty battleground House districts across the country. Support for the THRIVE resolution holds steady in these battleground districts, with a majority of all voters supporting each of the THRIVE resolution's pillars. Battleground House district voters express the highest levels of support for federal investments to replace lead pipes, limit air and water pollution, and address the impacts of toxic pollution in low-income communities (77 percent support, 15 percent oppose); guarantee stable wages and benefits and support high-quality job creation for workers and communities in

A Majority of Battleground House District Voters Support the THRIVE Resolution

Would you support or oppose:

| Strongly support | Somewhat support | Don't know | Somewhat oppose | Strongly oppose |

House Battleground Voters

	Strongly support	Somewhat support	Don't know	Somewhat oppose	Strongly oppose	Support	Oppose
Creating millions of new jobs in clean energy, upgrading our infrastructure, farming, and caretaking	45%	30%	9%	10%	7%	75	17
Giving all workers access to unions and penalizing employers that try to stop union organizing	26%	28%	13%	15%	19%	54	34
Investing in communities of color and low-income communities	30%	33%	10%	15%	13%	63	28
Strengthening relations and recognizing the sovereignty of Native American Nations	33%	36%	11%	10%	10%	69	20
Combating environmental injustice and reducing air and water pollution	44%	33%	8%	8%	7%	77	15
Eliminating carbon pollution from our electric grid by 2035	39%	26%	8%	12%	15%	65	27
Ensuring fairness for workers affected by coronavirus (COVID-19) and economic transitions	38%	37%	8%	8%	8%	75	16
Re-investing in public instutitions that serve all Americans	38%	30%	8%	13%	10%	68	23

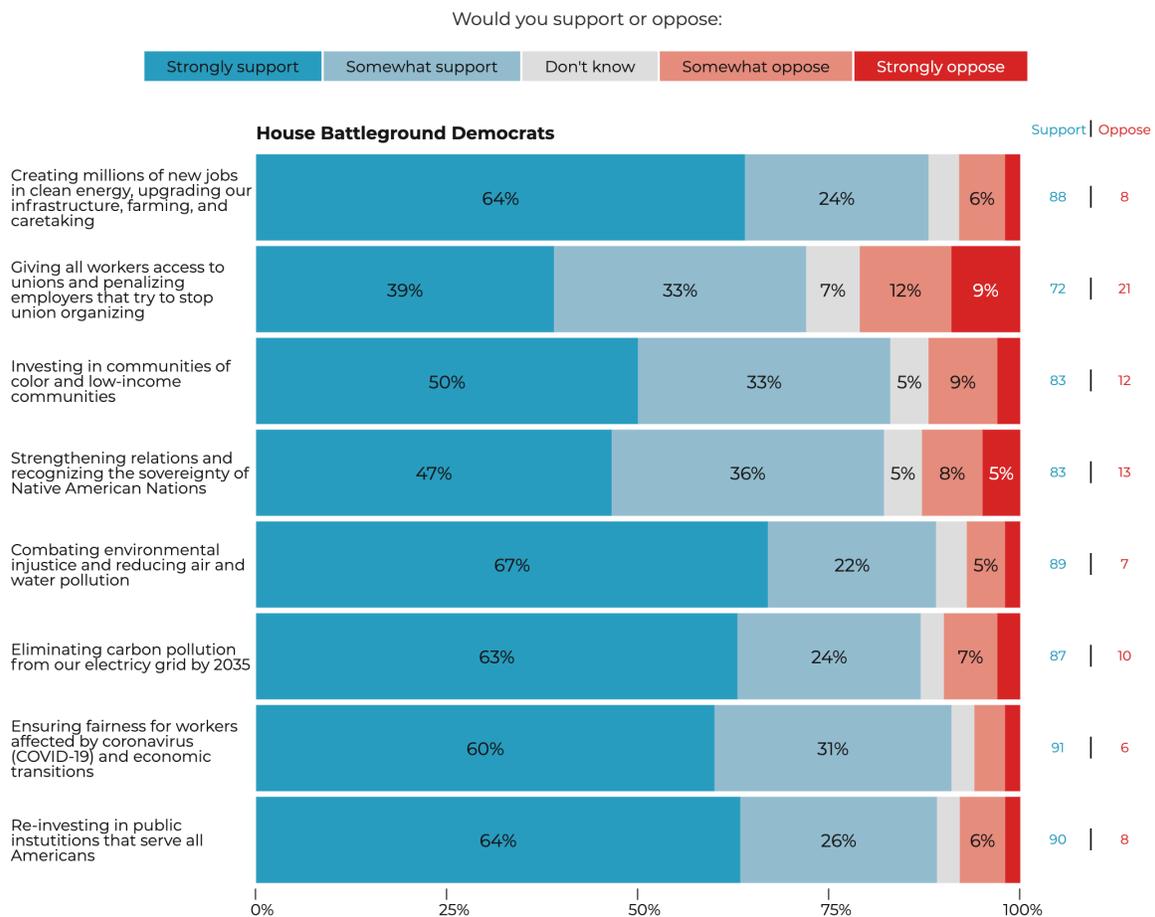0%   25%   50%   75%   100%

Data for Progress

ꟷ DATA FOR **PROGRESS**

industries and regions impacted by coronavirus (COVID-19), economic shocks, and climate change (75 percent support, 16 percent oppose); and create millions of family-sustaining jobs in infrastructure, clean energy, caretaking, and family farms (75 percent support, 17 percent oppose).

An overwhelming majority of Democrats in these House battleground districts support each of the THRIVE resolution's pillars. The pillars that enjoy the highest levels of support among these battleground Democrats are federal investments

to guarantee stable wages and benefits and support high-quality job creation for workers and communities in industries and regions impacted by coronavirus (COVID-19), economic shocks, and climate change (91 percent support, 6 percent oppose); re-investing in our public institutions that serve all Americans, like the U.S. Postal Service, and creating new public institutions to tackle major problems such as unemployment and climate change (90 percent support, 8 percent oppose); and federal investments to replace lead

A Majority of Battleground House District Democrats Support the THRIVE Resolution

Would you support or oppose:

| Strongly support | Somewhat support | Don't know | Somewhat oppose | Strongly oppose |

House Battleground Democrats

Support | Oppose

Issue	Strongly support	Somewhat support	Don't know	Somewhat oppose	Strongly oppose	Support	Oppose
Creating millions of new jobs in clean energy, upgrading our infrastructure, farming, and caretaking	64%	24%		6%		88	8
Giving all workers access to unions and penalizing employers that try to stop union organizing	39%	33%	7%	12%	9%	72	21
Investing in communities of color and low-income communities	50%	33%	5%	9%		83	12
Strengthening relations and recognizing the sovereignty of Native American Nations	47%	36%	5%	8%	5%	83	13
Combating environmental injustice and reducing air and water pollution	67%	22%		5%		89	7
Eliminating carbon pollution from our electriy grid by 2035	63%	24%		7%		87	10
Ensuring fairness for workers affected by coronavirus (COVID-19) and economic transitions	60%	31%				91	6
Re-investing in public instutitions that serve all Americans	64%	26%		6%		90	8

0%   25%   50%   75%   100%
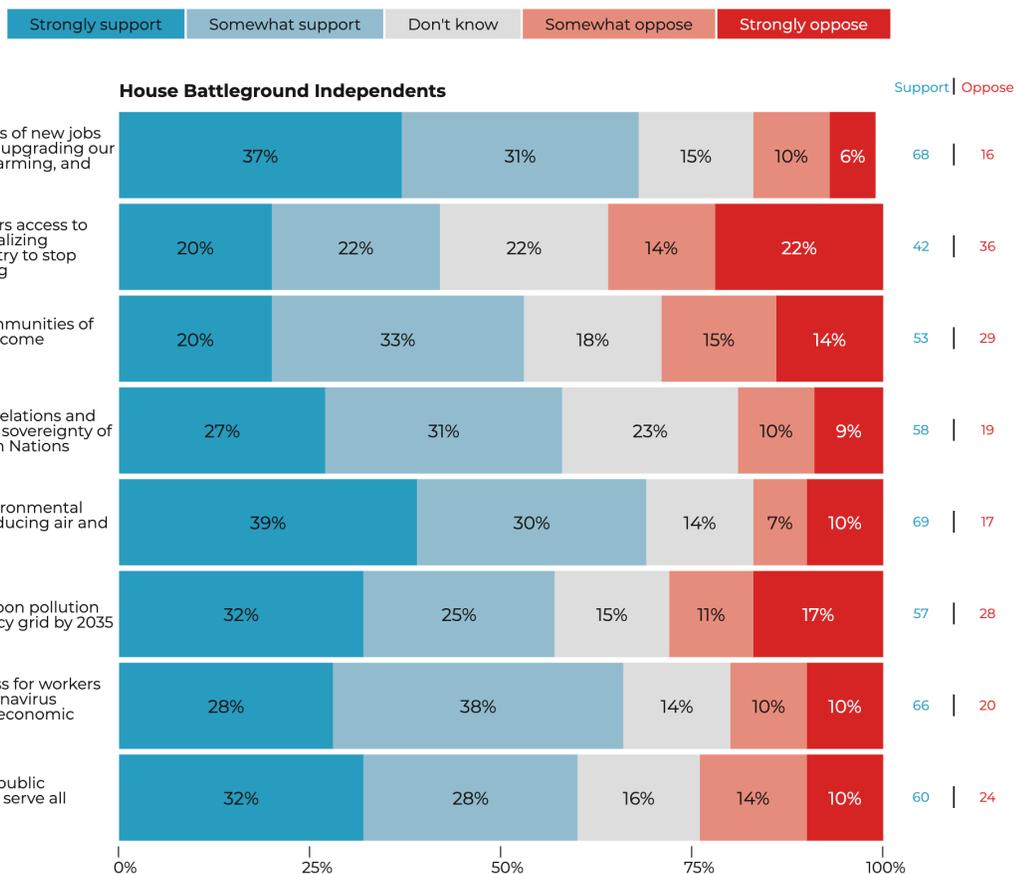
Data for Progress

◨◫ DATA FOR **PROGRESS**

pipes, limit air and water pollution, and address the impacts of toxic pollution in low-income communities (89 percent support, 7 percent oppose).

Likewise, voters who self-identify as independents in these battleground House districts express high levels of support for each of the pillars. A majority of battleground independents support nearly all of the pillars of the THRIVE Resolution. Seven of the eight pillars have majority support among battleground independents, while the pillar on ensuring access to unions enjoys plurality support. Battleground independent voters express the

highest levels of support for federal investments to replace lead pipes, limit air and water pollution, and address the impacts of toxic pollution in low-income communities (69 percent support, 17 percent oppose); create millions of family-sustaining jobs in infrastructure, clean energy, caretaking, and family farms (68 percent support, 16 percent oppose); and to guarantee stable wages and benefits and support high-quality job creation for workers and communities in industries and regions impacted by coronavirus (COVID-19), economic shocks, and climate change (66 percent support, 20 percent oppose).

A Majority of Battleground House District Independents Support the THRIVE Resolution

Would you support or oppose:

| Strongly support | Somewhat support | Don't know | Somewhat oppose | Strongly oppose |

House Battleground Independents

Support | Oppose

	Strongly support	Somewhat support	Don't know	Somewhat oppose	Strongly oppose	Support	Oppose
Creating millions of new jobs in clean energy, upgrading our infrastructure, farming, and caretaking	37%	31%	15%	10%	6%	68	16
Giving all workers access to unions and penalizing employers that try to stop union organizing	20%	22%	22%	14%	22%	42	36
Investing in communities of color and low-income communities	20%	33%	18%	15%	14%	53	29
Strengthening relations and recognizing the sovereignty of Native American Nations	27%	31%	23%	10%	9%	58	19
Combating environmental injustice and reducing air and water pollution	39%	30%	14%	7%	10%	69	17
Eliminating carbon pollution from our electricy grid by 2035	32%	25%	15%	11%	17%	57	28
Ensuring fairness for workers affected by coronavirus (COVID-19) and economic transitions	28%	38%	14%	10%	10%	66	20
Re-investing in public instutitions that serve all Americans	32%	28%	16%	14%	10%	60	24

0%   25%   50%   75%   100%

Data for Progress

ıɪɪ DATA FOR **PROGRESS**

These results add to the growing body of research that members of Congress and Democrats on the campaign trail can embrace progressive economic recovery policies that spotlight racial, economic, and climate justice, knowing that they will have support from broad swaths of the electorate, including voters in critical swing states and battleground districts. Elsewhere Climate Power, the Global Strategies Group, and Data for Progress have shown that Democrats can counter attacks on the Green New Deal and gain support from Latinx, young and middle partisan voters. Here, we have found that grassroots and movement-led policies can win in the states and districts Democrats need to take back government. Given the especially high margins of support for the THRIVE Agenda's pillars, it is clear that voters will embrace an agenda that would put millions of Americans back to work in family-sustaining jobs with access to unions, invest in communities of color and Indigenous communities, tackle climate change and toxic pollution, and address the racial, economic, and environmental inequities long festering in society.

METHODOLOGY:

Swing State Polling: From August 28, to August 30, 2020, Data for Progress conducted a survey of 582 likely voters using web panel respondents in the following states: Ohio, Texas, Georgia, Wisconsin, Pennsylvania, Florida, North Carolina, Arizona, Colorado, Michigan, and Minnesota. 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 +/- 4 percentage points.

House Battleground District Polling: From August 28 to September 1, 2020, Data for Progress conducted an oversample of likely voters nationally using web panel respondents in the following House districts: AZ-01, CA-10, CA-21, CA-25, CA-45, CA-48, CA-49, CO-06, GA-06, IA-01, IA-03, IL-06, IL-14, KS-03, ME-02, MI-08, MI-11, MN-02, MN-07, NH-01, NJ-02, NJ-03, NJ-07, NJ-11, NM-02, NV-03, NY-11, NY-19, NY-22, OK-05, PA-07, PA-08, PA-17, SC-01, TX-07, TX-32, UT-04, VA-02, VA-07, WA-08. 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 +/- 3.3 percentage points.

Question Wording

Would you support or oppose federal investments to create millions of family-sustaining jobs upgrading our nation's water, energy, and transportation infrastructure, retrofitting buildings to cut costs and pollution, supporting child and elderly care, restoring wetlands and forests, investing in family farms, and manufacturing clean energy technologies?

▶ Strongly support

▶ Somewhat support

▶ Somewhat oppose

▶ Strongly oppose

▶ Don't know

Would you support or oppose giving all workers access to unions and penalizing employers that try to stop union organizing?

▶ Strongly support

▶ Somewhat support

▶ Somewhat oppose

▶ Strongly oppose

▶ Don't know

Would you support or oppose prioritizing federal investments in communities of color and low-income communities that have been disproportionately affected by unfair policies?

▶ Strongly support

▶ Somewhat support

▶ Somewhat oppose

▶ Strongly oppose

▶ Don't know

Would you support or oppose the United States fully recognizing the sovereignty and right to self-governance of Native American Nations and making policy changes to honor environmental and social responsibilities to them?

▶ Strongly support

▶ Somewhat support

▶ Somewhat oppose

▶ Strongly oppose

▶ Don't know

Would you support or oppose federal investments to replace lead pipes, limit air and water pollution, ensure equal access to public health resources, and address the health and environmental impacts of toxic pollution, particularly in low-income communities?

▶ Strongly support

▶ Somewhat support

▶ Somewhat oppose

▶ Strongly oppose

▶ Don't know

Would you support or oppose federal investments to address climate change by eliminating carbon pollution from our electricity grid by 2035?

▶ Strongly support

▶ Somewhat support

▶ Somewhat oppose

▶ Strongly oppose

▶ Don't know

Would you support or oppose federal investments to guarantee stable wages and benefits and support high-quality job creation for workers and communities in industries and regions impacted by coronavirus (COVID-19), climate change, or other economic shocks?

▶ Strongly support

▶ Somewhat support

▶ Somewhat oppose

▶ Strongly oppose

▶ Don't know

Would you support or oppose re-investing in our public institutions that serve all Americans, like the U.S. Postal Service, and creating new public institutions that will mobilize investments to tackle problems such as unemployment, racial injustice, public health, and climate change?

▶ Strongly support

▶ Somewhat support

▶ Somewhat oppose

▶ Strongly oppose

▶ Don't know