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Voters Want Economic Relief—Now

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Executive Summary

- ▶ **A majority of likely voters agree** that when it comes to passing additional economic relief, the United States cannot afford to wait, and want more economic legislation passed — even after being told Congress passed a rescue bill in March.
- ▶ **Likely voters under the age of 45 and likely voters of color** are particularly supportive of additional economic relief. Overall, two-thirds of voters under 45, more than two-thirds of Black voters, and three-fifths of Latinx voters support passing more economic legislation immediately.
- ▶ **A strong majority of likely voters support an economic recovery package, even as the price tag increases.** Specifically, the passage of an economic recovery bill is supported by a majority of likely voters when no dollar figure is attached, and at a \$4 trillion and \$10 trillion figure.

Introduction

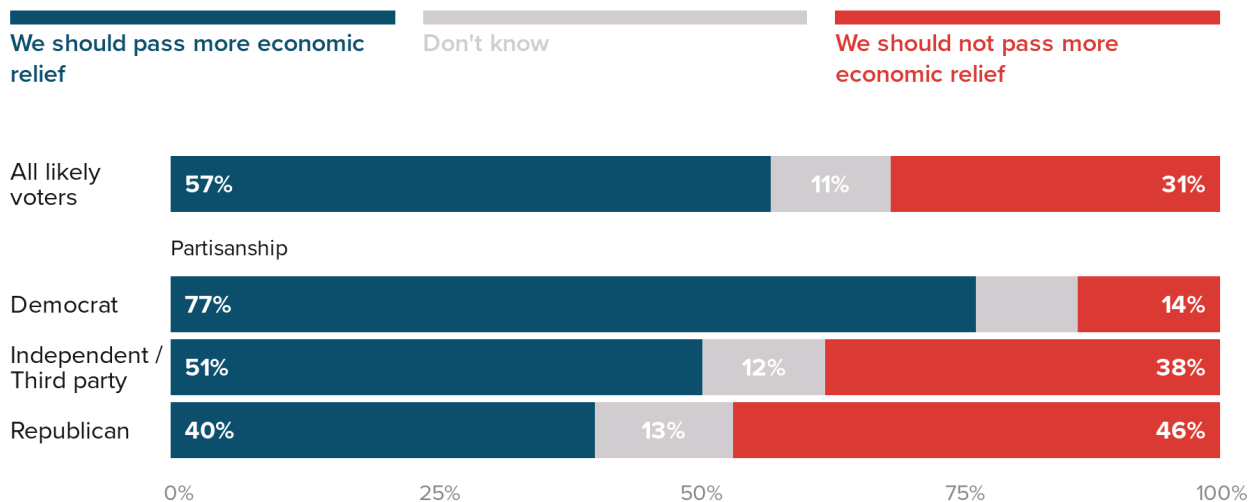
- ▶ As part of a survey conducted in mid April 2021, ProsperUS and Data for Progress tested the attitudes of likely voters nationally to measure attitudes towards passing more economic relief. In addition, we tested support for more fiscal stimulus and how attitudes may vary depending on the dollar size of the package. This survey included oversamples of Latinx and Black voters and likely voters under the age of 45.
- ▶ We find that support for more economic relief is high and that, crucially, this support extends across self-identified partisanship. We observe small changes in attitudes depending upon the dollar amount of additional fiscal stimulus, and support for even \$10 trillion in new spending remains high.

Voters can't afford to wait and see if we're on the road to recovery—they want more economic relief now.

We first asked likely voters about whether they would support the passing of additional economic relief. By a 26-point margin, likely voters support more economic relief now, not later (57 percent want more economic relief, 31 percent think we should not pass more economic relief). Notably, this includes a majority of likely voters that self-identify as Independents, who by a 13-point margin want more economic relief passed (51 percent want more economic relief, 38 percent think we should not pass more economic relief). By a 63-point margin, likely voters that self-identify as Democrats want more economic relief passed. Likely voters that self-identify as Republicans are divided: forty percent want to pass more economic relief and 46 percent don't.

Voters Across Partisan Lines Want More Economic Relief Passed Now

Some lawmakers in Congress say that because Congress passed a rescue bill in March, we're already on the road to recovery and don't need to pass more economic legislation — at least not right away. Others say that we can't afford to wait, because our economy still has not fully recovered and we've already put off necessary investments in jobs, child and elder care, and infrastructure for too long. When thinking about this, which statement comes closer to your view, even if neither is exactly right?



April 21–25, 2021 survey of 869 likely voters

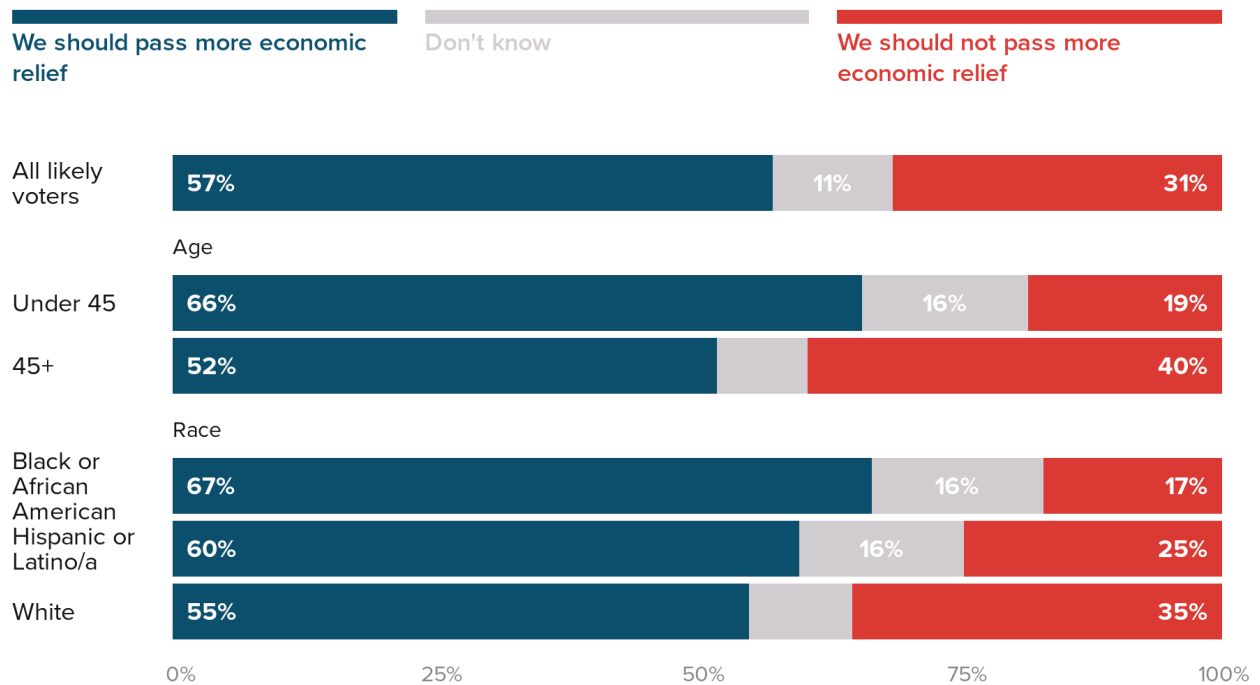
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Younger voters and voters of color are particularly supportive of additional economic relief

Support for passing more economic relief is particularly strong among likely voters under 45 and likely voters of color. Likely voters under the age of 45 favor more economic relief by a 47-point margin, while Black and Latinx voters support more pandemic spending by 50-point and 35-point margins, respectively.

Younger Voters and Voters of Color Support Passing Additional Economic Relief

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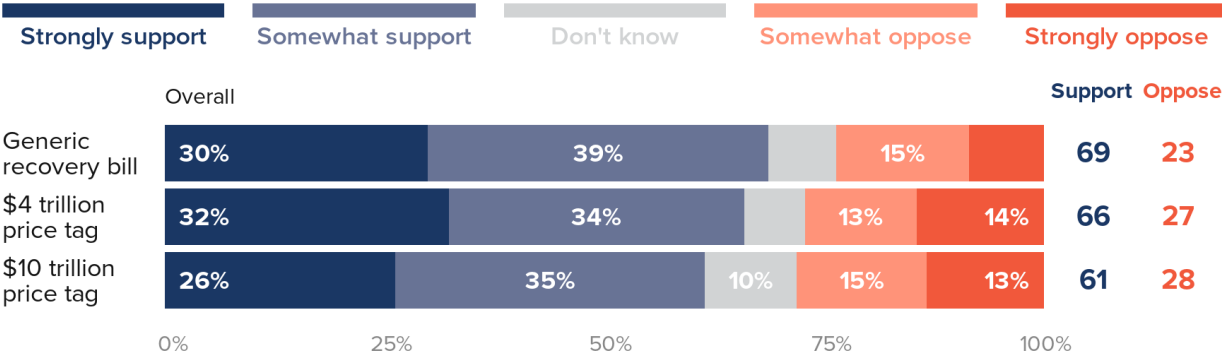
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Even as the price tag rises, a strong majority of voters support a robust economic recovery package

Next, we asked likely voters about their support for an economic recovery package. To do this, the sample was divided three ways: one third of the voters were asked about an economic recovery package with no price tag attached, another third were asked about a \$4 trillion package, and the last third were asked about a \$10 trillion package. Support for passing a recovery package was high under all three scenarios tested. Specifically, the package without a price tag, the \$4 trillion package, and \$10 trillion package are backed by margins of 46-points, 39-points, and 33-points, respectively. While we do observe some shift in attitudes according to cost, even the \$10 trillion plan retains more than 60 percent support among all likely voters.

Voters Overwhelmingly Support Investments in Economic Recovery—No Matter the Cost

We asked voters about their support for an economic recovery package that includes money to expand and update water, electrical, housing, and transportation infrastructure, more money for small businesses and manufacturing, and money for care for elderly and disabled people, among other provisions. We then added a \$4 trillion and a \$10 trillion price tag.

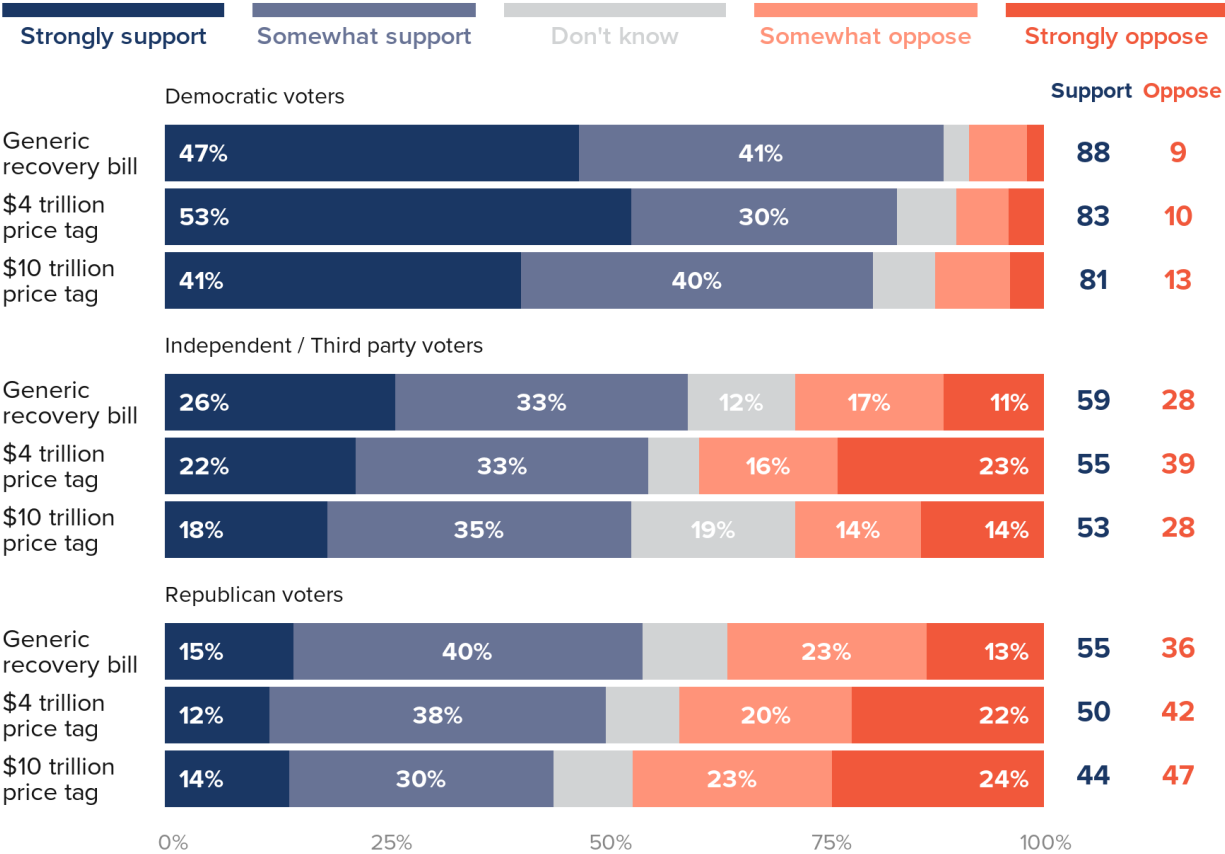


Economic recovery at varying price points remains popular across partisan lines

Major investment in economic recovery — with and without price tags — enjoys support across self-identified partisanship. Nearly every plan we tested is supported by a majority of Democrats, Independents, and Republicans. (The sole exception is that Republicans are divided, almost evenly, on supporting \$10 trillion in economic relief.)

Investments in Economic Recovery Have Bipartisan Support—Even as the Price Tag Increases

We asked voters about their support for an economic recovery package that includes money to expand and update water, electrical, housing, and transportation infrastructure, more money for small businesses and manufacturing, and money for care for elderly and disabled people, among other provisions. We then added a \$4 trillion and a \$10 trillion price tag.



Conclusion

Likely voters want to see lawmakers pass additional pandemic relief and a sizable economic recovery package. Support for additional spending isn't dampened when likely voters are told that a rescue package was passed in March. While we do observe some deviation in attitudes based upon the price tag of a recovery package, even \$10 trillion in new spending retains robust majority support. More spending enjoys substantial bipartisan support and is enthusiastically backed by voters under the age of 45 and Black and Latinx voters.

SURVEY METHODOLOGY

From April 21 to 25, 2021, Data for Progress conducted a survey of 1,730 likely voters — including oversamples of Black, Latinx, and under-45 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 ± 2 percentage points.