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AMERICA**

Voters Want Immediate, Substantial Coronavirus Relief Aid

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Executive Summary

- ▶ New polling in a late January survey by Data for Progress and Invest in America finds that likely voters want coronavirus relief as soon as possible
- ▶ The majority of voters support key provisions of President Biden's proposed coronavirus relief package
- ▶ Voters also want Democrats in Congress to move forward with passing the bill, even without Republican support

Introduction

President Biden's proposed \$1.9 trillion coronavirus stimulus package offers much needed support to American workers, frontline workers and small businesses. Republican reactions to the proposal, however, drew attention to both the cost of the bill and the timing of the bill. Senator Susan Collins, for example, criticized the bill for being rushed and pointed to the need to wait and see what additional aid is needed in a few months, given that Congress just passed a bill in December. New polling from January 29 to February 1st by Data for Progress and Invest in America of 1,126 likely voters tested attitudes on the main Republican arguments against the bill, the timing and manner in which the bill should be passed, and support for individual provisions in the bill. We find overwhelming support for further aid to be passed as soon as possible, even if this means it moves forward without Republican support. As Democrats in the Senate start the process of reconciliation, it is imperative that they push forward this much needed aid to Americans — which is supported by the majority of voters across party lines — and take the necessary steps to start our economic recovery.

Voters Support Passing President Biden's Coronavirus Proposal

First we tested likely voters' attitudes using Senator Collins' argument against President Biden's proposal that we should wait for a couple months to see what additional aid may be needed, and then decide if we need to take additional action. The majority of voters (69 percent) prefer to pass more relief as soon as possible to support small businesses, schools and Americans who are struggling, rather than wait and see what aid may be needed. Notably, we find bipartisan support: 80 percent of self-identified Democratic voters, 70 percent of Independents and 55 percent of Republicans want relief as soon as possible.

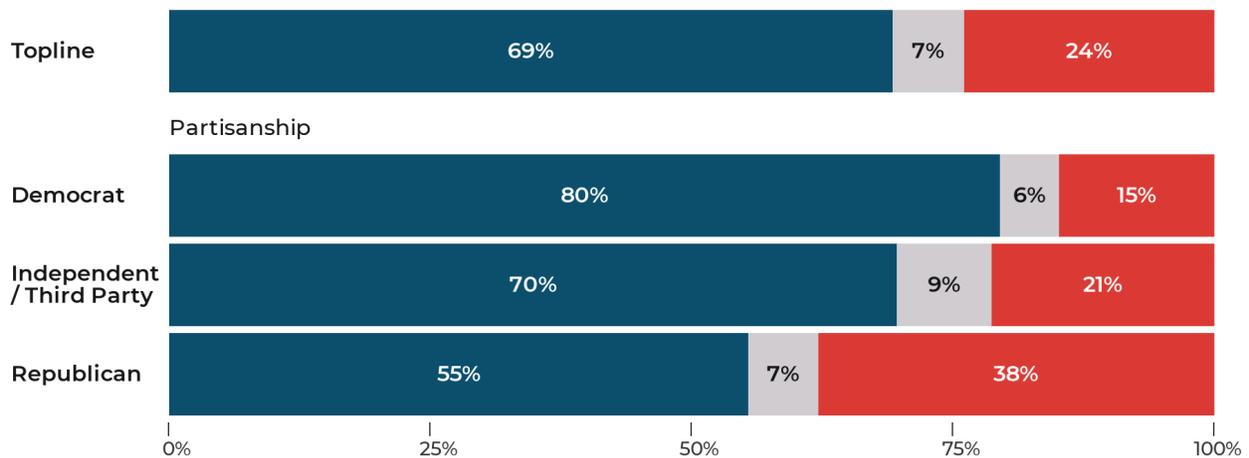
Voters Don't Want to Wait to Pass Emergency Relief

When thinking about an additional coronavirus relief package, which statement comes closer to your view, even if neither is exactly right?

This is an emergency and we need to pass more relief as soon as possible. Small businesses, schools and Americans are struggling day by day and we need to support them as much as we can.

Don't know

We should wait for a couple of months. We just passed a substantial bill in December so we need to wait and see if there will be more need first, and then decide if we need to take additional significant action.



Jan 29 to Feb 1, 2021 survey of 1126 likely voters

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Next we tested Republican arguments on the cost and future ramifications of the proposed recovery package. Senator Mitt Romney has cited the need to decrease the national debt as key to his opposition of the bill. To test this we showed voters two arguments:

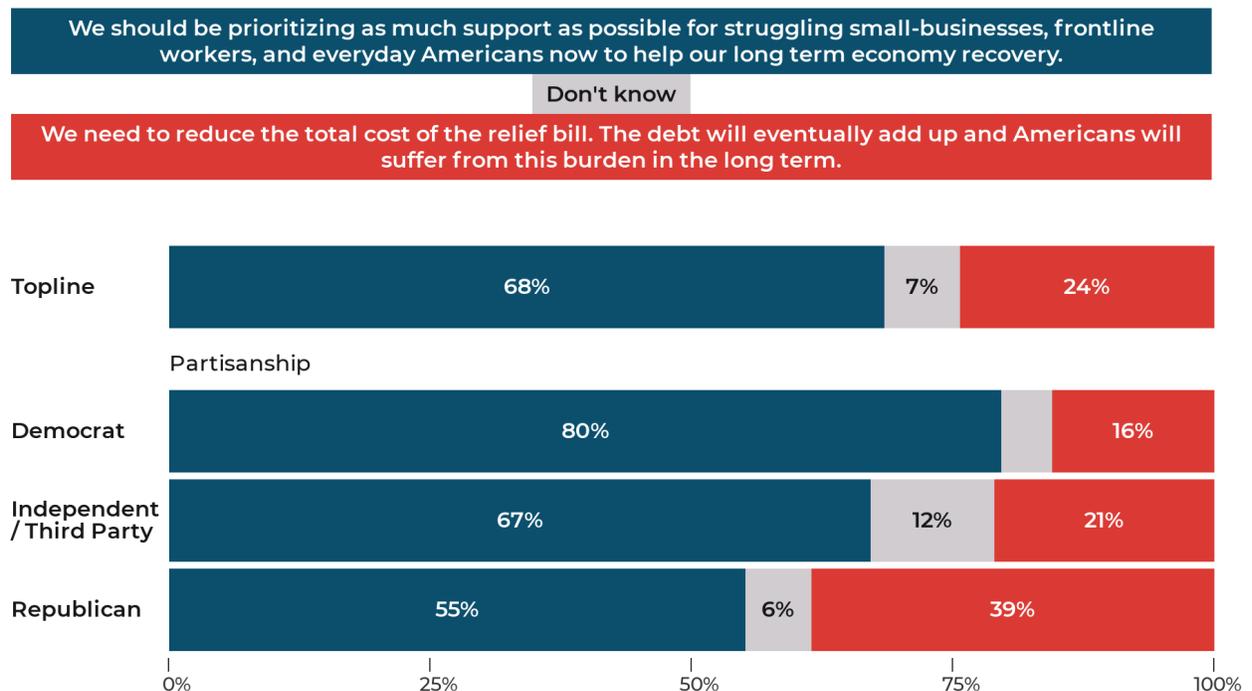
“We should be prioritizing as much relief as possible for struggling small-businesses frontline workers, and everyday Americans now to help our long term economic recovery.”

“We need to reduce the total cost of the relief bill. The debt will eventually add up and Americans will suffer from this burden in the long term.”

We find that the majority of voters (68 percent) support prioritizing as much support as possible for our future economic recovery, rather than being concerned with the national debt. Again, we find bipartisan support: 80 percent of Democrats, 67 percent of Independents, and 55 percent of Republicans want as much recovery as possible now instead of prioritizing a bill that is less costly.

Voters Want As Much Support As Possible For Coronavirus Relief

When thinking about an additional coronavirus relief package, which statement comes closer to your view, even if neither is exactly right?



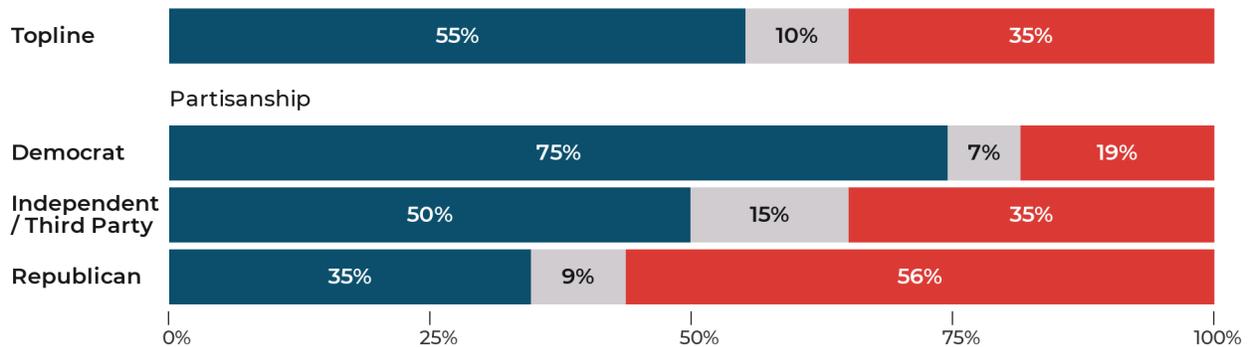
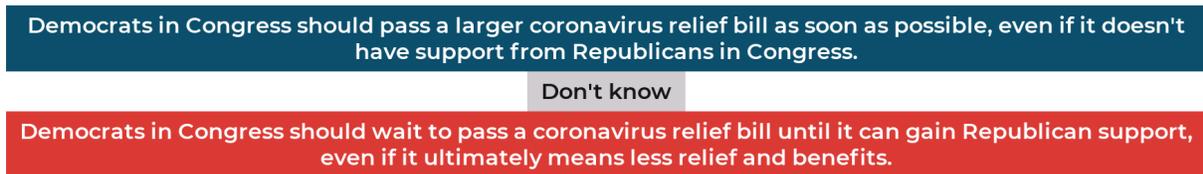
Jan 29 to Feb 1, 2021 survey of 1126 likely voters

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We also examined attitudes on *how* the relief package should be passed. We asked likely voters if Democrats in Congress should wait to pass coronavirus relief with Republican support, even if this means less relief, or if Democrats in Congress should pass a relief bill as soon as possible, even if it doesn't have support from Republicans in Congress. Fifty-five percent of voters want relief as soon as possible, even if it means it gets passed without Republican support. Additionally, we asked voters their views on when Congress should pass Biden's proposed \$1.9 trillion relief bill of stimulus checks, funding for vaccine distributions, and support for schools and small businesses. We find that 60 percent of voters want the bill to be passed as possible, rather than waiting till mid-March, by the summertime or by the end of 2021.

Voters Support Coronavirus Relief As Soon As Possible Even Without GOP Support

Thinking about how lawmakers should pass the proposed coronavirus relief bill, what comes closer to your view?



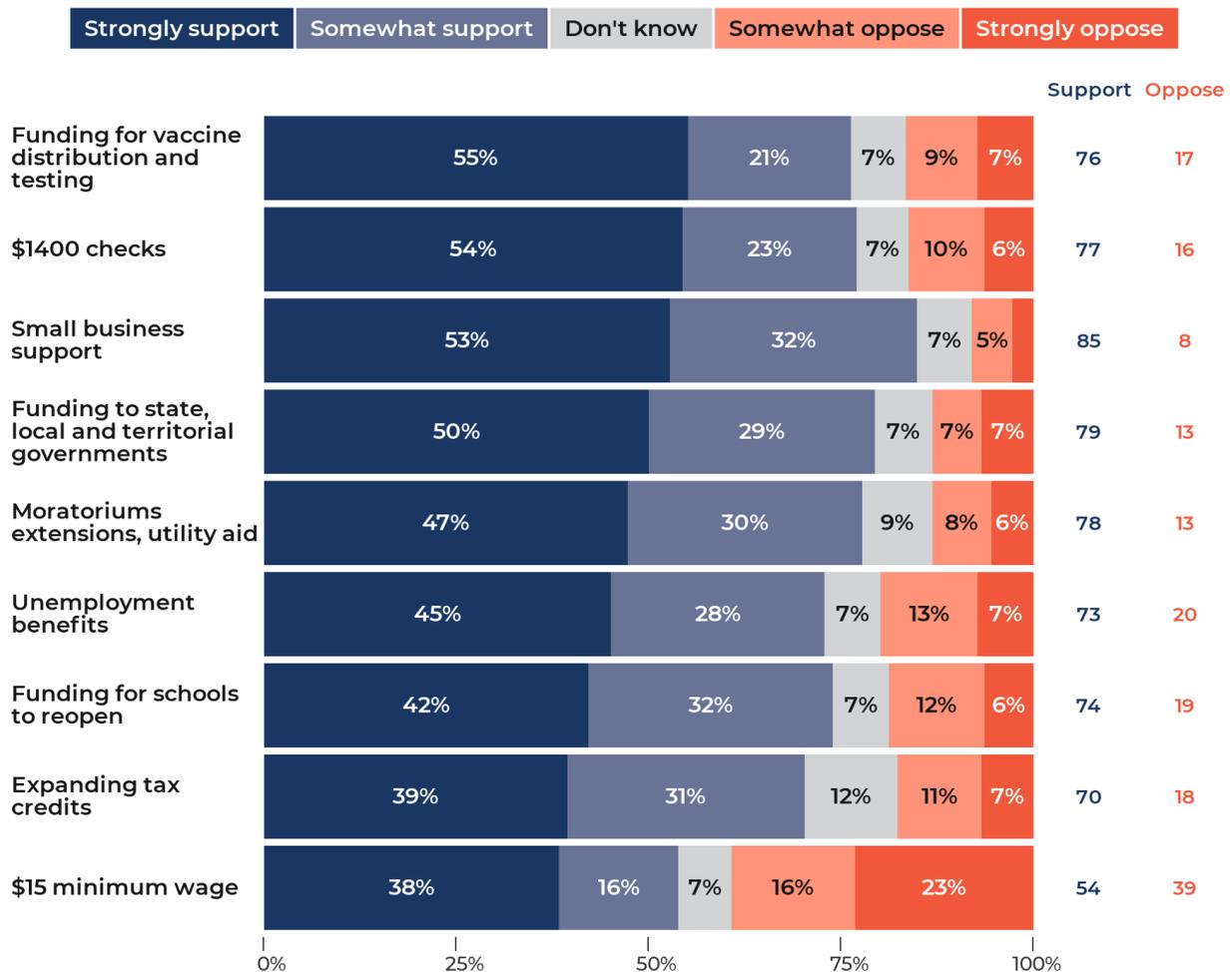
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Lastly, we tested voter support on the different areas of economic relief that President Biden’s plan proposes. This includes: additional \$1400 stimulus checks, extending and expanding unemployment benefits, grants and loans for small businesses, extending moratoriums on evictions and foreclosures and providing utility aid to struggling families, expanding Child Income Tax Credits and Earned Income Tax Credits, increasing the minimum wage to \$15, and a range of funding for vaccine distribution, to schools, and to state, local and territorial governments. Overwhelmingly voters support all of these key provisions, with extraordinarily high levels of support for immediate steps to increase our coronavirus response such as support for small businesses and funding to state, local and territorial governments to prevent layoffs of frontline essential workers and distribute the vaccine.

Voters Support Key Provisions in the Coronavirus Relief Package

Below are the main provisions of the proposed coronavirus relief bill. For each proposal, please indicate where you support or oppose it



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Conclusion

This week, Senate Majority Leader Chuck Schumer and House Speaker Nancy Pelosi introduced a joint resolution that constitutes the first steps to introduce a budget reconciliation bill in Congress and pass the proposed \$1.9 trillion coronavirus package with a simple majority of 51 votes. Our polling shows a consistent pattern of support for Senate Democrats to move forward in passing President Biden's coronavirus relief bill. Voters recognize the emergency that we are in, and the need for substantial actions as soon as possible to support struggling Americans and our long term economic recovery — even if this means Democrats in Congress need to move forward without bipartisan support.

Methodology

From January 29 to February 1, 2021, Data for Progress conducted a survey of 1126 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 ± 2.9 percentage points.