



RONALD  REAGAN
INSTITUTE

Reagan Institute Summer Survey

Prepared by Beacon Research and Shaw & Company Research, June 2023



About the Survey

Mode	Combined telephone (n=494) and online panel (n=760) survey. Telephone interviews conducted by trained professionals calling landlines (49%) and cellphones (51%).
Sample	1,254 US adults
Dates	May 30 – June 6, 2023
Weights	Slight weights were applied to ensure the sample accurately reflects the demographic profile of the US population.
Margin of Error	±2.8% at the 95% confidence level for the entire sample, ±3.9% for split-sampled questions. The margin of error for subgroups is higher.
Research Partnership	 
Note	Some data may not add to 100% due to rounding.

POLITICAL ENVIRONMENT

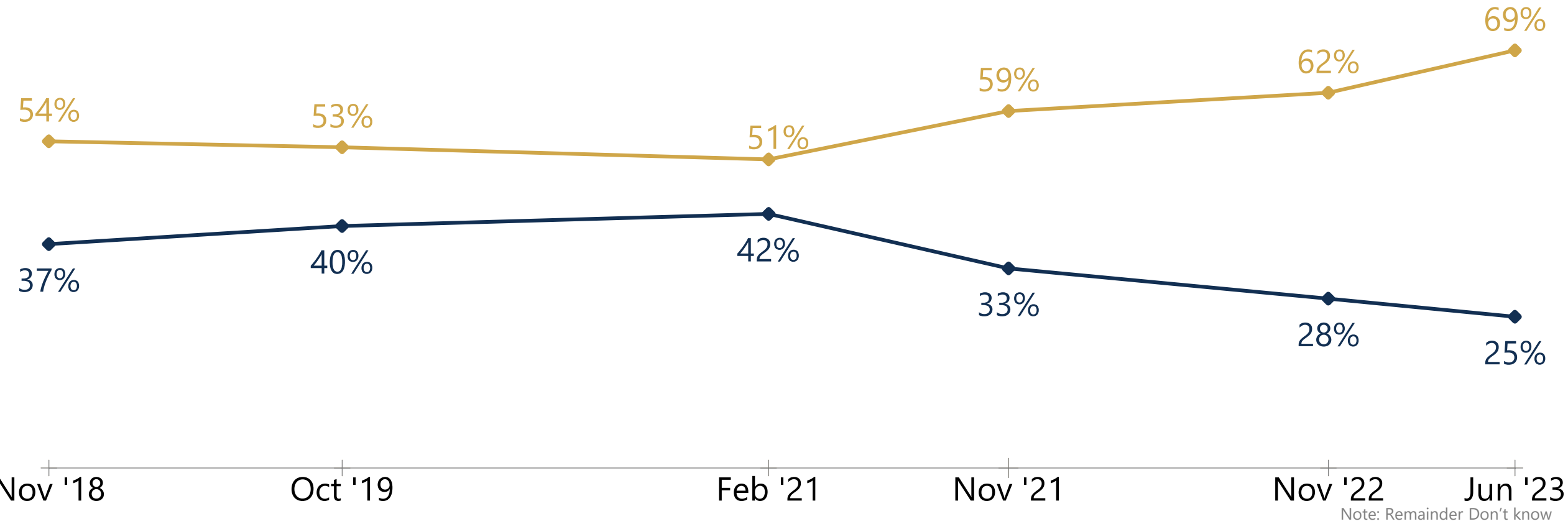




Deepening pessimism about the direction of the country.

◆ Right direction ◆ Wrong track

Democrat 49% (+10)
Independent 71% (+7)
Republican 87% (+3)

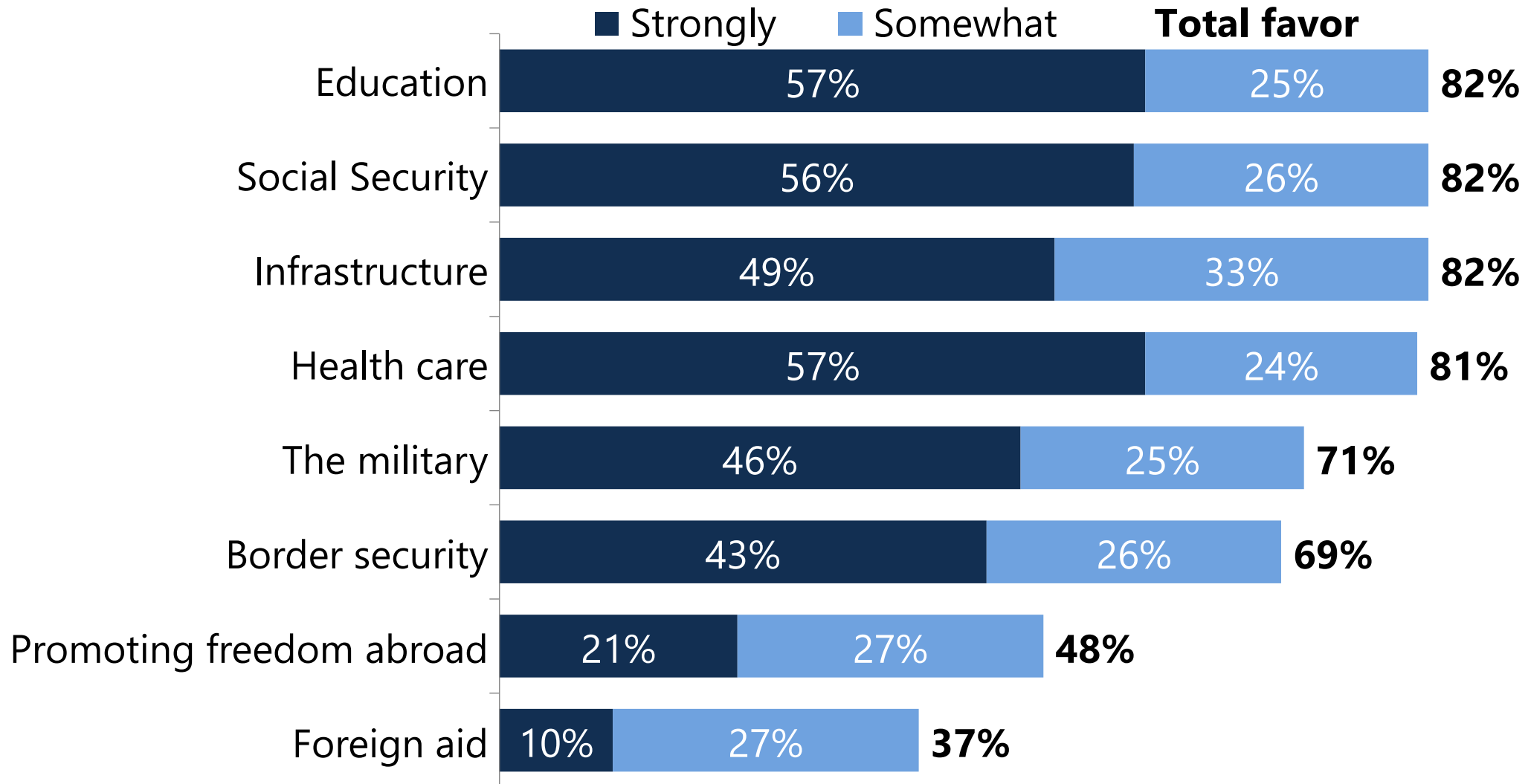


Note: Remainder Don't know

Q2. Would you say things in the United States today are:



Broad support for increased domestic and military spending.

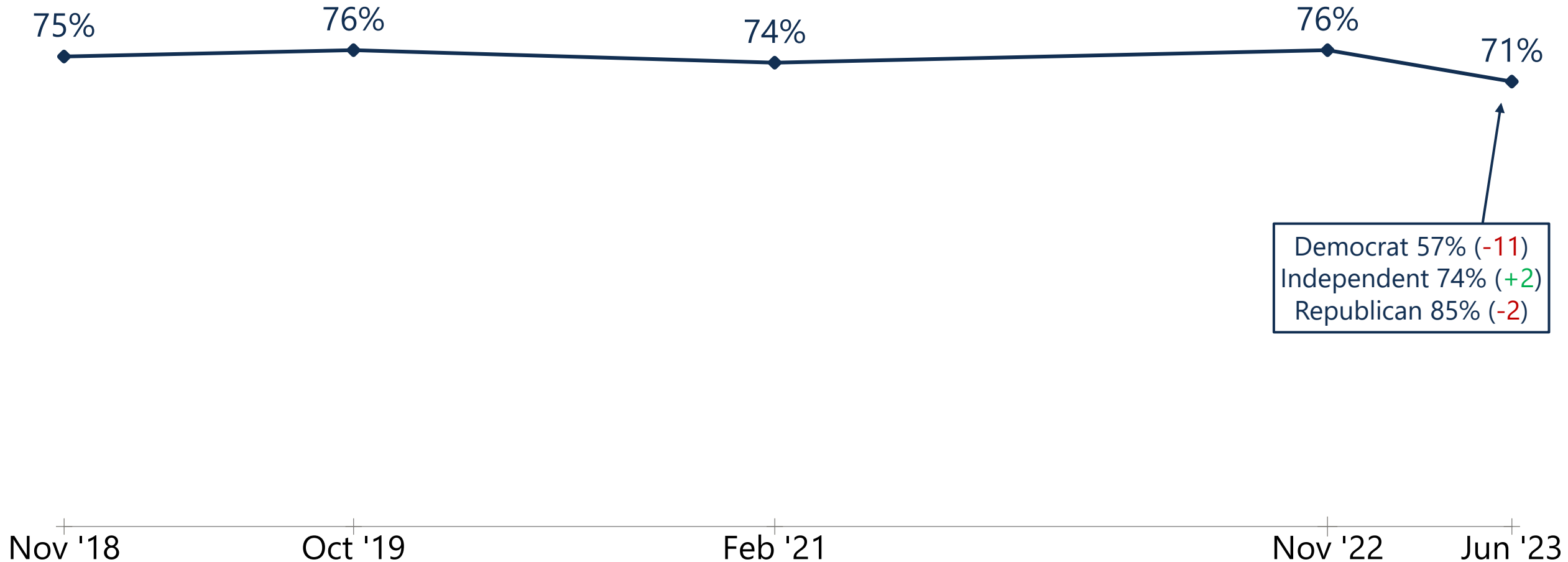


Q3-10. Do you favor or oppose increasing government spending in each of the following areas?



Support for increasing military spending remains high.

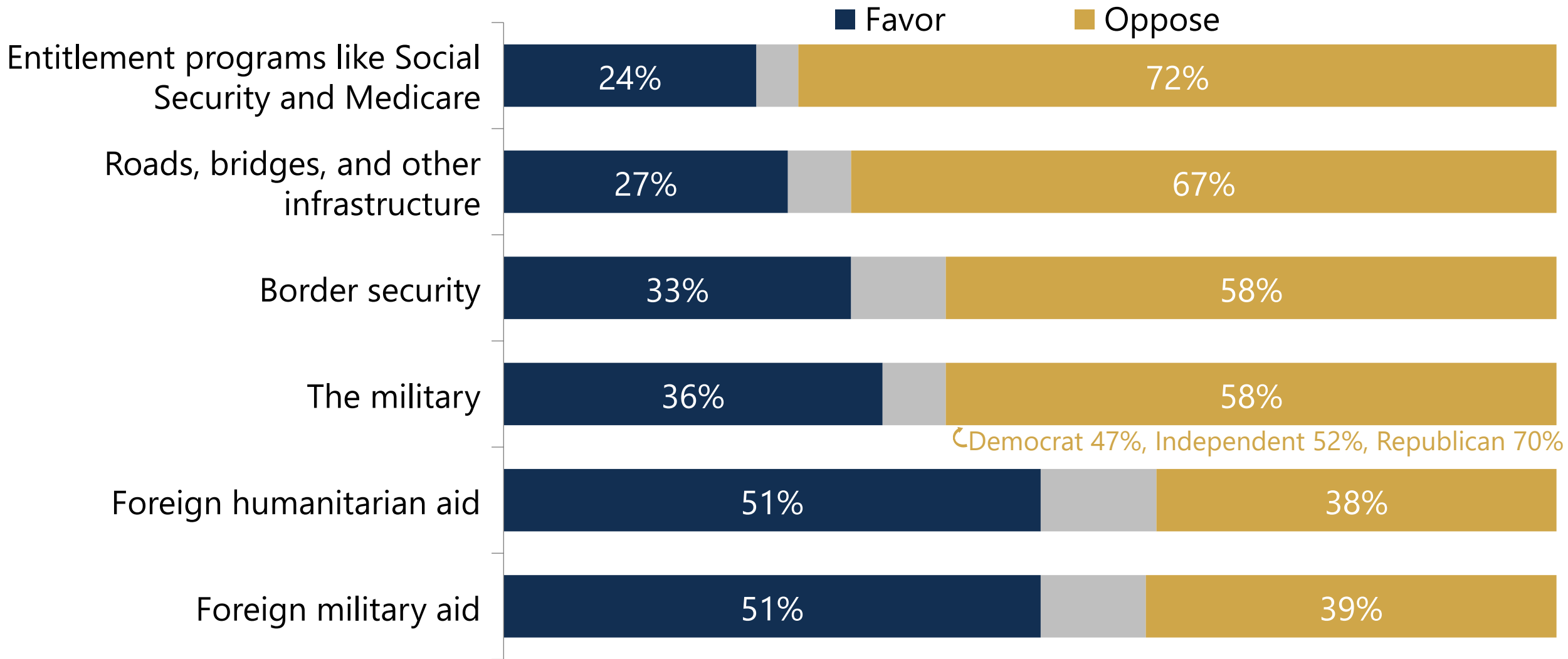
Favor Increased Military Spending



Q3-10. Do you favor or oppose increasing government spending in each of the following areas?



Majorities oppose cuts to military, border security, infrastructure and entitlements to reduce deficit.



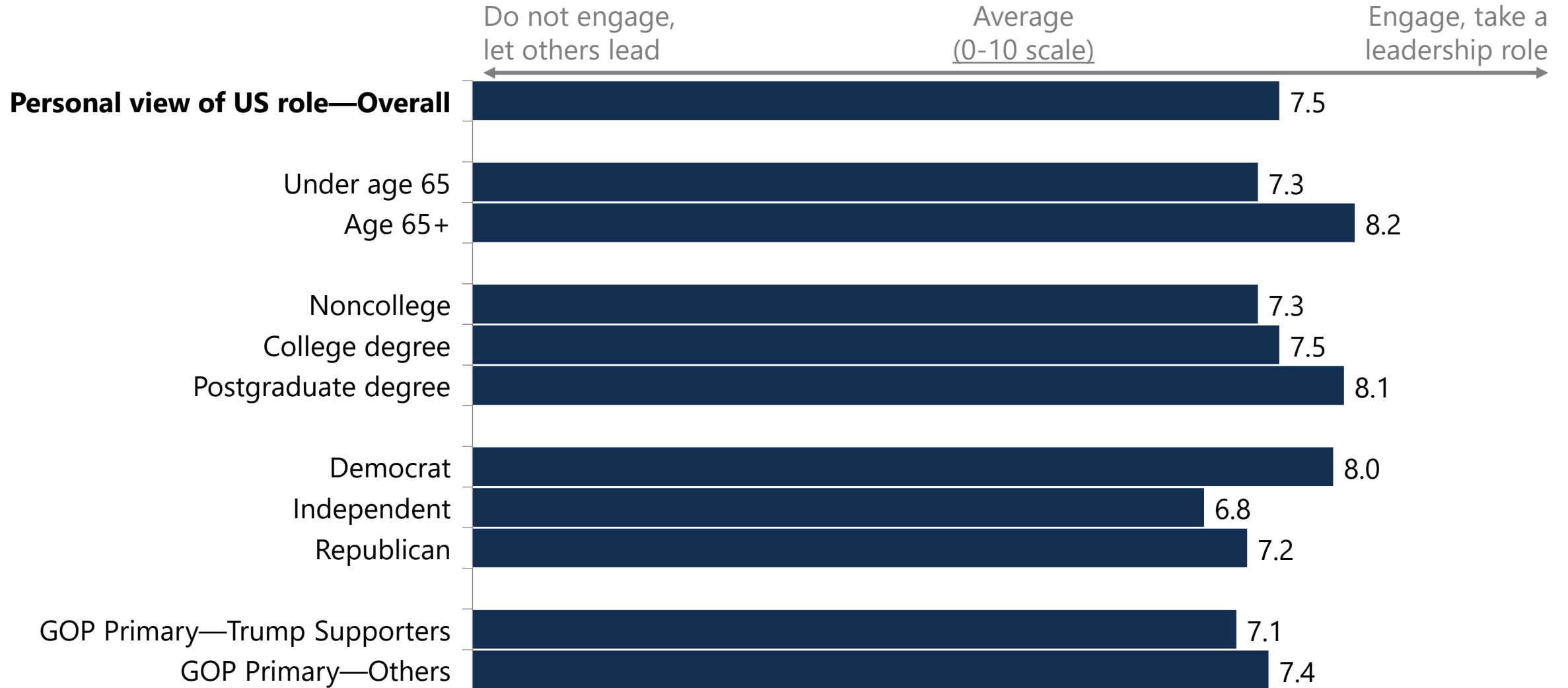
Note: Remainder Don't know

Q11-16. In order to reduce the federal budget deficit, would you favor or oppose cutting spending on each of the following?

FOREIGN POLICY PHILOSOPHY & GOALS

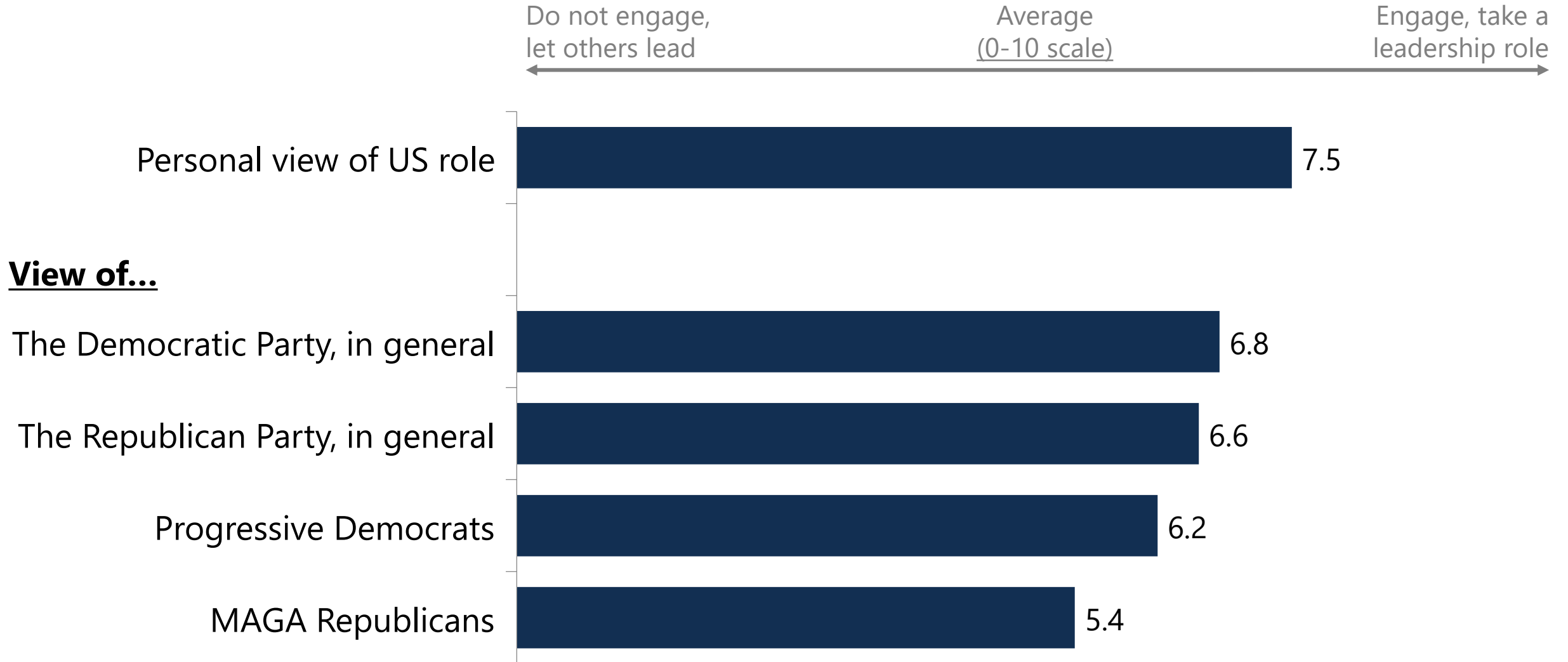


Bipartisan agreement that the US should engage and lead on world issues.



Q32. To what extent do you think the US should provide international leadership and engage with the world's issues?
0=US should not engage and let others lead, 10=US should engage and take a leadership role

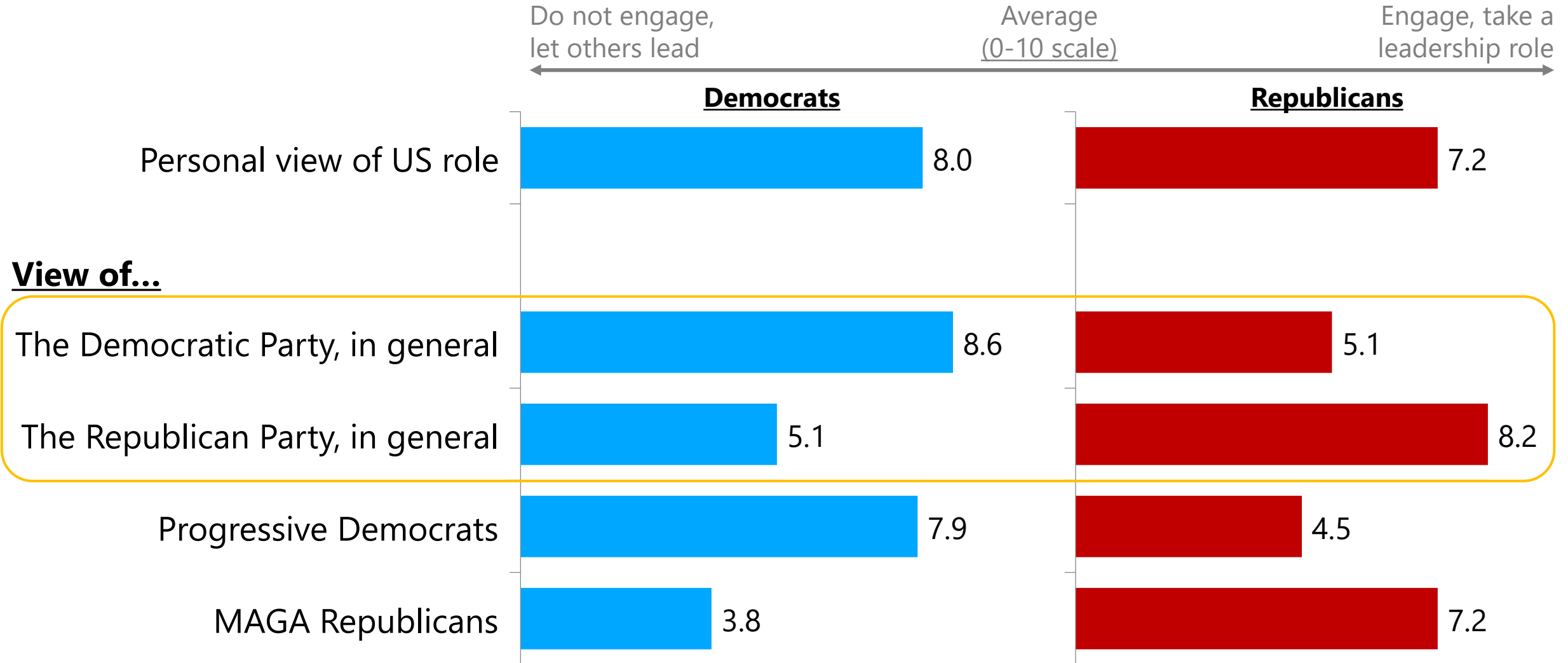
MAGA movement seen as farthest from desired US engagement stance.



Q32-36. To what extent do you think the US and political groups should provide international leadership and engage with the world's issues?
0=US should not engage and let others lead, 10=US should engage and take a leadership role



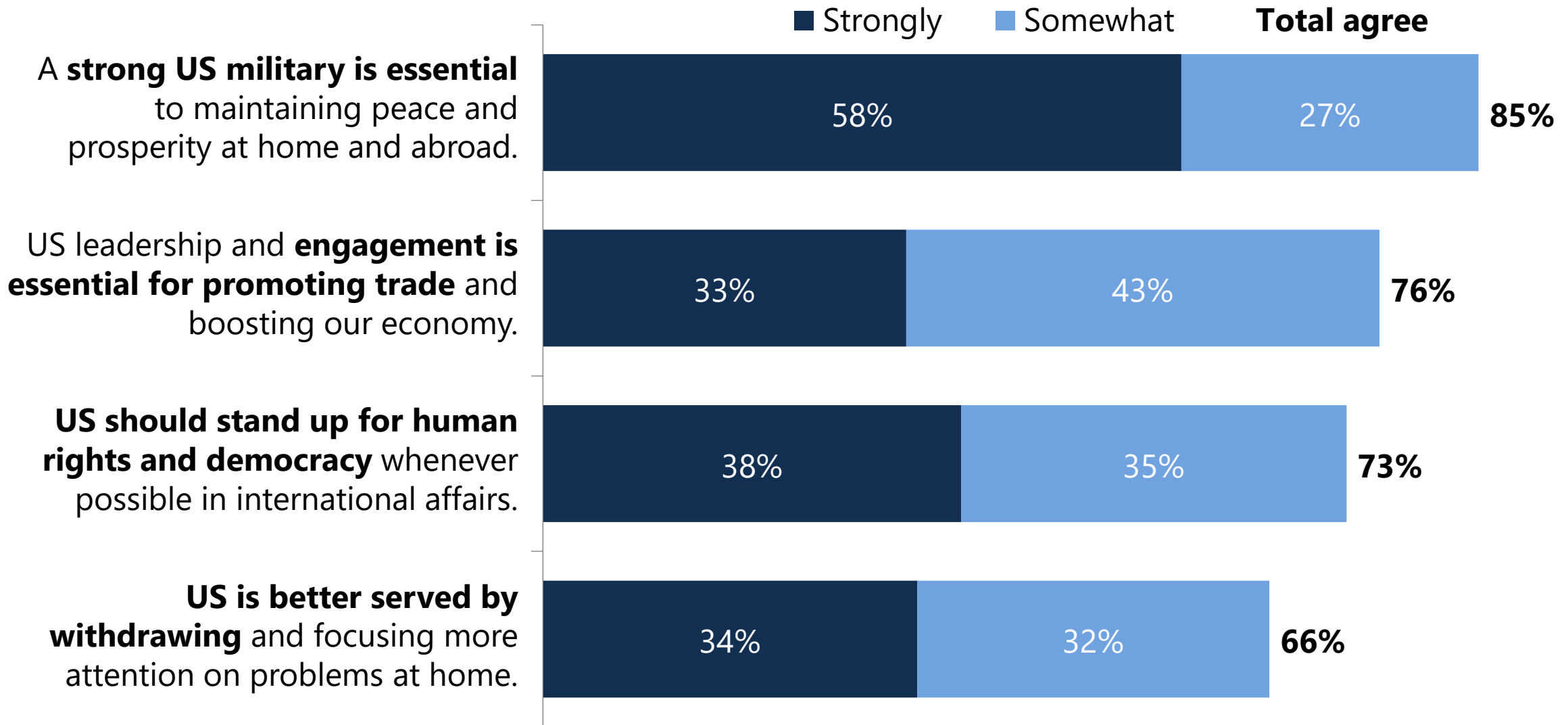
Partisans see the other side as not engaged, and their own side more engaged.



Q32-36. To what extent do you think the US and political groups should provide international leadership and engage with the world's issues?
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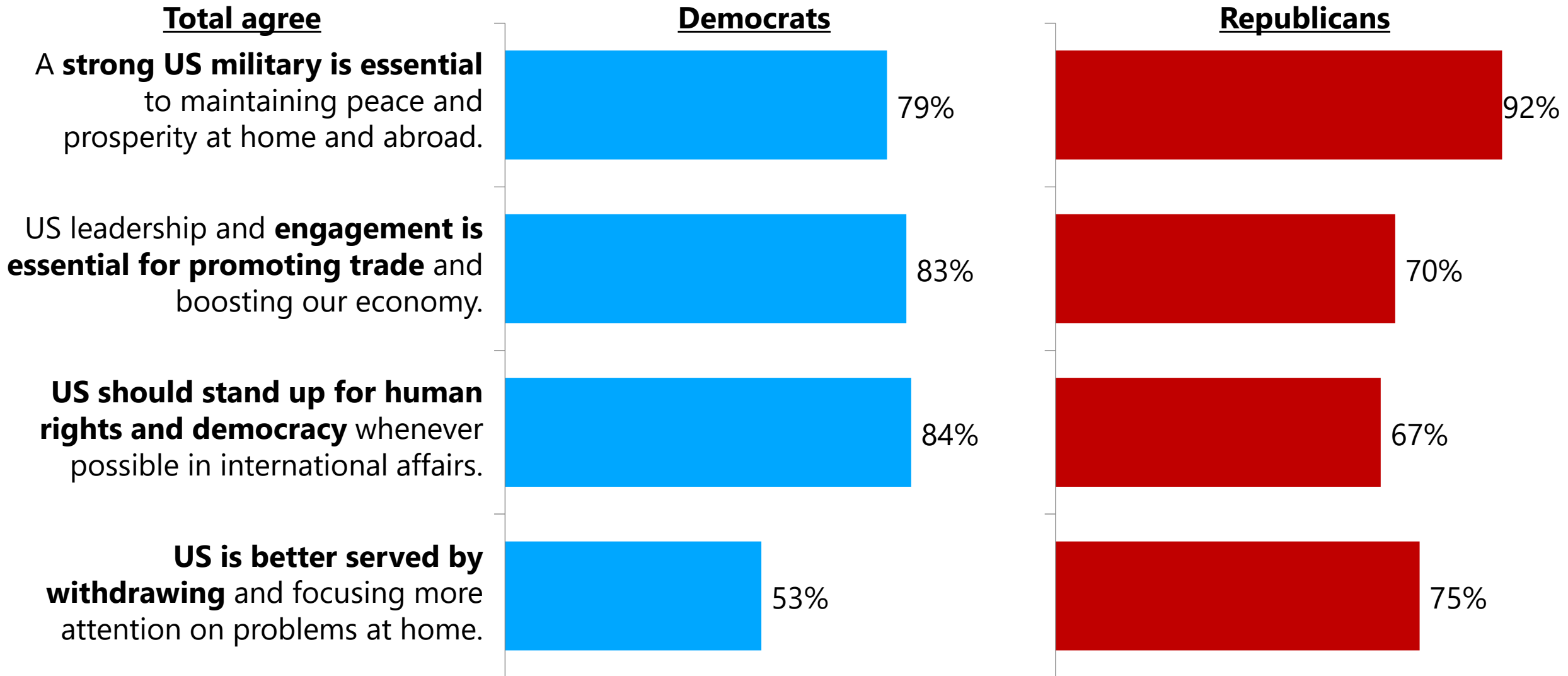
Most think a strong US military is essential for peace; less agreement on engagement versus withdrawal.



Q17-20. Do you agree or disagree with each of the following statements about US leadership and engagement in international events?



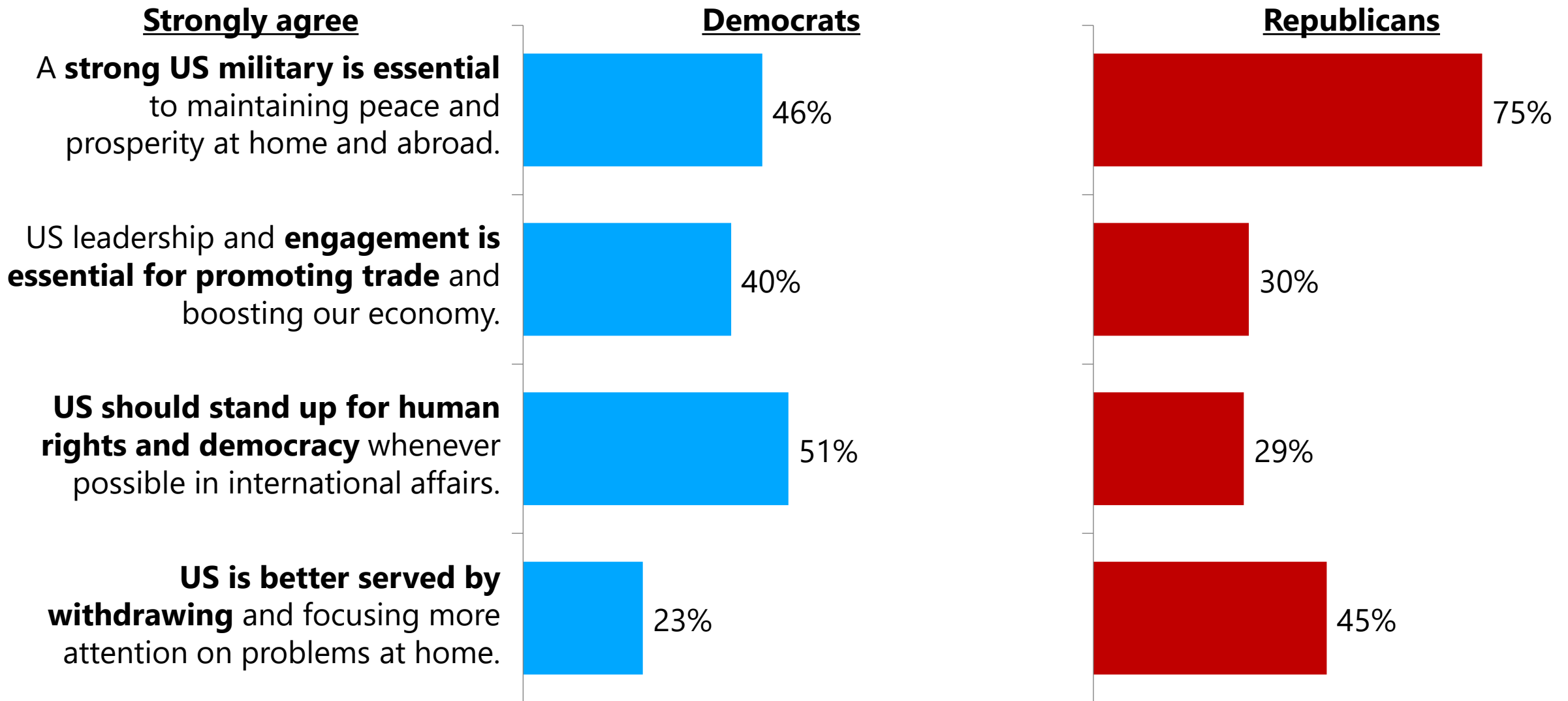
Views of foreign policy philosophy, by party ID.



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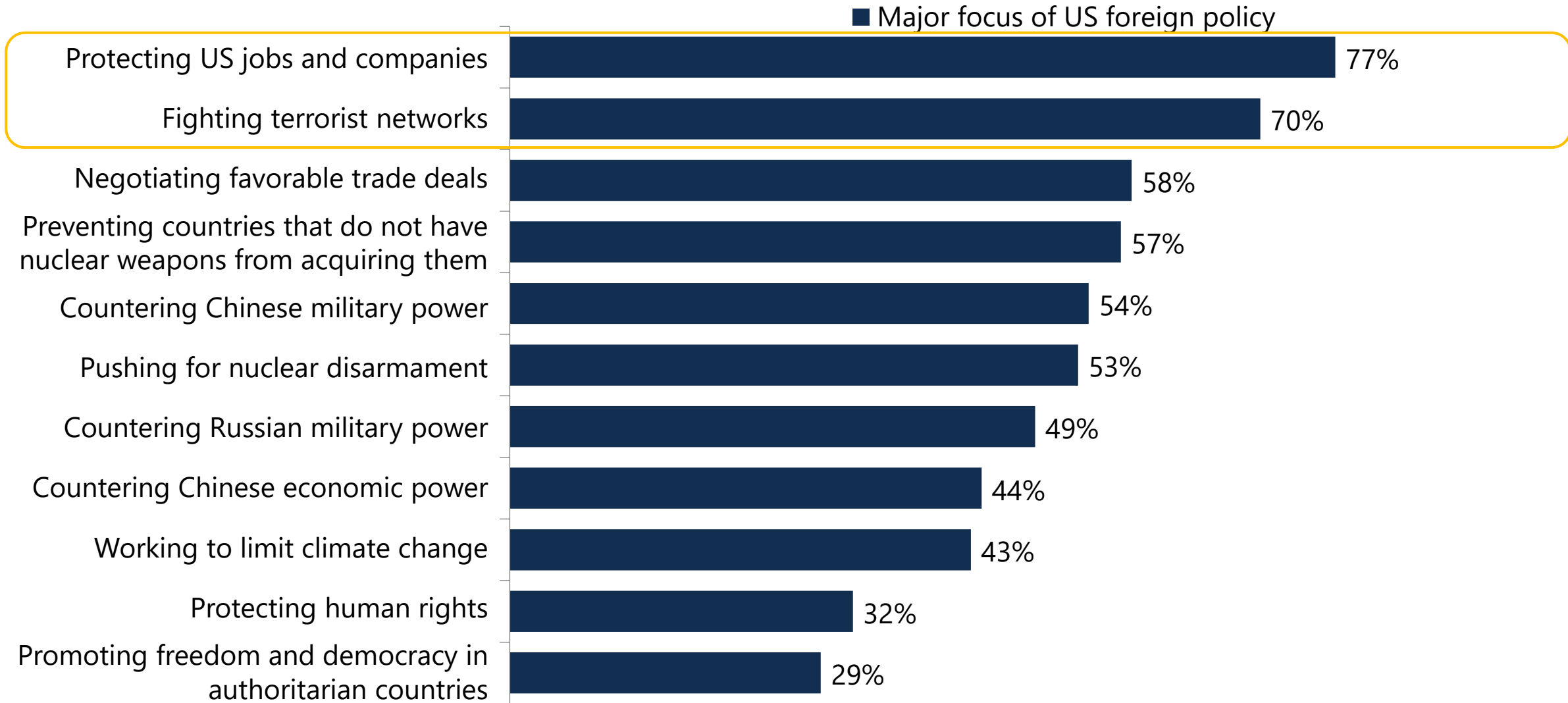
Views of foreign policy philosophy, by party ID.



Q17-20. Do you agree or disagree with each of the following statements about US leadership and engagement in international events?



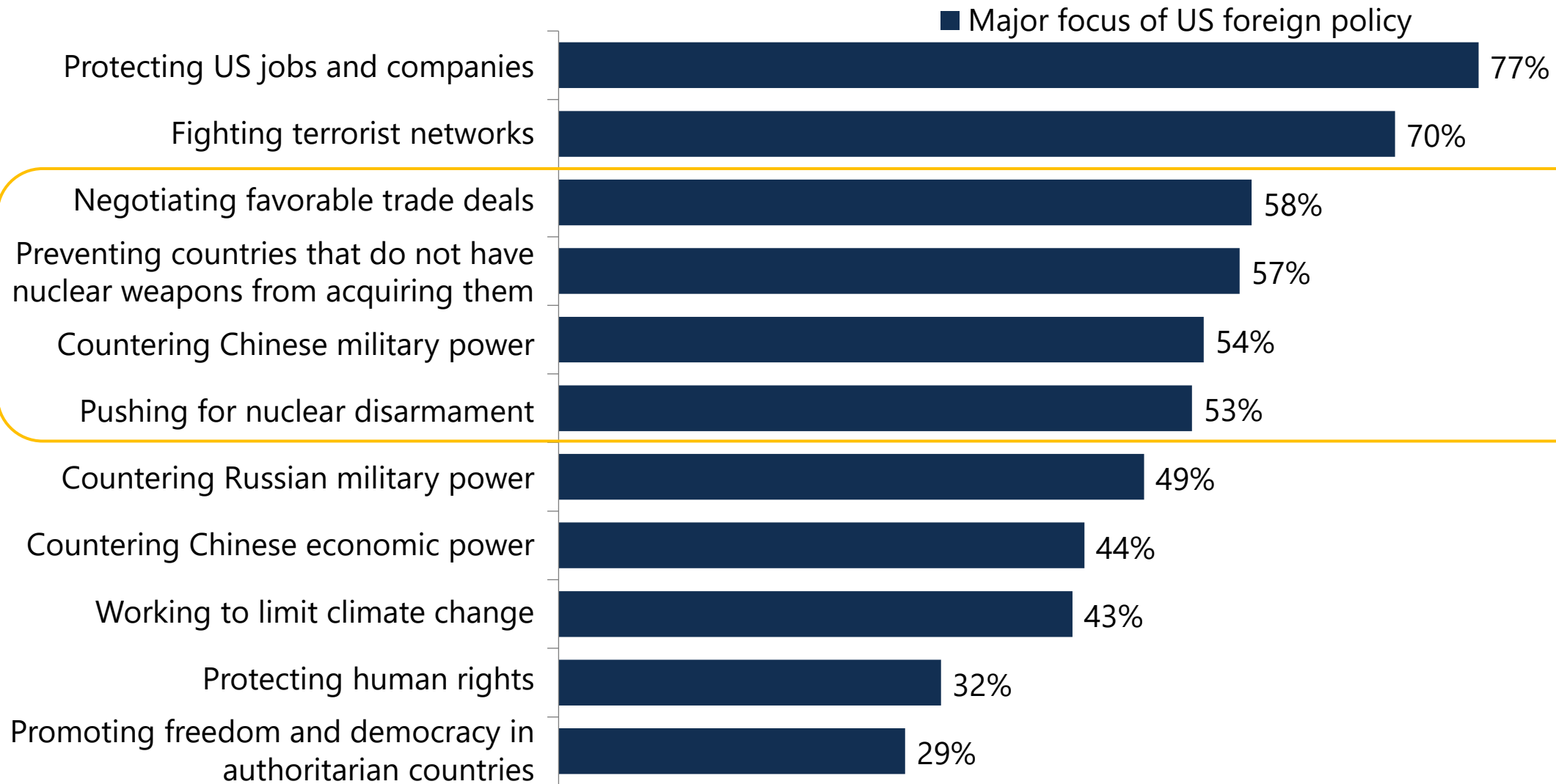
Top focus for foreign policy: protecting jobs, fighting terror.



Q21-31. Next, should each of the following be a major focus of US foreign policy efforts, a minor focus, or not really a focus at all?



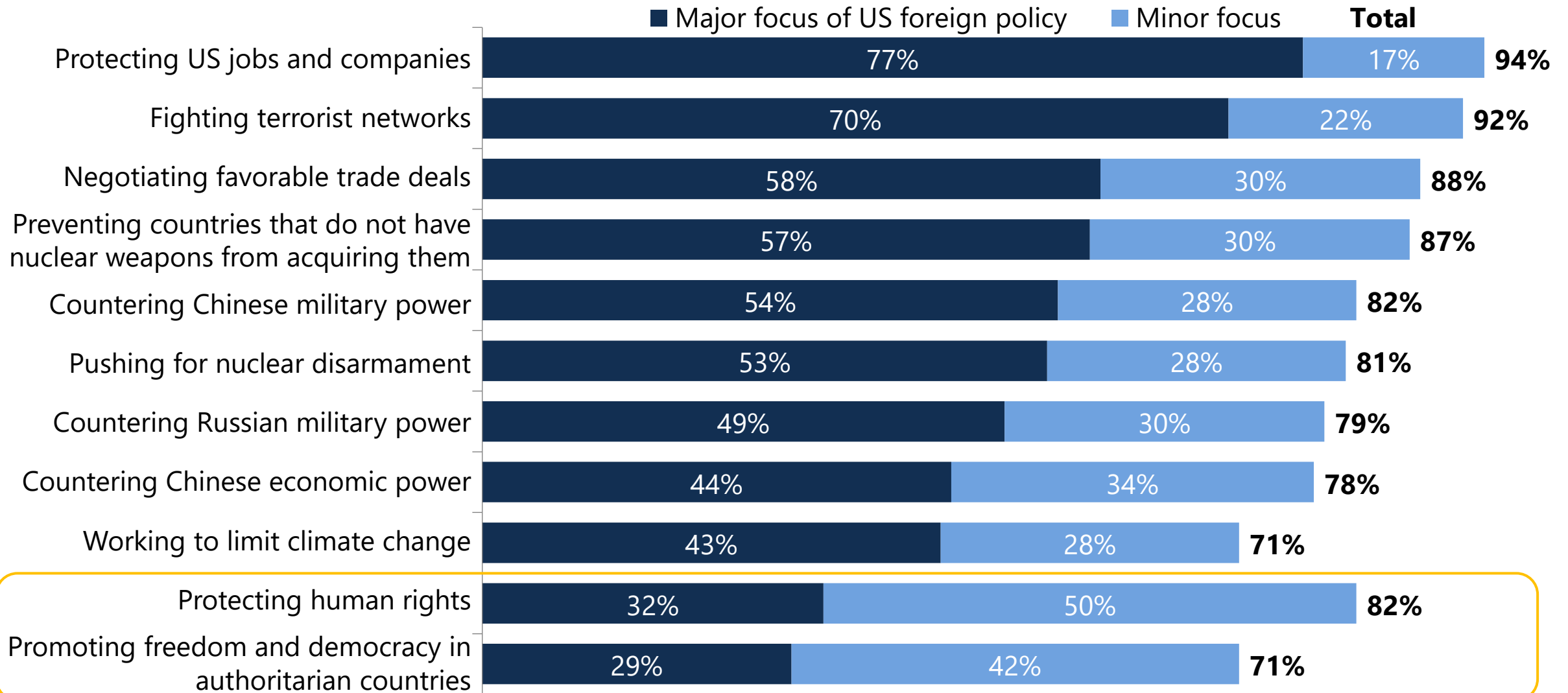
Second-tier goals: trade, nuclear disarmament, countering Chinese military.



Q21-31. Next, should each of the following be a major focus of US foreign policy efforts, a minor focus, or not really a focus at all?



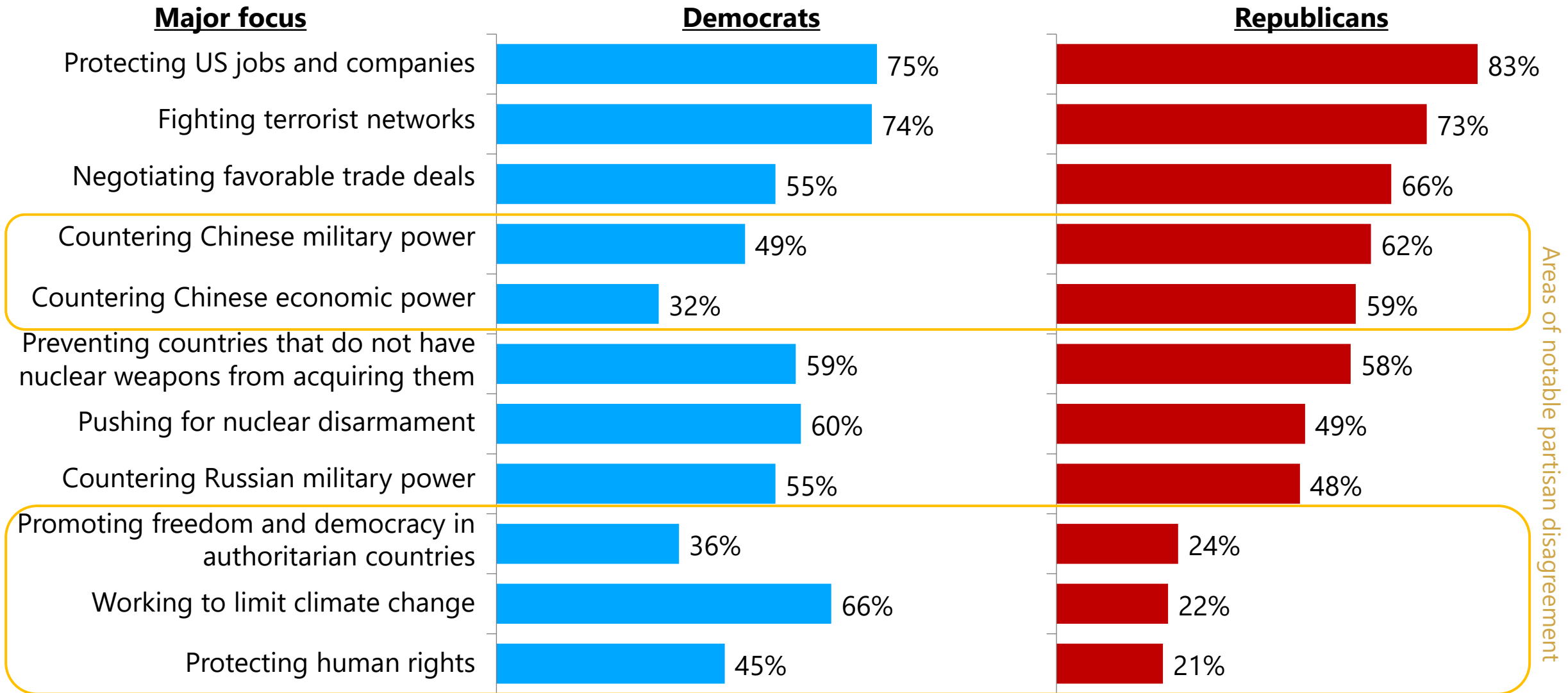
Many see protecting human rights and promoting freedom as at least a minor focus for US foreign policy.



Q21-31. Next, should each of the following be a major focus of US foreign policy efforts, a minor focus, or not really a focus at all?



Focus of US foreign policy by party ID.



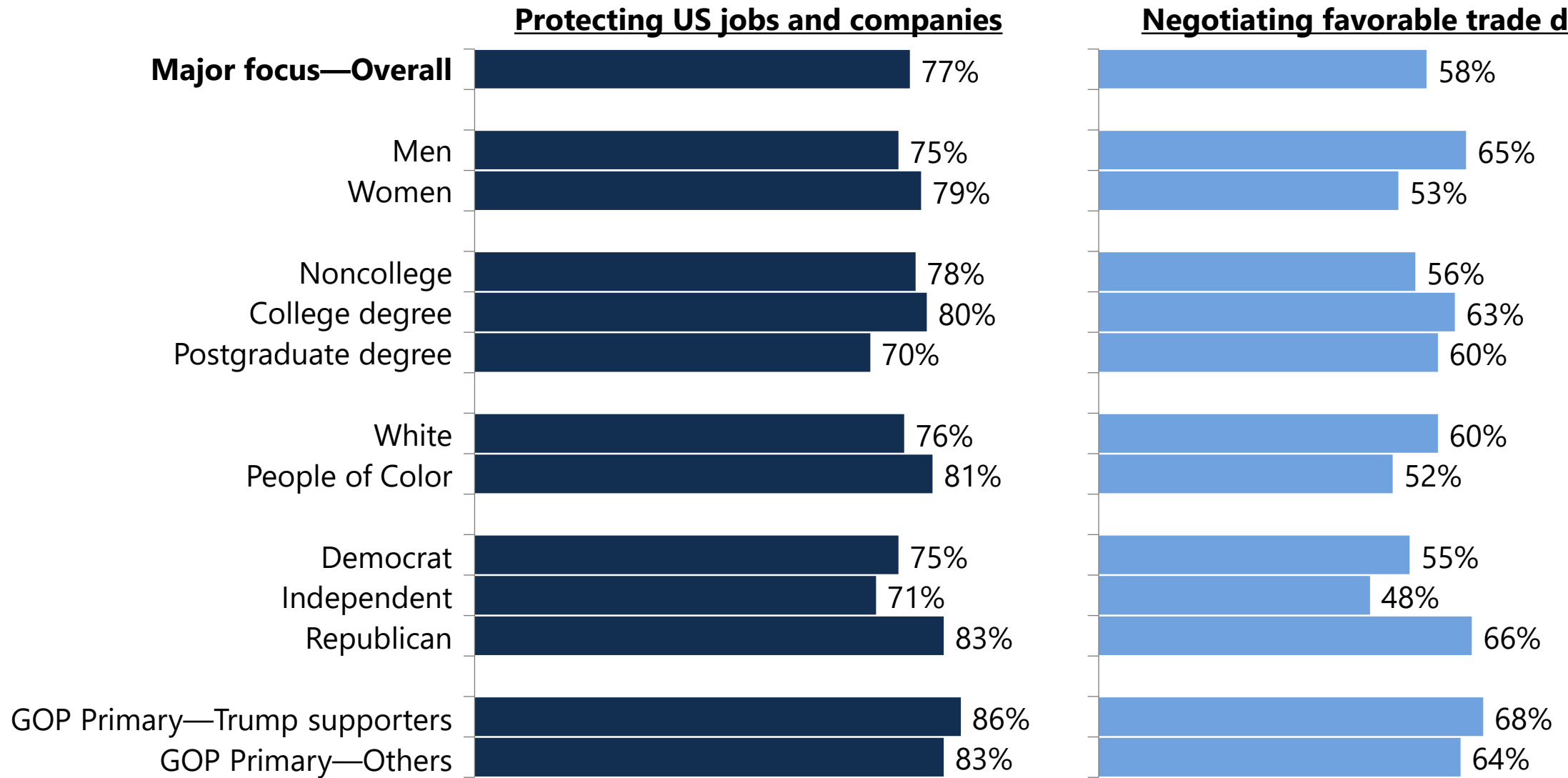
Q21-31. Next, should each of the following be a major focus of US foreign policy efforts, a minor focus, or not really a focus at all?

INTERNATIONAL TRADE





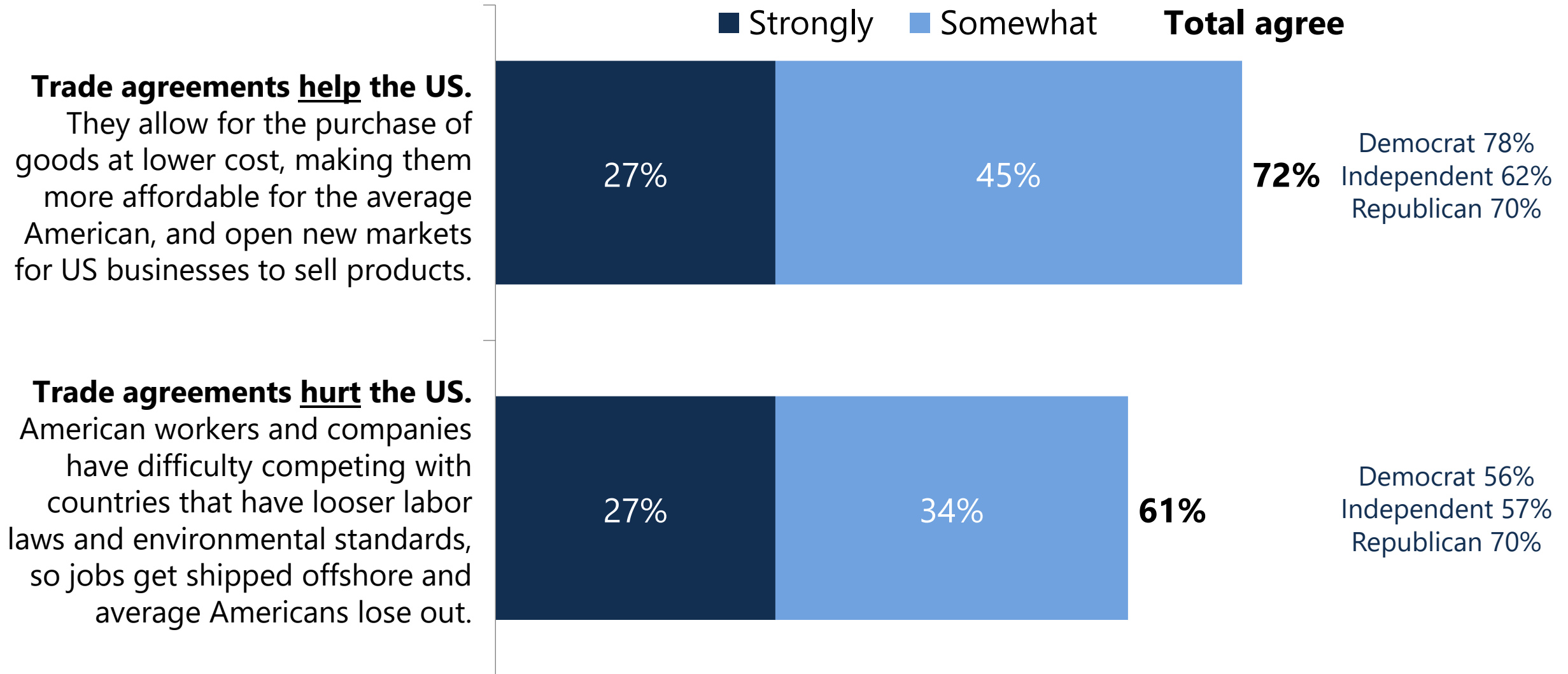
Views of trade as a focus of foreign policy, by subgroup.



Q30 AND 25. Next, should each of the following be a major focus of US foreign policy efforts, a minor focus, or not really a focus at all?

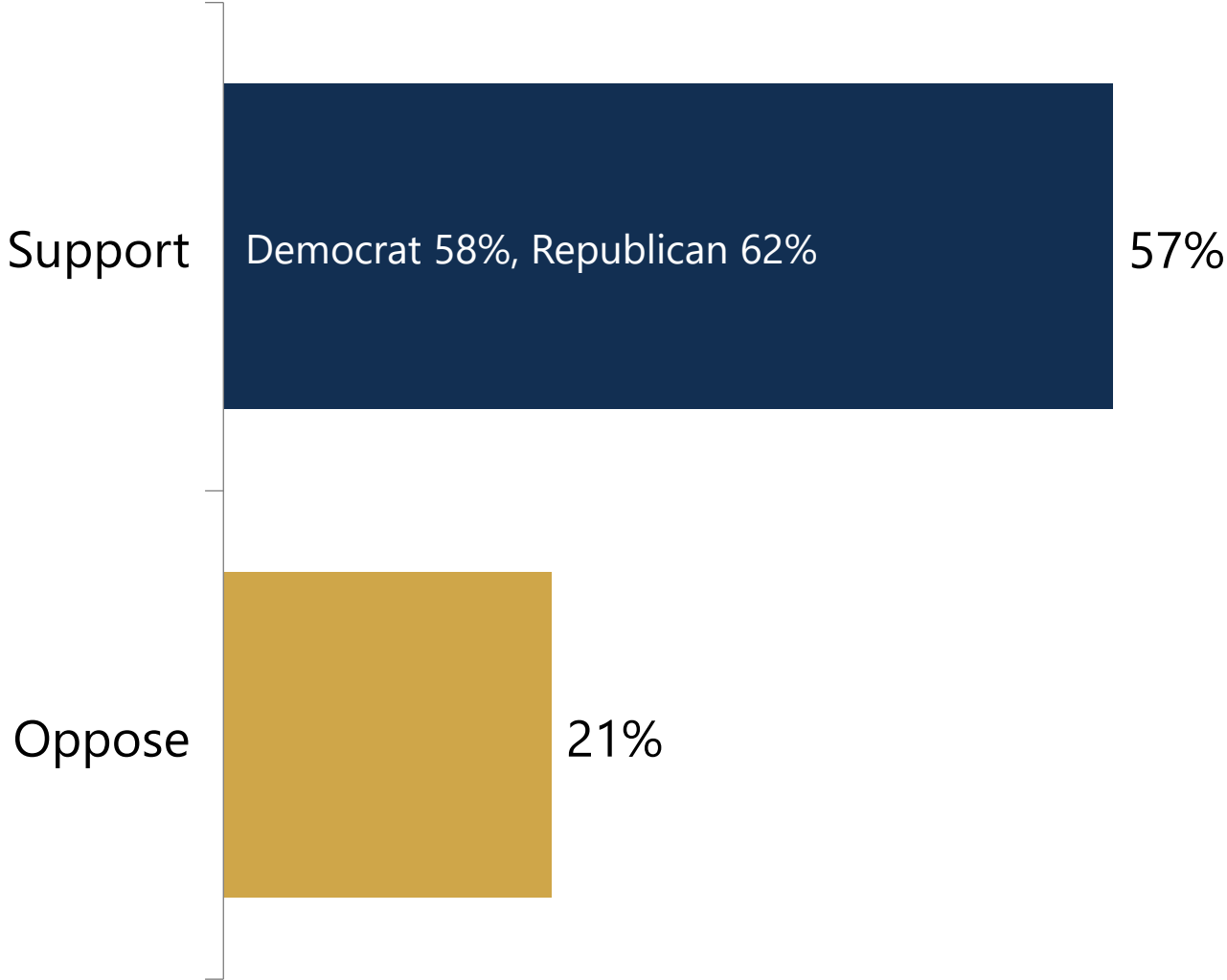


Mixed views on effect of foreign trade agreements.



Q37-38. To what extent do you agree or disagree with the following statements?

Majority would support a trade agreement designed to counter China.



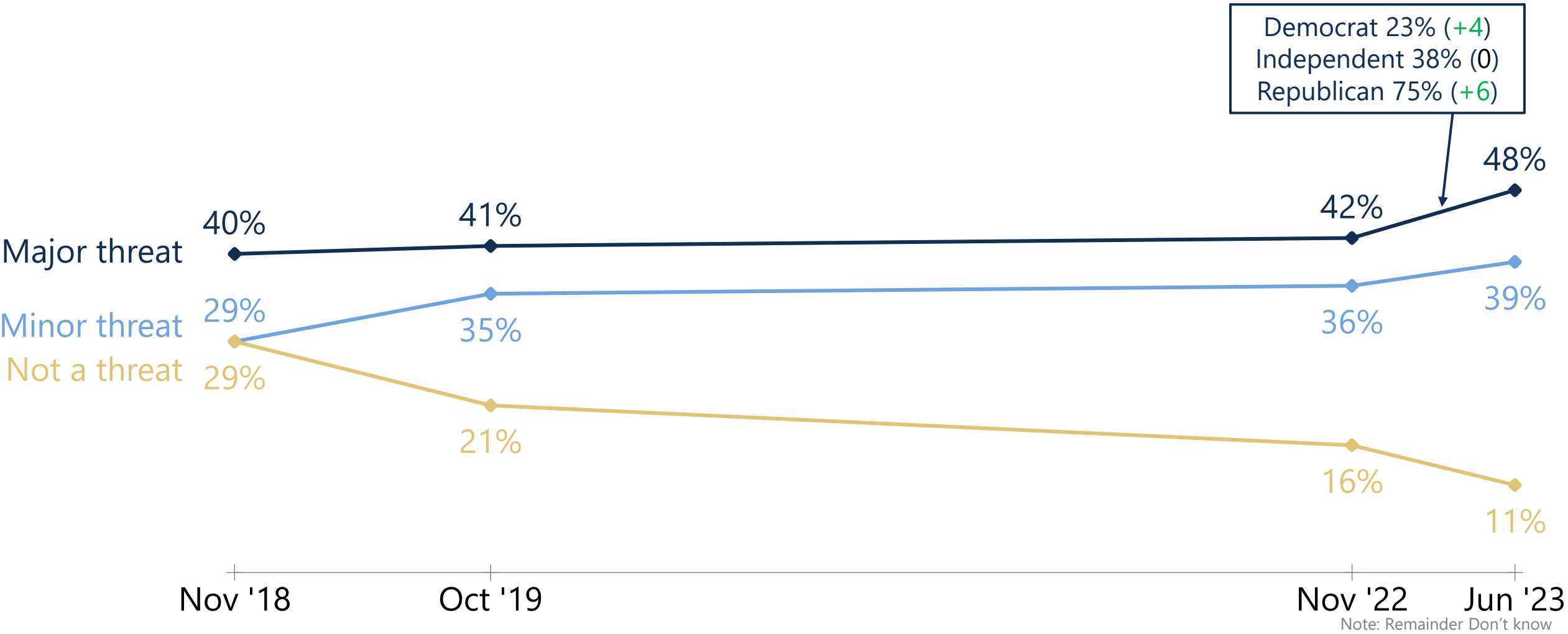
Note: Remainder Don't know

Q39. Would you support or oppose a foreign trade agreement with countries in Asia if you knew that the agreement was designed to counter Chinese economic power?

IMMIGRATION



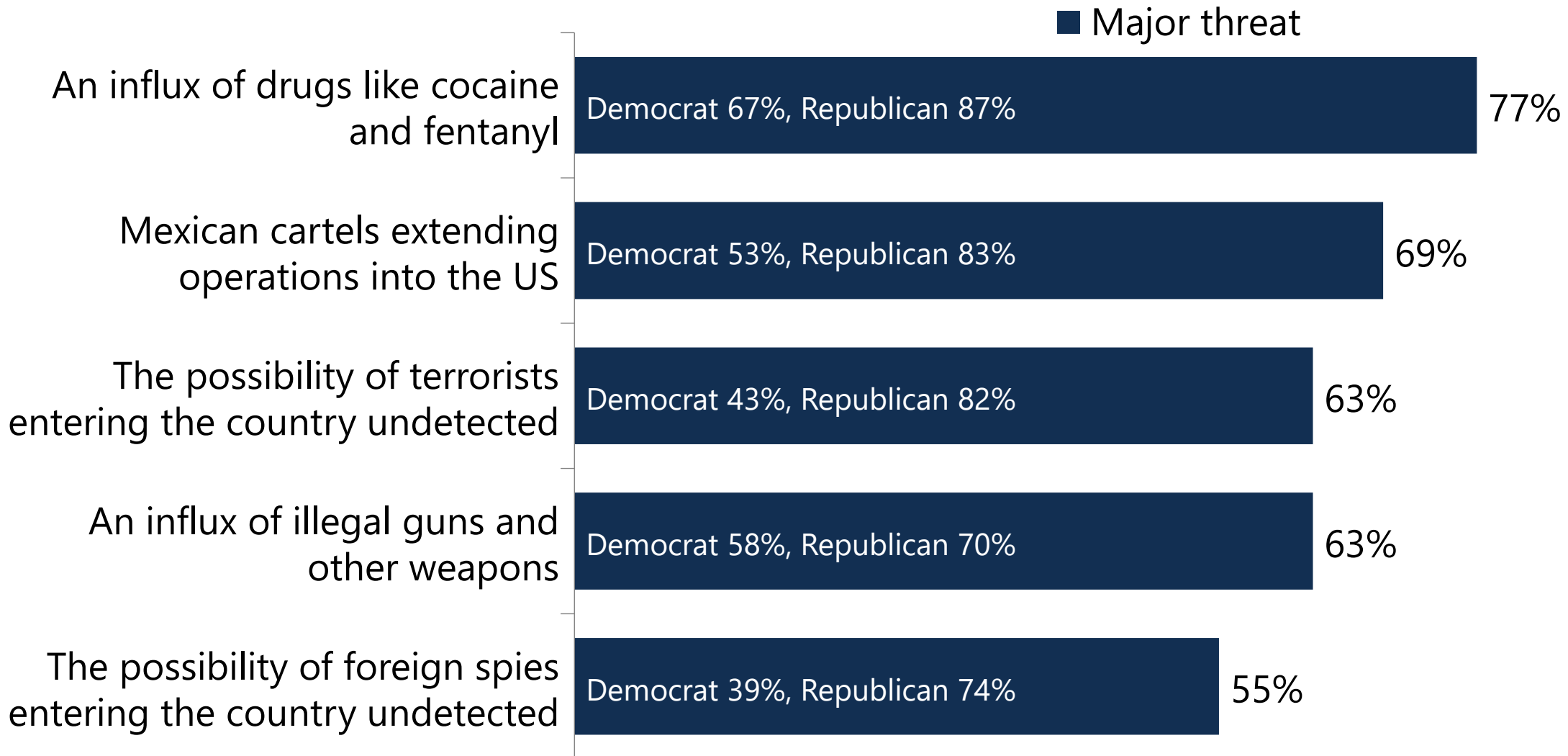
Slight increase in view of illegal immigration as a security threat.



Q42. How much of a security threat is illegal immigration across our southern border?



Top security threats from illegal immigration: drugs and cartel operations.



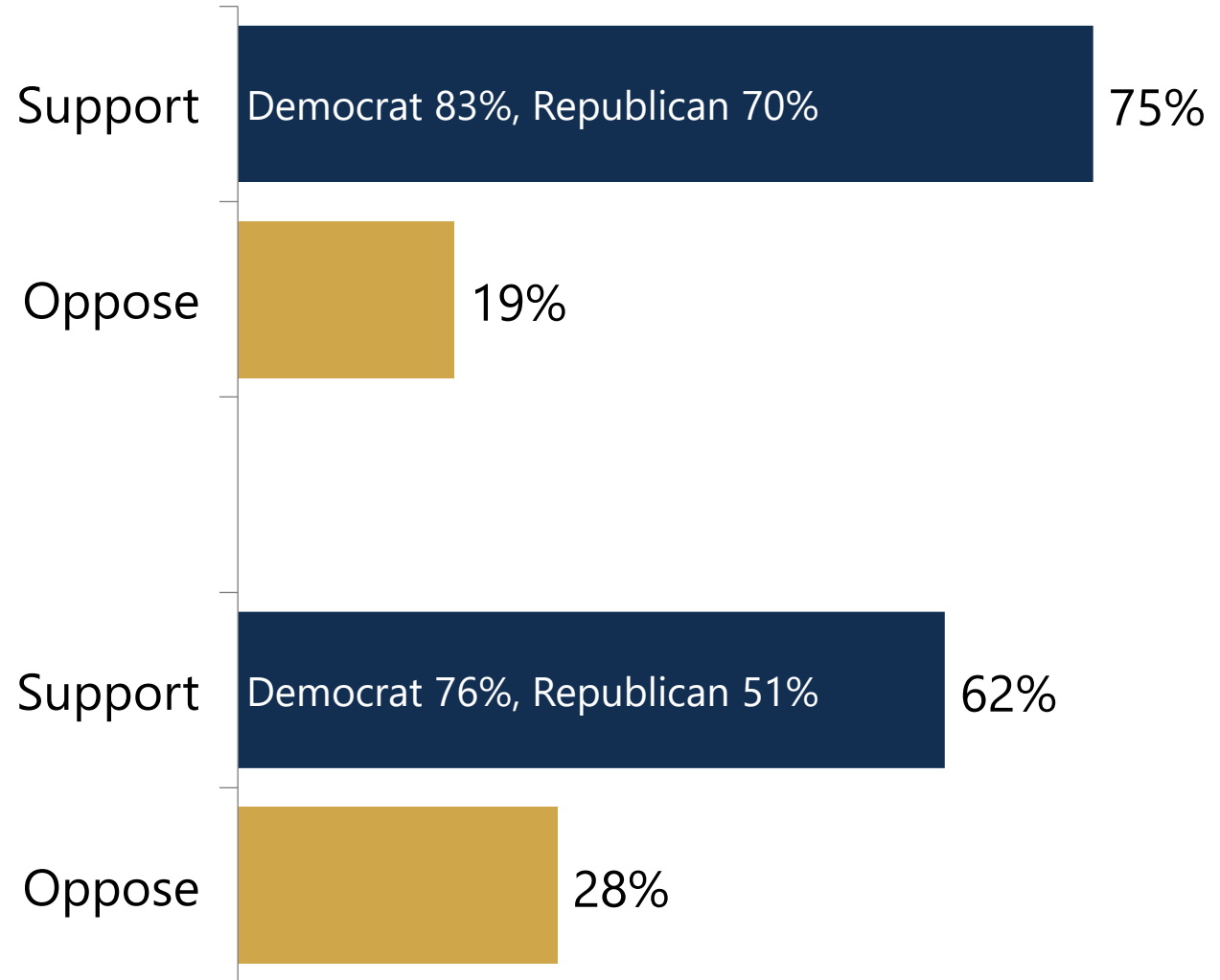
Q43-47. Thinking specifically about the southern border, how much of a security threat do you see from each of the following?



Strong support for increasing skilled immigration, but framing as a national security need does not help.

Increasing the number of highly skilled immigrants—those with advanced degrees working in science, technology, and emerging technologies—who are legally allowed to live and work in the US.

If you knew that the **US military and companies in the defense sector believe more skilled immigrants are needed** to fill high-tech national security jobs...



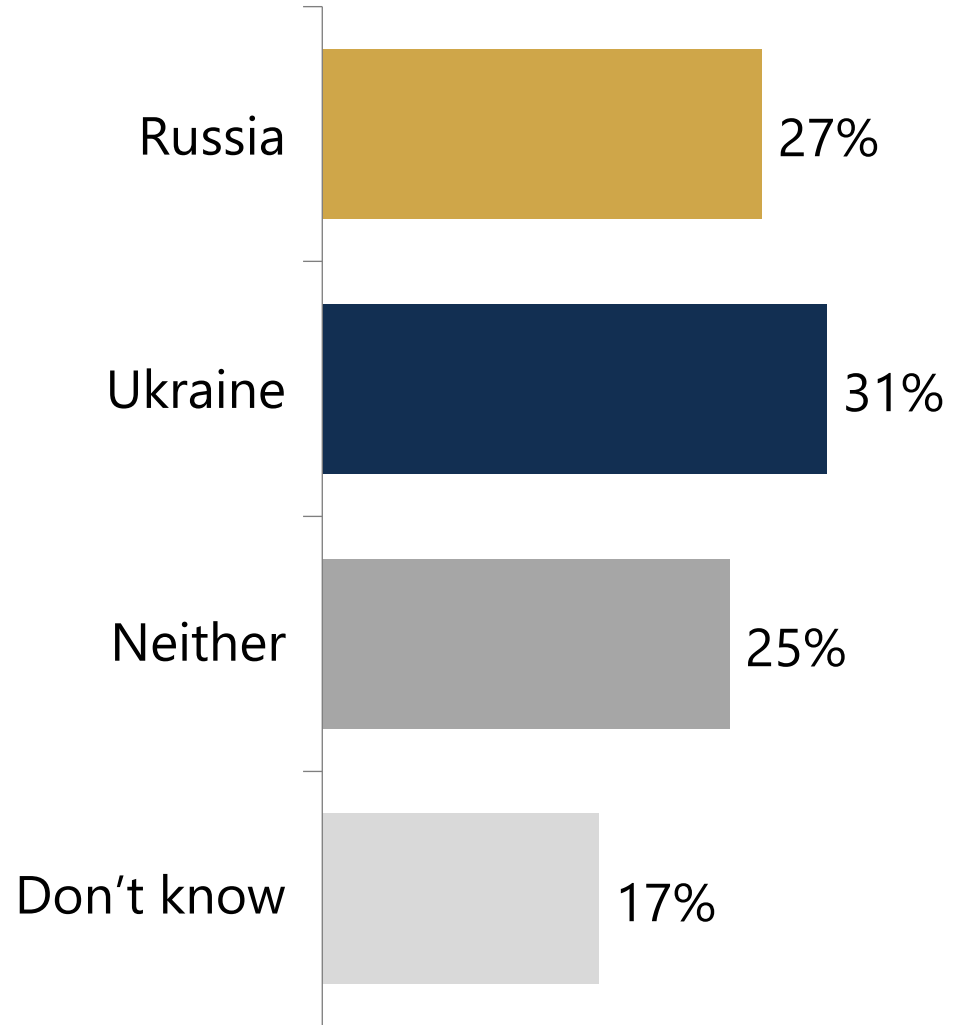
Note: Remainder Don't know

UKRAINE





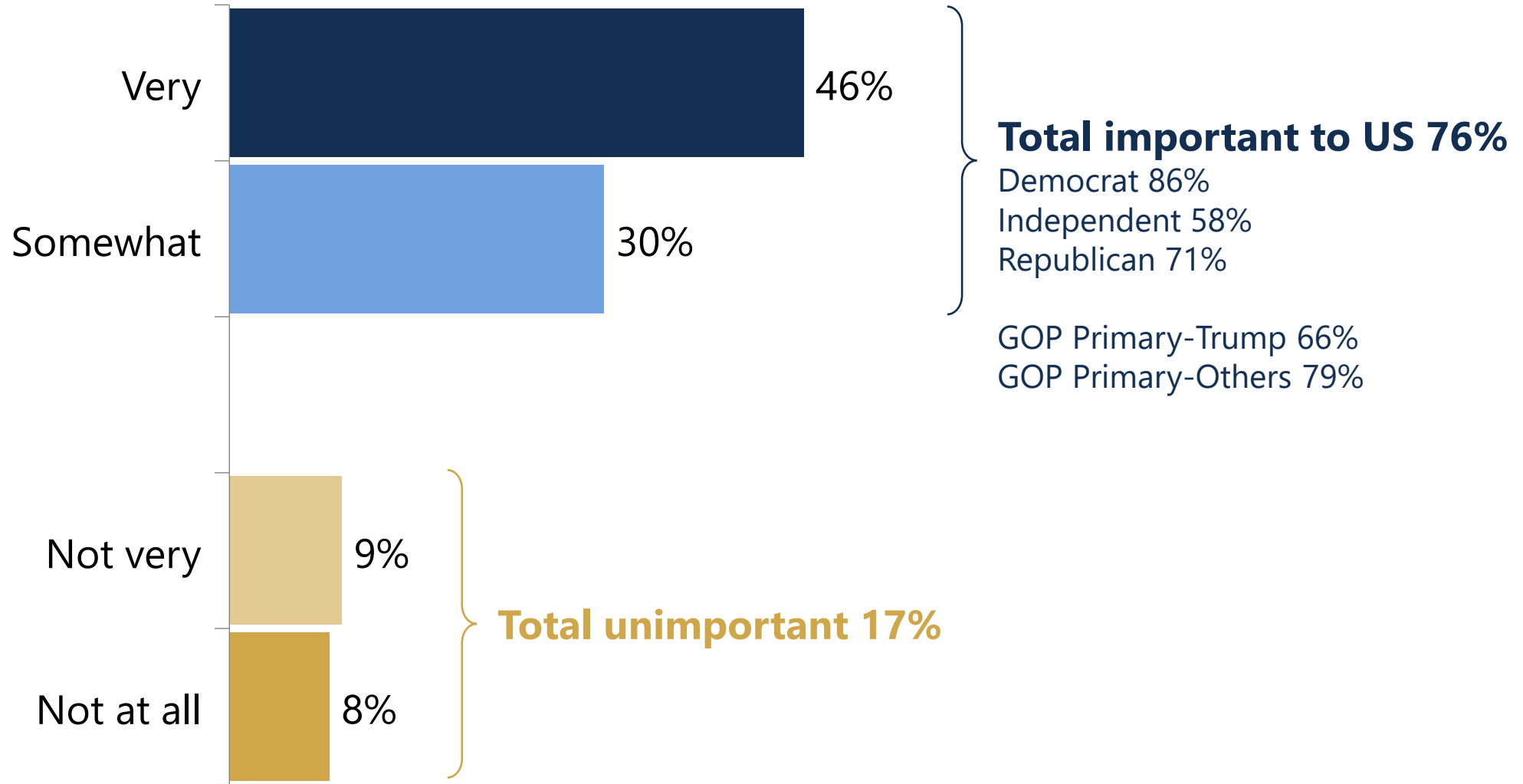
No consensus on who is winning the war in Ukraine.



Q48. Who do you think is currently winning the war between Russia and Ukraine?



Three-quarters think Ukrainian victory is important to the US.

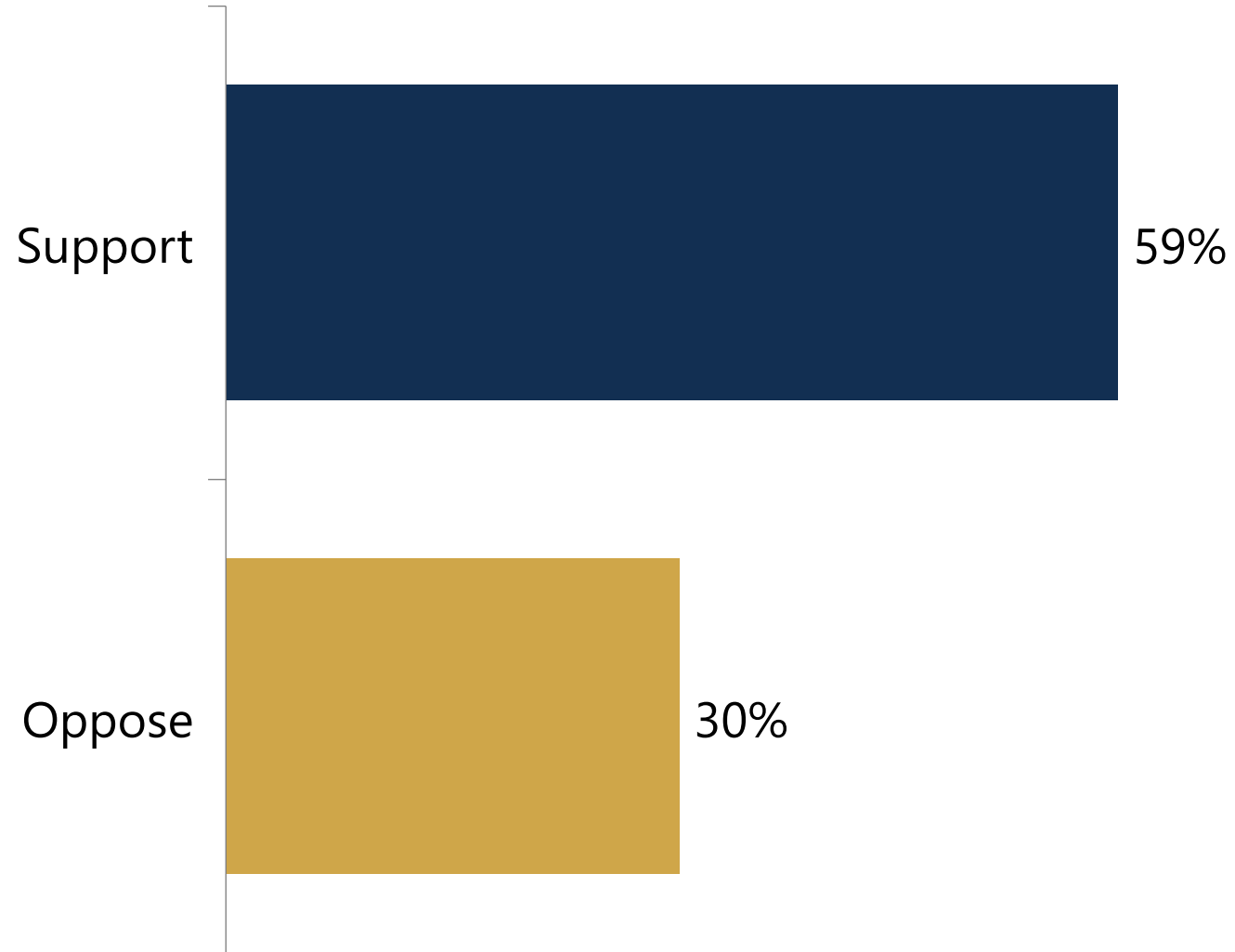


Note: Remainder Don't know

Q49. How important do you think it is to the US that Ukraine win the war?



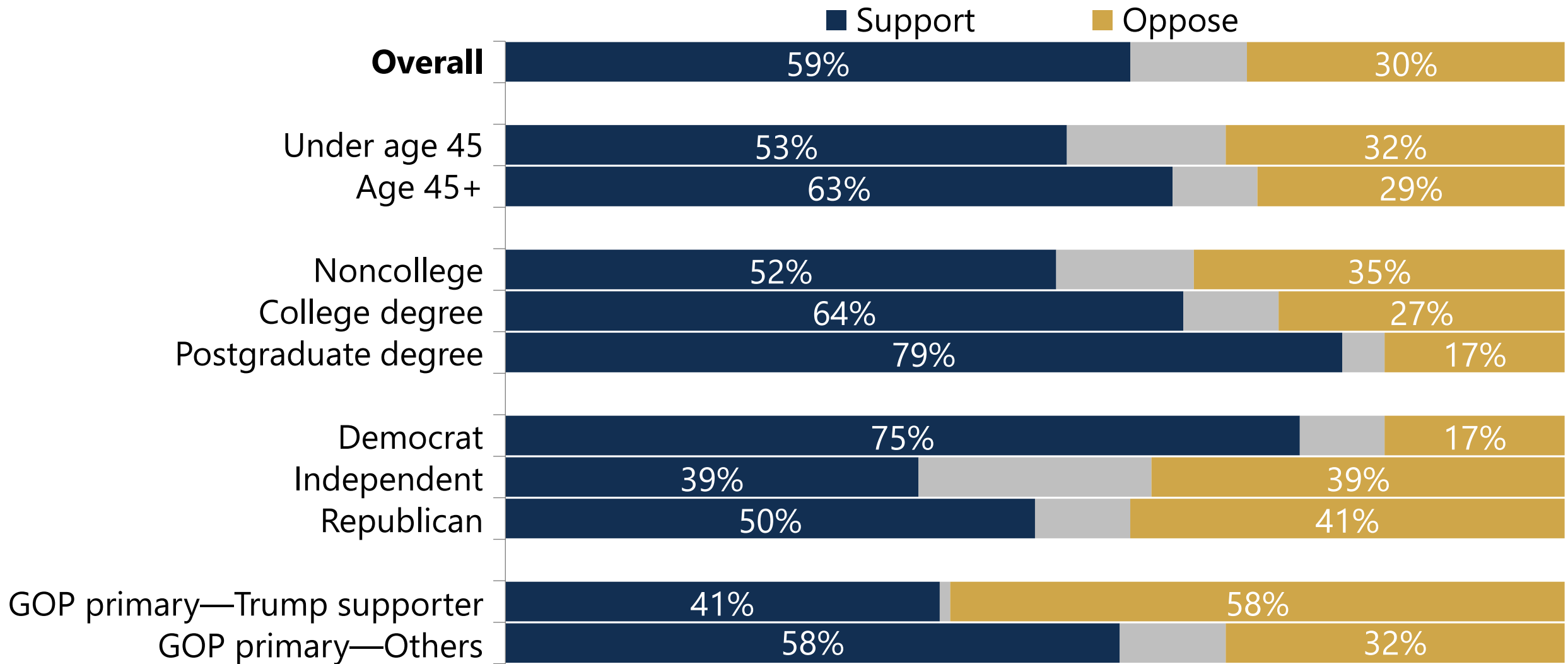
Strong majority support for military aid to Ukraine.



Note: Remainder Don't know

Q50. Overall, do you support or oppose sending US military aid to Ukraine?

Independents, Trump primary voters only groups without majority support for military aid to Ukraine.



Note: Remainder Don't know

Q50. Overall, do you support or oppose sending US military aid to Ukraine?

Unmet needs at home is the top reason to oppose aid to Ukraine.



Among military aid *opponents*

We have too many unmet needs here at home to be sending billions of dollars to Ukraine.

Republican 65%

57%

The US should not risk further provoking Russia.

15%

Corruption and embezzlement in Ukraine could mean that some aid never makes it to the battlefield.

11%

Sending so much aid to Ukraine will deplete the US weapons stockpile.

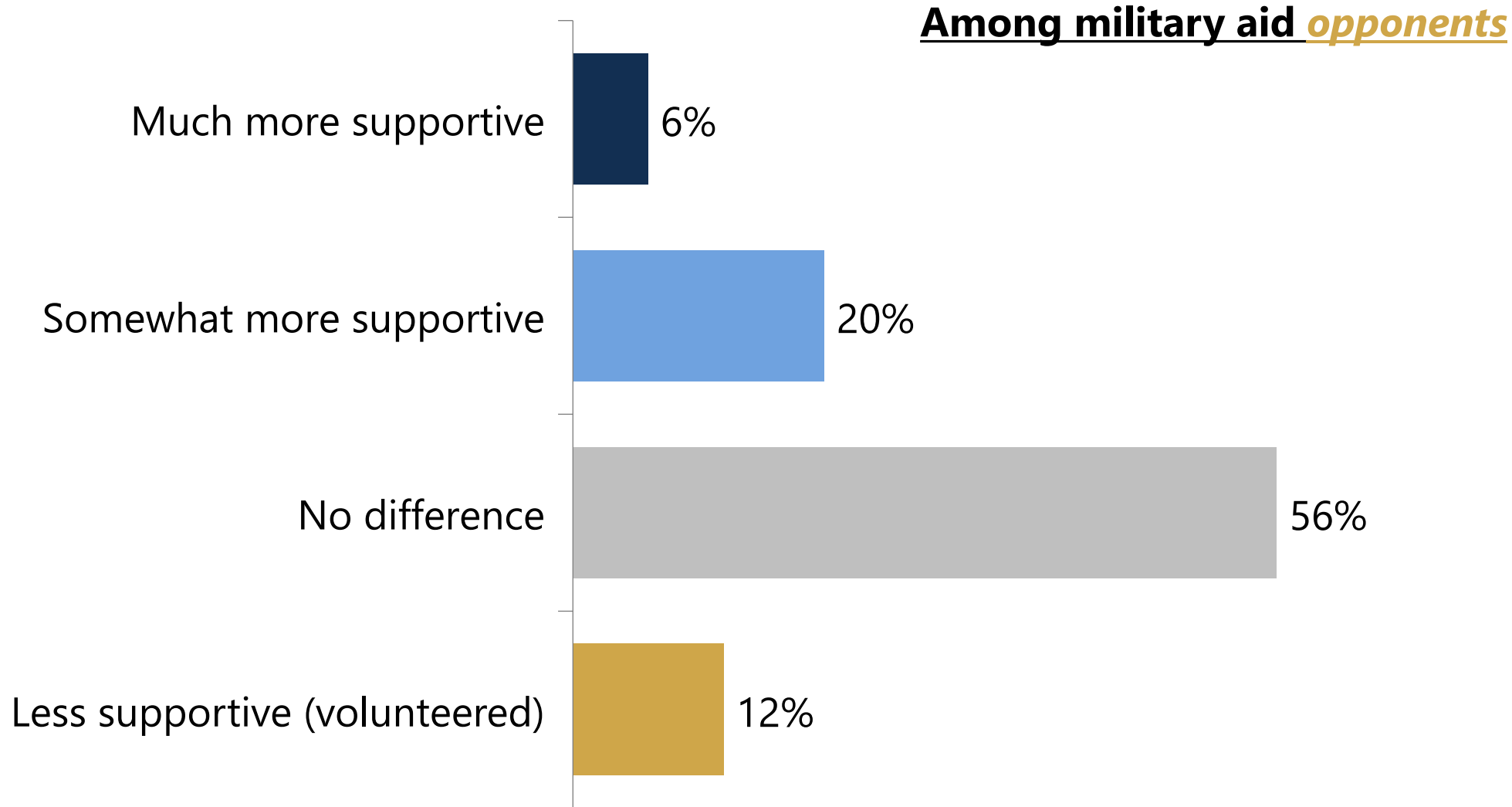
11%

Note: Remainder Don't know

Q51. [IF OPPOSE IN Q50] Which of the following do you think is the most compelling reason to oppose continued US military aid to Ukraine?



Auditing measures would not do much to allay aid opponents' doubts.

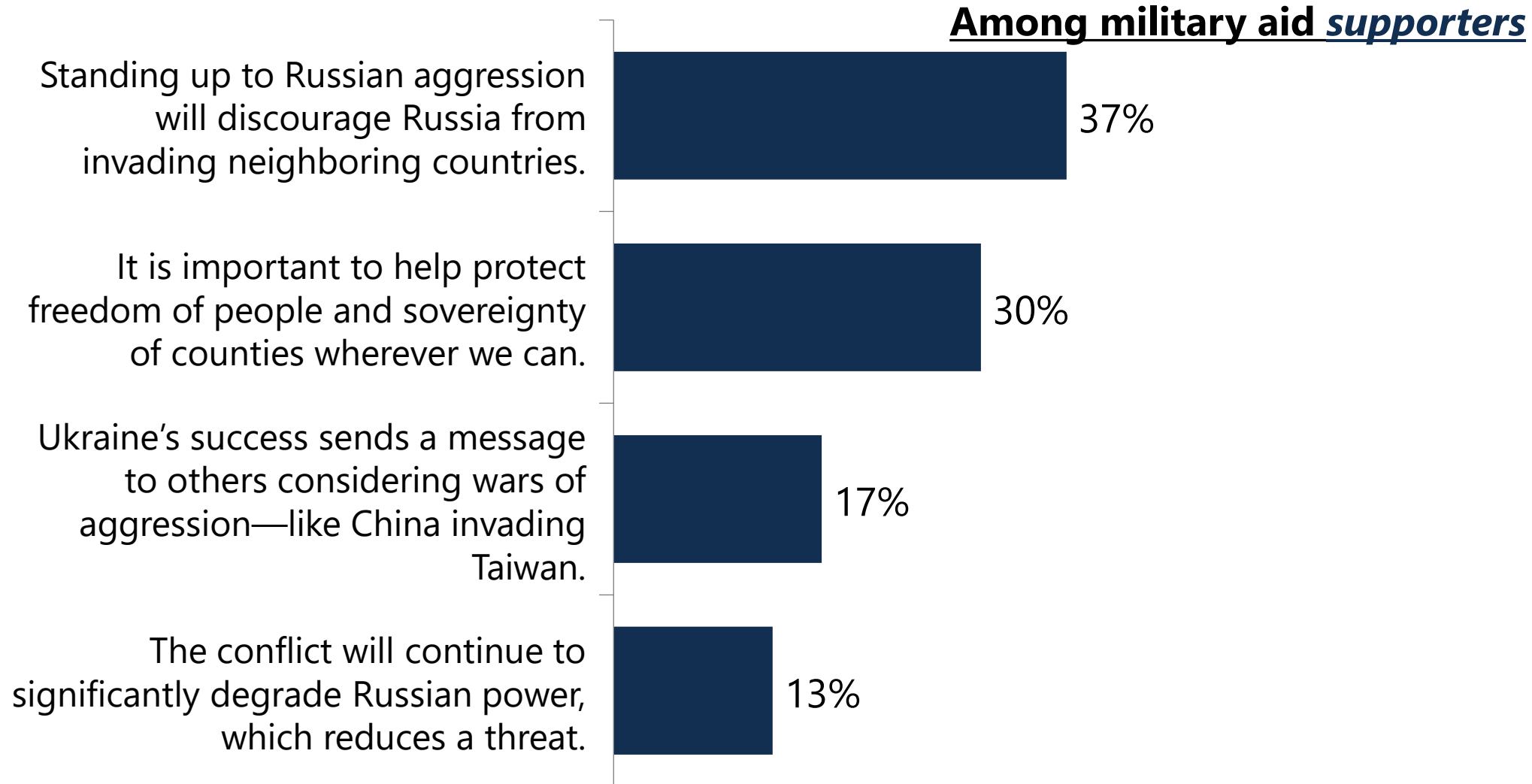


Note: Remainder Don't know

Q52. [IF OPPOSE IN Q50 If you knew there were comprehensive auditing and accounting measures in place to ensure the Ukrainians were using US aid appropriately, would you be much more supportive of sending aid, somewhat more supportive, or would it make no difference to you?



Top reasons to support military aid: standing up to Russian aggression, protecting freedom.

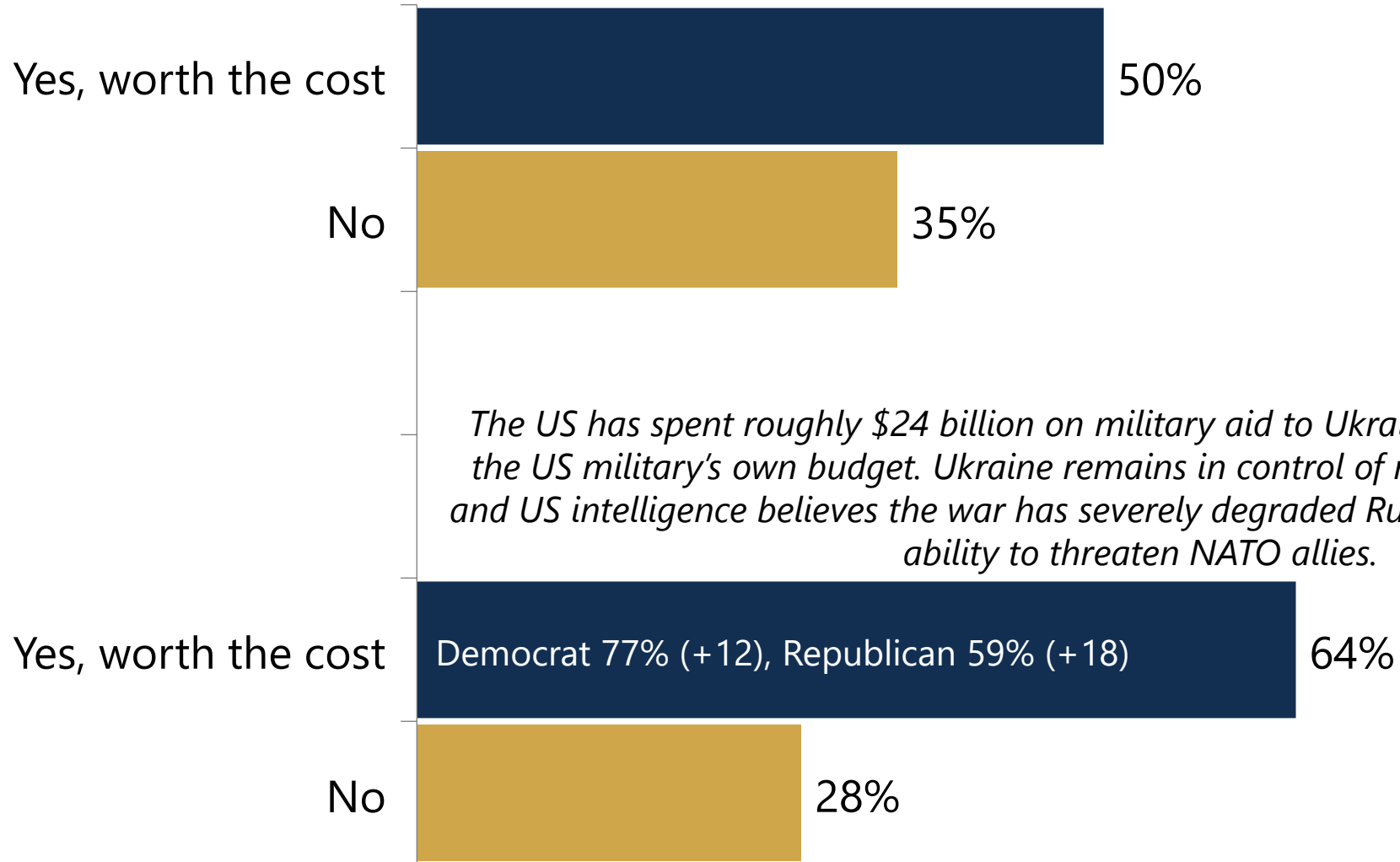


Note: Remainder Don't know

Q53. [IF SUPPORT IN Q50] Which of the following do you think is the most compelling reason to support continued US military aid to Ukraine?



Half think aid to Ukraine has been worth cost; two-thirds think the same after learning more.

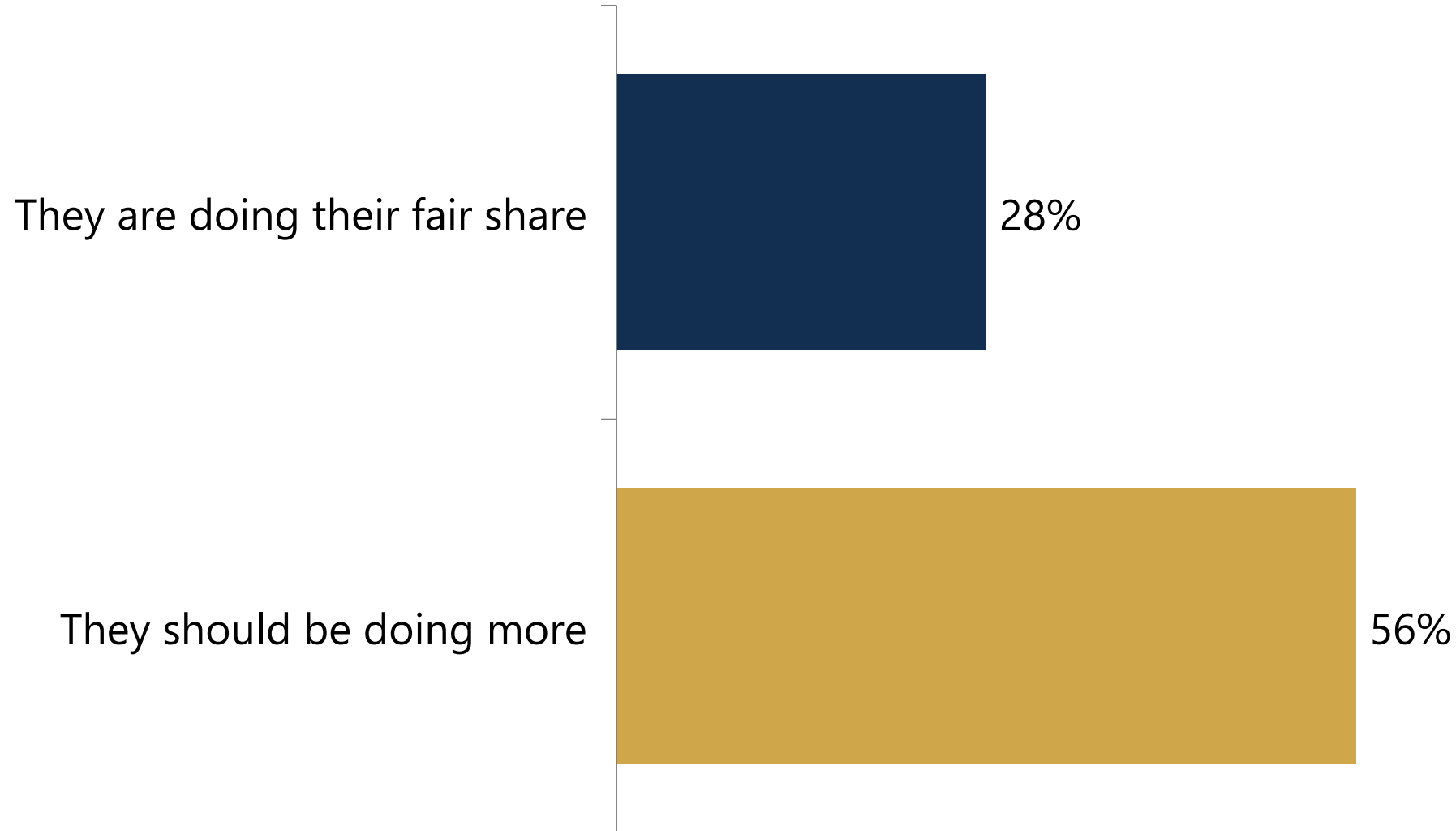


Note: Remainder Don't know

Q54. So far, do you think US aid to Ukraine has been worth the cost, or not? AND Q55. ... Knowing this, do you think US aid to Ukraine has been worth the cost, or not?



Few think European allies are doing enough in Ukraine.



Note: Remainder Don't know

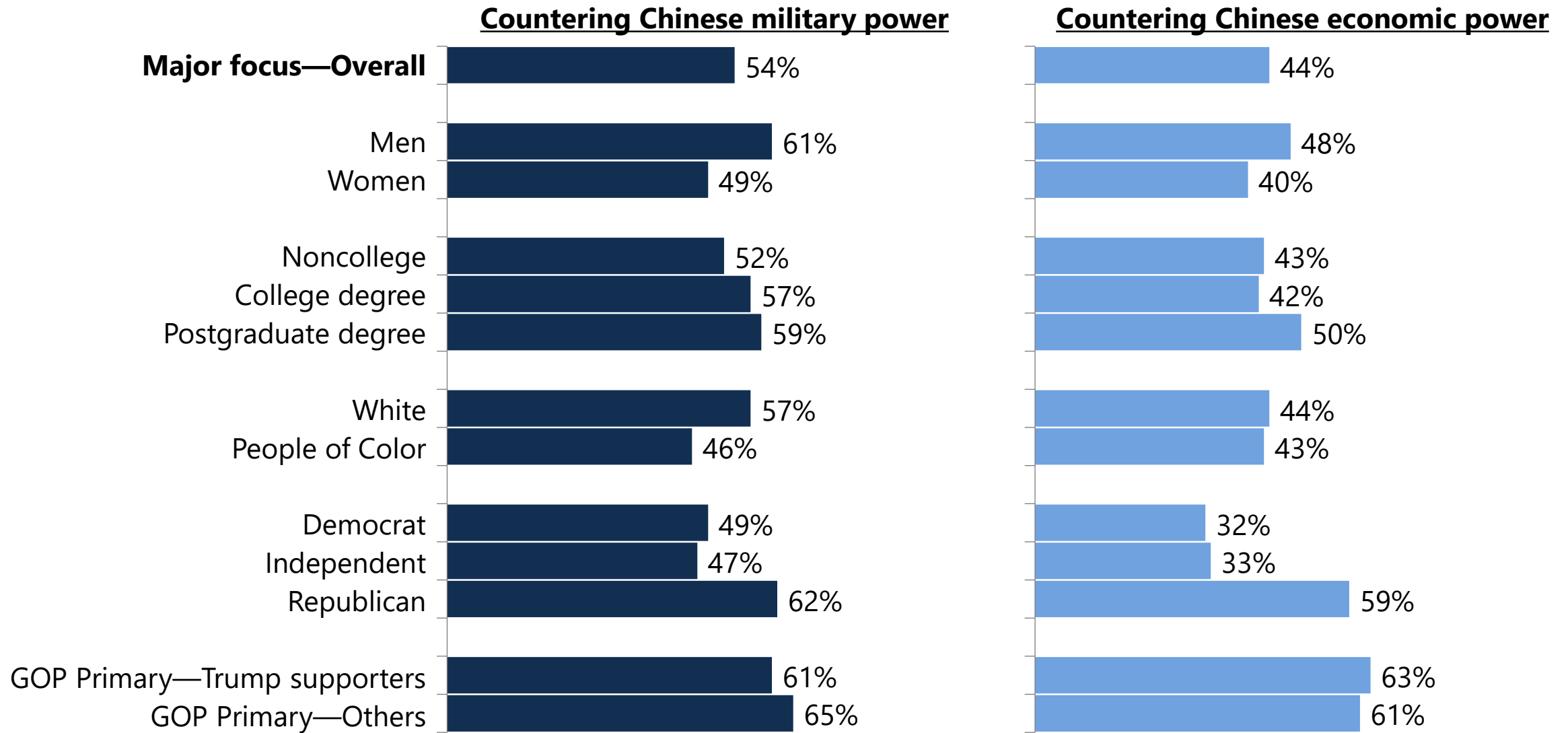
Q56. Do you think our European allies are doing their fair share in response to the war in Ukraine, or should they be doing more?

CHINA





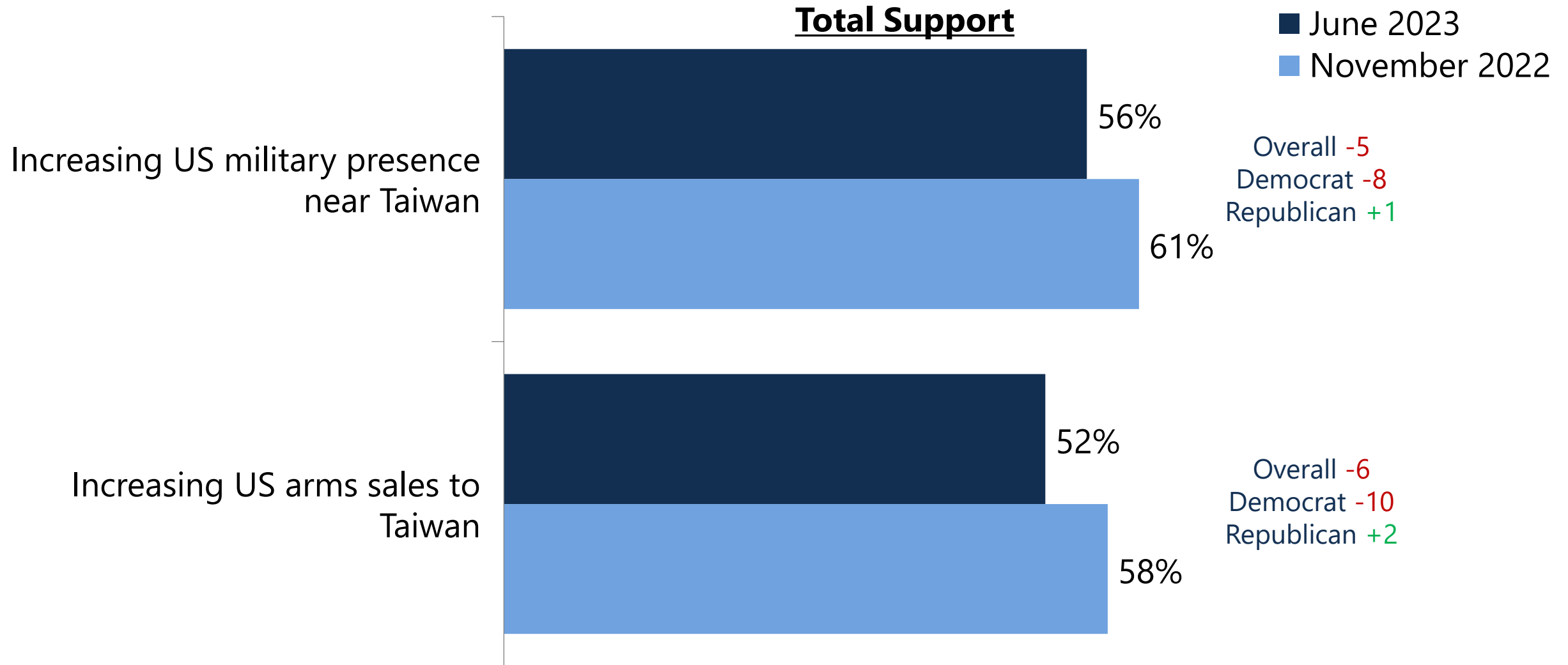
Most groups see countering Chinese military power as a higher priority than countering Chinese economic power.



Q21 AND 26. Next, should each of the following be a major focus of US foreign policy efforts, a minor focus, or not really a focus at all?



Slight decrease in support for measures to deter Chinese invasion of Taiwan, driven by Democrats.



Q57-58. In an attempt to discourage China from invading Taiwan, do you support or oppose each of the following?



Wide majority think recent meetings with Taiwanese leadership were the right thing to do.

Meetings with Taiwanese leaders were...

The right thing to do, showed support for a threatened democracy

61%

Wrong thing to do, risked provoking China

21%

Note: Remainder Don't know

Q59. Recently, US politicians and nongovernmental organizations were sanctioned by China after meeting with Taiwan's elected leaders. Do you think these meetings:



Views split on banning TikTok.

TikTok...

Should be banned

40%

Should not be

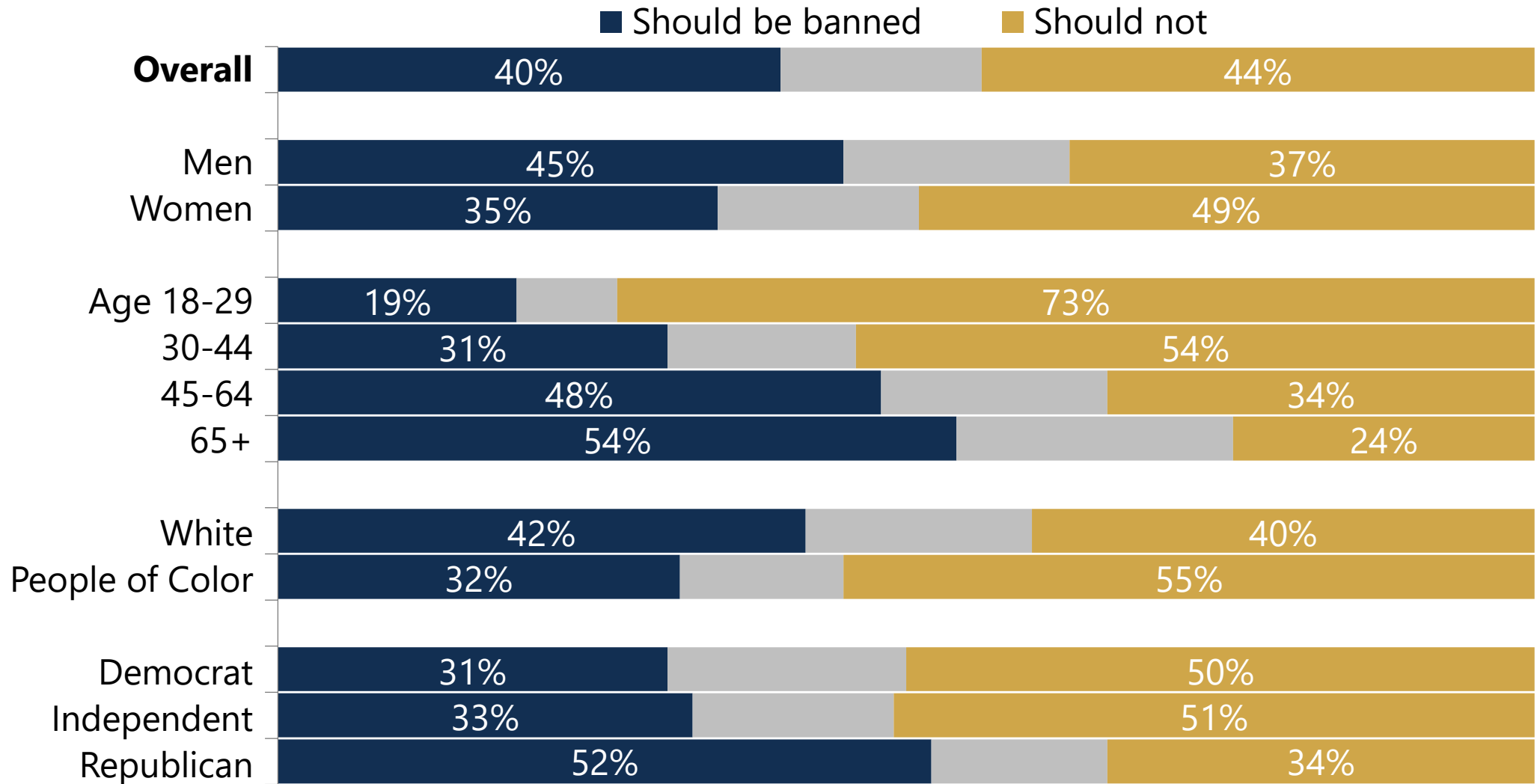
44%

Note: Remainder Don't know

Q60. Do you think the social media app TikTok should be banned in the US, or not?



Massive age disparity in views of banning TikTok.



Note: Remainder Don't know

Q60. Do you think the social media app TikTok should be banned in the US, or not?

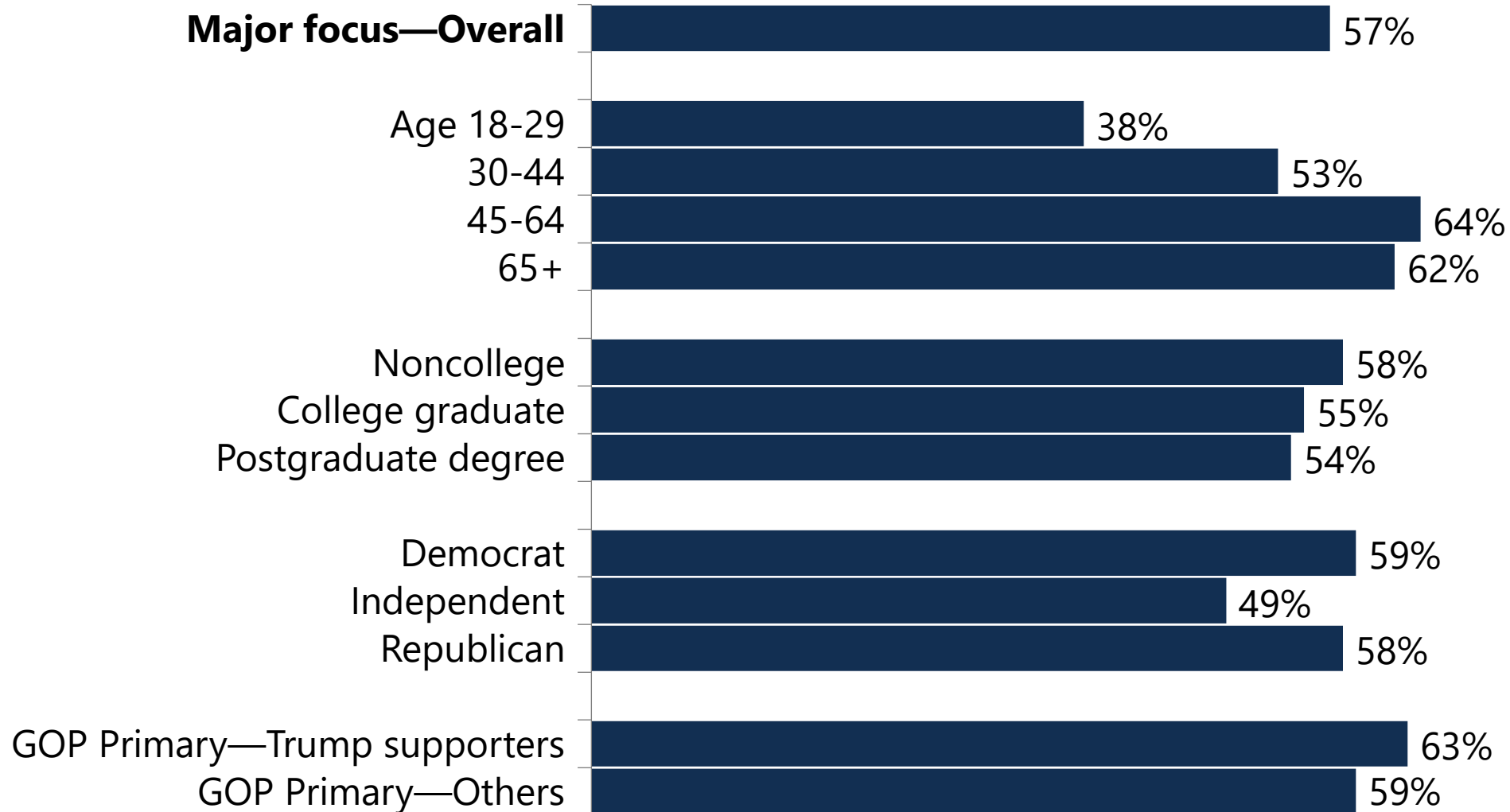
IRAN





Preventing nuclear acquisition major focus, by subgroups.

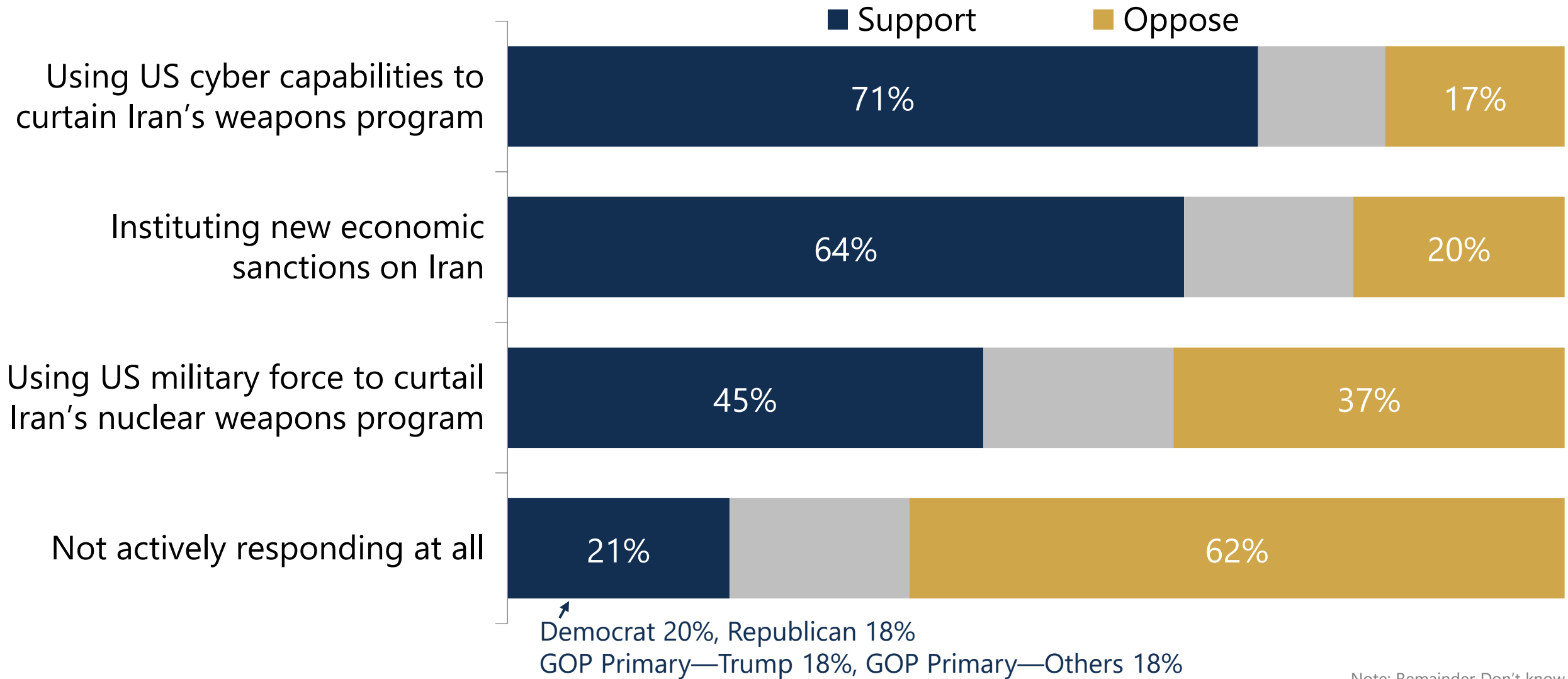
Preventing countries that do not have nuclear weapons from acquiring them



Q29. Next, should each of the following be a major focus of US foreign policy efforts, a minor focus, or not really a focus at all?



Majorities support nonmilitary responses to Iranian nuclear development; little interest in doing nothing.



Q61-64. Some analysts believe Iran is weeks away from having enough material to produce a nuclear weapon. Do you support each of the following as a response?

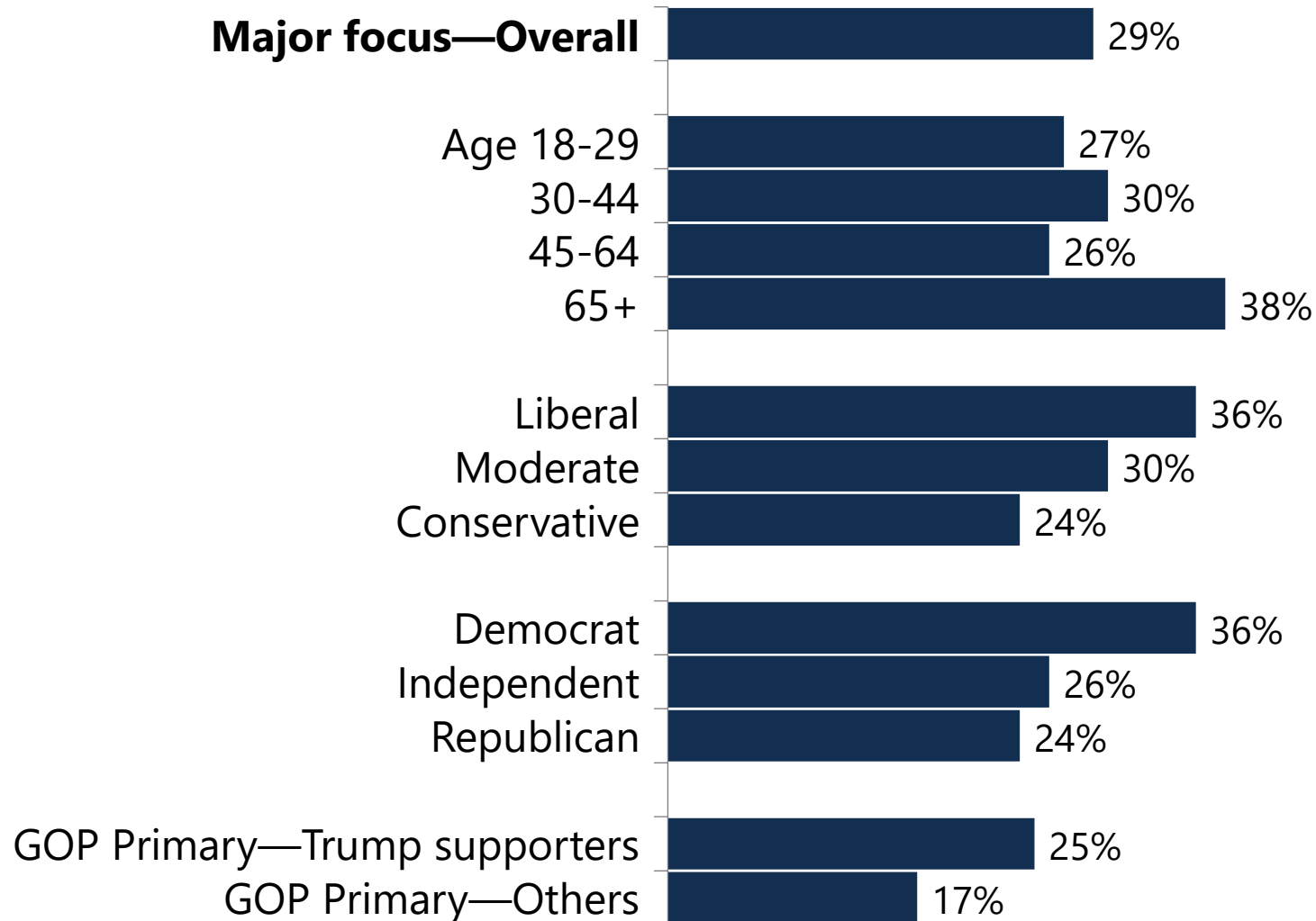
PROMOTING FREEDOM ABROAD





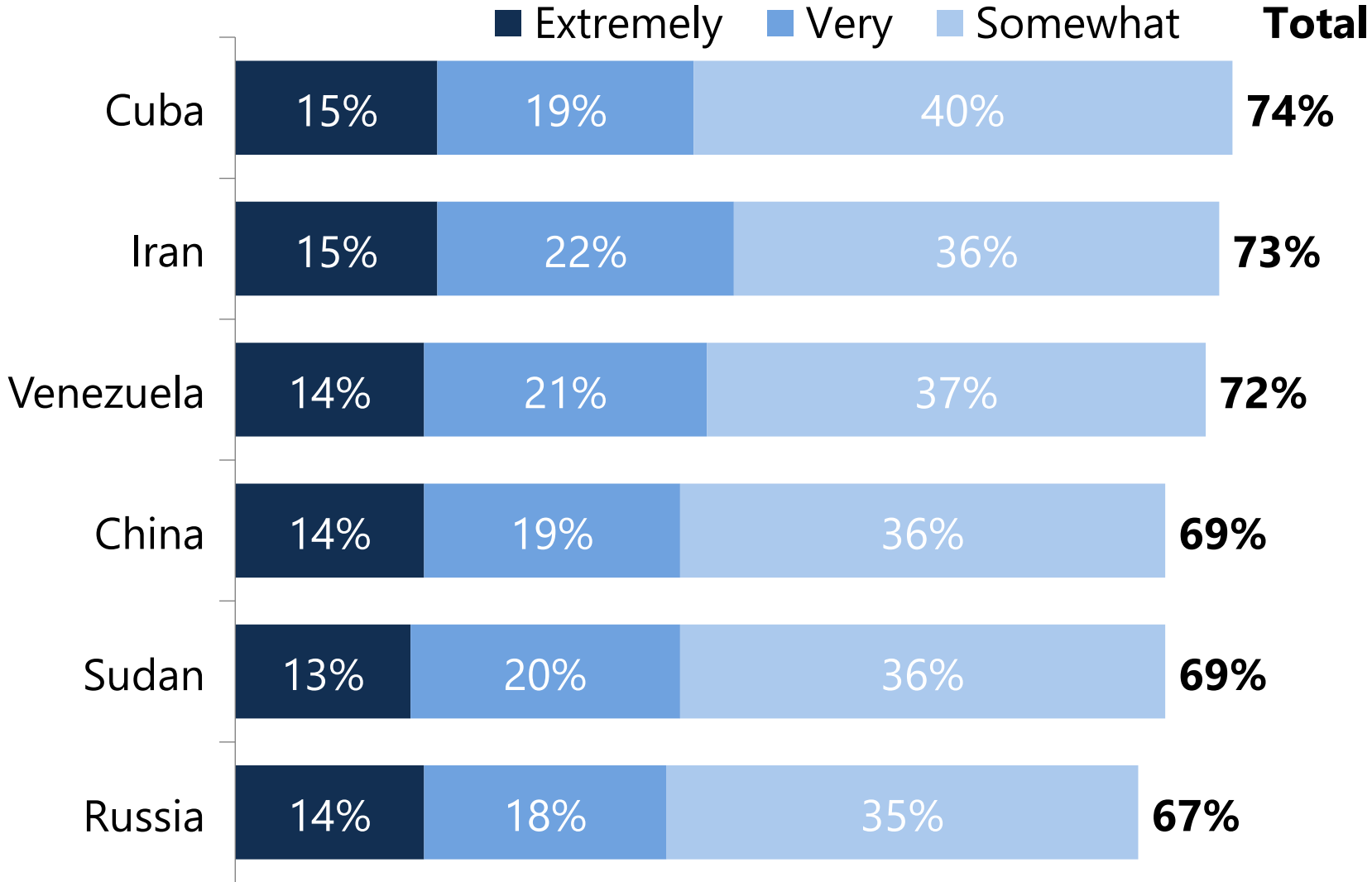
Promoting freedom and democracy, by subgroups.

Promoting freedom and democracy in authoritarian countries



Q23. Next, should each of the following be a major focus of US foreign policy efforts, a minor focus, or not really a focus at all?

Support for helping those advocating for freedom is broad and not country-specific.



Q65-70. How important is it for the US to assist people in [COUNTRY] who are advocating for freedom, democracy, and human rights?

FOR MORE INFORMATION, CONTACT



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Profile of the Sample

Category	Group	% of Sample
Gender	Men	47%
	Women	53
Age	18-29	17
	30-44	25
	45-64	38
	65+	19
Race	White	76
	Black	12
	Hispanic or Latino	5
	Asian	3
Education	Noncollege	60
	College degree	25
	Postgraduate degree	15

Category	Group	% of Sample
Region	East	18%
	Midwest	21
	South	38
	West	23
Party Identification	Democrat	41
	Independent	18
	Republican	41
	<i>Republican Primary Voter</i>	<i>87</i>
Philosophy	Liberal	27
	Moderate	33
	Conservative	36
2020 Vote	Biden	39
	Trump	37