

GREENBERG QUINLAN ROSNER RESEARCH

October 16, 2009

State of the Congressional Battleground

55 Democratic-Held Seats, 20 Republican-Held Seats



DEMOCRACY CORPS
CARVILLE ♦ GREENBERG

Methodology

Survey in the Congressional Battleground

2,000 likely voters (2,010 unweighted) in 55 Democratic-held battleground House districts and 20 Republican-held battleground House districts

500 Democratic Tier 1 (503 unweighted)

500 Democratic Tier 2 (486 unweighted)

500 Democratic Tier 3 (535 unweighted)

500 Republican (486 unweighted)

October 6-11, 2009

Margin of Error: 2.2% (4.5% within each tier and GOP battleground)

Tier 1: 20 most competitive Democratic-held congressional districts

STATE AND DISTRICT	DEMOCRATIC INCUMBENT	INCUMBENT SINCE	2008 CONG. MARGIN	2006 CONG. MARGIN	2008 PRES. MARGIN
ALABAMA 02	Bobby Bright	2008	Dem. +1	Rep. +39	McCain +26
ALABAMA 05	Parker Griffith	2008	Dem. +4	<i>unopposed</i>	McCain +23
COLORADO 04	Betsy Markey	2008	Dem. +12	Rep. +3	McCain +1
FLORIDA 08	Alan Grayson	2008	Dem. +4	Rep. +7	Obama +6
FLORIDA 24	Suzanne Kosmas	2008	Dem. +16	Rep. +16	McCain +2
IDAHO 01	Walt Minnick	2008	Dem. +1	Rep. +5	McCain +26
LOUISIANA 03	OPEN	n/a	<i>unopposed</i>	Dem. +15	McCain +24
MARYLAND 01	Frank Kratovil	2008	Dem. +1	Rep. +38	McCain +18
MISSISSIPPI 01	Travis Childers	2008	Dem. +11	Rep. +32	McCain +25
NEW HAMPSHIRE 01	Carol Shea-Porter	2006	Dem. +6	Dem. +2	Obama +6
NEW HAMPSHIRE 02	OPEN	n/a	Dem. +15	Dem. +7	Obama +13
NEW JERSEY 03	John Adler	2008	Dem. +4	Rep. +17	Obama +5
NEW MEXICO 02	Harry Teague	2008	Dem. +12	Rep. +19	McCain +1
NEW YORK 24	Mike Arcuri	2006	Dem. +4	Dem. +9	Obama +2
NEW YORK 29	Eric Massa	2008	Dem. +2	Rep. +2	McCain +2
OHIO 01	Steve Driehaus	2008	Dem. +5	Rep. +4	Obama +10
OHIO 15	Mary Jo Kilroy	2008	Dem. +1	Rep. +0.5	Obama +9
PENNSYLVANIA 03	Kathy Dahlkemper	2008	Dem. +2	Rep. +12	McCain +0.01
VIRGINIA 02	Glenn Nye	2008	Dem. +5	Rep. +3	Obama +2
VIRGINIA 05	Tom Perriello	2008	Dem. +0.2	Rep. +19	McCain +2
TOTAL DEMOCRATIC BATTLEGROUND TIER 1:			DEM. +6	REP. +6	McCain +5

Tier 2: 20 next most competitive Democratic-held congressional districts

STATE AND DISTRICT	DEMOCRATIC INCUMBENT	INCUMBENT SINCE	2008 CONG. MARGIN	2006 CONG. MARGIN	2008 PRES. MARGIN
ARIZONA 01	Ann Kirkpatrick	2008	Dem. +16	Rep. +9	McCain +10
ARIZONA 05	Harry Mitchell	2006	Dem. +10	Dem. +4	McCain +5
CALIFORNIA 11	Jerry McNerney	2006	Dem. +11	Dem. +6	Obama +9
GEORGIA 08	Jim Marshall	2002	Dem. +14	Dem. +2	McCain +13
ILLINOIS 11	Debbie Halvorson	2008	Dem. +24	Rep. +10	Obama +8
ILLINOIS 14	Bill Foster	2008	Dem. +16	Rep. +20	Obama +11
INDIANA 09	Baron Hill	2006	Dem. +19	Dem. +5	McCain +1
MICHIGAN 07	Mark Schauer	2008	Dem. +2	Rep. +4	Obama +6
MICHIGAN 09	Gary Peters	2008	Dem. +9	Rep. +6	Obama +13
NEVADA 03	Dina Titus	2008	Dem. +5	Rep. +1	Obama +13
NEW MEXICO 01	Martin Heinrich	2008	Dem. +11	Rep. +0.4	Obama +20
NEW YORK 13	Mike McMahon	2008	Dem. +27	Rep. +14	McCain +2
NEW YORK 19	John Hall	2006	Dem. +17	Dem. +2	Obama +2
NEW YORK 20	Scott Murphy	2009	Dem. +0.5	Dem. +6	Obama +3
NORTH CAROLINA 08	Larry Kissell	2008	Dem. +11	Rep. +0.3	Obama +6
OHIO 16	John Boccieri	2008	Dem. +11	Rep. +16	McCain +3
PENNSYLVANIA 7	OPEN	n/a	Dem. +19	Dem. +13	Obama +13
TEXAS 17	Chet Edwards	1990	Dem. +7	Dem. +18	McCain +35
TEXAS 23	Ciro Rodriguez	2006	Dem. +14	Dem. +8	Obama +3
WISCONSIN 08	Steve Kagen	2006	Dem. +8	Dem. +2	Obama +8
TOTAL DEMOCRATIC BATTLEGROUND TIER 2:			DEM. +13	REP. +1	Obama +3

Tier 3: 15 Entrenched Democratic incumbents in conservative districts

STATE AND DISTRICT	DEMOCRATIC INCUMBENT	INCUMBENT SINCE	2008 CONG. MARGIN	2006 CONG. MARGIN	2008 PRES. MARGIN
ARKANSAS 01	Marion Berry	1996	<i>unopposed</i>	Dem. +38	McCain +20
ARKANSAS 02	Vic Snyder	1996	<i>unopposed</i>	Dem. +21	McCain +10
CALIFORNIA 47	Loretta Sanchez	1996	Dem. +11	Dem. +25	Obama +22
FLORIDA 02	Allen Boyd	1996	Dem. +14	<i>unopposed</i>	McCain +10
KANSAS 03	Dennis Moore	1998	Dem. +24	Dem. +31	Obama +2
KENTUCKY 06	Ben Chandler	2004	Dem. +16	<i>unopposed</i>	McCain +12
MISSOURI 04	Ike Skelton	1976	Dem. +19	Dem. +38	McCain +23
NEW YORK 01	Tim Bishop	2002	Dem. +2	Dem. +24	Obama +4
NORTH DAKOTA AL	Earl Pomeroy	1992	Dem. +9	Dem. +31	McCain +9
OREGON 04	Peter DeFazio	1986	<i>unopposed</i>	Dem. +25	Obama +10
TENNESSEE 04	Lincoln Davis	2002	Dem. +11	Dem. +33	McCain +30
TENNESSEE 08	John Tanner	1988	<i>unopposed</i>	Dem. +46	McCain +13
VIRGINIA 09	Rick Boucher	1982	<i>unopposed</i>	Dem. +36	McCain +19
WEST VIRGINIA 01	Alan Mollohan	1982	<i>unopposed</i>	Dem. +29	McCain +15
WISCONSIN 03	Ron Kind	1996	Dem. +11	Dem. +30	Obama +17
TOTAL DEMOCRATIC BATTLEGROUND TIER 3:			DEM. +45	DEM +35	McCain +7

Republican districts: 20 most competitive Republican-held seats

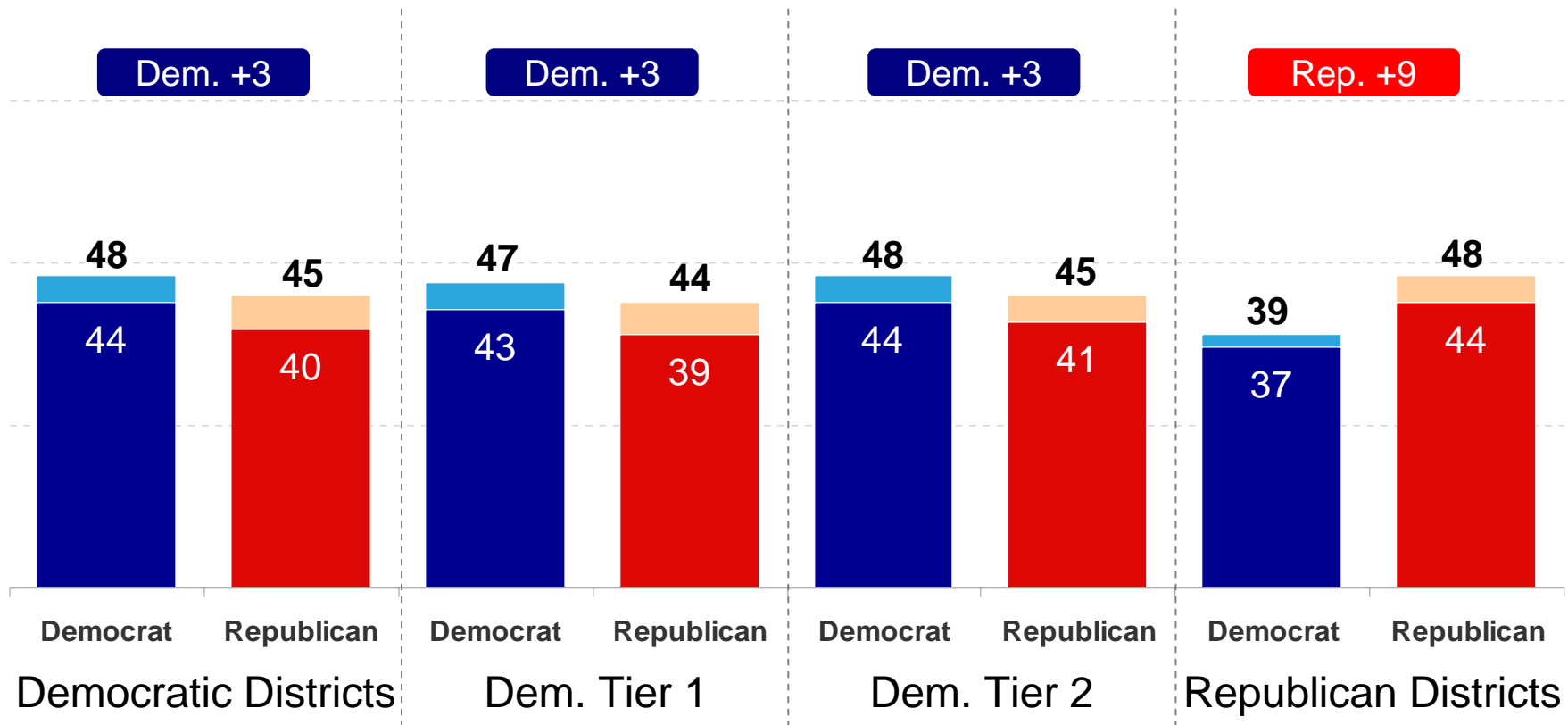
STATE AND DISTRICT	REPUBLICAN INCUMBENT	INCUMBENT SINCE	2008 CONG. MARGIN	2006 CONG. MARGIN	2008 PRES. MARGIN
CALIFORNIA 03	Dan Lungren	2004	Rep. +5	Rep. +21	Obama +0.5
CALIFORNIA 44	Ken Calvert	1992	Rep. +2	Rep. +23	Obama +1
CALIFORNIA 45	Mary Bono Mack	1998	Rep. +17	Rep. +22	Obama +5
CALIFORNIA 50	Brian Bilbray	1994	Rep. +5	Rep. +10	Obama +4
DELAWARE AL	OPEN	n/a	Rep. +23	Rep. +18	Obama +25
FLORIDA 10	Bill Young	1970	Rep. +21	Rep. +32	Obama +4
FLORIDA 12	OPEN	n/a	Rep. +15	Rep. +50	McCain +4
ILLINOIS 10	OPEN	n/a	Rep. +5	Rep. +6	Obama +23
LOUISIANA 02	Joseph Cao	2008	Rep. +3	Dem. +14	Obama +49
MICHIGAN 11	Thad McCotter	2002	Rep. +6	Rep. +11	Obama +9
MINNESOTA 03	Erik Paulsen	2008	Rep. +8	Rep. +30	Obama +6
MINNESOTA 06	Michele Bachmann	2006	Rep. +3	Rep. +8	McCain +9
MISSOURI 09	Blaine Luetkemeyer	2008	Rep. +3	Rep. +25	McCain +11
NEBRASKA 02	Lee Terry	1998	Rep. +5	Rep. +10	Obama +1
OHIO 02	Jean Schmidt	2005	Rep. +7	Rep. +1	McCain +19
OHIO 12	Patrick Tiberi	2000	Rep. +13	Rep. +14	Obama +7
PENNSYLVANIA 06	OPEN	n/a	Rep. +4	Rep. +2	Obama +17
PENNSYLVANIA 15	Charlie Dent	2004	Rep. +17	Rep. +11	Obama +14
TEXAS 10	Michael McCaul	2004	Rep. +11	Rep. +15	McCain +11
WASHINGTON 08	Dave Reichert	2004	Rep. +6	Rep. +2	Obama +15
TOTAL REPUBLICAN BATTLEGROUND:			REP. +13	REP. +16	Obama +6

The 40 most competitive Democratic-held seats and the GOP battleground

Incumbents lead named vote, but below 50 percent; GOP as well

I know it's a long way off, but thinking about the election for Congress next year, if the election for U.S. Congress were held today, would you be voting for – (DEMOCRATIC CANDIDATE) or (REPUBLICAN CANDIDATE)?

■ Democratic Candidate ■ Republican Candidate

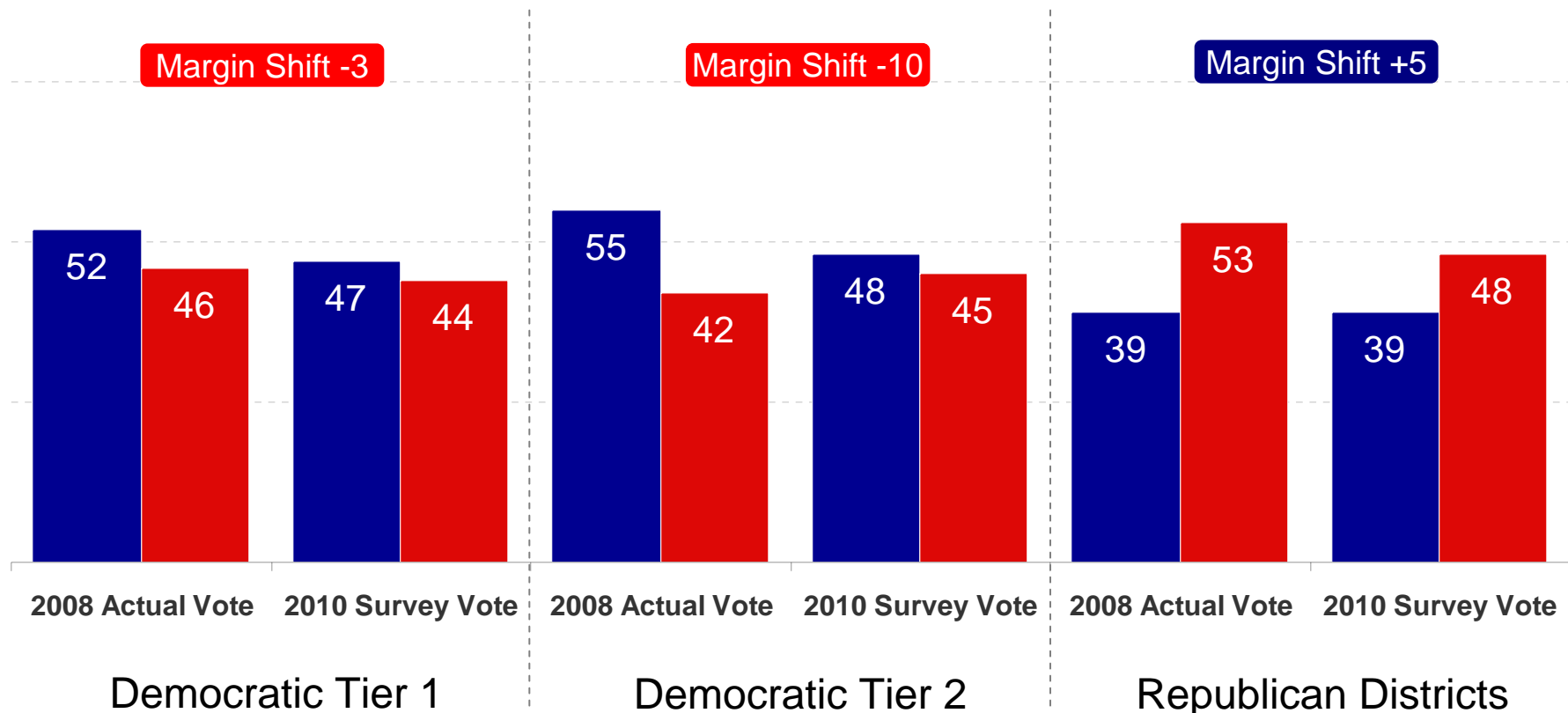


**Note: The 2008-elected incumbent was inserted as the Democratic Candidate for all Democratic-held districts with the generic "Republican Candidate" as the challenger, and as the Republican Candidate for all Republican-held districts with the generic "Democratic Candidate" as the challenger. In districts where the incumbent has announced s/he will not run for re-election, the generic identified was inserted.*

Incumbents in Tier 2 falling short of 2008 vote share

I know it's a long way off, but thinking about the election for Congress next year, if the election for U.S. Congress were held today, would you be voting for – (DEMOCRATIC CANDIDATE) or (REPUBLICAN CANDIDATE)?

■ Democratic Candidate ■ Republican Candidate

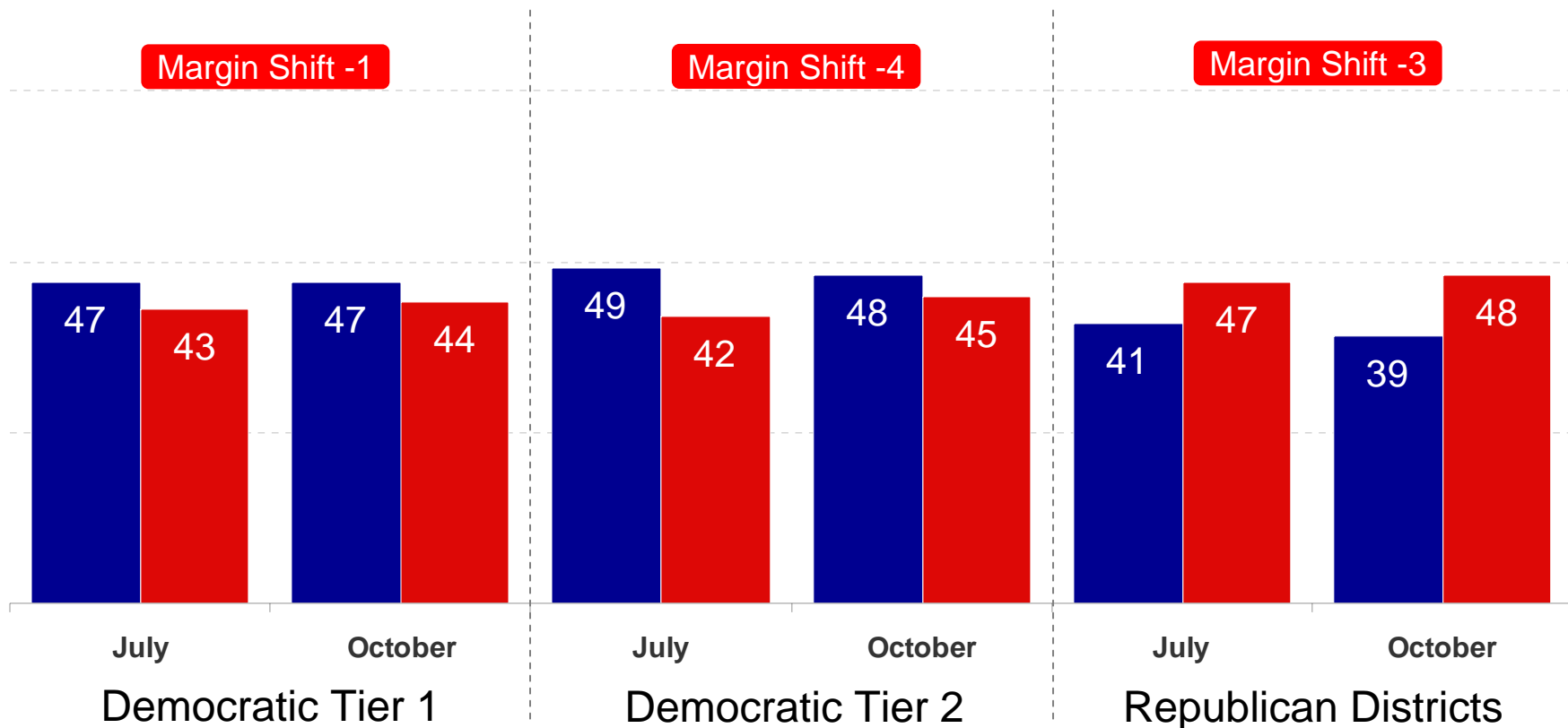


**Note: For each district, the incumbents' names were inserted, preceded by their party identification, and were matched against a generic candidate from the opposition party. The 2008 actual vote comes from official reports by the secretaries of state.*

Incumbents losing ground since July in tier 2, but holding in tier 1

I know it's a long way off, but thinking about the election for Congress next year, if the election for U.S. Congress were held today, would you be voting for – (DEMOCRATIC CANDIDATE) or (REPUBLICAN CANDIDATE)?

■ Democratic Candidate ■ Republican Candidate

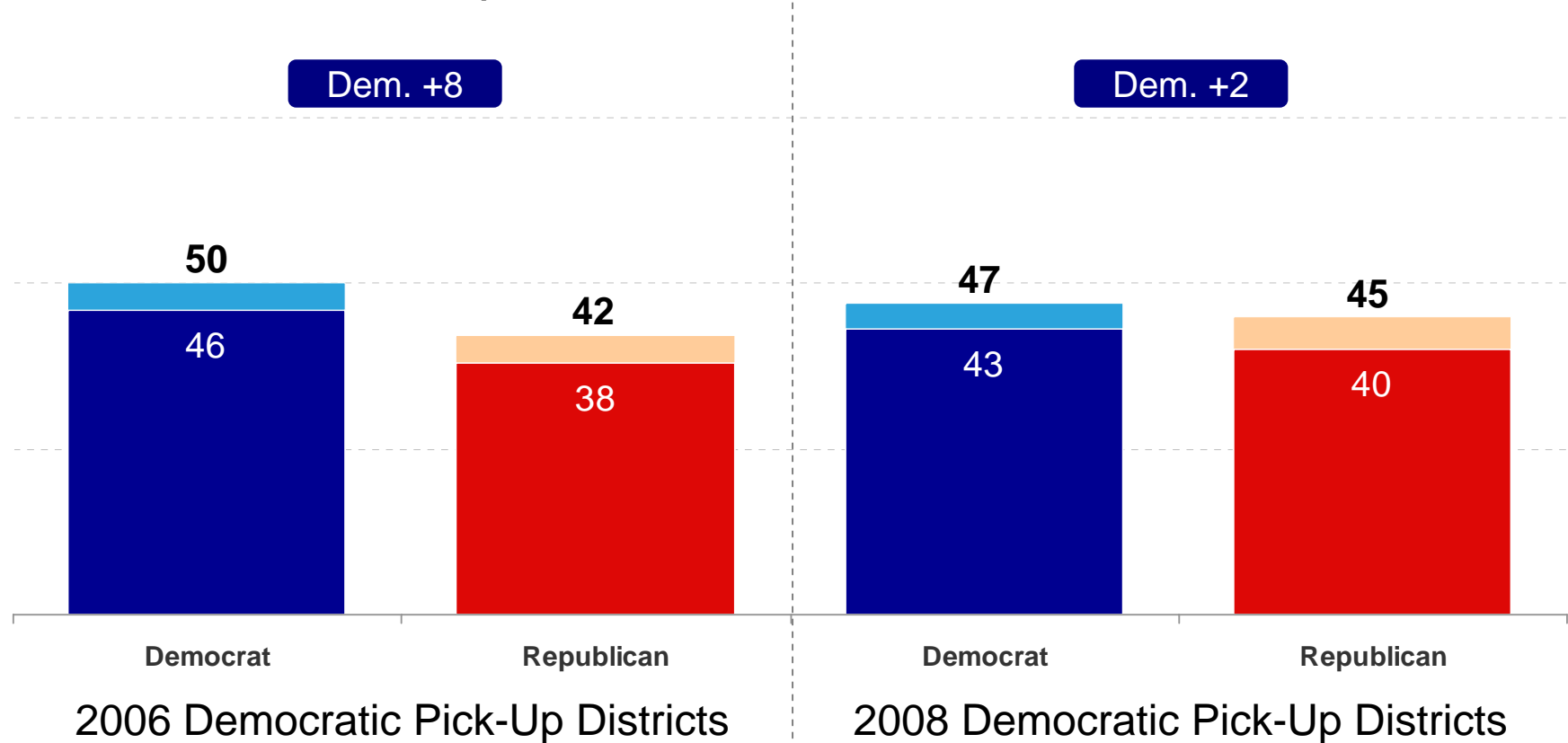


**Note: For each district, the incumbents' names were inserted preceded by their party identification, matched against a generic candidate of opposition party. Data from the common districts between the two waves.*

Class of 2006 in better shape than class of 2008

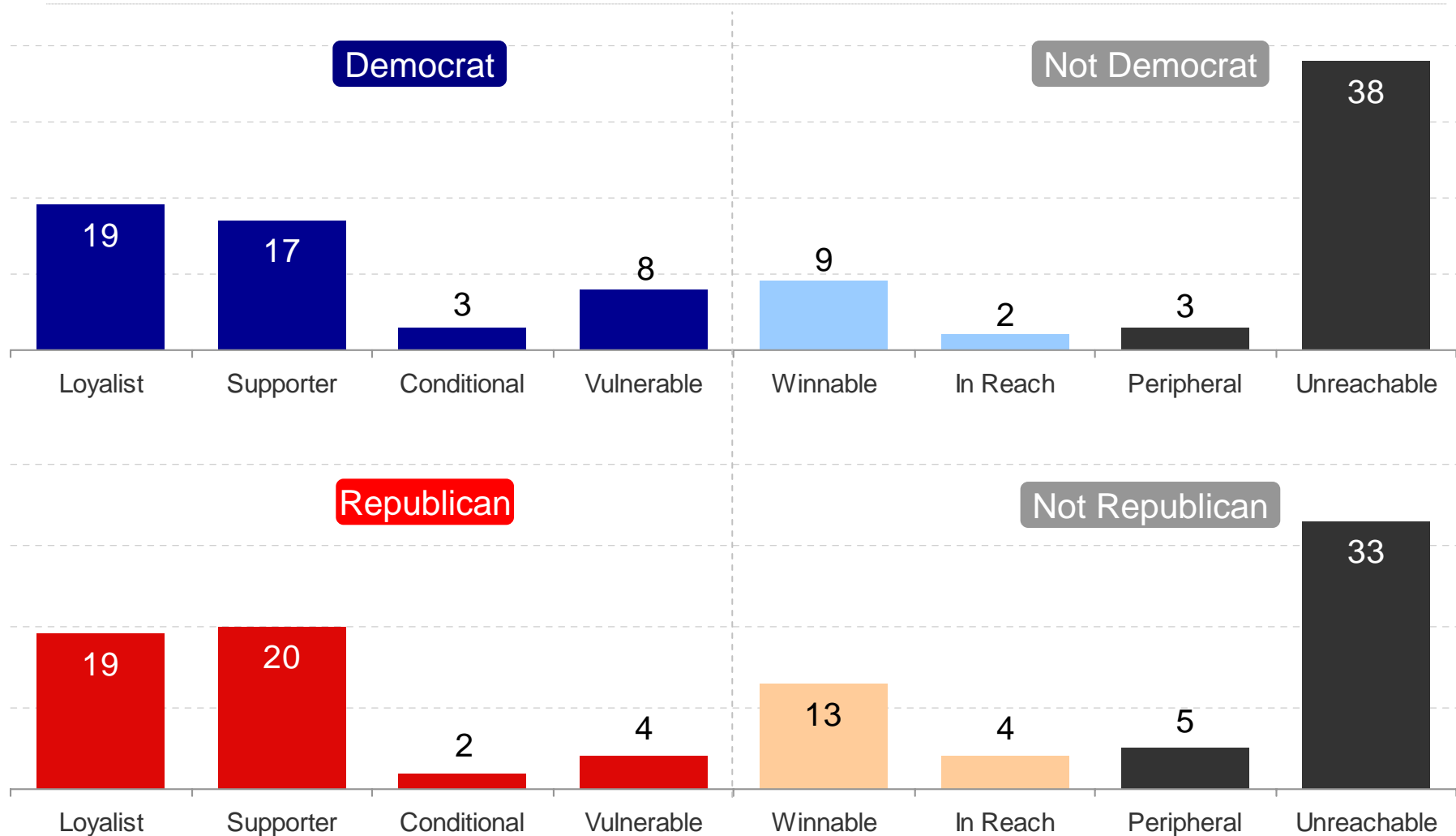
*I know it's a long way off, but thinking about the election for **Congress in 2010**, if the election for **U.S. Congress** were held today, would you be voting for (Democratic Candidate) or (Republican Candidate)?*

■ Democratic Candidate ■ Republican Candidate

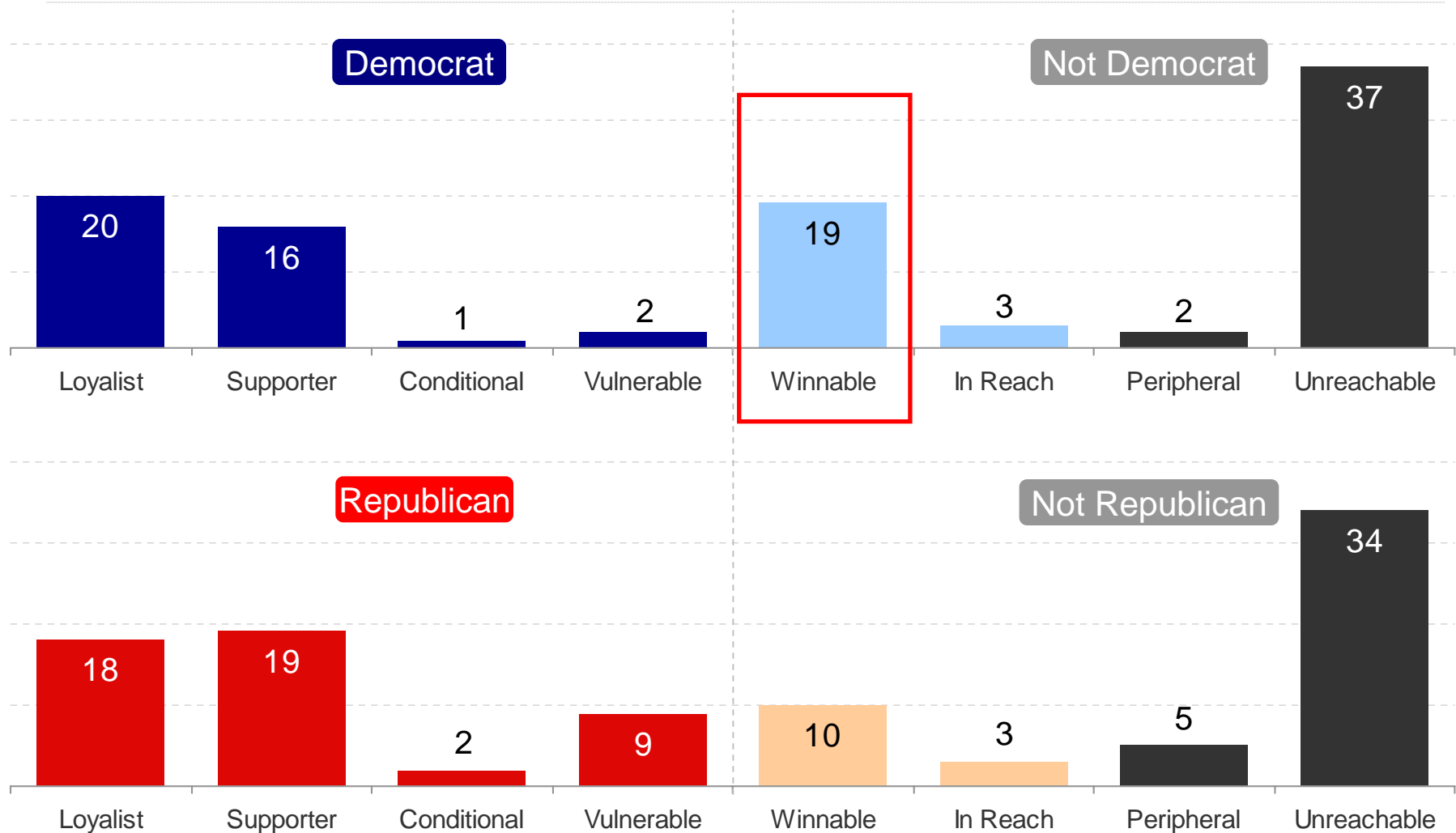


**Note: Democratic districts only. The named incumbents, preceded by party identification, were matched against a generic candidate of opposition party. Where incumbents have announced intentions not to seek reelection, both candidates were generic.*

Voter choice scales: Democratic tiers 1 & 2



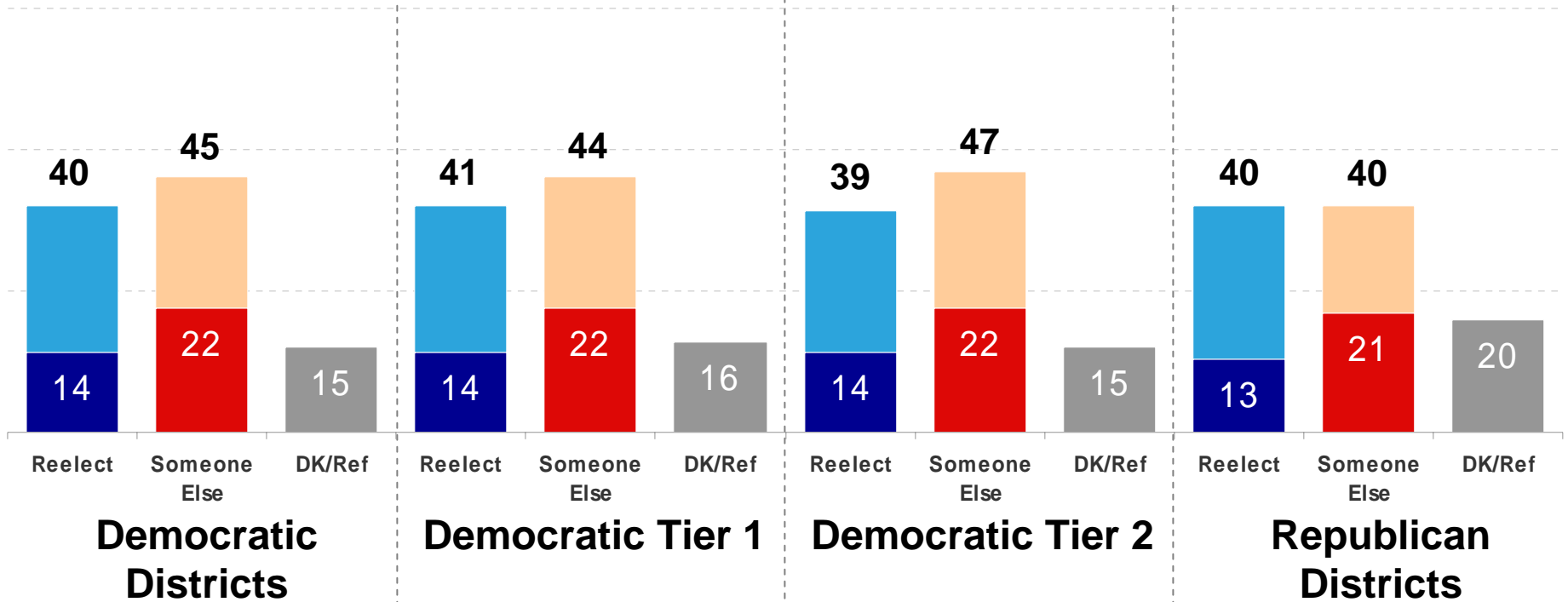
High number of Democratic 'winnables' in GOP districts



Voters uncertain whether to re-elect incumbents, even GOP

As you may know, there will be an election for your Representative to Congress in November next year. Do you think you will definitely vote to re-elect (HOUSE INCUMBENT) to Congress, probably vote to re-elect (HOUSE INCUMBENT), probably vote for someone else, or definitely vote for someone else?

■ Definitely Reelect ■ Definitely Vote Someone Else ■ Don't Know/Refused/Depends

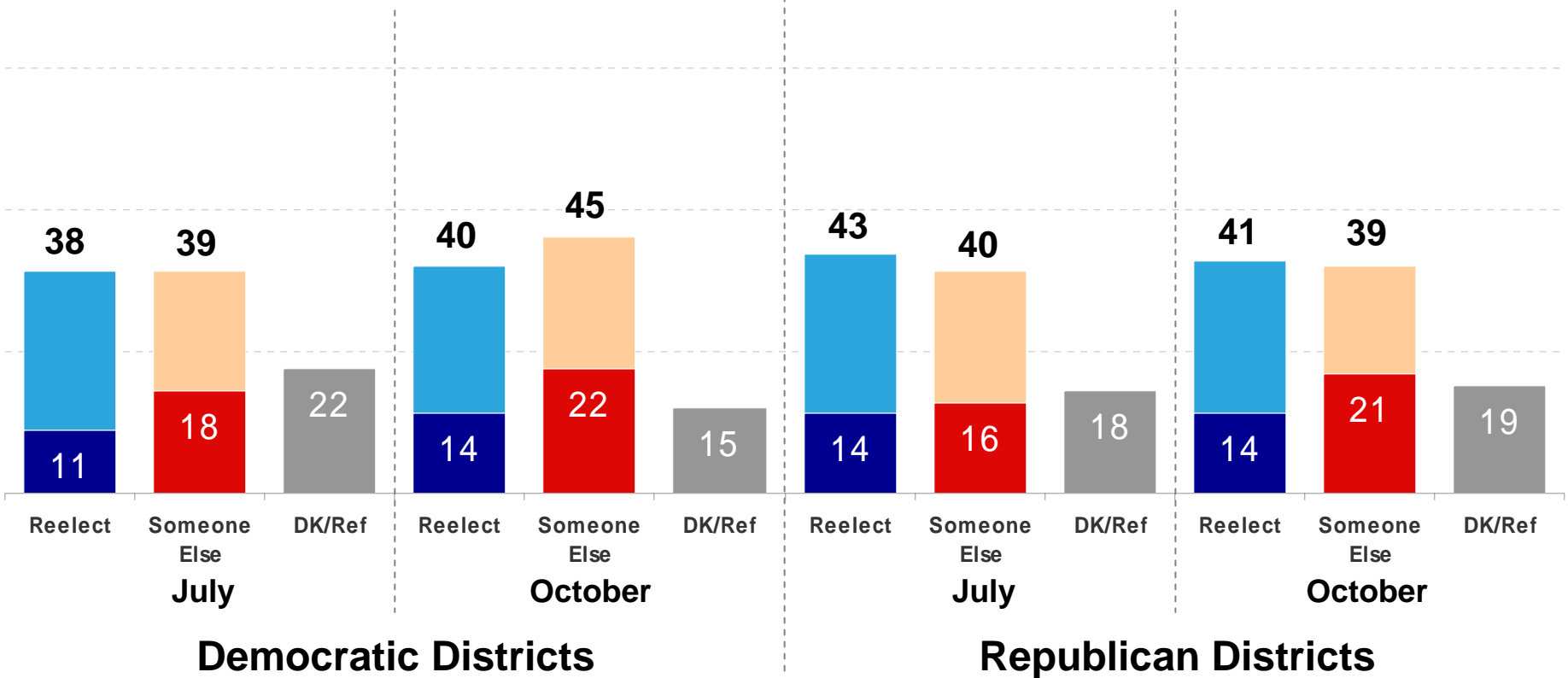


**Note: Actual incumbent's name inserted. Question not asked in districts where the incumbent has announced they are not running for reelection.*

Voters beginning to pull away from incumbents in battleground

As you may know, there will be an election for your Representative to Congress in November next year. Do you think you will definitely vote to re-elect (HOUSE INCUMBENT) to Congress, probably vote to re-elect (HOUSE INCUMBENT), probably vote for someone else, or definitely vote for someone else?

■ Definitely Reelect ■ Definitely Vote Someone Else ■ Don't Know/Refused/Depends



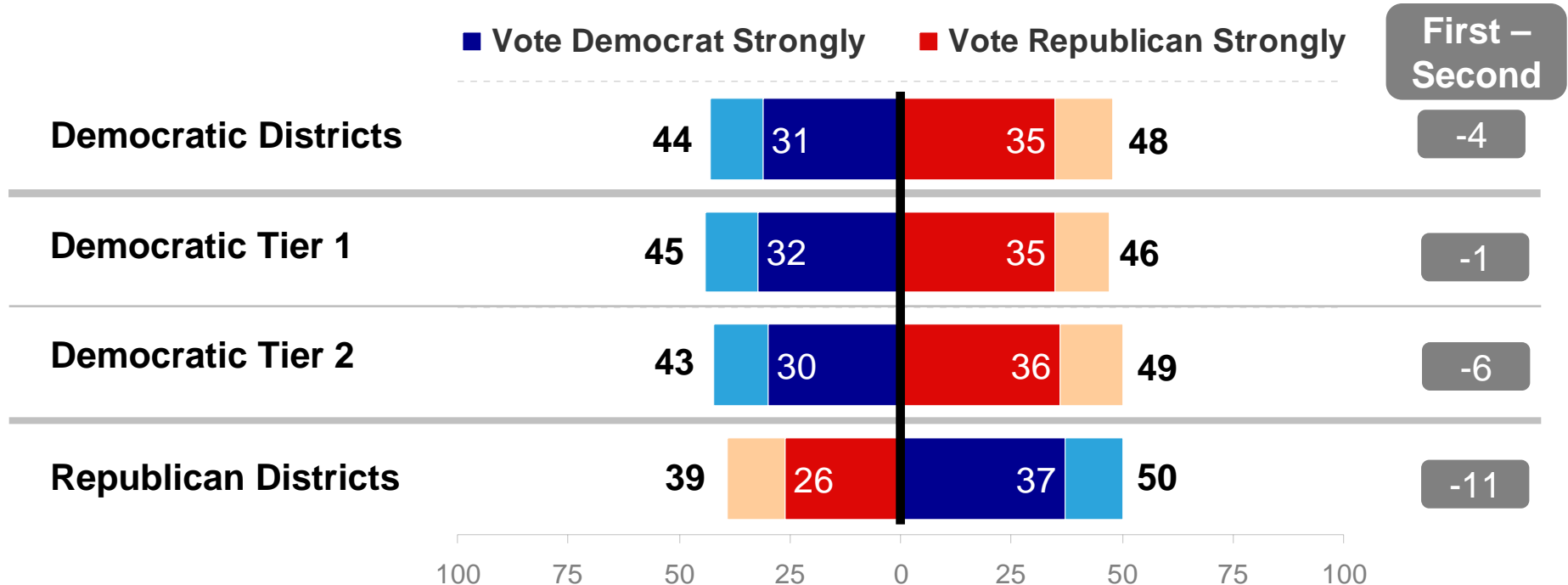
**Note: Actual incumbent's name inserted. Question not asked in districts where the incumbent has announced they are not running for reelection. Shows only common districts between the July and October surveys.*

Dem. tiers divided on incumbent re-elect, GOP leans someone new

Now I'm going to read you some pairs of statements. After I read each pair, please tell me whether the FIRST statement or the SECOND statement comes closer to your own view, even if neither is exactly right.

First Statement: Next year, I WILL vote to reelect (HOUSE INCUMBENT) because (HE/SHE) is doing a good job and addressing issues that are important to us.*

Second Statement: Next year, I CAN'T vote to reelect (HOUSE INCUMBENT) because we need new people that will fix Washington and get things done.



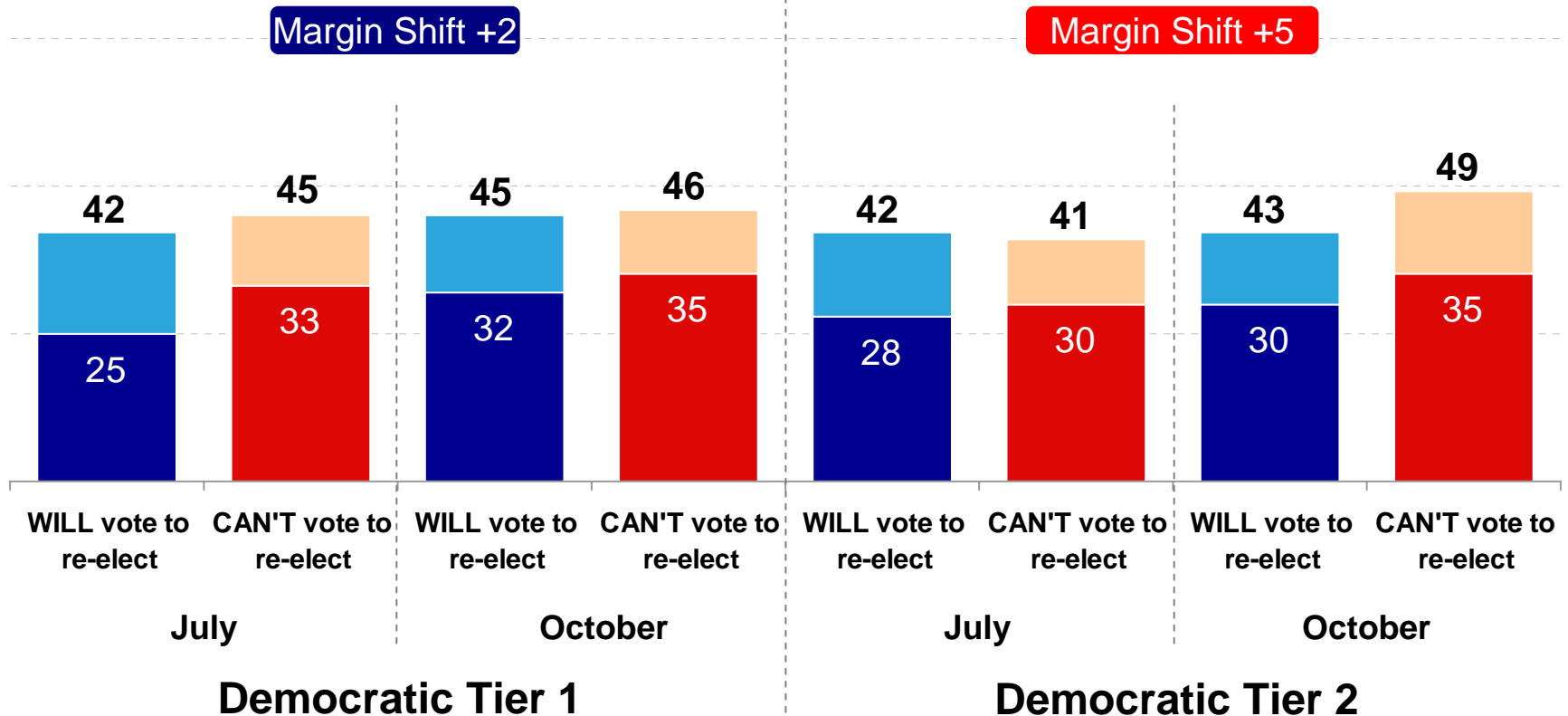
Note: The pro-incumbent vote shown on left-hand side of the graph and coded per party. Actual incumbent's name inserted. Not asked in seats where incumbent is not seeking reelection.

Shift against incumbent's "good job" in Democratic tier 2

First Statement: Next year, I WILL vote to reelect (HOUSE INCUMBENT) because (HE/SHE) is doing a good job and addressing issues that are important to us.*

Second Statement: Next year, I CAN'T vote to reelect (HOUSE INCUMBENT) because we need new people that will fix Washington and get things done.

■ First statement strongly ■ Second statement strongly



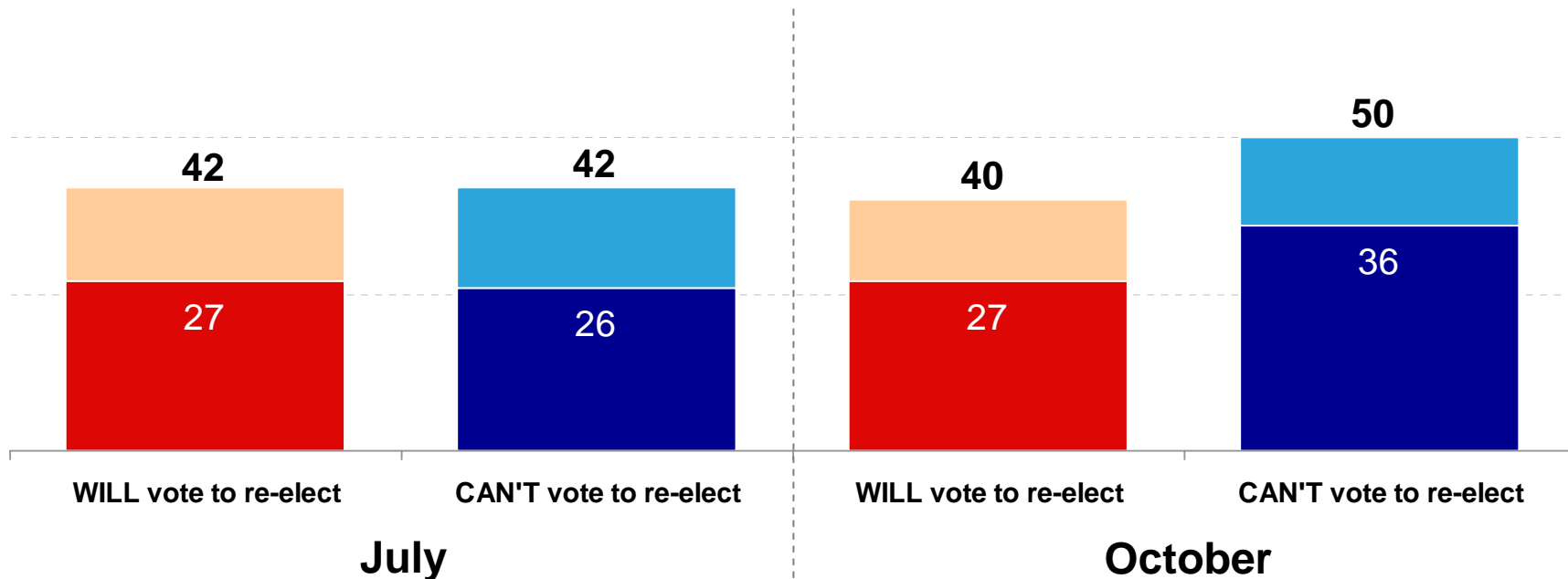
Large shift against GOP incumbent's productivity, job performance

First Statement: Next year, I WILL vote to reelect (HOUSE INCUMBENT) because (HE/SHE) is doing a good job and addressing issues that are important to us.*

Second Statement: Next year, I CAN'T vote to reelect (HOUSE INCUMBENT) because we need new people that will fix Washington and get things done.

■ First statement strongly ■ Second statement strongly

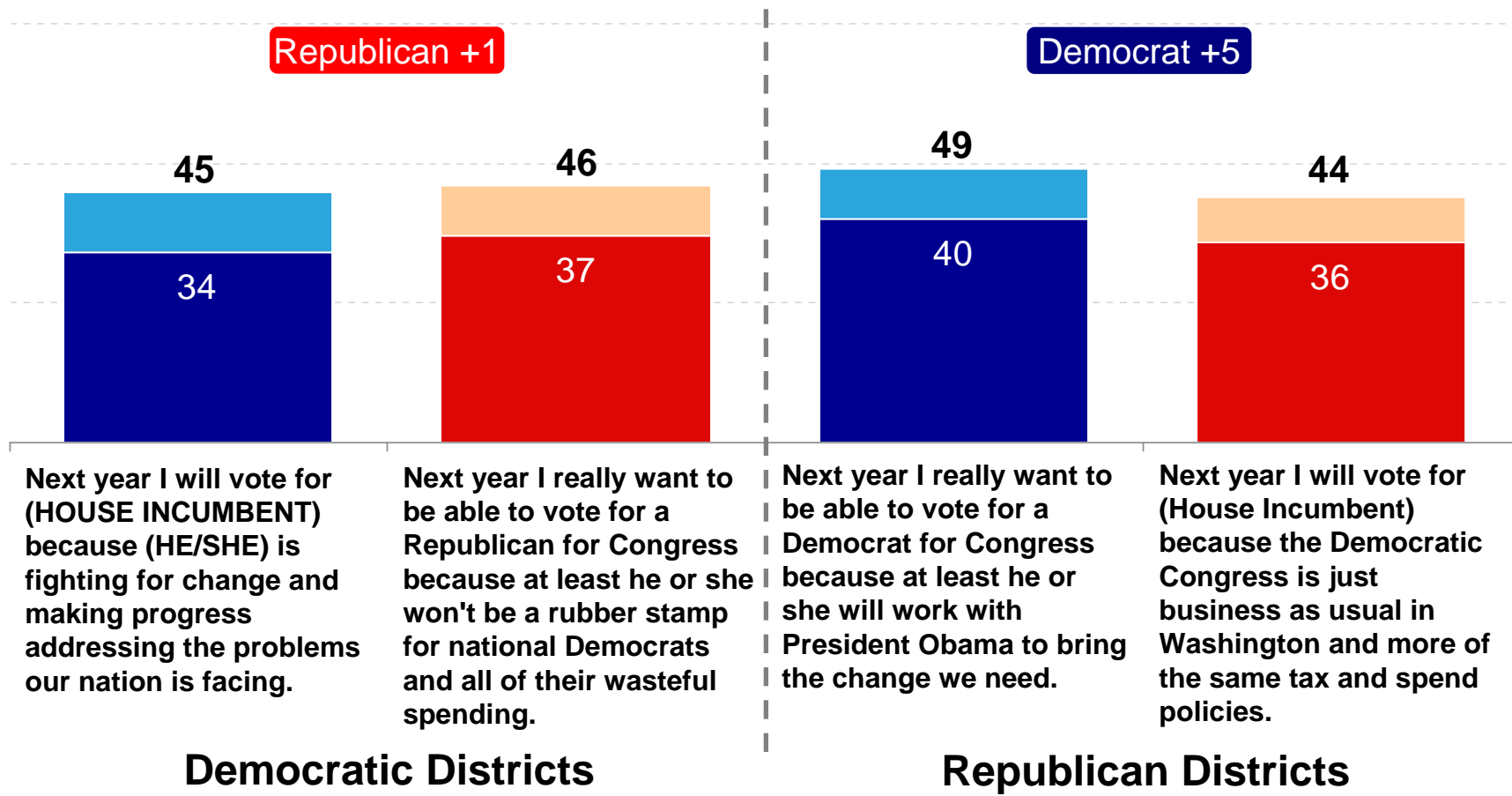
Margin Shift +10



**Note: Actual incumbent's name inserted. Question not asked in districts where the incumbent has announced they are not running for reelection. Shows only common districts between the July and October surveys.*

Battleground divided over change vs. rubber stamp in Congress

■ First statement strongly ■ Second statement strongly



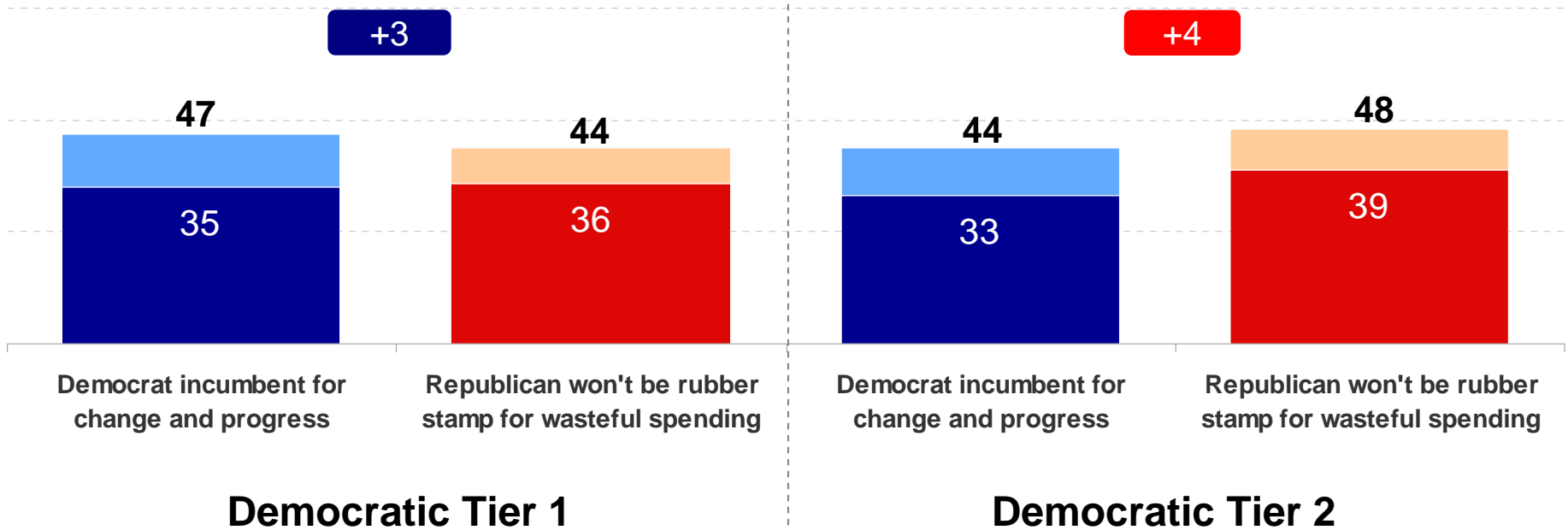
Top tier sees incumbent for change; tier 2 leans toward Republican

Now I'm going to read you some pairs of statements. After I read each pair, please tell me whether the FIRST statement or the SECOND statement comes closer to your own view, even if neither is exactly right.

First Statement: Next year I will vote for (HOUSE INCUMBENT) because (HE/SHE) is fighting for change and making progress addressing the problems our nation is facing.*

Second Statement: Next year I really want to be able to vote for a Republican for Congress because at least he or she won't be a rubber stamp for national Democrats and all of their wasteful spending.

■ First statement strongly ■ Second statement strongly



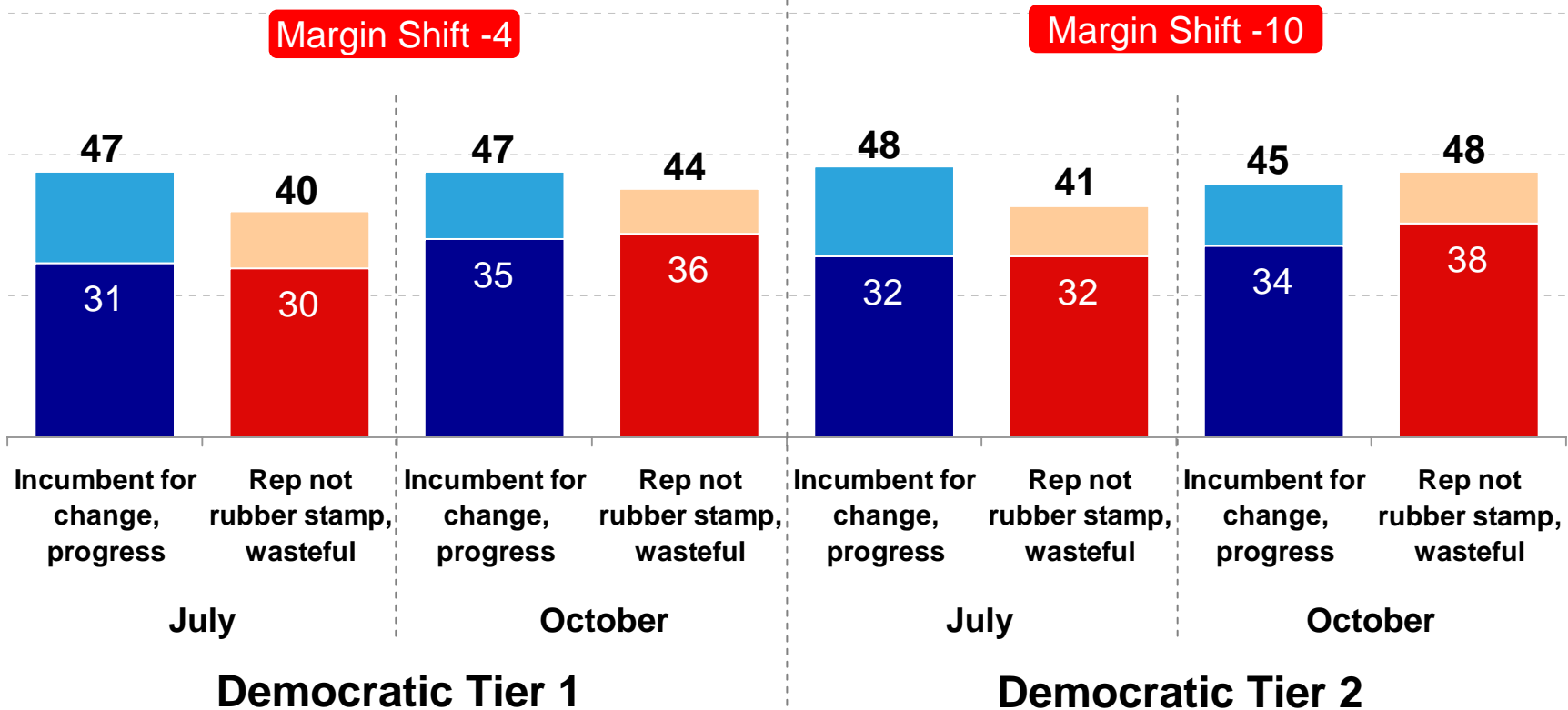
*Note: Asked only in Democratic-held districts. For each district, the incumbent's name was inserted, with party identification. Question not asked in districts where the incumbent has announced they are not running for reelection.

Movement away from “change” message, against spending

First Statement: Next year I will vote for (HOUSE INCUMBENT) because (HE/SHE) is fighting for change and making progress addressing the problems our nation is facing.*

Second Statement: Next year I really want to be able to vote for a Republican for Congress because at least he or she won't be a rubber stamp for national Democrats and all of their wasteful spending.

■ First statement strongly ■ Second statement strongly



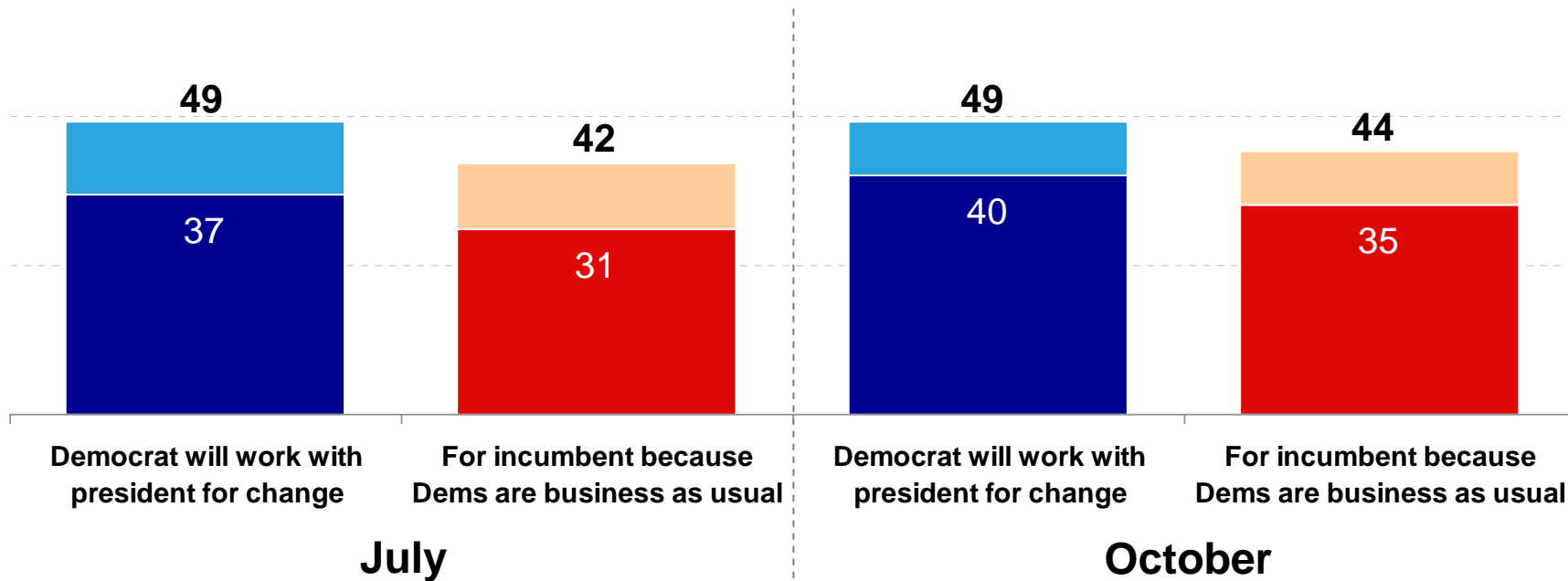
In Republican battleground, little movement on re-election

First Statement: Next year I really want to be able to vote for a Democrat for Congress because at least he or she will work with President Obama to bring the change we need.

Second Statement: Next year I will vote for (House Incumbent) because the Democratic Congress is just business as usual in Washington and more of the same tax and spend policies.

■ First statement strongly ■ Second statement strongly

Margin Shift -2



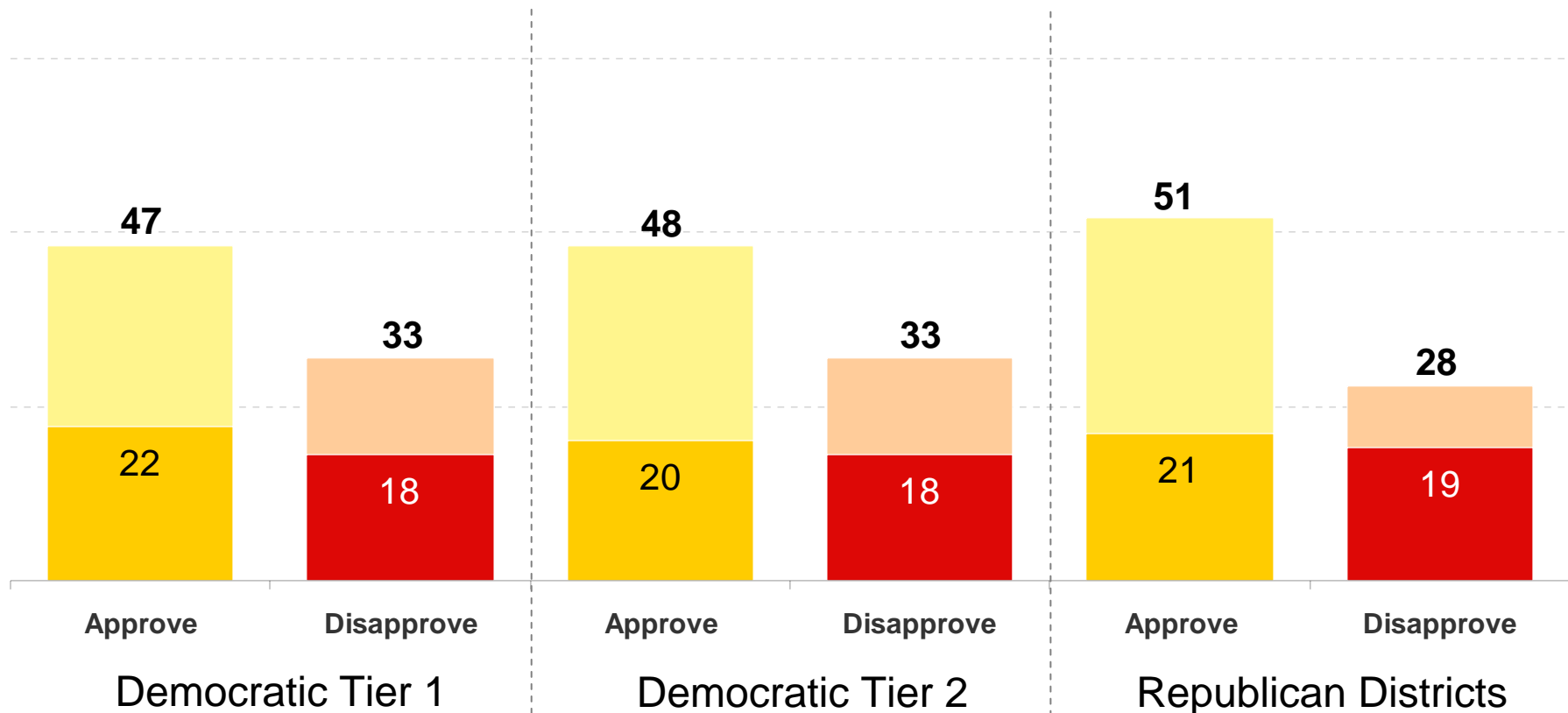
**Note: Actual incumbent's name inserted. Question not asked in districts where the incumbent has announced they are not running for reelection. Shows only common districts between the July and October surveys.*

Image of incumbent members

Incumbent job approval: all positive but Dems short of 50

Do you approve or disapprove of the way (HOUSE INCUMBENT) is handling his/her job as a member of the U.S. Congress?

■ Strongly Approve
 ■ Strongly Disapprove

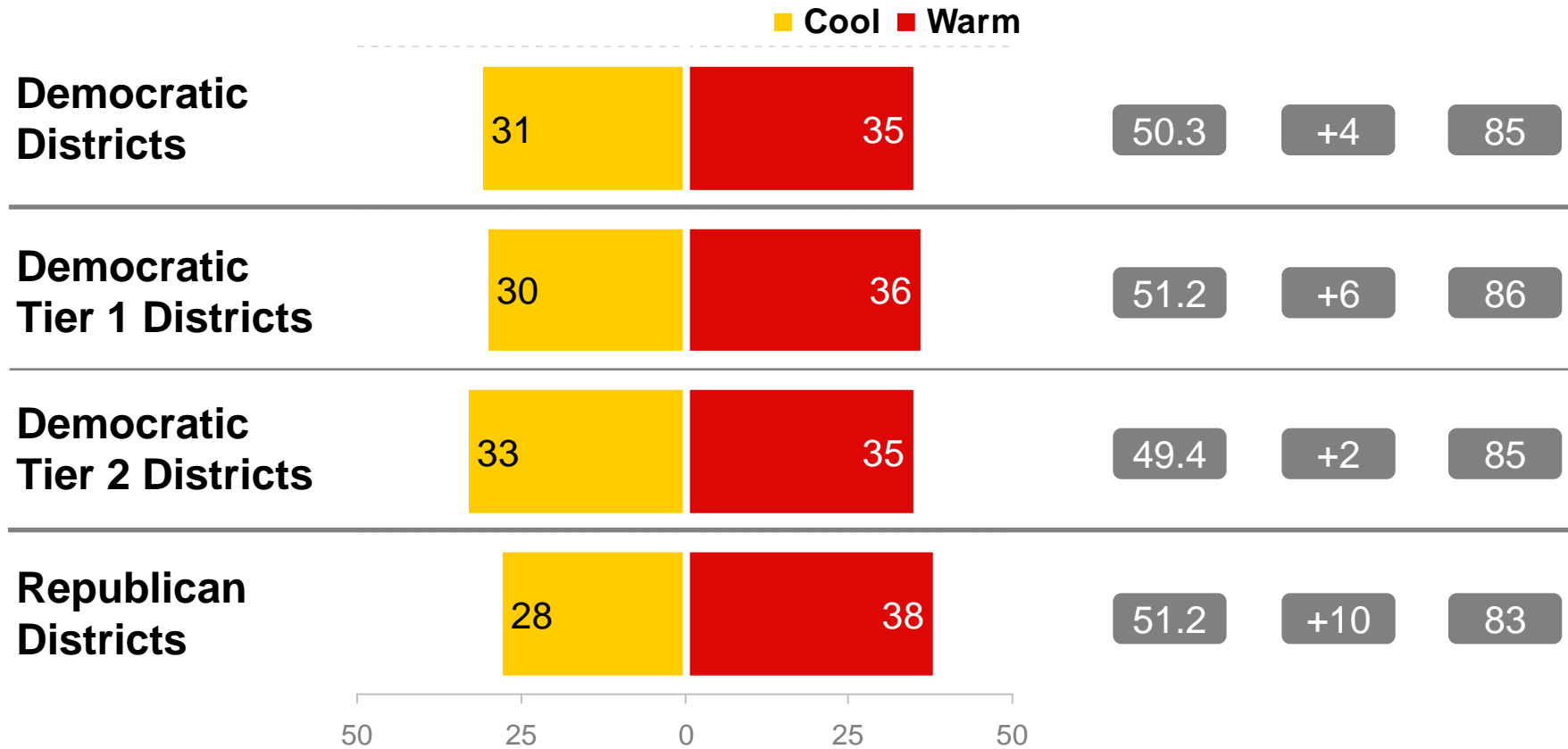


**Note: For each district, the incumbents' names were inserted. Question not asked in districts where the incumbent has announced they are not running for reelection.*

Tier 2 incumbent favorability score drops below 50

Now, I'd like to rate your feelings toward some people and organizations, with one hundred meaning a VERY WARM, FAVORABLE feeling; zero meaning a VERY COLD, UNFAVORABLE feeling; and fifty meaning not particularly warm or cold.

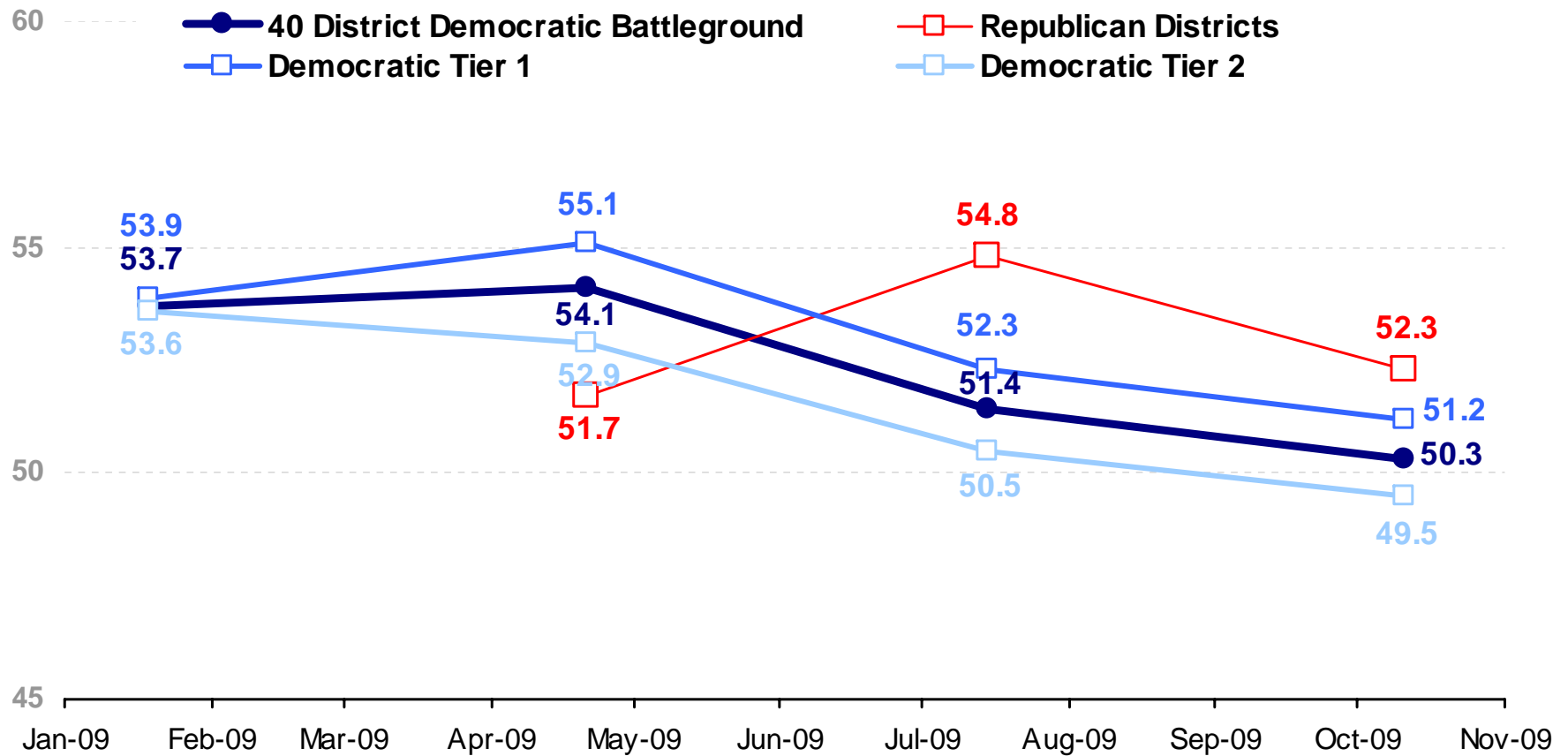
Therm. Mean **Warm - Cool** **Percent Know**



**Note: Actual names of "house incumbents" were inserted.*

Dem incumbent favorability trending down; GOP falls after spike

Now, I'd like to rate your feelings toward some people and organizations, with 100 meaning a VERY WARM, FAVORABLE feeling; zero meaning a VERY COLD, UNFAVORABLE feeling; and 50 meaning not particularly warm or cold.

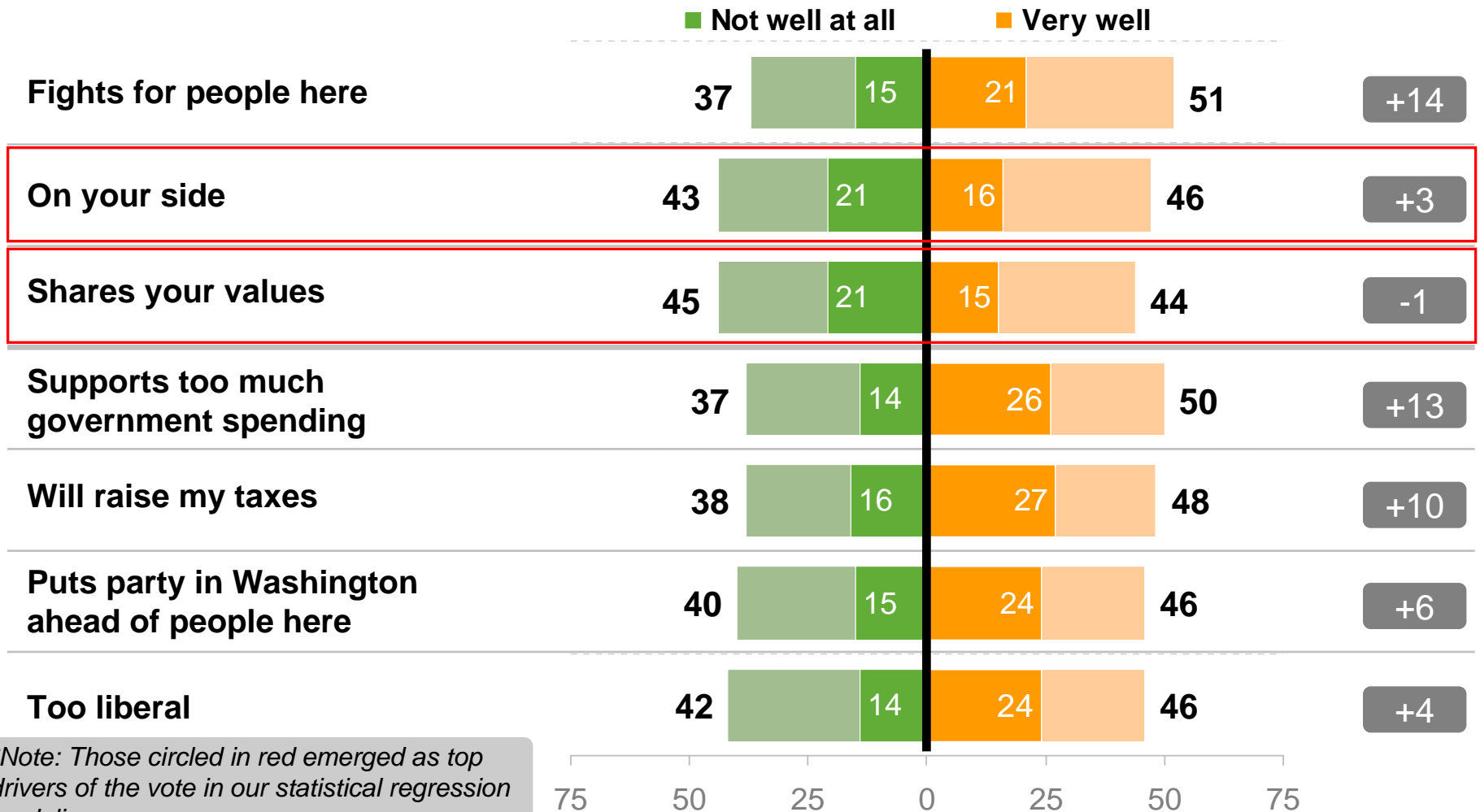


*Note: From Democracy Corps battleground surveys conducted this year. Shows data from common districts over the course of the year. Data reflects MEAN favorability score.

Dem. Incumbent on constituent's side, but split on values

Now, I am going to read you a list of words and phrases which people use to describe political figures. For each word or phrase, please tell me whether it describes (HOUSE INCUBMENT) very well, well, not too well or not well at all

Well – Not Well

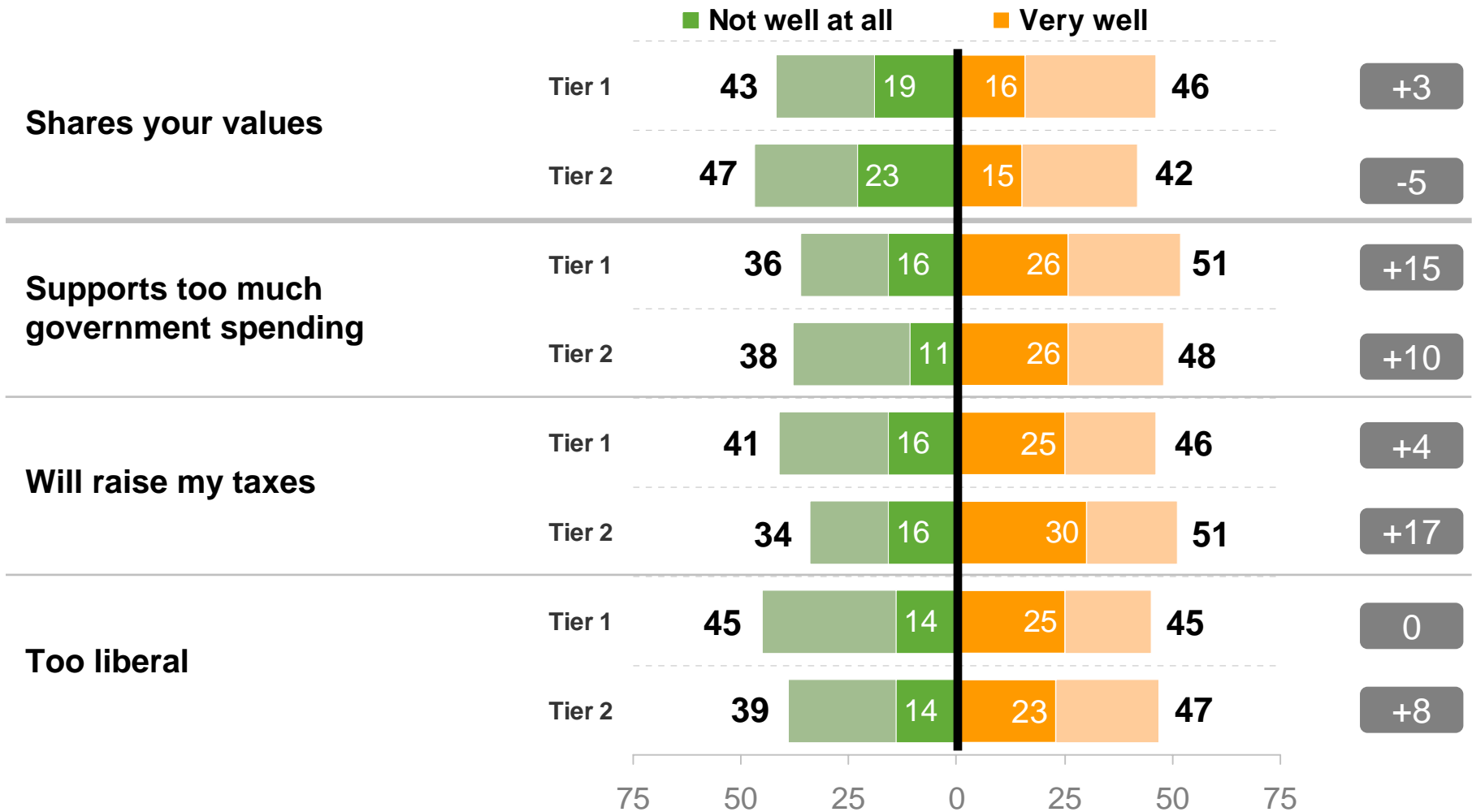


*Note: Those circled in red emerged as top drivers of the vote in our statistical regression modeling.

Some big differences between the Democratic tiers

Now, I am going to read you a list of words and phrases which people use to describe political figures. For each word or phrase, please tell me whether it describes (HOUSE INCUBMENT) very well, well, not too well or not well at all

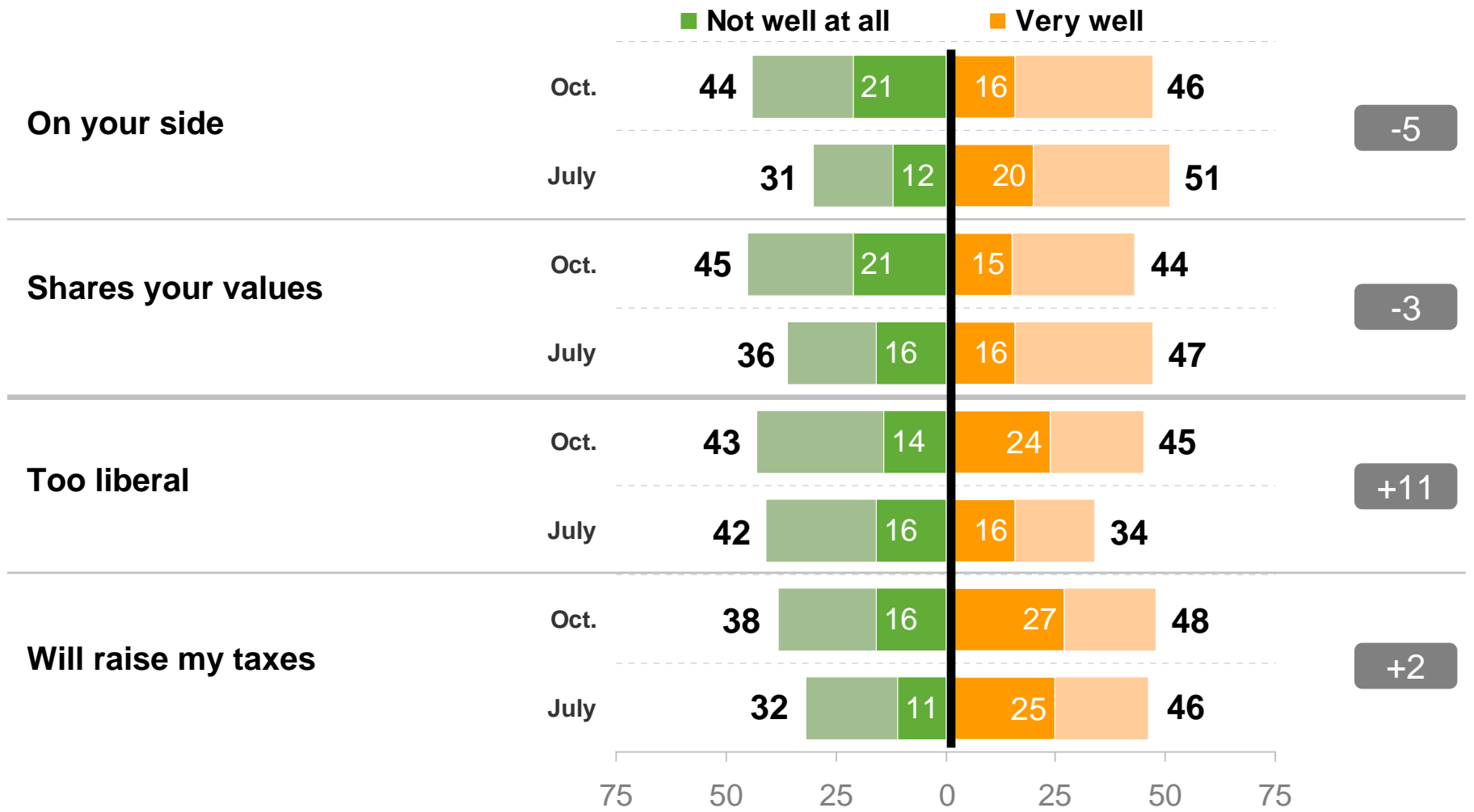
Well – Not Well



Key Democratic positives falling in top 40 districts

Now, I am going to read you a list of words and phrases which people use to describe political figures. For each word or phrase, please tell me whether it describes (HOUSE INCUMBENT) very well, well, not too well or not well at all

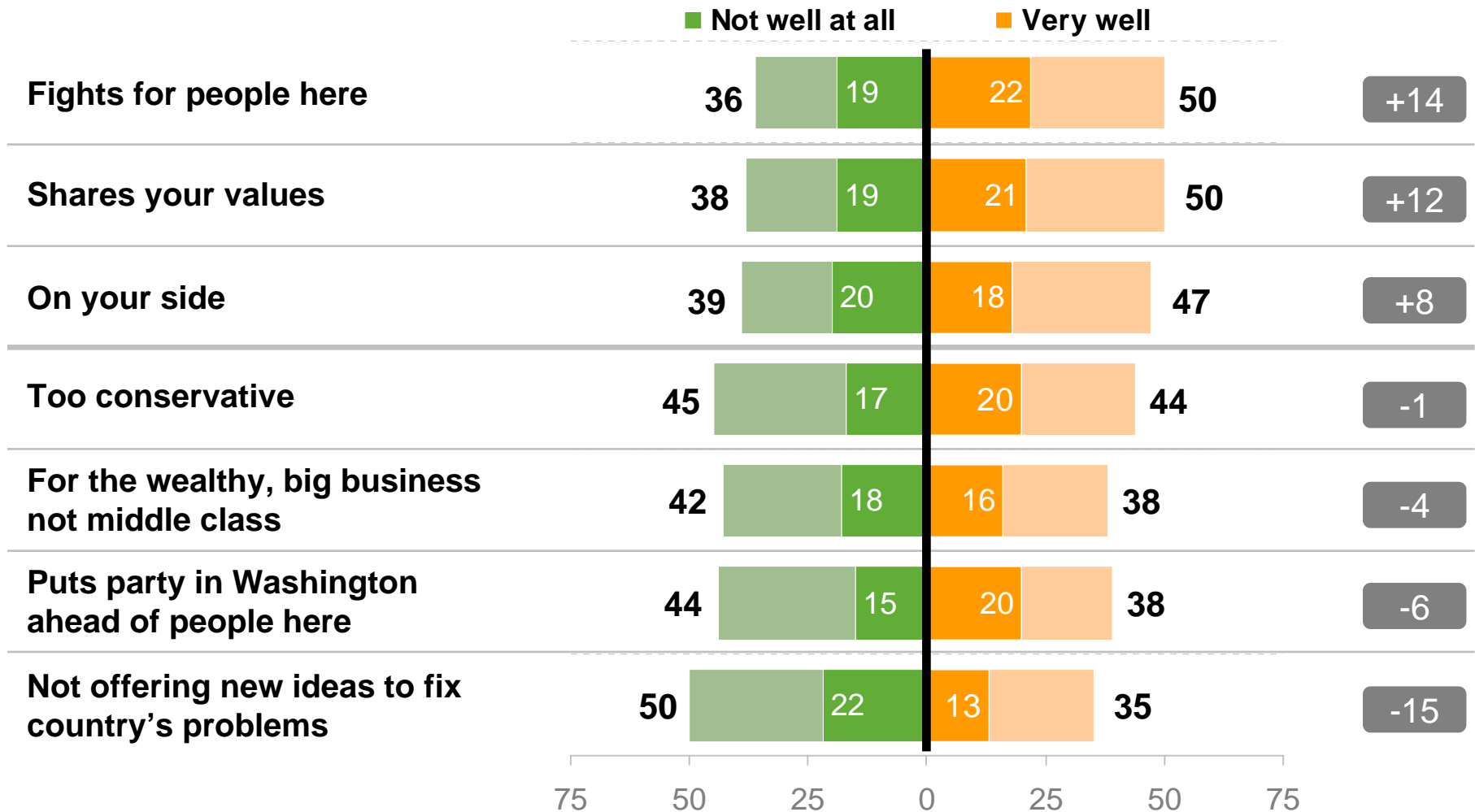
Shift in Total Well



Republican incumbents fight for constituents, share their values

Now, I am going to read you a list of words and phrases which people use to describe political figures. For each word or phrase, please tell me whether it describes (HOUSE INCUBMENT) very well, well, not too well or not well at all

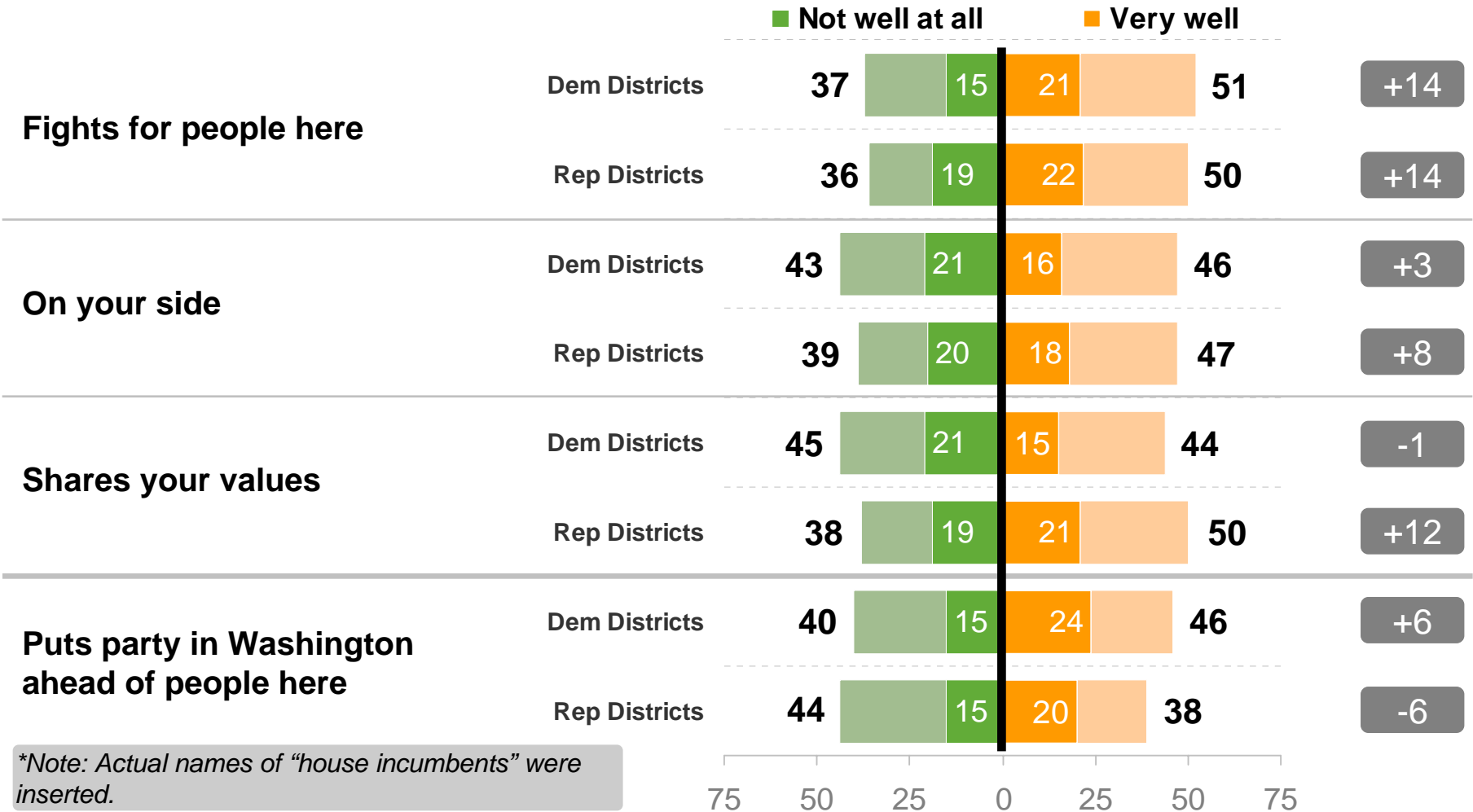
Well – Not Well



Republican incumbents fare better than competitive Dems

Well – Not Well

Now, I am going to read you a list of words and phrases which people use to describe political figures. For each word or phrase, please tell me whether it describes (HOUSE INCUBMENT) very well, well, not too well or not well at all



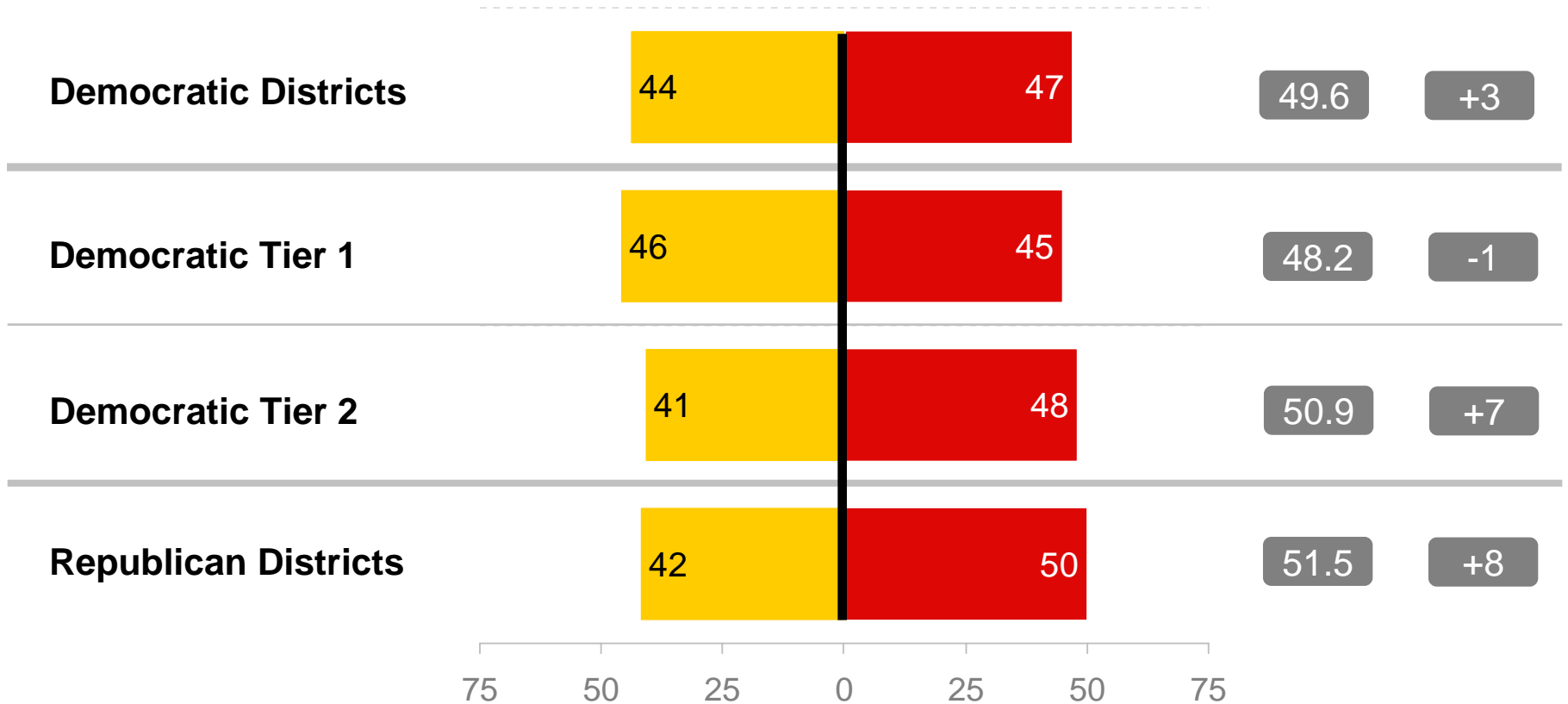
President Obama

Obama favorability dips below 50 in Dem top 40; still warm in GOP

Now, I'd like to rate your feelings toward some people and organizations, with one hundred meaning a VERY WARM, FAVORABLE feeling; zero meaning a VERY COLD, UNFAVORABLE feeling; and fifty meaning not particularly warm or cold... **Barack Obama.**

Therm. Mean **Warm - Cool**

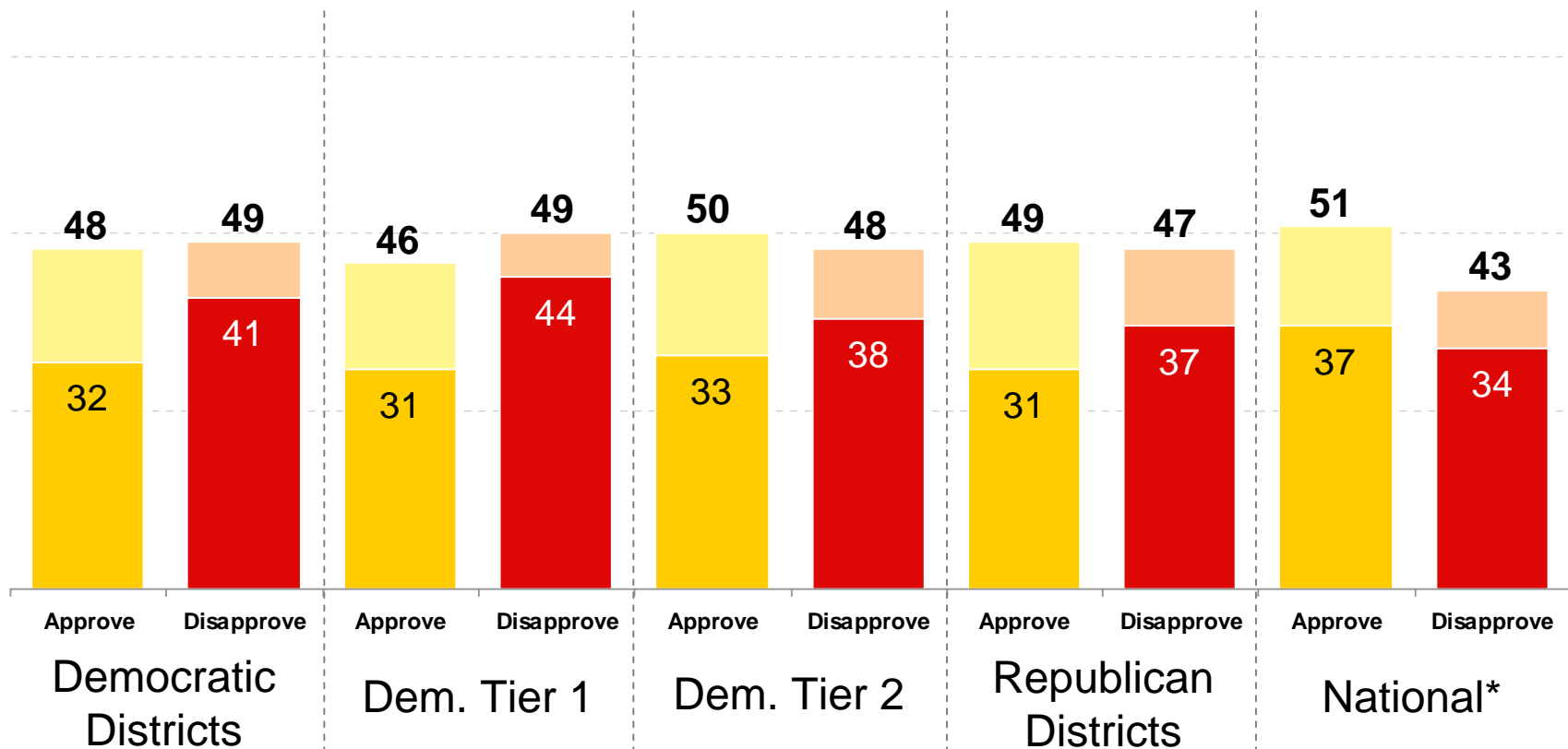
■ Cool ■ Warm



Obama approval split in competitive districts

Do you approve or disapprove of the job being done by Barack Obama as president?

■ Strongly Approve ■ Strongly Disapprove

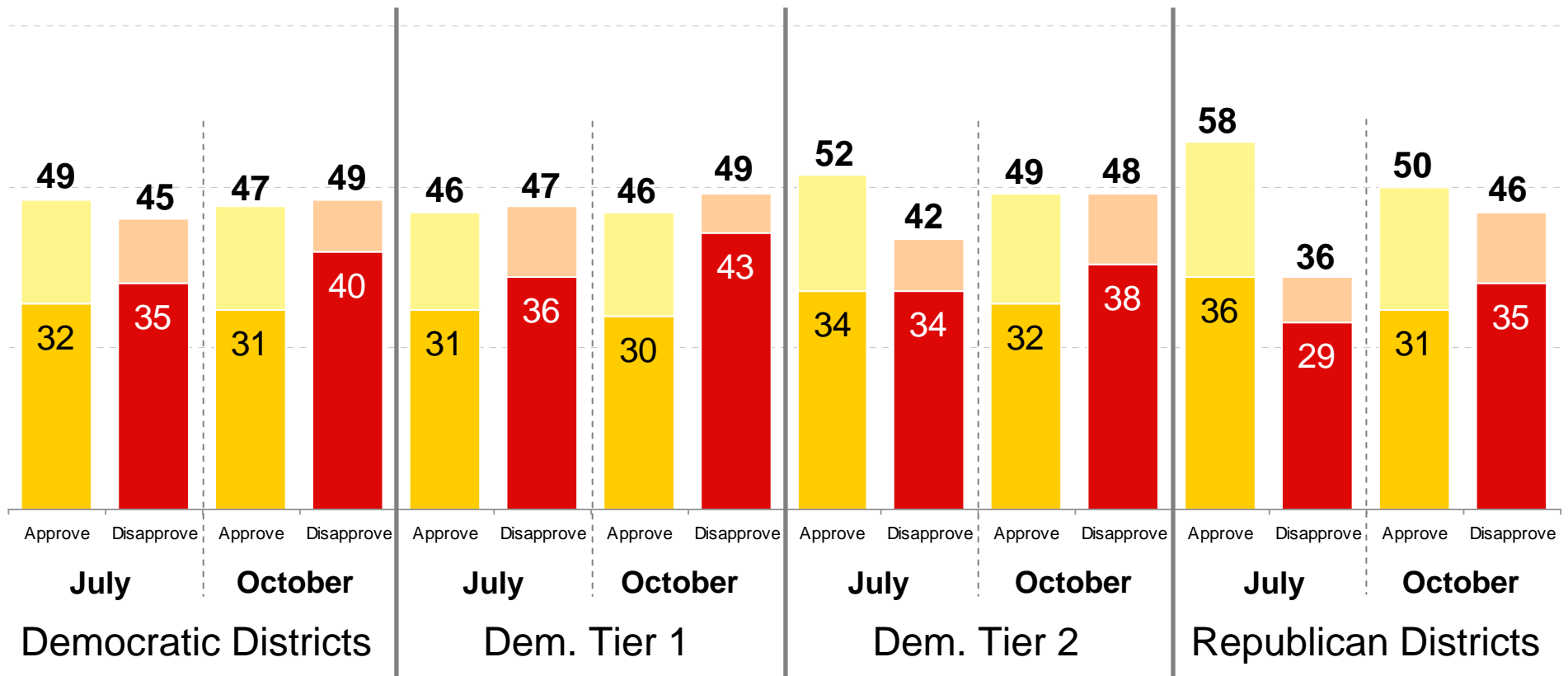


*Note: National data from Democracy Corps survey of 1,200 2008 voters nationwide conducted September 12-16, 2009. Data reflects results from 1,044 likely 2010 voters.

Obama's approval sees some decline overall

Do you approve or disapprove of the job being done by Barack Obama as president?

■ Strongly Approve ■ Strongly Disapprove



*Note: Shows only the common districts between the October and July surveys.

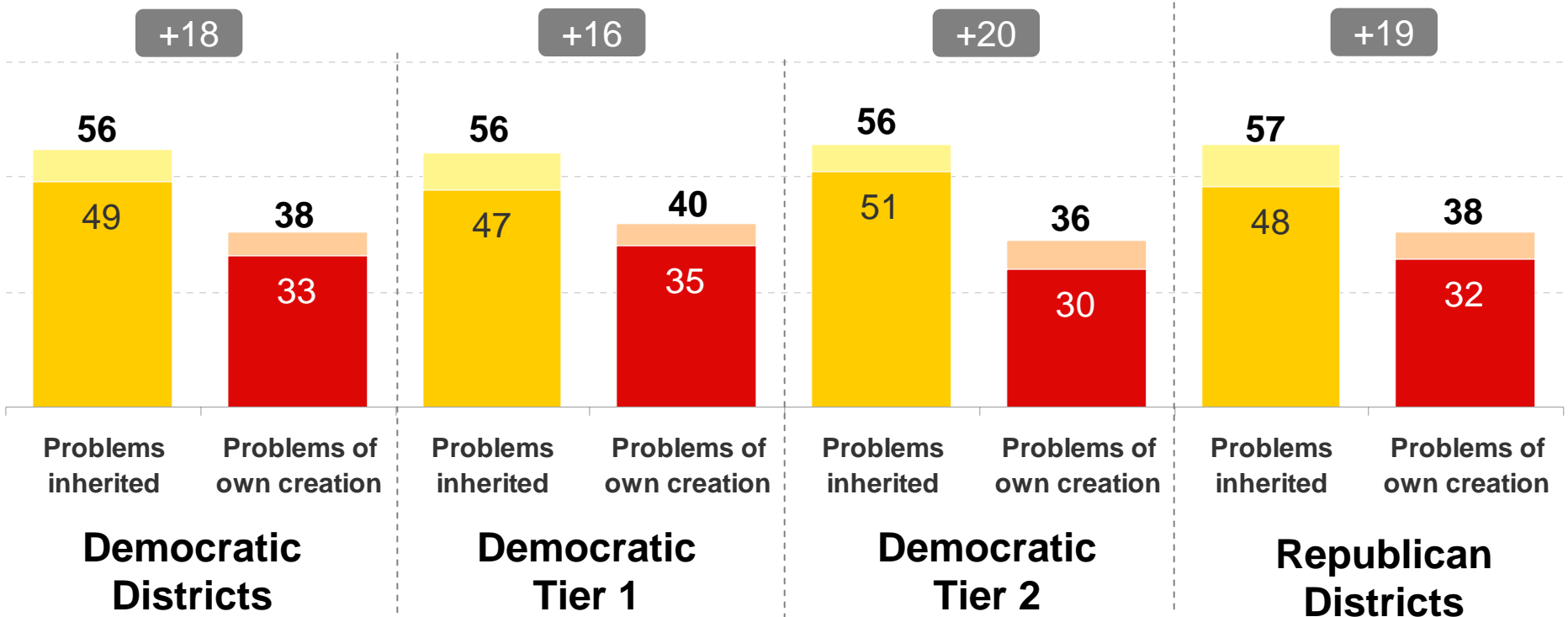
Obama and Democrats still dealing with inherited problems

Now I'm going to read you some pairs of statements. After I read each pair, please tell me whether the FIRST statement or the SECOND statement comes closer to your own view, even if neither is exactly right.

First Statement: President Obama and the Democrats are mainly dealing with problems they inherited.

Second Statement: President Obama and the Democrats are mainly dealing with problems of their own creation.

■ First statement strongly ■ Second statement strongly

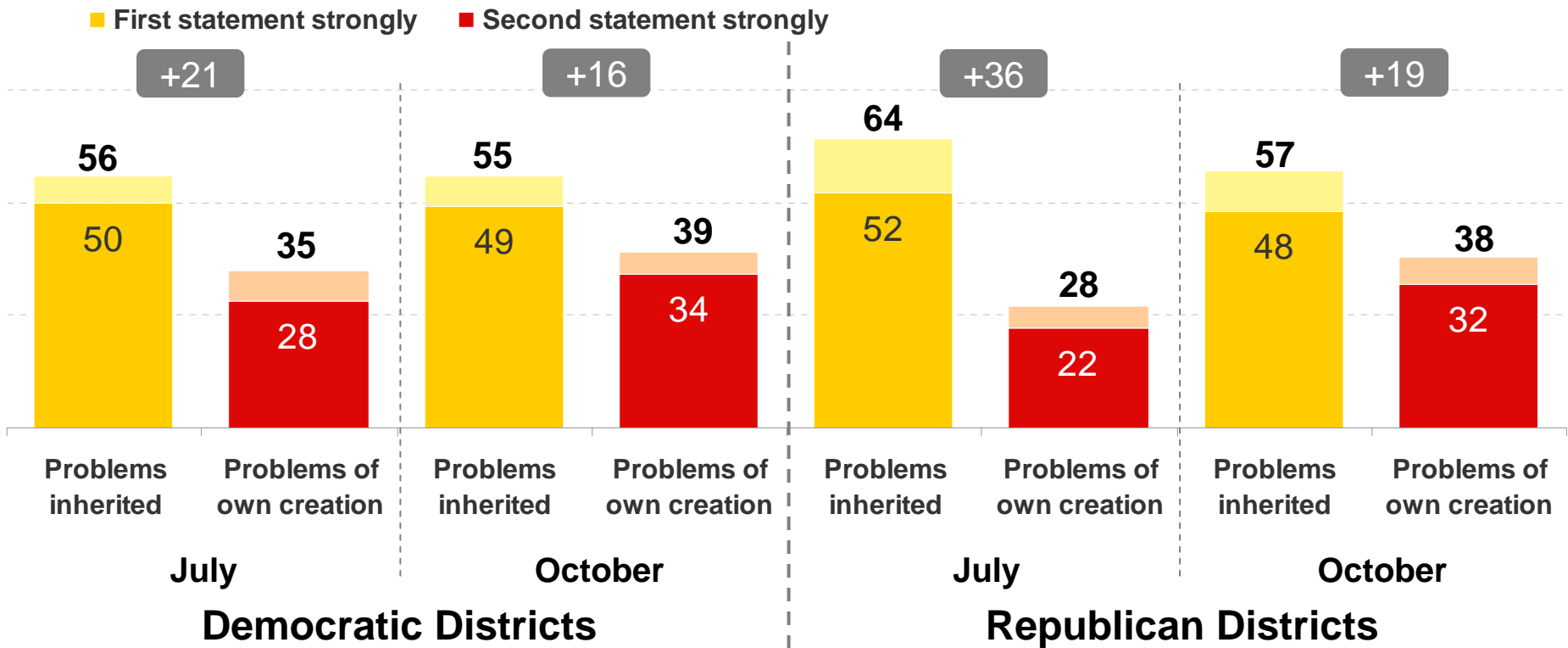


Problems still inherited, but voters less certain in GOP districts

Now I'm going to read you some pairs of statements. After I read each pair, please tell me whether the FIRST statement or the SECOND statement comes closer to your own view, even if neither is exactly right.

First Statement: President Obama and the Democrats are mainly dealing with problems they inherited.

Second Statement: President Obama and the Democrats are mainly dealing with problems of their own creation.



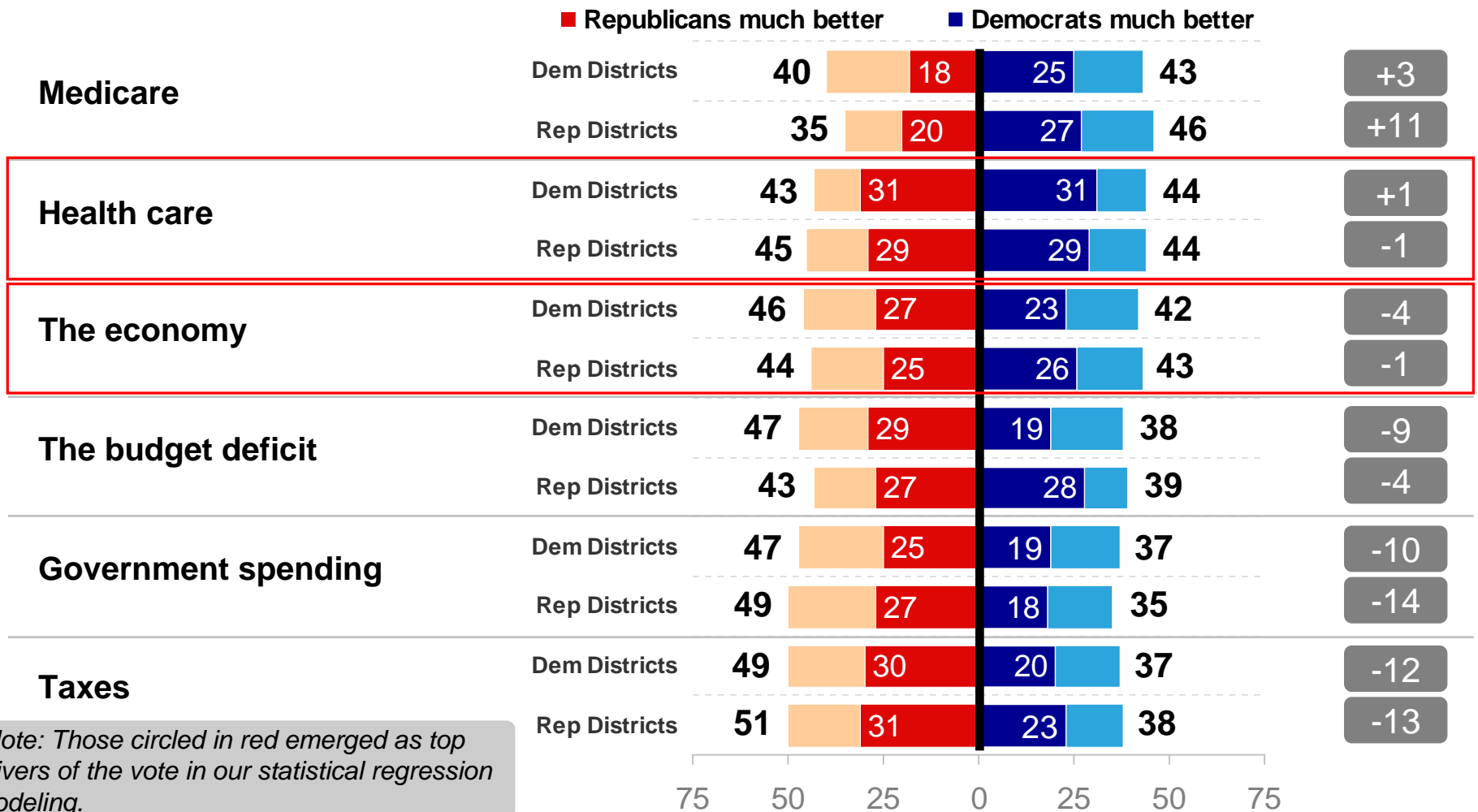
*Note: Shows only the common districts between the October and July surveys.

The parties

Little difference on social issues, but Reps hold on spending, taxes

Now I am going to ask you something different. I am going to read a list of issues and I want you to tell me whether, overall, you think the Democrats or the Republicans would do a better job with this issue. If you do not know, just tell me and we will move on to the next item.

**Dems –
Reps**

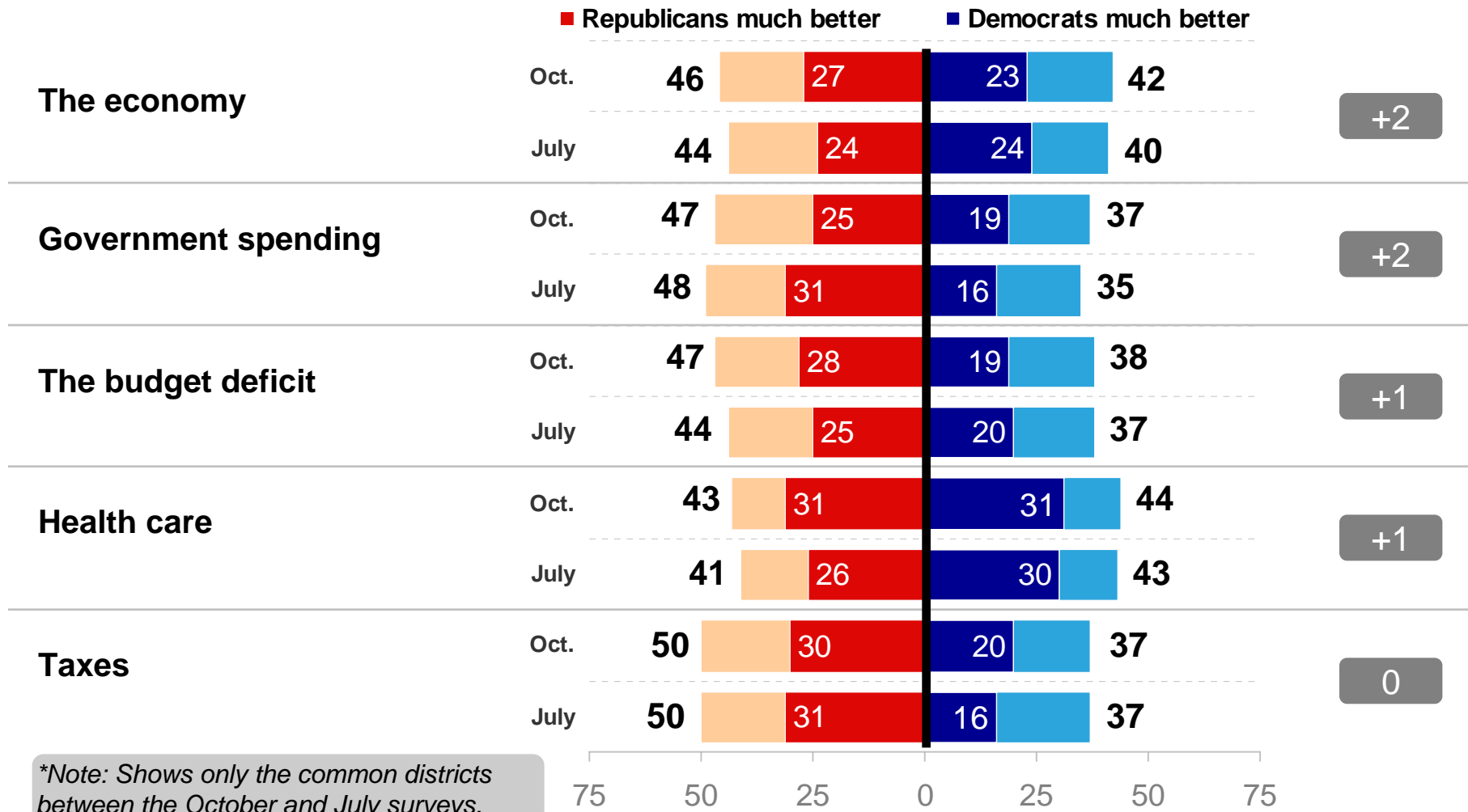


*Note: Those circled in red emerged as top drivers of the vote in our statistical regression modeling.

Little shift on issues since summer in Democratic battleground

Now I am going to ask you something different. I am going to read a list of issues and I want you to tell me whether, overall, you think the Democrats or the Republicans would do a better job with this issue. If you do not know, just tell me and we will move on to the next item.

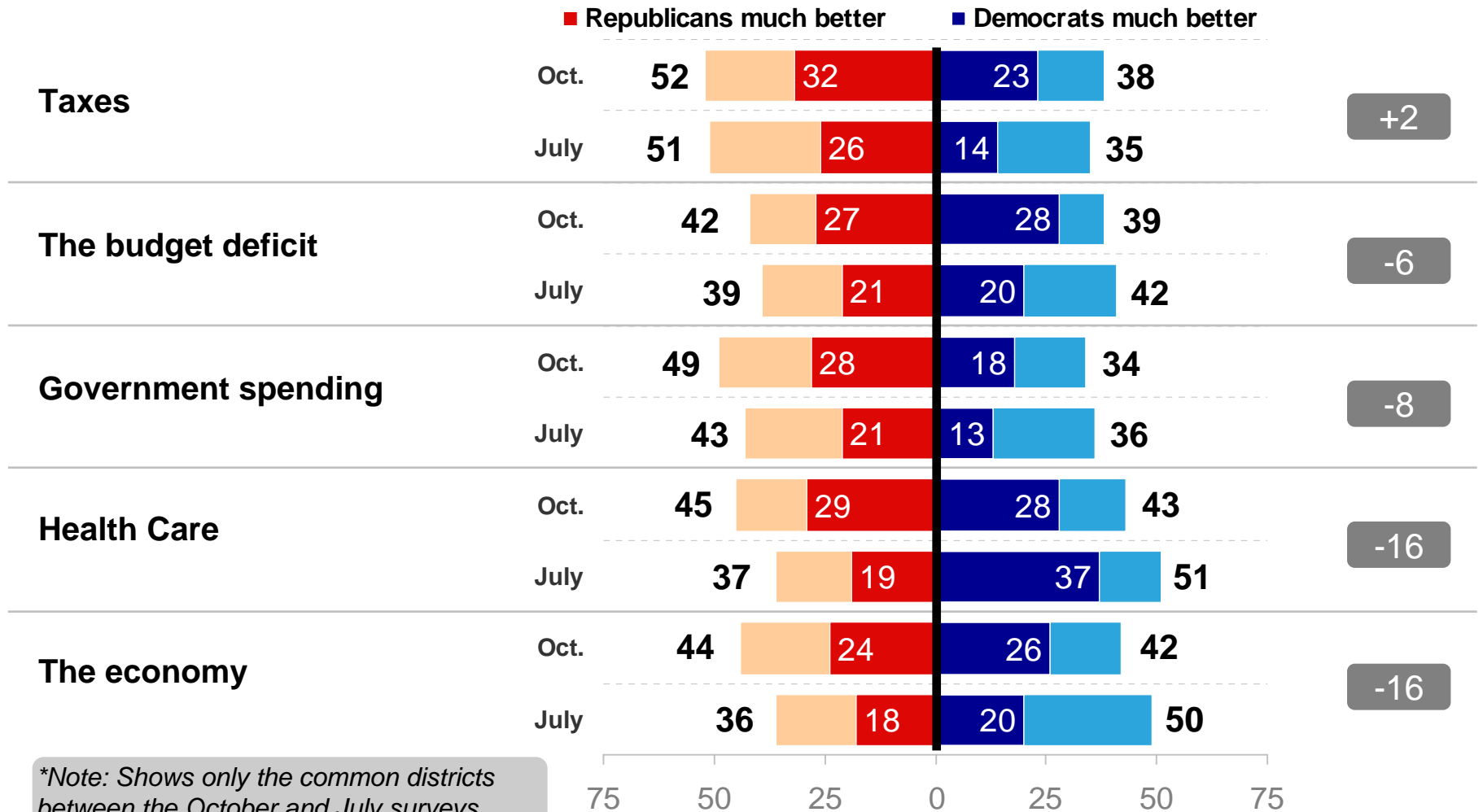
Change in Dem - Rep



Big shift against Dems on health care, economy in GOP-held districts

Now I am going to ask you something different. I am going to read a list of issues and I want you to tell me whether, overall, you think the Democrats or the Republicans would do a better job with this issue. If you do not know, just tell me and we will move on to the next item.

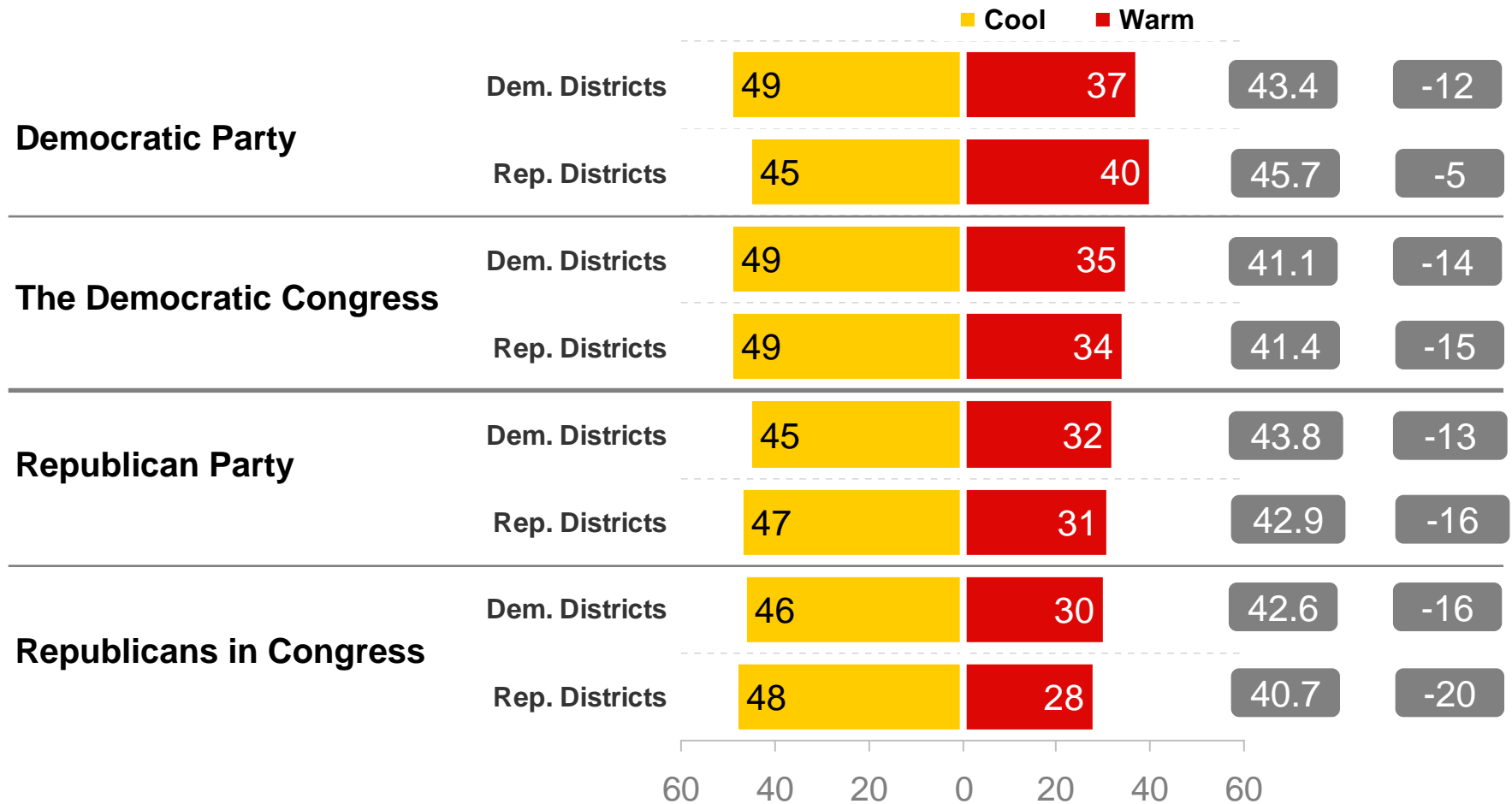
Change in Dem - Rep



Parties and Congress equally unpopular in battleground

Now, I'd like to rate your feelings toward some people and organizations, with one hundred meaning a VERY WARM, FAVORABLE feeling; zero meaning a VERY COLD, UNFAVORABLE feeling; and fifty meaning not particularly warm or cold.

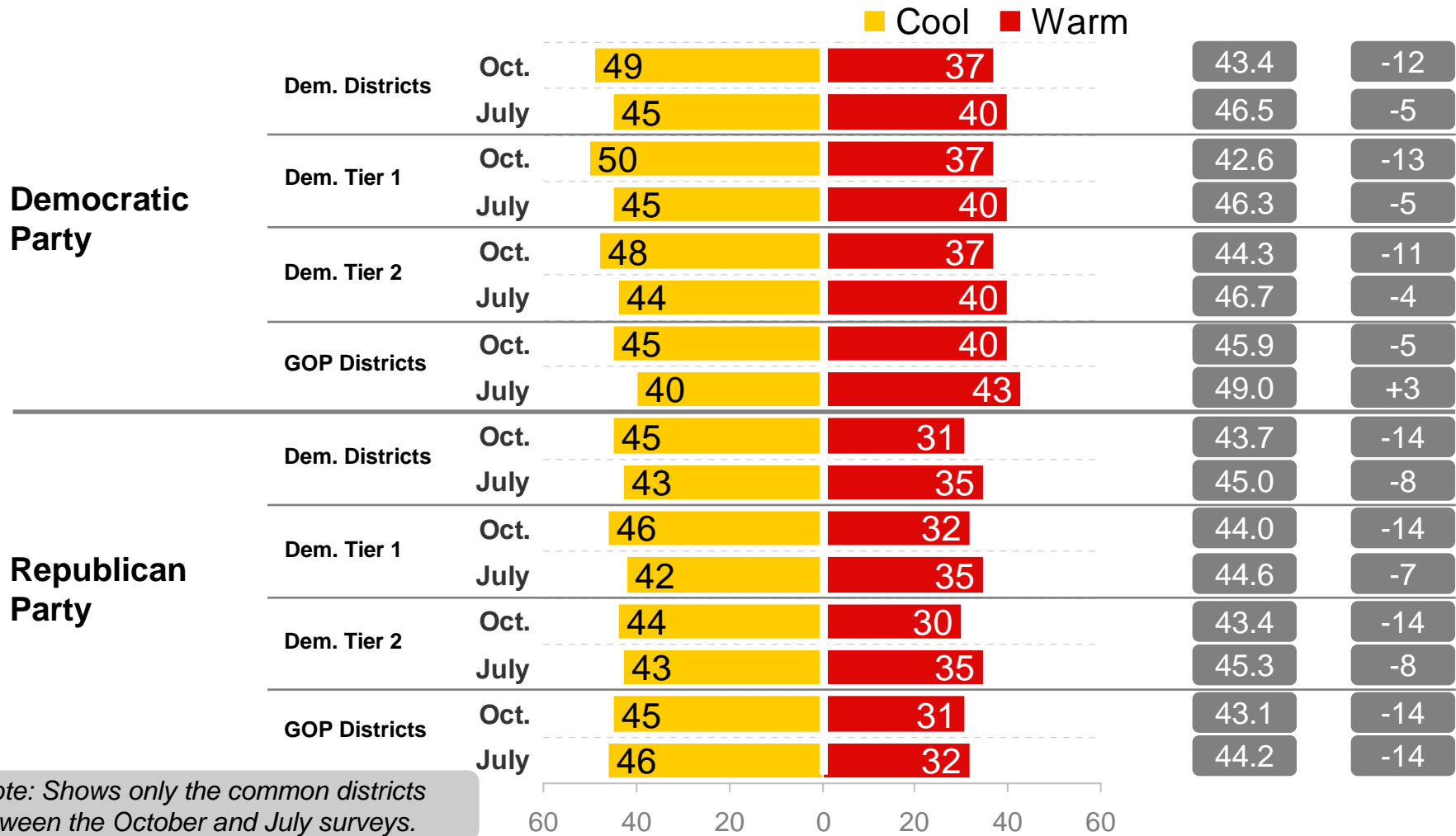
Therm. Mean **Warm - Cool**



Dems' image weakened, but no increase in favorability for Reps

Now, I'd like to rate your feelings toward some people and organizations, with one hundred meaning a VERY WARM, FAVORABLE feeling; zero meaning a VERY COLD, UNFAVORABLE feeling; and fifty meaning not particularly warm or cold.

Therm. Mean **Warm - Cool**

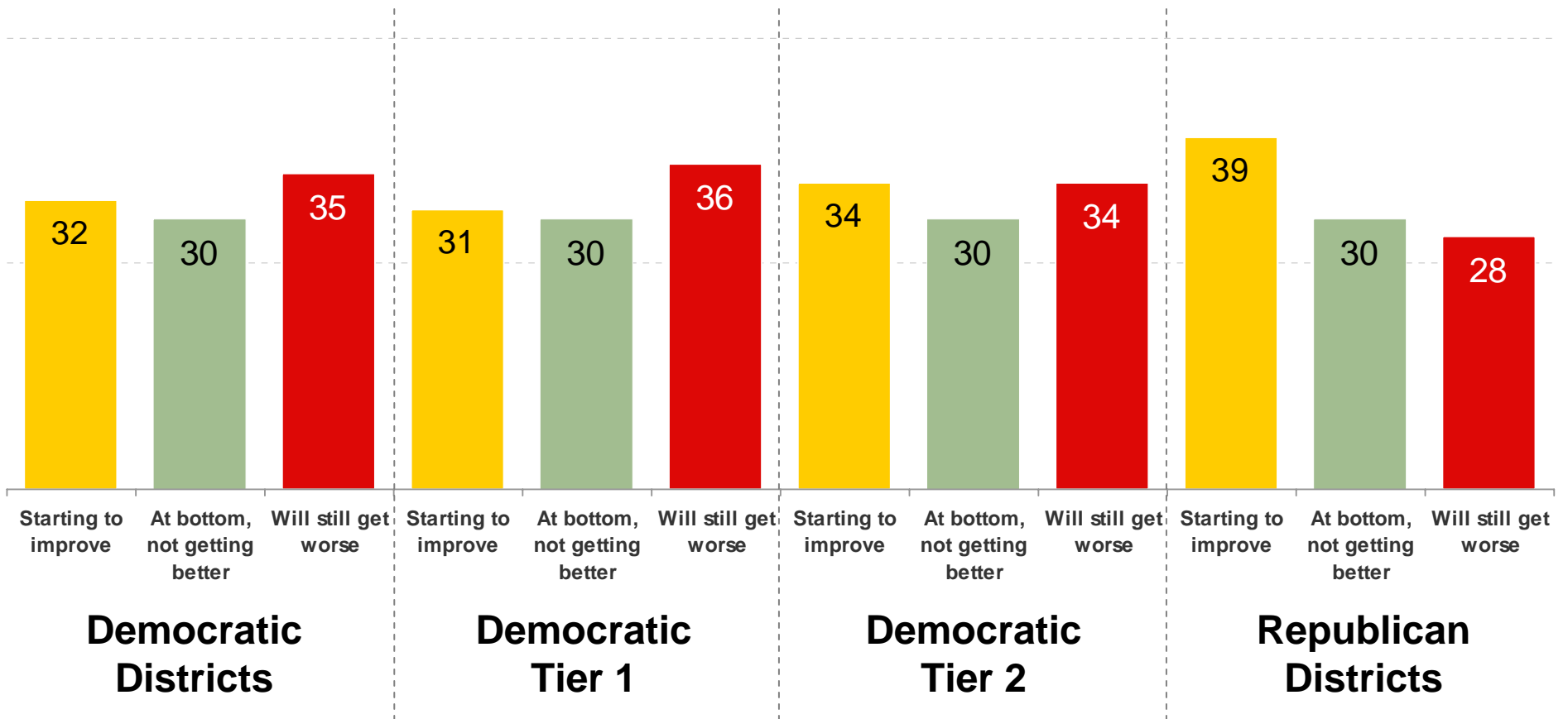


*Note: Shows only the common districts between the October and July surveys.

The economy

Voters very divided on the path, position of the economy

Now, thinking about the nation's economy, do you believe the economy has already bottomed out and is starting to improve, is at the bottom but is not yet getting any better or has not yet bottomed out and will still get worse?



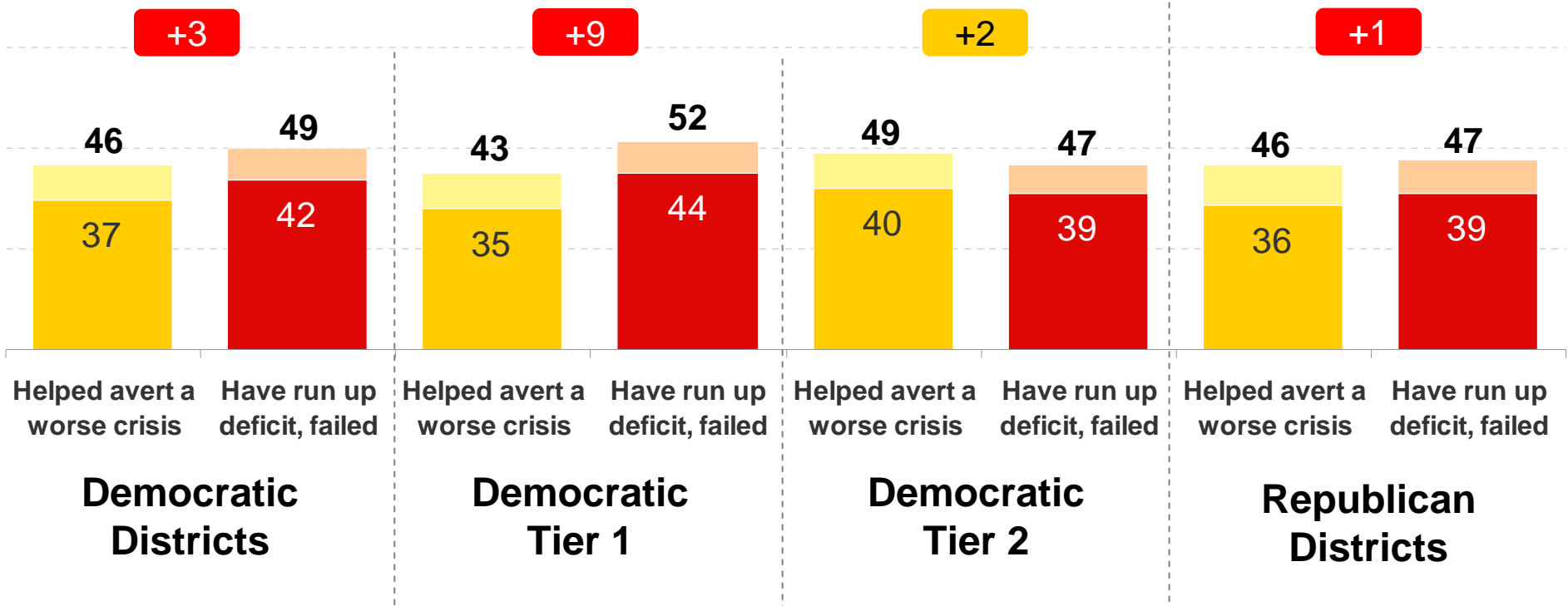
Voters split on if Obama's policies averted a worse crisis

Now I'm going to read you some pairs of statements. After I read each pair, please tell me whether the FIRST statement or the SECOND statement comes closer to your own view, even if neither is exactly right.

First Statement: President Obama's economic policies helped avert an even worse crisis, and are laying the foundation for our eventual economic recovery.

Second Statement: President Obama's economic policies have run up a record federal deficit while failing to end the recession or slow the record pace of job losses.

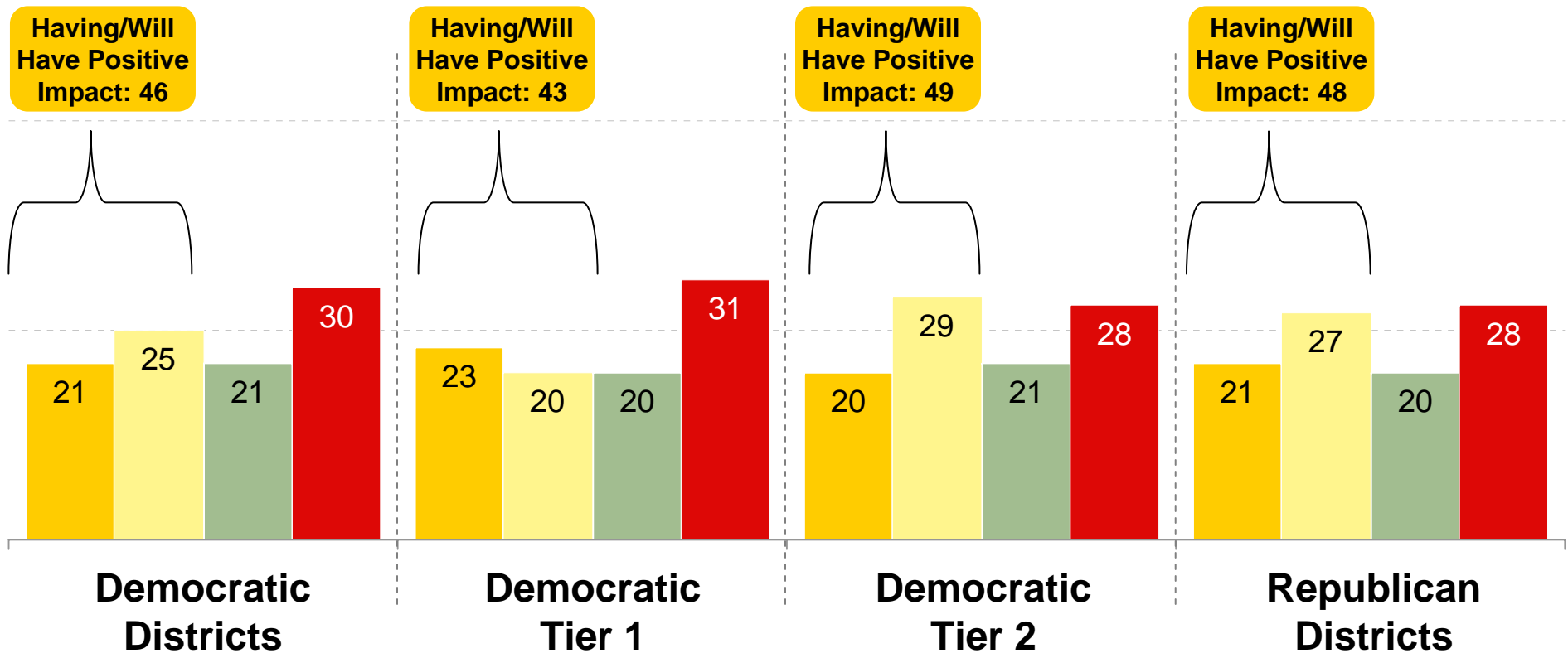
■ First statement strongly ■ Second statement strongly



Voters split on effect of stimulus

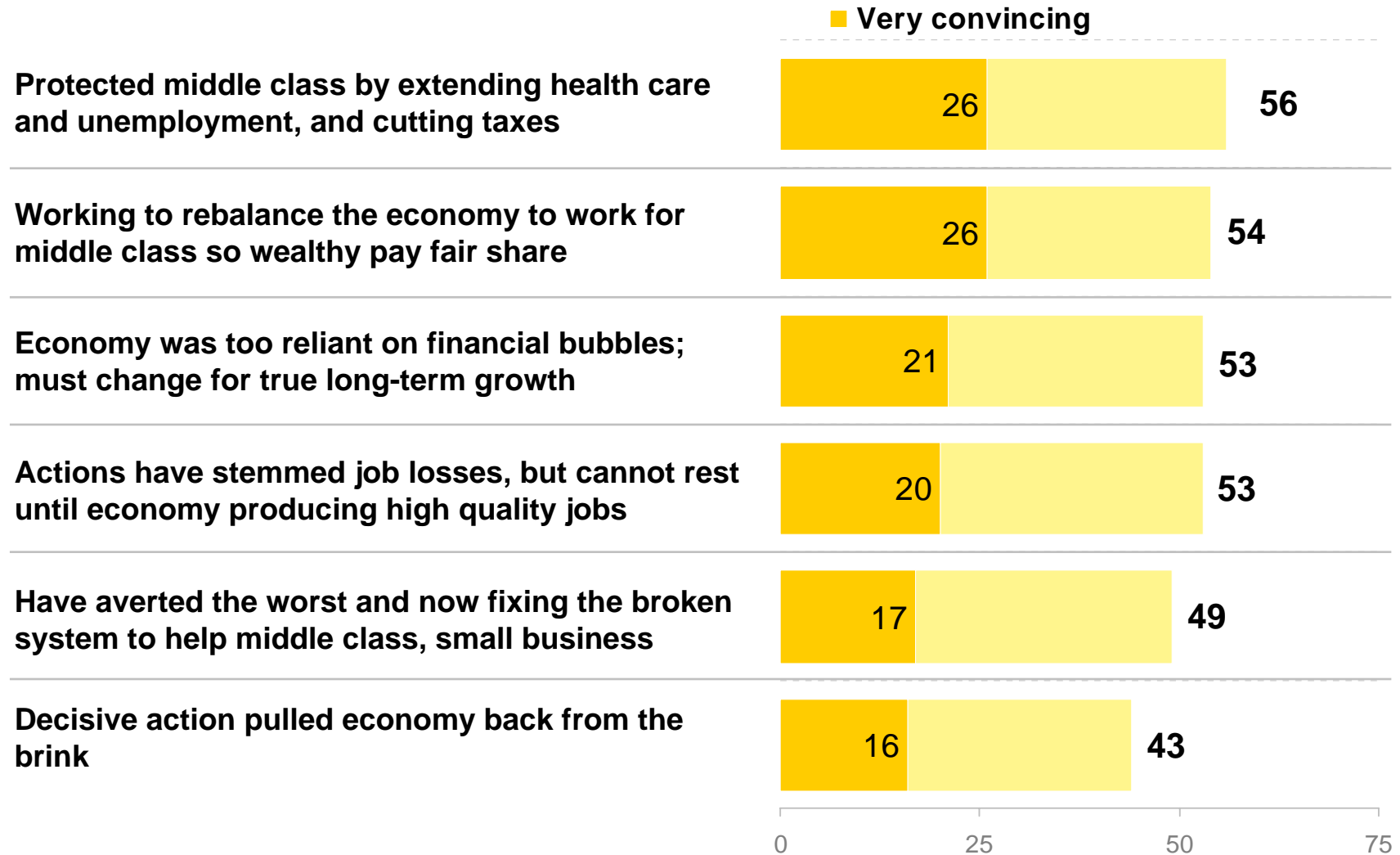
Now let me ask you about the economic recovery plan, also known as the stimulus package, that was passed by Congress and became law. In your opinion, do you feel that the economic recovery plan is starting to have a positive impact on the economy, will eventually have a positive impact on the economy but has not yet, will not have any real impact on the economy or do you feel that the economic recovery plan is hurting the economy?

- Starting to have positive impact
- Will eventually have positive impact
- Will not have any real impact
- Is hurting economy



Rebalancing economy, middle class convincing economic arguments

Now I'm going to read you some things that Democrats might say about the economy, after each one please tell me if you find the statement to be very convincing, somewhat convincing, just a little convincing, or not at all convincing.



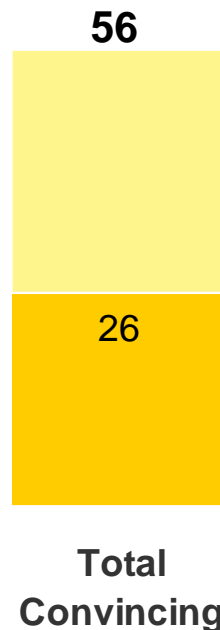
Rebalancing economy, protecting middle class top arguments

Now I'm going to read you some things that Democrats might say about the economy, after each one please tell me if you find the statement to be very convincing, somewhat convincing, just a little convincing, or not at all convincing.

Protected middle class by extending benefits

We inherited an economy that has left far too many Americans struggling to make ends meet, so we are acting to help them get through this crisis by extending unemployment and health care benefits to Americans who lost their jobs, cutting taxes for 95 percent of working families, and preventing thousands of police officers, teachers and firefighters from being laid off. And as we move forward we are working to make sure that the economy starts to create new jobs again as it begins to pull out of this recession.

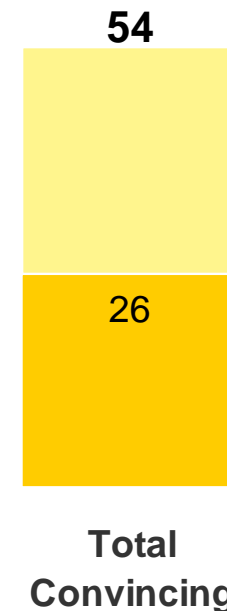
■ Very Convincing



Working to rebalance the economy to work for middle class

Even before the financial crisis the economy wasn't working for too many middle class Americans. That's why we are working to rebalance the economy to make sure it works for regular Americans by asking the very wealthy and big corporations to pay their fair share while cutting taxes and reducing health care costs for working families and small businesses and creating quality, middle class jobs in alternative energy.

■ Very Convincing



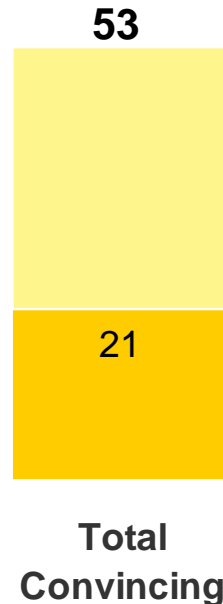
Long-term growth and curbing job losses also key

Now I'm going to read you some things that Democrats might say about the economy, after each one please tell me if you find the statement to be very convincing, somewhat convincing, just a little convincing, or not at all convincing.

Changing from bubble economy to one for true long-term growth

The financial crisis showed that our economy was too reliant on unsustainable financial bubbles. We are working to change that and lay the groundwork for true long-term prosperity by reforming health care to bring down costs for business and consumers and making America the leader in alternative energy like wind and solar so the jobs and industries of the future are built right here, not in China or India.

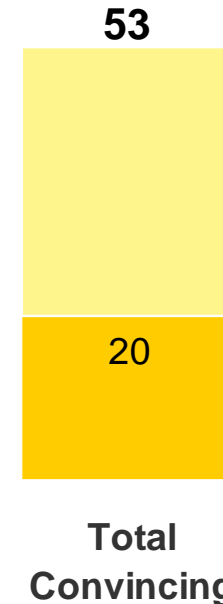
■ Very Convincing



Actions stemmed job losses, now building stronger

When President Obama was sworn in, almost 750 thousand Americans were losing their job every month. The actions we've taken have cut that number by two-thirds, so we've made progress in stemming the loss of jobs. But we are not satisfied and a jobless recovery isn't good enough for us or the American people; that is why we won't stop fighting until our economy is once again creating high quality jobs.

■ Very Convincing



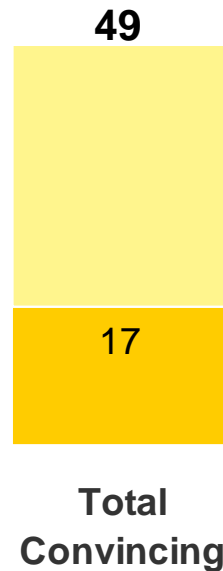
Talk about economy back from the brink falls flat

Now I'm going to read you some things that Democrats might say about the economy, after each one please tell me if you find the statement to be very convincing, somewhat convincing, just a little convincing, or not at all convincing.

Averted the worst, now fixing the broken system to help middle class

Last year our economy was on the verge of collapse so we had to make the tough choices and act, even though we knew it would be unpopular because it would help Wall Street. Now that we've averted the worst, we're working to fix this broken system so it rewards the hard work of middle class Americans and small businesses that play by the rules instead of the big bankers that abused the system to get ahead.

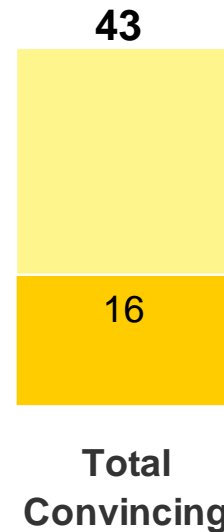
Very Convincing



Decisive action pulled economy back from the brink

This past winter our nation was facing the worst economic crisis since the Great Depression, 700,000 jobs were being lost per month and our financial system was on the verge of collapse. We still have a long way to go and we will not rest until those Americans who seek jobs can find them, but thanks to the bold and decisive actions we have taken since January, we have pulled this economy back from the brink.

Very Convincing

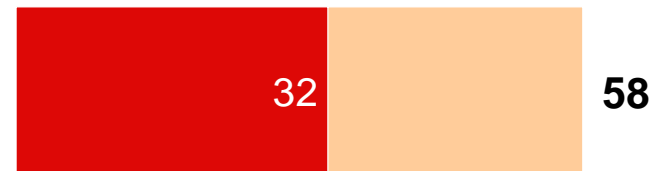


Wasteful spending, bailout argument carry weight against Dems

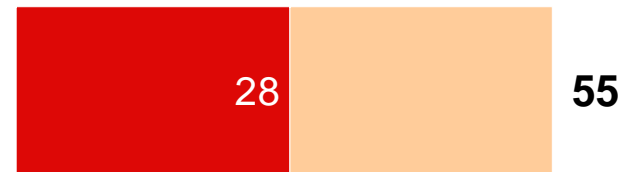
Now I'm going to read you some things that Republicans might say about the economy, after each one please tell me if you find the statement to be very convincing, somewhat convincing, just a little convincing, or not at all convincing.

■ Very convincing

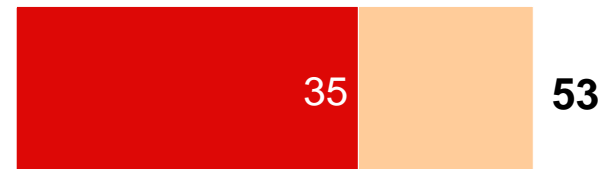
Democrats have approved 5 trillion in wasteful, irresponsible spending that undermines economy



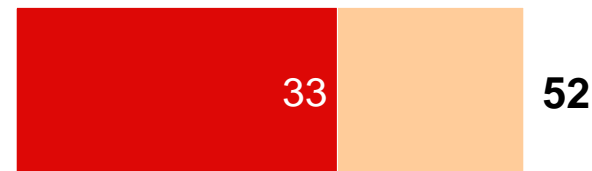
Democrats more concerned with helping out Wall Street, not Main Street



Democrats said spending would create jobs, but unemployment still rising



Democrats' only solution to severe recession is greater government control, socialism



0 25 50 75

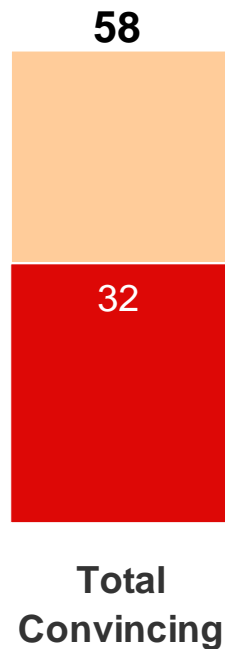
Wasteful spending and bailouts are strong attacks against Dems

Now I'm going to read you some things that Republicans might say about the economy, after each one please tell me if you find the statement to be very convincing, somewhat convincing, just a little convincing, or not at all convincing.

5 trillion in wasteful, irresponsible spending that undermines economy

■ Very Convincing

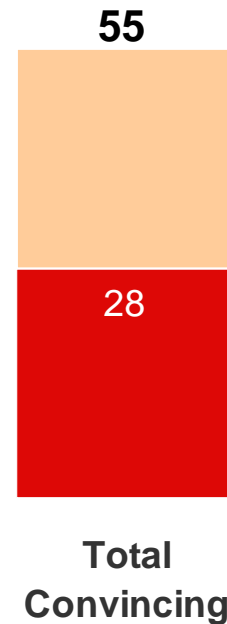
Democrats in Congress have approved 5 trillion dollars in spending this year alone, adding over a trillion dollars to our deficit that will leave mountains of debt for our grandchildren to pay back, money that America is borrowing from China and the Middle East. This irresponsible, wasteful spending undermines our economic stability by forcing us to rely on hostile foreign governments to lend us money.



Democrats helping Wall Street, not Main Street

■ Very Convincing

The Democrats in Congress are more interested in bailing out Detroit, Wall Street and the housing industry with taxpayers' dollars than they are in helping regular Americans during these difficult times. Democrats even let insurance giant AIG use taxpayer dollars to give millions in bonuses to its top executives. It's time Democrats start helping out Americans on Main Street, not Wall Street.



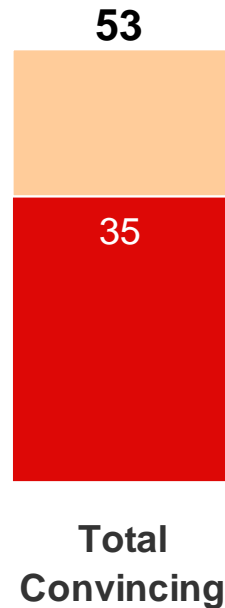
Rising unemployment, socialism also potent

Now I'm going to read you some things that Republicans might say about the economy, after each one please tell me if you find the statement to be very convincing, somewhat convincing, just a little convincing, or not at all convincing.

Dems said spending would create jobs, but unemployment still rising

The Democrats said all of their spending would create jobs, but their trillion-dollar stimulus plan, four-trillion-dollar budget and government bailouts have created more debt than at any other time in our history and yet unemployment is still rising and will soon top 10 percent. And they want to pay for all of this by making middle class Americans pay higher taxes on everything from energy to health care.

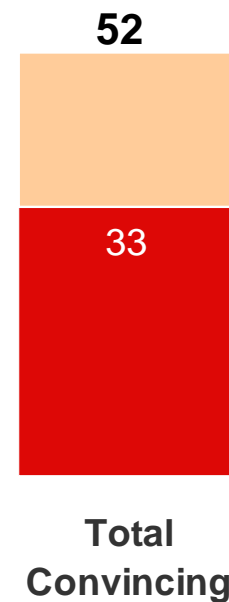
■ Very Convincing



Democrats' only solution is greater government control, socialism

Our economy is in a severe recession but the Democrats only solution is greater government control. The federal government runs General Motors and has nationalized several banks. Democrats say they're doing what it takes to get our economy back on track but what they're really doing is pushing us on a path toward socialism, increasing the size of our federal government to levels only seen in European countries.

■ Very Convincing

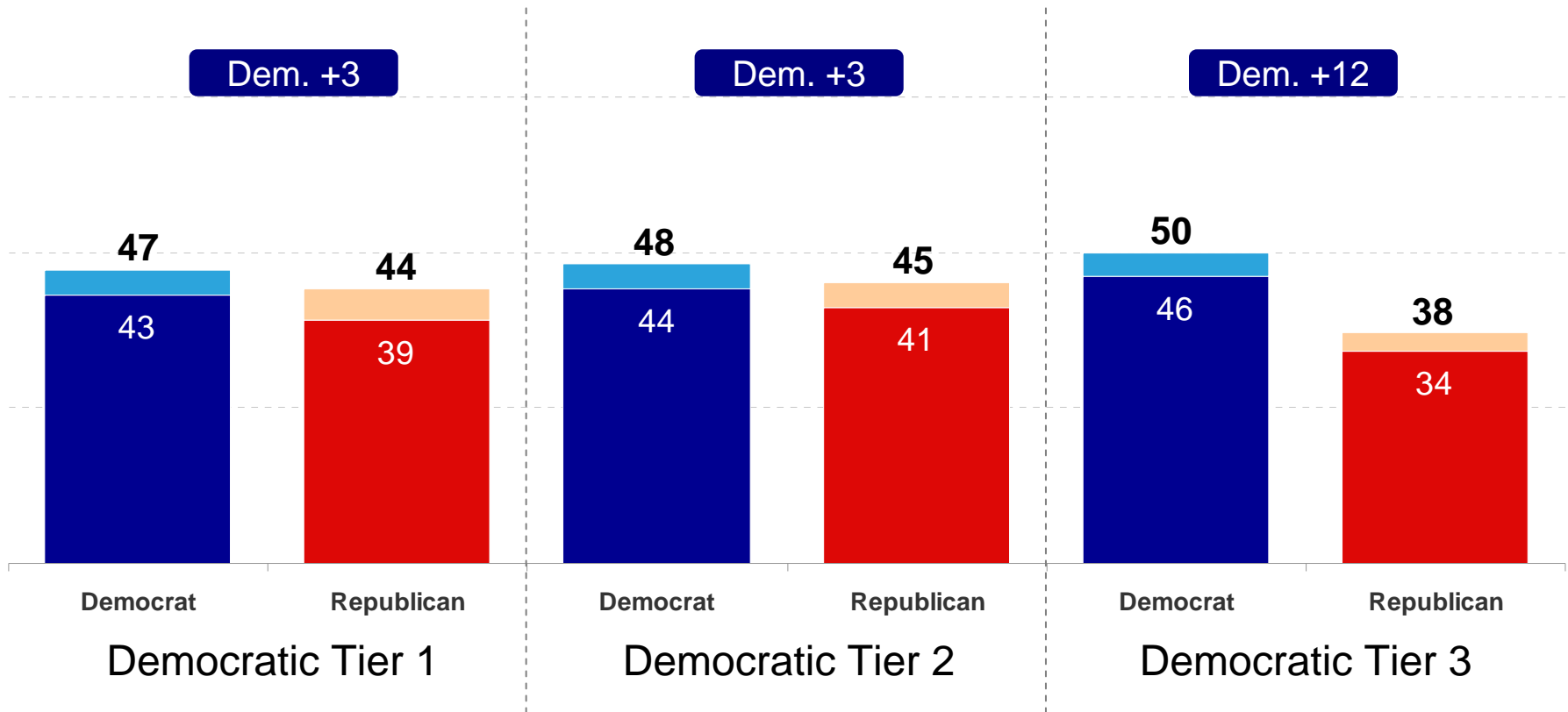


Democratic Tier 3

Tier 3 incumbents hold double-digit margin but don't crack 50

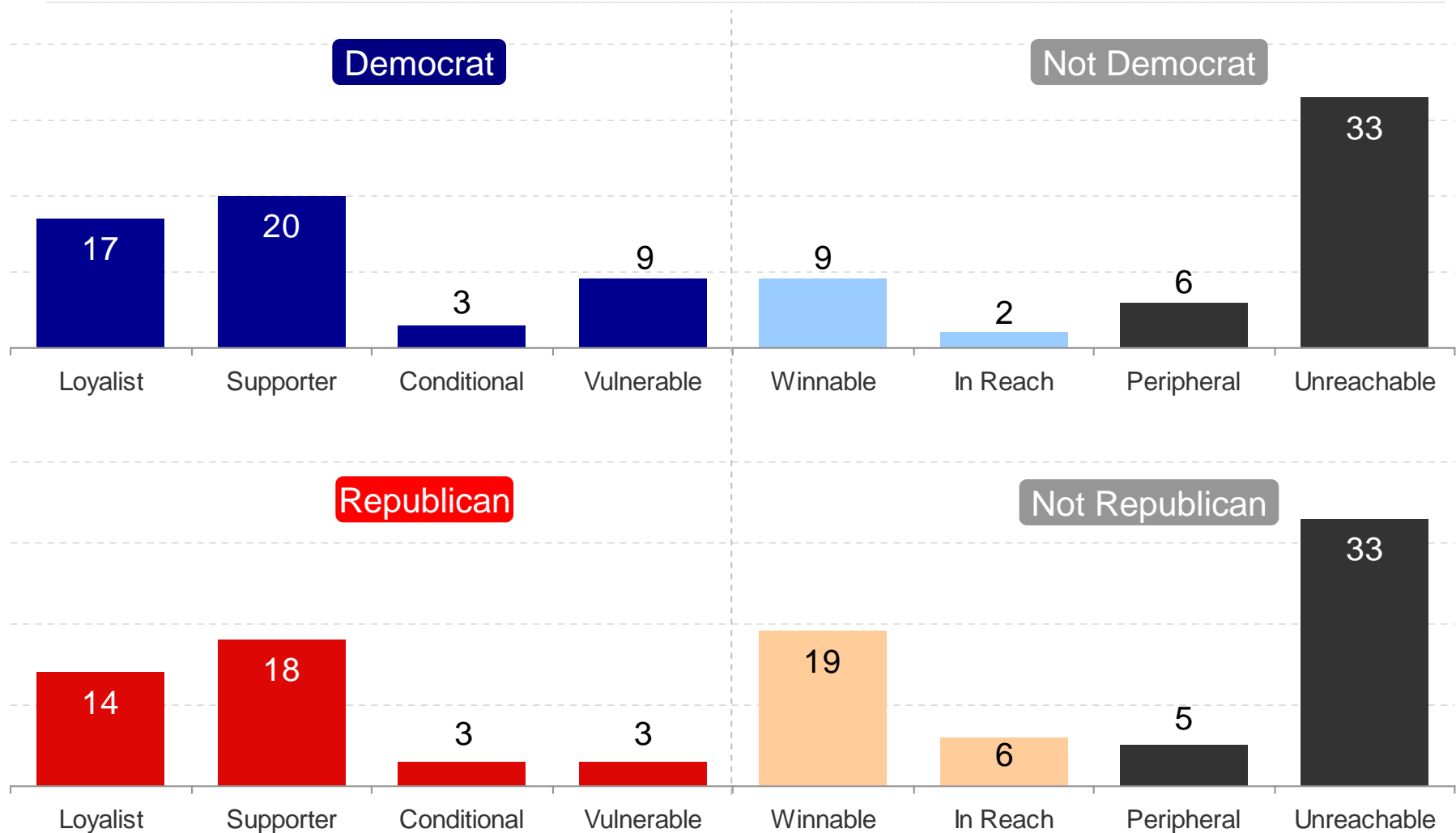
I know it's a long way off, but thinking about the election for Congress next year, if the election for U.S. Congress were held today, would you be voting for – (DEMOCRATIC CANDIDATE) or (REPUBLICAN CANDIDATE)?

■ Democratic Candidate ■ Republican Candidate



**Note: The 2008-elected incumbent was inserted as the Democratic Candidate for all Democratic-held districts with the generic "Republican Candidate" as the challenger, and as the Republican Candidate for all Republican-held districts with the generic "Democratic Candidate" as the challenger. In districts where the incumbent has announced s/he will not run for re-election, the generic identified was inserted.*

Voter choice scales: many winnables for Reps in Dem tier 3

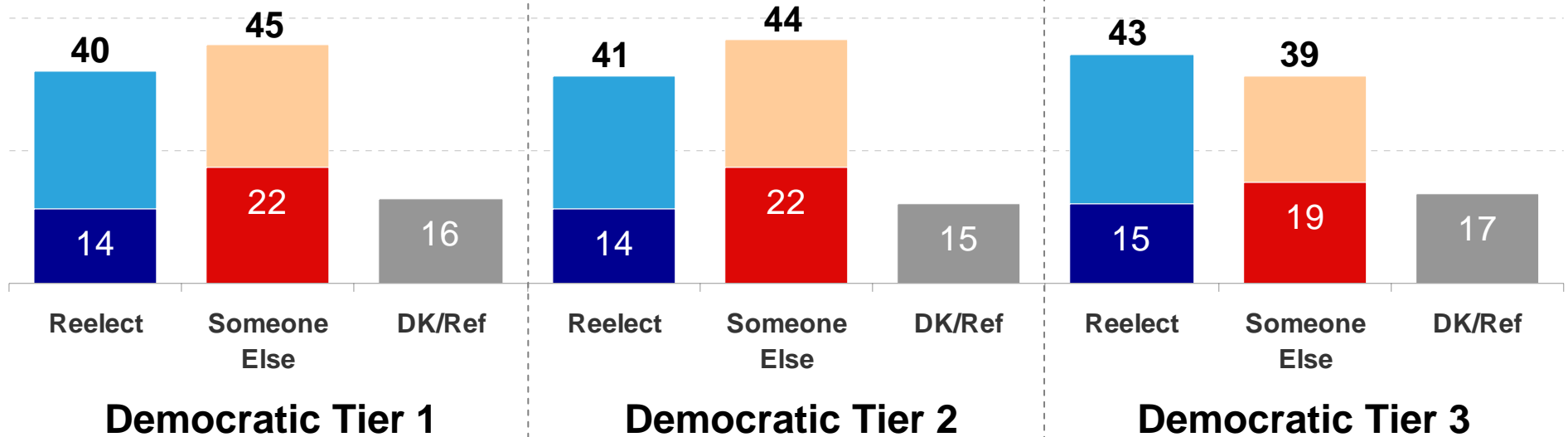


*Note: Any note needed enter here or delete if unneeded

Despite vote lead still only 43 percent reelect for Tier 3 incumbents

As you may know, there will be an election for your Representative to Congress in November next year. Do you think you will definitely vote to re-elect (HOUSE INCUMBENT) to Congress, probably vote to re-elect (HOUSE INCUMBENT), probably vote for someone else, or definitely vote for someone else?

■ **Definitely Reelect** ■ **Definitely Vote Someone Else** ■ **Don't Know/Refused/Depends**

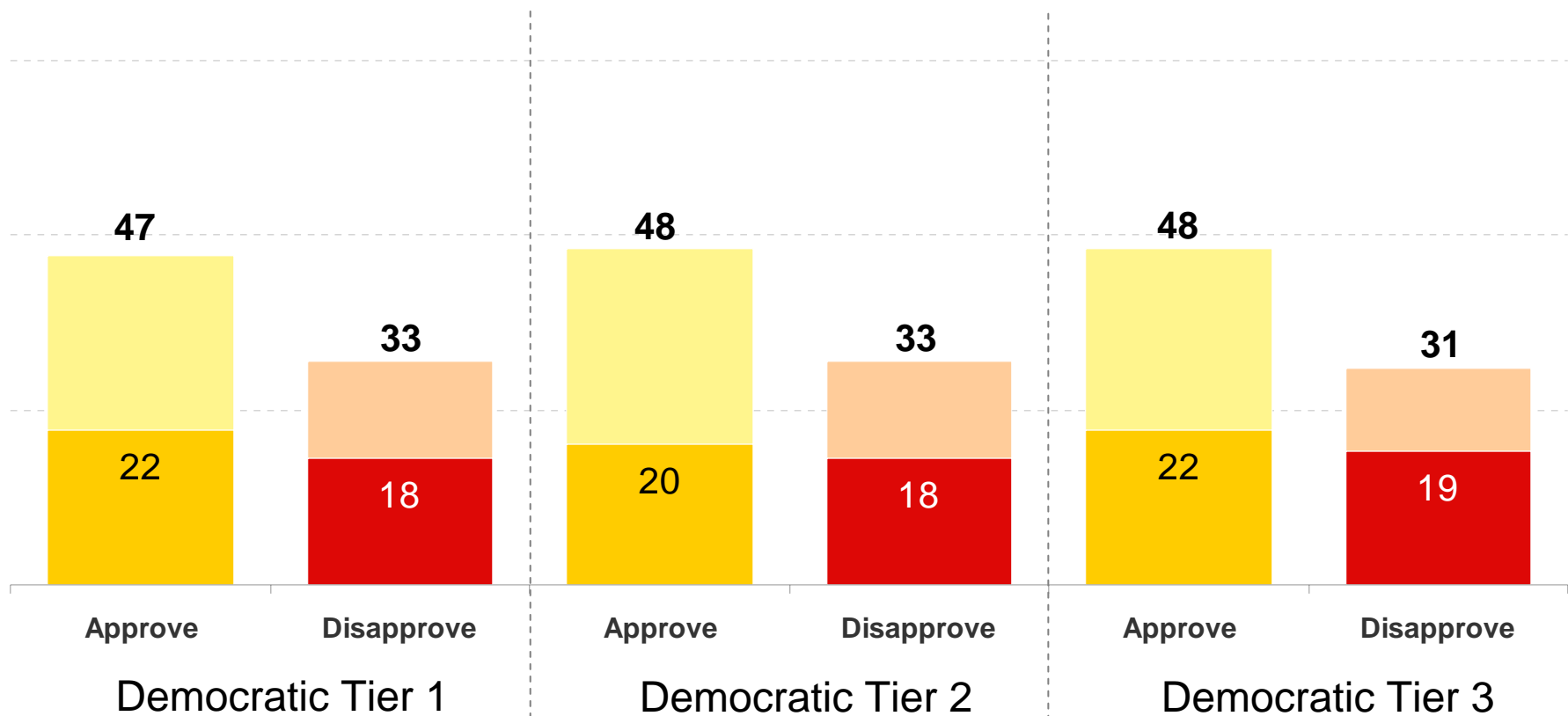


**Note: Actual incumbent's name inserted. Question not asked in districts where the incumbent has announced they are not running for reelection.*

Democratic member job approval: positive but short of 50

Do you approve or disapprove of the way (HOUSE INCUMBENT) is handling his/her job as a member of the U.S. Congress?

■ Strongly Approve ■ Strongly Disapprove

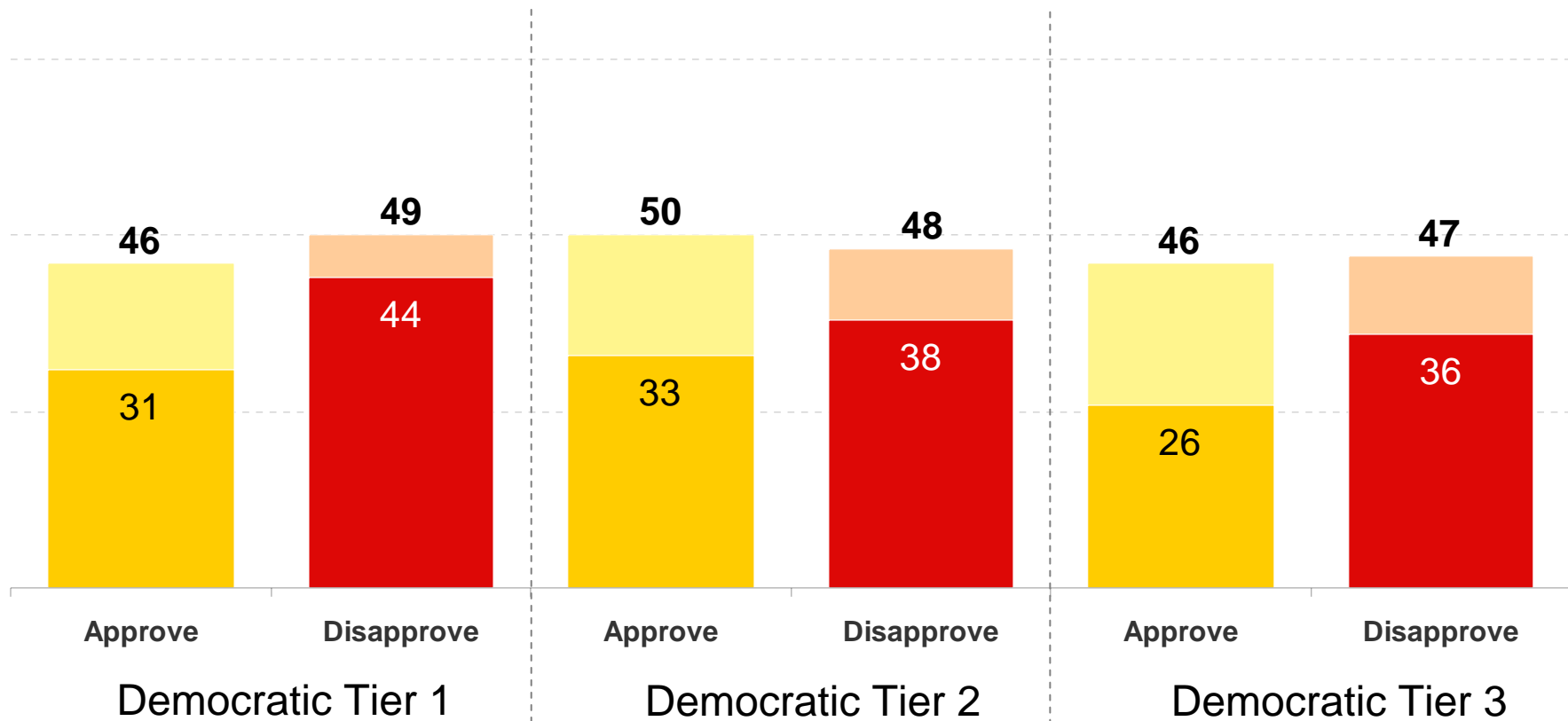


*Note: For each district, the incumbents' names were inserted. Question not asked in districts where the incumbent has announced they are not running for reelection.

Obama approve/disapprove tied in tier 3

Do you approve or disapprove of the job being done by Barack Obama as president?

■ Strongly Approve ■ Strongly Disapprove



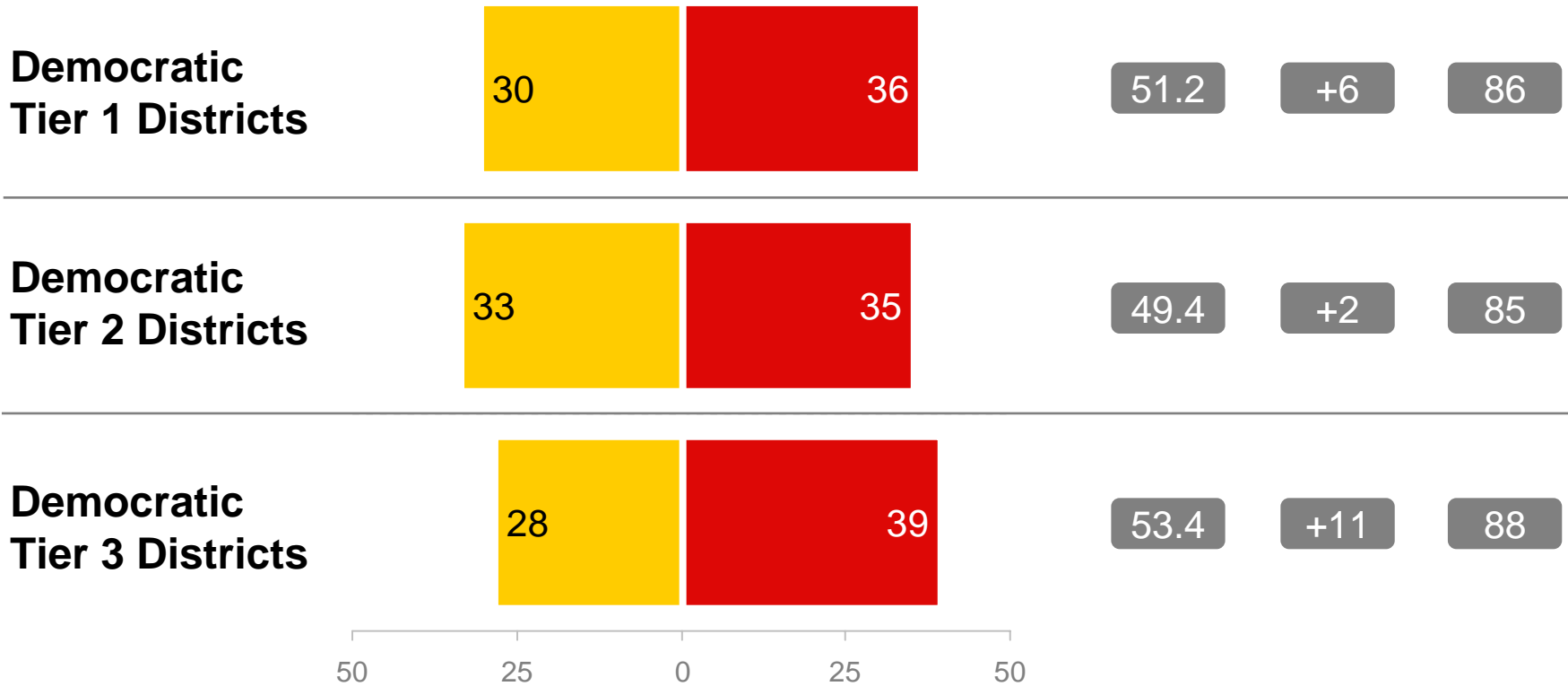
**Note: For each district, the incumbents' names were inserted. Question not asked in districts where the incumbent has announced they are not running for reelection.*

Incumbents in Tier 3 viewed more favorably

Now, I'd like to rate your feelings toward some people and organizations, with one hundred meaning a VERY WARM, FAVORABLE feeling; zero meaning a VERY COLD, UNFAVORABLE feeling; and fifty meaning not particularly warm or cold.

Therm. Mean **Warm - Cool** **Percent Know**

■ Cool ■ Warm



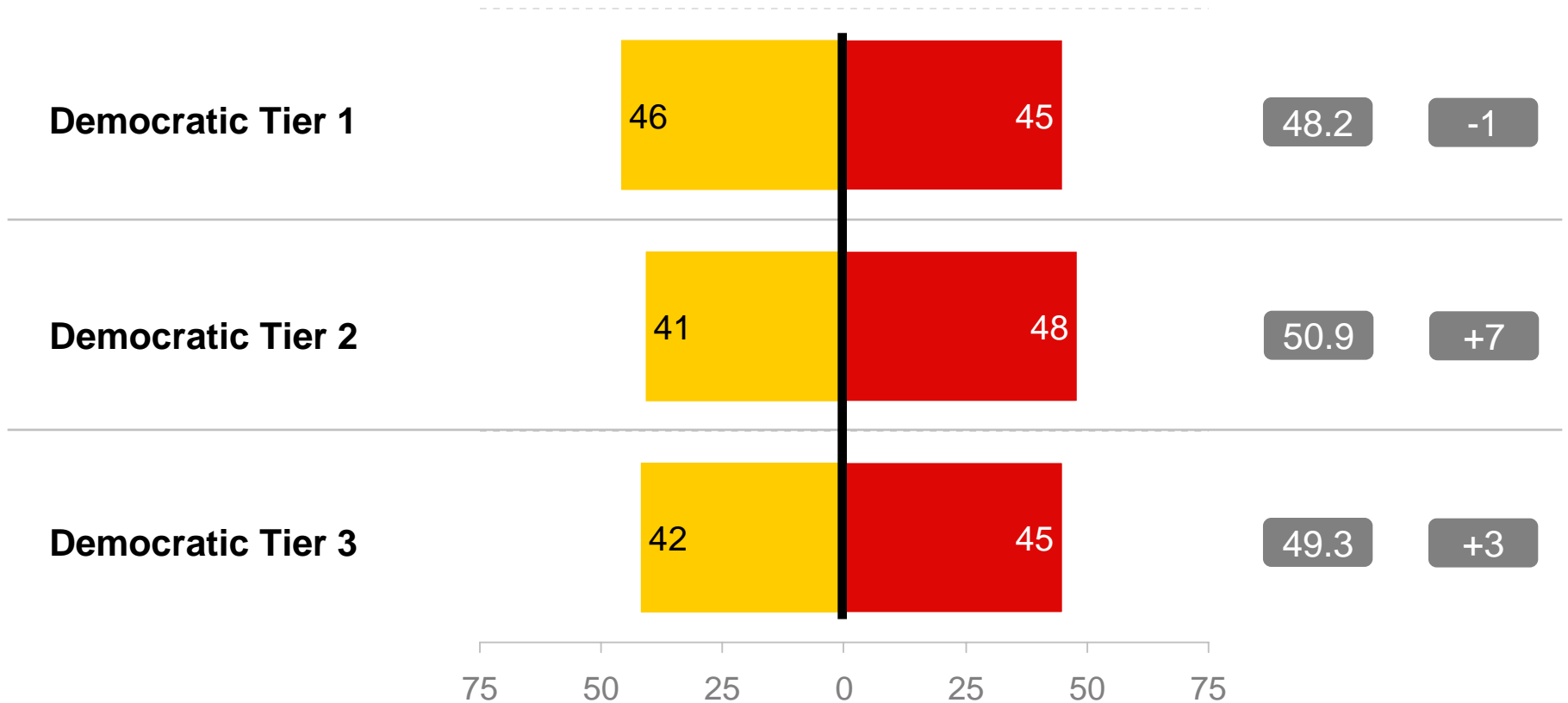
*Note: Actual names of "house incumbents" were inserted.

Obama favorability lukewarm in tiers 1 and 3, still warm in tier 2

Now, I'd like to rate your feelings toward some people and organizations, with one hundred meaning a VERY WARM, FAVORABLE feeling; zero meaning a VERY COLD, UNFAVORABLE feeling; and fifty meaning not particularly warm or cold... **Barack Obama.**

Therm. Mean **Warm - Cool**

■ Cool ■ Warm



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