

A critical moment to raise support with ALL working class voters Results of new national poll

October 20-26, 2021

CAMPAIGNS CORPORATIONS ADVOCACY WORLDWIDE

The team working so Democrats run stronger with all working class

groups

OUR RESEARCH TEAMS AND THEIR RESEARCH

- **Democracy Corps-** We fielded a battleground web poll of 1,000 registered voters from July 22-26, 2021; the poll was weighted to a recent phone poll on cultural thermometers and the 2020 vote was weighted to the white working class to match Catalist analysis.
- **EquisLabs-** We used findings from focus groups conducted with Hispanic voters to inform this online survey of 1800 registered Hispanic registered voters in 11 states (Arizona, Colorado, Florida, Georgia, Michigan, North Carolina, Nevada, Ohio, Pennsylvania, Texas and Wisconsin).
- **HIT Strategies-** Our research included findings from qualitative research with Black voters and previous research with AAPI voters to inform the quantitative findings in this report that are based on two surveys of AAPI and Black registered voters: the first survey used mixed mode of text-to-web and live phone dialing to survey 400 registered Asian and Pacific Islander voters in Orange County, CA and second online survey consisted of 1,200 African American registered voters in 10 battleground states (MI, WI, PA, GA, SC, NC, FL, TX, NV, AZ) matched to the voter file.

The national web survey described

METHODOLOGY

Democracy Corps conducted a national web survey among 2,500 registered voters from October 20-26, 2021. The data include a base sample of 1,000 registered voters, with large oversamples of 500 Black voters, 500 Hispanic voters and 500 AAPI voters. The oversample data are statistically weighted to ensure the sample's regional, age, and gender composition reflects that of the estimated registered voters in the United States.

The total data set of 2,500 registered voters (1,000 base sample plus 1,500 oversample of voters of color) were weighted down to an effective sample size of 1,000, nationally representative of registered voters. Additionally, the data were weighted to an average of recent phone polls (or moving norm) on core cultural thermometers, and the 2020 vote was weighted to the moving norm among white working class men and women, Black, Hispanic, and AAPI voters.

The total sample of 2,500 Registered Voters (1,000 Weighted) includes:

- > 824 Registered Voters in Battleground States/CDs (357 Weighted)
- > 712 White Voters (720 Weighted)
- 611 Black/African-American Voters (120 Weighted)
- 615 Hispanic/Latino Voters (100 Weighted)
- > 504 Asian-American/Pacific Islander Voters (53 Weighted)



Web survey weighted to recent phone poll on cultural thermometers, and 2020 vote by white working class weighted to match Catalist analysis.

METHODOLOGY – KEY WEIGHTING STEPS

<u>Weighting to phone polls</u>: The web survey requires a recent phone survey that includes core demographic and ideological questions, including key thermometer measures, and is used to compare and apply political and cultural weights to the web survey results to offset bias of online sample.

- We first applied standard gender, region, race and age weights to match Catalist counts for registered voters in this battleground.
- We then weighted white college/non-college to match proportions from the Catalist 2020 election analysis (44% white non-college, 28% white college).
- We often weight web surveys to match the short phone survey as needed on ideology, and vote or presidential job approval—after first weighting the cultural thermometers to match our phone survey. In this web survey, we weighted cultural measures halfway to the recent phone poll to offset cultural bias.
- Additionally, after cultural weights, the recalled 2020 vote was weighted within working class women and white working class men, to match to Catalist post-election analysis—ensuring we have the correct share of white non college, and the real recalled 2020 vote for both men and women.



Key findings

- Democrats begin weak on the economy, jobs and wages, losing to Trump on who is better at delivering for the forgotten Americans.
- Yet this powerful blue collar message framework seeing working people and wanting change, clear who for and against, changing the economy and who has power at work and government – combined with transformative policies — changes all that. Democrats move from 3 to 8-point lead in the battleground.
- The recommended campaign solidifies Black and AAPI vote, but not Hispanics. But produces big gains in our base with Gen Z/millennials and whites Gen Z/millennials. These are four in ten voters. (No turnout and weak vote in VA can be reversed.)
- The campaign produces major gains with under 50 white working class, working class women, and white disability families.
- Our audience is working class. We see them and wear their shoes. And we are for the middle class, working families, small businesses, and the vulnerable who work hard. We are against big corporations who call the shots and insist they pay taxes.
- Our transformative policies address people's acute economic needs (Medicare expansion & lower health insurance premiums and the expanded child tax credit delivered monthly) and raise to \$15 minimum wage for federal contractors and labor protections, with infrastructure to help raise wages. People give highest priority to big corporations paying a minimum tax and stop paying no taxes. They tilt the balance to working people at work and with government.



Key findings continued...

- The priorities of Democrats in this framework are about bringing change on the economy and power. Our policy priorities are focused on those areas. The economic status quo is not ok with people living paycheck to paycheck. We talk about policies that help people financially and policies that change who has power at work and government.
- The priorities of Democrats in this framework are about bringing change to the economy and power. Addressing historic discrimination is an important priority for Black voters, but it falls below having government pushing higher wages and helping workers. For Hispanics and AAPI voters, achieving worker protections and reduced health care costs stand out even more as top priorities.
- Our strongest attack on Republicans: they gave big corporations big tax cuts to the rich and working people saw nothing. Still trickle-down for them. And they threaten the big middle class tax cut, the child tax credit. Their repealing it will raise taxes on working families and push many into poverty. Both are strong, as CTC has become a base and persuasion targets message.
- Child tax credit has opened up the white working class under 50 years and strong support with Blacks, those younger white workers, and white parents. New social programs being delivered are getting heard. When attacked by conservatives, support gets stronger, including ¼ of Trump voters.
- The Democrats' strong performance was possible because we prioritize security, fund, and reform the police. It is very strong across the base and targets. It offsets their strongest attack, which is on defunding the police, which is a very unpopular concept.
- Voters with disabilities and their families are overrepresented in the working and white working class. They are listening to the policy offer – and our health care option gets more support when Medicare expansion and reduced premiums are joined by ending income caps for the disabled.



The starting problem overcome in this poll!



Republicans and Trump have strong brand advantages on the economy, jobs and wages

For each issue, please indicate whether you think Joe Biden and the Democrats or Donald Trump and the Republicans would do a better job with handling that issue.



respected

Right now, Trump's governed for forgotten Americans stronger than belief Biden working for middle class and blue collar

Which one of the following statements comes closer to your point of view, even if neither is exactly right?



Democrats' challenging start can be changed

Democrats grow 3-point race to 8-point lead in the battleground, by embrace transformative policies & battling big corporations and championing workers

Even though it is a long way off, thinking about the election for Congress in your district in November 2022, will you vote for – the Democratic candidate or the Republican candidate?





Do we see the base?



Both our base and persuasion targets are overwhelmingly working class — start narrative in their shoes

What is the last year of schooling that you have completed?





Can white disabled track history of white unmarried women?

Percent of key segments with a disability

A disability can be a physical, cognitive, sensory, mental health, chronic pain or another condition that is a barrier to everyday living. Do you, a family member, or a close friend have a disability?





Working Americans lead antipathy to big corporations



Base and white working class targets have equal disdain for big corporations; intense support for taxing them; two-thirds of AAPI and under 50 white working class

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



Biden-Democratic policies & Democratic attacks

The Biden and Democratic agenda

Now, please read the following list that describes what President Biden and the Democrats in Congress are passing or have passed. Which THREE are most important for you?



Medicare + lower premiums with worker protections and taxing corporations runs from base to targets; child tax credit also emerges

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Strongest attacks on GOP: McConnell's gridlock, half live paycheck to paycheck while corporations don't pay fair share & repeal of child tax credit

(GRIDLOCK) Mitch McConnell said publicly, "One-hundred percent of our focus is on stopping this new Biden administration." Republicans winning control means total gridlock and nothing happening for people.

(TRICKLE DOWN) Republicans have told us that if we just cut taxes for the wealthy and corporations, working people will share in the prosperity. But half of our people live paycheck to paycheck. Trickle-down economics simply doesn't work, and it's time for corporations to finally pay their fair share in taxes.

(RX PRICES) Republicans voted against allowing the government to negotiate lower prescription drug prices. Instead of rallying around patients and protecting their rights, they buy into the drug industry line that cutting into drug profits could harm the innovation of new medicines and cures.

(CTC POVERTY)(SPLIT B) Every Republican in Congress voted against the expanded Child Tax Credit that is giving monthly checks to working families with kids and has been a lifeline for so many working families - helping them put food on the table, pay for child care & more. They will repeal it and put 4 million kids back into poverty.

(BLOCK BIDEN-SCOTUS W/O ROE)(SPLIT A) Mitch McConnell said if Republicans control the Senate in the next election, it will block President Biden putting any justices on the Supreme Court for 2 years and that means a conservative court blocking regulation of big business.



(FORCING GOV'T DEFAULT) Republicans are playing Russian roulette with the economy by threatening to block increasing the debt ceiling. Forcing the US government to default will cause millions to lose their jobs and their Social Security just to score temporary political points.

(CTC – RAISE TAXES)(SPLIT A) Every Republican in Congress voted against the expanded Child Tax Credit that is giving monthly checks to working families with kids and has been a lifeline for so many people - helping them put food on the table, pay for child care & more. They will repeal it and raise taxes on virtually every working

(WOMEN'S HEALTH) Republicans are using every tool to block a woman's access to a safe and legal abortion even family planning services. They are interfering in families' private medical decisions.

(BLOCK BIDEN - SCOTUS W/ROE)(SPLIT B) Mitch

McConnell said if Republicans control the Senate in the next election, it will block President Biden putting any justices on the Supreme Court for 2 years and that means overturning Roe v. Wade and the right to legal abortions.



34

39

37

37

Repeal of CTC (increased poverty & taxes) strongest attacks for Blacks, millennials, & white unmarried women, but also under 50 white working class + parents

Now you will read some things Democratic critics are saying about the Republicans in Congress. Please pick the THREE that raise the most doubts in your mind about Republicans.



Strong debate on CTC leaves creates intense support among Blacks & millennials/Gen Z, but also under 50 white working class & white parents; even ¼ of Trump voters

Which one of the following statements comes closer to your point of view, even if neither is exactly right?

I like the new expanded child tax credit that is deposited monthly into each family's bank account, \$300 if they have kids under 6 and \$250 if they have kids 6 to 17 years old. It is the largest ever single-year tax cut for families with children and helps virtually every working family with kids deal with the high cost of raising kids, buying essentials and paying taxes. I don't like the expanded child tax credit because it is a huge increase in government and government spending and explodes the federal deficit. It is a handout that will make children dependent on the government and many parents will turn down work. It is paid for by a method that will produce a lot of fraud, costing taxpayers billions of dollars.

		Much More			Somewhat More			Much More			Somewhat More		
+1	+3	+36	+13	+5	+19	+16	+19	+12	+28	+9	+20	+6	+8
46	48	64	53	47	56	55	54	50	61	50	57	48	50
26	29	41	31	20	33	33	33	31	34	30	39	30	26
31	30	15	27	25	22	23	21	24	17	28	20	30	31
45	45	28	40	42	37	39	35	38	33	41	37	42	42
Total	Battleground (36%)	Black (12%)	Hispanic (10%)	ААРІ (5%)	Millennial/ GenZ (39%)	White Millennial/GenZ (25%)	Unmarried Women (29%)	White Unmarried Women (19%)	Under 50 White Working Class (21%)	U U	White Parents White Parents (22%)	White with Disability (21%)	White Disability Families (14%)



The Republican policy offer & attacks

The strongest attacks on Democrats start with defunding the police

Here are some things Republican opponents of these proposals are saying. Please pick the THREE that worry you the most.



But Democratic safe community and fund police message defeats Trump Republicans' attack on law enforcement

Which one of the following statements comes closer to your point of view, even if neither is exactly right?

Democrats say, we have an obligation to make sure everyone can live in a safe community. Preventing crime and protecting our communities is a top priority, and we need to help our cities have the police and resources they need to protect their communities. It is a tough job, and they should be respected. We should fund, not defund the police. At the same time, we also need urgent reforms, including better training and accountability to prevent excessive use of force and racial profiling that singles out Blacks and Latinos, and people with disabilities. Our common need for reduced crime and security should unite, not divide us.

The Republicans say, police reform is driven by community activists that impose one-size-fits-all Washington mandates on local law enforcement and second guessing that undermines their ability to do their job, which creates hesitation that threatens the safety of our families, communities, and officers. These attacks on law enforcement are not real reform. And they are causing the men and women in uniform who keep our communities safe to leave the profession and are responsible for the wave of crime we are seeing nationwide.





Democratic safe community and fund police message defeats Trump Republicans' attack on law enforcement

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Democrats say, we have an obligation to make sure everyone The Republicans say, police reform is driven by community can live in a safe community. Preventing crime and protecting activists that impose one-size-fits-all Washington mandates on our communities is a top priority, and we need to help our cities local law enforcement and second guessing that undermines have the police and resources they need to protect their their ability to do their job, which creates hesitation that communities. It is a tough job, and they should be respected. threatens the safety of our families, communities, and officers. We should fund, not defund the police. At the same time, we These attacks on law enforcement are not real reform. And they also need urgent reforms, including better training and are causing the men and women in uniform who keep our accountability. to prevent excessive use of force and racial communities safe to leave the profession and are responsible profiling... for the wave of crime we are seeing nationwide. Much More Somewhat More Much More Somewhat More, +56 +14 +30 +23 +28 +12 +10 +12 +6 +16 +2 +8 -2 78 65 64 61 57 58 55 56 56 54 53 50 51 49 50 52 38 39 36 34 35 32 33 27 33 32 30 29 25 22 12 15 18 23 22 19 21 27 27 26 27 29 29 30 31 22 35 36 43 38 42 49 45 44 47 44 46 50 51 50 Battleground Black (12%) Hispanic (10%) Under 50 White^I White Working White Parents Total AAPI Gen Z Millennial White Unmarried White White with White Disability Working Class (36%) (5%) Millennial/GenZ Women Unmarried Class Women (22%) Disability Families (21%) (21%) (25%) (29%) Women (24%) (14%) (19%)



Defunding the police loses everybody, especially, Hispanics, AAPI, unmarried women, and under 50 white working class

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

THERMOMETERS														
REGISTERED VOTERS														
Somewhat Cool (26-59) Very Cool (0-24) Somewhat Warm (51-74)												ery Warı	m (76-10	0)
Mean: 24 Net: -49 Neutral: 9 DK: 8	Mean: 26 Net: -42 Neutral: 8 DK: 8	Mean: 44 Net: -9 Neutral: 15 DK: 13	Mean: 27 Net: -40 Neutral: 10 DK: 16	Net: -38 Neutral: 15	Neutral:	Net: -25 Neutral: 8	Mean: 33 Net: -29 Neutral: 5 DK: 10	Mean: 30 Net: -35 Neutral: 12 DK: 10	Mean: 25 Net: -46 Neutral: 10 DK: 8	Mean: 27 Net: -44 Neutral: 7 DK: 11	Mean: 20 Net: -57 Neutral: 10 DK: 7	Mean: 32 Net: -37 Neutral: 5 DK: 10	Mean: 25 Net: -47 Neutral: 10 DK: 9	Mean: 23 Net: -51 Neutral: 9 DK: 4
17	21	31	17	20	31	27	28	22	18	19	13	24	17	18
61	60	35	52	49	37	47	51	51	59	57	66	55	59	64
66	63	40	57	58	44	52	57	57	64	63	70	61	64	69
Total	Battleground (36%)	Black (12%)	I Hispanic I (10%) I I I I I	i AAPI I (5%) I I I I	I Gen Z I (9%) I I I I	I Millennial I (30%) I I I I	White Gen Z/Mill (25%)	I Unmarried Women (29%)	White Unmarried Women (19%)	Under 50 White Working Class ₁ (21%) I	White Working Class Women (24%)	I White Parents I (22%) I I	White Disabled (21%)	White Disability Families (14%)
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Campaign for Black & African American community

Black policy priorities remain consistent on economic issues within the racial justice context as seen with importance of righting past wrongs

(IF AFRICAN AMERICAN/BLACK) Now please read what a Democratic candidate is saying is most important to do. Which TWO are the most important for you?



African American voters overwhelmingly support Dem's "Black Progress" message of economic justice to address decades of unequal treatment

Which one of the following statements comes closer to your point of view, even if neither is exactly right?

(BLACK PROGRESS) The Democrat says, no matter our race and where people come from, we need a government that works for us instead of the biggest corporations. We need big change and Black communities need to see progress. Government should push to raise the minimum wage to \$15 an hour and battle on the side of workers against employers, and make health care affordable for all. After so many decades of unequal treatment, we must target serious help to Black communities. We can't afford business as usual.

(TRUMP'S WORLD) The Republican says, America has never been more at risk for those who made America Great. Crime in our country is escalating. People are pouring through our borders totally unchecked. We must act to save America and define the future of our beloved country. We take pride in our country, we teach the truth about our history, not canceling our history. We believe in the men and women of law enforcement. We trust people and families to make their own choices and they have the right to be able to make their voices heard.



While "Black Progress" message is most popular among older Black voters, Trump message resonates with 30%+ of younger Black voters

Which one of the following statements comes closer to your point of view, even if neither is exactly right?





Campaign for Hispanic community

Dem outreach message to Hispanics loses ground to Trump message relative to generic ballot

Which one of the following statements comes closer to your point of view, even if neither is exactly right?

(DEMOCRATS BETTER) The Democrat says, whether we were born here or came to this country as immigrants, the American Dream has offered us the opportunity to get ahead through hard work. The (SHOW RESPONSE IN LAORIGIN) community knows better than anyone what I am talking about. That is why I am working hard for the support of Hispanic and Latino communities. We work hard for our families and our children to have a good education and good job and want our small businesses to succeed. I will fight for you, not the biggest corporations who have all the help they need.

(AMERICA FIRST) The Republican says, we need to put America first again. The Democrats have put our country's greatness at risk. Crime is going up, our border is overwhelmed, and prices are rapidly rising. Under Republican leadership, the country cracked down on China, got tough at the border, and prioritized American workers and jobs. We created the strongest economy and lowest unemployment rate in generations before the pandemic. Now, we need to keep our economy open and get people back to work.



Total



Trump message makes broad inroads with Hispanic voters, especially Mexican-Americans & men

Which one of the following statements comes closer to your point of view, even if neither is exactly right?





Hispanics believe Dems "care" more, but which party is "better" for workers is in dispute. Gender & education drive divides on party images; corporations still a messaging opp.

Party Descriptors (Total Describes Dems Better - Total Describes Reps Better) Cares About **Better for Better for** People Like American **Big Corps** You Workers +18 +0 -29 All +22 +3 -40 Independents +16 -14 -30 Switchers -65 -43 -41 New Trump +11 -4 -30 **College Men** Non-Coll Men +3 -17 -37 +22 +4 **College Women** -33 +29 +12 -19 Non-Coll Women




Campaign for Asian American & Pacific Islander communities

AAPI Survey Respondents by Ethnicity

(IF ASIAN/AAPI) Many people have their roots in many different countries. To what country or countries do you or your family trace your ancestry?



AAPI top policy priorities are strongly centered on economic issues, but racial discrimination shows permeating racial anxiety that characterize AAPI Democratic surge in 2020

(IF AAPI/ASIAN) Now please read what a Democratic candidate is saying is most important to do. Which TWO are the most important for you?



Strong AAPI support for Democratic message represent an opportunity to address economic priorities through the context of racial anxiety felt by AAPI voters

Which one of the following statements comes closer to your point of view, even if neither is exactly right?

(NOT INVISIBLE) The Democrat says, no matter our race or where people come from, we need a government that works for us instead of the biggest corporations. We will raise corporate taxes so they pay their fair share and ensure everyone has access to affordable health care and new funding for public education. It has been a tough time for Asian Americans and Pacific Islanders, and we must stop the hate crimes and rising discrimination. No more being invisible and taken for granted. All Americans who work hard should be able to reach the American Dream.

(TRUMP'S WORLD) The Republican says, America has never been more at risk for those who made America Great. Crime in our country is escalating. People are pouring through our borders totally unchecked. We must act to save America and define the future of our beloved country. We take pride in our country, we teach the truth about our history, not canceling our history. We believe in the men and women of law enforcement. We trust people and families to make their own choices and they have the right to be able to make their voices heard.



Incredibly high support across all AAPI voters show a path for Democrats to expand margins with AAPI voters

Which one of the following statements comes closer to your point of view, even if neither is exactly right?

(NOT INVISIBLE)						(TRUMP'S WORLD)				
		luch More	Somewhat More			Much More Somewhat More				
+26	+26	+20	+25	+20	+25	+29	+25	+33	+37	-14
63	61	60	64	60	65	64	61	72	65	
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19	1 9	19	_21_	19	18	16	21	11	19	-4 52
37	35	40	39	40	40	35	36	39	28	
Total	Gen Z/ Millennial	Gen X	Baby Boomer	Working Class	College Graduate	Women	Men	Unmarried Women	Chinese	35 Trump Voters

Among AAPI Voters (Weighted n = 53, unweighted n = 504)

Campaign for white working class voters

At top of policy are Medicare expansion, lower premiums, drug costs and no income cap for disabled

(IF WHITE) Now please read what a Democratic candidate is saying is most important to do. Which TWO are the most important for you?

(SPLIT B-MEDICARE EXPANSION) Expand Medicare to cover dental, lower drug costs and lower premiums for health insurance on exchanges, and remove the income cap so the disabled can receive Medicaid benefits. (SPLIT A-MEDICARE EXPANSION) Expand Medicare to cover dental, lower drug costs and lower premiums for health insurance on exchanges. (POLICE FUNDING) Increased funding for local police departments to potentially add police in communities. (CORPORATE TAX) Corporations paying a minimum 15 percent tax so they don't relocate to tax havens, and raising the top tax rate for the biggest corporations. (WORKER PROTECTIONS) Raising the minimum wage for federal contractors to \$15 an hour, strengthening unions and getting employers to pay overtime and for off-the-clock work.

(CHILD TAX CREDIT) The middle class tax cut and expanded child tax credit that is paid monthly to families with kids.



Blue collar who we are for and against message embraced by 46 percent vs. Trump world — way above Democratic vote with white working class

Which one of the following statements comes closer to your point of view, even if neither is exactly right?

(BLUE COLLAR) The Democrat says, people are living paycheck to paycheck and struggling to pay their bills and taxes. They need a government that looks out for the middle class, working families, small businesses, and the vulnerable who work hard. They don't need a government that jumps whenever the biggest corporations send money and lobbyists. My approach is blue collar. We should bend over backwards for those who work hard so we create jobs in America and grow the middle class again.

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Closing message & vote

Campaign solidifies strong Black and AAPI vote and unmarried women, but not Hispanics. Produces big gains with GenZ and millennials, 4 in 10 voters

Even though it is a long way off, thinking about the election for Congress in your district in November 2022, will you vote for – the Democratic candidate or the Republican candidate?

2022 CONGRESSIONAL BALLOT SHIFT



Campaign: big shift with white GenZ-millennials and unmarried women, as well under white working class under 50, women and disability families

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