

**GREENBERG QUINLAN ROSNER** RESEARCH

# Democracy Corps-Resurgent Republic

## March 2014



DEMOCRACY CORPS  
CARVILLE ♦ GREENBERG



RESURGENT  
REPUBLIC

# Methodology

**This presentation is based on our latest national survey conducted by Greenberg Quinlan Rosner for Democracy Corps, Resurgent Republic, and NPR.**

**The survey of 950 2012 voters (950 weighted) and 840 likely 2014 voters nationwide was conducted from March 19-23, 2014.**

**Unless otherwise noted, margin of error= +/-3.18 percentage points at 95% confidence.**

**We continue to reach 50 percent of our respondents by cell phone, in order to account for ever-changing demographics and trying to accurately sample the full American electorate.**

# Deep discontent with direction of country

*Generally speaking, do you think that things in this country are going in the right direction, or do you feel things have gotten pretty seriously off on the wrong track?*

■ Right direction    ■ Wrong track

+34

29

63

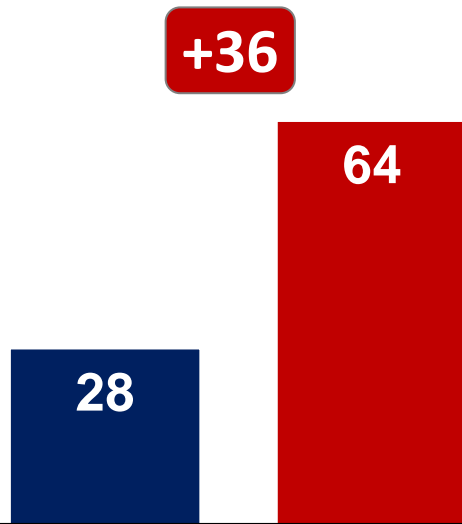
Likely Voters

# Unchanged in a year

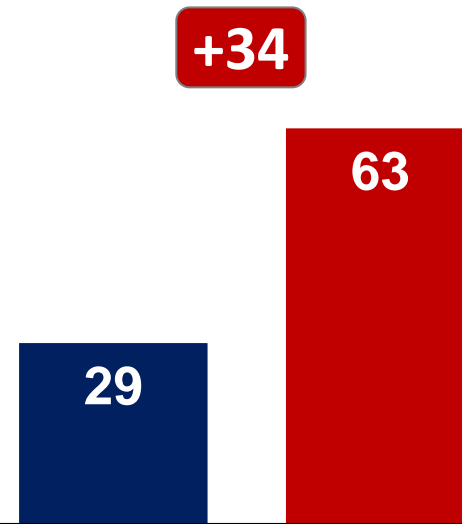
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MARCH 2013



MARCH 2014

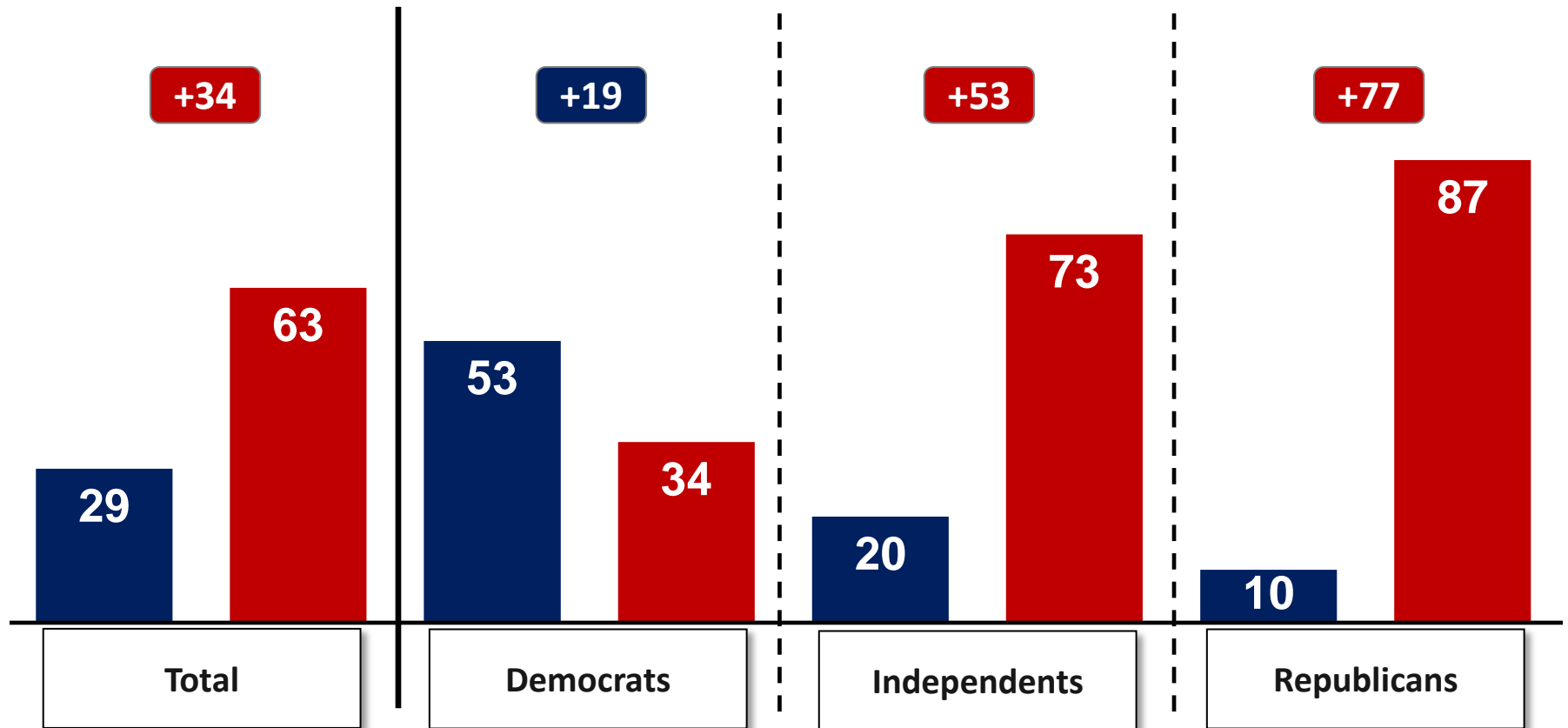


LIKELY VOTERS

# A third wrong track among Democrats and three quarters among independents

*Generally speaking, do you think that things in this country are going in the right direction, or do you feel things have gotten pretty seriously off on the wrong track?*

■ Right direction ■ Wrong track



# Deep discontent with both House Republicans and Senate Democrats, but 13 points higher for House

*Do you approve or disapprove of the way Republicans in Congress are handling their job in charge of the House of Representatives?*

■ Strongly disapprove  
■ Strongly approve

+48

24

72

48

Republican House

*Do you approve or disapprove of the way Democrats in Congress are handling their job in charge of the Senate?*

■ Strongly disapprove  
■ Strongly approve

+25

34

59

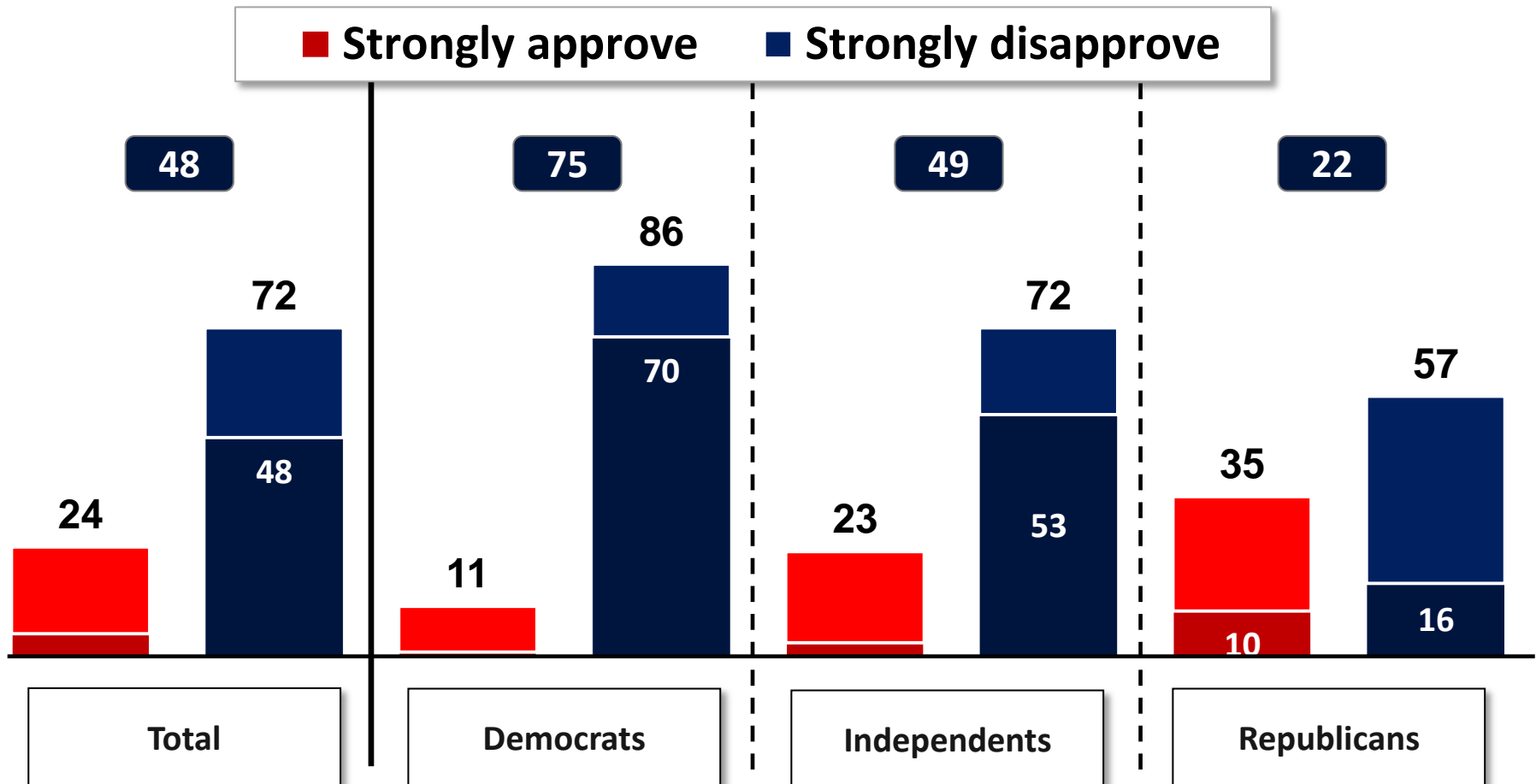
12

46

Democrats in Senate

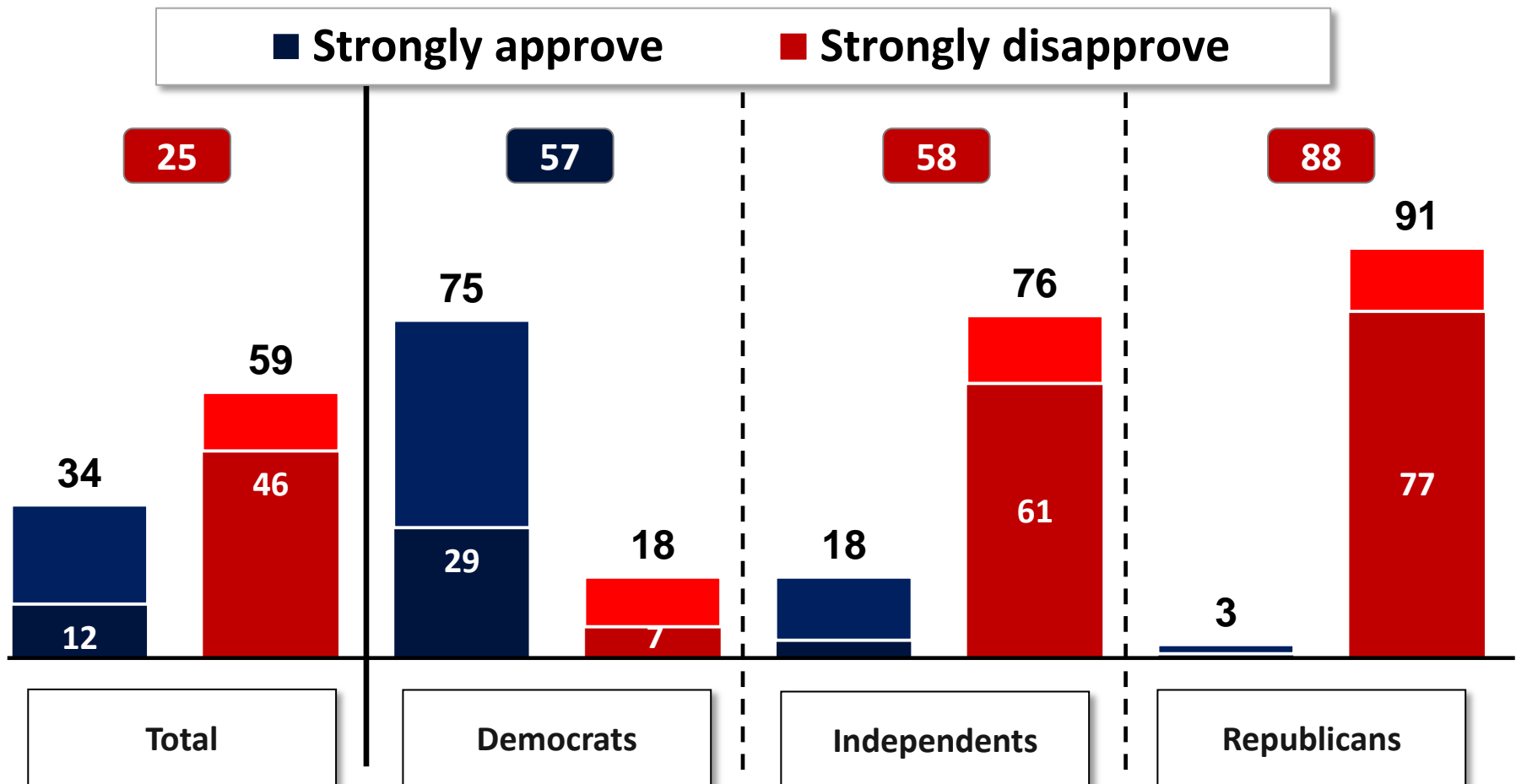
# Almost three quarters of all voters and independents disapprove of Republican House

*Do you approve or disapprove of the way Republicans in Congress are handling their job in charge of the House of Representatives?*



# 6 in ten voters, including three quarters of independents, disapprove of Democrats in Senate

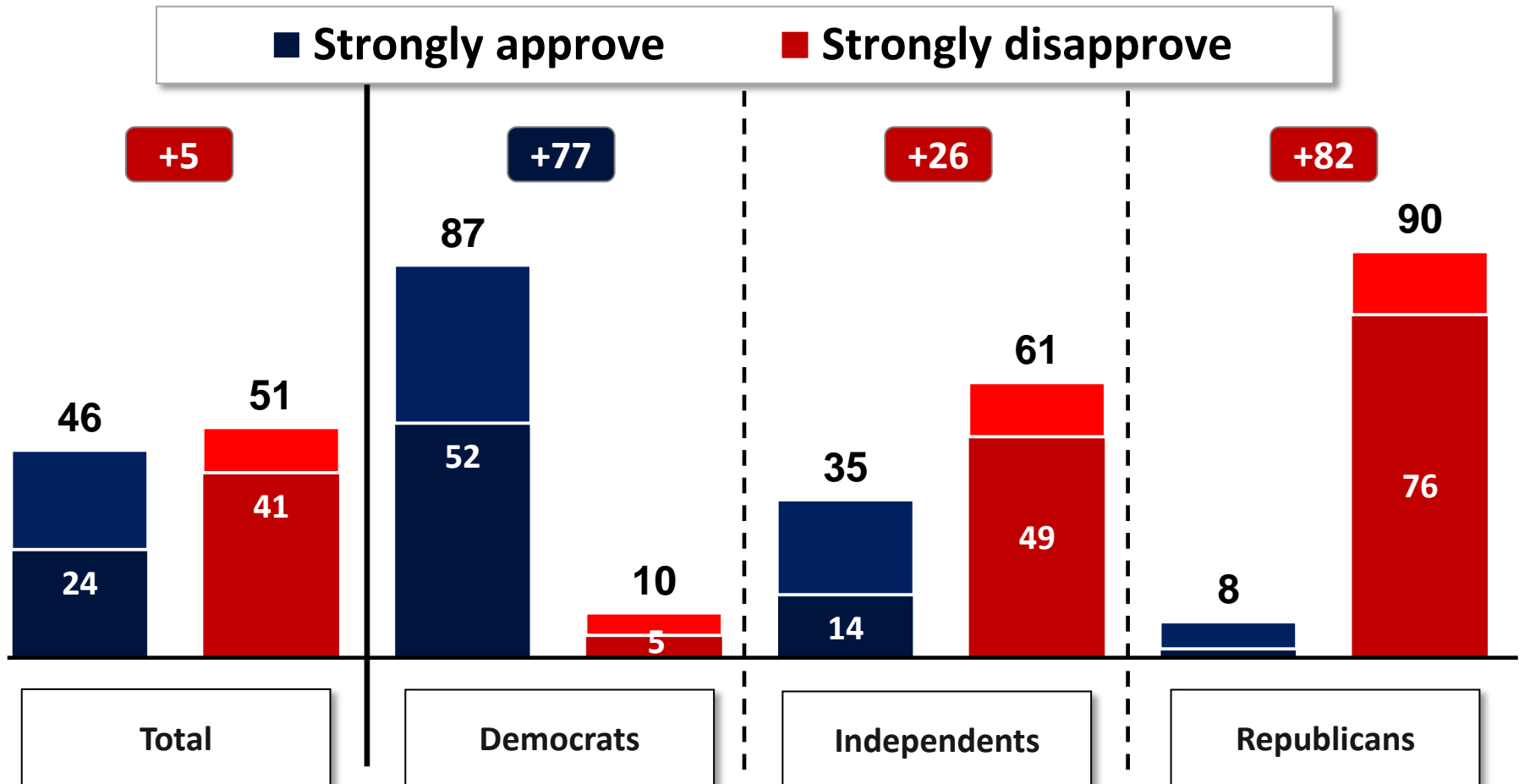
*Do you approve or disapprove of the way the Democrats in Congress are handling their job in charge of the Senate?*





# President Obama approval at 46 percent– but 61 percent of independents disapprove

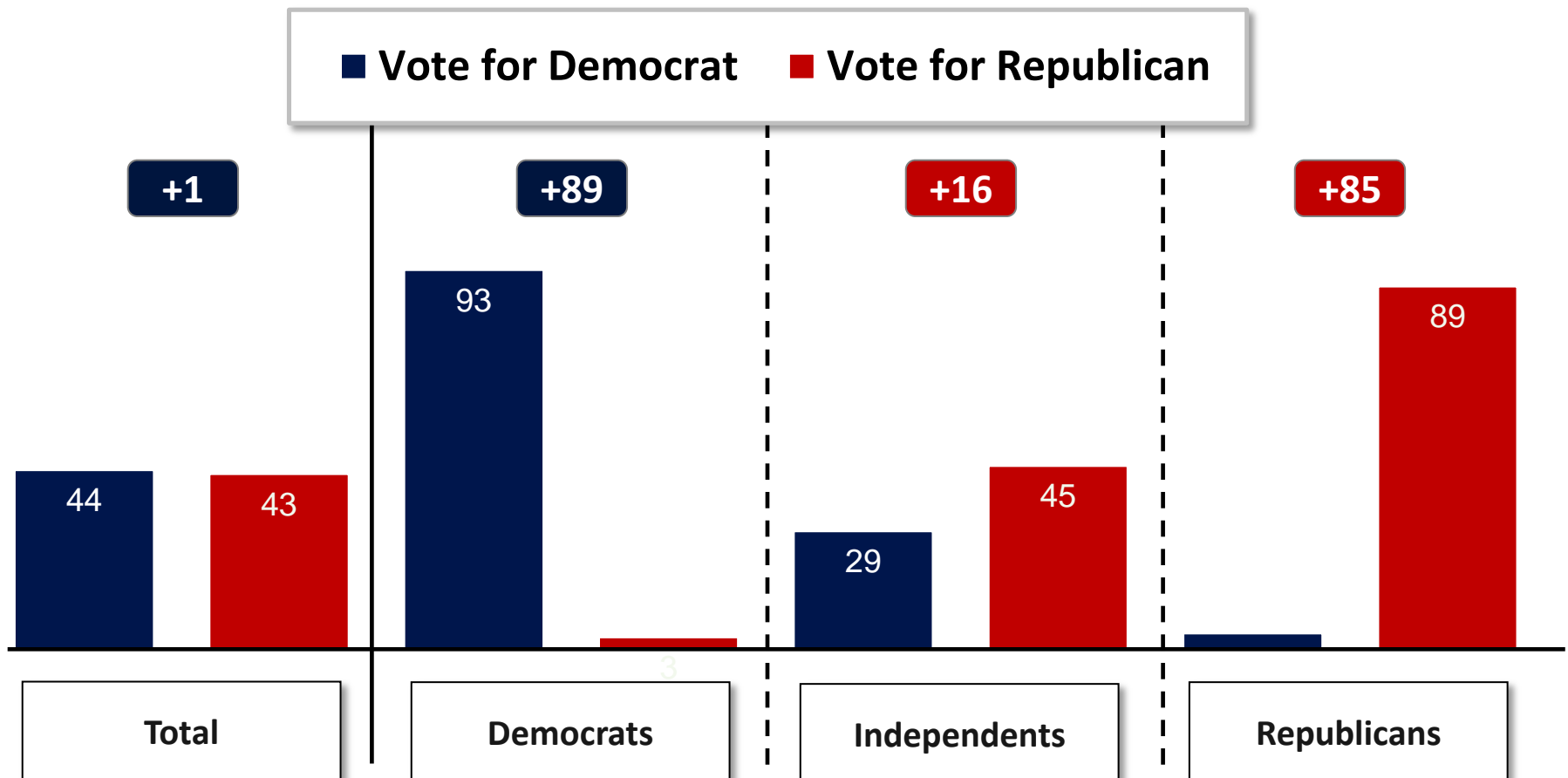
*Do you approve or disapprove of the way Barack Obama is handling his job as president?*



# **2014 race**

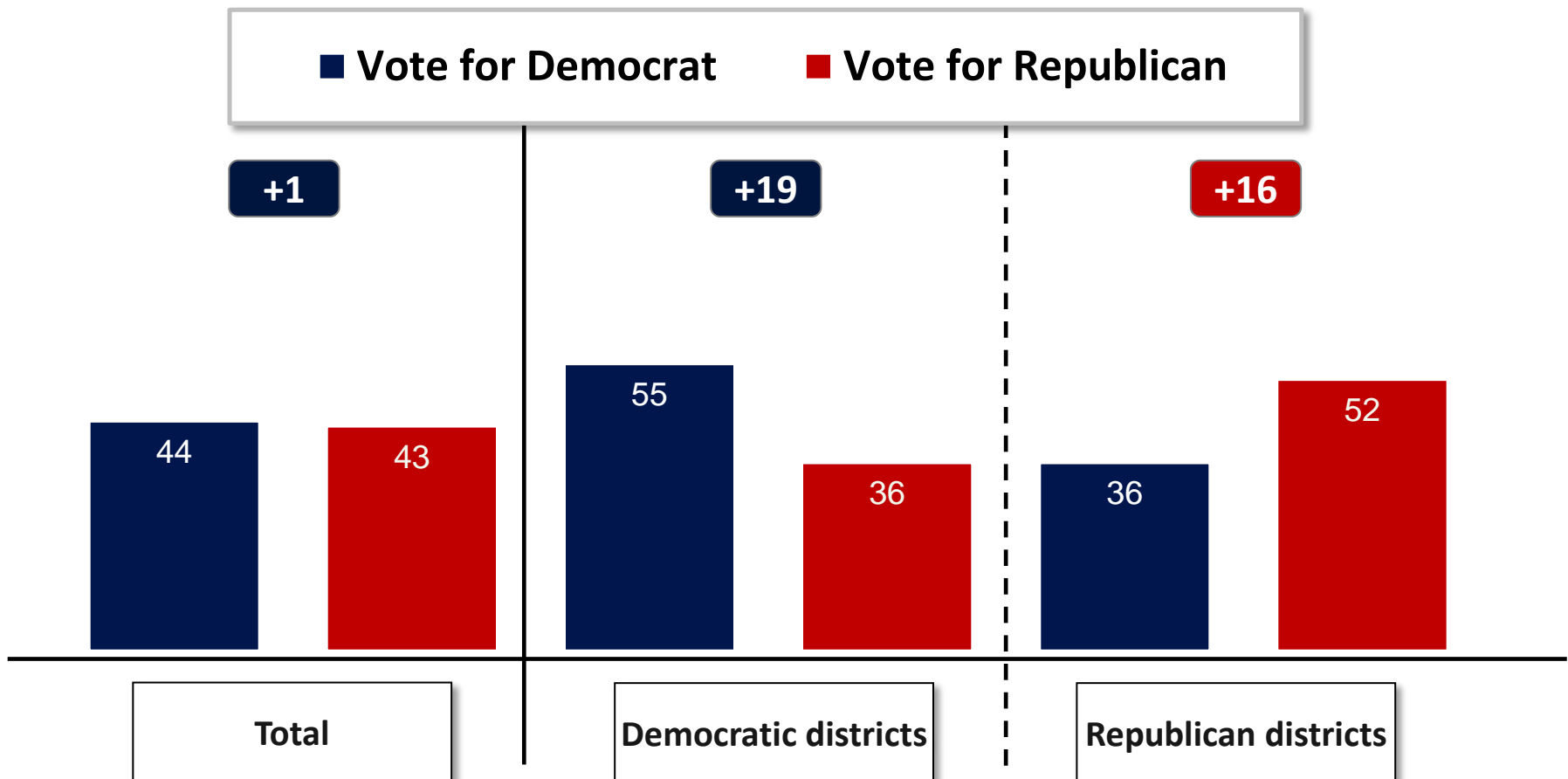
# Congressional race at dead heat nationally

*I know it's a long way off, but thinking about the election for Congress in 2014, if the election for U.S. Congress were held today, would you be voting for – the Democratic candidate or the Republican candidate?*



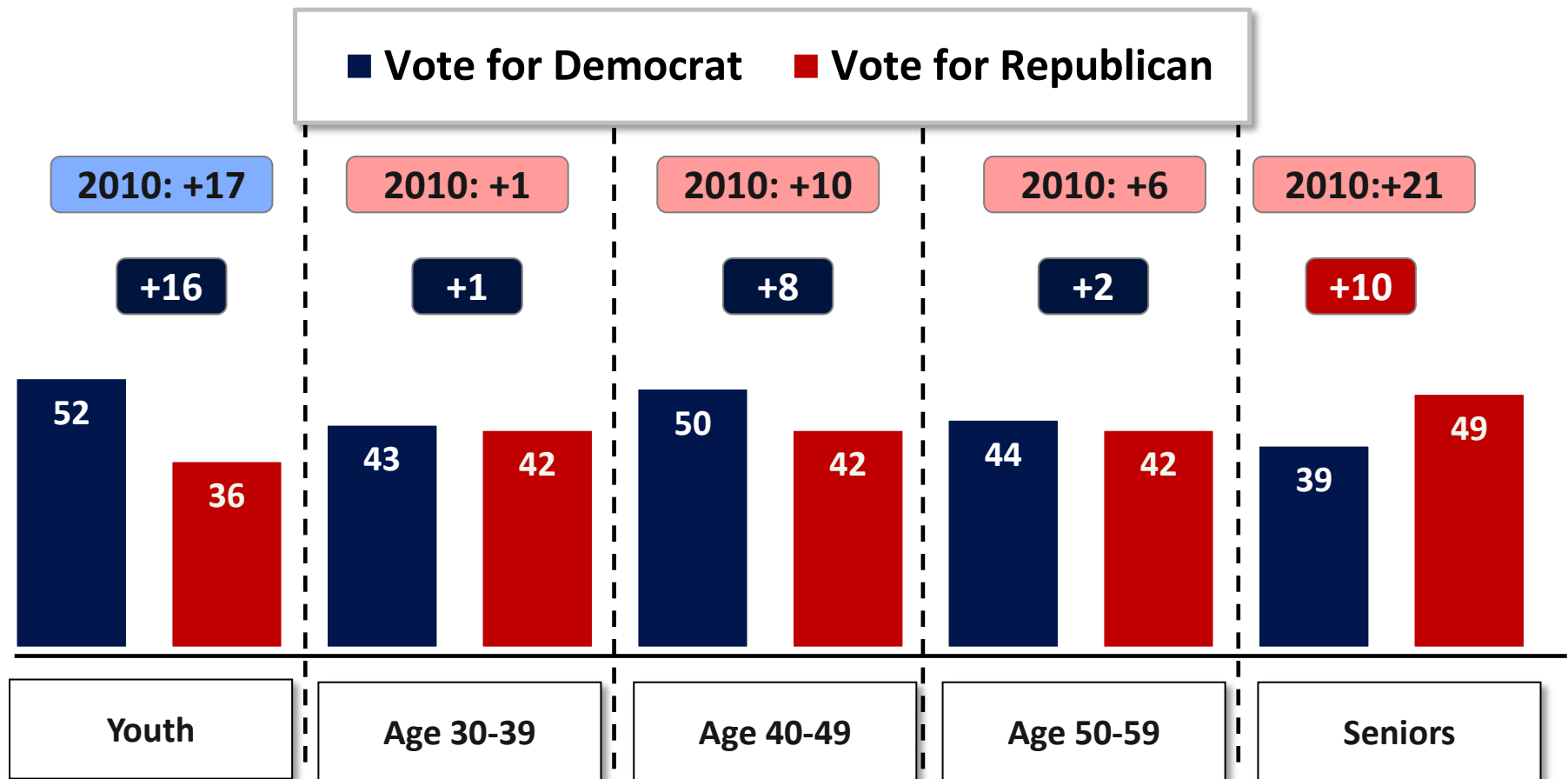
# Democratic and Republican members have comparable margins

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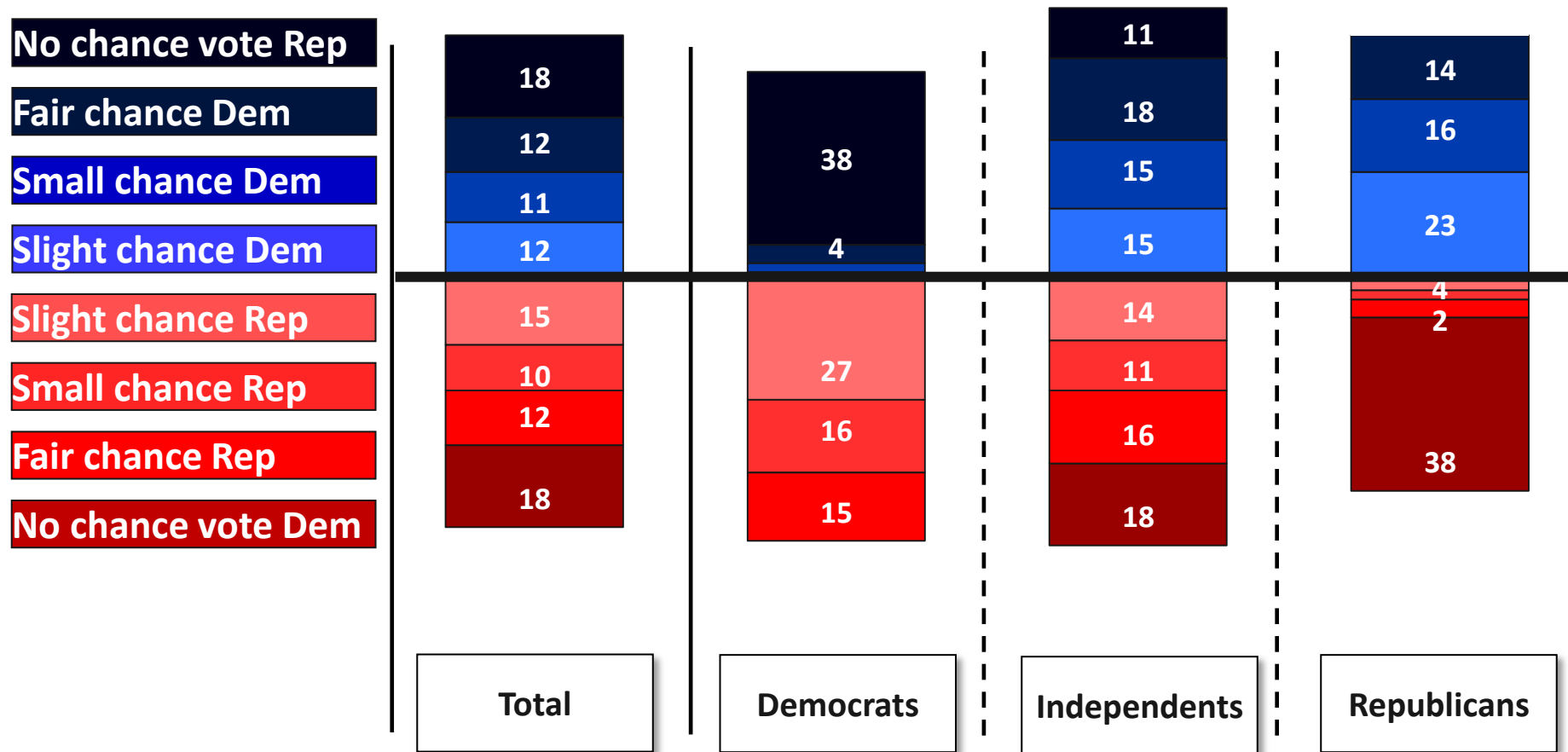
# Democrats ahead with young and Republicans with Seniors

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# Congressional vote chance score: Democrats and Republicans with equal loyalists

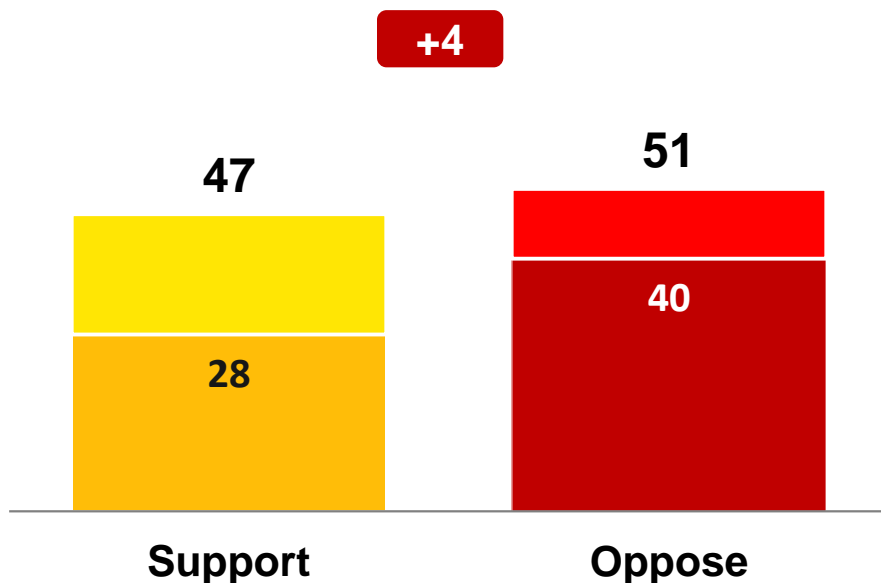
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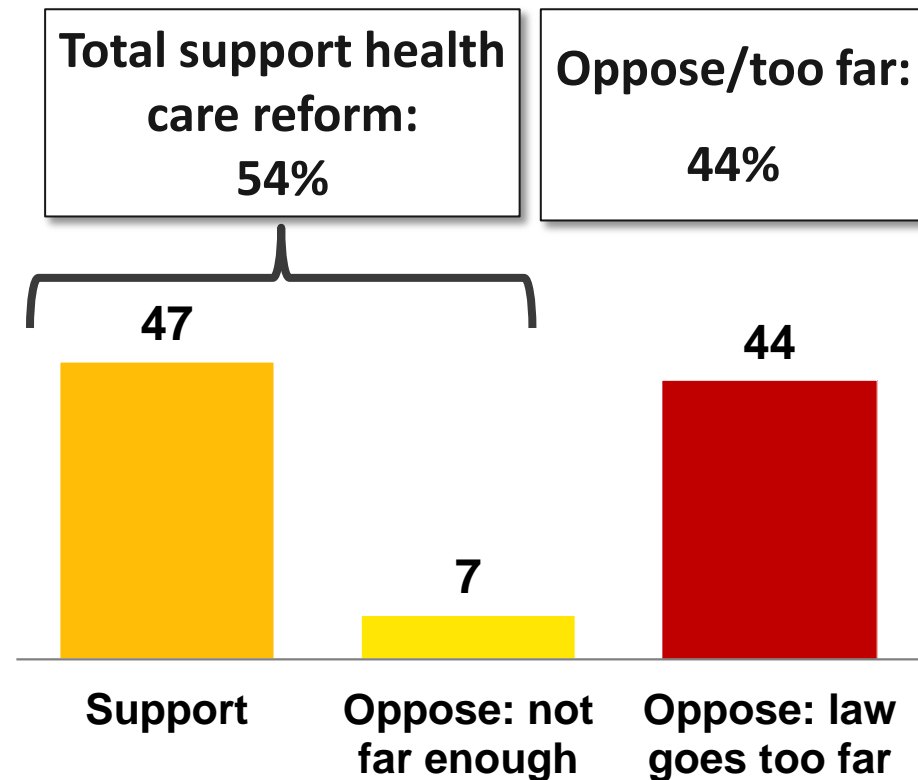
# **Health care reform**

# Electorate divided on Affordable Care Act– with 44 percent opposed because it goes too far

*Do you support or oppose the health care reform law that passed in 2010, also known as the Affordable Care Act or Obamacare?*



*(IF OPPOSE) Would you say you oppose the health care reform law because it goes too far in changing health insurance, or because it doesn't go far enough in changing health insurance?*

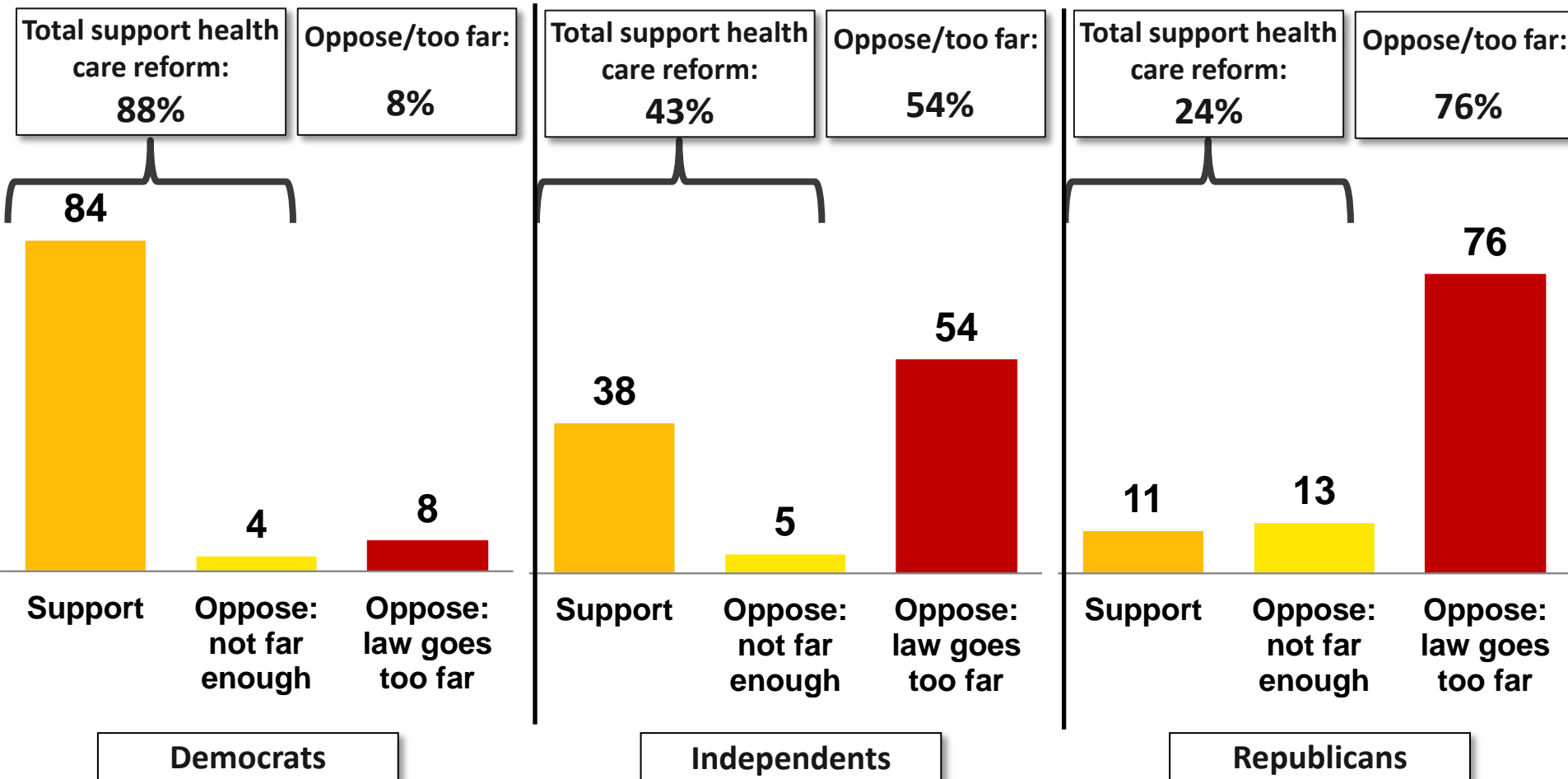




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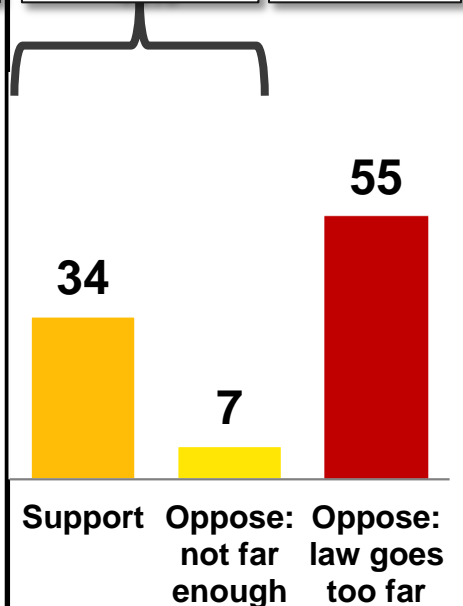
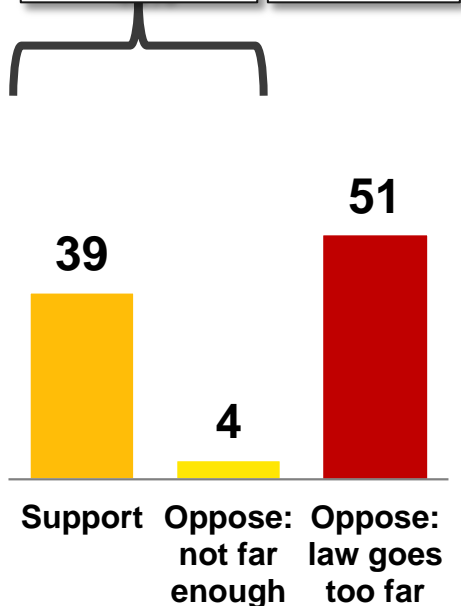
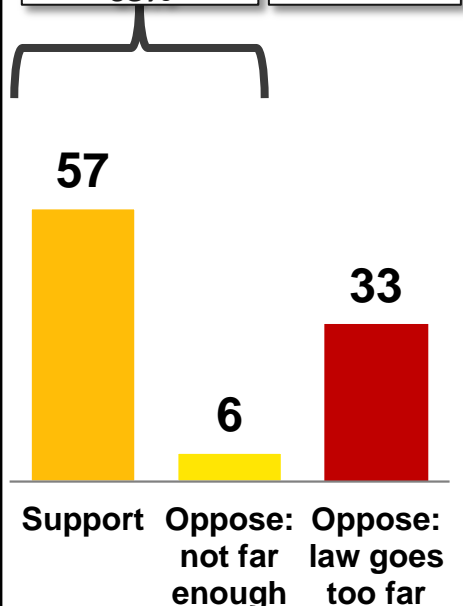
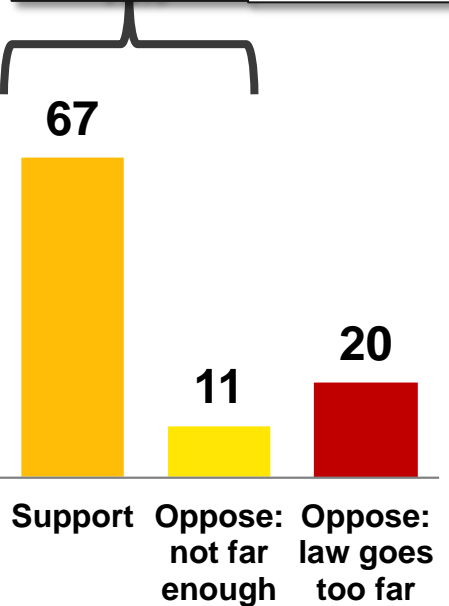
(IF OPPOSE) Would you say you oppose the health care reform law because it goes too far in changing health insurance, or because it doesn't go far enough in changing health insurance?

Total support health care reform: 78%  
Oppose/too far: 20%

Total support health care reform: 63%  
Oppose/too far: 33%

Total support health care reform: 43%  
Oppose/too far: 51%

Total support health care reform: 43%  
Oppose/too far: 55%



Minority

Youth

Seniors

White non-college

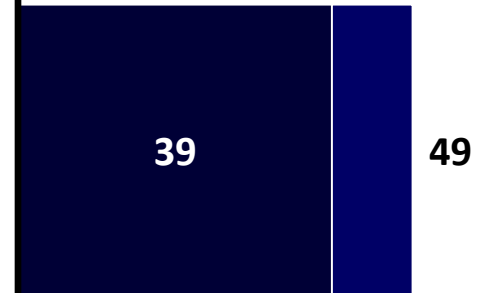
# **The big political debates**

# Voters choose Democrats' healthcare message by 5 points

*I'm going to read you a pair of statements. After I read both statements, please tell me if the FIRST or the SECOND statement comes closer to your own opinion, even if neither is exactly right.*

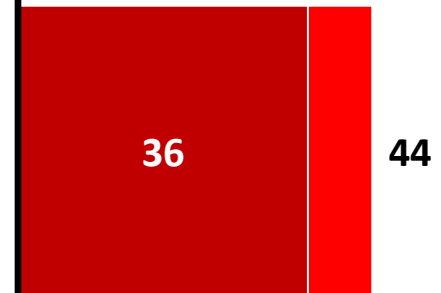
## Health Care Debate

**The Democratic candidate says:** the health care law is a start, but it's not perfect. We need to make it work for small businesses and get costs down. Give people more time and let them keep their current insurance if they want. So fix it, but build on the really good changes: this law prevents insurance companies from dropping people or raising rates when they get sick or denying people for preexisting conditions. They can no longer charge women more than men and must cover preventive care like cancer screenings. Repealing it with more political fighting will hurt a lot of people.



+5

**The Republican candidate says:** Obamacare is hurting more people than it's helping, and keeping Washington in control of your health care is making the problem worse. Despite the President's promise, millions of people have had their insurance policies cancelled. Millions more are being forced to buy coverage they don't want or need, or can't afford. Obamacare is raising costs, premiums, and the deficit, and cutting funding and benefits for Medicare. It's time to pass health care reform that lowers costs and allows the people-not the federal government or the insurance companies-to control their own health care.

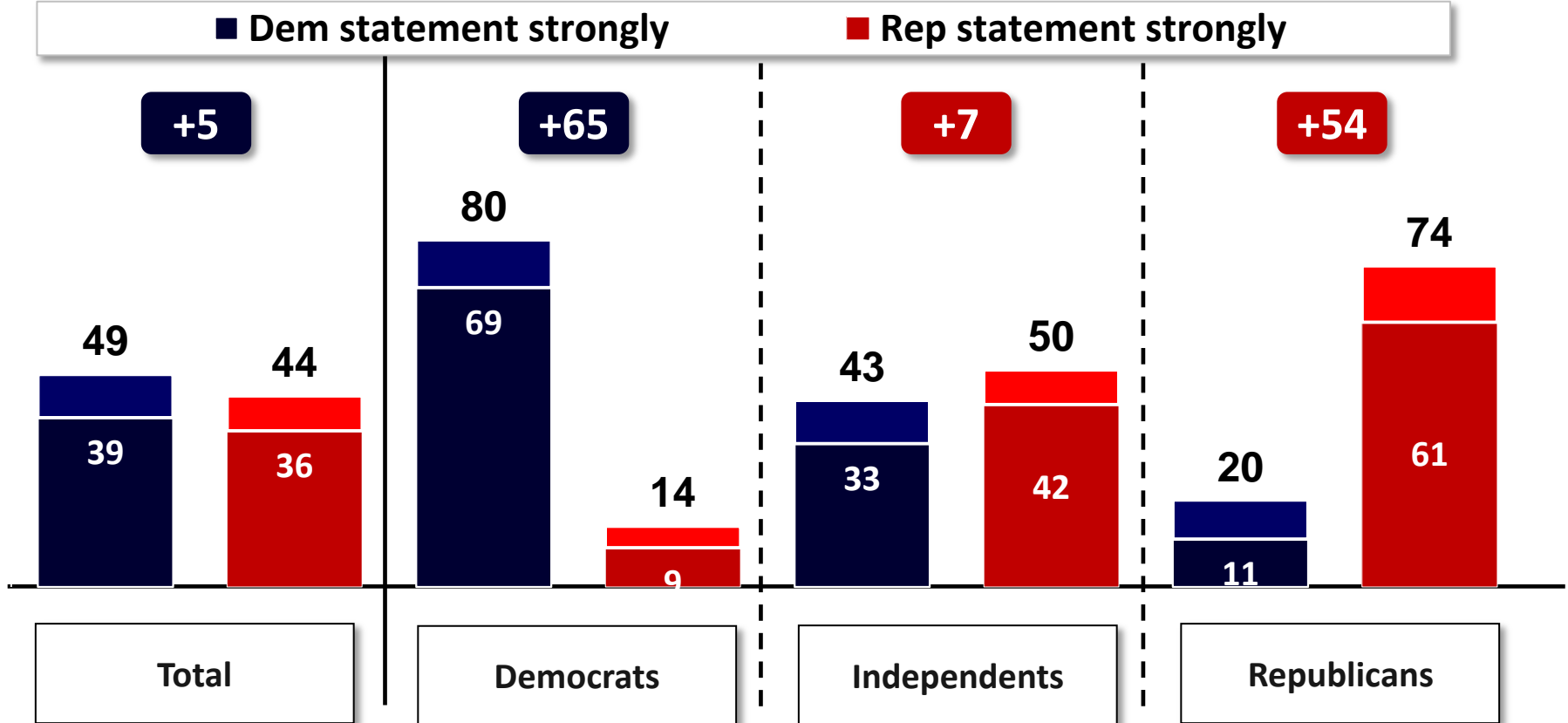


# Democrats respond with greater intensity to pro-ACA message, but Republican intensity edge with independents

*I'm going to read you a pair of statements. After I read both statements, please tell me which ONE comes closer to your own opinion, even if neither is exactly right.*

**Health care law is a start; makes good changes**

**Obamacare is hurting more people than it helps**

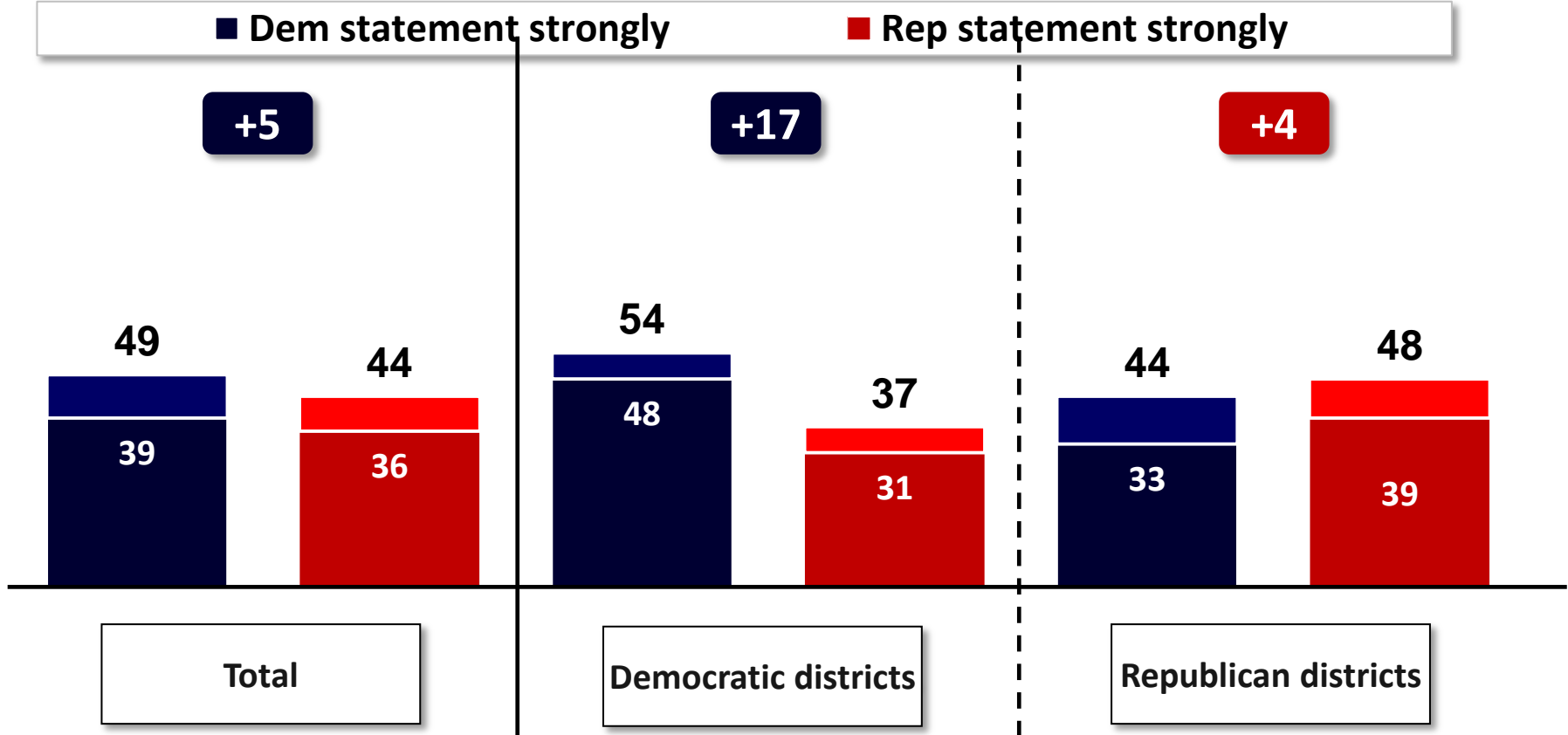


# And Democrats have more support for position in their districts than Republicans in theirs

*I'm going to read you a pair of statements. After I read both statements, please tell me which ONE comes closer to your own opinion, even if neither is exactly right.*

**Health care law is a start; makes good changes**

**Obamacare is hurting more people than it helps**

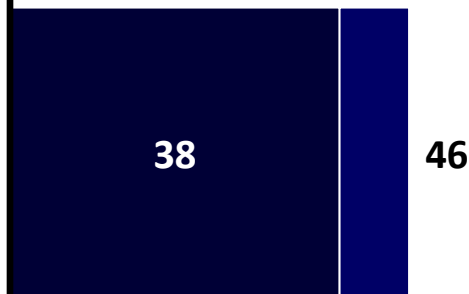


# Republicans edge Democrats in economic debate

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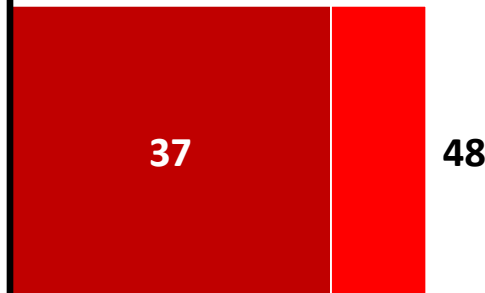
## Economic Policy Debate

**The Democratic candidate says:** The economy is recovering, but not for regular hardworking people. Incomes of CEOs and the top 1 percent are soaring, but in the real economy, people are working harder at jobs that don't pay enough to live on. We have got to do something. We must raise the minimum wage, help people afford job training and college, build a 21st century infrastructure, and stop unfair trade agreements that wipe out American jobs.



+2

**The Republican candidate says:** The Obama Administration has had six years to get this economy going and their policies haven't worked. Monthly wages are going down, and there are not enough good-paying jobs to create opportunities for struggling families. We need to start making things in America again, and stop excessive regulations that are hurting the economy. It's time to produce more energy here at home, and educate people for the jobs of the 21st century.

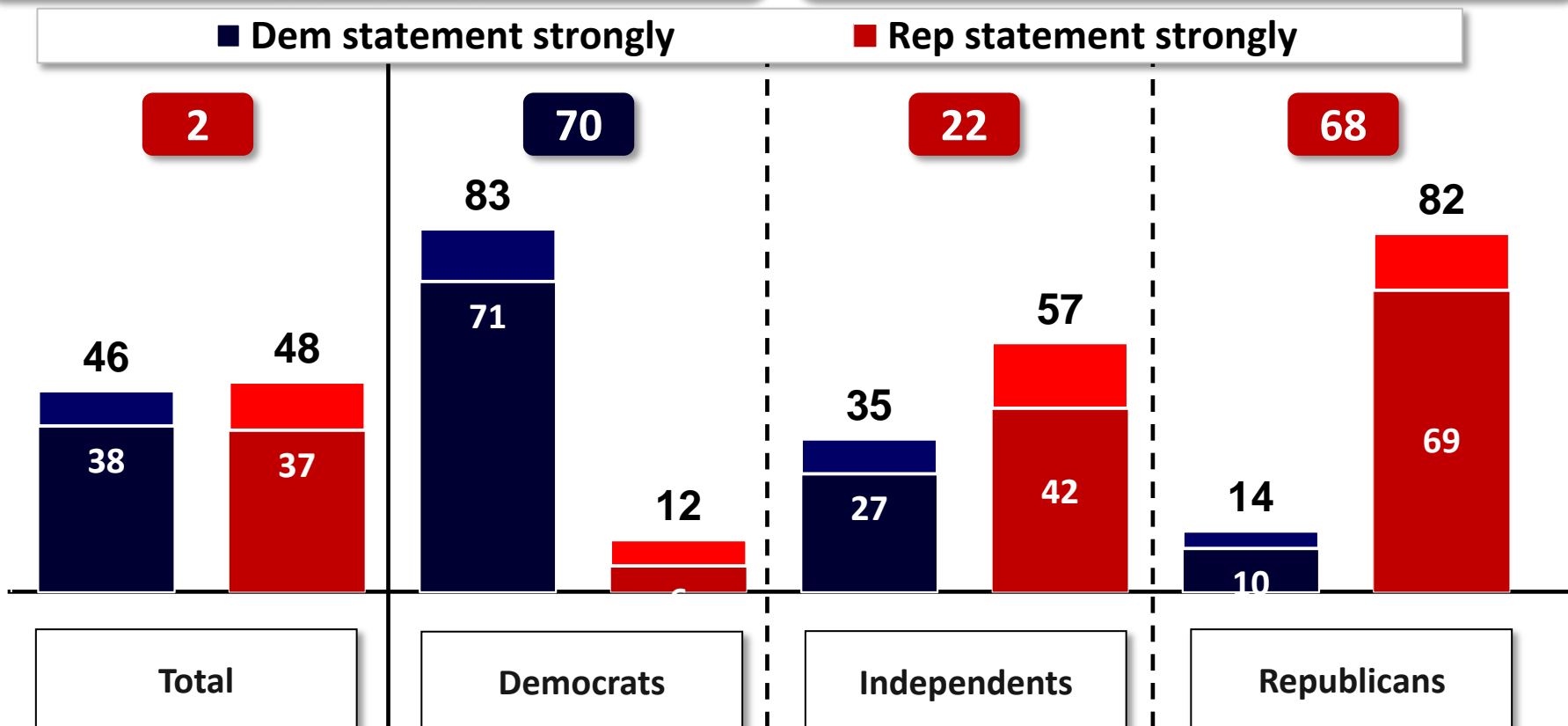


# Republicans win economic debate with independents

*I'm going to read you a pair of statements. After I read both statements, please tell me which ONE comes closer to your own opinion, even if neither is exactly right.*

**Economy not recovering for regular people; raise minimum wage, invest in job training, infrastructure**

**Obama has had 6 years to get economy going; stop regulations, produce energy at home**





# Debate over Washington dysfunction gridlocked

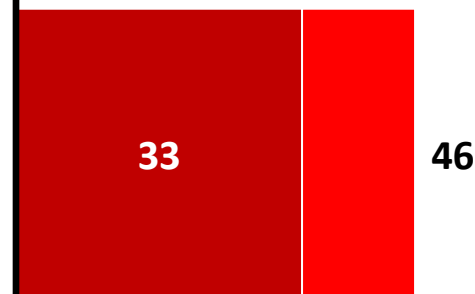
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## Washington Dysfunction Debate

**The Democratic candidate says:** Political gridlock in Washington is holding our country back and hurting people. The parties should be working together to get things done, but Congress under Speaker Boehner is rated the worst in 60 years. The House Republicans are so intent on fighting President Obama, they shut down the government and voted to repeal Obamacare 50 times, when we should be working together to create good jobs and making the economy work for the middle class.



**The Republican candidate says:** Leadership starts at the top. President Clinton inherited a difficult economy, but worked with a Republican Congress to improve the economy and balance the budget. House Republicans have passed dozens of bills to create jobs and stop spending money we don't have, all of which have been ignored by President Obama and the Democratic Senate. We need more people in Washington who will work across party lines to grow the economy and help hardworking Americans.

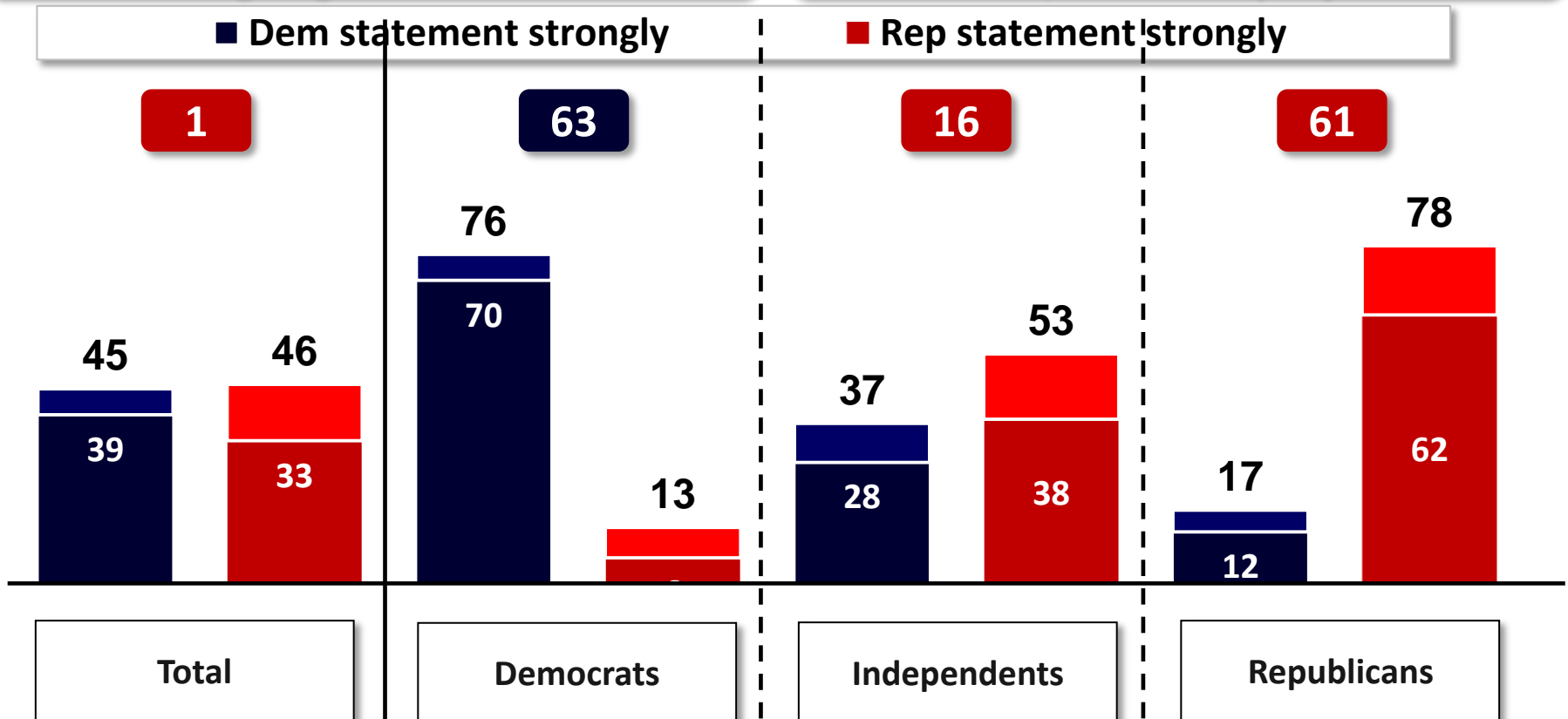


# Democrats more intense in anti-DC response, though majority of independents agree with Republican dysfunction message

*I'm going to read you a pair of statements. After I read both statements, please tell me which ONE comes closer to your own opinion, even if neither is exactly right.*

**Gridlock holds us back; Boehner's Congress worst in 60 years; Parties should work together instead of fighting and shut down**

**Leadership starts at top; Republicans have passed bills to create jobs but blocked by Obama and Senate; work across party lines**



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