ERA-AF
EQUAL RIGHTS ADVOCATES
ACTION FUND

EQUAL RIGHTS ADVOCATES ACTION FUND

ECONOMIC SECURITY POLL

Opinion poll shows issues that were once ‘women’s issues’ are now on everyone’s agenda as solutions to deal with the skyrocketing cost of living

RELEASED

SEPTEMBER 9, 2026

Polling by Lake Research Partners · 1,000 likely 2026 voters nationwide

OVERVIEW

What was once the “women’s policy agenda” is now everyone’s economic security policy agenda. For decades, fair wages, equal pay, paid leave, childcare and care for aging parents got filed by policymakers and pundits under “women’s issues” and pushed to the back burner. The critical problems policymakers failed to address have grown to affect every family, and voters struggling with soaring costs now recognize these long-overdue policies as the essential solutions we desperately need.

Equal Rights Advocates Action Fund’s (ERA-AF) new national poll of 1,000 likely 2026 voters documents the shift:

- **The economic pain is deep, and voters and their families are struggling:** nearly 6 in 10 have cut back on nonessential purchases; a third have cut back on essential purchases; more than a third have pulled money out of savings; a quarter have stopped saving; nearly 3 in 10 are carrying a credit card balance to cover costs; and 1 in 5 voters have taken extra shifts or gotten a second or third job to cover their higher cost of living.
- **Voters overwhelmingly back common-sense solutions that tackle affordability:** Policies once considered “women’s issues” — from ensuring women receive equal pay for equal work to making family and elder care truly affordable — now require urgent action from Congress and state leaders. At least 73% of voters believe it is important that federal and state leaders address each issue and make progress on them in the next two years. This incredible, widespread desire for action on key issues spans most political parties and demographics.
- **Voters are ready to reward leaders in their states who deliver on these crucial policies:** From caregiving policies to equal pay to raising the minimum wage so people bring home more money, voters overwhelmingly support a leader who delivers for them. Independent voters – who decide elections – say they would be more likely to vote for an elected official who has voted in favor of every policy we tested.

This poll shows that these issues energize Democrats, win over independents, and even resonate with a notable number of Republicans. These numbers illustrate an electorate who is tired of the status quo and embraces candidates offering timely and tangible solutions.

73% say federal and state leaders should address each economic security policy idea tested in the next two years

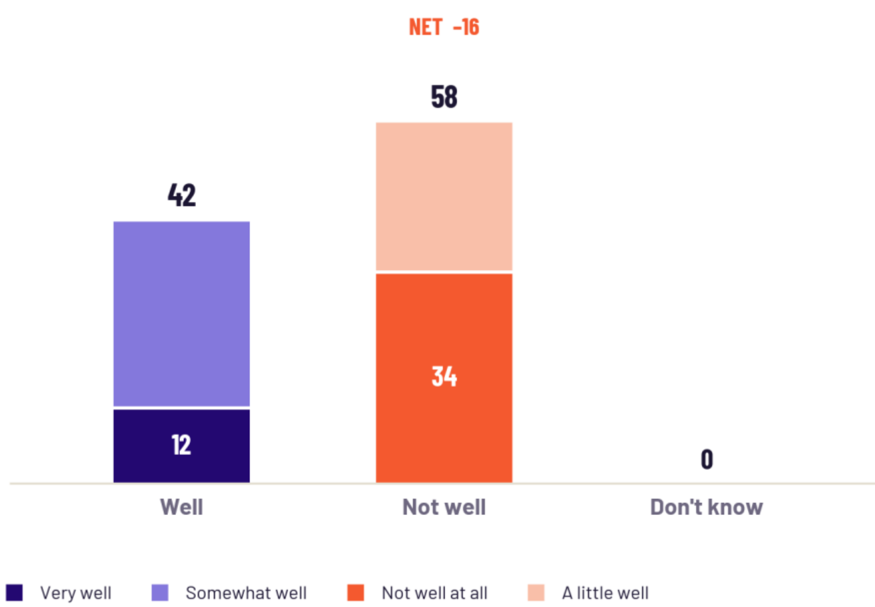
KEY FINDINGS

1 The economic pain is deep, and 82% of voters have had to take action to cover a higher cost of living this year

Fifty-eight percent say the economy is not working well for them and their family right now.*

A MAJORITY SAY THE ECONOMY IS NOT WORKING WELL FOR THEM

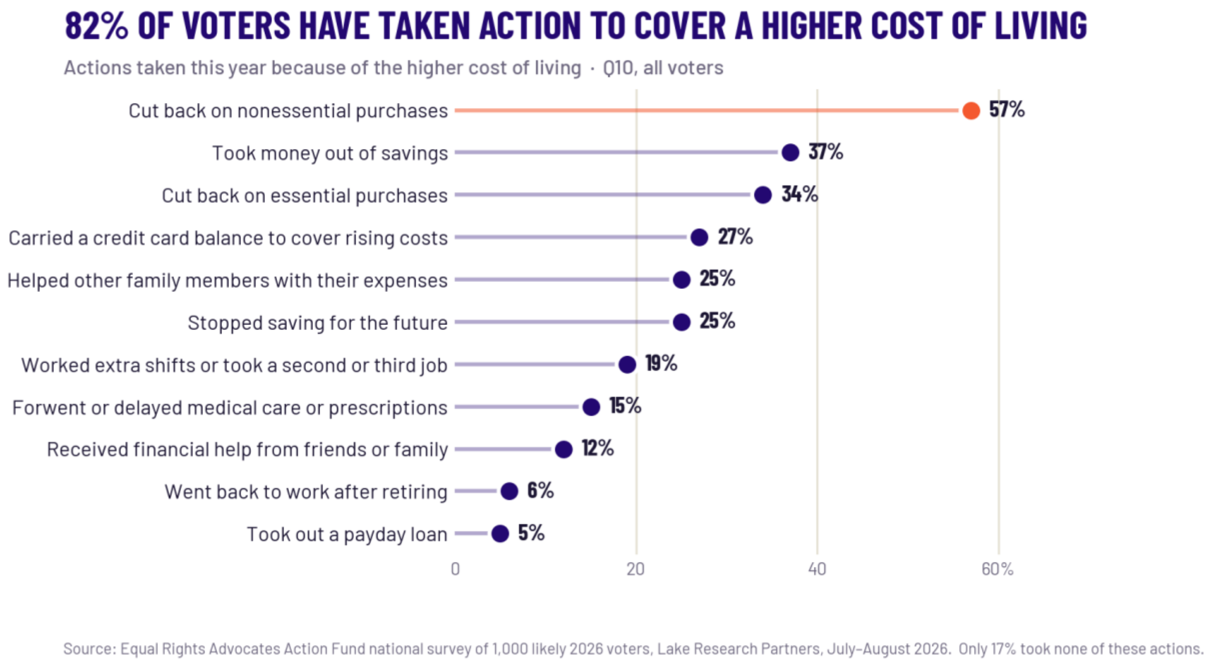
"How well is the economy working for you and your family right now?" · Q7, split sample



Source: Equal Rights Advocates Action Fund national survey of 1,000 likely 2026 voters, Lake Research Partners, July–August 2026. Segments may not sum to the net because of rounding.

* Split sample question

Significant numbers of voters have taken the following actions this year because of the higher cost of living. Only 17% of voters have not taken any of these actions.



Independents are more likely to report drawing on savings and credit

Independent voters took drastic actions fueled by affordability problems:

- 57% of independents cut back on nonessential purchases, compared with 69% of Democrats and 43% of Republicans
- 45% of independents took money out of savings, compared with 39% of Democrats and 29% of Republicans
- 44% of independents cut back on essential purchases, compared with 41% of Democrats and 23% of Republicans
- 42% of independents are carrying a credit card balance to cover rising costs, compared with 29% of Democrats and 18% of Republicans
- 32% of independents have stopped saving for the future, compared with 28% of Democrats and 16% of Republicans

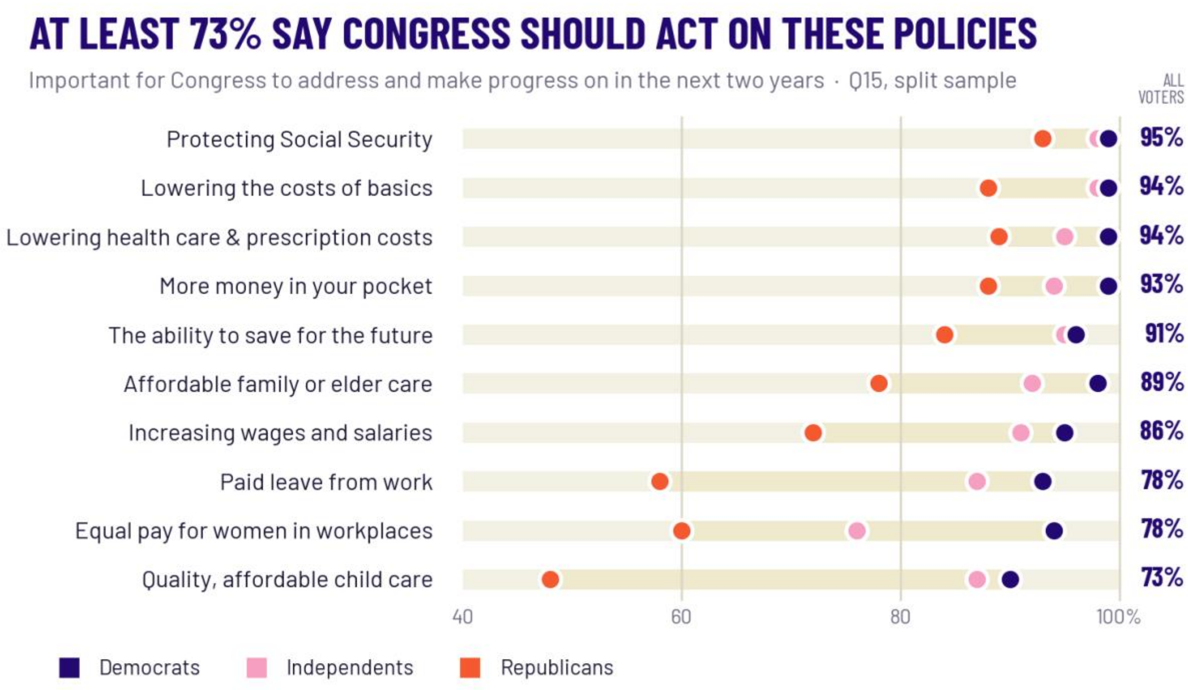
The strain reaches Republican voters

Seventy-one percent of Republicans report having taken some action this year to offset high costs, while 90% of Democrats have taken some action, as have 87% of independents.

- 43% of Republicans cut back on nonessential purchases
- 29% took money out of savings
- 23% cut back on essential purchases

2 Voters overwhelmingly want Congress to address the following economic security policies

Voters believe it is important for Congress to address numerous issues and make progress on them in the next two years. At least 73% of voters said each of the following solutions are important.



Source: Equal Rights Advocates Action Fund national survey of 1,000 likely 2026 voters, Lake Research Partners, July-August 2026.

* All items in this question were split sampled.

These policies score highly with Independents

- 92% say access to quality, affordable family or elder care is important for Congress to address and make progress on in the next two years
- 91% say increasing wages and salaries is important
- 87% say access to quality, affordable childcare is important
- 87% say having paid leave from work to care for yourself or a family member who is seriously ill, or care for a new child is important
- 76% say requiring equal pay for women in the workplace is important

Every policy also registers as important with nearly two-thirds of men

- 85% say access to quality, affordable family or elder care is important
- 79% say increasing wages and salaries are important

- 70% of men say having paid leave from work to care for yourself or a family member who is seriously ill, or care for a new child is important
- 68% say requiring equal pay for women in workplaces is important
- 64% say access to quality, affordable childcare is important

Republican support is also strong

- 78% say access to affordable family and elder care is important
- 72% call increasing wages and salaries important
- 60% say equal pay for women is important
- 58% say having paid leave from work to care for yourself or a family member who is seriously ill, or care for a new child is important
- Even on childcare, the weakest Republican item, 48% say it's important

Important for Congress to address in the next two years (% total important)

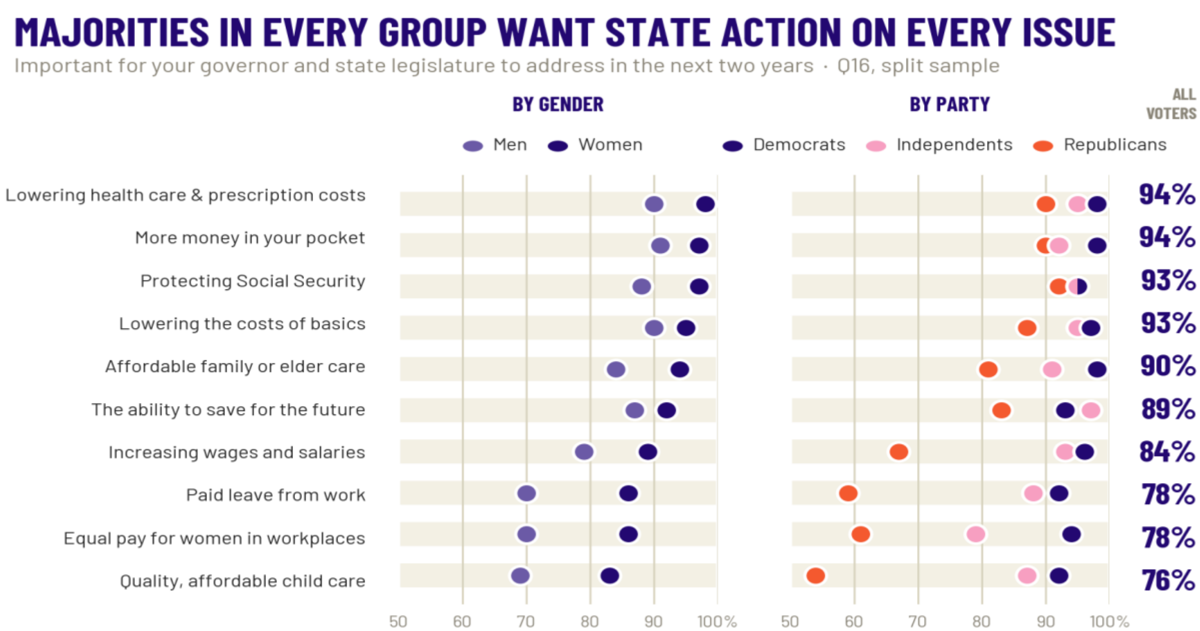
* Split sampled question

Issue	All voters	Dem	Ind	Rep	Women	Men
Protecting Social Security*	**95**	99	98	93	98	92
Lowering the costs of basics*	**94**	99	98	88	96	93
Lowering health care and prescription costs*	**94**	99	95	89	97	91
More money in your pocket to afford the rising cost of living*	**93**	99	94	88	96	90
The ability to save for the future*	**91**	96	95	84	96	85
Access to quality, affordable family or elder care*	**89**	98	92	78	91	85
Increasing wages and salaries*	**86**	95	91	72	92	79
Equal pay for women in workplaces*	**78**	94	76	60	86	68
Paid leave from work to care for yourself or a family member*	**78**	93	87	58	86	70
Quality, affordable childcare*	**73**	90	87	48	81	64

The same expectations land on governors and state legislatures*

Voters want timely action at the state level of government on economic security policies. Asked whether the same list of issues are important for their own governor and state legislatures to address, voters were emphatic:

- 90% say access to quality, affordable family or elder care is important
- 84% call increasing wages and salaries important
- 78% say equal pay for women is important
- 78% say having paid leave from work to care for yourself or a family member who is seriously ill, or care for a new child is important
- 76% say access to quality, affordable childcare is important



Source: Equal Rights Advocates Action Fund national survey of 1,000 likely 2026 voters, Lake Research Partners, July–August 2026.

* All items in this question were split sampled.

3 Voters will reward candidates who support these economic security policies

Voters said they were more likely to vote for an elected official from their state who voted for each of the following policies: *

* Split sampled question

Independents are more likely to vote for an elected official who champions these policies

- Protect Social Security: 95% more likely to vote for an elected official in their state who voted for this policy, 3% less likely
- Ensure healthcare for all: 86% more likely, 8% less likely
- Offer up to 7 paid sick days for all working people: 81% more likely, 9% less likely
- Offer up to 12 weeks of paid family and medical leave for all working people*: 77% more likely, 10% less likely
- Raise the minimum wage: 76% more likely, 10% less likely
- Offer free childcare and early childhood education for families who want it: 75% more likely, 6% less likely
- Strengthen equal pay laws for women: 73% more likely, 6% less likely

* Full question language: "Offer up to 12 weeks of paid family and medical leave for all working people so they can afford to take time away from their jobs to care for themselves or their family members when facing serious illness, care for a new child, or handle needs that arise from a military deployment."

Republican voters indicate increased willingness to vote for an elected official who votes in favor the following economic security policy ideas:

- Protect Social Security: 83% more likely, 2% less likely (14% say it would make no difference)
- Offer up to 7 paid sick days for all working people: 53% more likely, 22% less likely (23% no difference)
- Offer up to 12 weeks of paid family and medical leave for all working people: 51% more likely, 28% less likely (18% no difference)
- Ensure healthcare for all: 45% more likely, 35% less likely (14% no difference)
- Strengthen equal pay laws for women: 43% more likely, 18% less likely (36% no difference)

More likely to vote for an elected official who voted for each policy*

Policy	All voters	Dem	Ind	Rep	Women	Men
Protect Social Security	**91**	96	95	83	96	85
Ensure affordable health care for all	**74**	97	86	45	79	69
Offer up to 12 weeks of paid family and medical leave for all working people	**74**	93	77	51	81	65
Offer up to 7 paid sick days for all working people	**73**	90	81	53	80	66
Strengthen equal pay laws for women	**71**	95	73	43	77	63
Raise the minimum wage	**65**	92	76	29	73	55
Offer free child care and early childhood education	**63**	91	75	27	69	55

* Split sampled question

ABOUT EQUAL RIGHTS ADVOCATES ACTION FUND

Equal Rights Advocates Action Fund (ERA-AF) is the 501(c)(4) arm of Equal Rights Advocates, which has fought for gender justice across America for more than 50 years. ERA-AF polls voters, shapes public debate, and recruits gender equity champions in statehouses and Congress.

www.ERA-AF.org

METHODOLOGY

Lake Research Partners designed and administered this survey of 1,110 likely 2026 voters nationwide on behalf of the Equal Rights Advocates Action Fund. Interviews were conducted July and August 2026, by live telephone interviewer and self-administered online following a text invitation. A total of 1,110 interviews were completed, including additional sampling of 110 Democratic primary voters, and weighted into the base sample to their proper proportion of the universe for a total sample size of 1,000. The poll has a margin of error of 2.9%. Quantitative results are expressed as percentages, unless otherwise noted. Results may not add to 100% due to rounding or multiple responses.

FULL TOPLINES

ERA-AF Survey · July/August 2026 · N = 1,000 likely 2026 voters nationwide (1,110 interviews weighted to 1,000) · Lake Research Partners. Splits: A/B, C/D.

All figures are percentages. TOTAL = all voters; IND = independents (includes voters who do not know their party identification). A dash means no cases or a value below rounding. Q18 and Q19 are omitted at ERA-AF's direction.

	TOTAL	WOMEN	MEN	IND	DEM	REP
Weighted N	1000	525	463	149	412	370
Unweighted N	1110	576	516	156	594	277

Q1. How likely are you to vote in the General Election for Congress and other state offices in November of 2026? Are you almost certain to vote, will you probably vote, are the chances about 50-50, are you probably not going to vote, or are you definitely not going to vote?

Select one

	TOTAL	WOMEN	MEN	IND	DEM	REP
Almost certain	88	87	89	77	88	91
Probably	12	13	11	23	12	9

Q2. How likely are you to vote in Democratic primaries for President, Congress, and other state offices? Are you almost certain to vote in Democratic primaries, do you probably vote, are the chances about 50-50, do you probably not vote, or do you definitely not vote in Democratic primaries?

Select one

	TOTAL	WOMEN	MEN	IND	DEM	REP
Almost certain	48	52	42	46	76	17
Probably	12	12	12	17	16	5
50 - 50	6	6	6	18	3	2
Probably not	6	5	7	6	2	11
Definitely not	26	24	29	8	2	63
(Don't know)	2	1	4	5	1	2
Likely	**59**	**64**	**54**	**63**	**92**	**22**
Less likely	**41**	**36**	**46**	**37**	**8**	**78**
Dem primary voter	27	30	23	22	49	4
Dem /Not likely Dem primary voter	21	24	18	-	51	-
Non-Dem /Not likely Dem primary voter	52	47	59	78	-	96

Q3. {SSA} How well would you say the economy is working for you and your family right now — very well, somewhat well, a little well, or not well at all?

Select one

	TOTAL	WOMEN	MEN	IND	DEM	REP
Very well	12	11	14	6	6	22
Somewhat well	29	27	32	27	19	45
A little well	24	24	25	29	26	25
Not well at all	34	37	29	37	49	8
(Don't know)	0	1	0	-	1	-
Well	**42**	**38**	**46**	**34**	**25**	**67**
Not well	**58**	**62**	**54**	**66**	**75**	**33**

Q4. {SSB} How well would you say the economy is working for families like yours right now — very well, somewhat well, a little well, or not well at all?

Select one

	TOTAL	WOMEN	MEN	IND	DEM	REP
Very well	13	14	13	8	11	18
Somewhat well	26	23	30	25	14	43
A little well	21	21	20	29	18	22
Not well at all	39	42	36	37	57	17
(Don't know)	1	0	1	-	0	1
Well	**40**	**37**	**43**	**34**	**25**	**60**
Not well	**60**	**63**	**56**	**66**	**75**	**39**

Q5/6. Combined: how well the economy is working (both split samples)

Select one

	TOTAL	WOMEN	MEN	IND	DEM	REP
Very well	13	12	13	7	9	20
Somewhat well	28	25	31	26	16	44
A little well	22	23	22	29	22	23
Not well at all	36	39	32	37	53	13
(Don't know)	1	0	1	-	0	0
Well	**41**	**37**	**45**	**34**	**25**	**64**
Not well	**59**	**62**	**55**	**66**	**75**	**36**

Q7. When you think about the economy, which of the following is most important to you personally? {READ CHOICES} {RANDOMIZE}

Select one

	TOTAL	WOMEN	MEN	IND	DEM	REP
Cost of basics like food, gas, and utilities	70	71	68	71	72	66
Cost of health care	42	41	43	33	51	37
Cost of housing	31	31	31	33	34	26
The taxes you pay	30	27	34	20	18	47
Having enough savings for retirement	27	29	25	27	26	29
Increasing people's wages and income	21	21	22	29	28	9
Job protected and paid time to provide care for family or yourself	11	12	10	17	15	5
Cost of child care or elder and family care	10	11	9	8	15	7
Equal pay for women and men	8	12	4	10	12	3
Unemployment	5	6	5	7	7	2
(Don't know)	1	1	1	0	0	3

Q8. Which of the following actions have you taken this year due to higher costs of living? {READ CHOICES} {RANDOMIZE}

Select all that apply

	TOTAL	WOMEN	MEN	IND	DEM	REP
Cutting back on nonessential purchases	57	61	53	57	69	43
Taken money out of savings	37	38	37	45	39	29
Cutting back on essential purchases	34	38	30	44	41	23
Carrying a credit card balance to cover rising costs	27	29	25	42	29	18
Helping other family members with their expenses	25	26	24	24	29	21
Stopped saving for the future	25	27	22	32	28	16
Bringing in more income by working extra shifts or taking on a second or third job	19	20	16	20	22	14
Forgoing or delaying medical care or prescription drugs	15	17	12	16	17	9
Receiving financial help from friends or family	12	14	10	12	14	8
Having to go back to work after retiring or 'unretire'	6	8	4	2	8	6
Taken out a payday loan	5	5	5	8	6	2
Something else	4	3	4	3	3	5
(None of these)	17	14	21	12	10	29
(Don't know)	1	0	1	0	1	1

Q9. {SSA} Who do you think is more to blame for the rising cost of living? {READ AND RANDOMIZE 1-2, 2-1}

Select one

	TOTAL	WOMEN	MEN	IND	DEM	REP
Donald Trump and Republicans in Congress	39	44	33	23	79	4
Democrats in Congress	25	25	25	9	3	58
Both parties equally	32	27	39	63	17	35
Neither party	2	2	3	6	0	2
(Don't know)	1	2	0	-	1	2

Q10. {SSB} Who do you think is more to blame for the rising cost of living? {READ AND RANDOMIZE 1-2, 2-1}

Select one

	TOTAL	WOMEN	MEN	IND	DEM	REP
Republicans in Congress	38	39	35	19	74	4
Democrats in Congress	22	20	25	5	3	52
Both parties equally	34	35	34	63	22	38
Neither party	3	3	4	9	2	3
(Don't know)	2	2	3	4	-	4

Q11/12. Combined: who is more to blame for the rising cost of living (both split samples)

Select one

	TOTAL	WOMEN	MEN	IND	DEM	REP
Republicans	38	41	34	21	76	4
Democrats in Congress	24	23	25	7	3	55
Both parties equally	33	31	36	63	19	37
Neither party	3	3	3	7	1	2
(Don't know)	2	2	1	2	0	3

Q13. {SSA} In your state, who do you think is more to blame for the rising cost of living? {READ AND RANDOMIZE 1-2, 2-1}

Select one

	TOTAL	WOMEN	MEN	IND	DEM	REP
Your governor	11	12	10	10	8	16
The state legislature	14	16	12	3	20	11
Both equally	50	51	50	64	49	47
Neither	17	13	21	13	16	20
(Don't know)	7	7	6	10	7	5

Q14. {SSB} In your state, who do you think is more to blame for the rising cost of living? {READ AND RANDOMIZE 1-2, 2-1}

Select one

	TOTAL	WOMEN	MEN	IND	DEM	REP
Elected Democrats in your state	27	23	31	5	5	61
Elected Republicans in your state	32	36	29	15	65	3
Both parties equally	27	31	23	58	22	21
Neither	8	5	12	15	5	9
(Don't know)	5	5	5	7	4	6

Q15. Now I will read some issues. How important is it for Congress to address each issue and make progress on it in the next 2 years? Is it very important, somewhat important, a little important, or not important at all? {RANDOMIZE} {ITEMS IN THIS BATTERY SPLIT SAMPLED}

Select one for each option

Sorted by very important

	TOTAL	WOMEN	MEN	IND	DEM	REP
Protecting Social Security	83	89	76	87	87	78
Having more money in your pocket to afford the rising cost of living	79	85	72	73	88	72
Lowering the cost of health care and prescription drugs	78	82	72	76	87	68
Lowering the costs of basics, like food, housing, and utilities	78	85	70	76	92	60
The ability to save for the future	70	78	62	78	75	63
Access to quality, affordable family or elder care	68	73	61	71	80	54
Increasing wages and salaries	63	72	53	71	80	39
Requiring equal pay for women in workplaces	59	67	49	59	77	39
Having paid leave from work to care for yourself or a family member	54	63	44	71	69	29
Access to quality, affordable child care	53	61	43	68	70	23

Sorted by total important

	TOTAL	WOMEN	MEN	IND	DEM	REP
Protecting Social Security	95	98	92	98	99	93
Lowering the costs of basics, like food, housing, and utilities	94	96	93	98	99	88
Lowering the cost of health care and prescription drugs	94	97	91	95	99	89
Having more money in your pocket to afford the rising cost of living	93	96	90	94	99	88
The ability to save for the future	91	96	85	95	96	84
Access to quality, affordable family or elder care	89	91	85	92	98	78
Increasing wages and salaries	86	92	79	91	95	72
Having paid leave from work to care for yourself or a family member	78	86	70	87	93	58
Requiring equal pay for women in workplaces	78	86	68	76	94	60
Access to quality, affordable child care	73	81	64	87	90	48

a. {SSC} Increasing wages and salaries

	TOTAL	WOMEN	MEN	IND	DEM	REP
Very important	63	72	53	71	80	39
Somewhat important	22	20	26	20	15	33
A little important	7	3	10	2	3	12
Not important at all	6	4	8	4	1	12
(Don't know)	2	1	3	3	0	4
Important	**86**	**92**	**79**	**91**	**95**	**72**
Not important	**12**	**7**	**18**	**7**	**4**	**24**

b. {SSD} Having more money in your pocket to afford the rising cost of living

	TOTAL	WOMEN	MEN	IND	DEM	REP
Very important	79	85	72	73	88	72
Somewhat important	14	11	18	21	11	16
A little important	3	2	5	6	1	5
Not important at all	2	1	4	1	0	5
(Don't know)	1	1	2	-	0	3
Important	**93**	**96**	**90**	**94**	**99**	**88**
Not important	**5**	**3**	**9**	**6**	**1**	**10**

c. {SSC} Lowering the costs of basics, like food, housing, and utilities

	TOTAL	WOMEN	MEN	IND	DEM	REP
Very important	78	85	70	76	92	60
Somewhat important	17	11	23	22	7	28
A little important	3	2	4	2	0	5
Not important at all	2	1	3	-	-	5
(Don't know)	1	1	1	-	0	1
Important	**94**	**96**	**93**	**98**	**99**	**88**
Not important	**5**	**3**	**6**	**2**	**0**	**11**

d. {SSD} Lowering the cost of health care and prescription drugs

	TOTAL	WOMEN	MEN	IND	DEM	REP
Very important	78	82	72	76	87	68
Somewhat important	16	14	19	20	12	20
A little important	3	2	4	2	1	6
Not important at all	2	1	3	-	0	4
(Don't know)	1	1	1	3	-	2
Important	**94**	**97**	**91**	**95**	**99**	**89**
Not important	**5**	**3**	**8**	**2**	**1**	**10**

e. {SSC} Having paid leave from work to care for yourself or a family member who is seriously ill, or care for a new child

	TOTAL	WOMEN	MEN	IND	DEM	REP
Very important	54	63	44	71	69	29
Somewhat important	24	23	26	16	24	29
A little important	11	9	14	3	4	24
Not important at all	10	5	15	9	3	17
(Don't know)	0	0	0	-	-	1
Important	**78**	**86**	**70**	**87**	**93**	**58**
Not important	**21**	**14**	**29**	**13**	**7**	**41**

f. {SSD} Protecting Social Security

	TOTAL	WOMEN	MEN	IND	DEM	REP
Very important	83	89	76	87	87	78
Somewhat important	12	9	17	11	12	14
A little important	3	1	4	2	1	4
Not important at all	2	1	4	-	0	3
Important	**95**	**98**	**92**	**98**	**99**	**93**
Not important	**5**	**2**	**8**	**2**	**1**	**7**

g. {SSC} Access to quality, affordable child care

	TOTAL	WOMEN	MEN	IND	DEM	REP
Very important	53	61	43	68	70	23
Somewhat important	20	20	21	18	20	24
A little important	11	7	15	4	4	21
Not important at all	14	10	19	8	4	30
(Don't know)	2	2	2	1	2	2
Important	**73**	**81**	**64**	**87**	**90**	**48**
Not important	**25**	**17**	**33**	**13**	**8**	**50**

h. {SSD} Access to quality, affordable family or elder care

	TOTAL	WOMEN	MEN	IND	DEM	REP
Very important	68	73	61	71	80	54
Somewhat important	21	18	25	20	18	24
A little important	7	5	8	3	1	13
Not important at all	3	2	5	-	1	7
(Don't know)	1	1	1	5	0	1
Important	**89**	**91**	**85**	**92**	**98**	**78**
Not important	**10**	**8**	**13**	**3**	**2**	**21**

i. {SSC} The ability to save for the future

	TOTAL	WOMEN	MEN	IND	DEM	REP
Very important	70	78	62	78	75	63
Somewhat important	20	18	23	17	20	21
A little important	5	1	8	4	3	7
Not important at all	4	2	6	1	1	9
(Don't know)	1	1	0	-	1	-
Important	**91**	**96**	**85**	**95**	**96**	**84**
Not important	**9**	**3**	**14**	**5**	**4**	**16**

j. {SSD} Requiring equal pay for women in workplaces

	TOTAL	WOMEN	MEN	IND	DEM	REP
Very important	59	67	49	59	77	39
Somewhat important	19	19	20	17	17	22
A little important	8	4	13	12	3	12
Not important at all	12	9	16	9	1	25
(Don't know)	2	1	2	3	1	3
Important	**78**	**86**	**68**	**76**	**94**	**60**
Not important	**20**	**13**	**29**	**21**	**5**	**37**

Q16. Now I will read the same issues again. How important is it for your governor and your state legislature to address each issue and make progress on it in the next 2 years? Is it very important, somewhat important, a little important, or not important at all? {RANDOMIZE} {ITEMS IN THIS BATTERY SPLIT SAMPLED}

Select one for each option

Sorted by very important

	TOTAL	WOMEN	MEN	IND	DEM	REP
Lowering the cost of health care and prescription drugs	79	84	73	82	85	71
Protecting Social Security	78	84	72	83	83	72
Having more money in your pocket to afford the rising cost of living	77	82	72	72	87	69
Lowering the costs of basics, like food, housing, and utilities	77	84	70	74	88	64
Access to quality, affordable family or elder care	69	75	62	68	79	58
The ability to save for the future	65	73	56	73	71	55
Increasing wages and salaries	62	70	53	73	77	39
Requiring equal pay for women in workplaces	61	68	52	60	80	40
Having paid leave from work to care for yourself or a family member	54	64	42	66	67	33
Access to quality, affordable child care	51	61	41	66	69	24

Sorted by total important

	TOTAL	WOMEN	MEN	IND	DEM	REP
Having more money in your pocket to afford the rising cost of living	94	97	91	92	98	90
Lowering the cost of health care and prescription drugs	94	98	90	95	98	90
Protecting Social Security	93	97	88	95	95	92
Lowering the costs of basics, like food, housing, and utilities	93	95	90	95	97	87
Access to quality, affordable family or elder care	90	94	84	91	98	81
The ability to save for the future	89	92	87	97	93	83
Increasing wages and salaries	84	89	79	93	96	67
Having paid leave from work to care for yourself or a family member	78	86	70	88	92	59
Requiring equal pay for women in workplaces	78	86	70	79	94	61
Access to quality, affordable child care	76	83	69	87	92	54

a. {SSC} Increasing wages and salaries

	TOTAL	WOMEN	MEN	IND	DEM	REP
Very important	62	70	53	73	77	39
Somewhat important	22	19	26	21	19	28
A little important	7	5	9	3	2	14
Not important at all	8	5	11	4	2	18
(Don't know)	1	1	1	-	0	2
Important	**84**	**89**	**79**	**93**	**96**	**67**
Not important	**15**	**10**	**20**	**7**	**4**	**31**

b. {SSD} Having more money in your pocket to afford the rising cost of living

	TOTAL	WOMEN	MEN	IND	DEM	REP
Very important	77	82	72	72	87	69
Somewhat important	17	14	19	20	11	22
A little important	3	1	6	8	2	3
Not important at all	2	1	3	1	0	4
(Don't know)	1	1	1	-	-	3
Important	**94**	**97**	**91**	**92**	**98**	**90**
Not important	**5**	**2**	**9**	**8**	**2**	**7**

c. {SSC} Lowering the costs of basics, like food, housing, and utilities

	TOTAL	WOMEN	MEN	IND	DEM	REP
Very important	77	84	70	74	88	64
Somewhat important	16	12	21	21	9	23
A little important	4	2	6	2	2	6
Not important at all	3	2	3	-	0	7
(Don't know)	1	1	0	3	0	-
Important	**93**	**95**	**90**	**95**	**97**	**87**
Not important	**6**	**3**	**9**	**2**	**2**	**13**

d. {SSD} Lowering the cost of health care and prescription drugs

	TOTAL	WOMEN	MEN	IND	DEM	REP
Very important	79	84	73	82	85	71
Somewhat important	15	14	16	13	13	19
A little important	3	1	5	3	1	5
Not important at all	3	1	5	3	0	5
(Don't know)	1	-	1	-	1	1
Important	**94**	**98**	**90**	**95**	**98**	**90**
Not important	**6**	**2**	**9**	**5**	**1**	**10**

e. {SSC} Having paid leave from work to care for yourself or a family member who is seriously ill, or care for a new child

	TOTAL	WOMEN	MEN	IND	DEM	REP
Very important	54	64	42	66	67	33
Somewhat important	25	22	28	22	25	26
A little important	9	5	14	2	4	19
Not important at all	11	7	14	8	4	19
(Don't know)	2	1	2	3	0	2
Important	**78**	**86**	**70**	**88**	**92**	**59**
Not important	**20**	**13**	**28**	**10**	**7**	**39**

f. {SSD} Protecting Social Security

	TOTAL	WOMEN	MEN	IND	DEM	REP
Very important	78	84	72	83	83	72
Somewhat important	14	13	16	13	12	20
A little important	3	1	4	1	1	4
Not important at all	4	2	6	3	3	3
(Don't know)	1	-	2	-	1	1
Important	**93**	**97**	**88**	**95**	**95**	**92**
Not important	**6**	**3**	**10**	**5**	**4**	**8**

g. {SSC} Access to quality, affordable child care

	TOTAL	WOMEN	MEN	IND	DEM	REP
Very important	51	61	41	66	69	24
Somewhat important	24	22	27	20	23	30
A little important	10	6	14	3	5	19
Not important at all	12	8	16	7	2	25
(Don't know)	2	3	1	3	1	2
Important	**76**	**83**	**69**	**87**	**92**	**54**
Not important	**22**	**14**	**30**	**11**	**7**	**44**

h. {SSD} Access to quality, affordable family or elder care

	TOTAL	WOMEN	MEN	IND	DEM	REP
Very important	69	75	62	68	79	58
Somewhat important	20	19	22	22	18	23
A little important	6	4	8	7	1	9
Not important at all	4	2	6	-	0	8
(Don't know)	1	0	1	3	0	1
Important	**90**	**94**	**84**	**91**	**98**	**81**
Not important	**10**	**6**	**14**	**7**	**2**	**18**

i. {SSC} The ability to save for the future

	TOTAL	WOMEN	MEN	IND	DEM	REP
Very important	65	73	56	73	71	55
Somewhat important	25	19	31	25	22	28
A little important	6	5	7	2	5	9
Not important at all	4	3	5	1	1	8
(Don't know)	1	1	1	-	1	-
Important	**89**	**92**	**87**	**97**	**93**	**83**
Not important	**10**	**8**	**12**	**3**	**6**	**17**

j. {SSD} Requiring equal pay for women in workplaces

	TOTAL	WOMEN	MEN	IND	DEM	REP
Very important	61	68	52	60	80	40
Somewhat important	18	18	17	18	14	22
A little important	8	3	14	12	5	11
Not important at all	12	9	15	4	1	27
(Don't know)	2	2	2	5	0	2
Important	**78**	**86**	**70**	**79**	**94**	**61**
Not important	**20**	**13**	**29**	**16**	**6**	**37**

Q17. {SSA} Now I will read some issues. If an elected official in your state voted for this issue, would that make you more or less likely to vote for them, or would it not make a difference? {If more/less likely, ask:} Is that much more/less likely or somewhat more/less likely to vote for them? {RANDOMIZE}

Select one for each option

Sorted by much more likely

	TOTAL	WOMEN	MEN	IND	DEM	REP
Protect Social Security	69	77	60	66	80	58
Ensure affordable health care for all	57	62	51	58	84	27
Strengthen equal pay laws for women	50	62	35	58	71	25
Offer up to 7 paid sick days for all working people	49	55	41	50	69	26
Offer up to 12 weeks of paid family and medical leave	48	53	41	55	67	24
Raise the minimum wage	47	54	37	55	70	17
Offer free child care and early childhood education	38	42	33	48	58	12

Sorted by total more likely

	TOTAL	WOMEN	MEN	IND	DEM	REP
Protect Social Security	91	96	85	95	96	83
Ensure affordable health care for all	74	79	69	86	97	45
Offer up to 12 weeks of paid family and medical leave	74	81	65	77	93	51
Offer up to 7 paid sick days for all working people	73	80	66	81	90	53
Strengthen equal pay laws for women	71	77	63	73	95	43
Raise the minimum wage	65	73	55	76	92	29
Offer free child care and early childhood education	63	69	55	75	91	27

a. {SSA} Strengthen equal pay laws for women

	TOTAL	WOMEN	MEN	IND	DEM	REP
Much more likely	50	62	35	58	71	25
Somewhat more likely	21	15	28	15	24	18
Somewhat less likely	4	2	5	1	-	9
Much less likely	5	3	8	4	0	9
Would not make a difference	18	14	23	17	4	36
(Don't know)	2	3	1	4	1	3
More likely	**71**	**77**	**63**	**73**	**95**	**43**
Less likely	**9**	**5**	**13**	**6**	**0**	**18**

b. {SSA} Offer free child care and early childhood education for families who want it

	TOTAL	WOMEN	MEN	IND	DEM	REP
Much more likely	38	42	33	48	58	12
Somewhat more likely	25	27	22	27	33	15
Somewhat less likely	8	6	10	2	3	15
Much less likely	13	10	17	3	1	29
Would not make a difference	14	13	15	16	4	24
(Don't know)	3	2	4	3	1	4
More likely	**63**	**69**	**55**	**75**	**91**	**27**
Less likely	**20**	**15**	**27**	**6**	**4**	**45**

c. {SSA} Offer up to 12 weeks of paid family and medical leave for all working people so they can afford to take time away from their jobs to care for themselves or their family members when facing serious illness, care for a new child, or handle needs that arise from a military deployment

	TOTAL	WOMEN	MEN	IND	DEM	REP
Much more likely	48	53	41	55	67	24
Somewhat more likely	26	28	24	23	26	26
Somewhat less likely	5	4	7	2	2	10
Much less likely	9	6	13	8	1	18
Would not make a difference	10	8	13	11	3	18
(Don't know)	2	1	3	1	2	3
More likely	**74**	**81**	**65**	**77**	**93**	**51**
Less likely	**14**	**9**	**20**	**10**	**2**	**28**

d. {SSA} Offer up to 7 paid sick days for all working people

	TOTAL	WOMEN	MEN	IND	DEM	REP
Much more likely	49	55	41	50	69	26
Somewhat more likely	25	24	25	31	21	27
Somewhat less likely	5	2	9	3	1	12
Much less likely	6	4	8	6	2	10
Would not make a difference	14	11	16	10	6	23
(Don't know)	2	3	1	-	1	2
More likely	**73**	**80**	**66**	**81**	**90**	**53**
Less likely	**11**	**6**	**18**	**9**	**2**	**22**

e. {SSA} Raise the minimum wage

	TOTAL	WOMEN	MEN	IND	DEM	REP
Much more likely	47	54	37	55	70	17
Somewhat more likely	18	19	18	21	22	12
Somewhat less likely	9	8	9	2	2	19
Much less likely	13	8	19	8	1	28
Would not make a difference	12	10	15	14	4	23
(Don't know)	1	1	2	-	1	2
More likely	**65**	**73**	**55**	**76**	**92**	**29**
Less likely	**22**	**16**	**28**	**10**	**3**	**47**

f. {SSA} Ensure affordable health care for all

	TOTAL	WOMEN	MEN	IND	DEM	REP
Much more likely	57	62	51	58	84	27
Somewhat more likely	17	17	18	28	13	18
Somewhat less likely	4	4	4	2	0	10
Much less likely	12	9	14	5	1	25
Would not make a difference	7	4	9	4	2	14
(Don't know)	3	4	2	3	1	5
More likely	**74**	**79**	**69**	**86**	**97**	**45**
Less likely	**16**	**13**	**19**	**8**	**1**	**35**

g. {SSA} Protect Social Security

	TOTAL	WOMEN	MEN	IND	DEM	REP
Much more likely	69	77	60	66	80	58
Somewhat more likely	22	19	25	29	16	25
Somewhat less likely	1	1	1	3	1	-
Much less likely	1	0	1	-	0	2
Would not make a difference	7	2	12	3	2	14
(Don't know)	1	1	1	-	0	1
More likely	**91**	**96**	**85**	**95**	**96**	**83**
Less likely	**2**	**1**	**2**	**3**	**1**	**2**

Sample profile

Gender

	TOTAL	WOMEN	MEN	IND	DEM	REP
Men	46	-	100	54	39	51
Women	53	100	-	45	60	48
Non-binary	1	-	-	0	1	0

Age

	TOTAL	WOMEN	MEN	IND	DEM	REP
Under 50	45	45	44	58	52	31
50 & over	55	55	56	42	48	69
Under 30	14	14	13	23	15	8
30 - 39	15	14	16	15	20	9
40 - 49	16	16	15	20	17	13
50 - 64	25	24	26	24	20	31
65 & over	30	31	29	18	28	39
18 - 24	5	4	6	12	5	2
25 - 29	9	10	7	11	10	6
30 - 34	6	5	7	7	9	2
35 - 39	9	9	8	8	11	7
40 - 44	6	6	6	6	8	4
45 - 49	10	10	9	14	9	9
50 - 54	6	7	5	7	6	5
55 - 59	9	7	12	8	6	13
60 - 64	10	9	10	9	8	13
65 - 69	10	10	9	5	9	12
70 - 74	8	8	7	7	7	10
Over 74	12	12	13	6	12	16
(Refused)	0	0	-	-	0	-

Race

	TOTAL	WOMEN	MEN	IND	DEM	REP
All white	67	65	70	49	61	82
People of color	31	34	28	44	41	17
White alone	64	63	66	48	57	79
Black	11	13	9	14	17	3
Latino/a	14	15	13	23	15	10
Asian American or Pacific Islander	5	5	5	6	7	3
Native or Indigenous American	1	1	2	-	1	2
Middle Eastern or North African	0	0	0	-	0	-
(Other)	2	2	2	3	1	2
(Don't know/Refused)	5	4	6	9	3	4

Education

	TOTAL	WOMEN	MEN	IND	DEM	REP
1st - 11th Grade	2	1	2	-	2	2
High School Graduate	14	14	14	29	9	15
Vocational or technical school	6	5	7	3	4	8
Some college but no degree	18	18	18	9	19	18
Associate degree	13	16	11	19	15	10
4-year college graduate or bachelor's degree	30	29	30	25	32	31
Graduate school or advanced degree	16	14	17	11	18	14
(Refused)	2	2	1	2	0	1
H.S./Less	16	15	16	29	11	17
Post H.S.	37	39	35	32	39	37
Non-college grad	53	55	51	61	50	54
College graduate or post-grad	45	43	47	37	50	45
4-year College grad	30	29	30	25	32	31
Post-graduate	16	14	17	11	18	14

Party ID

	TOTAL	WOMEN	MEN	IND	DEM	REP
Strong Democrat	22	26	18	-	54	-
Not strong Democrat	7	7	7	-	17	-
Lean Democrat	12	14	10	-	29	-
Indep.	14	12	16	94	-	-
Lean Republican	12	11	13	-	-	32
Not strong Republican	5	4	6	-	-	13
Strong Republican	20	19	22	-	-	55
(Other)	4	4	5	-	-	-
(Don't know)	1	1	1	6	-	-
(Refused)	3	2	3	-	-	-
Democrat	41	47	34	-	100	-
Indep/DK	15	13	17	100	-	-
Indep/DK w/weak	27	24	30	100	17	13
Republican	37	34	41	-	-	100

Region

	TOTAL	WOMEN	MEN	IND	DEM	REP
New England	5	5	5	2	7	3
Middle Atlantic	12	12	12	15	12	11
East North Central	16	16	16	13	16	16
West North Central	7	7	7	8	6	8
South Atlantic	21	22	21	19	22	21
East South Central	5	5	5	6	3	7
West South Central	10	10	10	10	8	12
Mountain	9	9	9	10	10	8
Pacific	15	15	15	17	17	12
Northeast	17	17	17	17	18	15
Midwest	23	23	24	21	23	24
South	36	37	35	36	33	41
West	24	24	24	26	26	21

Area lived in

	TOTAL	WOMEN	MEN	IND	DEM	REP
Large city	20	18	21	20	22	16
Smaller city	20	21	19	23	23	17
Suburb near a city	31	33	29	33	35	27
Small town	17	16	17	16	13	21
Rural area	12	12	14	8	8	19
Urban	40	39	40	43	45	33
Suburban	31	33	29	33	35	27
Rural	29	28	30	24	21	40

Parental status

	TOTAL	WOMEN	MEN	IND	DEM	REP
Father	12	-	26	11	10	14
Mother	13	25	-	9	17	12
Childless man	34	-	73	42	28	38
Childless woman	38	71	-	35	42	34

Caregiver status

	TOTAL	WOMEN	MEN	IND	DEM	REP
Yes, child ages 0-12	16	15	17	10	19	17
Yes, an older child or adult who needs help with self-care	8	8	8	5	8	8
Yes, someone who is aging, disabled, or has a serious health or mental health condition	17	19	16	15	17	19
All yes	35	35	35	26	37	36
Not providing care for any of these people	61	60	61	70	60	59
(Don't know)	0	0	0	0	1	0
(Refused)	4	4	3	4	2	4

Employment status

	TOTAL	WOMEN	MEN	IND	DEM	REP
Employed full time	56	53	59	66	58	51
Employed part time	7	8	5	7	6	7
Unemployed	2	3	2	1	2	1
Homemaker or stay at home parent	2	4	1	1	2	3
Student	2	2	1	2	2	1
Retired	28	27	30	20	28	34
(Refused)	3	3	3	3	2	2
Employed	63	61	64	73	64	58
Not employed	34	35	34	23	34	39