

**GREENBERG QUINLAN ROSNER** RESEARCH

PUBLIC OPINION STRATEGIES



July 28, 2009

# National Public Radio

National Survey Results



July 22 – 26, 2009

850 Likely voters



## The survey

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**This survey was conducted by Greenberg Quinlan Rosner Research in conjunction with Public Opinion Strategies for National Public Radio and is the 28<sup>th</sup> survey in the NPR series.**

**These findings are based on a national telephone survey of 850 likely voters conducted July 22 – 26, 2009. The survey has a margin of error of +/- 3.4 percent.**



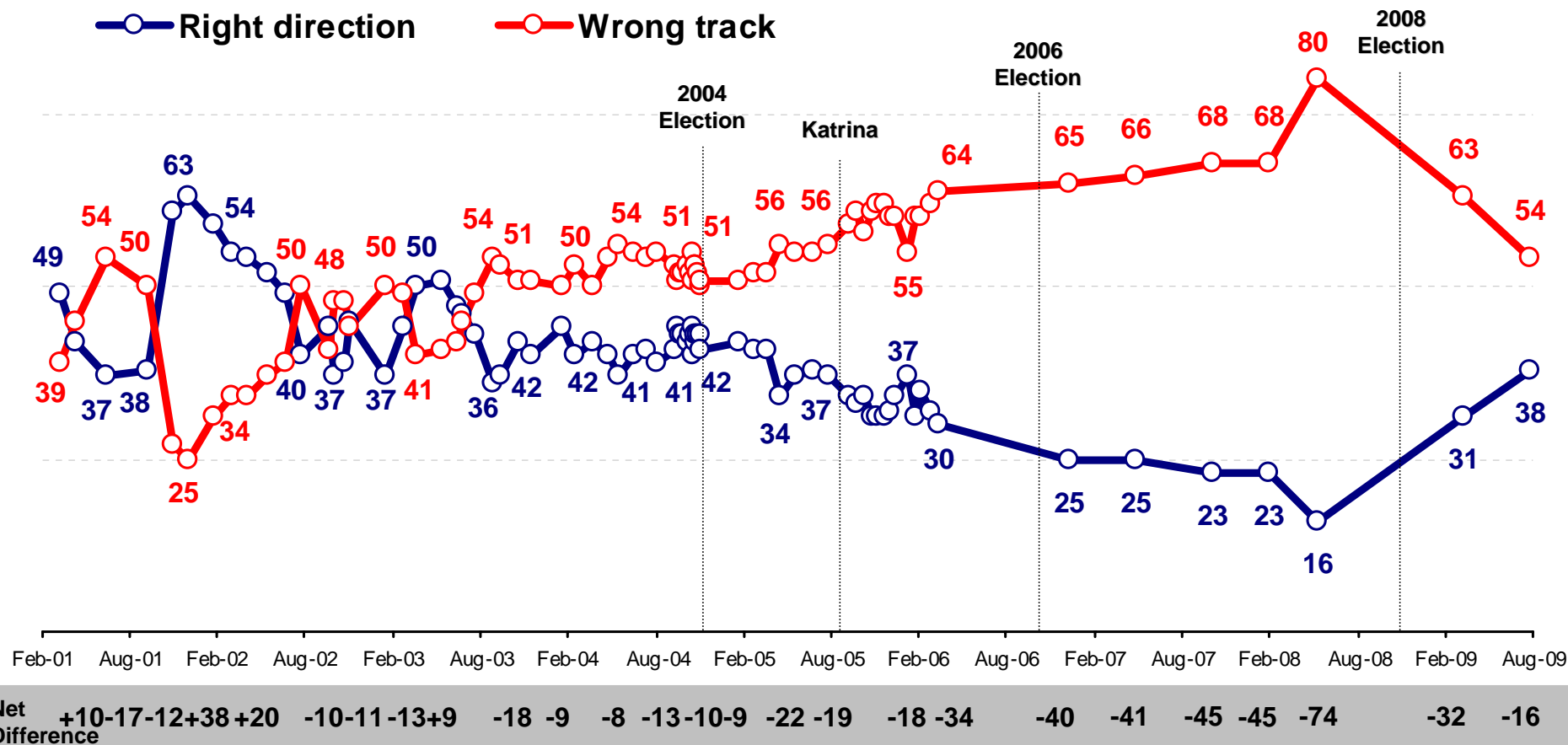
# Direction of the Country

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## Direction of the country shows improvement since March

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



National Public Radio, July 2009

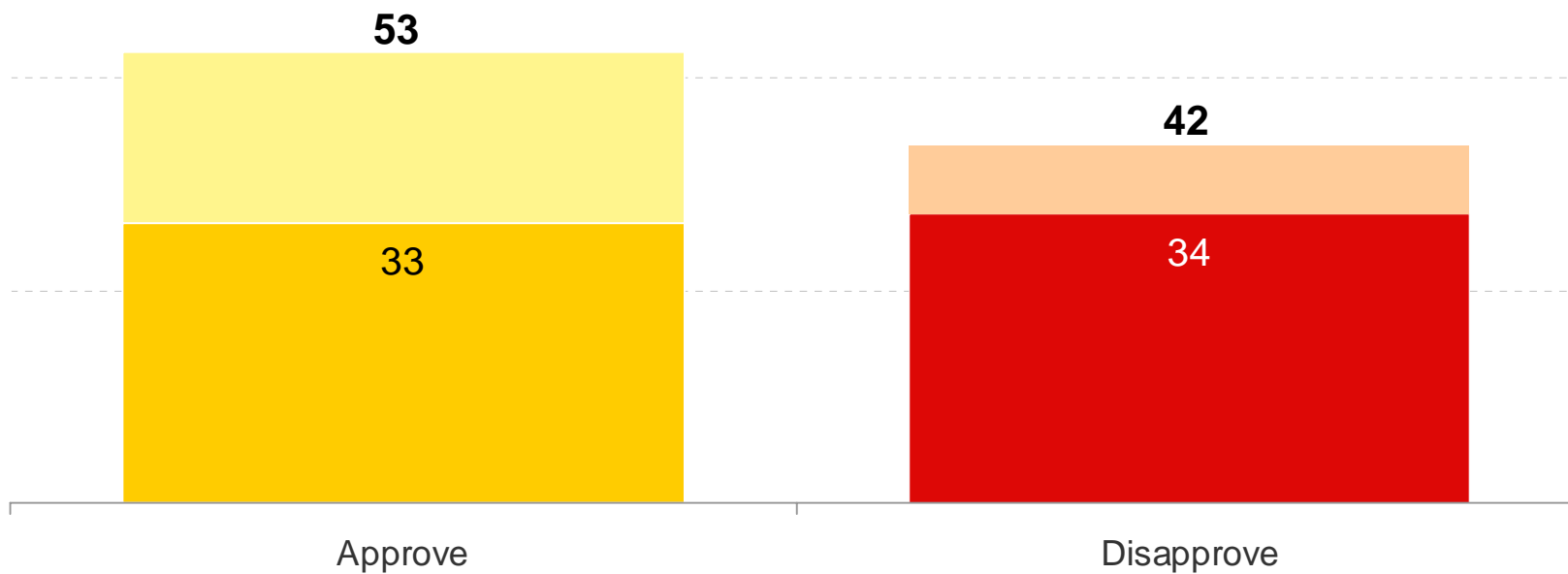
\*Note: Shows nationwide surveys conducted in conjunction with Public Opinion Strategies for National Public Radio over the past 8 years.



## Majority approve of job Obama is doing; intensity divided

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

■ Strongly approve ■ Strongly disapprove

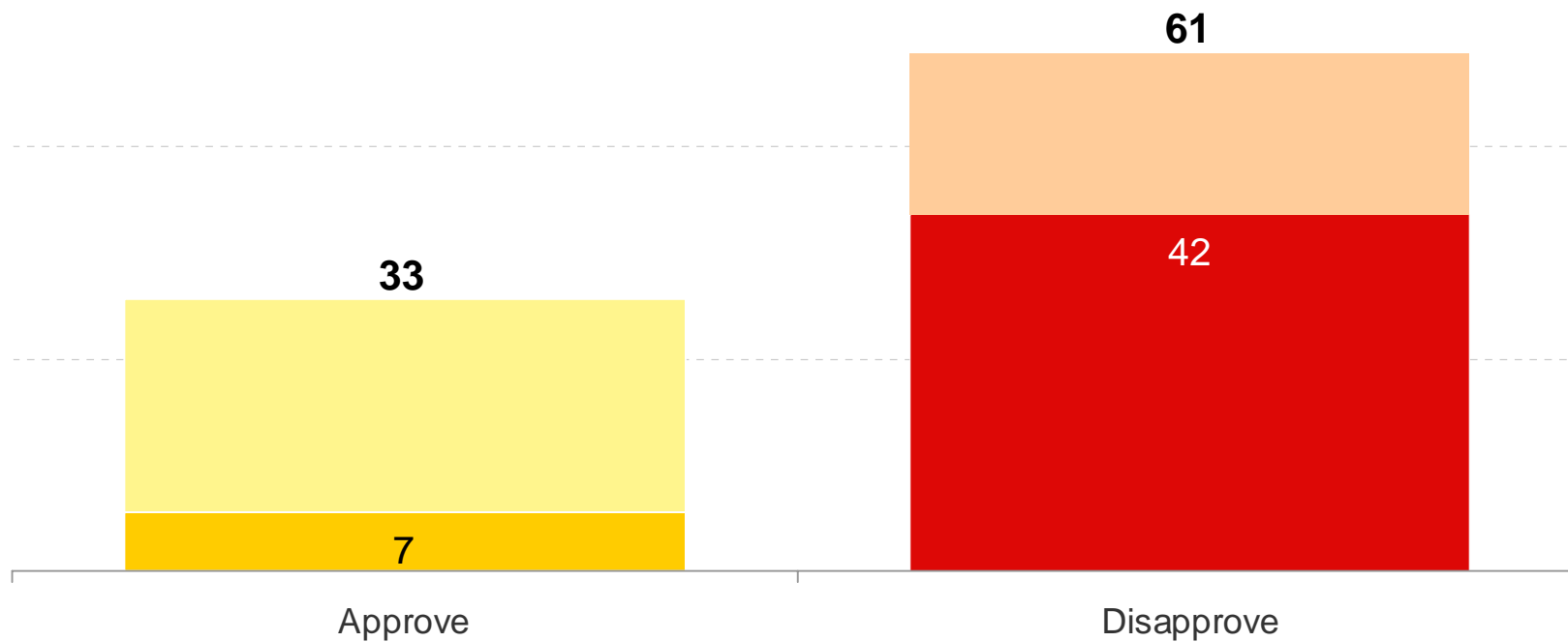




## Low approval rating for Congress

And do you approve or disapprove of the job Congress is doing?

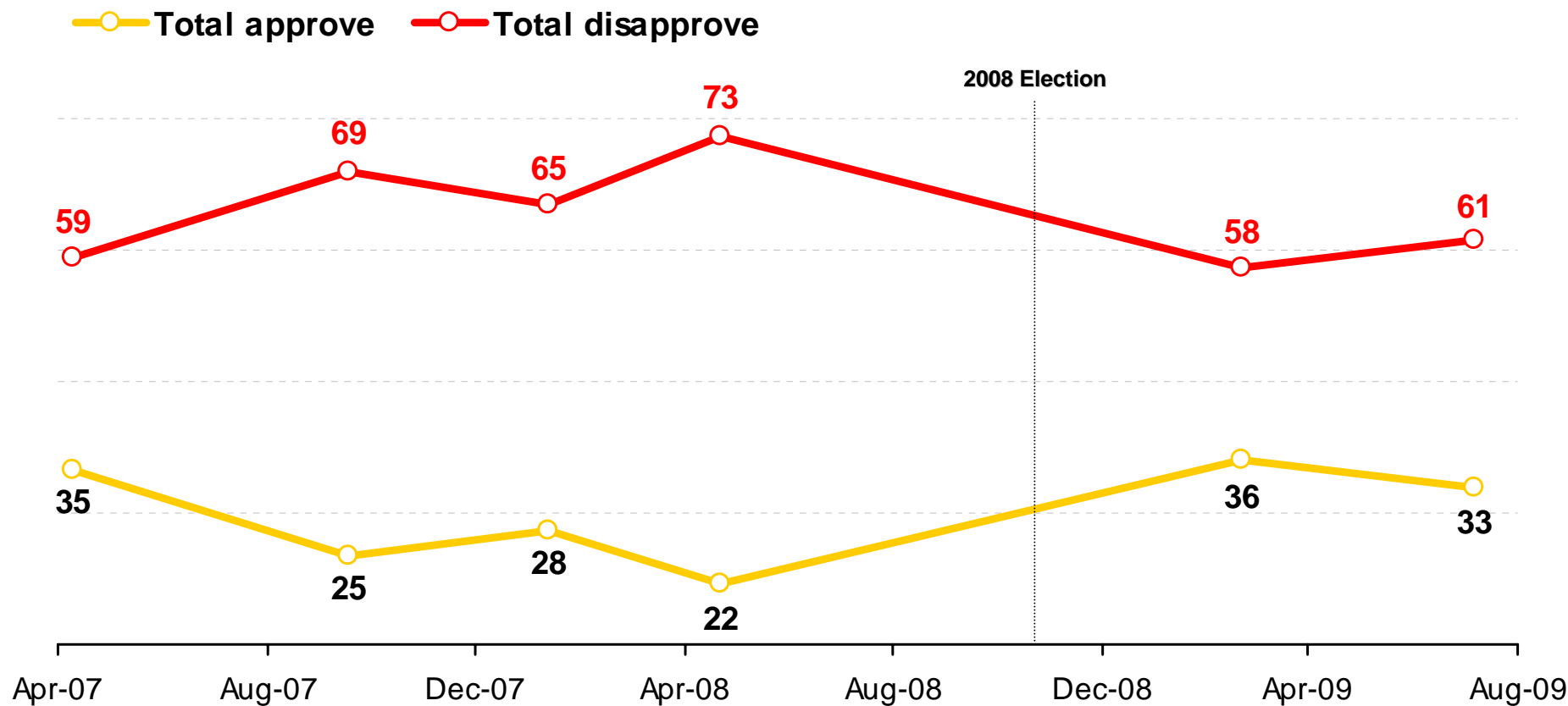
■ Strongly approve ■ Strongly disapprove





## Congressional disapproval high

Do you approve or disapprove of the job Congress is doing?



National Public Radio, July 2009

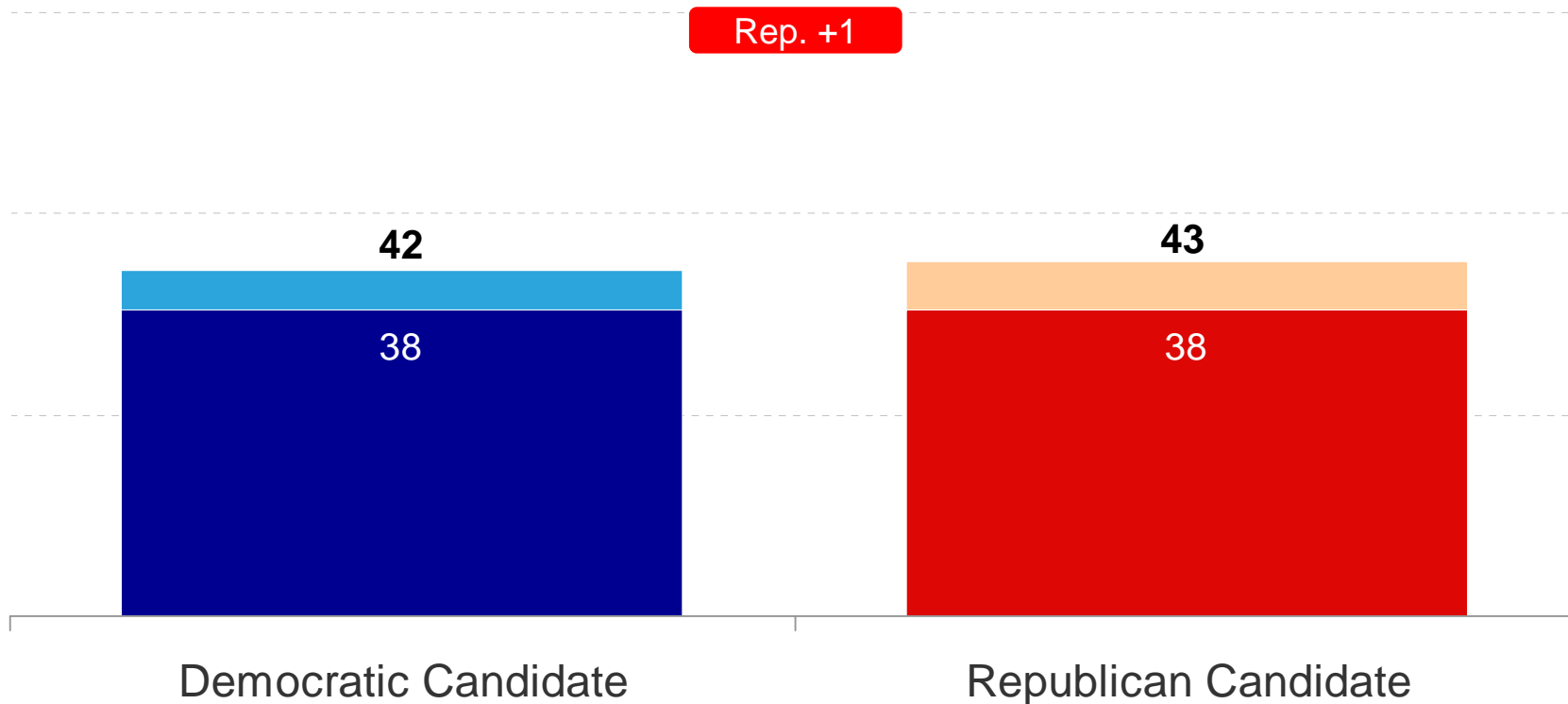
*\*Note: Shows nationwide surveys conducted in conjunction with Public Opinion Strategies for National Public Radio over the past 8 years.*



## Generic congressional vote a statistical tie

*I know it is a long way off, but thinking about the elections in 2010, if the election for U.S. Congress were held today, would you be voting for the Democratic candidate or the Republican candidate in the district where you live?*

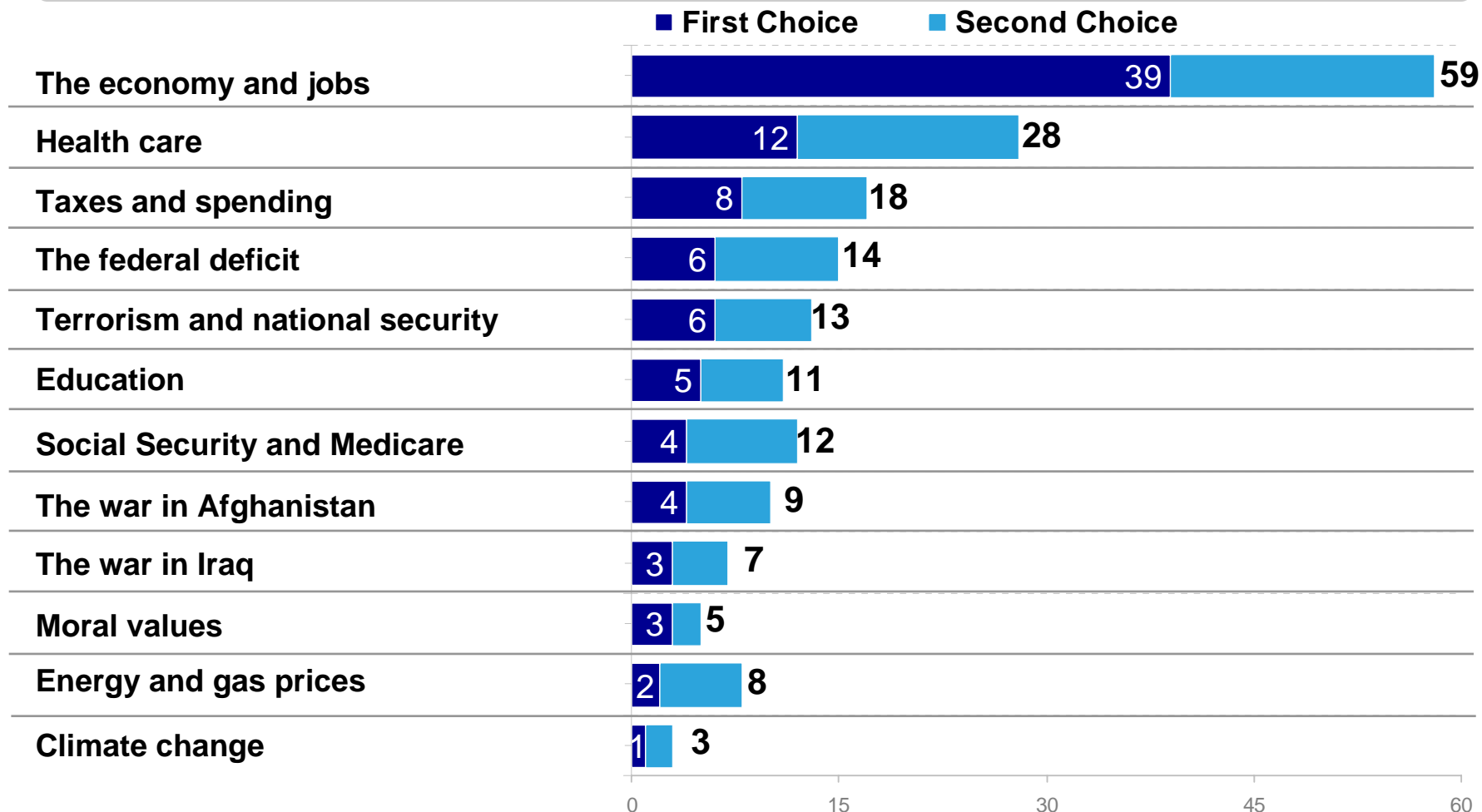
■ Democratic Candidate    ■ Republican Candidate





## Economy tops concerns, health care next

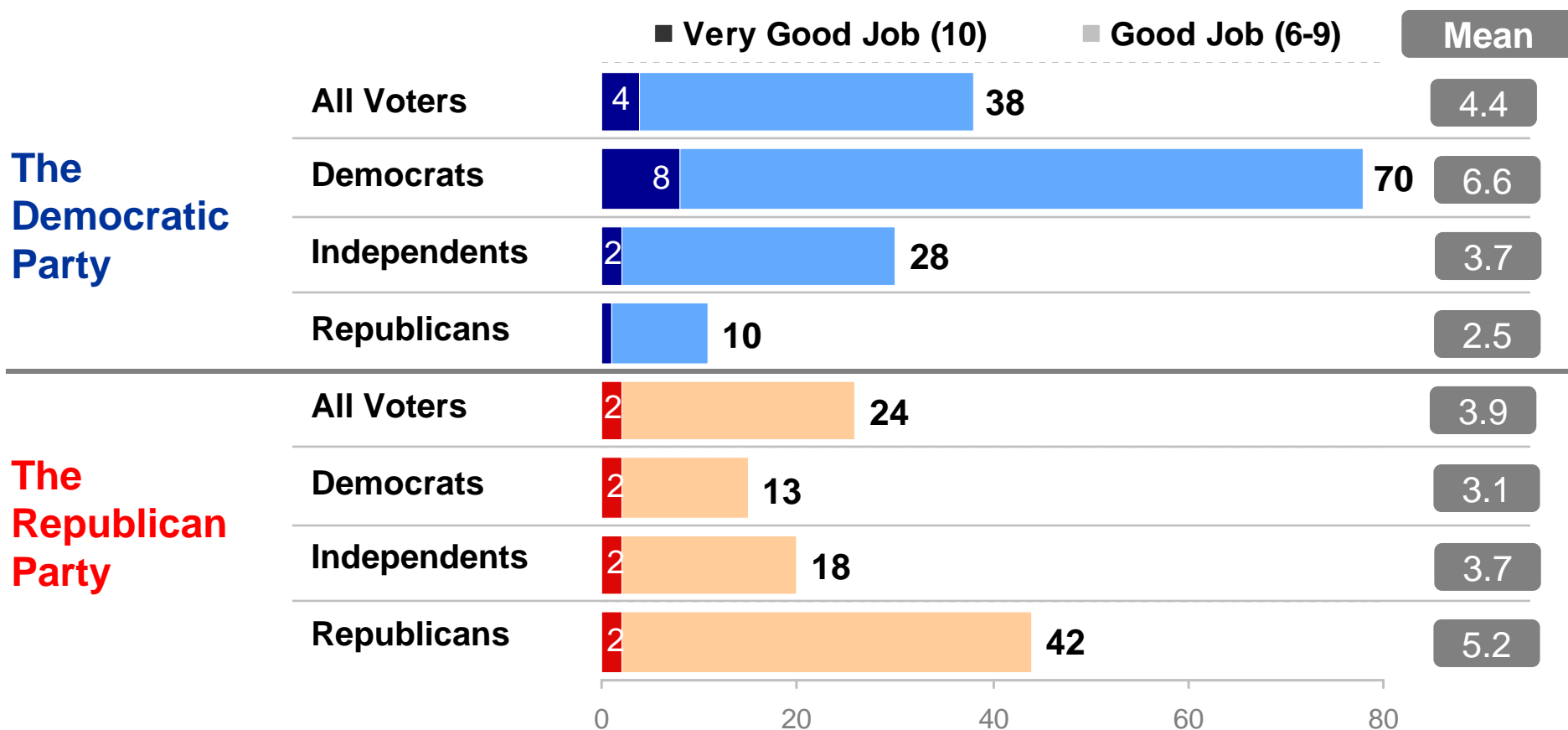
*Which one of the following issues do you think the President and Congress should be paying most attention to? And which of the following is next most important to you in deciding how to vote?*





## Neither party doing a good job, but Democrats doing better

Now, on a scale of 0 to 10, tell me how good a job you think the Democratic Party/Republican Party is doing addressing the country's priorities so far this year with 10 meaning a very good job and 0 meaning a very bad job. You can choose any number between 0 and 10.





# The Economy

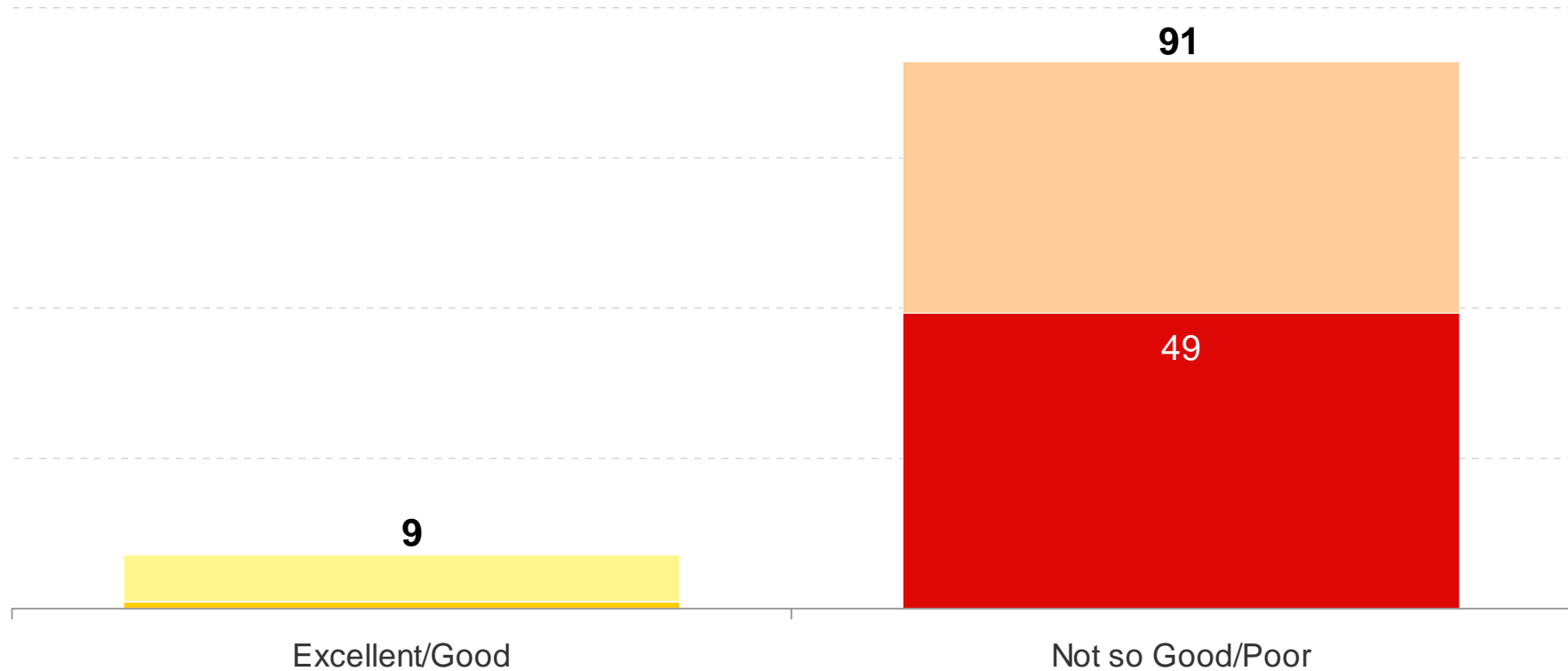
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## State of the economy not good

Would you describe the state of the nation's economy these days as excellent, good, not so good, or poor?

■ Excellent    ■ Poor

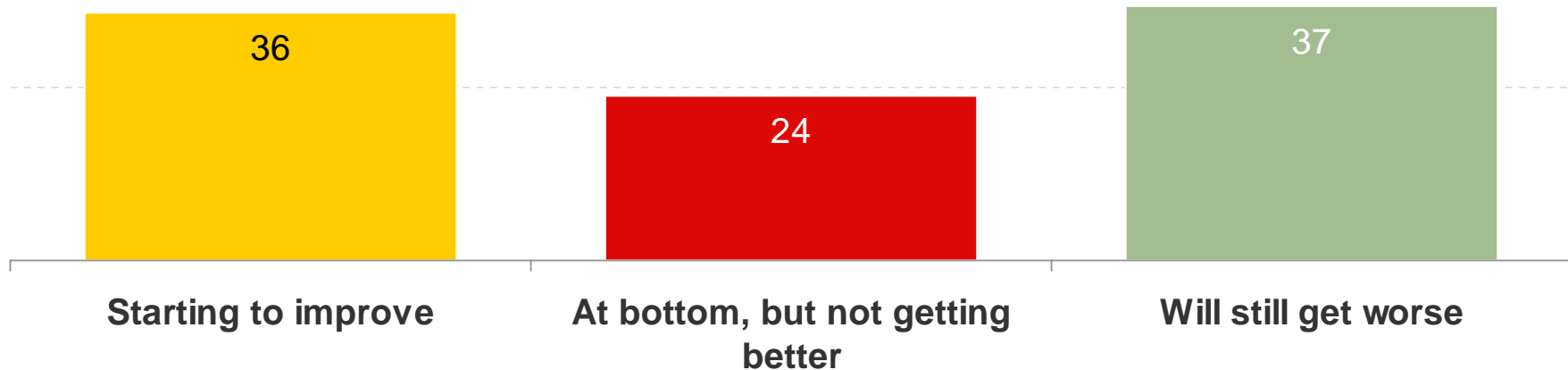




## Voters split on if economy is starting to improve or will fall further

*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?*

■ Starting to improve ■ At bottom, but not getting better ■ Will still get worse



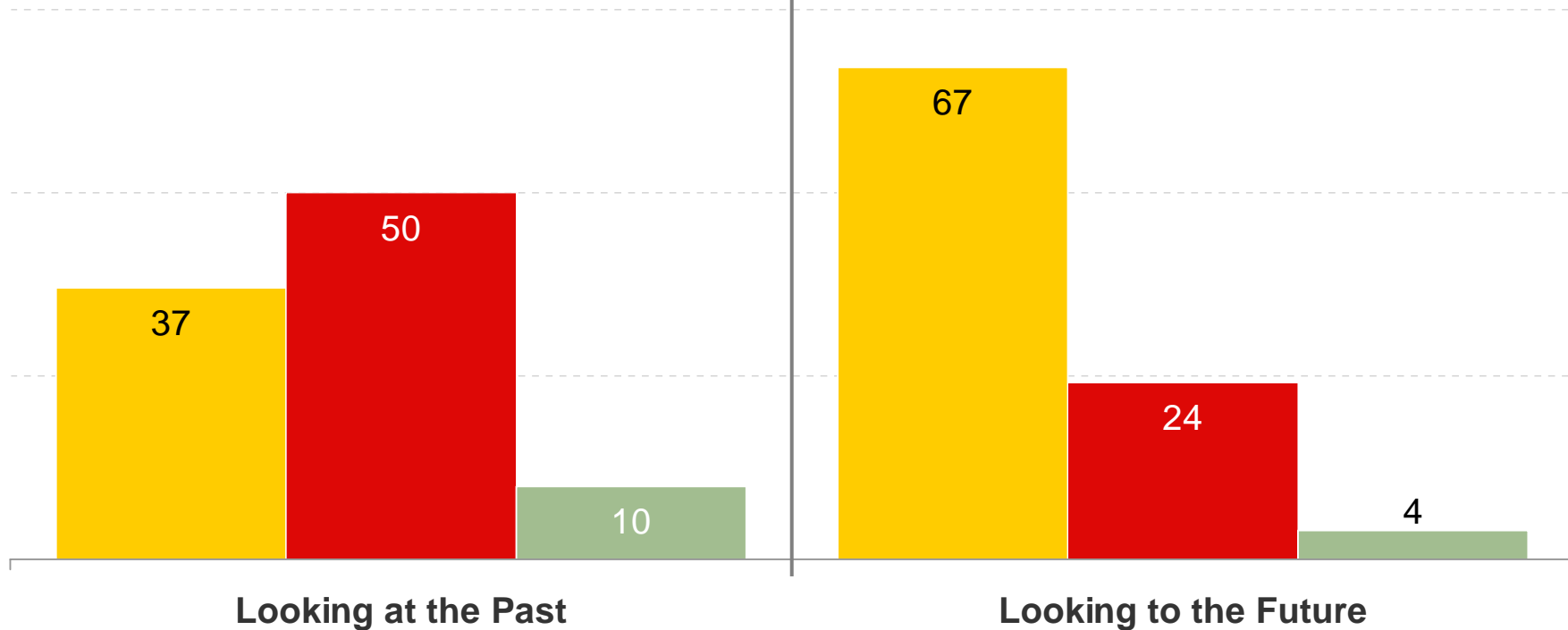


## Two-thirds believe economy will be better a year from now

*Would you say that the economy right now is better than it was six months ago or worse than it was six months ago?*

*Looking ahead, do you think that a year from now the economy will be better than it is now or worse than it is now?*

■ Better ■ Worse ■ About the same

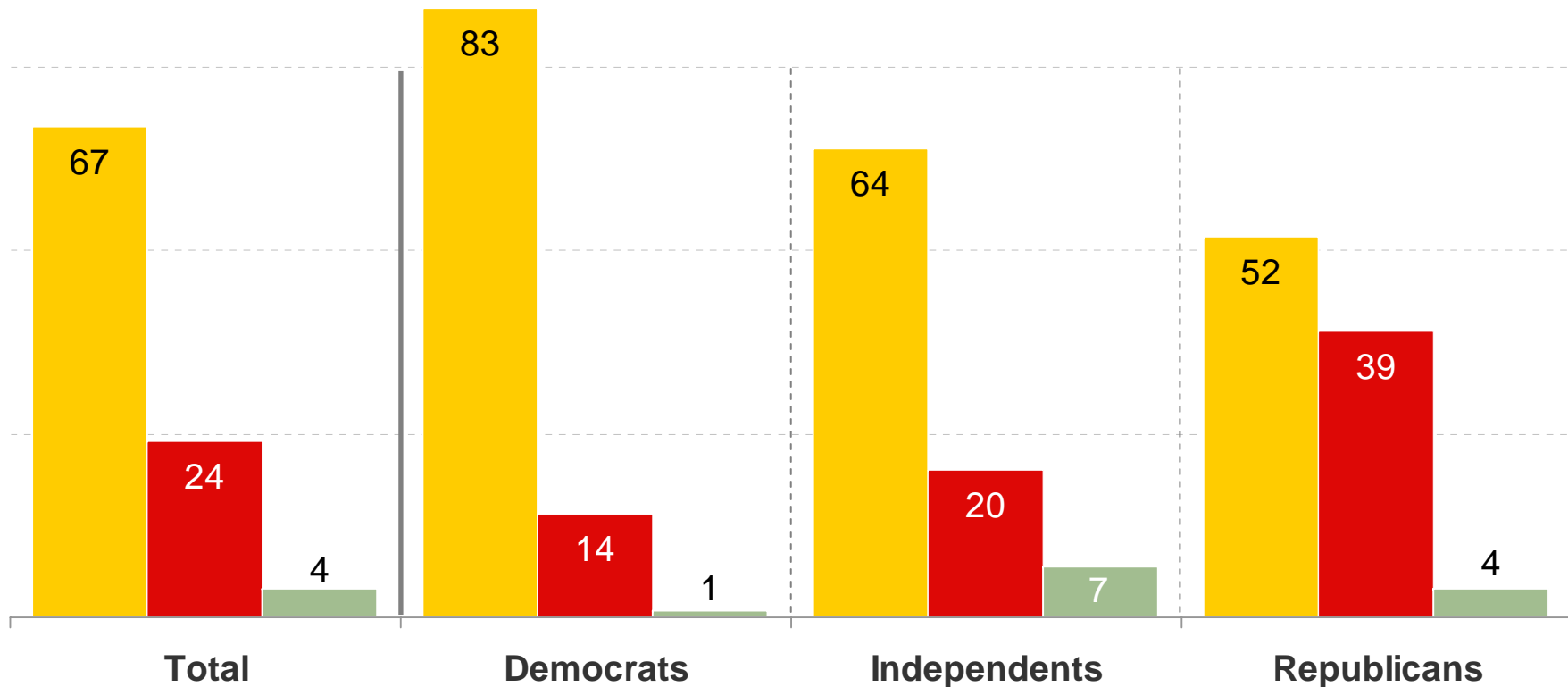




## Across political spectrum, most believe economy will improve

*Looking ahead, do you think that a year from now the economy will be better than it is now or worse than it is now?*

■ Better ■ Worse ■ About the same

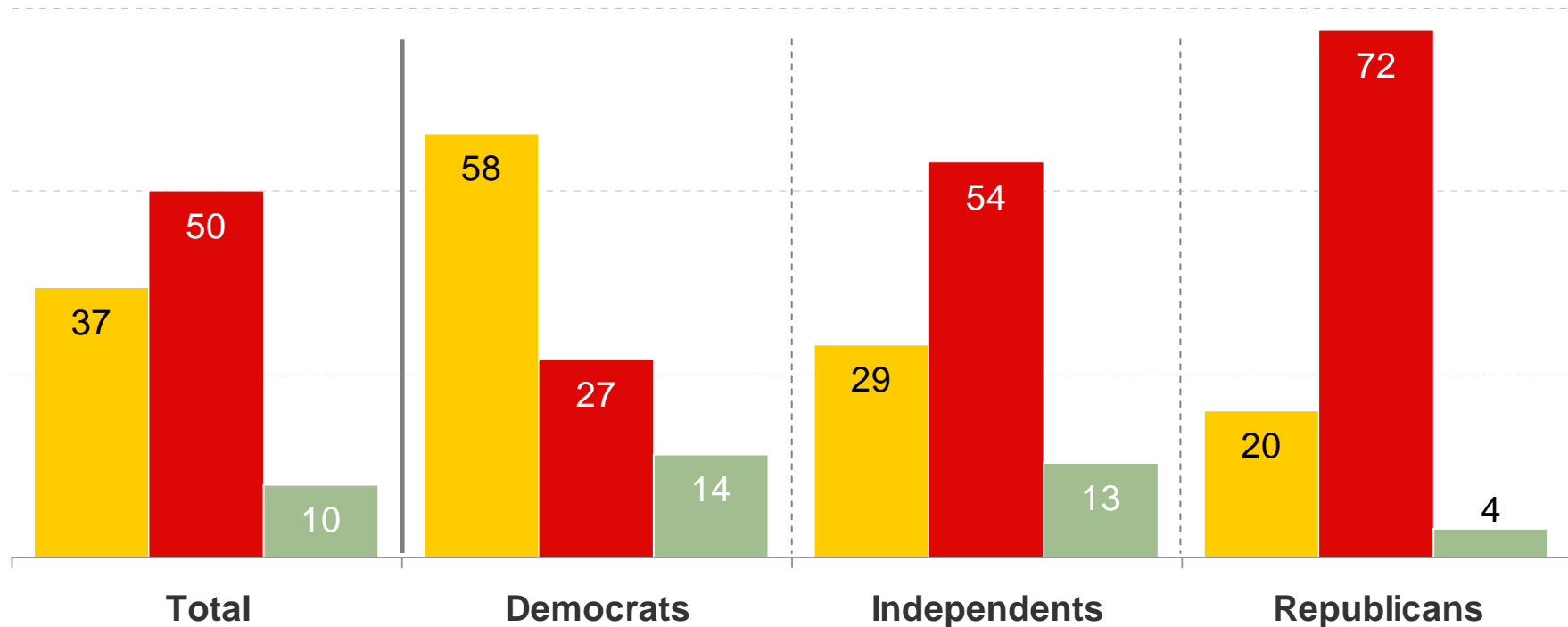




## Economy worse than it was six months ago to most voters

*Would you say that the economy right now is better than it was six months ago or worse than it was six months ago?*

■ Better ■ Worse ■ About the same



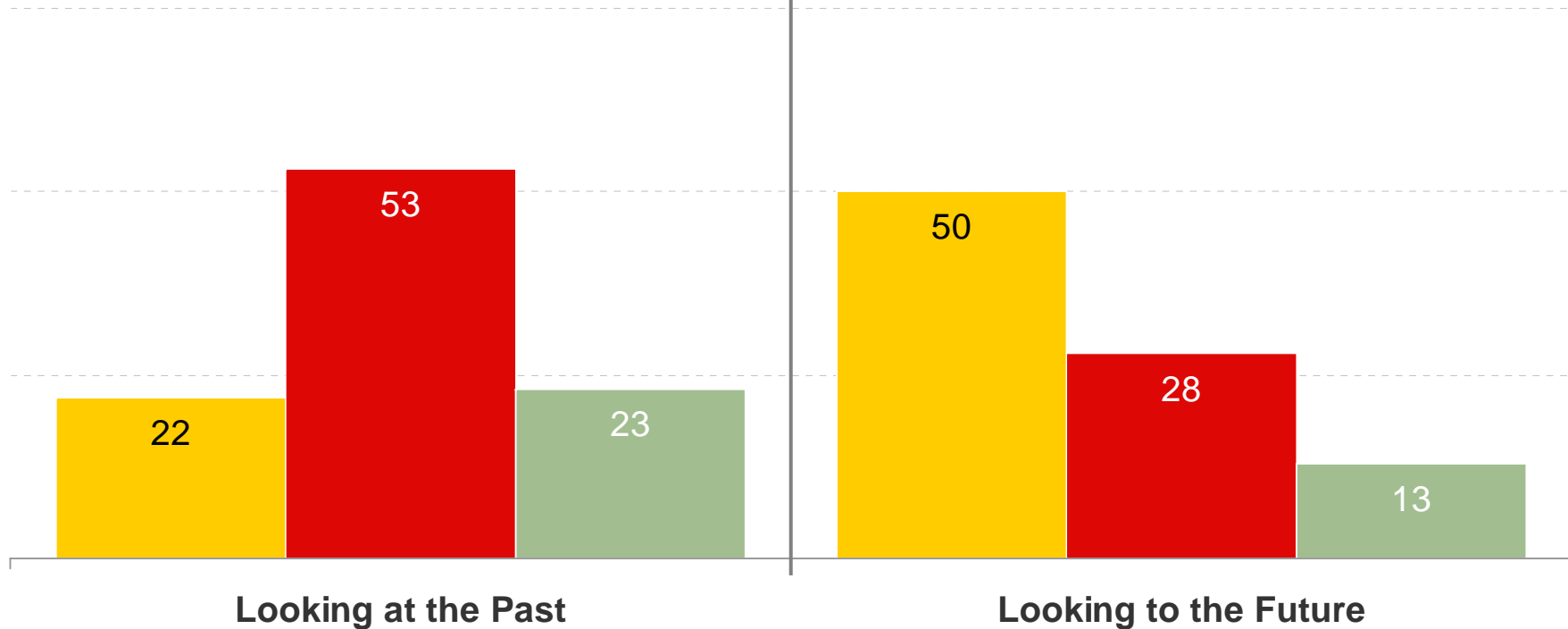


## Family finances in the recent past and near future

*Would you say that right now you and your family are better off financially than you were a year ago or worse off financially than you were a year ago?*

*Looking ahead, do you think that a year from now you and your family will be better off financially or worse off financially than you are right now?*

■ Better ■ Worse ■ About the same

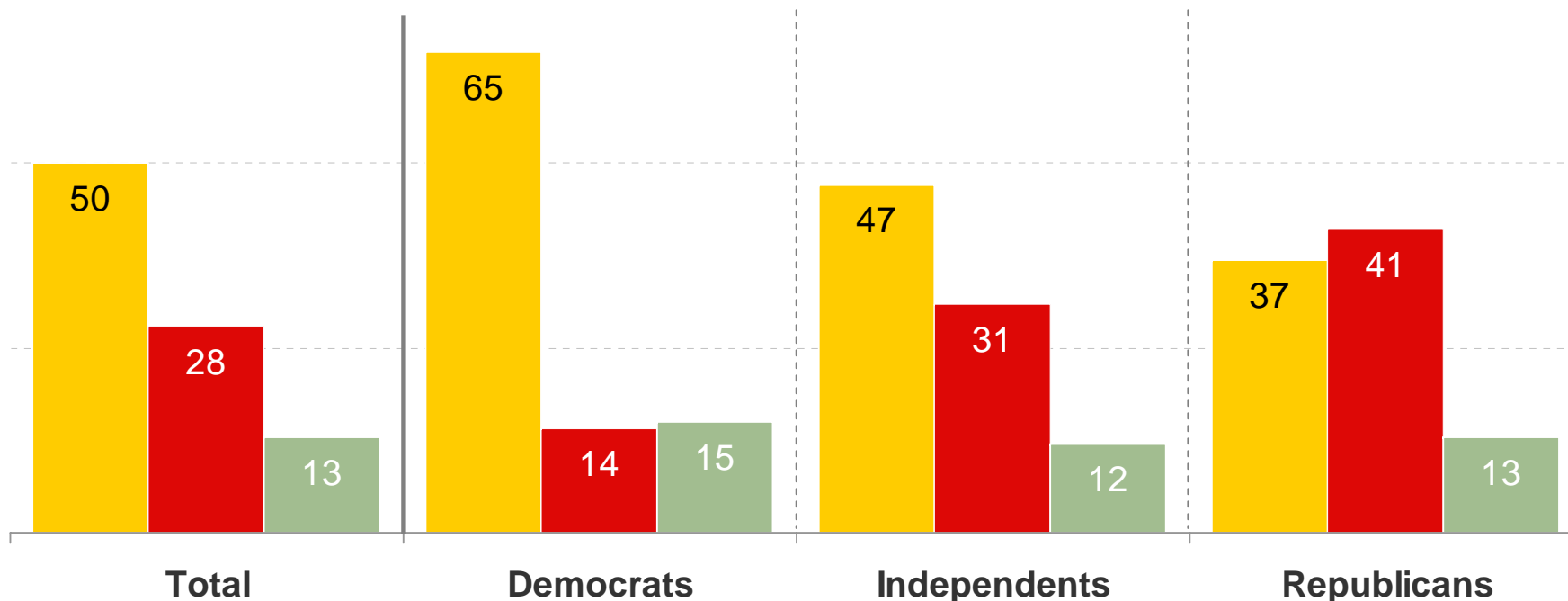




## Most believe their family's finances will improve in a year

*Looking ahead, do you think that a year from now you and your family will be better off financially or worse off financially than you are right now?*

■ Better ■ Worse ■ About the same

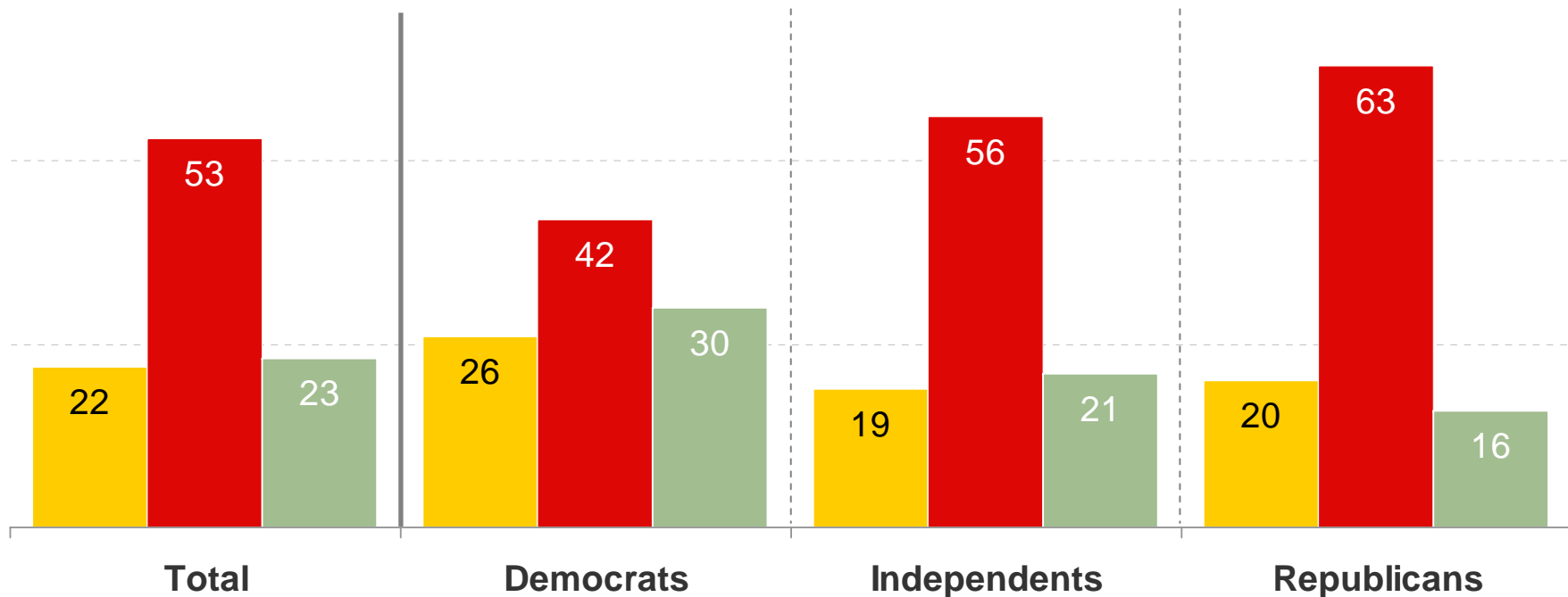




## Family finances compared to one year ago

*Would you say that right now you and your family are better off financially than you were a year ago or worse off financially than you were a year ago?*

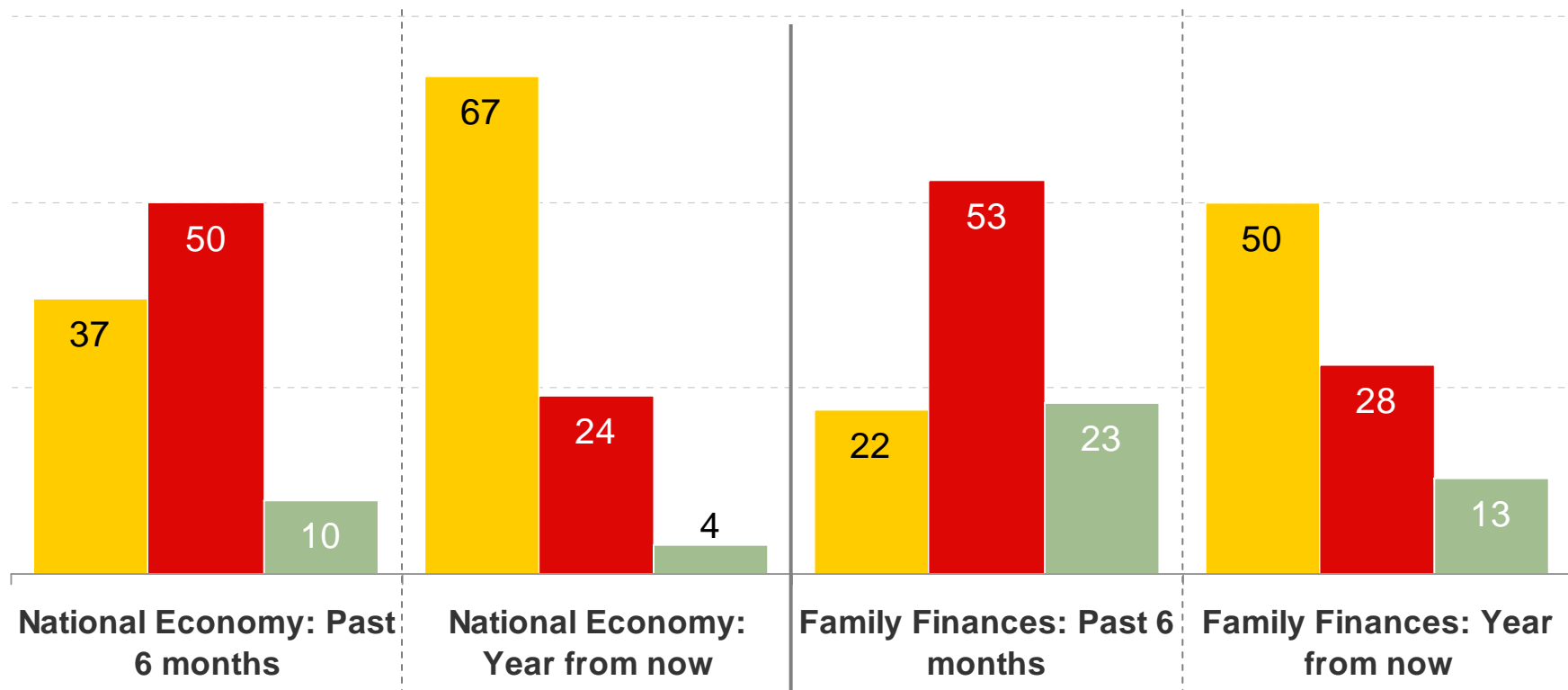
■ Better ■ Worse ■ About the same





## Economic outlook: nationally, personally

■ Better ■ Worse ■ About the same





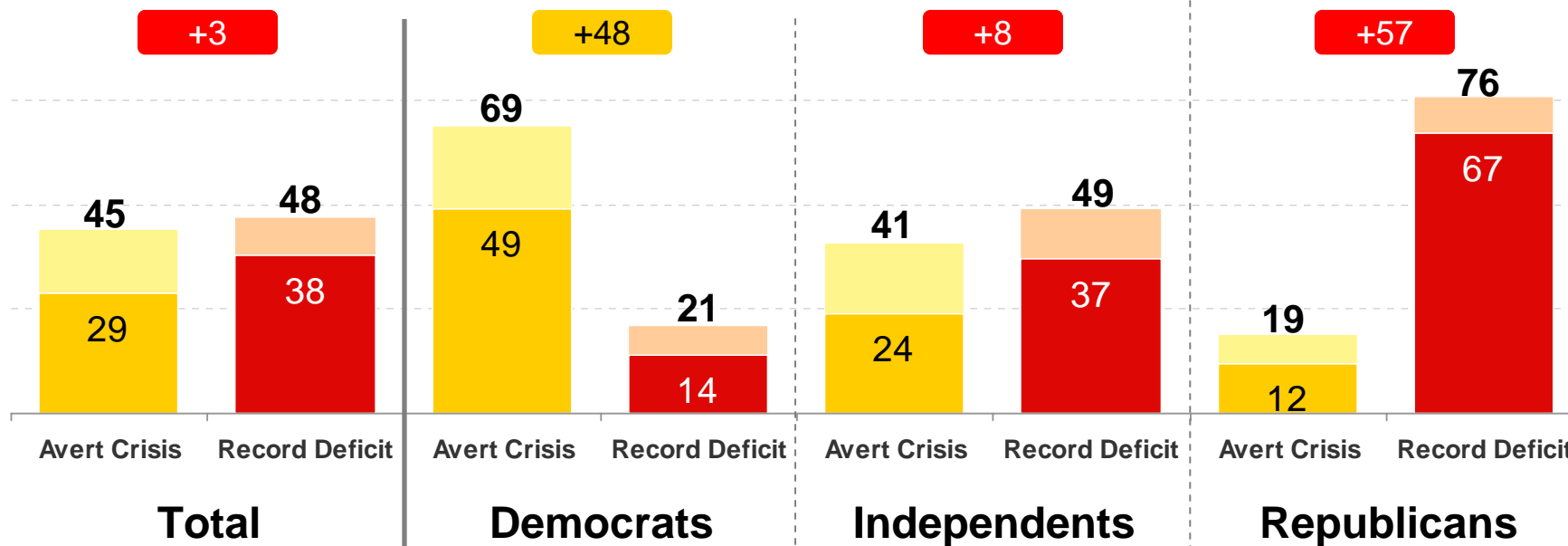
## Voters split on impact of Obama's economic policies

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





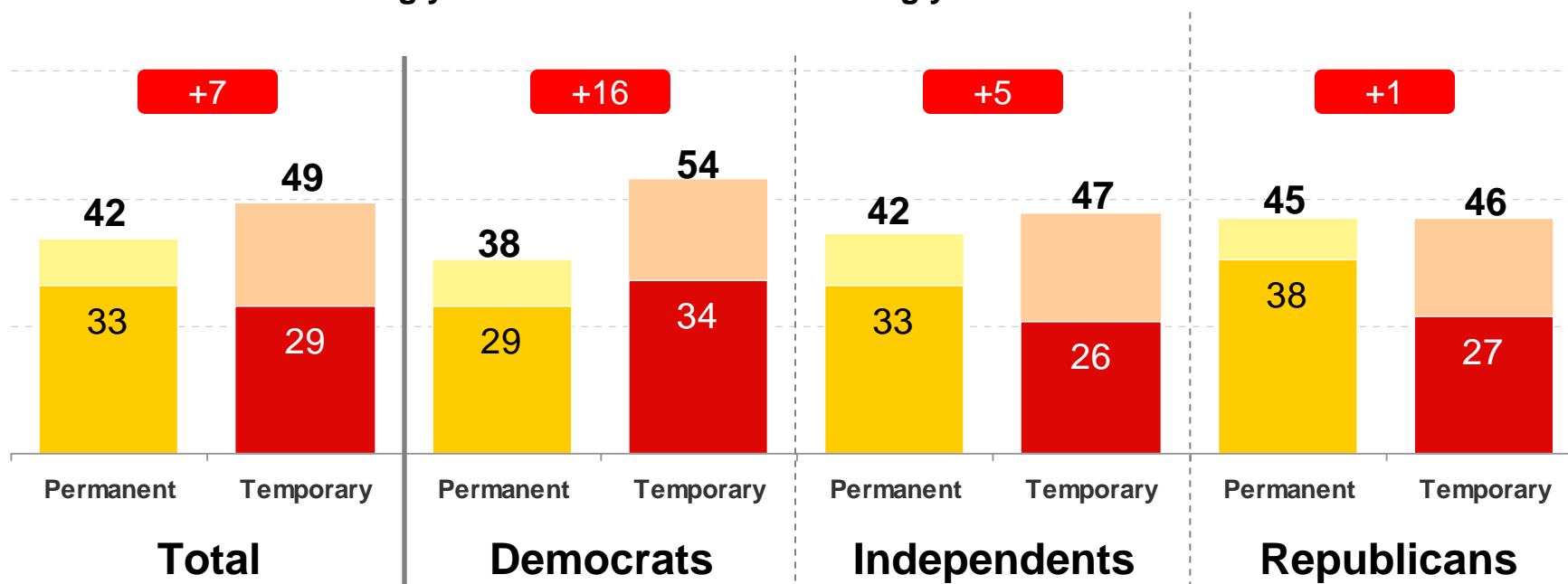
## Lifestyle changes forced by recession perceived to be temporary

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:** This economic crisis has made me make lifestyle changes that are most likely permanent.

**Second Statement:** The lifestyle changes I've made due to the economic crisis are most likely temporary.

■ First Statement Strongly ■ Second Statement Strongly





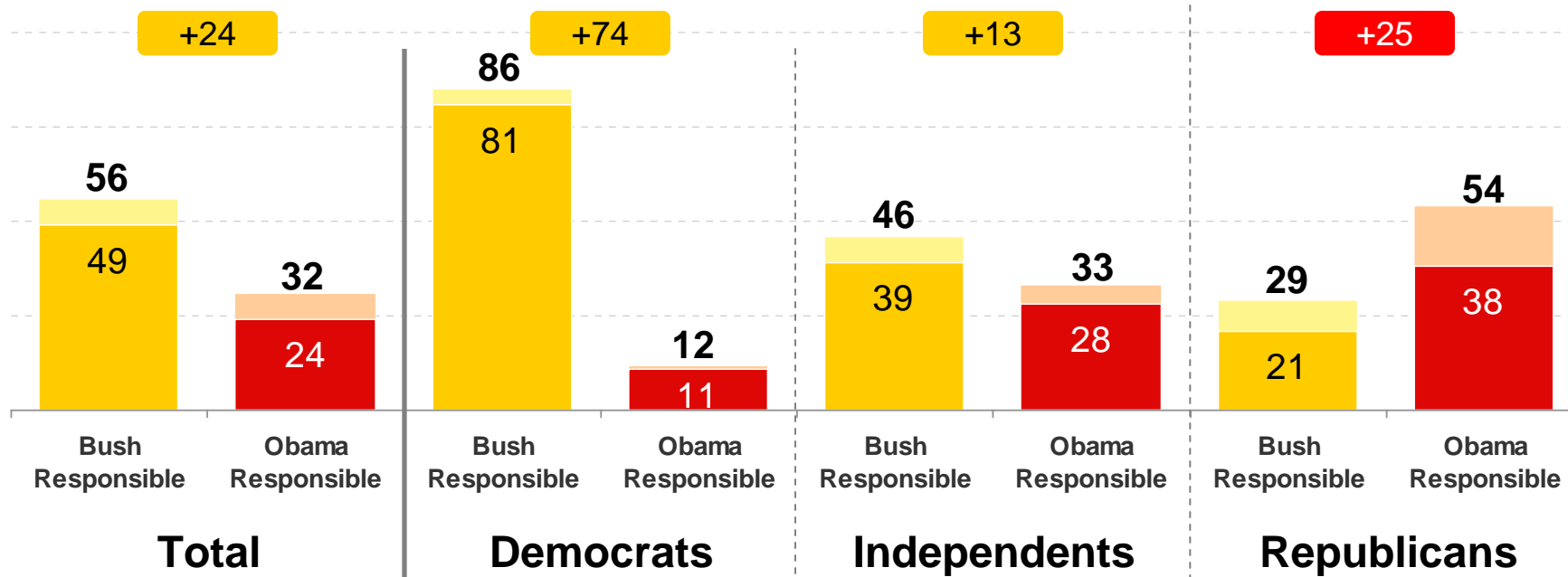
## Bush continues to hold blame for current state of economy

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:** Former President Bush is more responsible for the current state of the economy.

**Second Statement:** President Obama is more responsible for the current state of the economy.

■ First Statement Strongly ■ Second Statement Strongly





# Health Care and Energy

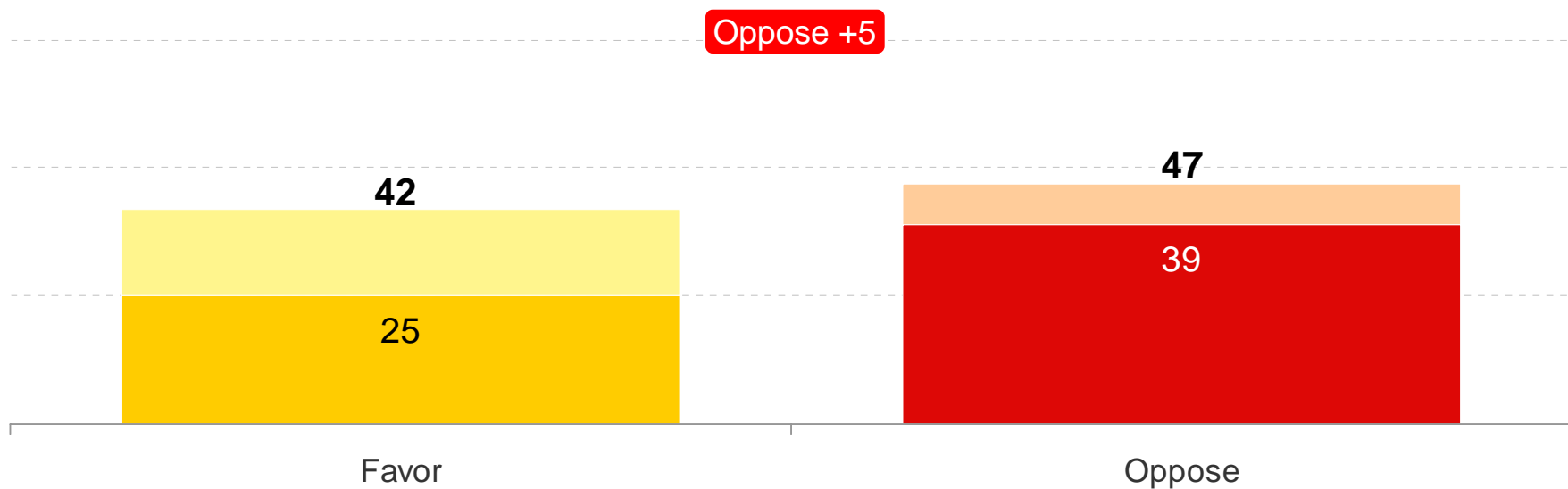
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## Slight plurality oppose Obama's health care changes without description

*As you may have heard, President Obama and the Democrats in Congress are preparing a plan to change the health care system. From what you have heard about this plan, do you favor or oppose Obama and the Democrats' health care proposal?*

■ Strongly Favor   ■ Strongly Oppose





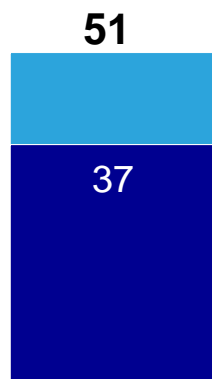
## But Democrats win health care message debate

*Now let me read you two statements about Obama and the Democrats' health care plan. After I read these statements, please tell me which one comes closer to your own view, even if neither is exactly right.*

### Democratic Statement: Insurance reform, affordability, peace of mind

Democrats say if we don't reform the health insurance system, premiums will keep doubling every five years, more companies will drop coverage, and insurance companies will keep using the fine print to deny care when people need it. This plan shifts the power from the insurance companies to you and your doctor, gives you the peace of mind of knowing that you won't lose your coverage if you get sick or lose your job, and guarantees that if you like your doctor you can keep them. And it cuts costs by encouraging prevention and allowing people and businesses to comparison shop for the best and most affordable plan.

■ Dem. Statement Strongly

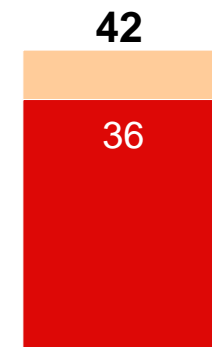


Democratic statement

### Republican Statement: Government takeover will bust budget

Republicans say we need to first control health care costs and require insurance companies to cover everyone so there is no reason to rush through a plan right now that has so many problems. Under this plan, people will have fewer choices. It will not only limit access to quality care and result in rationing, but it will bust the budget by increasing spending when we are already spending too much on unproven programs like the stimulus. We shouldn't have a government-run health care plan where patients can't go to the doctor they want and government bureaucrats decide who gets which treatments.

■ Rep. Statement Strongly



Republican Statement



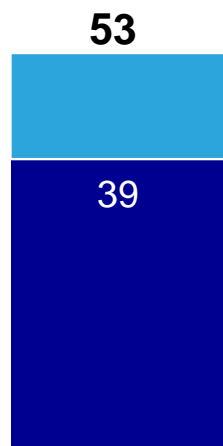
## Democrats also win debate over energy

*As you may have heard, the U.S. House of Representatives recently passed a major energy bill. I am going to read you two statements about that bill. After I read these statements, please tell me which one comes closer to your own view, even if neither is exactly right.*

### Democratic Statement: Recharge our economy

Democrats say for too long we've relied on the same old, dirty energy sources. This bill will get America running on clean energy by rewarding companies that produce alternative energy and requiring companies to reduce their pollution. It will require more of our energy to come from alternative sources like wind and solar and it uses America's technological know-how to recharge our economy with new industries, creating 1.7 million new jobs while reducing our dependence on foreign oil and unstable parts of the world. It will cost families less than 15 dollars a month.

■ Dem. Statement Strongly

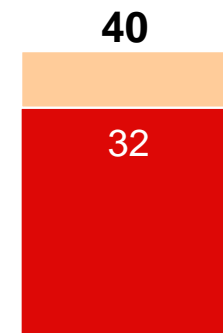


Democratic Statement

### Republican Statement: Hidden tax will send jobs overseas

Republicans say this cap and trade bill is a 2,000 dollar per year hidden tax on average families. It puts a tax on companies that all Americans will end up paying every time they drive, flip on a light switch, or cool their house. Rather than help create new jobs, this hidden tax will make it even more difficult for American manufacturing businesses to compete, and will send jobs to countries like China and India who refuse to play by the same rules. This new tax hits those who can least afford it -- families and small businesses struggling to survive the recession.

■ Rep. Statement Strongly



Republican Statement

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