

# **AMERICAN GOVERNMENT IN THE 21<sup>ST</sup> CENTURY**

2023 EDITION

*SPONSORED BY GEORGE WASHINGTON UNIVERSITY  
AND THE SOCIETY OF PRESIDENTIAL POLLSTERS*

PRESENTED BY MARK J. PENN

## SURVEY METHODOLOGY

This survey was conducted online within the United States from **September 8 – 11, 2023** among **2,001 registered voters** by **HarrisX**.

The margin of error is **+/- 2.2 percentage points**.

Results were weighted for age, gender, region, race/ethnicity, income, education, political party, and political ideology where necessary to align them with their actual proportions in the population.

## KEY FINDINGS

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After several years of stagnation, confidence in the Presidency, Supreme Court, and Congress has dropped.



Concerns over presidential authority and improper use of executive power have increased under the Biden Administration.



Voters are passionate about free speech and want the government to strengthen this First Amendment right instead of cracking down on misinformation and implementing restrictions.



Most voters say that institutions are increasingly becoming politicized and that our nation's leaders prioritize party loyalty over the national interest.



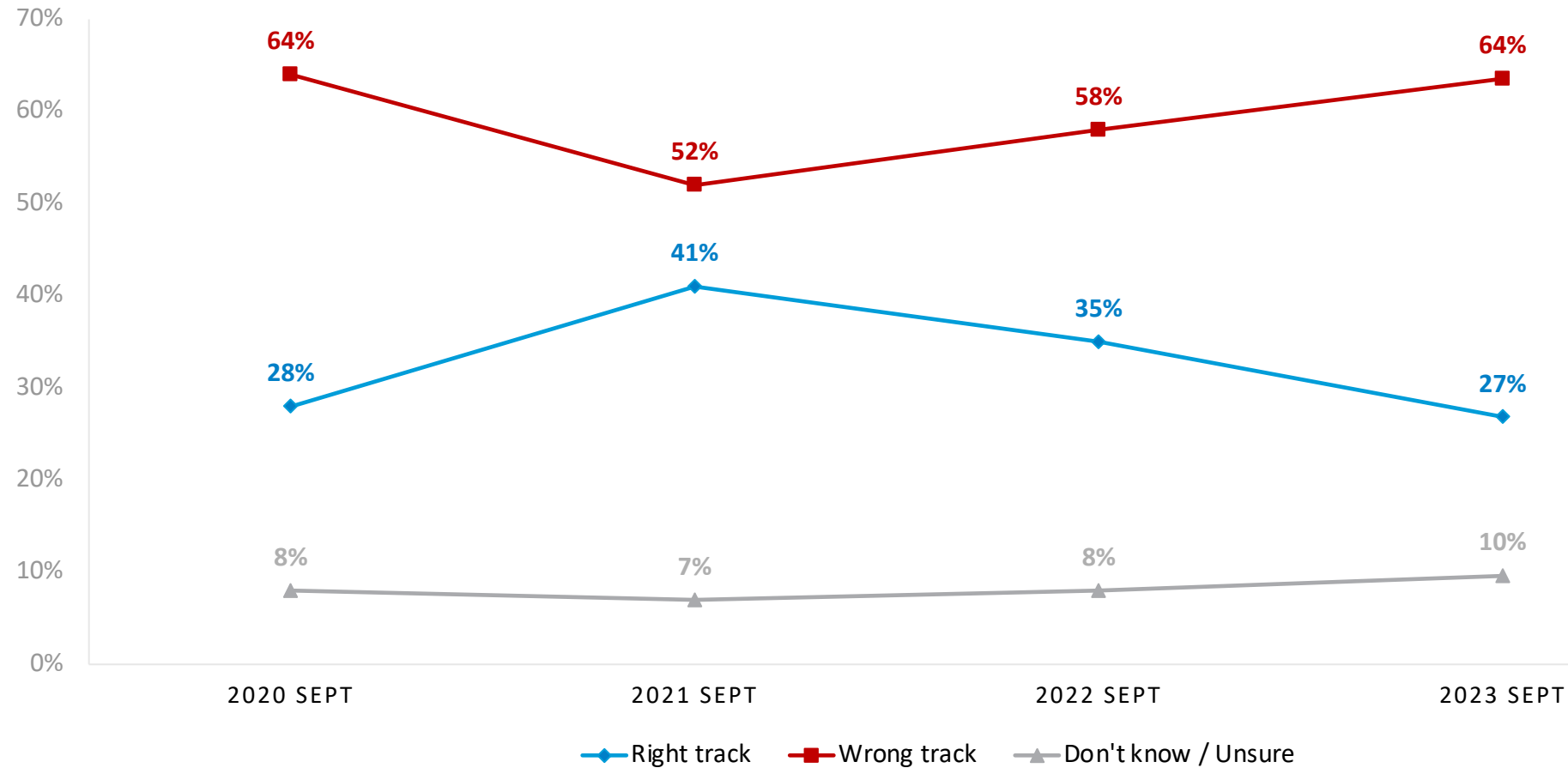
The breakdown of bipartisanship in the U.S. political system is intensifying, and voters believe drawing the best ideas from both parties is critical to restoring balance.

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# THE DIRECTION OF THE COUNTRY HAS GONE FURTHER UNDERWATER SINCE LAST YEAR

## Country: Right Track / Wrong Track



### % Who Say "Right Track"

	2020	2021	2022	2023
GOP	53%	18%	16%	9%
DEM	11%	70%	58%	52%
IND	24%	33%	29%	16%

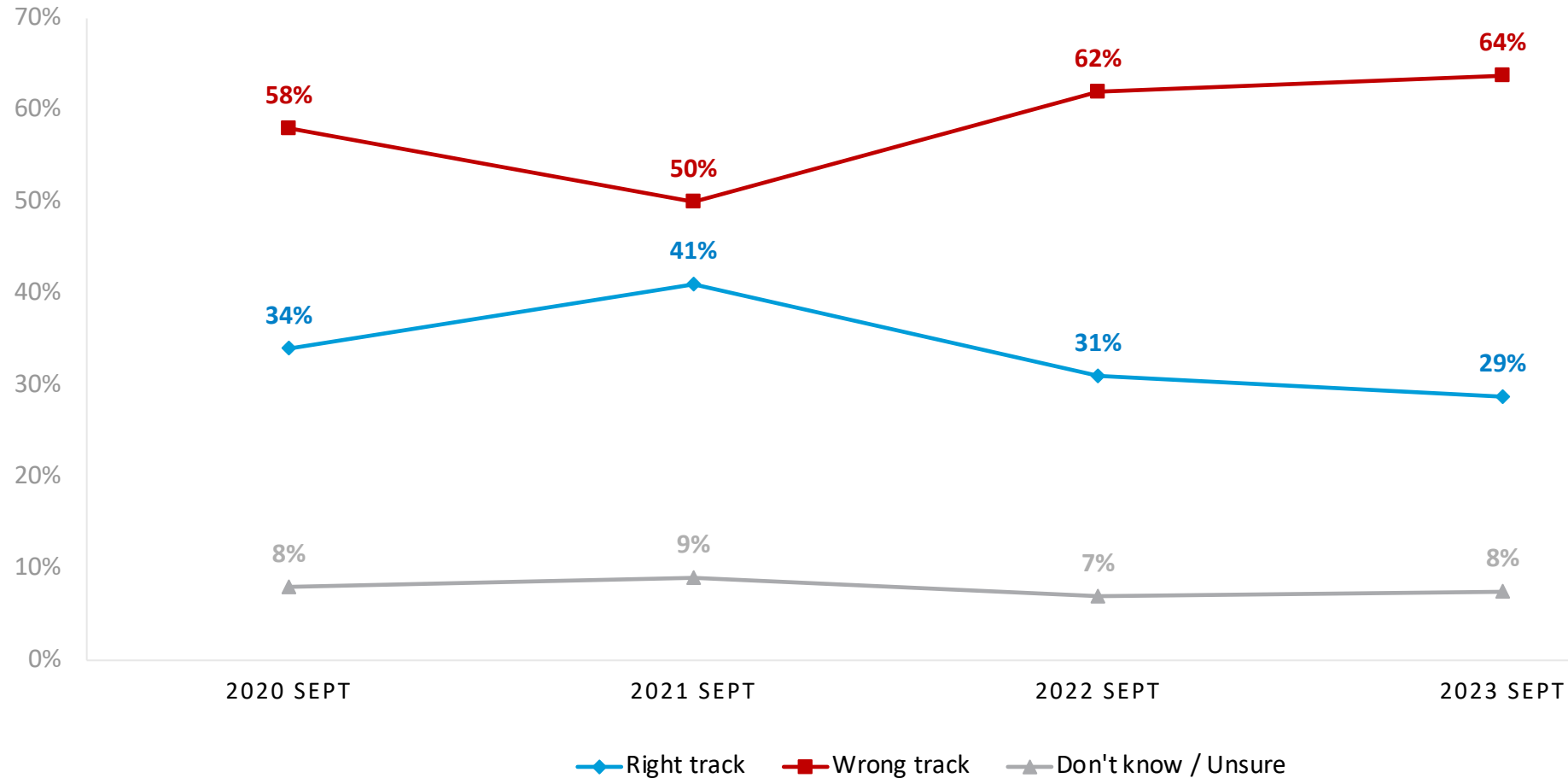
Base: Registered Voters (September 2020 n=1,907; September 2021 n=1,803; September 2022 n=1,851; September 2023 n=2,001)

M1: In general, do you think the country is on the right track or is it off on the wrong track?



# THE DIRECTION OF THE ECONOMY HAS SUNK FURTHER UNDERWATER AS WELL

## U.S. Economy: Right Track / Wrong Track



% Who Say "Right Track"

	2020	2021	2022	2023
GOP	63%	19%	15%	10%
DEM	14%	69%	52%	53%
IND	31%	32%	25%	19%

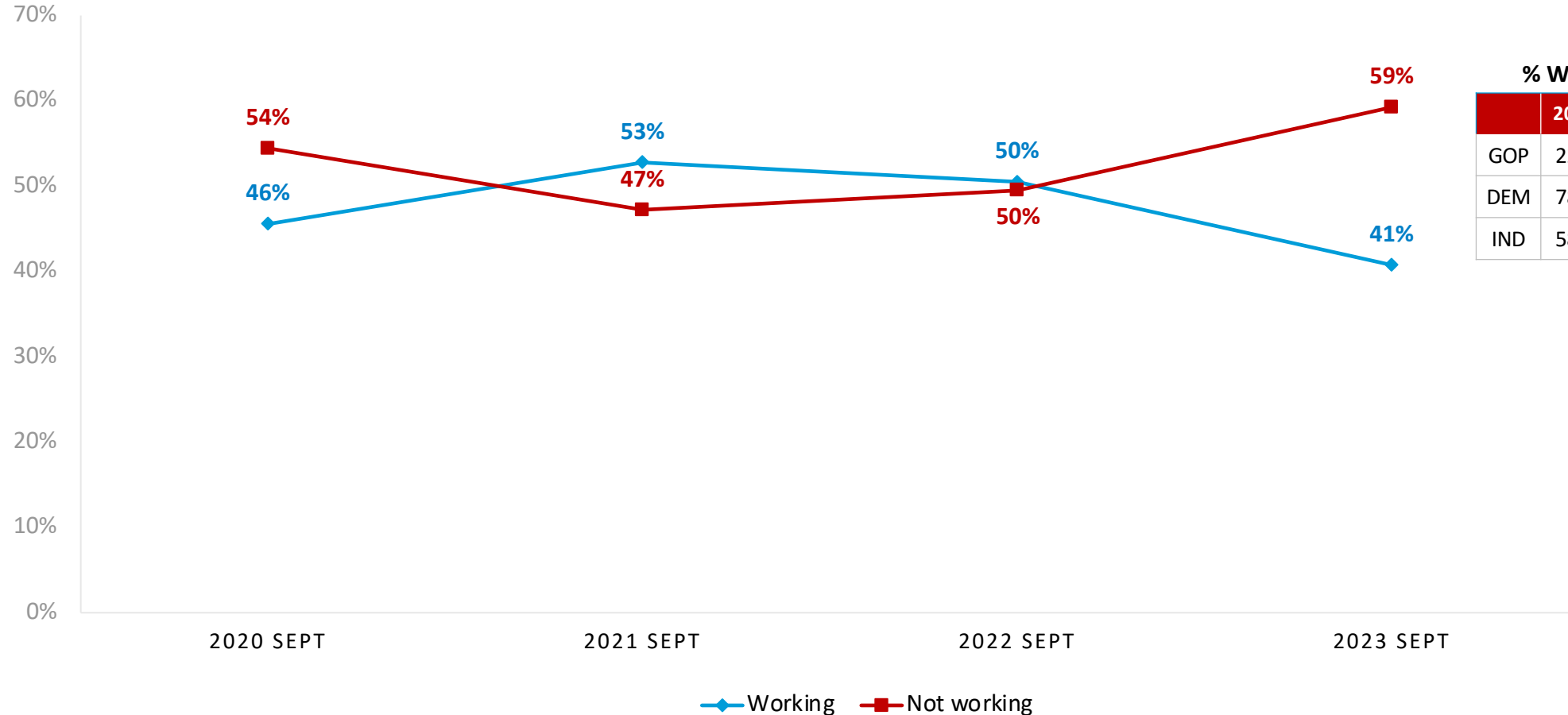
Base: Registered Voters (September 2020 n=1,907; September 2021 n=1,803; September 2022 n=1,851; September 2023 n=2,001)

M2: In general, do you think the American economy is on the right track or is it off on the wrong track?



# CONFIDENCE IN HOW THE INSTITUTION OF THE PRESIDENCY IS WORKING HAS DROPPED DURING THE BIDEN ADMINISTRATION

**Presidency: Working / Not working**



**% Who Say "Not Working"**

	2020	2021	2022	2023
GOP	22%	75%	74%	83%
DEM	78%	18%	22%	31%
IND	58%	49%	54%	67%

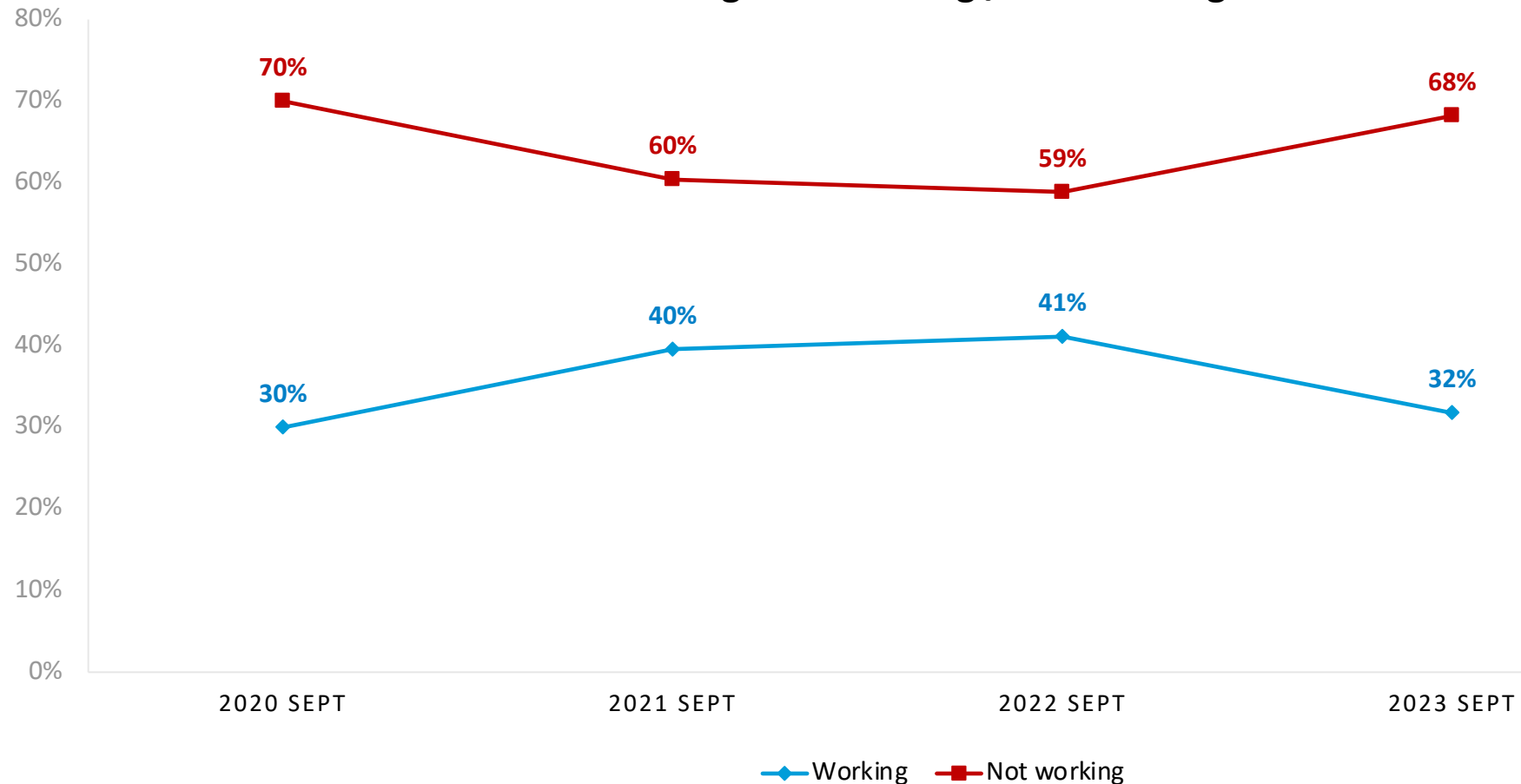
Base: Registered Voters (September 2020 n=1,907; September 2021 n=1,803; September 2022 n=1,851; September 2023 n=2,001)

C1r1: Presidency – Regardless of whether you like the decisions or political ideology of each branch, do you believe that the each of the following is working or not working as an institution?



# AFTER A COUPLE YEARS OF IMPROVEMENT, BELIEF THAT CONGRESS IS NOT WORKING HAS ALSO SURGED

## Congress: Working / Not working



### % Who Say "Not Working"

	2020	2021	2022	2023
GOP	68%	74%	72%	73%
DEM	68%	42%	40%	62%
IND	74%	68%	65%	71%

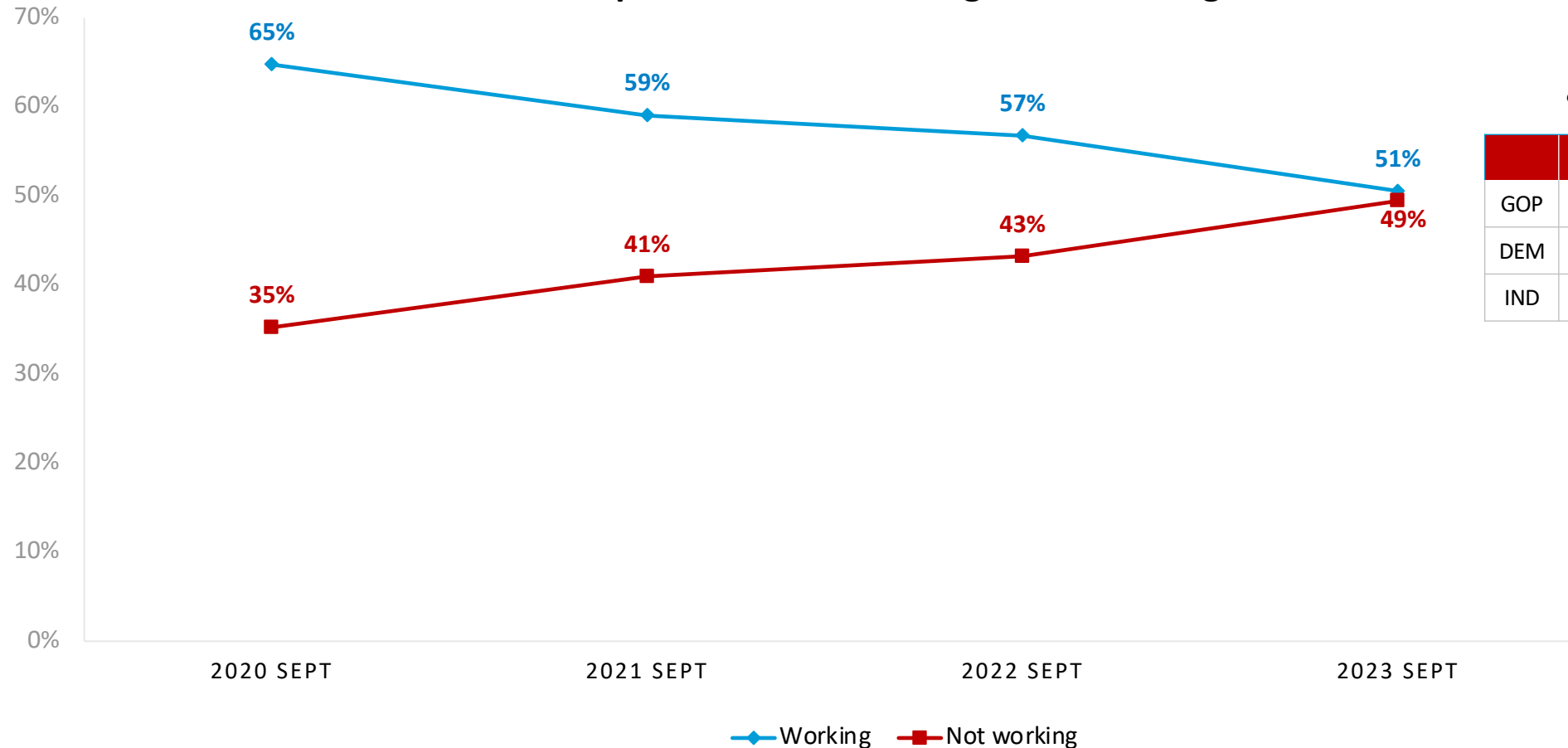
Base: Registered Voters (September 2020 n=1,907; September 2021 n=1,803; September 2022 n=1,851; September 2023 n=2,001)

'C1r2: Congress – Regardless of whether you like the decisions or political ideology of each branch, do you believe that the each of the following is working or not working as an institution?



# CONFIDENCE IN THE WORKINGS OF THE SUPREME COURT, AN INSTITUTION ONCE DEEMED RELIABLE, IS NOW BARELY ABOVE WATER

### Supreme Court: Working / Not working



### % Who Say "Not Working"

	2020	2021	2022	2023
GOP	27%	37%	33%	39%
DEM	41%	42%	47%	60%
IND	35%	44%	52%	49%

Base: Registered Voters (September 2020 n=1,907; September 2021 n=1,803; September 2022 n=1,851; September 2023 n=2,001)

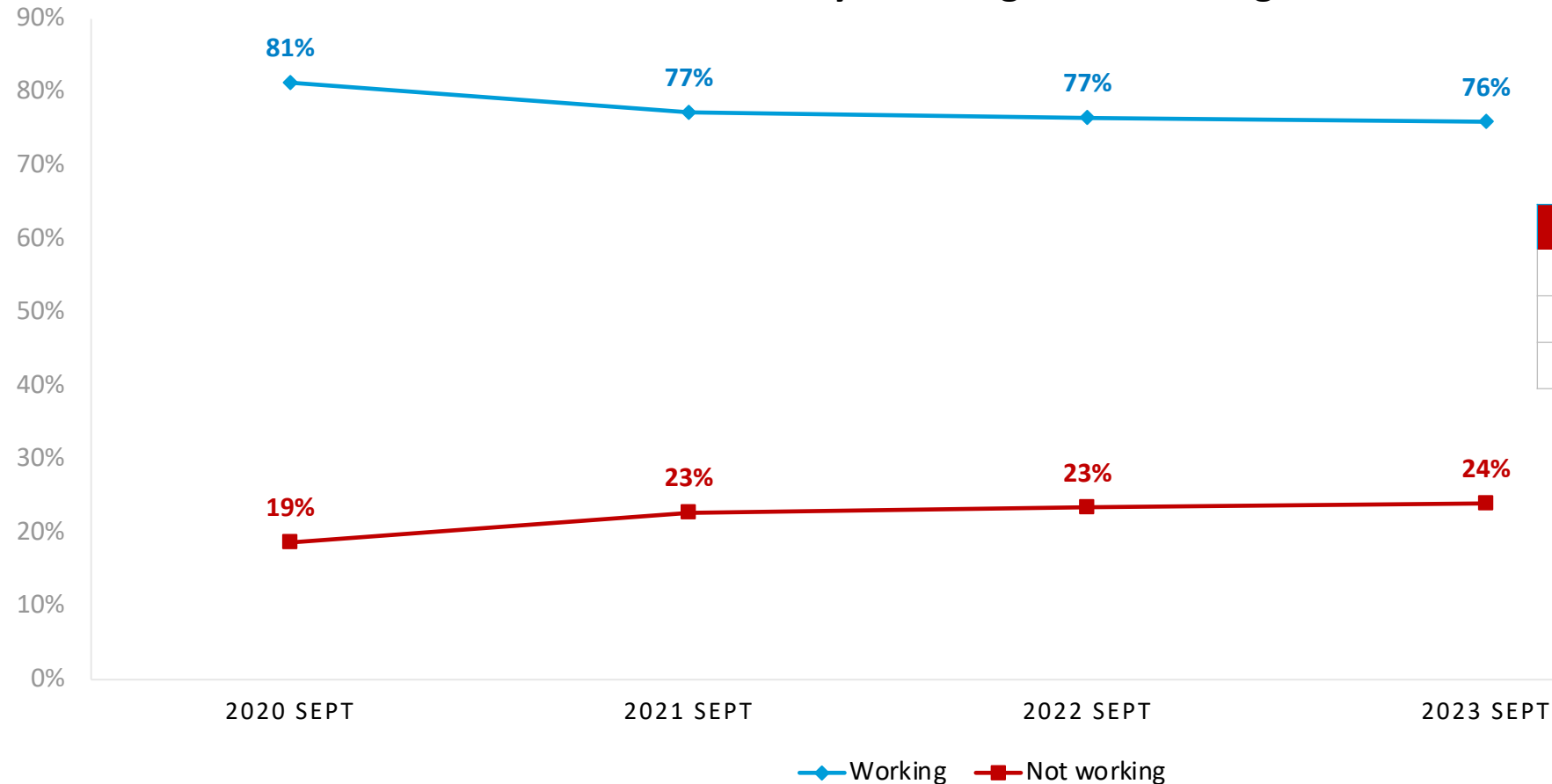
'C1r3: Supreme Court – Regardless of whether you like the decisions or political ideology of each branch, do you believe that the each of the following is working or not working as an institution?





# STRONG MAJORITIES OF VOTERS ACROSS ALL PARTY AFFILIATIONS STILL PRESERVE THEIR FAITH IN THE MILITARY AND ITS WORK

## U.S. Military: Working / Not working



### % Who Say "Not Working"

	2020	2021	2022	2023
GOP	12%	24%	24%	26%
DEM	24%	18%	18%	20%
IND	17%	28%	29%	27%

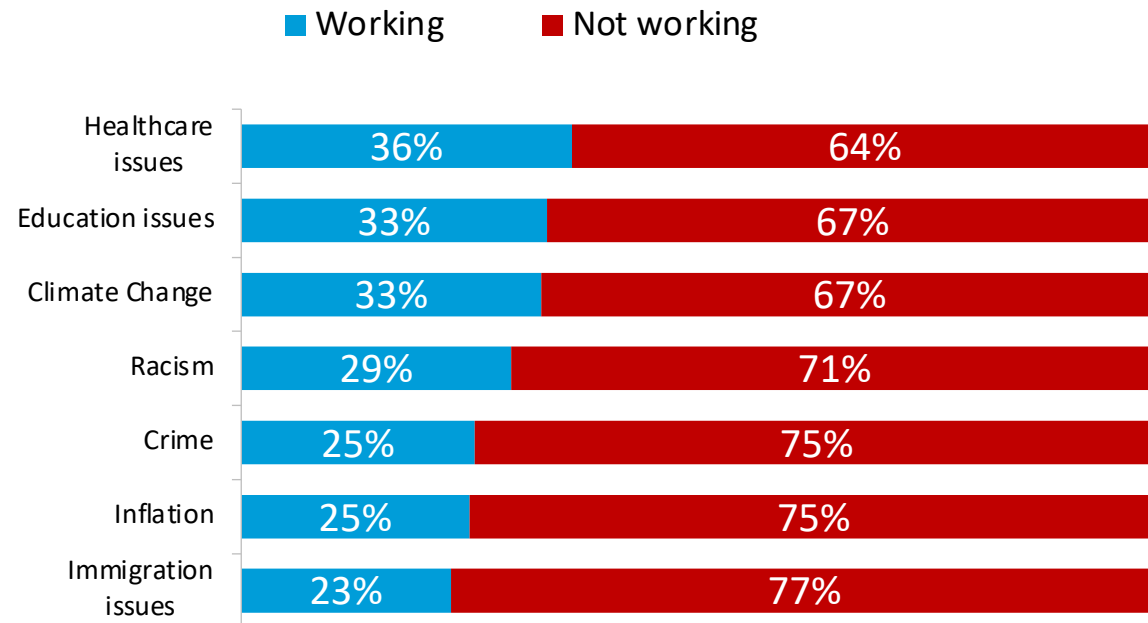
Base: Registered Voters (September 2020 n=1,907; September 2021 n=1,803; September 2022 n=1,851; September 2023 n=2,001)

C1r4: Armed forces/U.S. Military- Regardless of whether you like the decisions or political ideology of each branch, do you believe that the each of the following is working or not working as an institution?



# VOTERS THINK THE POLITICAL SYSTEM IS FAILING TO RESOLVE KEY ISSUES THEY ARE FACING

**Do you think our political system is working or not working to solve each of these problems?**



**% Who Say "Not Working"**

	<b>GOP</b>	<b>DEM</b>	<b>IND</b>
<b>Healthcare issues</b>	75%	48%	72%
<b>Education issues</b>	79%	50%	74%
<b>Climate Change</b>	72%	60%	70%
<b>Racism</b>	74%	67%	71%
<b>Crime</b>	85%	60%	80%
<b>Inflation</b>	89%	58%	80%
<b>Immigration</b>	88%	63%	83%

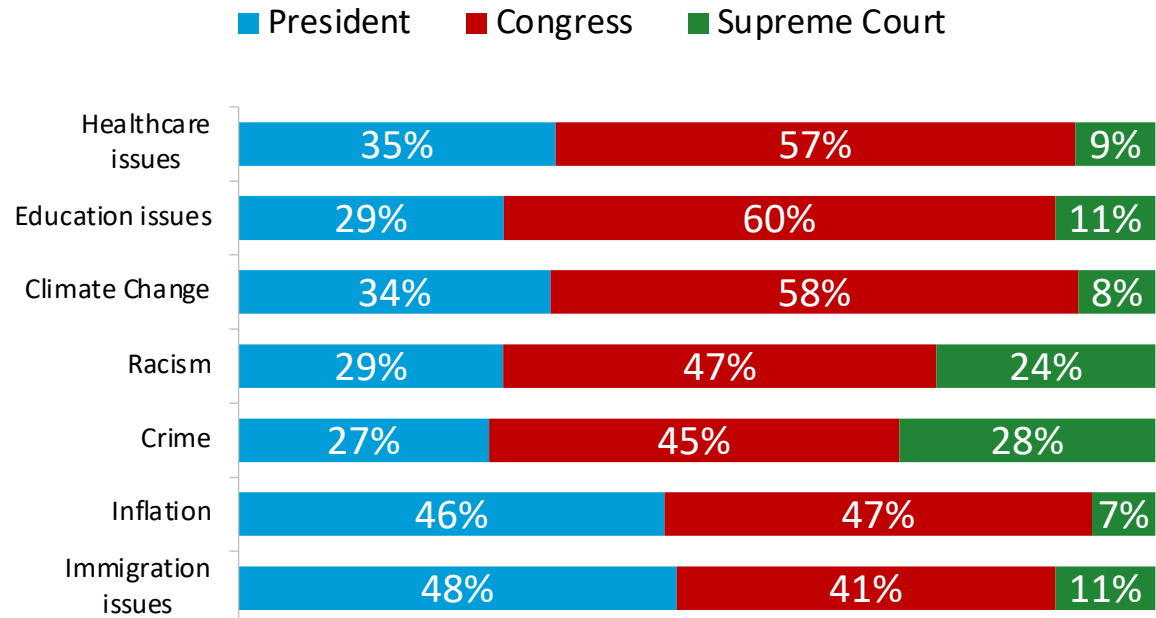
Base: Registered Voters (n=2,001)

IssWork. Do you think our political system is working or not working to solve each of these problems?



# VOTERS BELIEVE CONGRESS SHOULD BE PRIMARILY RESPONSIBLE FOR RESOLVING MOST OF THESE KEY ISSUES; IMMIGRATION AND INFLATION ARE SEEN AS THE RESPONSIBILITY OF THE PRESIDENT

**Do you think each of these problems is mostly the responsibility of the President, Congress, or the Supreme Court to solve?**



**% Who Say "Congress"**

	GOP	DEM	IND
Healthcare issues	54%	55%	62%
Education issues	56%	61%	64%
Climate Change	56%	57%	60%
Racism	44%	48%	51%
Crime	41%	46%	48%
Inflation	38%	52%	49%
Immigration issues	33%	45%	47%

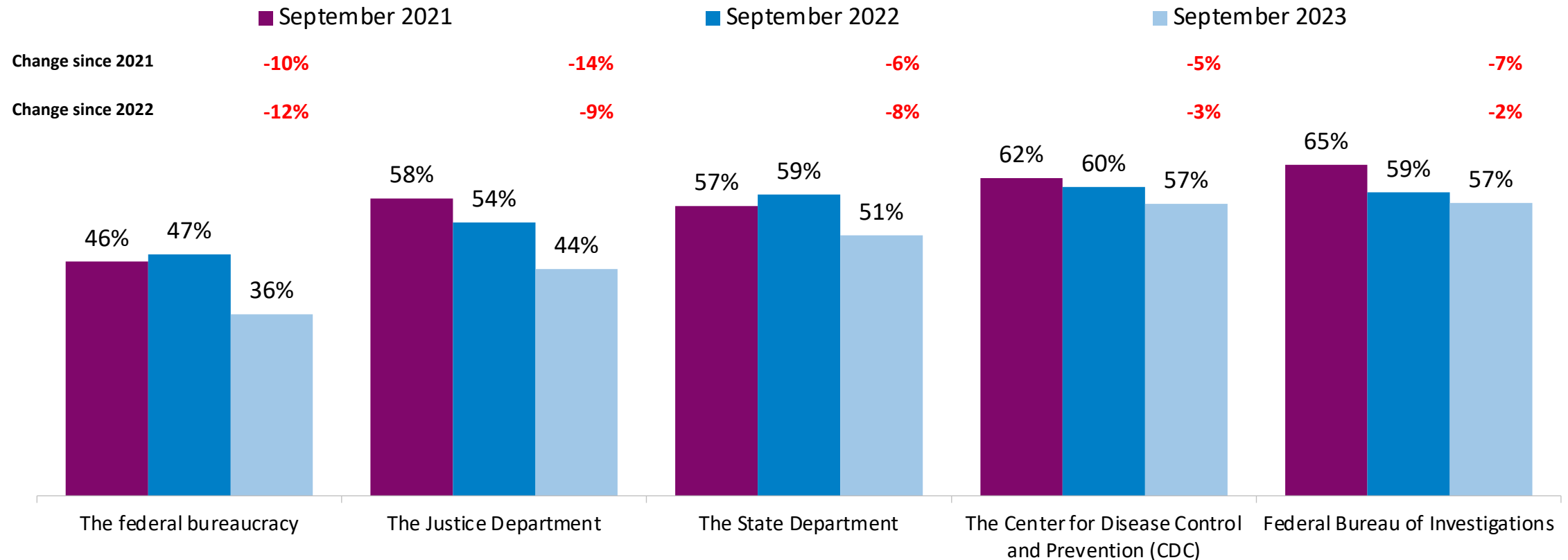
Base: Registered Voters (n=2,001)

IssResp. Do you think each of these problems is mostly the responsibility of the President, Congress, or the Supreme Court to solve?



# FEWER VOTERS SAY THE FEDERAL BUREAUCRACY AND SEVERAL KEY DEPARTMENTS ARE WORKING COMPARED TO LAST YEAR

Regardless of whether you like the decisions made, do you believe that each of the following is working or not working as an institution? (by Working)



Base: Registered Voters (September 2021 n=1,803; September 2022 n=1,851; September 2023 n=2,001)

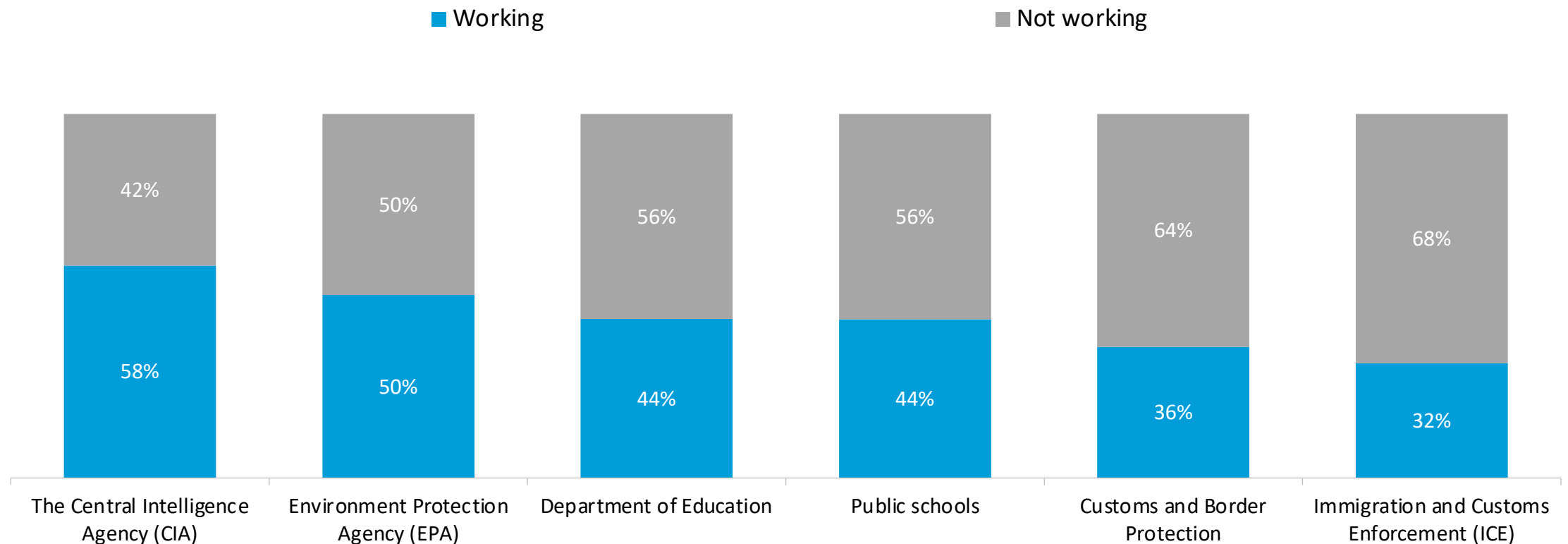
C1. Regardless of whether you like the decisions or political ideology of each branch, do you believe that each of the following is working or not working as an institution?



# IMMIGRATION AND CUSTOMS ENFORCEMENT (ICE) IS VIEWED AS THE LEAST FUNCTIONAL AGENCY; NEARLY 7 IN 10 SAY IT IS NOT WORKING

**Regardless of whether you like the decisions or political ideology of each branch, do you believe that each of the following is working or not working as an institution?**

September 2023



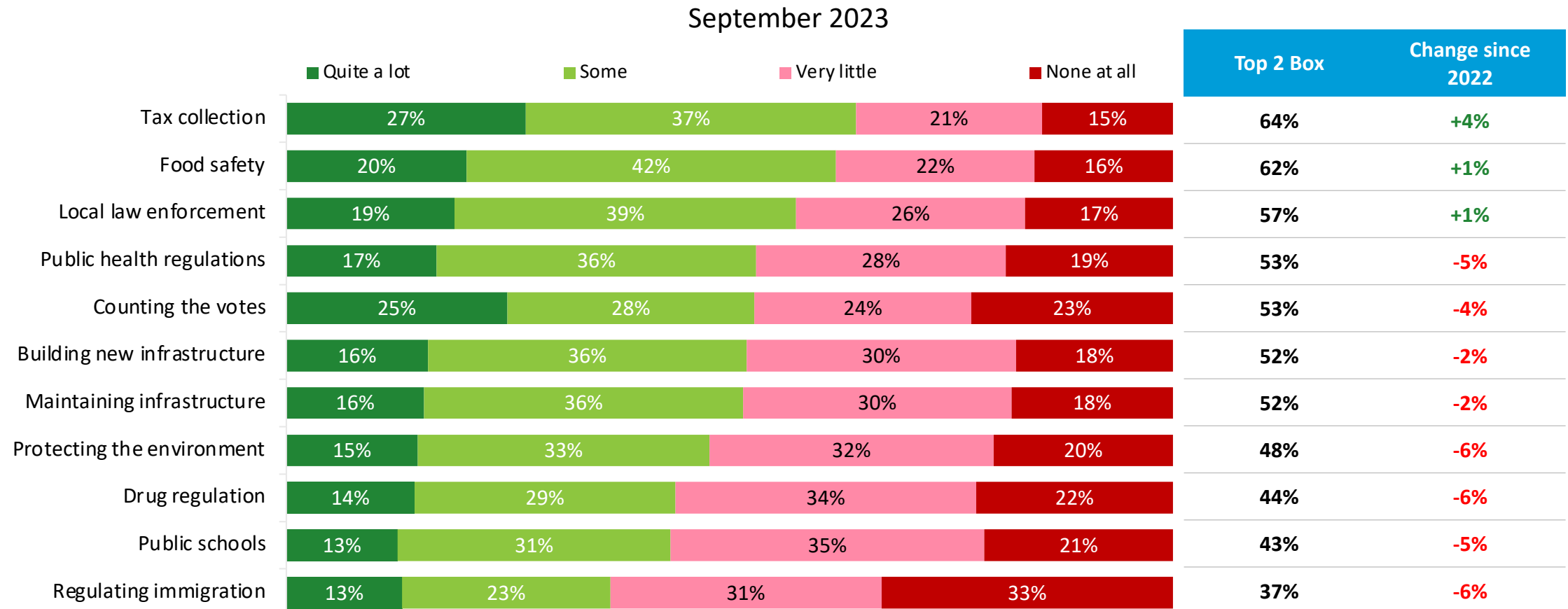
Base: Registered Voters (September 2023 n=2001)

C1. Regardless of whether you like the decisions or political ideology of each branch, do you believe that each of the following is working or not working as an institution?



# VOTERS HAVE LOW CONFIDENCE IN THE GOVERNMENT TO FULFILL ITS ROLE IN KEY AREAS SUCH AS THE ENVIRONMENT, DRUG REGULATION, SCHOOLING, AND IMMIGRATION

How much confidence do you have in the government to fulfill its role in the following areas?



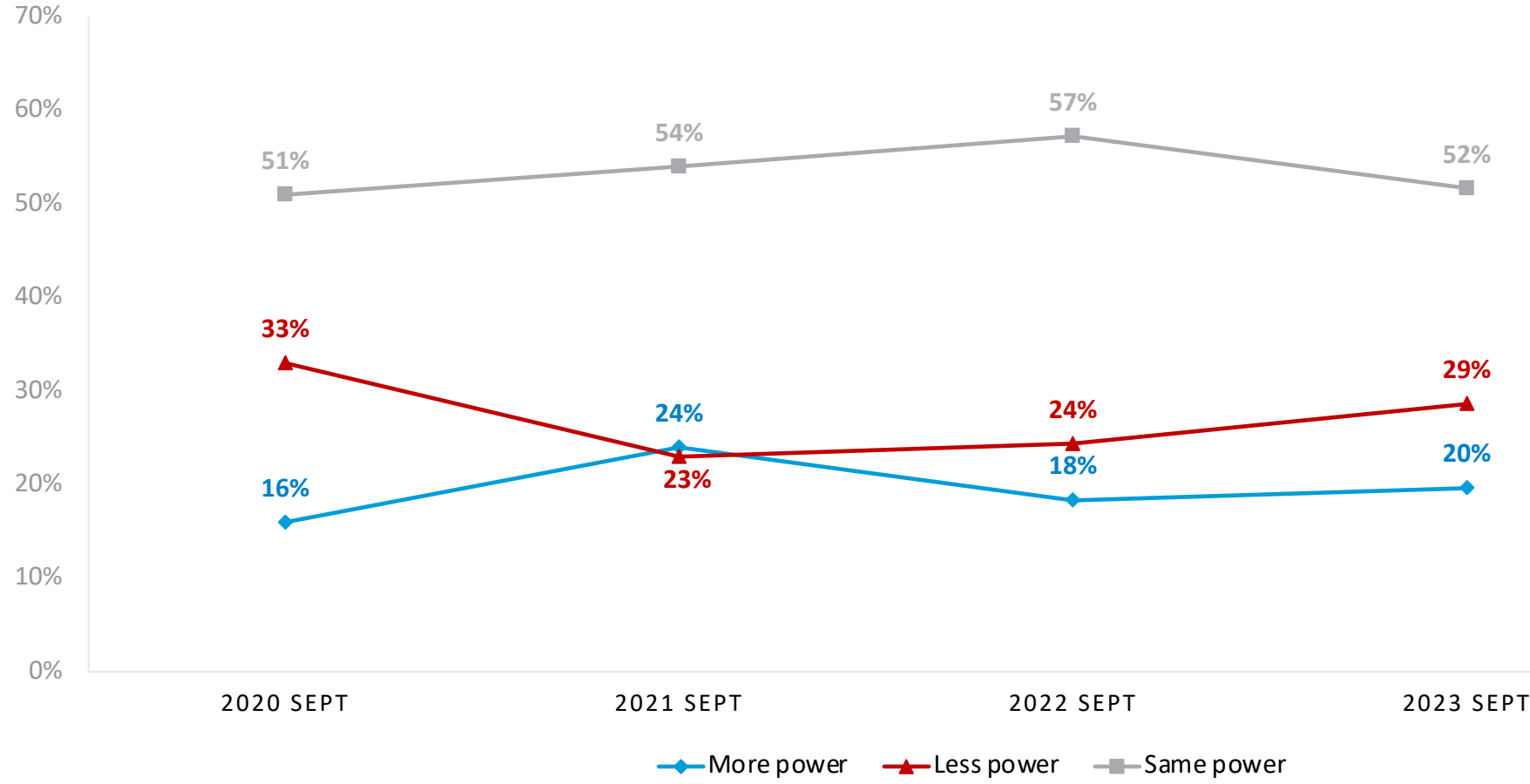
Base: Registered Voters (September 2022 n=1,851); Registered Voters (September 2023 n=2,001)

QRole: How much confidence do you have in the government to fulfill its role in the following areas



# THOUGH MOST VOTERS STILL SAY THE PRESIDENCY HAS THE RIGHT AMOUNT OF POWER, THE SHARE OF VOTERS SAYING IT SHOULD HAVE LESS POWER HAS TICKED UP

**Presidency: More/Same/Less Power**



**% Who Say "More Power"**

	2020	2021	2022	2023
GOP	28%	14%	12%	11%
DEM	11%	37%	29%	31%
IND	11%	18%	14%	15%

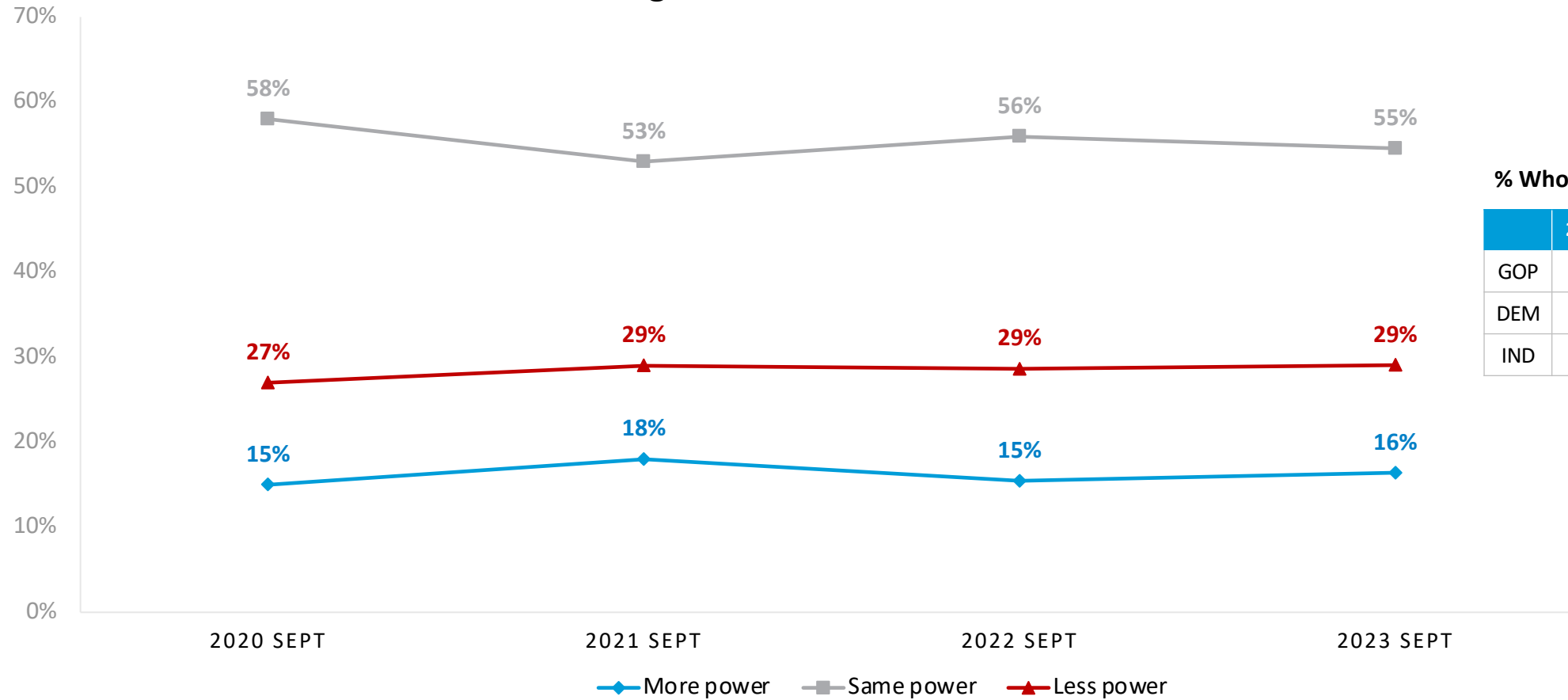
Base: Registered Voters (September 2020 n=1,907; September 2021 n=1,803; September 2022 n=1,851; September 2023 n=2,001)

'C2r1: Presidency – In general, do you think each of these institutions, regardless of who is leading them at any given moment, should have more power, less power, or the same power as now?



# A MAJORITY WOULD KEEP THE POWER OF CONGRESS THE SAME

### Congress: More/Same/Less Power



### % Who Say "More Power"

	2020	2021	2022	2023
GOP	14%	12%	14%	15%
DEM	19%	27%	22%	19%
IND	12%	13%	10%	14%

Base: Registered Voters (September 2020 n=1,907; September 2021 n=1,803; September 2022 n=1,851; September 2023 n=2,001)

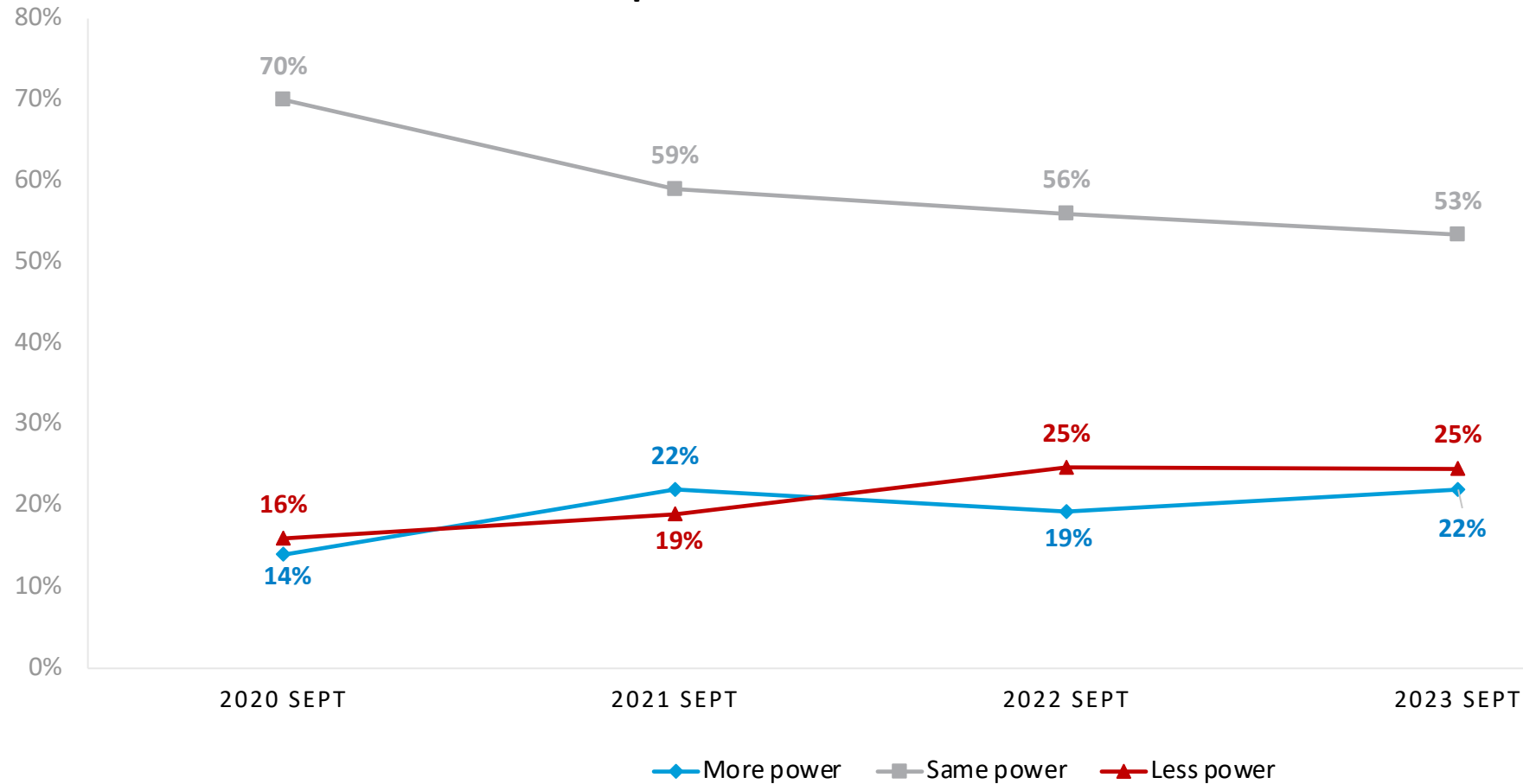
'C2r2: Congress – In general, do you think each of these institutions, regardless of who is leading them at any given moment, should have more power, less power, or the same power as now?





# FEWER VOTERS SAY THE SUPREME COURT SHOULD KEEP THE SAME LEVEL OF POWER, WITH GOP VOTERS THE KEENEST FOR POWER GAIN (26%) AND DEMS FOR POWER DECLINE (34%)

### Supreme Court: More/Same/Less Power



### % Who Say "More Power"

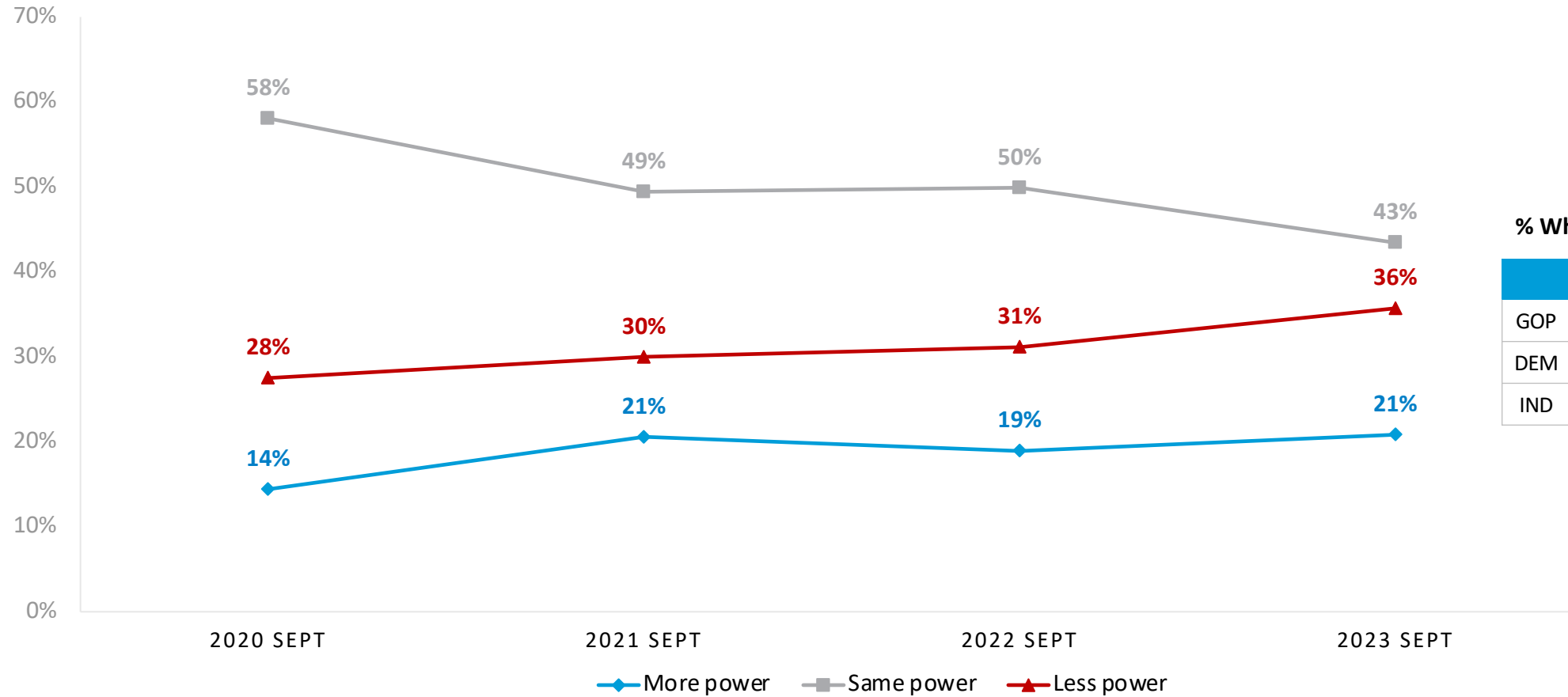
	2020	2021	2022	2023
GOP	16%	18%	21%	26%
DEM	14%	29%	22%	21%
IND	11%	17%	14%	18%

Base: Registered Voters (September 2020 n=1,907; September 2021 n=1,803; September 2022 n=1,851; September 2023 n=2,001) Republican (n=605), Democrat (n=829), Independent/Other (n=567)  
 'C2r3: Supreme Court – In general, do you think each of these institutions, regardless of who is leading them at any given moment, should have more power, less power, or the same power as now?



# REPUBLICANS AND DEMOCRATS HAVE MOVED IN OPPOSITE DIRECTIONS ON FEDERAL GOVERNMENT POWER SINCE THE 2020 ELECTION

## Federal Government: More/Same/Less Power



### % Who Say "More Power"

	2020	2021	2022	2023
GOP	19%	13%	14%	14%
DEM	15%	32%	30%	30%
IND	10%	15%	10%	18%

Base: Registered Voters (September 2020 n=1,907; September 2021 n=1,803; September 2022 n=1,851; September 2023 n=2,001)

C2Xr1: The federal government – In general, for each of these levels of government, regardless of who is leading them at any given moment, should have more power, less power, or the same power as now?

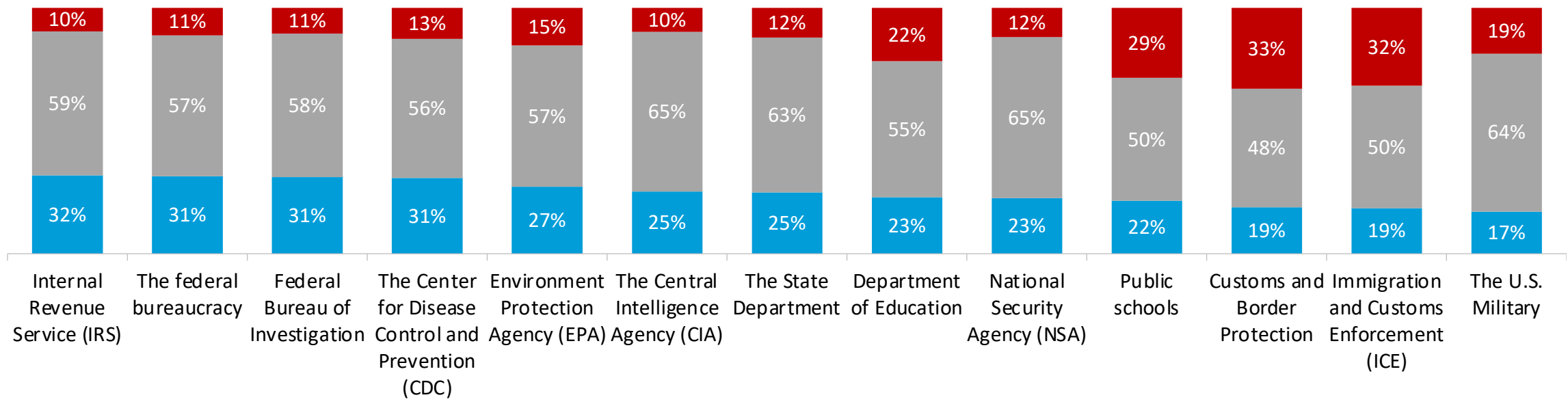


# ICE AND CUSTOMS PROTECTION ARE PERCEIVED AS LOSING POWER, WHILE THE FBI, CDC, IRS, AND FEDERAL BUREAUCRACY ARE SEEN AS HAVING GAINED IT

**In the past 12 months, do you think each of these institutions has become more powerful, less powerful, or stayed the same?**

September 2023

More power Same power as now Less power



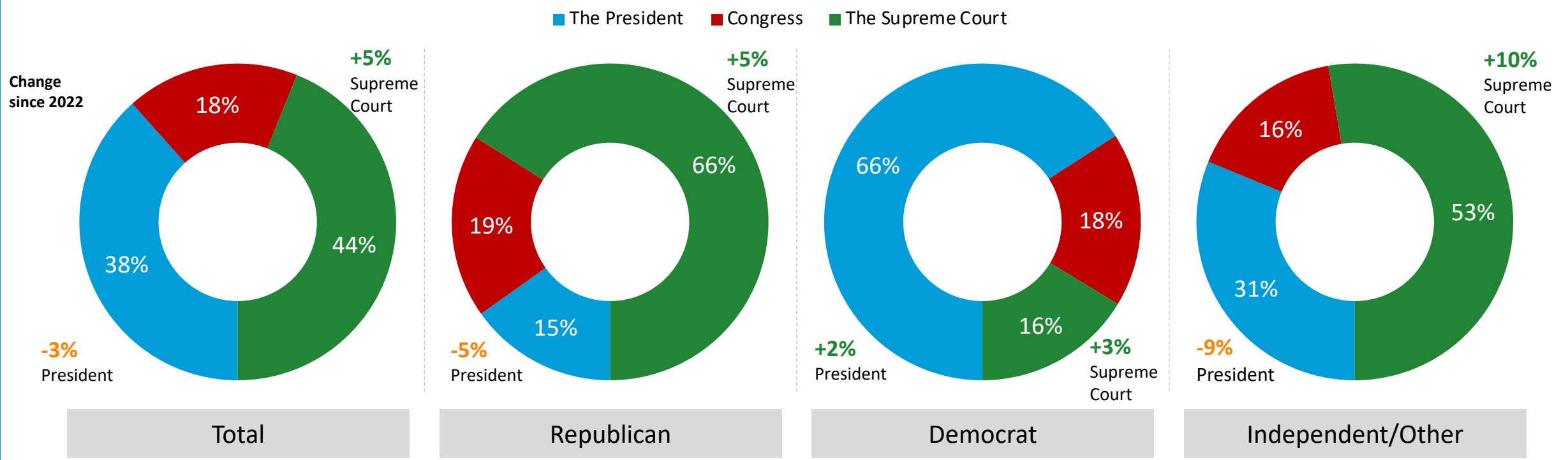
Base: Registered Voters (September 2023 n=2,001)  
 C2A. In the past 12 months, do you think each of these institutions has become more powerful, less powerful, or stayed the same?



# REPUBLICANS AND INDEPENDENTS SAY THE SUPREME COURT IS THE MOST EFFECTIVE BRANCH OF THE GOVERNMENT, WHILE DEMOCRATS FAVOR THE PRESIDENCY

Which part of the federal government do you think is the most effective at doing their job, the President, Congress or the Supreme Court? (By Party)

September 2023



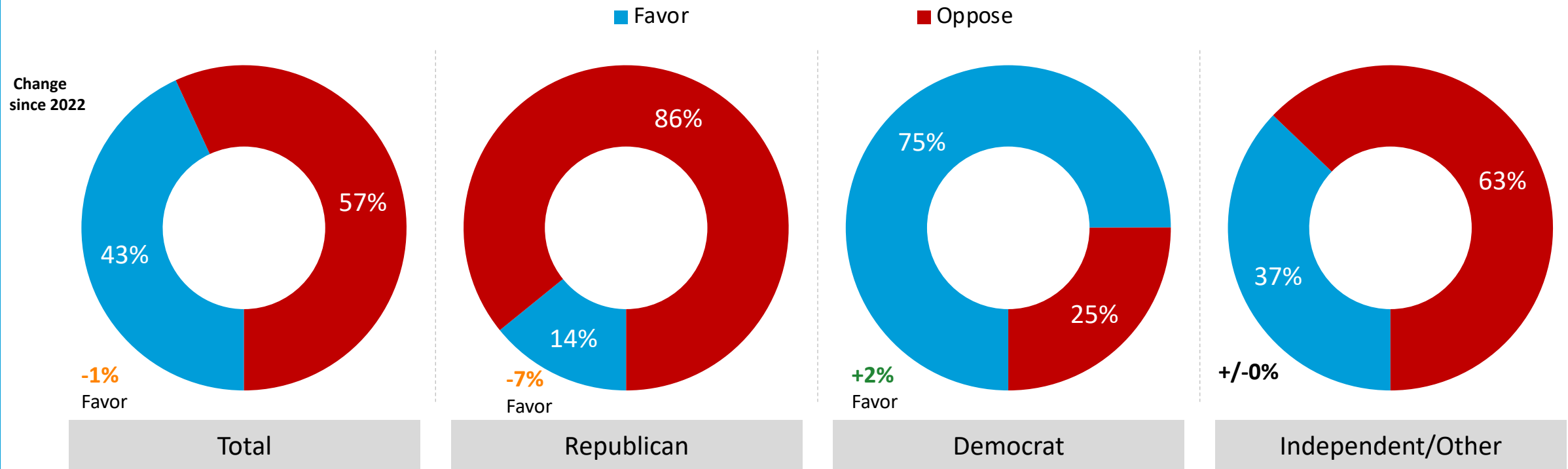
Base: 2022- Registered Voters (n=1,851), Republican (n=535), Democrat (n=832), Independent/Other (n=484)  
 2023- Registered Voters (n=2,001), Republican (n=605), Democrat (n=829), Independent/Other (n=567)  
 GW4. Which part of the federal government do you think is the most effective at doing their job, the President, Congress or the Supreme Court?



# VOTERS, REPUBLICANS, AND INDEPENDENTS OPPOSE ADDING NEW MEMBERS TO THE SUPREME COURT, WHILE DEMOCRATS ARE IN FAVOR

**Do you favor or oppose a plan from some Democrats to add 4 new members to the Supreme Court and have them picked by the Biden administration? (By Party)**

September 2023



Base: 2022- Registered Voters (n=1,851), Republican (n=535), Democrat (n=832), Independent/Other (n=484)

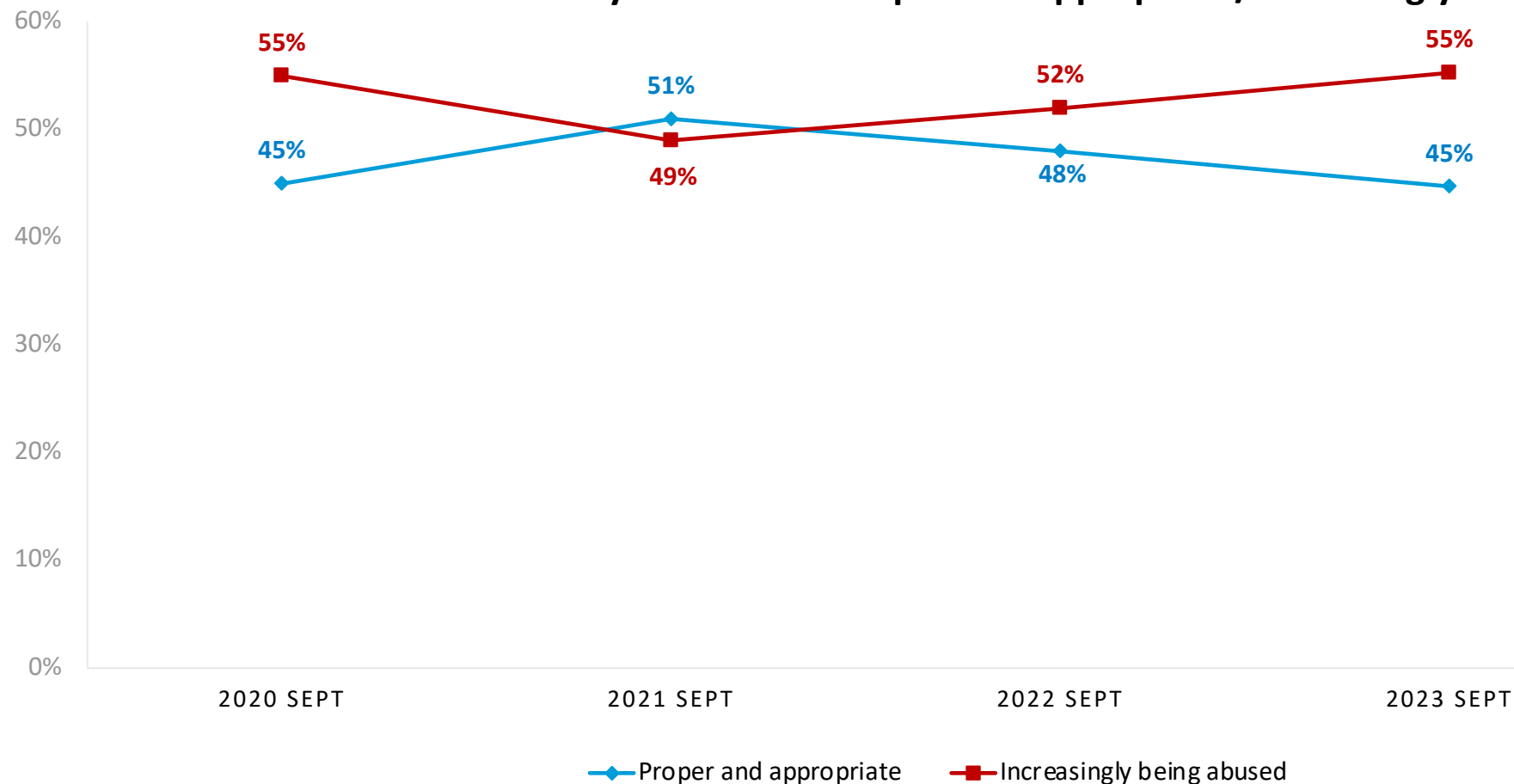
2023- Registered Voters (n=2,001), Republican (n=605), Democrat (n=829), Independent/Other (n=567)

C14D: Do you favor or oppose a plan from some Democrats to add 4 new members to the Supreme Court and have them picked by the Biden administration?



## OVER HALF OF VOTERS SAY EXECUTIVE ORDERS ARE INCREASINGLY BEING ABUSED

### Use of Executive Orders by Presidents: Proper and appropriate/increasingly being abused



### % Who Say "Increasingly being abused"

	2020	2021	2022	2023
GOP	27%	67%	68%	77%
DEM	76%	27%	30%	30%
IND	58%	56%	61%	61%

Base: Registered Voters (September 2020 n=1,907; September 2021 n=1,803; September 2022 n=1,851; September 2023 n=2,001)

C9: Do you think that the use of executive orders by presidents is generally proper and appropriate or is increasingly being abused?

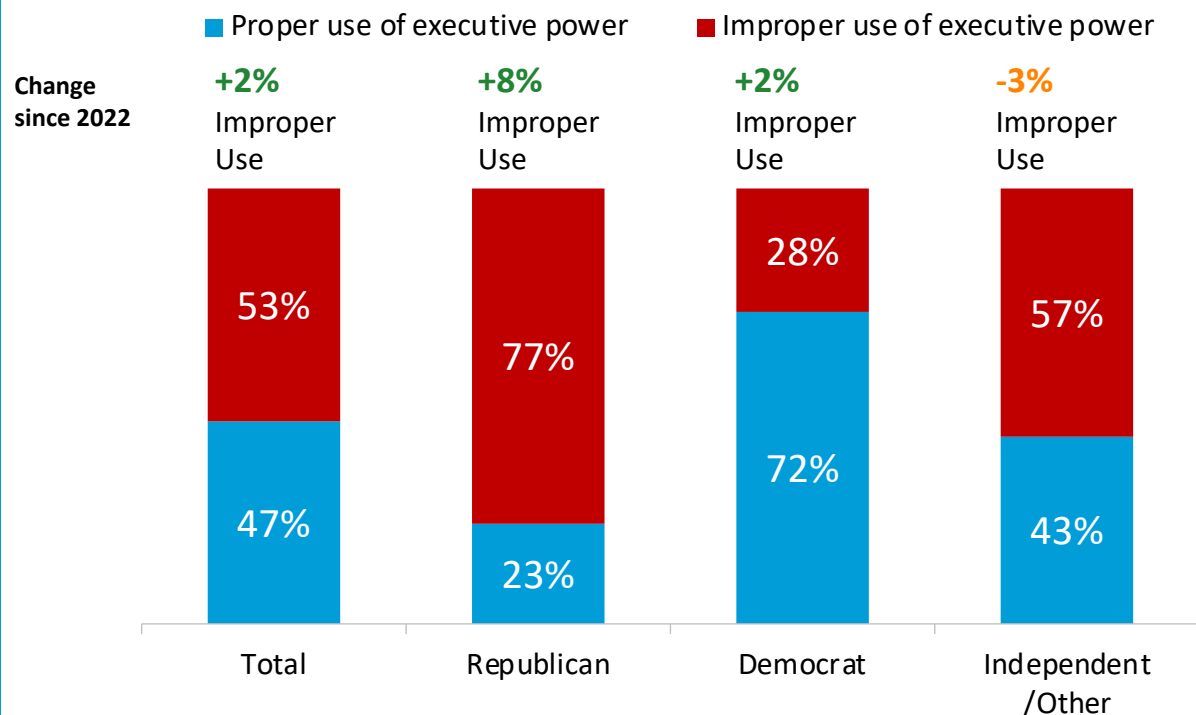


# VOTERS ARE SPLIT ON ELIMINATING STUDENT DEBT; MOST REPUBLICANS AND INDEPENDENTS BELIEVE IT TO BE AN IMPROPER USE OF EXECUTIVE POWER, BUT 3 IN 4 DEMOCRATS DISAGREE

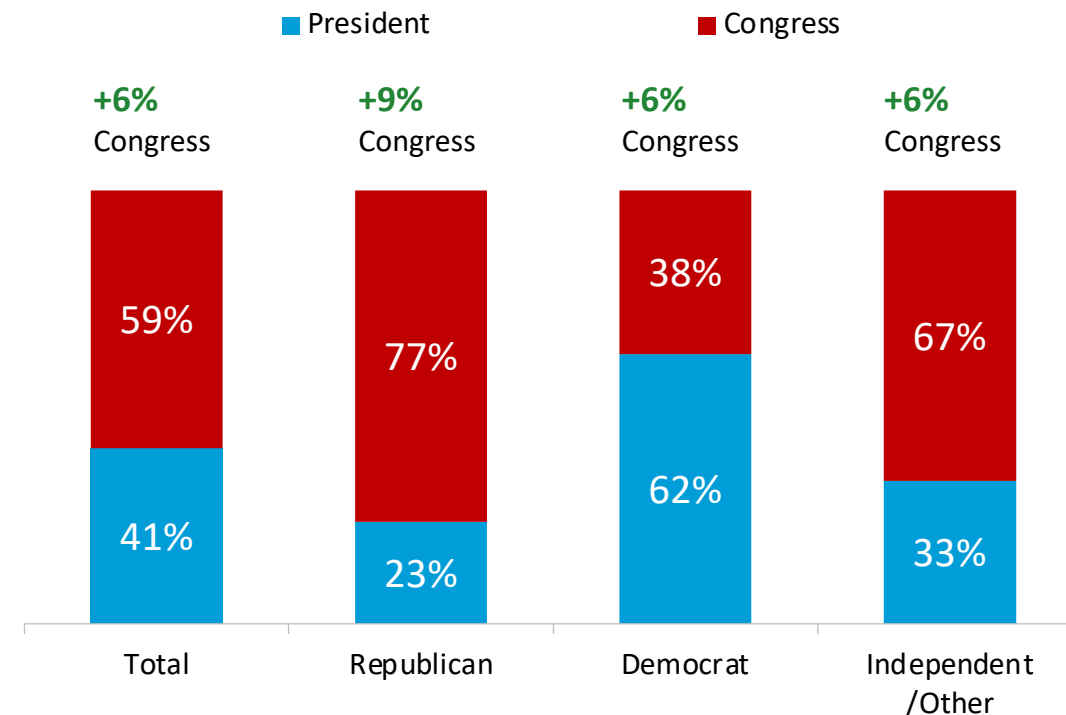
**Was the executive order eliminating up to \$500 billion of student debt a proper or improper use of executive power? (By Party)**

**Should the power to excuse debt on a mass basis reside with the president or only by an act of Congress? (By Party)**

September 2023



September 2023



Base: 2023:- Registered Voters (n=2,001), Republican (n=605), Democrat (n=829), Independent/Other (n=567);

2022:- Registered Voters (n=1,851), Republican (n=535), Democrat (n=832), Independent/Other (n=484);

MQ6. Do you think the executive order eliminating up to \$500 billion of student debt was a proper or improper use of executive power?

MQ7. Do you think that the power to excuse debt on a mass basis should reside with the president or only by an act of congress?



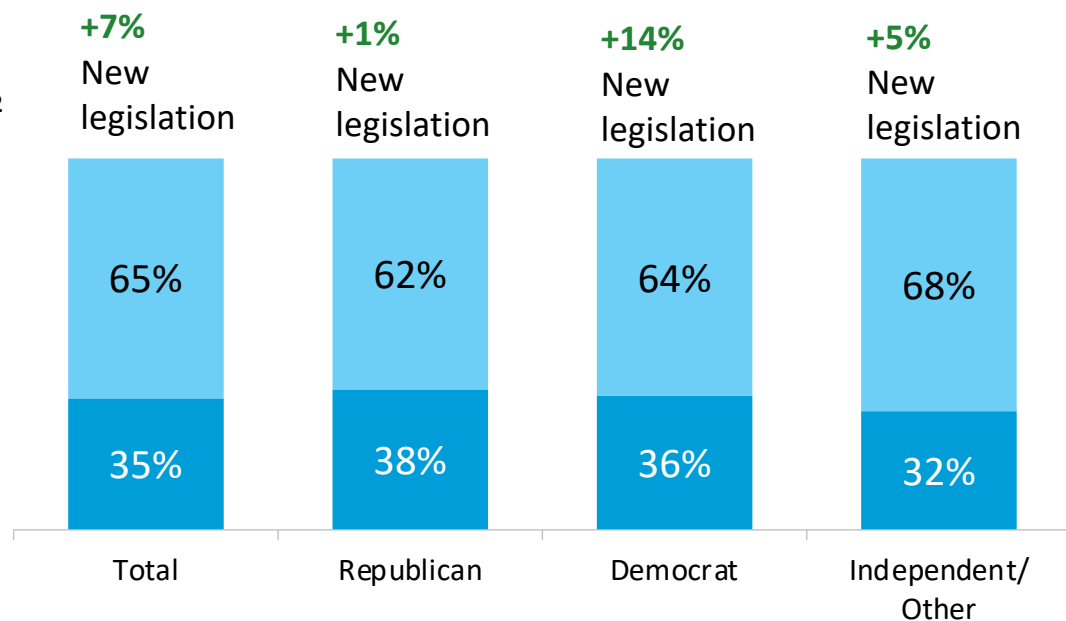
# A MAJORITY OF VOTERS BELIEVE REGULATING CARBON AND CLIMATE CHANGE REQUIRES NEW LEGISLATION

Is regulating carbon and climate change by the EPA just interpreting older statutes or is new legislation required to address the problem? (By Party)

September 2023

- Requires new legislation explicitly addressing the problem
- Can be fairly described as just interpreting older statutes

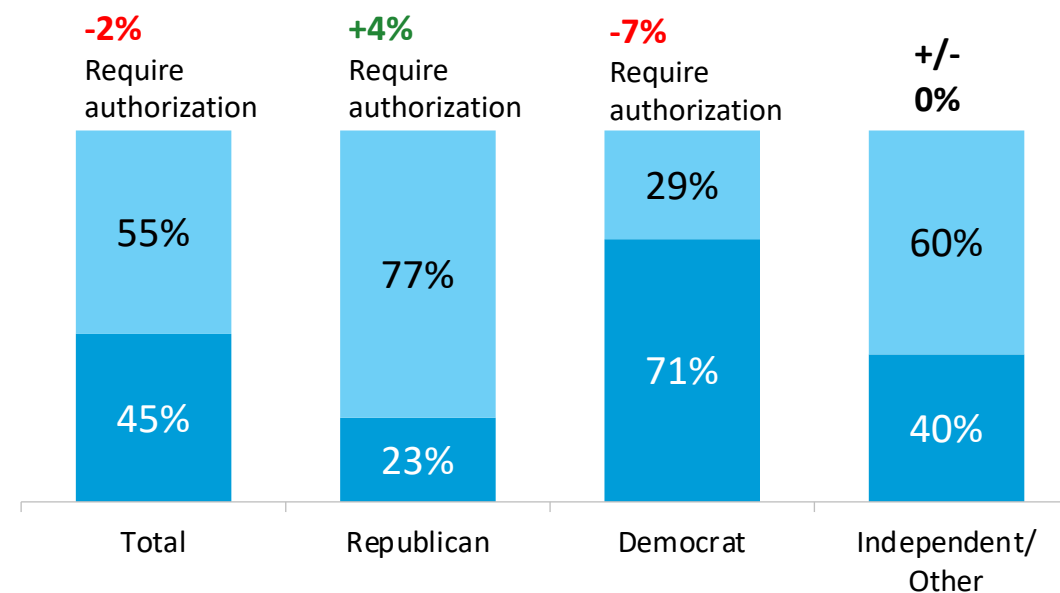
Change since 2022



Should the president be able to take actions that restrict drilling for mining/fossil fuels, or should it require congressional approval? (By Party)

September 2023

- Should require explicit congressional authorization
- President should be able to restrict drilling and permits for fossil fuels by executive order



Base: 2023:- Registered Voters (n=2,001), Republican (n=605), Democrat (n=829), Independent/Other (n=567);

2022:- Registered Voters (n=1,851), Republican (n=535), Democrat (n=832), Independent/Other (n=484);

MQ8. Do you think regulating carbon and climate change by the EPA can be fairly described as just interpreting older statutes from before climate change was known as a problem or requires new legislation explicitly addressing the problem?

MQ9. Do you think that the president should by executive order be able to take actions that restrict drilling and permits for mining and refining fossil fuels or should that require explicit congressional authorization?

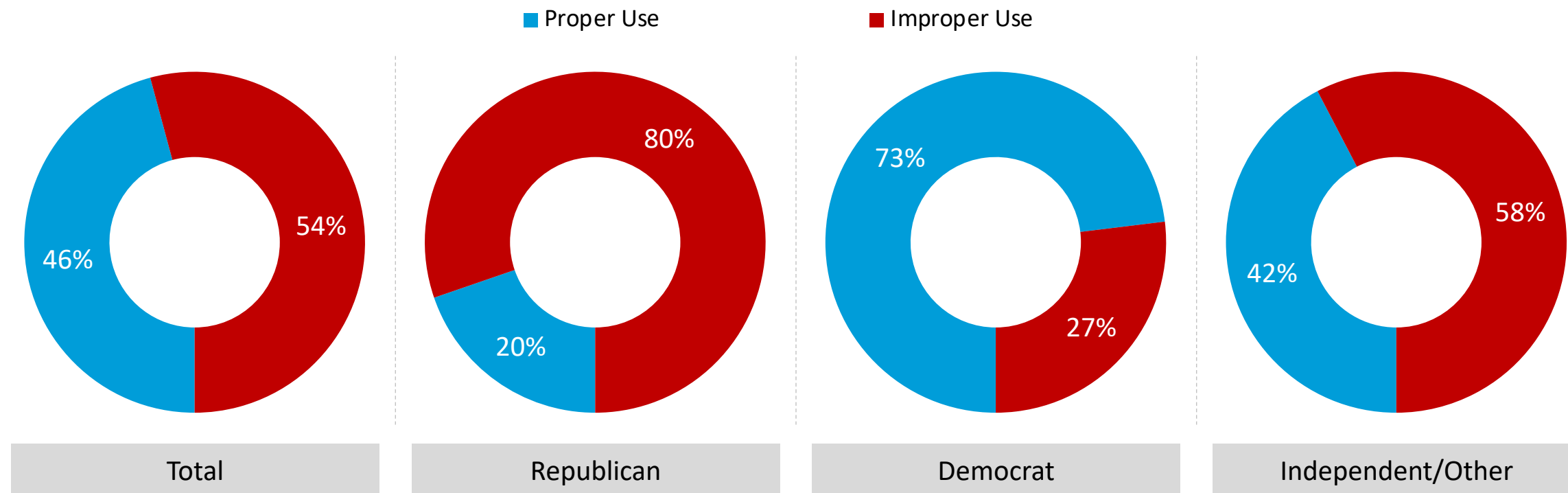




# WE SEE STRONG PARTY SPLITS ON OIL & GAS DRILLING: 4 IN 5 REPUBLICANS BELIEVE BIDEN'S PROHIBITION WAS AN IMPROPER USE OF EXECUTIVE POWER, WHILE 3 IN 4 DEMS SAY THE OPPOSITE

**Do you think the Biden Administration prohibiting oil drilling on 13 million acres of land in Alaska was a proper or improper use of executive power? (By Party)**

September 2023



Base: Registered Voters (n=2,001), Republican (n=605), Democrat (n=829), Independent/Other (n=567)

MQ6New: Do you think the Biden Administration prohibiting oil drilling on 13 million acres of land in Alaska was a proper or improper use of executive power?

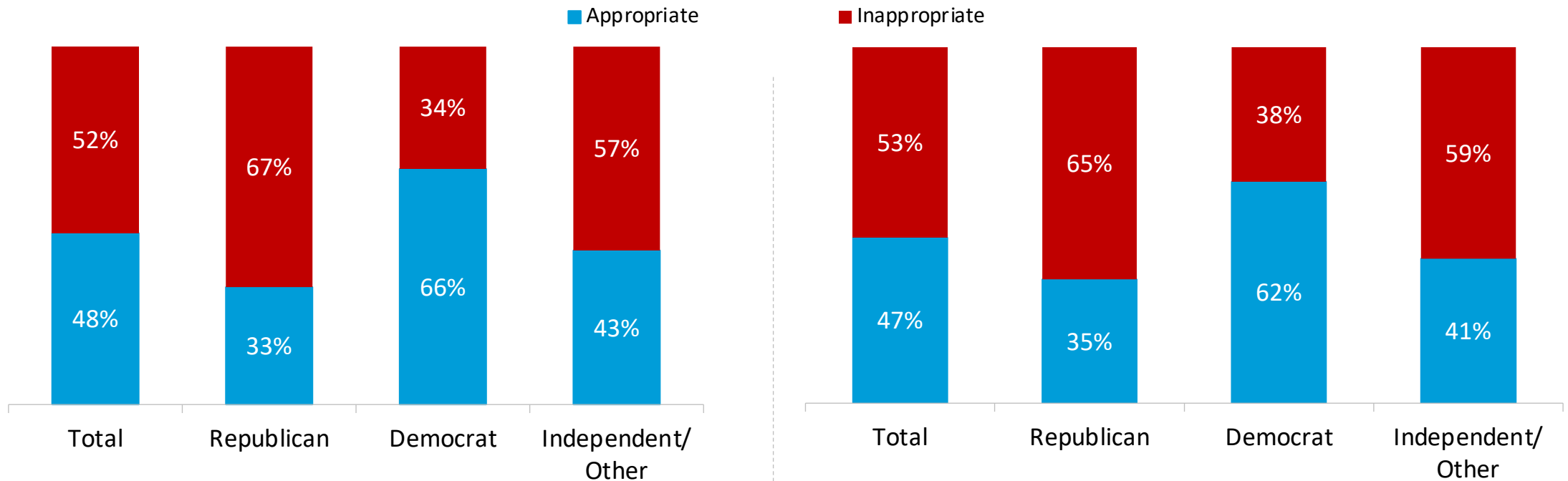


# VOTERS LEAN SLIGHTLY TOWARDS THINKING GOVERNMENT INTERFERENCE IN MEDIA ON MISINFORMATION IS INAPPROPRIATE

**Is it appropriate for the government to tell social media companies what is and is not misinformation?**

**Is it appropriate for the government to tell news media organizations what is and is not misinformation?**

September 2023



Base: Registered voters (September 2023 n=2,001)

SM1: Is it appropriate for the government to tell social media companies what is and is not misinformation?

SM2: Is it appropriate for the government to tell news media organizations what is and is not misinformation?

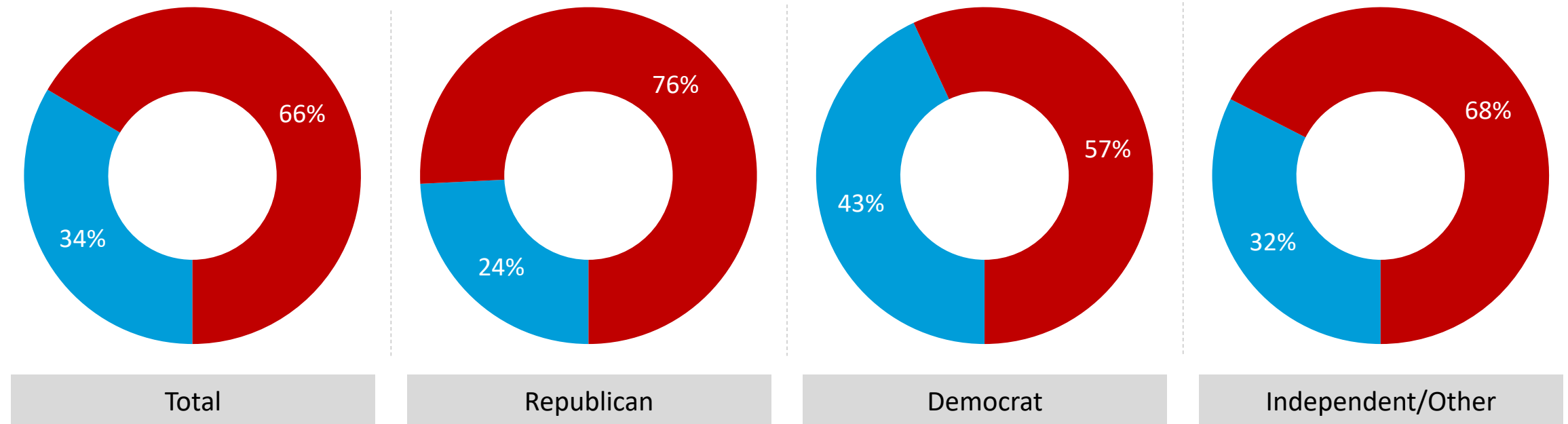


# OVERALL, THE MAJORITY OF EACH PARTY THINKS IT'S MORE IMPORTANT FOR THE GOVERNMENT TO SET UP A GROUP TO PROTECT FREE SPEECH THAN COMBAT MISINFORMATION

**Which is more important: Setting up a group in the government to fight misinformation or to protect free speech and the first amendment? (By Party)**

September 2023

- Setting up a group in the government to fight misinformation
- Setting up a group in the government to protect free speech and the First Amendment



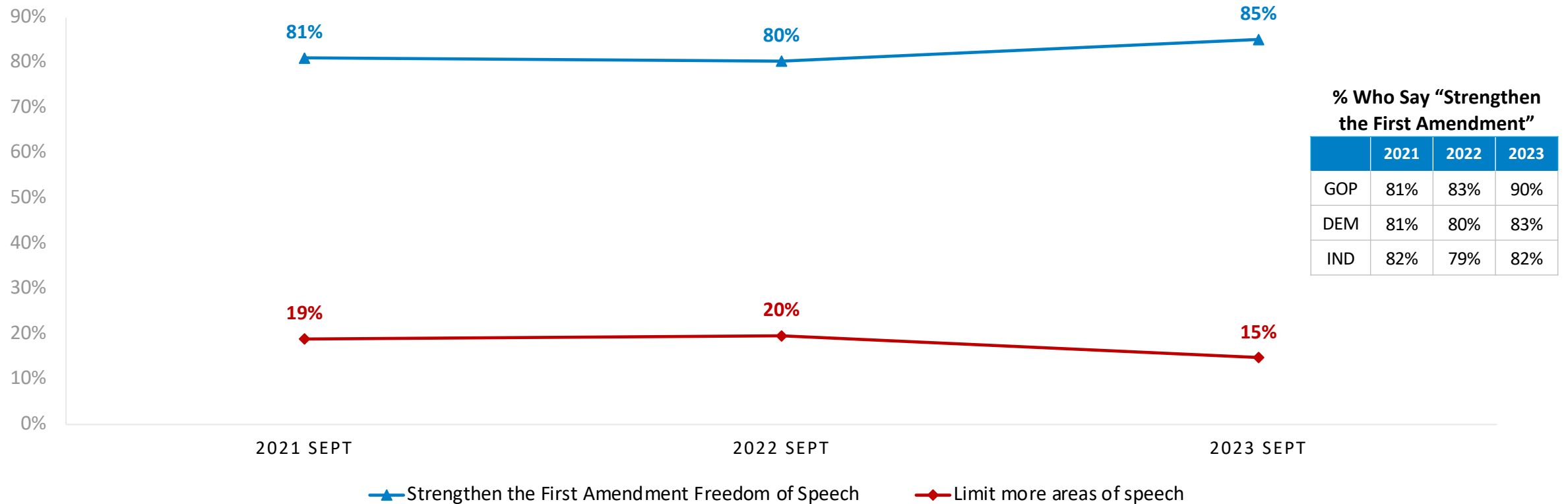
Base: Registered Voters (n=2,001), Republican (n=605), Democrat (n=829), Independent/Other (n=567)

MQ1New: Which is more important?



# MOST VOTERS SAY THAT WE NEED TO STRENGTHEN THE FIRST AMENDMENT'S PROVISION FOR FREEDOM OF SPEECH

**Do you think we need to strengthen these First Amendment freedoms, or should we be limiting more areas of speech?**



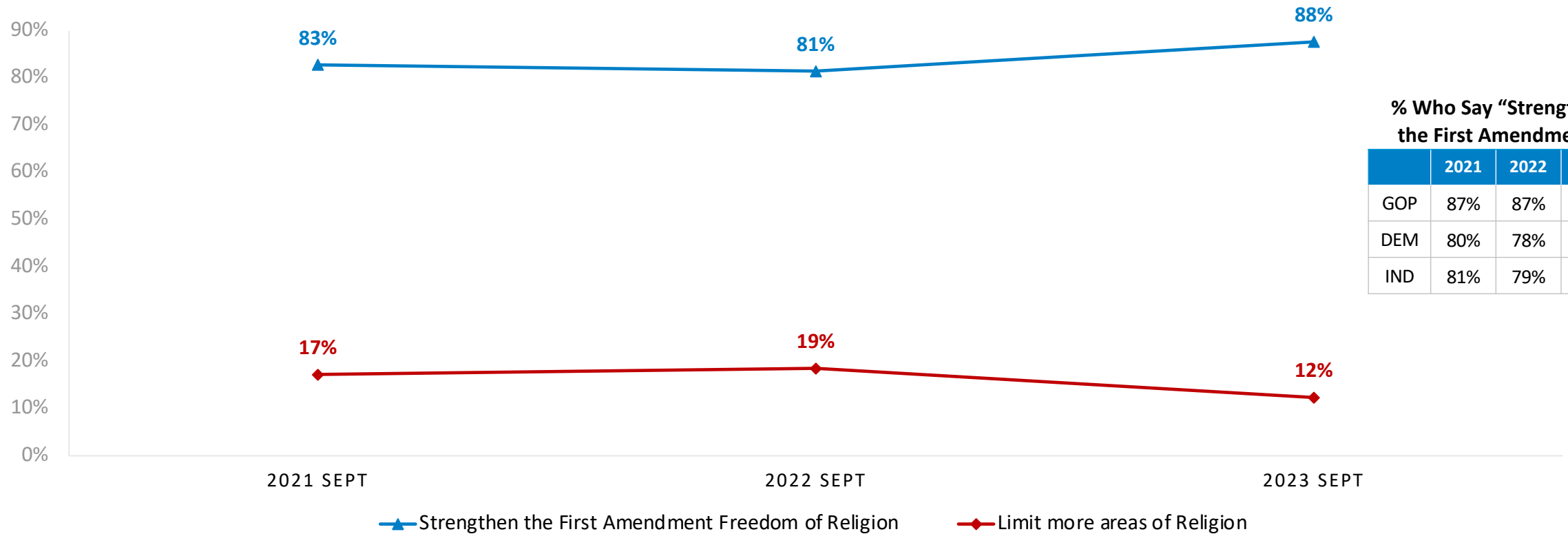
Base: Registered voters (September 2021 n=1,803; September 2022 n=1,851; September 2023 n=2,001)

C22: The First Amendment of the Constitution provides for freedom of speech and the press. Do you think we need to strengthen these First Amendment freedoms, or should we be limiting more areas of speech?



# VOTERS ALSO SAY THAT THE COUNTRY NEEDS TO STRENGTHEN THE FIRST AMENDMENT'S PROVISION FOR FREEDOM OF RELIGION

**Do you think we need to strengthen this set of First Amendment freedoms, or should we be limiting more areas of religious freedom and practice?**



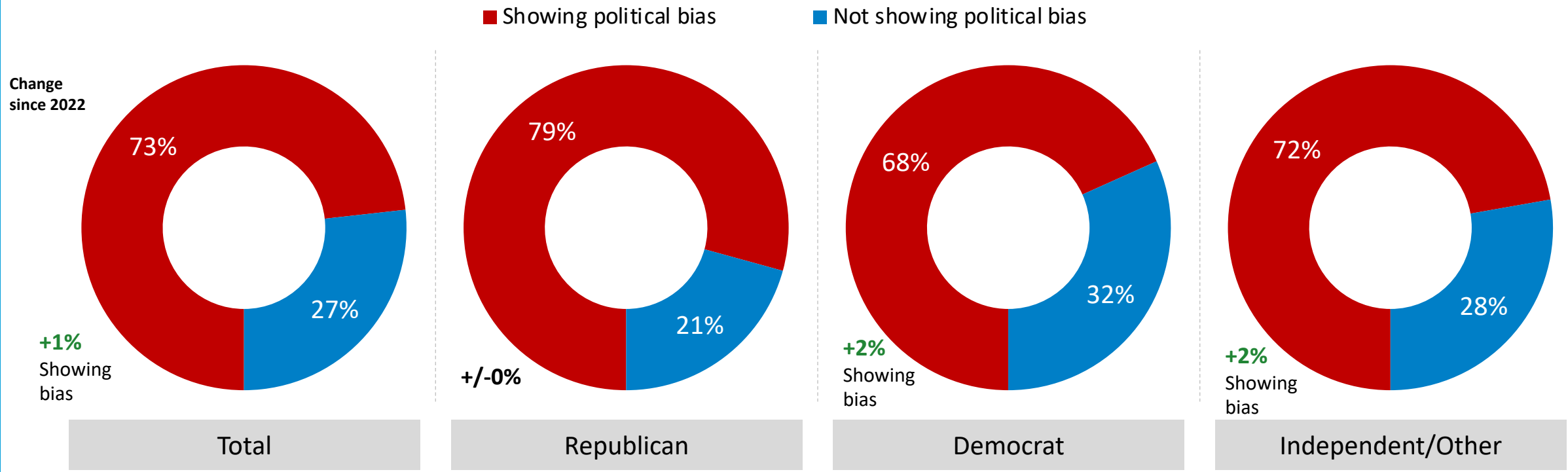
Base: Registered voters (September 2021 n=1,803; September 2022 n=1,851, September 2023 n=2,001)

C22A: The First Amendment of the Constitution also provides for freedom of religion. Do you think we need to strengthen this set of First Amendment freedoms, or should we be limiting more areas of religious freedom and practice?

# STRONG MAJORITIES ACROSS THE POLITICAL SPECTRUM THINK BIG TECH COMPANIES ARE SHOWING POLITICAL BIAS IN THEIR ACTIONS

**Do you think the Big Tech companies are showing political bias in their actions or not showing political bias in their actions? (By Party)**

September 2023



Base: 2023:- Registered Voters (n=2,001), Republican (n=605), Democrat (n=829), Independent/Other (n=567);  
 2022:- Registered Voters (n=1,851), Republican (n=535), Democrat (n=832), Independent/Other (n=484);  
 MQ10. Do you think the Big Tech companies are showing political bias in their actions or not showing political bias in their actions?



# AROUND 3 IN 5 VOTERS THINK BIG TECH PLATFORMS SHOULD PROVIDE POSTERS WITH FIRST AMENDMENT RIGHTS, SIMILAR TO A TOWN SQUARE

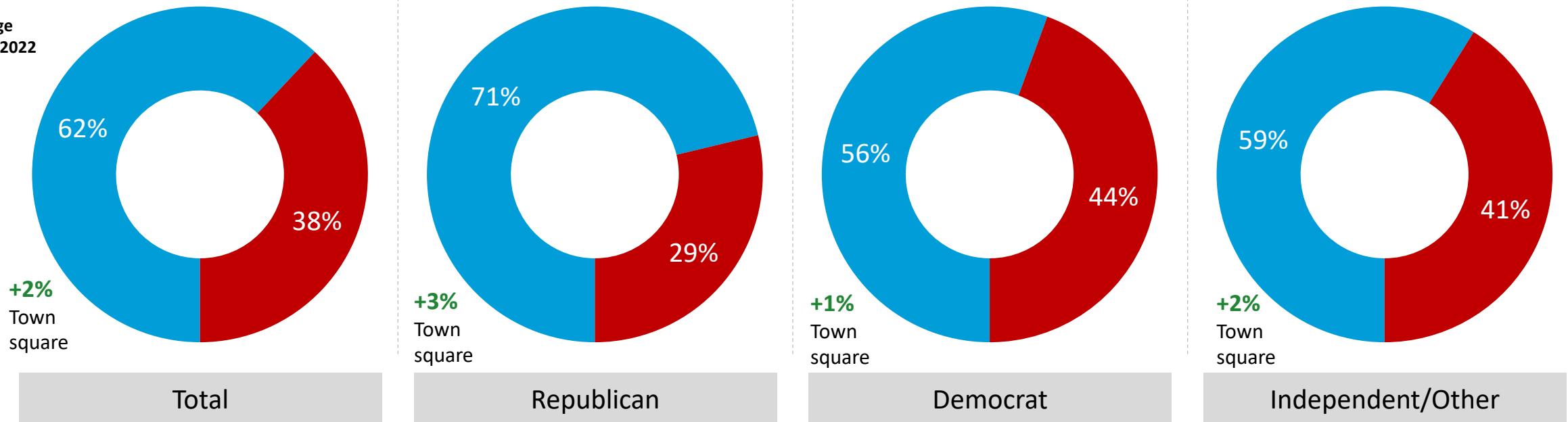
**Do you think that Big Tech platforms should provide posters with the rights of the First Amendment or are those platforms private companies that should be able to ban users at will? (By Party)**

September 2023

■ They are private companies and should be able to ban users

■ Tech platforms are like town squares and should provide First Amendment rights

Change since 2022



Base: Registered Voters (n=2,001), Republican (n=605), Democrat (n=829), Independent/Other (n=567)  
 2022- Registered Voters (n=1,851), Republican (n=535), Democrat (n=832), Independent/Other (n=484)

MQ12. Do you think that Big Tech platforms are like the town square today and should provide posters with the rights of the First Amendment or are those platforms private companies that should be able to ban users at will?



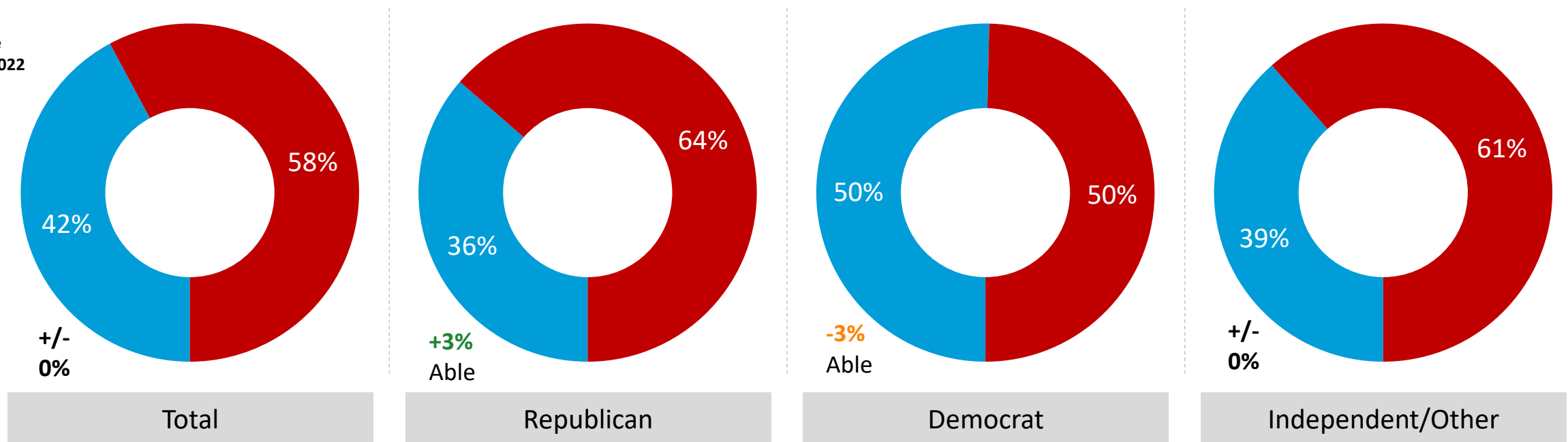
# A MAJORITY OF VOTERS, INCLUDING TWO THIRDS OF REPUBLICANS AND ALMOST AS MANY INDEPENDENTS, SAY PRIVATE INDIVIDUALS SHOULD NOT BE ABLE TO FUND THE VOTER OFFICES THEY CHOOSE

**Do you think that private individuals like Mark Zuckerberg should be allowed to fund selected government voter offices in selected areas where one party dominates, or should such funding be prohibited? (By Party)**

September 2023

■ Such funding should be prohibited      ■ Private individuals should be able to fund the voter offices they choose

Change since 2022



Base: Registered Voters (n=2,001), Republican (n=605), Democrat (n=829), Independent/Other (n=567)  
 2022- Registered Voters (n=1,851), Republican (n=535), Democrat (n=832), Independent/Other (n=484)

MQ26. Do you think that private individuals like Mark Zuckerberg should be allowed to fund selected government voter offices in selected areas where one party dominates or should such funding be prohibited?

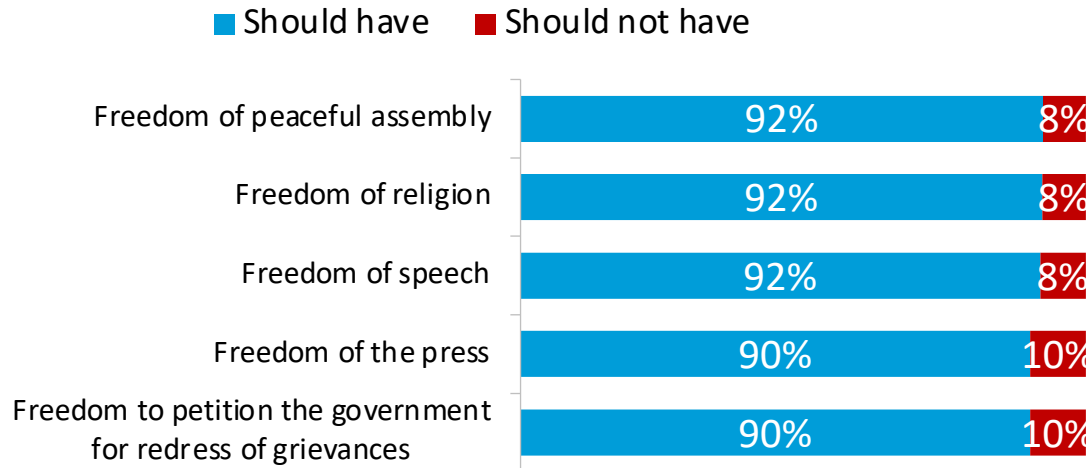




# WHILE VOTERS OVERWHELMINGLY THINK AMERICANS SHOULD HAVE FIRST AMENDMENT FREEDOMS, THEY ARE SPLIT ON WHETHER THESE FREEDOMS ARE UNDER ASSAULT

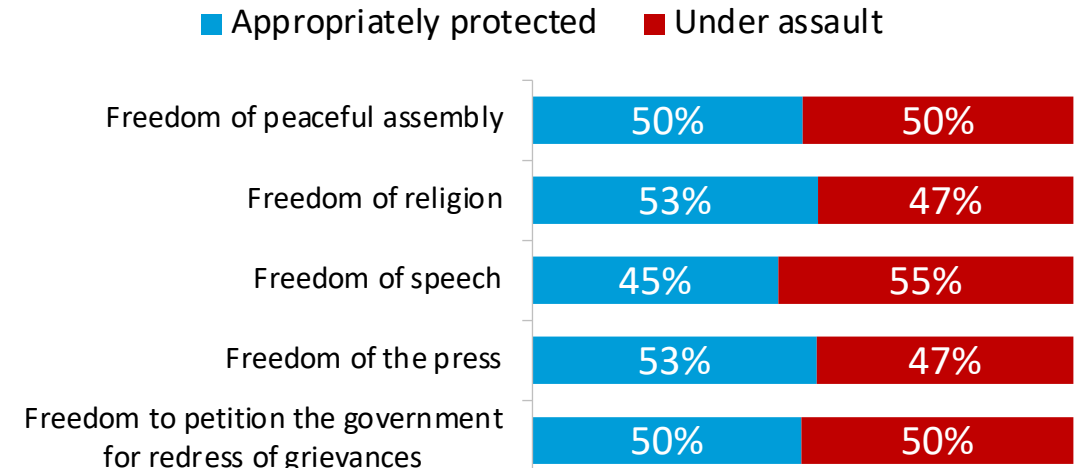
For each of the following freedoms under the First Amendment, do you believe Americans should or should not have this freedom?

For each of the following freedoms under the First Amendment, do you believe it is appropriately protected today or is it under assault?



% Who Say "Should have"

	GOP	DEM	IND
Freedom of peaceful assembly	92%	92%	93%
Freedom of religion	91%	92%	94%
Freedom of speech	91%	92%	93%
Freedom of the press	92%	88%	91%
Freedom to petition the government for redress of grievances	90%	89%	92%



% Who Say "Under assault"

	GOP	DEM	IND
Freedom of peaceful assembly	60%	39%	53%
Freedom of religion	61%	34%	48%
Freedom of speech	69%	38%	59%
Freedom of the press	58%	37%	48%
Freedom to petition the government for redress of grievances	61%	35%	57%

Base: Registered Voters (n=2,001)

Q1A. For each of the following freedoms under the First Amendment, do you believe Americans should or should not have this freedom?

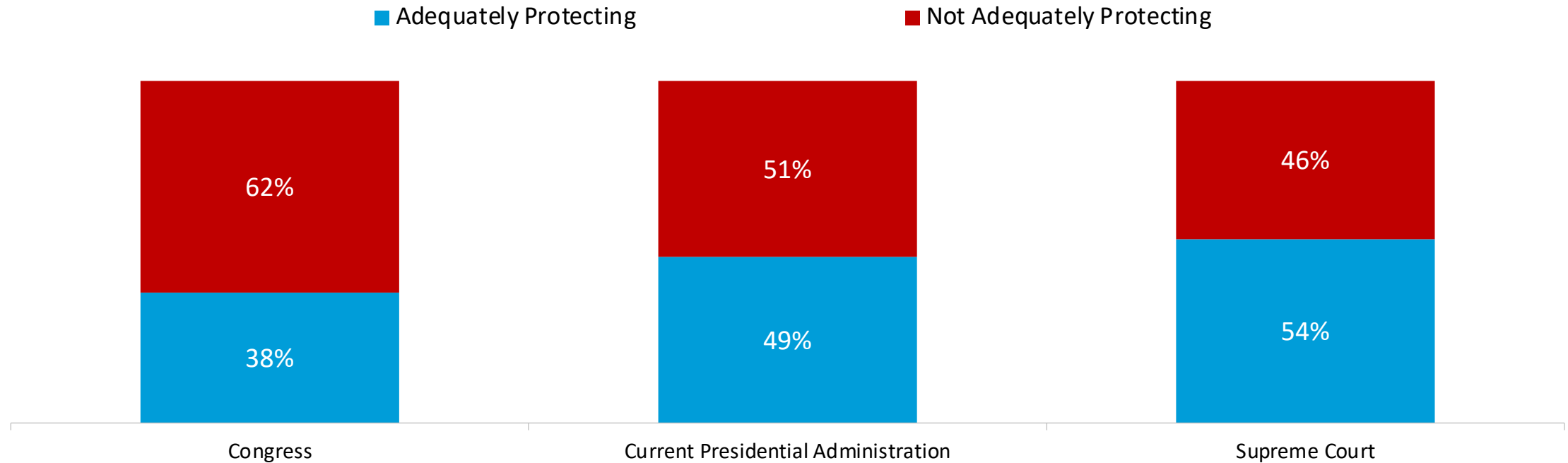
Q1AB. For each of the following freedoms under the First Amendment, do you believe it is appropriately protected today or is it under assault?



# ACCORDING TO VOTERS, CONGRESS IS THE LEAST ADEQUATE PROTECTOR OF THE FIRST AMENDMENT

Do you think ... is adequately protecting the First Amendment or not?

September 2023



Base: Registered Voters (n=2,001)

Q1AP. Do you think the currently presidential administration is adequately protecting the First Amendment or not?

Q1ASC. Do you think the Supreme Court is adequately protecting the First Amendment or not?

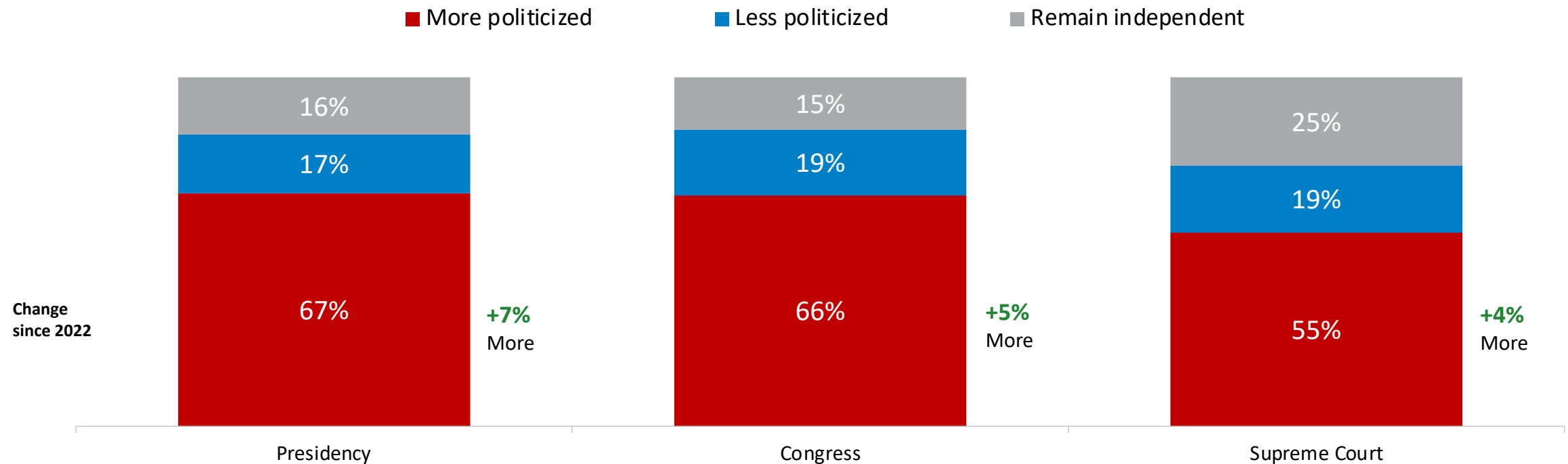
Q1AC. Do you think Congress is adequately protecting the First Amendment or not?



# MAJORITIES SAY THE PRESIDENCY, CONGRESS, AND SUPREME COURT ARE BECOMING MORE POLITICIZED

Do you think that each of these institutions are becoming more politicized or less politicized, or do they remain independent?

September 2023



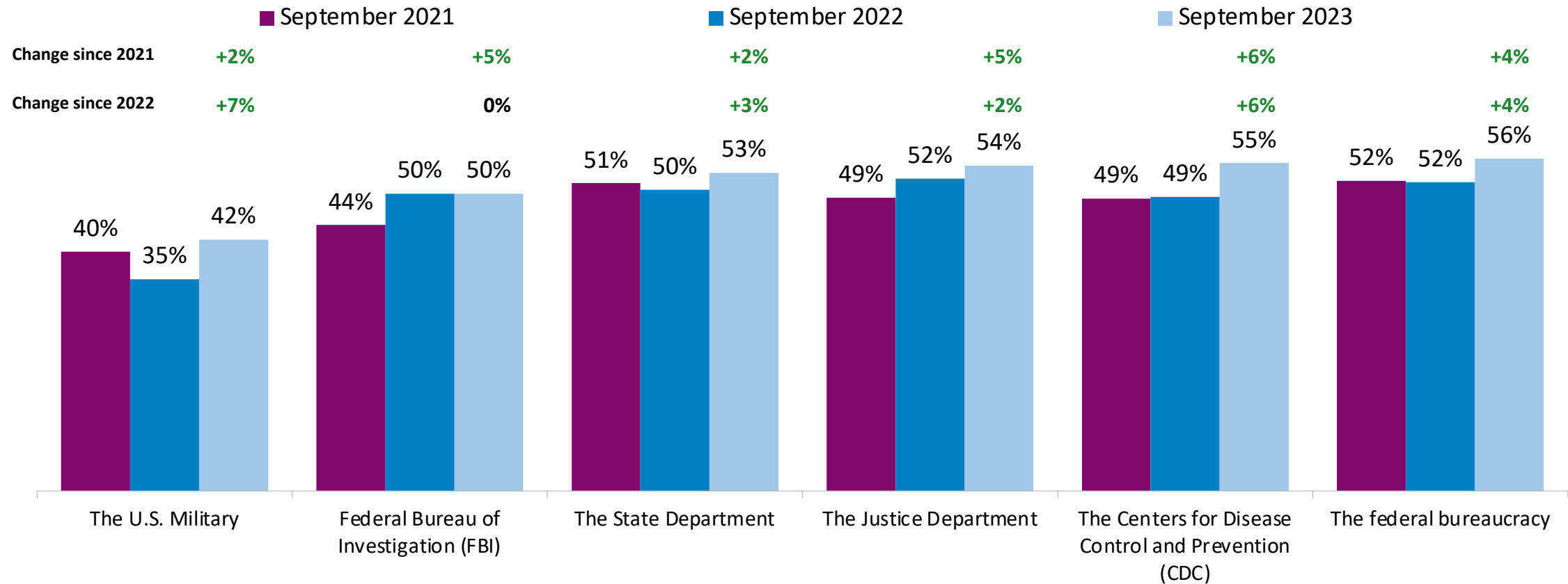
Base: Registered Voters (September 2022 n=1,851), (September 2023 n=2,001)

C7C: Do you think that each of these institutions are becoming more politicized or less politicized, or do they remain independent?



# PLURALITIES BELIEVE THE FEDERAL BUREAUCRACY AND EACH DEPARTMENT IS BECOMING MORE POLITICIZED

Do you think that each of these institutions are becoming more politicized or less politicized, or do they remain independent? (by More politicized)



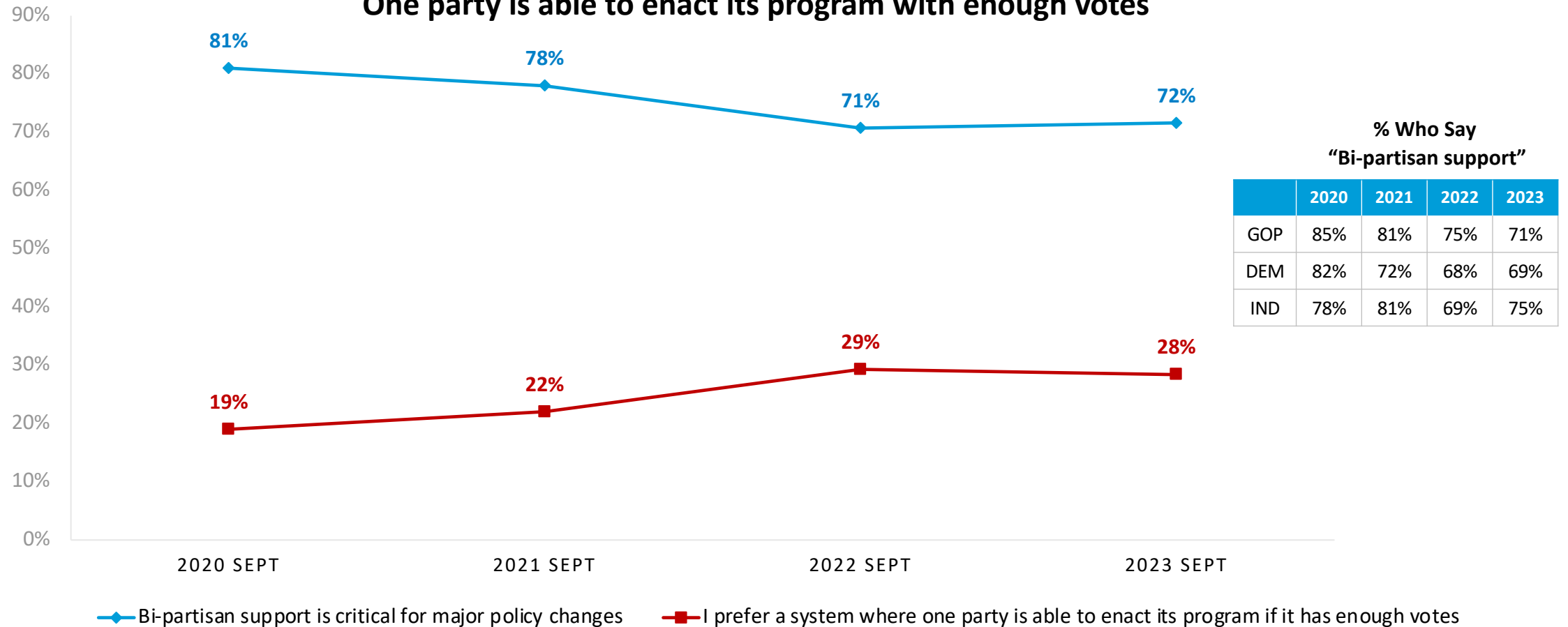
Base: Registered Voters (September 2021 n=1,803, September 2022 n=1,851, September 2023 n=2,001)

C7C: Do you think that each of these institutions are becoming more politicized or less politicized, or do they remain independent?



## MAJORITIES OF VOTERS ACROSS PARTIES STILL PREFER BIPARTISANSHIP

**System preference: Bi-partisan support necessary for major policy changes/  
One party is able to enact its program with enough votes**



Base: Registered Voters (September 2020 n=1,907; September 2021 n=1,803; September 2022 n=1,851; September 2023 n=2,001)

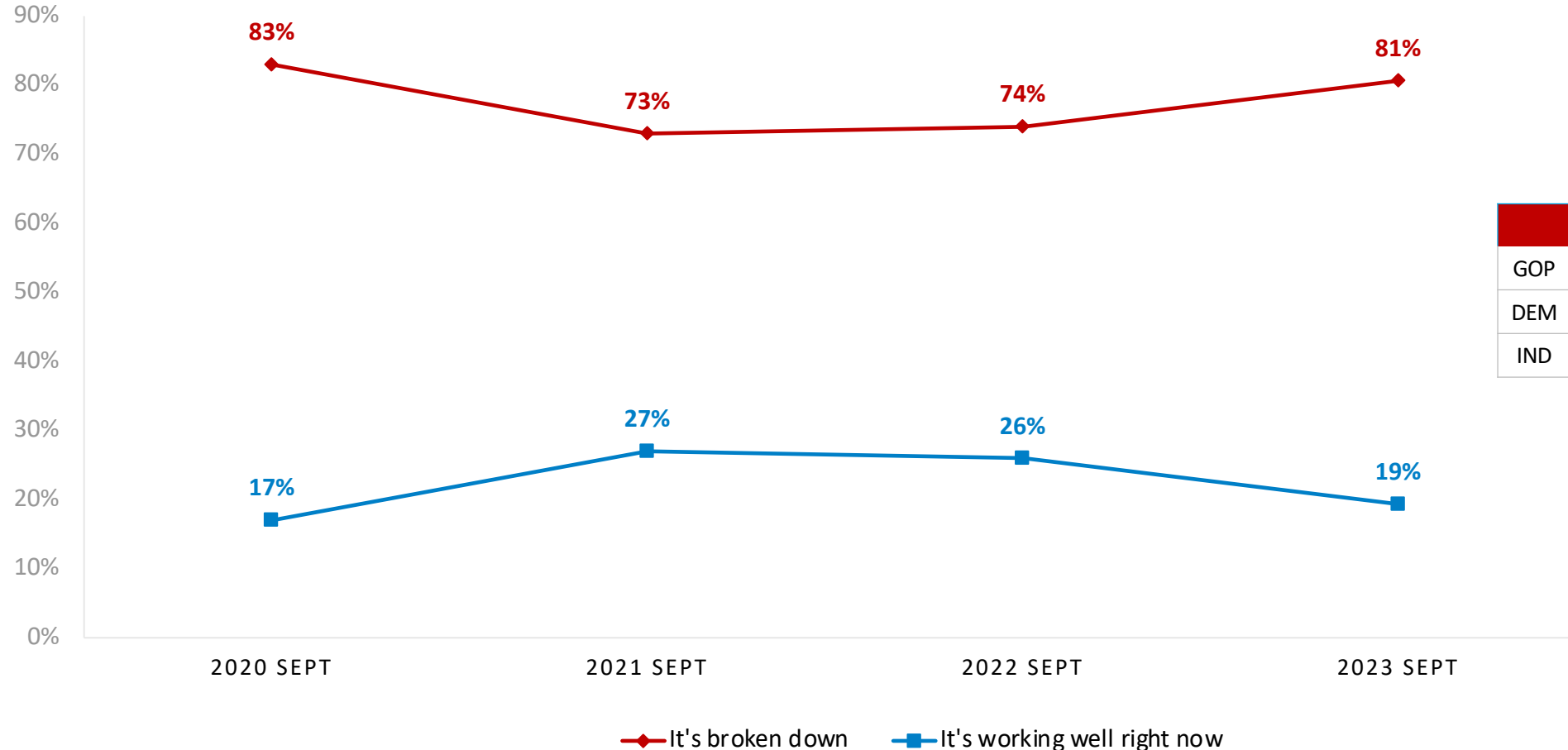
C3: 2020, 2021: Do you think that bipartisan support is critical for major policy changes or would you prefer a system where one party just enacted its program?

C3: 2022, 2023 (Language changed): Do you think that bi-partisan support is critical for major policy changes, or would you prefer a system where one party is able to enact its program if it has enough votes?



# AFTER A COUPLE YEARS OF IMPROVEMENT, BELIEFS THAT THE BIPARTISAN SYSTEM OF GOVERNING IS BROKEN HAVE SURGED BACK TO PANDEMIC LEVELS

## Is the bipartisan system of governing broken or working?



% Who Say "Broken down"

	2020	2021	2022	2023
GOP	78%	82%	84%	88%
DEM	87%	62%	61%	73%
IND	84%	77%	78%	82%

Base: Registered Voters (September 2020 n=1,907; September 2021 n=1,803; September 2022 n=1,851; September 2023 n=2,001)

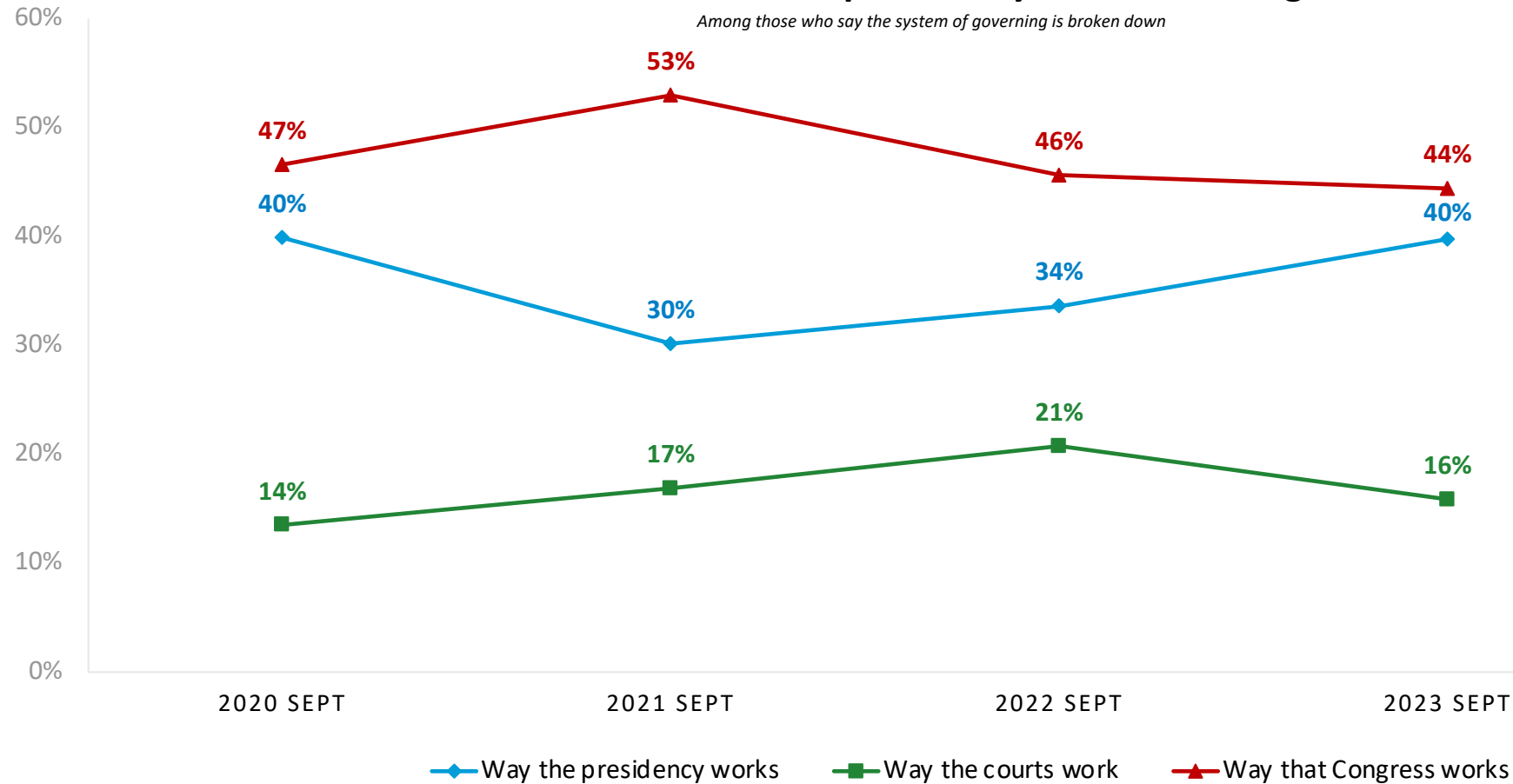
C5: Do you think the bipartisan system of governing has broken down or is working well right now?



# VOTERS ARE INCREASINGLY BLAMING THE PRESIDENCY, NOT THE COURTS, FOR THE BROKEN SYSTEM

## Is this the fault of how the presidency, courts, or congress works?

*Among those who say the system of governing is broken down*



### % Who Say "Congress"

	2020	2021	2022	2023
GOP	65%	50%	44%	32%
DEM	28%	49%	49%	54%
IND	53%	62%	45%	50%

### % Who Say "the Presidency"

	2020	2021	2022	2023
GOP	23%	37%	41%	56%
DEM	58%	28%	26%	26%
IND	34%	22%	32%	34%

### % Who Say "the Courts"

	2020	2021	2022	2023
GOP	13%	13%	16%	12%
DEM	14%	23%	25%	20%
IND	13%	16%	24%	16%

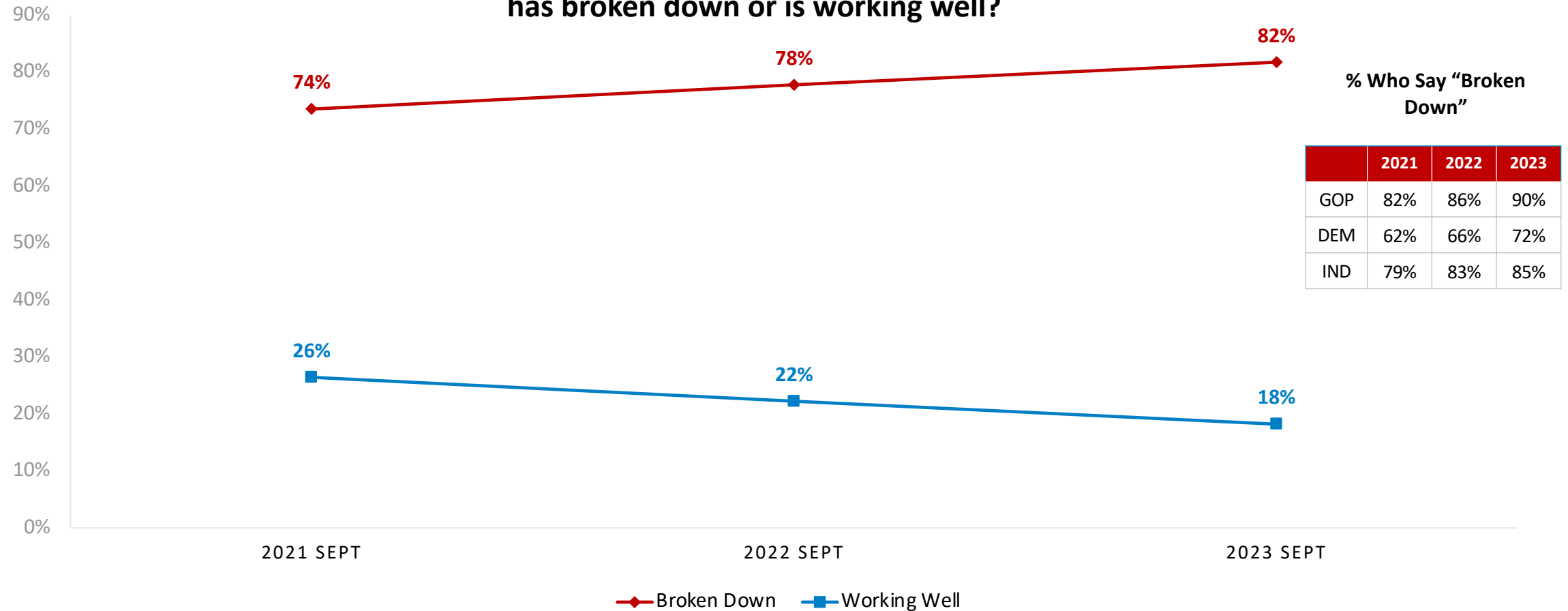
Base: Registered Voters who say the system of governing is broken down (September 2020 n=1,601; September 2021 n=1,355; September 2022 n=1,326; September 2023 n=1,582)

C6: Do you think that is primarily the result of problems with the way the presidency works, the way the courts work, or the way that Congress works?



# A GROWING MAJORITY (OVER 8 IN 10) SAY THAT THE SYSTEM OF CREATING BIPARTISAN LEGISLATION IN CONGRESS HAS BROKEN DOWN, AS WELL

**Do you think that the system of creating bipartisan legislation in Congress has broken down or is working well?**



Base: Registered Voters (September 2021 n=1,803; September 2022 n=1,851; September 2023 n=2,001)

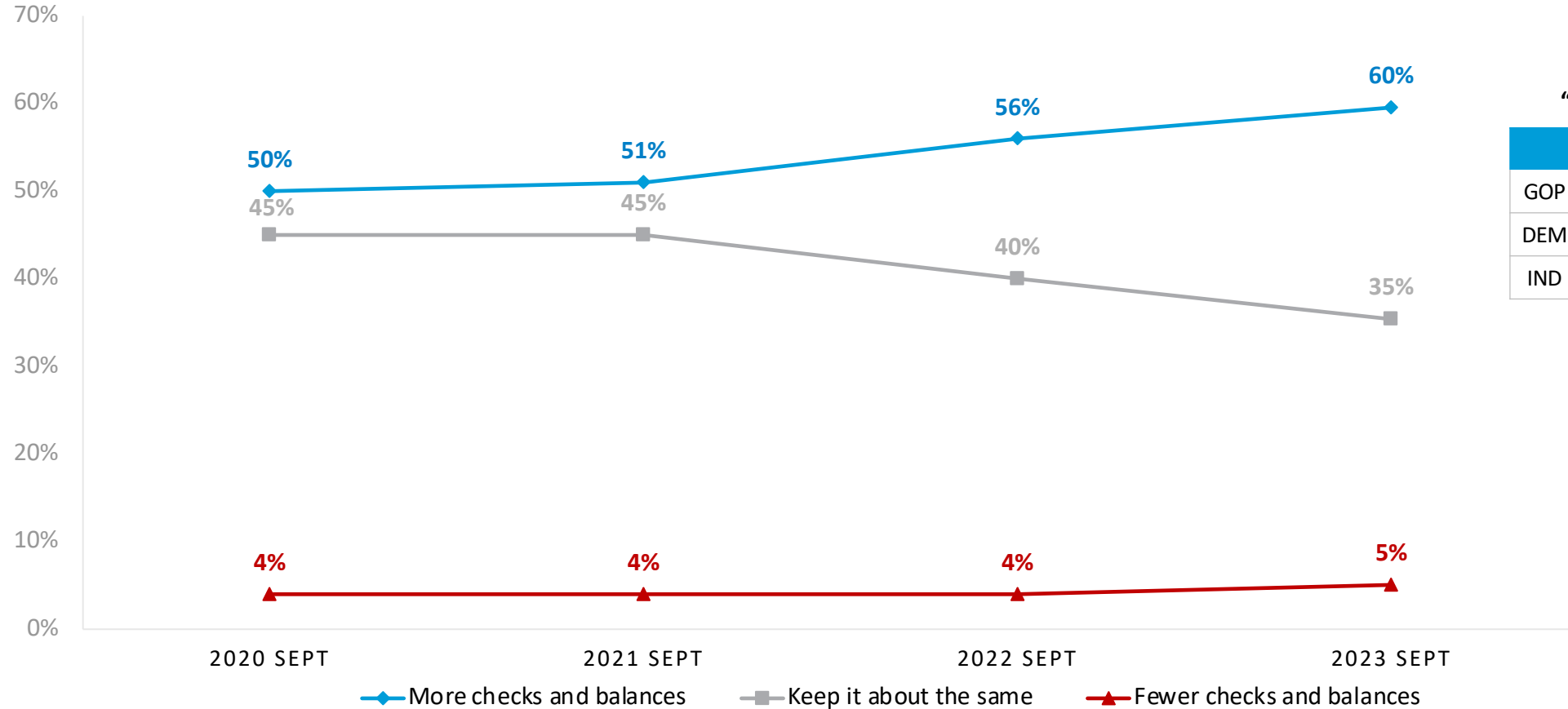
C12: Do you think that the system of creating bipartisan legislation in Congress has broken down or is working well?





# IN 2022 AND 2023, OVER HALF OF VOTERS ACROSS THE POLITICAL SPECTRUM WANT MORE CHECKS AND BALANCES

## Need more, fewer, or the same amount of checks and balances?



### % Who Say "More checks and balances"

	2020	2021	2022	2023
GOP	42%	45%	56%	55%
DEM	60%	60%	57%	64%
IND	46%	45%	54%	59%

Base: Registered Voters (September 2020 n=1,907; September 2021 n=1,803; September 2022 n=1,851; September 2023 n=2,001)

C4: The constitution has a system of checks and balances – do you think we need more checks and balances in the system, fewer checks and balances or keep it about the same?

THANK YOU