2026 Midterm Election Voter Poll

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AFRICAN AMERICAN RESEARCH COLLABORATIVE

November 4, 2026

About the Survey

2026 Midterm Election Voter Poll

- Total N=10,141 voters in the 2026 midterm election (+/-0.97%)
  - N=3,014 Latino respondents (±1.8%)
  - N=1,804 Black respondents (±2.3%)
  - N=2,130 AAPI respondents (±2.1%)
  - N=1,387 Native American (±2.6%)
  - N=1,806 White respondents (±2.3%)
  - N=3,423 Battleground Congressional Districts (±1.7%)
  - N=4,959 Battleground Senate States (±1.4%)
- Field Dates: October 20 – November 3, 2026
- Survey available in English, Spanish, Chinese, Korean, Vietnamese, and Tagalog according to respondent preference
- Administered via live phone, text invite, and online panels
- All respondents voted in the 2026 election

Key Findings

1. Cost of living is the top issue for every group. 53% to 60% rank it among their top three issues, and food and grocery costs lead cost concerns for every group. Many are financially stretched: 57% of Black and Native American voters and 50% of Latino voters have nothing left after expenses or are struggling.

2. President Trump is underwater on the economy with every group. Majorities of every racial group disapprove of his handling of inflation and the cost of living, jobs and the economy, and the war with Iran. On immigration and ICE, only White voters approve (50%).

3. Voters of color trust Democrats more. On their top issue, Black (76% to 11%), Latino (58% to 25%) and AAPI (51% to 27%) voters say Democrats would do a better job. About two-thirds or more of voters of color say Republicans don't care about their community or are hostile to it.

4. Voters of color delivered large Democratic margins in House races. Democrats won Black voters 85–13, Latino voters 67–31, AAPI voters 64–33 and Native American voters 57–41, while White voters favored Republicans 53–44. Among Trump 2024 voters, Republicans lost considerable ground.

Key Findings

5. In Texas, voters of color provided the margin. White voters backed the Republican Senate candidate 57–40, but strong Democratic support from Black (88%), Latino (66%) and AAPI (65%) voters put the Democrat ahead 53–44. For Governor only 37% of Whites supported Hinojosa.

6. Democracy concerns are widespread. Over 70% are concerned that Congress isn't checking the President, and most Black (73%), Latino (64%) and AAPI (59%) voters worry that voting rights are under attack.

7. Broad support for federal action and immigration reform. Majorities of every group support every policy tested, led by universal childcare, AI regulation, a new voting rights act and restoring SNAP funding, and 85% to 91% back a balanced immigration system with an earned path to citizenship.

8. Campaigns reached most voters, and both parties stepped up outreach to voters of color. 51% to 64% of every group report being contacted. Democrats reached 24% to 38% of voters of color, and Republicans reached 20% to 23%.

The Economy and Political Climate Shaping the Midterm Vote

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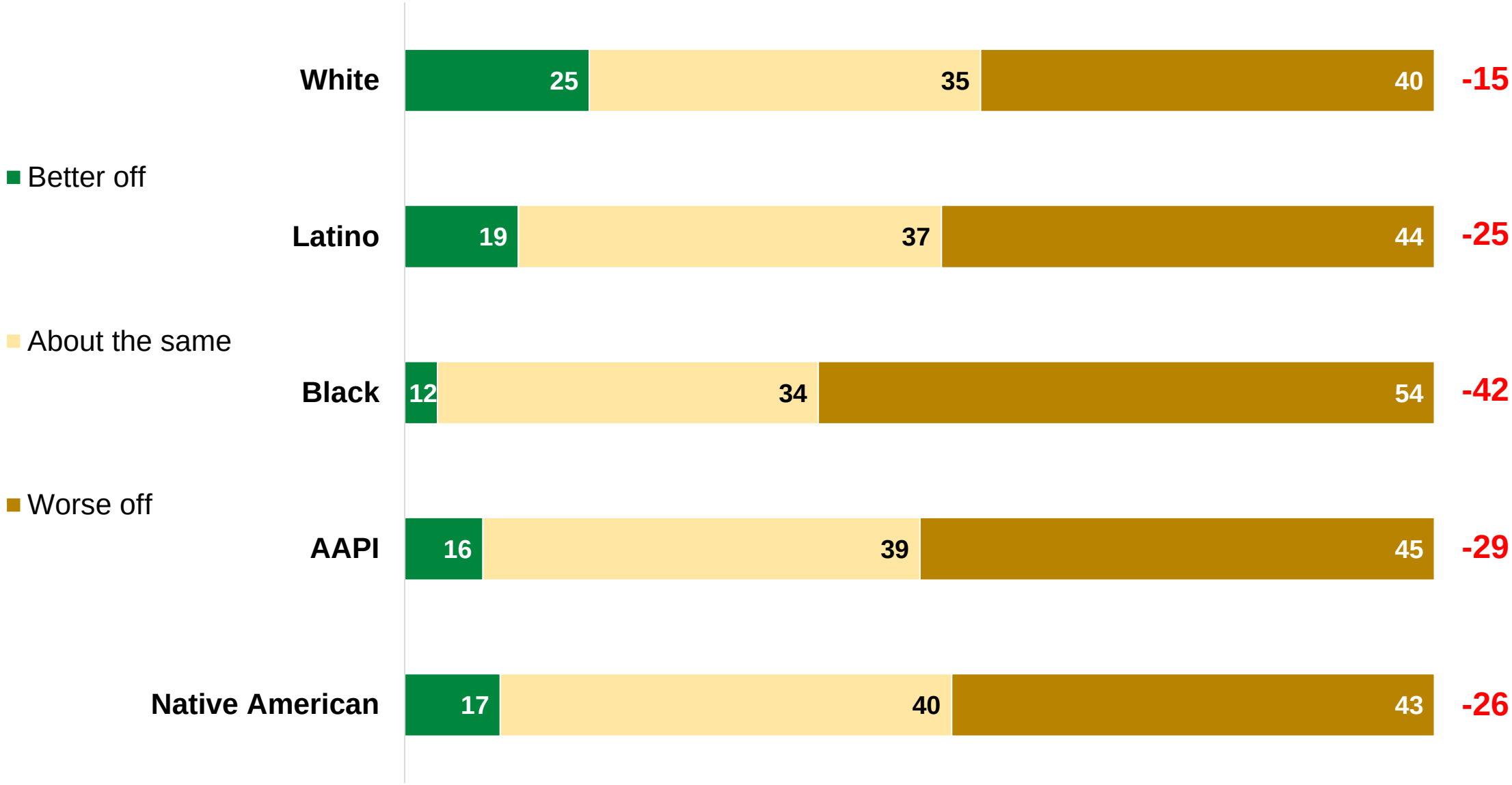
More voters expect Trump’s economic policies to make them worse off, rather than better off

Looking ahead to the next year, do you think Trump’s economic policies will make you:



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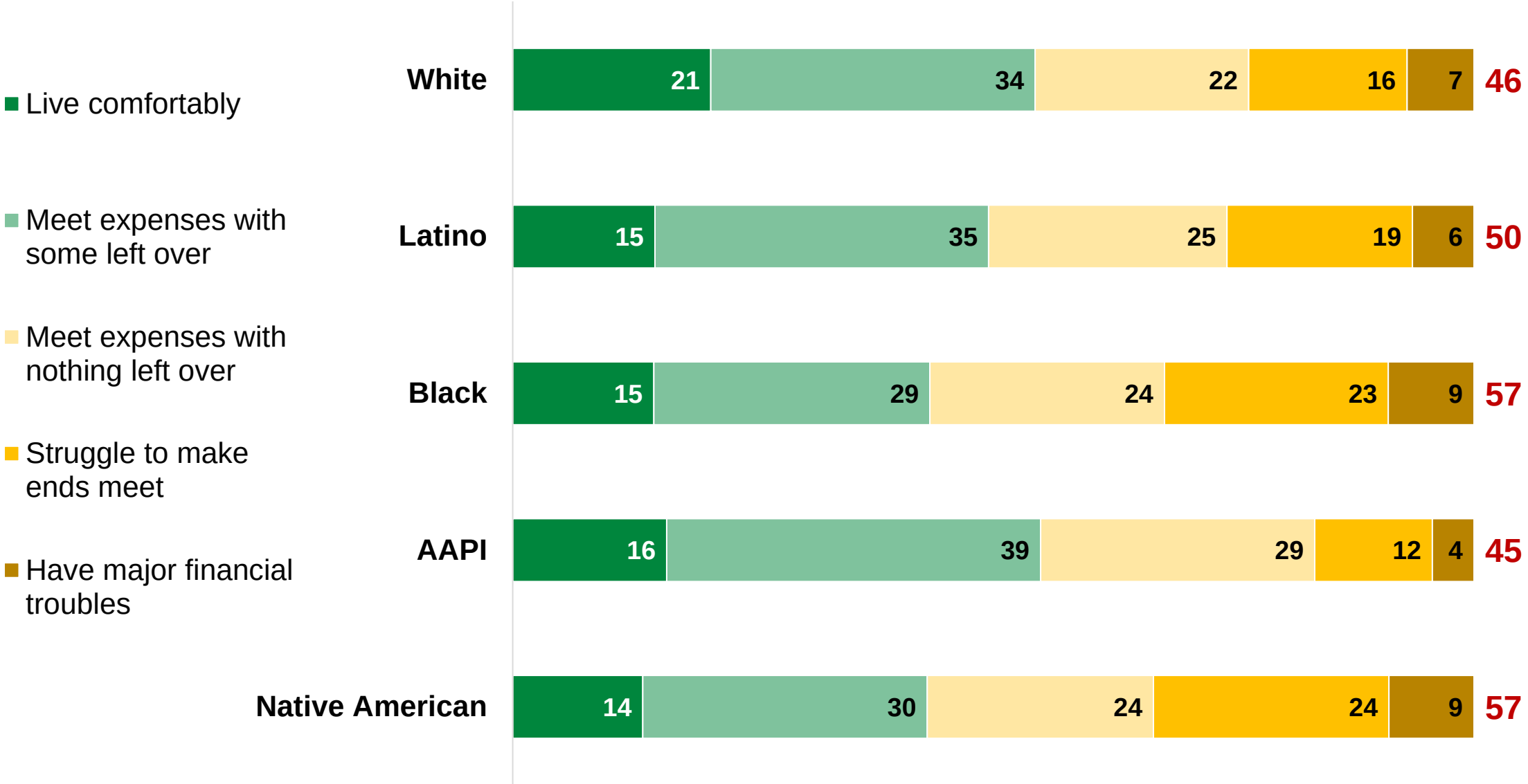
More than 40% of all voters say they have nothing left after expenses, struggle to make ends meet, or are dealing with major financial trouble

Which of the following best describes how well you are doing financially today?



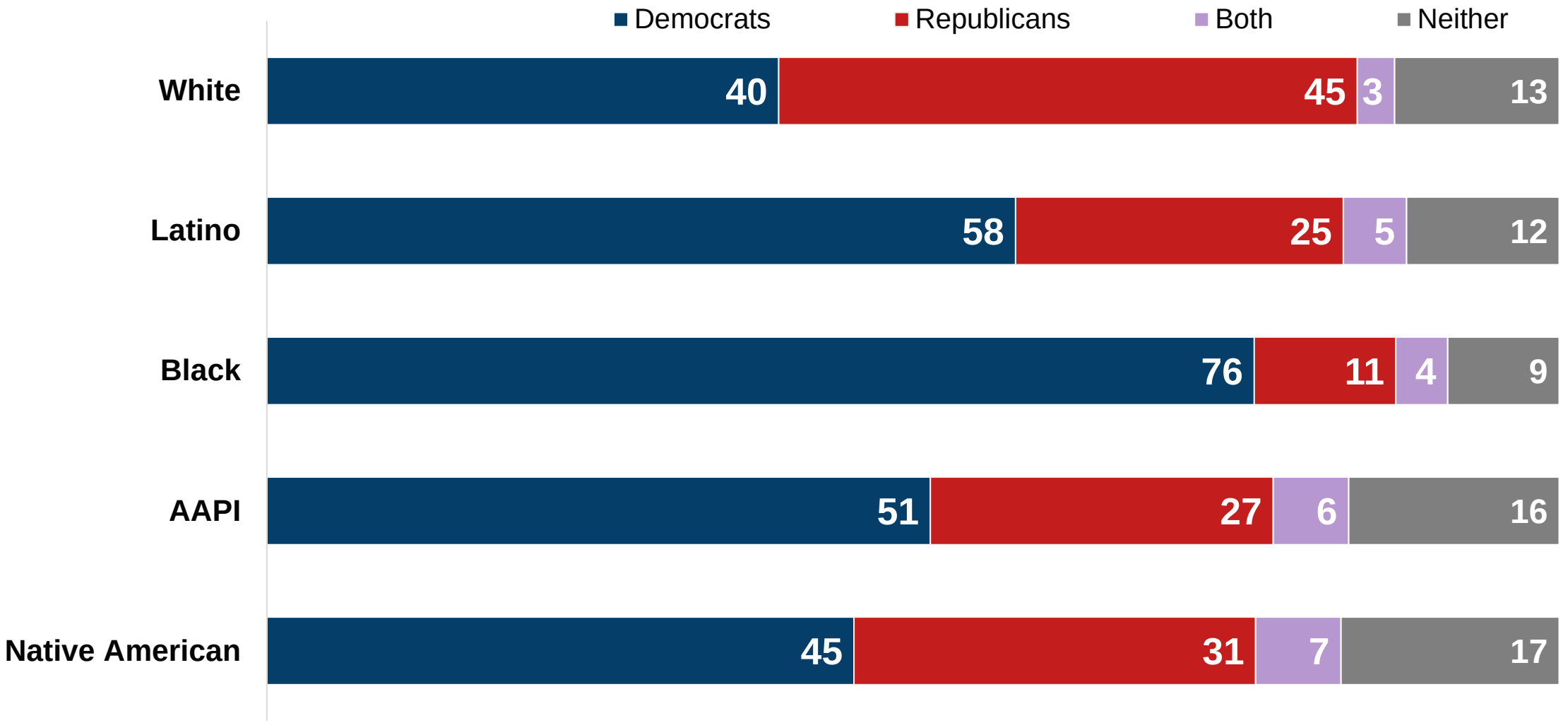
Economic concerns were top priorities for voters across all groups

On the whole, what are the most important issues that you want Congress and the President to address?
(Select up to three. Top seven issues reported, sorted highest to lowest per group)

White	Latino	Black	AAPI	Native American
Inflation 59	Inflation 58	Inflation 60	Inflation 53	Inflation 55
Cost of gas 31	Jobs/economy 34	Jobs/economy 37	Jobs/economy 37	Jobs/economy 34
Jobs/economy 29	Health care costs 30	Housing costs 35	Health care costs 33	Health care costs 31
Health care costs 28	Cost of gas 29	Health care costs 32	Cost of gas 27	Housing costs 30
Housing costs 21	Housing costs 29	Cost of gas 31	Housing costs 19	Cost of gas 29
Stop Trump agenda 21	Immigration / ICE reform 27	Stop Trump agenda 24	Stop Trump agenda 18	Stop Trump agenda 18
Government corruption 14	Stop Trump agenda 20	Immigration / ICE reform 15	Immigration / ICE reform 18	Immigration / ICE reform 14

Non-white voters think Democrats would be better on their top priority issue, while White voters believe Republicans would better

Which party do you think would do a better job at addressing the issue that is MOST important to you?



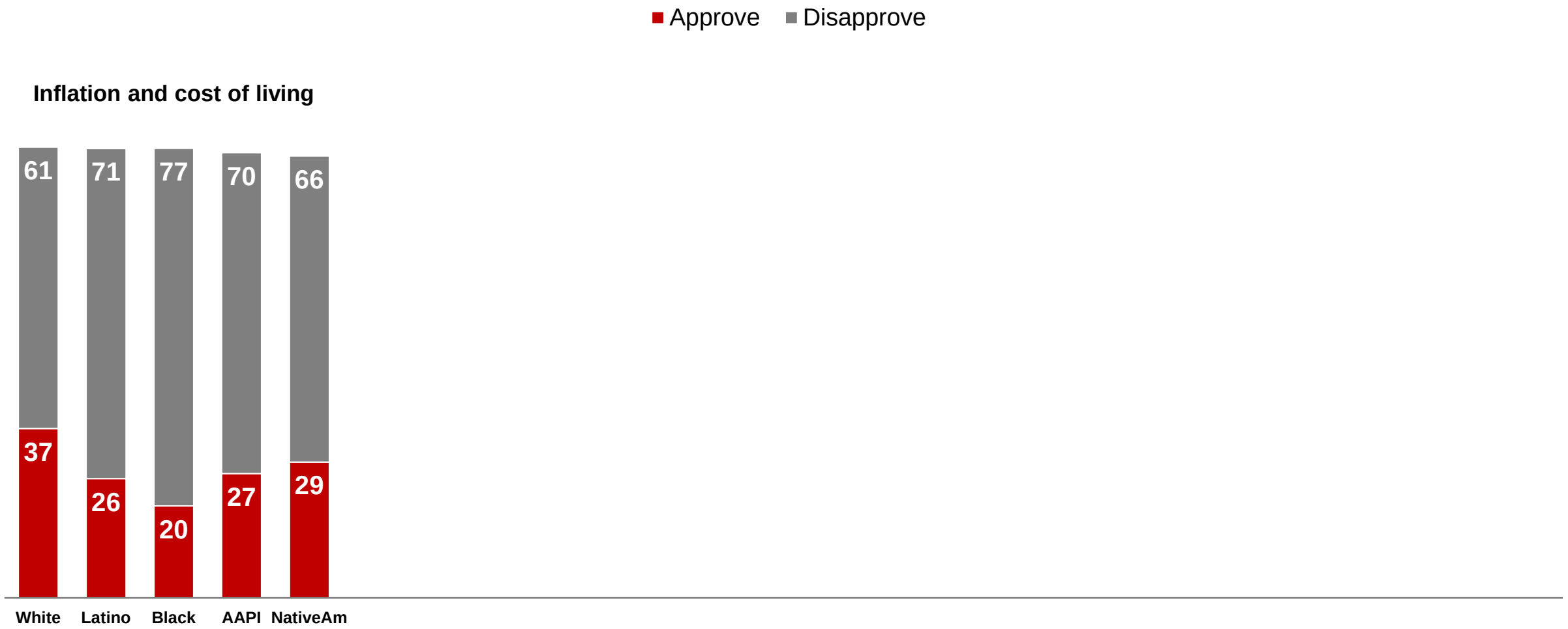
Basic needs like food, housing, and utilities are the biggest cost of living concerns

When you think about the cost of living, which of the following are you most concerned about? Select up to 3.
(Top seven issues reported, sorted highest to lowest per group)

White	Latino	Black	AAPI	Native Am
Food/Grocery costs 65	Food/Grocery costs 54	Food/Grocery costs 62	Food/Grocery costs 50	Food/Grocery costs 57
Cost of gas 43	Housing costs 41	Housing costs 46	Cost of gas 38	Housing costs 41
Utility costs 36	Cost of gas 38	Cost of gas 37	Health care costs 34	Cost of gas 38
Housing costs 34	Utility costs 32	Health care costs 30	Housing costs 33	Utility costs 37
Health care costs 33	Health care costs 30	Utility costs 29	Utility costs 29	Health care costs 26
Taxes 20	Wages 22	Wages 22	Taxes 24	Wages 21
Impact of tariffs 16	Taxes 20	Impact of tariffs 19	Wages 21	Taxes 19

Voters disapprove of President Trump’s handling of inflation and the cost of living

Overall, do you approve or disapprove of the way President Trump is handling:



Voters disapprove of President Trump's handling of inflation and the cost of living, and jobs and the economy

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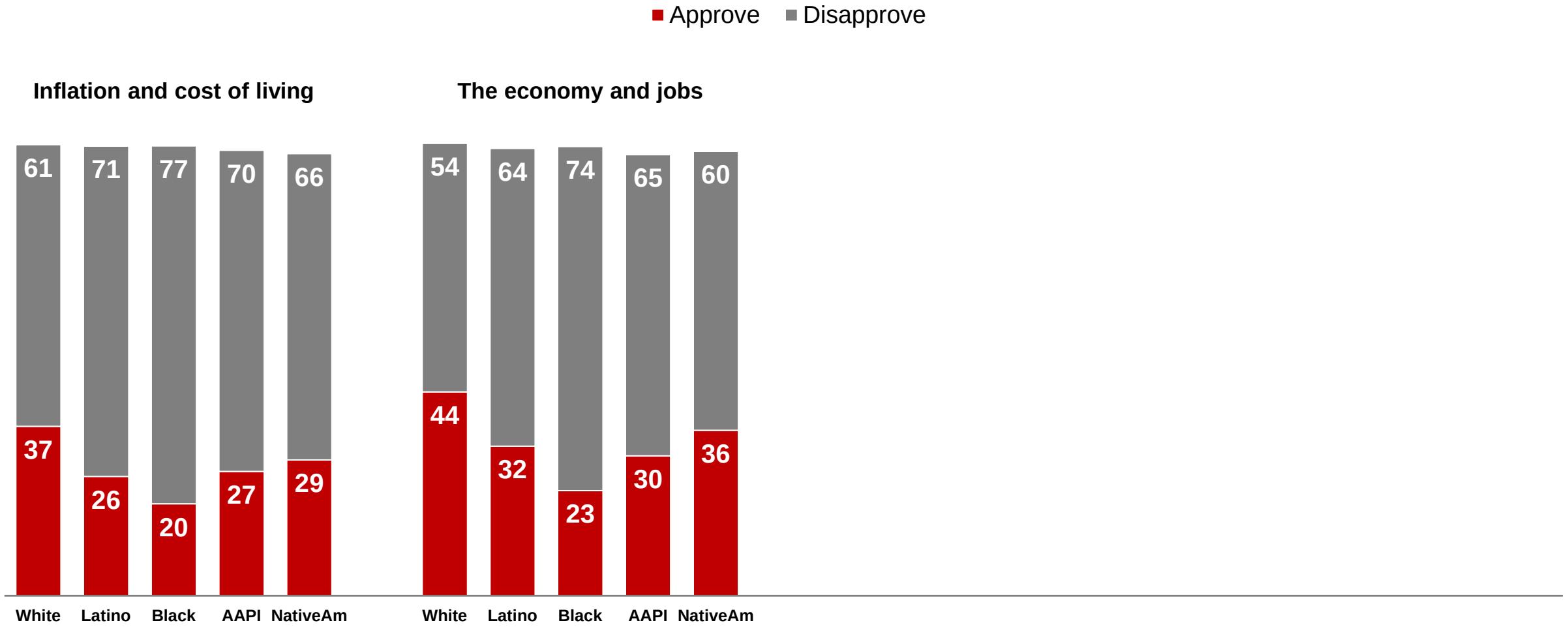

Voters disapprove of President Trump's handling of inflation and the cost of living, jobs and the economy, and the war in Iran

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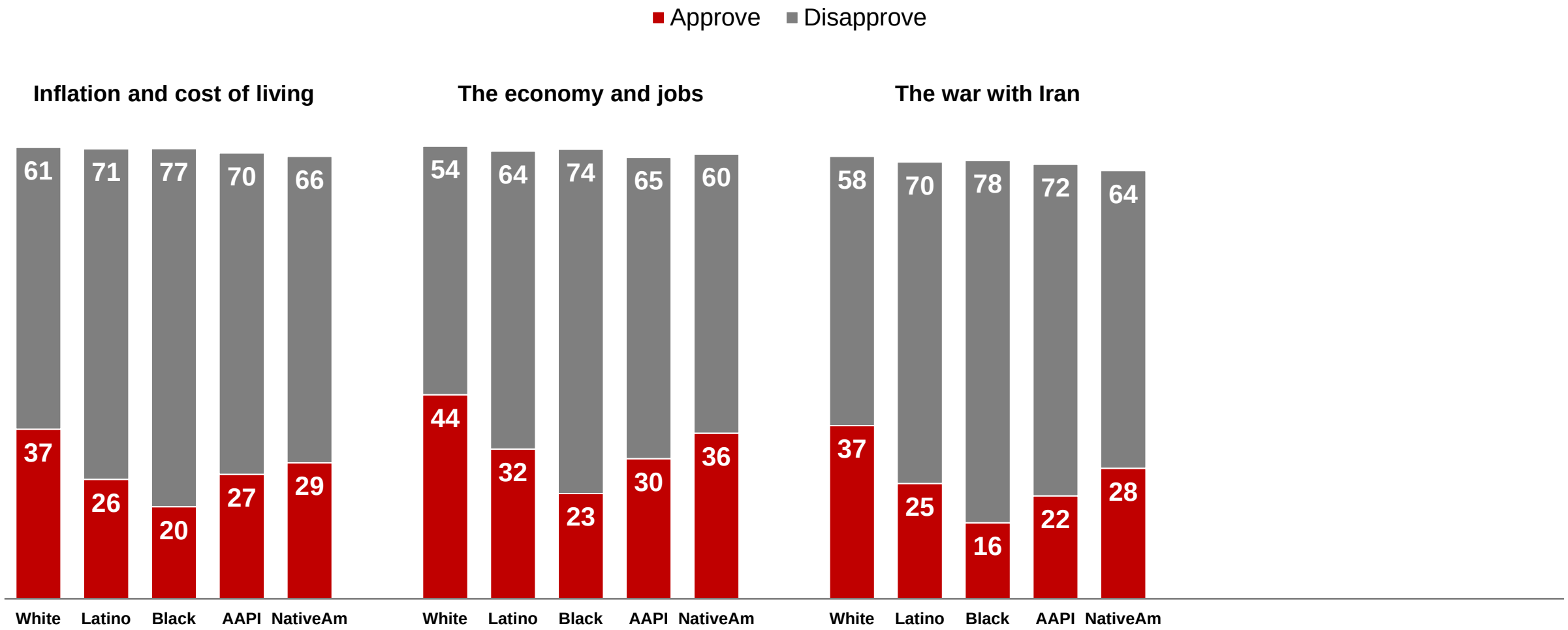
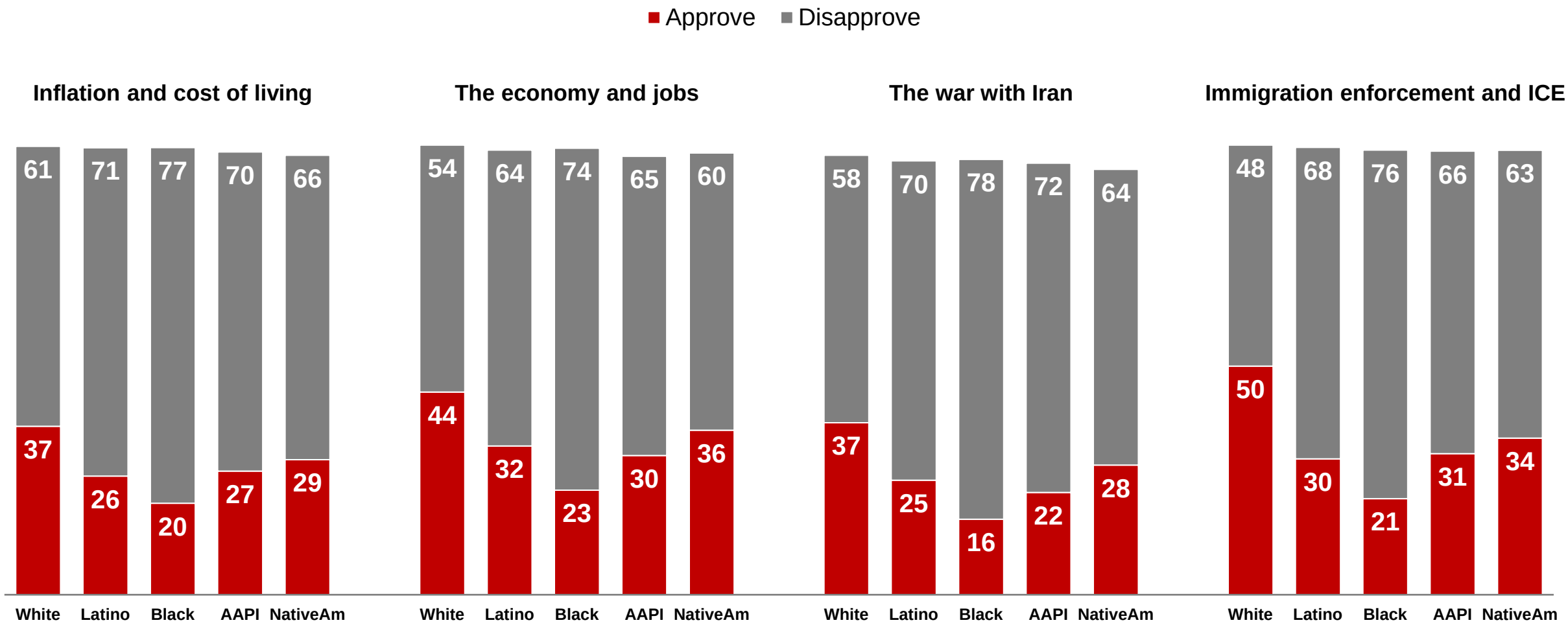


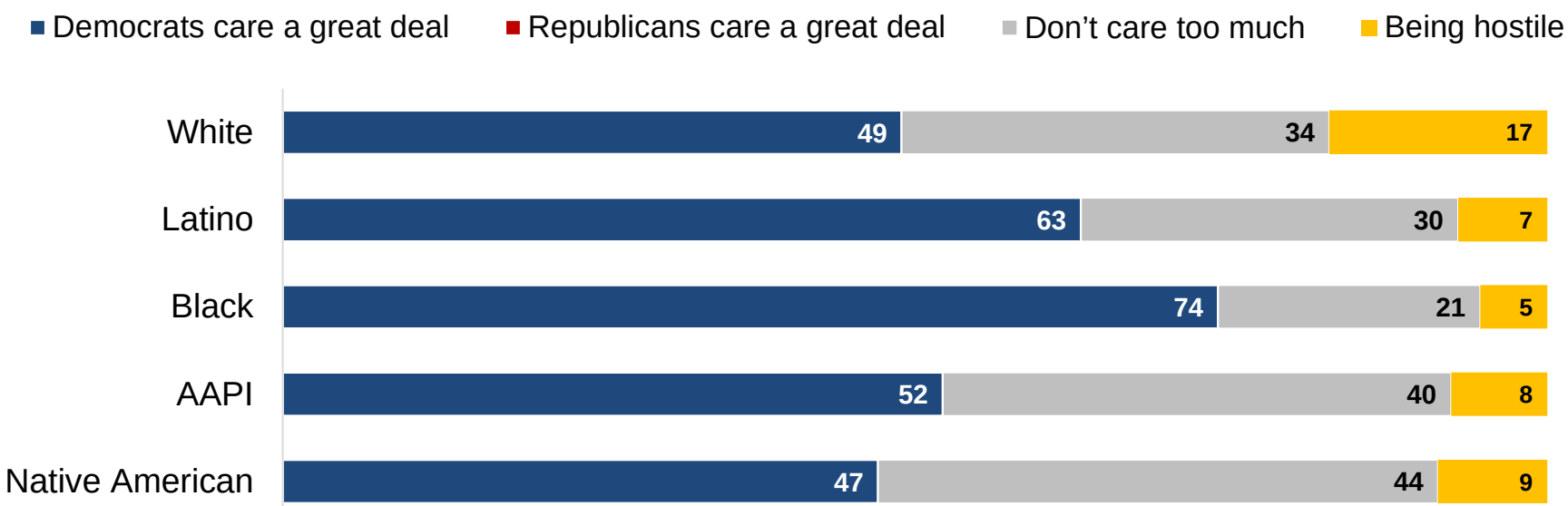
Voters disapprove of President Trump's handling of inflation and the cost of living, jobs and the economy, the war in Iran, and only white voters approve on immigration enforcement and ICE

Overall, do you approve or disapprove of the way President Trump is handling:

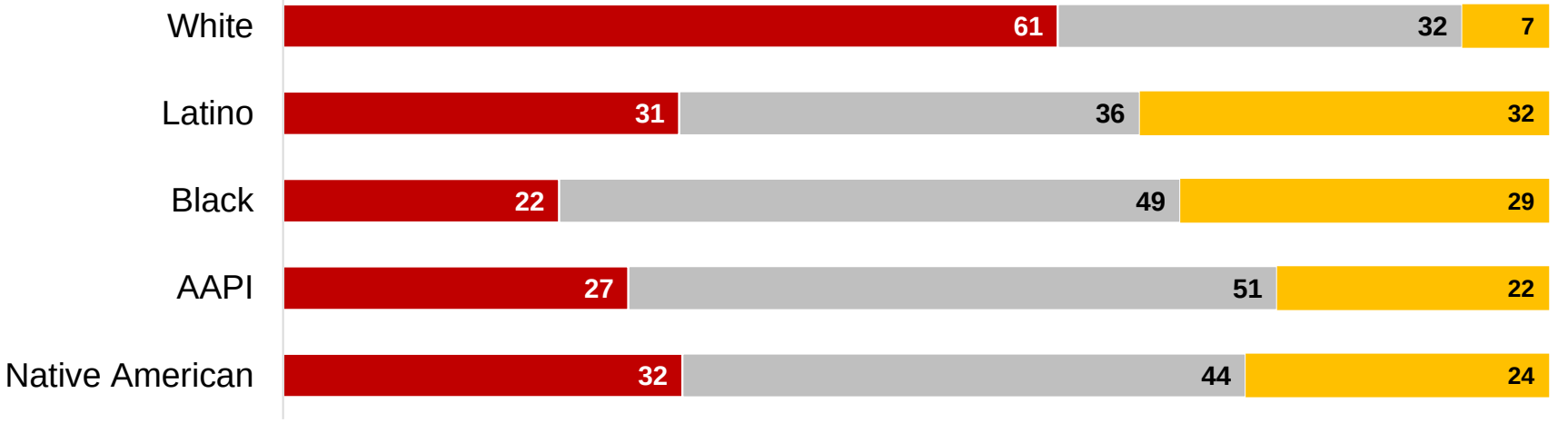


More Latino, Black, and AAPI voters than White voters say Democrats care about them. The majority of minority voters see Republicans as indifferent or hostile to them.

Would you say the Democratic Party cares a great deal about the Latino community, that they don't care too much about Latino people, or that Democrats are being hostile towards the Latino community?



Would you say the Republican Party cares a great deal about the Latino community, that they don't care too much about Latino people, or that Republicans are being hostile towards the Latino community?



The 2026 Midterm Vote

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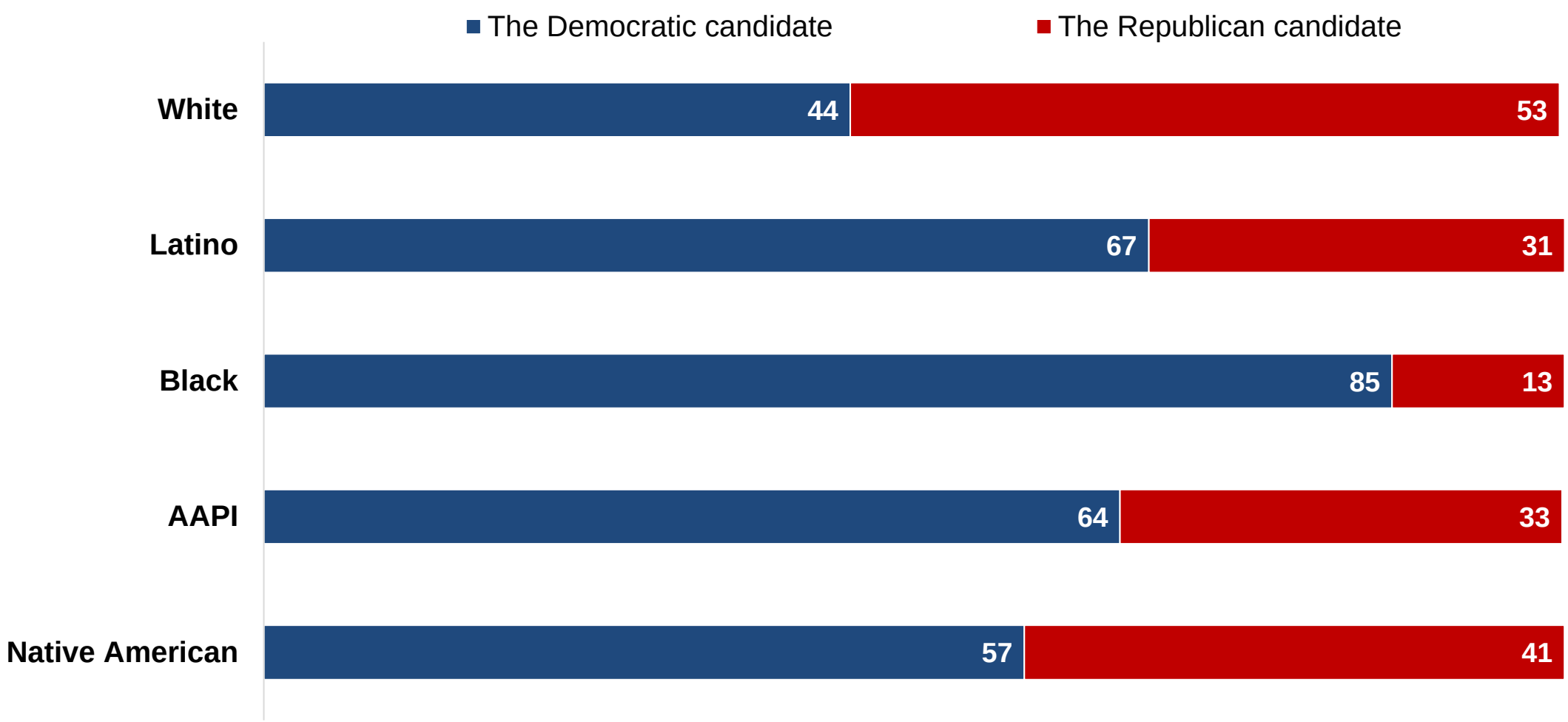
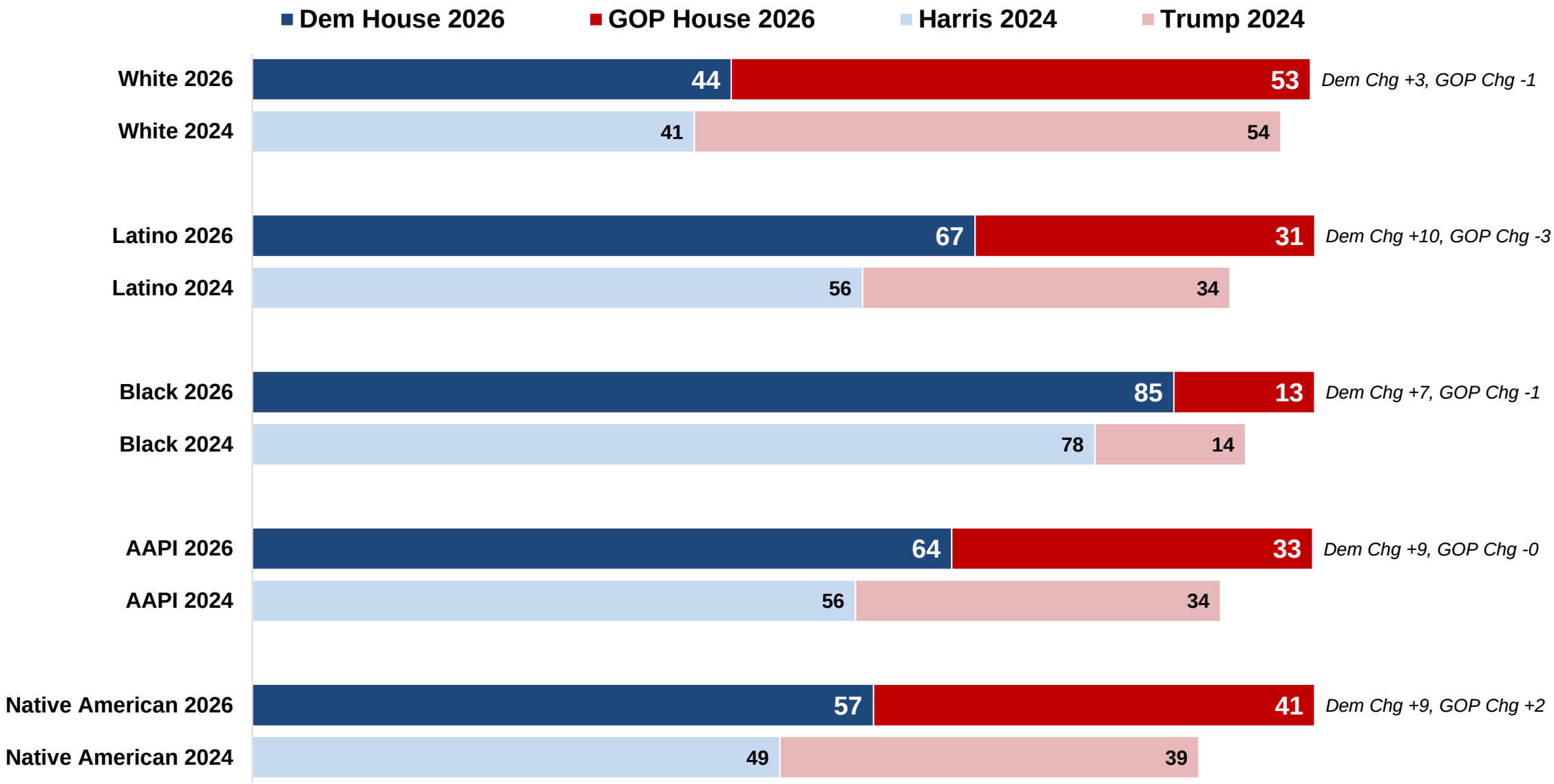
Latino, Black, AAPI, and Native American voters supported Democratic House candidates, White voters favored Republicans

In the election for the U.S. Congress, in your district here in [state] will/did you vote for:



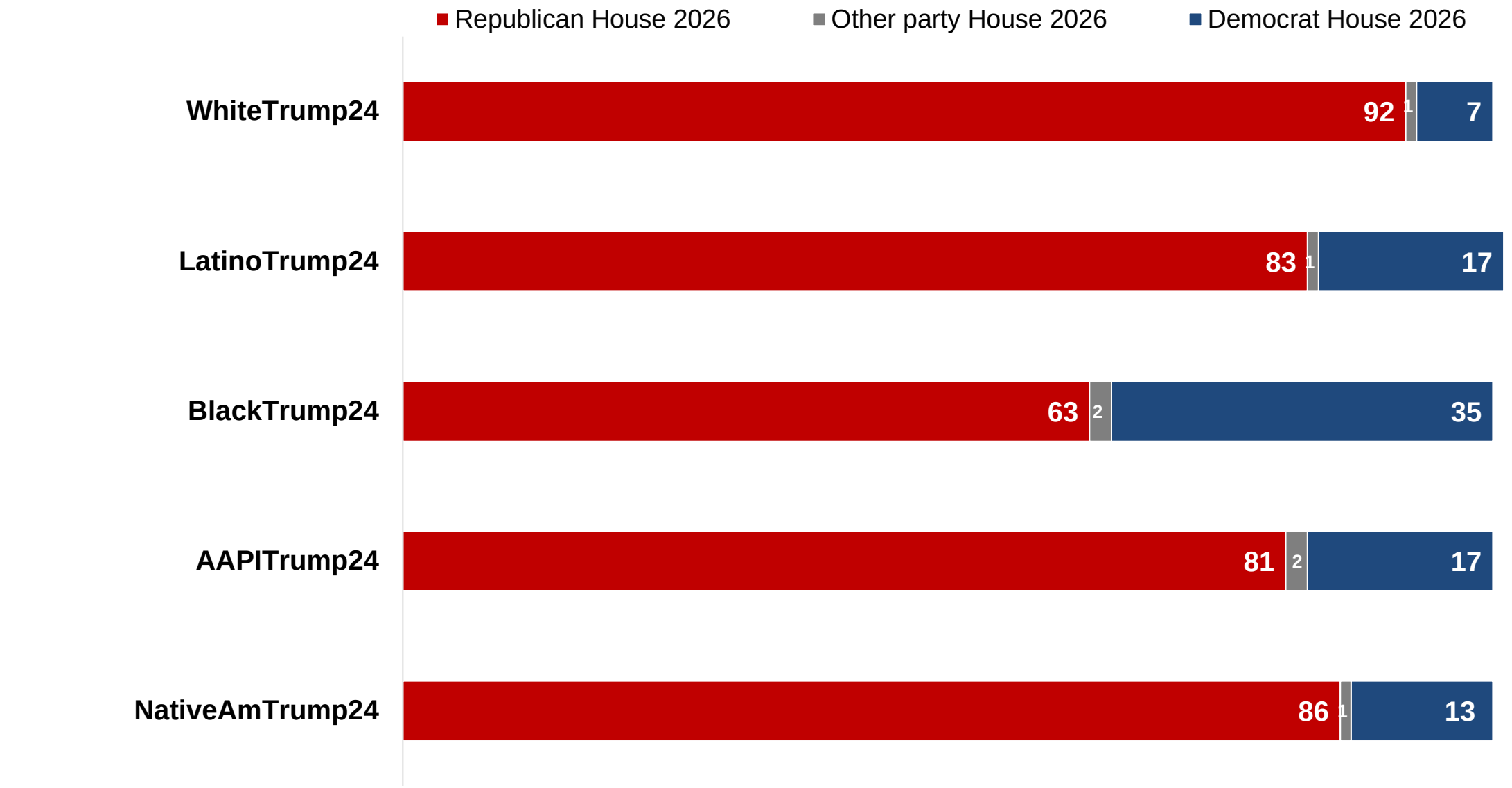
Democratic House candidates ran ahead of Harris's 2024 vote with every group

In the election for the U.S. Congress, in your district here in [state] will/did you vote for: // In the 2024 Presidential election, who did you vote for?



Trump’s biggest losses in 2026 are with voters of color, especially Black voters

2026 House vote among Trump 2024 voters



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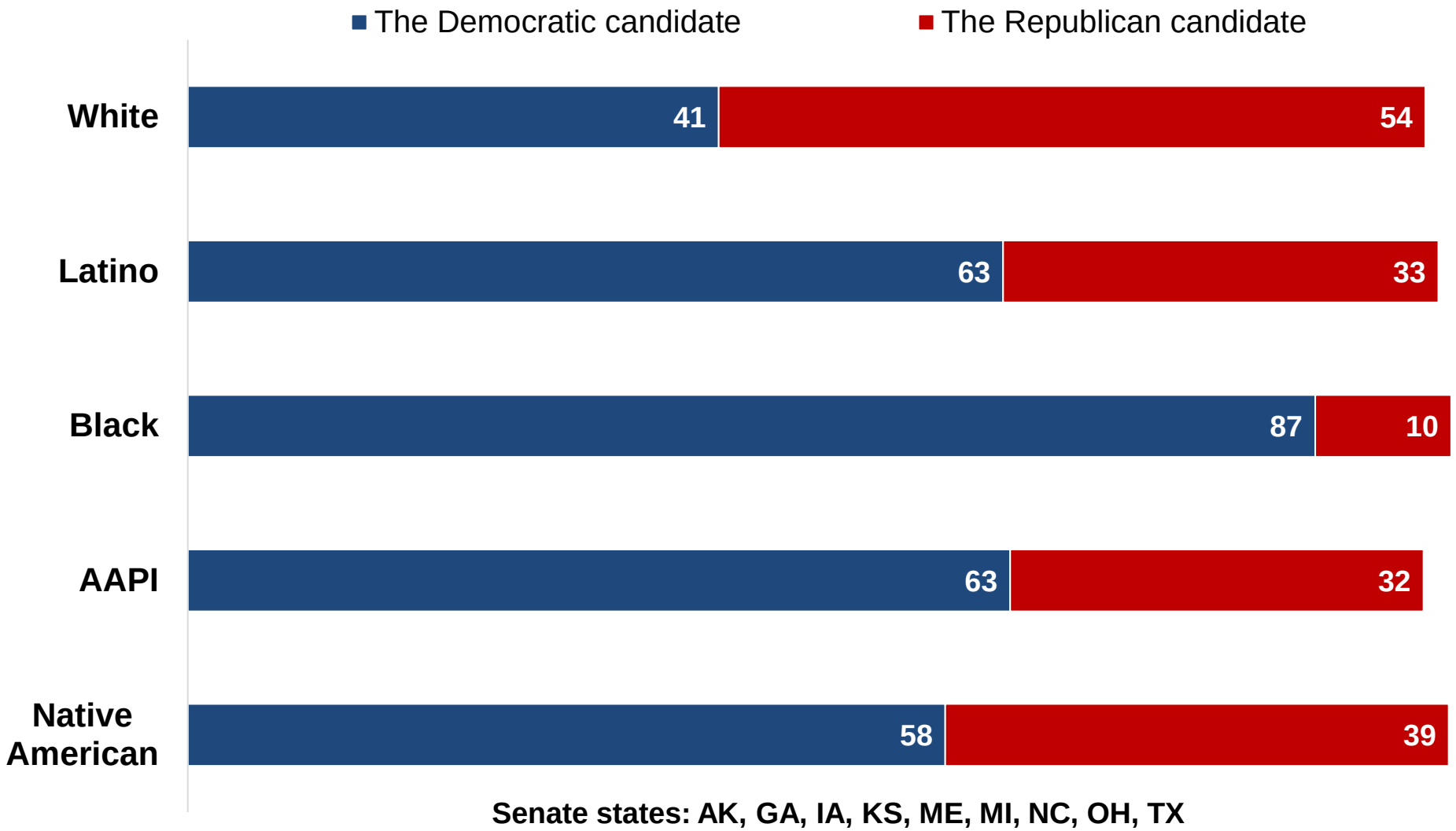
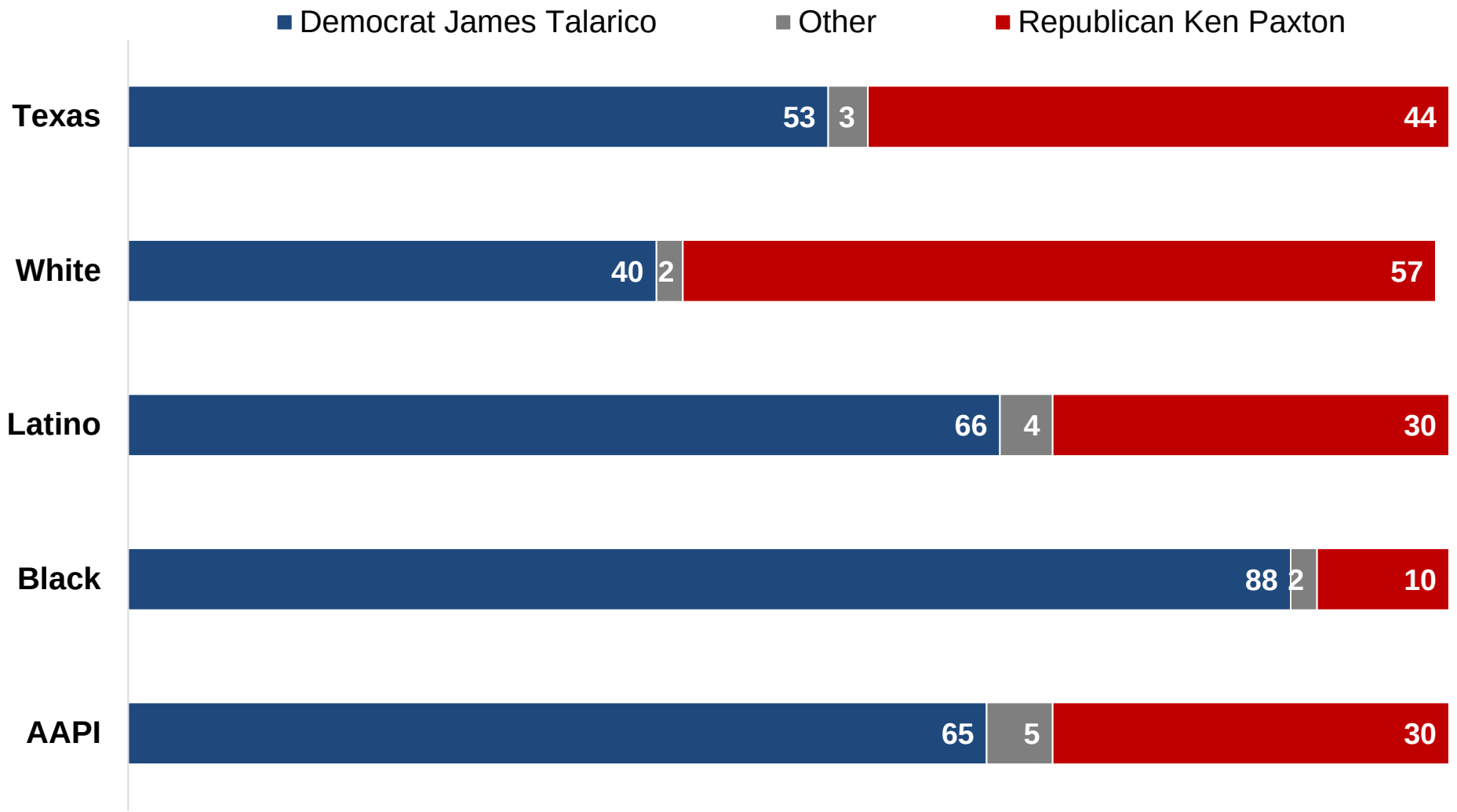
Most voters of color backed Democratic Senate candidates; White voters favored Republicans

In the election for the U.S. Senate, here in [state] will/did you vote for:



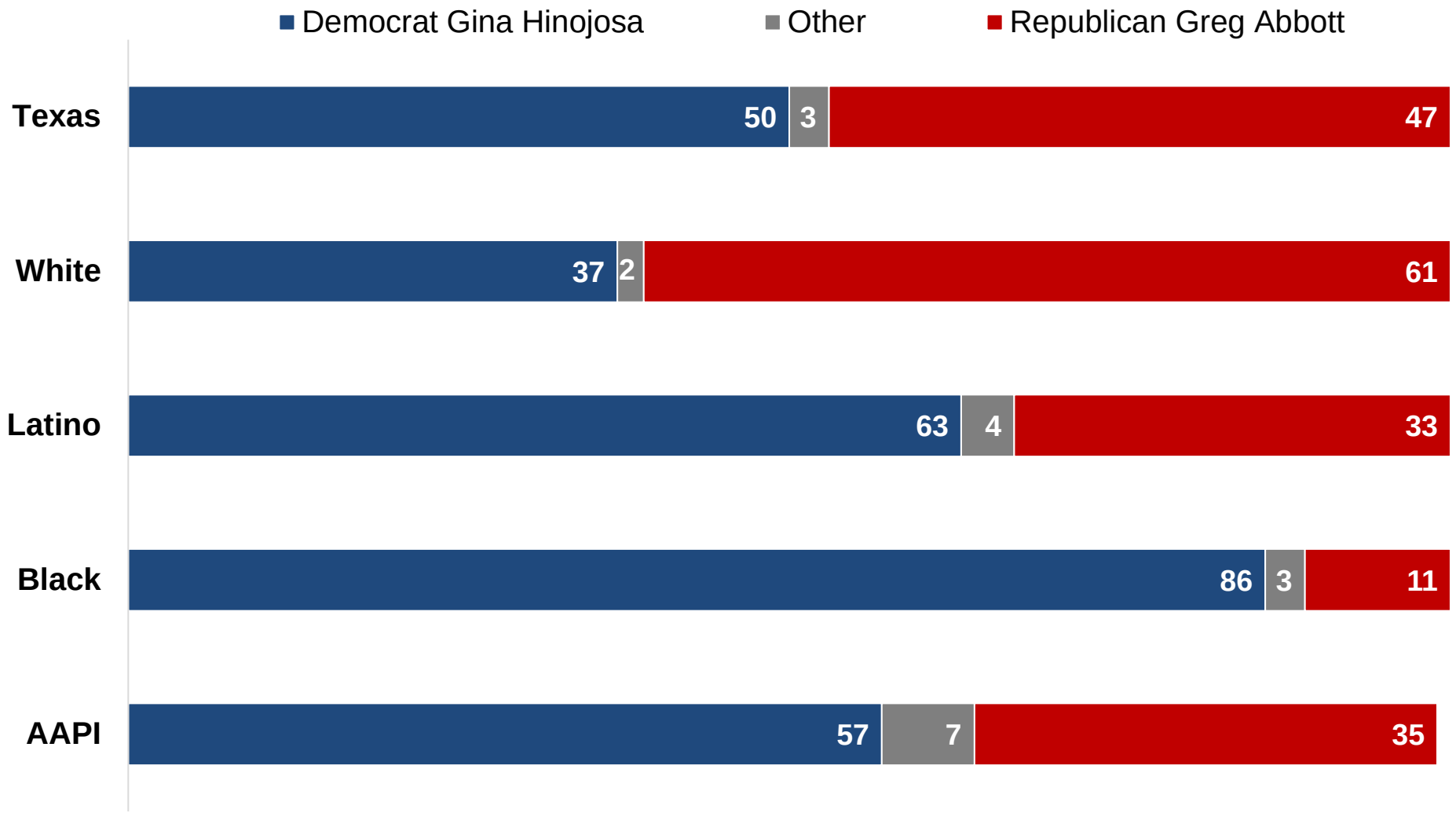
Texas: The majority of non-white voters supported Talarico over Paxton

In the election for the U.S. Senate, here in [state] will/did you vote for:



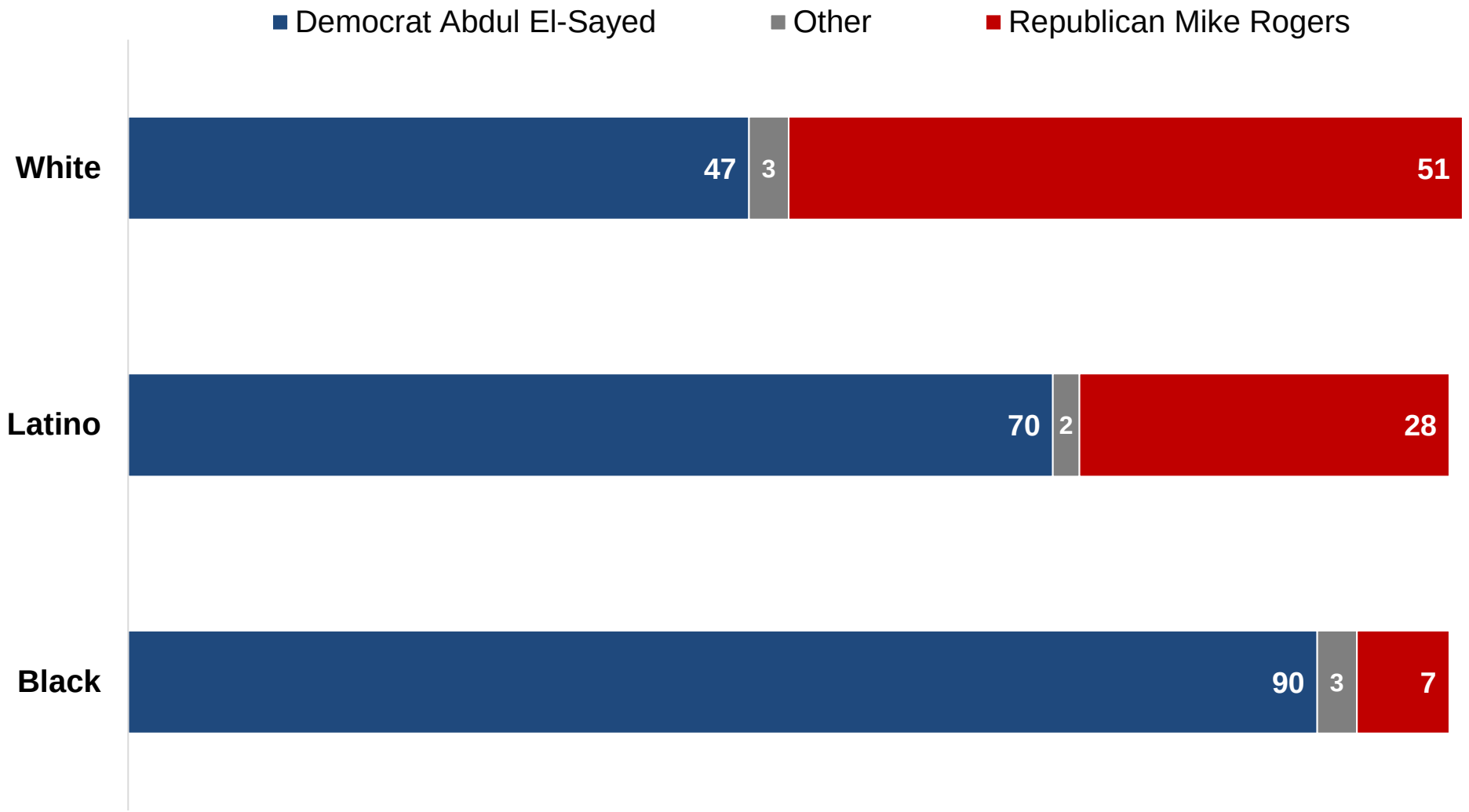
Texas: The majority of non-white voters supported Hinojosa over Abbott

In the election for Governor, here in [state] will/did you vote for:



Michigan: The majority of non-white voters supported El-Sayed over Rogers

In the election for the U.S. Senate, here in [state] will/did you vote for:



Self-reported contact during the 2026 Midterm Election Campaign

In 2026, did anyone from a political party, campaign or any other organization contact you and ask you to register and / or vote in this election? If yes, who was it that contacted you?

	White	Latino	Black	AAPI	Native Am
No, I have not been contacted	42	39	36	40	49
Someone from the Democratic Party	29	32	38	29	24
Someone from the Republican Party	31	23	20	23	22
Someone from a general non-partisan, civic, or other organization	15	13	11	14	11
Someone from a [race] civic or community organization	0	9	12	9	9
Someone from a ballot initiative or measure	7	8	7	7	7
Don't know who it was that contacted me	6	6	6	7	4

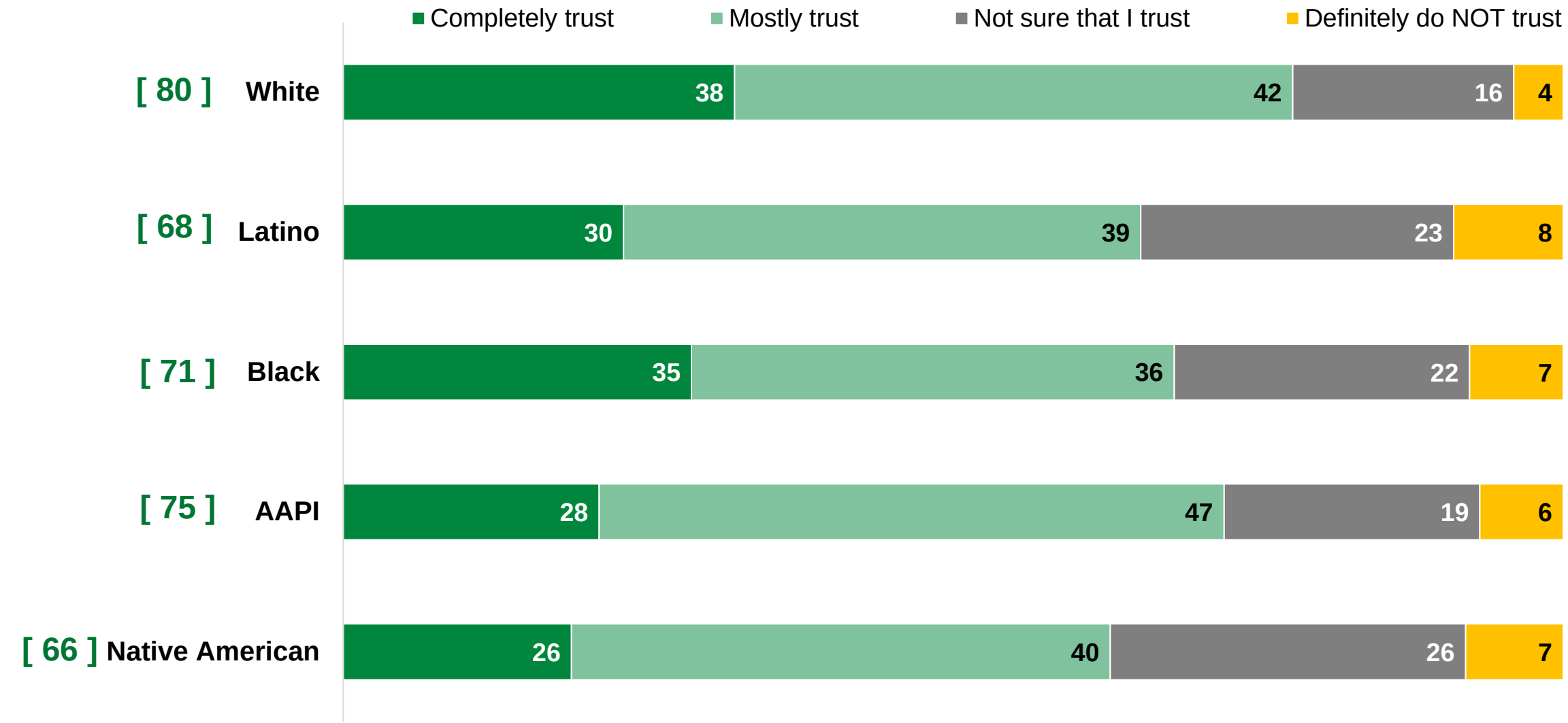
Black, Latino, and Native American voters encountered more barriers at the polls.

When you voted, did you encounter any of the following issues or concerns? Select all that apply

	White	Latino	Black	AAPI	Native Am
I had to wait in a long line	15	21	23	16	20
People near the voting or ballot drop-off area were harassing people	7	9	9	5	7
I had to drive a very long distance to vote or drop off my ballot	7	10	8	7	8
Voting machines were not working, experienced delays	7	7	7	5	6
I saw immigration enforcement ICE / DHS / CBP nearby	5	10	6	5	5
I was told I was not on the list, I had to vote with a provisional ballot	4	6	4	5	4
I could not get information in my preferred language	1	6	2	4	3
None of these	74	57	61	69	63

The majority of all voters trust their state election results are handled fairly and counted accurately. A very small share of voters do not trust their state's election results.

How much do you trust that election results here in [state] are handled fairly and counted accurately?



Policy Views and Concerns about Democracy

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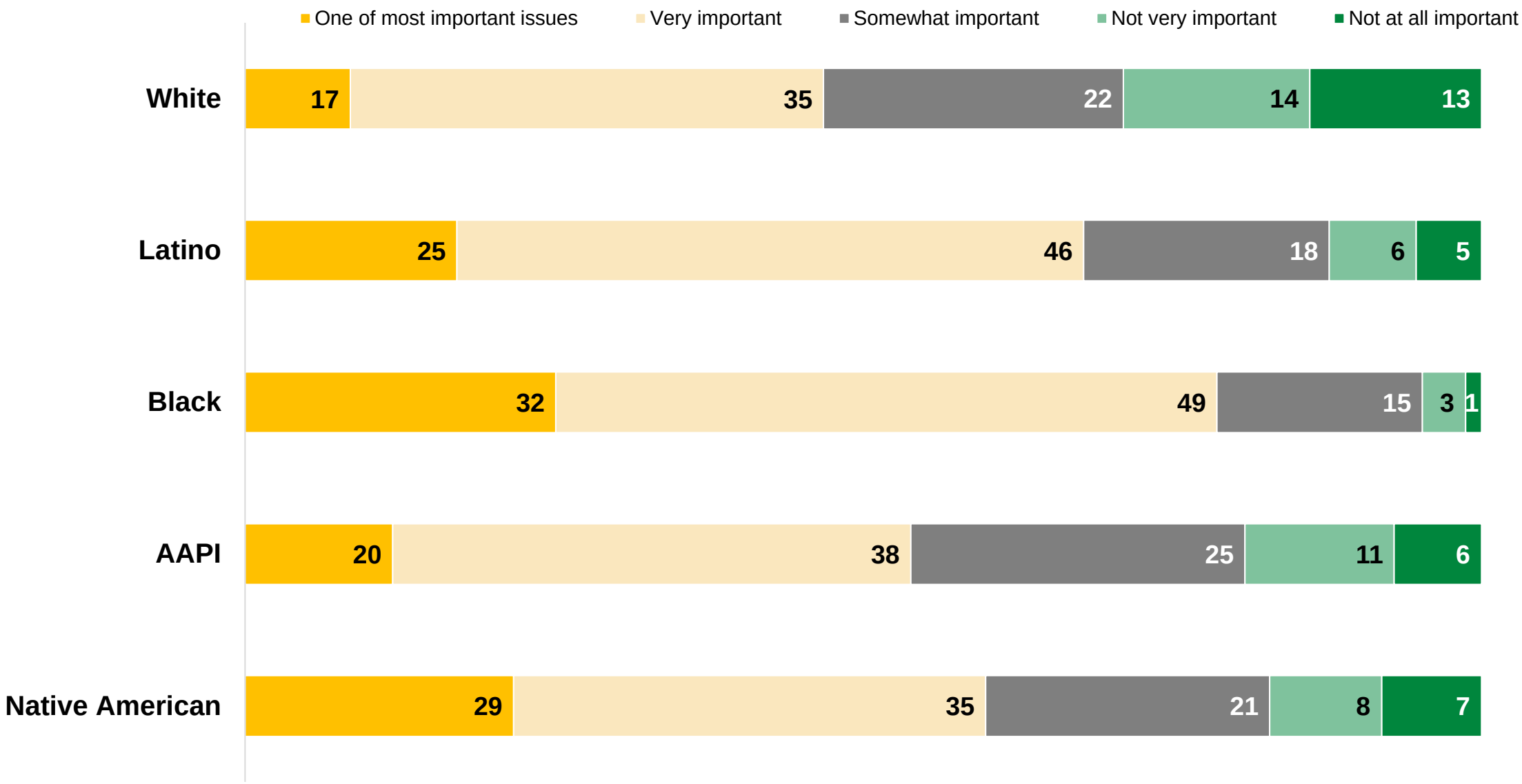
Strong majorities across all groups support federal action on childcare, health care, food assistance, voting rights, and immigration

Do you support or oppose the following federal actions, policies, or proposals?

	White Support (strong)	Latino Support (strong)	Black Support (strong)	AAPI Support (strong)	Native Support (strong)
Creating a program for universal childcare or early childhood education at low or no cost to families of all incomes	**73** (42)	**80** (52)	**86** (59)	**77** (39)	**79** (49)
Creating a path to permanent legal status and citizenship for long-residing undocumented immigrants who pass a background check and pay a fine	**70** (35)	**79** (48)	**79** (45)	**71** (35)	**71** (43)
Restoring the tax credits that were cut, to help people buy health insurance through the Affordable Care Act	**70** (45)	**76** (48)	**83** (58)	**76** (42)	**74** (46)
Restoring full federal funding to food and nutrition programs (SNAP/food stamps) that were cut in 2025	**72** (48)	**77** (52)	**89** (67)	**76** (41)	**80** (57)
Passing a new voting rights act to ensure that all eligible American citizens can vote without barriers	**79** (53)	**77** (51)	**82** (59)	**79** (46)	**77** (44)
Regulating artificial intelligence (AI) to make sure humans, not AI systems, stay in control of military weapons, banks, and Americans' personal information	**85** (61)	**77** (52)	**77** (55)	**76** (48)	**80** (57)
Reforms to immigration enforcement, that would require ICE to wear clearly identifiable uniforms and body cameras, prohibit masks, and restrict their ability to use force	**69** (46)	**77** (54)	**79** (57)	**76** (48)	**72** (50)
Cancel the $240 billion appropriation to ICE for immigration enforcement and invest that into other government programs.	**59** (42)	**68** (47)	**78** (57)	**66** (40)	**64** (44)

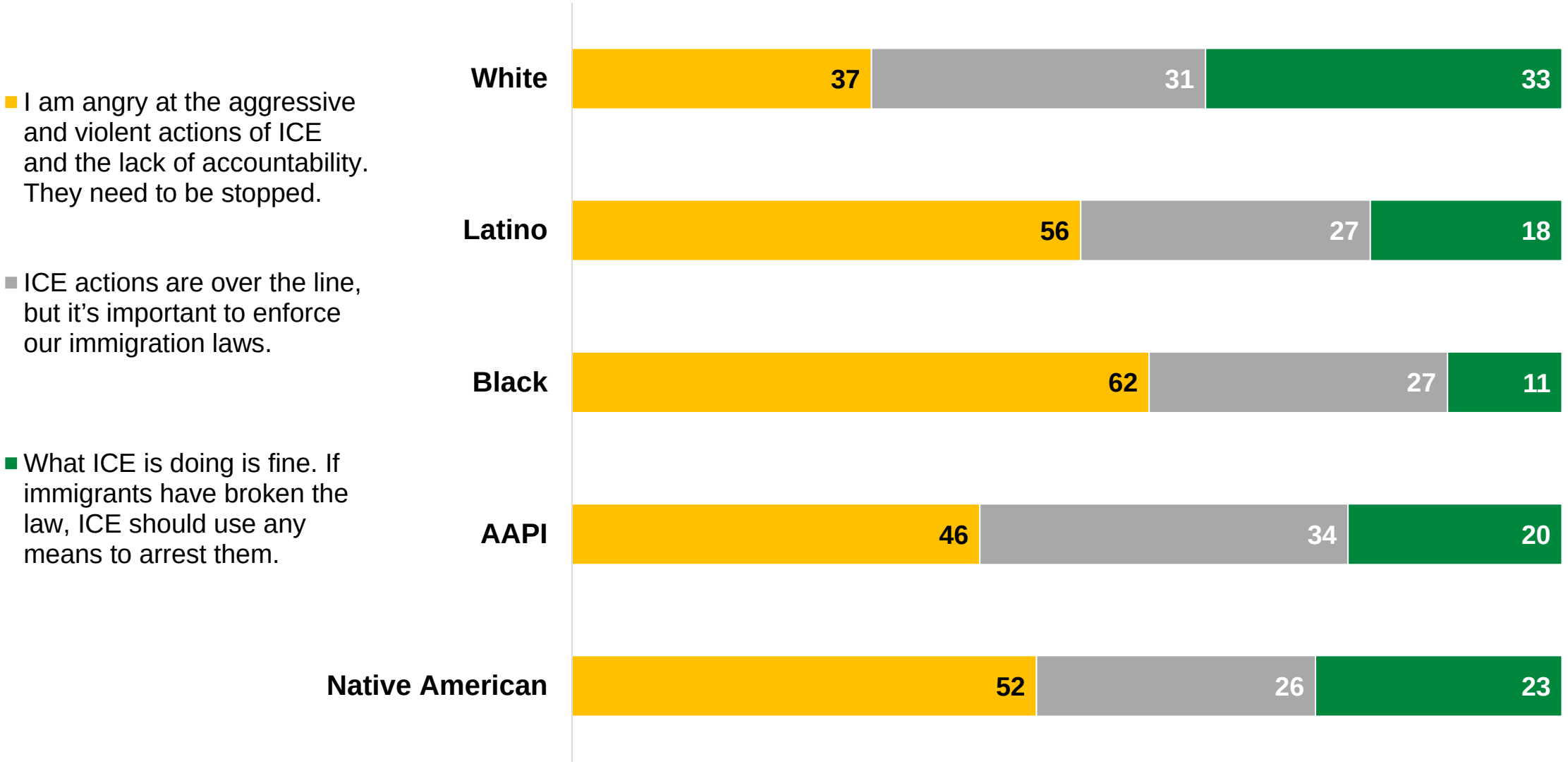
More than half of all voters say that it is important that candidates deliver on a $25/hr minimum wage

How important is it to you that candidates you vote for deliver on raising the minimum wage to a living wage of $25 an hour?

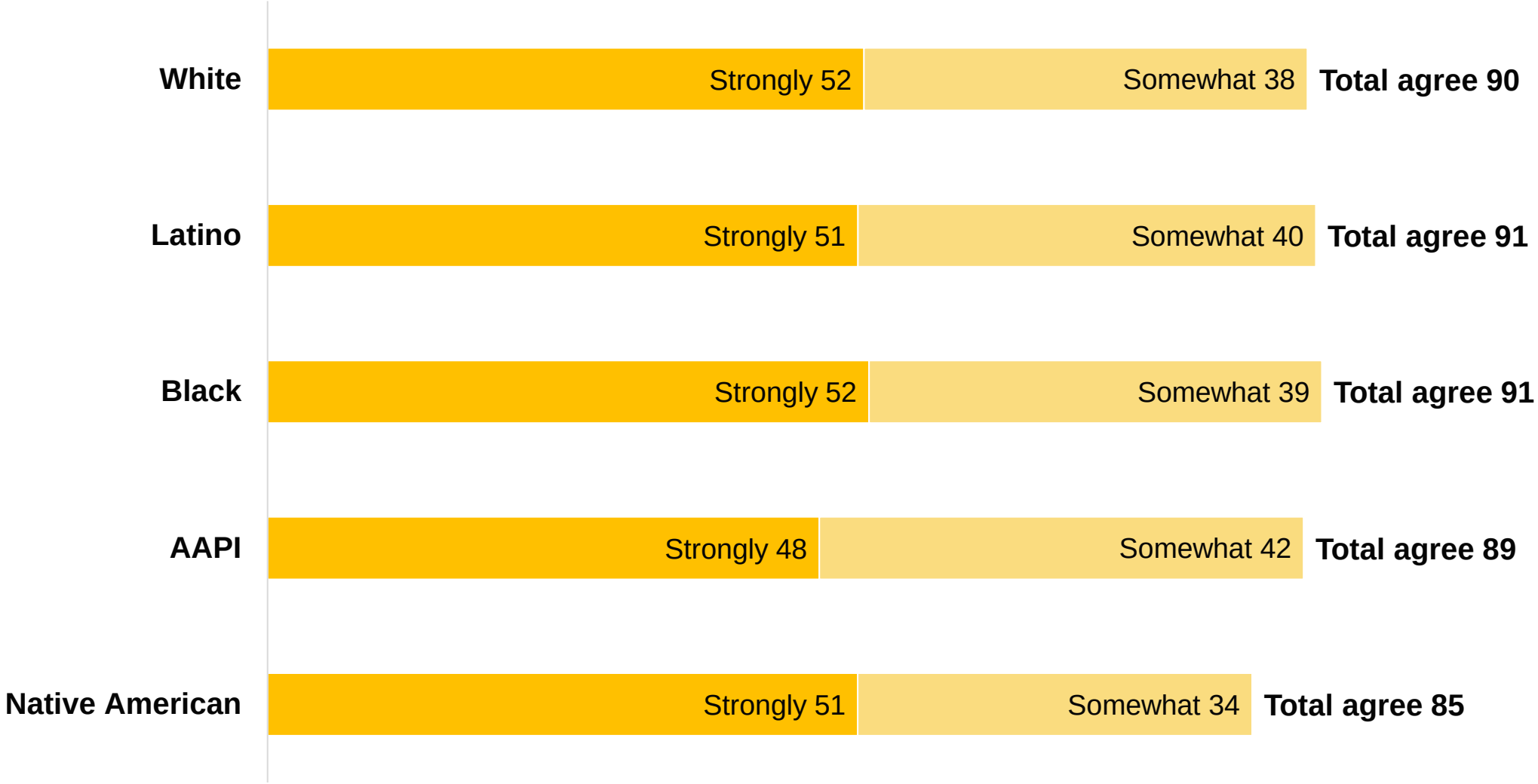


Black and Latino voters in particular are angry about aggressive and violent ICE actions

Which comes closest to your views regarding the actions of immigration enforcement agents, or ICE over the last two years?

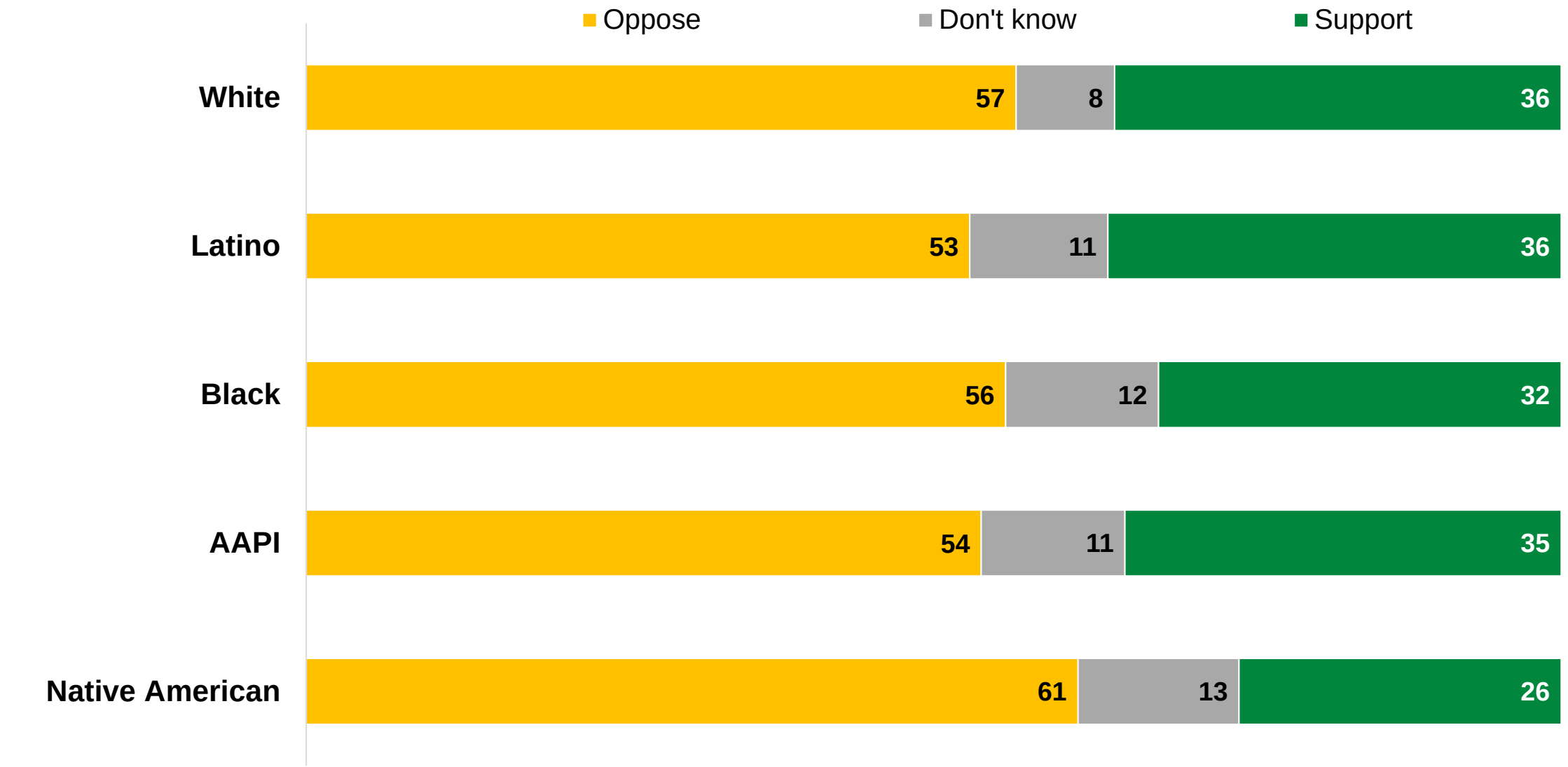


By large margins, voters agree that we need comprehensive immigration reform, that includes a path to citizenship. When it comes to immigration policy, do you agree or disagree with the following statement: We need a balanced and orderly immigration system that has an earned path to citizenship for long-term residents; focuses enforcement inside the country on keeping communities safe, with clear accountability; offers legal ways to immigrate that help our economy and families; and keeps the border secure.



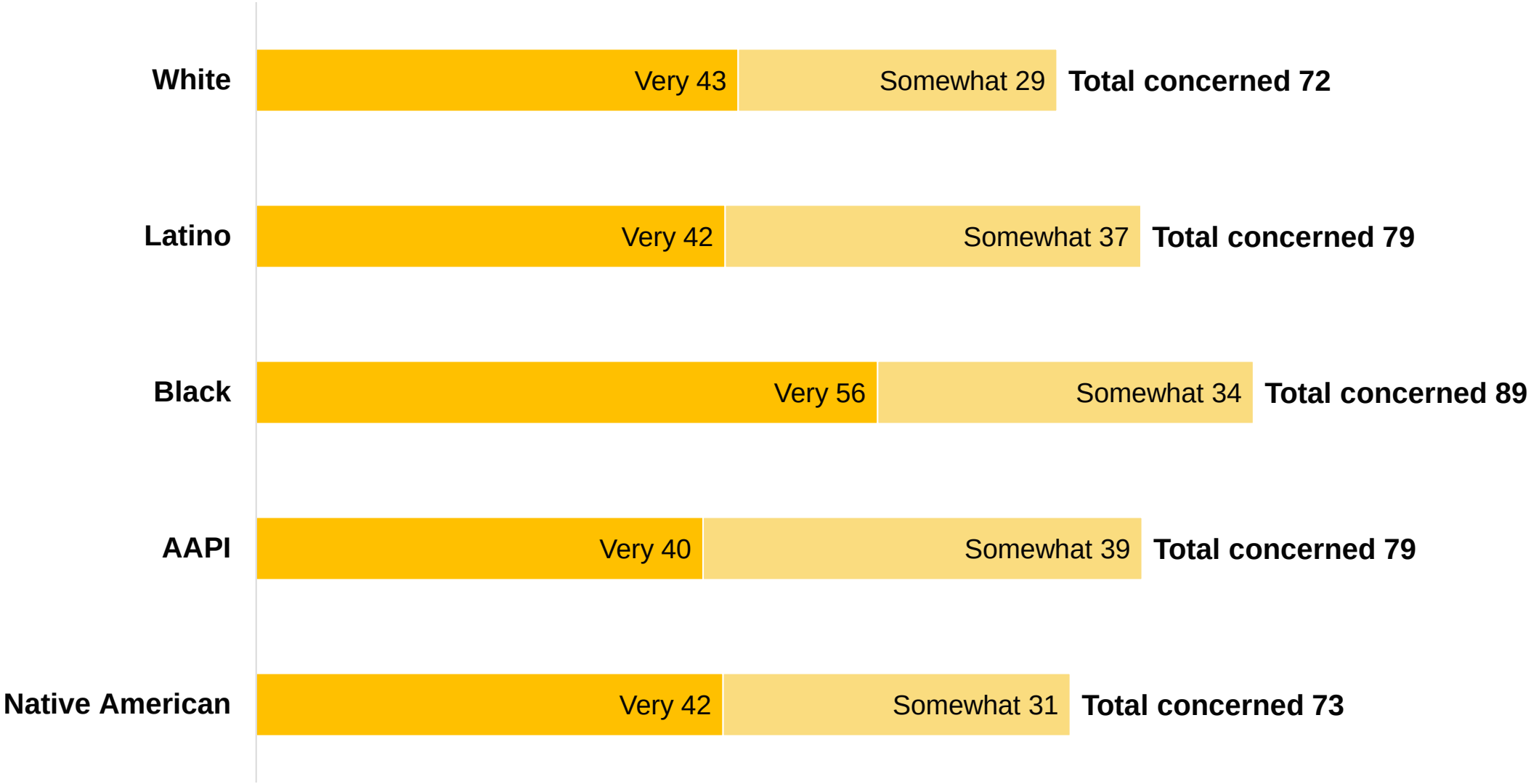
Most voters oppose building data centers in their communities

Artificial Intelligence (AI) relies on data centers, large buildings full of computers. Some say they bring jobs and tax revenue. Others say they use too much water and electricity, raising utility bills. Do you support or oppose building data centers near your community?



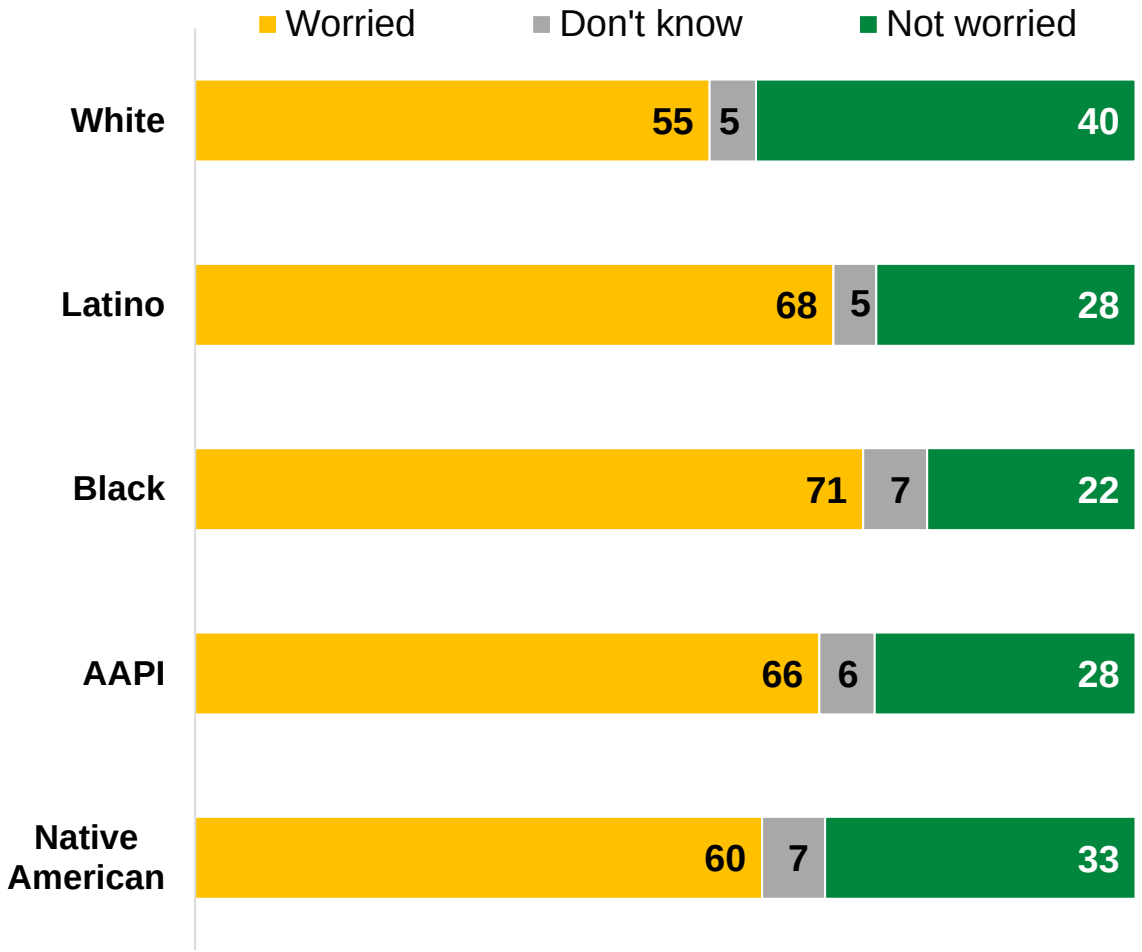
Voters are concerned that Congress is not exercising its check on the executive branch

How concerned, if at all, are you that Congress is not exercising its checks-and-balances role and is giving up too much authority to the President and executive branch?

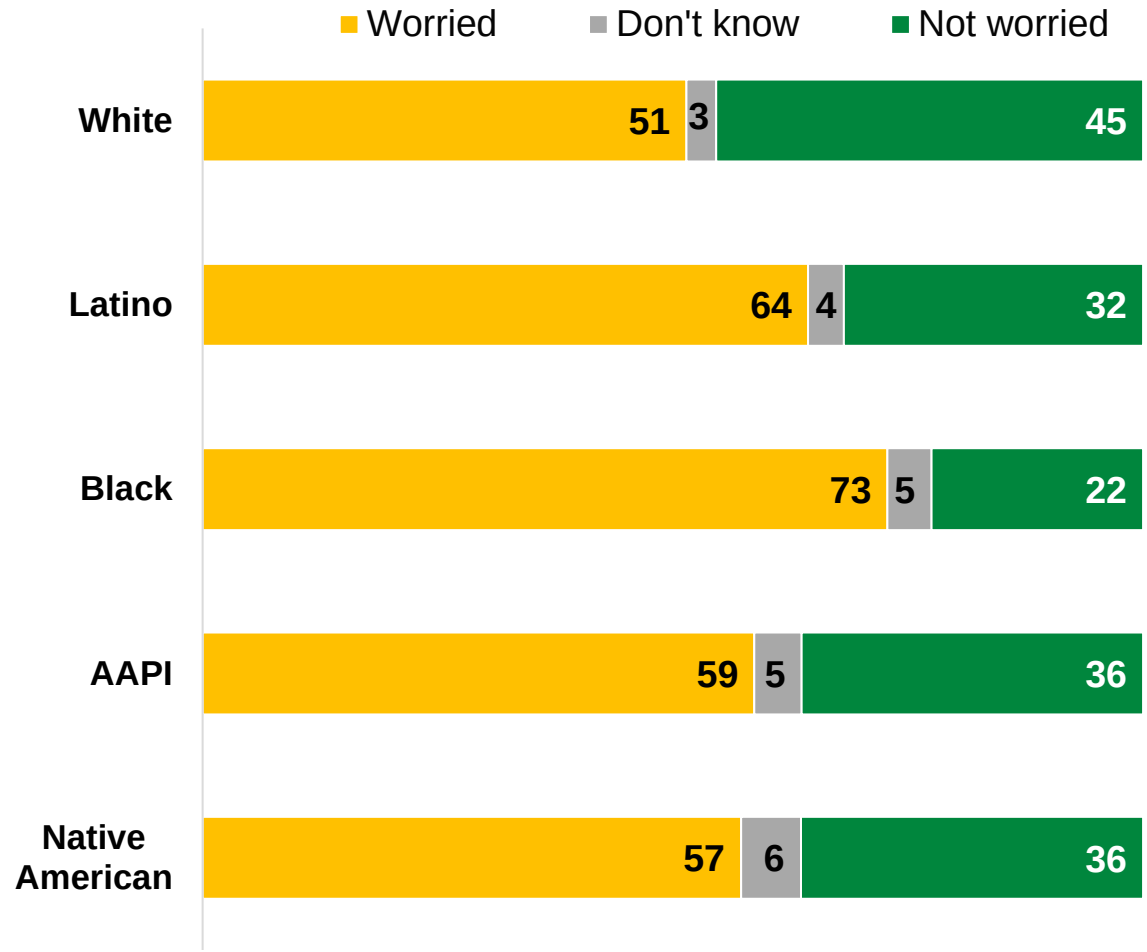


Most midterm voters are concerned about candidates who don't speak out against hate, and voting rights being under attack

Are you worried that: Elected officials and political candidates don't speak out enough against people and institutions that promote and normalize hate against minorities and immigrants.



Are you worried that: Voting rights are under attack, and the current environment is making it harder for people like me to vote and participate in democracy.



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