Ipsos Poll Conducted for Reuters

Core Political Approval

02.17.2016

These are findings from an Ipsos poll conducted

for   *date*

REUTERS   February 13-17, 2016

For the survey,

a sample of   *including*   *ages*

1,473
Americans

628
Democrats

517
Republicans

165
Independents

18+

w e r e   i n t e r v i e w e d   o n l i n e

The precision of the Reuters/Ipsos online polls is measured using a credibility interval.

In this case, the poll has a credibility interval of plus or minus the following percentage points

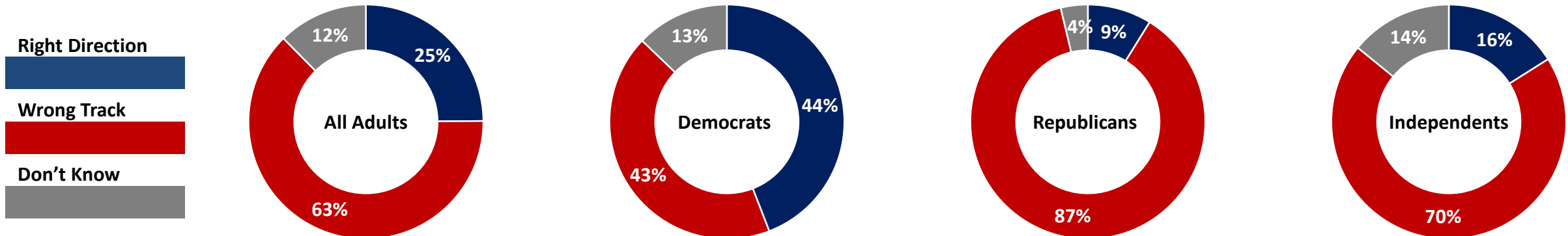| 2.9	4.5	4.9	8.7
for all adults	Democrats	Republicans	Independents

For more information about credibility intervals, please see the appendix.

- The data were weighted to the U.S. current population data by:
  - Gender
  - Age
  - Education
  - Ethnicity

- Statistical margins of error are not applicable to online polls.

- All sample surveys and polls may be subject to other sources of error, including, but not limited to coverage error and measurement error.

- Figures marked by an asterisk (*) indicate a percentage value of greater than zero but less than one half of one per cent.

- Where figures do not sum to 100, this is due to the effects of rounding.

- *To see more information on this and other Reuters/Ipsos polls, please visit http://polling.reuters.com/.*

RIGHT DIRECTION/WRONG TRACK

Generally speaking, would you say things in this country are heading in the right direction, or are they off on the wrong track?

Right Direction

Wrong Track

Don't Know

All Adults
- 25%
- 12%
- 63%

Democrats
- 44%
- 13%
- 43%

Republicans
- 9%
- 4%
- 87%

Independents
- 16%
- 14%
- 70%

BARACK OBAMA

Overall, do you approve or disapprove about the way Barack Obama is handling his job as President?

Is that strongly (approve/disapprove) or somewhat (approve/disapprove)? (Asked of those who selected "approve" or "disapprove") Q2b. If you had to choose, do you lean more towards approve or disapprove? (Asked of those who selected "don't know")

	Total	Democrat	Republican	Independent
Strongly approve	23%	41%	7%	12%
Somewhat approve	19%	33%	6%	15%
Lean towards approve	3%	4%	1%	3%
Lean towards disapprove	3%	2%	3%	4%
Somewhat disapprove	14%	10%	14%	23%
Strongly disapprove	34%	9%	69%	35%
Not sure	5%	1%	1%	8%
TOTAL APPROVE	45%	78%	14%	30%
TOTAL DISAPPROVE	51%	21%	86%	62%

REPUBLICAN PRESIDENTIAL PRIMARIES

Please think ahead now to the next Presidential in one year's time, in 2016.
If the 2016 Republican presidential primaries were being held today, for whom of the following would you vote?
(Asked of registered voters, n=670)

TOP 3

	Total (n=670)	Republican (n=476)	Independent (n=129)
Donald Trump	36%	40%	32%
Ted Cruz	13%	17%	6%
Benjamin Carson	10%	10%	6%
Marco Rubio	8%	11%	6%
Jeb Bush	8%	9%	5%
John Kasich	8%	9%	12%
Jim Gilmore	1%	1%	1%
Wouldn't vote	15%	4%	32%

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DEMOCRATIC PRESIDENTIAL PRIMARIES

Please think ahead now to the next Presidential in one year's time, in 2016.
If the 2016 Democratic presidential primaries were being held today, for whom of the following would you vote?
(Asked of registered voters, n=737)

	Total (n=737)	Democrat (n=543)	Independent (n=129)
Hillary Clinton	45%	53%	24%
Bernie Sanders	42%	42%	47%
Wouldn't vote	14%	5%	29%

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HEAD-TO-HEADS

If the 2016 presidential election were being held today and the candidates were as below, for whom would you vote?
(Asked of registered voters, n=1,213)

|	Registered Voters
Ted Cruz (Republican)	29%
Hillary Clinton (Democrat)	46%
Neither/ Other	11%
Wouldn't vote	8%
Don't know/Refused	6%
Donald Trump (Republican)	37%
Hillary Clinton (Democrat)	44%
Neither/ Other	10%
Wouldn't vote	5%
Don't know/Refused	4%
Donald Trump (Republican)	35%
Bernie Sanders (Democrat)	44%
Neither/ Other	8%
Wouldn't vote	5%
Don't know/Refused	7%
Ted Cruz (Republican)	29%
Bernie Sanders (Democrat)	47%
Neither/ Other	10%
Wouldn't vote	7%
Don't know/Refused	8%

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HEAD-TO-HEADS

If the 2016 presidential election were being held today and the candidates were as below, for whom would you vote?
(Asked of registered voters, n=1,337)

	Registered Voters
Ted Cruz (Republican)	25%
Hillary Clinton (Democrat)	40%
Michael Bloomberg (Independent)	11%
Neither/ Other	10%
Wouldn't vote	6%
Don't know/Refused	7%
Ted Cruz (Republican)	24%
Bernie Sanders (Democrat)	44%
Michael Bloomberg (Independent)	10%
Neither/ Other	7%
Wouldn't vote	7%
Don't know/Refused	8%
Donald Trump (Republican)	33%
Bernie Sanders (Democrat)	39%
Michael Bloomberg (Independent)	11%
Neither/ Other	6%
Wouldn't vote	4%
Don't know/Refused	6%
Donald Trump (Republican)	34%
Hillary Clinton (Democrat)	38%
Michael Bloomberg (Independent)	11%
Neither/ Other	6%
Wouldn't vote	4%
Don't know/Refused	6%

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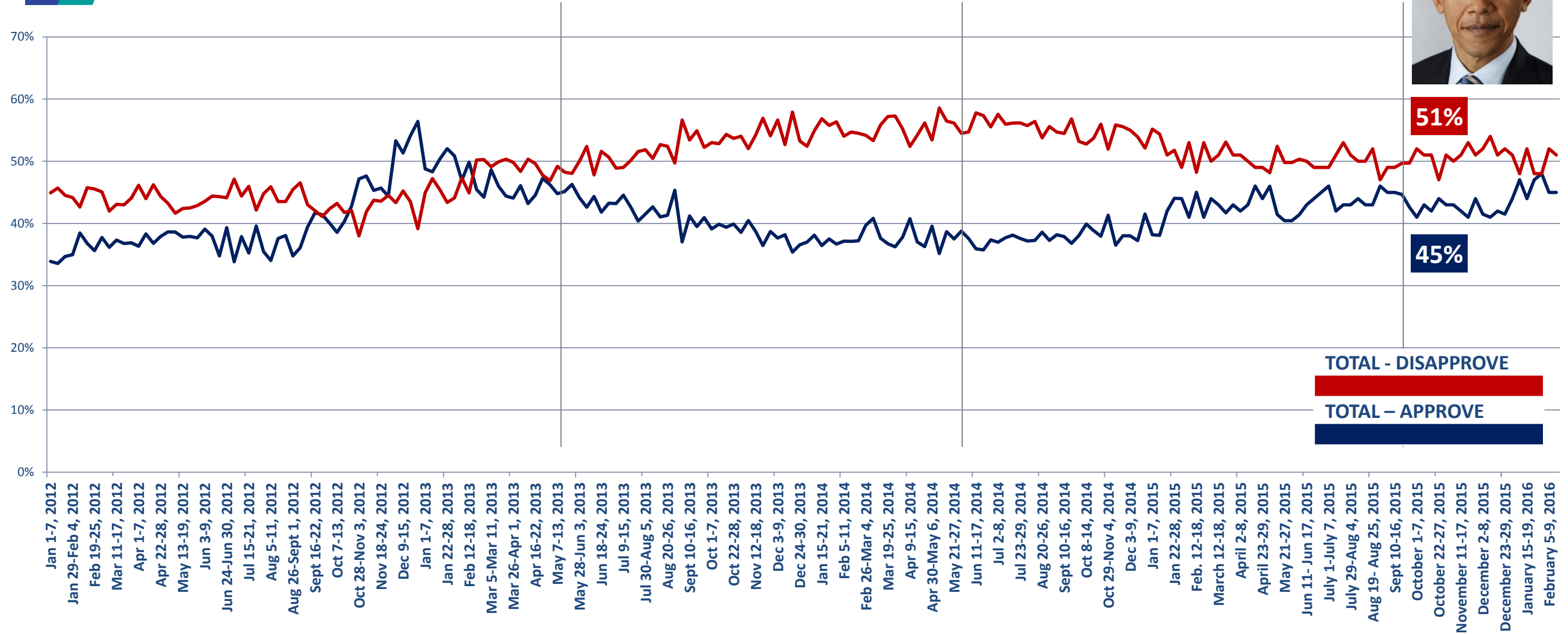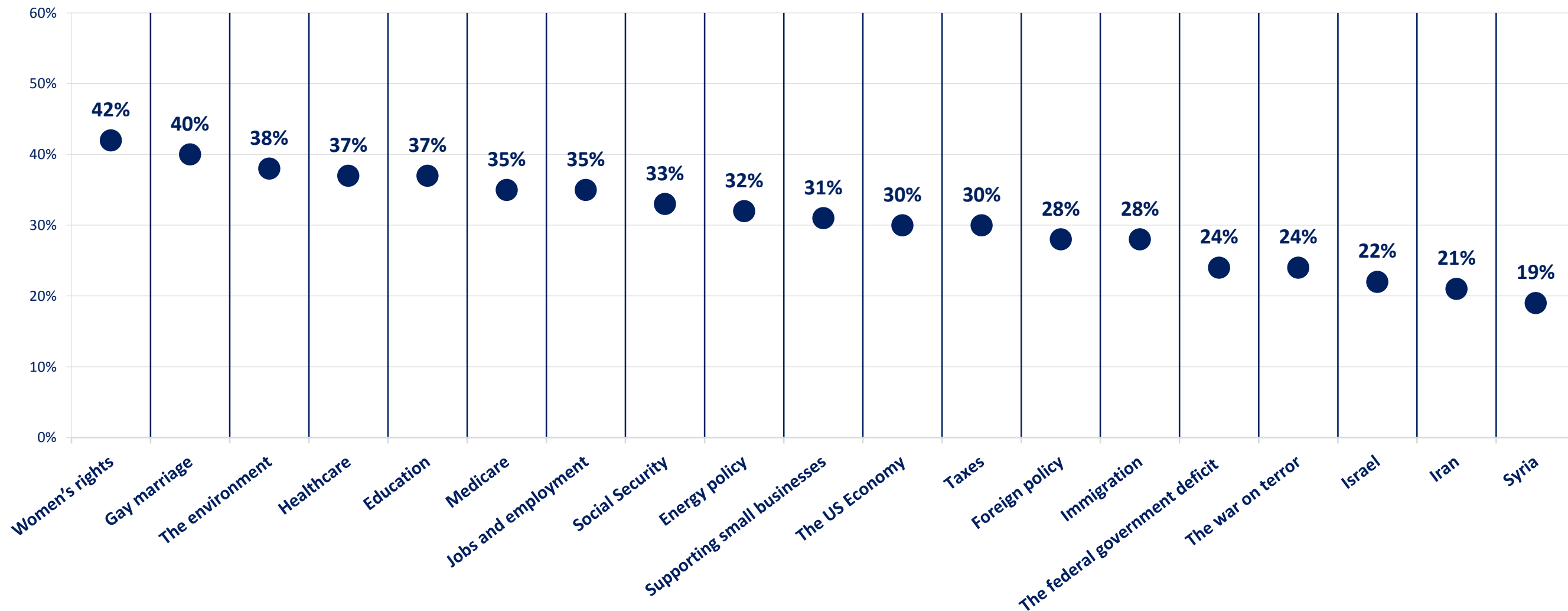
CORE POLITICAL APPROVAL

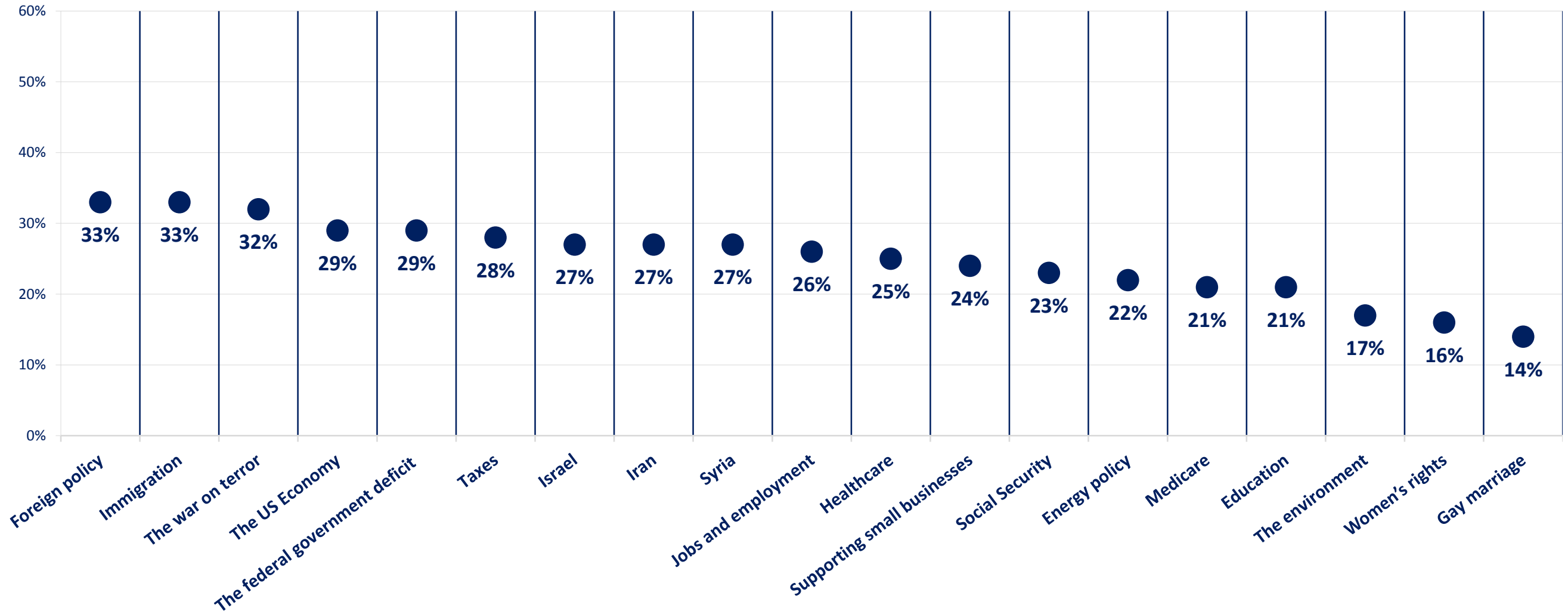In your opinion, which political party has a better plan, policy or approach to each of the following?
(n=782)

All Adults (n=782)	Democratic Party	Republican Party	Independents	Other	None	Don't know	DEM/REP PARTY DIFF
Healthcare	37%	25%	7%	4%	10%	18%	12%
The war on terror	24%	32%	7%	3%	10%	24%	-8%
Iran	21%	27%	7%	5%	11%	29%	-6%
The US Economy	30%	29%	7%	2%	11%	20%	1%
Immigration	28%	33%	7%	3%	9%	20%	-5%
Social Security	33%	23%	8%	3%	12%	22%	9%
Medicare	35%	21%	7%	4%	11%	22%	13%
Taxes	30%	28%	8%	3%	10%	21%	2%
Gay marriage	40%	14%	6%	3%	12%	24%	26%
Jobs and employment	35%	26%	8%	2%	9%	19%	8%
The federal government deficit	24%	29%	9%	3%	14%	22%	-5%
Supporting small businesses	31%	24%	9%	3%	10%	23%	6%
Education	37%	21%	8%	3%	10%	21%	15%
Foreign policy	28%	33%	4%	3%	9%	23%	-5%
Women's rights	42%	16%	8%	2%	10%	22%	27%
The environment	38%	17%	9%	2%	10%	24%	21%
Israel	22%	27%	7%	3%	11%	29%	-6%
Syria	19%	27%	6%	3%	13%	31%	-8%
Energy policy	32%	22%	8%	4%	10%	24%	10%

TOP
Democrats
Republicans

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Democratic Party

Category	%
Women's rights	42%
Gay marriage	40%
The environment	38%
Healthcare	37%
Education	37%
Medicare	35%
Jobs and employment	35%
Social Security	33%
Energy policy	32%
Supporting small businesses	31%
The US Economy	30%
Taxes	30%
Foreign policy	28%
Immigration	28%
The federal government deficit	24%
The war on terror	24%
Israel	22%
Iran	21%
Syria	19%

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Republican Party

Topic	Value
Foreign policy	33%
Immigration	33%
The war on terror	32%
The US Economy	29%
The federal government deficit	29%
Taxes	28%
Israel	27%
Iran	27%
Syria	27%
Jobs and employment	26%
Healthcare	25%
Supporting small businesses	24%
Social Security	23%
Energy policy	22%
Medicare	21%
Education	21%
The environment	17%
Women's rights	16%
Gay marriage	14%

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Democratic/Republican Party Difference

In your opinion, which political party has a better plan, policy or approach to each of the following? (n=782)

Party Identification

Category	Percentage
Strong Democrat	14%
Moderate Democrat	21%
Lean Democrat	8%
Lean Republican	7%
Moderate Republican	16%
Strong Republican	9%
Independent	12%
None of these	9%
DK	4%
Democrat	43%
Republican	32%
Independent	12%
None/DK	13%

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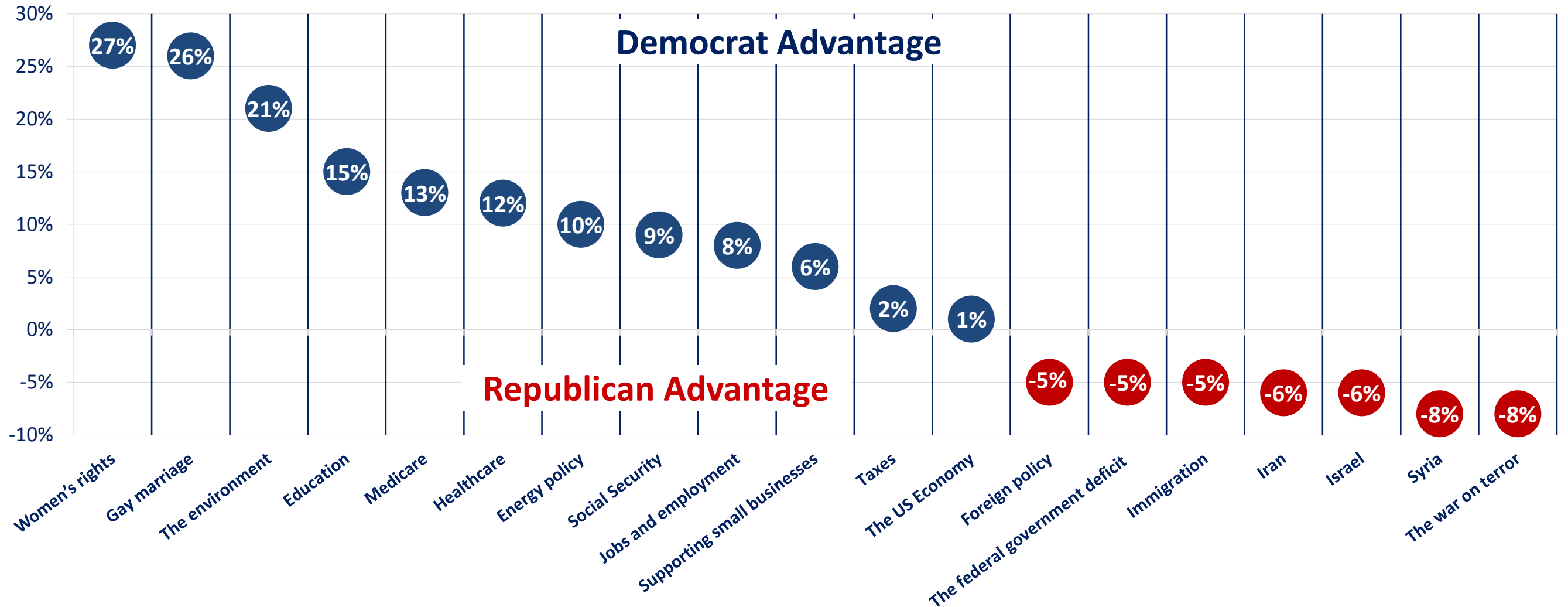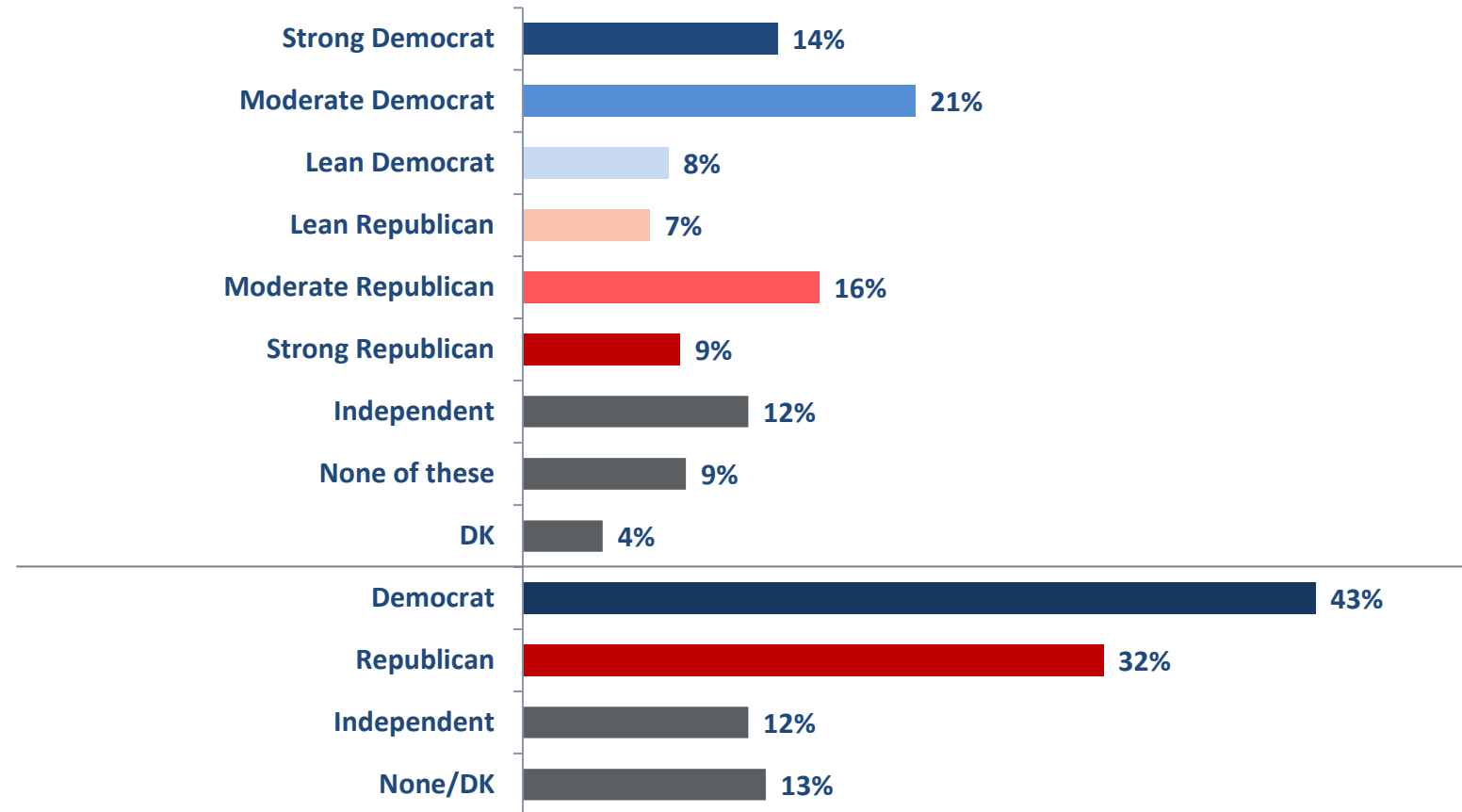
How to Calculate Bayesian Credibility Intervals

- The calculation of credibility intervals assumes that Y has a binomial distribution conditioned on the parameter θ\, i.e., Y|θ~Bin(n,θ), where n is the size of our sample. In this setting, Y counts the number of "yes", or "1", observed in the sample, so that the sample mean ($\bar{y}$) is a natural estimate of the true population proportion θ. This model is often called the likelihood function, andit is a standard concept in both the Bayesian and the Classical framework. The Bayesian 1 statistics combines both the prior distribution and the likelihood function to create a posterior distribution. The posterior distribution represents our opinion about which are the plausible values for θ adjusted after observing the sample data. In reality, the posterior distribution is one's knowledge base updated using the latest survey information. For the prior and likelihood functions specified here, the posterior distribution is also a beta distribution (π(θ/y)~β(y+a,n-y+b)), but with updated hyper-parameters.

- Our credibility interval for θ is based on this posterior distribution. As mentioned above, these intervals represent our belief about which are the most plausible values for θ given our updated knowledge base. There are different ways to calculate these intervals based on π(θ/y). Since we want only one measure of precision for all variables in the survey, analogous to what is done within the Classical framework, we will compute the largest possible credibility interval for any observed sample. The worst case occurs when we assume that a=1 and b=1 and y=n/2. Using a simple approximation of the posterior by the normal distribution, the 95% credibility interval is given by, approximately:

$$\bar{y} \mp \frac{1}{\sqrt{n}}$$

How to Calculate Bayesian Credibility Intervals

For this poll,

the Bayesian Credibility Interval was adjusted using standard weighting design effect 1+L=1.3 to account for complex weighting[2]

Examples of credibility intervals for different base sizes are below.

SAMPLE SIZE	CREDIBILITY INTERVALS
2,000	2.5
1,500	2.9
1,000	3.5
750	4.1
500	5.0
350	6.0
200	7.9
100	11.2

Ipsos does not publish data
for base sizes
(sample sizes) below 100.

[1] *Bayesian Data Analysis, Second Edition, Andrew Gelman, John B. Carlin, Hal S. Stern, Donald B. Rubin, Chapman & Hall/CRC | ISBN: 158488388X | 2003*
[2] *Kish, L. (1992). Weighting for unequal Pi . Journal of Official, Statistics, 8, 2, 183200.*