



AMERICAN ACTION

NETWORK

Policy Poll of Registered Voters

January 3-10, 2015



NORTH STAR
OPINION RESEARCH

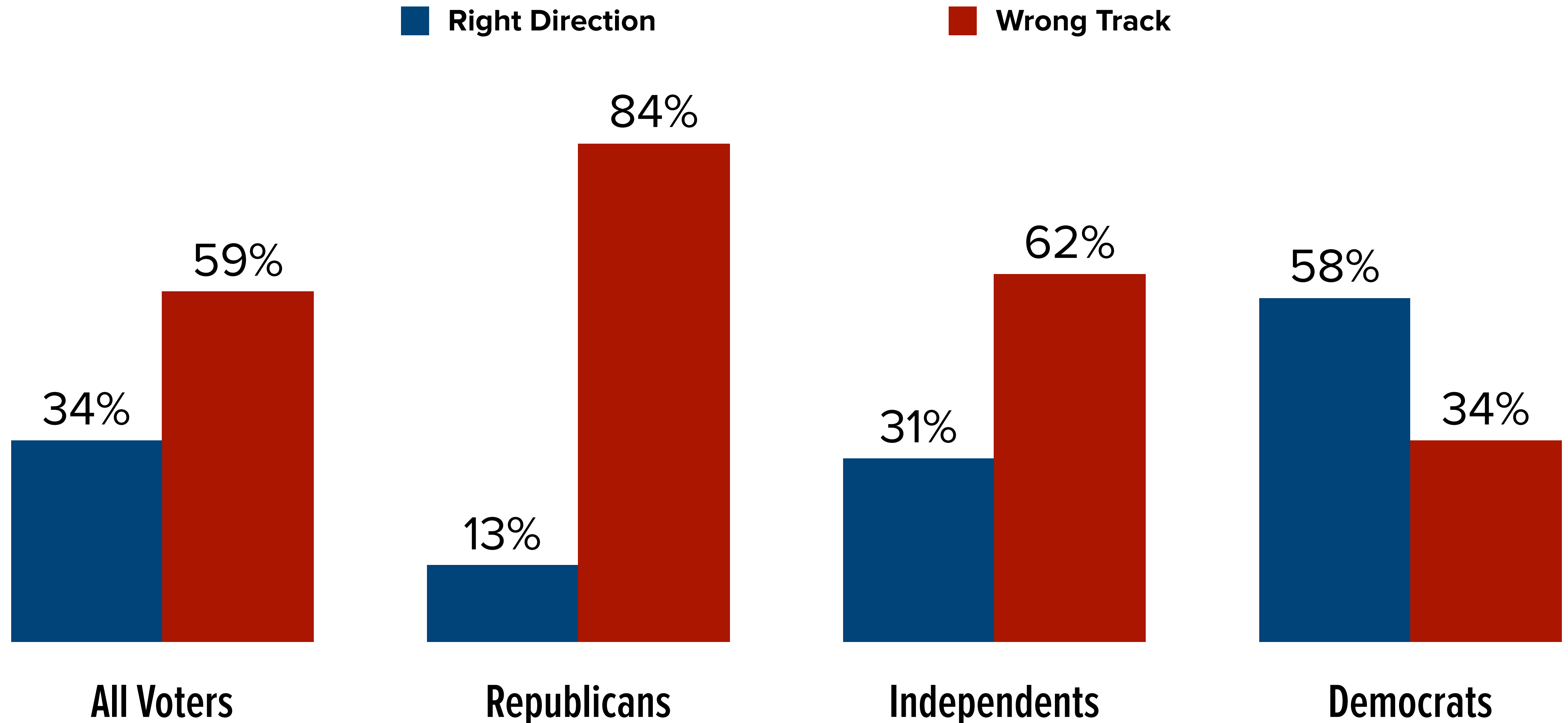
phone: 703.836.7666 | web: northstaropinion.com

Methodology

- Survey conducted January 3-10, 2015.
- 1328 registered voters interviewed by telephone with live interviewers. 55 percent of interviews were completed on cell phones.
- Results are weighted to a nationally representative sample of 1000.
- Margin of error is ± 3.1 percent for full sample.
- Quotas set for state, gender, race, and age to reflect past turnout.
- Party identification balance is 28% Republican, 32% Democrat, 36% independent.
- High priority policies are those with a mean of 8.0 or higher on a scale from 1 to 10; medium priority policies are those with a mean of 6.0 to 7.9; low priority policies are those with a mean below 6.0.
- High polarization policies are defined as those with a difference between the Republican and Democrat mean above 2.5.

Three-fifths of voters say the country is off on the wrong track.

Do you think the country is headed in the right direction, or have things gotten off on the wrong track?



Priorities and Polarization

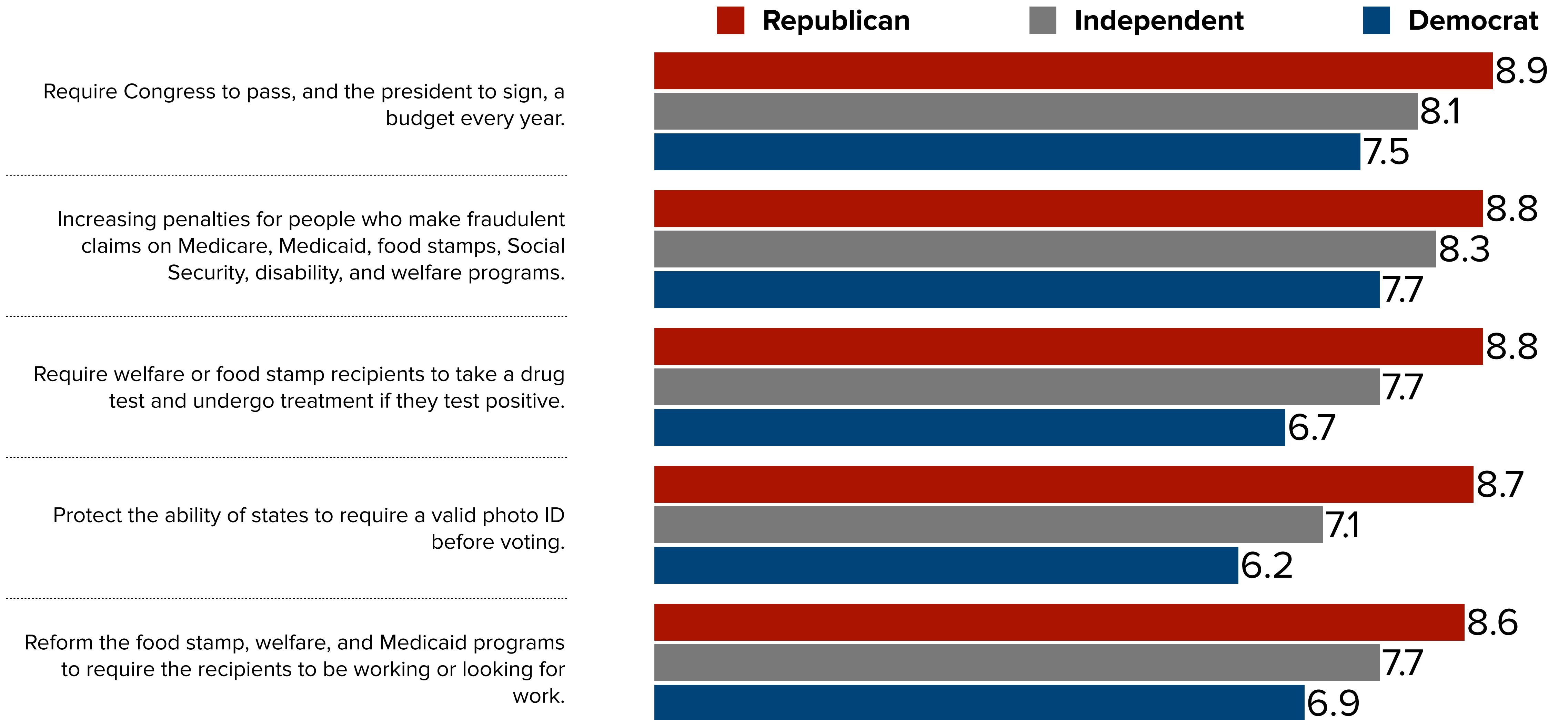
Voters were asked to rate a series of policy options, broken down into fourteen policy areas, using the following question wording:

Now I would like to read you a series of policy priorities for the new Congress that begins in January. On a scale of one to ten, please rate each one in terms of how high a priority you think Congress should place on that policy. A policy with the lowest priority would be a one and a policy with the highest priority would be a ten.

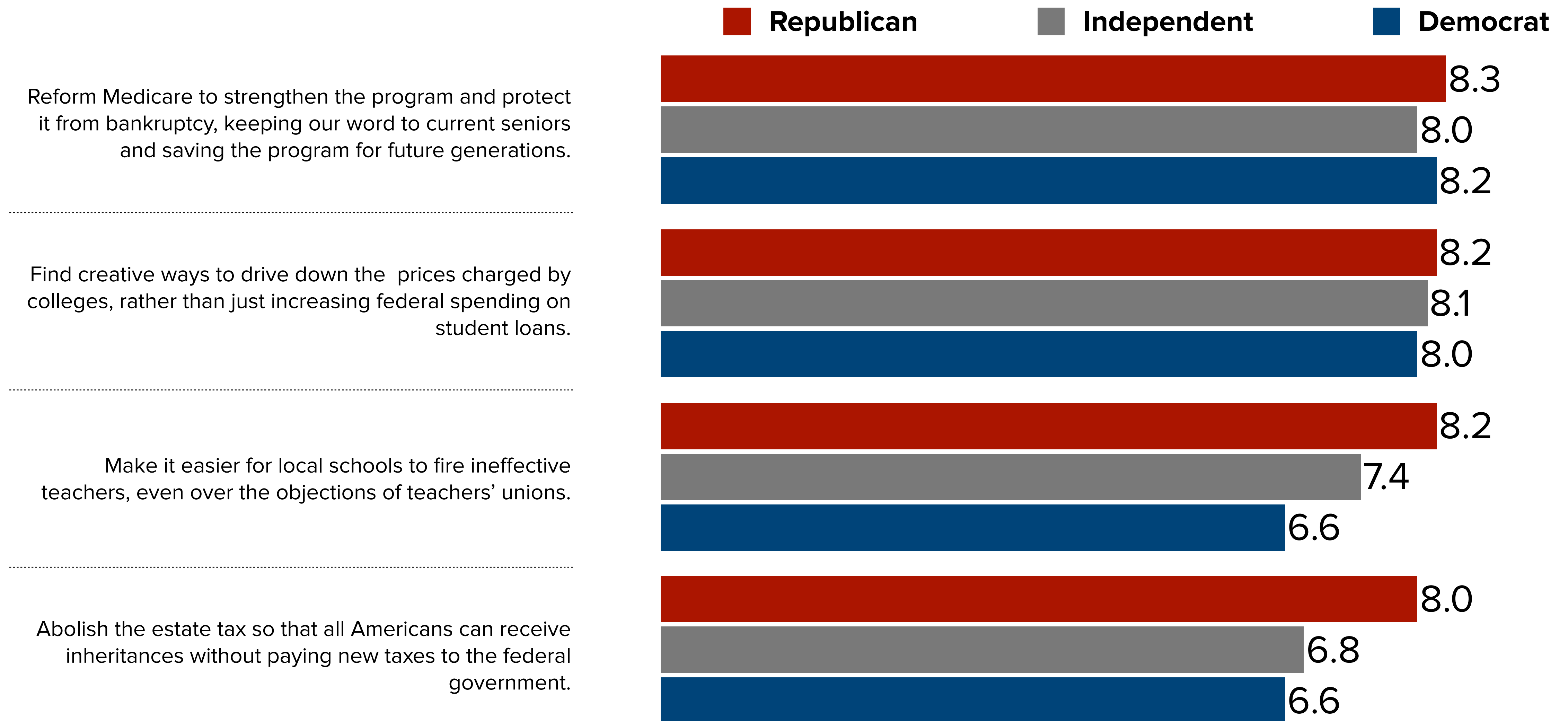
We calculated polarization as the difference between the Republican and Democratic mean. Low polarization policies are good candidates for common ground. High polarization policies offer opportunities to highlight differences.

High Republican Priorities that Unify Other Groups

These five policies are top priorities for Republicans.

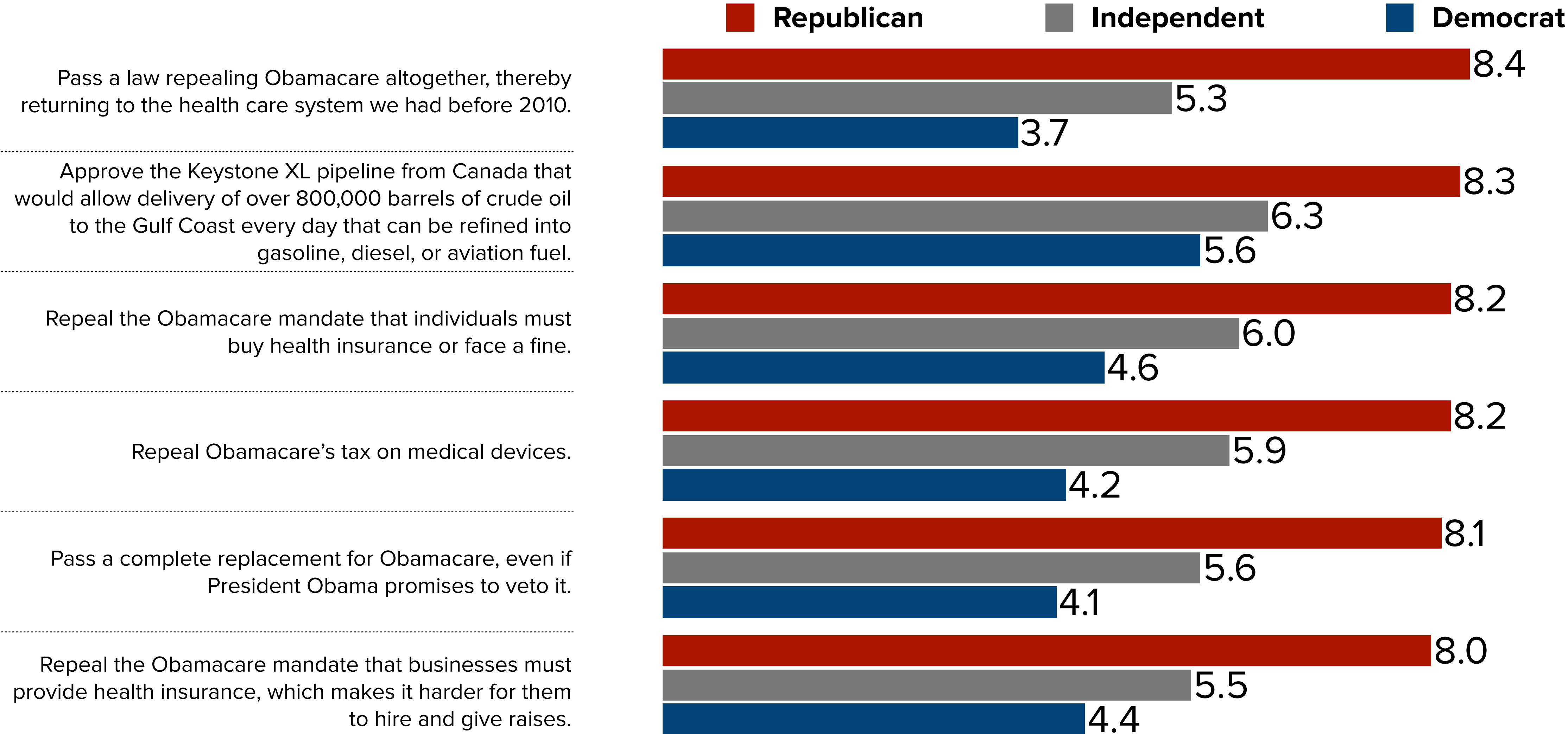


These policies also get high marks from most voters, especially reforming Medicare and lowering college costs.



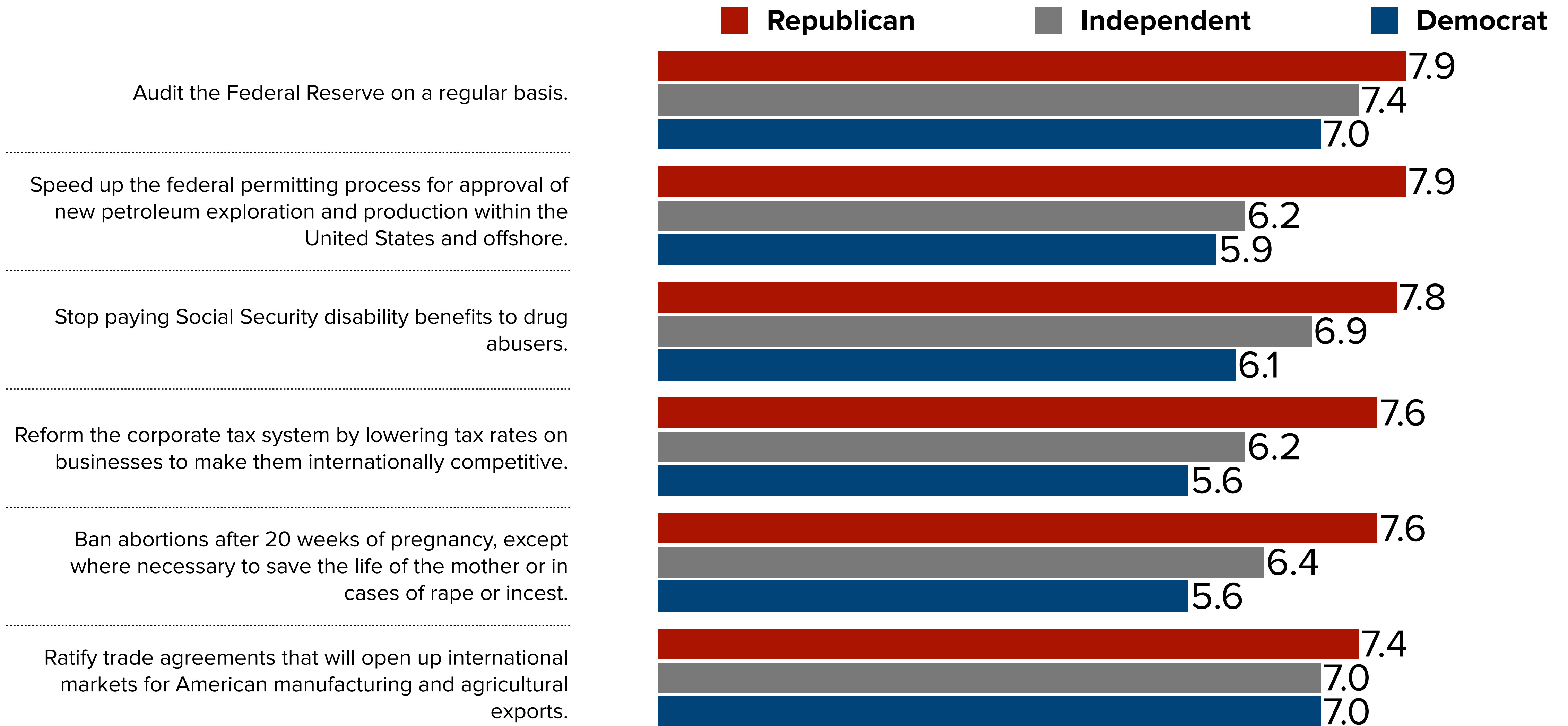
High Republican Priorities that Polarize Other Groups

Many of the policies that are high priorities for Republicans and low priorities for Democrats and Independents relate to Obamacare.

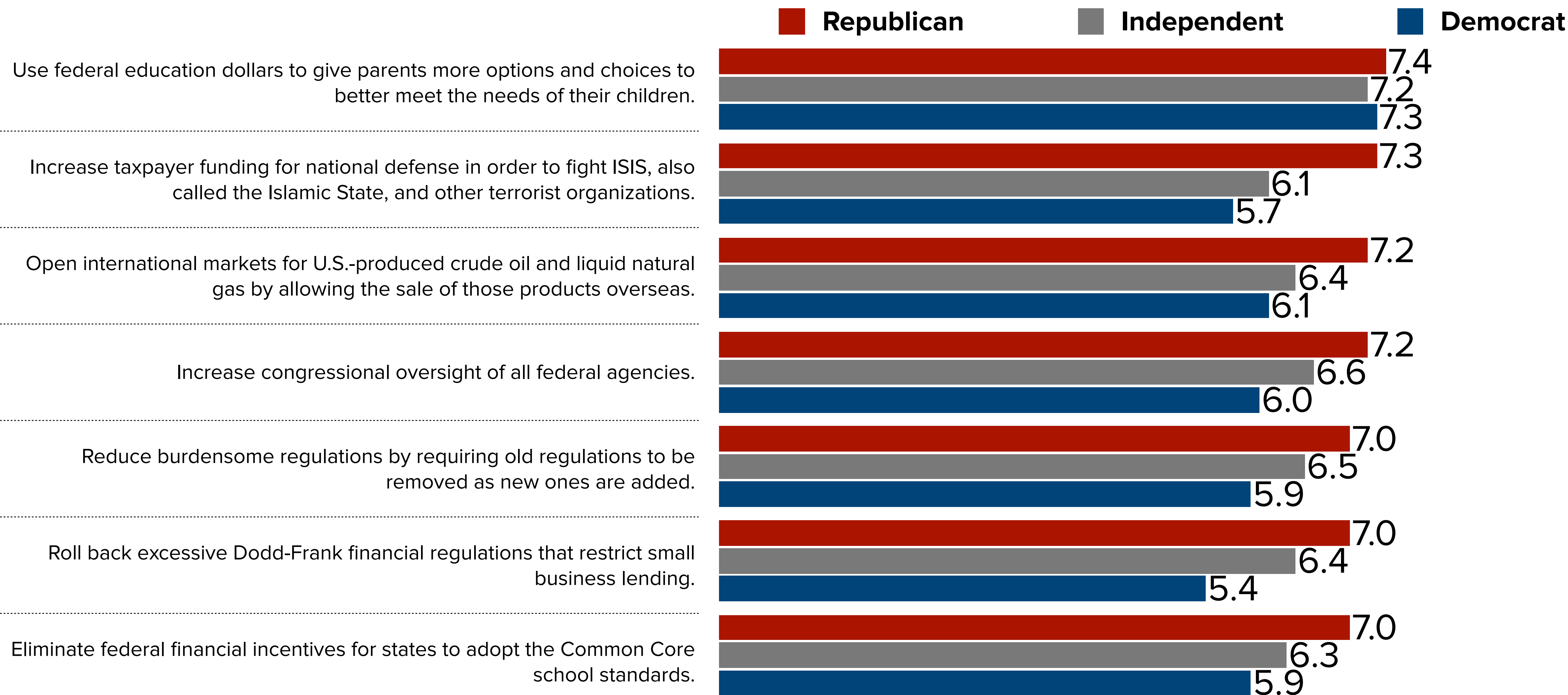


Medium Republican Priorities that Unify Other Groups

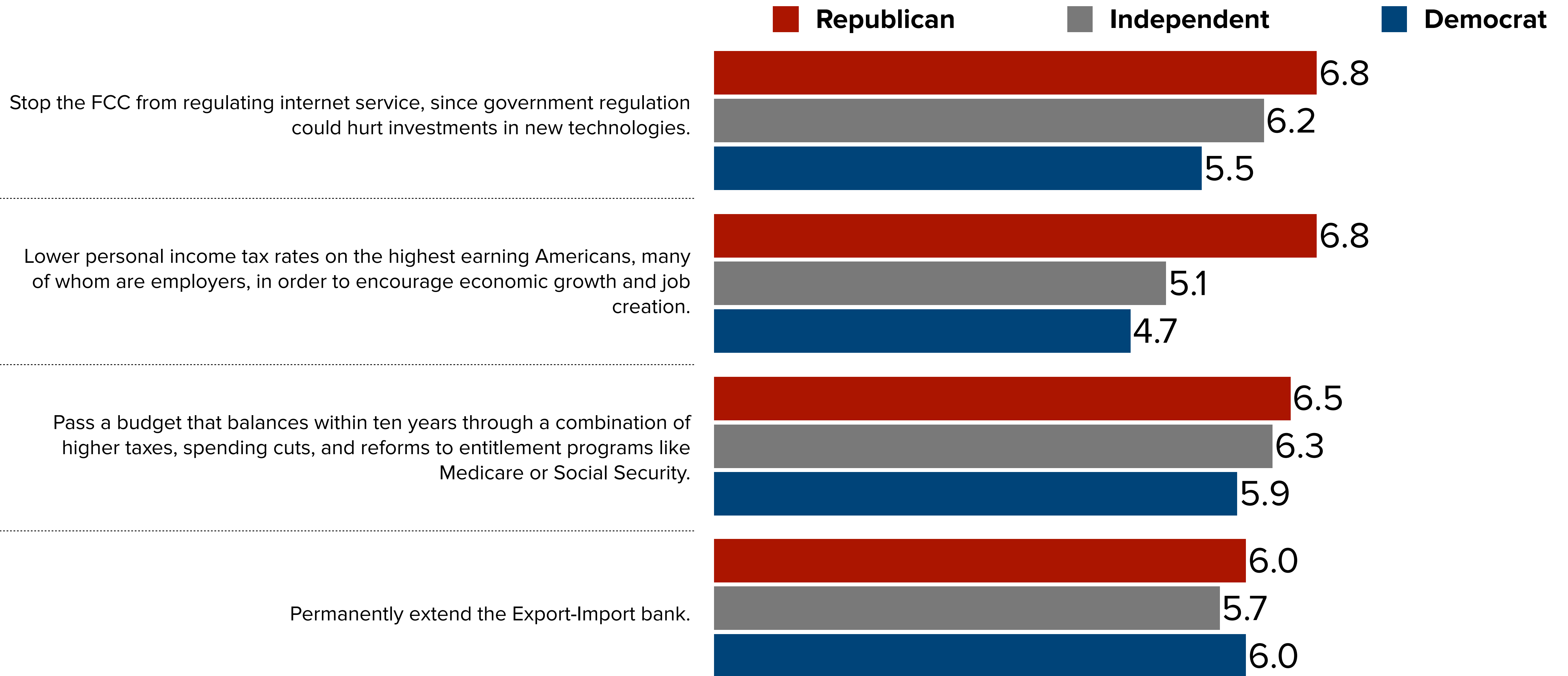
These six policies are medium priorities for Republicans and medium or low priorities for Independents and Democrats, but they are not particularly polarizing.



These seven policies also meet the standard of non-polarizing medium priorities.

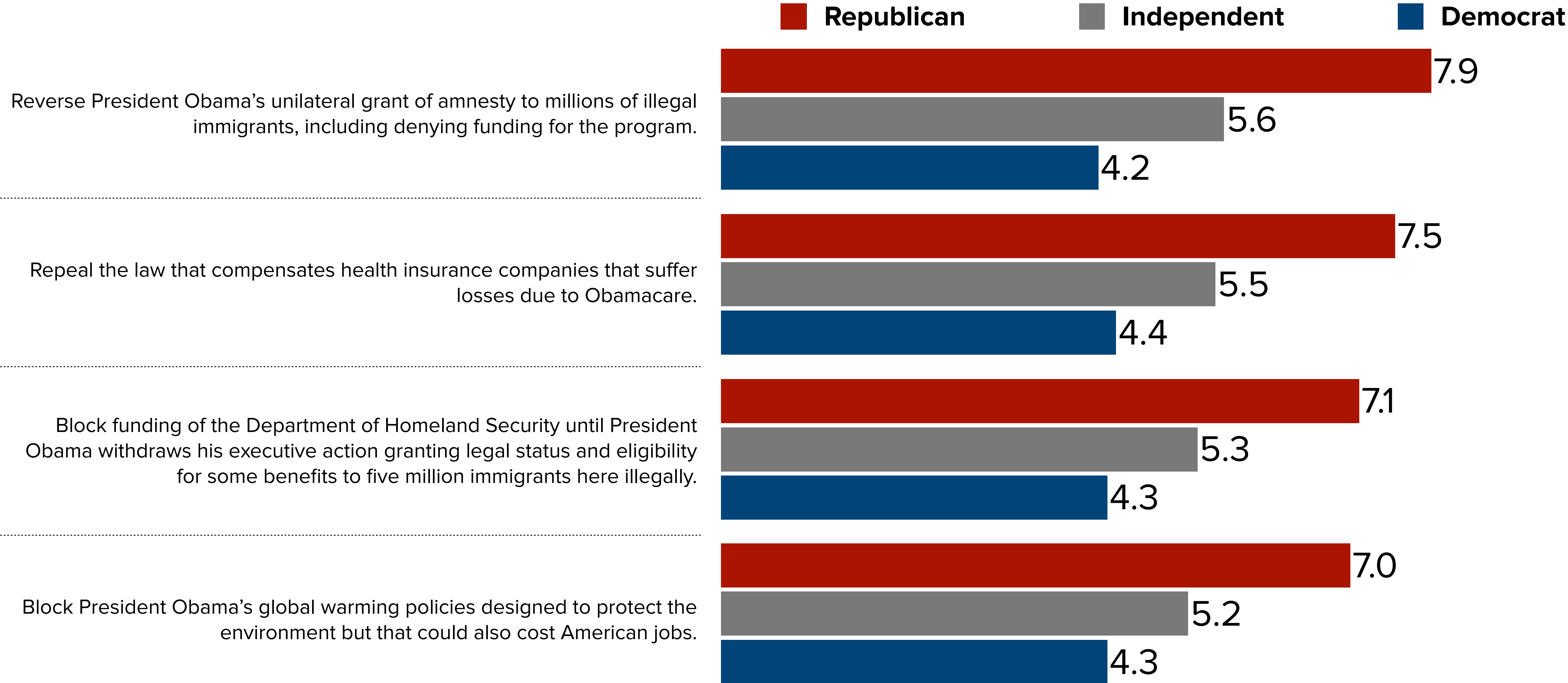


These four policies are somewhat lower priorities for Republicans, and they are not polarizing.



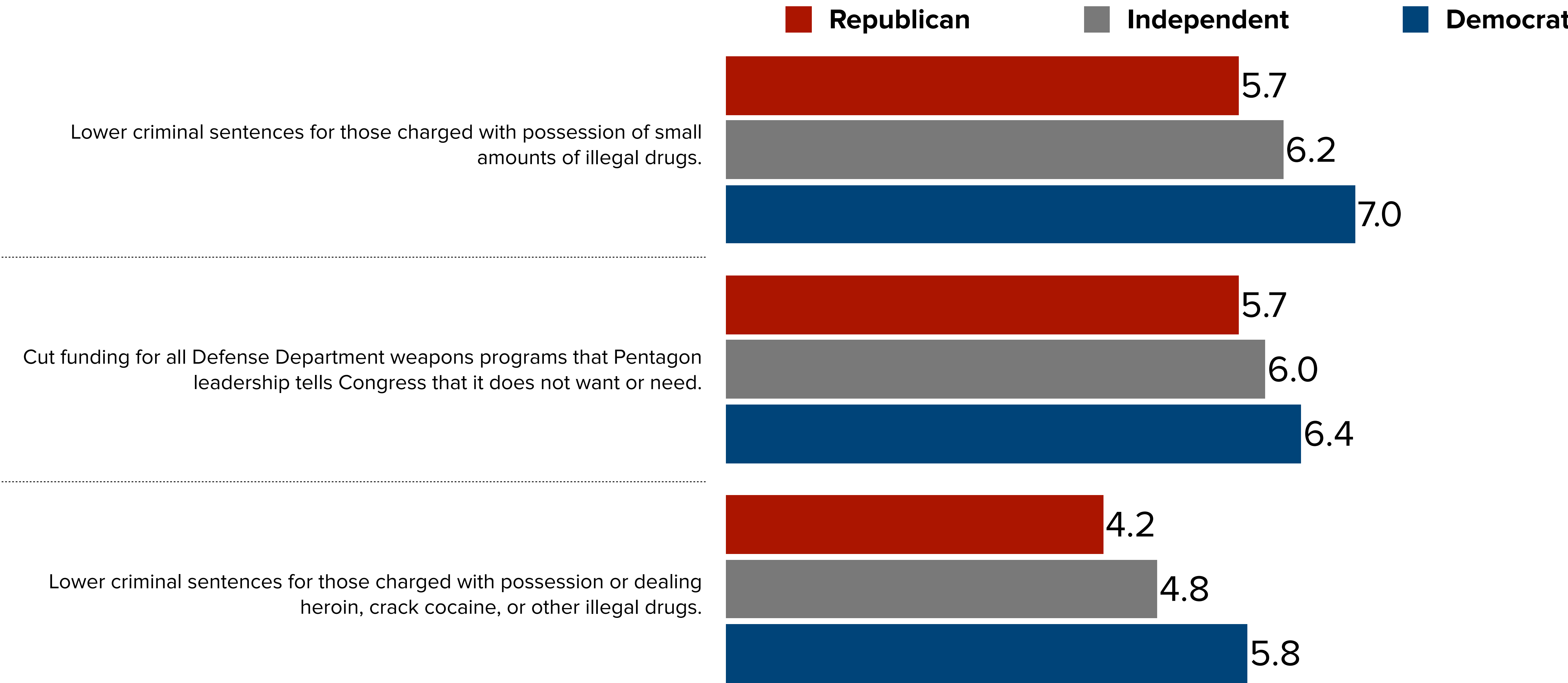
Medium Republican Priorities that Polarize Other Groups

Two of the most polarizing policies refer to Obama's executive order on immigration where Republicans give a far higher priority than Independents or Democrats.



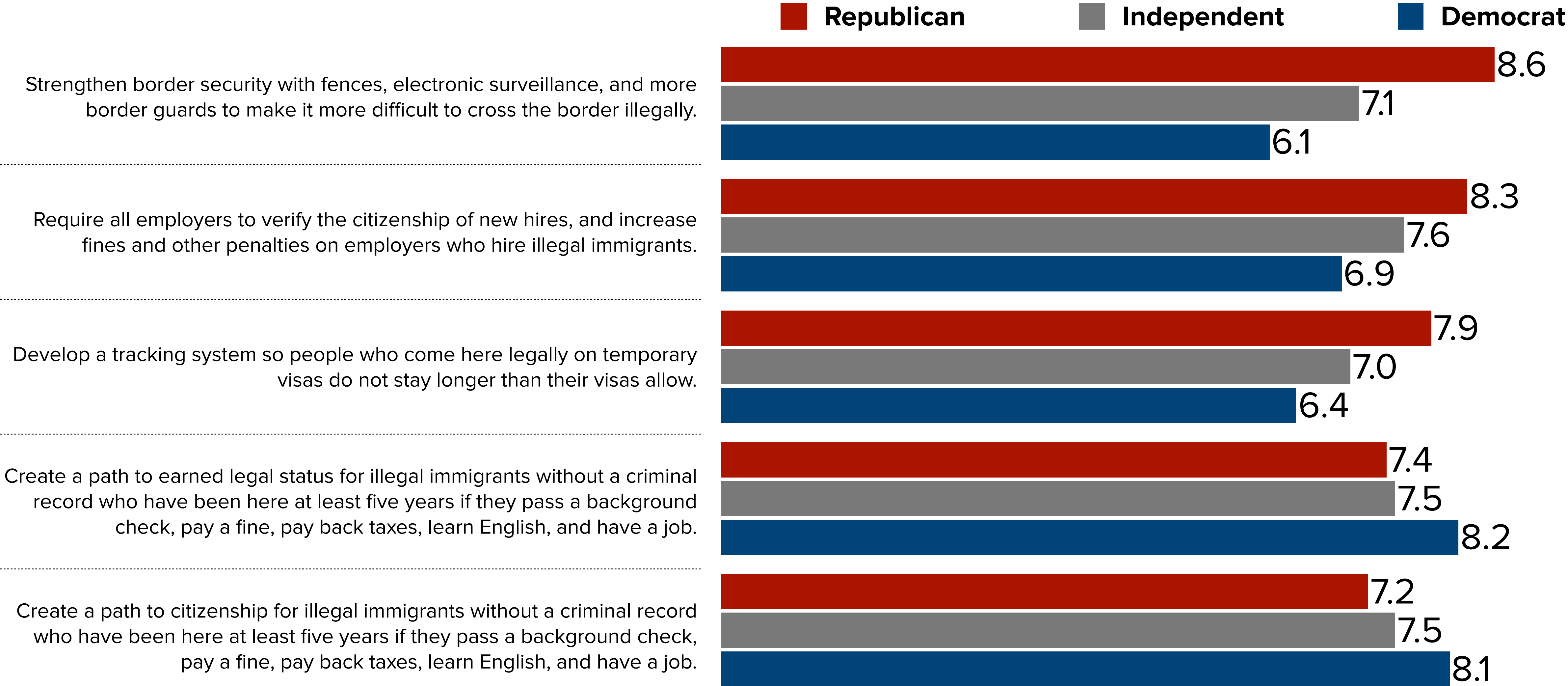
Low Republican Priorities

Sentencing reform is a low priority for Republicans, no matter how it is worded, as is cutting weapons programs the Pentagon says it doesn't need.

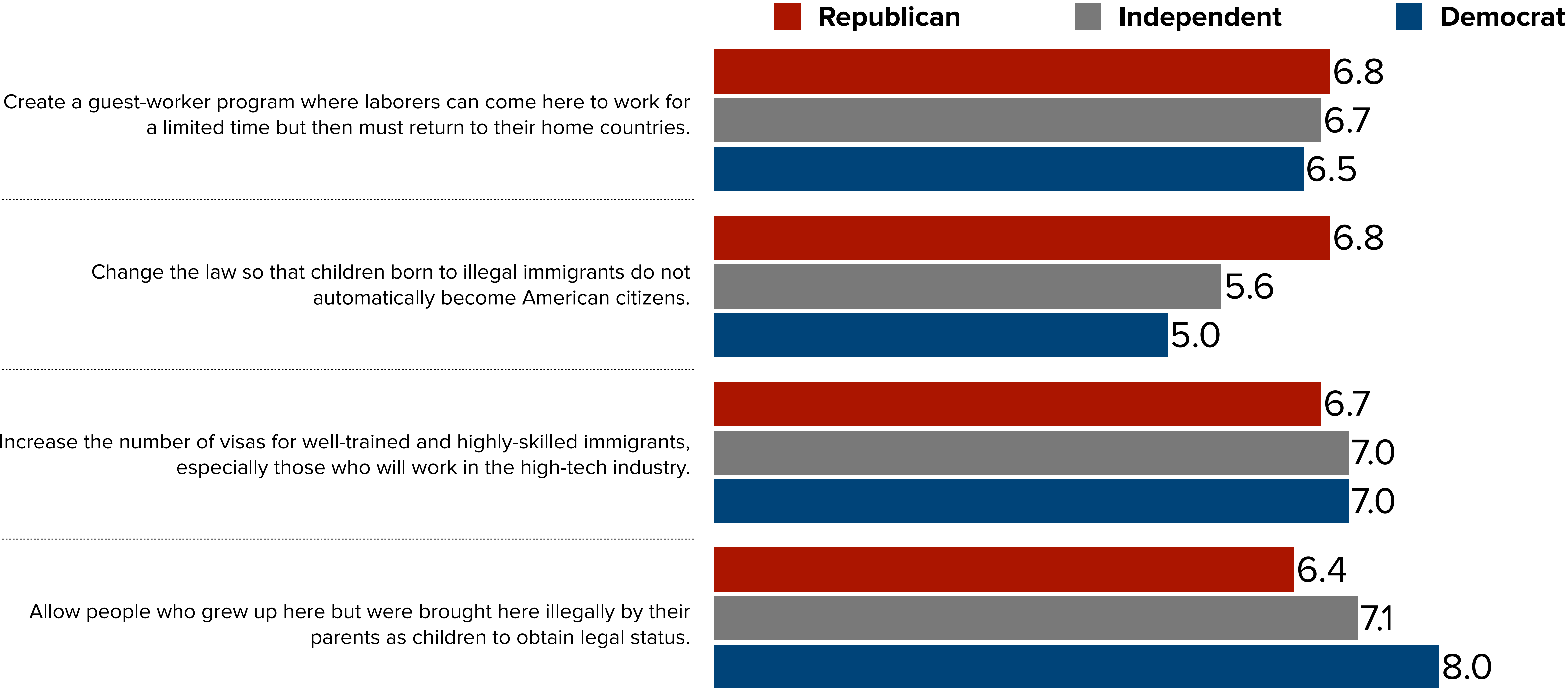


Immigration Policies

Many immigration reform proposals are either medium or high priorities for all three groups.



Other immigration proposals are a medium priority for Republicans.



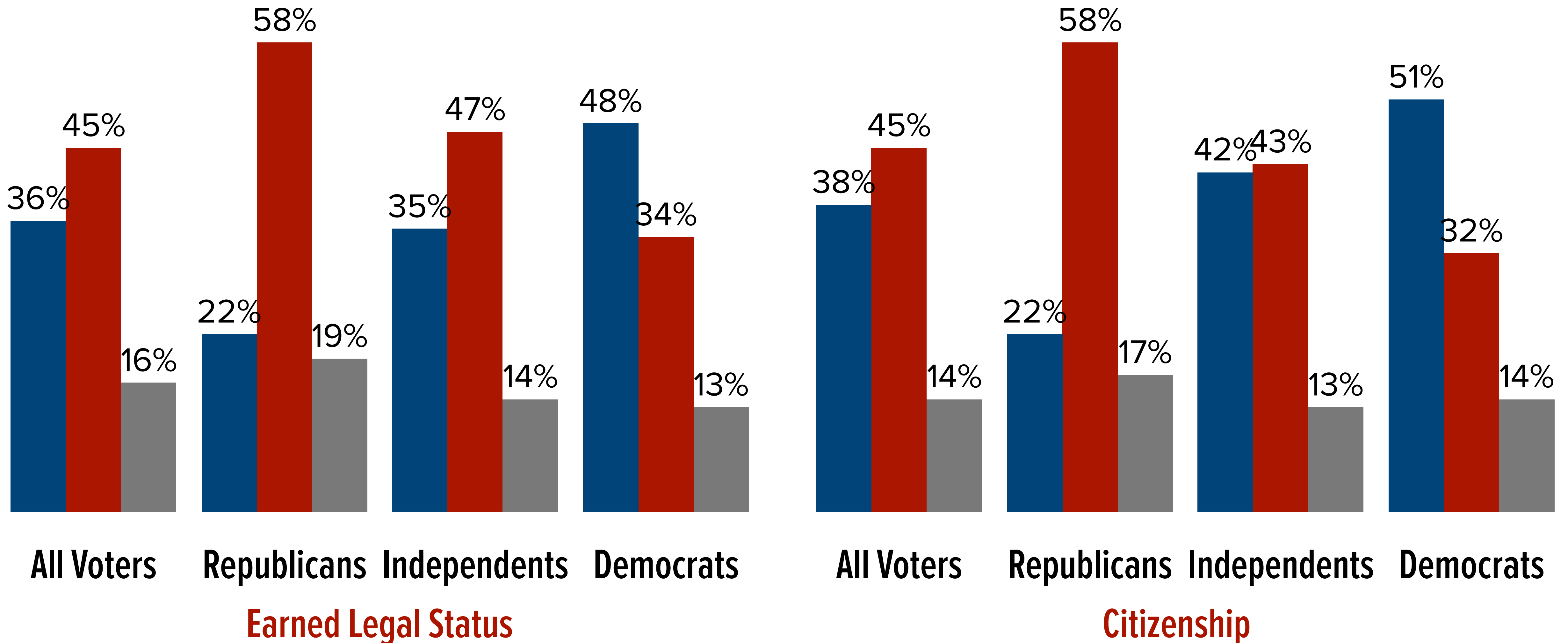
On a split-sampled question testing support for — and the order of — earned legal status or a path to citizenship ...

Which of the following comes closest to your view about a path to (earned legal status/citizenship) for illegal immigrants without a criminal record who have been here at least five years if they pass a background check, pay a fine, pay back taxes, learn English, and have a job: (rotate)

- a) I would support a path to (earned legal status/citizenship) under these conditions;
- b) I would support a path to (earned legal status/citizenship) under these conditions, but only after increasing border security, increasing fines of employers who hire illegal immigrants, and developing a new visa tracking system;
- c) I would not support a path to (earned legal status/citizenship) for illegal immigrants under any conditions.

... there is little difference between earned legal status and citizenship, but the conditions are absolutely critical for generating support for either option.

■ Support ■ Support/After Conditions ■ Would Not Support



Priorities among Key Subgroups

The top Republican priorities generate a mixed pattern of support among various subgroups.

	Support Scores by Subgroup																		
	Total	Party			Race			Gender		Whites/Marital Status			Age				Tea Party	Whites/Education	
	Rep	Ind	Dem	White	Black	Hisp	Men	Women	Men	Mrrd Women	Unmarr Women	18-29	30-49	50-64	65+	Strng Supprt	Non Coll	Coll Grad	
Q6: Require a Budget	8.1	8.9	8.1	7.5	8.3	7.5	7.7	8.1	8.1	8.3	8.5	7.9	7.5	8.0	8.3	8.6	9.3	8.5	8.1
Q2: Penalties for Fraudulent Claims	8.2	8.8	8.3	7.7	8.3	7.8	7.9	8.3	8.1	8.4	8.3	8.1	7.3	8.2	8.6	8.8	8.9	8.5	8.2
Q3: Drug Tests for Assistance Recipients	7.6	8.8	7.7	6.7	7.7	6.9	8.0	7.5	7.7	7.7	8.0	7.3	7.1	7.5	7.9	8.0	8.8	8.0	7.4
Q30: Protect Voter ID Laws	7.3	8.7	7.1	6.2	7.4	6.3	7.5	7.1	7.4	7.4	7.5	7.2	6.9	7.0	7.4	7.8	9.2	8.0	6.9
Q4: Require Work for Aid Programs	7.7	8.6	7.7	6.9	7.7	7.2	8.0	7.6	7.7	7.8	7.9	7.3	7.2	7.8	7.9	7.7	8.7	8.0	7.5
Q35: Strengthen Border Security	7.2	8.6	7.1	6.1	7.3	7.3	6.8	7.3	7.2	7.3	7.3	7.1	6.0	7.1	7.6	8.1	9.1	7.8	6.8
Q22: Repeal Obamacare Altogether	5.7	8.4	5.3	3.7	6.1	3.9	5.6	5.6	5.7	6.2	6.4	5.2	5.2	5.6	6.1	5.5	8.9	6.7	5.6
Q19: Approve Keystone XL	6.7	8.3	6.3	5.6	6.8	6.5	6.9	6.9	6.4	7.2	6.6	5.7	5.9	6.7	7.1	6.8	9.1	7.2	6.3
Q8: Reform Medicare	8.1	8.3	8.0	8.2	8.2	8.0	8.3	7.9	8.3	7.9	8.5	8.3	7.7	8.0	8.4	8.4	8.4	8.3	8.1
Q36: Require Employer Verification	7.5	8.3	7.6	6.9	7.7	7.4	6.5	7.7	7.4	7.8	7.7	7.4	6.4	7.3	8.1	8.2	8.6	7.9	7.5
Q26: Repeal Individual Mandate	6.1	8.2	6.0	4.6	6.4	4.6	6.2	6.1	6.1	6.6	6.5	6.1	5.7	6.1	6.5	6.0	8.7	6.9	6.0
Q10: Drive Down College Costs	8.1	8.2	8.1	8.0	8.1	8.3	8.6	8.0	8.2	8.0	8.1	8.3	8.3	8.0	8.0	8.2	8.4	8.2	7.9
Q24: Repeal Medical Device Tax	6.0	8.2	5.9	4.2	6.4	4.5	5.9	6.2	5.9	6.7	6.4	5.3	5.5	5.8	6.5	6.0	8.6	6.9	6.0
Q11: Make It Easier to Fire Ineffective Teachers	7.3	8.2	7.4	6.6	7.5	6.8	7.4	7.4	7.2	7.7	7.3	7.4	6.9	7.2	7.4	7.9	8.6	7.7	7.3
Q23: Pass a Compete Replacement for Obamacare	5.8	8.1	5.6	4.1	6.2	4.4	5.9	5.8	5.8	6.3	6.3	5.5	5.5	5.7	6.3	5.5	8.5	6.7	5.7
Q16: Abolish Estate Tax	7.1	8.0	6.8	6.6	7.1	7.3	7.3	7.0	7.1	7.1	7.3	6.7	6.4	6.8	7.6	7.5	8.7	7.5	6.7
Q27: Repeal Employer Mandate	5.9	8.0	5.5	4.4	6.1	4.9	6.3	5.8	5.9	6.2	6.2	5.5	5.4	5.9	6.2	5.7	8.5	6.5	5.7

Medium Republican priorities generate the strongest support among Tea Party supporters and the weakest support among young people.

	Total	Party			Race			Gender		Whites/Marital Status			Age				Tea Party	Whites/Education	
		Rep	Ind	Dem	White	Black	Hisp	Men	Women	Men	Mrrd Women	Unmarr Women	18-29	30-49	50-64	65+	Strng Supprt	Non Coll	Coll Grad
Q34: Audit the Federal Reserve	7.4	7.9	7.4	7.0	7.4	7.4	7.3	7.4	7.4	7.4	7.6	7.3	7.1	7.1	7.7	7.8	8.3	7.7	7.2
Q21: Speed Up Permitting Process for Petroleum Development	6.6	7.9	6.2	5.9	6.7	6.7	6.4	6.7	6.5	6.9	6.7	6.0	5.7	6.4	7.0	7.3	8.6	7.0	6.3
Q37: Develop Tracking System for Temporary Visas	7.0	7.9	7.0	6.4	7.2	7.0	6.6	7.1	7.0	7.2	7.2	7.0	5.8	6.7	7.7	7.9	8.4	7.4	6.9
Q49: Reverse Unilateral Grant of Amnesty	5.8	7.9	5.6	4.2	6.2	4.6	5.2	5.9	5.8	6.3	6.1	5.8	5.1	5.6	6.4	6.0	8.3	6.6	5.8
Q48: Stop Disability Payments to Drug Abusers	6.9	7.8	6.9	6.1	7.0	6.2	7.1	6.8	6.9	6.9	7.2	6.8	6.2	6.9	7.2	6.9	7.5	7.2	6.8
Q13: Lower Corporate Tax Rates	6.4	7.6	6.2	5.6	6.5	6.0	6.5	6.5	6.3	6.6	6.4	6.1	5.9	6.5	6.5	6.5	8.3	6.8	6.2
Q31: Ban Abortions After 20 Weeks	6.5	7.6	6.4	5.6	6.5	6.4	6.9	6.3	6.6	6.3	7.0	6.2	6.3	6.0	6.6	7.3	8.1	7.0	6.1
Q25: Repeal Law Protecting Health Insurers	5.7	7.5	5.5	4.4	6.1	4.4	5.8	5.6	5.8	6.1	6.2	5.6	5.3	5.6	6.1	5.4	8.1	6.4	5.8
Q17: Ratify Trade Agreements	7.1	7.4	7.0	7.0	7.2	6.9	7.0	7.3	6.8	7.4	7.0	6.9	6.7	6.8	7.3	7.5	7.6	7.3	7.1
Q12: Use Federal Dollars to Provide Choice	7.3	7.4	7.2	7.3	7.1	8.2	8.1	7.2	7.4	7.0	7.2	7.3	7.3	7.4	7.2	7.2	7.9	7.6	6.7
Q42b: Create Path to Earned Legal Status	7.7	7.4	7.5	8.2	7.5	8.2	8.6	7.4	7.9	7.3	7.8	7.4	7.3	7.7	7.7	8.0	6.7	7.4	7.5
Q45: Increase Funding for National Defense	6.3	7.3	6.1	5.7	6.4	6.0	6.0	6.2	6.4	6.2	6.6	6.5	5.6	6.0	6.6	7.2	7.5	6.6	6.2
Q20: Allow Exports of Oil and LNG	6.5	7.2	6.4	6.1	6.6	6.5	6.6	6.7	6.3	6.8	6.4	6.2	5.9	6.5	6.8	6.8	8.1	6.7	6.5
Q42a: Create Path to Citizenship	7.6	7.2	7.5	8.1	7.5	7.7	8.3	7.4	7.8	7.3	7.8	7.6	7.9	7.6	7.3	7.7	6.4	7.5	7.6
Q5: Increase Congressional Oversight of Agencies	6.6	7.2	6.6	6.0	6.7	6.4	6.6	6.7	6.5	6.8	6.5	6.7	6.4	6.4	6.7	6.9	7.9	7.1	6.3
Q51: Block HHS Funding Until Amnesty Order is Withdrawn	5.5	7.1	5.3	4.3	5.7	4.6	5.8	5.6	5.3	5.8	5.5	5.3	5.0	5.2	6.0	5.7	7.6	6.1	5.2

Lower Republican priorities tend to be lower priorities among subgroups, with some isolated exceptions.

	Party			Race			Gender		Whites/Marital Status			Age				Tea Party	Whites/Education		
	Total	Rep	Ind	Dem	White	Black	Hisp	Men	Women	Men	Mrrd Women	Unmarr Women	18-29	30-49	50-64	65+	Strng Supprt	Non Coll	Coll Grad
Q7: Remove Old Regulations as New Ones are Added	6.4	7.0	6.5	5.9	6.5	6.3	6.2	6.7	6.2	6.8	6.2	6.3	6.1	6.3	6.7	6.7	7.4	6.8	6.2
Q33: Roll Back Dodd-Frank Regulations	6.2	7.0	6.4	5.4	6.3	6.2	6.2	6.3	6.2	6.5	6.2	6.1	6.1	5.9	6.4	6.7	7.5	6.7	6.0
Q9: Eliminate Incentives to Adopt Common Core	6.4	7.0	6.3	5.9	6.5	6.0	6.3	6.3	6.4	6.5	6.4	6.4	6.3	6.4	6.4	6.3	8.1	6.7	6.3
Q50: Block Global Warming Policies	5.4	7.0	5.2	4.3	5.5	4.9	5.4	5.5	5.3	5.6	5.5	5.2	4.8	5.3	5.8	5.6	7.5	5.8	5.2
Q15: Increase Child Tax Credit	7.1	6.9	6.9	7.4	6.9	8.0	7.6	6.9	7.3	6.8	7.2	6.8	6.7	7.1	7.3	7.3	7.3	7.1	6.8
Q39: Create Guest Worker Program	6.6	6.8	6.7	6.5	6.6	6.7	6.8	6.5	6.7	6.4	6.7	6.7	6.0	6.4	6.8	7.4	6.7	6.6	6.5
Q32: Stop FCC from Regulating Internet Service	6.1	6.8	6.2	5.5	6.1	6.2	6.4	6.2	6.0	6.3	5.9	6.0	6.6	5.8	6.1	6.0	7.9	6.3	5.9
Q40: Stop Automatic Citizenship for Illegal Immigrants	5.7	6.8	5.6	5.0	5.9	5.4	4.9	5.8	5.7	6.2	5.8	5.6	4.5	5.4	6.3	6.7	7.2	6.3	5.6
Q14: Lower Personal Income Tax Rates	5.4	6.8	5.1	4.7	5.5	5.5	6.0	5.3	5.6	5.4	5.4	5.5	5.4	5.4	5.5	5.6	7.5	5.8	5.1
Q47: Guarantee Disability Funding, Even with Tax Hike	7.1	6.8	6.9	7.6	7.0	7.5	7.4	6.9	7.2	6.8	7.2	7.2	6.7	7.0	7.2	7.6	6.3	7.1	6.9
Q38: Increase Visas for High-Skill Immigrants	6.8	6.7	7.0	7.0	6.7	7.1	7.1	6.7	7.0	6.7	6.7	7.0	7.1	6.8	6.7	6.9	6.8	6.5	6.9
Q44: Balance Budget Within 10 Years	6.2	6.5	6.3	5.9	6.3	5.6	6.4	6.3	6.0	6.5	6.0	6.3	6.2	6.3	6.0	6.1	5.7	6.2	6.3
Q41: Allow Legal Status for Children Raised Here	7.2	6.4	7.1	8.0	7.0	7.8	7.8	6.8	7.5	6.6	7.5	7.4	7.1	7.1	7.1	7.5	5.8	7.0	7.1
Q28: Increase Funding for Anti-Discrimination Programs	7.4	6.4	7.2	8.5	7.2	8.6	8.2	7.0	7.8	6.8	7.5	8.0	7.6	7.3	7.2	7.9	6.2	7.5	6.9
Q18: Permanently Extend Ex-Im Bank	5.8	6.0	5.7	6.0	5.8	5.9	5.9	5.9	5.8	5.8	5.7	6.0	5.8	5.6	5.9	6.1	5.6	5.9	5.6
Q29a: Lower Sentences for Drug Possession	6.3	5.7	6.2	7.0	6.3	6.3	6.6	6.3	6.4	6.1	6.2	7.0	6.5	6.3	6.3	6.3	5.7	6.3	6.2
Q46: Cut Spending for Unwanted Defense Programs	6.0	5.7	6.0	6.4	5.9	6.4	6.1	6.1	5.9	6.1	5.7	6.0	6.0	6.2	5.7	6.0	5.4	5.9	6.0
Q29b: Lower Sentences for Heroin, Crack Possession	4.9	4.2	4.8	5.8	4.7	6.0	5.2	4.7	5.1	4.6	4.8	4.9	4.9	5.0	4.8	5.1	4.4	4.8	4.6