

The College of Behavioral and Social Sciences

welcomes you to the public launch of the



CRITICAL ISSUES POLL

With Nielsen Scarborough

American Politics, Race, and Foreign Policy

To Tweet about this event, please use
#CriticalIssuesPoll

Survey Methodology

The survey was conducted October 5-14, 2016 with a panel consisting of a probability-based representative sample. The panel was recruited by Nielsen Scarborough from its larger probability-based national panel, which was recruited by mail and telephone using a random sample of households. A national sample of 1528 panelists completed the survey. Responses were weighted by age, gender, income, education, race, and geographic region using benchmarks from the US Census. The survey was also weighted by partisan identification.

The margin of error is 2.5%

Note: These questions were fielded as part of a larger poll on foreign and domestic issues. Participants in this study were provided by Nielsen from Nielsen's sample of respondents.

**Shibley Telhami and Stella Rouse
Principal Investigators**

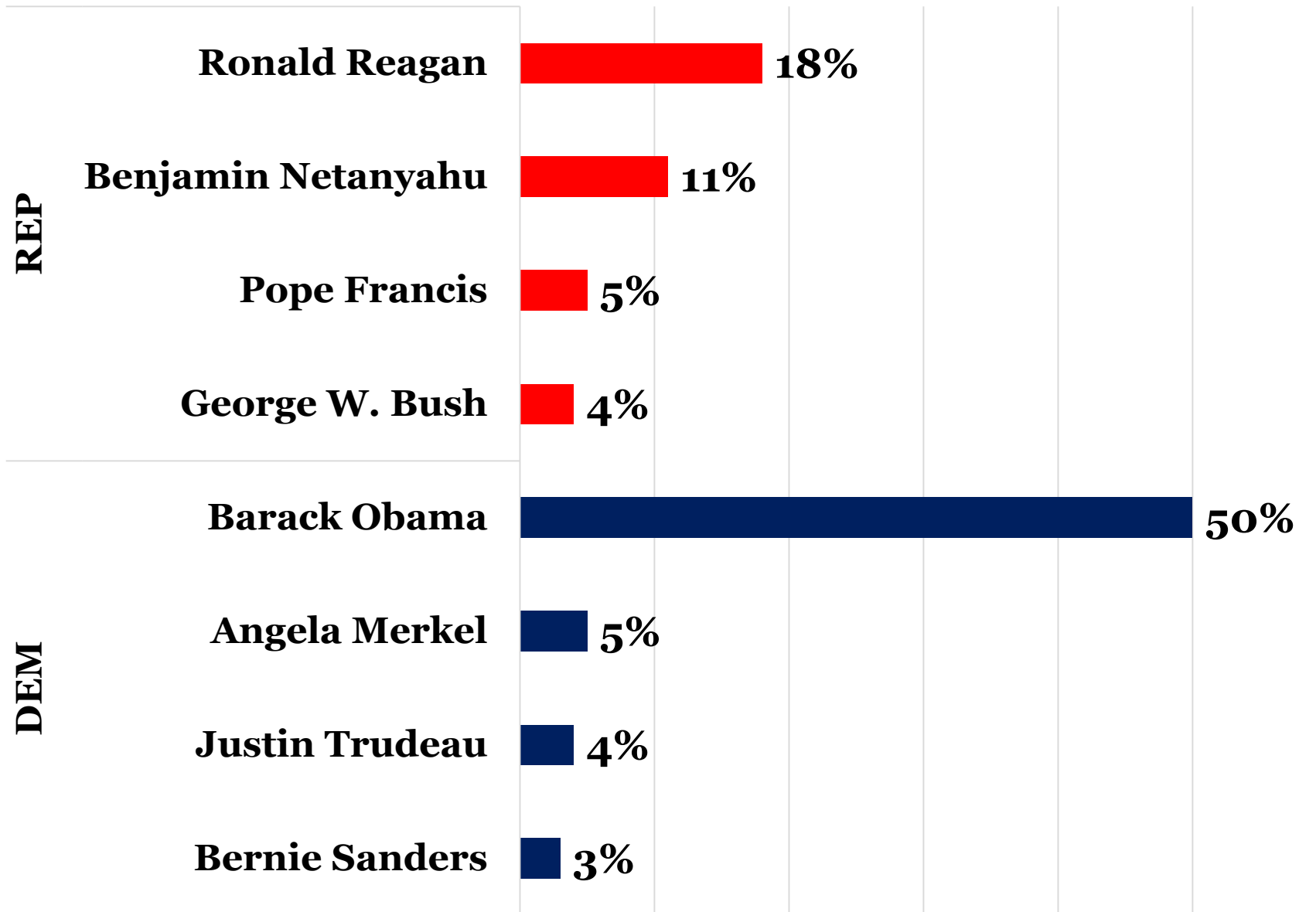
**A survey sponsored by
University of Maryland Critical Issues Poll
fielded by Nielsen Scarborough**

Foreign Policy

**Please name a
national or world
leader you admire
most**

[Open-Ended Question]

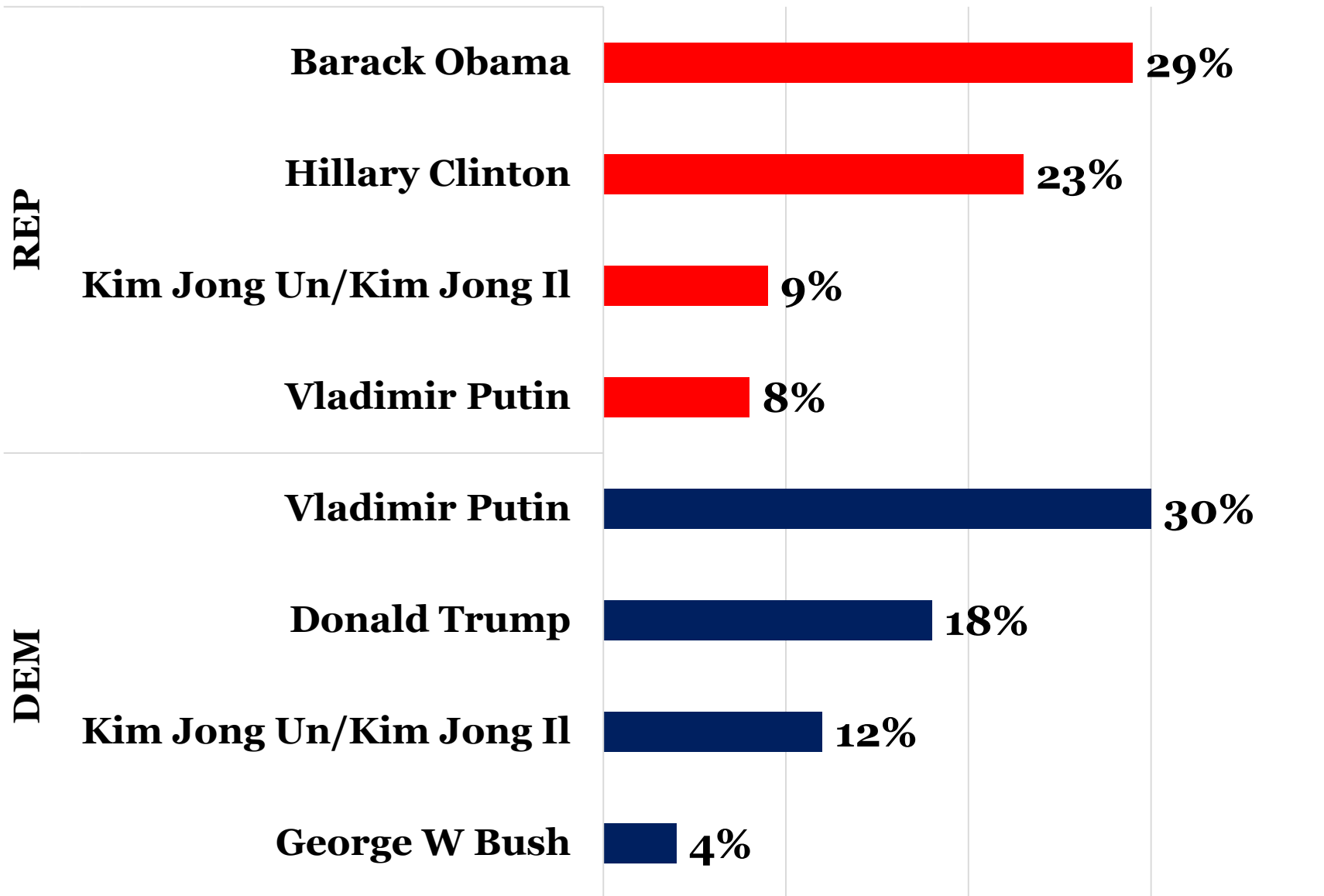
Please name a national or world leader you admire most



**Please name a
national or world
leader you dislike
most**

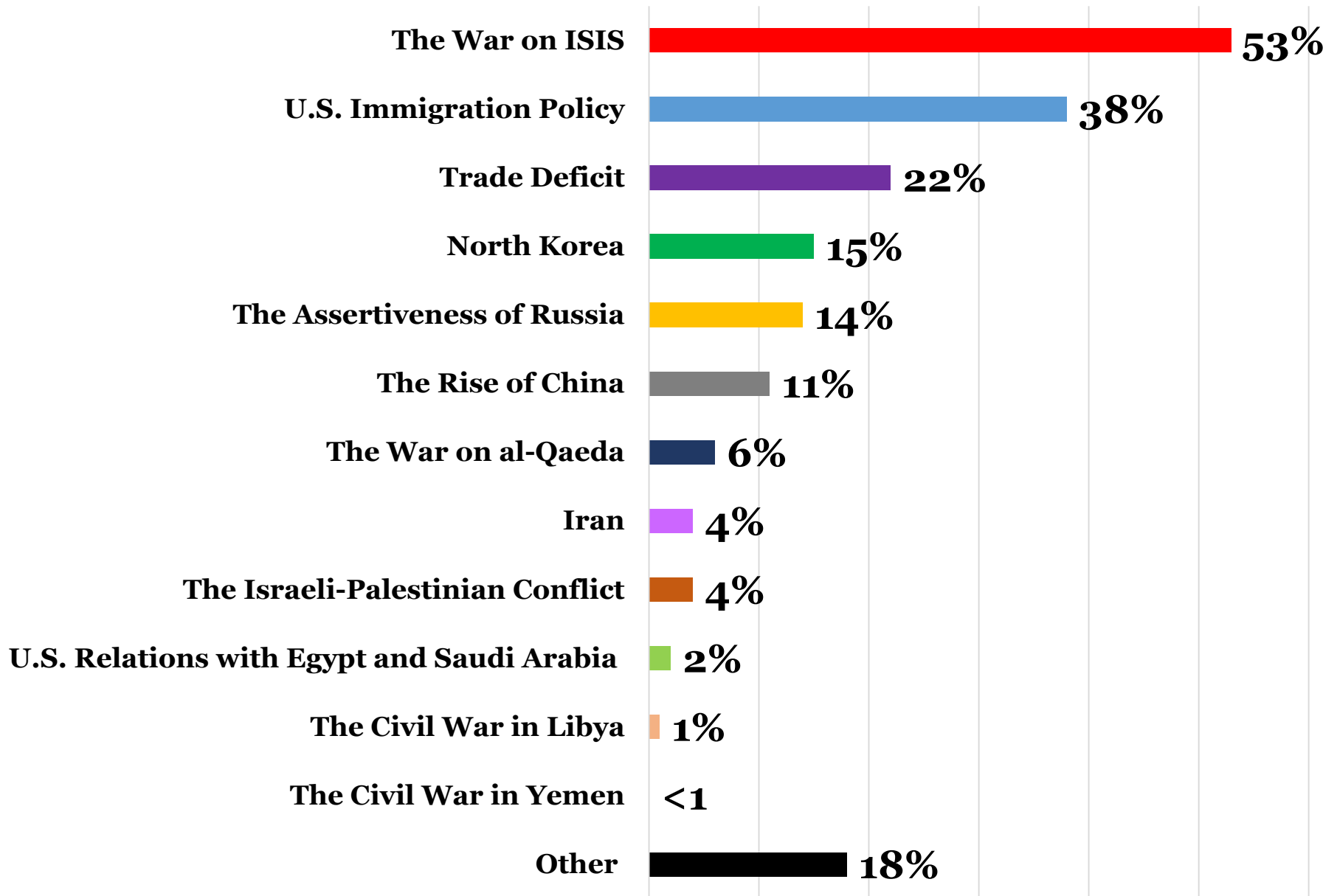
[Open-Ended Question]

Please name a national or world leader you dislike most



**Which of the
following issues
should be America's
top global priorities?
(Please Select Two)**

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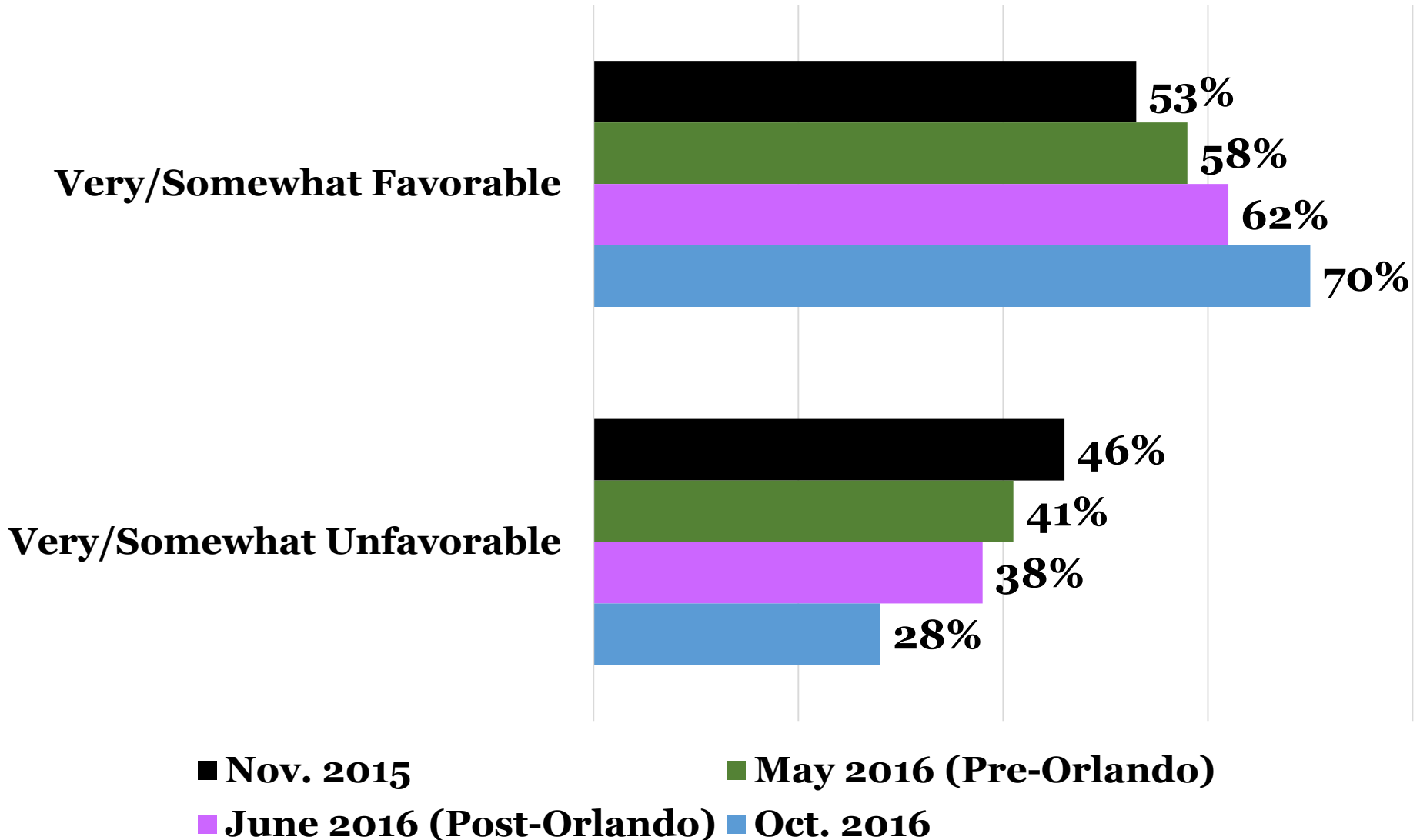


**What is your attitude about
each of the following?**

The Muslim People

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The Muslim People

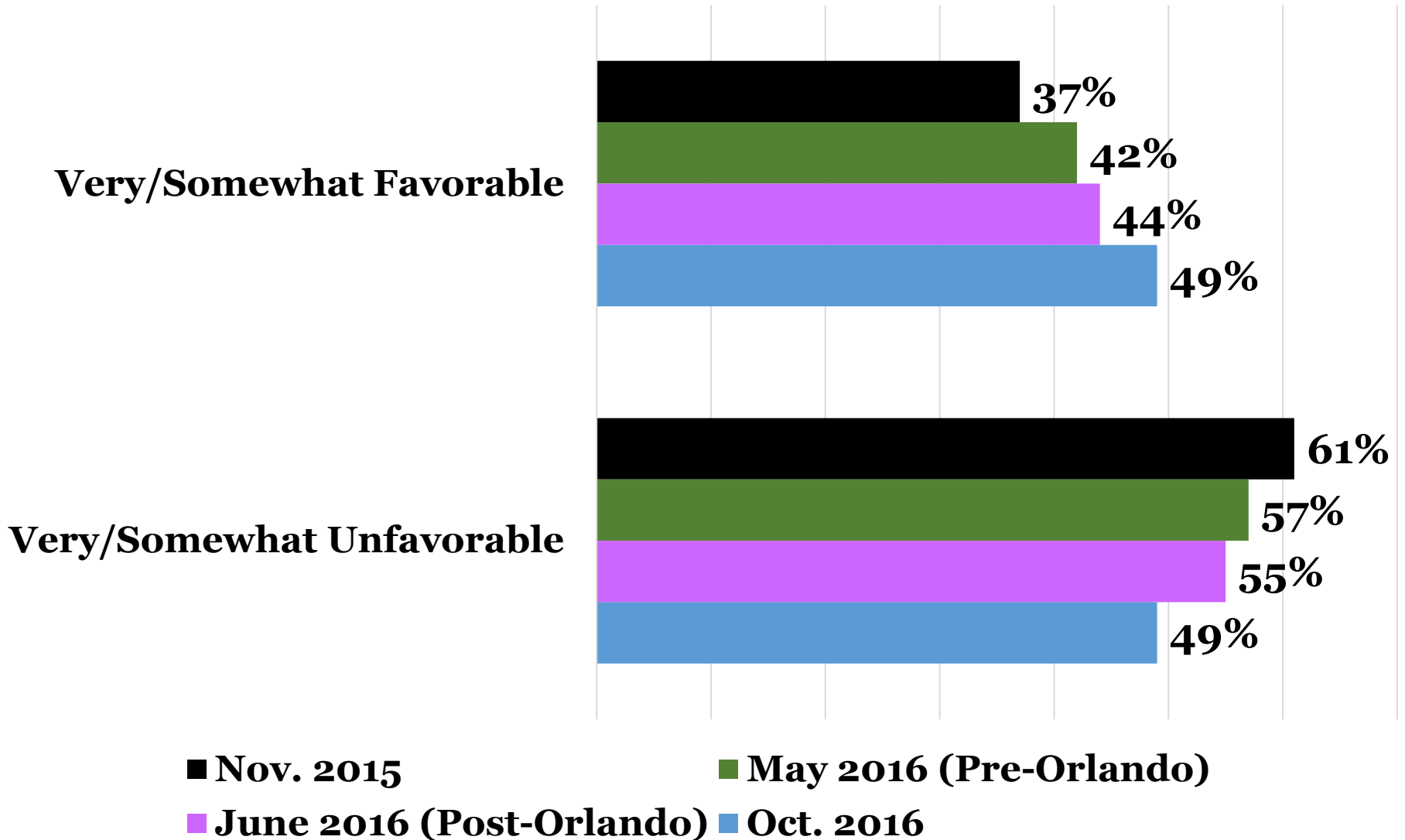


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The Muslim Religion

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The Muslim Religion

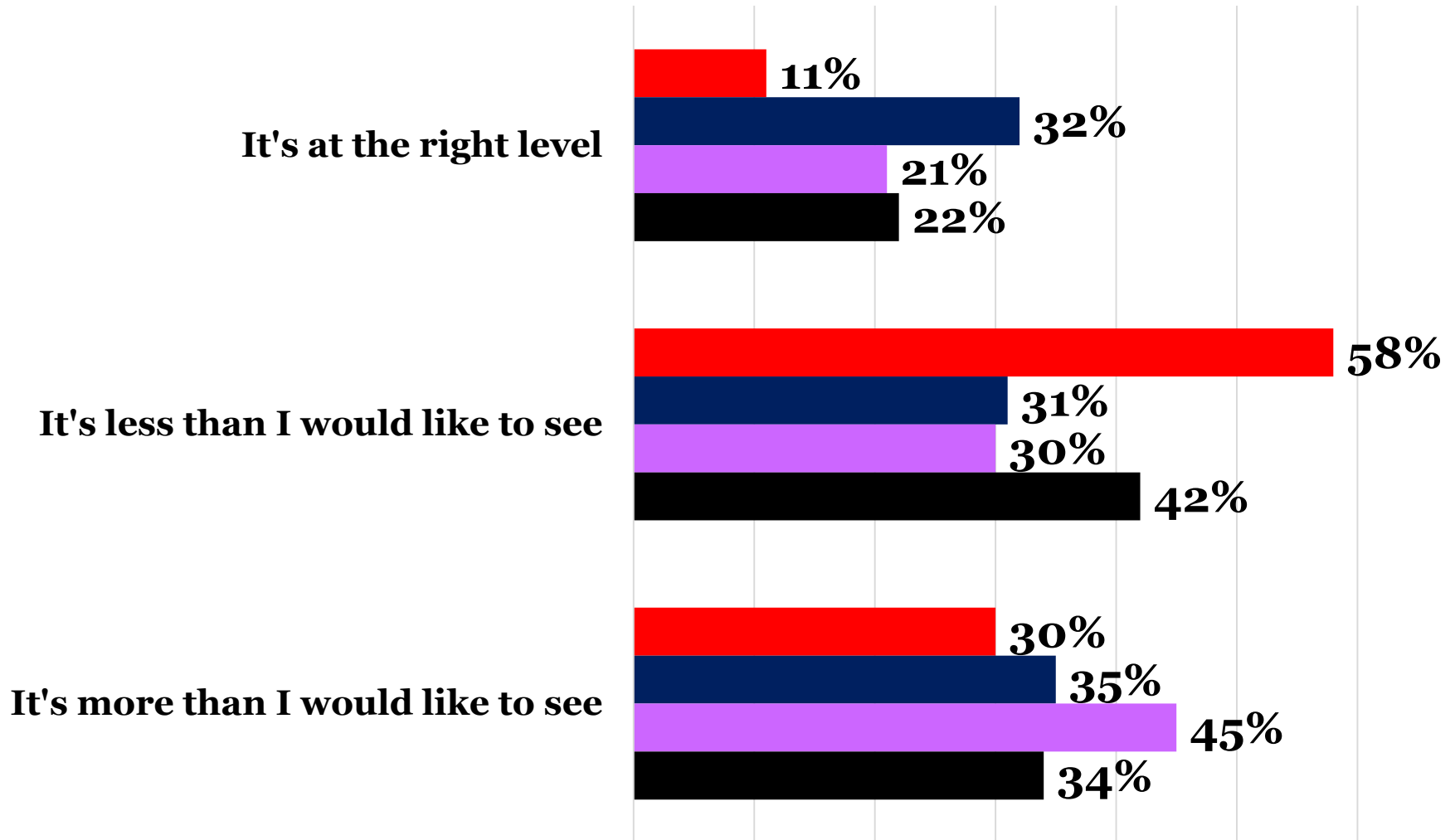


ISIS and Syria

**What's your impression
of the current level of
U.S. military involvement
in Syria?**

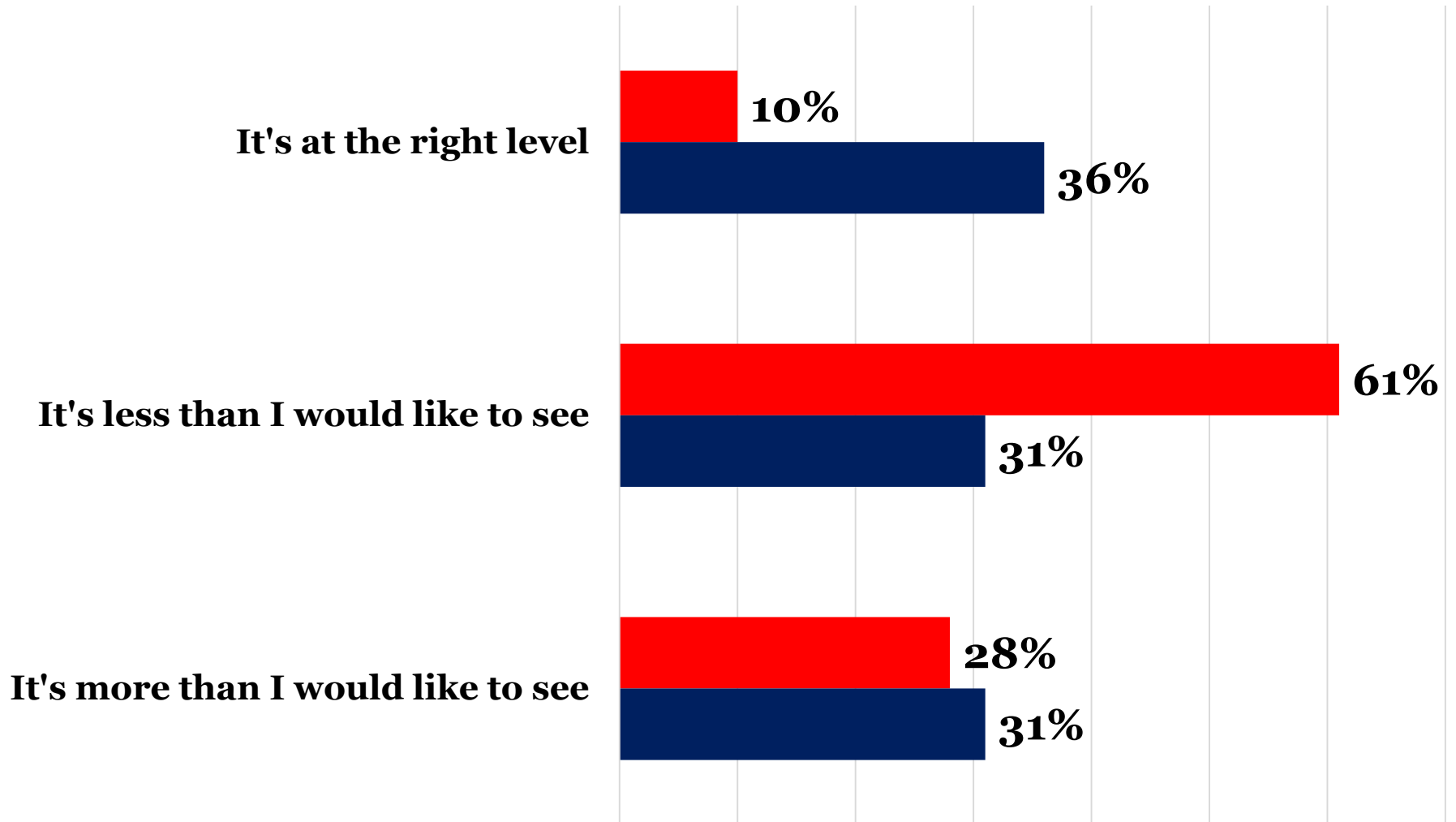
What's your impression of the current level of U.S. military involvement in Syria?

■ Republicans ■ Democrats ■ Independents ■ Total



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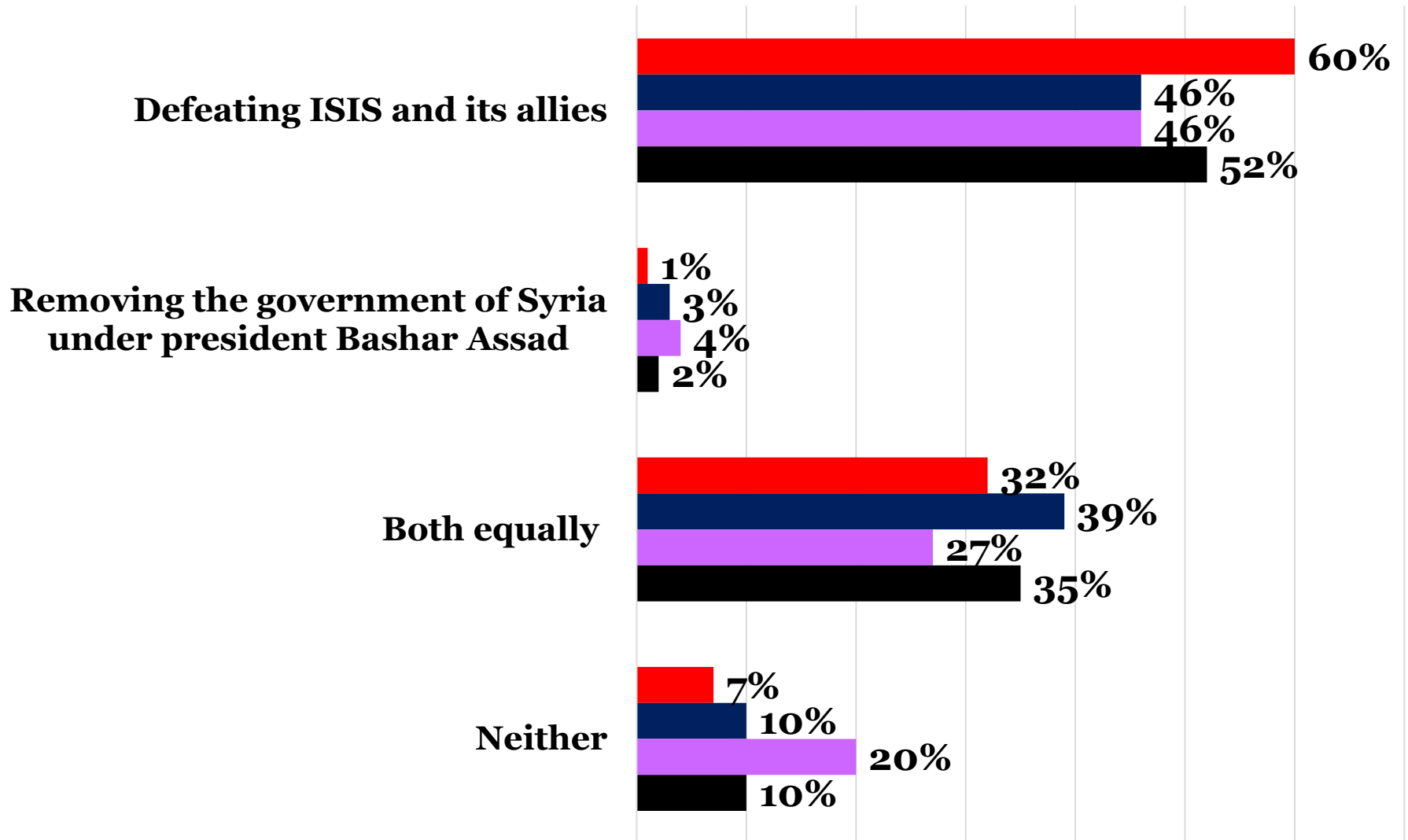
Trump Supporters **Hillary Supporters**



**What should be the
primary objective of
U.S. military
involvement in Syria?**

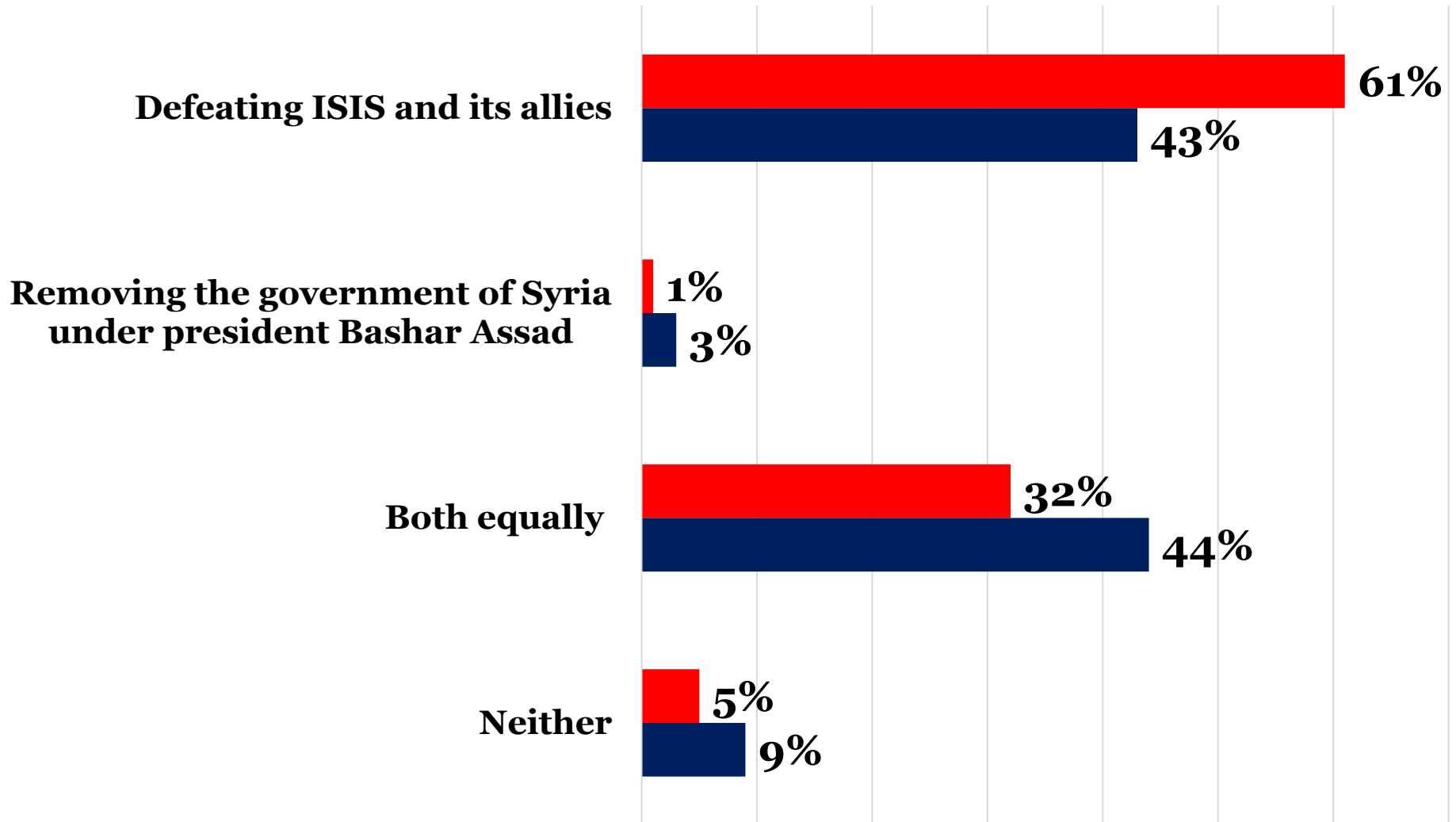
What should be the primary objective of U.S. military involvement in Syria?

■ Republicans ■ Democrats ■ Independents ■ Total



What should be the primary objective of U.S. military involvement in Syria?

■ Trump Supporters ■ Hillary Supporters

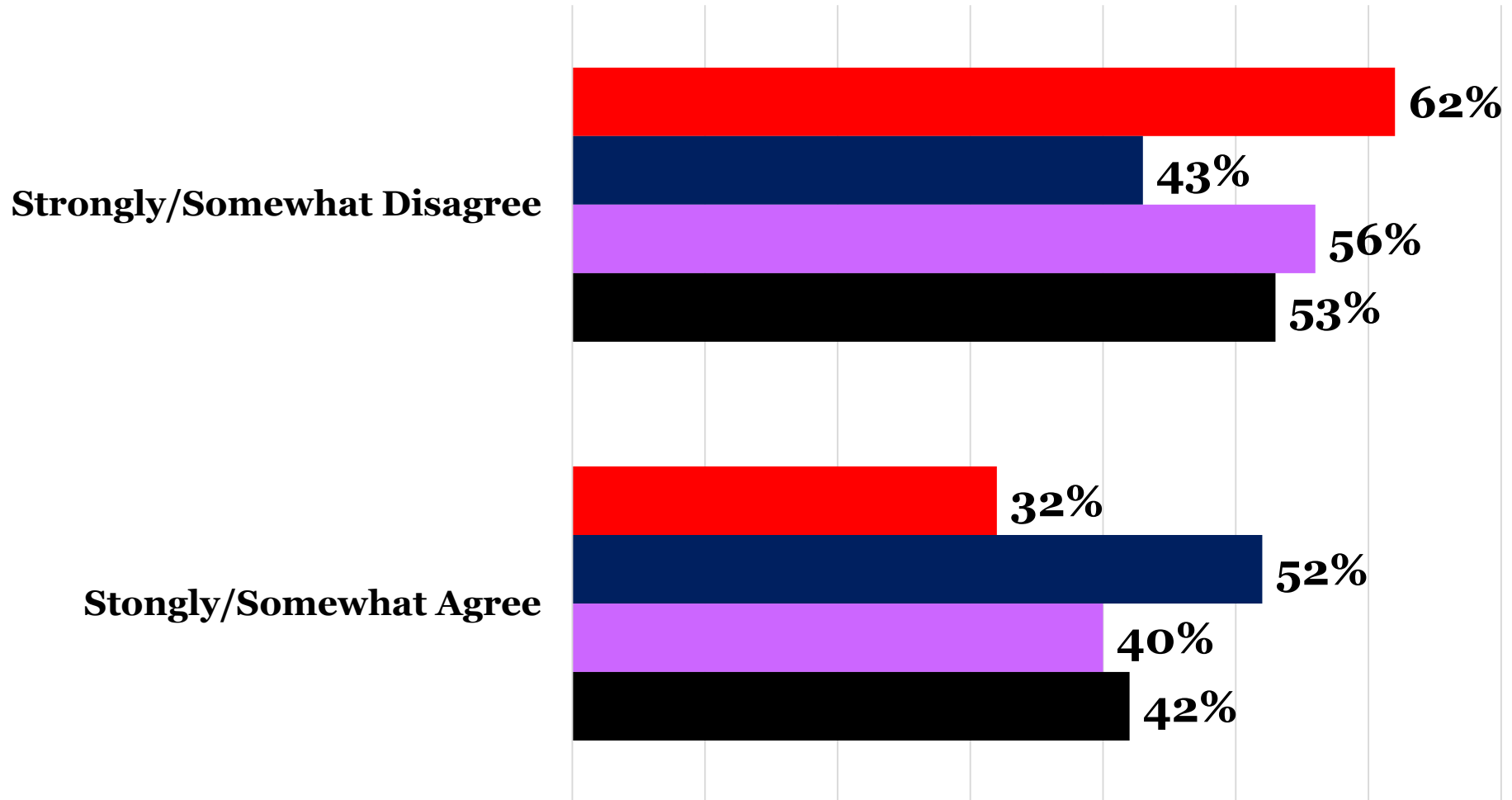


Rebels fighting the Syrian regime include many Islamists groups. Tell me how much you agree/disagree with following statements:

The U.S. should support Syrian rebels even if some of our aid goes to some of the Islamist rebels, as long as the aid doesn't go to ISIS and al-Qaeda specifically. We need to rely on proxy forces to counter not only the Syrian regime but its external backers like Iran and Hezbollah

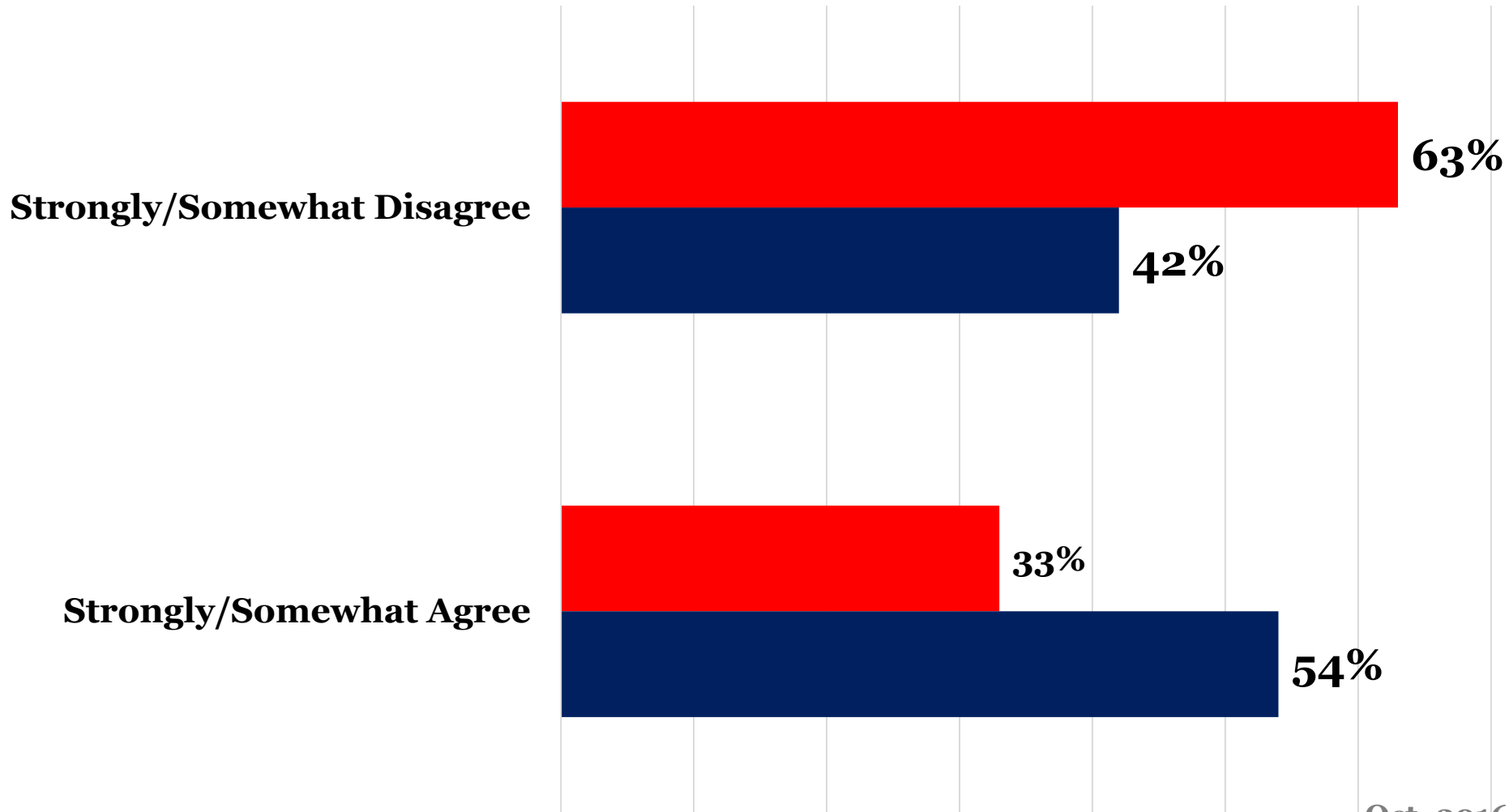
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■ Republicans ■ Democrats ■ Independents ■ Total



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■ Trump Supporters ■ Hillary Supporters

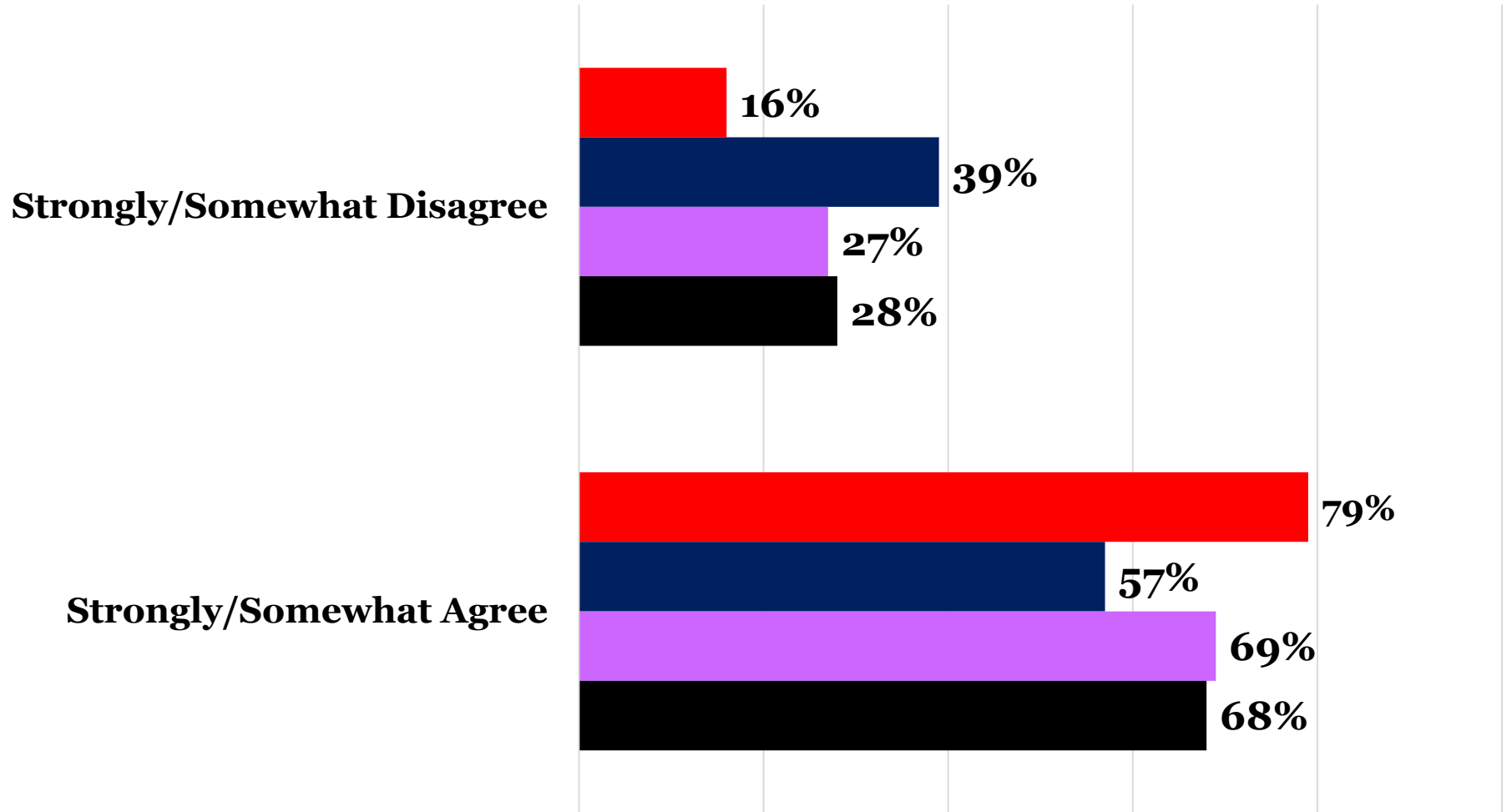


Rebels fighting the Syrian regime include many Islamists groups. Tell me how much you agree/disagree with the following statements:

The U.S. should not support Syrian rebels if they include Islamists as this could come back to haunt us; there is no way to ensure aid wouldn't reach ISIS and al-Qaeda, or that the Islamist groups we back won't eventually turn against us

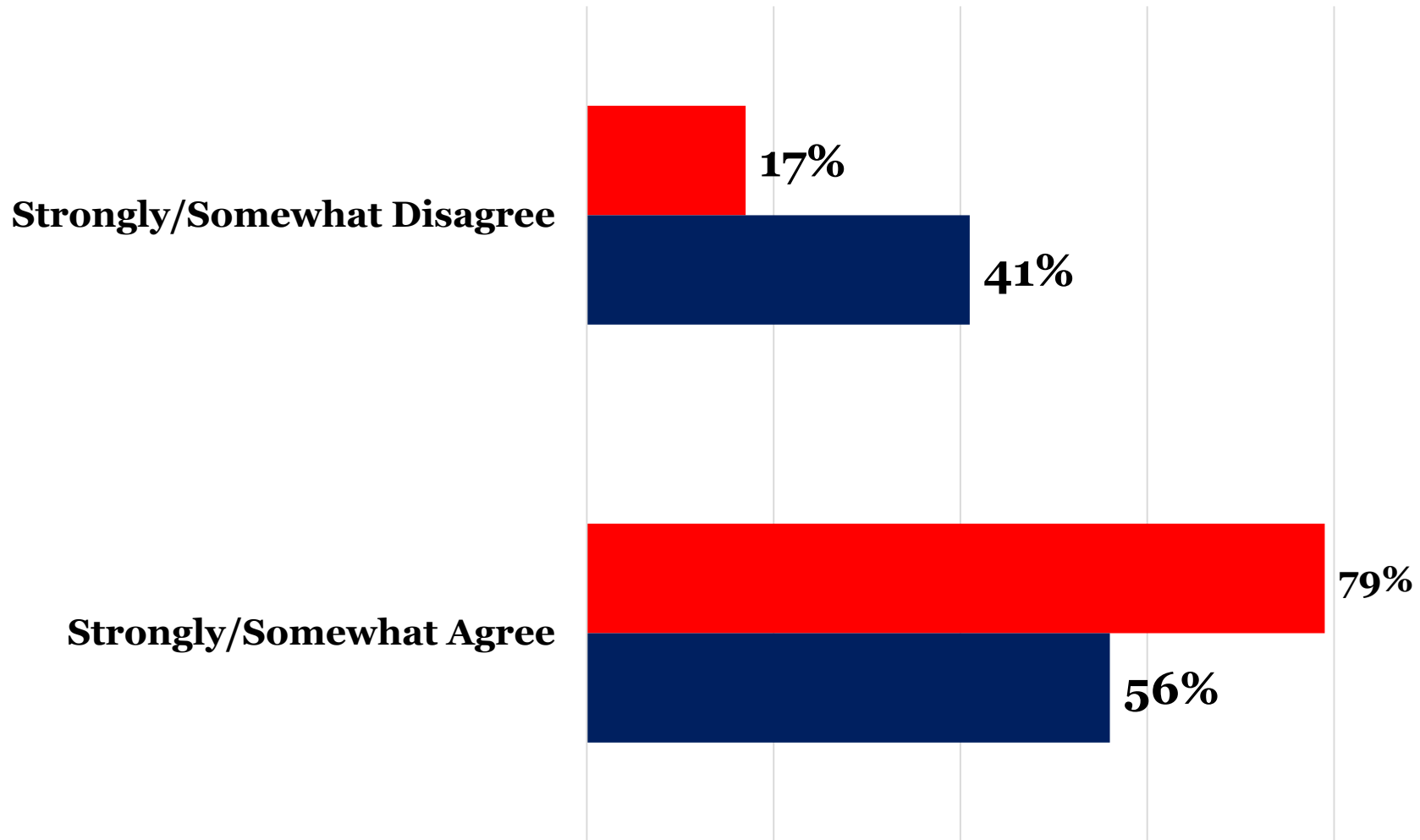
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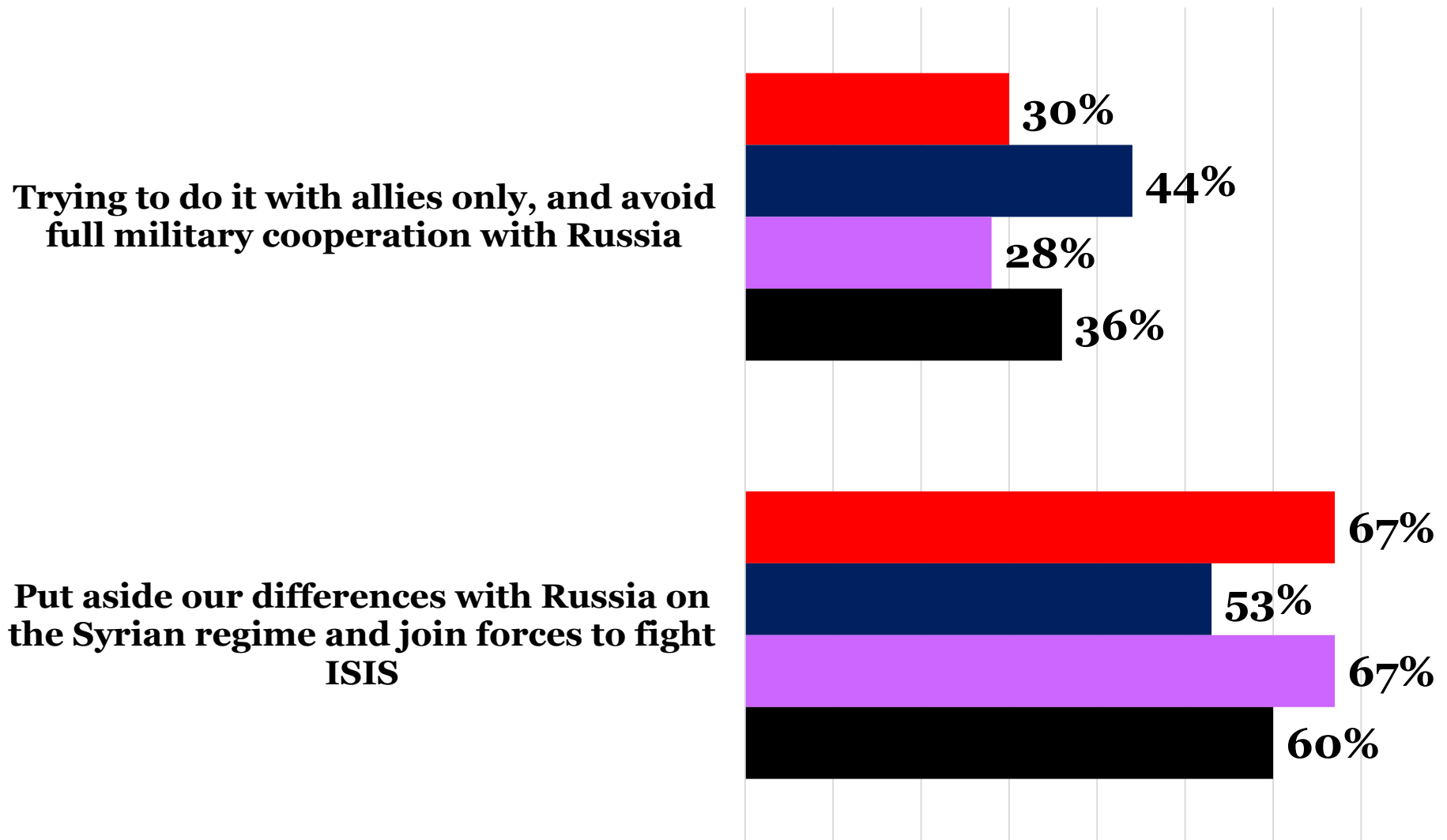
■ Trump Supporters ■ Hillary Supporters



As you may know, Russia supports the Syrian government while the United States supports Syrian rebels trying to overthrow this government. But both Russia and the U.S. are opposed to ISIS. What in your opinion is the best American path to fighting ISIS?

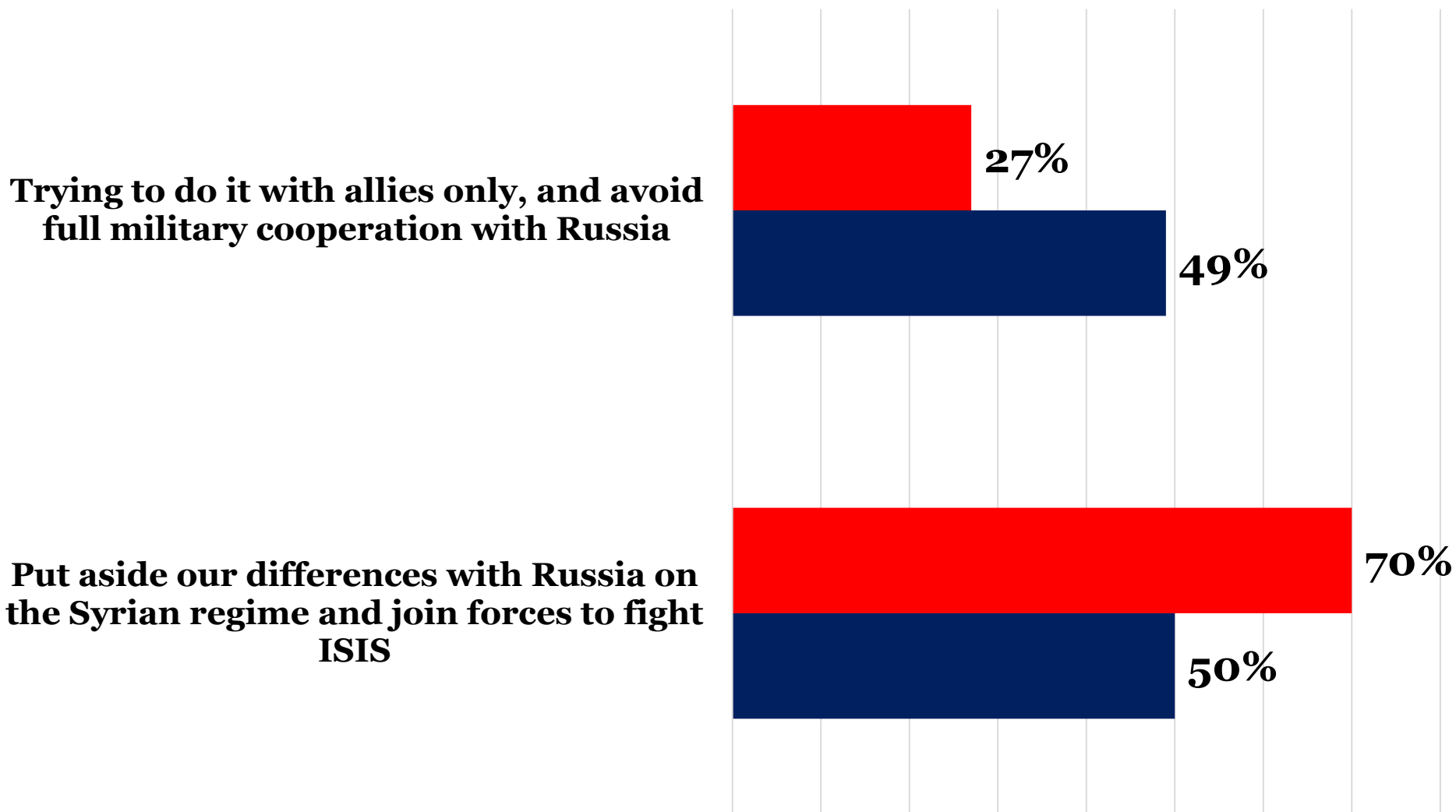
What in your opinion is the best American path to fighting ISIS?

■ Republicans ■ Democrats ■ Independents ■ Total



What in your opinion is the best American path to fighting ISIS?

■ Trump Supporters **■ Hillary Supporters**

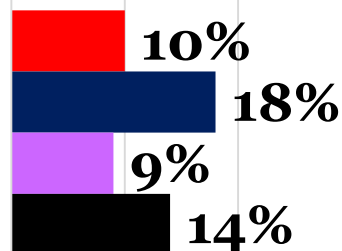


Overall, how would you describe the degree of Russian-American cooperation over the Syrian conflict so far?

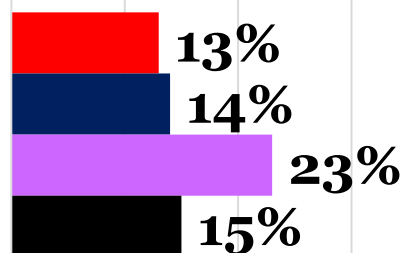
Overall, how would you describe the degree of Russian-American cooperation over the Syrian conflict so far?

■ Republicans ■ Democrats ■ Independents ■ Total

It has been at the right level



It has been more than I would like to see



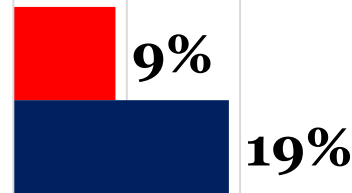
It has been less than I would like to see



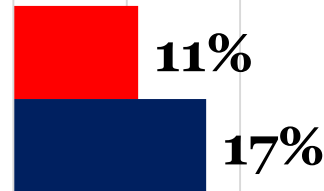
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■ Trump Supporters **■ Hillary Supporters**

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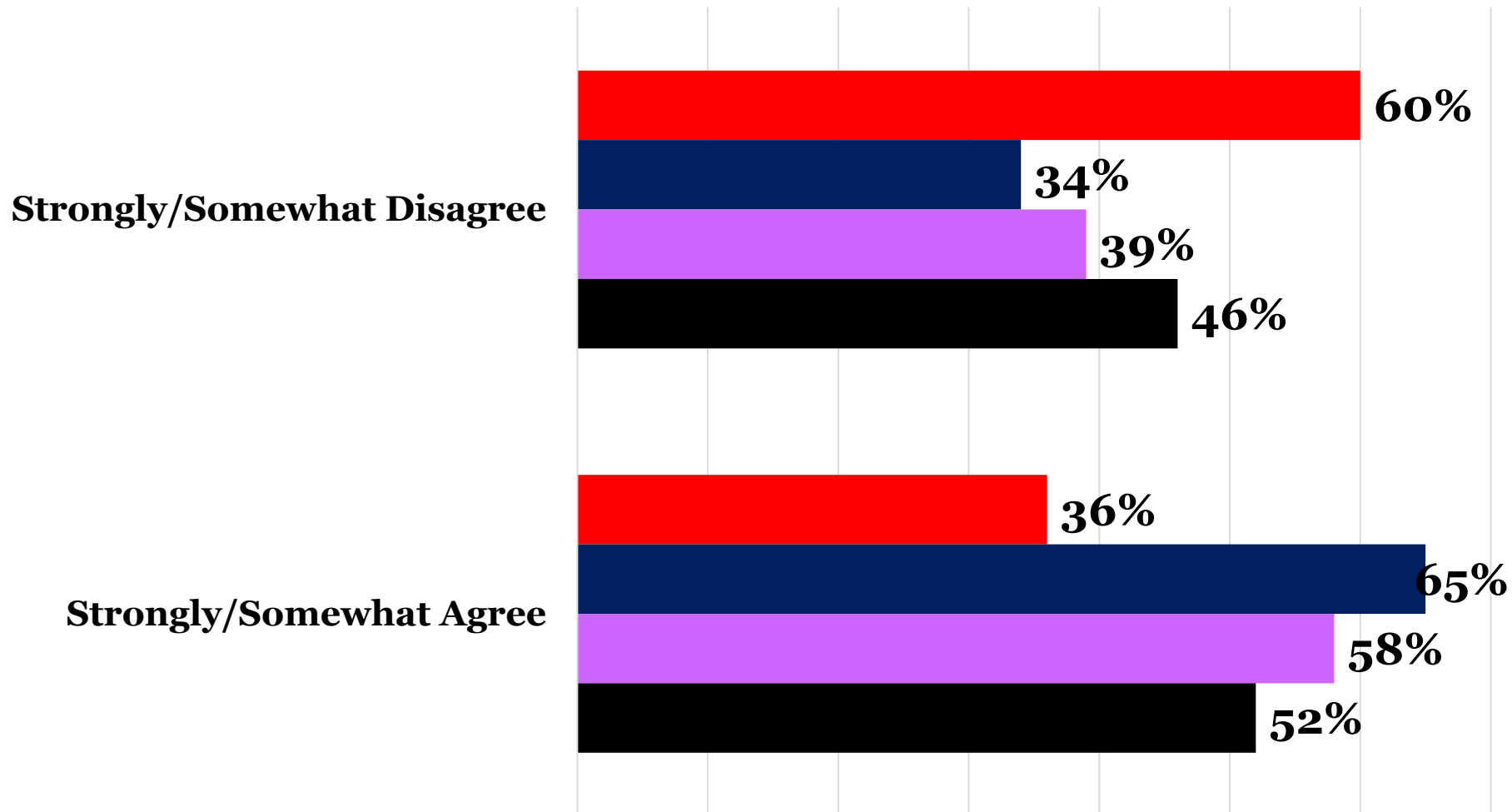
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While ISIS is a major threat to American interests that must be confronted, it is not such an existential threat that it warrants huge investment in lives and treasure, and the degree of our commitment must be carefully weighed

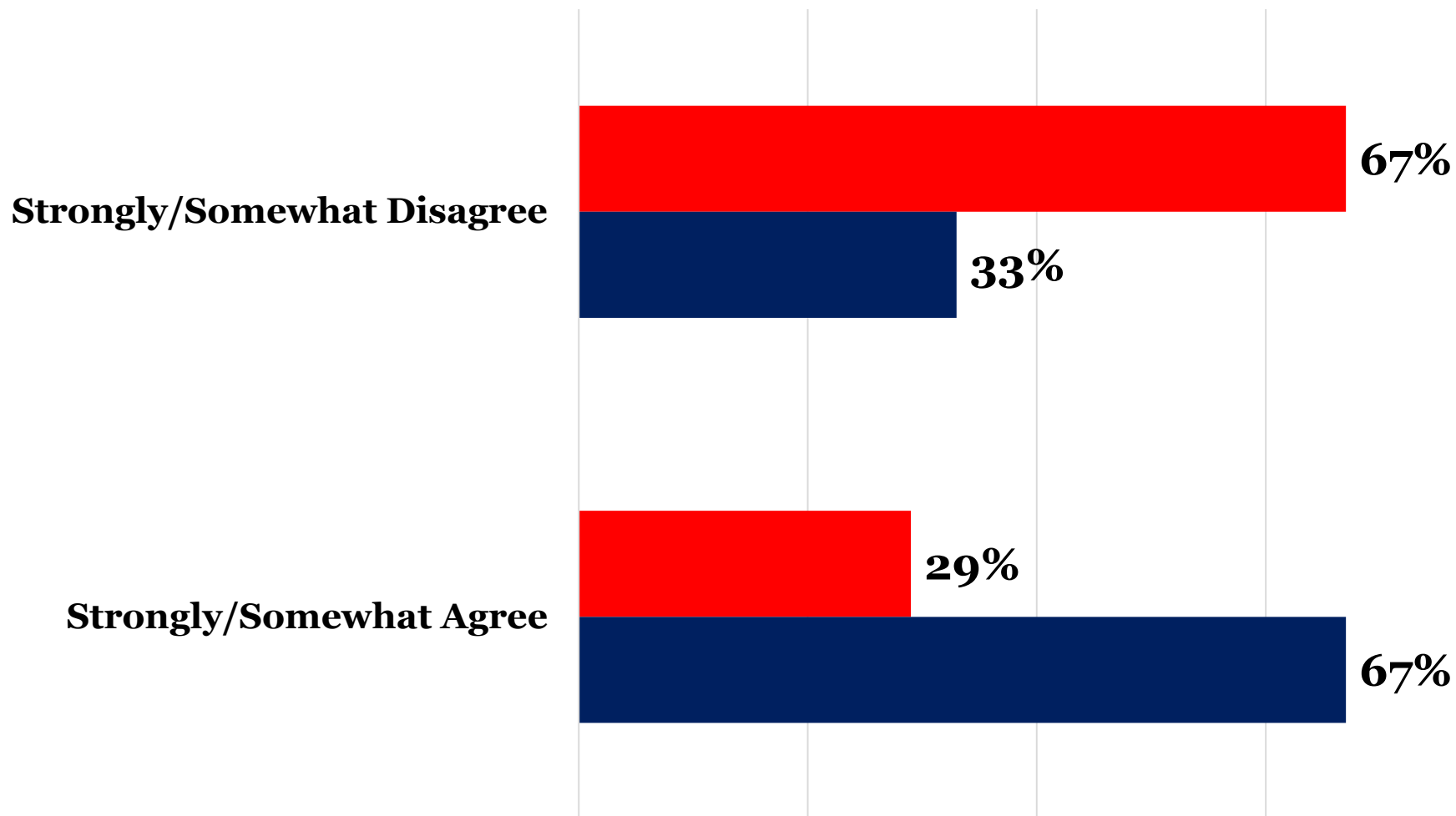
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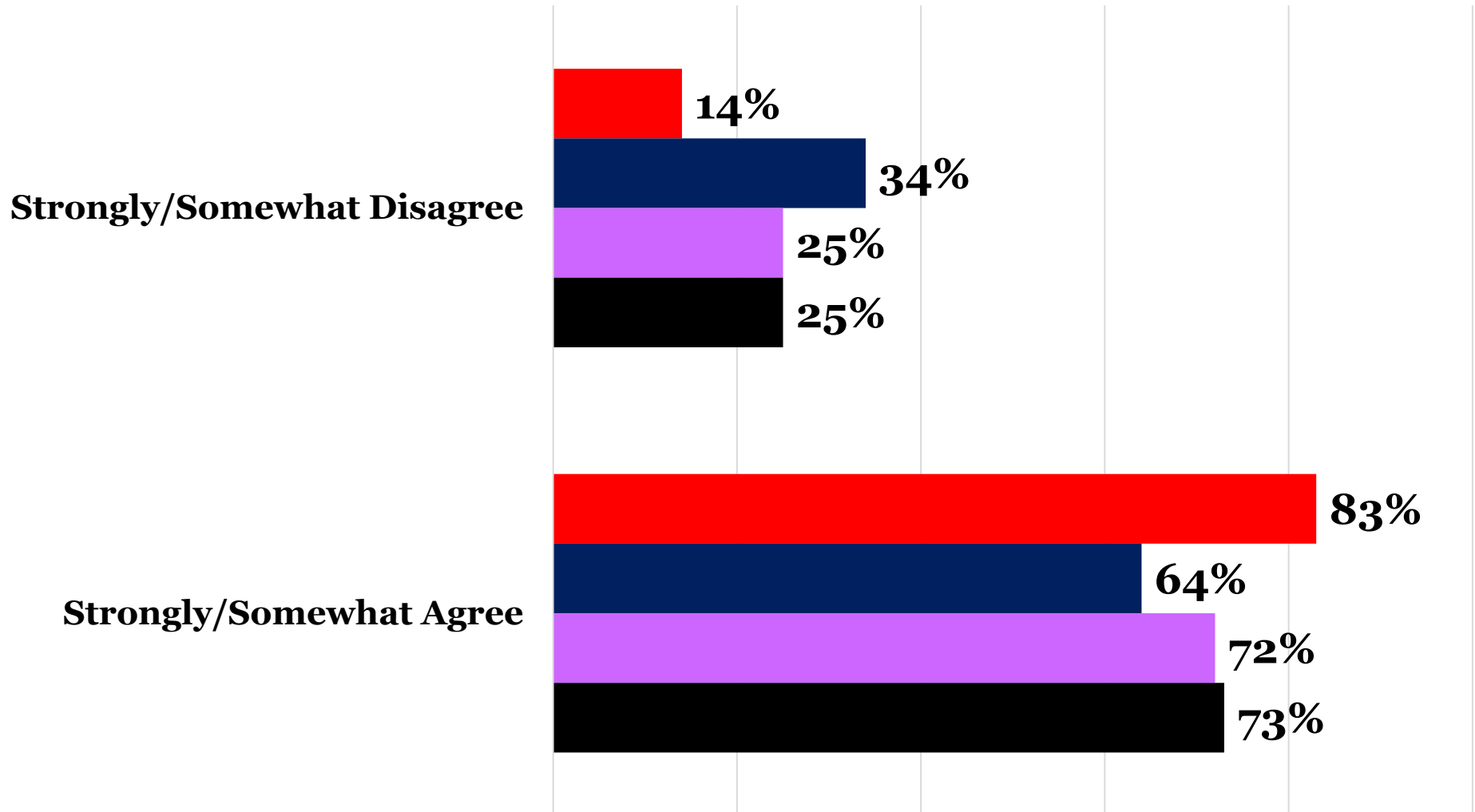
■ Trump Supporters ■ Hillary Supporters



ISIS is the top threat to American national security and could become an existential threat. We must spare no effort in assuring that it's destroyed.

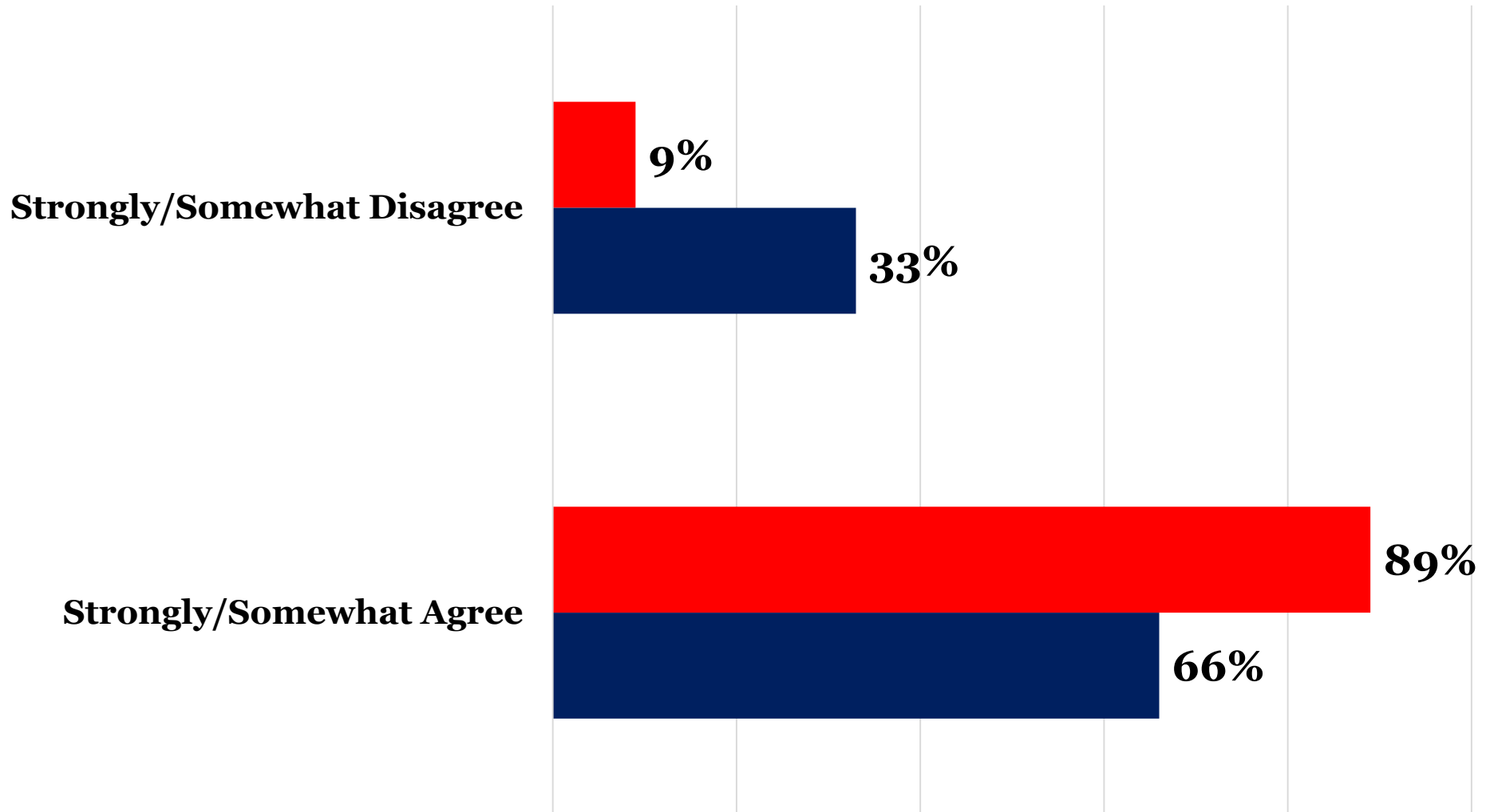
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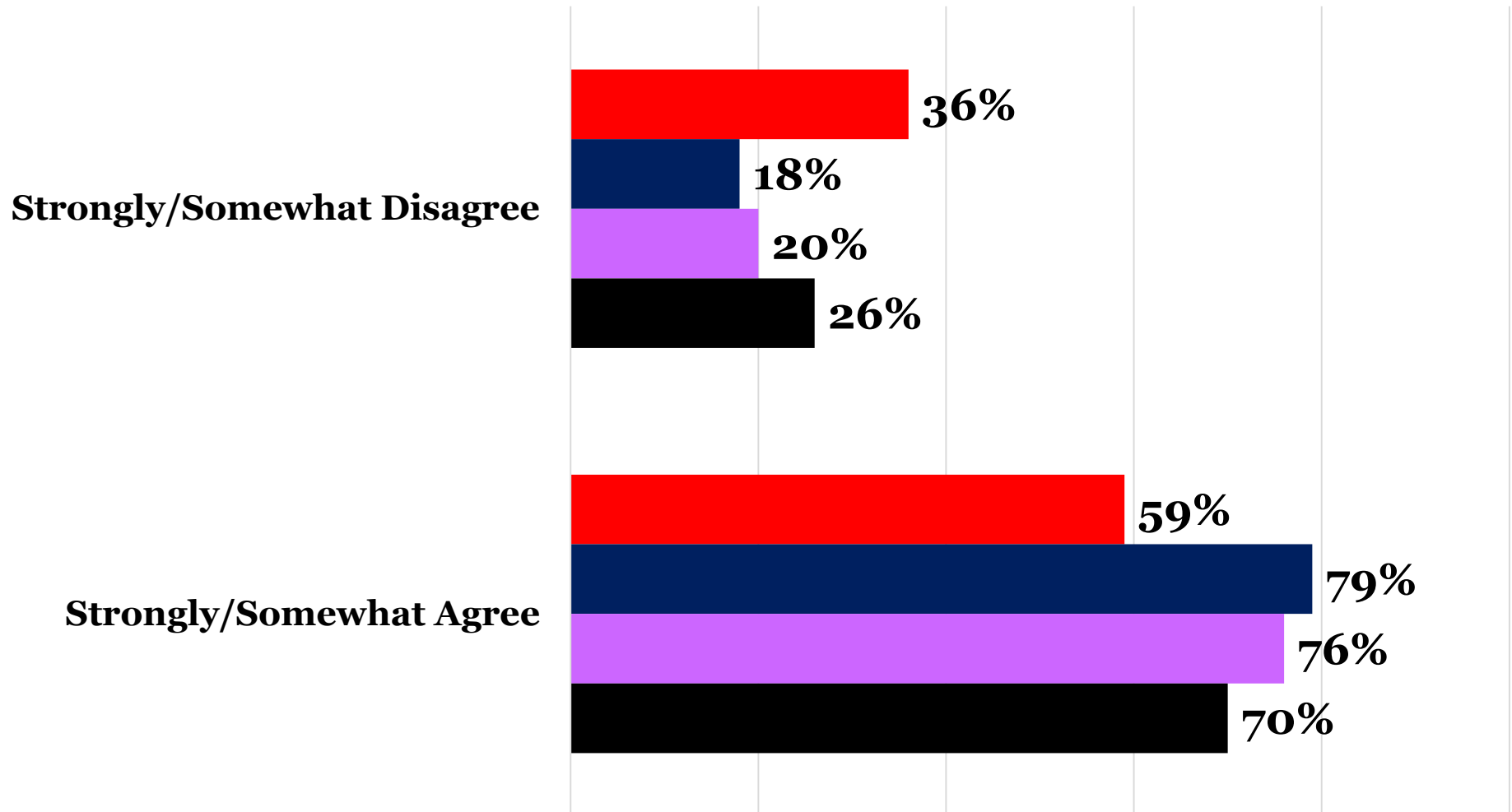


A large American ground force to fight ISIS in Syria and Iraq is risky, costly, and unlikely to achieve the desired objectives.

There are also always unintended consequences. Even the significant intervention in the 2003 Iraq war failed to bring the right outcome for American interests or prevent the rise of groups like ISIS. Conflicts in these countries are messy and complicated with multiple parties. Sending more forces would be costly, extended, and make more enemies than friends. Even if we defeat ISIS, groups like it would emerge as soon as we withdraw our forces. Besides, ISIS is a threat to a host of other nations even more than it is.

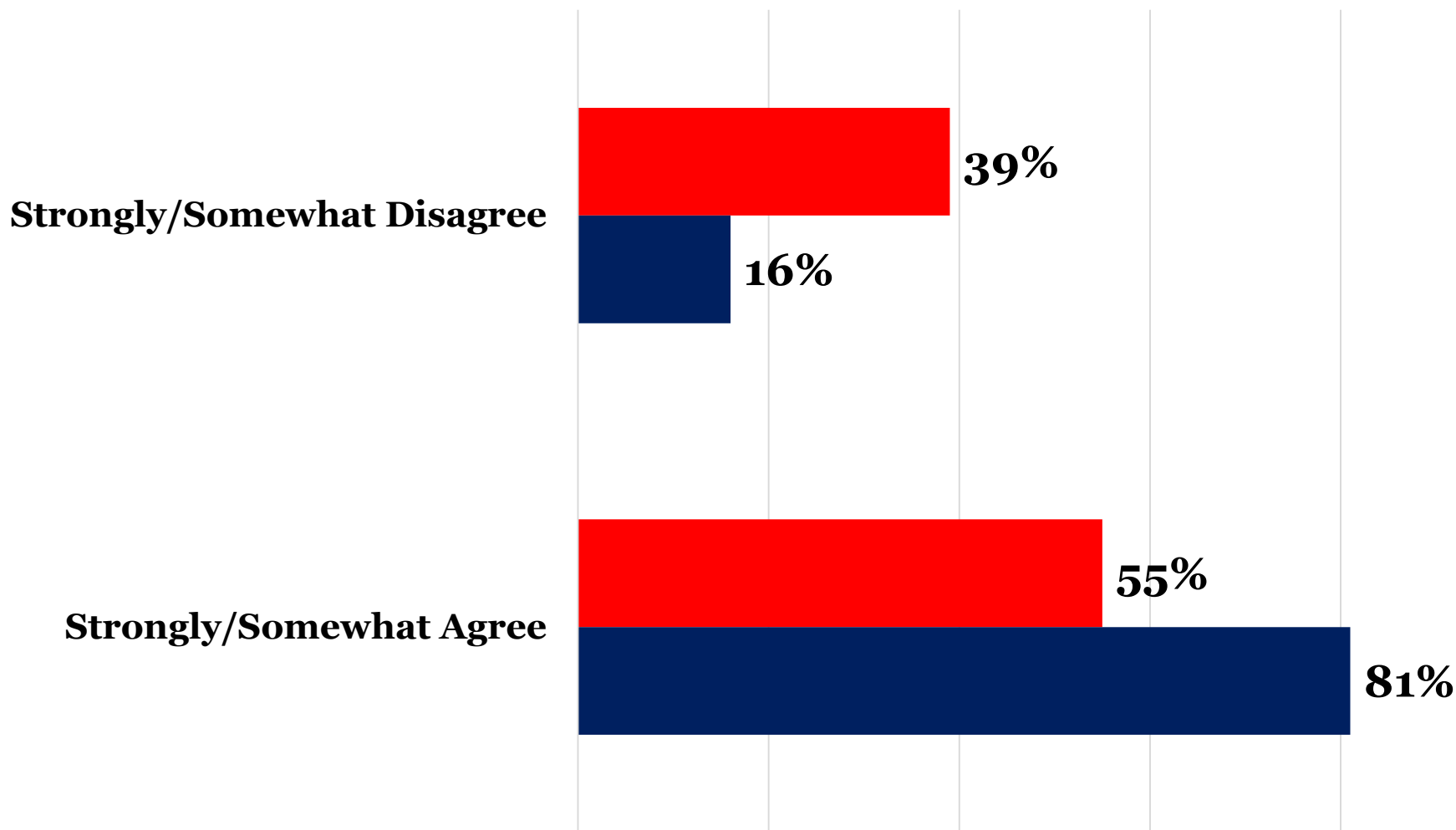
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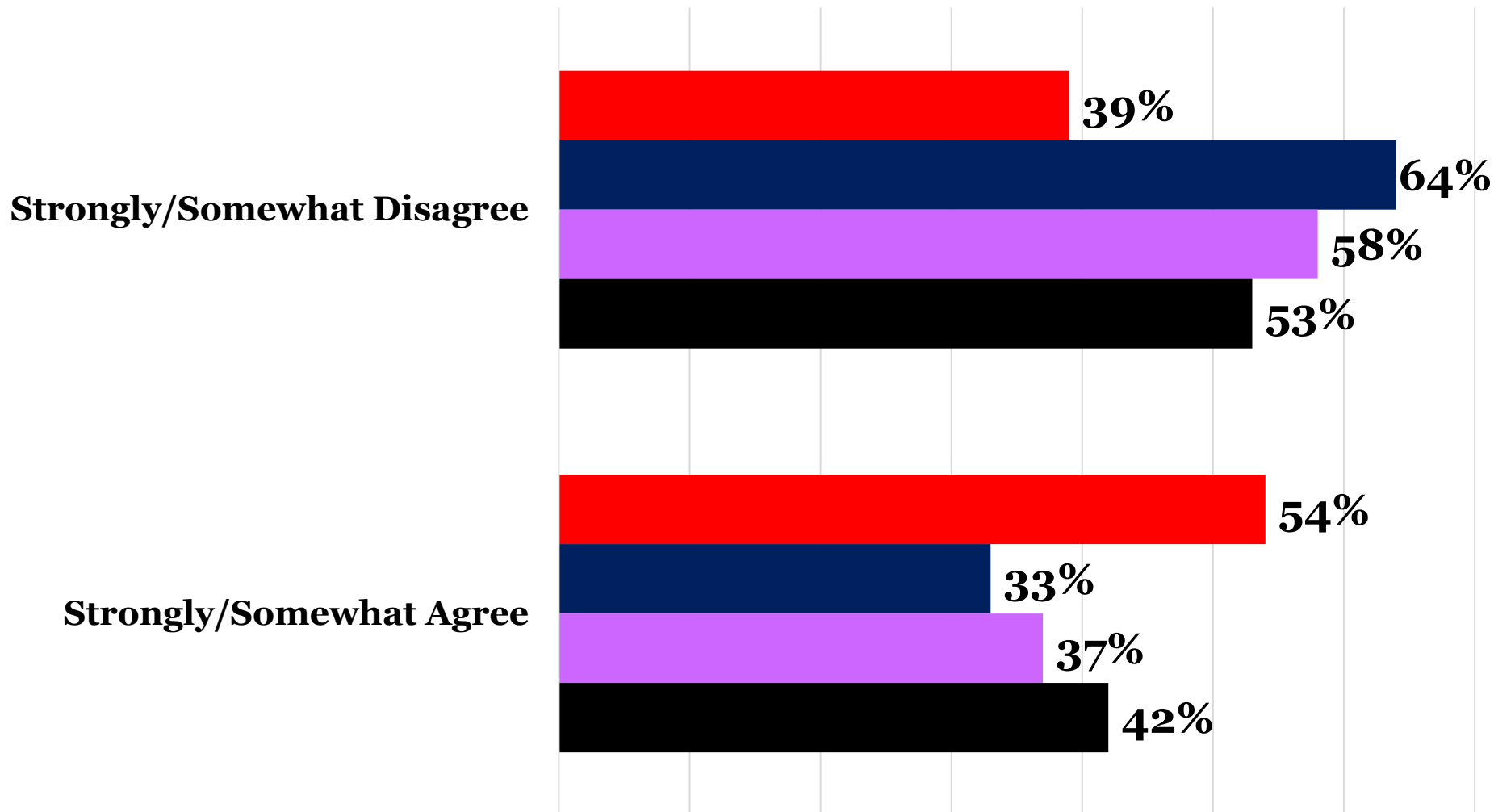


Oct. 2016

A large American ground force is essential to fight ISIS in Syria and Iraq and we cannot allow the risk to stop us. ISIS presents a major threat to us, causes regional and global instability, and generates refugee crises that pose both moral and security dilemmas. Deploying ground forces is the only way to defeat it and is worth the investment, even if it means our forces would have to remain there for a sustained period of time. We cannot allow our experience in Iraq to hold us back. Besides, the task may be achievable even without having to leave our forces in the region for a long period of time.

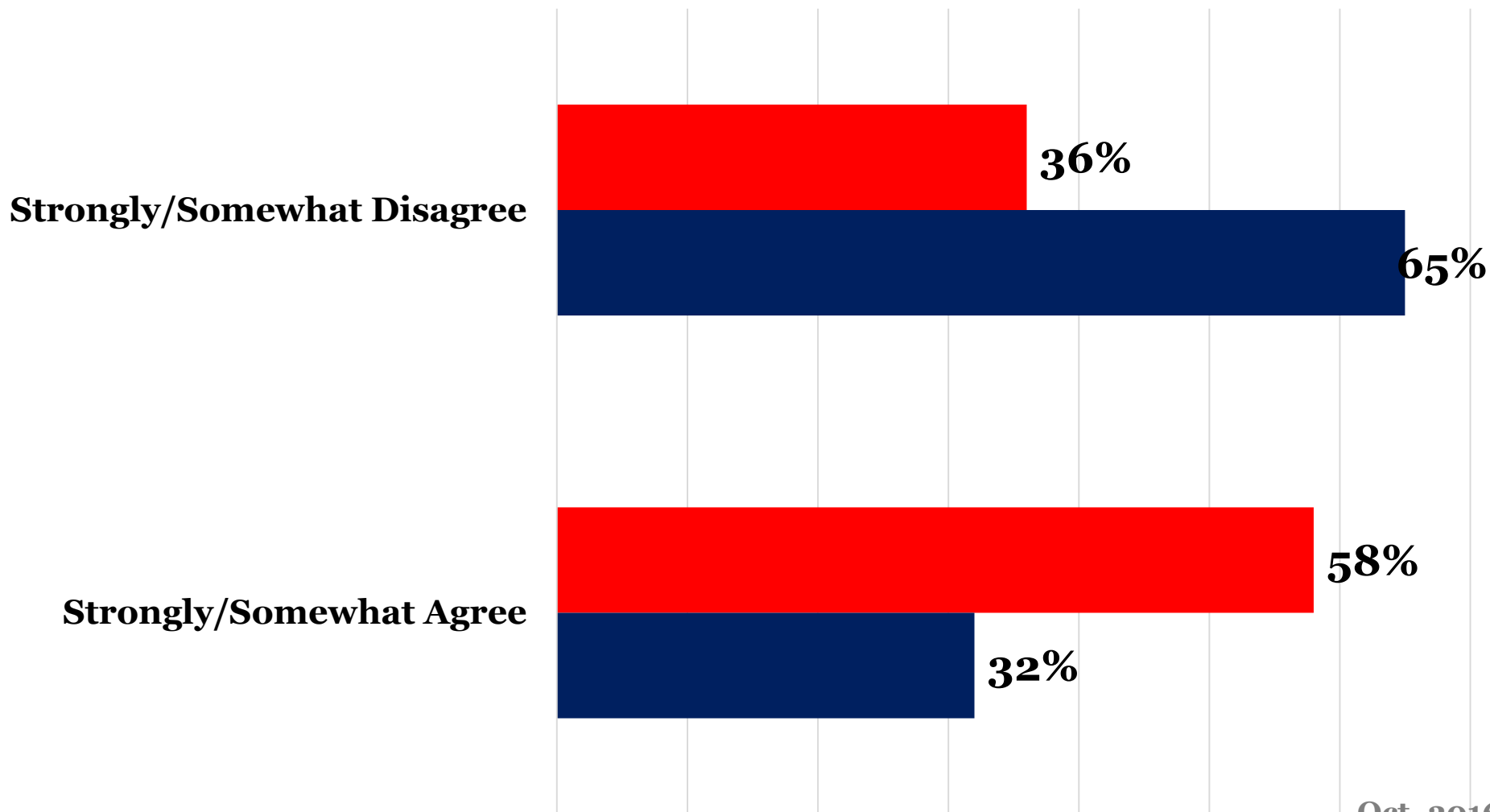
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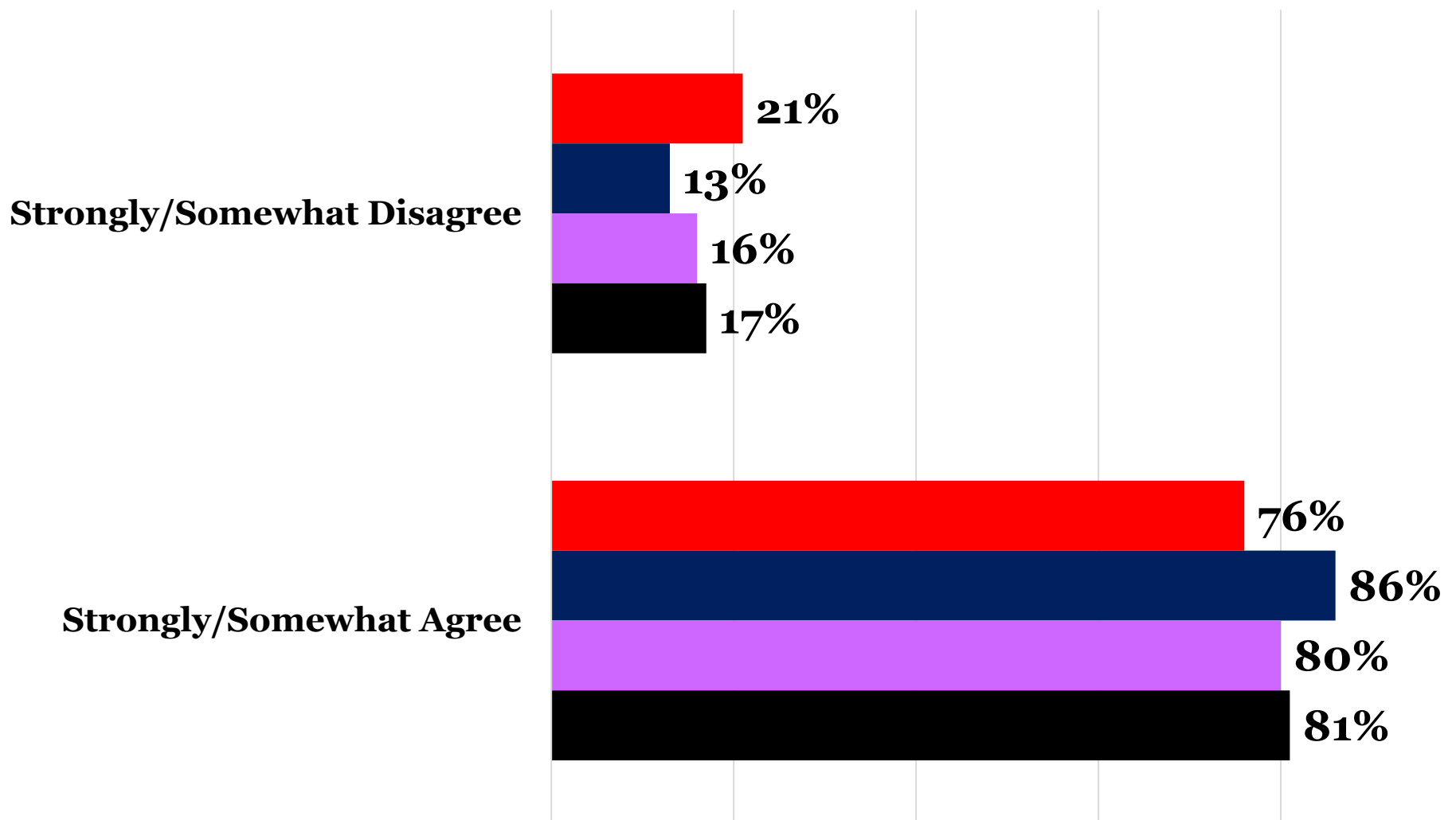


**Tell me how much you agree/disagree with
the following statements:**

**Even if we defeat ISIS by
deploying a large force on the
ground, it, or groups like it, will
reemerge as soon as we withdraw
our forces**

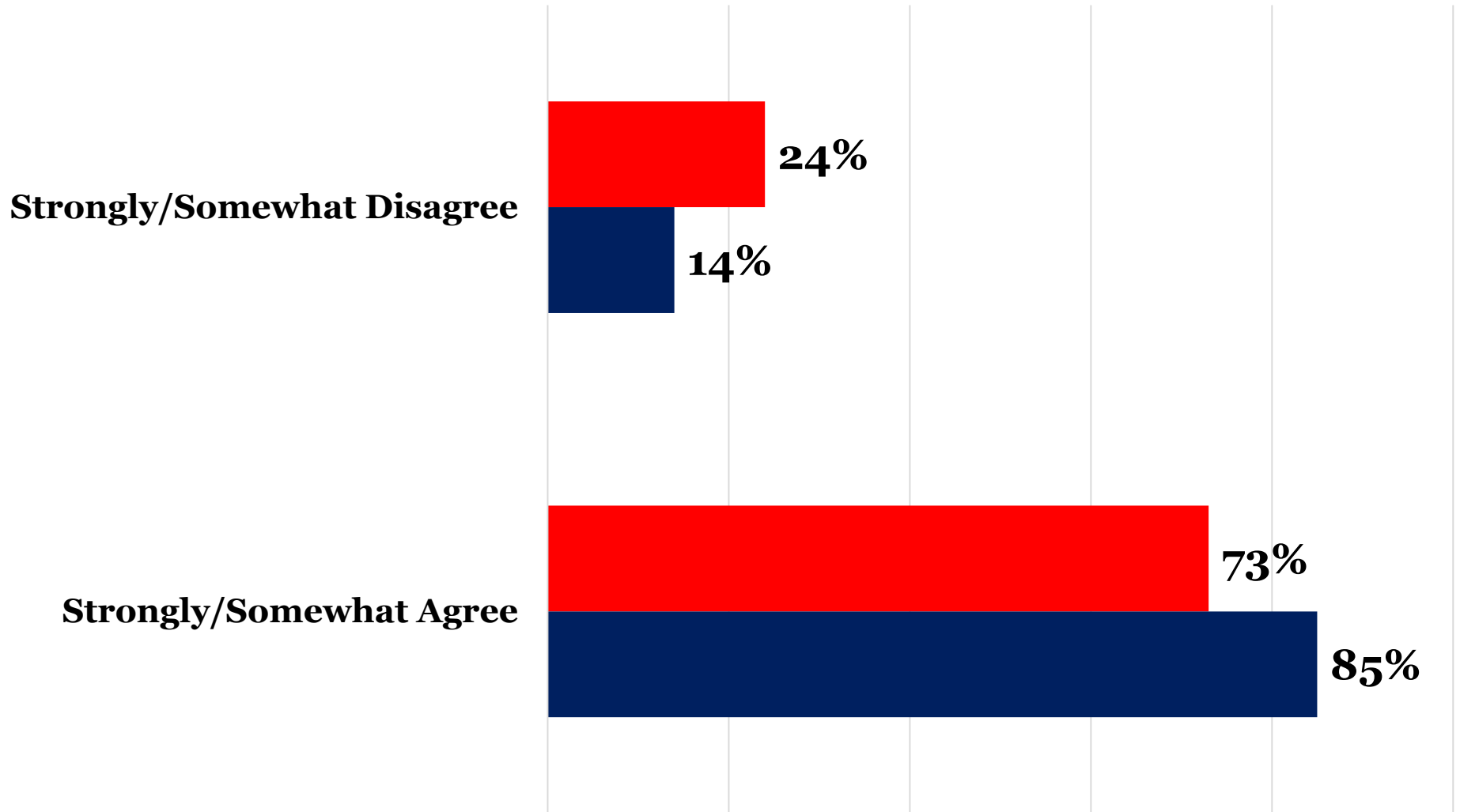
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■ Republicans ■ Democrats ■ Independents ■ Total



**Tell me how much you agree/disagree with the following statements:
Even if we defeat ISIS by deploying a large force on the ground, it,
or groups like it, will reemerge as soon as we withdraw our forces**

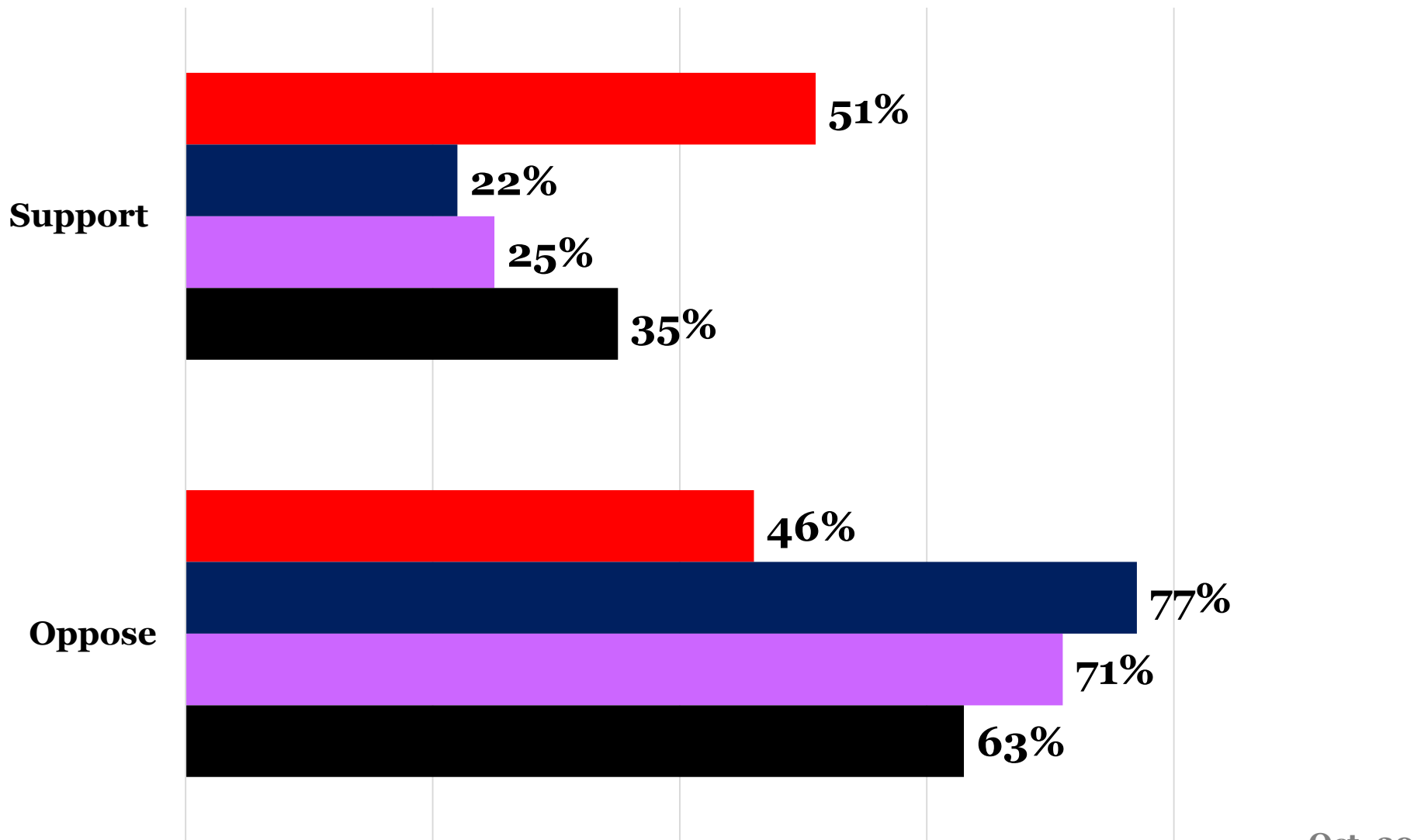
■ Trump Supporters ■ Hillary Supporters



**Now, tell me if you
support or oppose the
deployment of a large
American ground force in
Syria and Iraq to fight
ISIS**

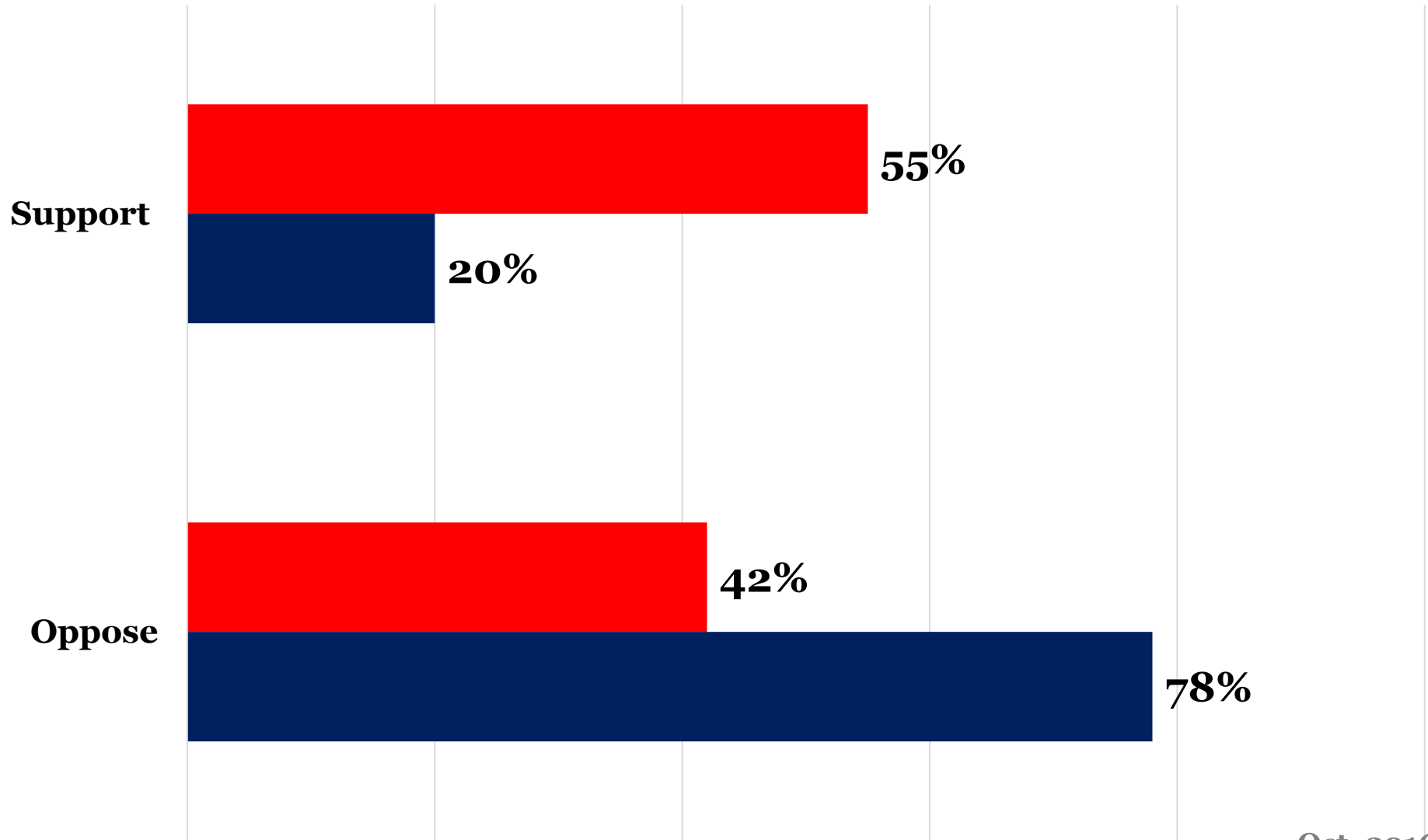
Now, tell me if you support or oppose the deployment of a large American ground force in Syria and Iraq to fight ISIS

■ Republicans ■ Democrats ■ Independents ■ Total



Now, tell me if you support or oppose the deployment of a large American ground force in Syria and Iraq to fight ISIS

Trump Supporters **Hillary Supporters**

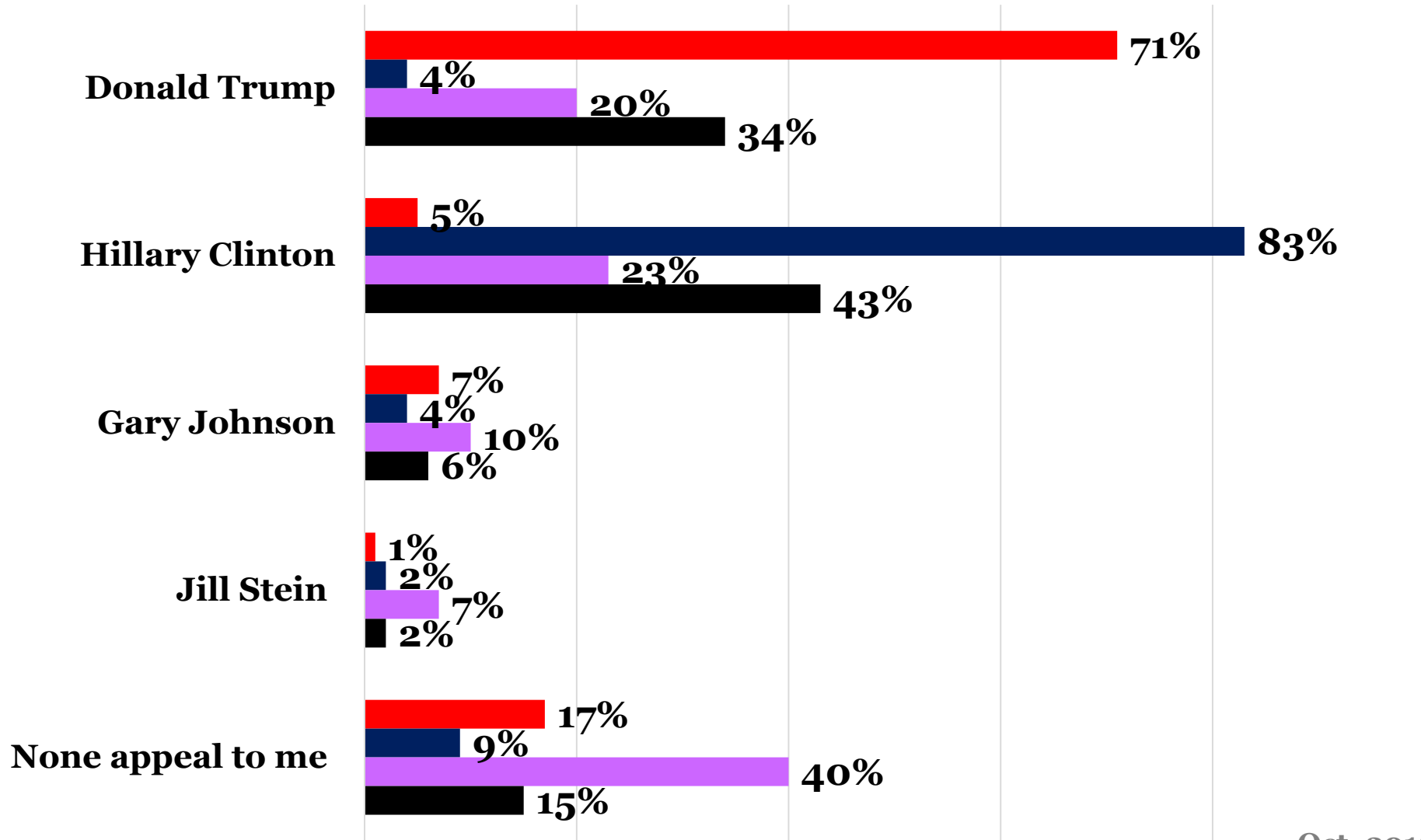


American Politics

**If the elections were held today,
which of the following
presidential candidates would
you be most likely to vote for?**

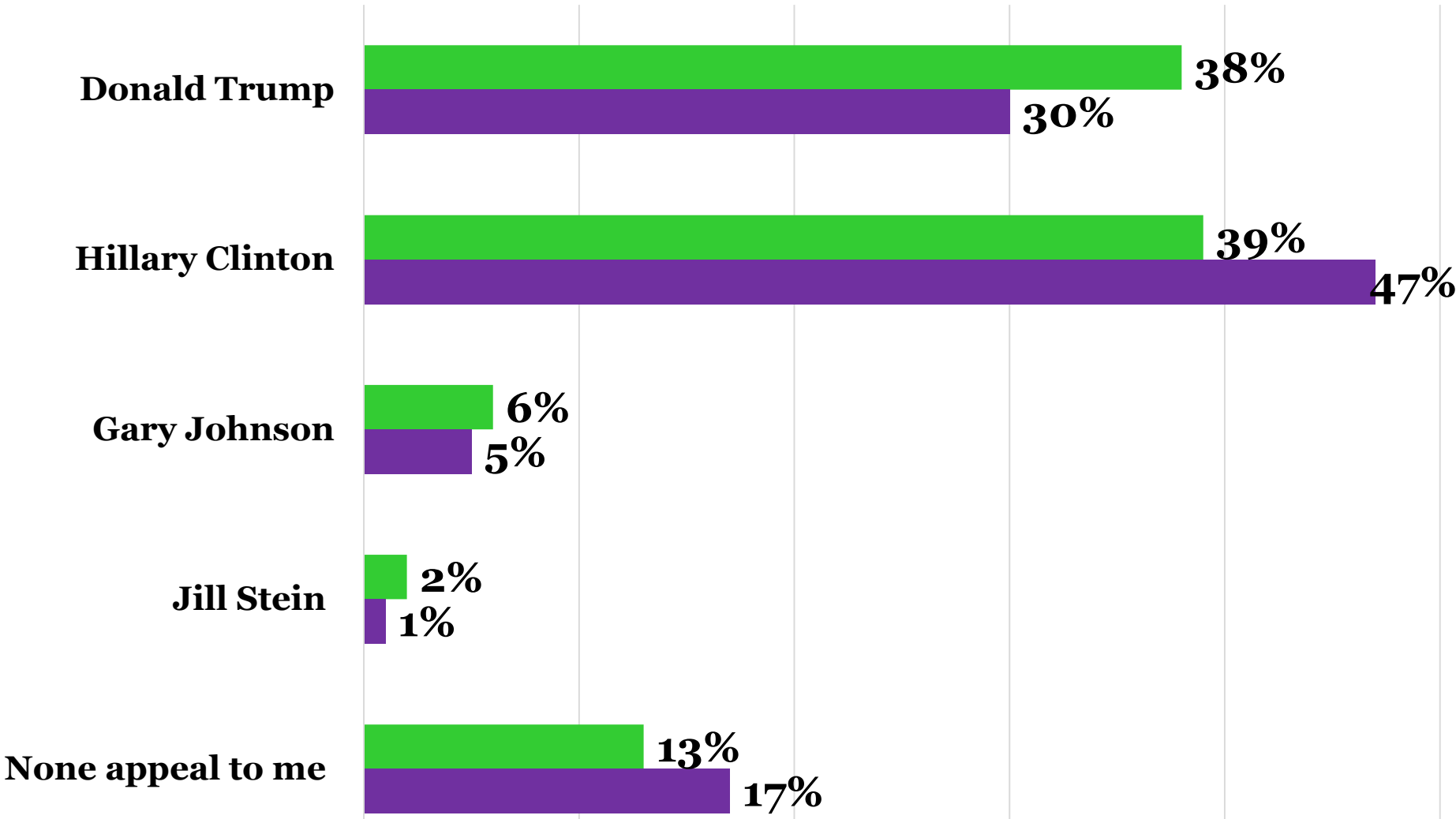
If the elections were held today, which of the following presidential candidates would you be most likely to vote for?

■ Republicans ■ Democrats ■ Independents ■ Total



If the elections were held today, which of the following presidential candidates would you be most likely to vote for?

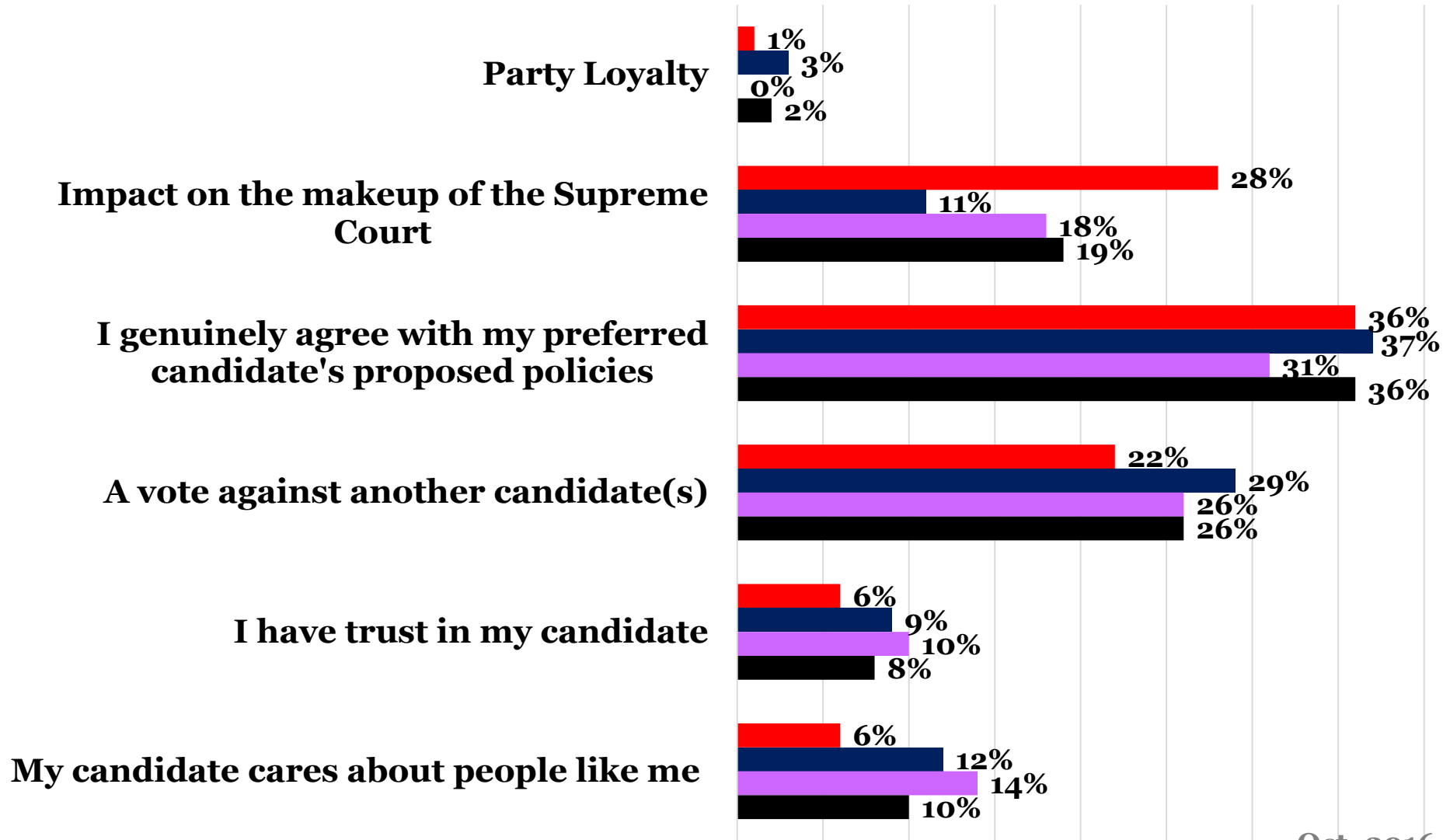
Men Women



**Now, which of these is
the most important
reason for your vote?**

Now, which of these is the most important reason for your vote?

■ Republicans
 ■ Democrats
 ■ Independents
 ■ Total



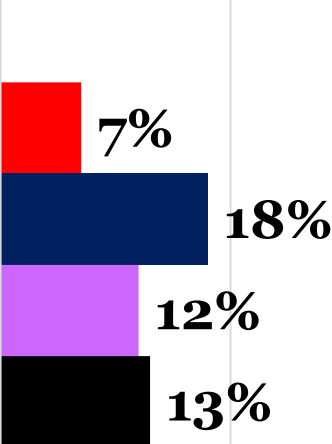
Please rate how much you agree or disagree with the following statement:

There are Americans who will vote for Donald Trump in the presidential election even though they are not prepared to state that openly

**Please rate how much you agree or disagree with the following statement:
There are Americans who will vote for Donald Trump in the
presidential election even though they are not prepared to state that
openly**

■ Republicans ■ Democrats ■ Independents ■ Total

Strongly/Somewhat Disagree



Strongly/Somewhat Agree

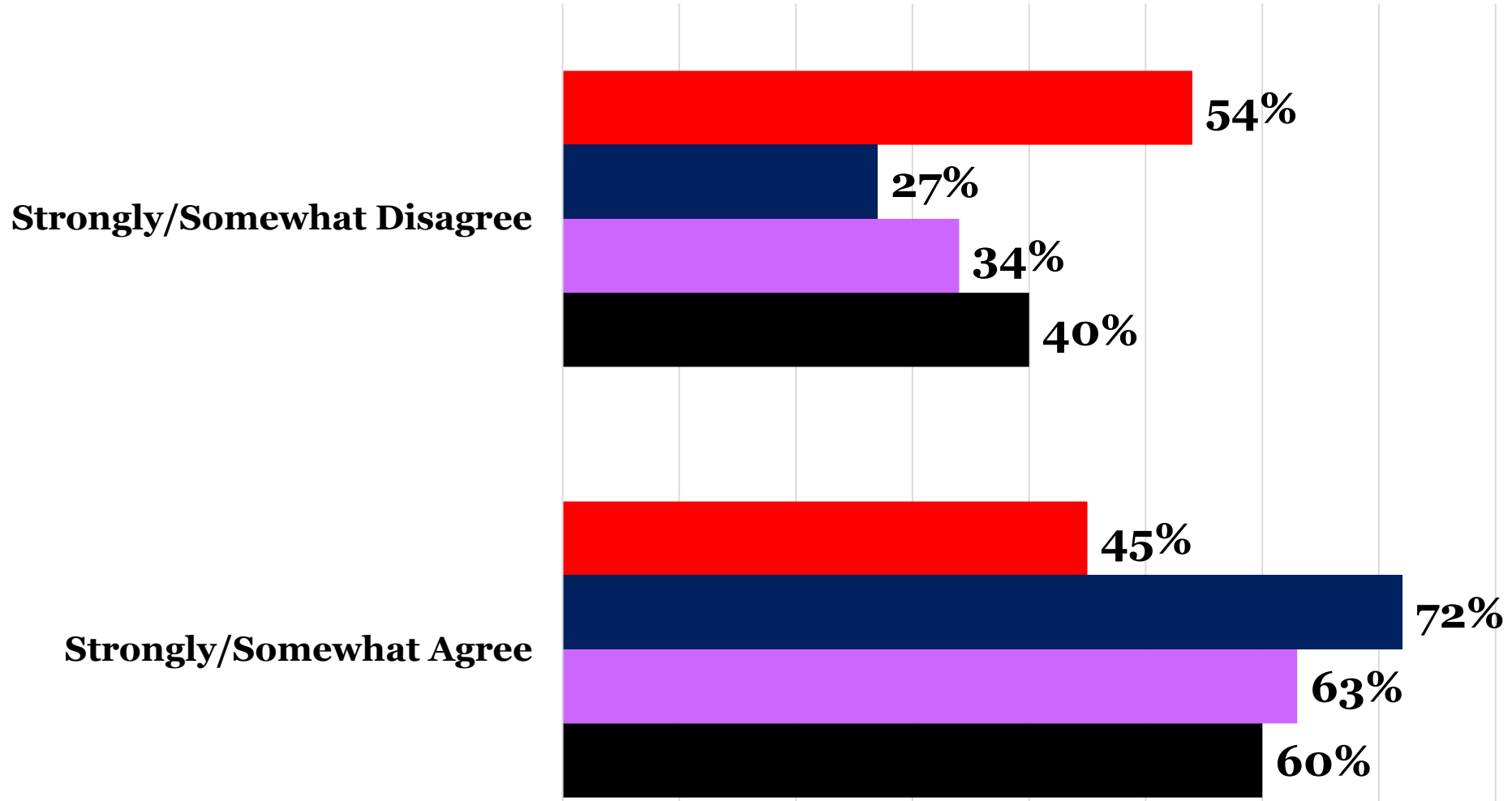


Please rate how much you agree or disagree with the following statement:

There are Americans who will vote for Hillary Clinton in the presidential election even though they are not prepared to state that openly

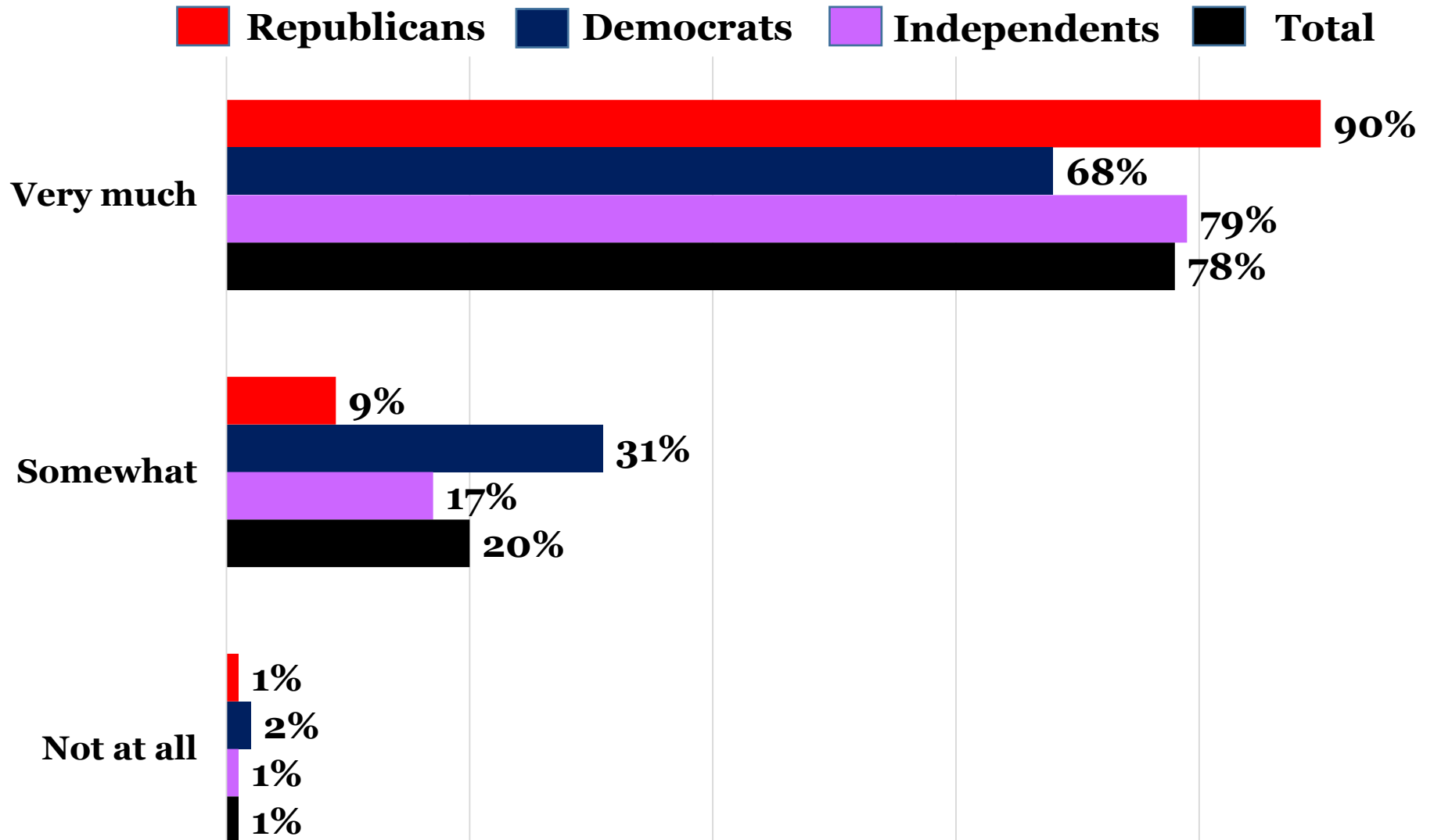
**Please rate how much you agree or disagree with the following statement:
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■ Republicans ■ Democrats ■ Independents ■ Total

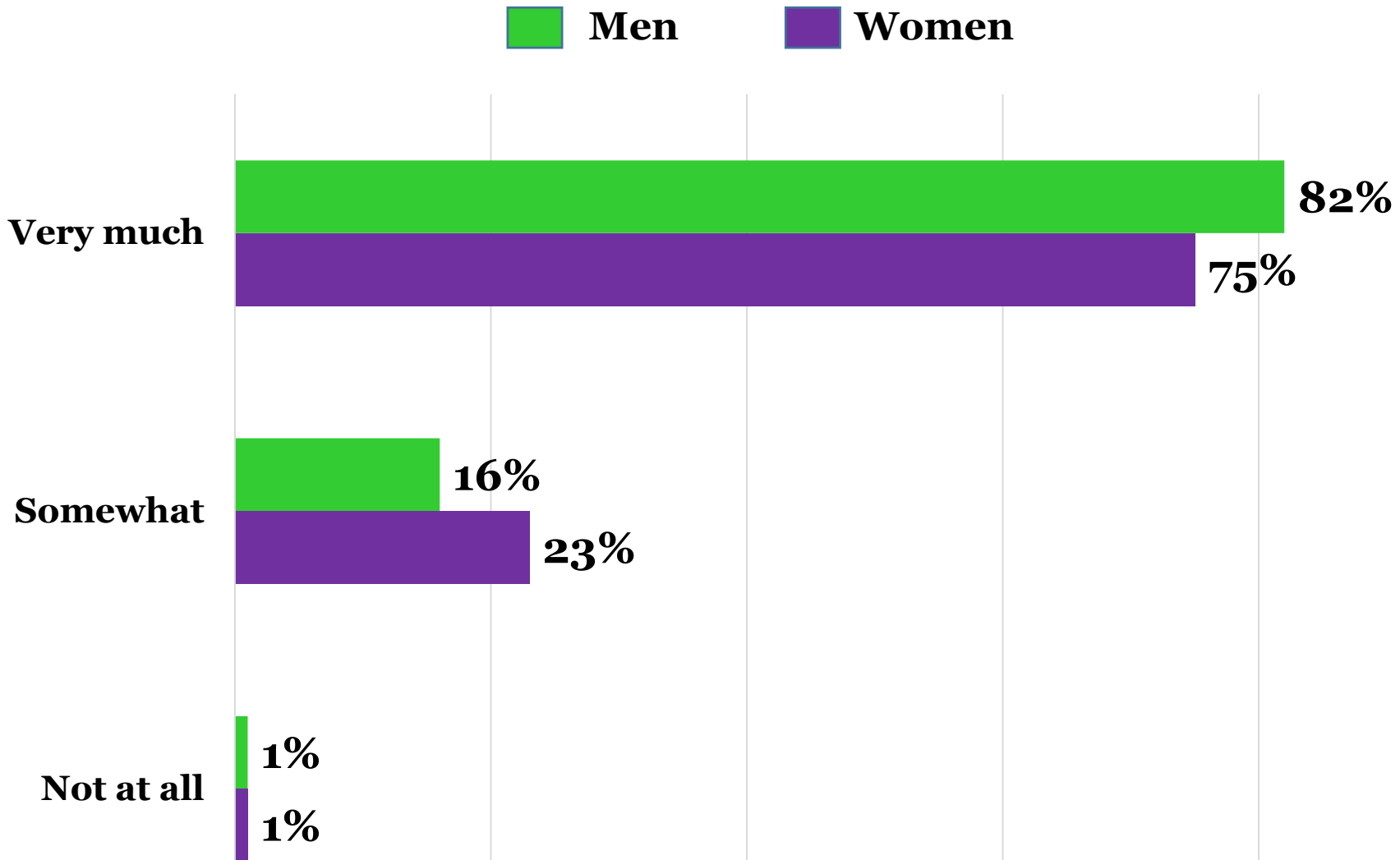


**How much do you want
significant change to the
American political
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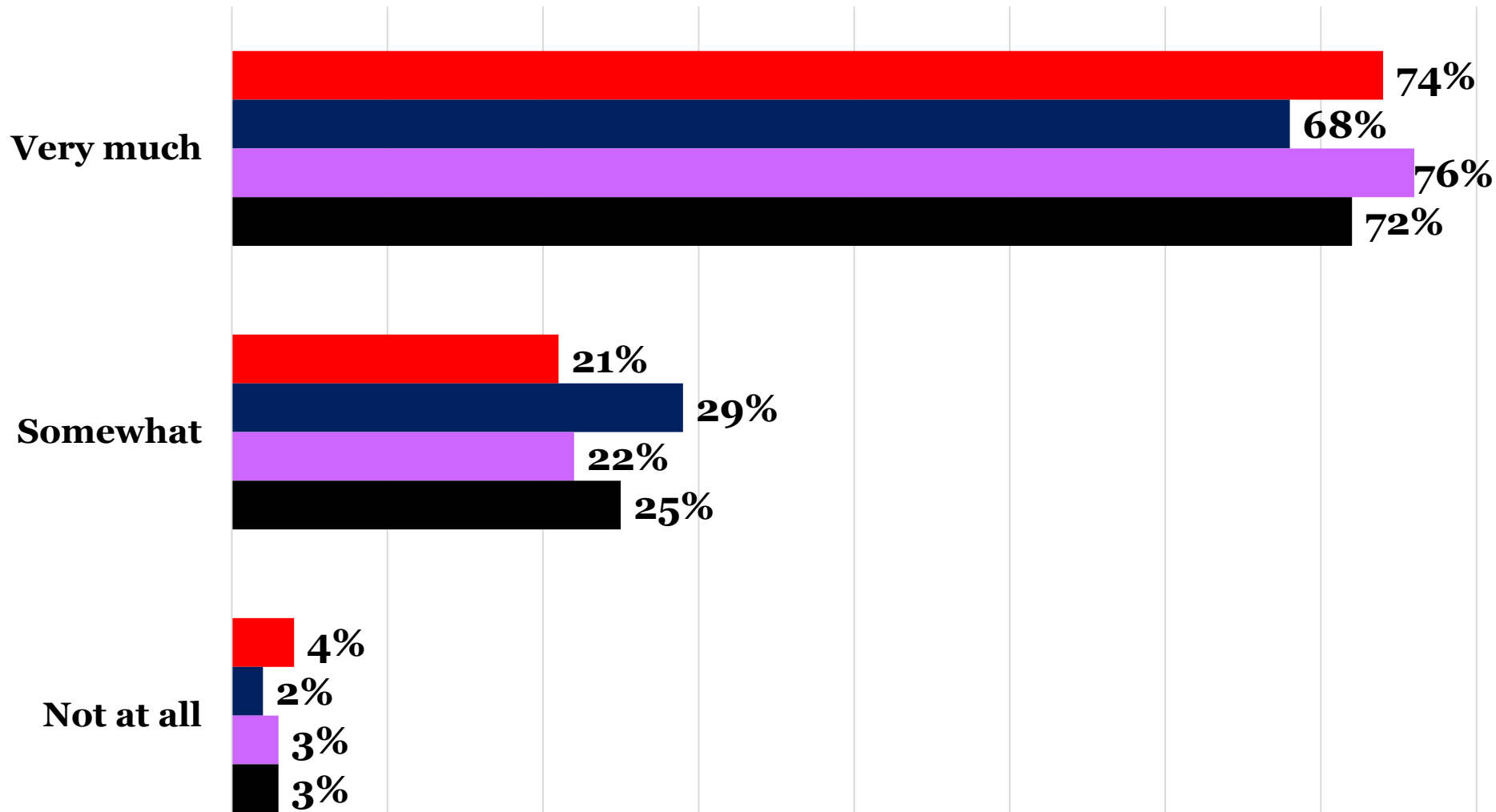
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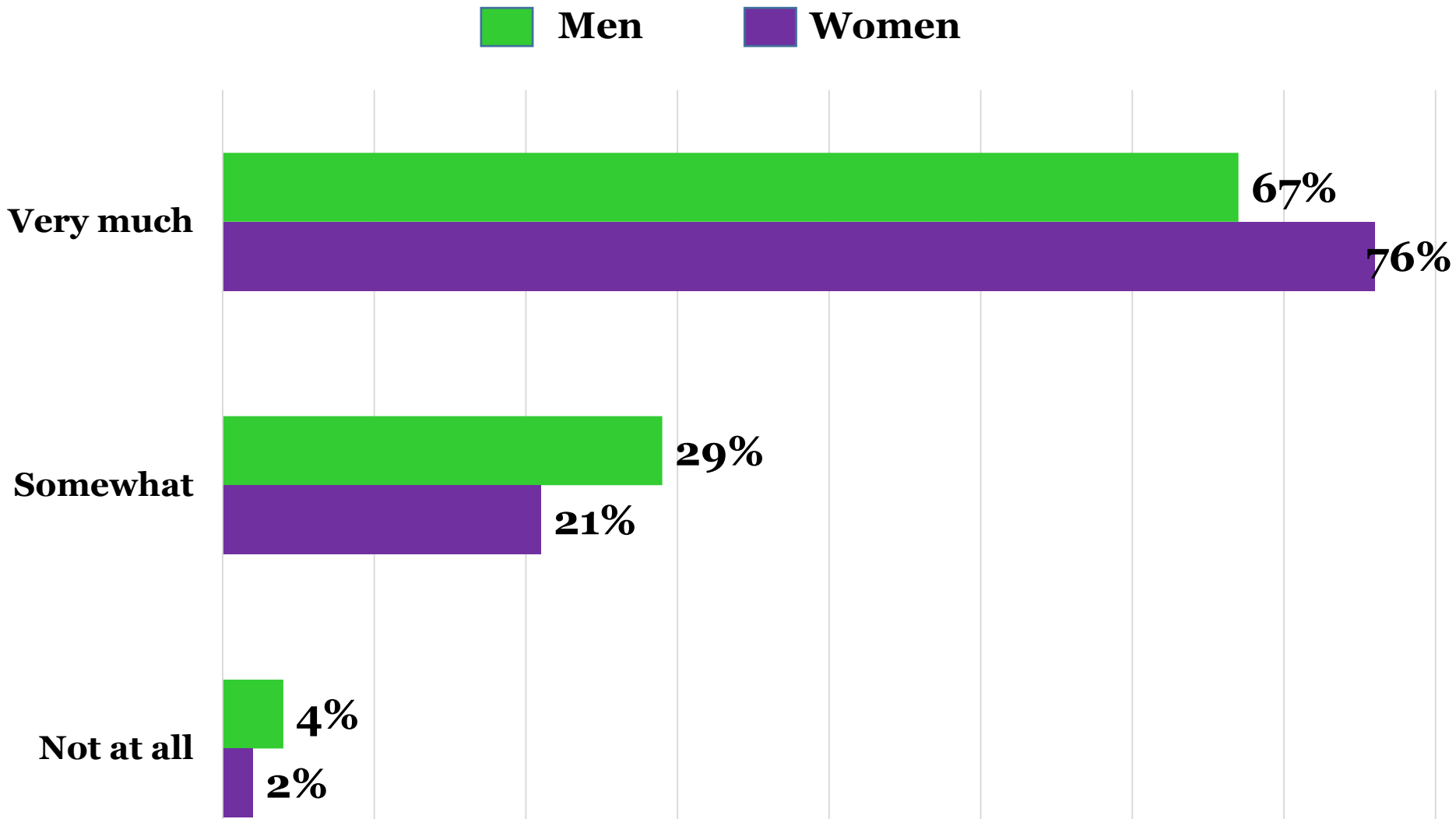
**How much do you want
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How much do you want significant change to the American economic system?

■ Republicans ■ Democrats ■ Independents ■ Total



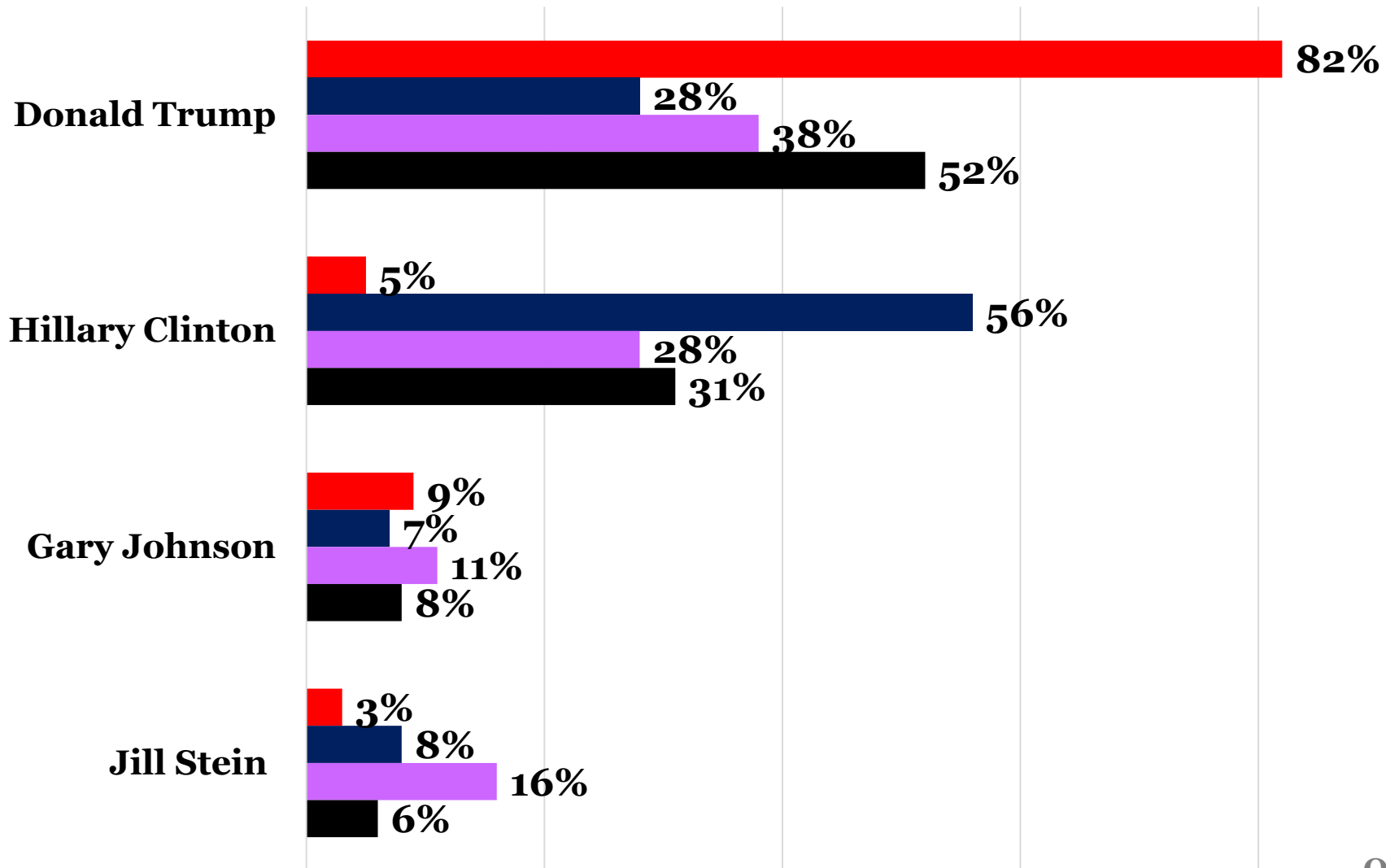
How much do you want significant change to the American economic system?



Which candidate is more likely to bring significant political change to the American system?

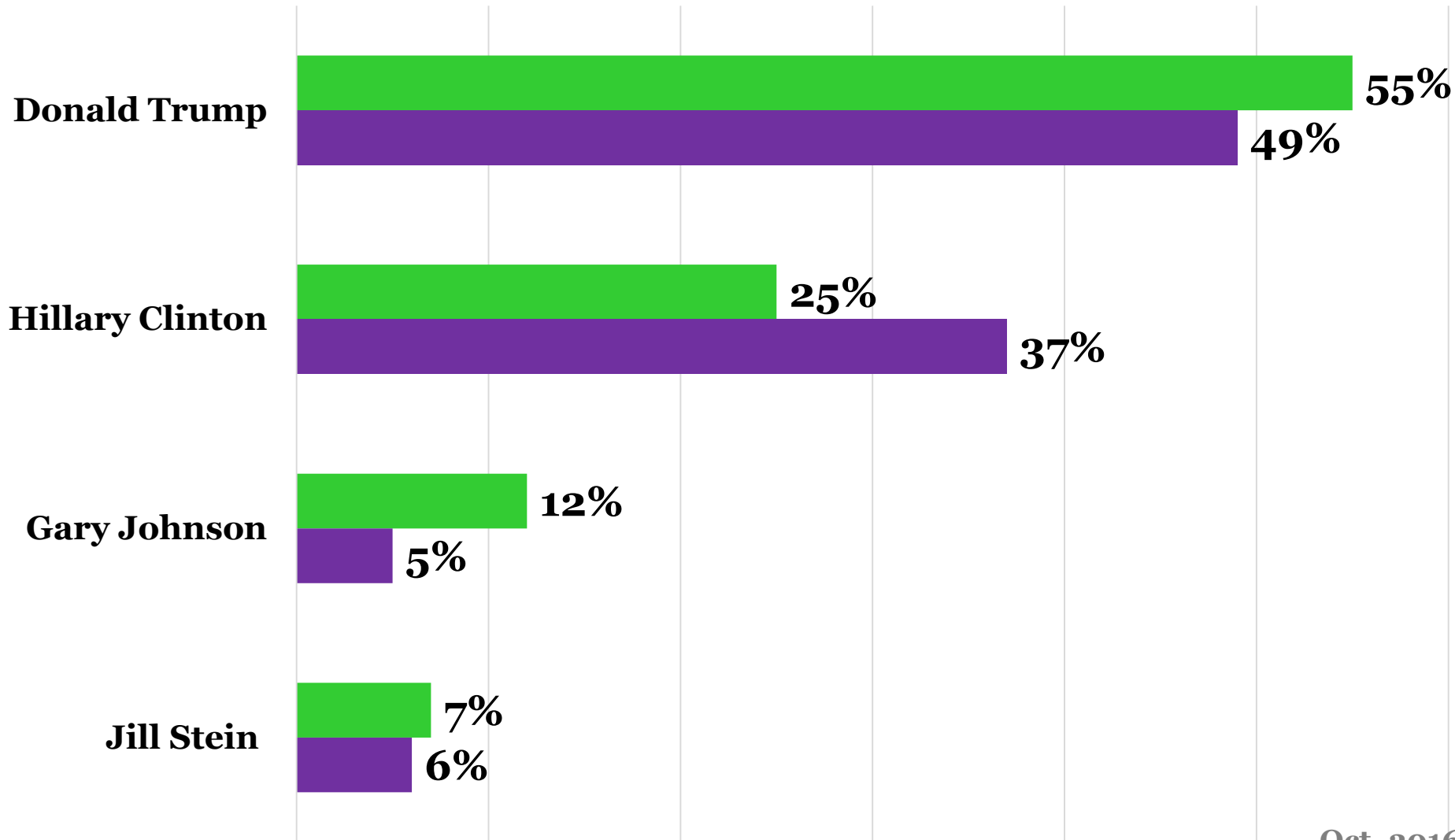
Which candidate is more likely to bring significant political change to the American system?

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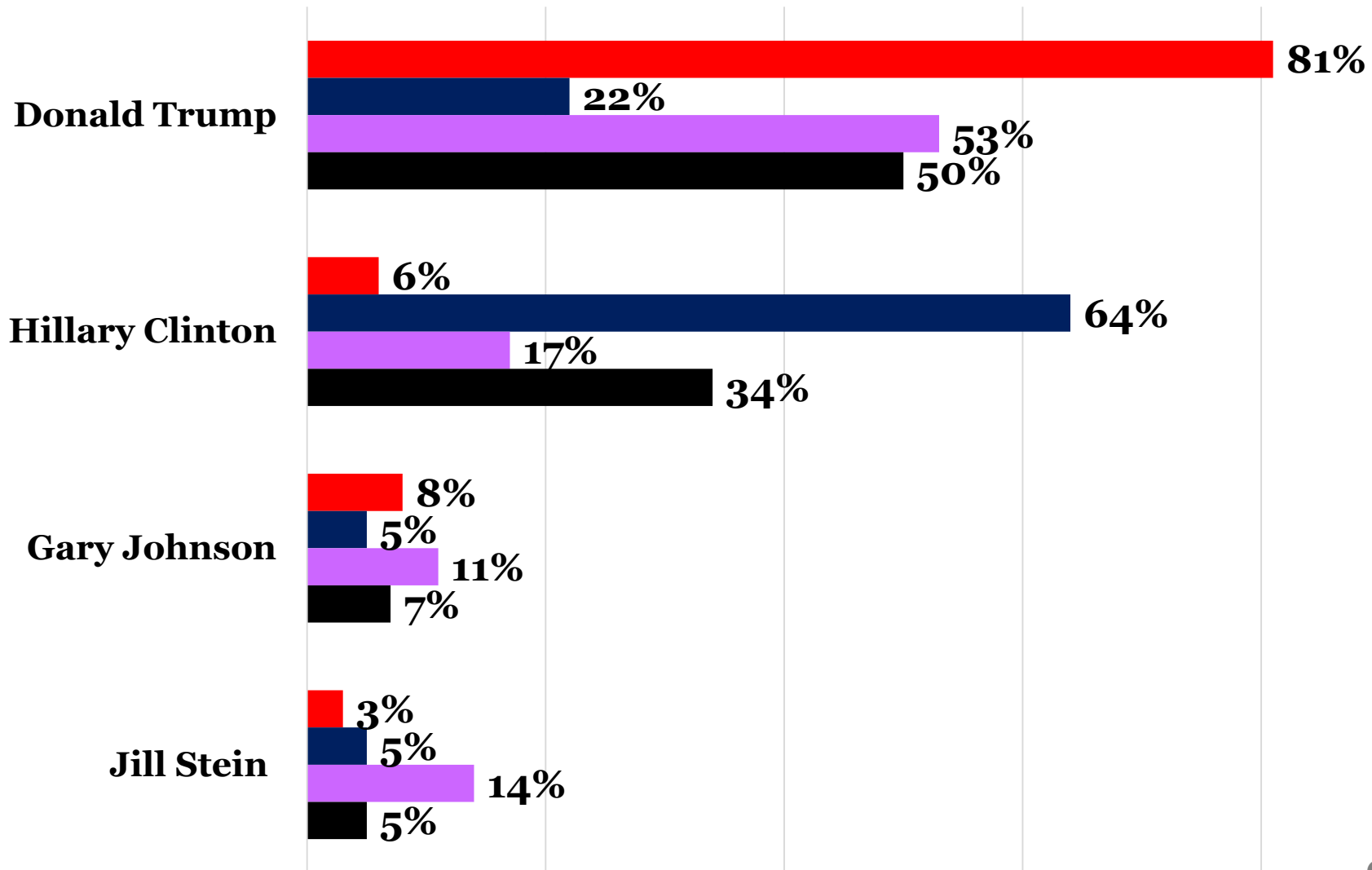
Men Women



Which candidate is more likely to bring significant economic change to the American system?

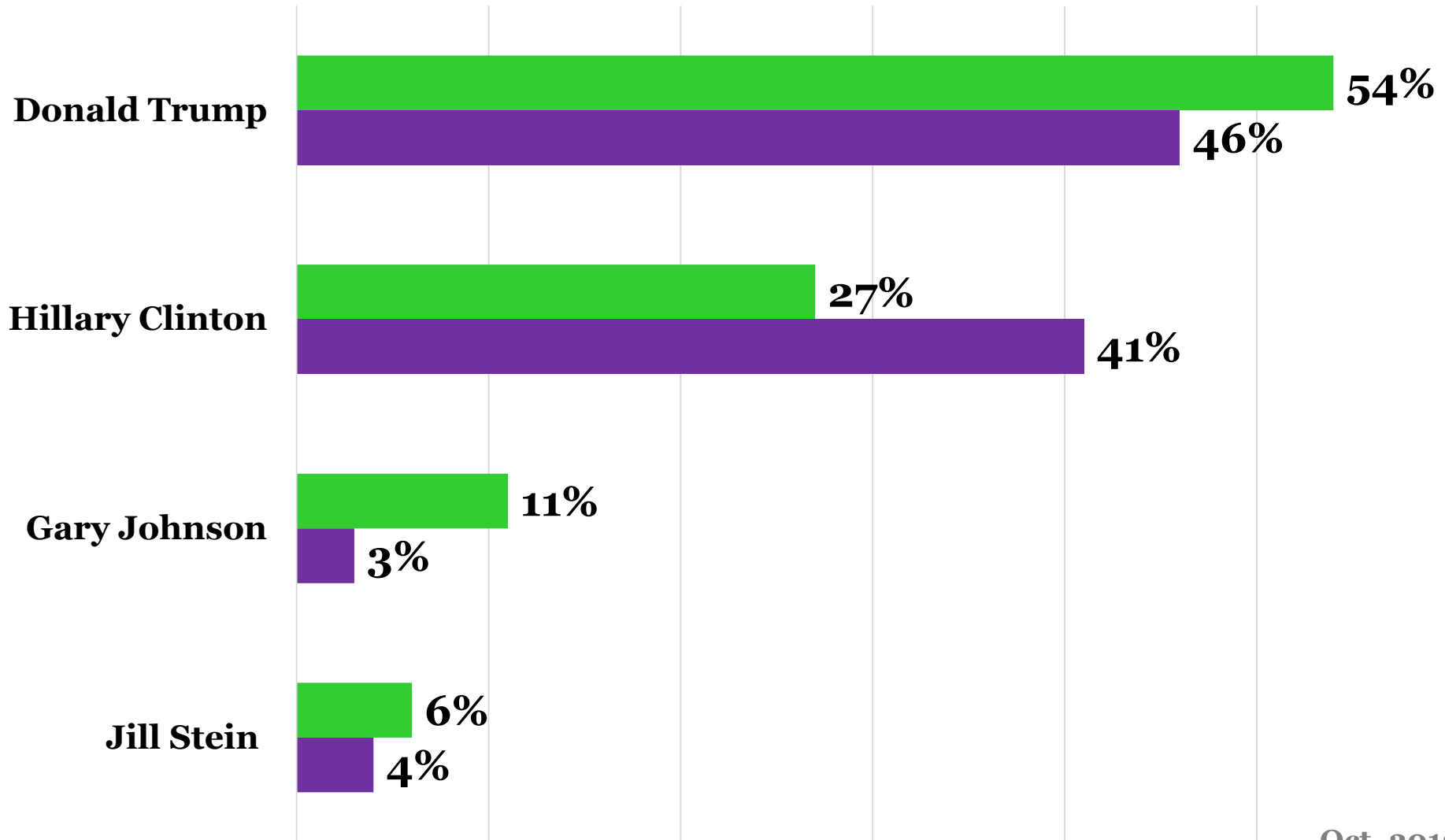
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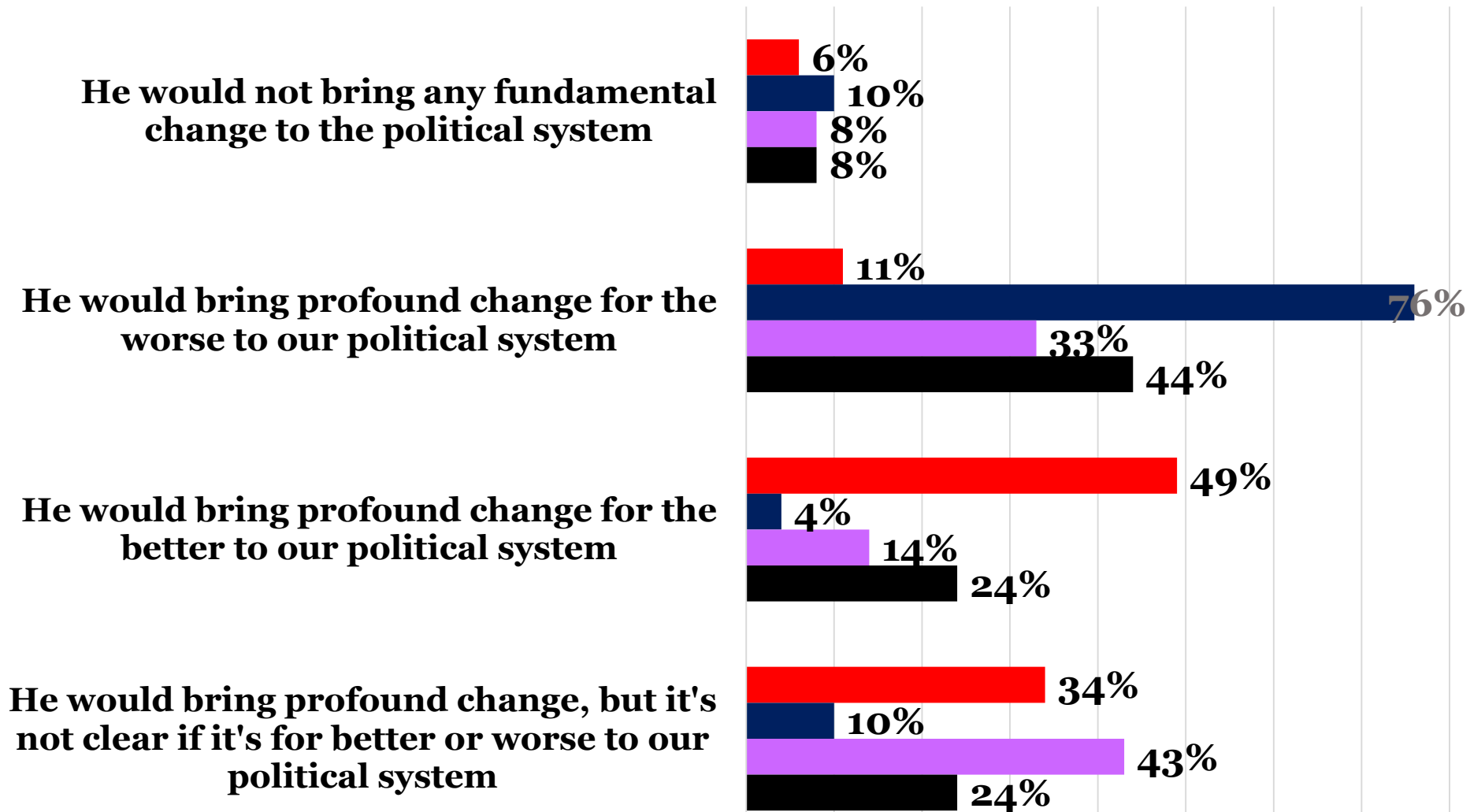
Men Women



**Which of the following is
closest to your view of
the impact on our
political system, were
Donald Trump to become
president?**

Which of the following is closest to your view of the impact on our political system, were Donald Trump to become president?

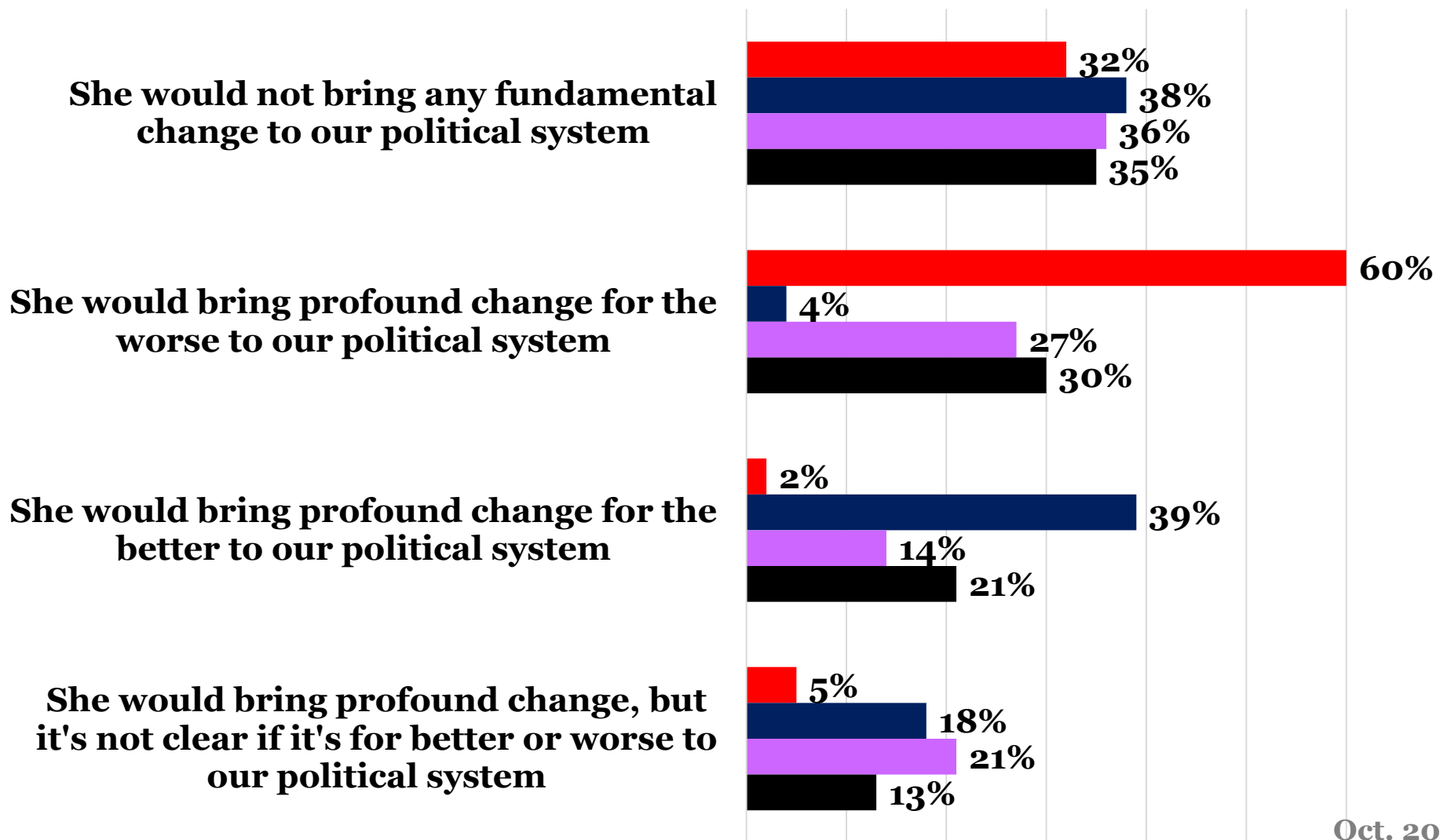
■ Republicans ■ Democrats ■ Independents ■ Total



**Which of the following is
closest to your view of
the impact on our
political system, were
Hillary Clinton to
become president?**

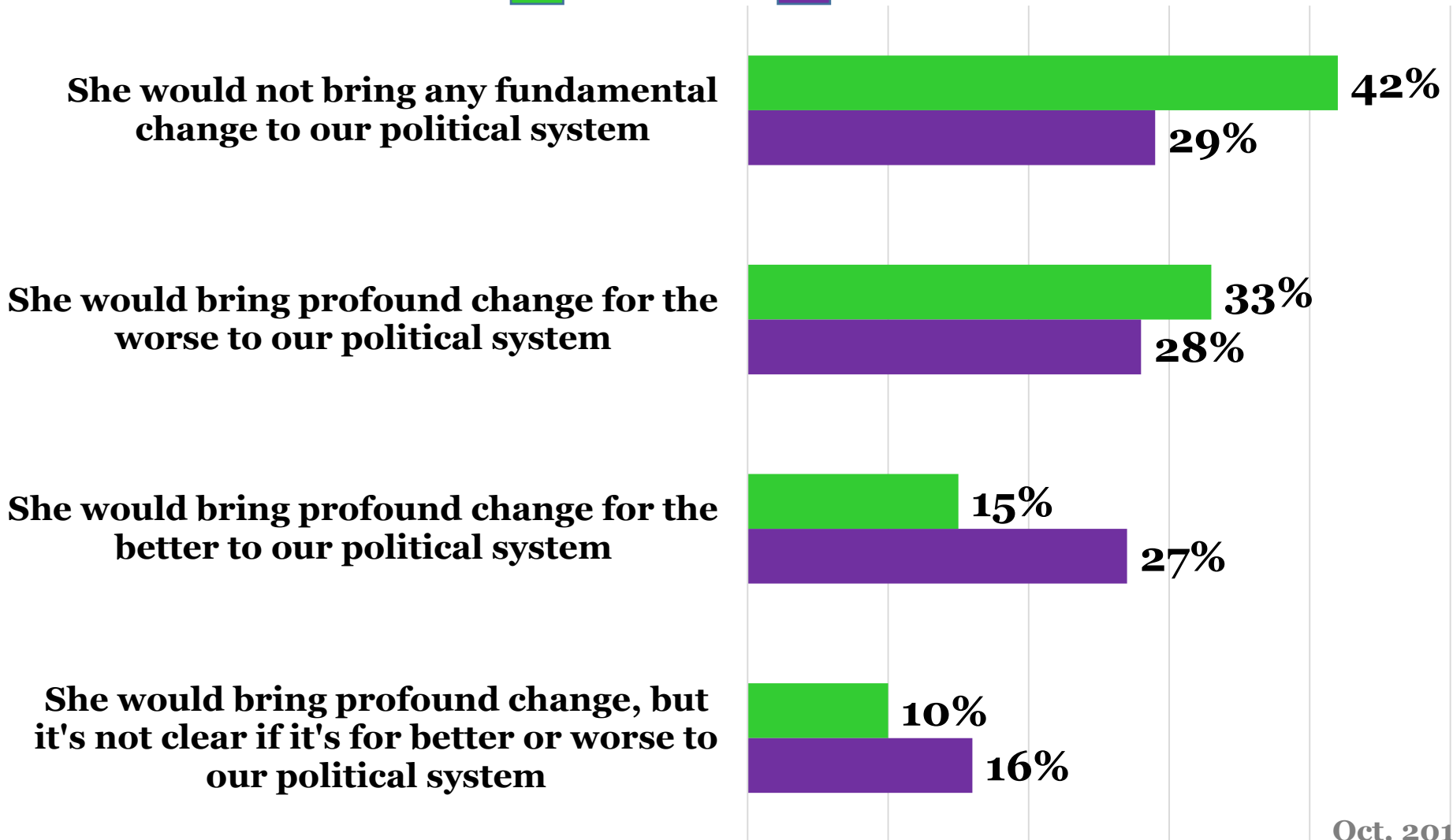
Which of the following is closest to your view of the impact on our political system, were Hillary Clinton to become president?

■ Republicans ■ Democrats ■ Independents ■ Total



Which of the following is closest to your view of the impact on our political system, were Hillary Clinton to become president

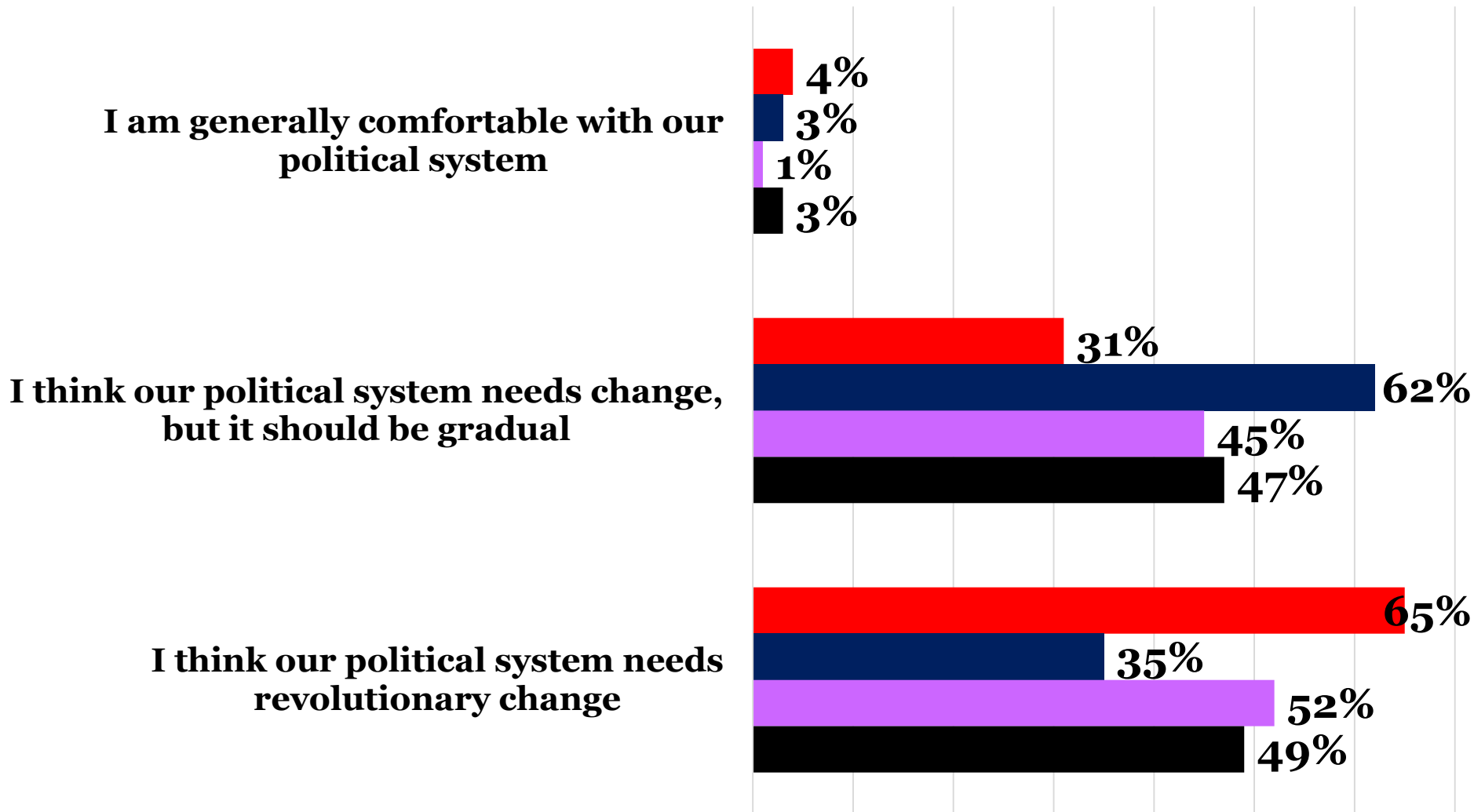
Men Women



**Which of the
following is closest
to your view:**

Which of the following is closest to your view:

■ Republicans ■ Democrats ■ Independents ■ Total



Which of the following is closest to your view:

 Men

 Women

I am generally comfortable with our political system

3%

3%

I think our political system needs change, but it should be gradual

42%

53%

I think our political system needs revolutionary change

55%

44%

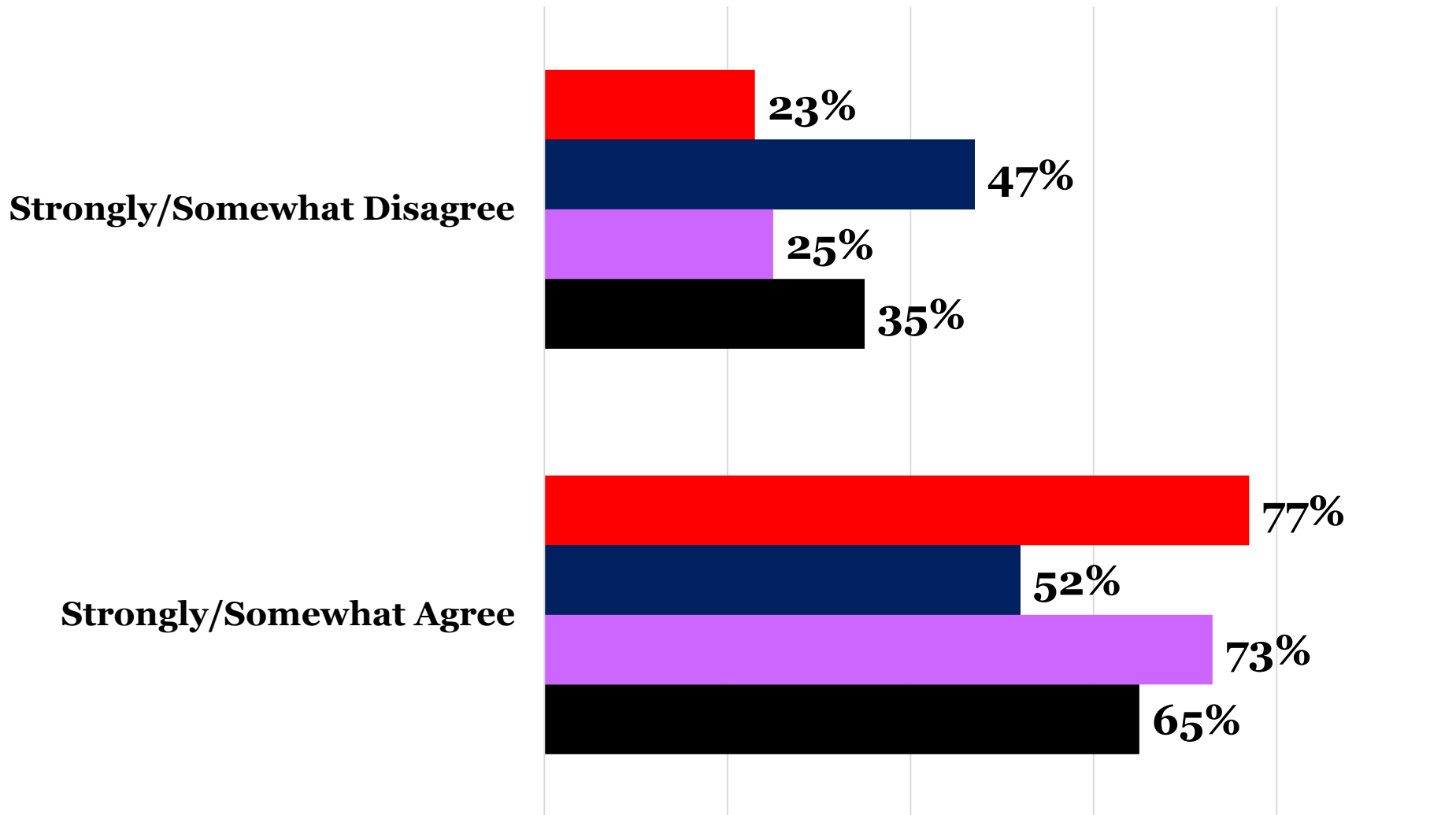
Oct. 2016

**How much do you agree with this
statement:**

**“Our system is rigged
against people like me”?**

How much do you agree with this statement: “Our system is rigged against people like me”?

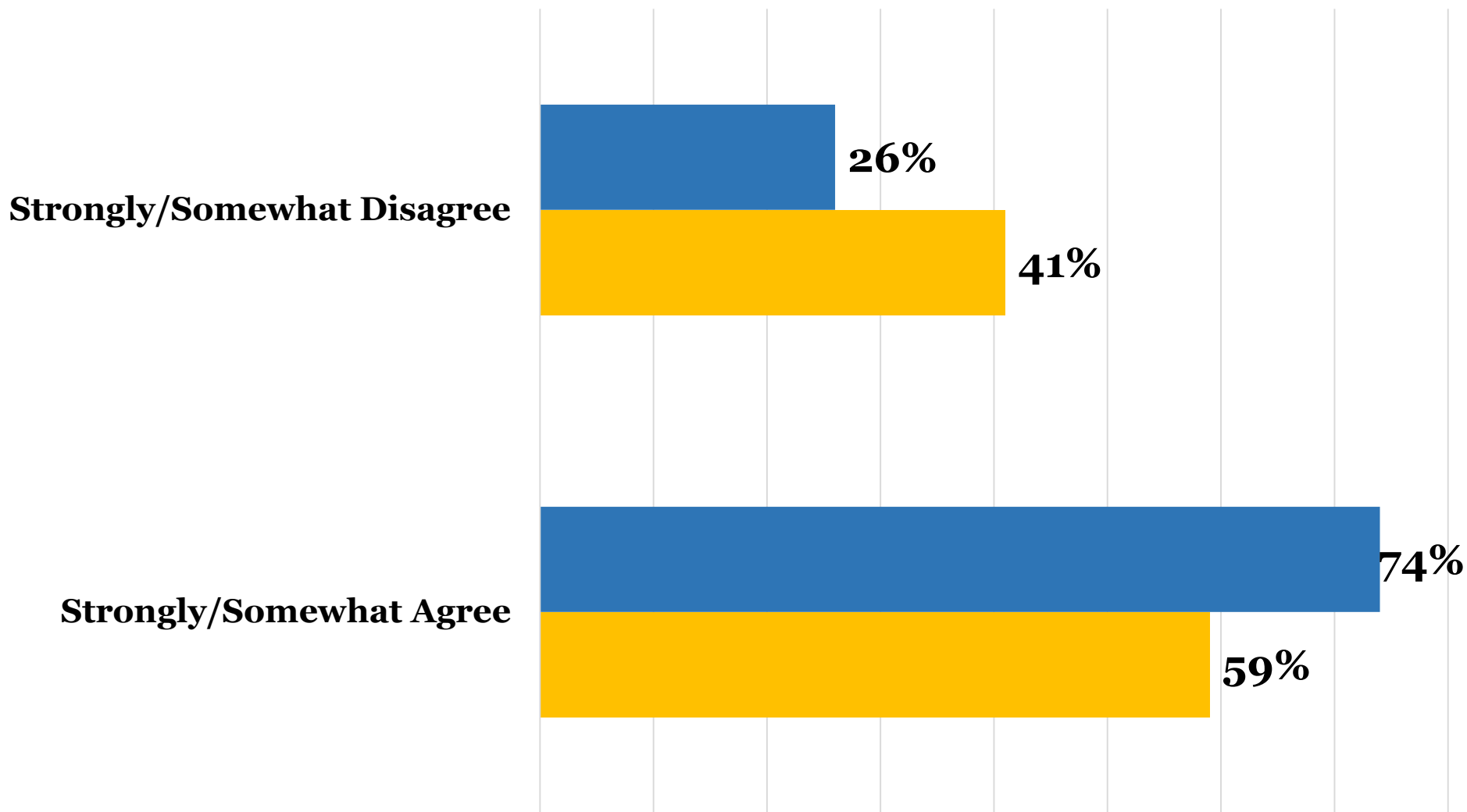
■ Republicans ■ Democrats ■ Independents ■ Total



How much do you agree with this statement: “Our system is rigged against people like me”?

■ Non-College Educated

■ At least some college education

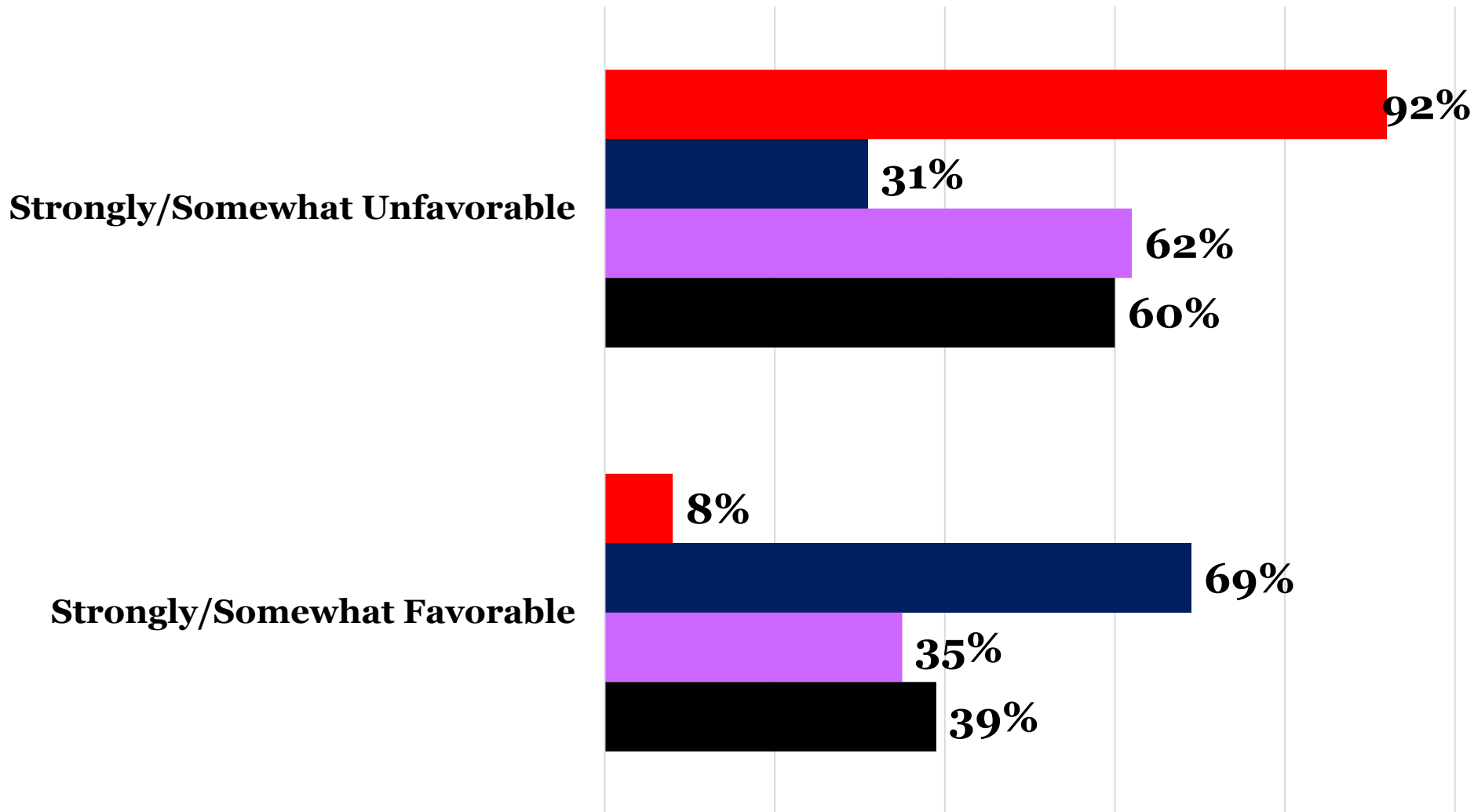


Oct. 2016

Overall, how favorable or unfavorable is your impression of the social movement known as Black Lives Matter?

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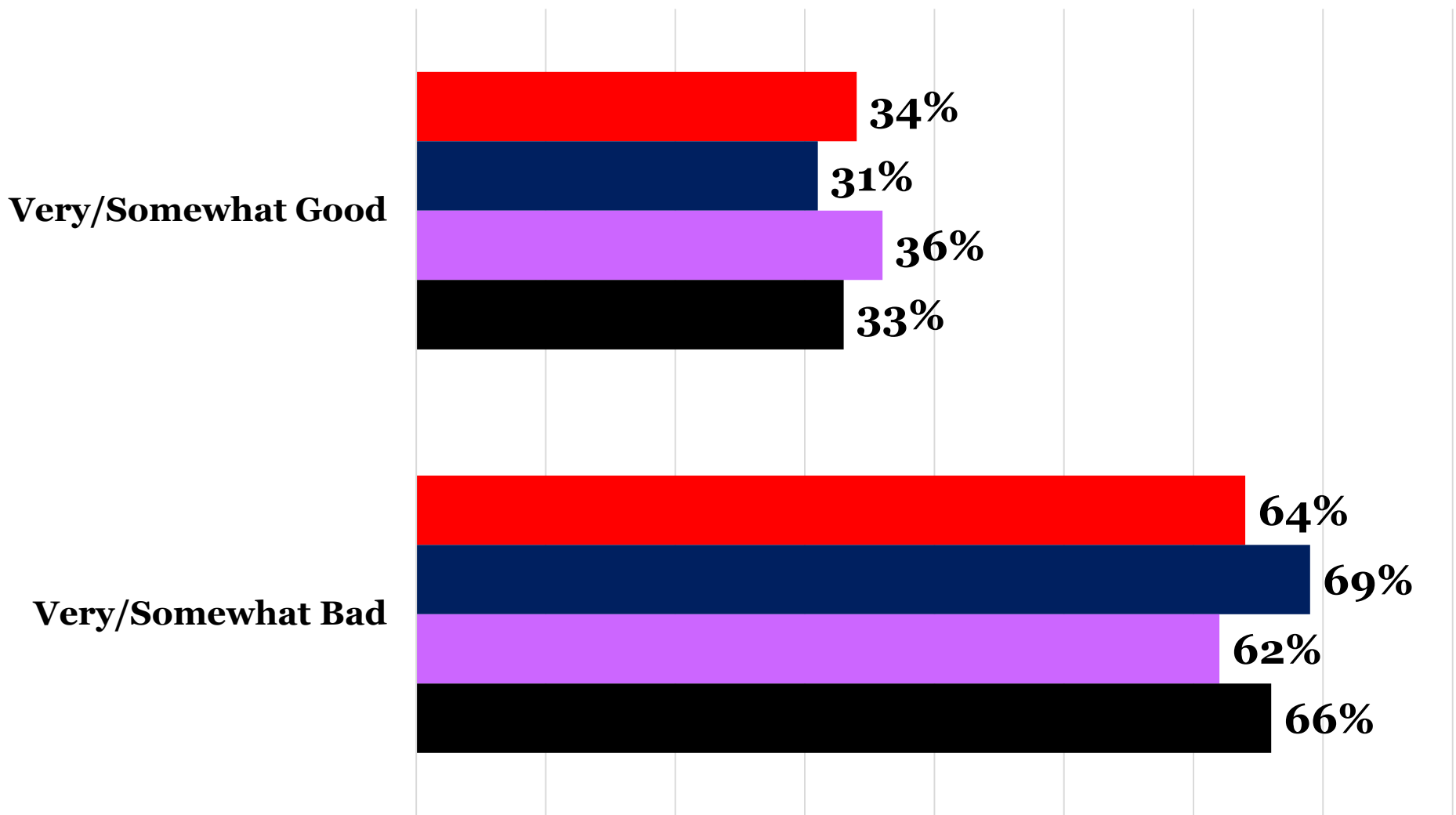
■ Republicans ■ Democrats ■ Independents ■ Total



How would you rate race relations between blacks and whites in the U.S.?

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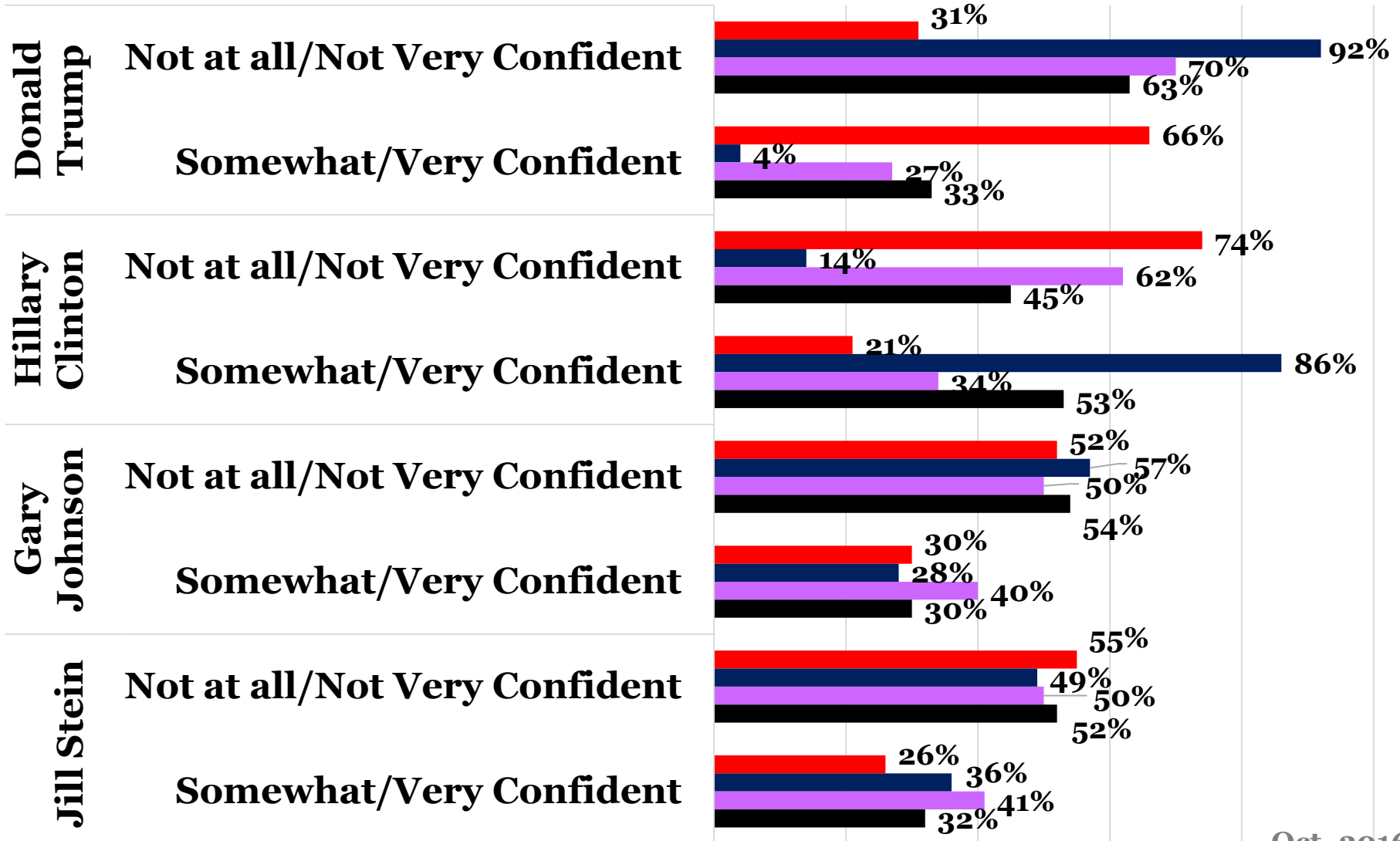
■ Republicans ■ Democrats ■ Independents ■ Total



Regardless of your vote for president, please rate the candidates on the scale below on how confident you are that they would advance the interests of African Americans if elected

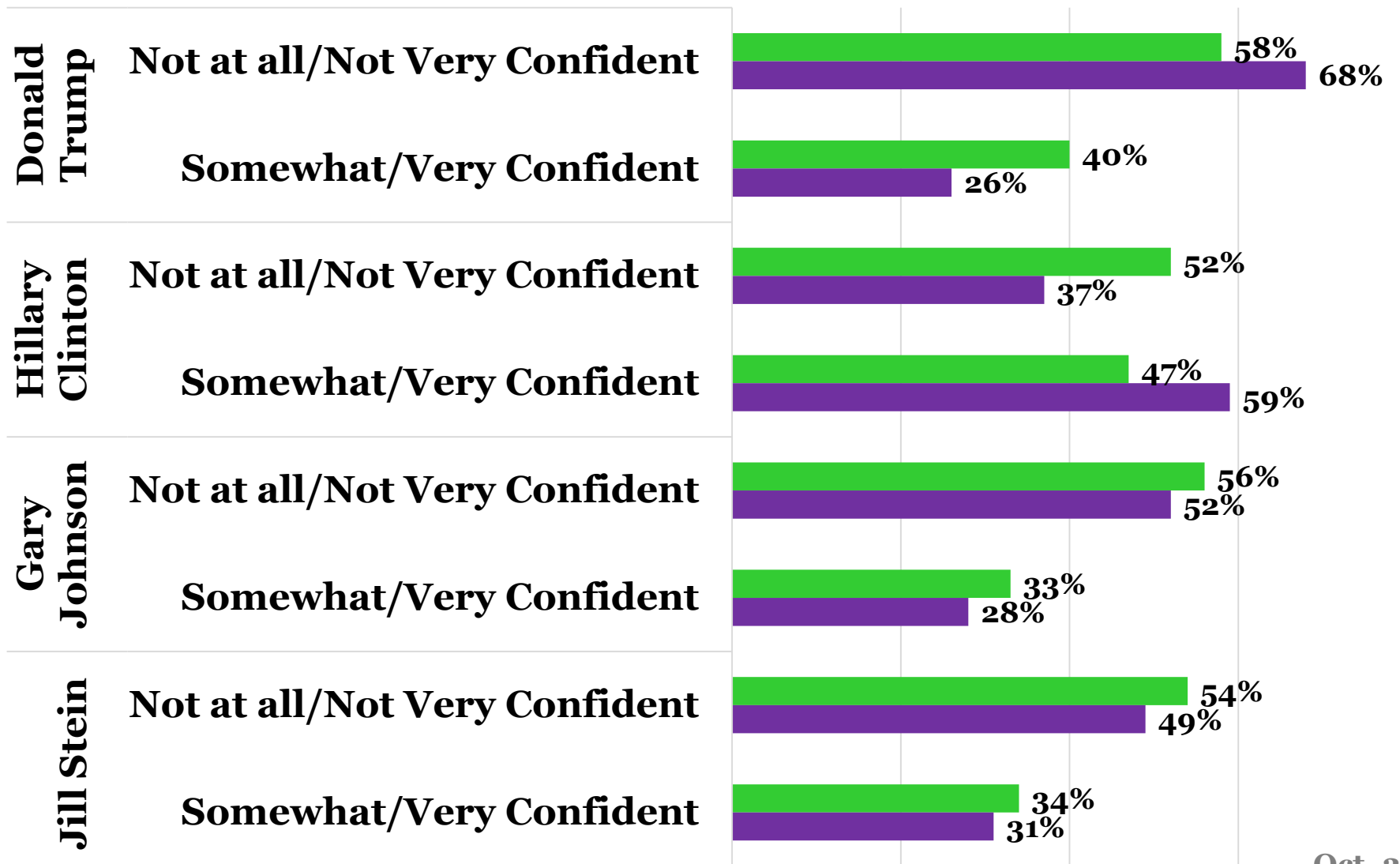
Regardless of your vote for president, please rate the candidates on the scale below on how confident you are that they would advance the interests of African Americans if elected

■ Republicans ■ Democrats ■ Independents ■ Total

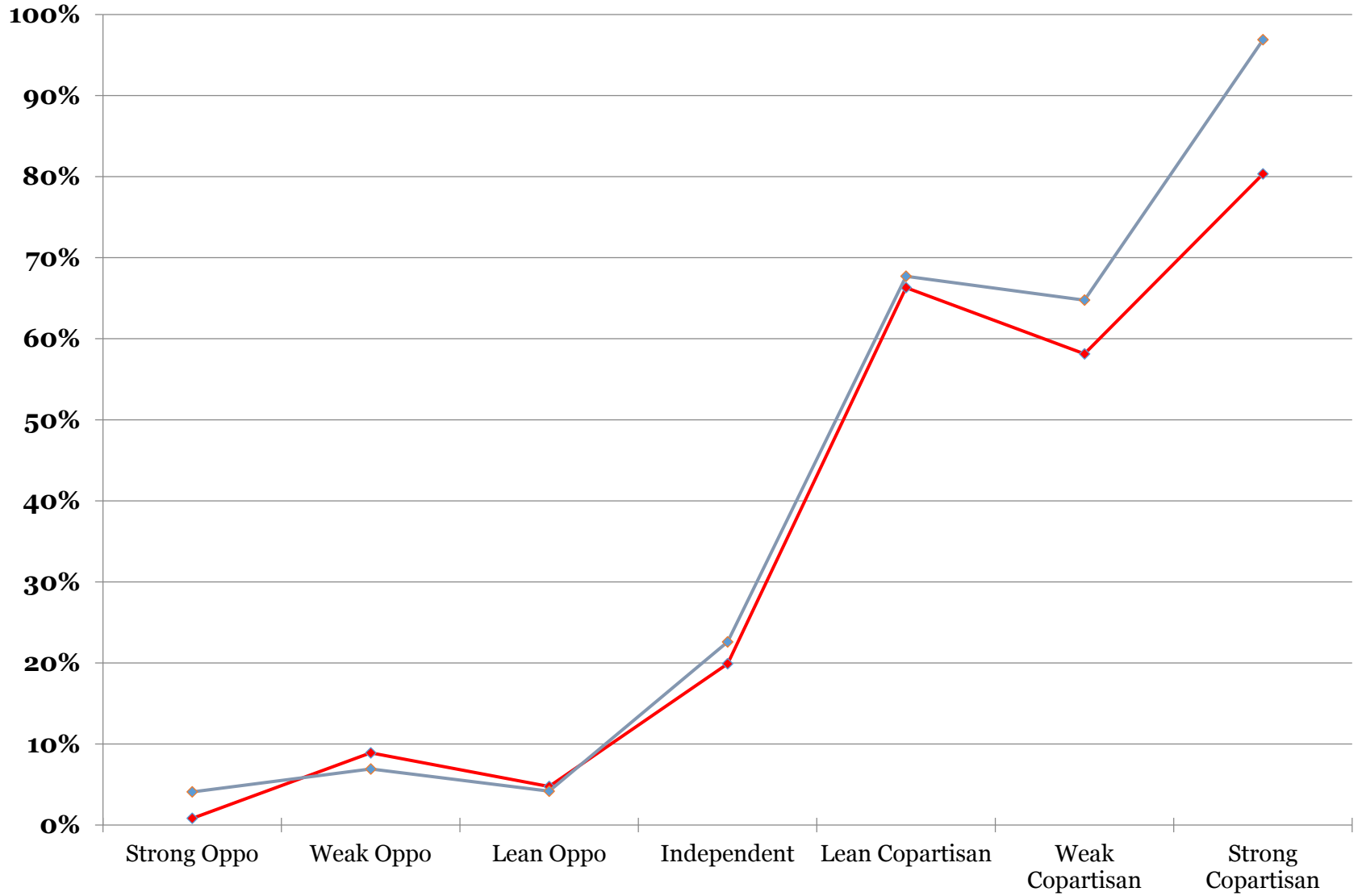


Regardless of your vote for president, please rate the candidates on the scale below on how confident you are that they would advance the interests of African Americans if elected

Men **Women**

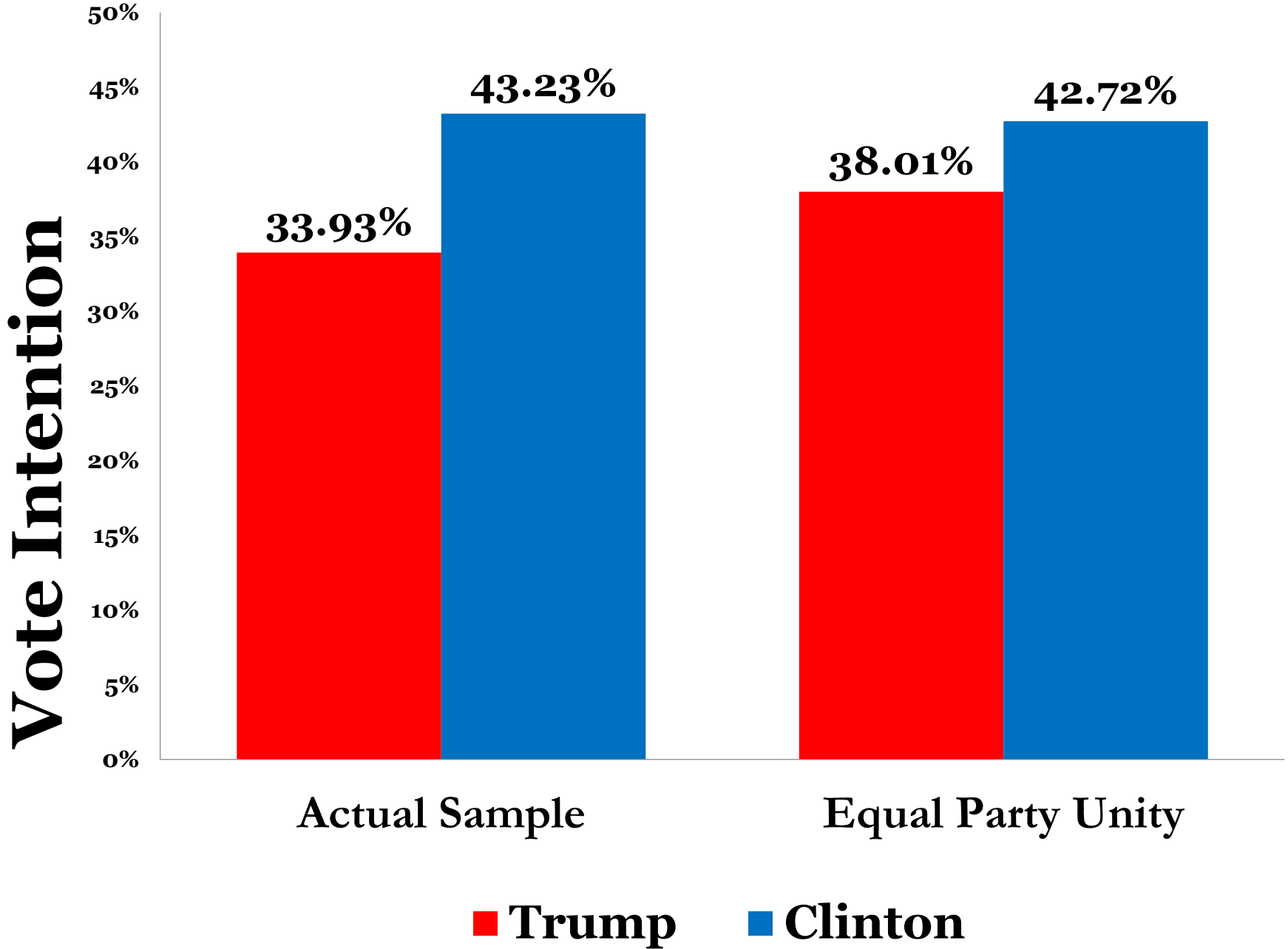


Vote Support by Partisanship



—●— **Trump**

—●— **Clinton**



**How has the release of the
tape of Donald Trump
talking about women in
2005 influenced your
choice for president?**

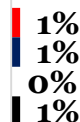
How has the release of the tape of Donald Trump talking about women in 2005 influenced your choice for president?

■ Republicans
 ■ Democrats
 ■ Independents
 ■ Total

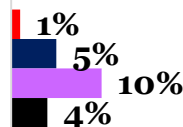
It has not changed my mind about whom I was planning to vote for



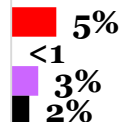
I was undecided, but now plan to vote for Trump



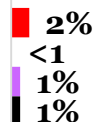
I was undecided, but now plan to vote for someone else who isn't Trump



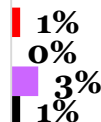
I was planning to vote for Trump, but I am now undecided



I was planning to vote for Trump, but now plan to vote for another candidate

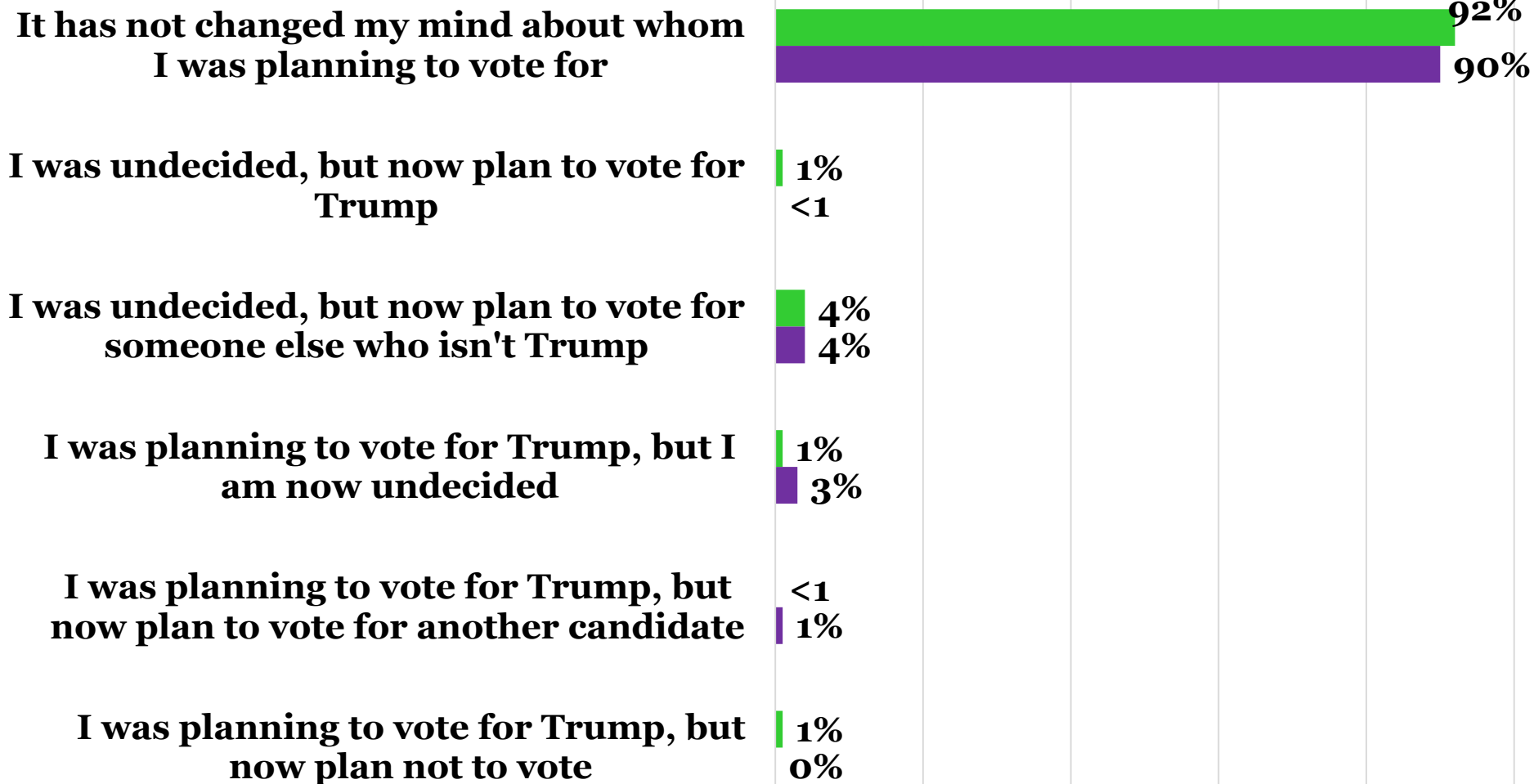


I was planning to vote for Trump, but now plan not to vote



How has the release of the tape of Donald Trump talking about women in 2015 influenced your choice for president?

Men Women



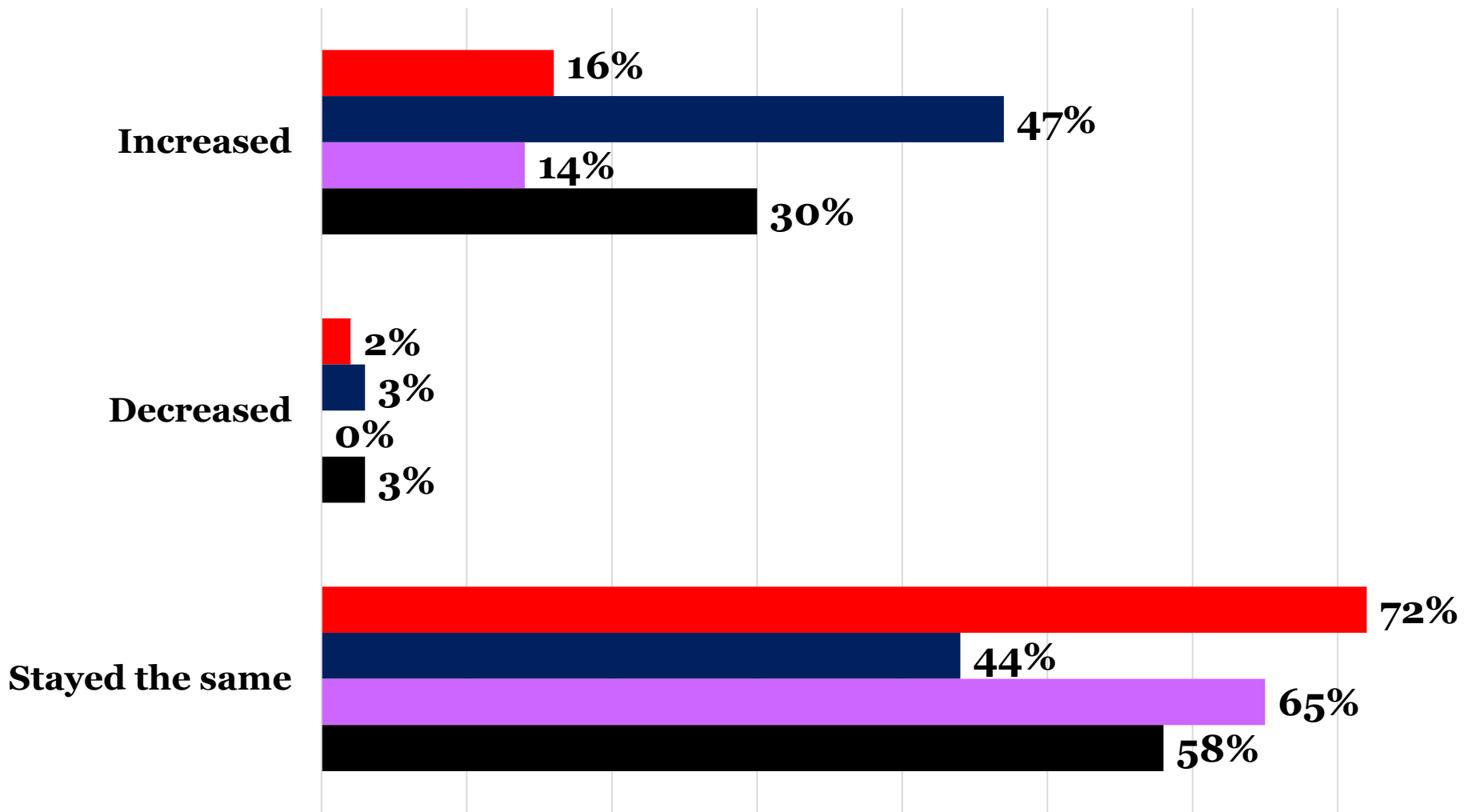
[Asked among those who said that the release of the tape did not change their mind about whom they were planning to vote for]

**As a result of the tape,
would you say that the
strength of your support for
your preferred candidate?**

[Asked among those who said that the release of the tape did not change their mind about whom they were planning to vote for]

As a result of the tape, would you say that the strength of your support for your preferred candidate?

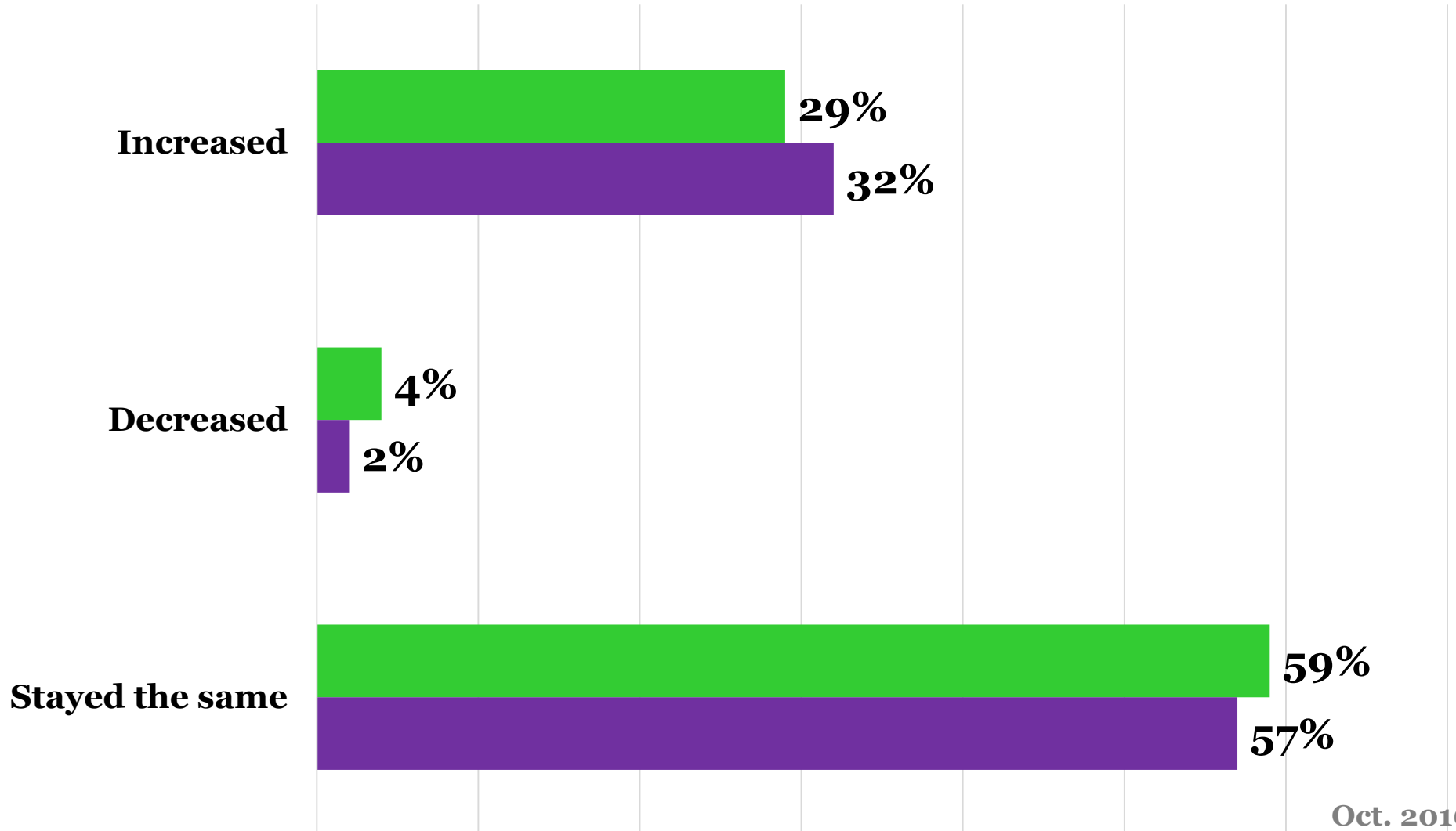
■ Republicans ■ Democrats ■ Independents ■ Total



[Asked among those who said that the release of the tape did not change their mind about whom they were planning to vote for]

As a result of the tape, would you say that the strength of your support for your preferred candidate?

Men Women



The College of Behavioral and Social Sciences

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