



**To:** Interested Parties  
**From:** Andrew Baumann and Maura Farrell, Global Strategy Group  
**Date:** September 27<sup>th</sup>, 2021  
**Re:** **Arizona Voters Overwhelmingly Support Robust Reconciliation Bill, Oppose Reducing Size and Scope of Plan**

A new survey from Global Strategy Group, conducted in partnership with the Sierra Club, finds that Arizona voters overwhelmingly support passing a robust, \$3.5 trillion reconciliation bill – even in the face of attacks from opponents – and oppose reducing the size and scope of the bill. Moreover, the survey shows that supporting the proposed legislation is a political winner for lawmakers, while those who oppose it put themselves at considerable risk.

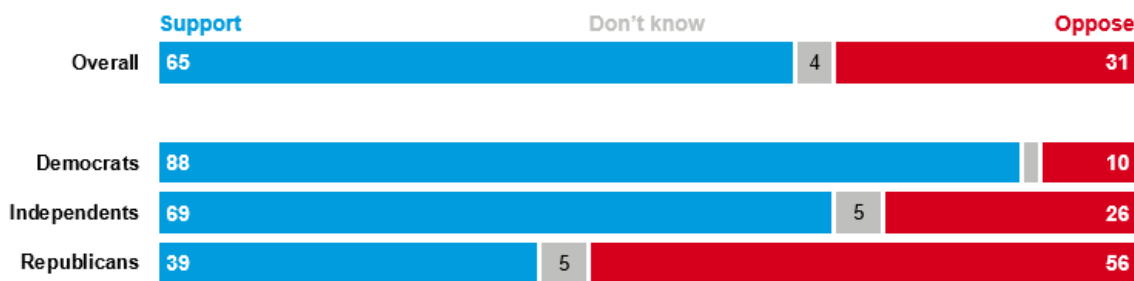
Arizona voters also overwhelmingly believe that climate change is already having a serious impact in Arizona, that investing in clean energy like solar would be a boost for the state’s economy, and that the country should make significant investments in clean energy as part of our efforts to rebuild the economy. So, it’s no surprise that they strongly support climate and clean energy related elements of the proposed reconciliation package like the bill’s Clean Energy Payment Program .

**Key Findings:**

**Arizona voters support the \$3.5 trillion Build Back Better reconciliation plan by a more than two-to-one margin. Support remains robust after arguments from supporters and opponents.**

- **Support for passing the infrastructure bill is broad and intense, including when voters are told the plan’s price tag and how it will be paid for.** When voters are introduced to the proposed legislation,<sup>1</sup> they overwhelmingly support it by a margin of 70% support to 26% oppose (including 46% who strongly support the proposed legislation). The margin remains strong (65% support/31% oppose) after voters are told that the legislation would cost \$3.5 trillion and be paid for by allowing Medicare to negotiate lower drug prices, increasing taxes on corporations and the top 2% of income earners, raising taxes on those earning over \$1 million a year from selling stocks and bonds, and cracking down on tax evasion.<sup>2</sup>

**Support for \$3.5 trillion legislation**



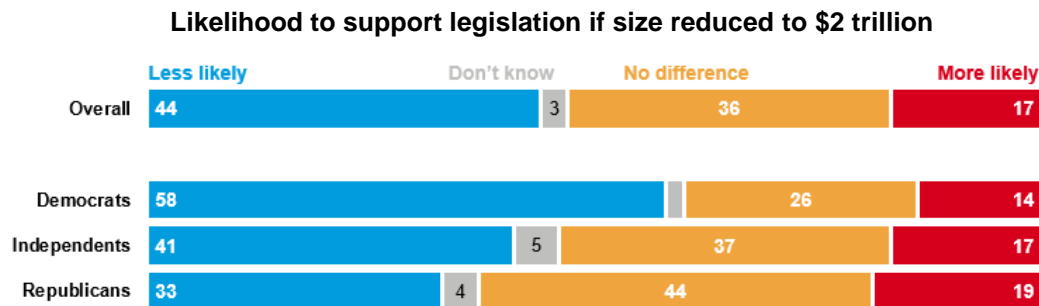
<sup>1</sup> *Question text:* As you may know, Congress is considering new legislation to provide paid family and medical leave, establish a universal Pre-K program, expand Medicare coverage for seniors to include dental, vision, and hearing coverage, lower health care costs by allowing Medicare to negotiate lower drug prices, and address climate change by creating incentives to move the country to clean energy like wind and solar. Do you support or oppose this legislation?

<sup>2</sup> *Question text:* Thinking more about this proposed legislation, it would cost \$3.5 trillion and be paid for by allowing Medicare to negotiate lower drug prices, increasing taxes on corporations and the top 2% of income earners, raising taxes on those earning over \$1 million a year from selling stocks and bonds, and cracking down on tax evasion. Knowing this, do you support or oppose this legislation?

- **Even when they hear arguments from opponents of the bill, Arizonans still want to pass it.** Support remains strong (62% support/33% oppose) after voters hear arguments from supporters and opponents of the proposed legislation.<sup>3</sup>

**Arizona voters oppose diluting the plan to reduce its price tag or make it bipartisan.**

- **Voters would be significantly LESS likely to support the legislation if it were watered down to reduce the cost to \$2 trillion.**<sup>4</sup> If certain provisions of the bill were eliminated in order to reduce the price tag, including encouraging clean energy and addressing climate change, almost half of Arizona voters say they would be less likely to support the bill, while fewer than a fifth would be more likely to support it (17% more likely/44% less likely/36% no difference). Not only would Democrats and independents be less likely, on net, to support the bill if it were watered down to reduce costs, but Republican voters would be as well.



- **Passing a robust version of the plan is widely preferred to passing diluted legislation that has bipartisan support.** A majority of voters believe that Congress should pass a robust plan that will help rebuild a stronger economy and address climate change and rising costs of living *even if the plan does not have bipartisan support* rather than pass a smaller plan that does less to rebuild, address climate change, and help people deal with the rising cost of living but has bipartisan support in Congress (58% robust plan vs. 31% bipartisan plan). This holds true among

<sup>3</sup> Question text: Thinking again about the full \$3.5 trillion plan, below are some statements from supporters and opponents of the proposed legislation:

Supporters of the plan say that the pandemic has cost millions of people their livelihoods and left families struggling with the rising prices. This plan will help rebuild an economy that works better for regular Americans while creating tens of millions of good-paying jobs, preventing the worst impacts of climate change, and lowering prices for prescription drugs, health insurance, and electricity. And it's paid for by making sure big corporations and the wealthy pay their fair share, so it won't add a penny to the debt or raise taxes on small businesses or families making less than \$400,000.

Opponents of the plan say that Joe Biden, Nancy Pelosi, Alexandria Ocasio-Cortez, and the Democrats have already spent \$6 trillion on COVID recovery, stimulus, and other social programs which has led to rising inflation and record price increases for working families. This plan to spend an additional \$3.5 trillion on a liberal wish list of wasteful social welfare programs will make inflation even worse while raising taxes on working families and small businesses and leaving our kids and grandkids even further in debt to countries like China.

One final time, after hearing these statements, do you support or oppose this legislation to provide paid family and medical leave, establish a universal Pre-K program, expand Medicare coverage for seniors to include dental, vision, and hearing coverage, lower health care costs by allowing Medicare to negotiate lower drug prices, and address climate change by creating incentives to move the country to clean energy like wind and solar?

<sup>4</sup> Question text: As you may know, some people in Congress have proposed cutting the size of this legislation from \$3.5 trillion to \$2 trillion by ELIMINATING some of the proposals to expand Medicare benefits to include dental, hearing, and vision; upgrade the VA; help Americans deal with the cost of childcare, long-term care, and health care; encourage clean energy; and address climate change. If Congress were to cut the size of this legislation by ELIMINATING these proposals, would you be more likely to support the legislation, less likely to support the legislation, or would it make no difference to how much you support the legislation?

independent voters – over half (55%) would prefer Congress to pass a more robust plan rather than passing a watered-down version with bipartisan support (34%).

**Voters are poised to reward supporters of the plan and punish opponents.**

- **Democrats who support the reconciliation proposal see a significant boost in vote preference.** Voters are 17 points more likely to vote for a Democrat who supports the proposed legislation than a Republican who opposes it. This is an 18-point lift from the generic ballot which has Democratic and Republican congressional candidates basically tied (41% Democrat/42% Republican). We have tested the potential political impact of proposals in this way for several years and this is among the largest impact we have ever measured. The lift for a supportive Democrat candidate is particularly large with independents (+22 lift), Republicans (+25 lift), and white women (+24 lift).

**Legislative vote with bill support**

	Overall	Dem.	Ind.	Rep.	White women
Democrat who <b>supports</b> proposed legislation	51	82	51	20	48
Republican who <b>opposes</b> proposed legislation	34	8	27	67	35
<i>NET Dem</i>	<b>+17</b>	<b>+74</b>	<b>+24</b>	<b>-47</b>	<b>+13</b>
<i>NET Generic Democrat</i>	<b>-1</b>	<b>+73</b>	<b>+2</b>	<b>-72</b>	<b>-11</b>
<i>Total Lift vs. Straight Generic Ballot</i>	<b>+18</b>	<b>+1</b>	<b>+22</b>	<b>+25</b>	<b>+24</b>

- **Democrats who oppose the proposal could see an even more significant penalty.** When we flip the script and pit a Democratic candidate who OPPOSES the proposal against a Republican candidate who supports it, the impact is even larger as the Democratic candidate trails by a staggering 31 points. Democratic voters in Arizona would be particularly likely to punish a Democratic candidate who opposed the legislation, shifting from a +73 margin on the straight generic ballot to a -28 margin IN FAVOR OF A REPUBLICAN who support the legislation against a Democrat who opposes it. This -101-point net shift is the single largest shift we have ever seen in a demographic group on this kind of experiment.

**Legislative vote with bill support**

	Overall	Dem.	Ind.	Rep.	White women
Democrat who <b>opposes</b> proposed legislation	24	27	22	22	17
Republican who <b>supports</b> proposed legislation	55	55	51	59	58
<i>NET Dem</i>	<b>-31</b>	<b>-28</b>	<b>-29</b>	<b>-37</b>	<b>-41</b>
<i>NET Generic Democrat</i>	<b>-1</b>	<b>+73</b>	<b>+2</b>	<b>-72</b>	<b>-11</b>
<i>Total Lift vs. Straight Generic Ballot</i>	<b>-30</b>	<b>-101</b>	<b>-31</b>	<b>+35</b>	<b>-30</b>

**Arizona voters overwhelmingly believe that climate change is having a serious impact on the state and support investments in clean energy...** A majority of Arizona voters believe that climate change is already having a serious impact on the state (72% agree/25% disagree, including 77% of independents and 48% of Republicans who agree). An even larger proportion of voters think Arizona



should be a leader in the development, deployment, and export of solar energy (86% agree/8% disagree) and that expanding solar energy would create jobs in the state (77% agree/15% disagree).

### Climate Statements

	Agree	Disagree	Net Agree
Arizona should be a leader in the development, deployment, and export of solar energy.	86	8	+78
Expanding solar energy in Arizona would boost our economy and create more good jobs in the state.	77	15	+62
With recent droughts, heatwaves, and fires, climate change is already having a serious impact on Arizona.	72	25	+47
America should make significant investments in clean energy as part of our efforts to rebuild the economy.	71	24	+47

**...So, it's no surprise that voters support the climate elements of the reconciliation bill, including the CEPP.** Voters are broadly supportive of all elements tested in the bill, climate or otherwise. Every component of proposed legislation tested but one received support at a margin of two-to-one or better, including replacing 100% of the lead pipes in America, hiring workers to restore public lands and combat climate change, and expanding access to public transit. A strong majority of voters support the Clean Energy Payment Plan in particular, which will create incentives to help utilities reach a target of providing 80% of their electricity from clean energy sources by 2030.

### Parts of the proposed legislation

	Support	Oppose	Net Support
Upgrading Veterans Affairs hospitals and medical facilities	91	8	+83
Expanding access to affordable long-term care for the elderly and people with disabilities	88	11	+77
Replacing 100% of the lead pipes that are still being used to deliver water to 8 million American homes, including many in Arizona	86	11	+75
Hiring workers to restore public lands, reduce the impact of droughts, and plant shade trees to reduce temperatures	84	15	+69
Expanding Medicare benefits to include dental, vision, and hearing coverage	83	15	+68
Increasing access to public transit and passenger rail	76	21	+55
Retrofitting schools, homes, and businesses to make them more energy efficient	76	22	+54
Providing tax credits to help families lower the cost of childcare	75	23	+52
<b>Creating incentives that will help US utilities reach a target of providing 80% of their electricity from clean energy sources like wind and solar by the year 2030</b>	73	26	+47
Protecting the Arctic National Wildlife Refuge from oil and gas drilling	72	25	+47
Transitioning school buses from diesel-powered vehicles to electric, zero-emission buses	67	28	+39
Providing consumers with tax credits to encourage the purchase of zero-emission vehicles	62	33	+29

#### ABOUT THIS POLL:

Global Strategy Group conducted a telephone and online survey of 809 registered voters in Arizona from September 15<sup>th</sup> to September 20<sup>th</sup>, 2021. The survey had a margin of error of +/-3.4%. Care has been taken to ensure the geographic, political, and demographic divisions of the population of registered voters are properly represented.