

Healthier United North Carolina Statewide Survey

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Strategic Partners Solutions, LLC



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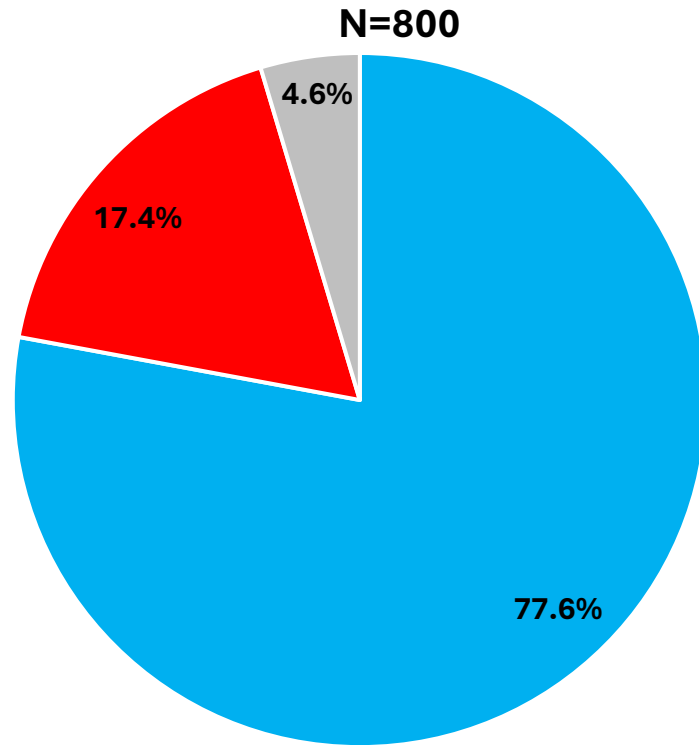
Methodology

The opinion survey of 800 registered voters living in North Carolina was conducted via telephone by professional interviewers over the course of March 8th and 9th, 2026. The survey included 30% landline interviews and 70% cell phone interviews. All interviews were conducted by live-phone interviewers, no automated or on-line interviews were conducted. Interview selection was random within predetermined election units via a computer-generated random selection process. These units were structured to correlate with actual voter participation from past midterm/Presidential General Election cycles.

The poll of 800 likely general election voters has an accuracy of +/-3.46% at a 95% confidence interval.

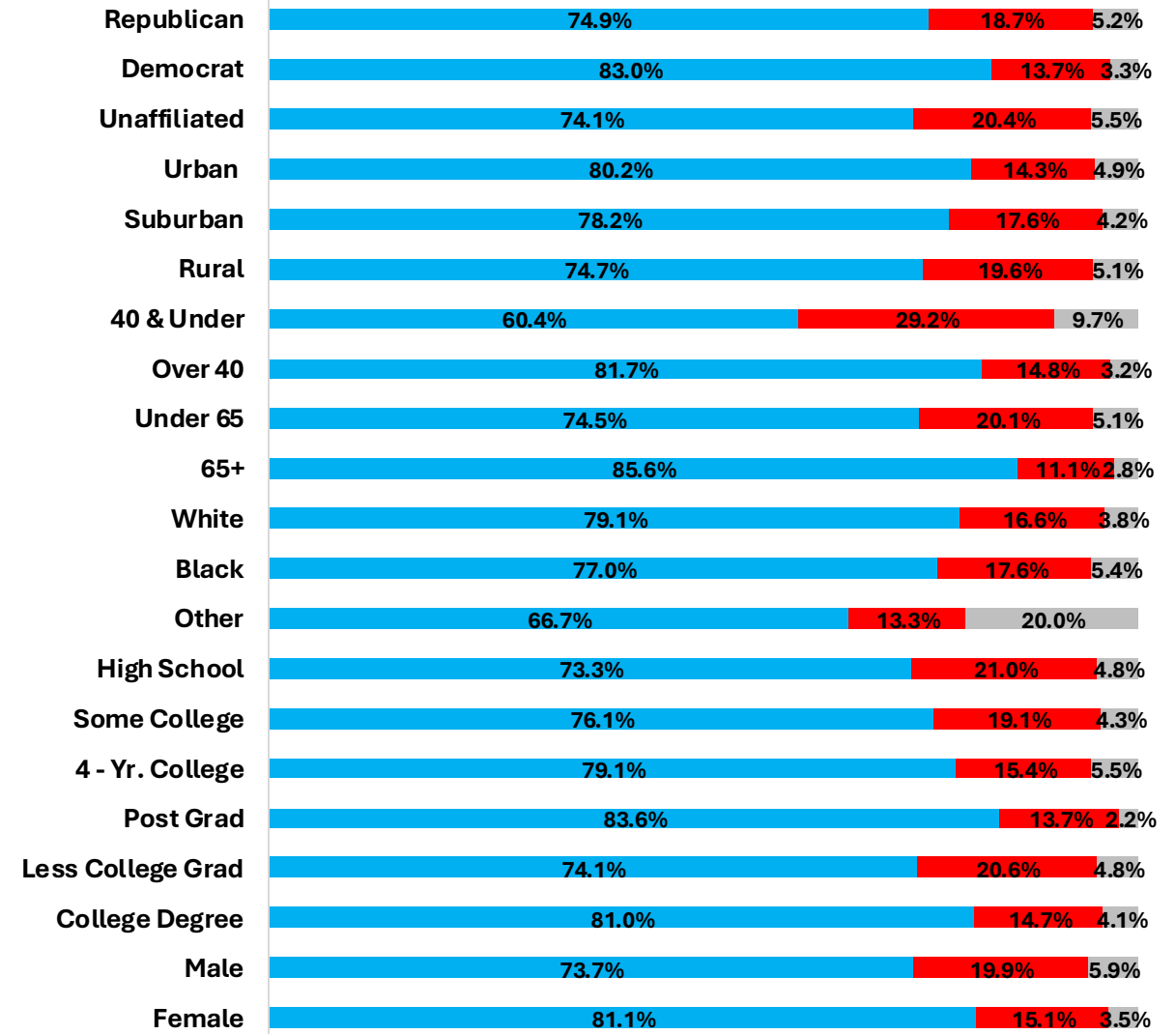
Morgan Jackson and Paul Shumaker served as project managers and Hays Shumaker as research coordinator.

Voter Intensity – On a Scale of 1 to 10 Rate your level of Interest

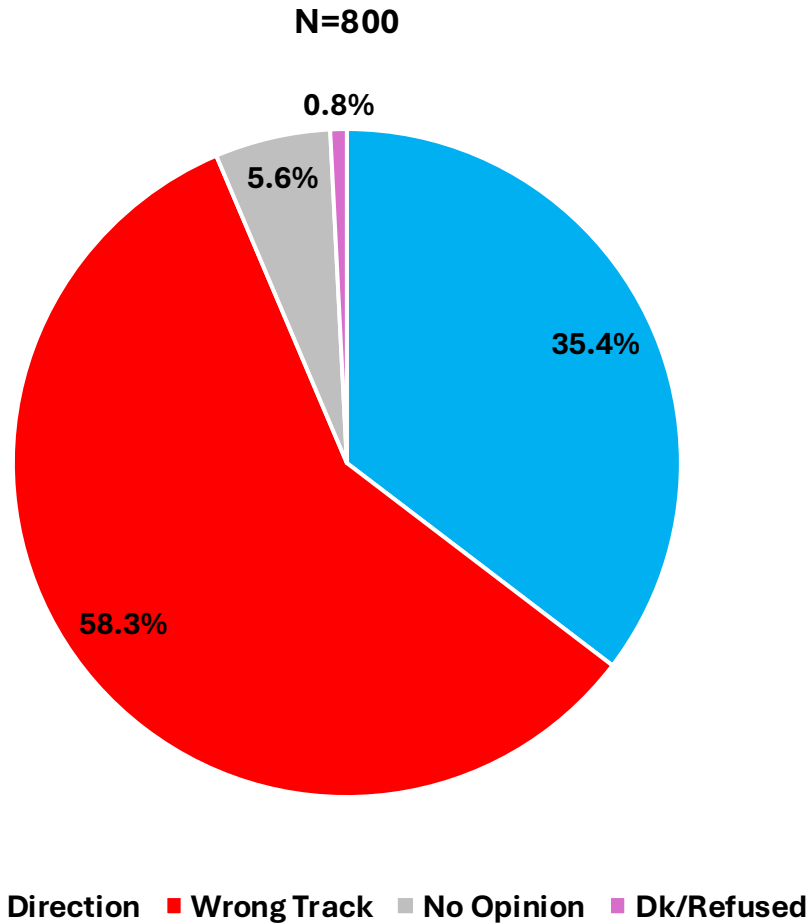


■ (8-10) ■ (4-7) ■ (1-3)

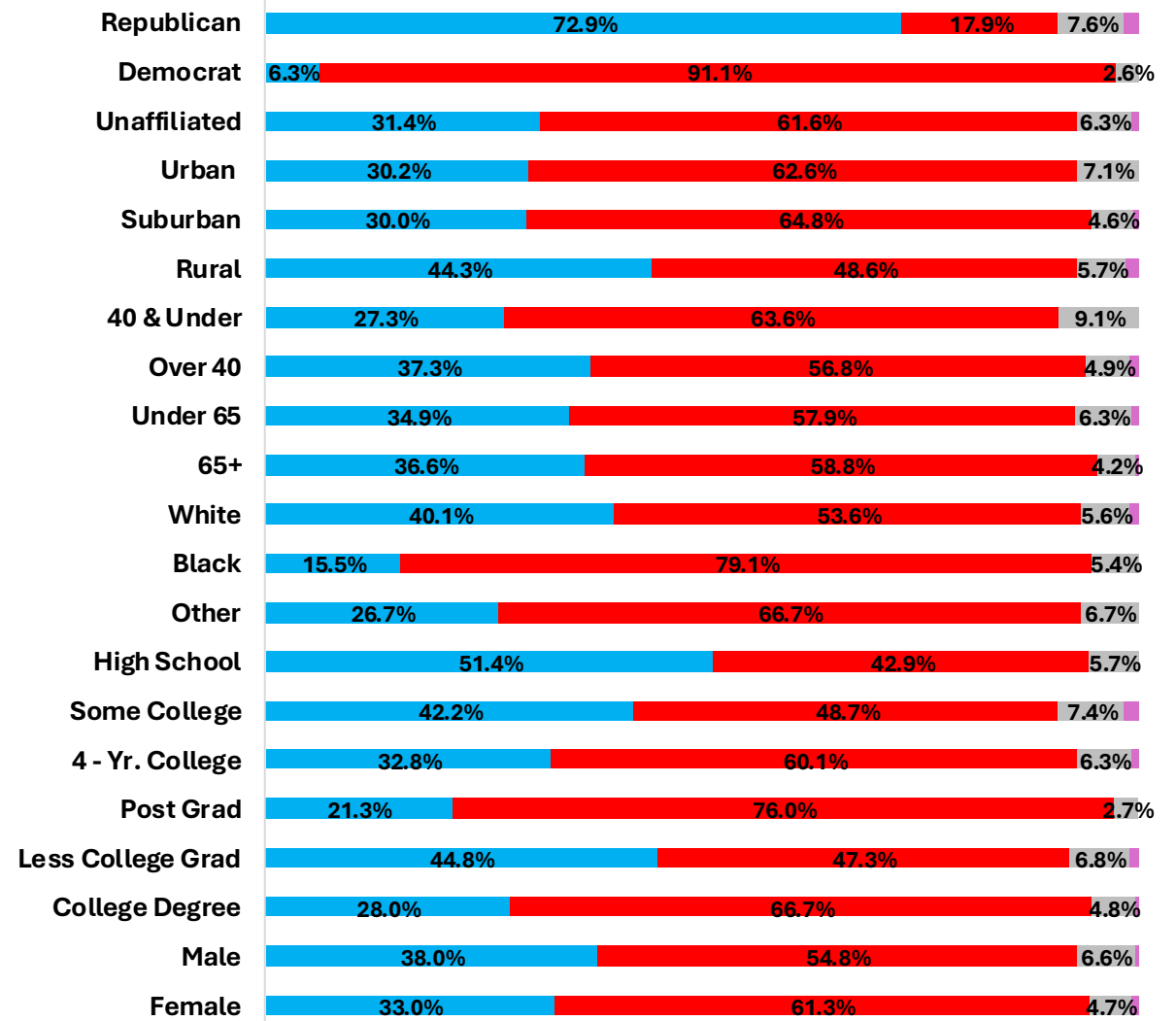
	10
Republican	58.6%
Democrat	73.1%
Unaffiliated	60.0%



Would you say that things in the country are going in the right direction, or have they pretty seriously gotten off on the wrong track?



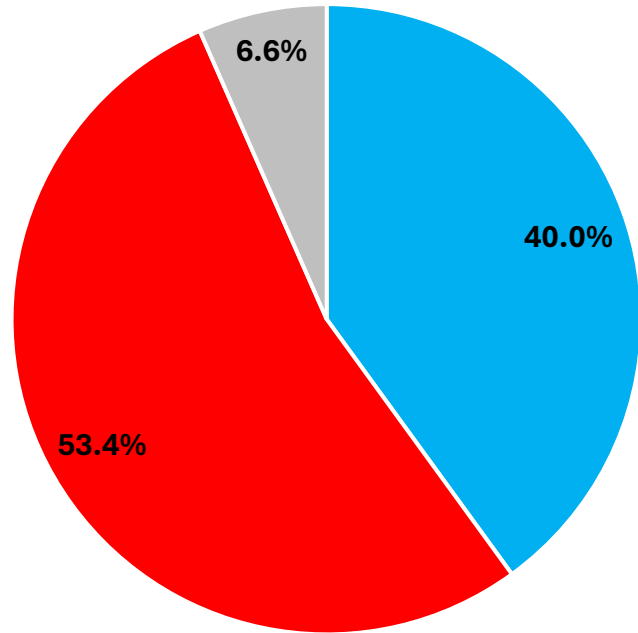
	10 Voters	Generic D Voter	Generic R Voter
Right	33.9%	4.6%	79.8%
Wrong	62.2%	93.6%	11.9%



Please tell me whether you have a favorable or unfavorable opinion of each of the following. If you have no opinion or have never of the person, then just say so.

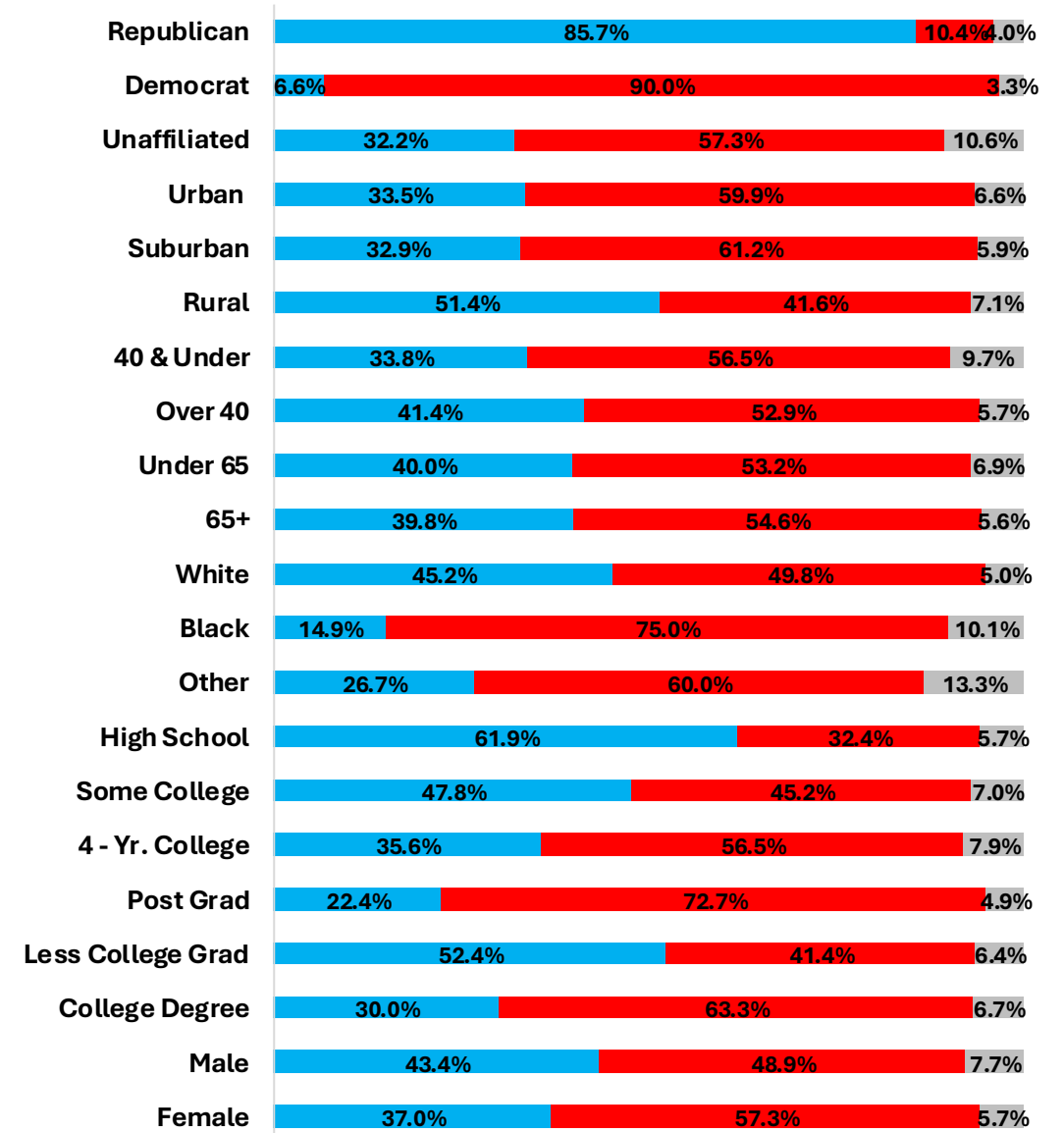
“Donald Trump”

N=800



■ Favorable ■ Unfavorable ■ No Opinion

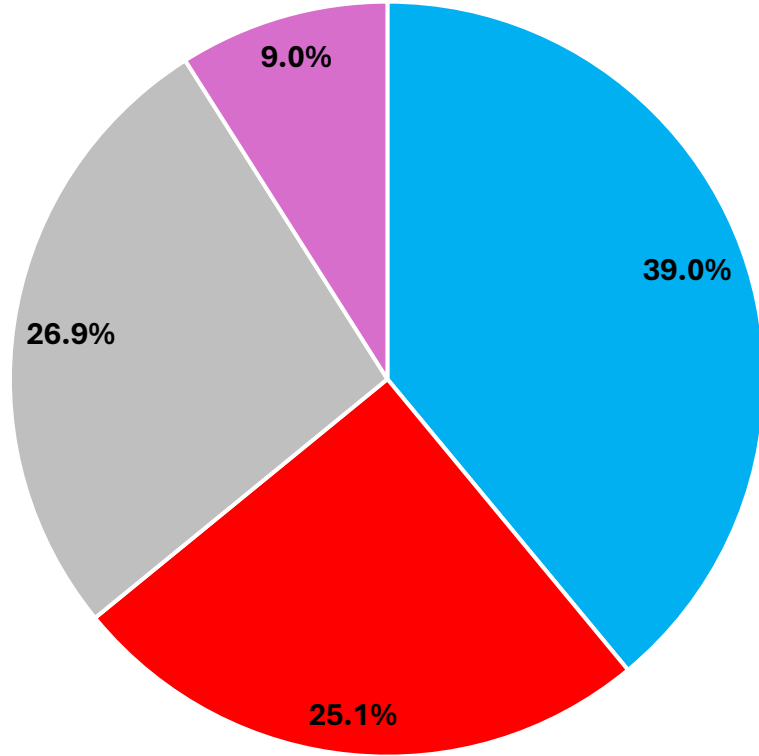
	10 Voters	Generic D Voter	Generic R Voter
Favorable	37.2%	3.4%	90.4%
Unfavorable	57.5%	93.0%	6.3%



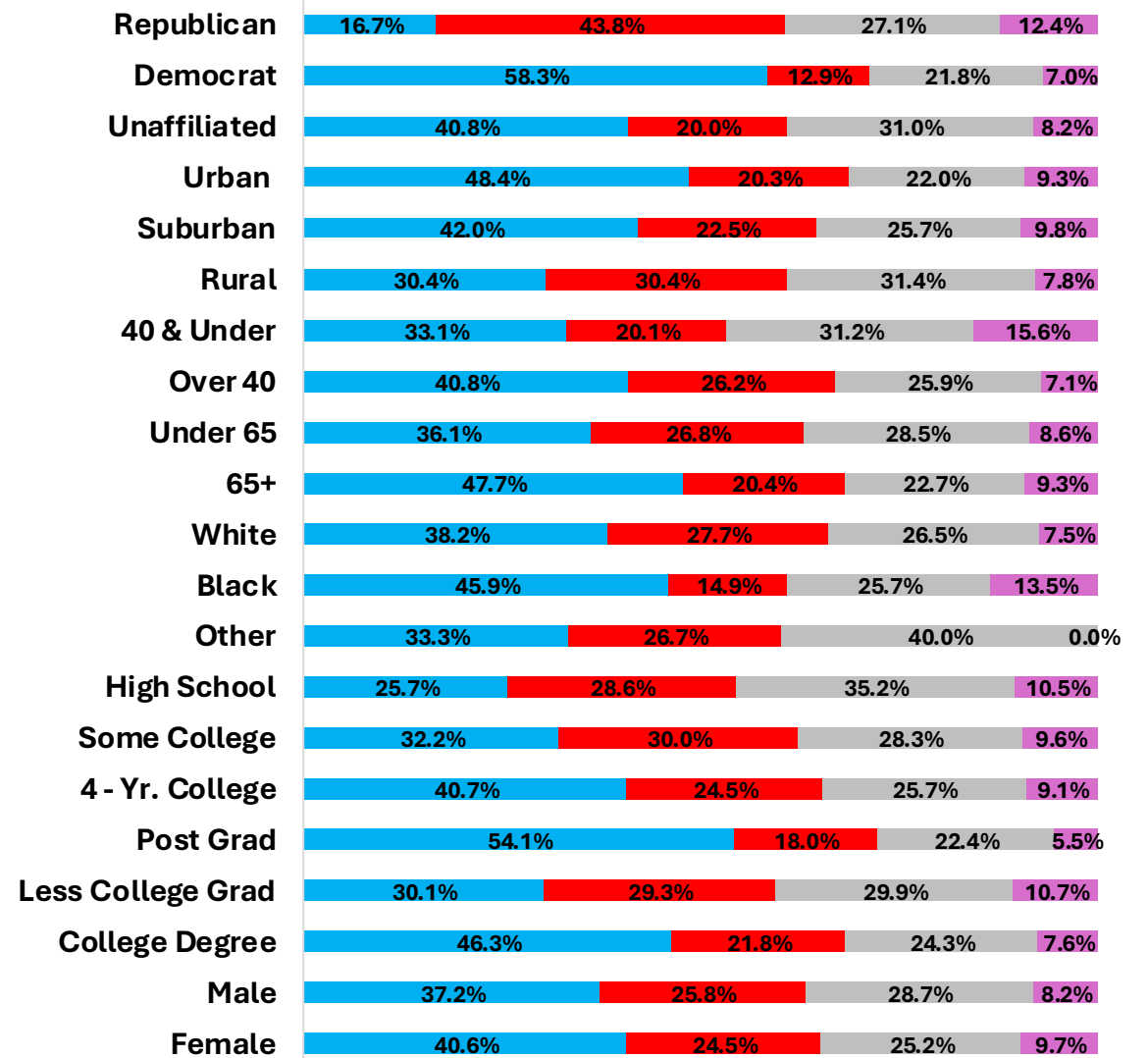
Please tell me whether you have a favorable or unfavorable opinion of each of the following. If you have no opinion or have never of the person, then just say so.

“Josh Stein”

N=800



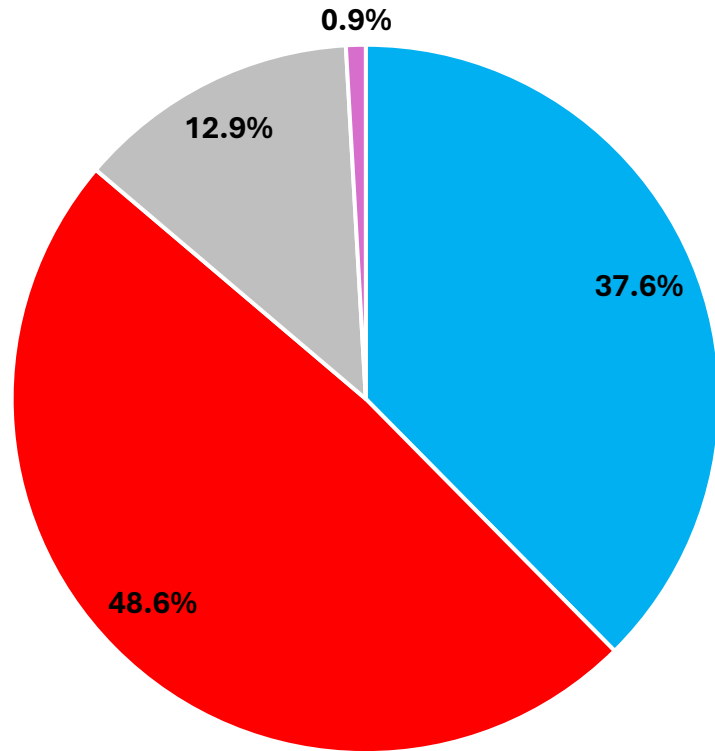
■ Favorable ■ Unfavorable ■ No Opinion ■ Never Heard of



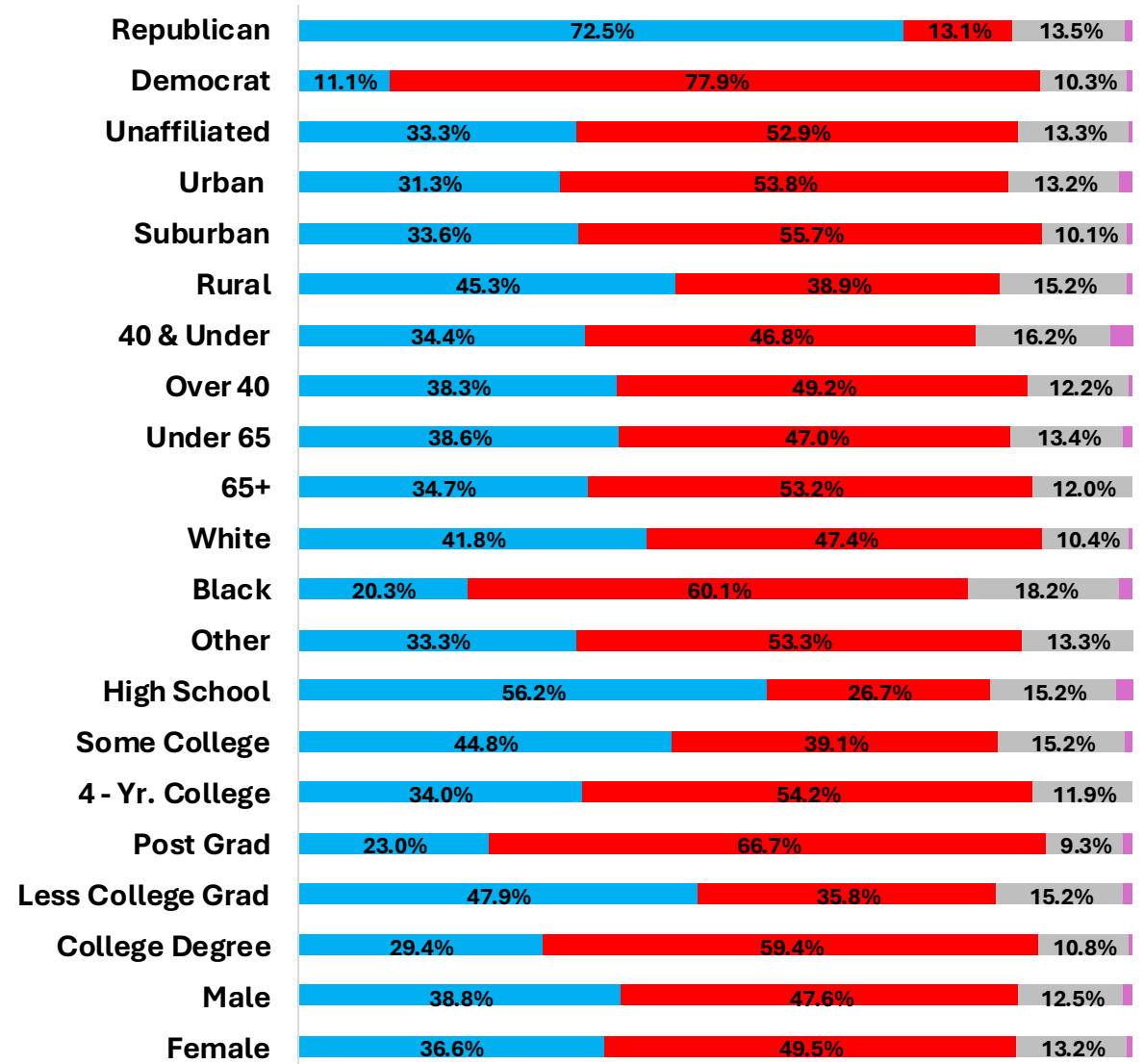
Please tell me whether you have a favorable or unfavorable opinion of each of the following. If you have no opinion or have never of the person, then just say so.

“Robert F. Kennedy Jr.”

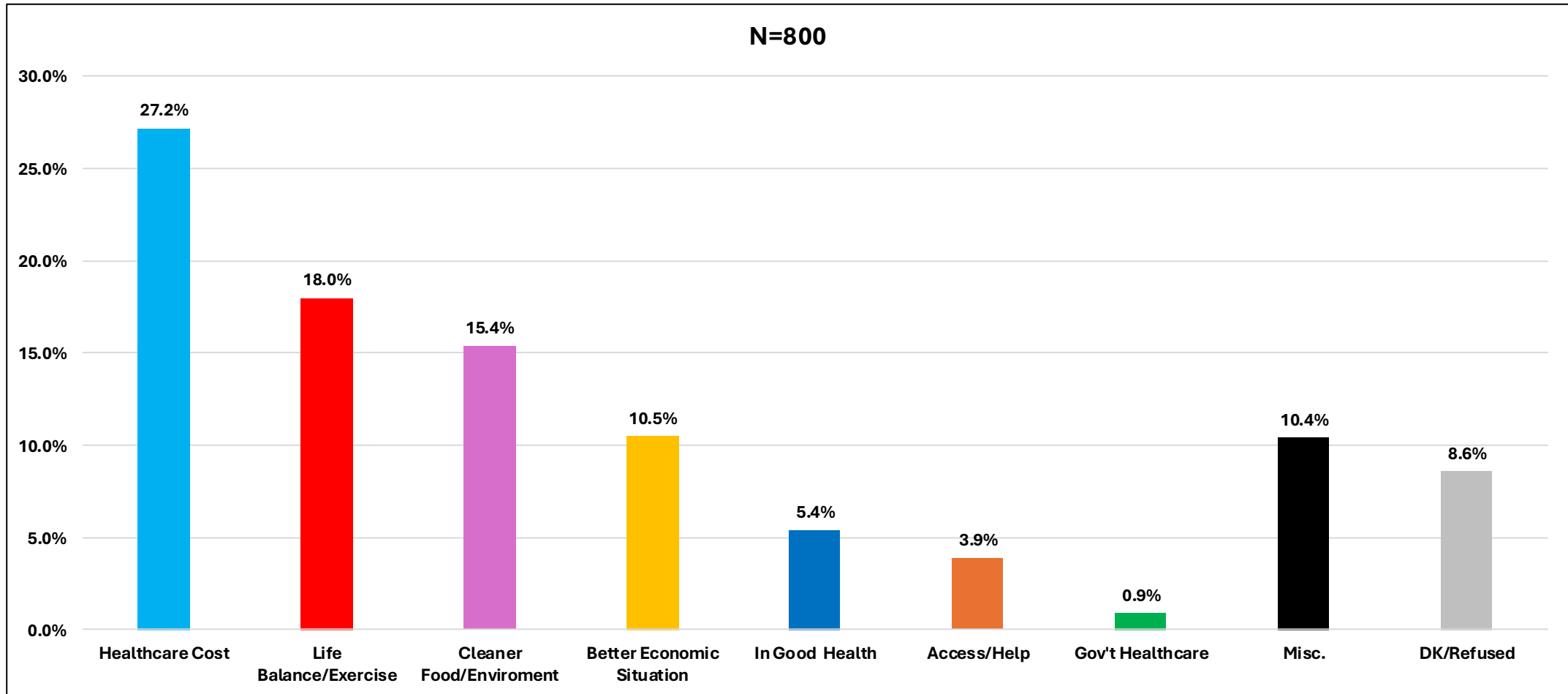
N=800



■ Favorable ■ Unfavorable ■ No Opinion ■ Never Heard of



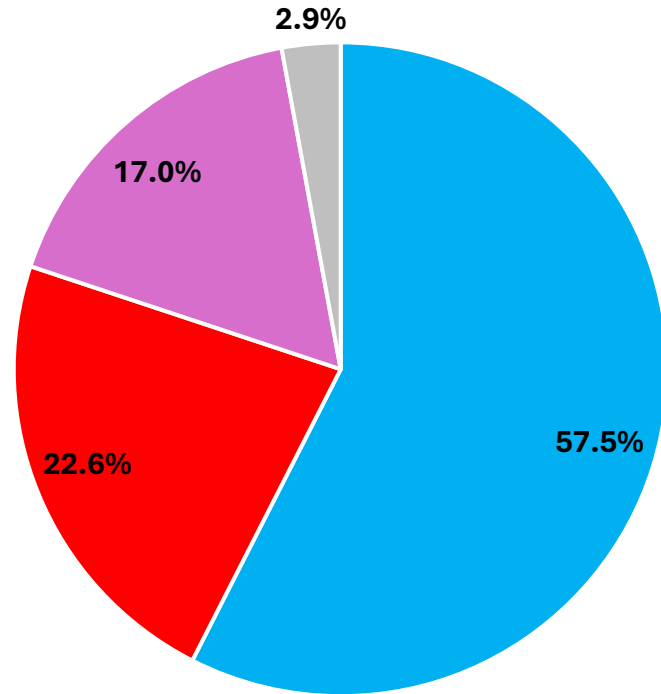
When it comes to improving or maintaining good health, what would you say you need more of in your life to reach your goals? (Open-Ended)



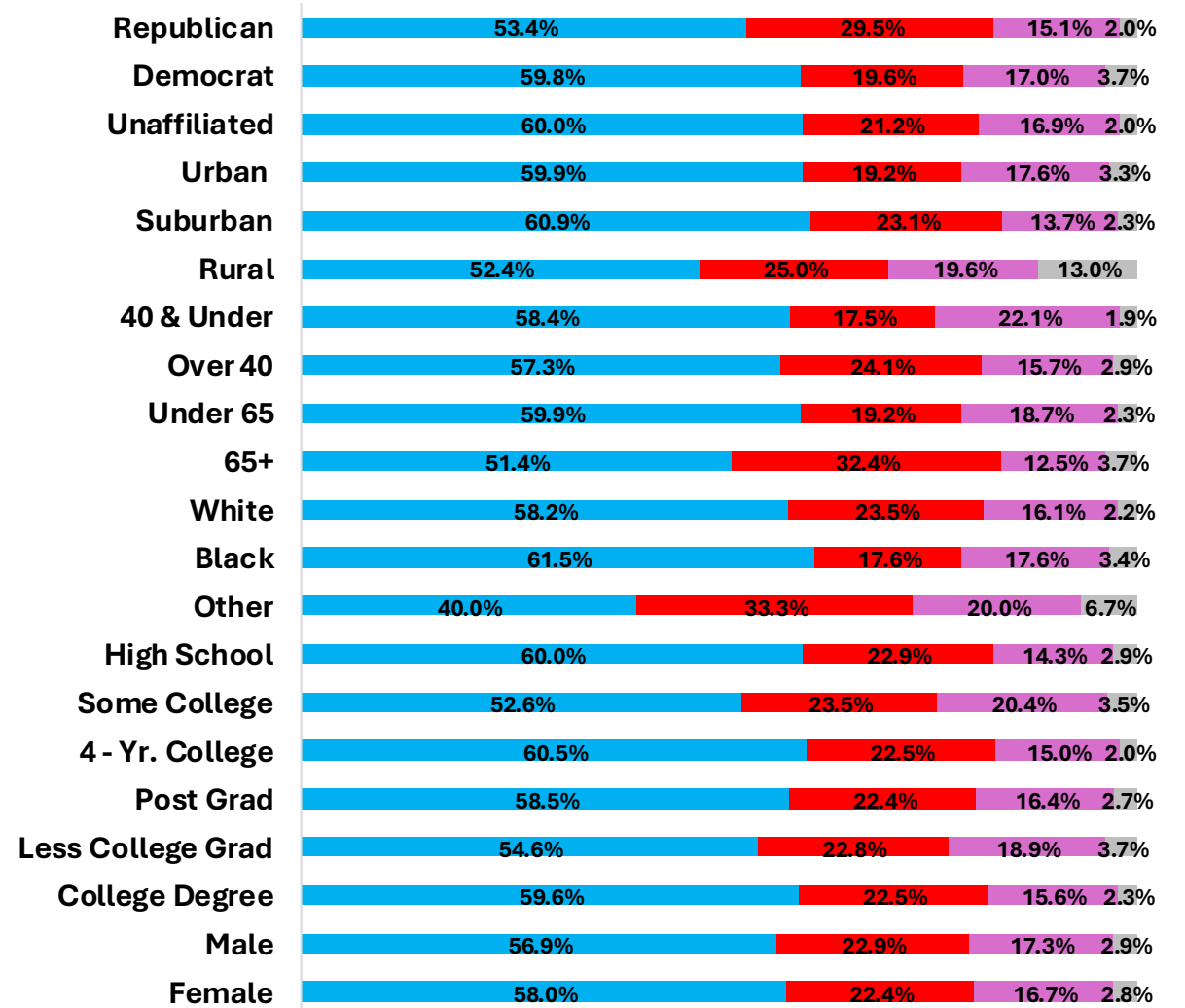
And when it comes to the affordability of healthcare for you and your family. Which one of the following statements do you think best represents your opinion?

1. I'm satisfied with what I am paying.
2. I think the costs are too high, but I pay anyway.
3. The costs are so high that I've skipped needed health care.

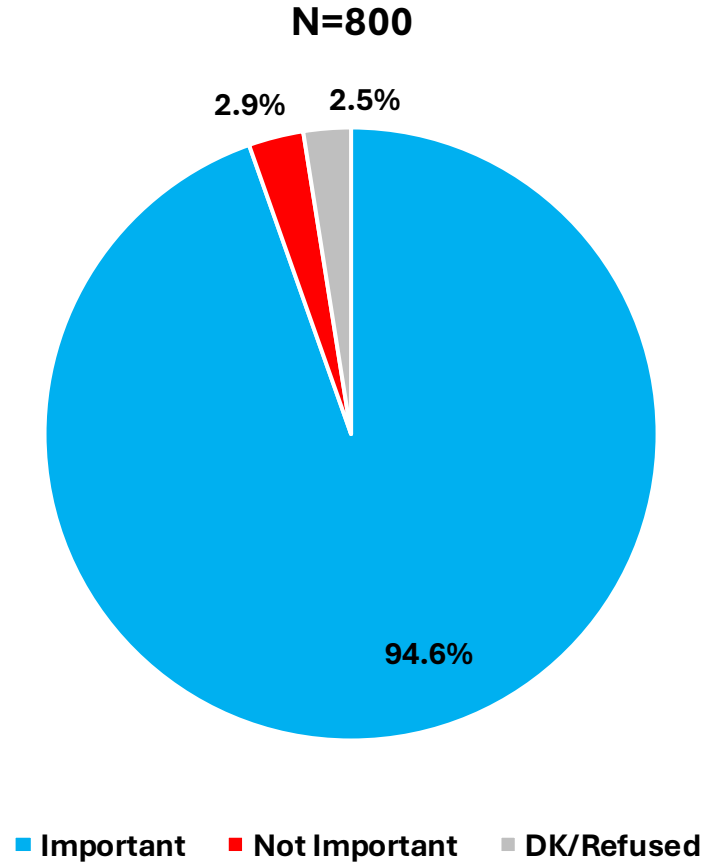
N=800



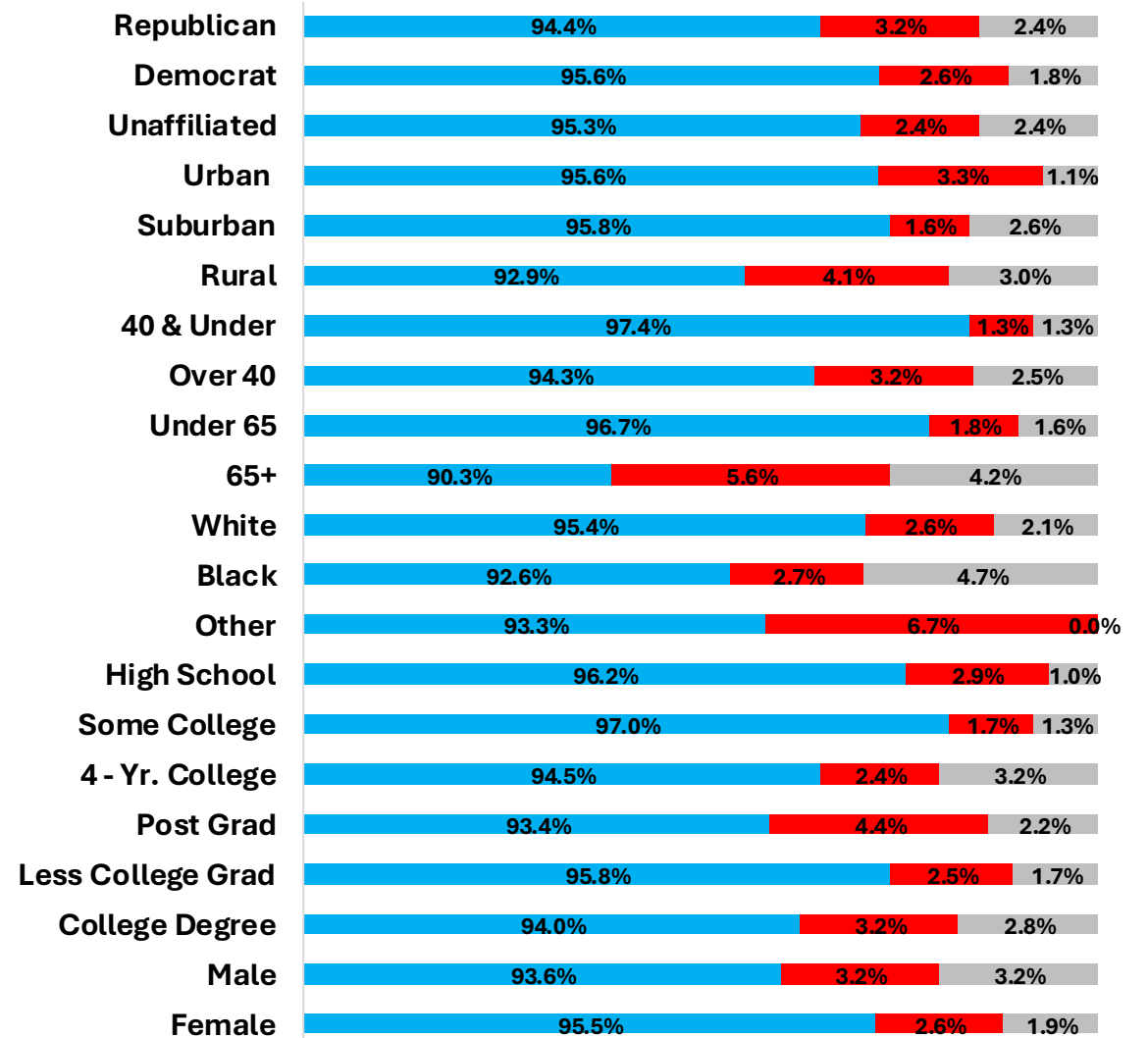
■ Too High/Pay Anyway
 ■ Satisfied
 ■ So High/ Skipped Care
 ■ DK/Refused



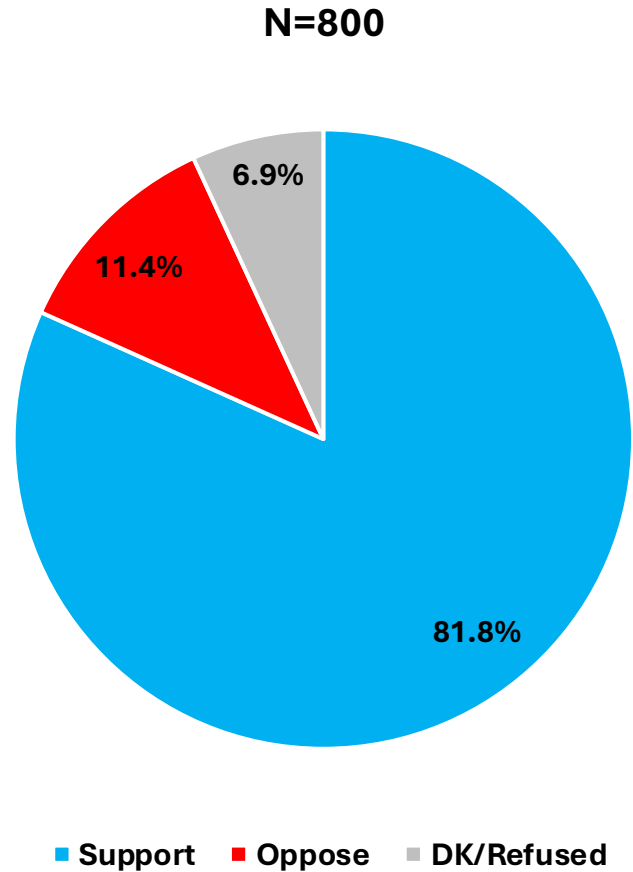
Medicaid is a program funded by the state and federal governments to provide healthcare for low-income residents and people with disabilities. How important do you think Medicaid is in helping to provide access to healthcare for residents in your community? Would you say it is very important, somewhat important, somewhat not important, or strongly not important?



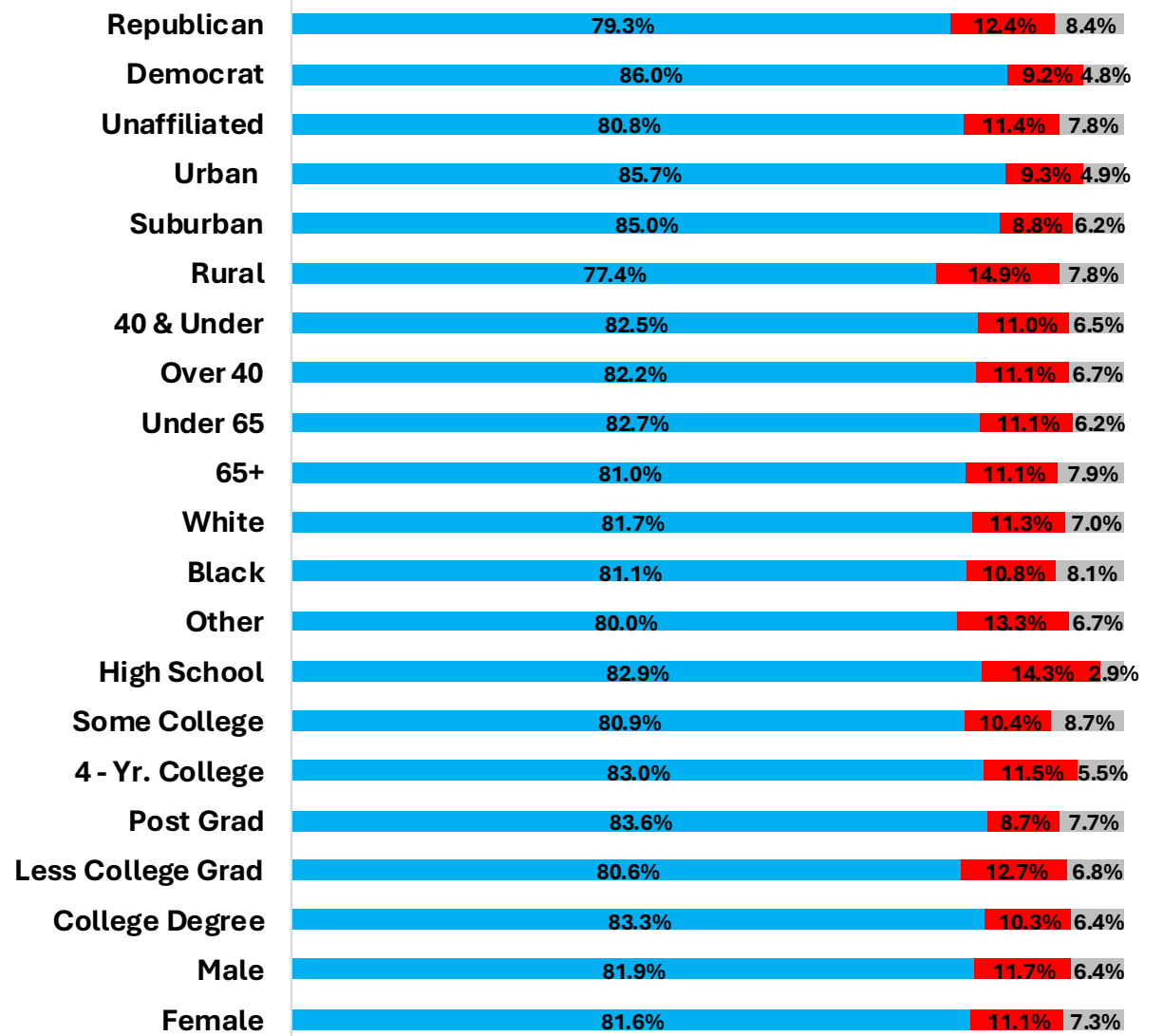
Very Important	80.0%
Somewhat Important	14.6%
Somewhat Not Important	1.8%
Very Not Important	1.1%



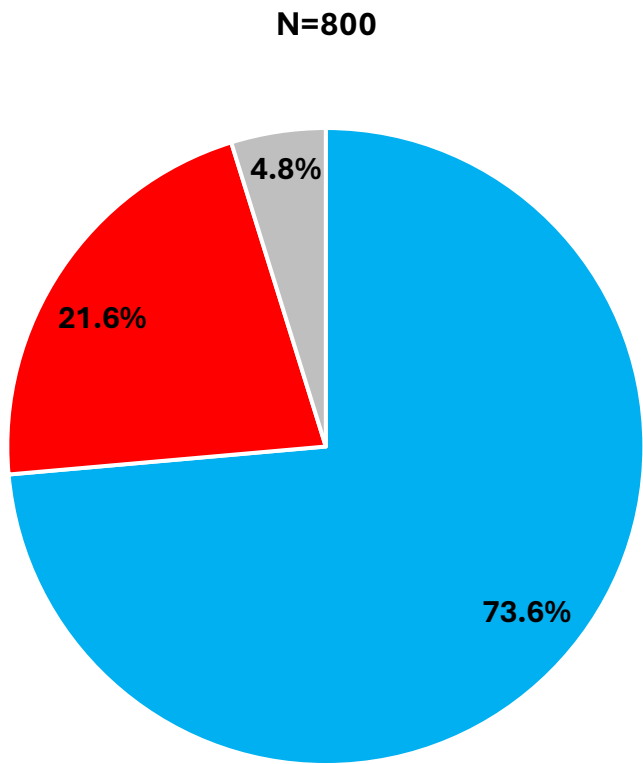
The State Legislature is debating the Medicaid program. The program has not adjusted payments for dentists since 2008, leading most dentists to refuse to accept Medicaid patients. Currently Medicaid pays roughly one-third of the patient cost. Do you favor or oppose raising the payment levels so that those who rely on Medicaid will have greater access to dental care?



Strongly Support	60.4%
Somewhat Support	21.4%
Strongly Oppose	4.6%
Somewhat Oppose	6.8%

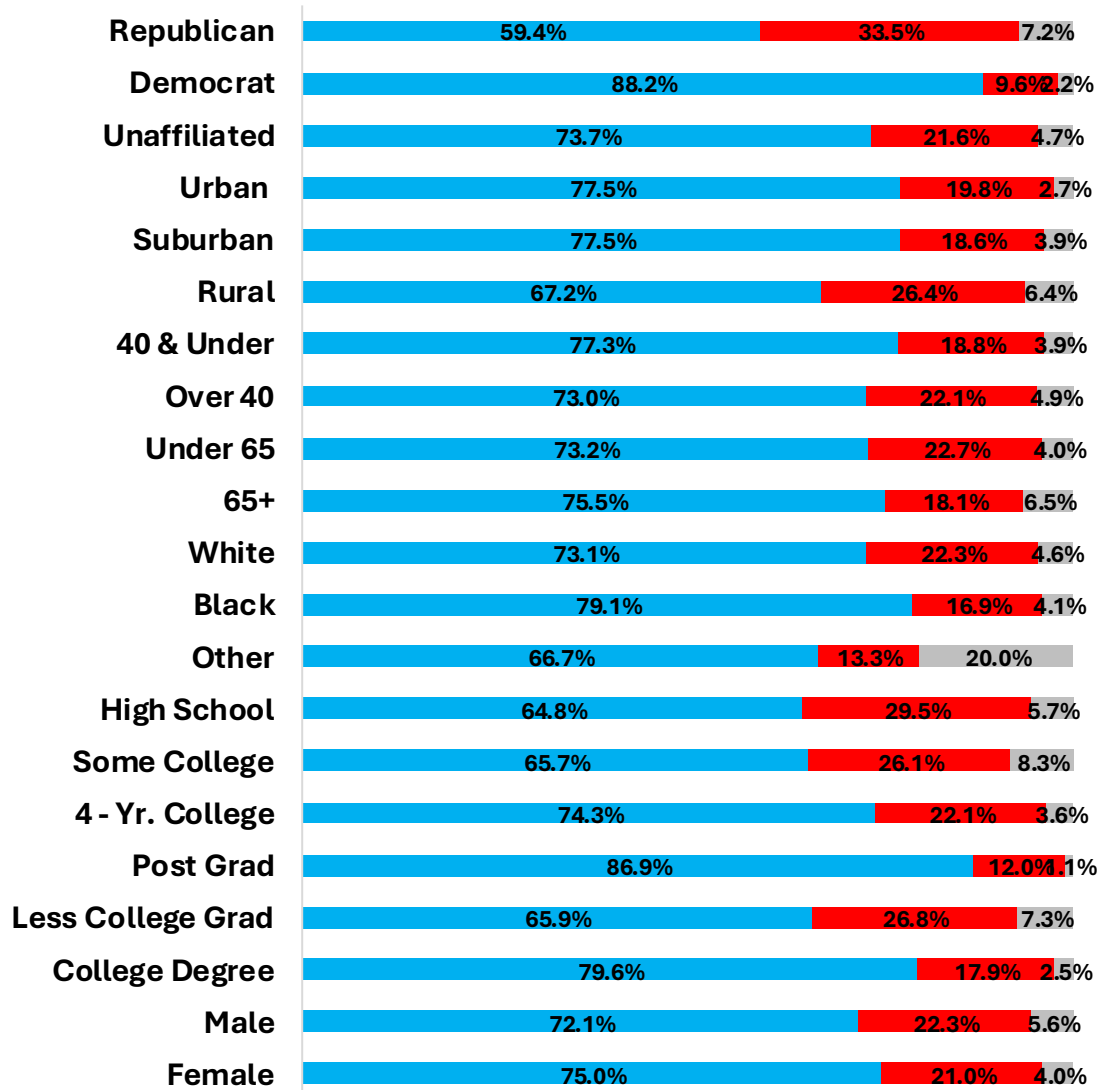


When it comes to the use of vaccines in America's overall public health system, would you agree or disagree that they have been generally safe and effective in their use?

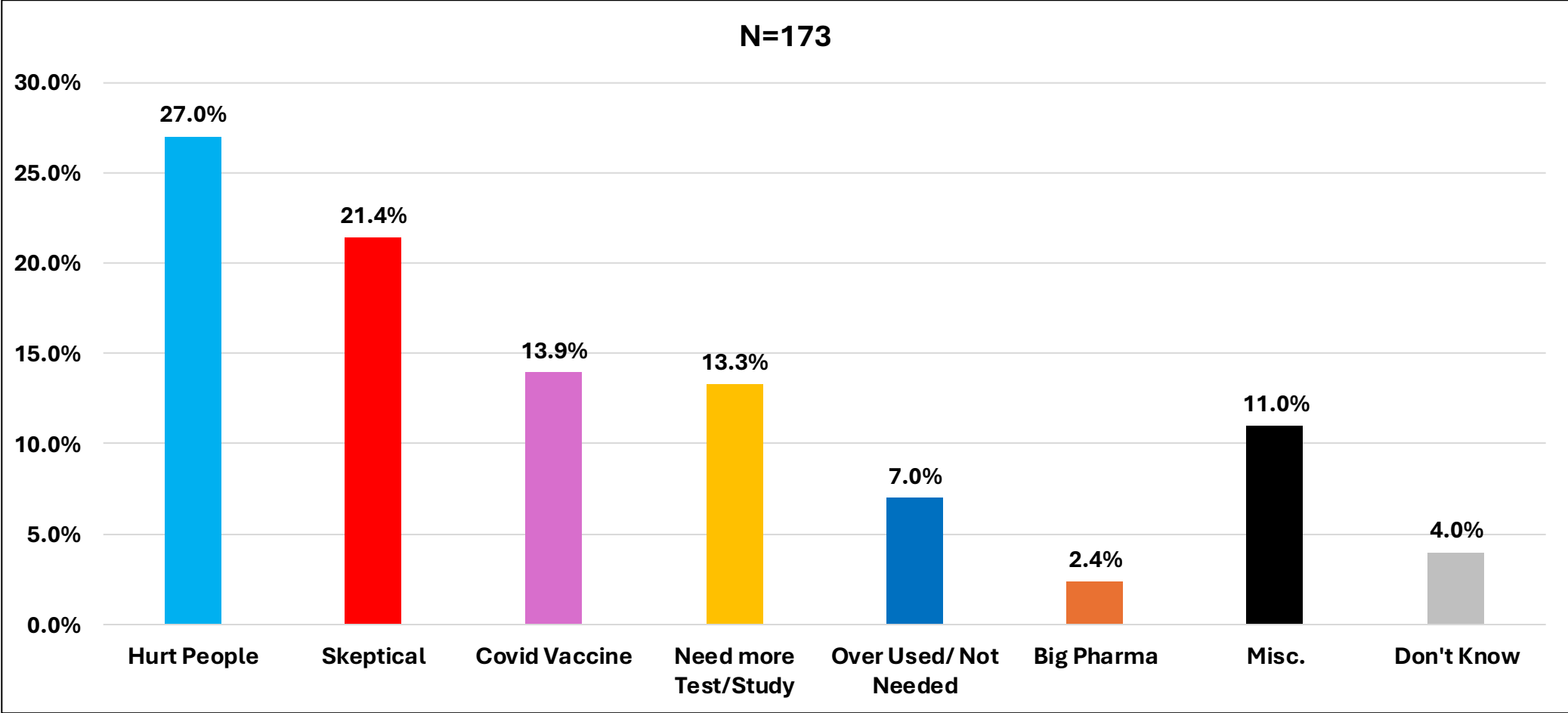


■ Agree ■ Disagree ■ DK/Refused

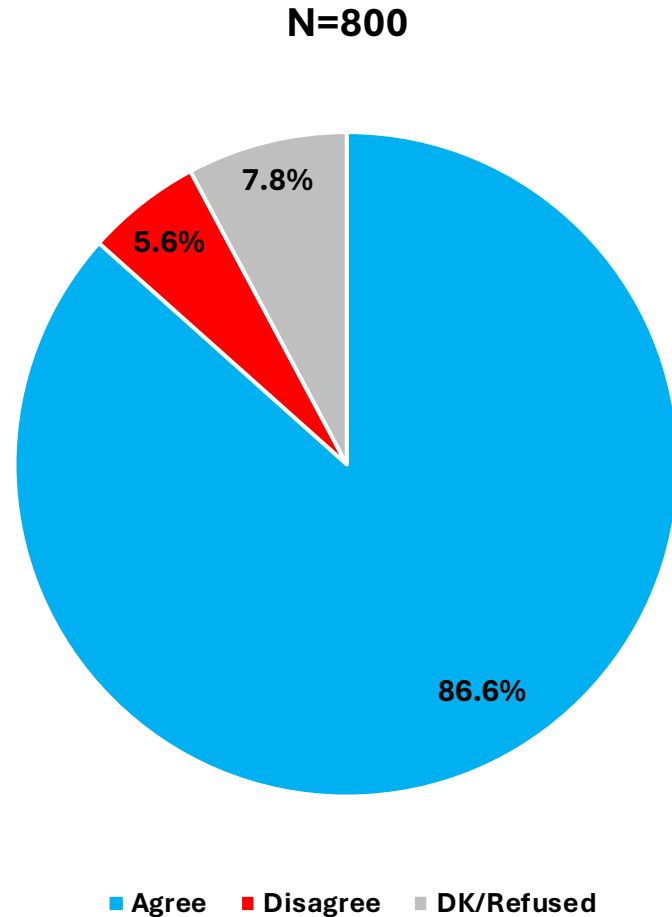
Strongly Agree	51.3%
Somewhat Agree	22.4%
Strongly Disagree	9.1%
Somewhat Disagree	12.5%



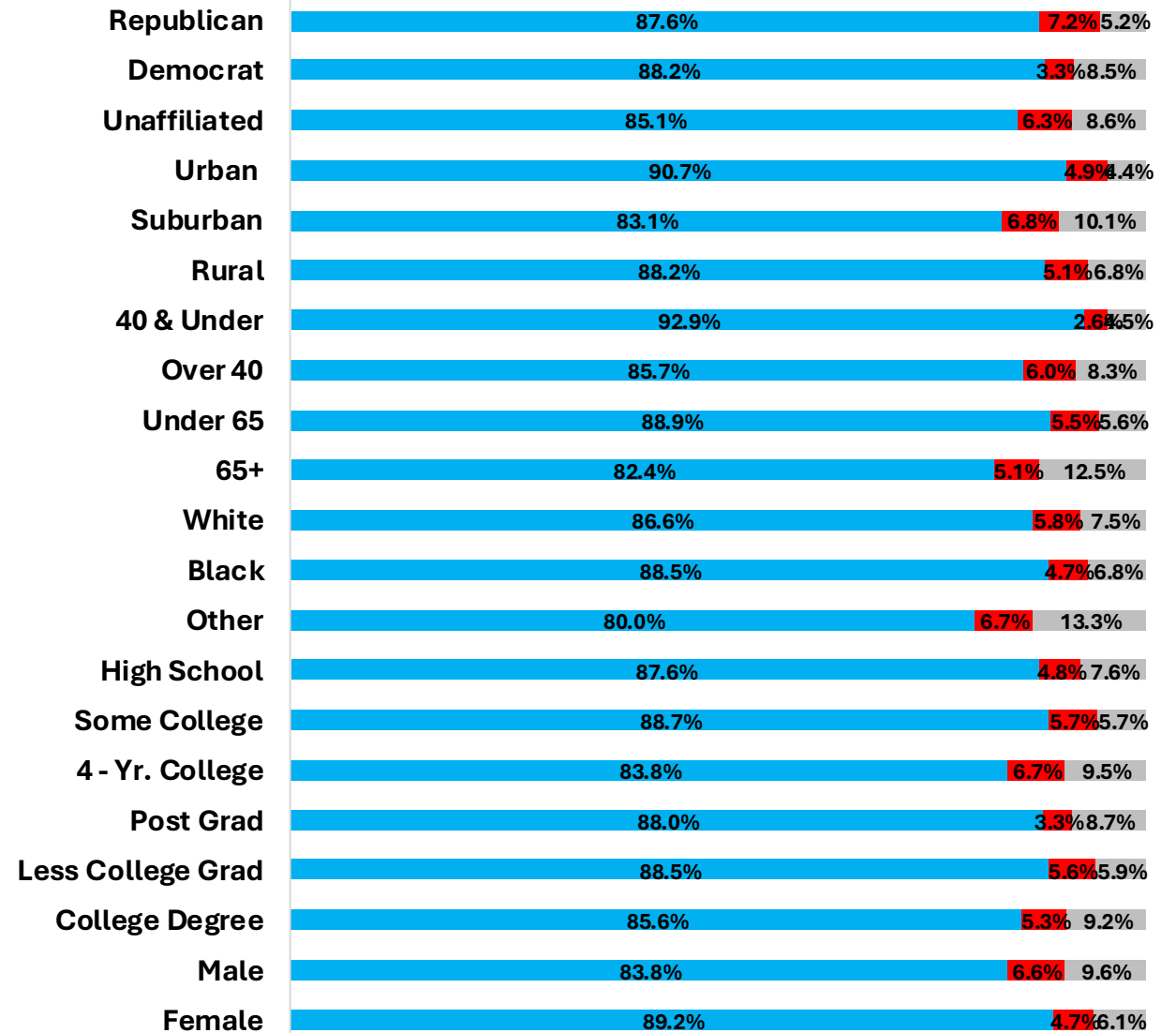
What is your number one reason for disagreeing with the use of vaccines?



Do you agree or disagree with the following statement? “There is a growing mental health crisis facing children and youth in North Carolina.”

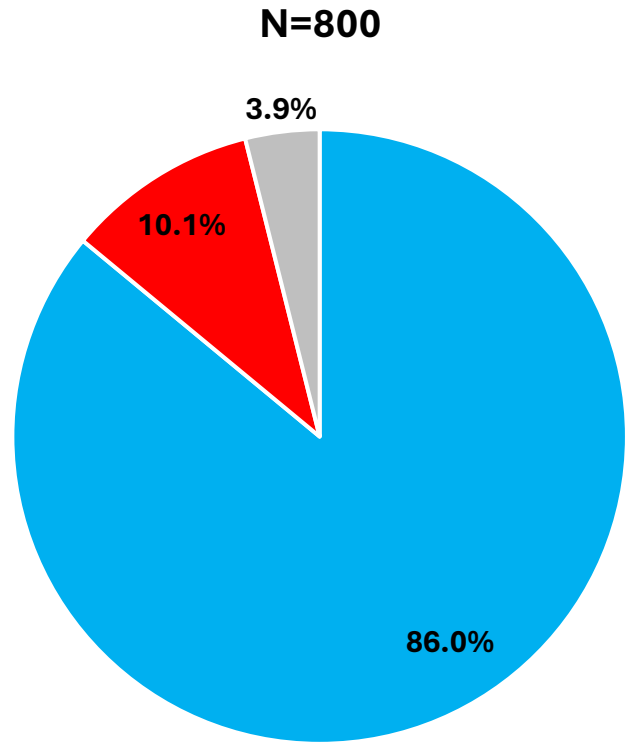


Strongly Agree	71.1%
Somewhat Agree	15.5%
Strongly Disagree	3.9%
Somewhat Disagree	1.8%



Please tell me if you agree or disagree with each of the following statements regarding the quality and productivity of political debate in your life.

“Political debate is a healthy process, but the current tone and tenor is only dividing the county and making matters worse.”



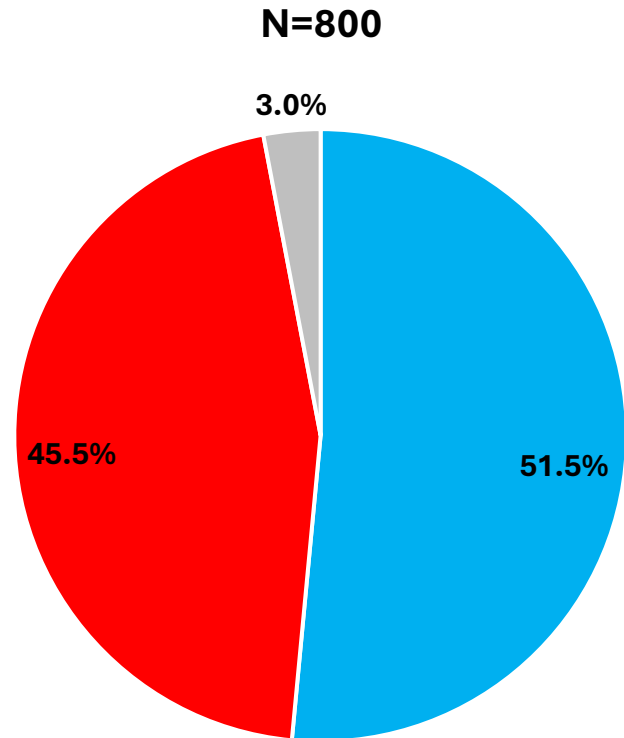
■ Agree ■ Disagree ■ DK/Refused

Strongly Agree	67.5%
Somewhat Agree	18.5%
Strongly Disagree	5.8%
Somewhat Disagree	4.4%



Please tell me if you agree or disagree with each of the following statements regarding the quality and productivity of political debate in your life.

“I have found myself withholding my political opinions for fear of upsetting a friend, family member, or co-worker.”



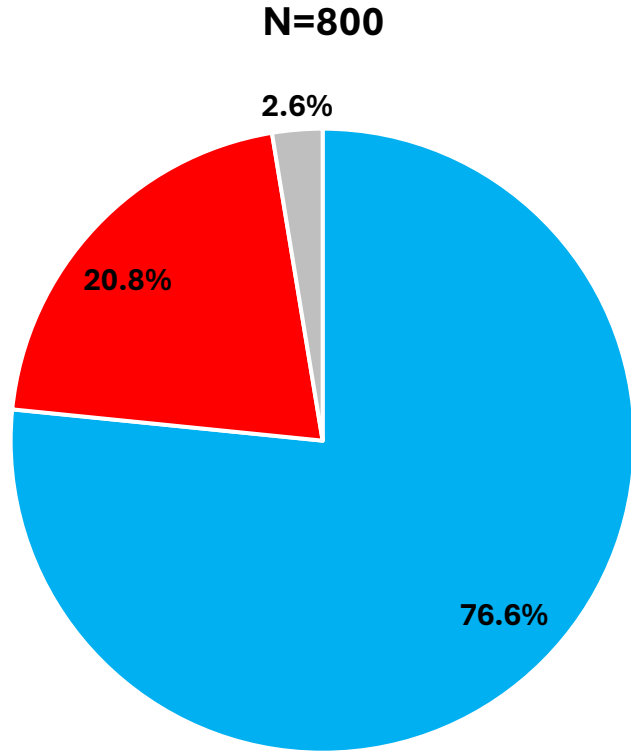
■ Agree ■ Disagree ■ DK/Refused

Strongly Agree	32.0%
Somewhat Agree	19.5%
Strongly Disagree	12.5%
Somewhat Disagree	33.0%



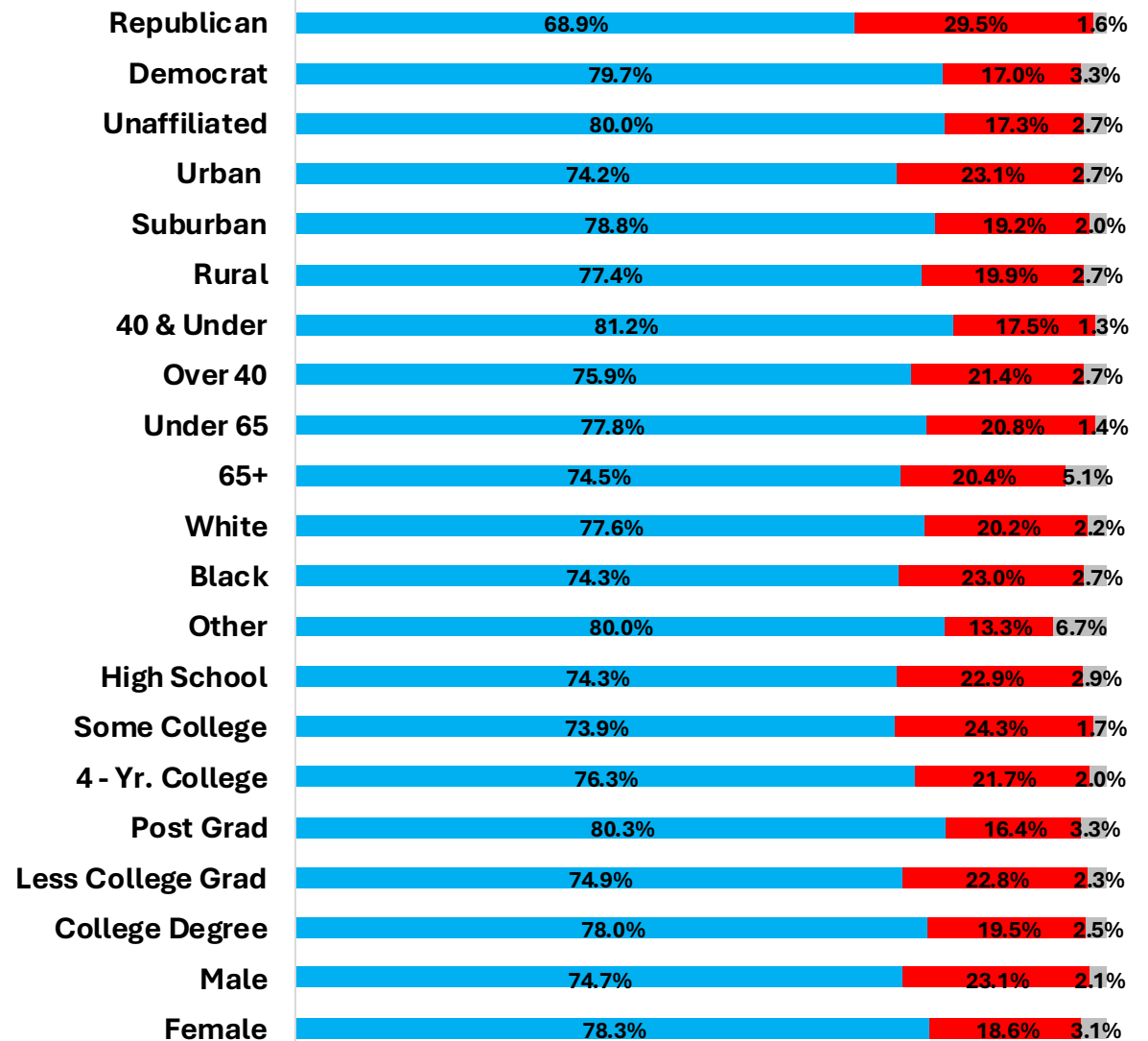
Please tell me if you agree or disagree with each of the following statements regarding the quality and productivity of political debate in your life.

“I believe that loyalty to a political party has become more important for the people we elect than focusing on the issues that matter.”

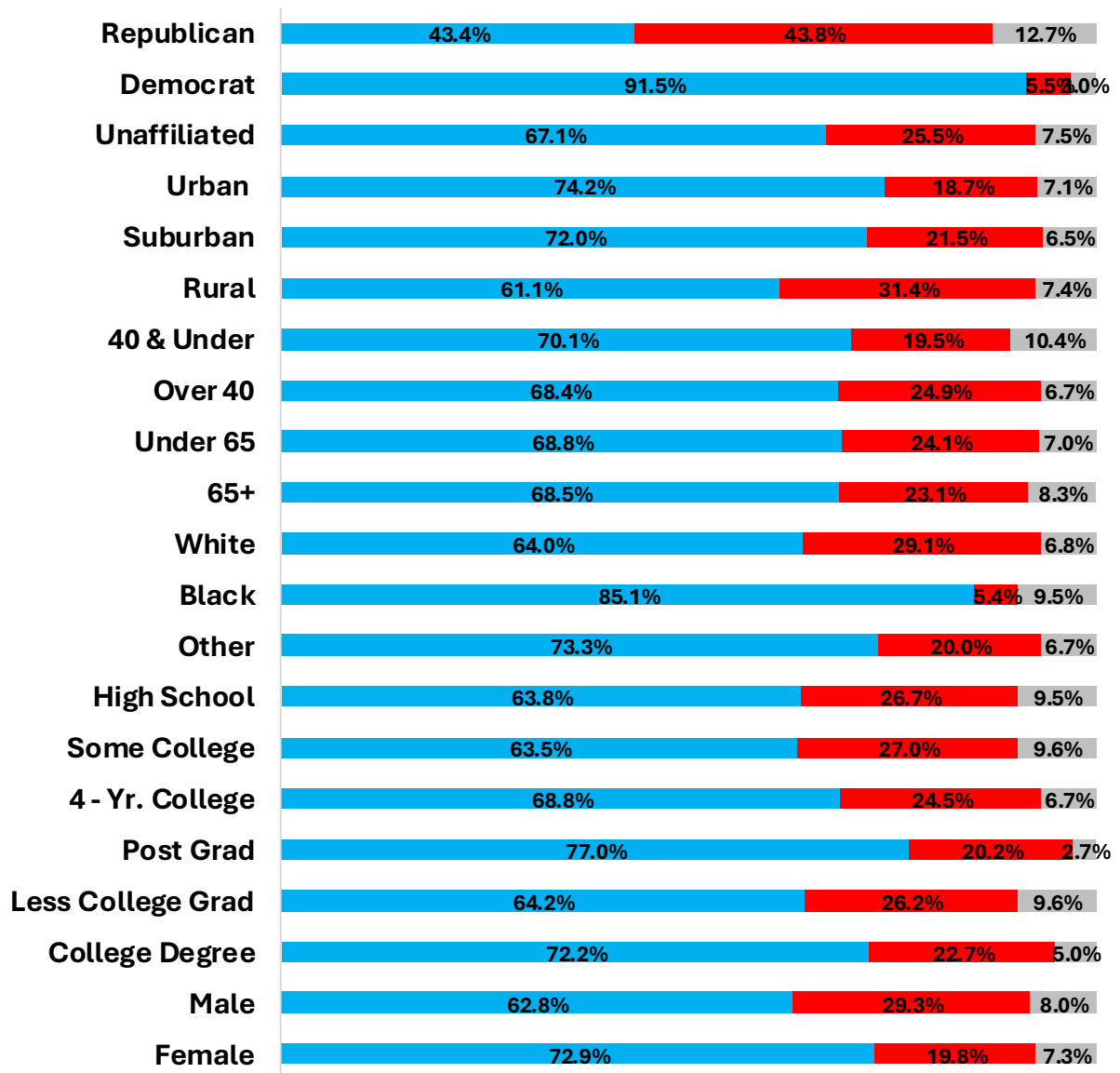
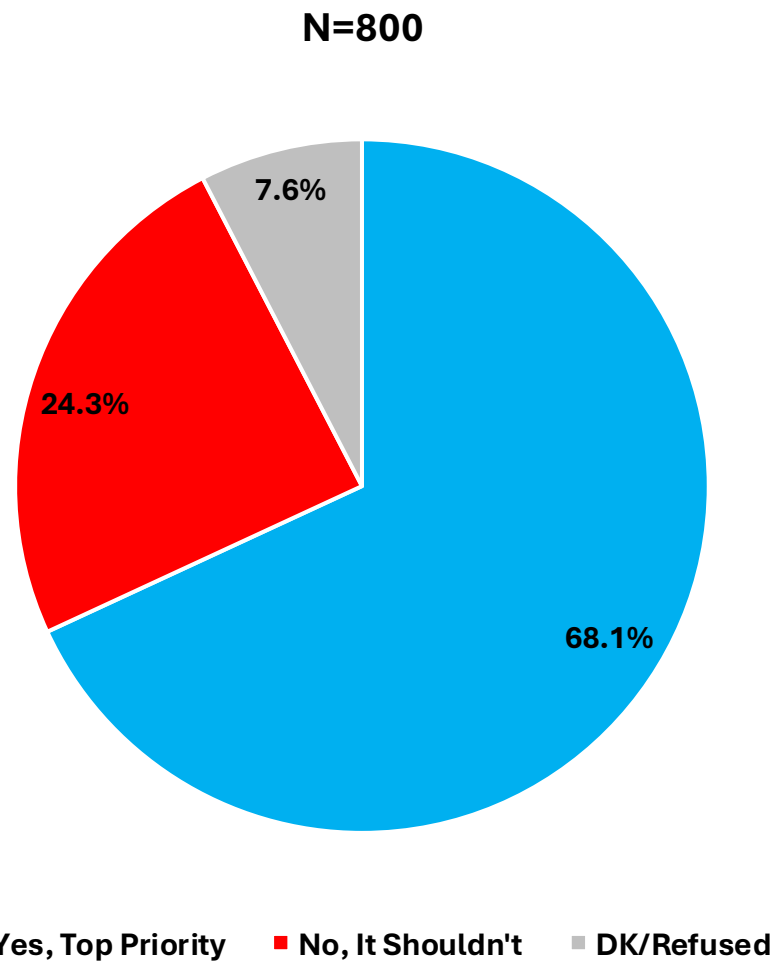


■ Agree ■ Disagree ■ DK/Refused

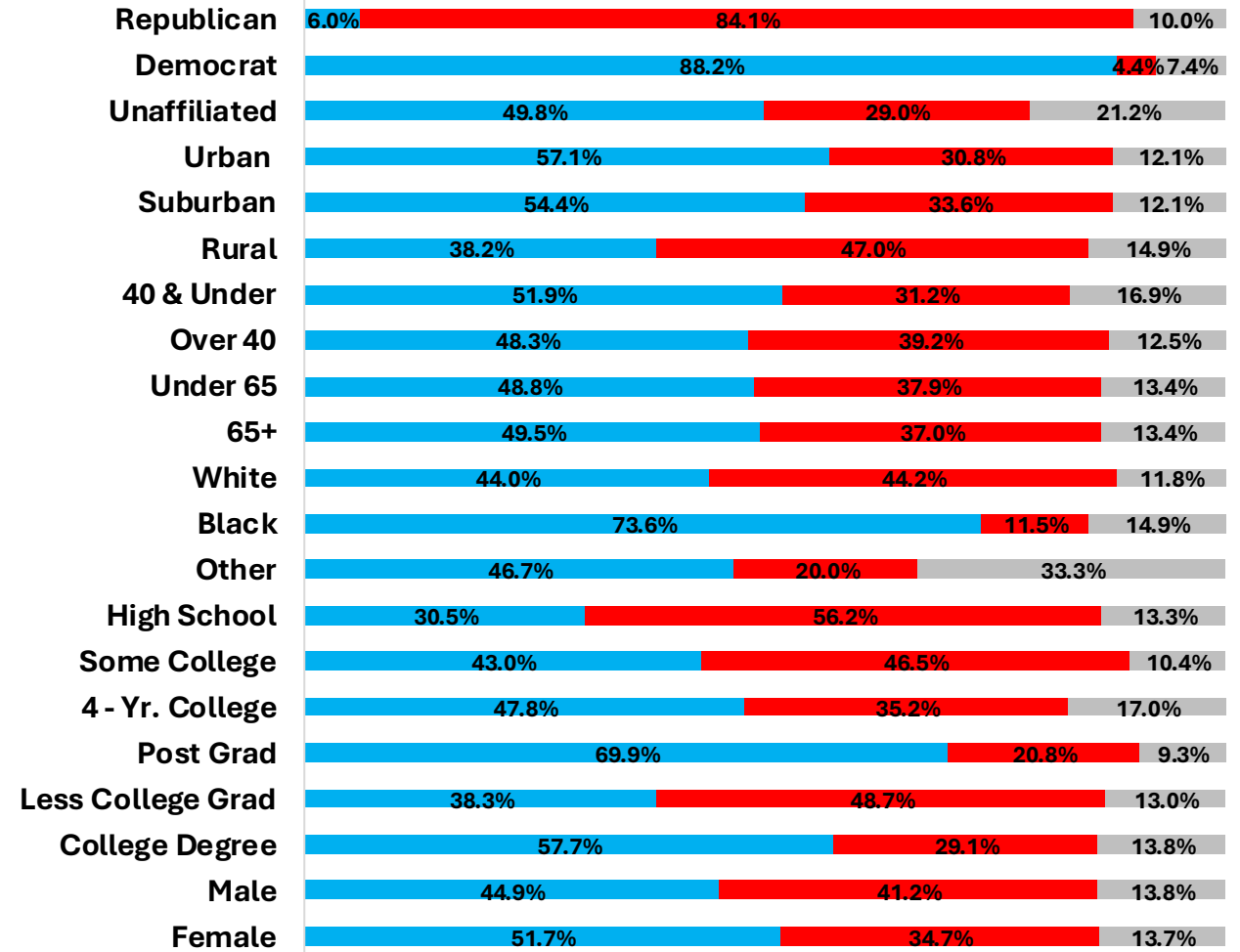
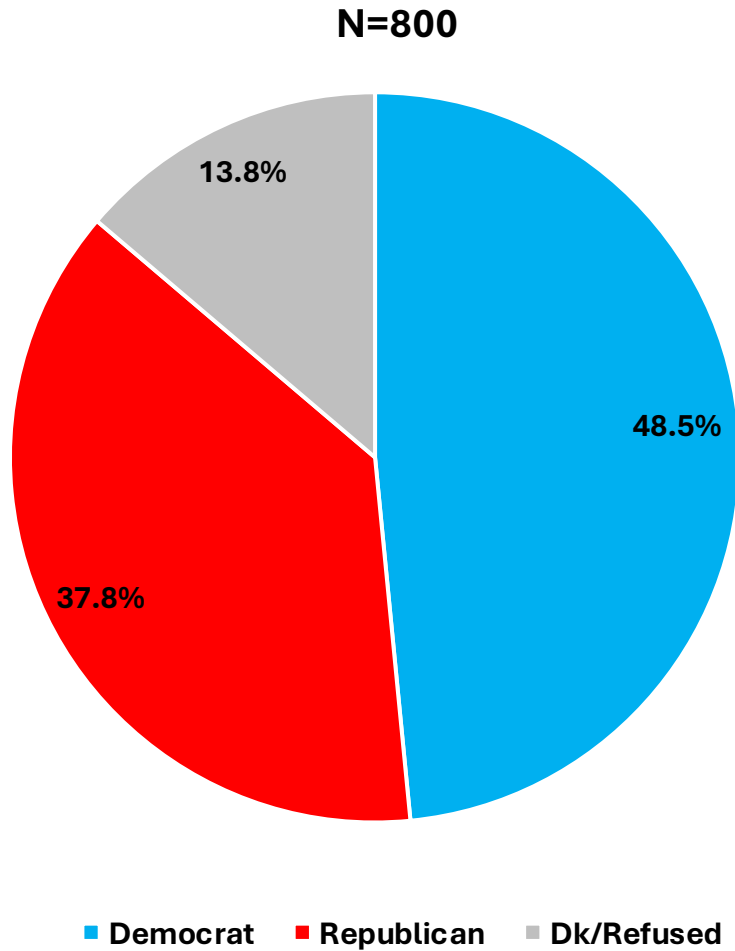
Strongly Agree	62.0%
Somewhat Agree	14.6%
Strongly Disagree	8.8%
Somewhat Disagree	12.0%



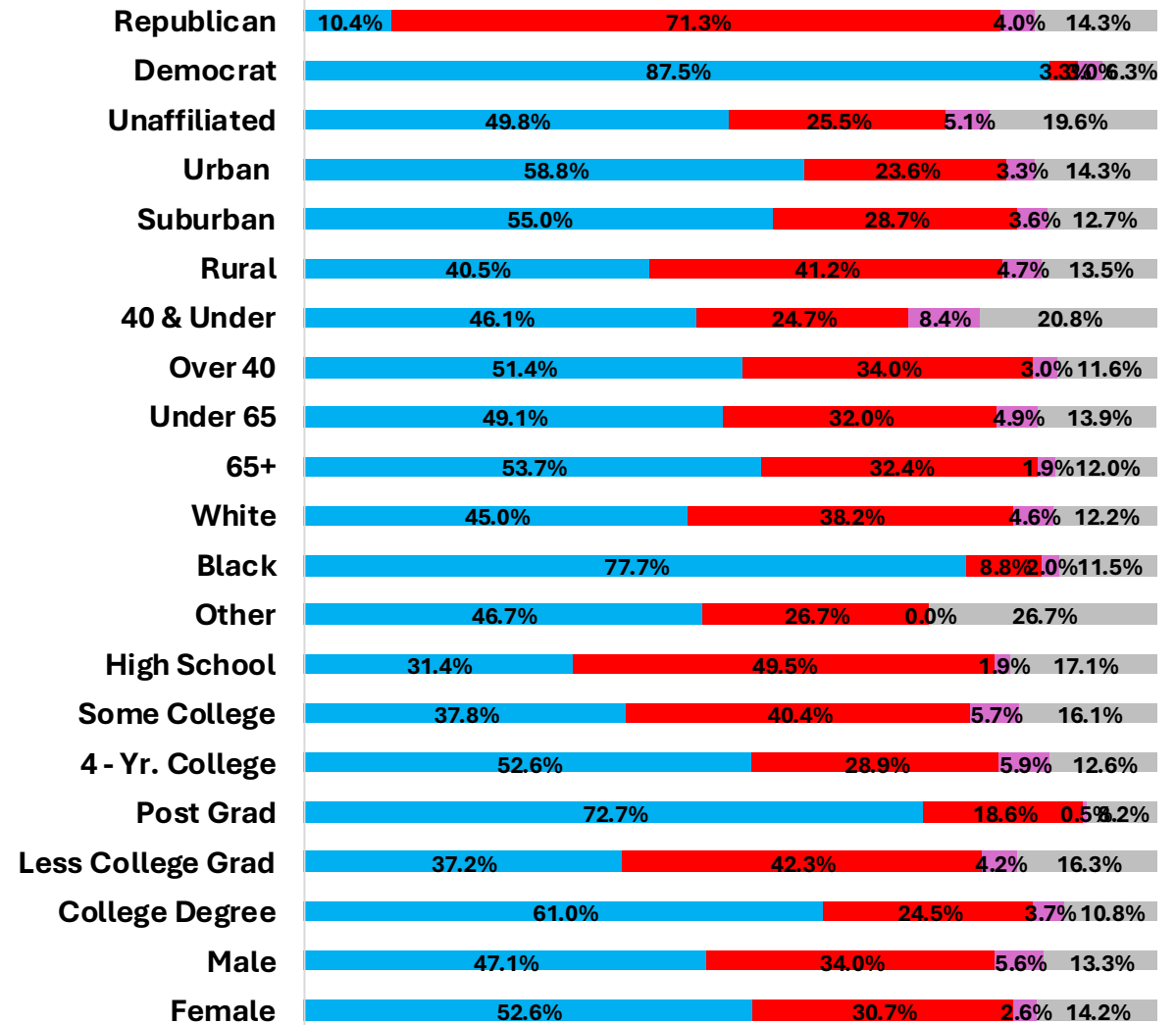
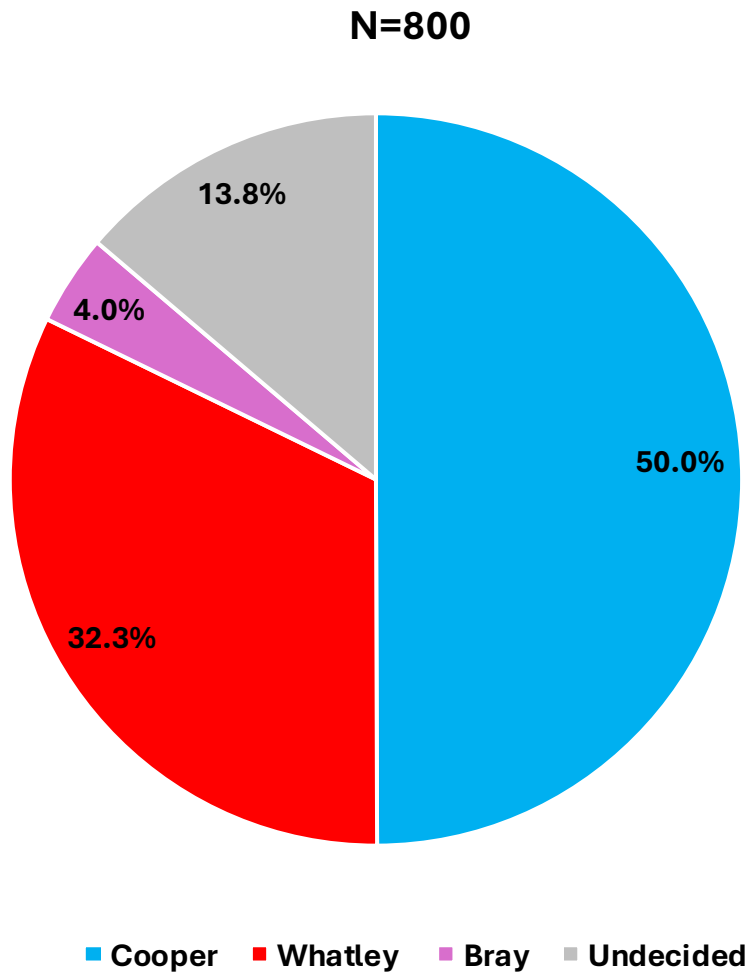
Recently, Congress adjourned for the year without extending federal subsidies to those whose health insurance is provided by the Affordable Care Act, commonly known as Obamacare. Should extending federal subsidies to those whose health insurance is provided by the Affordable Care Act be a top priority for Congress?



All things being equal, would you say you're more likely to vote for a Democrat or a Republican candidate for the State Legislature?



Looking forward to the November election for United States Senator. If the election were held today, would you vote for Roy Cooper, a Democrat, Michael Whatley, a Republican, or Shannon Bray, a Libertarian?



Key Findings – Image Tests

- A majority (53.4%) view President Trump unfavorably, while 40.0% are favorable. His image is strongly divided along partisan lines, with Republicans overwhelmingly favorable, and Democrats overwhelmingly unfavorable. His image among Unaffiliated voters was 57.3% unfavorable, 32.2% favorable, and 10.6% no opinion.
- 39.0% of North Carolina voters are favorable toward Governor Stein, compared to 25.1% who are unfavorable. Stein's image is not as strongly divided along partisan lines, with 16.7% of Republicans saying they were favorable and 43.8% unfavorable. The key factor is 35.9% of voters have no opinion or have never heard of the Governor. However, he maintains a positive image with voters who have formed an opinion.
- Secretary Robert F. Kennedy, Jr.'s image was 48.6% unfavorable to 37.6% favorable. While his image is divided along partisan lines, 11.1% of Democrats said they were favorable, compared to 6.6% who said they were favorable toward President Trump. His image among Unaffiliated voters mirrored that of President Trump.

Key Findings – Issue Tests

- Cost is a driving factor in personal health selections. When it comes to maintaining good health, 27.2% said lower healthcare costs were most needed. Coupled with 10.5% saying they needed a better economic situation, it makes cost the clear primary barrier, outweighing all other factors for a healthier lifestyle.
- Nearly 3 in 4 voters feel financial strain when it comes to paying for healthcare, and 1 in 6 are forgoing care.
- There is near-universal support for Medicaid, cutting across demographics and party lines. 94.6% say Medicaid is important, with 80.0% saying it is very important.
- There is a strong consensus that access to dental care via Medicaid needs improvement. 81.8% support increasing payments, with only 11.4% opposing.
- 73.6% agree (51.3% strongly agree) vaccines are safe and effective, while 21.6% disagree. Those who disagreed were driven more by safety fears.

Key Findings - Issue Tests

- The strongest consensus in the survey: 86.6%, agree that there is a growing mental health crisis facing children and youth in North Carolina. 71.1% strongly agreed, with nearly 85% or greater agreeing in all demographic groupings.
- There is broad agreement that our current political climate is harmful and worsening division. 86.0% agree that political debate is too divisive. Society is split, but slightly more people feel pressure to self-censor. 51.5% say they have withheld opinions and 45.5% say they have not.
- 76.6% believe party loyalty outweighs focus on the issues. Democrats (79.7% agree) and Unaffiliated (80.0% agree) voters were closely aligned compared to 68.9% of Republicans who agreed.
- A clear majority of voters favor extending the Affordable Care Act subsidies. 68.1% said it should be a top priority of Congress, compared to 24.3% who said it should not. Republicans were divided, with 43.4% opposed and 43.8% supporting; Democrats were united, with 91.5% supporting; and 67.1% of Unaffiliated voters said it should be a top priority.

Current Political Environment

- The current political environment is driven by voters' attitudes toward the country's current direction.
- While 58.3% overall think the country is headed in the wrong direction, that sentiment grows among voters with greater interest in the upcoming elections. 62.2% of “10” voters said wrong direction.
- Those favorable to President Trump (N=320) were 80.6% in the right direction, compared to those unfavorable to the President (N=427), who were 93.4% in the wrong direction.
- Generic Democratic voters on the State Legislature ballot question were 93.6% wrong direction, compared to generic Republican voters, who were 79.8% right direction.
- In the US Senate contest, Cooper voters were 91.3% wrong direction, while Whatley voters were 81.8% right direction.
- Voter sentiment is divided, with 91.1% of Democrats saying the wrong direction, 72.9% of Republicans saying the right direction, and 17.9% saying the wrong direction. Republicans are not as united in their sentiment as Democratic voters.

Demographic Overview



70% Cell
30% Landline

4.9% 18-25
14.4% 26-40
21.9% 41-54
29.9% 55-64
27% 65+

73% White
18.5% Black
2.6% Hispanic
1.1% Asian
1.9% Other
2.9% Refused



22.9% Post-Graduate
31.6% 4 Year Degree
28.8% Some College
13.1% High School Degree
2.5% Some High School



47% Male
53% Female



22.8% Urban
38.4% Suburban
37% Rural

31.4% Republican
33.9% Democrat
31.9% Unaffiliated
1.4% Other