

The Trump Budget: What You Need to Know

February 14, 2018

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Ellen Teller, Moderator



Ellen Teller is Director of Government Affairs at the Food Research and Action Center (FRAC). She joined FRAC in 1986, and previously served as an attorney at the American Bar Association, Center for Science in the Public Interest and the Consumer Federation of America. She is the Board Chair of the Coalition on Human Needs.

Sharon Parrott



Sharon Parrott is Senior Fellow and Senior Counselor at the Center on Budget and Policy Priorities. She rejoined the Center in 2017 after serving for two years as Associate Director for the Education, Income Maintenance, and Labor Division at the Office of Management and Budget. She served as Secretary Sebelius' Counselor for Human Services Policy at the U.S. Department of Health and Human Services (HHS) from August 2009 until November 2012.

John Halpin



John Halpin is a Senior Fellow at American Progress focusing on political theory, communications, and public opinion analysis. He is the co-director and creator of the Progressive Studies Program at CAP. Halpin is the co-author with John Podesta of *The Power of Progress: How America's Progressives Can (Once Again) Save Our Economy, Our Climate, and Our Country*

Deborah Weinstein



Deborah Weinstein has been Executive Director of the Coalition on Human Needs since 2003. Prior to that, she served 9 years as Director of the Family Income Division at the Children's Defense Fund, after a decade as Executive Director at the **Massachusetts** Human Services Coalition.

She's the one on the right.



“ **A PRESIDENT’S BUDGET REFLECTS HIS VISION FOR AMERICA.**

**PRESIDENT TRUMP’S VISION IS STARK —
WITH THE MOST AFFLUENT INDIVIDUALS AND POWERFUL
CORPORATIONS ACCUMULATING MORE WEALTH WHILE
STRUGGLING AMERICANS MUST REDUCE THEIR ALREADY
MODEST STANDARDS OF LIVING. ”**

— BOB GREENSTEIN, CBPP PRESIDENT

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Budget Deal & President's Budget De-Mystified

- **Budget deal**
 - Enacted last week
 - Increased funding for non-defense discretionary programs and defense for 2018 & 2019
 - Series of other provisions (disaster aid, CHIP for 10 years, home visiting, other health extenders, child welfare bill, tax extenders)
- **Implications of budget deal**
 - Congress can finalize 2018 funding bills
 - Topline funding levels for 2019 set
 - Congress very unlikely to do a budget resolution or use reconciliation process this year
- **Does that mean that the President's budget is meaningless? NOOOOOO!**



President's Budget

- **President's budget sets out priorities for:**
 - Mandatory programs (Social Security, Medicare, Medicaid, SNAP, civil service retirement, etc)
 - Tax policy
 - This year pretty minimal
 - Infrastructure (less than meets the eye)
 - Discretionary program funding
 - Topline for FY 2019-2028
 - Individual program areas for FY 2019
- Budget proposals reflect priorities administration will push for in 2018 and in future years



What is in the President's Budget

Same basic components as last year's budget:

- Continue drive to Repeal/Replace/Cut ACA & Medicaid
- Deep cuts in basic assistance programs like SNAP, housing, SSI, TANF
- Make college less affordable
- Deep cuts over decade in funding for non-defense discretionary funding
- And, of course, no roll back of tax cuts!



Cuts to SNAP

- Cuts over \$213 billion over ten years — or by nearly 30 percent
- Implausible food box proposal
- Worsen already-harsh time limit on certain SNAP adult recipients not raising children
 - Sharply curtail waivers for high unemployment areas
 - Expand time limit up to age 62
- Other cuts targeted specifically to working families & elderly/disabled

2018 Risk: Some of these proposals (esp around time limits and more restrictive work requirements) could surface in Farm Bill



Housing Assistance

- Cuts HUD 14 percent below the 2017 level
- Cancels Housing Choice Vouchers for about 200,000 low-income households
- Cuts public housing funding by 47 percent compared to 2017
- Eliminates the HOME Investment Partnerships, CDBG, and Choice Neighborhoods programs
- Rent increases on broad range of families
- Signals that legislation on work requirements is coming

2018 Risk: Could see proposals this year in Congress, esp on work requirements



Health Care

- Total cuts: \$763 billion in Medicaid/Exchange subsidies
- Calls for Repeal and Replace using “Graham-Cassidy” proposal plus deeper cuts on top (per capita cap)
- Cuts Medicaid in additional ways – asset tests, increased documentation requirements to prove citizenship/immigration status, allow ER copays, etc.

2018 Risk: Work requirements, possible cuts

Future Risk: Administration will continue to try to take health care away from millions of Americans if political opening



Making College Cost More

- Cuts college aid – SEOG and work study
- Makes student loans costlier for many
- Doesn't invest in affordability – Pell frozen, so losing value

2018 Risk: Higher education bill has been crafted in House. Not clear if this moves this year, but Administration proposals could play a role this year or later.



Non-Defense Discretionary

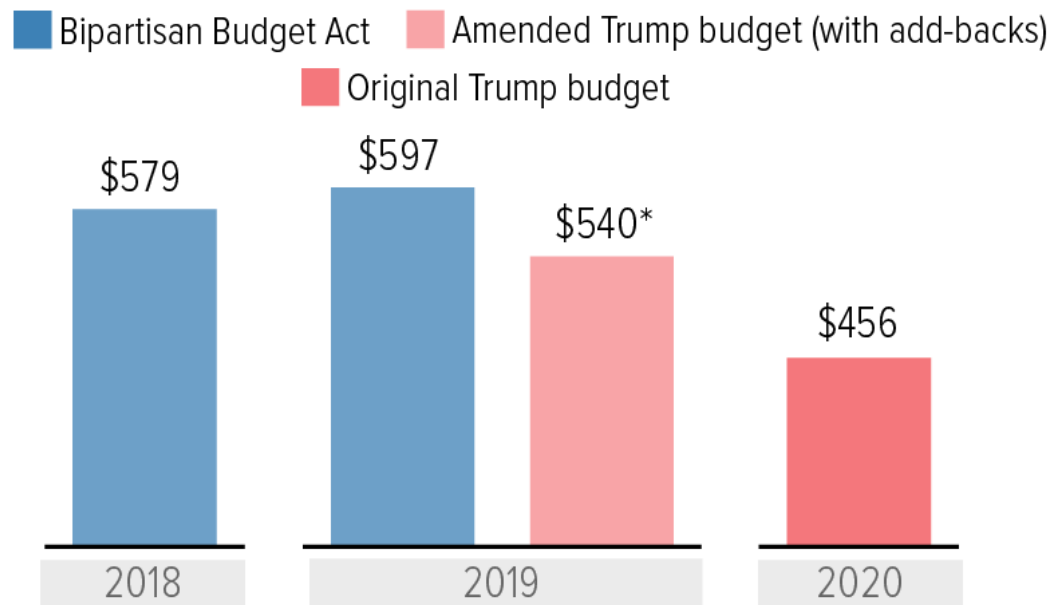
- Budget deal increased overall funding for NDD in 2018 and 2019
- President's budget calls for significantly lower funding in 2019 than under the deal
- After 2019, PB calls for very deep cuts

Risks: NDD specifics of the Trump budget may matter less given deal, but pressure to cut NDD could hurt in current appropriations debate and in the future



Trump 2019 Budget Funds Non-Defense Discretionary Well Below Budget Deal Level

In billions of dollars



*In addition, the Trump budget addendum proposes other changes that would effectively reduce funds available for programs traditionally funded under the BCA non-defense cap.

Note: All amounts exclude funding for disasters, emergencies, program integrity, and Overseas Contingency Operations (OCO).

Source: CBPP analysis of data from the Congressional Budget Office and Office of Management and Budget



Legislative Oppy's & Risks

- Opportunity – 2018 appropriations
 - Significant increased NDD funding but can't assume it will go for YOUR priorities
- Risks to basic assistance programs
 - Farm Bill
 - House could move separate legislation that focuses on harmful work requirements & “flexibility”
 - Without reconciliation, these bills will require 60 votes
 - But a bill on “work” could sound attractive, so important to be educating both Rs and Ds
- Mitigating risks
 - Generate strong push back on Trump budget cuts/proposals
 - Educating policymakers about why Congress should not go down the path of cuts/restrictions that take away help people need



Legislative Dates (all subject to change!)

Feb-Apr

- President released budget
- Senate immigration debate
- **Recess – Feb 17-Feb 25**
- Late Feb/March – House may mark up Farm Bill
- March 23: CR expires, omnibus completed
- **Recess – March 23-April 8 (9th in the House)**

Apr-Jun

- Possible Farm Bill action in both House and Senate
- House could move “low income cuts/work requirements” bill
- Appropriations committees start work on FY 2019
- Possible infrastructure legislation/debate

Jul-Dec

- **Long recess in advance of elections**
- CR likely until after election
- Lame duck session

Center for American Progress



Center for American Progress National Safety Net Survey

February 2018

- Survey conducted January 24th – 29th, 2018
- Representative online national survey of 2,000 registered voters plus demographic over-samples of:
 - African American Registered Voters
 - Hispanic/Latino Registered Voters
 - Millennial Voters ages 18-34
- Overall margin of error: ± 2.0 percentage points at the 95 percent confidence interval

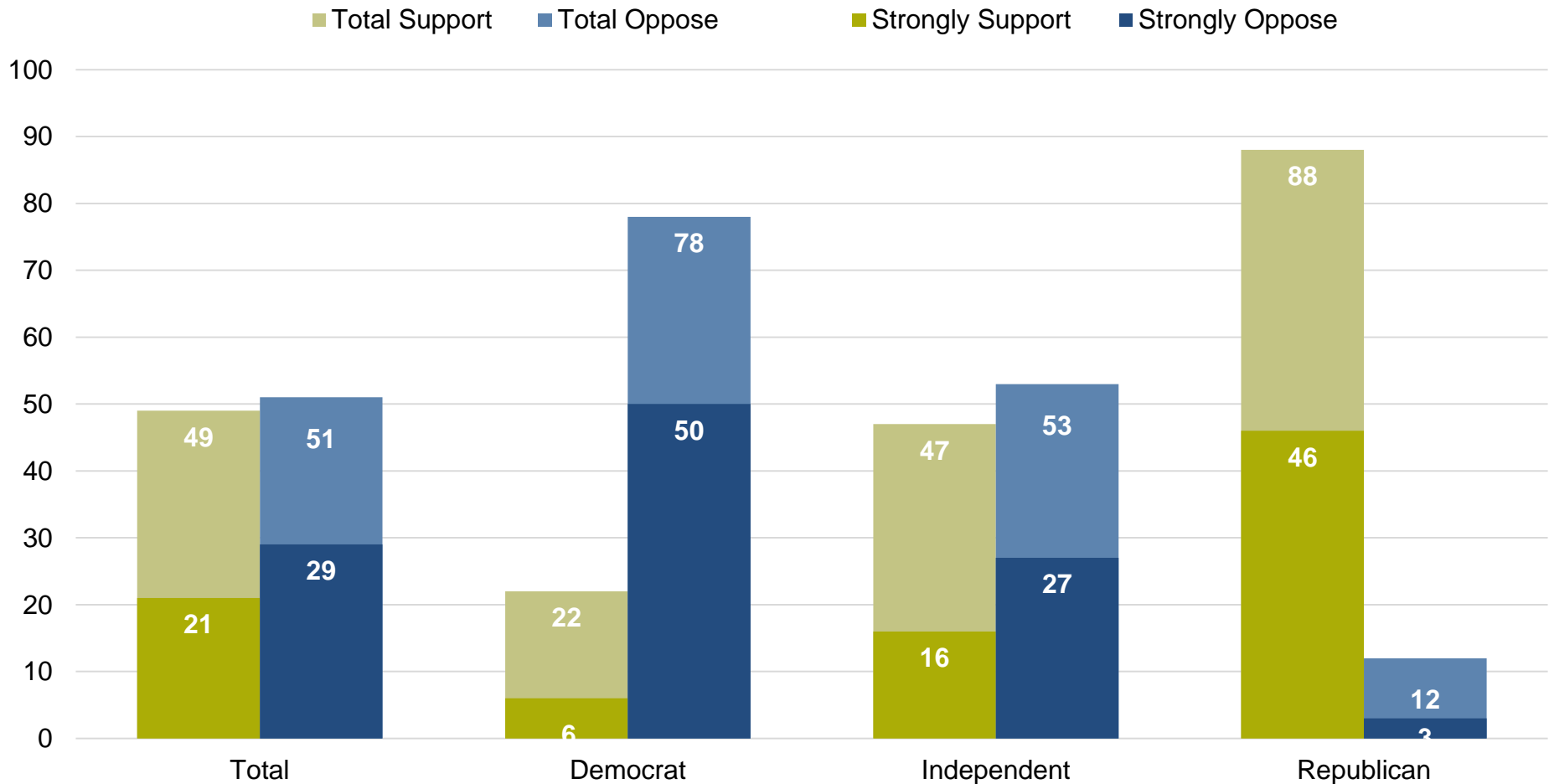
- Voters oppose GOP plans to restrict eligibility and reduce funding for government assistance programs for low-income Americans
Majorities of Independents, Millennials, non-college whites oppose GOP plan; Trump voters opposed to cuts
- Specific cuts in GOP plan draw wide opposition, leave majority of voters less likely to support candidate who votes for them
- Why? Deep economic unease remains across American electorate and majorities believe government should meet basic living standards for those in need; reject GOP dependency argument
- Progressive policy alternatives on jobs and investment supported by broad majorities across political spectrum and demographic lines

Massive Partisan Gap, Majority of Independents Oppose Trump's Tax Plan

Figure 23



From what you have heard, do you support or oppose the legislation that President Trump and the Republicans in Congress recently passed to change the tax system?

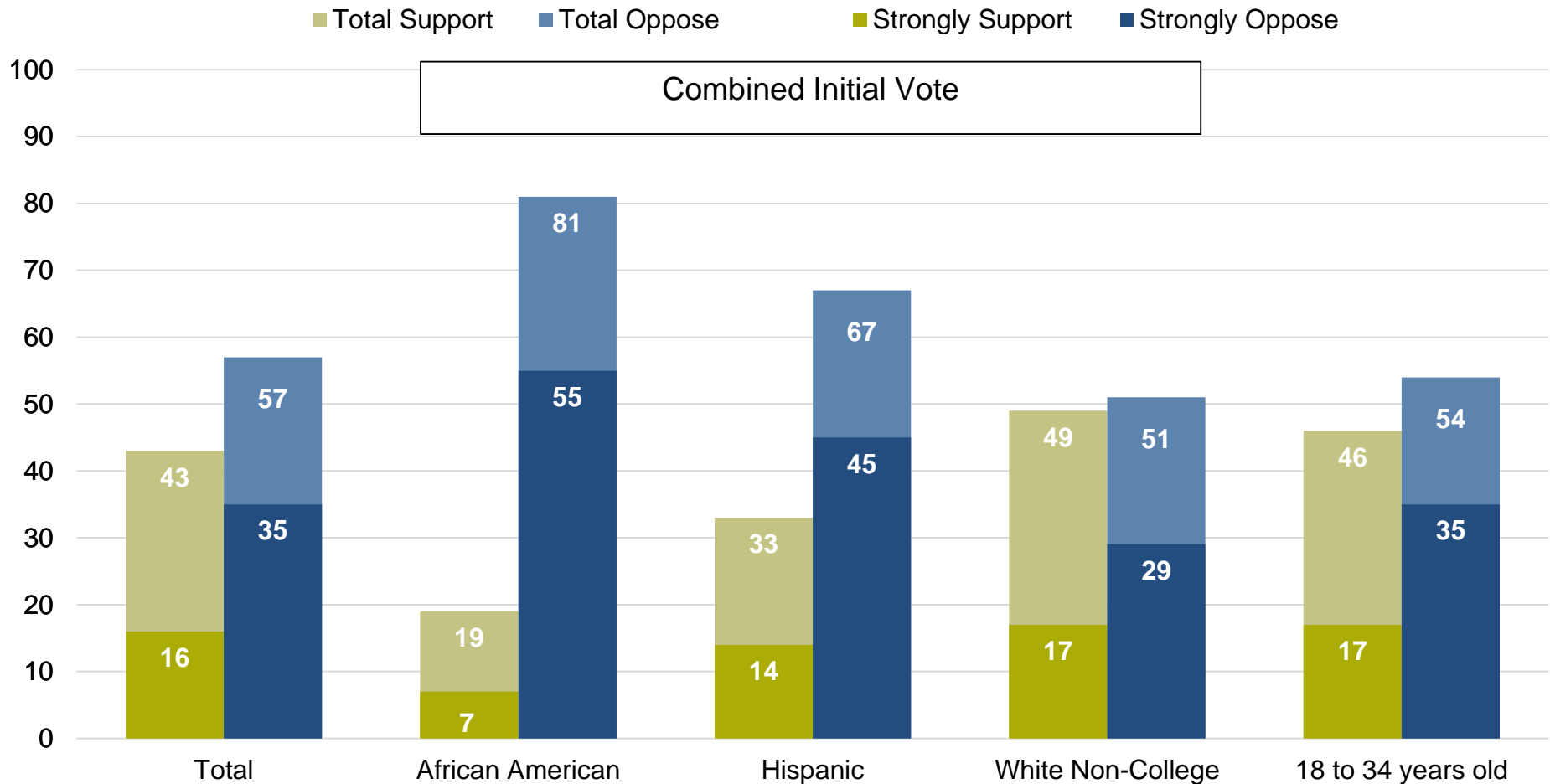


Significant Majority Oppose Trump Plan to Cut Programs for Low-Income People

Figure 24



And based on what you have seen and heard, do you support or oppose efforts by President Trump and Republicans in Congress to restrict eligibility and reduce overall spending on government assistance programs for low-income people (*SPLIT B: including Medicaid, affordable housing, and nutrition assistance*)?

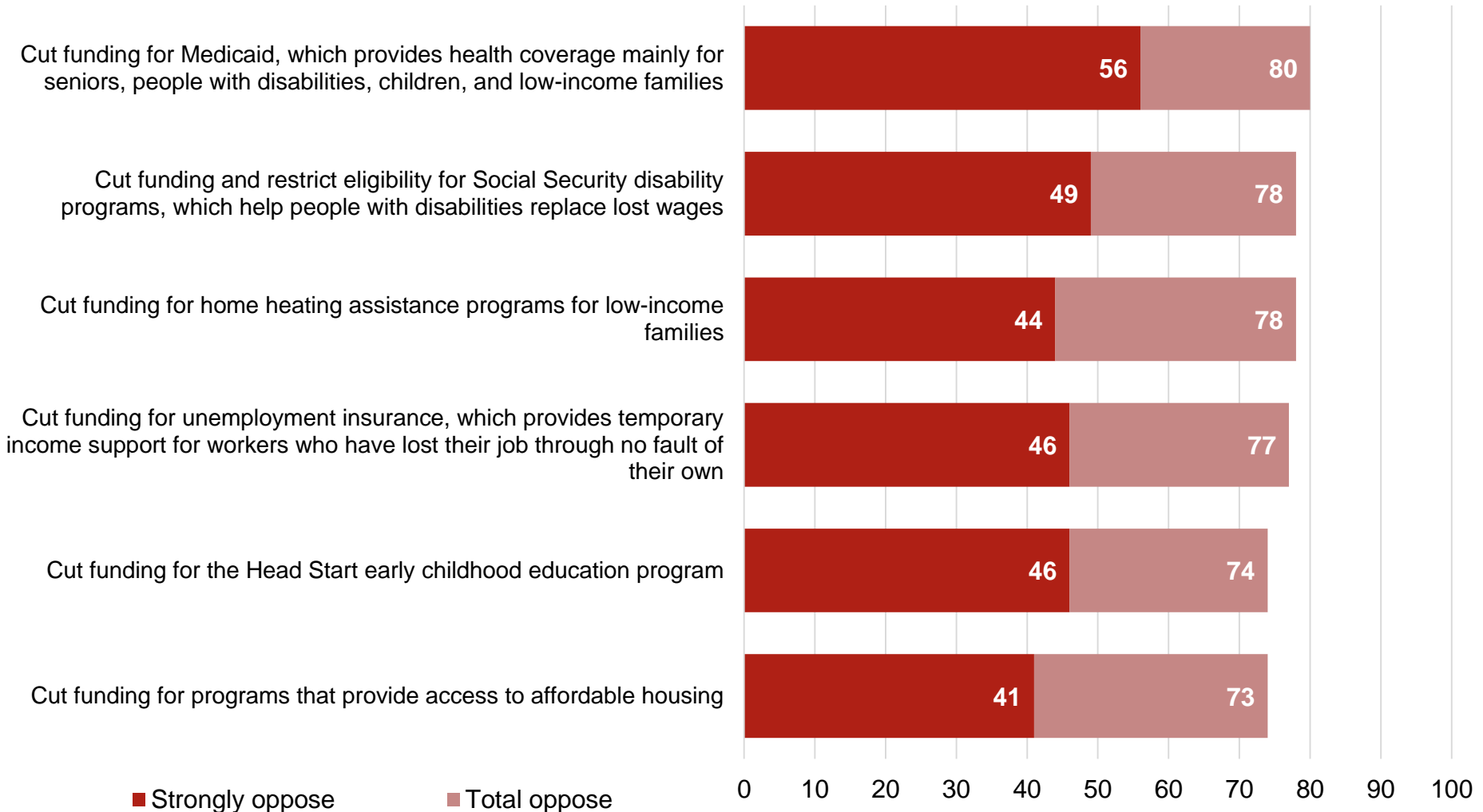


Broad Majorities Oppose Specific Program Cuts in GOP Plan

Figure 25



Below are some specific policy solutions that have been proposed as part of Republican efforts to restrict eligibility and reduce overall spending on government assistance programs for low-income people. For each one, please tell mark whether you would **SUPPORT** or **OPPOSE** that particular policy solution.

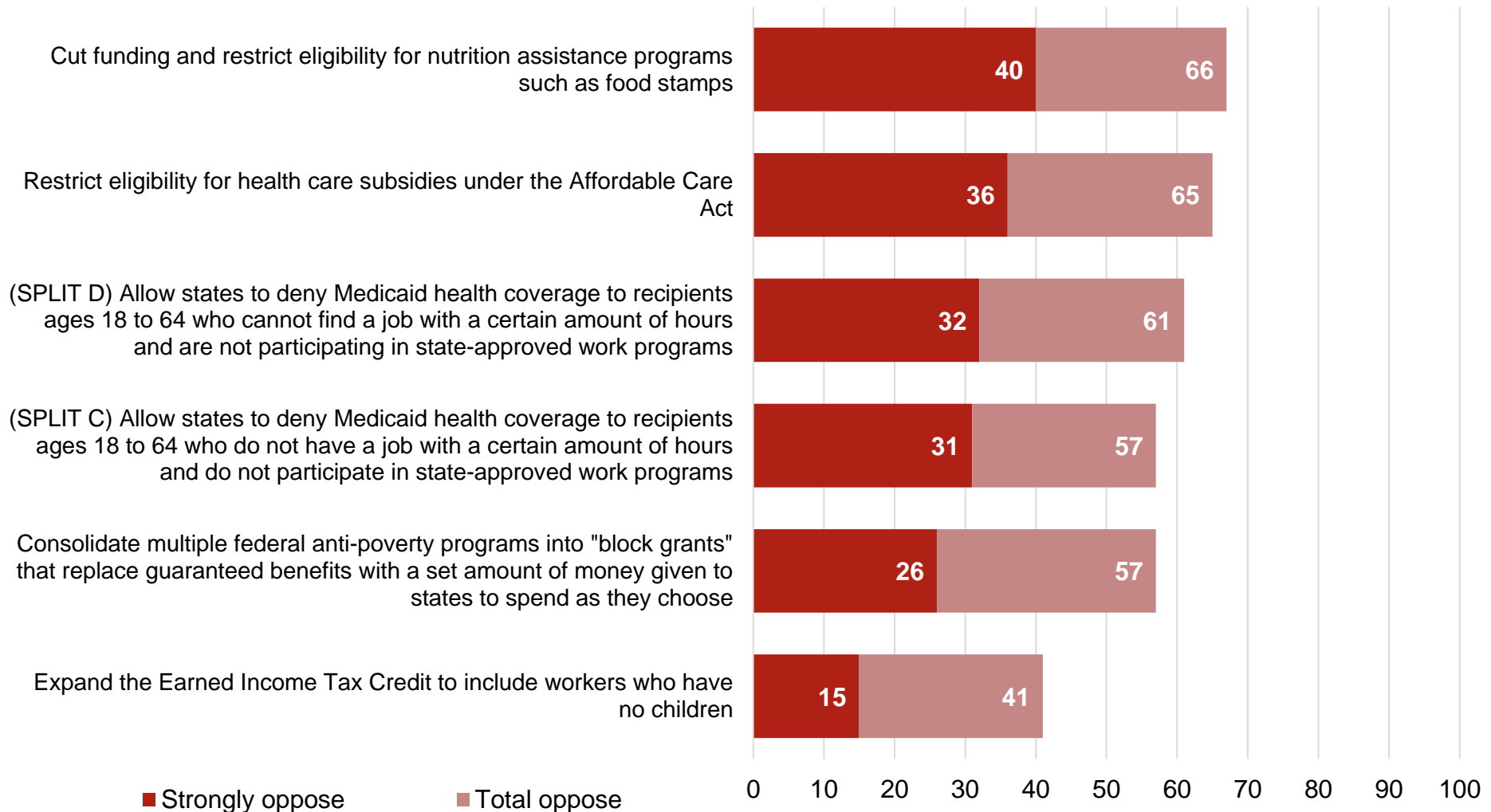


Broad Majorities Oppose Specific Program Cuts; EITC Expansion Only Positive

Figure 26



Below are some specific policy solutions that have been proposed as part of Republican efforts to restrict eligibility and reduce overall spending on government assistance programs for low-income people. For each one, please tell mark whether you would **SUPPORT** or **OPPOSE** that particular policy solution.

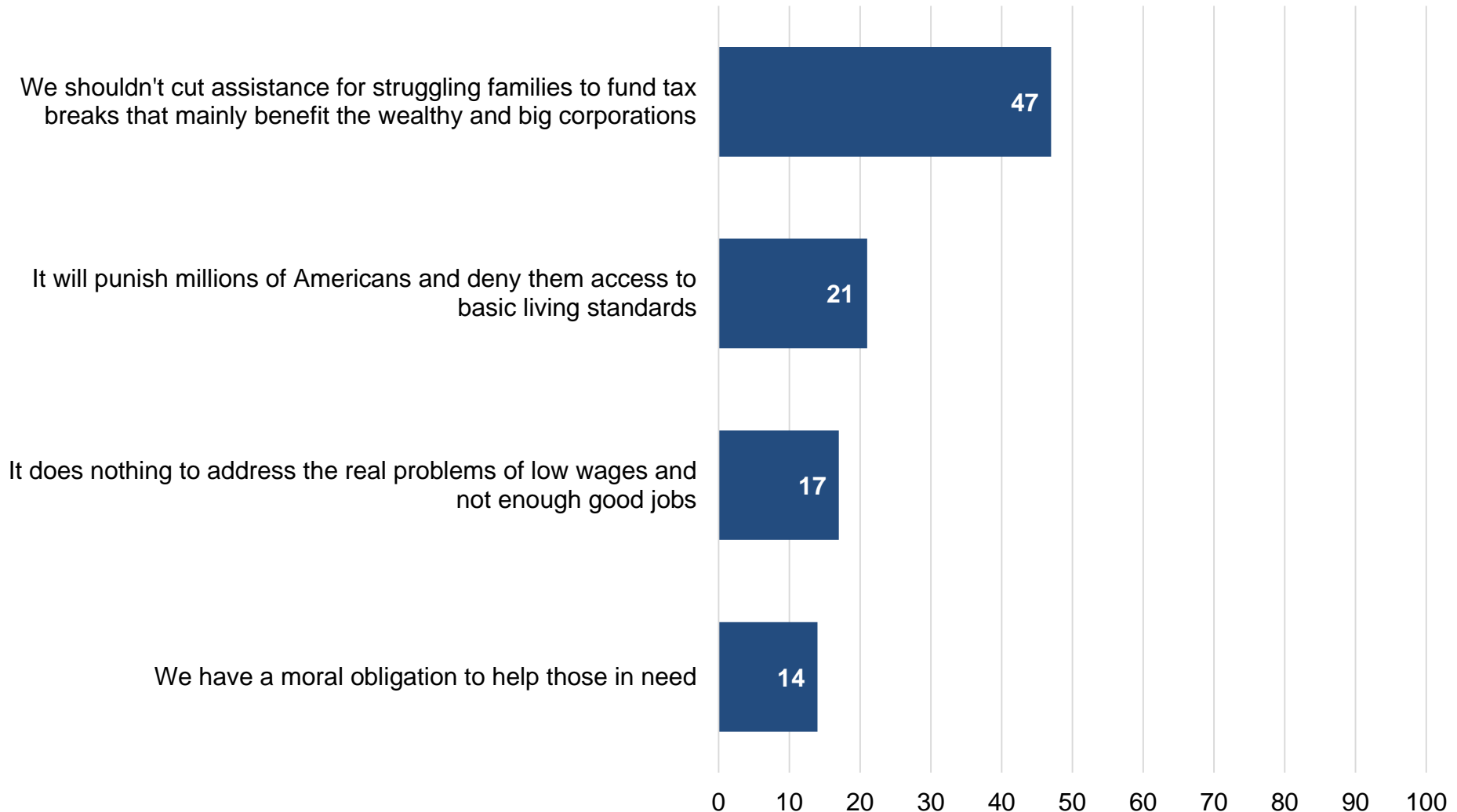


Opponents Driven by Trade-Off Between Cuts for Low-Income and Tax Breaks

Figure 27



(IF OPPOSE IN Q.46/Q.47) What is the best reason to OPPOSE a proposal to restrict eligibility and reduce overall spending on government assistance programs for low-income people that includes all or most of these provisions?

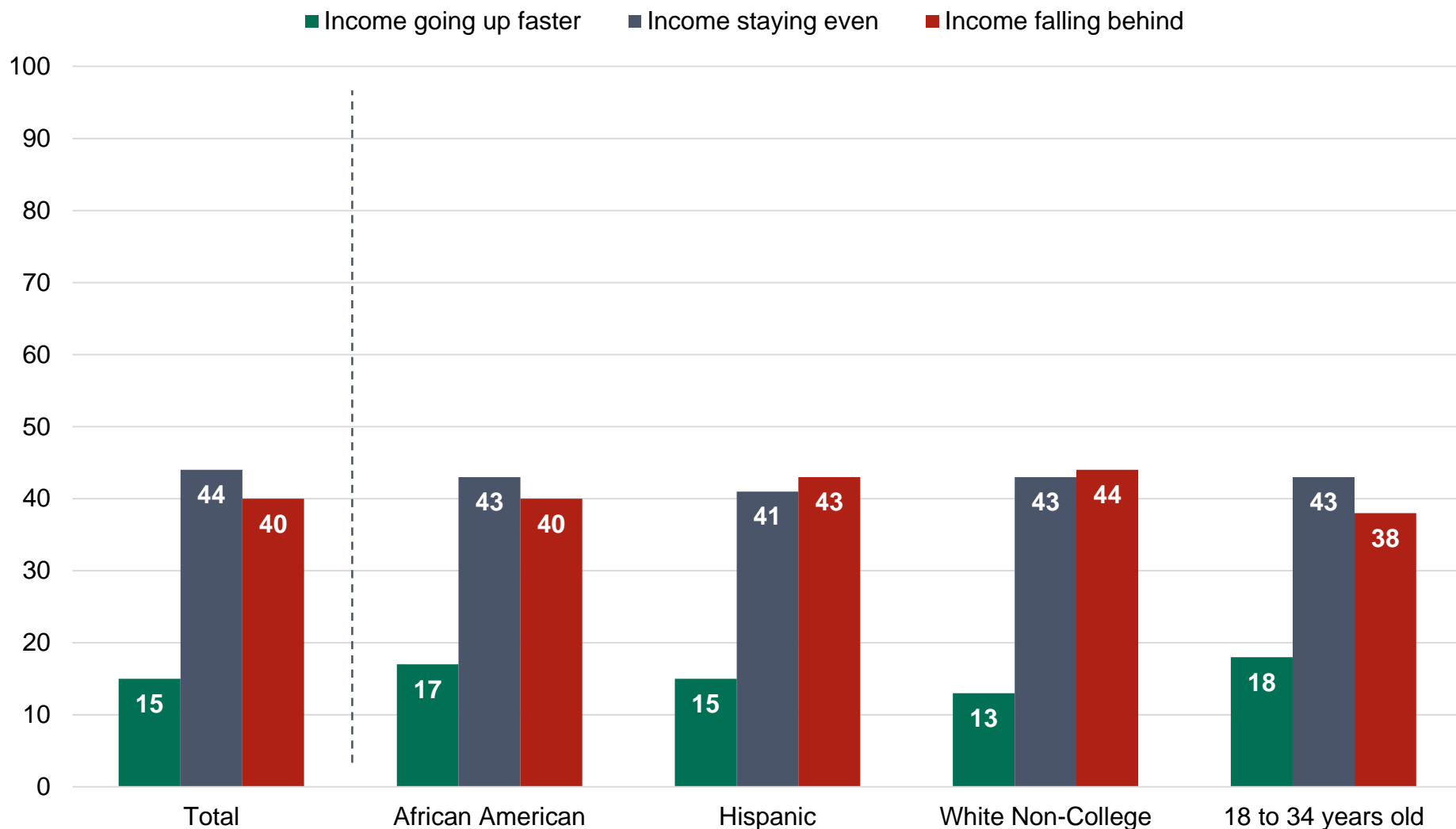


Voter Incomes Falling Behind or Stagnant

Figure 28



Do you think your family's income is going up faster than the cost of living, staying about even with the cost of living, or falling behind the cost of living?

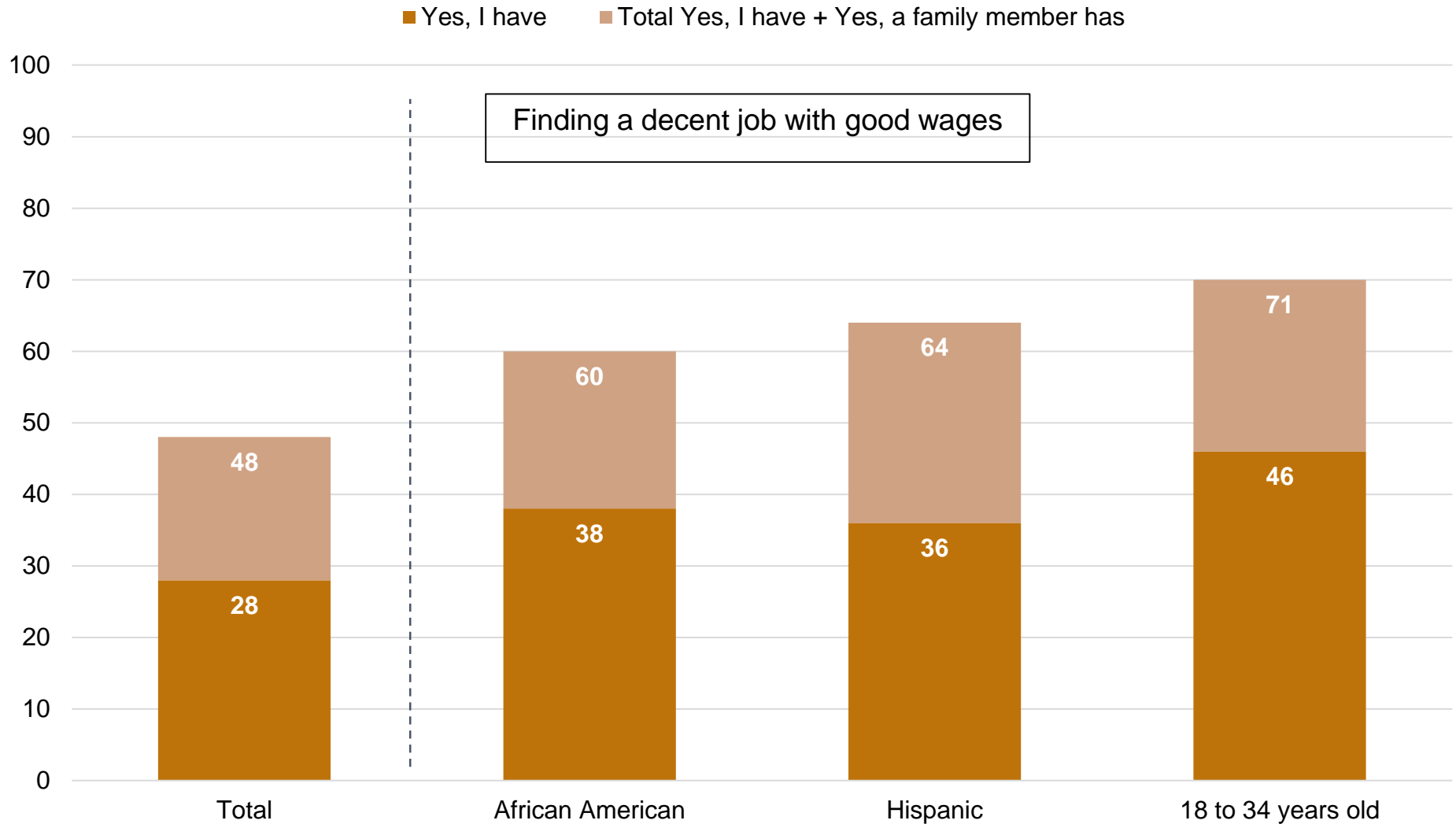


Nearly Half of Americans Directly Impacted by Scarcity of Jobs with Good Wages

Figure 29



Have you or a member of your immediate family had a serious problem with this issue over the past year?

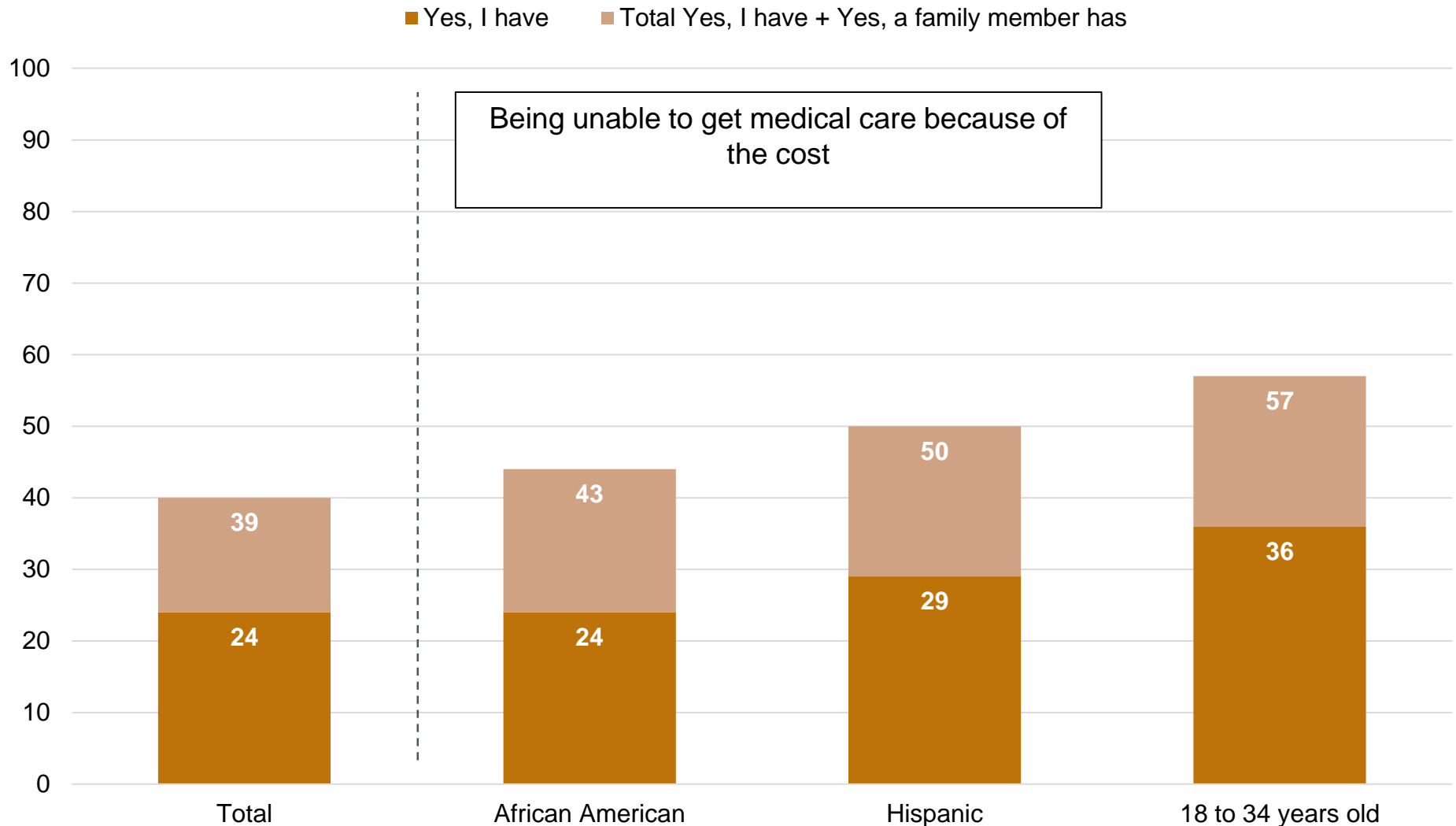


Access to Medical Care Due to Cost Directly Impacting Nearly 40% of Voters

Figure 30



Have you or a member of your immediate family had a serious problem with this issue over the past year?

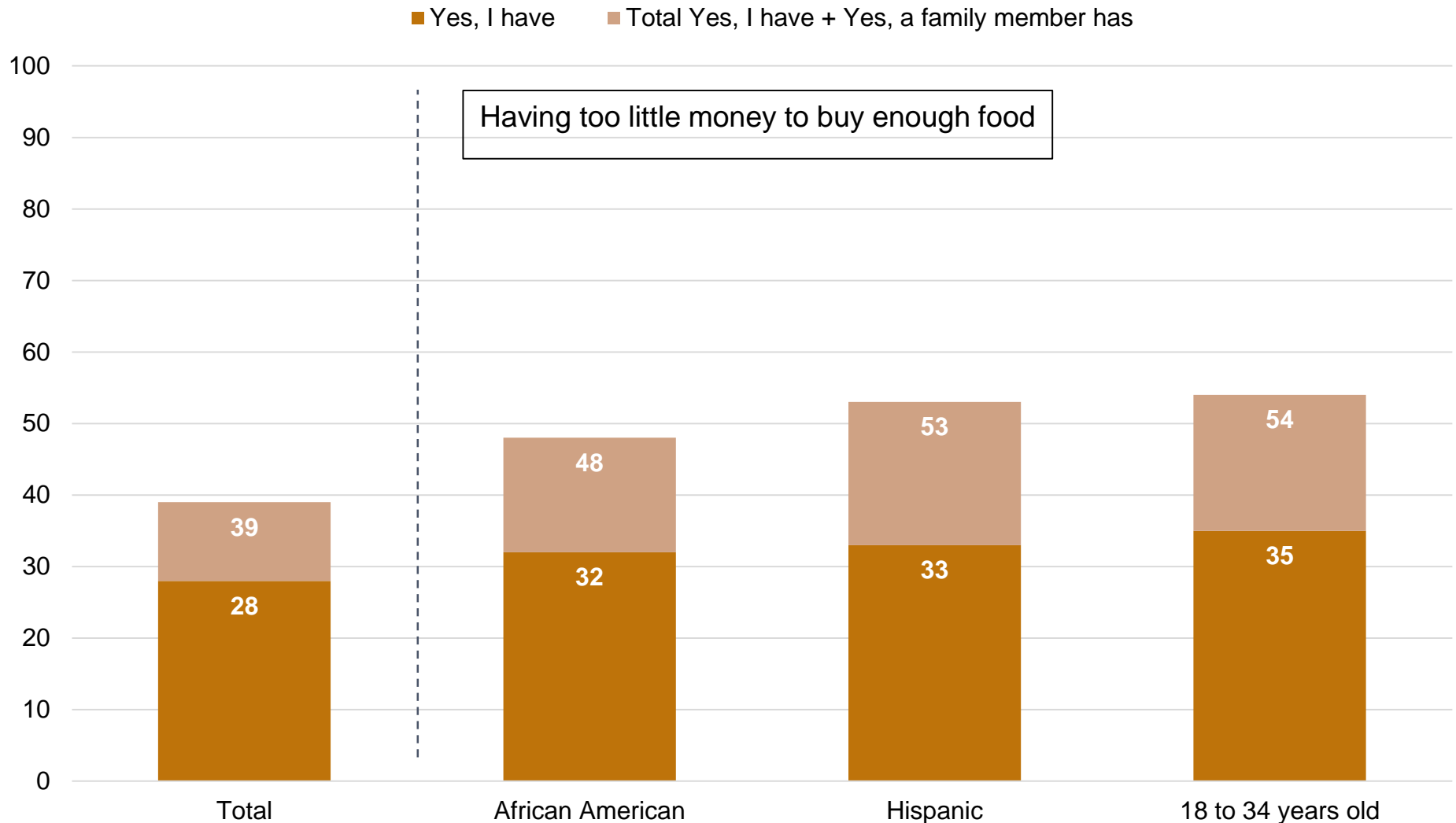


Nearly 40% Also Struggle With Food Security – Majorities of Latinos, Millennials

Figure 31



Have you or a member of your immediate family had a serious problem with this issue over the past year?



Majority Embrace Basic Living Standards, Reject Dependency Argument

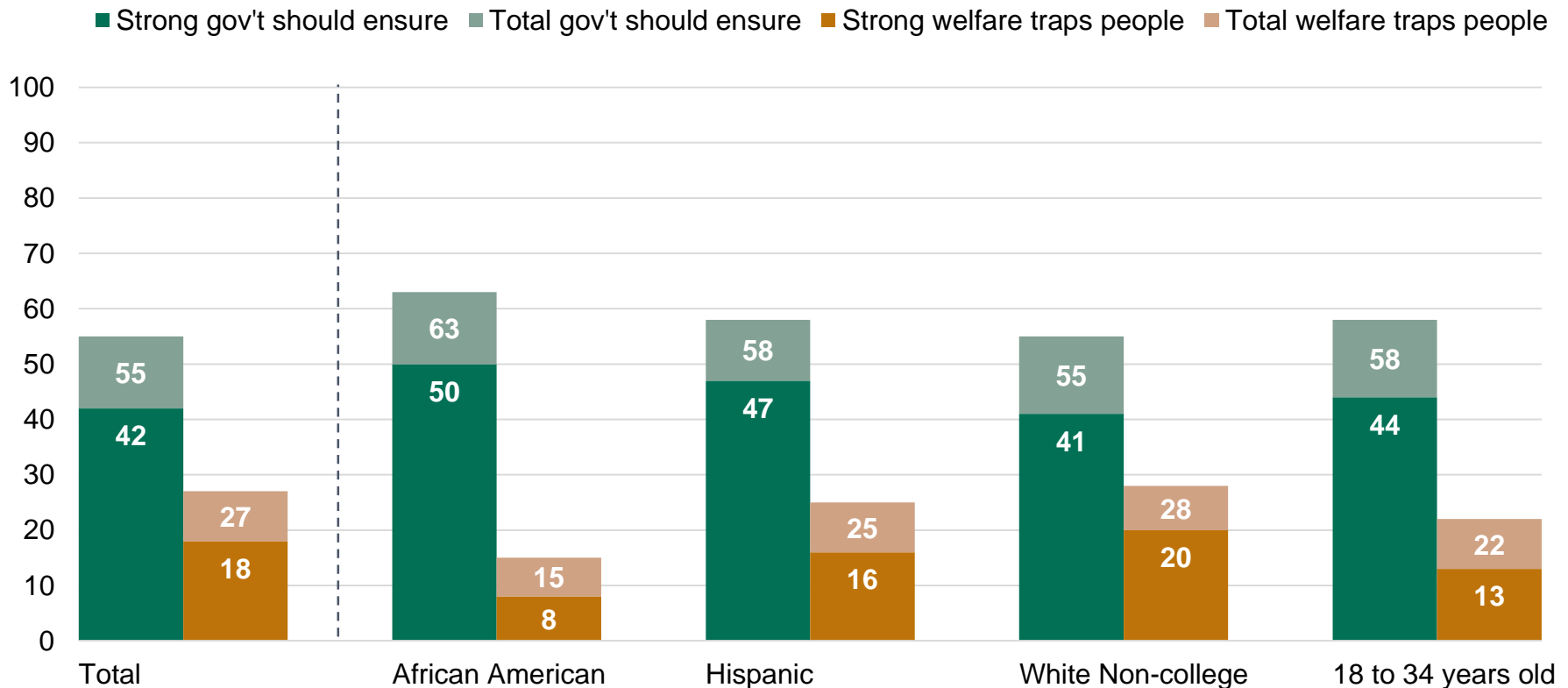
Figure 32



Now I'm going to read you some pairs of statements. After I read both statements, please tell me whether the first statement or the second statement comes closer to your own view, even if neither is exactly right.

The government should help ensure that all families have access to basic living standards like health care, nutrition, and housing if their wages are too low or they can't make ends meet.

Welfare programs trap people in poverty by leaving them dependent on the government and penalizing work.



Voters Embrace Need for Government Assistance by More than 3-to-1

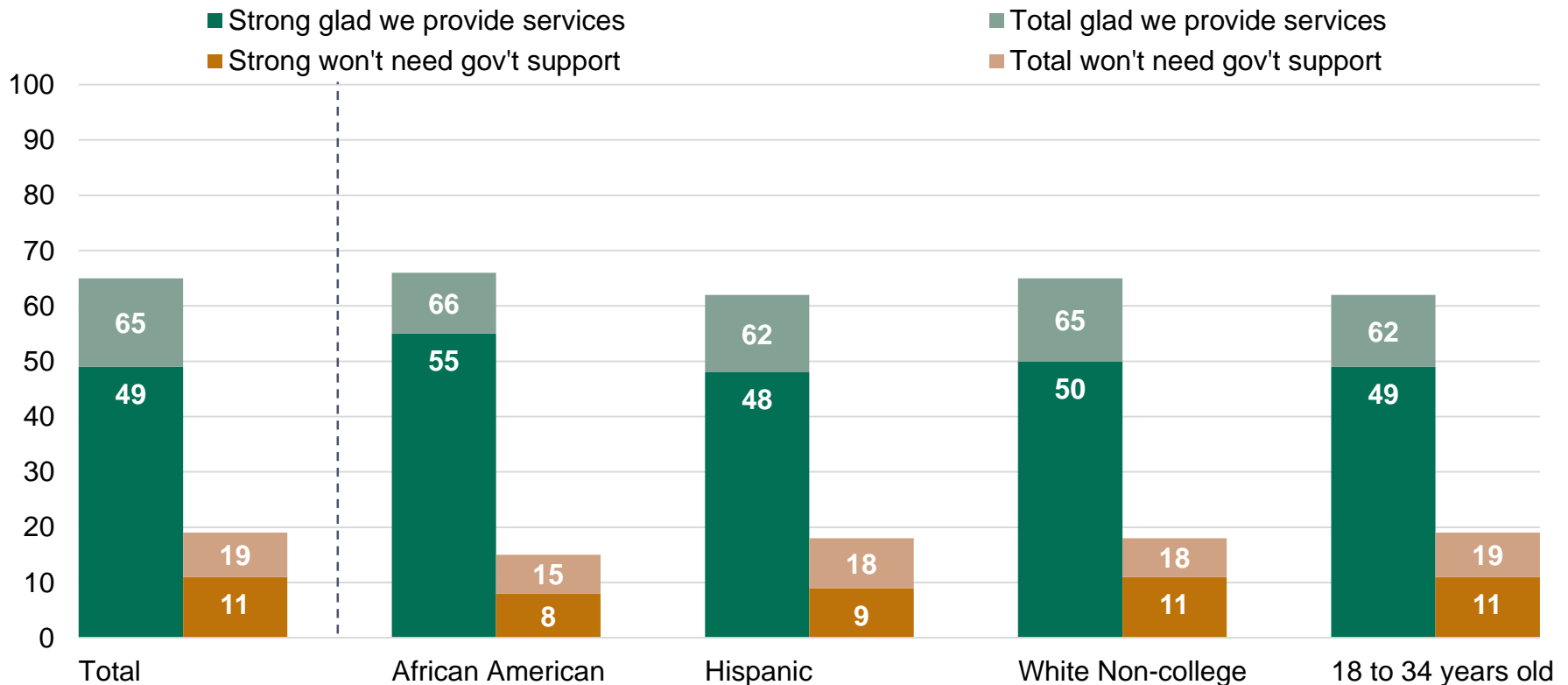
Figure 33



Now I'm going to read you some pairs of statements. After I read both statements, please tell me whether the first statement or the second statement comes closer to your own view, even if neither is exactly right.

Even if I may not need them now, I'm glad our society provides government services to ensure basic living standards for when times get tough.

I don't envision ever being in a position where I would need or want to use the health care, nutrition, housing, or income support offered by the government.



Economic Factors, Not Personal Irresponsibility, Trapping Americans in Poverty

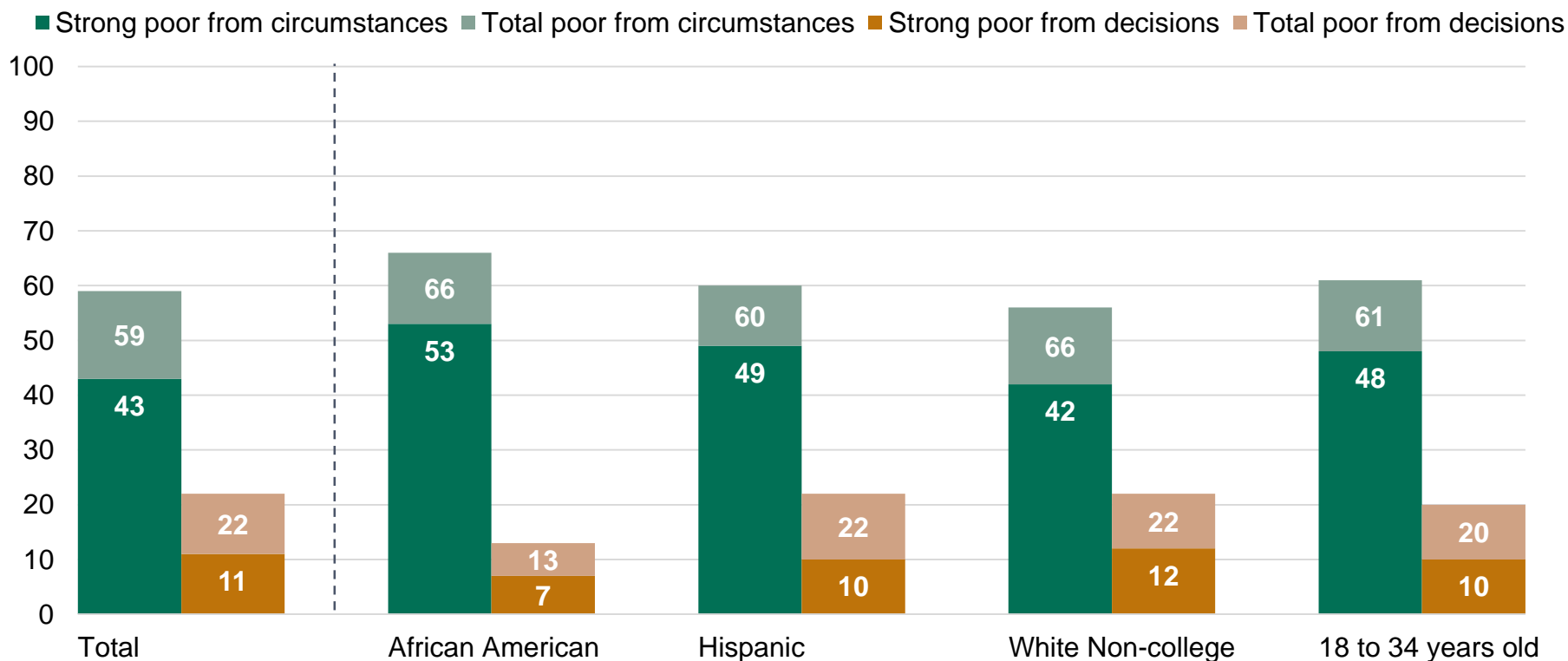
Figure 34



Now I'm going to read you some pairs of statements. After I read both statements, please tell me whether the first statement or the second statement comes closer to your own view, even if neither is exactly right.

Most people who live in poverty are poor because their jobs don't pay enough, they lack good health care and education, and things cost too much for them to save and move ahead.

Most people who live in poverty are poor because they make bad decisions or act irresponsibly in their own lives.



Progressive Policy Solutions Broadly Popular

Figure 35



For each one, please indicate whether you would support or oppose that particular policy solution.

(SPLIT F) Invest \$1 trillion over next 5 years on comprehensive infrastructure needs including physical infrastructure like roads, bridges, airports, and public transport; energy infrastructure to increase production and use of clean energy; and human infrastructure to help workers with good jobs that pay decent wages, affordable education, and child care support.

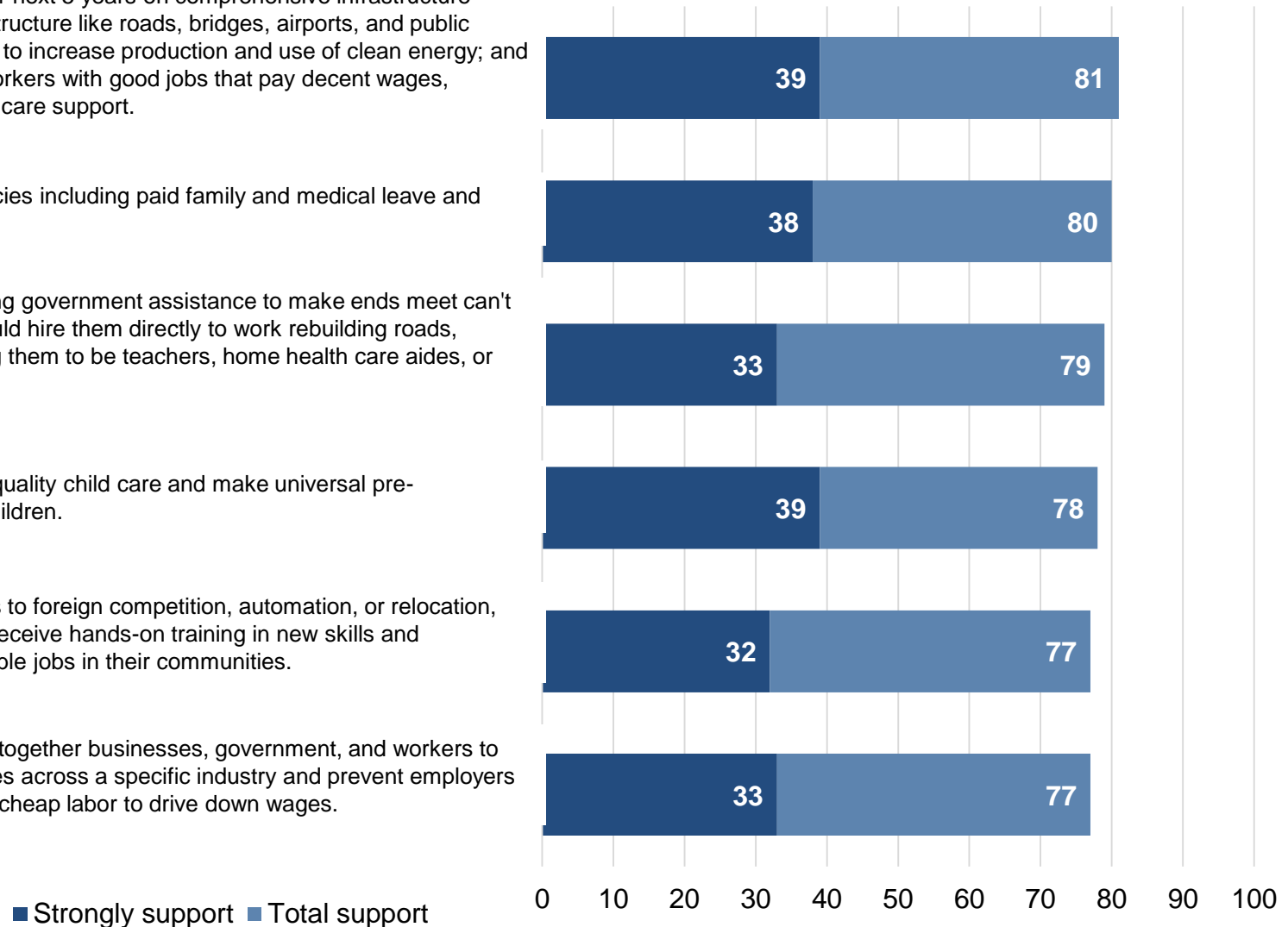
Enact basic family-friendly policies including paid family and medical leave and paid sick days.

(SPLIT E) If individuals receiving government assistance to make ends meet can't find work, the government should hire them directly to work rebuilding roads, bridges, and schools or training them to be teachers, home health care aides, or child care providers.

Help low wage workers afford quality child care and make universal pre-kindergarten available for all children.

For workers who lose their jobs to foreign competition, automation, or relocation, provide a salary and tuition to receive hands-on training in new skills and technology needed to fill available jobs in their communities.

Create wage boards that bring together businesses, government, and workers to ensure fair wages for employees across a specific industry and prevent employers from abusing the availability of cheap labor to drive down wages.



Progressive Policy Solutions Broadly Popular (Continued)

Figure 36



For each one, please indicate whether you would support or oppose that particular policy solution.

(SPLIT E) Invest \$1 trillion over the next 5 years to improve our nation's infrastructure by upgrading and building new roads, bridges, airports, and public transportation options like commuter trains, light rail, buses, and subways.

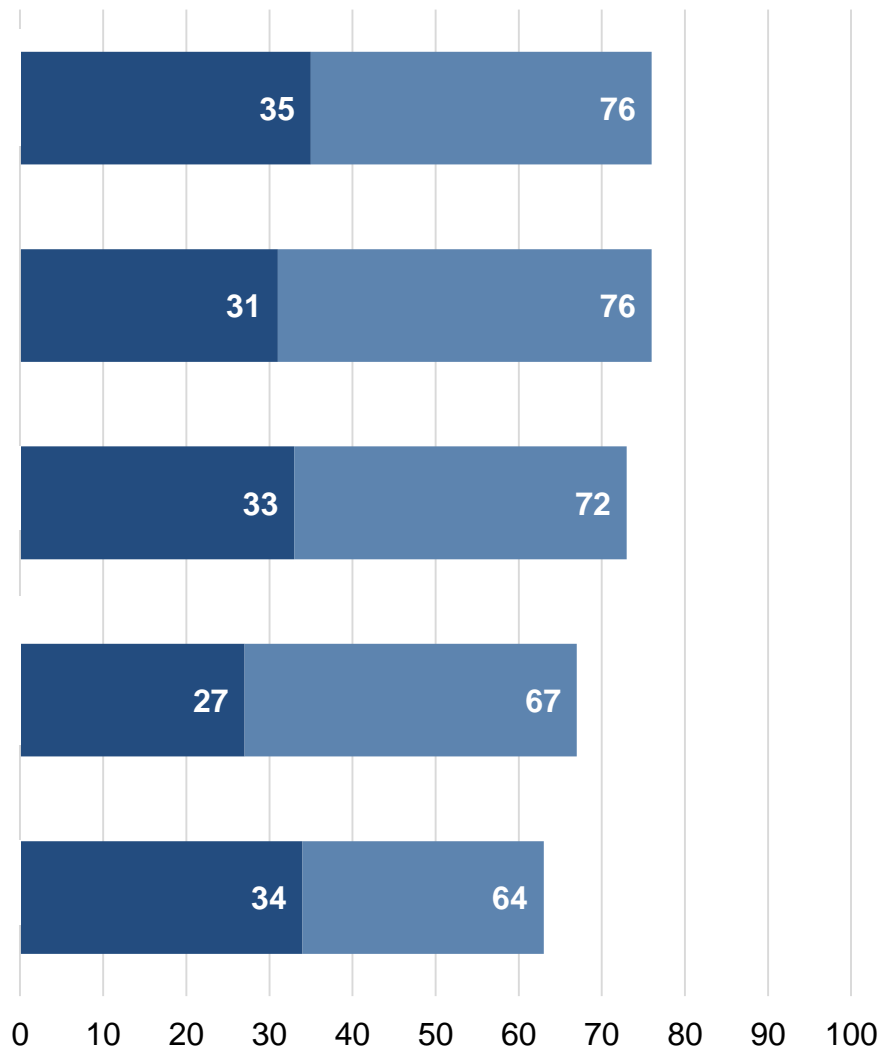
Ensure that all young people aged 25 or under are placed in a job, an apprenticeship, or enrolled in continuing education toward a specific vocation within 6 months of leaving school or a job.

Expand rental assistance for all low-income families spending more than half of their income on rent each month.

(SPLIT F) For anyone who is unemployed or underemployed, the government should guarantee them a job with a decent wage doing work that local communities need, such as rebuilding roads, bridges, and schools or working as teachers, home health care aides, or child care providers.

Increase the federal minimum wage to \$15 an hour and make sure it rises with inflation so that fewer working families have to rely on public assistance benefits.

■ Strongly support ■ Total support



g|b|a strategies



Someone stole the heart out of the budget.



You can do something about it.

The message Congress needs to hear from you:

- Say **NO** to a budget that slashes Medicaid, SNAP, housing, SSI, home heating/cooling aid, TANF, education and many more services that help low-income people secure basic living standards.
- Say **NO** to a budget that cuts trillions in basic needs programs to pay for tax cuts for corporations and the wealthy.
- Say **YES** to investments in child care, education, health care, rebuilding communities so people can work at good jobs.

Send emails to Congress

**Right after this
webinar!!**

Go to

www.chn.org –
take action

Click and send –



And tell your friends!



HandsOff Social Media Budget Toolkit:

Sample tweets re taxes, Medicaid, cuts, work requirements, child poverty, SNAP...

Find at www.chn.org

HandsOff Budget Sample Tweets				
HandsOff tweets		Resources		
Veterans	1.75 million veterans turn to Medicaid for health care. 1.7 million turn to food assistance. 500,000 are served by Meals on Wheels. Trump's budget cuts funding to them all. #HandsOff programs that serve our veterans. http://pic.twitter.com/Z3BnbjjeK4	 https://ctt.ec/Onk79	 pic.twitter.com/Z3BnbjjeK4	recurren a ayuda alimentaria. 500,000 atendidos por Meals on Wheels. El presupuesto de Trump les corta el fondo a todos. #HandsOff programs that serve veterans.
SNAP	After exploding the deficit to give handouts to his rich friends, Trump's budget proposes cutting \$200 billion from SNAP—a program he says we can no longer afford #HandsOff https://www.vox.com/2018/2/12/17003804/donald-trump-budget-2019-read-pdf-full-document	https://ctt.ec/d2k95		
SNAP	Trump's budget proposes cuts to food assistance that would cause poverty to skyrocket. Tell Trump and Congress #HandsOff food assistance. pic.twitter.com/XvDIZxdkFi	https://ctt.ec/sbFfH	pic.twitter.com/XvDIZxdkFi	El presupuesto de Trump propone cortar la asistencia alimentaria que podrían causar se disparara la pobreza. Dile a Trump y al Congreso #HandsOff food assistance.
Cuts General	Taking away someone's health care, housing or food assistance doesn't help them find work any faster. So why does Trump's budget continue to attack programs working and middle class families rely on? Tell Congress #HandsOff www.HandsOff.org http://pic.twitter.com/dvcmFcU0Tt	https://ctt.ec/VHd6h	pic.twitter.com/dvcmFcU0Tt	Quitándole a alguien el cuidado de la salud, vivienda o la ayuda alimentaria no les ayuda a encontrar trabajo más rápido. Entonces ¿qué el presupuesto de Trump continúa atacando a programas de los que dependen las familias trabajadoras? Dile al Congreso #HandsOff www.HandsOff.org

Add your Rep and Senators' Twitter handles

Find them at

<https://www.chn.org/take-action/action-alerts/>

[Find Your Senators' Twitter Handles](#)

[Find Your Representative's Twitter Handle](#)

Recess: February 17-25

Find town halls, rallies, office hours...

<https://resistancenearme.org>

The screenshot shows a web browser window with the URL <https://resistancenearme.org/index.html>. The browser's address bar and tabs are visible at the top. The website's main header features a large image of a protest with a blue arrow pointing to a search bar labeled "Zip Code" and a yellow button labeled "Find an event". To the right of the image, the text "Resistance near me." is displayed in large, bold letters, with "Resistance" in yellow and "near me." in white. Below this, a paragraph describes the website as a hub for progressive local #resist actions. A filter section titled "Filter events by..." includes dropdown menus for Member, Party, State, Event Type, and Sort. A list of event types with their descriptions follows: Resistance Event, Town Hall, Office Hours, Ticketed Event, TeleTown Hall Meeting, DC Event, and Coffee. At the bottom, a map of the United States is shown, with "ONTARIO" and "QUEBEC" labeled. The Windows taskbar is visible at the very bottom, showing the search bar, task view button, and several application icons.

Washington Post: National, Mail - DWeinstein@chn.org, CQ, Resistance Near Me || Fi X

← → ↻ 🔒 <https://resistancenearme.org/index.html> ☆ ⌵ ⌵ ⌵ ⌵ ⌵ ⌵

Zip Code

Find an event

Resistance near me.

Resistance Near Me is a hub for progressive local #resist actions, designed for you to find any public event, rally, town hall, protest, and more, near you, as well as the information you need to contact your member of Congress. It's never been more important to raise our voices to resist Trump's harmful agenda and the elected representatives who aren't speaking for us.

Filter events by... Member ▼ Party ▼ State ▼ Event Type ▼ Sort ▼

Resistance Event - A public rally, protest, or march that doesn't necessarily include a member of Congress
Town Hall - A forum where members of Congress give updates on the current affairs of Congress and answer questions from constituents
Office Hours - Serves the same purpose as a Town Hall, however Elected Officials are not always expected to attend
Ticketed Event - Oftentimes county party events, local fundraisers, or campaign functions. There may be a fee for admission.
TeleTown Hall Meeting - A town hall conducted by conference call.
DC Event - Event held in the MOC's DC Office.
Coffee - Usually a small regular meeting with constituents in Washington D.C. while Congress is in session.

ONTARIO QUEBEC

Type here to search

12:05 AM 2/14/2018



Happy Valentine's Day!

**Thanks for
putting the heart
back in the
budget!**

Find resources you
need at
www.chn.org

Debbie Weinstein,
dweinstein@chn.org



COALITION ON HUMAN NEEDS