

**Kaiser Family Foundation/CNN**

# **Working-Class Whites Poll**

*Selected Findings*

September 2016

# Kaiser Family Foundation/CNN Working-Class Whites Poll

## *Conventional Wisdom*

September 2016

# Working-Class Whites Are More Likely to Be Dissatisfied with Direction of Country than College-Educated Whites

Percent who are **very dissatisfied with the country's economic situation:**

Percent who think that in general, **America's best days are behind us:**

Percent who think that when their children are the age they are now, **their standard of living will be worse:**

Working-Class Whites

53%

47%

50%

College-Educated Whites

37%

28%

35%

Exhibit 1.2

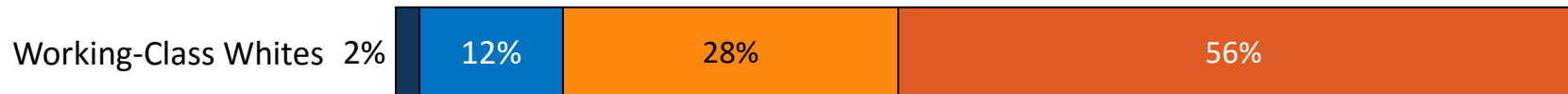
# Majority of Working-Class Whites Feel the Federal Government Does Not Represent Their Views

How well do you feel the government in Washington represents the views of people like yourself?

■ Very well    ■ Somewhat well    ■ Not too well    ■ Not at all well



By Key Subgroups:



NOTE: Don't know/Refused responses not shown.

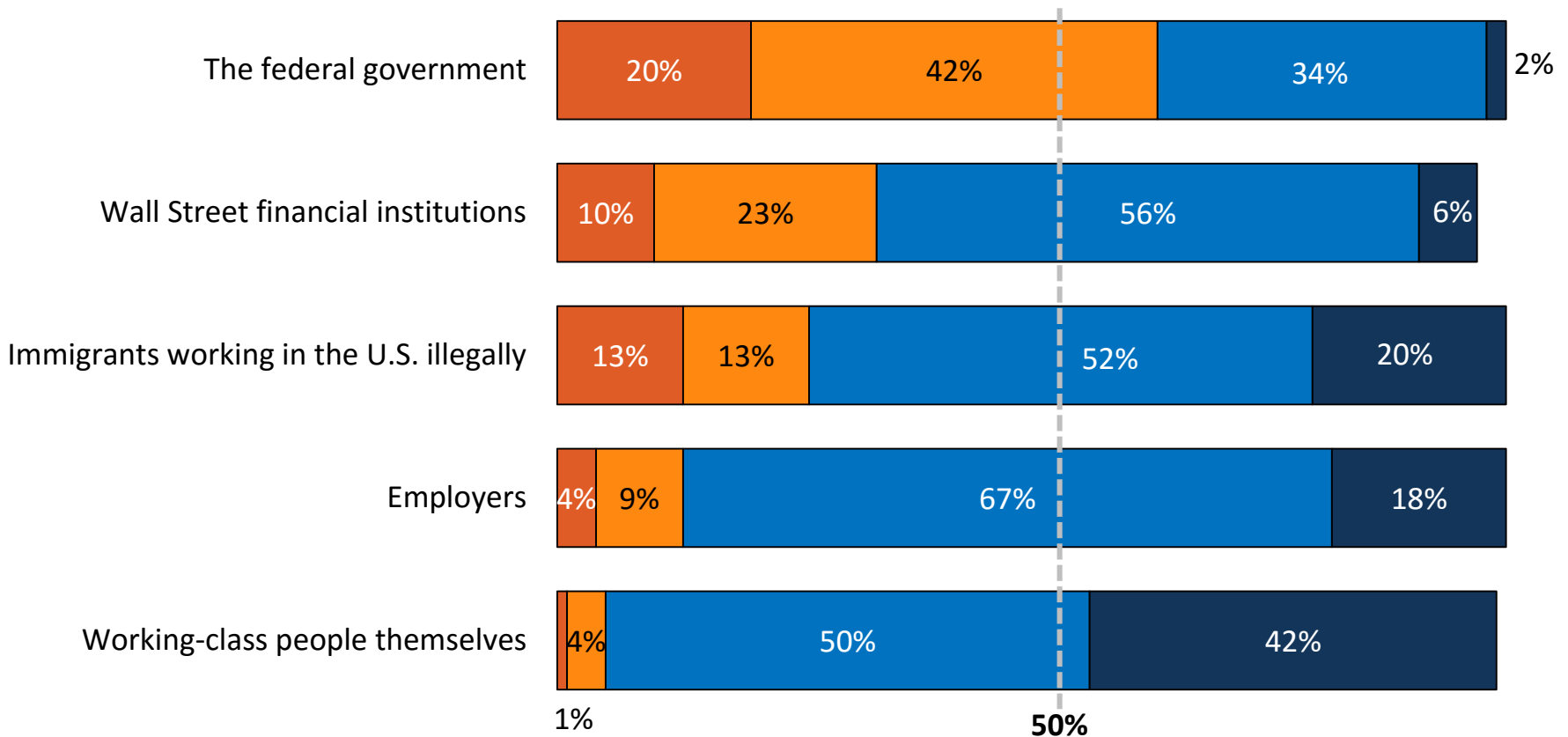
SOURCE: Kaiser Family Foundation/CNN Working-Class Whites Poll (conducted August 9-September 5, 2016)

Exhibit 1.3

# Majority of Non-College Whites Blame the Federal Government for the Economic Problems Facing the Working Class

AMONG WORKING-CLASS WHITES: How much blame do you think each of the following deserves for the economic problems facing the working class?

■ All of the blame ■ Most of the blame ■ Just some of the blame ■ None of the blame



NOTE: Don't know/Refused responses not shown.

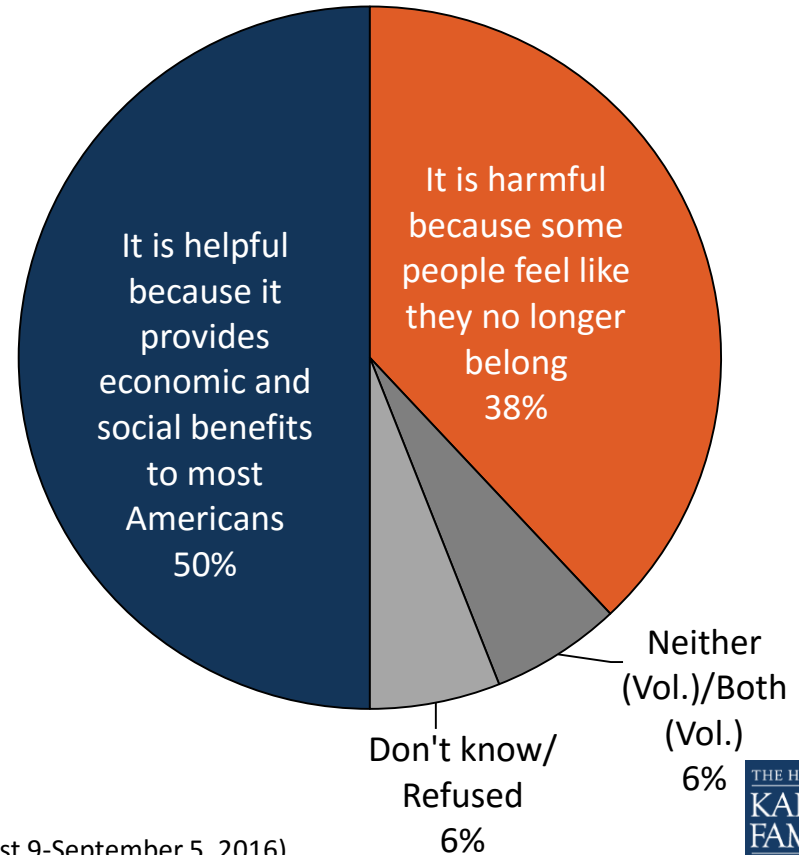
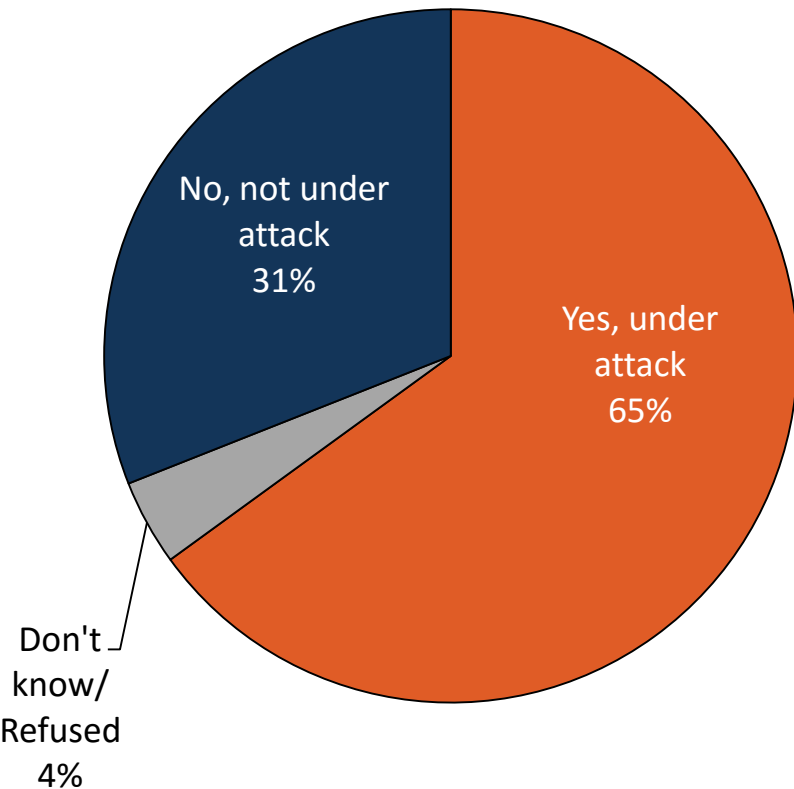
SOURCE: Kaiser Family Foundation/CNN Working-Class Whites Poll (conducted August 9-September 5, 2016)

# Two-Thirds of Working-Class Whites Feel Christian Values Under Attack; Almost Four in Ten See Increasing Diversity as Harmful

AMONG WORKING-CLASS WHITES:

Do you think that Christian values are under attack in America today, or not?

Which comes closer to your view about the increasing racial and ethnic diversity in America?



SOURCE: Kaiser Family Foundation/CNN Working-Class Whites Poll (conducted August 9-September 5, 2016)

# Working-Class Whites More Likely to See Immigrants as Burden, More Likely to Support Deportation of Illegal Immigrants

Percent who agree that “immigrants today are a burden on our country because they take our jobs, housing, and health care:”

Percent who say the government should attempt to deport all people currently living in the country illegally:

Total U.S. Adults

31%

39%

By Key Subgroups:

Working-Class Whites

47%

55%

College-Educated Whites

20%

27%

Working-Class Blacks

30%

36%

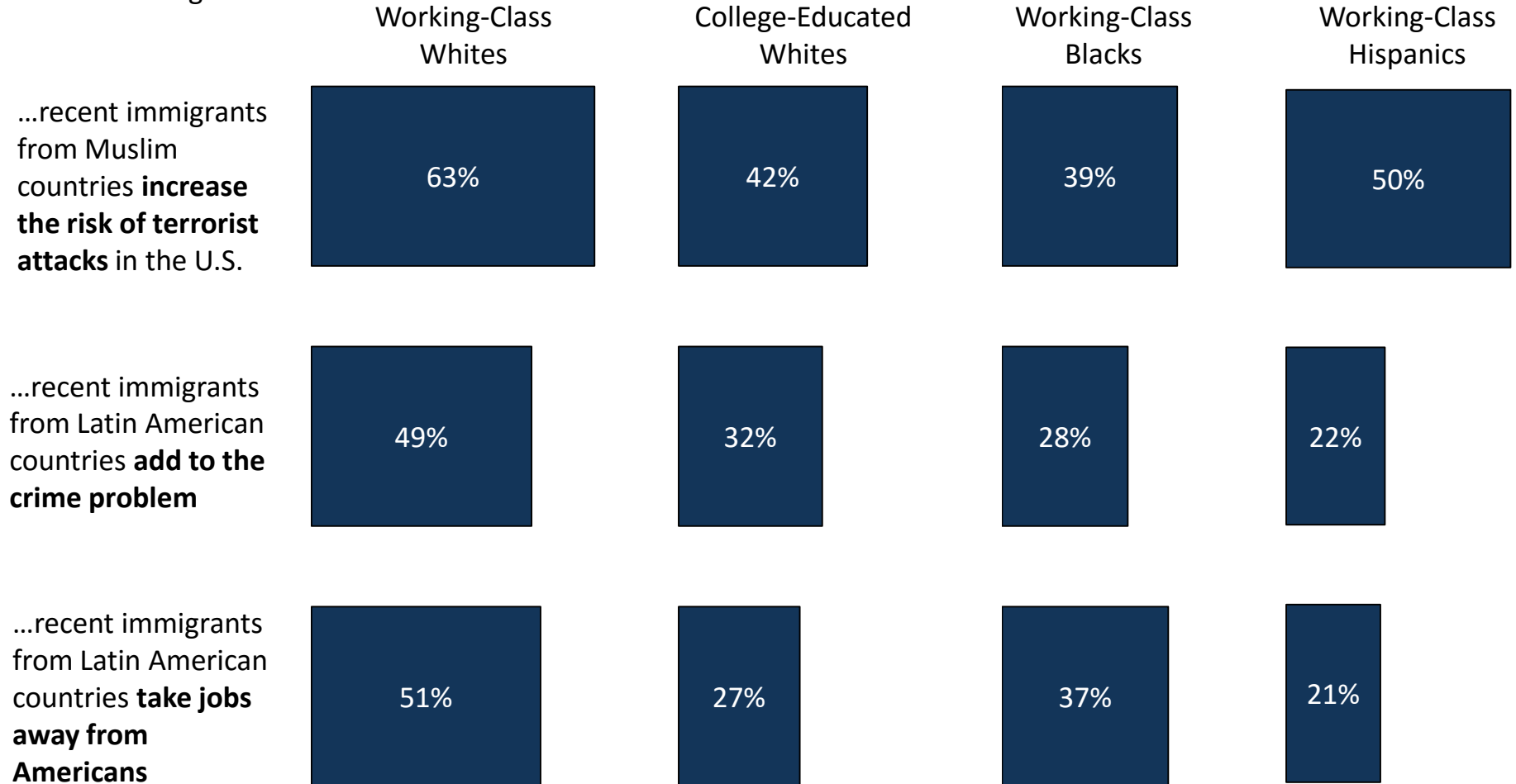
Working-Class Hispanics

18%

18%

# Working-Class Whites More Likely than Other Groups to Agree with Negative Stereotypes of Recent Muslim, Latin Immigrants

Percent who agree that...



NOTE: Question wording abbreviated. See topline for full question wording.

SOURCE: Kaiser Family Foundation/CNN Working-Class Whites Poll (conducted August 9-September 5, 2016)



# Majority of Working-Class White Voters Say They Would Consider Voting for Donald Trump

AMONG REGISTERED VOTERS: Thinking about the upcoming presidential election, would you CONSIDER voting for Donald Trump, or would you DEFINITELY NOT vote for him?

■ Consider voting for Trump      ■ Definitely not vote for Trump

Total Registered Voters



By Key Subgroups:

Working-Class Whites



College-Educated Whites



Working-Class Blacks



Working-Class Hispanics

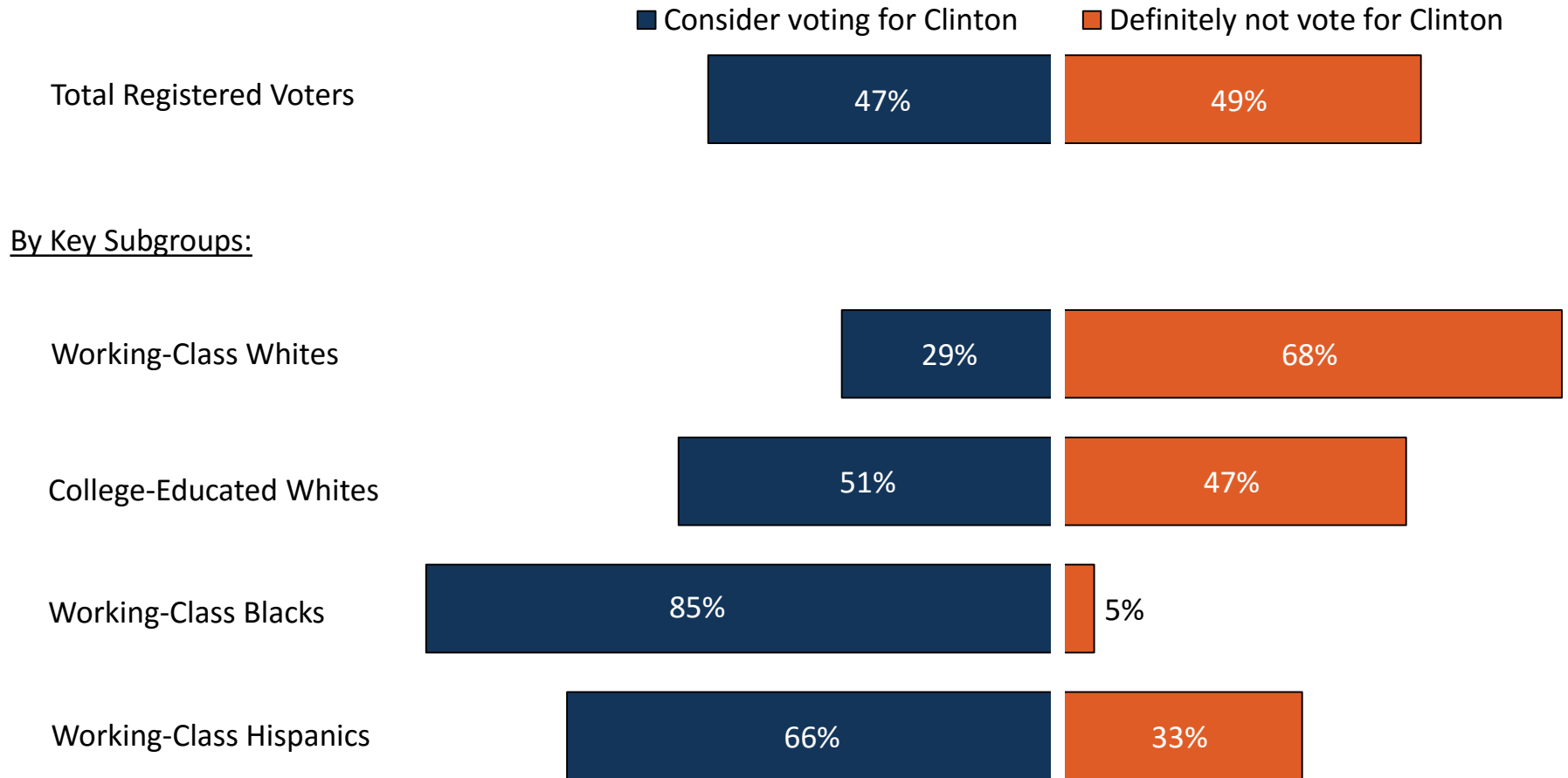


NOTE: Don't plan to vote (Vol.) and Don't know/Refused responses not shown.

SOURCE: Kaiser Family Foundation/CNN Working-Class Whites Poll (conducted August 9-September 5, 2016)

# Two-Thirds of Working-Class White Voters Say They Would Definitely Not Vote for Hillary Clinton

AMONG REGISTERED VOTERS: Thinking about the upcoming presidential election, would you CONSIDER voting for Hillary Clinton, or would you DEFINITELY NOT vote for her?



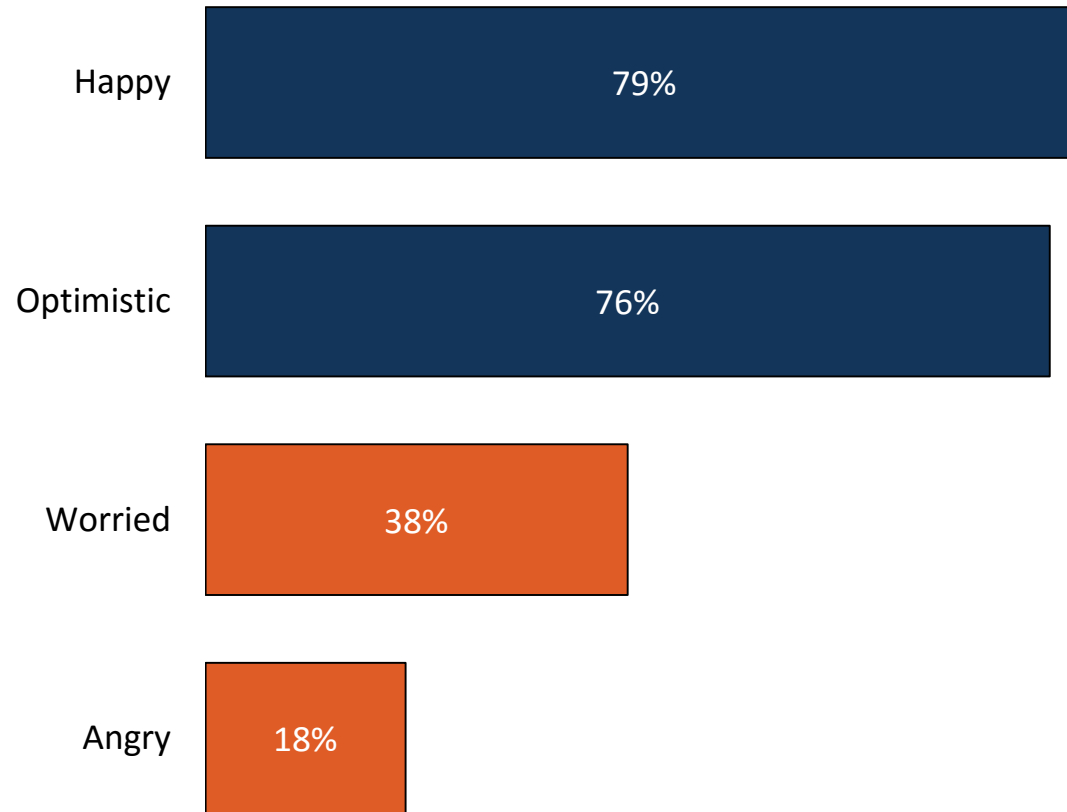
By Key Subgroups:

NOTE: Don't plan to vote (Vol.) and Don't know/Refused responses not shown.

SOURCE: Kaiser Family Foundation/CNN Working-Class Whites Poll (conducted August 9-September 5, 2016)

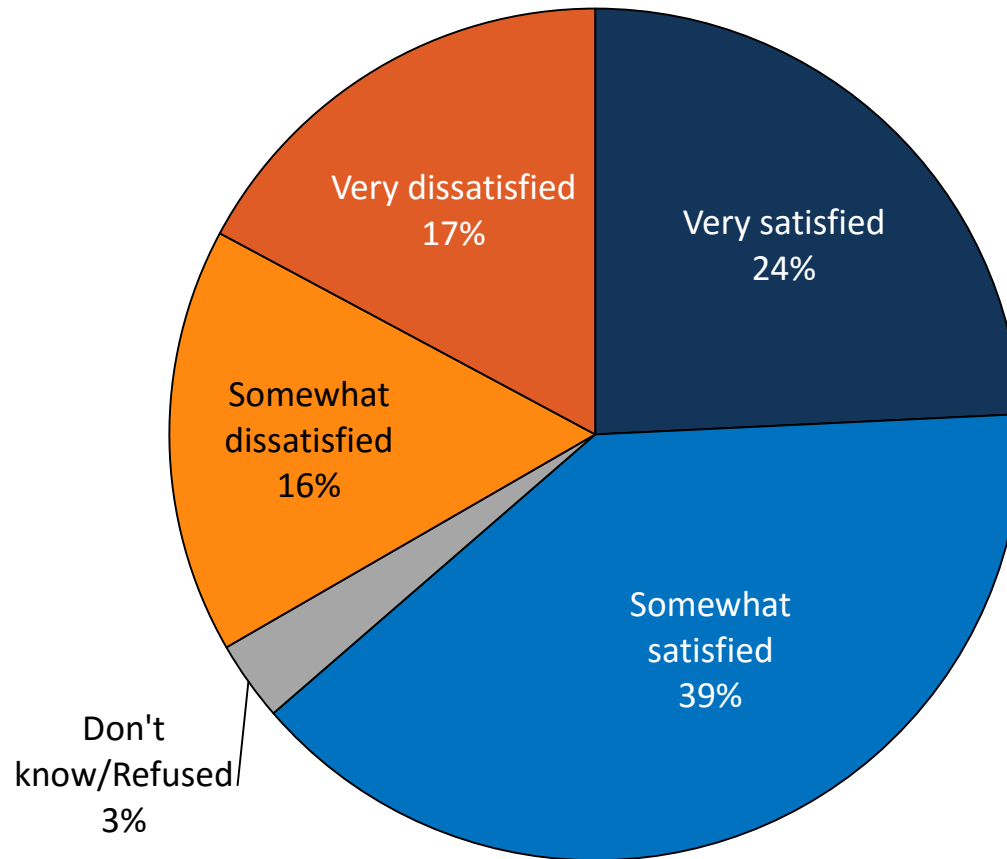
# Large Majority of Working-Class Whites Are Happy About How Things Are Going in Their Own Lives; Few Say They Are Angry

AMONG WORKING-CLASS WHITES: Percent who say each of the following describes how they feel about how things are going in their own lives today:



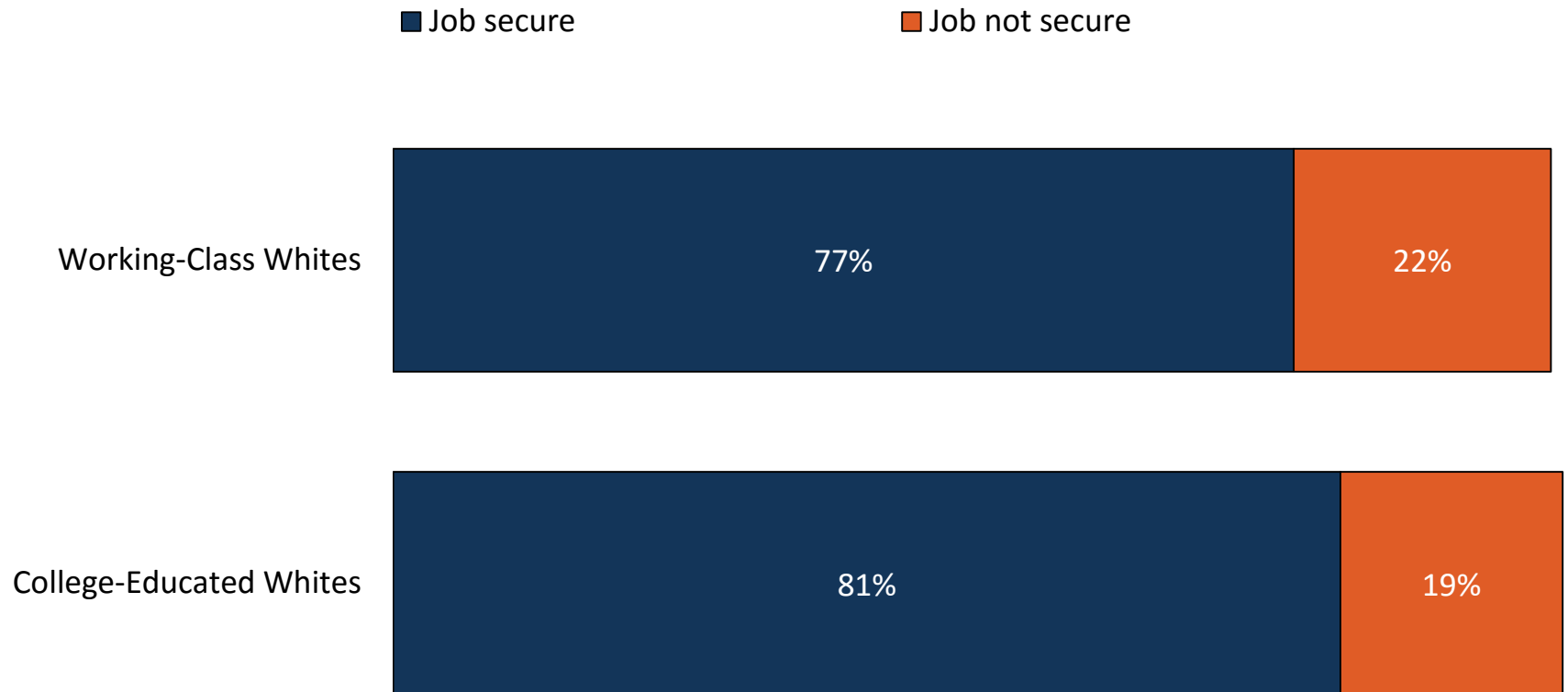
# Nearly Two-Thirds of Working-Class Whites Are Satisfied with Their Personal Financial Situation

AMONG WORKING-CLASS WHITES: Overall, would you say you are satisfied or dissatisfied with your own personal financial situation?



# Most Employed Working-Class Whites Feel Their Job Is Secure

AMONG WHITES WHO ARE EMPLOYED FULL TIME OR PART-TIME: Do you feel your job is secure, that if you do good work you will be able to keep it as long as you want, or don't you feel this way?



NOTE: Don't know/Refused responses not shown.

SOURCE: Kaiser Family Foundation/CNN Working-Class Whites Poll (conducted August 9-September 5, 2016)

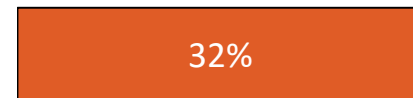
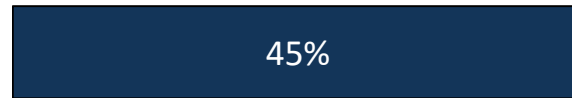
# Employment Good News and Bad News

AMONG THOSE AGES 18-64: Percent who say that during the past 12 months, they or another family member living in their household have...

...received a raise or a promotion at a job:

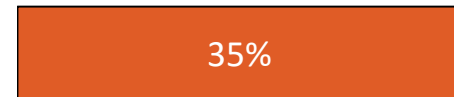
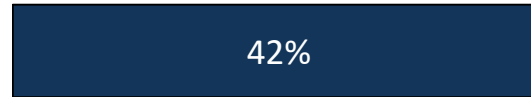
...lost a job or had work hours reduced:

Total U.S. Adults  
Ages 18-64

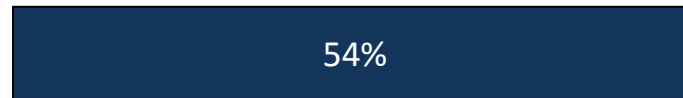


By Key Subgroups:

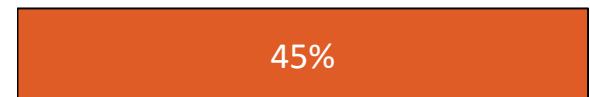
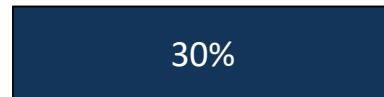
Working-Class Whites



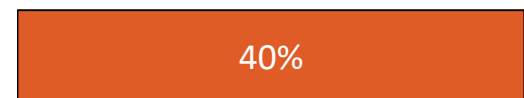
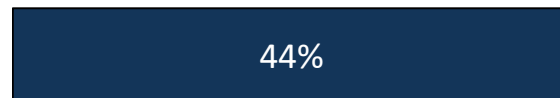
College-Educated Whites



Working-Class Blacks

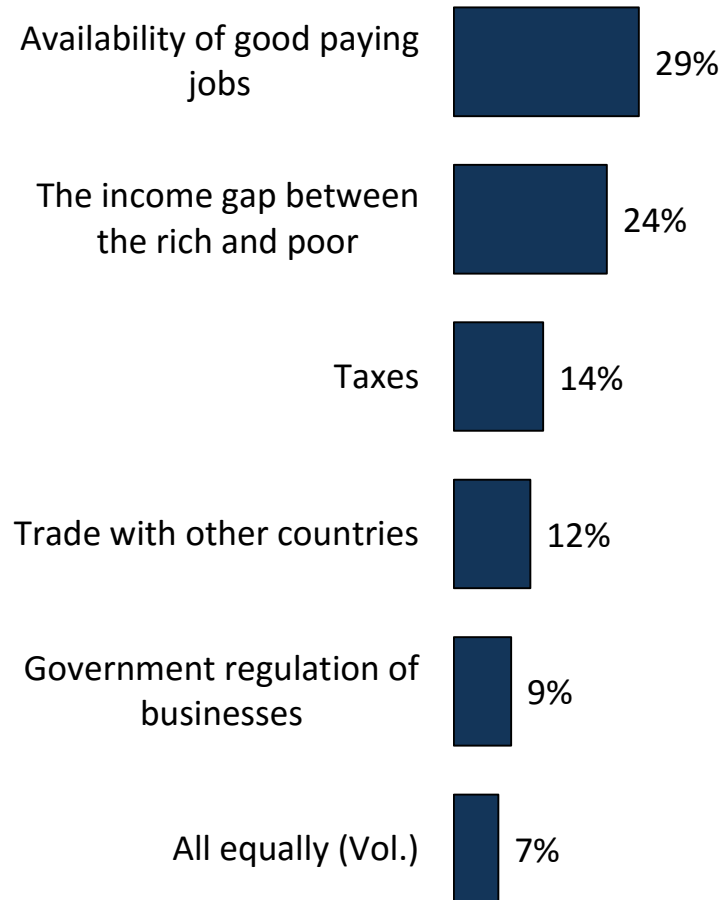


Working-Class Hispanics



# Working-Class Whites See Jobs and Income Gap as Top Economic Issues for Next President to Address

AMONG WORKING-CLASS WHITES: Which of the following economic issues do you think is most important for the next president to address?



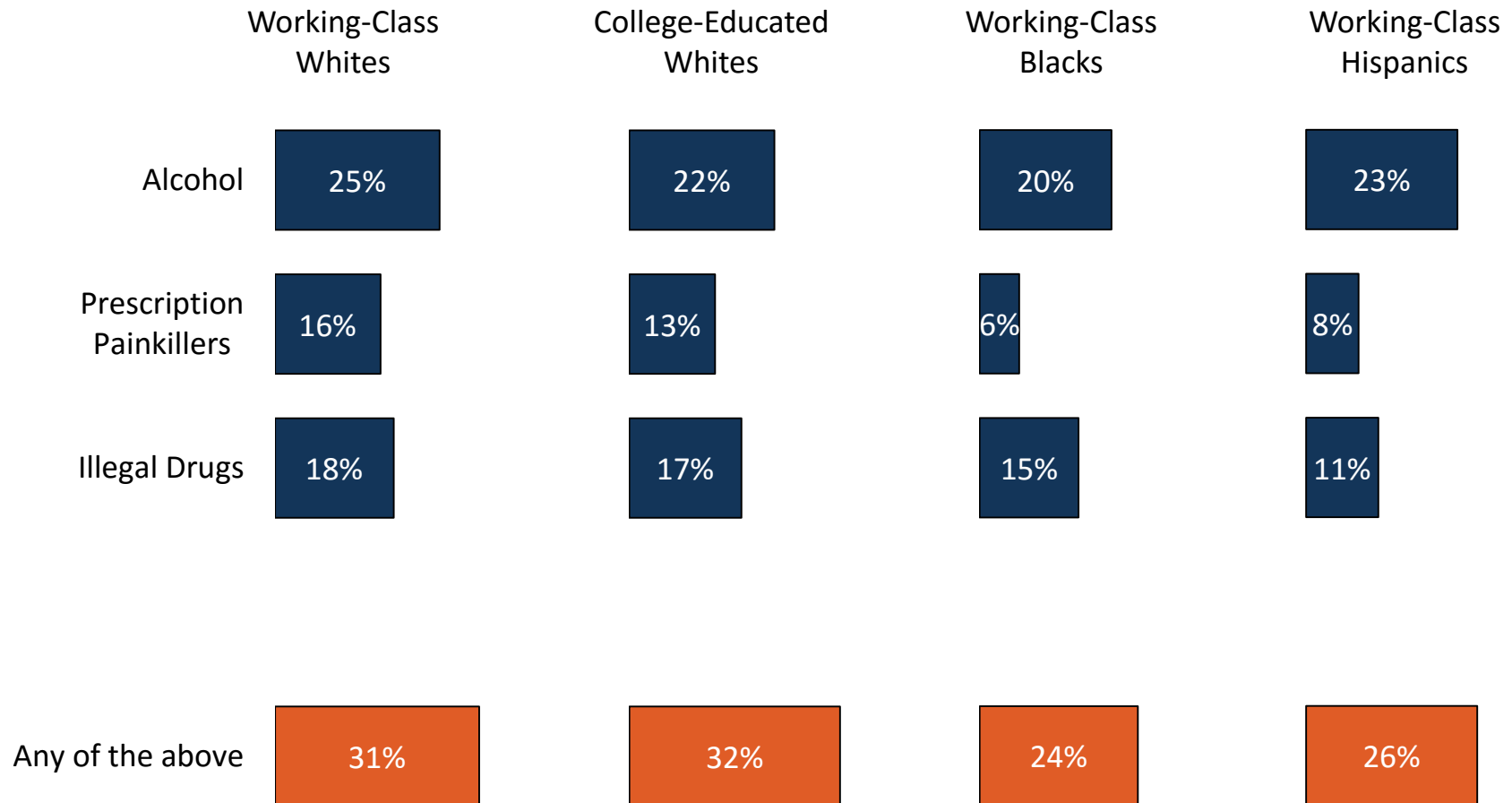
NOTE: None of these (Vol.), Something else (Vol.), and Don't know/Refused responses not shown.

SOURCE: Kaiser Family Foundation/CNN Working-Class Whites Poll (conducted August 9-September 5, 2016)

Exhibit 1.14

# Working-Class Whites and College-Grad Whites Report Similar Rates of Experiences with Addiction

Percent who say that they themselves, or a close friend or family member, has ever been addicted to:



SOURCE: Kaiser Family Foundation/CNN Working-Class Whites Poll (conducted August 9-September 5, 2016)



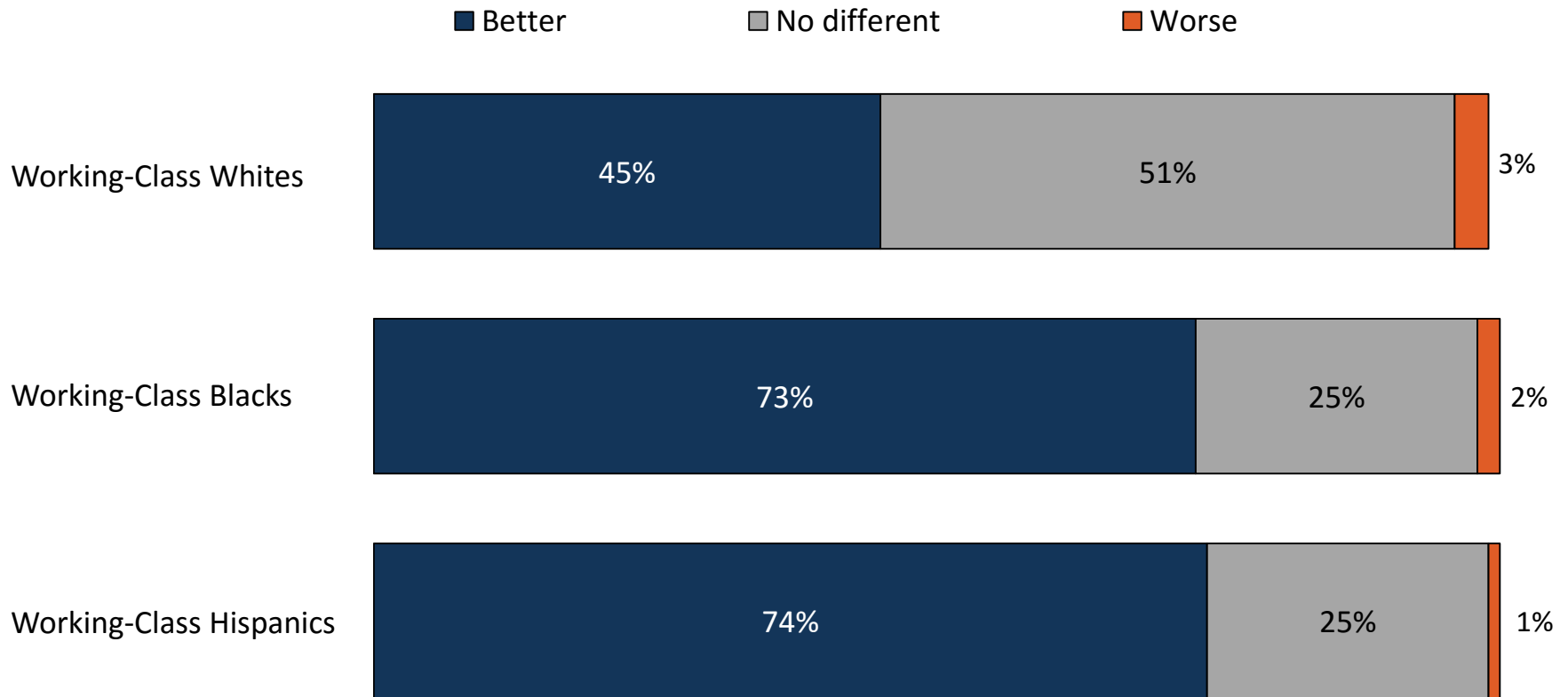
# Kaiser Family Foundation/CNN Working-Class Whites Poll

## *Race Versus Class*

September 2016

# Half of Working-Class Whites Think Their Lives Would Be No Different with a College Degree

AMONG THOSE WITHOUT A FOUR-YEAR DEGREE: Do you think your life would be better, worse, or no different if you had a four-year college degree?



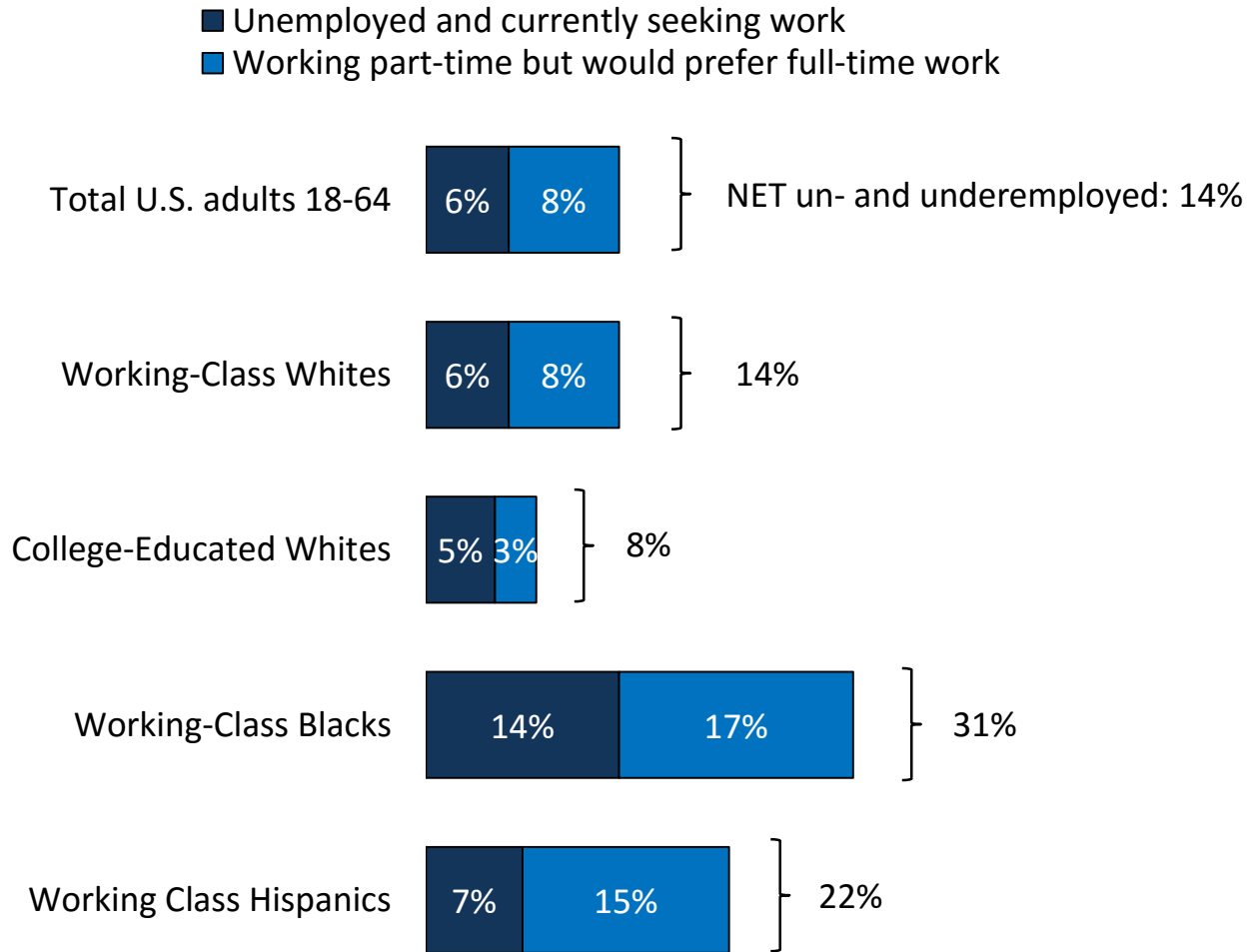
NOTE: Don't know/Refused responses not shown.

SOURCE: Kaiser Family Foundation/CNN Working-Class Whites Poll (conducted August 9-September 5, 2016)

Exhibit 2.2

# Among Working Class, Whites Less Likely than Blacks and Hispanics to Be Unemployed or Underemployed

AMONG THOSE AGES 18-64: Percent who report that they are:

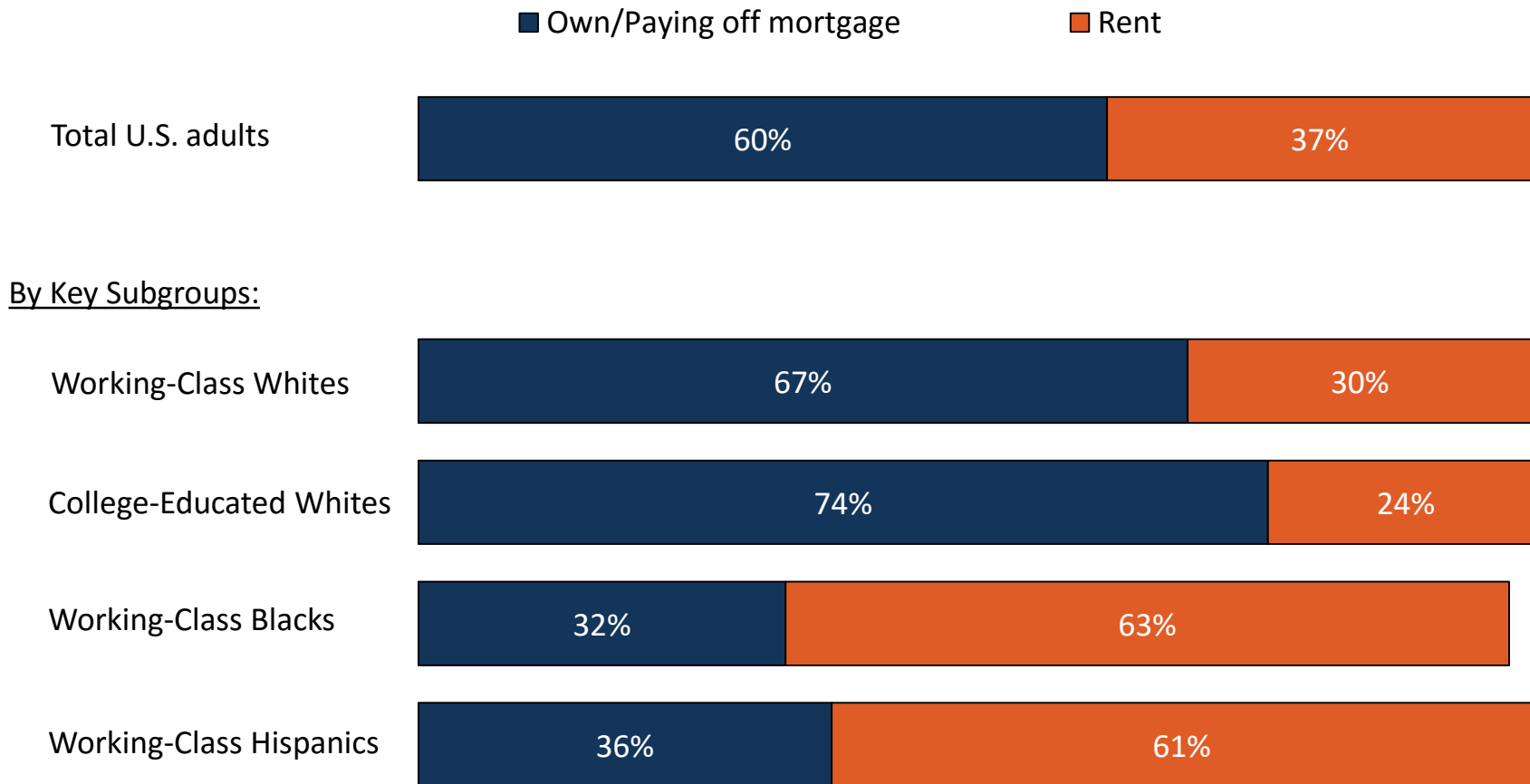


SOURCE: Kaiser Family Foundation/CNN Working-Class Whites Poll (conducted August 9-September 5, 2016)

Exhibit 2.3

# Larger Share of Working-Class Whites Report Owning Their Home than Black and Hispanic Peers

Do you own or rent your home?

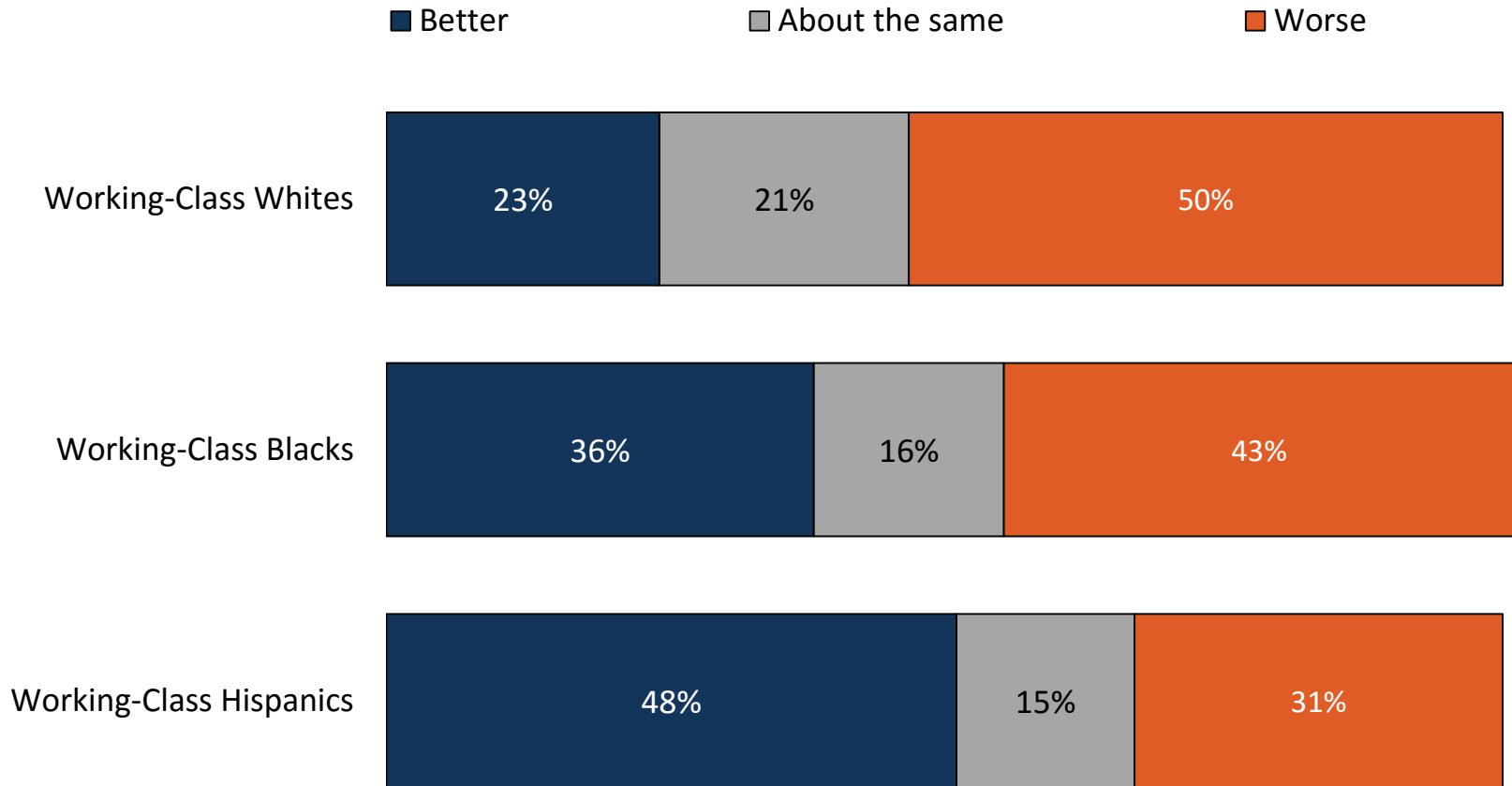


NOTE: Other (Vol.) and Don't know/Refused responses not shown.

SOURCE: Kaiser Family Foundation/CNN Working-Class Whites Poll (conducted August 9-September 5, 2016)

# Working-Class Whites Less Likely to Express Optimism about Children's Future than Black, Hispanic Peers

When your children are the age you are now, do you think their standard of living will be better, about the same, or worse than yours is now?

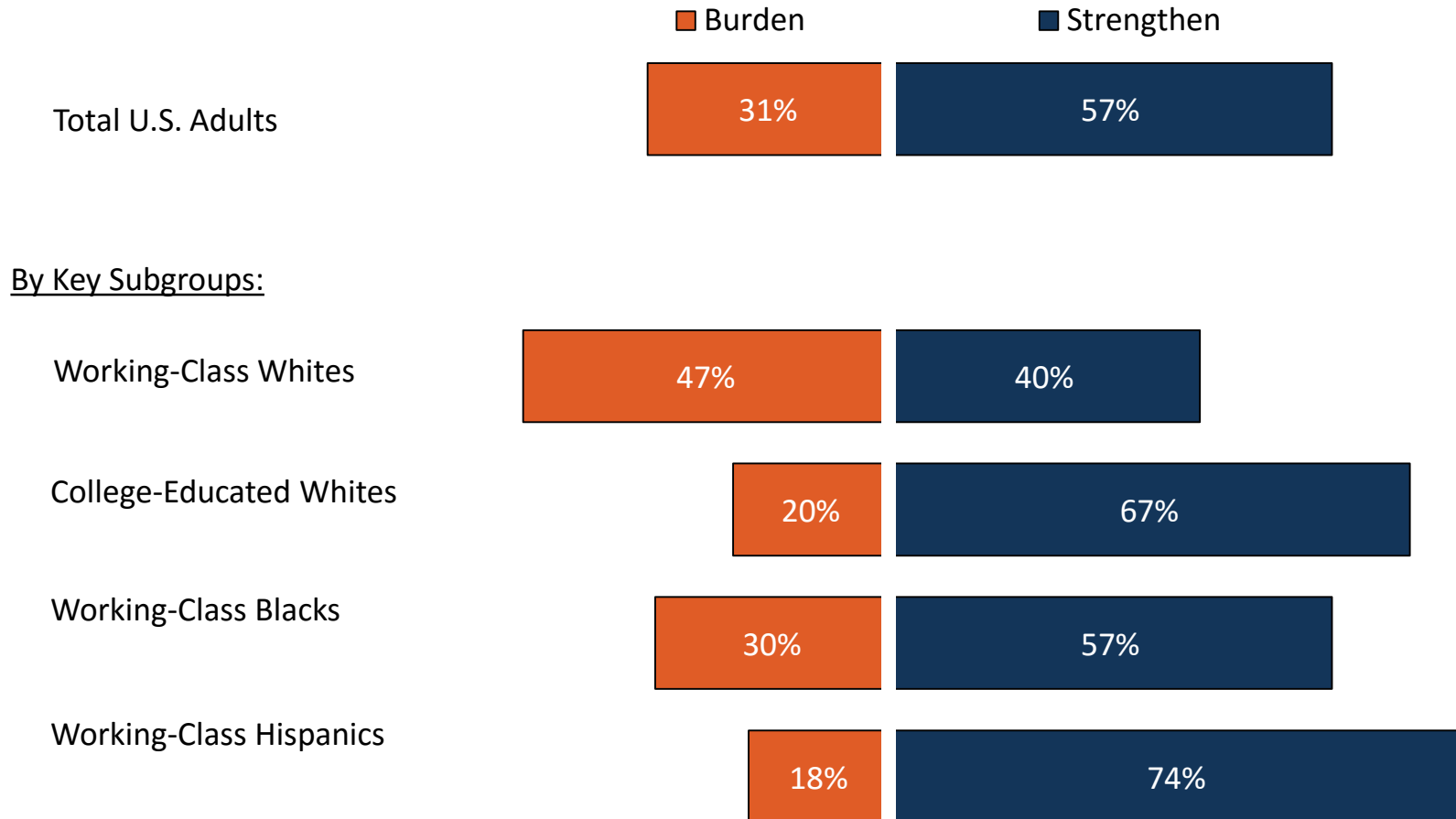


NOTE: Don't have children/Don't plan to have children (Vol.) and Don't know/Refused responses not shown.

SOURCE: Kaiser Family Foundation/CNN Working-Class Whites Poll (conducted August 9-September 5, 2016)

# Working-Class Whites More Likely Than Blacks, Hispanics to See Immigrants as a Burden on the Country

Which of the following comes closer to your view? Immigrants today strengthen our country because of their hard work and talents, OR immigrants today are a burden on our country because they take our jobs, housing and health care?



NOTE: Both (Vol.), Neither (Vol.), and Don't know/Refused responses not shown.

SOURCE: Kaiser Family Foundation/CNN Working-Class Whites Poll (conducted August 9-September 5, 2016)

Exhibit 2.6

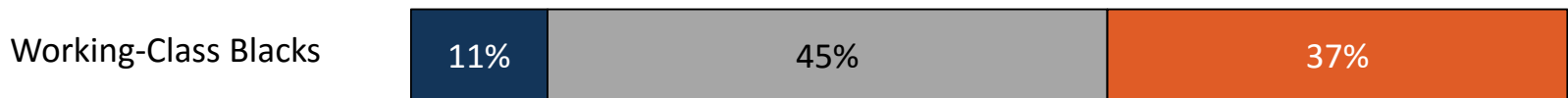
# Working-Class Whites More Likely than Black, Hispanic Peers to Say Trade Agreements Have Cost the U.S. Jobs

Do you think that trade agreements between the United States and other countries have helped create more jobs in the U.S., have cost the U.S. jobs, or haven't they made much of a difference?

■ Helped create more jobs in the U.S.    ■ Haven't made much of a difference    ■ Have cost the U.S. jobs



By Key Subgroups:

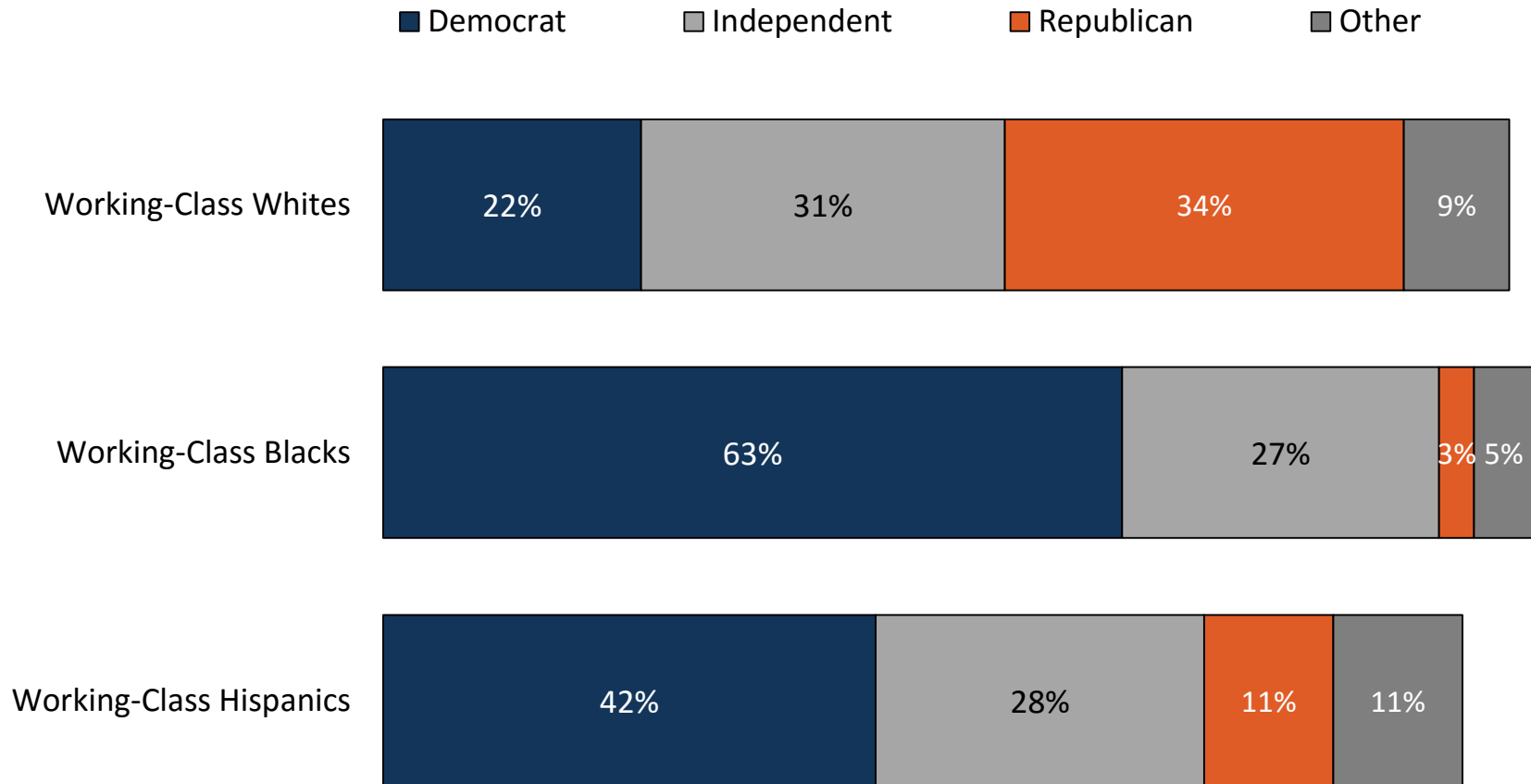


NOTE: Don't know/Refused responses not shown.

SOURCE: Kaiser Family Foundation/CNN Working-Class Whites Poll (conducted August 9-September 5, 2016)

# Within Working Class, Party Identification Differs by Race

Generally speaking, do you usually think of yourself as a Democrat, a Republican, an independent or what?



NOTE: Don't know/Refused responses not shown.

SOURCE: Kaiser Family Foundation/CNN Working-Class Whites Poll (conducted August 9-September 5, 2016)



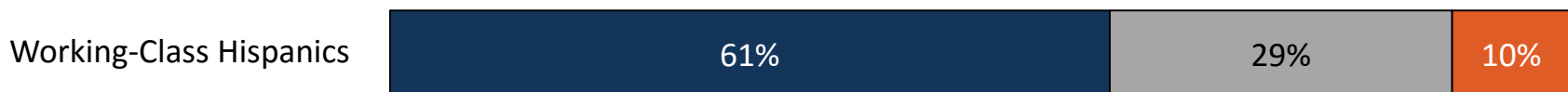
# Across Racial Lines, Majorities of Working-Class Adults Say Federal Government Does Not Do Enough for People like Them

Next, we'd like to ask you about how much help the federal government provides to some different groups. Do you think the government does too much, not enough, or about the right amount **for people like you?**

■ Not enough      ■ About the right amount      ■ Too much



## By Key Subgroups:



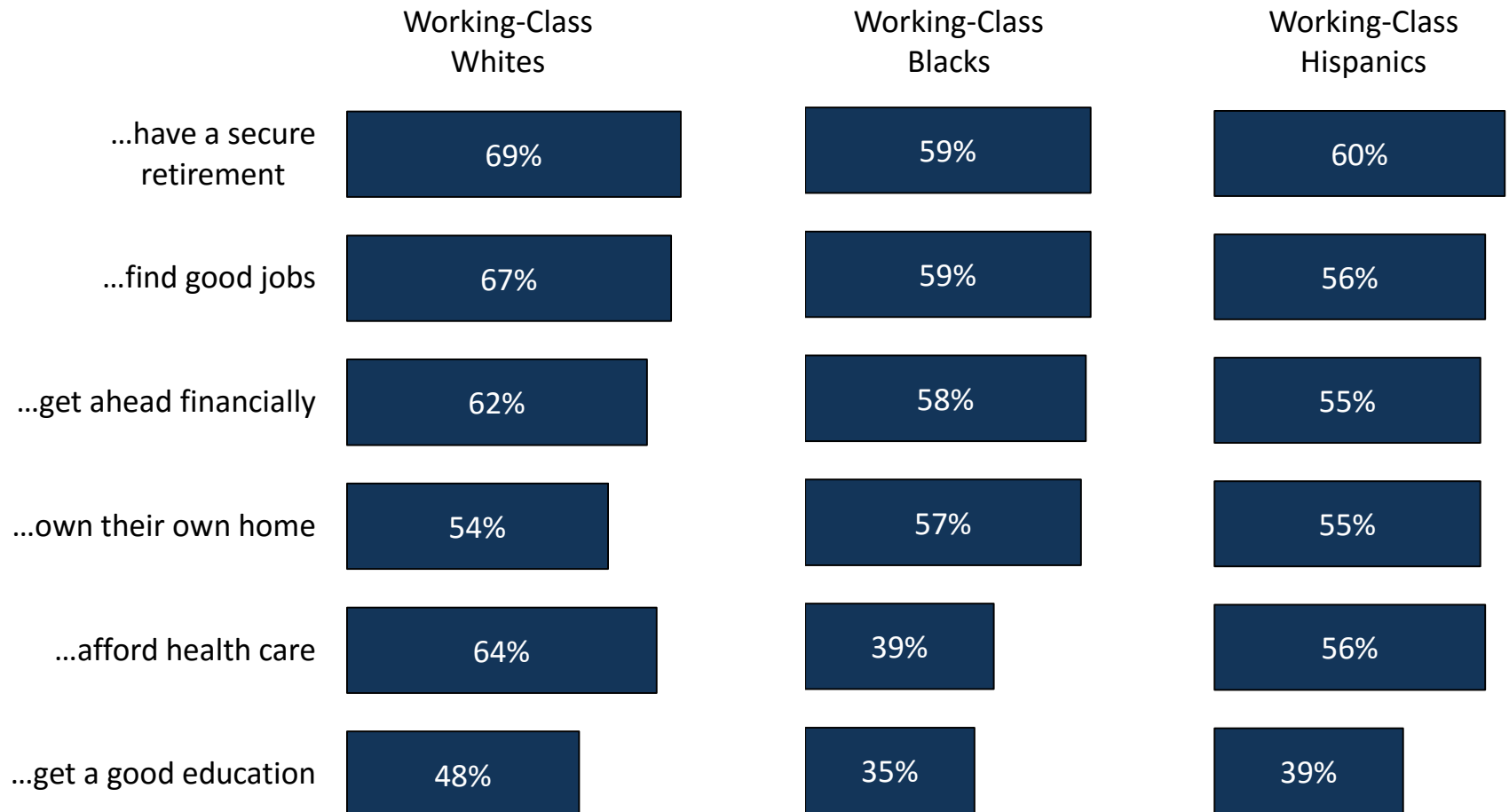
NOTE: Don't know/Refused responses not shown.

SOURCE: Kaiser Family Foundation/CNN Working-Class Whites Poll (conducted August 9-September 5, 2016)

Exhibit 2.9

# Majorities of Working Class Say It Has Become Harder for People like Them to Get Ahead Financially, Find Good Jobs

Percent who say that in the past few years, it has become **harder** for people like them to...



SOURCE: Kaiser Family Foundation/CNN Working-Class Whites Poll (conducted August 9-September 5, 2016)

# Across Racial Lines, Many Working-Class Adults Report Taking Measures to Make Ends Meet

Percent who say that in the past 12 months, they or another family member living in their household have done each of the following to make ends meet:

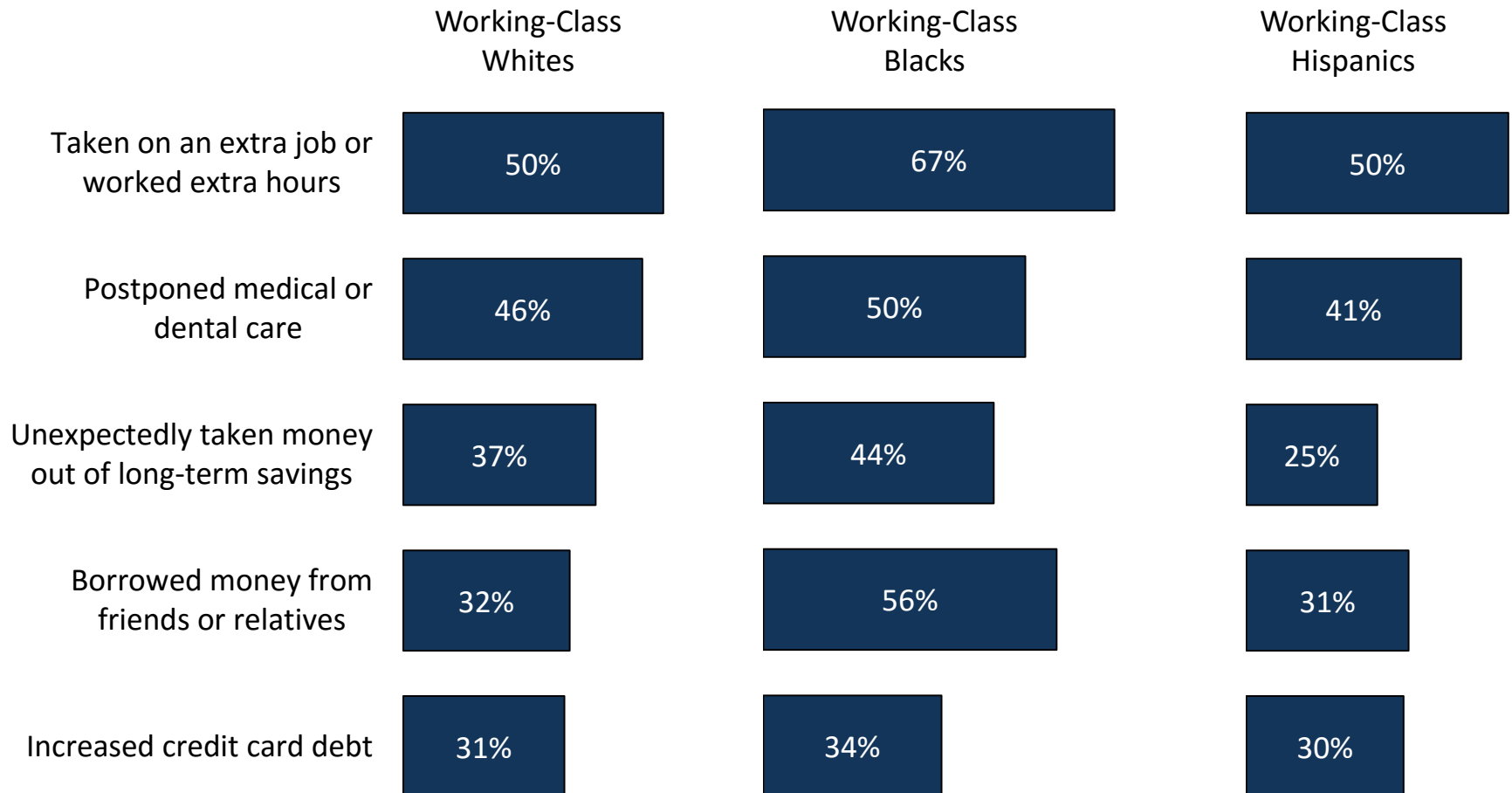
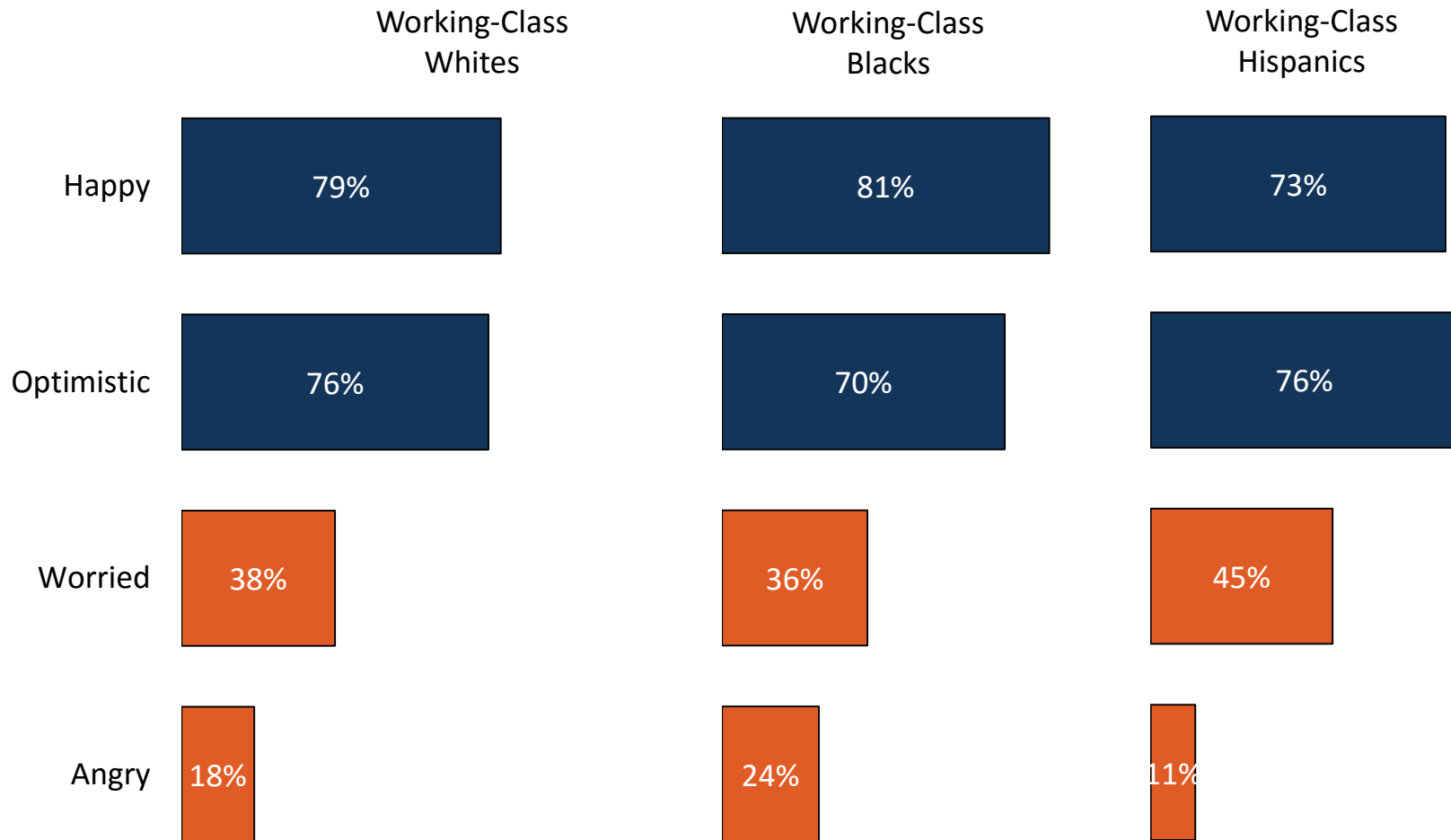


Exhibit 2.11

# Across Racial Lines, Vast Majorities of Working Class Say They Feel Happy, Optimistic About Their Own Lives

Percent who say each of the following describes how they feel about how things are going in their own lives today:



SOURCE: Kaiser Family Foundation/CNN Working-Class Whites Poll (conducted August 9-September 5, 2016)

# Kaiser Family Foundation/CNN Working-Class Whites Poll

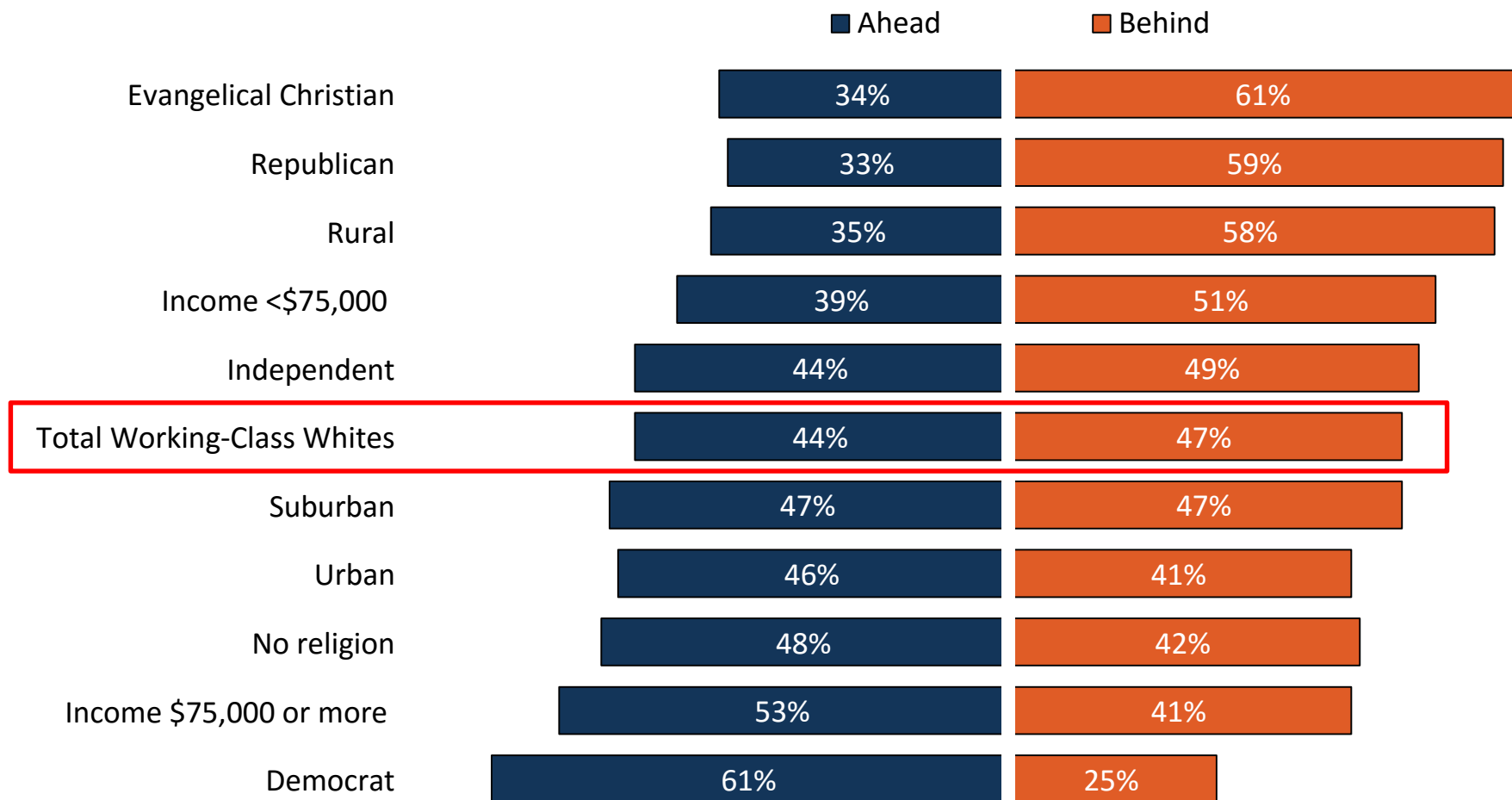
## *Not a Monolith*

September 2016

Exhibit 3.1

# Working-Class Whites' Responses on Whether U.S.'s Best Days Are Ahead or Behind Vary By Party, Income, Region, Religion

AMONG WORKING-CLASS WHITES: In general, do you think America's best days are ahead of us or behind us?

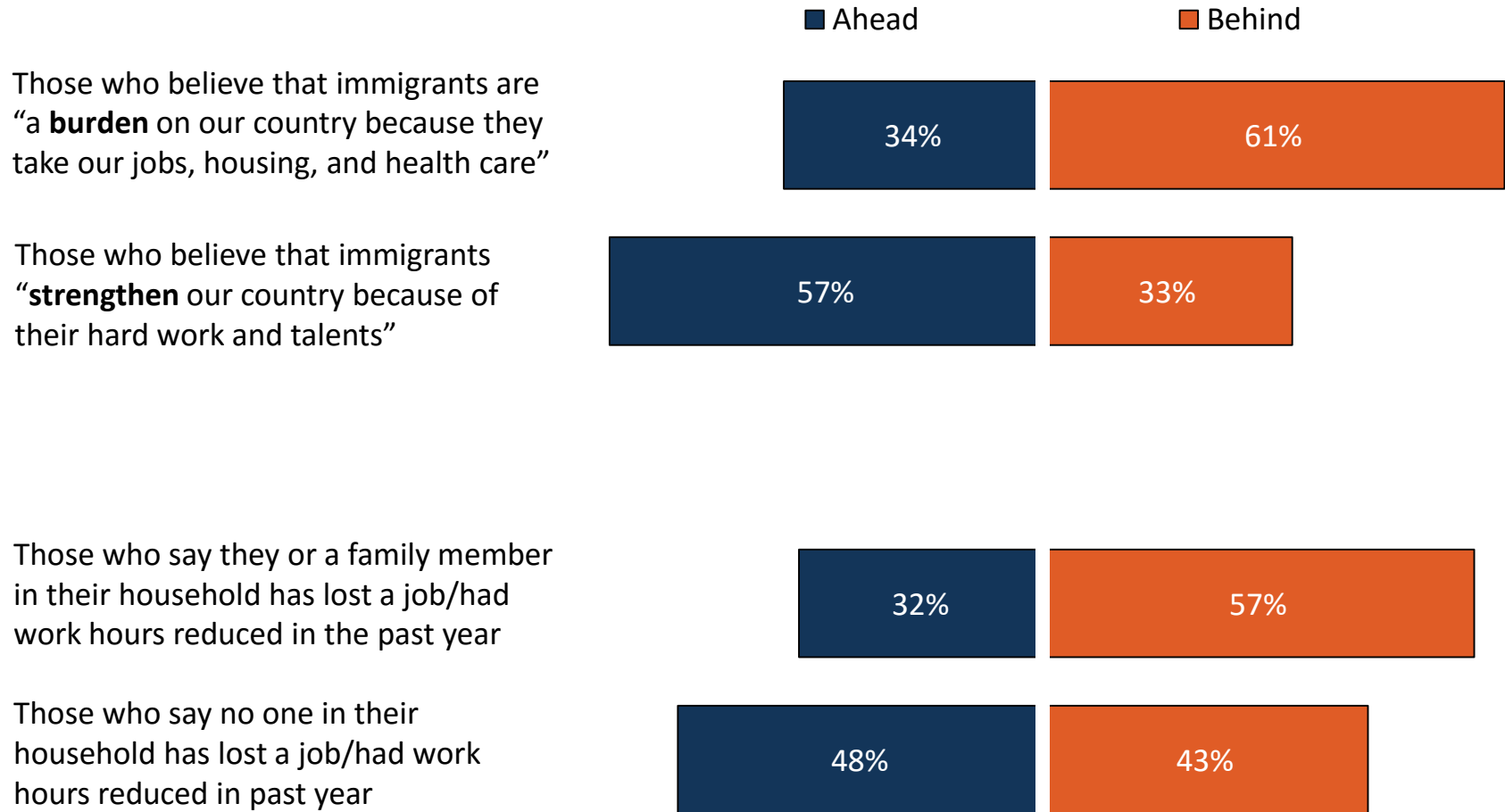


NOTE: Don't know/Refused responses not shown.

SOURCE: Kaiser Family Foundation/CNN Working-Class Whites Poll (conducted August 9-September 5, 2016)

# Working-Class Whites' Attitudes About Direction of Country Vary By Attitudes Toward Immigration, Work Experiences

AMONG WORKING-CLASS WHITES: In general, do you think America's best days are ahead of us or behind us?



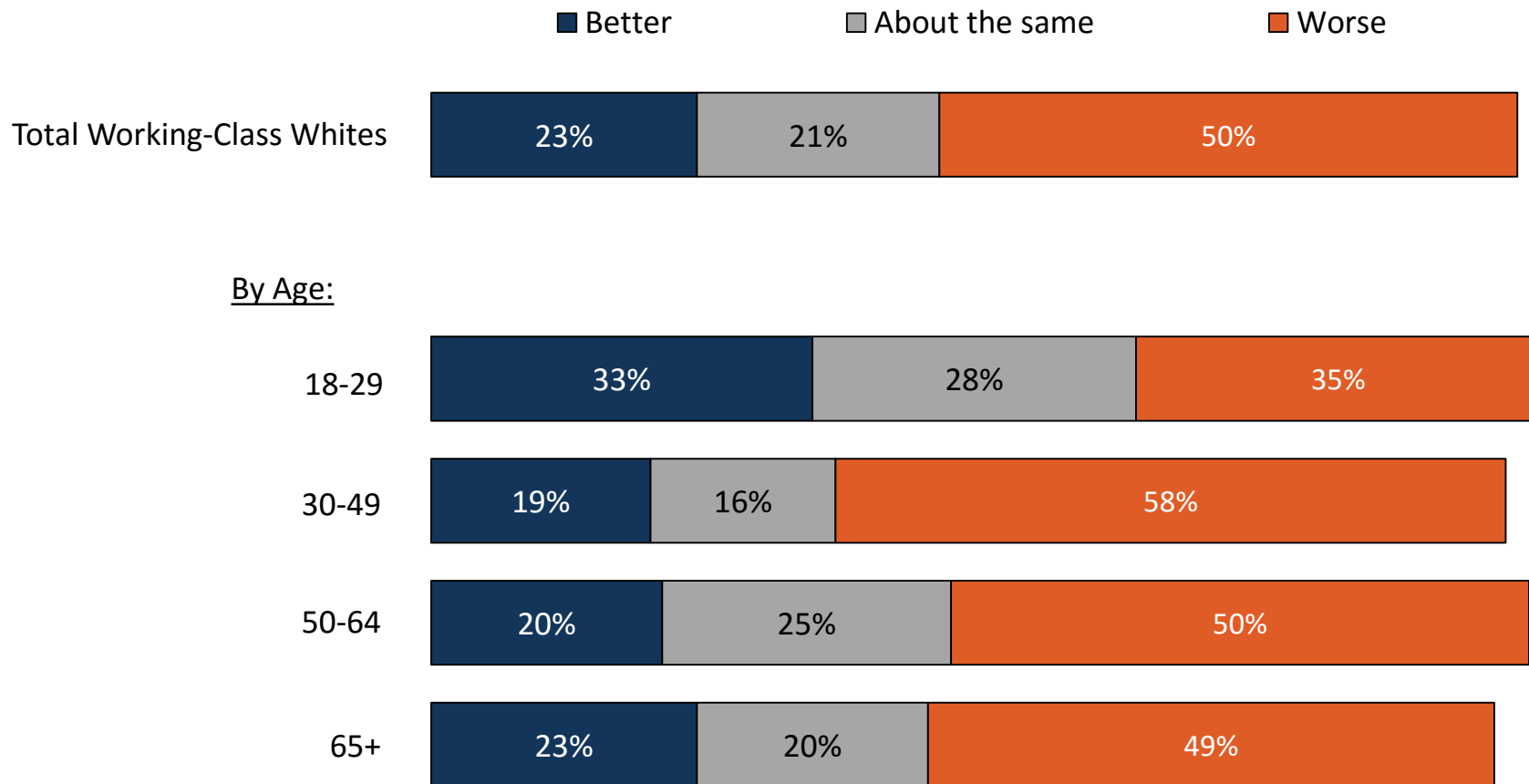
NOTE: Don't know/Refused responses not shown.

SOURCE: Kaiser Family Foundation/CNN Working-Class Whites Poll (conducted August 9-September 5, 2016)

Exhibit 3.3

# Younger Working-Class Whites Less Likely to Be Pessimist about Their Children's Future Standard of Living

AMONG WORKING-CLASS WHITES: When your children are the age you are now, do you think their standard of living will be better, about the same, or worse than yours is now?

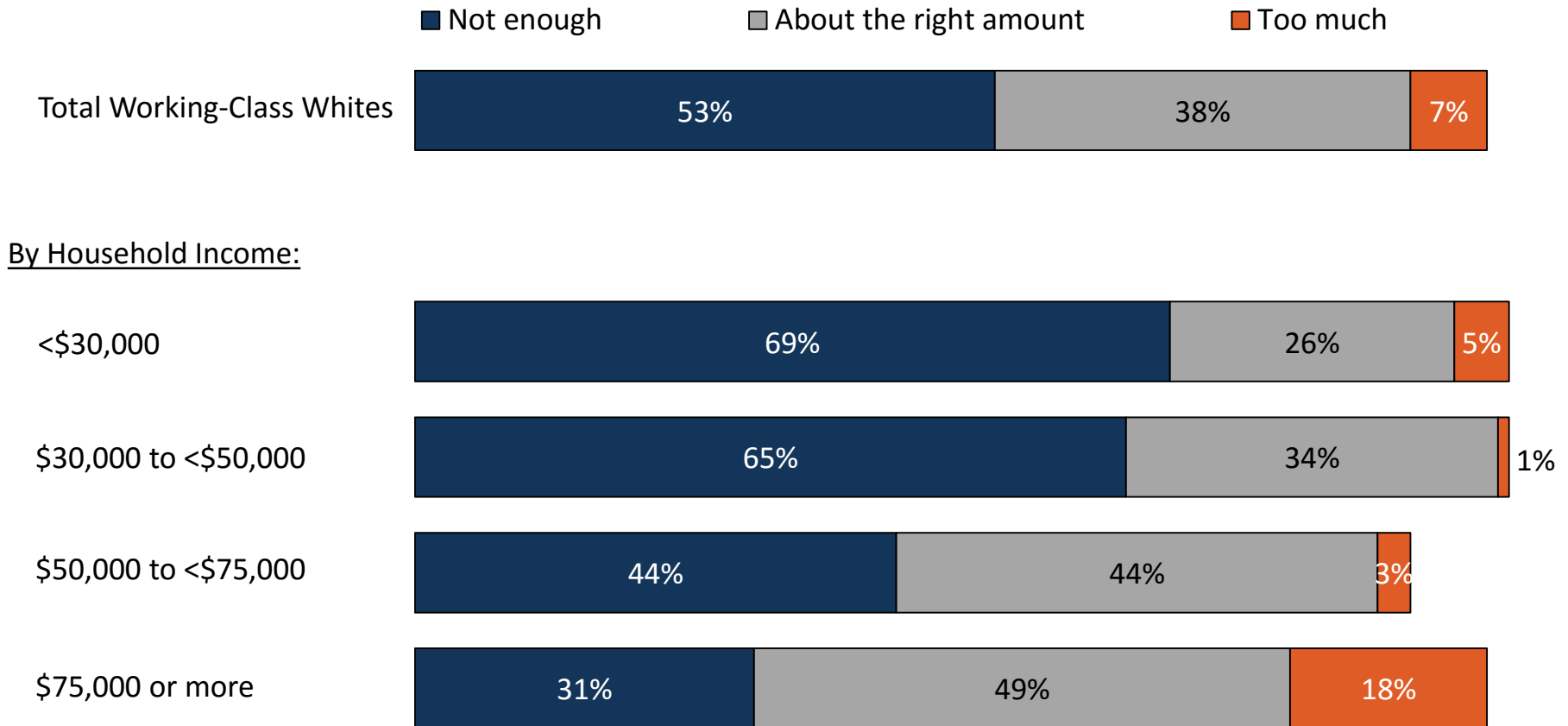


NOTE: Don't have children/Don't plan to have children (Vol.) and Don't know/Refused responses not shown.  
SOURCE: Kaiser Family Foundation/CNN Working-Class Whites Poll (conducted August 9-September 5, 2016)



# Working-Class Whites with Lower Incomes More Likely to Say Federal Government Is Not Doing Enough for People like Them

AMONG WORKING-CLASS WHITES: Next, we'd like to ask you about how much help the federal government provides to some different groups. Do you think the government does too much, not enough, or about the right amount **for people like you?**

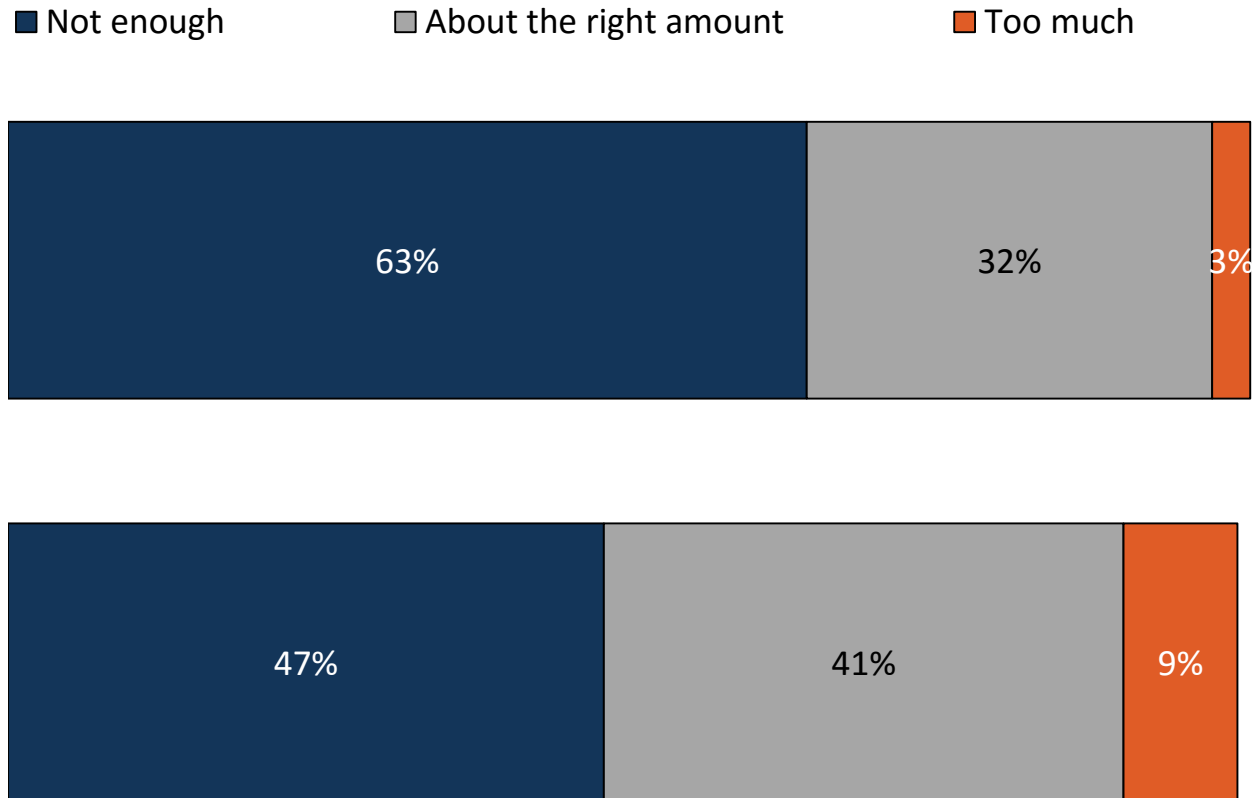


NOTE: Don't know/Refused responses not shown.

SOURCE: Kaiser Family Foundation/CNN Working-Class Whites Poll (conducted August 9-September 5, 2016)

# Working-Class Whites who Receive Government Benefits More Likely to Say Government Should Do More for People like Them

AMONG WORKING-CLASS WHITES: Next, we'd like to ask you about how much help the federal government provides to some different groups. Do you think the government does too much, not enough, or about the right amount for **people like you**?

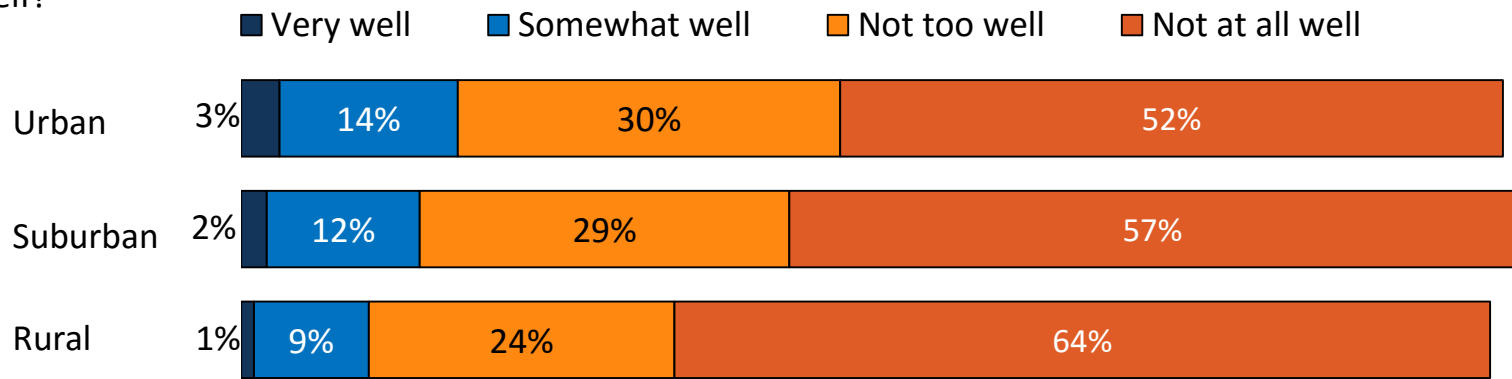


NOTE: Don't know/Refused responses not shown.

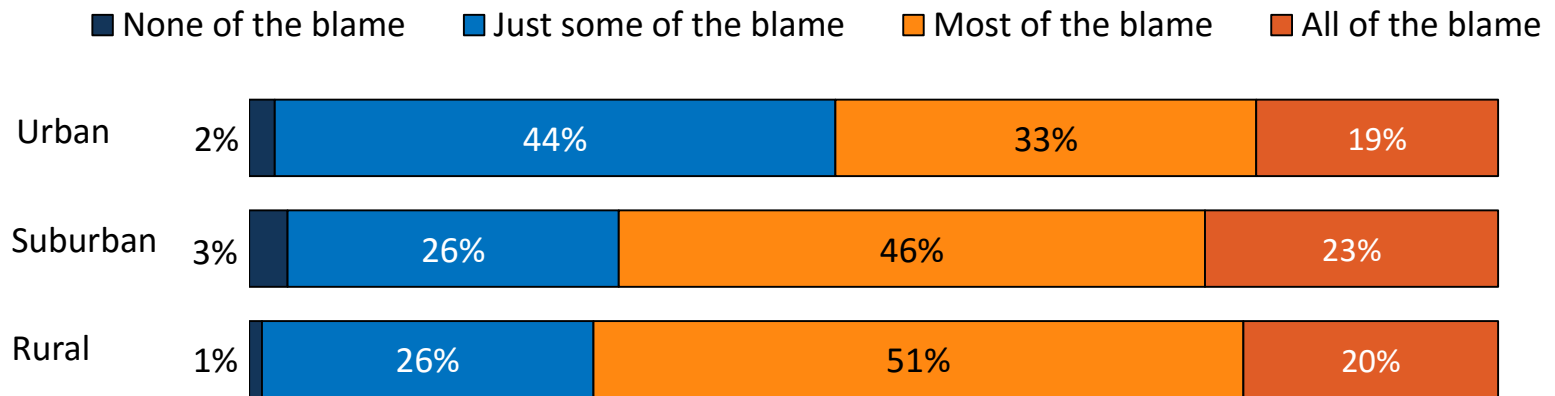
SOURCE: Kaiser Family Foundation/CNN Working-Class Whites Poll (conducted August 9-September 5, 2016)

# Rural Working-Class Whites More Likely than Urban Peers to Report Negative Views of Federal Government

AMONG WORKING-CLASS WHITES: How well do you feel the government in Washington represents the views of people like yourself?



AMONG WORKING-CLASS WHITES: How much blame do you think the federal government deserves for the economic problems facing the working class?



NOTE: Don't know/Refused responses not shown.

SOURCE: Kaiser Family Foundation/CNN Working-Class Whites Poll (conducted August 9-September 5, 2016)

# Working-Class Whites' Views on Cultural Changes Vary By Religious Affiliation

AMONG  
WORKING-CLASS  
WHITES:

Percent who say **Christian values are under attack** in America today:

Percent who say increasing racial and ethnic **diversity is mostly threatening** American culture:

Total Working-Class Whites

65%

33%

By Religious Affiliation:

Evangelical Christian

89%

48%

Mainline Protestant

73%

39%

Catholic

61%

28%

No Religion

41%

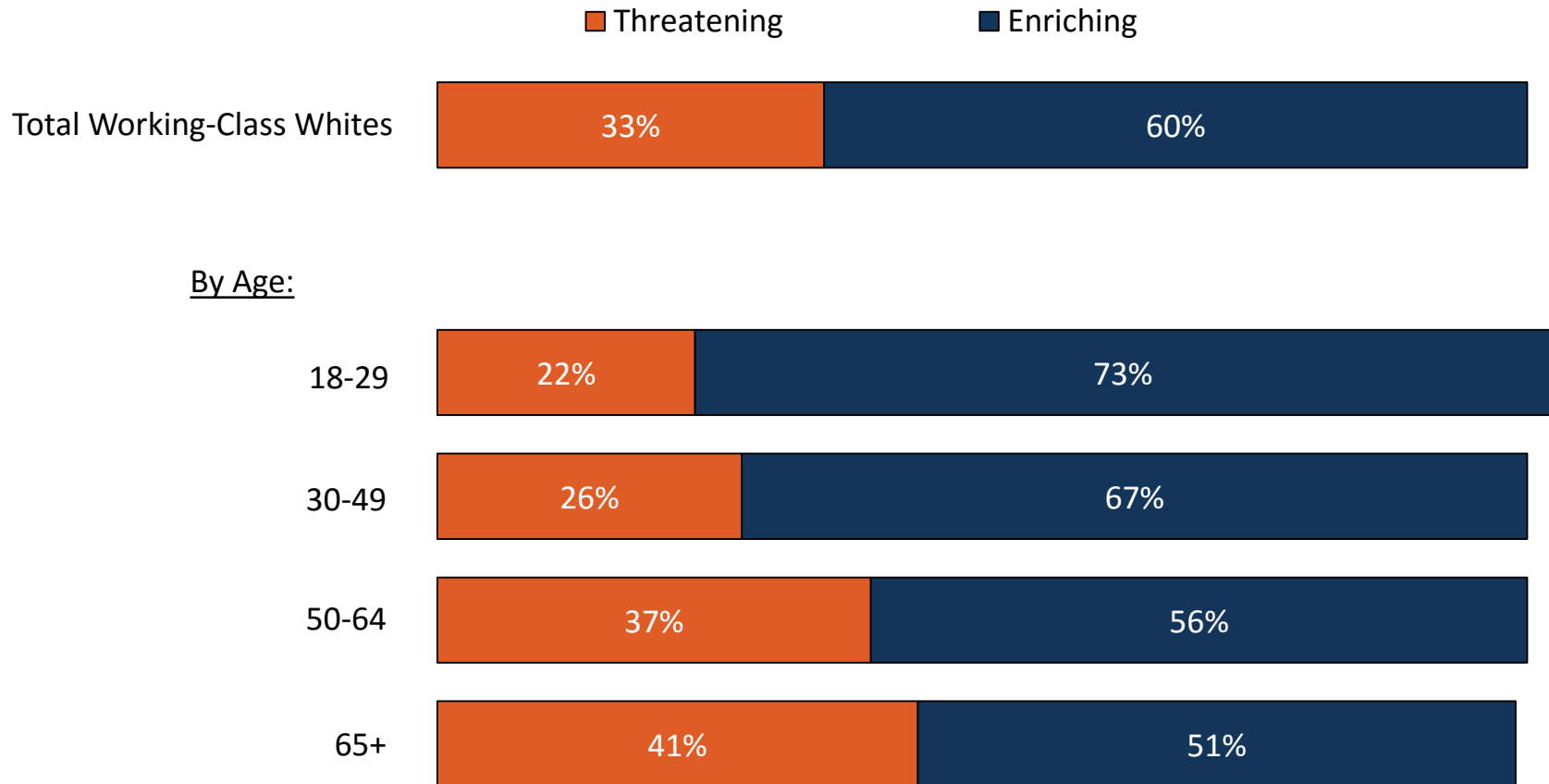
19%

NOTE: Question wording abbreviated. See topline for full question wording.

SOURCE: Kaiser Family Foundation/CNN Working-Class Whites Poll (conducted August 9-September 5, 2016)

# Younger Working-Class Whites Less Likely to See Increasing Diversity as Threatening American Culture

AMONG WORKING-CLASS WHITES: Overall, do you think having an increasing number of people of many different races, ethnic groups and nationalities in the US is mostly THREATENING or mostly ENRICHING American culture?

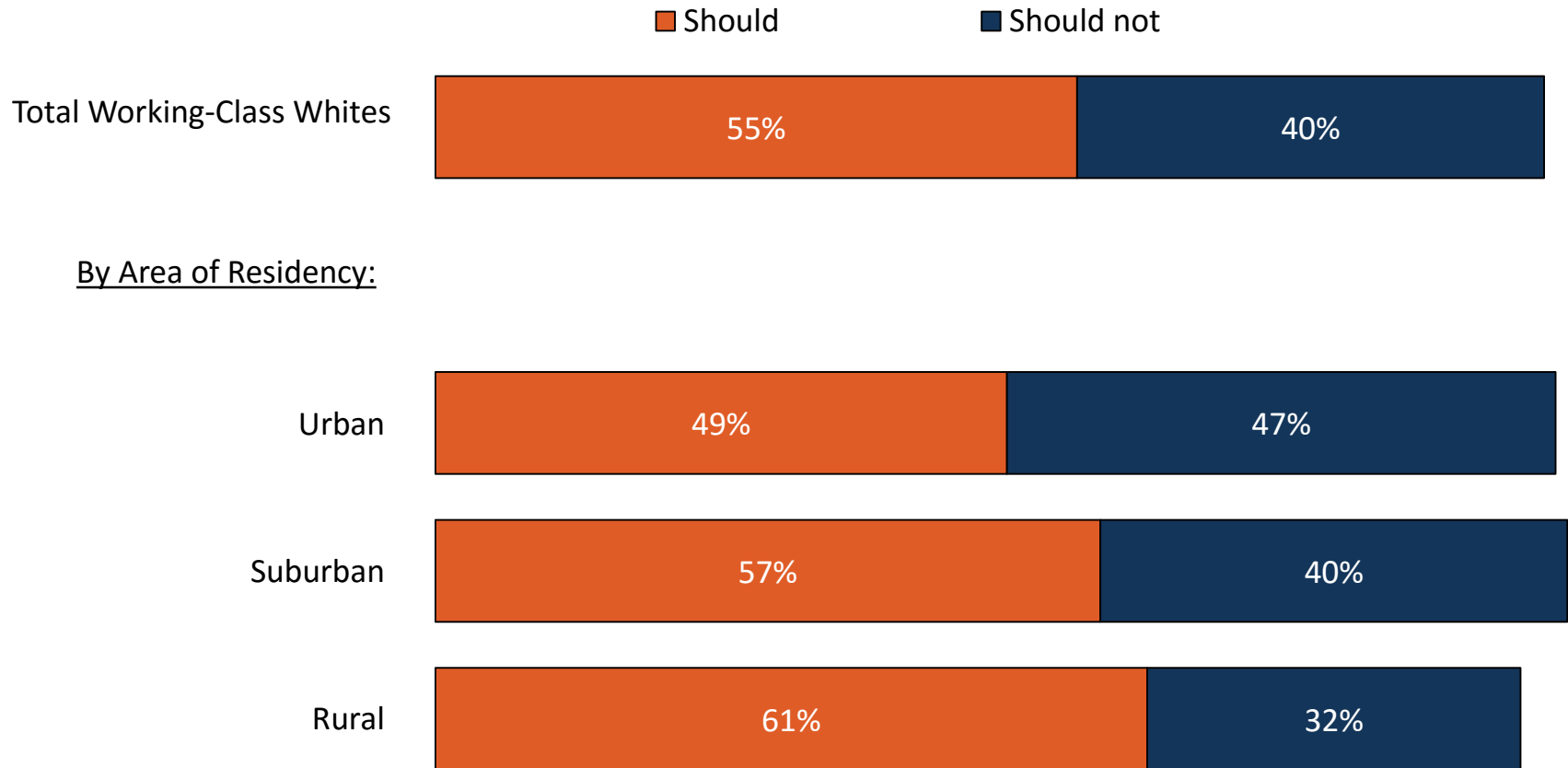


NOTE: Not affecting American culture (Vol.) and Don't know/Refused responses not shown.

SOURCE: Kaiser Family Foundation/CNN Working-Class Whites Poll (conducted August 9-September 5, 2016)

# Urban Working-Class Whites Less Likely to Believe Government Should Attempt to Deport All Illegal Immigrants

AMONG WORKING-CLASS WHITES: Do you think the government should attempt to deport all people currently living in the country illegally or should the government not attempt to do that?

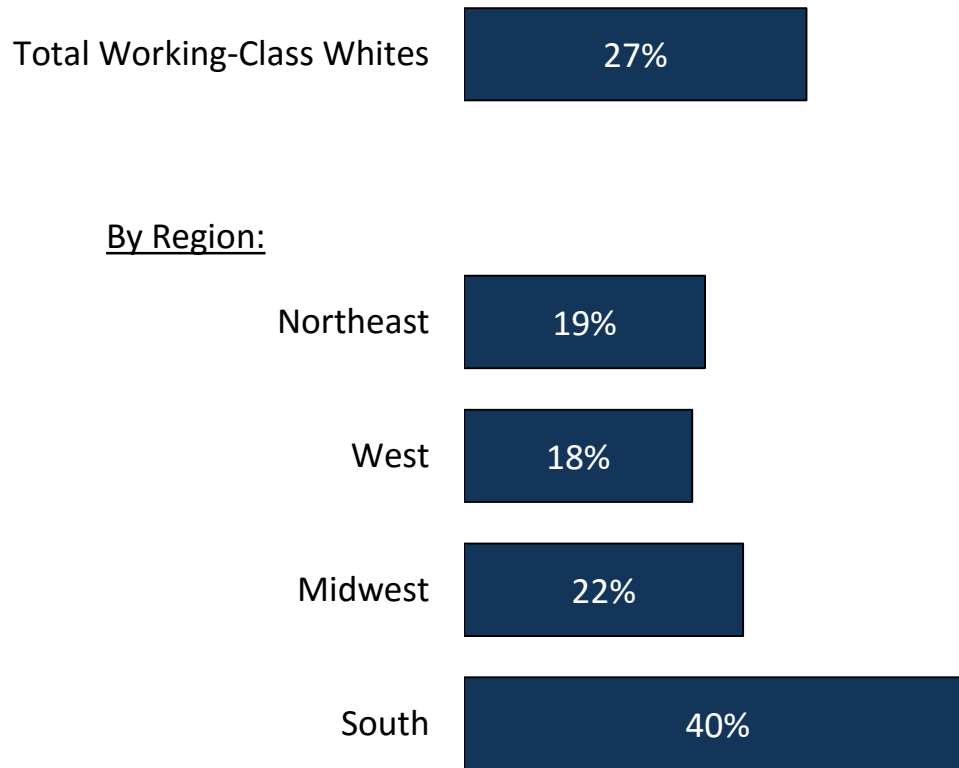


NOTE: Don't know/Refused responses not shown.

SOURCE: Kaiser Family Foundation/CNN Working-Class Whites Poll (conducted August 9-September 5, 2016)

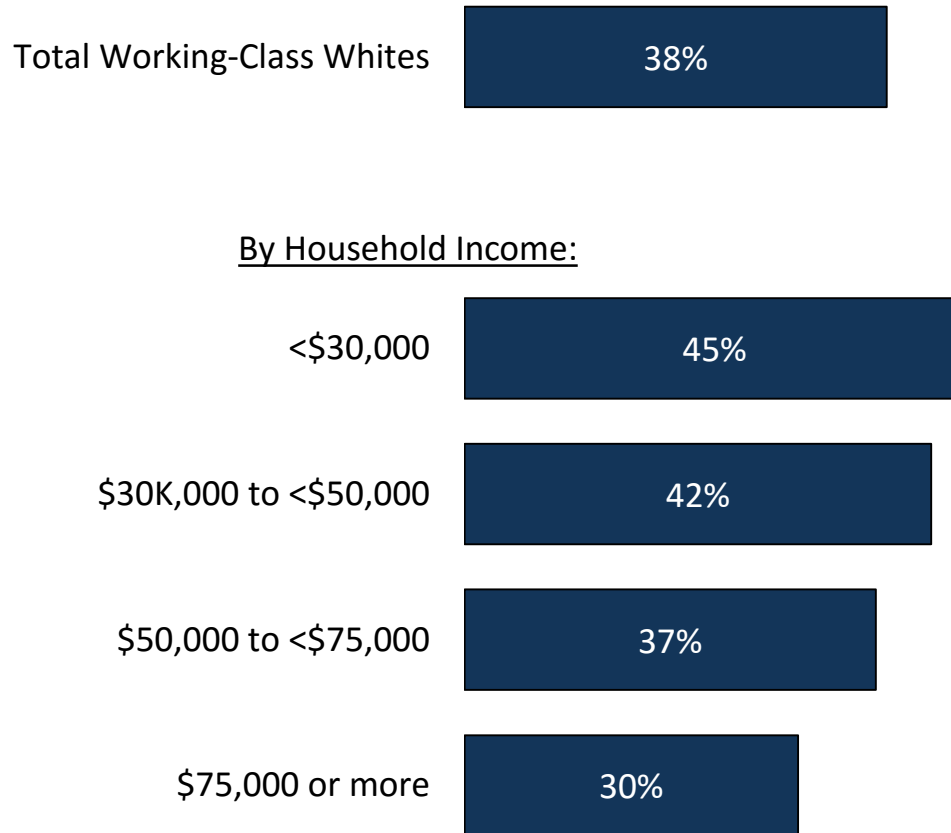
# Southern Working-Class Whites More Likely to Report Being Negatively Affected by Undocumented Immigrants Taking Jobs

AMONG WORKING-CLASS WHITES: Percent who say their family has been personally affected in a negative way by immigrants who are in the country illegally taking jobs in their community:



# Working-Class Whites with Lower Incomes More Likely to Report Feeling Worried about Their Own Lives

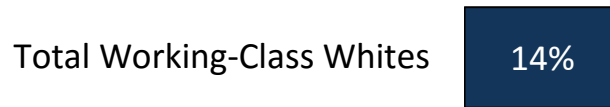
AMONG WORKING-CLASS WHITES: Percent who say they feel worried about how things are going in their own lives today:



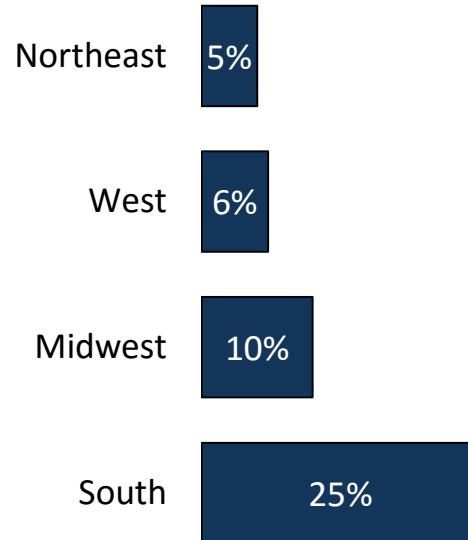


# Southern Working-Class Whites More Likely to Report Not Having Health Insurance

AMONG WORKING-CLASS WHITES: Percent who say they do not have health insurance at this time:

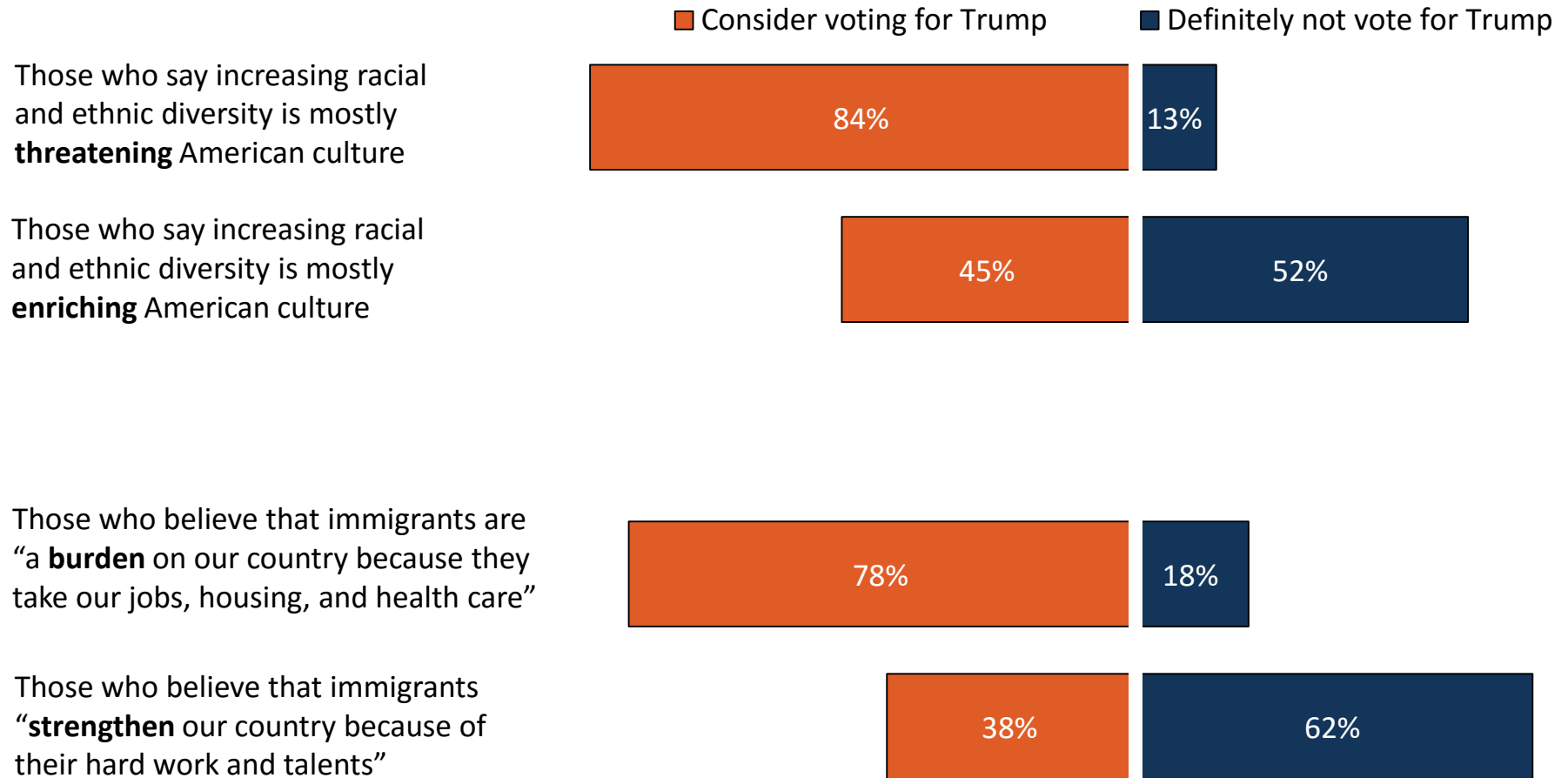


By Region:



# Among Working-Class White Voters, Support for Donald Trump Varies by Attitudes on Diversity and Immigration

AMONG WORKING-CLASS WHITE REGISTERED VOTERS: Thinking about the upcoming presidential election, would you CONSIDER voting for Donald Trump, the Republican Party candidate, or would you DEFINITELY NOT vote for him?



NOTE: Don't plan to vote (Vol.) and Don't know/Refused responses not shown.

SOURCE: Kaiser Family Foundation/CNN Working-Class Whites Poll (conducted August 9-September 5, 2016)

# Kaiser Family Foundation/CNN Working-Class Whites Poll

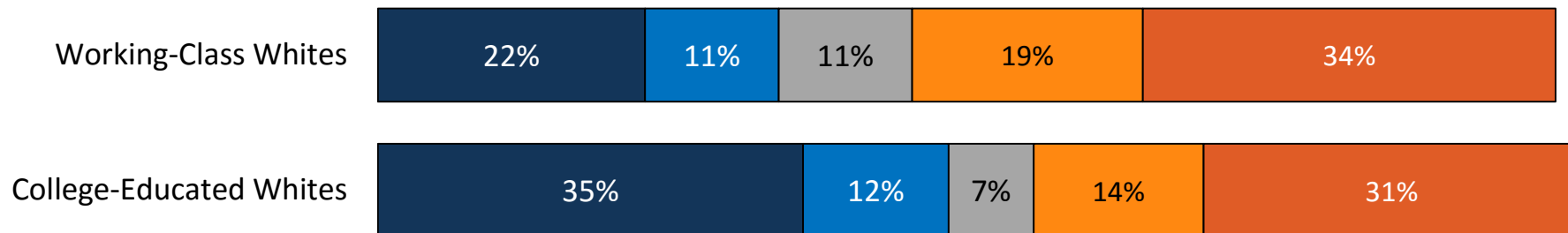
## *Politics and Partisanship*

September 2016

# Working-Class Whites Less Likely than College-Educated Whites to Identify as Democrats, More Likely to Be Conservative

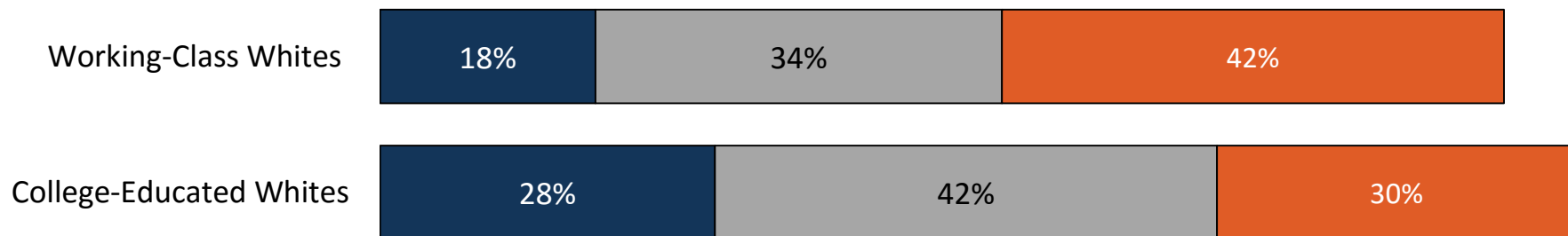
Generally speaking, do you usually think of yourself as a Democrat, a Republican, an independent or what? IF INDEPENDENT/OTHER/DK: Do you lean more towards the Democratic or Republican Party?

■ Democrat   
 ■ Lean Democrat   
 ■ Non-lean independent   
 ■ Lean Republican   
 ■ Republican



Would you say your views in most political matters are liberal, moderate, or conservative?

■ Liberal   
 ■ Moderate   
 ■ Conservative



NOTE: Don't know/Refused responses not shown.

SOURCE: Kaiser Family Foundation/CNN Working-Class Whites Poll (conducted August 9-September 5, 2016)

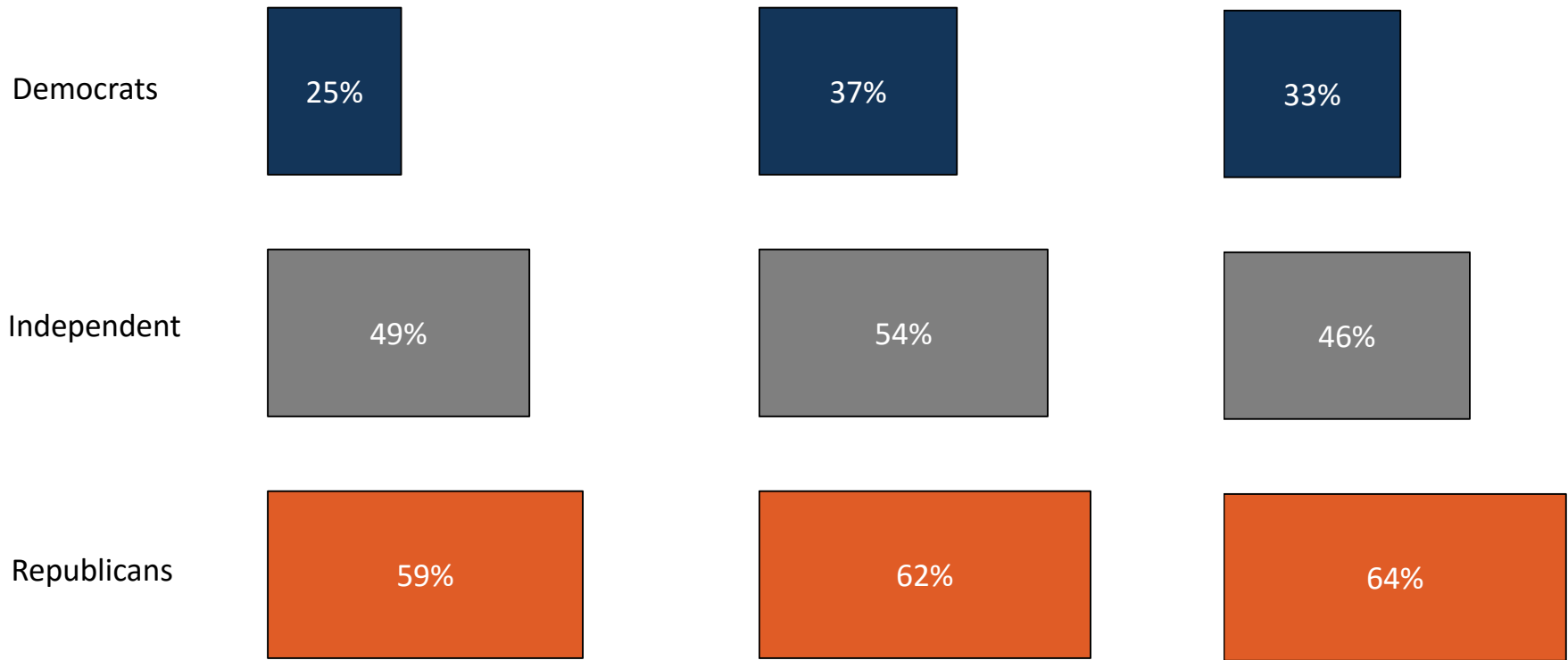
# Among White Working Class, Republicans More Likely than Democrats to Be Dissatisfied, Pessimistic about Direction of Country

AMONG WORKING-CLASS WHITES: Percent who say...

...America's best days are **behind** us:

...they are **very dissatisfied** with the country's economic situation:

... when their children are their age, they will have a **worse** standard of living:



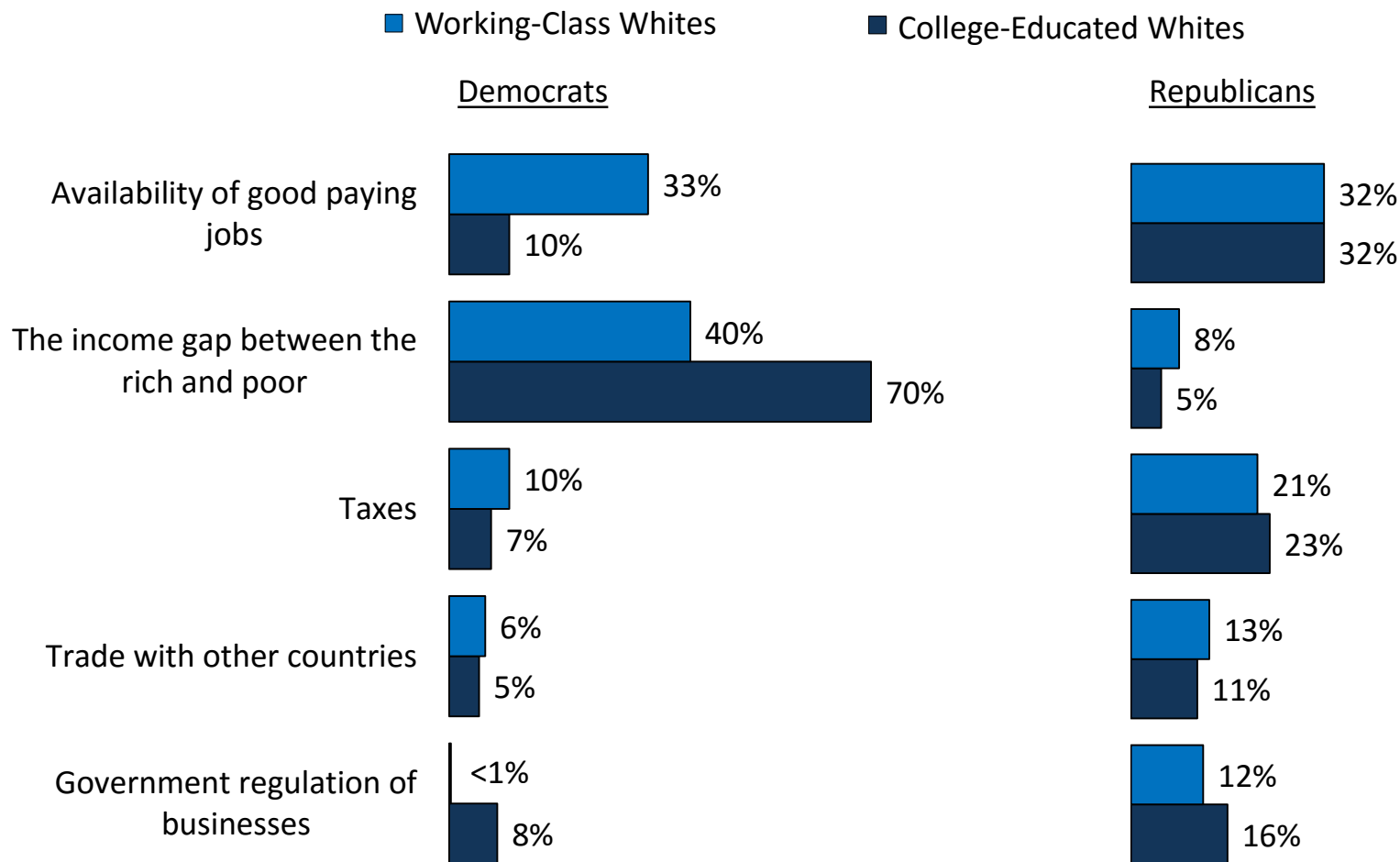
NOTE: Don't have children/Don't plan to have children (Vol.) and Don't know/Refused responses not shown.

SOURCE: Kaiser Family Foundation/CNN Working-Class Whites Poll (conducted August 9-September 5, 2016)

Exhibit 4.3

# Top Economic Concerns Vary by Party for Both Working-Class and College-Educated Whites

Percent who say each of the following economic issues are the most important for the next president to address:

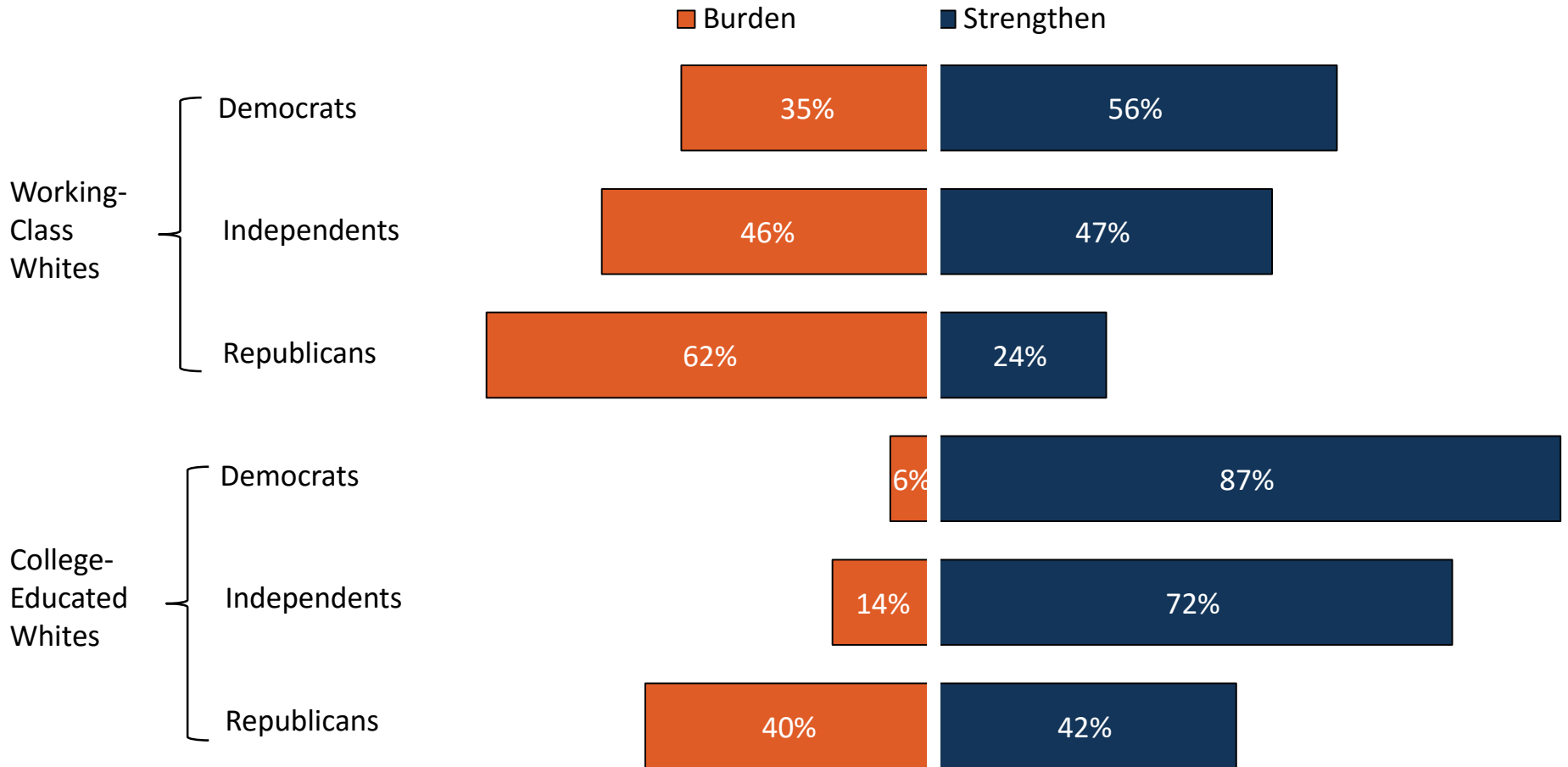


NOTE: None of these (Vol.), All equally (Vol.), Something else (Vol.), and Don't know/Refused responses not shown.

SOURCE: Kaiser Family Foundation/CNN Working-Class Whites Poll (conducted August 9-September 5, 2016)

# Across Political Spectrum, White Working Class More Likely than White College Grads to See Immigrants as a Burden

Which of the following comes closer to your view? Immigrants today strengthen our country because of their hard work and talents, OR immigrants today are a burden on our country because they take our jobs, housing and health care?

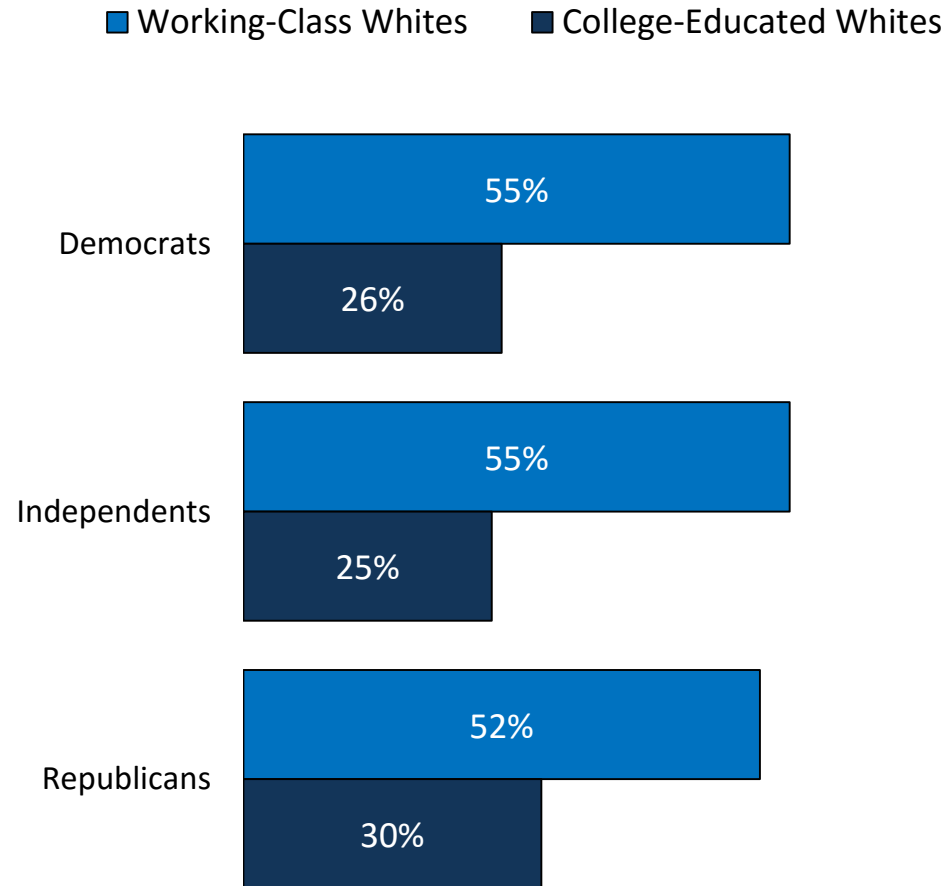


NOTE: Both (Vol.), Neither (Vol.), and Don't know/Refused responses not shown.

SOURCE: Kaiser Family Foundation/CNN Working-Class Whites Poll (conducted August 9-September 5, 2016)

# For Whites, Education Matters More than Party in Perception of Whether Government Does Enough for “People like You”

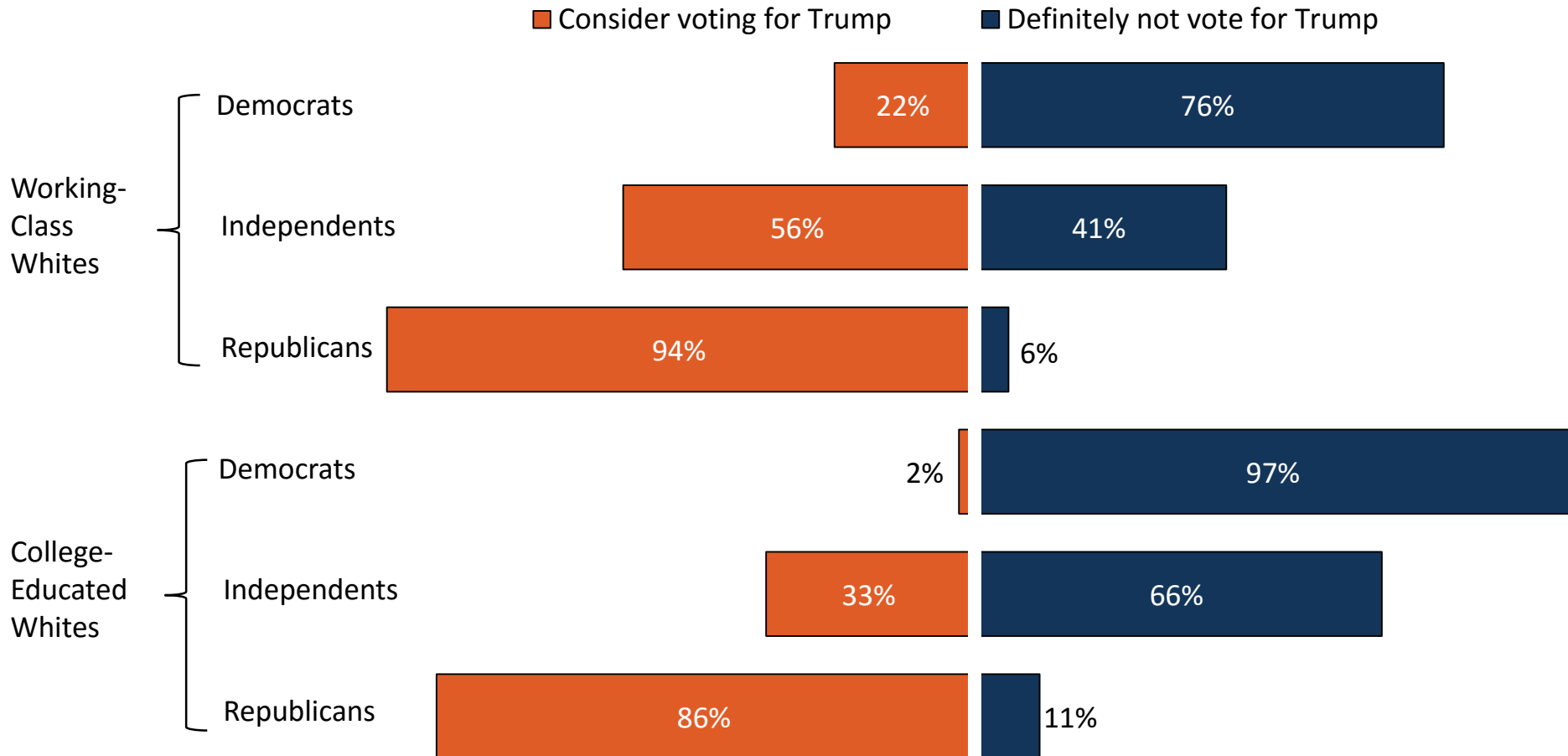
Percent who say the federal government does not do enough to help people like them:





# Among White Democratic Voters, Working Class More Likely than College Grads to Say They'd Consider Voting for Trump

AMONG REGISTERED VOTERS: Thinking about the upcoming presidential election, would you CONSIDER voting for Donald Trump, the Republican Party candidate, or would you DEFINITELY NOT vote for him?

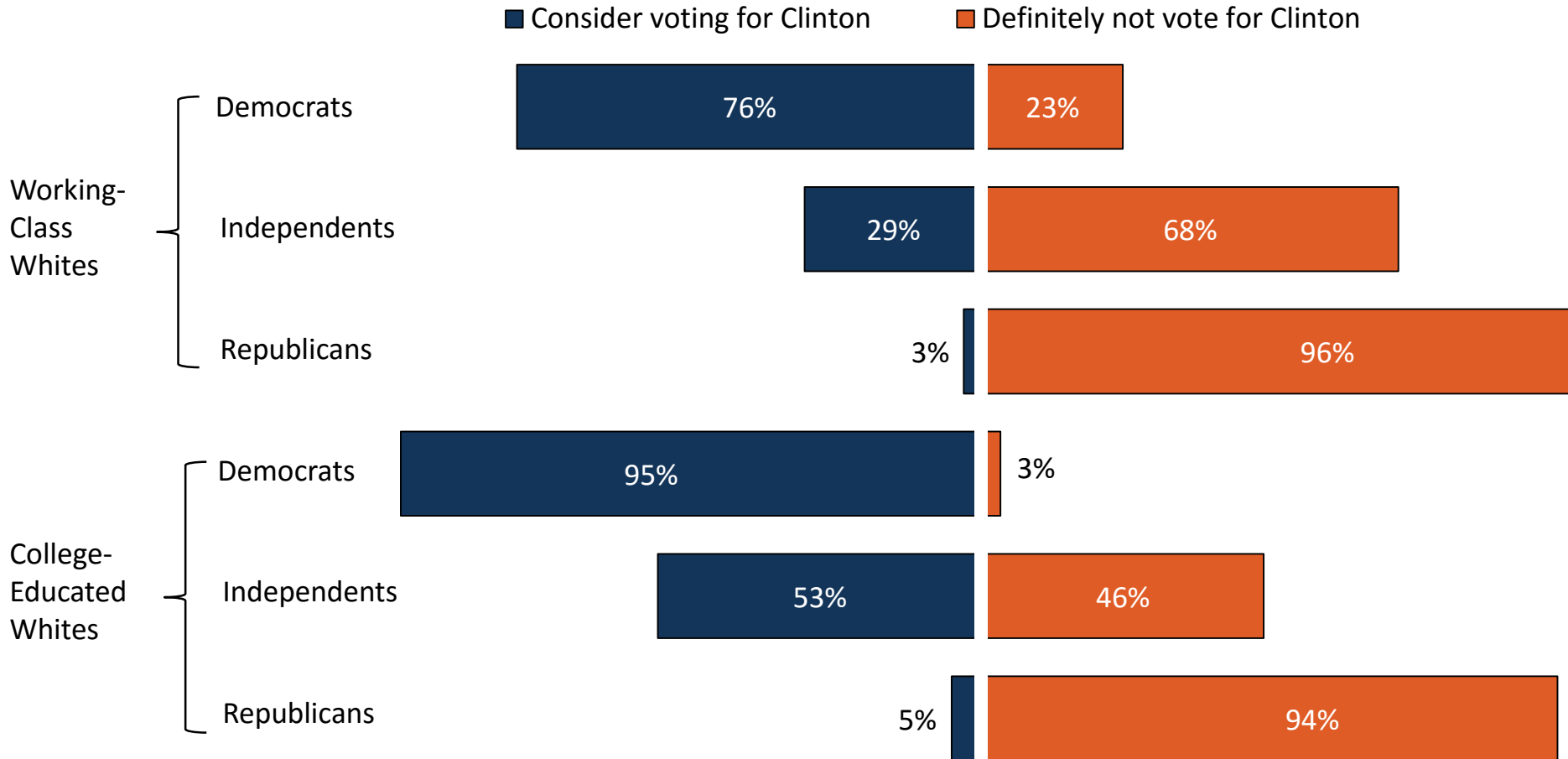


NOTE: Don't plan to vote (Vol.) and Don't know/Refused responses not shown.

SOURCE: Kaiser Family Foundation/CNN Working-Class Whites Poll (conducted August 9-September 5, 2016)

# Almost a Quarter of Working-Class White Democrats Say They Would Definitely Not Vote for Hillary Clinton

AMONG REGISTERED VOTERS: Thinking about the upcoming presidential election, would you CONSIDER voting for Hillary Clinton, the Democratic Party candidate, or would you DEFINITELY NOT vote for her?



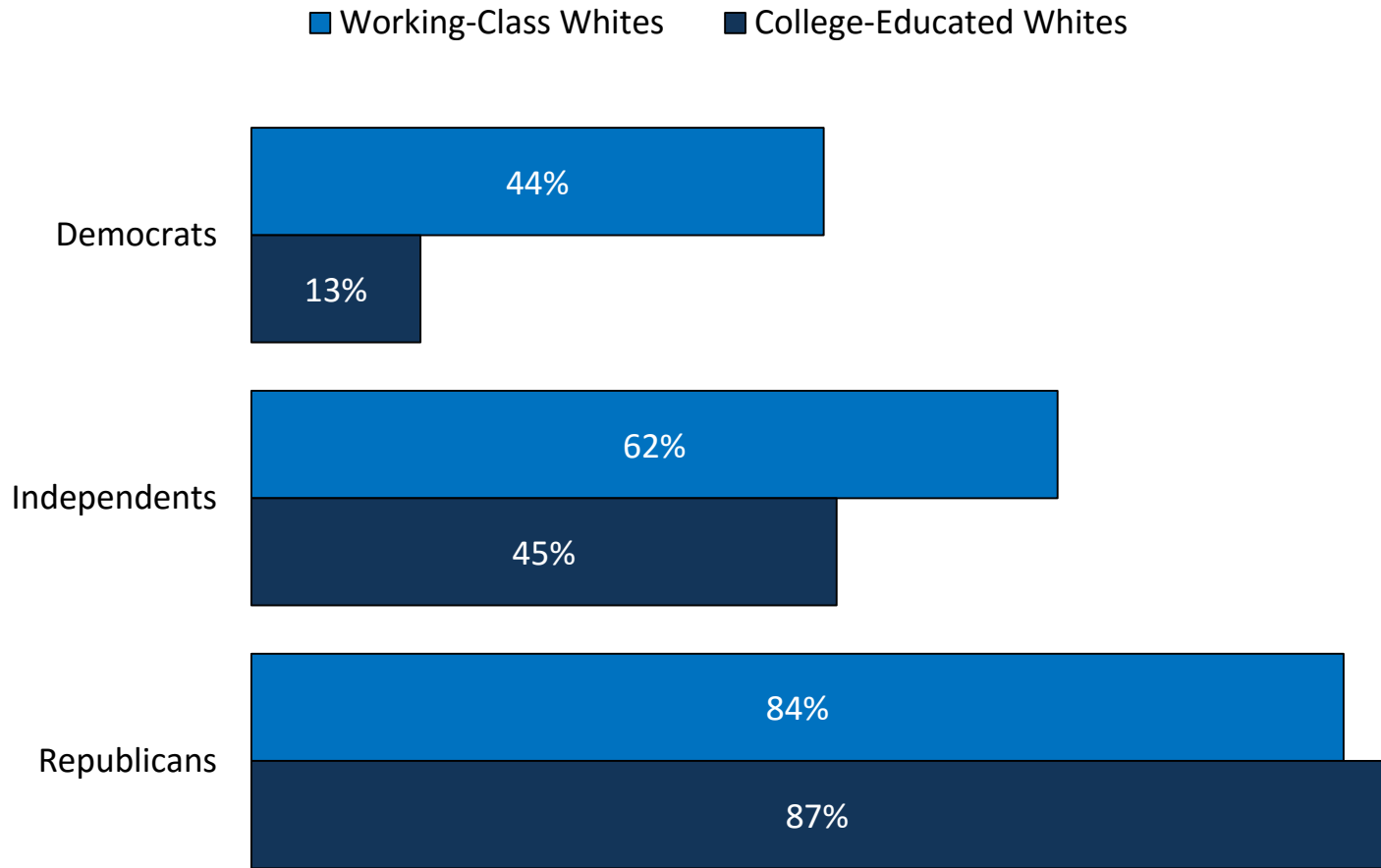
NOTE: Don't plan to vote (Vol.) and Don't know/Refused responses not shown.

SOURCE: Kaiser Family Foundation/CNN Working-Class Whites Poll (conducted August 9-September 5, 2016)

Exhibit 4.8

# Among White Democrats, Working Class More Likely than College Grads to Think Christian Values Are Under Attack

Percent who say they think that Christian values are under attack in America today:



SOURCE: Kaiser Family Foundation/CNN Working-Class Whites Poll (conducted August 9-September 5, 2016)

# Among White Democrats, Working Class More Likely than College Grads to Attribute Negative Qualities to Recent Immigrants

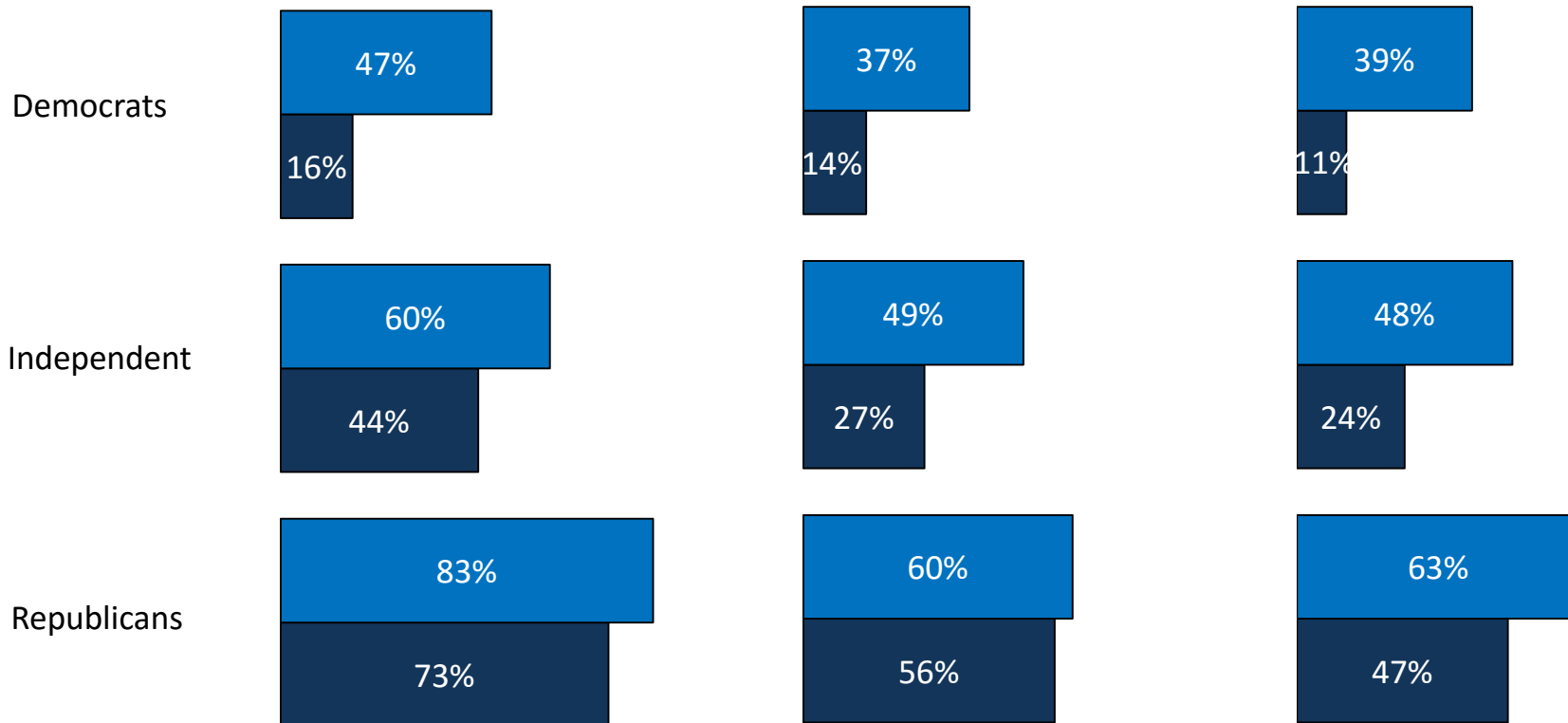
Percent who agree that recent immigrants from Muslim countries **increase the risk of terrorist attacks** in the U.S.:

Percent who agree that recent immigrants from Latin American countries **add to the crime problem**:

Percent who agree that recent immigrants from Latin American countries **take jobs away from Americans**:

■ Working-Class Whites

■ College-Educated Whites



NOTE: Question wording abbreviated. See topline for full question wording.

SOURCE: Kaiser Family Foundation/CNN Working-Class Whites Poll (conducted August 9-September 5, 2016)