

Congressional Integrity Project GOP Oversight Survey

CONGRESSIONAL
INTEGRITY
PROJECT



Key Findings

One third of Republicans do not identify as supporters of the “MAGA movement,” and MAGA Republicans are more unpopular than Trump. More than one-in-three self-identified Republicans (38%) do not support the MAGA movement. Voters overall do not view MAGA Republicans favorably. MAGA Republicans are viewed at net -24 unfavorable – more unpopular than Trump (-15 unfavorable) and Republicans in Congress (-14 unfavorable).

Voters want Republicans in Congress to focus on inflation, not investigations. Over three-quarters of voters (77%) want Republicans in Congress to focus more on addressing issues like inflation and the economy over trying to investigate the Biden administration (16%). Voters across the political spectrum would rather have Congress focus on other issues besides investigating Biden, including Republicans, independents, voters who are unfavorable to Biden, Trump 2020 voters, and MAGA supporters.



Messaging on Investigations

Framing investigation as a distraction from the real issues are our top messages; while GOP-leaning voters respond well to law enforcement, our base responds best to MAGA

Please indicate whether each statement is a convincing reason to doubt the value of the investigations.

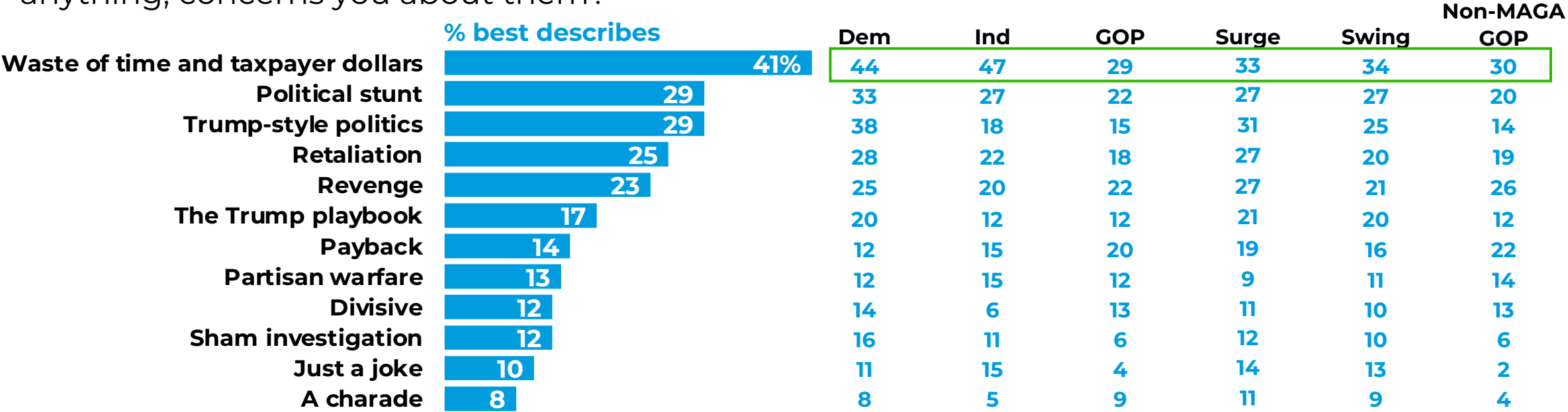
Overall	Surge Dem	Non-MAGA GOP	Support/Stunt*	
	% very convincing			
38	54	25	43	<p>[DISTRACTIONS] Americans want their elected leaders to stop playing partisan games and work together to solve their problems, like addressing inflation and protecting our freedoms. A top Republican advisor recently said these investigations would be a distraction from the issues Republicans actually campaigned on, but they are pushing ahead anyway.</p>
36	30	35	30	<p>[LET LAW ENFORCEMENT INVESTIGATE] If anyone tied to the Biden administration did something illegal or improper then law enforcement should investigate, but Congress should focus on inflation and protecting our freedoms, not playing partisan politics. These investigations would be a distraction from the issues Republicans actually campaigned on, but they are pushing ahead anyway.</p>
35	60	17	42	<p>[SPLIT A-MAGA WING] The MAGA wing of the Republican Party would rather chase conspiracy theories than address real issues, and now they are running the show in Congress. These investigations into the Biden administration are from the same MAGA-obsessed people who tried to overturn the 2020 election based on lies, want to make cuts to Social Security and Medicare, and want to ban abortion even in cases of rape and incest.</p>
35	39	17	27	<p>[SPLIT B-EXTREME WING] The extreme wing of the Republican Party would rather chase conspiracy theories than address real issues, and now they are running the show in Congress. These investigations into the Biden administration are an extreme overreach from the same people who tried to overturn the 2020 election based on lies, want to make cuts to Social Security and Medicare, and want to ban abortion even in cases of rape and incest.</p>
35	51	17	32	<p>[JIVANKA] When Trump breaks the law, Republicans in Congress lie and cover up for him. Hunter Biden is a private citizen, but when Ivanka Trump and Jared Kushner became White House employees, even got security clearances, and then profited off the presidency, Republicans voted against the subpoenas requiring conduct legitimate oversight.</p>

4 **MAGA Republicans are very unpopular with swing voters (14% fav/54% unfav).**

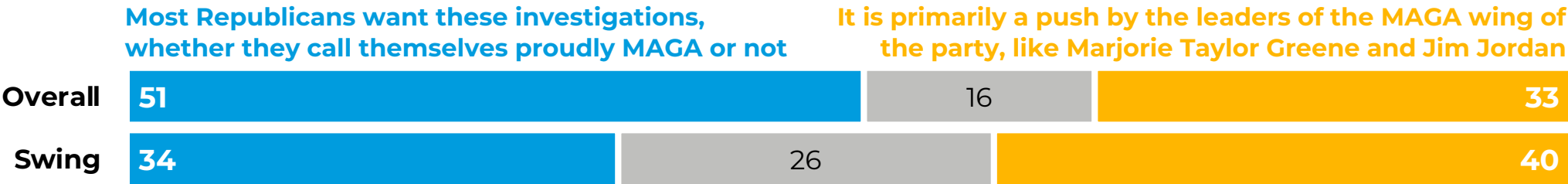
*Voters who support investigations but believe they are political stunts

Voters describe investigations as a waste; swing voters are more inclined to view investigations as led by the MAGA wing

Which two or three of the following would you say best describes these investigations and what, if anything, concerns you about them?



Based on everything you have read so far, which of the following do you think best describes who is driving this push to investigate the Biden Administration?

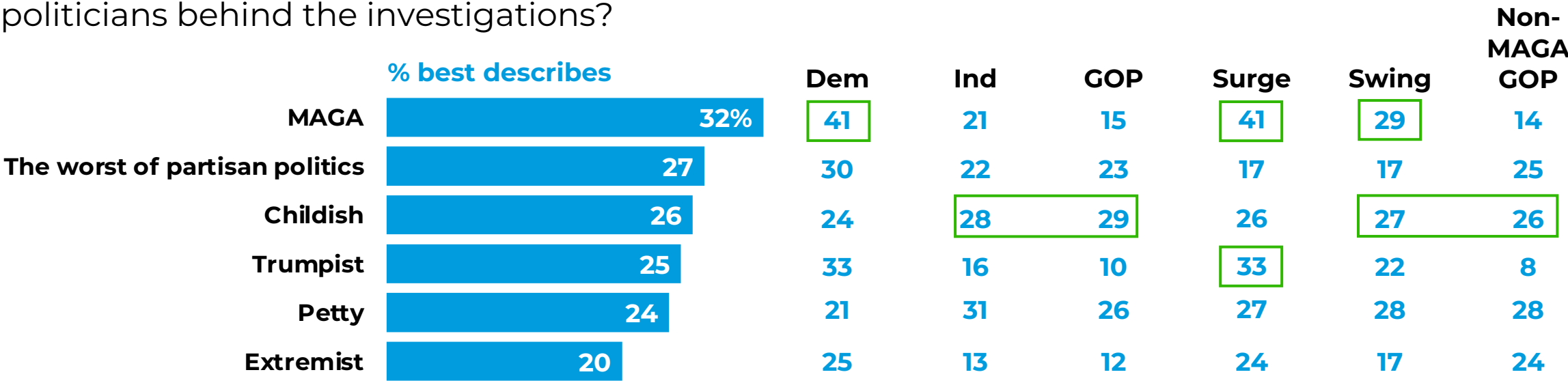


Political stunts is more effective language than shams; that investigations are MAGA concerns base and surge voters, childish better for swing

And thinking only about these two options, which would you say best describes these investigations and what, if anything, concerns you about them?



Which one or two of the following would you say best describes any doubts you have about the politicians behind the investigations?





Conclusions & Recommendations

Conclusions and Recommendations

Frame the debate as a question about priorities. We win a contrast between solving problems like the economy and abortion versus political stunts. Voters, even new Democratic surge voters, are open to investigations in concept, so we should not ham-handedly dismiss the efforts as a “waste of time and money.”

The key to persuading voters is seeing the investigations as originating from the fringe of the party and not being pushed by all Republicans. To get voters to doubt the legitimacy and importance of investigations, we will need to communicate that these investigations stem from a fringe faction of the Republican Party, and that other Republicans are being led into these investigations by MAGA Republicans.

Label investigations as political stunts pushed by MAGA Republicans. Leverage voters’ beliefs that the investigations are political stunts Republicans are using to damage Biden instead of solving problems. By elevating Republicans voices calling the investigations a distraction, we can emphasize that there are more important priorities while driving a wedge between MAGA and non-MAGA Republicans.

Sharper language will increase antipathy among our base. Invoking political violence and labeling MAGA Republicans as power-hungry can help to fuel opposition to investigations among our base.

For swing voters, saying that law enforcement should investigate anything that is illegal, while Congress focuses on solving problems, is effective at boosting opposition to investigations. Further, the fact that Republicans dismissed corruption in the Trump Administration can be used to undermine the credibility of Republican allegations against Biden among both base and swing audiences.

Messaging Framework

What is happening: Instead of solving problems, like addressing inflation and protecting reproductive rights, MAGA Republicans took over the House and immediately started using Trump-style political attacks just to damage President Biden.

Who is doing it: The MAGA wing of the Republican Party would rather chase conspiracy theories than address real issues, and now they are running the show in Congress. Even top Republicans have said these investigations are a distraction from the issues Republicans actually campaigned on.

Why: MAGA politicians are power-hungry and they think focusing on investigations into the Biden administration are the best way to damage the President and gain power. When Ivanka Trump and Jared Kushner made up to \$640 million while working in the White House and given access to classified information, these MAGA politicians voted against subpoenas to do investigations.

For surge: These investigations are being pushed by the same MAGA politicians who tried to overturn the 2020 election based on lies, want to make cuts to Social Security and Medicare, and want to ban abortion even in cases of rape and incest.

For swing: If anyone tied to the Biden administration did something improper then law enforcement should investigate, but Congress should focus on solving problems, not playing tit-for-tat political games.

Demographics of the Electorate

Gender		Overall Surge	
	Men	47	44
	Women	53	56
Age			
	18-29 year olds	17	55
	30-44 year olds	26	19
	45-54 year olds	15	13
	55-64 year olds	17	8
	Seniors 65+	25	5
Education			
	High School or Less	30	43
	Some College	38	40
	College Graduates	21	9
	Post Graduate	11	8

Ethnicity		Overall Surge	
	White	69	48
	Black	12	17
	Hispanic	11	20
	Other	8	15
Party ID			
	Democrat	47	100
	Independent	11	-
	Republican	42	-
Ideology			
	Liberal	30	59
	Moderate	35	34
	Conservative	34	8

Methodology

Voters

Global Strategy Group conducted an online survey of **1200 registered voters nationwide, including 200 interviews of surge voters,** between December 8 and December 15, 2022.

Margin of error

The margin of error at the 95% confidence level is +/- 2.8%.

The margin of error on sub-samples is greater.

Thank You

New York

Washington, DC

Hartford

Chicago

Denver

Seattle