

National Survey of Voters 55 & Older

COMMITMENT  *to* **SENIORS**

Conducted By:
McLaughlin & Associates
February 5-12, 2025

Methodology

This national survey was conducted among 1,600 likely voters who are 55 and older. All interviews were conducted online between February 5-12, 2025.

Online survey invitations were distributed randomly within predetermined geographic units. These units were structured to correlate with the population of voters 55 and older.

Survey results in this presentation have been rounded and may not equal 100%.

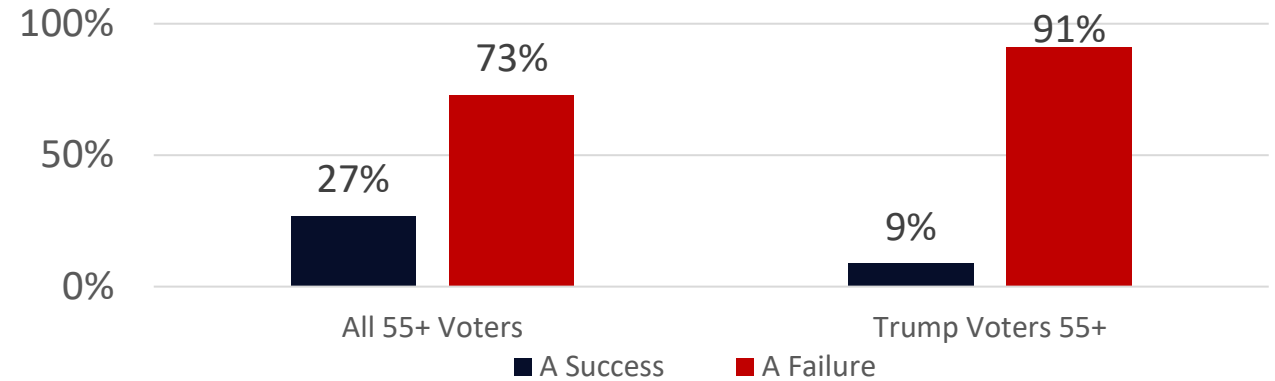


Universes:	Sample	Margin of Error
National Voters 55+	1,600	+/- 2.5%
Voters Under 65	720	+/- 3.7%
Voters 65+	880	+/- 3.3%

Inflation Reduction Act Seen as a Failure

- Three-quarters (73%) of older American voters consider the **IRA to be a failure**.
- The perception that the **IRA has failed** climbs to 91% among **Trump voters**.

It has been over 2 years since The Inflation Reduction Act (IRA) spending bill was passed. Based on your own experience, do you consider IRA spending bill to be a success or failure?



IRA Hasn't Helped Me

80% By a 4 to 1 ratio (80% to 20%), the overwhelming majority says the **IRA hasn't directly helped them** with lowering inflation, consumer prices, and the cost of healthcare. Nine in 10 (92%) **Trump voters** feel they **haven't received any relief**.

92% 9 in 10 say consumer **goods like food, clothing, utilities have increased** over the past 2 years.

65% Two-thirds say their **personal Medicare or health insurance premiums, deductibles, and copayments have increased** over the past 2 years. Over three-quarters (77%) of **Trump voters** say **their costs increased**.

58% The majority says their **personal prescription drug prices have increased** over the past 2 years. Seven in ten (71%) **Trump voters** have **seen their costs increase**.

46% Nearly half of **Medicare recipients** say **prices for their personal Medicare Part D or prescription drug benefit plan have increased** over the past 2 years. The majority (52%) of **Trump voters** say **their prices have increased**.

Under the IRA Costs Will Continue to Increase; Stop Diverting Funds from Medicare

76% With the IRA as is, three-quarters believe seniors will see **their personal Medicare or health plans increase in the near future**. Four in five (84%) **Trump voters** expect **higher prices** for seniors.

73% With the IRA as is, three-quarters believe seniors will see **their prescription drugs costs increase in the near future**. Four in five (81%) **Trump voters** think **seniors will pay more**.

76% Three-quarters of voters 55+, including Trump voters, say congress **shouldn't divert Medicare revenues** meant to lower prescription drug costs for seniors to **pay for spending programs unrelated to Medicare**.

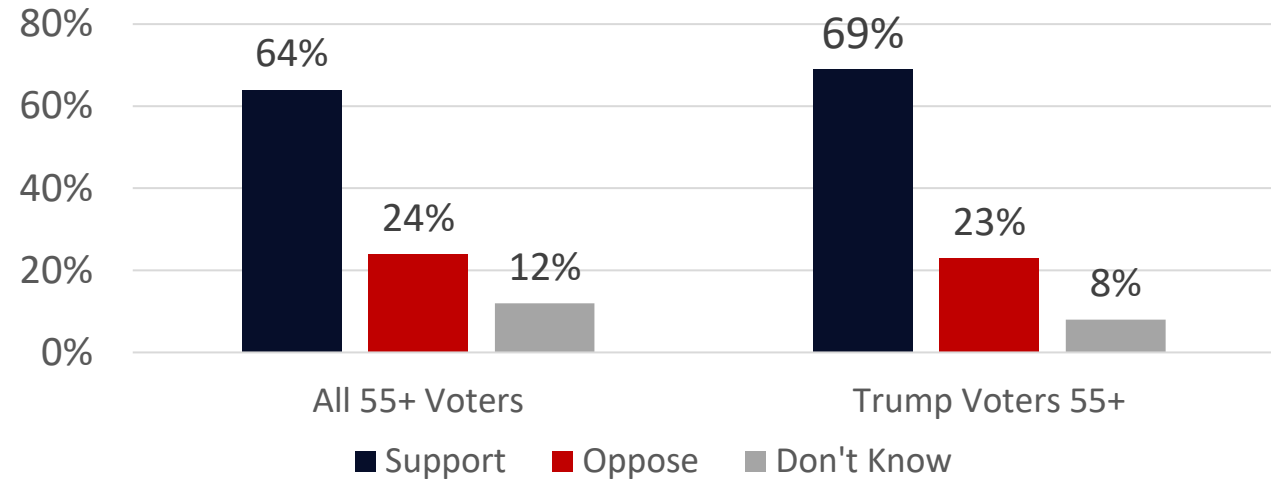
It's Time to Hit Pause

- Two-thirds (64%) **support pausing** the implementation of the **IRA changes to Medicare until Congress can assess its impact.**
- A larger majority (69%) of **Trump voters** want to **pause the IRA.**

Weak IRA Support Turns to Major Opposition

- **Among all 55+ voters, initial support for the IRA is shaky** with mixed opinions, 39% support vs. 23% oppose, and nearly as many who “don’t know” (37%) as support.
- After learning more about the IRA, the **support level drops** from 39% to 21% (-18) while **opposition jumps** from 23% to 68% (+45), a net negative shift of 63-points.
- **Among Trump voters 55+, initial support is already underwater,** 26% support vs. 36% oppose, with the plurality undecided (38%).
- After learning more about the IRA, the **support level collapses among Trump voters** from 26% to 9% (-17) while the **opposition skyrockets** from 36% to 84% (+48), a net negative swing of 65-points.

Do you support or oppose pausing the implementation of the Inflation Reduction Acts changes to Medicare until Congress can assess the impacts it has had on older Americans and the Medicare program’s financial stability and ability to provide quality care, and to identify needed reforms?



	All 55+ Voters			Trump Voters 55+		
	Initial IRA Opinion	Informed IRA Opinion	Net	Initial IRA Opinion	Informed IRA Opinion	Net
Support	39%	21%	-18	26%	9%	-17
Oppose	23%	68%	+45	36%	84%	+48
Don't Know	37%	11%	-26	38%	7%	-31
Net	+16	-47	-63	-10	-75	-65

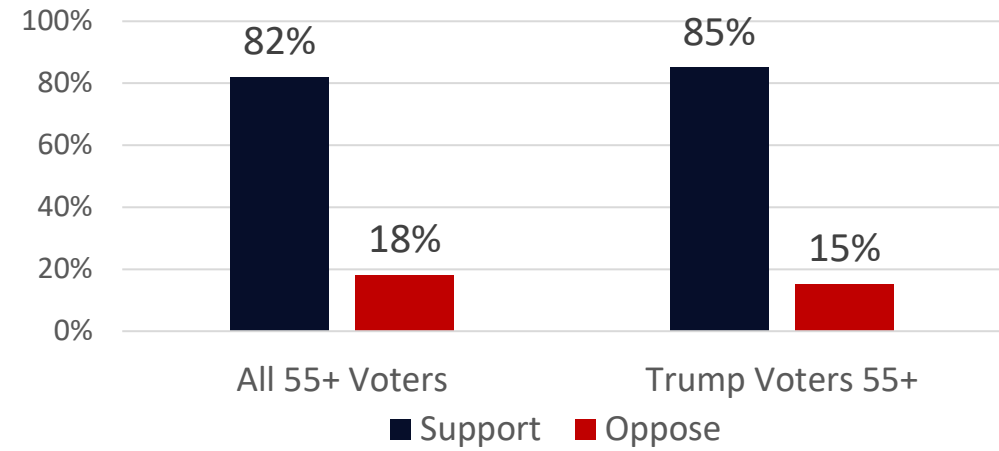
Overwhelming Concern Over IRA’s Impact on R&D Investments in New Medicines; Widespread Support for the EPIC Act to Fix the IRA’s “Pill Penalty”

Are you concerned or not concerned with each of the following aspects of the “pill penalty” on small molecule medicines?

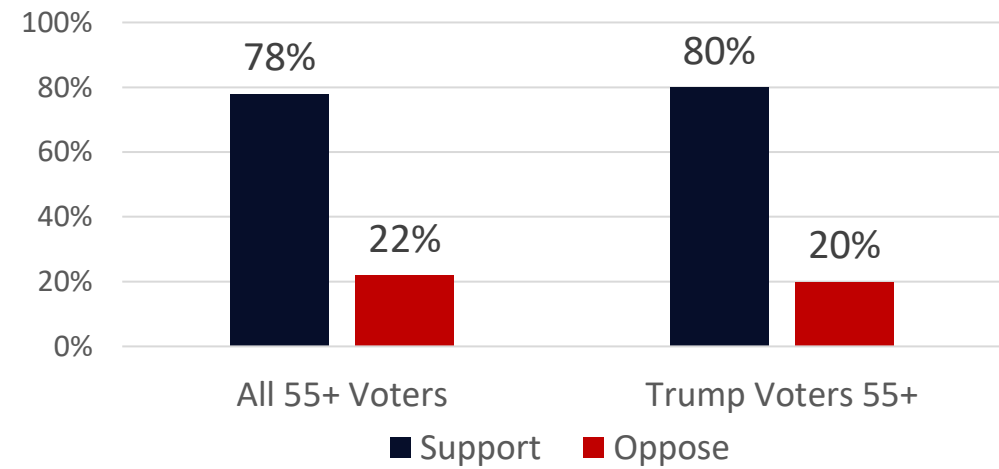
	All 55+ Concerned	Trump Voters Concerned
A lack of investment in American research and development of cutting-edge small molecule medicines and therapies will mean fewer and fewer Americans will have access to life saving treatments.	88%	92%
Pills and other forms of small molecule medicines are more convenient to take and provide greater flexibility, keeping people at work and with their families. The “pill penalty” will make these medicines harder to get, and increase reliance on treatments that are more expensive, more difficult to administer, and less effective.	87%	91%
The “pill penalty” will lead to less investment in American research and development of cutting-edge small molecule medicines and therapies that can prevent, treat, and cure diseases, including cancer.	87%	90%
The “pill penalty” in the Inflation Reduction Act (IRA) will mean fewer new medicines in pill and tablet form for patients battling chronic conditions.	86%	90%

- By a 4 to 1 ratio, 82% support the EPIC Act to grant small molecule medicines the same time period of exemption from price controls that other drugs receive.
- Support (85%) is even stronger among Trump voters.
- When informed about the 13-year price control exemption, support levels to fix the IRA’s pill penalty stayed strong among all voters 55+ (78%) and Trump voters (80%).

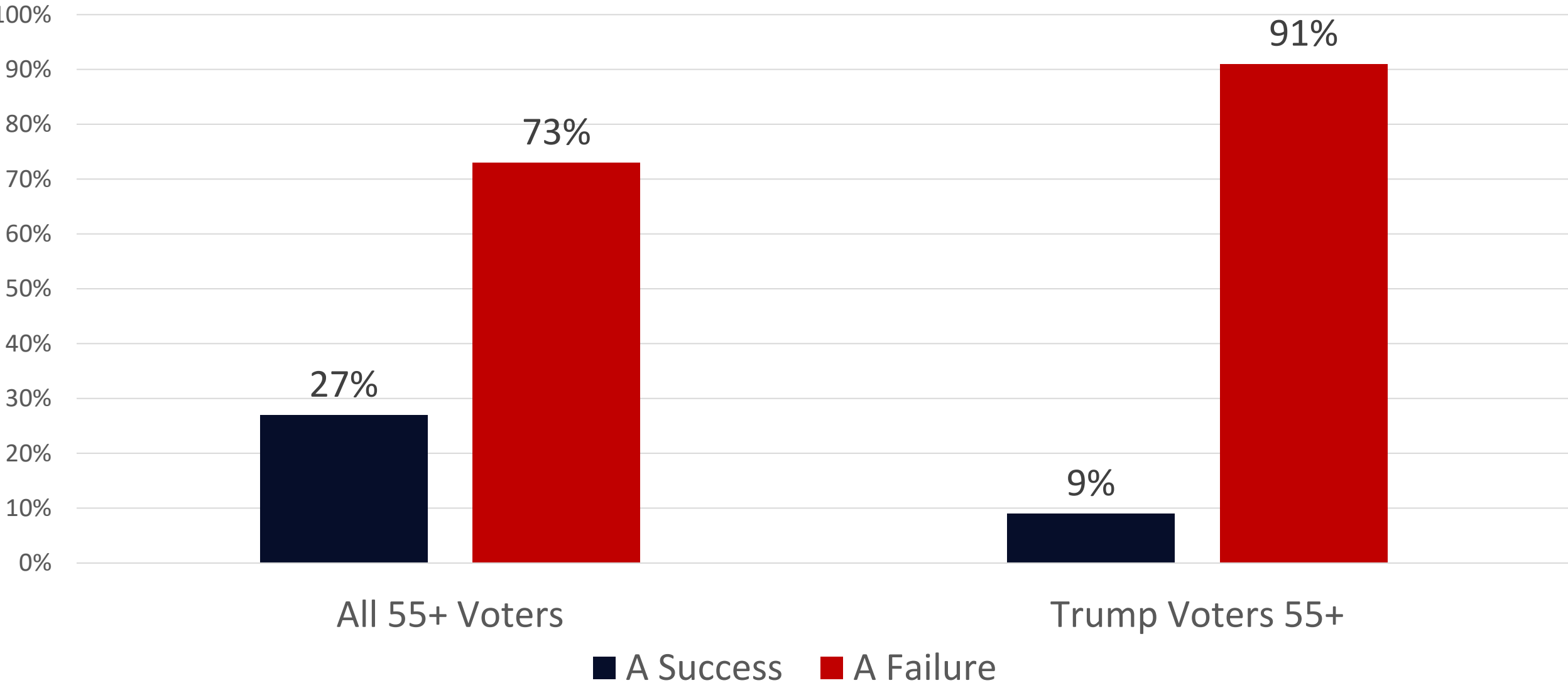
There is now a bipartisan reform bill in Congress called the EPIC Act – the Ensuring Pathways to Innovative Cures Act – to fix the “Pill Penalty” by granting small molecule medicines the same time period of exemption from price controls that other drugs receive. Do you favor or oppose this reform measure?



Would you support or oppose fixing the IRA’s “pill penalty” by granting small molecule medicines in pill and tablet form the same 13 year price control exemption that other medicines receive?



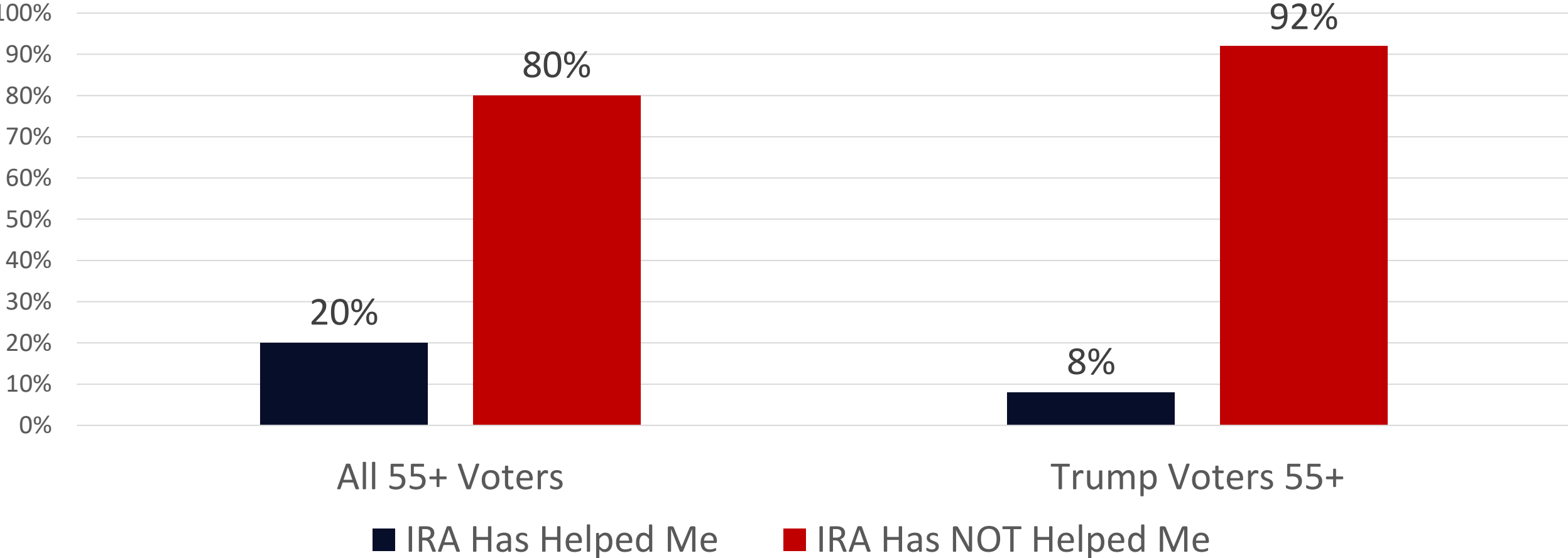
It has been over 2 years since The Inflation Reduction Act (IRA) spending bill was passed. Based on your own experience, do you consider IRA spending bill to be a success or failure?



Now after 2 years since the passage of the IRA spending bill and based on your own experience, which of the following comes closest to your view?

1. I personally feel The Inflation Reduction Act (IRA) has directly helped me or my family in terms of lowering inflation, consumer prices, and the cost of healthcare.

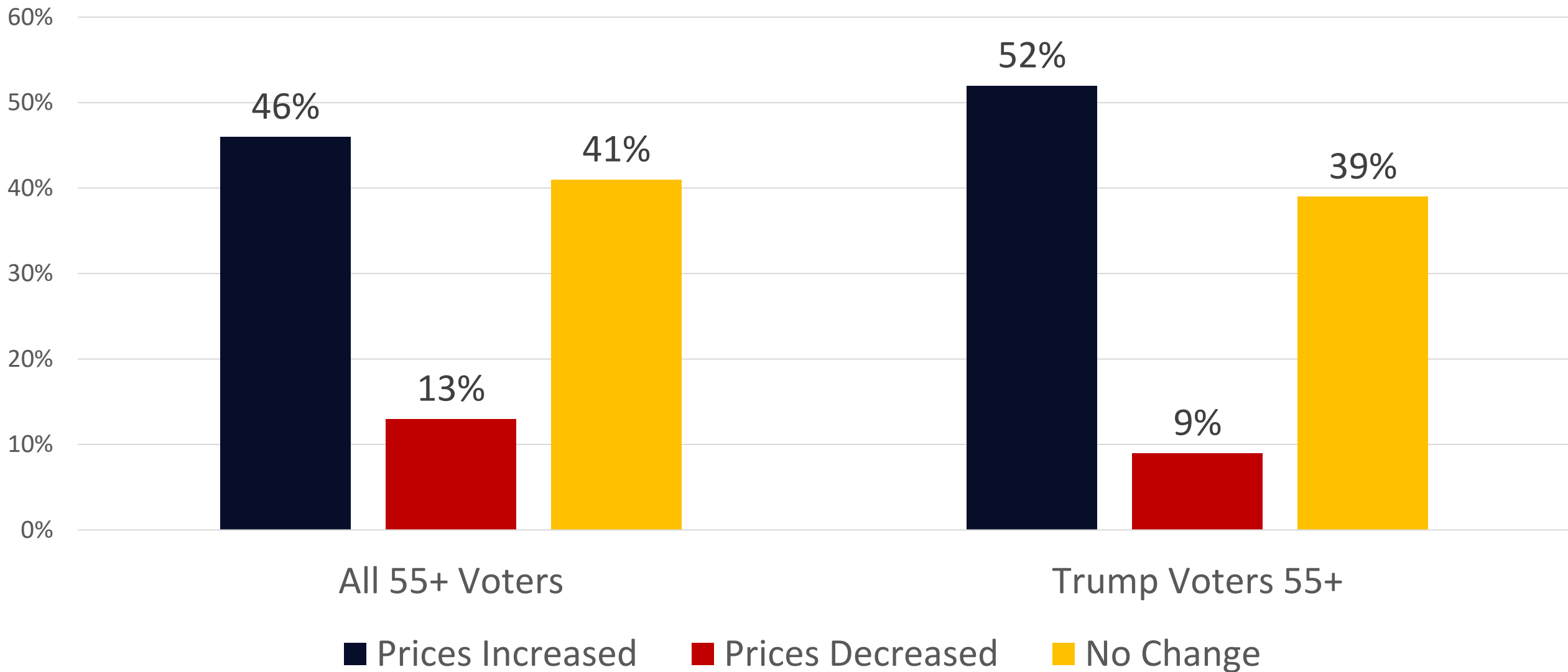
2. I personally feel The Inflation Reduction Act (IRA) has NOT directly helped me or my family in terms of lowering inflation, consumer prices, and the cost of healthcare.



Many politicians in Washington said the \$740 billion dollar spending bill, the Inflation Reduction Act (IRA), would significantly lower inflation, consumer prices, and the costs of healthcare. Others argued it would do the opposite. Over the past 2 years, would you say prices for the following things have increased, decreased, or not changed?

	All 55+ Voters			Trump Voters 55+		
	Prices Increased	Prices Decreased	No Change	Prices Increased	Prices Decreased	No Change
Consumer goods like food, clothing, utilities etc.	92%	2%	5%	95%	1%	3%
My Medicare or health insurance premiums, deductibles, and copays	65%	5%	30%	77%	2%	21%
My prescription drugs	58%	9%	32%	71%	4%	25%

Medicare Recipient: Over the last two years, which of the following comes closest to your personal experience with costs associated with your Medicare Part D or prescription drug benefit plan?

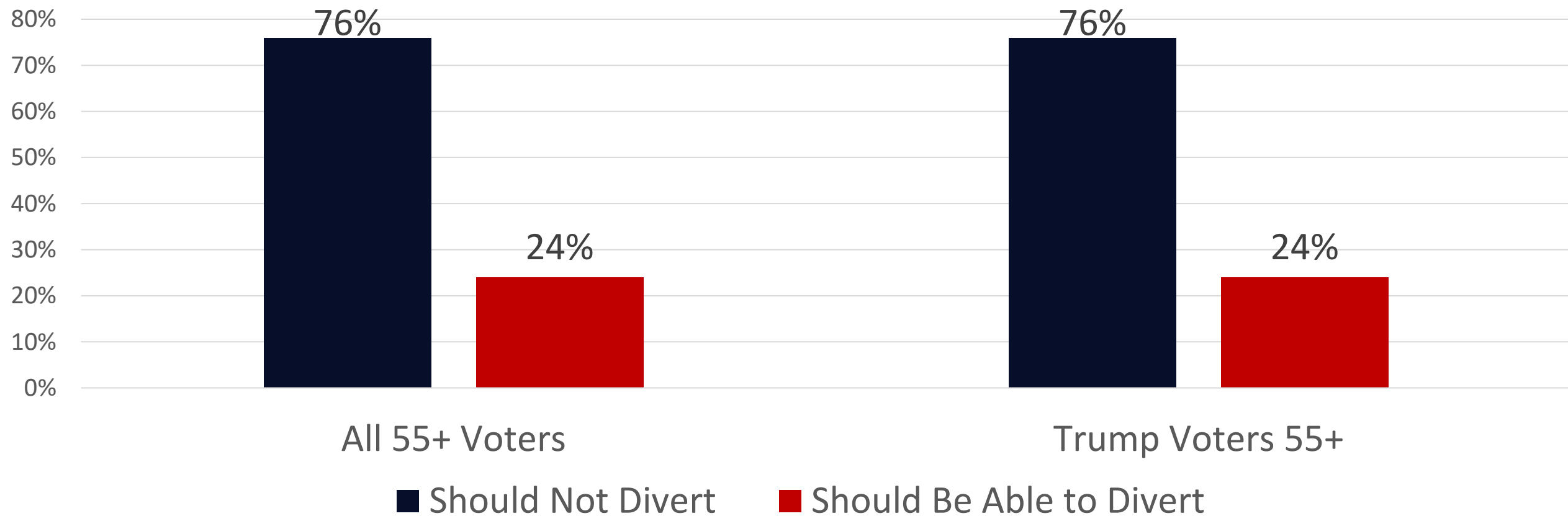


With the IRA spending bill as it stands, which do you personally believe American seniors are most likely to see with respect to...?

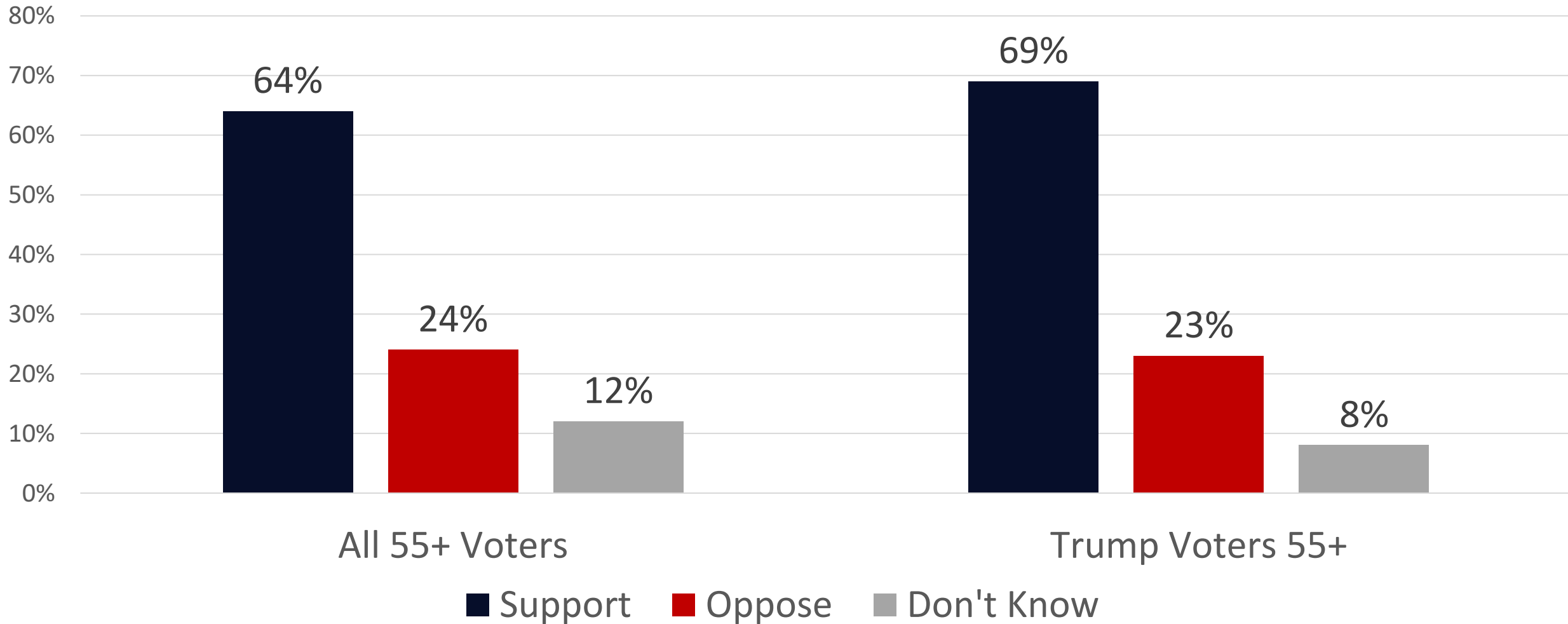
	All 55+ Voters			Trump Voters 55+		
	Prices Increased	Prices Decreased	No Change	Prices Increased	Prices Decreased	No Change
Their individual Medicare or health plans in the near future.	76%	18%	6%	84%	13%	4%
Their individual drug costs in the near future.	73%	19%	8%	81%	15%	4%

As part of the IRA spending bill's drug pricing provisions, President Biden claimed Medicare would save billions and as a result, help seniors. However, billions in projected Medicare savings are instead being used to help pay for other unrelated spending priorities like tax credits for electric vehicles, solar panels, and subsidies to pay for non-Medicare insurance premiums. With billions of dollars in projected Medicare savings from the plan being used to pay for spending programs unrelated to Medicare, which comes closer to your view?

1. Congress should NOT divert Medicare revenues meant to lower prescription drug costs for seniors to pay for spending programs unrelated to Medicare.
2. Congress should be able to divert Medicare revenues meant to lower prescription drug costs for seniors in Medicare to pay for other spending programs unrelated to Medicare.



Do you support or oppose pausing the implementation of the Inflation Reduction Act's changes to Medicare until Congress can assess the impacts it has had on older Americans and the Medicare program's financial stability and ability to provide quality care, and to identify needed reforms?



Based on what you know, do you support or oppose the Inflation Reduction Act (IRA), the \$740 billion dollar spending bill?

All 55+ Voters			
	Initial	Informed	
	IRA Opinion	IRA Opinion	Net
Support	39%	21%	-18
Oppose	23%	68%	+45
Don't Know	37%	11%	-26
Net	+16	-47	-63

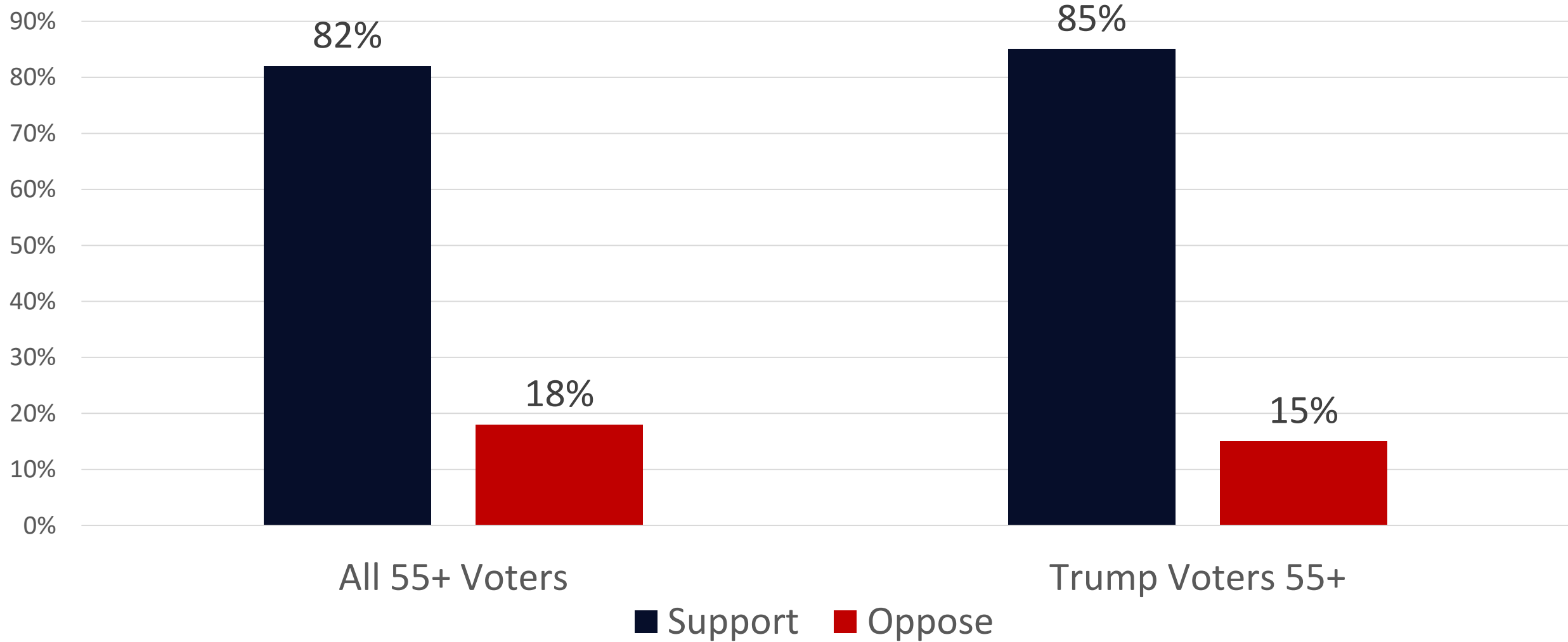
Trump Voters 55+			
	Initial	Informed	
	IRA Opinion	IRA Opinion	Net
Support	26%	9%	-17
Oppose	36%	84%	+48
Don't Know	38%	7%	-31
Net	-10	-75	-65

The following is a particular aspect of the Inflation Reduction Act. The "pill penalty," created by the Inflation Reduction Act (IRA), allows the government to set the price of certain medicines. Shots or infusions can be in the market for 13 years before being subjected to government price setting, while cutting-edge "small molecule" medicines, which typically come in pill or capsule form, are subject to price setting after only 9 years on the market. Are you concerned or not concerned with each of the following aspects of the "pill penalty" on small molecule medicines?

	All 55+ Voters		Trump Voters 55+	
	Concerned	Not Concerned	Concerned	Not Concerned
A lack of investment in American research and development of cutting-edge small molecule medicines and therapies will mean fewer and fewer Americans will have access to life saving treatments.	88%	11%	92%	8%
The "pill penalty" will lead to less investment in American research and development of cutting-edge small molecule medicines and therapies that can prevent, treat, and cure diseases, including cancer.	87%	13%	90%	10%
Pills and other forms of small molecule medicines are more convenient to take and provide greater flexibility, keeping people at work and with their families. The "pill penalty" will make these medicines harder to get, and increase reliance on treatments that are more expensive, more difficult to administer, and less effective.	87%	13%	91%	9%
The "pill penalty" in the Inflation Reduction Act (IRA) will mean fewer new medicines in pill and tablet form for patients battling chronic conditions.	86%	14%	90%	10%

There is now a bipartisan reform bill in Congress called the EPIC Act – the Ensuring Pathways to Innovative Cures Act – to fix the “Pill Penalty” by granting small molecule medicines the same time period of exemption from price controls that other drugs receive.

Do you favor or oppose this reform measure?



Would you support or oppose fixing the IRA's "pill penalty" by granting small molecule medicines in pill and tablet form the same 13-year price control exemption that other medicines receive?

