



To: Interested Parties  
From: B.J. Martino and Dave Sackett, The Tarrance Group; Rob Autry, Meeting Street Research; David Kanevsky, 3D Strategic Research; Patrick Lanne, Public Opinion Strategies  
Re: NRCC Battleground Congressional District Survey Findings  
Date: March 23, 2022

---

The NRCC's latest battleground survey confirms that Joe Biden and Democrats face an increasingly challenging political environment. Battleground voters continue to hold Democrats responsible for the negative impact that record-high inflation, soaring crime, and the crisis along our southern border are having on their lives. Additionally, these voters overwhelmingly support Republicans who are focused on addressing these issues.

This installment of the NRCC Battleground Survey Project adjusted the battlefield districts to accurately reflect redistricting. The survey looked at voters in 77 battleground congressional districts that will determine control of Congress after the 2022 elections. Joe Biden won these seats in 2020 by five and a half points.

### **Key Takeaways:**

1. **Joe Biden's approval rating continues to worsen, Republicans continue to expand their lead on the generic ballot, and a significant majority of voters believe Democrats are "out of touch" and "condescending."**
  - Joe Biden's job approval is 15 points underwater, with only 40% of voters in these key districts approving of the job President Biden is doing, while 55% disapprove.
  - There is a massive disparity between voters who strongly disapprove (45%) and voters who strongly approve (17%) of President Biden's performance.
  - Biden's approval rating among Independent voters has eroded by a net -34 points since February, 2021. Only 30% of Independents approve of the job that President Biden is doing while sixty-two percent (62%) disapprove.
  - Biden's approval rating is -10 with Hispanic voters, a drop of 31 points since February 2021.
  - Republicans lead the generic ballot by 4 points, despite Joe Biden winning these battleground seats by over 5 points in 2020. Republicans have seen a 7-point improvement on the generic ballot since February 2021.
  - Overall, 75% of swing voters in these districts agree that Democrats are out of touch from everyday Americans and are condescending towards voters.

**2. Cost of living and jobs/economy top the list of concerns for battleground voters, Republicans have a massive advantage with voters who have economic concerns, and battleground voters blame Democrats for higher prices.**

- Economic issues “dominate” the issue matrix, with forty-six percent (46%) of battleground voters indicating that they are most concerned about an economic issue.
- 26% of battleground voters say inflation and the cost of living are the most important issue for Biden and Congress to work on, and 15% are most concerned about jobs and the economy.
- Among those who are most concerned about the cost of living, Republicans hold a 24-point advantage on the generic ballot, and among those who are most concerned about jobs/economy, Republicans hold a 20-point advantage on the generic ballot.
- Battleground voters say high gas prices (56%) and rising food costs (41%) are impacting their families the most.
- Among swing voters in battleground districts, two-thirds (67%) believe Democrats in Congress are spending money out of control.
- 52% of battleground voters blame high gas prices on the Biden Administration and Congressional Democrats’ unwillingness to allow more oil and gas production in the United States, compared to only 31% who blame the war in Ukraine and sanctions on Russian oil and gas.

**3. Battleground voters overwhelmingly support Republicans who are focused on addressing Democrat-created crises.**

- 75% of battleground voters are more likely to support a Republican candidate who will fight to lower the price of groceries and gas.
- 78% of battleground voters are more likely to support a Republican candidate who will work to stop dangerous cartels from bringing drugs into America.
- 80% of battleground voters are more likely to support a Republican who will advance energy innovation that will lead to economic growth and lower energy prices.
- 73% of battleground voters favor increasing oil and gas production and exploration in the United States, with a majority (54%) strongly in favor. Less than one quarter (23%) of battleground voters oppose increasing oil and gas production and exploration in the United States, with just 13% strongly opposed.

*This survey was fielded among N=1,000 registered likely voters on March 12-16, 2022. Interviews were collected using a mix of landline (20%), cell phone (50%), and online panel (30%). The margin of error for a sample size of N=1,000 is ±3.1%.*