

TO: Interested Parties
FROM: Hart Research Associates
DATE: May 19, 2021
RE: ME-02 Voters' Support for the American Jobs Plan

On behalf of Environment America and Earthjustice, Hart Research Associates conducted a survey of 300 voters in Maine's second congressional district (ME-02). The interviewing was done using live telephone calls from May 3 to 6, 2021, and the state voter file was the basis for the sample. The margin of error for the overall results is ± 5.7 percentage points.

Summary

After hearing about the American Jobs Plan (AJP), ME-02 voters say they want Congressman Golden to vote in favor of its passage by 15 points (54% to 39%). District voters strongly favor the overall plan as well as its core components.

Indeed, ME-02 voters support the plan's multipronged focus on addressing climate change by reducing carbon pollution and supporting energy efficiency, as well as providing targeted assistance to disadvantaged communities that are most harmed by pollution. They also strongly favor the plan's investments in clean energy, with three in five saying this makes them more likely to favor the plan, as well as transitioning to 100% clean sources by 2035.

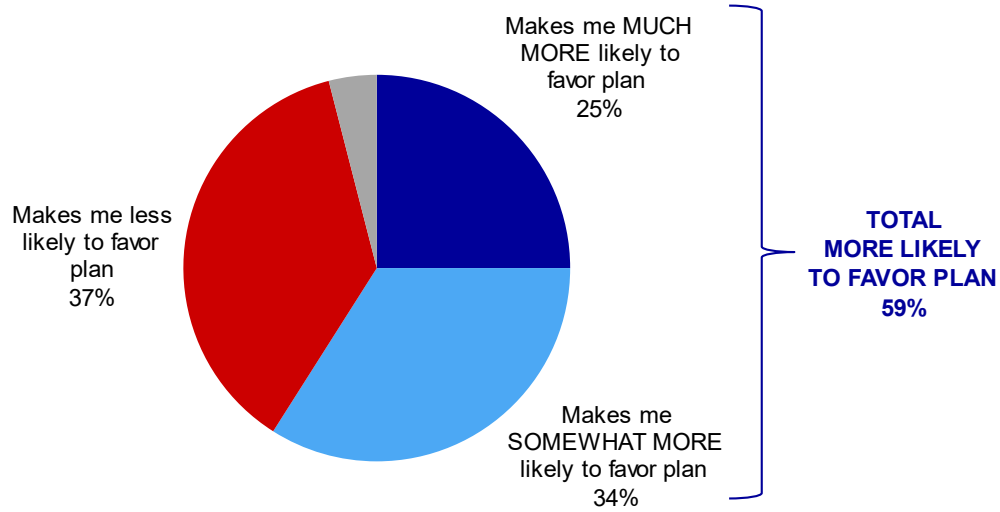
Furthermore, these voters favor the proposed funding mechanisms for the AJP, including partially rolling back tax cuts on corporations and eliminating taxpayer-funded subsidies for oil and gas corporations.

Key Points

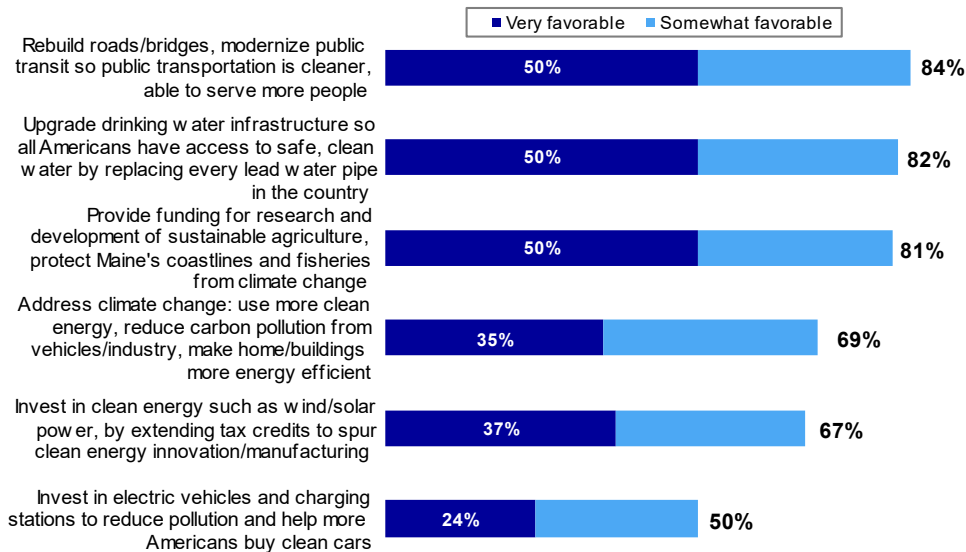
- 1. By a 26-point margin (61% to 35%), ME-02 voters favor the American Jobs Plan.**
 - While the AJP is President Biden's proposal and enjoys nearly unanimous support from Democrats (95%), it is notable that support for the plan extends well beyond this group: 51% of non-Democrats—including 62% of independents—support it.
- 2. On multiple measures, voters in this district clearly signal that the provisions of the American Jobs Plan that focus specifically on addressing climate change and reducing pollution (with an emphasis on investing in clean energy) add to their favorable assessment of the proposal. Simply put, the climate and clean energy components of the plan are a significant selling point for voters in this district.**
 - When told that the plan includes a major emphasis on investments to expand the use of clean energy, such as wind and solar power, in order to tackle the climate crisis and create jobs, voters largely say that this approach makes them more likely to favor the AJP. Three in five (59%) voters express this view, including 60% of independents.

- Setting a goal of generating 100% of America’s electricity from clean energy sources by 2035 to reduce carbon pollution receives a similarly enthusiastic response, with 61% of voters in favor of this aim and only 36% opposed.
- Additionally, the AJP’s goal of targeting 40% of its climate investments toward disadvantaged communities that are most harmed by pollution also receives broad support: 60% of voters favor this specific provision, including 59% of independents.

The AJP includes a major emphasis on investments to expand the use of clean energy, such as wind and solar power, to tackle the climate crisis and create jobs:



3. Voters express overwhelming support for a broad set of core components of the American Jobs Plan. In fact, the vast majority of the aspects of the proposal that were tested—ranging from improving roads, bridges, and mass transit to investing in clean energy—are viewed favorably by better than two to one. Notably, seven in 10 voters support the AJP’s goal of addressing the challenge of climate change.



4. In fact, district voters are so positive toward the American Jobs Plan that, by 15 points (54% to 39%), they say they want Congressman Golden to vote in favor of it. And overwhelmingly, voters say the AJP should pass as long as it has the support of Americans across the partisan spectrum (and it does), rather than holding out for support from Republican members of Congress.

- Voters' call for Congressman Golden to support the American Jobs Plan is shared broadly. While Democrats are especially enthusiastic (90% want him to vote for the plan), independents say he should vote for the AJP by 57% to 35%.
- A strong majority (57%) of voters agree that the plan "should become law as long as Americans across the country who are Democrats, Republicans, and independents support it," while just 26% believe that it "should only become law if members of Congress from both parties support it." All non-Democrats feel this way by two to one (54% to 27%).

5. Voters identify a range of important, tangible benefits that they expect to occur if the American Jobs Plan is passed.

- By 55% to 35%, voters expect that the proposal would "improve the quality of life in many communities." Furthermore, voters in this district anticipate that the AJP will boost jobs and improve the economy. By 20 points (54% to 34%), voters say that the proposal would "create good jobs across the country," and they believe that the plan would "grow the U.S. economy" by 53% to 37%. And 40% believe it would reduce the harmful effects of climate change.

6. Voters' support for the American Jobs Plan is strong, and majorities support rolling back the 2017 corporate tax cuts and ending federal subsidies for oil and gas companies to pay for it.

- By 51% to 42%, voters favor partially rolling back the 2017 corporate tax cuts by moving the corporate tax rate to 28% (from the current 21% level) to help pay for the AJP.
- Similarly, voters support ending taxpayer subsidies for oil and gas companies to help pay for the plan, with 53% of voters in the district saying they favor this approach and only 38% saying they oppose it.