

A National Survey of Voter Attitudes on Immigration



MANHATTAN INSTITUTE FOR POLICY RESEARCH

THE TARRANCE GROUP

April 15-19 & 22, 2007 / N=800 Registered “Likely” Voters / $\pm 3.5\%$ M.O.E.



Survey Methodology

Dates of Survey: April 15-19 & 22, 2007

Base sample:

N=800 Registered “Likely” 2008 voters
Margin of error for base sample is +/- 3.5%

Oversamples:

N=300 in “likely” voters in Swing Congressional Districts,
N=100 “strong” Republican voters,
N=100 Hispanics nationwide,
N=100 in Arizona’s 5th CD,
N=100 in Illinois’ 6th CD

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Overall Key Findings

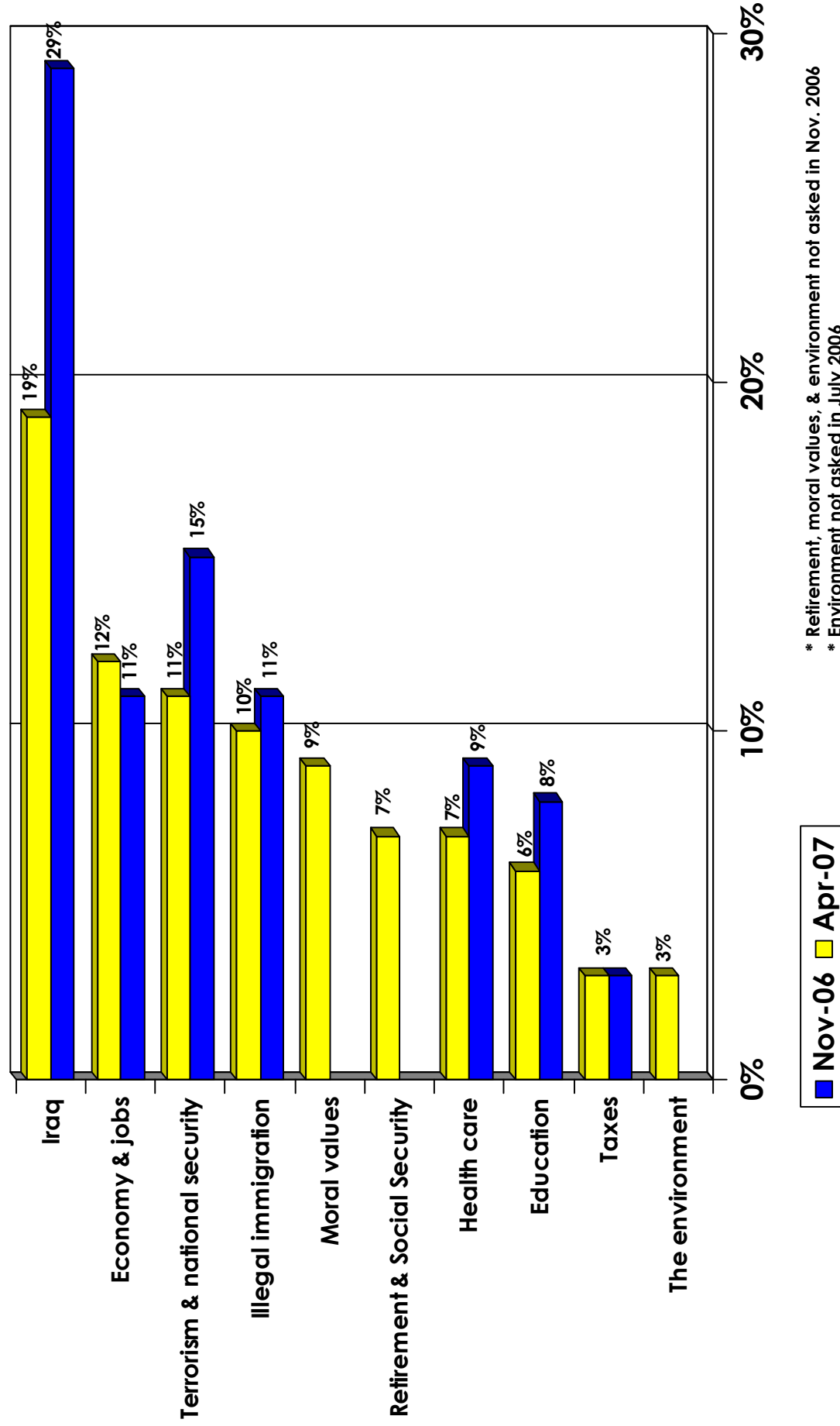
- This survey finds that likely voters nationwide continue to have a strong interest in immigration reform and strong support for comprehensive immigration reform that includes a path to citizenship.
 - This support crosses all party, ethnic, and demographic lines with support from base Republicans and base Democrats being equally strong.
 - In addition, a majority of likely voters do not see a reform with a path to citizenship as amnesty.
- Interest in passing comprehensive reform has increased since last year and voters are poised to reward supporters of this reform. Failure to achieve passage will be seen as an indictment of incumbents with all of Washington sharing the blame.

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Please tell me which one of these would be the MOST important issue when determining your vote for Congress.



* Retirement, moral values, & environment not asked in Nov. 2006
* Environment not asked in July 2006

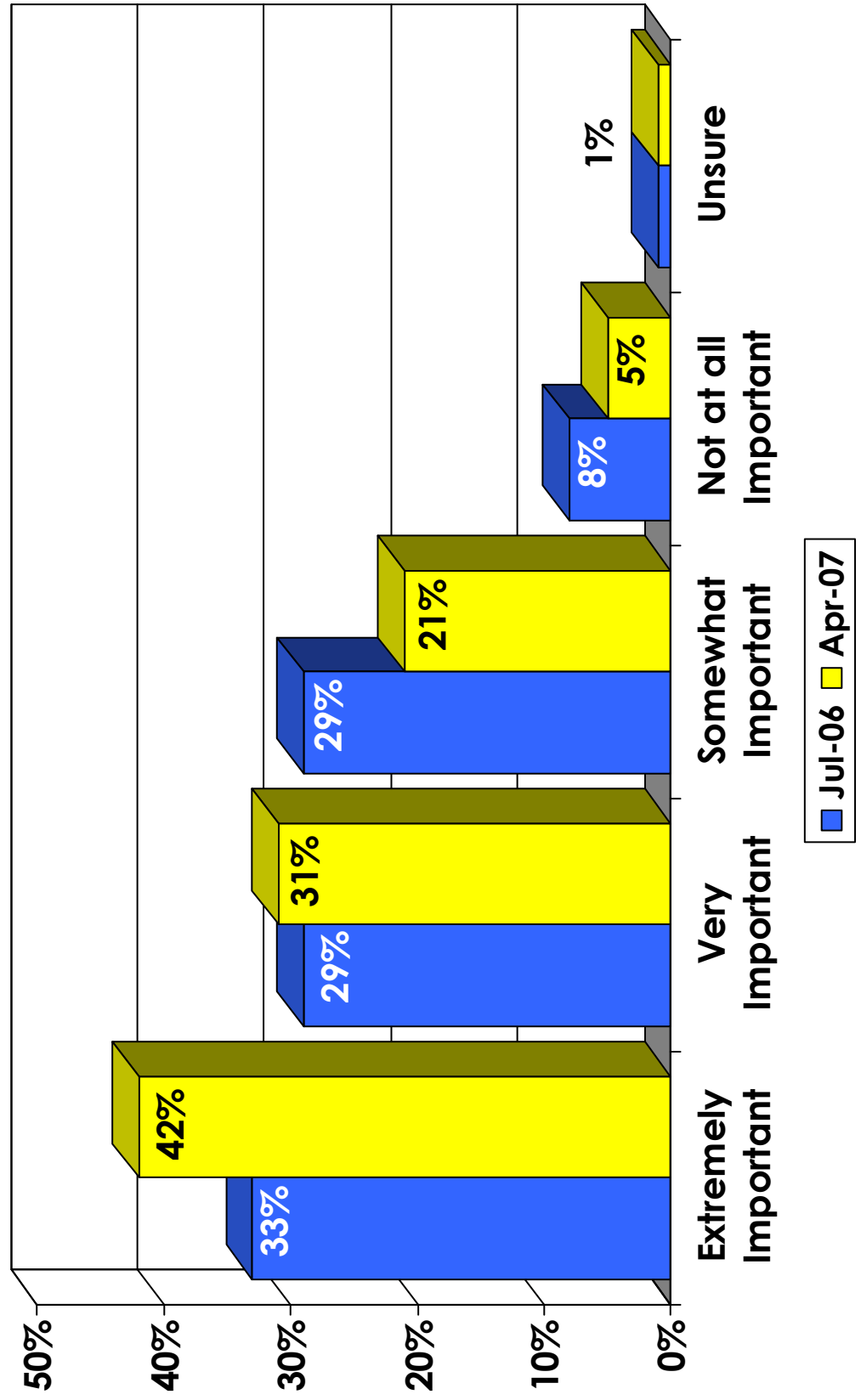
■ Nov-06 ■ Apr-07

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How important do you feel it is for Congress to deal with the problem of illegal immigration this year?

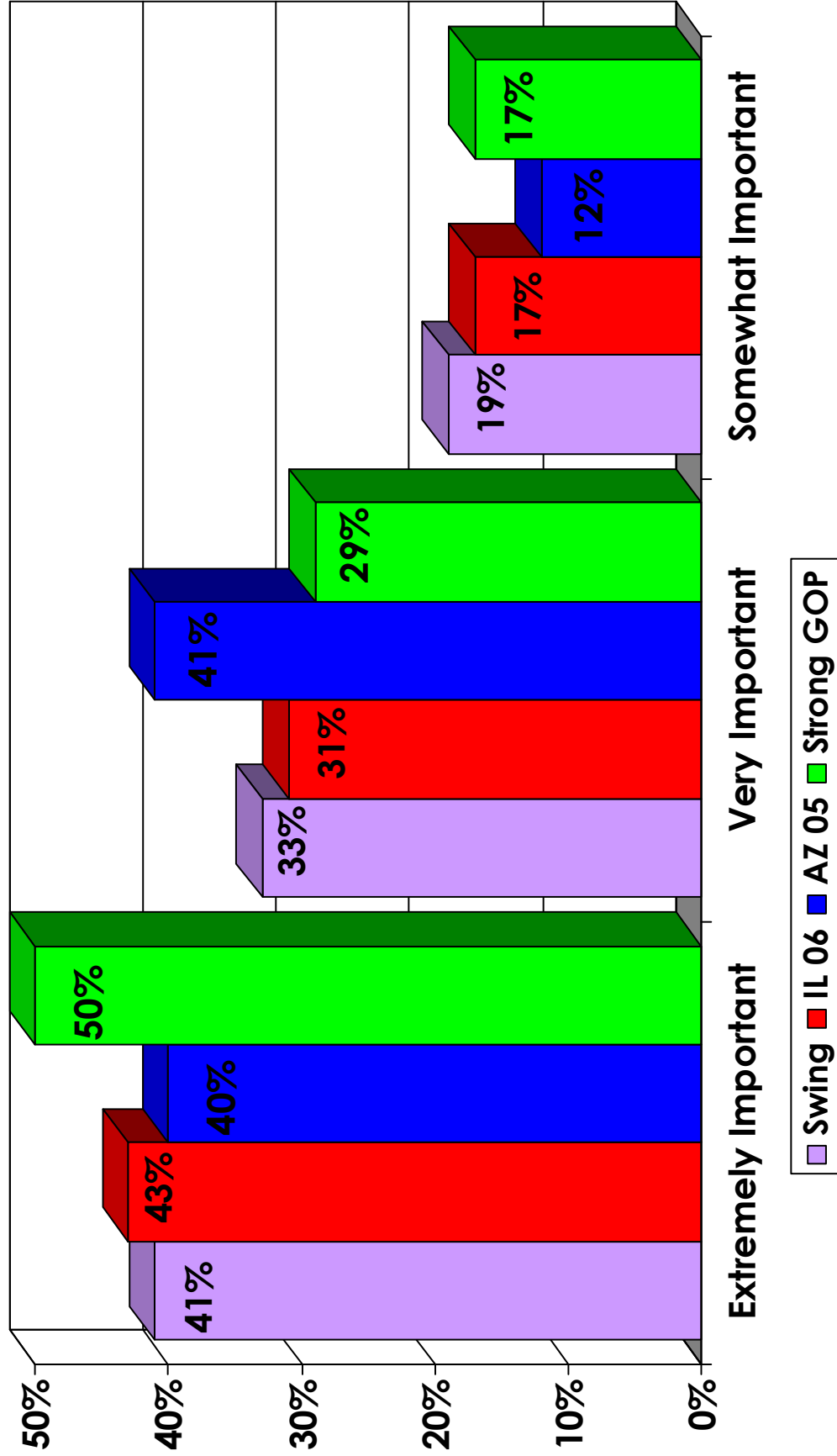


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Belief in the importance of passing immigration reform is strong across all demographic groups, including swing district voters, IL CD 06 voters, AZ 05 voters, and notably intense among "strong" Republicans



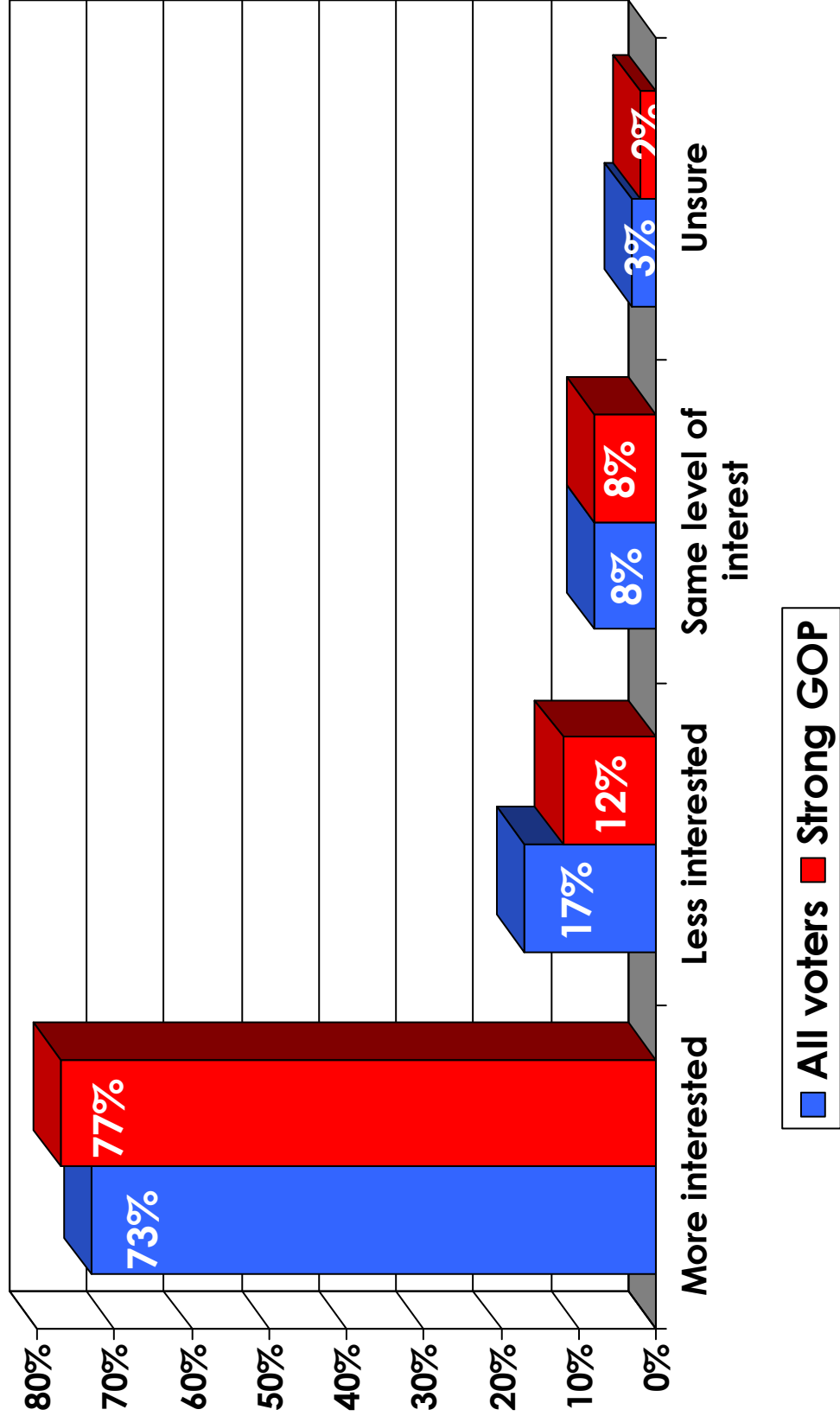
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Thinking back to last year, would you say that you are:

More interested this year in having Congress pass immigration reform legislation, or Less interested this year in having Congress pass immigration reform legislation?



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Please tell me if you would agree or disagree with that particular statement.

Statement	% Agree	% Disagree
It is the job of Congress to deal with important issues like immigration reform.	92%	5%
A key goal of immigration reform should be to get control of the immigration flow in this country and change it from an illegal flow to a legal flow.	83%	12%
Immigration is a critical problem that needs to be addressed this year.	81%	18%
It would be good for the US economy if we could reform our immigration system to ensure that there are enough workers to meet our economic needs.	74%	19%
Immigration reform should focus on assimilating new immigrants into the American way of life and not on creating a class of temporary workers who will never be allowed to become citizens or remain in the country.	69%	21%

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Comprehensive Reform Proposal - Language

Now, thinking about immigration policy –

Congress is considering several different proposals for immigration reform. If Congress was considering legislation which would do the following to create an earned legalization program:

- Provide resources to greatly increase border security;
- Impose much tougher penalties on employers who hire illegal workers;
- Allow additional foreign workers to come to the United States to work for a temporary period;
- Create a system in which illegal immigrants could come forward and register, pay a fine, and receive a temporary worker permit; and
- Provide these temporary workers with a multi-year path to earned citizenship, if they get to the end of the line and meet certain requirements like living crime free, learning English, paying taxes.

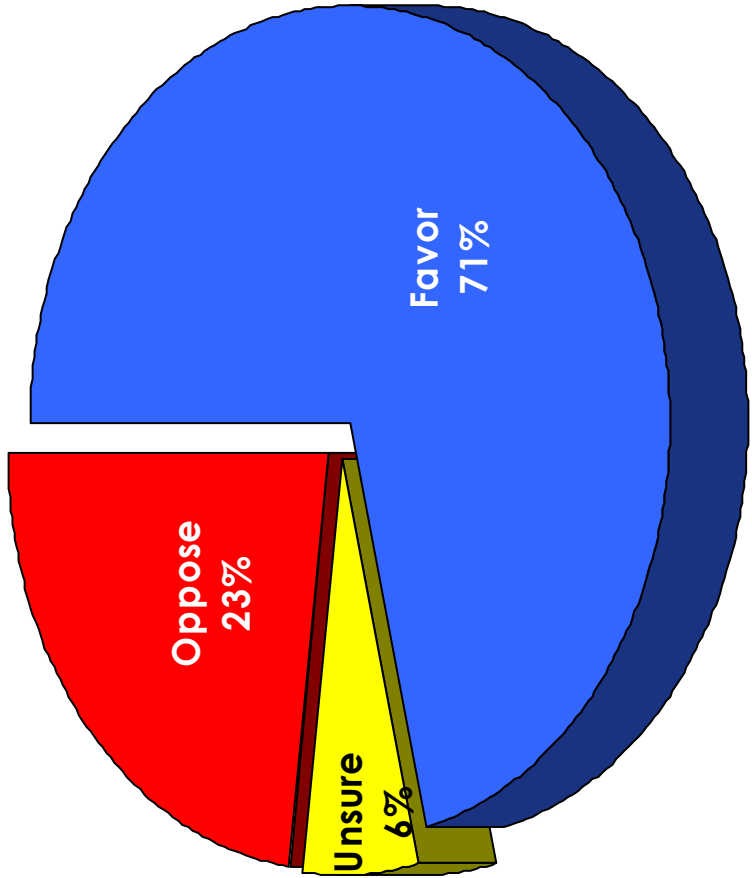
Would you favor or oppose passage of this legislation?

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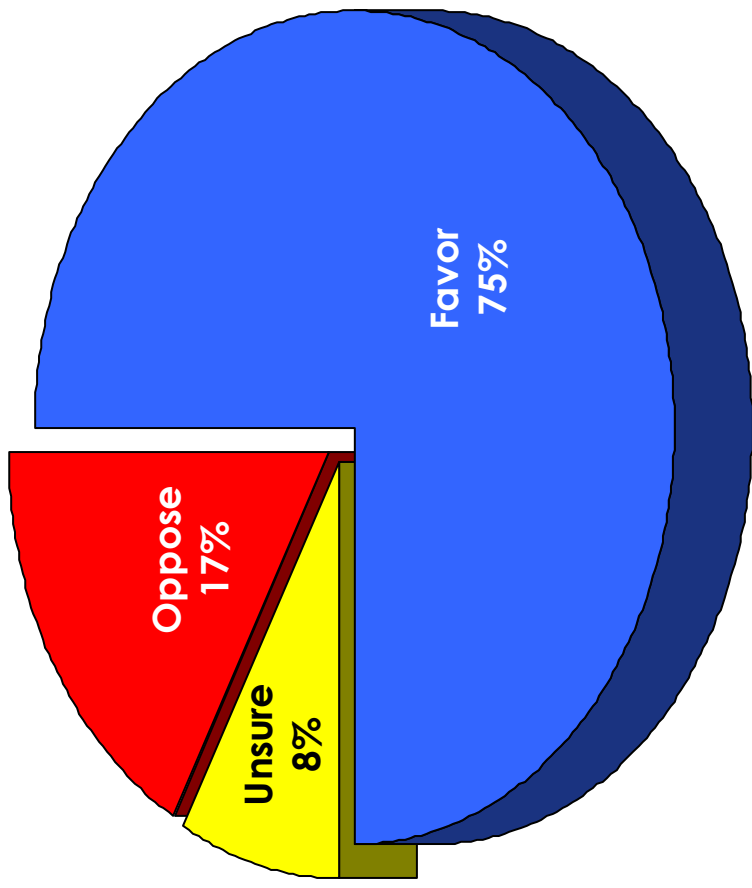
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Comprehensive Reform Proposal



July 2006



April 2007

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Comprehensive Reform Proposal - Support

Favor Overall – 75%

By race:

- White – 75%
- African American – 70%
- Hispanic – 74%

Among strongly religious:

- White Conservative Christian – 78%
- Born Again – 75%
- Attend church weekly – 76%

Among intense partisans:

- Strong Republican – 76%
- Very Conservative – 74%
- Strong Democrat – 74%
- Liberal – 75%

Among swing voters:

- Swing CD voters – 72%
- AZ05 -76%
- IL06 -77%

Other notable groups:

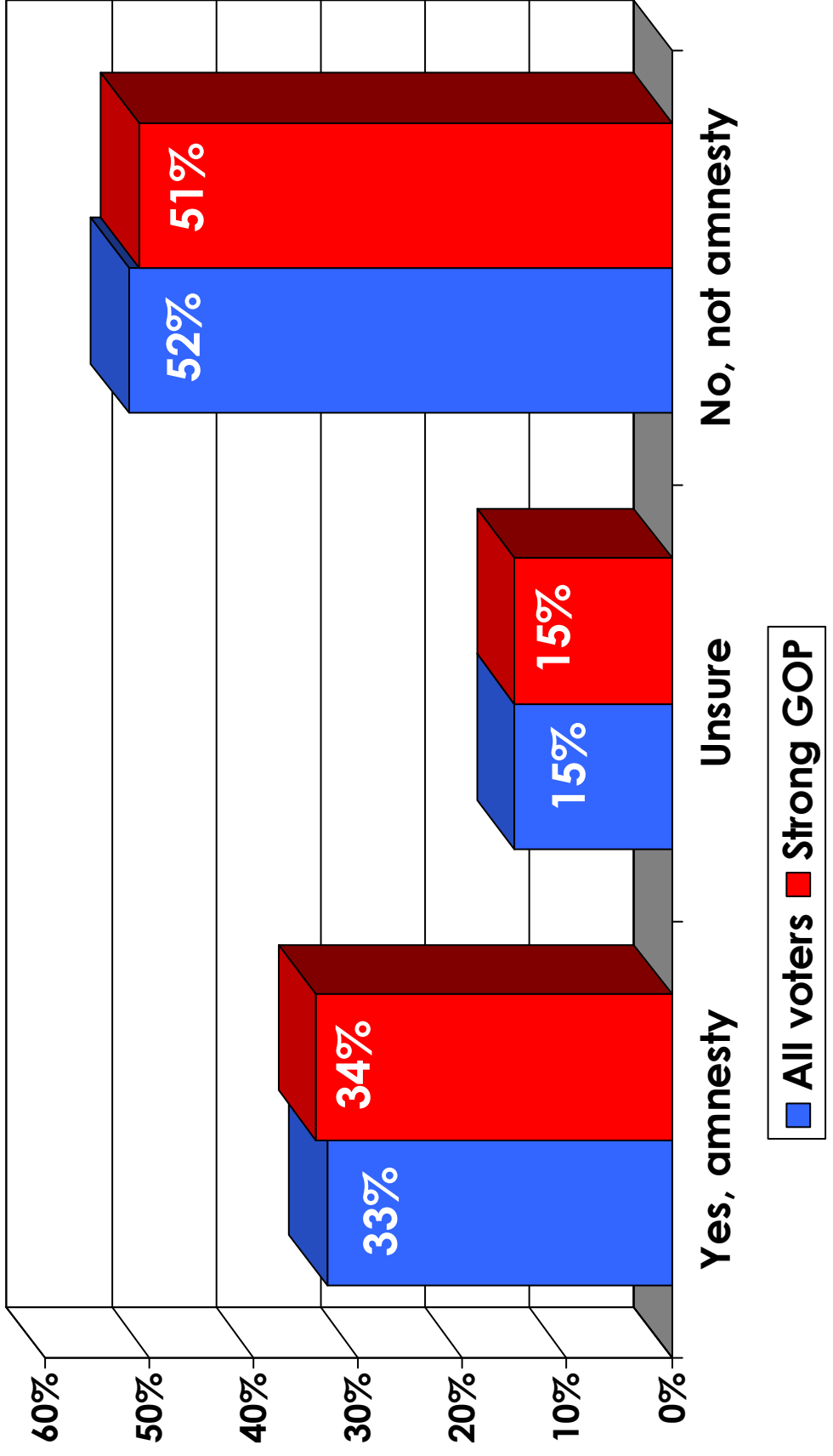
- Seniors – 73%
- College graduates -74%
- Daily talk radio listeners -76%

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Do you believe this proposal is the same thing as amnesty for illegal immigrants or is it not amnesty at all?

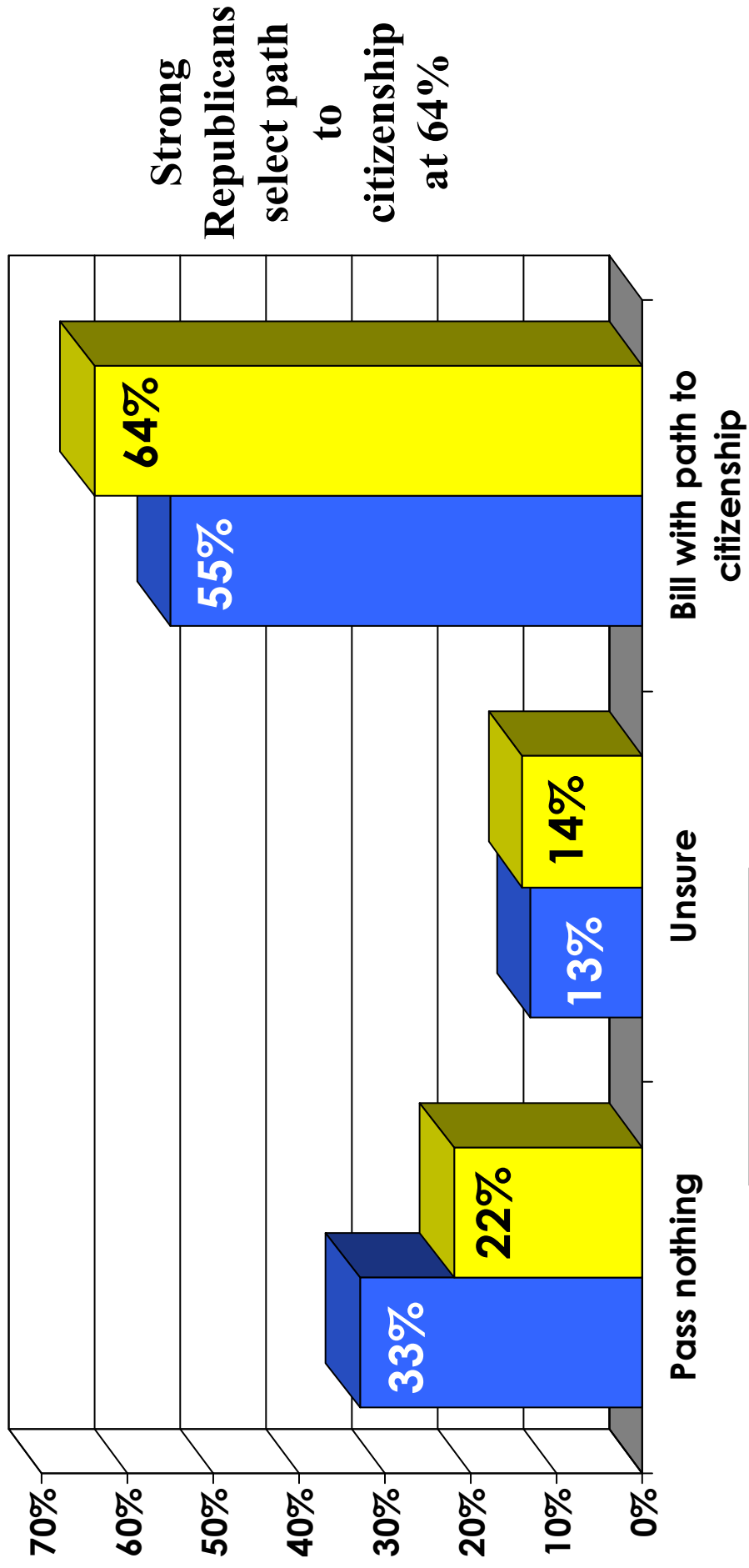


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Which would you prefer: Congress does nothing about immigration reform this year, or Congress passes an immigration reform bill like this one that provides for increased border security and tougher enforcement and also includes a path to citizenship for illegal immigrants, which some would call amnesty?



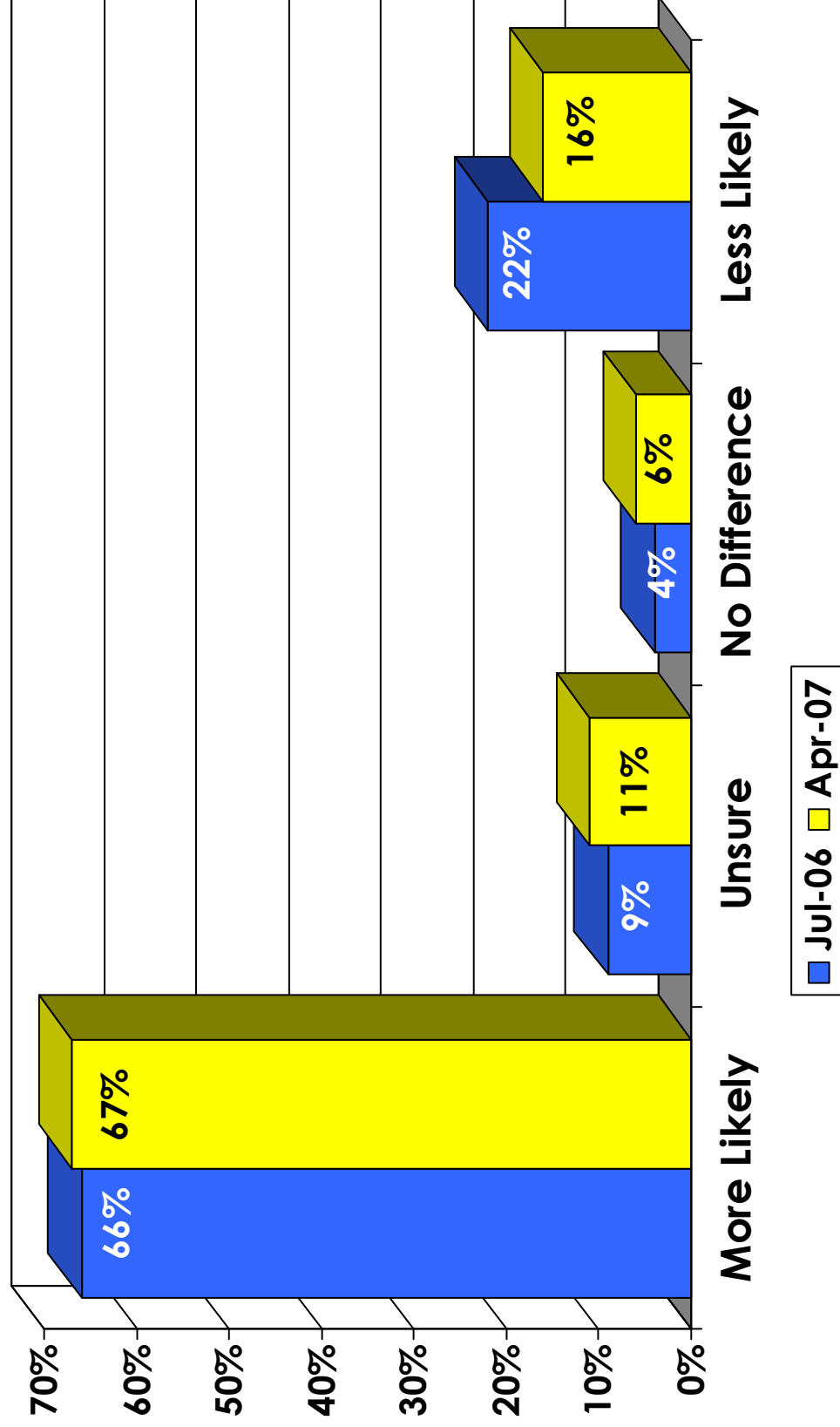
*Wording slightly different

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And, would you be more likely or less likely to vote for a candidate who supports this legislation?



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More likely to vote for comprehensive immigration legislative supporter

More likely overall – 67%

By race:

- White – 67%
- African American – 73%
- Hispanic – 67%

Among strongly religious:

- White Conservative Christian – 71%
- Born Again – 71%
- Attend church weekly – 70%

Among intense partisans:

- Strong Republican – 69%
- Very Conservative – 65%
- Strong Democrat – 67%
- Liberal – 67%

Among notable swing CDs:

- AZ05 -71%
- IL06 -67%

Other notable groups:

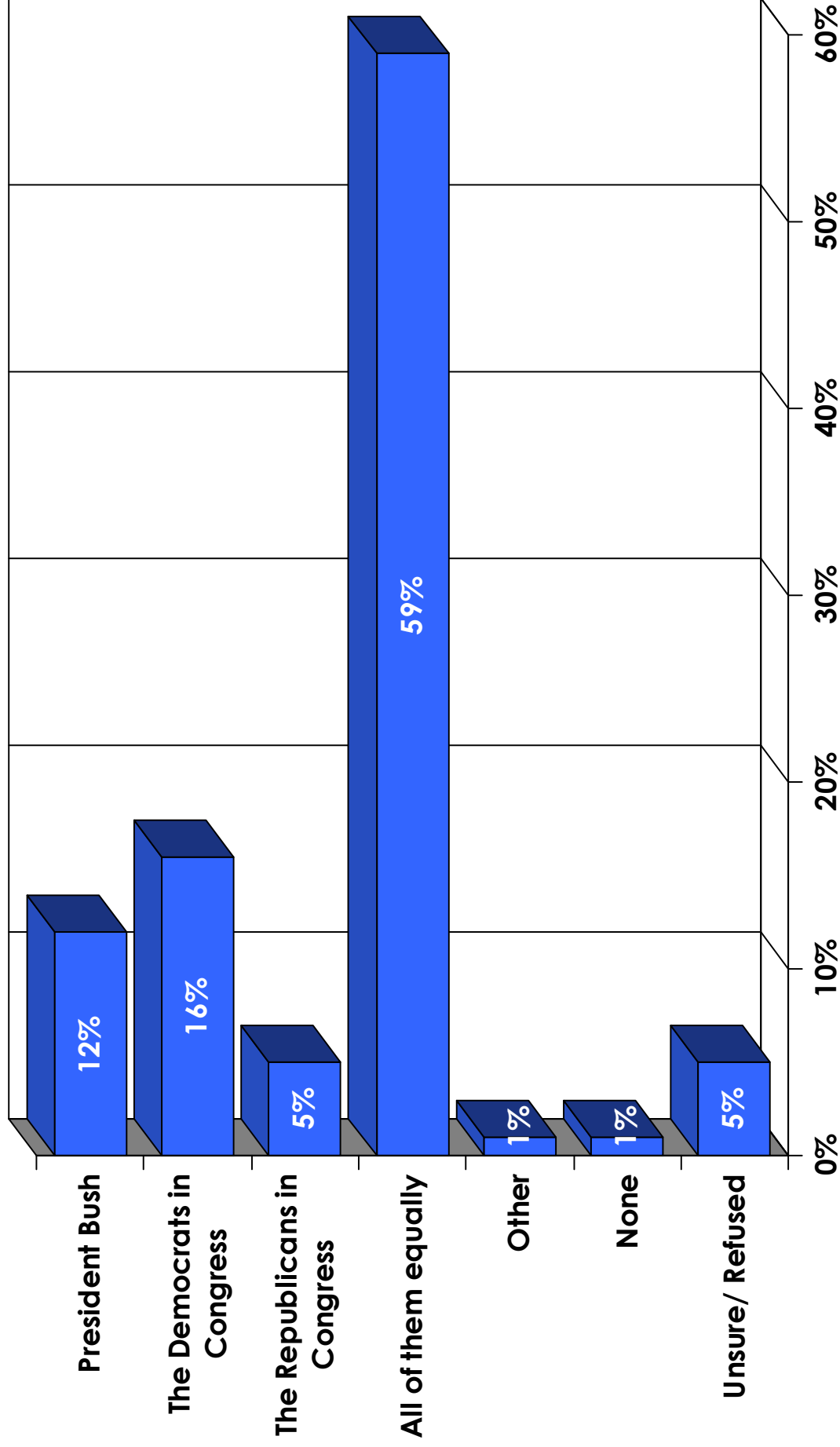
- Seniors – 67%
- College graduates -65%
- Daily talk radio listeners -70%

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Now, if an immigration reform bill does NOT become law this year, who do think would be most to blame...President Bush, The Democrats in Congress, The Republicans in Congress, or All of them equally?



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Please tell me, for each one, whether you personally would think this additional item is something that you would favor or oppose.

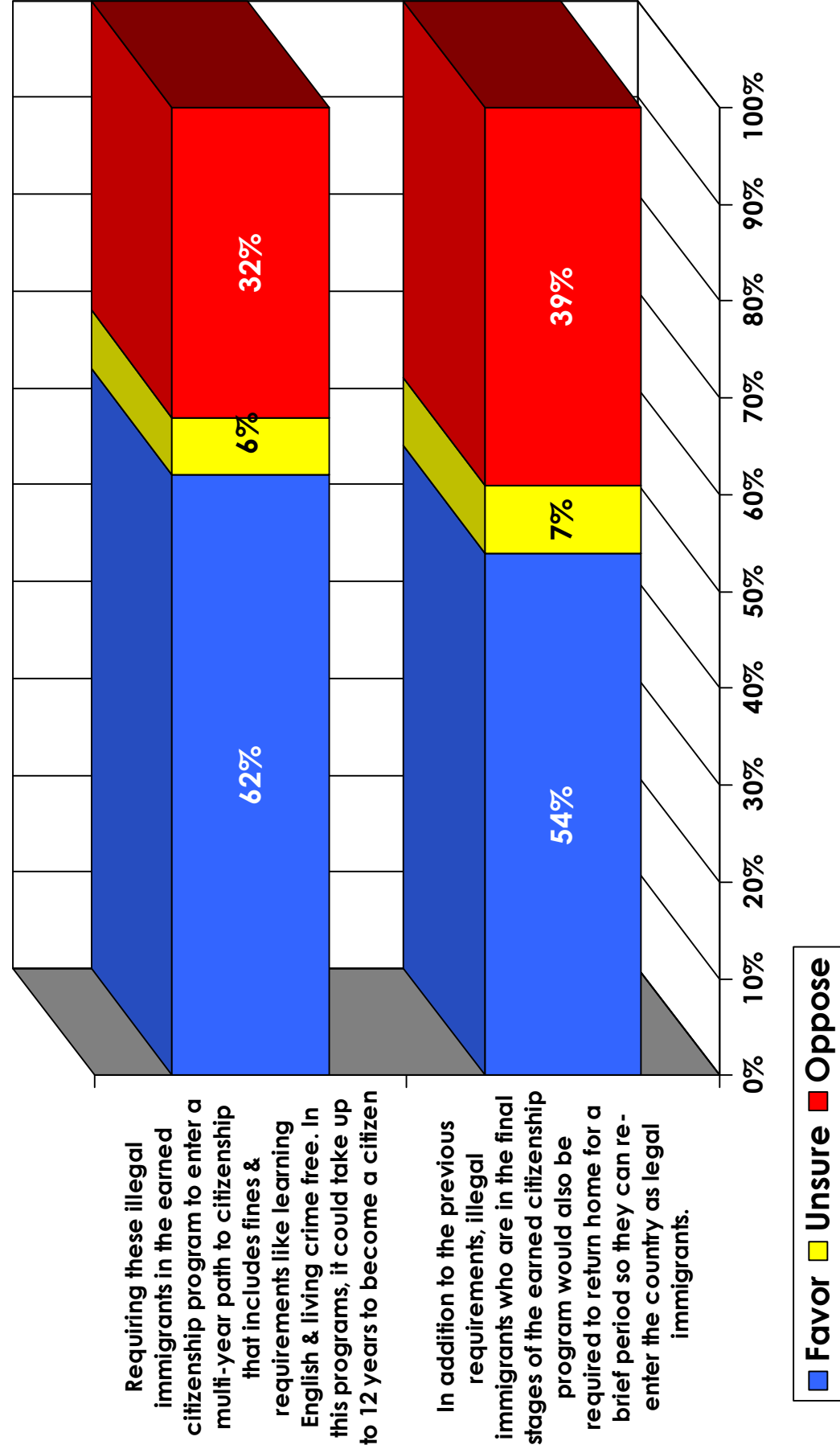
Potential additional item	% Favor	% Oppose
Enacting a requirement that illegal immigrants in the earned legalization program must pass an assimilation test that shows basic knowledge of English and our government.	83%	13%
Implementing this legislation in two stages by first having an increase in border security and imposing tougher penalties on employers. Then, after certification by the federal government that these measures are in place, a guest worker and earned legalization program for current illegal immigrants would be enacted.	70%	21%

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Now, one of the items being debated in these plans is how to handle the time when illegal immigrants make the transition to legal status and eventual citizenship. Here are some proposals for dealing with this process. For each one, please tell me whether you personally would think this additional item is something that you would favor or oppose.



Legend: Favor (Blue), Unsure (Yellow), Oppose (Red)

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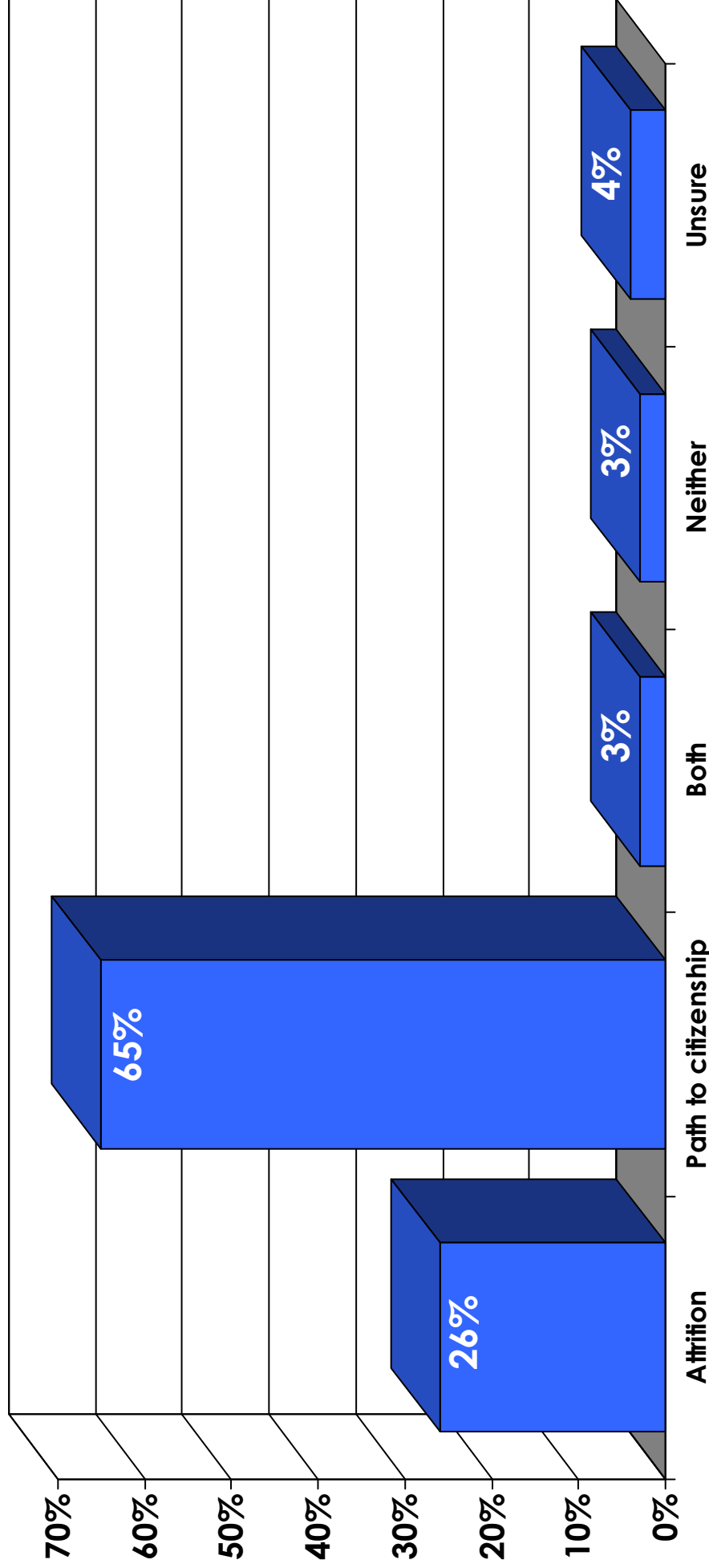
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Some people say that we don't need to offer illegal immigrants a path to citizenship, that's amnesty & rewarding them for breaking our laws. By enforcing the law more strictly, it will become so hard to live & work here that they will go back where they came from.

Other people say that enforcement only won't solve the problem of 12 million people who are already living & working here, they will just stay underground & get paid in cash. To fix the immigration crisis we need to combine enforcement with a path to citizenship for those who are willing to come forward, register, pay taxes & learn English.

"Which viewpoint comes closest to your own?"

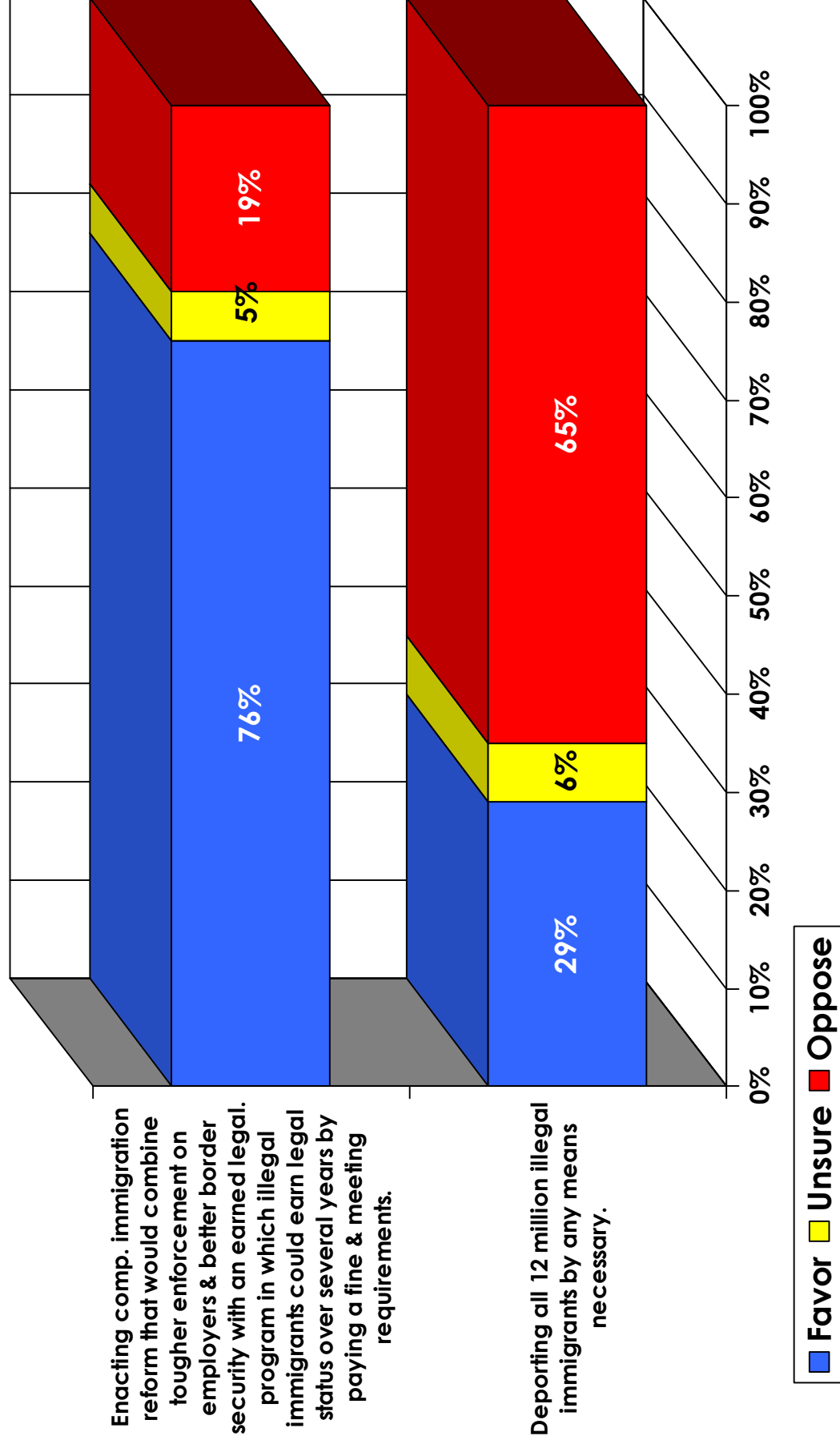


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Public policy experts agree that there are at least 12 million illegal immigrants currently living in the United States. There are currently many proposals about how to handle this problem. I would like to read you several proposals. For each one, please tell me if you would favor or oppose this proposal.



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Regardless of your view on this proposal to deport all 12 million illegal immigrants by any means necessary...

Do you think it is possible to deport all 12 million illegal immigrants?

