

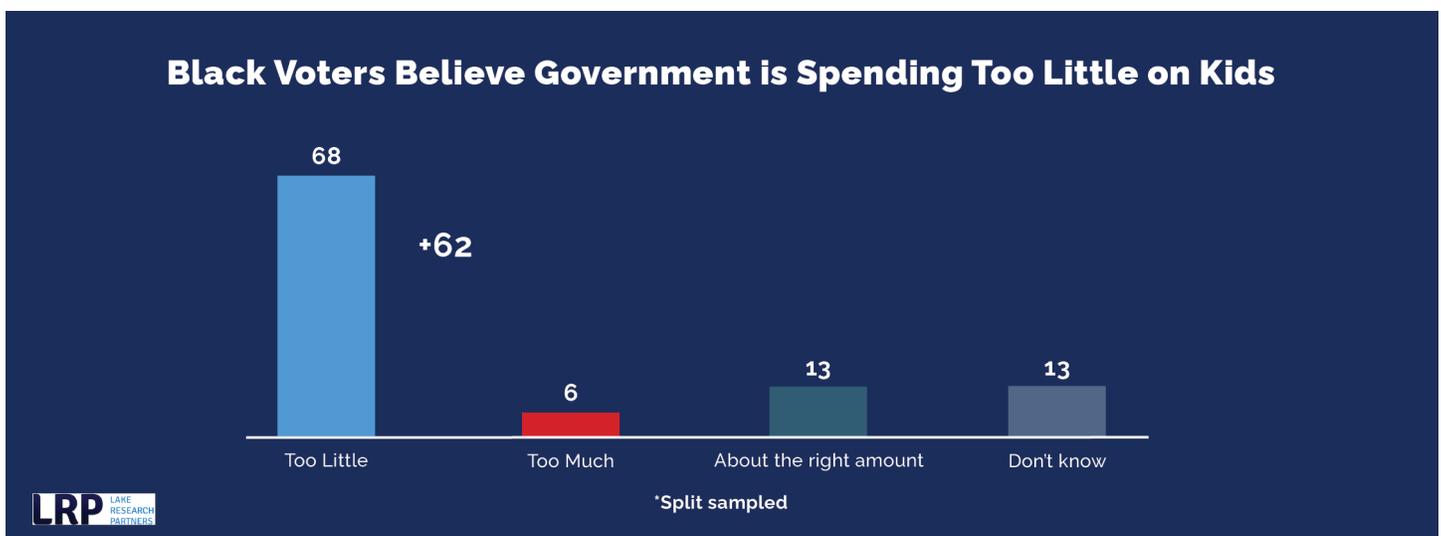
# BLACK VOTERS STRONGLY SUPPORT INVESTMENTS IN OUR CHILDREN AND GRANDCHILDREN



Based on a nationwide poll conducted by Lake Research Partners of 1,000 likely voters with oversamples of parents, Black, and Hispanic voters in May 2022, voters expressed strong support for making increased investments in children and prioritizing the education and health of children and in alleviating child hunger, child poverty, child homelessness, and child abuse and neglect.

## BLACK VOTERS BELIEVE WE ARE SPENDING TOO LITTLE ON KIDS

By a wide margin, Black voters believe the U.S. is spending too little on children (68% too little to 6% too much).



When it comes to more specific policies, the percentage of those who believe we are spending too little often rises. For example, the margin rises to 24-to-1 when it comes to early childhood education (73-3%). Black voters also believe we are spending too little rather than too much on public education (69-8%), and assistance for child care expenses (72-7%).

On other issues, such as reducing child poverty (76% too little to 8% too much), reducing child abuse and neglect (77-4%), reducing child hunger (80-0%), reducing child homelessness (73-7%), or even the more general helping families with low incomes meet basic needs (71-2%), Black voters overwhelmingly believe we are spending too little rather than too much on children.

Black voters also believe that we are spending too little rather than too much on ensuring access to mental health services (66-8%), providing affordable child health coverage (64-15%), and even though the poll was conducted before the shootings in Buffalo and Uvalde, Black voters believed we were making too little investments for children on the issue of preventing gun violence (74-7%).

# BLACK VOTERS STRONGLY SUPPORT INVESTMENTS IN OUR CHILDREN AND GRANDCHILDREN



## GOVERNMENT SPENDS TOO MUCH OR TOO LITTLE\*



■ Too Much 
 ■ About the right amount 
 ■ Too Little

\*Split Sampled

Black voters believe making investments is inherently positive to children themselves but also for the nation as a whole. For example, by an 89-7% margin (80% strongly agree), likely voters agree that “investing in children helps improve their lives, development, and outcomes.” Those polled also agree with the argument that “investing in children has a large return in a healthy society and a healthy economy” (94-4% margin and 89% strongly agree).

Consequently, Black voters would like to see greater attention and focus on children's policy issues by lawmakers. For example, with respect to whether “programs for children need greater attention and coordination across federal, state, and local governments,” Black voters agree by an 87-8% margin. They also agree that “children's policy needs and concerns are often an afterthought or dismissed by policymakers” by a 81-11% margin.

# BLACK VOTERS STRONGLY SUPPORT INVESTMENTS IN OUR CHILDREN AND GRANDCHILDREN



## Black Voters Agree with Reasons for Investing In and Prioritizing Children's Issues

### Powerful language can communicate the importance of investing in children.

- "Investing in children is a good investment in our children and grandchildren" **94-5%** (82% strongly agree).
- "Investing in children helps improve their lives, development, and outcomes" **89-7%** (80% strongly agree).
- "Investing in children has a large return in a healthy society and healthy economy" **94-4%** (89% strongly agree).

### Voters want government to make children a greater priority or focus.

- "Programs for children need greater attention and coordination across our federal, state, and local governments" **87-8%** (78% strongly agree).
- "Children's policy needs and concerns are often an afterthought or dismissed by policymakers" **81-11%** (64% strongly agree).

## BLACK VOTERS OVERWHELMINGLY FAVOR THE CHILD TAX CREDIT AND EFFORTS TO REDUCE CHILD POVERTY

*Polling question for CTC: "The Child Tax Credit is an expanded and improved tax credit that refunds middle-class families and families with low income more money for each child under age 18, creates a new tax credit for families with children under age six, and makes the credit fully refundable for all families with low incomes. Based on this, do you favor or oppose the Child Tax Credit?"*

Likely voters support enacting policies that would address the economic well-being of children and families, such as preventing the rollback of the Child Tax Credit, and they recognize that cutting child poverty is fundamental to our nation's success.

As the Lake Research Partners poll found, Black voters overwhelmingly favor extending the expanded and improved Child Tax Credit that was included in the American Rescue Plan Act (ARPA) by an 86-7% margin (75% strongly favor).

# BLACK VOTERS STRONGLY SUPPORT INVESTMENTS IN OUR CHILDREN AND GRANDCHILDREN

## Black Voters Strongly Support the Improved Child Tax Credit

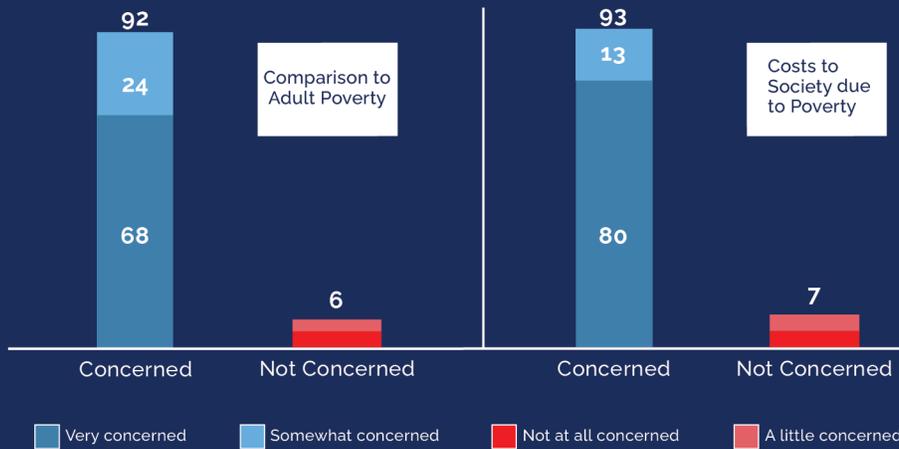


In the poll, Black voters expressed concern about child poverty. As noted above, by a more than 9-to-1 margin (76-8%), voters believe our nation spends too little on “reducing child poverty.” When told data from a National Academy of Sciences, Engineering, and Medicine study that “child poverty costs our society up to \$1.1 trillion a year due to higher crime, poor health outcomes, and lower income levels when children living in poverty grow up,” Black voters are near unanimous in their concern (93% concerned to 7% not concerned).

Additionally, by a 92-6% margin, Black voters also expressed concern when they hear data from the U.S. Census Bureau that the level of child poverty was “59 percent higher than the level of adult poverty in America and that negatively impacts all aspects of the lives of children, including their health, education, and safety.”

# BLACK VOTERS STRONGLY SUPPORT INVESTMENTS IN OUR CHILDREN AND GRANDCHILDREN

## Black Voters are Concerned About Child Poverty\*



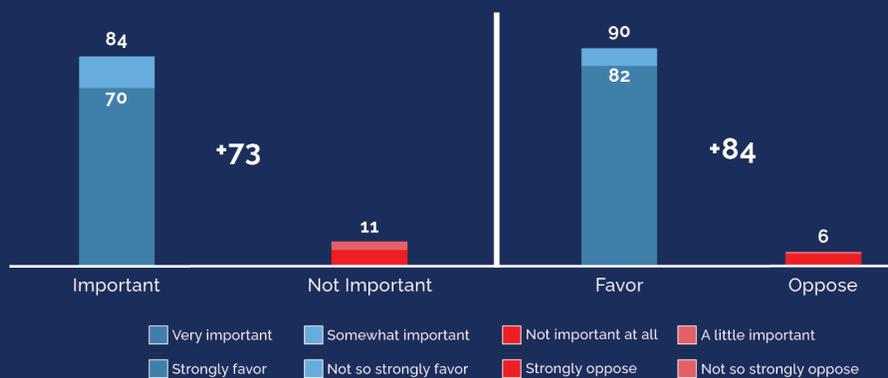
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## BLACK VOTERS STRONGLY FAVOR MAKING THE CHILDREN'S HEALTH INSURANCE PROGRAM PERMANENT

There is also strong bipartisan legislation in Congress to make the Children's Health Insurance Program (CHIP) permanent, just like all other federal health coverage programs. In the Lake Research Partners poll, Black voters overwhelmingly favored such legislation (90% favor to 6% oppose with 82% who strongly favor making CHIP permanent).

Similarly, CHIP is salient. By an 84-11% margin (70% strongly), Black voters believe it is either very or somewhat important for Congress to permanently fund CHIP.

## Black Voters: High Importance and Favorability for CHIP Permanently Funded\*

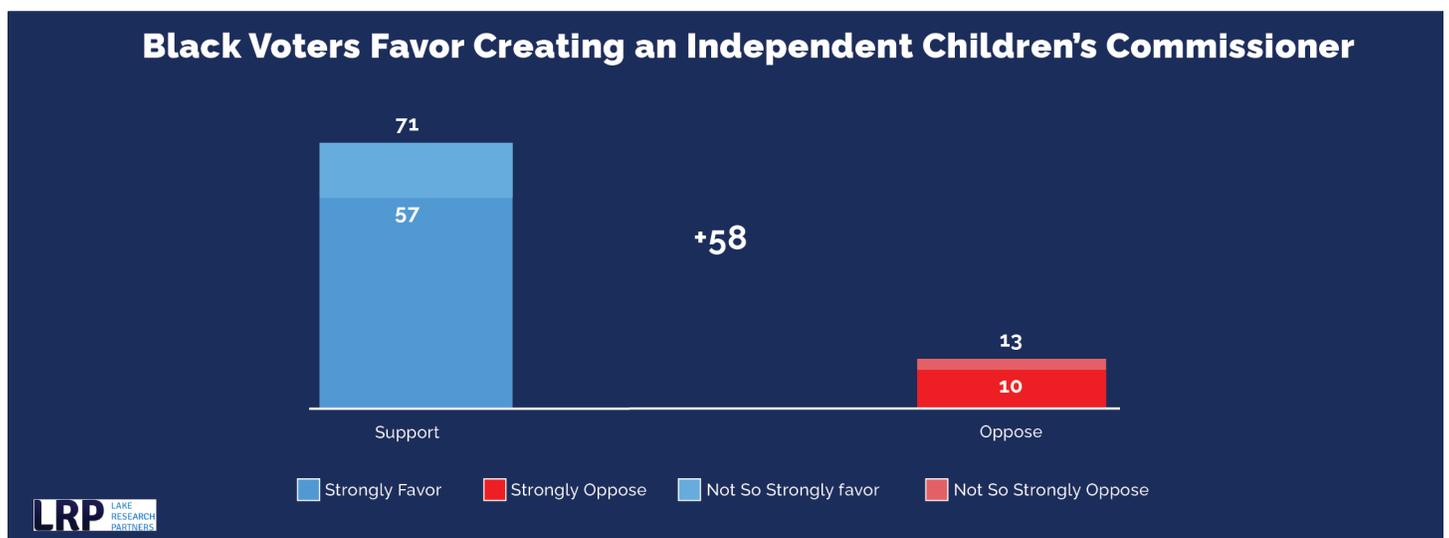


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# BLACK VOTERS STRONGLY SUPPORT INVESTMENTS IN OUR CHILDREN AND GRANDCHILDREN

## BLACK VOTERS ALSO FAVOR CREATING AN INDEPENDENT CHILDREN'S COMMISSIONER

Although it is typically more difficult to garner public enthusiasm for system reforms and government restructuring, the American people have seen a number of reports in recent years with respect to institutional abuse of our nation's children and harm that the COVID pandemic has had on kids. Consequently, even with respect to a question focused on system change, Black voters favor (71-13%) the creation of an independent Children's Commissioner in our country to help "protect and improve the care and well-being of children in our country."



# BLACK VOTERS STRONGLY SUPPORT INVESTMENTS IN OUR CHILDREN AND GRANDCHILDREN

## BLACK VOTERS AGREE WITH “BEST INTERESTS” AND “CHILD WELL-BEING” STANDARDS FOR GOVERNMENT POLICY DEVELOPMENT

With respect to the development of federal government policy that involves children, Black voters expressed wide agreement that such policies should “always be governed” by either a “best interests of the child standard that either makes the safety and the protection of children the first priority” (81% agree to 11% disagree) or a “standard that makes child well-being the first priority” (90% agree to 5% disagree).

