



**CAIR**

**#MuslimsVote Super Tuesday Election Exit Poll and Survey**

**2020 Super Tuesday Election**

Released: March 5, 2020

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Conducted by Triton Polling & Research

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## Executive Summary

This exit poll and survey report presents a detailed picture of American Muslim voter attitudes for those who participated in the Tuesday, March 3, 2020 Super Tuesday primary elections across 13 states.

The results shared here are based on an automated telephone survey that measured American Muslim preferences for presidential candidates as well as their positions on a wide range of social and policy issues such as refugee resettlement, healthcare reform, climate change, raising the federal minimum wage, and ensuring affordable housing.

As American Muslim participation in the political process has experienced steady growth in the past several decades, so has interest in better understanding Muslim voters. CAIR regularly monitors American Muslim voter attitudes and this report follows a nationwide February 3, 2020 poll on the eve of the Iowa Caucuses and a 2018 Midterm Election poll. CAIR has tracked American Muslim voting habits in various forms since 2000.

Over the last four years, American Muslim involvement in electoral politics has also received substantial national attention. American Muslims are increasingly seen as an influential voting bloc as well as an important resource for policy development and implementation. The interconnectedness of the American Muslim community and its more than one million registered voters makes Muslims a strong and increasingly critical voice in American politics.

In the lead up to the 2020 General Election, presidential campaigns have made active and public efforts to court the American Muslim vote, with some even hiring dedicated staffers to develop this growing constituency. American Muslims have also begun to run for office in unprecedented numbers as outlined in the CAIR, Jetpac, and MPower Change 2018 report, “The Rise of American Muslim Changemakers.”

Highlighted results from this poll and survey include:

- 73.9% of those who responded to the CAIR survey say they cast ballots in this year's Super Tuesday election.
- 51.1% of Muslim voters primarily affiliated with the Democratic Party, 17.5% with the Republican Party and 24.5% as independent or not a member of a party.
- 60% of Muslim voters support the U.S. government taking in more refugees and asylum seekers escaping war and violence, in comparison to the 25.7% that want to take in less. 14% reported being not sure or don't know.
- 61.2% of Muslim voters support a single-payer healthcare system, in comparison to the 27.2% that oppose such a system. 11.6% reported being not sure or don't know.
- 73.9% of Muslim voters agree that the federal minimum wage should be raised from \$7.25 to \$15.00, in comparison to the 20.7% that disagree that it should be raised.

## Methodology

CAIR's automated telephone survey results were drawn from a random sample of 595 American Muslim registered voter households with landlines across 13 Super Tuesday primary states (Alabama [12 respondents], Arkansas [4 respondents], California [243 respondents], Colorado [12 respondents], Maine [2 respondents], Massachusetts [50 respondents], Minnesota [31 respondents], North Carolina [27 respondents], Oklahoma [9 respondents], Tennessee [15 respondents], Texas [77 respondents], Utah [8 respondents], and Virginia [105 respondents]) and conducted by the independent polling firm Triton Polling & Research of Henderson, Nevada. Respondents could not be contacted in Vermont.

Survey participants were drawn from a database of more than 55,394 Muslim voter households. Calls were conducted on the evening of Tuesday, March 3. Respondents included 296 men and 299 women from across the nation. The poll's margin of error is +/- 4%, with a confidence level of 95%.

The American Muslim voter database was developed by matching state records of registered voters with an extensive list of some 45,000 traditionally Muslim first and last names. In compiling this list, common names prevalent among Muslims across the world's Muslim-majority ethnic groups were identified and verified by well-informed members of these ethnic groups.

Although it is the largest such list compiled to date, this pool of Muslim voters does not include Muslims with uncommon names or those who do not have traditionally Muslim names. Also excluded are Muslims with names that are also common in other communities (such as Sarah or Adam).

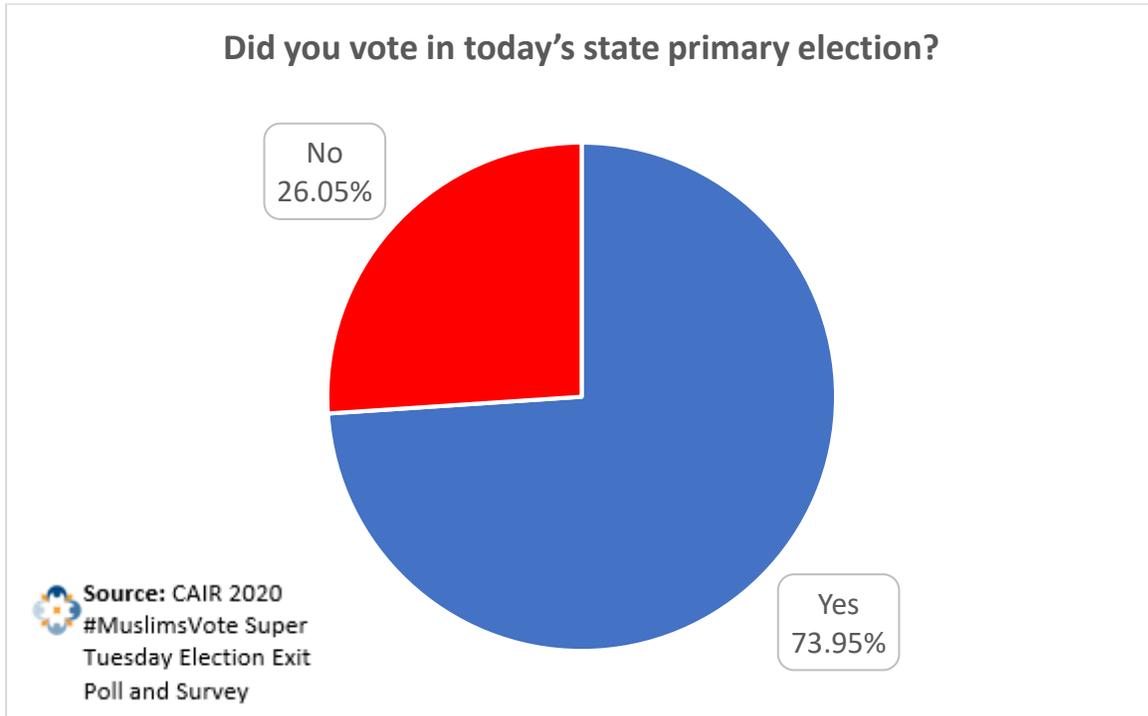
## Highlight of Findings

- 73.9% of those who responded to the CAIR survey say they cast ballots in this year's Super Tuesday election.
- 51.1% of Muslim voters primarily affiliated with the Democratic Party, 17.5% with the Republican Party and 24.5% as independent or not a member of a party.
- Of those Muslim voters that voted in their state's Democratic presidential primary election, 58.2% voted for Bernie Sanders, 26.8% voted for Joe Biden, 5.4% voted for Michael Bloomberg, 5.1% voted for Elizabeth Warren, and 1.4% for another candidate.
  - By age: 76% of Muslim voters between the ages of 18 to 34 supported Bernie Sanders, while 16% supported Joe Biden. In comparison, 42.6% of Muslim voters between the ages of 65 to 74 supported Bernie Sanders, while 39.4% supported Joe Biden.
  - By gender: 54.4% of female Muslim voters supported Bernie Sanders, 34.6% supported Joe Biden, 5.3% supported Michael Bloomberg, and 4.7% supported Elizabeth Warren. In comparison, 61.7% of male Muslim voters supported Bernie Sanders, 22.4% supported Joe Biden, 5.5% supported Michael Bloomberg, and 5.5% supported Elizabeth Warren.
- When compared to the results of CAIR's nationwide February 3 primary election poll of registered Muslim voters ahead of the Iowa caucus, Muslim support for Bernie Sanders increased from 39% to 58.2% - while support for Joe Biden remained about the same at 27% (27% vs. 26.8%).
- 60% of Muslim voters support the U.S. government taking in more refugees and asylum seekers escaping war and violence, in comparison to the 25.7% that want to take in less. 14% reported being not sure or don't know.
- 61.2% of Muslim voters support a single-payer healthcare system, in comparison to the 27.2% that oppose such a system. 11.6% reported being not sure or don't know.
- 62% of Muslim voters believe that Islamophobia and anti-Muslim sentiment in the U.S. has increased in the past year, in comparison to the 19.7% that believe it has decreased. 18.3% reported being not sure or don't know.
- 69.1% of Muslim voters believe that environmental climate change is an emergency issue, in comparison to the 21.8% that believe it is not an emergency issue. 9.1% reported being not sure or don't know.
- 73.9% of Muslim voters agree that the federal minimum wage should be raised from \$7.25 to \$15.00, in comparison to the 20.7% that disagree that it should be raised.
- 72.3% of Muslim voters support the U.S. government investing more money to increase the number of available affordable housing units to address the national housing crisis, in comparison to the 14.6% that oppose such an investment.
- 50.3% of survey respondents were female and 49.7% male.

## Top Line Survey Results

### Q1. Did you vote in today's state primary election?

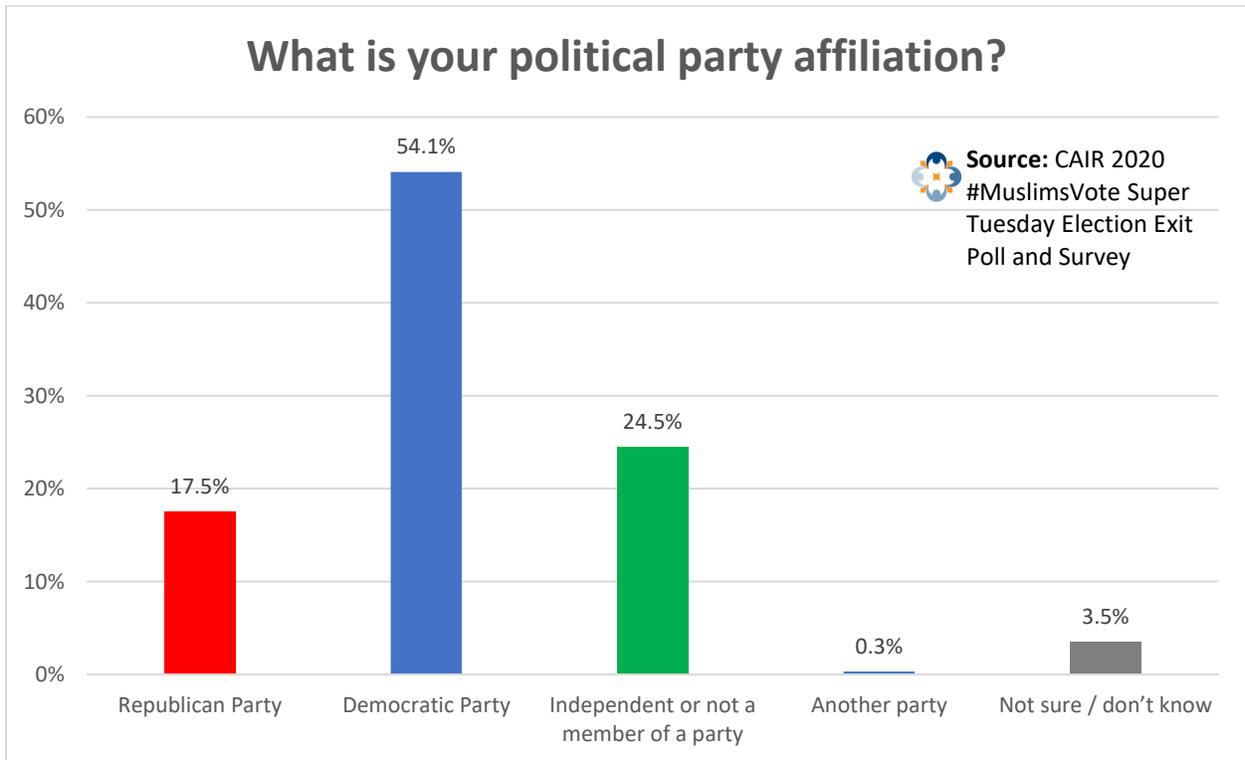
- Yes: 73.9% (440 respondents)
- No: 26.1% (155 respondents)



When asked whether they voted in the 2020 Super Tuesday state primary elections, 73.9% registered Muslim voter households stated that they voted, while 26.1% said that they did not.

### Q1.5 What is your political party affiliation?

- Republican Party: 17.5% (104 respondents)
- Democratic Party: 54.1% (322 respondents)
- Independent or not a member of a party: 24.5% (146 respondents)
- Another party: 0.3% (2 respondents)
- Not sure / don't know: 3.5% (21 respondents)



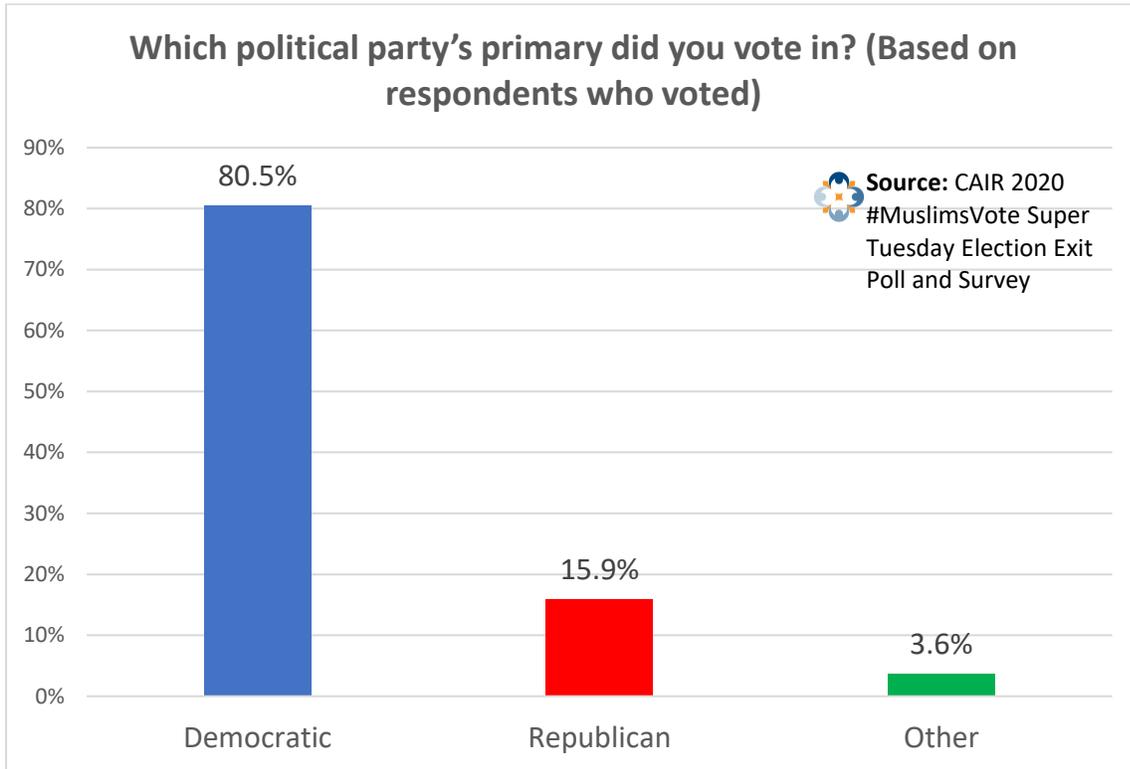
This poll indicates that majority of Muslim voters, 54.1% reported affiliation with the Democratic Party, while 17.5% with the Republican Party, and 24.5% as independent voters. 3.5% of respondents were not sure or did not know how to respond to the question.

In comparison to CAIR's 2018 Midterm Election Exit Poll and Survey of Muslim Voters, 78.4% reported that they primarily voted for Democratic Party candidates, while 17.1% voted Republican Party, 0.7% Green Party, 0.7% Libertarian Party, and 0.5% Democratic Socialists of America. Only 0.5% of registered Muslim voters wrote in the name of their preferred candidate and 2.1% of respondents were not sure or did not know how to respond to the question.

The results of this poll continue the noted trend of most registered Muslim voters aligning with the Democratic Party. CAIR's 2016 presidential election exit poll of more than 2,000 Muslim voters indicated 74% voted for Democratic Party candidate Hillary Clinton, while 13% for Republican Party candidate, now president, Donald Trump.

## Q2. Which political party's primary did you vote in? (Based on respondents who voted)

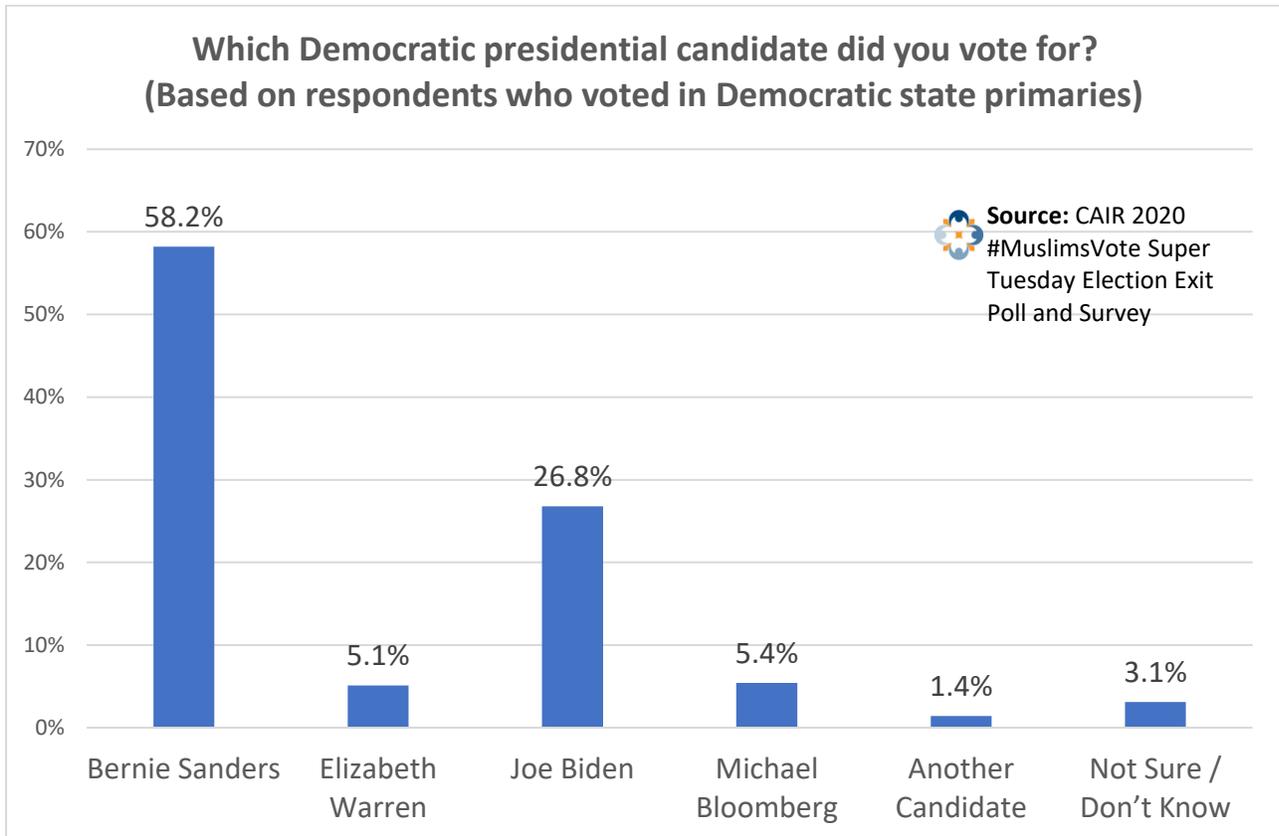
- Democratic: 80.5% (354 respondents)
- Republican: 15.9% (70 respondents)
- Other: 3.6% (16 respondents)



In a poll of registered Muslim voters that participated in 2020 Super Tuesday state primary elections, 80.5% reported that they voted in Democratic primaries, while 15.9% voted in Republican primaries, and 3.6% stated other.

### Q3. Which Democratic presidential candidate did you vote for? (Based on respondents who voted in Democratic state primaries)

- Bernie Sanders: 58.2% (206 respondents)
- Elizabeth Warren: 5.1% (18 respondents)
- Joe Biden: 26.8% (95 respondents)
- Michael Bloomberg: 5.4% (19 respondents)
- Another Candidate: 1.4% (5 respondents)
- Not Sure / Don't Know: 3.1% (11 respondents)



In a poll of registered Muslim voters that participated in 2020 Super Tuesday Democratic state primary elections, 58.2% voted for Bernie Sanders, 26.8% voted for Joe Biden, 5.4% voted for Michael Bloomberg, 5.1% voted for Elizabeth Warren, and 1.4% for another candidate.

When compared to the results of [CAIR's nationwide February 3 primary election poll of registered Muslim voters ahead of the Iowa caucus](#), Muslim support for Bernie Sanders increased from 39% to 58.2% while support for Joe Biden remained the same at 27%.

## **Breaking down Democratic presidential candidate support by age of the survey respondents:**

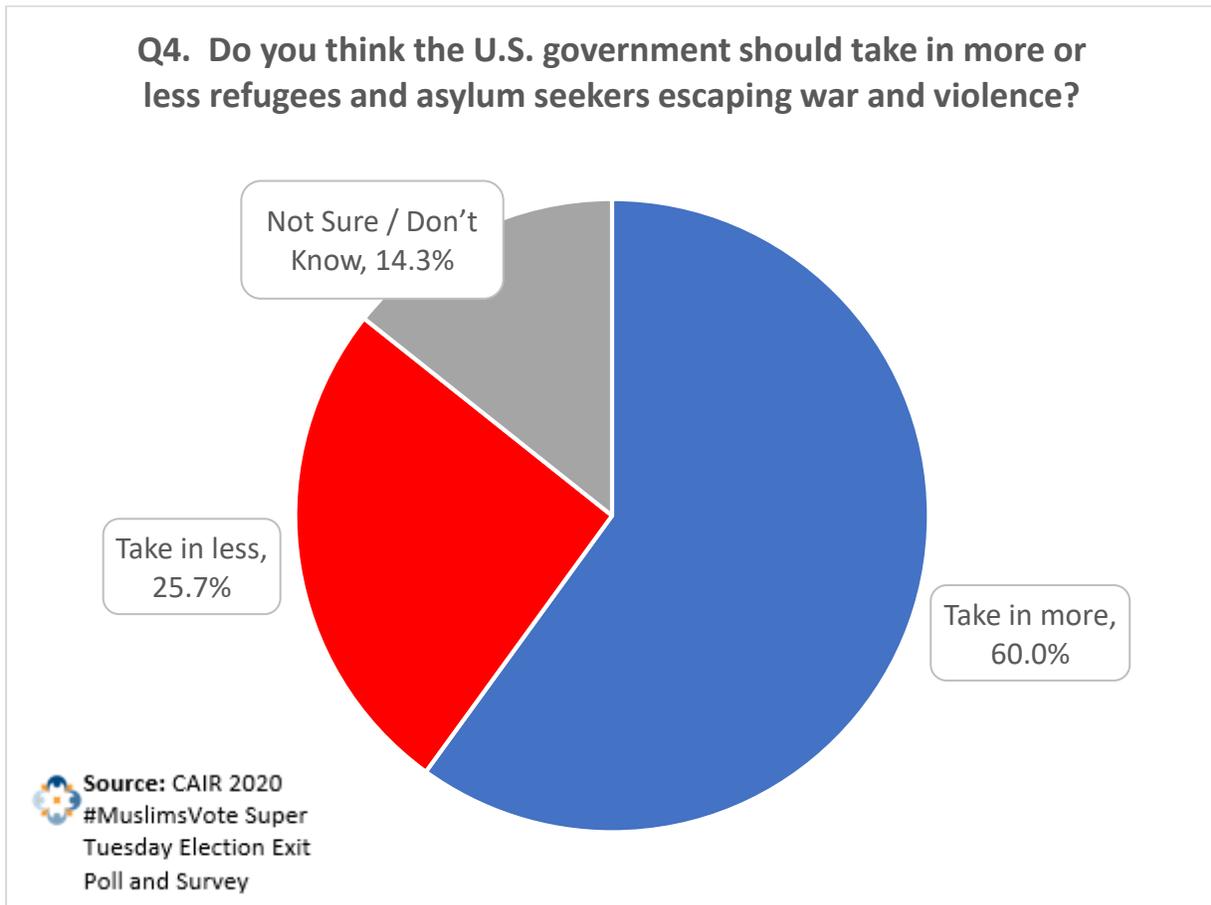
- 76% of 18 to 34-year-old Muslim voters supported Bernie Sanders, followed by 4% for Elizabeth Warren, 16% for Joe Biden, 4% for Michael Bloomberg, and 0% for another candidate.
- 75% of 35 to 44-year-old Muslim voters supported Bernie Sanders, followed by 6.3% for Elizabeth Warren, 12.5% for Joe Biden, 6.3% for Michael Bloomberg, and 0% for another candidate.
- 66.2% of 45 to 54-year-old Muslim voters supported Bernie Sanders, followed by 4.4% for Elizabeth Warren, 23.5% for Joe Biden, 1.5% for Michael Bloomberg, and 1.5% for another candidate.
- 62.2% of 55 to 64-year-old Muslim voters supported Bernie Sanders, followed by 2.4% for Elizabeth Warren, 23.2% for Joe Biden, 4.9% for Michael Bloomberg, and 2.4% for another candidate.
- 42.6% of 65 to 74-year-old Muslim voters supported Bernie Sanders, followed by 6.4% for Elizabeth Warren, 39.4% for Joe Biden, 8.5% for Michael Bloomberg, and 1.1% for another candidate.
- 52.3% of 75 to 84-year-old Muslim voters supported Bernie Sanders, followed by 9.1% for Elizabeth Warren, 25% for Joe Biden, 6.8% for Michael Bloomberg, and 0% for another candidate.
- 44.4% of 85 years old and older Muslim voters supported Bernie Sanders, followed by 0% for Elizabeth Warren, 44.4% for Joe Biden, 11.1% for Michael Bloomberg, and 0% for another candidate.

## **Breaking down Democratic presidential candidate support by gender of the survey respondents:**

- 54.4% of female Muslim voters supported Bernie Sanders in comparison to 61.7% of males.
- 4.7% of female Muslim voters supported Elizabeth Warren in comparison to 5.5% of males
- 31.6% of female Muslim voters supported Joe Biden in comparison to 22.4% of males.
- 5.3% of female Muslim voters supported Michael Bloomberg in comparison to 5.5% of males.
- 1.8% of female Muslim voters supported another candidate in comparison to 1.1% of males.

#### Q4. Do you think the U.S. government should take in more or less refugees and asylum seekers escaping war and violence?

- Take in more: 60% (357 respondents)
- Take in less: 25.7% (153 respondents)
- Not Sure / Don't Know: 14.3% (85 respondents)

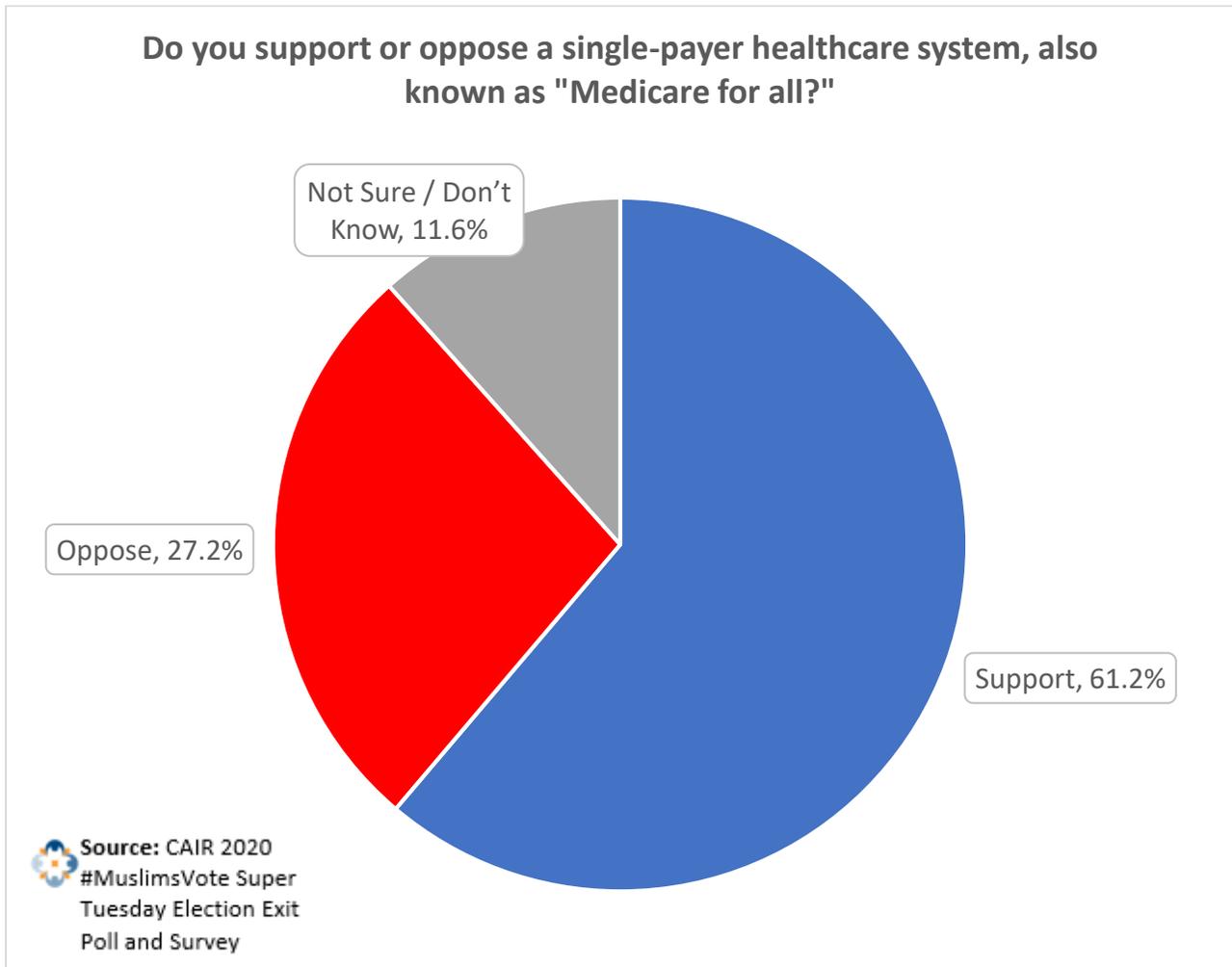


This poll indicates that majority of Muslim voters, regardless of political party affiliation, support the U.S. government taking in more refugees and asylum seekers escaping war and violence (60%), in comparison to the 25.7% that favored taking in less refugees. 14.3% of respondents were not sure or did not know how to respond to the question.

73% of Muslim voters that affiliate with the Democratic Party think the U.S. government should take in more refugees and asylum seekers, in comparison to the 61% that affiliate with the Republican Party who think that the government should take in less. 55.5% of respondents that identify as independent or not a member of a party support taking in more refugees and asylum seekers.

### Q5. Do you support or oppose a single-payer healthcare system, also known as "Medicare for all?"

- Support: 61.2% (364 respondents)
- Oppose: 27.2% (162 respondents)
- Not Sure / Don't Know: 11.6% (69 respondents)

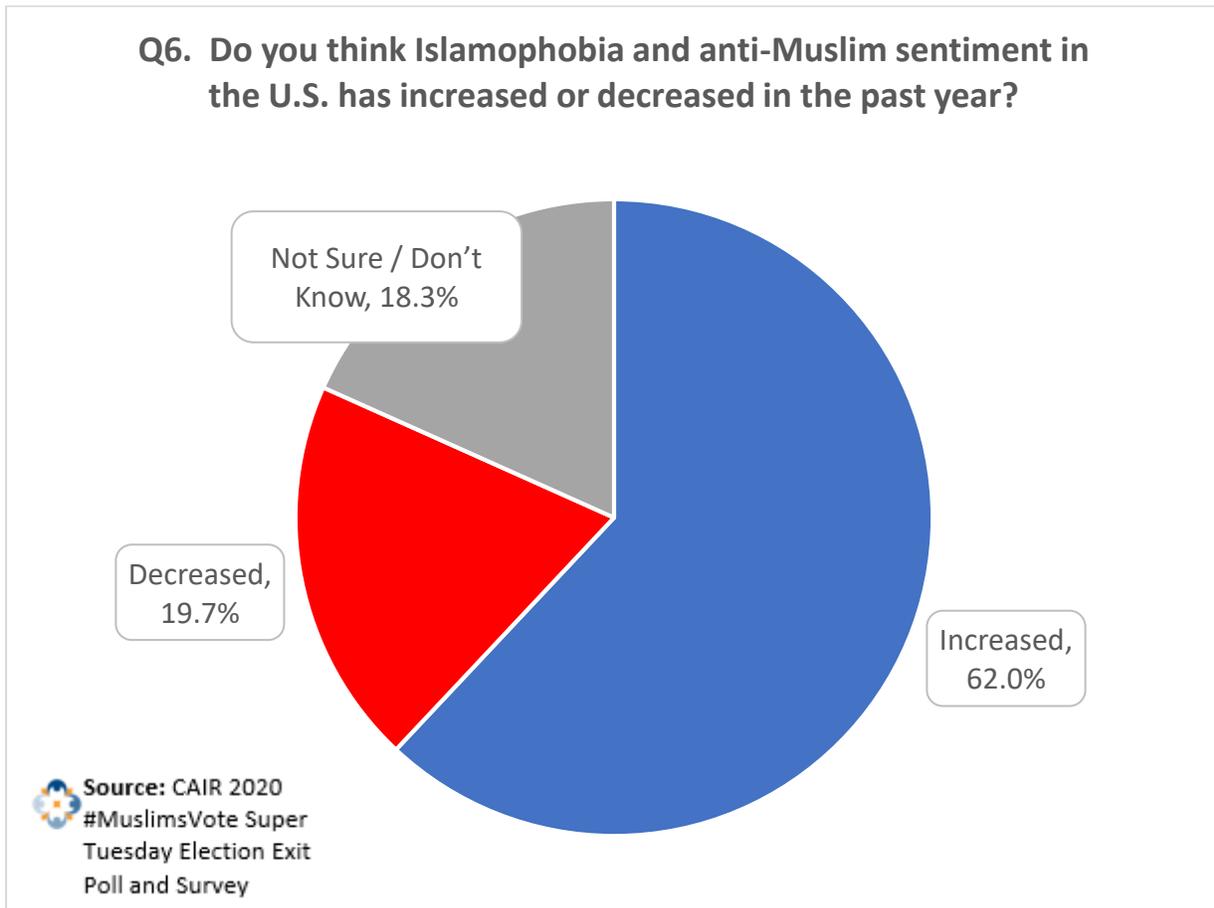


This poll indicates that majority of Muslim voters, regardless of political party affiliation, support a single-payer healthcare system (61.2%), in comparison to the 27.2% that oppose a single-payer healthcare system. 11.6% of respondents were not sure or did not know how to respond to the question.

71.4% of Muslim voters that affiliate with the Democratic Party support a single-payer healthcare system, in comparison to the 63.5% that affiliate with the Republican Party who oppose a single-payer healthcare system. 58.9% of respondents that identify as independent or not a member of a party support such a system.

## Q6. Do you think Islamophobia and anti-Muslim sentiment in the U.S. has increased or decreased in the past year?

- Increased: 62% (369 respondents)
- Decreased: 19.7% (117 respondents)
- Not Sure / Don't Know: 18.3% (109 respondents)

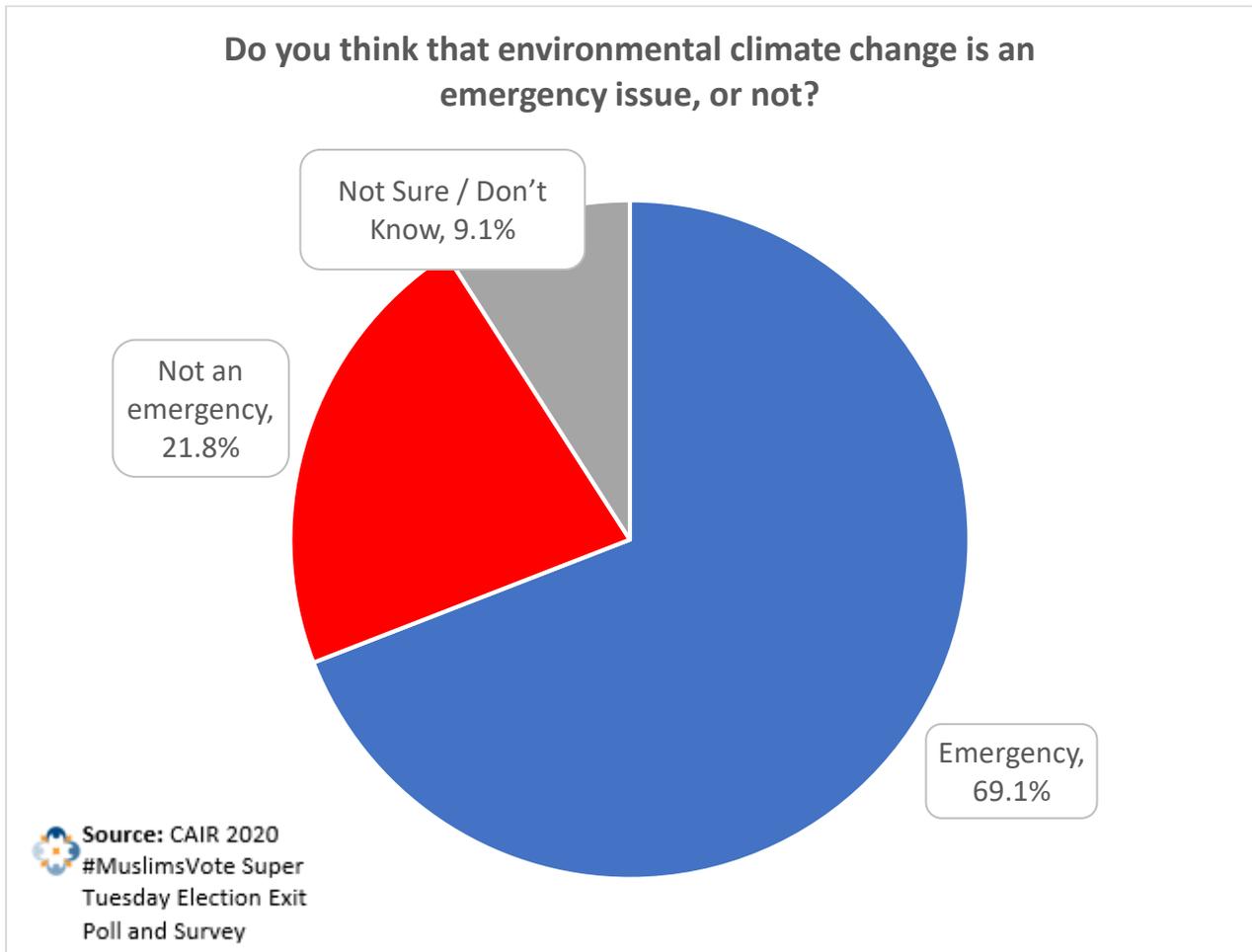


This poll indicates that majority of Muslim voters, regardless of political party affiliation, believe that Islamophobia and anti-Muslim sentiment in the U.S. has increased in the past year (62%), in comparison to the 19.7% that believe Islamophobia has decreased. 18.3% of respondents were not sure or did not know how to respond to the question.

73% of Muslim voters that affiliate with the Democratic Party think Islamophobia and anti-Muslim sentiment in the U.S. has increased in the past year. In comparison, 40.4% Muslim voters that affiliate with the Republican Party think it has increased, 42.3 think it has decreased and 17.3% were not sure or didn't know. 58.2% of respondents that identify as independent or not a member of a party think that it has increased.

### Q7. Do you think that environmental climate change is an emergency issue, or not?

- Emergency: 69.1% (411 respondents)
- Not an emergency: 21.8% (130 respondents)
- Not Sure / Don't Know: 9.1% (54 respondents)

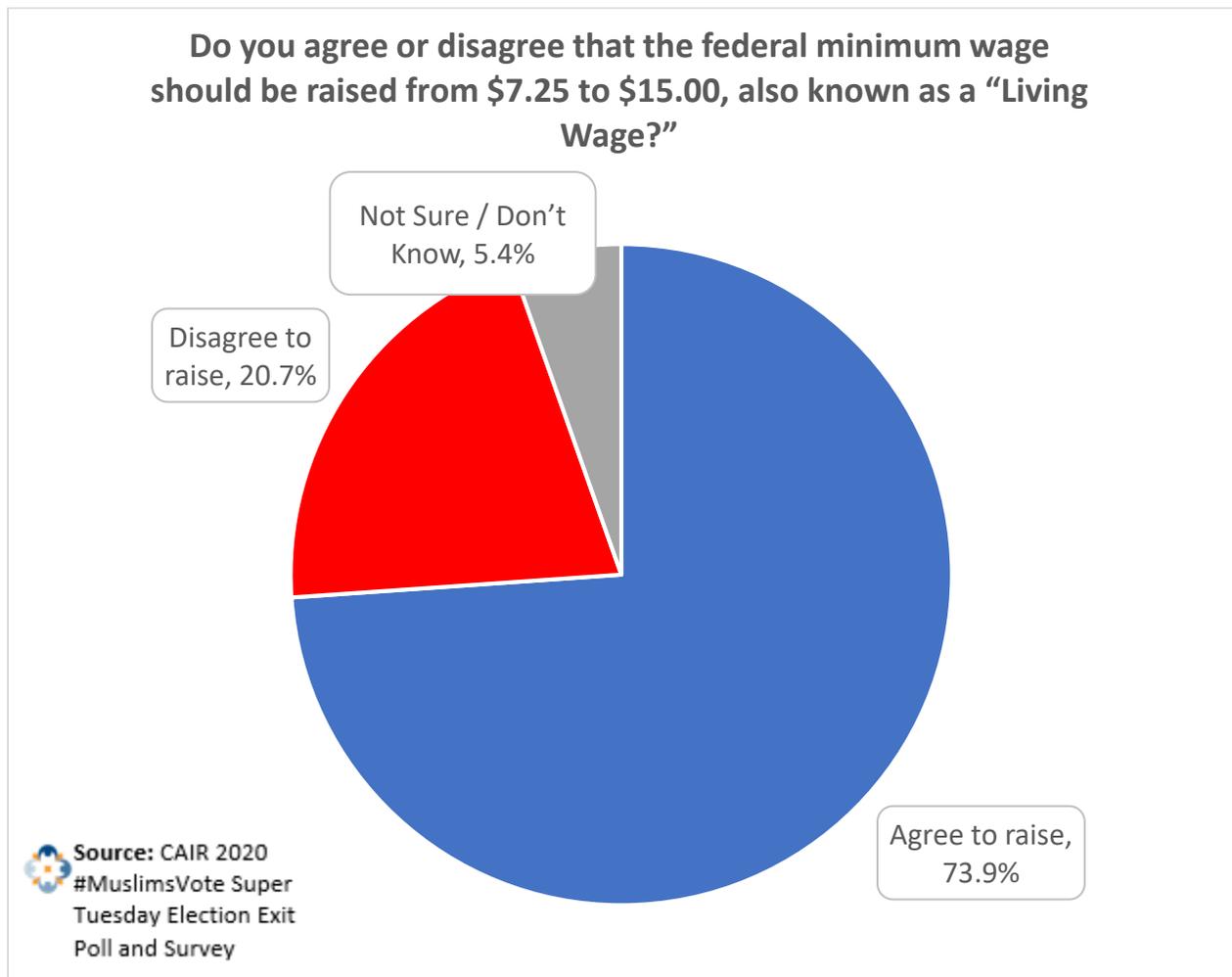


This poll indicates that majority of Muslim voters, regardless of political party affiliation, believe that environmental climate change is an emergency issue (69.1%), in comparison to the 21.8% that believe climate change is not an emergency issue. 9.1% of respondents were not sure or did not know how to respond to the question.

81.4% of Muslim voters that affiliate with the Democratic Party believe that environmental climate change is an emergency issue, in comparison to the 57.7% that affiliate with the Republican Party who believe it is not an emergency issue. 66.4% of respondents that identify as independent or not a member of a party think that it is an emergency issue.

### Q8. Do you agree or disagree that the federal minimum wage should be raised from \$7.25 to \$15.00, also known as a “Living Wage?”

- Agree to raise: 73.9% (440 respondents)
- Disagree to raise: 20.7% (123 respondents)
- Not Sure / Don't Know: 5.4% (32 respondents)

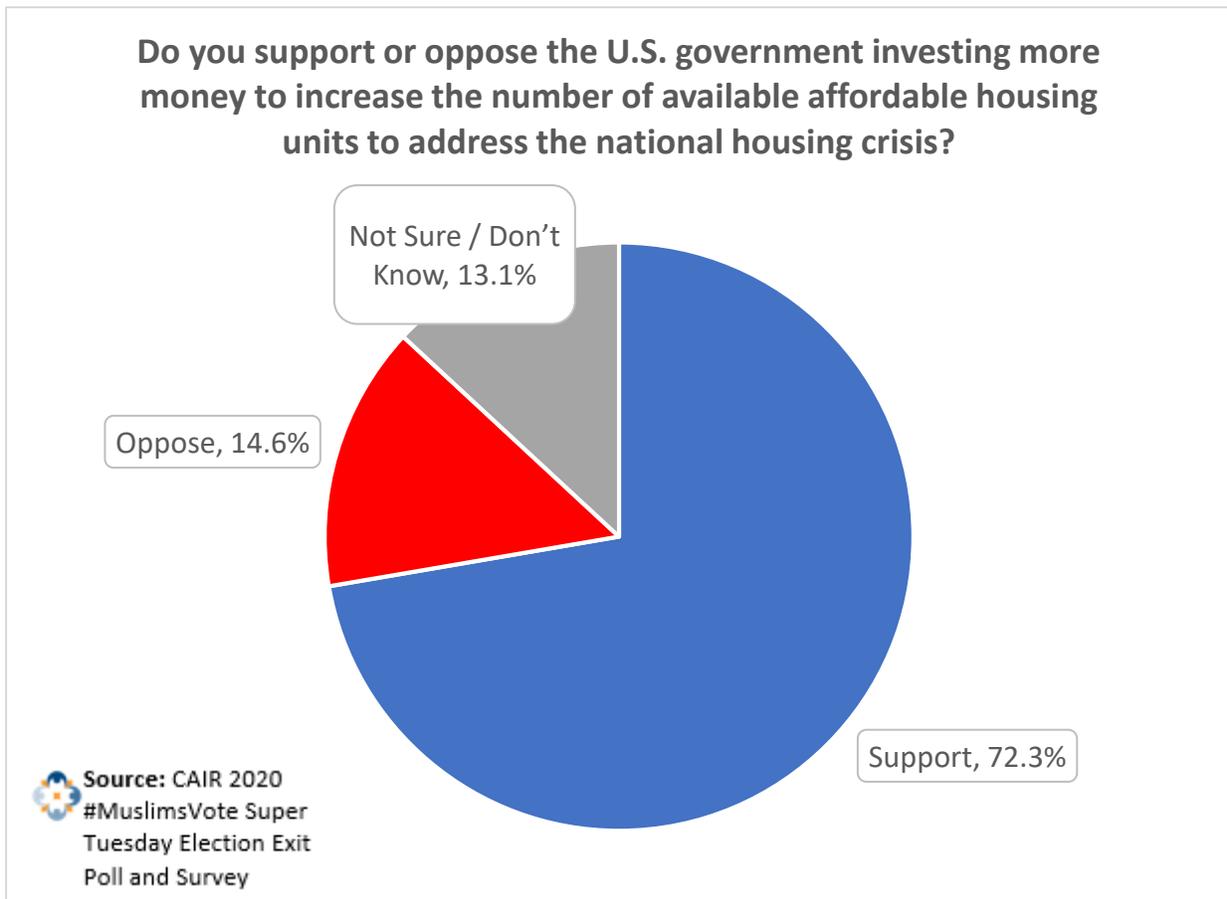


This poll indicates that majority of Muslim voters, regardless of political party affiliation, agree that the federal minimum wage should be raised from \$7.25 to \$15.00 (73.9%), in comparison to the 20.7% that disagree that the federal minimum wage should be raised. 5.4% of respondents were not sure or did not know how to respond to the question.

86.3% of Muslim voters that affiliate with the Democratic Party agree that the federal minimum wage should be raised from \$7.25 to \$15.00, in comparison to the 50% that affiliate with the Republican Party who disagree it should be raised. 44.2% of Muslim voters that affiliate with the Republican party agree it should be raised. 68.5% of respondents that identify as independent or not a member of a party think that it should be raised.

**Q9. Do you support or oppose the U.S. government investing more money to increase the number of available affordable housing units to address the national housing crisis?**

- Support: 72.3% (430 respondents)
- Oppose: 14.6% (87 respondents)
- Not Sure / Don't Know: 13.1% (78 respondents)



This poll indicates that majority of Muslim voters, regardless of political party affiliation, support the U.S. government investing more money to increase the number of available affordable housing units to address the national housing crisis (72.3%), in comparison to the 14.6% that oppose such an investment. 13.1% of respondents were not sure or did not know how to respond to the question.

82.9% of Muslim voters that affiliate with the Democratic Party support the U.S. government investing more money to increase the number of available affordable housing units to address the national housing crisis and 46.2% that affiliate with the Republican Party also support the U.S. government investing more money. In comparison, 43.3% of Muslims that affiliate with the Republican Party oppose making such an investment. 69.9% of respondents that identify as independent or not a member of a party support making such an investment.

## Demographics

### Q10. What is your gender?

- Female: 50.3% (299 respondents)
- Male: 49.7% (296 respondents)

### Q11. What is your age?

- 18-34: 7.1% (42 respondents)
- 35-44: 10.8 (64 respondents)
- 45-54: 17.8% (106 respondents)
- 55-64: 21.5% (128 respondents)
- 65-74: 24.4% (145 respondents)
- 75-84: 14.6% (87 respondents)
- 85+: 3.9% (23 respondents)

### Respondent's State of Residence

