

June 4, 2020



TO: Interested Parties
FROM: Brian Stryker, Luke Martin
RE: Voters Nationwide Strongly Support Investing in Infrastructure to Create Jobs

Based on the findings of our nationwide survey for the National Skills Coalition (NSC), **voters are nearly unanimous in their support for Congress making a major investment in infrastructure.** This investment receives its most support when coupled with an investment in skills training that would allow people that live in the communities these projects will happen in to get jobs building their own infrastructure. In the context of the COVID-19 pandemic, voters see this not only as a path to create jobs when people desperately need them, but as a way to connect people with the resources they need – like getting high-speed internet to students in areas that don't currently have it.

- **Overall, 84% of likely voters nationwide support Congress investing major investment in infrastructure.** Support for this type of investment was consistent between men (88%) and women (80%), white (85%) and Black voters (82%), and Democrats (87%) and Republicans (81%).
- **Voters support for this investment increases to 89% when it includes an investment in skills training for communities so they can get jobs on these infrastructure projects.** White, Black, Hispanic or Latino, and Asian American voters all see increases in their initial support for infrastructure investment when it includes skills training. Even those who identify as 'very conservative' still support this proposal by a margin of +68 (80% support / 12% oppose).

Support for Infrastructure Investment Proposals		
	<i>Total Support</i>	<i>Total oppose</i>
Investing in skills training in all communities, so people can get jobs in their own communities building infrastructure	89%	7%
Investing in support services like childcare, tools, and equipment for local workers while they are in training programs for infrastructure jobs	84%	11%
Create tax incentives for businesses to invest in workers with the greatest skill development needs	77%	14%
Create tax incentives for businesses that train workers on a skill that gets them a raise	76%	17%

- Support for other proposals remains consistent across demographic subgroups with a few exceptions:
 - Asian Americans have the strongest support for including skills training with infrastructure investment (94% support)
 - Ninety-two percent (92%) of Hispanic or Latino voters support investing in support services for workers while they are in training programs for infrastructure jobs.
- **Voters' main reason for supporting this investment is because “millions are out of work and it will put them back to work immediately.”** This was chosen by a plurality of voters (29%) when forced to pick the best reason, 12-points higher than the next option.
 - When asked individually, 40% of voters found this to be a very convincing reason to support investments in training and infrastructure. This was also the reason most supported by those who have suffered economic pain as a result of the COVID-19 pandemic (43%).
- While it received less support in the forced choice question, **“getting high speed internet to areas that don’t have it making sure kids can learn and adults can work during Coronavirus” tied at 40% for the most convincing reason** when asked individually. This reason was especially convincing to African Americans and Democrats, among both 50% found this to be a very convincing reason to support investments in training and infrastructure.
- Other reasons to support an investment in skills and infrastructure that received notable support include:
 - “It will provide good-paying jobs for people without college degrees” is a very convincing reason to 45% of voters who work in the service in industry and have suffered economic pain as a result of COVID-19.
 - “It will train people for careers who are willing to work hard” is a very convincing reason to 55% of Black voters and 47% of Hispanic or Latinos.

This memo is based on the results of a nationwide online survey of N=800 likely 2020 general election voters, conducted by ALG Research between May 21-25, 2020. As the survey was conducted online, all the respondents have access to the Internet via a computer or a smartphone. Because the survey was conducted online, there is no calculated margin of error.