



To: Interested Parties
From: Global Strategy Group
Date: December 17th, 2020
Re: Voters Demand Comprehensive Caregiving Plan to Support Families

Global Strategy Group partnered with TIME'S UP, Caring Across Generations, and Paid Leave for All Action to conduct a nationwide survey of 1,501 registered voters from November 21st to 25th, 2020. As workers in America navigate the devastating financial, personal, and professional impacts of the coronavirus pandemic, our research found strong bipartisan agreement for a comprehensive, coordinated – not piecemeal – plan to help families caring for elderly, disabled, or ill family members and children. Below are key findings from the survey.

Key Findings

Voters across party, race, gender, and income agree we need a comprehensive plan to support caregivers and meet the needs of the current moment.

By an overwhelming margin, voters agree we need a comprehensive plan to provide services and supports for people responsible for family care and childcare (92% agree/8% disagree). Intensity of agreement is also incredibly high: a majority (55%) of voters strongly agree that a comprehensive plan is needed. The highest and most intense levels of agreement come from women (93% agree) and people of color (94%), as well as voters ages 45-64 (93%), though voters across income levels, race, and region, as well as both men and women – including more than eight in 10 Republican voters (86%) – broadly agree. Among parents of children under 18 and caregivers, 91% of each group also agrees.

Do you agree or disagree with the following statement? We need a comprehensive plan to provide services and supports for people trying to care for children or aging, ill, or disabled family members.



Addressing the lack of support for caregivers through individual, uncoordinated reforms is simply not enough: seven in 10 (70%) voters agree there needs to be a comprehensive plan to support caregivers as a part of a coordinated package of investments for families. Just three in 10 (30%) agree that these reforms can be dealt with on an individual rather than a comprehensive basis. Democrats, Republicans, and independent voters alike favor coordinated reforms over individual support for caregivers.

We need a comprehensive plan to support caregivers, and these reforms should be implemented as part of a coordinated package of investments to ensure people get the help they need

We need more services and supports for caregivers, but these reforms can be dealt with on an individual basis; they do not need to be implemented as part of a comprehensive package



Voters believe supports for caregivers are a vital part of our country's economic recovery.

Slowing coronavirus (78% very important) and creating good-paying jobs (74%) top the list of items that are viewed as very important to the country's economic recovery in the wake of the pandemic. These are very closely followed by ensuring affordable and quality care for aging relatives and people with disabilities (70% very important). More than half (58%) also think ensuring affordable and quality childcare options for every family is very important to the country's economic recovery, on par with investing in our infrastructure (57%) and exceeding increasing spending on federally-funded economic and jobs programs (44% very important). Overall, 90% of registered voters agree that providing support and services for people with children and aging, ill, or disabled family members will provide economic stability for millions of people.

Unsupported caregiving is a huge burden for families.

Eight in 10 voters say the cost and lack of availability of both childcare (85%) and care for aging, ill, or disabled family members (86%) are burdens for most families in their community, including two in 5 who say the cost and lack of availability of childcare (38%) and family care (40%) are major burdens. These results hold across income levels, including those with an annual household income under \$50,000 (85% say it is a burden regarding childcare and 86% say the same of family care), those with incomes between \$50,000 and \$100,000 (88%, 89%), and those with incomes above \$100,000 (81%, 84%).

Large swaths of Americans are getting little or no support from the government and expect elected officials to act now to help families.

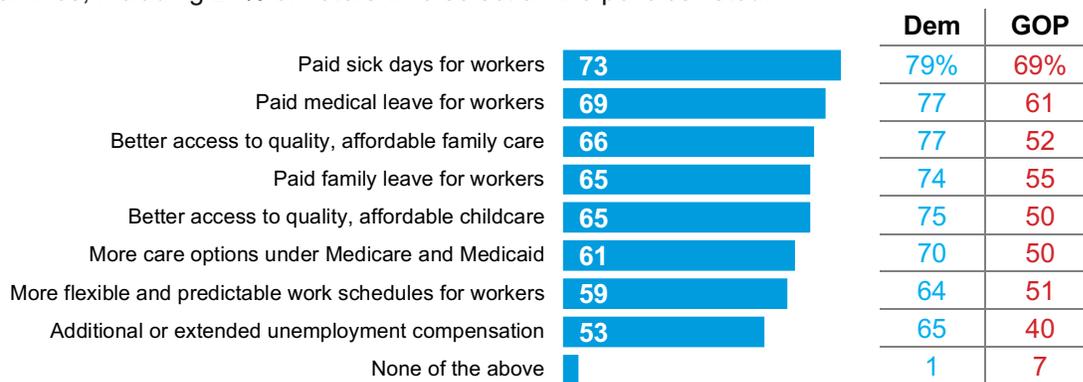
The government is coming up short on support for caregivers and parents, including support for working adults who are now caring for their children due to school/daycare closures caused by the pandemic (52% say this group receives a little/no support from the government) and those who need time away from work to care for an elderly family member (51%). Those who get sick from the coronavirus (43%) and those who need time away from work after having a new child (41%) are also particularly in need of support. When pressed on who is most responsible for fixing the current system of care, national political leaders rise to the top. Those who are viewed as most responsible for fixing our current care system and implementing a new one include Congress (83%), representatives in the House (83%), Senators (83%), and President-Elect Biden (72%). Local (81%) and state officials (84%) are also widely viewed as responsible.

There is strong support for care policies as part of a comprehensive plan to help families.

When presented with a list of wide-ranging proposals that could be included as part of a comprehensive plan, a majority of voters support each one, including more than half who *strongly support* most of the proposals.

Strongly Support	Total Support	
70%	94%	Ensuring workers have access to paid sick days
68	96	Ensuring workers have access to paid medical leave
61	93	Ensuring workers have access to paid family leave
60	94	Providing support for family caregivers and the option of home-based care on Medicare
56	91	Requiring employers to offer more flexible hours for family caregivers
55	88	Investing more state and local funds in expanding access to quality, affordable family care and childcare to working families
49	83	Investing more federal funds in expanding access to quality, affordable family care and childcare to working families
48	82	Increasing the amount of money that laid-off workers can receive via unemployment compensation
47	82	Extending the length of time that laid-off workers can receive via unemployment compensation
45	86	Giving people who are on Medicaid the option of receiving home- or community-based care

A majority also support including all the proposals tested as part of a comprehensive plan to support families, including 27% of voters who select all the policies listed.



About this poll: Global Strategy Group conducted an online survey of 1,501 registered voters nationwide between November 21st-25th, 2020. The survey had a confidence interval of +/-2.5%. All interviews were conducted via web-based panel and matched back to state voter files. Care has been taken to ensure the geographic and demographic divisions of the population of registered voters are properly represented.

***Parents** self-report being the parent or guardian of a child under the age of 18. **Caregivers** are defined as those who self-report being/having been a caretaker for “a sick, disabled, injured, or elderly friend or relative.” 24% of registered voters self-identify as parents and 17% as caregivers. These groups are not mutually exclusive.