

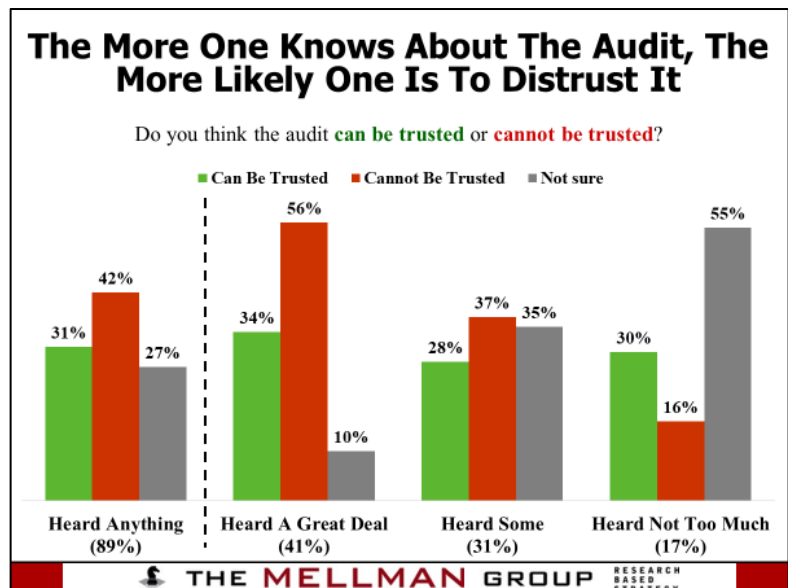
To: States United Action
From: The Mellman Group
Re: Arizona Voters Oppose the Sham “Audit” In Maricopa County
Date: June 4, 2021

This analysis is based on the findings of a survey of 600 registered voters in Arizona, using a registration-based sample. Interviews were conducted via landline, cell, and text-to-online from May 22-27, 2021. The margin of error for the sample as a whole is +/- 4.0% at the 95% level of confidence (higher for subgroups). This survey was conducted on behalf of States United Action, a section 501(c)(4) organization.

Our just-completed survey reveals that Arizona voters oppose the sham “audit” in Maricopa County and believe President Joe Biden was the legitimate election winner, while few voters support current efforts to undermine the results.

In one of the nation’s most closely divided states, where Joe Biden won by less than one percentage point:

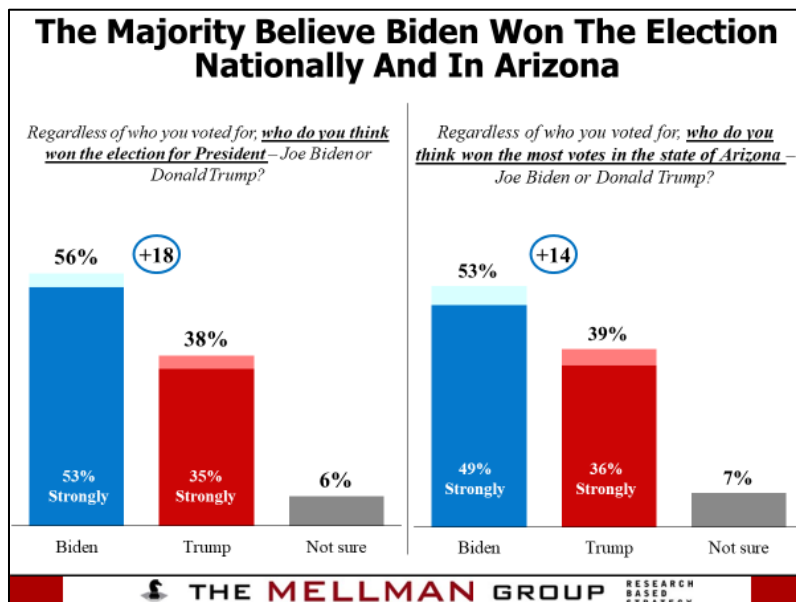
- Eighty-nine percent (89%) of Arizona voters have heard at least a bit about the Maricopa County audit.
- Those voters believe the audit cannot be trusted by a ten-point margin (42% to 31%). After everyone hears more background information,¹ voters statewide disapprove of the audit by an even larger 15-point margin (53% disapprove, 38% approve).
- The more people know about the audit, the more likely they are to distrust it. Among the 41% who have heard the most,



¹ “Just so we are on the same page, the Maricopa County election results were certified and audited twice following the 2020 Presidential election. In recent weeks, Republicans in the Arizona State Senate started another audit by a private company and used a subpoena to get access to the nearly 2.1 million ballots cast in Maricopa County, as well as over 400 voting machines.

56% believe it cannot be trusted, with only 34% reporting confidence in the audit. Only among those least familiar with the audit is the number who trust the effort larger than the number who don't (30% trust, 16% do not trust).

- Arizona voters found that the strongest arguments against the audit were the need for a Republican Party that works in the best interest of Arizonans and isn't embroiled in division over a settled election (44% very convincing, 13% somewhat convincing),² and complaints about security breaches resulting from handing voting machines to private auditors, likely forcing Maricopa to spend millions of taxpayer dollars on new machines (44% very convincing, 12% somewhat convincing).³
- A near majority (49%) would be less likely to vote to re-elect a state senator who supported the audit, while only a third (31%) were more likely to vote to re-elect, and 20% were unsure. Republicans, plus those independents who did not support Biden, who are also both angry about the audit and less likely to vote for a senator who supported it (4%) combine with Biden supporters (49%) to yield a clear majority (53%) opposing those backing the audit. With the GOP controlling the State Senate by a mere two-seat margin, the backlash against the audit could have a significant impact on the Republican Party's prospects.
- Well over half (56%) of Arizona's registered voters believe Joe Biden won the nation in the election, and a similar proportion (53%) think he won their state.
- By fifteen points, Arizonans believe Biden won fairly, not because of fraud (55% to 40%).



The Maricopa County Board of Supervisors, which runs Maricopa County's elections and is led by Republicans, has defended the results of the 2020 election and called for an end to this new audit."

2 "Arizona needs a Republican Party that will work in the best interest of Arizonans, not one embroiled in division over an election that has already been settled. It is in the best interest of the Republican Party – and our state – to move on and get back to the business of governing."

3 "By giving the voting machines to the auditors at a private company, the county broke state rules for properly securing and tracking the voting machines. Since there is no way to determine whether the machines were tampered with, these security concerns likely mean that Maricopa County needs to purchase entirely new voting machines, which will cost taxpayers millions of dollars."

In summary, the more Arizona voters hear about the Maricopa County “audit”, the more likely they are to oppose it. Opponents of the audit are most convincing when they communicate about a divisive state leadership focused on the wrong issues, and the potential cost to taxpayers of replacing voting machines due to security concerns. In a state that saw very narrow margins in the presidential election in 2020, a clear majority correctly believe Joe Biden legitimately won the nation and the state.

##