



**TO:** INTERESTED PARTIES  
**FROM:** MBE RESEARCH, MARK BLANKENSHIP  
**SUBJECT:** WV TOP-LINE POLLING MEMORANDUM  
**DATE:** NOVEMBER 15, 2021

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## **President Biden's Approval Rating Low Among West Virginia Voters**

- **Governor Jim Justice Approval Rating near 70%**
- **Manchin Approval far exceeds President Biden**
- **Strong Support for bipartisan effort of Senators Manchin and Capito**
- **Most agree with continued use of filibuster**

### **Overview**

Significantly more West Virginia voters disapprove (65%) of the job Joe Biden is doing as President of the United States than those who approve (32%). Conversely, the Republican Governor of the State, Jim Justice, enjoys a 68% job approval rating compared to 28% who disapprove. Interestingly, United States Senator Joe Manchin, a Democrat, has an overall job approval rating of 60% compared to 37% who disapprove despite the President Biden's relative unpopularity among Mountain State voters.

Nearly four in five voters surveyed support (78%) West Virginia Senators Shelley Moore Capito (R-WV) and Joe Manchin (D-WV) working together in a bipartisan effort to pass a national infrastructure bill to address roads, bridges, power and other infrastructure needs compared to just 22% who oppose. Nearly three-fourths (74%) of West Virginia voters also agree Senator Joe Manchin should oppose President Biden's multi-trillion dollar reconciliation spending bill in favor of legislation that would control spending more while 24% disagree with Senator Manchin's opposition.

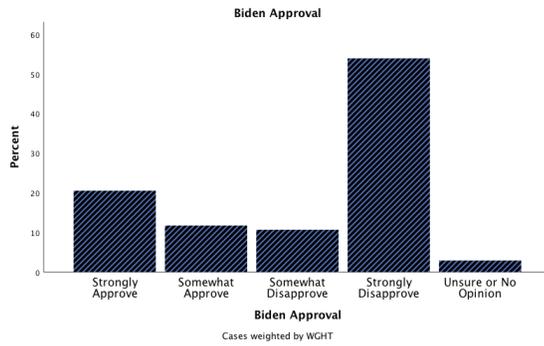
When asked which statement comes closest to their opinion, 21% of respondents said U.S. Senator Joe Manchin was an automatic for President Joe Biden and those pushing his agenda in Congress compared to 70% who more aligned with the statement that Senator Manchin is an independent voice willing to oppose national politicians of both parties in order to do what is right for the state (9% said neither statement or answered "don't know").

Voters were also read a short statement on the United State Senate's use of the procedural rule known as the filibuster. Sixty-seven percent (67%) of those surveyed agreed with continued use of the filibuster in the US Senate compared to 26% who disagreed with its continued use and 8% who were unsure or had no opinion.

- Approval Ratings

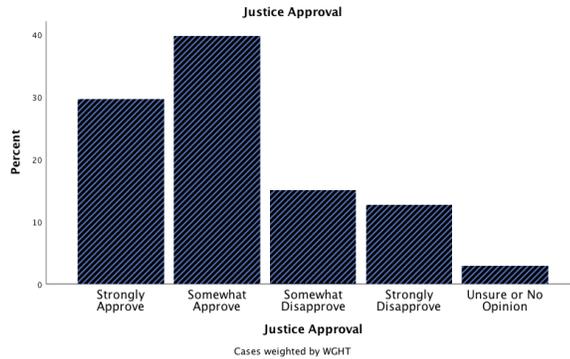
Question - *“Do you approve or disapprove of the way the following individuals are handling their elected positions?”* **President Joe Biden**

- 21% - Strongly Approve
- 12% - Somewhat Approve
- 11% - Somewhat Disapprove
- 54% - Strongly Disapprove
- 3% - Dk/Na



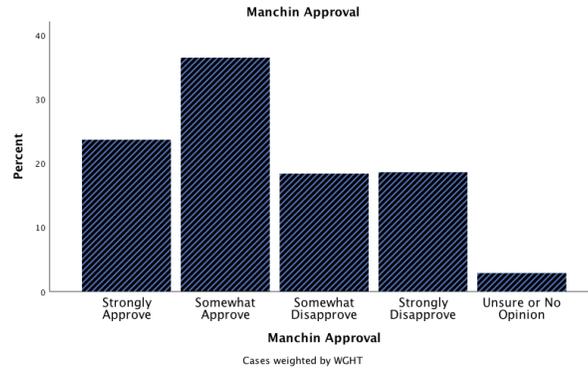
Question - *“Do you approve or disapprove of the way the following individuals are handling their elected positions?”* **Governor Jim Justice**

- 30% - Strongly Approve
- 40% - Somewhat Approve
- 15% - Somewhat Disapprove
- 13% - Strongly Disapprove
- 3% - Dk/Na



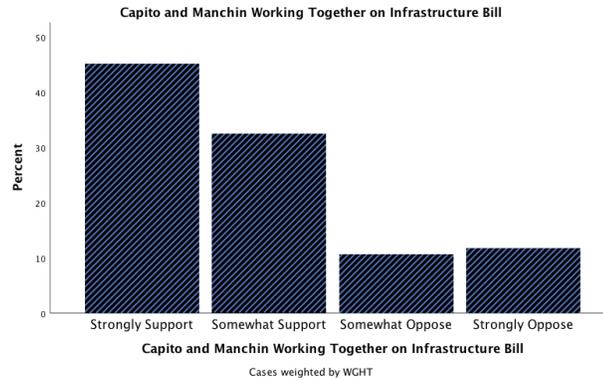
Question - *“Do you approve or disapprove of the way the following individuals are handling their elected positions?”* **Senator Joe Manchin**

- 24% - Strongly Approve
- 37% - Somewhat Approve
- 18% - Somewhat Disapprove
- 19% - Strongly Disapprove
- 2% - Dk/Na



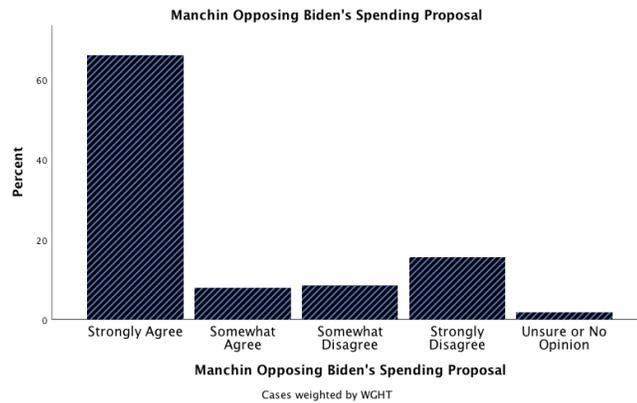
Question – *“Do you support or oppose West Virginia Senators Shelley Capito and Joe Manchin working together in a bipartisan effort to pass a national infrastructure bill to address roads, bridges, power and other infrastructure needs?”*

- 45% - Strongly Support
- 32% - Somewhat Support
- 11% - Somewhat Oppose
- 12% - Strongly Oppose



Question – “*Senator Joe Manchin has said he opposes President Biden’s current multi-trillion dollar spending proposal before Congress. Senator Manchin says the country cannot afford to spend that much money and instead favors proposals that better control government spending. Do you agree or disagree Senator Manchin should oppose President Biden’s multi-trillion dollar spending proposal?*”

- 24% - Strongly Agree
- 37% - Somewhat Agree
- 18% - Somewhat Disagree
- 19% - Strongly Disagree
- 2% - Dk/Na



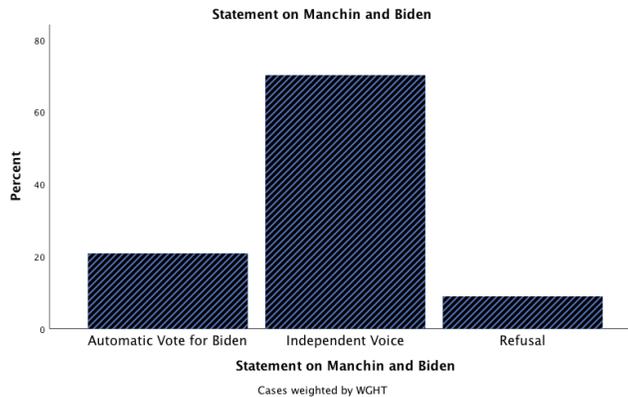
Question – “*Which of the following statements comes closest to your opinion?*”

*(21%) Senator Joe Manchin is an automatic vote for President Joe Biden and those pushing his agenda in Congress*

OR

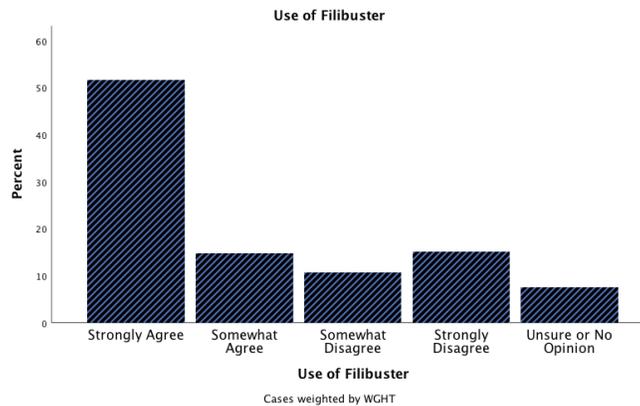
*(70%) Senator Joe Manchin is an independent voice who is willing to oppose national politicians of both parties in order to do what is right for West Virginia*

*(9%) Dk/Na*



**Question** - *The United States Senate has a filibuster (FILL-AH-BUST-ER) measure which requires 60 out of 100 votes instead of just 51 out of 100 votes. For decades, the filibuster has been used to block controversial laws or appointments made by Presidents of both parties. Do you agree or disagree with continued use of the filibuster in the United States Senate?*

52% - Strongly Agree  
15% - Somewhat Agree  
11% - Somewhat Disagree  
15% - Strongly Disagree  
8% - Dk/Na



**Methodology**

- The voter opinion survey was conducted by MBE Research to better understand voter opinion on a host of important, current issues in the public square. 702 completed interviews among registered West Virginia voters. Interviews conducted week of November 7, 2021.
- Data was collected using an automated polling methodology. The interviews were conducted using telephone and online sampling – results included high use cell phone respondents, landline respondents and online respondents.
- Demographics – 36% Dem/37% GOP/27% Ind; 51% Female/49% Male.
- In addition to sampling error, question wording and practical difficulties in conducting surveys can introduce error or bias into the findings of public opinion polls.
- Some data (such as gender) was weighted to correct for unequal selection probability, nonresponse, etc., in the sampling frame.