



Research on the Tipped Minimum Wage

Findings From Survey Research of Restaurant Workers in the District of Columbia

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Methodology

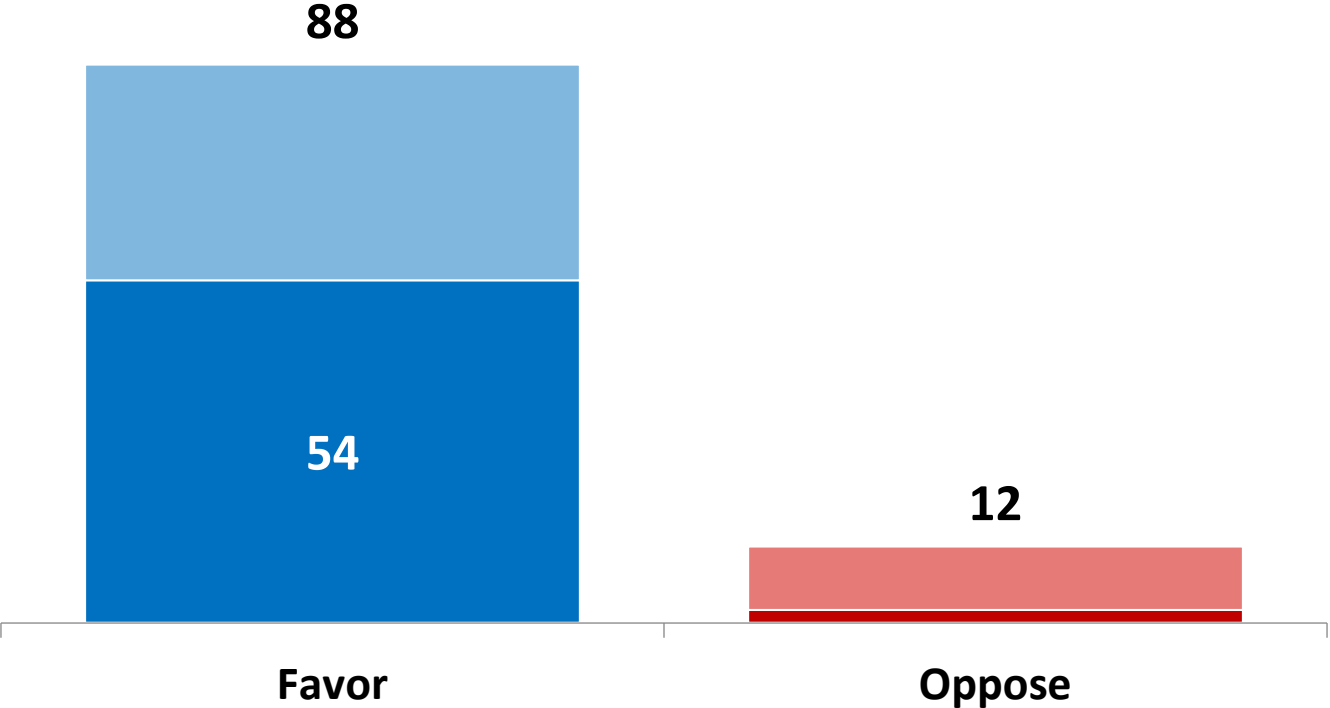
- Lake Research Partners designed and administered this research, which was conducted online from July 1-7, 2021.
- The survey reached a total of 300 restaurant workers (who work as waiters, servers, or bartenders) in the District of Columbia.
- Data were weighted slightly by gender, age, race, and education level, to reflect the likely composition of restaurant workers in Washington DC.
- The margin of error for the base sample is +/-5.7%.

Summary of Key Findings

- Restaurant workers in Washington DC are overwhelmingly supportive of raising the minimum wage for tipped workers to the full federal minimum wage.
 - On an initial ask with no prior information, 88% of restaurant workers support raising the minimum wage for tipped workers to \$15 with tips on top over a period of several years.
- After learning that credit card data shows that restaurant workers in states that have already implemented the full tipped minimum wage earn the same or higher tips as workers in other states, support rises even higher, to 91%.
- This is a voting issue for restaurant workers.
 - Nearly four in five workers (79%) say they would be more likely to support a candidate who was proposing to raise the tipped minimum wage to the full minimum wage with tips on top, with over four in ten (43%) saying they would be much more likely to support such a candidate.

Support for raising the tipped minimum wage starts out extremely high (88% favor) among restaurant workers in Washington DC with high intensity (54% strongly favor).

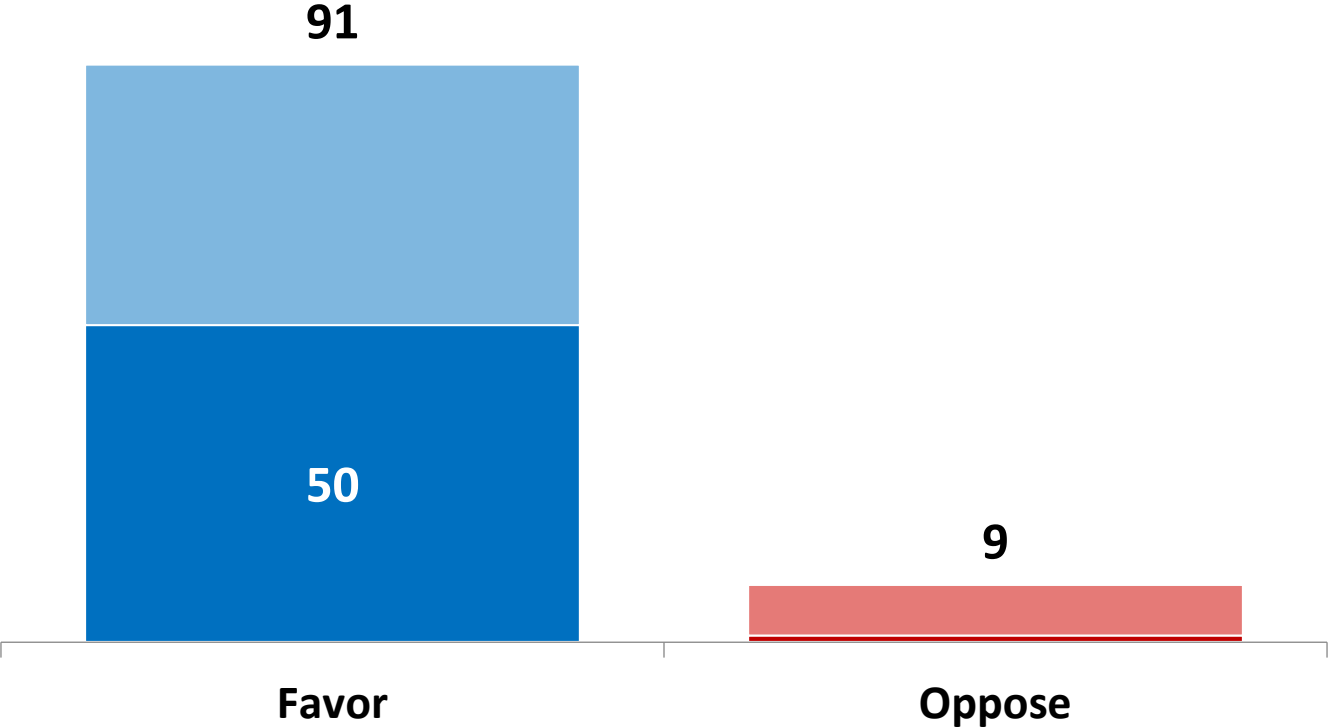
Raising the Tipped Minimum Wage Initial Ballot



Question Text: As you may know, there is currently a proposal in the District of Columbia to increase the minimum wage over several years for tipped workers to \$15 an hour with tips on top. Most restaurant workers currently are paid lower than the full minimum wage, with the difference made up by tips or by their employer. This proposal would raise the minimum wage for tipped workers to the full minimum wage while they retain tips on top.

After learning that in the seven states that have already implemented a full tipped minimum wage, credit card data shows restaurant workers make the same or higher tips as they do in other states, support for the proposal rises even higher, to 91%.

Raising the Tipped Minimum Wage Informed Ballot*

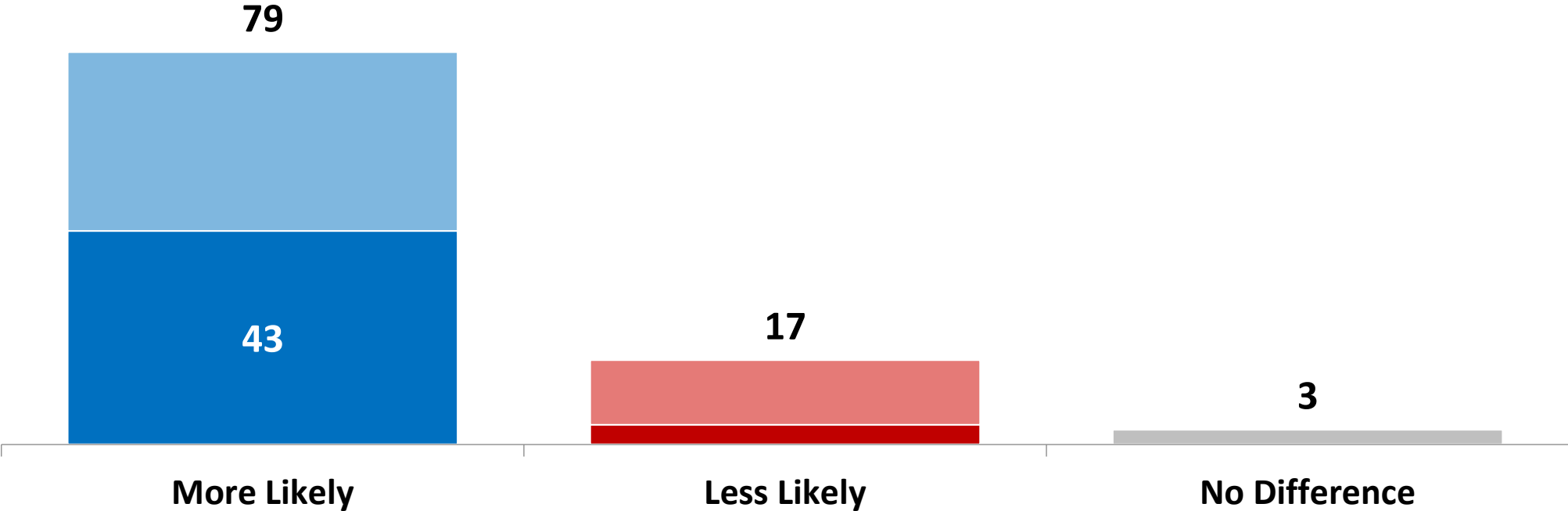


*Question Split Sampled

Question Text: Now you're going to get a little more information about this proposal: There are already seven states that require tipped workers receive the full minimum wage with tips on top. Data from credit card processing shows that restaurant workers in these seven states earn the same or higher tips as workers in other states. Sometimes in a survey like this, people change their minds. Do you favor or oppose the proposal to raise the minimum wage for tipped workers to the full minimum wage while they retain tips on top?

Nearly four in five restaurant workers in Washington DC say they would be more likely to support a candidate who was proposing to raise the tipped minimum wage to the full minimum wage with tips on top, and over four in ten (43%) say they would be much more likely.

Impact of Candidate Support for Raising the Tipped Minimum Wage on Vote Likelihood



Question Text: If a candidate for office was proposing to raise the minimum wage for tipped workers to the full minimum wage with tips on top, would that make you more or less likely to vote for that candidate, or does it make no difference to you?

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