Methodology Supplement

For our Democracy and Election Deniers series, we draw from a survey conducted by Public Wise and Change Research from April 13-19th, 2023 on public opinion around democracy, voting rights, and election deniers. The full wording for each question, along with toplines and cross-tabulated breakdowns of responses for this survey are available at the Public Wise website, here.

The survey is nationally representative of 3,637 individuals in the U.S., predominantly registered voters (97%) and a margin of error of +/- 2 points. Responses were collected through an online survey developed by Public Wise and administered by Change Research. Survey weights developed by Change Research are applied to all analyses from this survey. Weights are based on age, gender, race/ethnicity, 2020 vote choice and region.

The vast majority of respondents completed the full survey, though 2.4% (86 respondents) skipped one or more questions. For all statistical analyses, we restrict our analytical sample to only those who answered the demographic and outcome questions of interest which reduces the sample size to around 94% of all survey respondents.

Respondents were asked if they are registered to vote, about their political affiliations, where they believe they fall on an ideological scale, their educational attainment, their demographic characteristics, their previous vote choice in the 2020 election, their views democracy, threats to democracy, election deniers and election denier rhetoric, voting rights, what news sources they rely on, and how much they trust the news media.

Our partisan grouping used throughout the survey relies on respondents' self-identification with a given party or as an independent, not their actual voter registration status. Respondents could indicate that they identify as Democrat, Republican, Independent, or other. We also asked respondents where they fall on an ideological spectrum including progressive, liberal, moderate and conservative. We use ideology to categorize those respondents who did not identify with either of the two major political parties as either Liberal Independent (combining progressive and liberal), Moderate Independent, or Conservative Independent.

The news source categories used in this study are not mutually exclusive – any respondent could indicate that they consume all or none of the 5 types of news media we asked about: newspapers, television news, social media news, radio news, and podcasts. Respondents were asked follow-up questions based on their news source selections to further understand news consumption patterns. For example, if a respondent selects "TV" as one of their news sources, they will be prompted to see a question with a list of common TV news channels (CNN, FOX,

etc.). Finally, we ask how much trust (a lot, some, a little, no trust) respondents have in their own sources of news and the news media in general.

Descriptive Statistics

Ideology	**Weighted Percent**
Progressive	21%
Liberal	17%
Moderate	30%
Conservative	32%
Party	
Strong Democrat	26%
Weak Democrat	9%
Independent leans Dem.	11%
Independent	12%
Independent leans Rep.	10%
Weak Republican	8%
Strong Republican	25%
Geography*	
Rural	15%
Urban	85%
Region	
Midwest	21%
Northeast	17%
South	39%
West	23%
Demographics	
Gender	
Female	53%
Male	47%
Age**	
18-34	23%

35-49	24%
50-64	26%
65+	27%
Race***	
Asian	4%
Black	12%
Hispanic	10%
Native	3%
Other	4%
White	76%
Education	
High School or less / unknown	24%
Some college	24%
Associate's degree or 2 year	12%
Bachelor's degree or 4 year	23%
Graduate degree	17%
Religion	
Agnostic	36%
Evangelical Christian	15%
Non-evangelical Christian	12%
Catholic	14%
Other (Jewish, Orthodox, Muslim, Mormon, Buddhist, Hindu)	6%
Something else	17%

*To determine geographic designations, respondents were asked to report their zip codes. Rural and urban are county-level measures using USDA RUC designations. Special thanks to Raeda Anderson, PhD for sharing code that converts zipcodes to county FIPS codes and county FIPS codes to RUCC codes.

**Respondents were asked 'year of birth' and age was calculated by subtracting year of birth from 2023

***Will not sum to 100% because respondents can select more than one racial category