

# navigating.\* coronavirus

Daily Update:  
Friday, May 1, 2020

Communicating in  
Crisis: Coronavirus



## Key takeaways:

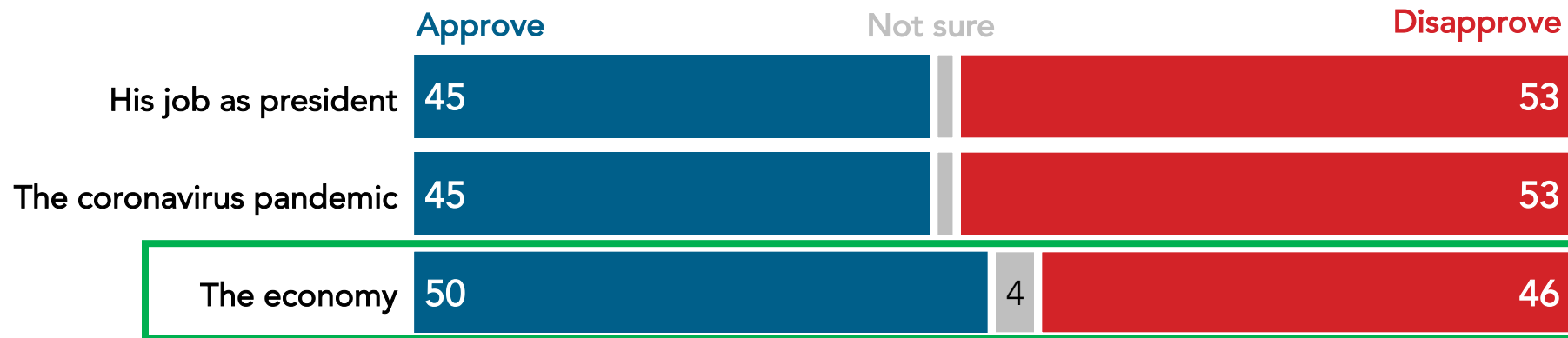
- Americans are mixed on Trump's ability to handle an economic recovery, but most believe his response to date favors the wealthy.
- Governors are seen as striking the right balance on handling the economic crisis and the pandemic, while Trump is not. Democrats in Congress have room to stake out their position.
- There has been an increased demand for bold economic change over minimal government regulation and strong majorities support progressive economic policies.

# Trump Approval Underwater, But Economic Rating Mixed

While Trump's approval on the coronavirus pandemic and his job as president remain negative, he sees slightly better ratings on his handling of the economy and his ability to handle an economic recovery.

- Confidence in Trump's ability to handle an economic recovery following the pandemic falls along partisan lines: 21% of Democrats, 48% of independents, and 88% of Republicans say they are confident.

**Do you approve or disapprove of the way that Donald Trump is handling...**



**How confident are you in President Trump's ability to handle an economic recovery following the coronavirus pandemic?\***



Nationwide survey of 1,008 registered voters; April 27-30.

\*Nationwide survey of 1,004 registered voters; April 24-29, 2020.

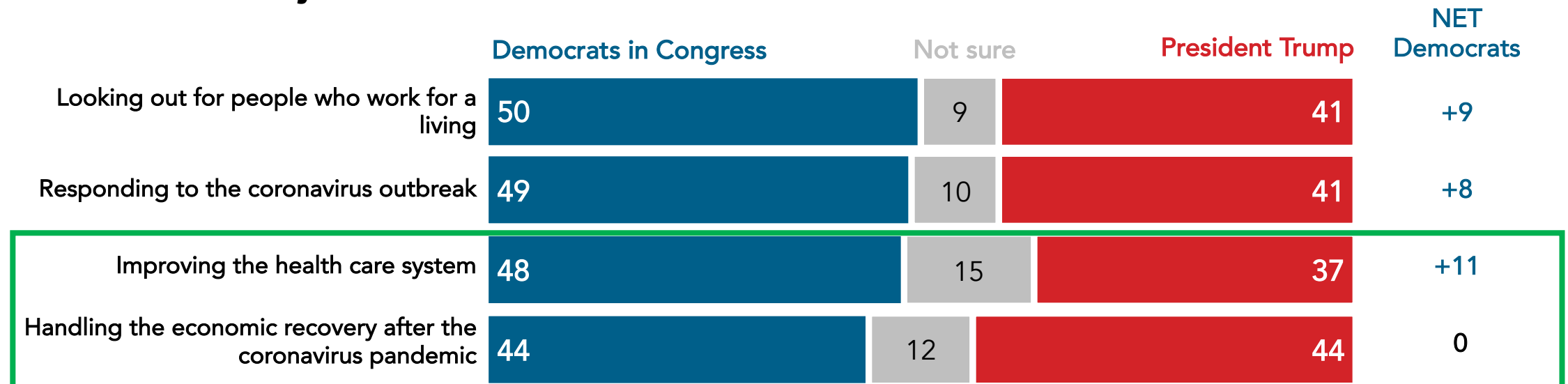
For more info, visit [navigatortresearch.org](https://navigatortresearch.org)

# Dem Advantage on Health Care; More Mixed on Recovery

Though Democrats in Congress hold a sizable advantage over Trump on looking out for working people and issues related to coronavirus and health care broadly, their lead is narrower on issues relating to an economic recovery.

- Independents (36%) are particularly likely to be undecided about who to trust more to handle an economic recovery.

**Please indicate who you would trust more to handle each one.**



"Mixed on Trump" refers to Americans that don't always approve or don't always disapprove of Trump's overall job performance, his handling of the economy, his handling the coronavirus pandemic, and his handling of health care. Nationwide survey of 1,008 registered voters; April 27-30. For more info, visit [navigatortresearch.org](https://navigatortresearch.org)

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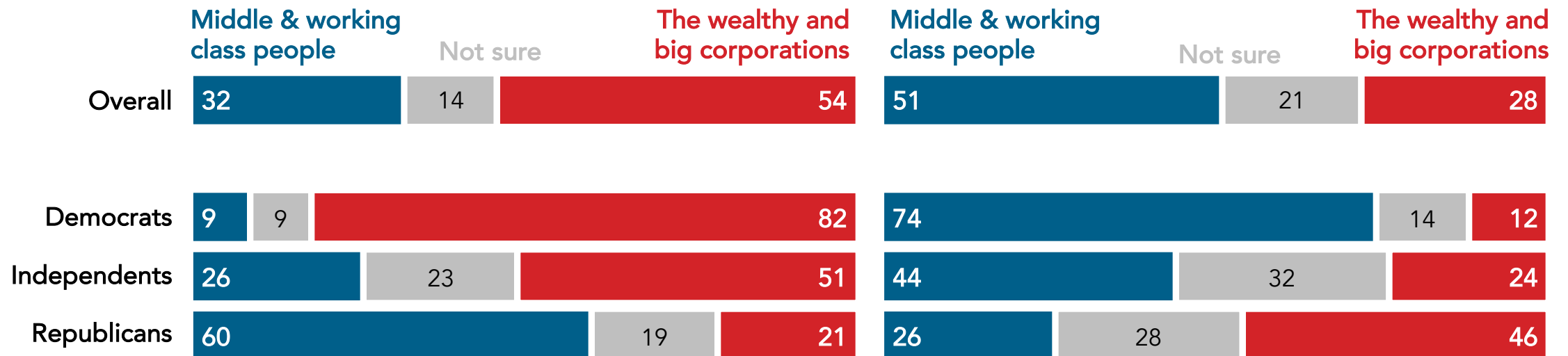
# Democrats' Response Favors Working & Middle Class; Trump's Favors Wealthy & Corporations

Democrats in Congress hold a significant advantage over Trump in belief that their pandemic response policies favor middle and working class people instead of the wealthy and big corporations.

- Among independents, Democrats in Congress hold a net 45-point advantage over Trump.

Thinking more about how Donald Trump and his administration are responding to the economic impact of the coronavirus pandemic, who do you think Donald Trump's policies favor most?

Thinking about how Democrats in Congress are responding to the economic impact of the coronavirus pandemic, who do you think Democrats' policies favor most?



Nationwide survey of 1,004 registered voters; April 24-29, 2020.  
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# Public Wants Safe Reopening, Not an Immediate One

The vast majority of Americans oppose reopening the country in the next few weeks and say that we need to focus on resolving the health crisis first.

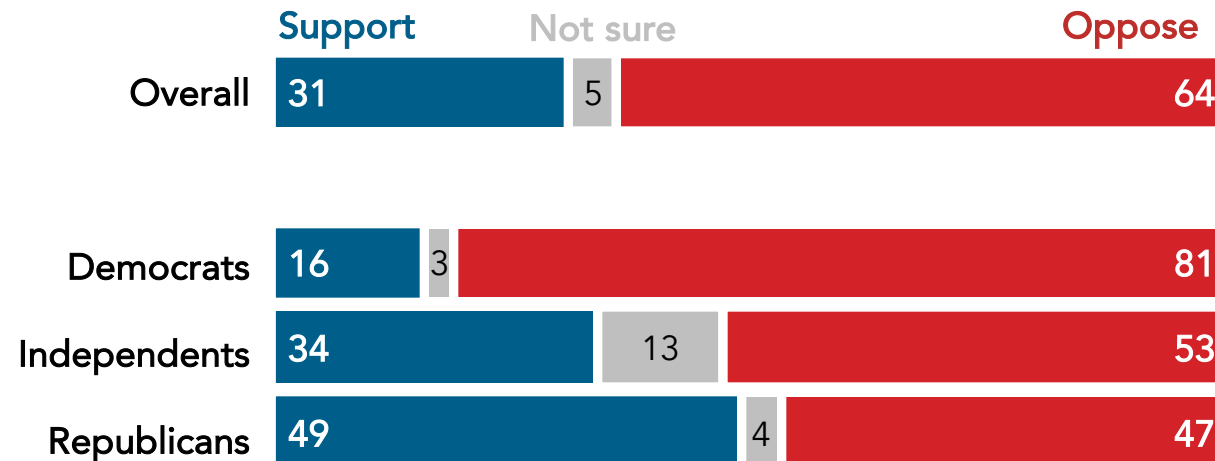
- In a separate question, 89% of the public, including 85% of independents, prefer a very or somewhat "cautious opening – opening a handful of businesses and services, but keeping things closed."

**Some people are saying that we should declare the country open in the next few weeks. Do you support or oppose reopening the country soon?**

**Which do you agree with more?**

Those who say we need to focus on resolving the health crisis posed by the coronavirus pandemic so that we can begin restarting our economy

Those who say we need to start focusing on the economy as soon as possible to keep our country from falling deeper into a recession

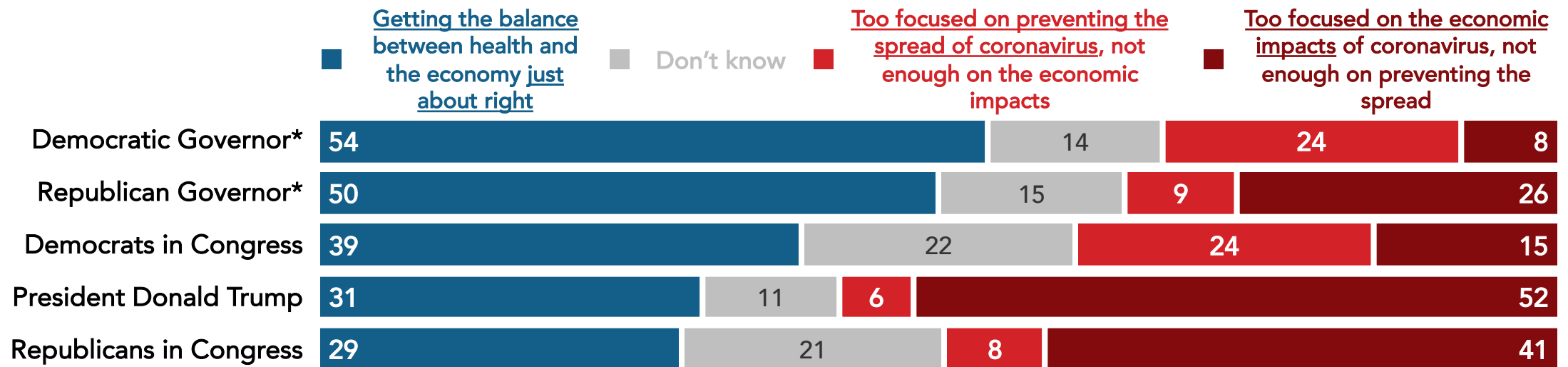


# Governors Striking Right Balance; Trump is Not

A majority of Americans see governors as getting the balance right between handling the economy and the spread of coronavirus, compared to just one in three who say the same about Trump.

- More than one in five Americans are unsure about how Democrats in Congress are balancing the two, showing they are not seen as anti-economy, but are undefined.

**When it comes to the debate about striking the right balance between protecting public health and preventing further spread of coronavirus, versus responding to the economic impact of coronavirus and helping Americans who are out of work, what do you think about the following people and groups?**



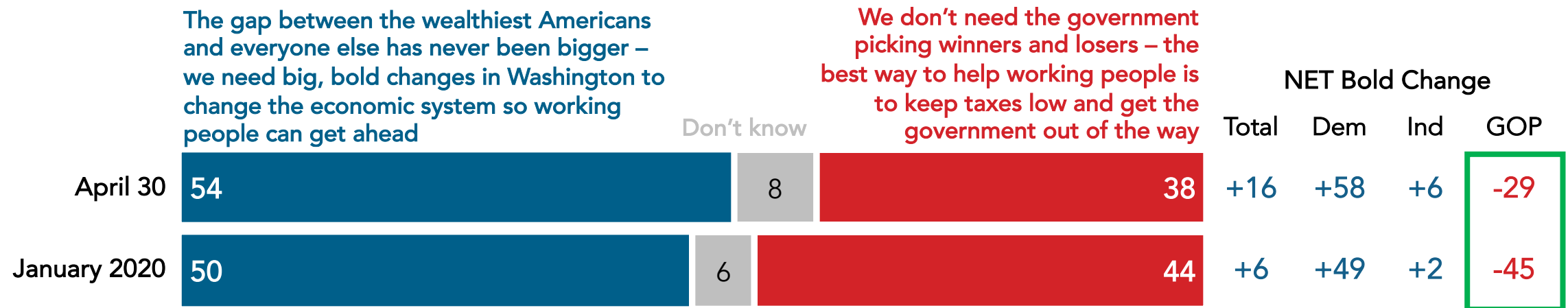
\*"Democratic Governor" refers to respondents who have Democratic governors, combining all respondent ratings of their state-specific Democratic governors. "Republican Governor" refers to respondents who have Republican governors, combining respondent ratings of their state-specific Republican governors. Nationwide survey of 1,004 registered voters; April 24-29, 2020. For more info, visit [navigatortresearch.org](https://navigatortresearch.org)

# Increased Demand for Bold Economic Changes to Help Working People

Since January, there has been a double digit increase in the share of Americans who agree that we need big economic changes so working people can get ahead.

- Republicans are largely driving this shift, with a net increase of 16 points toward agreeing more that we need big economic changes rather than keeping taxes low and getting the government out of the way.
- Among 2016 Trump voters, there has been a 17-point shift in the same direction.

**Even if neither is completely right, which do you agree with more?**



"2016 Trump voters" self-report having voted for Donald Trump in the 2016 election.  
Nationwide surveys of registered voters; Each wave represents approximately 1,000 interviews taken over the prior three days.  
Latest wave conducted April 24-29, 2020. For more info, visit [navigatorresearch.org](http://navigatorresearch.org)

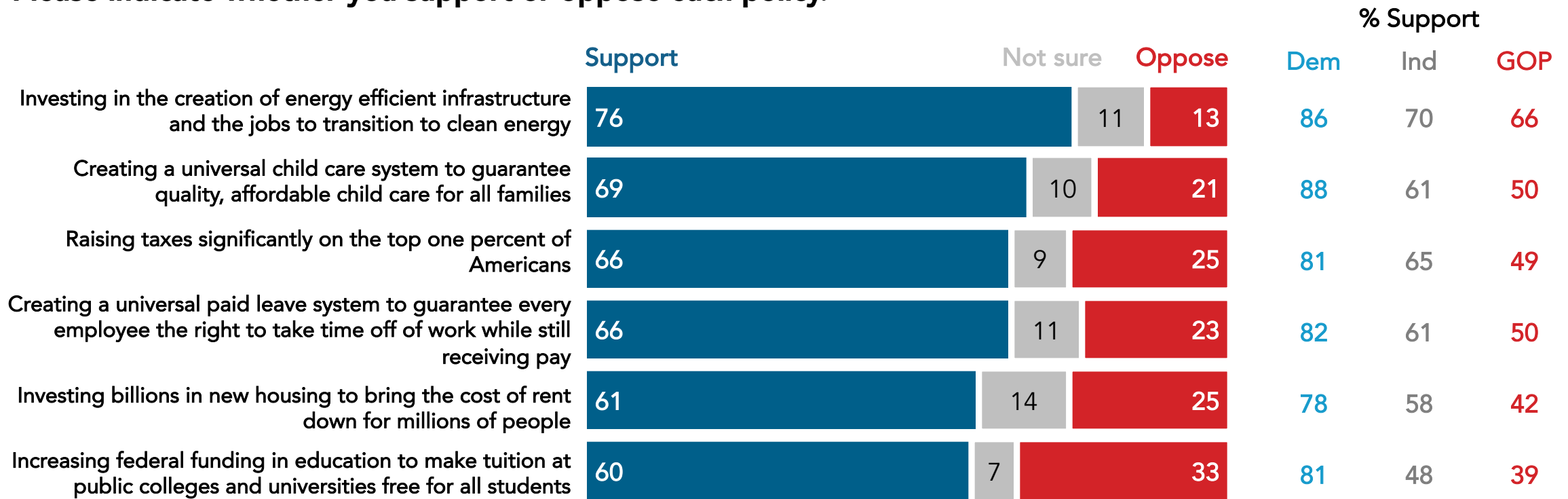
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# In a Coronavirus World, Majority Support Progressive Economic Policies

The majority of Americans support progressive economy policies, ranging from job creation, to clean energy, to an increase in federal funding in education to make tuition free.

Please indicate whether you support or oppose each policy.



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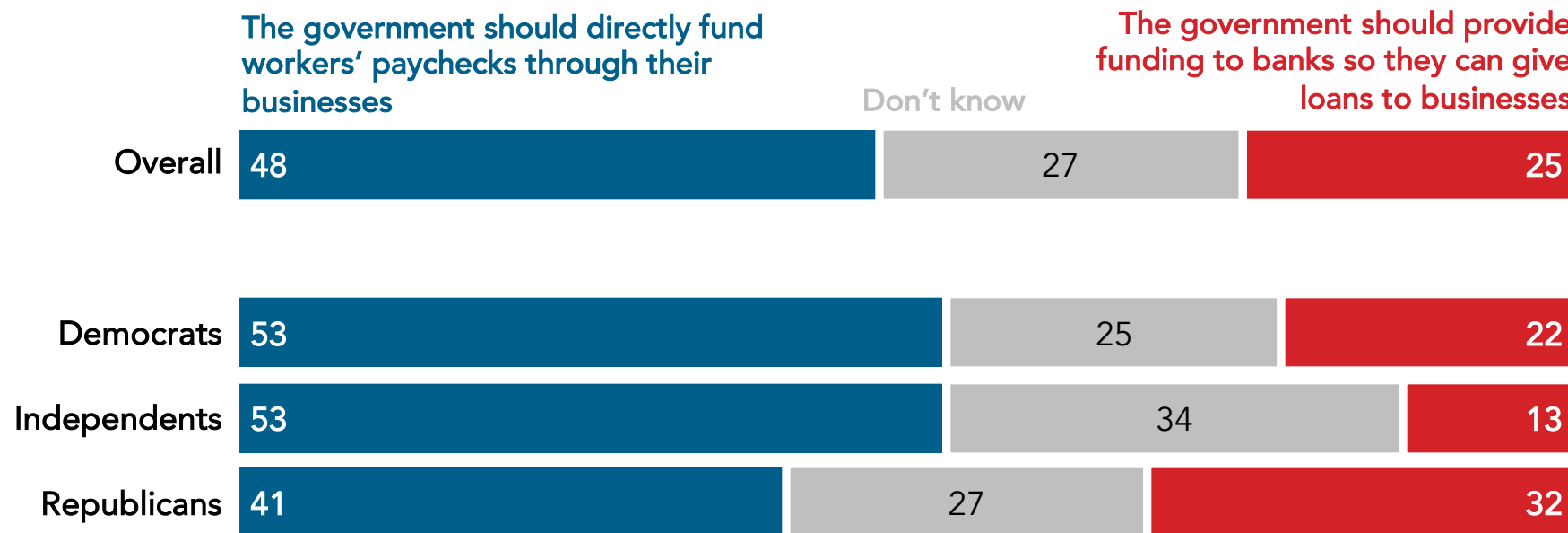
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# Majority Say Government Should Directly Fund Payroll Support

Nearly half of Americans support the government directly funding workers' paychecks through their small businesses over the government providing funding to banks to give businesses loans.

- Even among Republicans, direct funding of workers' paychecks leads reliance on banks to loan money to businesses by 9 points (41% directly fund/32% fund banks).

**Which of the following do you think best reflects what you think the government should be doing to help small businesses keep workers on their payroll?**



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## About Navigator

In a world where the news cycle is the length of a tweet, our leaders often lack the real-time public-sentiment analysis to shape the best approaches to talking about the issues that matter the most. Navigator is designed to act as a consistent, flexible, responsive tool to inform policy debates by conducting research and reliable guidance to inform allies, elected leaders, and the press. Navigator is a project led by pollsters from Global Strategy Group and GBAO along with an advisory committee, including: Andrea Purse, progressive strategist; Arkadi Gerney, The Hub Project; Christina Reynolds, EMILY's List; Delvone Michael, Working Families; Felicia Wong, Roosevelt Institute; Mike Podhorzer, AFL-CIO; Jesse Ferguson, progressive strategist; Navin Nayak, Center for American Progress Action Fund; Stephanie Valencia, EquisLabs; and Melanie Newman, Planned Parenthood Action Fund.

## About the Study

Global Strategy Group conducted a public opinion survey among a sample of 1,008 registered voters conducted April 27-30, 2020. The survey was conducted online, recruiting respondents from multiple opt-in online panel vendors. Respondents were verified against a voter file and special care was taken to ensure the demographic composition of our sample matched that of the national registered voter population across a variety of demographic variables.

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To learn more about  
Navigator:

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