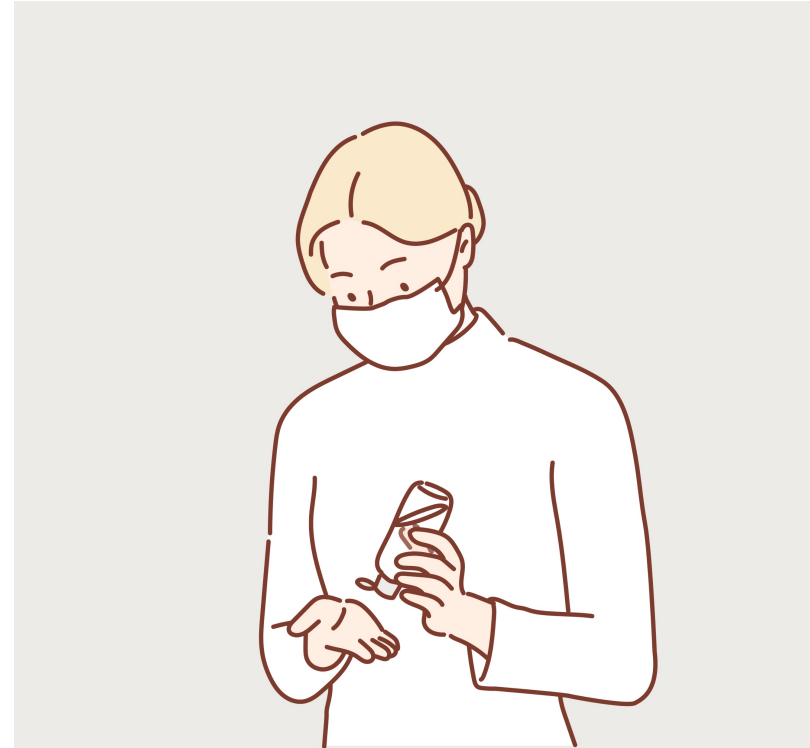


navigating.* coronavirus

Update:

Wednesday, May 20, 2020

Communicating in
Crisis: Coronavirus



Key takeaways:

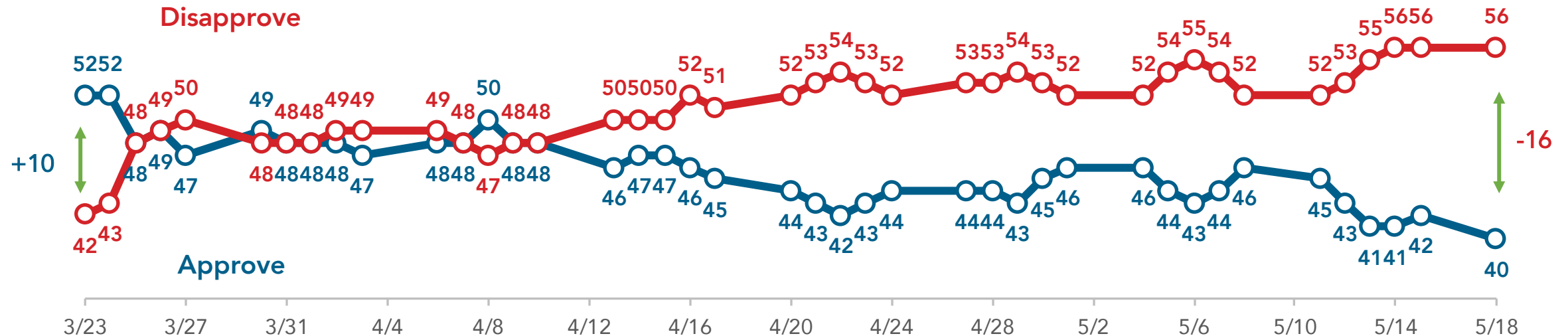
- Trump's approval on his handling of the pandemic has hit yet another low in our tracking.
- Americans trust Dr. Fauci and Democrats more than Trump on how to reopen and continue to have concerns reopening is happening too quickly in their state.
- Adequate protective equipment for medical workers, widespread testing, and adherence to a plan made by medical experts are seen as key components of a safe reopening.

Trump's Pandemic Approval Hits New Low

Only 40% Americans say they approve of how Trump is handling the pandemic, the lowest point in our tracking.

- There's now been a net change of 26 points in Trump's handling since March 23rd (from +10 to -16).
- One in five (20%) Republicans now disapprove of how Trump is handling the coronavirus pandemic. Among independents, just 32% approve of his handling.

Do you approve or disapprove of the way that Donald Trump is handling the coronavirus pandemic?



Nationwide surveys of registered voters; Each wave represents approximately 1,000 interviews taken over the prior three days. Latest wave conducted May 15-May 18, 2020. For more info, visit navigatorresearch.org

Negative Conversation Around Trump Centers On Unsafe Reopening, Ignoring Experts, Lack of Testing

Since May 12, the conversation has continued to shift toward concern about Trump reopening the country too soon, as well as lack of testing and his refusal to wear a mask.

- Concerns about the example he sets in not wearing a mask come as two thirds of Americans (66%) say they regularly wear a mask.

In a few words, what **negative** things have you seen, read, or heard recently about Donald Trump's handling of the coronavirus pandemic?

May 18



"Not enough testing, no contact tracing, opening up the country way too soon, not helping states with PPE."

"Donald Trump wants to phase in **reopening of businesses** to protect the economy."

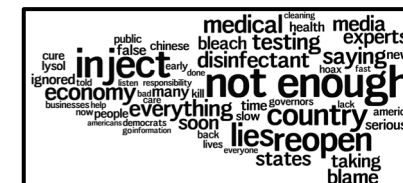
"He is dismissing the advice of Dr. Fauci and reopening the country too soon because he is a politician who will do anything for the purpose of getting re-elected."

"Donald Trump **refuses to wear a mask or to practice social distancing**. Donald Trump is trying to coerce states into reopening before they are ready because he is **more concerned with the economy than he is with public health.**"

May 12



May 5



April 29

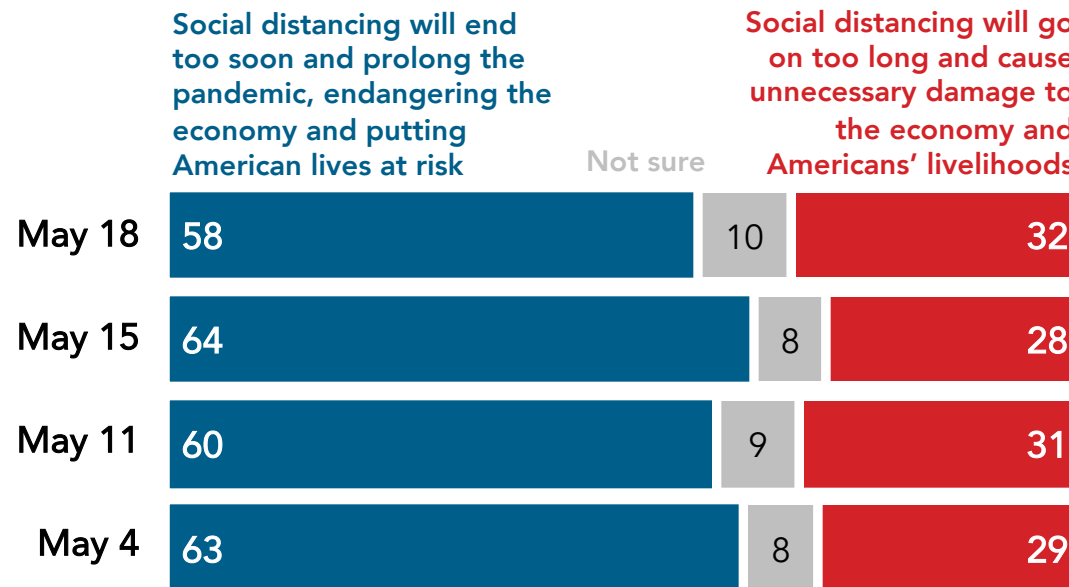


Continued Opposition to Ending Social Distancing

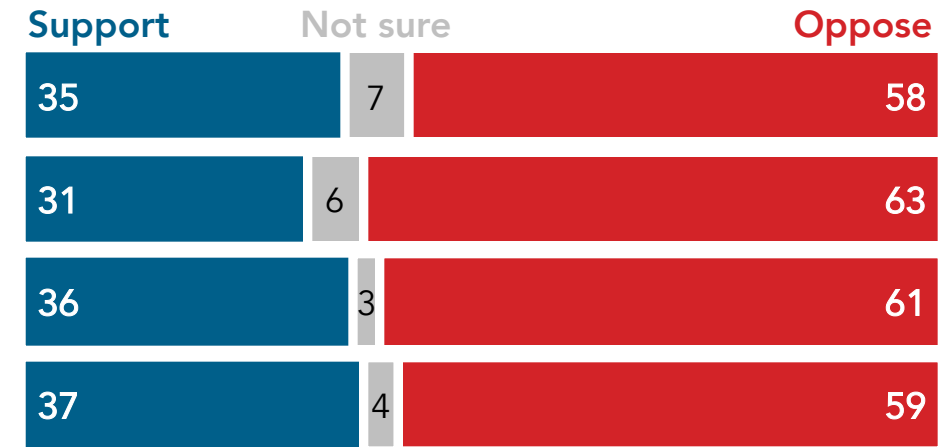
The majority of Americans are still more concerned that social distancing will end too soon and prolong the pandemic rather than go too long, and oppose the country reopening in the next few weeks.

- While only 20% of Democrats and 35% of independents support reopening in the next few weeks, 53% of Republicans do. 50% of Republicans also are more concerned social distancing will go on too long.

When it comes to social distancing, which of the following concerns you more right now?



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?



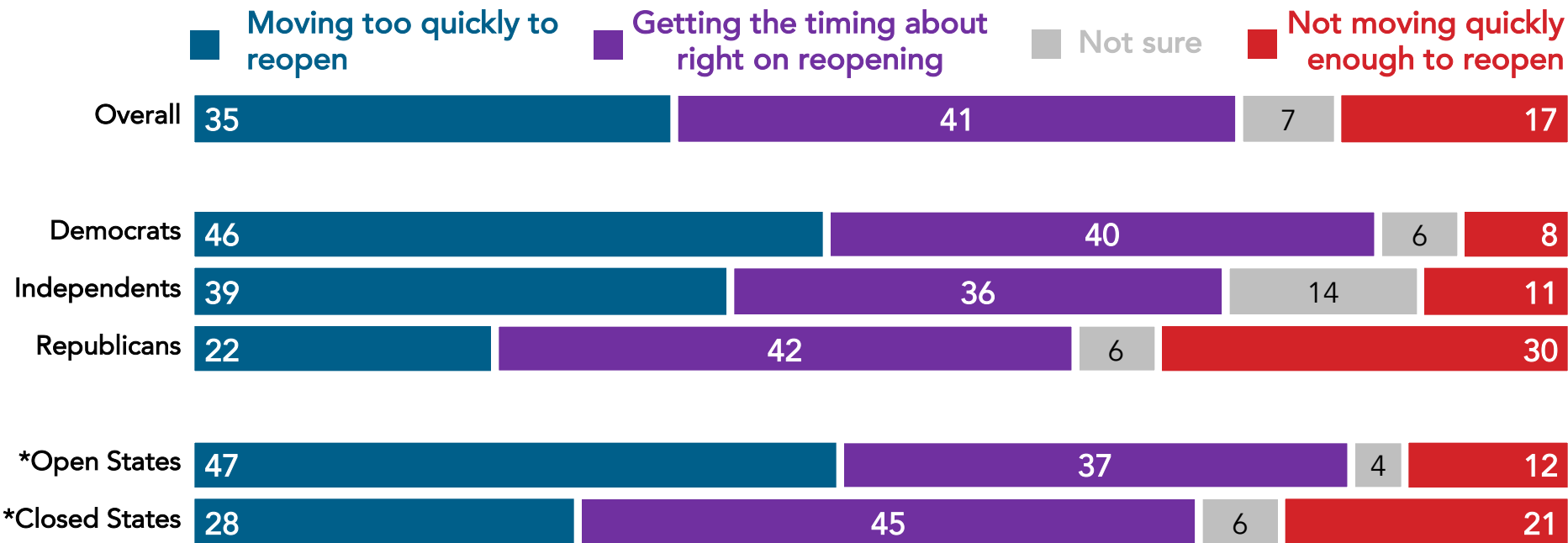
Nationwide surveys of registered voters; Each wave represents approximately 1,000 interviews taken over the prior three days. Latest wave conducted May 15-May 18, 2020. For more info, visit navigatorresearch.org

Few Think Reopening Happening Too Slowly in Their State

A third say reopening is happening too quickly in their state, while a plurality say that their state is getting the timing about right.

- In states that respondents report as more open than closed, the plurality (47%) say their state is moving too quickly to reopen.

When it comes to relaxing social distancing measures and reopening, would you say that [STATE] is...



*These are defined by respondent's self-reporting of what is happening in their state. "Open states" include those who say their state is "more open than closed" and "closed states" are "more closed than open." Nationwide survey of 1,011 registered voters; May 15-May 18, 2020. For more info, visit navigatortresearch.org

High Levels of Trust in Fauci, CDC to Tell Truth on Pandemic

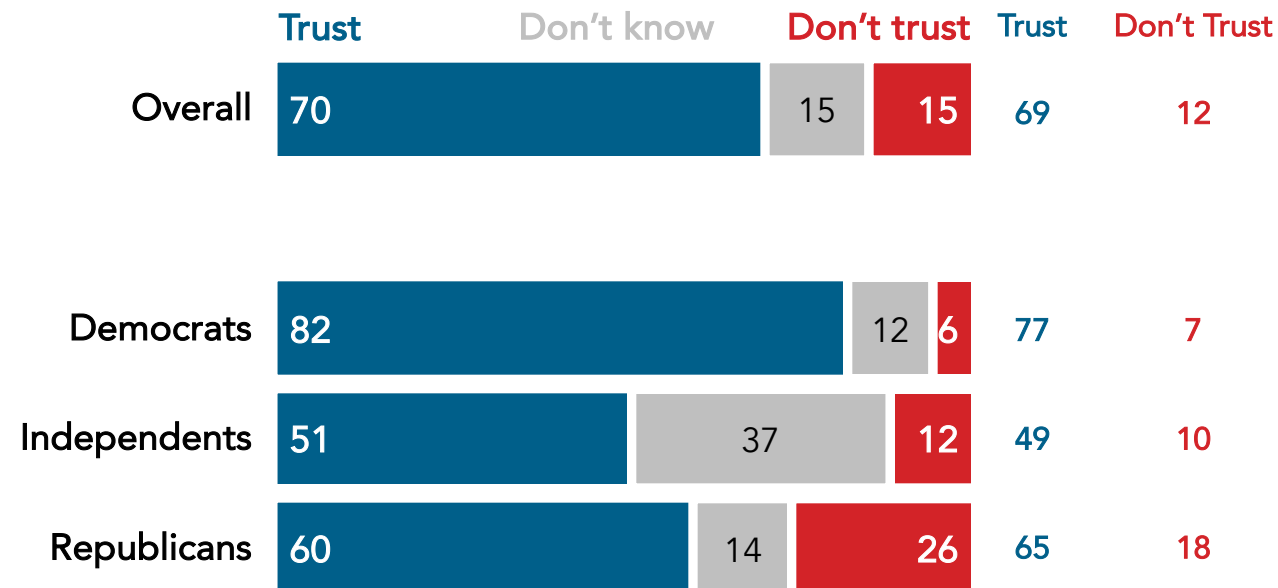
Despite attempts to blame the CDC and to polarize opinion on Dr. Fauci, Americans - regardless of party - trust them to tell the truth.

- 57% of Americans do not trust Donald Trump to tell the truth on coronavirus, including 20% of Republicans.

Please indicate how much you trust each to tell the truth when it comes to the coronavirus pandemic.

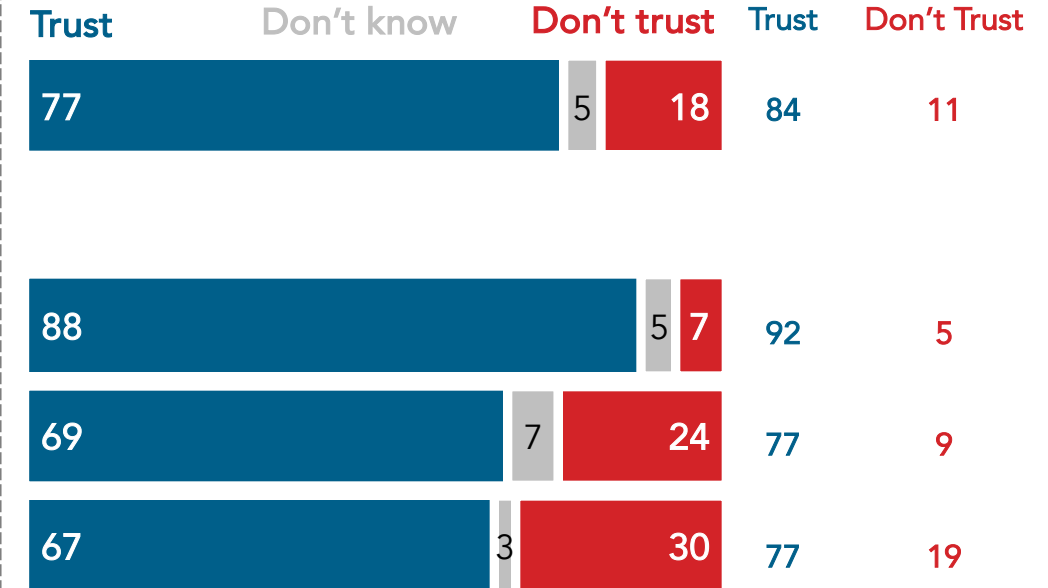
Dr. Anthony Fauci

April 15



The Centers for Disease Control (CDC)

April 15



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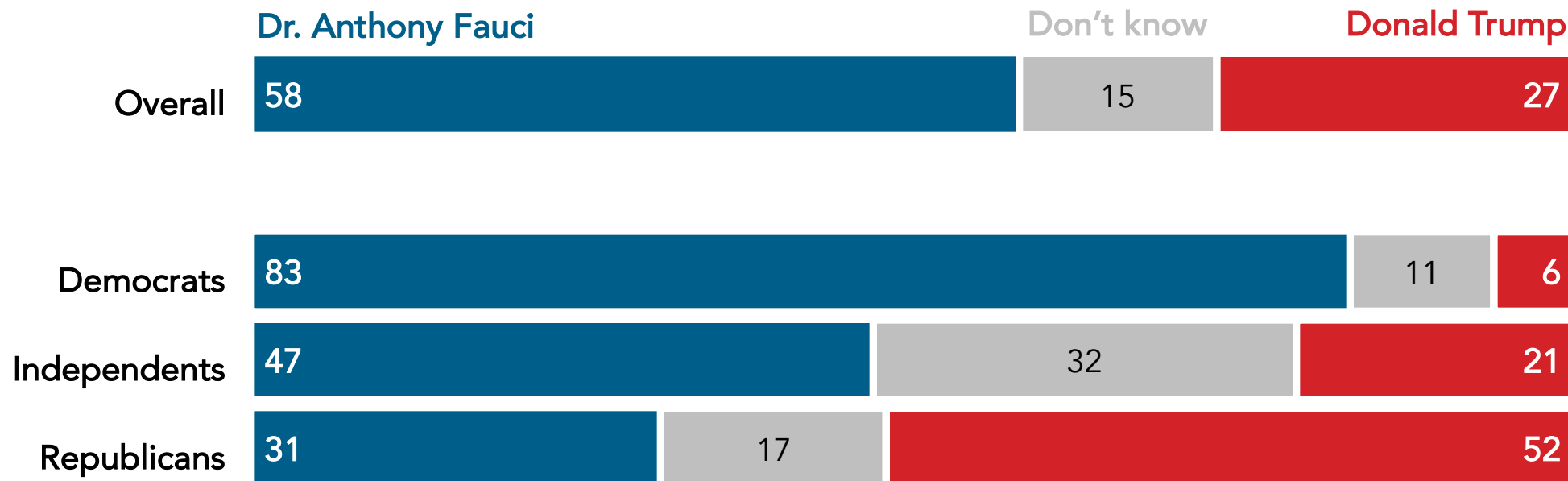
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Fauci More Trusted Than Trump on Reopening

By 31 points, Americans trust Dr. Fauci more than Trump to decide when to reopen the country. Even a third of Republicans trust Fauci more.

- On a separate question, 46% of Americans say they trust Democrats in Congress more than Trump to make decisions about how and when to reopen the country, as opposed to 37% who trust Trump more.

When it comes to decisions about how and when to reopen the country, who do you trust more?

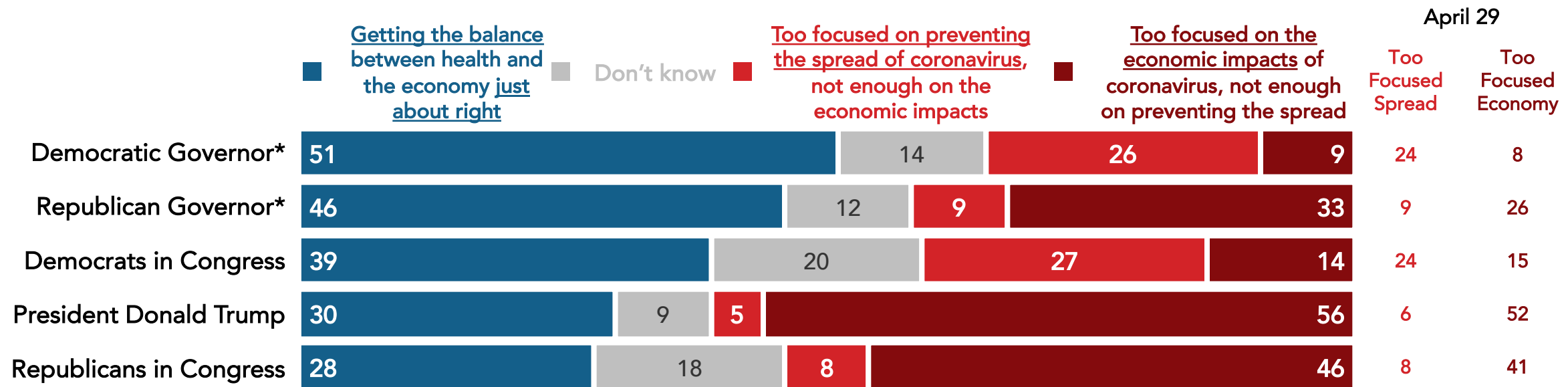


Nationwide survey of 1,011 registered voters; May 15-May 18, 2020.
For more info, visit navigatorresearch.org

Americans Worry Trump and Congressional Republicans Not Focusing Enough on Spread

More than half of Americans say Democratic governors are getting the balance just about right on the economy and health during the pandemic, and a plurality say Democrats in Congress are getting the balance right.

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?



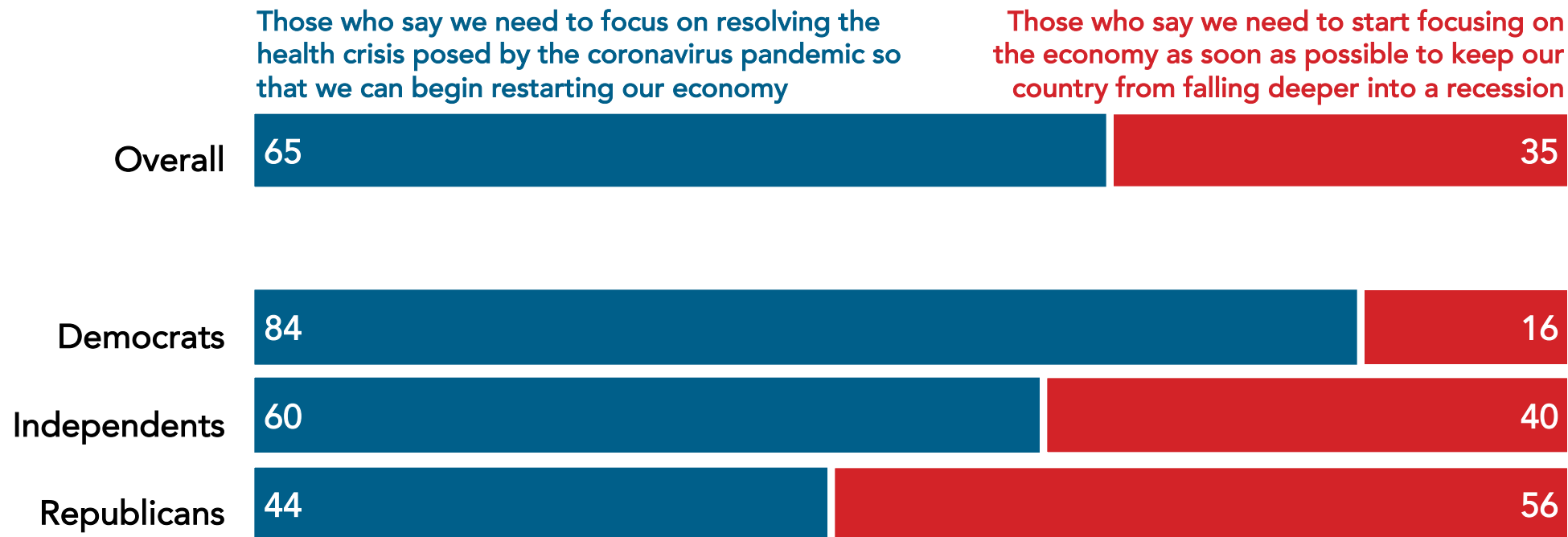
*"Democratic Governor" refers to respondents who have Democratic governors, combining all respondent ratings of their state-specific Democratic governors. "Republican Governor" refers to respondents who have Republican governors, combining respondent ratings of their state-specific Republican governors. Nationwide survey of 1,011 registered voters; May 15-May 18, 2020. For more info, visit navigatortresearch.org

Majority Say We Must Resolve Health Crisis to Restart Economy

The majority of Americans say that resolving the health crisis is imperative to restarting the economy, including a majority of independents and nearly half of Republicans.

- In a separate question, nearly three in four Americans (73%) say they are more worried about their family's health and well-being than their financial situation.

Which of the following do you agree with more?

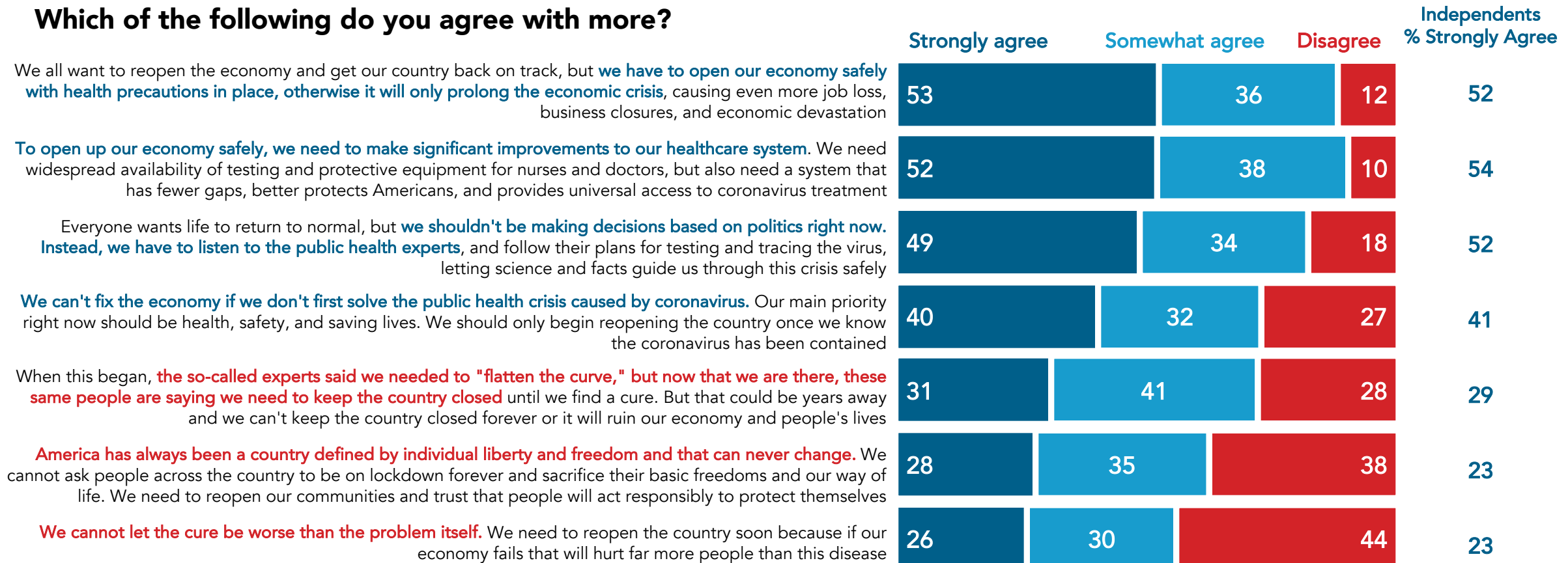


Nationwide survey of 1,011 registered voters; May 15-May 18, 2020.
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Public Agrees Health Precautions Key to Fixing Economy

A majority of Americans think that health precautions and improvements to our health care system are necessities to fixing our economy and reopening.

Which of the following do you agree with more?



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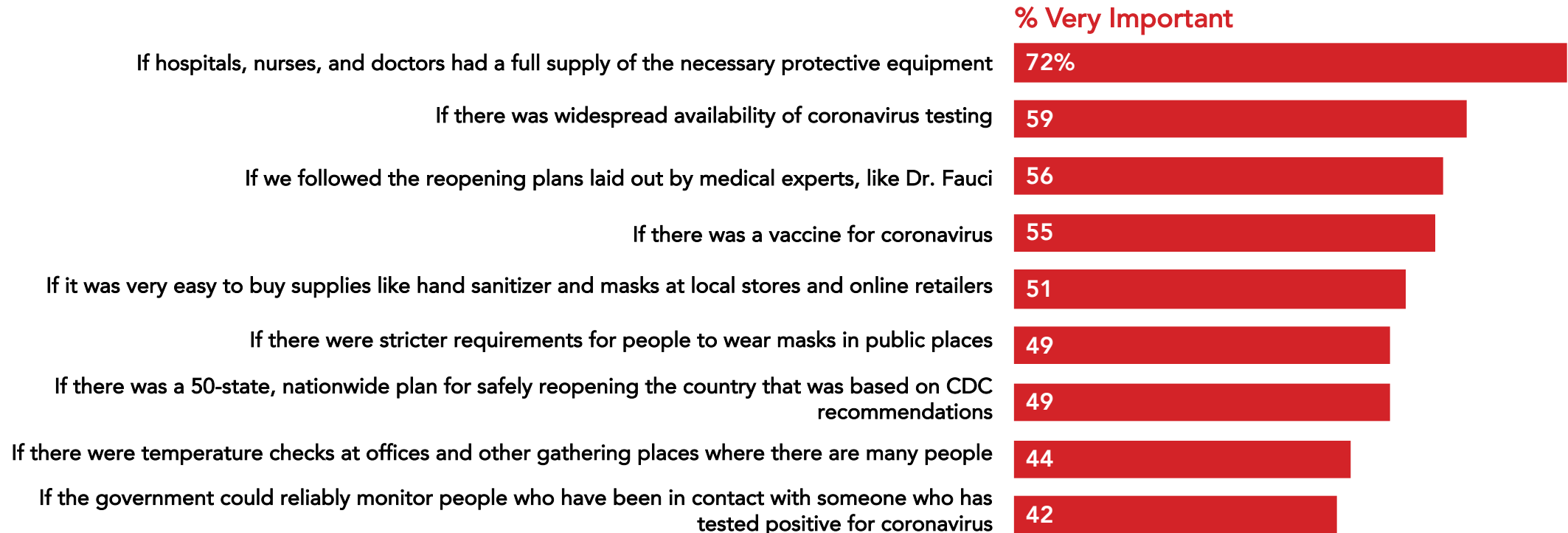
navigator*

PPE Supplies, Testing, Expertise Seen as Key for Safe Reopening

More than half of Americans say that PPE for medical professionals, widespread testing, adhering to reopening plans created by experts, and vaccines are needed to reopen communities safely.

- While more than half of Democrats (82% very important) and independents (60%) say that testing is very important to reopening, only 39% of Republicans say the same.

For each, please indicate how important it would be to reopening safely.



Vast Majority Troubled By Images of Recent Crowding

Even as communities reopen, the vast majority of Americans, including Republicans, say that images of people not wearing masks and ignoring social distancing are acting irresponsibly.

When you see these images, who do you agree with more?



The people in these images are acting responsibly – the guidelines in communities that are reopening are meant to allow people to begin to resume normal activity

The people in these images are acting irresponsibly – the guidelines in communities that are reopening are meant to allow some activity to resume, but people should not be gathering without social distancing precautions and masks

Overall

16

84

Democrats

8

92

Independents

6

94

Republicans

28

72

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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 1,011 registered voters conducted May 15-May 18, 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.

For Press inquiries contact:

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